Color Blindness

Craig Bakalian

Flute, Baritone Saxophone, and Piano

Foreword

This music was written to participate in the Additive Color Ensemble call for scores. Because it is being evaluated for artistic merit, this composer cannot state its purpose. As with all of the music I write, this piece is born into a world of complete uncertainty, chaos, and entropy. What could be more perfect? I write this music knowing that it, in all probability, will be ignored, but does stand a chance of performance.

Given the name Additive Color Ensemble and the context it inspired, it must be stated that I was born with color blindness. To say that I have suffered because of this genetic issue would be false. I do know that I am very awkward about identifying the names of colors in conversation with people because of my past experiences with people who have called me an idiot for not knowing the correct names for colors. Sometimes, while I do my best to inform other people that I have a genetic disorder, that I cannot see colors they way they do, still I am shoved away as if there was something wrong with me. I am very thick skinned about this social interaction. It is as if I have a component to my personality that heals myself after being socially and intelletually discriminated. With great humor and sarcasism, there is an inner snob in my personal identity that I must censor. I often wonder what certain people miss when listening to a piece of music; especially tonality and harmonic progression. Would they ever name the tonality they hear? It is not just a few people.

Approximately twenty years ago during an routine eye exam an optometrist gave me a thorough color blindness test and was stunned by the level of my disorder. He then, out of curiosity, gave me sets of lenses that would correct the issue. I was repelled and angered by what I saw and quickly removed them from my nose.

Craig Bakalian
Oct 6, 2019

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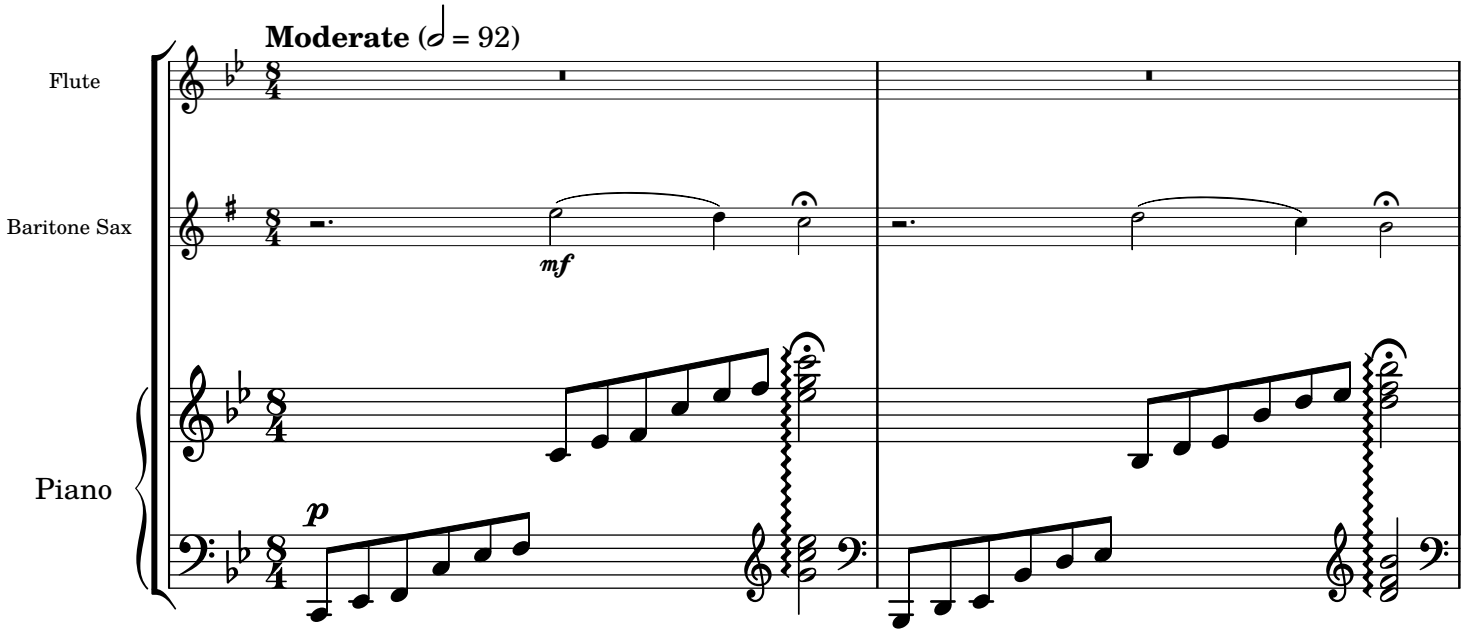

