Farewell

(2000, revised 2008)

Derek Keller

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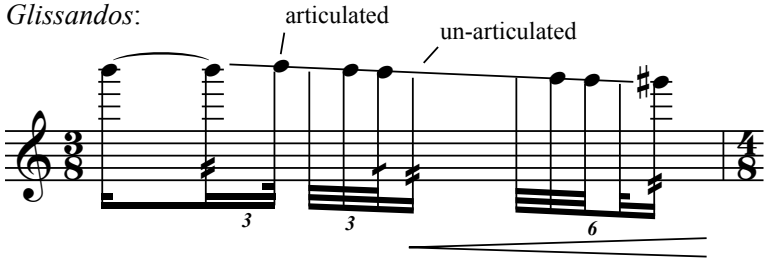
Farewell addresses the idea of traumatic loss. When dealing with loss, one can experience various and sometimes radically shifting emotional states. Quite simply, four emotional states are represented here through four different musical behaviors. At the beginning of the work these behaviors shift or blend very coarsely at first, as people sometimes experience shifting moods and emotions when grieving a loss. Through the four cyclical movements that structure the work, the musical behaviors intercut and combine at greater and more extreme degrees, to the point where elements of all four behaviors are compressed together to create "hybrid" behavioral states. I offer a metaphorical example: one could be laughing, then laughing nervously, then break into uncontrollable tears; one may wish to "talk about it," yet not be able to find the words to describe the way he or she feels.

Farewell was composed for and is dedicated to Mark Menzies.

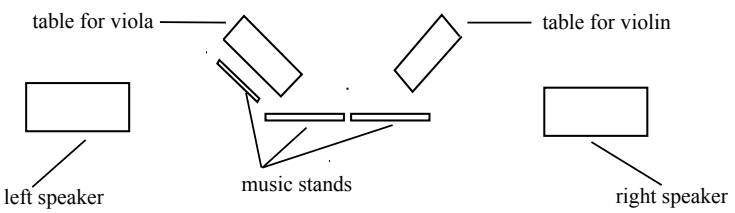
Performance Notes

This piece requires a sound engineer. The violin must be amplified and mixed so that it matches the levels of the Audio Playback part. This is optimally achieved with one or two microphones suspended on boom stands above the performer's head. The viola should also be amplified in its resting position (lying flat on a table stage right of the performer). The Audio Playback part should sound through two speakers house left and the right of the performer.

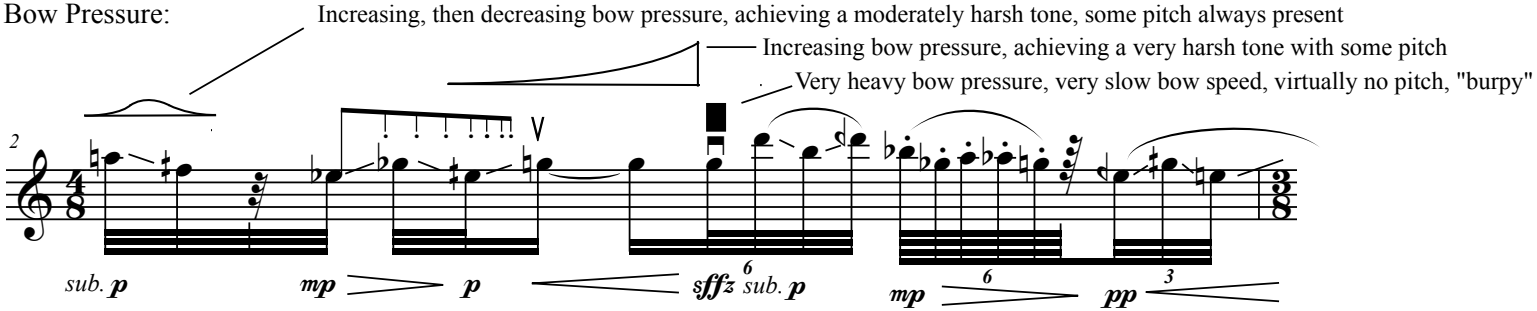
Glissandos:



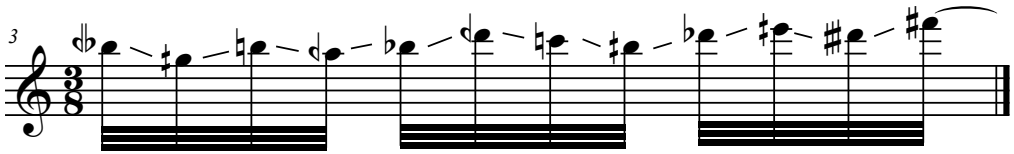
Setup



Bow Pressure:



Micotones (all accidentals carry through measure and tie):



♯ = 3/4 sharp
♯ = 1/4 sharp
♭ = 1/4 flat
♭ = 3/4 flat

Other notations:

----------› = channge in position of bow; from *sul pont.* to *ord.,* for example

--------(*sul pont.*)------› = a continuatio of a particular bowing tcchnique or octave state.

On playing the viola:

For the first Refrains I, II, and III the viola is to remain lying on a table stage right of the performer. The table should be high enough so that the performer can execute the bow strokes with out causing undue stress on the wrist or back. In Rafain IV, the performer plays the viola in the normal position.

On the Audio Playback part:

The notations that appear in the Audio Playback staff reflect the most prominent musical features in the sound mix and are presented to assist the performer in staying in sync.

Full Score

Farewell (2000, revised 2008)

for violin, (doubling viola) and Audio Playback

Derek Keller
(b.1971)

Cycle I. ♪ = 66; Meandering, circular thought

Vln.: *sul* A, *no vibrato, sul tasto, poco marcato*, distinct pitches through *glissandos*

(on string)

Violin

simile

n ppp pp ppp

n ppp pp ppp pp ppp sfz

7

Vln.

sul D mp sfz

sul A mp sfz pp n

sul D mp 5 sfz

11

Vln.

pp n

sul A mp 5 sfz n pp p ppp

♩ = 56; As if sobbing uncontrollably through violence and anger

ord., poco rubato, vibrato, at frog

15

Vln.

fff

♩ = 40-44; Searching for words; stuttering, stammering

no vibrato, at point

17

Vln.

sffz

-----(*ord. a sul pont.*)------›

sul pont.

p ppp

----------(*sul pont.*)----------›

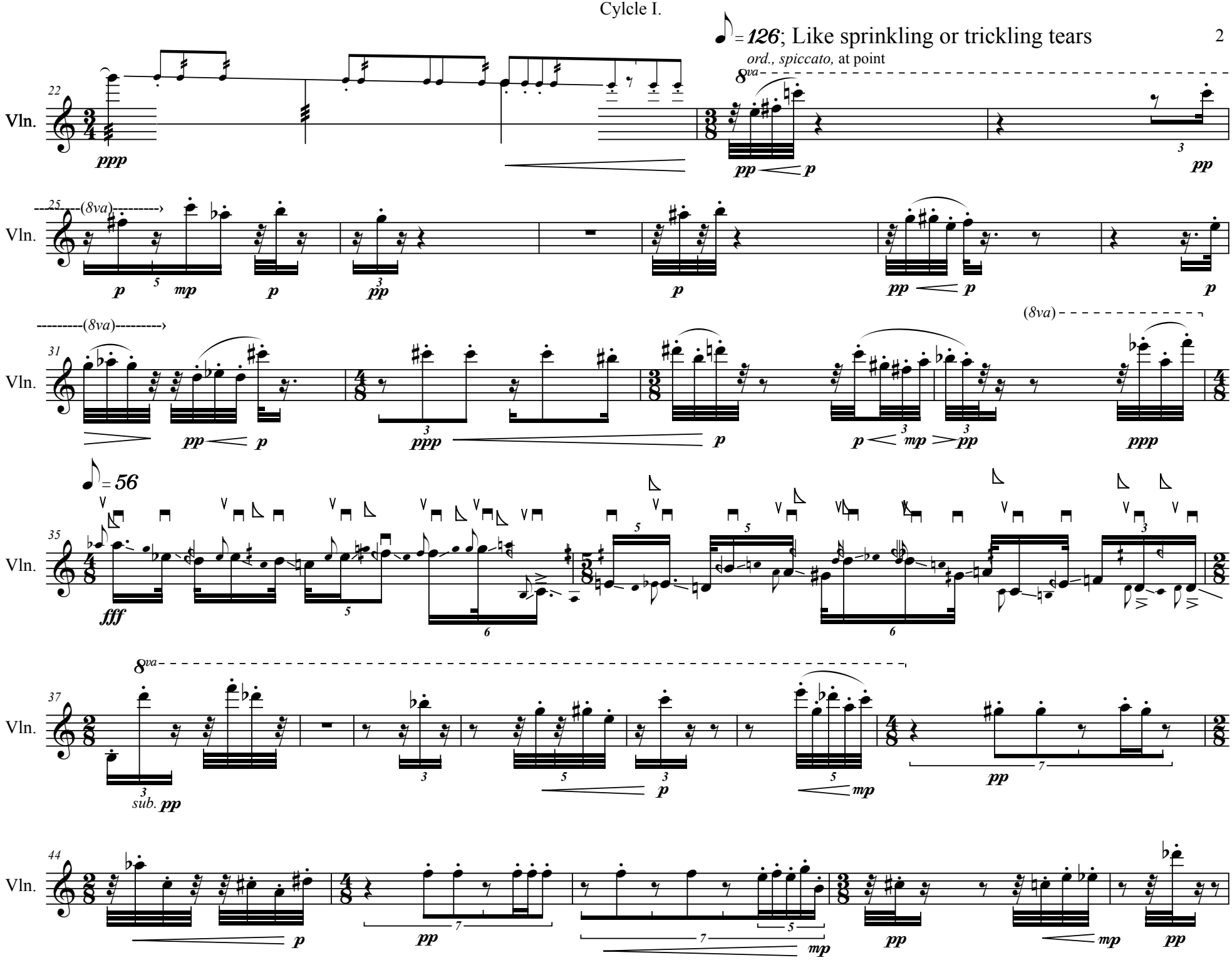
20

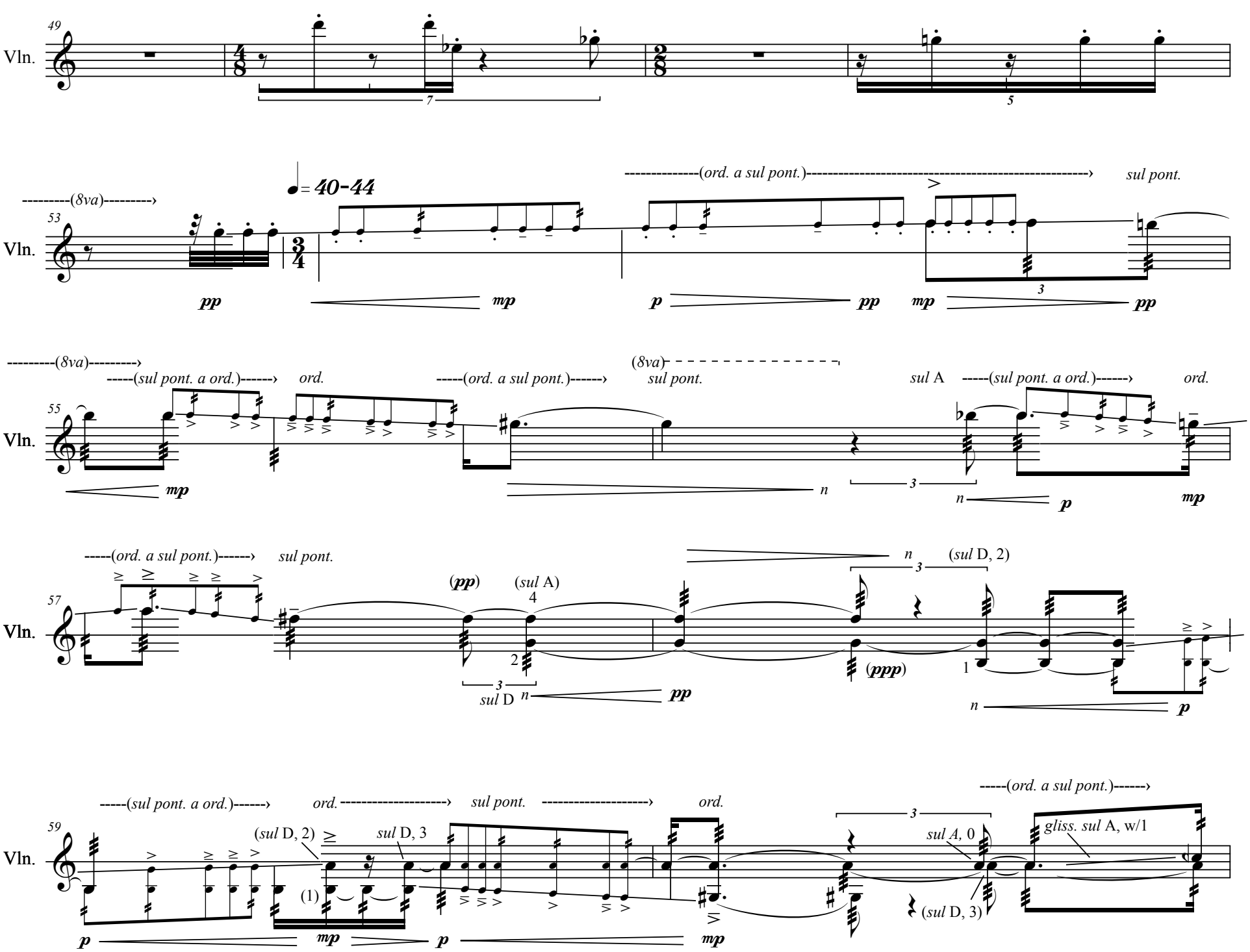
Vln.

