I sleep and my soul awakens...

for Guitar and String Quartet

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Commissioned by CBC Radio

Clark Winslow Ross

I sleep and my soul awakens… (2005) Clark Winslow Ross

Much of ***I sleep***... has a dream-like sense of mystery, although it gradually works its way out of the shadows towards the lighter atmosphere of the lengthy and spirited final section. The entire work can be seen as a musical journey from shadow to light, or from the unconscious to the conscious.

"I sleep and my soul awakens," a line taken from Carl Jung's *Psychology and Alchemy* (1944), appealed to me as a title for this composition because it conveys a sense of both poetry and mystery, and of moving through a sleeping state to a deeper kind of awakening or awareness. I was also intrigued by the symbiotic dichotomy between the Jungian concepts of shadow and ego, or between unconscious and conscious thoughts and behaviours that he considered inherent to of human nature; an earlier title was "Shadows and Light."

The guitar part has many "cross-string fingerings," which are chords or patterns that combine upper-position stopped notes with adjacent open strings, creating a very open, resonant sound, sometimes described as "harp-like." An example of this occurs in the very first chord, whose notes form the basis for many subsequent ideas in this composition. After working on this for some time, I noticed these first four notes happened to correspond with the beginning of "Within You, Without You," the Indian-inspired composition by George Harrison on the "Seargent Pepper's" album ("We were talking, about the space between us all"). This discovery seemed both significant and fortuitous, and I decided to briefly quote George's song more intentionally (or consciously) later in my piece, and to add the subtitle, "*Kürtan* for George," mainly in reference to the lengthy, dance-like final section, in which the guitarist plays a constant flow of triplet eighth notes that move in waves without break for approximately 100 measures.

I am extremely grateful to guitarist Daniel Bolshoy and CBC Radio producer Francesca Swann for commissioning this piece, composed between November, 2004, and April, 2005. It has not been performed yet.

Clark Winslow Ross's compositions have been performed in England, Ireland, the United States, and across Canada by some of Canada's finest musicians, ensembles, and orchestras. He was Composer-in-Residence at Ireland's Waterford New Music Week in 2003, and has won Young Composer's Awards in national competitions by the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra. He has also received over 20 commission grants from various funding agencies, including the Canada Council, the CBC, and the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council. Clark is the founder and Artistic Director of the Newfound Music Festival, held every February in St. John's, and was a founding member and later President of Continuum, the Toronto-based new-music group. He serves on the national executive of both the Canadian League of Composers and the Canadian Music Centre.

Born in Maracaibo, Venezuela, Clark was raised there and in Caracas (Venezuela), Lima (Peru), Lennoxville (Quebec), New York City, Fort Lee (New Jersey), Brussels (Belgium), and Toronto, where he attended university. Upon receiving a Mus.Doc. (composition) degree from the University of Toronto in 1992, he began working at Memorial University's School of Music, where he is currently an Associate Professor, teaching composition, orchestration, theory, electronic music, and classical guitar. He was awarded Memorial University's President's Award for Outstanding Research (1999) in recognition of his extensive compositional activities. He is married to Dr. Jennifer Porter (professor of Religious Studies, Memorial University), and has three children (Alexander, (b. 2004), Andrew (b. 2001), and Julia (b. 1990). His interests outside of family and music include baseball, cats, cooking, ethnic food, reading, writing short stories, and invigorating jumping dances.

Other works for classical guitar, downloadable from Clark's website: **www.clarkross.ca**

- *Andrew Jacob's Ragtime Blues* (guitar solo; 2001) http://www.clarkross.ca/Progr-AJsRgtmBlues.htm.
- *Variations on McGillicuddy's Rant* (1980-2003) http://www.clarkross.ca/Score-McGsRant.pdf

Contact Clark Ross via E-mail at: clark@mun.ca, or through his website

Commissioned through the CBC for Daniel Bolshoy and the Borealis Quartet

"I sleep and my soul awakens."*

Clark Ross

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♩ = 69; **mysterious**

let strings resonate (harp-like) where indicated by fingerings

(solo)

Guitar

5

Gtr.

9

(ensemble)

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Va.

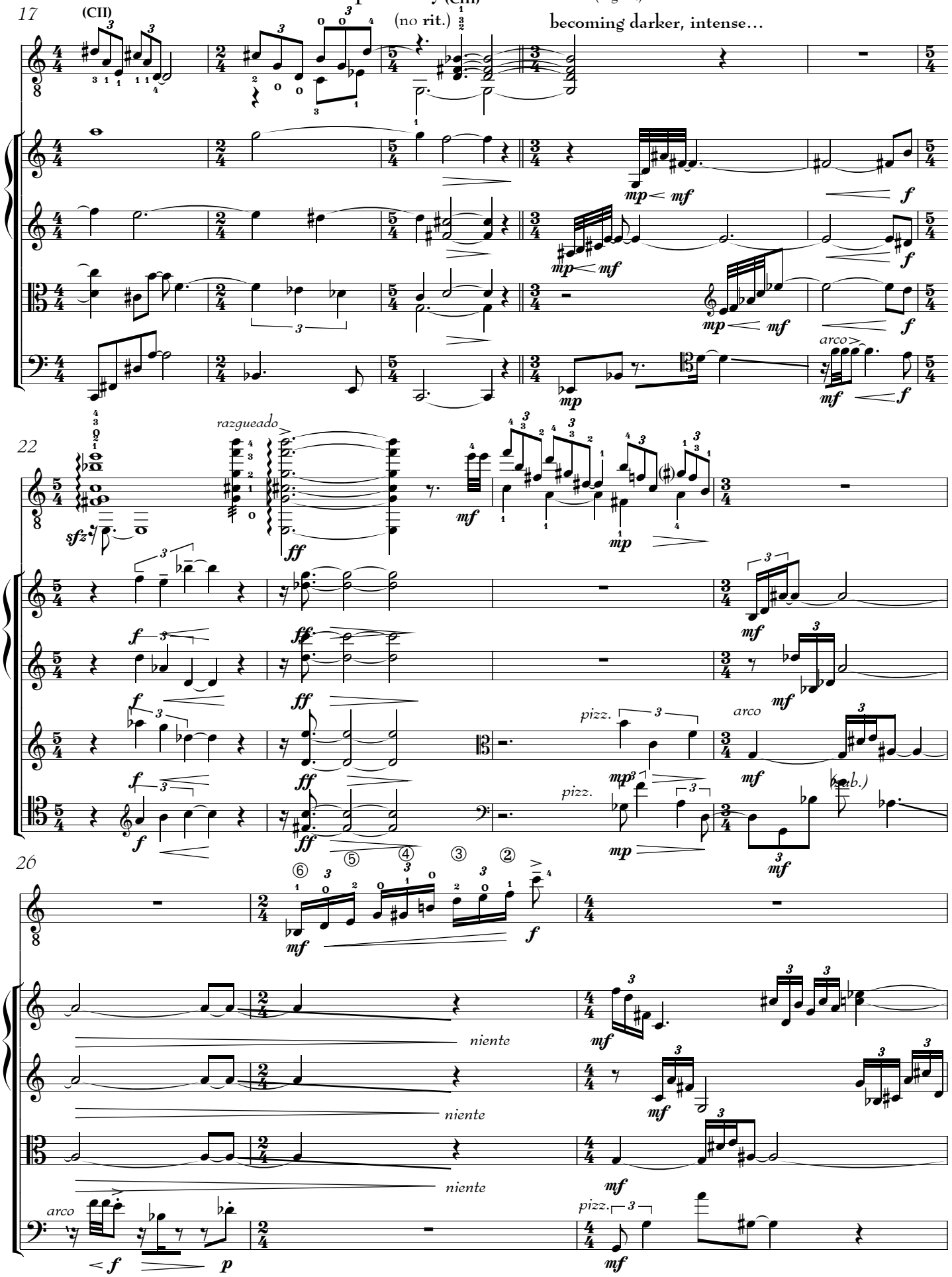
Vc.