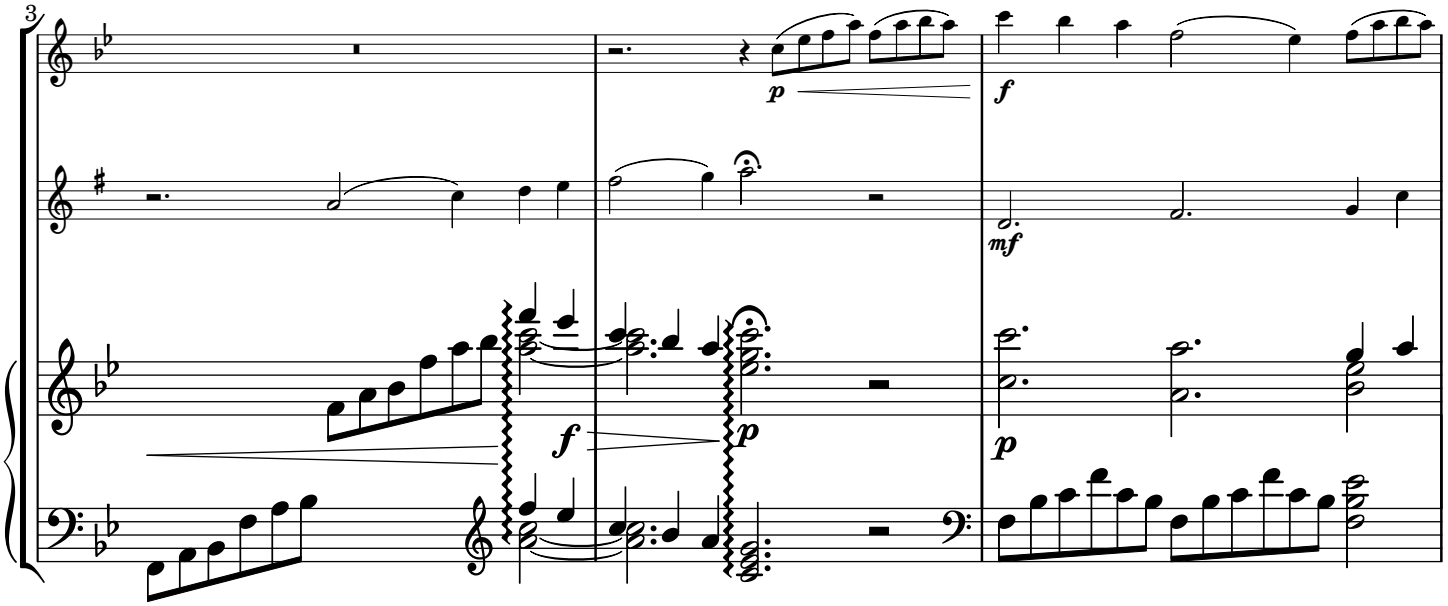

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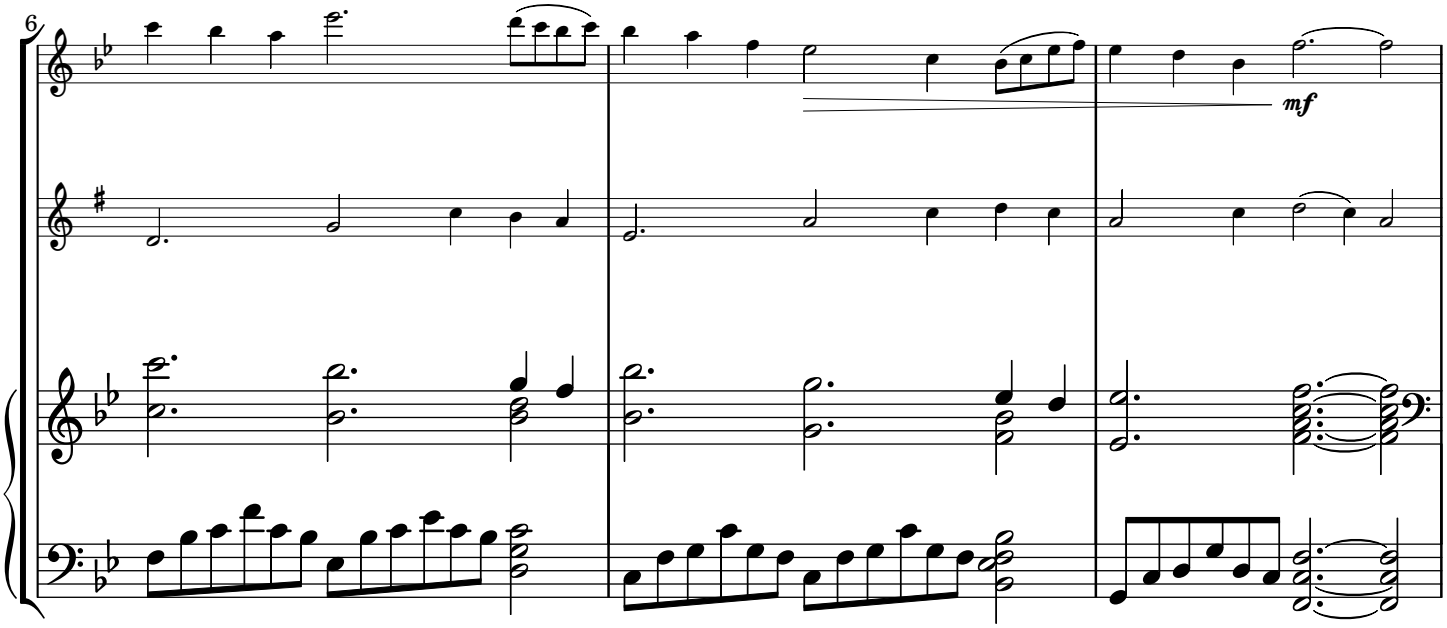
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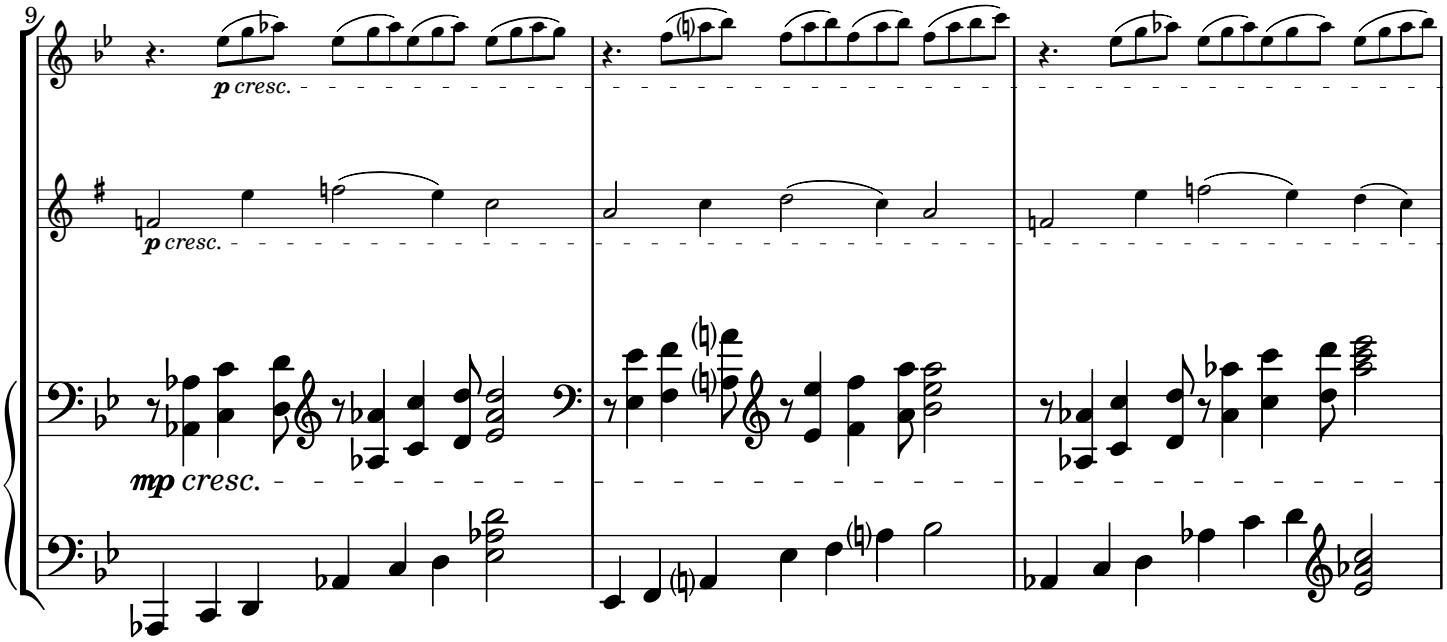
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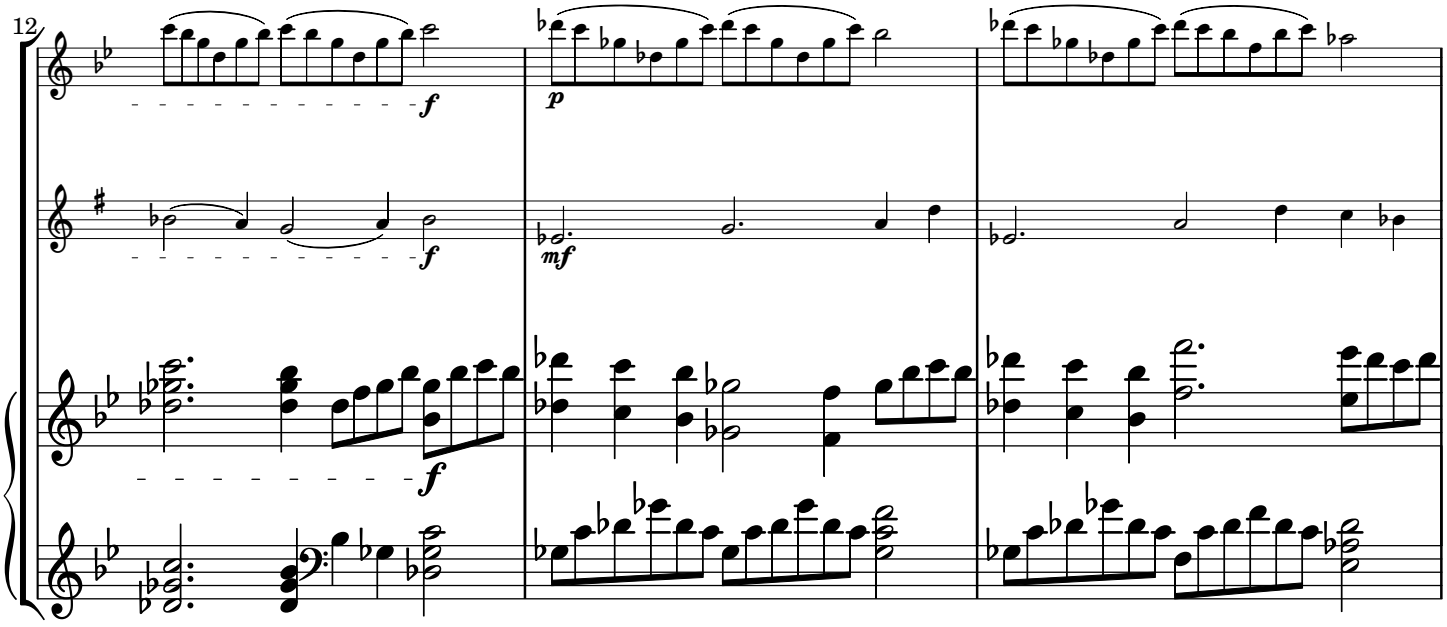
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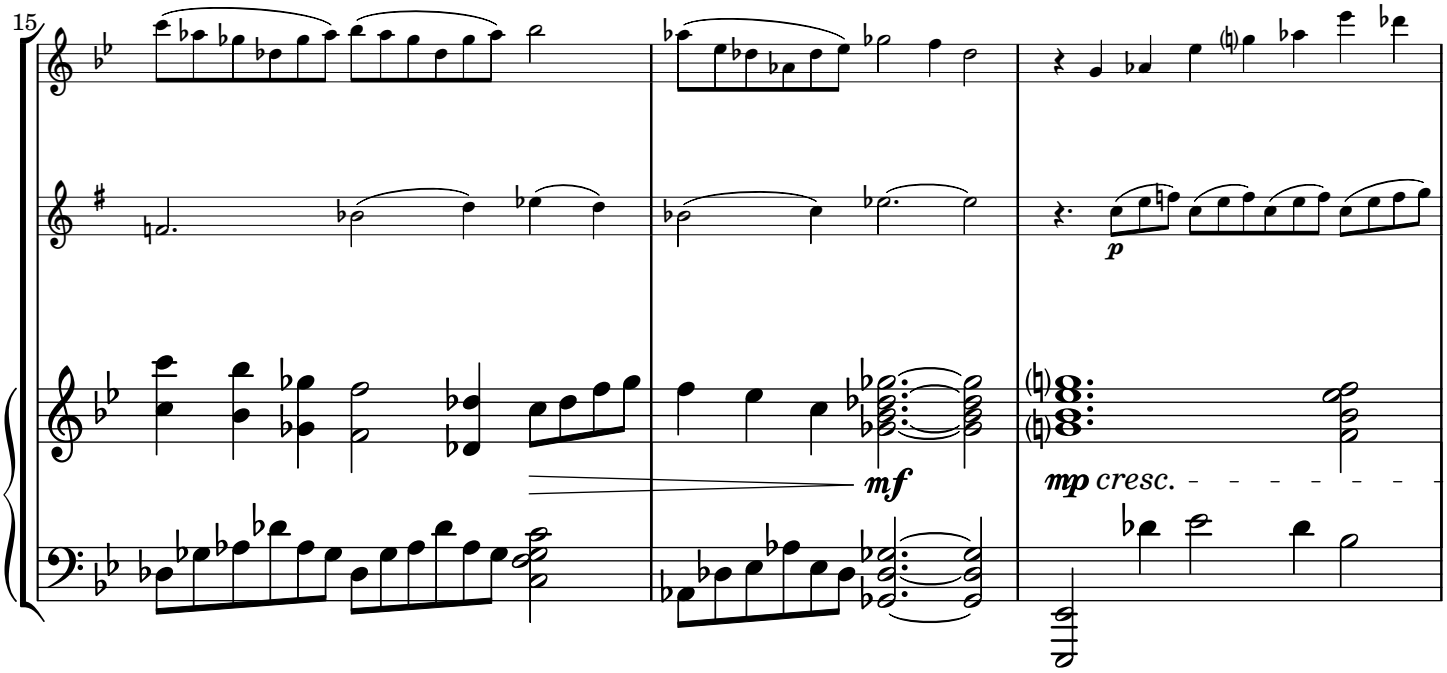
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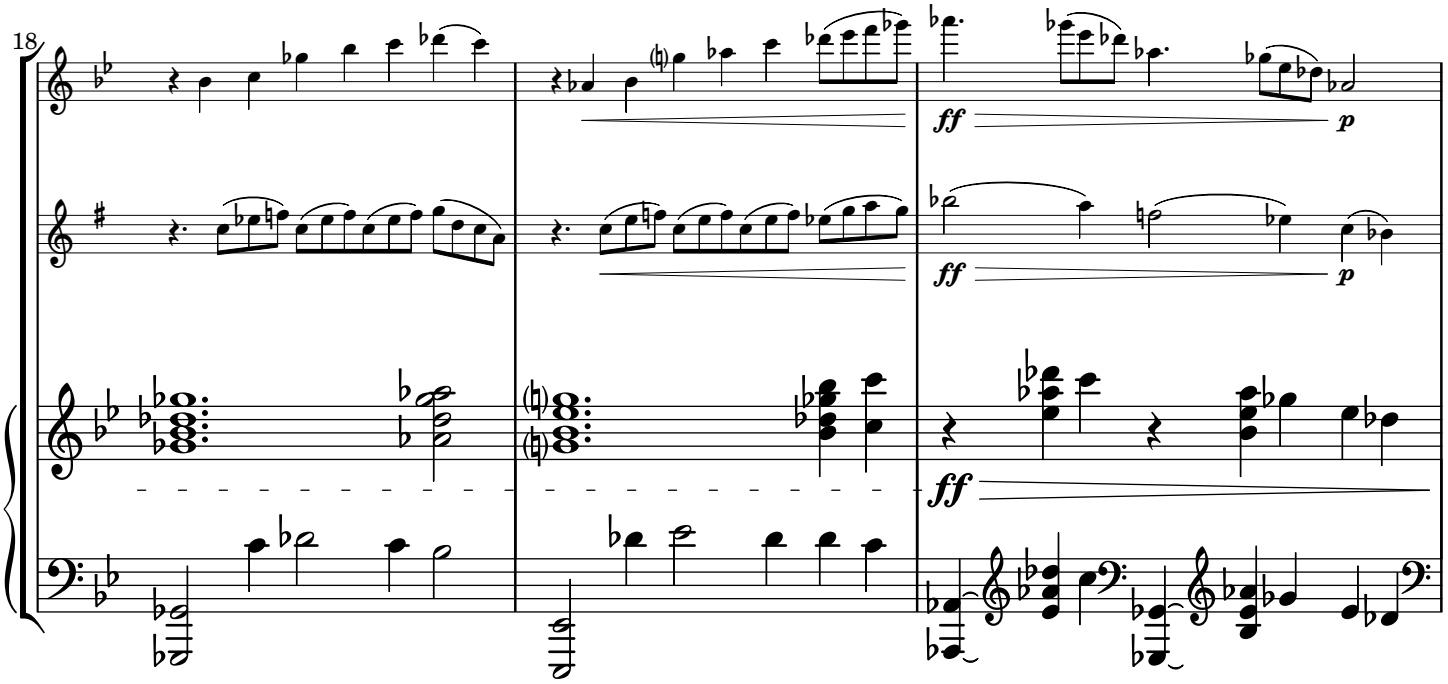
