WindoW

for

Alto Saxophone and Interactive Electronics

by

Keith A. Hamel

Duration: Approx. 12’

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Commissioned by Julia Nolan

Premiere Performance at U.B.C. Recital Hall, Vancouver, Canada
on September 19, 1990
by Julia Nolan - Alto Saxophone

Technical Requirements

Hardware:

1 Macintosh computer with MIDI Interface
1 IVL Pitchrider (or comparable device)
1 Proteus /1 synthesizer
2 MIDI cables
1 amplification system - mixer, amp, speakers

Software:

Max Patcher Version Alpha-40
Opcode Proteus Editor/Librarian

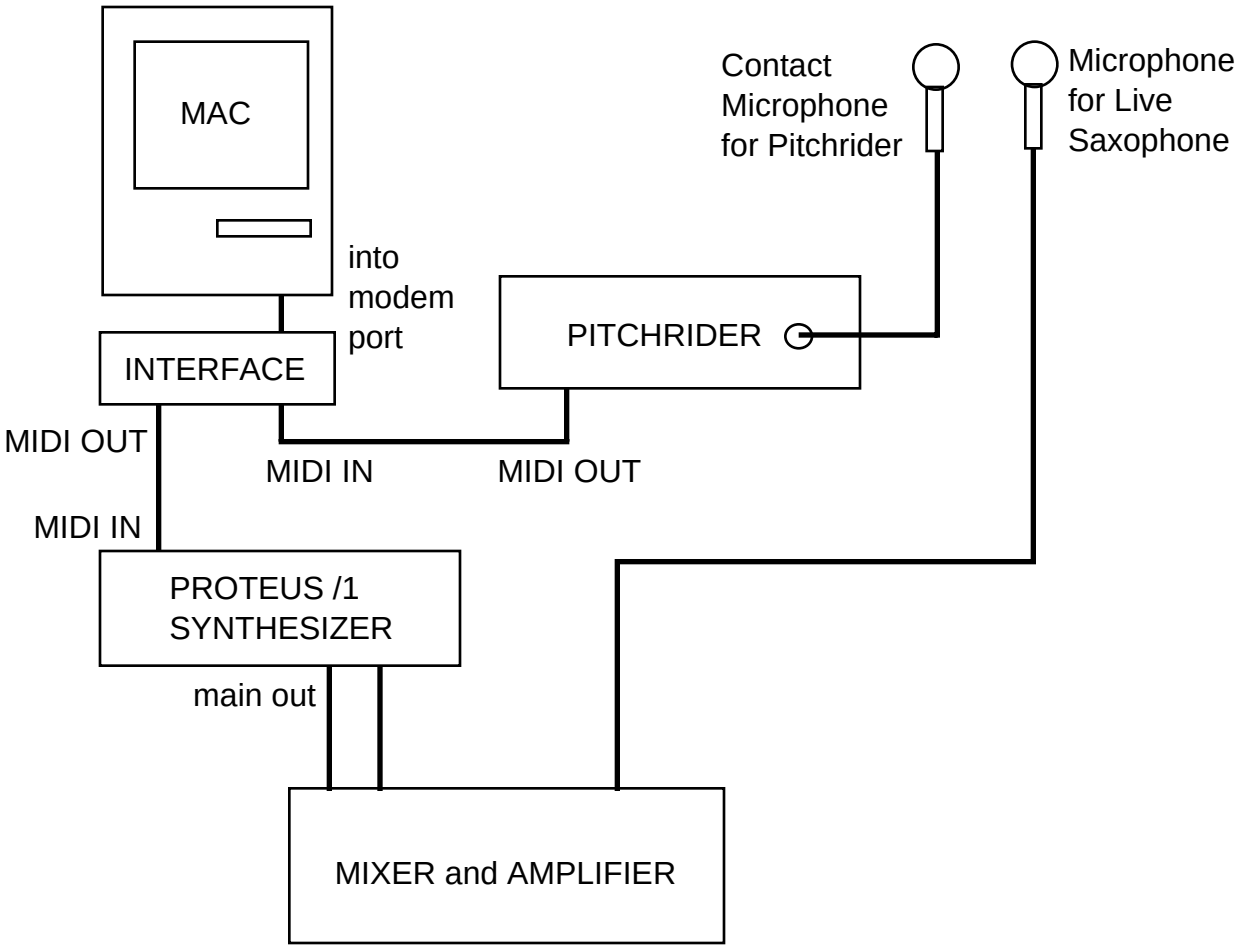
A disk with the Max Patcher program and files and the Proteus Editor/Librarian file is available from the composer. For copyright reasons, this disk remains the property of the composer, and must be returned after performance. The performer must obtain a copy of the Opcode Editor/Librarian in order to download voices to the Proteus synthesizer.

Downloading Voices:

The Proteus voices (on disk in a file called WindoW-Voices) must first be downloaded to the Proteus synthesizer. This is done by connecting the MIDI OUT from the Macintosh computer to the MIDI IN of the Proteus, and connecting the MIDI IN from the Macintosh to the MIDI OUT of the Proteus. Launch the Opcode Editor/Librarian, open the WindoW-Voices file, and send the data to the Proteus by selecting the "Send All Banks" menu item under the "Bundle" menu. All voices used in WindoW are located in patches 100 through 124.

Performance Setup:

A reed microphone, contact microphone or lapel microphone (in the bell) can be used to as a pickup on the alto saxophone. The microphone is plugged into the IVL Pitchrider and the input levels adjusted appropriately. The MIDI OUT of the Pitchrider is connected to the MIDI IN of the Macintosh MIDI interface. The MIDI OUT of the Macintosh MIDI interface is connected to the MIDI IN of the Proteus. Audio lines connect the Main stereo outputs of the Proteus with the Amplification System. If desired, the saxophone can also be amplified.


MAC
into
modem
port
INTERFACE
PITCHRIDER
Contact
Microphone
for Pitchrider
Microphone
for Live
Saxophone
MIDI OUT
MIDI IN
MIDI OUT
MIDI IN
PROTEUS /1
SYNTHESIZER
main out
MIXER and AMPLIFIER

Software Setup:

Once the equipment has been set up, the "Window-Main" file on the Macintosh disk should be launched. A panel appears on the Macintosh screen - this is the main panel of the Max Patcher program that controls the electroacoustic sounds. The large START button in the centre is starts the program running. The numbers in boxes along the top refer to the various sections of the piece as indicated in the score - they can be clicked to start the software at the beginning of that section during rehearsal. The MONITOR button flashes when a cue to move onto the next section has been received by the program. As well, the received pitch and velocity are displayed, as is the current section of the piece. The performer should tune to the Pitchrider, and check that the correct pitches are being received by the program. Written middle C - sounding Eb is pitch number 51. Also, the performer should ensure that the range of velocities (i.e. volume) received from the Pitchrider is sufficiently wide - soft notes should be under 30, loud ones over 100. If not, the dynamic scaling on the Pitchrider can be adjusted.

Performing the Piece:

To begin the piece, the performer needs only to click on the START button and begin playing the score. She/he should check the computer screen to see that cues between sections have been "caught". If not, the transition pitch or pitches should be re-articulated. The performer should not need to touch the computer while the piece is performed. All level controls and voices are automatically controlled by the program.

