Sydney Symphony Fellowship 2026
Audition Requirements

Timpani and Percussion

Overleaf is a copy of the TIMPANI AND PERCUSSION audition excerpts and set repertoire information for the first and second round of the Fellowship 2026 auditions. Before starting, please read the information below.

First round applications for Fellowship 2026 are by **video audition only**. For your convenience, both first and second round requirements have been provided in this package. We strongly encourage you to start preparing these materials as soon as you can, in preparation for the event that you are selected to undertake a live second round audition. Please note the Sydney Symphony Orchestra will provide an accompanist for the second round auditions.

Recording Guidelines:

- Submit one video, recorded in one single unedited take.
  - Video 1: Excerpts
    - *Recorded in the order listed.*
    - *List start time and title of each individual excerpt. This can be submitted as extra material or as time stamps when using third party hosting sites.*
- Recordings to be made in the presence of a witness/recording engineer and recorded within the last 12 months.
  - Upload your audition videos to a web sharing platform and generate URL links. *YouTube, Vimeo, Dropbox, Google drive etc.*
  - *Note security settings: YouTube – select "Unlisted", this ensures that only those with the link can view your video. Vimeo – select "only people with a password" and remember to email us your password.*
- Complete the Video Recording Declaration form as provided on the following page

Please submit your video URL link and completed recording declaration on the following page to auditions@sydneysymphony.com by **11.59pm, Sunday 4 May 2025**.

Presenting your Audition Video

It is in your best interests to provide the panel with the highest possible quality, both in regards to your playing, as well as in regards to the technical side of your recording. YouTube or Vimeo are our preferred web-based video sharing platforms.

Some tips when preparing to record your audition video.

- Use a room with a **good acoustic**. It is preferable if the same room (acoustic) is used for both the set repertoire and the excerpts.
- We recommend recording with a **separate microphone** and with **high-definition video** in 720pHD at 30fps or 1080pHD at 30fps or 60fps.
- **Experiment** with microphone placement. **Listen back** with a good pair of headphones. You are the best judge – if you are happy with the sound quality, then chances are we will be.
- Consider how your video is presented **visually**. Ensure your camera is stable when recording – use a tripod. Ensure that you are not too far back in the screen shot. Clear the area that is in the screen shot of clutter, such as instrument cases and other miscellaneous items.

What happens next?

Your audition video links will be forwarded to the panel to shortlist for the second round auditions. The audition panel is made up of SSO musicians from the applicable section as well as selected musicians from across the orchestra who will sit across all live auditions.

Results will be communicated to applicants on Monday 26 May 2025. If you are successful in advancing to the second round, you will be required to travel to Sydney for a live audition on Thursday 10 July 2025.

Sydney Symphony Fellowship 2026
Video Recording Declaration

Timpani and Percussion – Round 1

When submitting a video audition, you are required to complete the following declaration.

I, _____ (applicant), declare that the enclosed video recording is a true and accurate representation of my playing for the purposes of auditioning for the Sydney Symphony Orchestra Fellowship 2026.

It was recorded on: _____ (date).

The video in my submission has been recorded in one single unedited take.

Signed:_____ Date _____
(Applicant)

Signed:_____ Date _____
(Witness e.g. sound engineer)

Any questions? Please contact auditions@sydneysymphony.com

Fellowship 2026 – Percussion

Orchestral excerpts, Round 1

Timpani excerpts

Composer	*Work*	*Page*
BARTÓK	***Concerto for Orchestra***	
	Excerpt 1	2
BEETHOVEN	**Symphony No.9**	
	Excerpt 1	2
TCHAIKOVSKY	**Symphony No.4**	
	Excerpt 1	3

Percussion excerpts

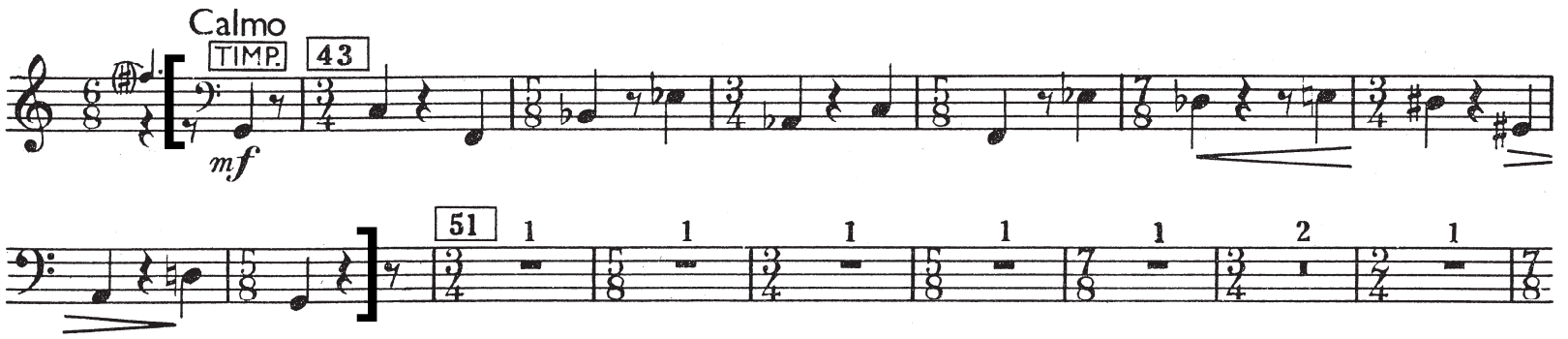
Xylophone		
HINDEMITH	***Kammermusik* No.1**	
	Excerpt 1	4
WESTLAKE	***Compassion***	
	Excerpt 1	5
Glockenspiel		
DEBUSSY	***La Mer***	
	Excerpt 1	6
	Excerpt 2	6
	Excerpt 3	6
	Excerpt 4	7
	Excerpt 5	7
Snare drum		
SHOSTAKOVICH	**Symphony No.10**	
	Excerpt 1	8
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV	***Capriccio espagnol***	
	Excerpt 1	9
Tambourine		
TCHAIKOVSKY	***The Nutcracker***	
	Excerpt 1	10
Marimba		
J.S. BACH	**Violin Sonata No.1**	
	Excerpt 1	10

Please note

These excerpts will appear at about 81% of their original size when printed on A4 paper.
The SSO will supply a hard copy of these excerpts at 100% size (on B4 paper) on request.
To request a 100% copy, please e-mail alastair.mckean@sydneysymphony.com with your address.

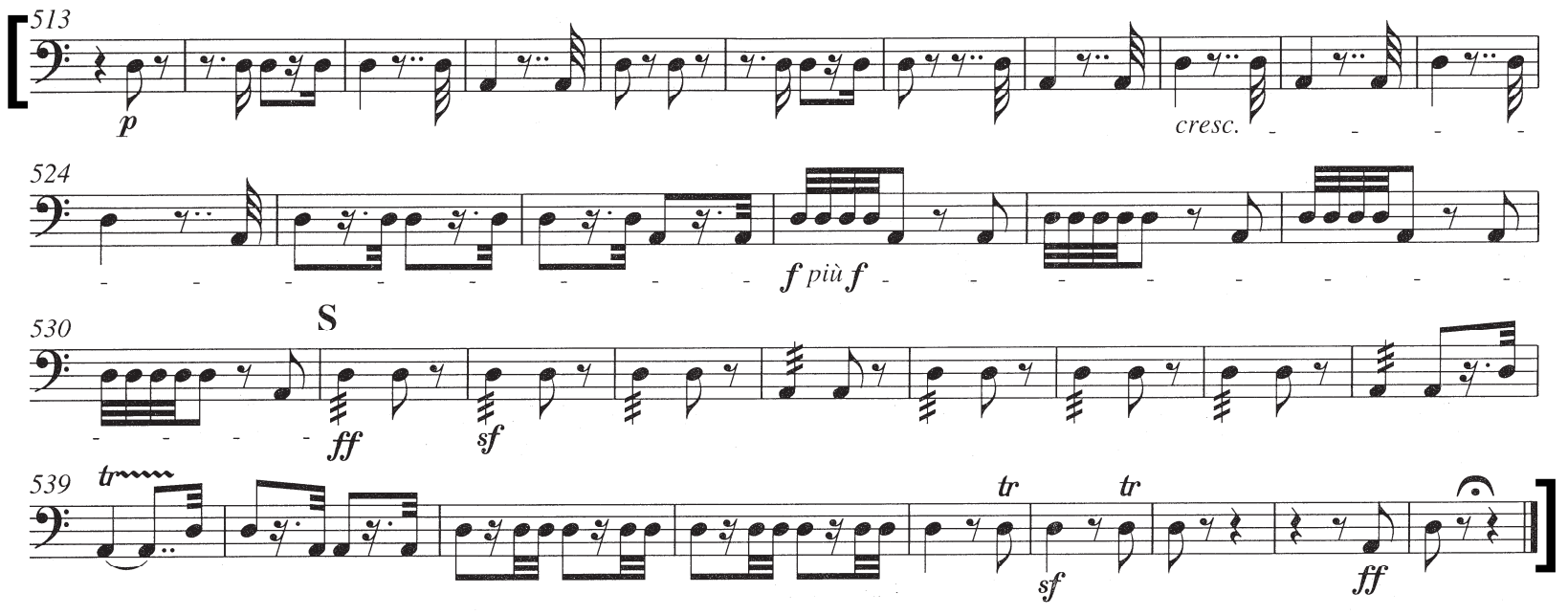
BARTÓK *Concerto for Orchestra*
Timpani

IV. *Intermezzo interrotto*
Excerpt 1 Calmo



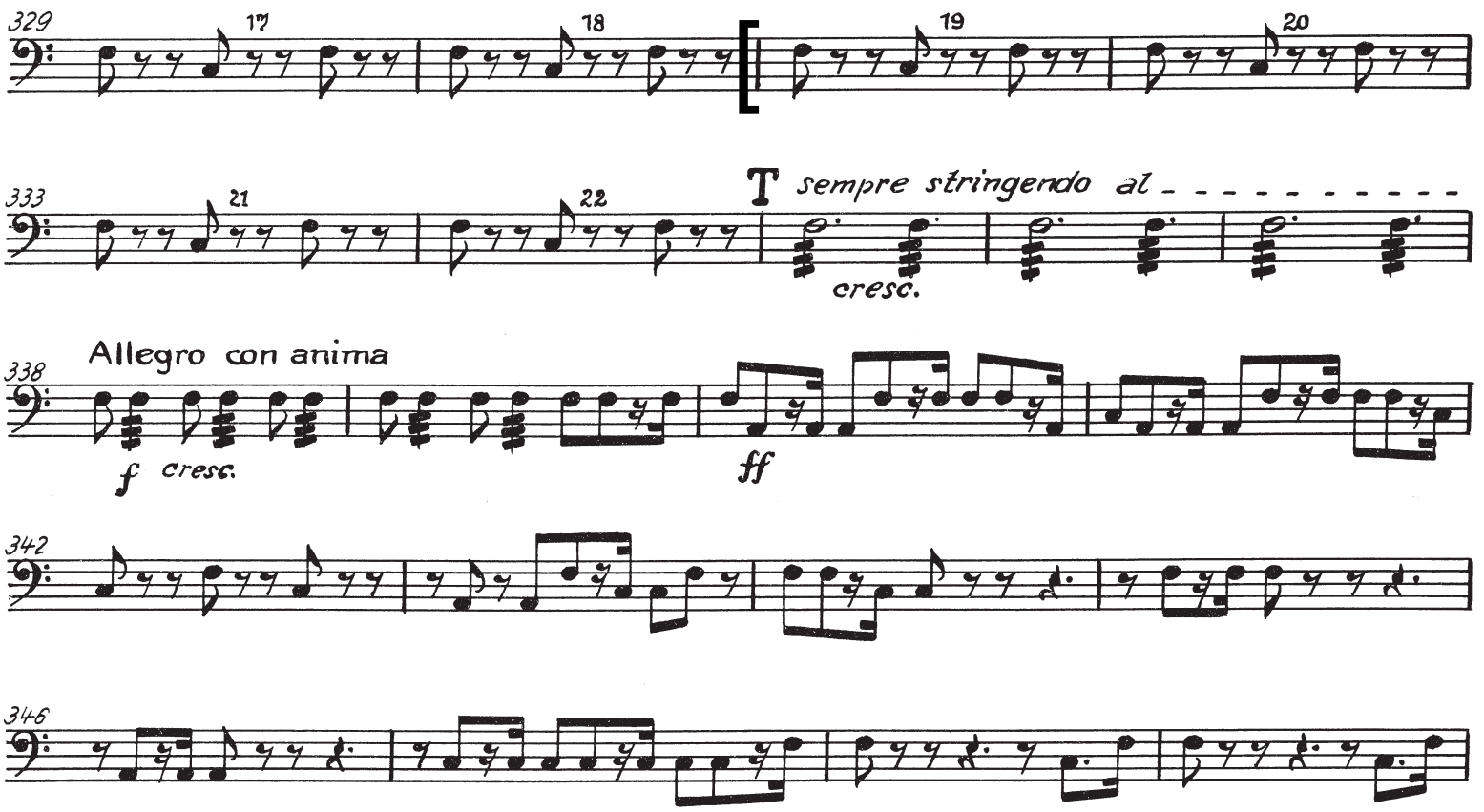
BEETHOVEN Symphony No.9 in D minor, Op.125
Timpani

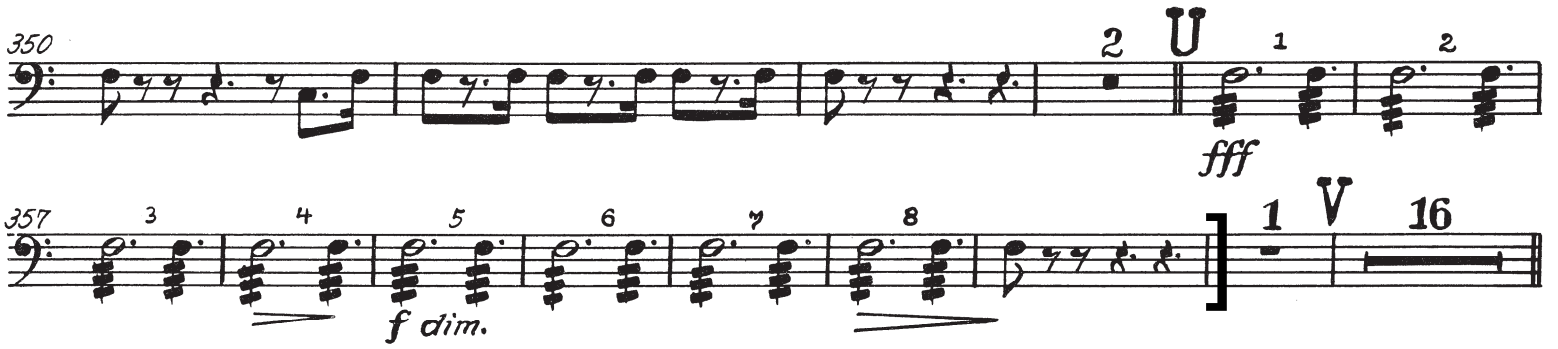
First movement
Excerpt 1 Allegro ma non troppo e un poco maestoso, ♩ = 88



TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No.4 in F minor, Op.36
Timpani

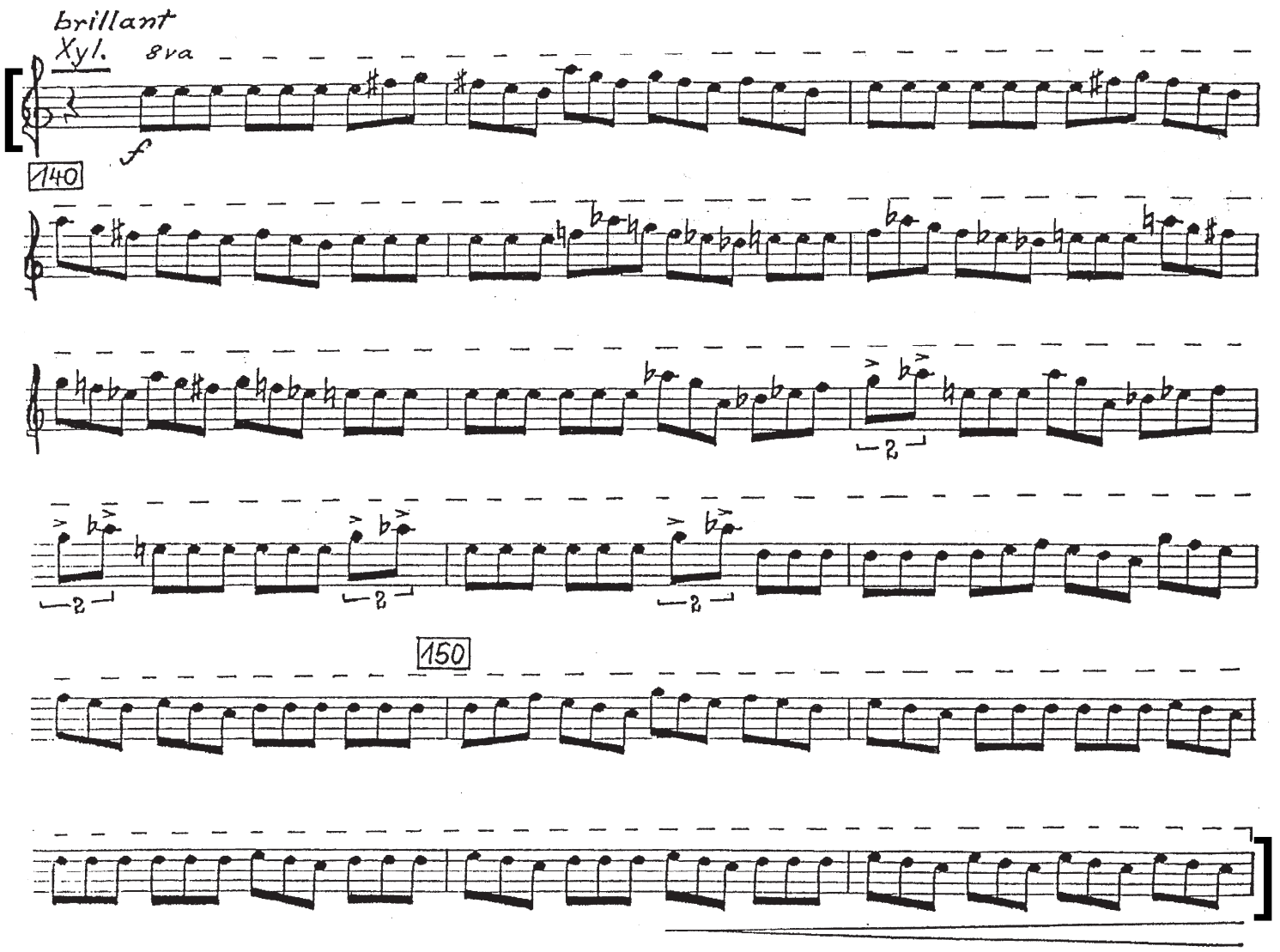
First movement
Excerpt 1 Moderato assai, quasi Andante