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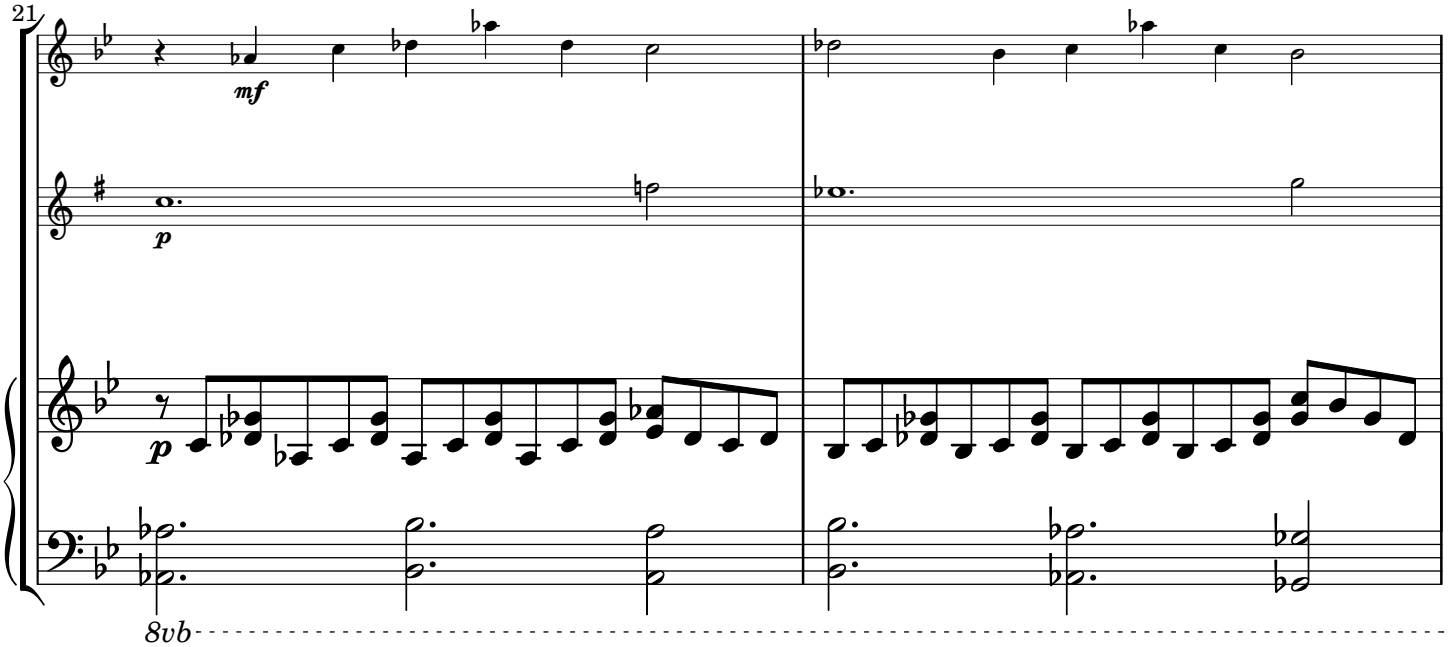
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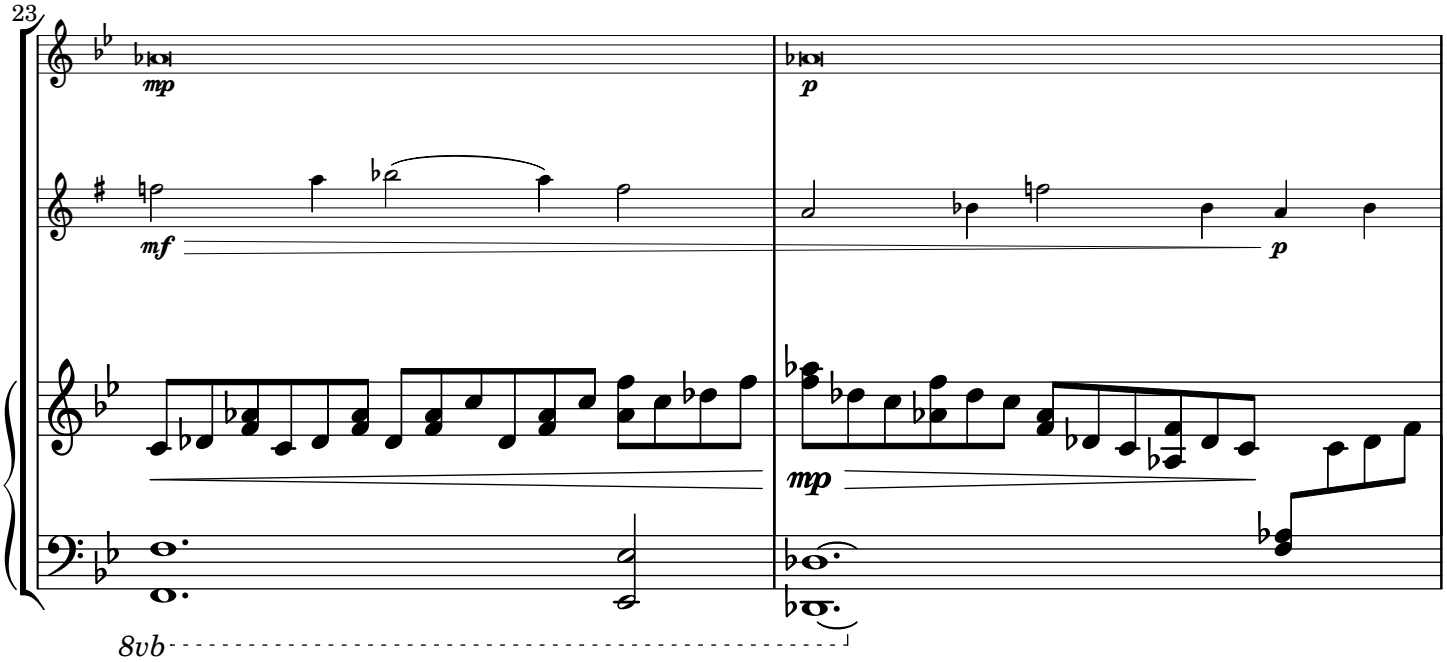
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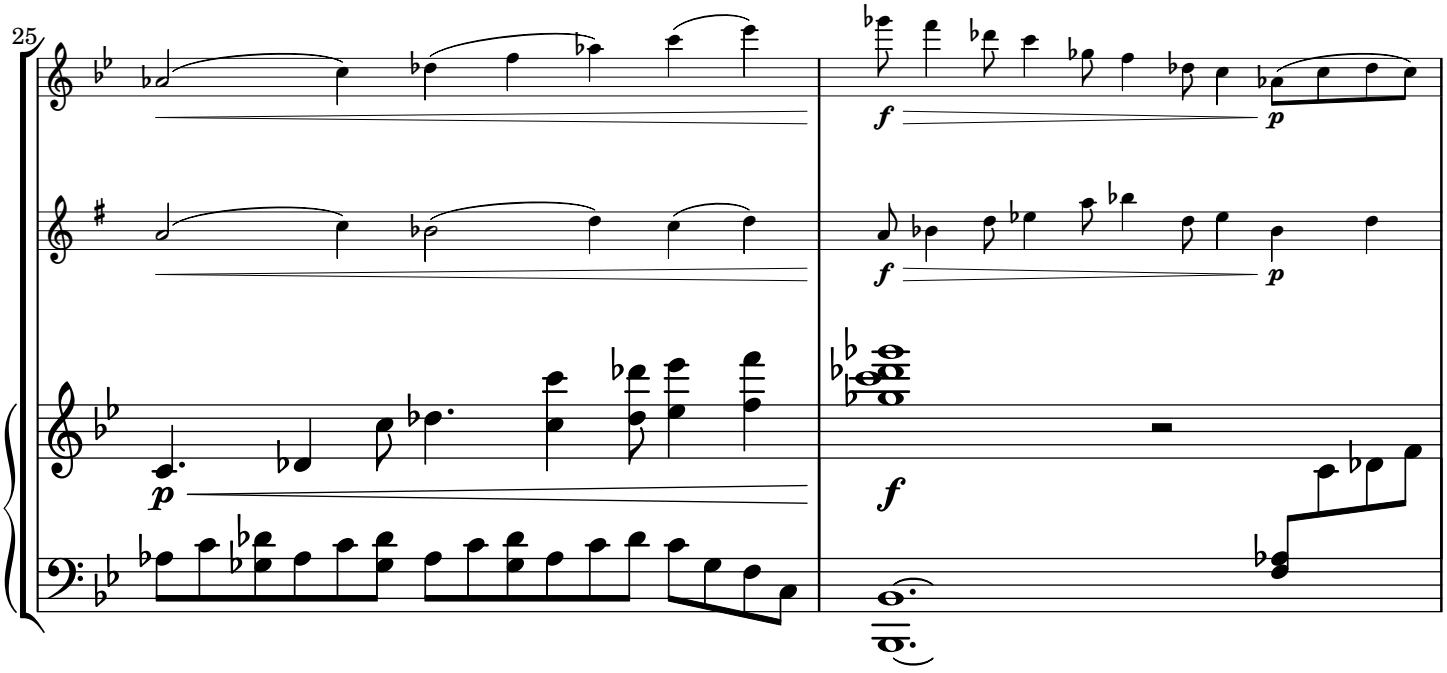
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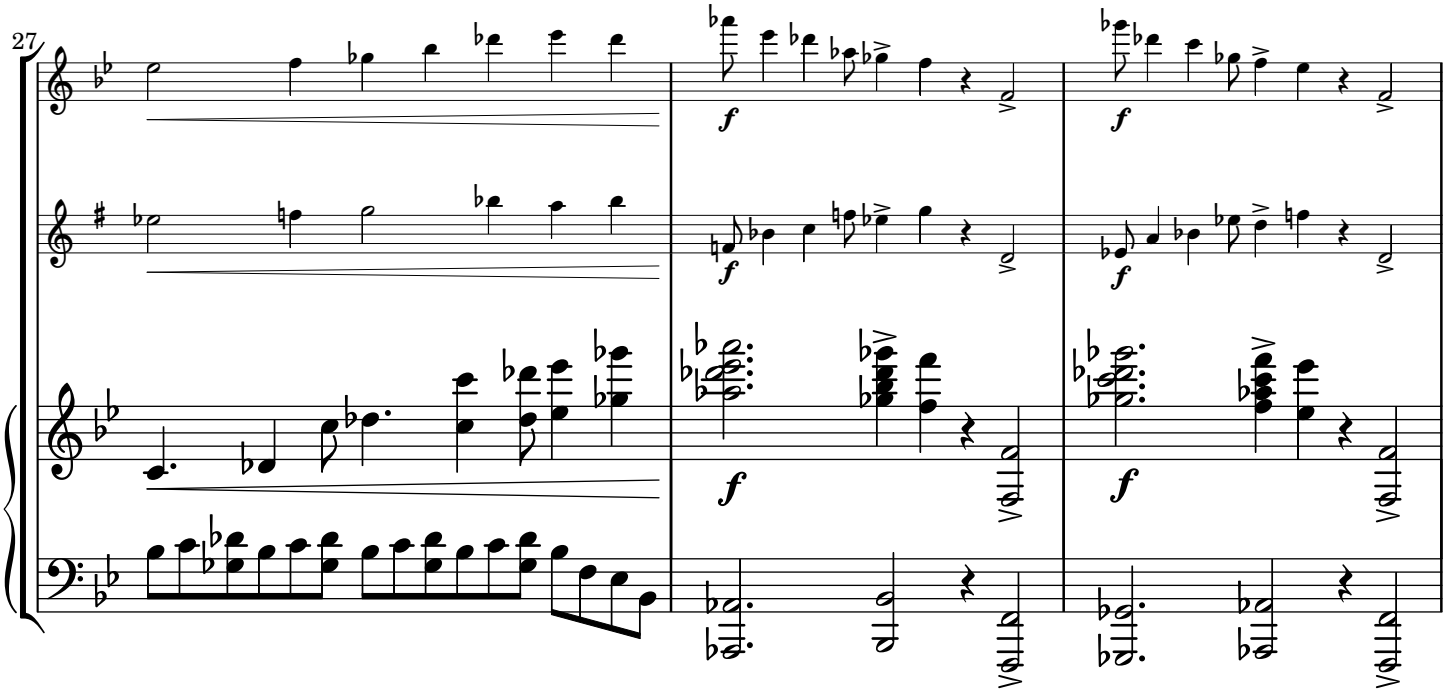
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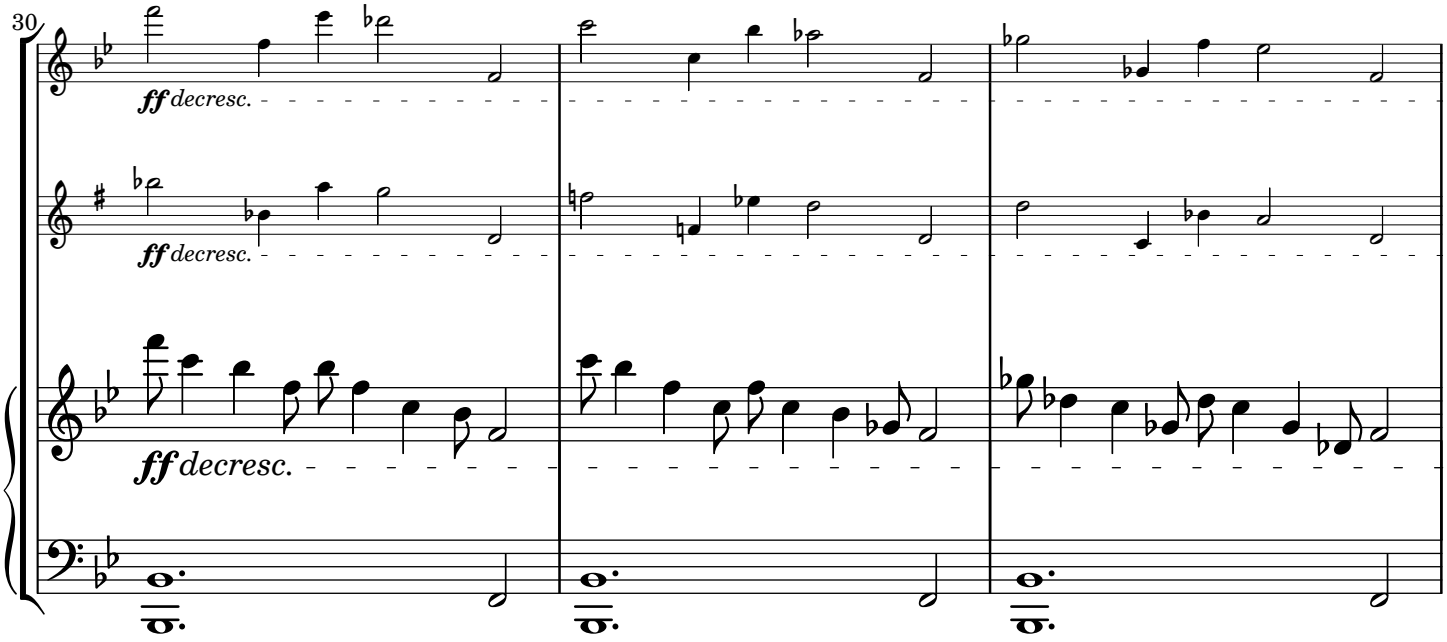
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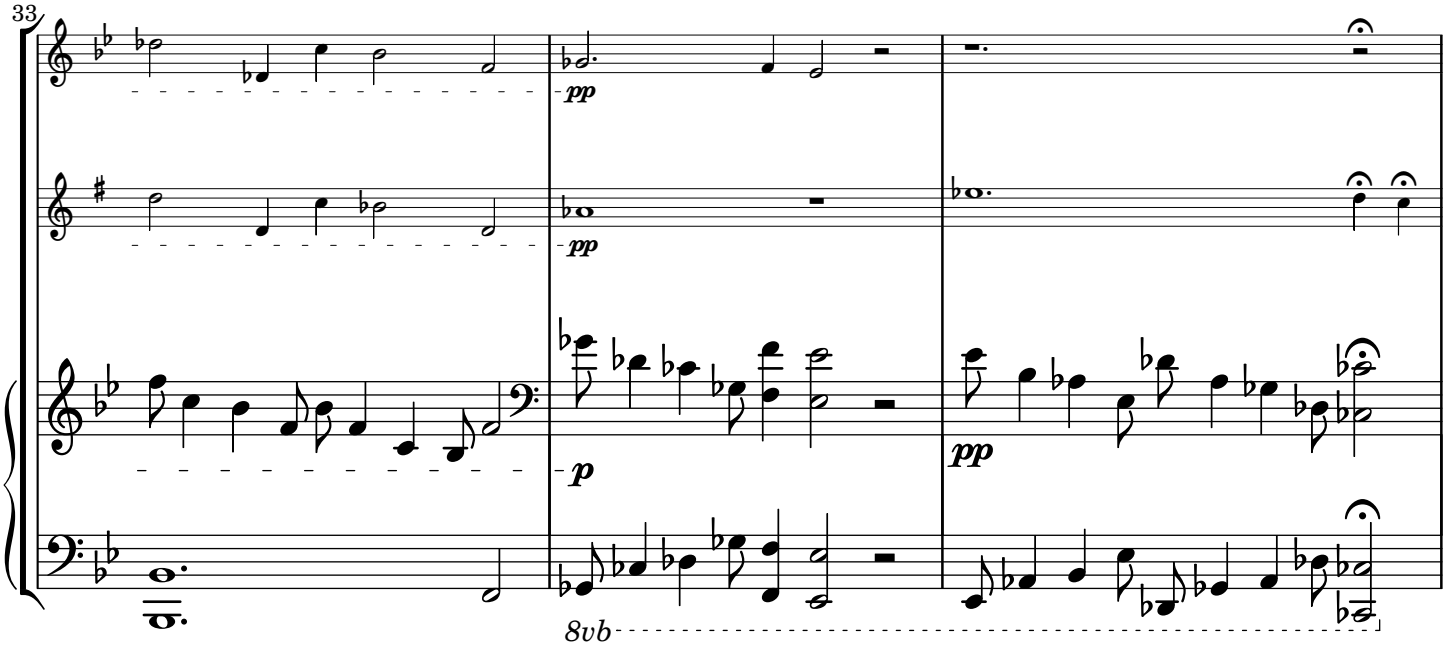
