First performed at the Salzburg Musical Festival, 1935
by the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra
under Dr. Adrian Boult

MUSIC
FOR
STRINGS

By

ARTHUR BLISS

LONDON: NOVELLO & CO., LTD.

MADE IN ENGLAND

Dedicated to
Rachel and Ernest Makower

The signs

□ = steady

and ○ = quicken

are used to indicate *slight* changes of tempo where the use of the ordinary time words would suggest more than the intended effect. They are not in the parts.

TIME OF PERFORMANCE, 23 minutes

MUSIC FOR STRINGS

I

ARTHUR BLISS

Allegro moderato, energico ♩ = 108

VIOLINI I

VIOLINI II

VIOLE

VIOLONCELLI

BASSI

simile

div.

unis.

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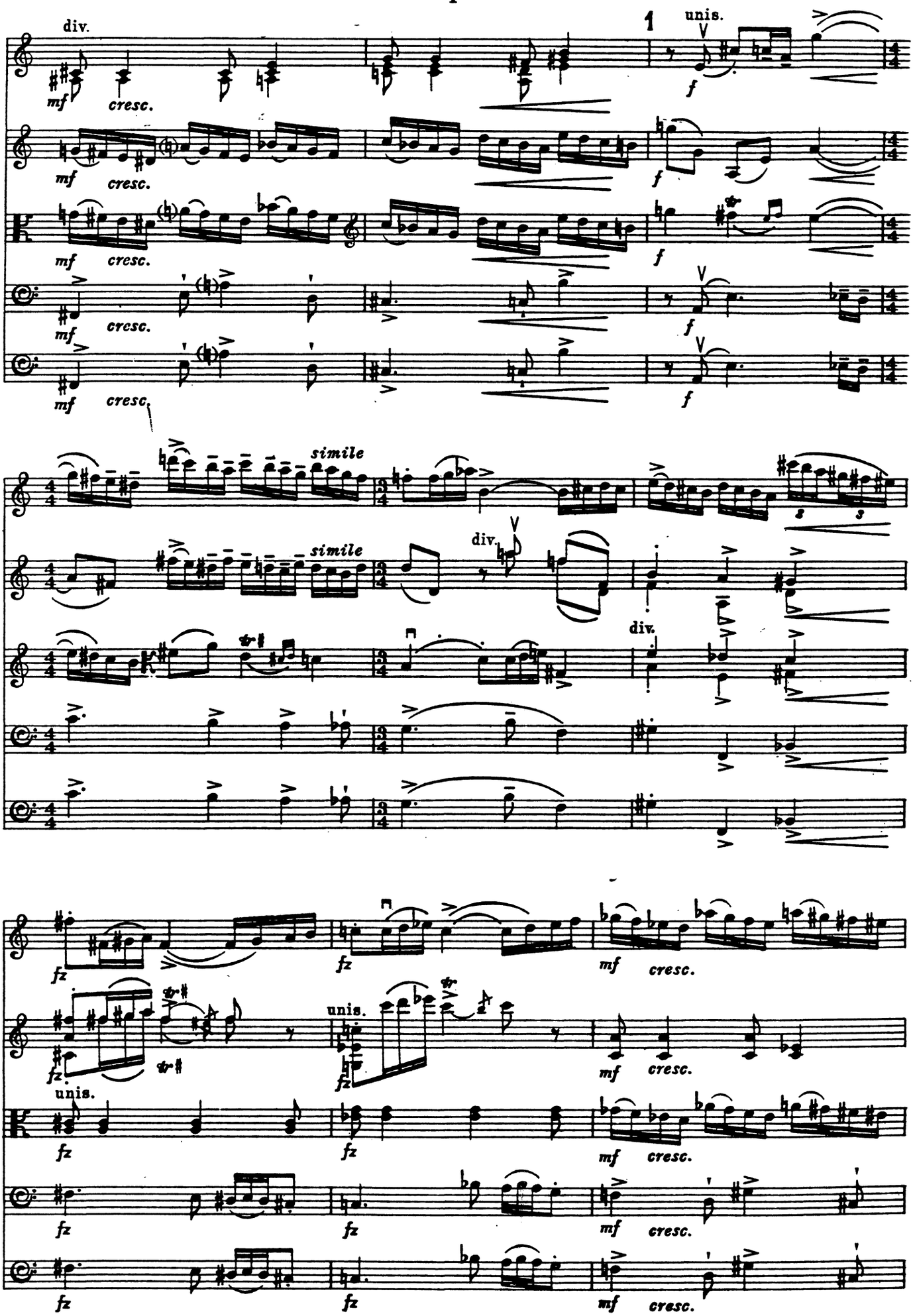
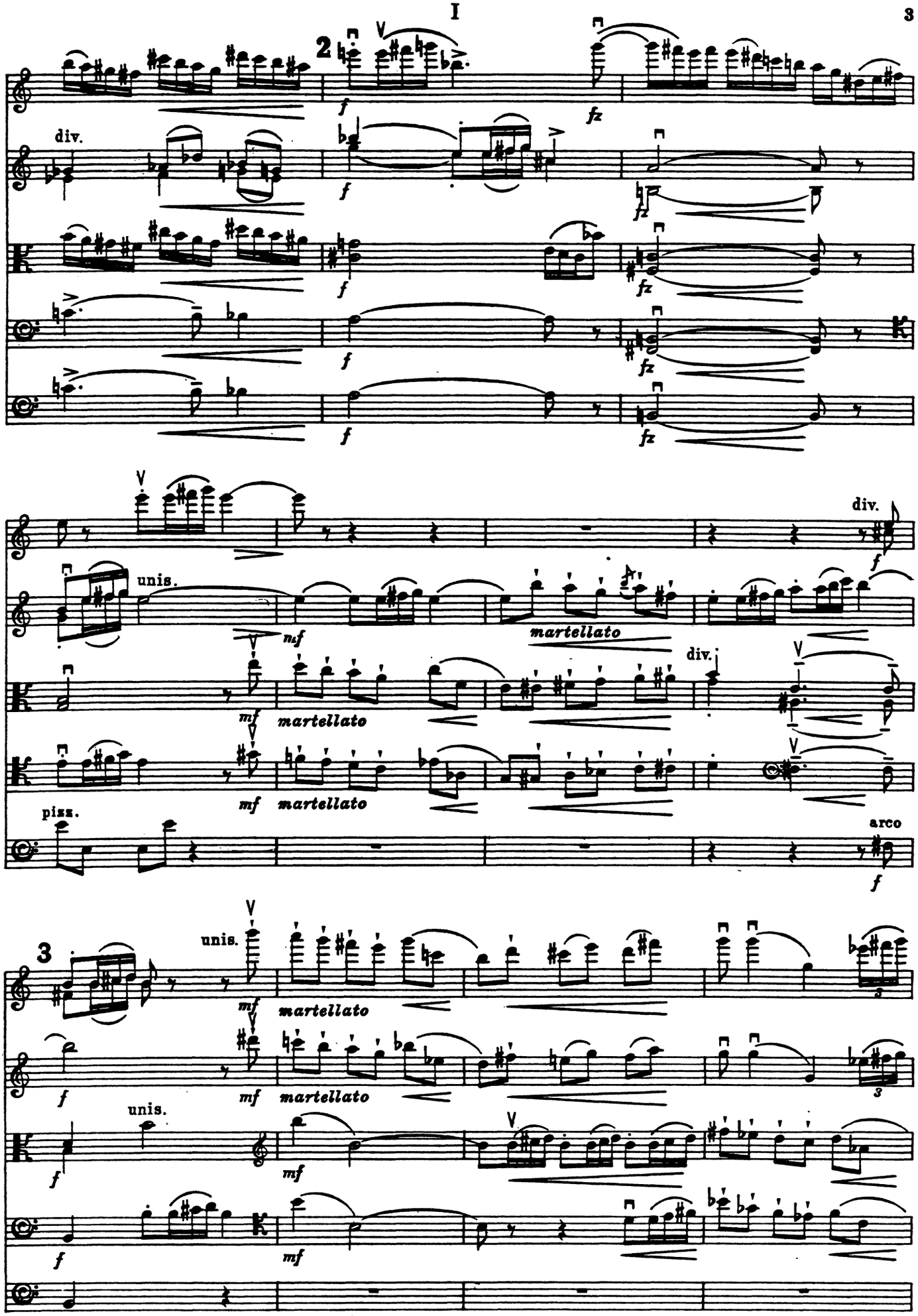
I




2
div.
f
fz
unis.
mf
martellato
div.
pizz.
arco
3
unis.

I

cresc.

div.

f

unis.

simile

4

Vl.I

Vl.II div.

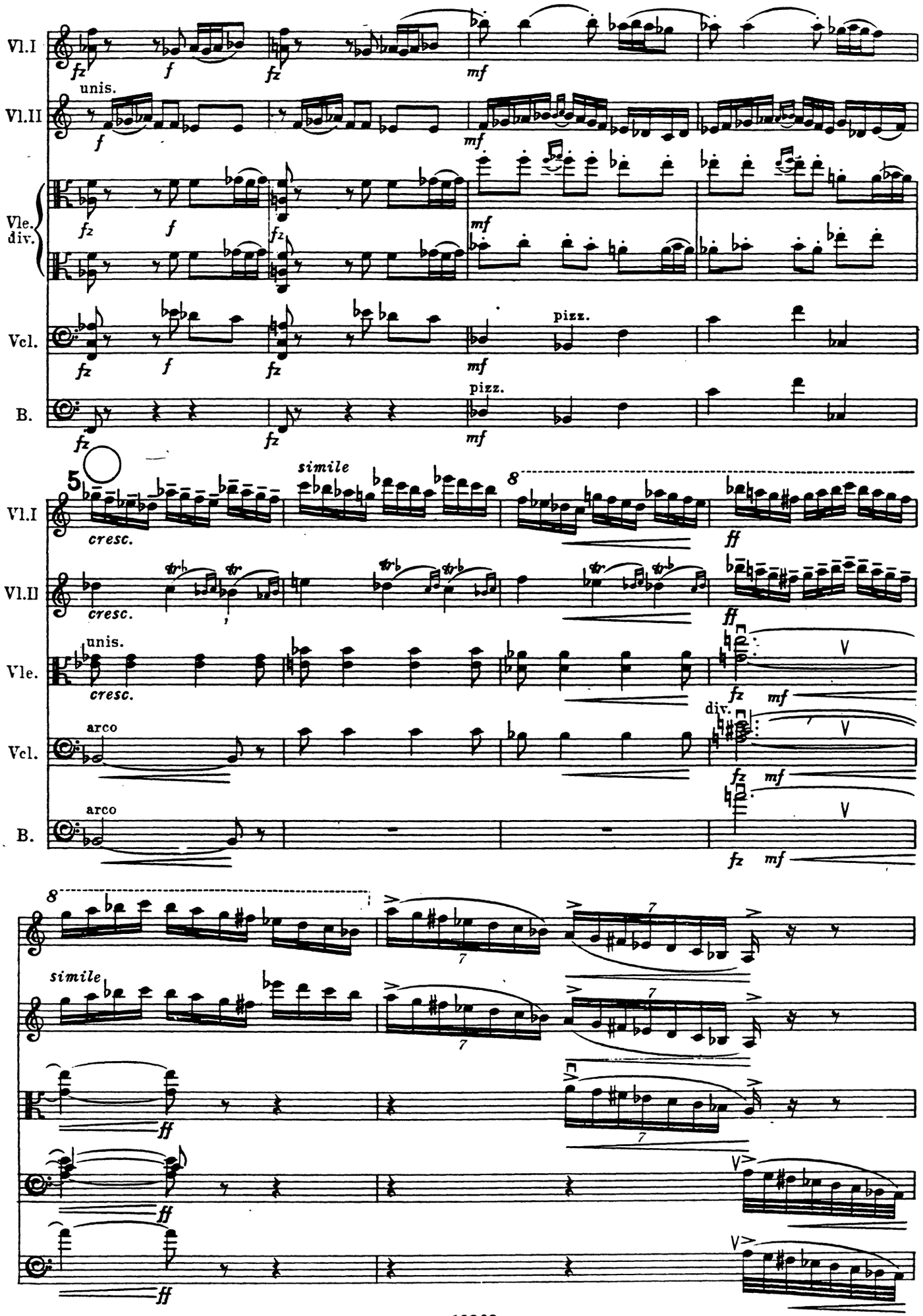
Vle.

Vcl.

B.

fz

mf


Vl.I
Vl.II
unis.
Vle.
div.
Vcl.
B.
pizz.
5
simile
cresc.
ff
arco
div.
mf
fz
f

I

Vl.I div.

Vl.II div.

Vle. div.

Vcl. div.

B.

6

ff

mf

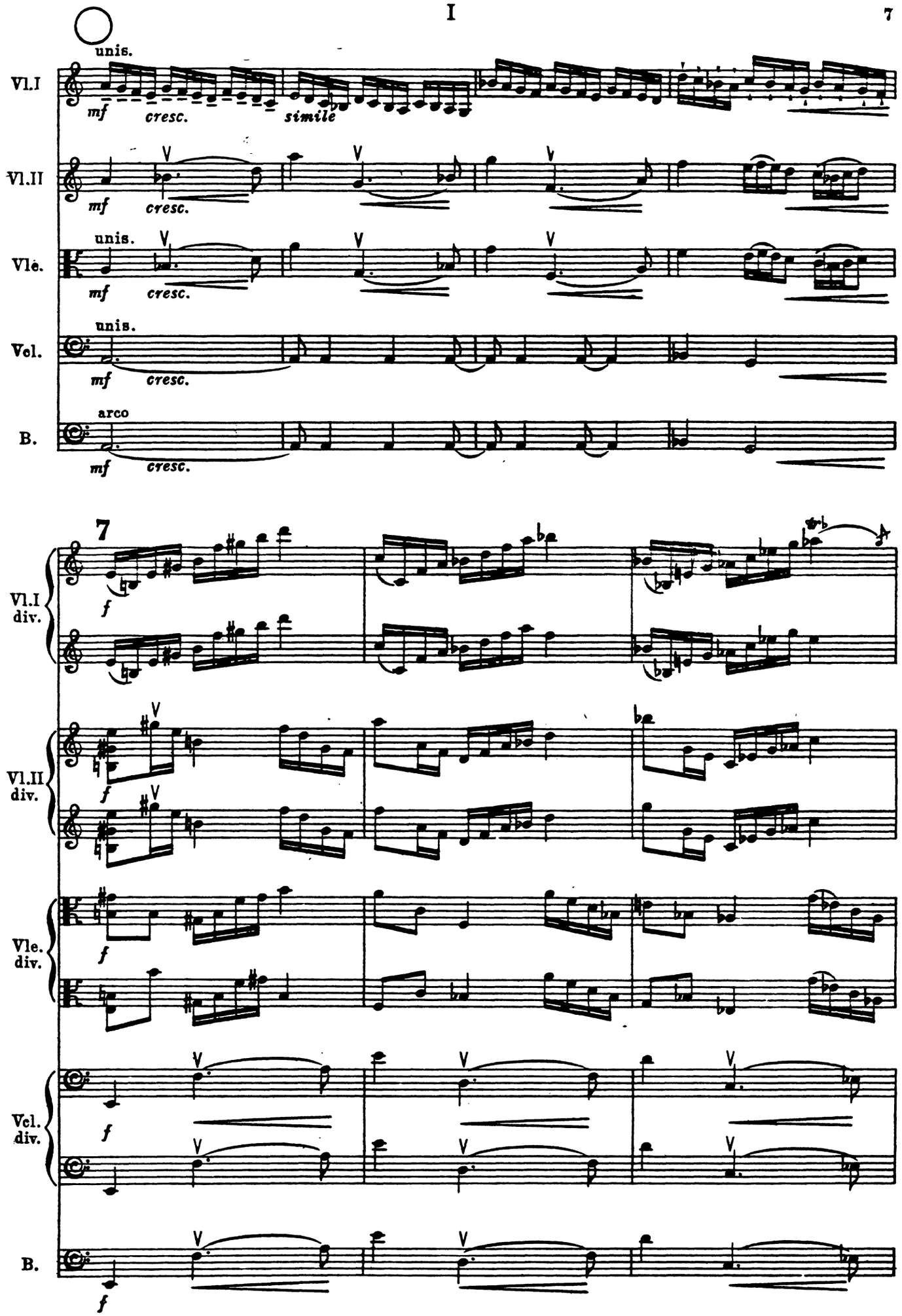
fz

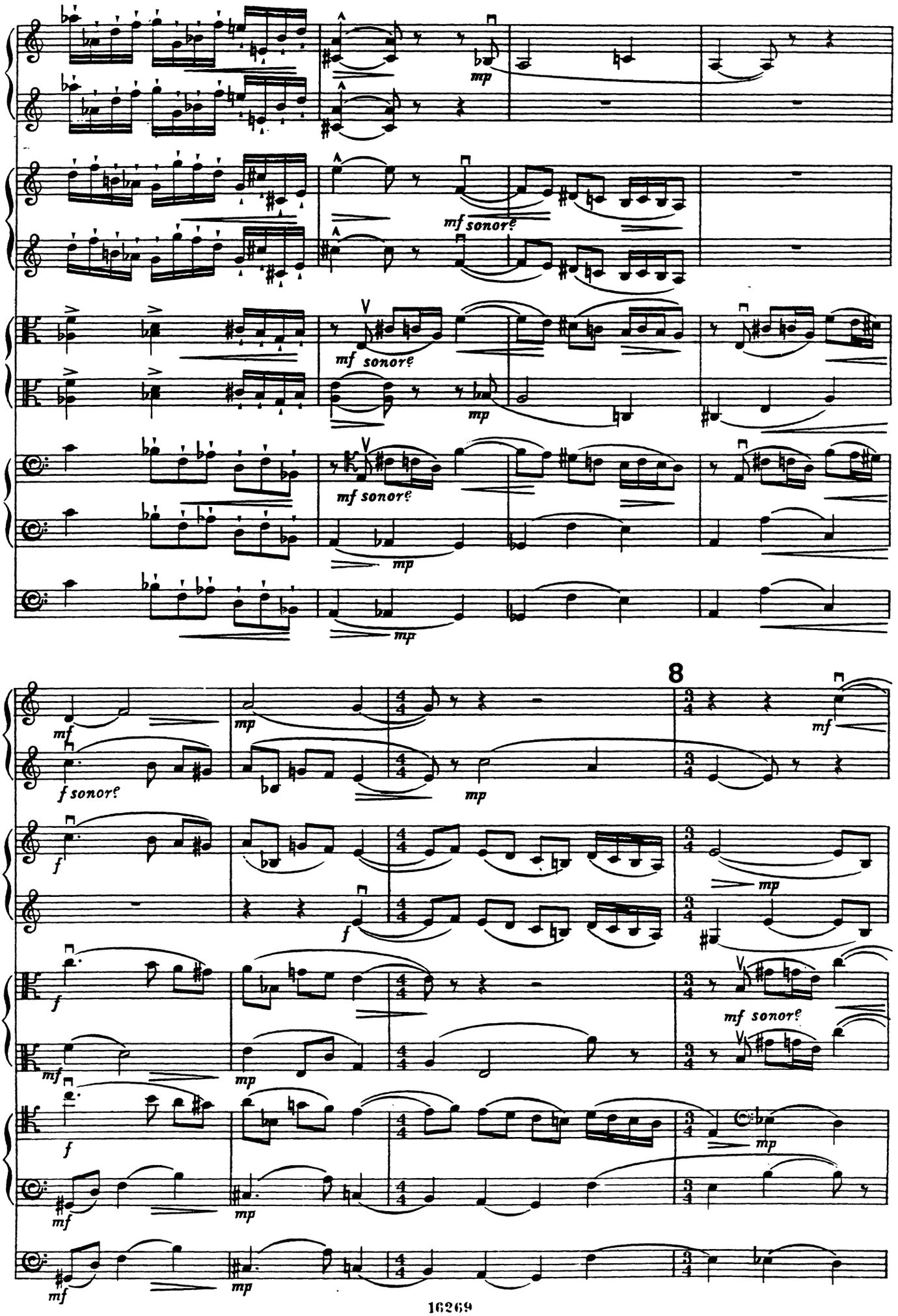
pizz.

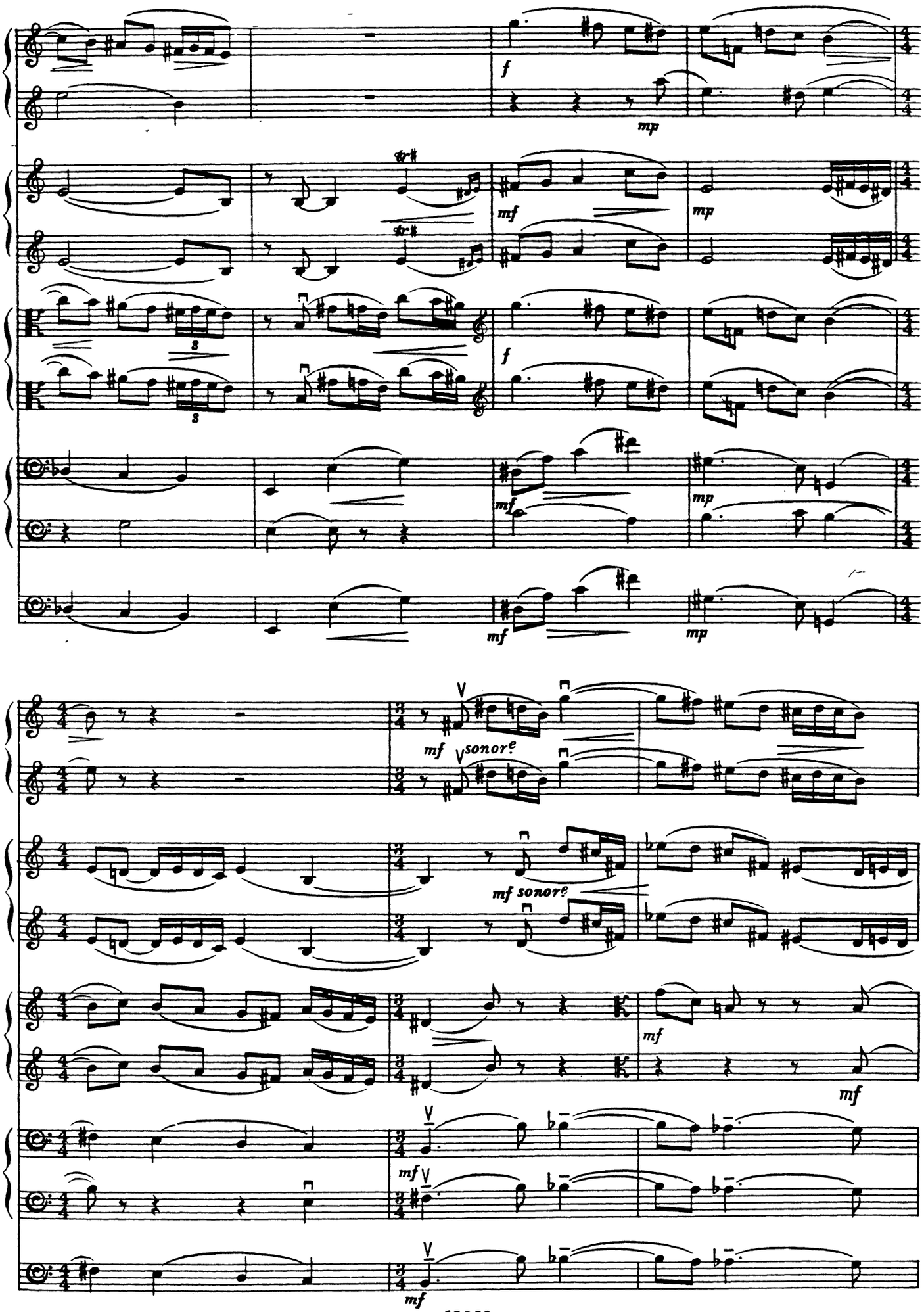
unis.