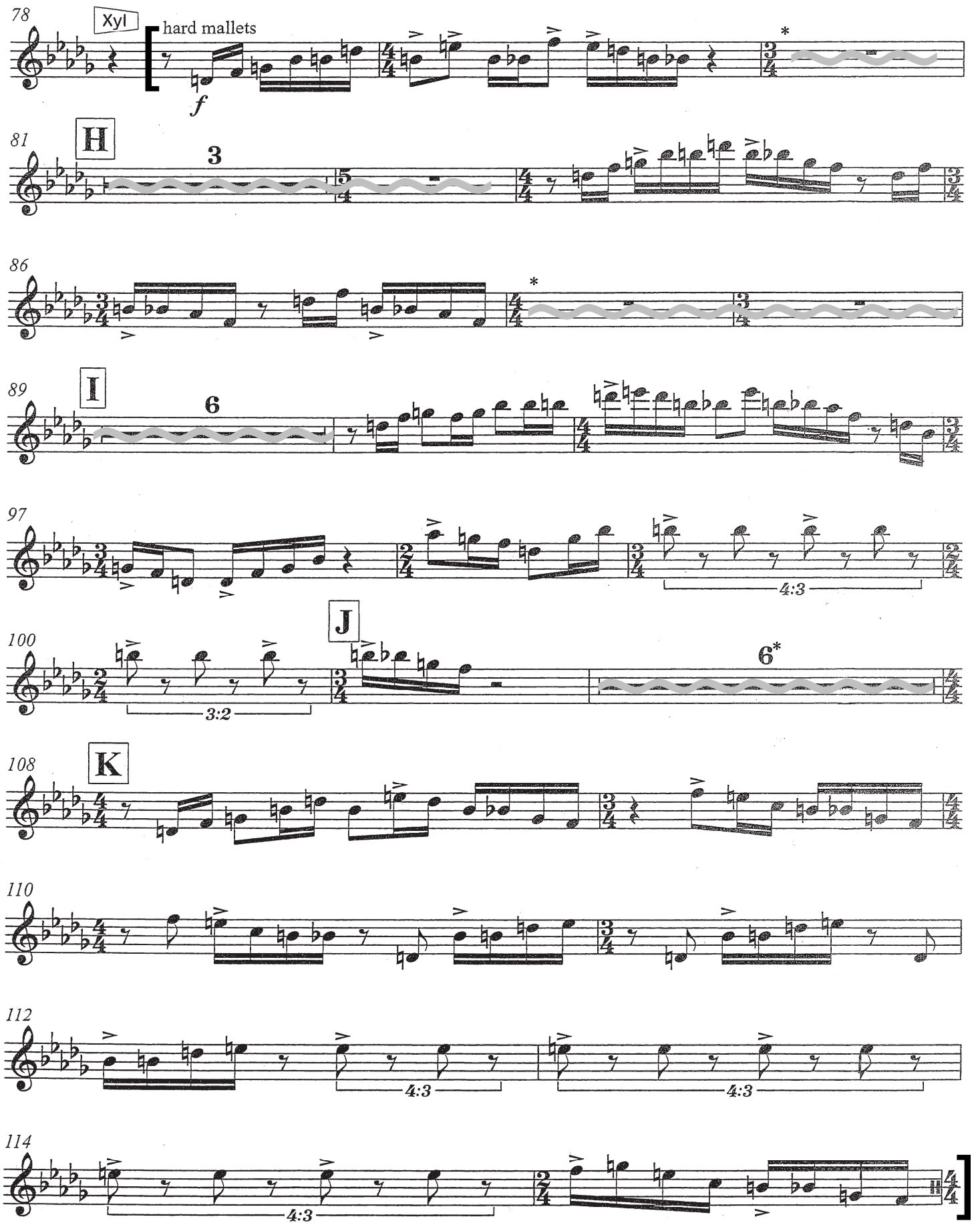
HINDEMITH *Kammermusik* No.1, Op.24 No.1
Xylophone

Finale: *1921*
Excerpt 1 Äußerst lebhaft



WESTLAKE *Compassion*
Xylophone

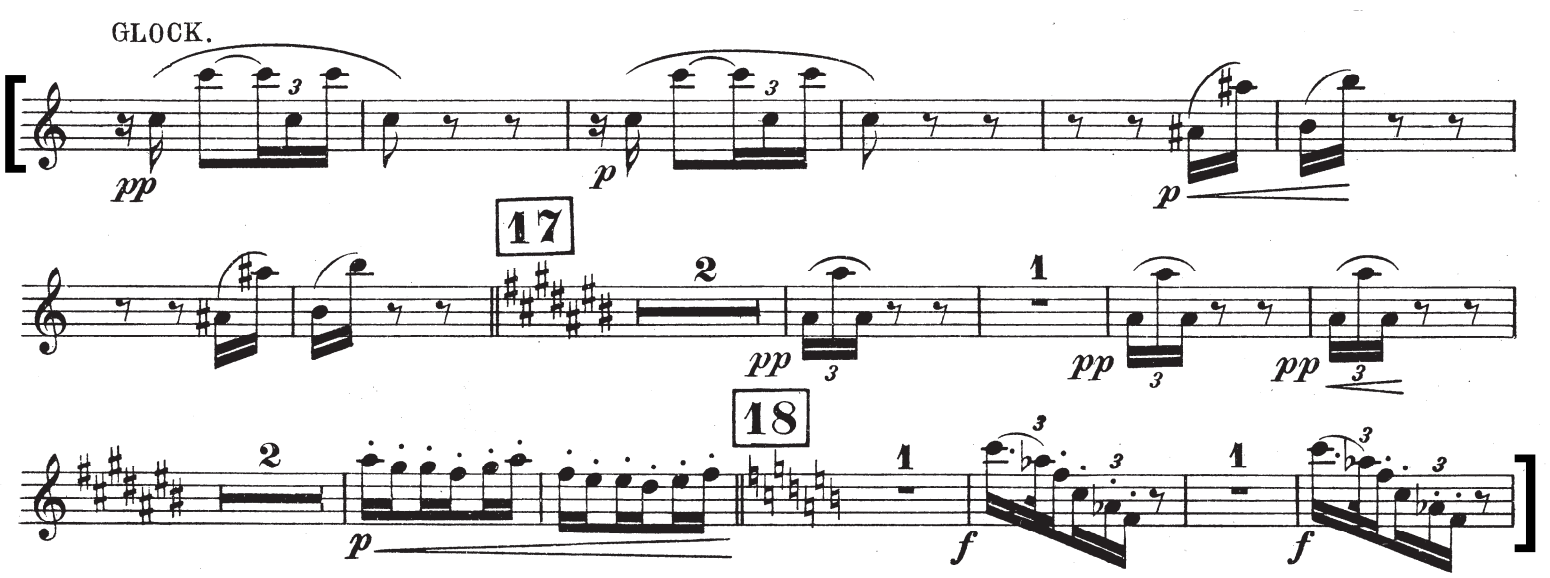
II. *Who Is Wise (Eize Hu Chachan)*
Excerpt 1 ♩ = 128



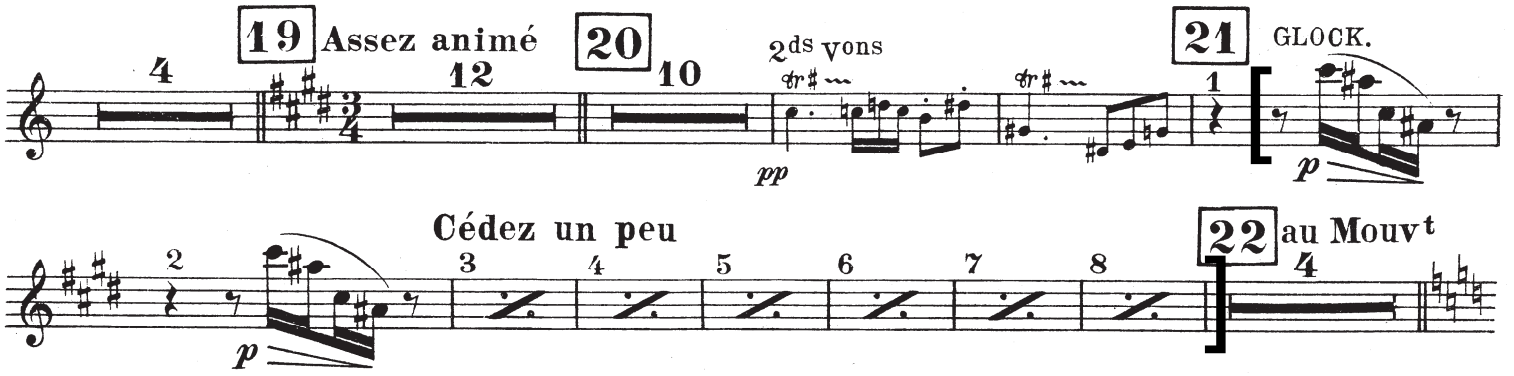
* *Please observe a brief pause before continuing*

DEBUSSY *La Mer*
Glockenspiel

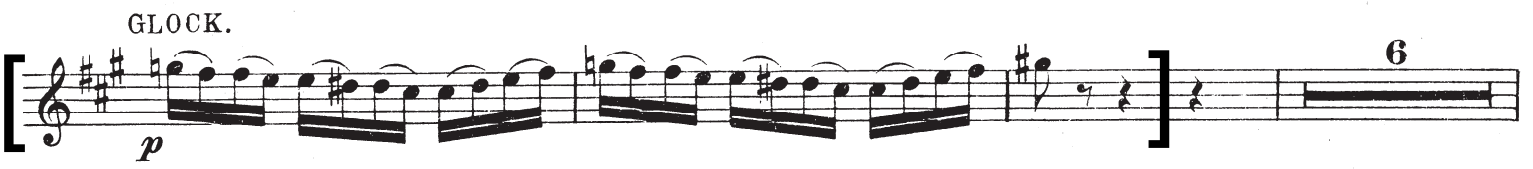
II. *Jeux de vagues*
Excerpt 1 Animé



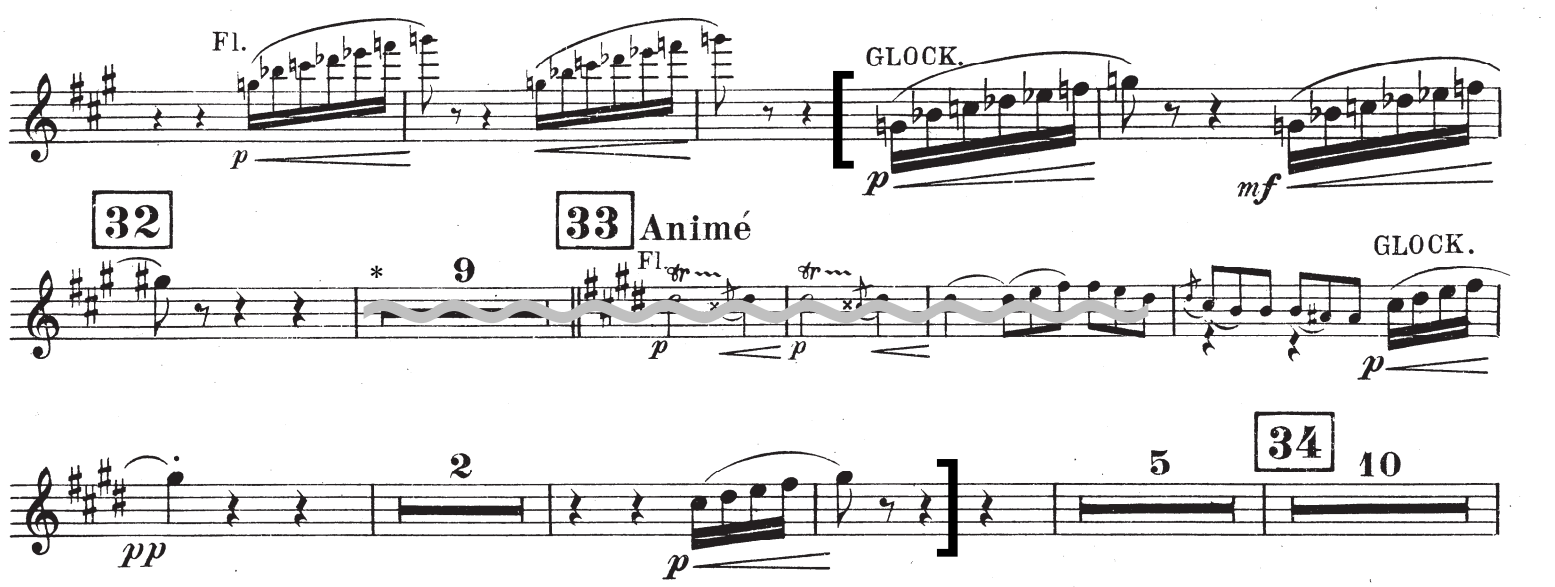
Excerpt 2 Assez animé



Excerpt 3 au Mouvt [in Assez animé]

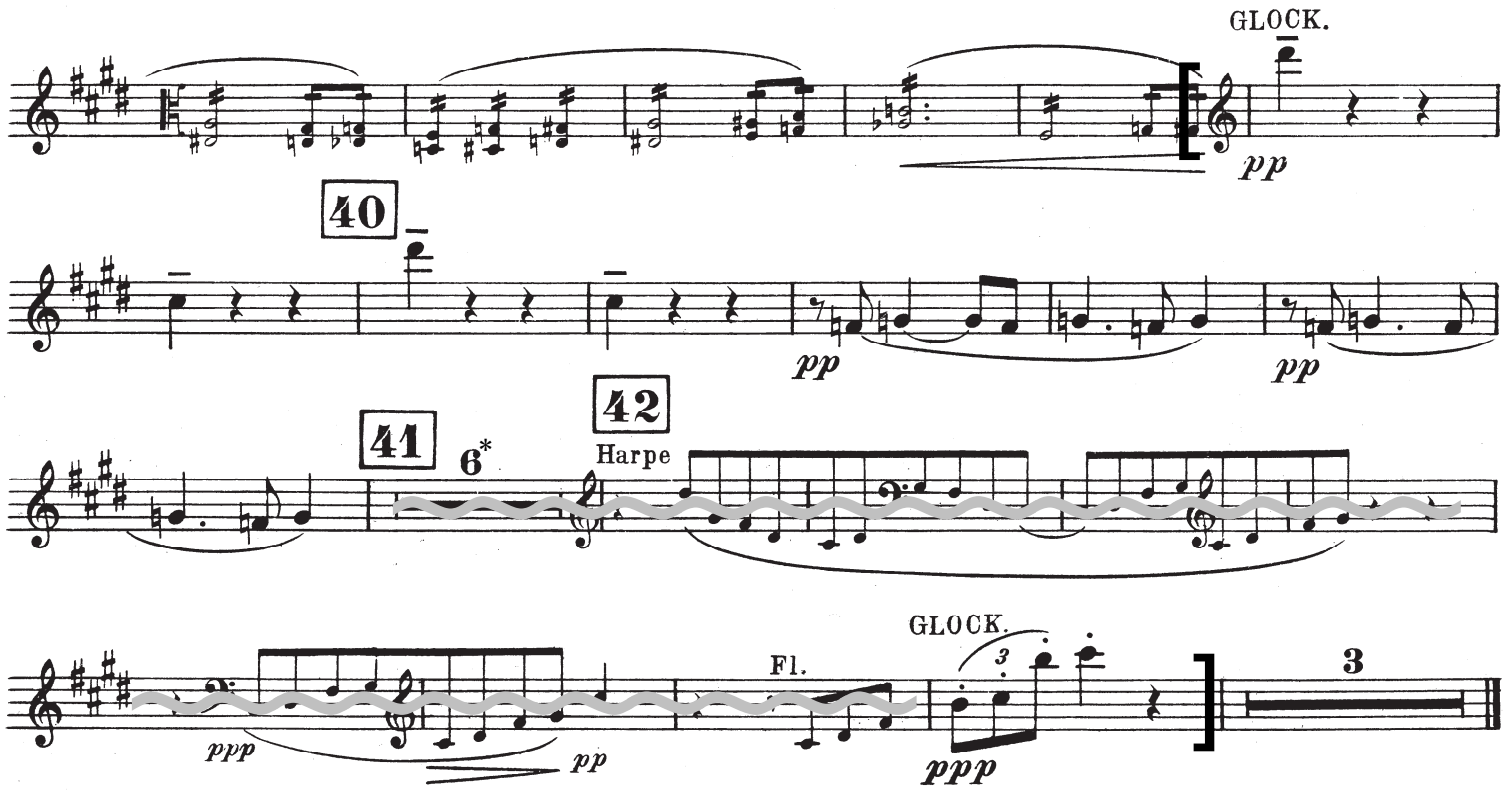


Excerpt 4 [same tempo]