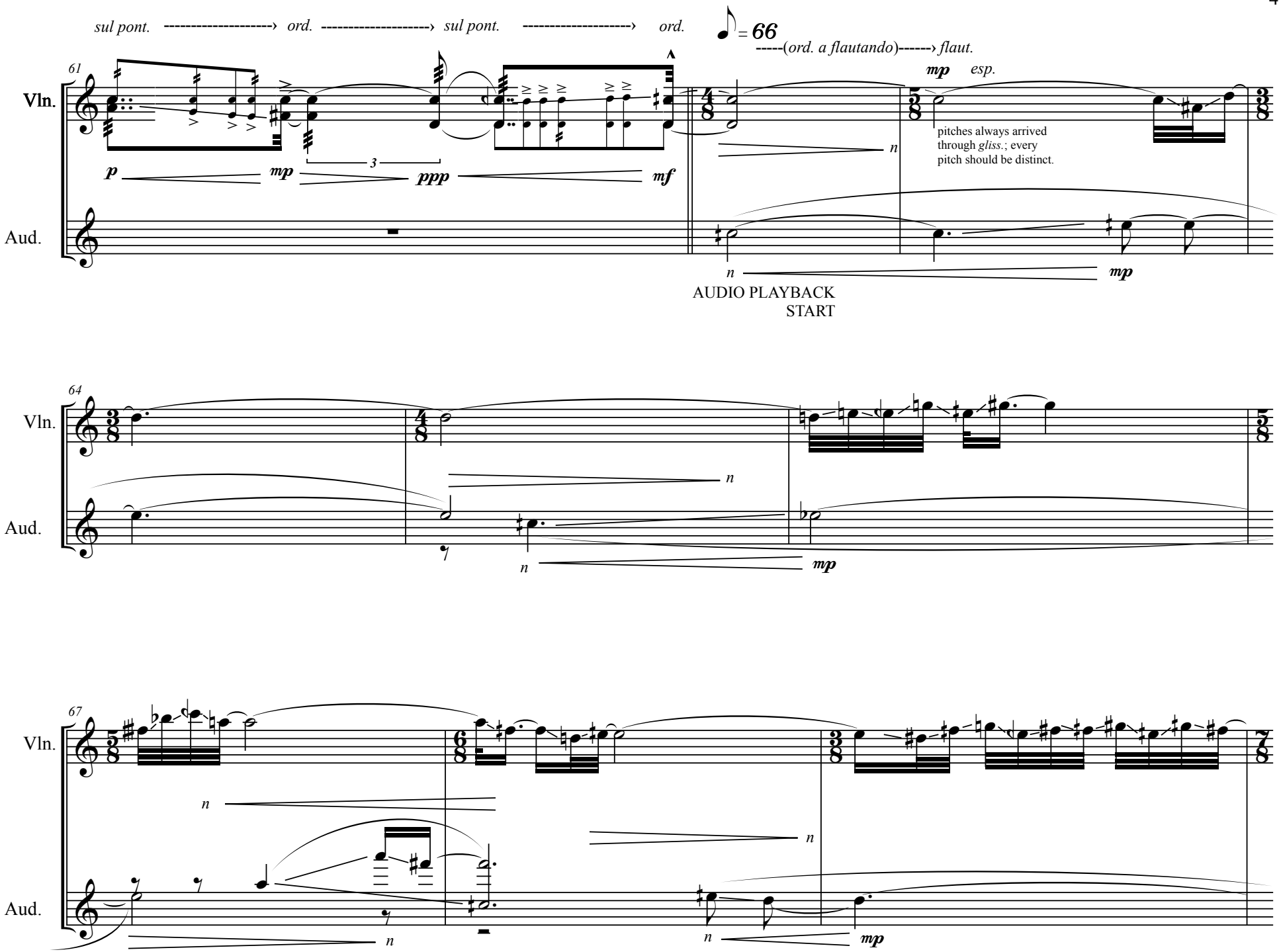
3

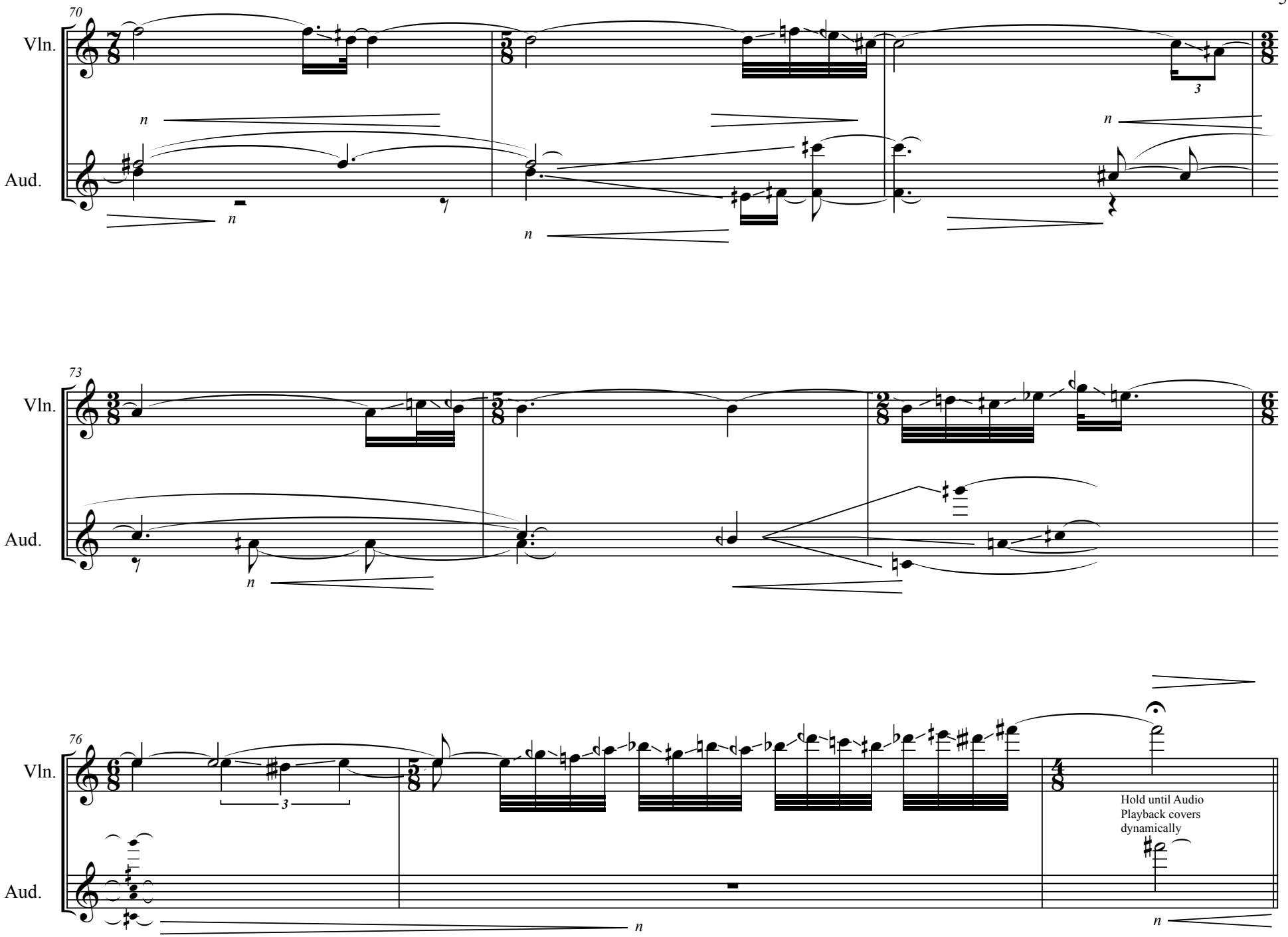
n

----------(*sul pont.*)----------›


♪ = 126; Like sprinkling or trickling tears
ord., spiccato, at point
Vln.
(8va)
♪ = 56
sub. pp


49
Vln.
7
5
53
(8va)
♩= 40-44
(ord. a sul pont.)
sul pont.
pp
mp
p
pp
mp
pp
3
55
(8va)
(sul pont. a ord.)
ord.
(ord. a sul pont.)
sul pont.
sul A
(sul pont. a ord.)
ord.
mp
n
3
n
p
mp
57
(ord. a sul pont.)
sul pont.
(pp)
(sul A)
4
2
3
sul D
n
pp
n
3
(sul D, 2)
(ppp)
1
n
p
59
(sul pont. a ord.)
ord.
sul pont.
ord.
(ord. a sul pont.)
(sul D, 2)
sul D, 3
(1)
sul A, 0
gliss. sul A, w/1
(sul D, 3)
p
mp
p
mp


sul pont.
ord.
sul pont.
ord.
= 66
(ord. a flautando)
flaut.
61
Vln.
Aud.
p
mp
ppp
mf
3
n
mp
esp.
pitches always arrived through gliss.; every pitch should be distinct.
AUDIO PLAYBACK START
64
67


70
Vln.
Aud.
n
3
73
76
Hold until Audio
Playback covers
dynamically

79

Vln.

Aud.

TACET DURING AUDIO INTERLUDE

AUDIO PLAYBACK
STOP

Refrain I. ♩= ***40***; Breathy, long, tranquil waves of quiet energy; solemn, focused

Vla.: Lying flat on table, drawing bow across strings; begin playing just as Audio Playback is inaudible

80

Vla.

on bridge ----------› *sul pont.* ----------› *ord.*

n ***pp*** ***mp*** ***pp*** ***mp*** ***pp***

85

Vla.

