Dave Soldier

opus 11

Concerto for prepared string quartet and string orchestra

1992, originally for Ken Butler's "T-Square Quartet"

for quartet & orchestra, 2013

Bambaataa Variations

1. His Legs Wobble
2. Mudhead from Planet XYY
3. Nine Hundred Grandmothers
4. X-Linked Planet
5. Afrika Variations

for the PubliQuartet and Thomas Carlo Bo

December 8, 2013 version

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“Bambaataa Variations” Performance Note

Extended Techniques

Special techniques without preparation

A “scratch” is moving the bow in the direction of the strings, *i.e.*, up and down the strings rather than perpendicular across. Imitate the sound of a DJ scratching a record.

A “bow whip” snaps the bow in the air to move the air and make a whipping sound.

“Stop strings” means dampen the strings with the left hand after the note is played to suddenly stop the sound.

For quartet soloists

Gizmos:

4-8 bobby pins

4 electric toothbrushes or vibrators

1 small hair clip: for 1st violin

1 metal tablespoon for 2nd violin

2 small barber's combs for 2nd violin and viola

1 soft hair brush or soft hair curler for cello,

1 guitar pick for viola

Optional for all: *1st movement:* At the end, use the back of an electric toothbrush – or a vibrator – and move it up and down the strings like the spoon before. This should produce a sound like a noisy like a police siren for a 30 second improvisation.

Violin 1

1st movement: two bobby pins are placed around the strings behind the bridge. Pluck them with both index fingers to get a metallic buzz. Set this up before the piece begins, and you can remove it after the 1st movement.

2nd movement: remove the paper clips / bobby pins and clip the strings with a hair clip just above the bridge to help achieve a metallic pizzicato sound: this pizz can use a straight thumb or a guitar pick if helpful. Remove it before the 3rd movement.

Violin 2

1st movement: the second violin doesn't make any conventional sounds. For most of it, it may be easier to hold the instrument on the knees like a viol or Indian or Mideastern violin. Before the piece begins, set up the instrument with two bobby pin or paper clips, one just above and one just below the bridge, holding the strings. When the clips are plucked, they should make a metallic rattling sound like a gamelan. In *arco* sections of the 1st movement, the clips are still there, so produce a rhythmic, aggressive sound on purpose.

1st movement: "back of spoon" refers to using the curved back of a tablespoon in the right hand, and sliding over mostly G & D strings over the neck. The low notes are short slides, the high notes are stronger and gliss upward in pitch: they should sound like a tuned electronic drum

1st movement: use a small barber's comb as a bow: hold it a steep angle so that the bristles move easily across the string near the bridge, which sounds like a saw.

5th movement: there is a point to insert bobby pins or paper clips at measure 479: if this is too short, there can be a pause before the 5th movement.

Viola

1st movement: two bobby pins are placed around the strings behind the bridge. Pluck them with both index fingers to get a metallic buzz. Set this up before the piece begins, and you can remove it after the 1st movement.

1st and 2nd movements: use a small barber's comb as a bow: hold it a steep angle so that the bristles move easily across the string near the bridge, which sounds like a saw.

2nd movement: uses a guitar pick, use it over the neck to get a plucky sound.

Cello

1st movement: two bobby pins are placed around the strings behind the bridge. Pluck them with both index fingers to get a metallic buzz. Set this up before the piece begins, and you can remove it after the 1st movement.

1st and 2nd movements: use a small barber's comb as a bow: hold it a steep angle so that the bristles move easily across the string near the bridge, which sounds like a saw.

1st and 2nd movements: use a soft hairbrush or hair curler to bow strings.

5th movement: indicates foot tapping.

Gizmos for orchestra:

First violins: Bobby pins

Second violins: Comb, bobby pins

Violas: Bobby pins, tablespoon, comb

Celli: Bobby pins, comb

Bass: Bobby pins, hairbrush or hair curler

Optional for all: *1st movement:* At the end, use the back of an electric toothbrush – or a vibrator – and move it up and down the strings like the spoon before. This should produce a sound like a noisy like a police siren for a 30 second improvisation.

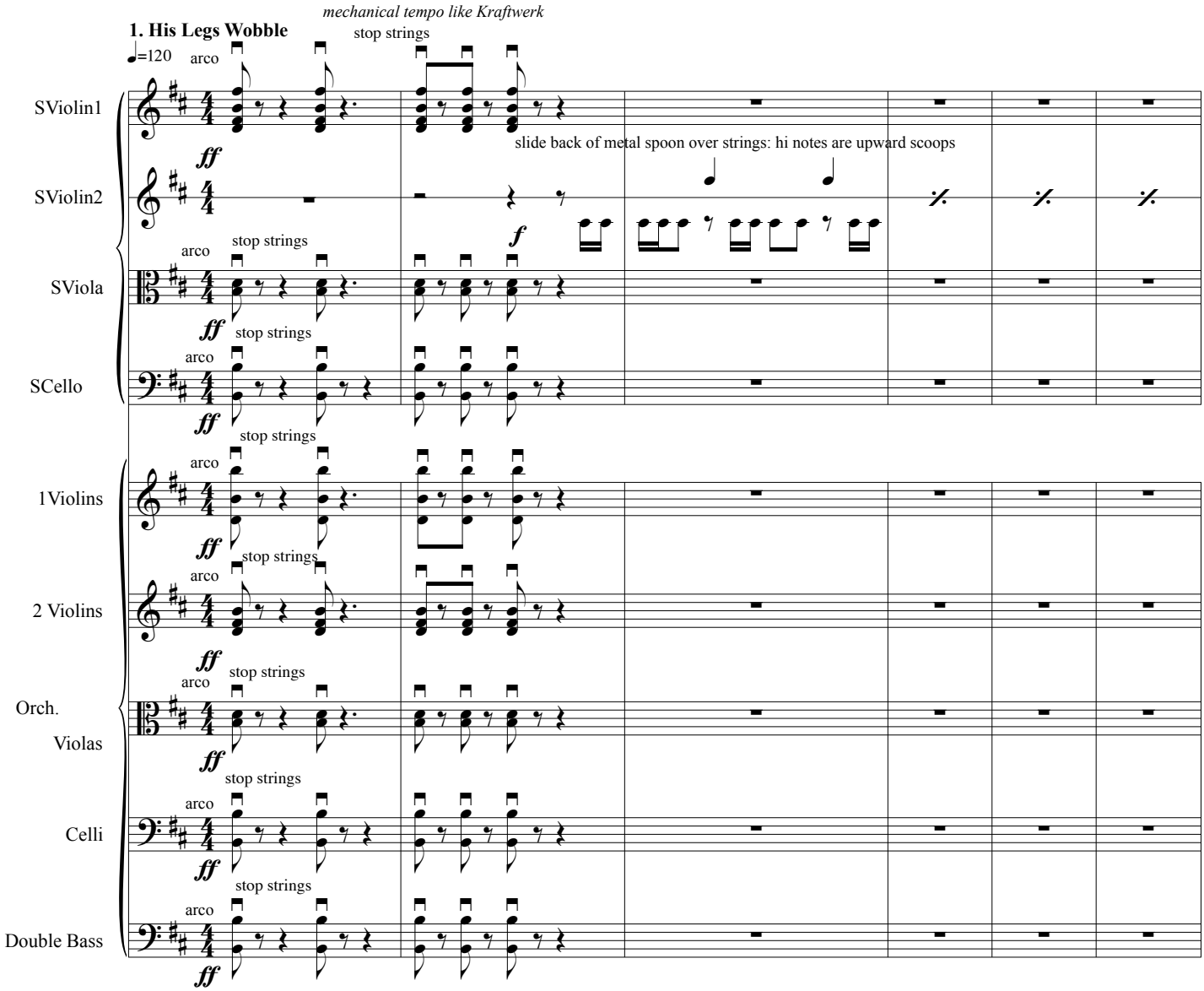
Violin 1
1st movement: two bobby pins are placed around the strings behind the bridge. Pluck them with both index fingers to get a metallic buzz. Set this up before the piece begins, and you can remove it after the 1st movement.
Violin 2
1st movement: use a small barber's comb as a bow: hold it a steep angle so that the bristles move easily across the string near the bridge, which sounds like a saw.
5th movement: two bobby pins are placed around the strings behind the bridge. Pluck them with both index fingers to get a metallic buzz. Set this up where indicated in the 5th movement and leave them in until after the piece is done.
Viola
1st movement: two bobby pins are placed around the strings behind the bridge. Pluck them with both index fingers to get a metallic buzz. Set this up before the piece begins, and you can remove it after the 1st movement.
1st movement: "back of spoon" refers to using the curved back of a tablespoon in the right hand, and sliding over mostly C & G strings over the neck. The low notes are short slides, the high notes are stronger and gliss upward in pitch: they should sound like a tuned electronic drum
3rd movement: use a small barber's comb as a bow: hold it a steep angle so that the bristles move easily across the string near the bridge, which sounds like a saw.
C**ello**
1st movement: two bobby pins are placed around the strings behind the bridge. Pluck them with both index fingers to get a metallic buzz. Set this up before the piece begins, and you can remove it after the 1st movement.
5th movement: indicates foot tapping.
Double Bass
1st movement: two bobby pins are placed around the strings behind the bridge. Pluck them with both index fingers to get a metallic buzz. Set this up before the piece begins, and you can remove it after the 1st movement.
1st and 3rd movements: use a soft hairbrush or hair curler to bow strings.
5th movement: indicates foot tapping.

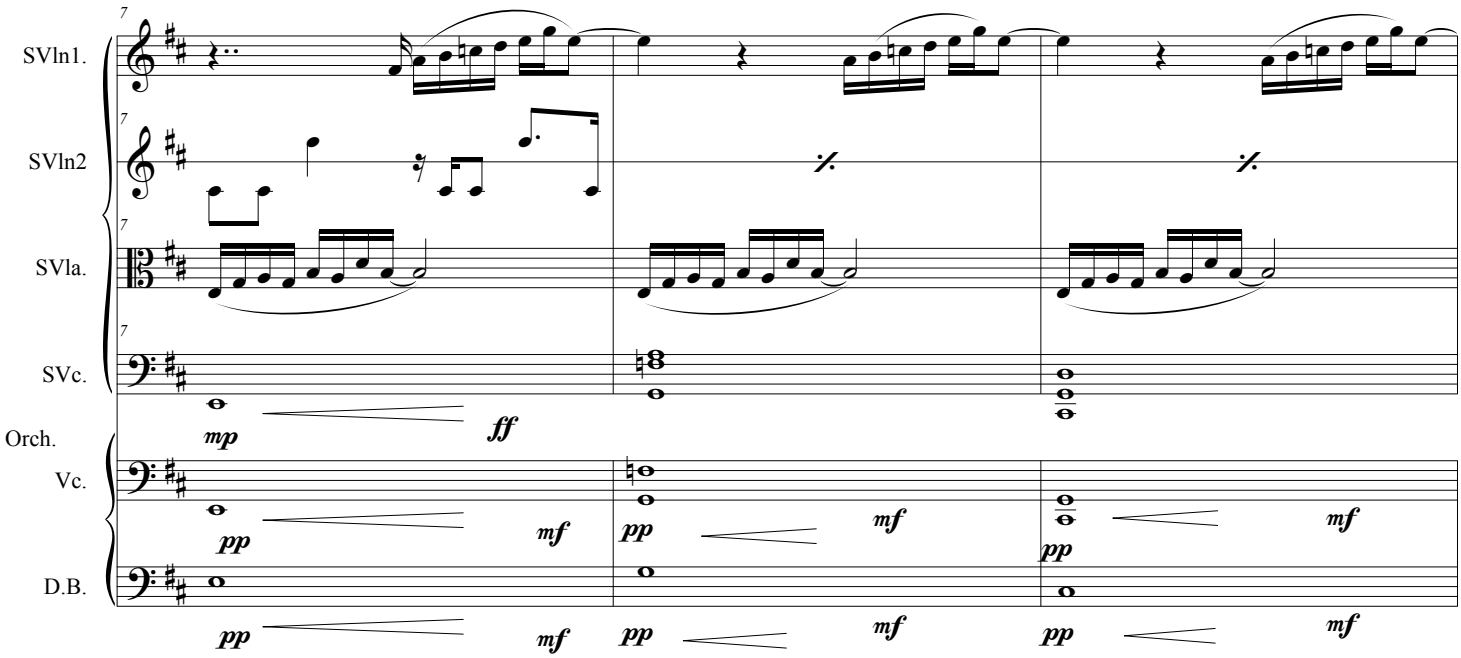
Score
version 12.8.13

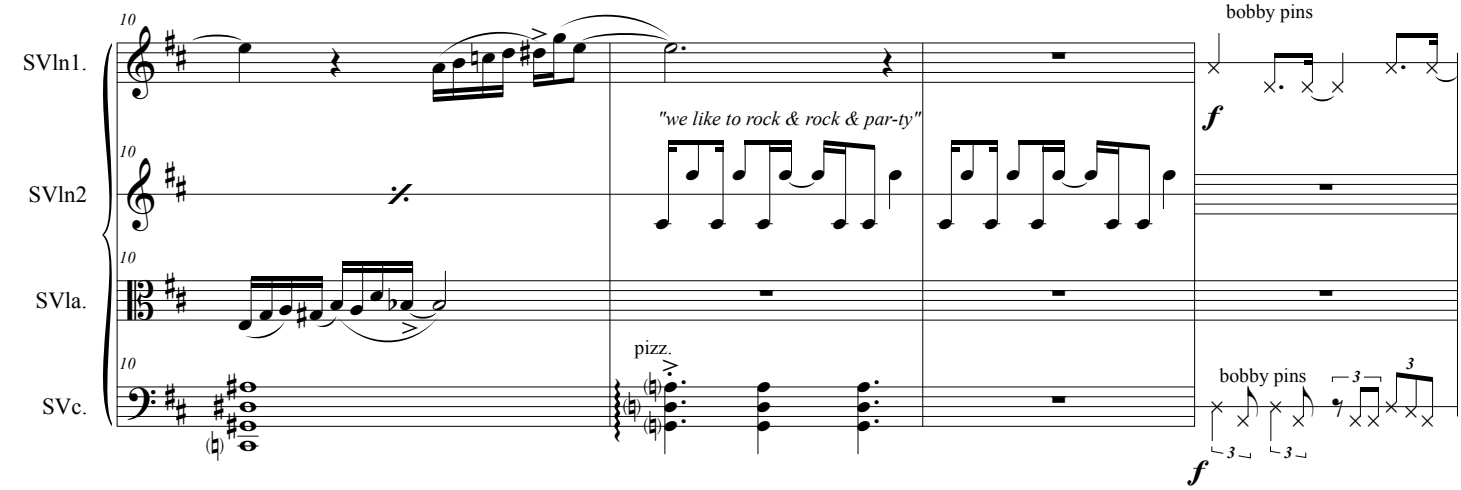
Bambaataa Variations

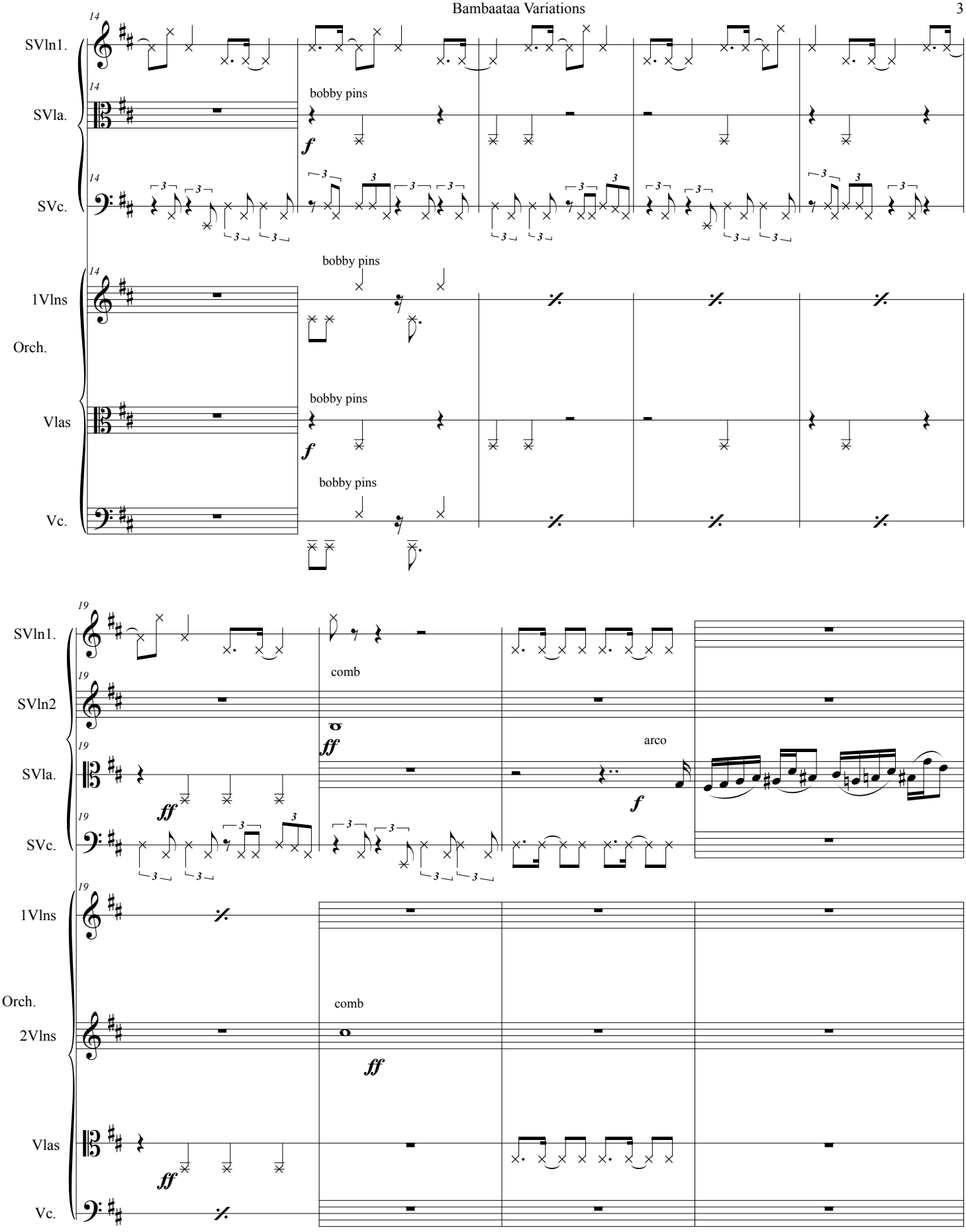
Concerto for prepared string quartet & string orchestra

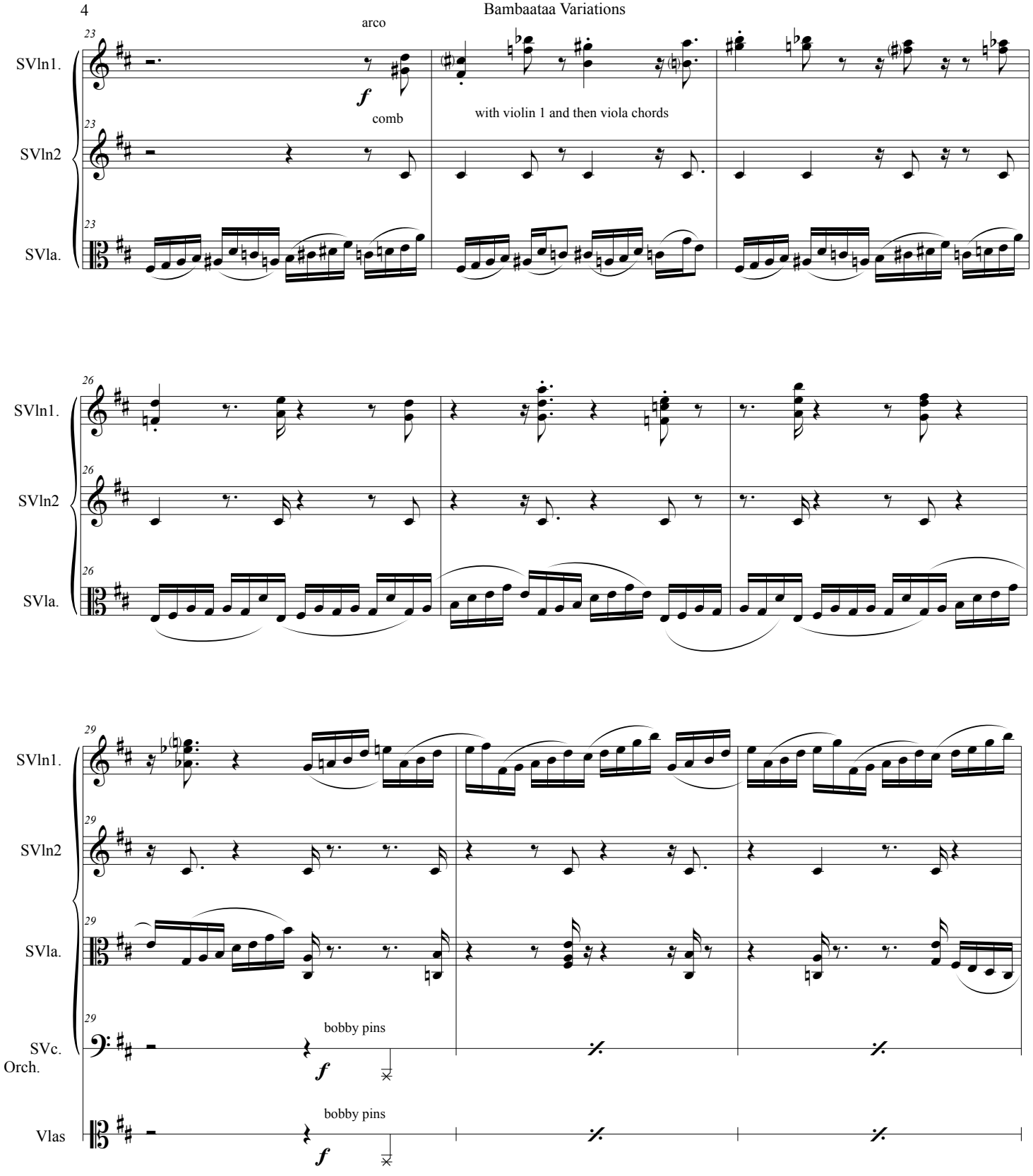
Dave Soldier
quartet version 1992
revised for quartet & orchestra
2013

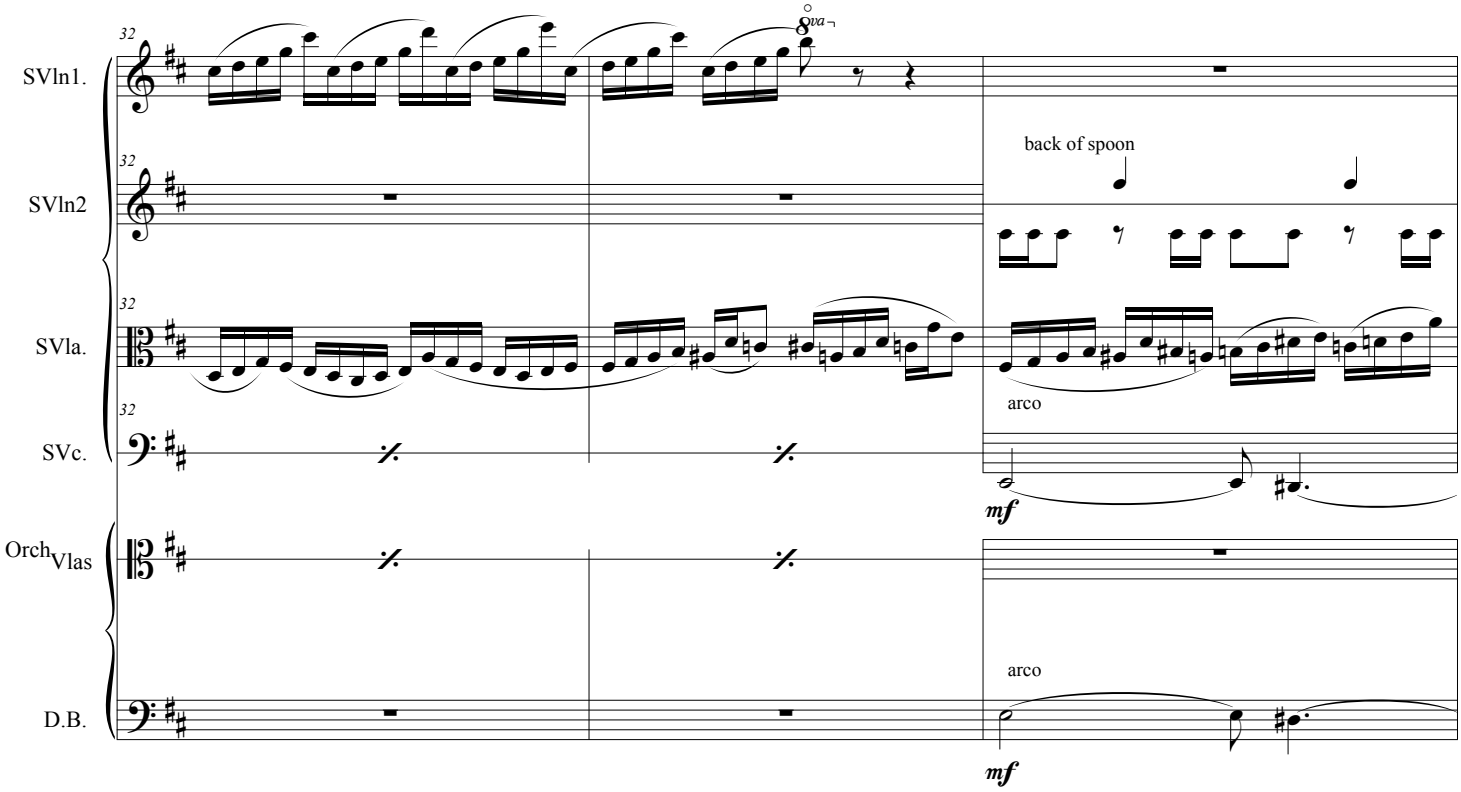


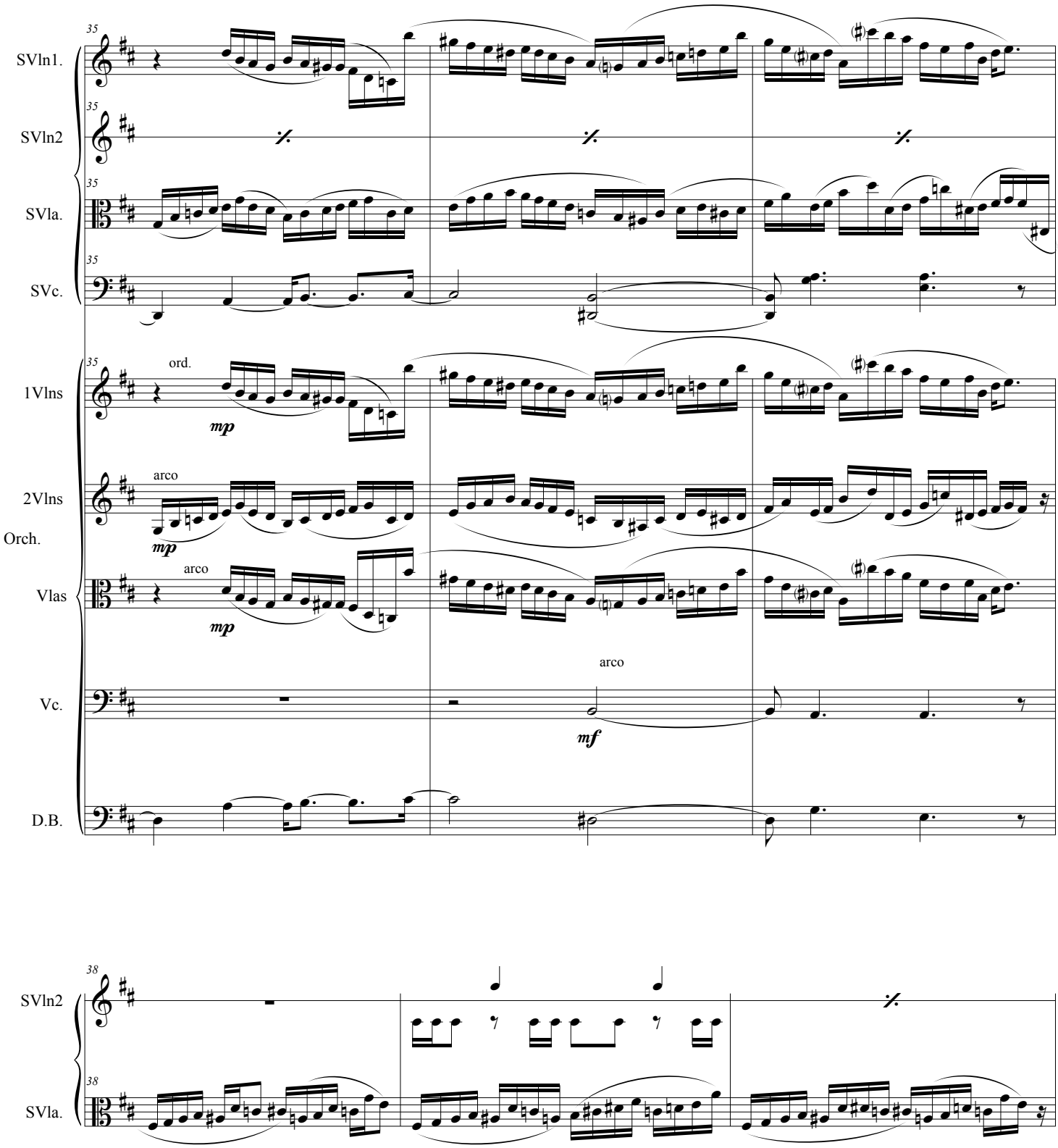

SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
Orch.
Vc.
D.B.
mp
ff
pp
mf

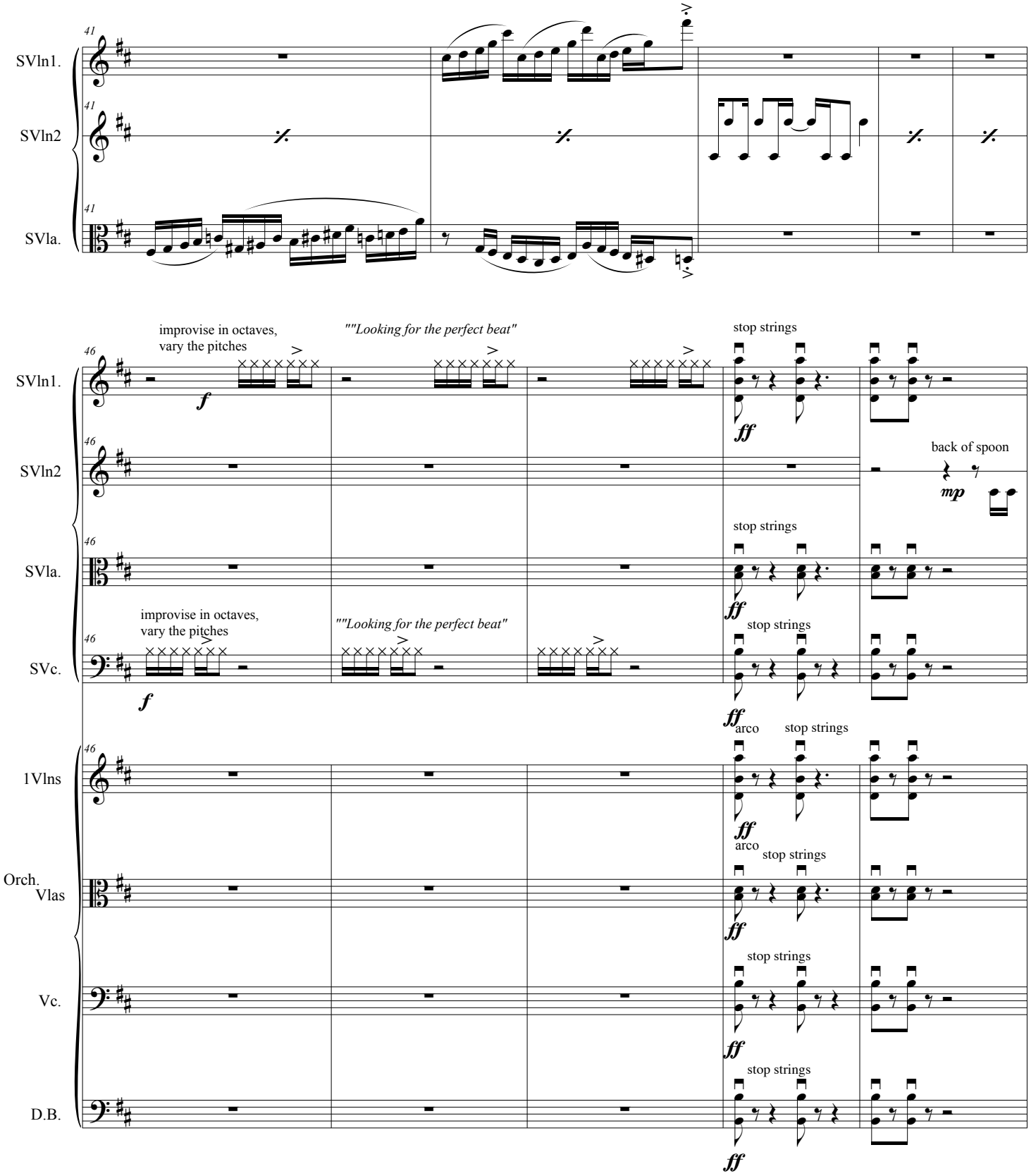

SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
"we like to rock & rock & par-ty"
pizz.
bobby pins
bobby pins
f

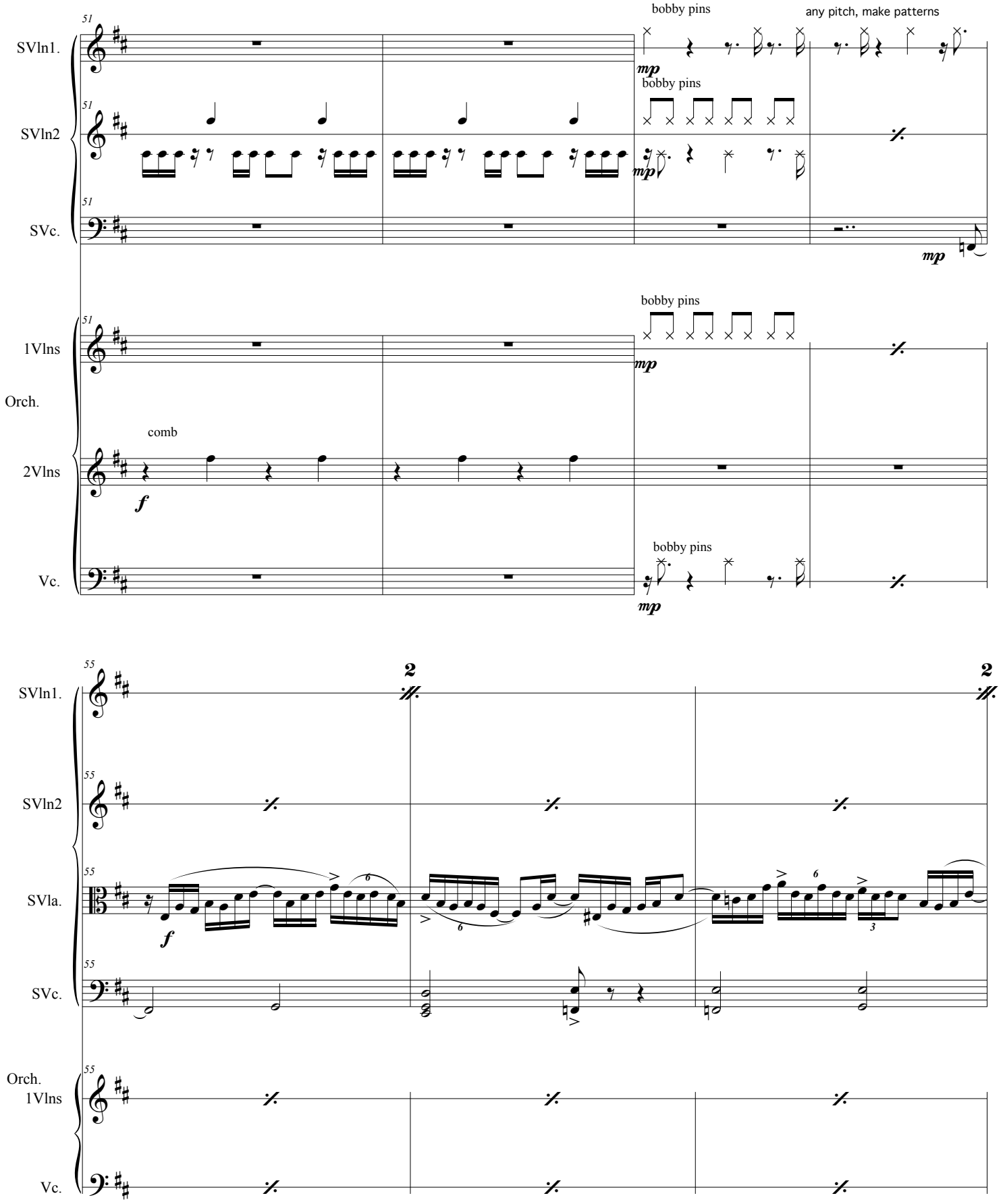

14
SVln1.
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
bobby pins
f
19
comb
ff
arco
2Vlns

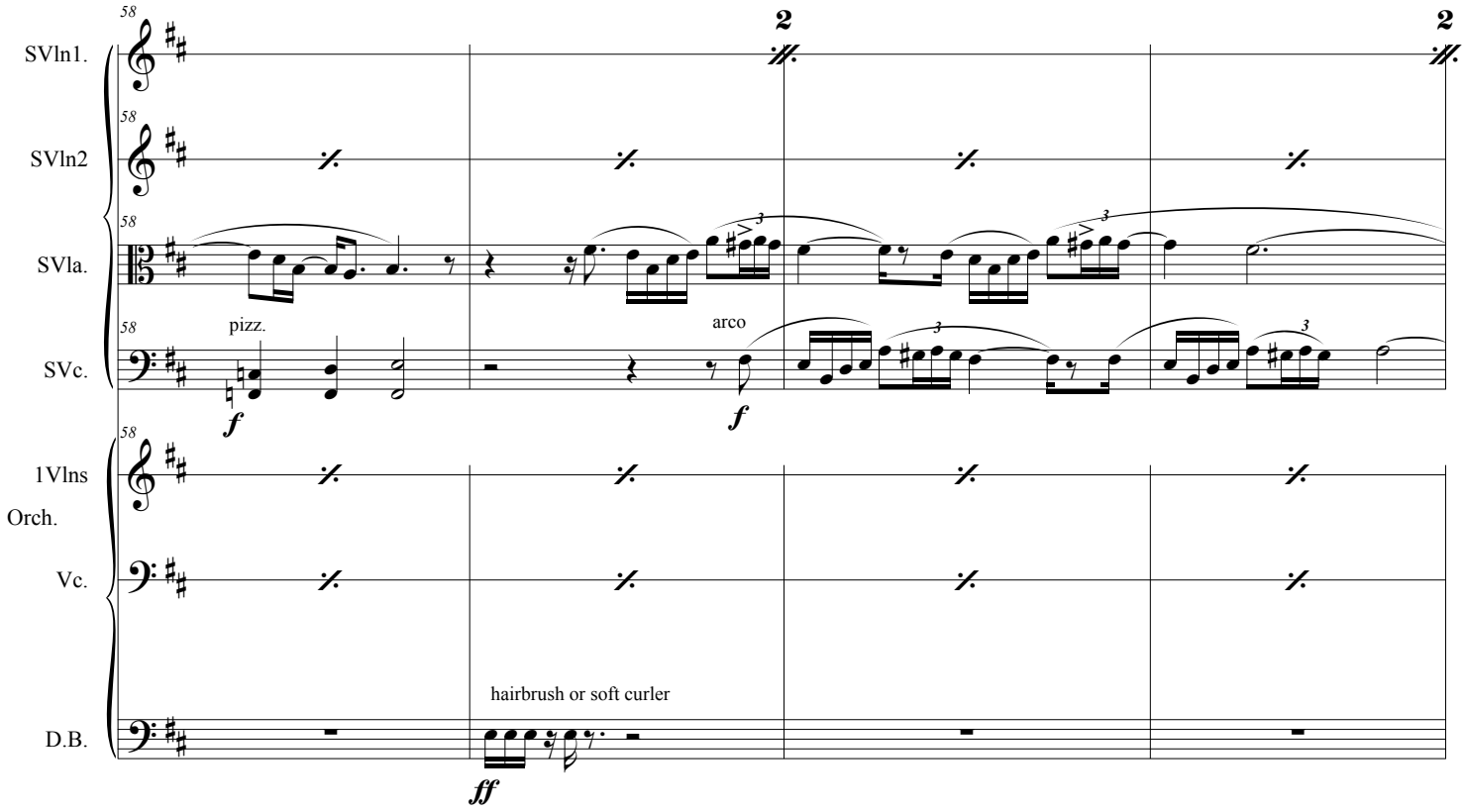

arco
23
SVln1.
f
comb
with violin 1 and then viola chords
23
SVln2
23
SVla.
26
SVln1.
26
SVln2
26
SVla.
29
SVln1.
29
SVln2
29
SVla.
29
SVc.
Orch.
bobby pins
f
Vlas
bobby pins
f