** Please observe a brief pause before continuing*

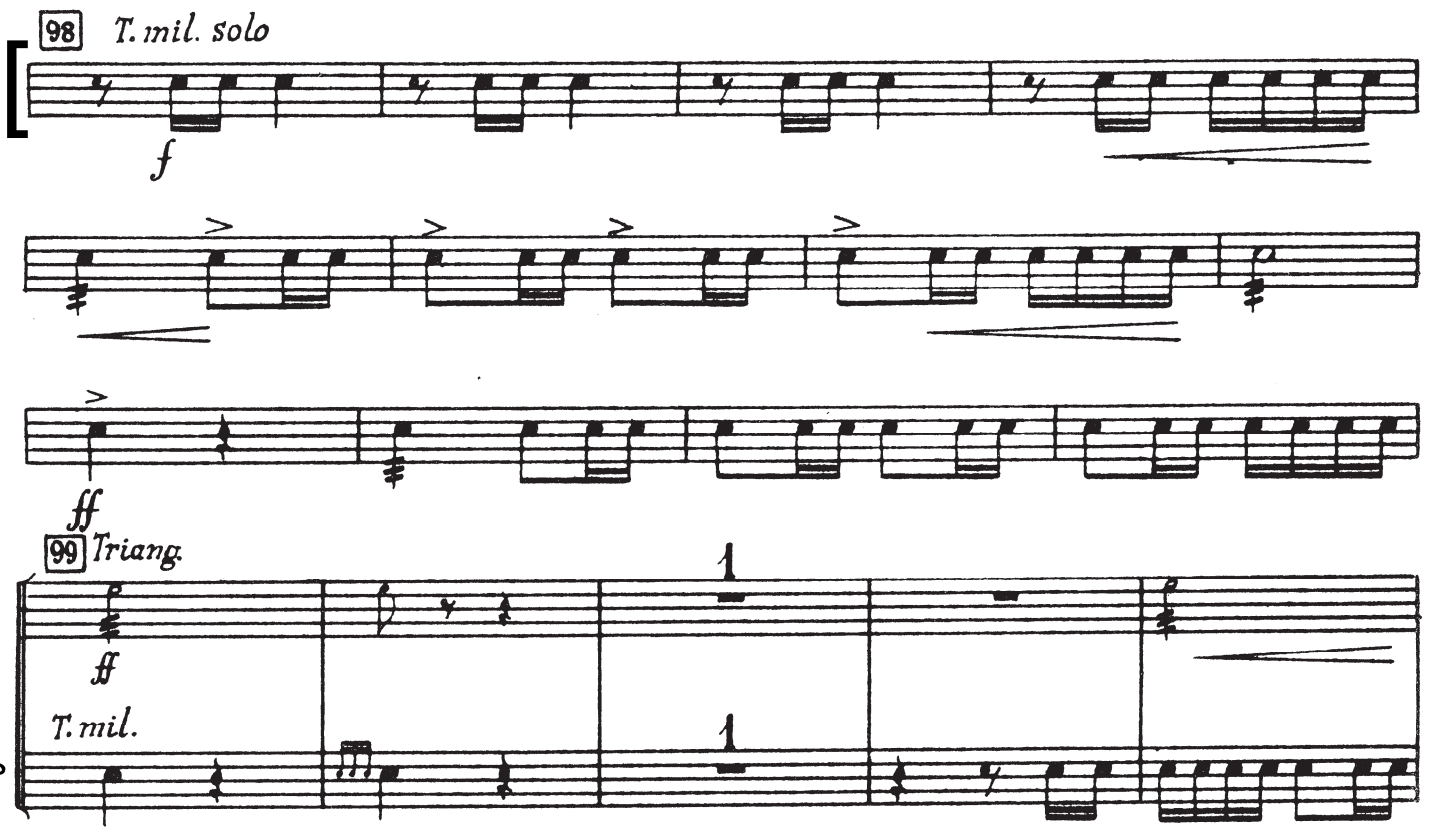
Excerpt 5 Très animé



** Please observe a brief pause before continuing*

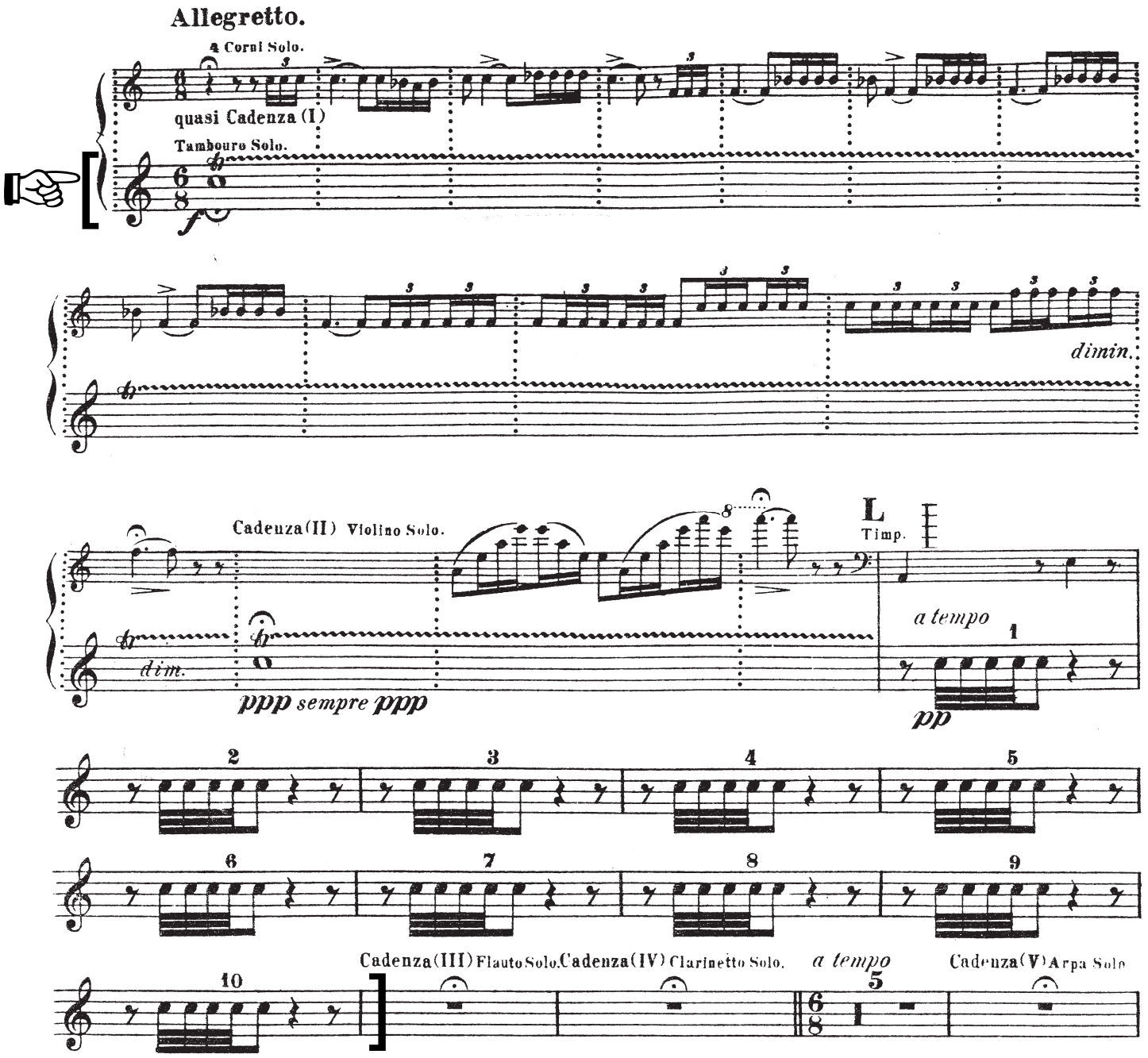
SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No.10 in E minor, Op.93
Snare drum

Second movement
Excerpt 1 Allegro, ♩ = 176



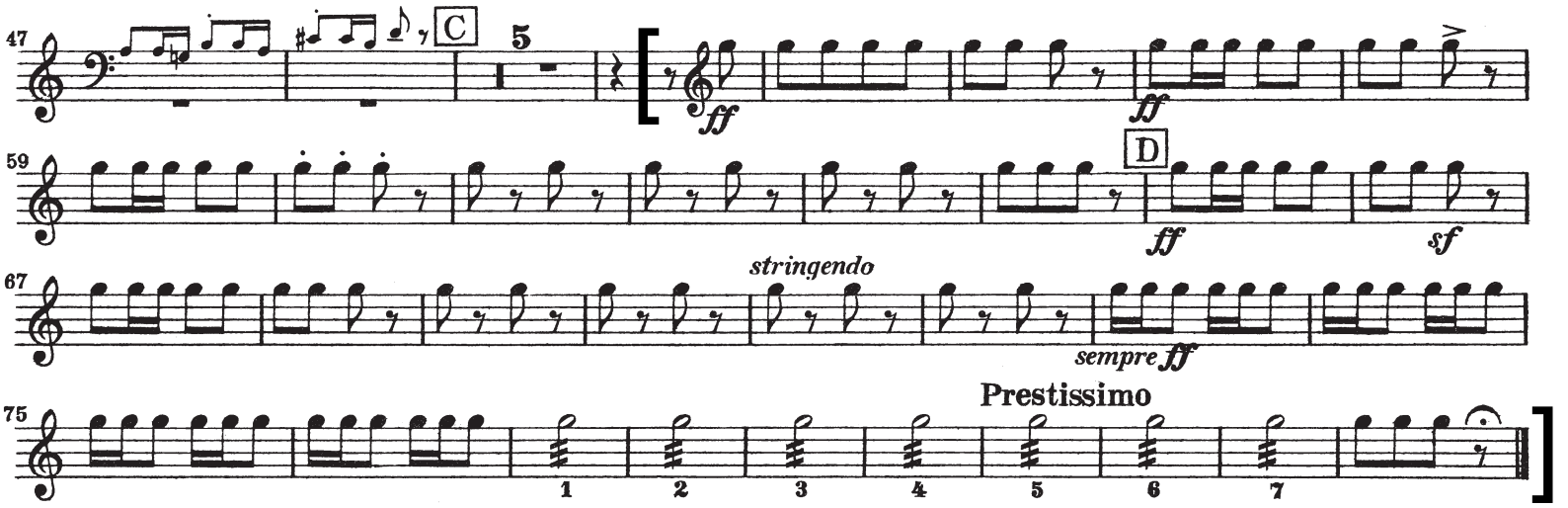
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV *Capriccio espagnol,* Op.34
Snare drum

IV. *Scena e Canto gitano*
Excerpt 1 Allegretto



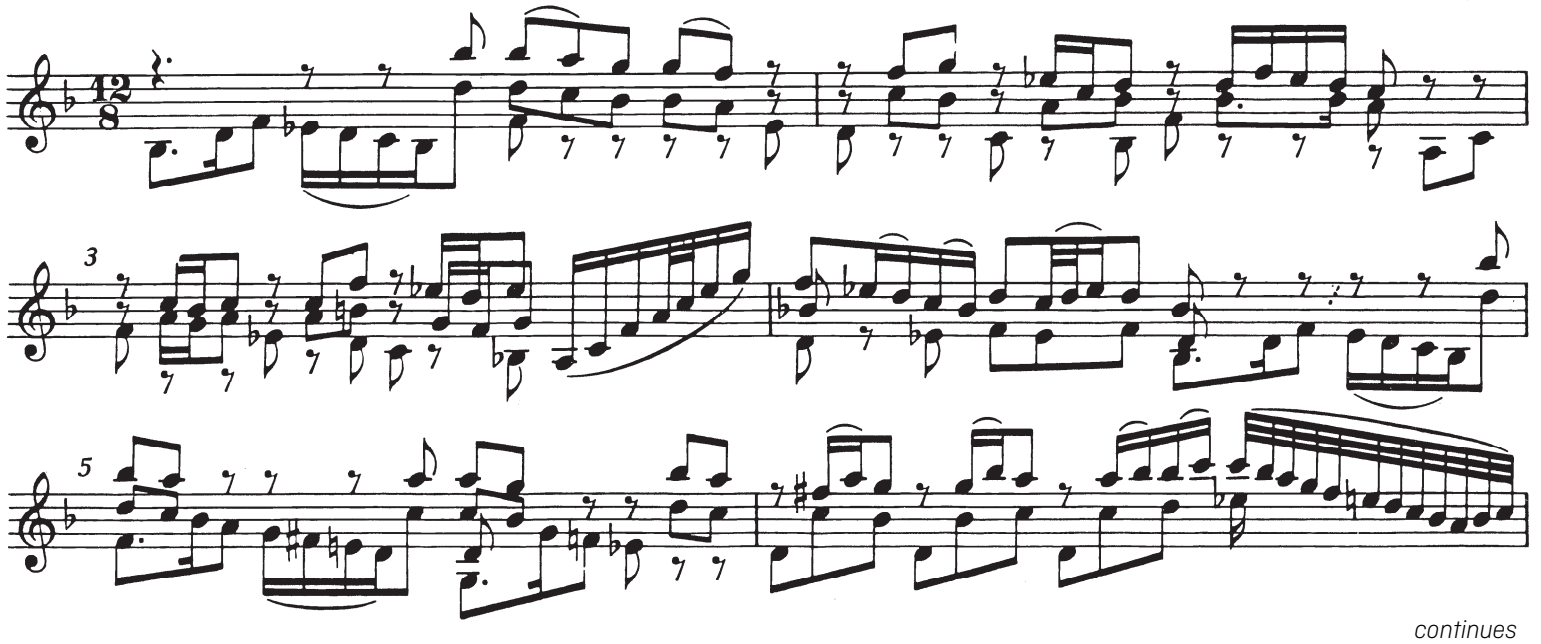
TCHAIKOVSKY *The Nutcracker:* Suite No.1, Op.71a
Tambourine

