Full Score

Franz von Suppé
1819-1895

Light Cavalry Overture arranged for 6-part Cello Orchestra

Performance Notes

Franz von Suppé was an Austrian composer with Belgian and Italian ancestors on his father's side and a Viennese mother. He was born in 1819 in Split,Croatia which was then Spalato in the Kingdom of Dalmatia in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and was named Francesco Ezechiele Ermenegildo Cavaliere di Suppé-Demelli. He achieved fame as a composer of light operas, composing his first operetta at the age of 18, and completing around 200 operettas and other musical stage productions during his life. His musical style was an active influence on light music in Austria and Germany well into the 20th century.

His operetta, "Light Cavalry" was premiered in Vienna in 1866. While the operetta is rarely performed today, the overture has remained a favourite with orchestras and audiences for its light cheerful character and its catchy tunes. It has often been used in films, cartoons, TV programmes and advertisements. Light Cavalry appeared when the Viennese public were going through a phase of interest in all things Hungarian, and the action of the original version takes place in Furstenfeld, a small town on the border of Austria and Hungary. In the original version, with a libretto by Karl Costa, the action centres on the love between Vilma, an orphan raised by Hungarian villagers, and Hermann, the nephew of the mayor. Others, including the mayor himself also have Vilma in their sights, and it takes intrigue by some Hungarian Hussars (the Light Cavalry) to get the two young lovers together for a typical happy operetta ending. In 1934 the music was reworked to a totally different plot by the librettist Hans Bodenstedt. This is set in the castle of Rheinfels around 1750 in the palace of Baron von Brederick and hinges on various court rivalries, including the inordinate amount of money that Earl Adolar von Rheinfels gives to his mistress to fund her ballet company, mockingly referred to as the "light cavalry".

The present arrangement for six-part cello orchestra of the overture should be played with the absence of profundity expected of a light operetta. In the fanfare sections, the cellos should emulate trumpets as far as possible. The well-known tunes have been shared out among the six cello parts as far as possible. The keys of the original orchestral version (A major and A minor) have been retained in the arrangement, and while there is some high writing for cellos 1 and 2, the key signatures make this accessible to the use of harmonics etc, although such sections could be played an octave lower if desired. There is a solo between bars 146 and 154 which was originally for clarinet, and the soloist is urged to squeeze maximal pathos from it before the massed strings of cellos 4, 5 and 6 (followed by cellos 1, 2 and 3) play the Hungarian-style lament between bars 155 and 170. The jaunty 6/8 passage between bars 60 and 101 will be familiar to all, and this music returns after the Hungarian lament, leading to a spirited coda to round off the work.

Metronome markings are as given in the original score (from August Cranz publishers, Leipzig), but the marking of the Allegro at bar 34 appears implausibly fast, while that of the Allegretto Brilliante at bar 60 appears too slow (unless there is a typological error in the original score and the "crotchet=116" should actually refer to a dotted crotchet.)

This arrangement was made for the Giant Cello Orchestra, directed by JamesHalsey, to perform at the Aboyne Cello Festival in North-East Scotland in July 2015.

Gwyn Seymour, Stonehaven, Scotland. October 2014
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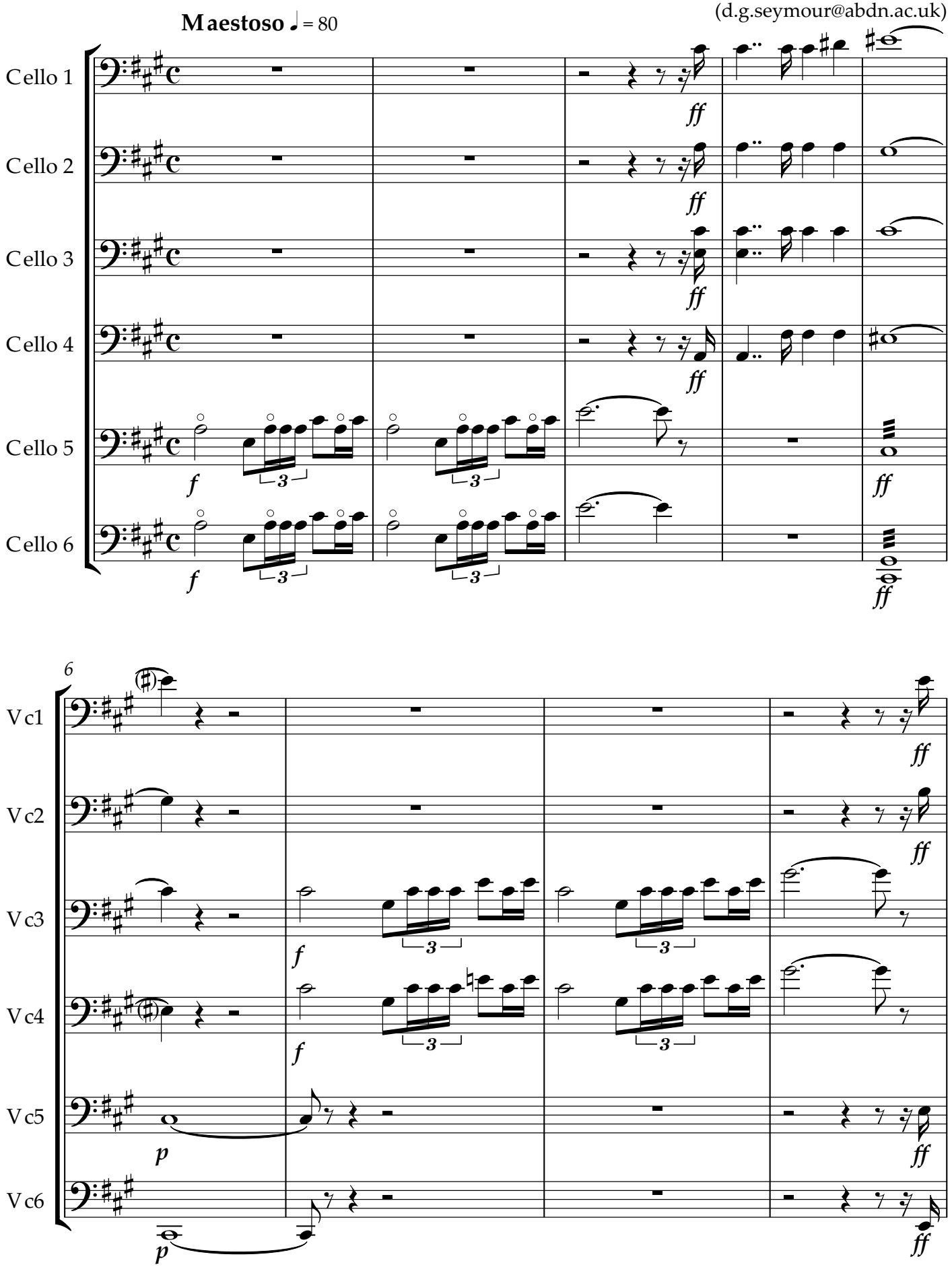
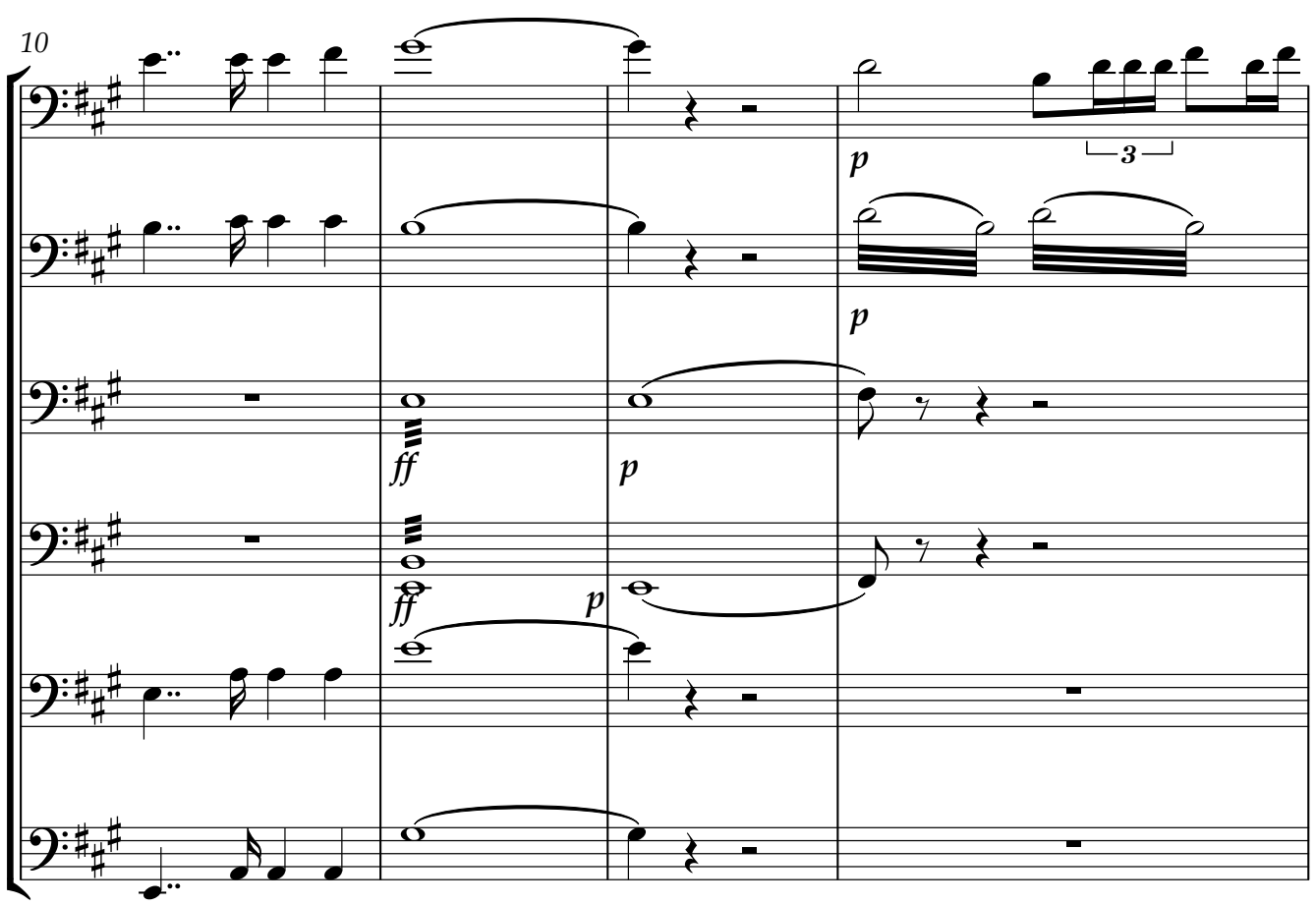
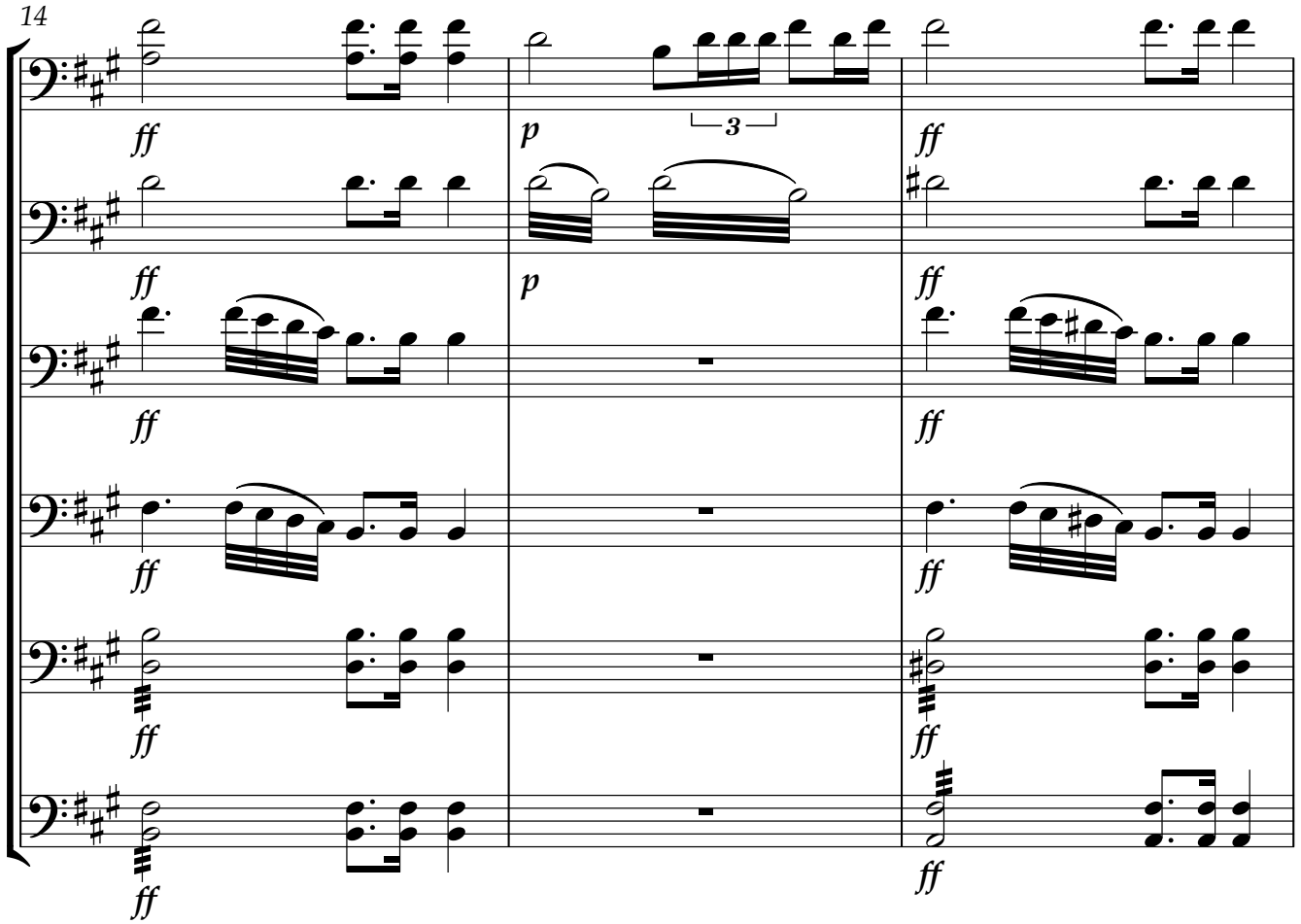
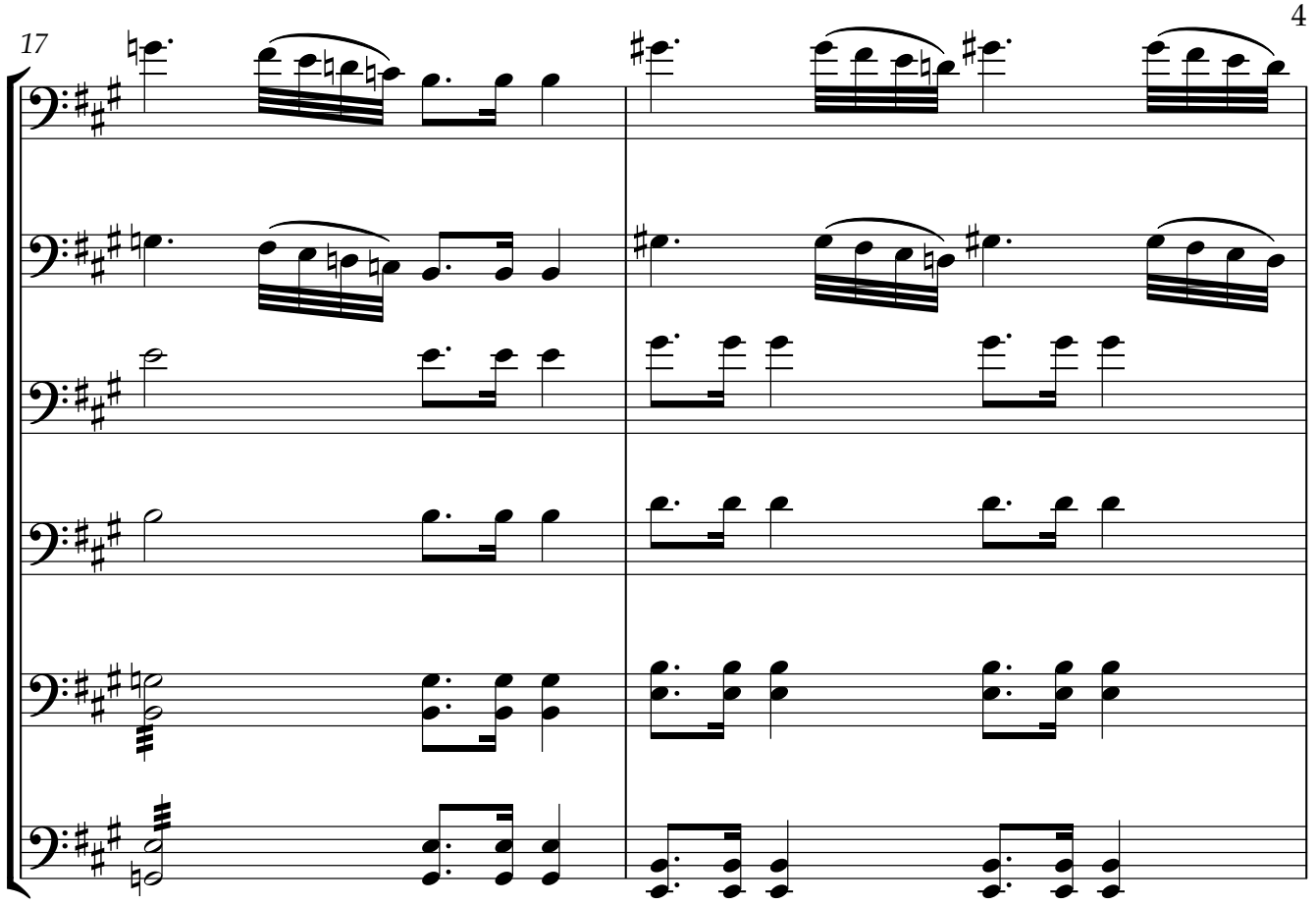
Light Cavalry Overture

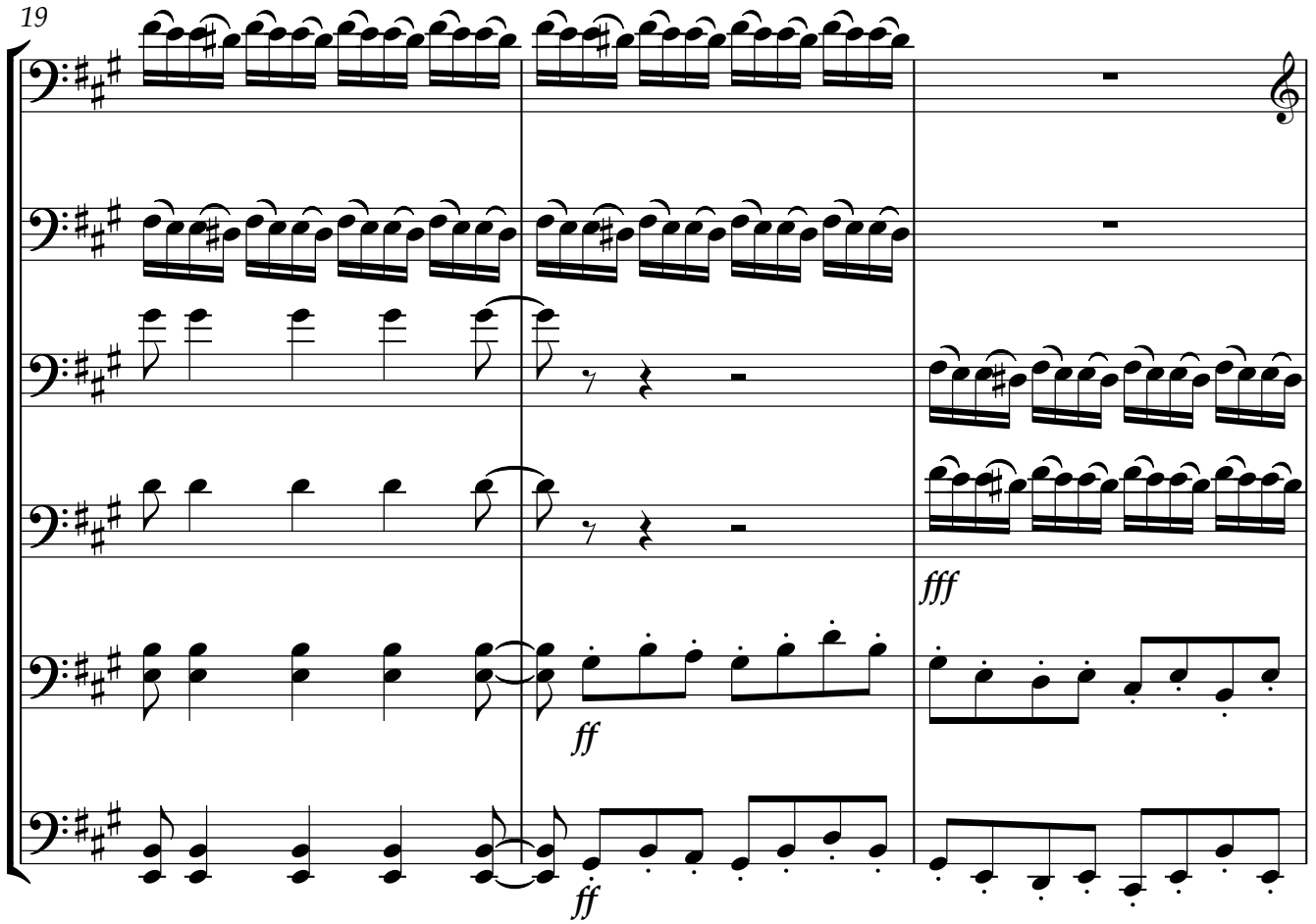
Franz von Suppé (1819-1895)
arranged by Gwyn Seymour
(d.g.seymour@abdn.ac.uk)

