Stas Omelchenko

Quartet in Five Parts

for (electric) String Quartet

Full Score

Program Note

As tribute, *Quartet in Five Parts* was written to celebrate the centennial of an American composer, theorist, writer, philosopher, and artist John Cage. The first part celebrates Cage's life and is based on his musical cryptogram. The second part further develops the cryptogram and introduces indeterminacy. The third part introduces silence and is constructed entirely from the material borrowed from Cage's *Quartet in Four Parts* (1950). The fourth part...
The fifth part re-opens the quartet.

Performance Notes

1. If amplification is used, all instruments should be at about the same gain levels. In order to intensify the contrast between sound and silence, the levels should be high enough so as to fill the auditorium with sound. If 4-channel setup is available, the speakers are to be positioned in their traditional manner—two front and two back.
2. As the quartet has no definite ending, it can be 'cycled through' as many times as desirable, stopping at the end of any part desirable. If performed only once, it is suggested to repeat and stop at the end of the first part in order to create a balanced harmonic completion.
3. If performed only once, the duration of the quartet is about 20 minutes; if performed more than once, the duration of the quartet will increase by the duration of each additional part repeated. The durations of individual parts are as follows:

Part 1 – 4'54" Part 2 – 3'49" Part 3 – 3'07" Part 4 – 3'44" Part 5 – 3'49"

In Memoriam John Cage

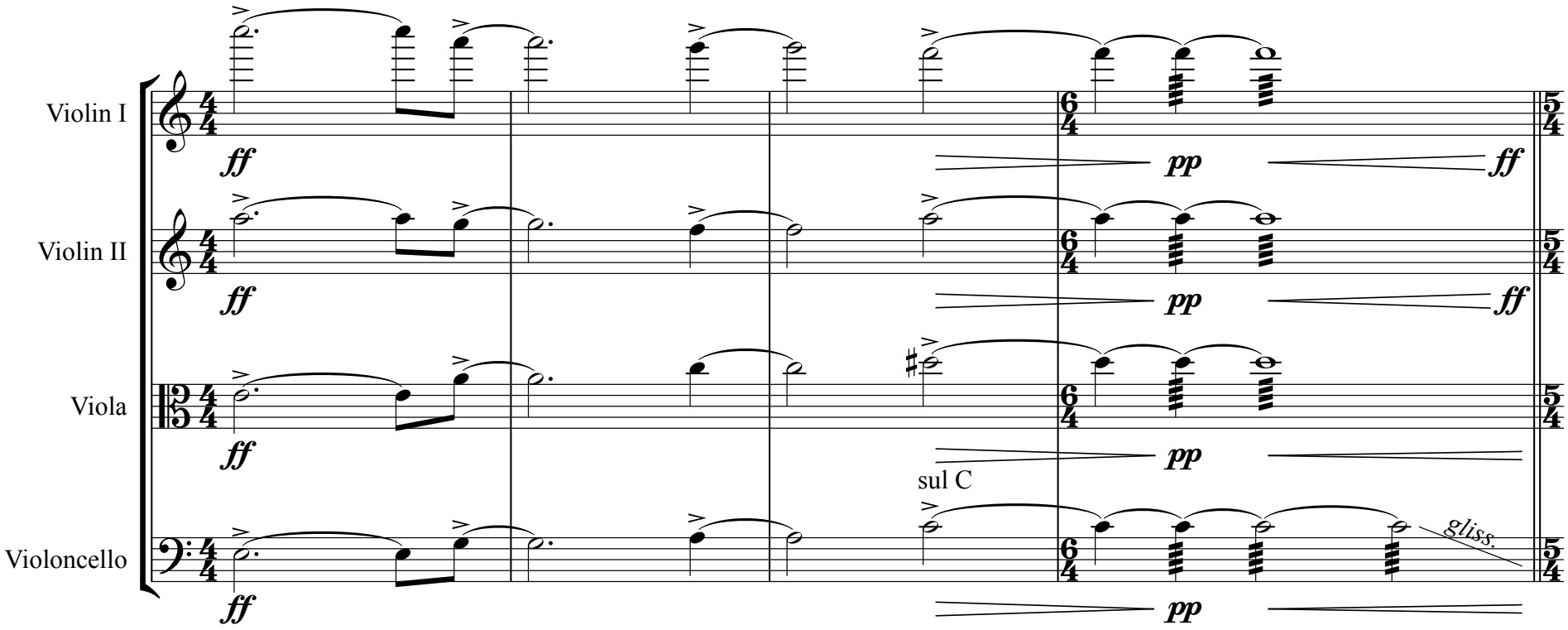
Quartet in Five Parts

for (electric) String Quartet

PART 1

Broad ♩ = 110

Stas Omelchenko (2012)