For more information or clarification, the composer can be contacted at:

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Vancouver, B.C.
(604) 321-1107
(604) 822-6308

Or through the B.C. regional office of the Canadian Music Centre (604) 734-4622

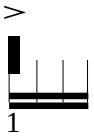
Performance Notes

Electronics

Sections of the composition (as displayed on the computer monitor)

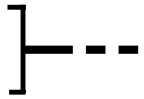
MIDI Channel ON (2) with patch number (8)

MIDI Channel OFF (2)

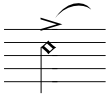


Repeated chords (chord No. 1)

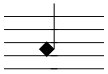
Sustained chord (chord No. 6)



accompaniment continues for the remainder of the line

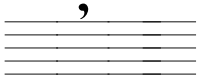


sustained pitch

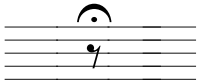


unsustained pitch

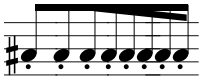
Saxophone



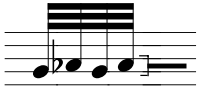
a breath or short pause



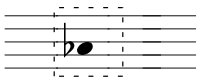
a pause (for at least the duration of the rest)



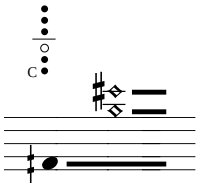
accidentals are in effect for the duration of a beamed group