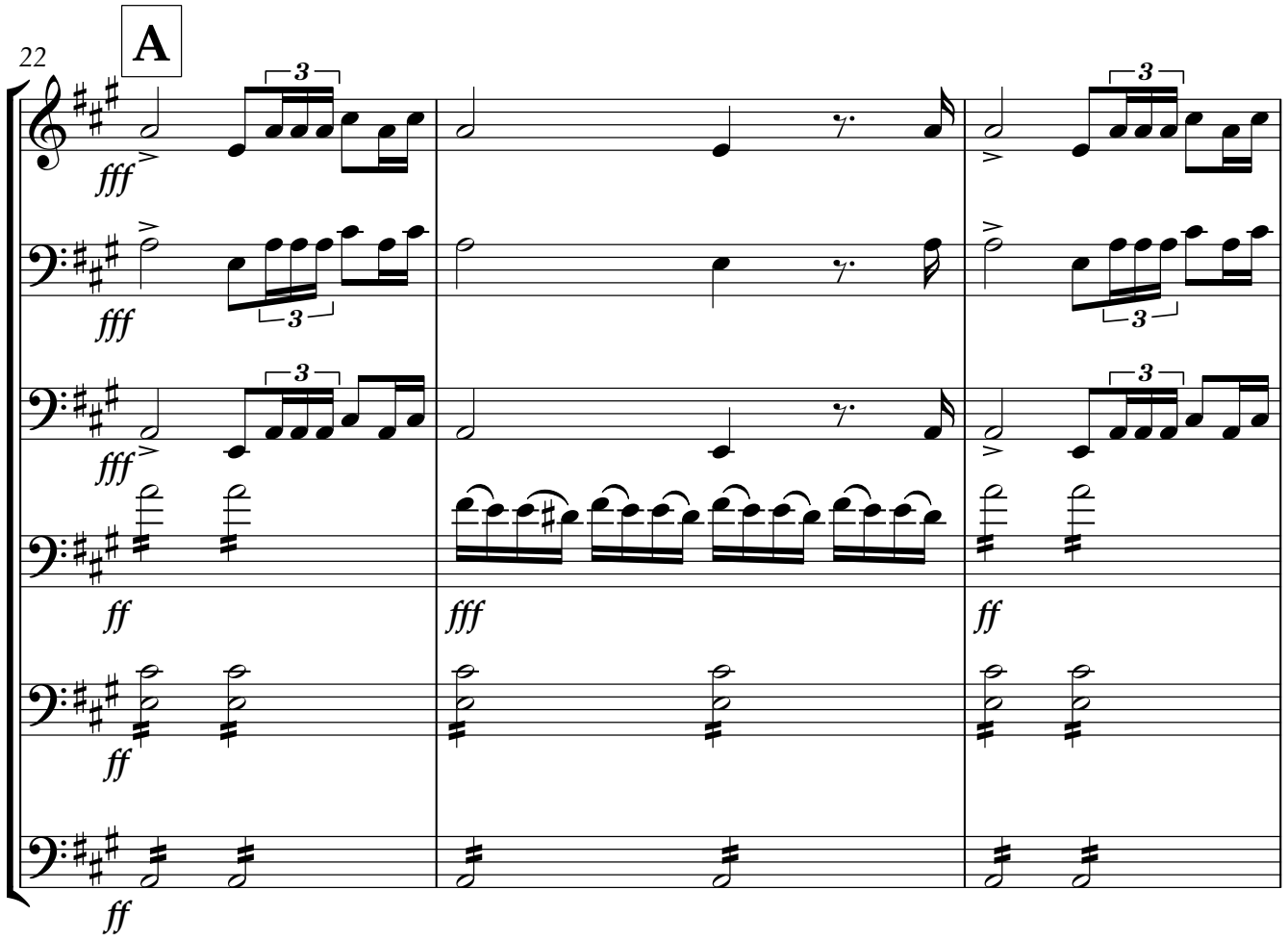


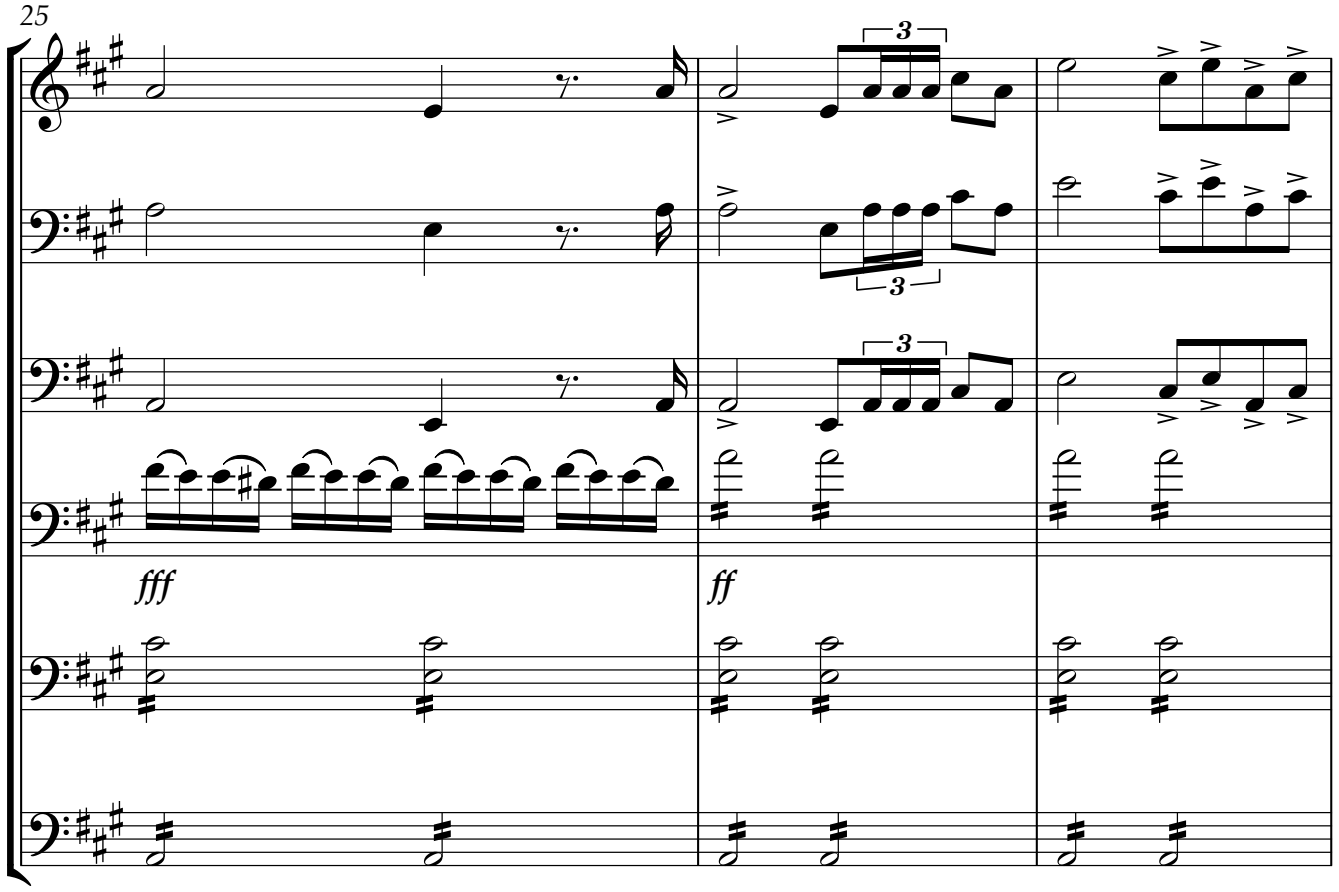

10
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
p
3
ff
p

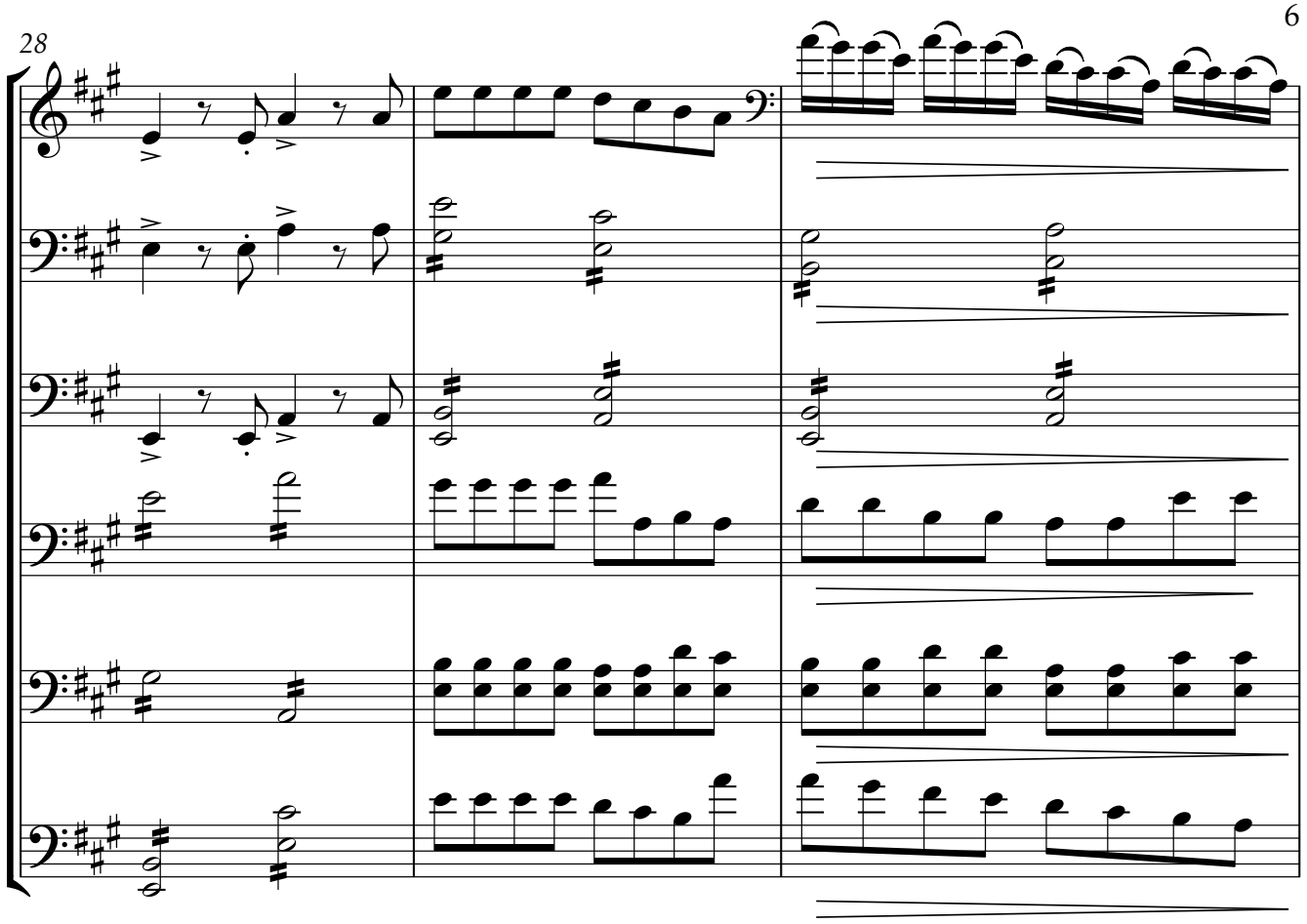

14
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
ff
p
3

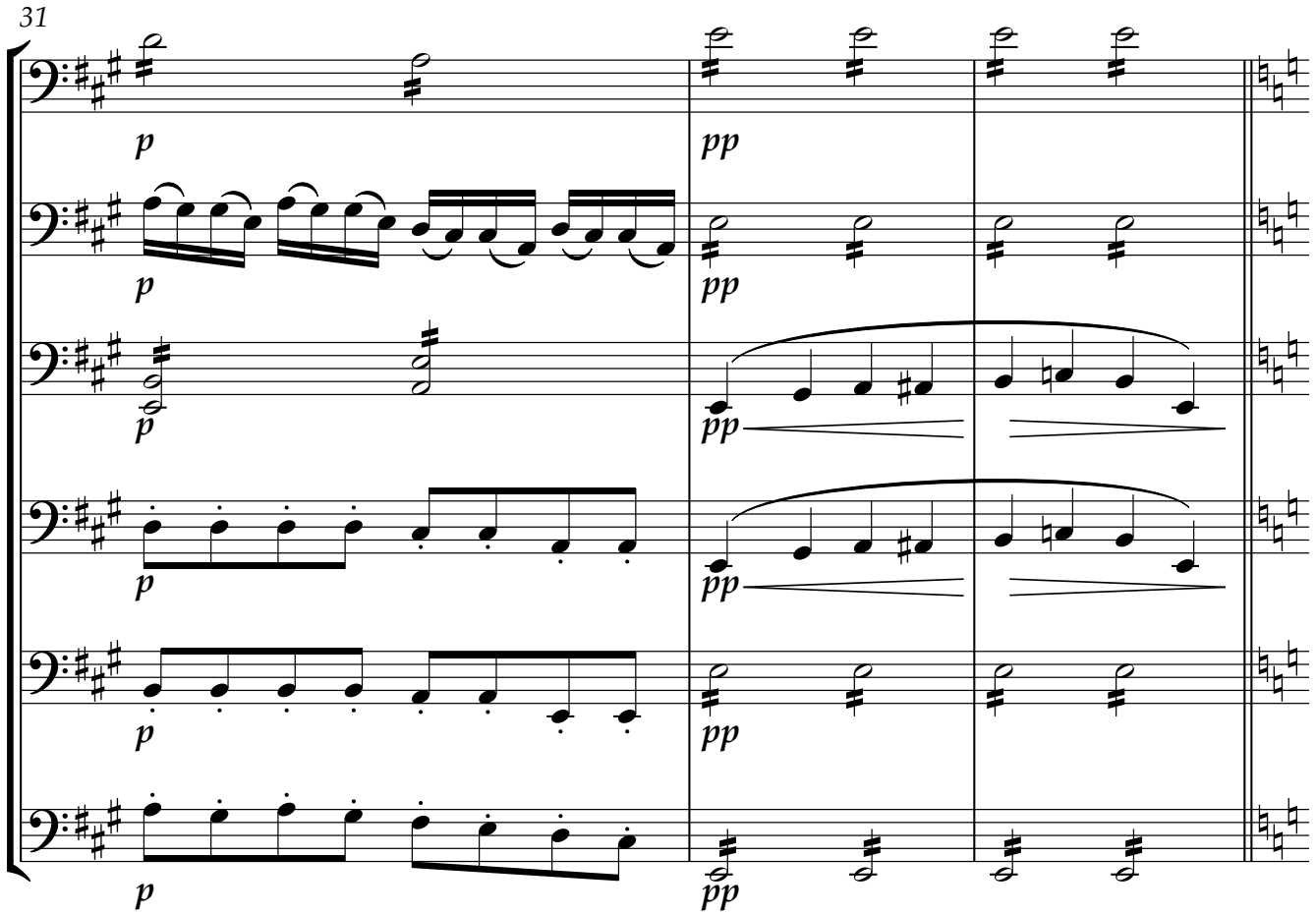

17
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6


19
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
fff
Vc5
ff
Vc6
ff


22
A
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
fff
ff
3


25
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
fff
ff
3


28
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6


31
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
p
pp

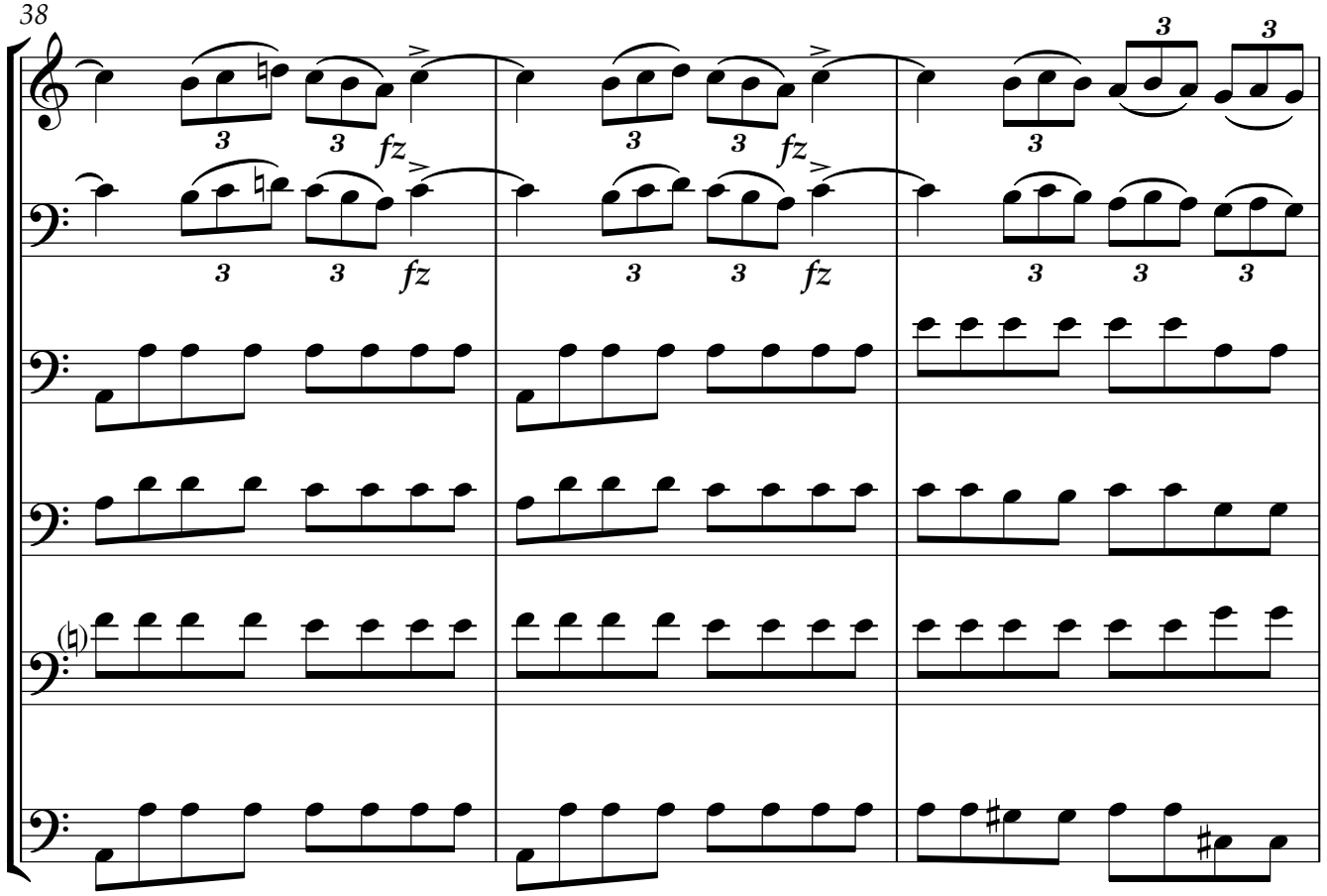
B **Allegro ("𝅗𝅥=96")**

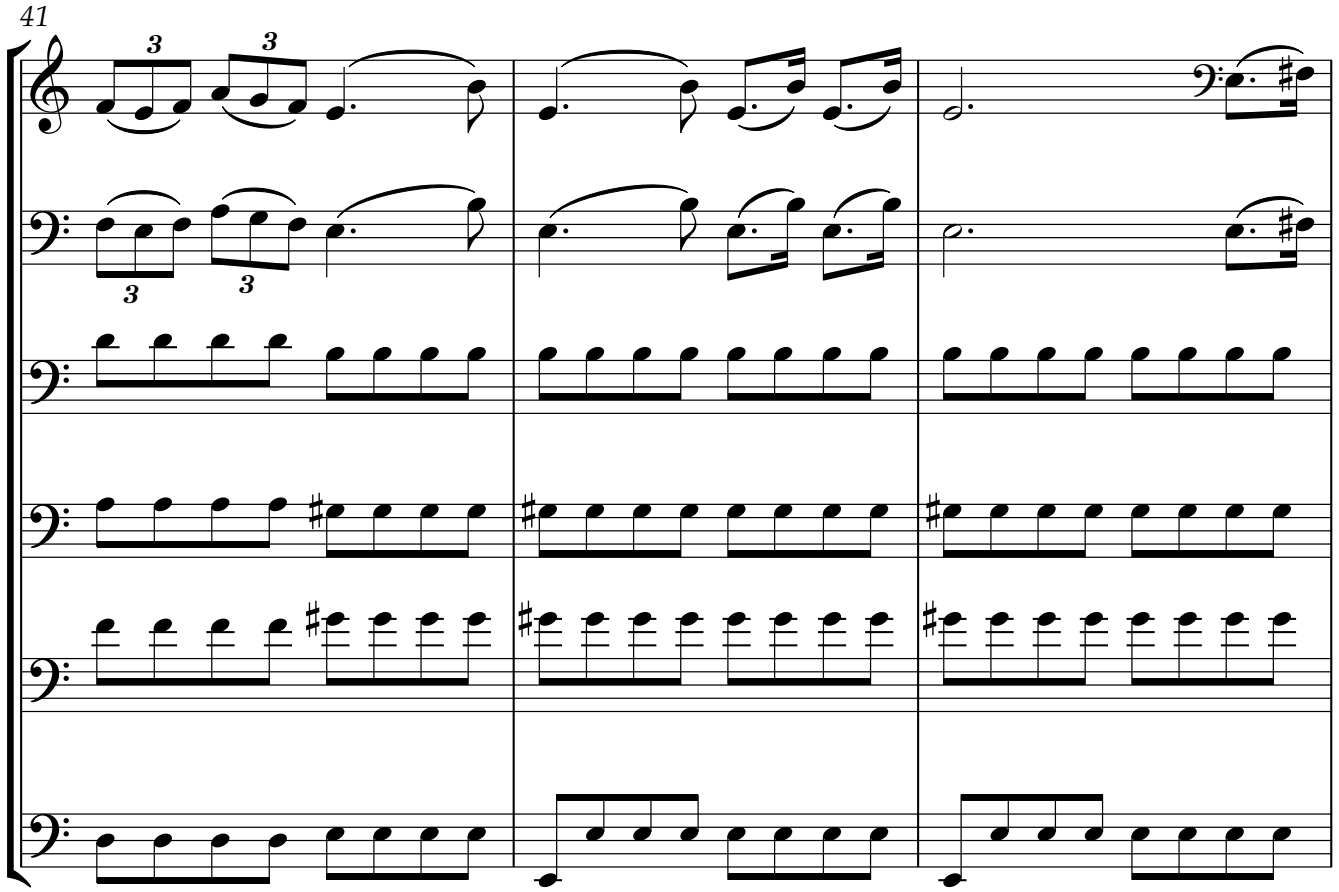
34

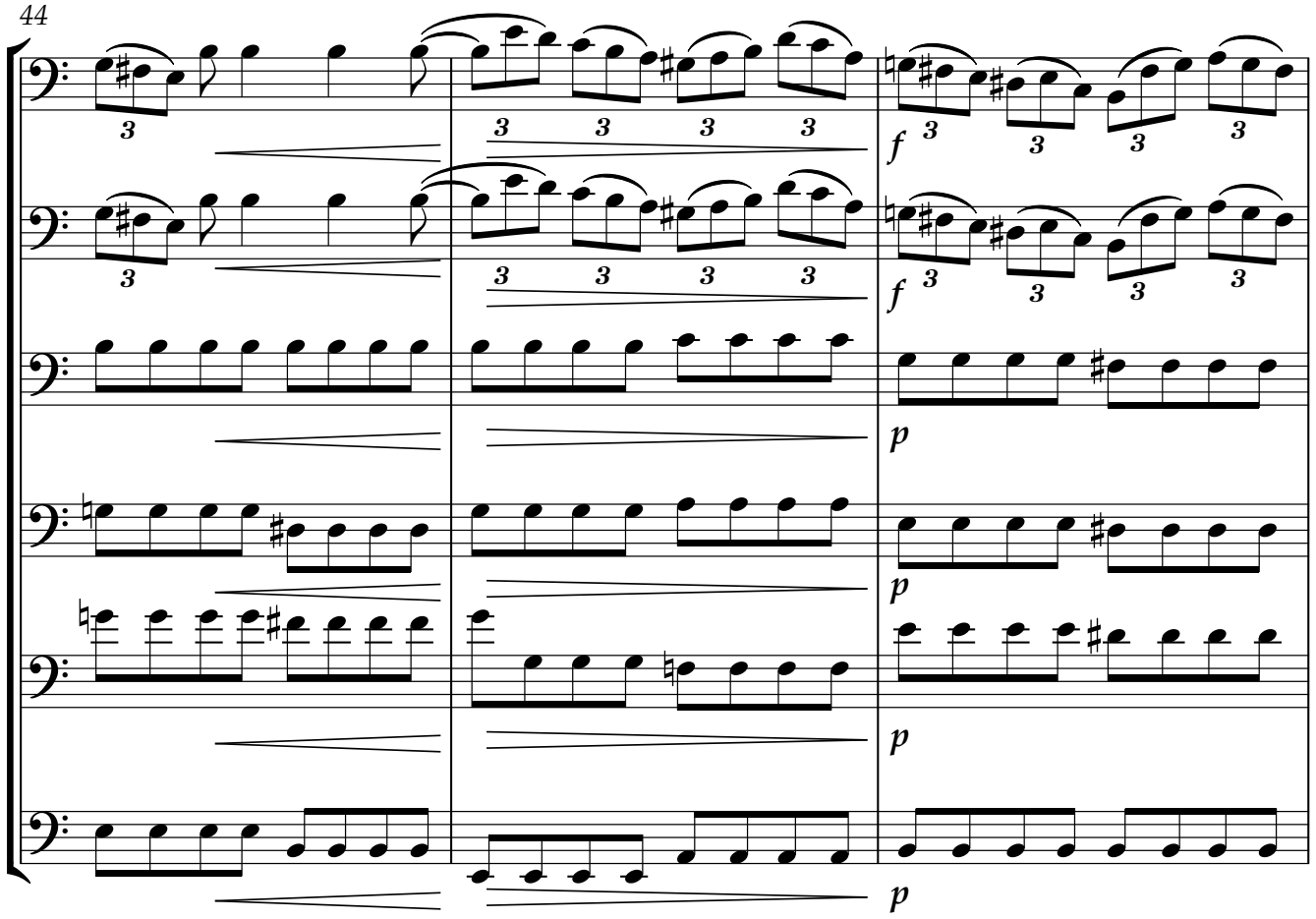
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6

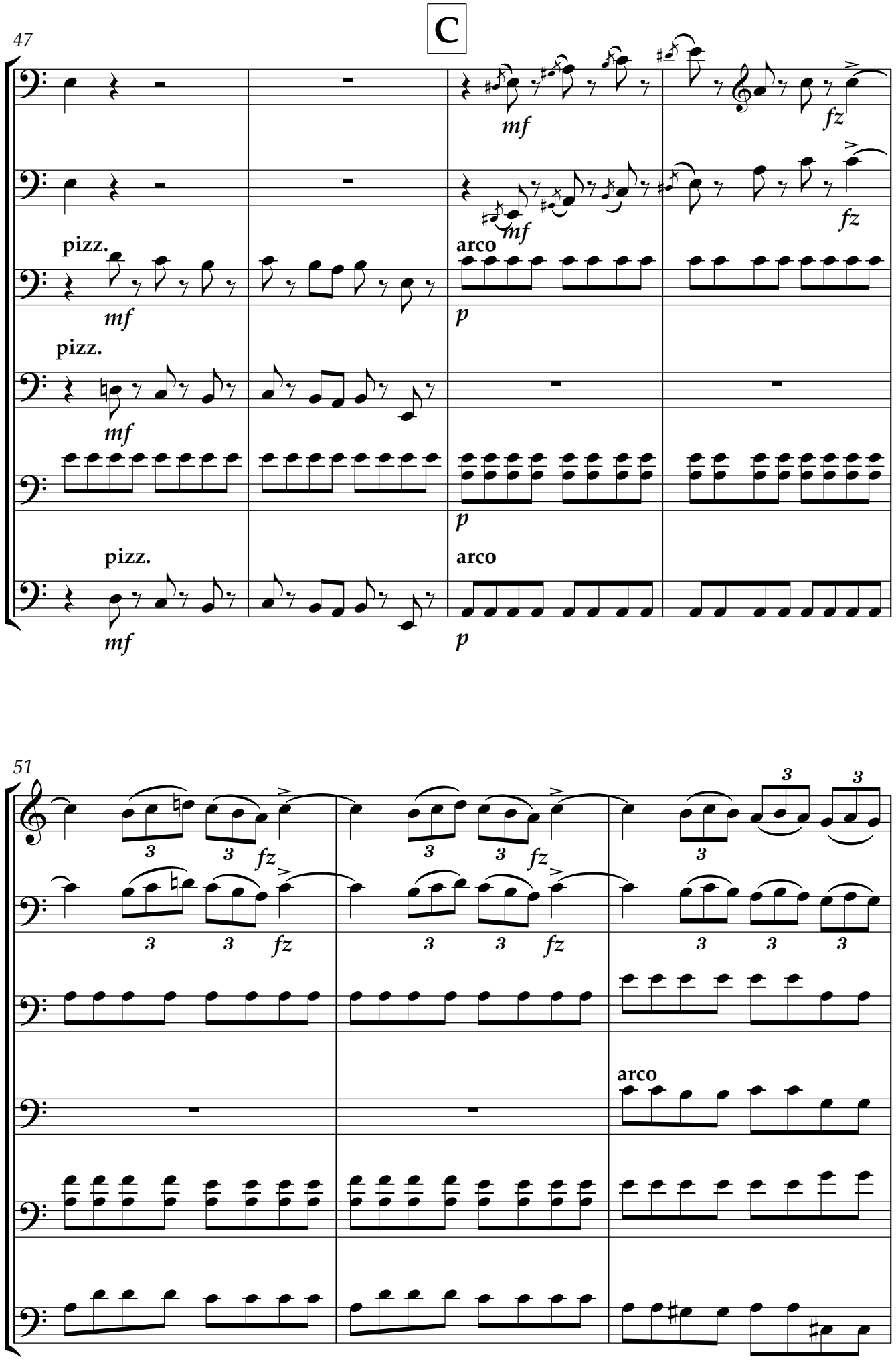
mf *fz* *p*

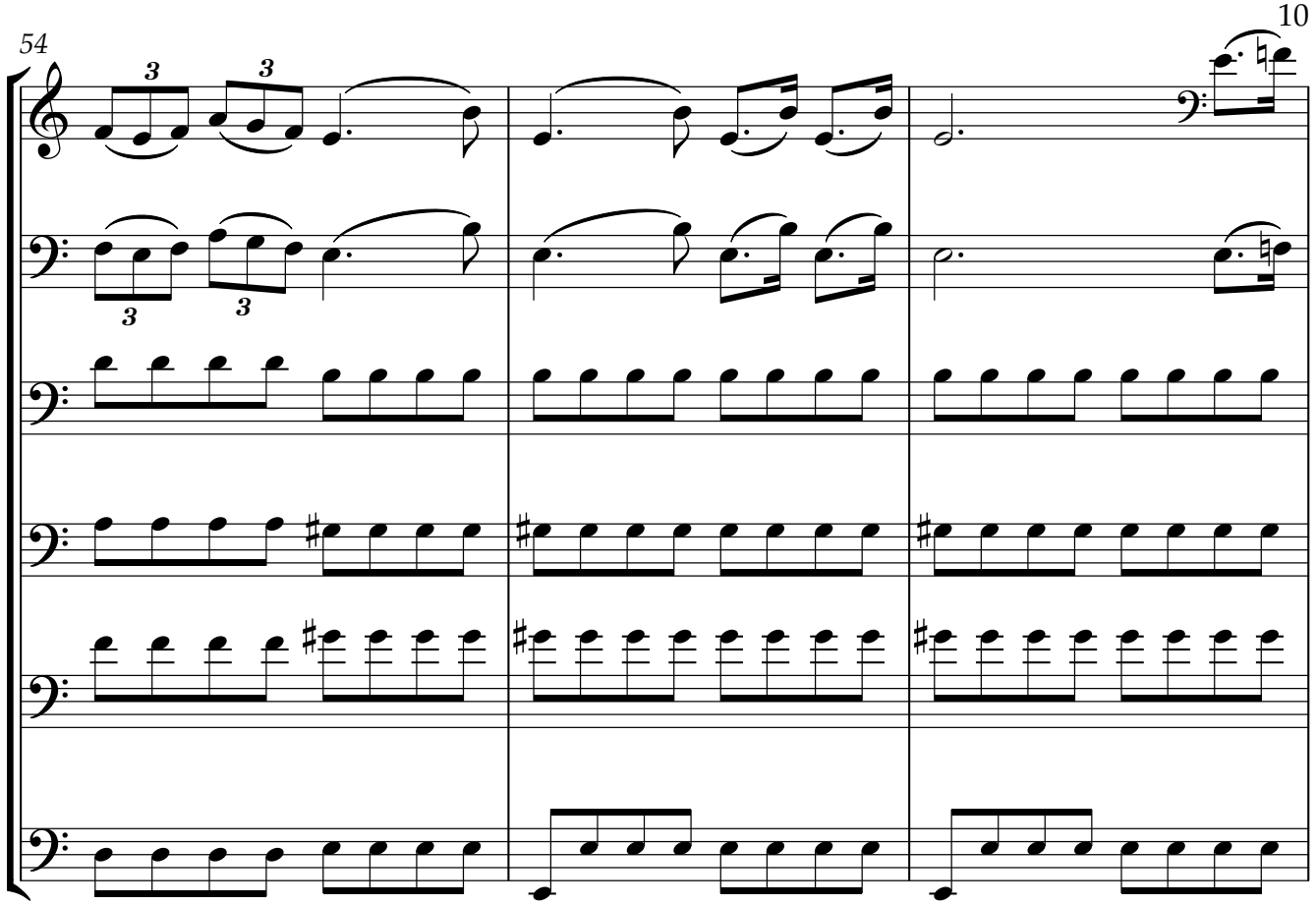
38

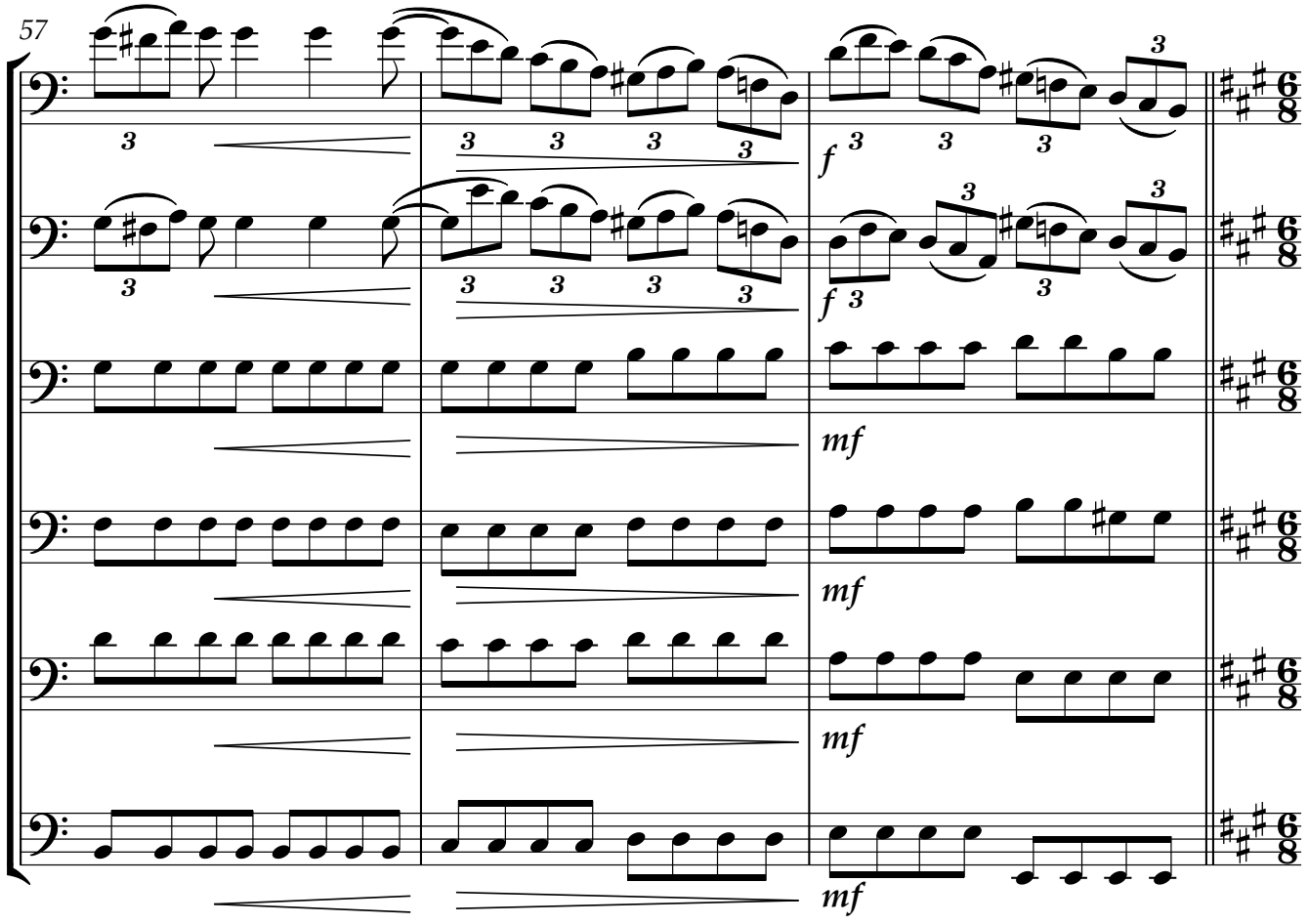



41
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6

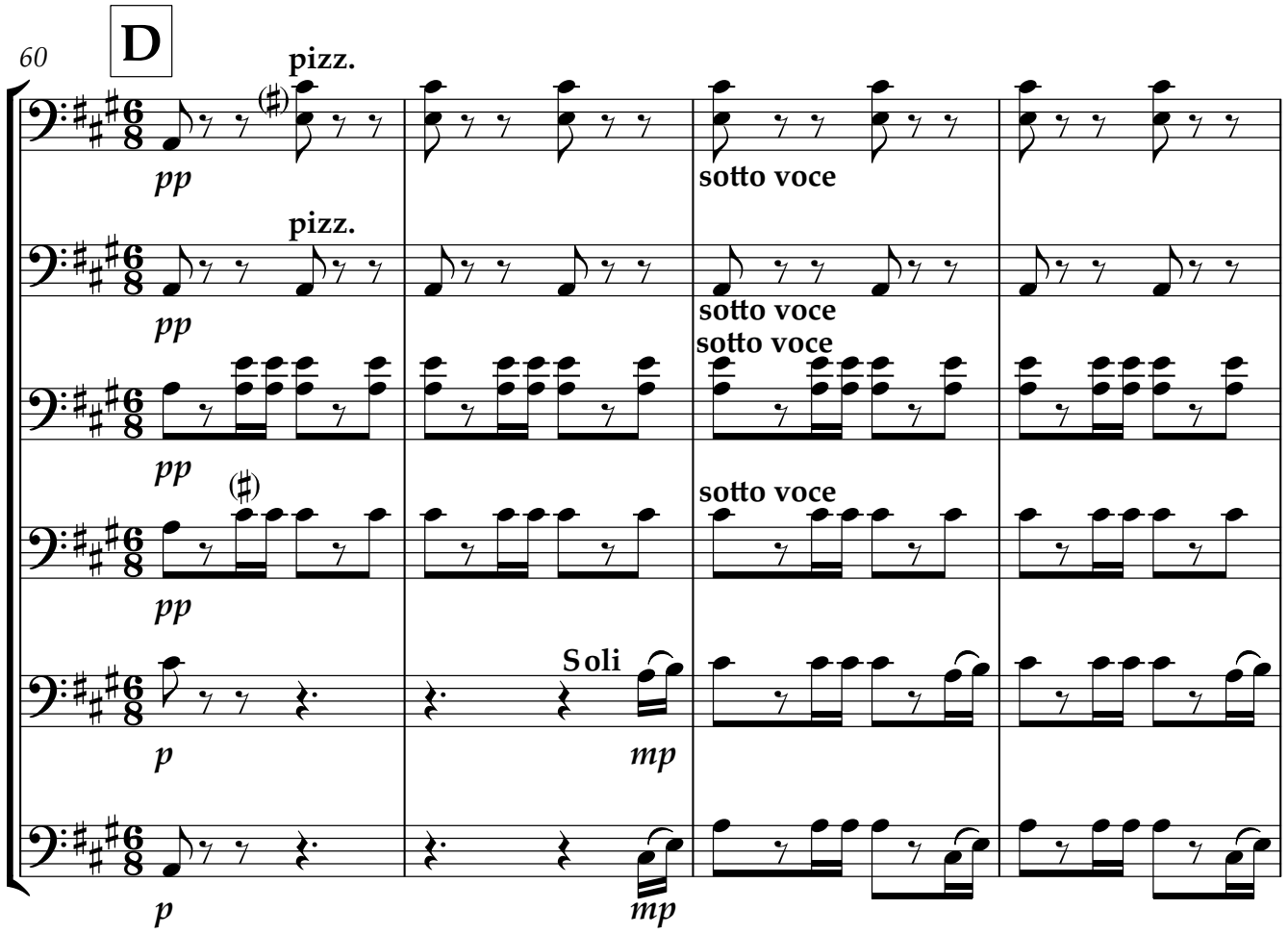

44
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
f
p

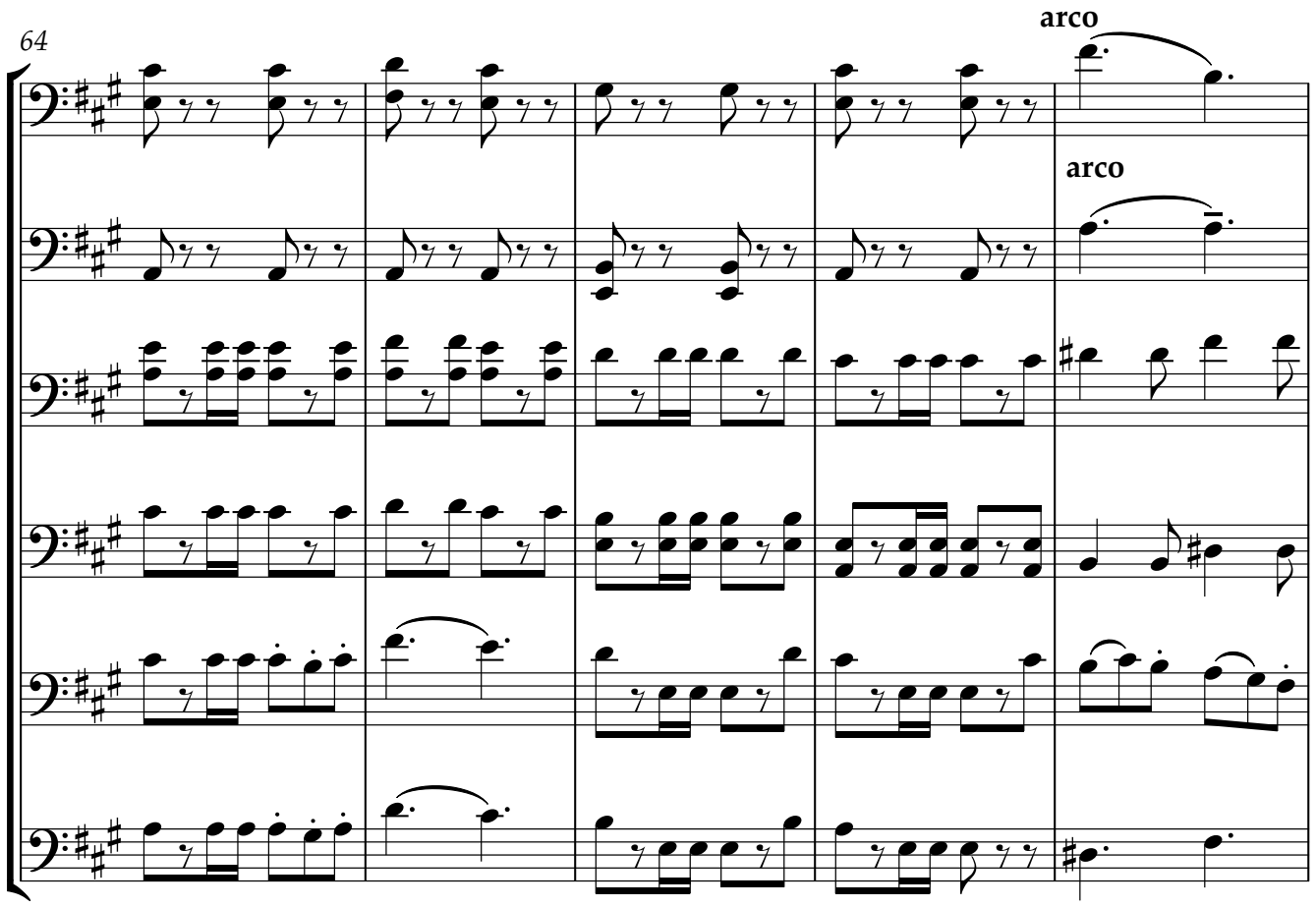

C
47
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
pizz.
arco
mf
fz
p
51
3
fz