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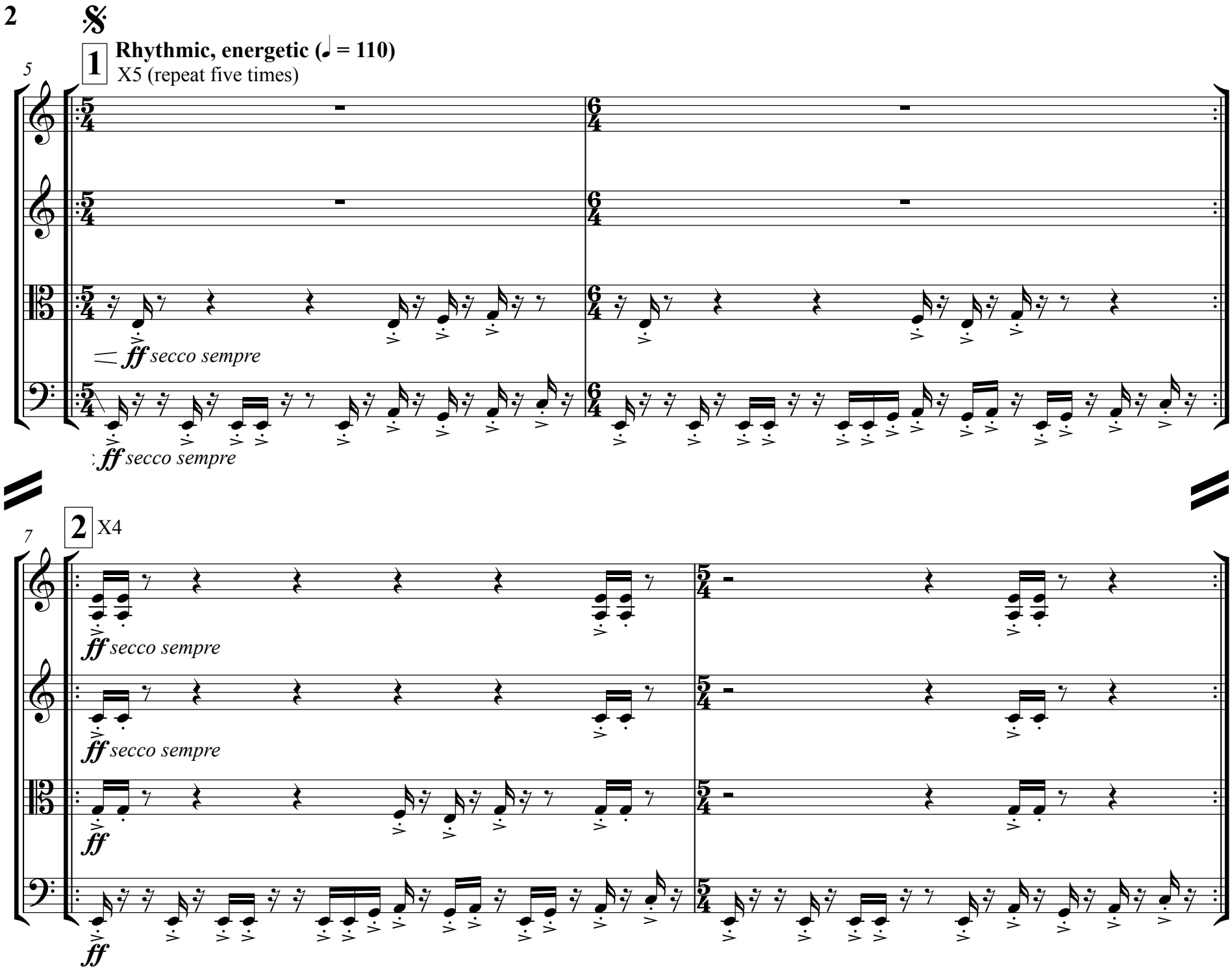
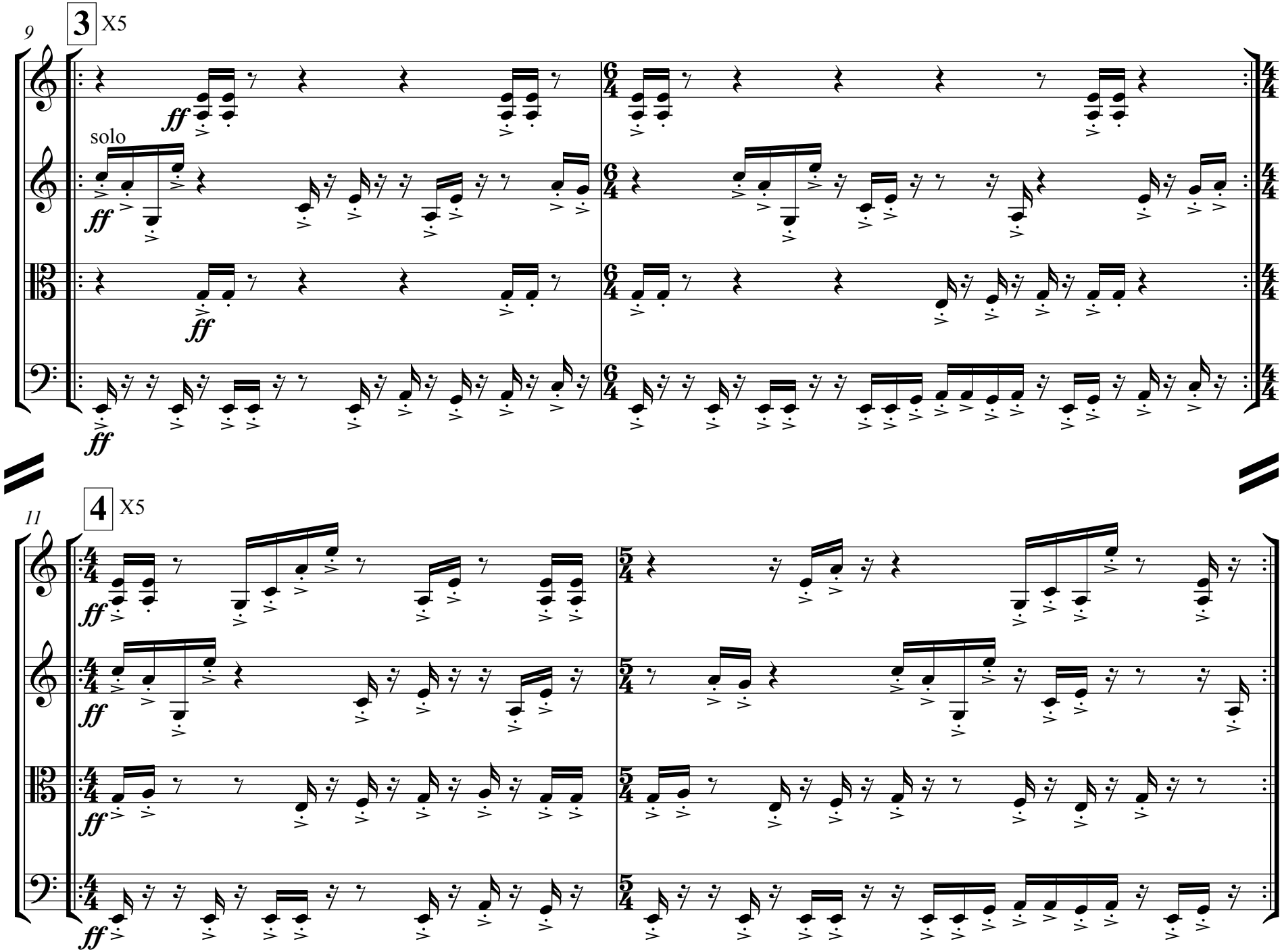
