Things Are Not That They Seem, nor Are They Otherwise

For String Orchestra and Violin Solo

Jackson Evans

2023

Instrumentation

Violin Solo

Violin I & II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

Contextualization Notes

This piece was written for the University of Wisconsin Green Bay string orchestra spring concert. The title is a well-known quotation that is either accredited to the Laṅkāvatāra Sūtra or the Śūraṅgama Sūtra. Both Sūtras are ancient Buddhist texts that have the unfortunate history of having the original texts lost and only having ancient translations remaining. Depending on the philosophy of translation, any translating of Sūtras into English turns into the daunting task of making a plea for the original text's intention in a different language of different meanings and contexts for words. The quotation is fitting then, since it addresses the problems and contradictions inherent in meaning in in the first place; it's a statement that questions ontological categorization of things. The title was suggested before the creation of the piece by mentor and the piece's soloist Dr. Luis Fernandez, where it was used at the piece's finish. In the context of the piece, the title maybe serves as a statement of how it's adequate and maybe useless to apply an object to the meaning of the music and *how* instead the music being listened to affects the recognized things of the world, just as the recognized things of the world conditioned the music into what it is. The piece's solo part was written to account for Dr. Luis Fernandez' skill as a violinist while allowing for the solo part to act less as a conventional solo and intertwine and even duet with different sections and section leaders at times. The parts and duets written were also specialized with particular player strengths in mind.