II. *Danses Caractéristiques:* c) *Danse russe Trepak*
Excerpt 1 Tempo di trepak, molto vivace

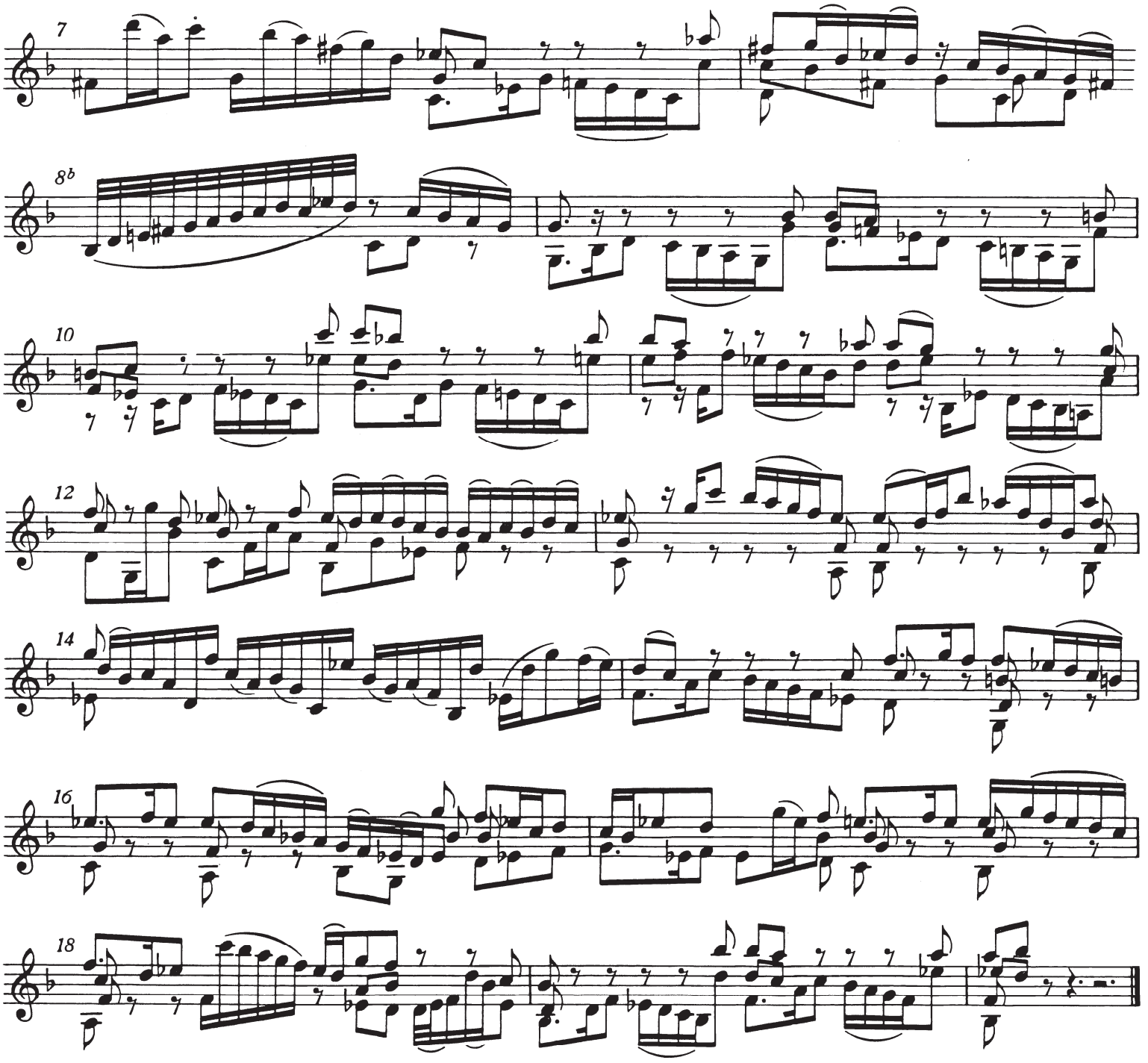


J.S. BACH Violin Sonata No.1, BWV1001
Marimba

III. Siciliana
Excerpt 1 [no tempo indication]



continues



End of orchestral excerpts

Fellowship 2026 – Percussion

Orchestral excerpts, Round 2

Timpani excerpts

Composer	*Work*	*Page*
BARTÓK	***Concerto for Orchestra***	
	Excerpt 1	2
BEETHOVEN	**Symphony No.9**	
	Excerpt 1	2
BRITTEN	***Four Sea-Interludes from Peter Grimes***	
	Excerpt 1	3
MENDELSSOHN	***A Midsummer Night's Dream: Overture***	
	Excerpt 1	4
TCHAIKOVSKY	**Symphony No.4**	
	Excerpt 1	6

Percussion excerpts

Xylophone

HINDEMITH	***Kammermusik* No.1**	
	Excerpt 1	7
MESSIAEN	***Chronochromie***	
	Excerpt 1	8
WESTLAKE	***Compassion***	
	Excerpt 1	10

Glockenspiel

WILLIAMS	***Harry Potter:* Suite**	
	Excerpt 1	11
DEBUSSY	***La Mer***	
	Excerpt 1	16
	Excerpt 2	16
	Excerpt 3	16
	Excerpt 4	17
	Excerpt 5	17

Snare drum

PROKOFIEV	**Symphony No.5**	
	Excerpt 1	18
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV	***Capriccio espagnol***	
	Excerpt 1	19
SHOSTAKOVICH	**Symphony No.10**	
	Excerpt 1	20

Tambourine

TCHAIKOVSKY	***The Nutcracker***	
	Excerpt 1	21
DEBUSSY	***Ibéria***	
	Excerpt 1	22
	Excerpt 2	22
BIZET	***Carmen:* Suite No.2**	
	Excerpt 1	23

Marimba

J.S. BACH	**Violin Sonata No.1**	
	Excerpt 1	24

Sight reading *may be given as an unprepared excerpt presented during the audition*

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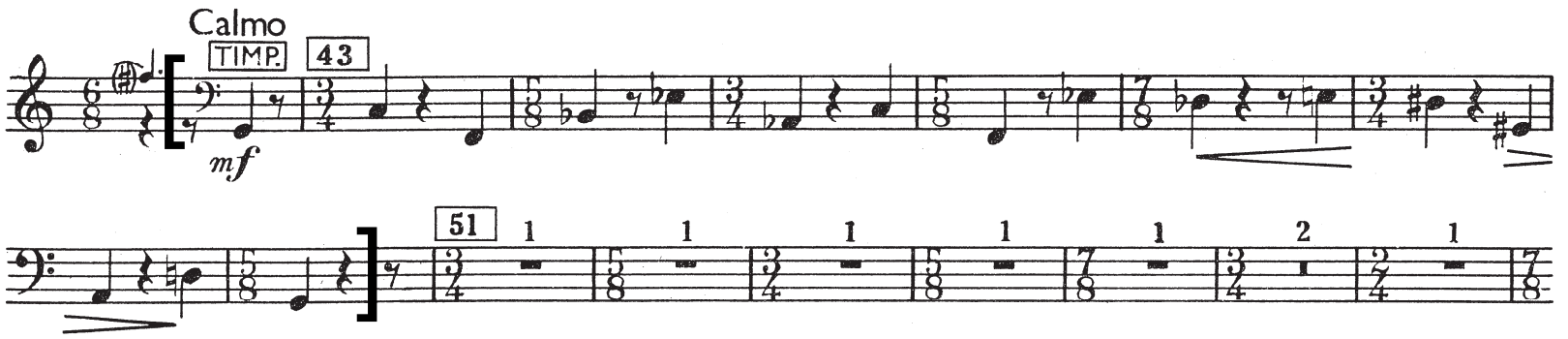
To request a 100% copy, please e-mail alastair.mckean@sydneysymphony.com with your address.

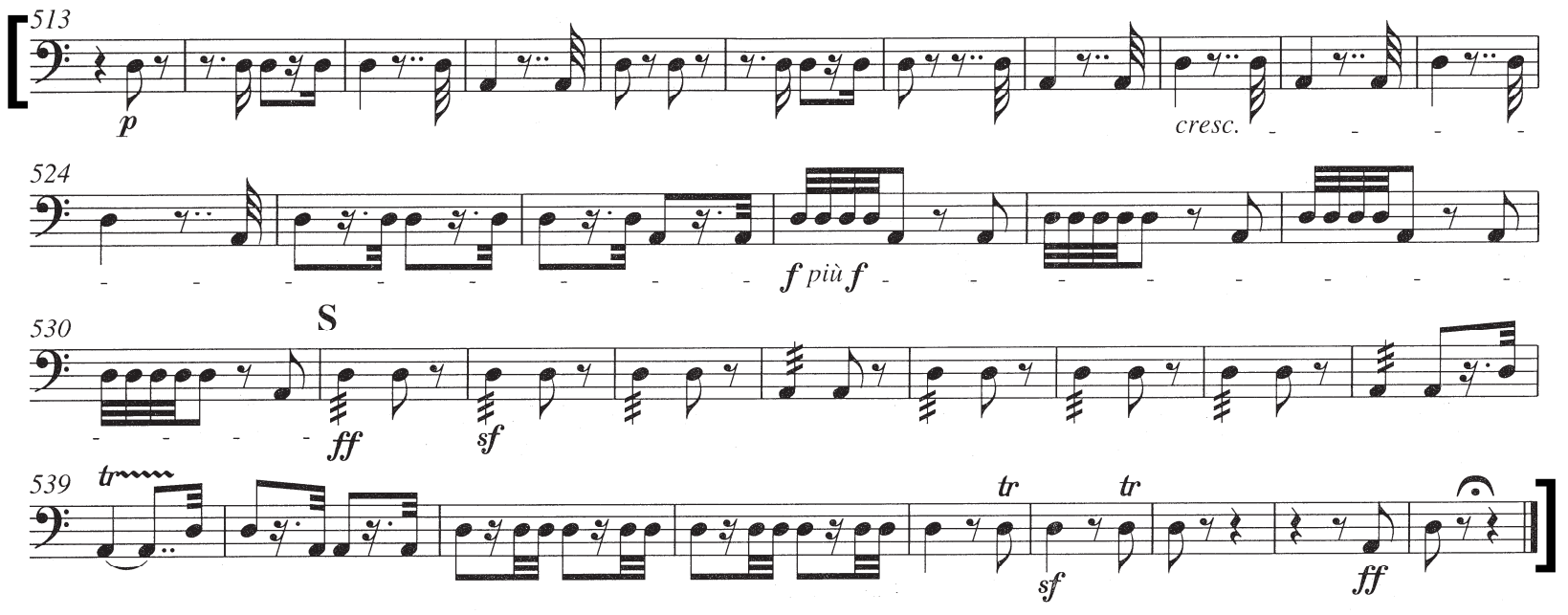
BARTÓK *Concerto for Orchestra*
Timpani

IV. *Intermezzo interrotto*
Excerpt 1 Calmo



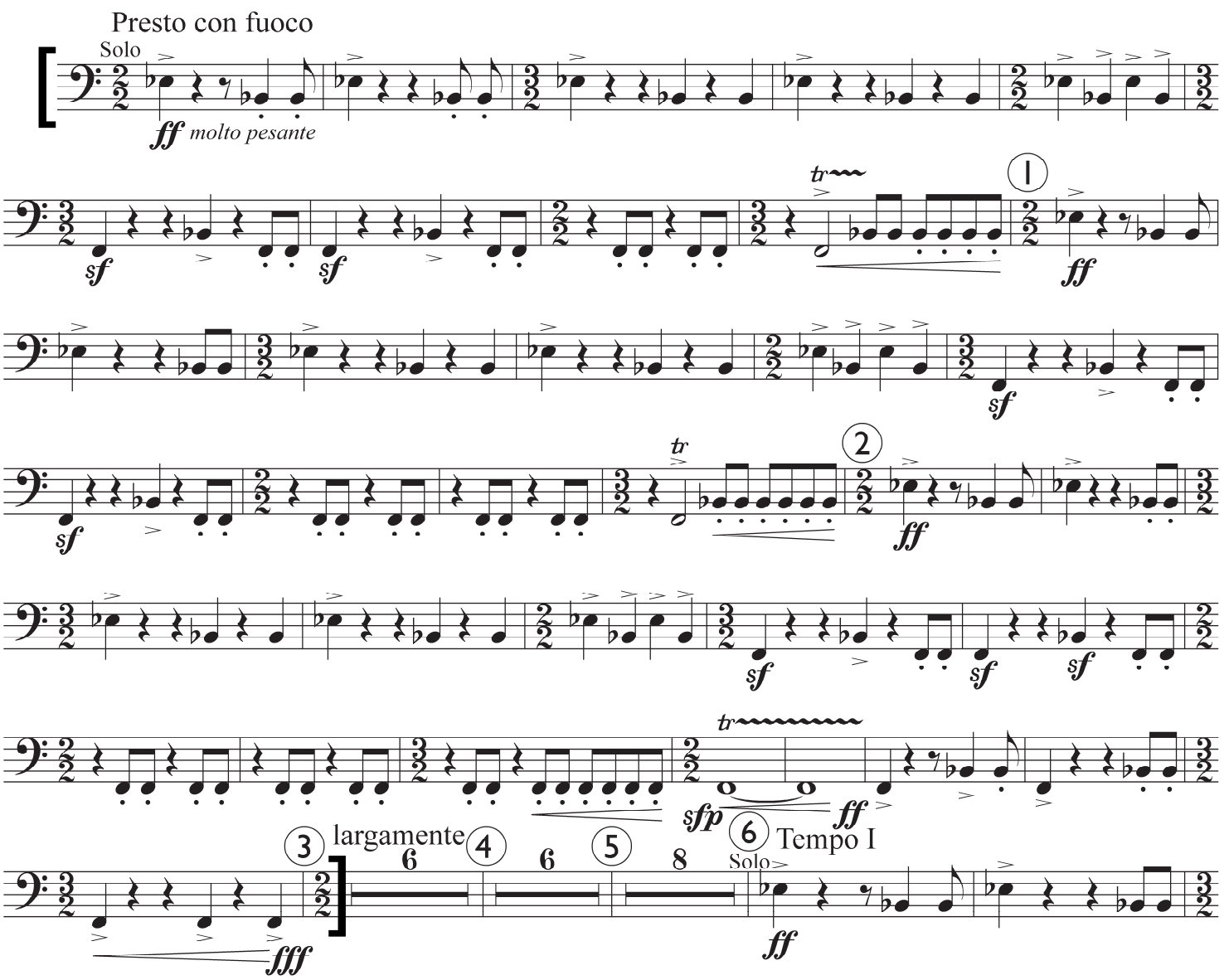
BEETHOVEN Symphony No.9 in D minor, Op.125
Timpani

First movement
Excerpt 1 Allegro ma non troppo e un poco maestoso, ♩ = 88



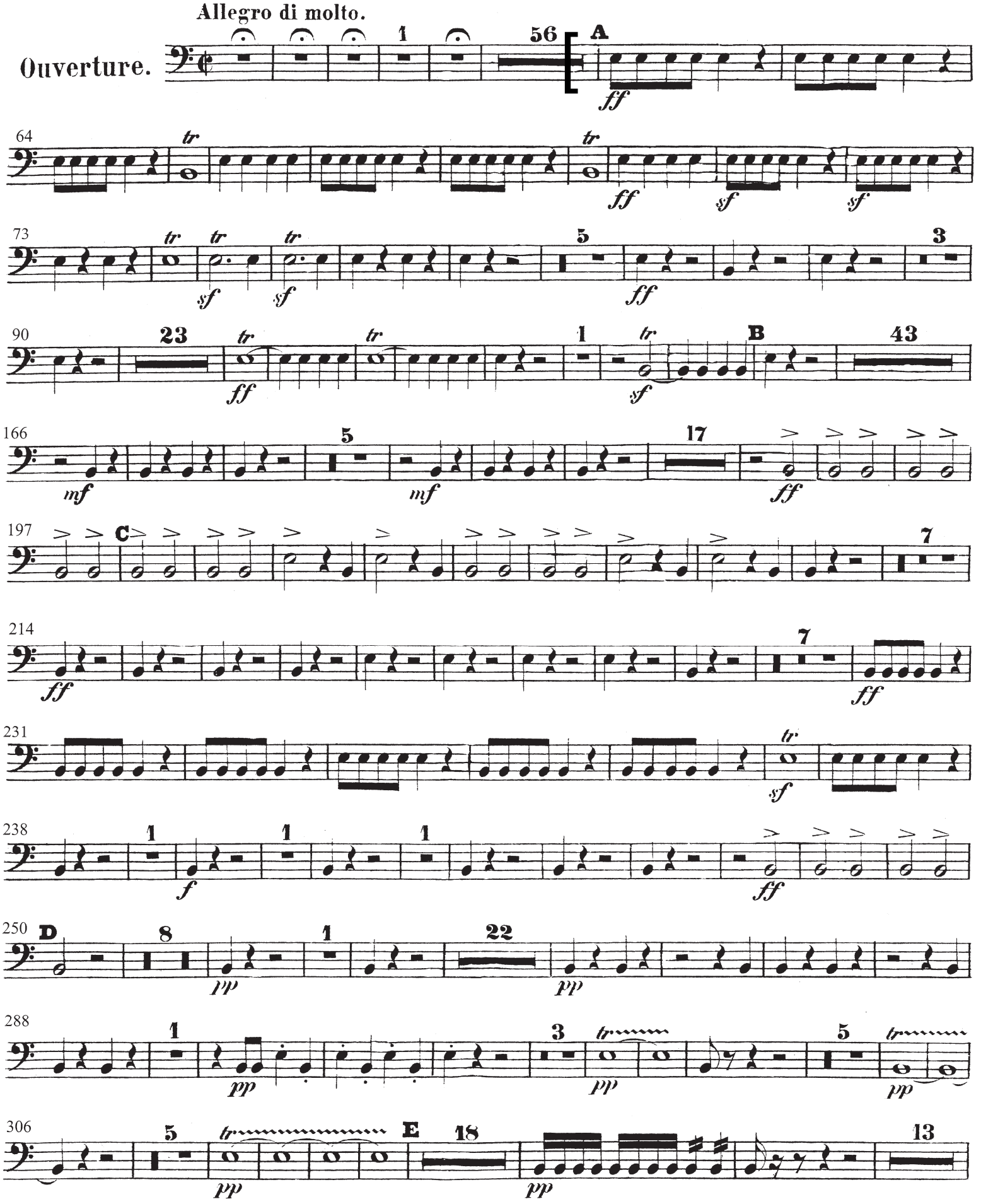
BRITTEN *Four Sea-Interludes from Peter Grimes,* Op.33a
Timpani