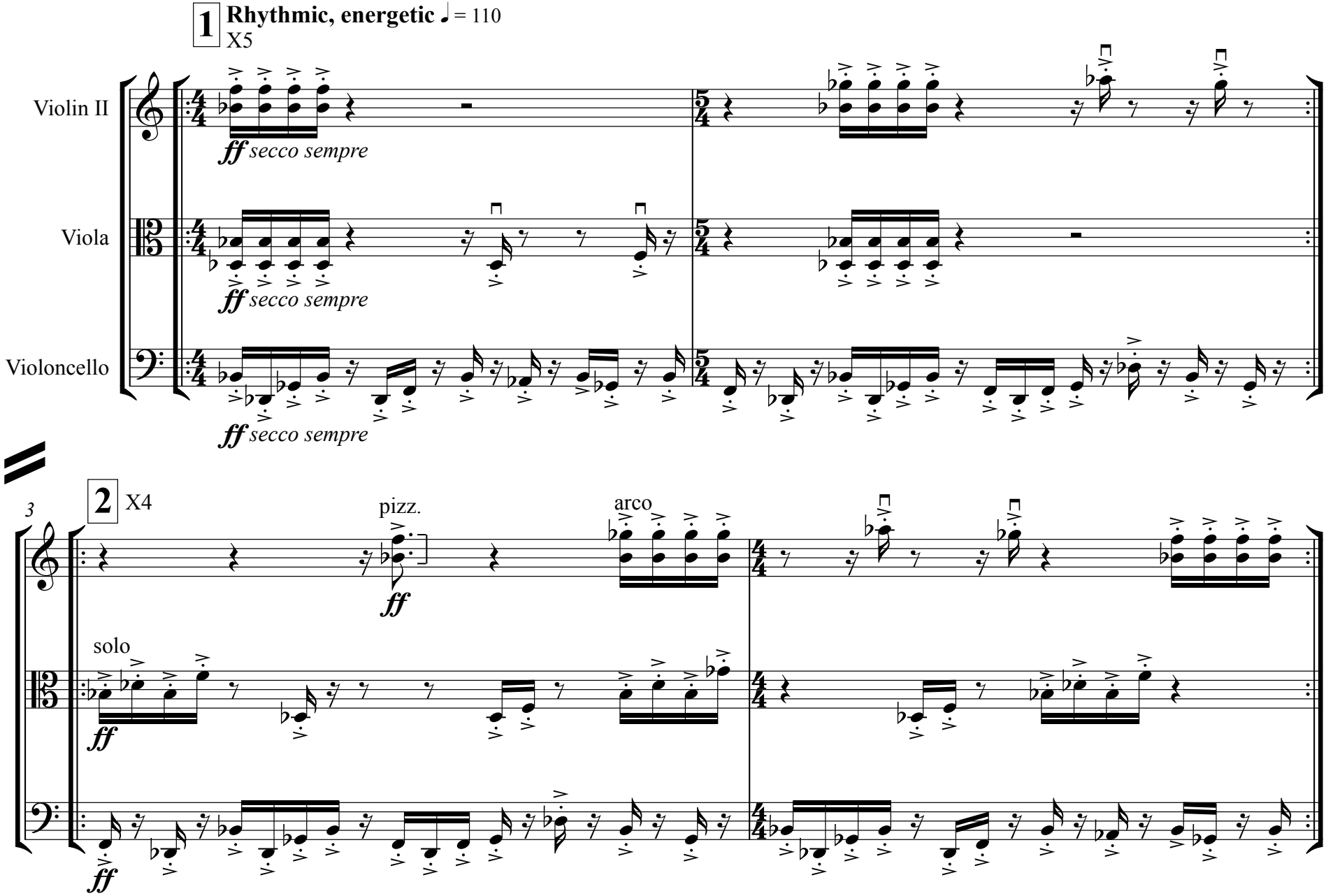
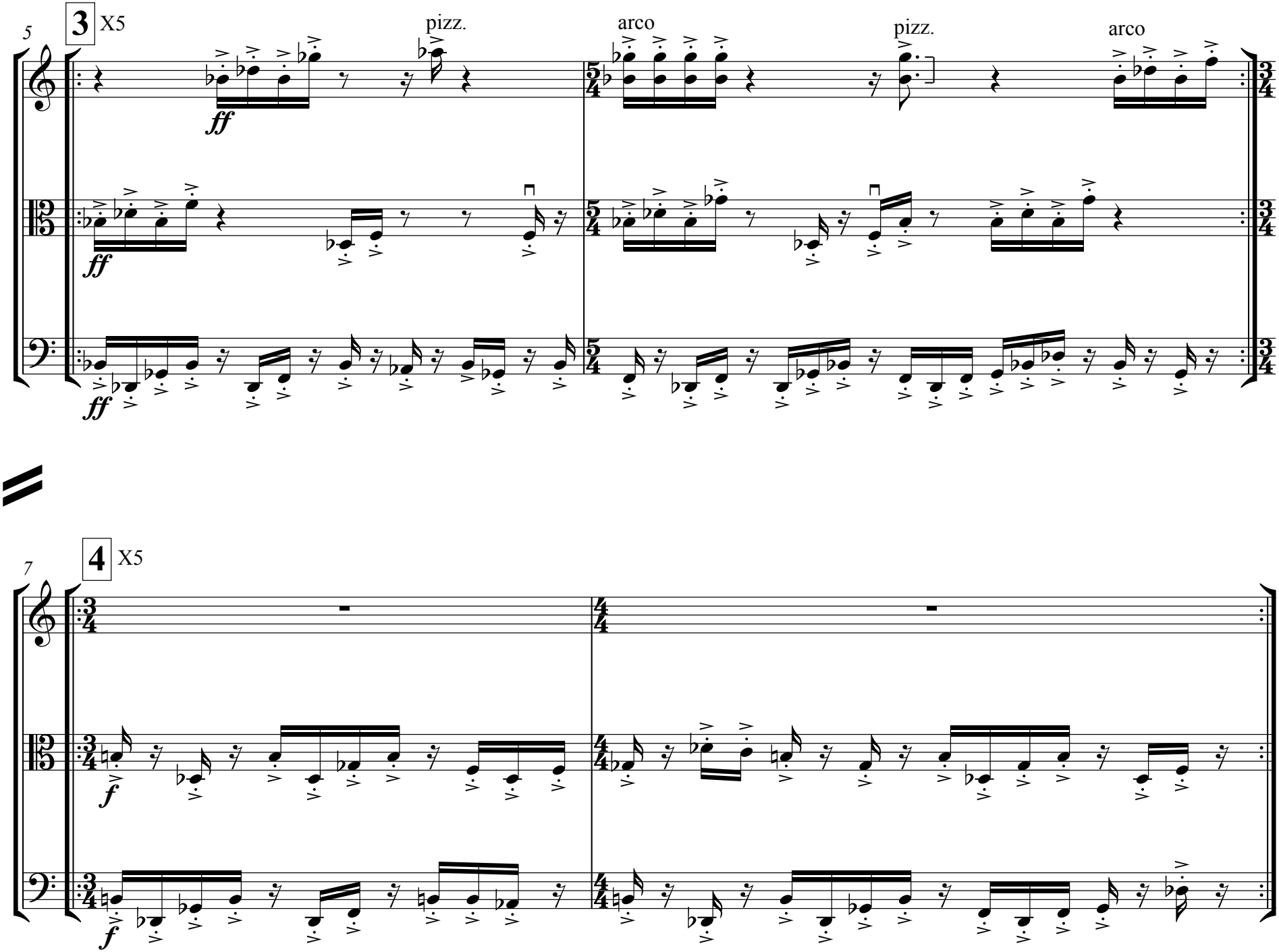