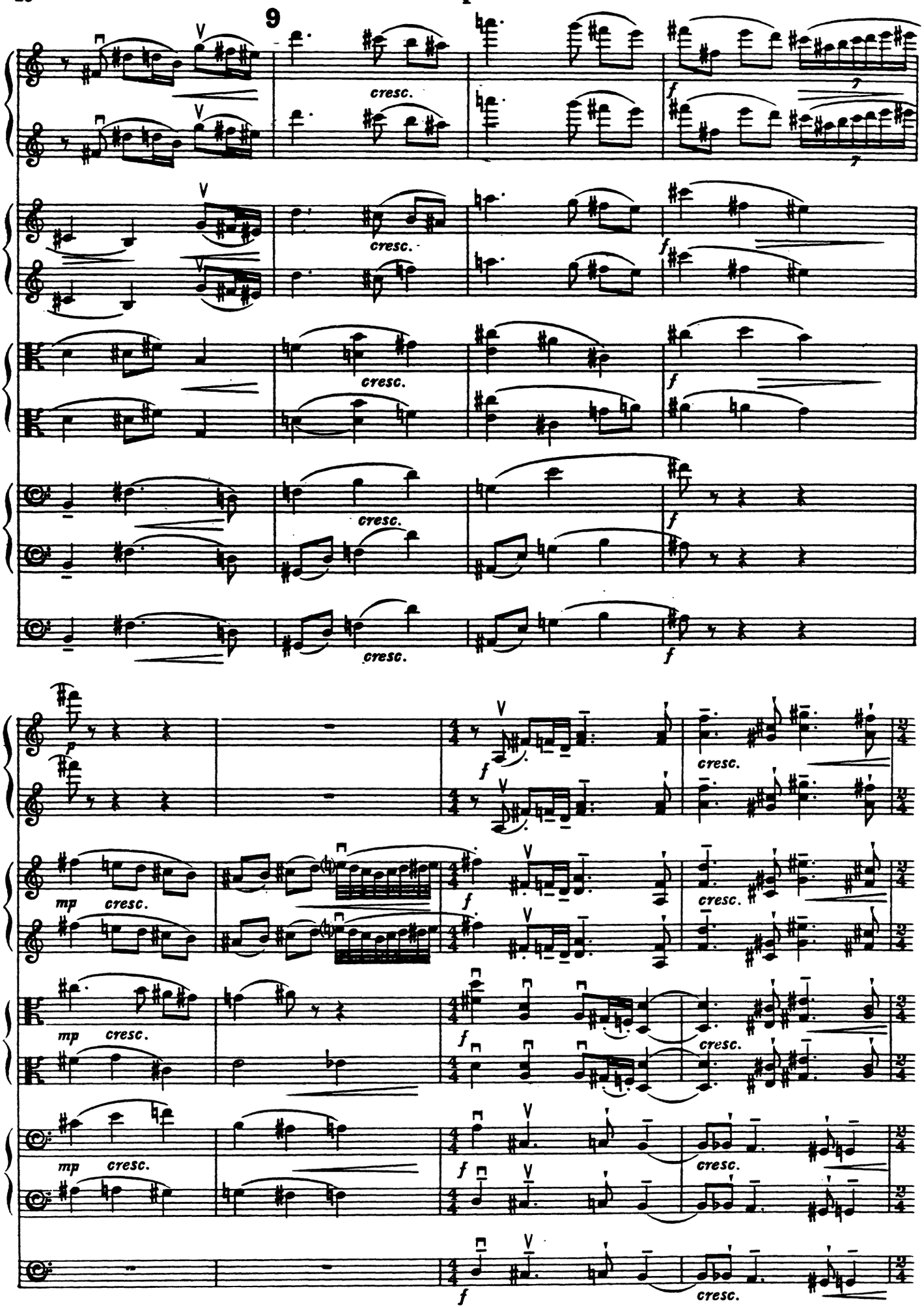
legato

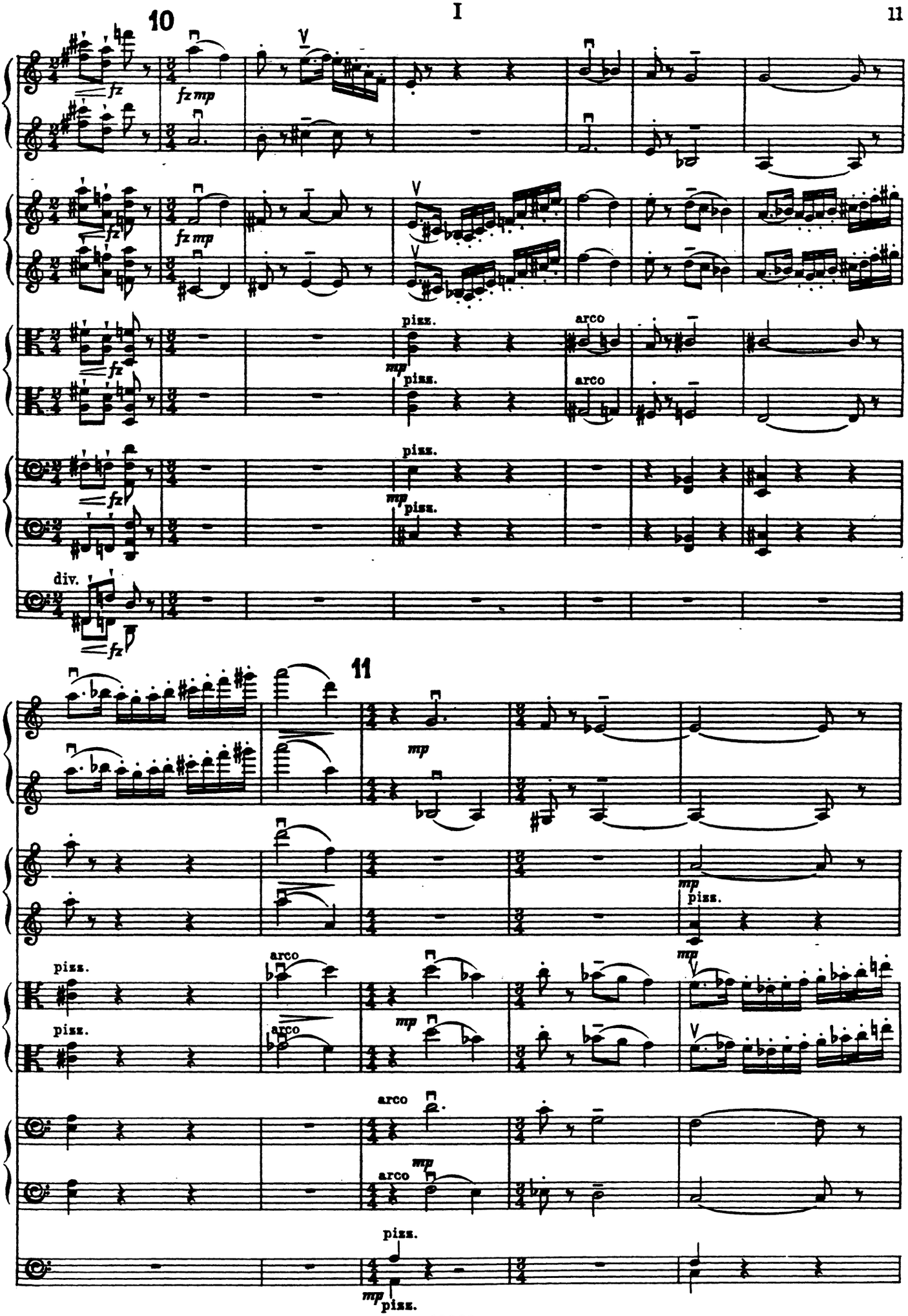
7


unis.
Vl.I
mf
cresc.
simile
Vl.II
mf
cresc.
unis.
Vle.
mf
cresc.
unis.
Vcl.
mf
cresc.
arco
B.
mf
cresc.
7
Vl.I div.
f
Vl.II div.
f
Vle. div.
f
Vcl. div.
f
B.
f

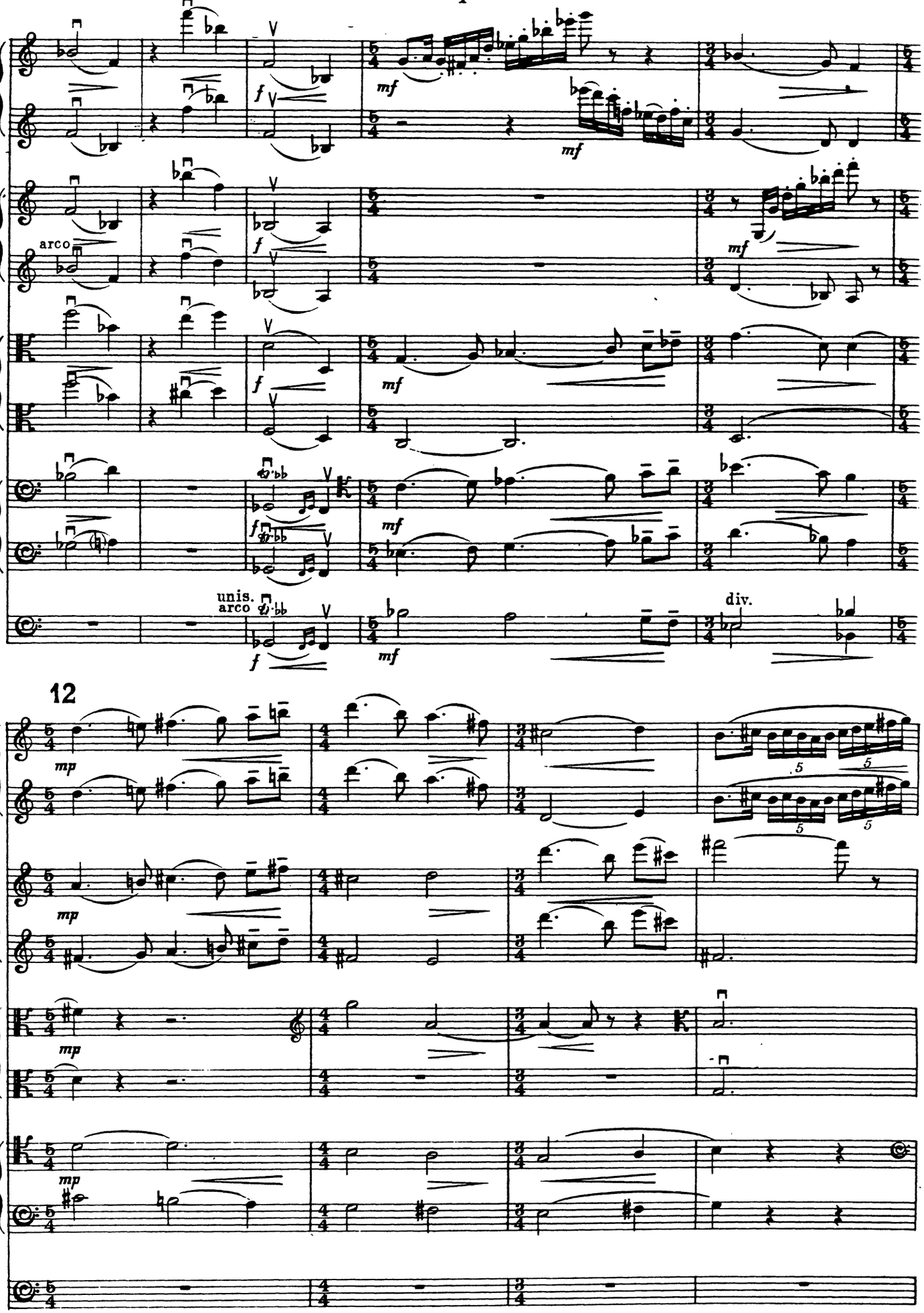

mp
mf sonore
mf sonore
mp
mf sonore
mp
8
mf
mp
f sonore
mp
f
f
mp
f
mf sonore
mf
mp
f
mp
mf
mp
mf
mp

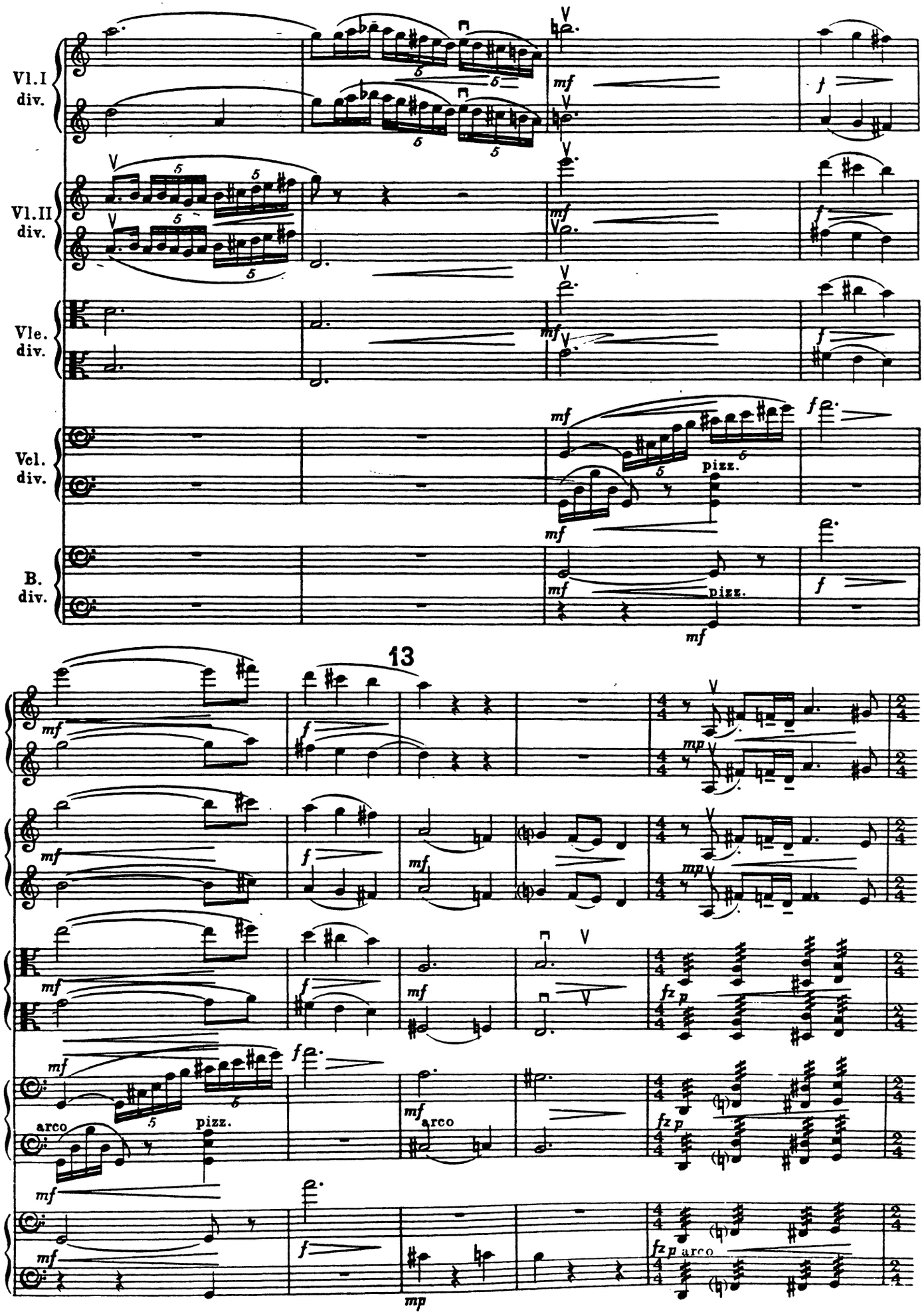

f
mp
mf
mp
f
mf
mp
mf
mp
mf sonore
mf sonore
mf
mf
mf
mf


9
cresc.
f
mp
cresc.
f
cresc.


10
fz
fz mp
pizz.
arco
mp
div.
11
mp
pizz.
arco

I




Vl.I
div.
Vl.II
div.
Vle.
div.
Vcl.
div.
B.
div.
13
pizz.
arco
mf
f
mp
fz p

Vl. I div.

Vl. II div.

Vle. div.

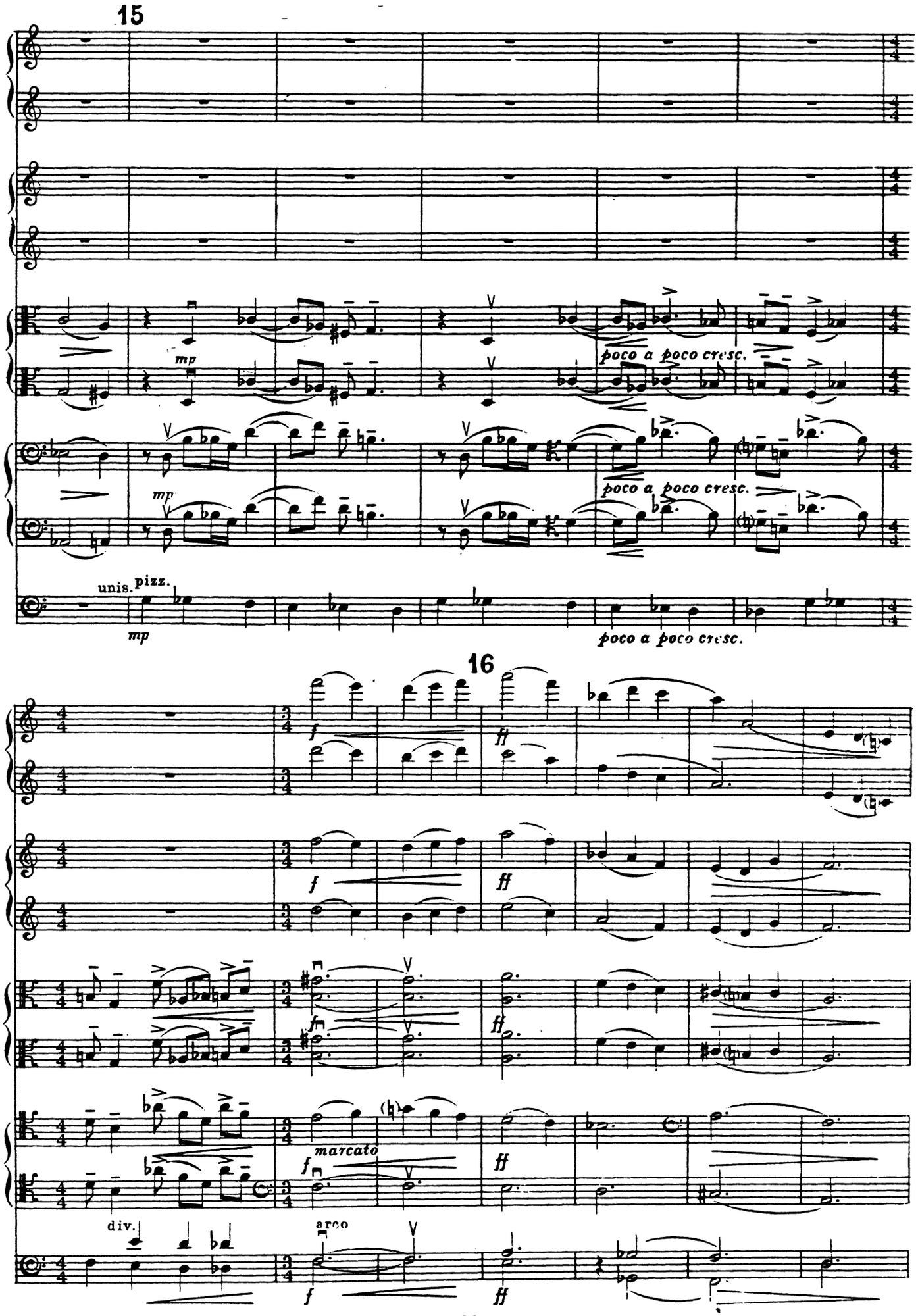
Vcl. div.

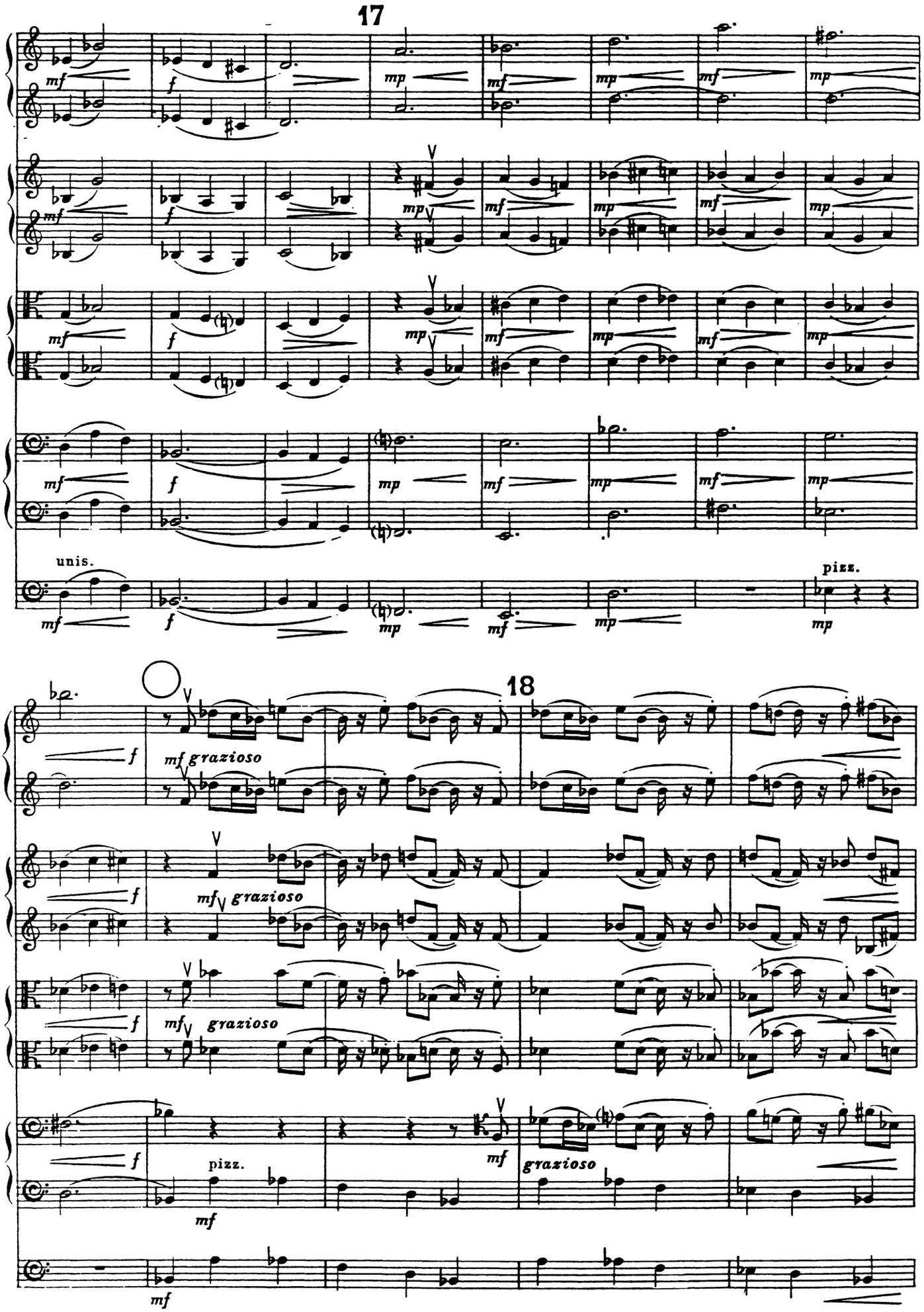
B.

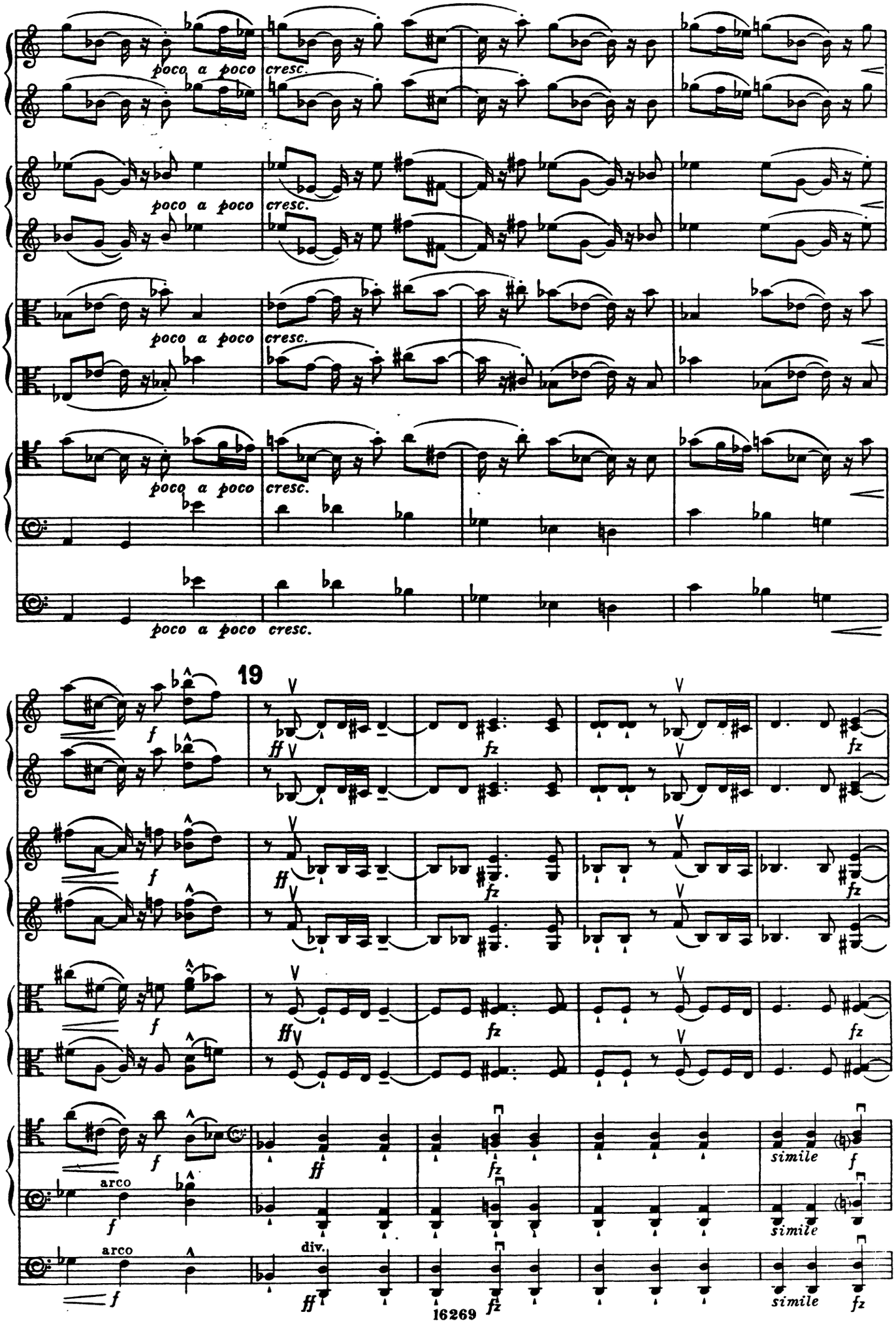
div. unis. div.