IV. *Storm*
Excerpt 1 Presto con fuoco



MENDELSSOHN *A Midsummer Night's Dream: Overture*, Op.21
Timpani

Excerpt 1 Allegro di molto



349 19 F 14 2 1 5 Tempo I. 21

pp *ritard.*

419

p

427 6 49 5

tr *pp* *mf* *mf*

495 15 G

ff

520 7

ff

536

tr *f*

544

tr 5 *tr* 1 *tr* 6

566

tr 1 3 3 *tr* 2

f *f* *f*

583

tr *tr*

sf *ff*

592 3 3 1 1

f

606

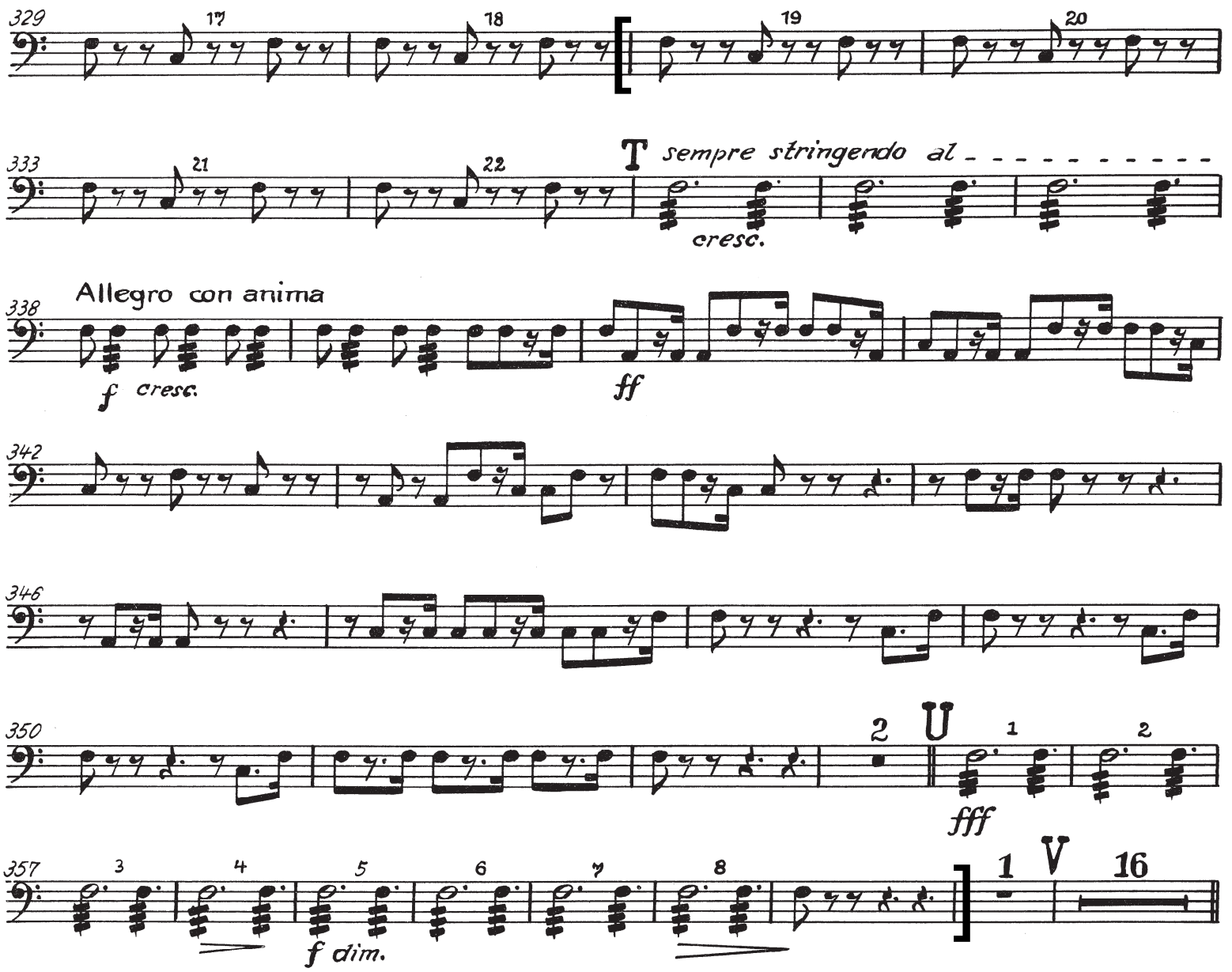
ff *ff*

618 *tr* H 22 I 13 K 20 4 *tr*

ff con tutta la forza *poco riten. rit.* *pp*

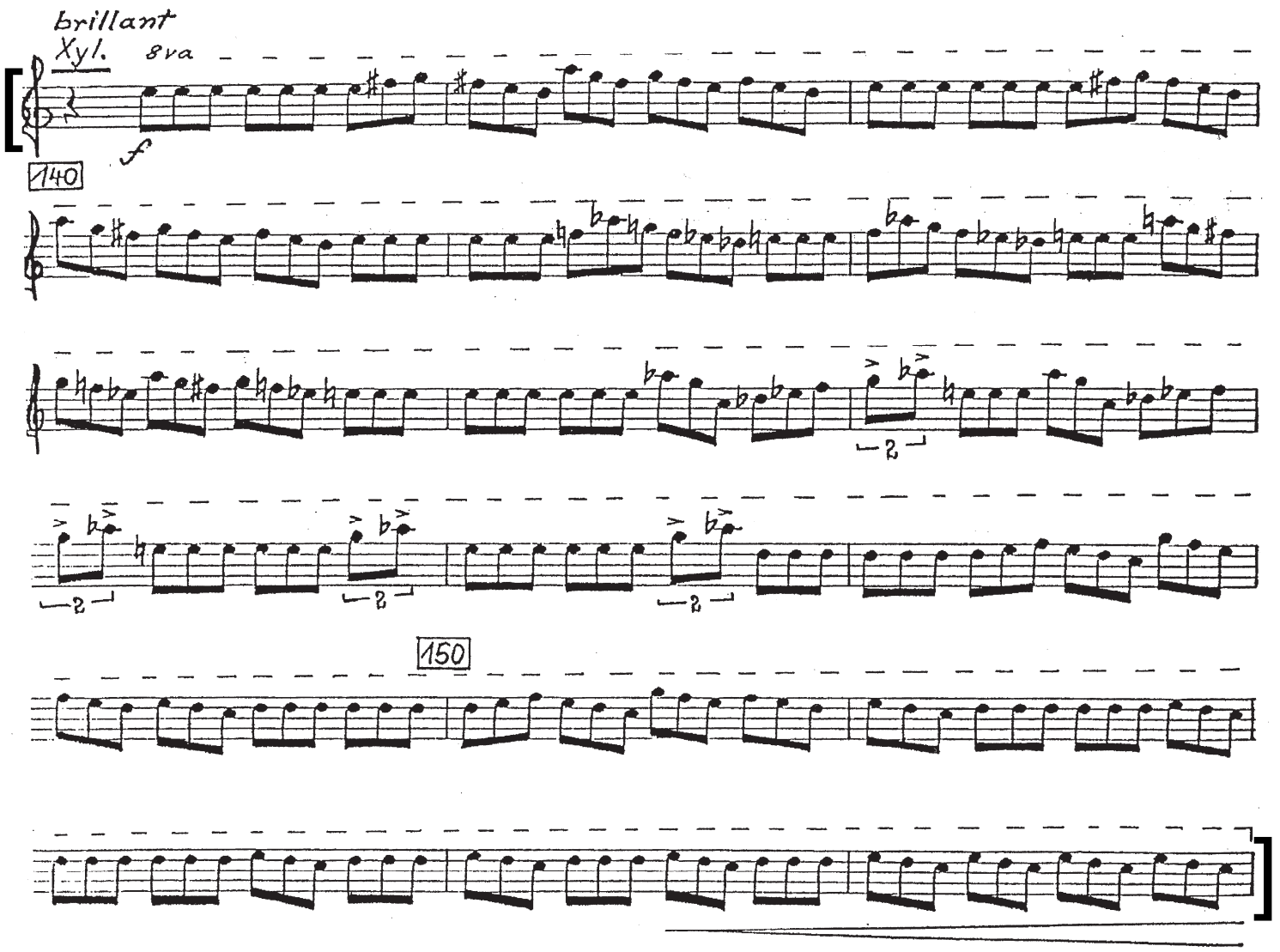
TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No.4 in F minor, Op.36
Timpani

First movement
Excerpt 1 Moderato assai, quasi Andante



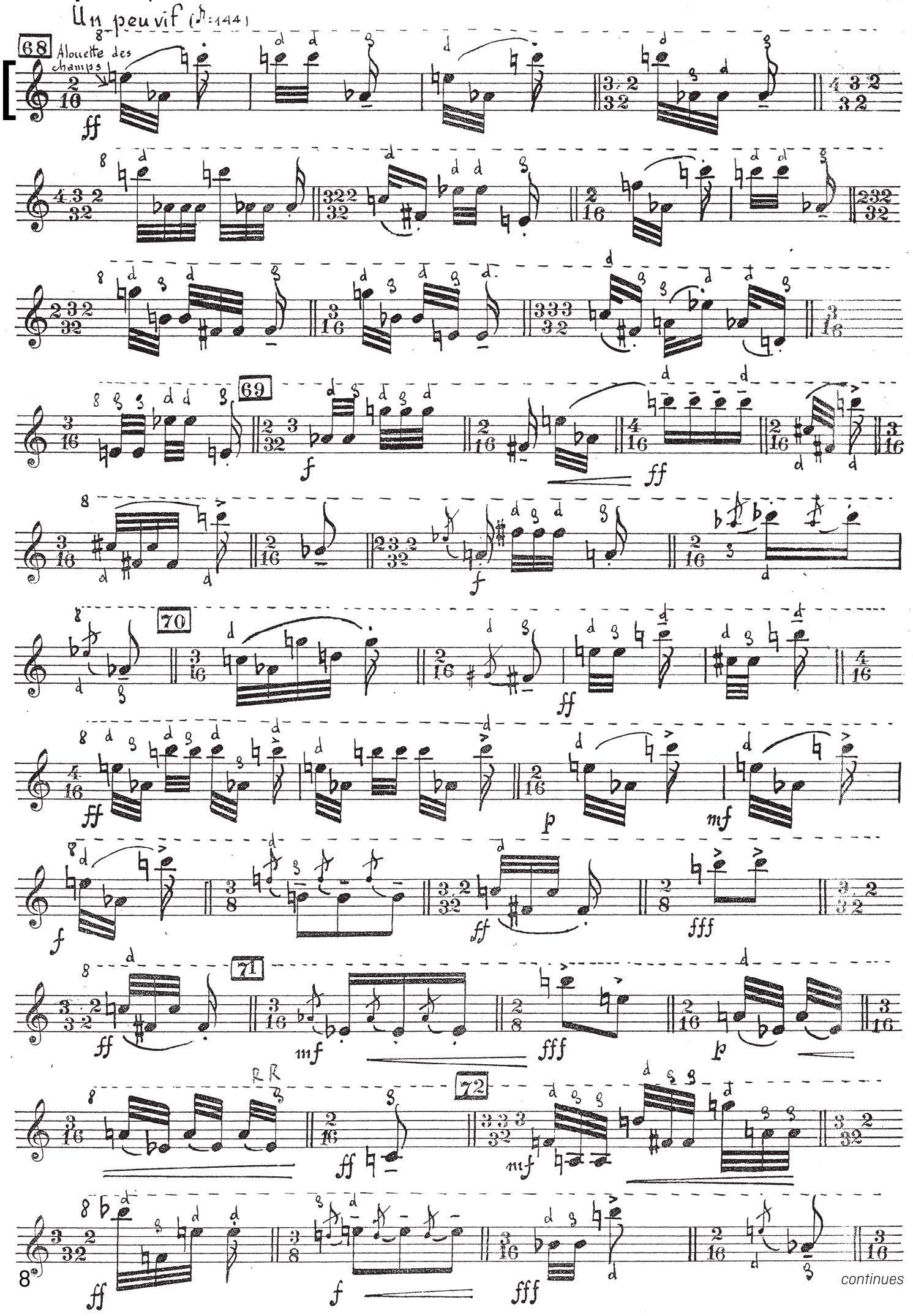
HINDEMITH *Kammermusik* No.1, Op.24 No.1
Xylophone

Finale: *1921*
Excerpt 1 Äußerst lebhaft



MESSIAEN *Chronochromie*
Xylophone

V. *Antistrophe II*
Excerpt 1 Un peu vif (♪ = 144)



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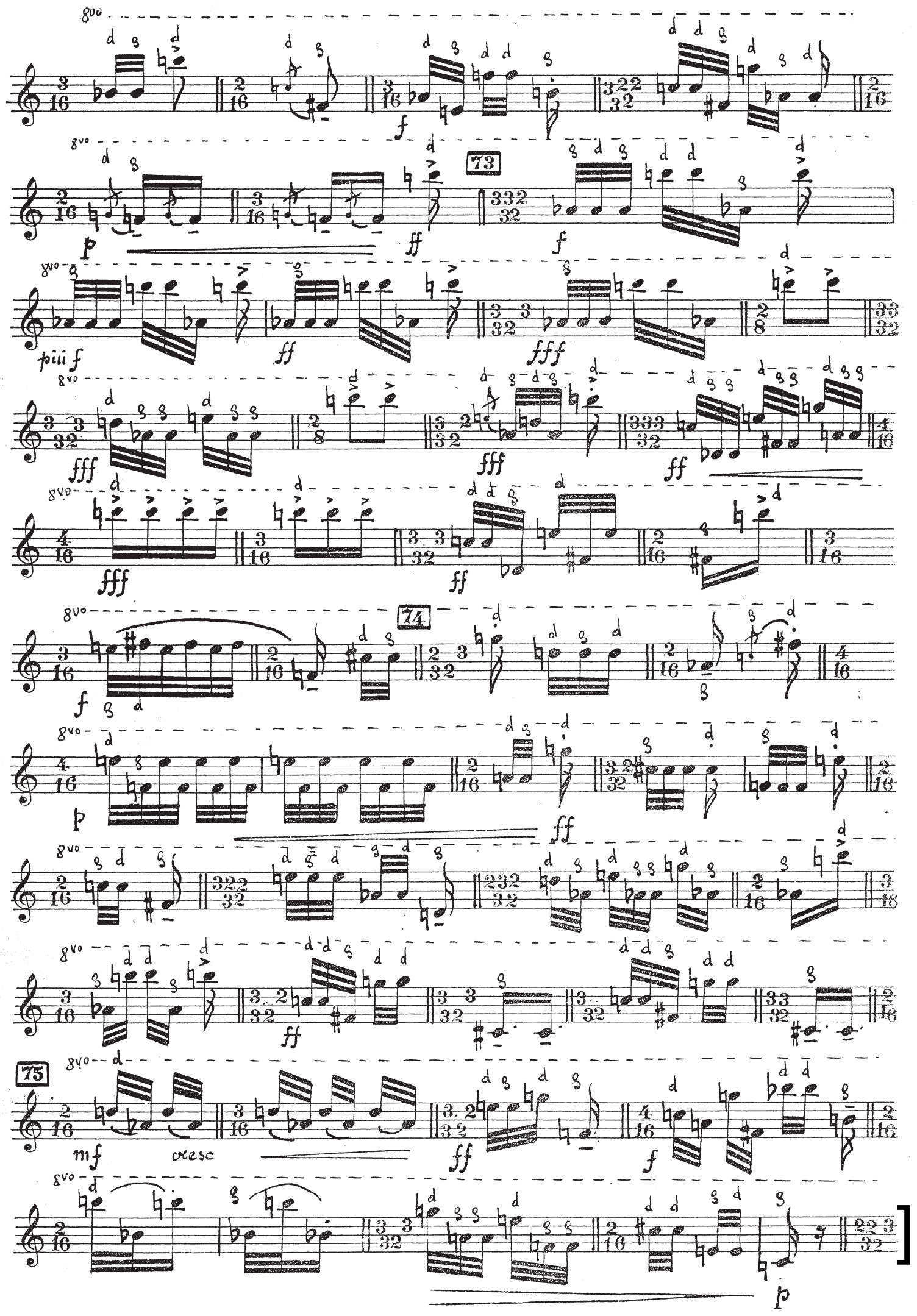
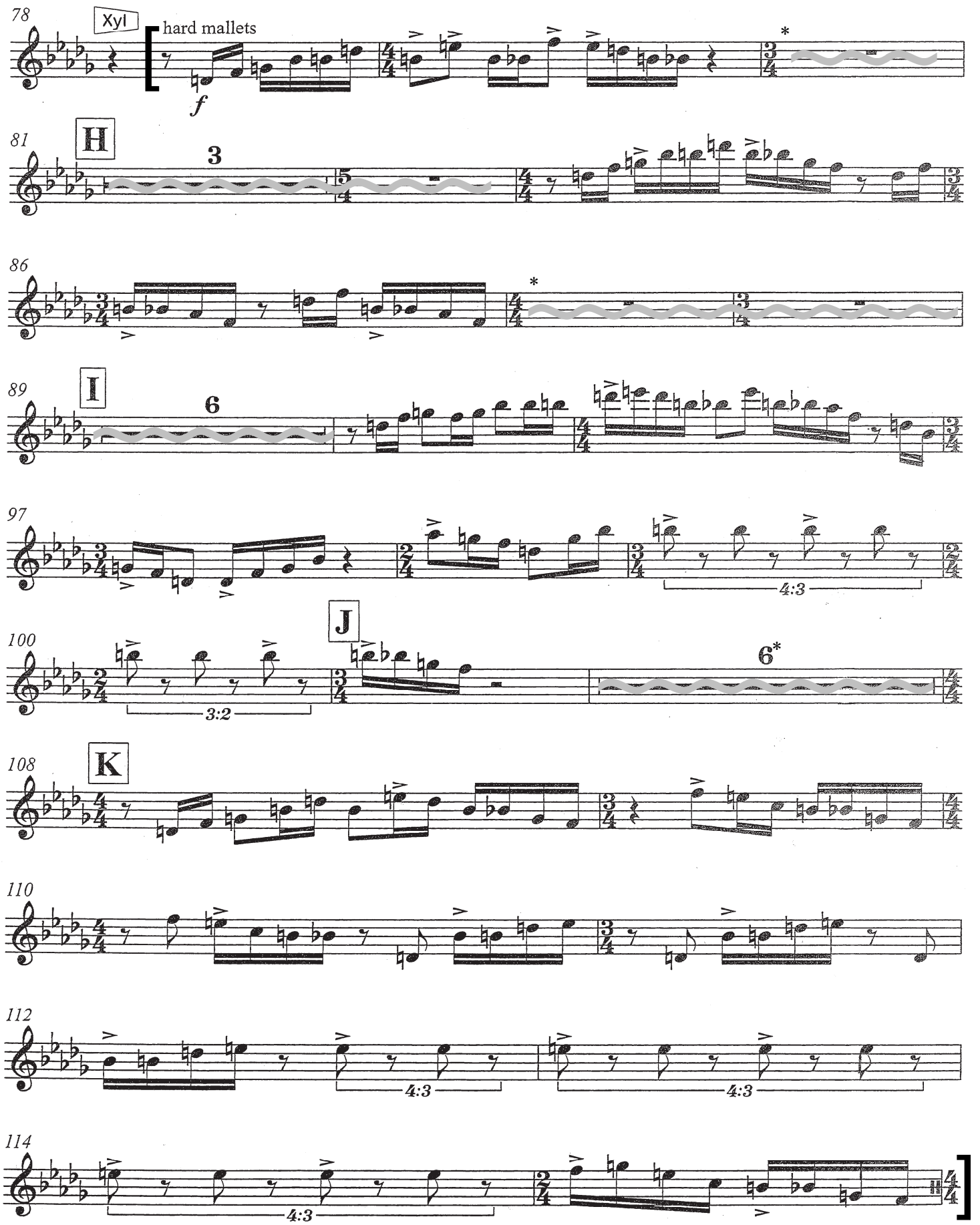