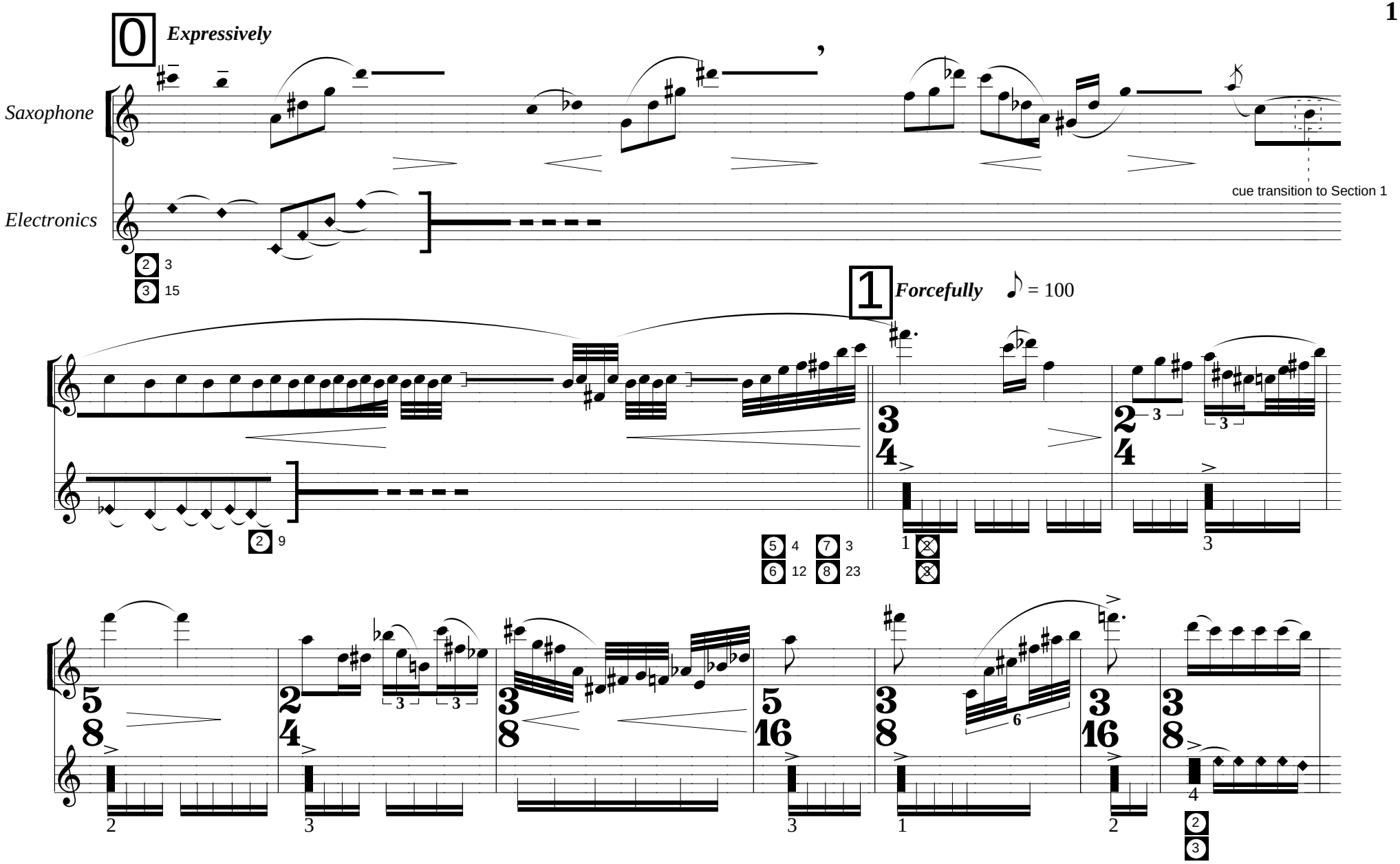
repeat the pattern of notes

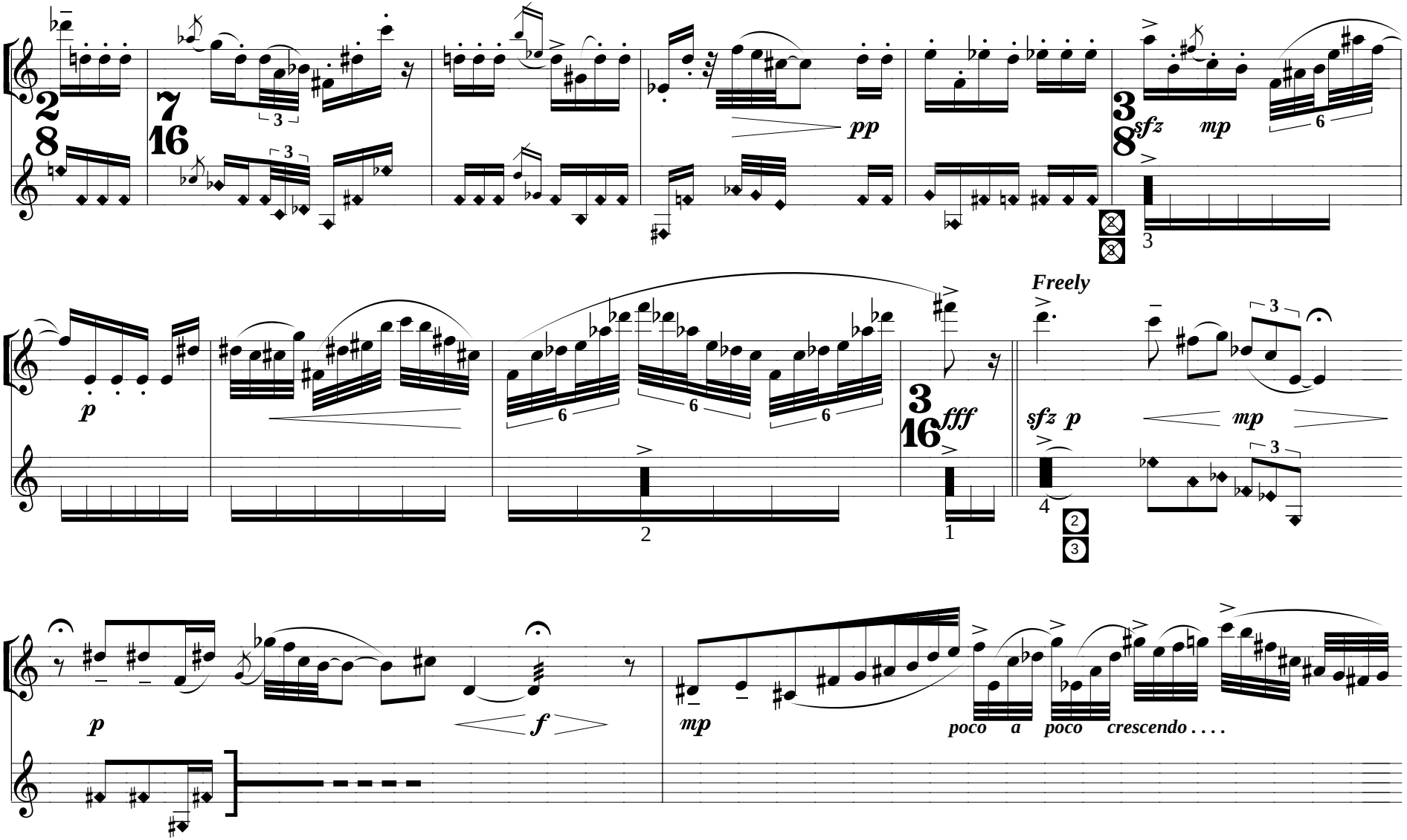


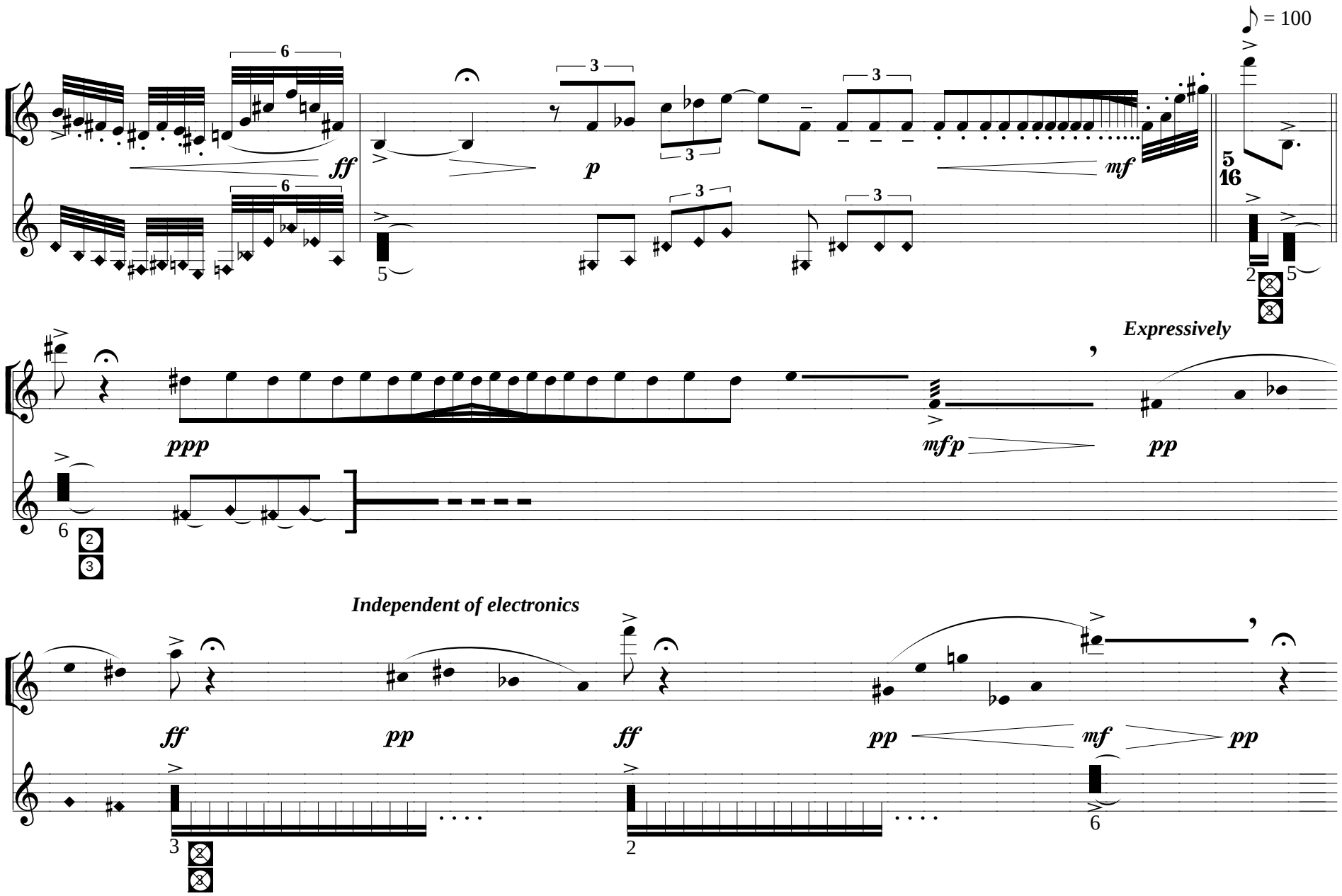
notes which cue transitions to new sections. The computer monitor should flash when the note or sequence of notes is played.