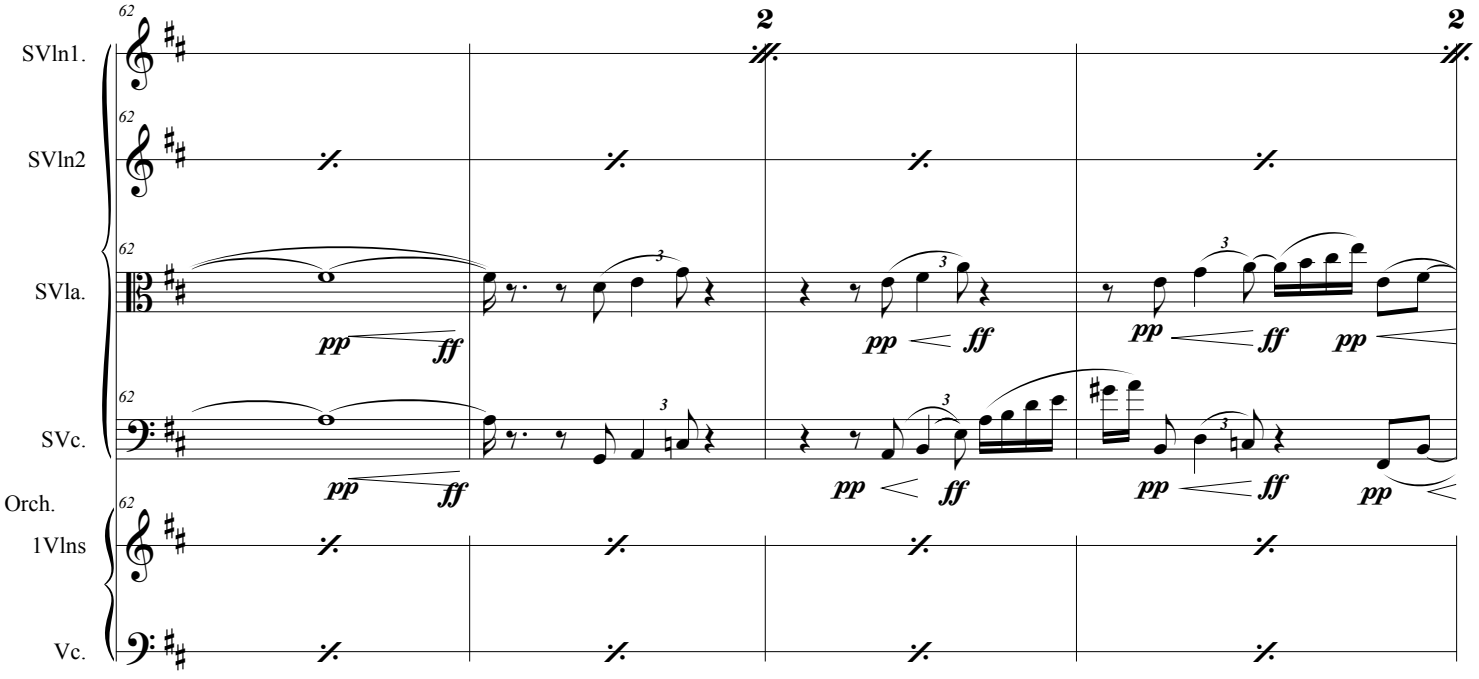

SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
Orch Vlas
D.B.
32
8va
back of spoon
arco
mf
arco
mf

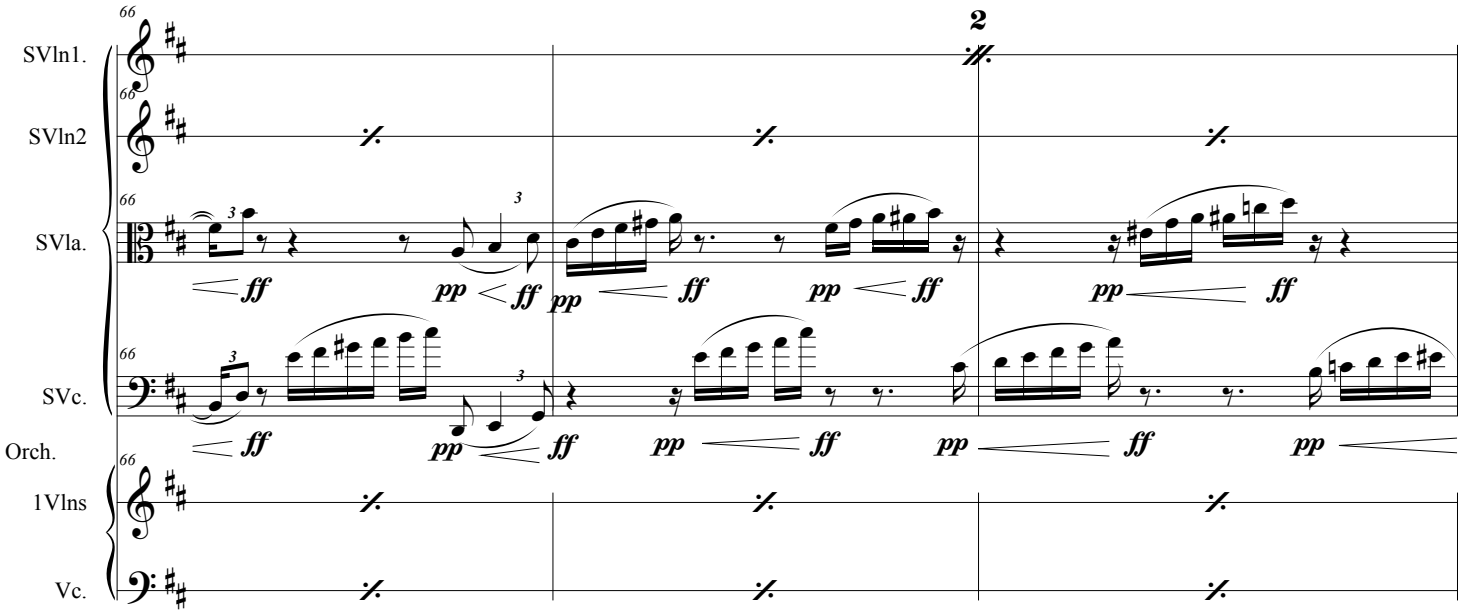

35
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
ord.
mp
arco
mp
arco
mp
arco
mf
38
SVln2
SVla.

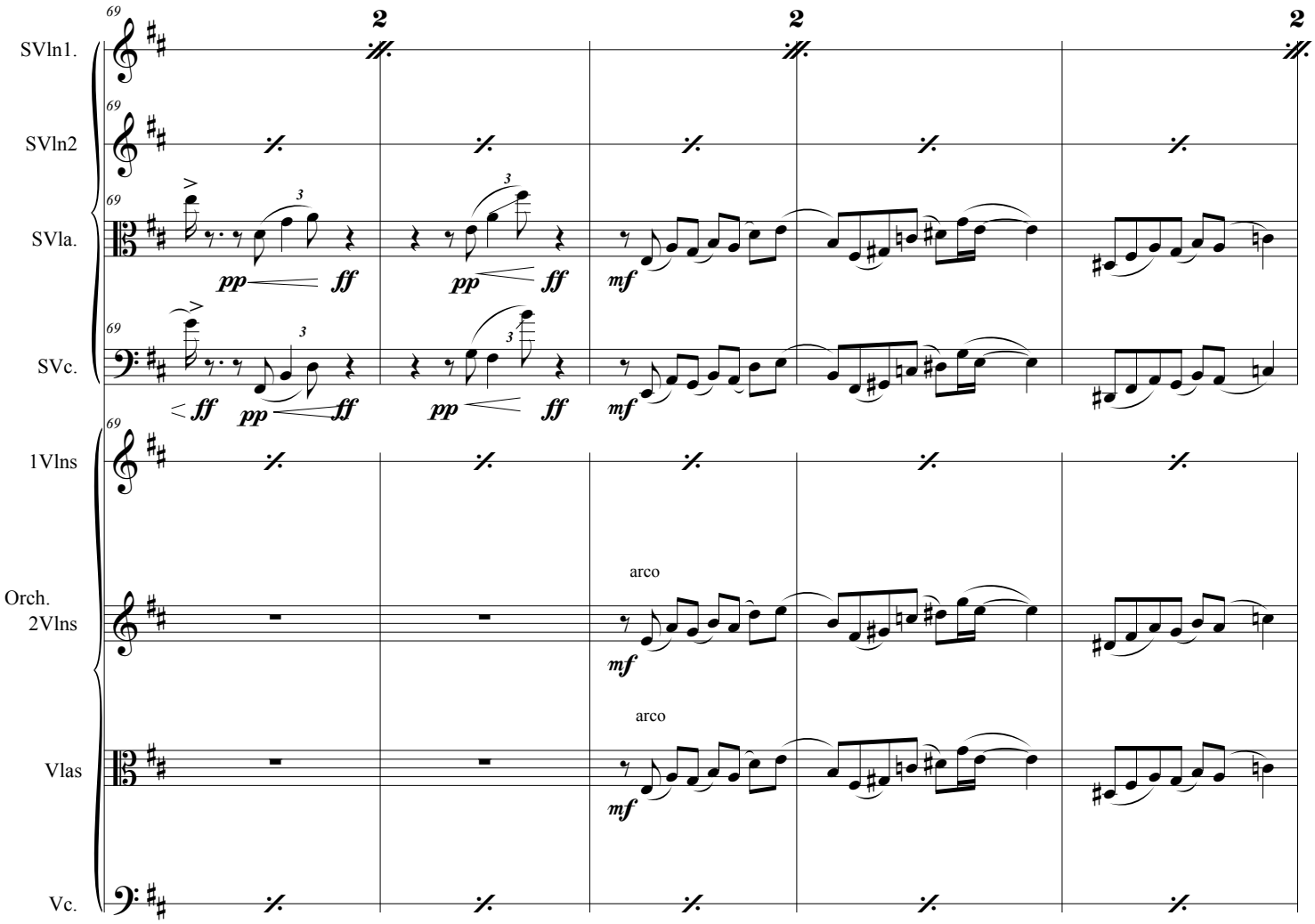

41
SVln1.
41
SVln2
41
SVla.
improvise in octaves,
vary the pitches
""Looking for the perfect beat"
stop strings
46
SVln1.
f
ff
46
SVln2
back of spoon
mp
46
SVla.
stop strings
ff
improvise in octaves,
vary the pitches
""Looking for the perfect beat"
46
SVc.
stop strings
f
ff
arco
stop strings
46
1Vlns
ff
arco
stop strings
Orch.
Vlas
ff
stop strings
Vc.
ff
stop strings
D.B.
ff

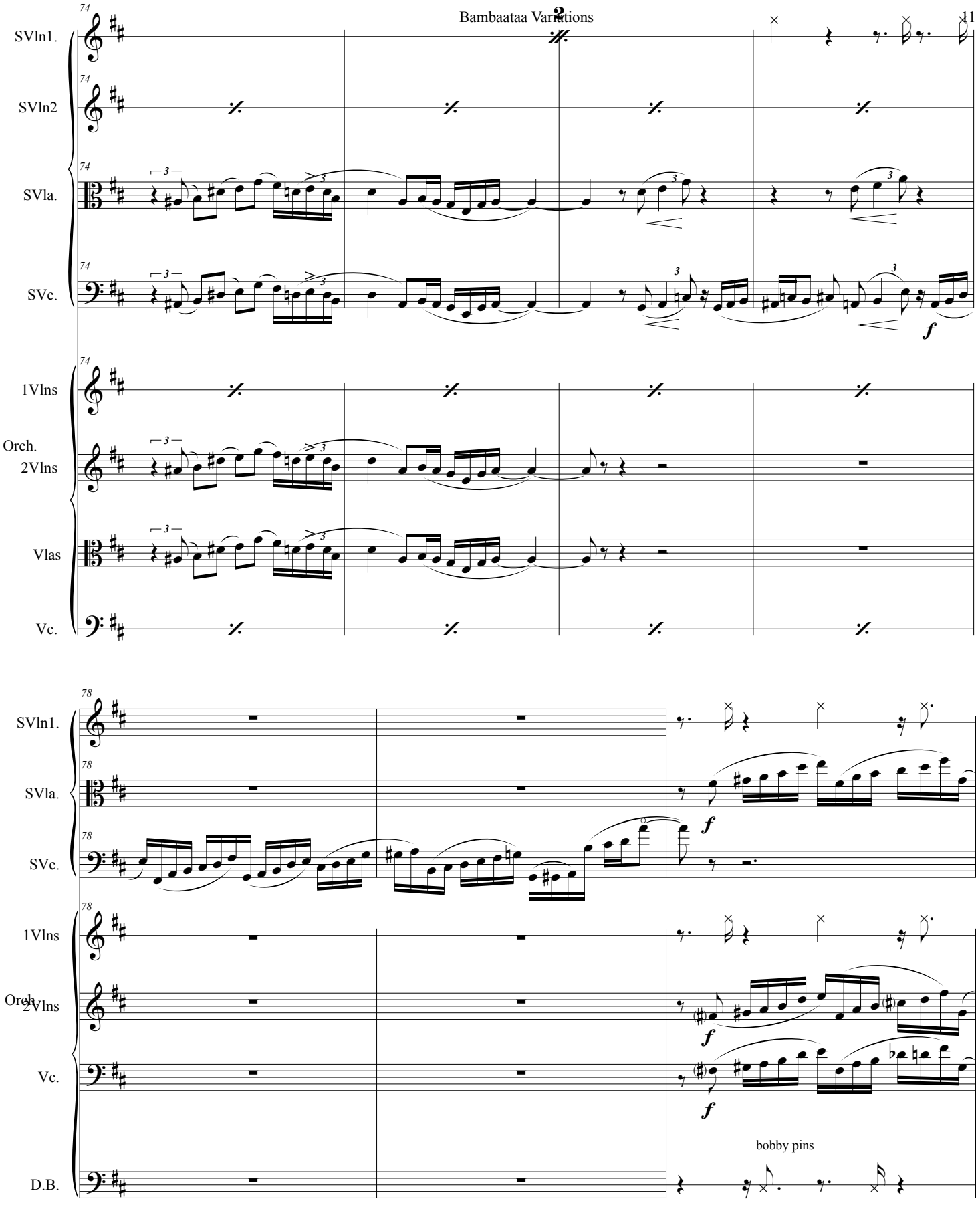

SVln1.
SVln2
SVc.
1Vlns
Orch.
2Vlns
Vla.
Vc.
bobby pins
any pitch, make patterns
comb
mp
f
2

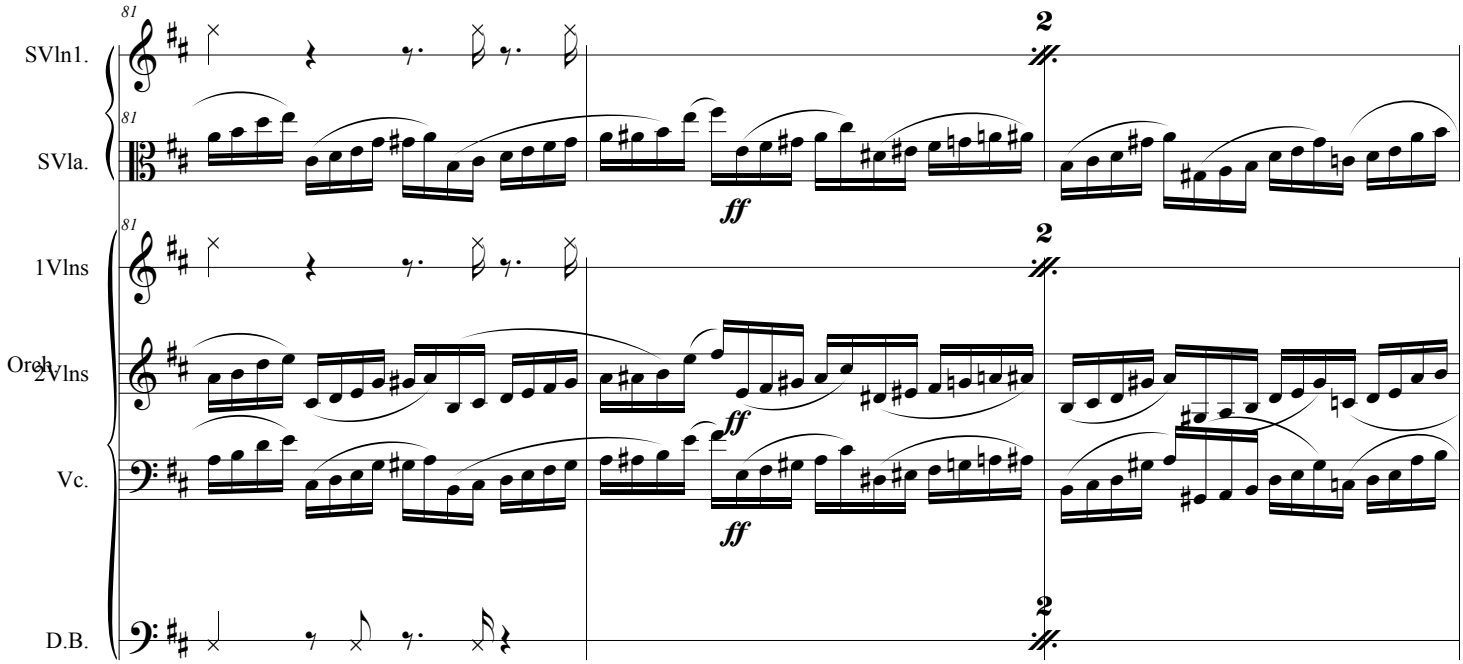

58
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
Orch.
Vc.
D.B.
2
pizz.
arco
f
f
hairbrush or soft curler
ff

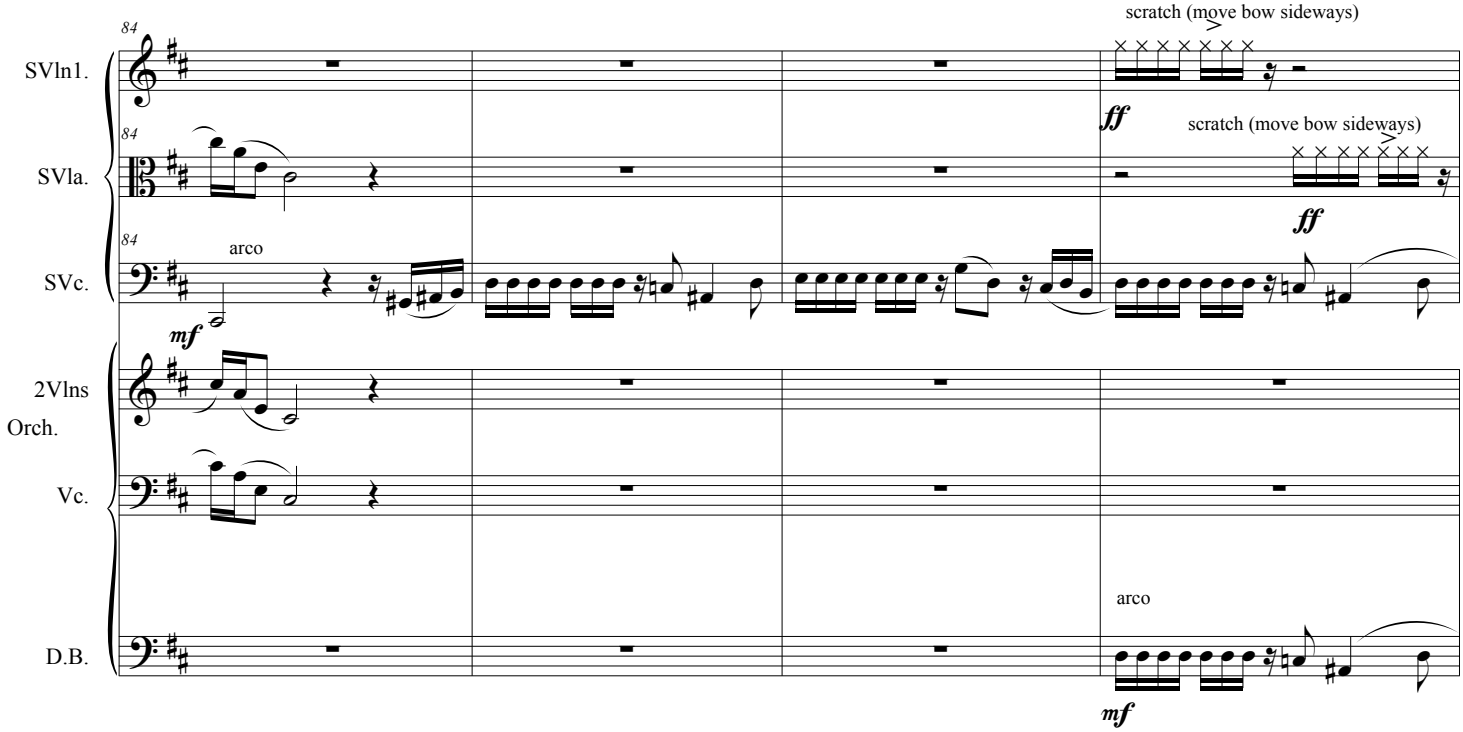

62
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
Orch.
1Vlns
Vc.
2
pp
ff

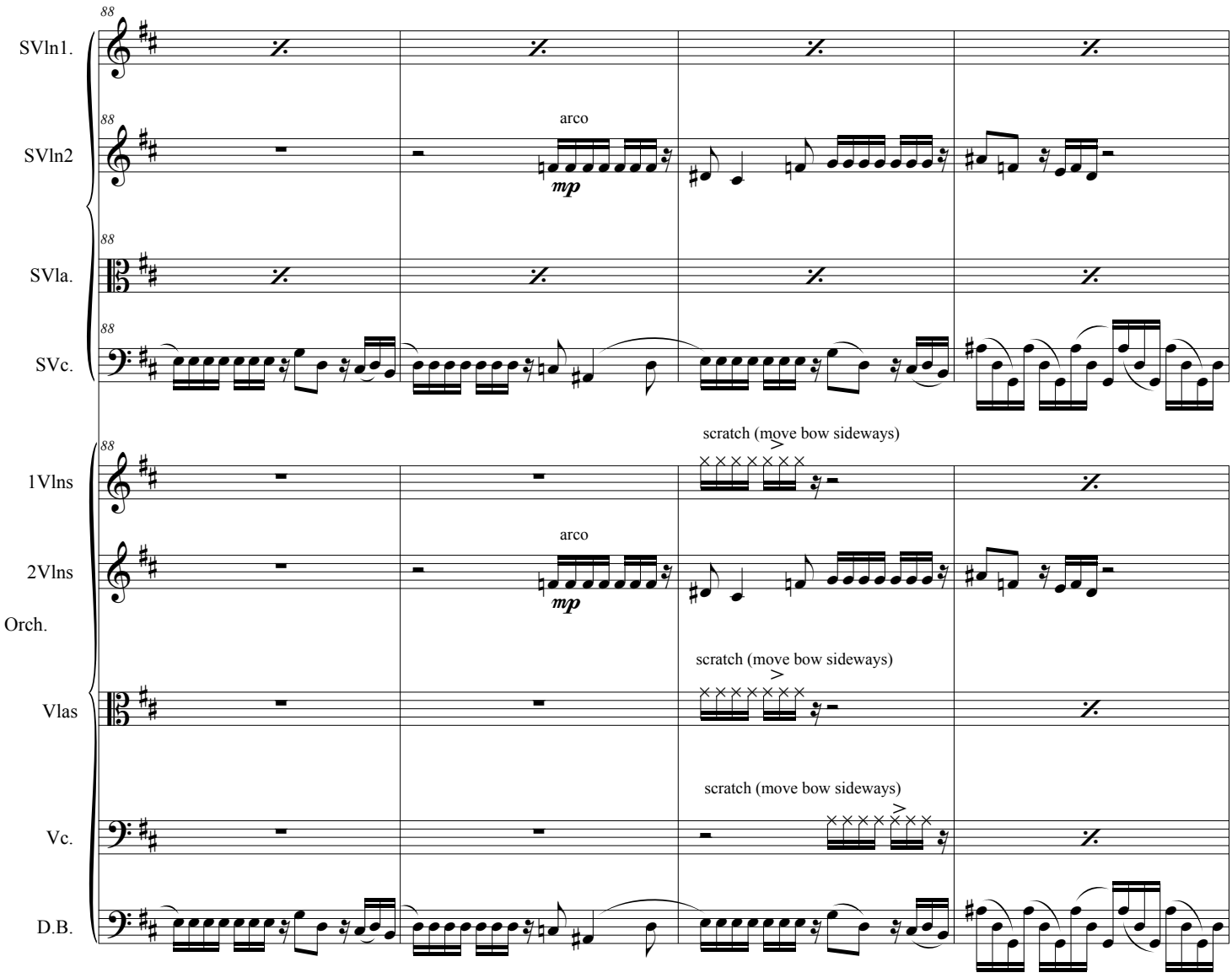

66
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
Orch.
1Vlns
Vc.
2
ff
pp
ff
pp
ff
pp
ff
pp
ff
pp
ff
pp
ff
pp
ff
pp
ff

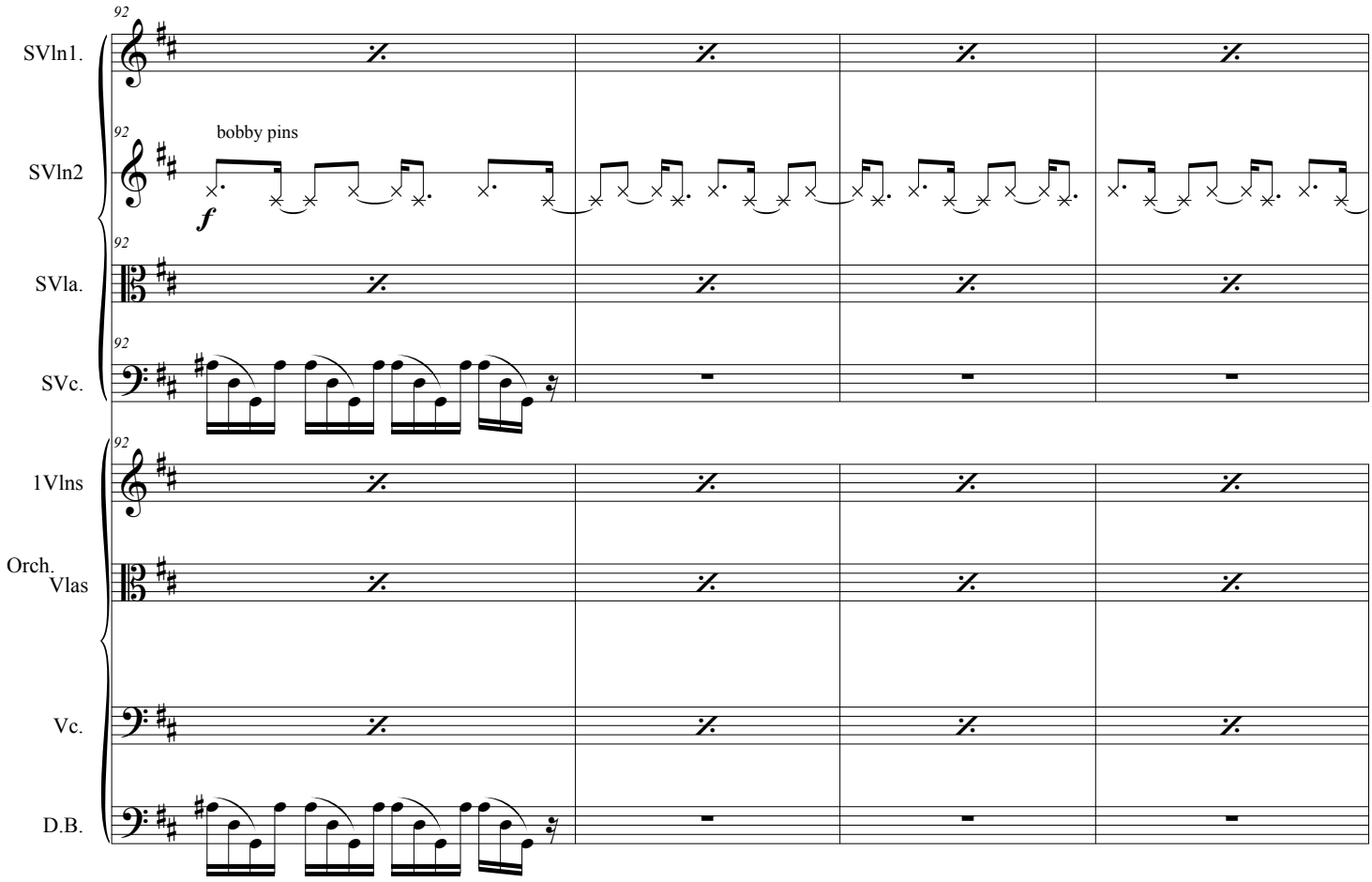

69
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
Orch.
2Vlns
Vlas
Vc.
2
2
2
pp
ff
pp
ff
mf
arco
arco
mf
mf

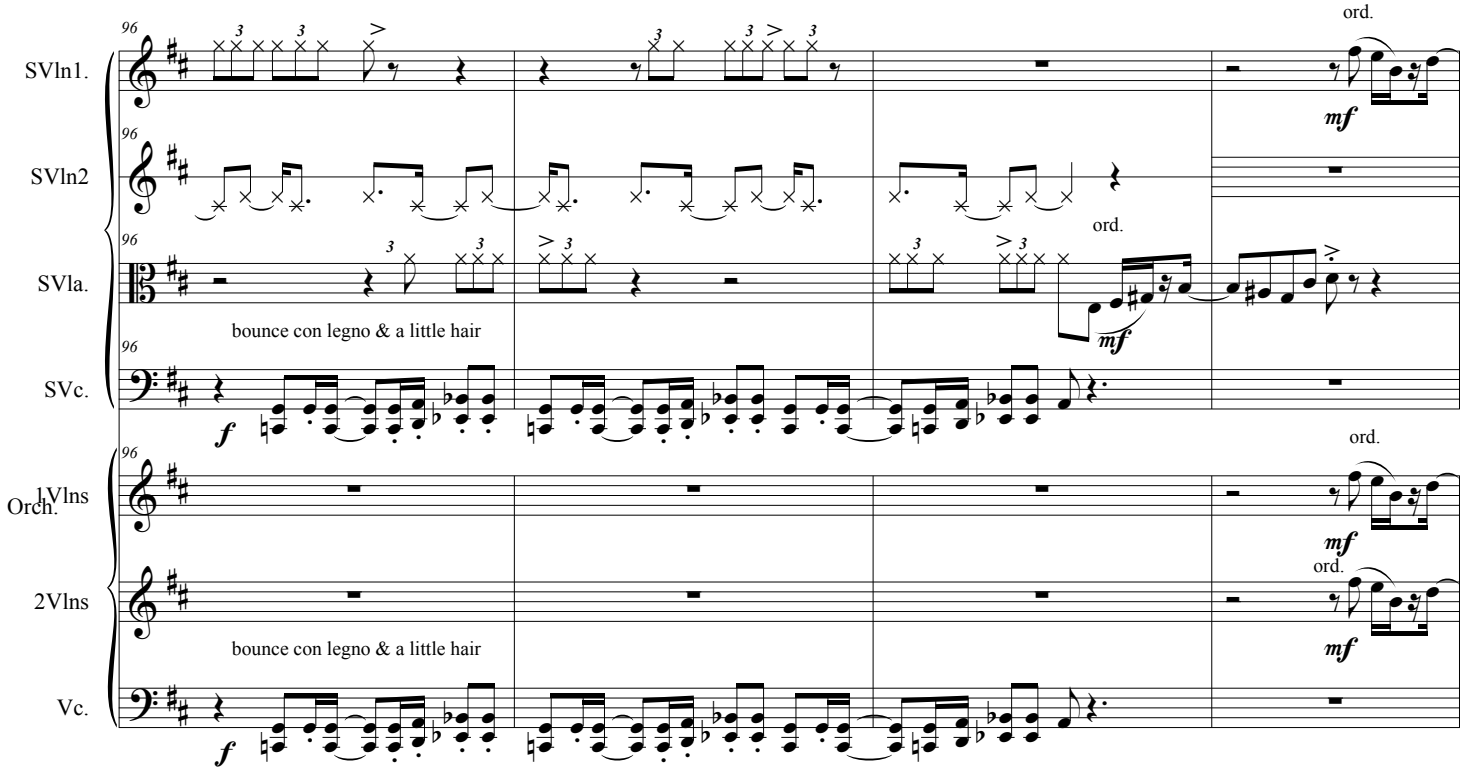

74
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
Orch.
2Vlns
Vlas
Vc.
f
78
SVln1.
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
Orch.
2Vlns
Vc.
D.B.
f
bobby pins