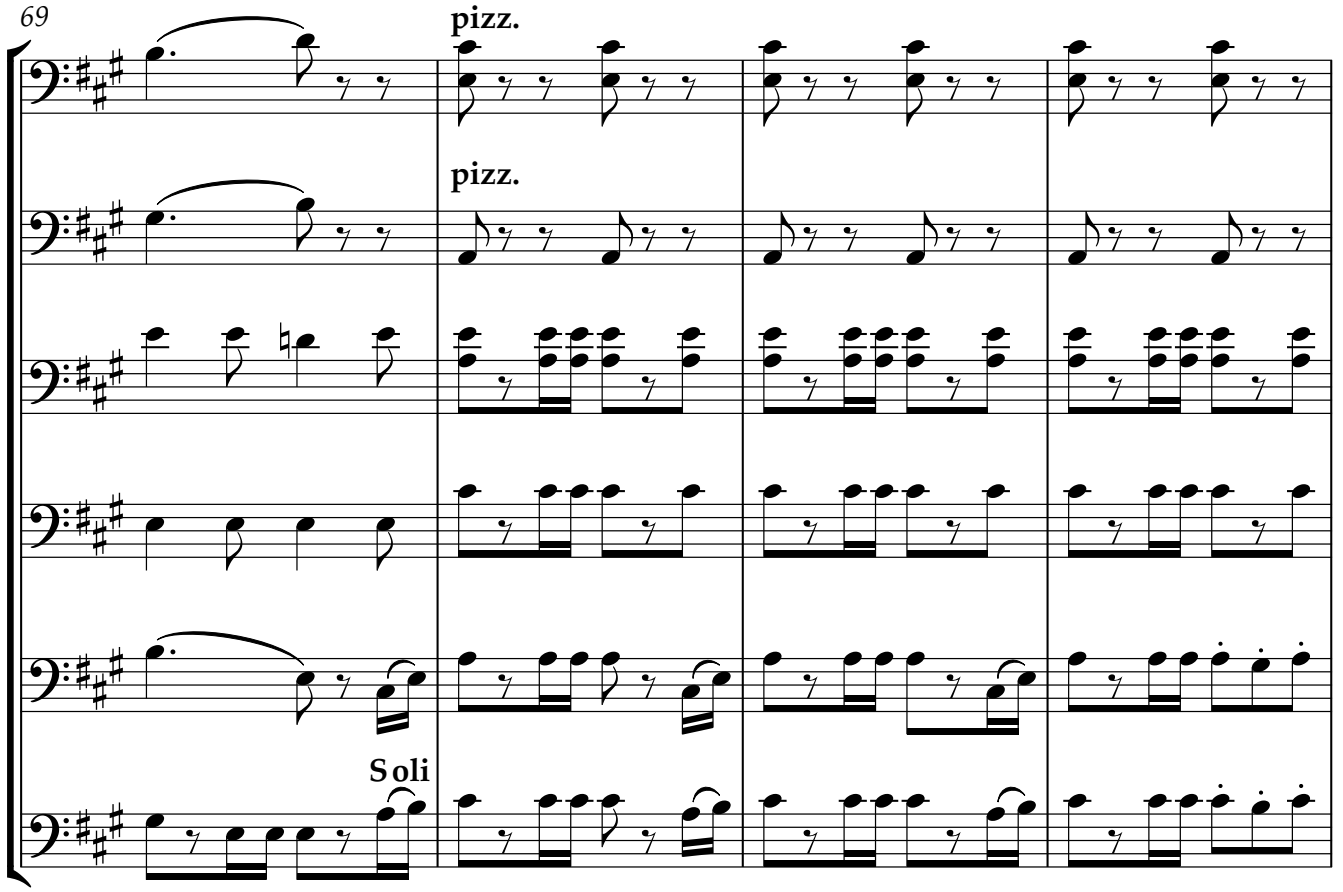

54
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6

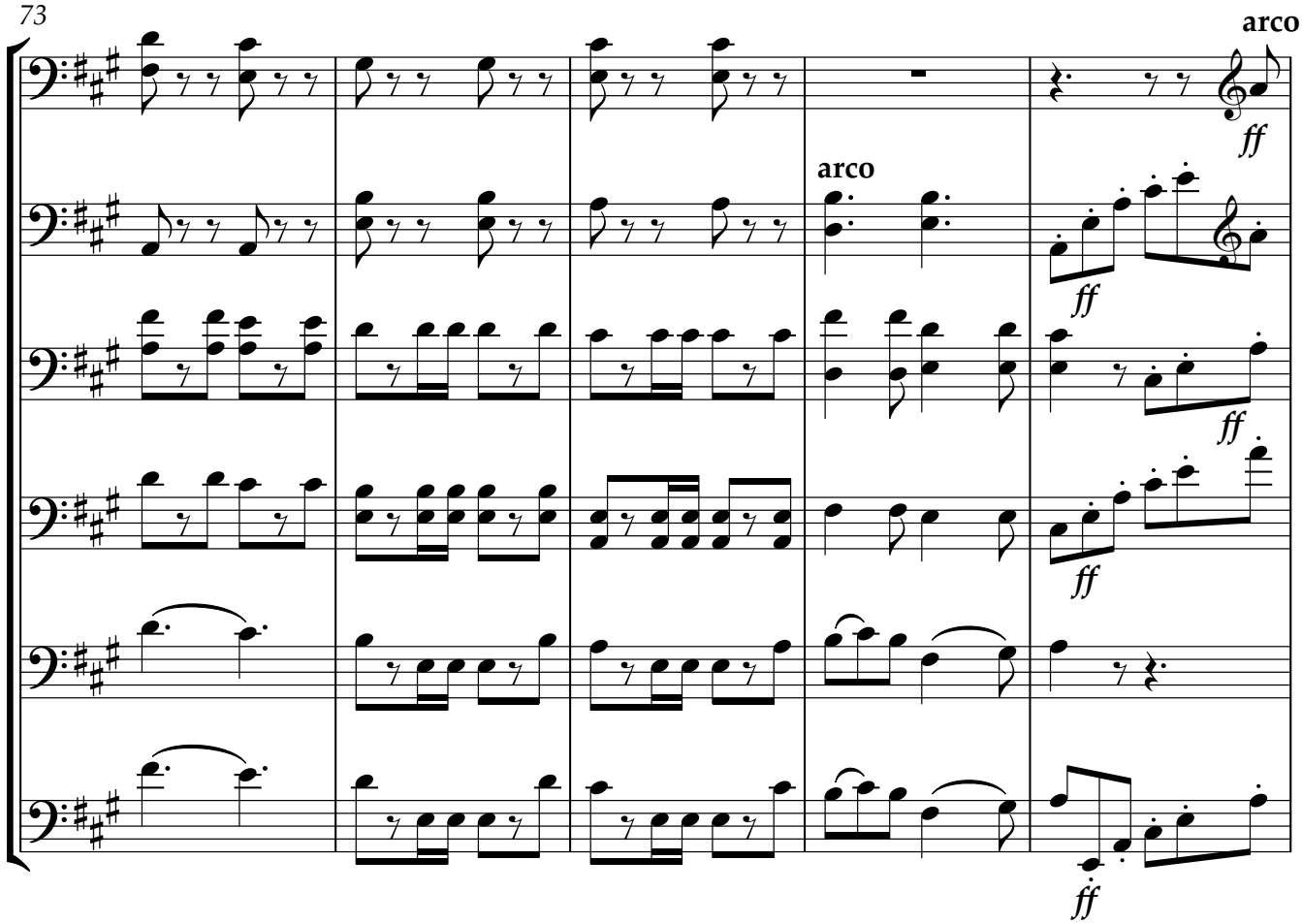

57
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
f
mf

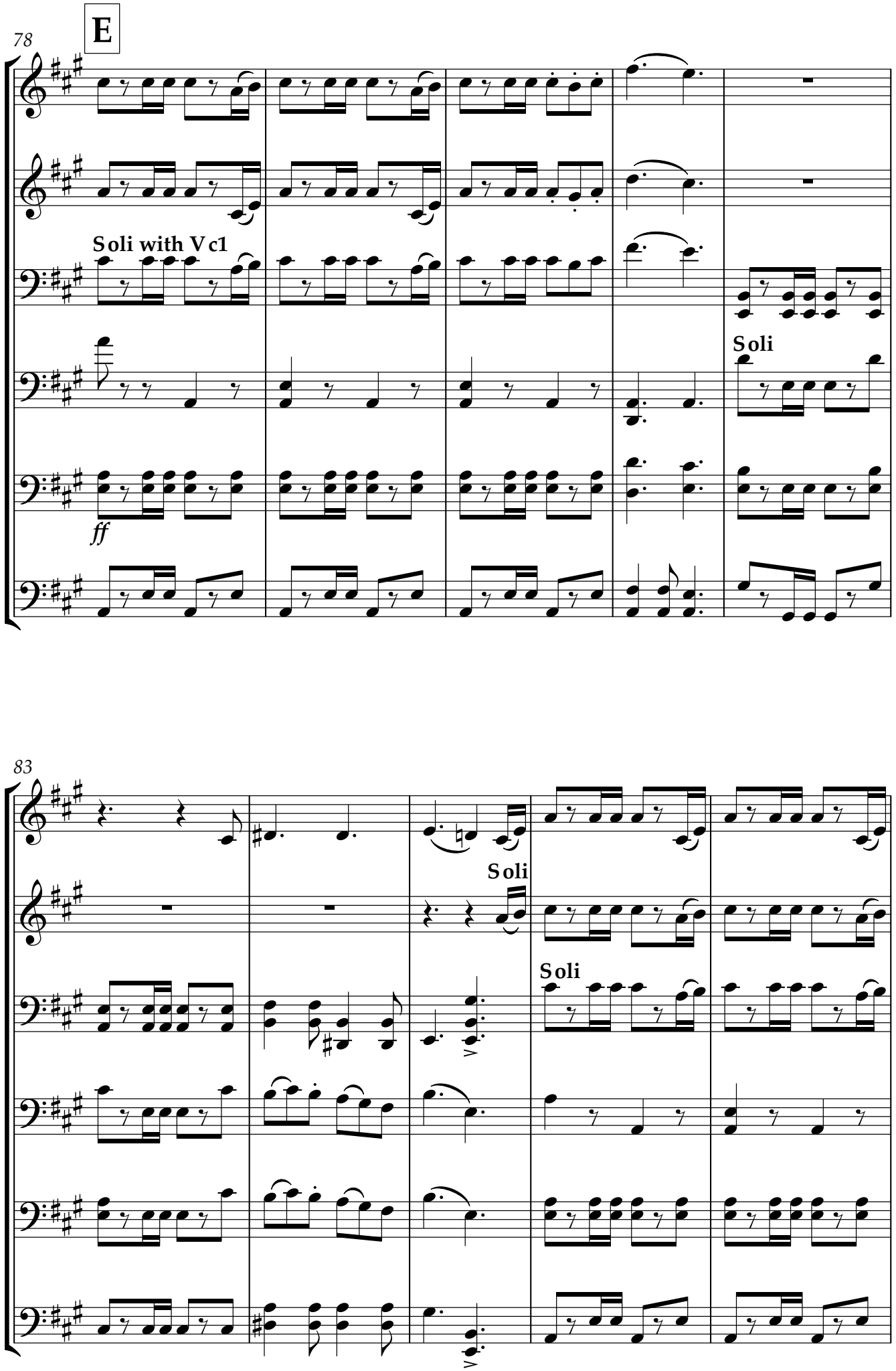
Allegretto brillante ("♩= 116")

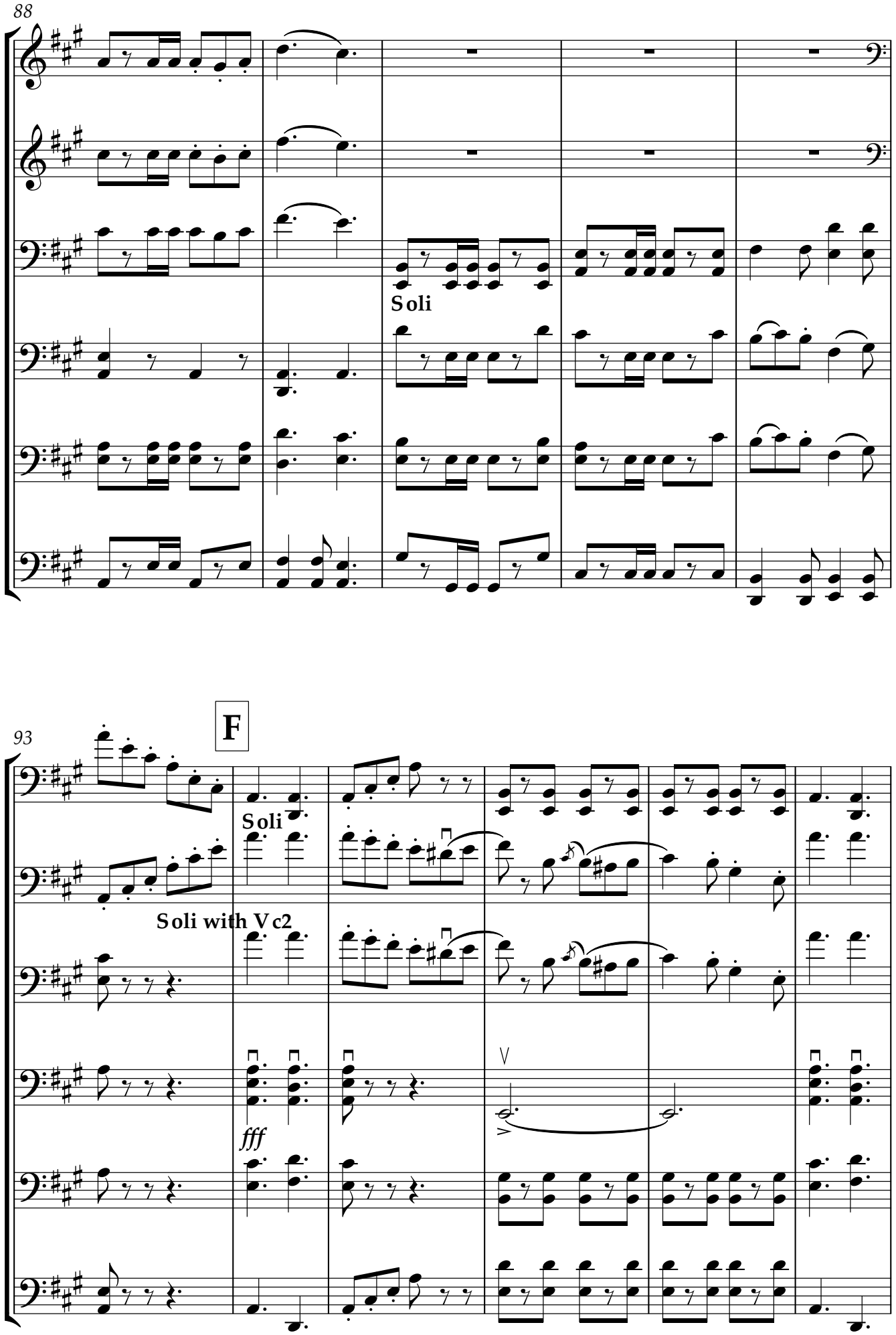


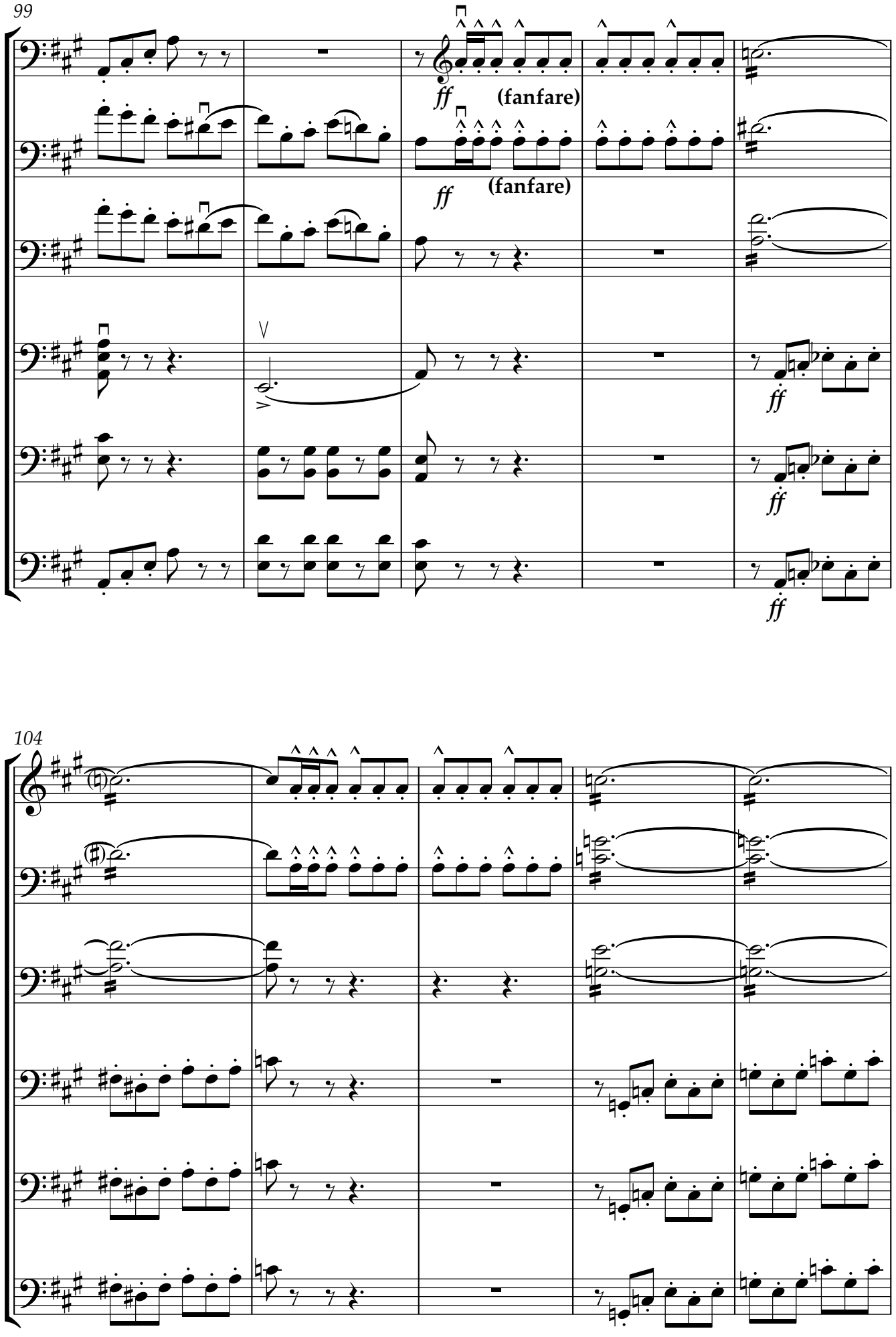


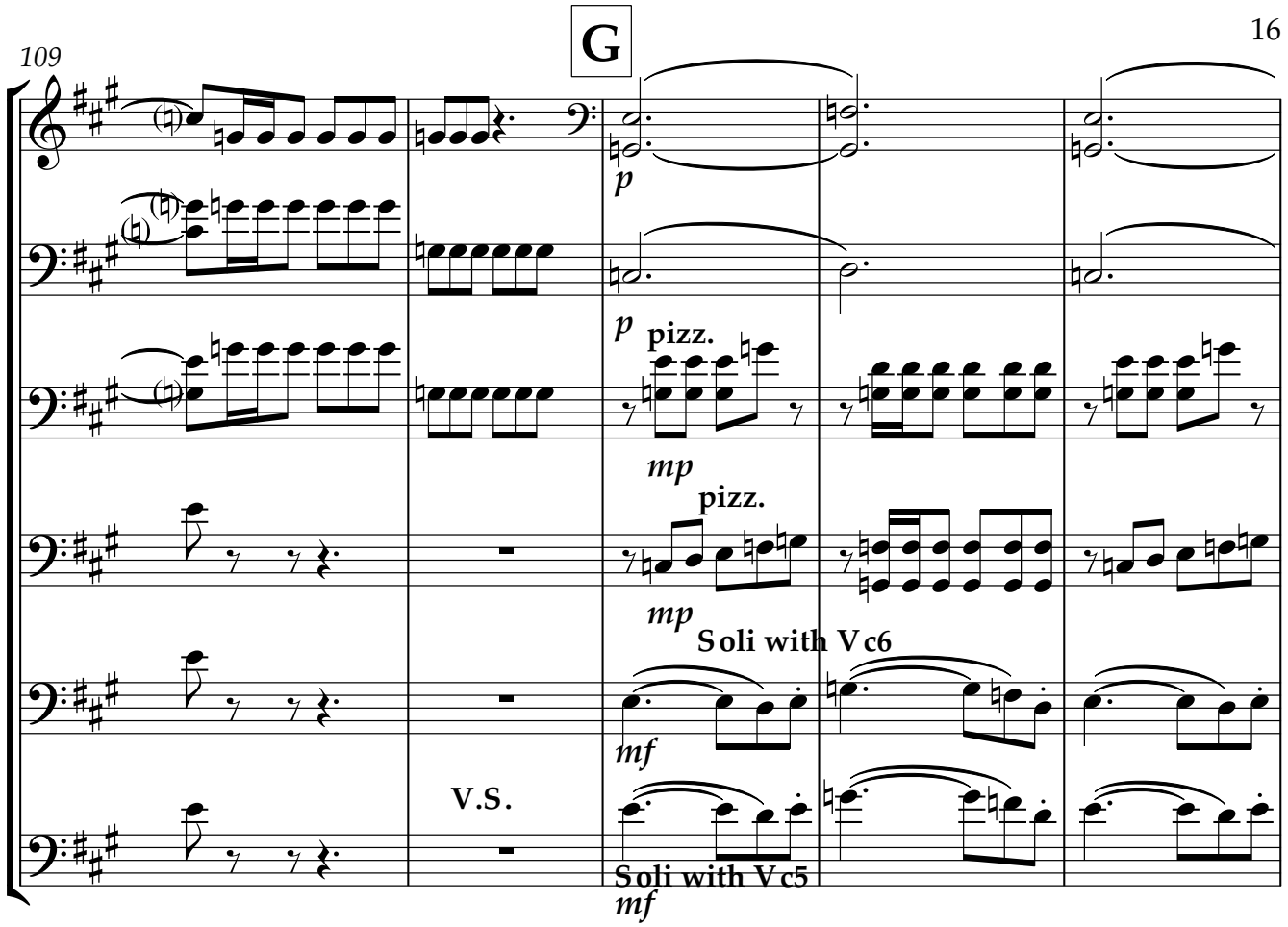

69
pizz.
pizz.
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Soli
Vc6

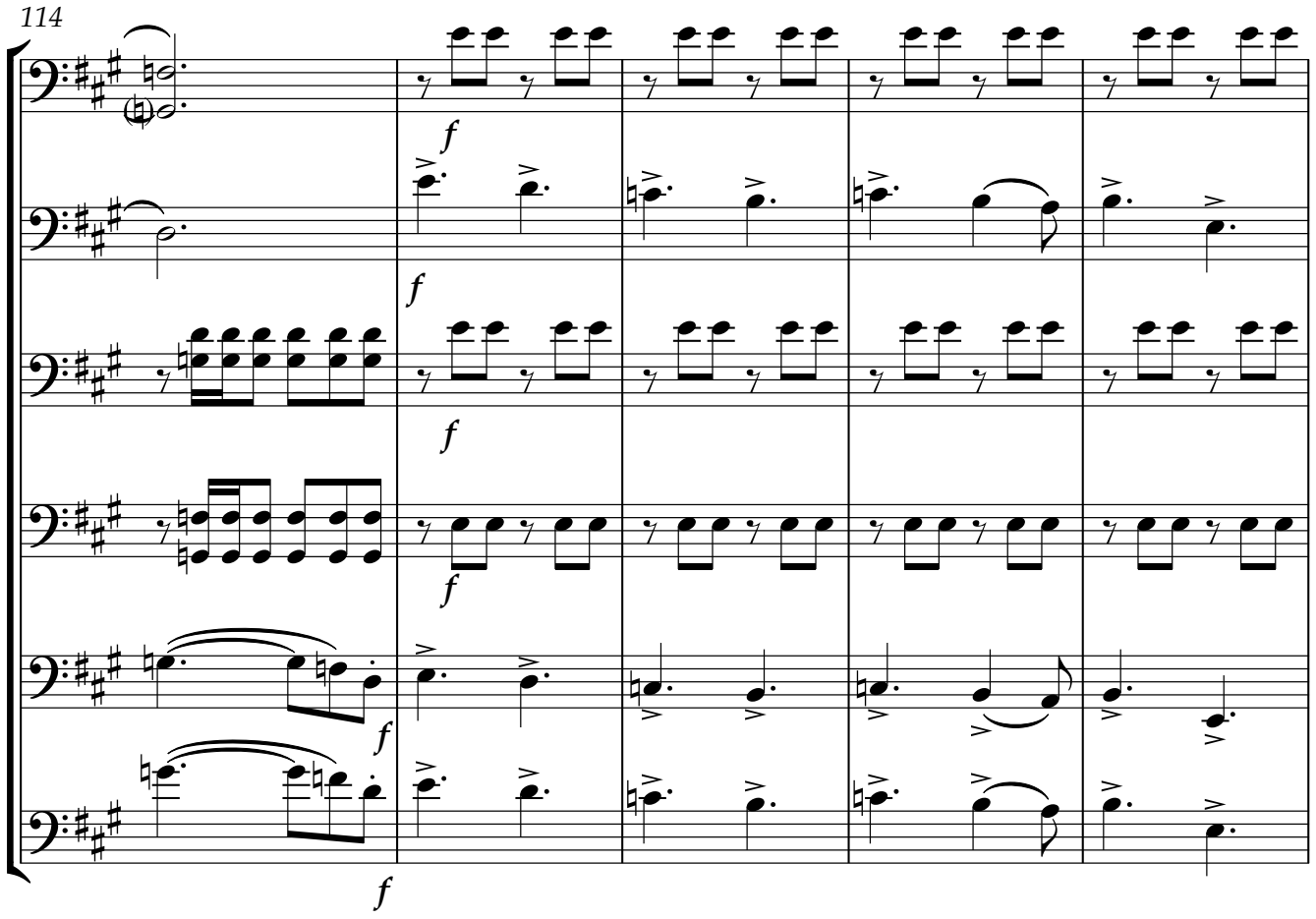

73
arco
arco
ff
ff
ff
ff
ff
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6

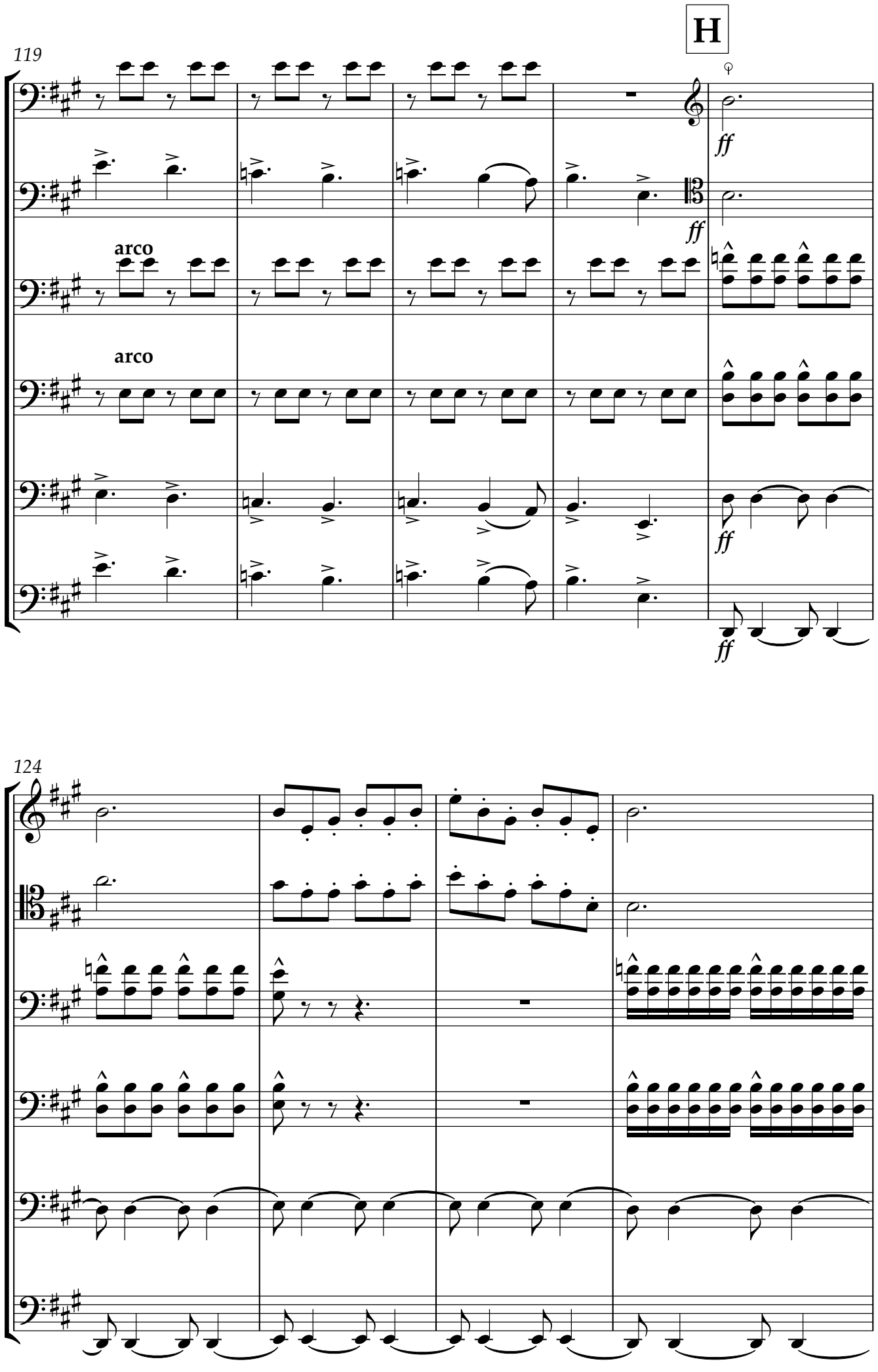

E
78
Vc1
Vc2
Soli with Vc1
Vc3
Soli
Vc4
ff
Vc5
Vc6
83
Vc1
Soli
Vc2
Soli
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6

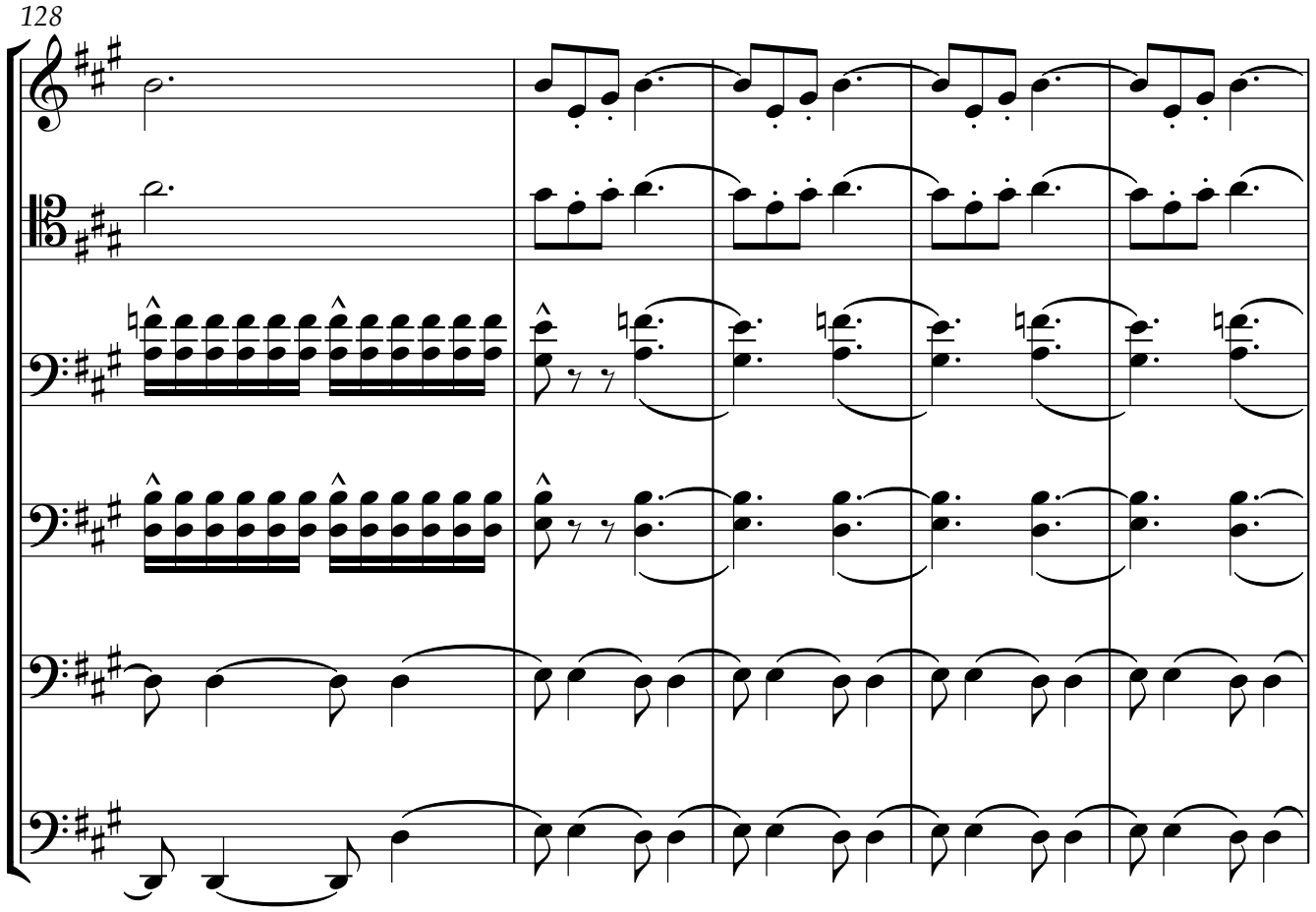

88
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Soli
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
93
F
Soli
Soli with Vc2
fff