l.v. *l.v.*

mp ***p*** ***f*** ***p*** ***mf*** ***pp***

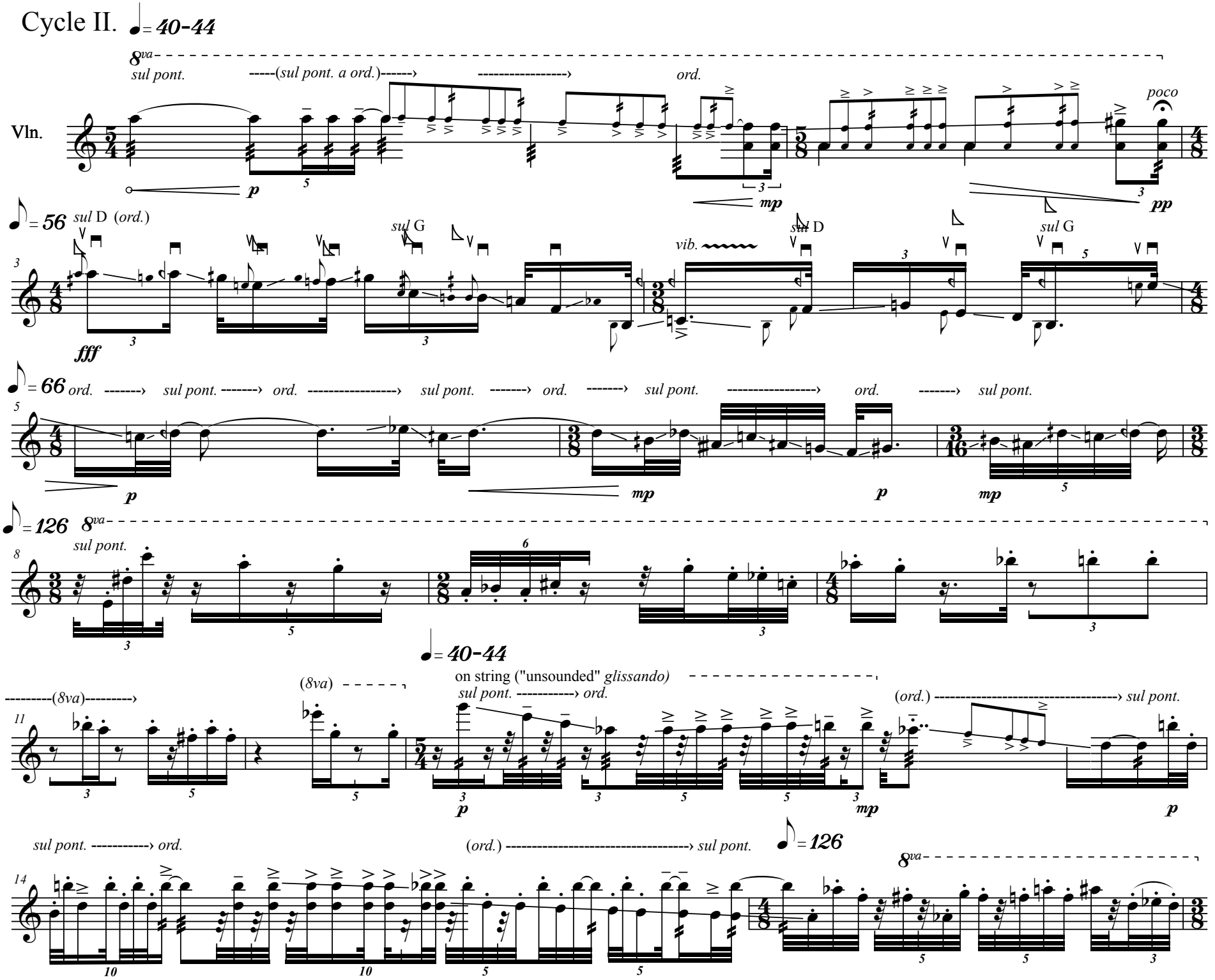
90

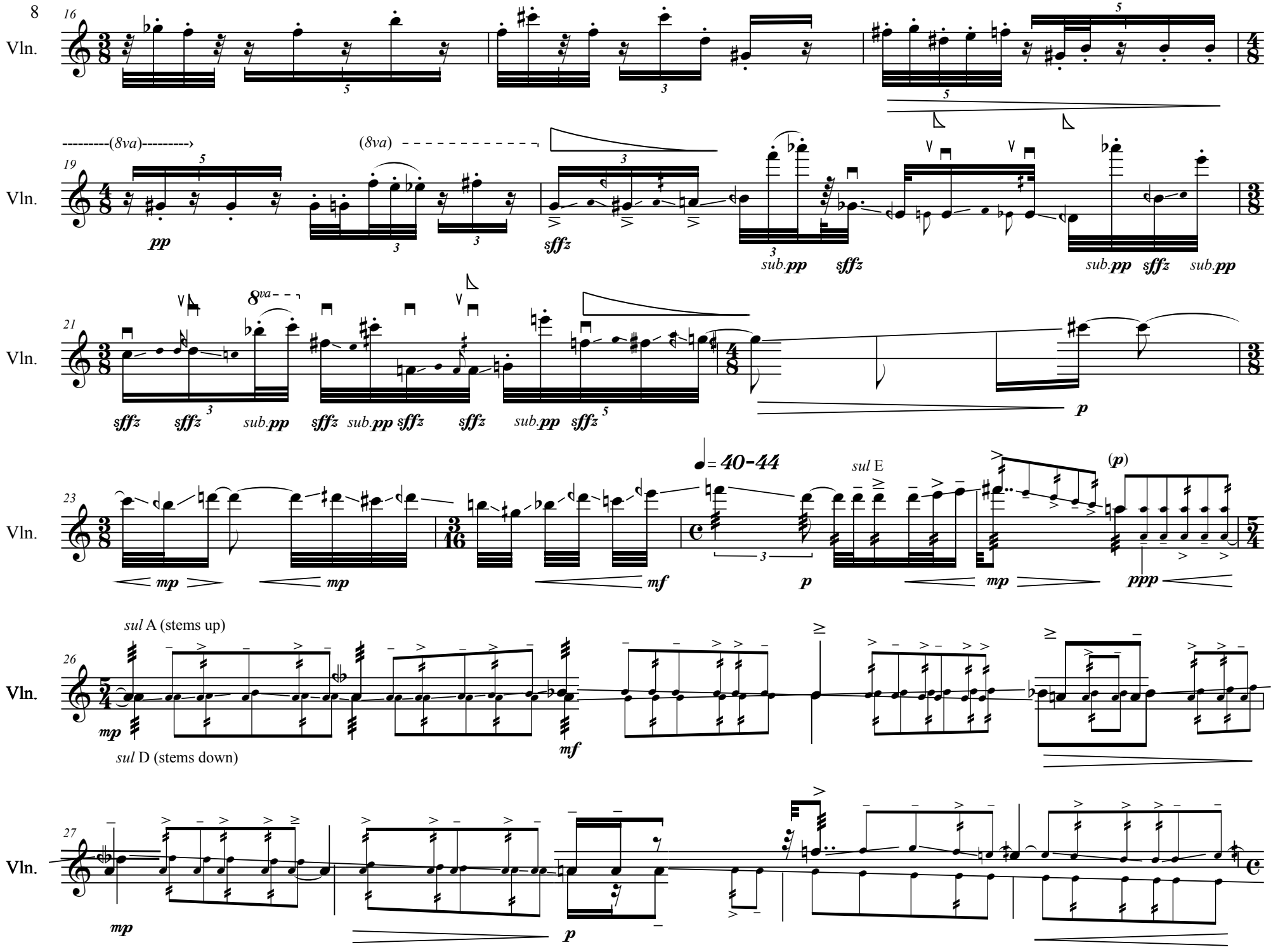
Vla.

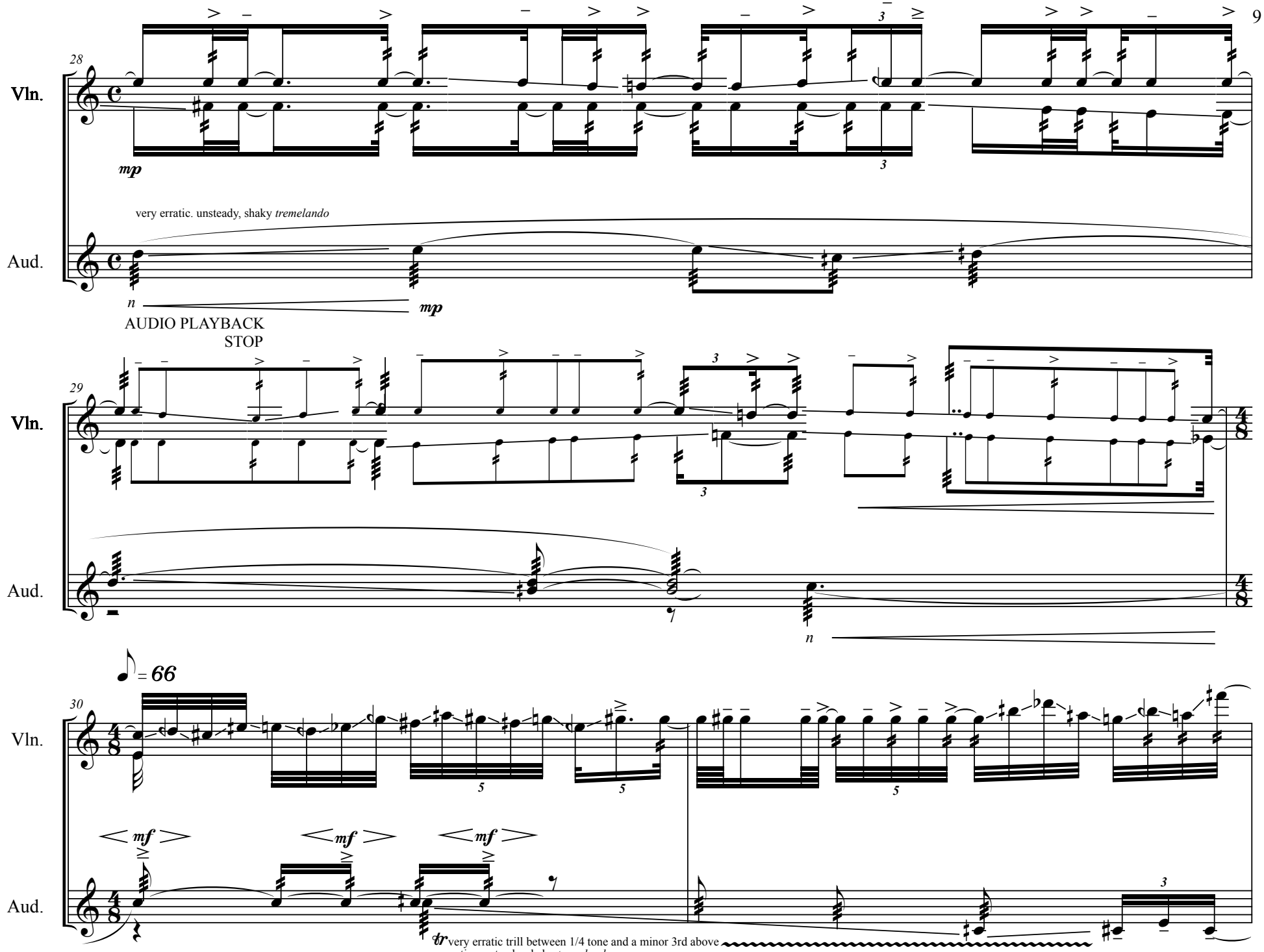
ord. ----------› *sul pont.* ----------› on bridge

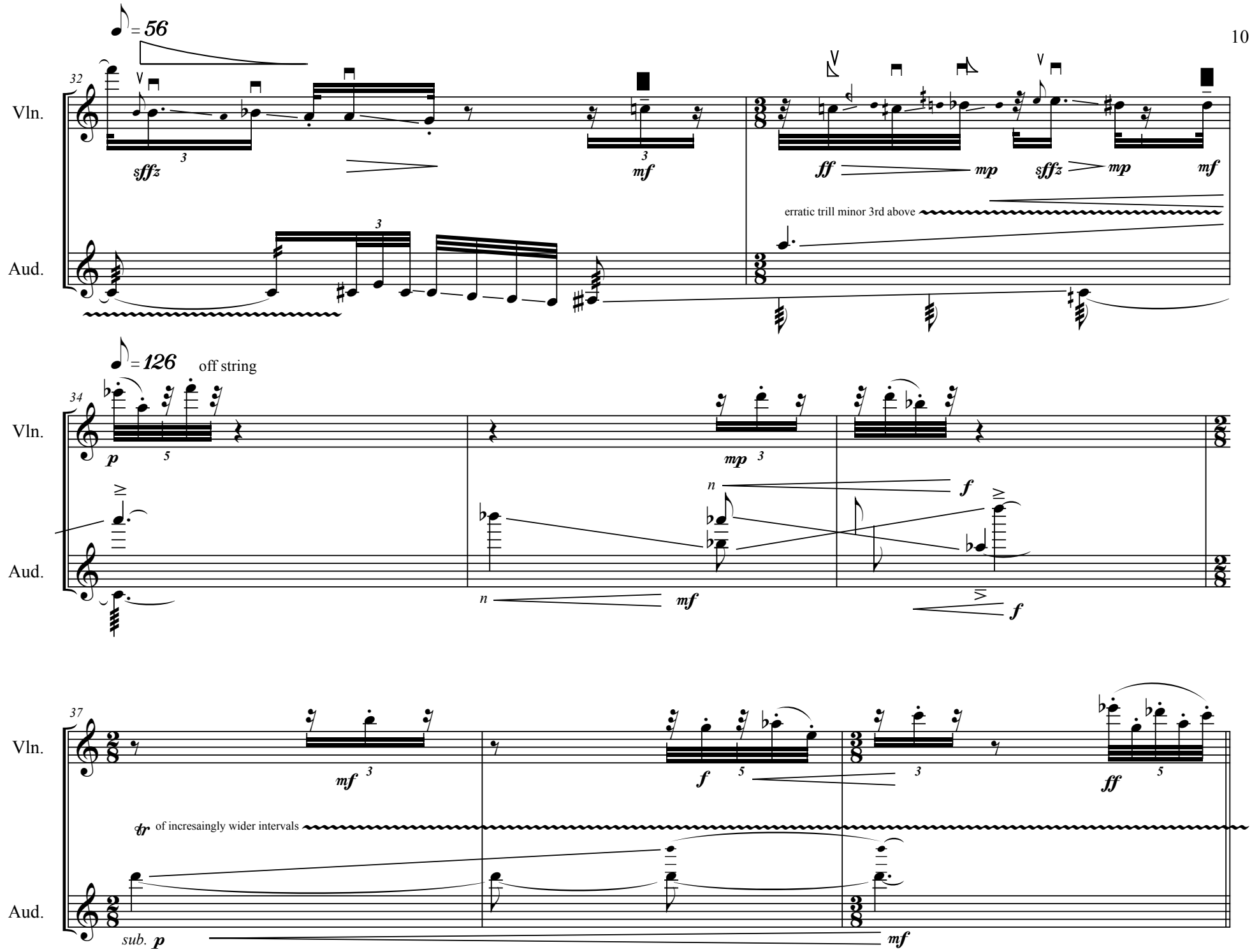
l.v.

mp ***p*** ***pp*** *n*


Cycle II.
♩= 40-44
8va
sul pont.
-----(sul pont. a ord.)------›
ord.
poco
Vln.
p
mp
pp
♪= 56
sul D (ord.)
sul G
vib.
sul D
sul G
fff
♩= 66
ord. -------› sul pont. -------› ord. ----------› sul pont. -------› ord. -------› sul pont. ----------› ord. -------› sul pont.
p
mp
p
mp
♪= 126
8va
sul pont.
♩= 40-44
---------(8va)---------›
(8va)
on string ("unsounded" glissando)
sul pont. ----------› ord.
(ord.) ----------› sul pont.
p
mp
p
sul pont. ----------› ord.
(ord.) ----------› sul pont.
♪= 126
8va


16
Vln.
19
Vln.
(8va)
(8va)
pp
sffz
sub.pp
sffz
sub.pp
sffz
sub.pp
21
Vln.
8va
sffz
sffz
sub.pp
sffz
sub.pp
sffz
sffz
sub.pp
sffz
p
23
Vln.
= 40-44
sul E
(p)
mp
mp
mf
p
mp
ppp
26
Vln.
sul A (stems up)
mp
mf
sul D (stems down)
27
Vln.
mp
p


28
Vln.
mp
very erratic. unsteady, shaky tremelando
Aud.
n
mp
AUDIO PLAYBACK
STOP
29
Vln.
Aud.
n
= 66
30
Vln.
mf
mf
mf
Aud.
tr very erratic trill between 1/4 tone and a minor 3rd above
very erratic. unsteady, shaky tremelando


♩ = 56
32
Vln.
Aud.
sffz
mf
ff
mp
sffz
mp
mf
erratic trill minor 3rd above
♩ = 126
off string
34
Vln.
Aud.
p
mp
n
f
n
mf
f
37
Vln.
Aud.
mf
f
ff
tr
of increasingly wider intervals
sub. p
mf

40

Aud.