Duration

about five to six minutes

Premiered

2nd of December 2023

UWGB String Orchestra and Band

Soloist

Dr. Luis Fernandez

Conductor

Dr. Randall Meder

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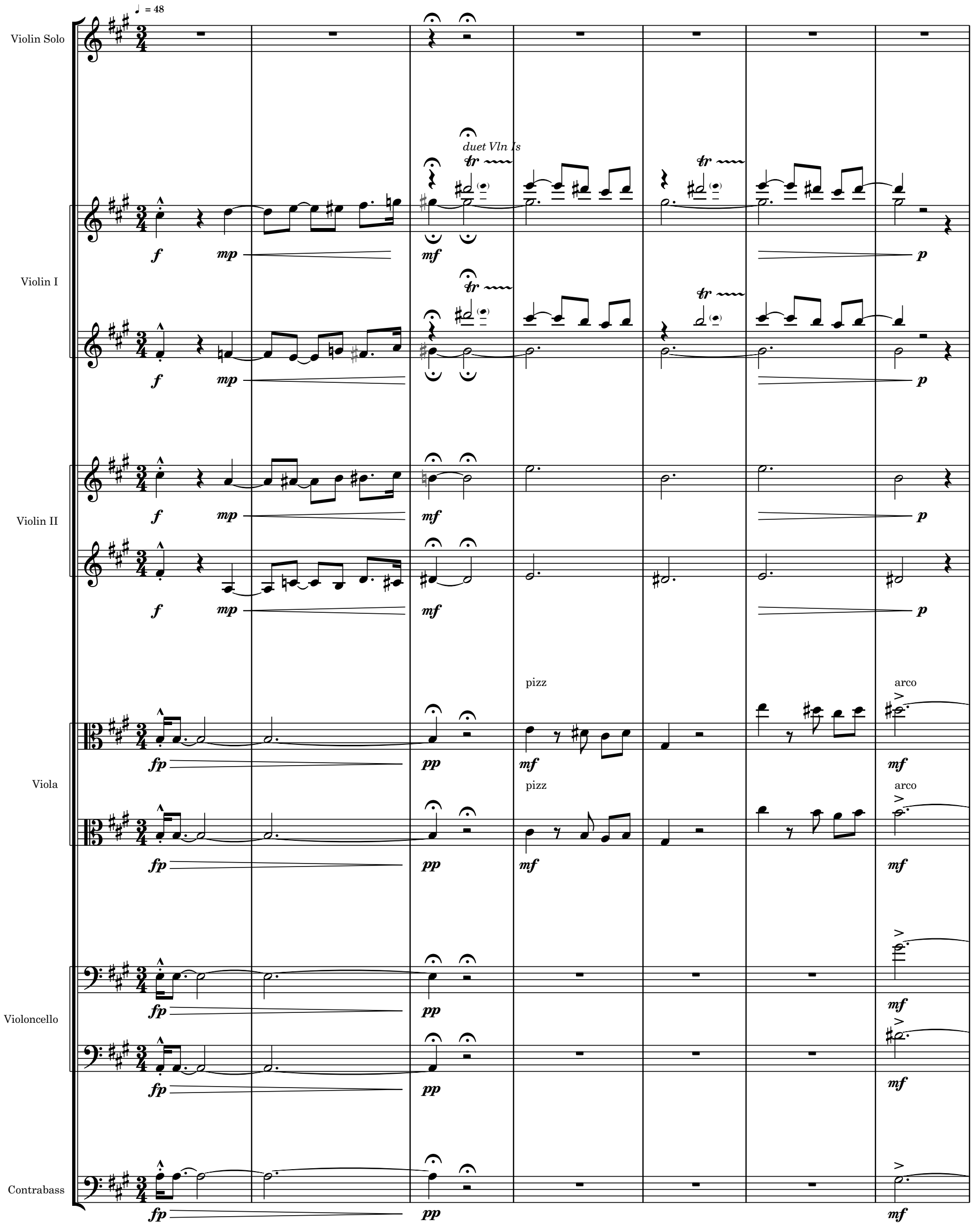
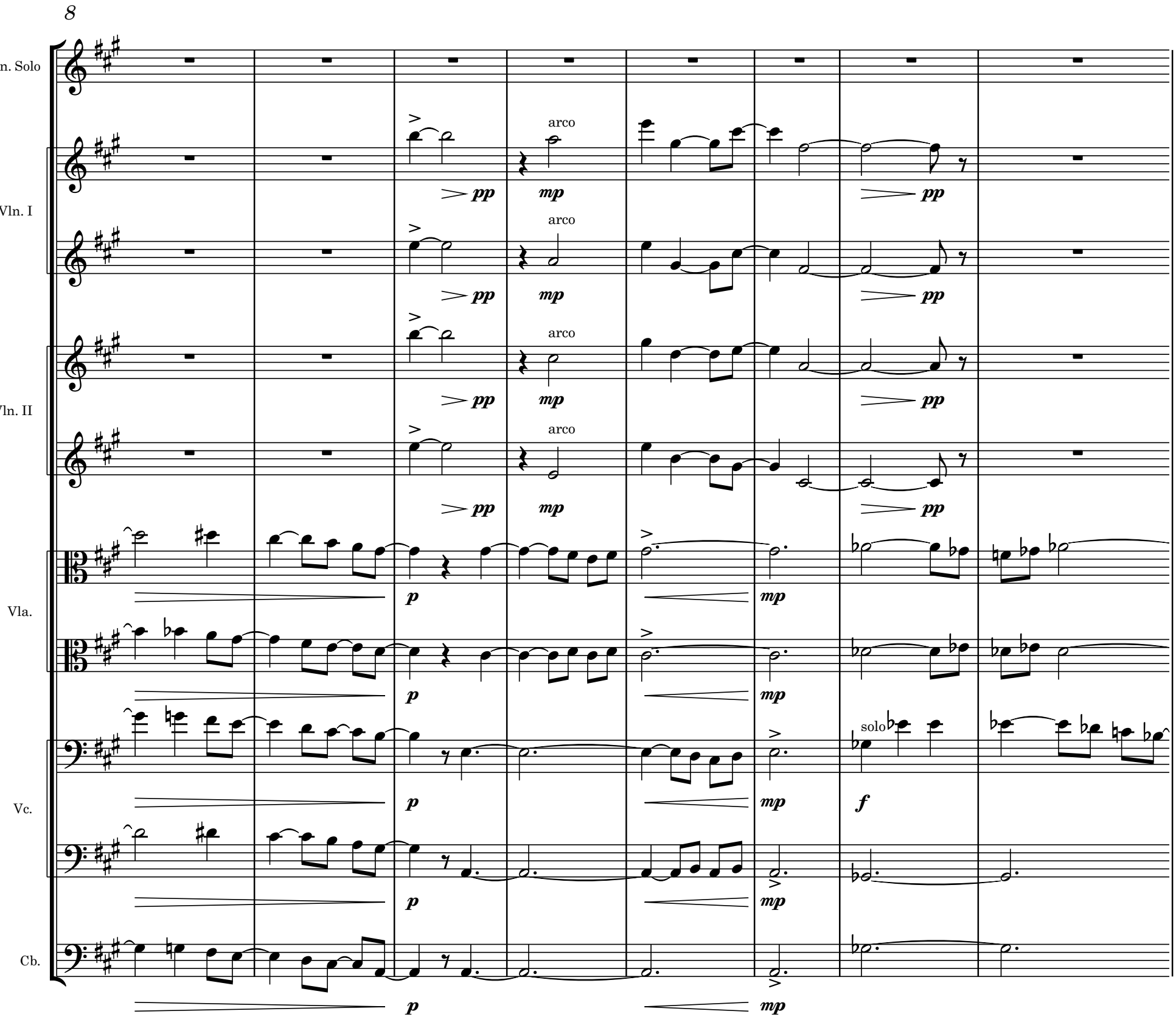
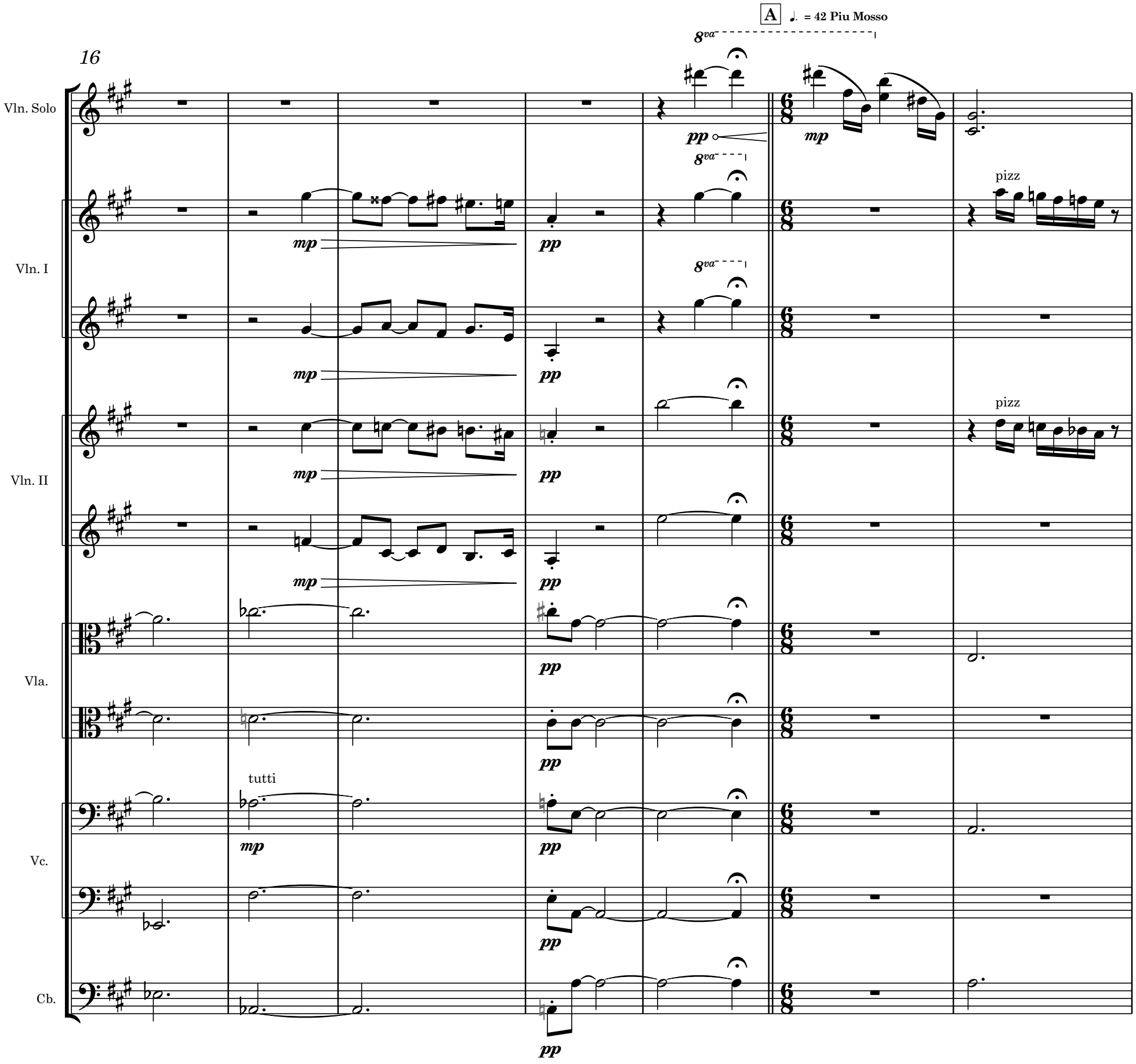