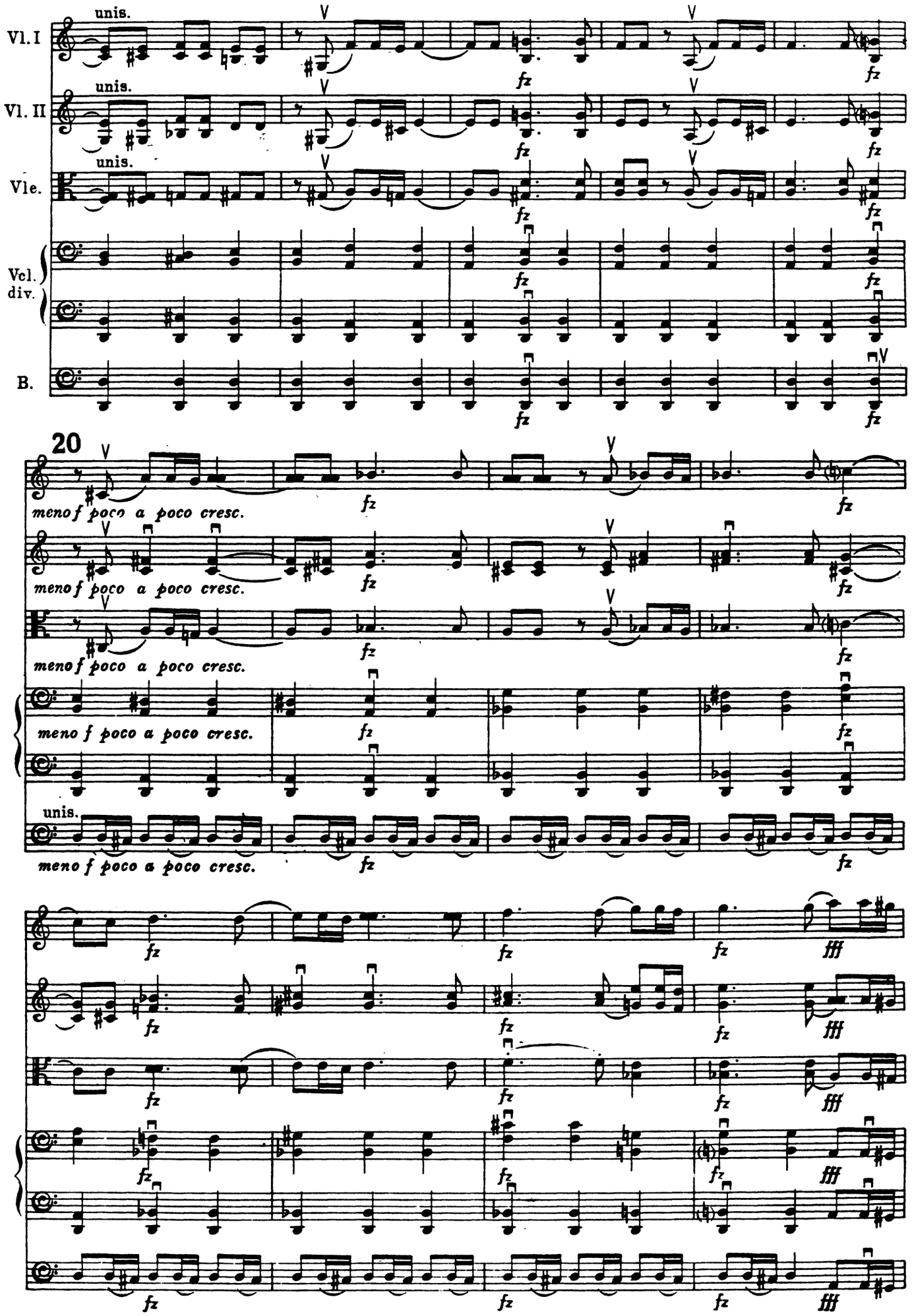
14

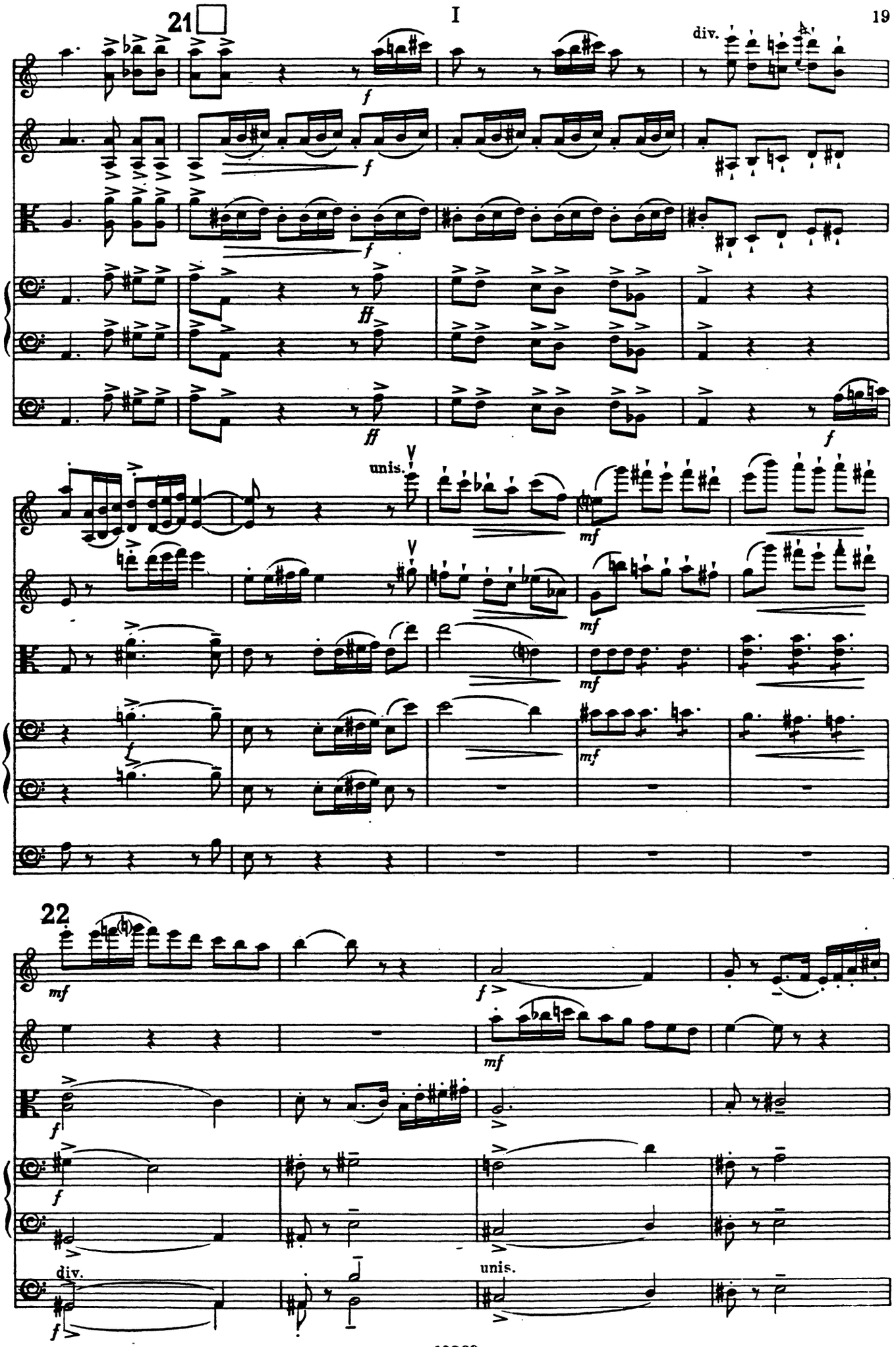
pizz. arco

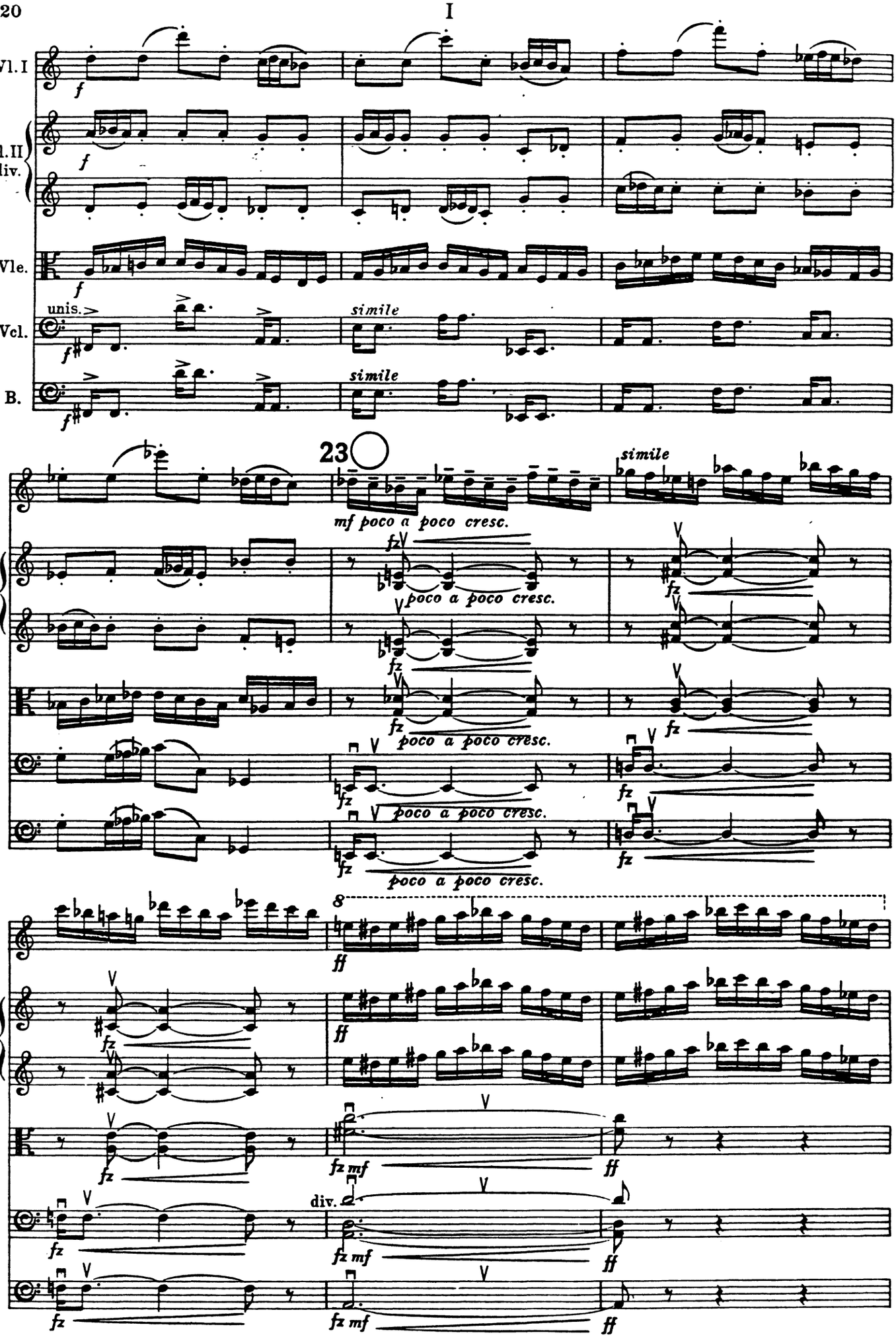

15
mp
poco a poco cresc.
mp
poco a poco cresc.
unis.
pizz.
mp
poco a poco cresc.
16
f
ff
f
ff
f
ff
f
marcato
ff
div.
arco
f
ff


17
mf
f
mp
unis.
pizz.
18
grazioso
pizz.


poco a poco cresc.
poco a poco cresc.
poco a poco cresc.
poco a poco cresc.
poco a poco cresc.
19
f
ff
fz
arco
div.
simile


Vl. I
Vl. II
Vle.
Vcl.
div.
B.
unis.
fz
20
meno f poco a poco cresc.
fff


21
div.
f
ff
unis.
mf
22
div.
unis.


Vl. I
Vl. II
div.
Vle.
Vcl.
B.
unis.
simile
23
mf poco a poco cresc.
poco a poco cresc.
fz
ff
mf
div.

Vl. I

Vl. II div.

Vle. div.

Vcl. div.

B.

ff

24

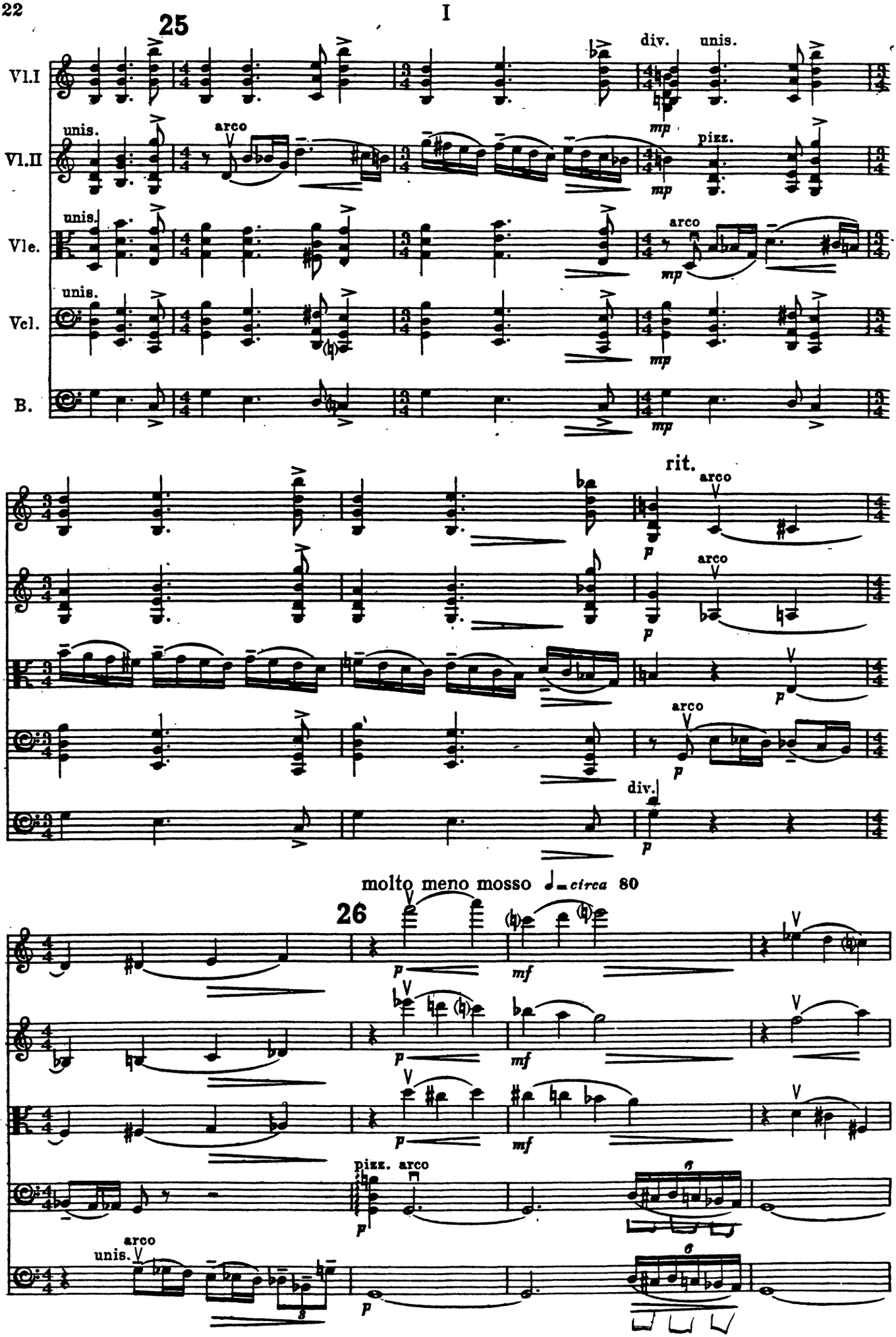
fz

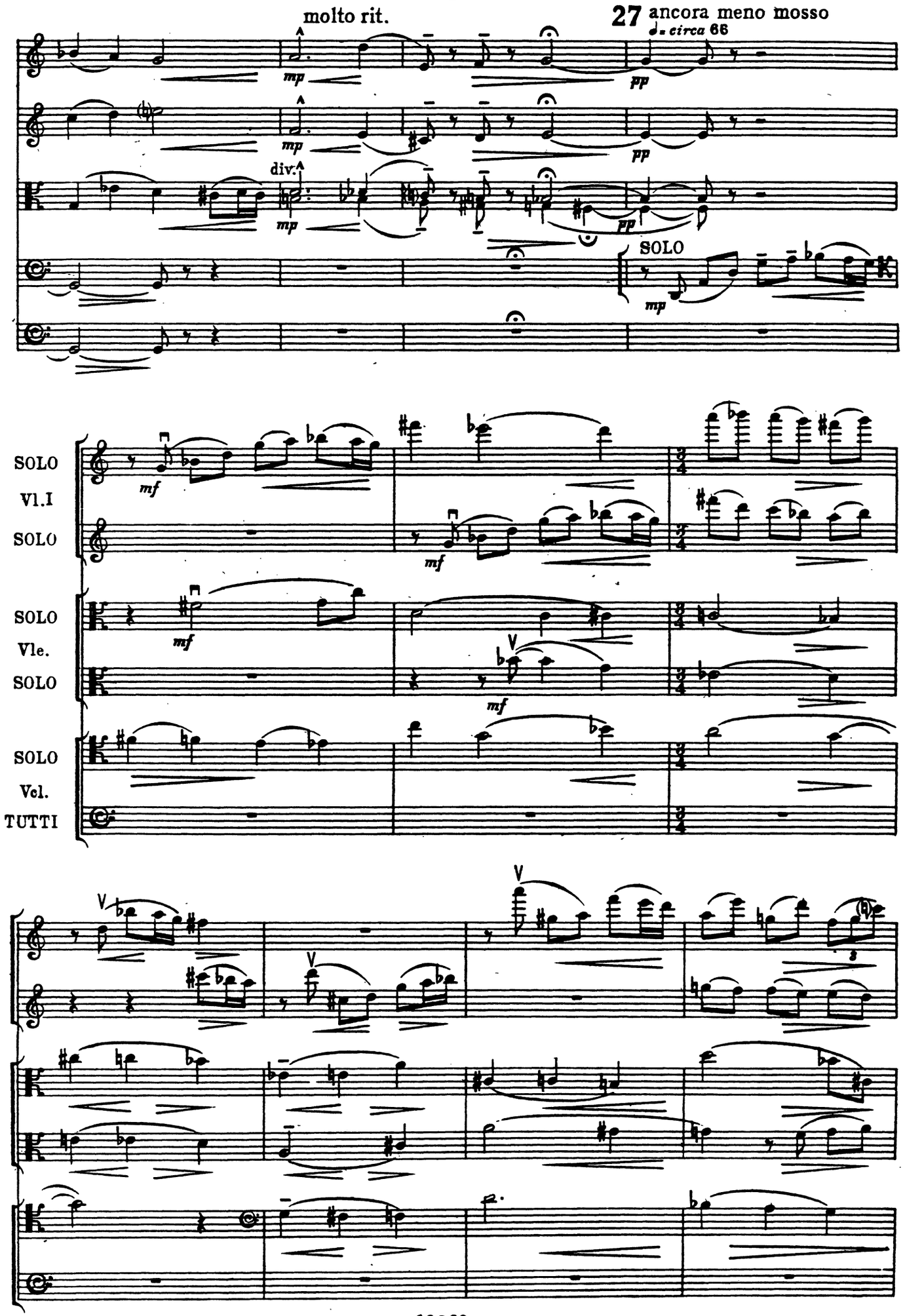
div.

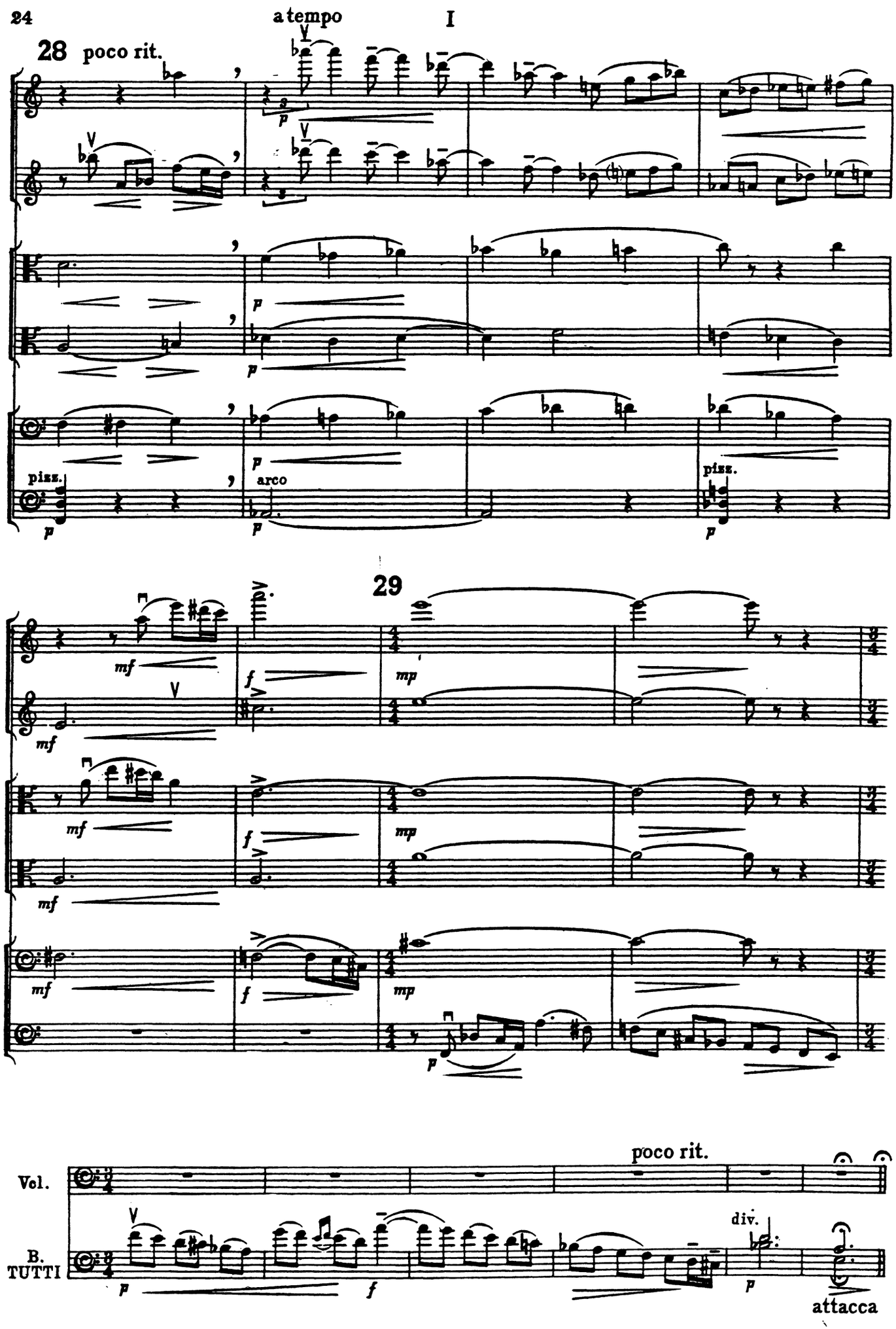
unis.

pizz.

mf


25
Vl.I
Vl.II
Vle.
Vcl.
B.
unis.
arco
div.
pizz.
mp
rit.
p
molto meno mosso ♩= circa 80
26
mf
pizz. arco
unis.


molto rit.
27 ancora meno mosso
♩= circa 66
mp
pp
div.
SOLO
mf
SOLO
Vl.I
SOLO
SOLO
Vle.
SOLO
SOLO
Vcl.
TUTTI


a tempo
I
28
poco rit.
p
pizz.
arco
29
mf
f
mp
Vcl.
B.
TUTTI
poco rit.
div.
attacca

II

Andante, molto sostenuto ♩ (♩.) = 56

VL. I TUTTI

VL. II

div.

pp

SOLO VLE.

mf cantabile

TUTTI

(Solo)

SOLO VCL.

mf cantabile

TUTTI

pp

B.

div.

pp

unis.

30

p

mp

mf

f

p

mp

mf

f

p

mp

mf

pizz.