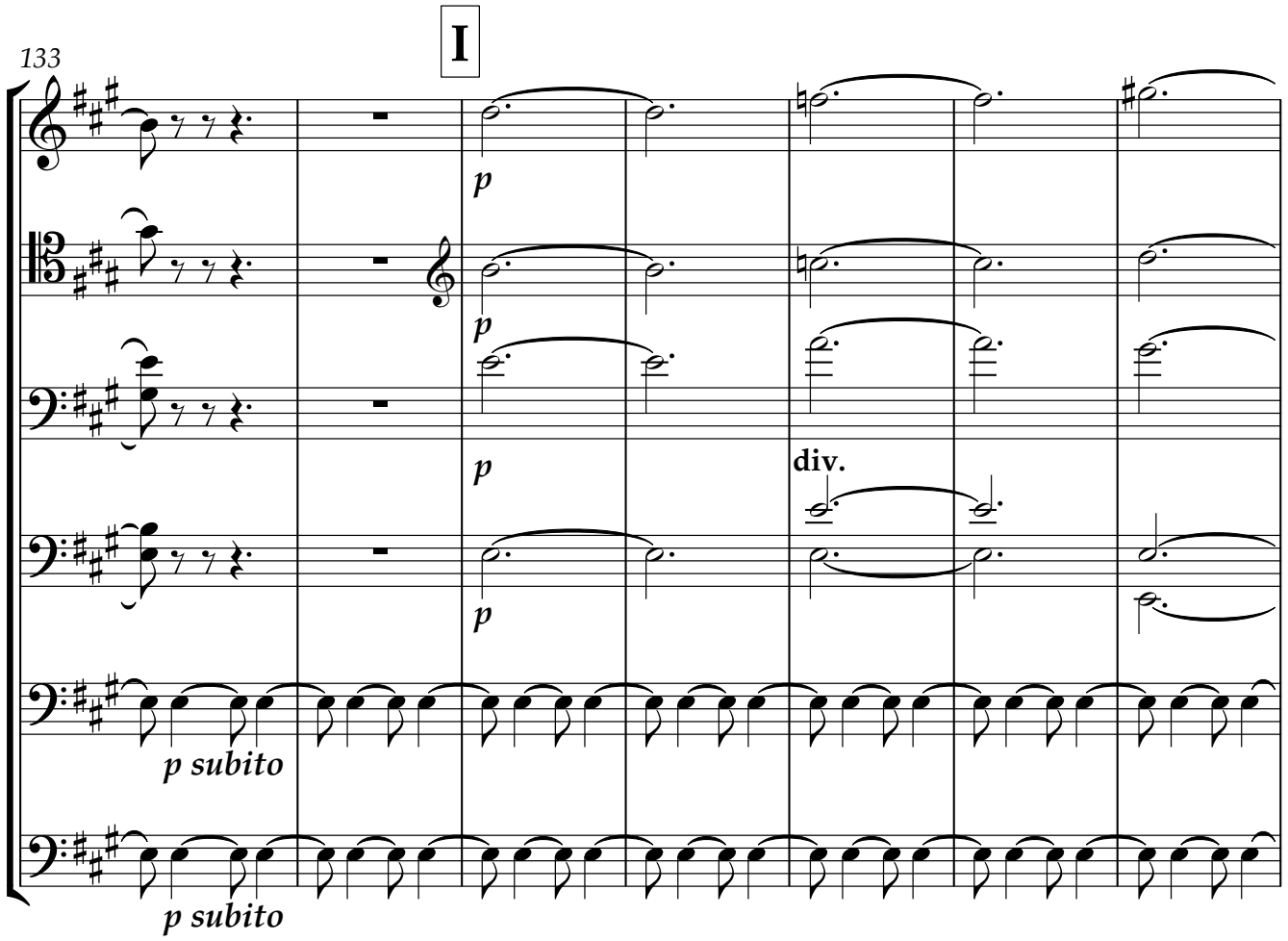

99
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
ff
(fanfare)
ff
(fanfare)
ff
ff
ff
104
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6

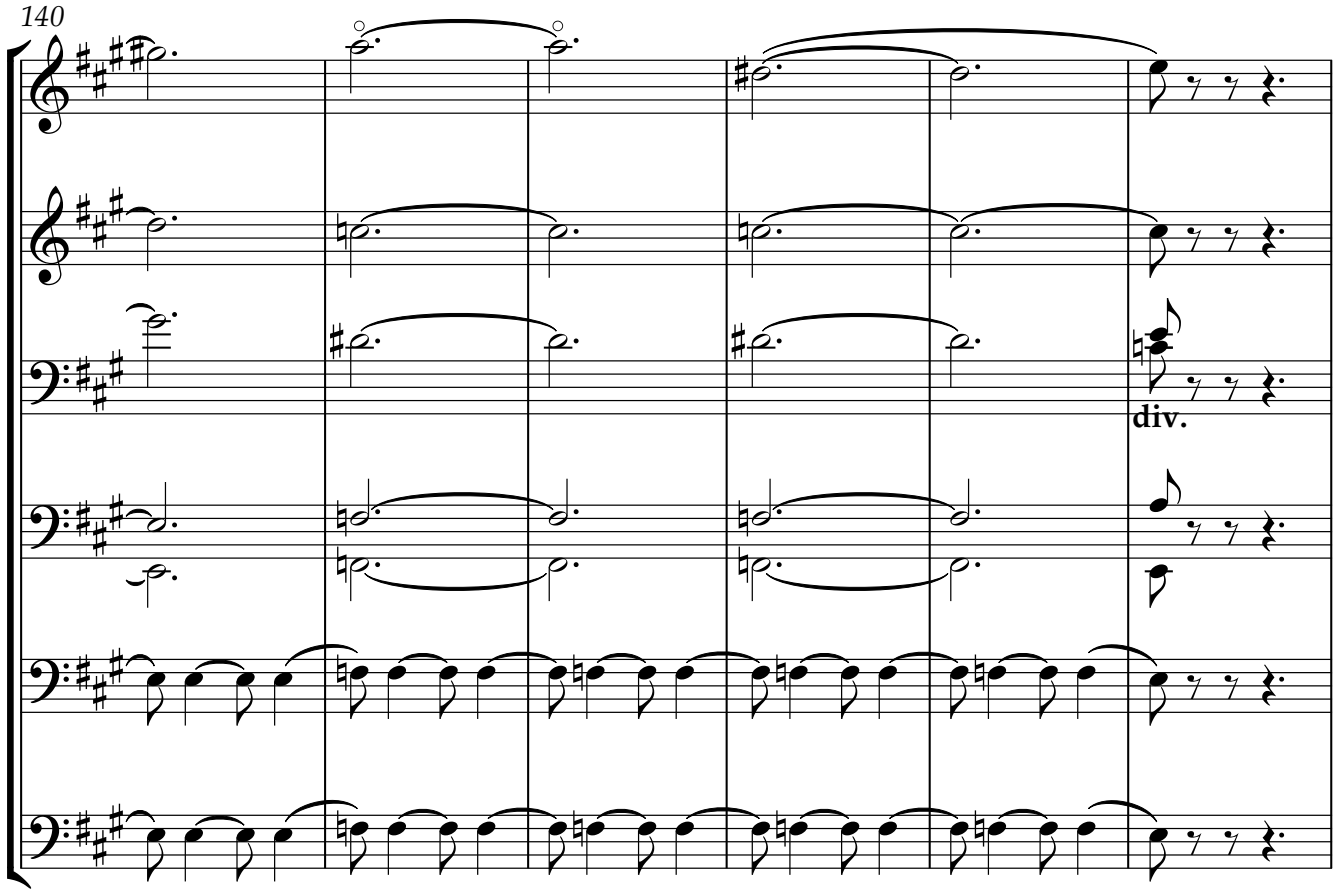

G
109
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
p
p
pizz.
mp
pizz.
mp
Soli with Vc6
mf
V.S.
Soli with Vc5
mf

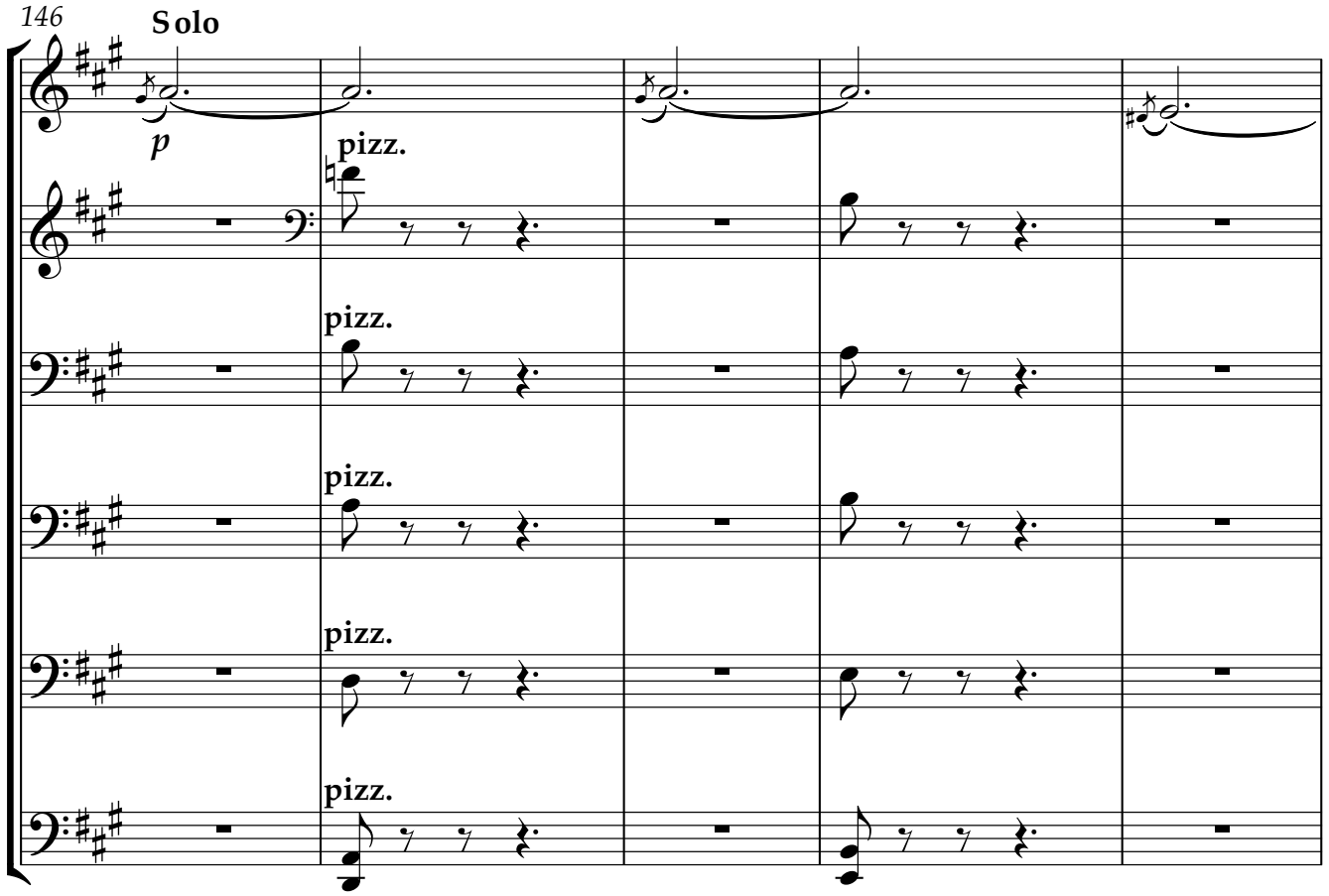

114
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
f
f
f
f
f
f

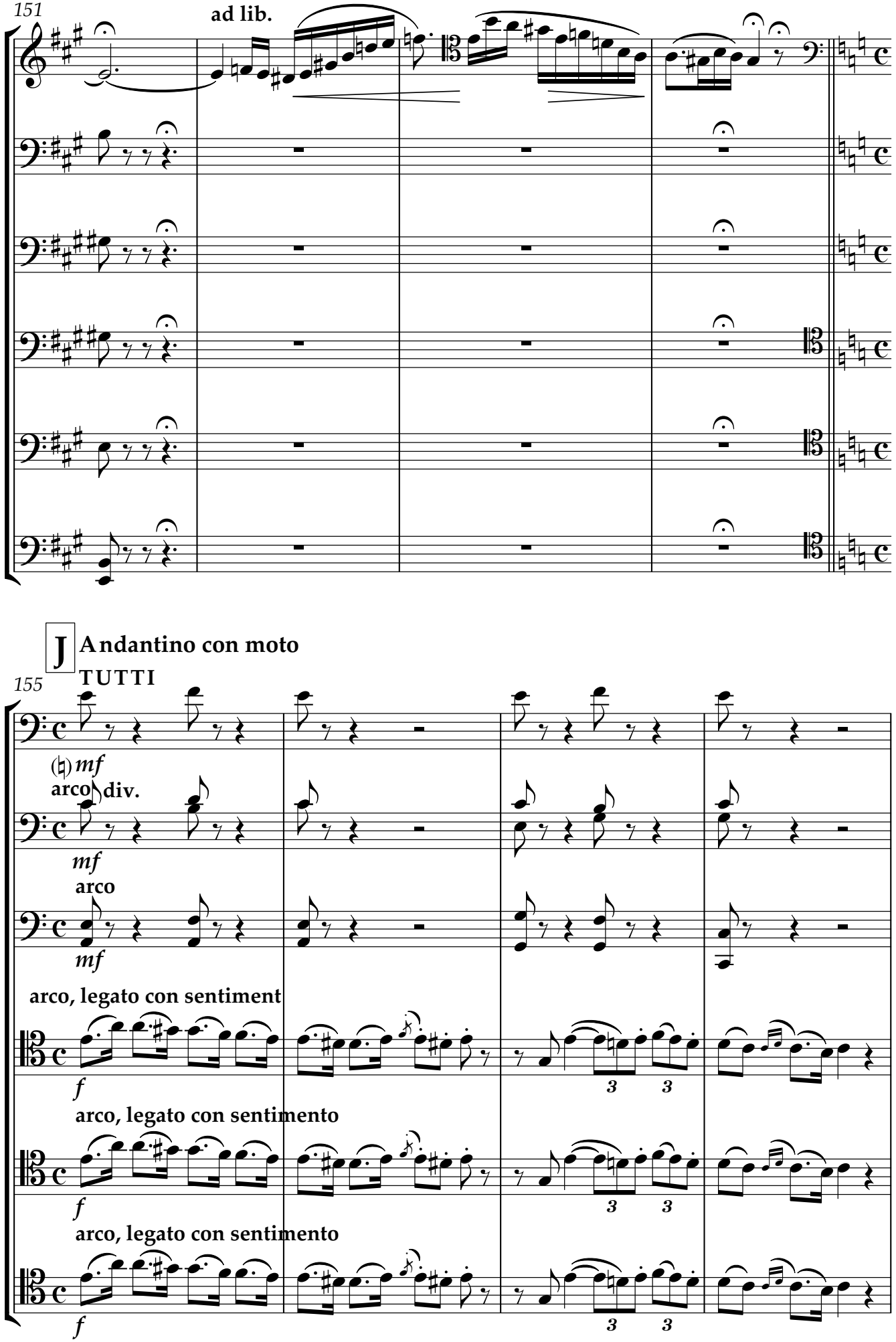

H
119
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
arco
arco
ff
124

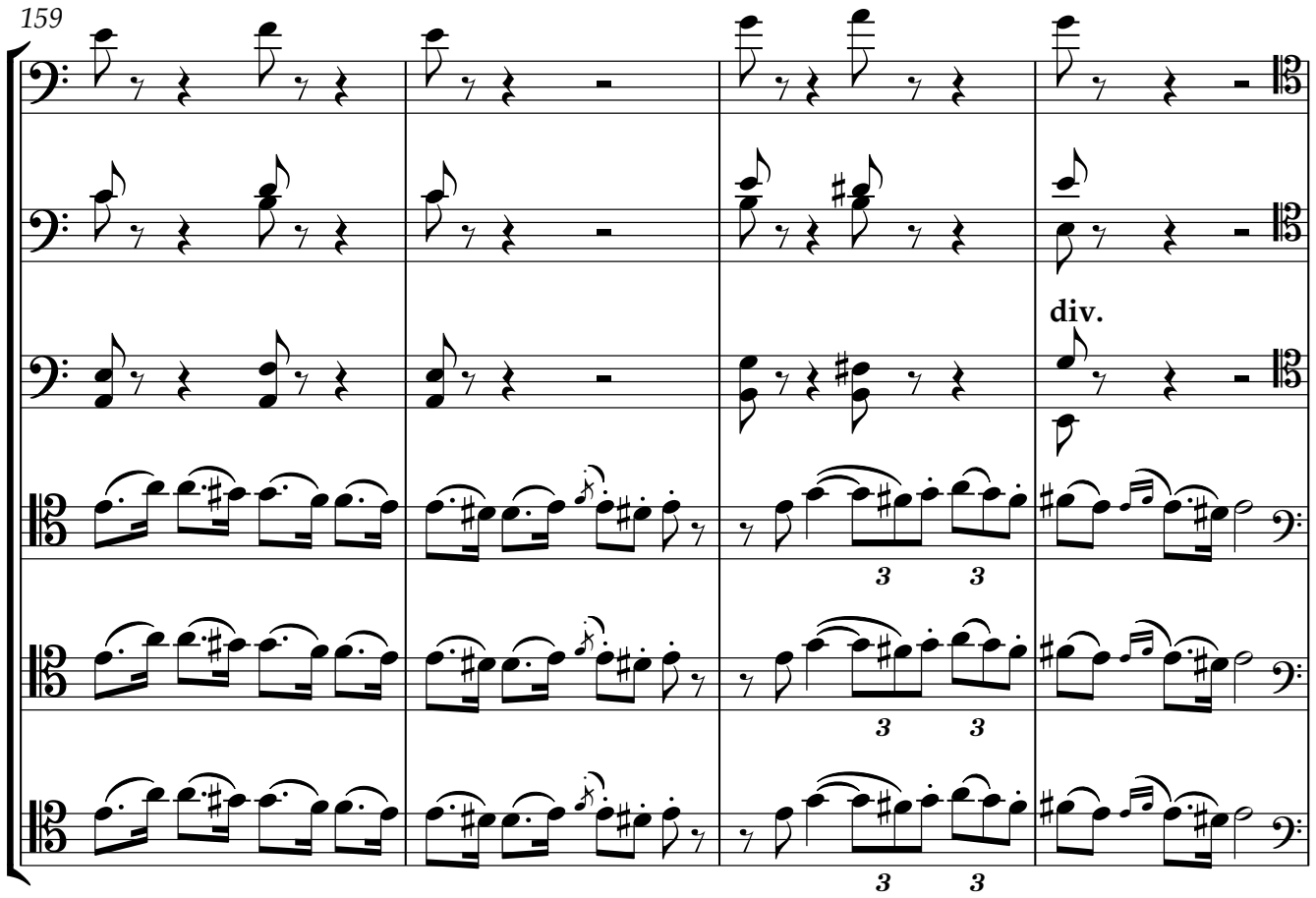

128
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6

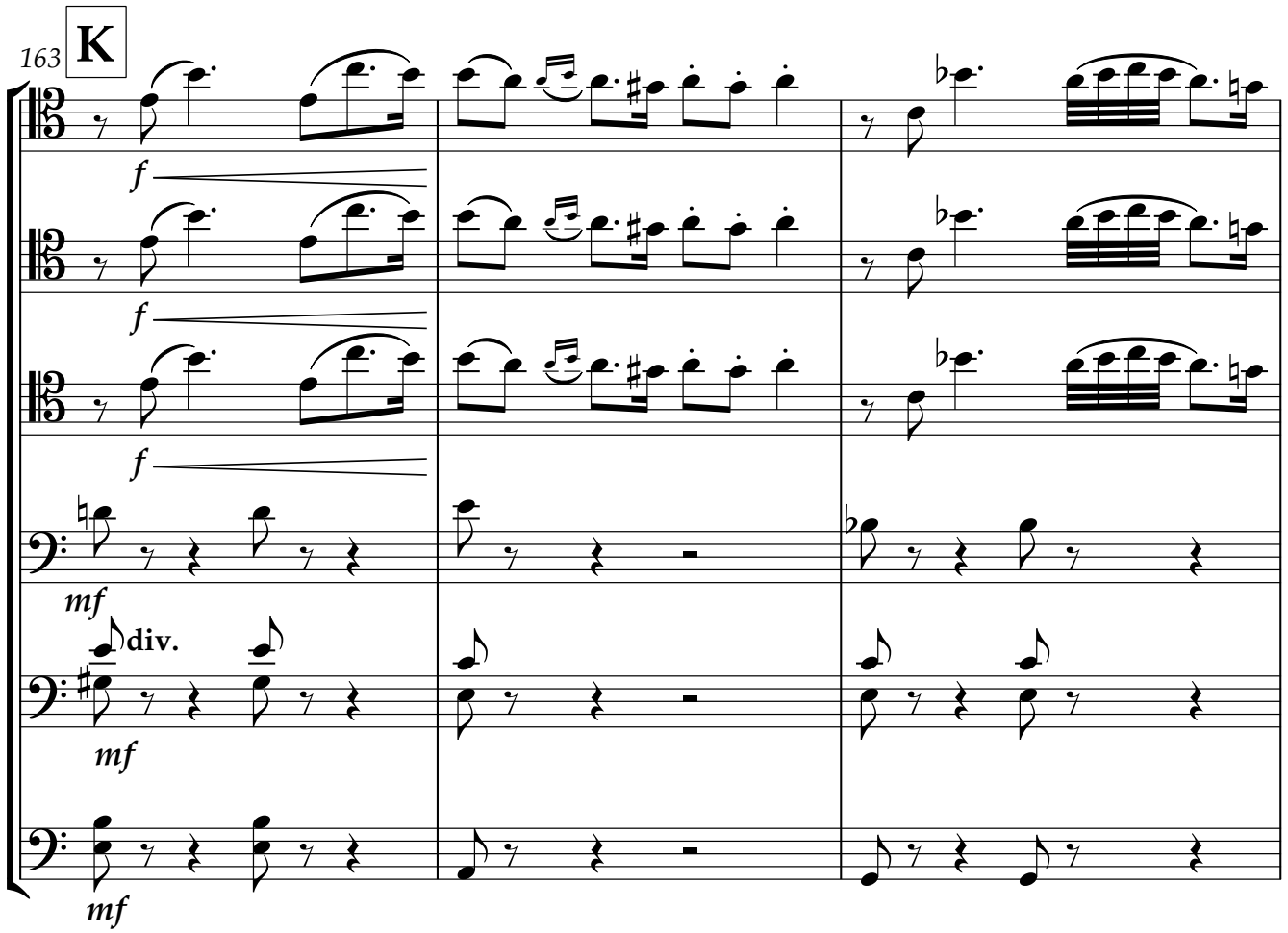

I
133
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
p
p
p
p
div.
p subito
p subito

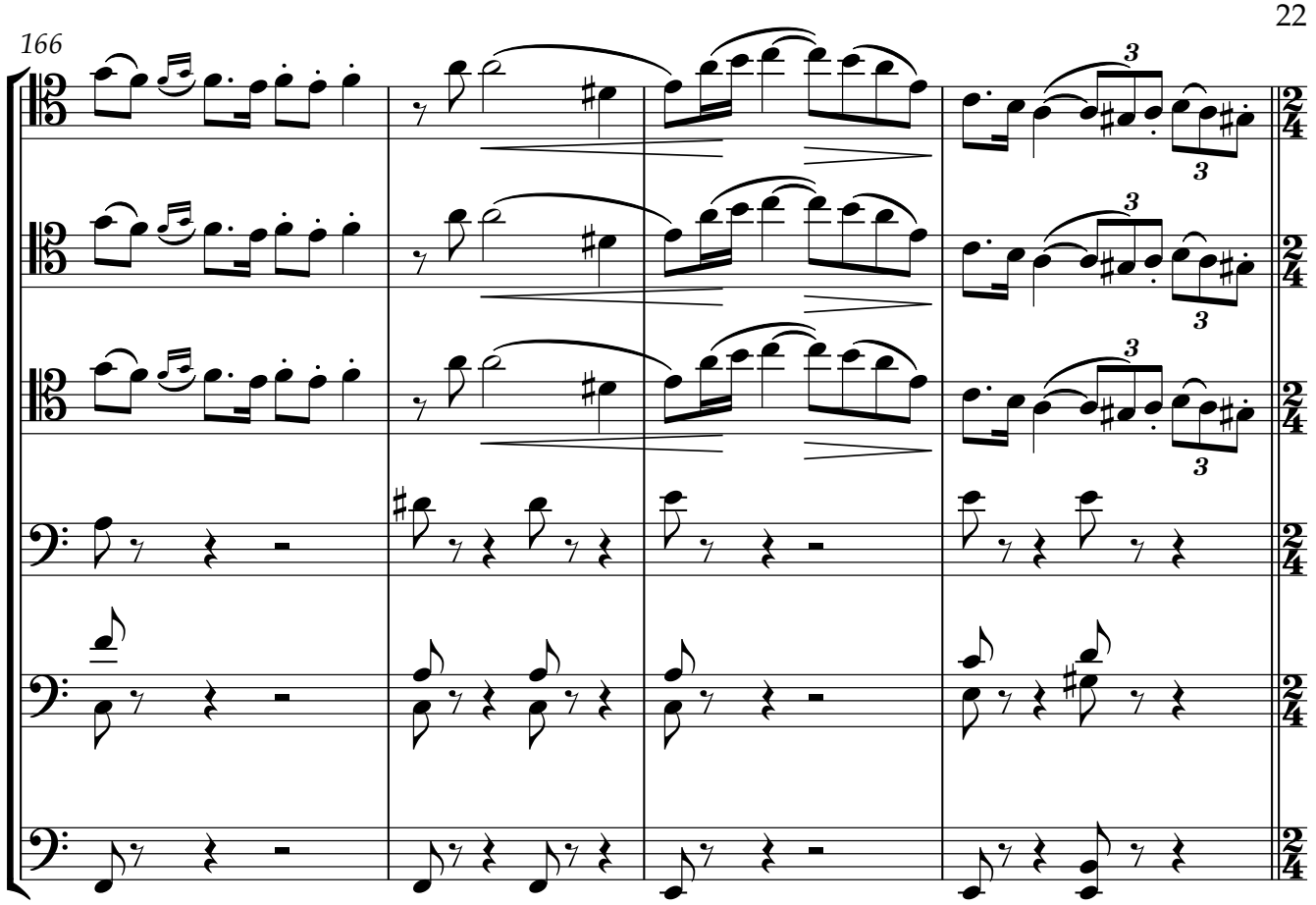

140
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
div.

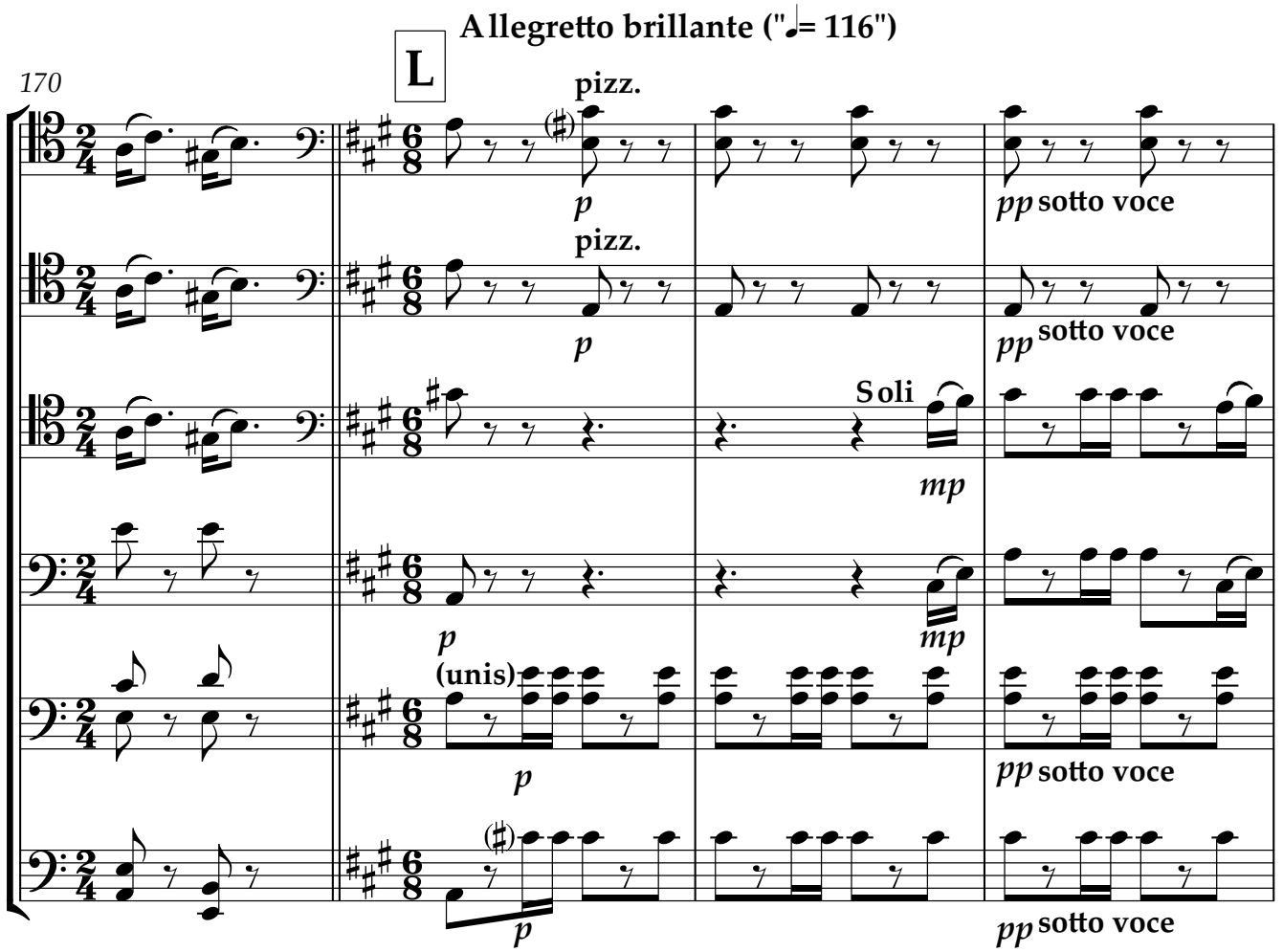

146
Solo
p
pizz.
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6

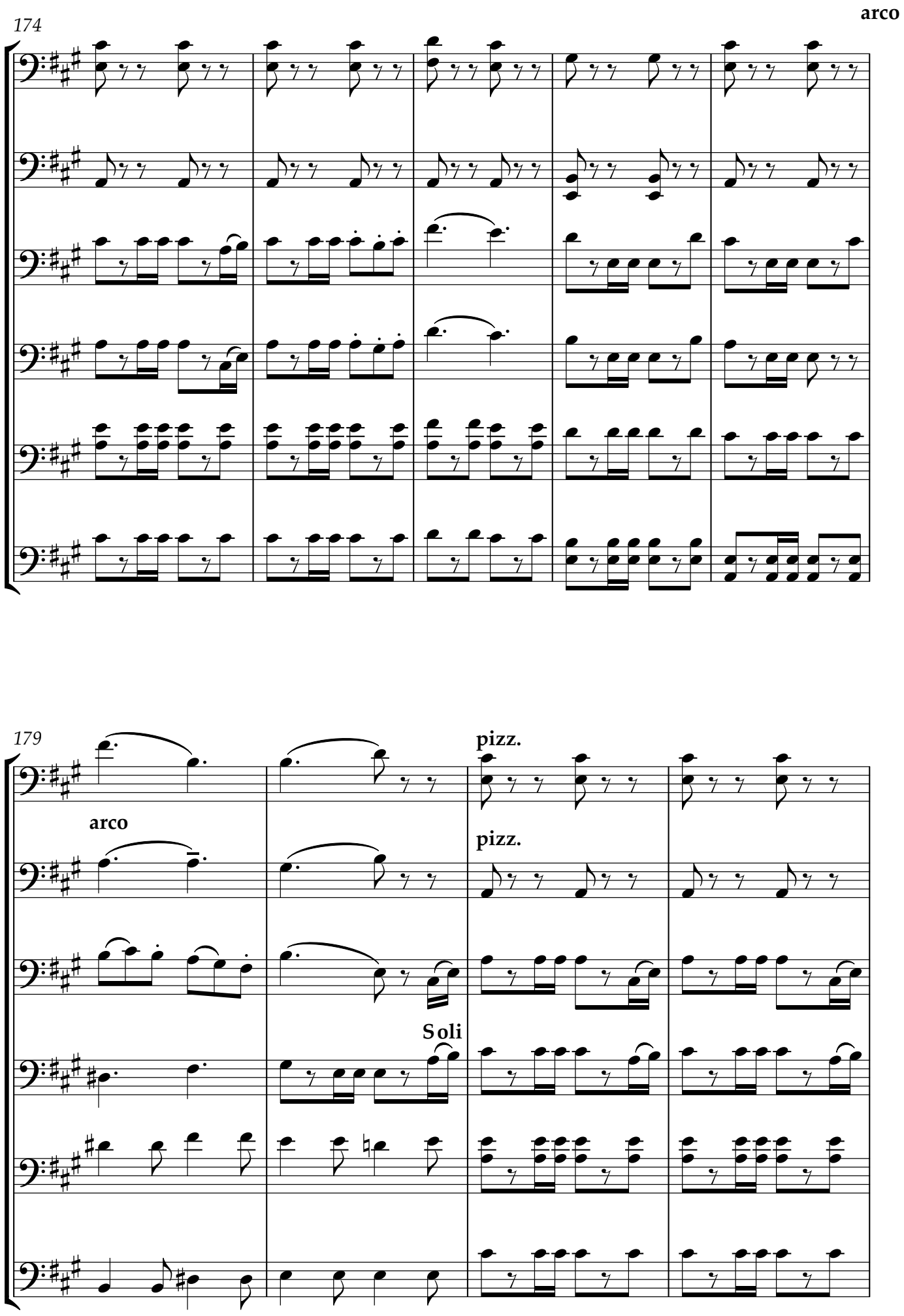

151
ad lib.
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
J
Andantino con moto
TUTTI
155
mf
arco
div.
mf
arco
mf
arco, legato con sentiment
f
arco, legato con sentimento
f
arco, legato con sentimento
f
3
3
3
3
3
3