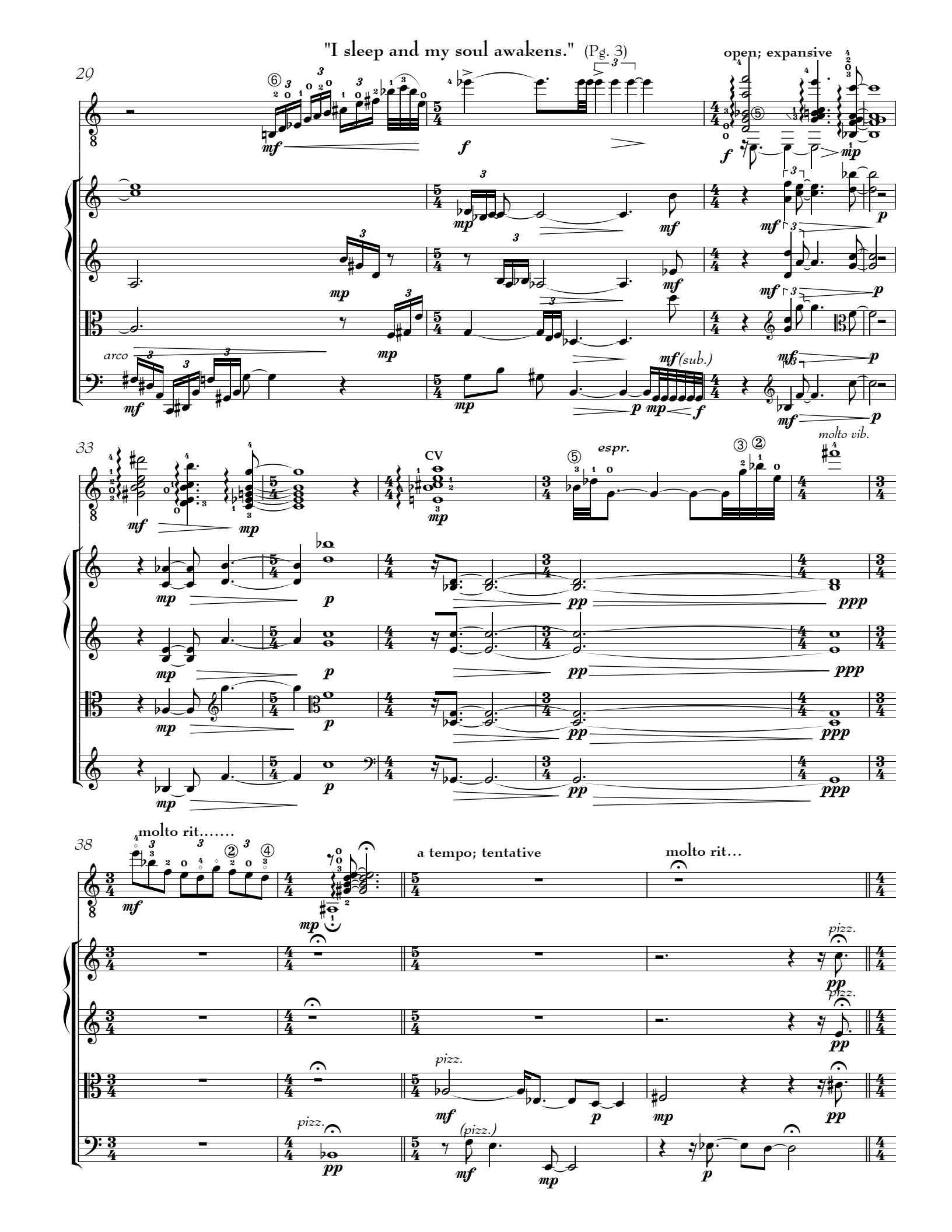
13

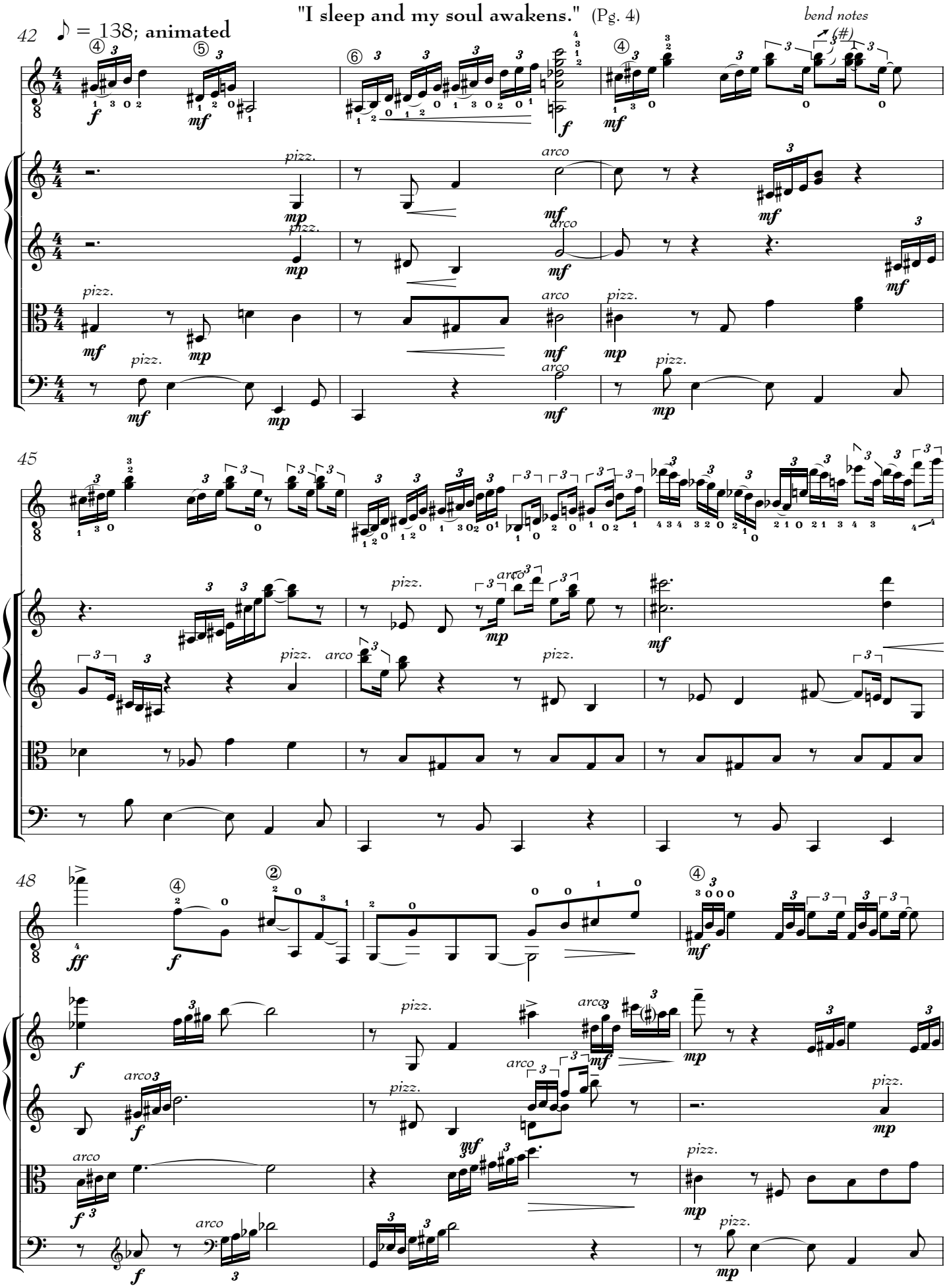
(CIV)

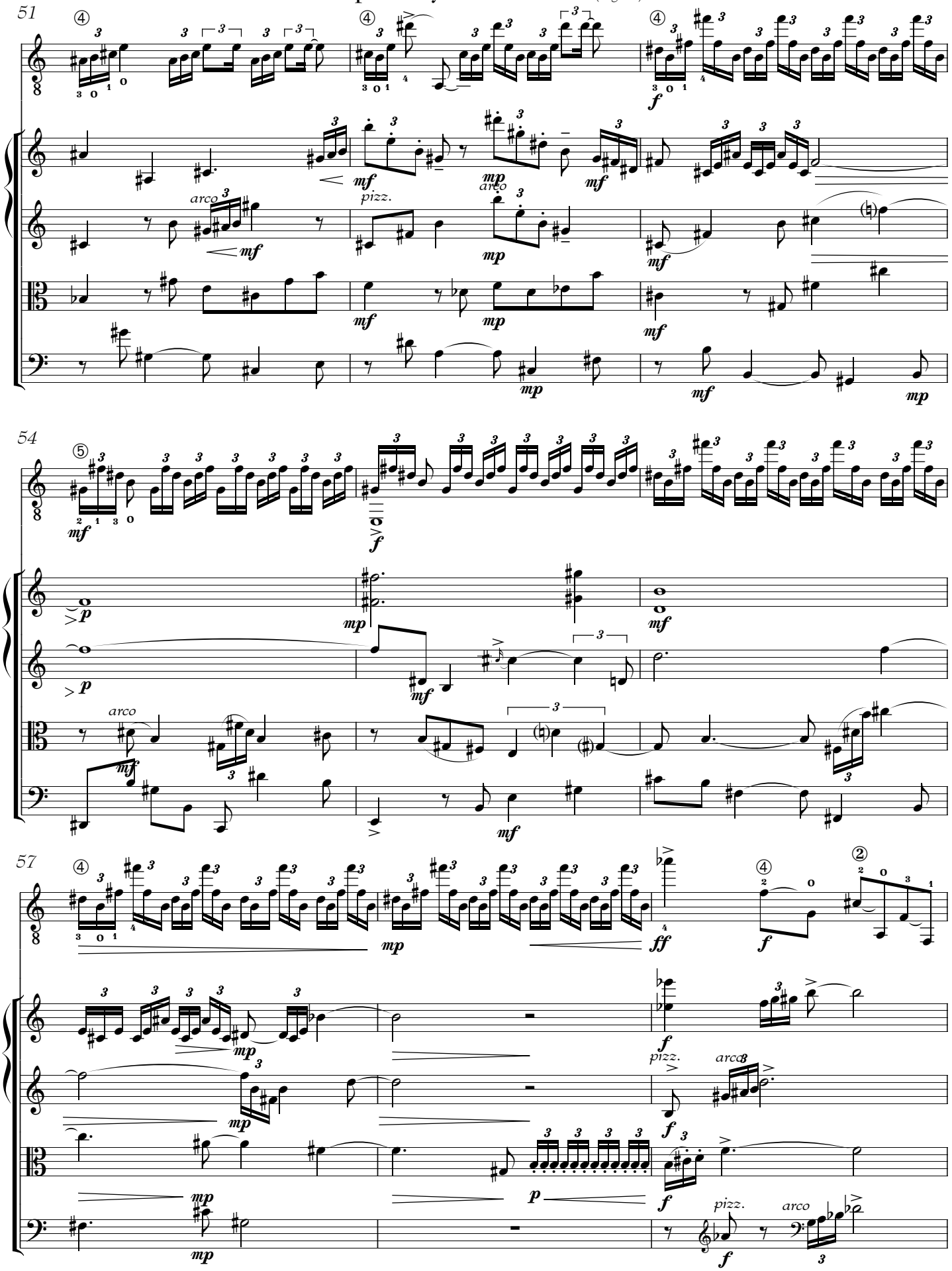
molto vibr.