8vo
73
74
75
p
ff
f
più f
fff
mf
cresc

WESTLAKE *Compassion*
Xylophone

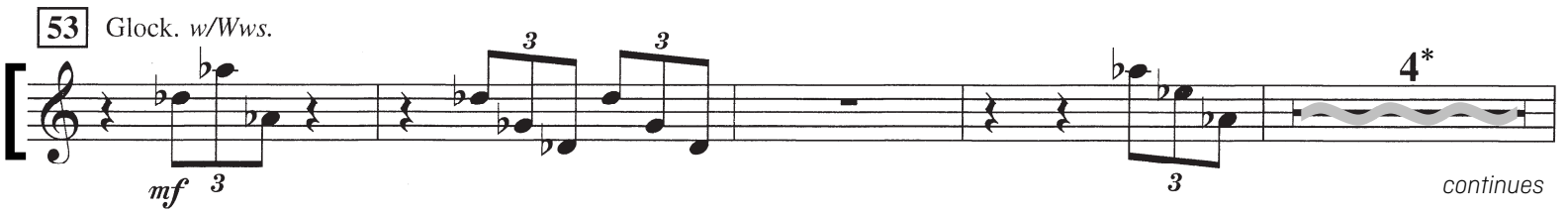
II. *Who Is Wise (Eize Hu Chachan)*
Excerpt 1 ♩ = 128



** Please observe a brief pause before continuing*

WILLIAMS *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone:* Suite
Glockenspiel

4. *Harry's Wondrous World*
Excerpt 1 Broadly



61 *mf*

64

69 **Slightly slower**

Glock. *w/Fls.*

mp

Vibes

mp w/Ped.

cresc.

cresc.

73 *p sub.*

sim.

p sub.

77 *mf*

mf

81 *p*

p

85 *mf*

mf

continues

89

f

f

93

mf

mf

97

101

f

f

105

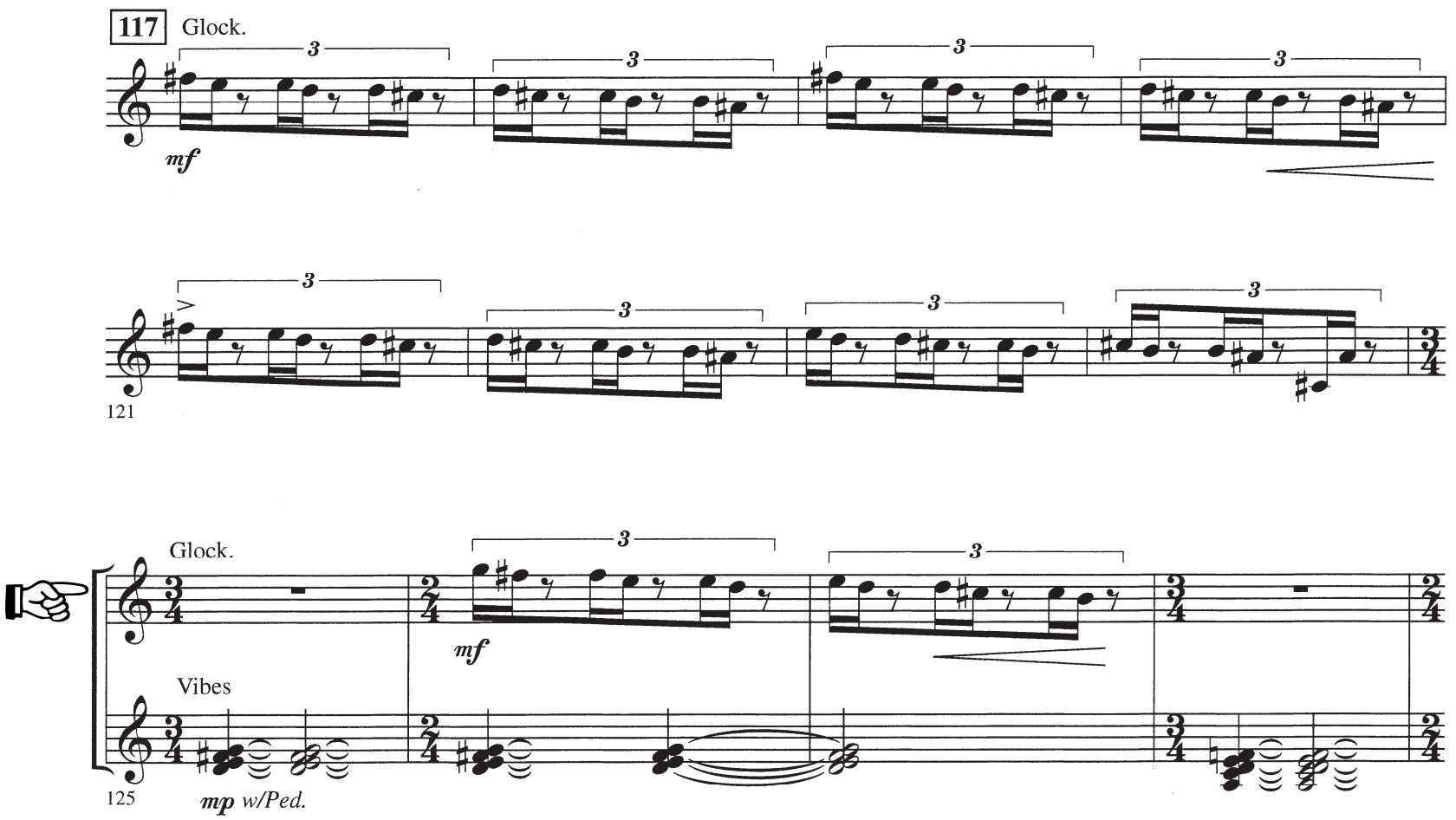
sim.

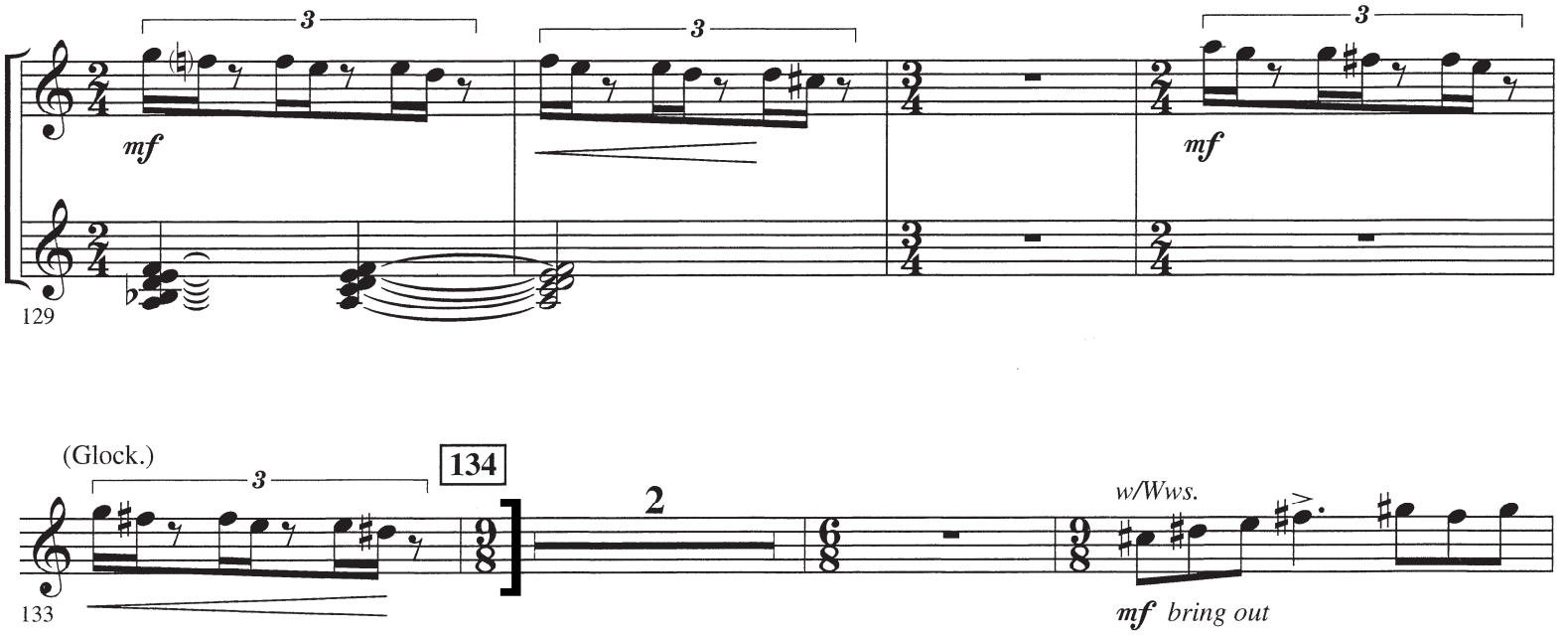
sim.

111

(turn fast for Glock.)

continues


117
Glock.
mf
121
Glock.
mf
Vibes
mp w/Ped.
125


mf
mf
129
(Glock.)
134
2
w/Wws.
mf bring out
133

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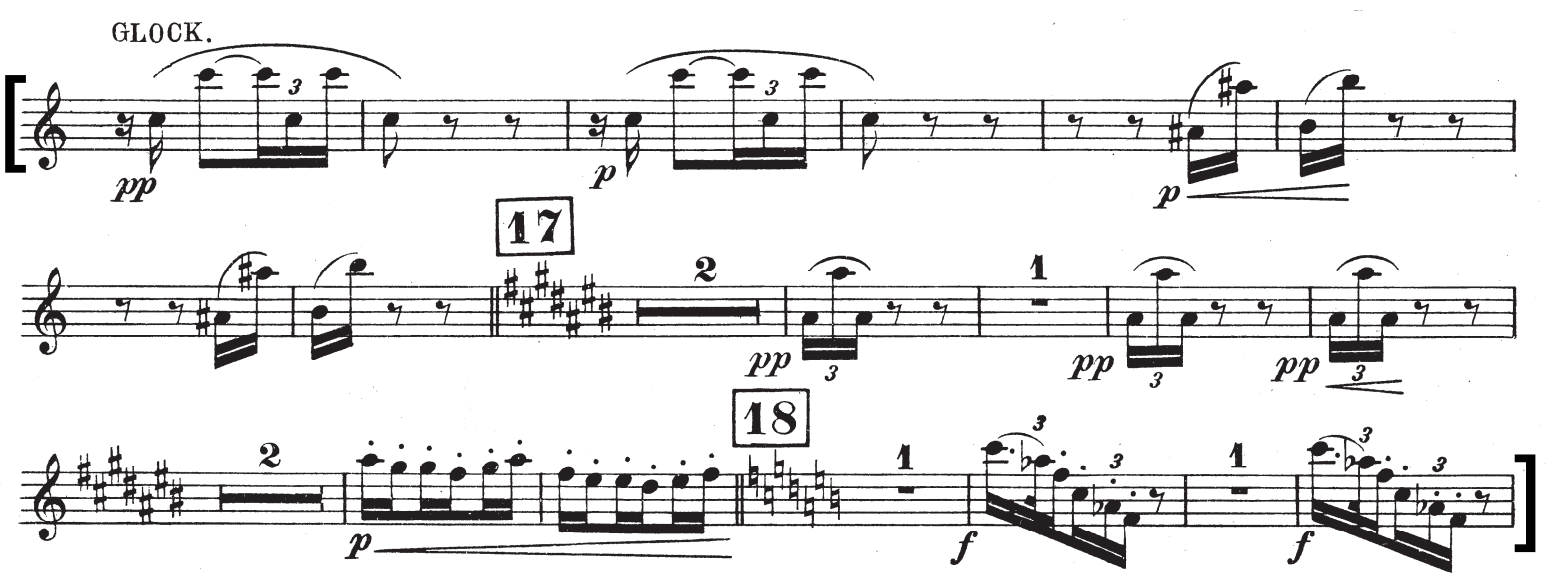
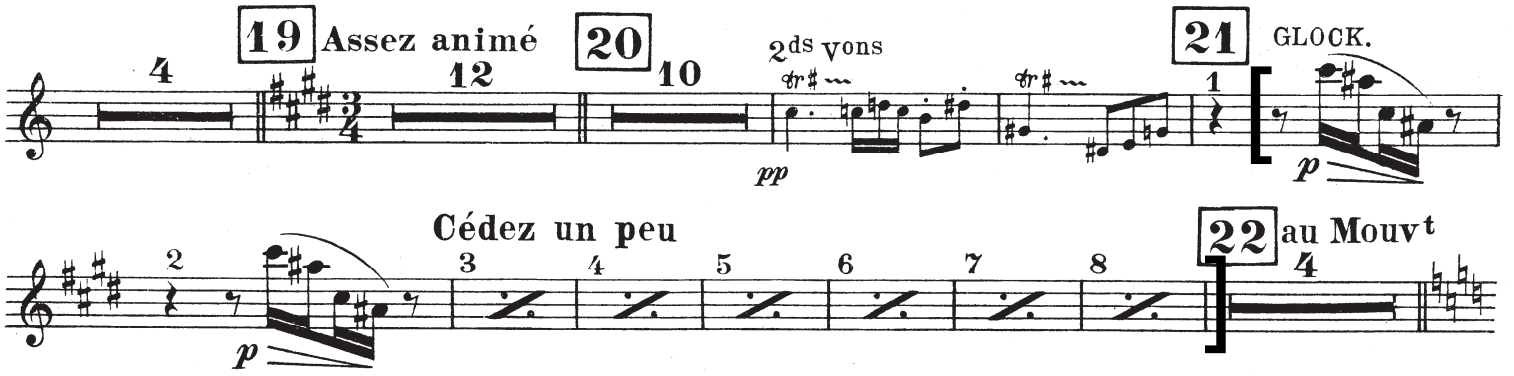
DEBUSSY *La Mer*
Glockenspiel