TACET DURING AUDIO INTERLUDE

C

AUDIO PLAYBACK
STOP

Refrain II. ♩= 40; Gently

Begin playing as Audio Playback is almost inaudible

41

Vla.: on bridge ----------› *sul pont.*

Vla. *n* *pp* *p*

46

Vla. -----(*sul pont. a ord.*)------› *ord.* ----------(*ord. a tasto*)----------› *tasto*

pp *p* *pp* *p* *pp*

51

Vla. *l.v.* *sul pont.* ----------› *ord.* ----------› *tasto*

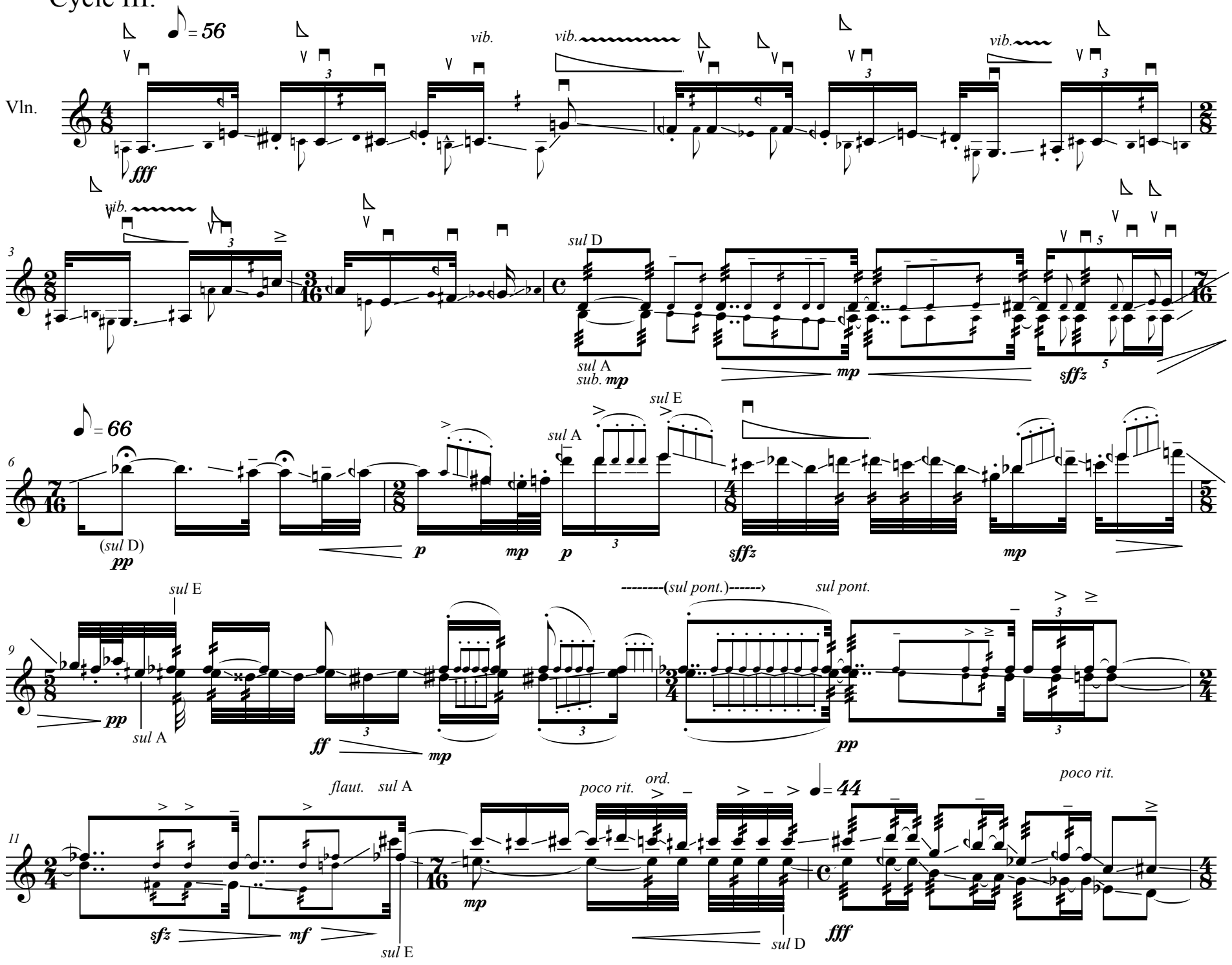
mp *ppp* *p*

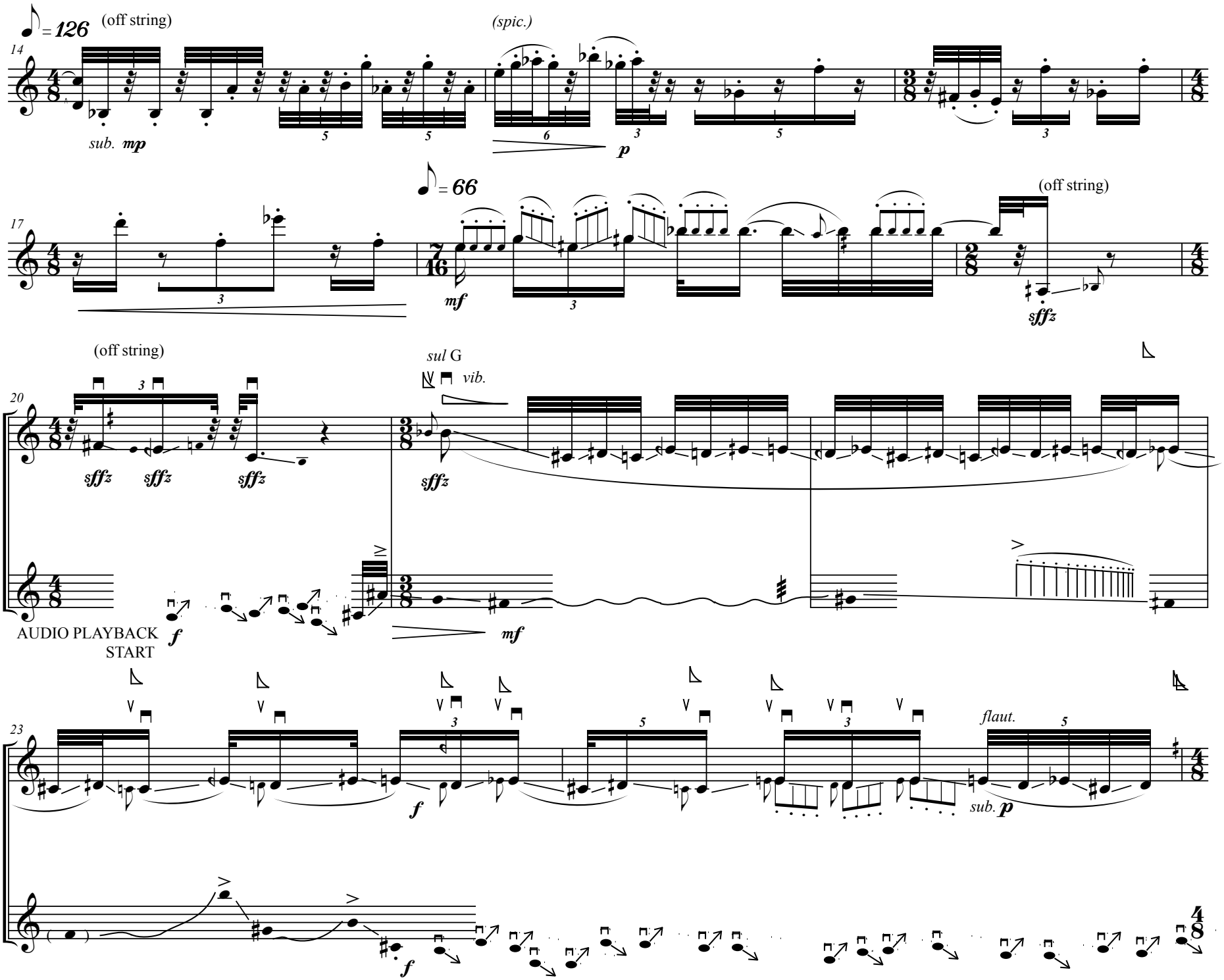
56

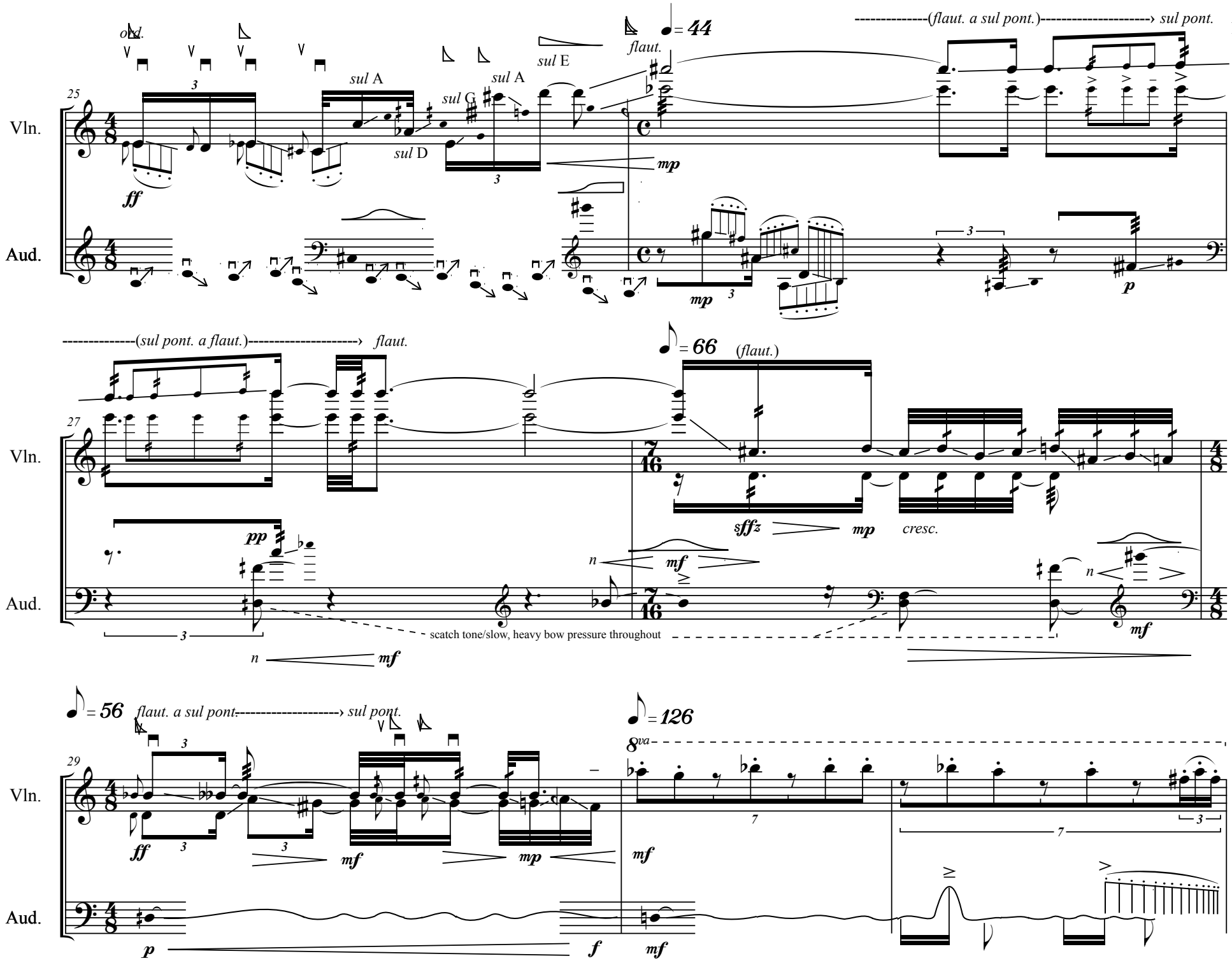
Vla. *tasto* ----------› *ord.* ----------› *sul pont.*