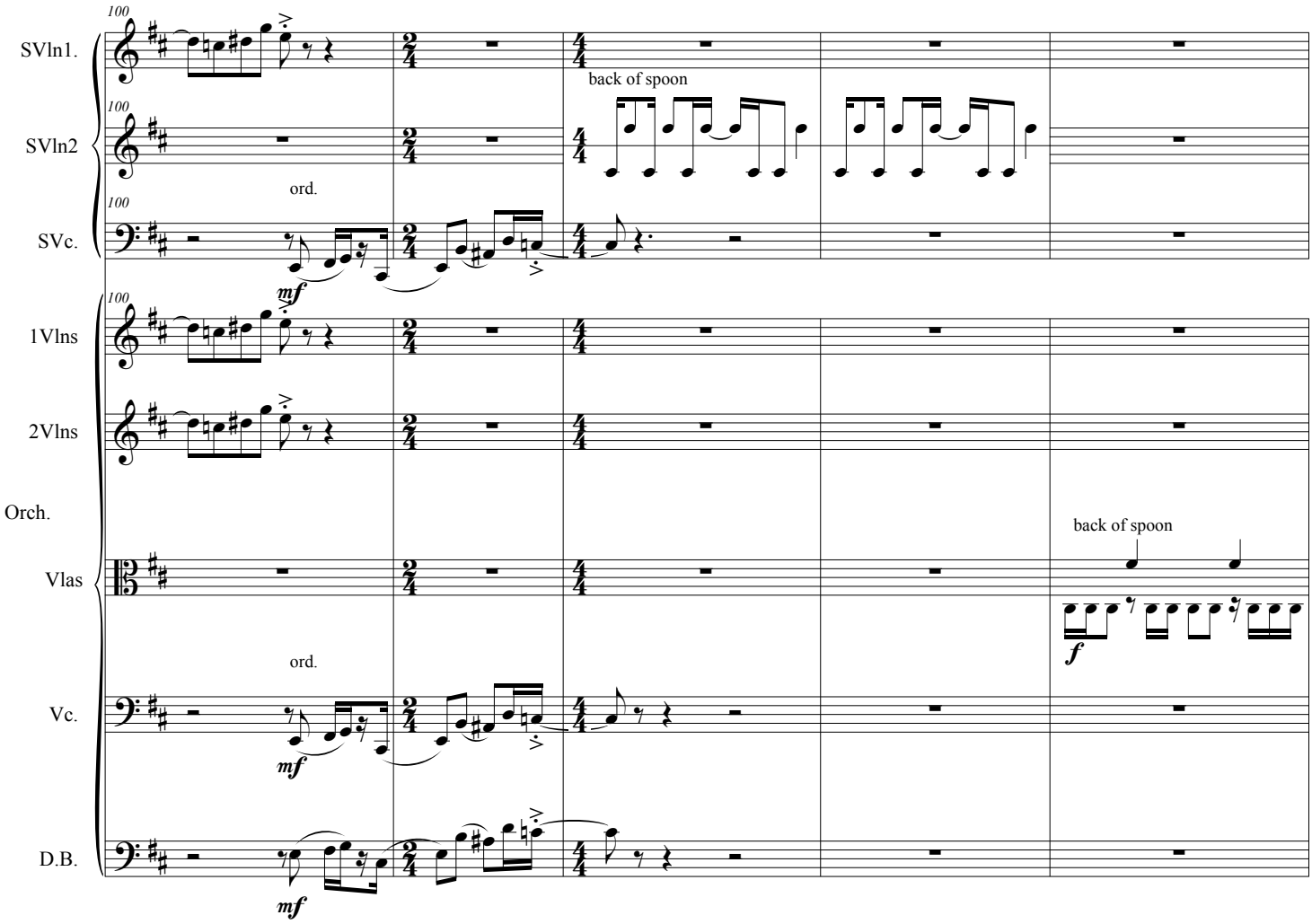

81
SVln1.
SVla.
1Vlns
Orch.
2Vlns
Vc.
D.B.
2
ff

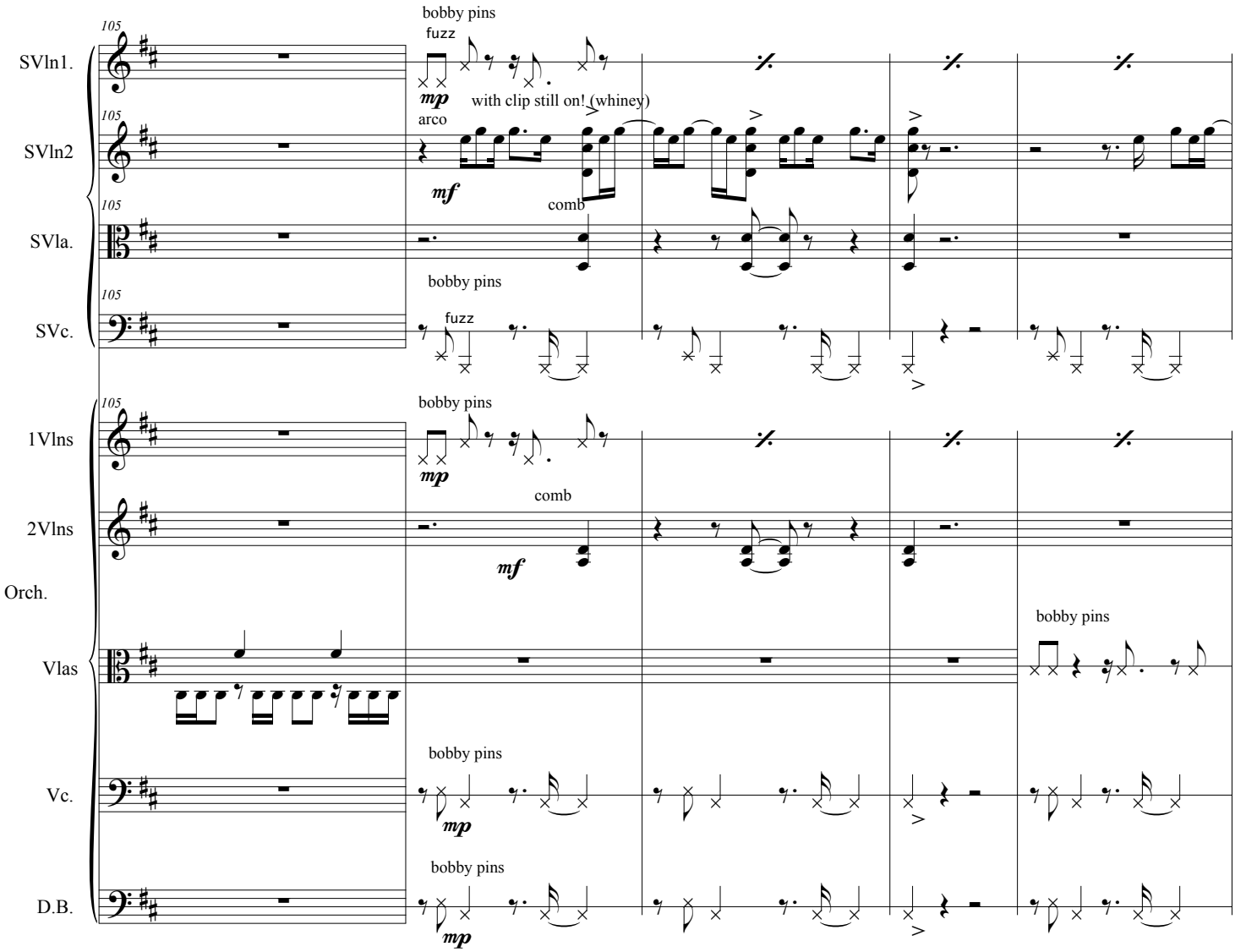

84
SVln1.
SVla.
SVc.
2Vlns
Orch.
Vc.
D.B.
arco
mf
scratch (move bow sideways)
ff
arco
mf

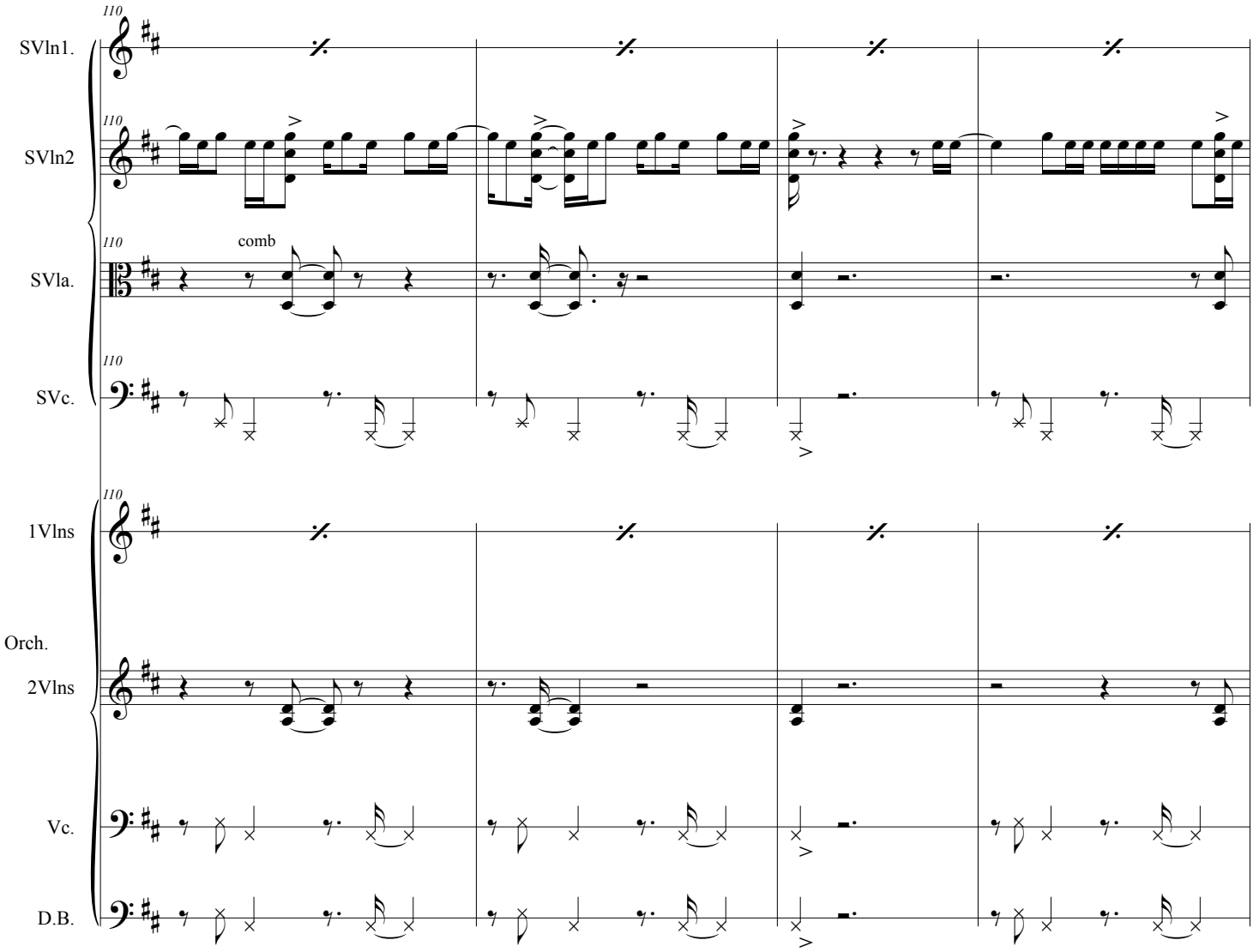

88
SVln1.
88
arco
SVln2
mp
88
SVla.
88
SVc.
scratch (move bow sideways)
88
1Vlns
arco
2Vlns
mp
Orch.
scratch (move bow sideways)
Vlas
scratch (move bow sideways)
Vc.
D.B.

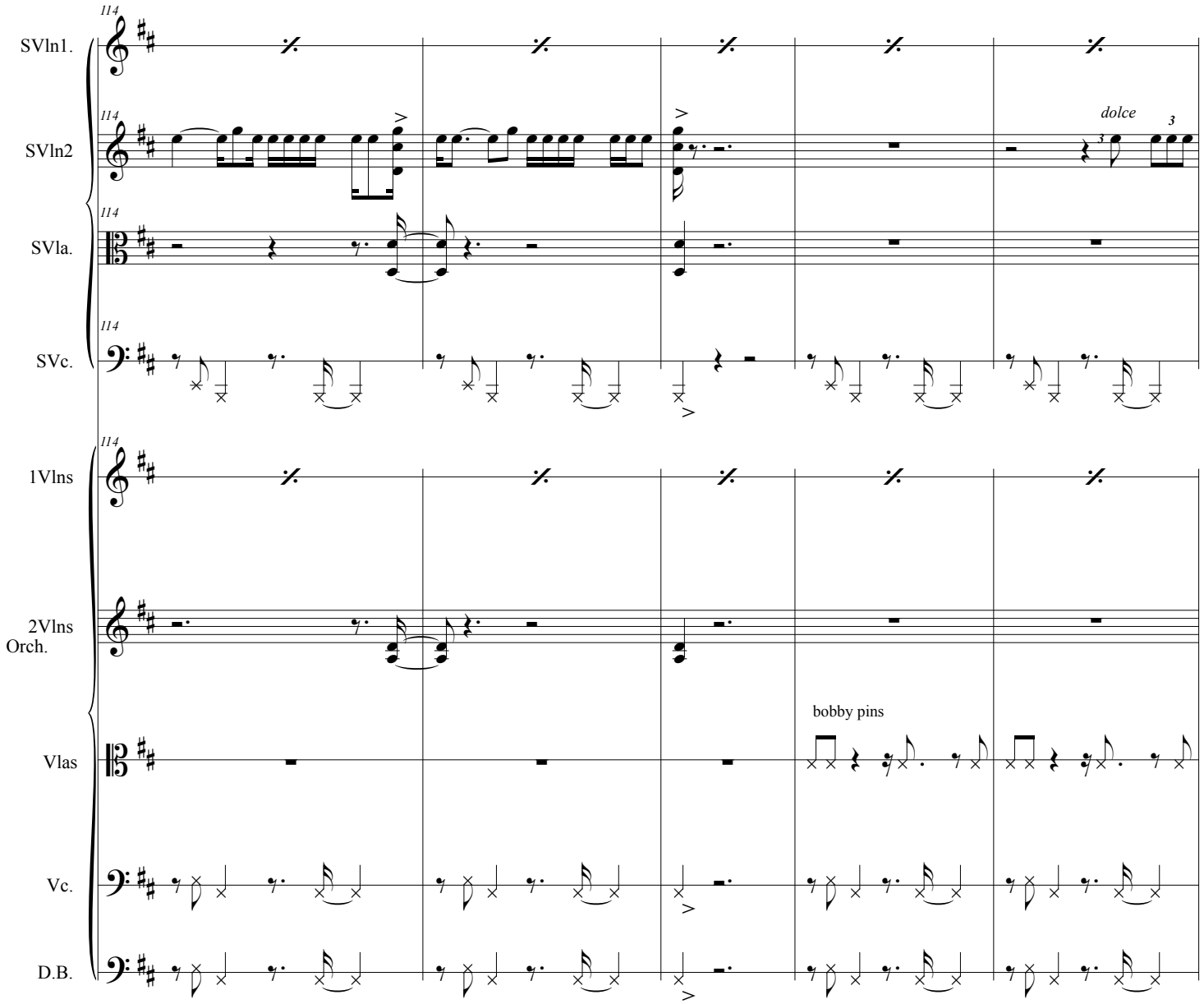

92
SVln1.
SVln2
bobby pins
f
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.

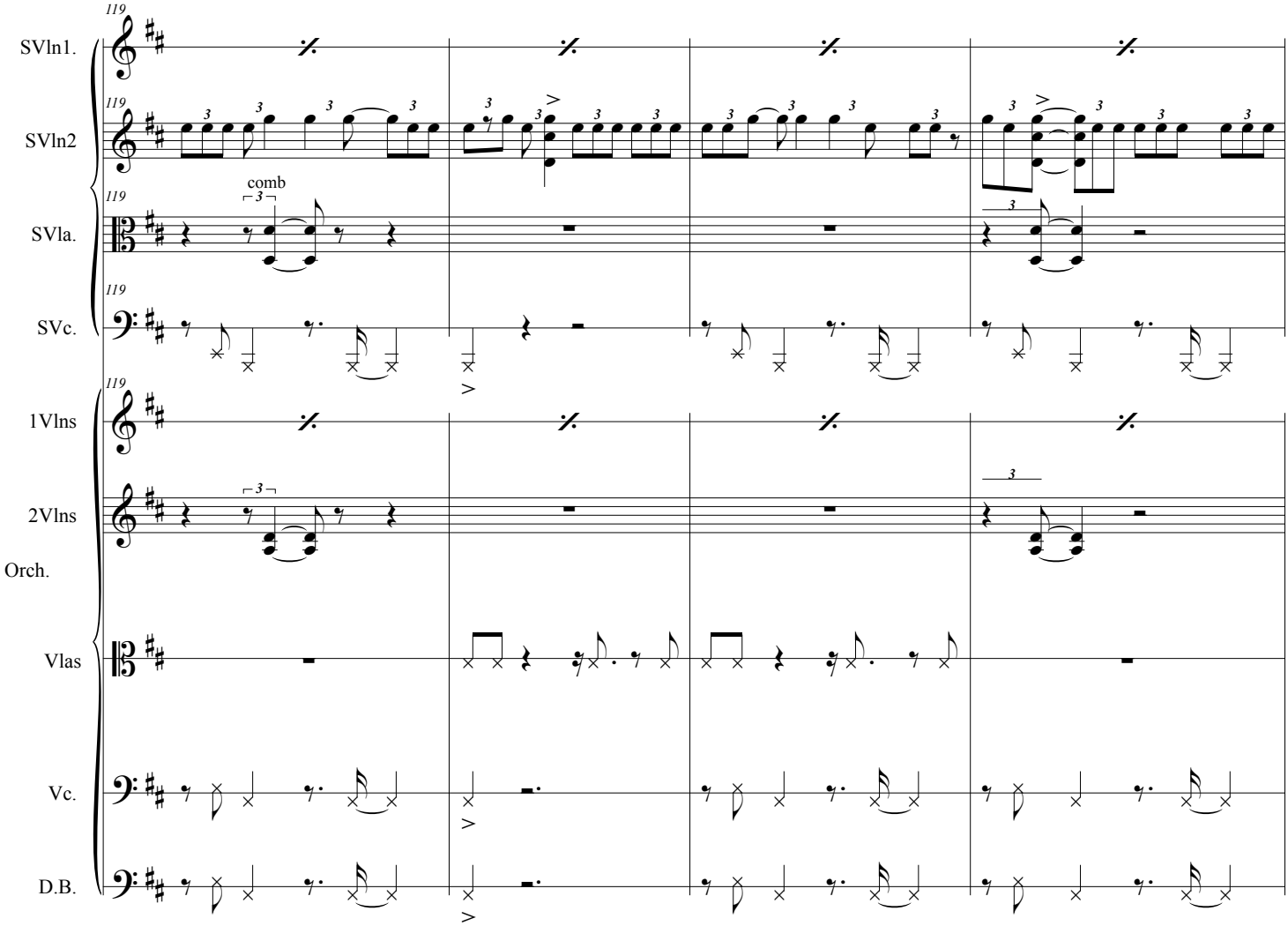

96
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
bounce con legno & a little hair
f
ord.
mf
1Vlns
Orch.
2Vlns
Vc.

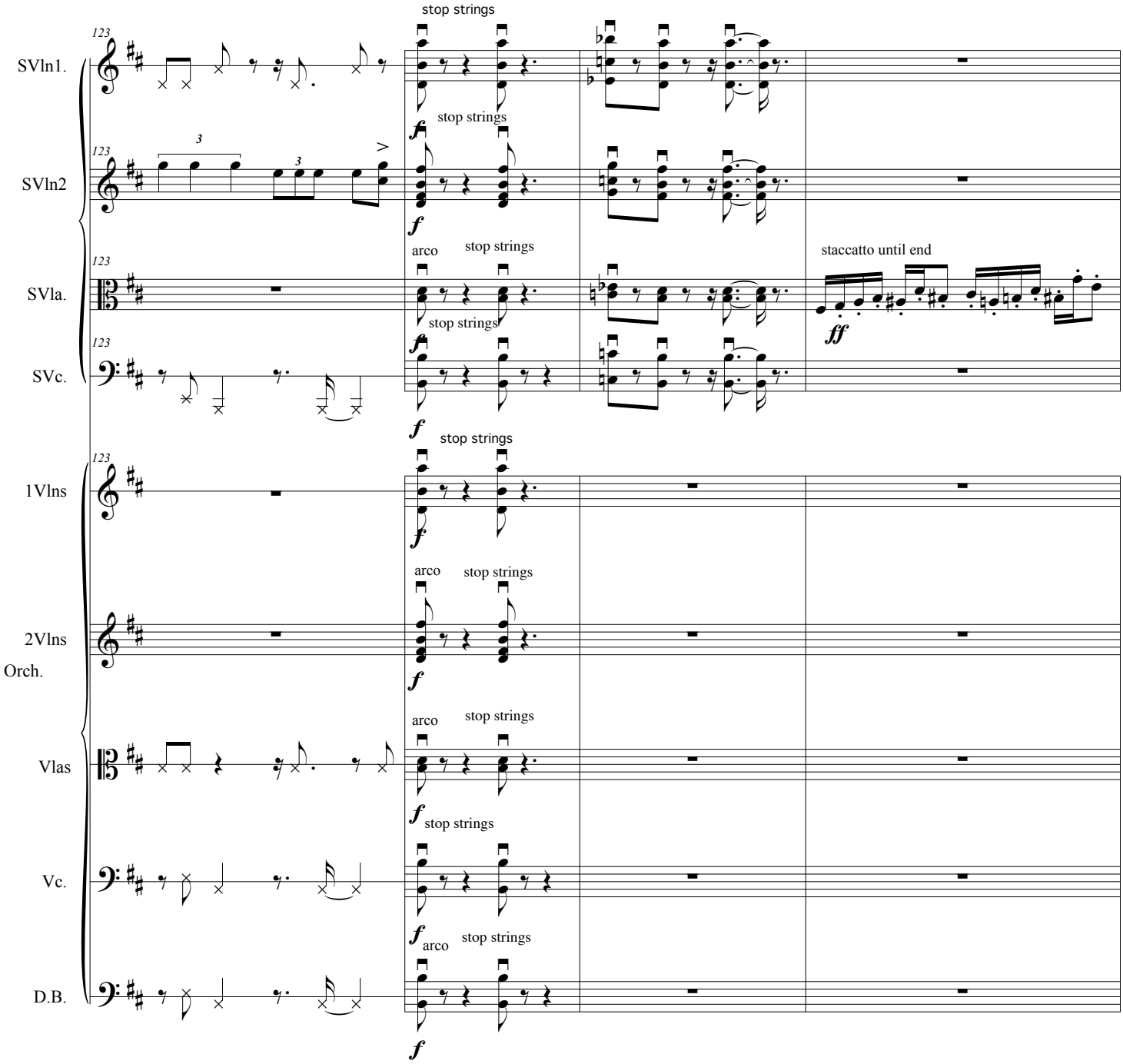

100
SVln1.
back of spoon
100
SVln2
ord.
100
SVc.
mf
100
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
back of spoon
Vlas
f
ord.
Vc.
mf
D.B.
mf

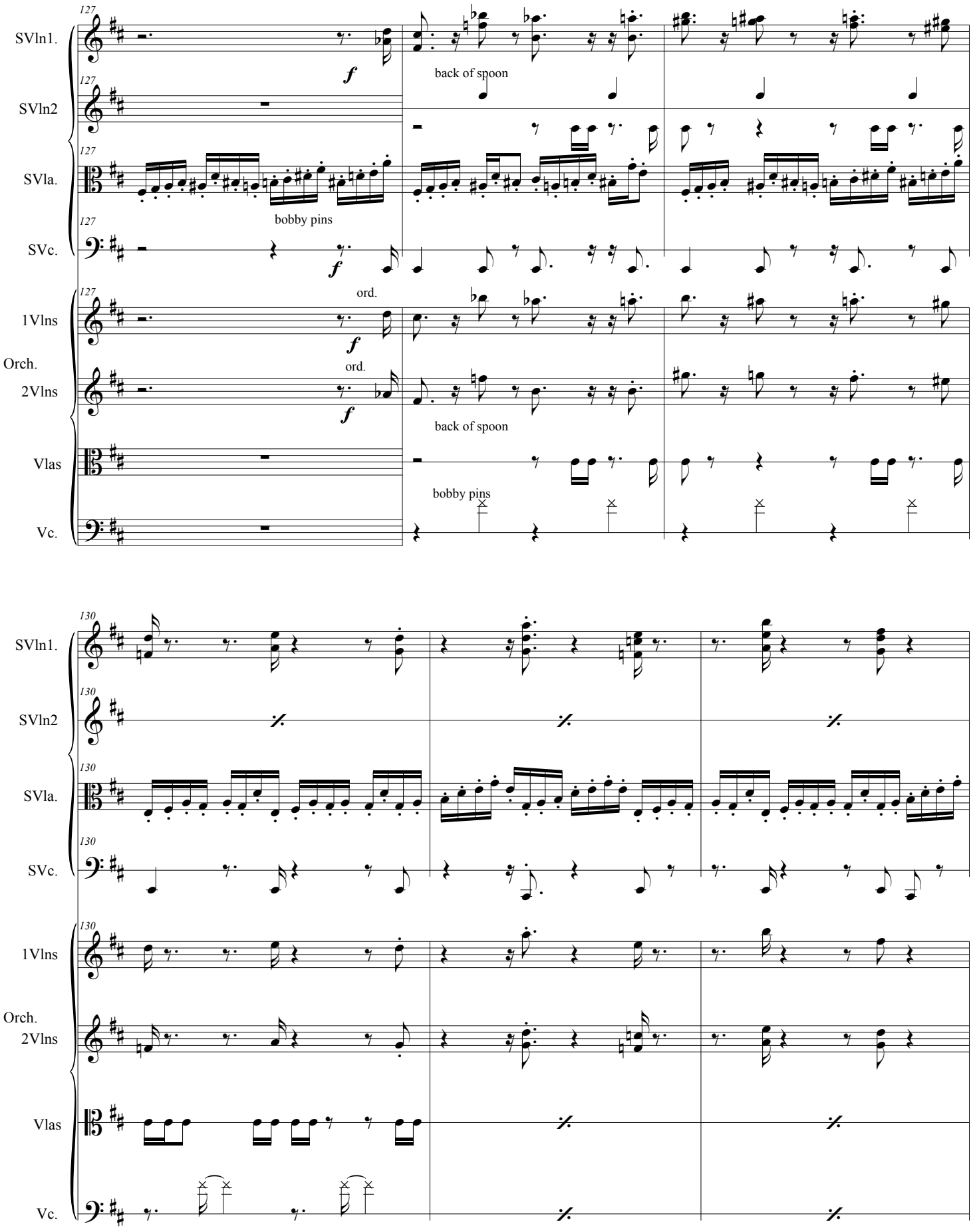

105
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
bobby pins
fuzz
mp
with clip still on! (whiney)
arco
mf
comb
bobby pins
fuzz
bobby pins
mp
comb
mf
bobby pins
bobby pins
mp
bobby pins
mp

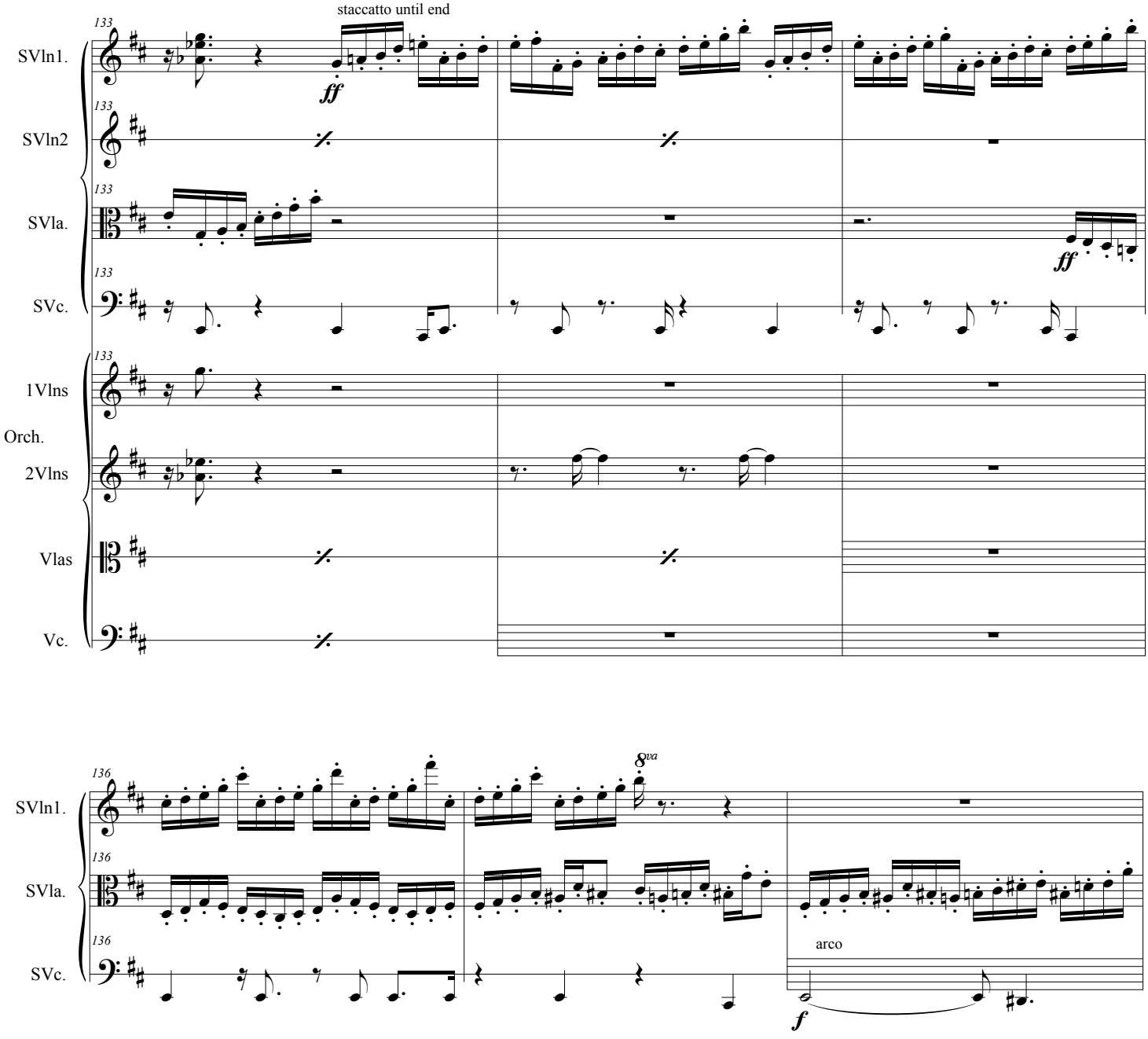

110
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
comb
SVc.
1Vlns
Orch.
2Vlns
Vc.
D.B.

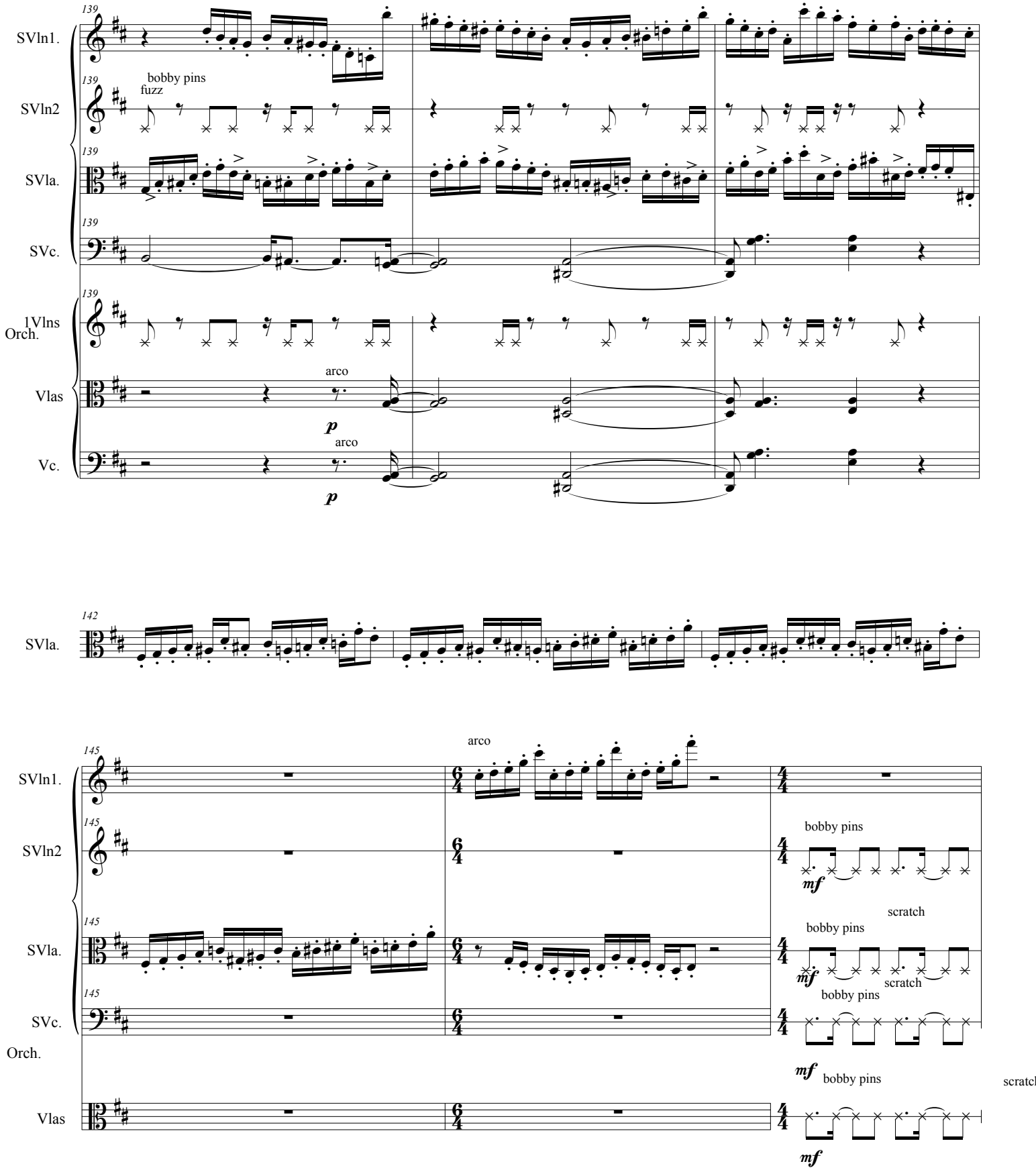

114
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
dolce
3
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
bobby pins
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.

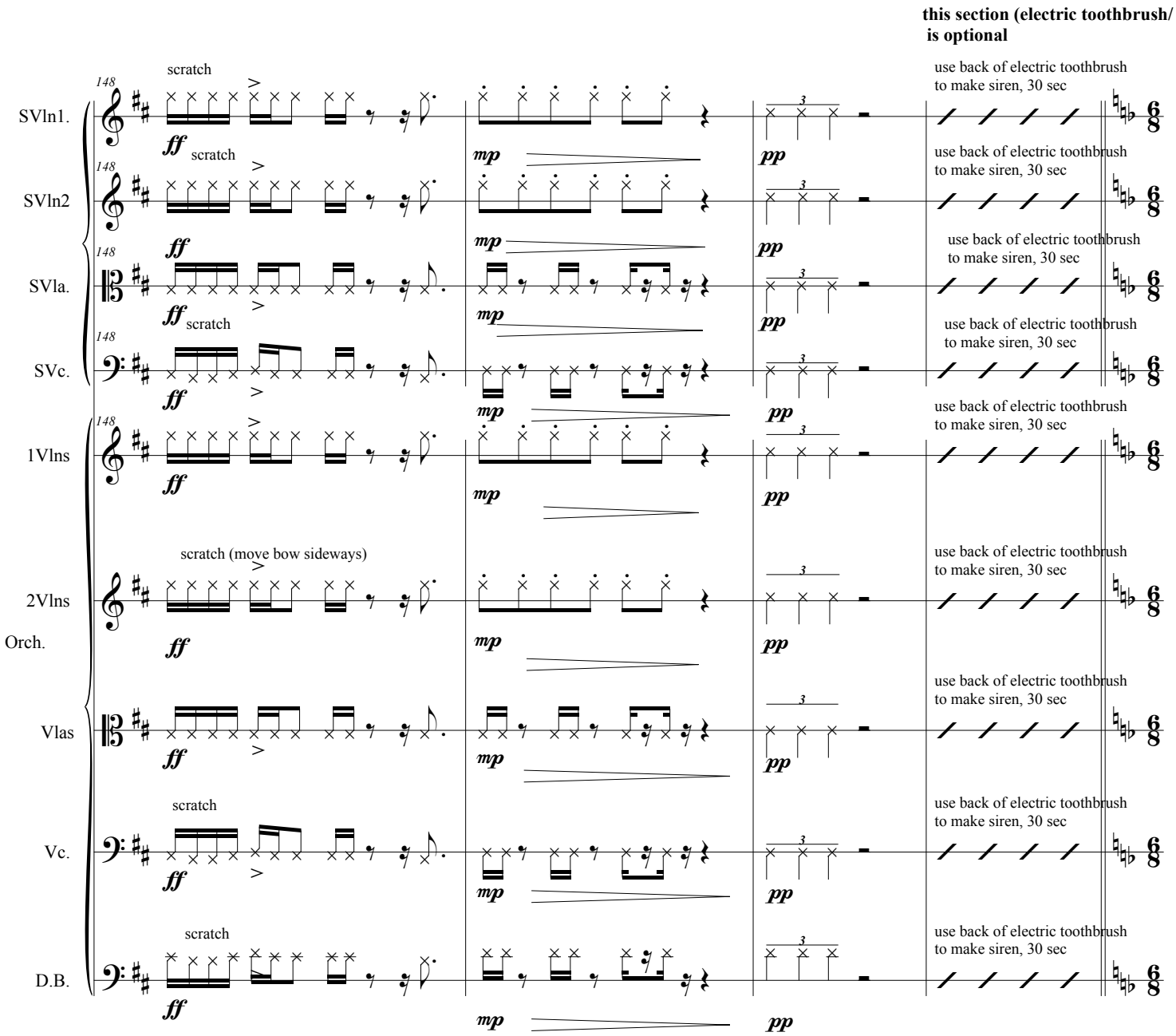

119
SVln1.
SVln2
comb
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.


SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
123
stop strings
arco
stop strings
staccato until end
f
ff

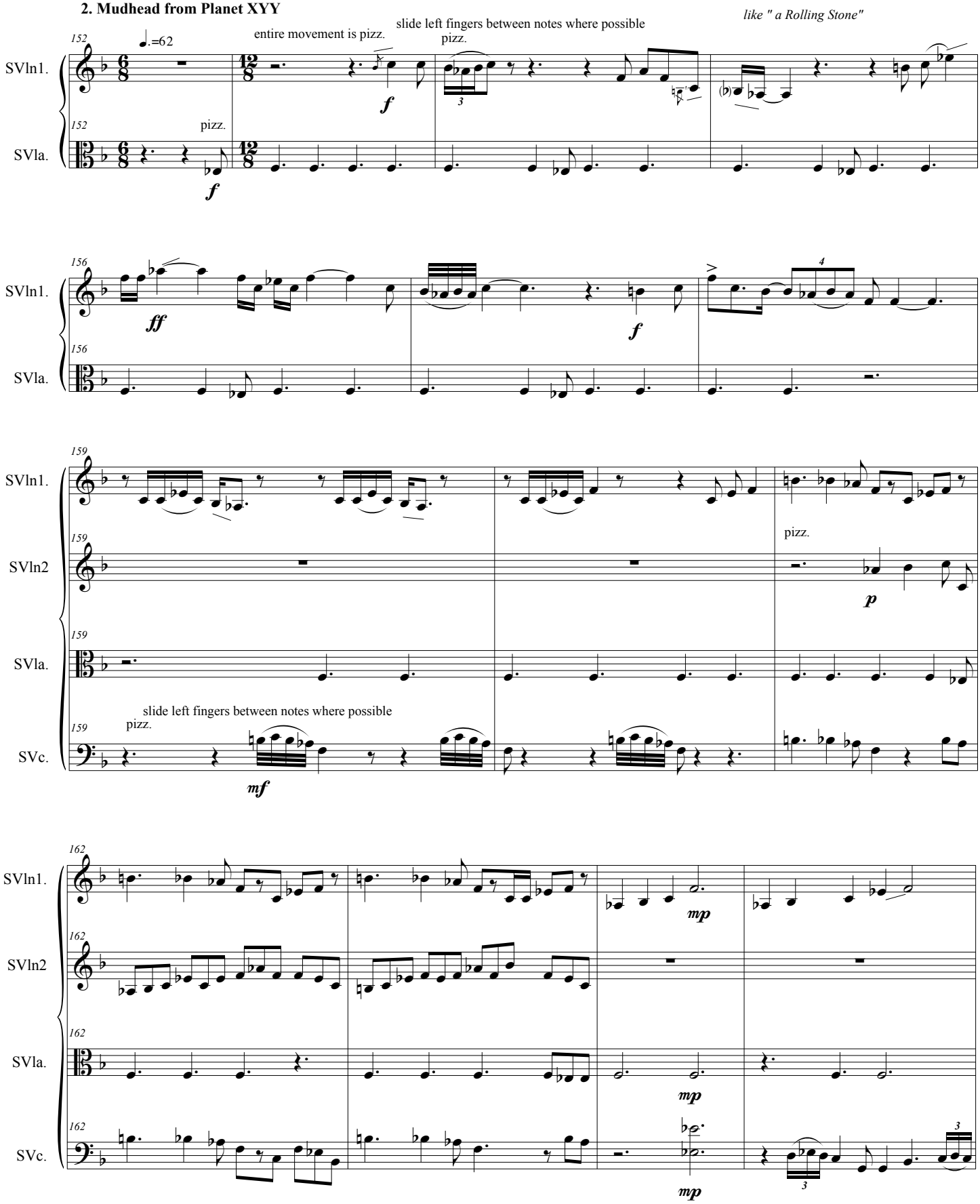

127
SVln1.
f
back of spoon
127
SVln2
127
SVla.
bobby pins
127
SVc.
f
127
ord.
1Vlns
f
Orch.
ord.
2Vlns
f
back of spoon
Vlas
bobby pins
Vc.
130
SVln1.
130
SVln2
130
SVla.
130
SVc.
130
1Vlns
Orch.
2Vlns
Vlas
Vc.