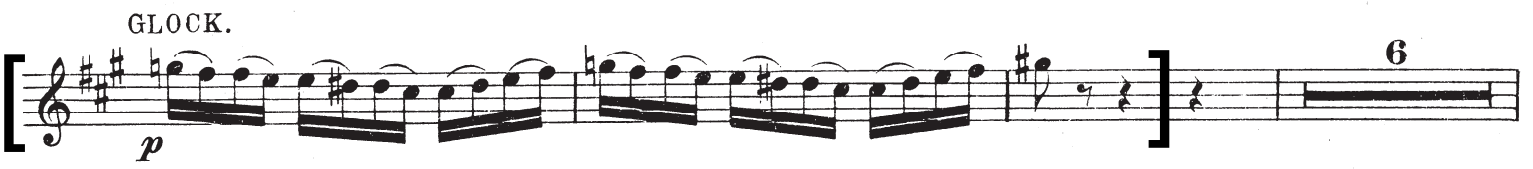
II. *Jeux de vagues*
Excerpt 1 Animé



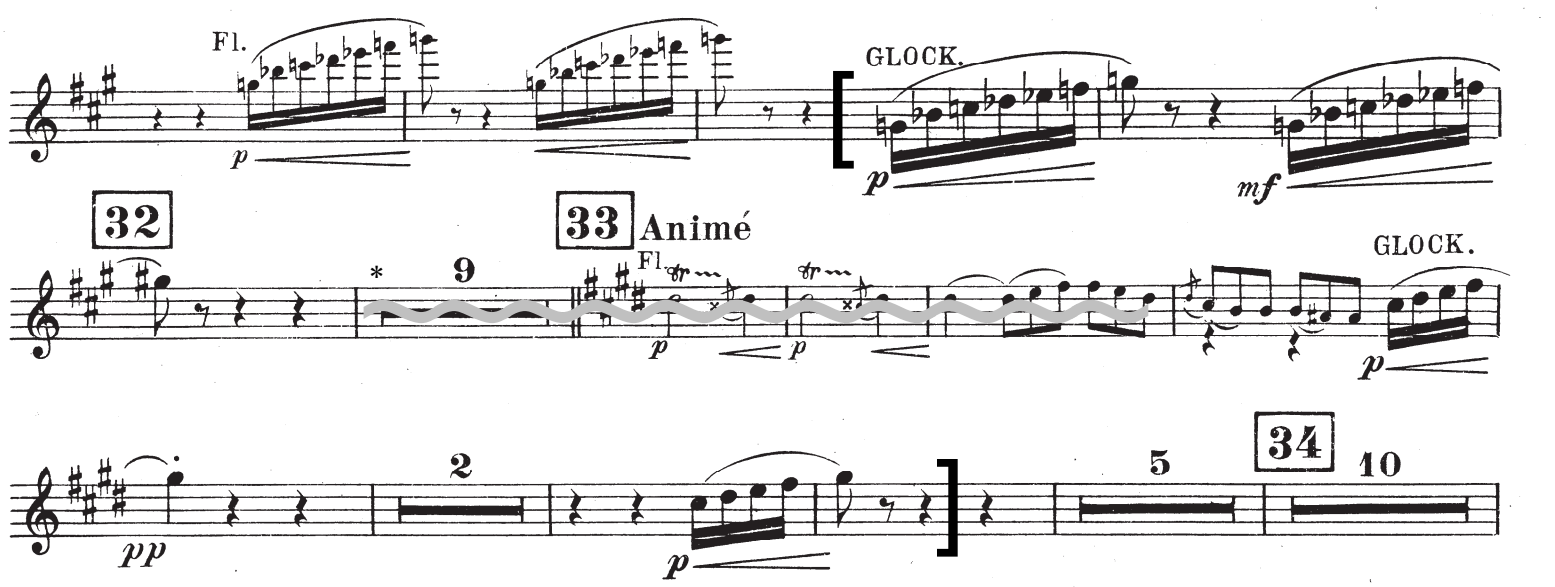
Excerpt 2 Assez animé



Excerpt 3 au Mouvt [in Assez animé]

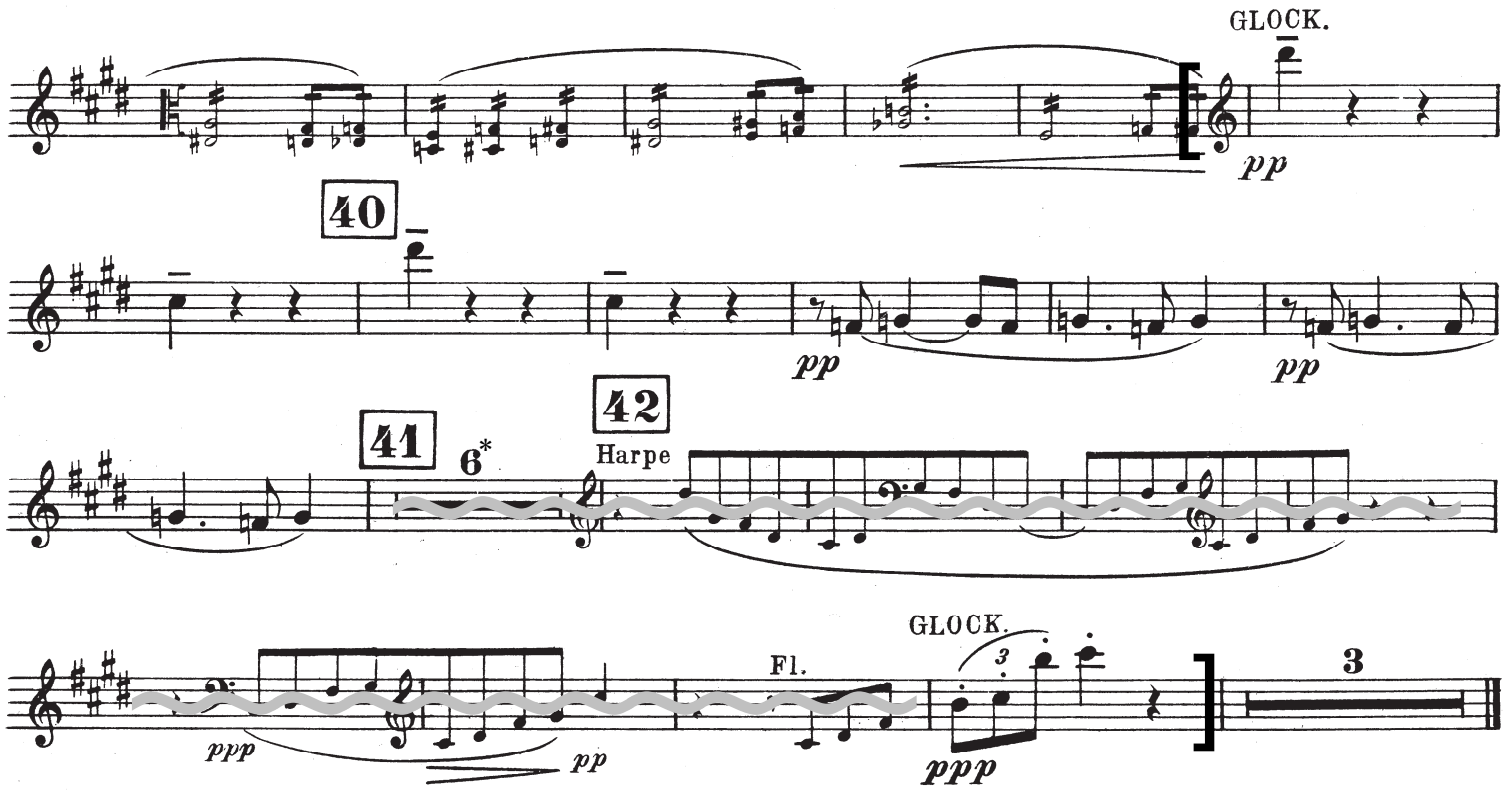


Excerpt 4 [same tempo]



** Please observe a brief pause before continuing*

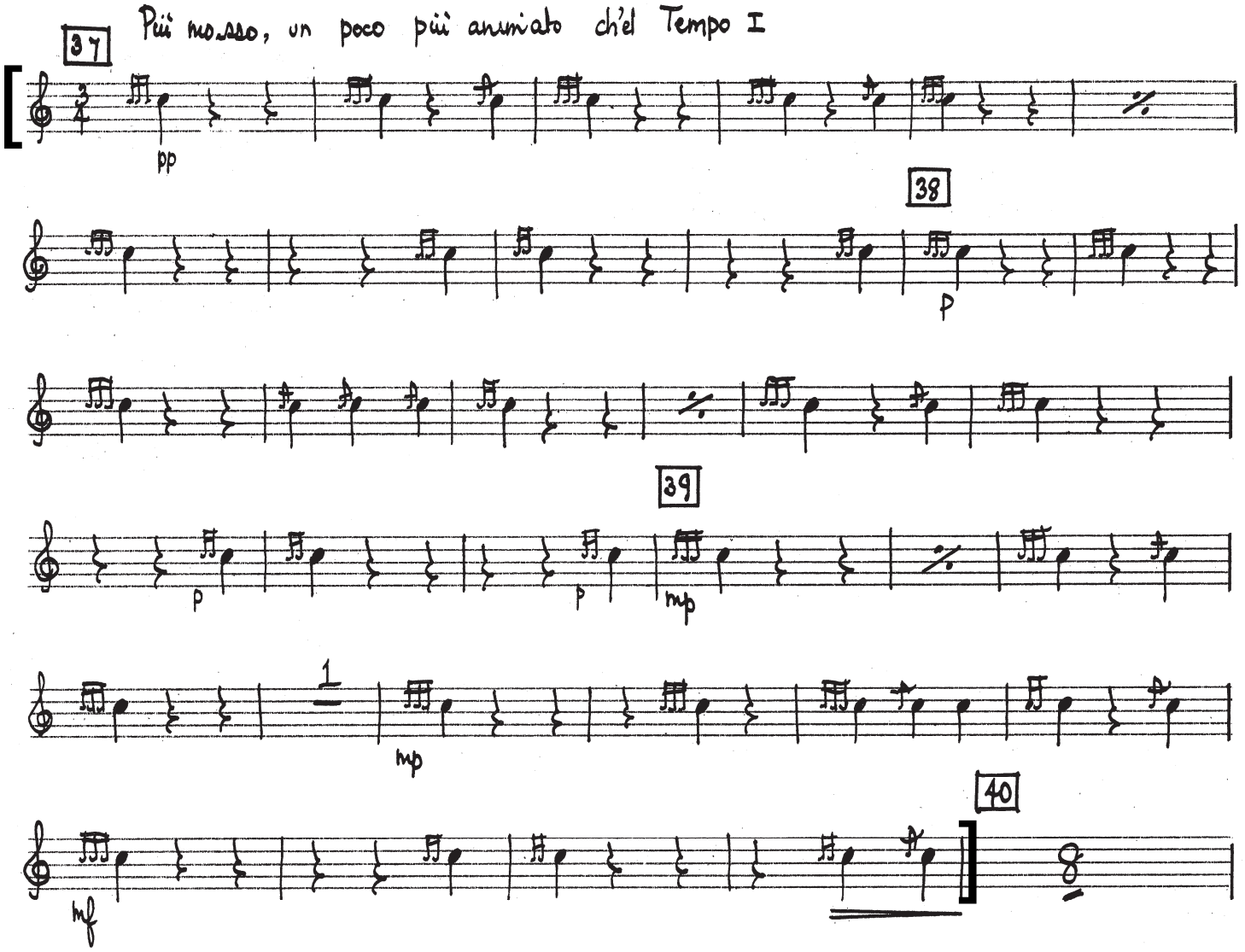
Excerpt 5 Très animé



** Please observe a brief pause before continuing*

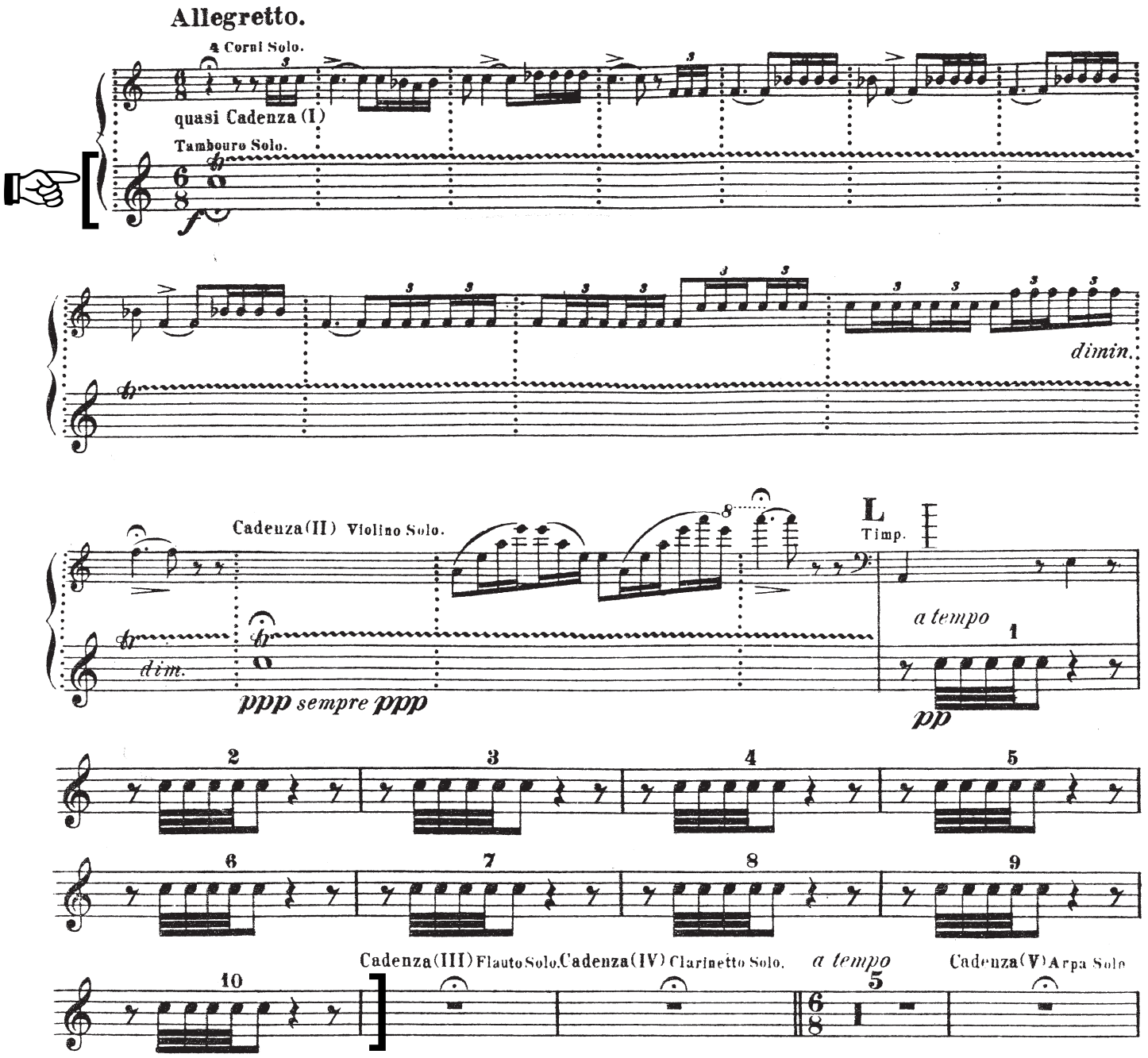
PROKOFIEV Symphony No.5, Op.100
Snare drum

Second movement
Excerpt 1 Più mosso, un poco più animato ch'el Tempo I [Allegro marcato]



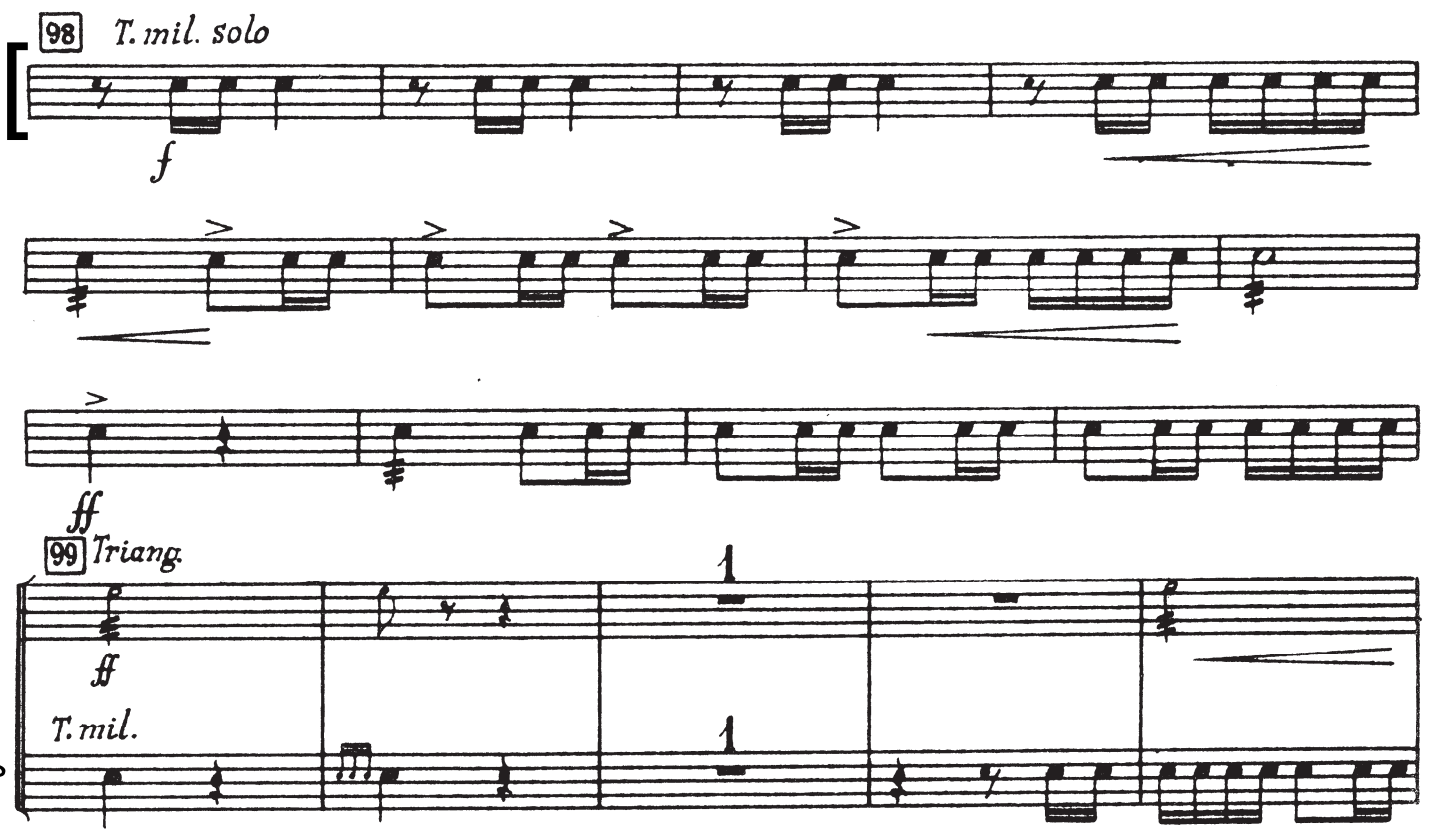
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV *Capriccio espagnol,* Op.34
Snare drum