8
Vln. Solo
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
arco
pp
mp
p
solo
f


A
♩. = 42 Piu Mosso
16
Vln. Solo
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
8va
pp
mp
pizz
tutti

23

Vln. Solo

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

B

arco

arco

pp

28

a tempo

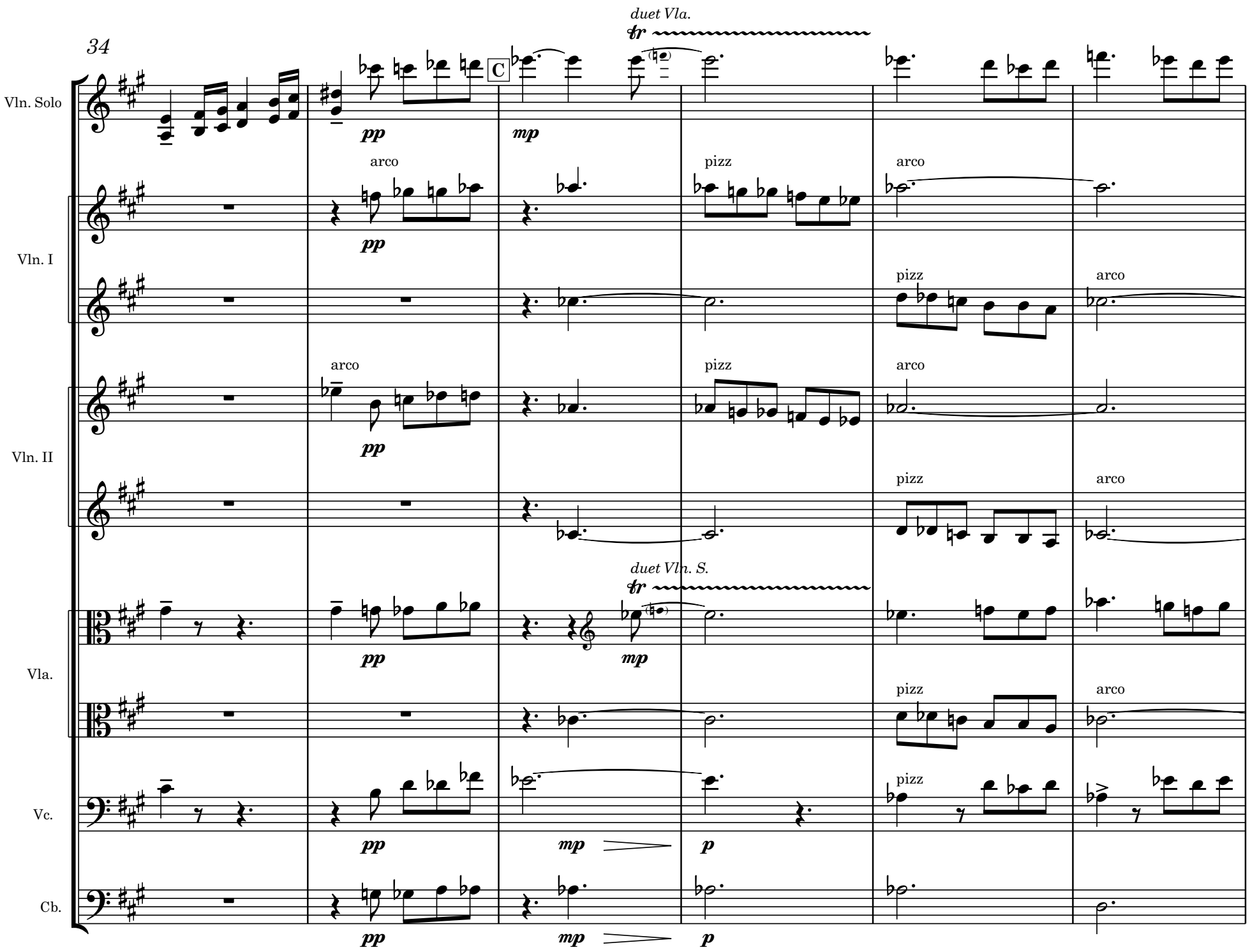
8va

f

pizz

pizz

mf


34
C
duet Vla.
tr
duet Vln. S.
tr
Vln. Solo
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