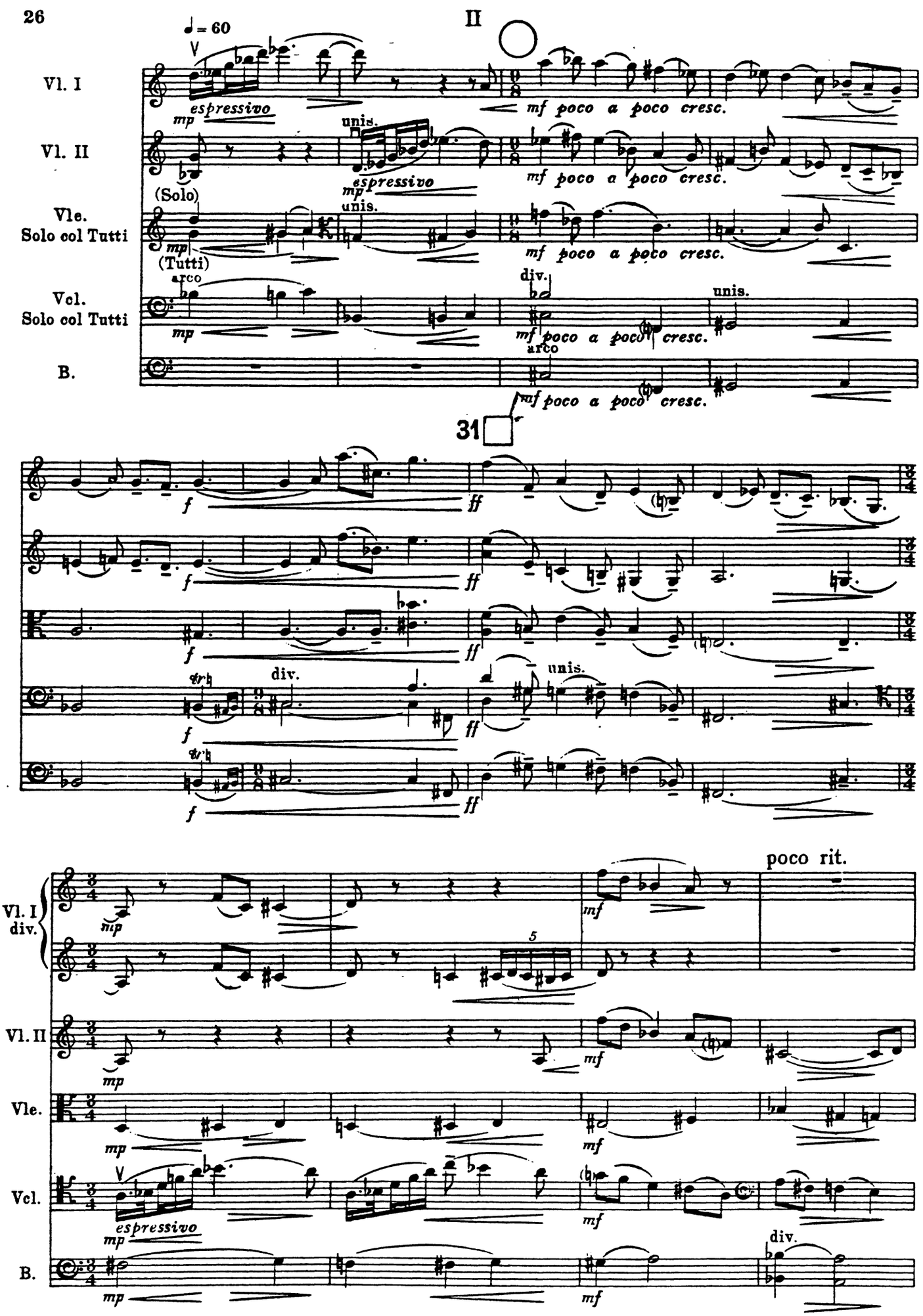
p

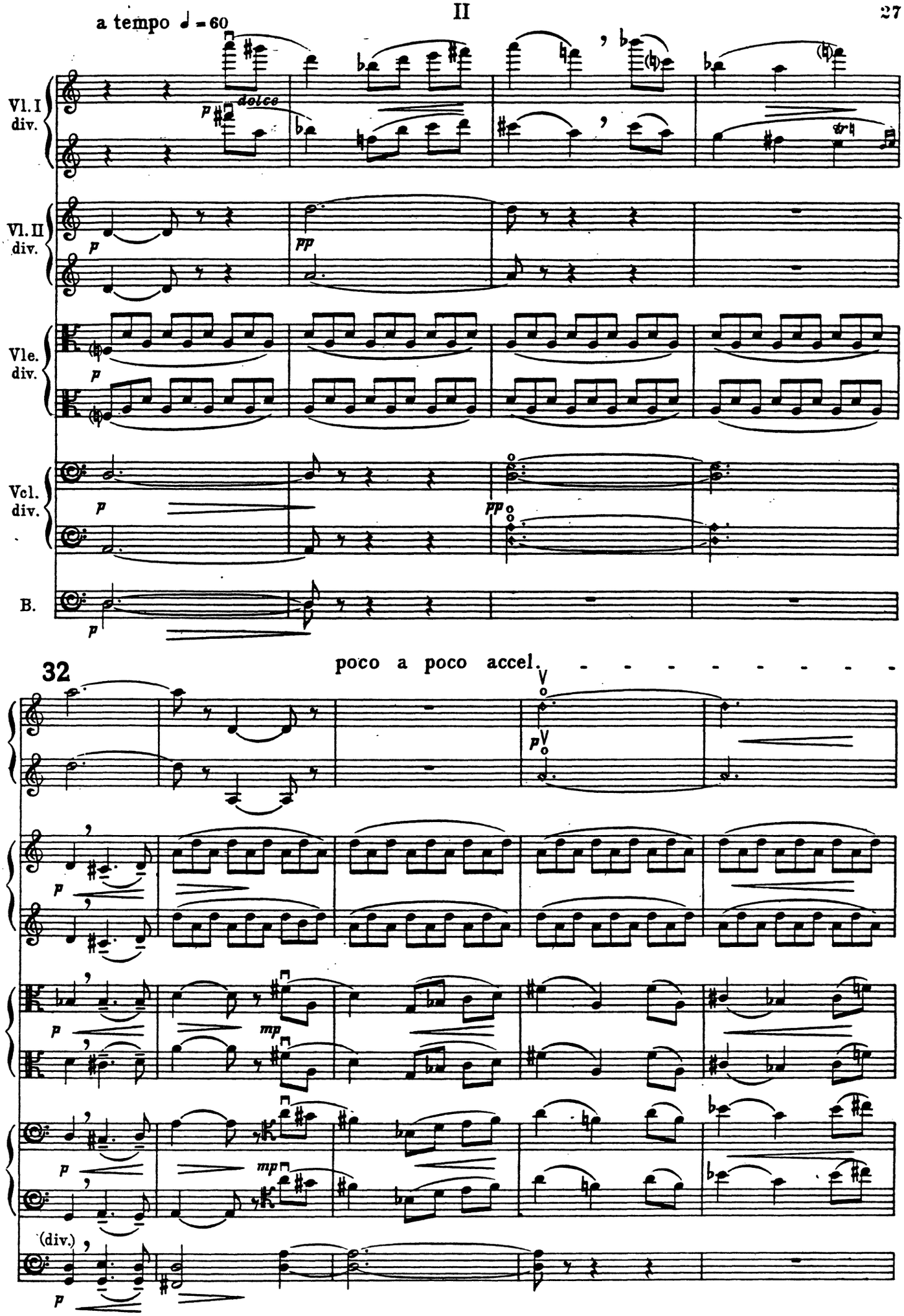
p

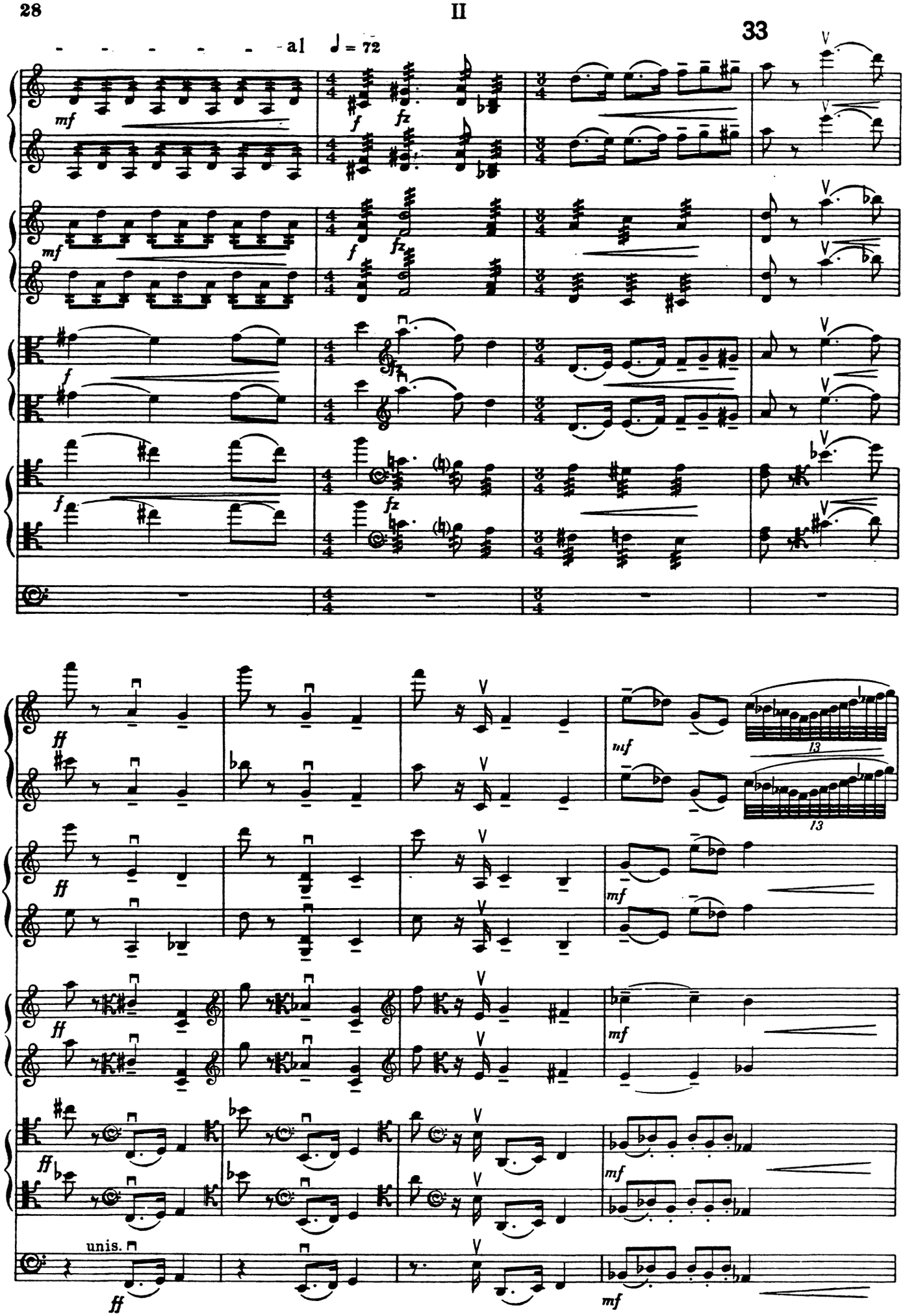
mp

pizz.

p


♩ = 60
II
Vl. I
espressivo
mp
mf poco a poco cresc.
Vl. II
unis.
espressivo
mp
mf poco a poco cresc.
Vle.
Solo col Tutti
(Solo)
unis.
mp
(Tutti)
mf poco a poco cresc.
Vcl.
Solo col Tutti
arco
div.
unis.
mp
mf poco a poco cresc.
B.
arco
mf poco a poco cresc.
31
f
ff
div.
unis.
poco rit.
Vl. I
div.
mp
mf
5
espressivo
div.


a tempo ♩ = 60
Vl. I div.
dolce
Vl. II div.
Vle. div.
Vcl. div.
B.
32
poco a poco accel.
(div.)


II
33
- - - - - - - al
♩ = 72
mf
f
fz
ff
mf
13
unis.

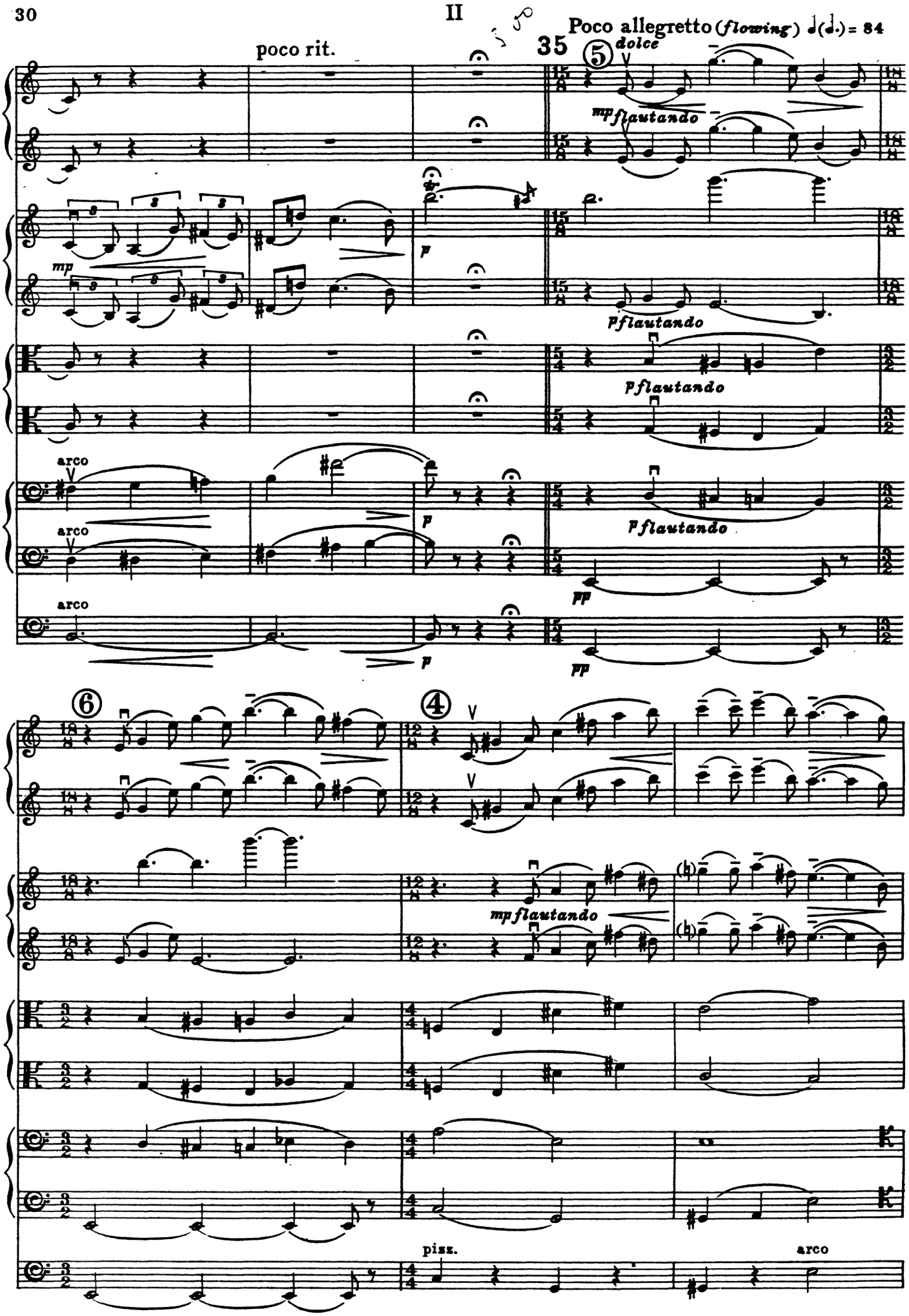
34 poco a poco rall. - - - - - - - - - al

♩ = 60

f dim. f dim. f dim. f dim. f

mf mp mf mp mf mp mf mp

pizz. (pizz.) pizz. (pizz.)


II
poco rit.
35
Poco allegretto (flowing) ♩(♩.) = 84
5
dolce
mp flautando
mp
p
p flautando
p flautando
arco
arco
p
p flautando
pp
arco
p
pp
6
4
mp flautando
pizz.
arco

II

Vl. I — unis. — mp

Vl. II — div. — p — unis. — mp

Vle. — unis. — p — mp

Vcl. div. — p

B.

36 ⑥ ④

f — mf

pizz. — mf

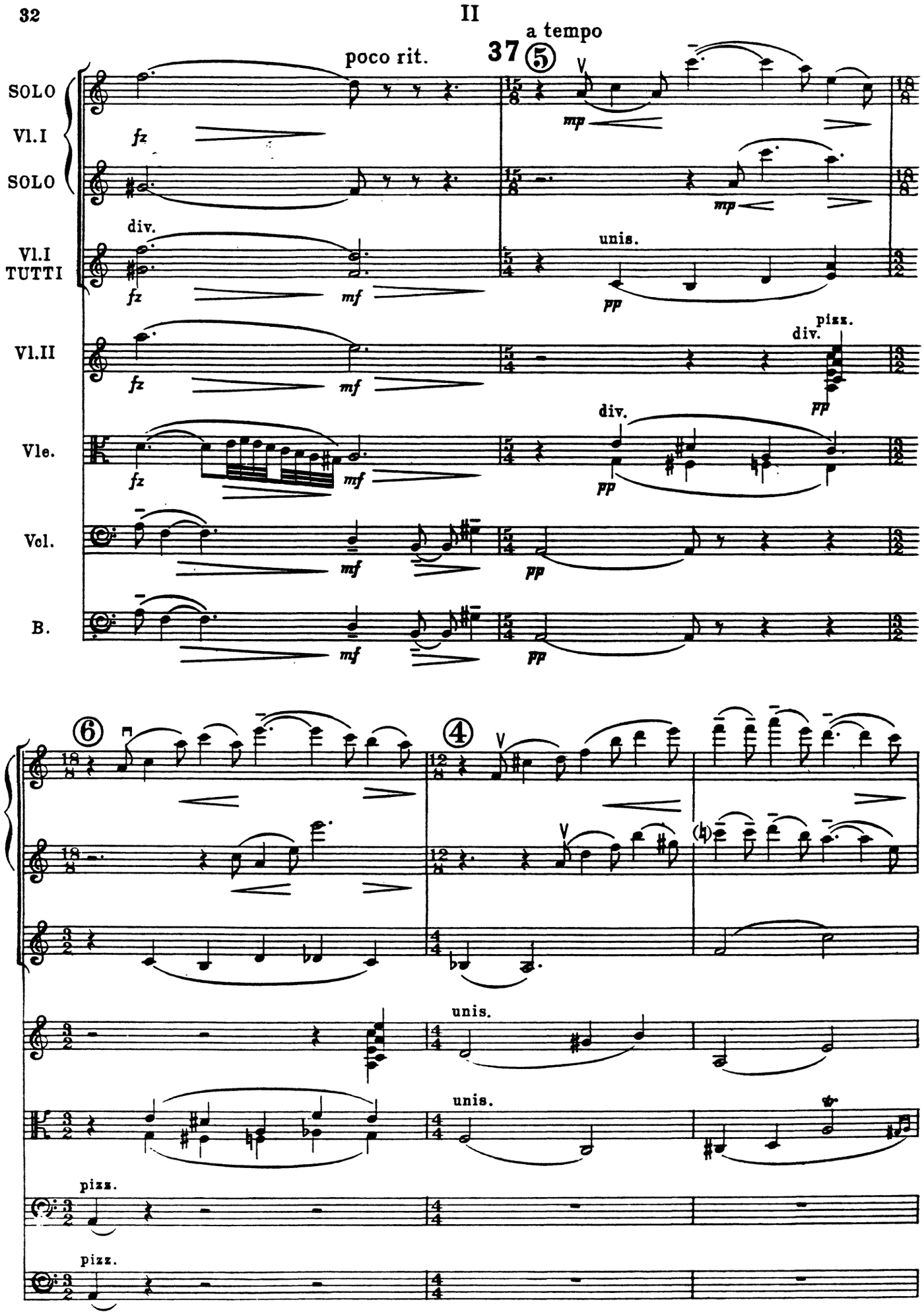
⑥ ④

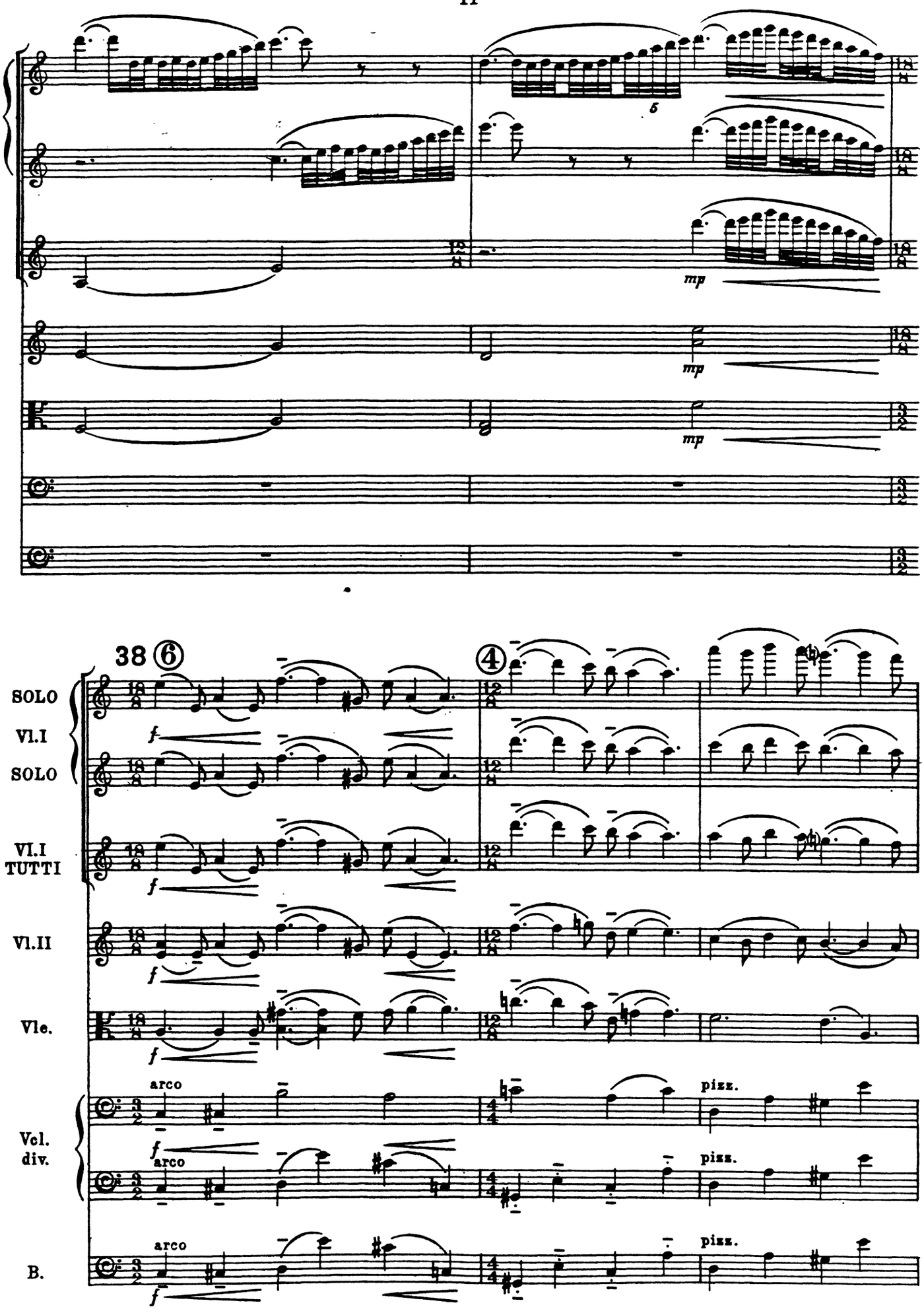
div.