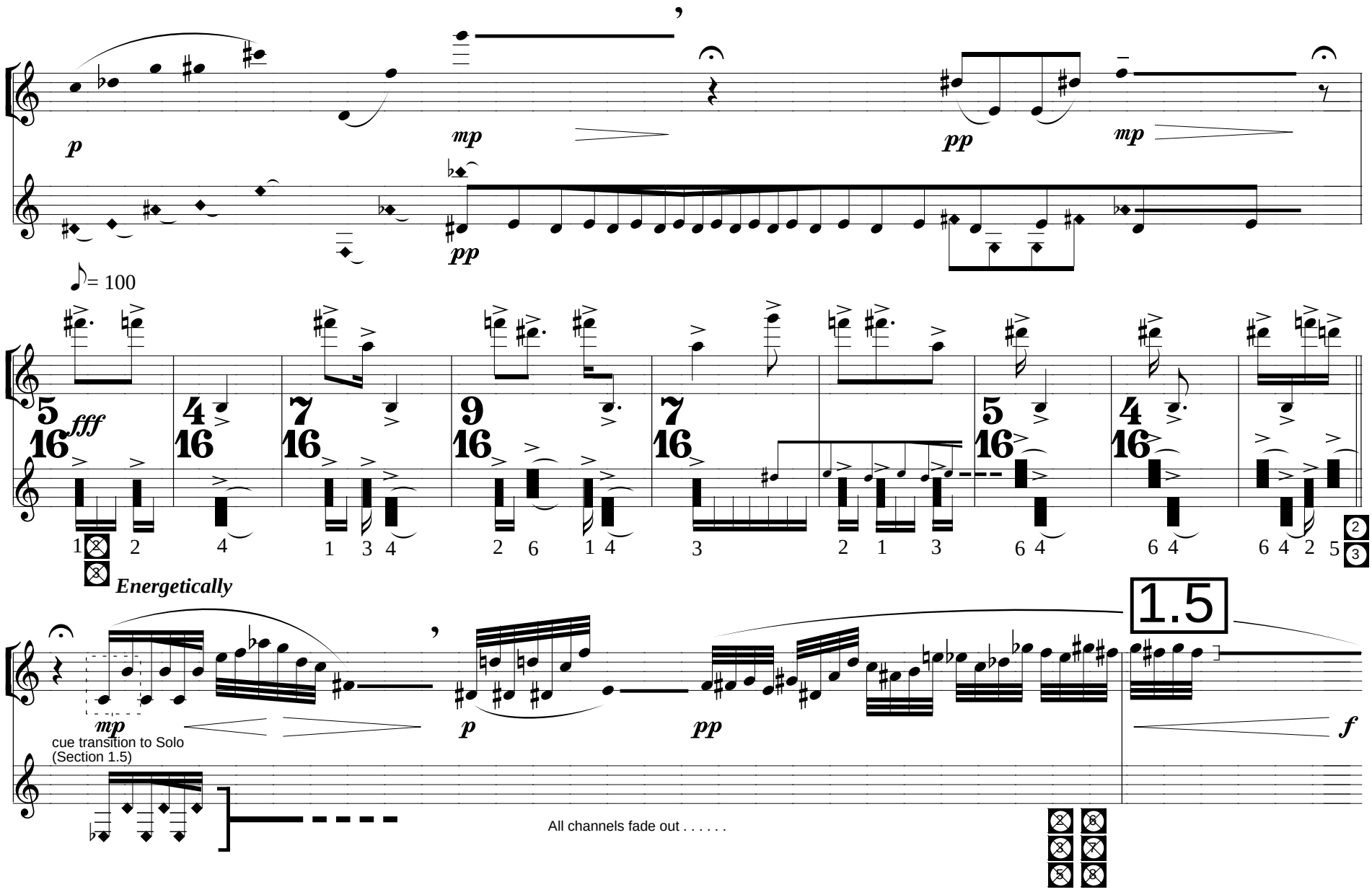


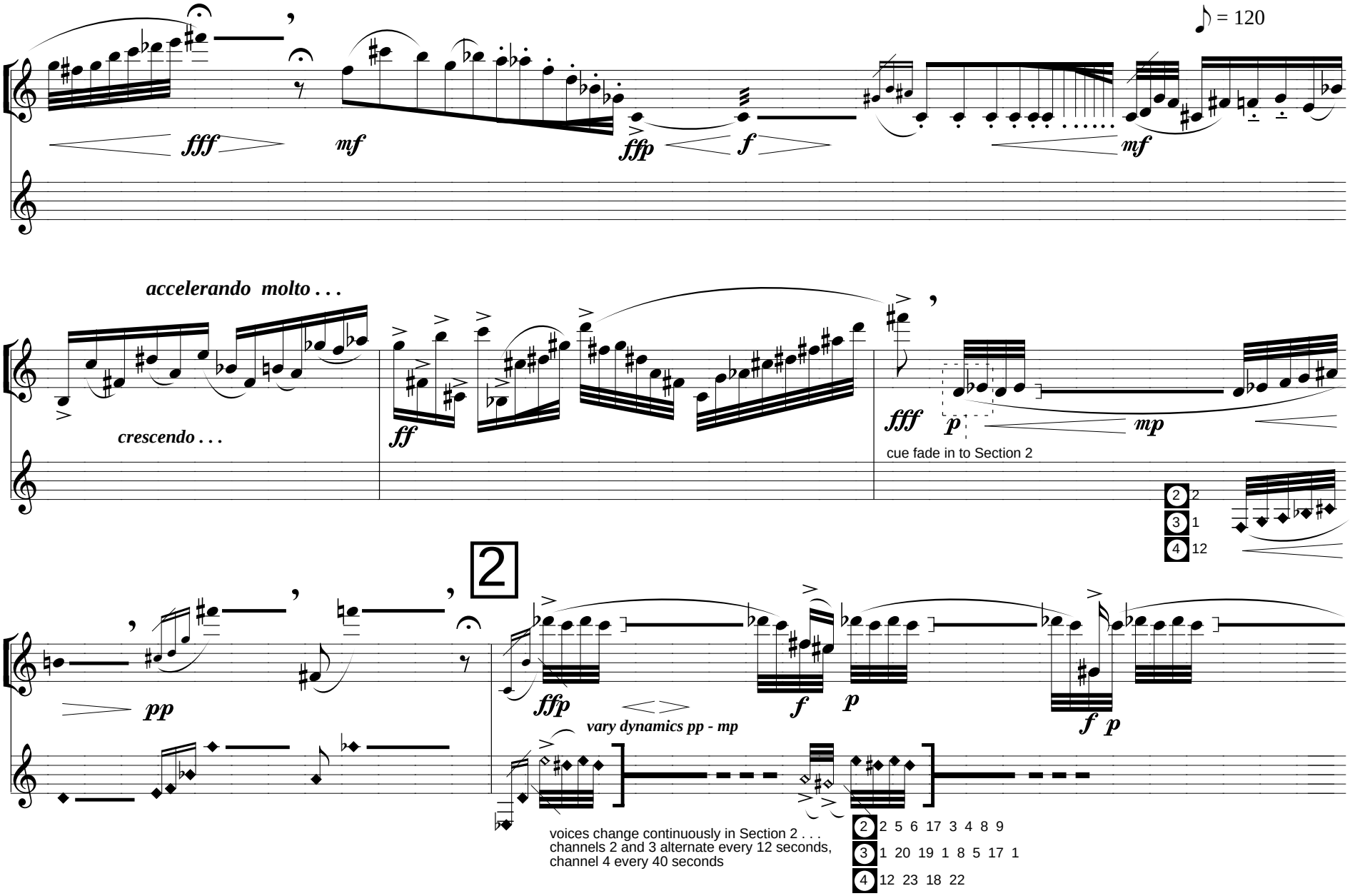
mulitphonics (with fingering)