pp
mp
p
arco
pizz

40

Vln. Solo
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

D

tutti

46

E

F

stagger bowings

Vln. Solo

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

pp

p

mp

pp <> pp

tr

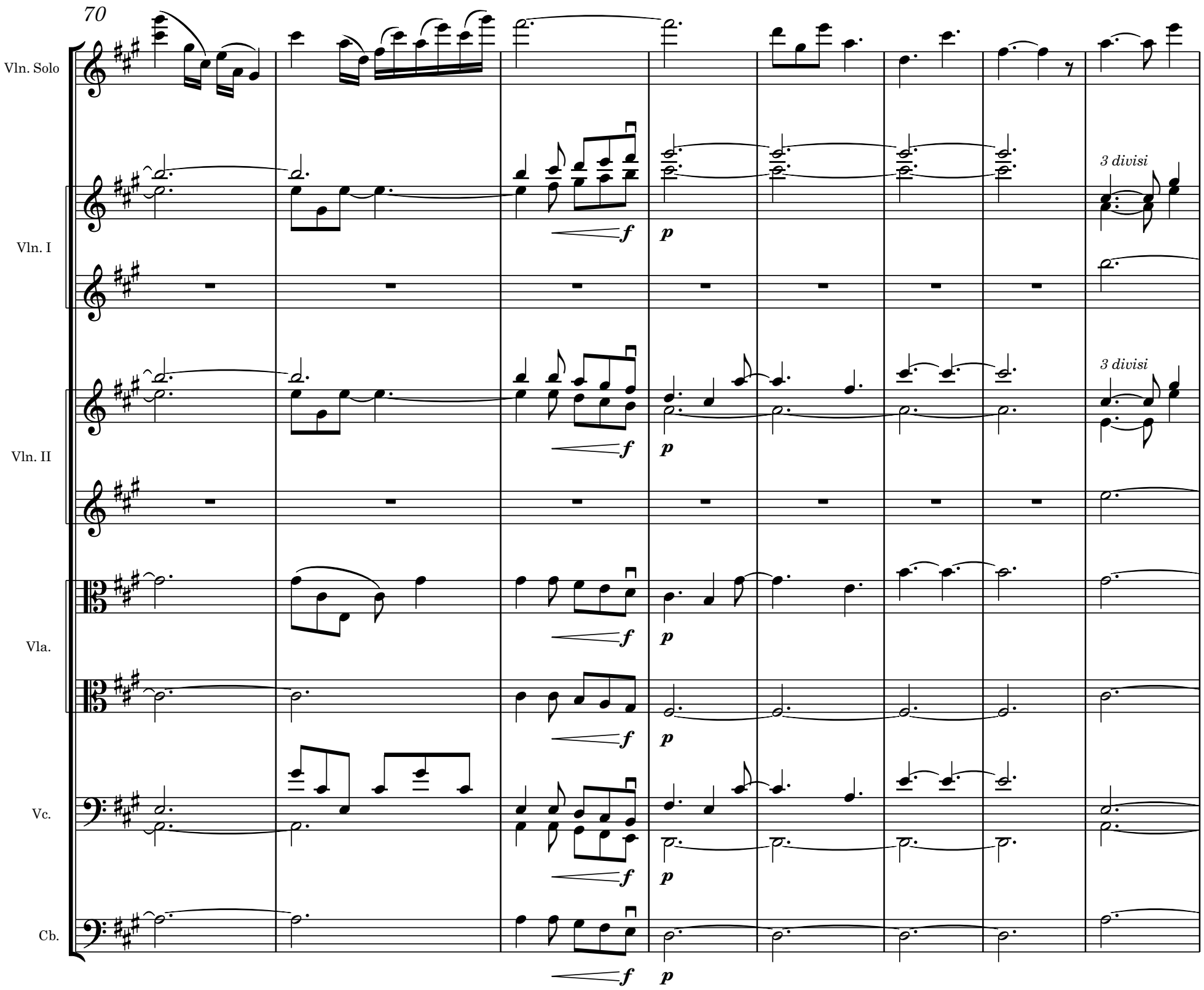
stagger bowings

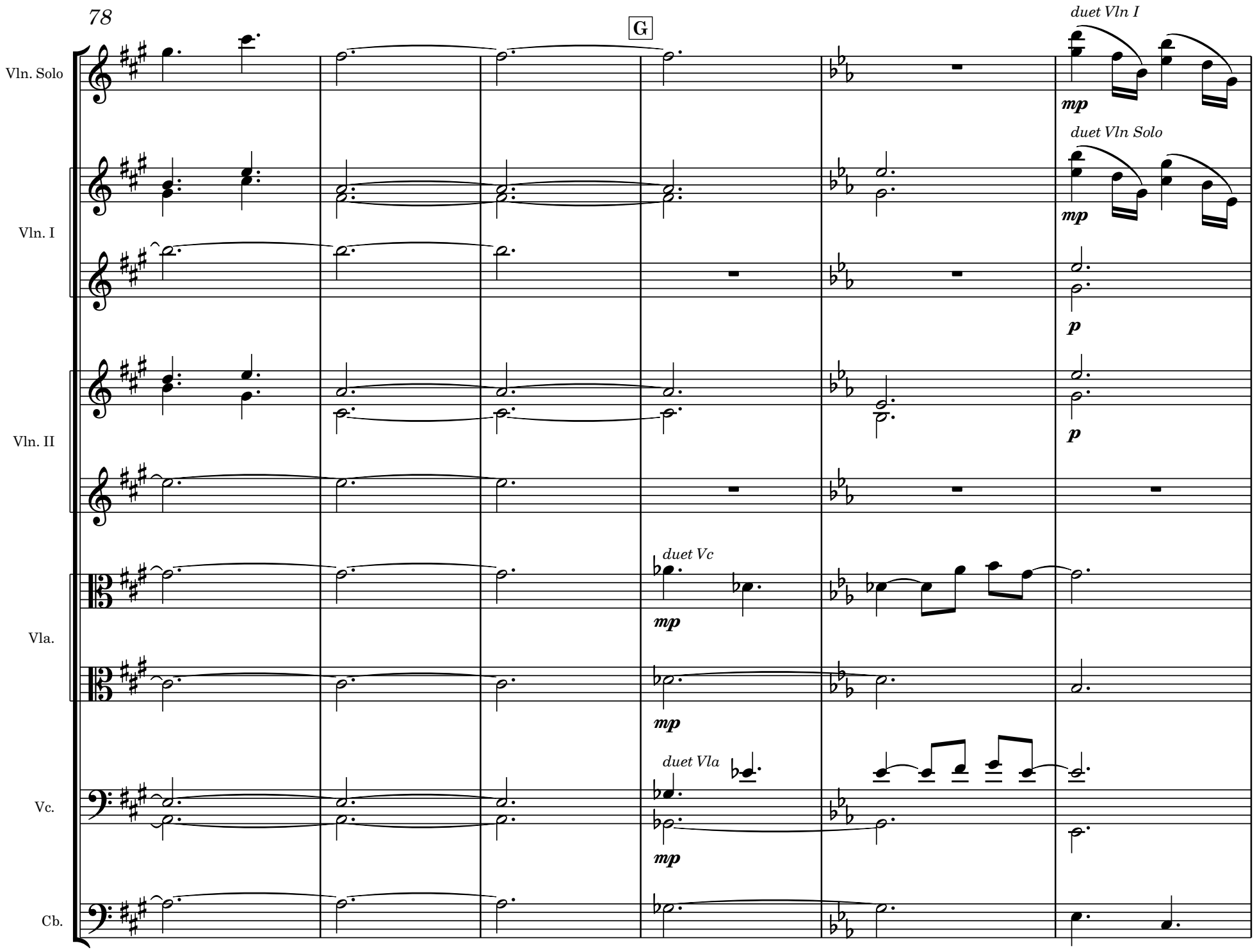
62

8va

f

p


70
Vln. Solo
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
3 divisi
3 divisi
f
p


78
G
Vln. Solo
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
duet Vln I
mp
duet Vln Solo
mp
p
p
duet Vc
mp
mp
duet Vla
mp

84

Vln. Solo

Vln. I

mf

p

Vln. II

mf

p

tutti

Vla.

p

mf

tutti

Vc.

p

mf

Cb.

mf

p

mf

87

Vln. Solo

Vln. I

mf

p

Vln. II

mf

p

Vla.

p

mf

p

Vc.

p

mf

p

Cb.

mf

p

91

Vln. Solo
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

tr
tr
p

95

8va

Vln. Solo
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

p
tutti
pp
f