f — fz

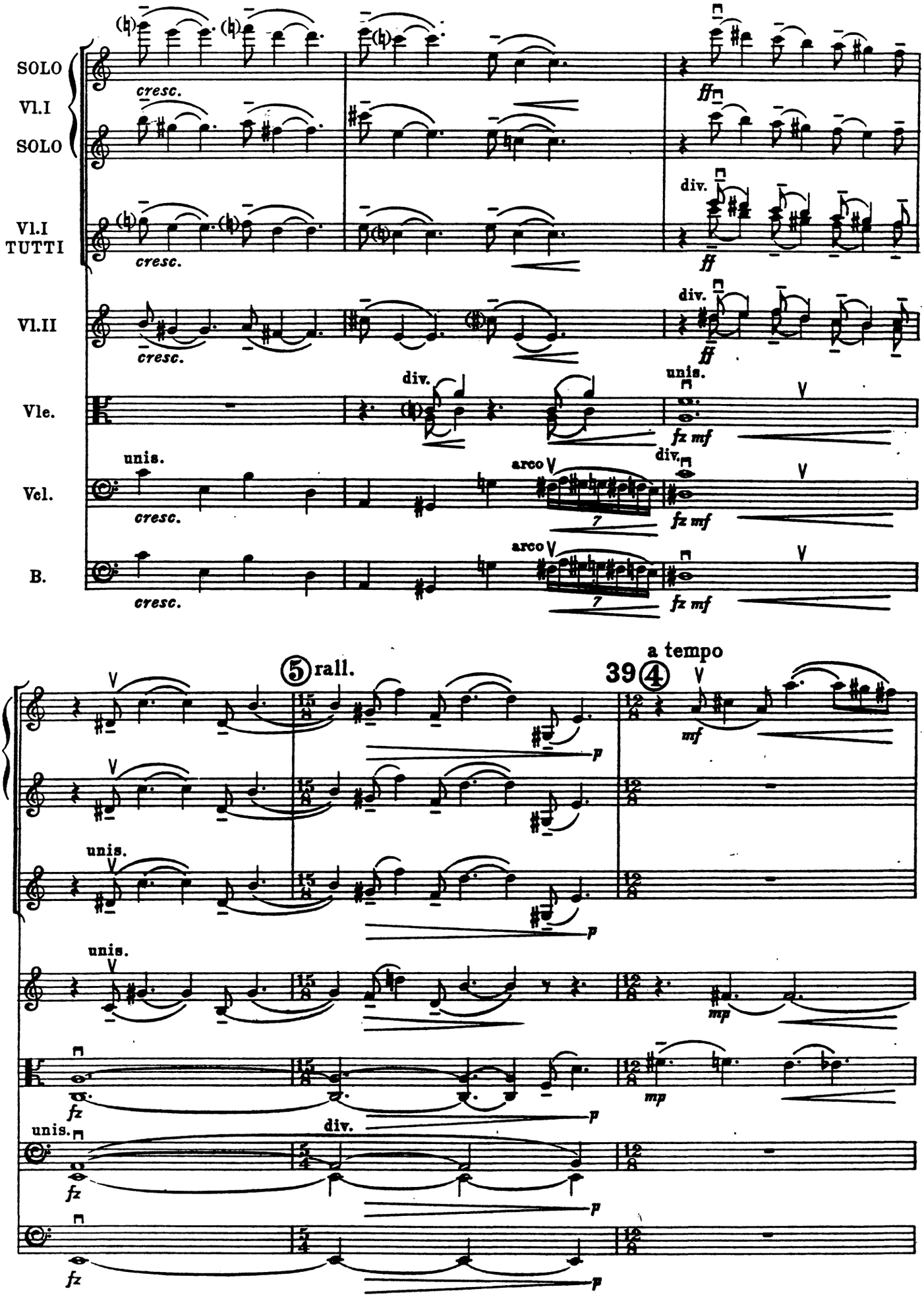
unis. arco

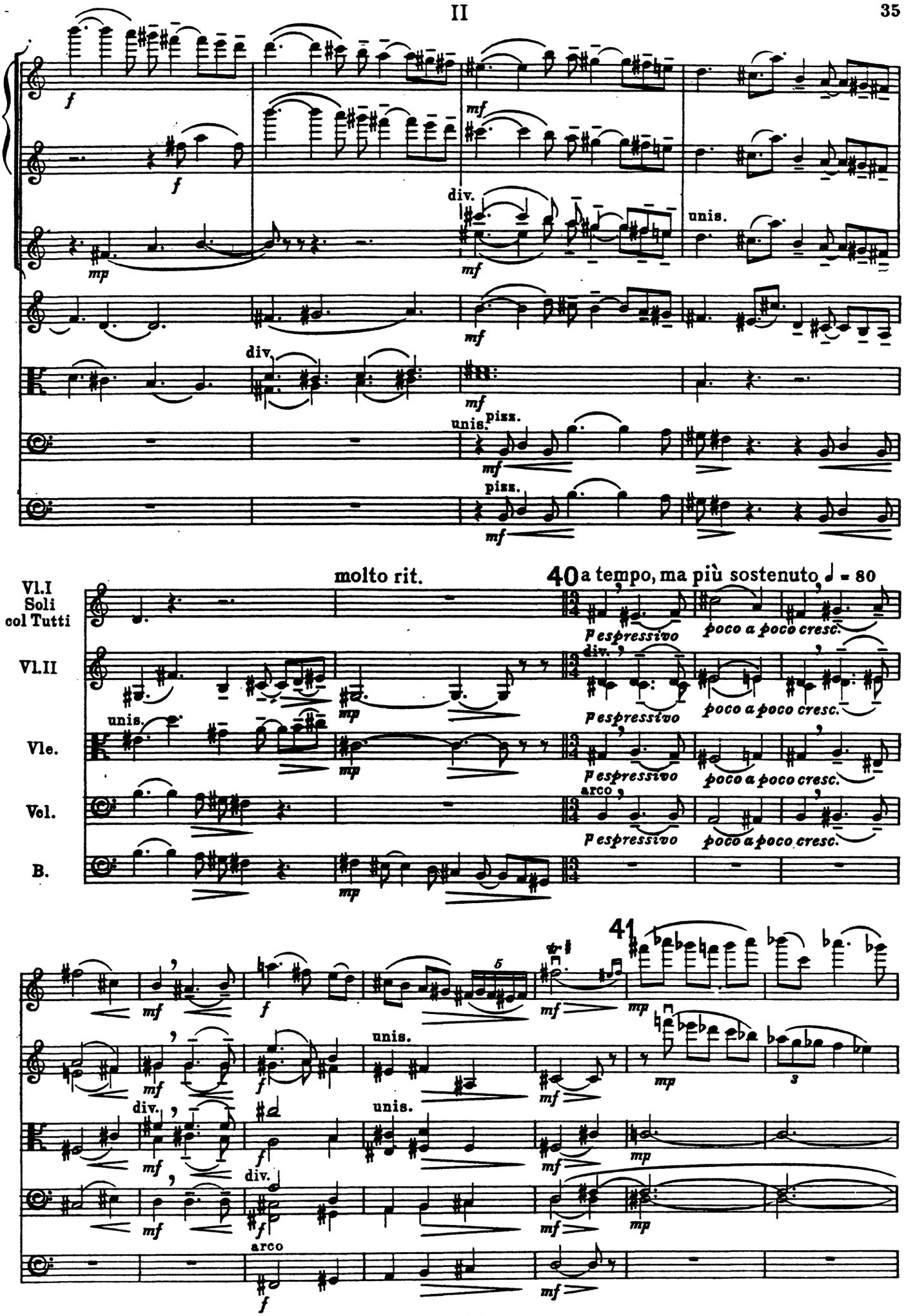
arco


II
poco rit.
37
a tempo
SOLO
Vl.I
SOLO
Vl.I
TUTTI
div.
unis.
Vl.II
div.
pizz.
Vle.
div.
Vcl.
B.
unis.
unis.
pizz.
pizz.


38 ⑥
④
SOLO
Vl.I
SOLO
Vl.I
TUTTI
Vl.II
Vle.
Vcl.
div.
B.
arco
pizz.
f
mp

II


SOLO
Vl.I
SOLO
Vl.I
TUTTI
Vl.II
Vle.
Vcl.
B.
cresc.
ff
div.
unis.
fz mf
arco
5 rall.
a tempo
39 4
mf
mp
fz
p


div.
unis.
div.
unis.
pizz.
pizz.
molto rit.
40 a tempo, ma più sostenuto ♩ = 80
Vl.I
Soli
col Tutti
Vl.II
Vle.
Vcl.
B.
espressivo
poco a poco cresc.
div.
unis.
arco
41
5
3
unis.
div.
unis.
div.
arco

II

poco rit.

a tempo

mp espressivo

p

unis.

p

mp espressivo

div. pizz.

p ma pesante

42

mf

mf

mf

div.

arco unis.

mf

43

f poco a poco cresc.

ff

f poco a poco cresc.

div.

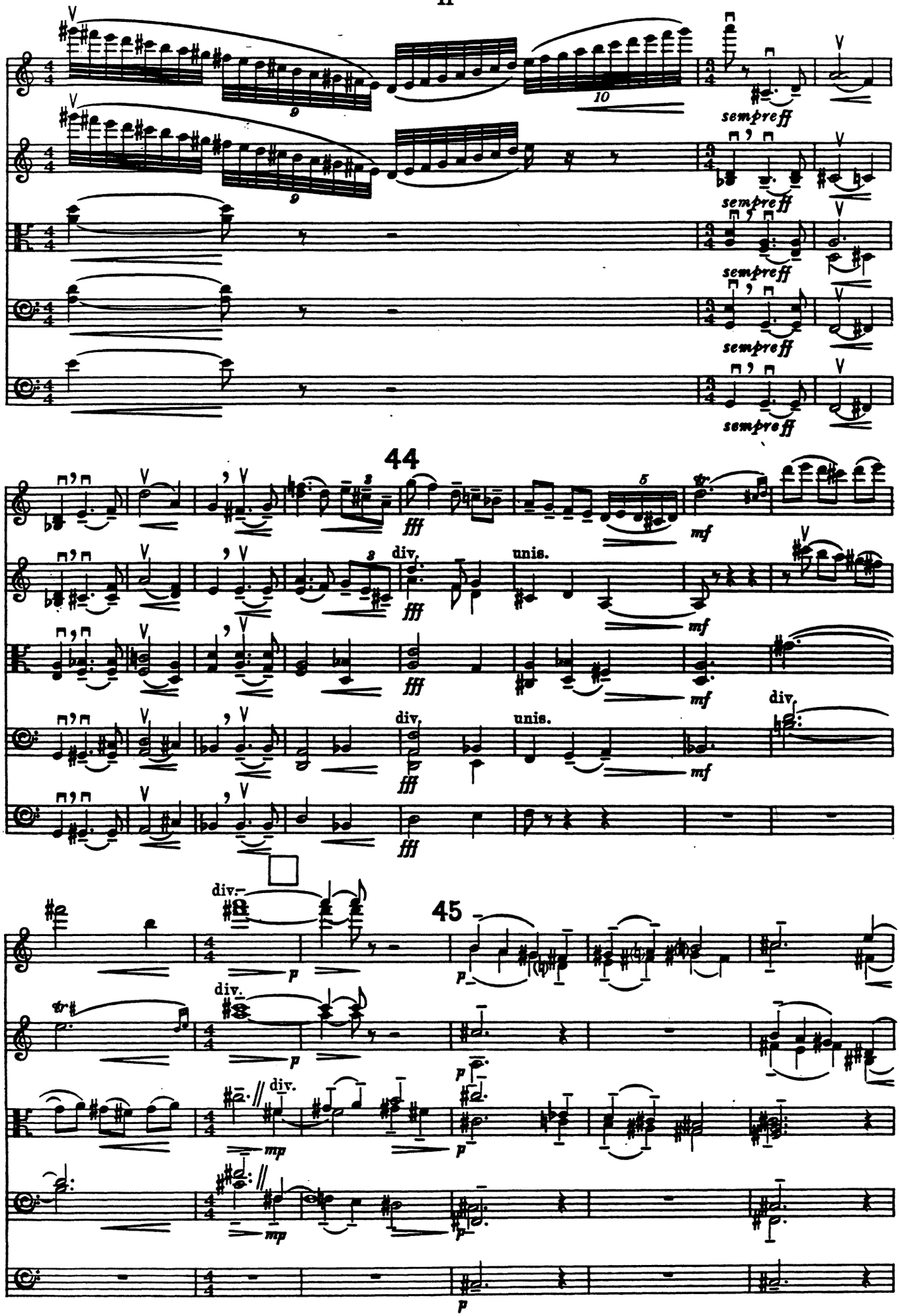
fz poco a poco cresc.

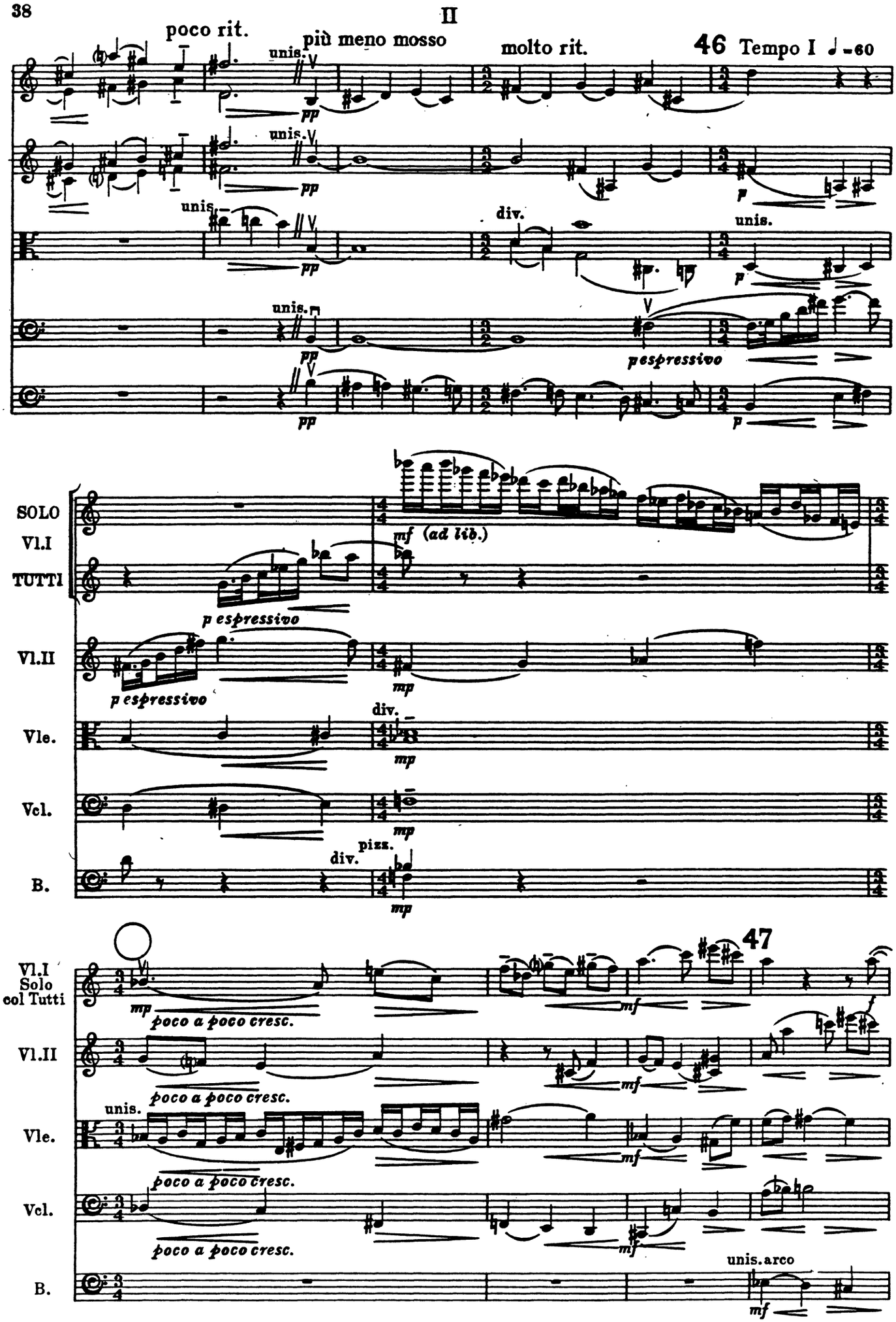
unis.

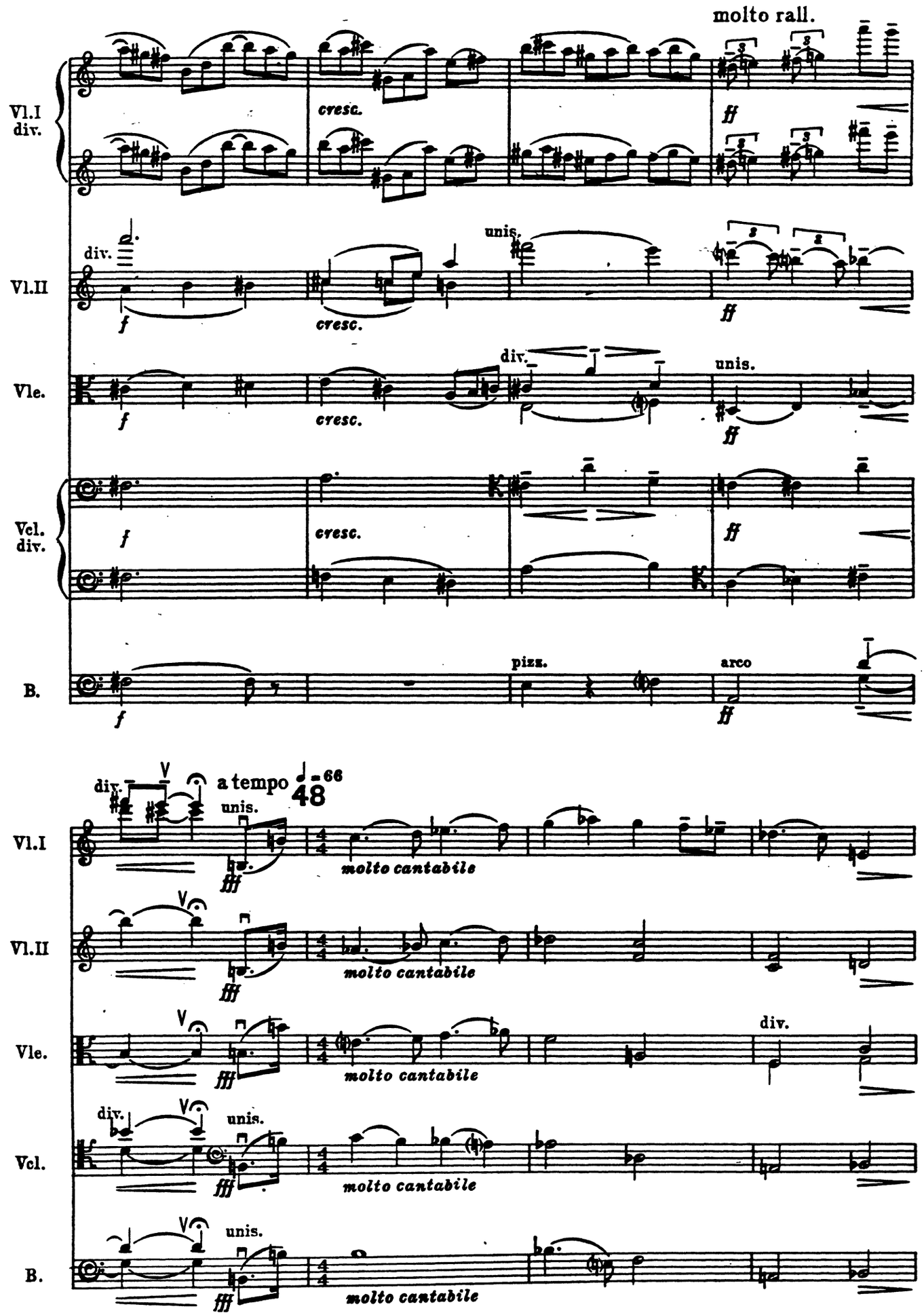
fz poco a poco cresc.

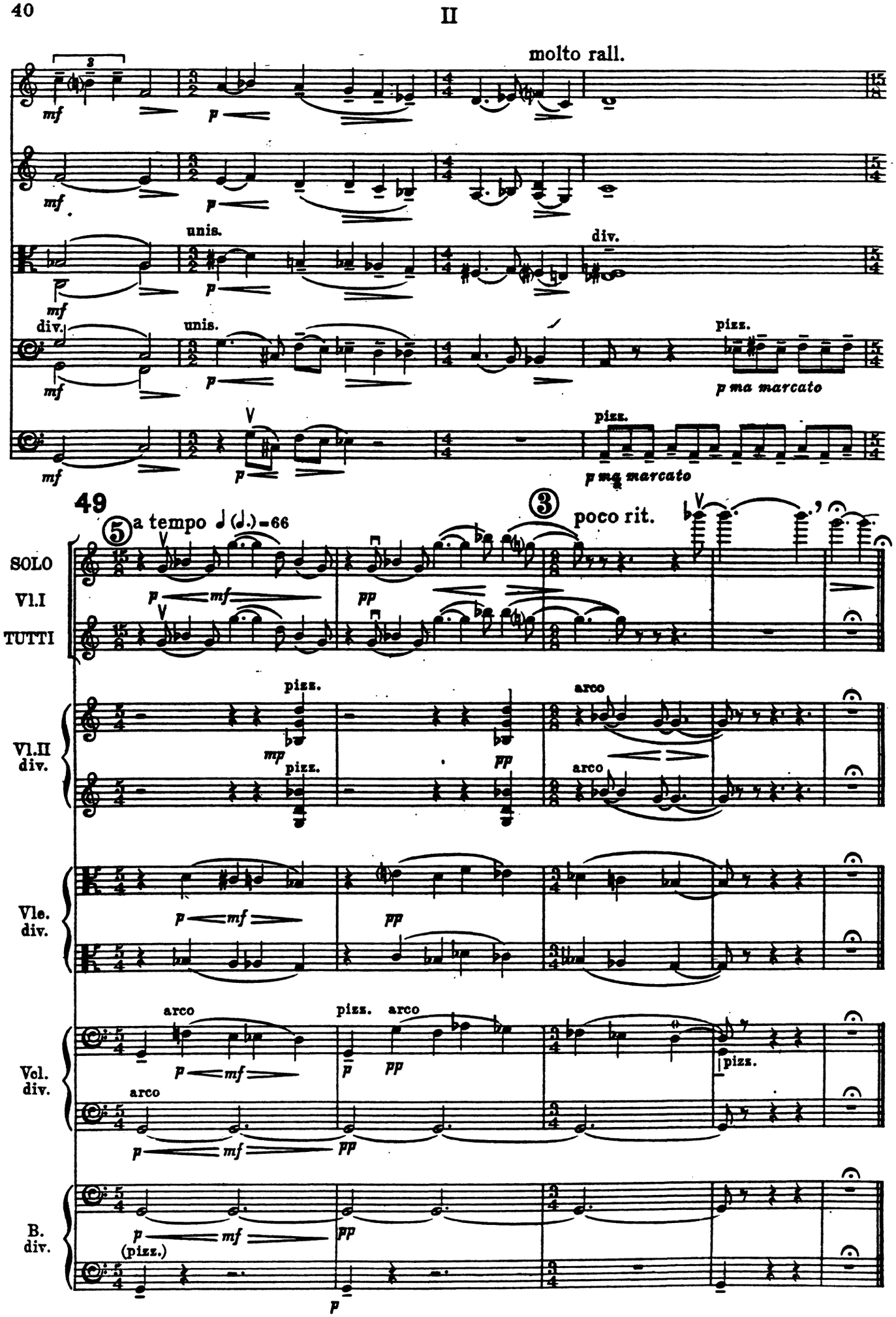
unis.

fz poco a poco cresc.

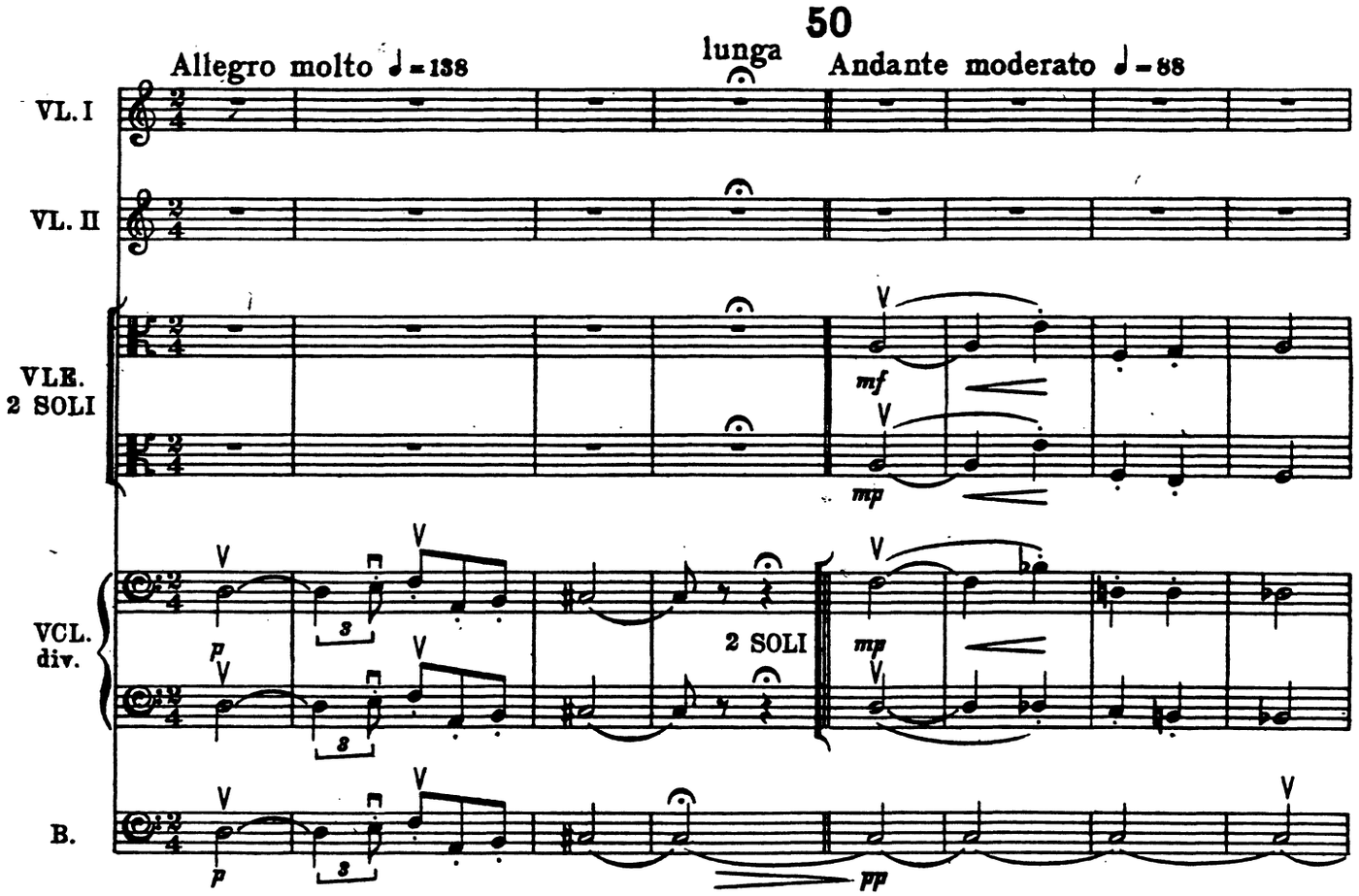

9
10
sempreff
44
fff
mf
div.
unis.
45
p
mp

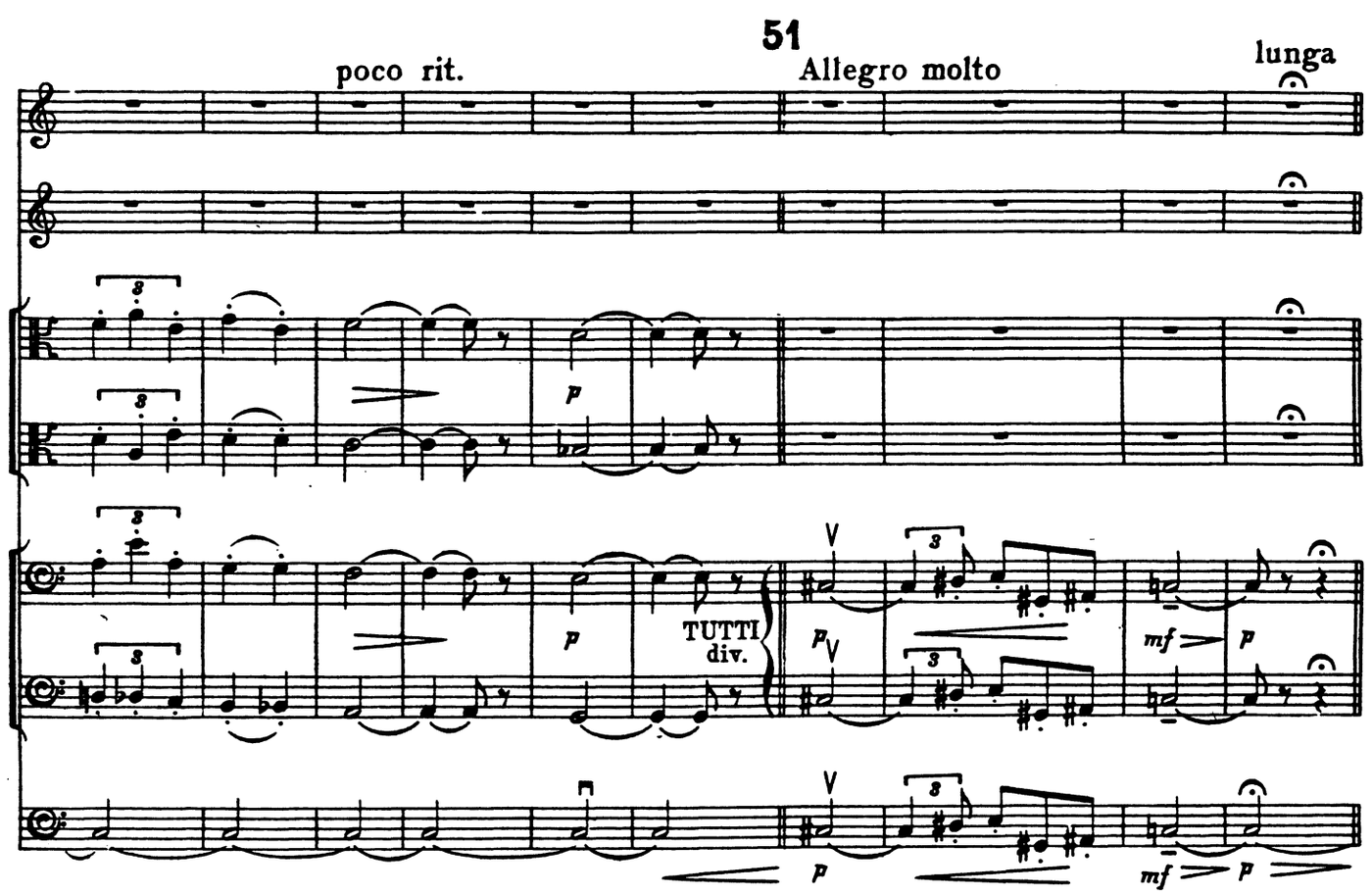

II
poco rit.
più meno mosso
molto rit.
46 Tempo I ♩=60
unis.
pp
p
div.
espressivo
SOLO Vl.I
TUTTI
mf (ad lib.)
p espressivo
Vl.II
mp
Vle.
Vcl.
B.
pizz.
47
Vl.I Solo col Tutti
poco a poco cresc.
mf
f
unis.arco