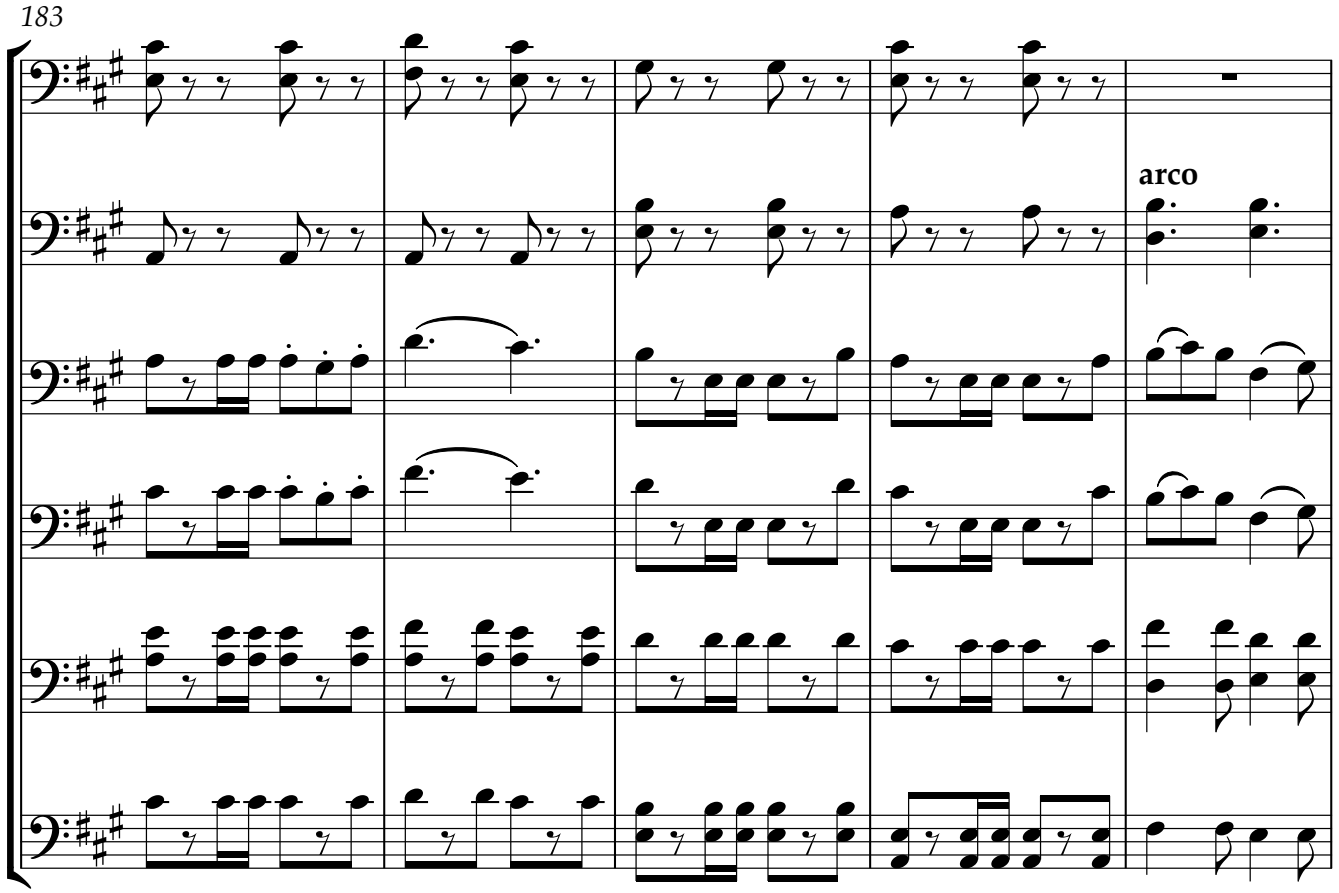

159
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
div.
3
3

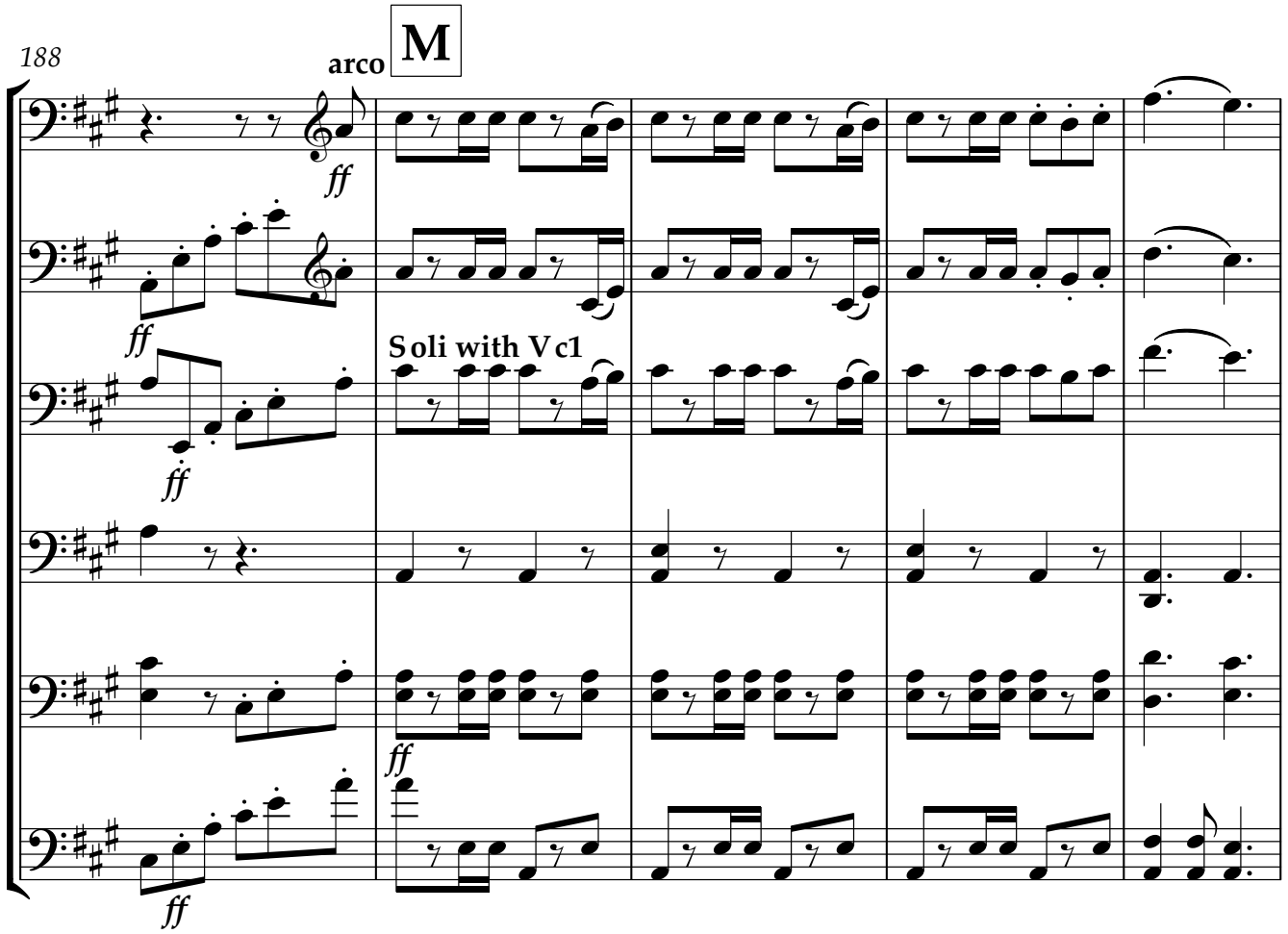

163
K
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
f
mf
div.

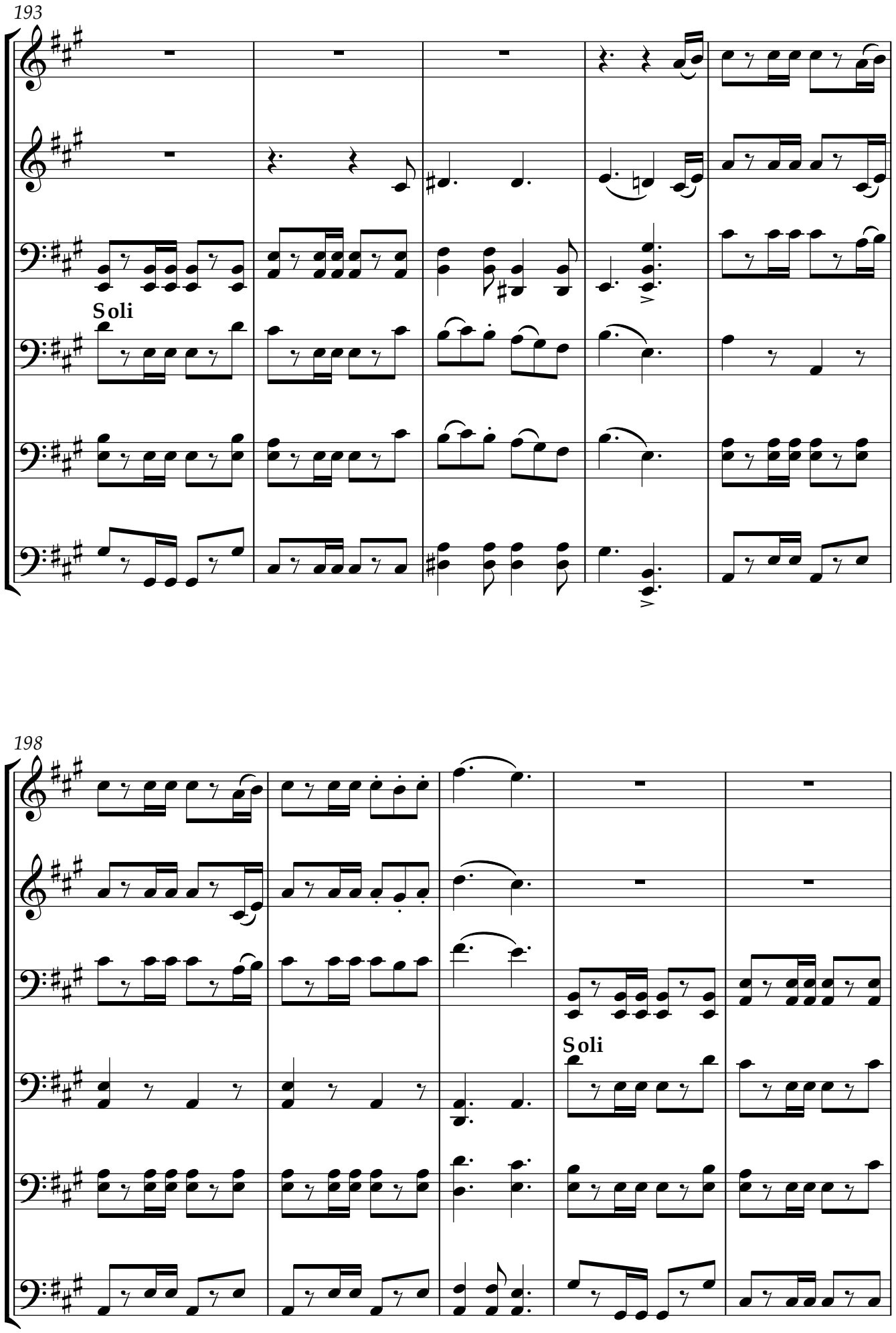

166
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6

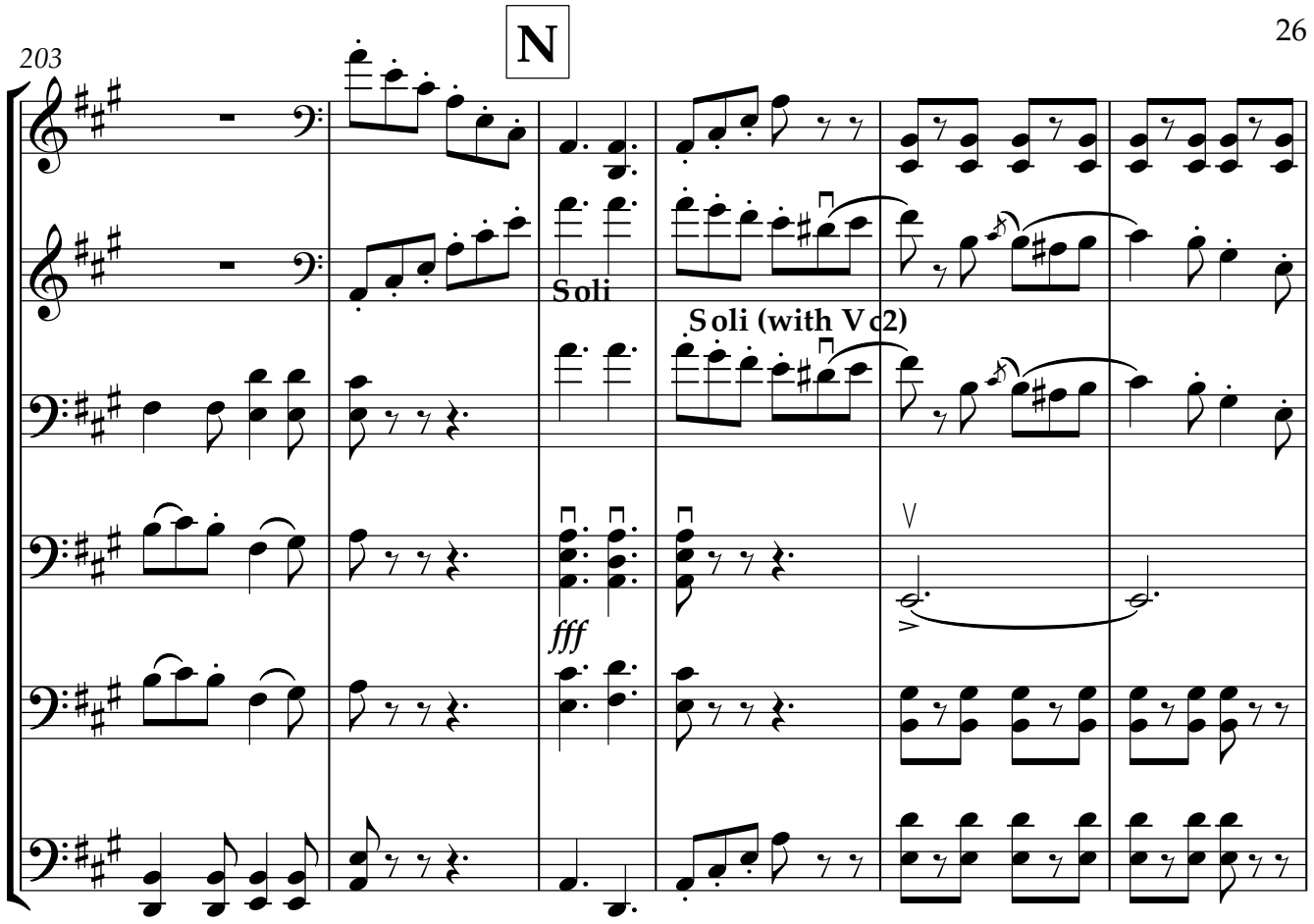

Allegretto brillante ("♩= 116")
L
170
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
pizz.
p
pizz.
p
Soli
mp
mp
p
(unis)
p
pp sotto voce
pp sotto voce
pp sotto voce
pp sotto voce

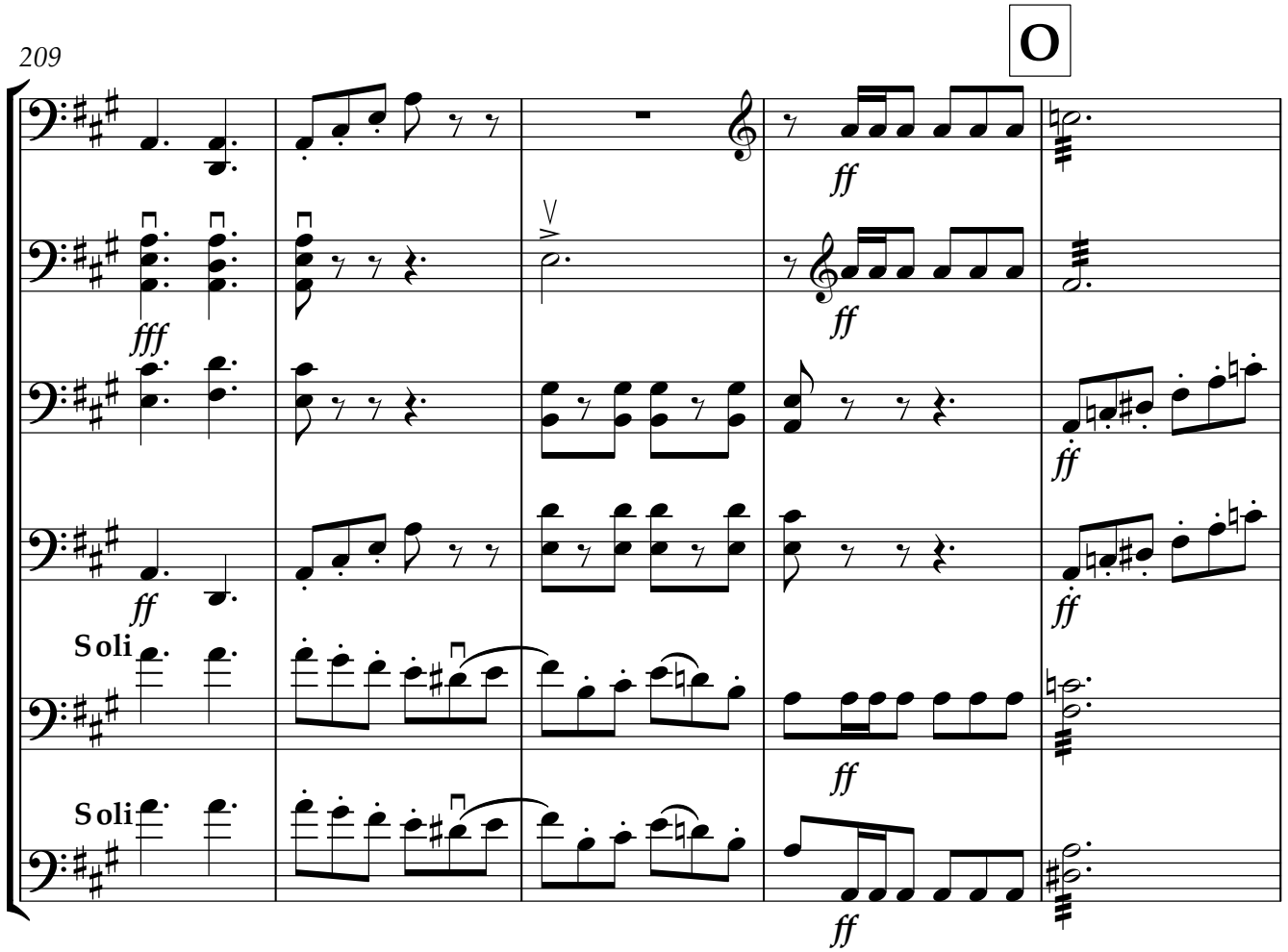

174
arco
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
179
pizz.
arco
pizz.
Soli

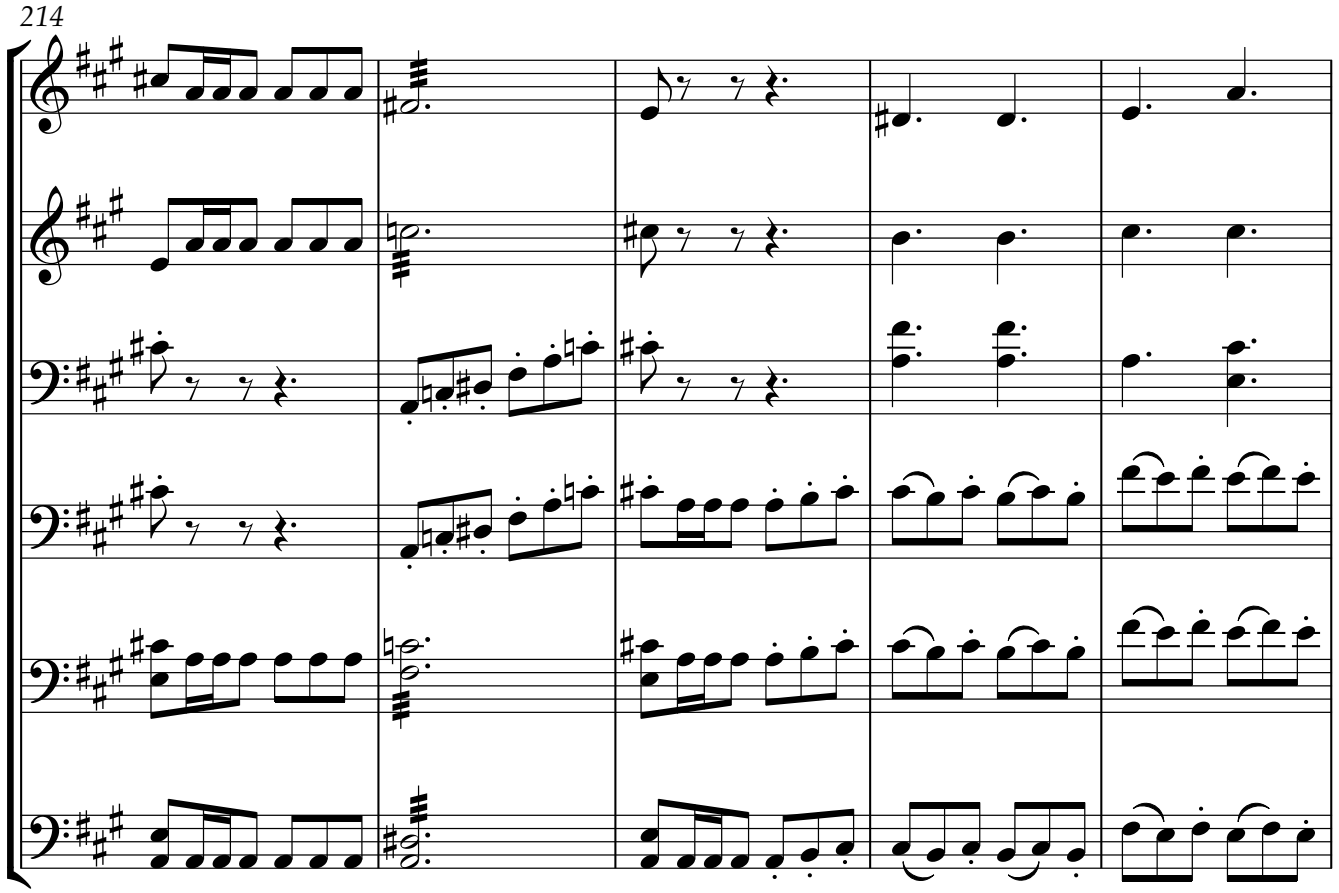

183
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
arco

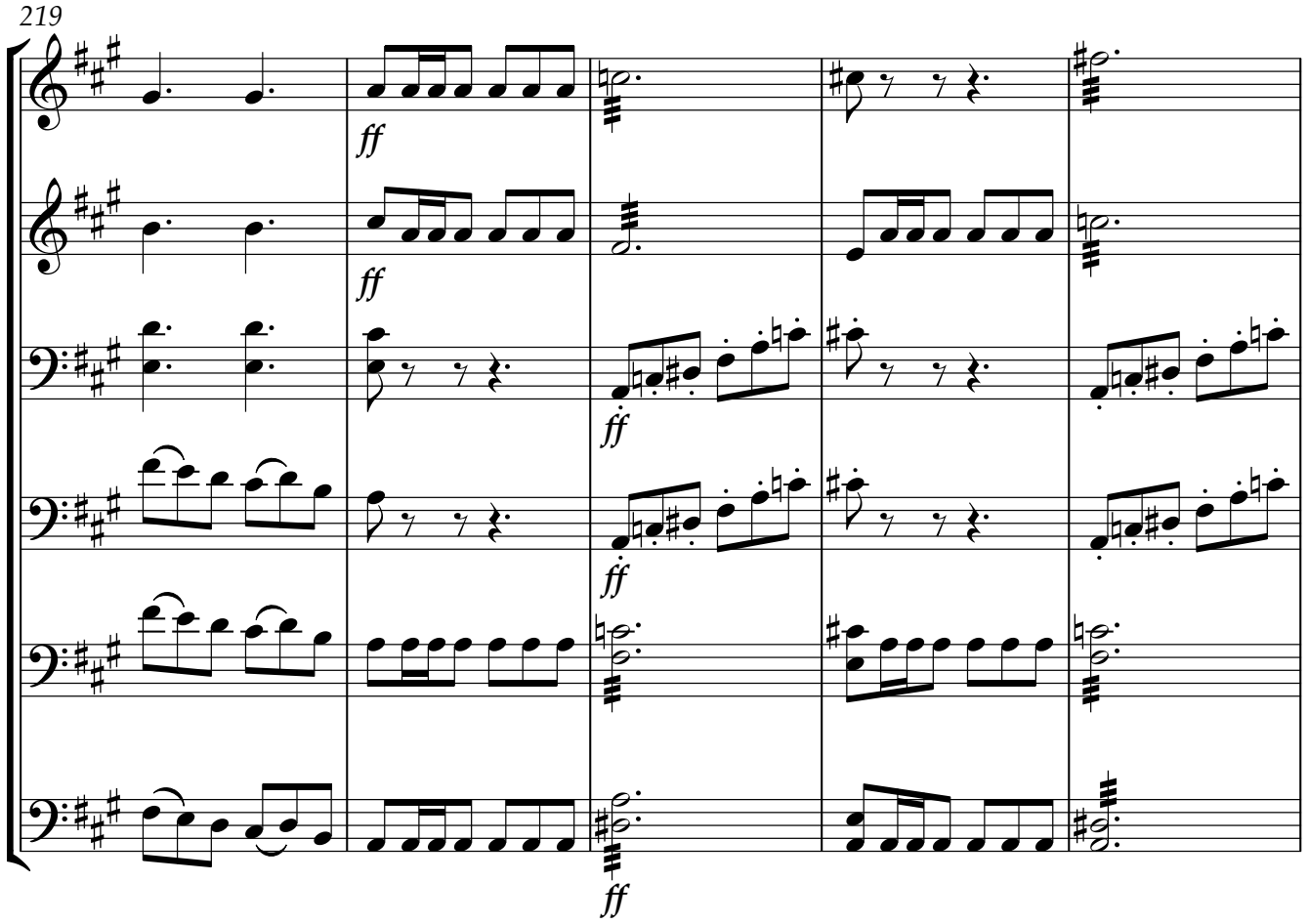

188
arco
M
ff
Soli with Vc1
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6


193
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Soli
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
198
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Soli
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6


N
203
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
Soli
Soli (with Vc2)
fff


O
209
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
fff
ff
Soli
Soli


214
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6


219
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
ff
ff
ff
ff
ff

P

(non-divisi, ad lib)

224

Vc1

Vc2

Vc3

Vc4

Vc5

Vc6

fff

div. **unis**

229

div.