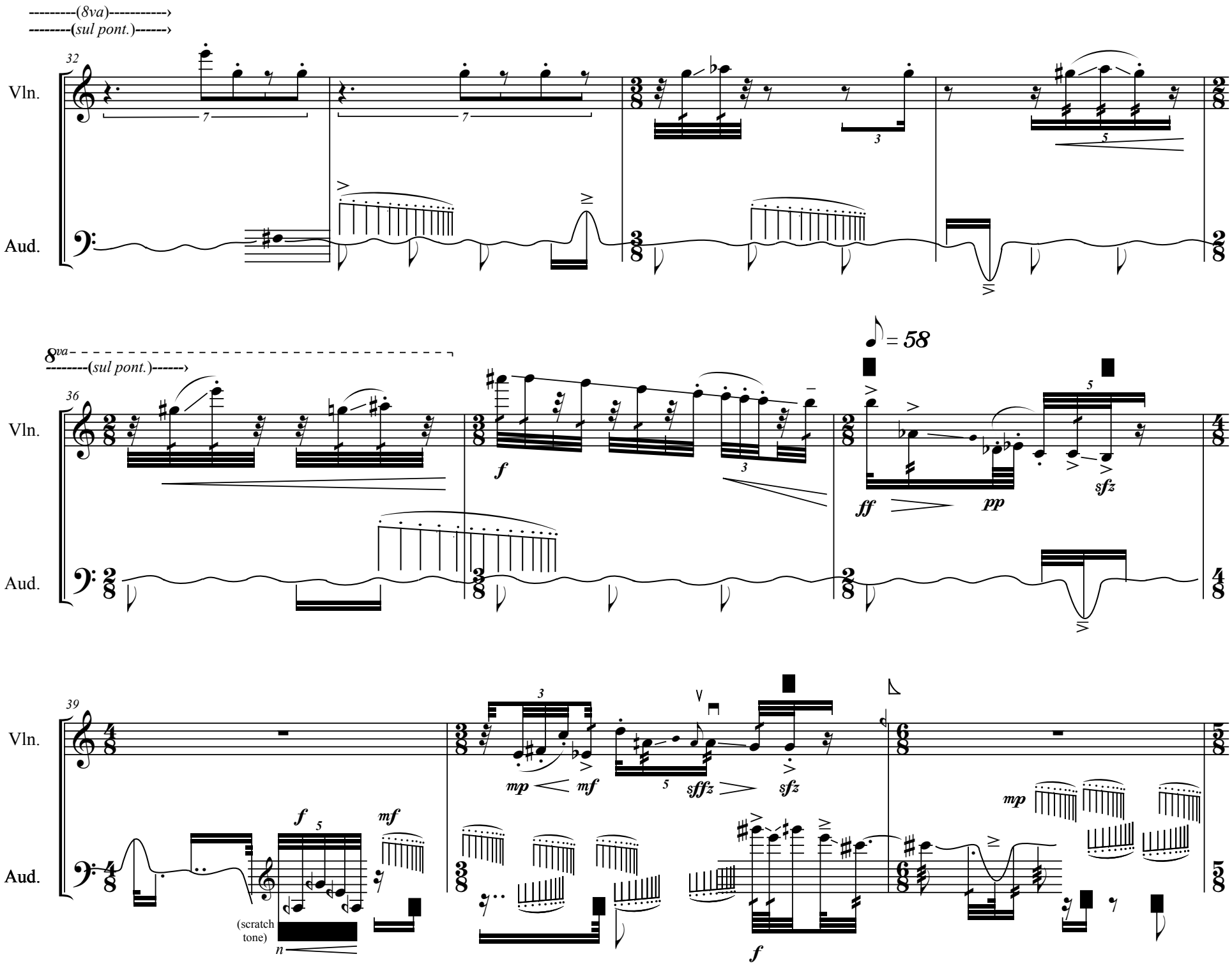
p *n*

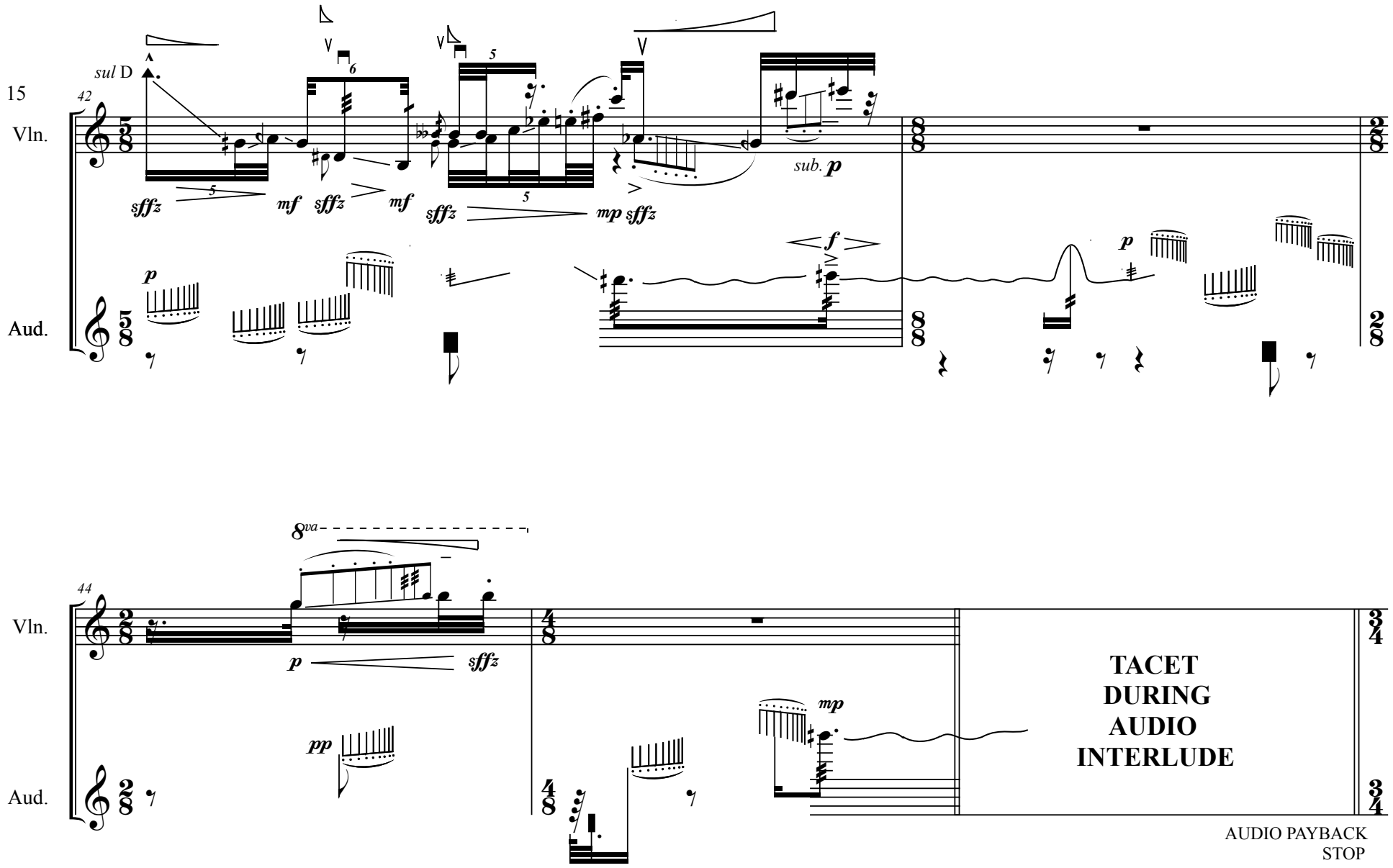
Cycle III.


Vln.
♩= 56
vib.
fff
sul D
sul A
sub. mp
mp
sffz
♩= 66
(sul D)
pp
p
mp
sul E
sffz
--------(sul pont.)------›
sul pont.
ff
flaut.
poco rit.
ord.
♩= 44
sfz
mf
fff

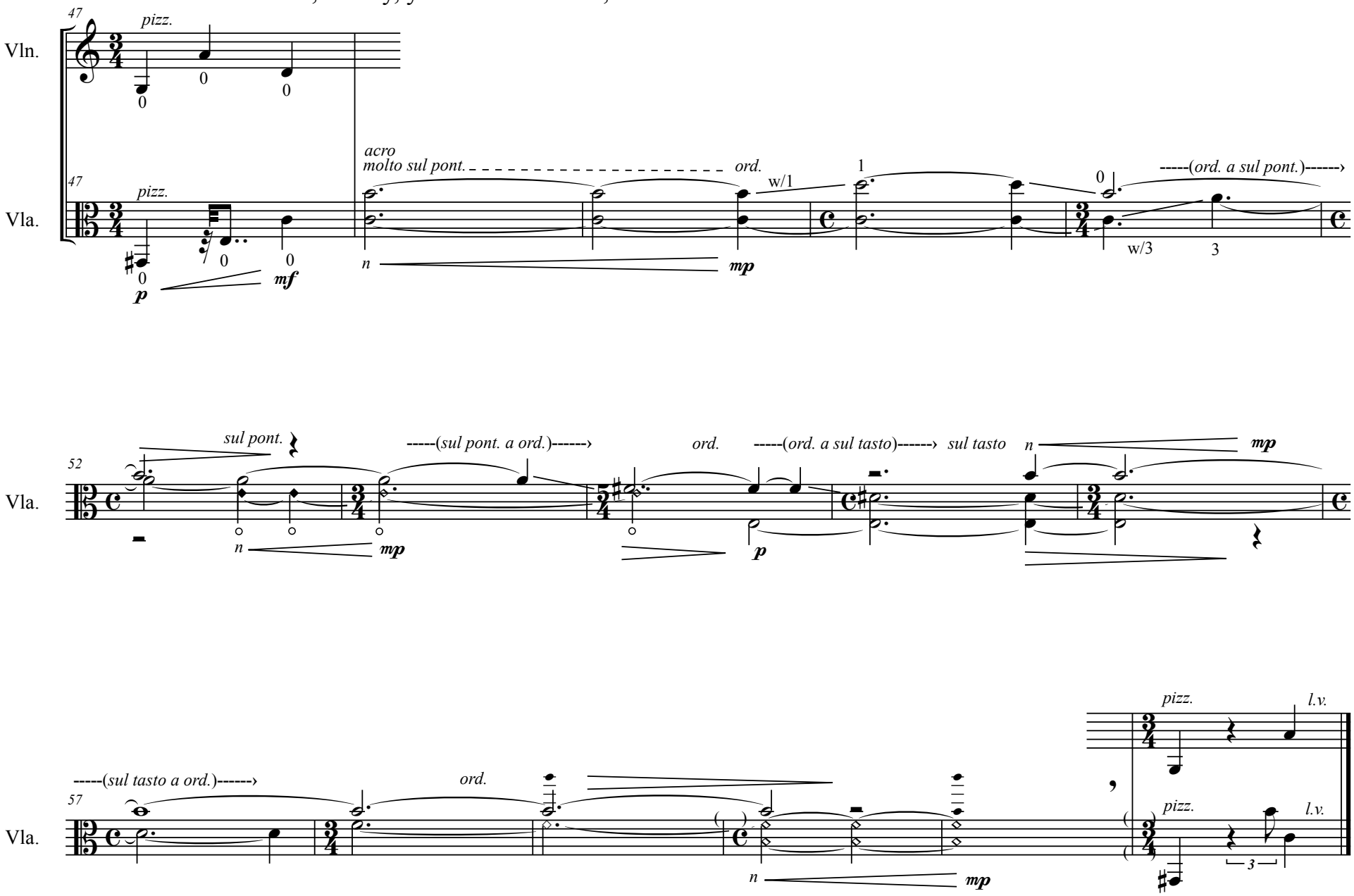

♩= 126
(off string)
(spic.)
14
Vln.
sub. mp
p
♩= 66
(off string)
17
Vln.
mf
sffz
(off string)
sul G
vib.
20
Vln.
sffz
sffz
sffz
sffz
Aud.
AUDIO PLAYBACK START
f
mf
23
Vln.
f
flaut.
sub. p
Aud.
f

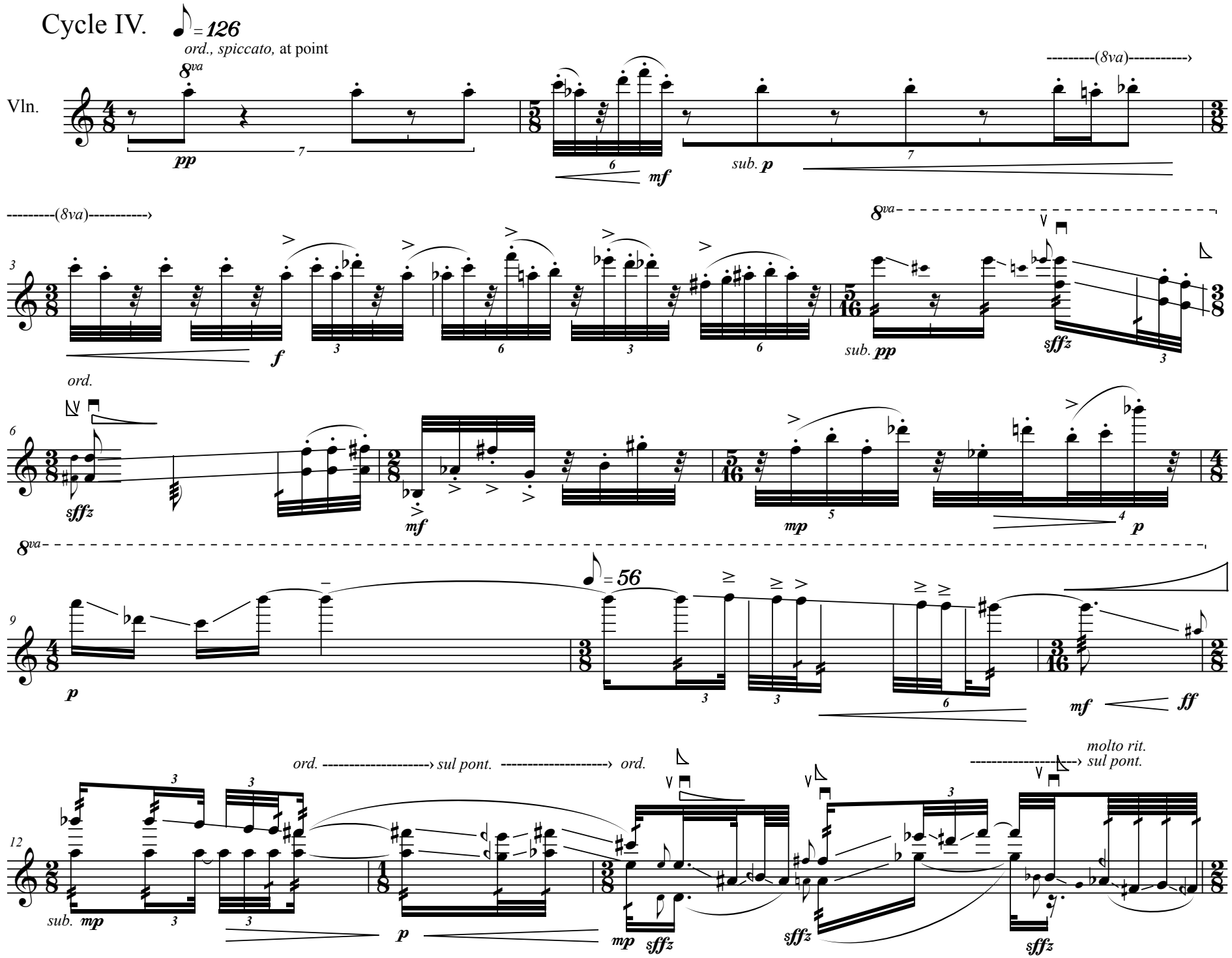

ord.
sul A
sul G
sul A
sul E
sul D
flaut.
= 44
(flaut. a sul pont.)
sul pont.
25
Vln.
Aud.
ff
mp
p
(sul pont. a flaut.)
flaut.
= 66
(flaut.)
27
pp
sfffz
mp
cresc.
mf
n
scatch tone/slow, heavy bow pressure throughout
= 56
flaut. a sul pont.
sul pont.
= 126
8va
29
f