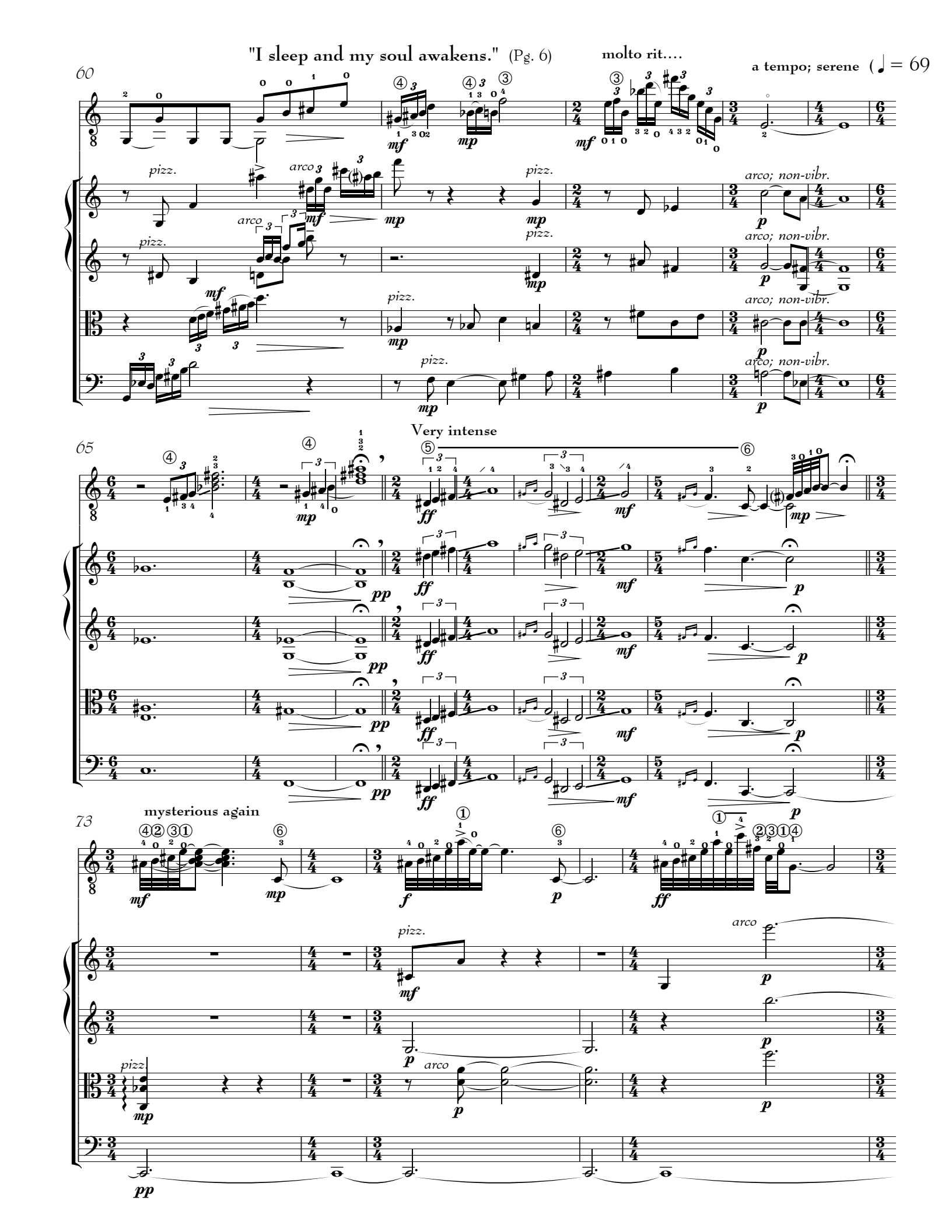
* C. Jung


17
(CII)
(no rit.)
(CIII)
becoming darker, intense...
22
razgueado
26
arco
pizz.
niente


"I sleep and my soul awakens." (Pg. 3)
29
open; expansive
arco
mf(sub.)
33
CV
espr.
molto vib.
38
molto rit.....
a tempo; tentative
molto rit...
pizz.
(pizz.)


"I sleep and my soul awakens." (Pg. 4)
42
♪ = 138; animated
bend notes
pizz.
arco
45
48


51
54
57
arco
pizz.
mf
mp
f
ff
p


"I sleep and my soul awakens." (Pg. 6)
molto rit....
a tempo; serene
60
pizz.
arco
mf
mp
arco; non-vibr.
p
65
Very intense
ff
pp
73
mysterious again
f
pizz
arco

78

83

(guitar solo espressivo)

87

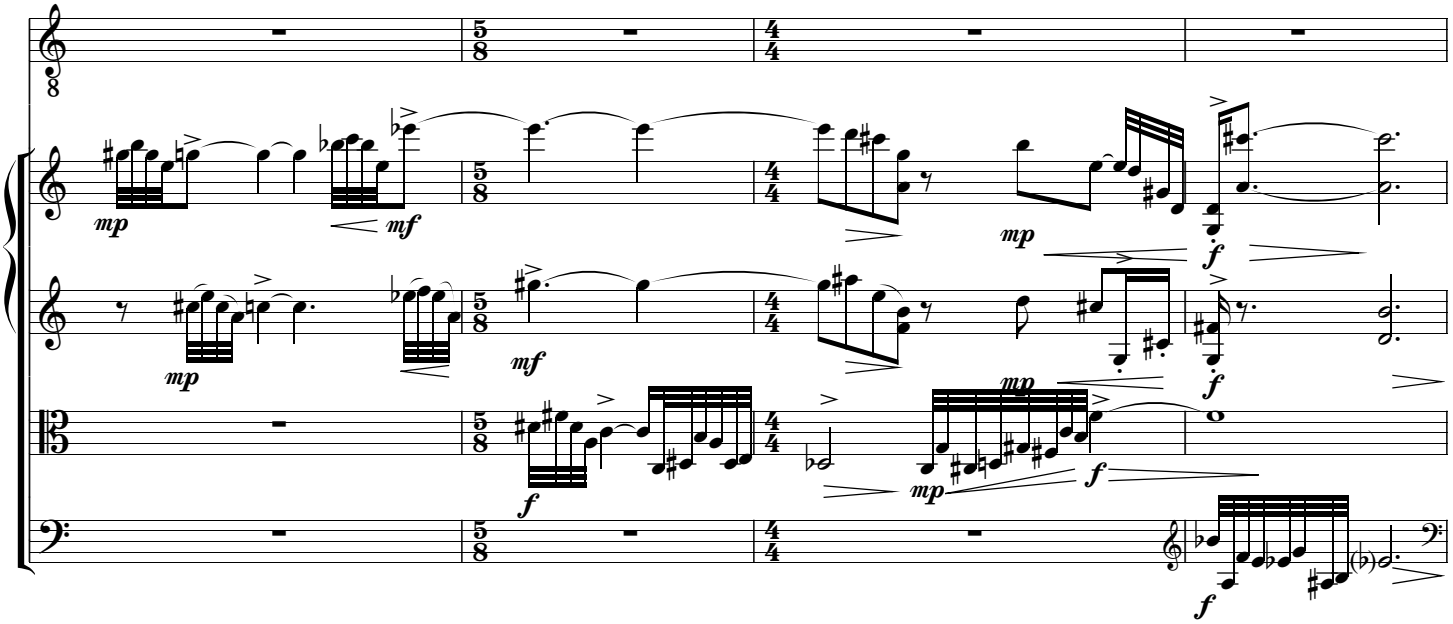
Gtr.

91

poco rit.....