molto rall.
Vl.I
div.
cresc.
ff
Vl.II
div.
f
cresc.
unis.
ff
Vle.
f
cresc.
div.
unis.
ff
Vcl.
div.
f
cresc.
ff
B.
f
pizz.
arco
ff
div.
a tempo ♩=66
48
unis.
Vl.I
fff
molto cantabile
Vl.II
fff
molto cantabile
Vle.
fff
molto cantabile
div.
Vcl.
div.
unis.
fff
molto cantabile
B.
unis.
fff
molto cantabile


II
molto rall.
unis.
div.
pizz.
p ma marcato
49
5 a tempo ♩ (♩.) = 66
3 poco rit.
SOLO
Vl.I
TUTTI
Vl.II
div.
arco
Vle.
Vcl.
B.
(pizz.)

III


50
Allegro molto ♩=138
lunga
Andante moderato ♩=88
VL. I
VL. II
VLE.
2 SOLI
VCL.
div.
2 SOLI
B.


51
poco rit.
Allegro molto
lunga
TUTTI
div.

III

52

Andante moderato

Vl. I SOLO

Vl. II 2 SOLI

Vle. 2 SOLI

Vcl. 2 SOLI

B.

poco rit.

53

Allegro molto

Vl. I SOLO

Vl. II 2 SOLI

Vle. 2 SOLI

Vcl. TUTTI div.

B.

TUTTI

mp poco a poco cresc.

Vl. I TUTTI
fz mp
f
div.
Vl. II
mf
f
Vle.
mf
f
Vcl. div.
mf
f
B.
mf
f

54 molto rit.

Vl. I
div.
fz poco a poco dim. mf p
Vl. II
fz poco a poco dim. mf p
Vle.
fz poco a poco dim. mf p
Vcl.
unis. pizz.
fz marcato poco a poco dim.
div. arco
mf p
B.
div.
fz poco a poco dim.
unis. pizz.
mf
arco
p

Allegro con spirito ♩.=126

unis.
mf
unis. pizz.
mf
unis. pizz.
mf
pizz.
unis.
mf
div. pizz.
mf

III

55

arco

fz

arco

fz

div.

arco

fz

unis.

mf

arco

fz

fz

fz

fz

fz

unis.

fz

pizz.

fz

fz

fz

pizz.

fz

fz

fz

pizz.

fz

56

f

fz

div.

mf

p

unis.

pizz.

f

fz

div.

mf

unis.

p

mf

arco

f

fz

mf

arco

f

mf

div.

p

pizz.

arco

f

mf

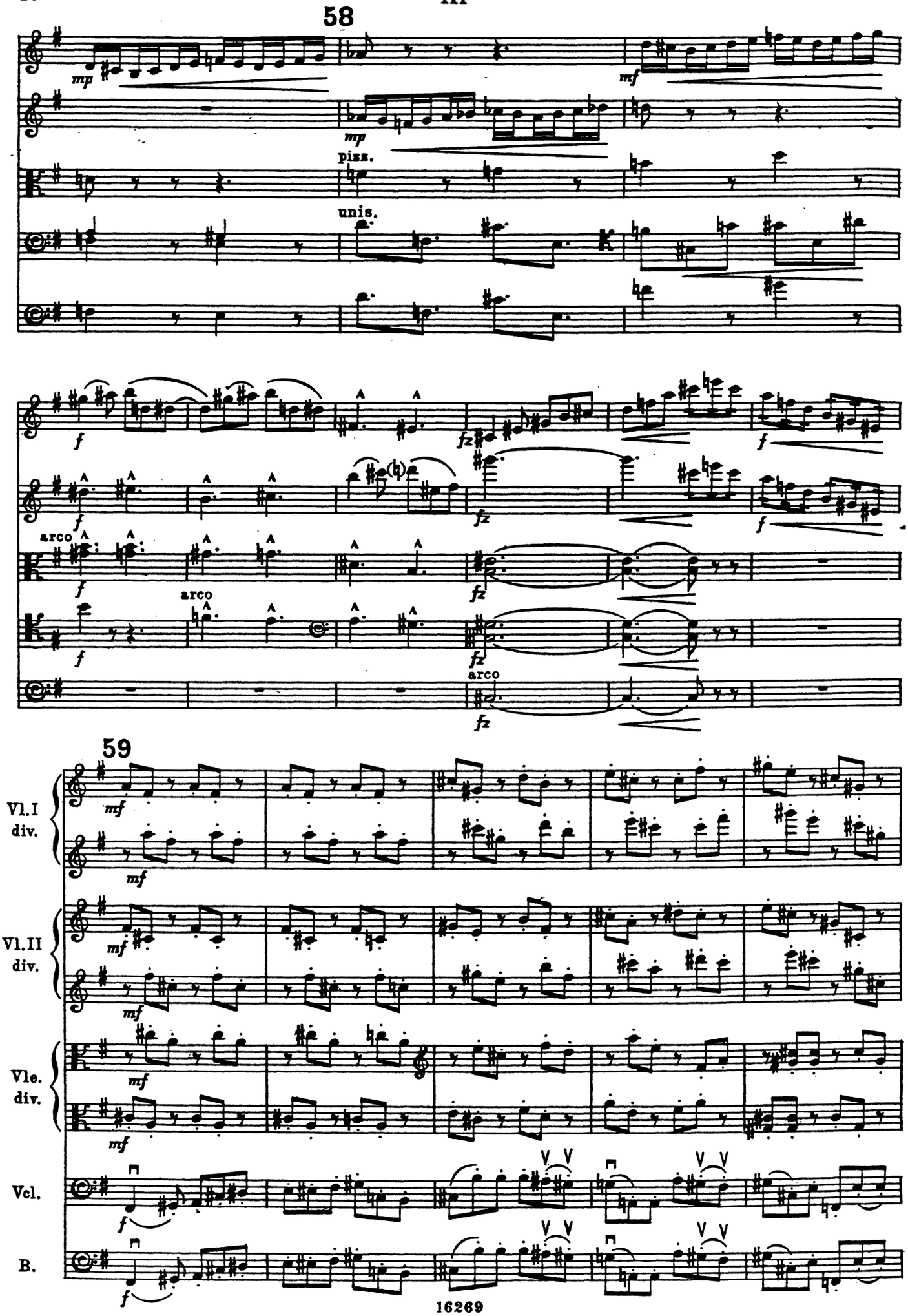
57

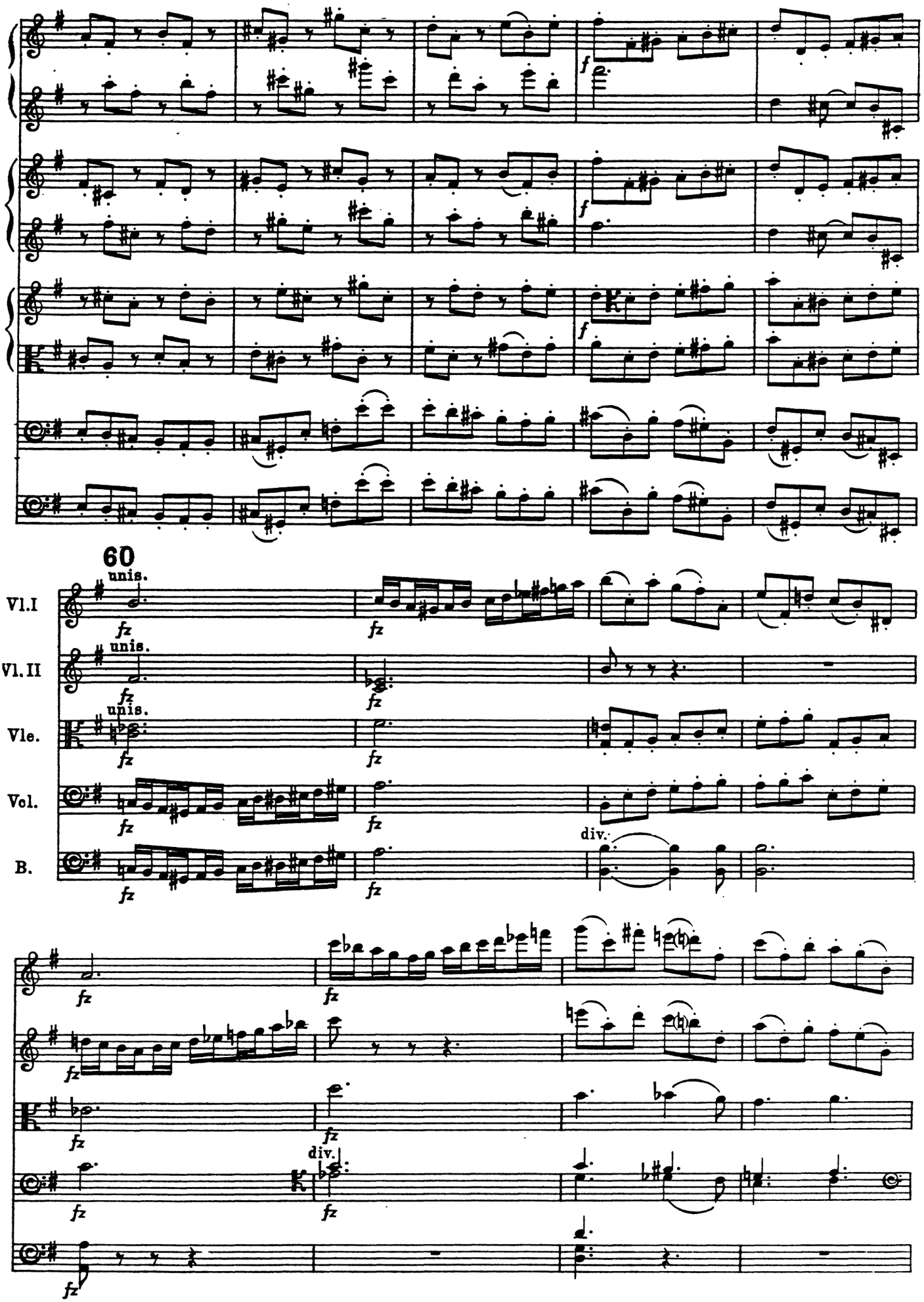
arco
mf
div.
unis.
arco
mf

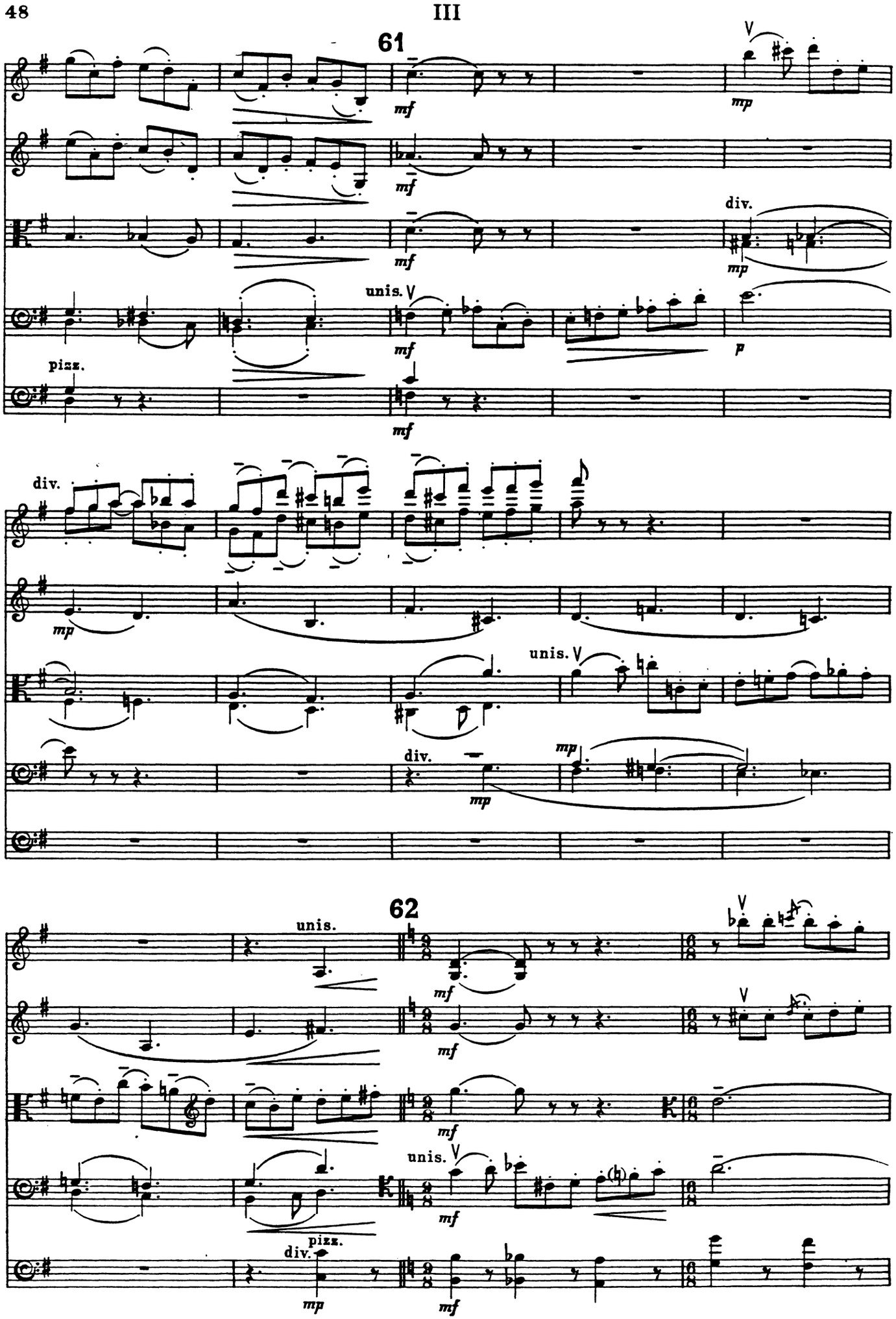
unis.
div.
pizz.
div.
pizz.
unis.
mf

fz
fz
fz
unis.
fz
p poco a poco cresc.
arco
fz
pizz.
fz
p poco a poco cresc.
fz
p poco a poco cresc.

D


58
mp
mf
mp
pizz.
unis.
f
fz
f
arco
f
fz
f
arco
f
fz
arco
fz
59
Vl.I
div.
mf
mf
Vl.II
div.
mf
mf
Vle.
div.
mf
mf
Vcl.
f
B.
f


60
Vl.I
Vl.II
Vle.
Vcl.
B.
unis.
div.


III
61
mf
mp
div.
unis.
p
pizz.
62
mf
mp

div.

arco

63

unis.

simile

Vl.I

Vl.II div.

Vle. div.

Vcl.

B.

div.

unis.

III

Vl.I

Vl.II

Vle.

Vcl.

B.

div. unis. div. unis. div. unis. div.

* D♭ notation in parts

64

sempre f

unis. sempre f mf

pizz. sempre f mf

65

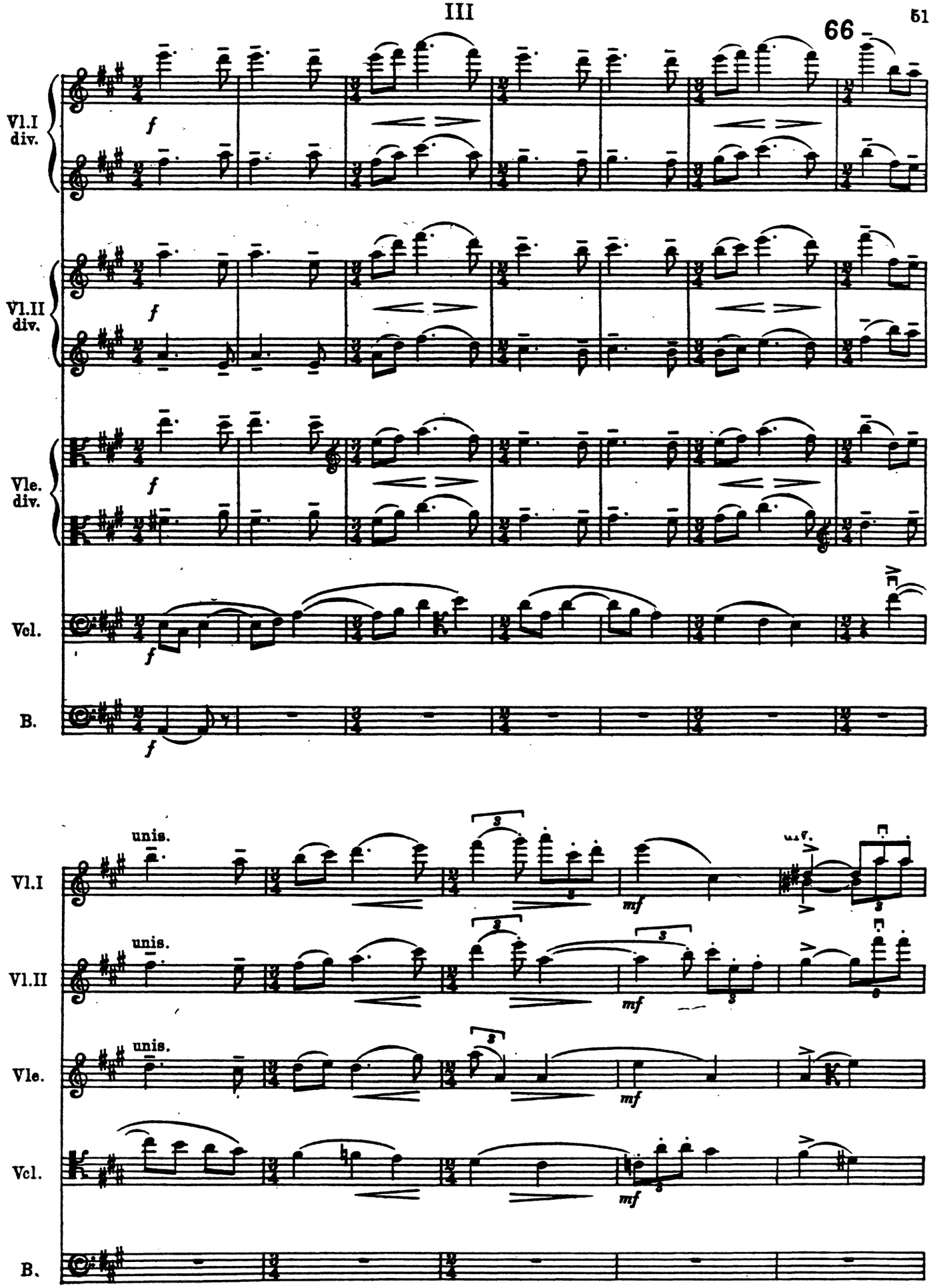
unis. mp

p poco a poco cresc.

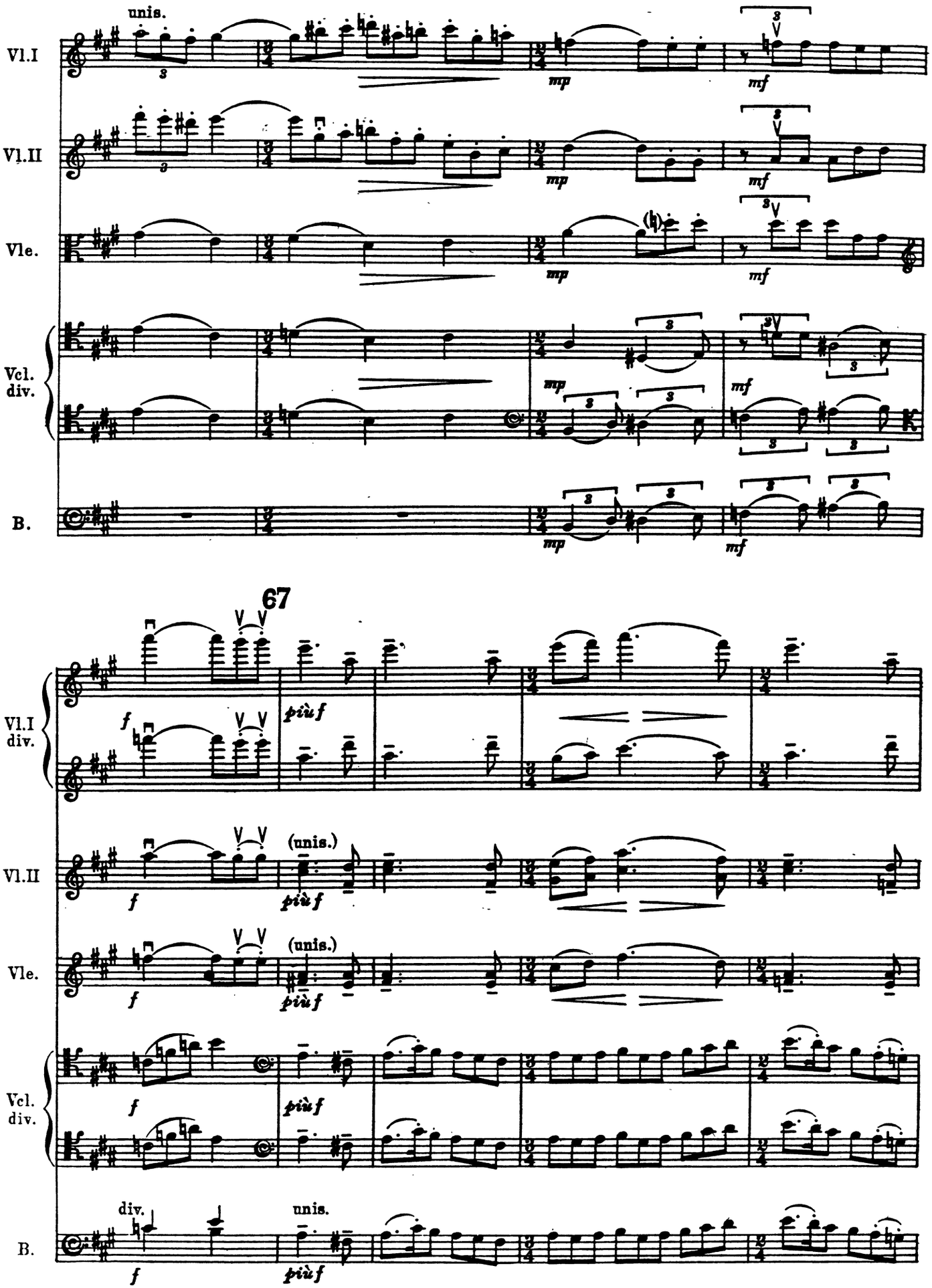
div. p poco a poco cresc.