Q

234

Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6

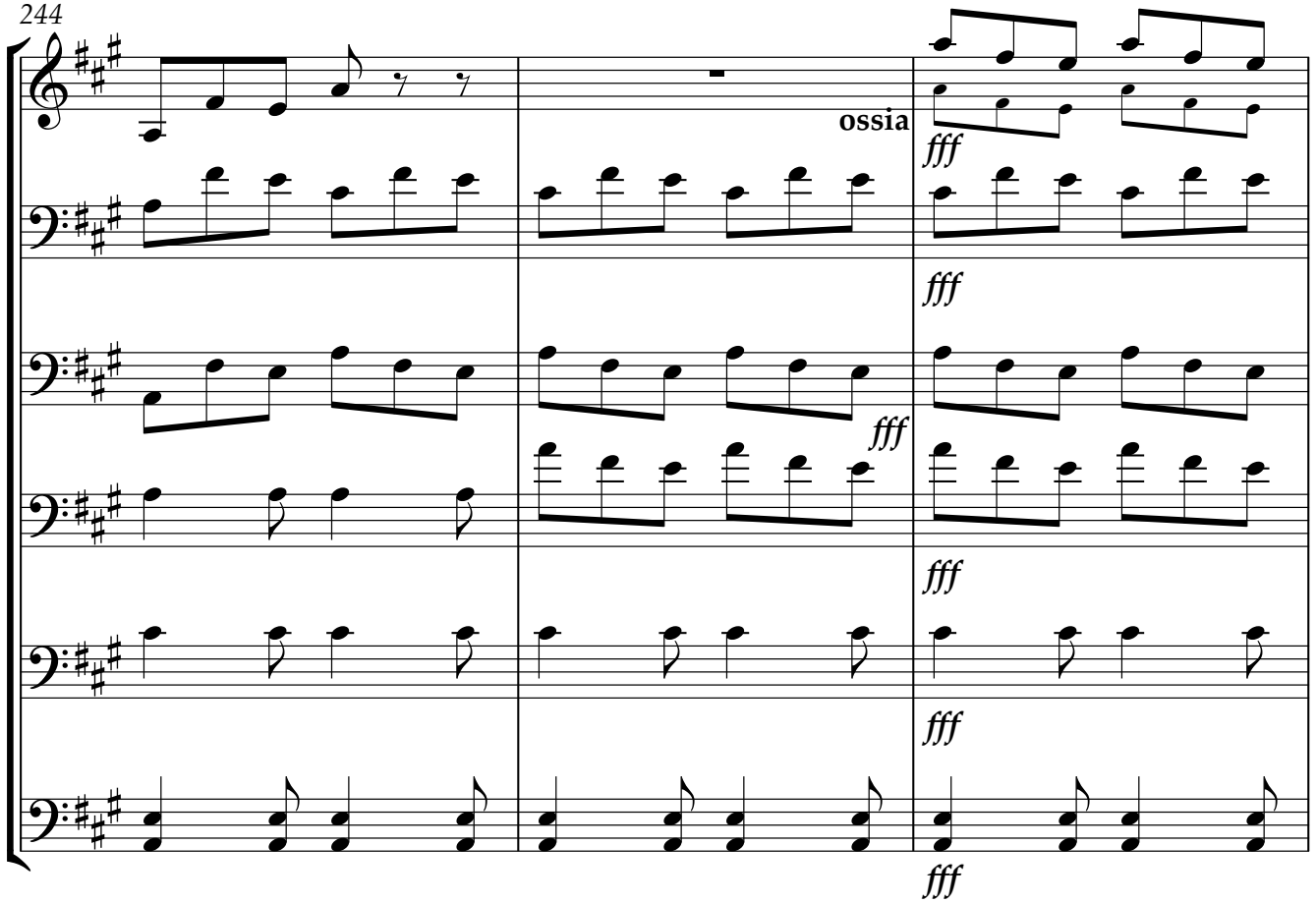
mf

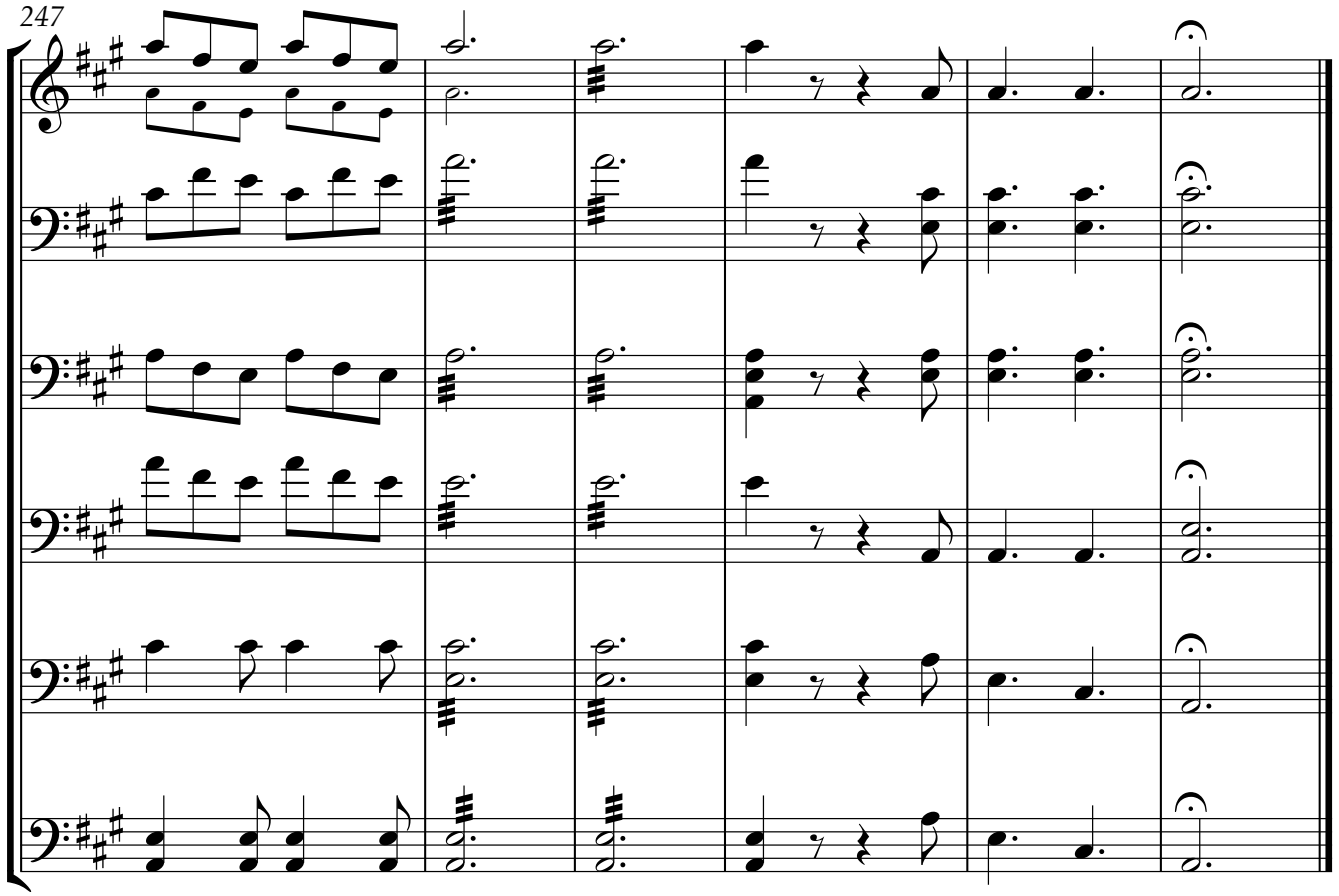
(unis)

239

div.

ff


244
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6
ossia
fff


247
Vc1
Vc2
Vc3
Vc4
Vc5
Vc6

Cello 1

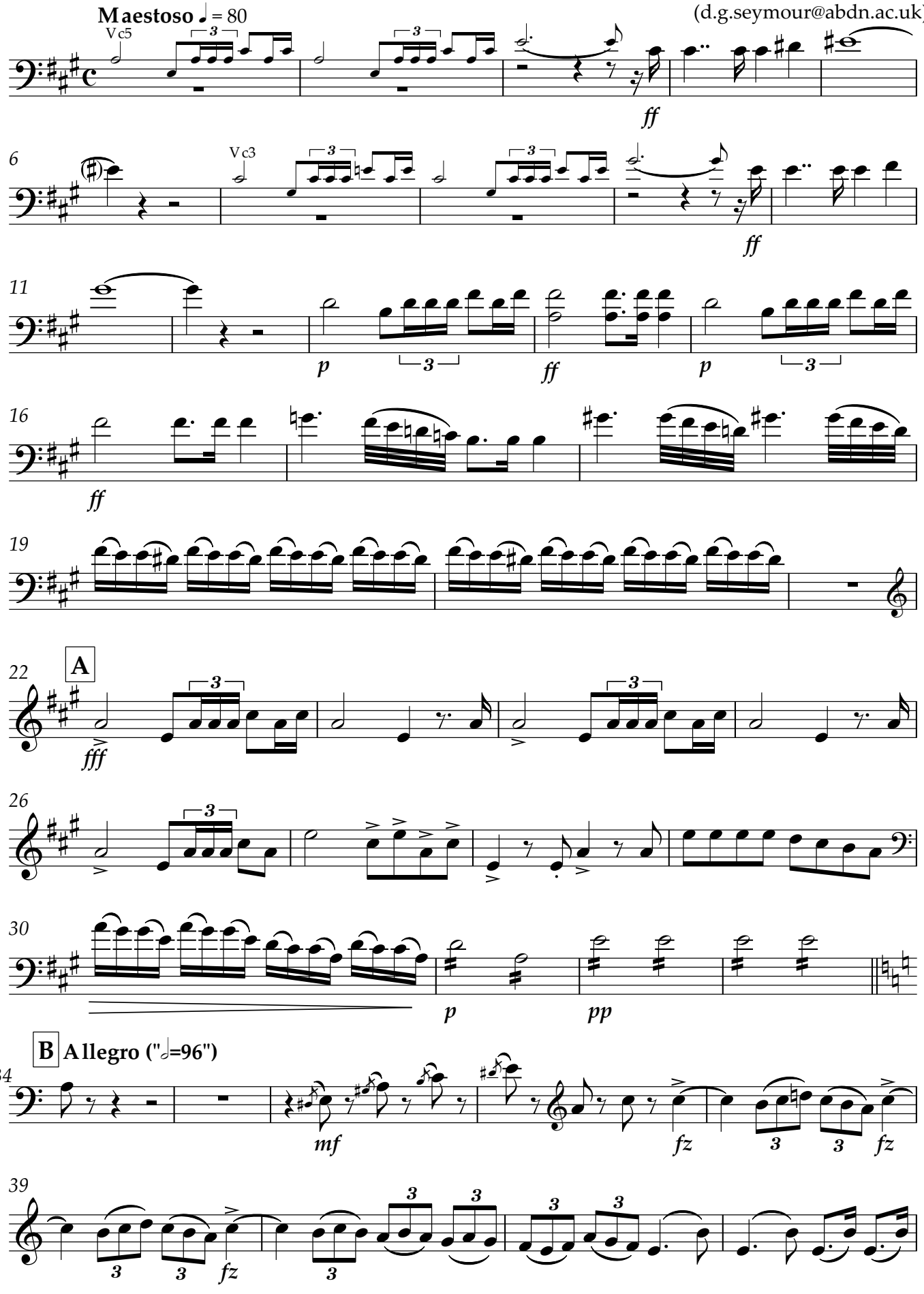
Franz von Suppé

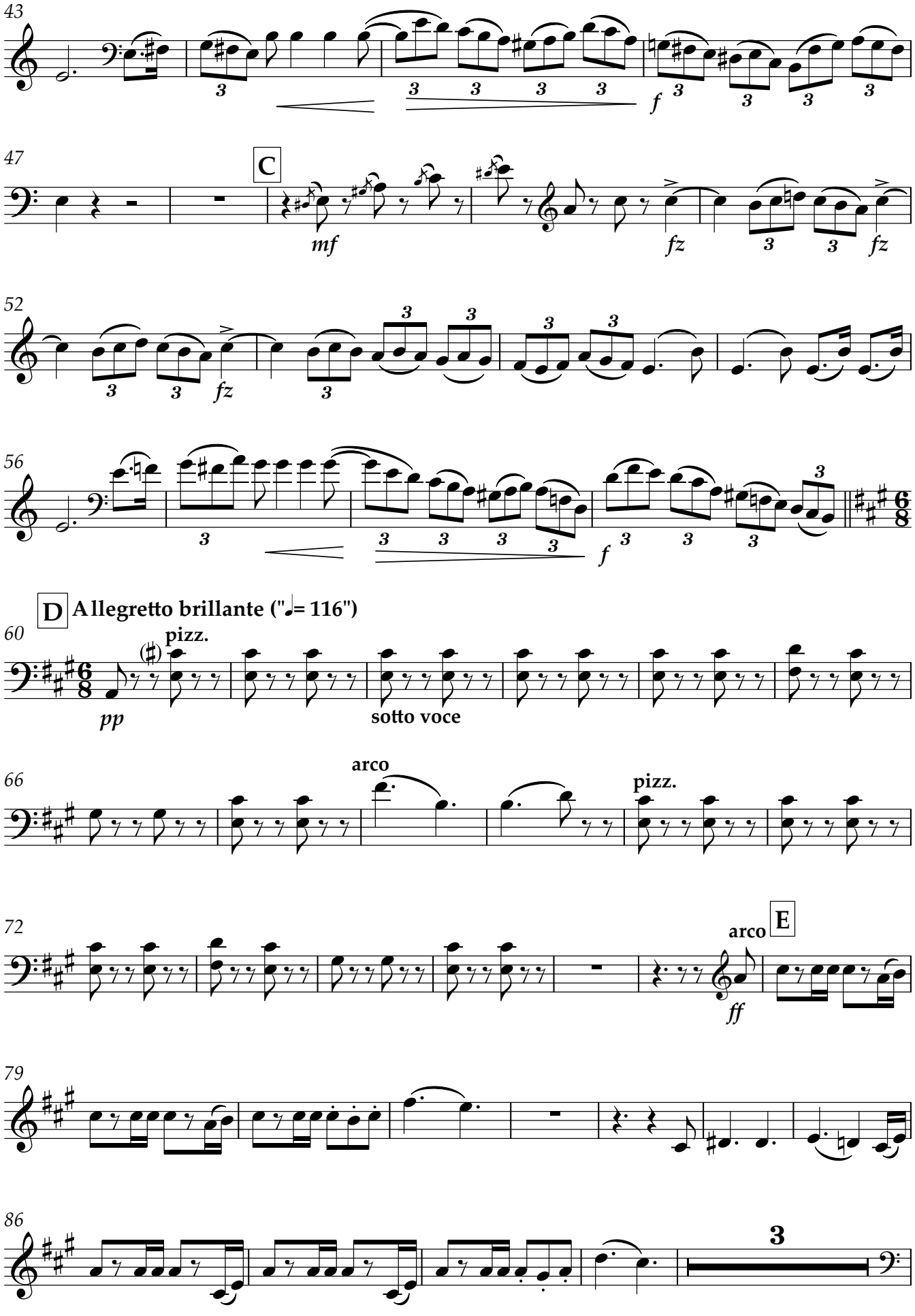
Light Cavalry Overture arranged for 6-part Cello Orchestra

Cello 1

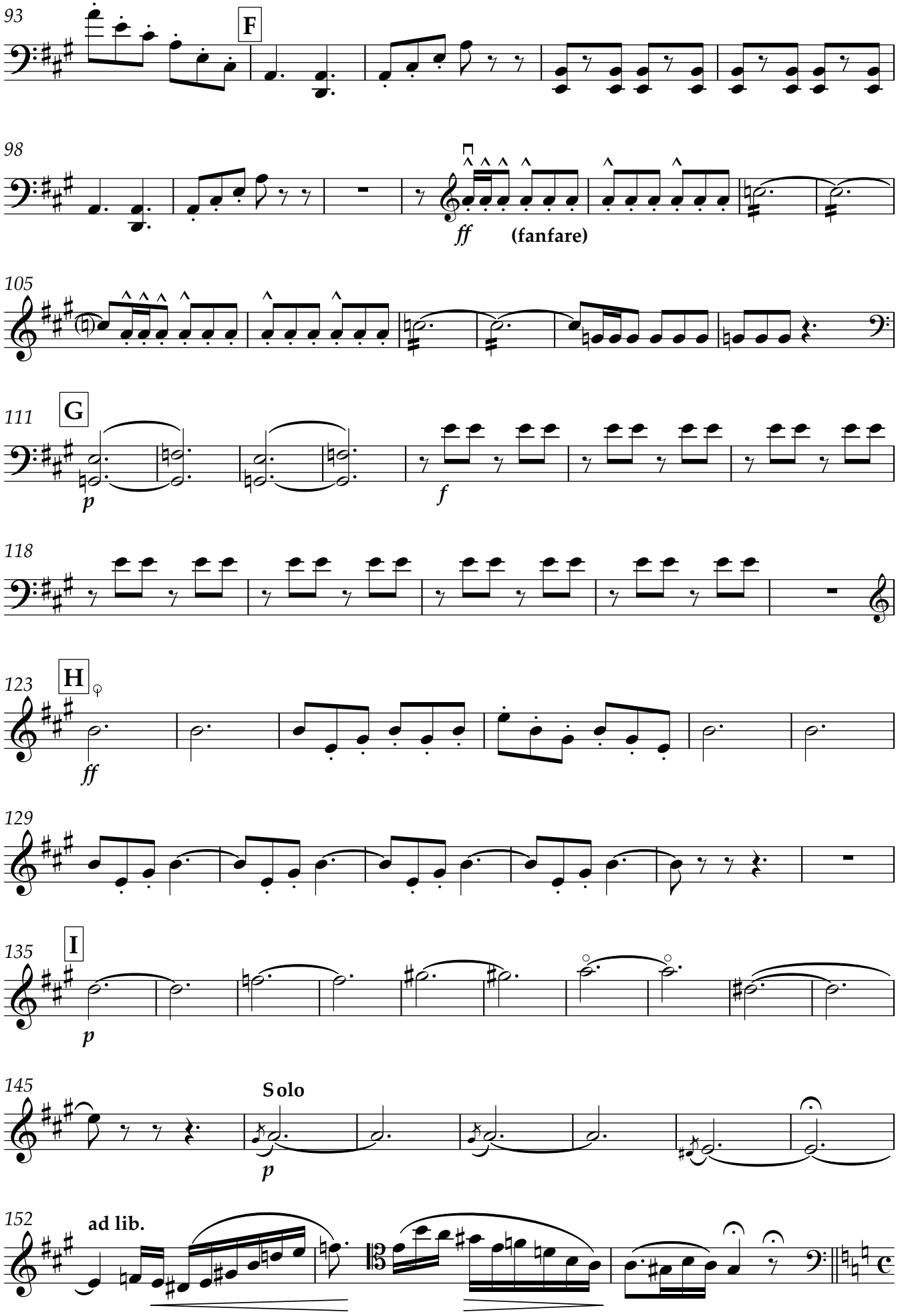
Light Cavalry Overture

Franz von Suppé (1819-1895)
arranged by Gwyn Seymour
(d.g.seymour@abdn.ac.uk)




43
47
C
mf
fz
52
56
D
Allegretto brillante ("♩= 116")
60
pizz.
pp
sotto voce
66
arco
pizz.
72
arco
E
ff
79
86
3

Cello 1


93
F
98
ff
(fanfare)
105
111
G
p
f
118
123
H
ff
129
135
I
p
145
Solo
p
152
ad lib.

J **Andantino con moto**

TUTTI

155

mf

159

163 K

f

167

3

3

L **Allegretto brillante ("♩= 116")**

171

pizz.

p

pp **sotto voce**

176

arco

pizz.

182

188

arco M

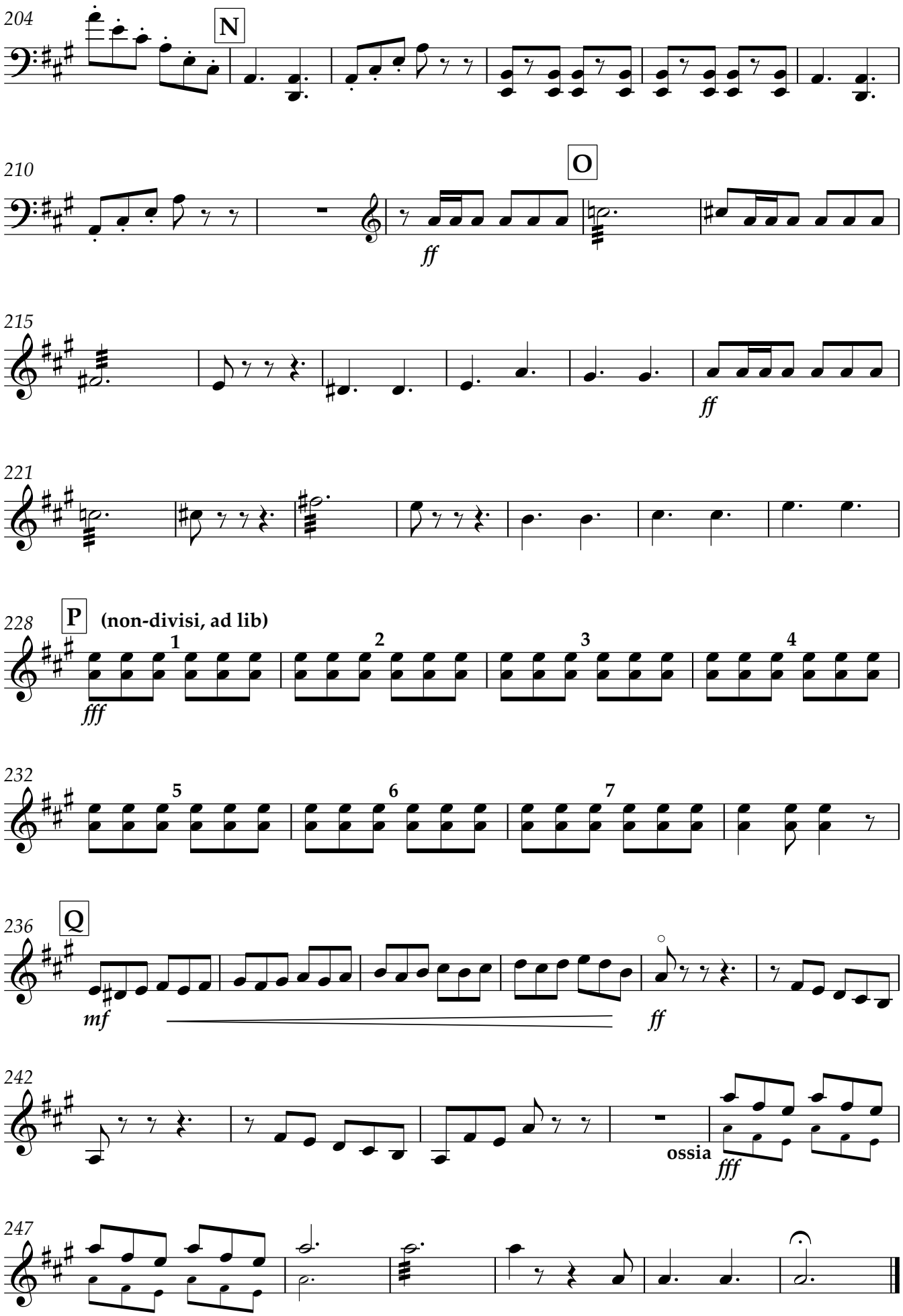
ff

3

196

3

Cello 1


204
N
210
O
ff
215
ff
221
228
P
(non-divisi, ad lib)
1
2
3
4
fff
232
5
6
7
236
Q
mf
ff
242
ossia
fff
247

Cello 2

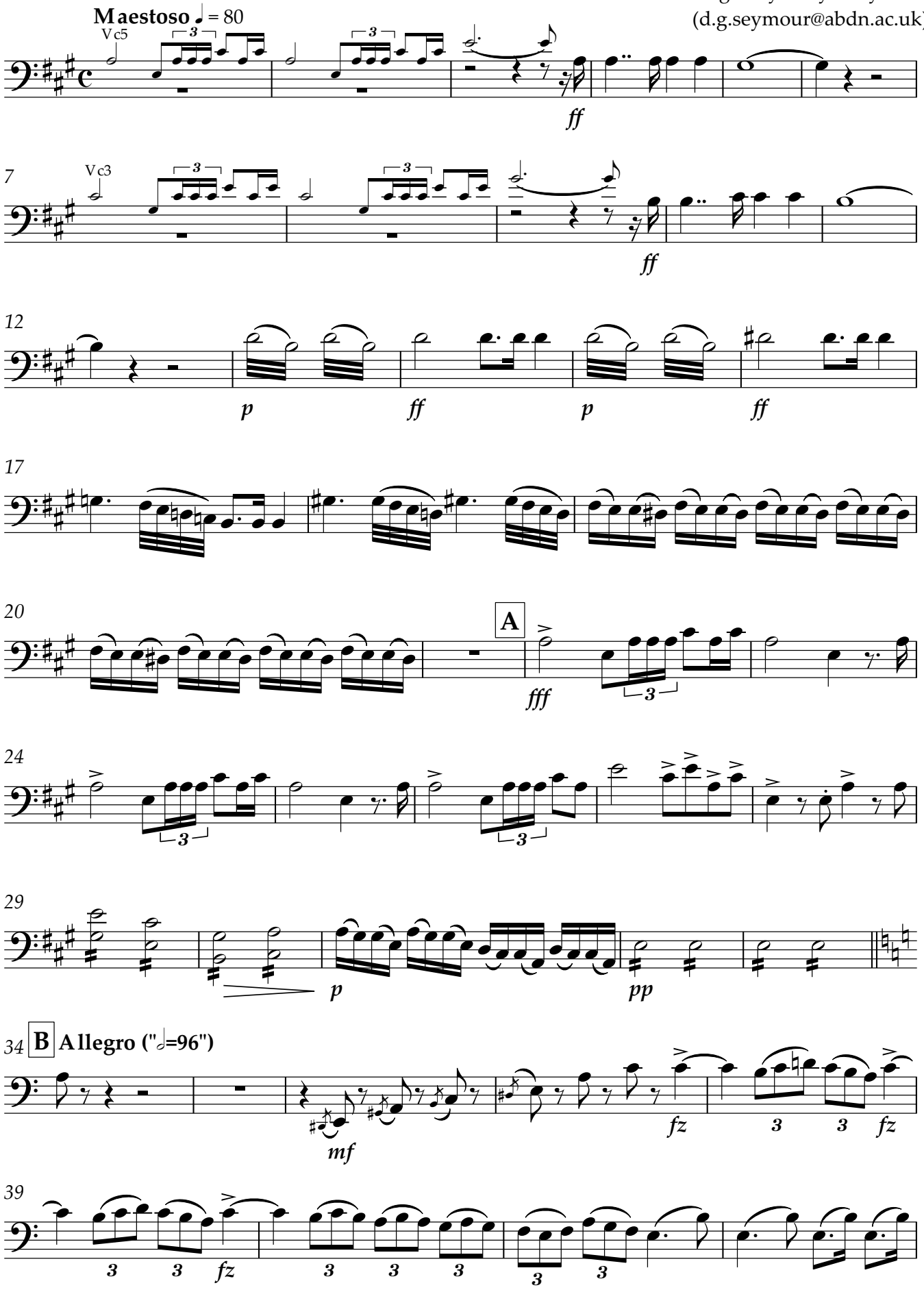
Franz von Suppé

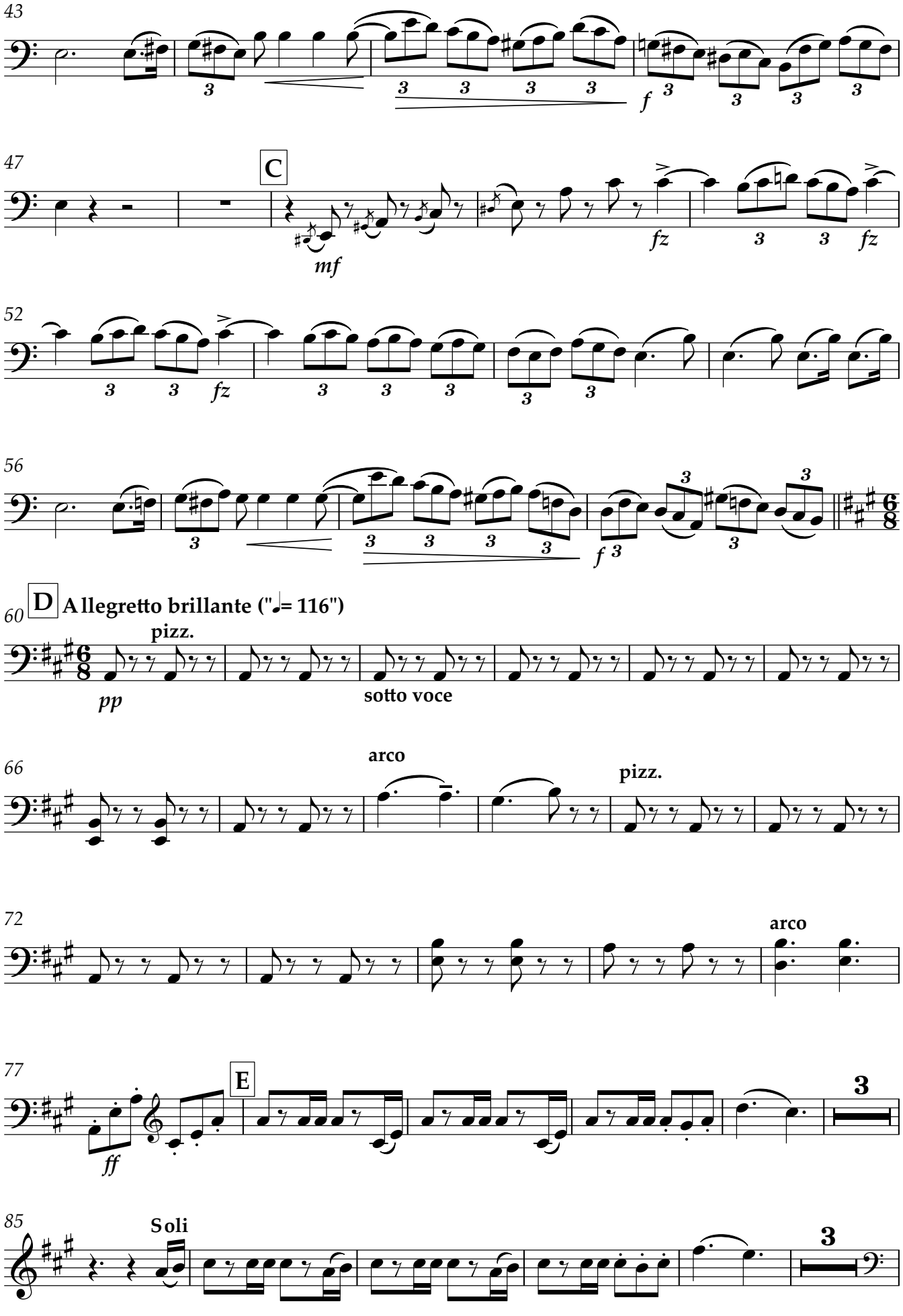
Light Cavalry Overture arranged for 6-part Cello Orchestra

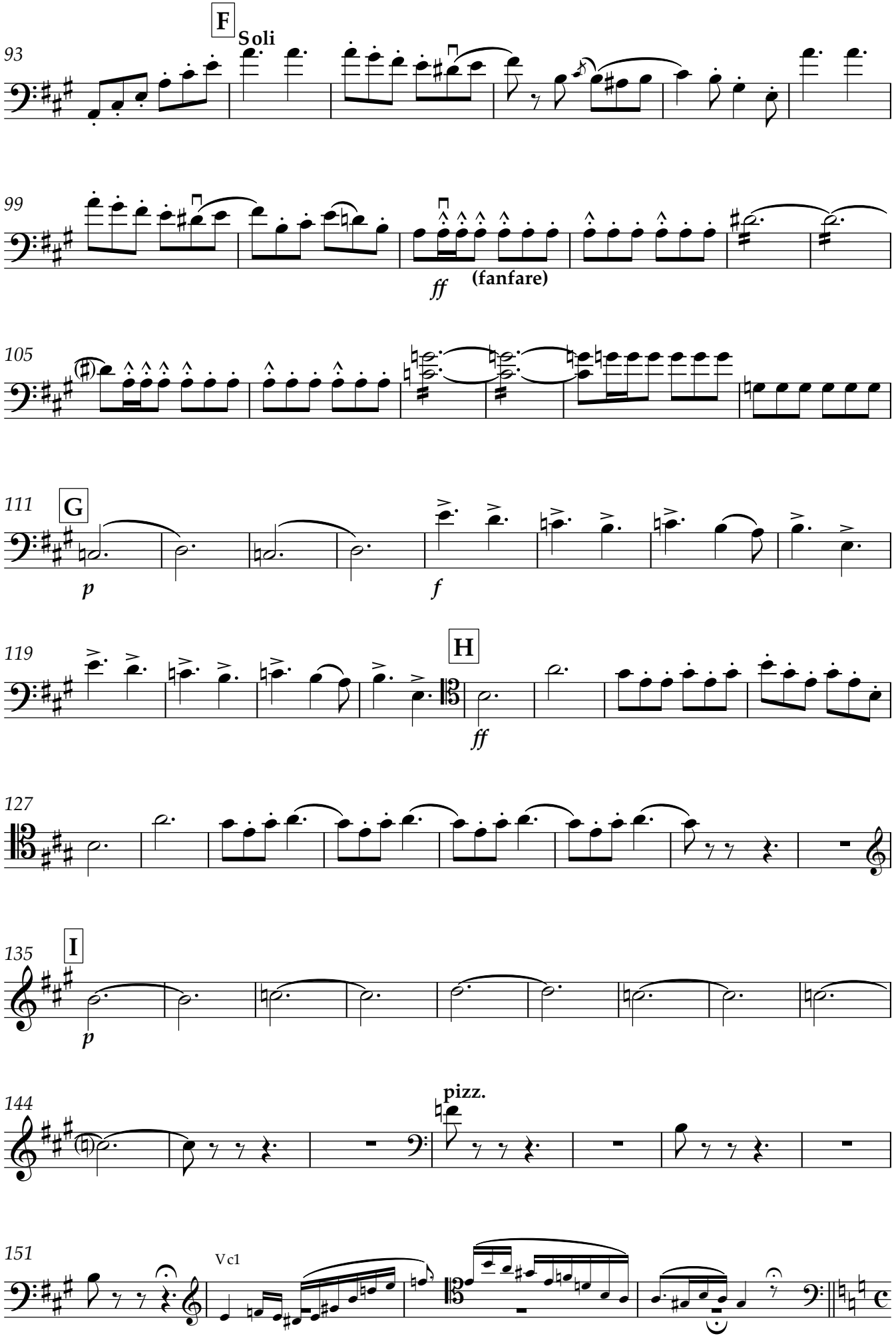
Cello 2

Light Cavalry Overture

Franz von Suppé (1819-1895)
arranged by Gwyn Seymour
(d.g.seymour@abdn.ac.uk)




43
47
C
mf
fz
52
56
60
D
Allegretto brillante ("♩= 116")
pizz.
pp
sotto voce
66
arco
pizz.
72
arco
77
E
ff
3
85
Soli
3


F
Soli
93
99
ff
(fanfare)
105
111
G
p
f
119
H
ff
127
135
I
p
144
pizz.
151
Vc1

J **Andantino con moto**

div. arco

155

mf

159

163 **K**

f

167

3

3

L **Allegretto brillante ("♩= 116")**

171

pizz.

p

pp **sotto voce**

177

arco

pizz.