97 Intense; dark; anxious

"I sleep and my soul awakens." (Pg. 8)



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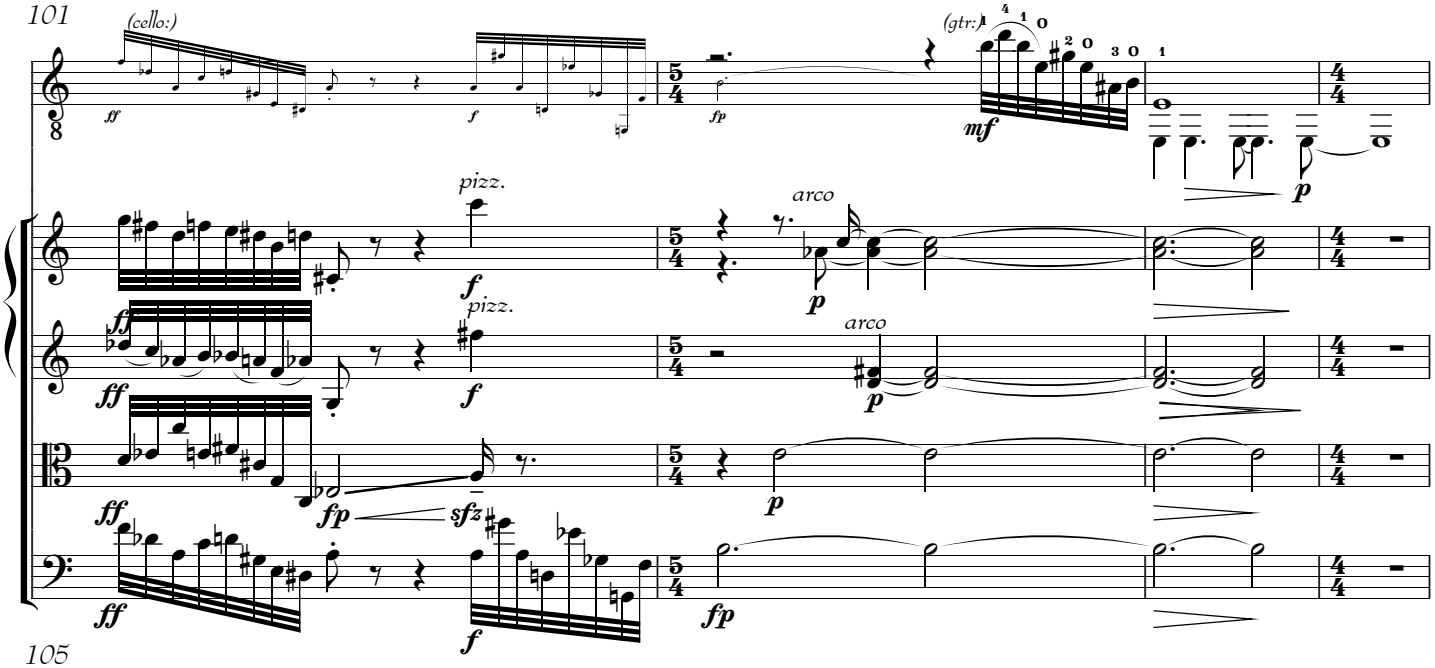