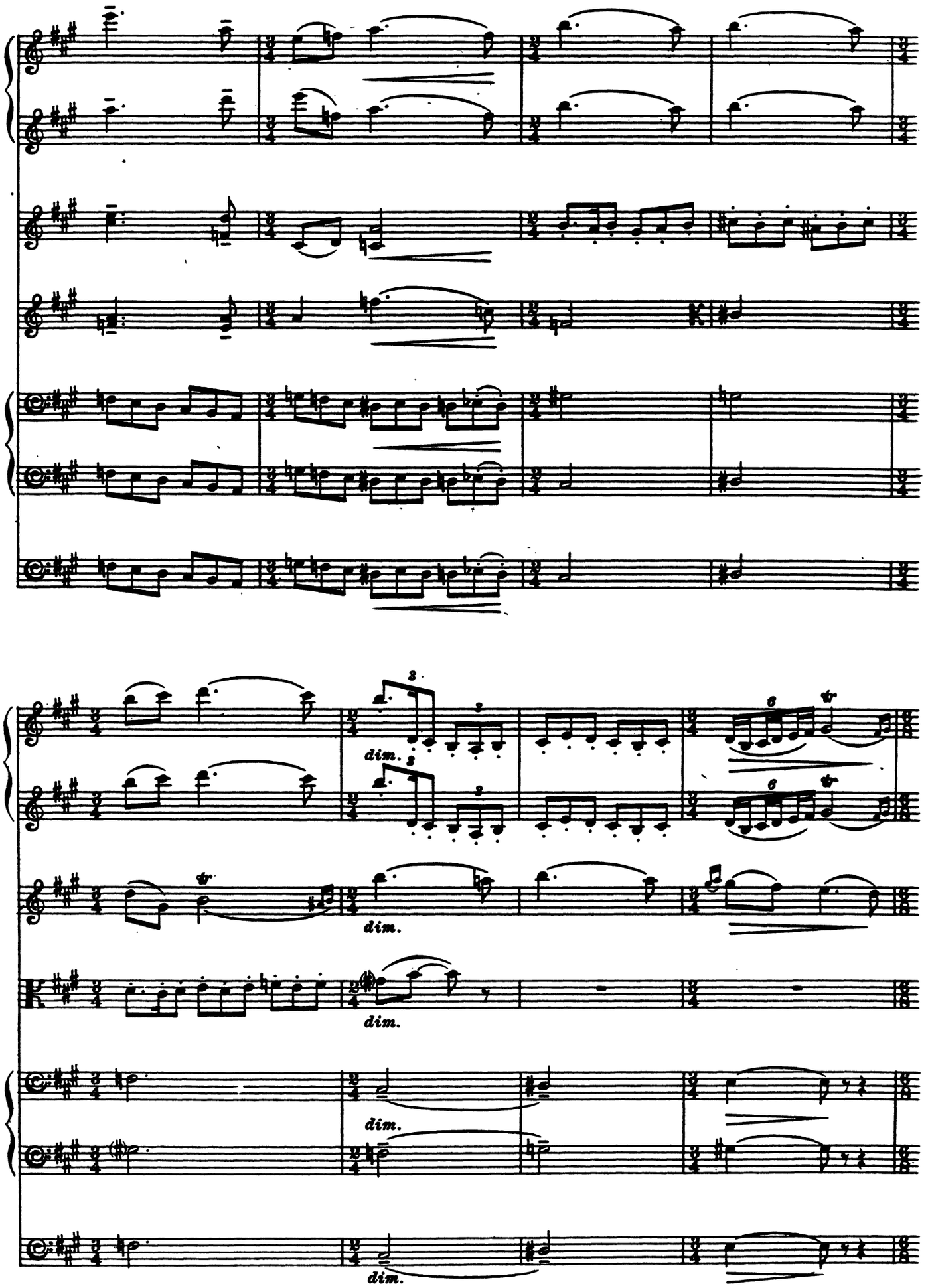
p poco a poco cresc.

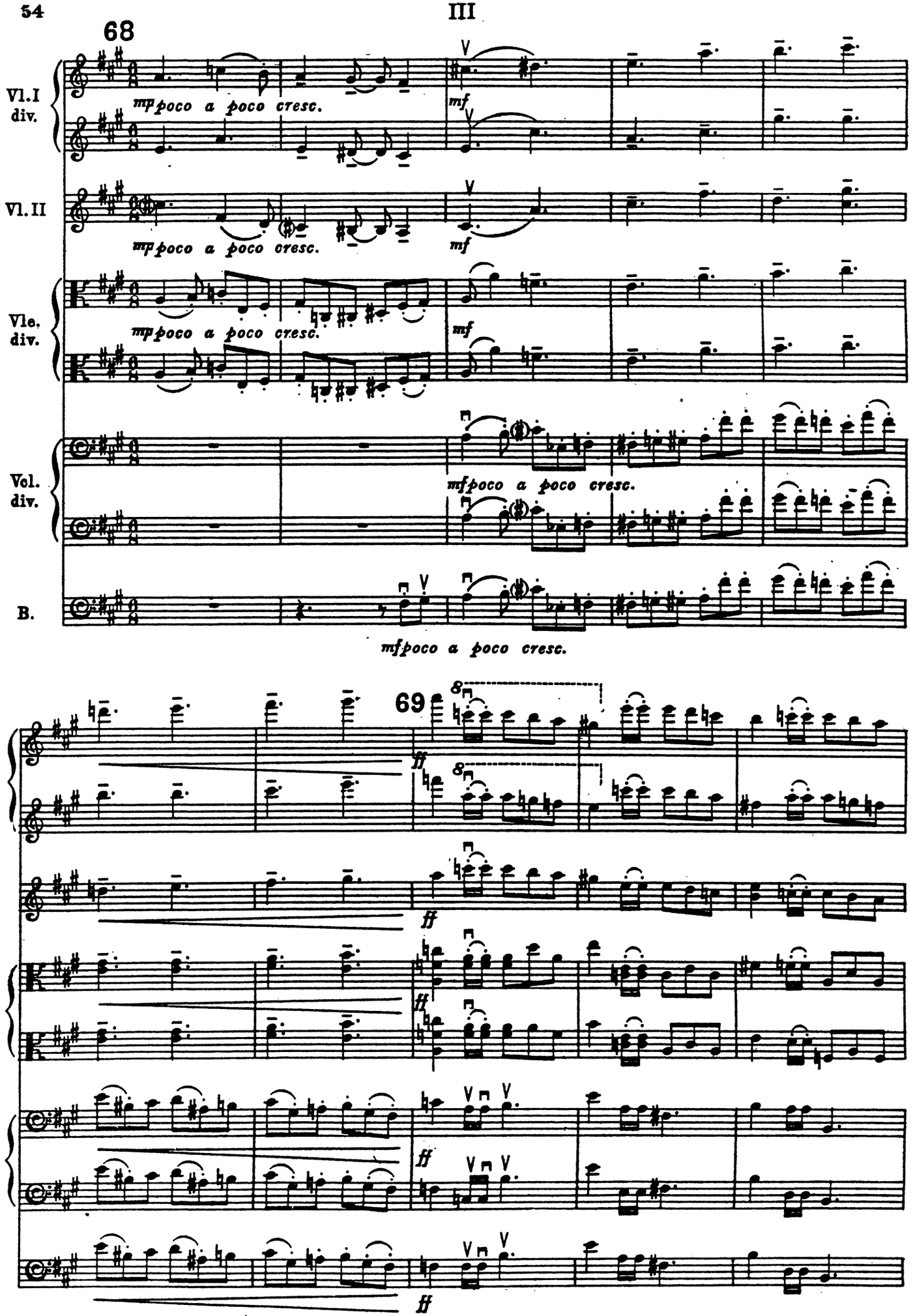
arco p poco a poco cresc.

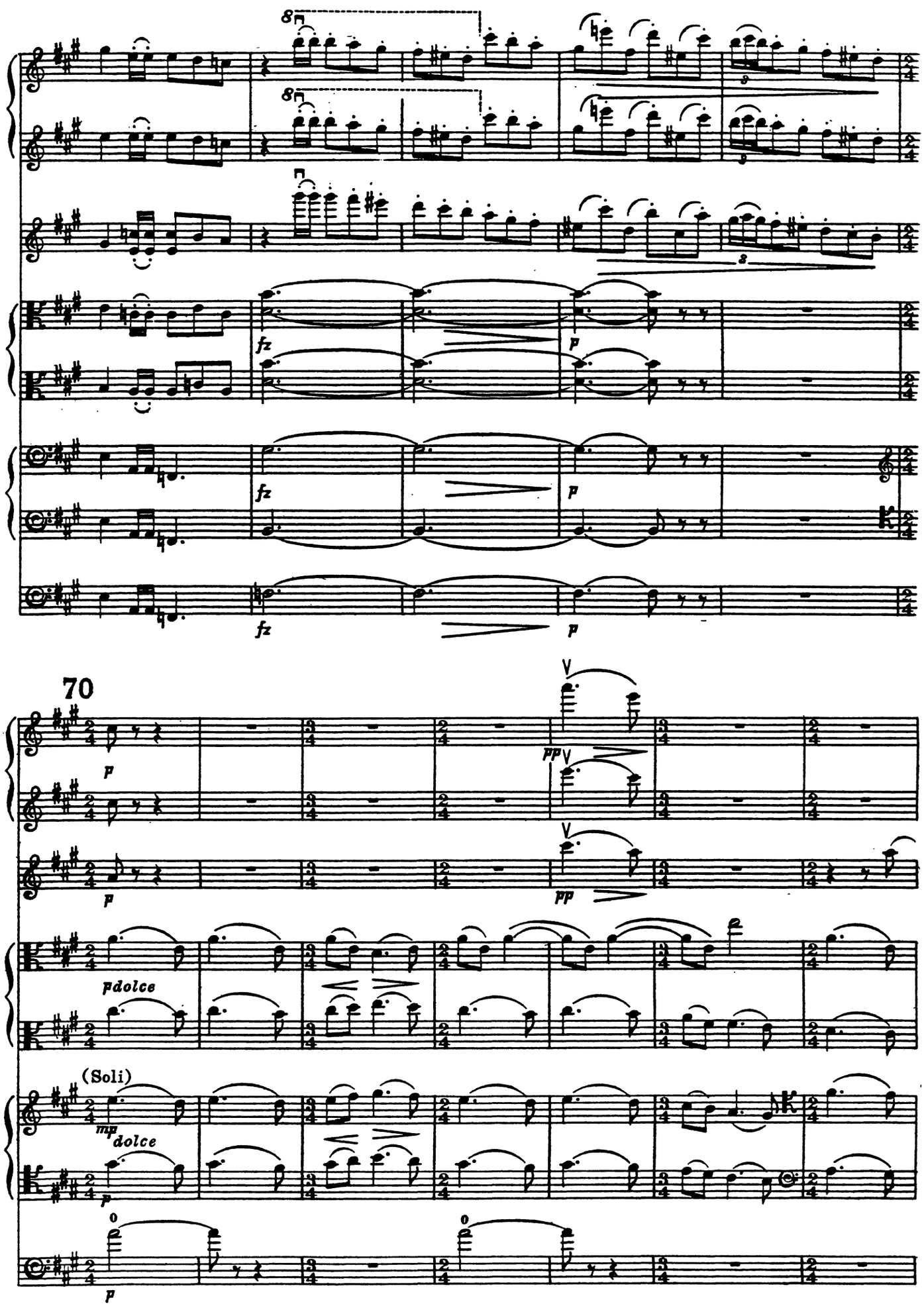

66
Vl.I
div.
Vl.II
div.
Vle.
div.
Vcl.
B.
f
unis.
mf

III

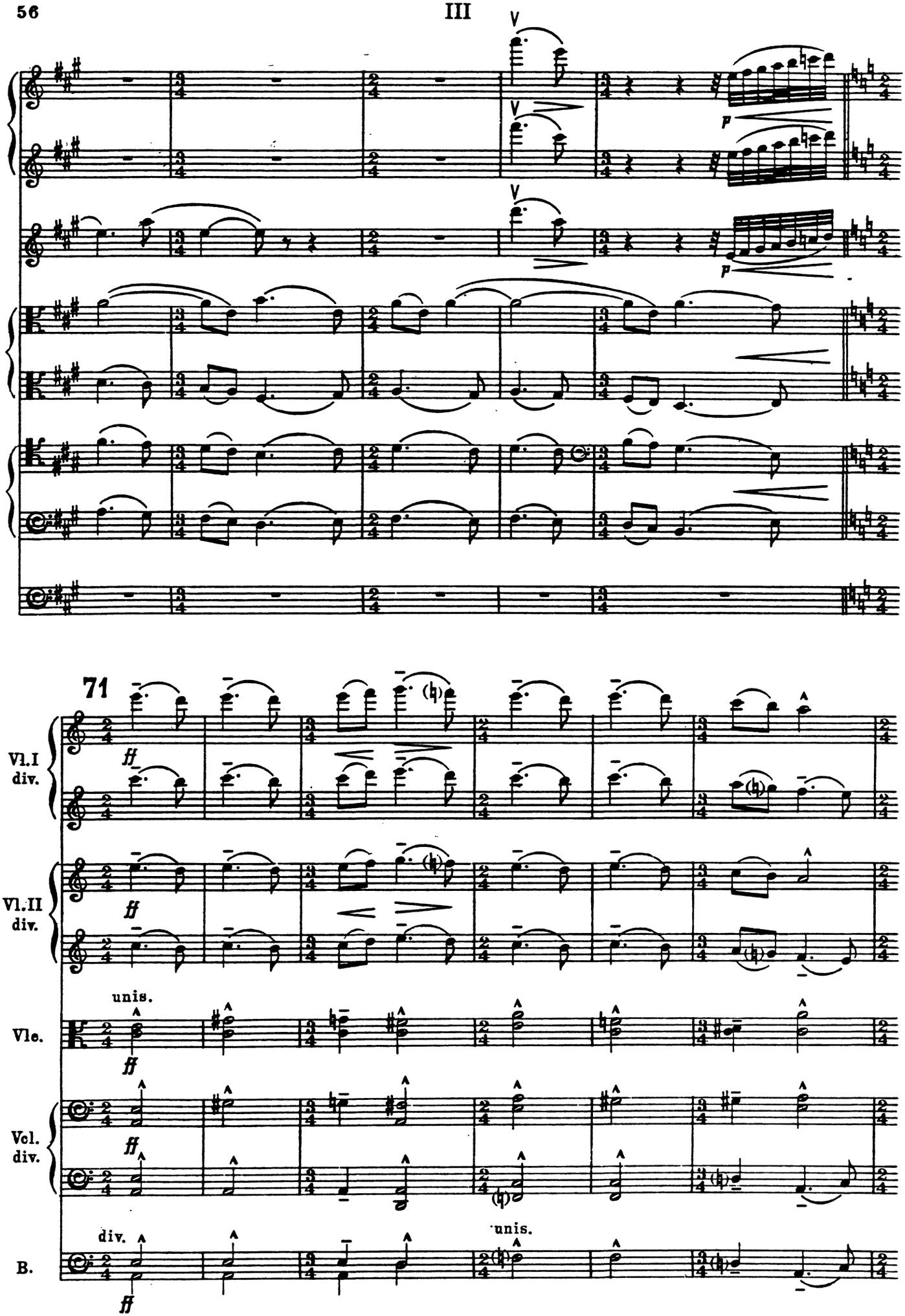



dim.
dim.
dim.
dim.
dim.

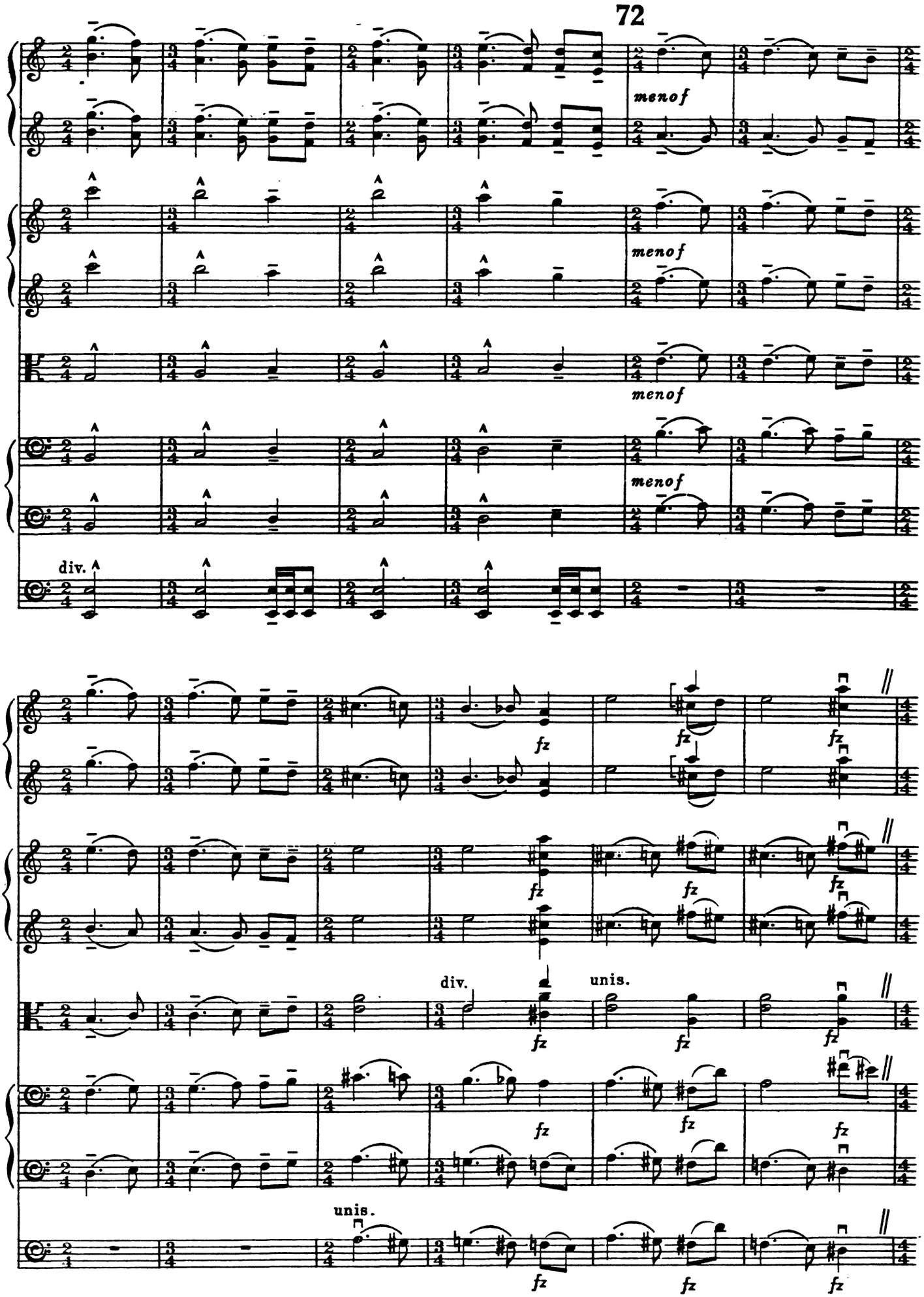

68
Vl. I div.
mp poco a poco cresc.
mf
Vl. II
mp poco a poco cresc.
mf
Vle. div.
mp poco a poco cresc.
mf
Vcl. div.
mf poco a poco cresc.
B.
mf poco a poco cresc.
69
ff
ff
ff
ff
ff