1
Rhythmic, energetic (♩ = 110)
X5 (repeat five times)
5
ff secco sempre
ff secco sempre
2
X4
7
ff secco sempre
ff secco sempre
ff
ff


9
3
X5
solo
ff
11
4
X5

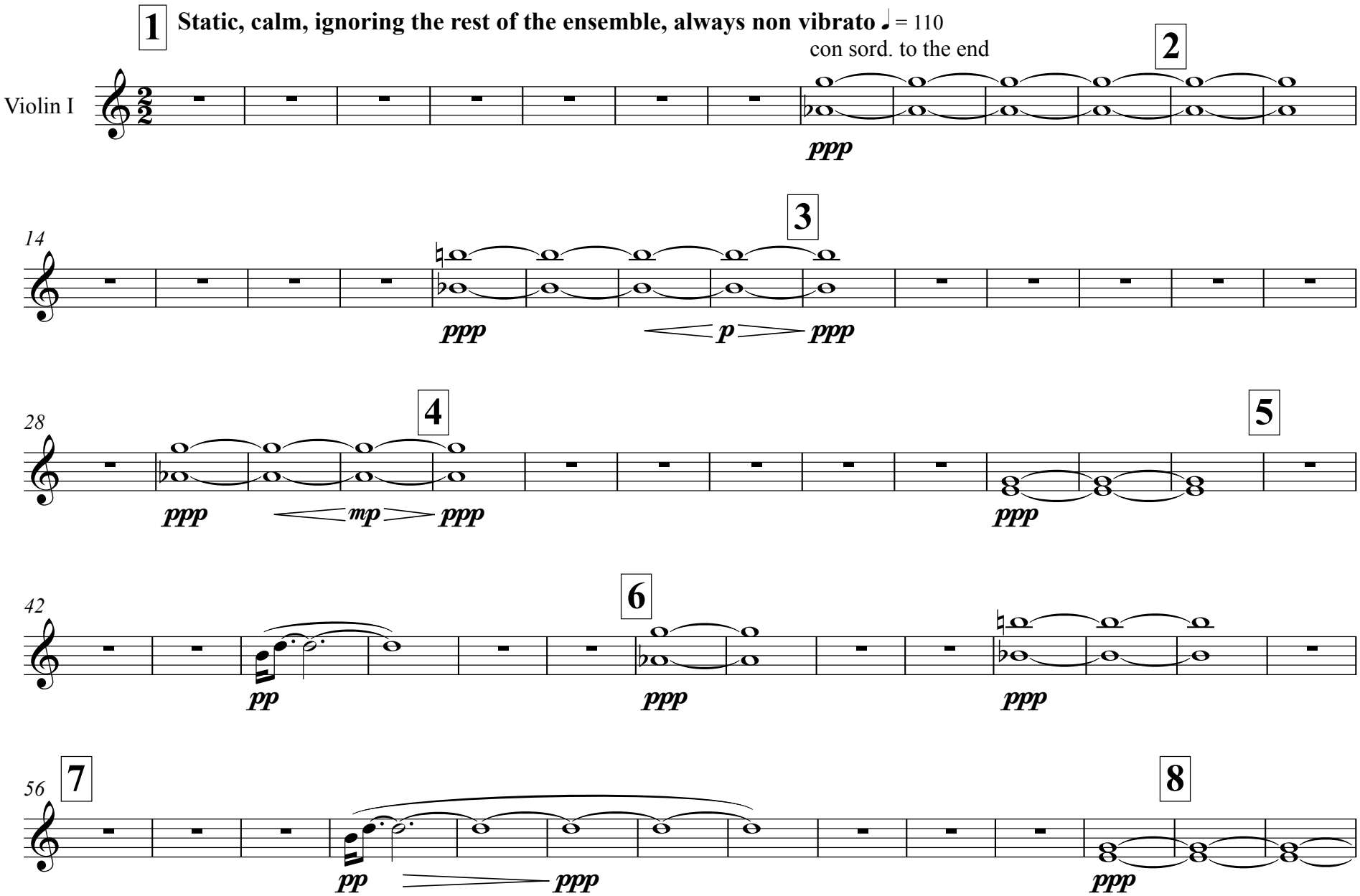
PART 2



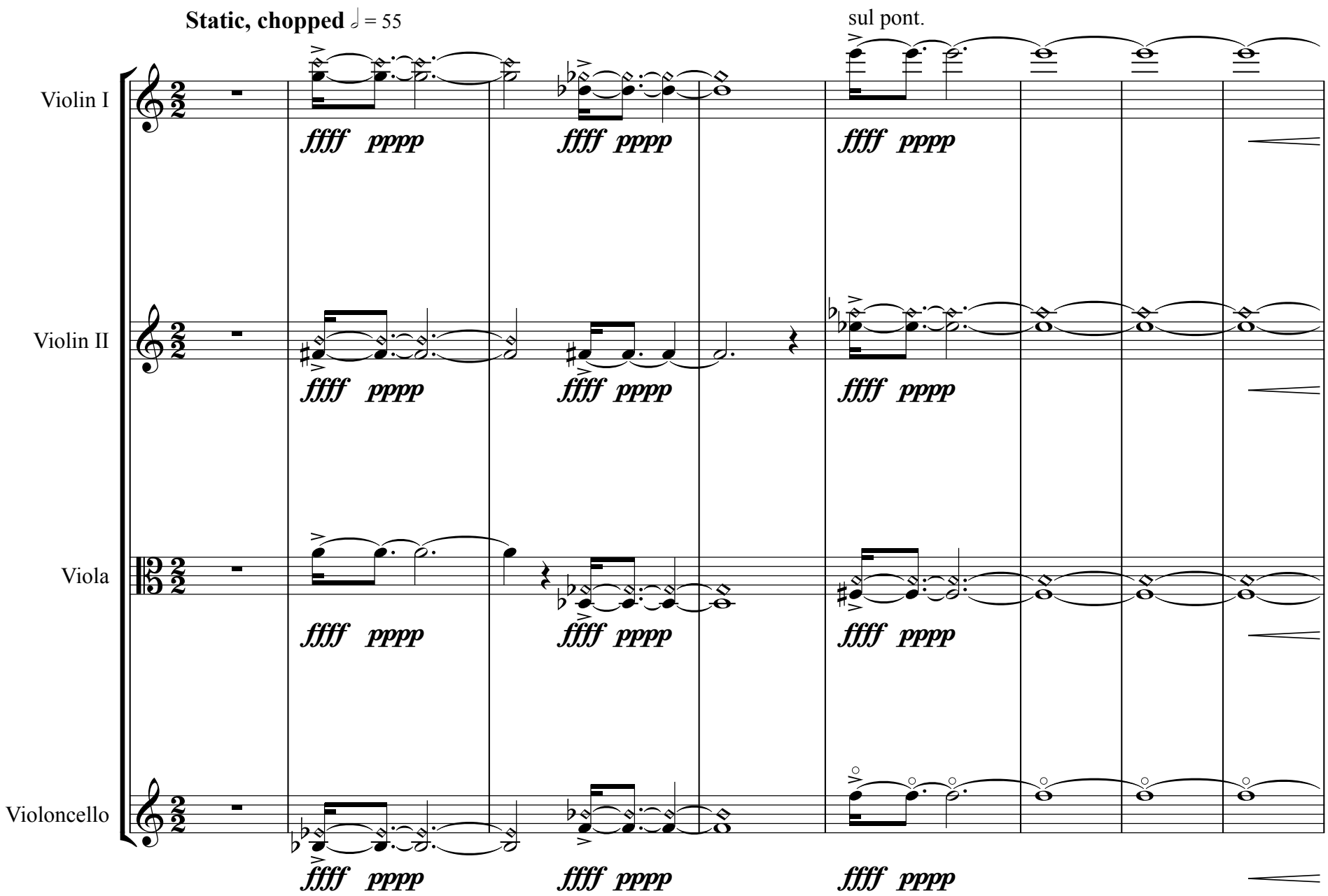
* Violin I uses a separate part for this movenemt; see Part 2 for Violin I separately.