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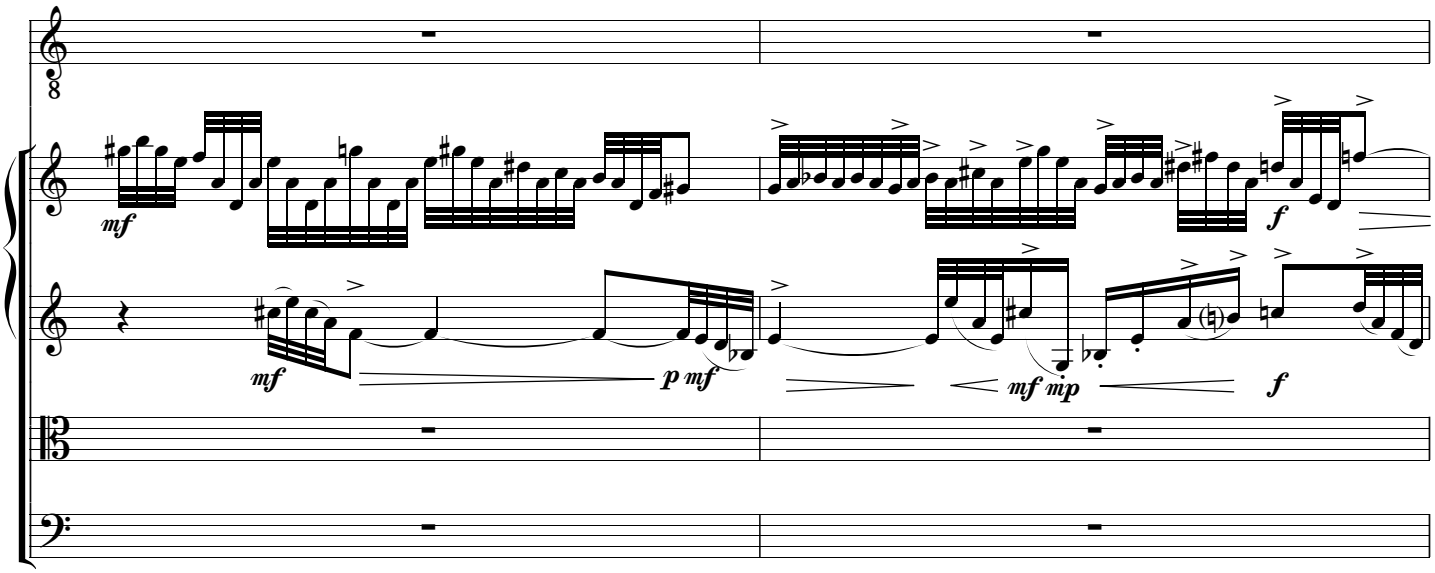
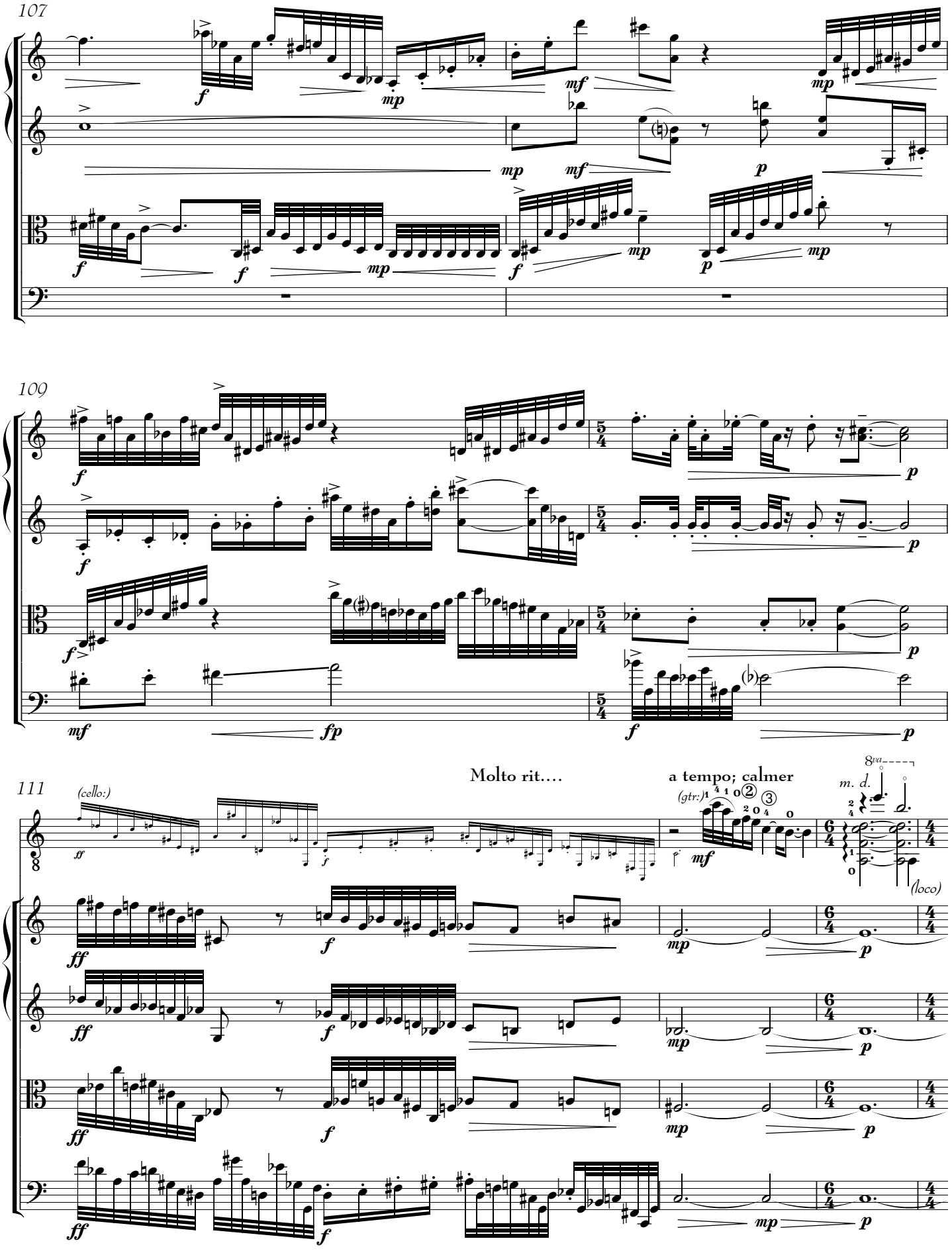