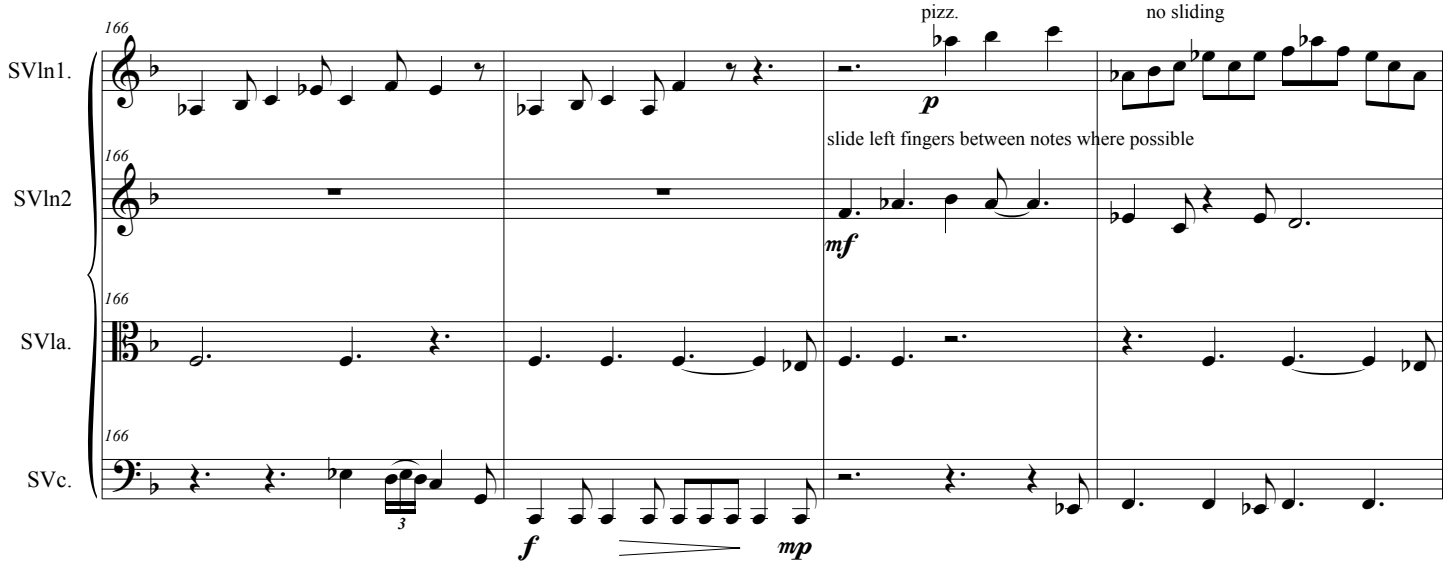

133
staccatto until end
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
ff
ff
1Vlns
Orch.
2Vlns
Vlas
Vc.
136
8va
SVln1.
SVla.
SVc.
arco
f

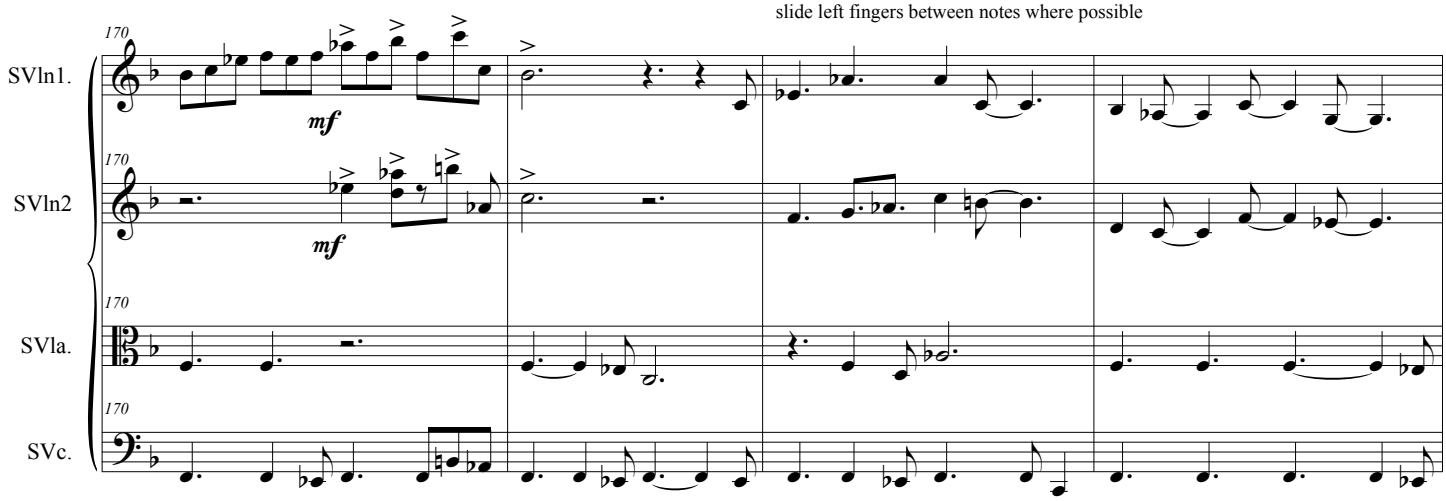

139
SVln1.
139
bobby pins
fuzz
SVln2
139
SVla.
139
SVc.
139
1Vlns
Orch.
arco
Vlas
p
arco
Vc.
p
142
SVla.
145
arco
SVln1.
145
SVln2
bobby pins
mf
145
scratch
SVla.
bobby pins
mf
scratch
bobby pins
145
SVc.
Orch.
mf
bobby pins
scratch
Vlas
mf

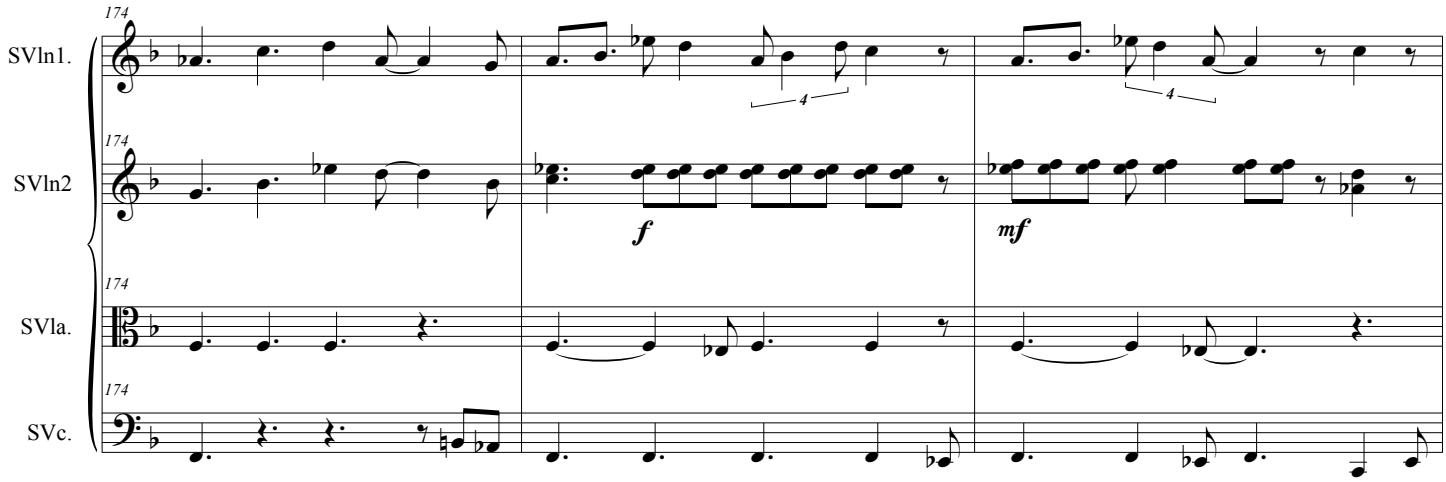

this section (electric toothbrush/ vibrator
is optional
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
148
scratch
scratch (move bow sideways)
ff
mp
pp
use back of electric toothbrush
to make siren, 30 sec

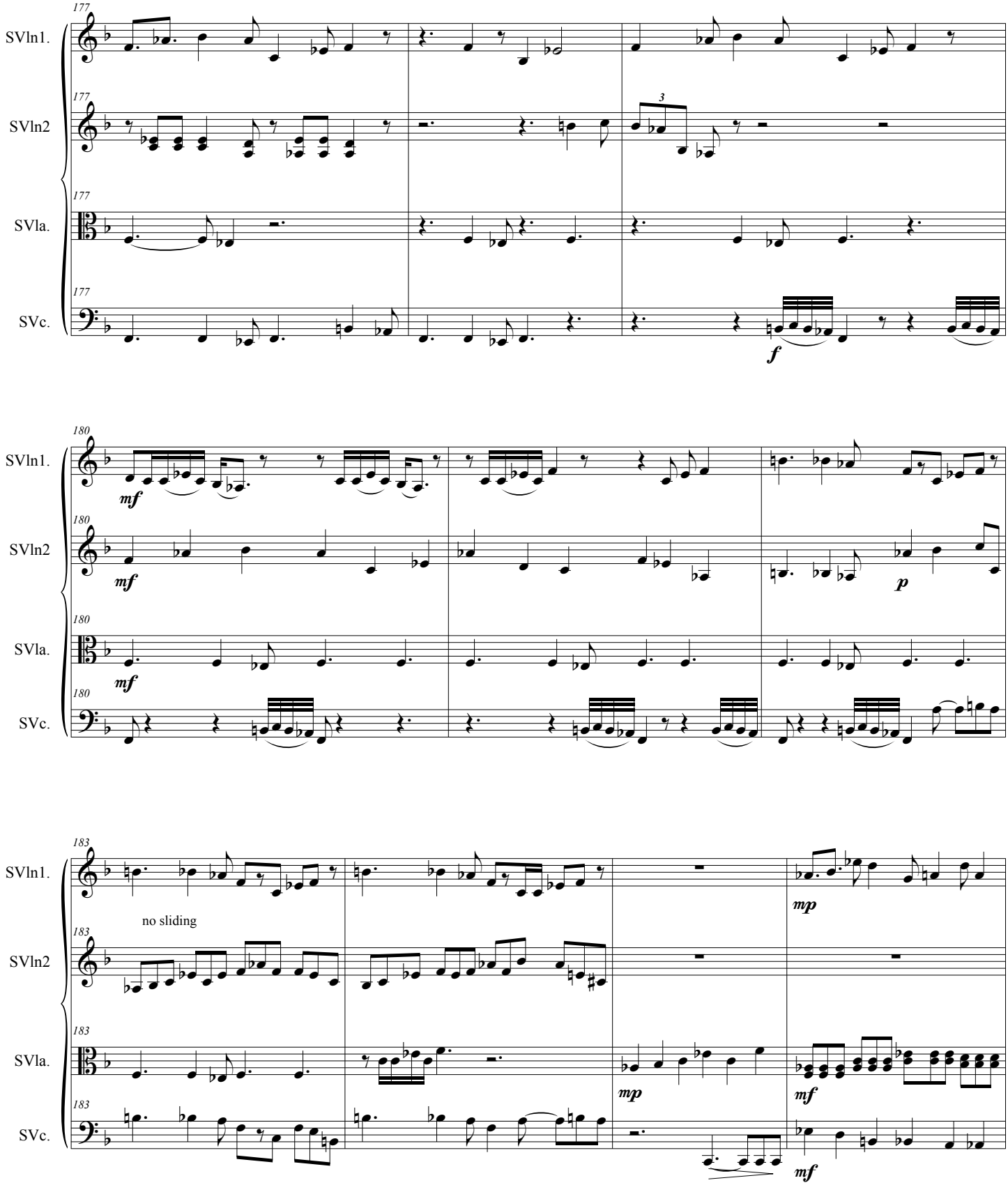
2. Mudhead from Planet XYY

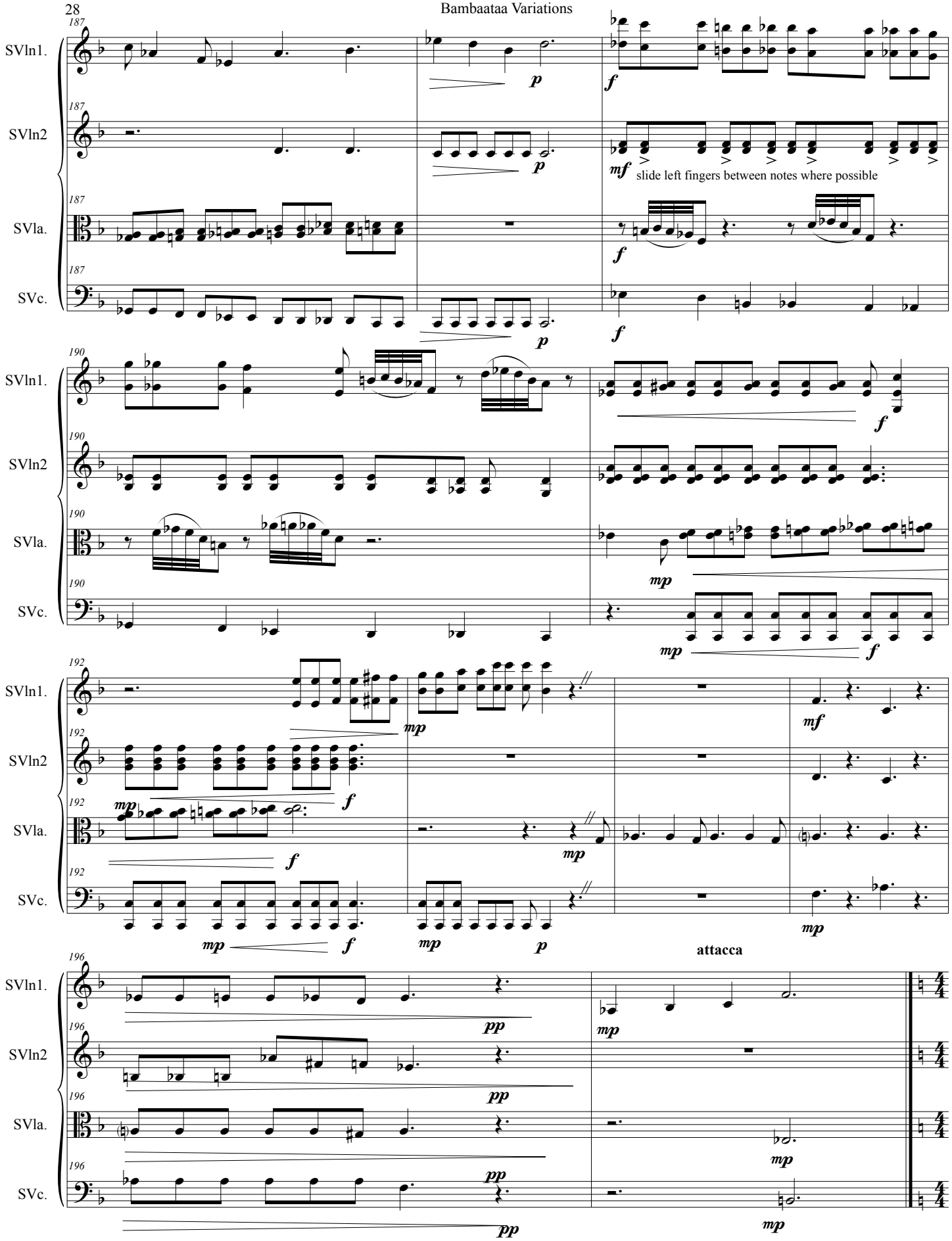


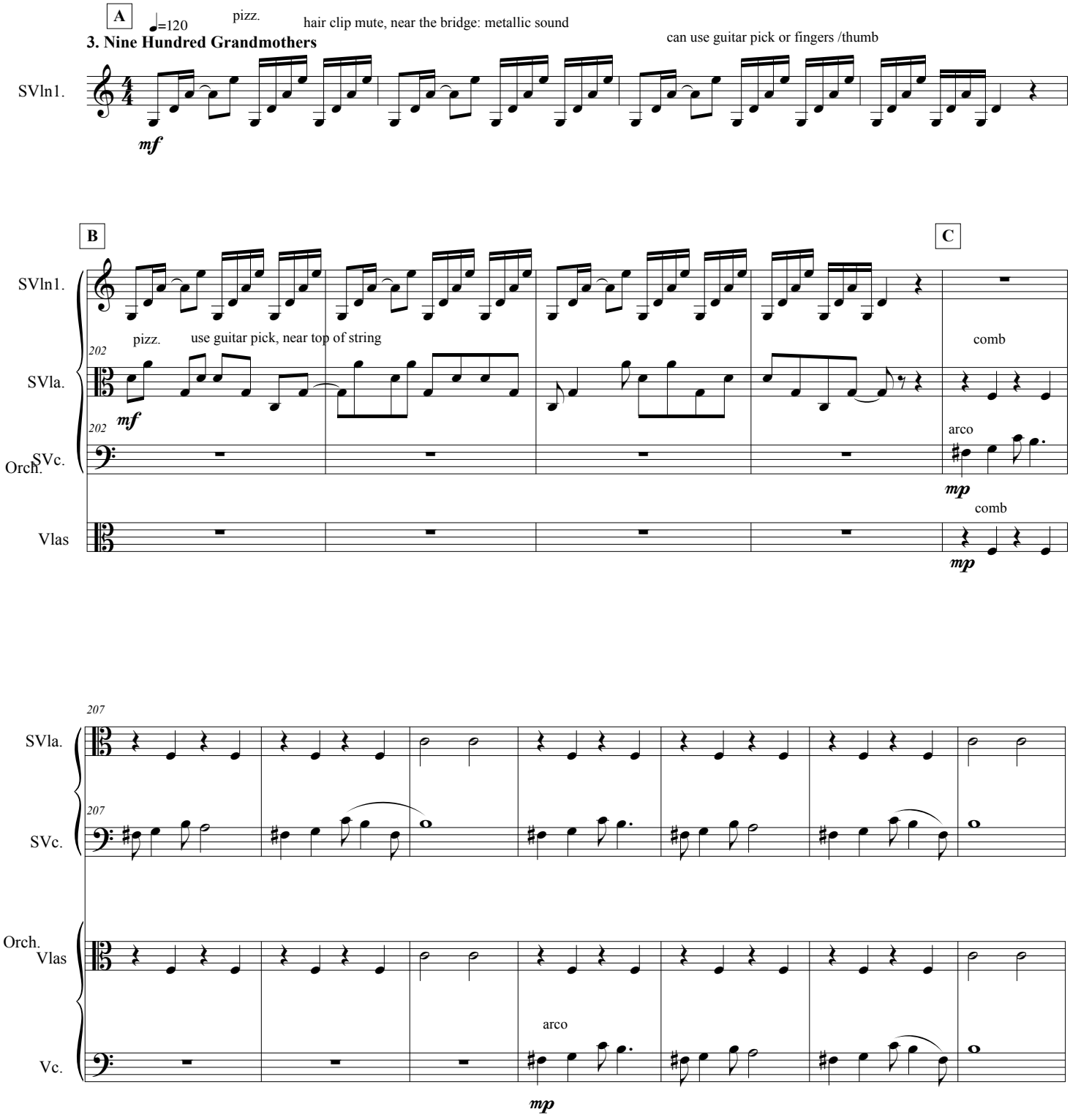

166
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
pizz.
no sliding
p
slide left fingers between notes where possible
mf
f
mp

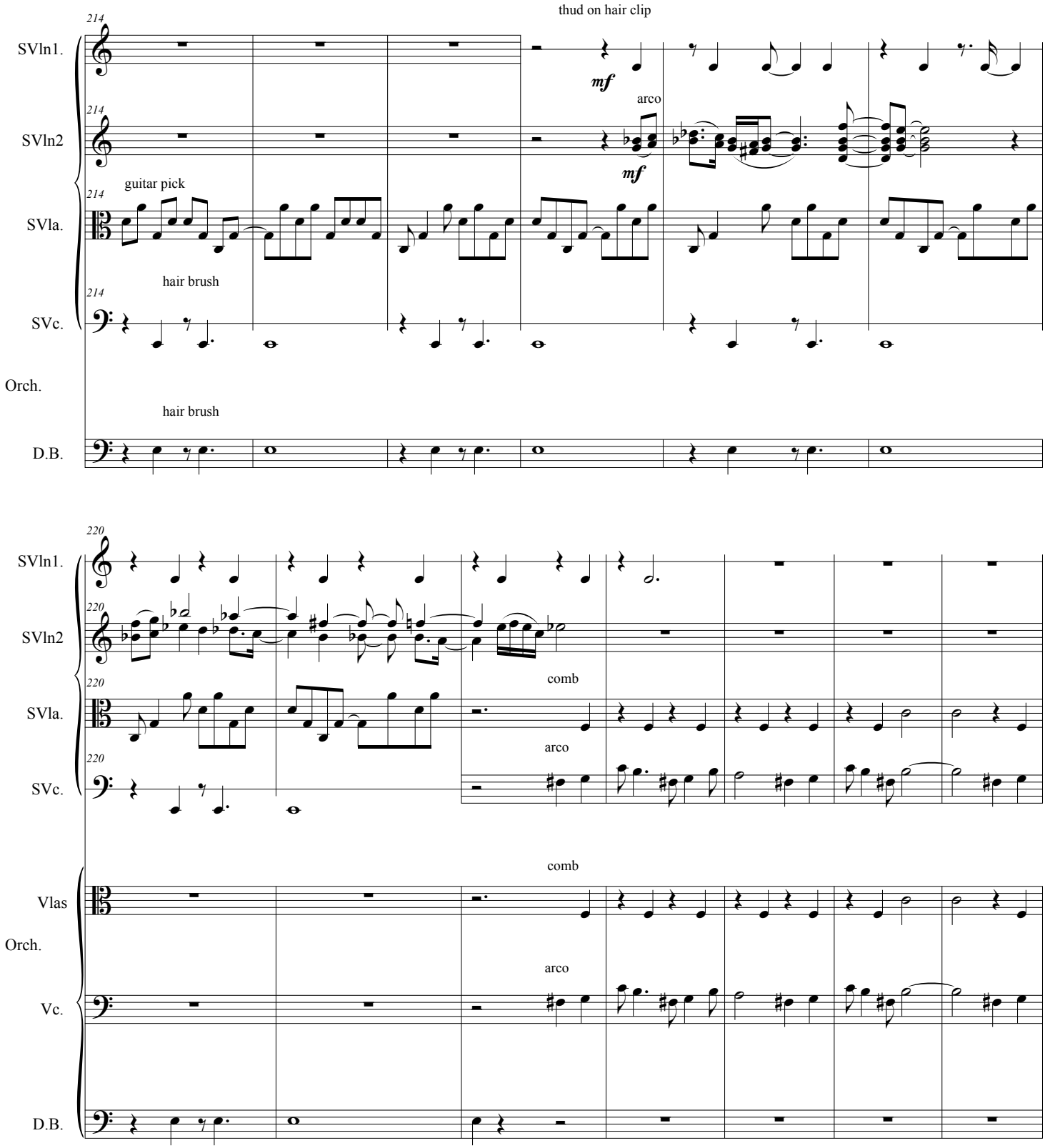

170
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
slide left fingers between notes where possible
mf
mf

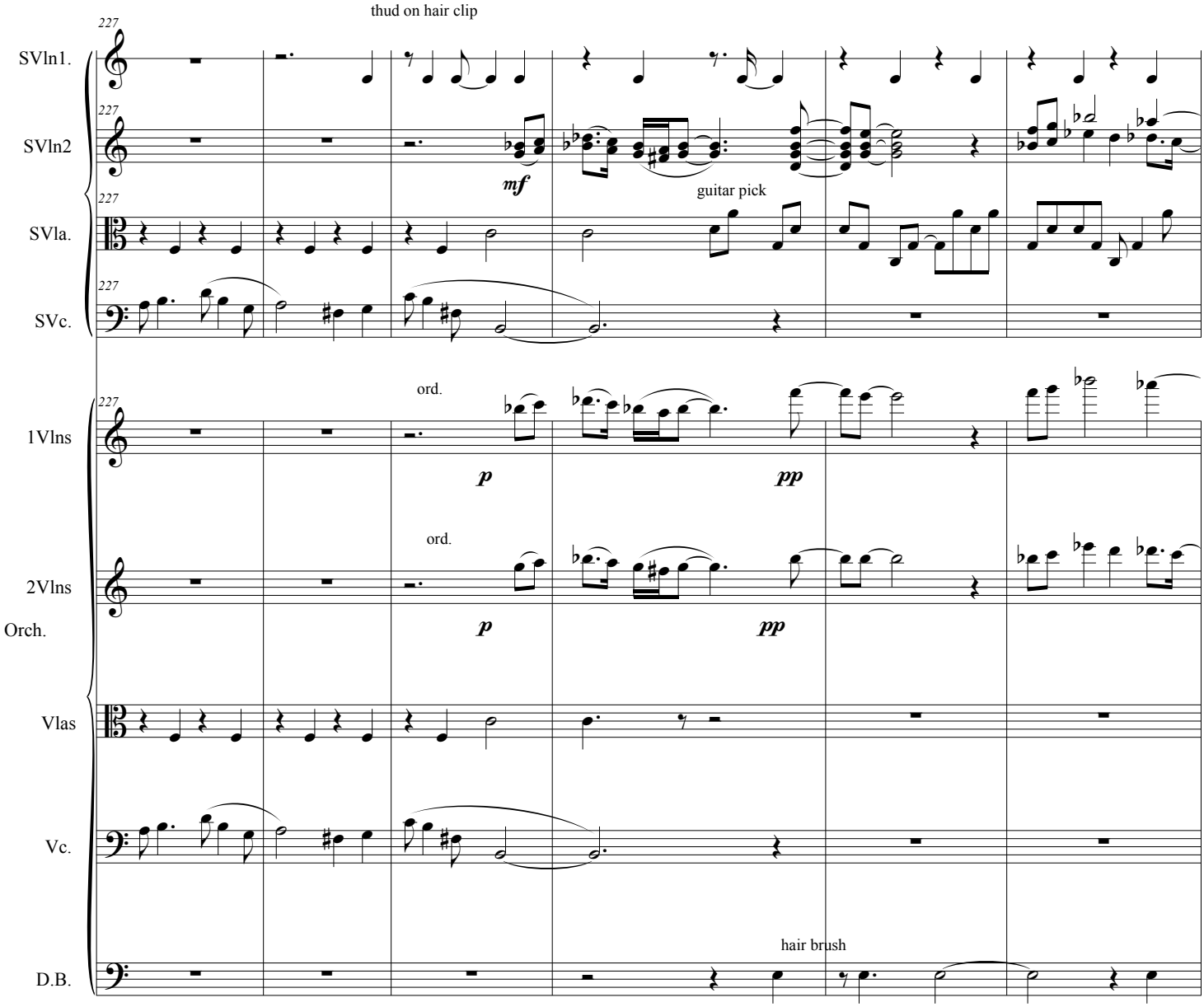

174
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
4
4
f
mf

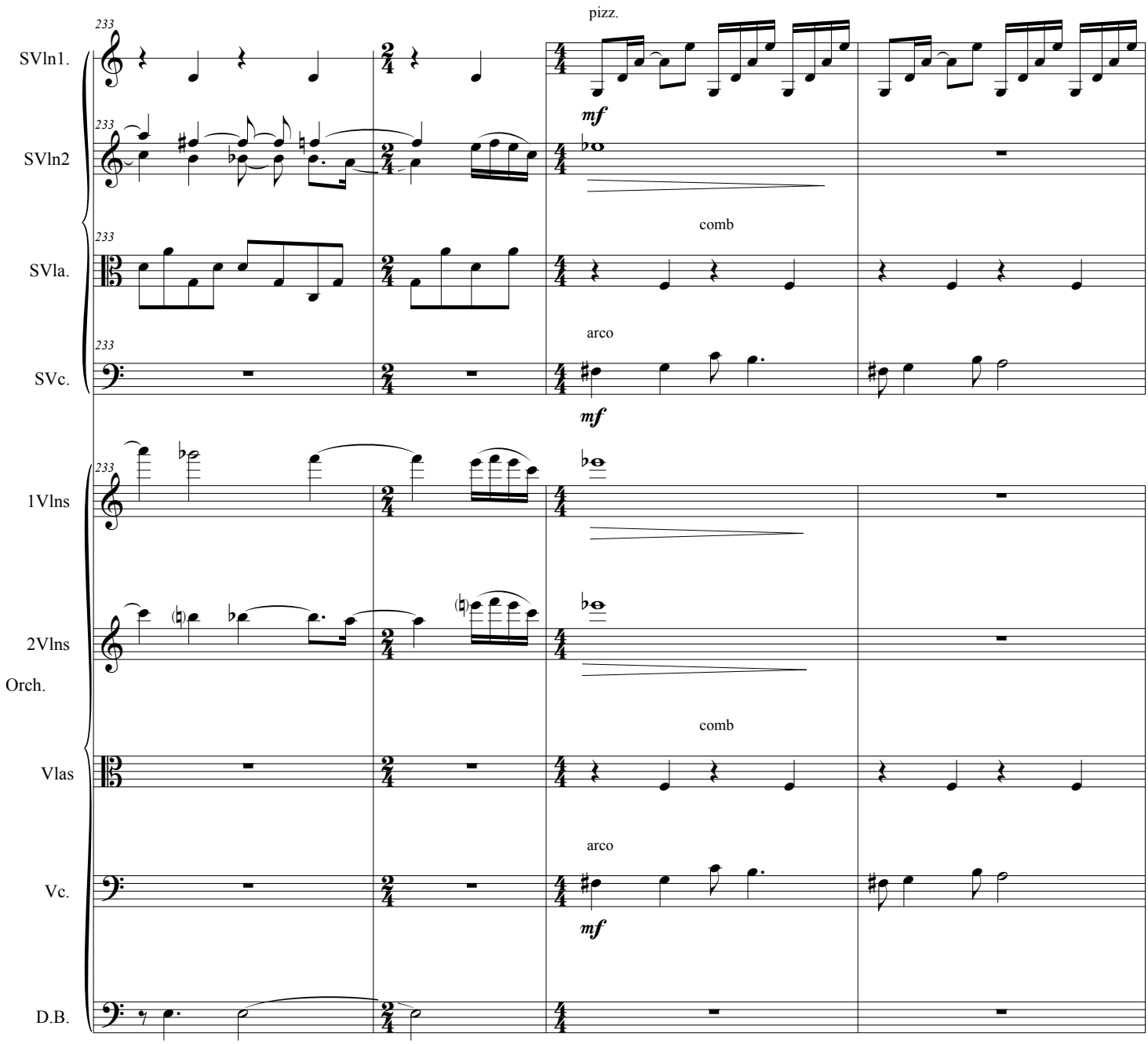

177
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
3
f
180
mf
p
183
no sliding
mp

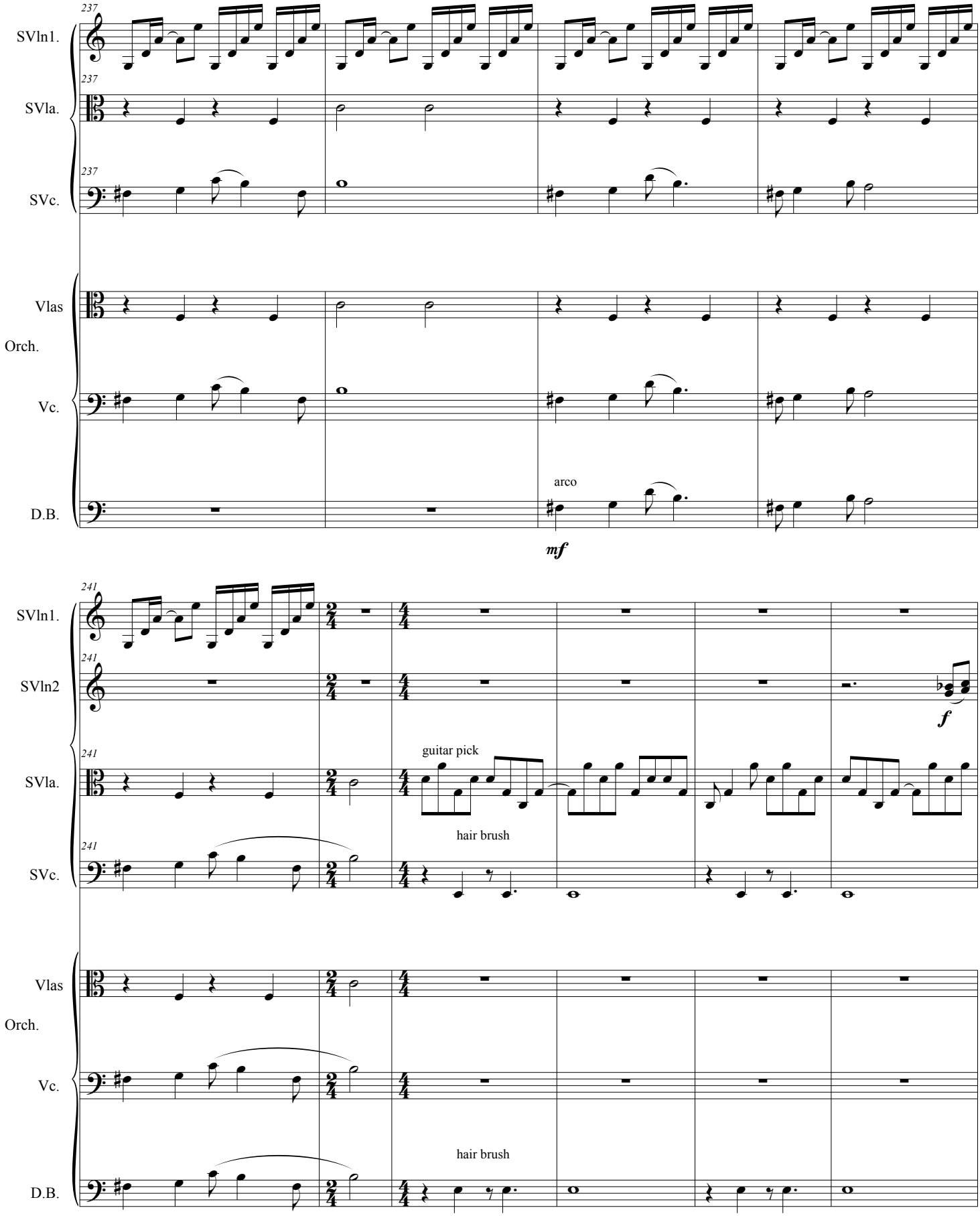

187
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
p
f
mf
slide left fingers between notes where possible
190
mp
192
attacca
196
pp