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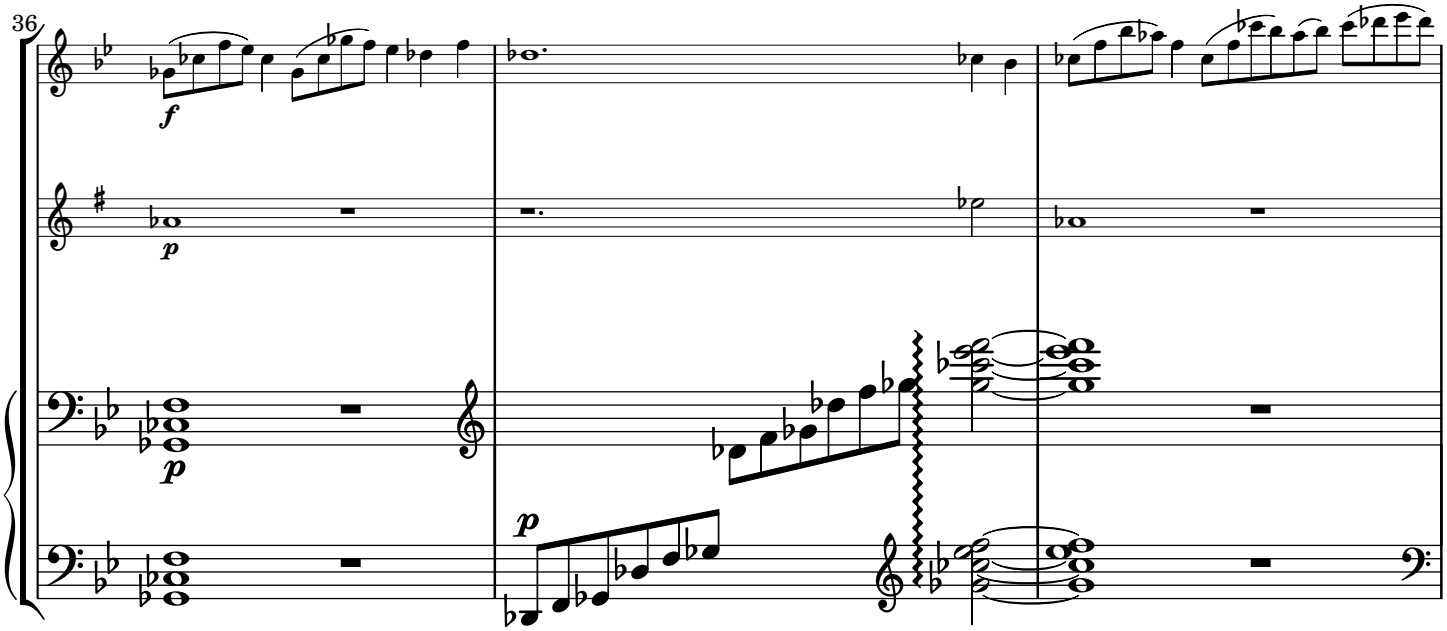
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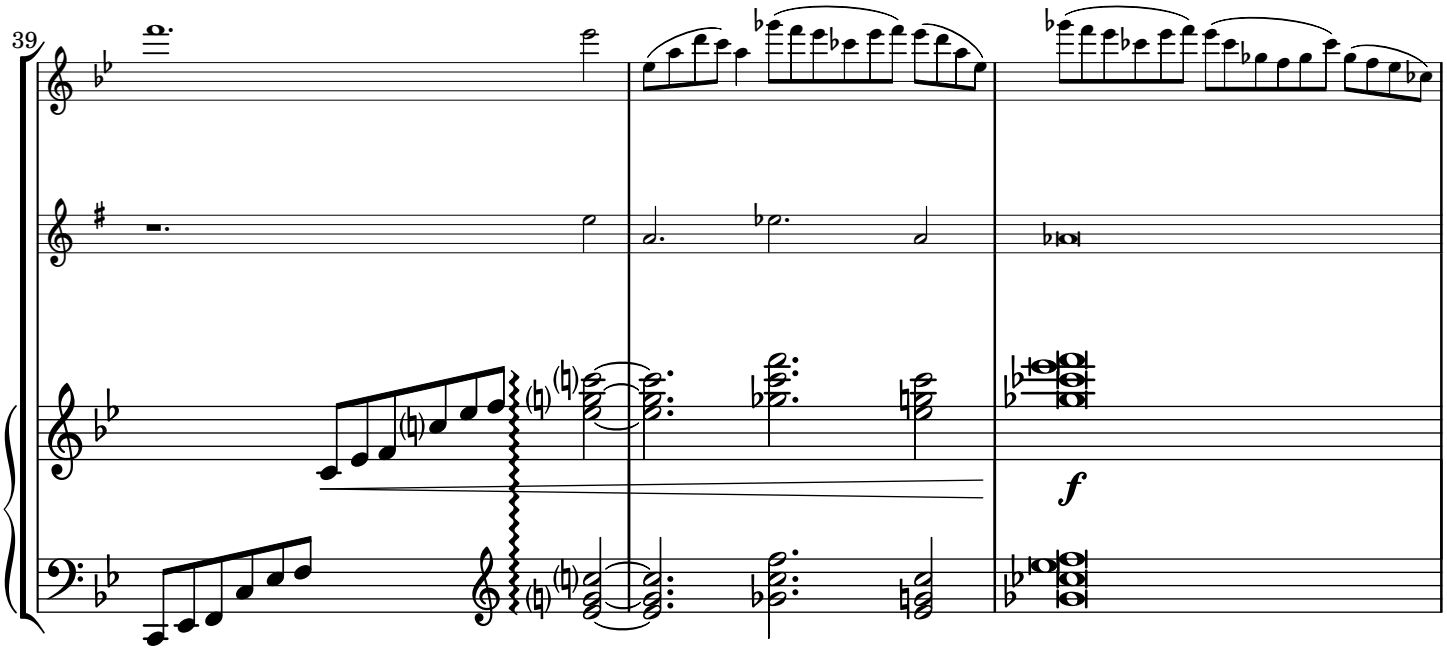
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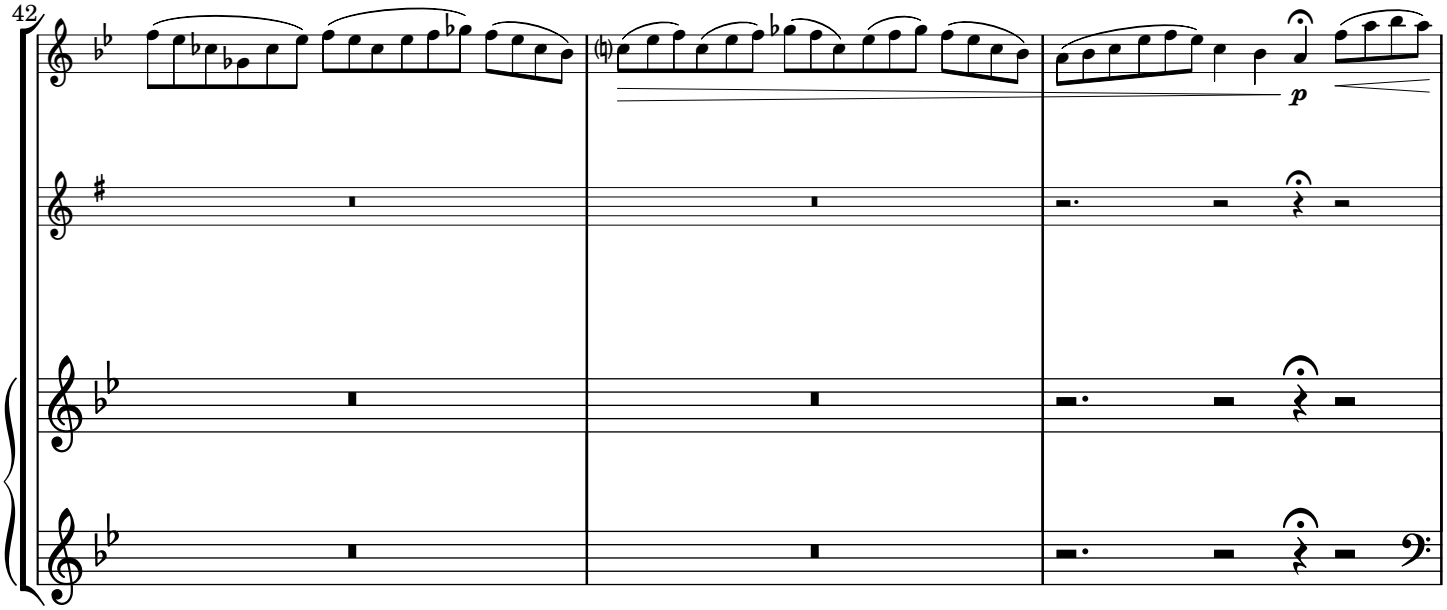
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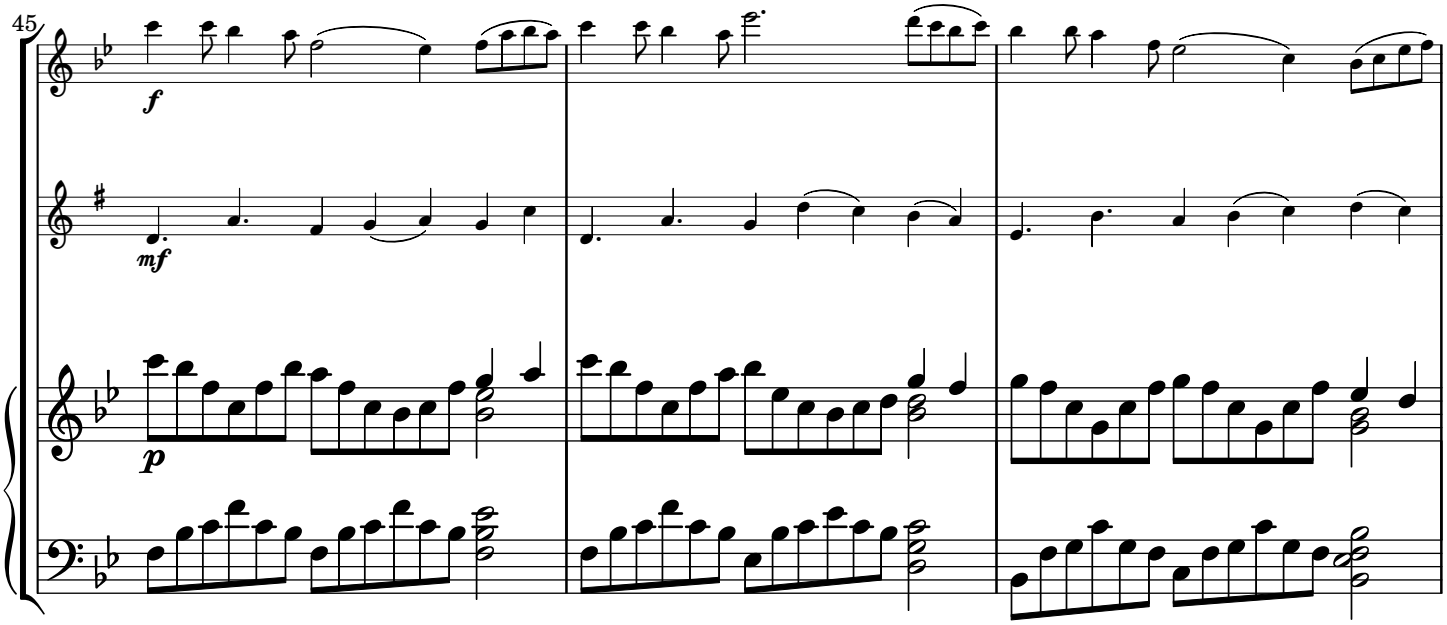
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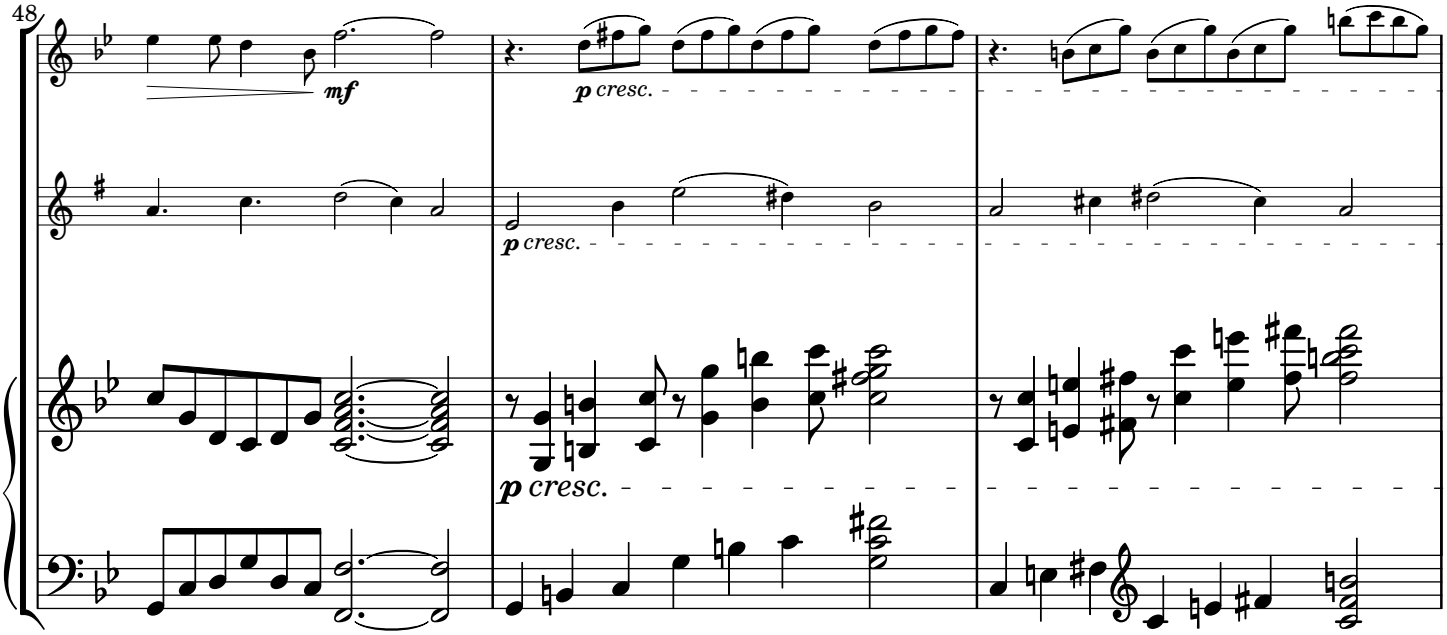