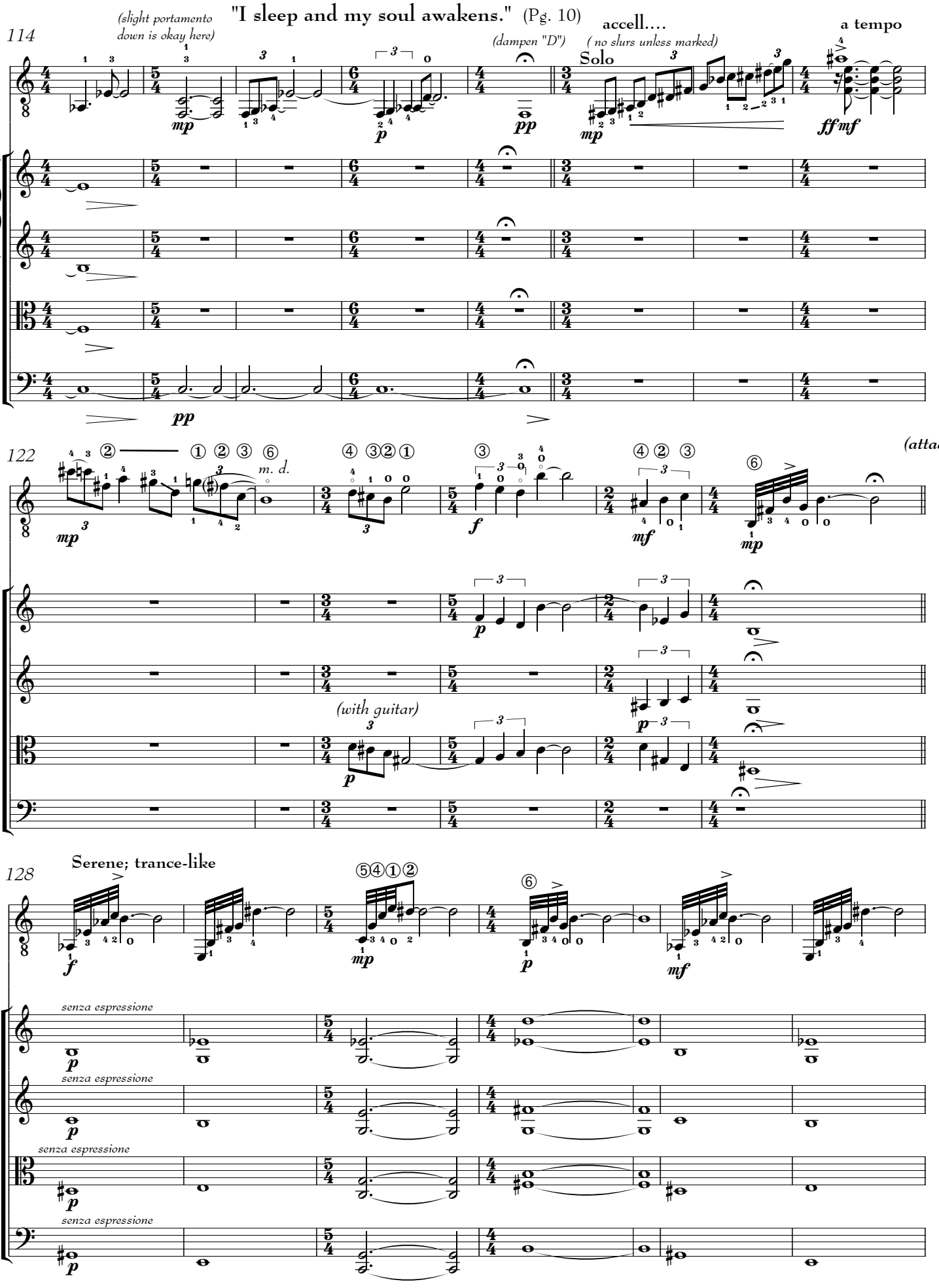
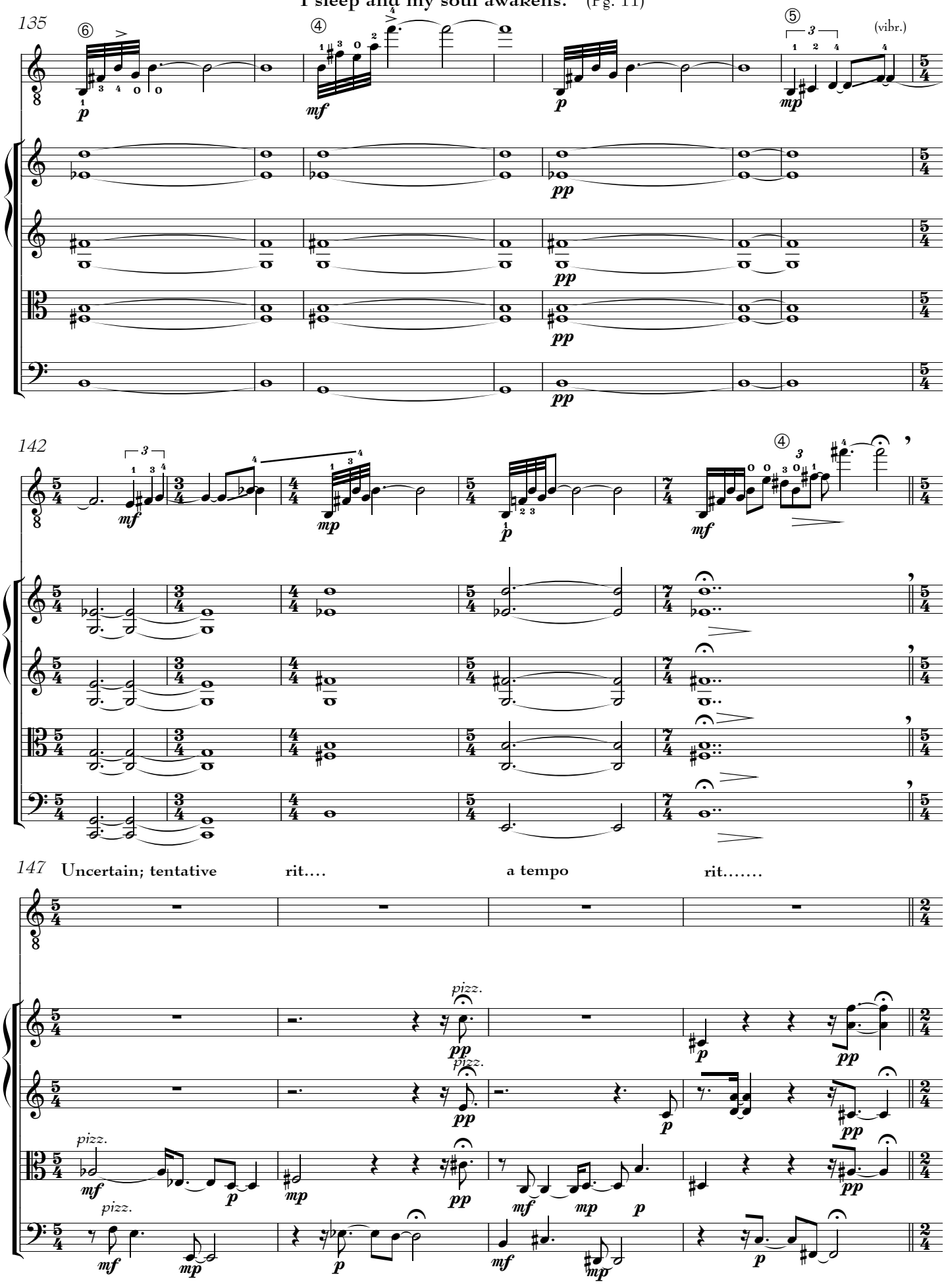
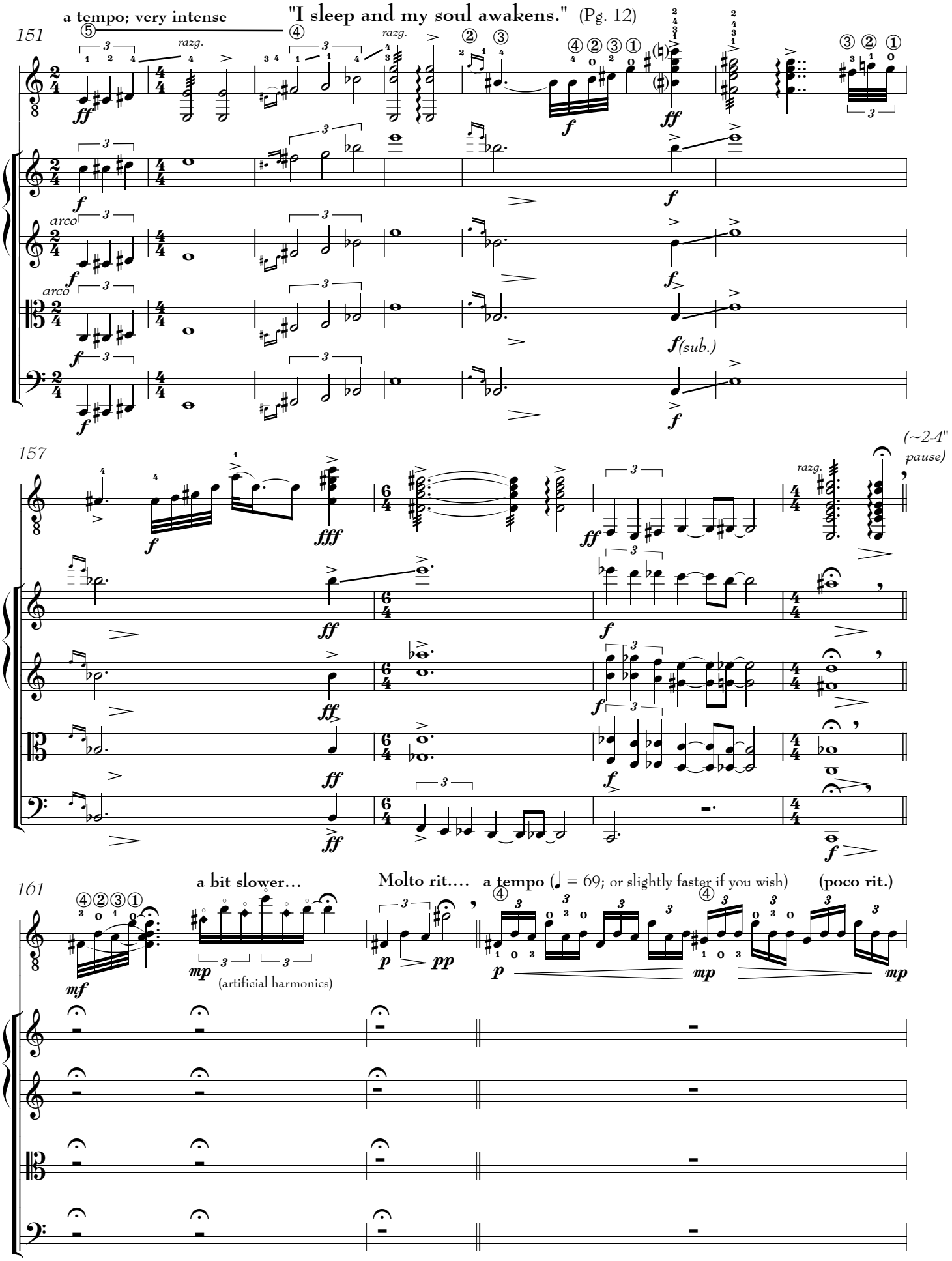
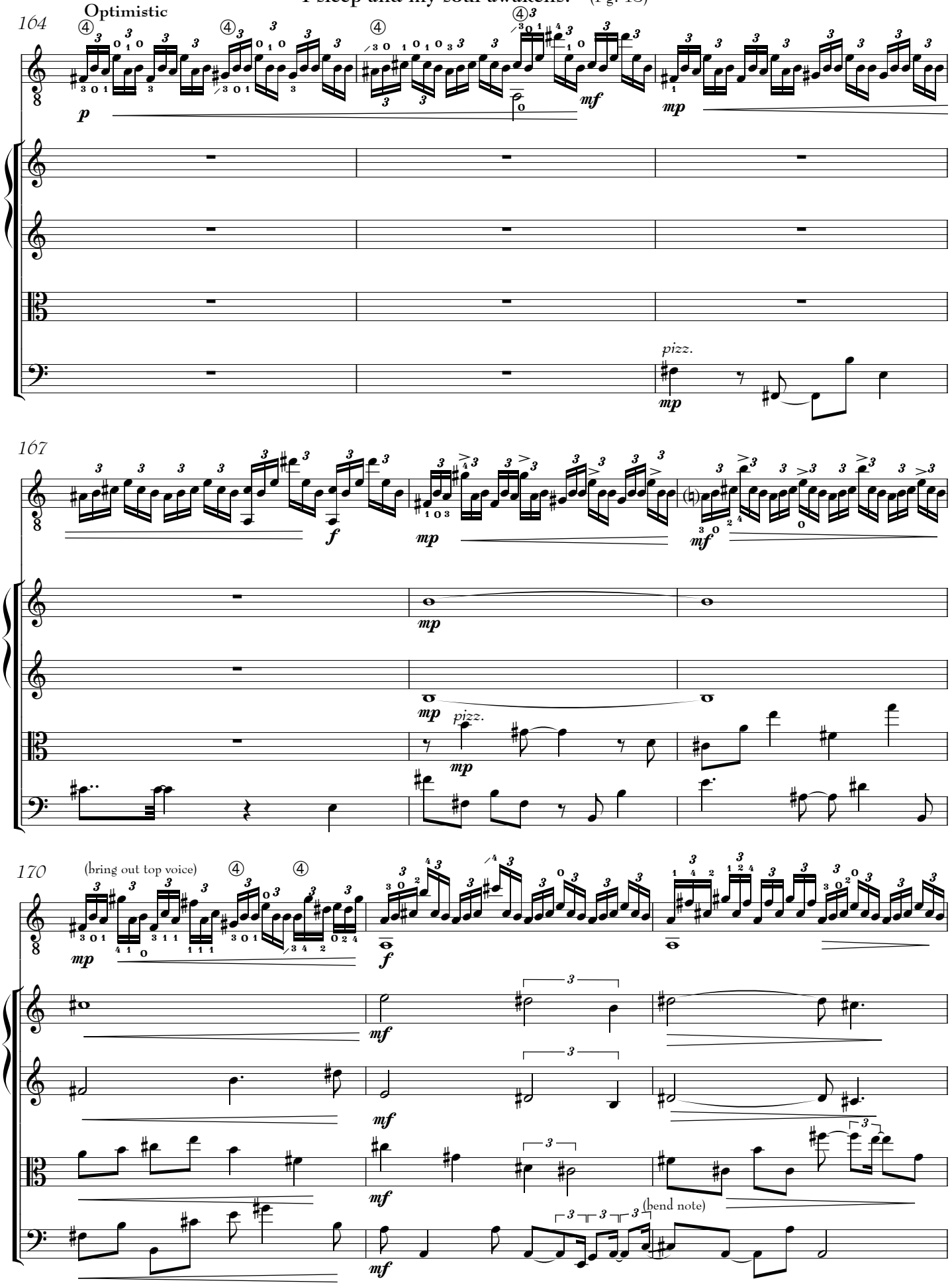