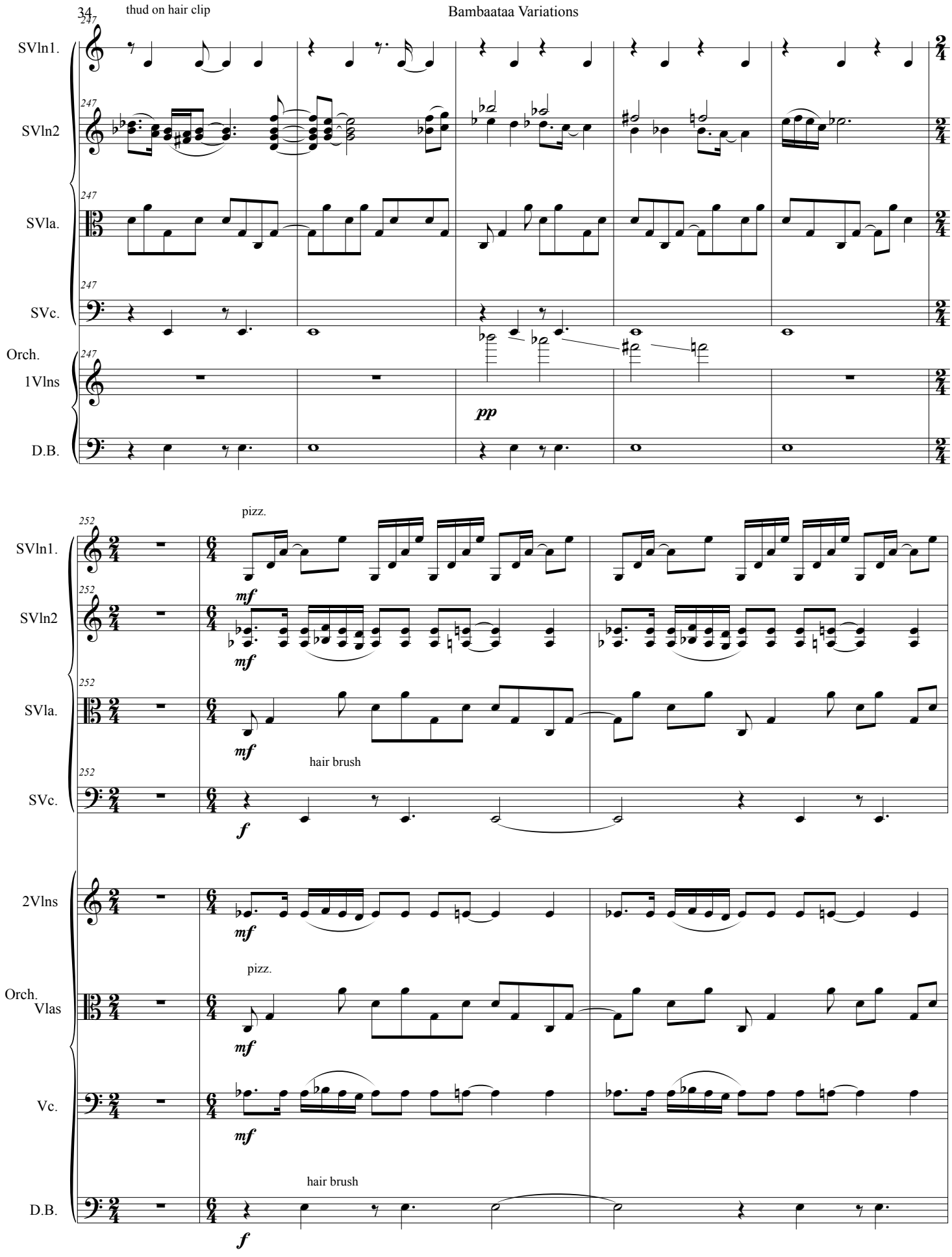

A
♩=120
pizz.
hair clip mute, near the bridge: metallic sound
3. Nine Hundred Grandmothers
can use guitar pick or fingers /thumb
SVln1.
mf
B
C
SVln1.
pizz.
use guitar pick, near top of string
comb
202
SVla.
mf
202
arco
Orch.
SVc.
mp
comb
Vlas
mp
207
SVla.
207
SVc.
Orch.
Vlas
arco
Vc.
mp

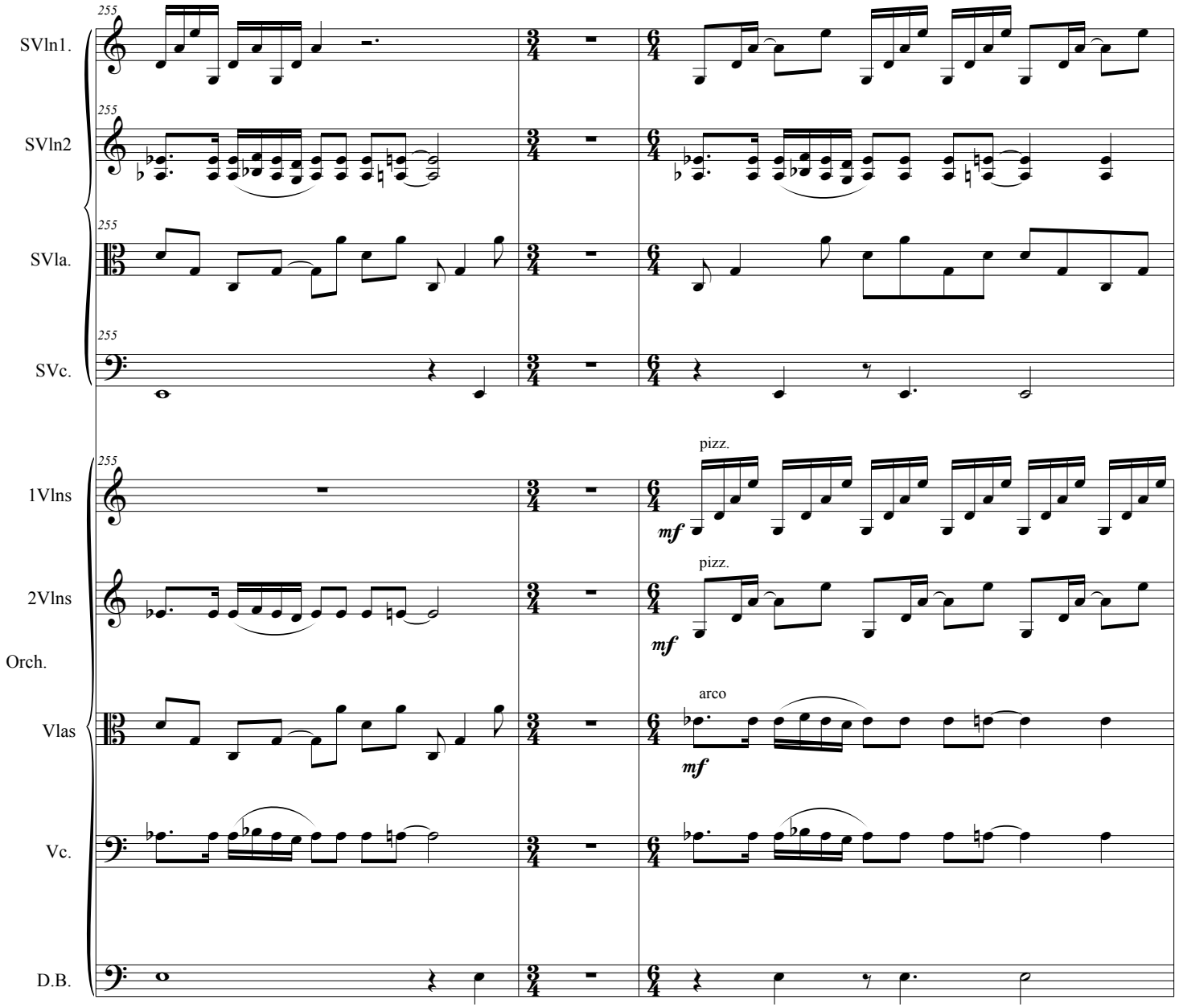

thud on hair clip
214
SVln1.
mf
arco
214
SVln2
mf
guitar pick
214
SVla.
hair brush
214
SVc.
Orch.
hair brush
D.B.
220
SVln1.
220
SVln2
comb
220
SVla.
arco
220
SVc.
comb
Vlas
Orch.
arco
Vc.
D.B.


thud on hair clip
227
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
mf
guitar pick
ord.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
p
pp
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
hair brush

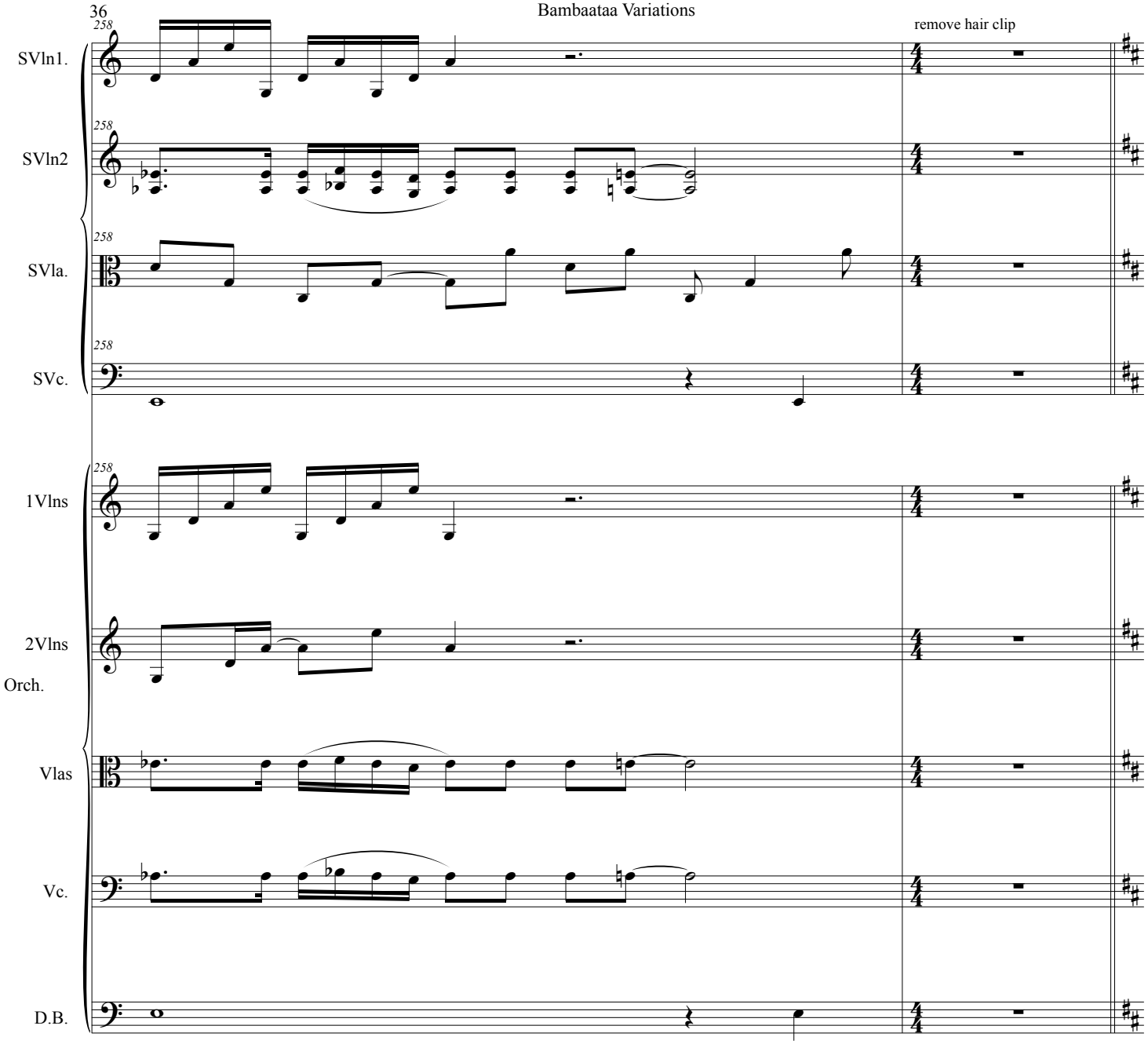

233
SVln1.
pizz.
mf
SVln2
comb
SVla.
arco
SVc.
mf
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
comb
Vlas
arco
Vc.
mf
D.B.


237
SVln1.
237
SVla.
237
SVc.
Vlas
Orch.
Vc.
D.B.
arco
mf
241
SVln1.
241
SVln2
241
SVla.
241
SVc.
f
guitar pick
hair brush
Vlas
Orch.
Vc.
D.B.
hair brush

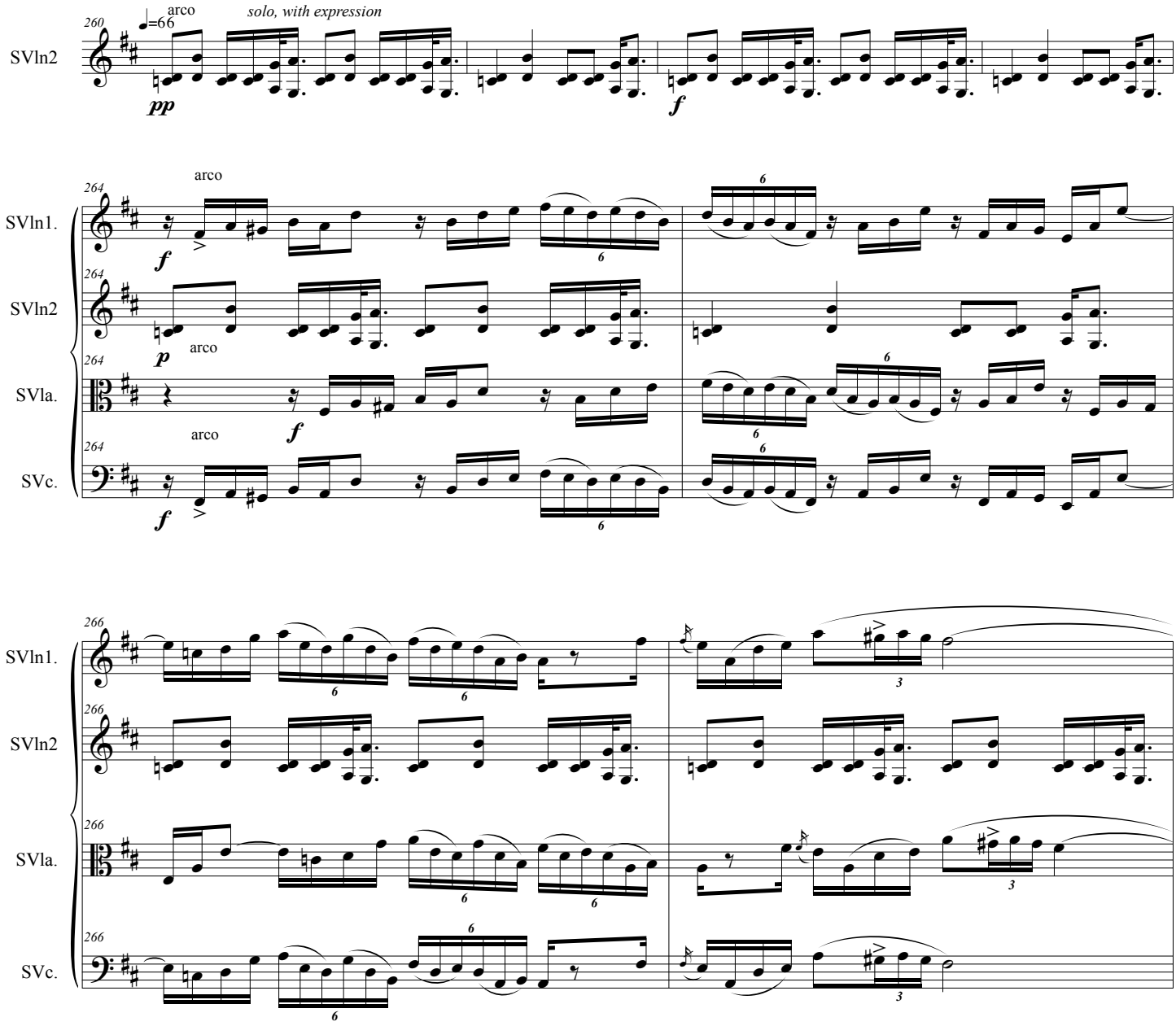

thud on hair clip
247
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
Orch.
1Vlns
D.B.
pp
252
pizz.
mf
hair brush
f
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.

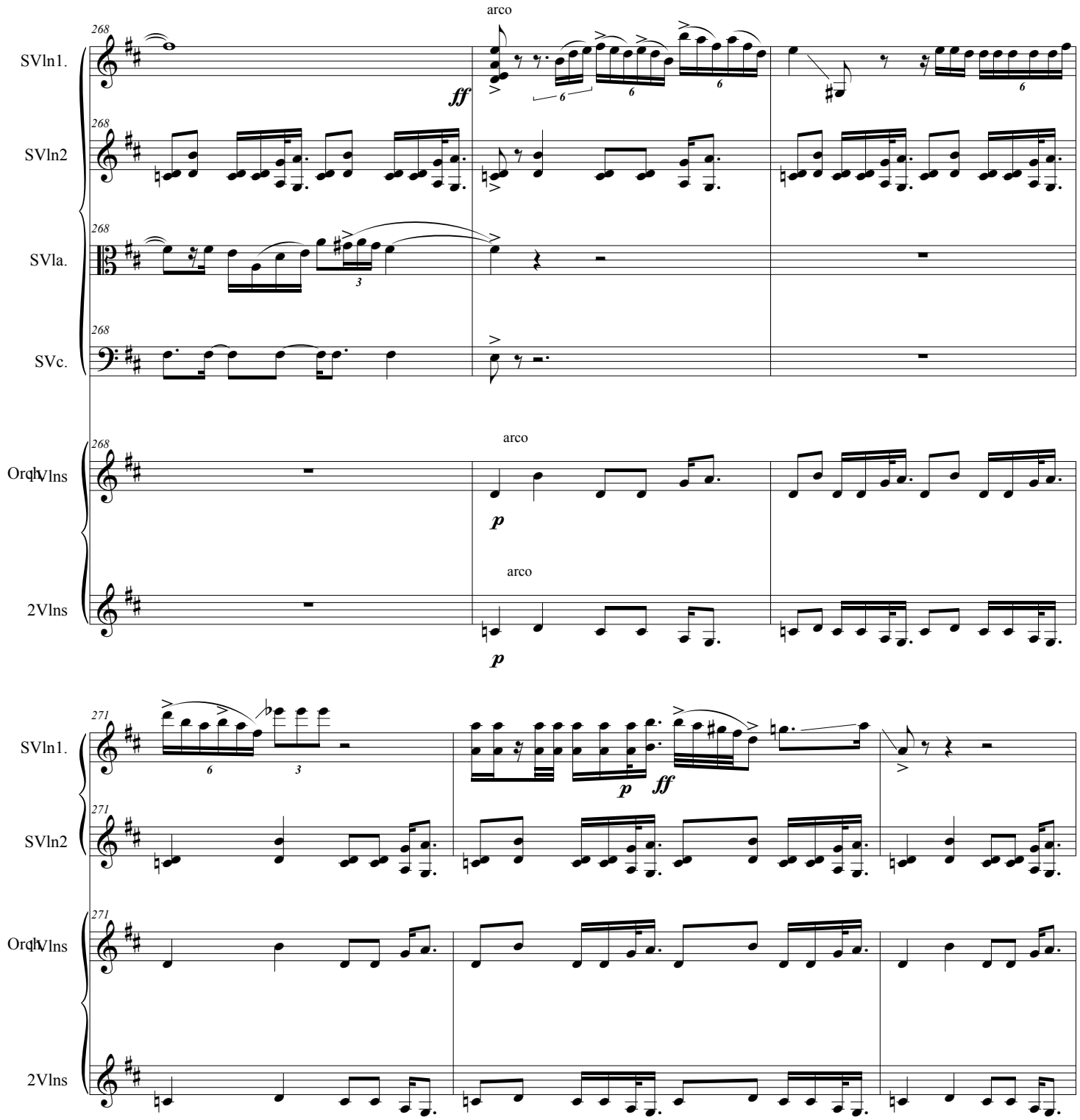

255
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
pizz.
mf
arco

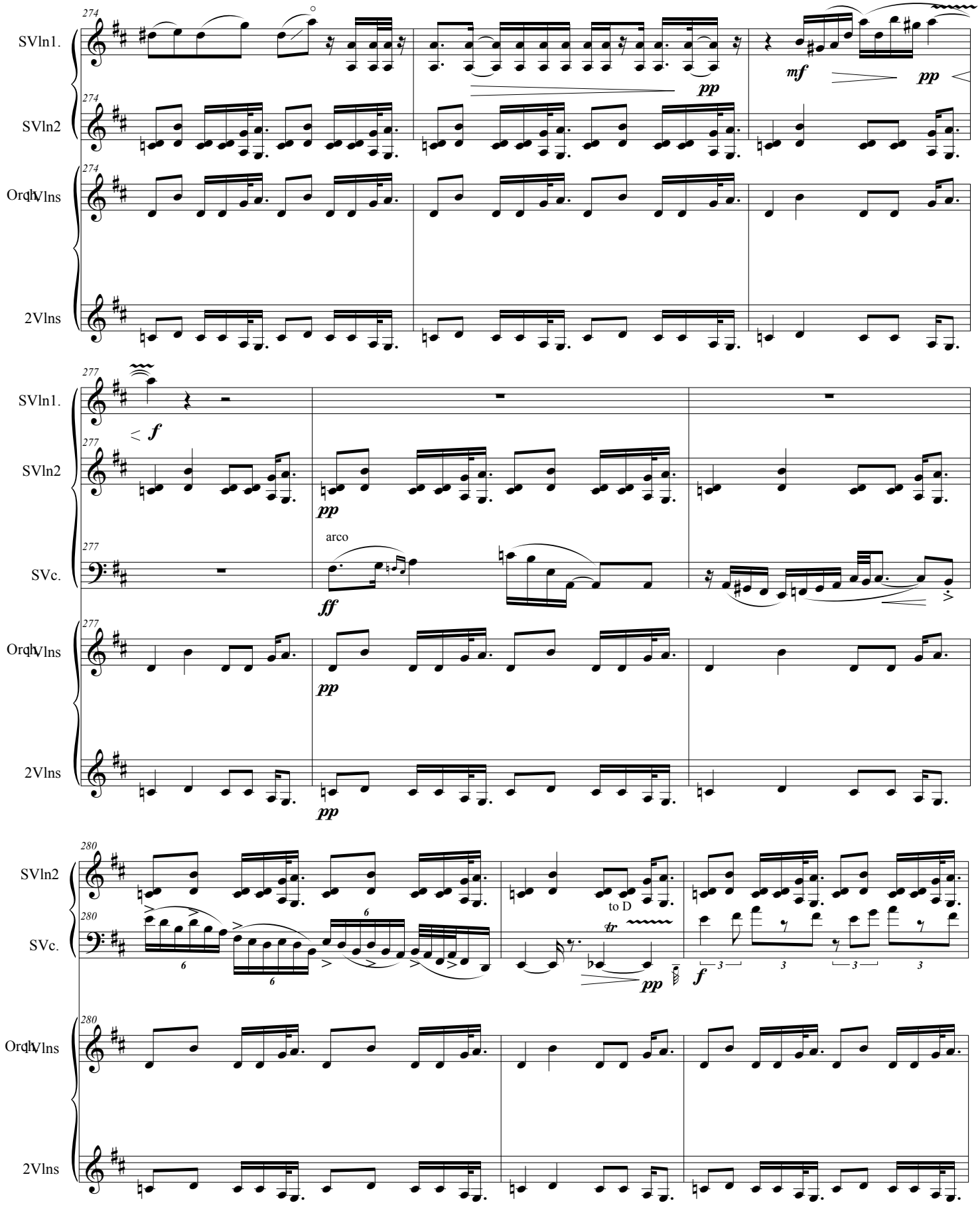
Bambaataa Variations

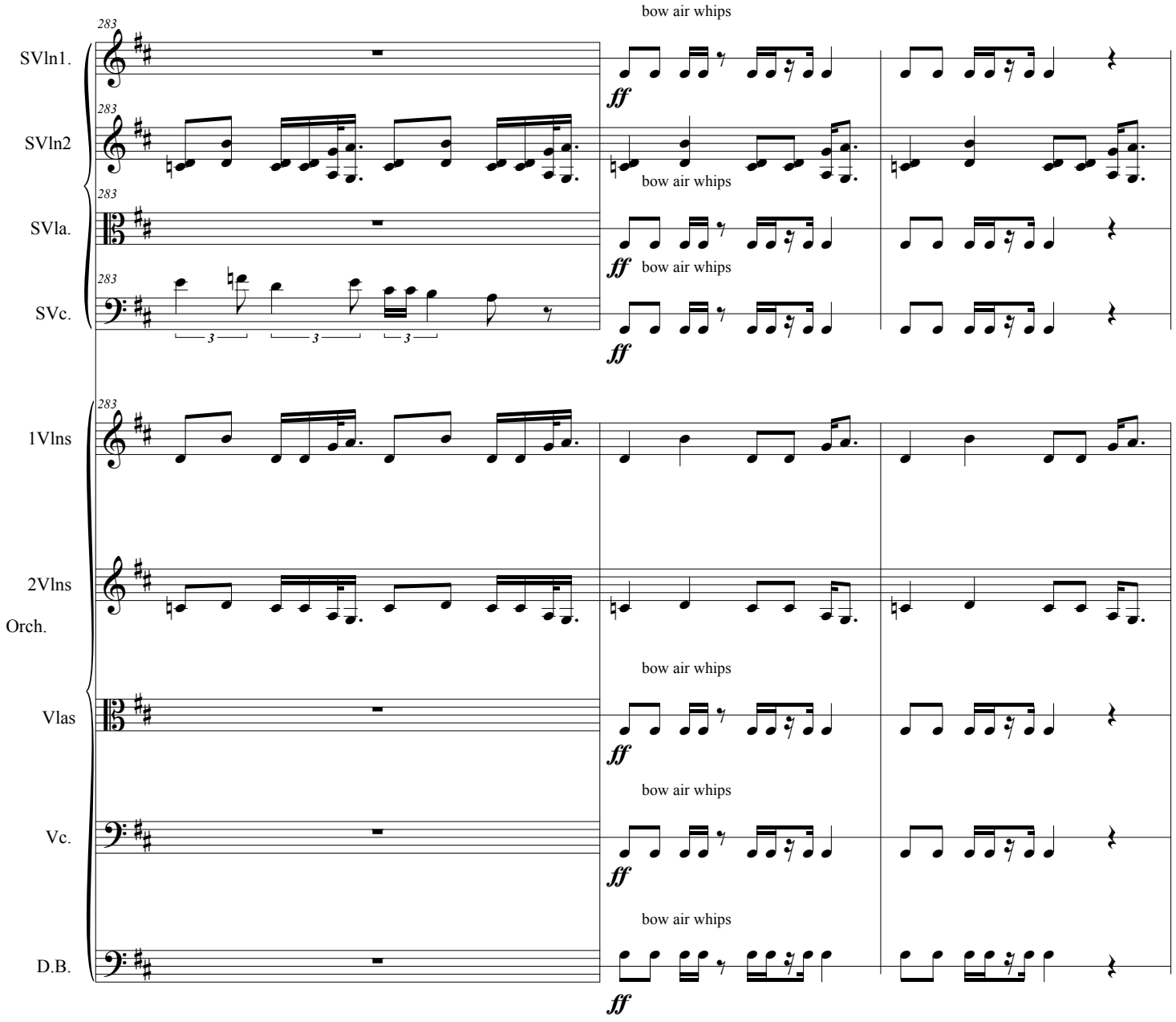


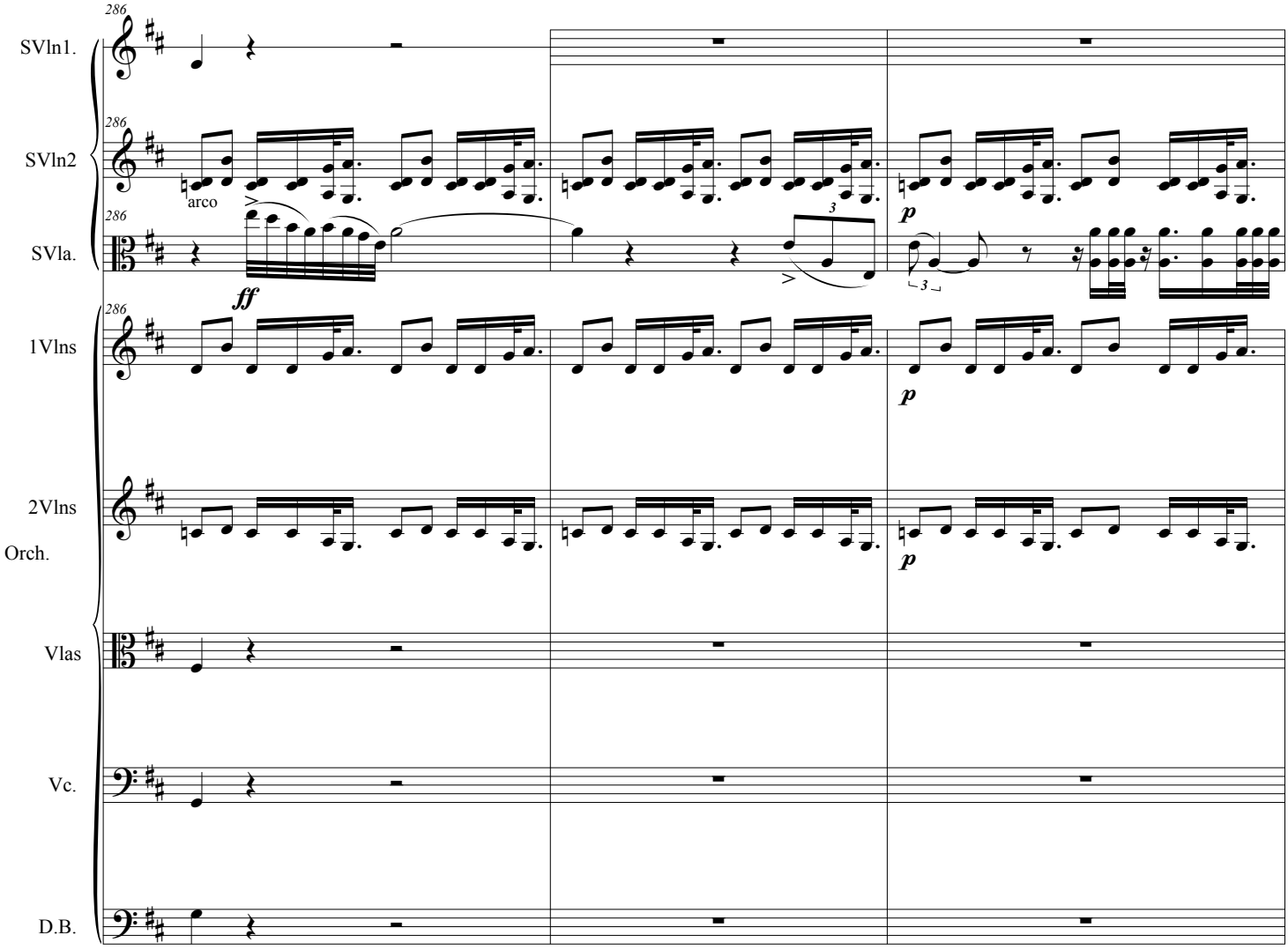
4. X-Linked Planet

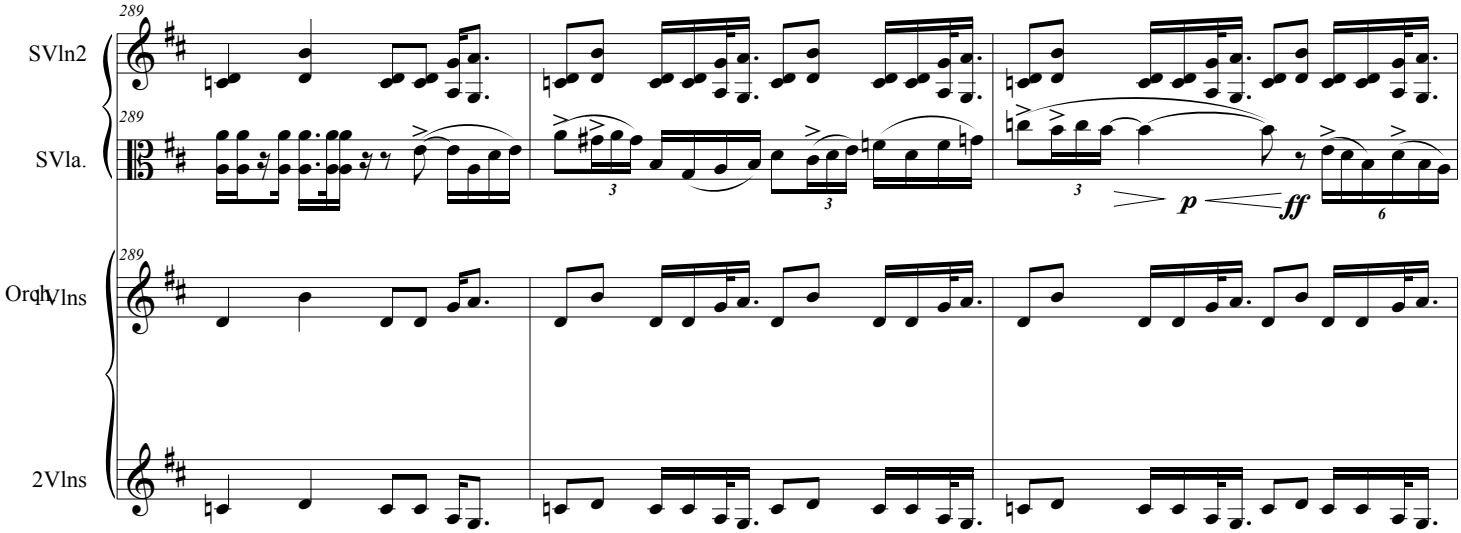


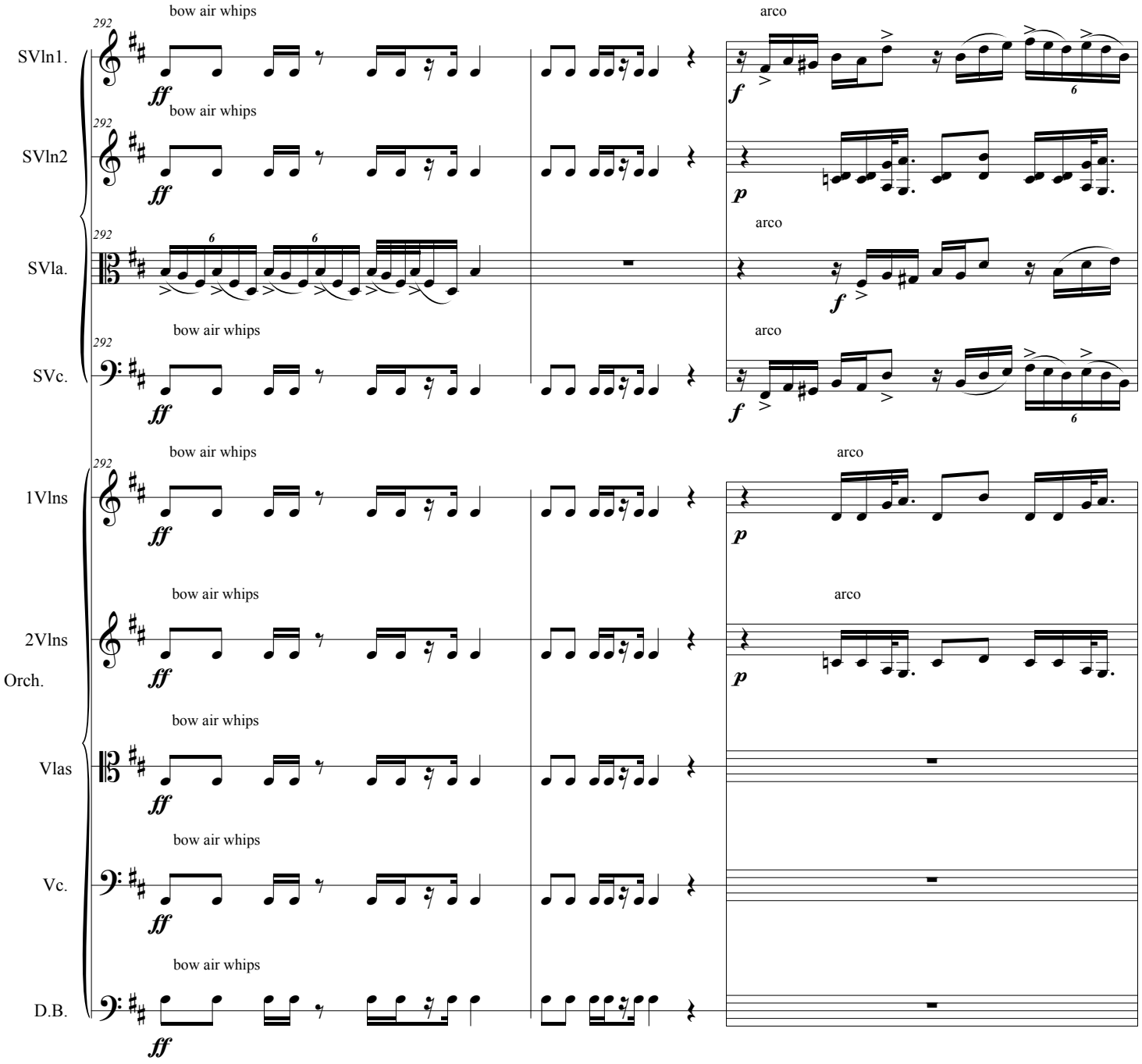

arco
268
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
ff
Orch.Vlns
2Vlns
p
271
p
ff