183

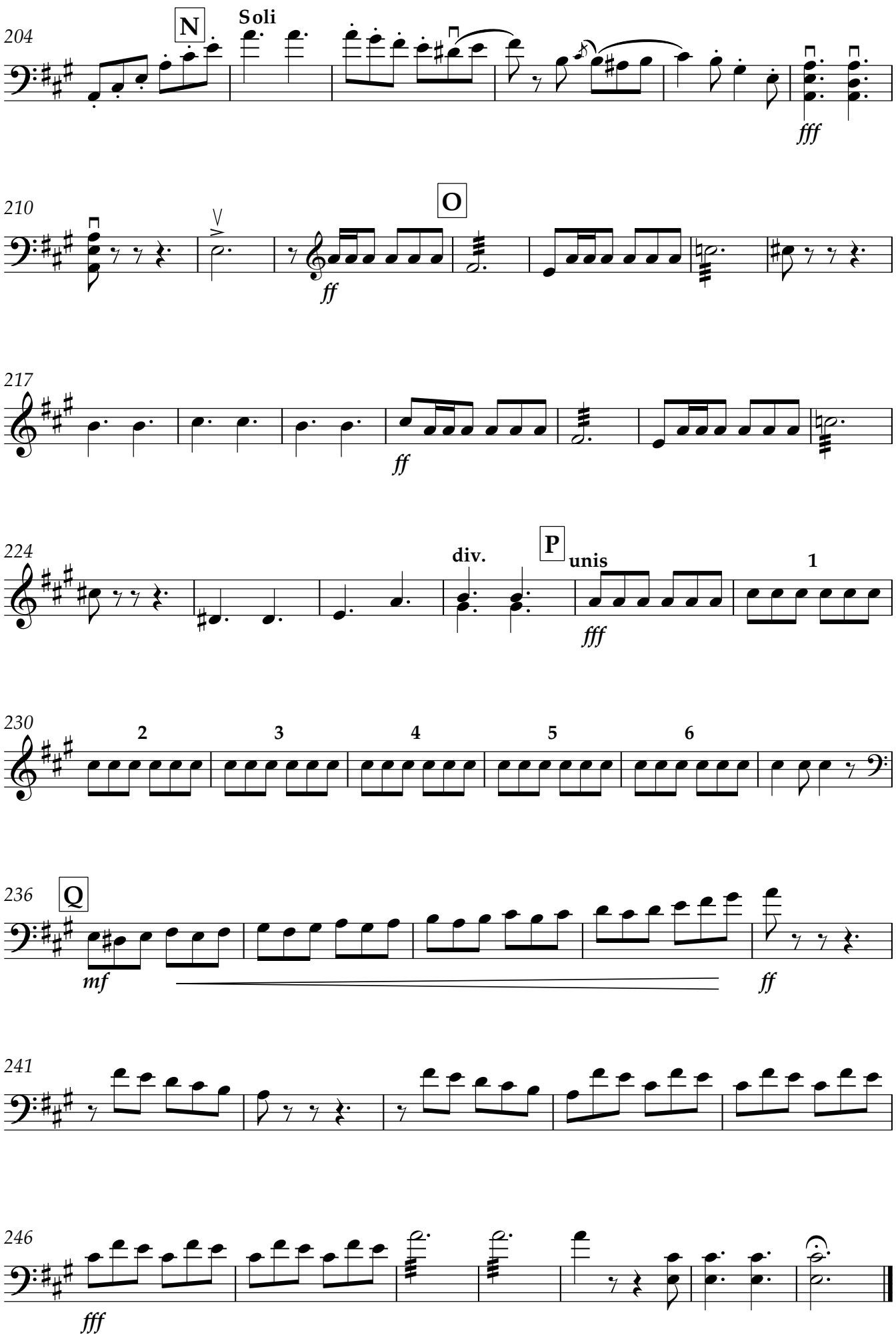
arco

ff

189 **M**

196

3


6
204
N
Soli
fff
210
O
ff
217
ff
224
div.
P
unis
1
fff
230
2
3
4
5
6
236
Q
mf
ff
241
246
fff

Cello 3

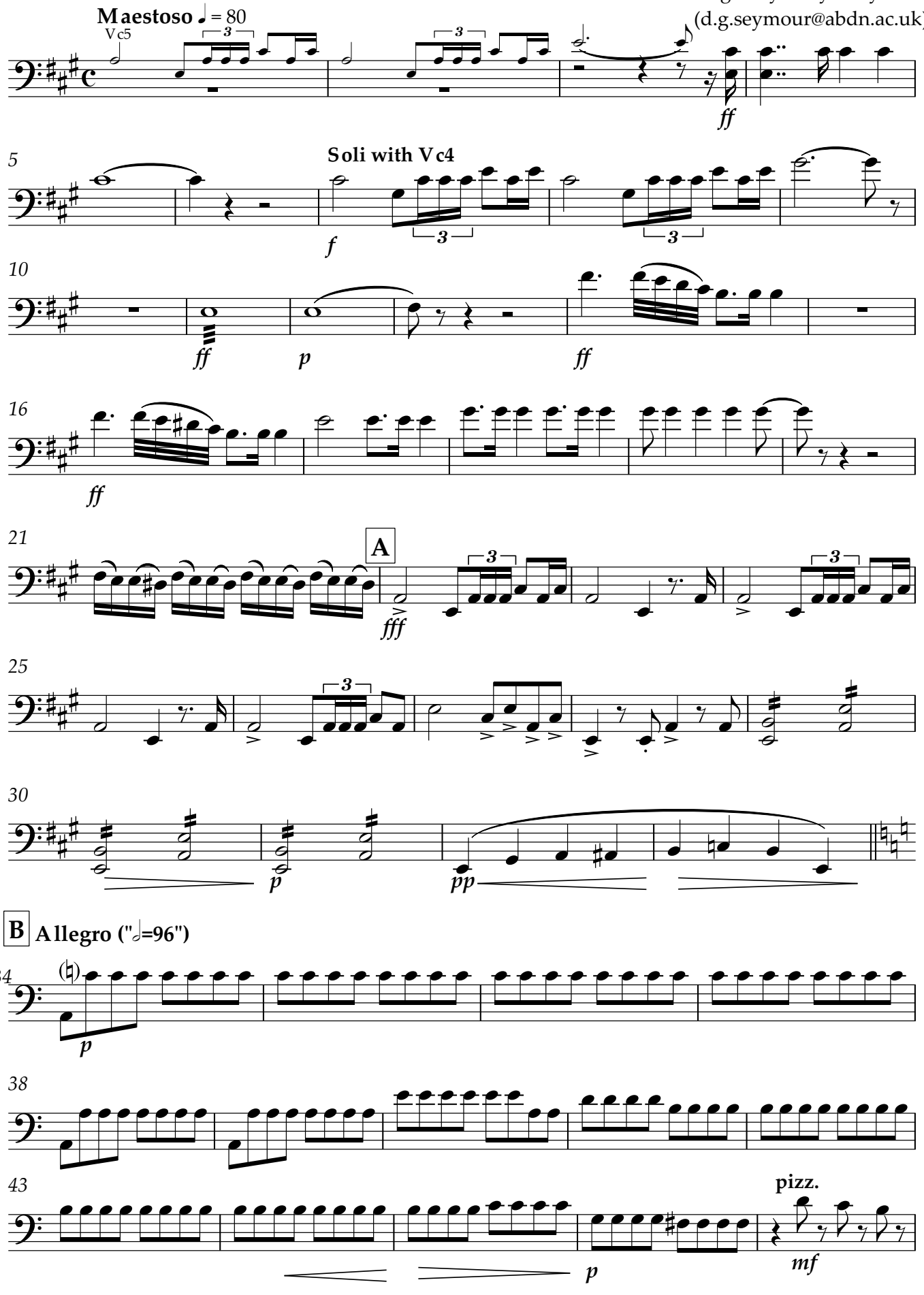
Franz von Suppé

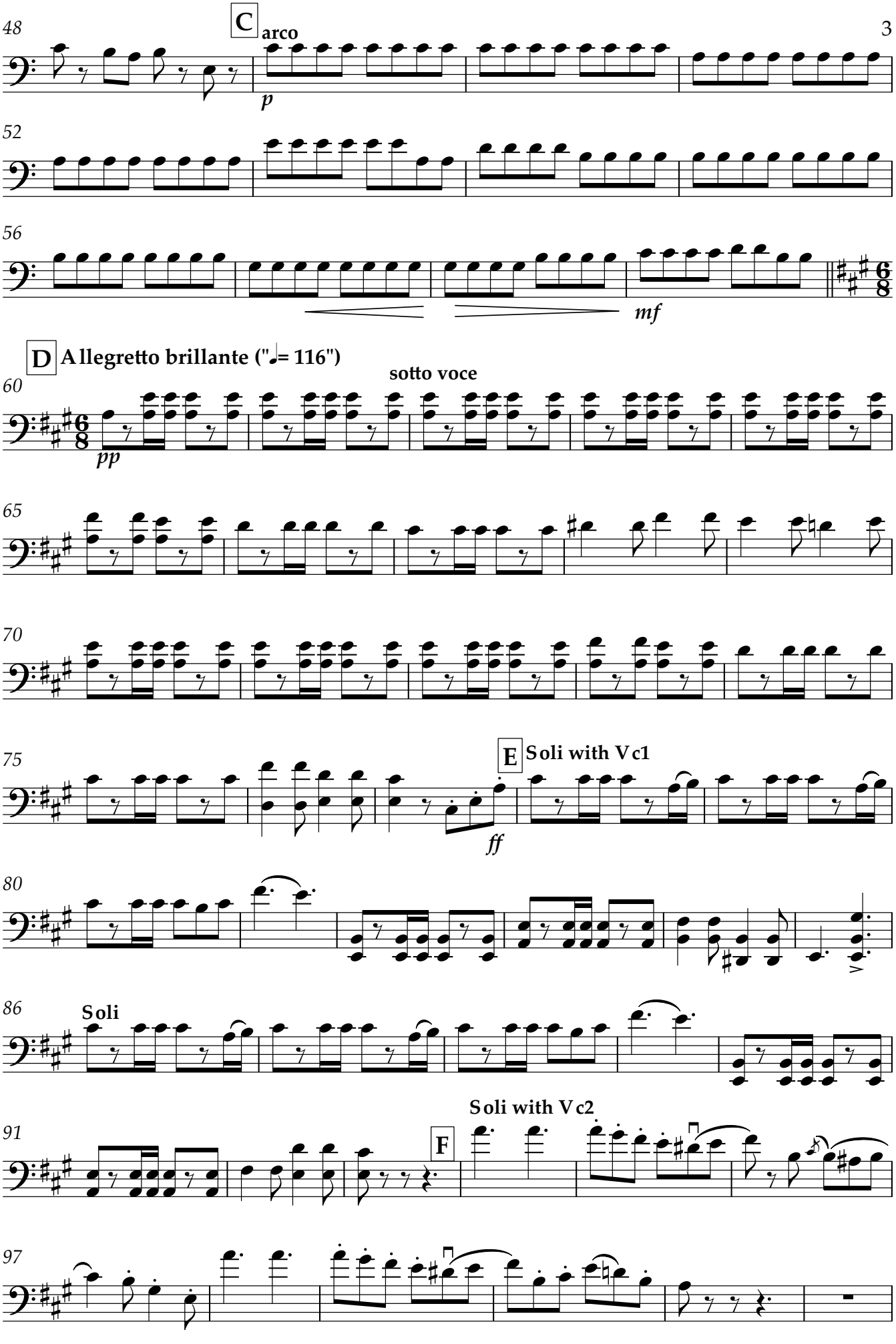
Light Cavalry Overture arranged for 6-part Cello Orchestra

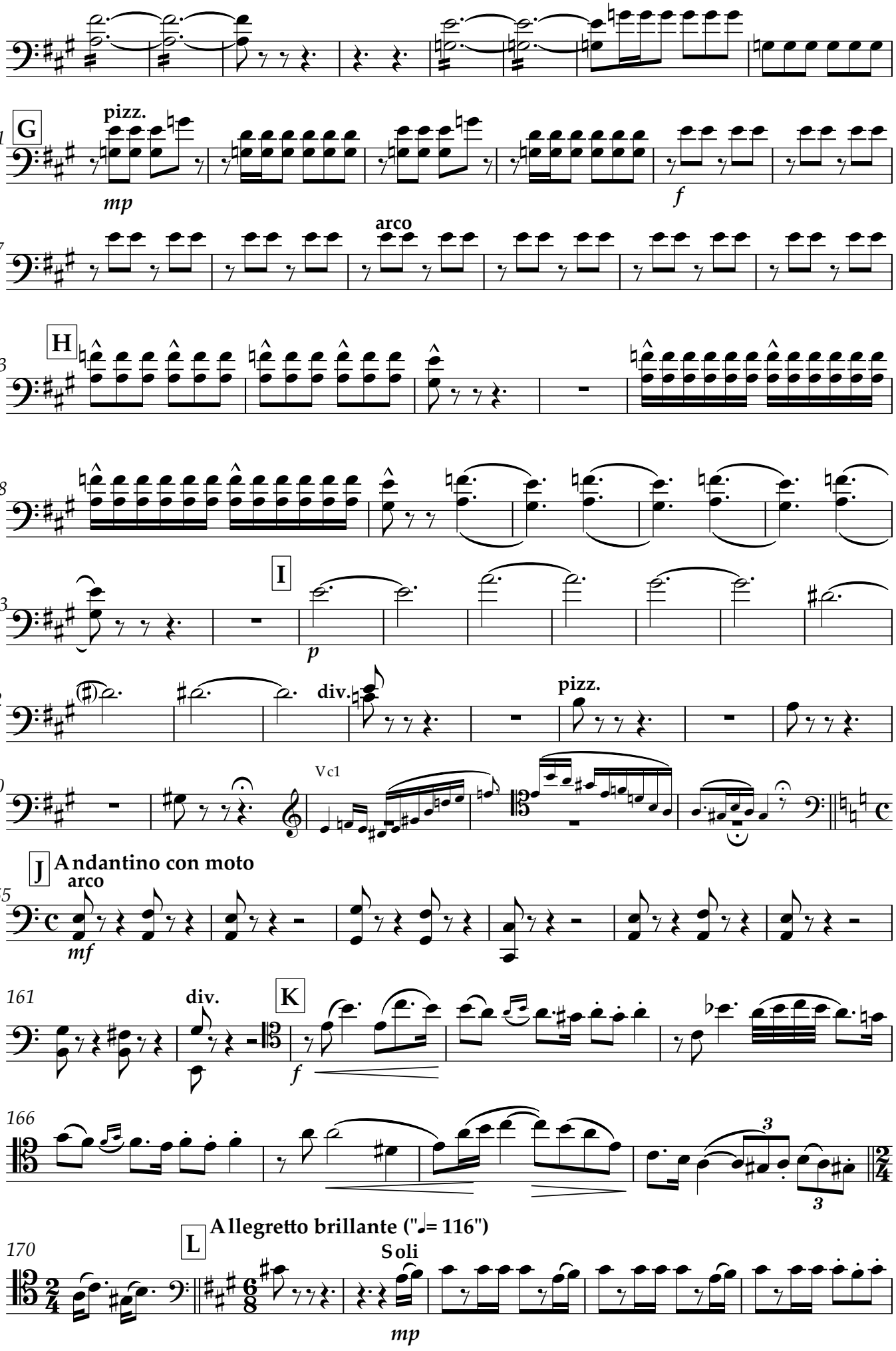
Cello 3

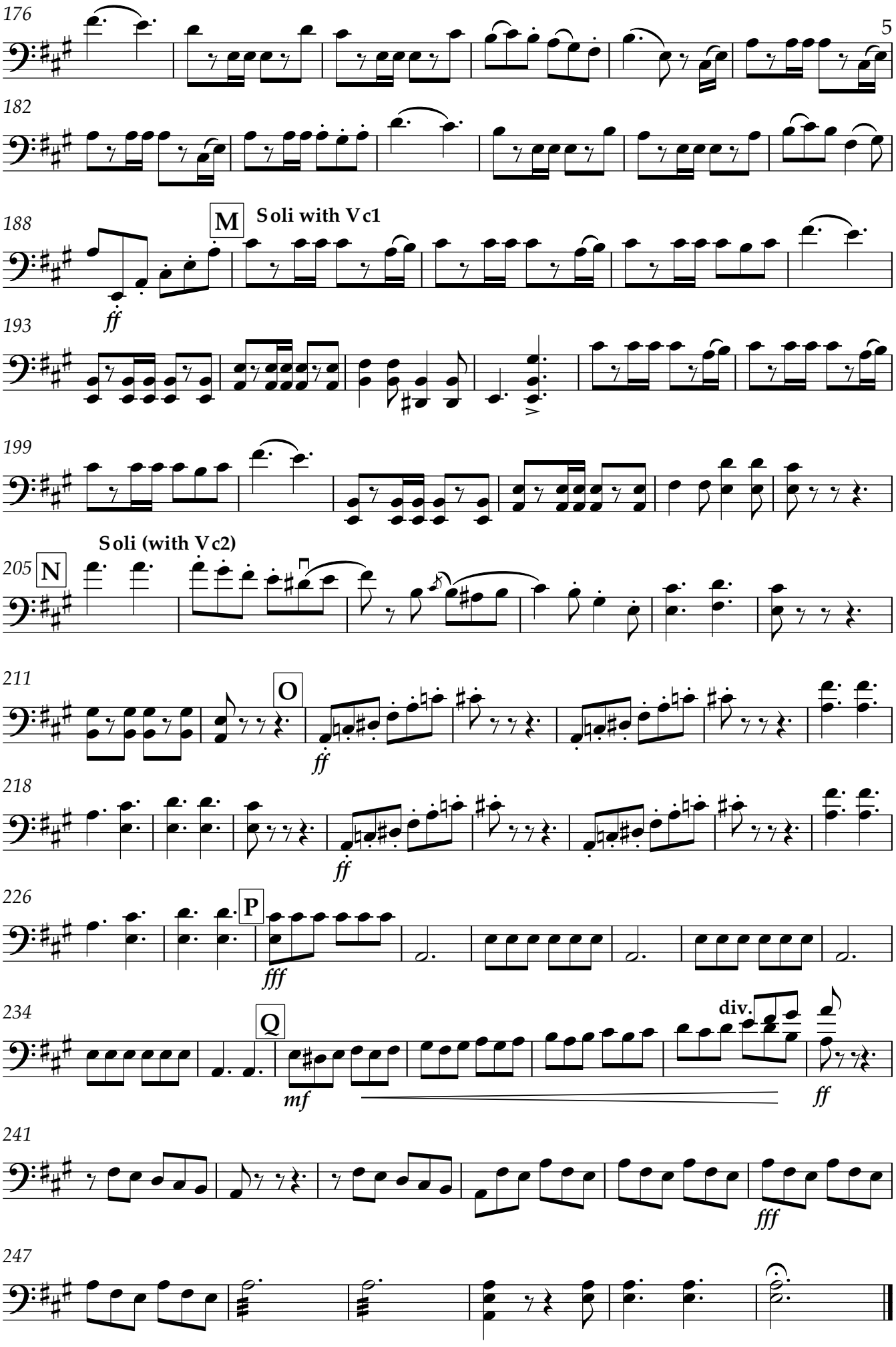
Light Cavalry Overture

Franz von Suppé (1819-1895)
arranged by Gwyn Seymour
(d.g.seymour@abdn.ac.uk)




48
C
arco
3
p
52
56
mf
D
Allegretto brillante ("♩= 116")
60
sotto voce
pp
65
70
75
E
Soli with Vc1
ff
80
86
Soli
91
Soli with Vc2
F
97


103
111
G
pizz.
mp
f
117
arco
123
H
128
133
I
p
142
div.
pizz.
150
Vc1
J
Andantino con moto
arco
mf
155
161
div.
K
f
166
3
3
170
L
Allegretto brillante ("♩= 116")
Soli
mp


176
5
182
188
M
Soli with Vc1
ff
193
199
Soli (with Vc2)
205
N
211
O
ff
218
ff
226
P
fff
234
Q
div.
mf
ff
241
fff
247

Franz von Suppé

Light Cavalry Overture arranged for 6-part Cello Orchestra

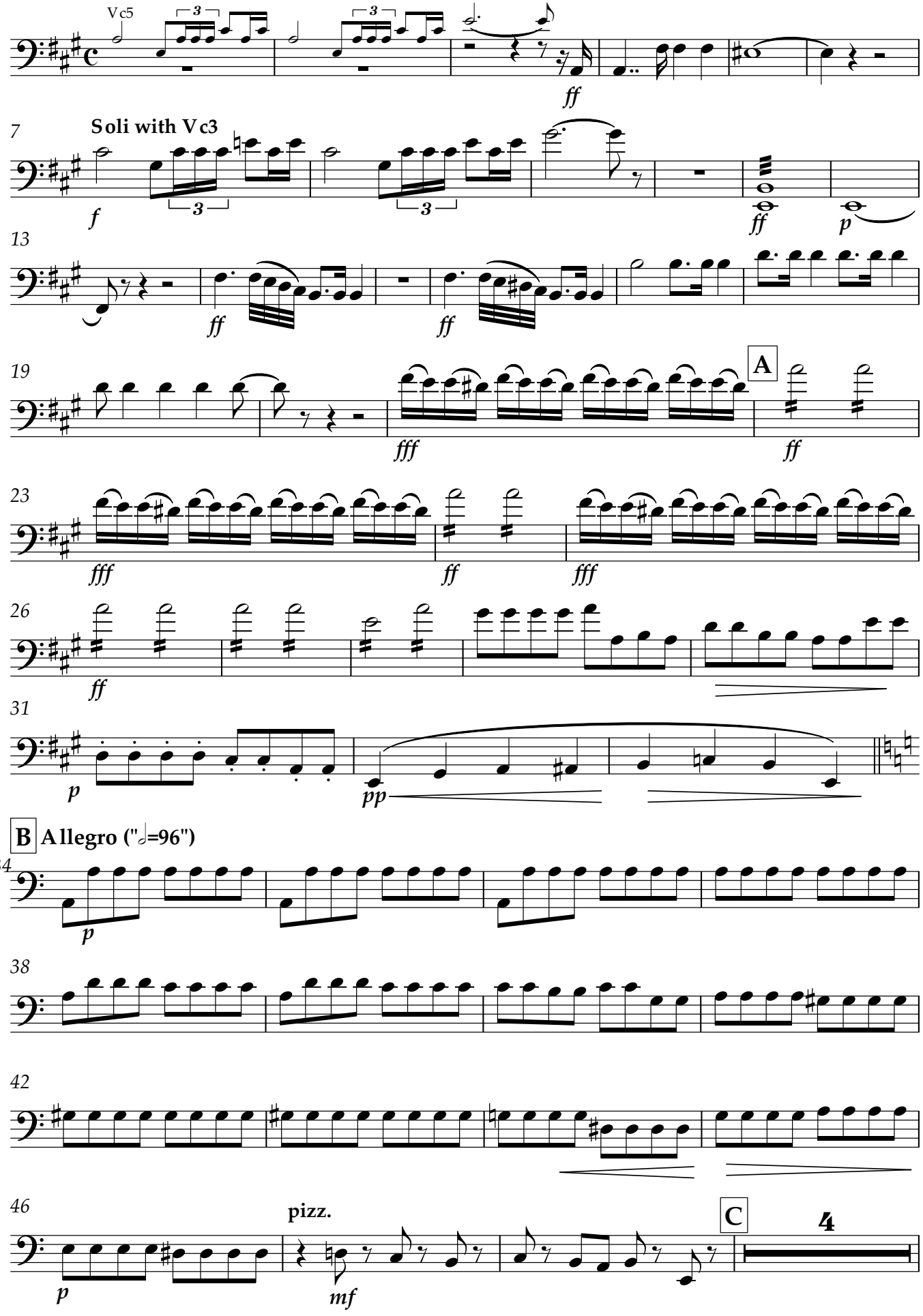
Cello 4

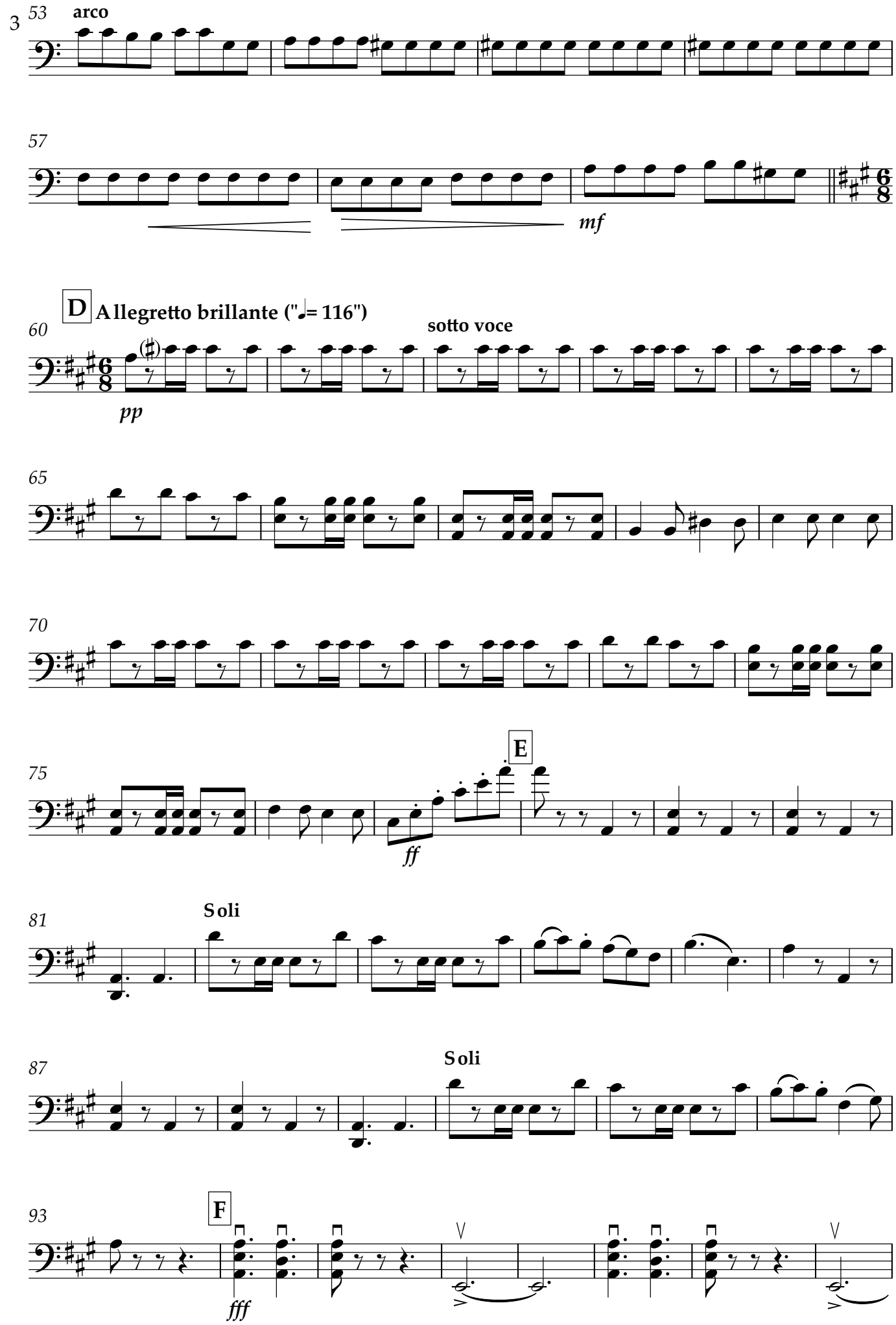
Cello 4

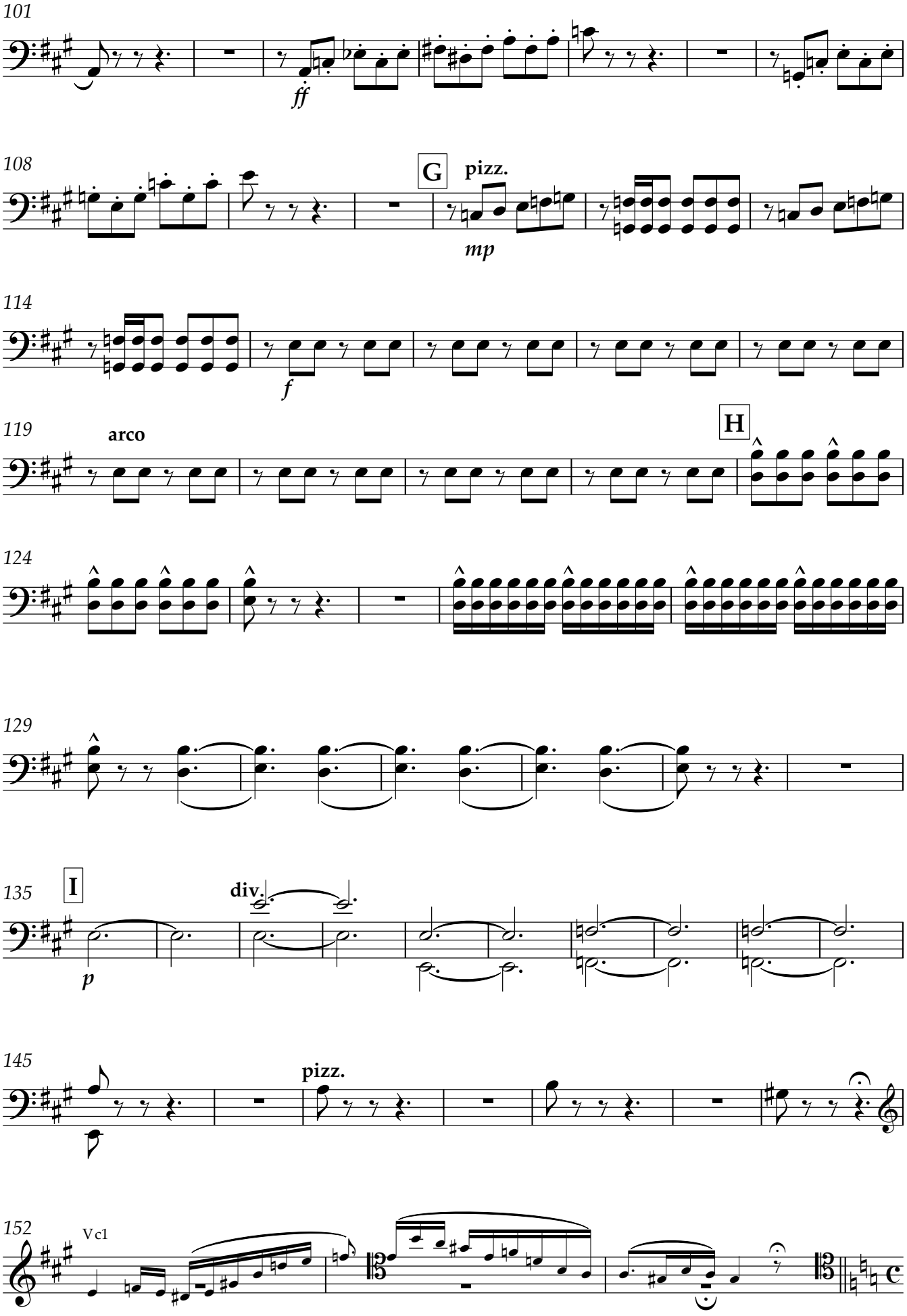
Light Cavalry Overture

Franz von Suppé (1819-1895)
arranged by Gwyn Seymour
(d.g.seymour@abdn.ac.uk)

Maestoso ♩ = 80



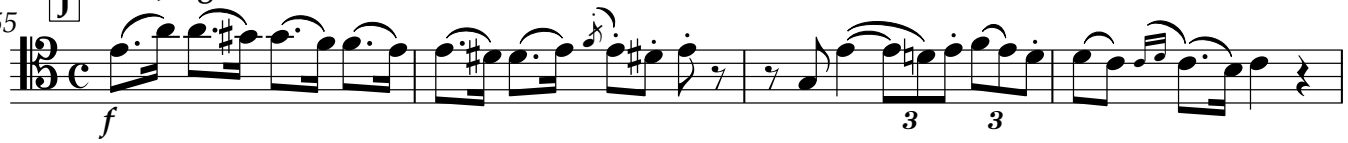

3
53
arco
57
mf
D
Allegretto brillante ("♩= 116")
60
sotto voce
pp
65
70
75
E
ff
81
Soli
87
Soli
93
F
fff