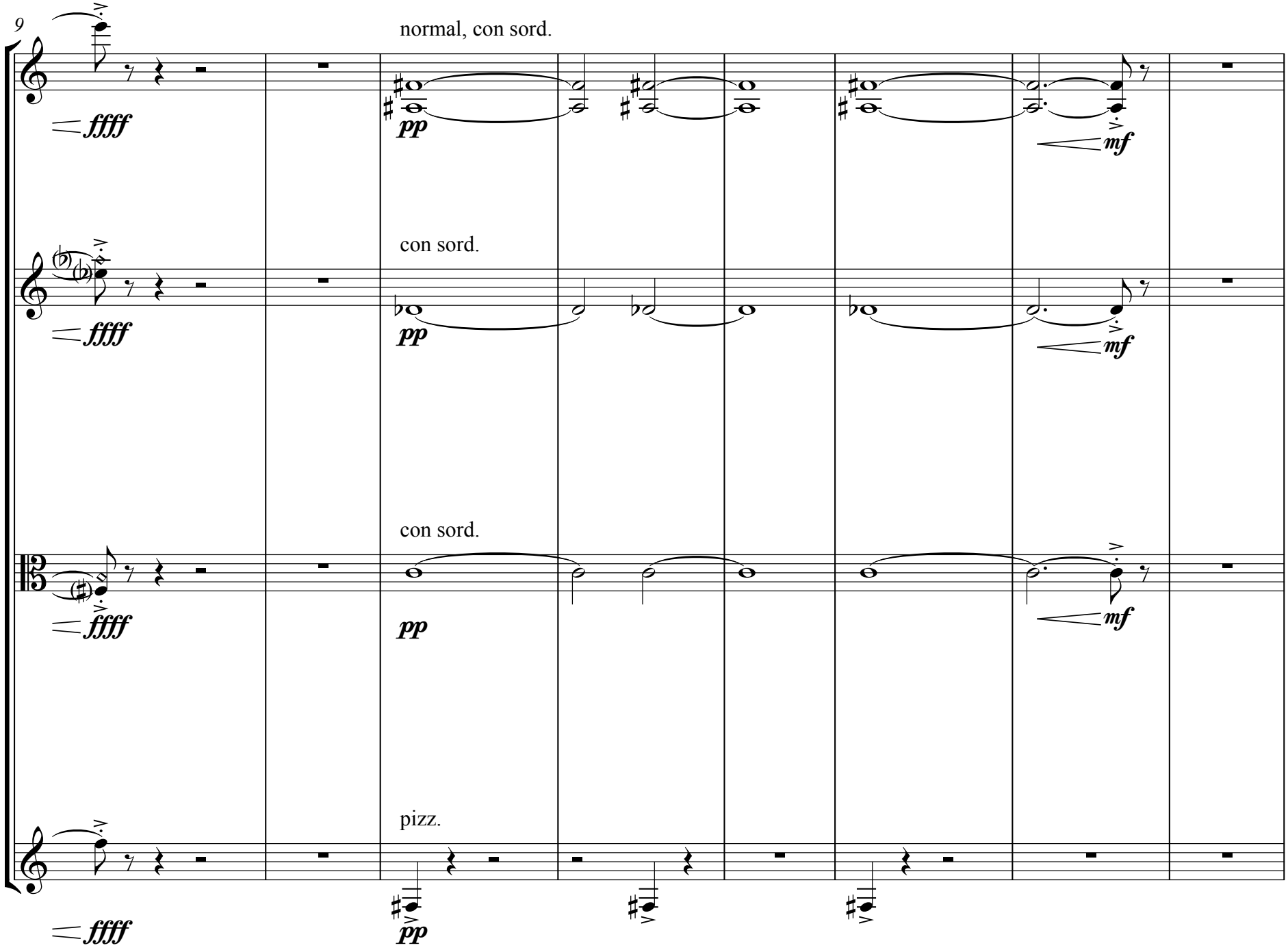

5
3
X5
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
ff
ff
ff
7
4
X5
f
f

PART 2


1
Static, calm, ignoring the rest of the ensemble, always non vibrato
♩ = 110
con sord. to the end
2
Violin I
ppp
14
3
ppp
p
ppp
28
4
5
ppp
mp
ppp
ppp
42
6
pp
ppp
ppp
56
7
8
pp
ppp
ppp

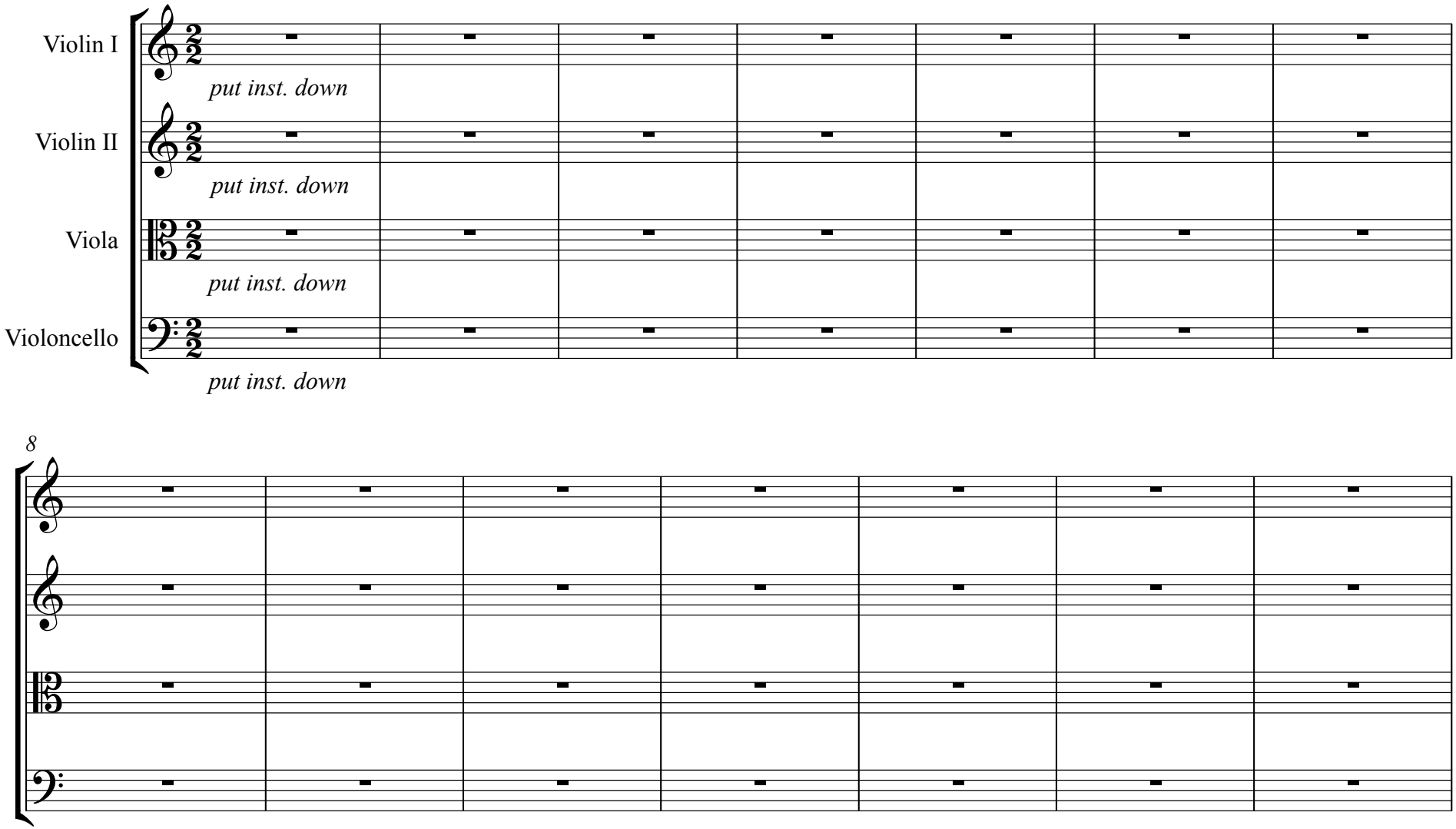
PART 3


Static, chopped ♩ = 55
sul pont.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Violoncello
ffff pppp
ffff pppp
ffff pppp