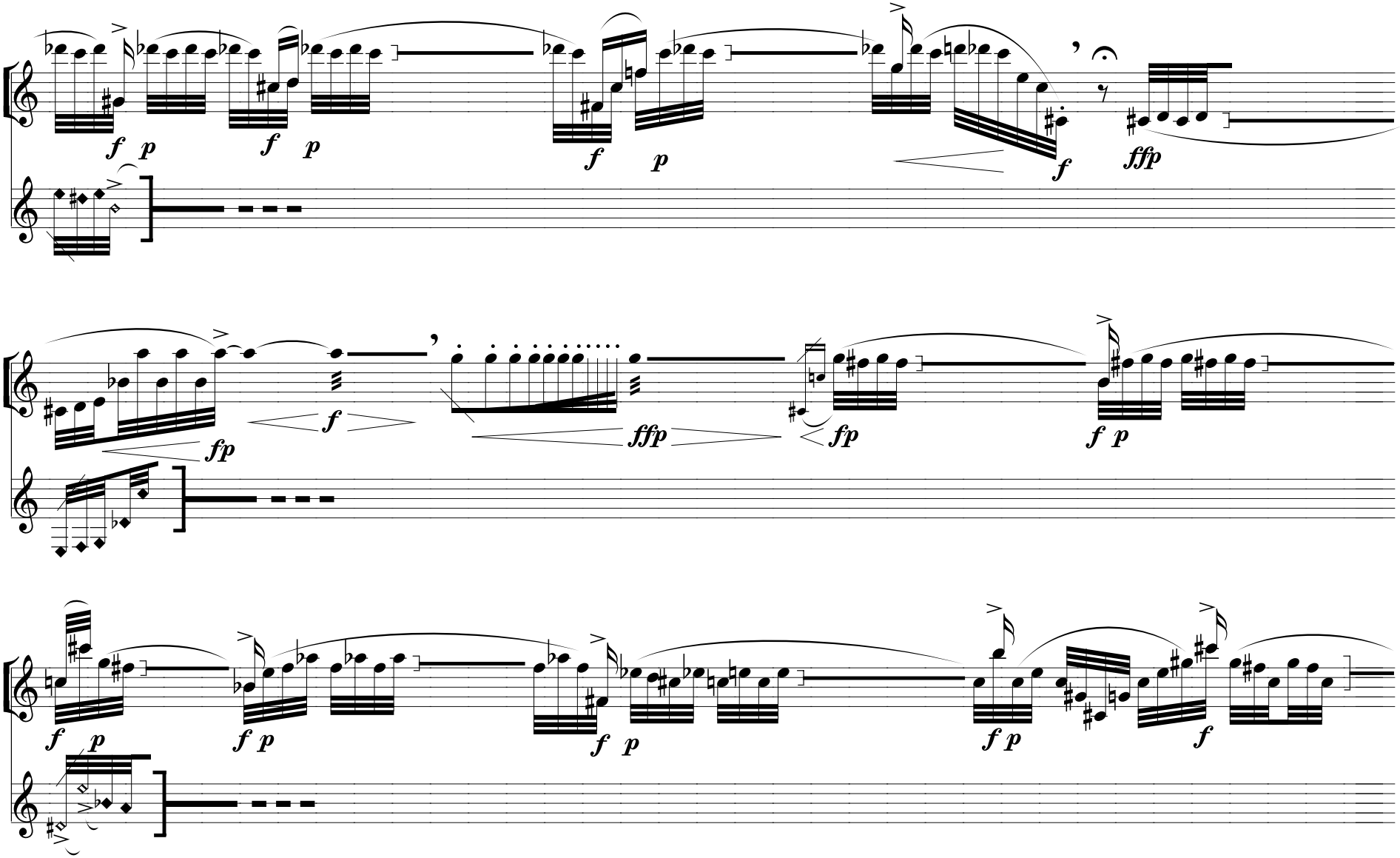

0
Expressively
Saxophone
Electronics
cue transition to Section 1
1
Forcefully
♪ = 100

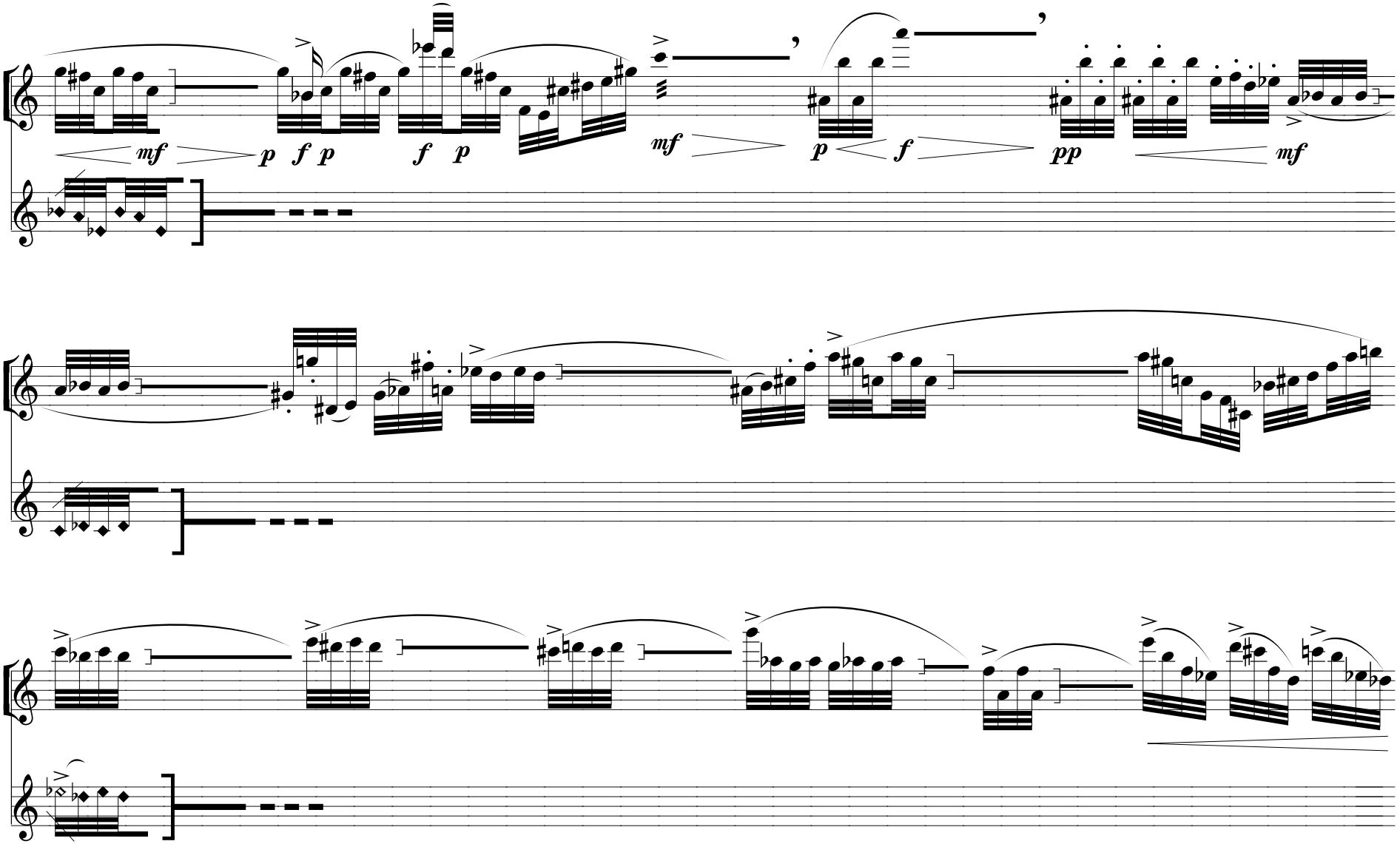

pp
sfz
mp
Freely
p
fff
sfz p
mp
p
f
mp
poco a poco crescendo . . . .