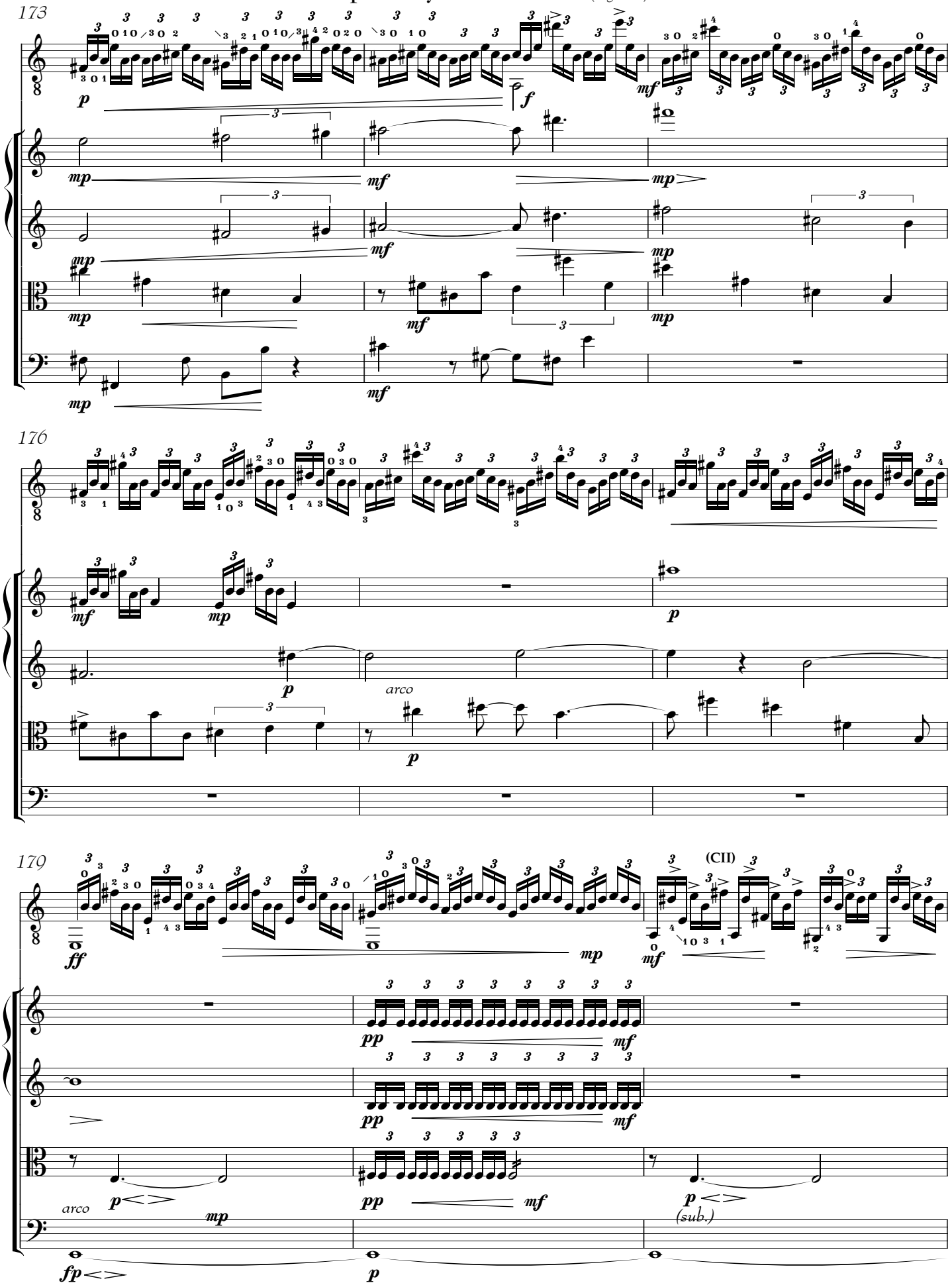

107
109
111
Molto rit....
a tempo; calmer
8va
m. d.
(cello:)
(gtr:)
(loco)

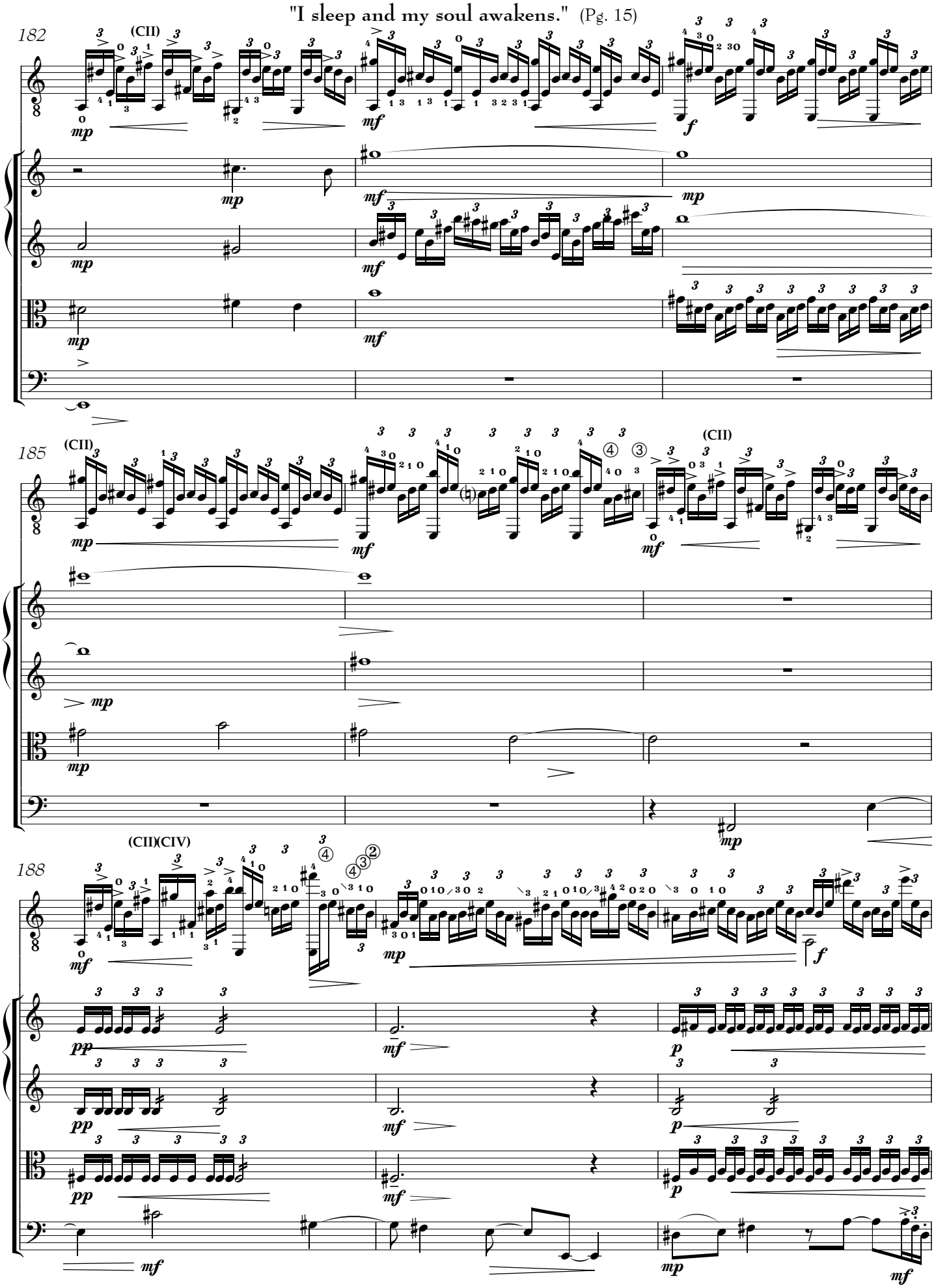

"I sleep and my soul awakens." (Pg. 10)
114
(slight portamento down is okay here)
(dampen "D")
accell....
(no slurs unless marked)
Solo
a tempo
122
(attacca)
m. d.
(with guitar)
128
Serene; trance-like
senza espressione


135
142
147
Uncertain; tentative
rit....
a tempo
rit.....
(vibr.)
pizz.