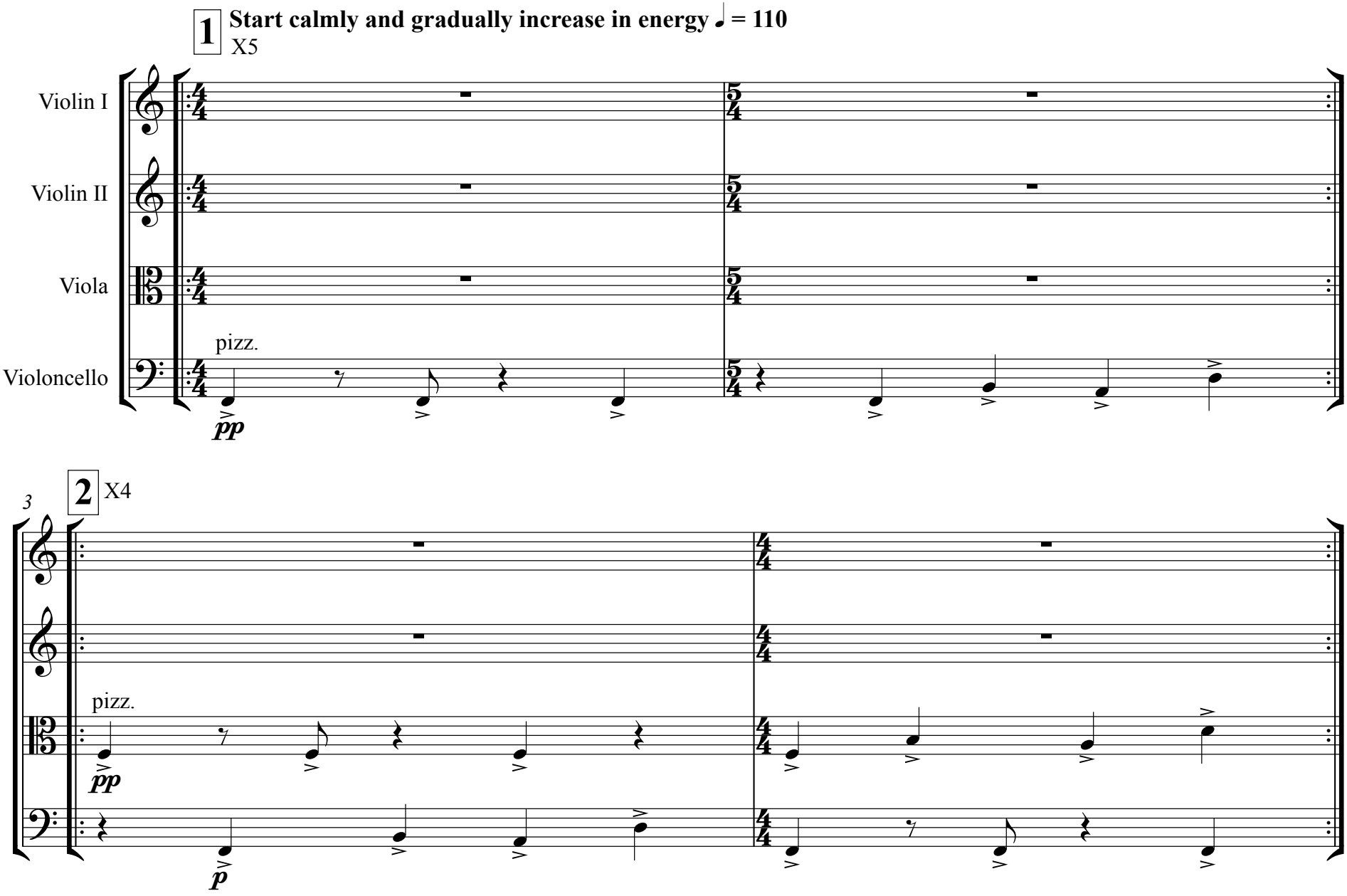

9
normal, con sord.
ffff
pp
mf
con sord.
ffff
pp
mf
con sord.
ffff
pp
mf
pizz.
ffff
pp