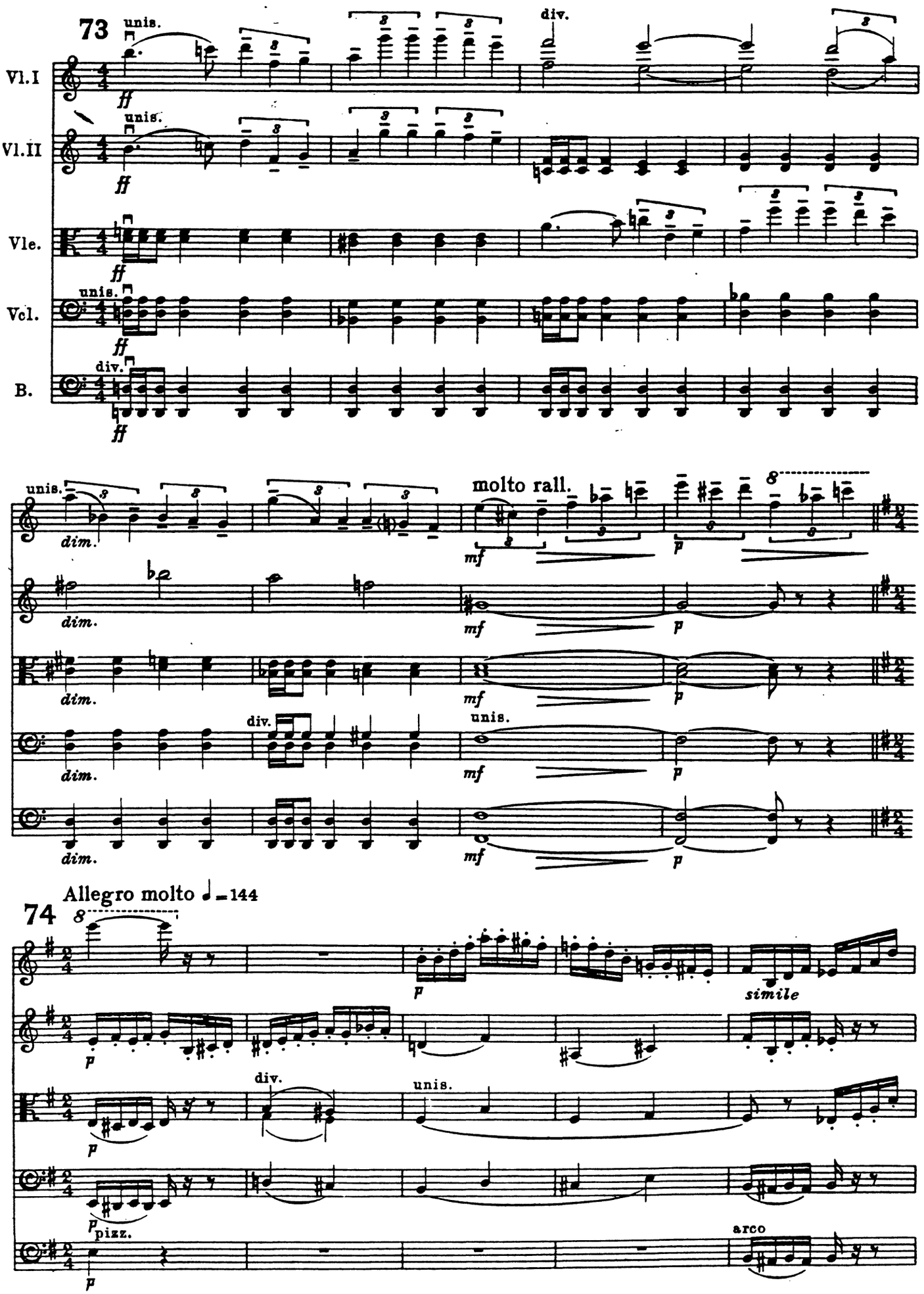

70
fz
p
pp
pdolce
(Soli)
mp
dolce

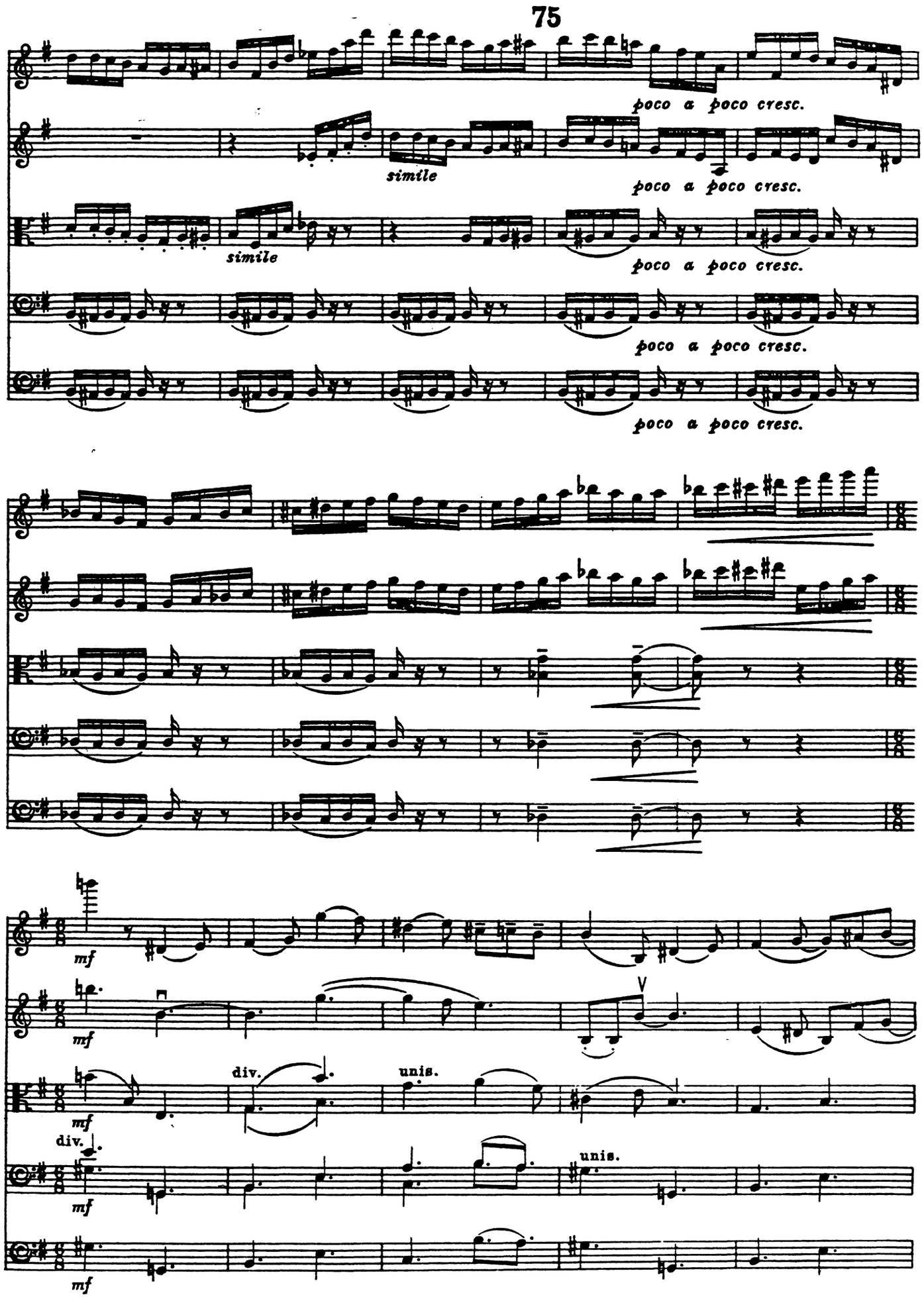
III

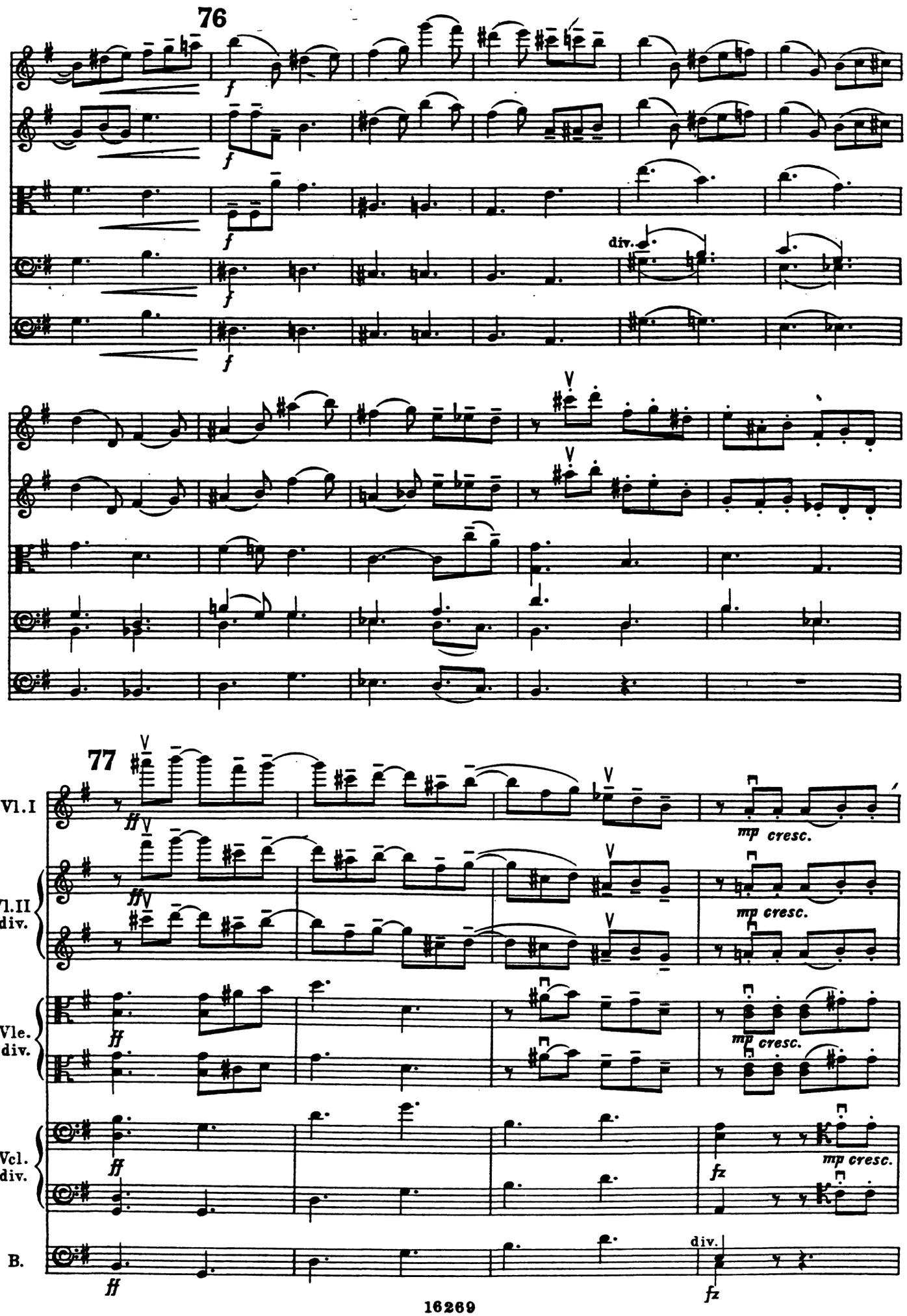


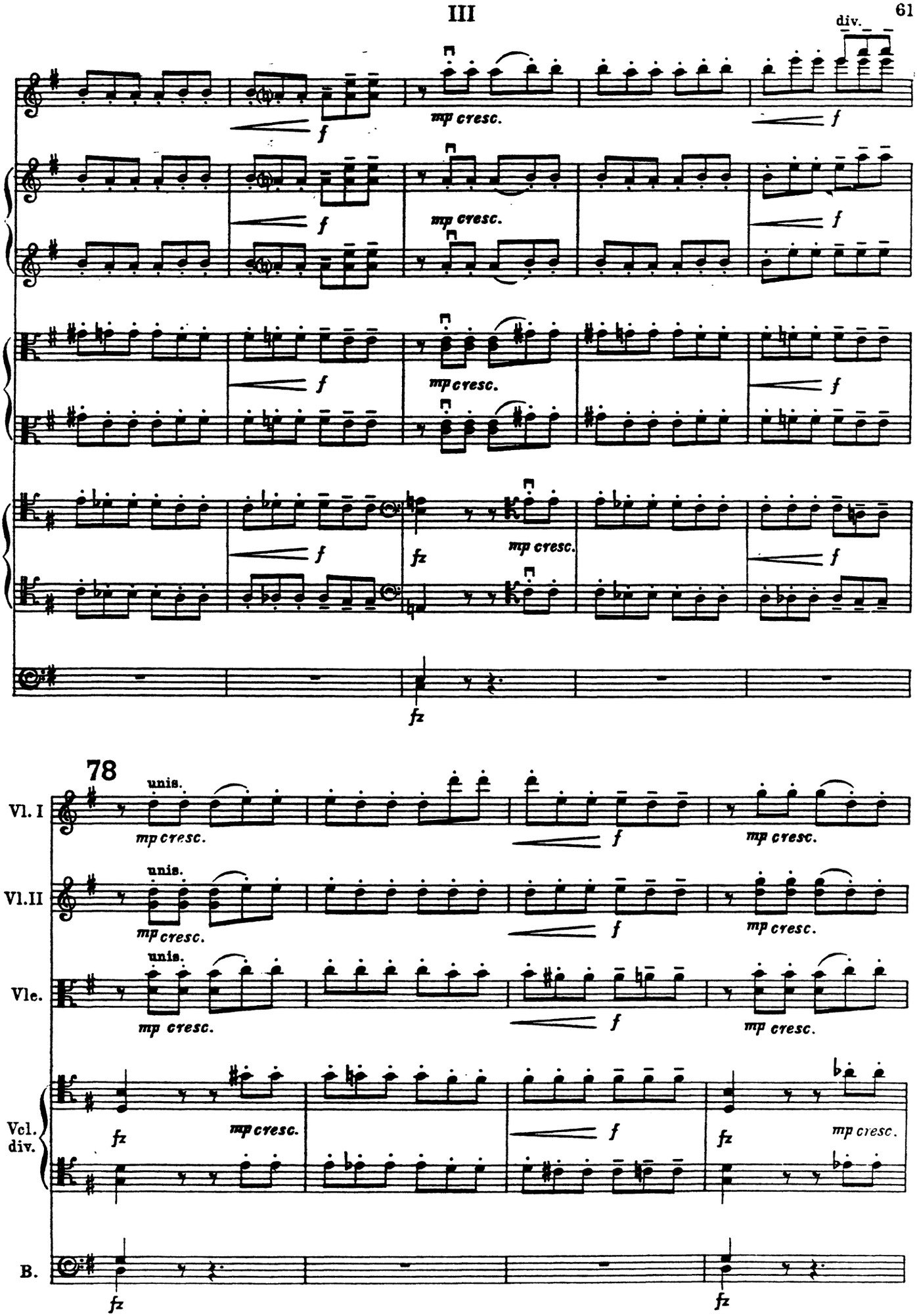
72

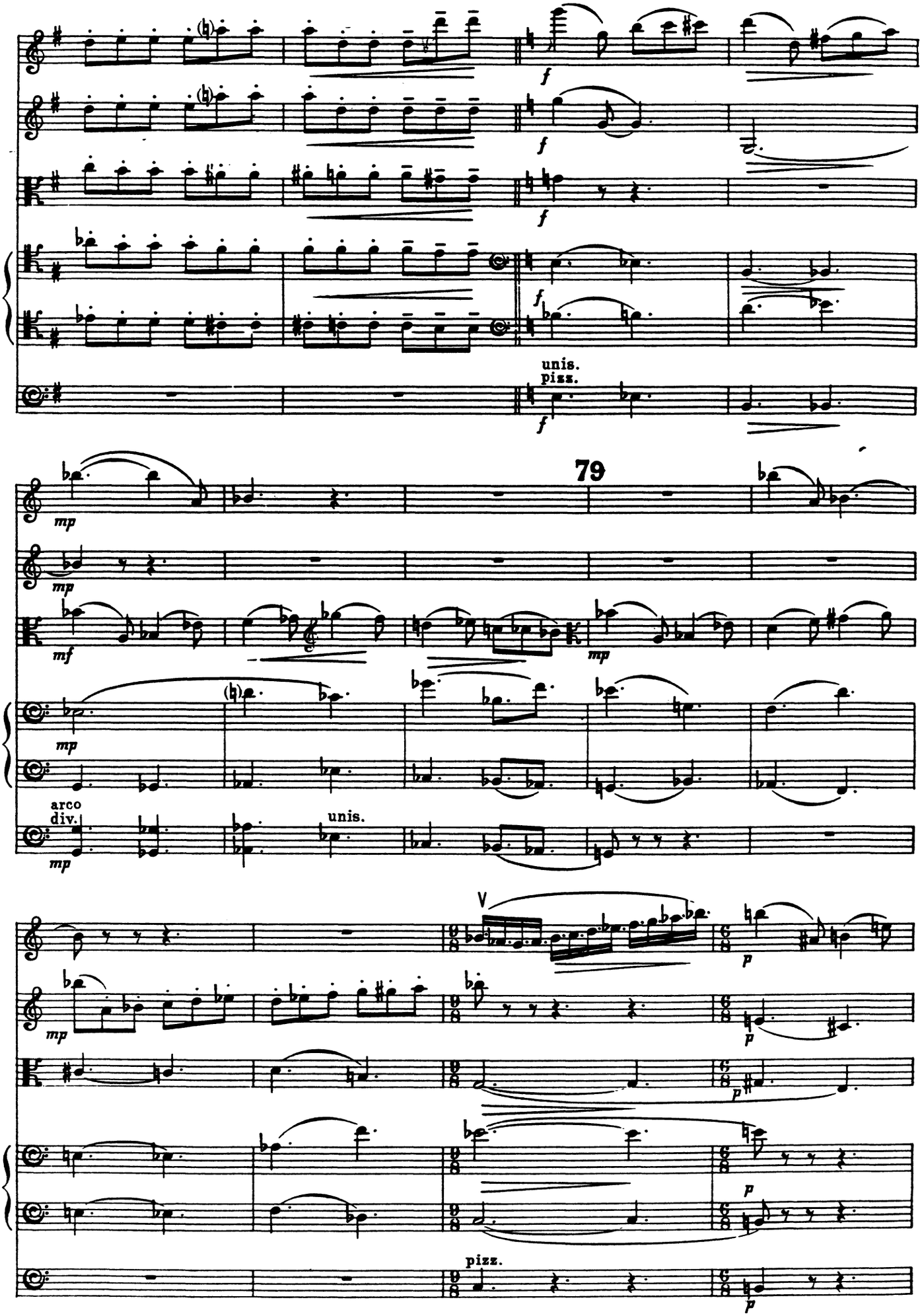



73
unis.
div.
Vl.I
Vl.II
Vle.
Vcl.
B.
ff
dim.
molto rall.
mf
p
Allegro molto ♩=144
74
simile
pizz.
arco


75
poco a poco cresc.
simile
poco a poco cresc.
simile
poco a poco cresc.
poco a poco cresc.
poco a poco cresc.
mf
mf
div.
unis.
mf
div.
unis.
mf
mf


76
f
div.
77
Vl.I
ff
mp cresc.
Vl.II
div.
Vle.
div.
Vcl.
div.
fz
B.
div.


div.
mp cresc.
f
fz
78
Vl. I
Vl. II
Vle.
Vcl. div.
B.
unis.


f
unis.
pizz.
79
mp
mf
arco
div.
unis.
V
p
pizz.

Vl.I

Vl.II

Vle.

Vcl.

B.

div.

unis.

mf

80

f

div.

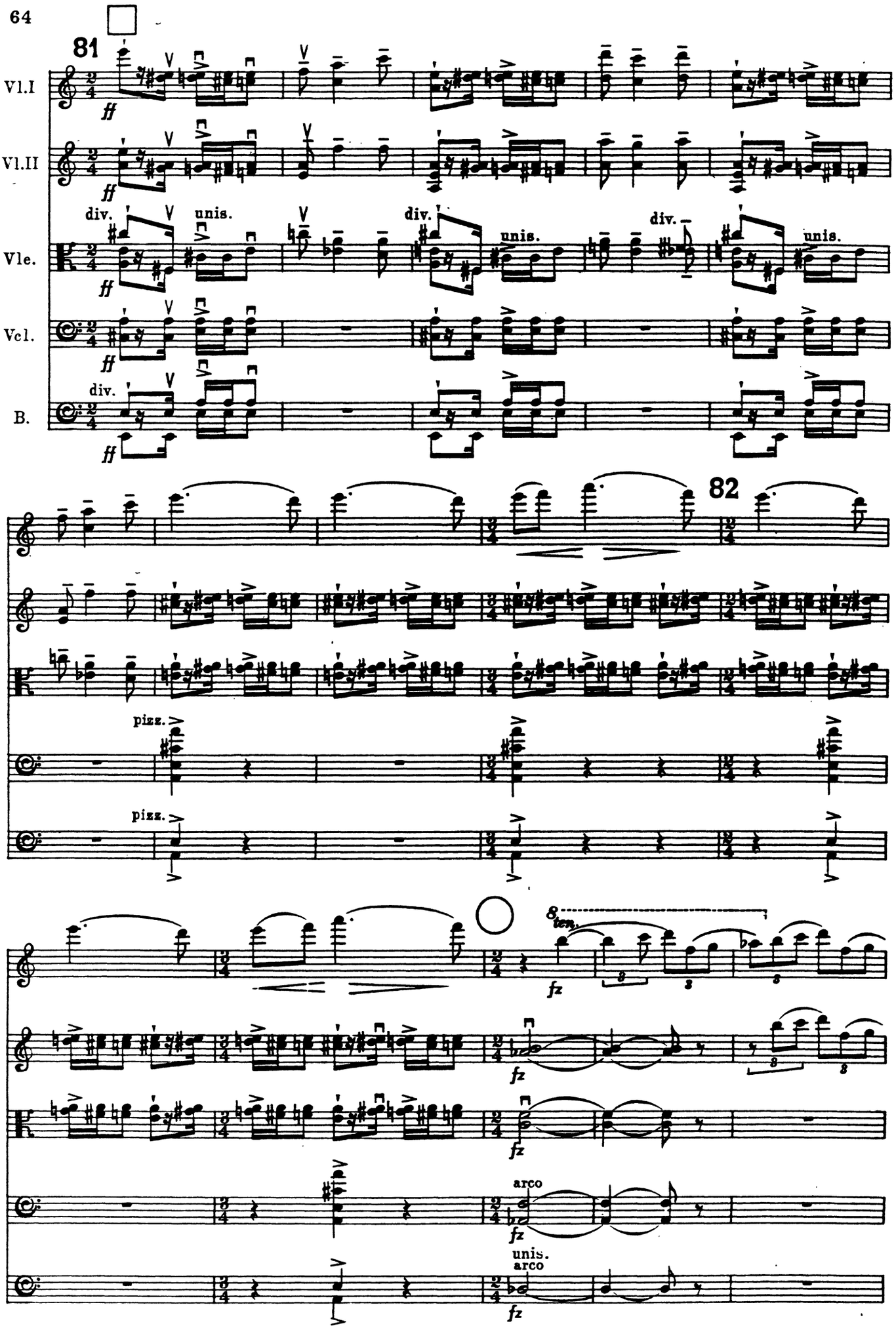
unis.

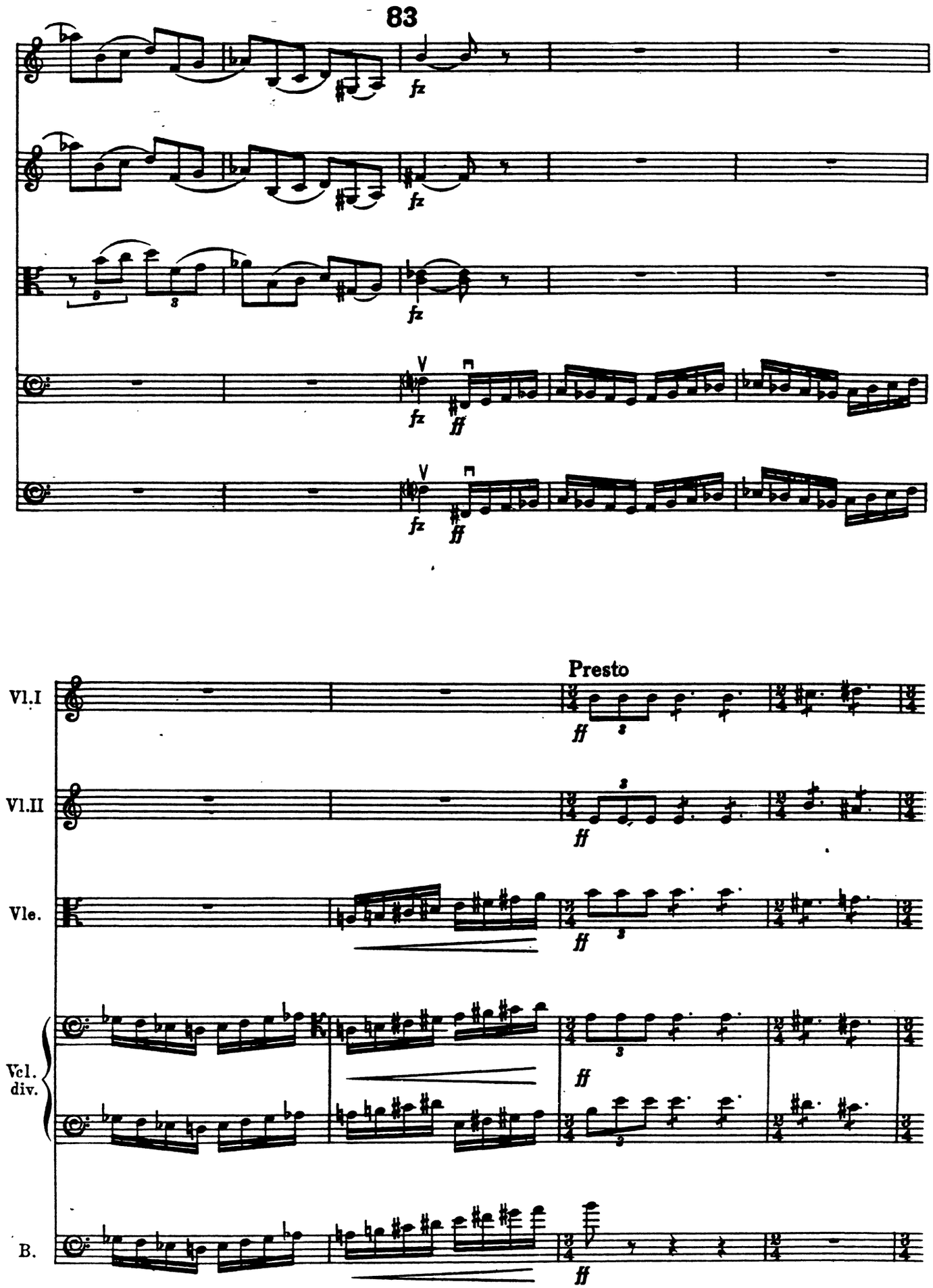
Vle. div.

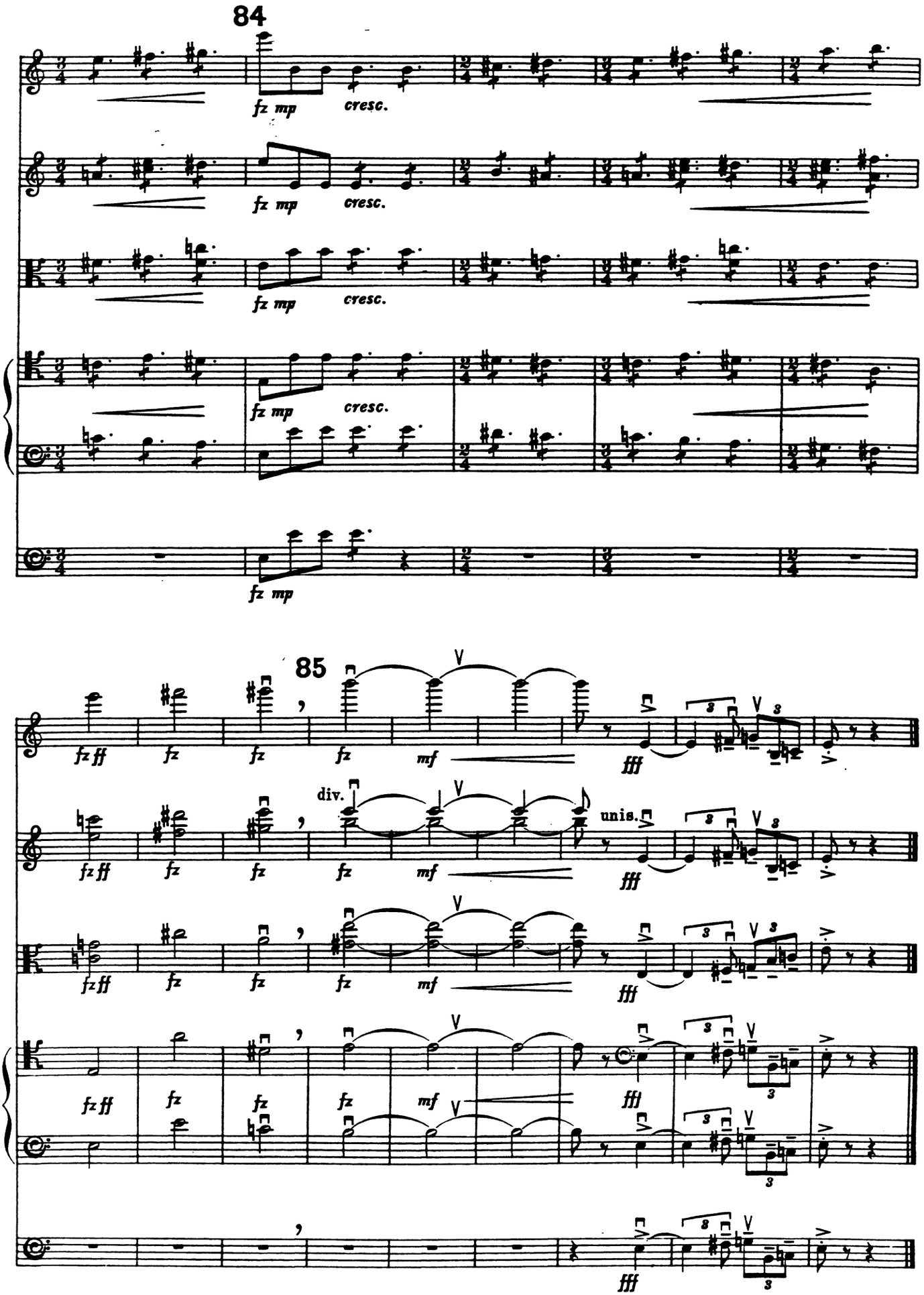
arco

div.

unis.


81
Vl.I
Vl.II
Vle.
Vcl.
B.
ff
div.
unis.
82
pizz.
8ten.
fz
arco


83
fz
fz
fz
fz
ff
fz
ff
Presto
Vl.I
ff
Vl.II
ff
Vle.
ff
Vcl.
div.
ff
B.
ff


84
fz mp
cresc.
85
fz ff
fz
mf
fff
div.
unis.