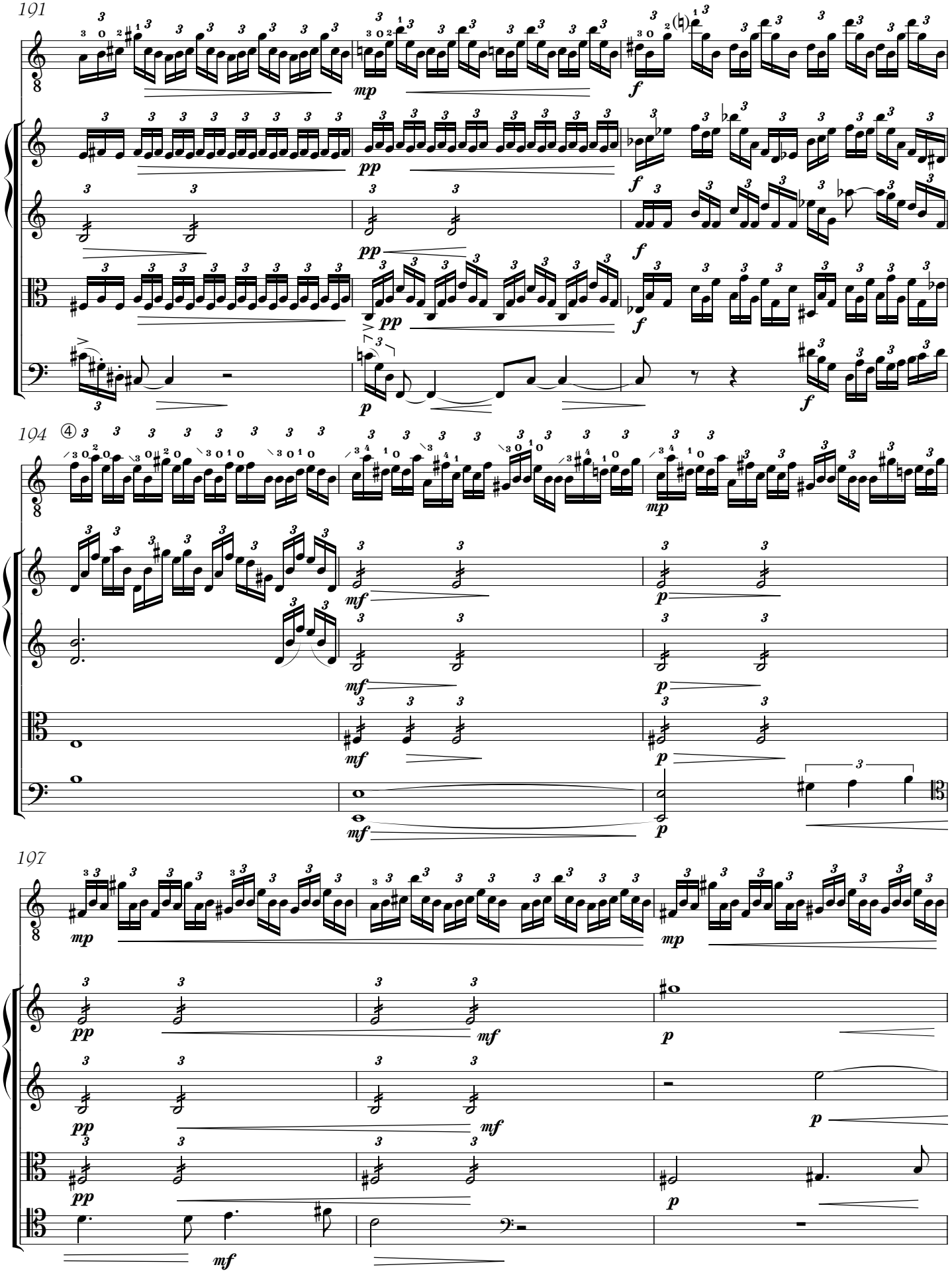

a tempo; very intense
"I sleep and my soul awakens." (Pg. 12)
151
razg.
arco
arco
f(sub.)
157
(~2-4" pause)
161
a bit slower…
Molto rit.…
a tempo (♩ = 69; or slightly faster if you wish)
(poco rit.)
(artificial harmonics)

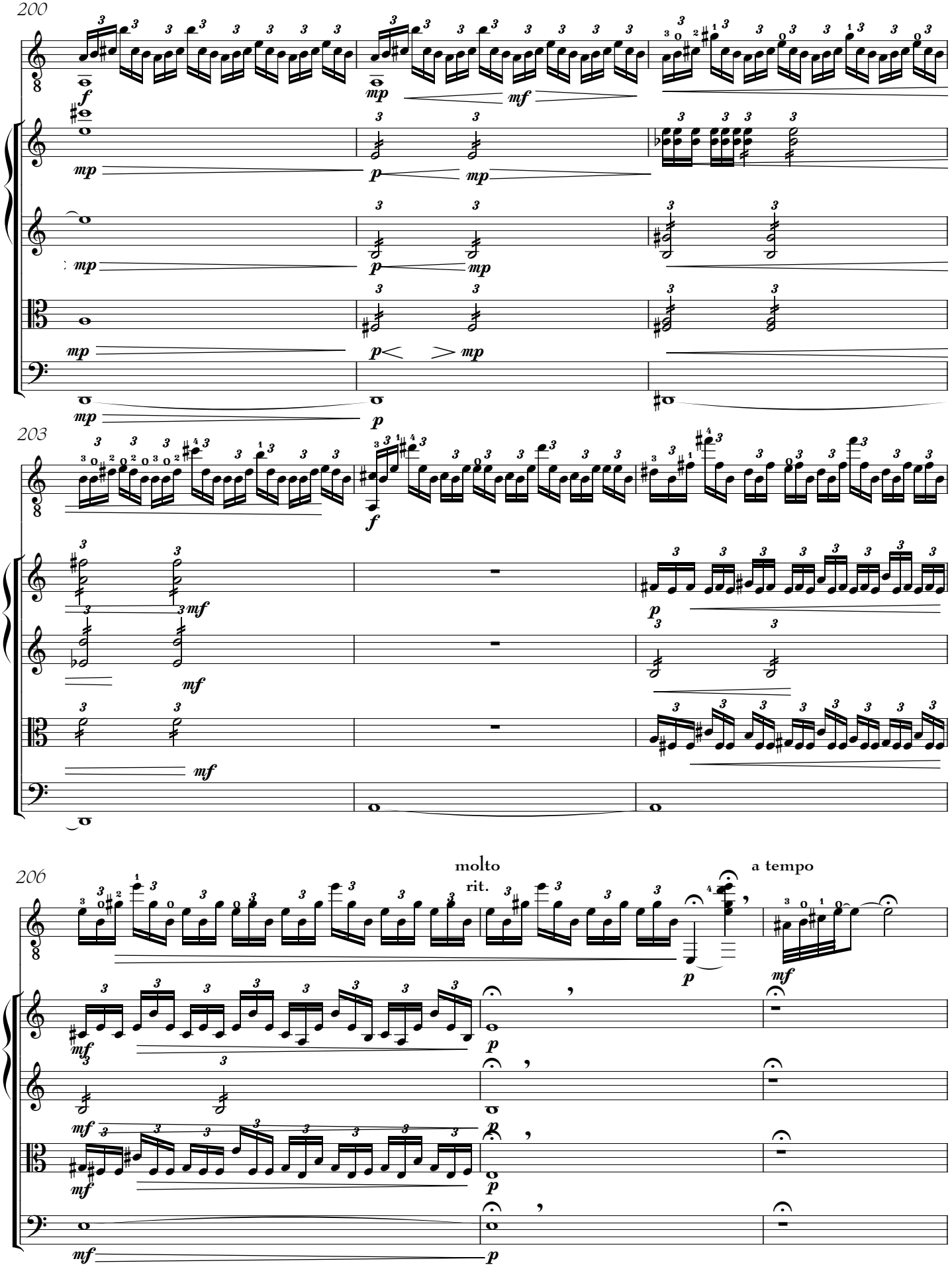
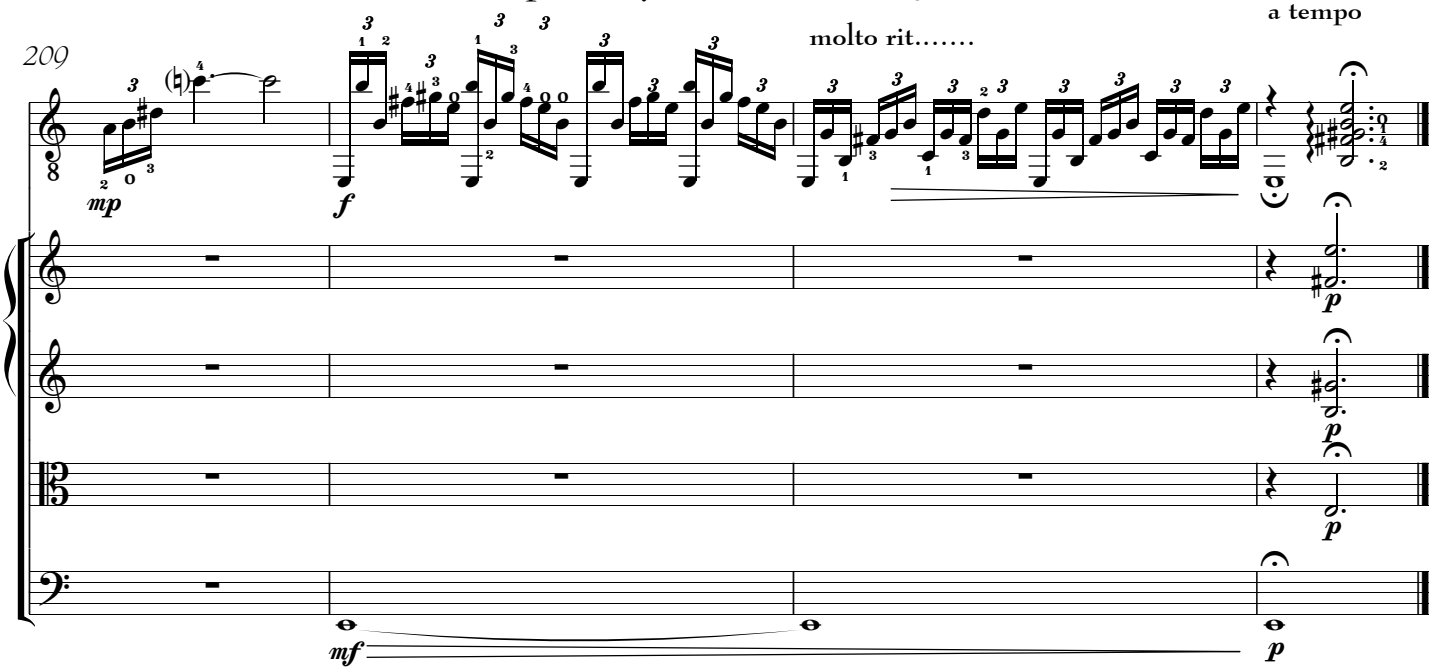

Optimistic
164
p
mf
mp
pizz.
mp
167
f
mp
mf
mp
mp
pizz.
mp
170
(bring out top voice)
mp
f
mf
mf
mf
mf
(bend note)


173
176
179
(CII)
arco
(sub.)


182
(CII)
185
(CII)
(CII)
188
(CII)(CIV)

"I sleep and my soul awakens." (Pg. 16)




200
203
206
molto
rit.
a tempo

"I sleep and my soul awakens." (Pg. 18)