101
ff
108
G
pizz.
mp
114
f
119
arco
H
124
129
135
I
div.
p
145
pizz.
152
Vc1

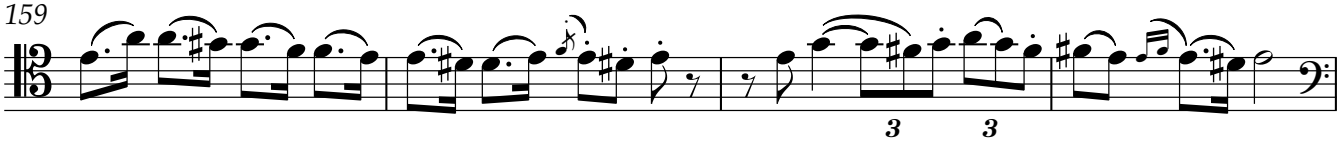
5 **Andantino con moto**

J **arco, legato con sentiment**

155

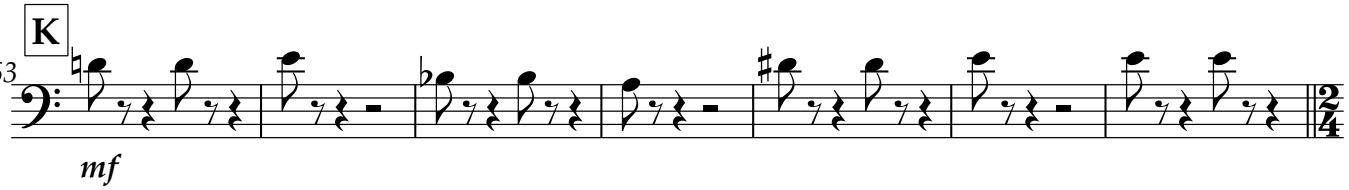


159



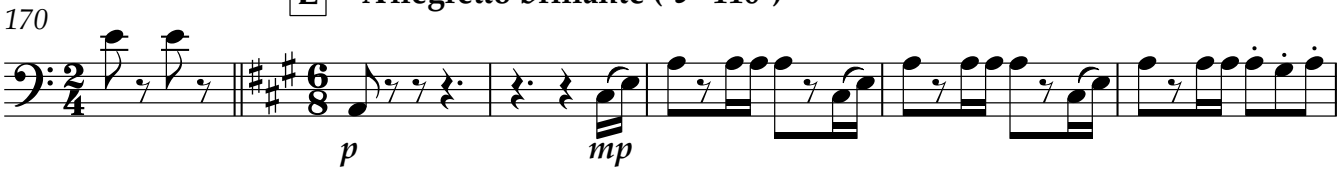
K

163



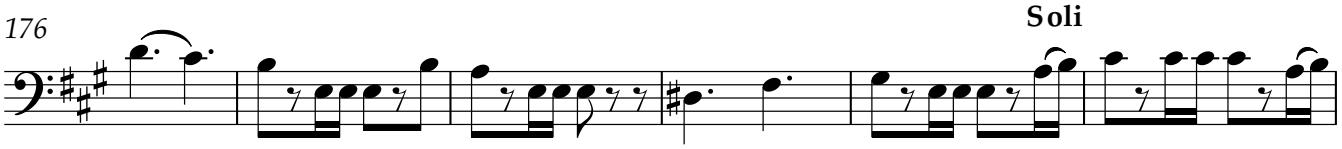
L **Allegretto brillante ("♩= 116")**

170

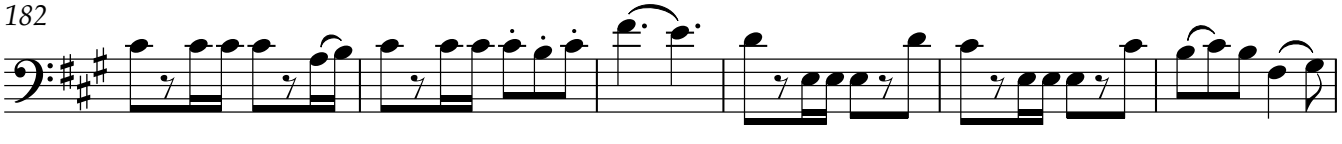


176

Soli



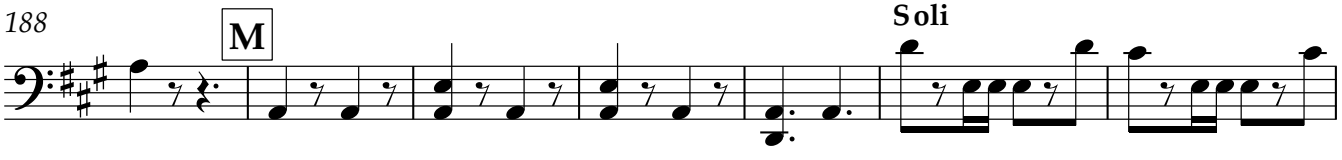
182



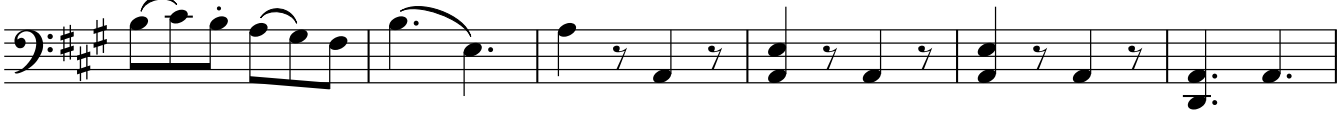
188

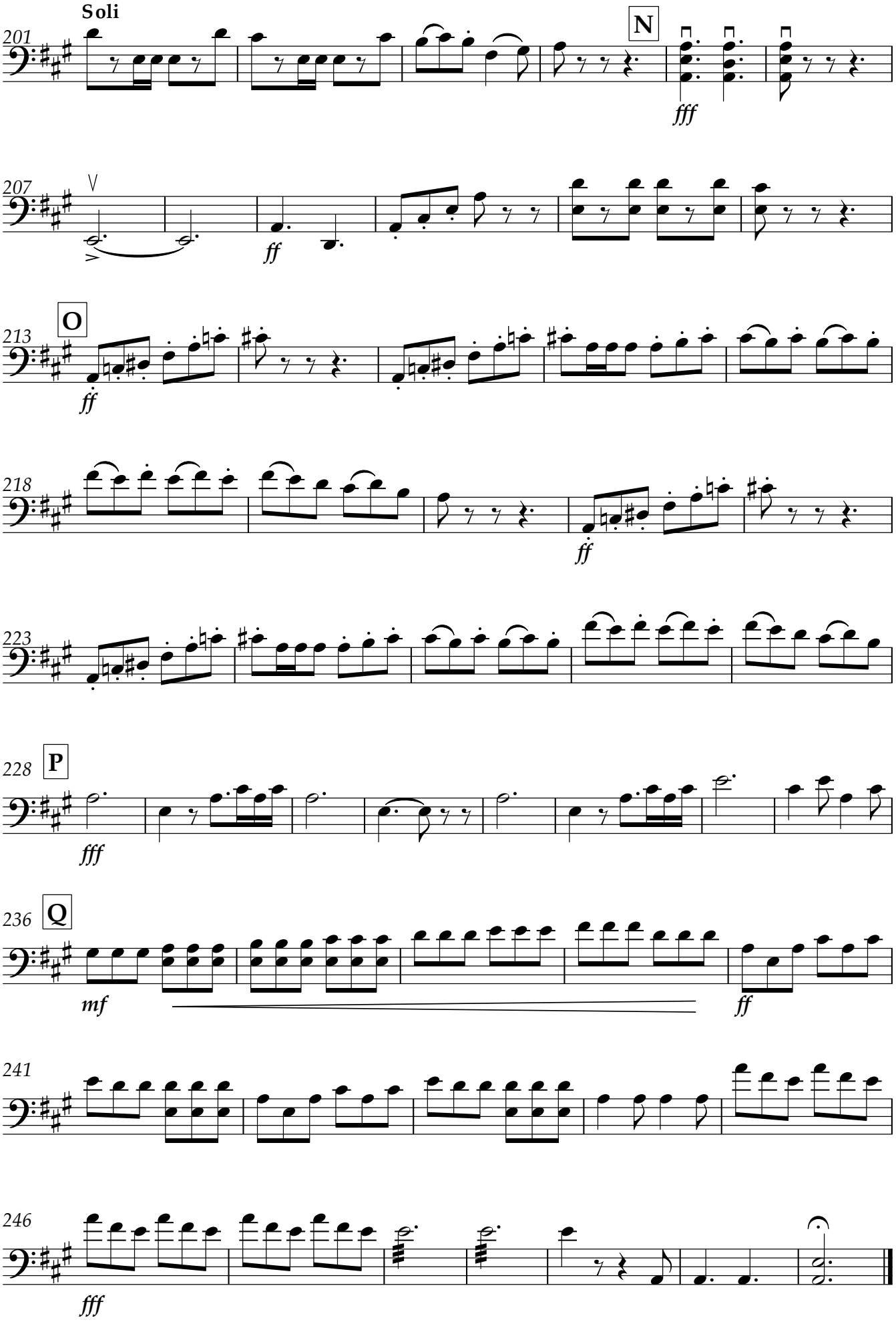
M

Soli



195




Soli
201
N
fff
207
ff
213
O
ff
218
ff
223
228
P
fff
236
Q
mf
ff
241
246
fff

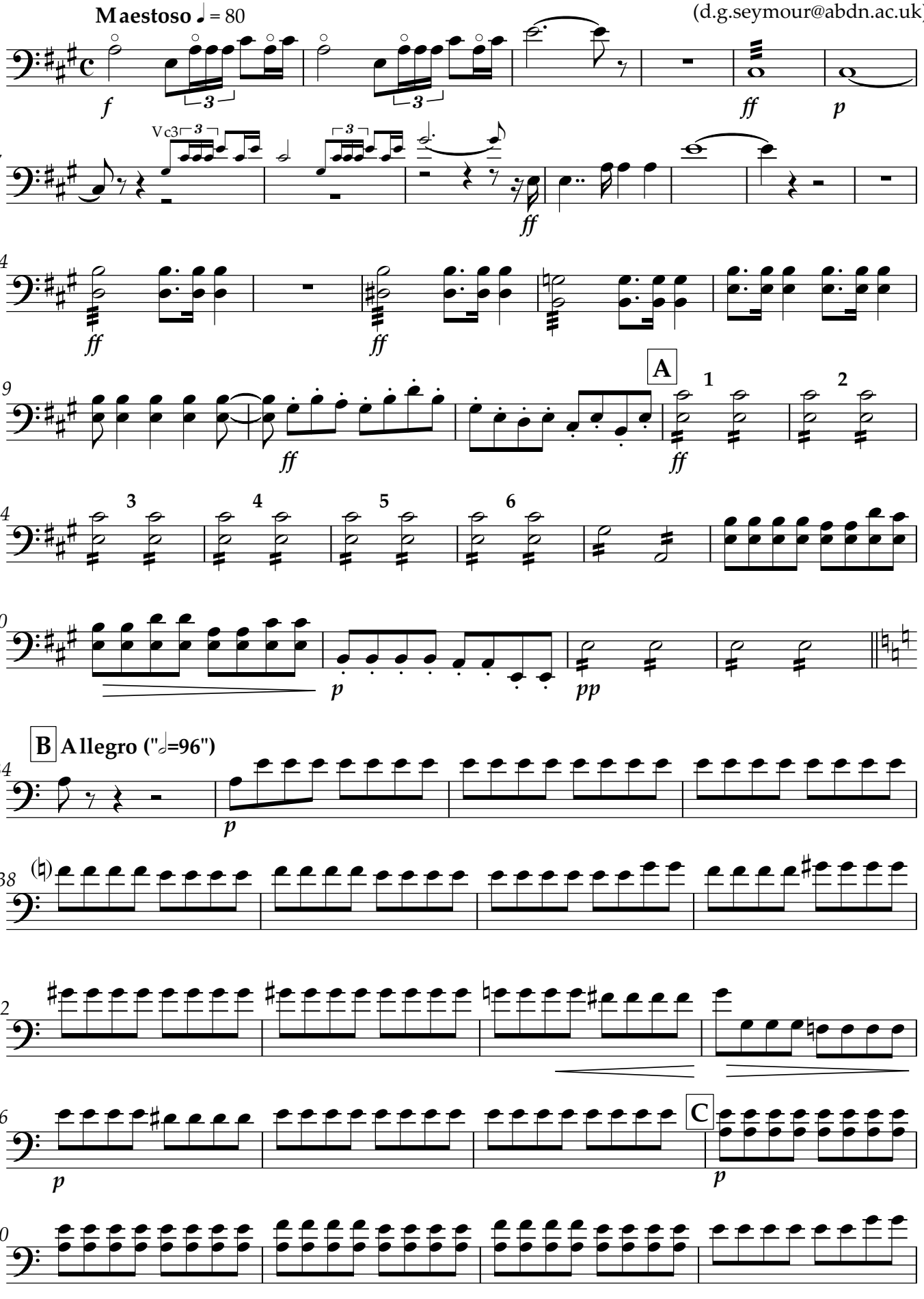
Franz von Suppé

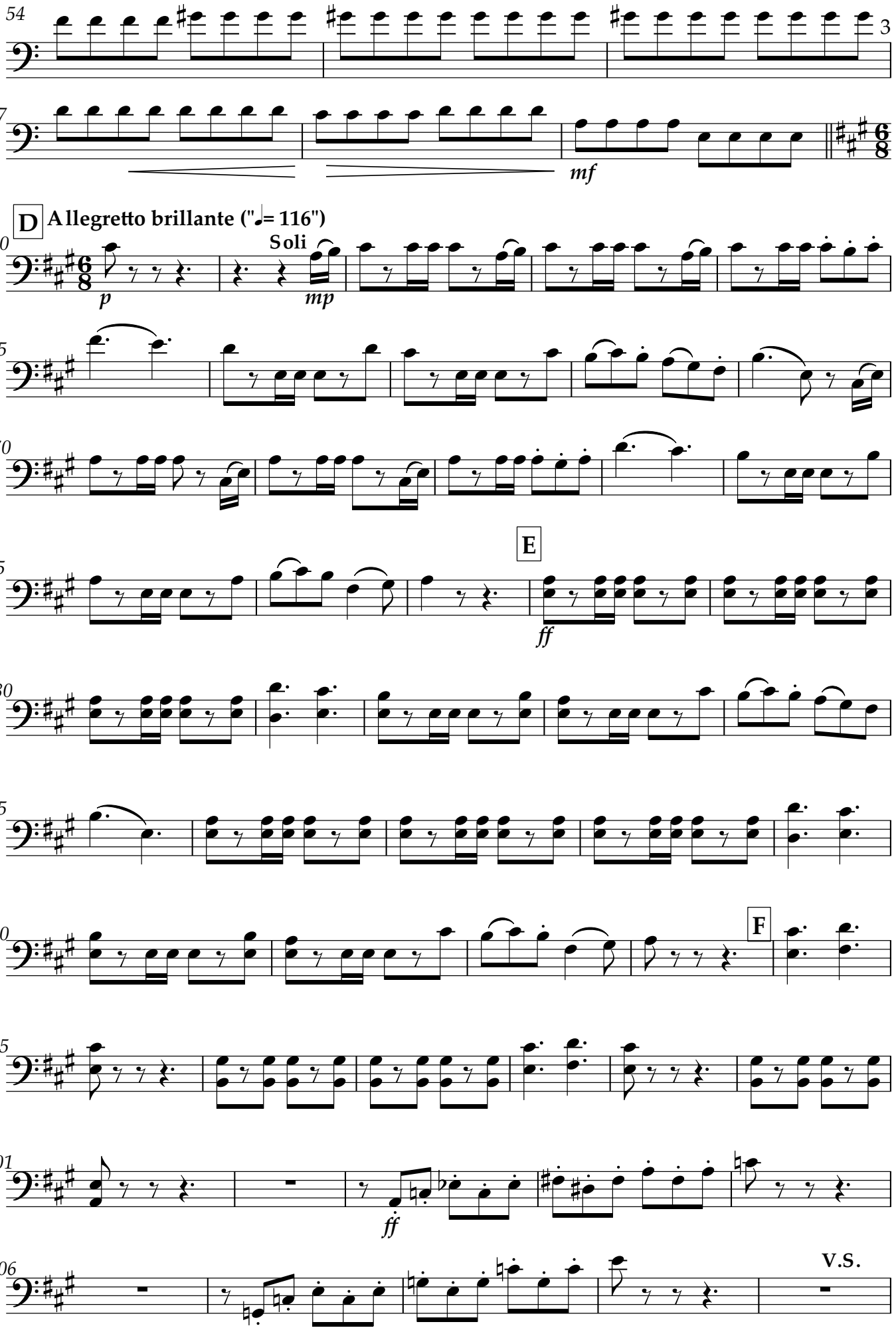
Light Cavalry Overture arranged for 6-part Cello Orchestra

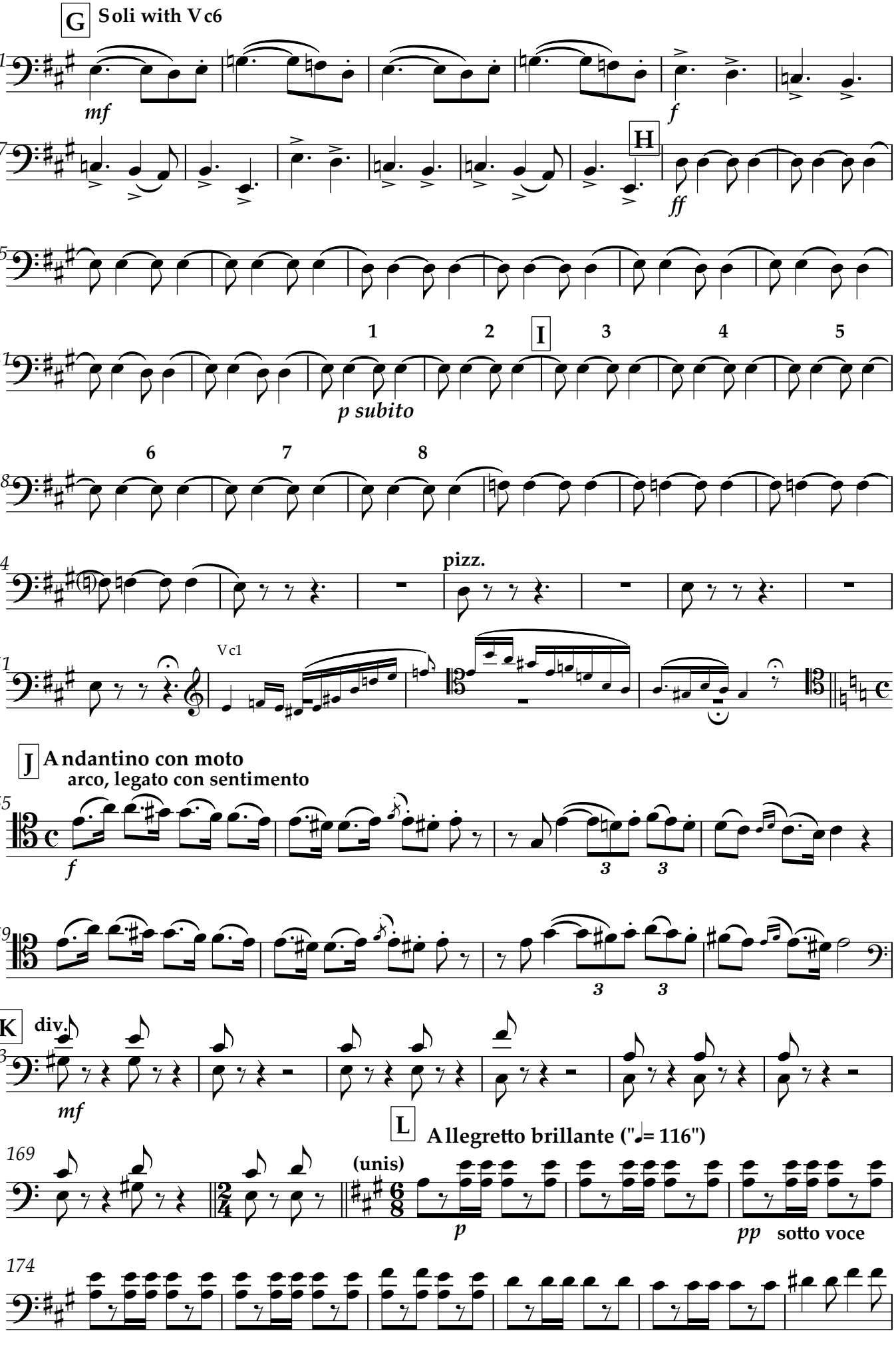
Cello 5

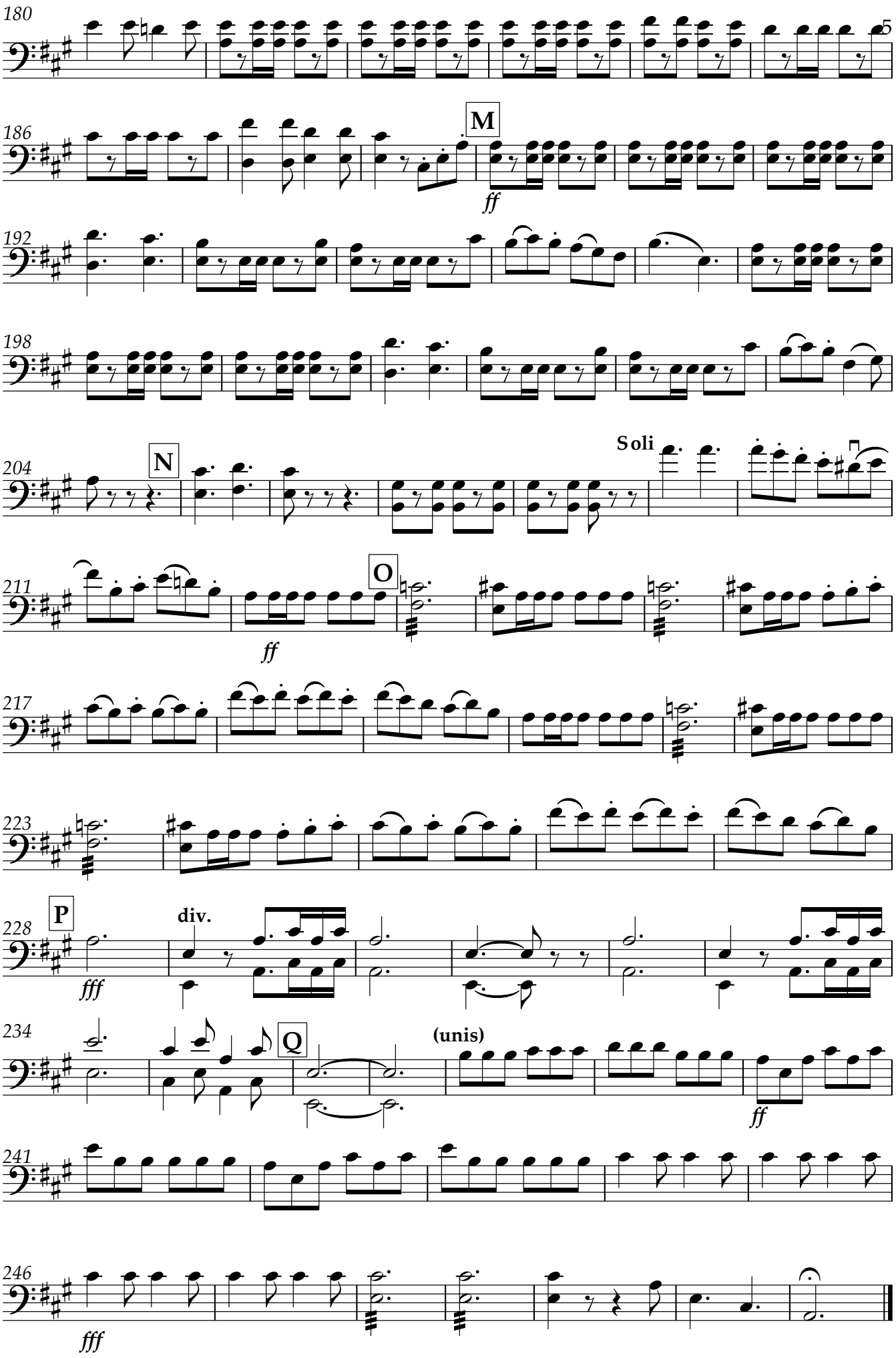
Light Cavalry Overture

Franz von Suppé (1819-1895)
arranged by Gwyn Seymour
(d.g.seymour@abdn.ac.uk)




54
3
57
mf
D
Allegretto brillante ("♩= 116")
60
Soli
p
mp
65
70
E
75
ff
80
85
90
F
95
101
ff
106
V.S.


G
Soli with Vc6
4
111
mf
f
117
H
ff
125
131
1
2
I
3
4
5
p subito
138
6
7
8
144
pizz.
151
Vc1
J
Andantino con moto
arco, legato con sentimento
155
f
159
K
div.
163
mf
L
Allegretto brillante ("♩= 116")
169
(unis)
p
pp
sotto voce
174


180
186
M
ff
192
198
204
N
Soli
211
O
ff
217
223
228
P
fff
div.
234
Q
(unis)
ff
241
246
fff

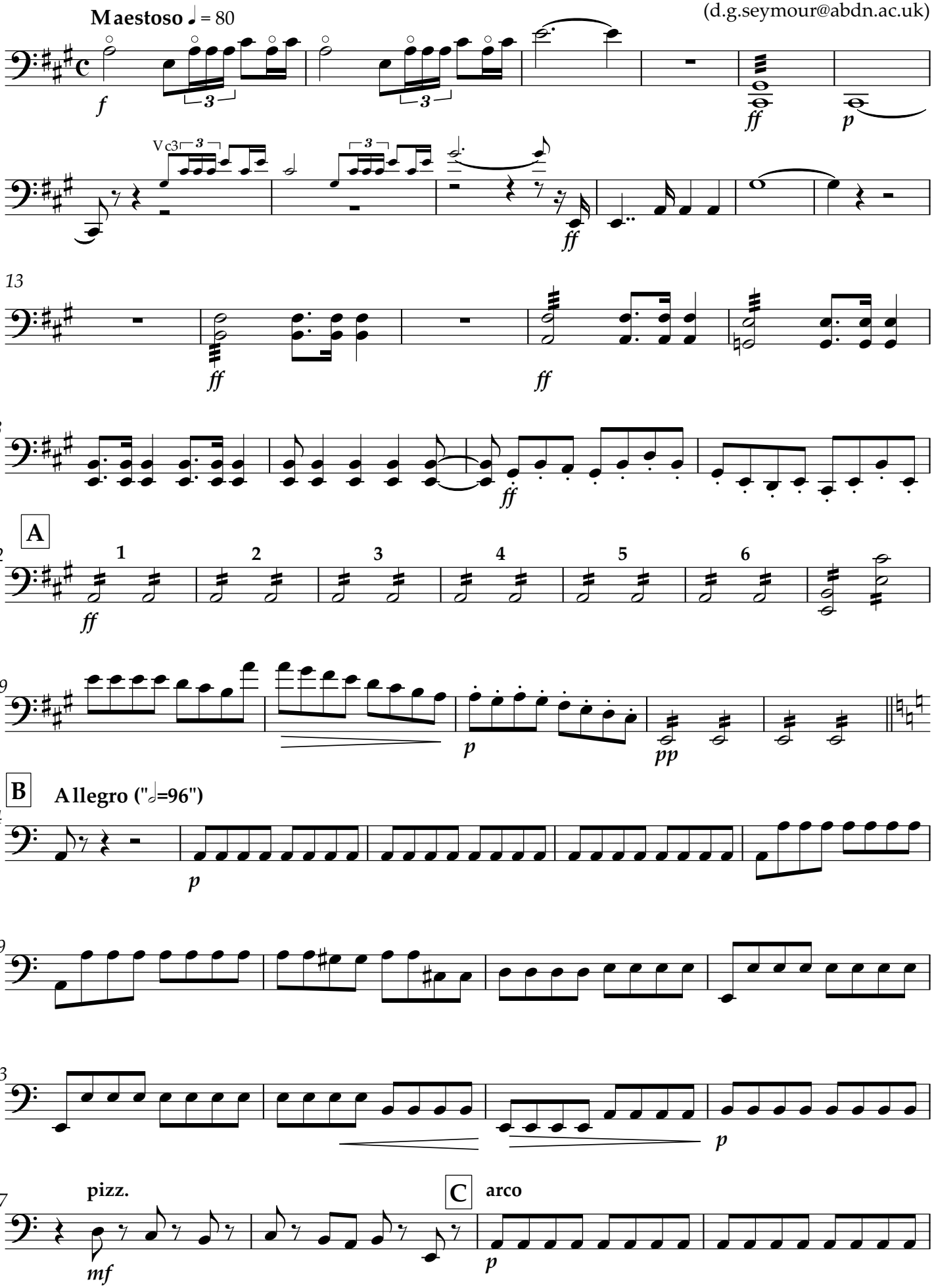
Franz von Suppé

Light Cavalry Overture arranged for 6-part Cello Orchestra

Cello 6

Light Cavalry Overture

Franz von Suppé (1819-1895)
arranged by Gwyn Seymour
(d.g.seymour@abdn.ac.uk)



51

55

59

D **Allegretto brillante ("♩= 116")**

mf *p* *mp*

64

Soli

70

76

E

ff

81

87

93

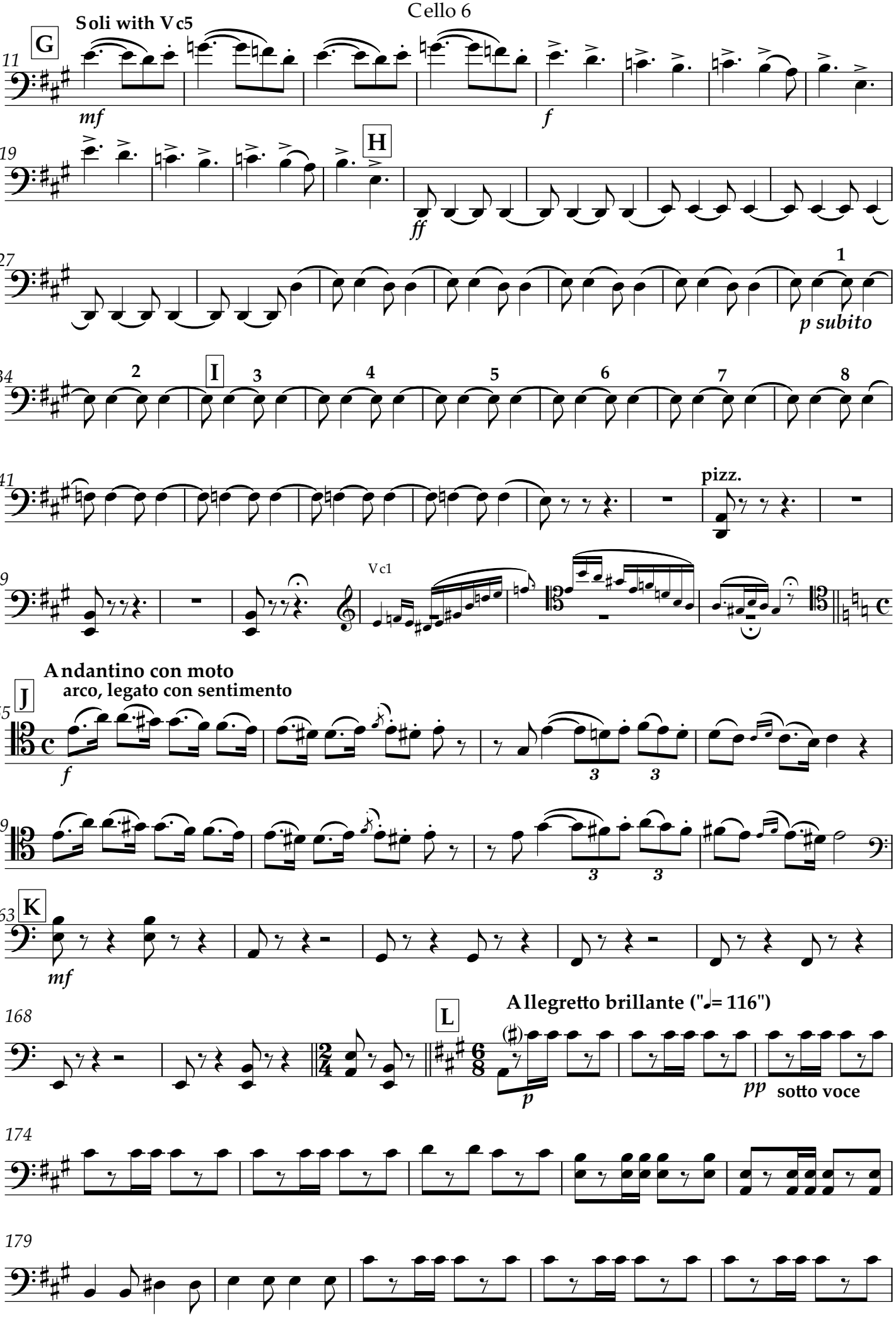
F

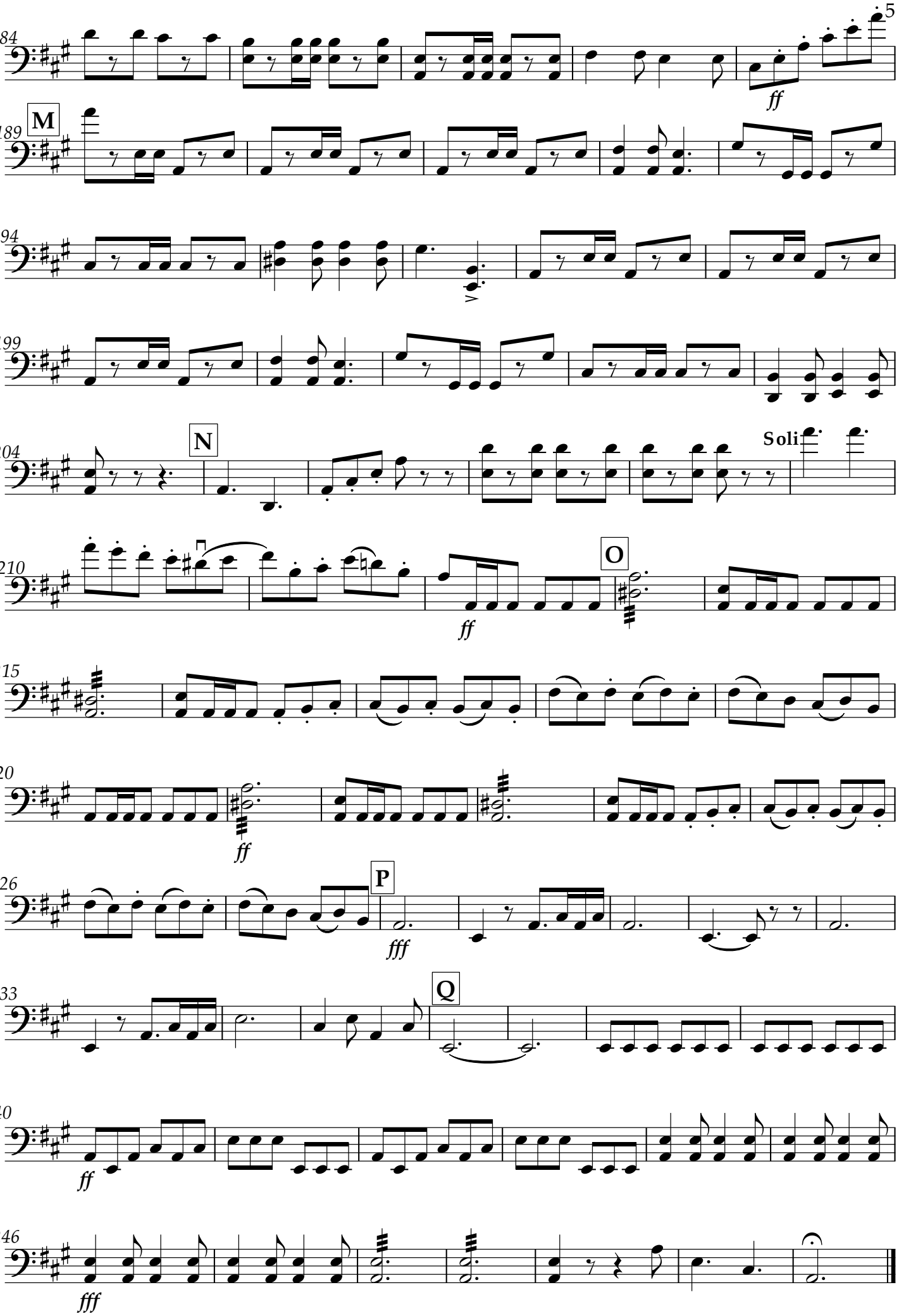
99

ff

105

V.S.


4
111
G
Soli with Vc5
mf
f
119
H
ff
127
1
p subito
134
2
I
3
4
5
6
7
8
141
pizz.
149
Vc1
Andantino con moto
arco, legato con sentimento
155
J
f
159
163
K
mf
168
L
Allegretto brillante ("♩= 116")
p
pp
sotto voce
174
179


184
5
ff
189
M
194
199
204
N
Soli
210
O
ff
215
220
ff
226
P
fff
233
Q
240
ff
246
fff