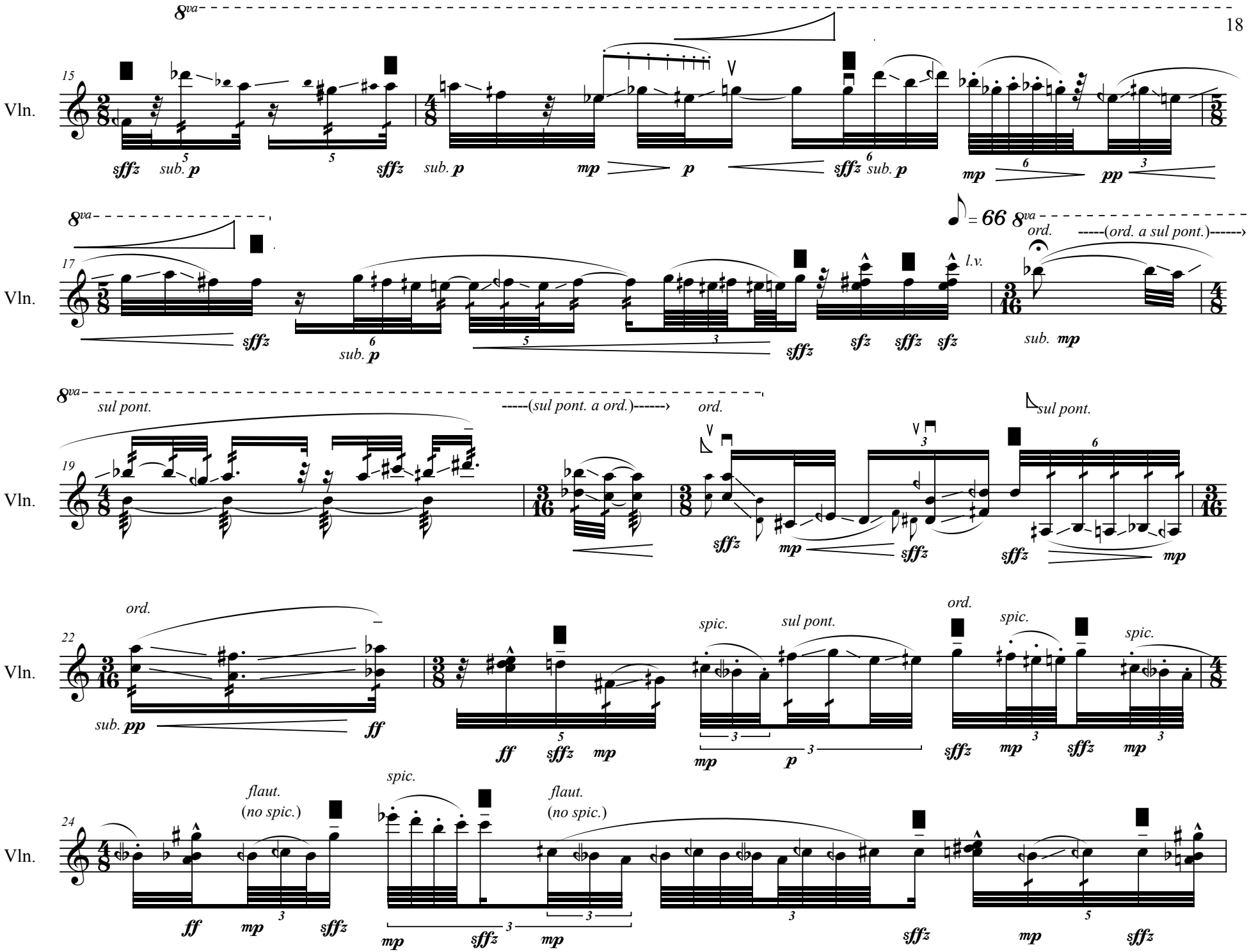

---------(8va)---------›
--------(sul pont.)------›
32
Vln.
Aud.
8va
--------(sul pont.)------›
36
Vln.
Aud.
♪ = 58
f
ff
pp
sfz
39
Vln.
Aud.
mp
mf
sfffz
sfz
f
mf
(scratch tone)
n
mp
f

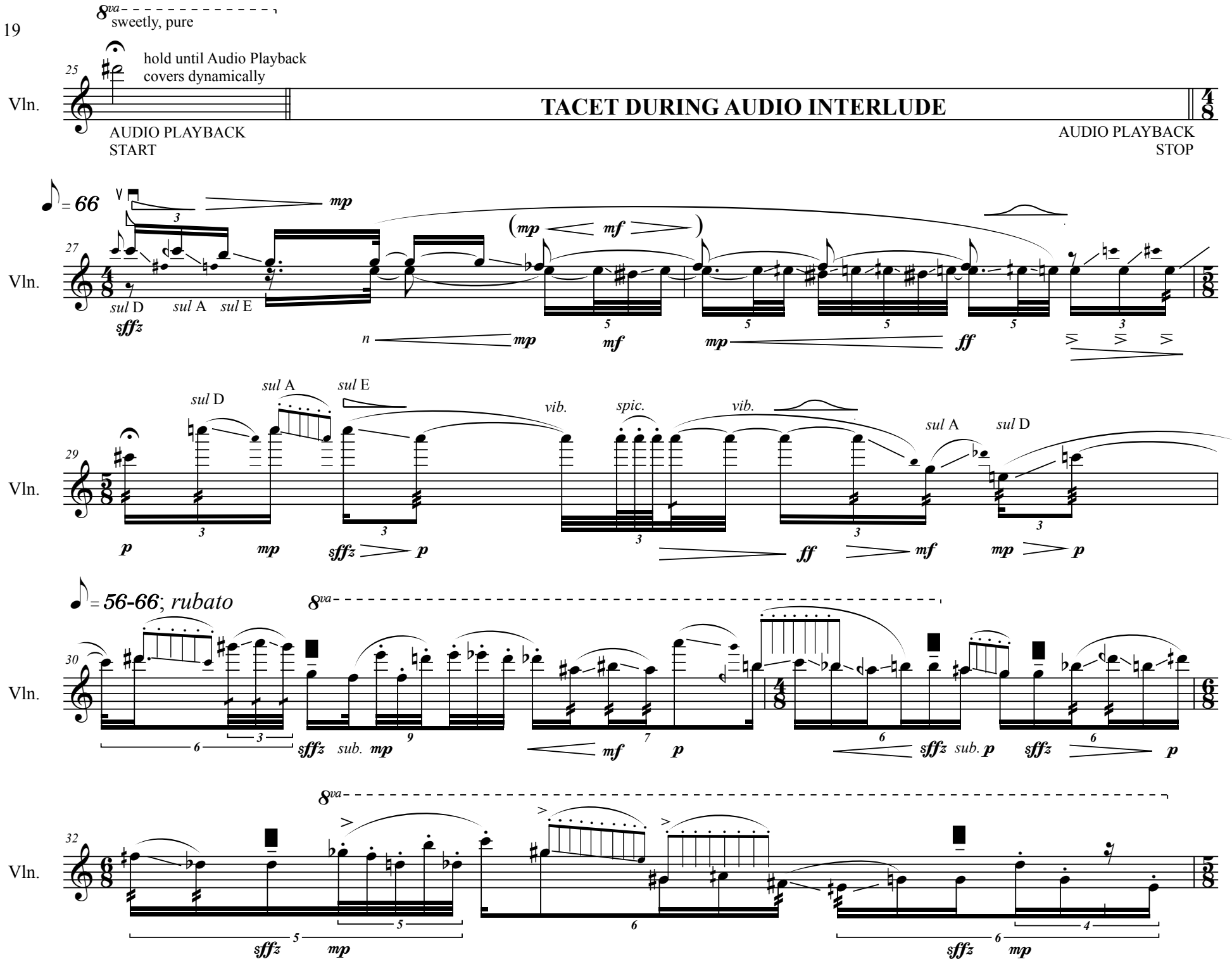

15
42
Vln.
sul D
sffz
mf
sffz
mf
sffz
mp
sffz
sub. p
Aud.
p
f
p
44
Vln.
8va
p
sffz
pp
mp
TACET
DURING
AUDIO
INTERLUDE
Aud.
AUDIO PAYBACK
STOP

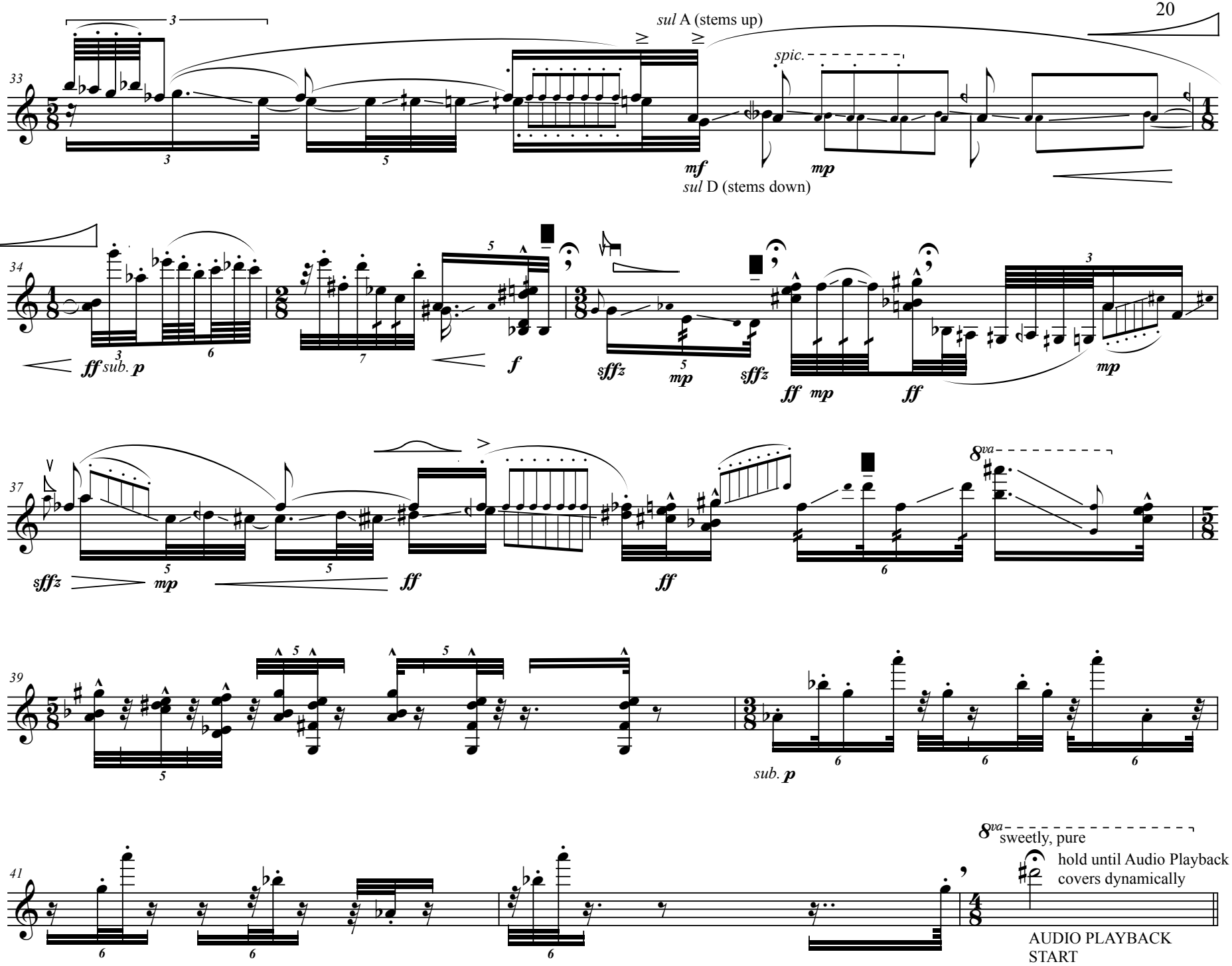
Refrain III. ♩= ***40***, Gently, yet more confident, deliberate