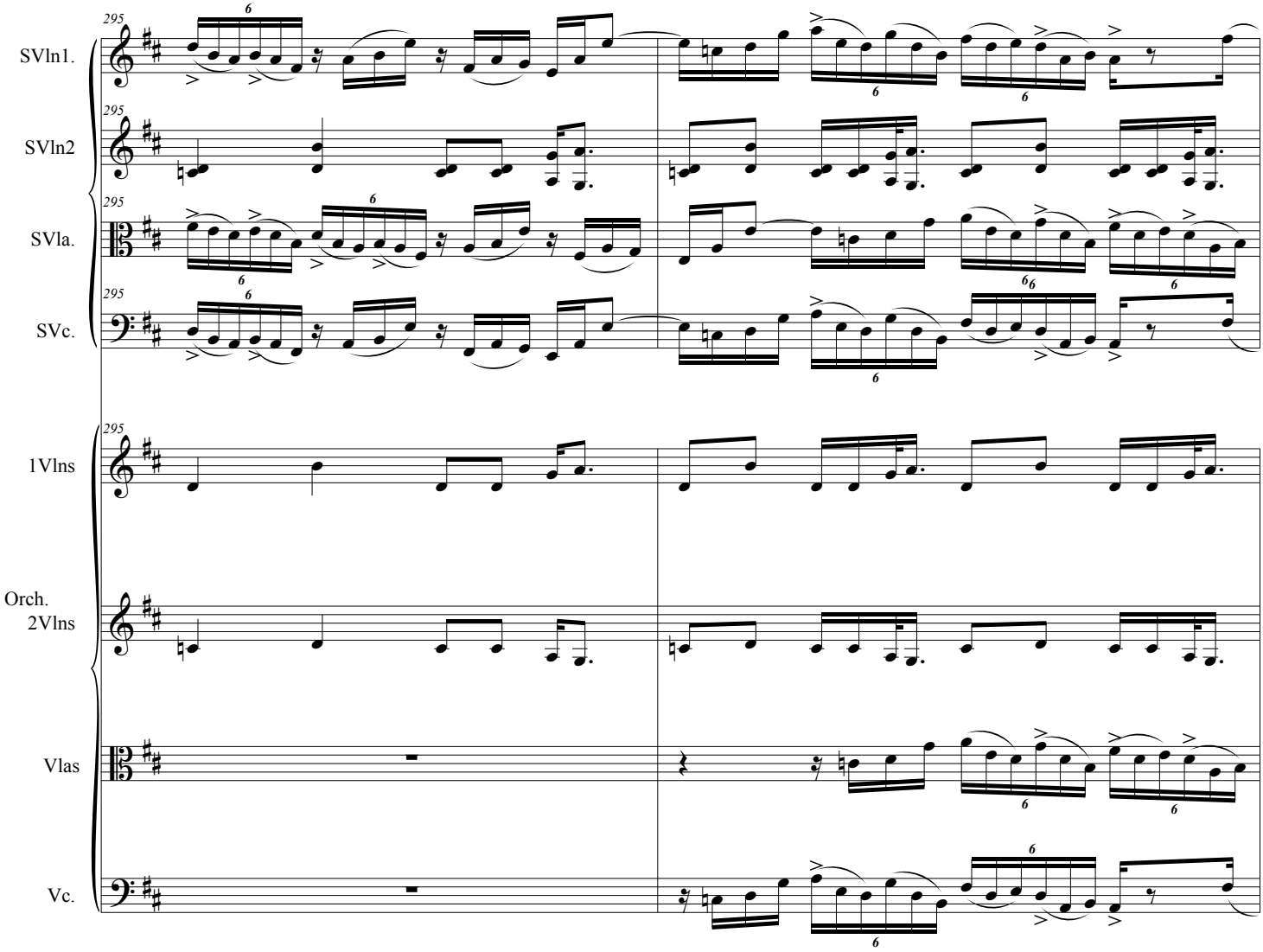

G# trill
274
SVln1.
SVln2
Orch.Vlns
2Vlns
mf
pp
277
f
arco
ff
SVc.
280
to D
tr

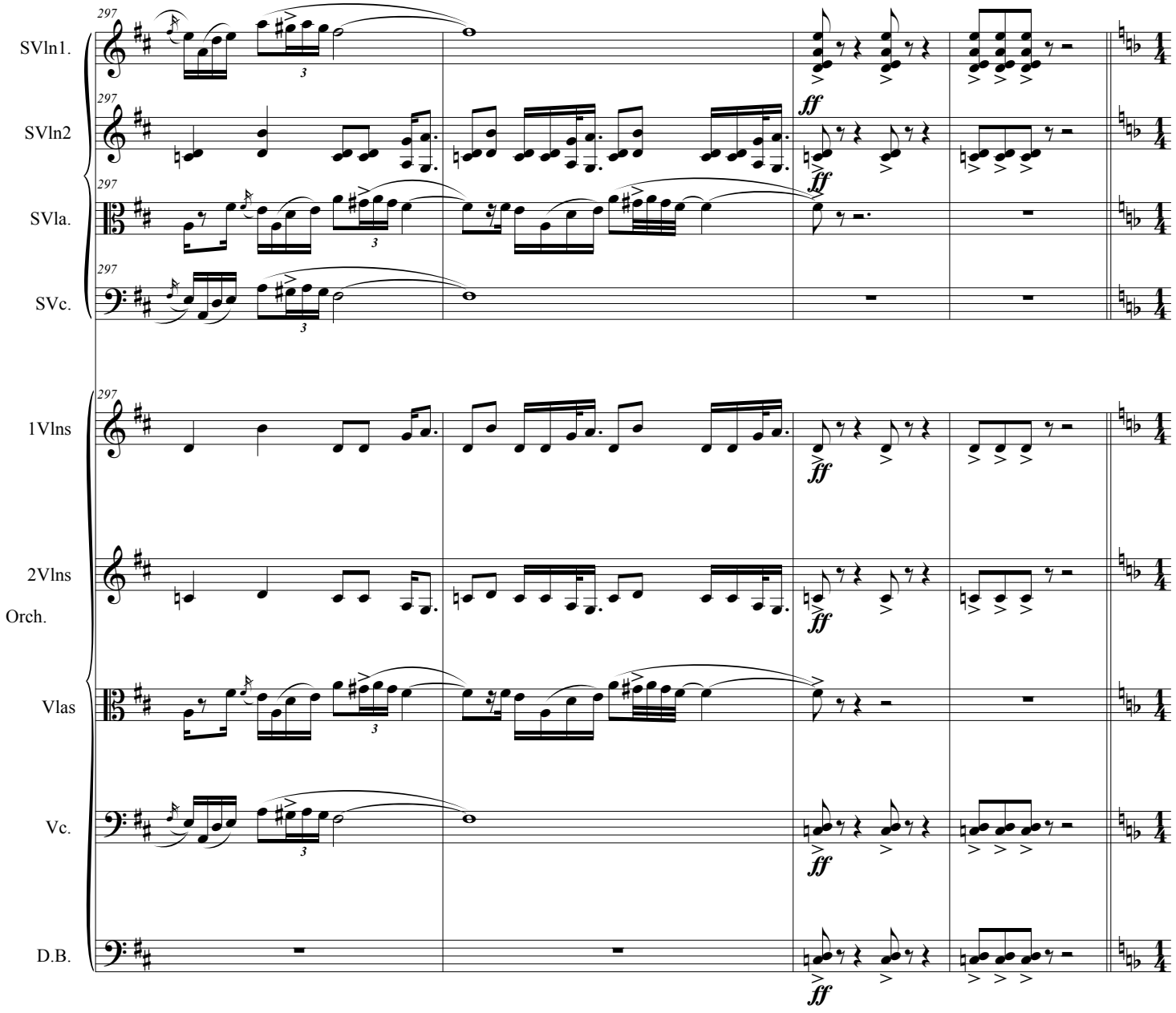

SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
283
bow air whips
ff
3

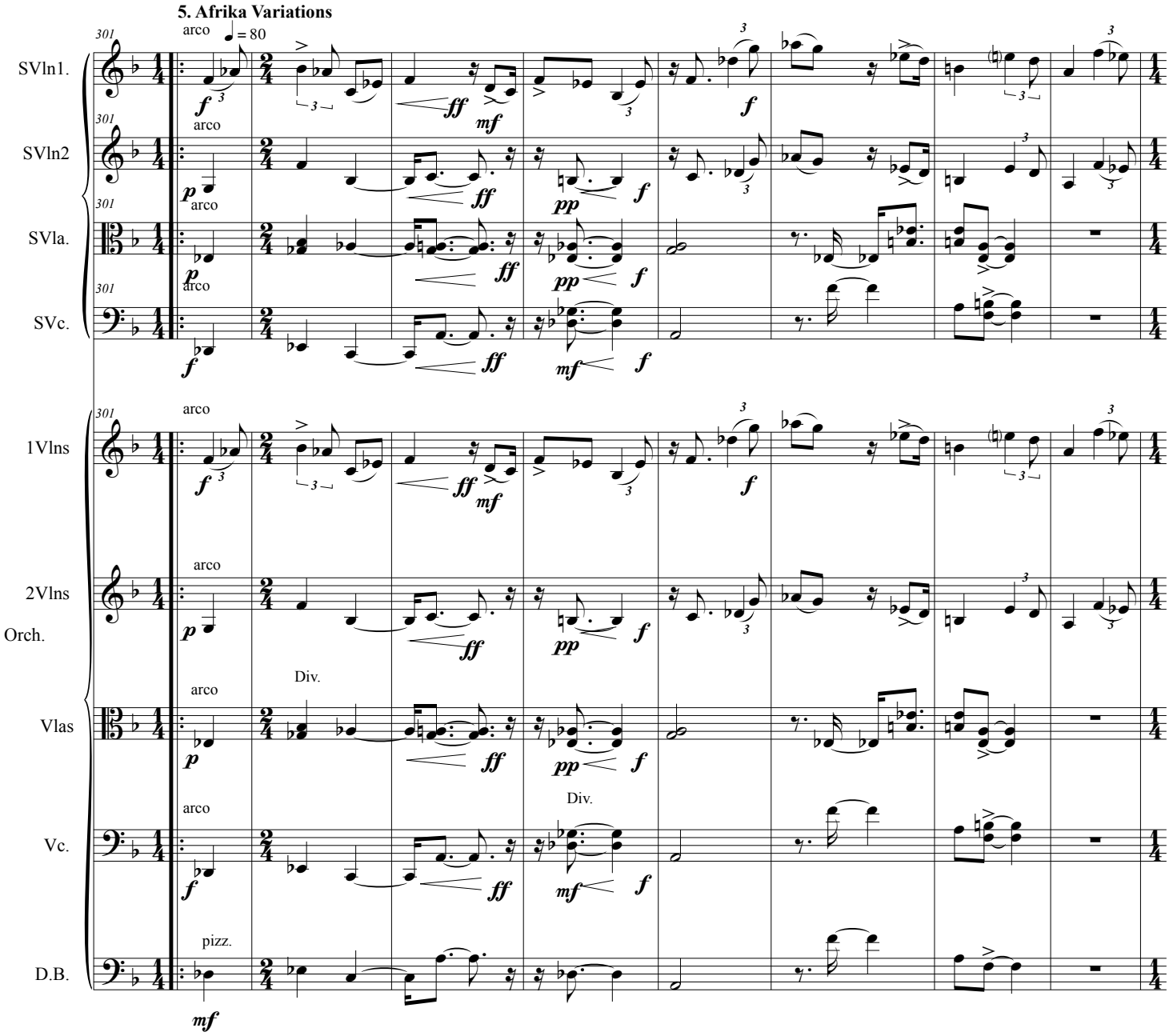

286
SVln1.
SVln2
arco
SVla.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
ff
p
3

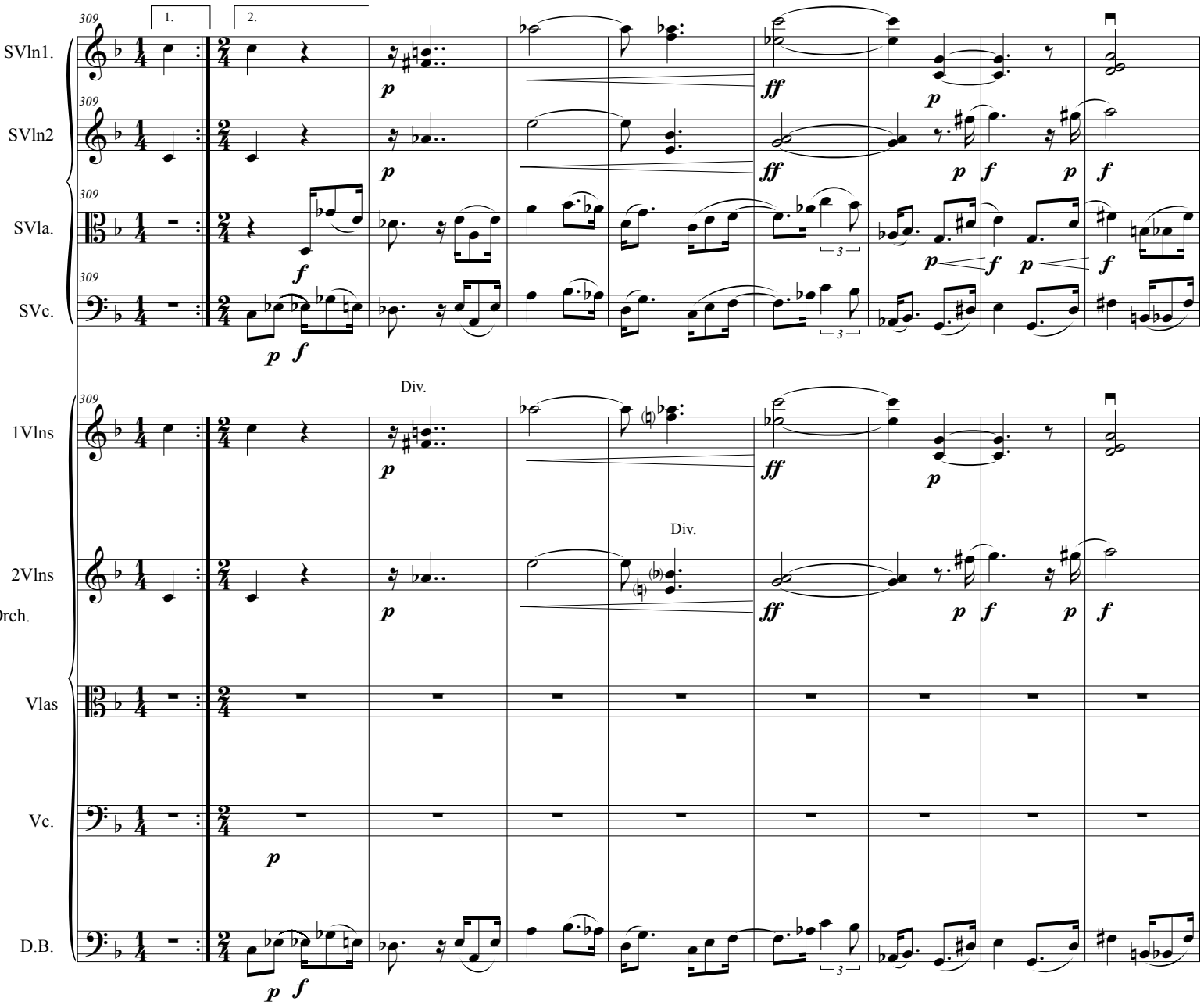

289
SVln2
SVla.
Orch.
1Vlns
2Vlns
p
ff
3
6

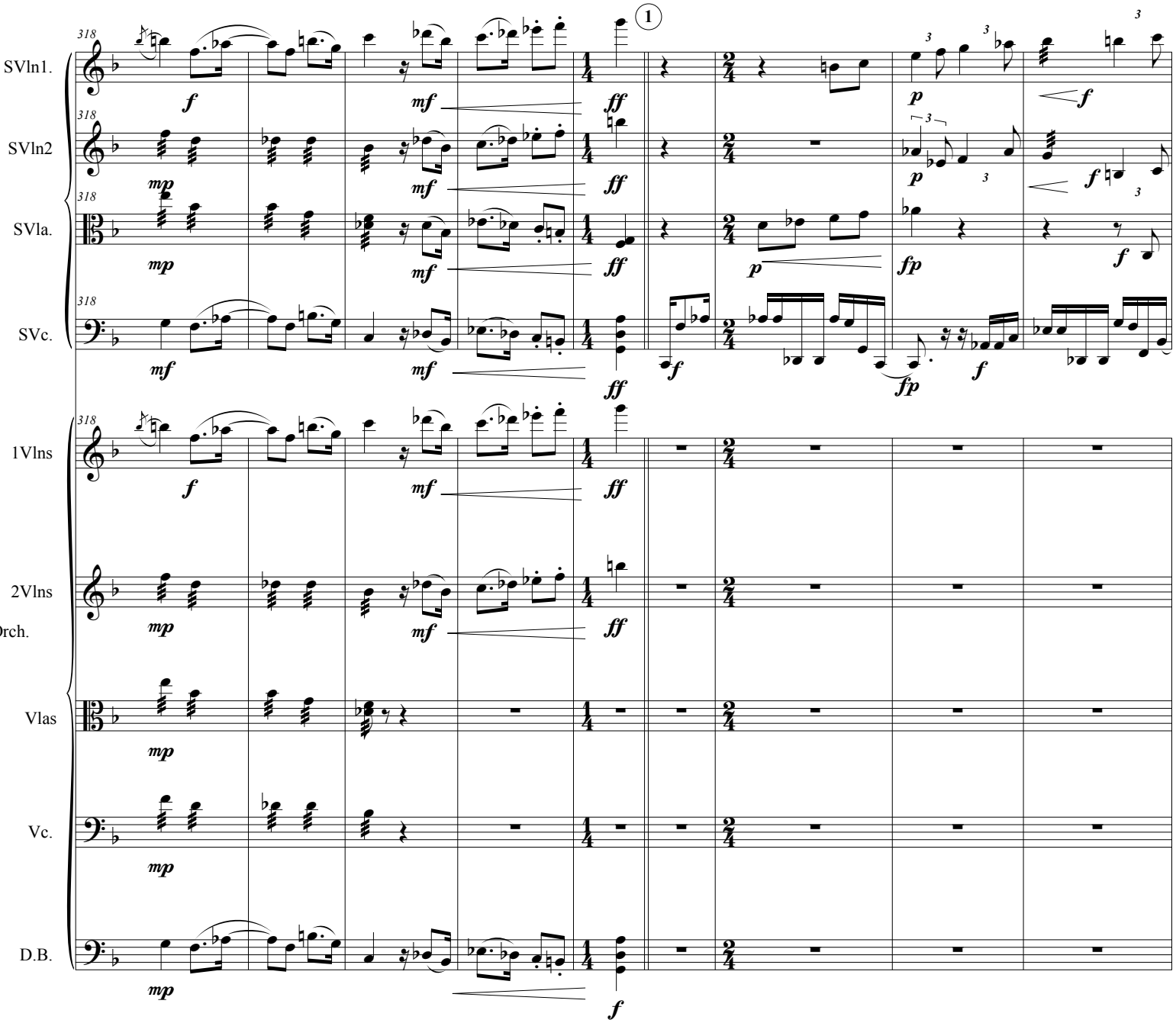

292
SVln1.
bow air whips
ff
arco
f
6
SVln2
p
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.

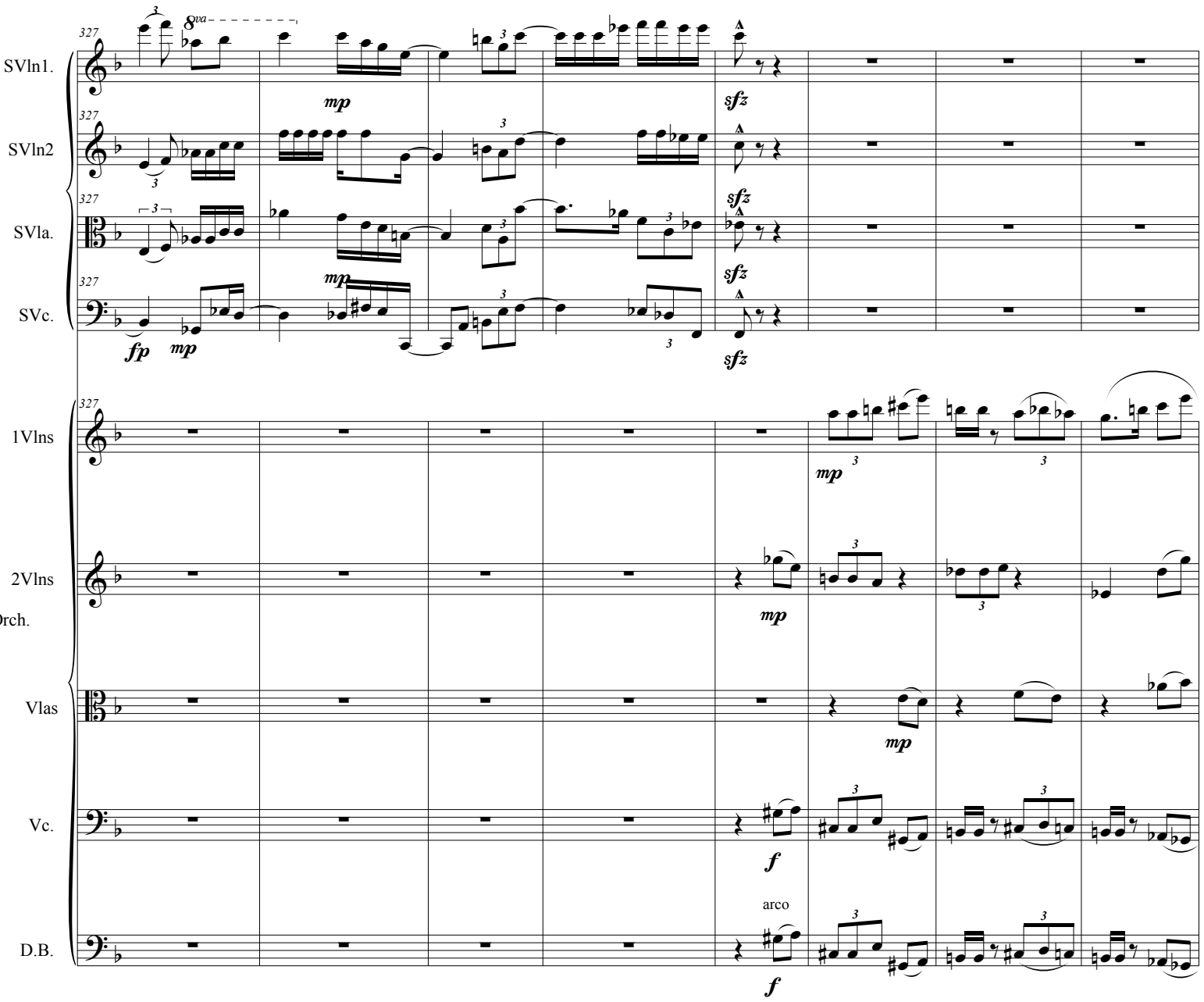

295
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
Orch.
2Vlns
Vlas
Vc.

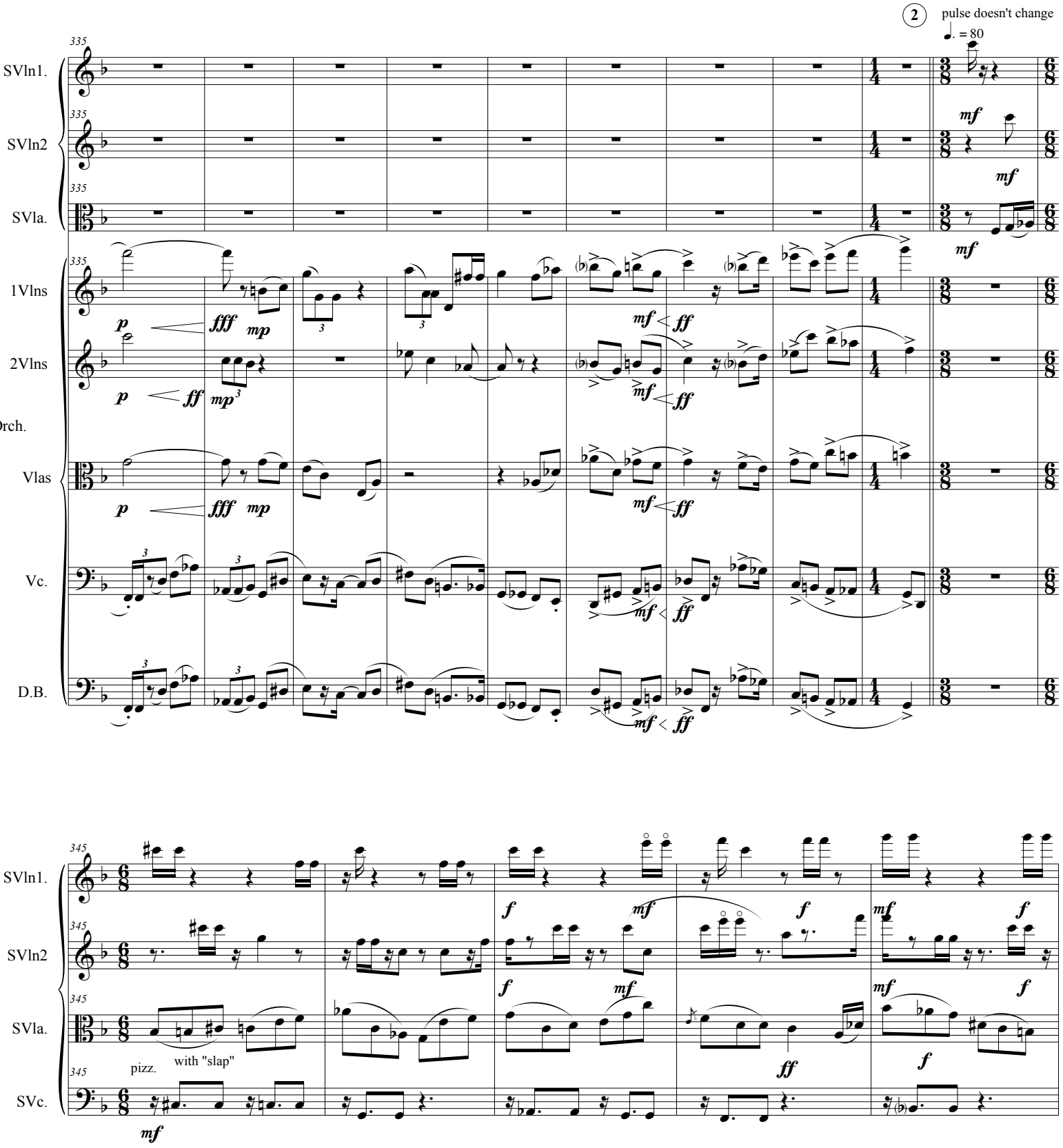

297
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
ff

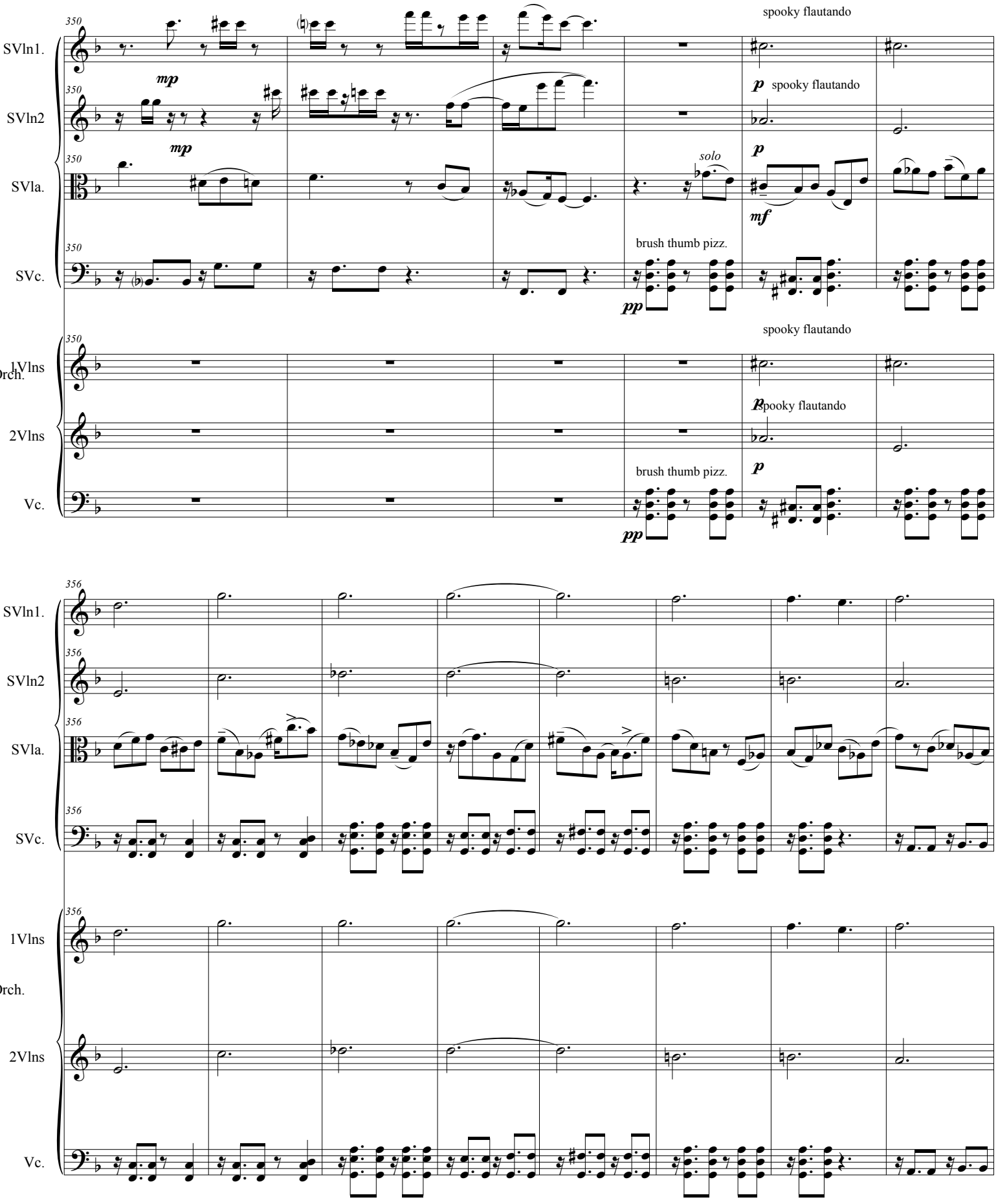

5. Afrika Variations
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
arco
pizz.
Div.

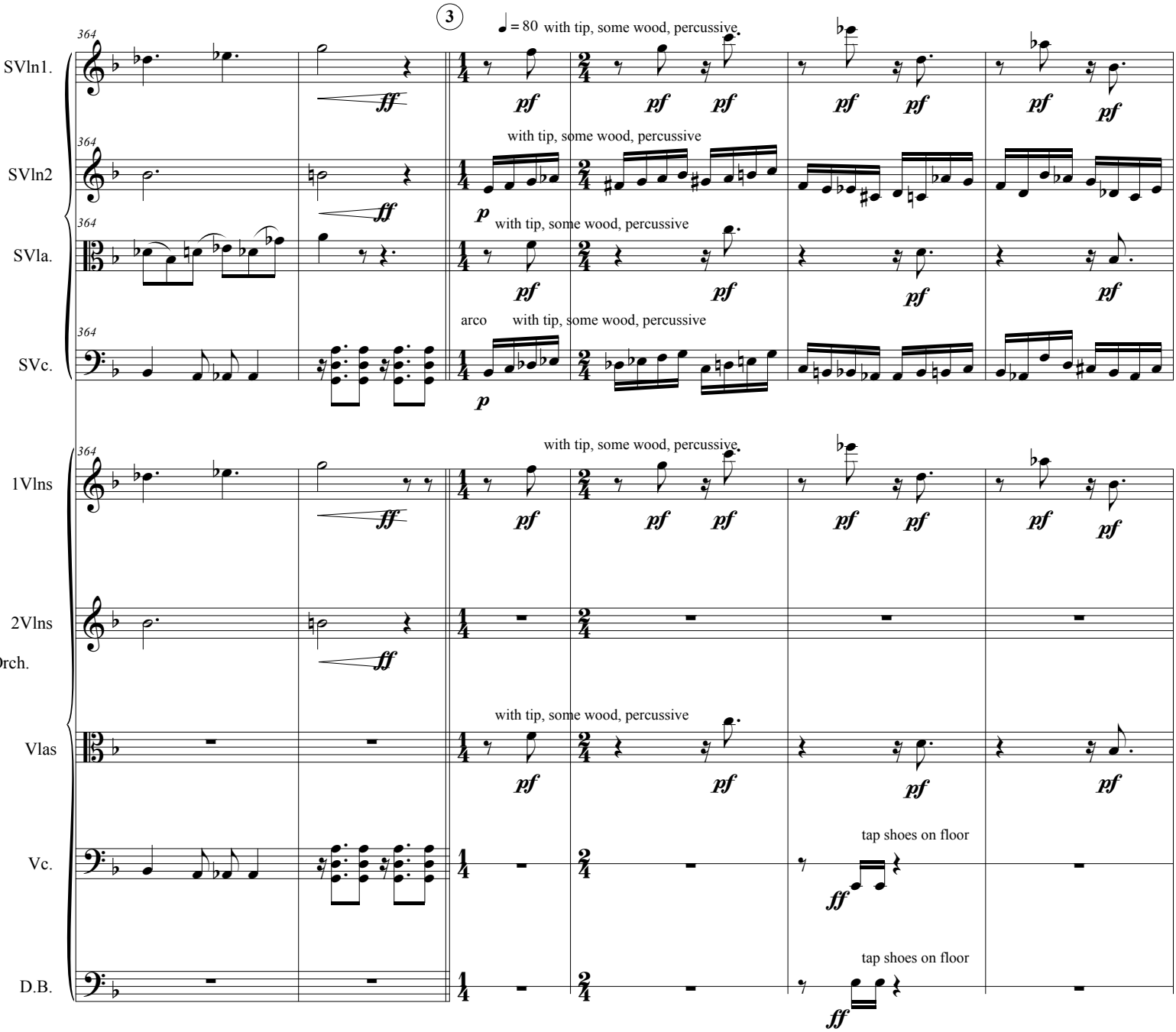

309
1.
2.
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
Div.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
p
ff
f
3