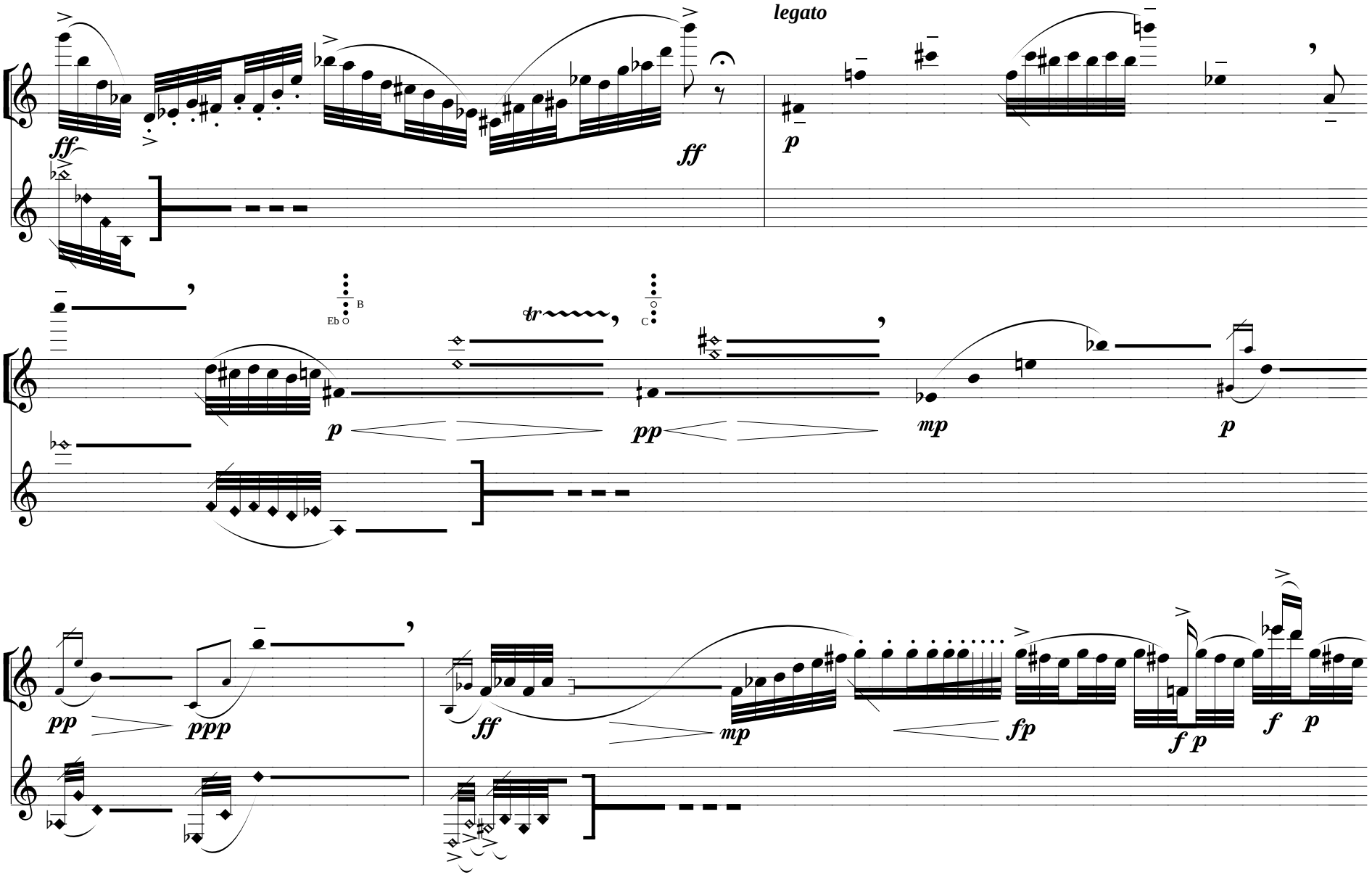

♪ = 100
ff
p
mf
5
16
Expressively
ppp
mfp
pp
Independent of electronics
ff
pp
ff
pp
mf
pp