IV. *Scena e Canto gitano*
Excerpt 1 Allegretto



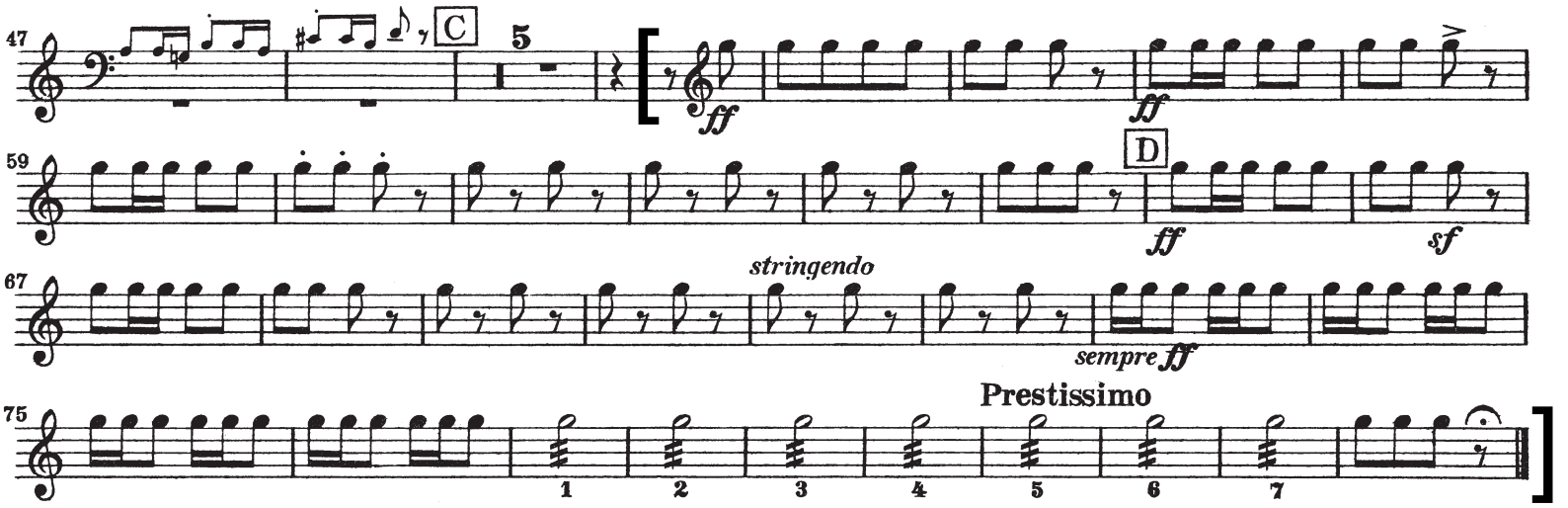
SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No.10 in E mionr, Op.93
Snare drum

Second movement
Excerpt 1 Allegro, ♩ = 176



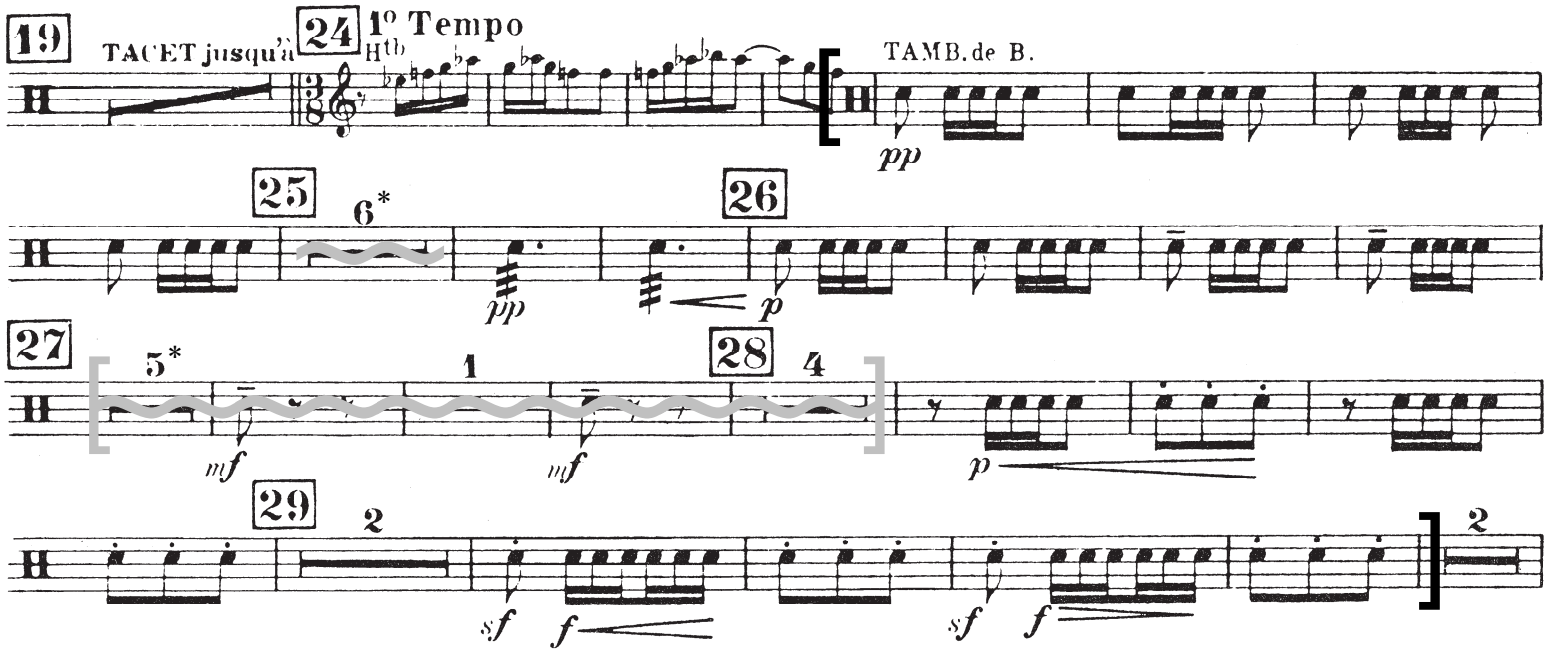
TCHAIKOVSKY *The Nutcracker:* Suite No.1, Op.71a
Tambourine

II. *Danses Caractéristiques:* c) *Danse russe Trepak*
Excerpt 1 Tempo di trepak, molto vivace

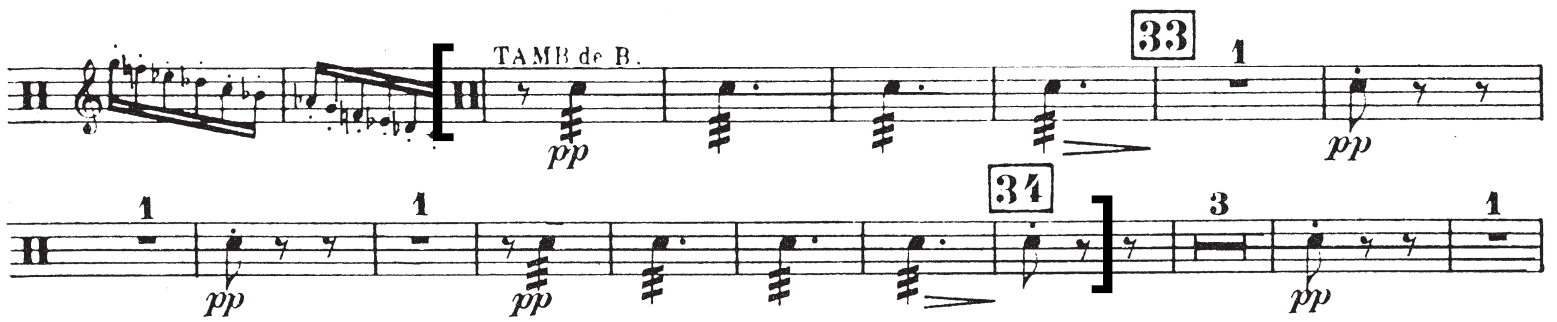


DEBUSSY *Ibéria*
Tambourine

I. *Par les rues et par les chemins*
Excerpt 1 Assez animé (dans une rythme alerte mais précis)



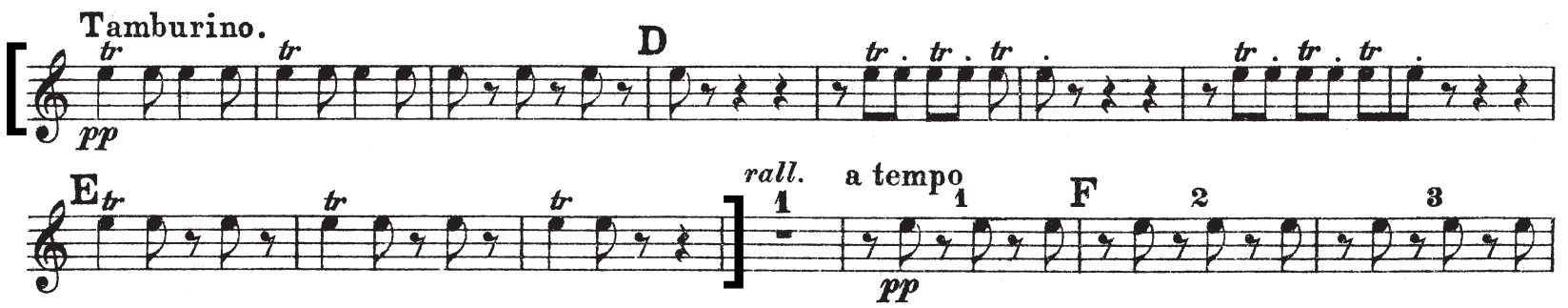
Excerpt 2 [same tempo]



** Please omit these notes and observe a brief pause before continuing*

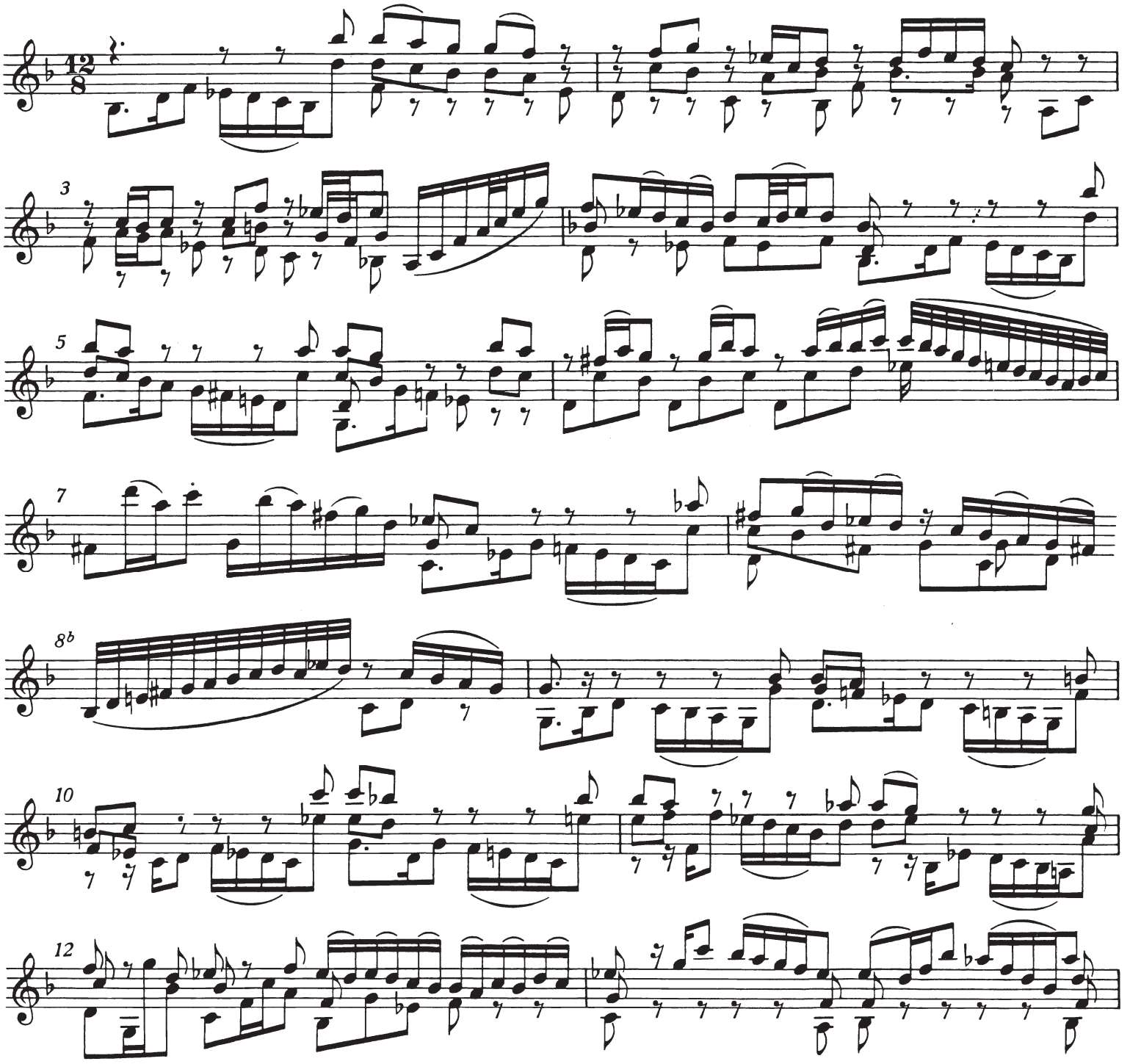
BIZET *Carmen:* Suite No.2
Tambourine

11. *Danse bohème*
Excerpt 2 Andantino quasi Allegretto, ♩ = 100

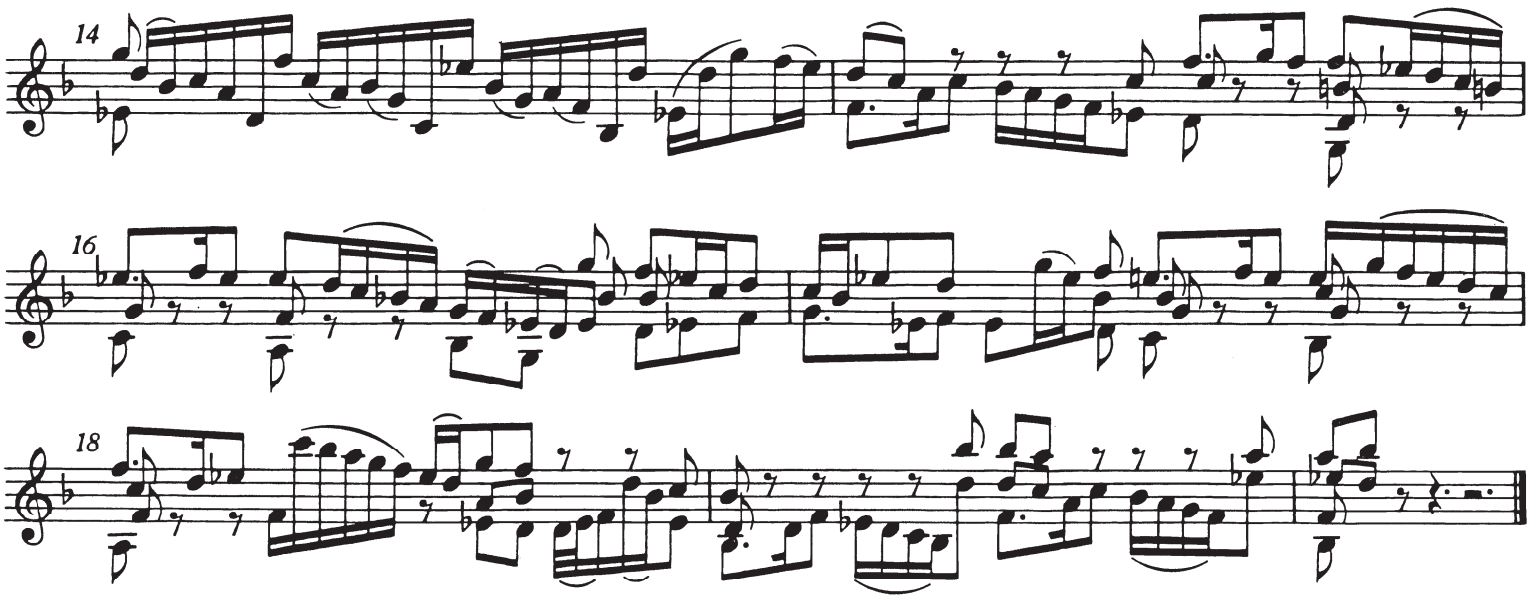


J.S. BACH Violin Sonata No.1, BWV1001
Marimba

III. Siciliana
Excerpt 1 [no tempo indication]



continues



End of orchestral excerpts