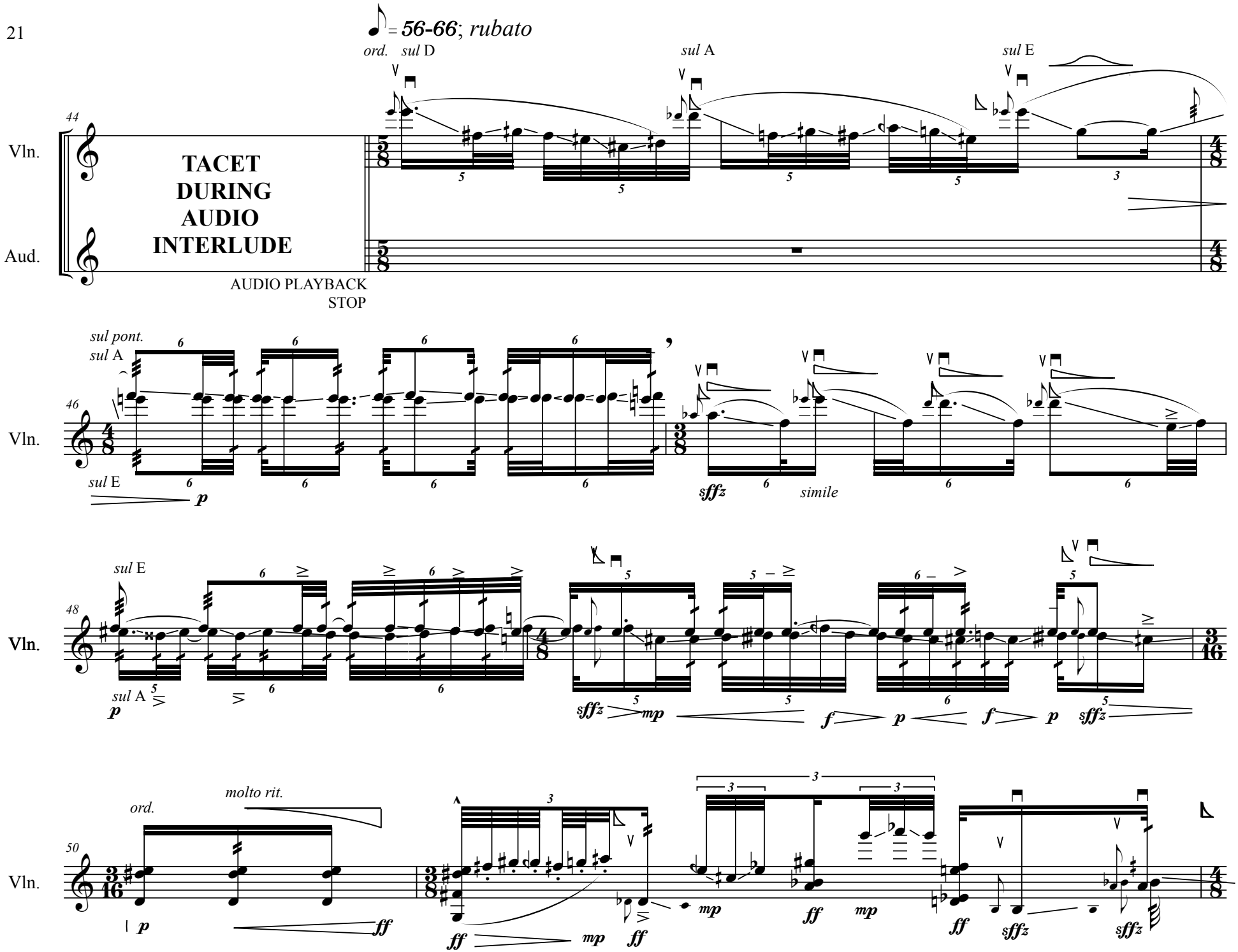


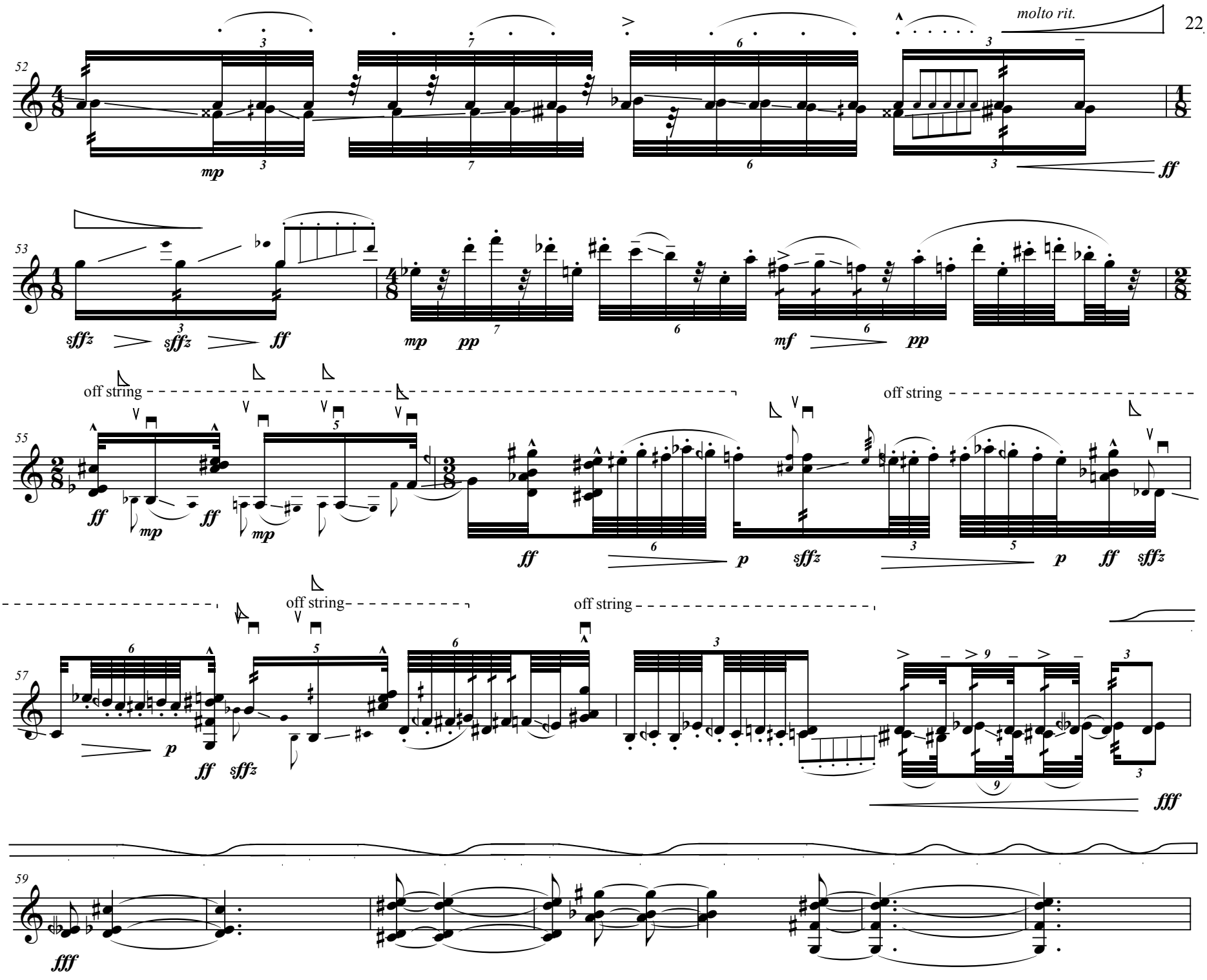

Cycle IV.
= 126
ord., spiccato, at point
8va
(8va)
Vln.
pp
mf
sub. p
f
sub. pp
sffz
ord.
mp
p
= 56
mf
ff
sul pont.
molto rit.
sub. mp


8va
15
Vln.
sffz sub. p
5
sffz sub. p
mp p
6
sffz sub. p
mp 6 pp 3
8va
17
Vln.
sffz
6
sub. p
5
3
sffz
sfz sffz sfz
l.v.
= 66 8va
ord.
-----(ord. a sul pont.)------›
sub. mp
8va
sul pont.
19
Vln.
-----(sul pont. a ord.)------›
ord.
sffz
mp sffz
sffz mp
sul pont.
6
ord.
22
Vln.
sub. pp
ff
5
ff sffz mp
spic.
sul pont.
3
mp 3 p
ord.
spic.
spic.
sffz mp 3 sffz mp 3
flaut.
(no spic.)
spic.
flaut.
(no spic.)
24
Vln.
ff mp 3 sffz
3
mp sffz 3 mp
3
3
sffz
5
mp sffz


8va
sweetly, pure
hold until Audio Playback
covers dynamically
Vln.
TACET DURING AUDIO INTERLUDE
AUDIO PLAYBACK
START
AUDIO PLAYBACK
STOP
= 66
sul D
sul A
sul E
sffz
mp
mf
ff
n
vib.
spic.
p
= 56-66; rubato
sub.


33
Vln.
sul A (stems up)
spic.
mf
mp
sul D (stems down)
34
Vln.
ff sub. p
f
sffz
mp
ff mp
ff
37
Vln.
sffz
mp
ff
ff
8va
39
Vln.
sub. p
41
Vln.
8va
sweetly, pure
hold until Audio Playback covers dynamically
AUDIO PLAYBACK START


♪ = 56-66; rubato
ord.
sul D
sul A
sul E
44
Vln.
Aud.
TACET
DURING
AUDIO
INTERLUDE
AUDIO PLAYBACK
STOP
sul pont.
sul A
46
Vln.
sul E
p
sffz
simile
sul E
48
Vln.
sul A
p
sffz
mp
f
p
f
p
sffz
molto rit.
ord.
50
Vln.
p
ff
ff
mp
ff
mp
ff
sffz
sffz


molto rit.
52
Vln.
mp
ff
53
Vln.
sffz
sffz
ff
mp
pp
mf
pp
off string
55
Vln.
ff
mp
ff
mp
ff
p
sffz
off string
p
ff
sffz
off string
off string
57
Vln.
p
ff
sffz
fff
59
Vln.
fff

♪ = 66; Like a torrential emotional release

sul pont, legato possible, rubato

66

Vln.

12

12

AUDIO PLAYBACK START

--------(*sul pont.*)------›

67

Vln.

12

12

12

--------(*sul pont.*)------›

-------- *a col legno* ------›

--------(*sul pont.*)------›

col legno ---------------------›

68

Vln.

12

12

12

--------(*sul pont.*)------›

--------(*col legno*)------›

69

Vln.