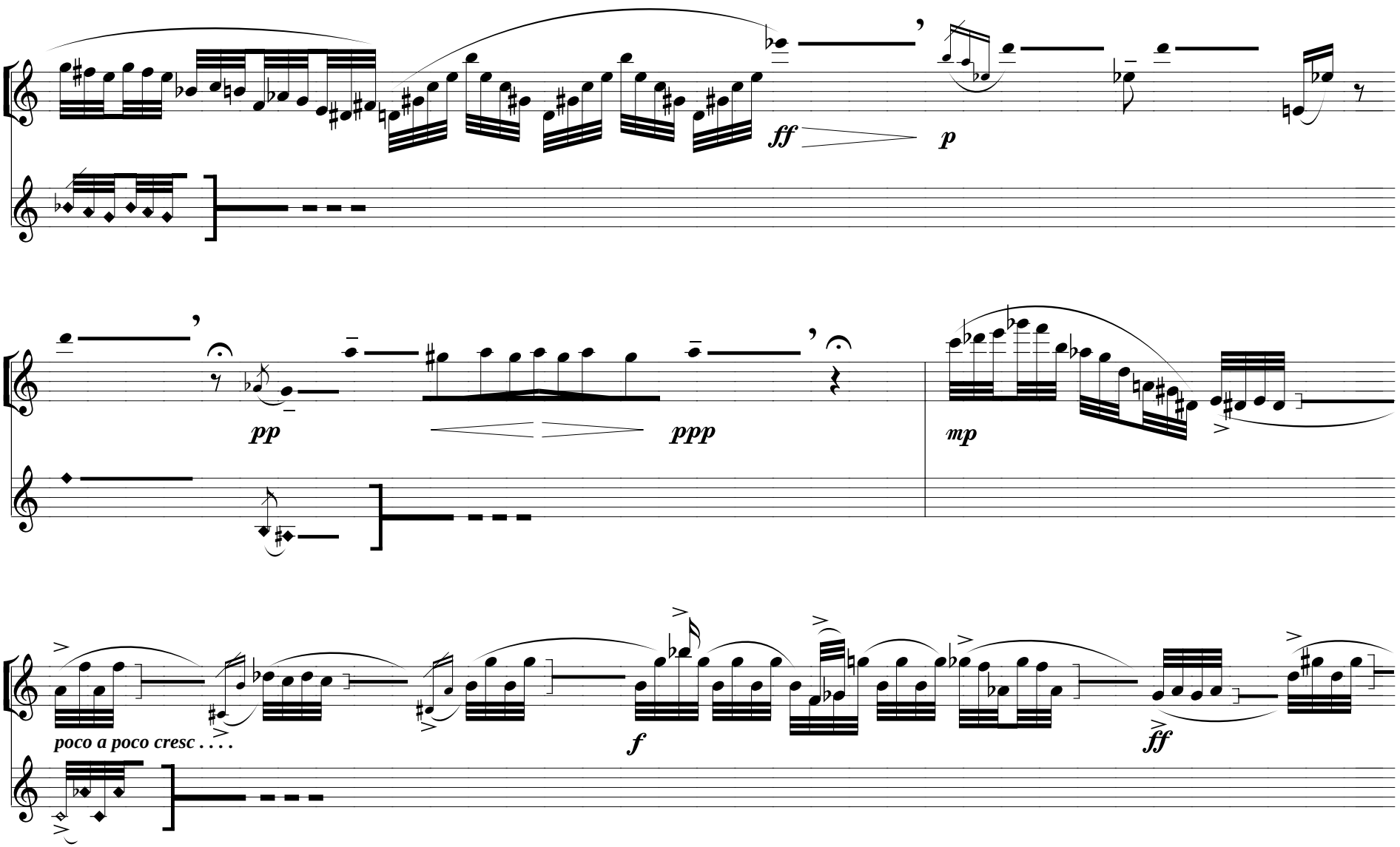

p
mp
pp
mp
pp
♪= 100
5/16 fff
4/16
7/16
9/16
7/16
5/16
4/16
Energetically
1.5
mp
p
pp
f
cue transition to Solo
(Section 1.5)
All channels fade out . . . . . .

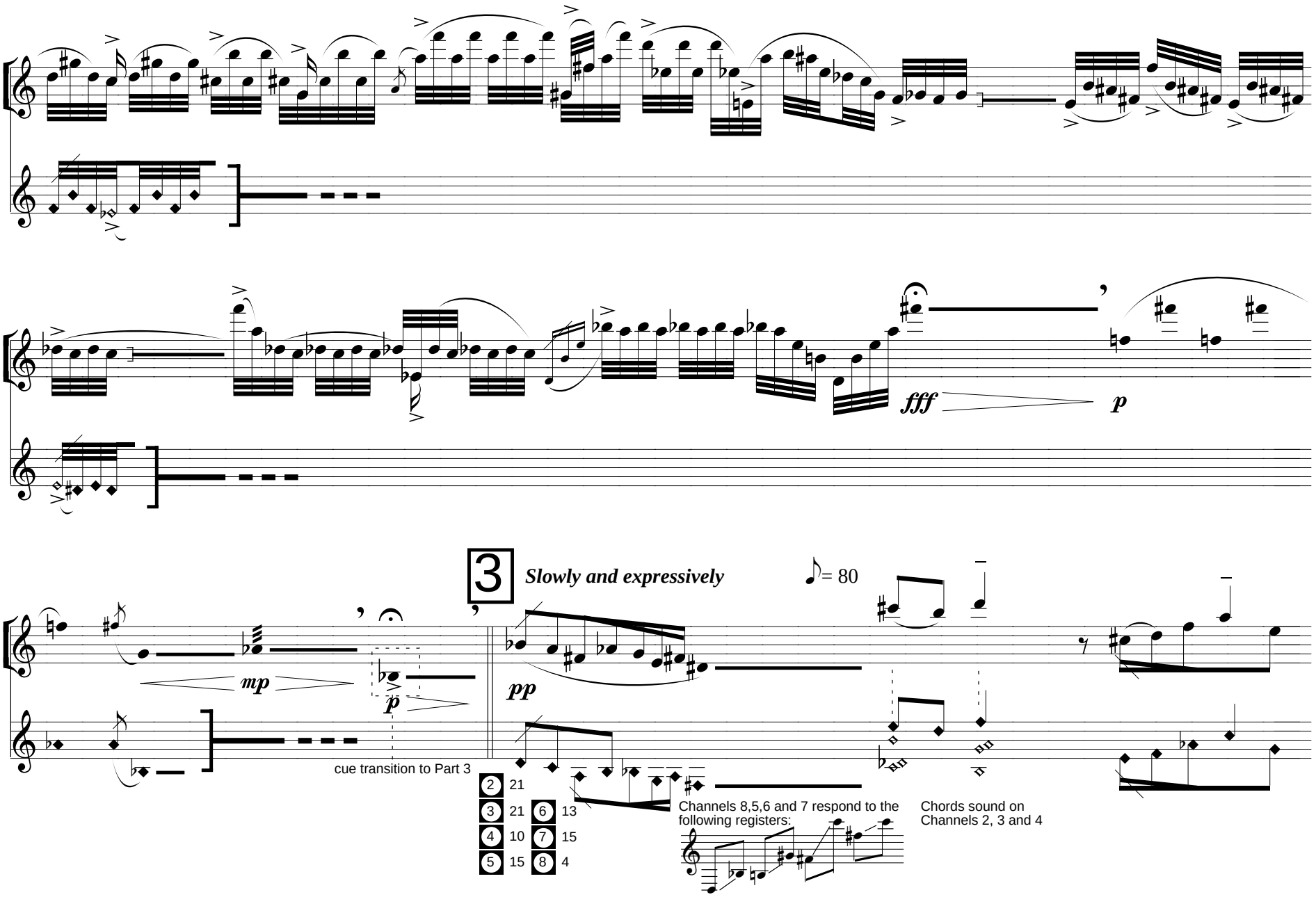

♪ = 120
fff
mf
ffp
f
mf
accelerando molto . . .
crescendo . . .
ff
fff
p
mp
cue fade in to Section 2
2 2
3 1
4 12
2
pp
ffp
vary dynamics pp - mp
f
p
f p
voices change continuously in Section 2 . . .
channels 2 and 3 alternate every 12 seconds,
channel 4 every 40 seconds
2 2 5 6 17 3 4 8 9
3 1 20 19 1 8 5 17 1
4 12 23 18 22