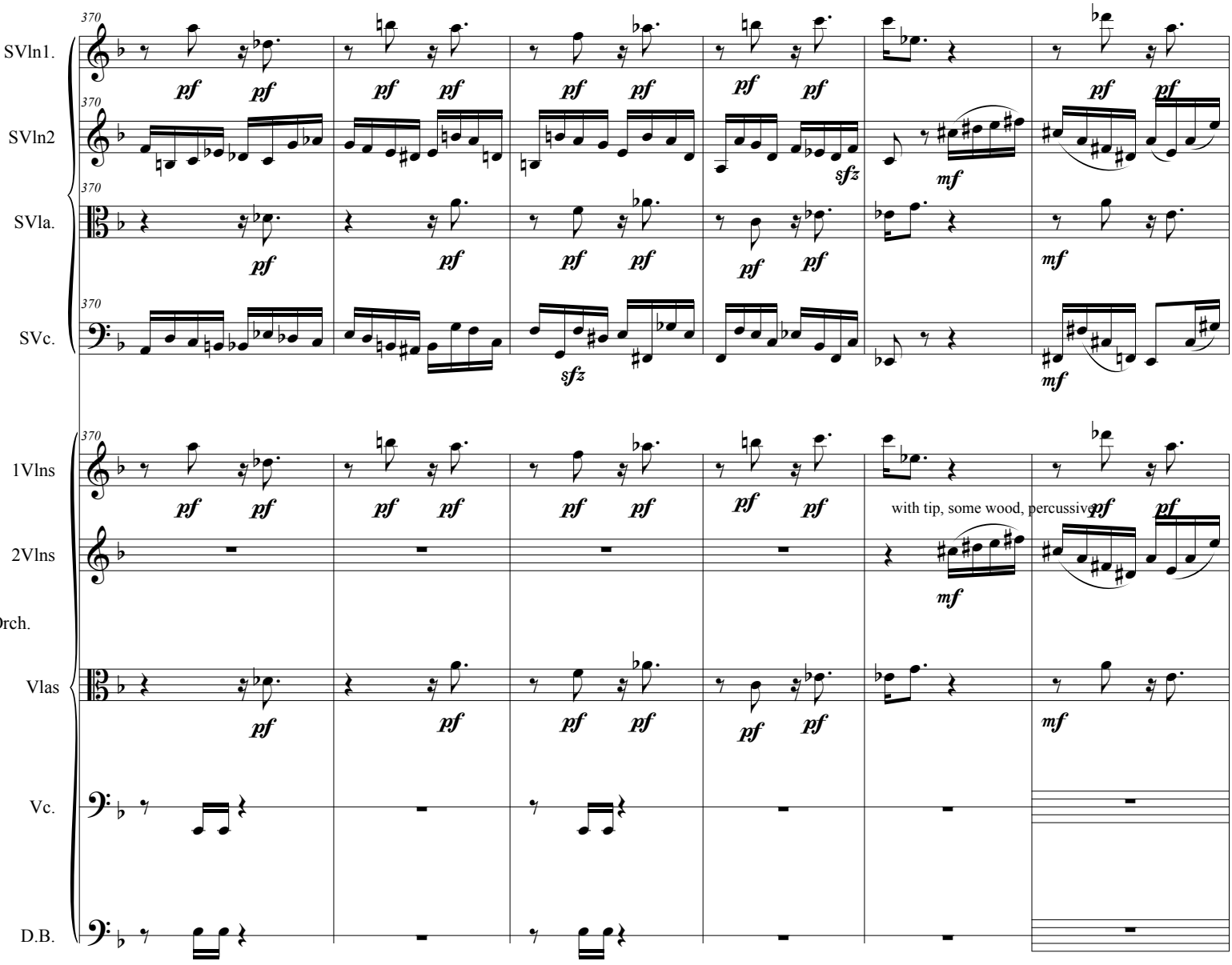

SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
318
1

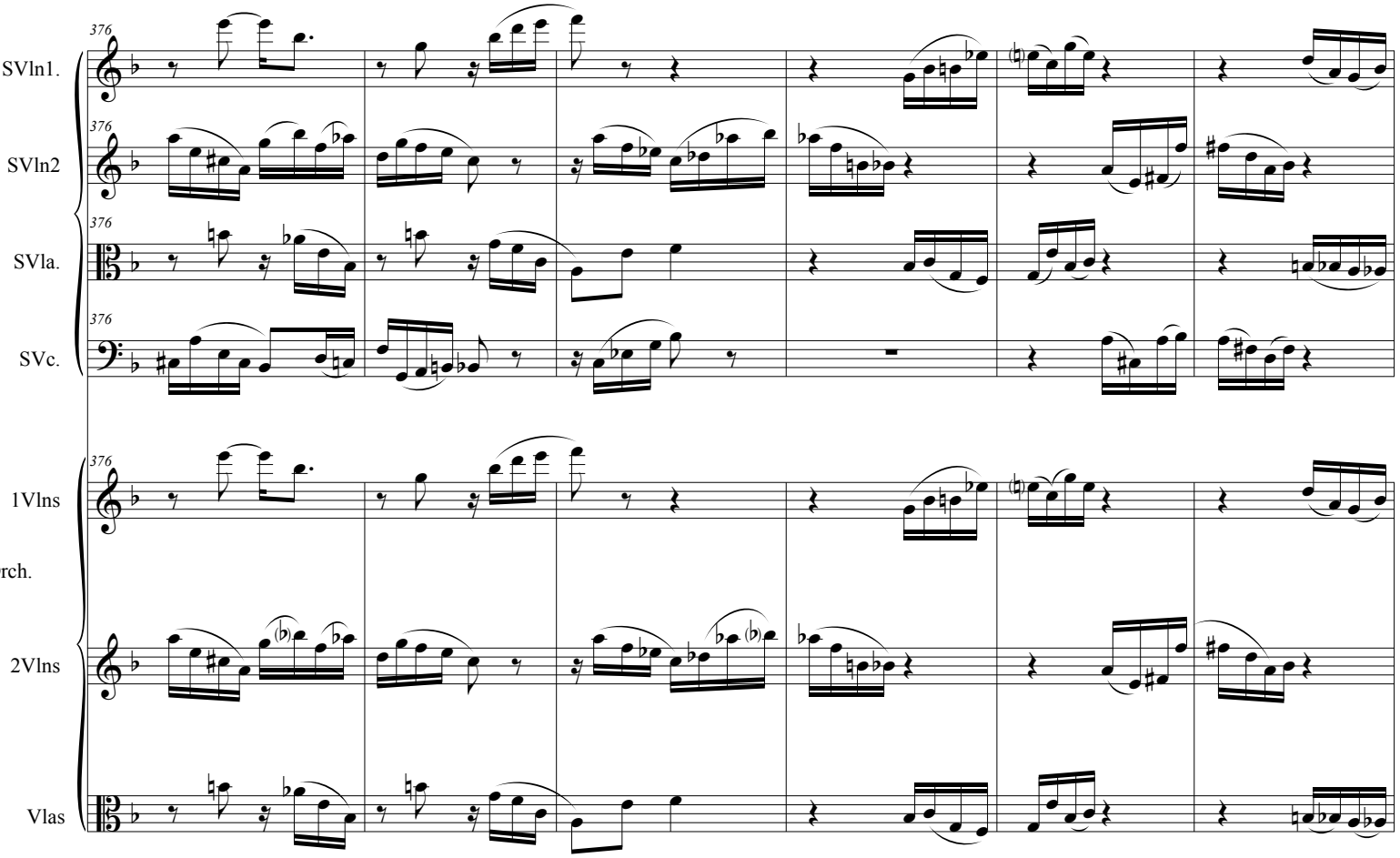

327
8va
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
mp
sfz
fp
arco
f

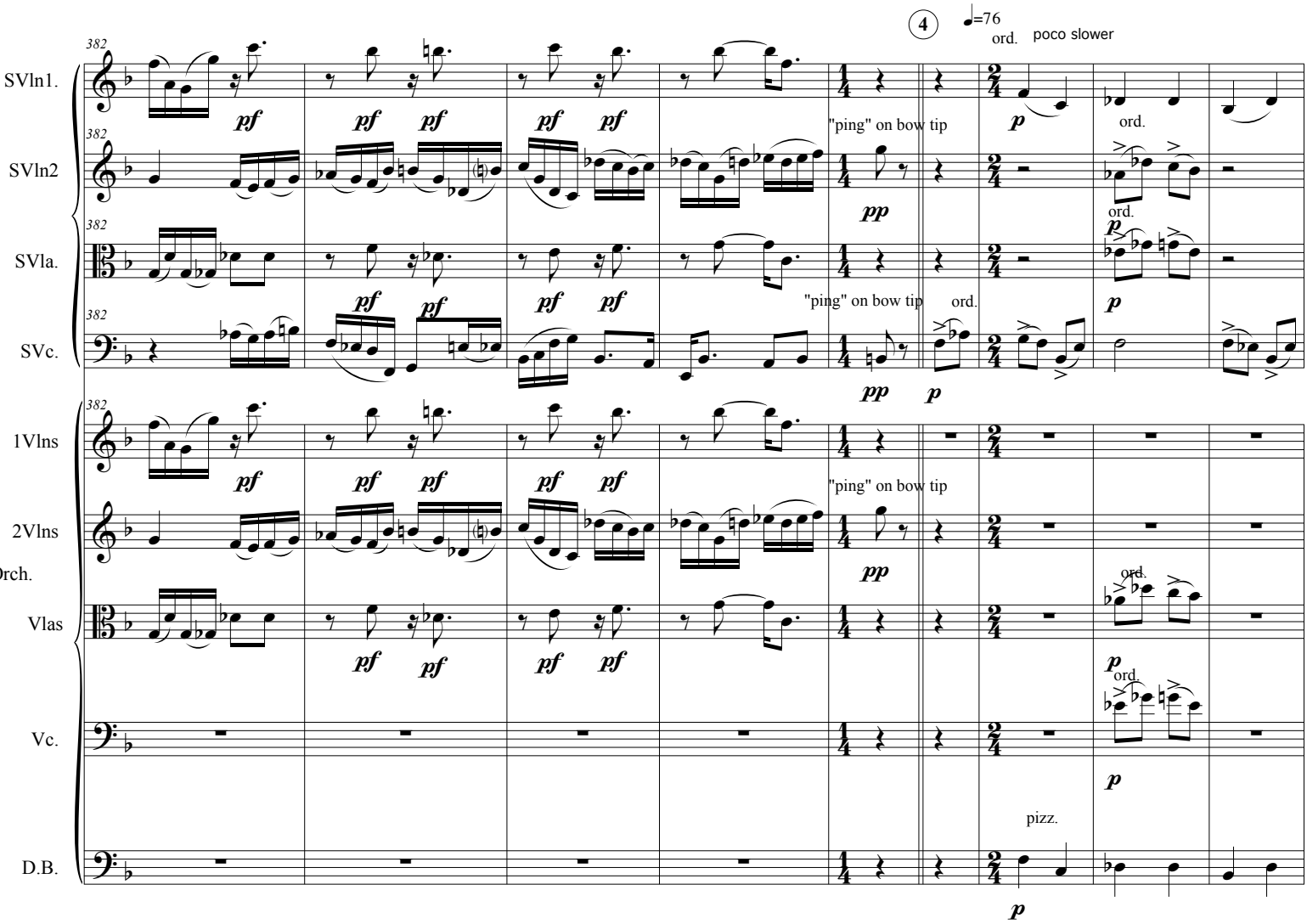

2
pulse doesn't change
♩. = 80
335
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
345
pizz.
with "slap"
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.

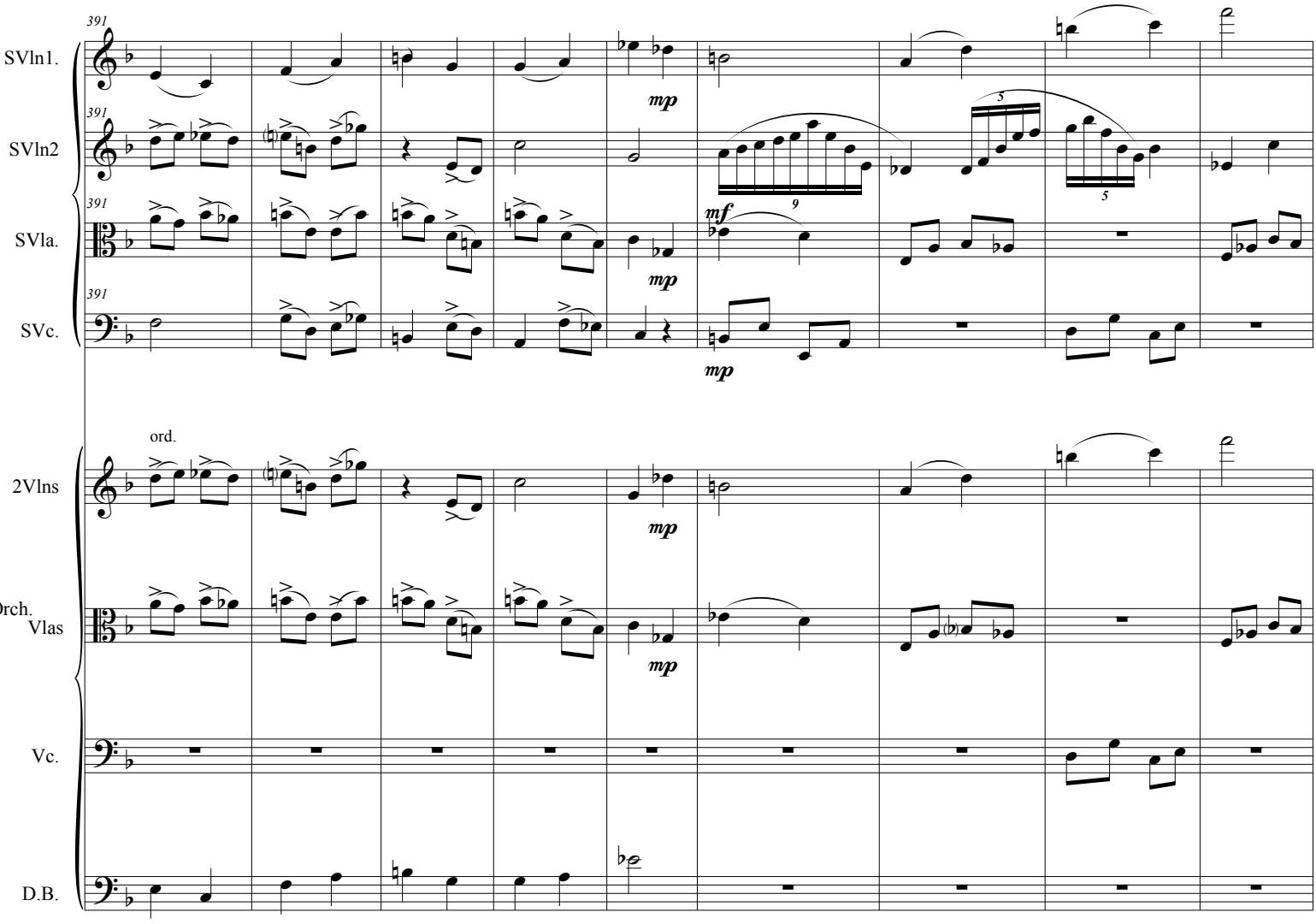

350
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
mp
mp
solo
spooky flautando
p
spooky flautando
p
mf
brush thumb pizz.
pp
1Vlns
2Vlns
Vc.
spooky flautando
p
spooky flautando
p
brush thumb pizz.
pp
356
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Vc.

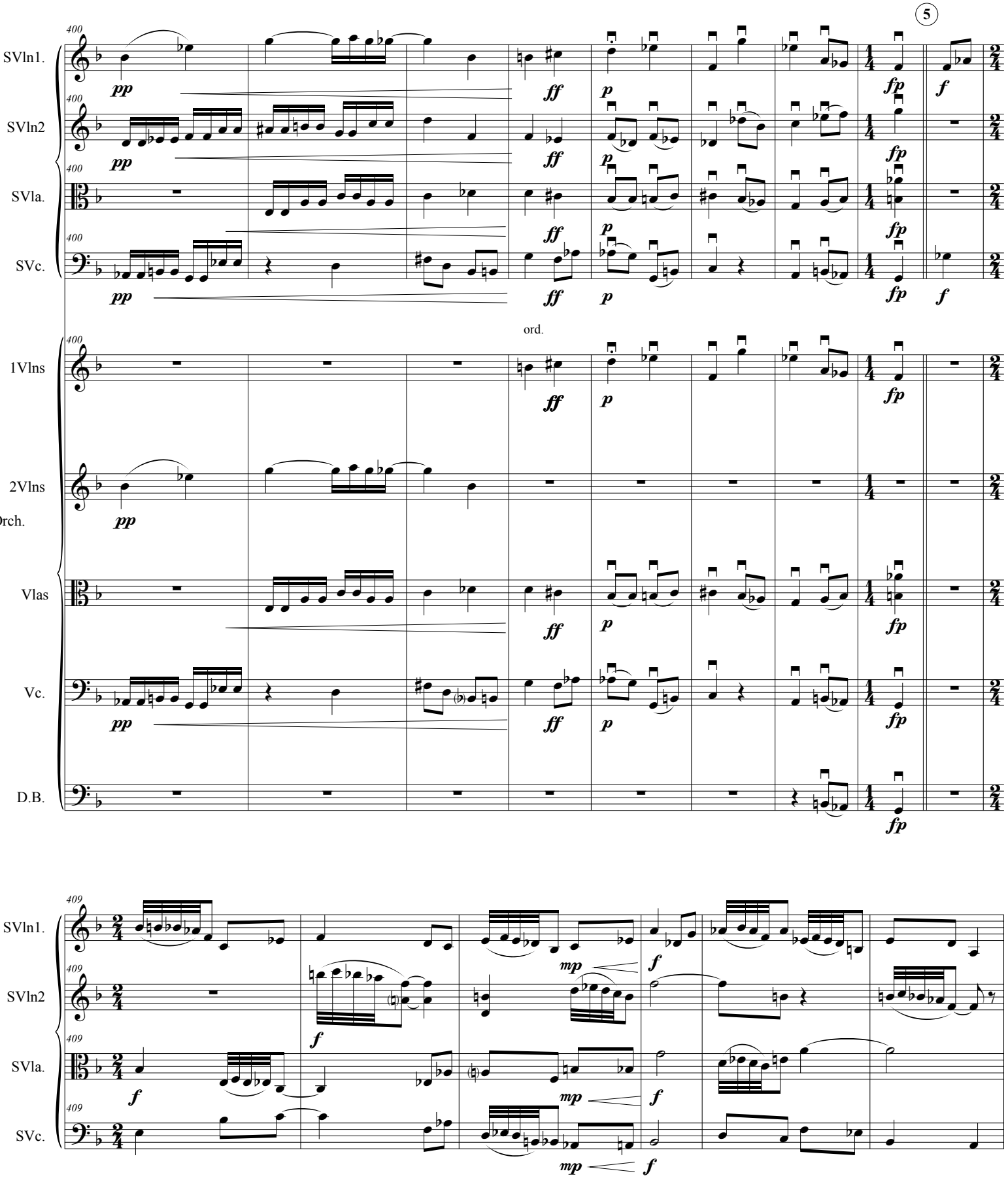

3
♩ = 80 with tip, some wood, percussive
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
364
ff
pf
p
with tip, some wood, percussive
arco
tap shoes on floor

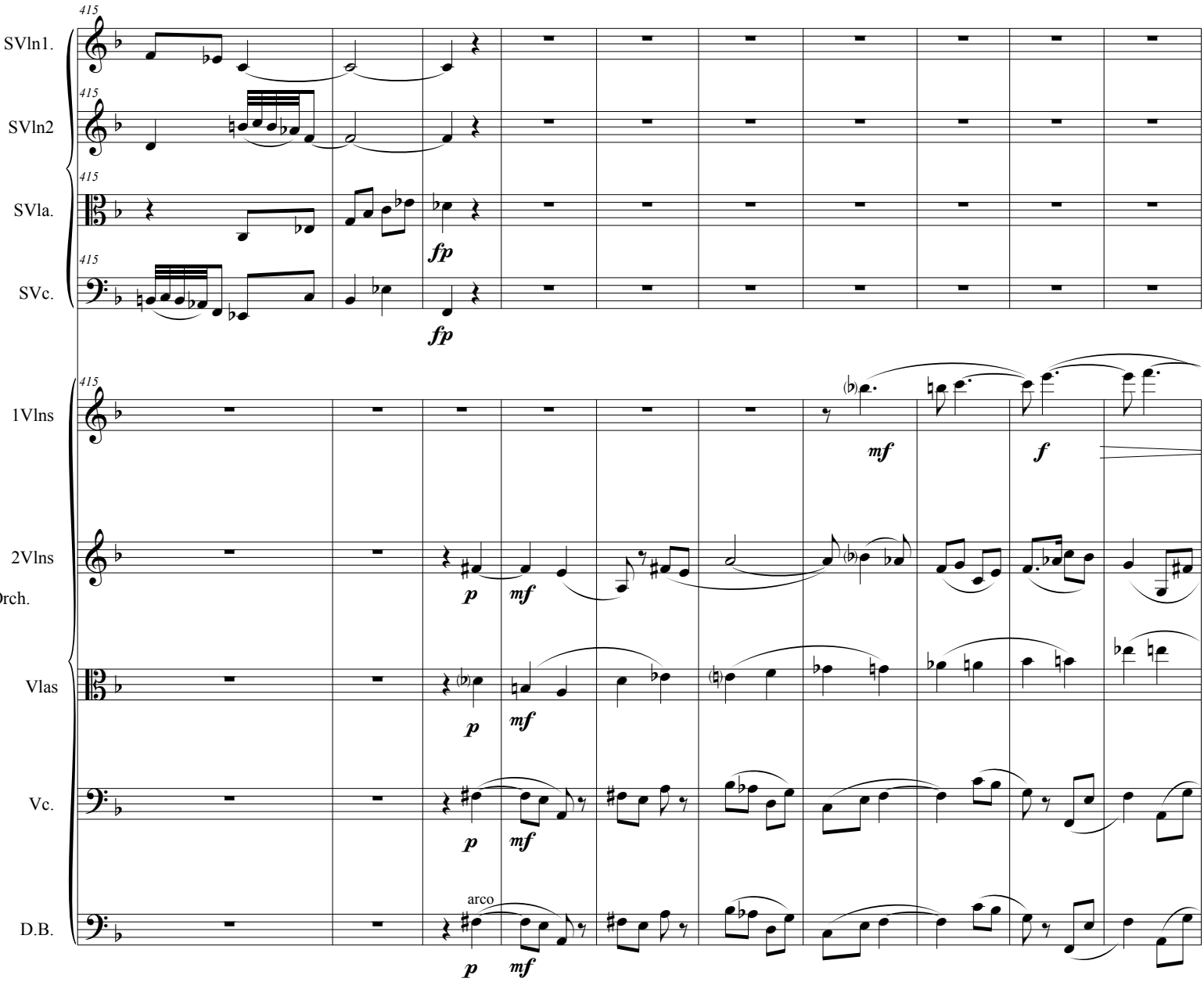

370
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
pf
sfz
mf
with tip, some wood, percussive

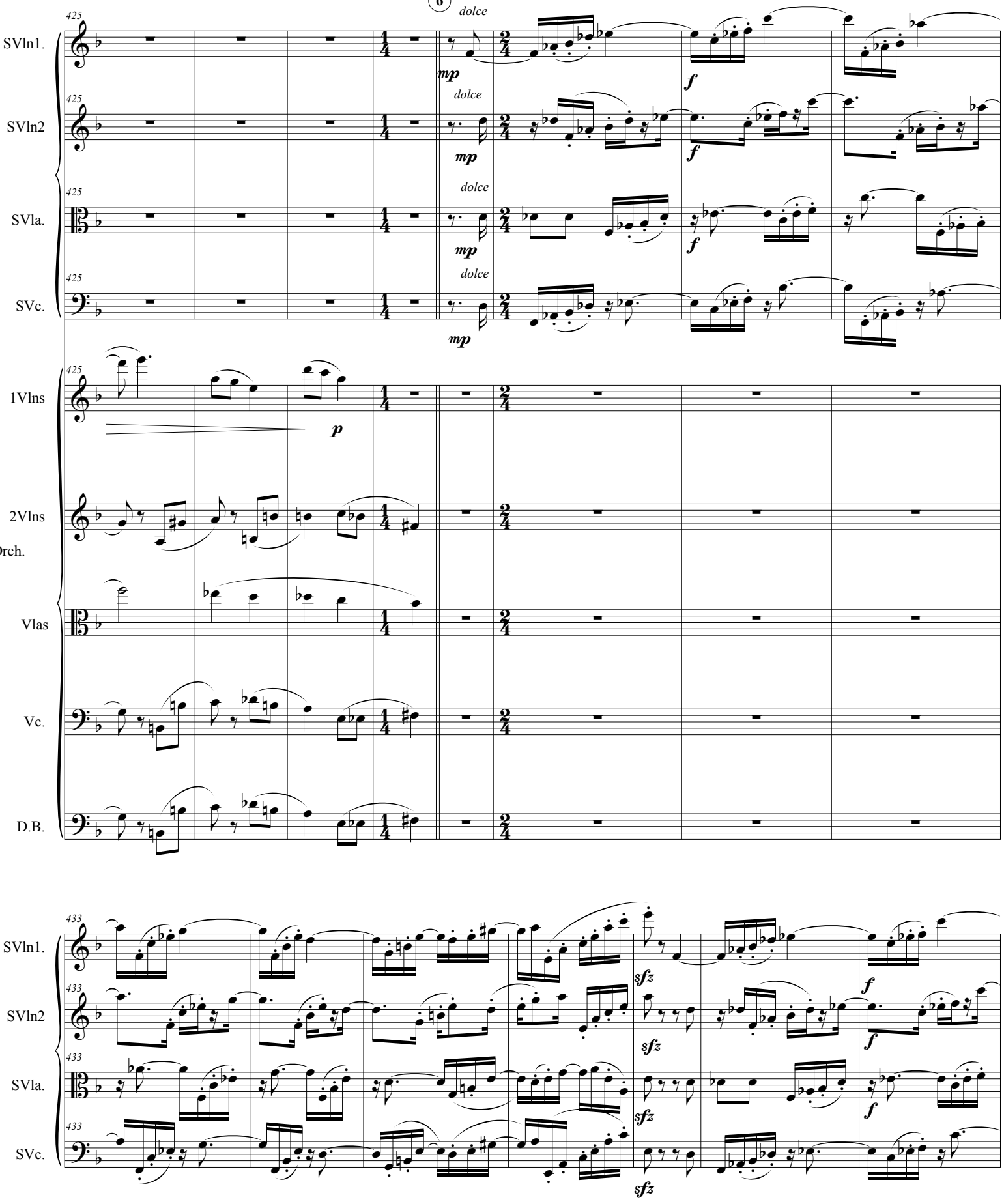

376
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
rch.
2Vlns
Vlas

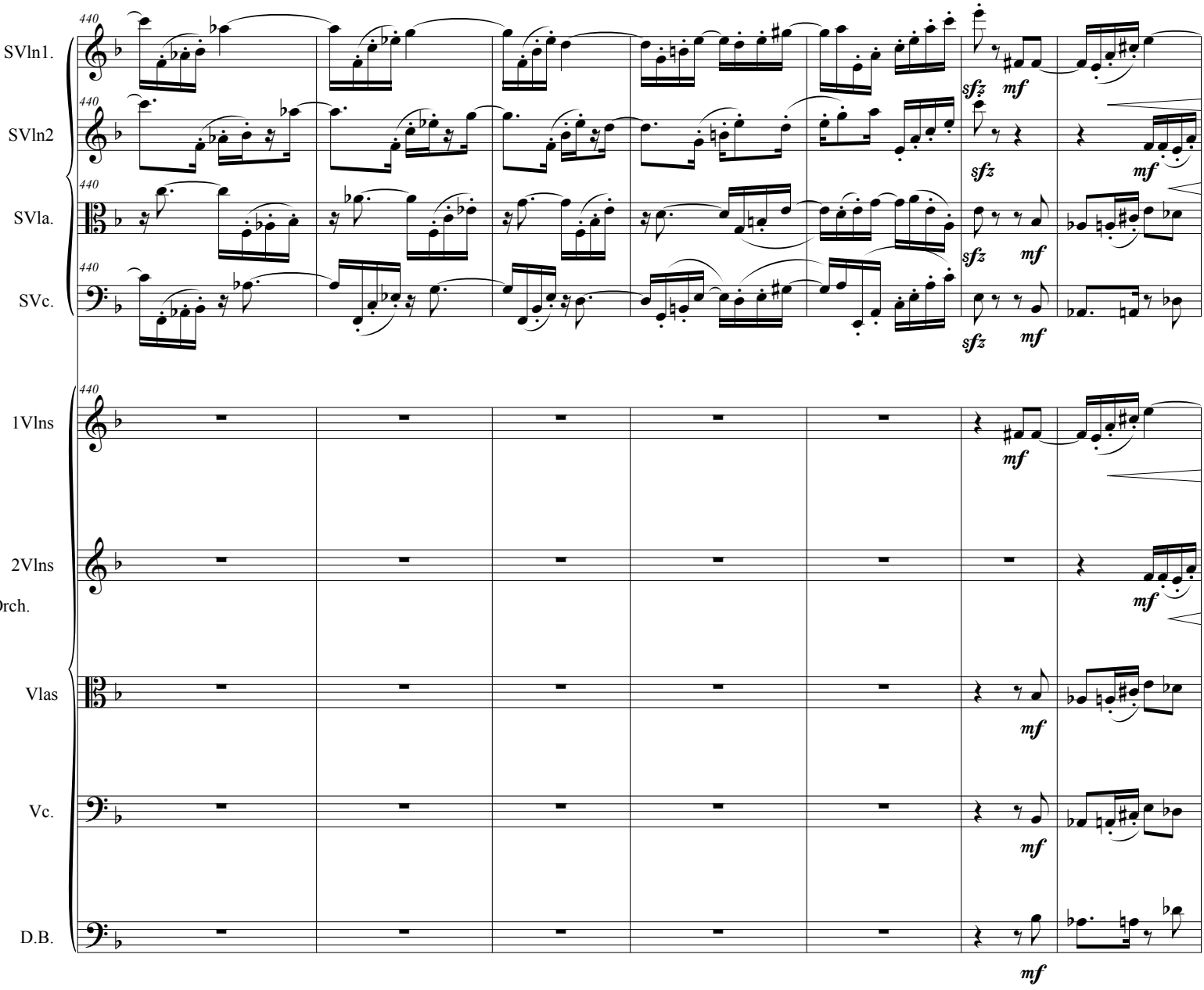

4
♩=76
ord.
poco slower
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
382
pf
pp
p
"ping" on bow tip
ord.
pizz.

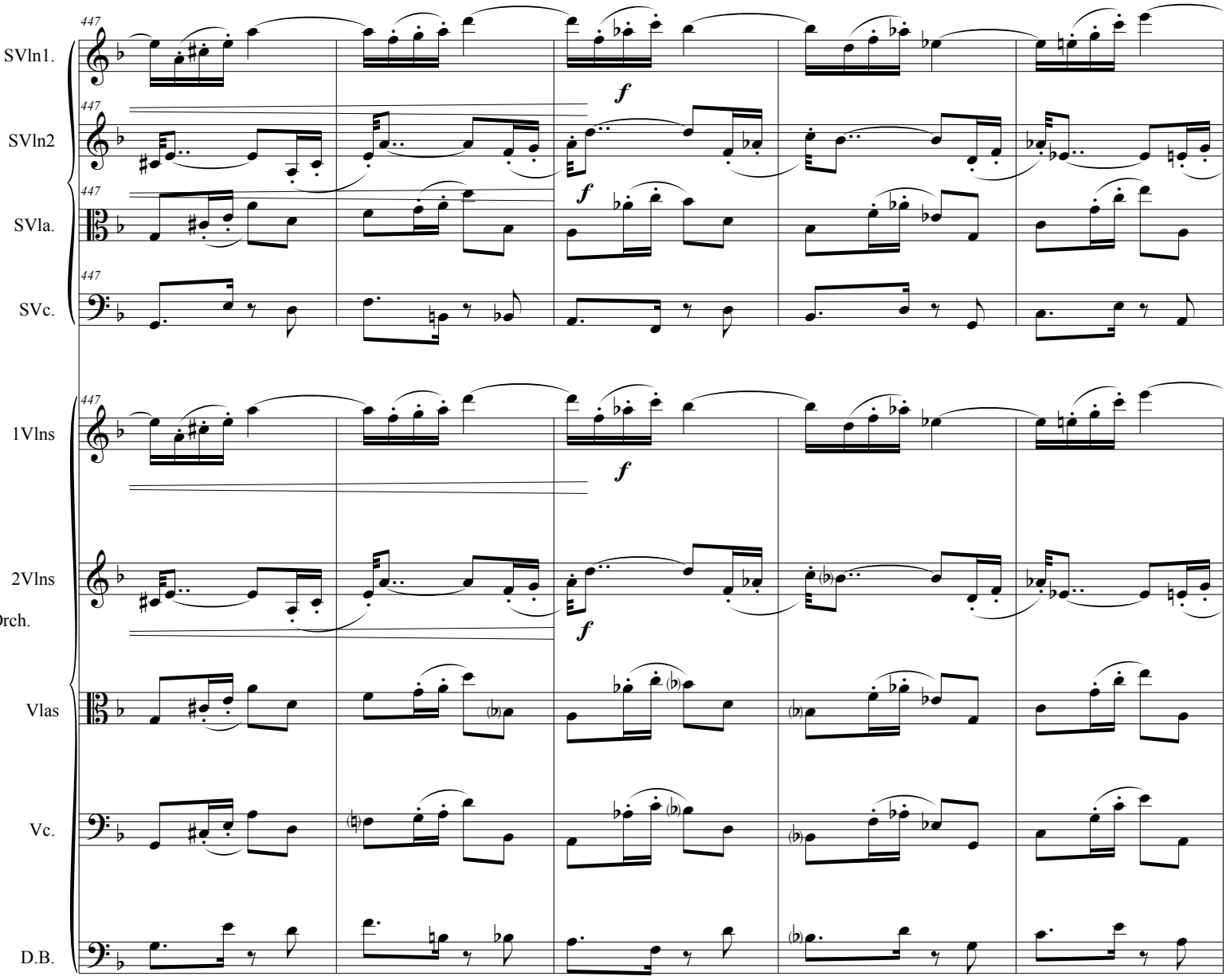

391
SVln1.
391
SVln2
391
SVla.
391
SVc.
mp
mf
mp
mp
ord.
2Vlns
mp
Orch.
Vlas
mp
Vc.
D.B.

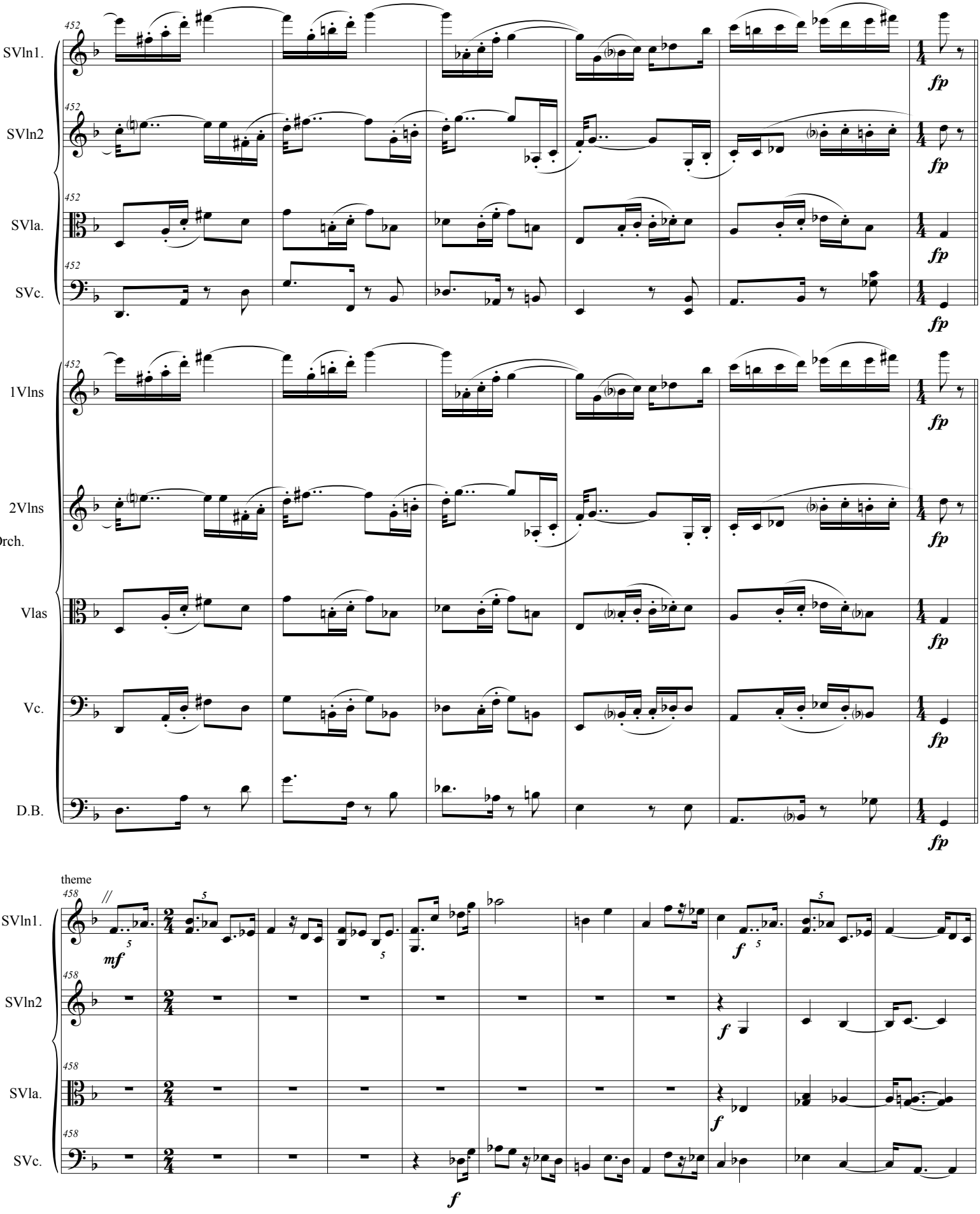

5
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
ord.
400
409
pp
ff
p
fp
f
mp

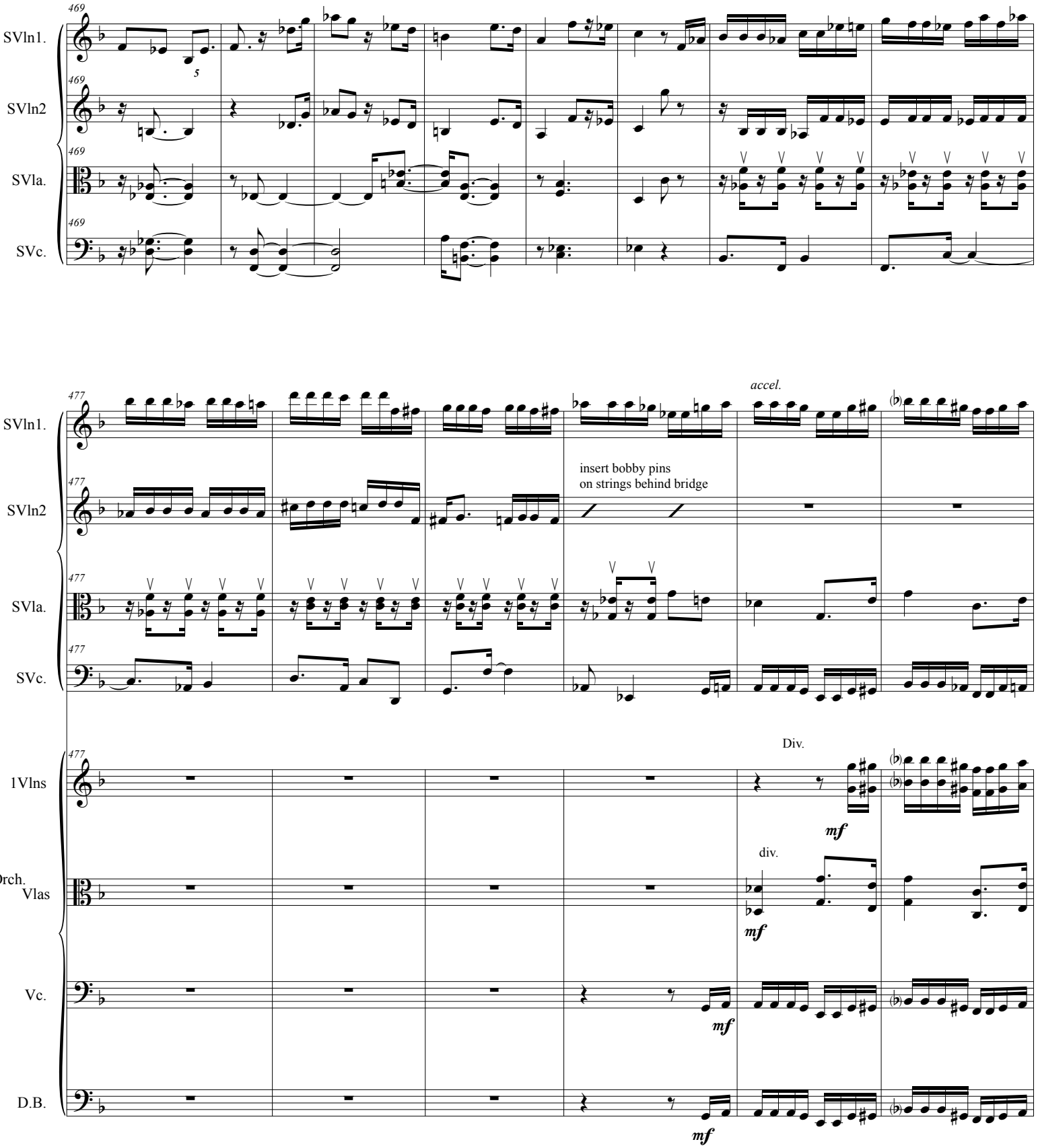

415
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
fp
fp
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
mf
f
p
mf
arco