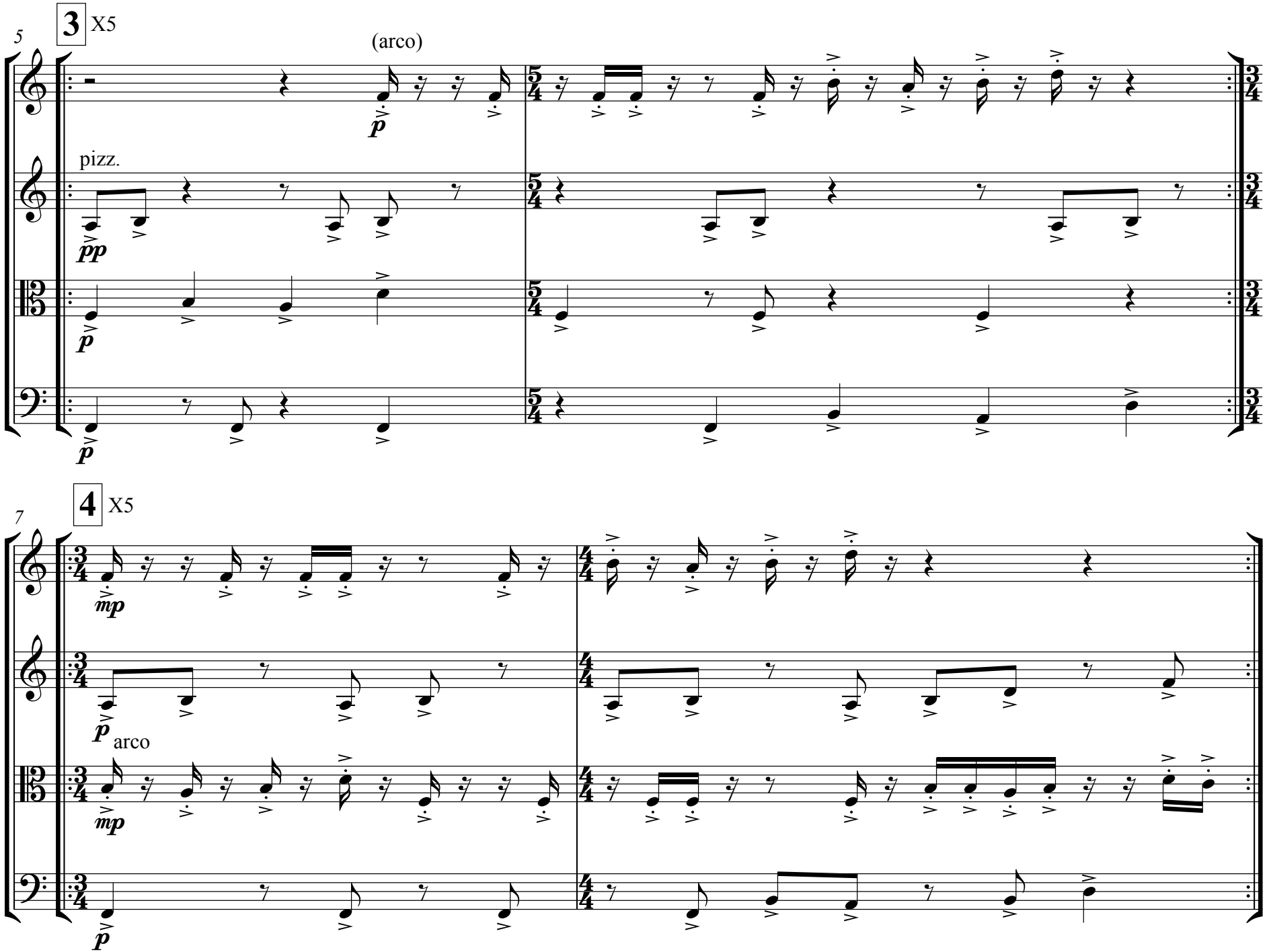
PART 4

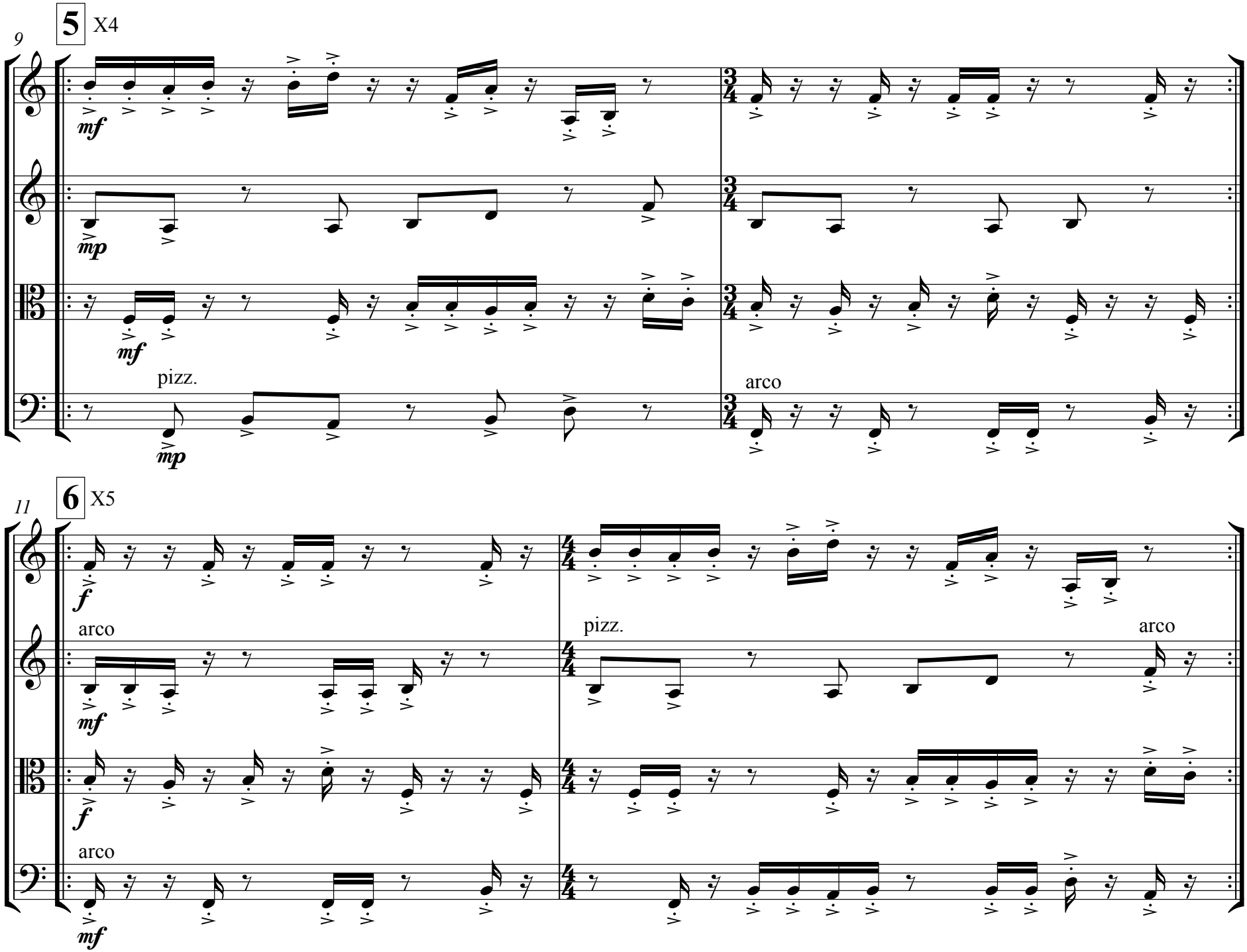
In strict tempo, but with intense emotion ♩ = 55



PART 5


1
Start calmly and gradually increase in energy ♩ = 110
X5
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Violoncello
pizz.
pp
3
2
X4
pizz.
pp
p


5
3 X5
(arco)
p
pizz.
pp
p
p
7
4 X5
mp
p
arco
mp
p


9
5
X4
mf
mp
mf
pizz.
mp
arco
11
6
X5
f
arco
mf
pizz.
arco
f
arco
mf