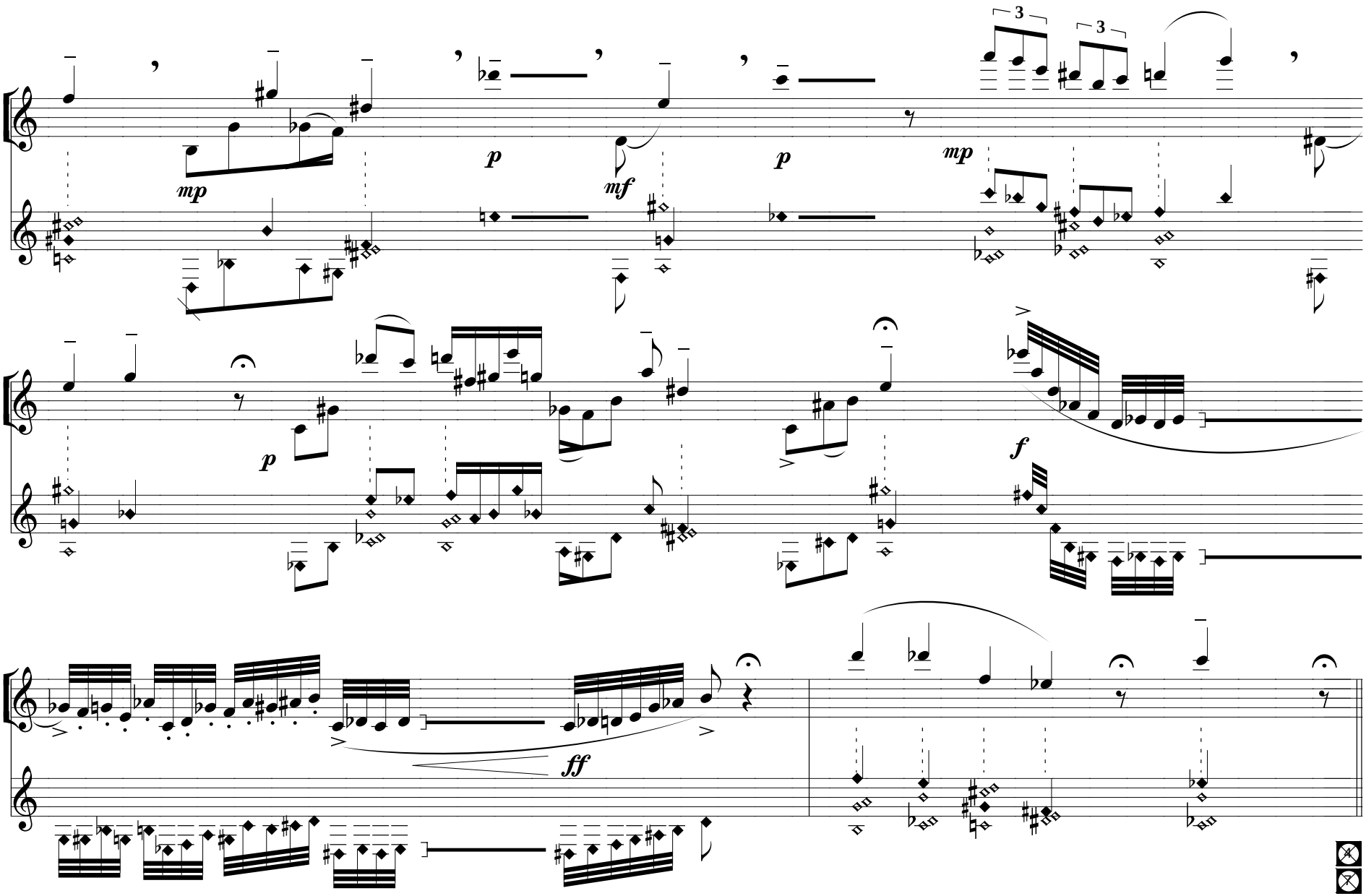

f p
f p
f p
f
ffp
fp
f
ffp
fp
f p
f p
f p
f p
f p
f

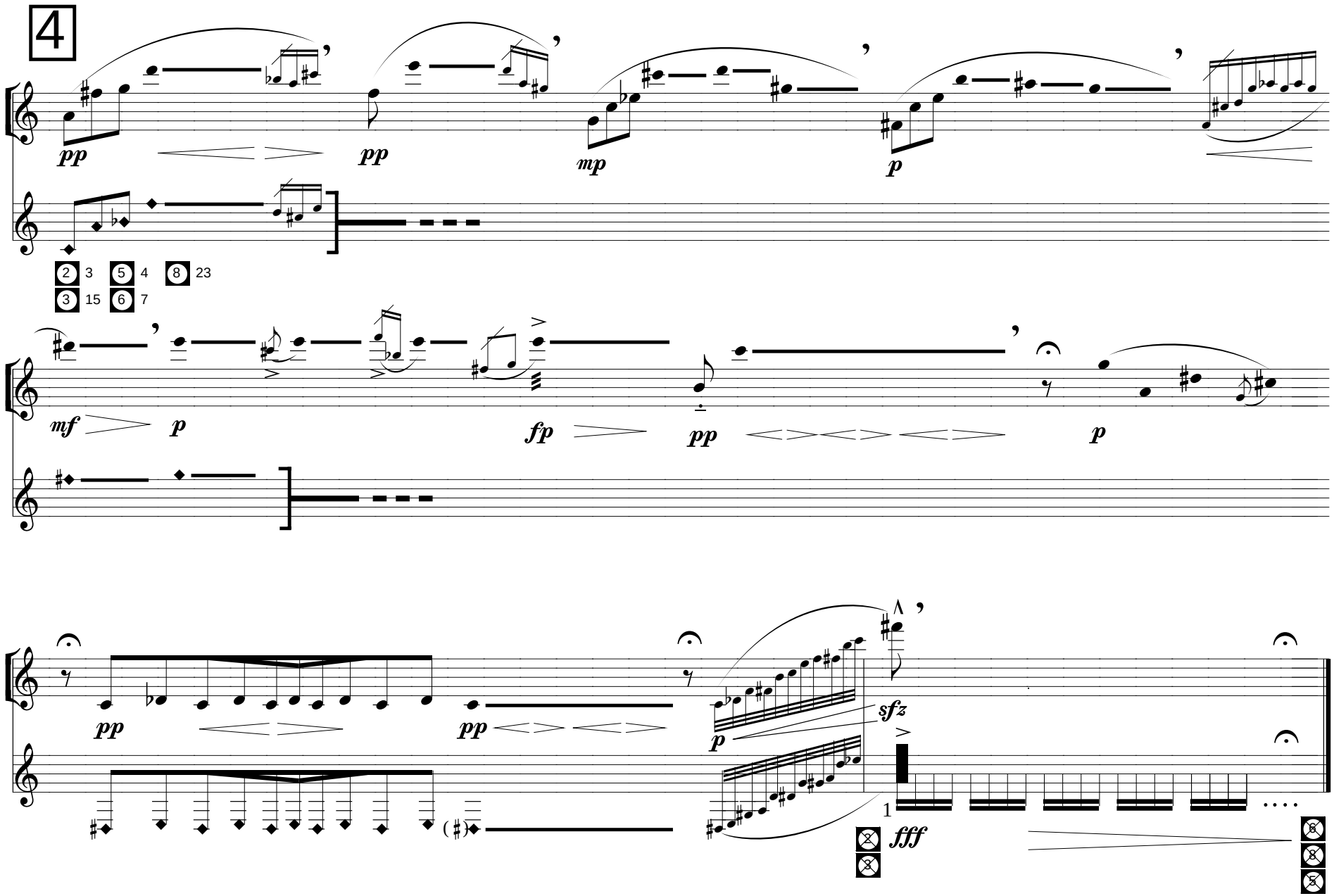

mf
p f p
f p
mf
p f
pp
mf


legato
ff
ff
p
Eb
B
C
tr
p
pp
mp
p
pp
ppp
ff
mp
fp
f p
f
p


ff
p
pp
ppp
mp
poco a poco cresc . . . .
f
ff


fff
p
3
Slowly and expressively
♪= 80
mp
p
pp
cue transition to Part 3
2 21
3 21
4 10
5 15
6 13
7 15
8 4
Channels 8,5,6 and 7 respond to the following registers:
Chords sound on Channels 2, 3 and 4


3
3
mp
p
mf
p
mp
p
f
ff


4
pp
pp
mp
p
2 3
5 4
8 23
3 15
6 7
mf
p
fp
pp
p
pp
pp
p
sfz
1
fff