molto sul pont

ad libitum until Audio Playback covers dyamically

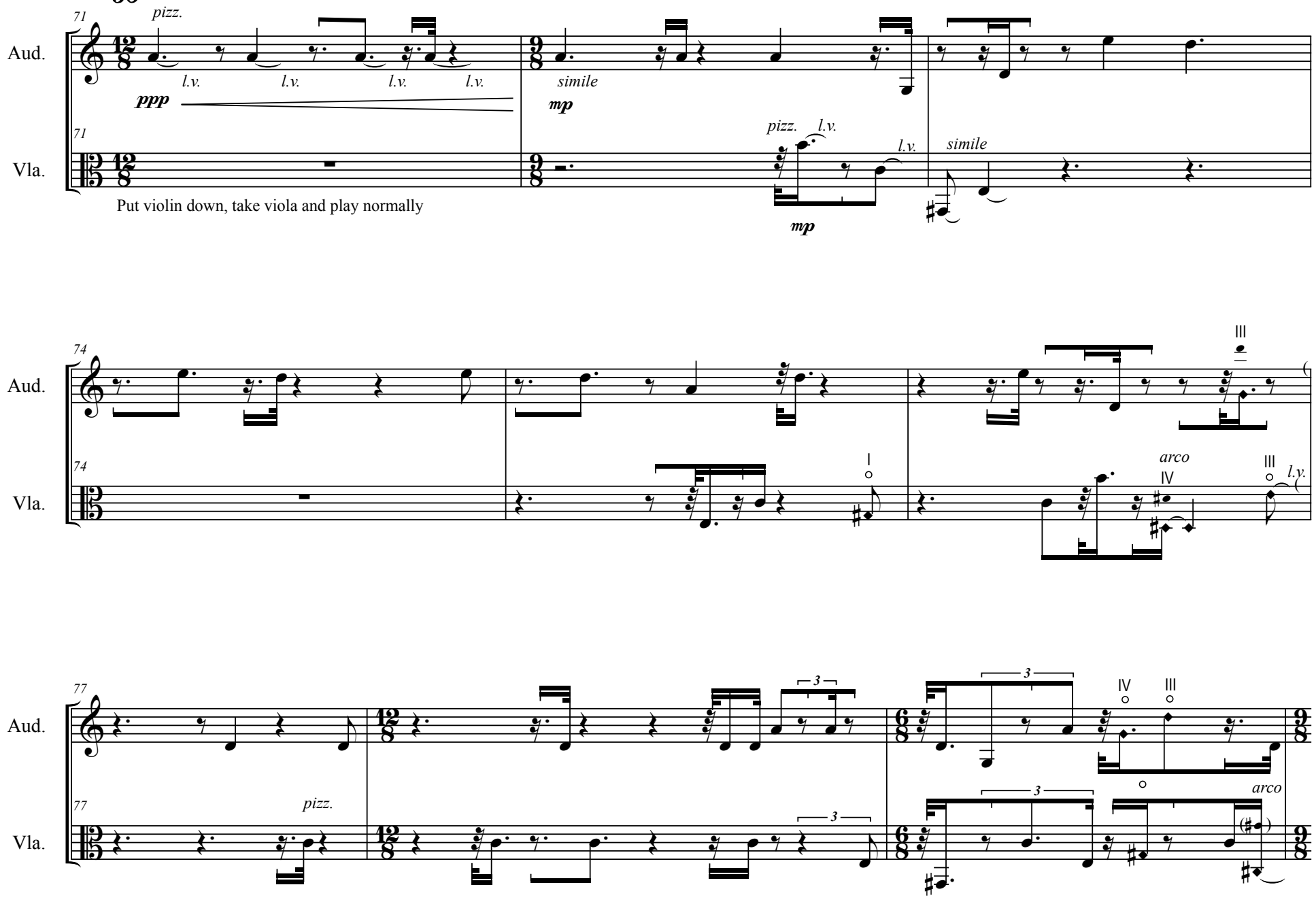
ad libitum betwen G1/8♯ and A♭

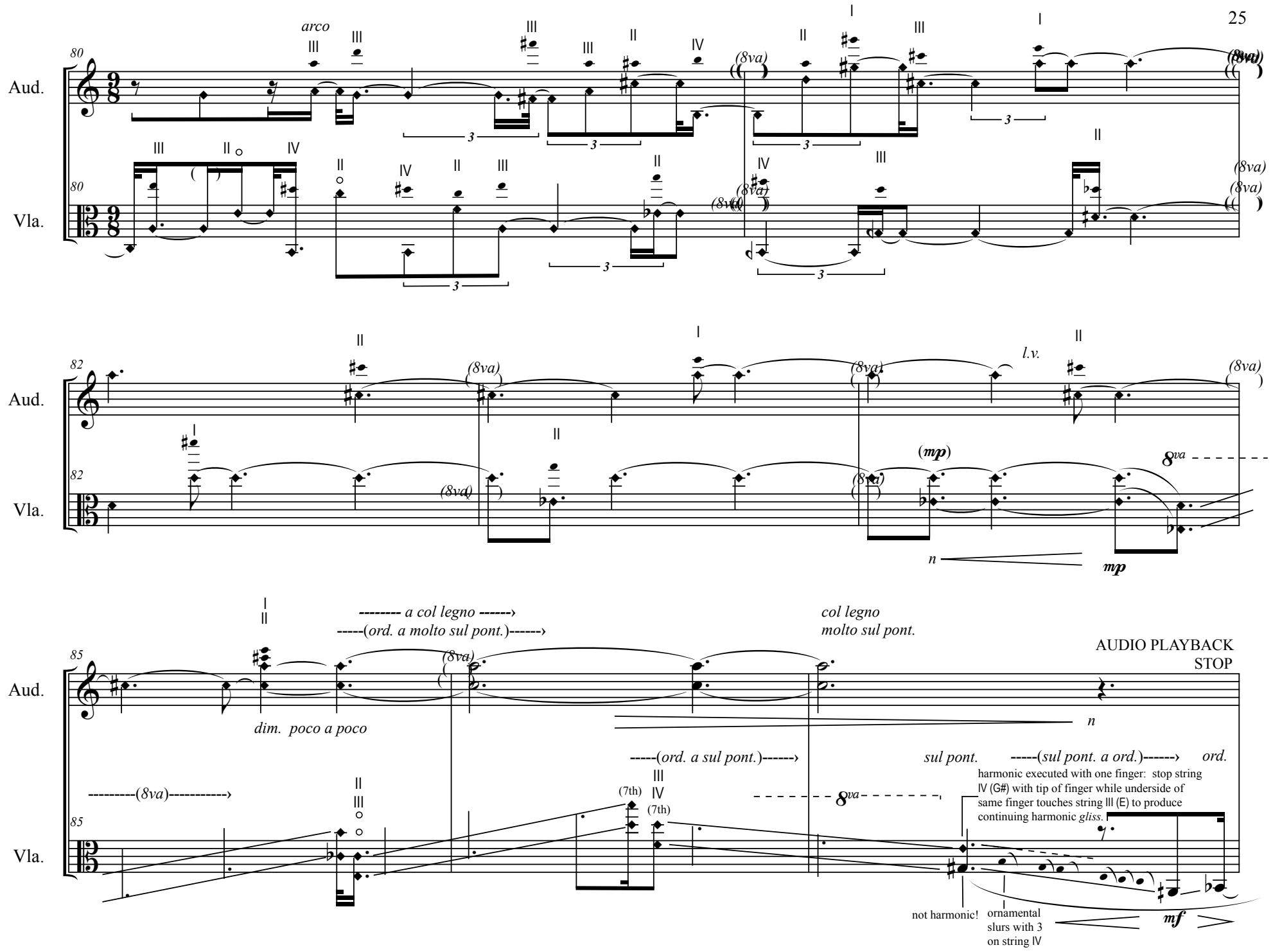
70

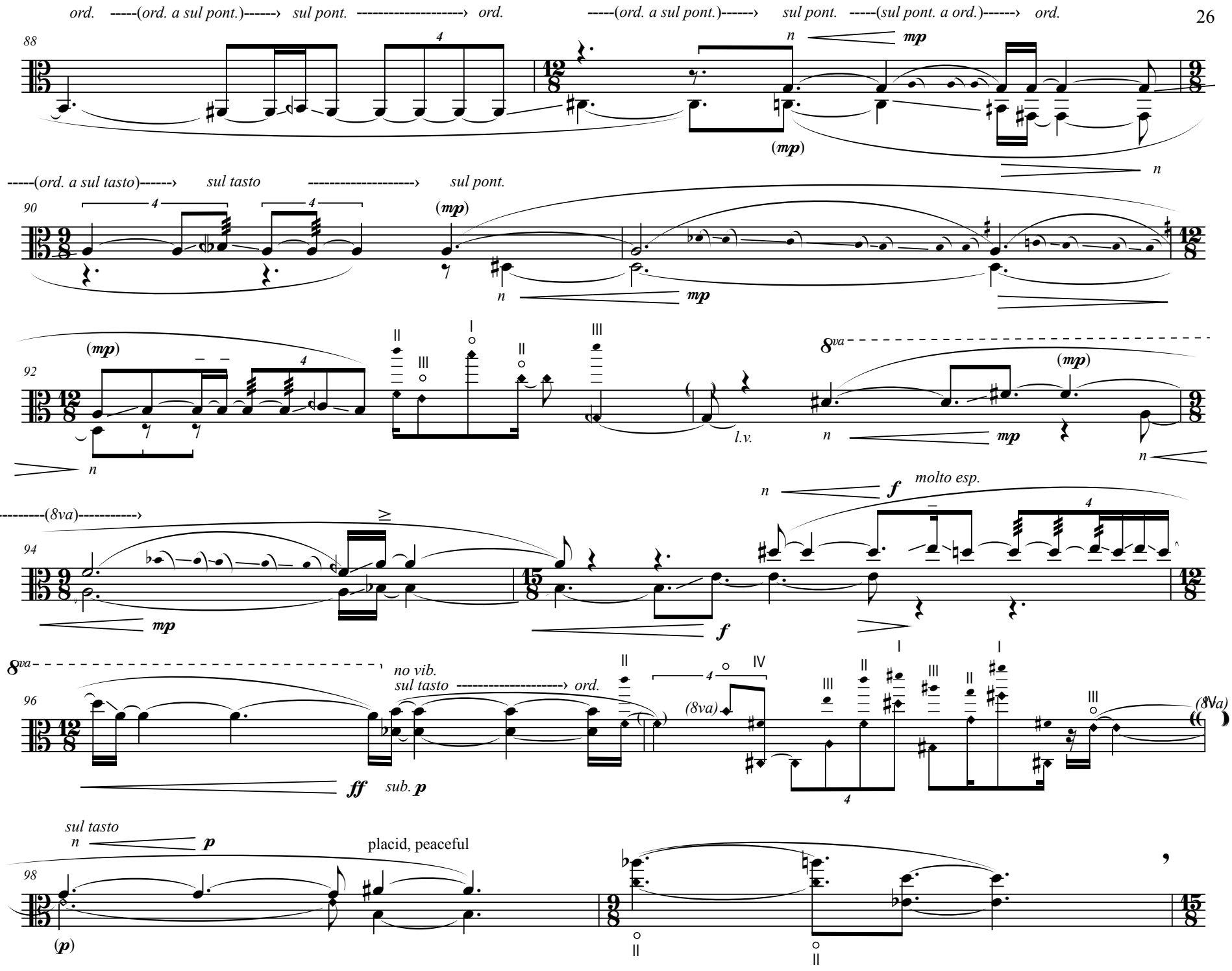
Aud.

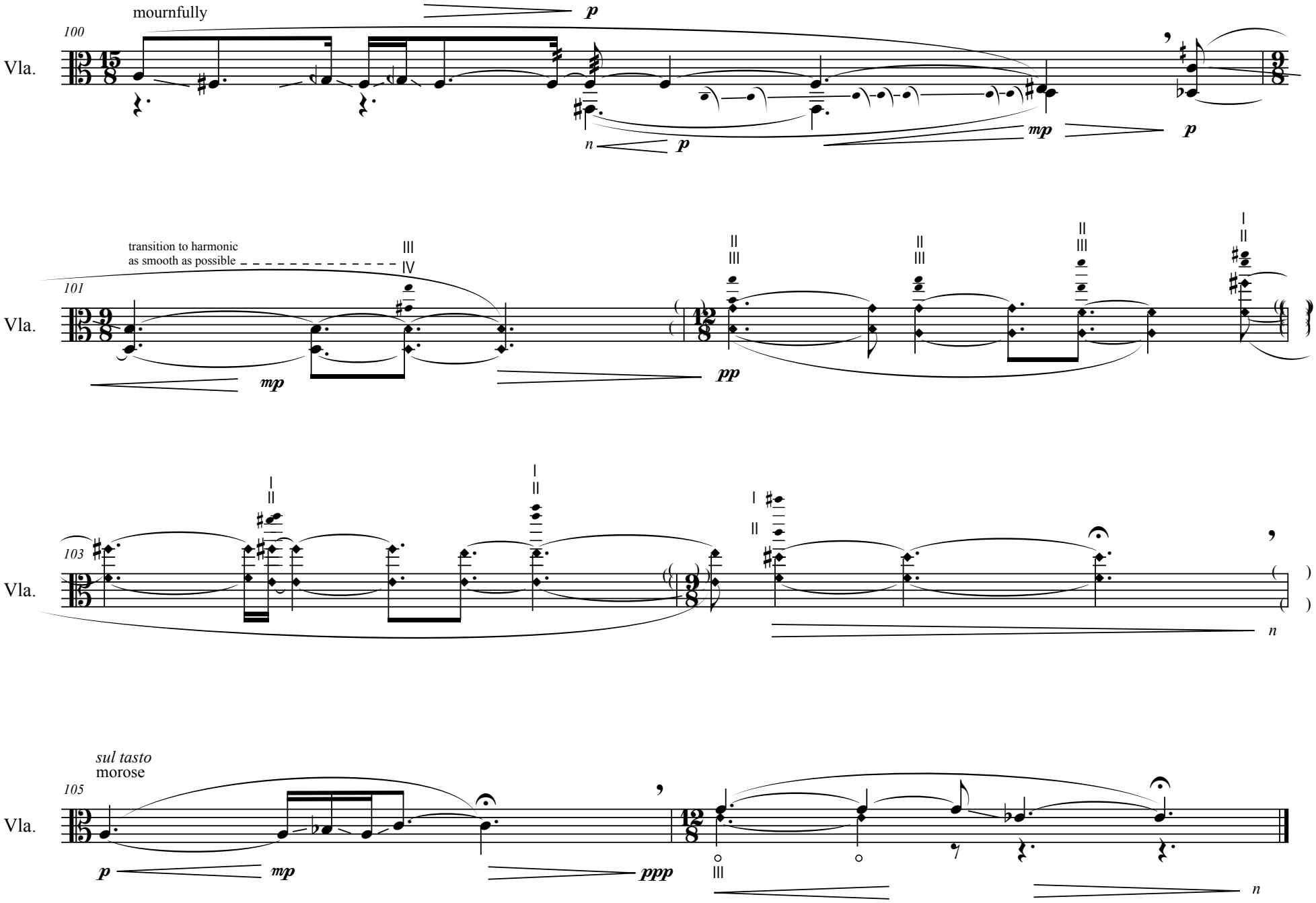
TACET DURING AUDIO INTERLUDE

Refrain IV. ♩= 36 ; A dream like dance, gently




arco
80
Aud.
80
Vla.
(8va)
82
Aud.
82
Vla.
l.v.
(mp)
8va
n
mp
85
Aud.
85
Vla.
-------- a col legno ------›
-----(ord. a molto sul pont.)------›
dim. poco a poco
col legno
molto sul pont.
AUDIO PLAYBACK
STOP
n
---------(8va)----------›
-----(ord. a sul pont.)------›
sul pont.
-----(sul pont. a ord.)------›
ord.
(7th)
harmonic executed with one finger: stop string
IV (G#) with tip of finger while underside of
same finger touches string III (E) to produce
continuing harmonic gliss.
not harmonic!
ornamental
slurs with 3
on string IV
mf


ord. -----(ord. a sul pont.)------› sul pont. ----------› ord.
-----(ord. a sul pont.)------› sul pont. -----(sul pont. a ord.)------› ord.
88
Vla.
mp
(mp)
-----(ord. a sul tasto)------› sul tasto ----------› sul pont.
90
Vla.
(mp)
mp
92
Vla.
(mp)
l.v.
8va
mp
---------(8va)----------›
94
Vla.
mp
f
molto esp.
8va
96
Vla.
no vib.
sul tasto ----------› ord.
(8va)
ff
sub. p
sul tasto
98
Vla.
p
placid, peaceful
(p)


mournfully
100
Vla.
p
n
p
mp
p
transition to harmonic
as smooth as possible
III
IV
101
Vla.
mp
II
III
pp
103
Vla.
n
sul tasto
morose
105
Vla.
p
mp
ppp
n