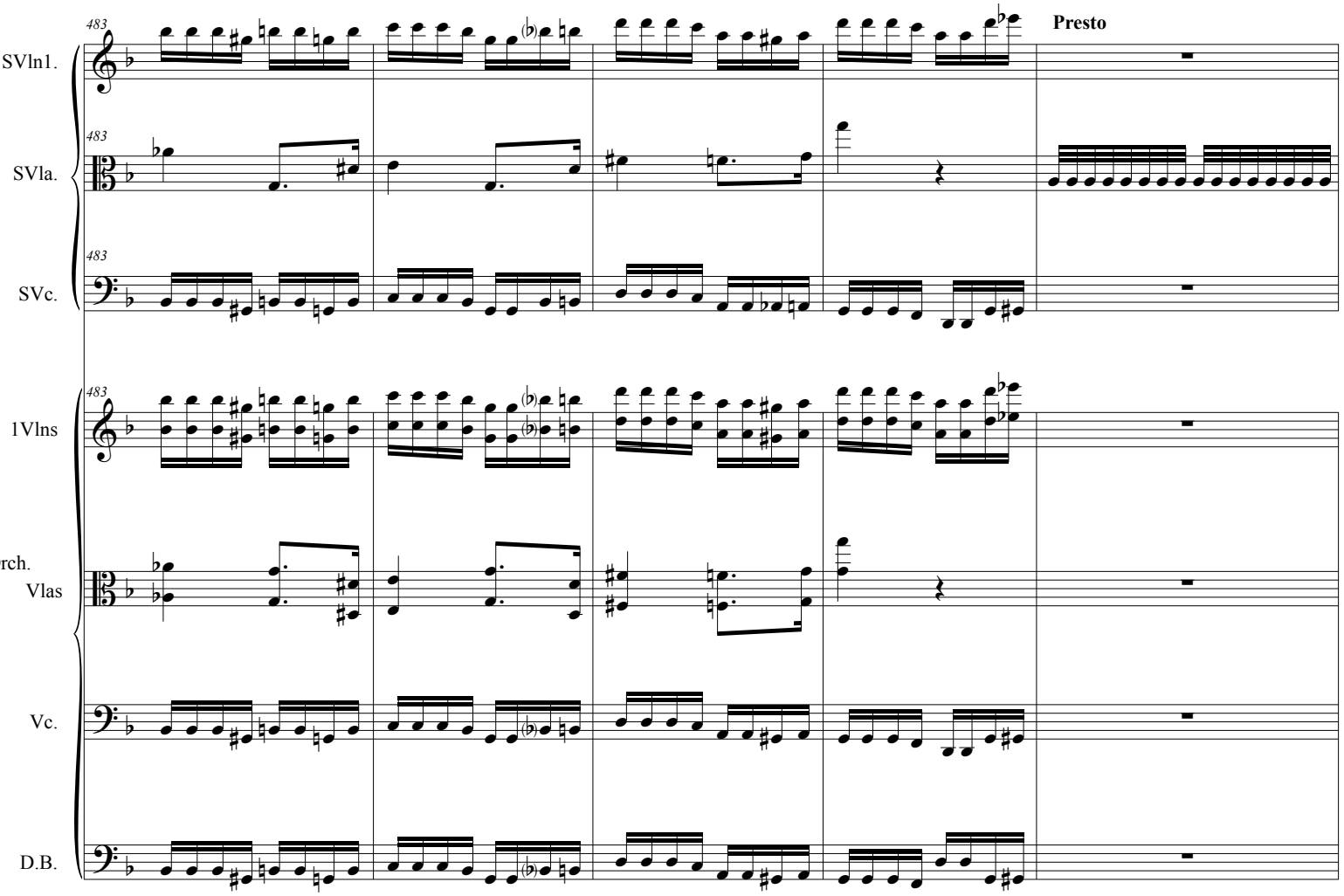

6
dolce
425
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
mp
f
p
433
sfz

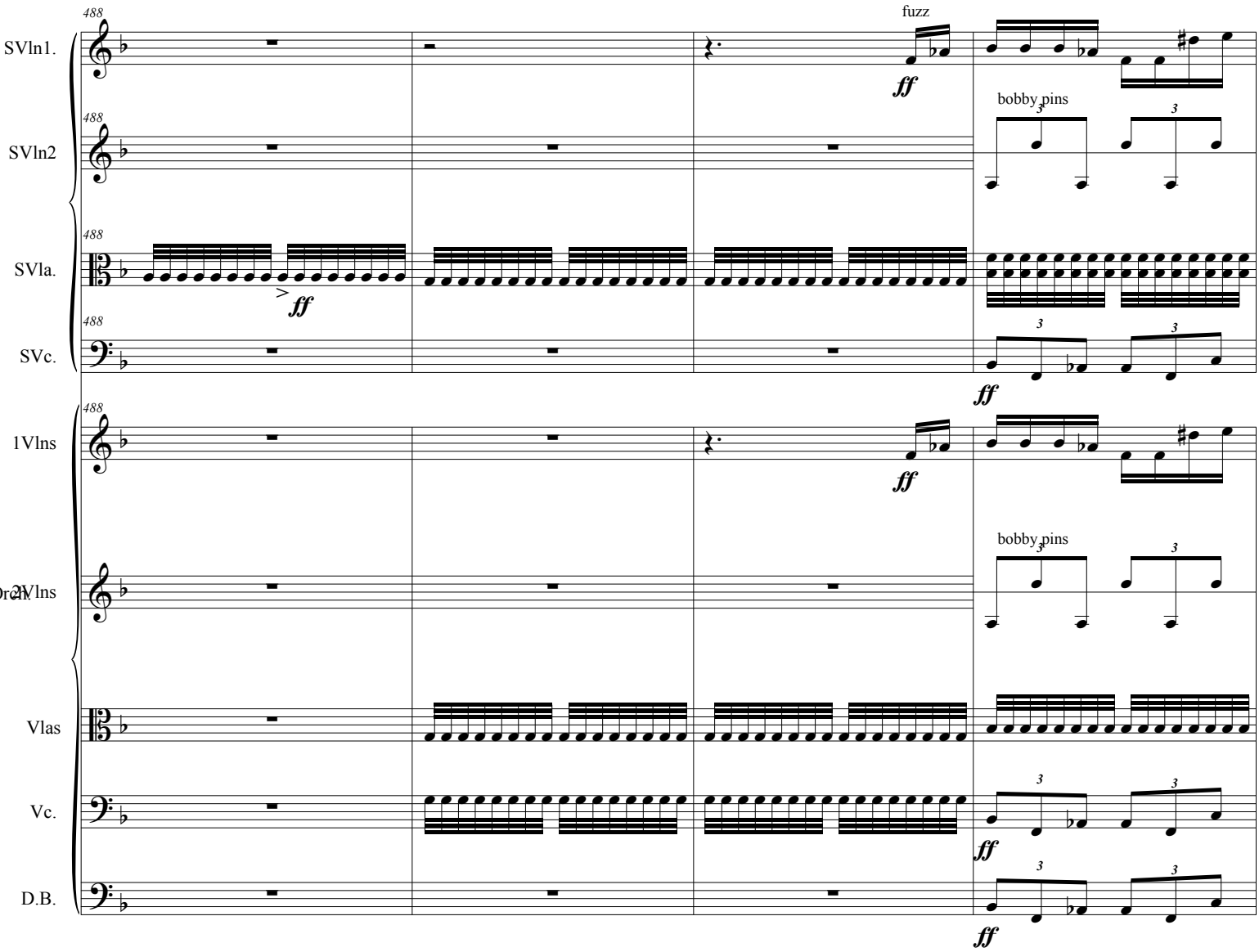

SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
440
sfz
mf

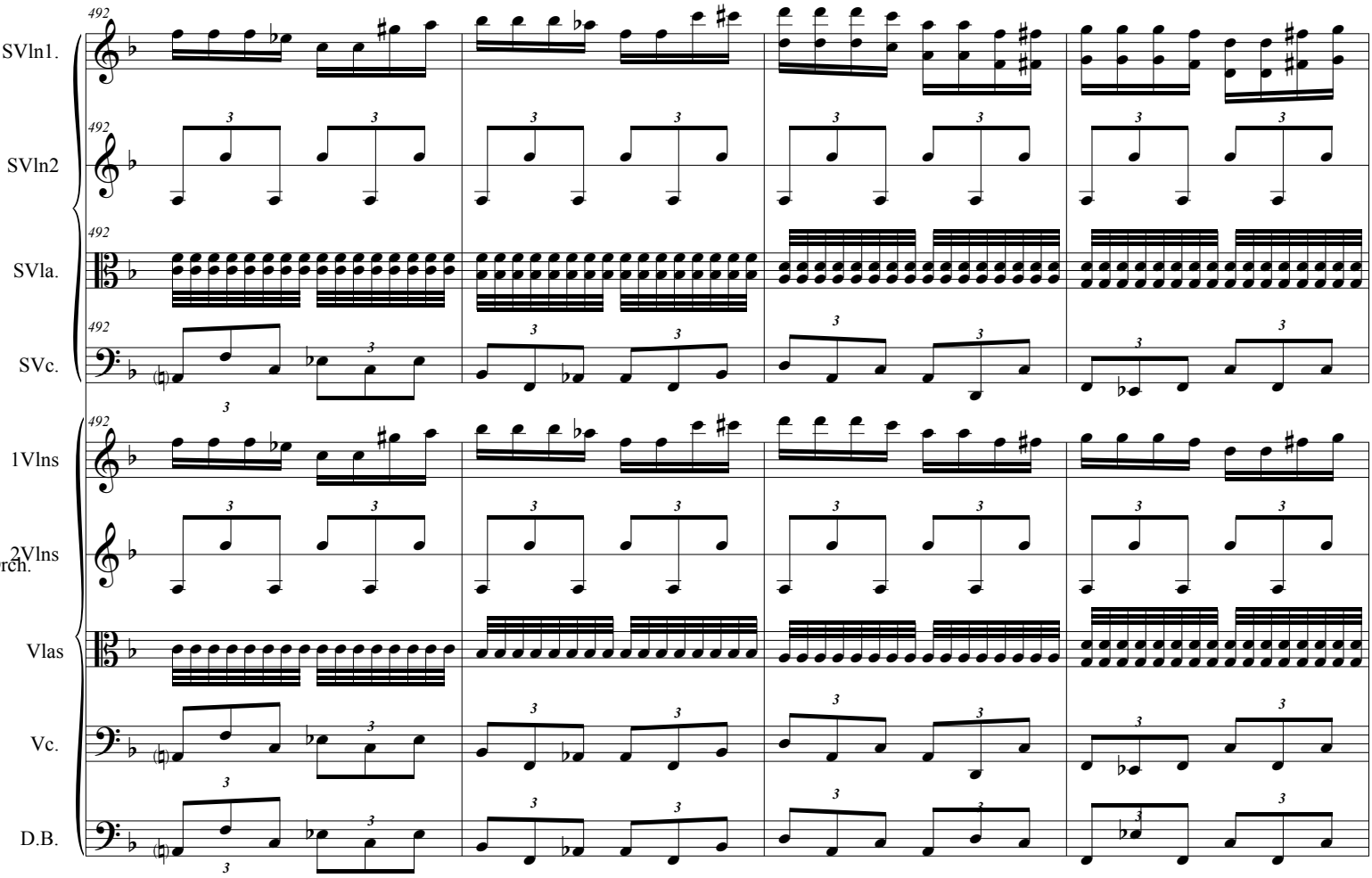

447
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
f

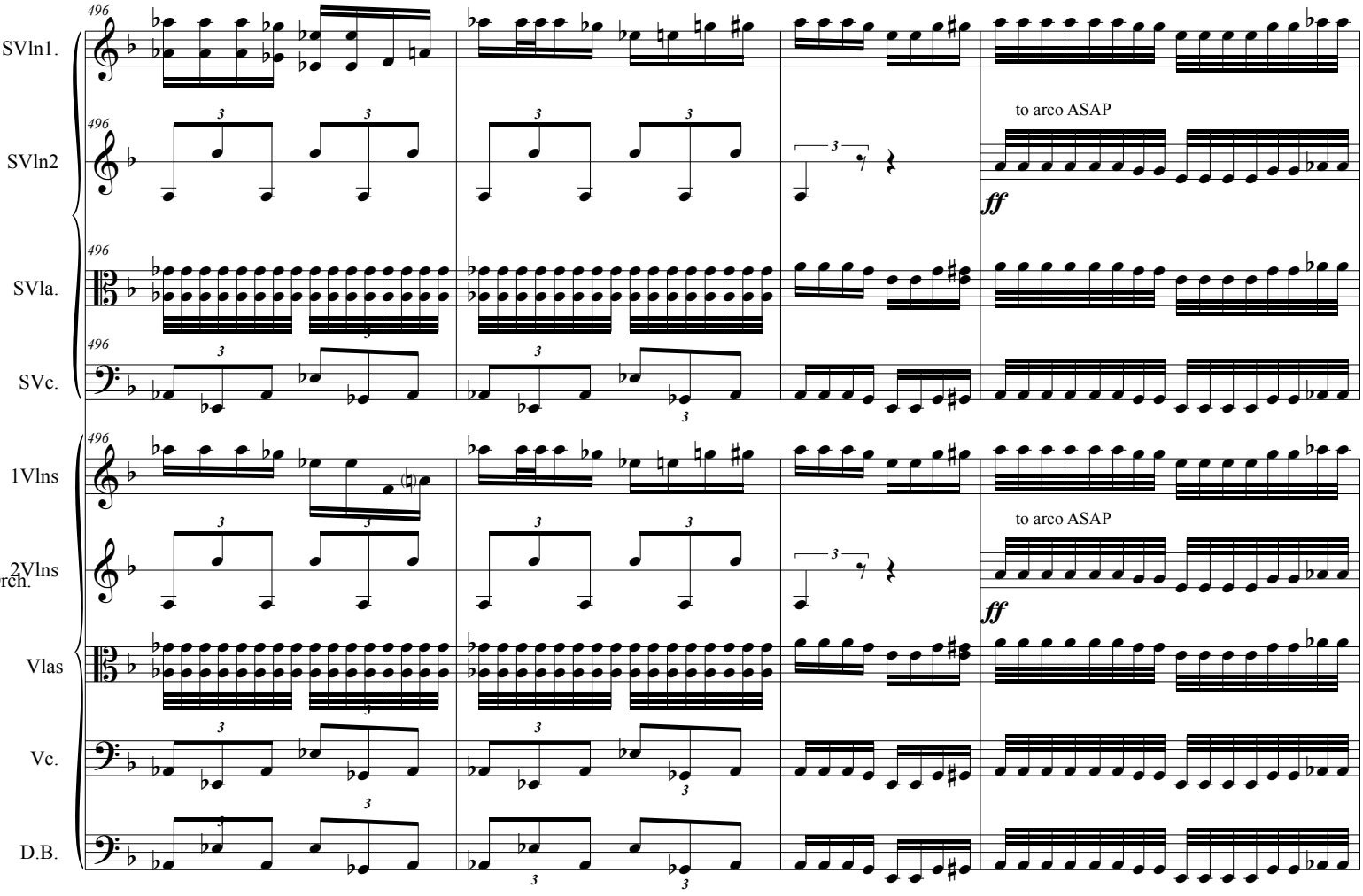

452
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
fp
theme
458
mf
f

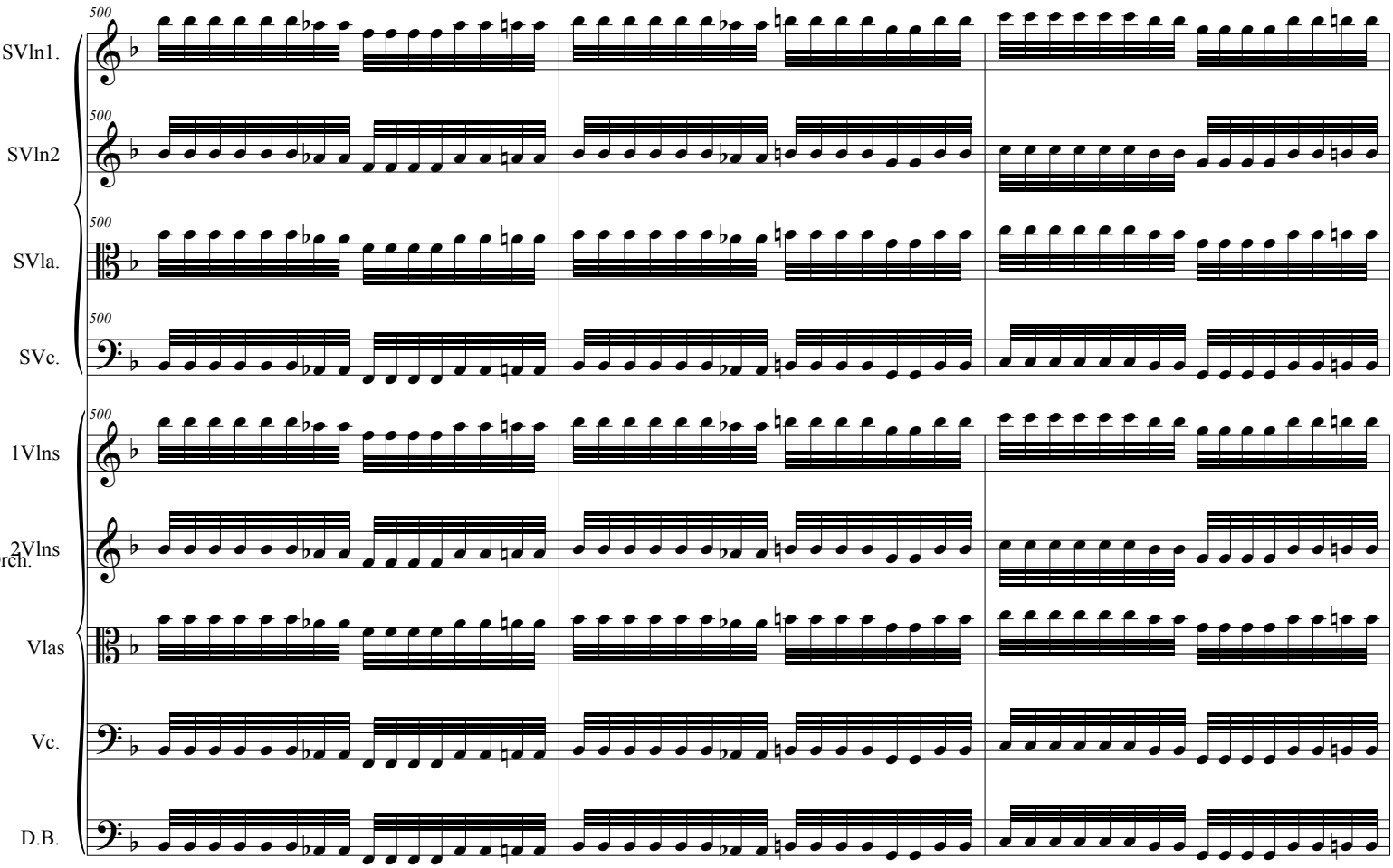

469
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
5
477
accel.
insert bobby pins
on strings behind bridge
Div.
1Vlns
Orch.
Vlas
div.
Vc.
D.B.
mf

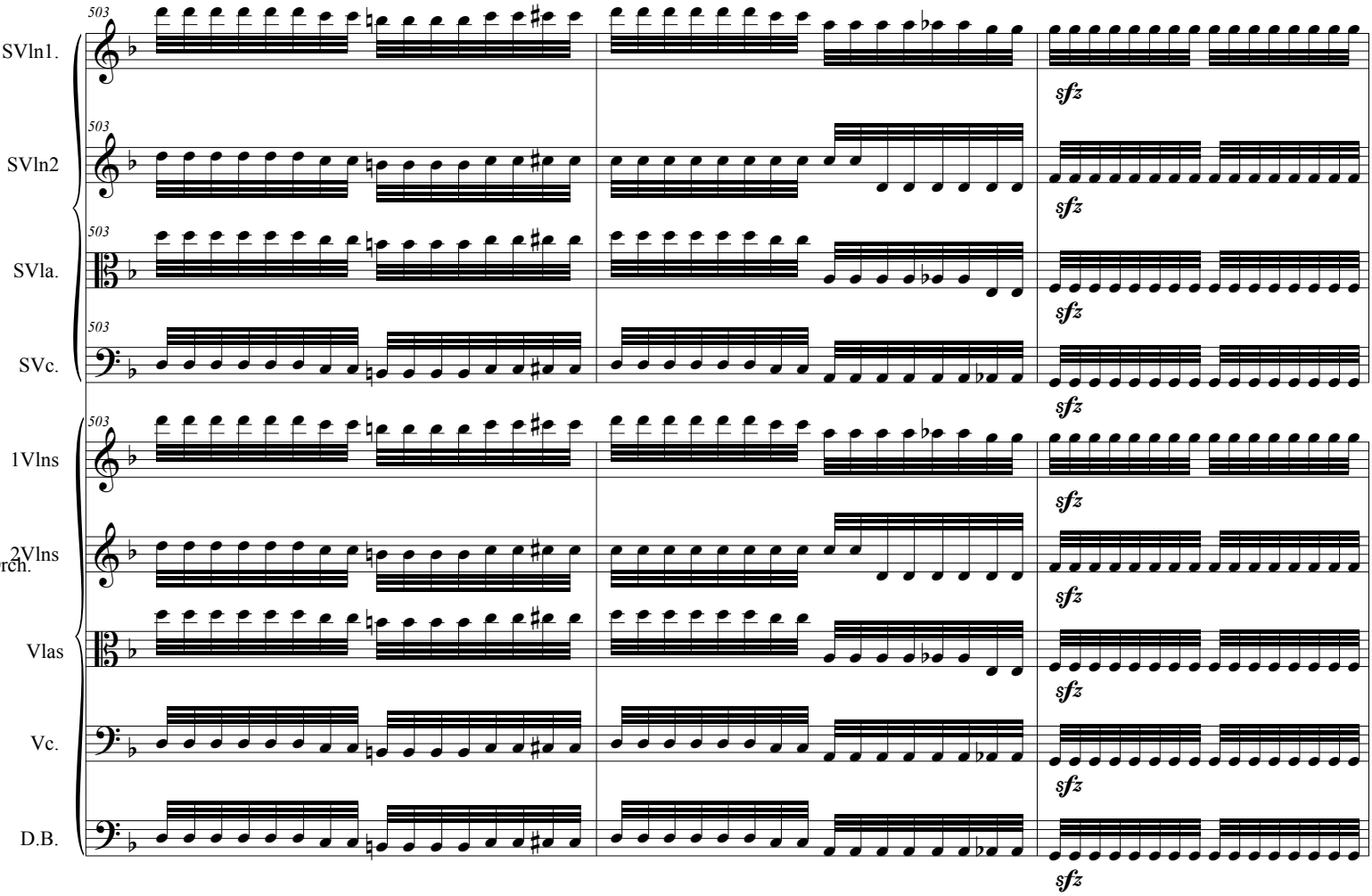

483
Presto
SVln1.
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
rch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.

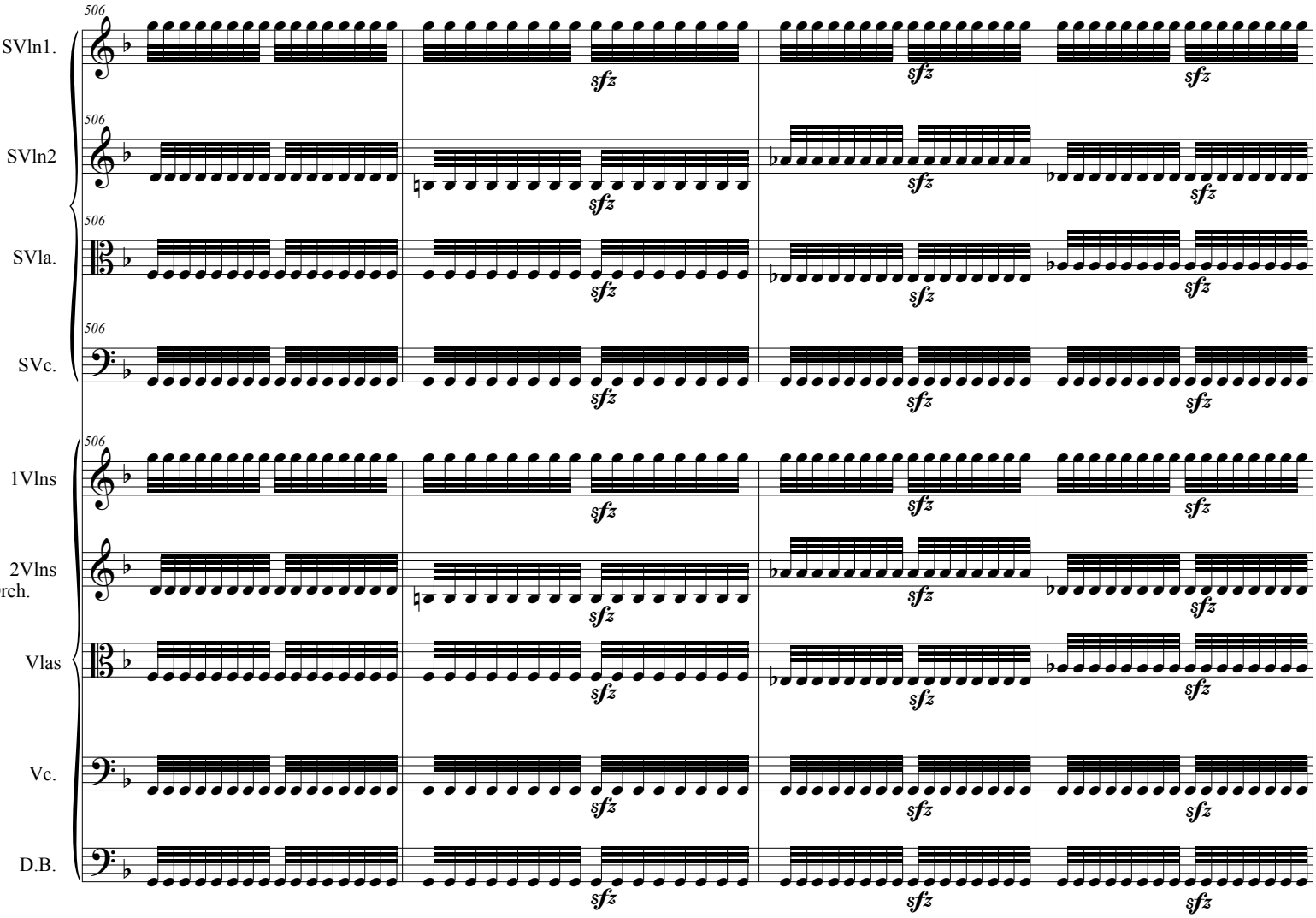

488
SVln1.
fuzz
ff
488
SVln2
bobby pins
3
488
SVla.
ff
488
SVc.
3
3
ff
488
1Vlns
ff
bobby pins
3
3
2Vlns
Vlas
Vc.
3
3
ff
D.B.
3
3
ff

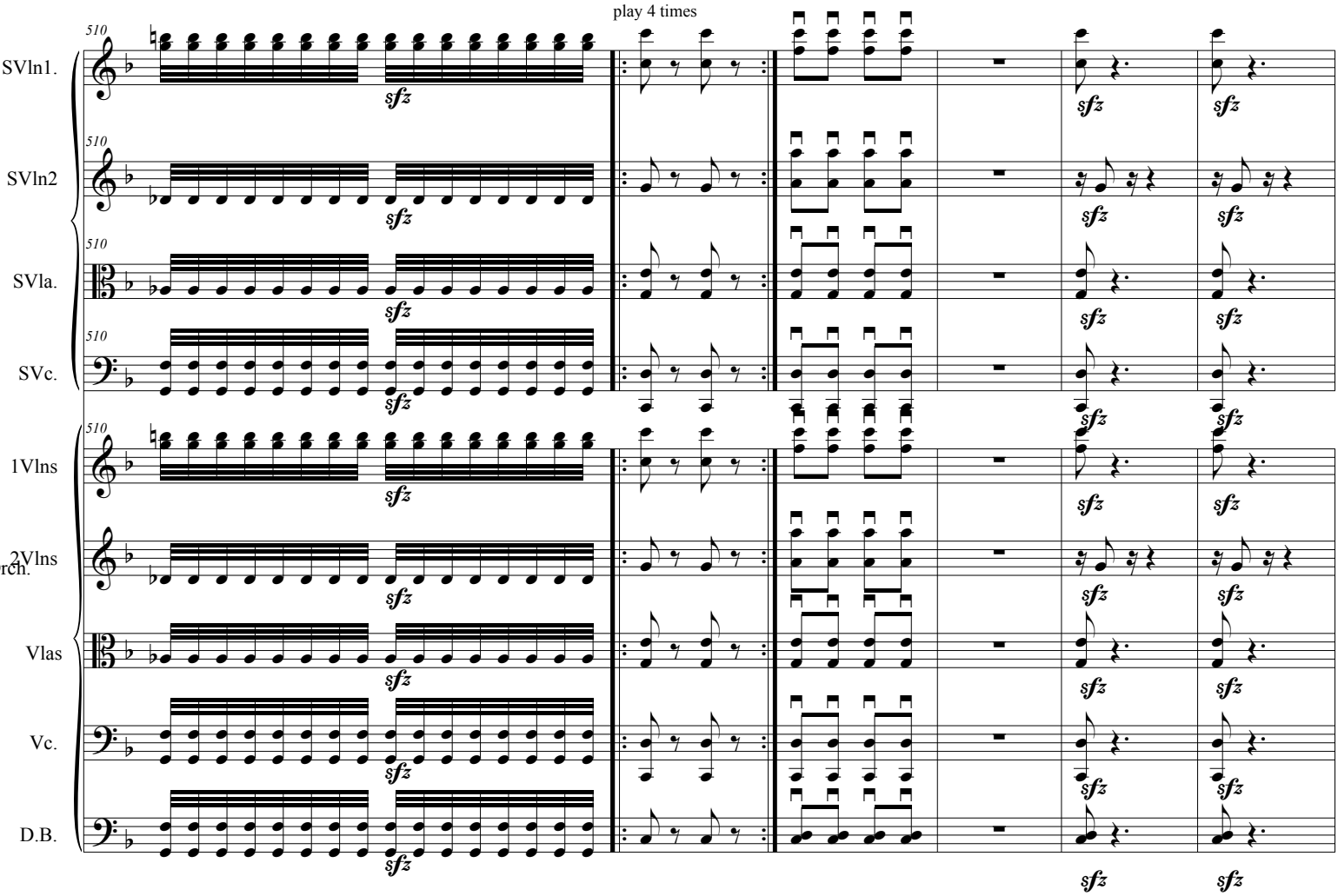

492
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.

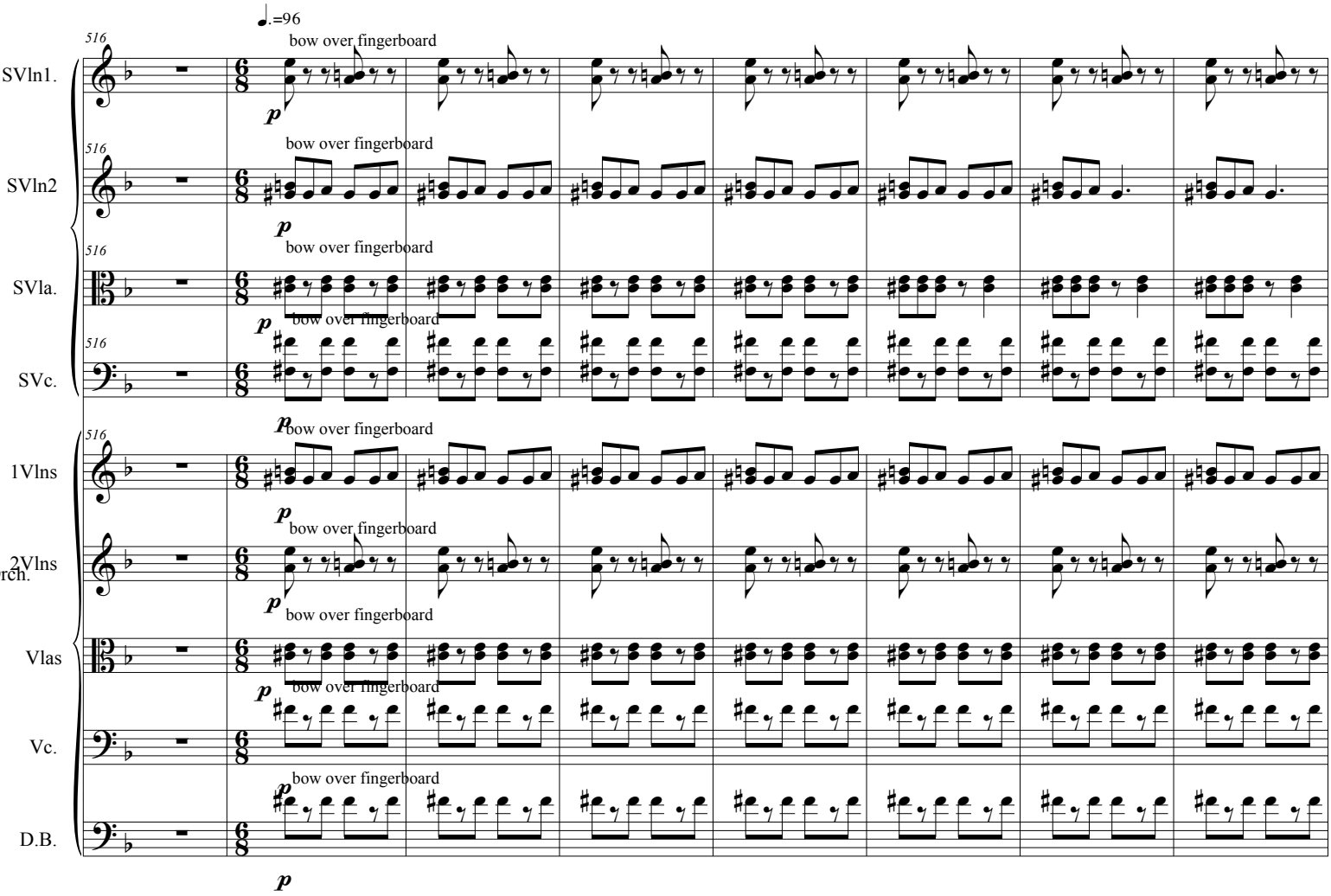

SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
rch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
496
to arco ASAP
ff
to arco ASAP
ff

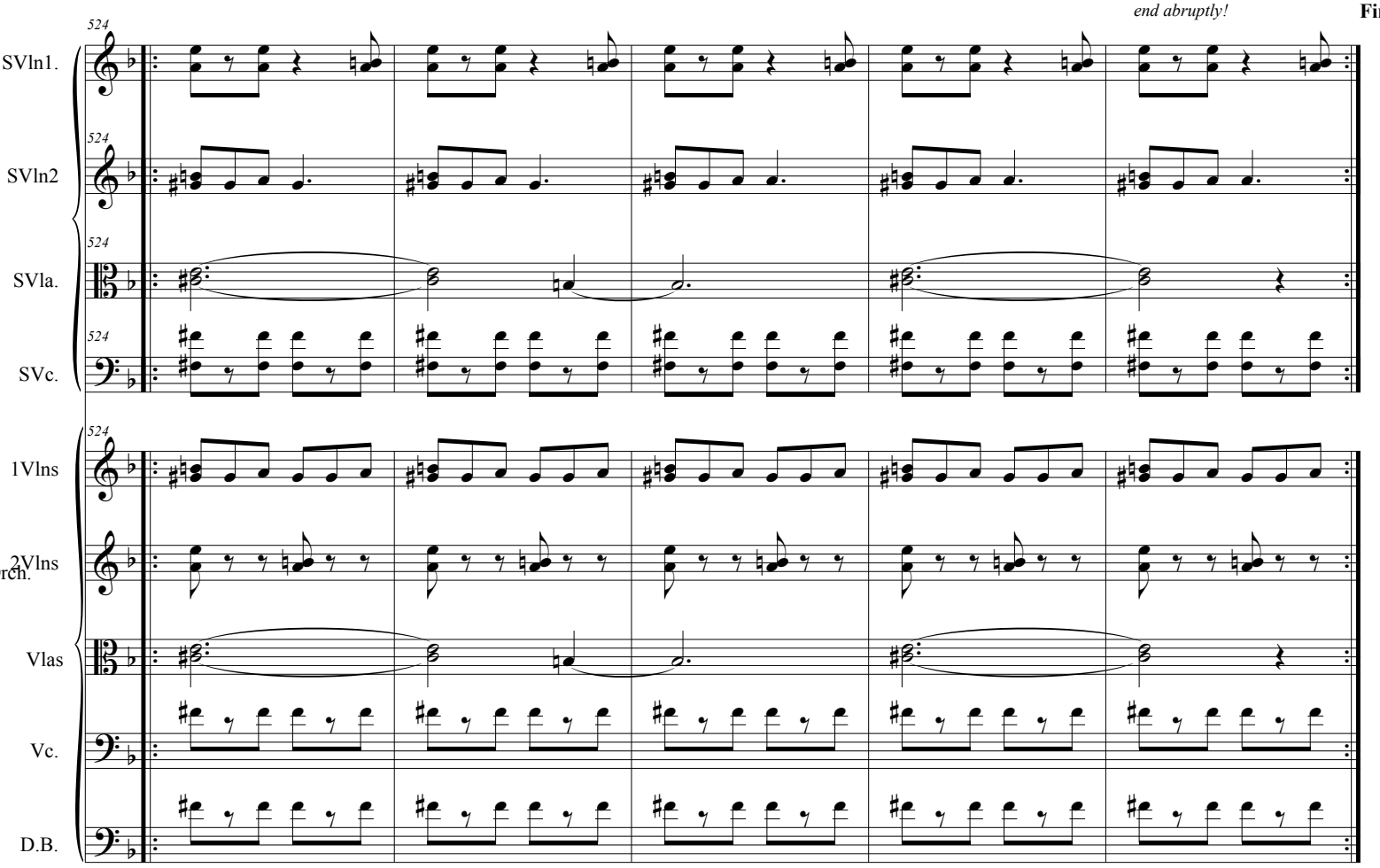

500
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.


503
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
sfz


506
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
rch.
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
sfz


play 4 times
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.
510
sfz


♩.=96
516
SVln1.
bow over fingerboard
p
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.


end abruptly!
Fin
524
SVln1.
SVln2
SVla.
SVc.
1Vlns
2Vlns
Vlas
Vc.
D.B.