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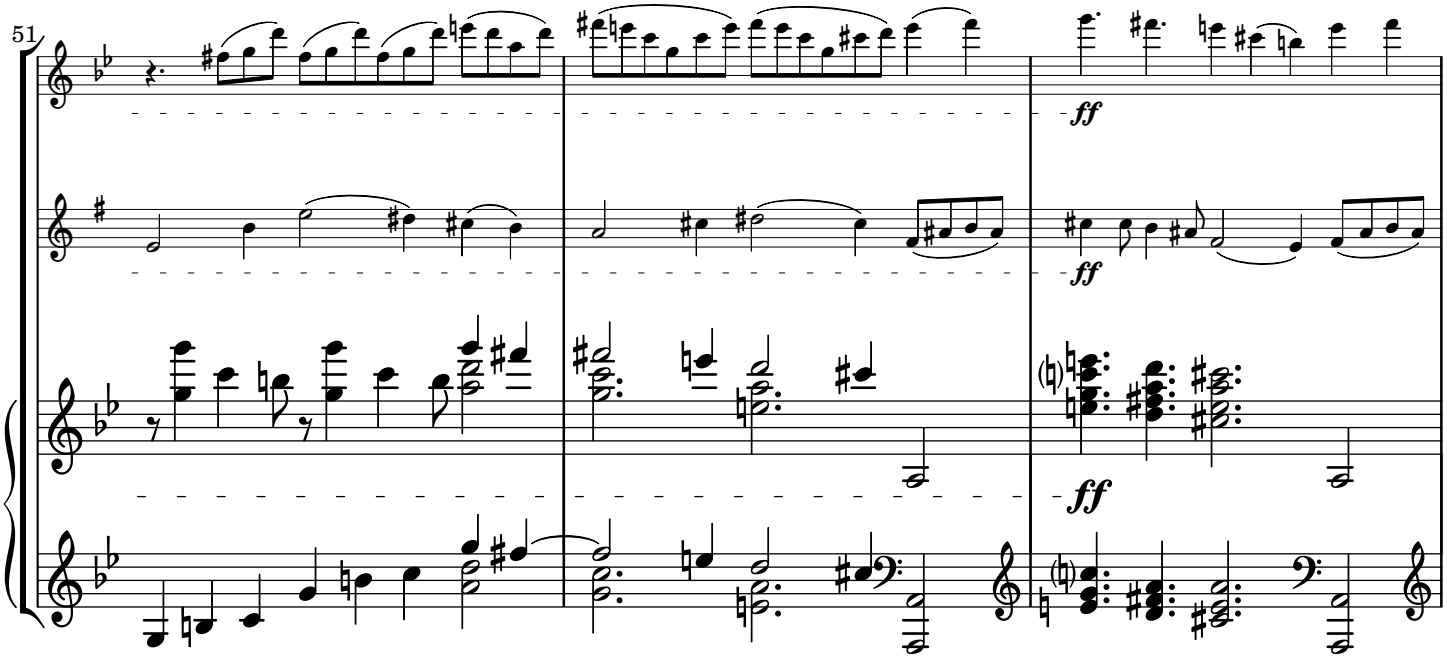
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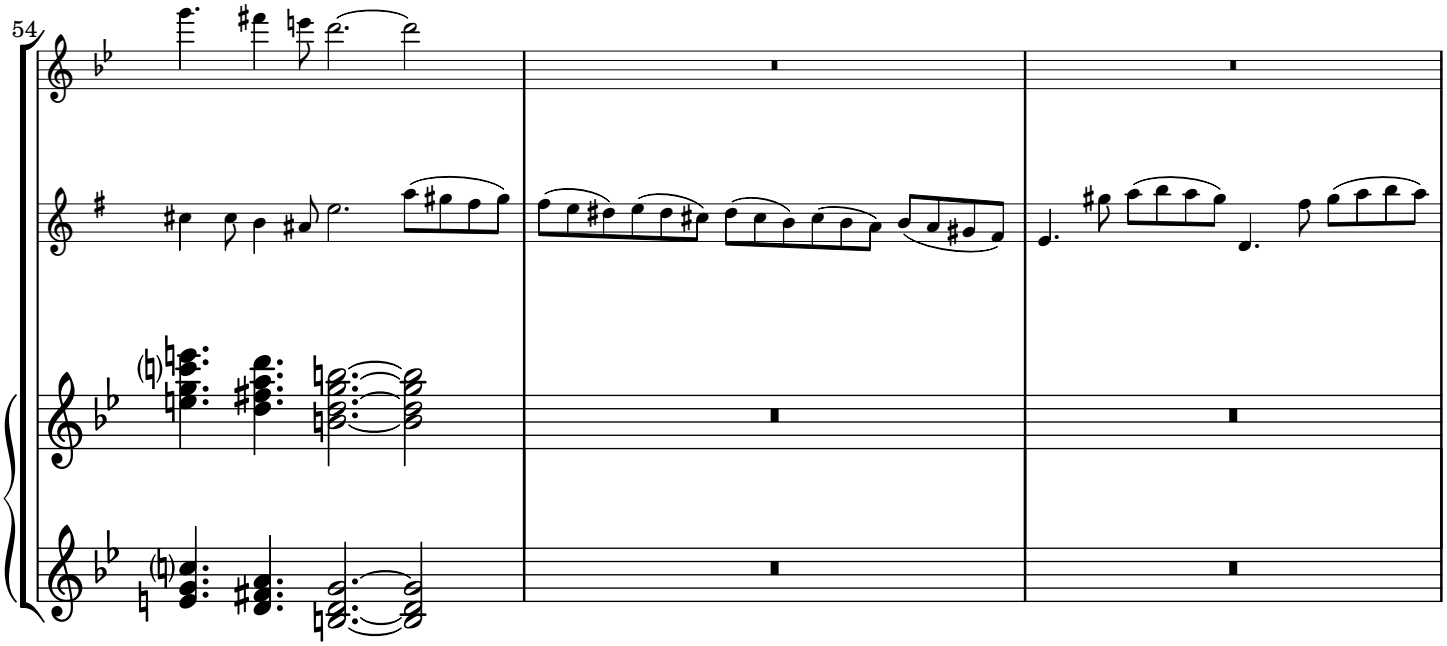
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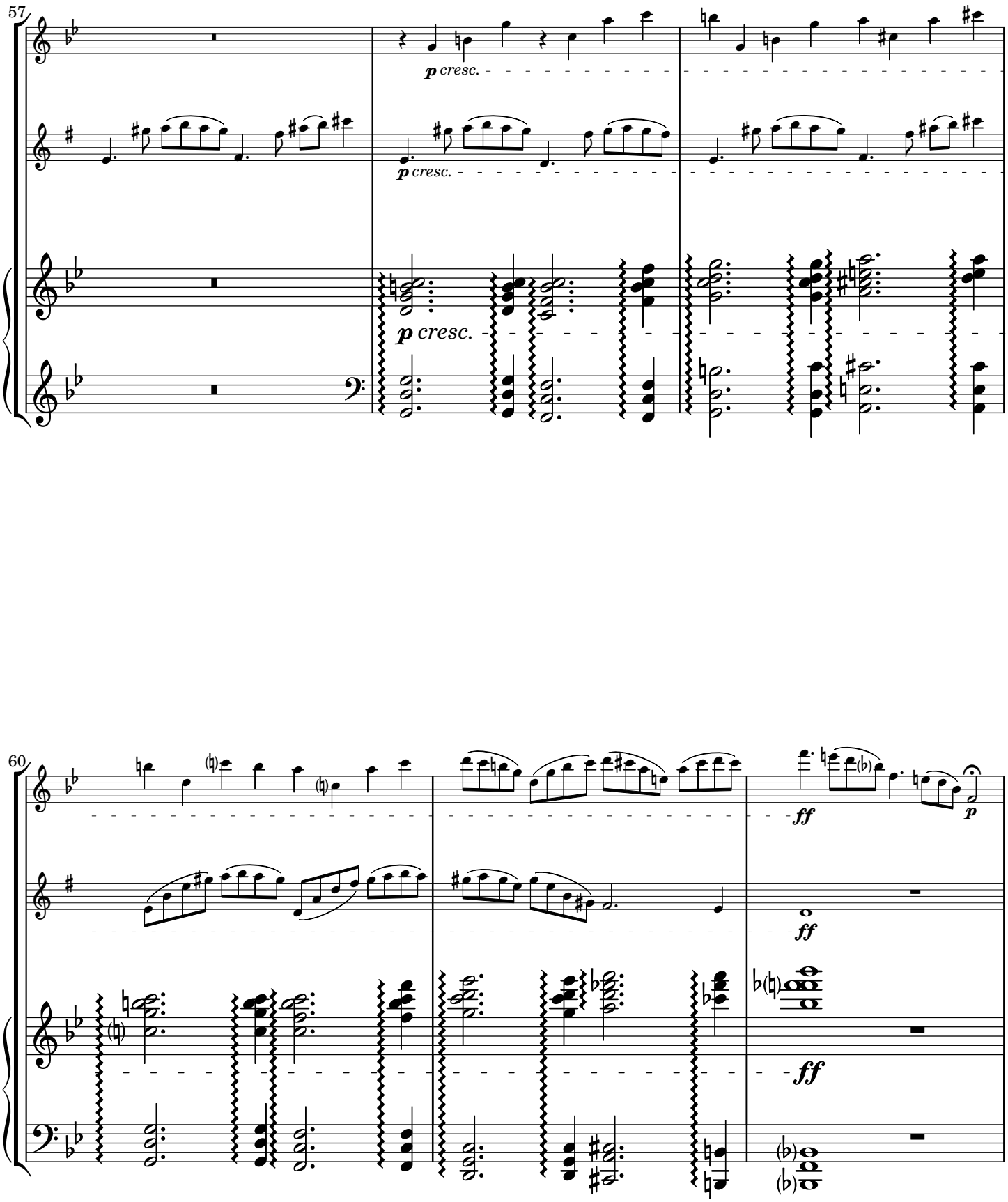
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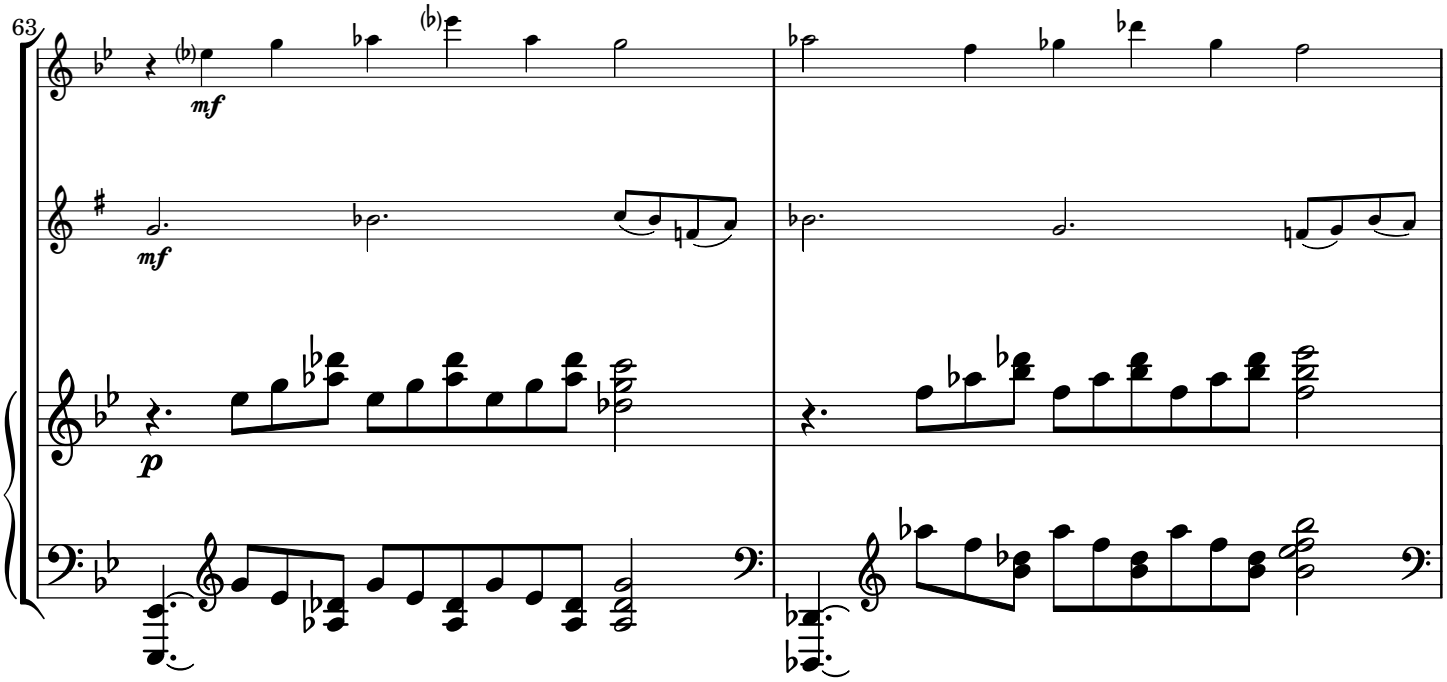
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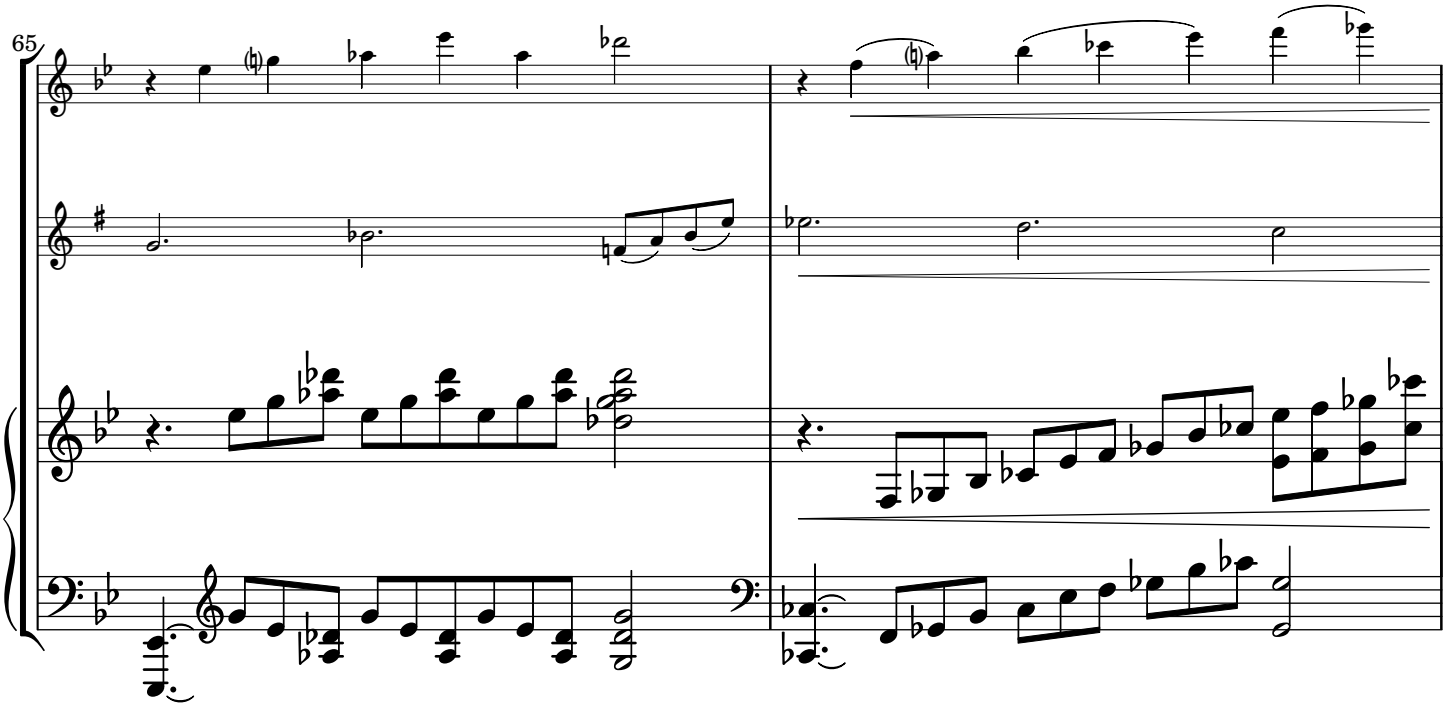
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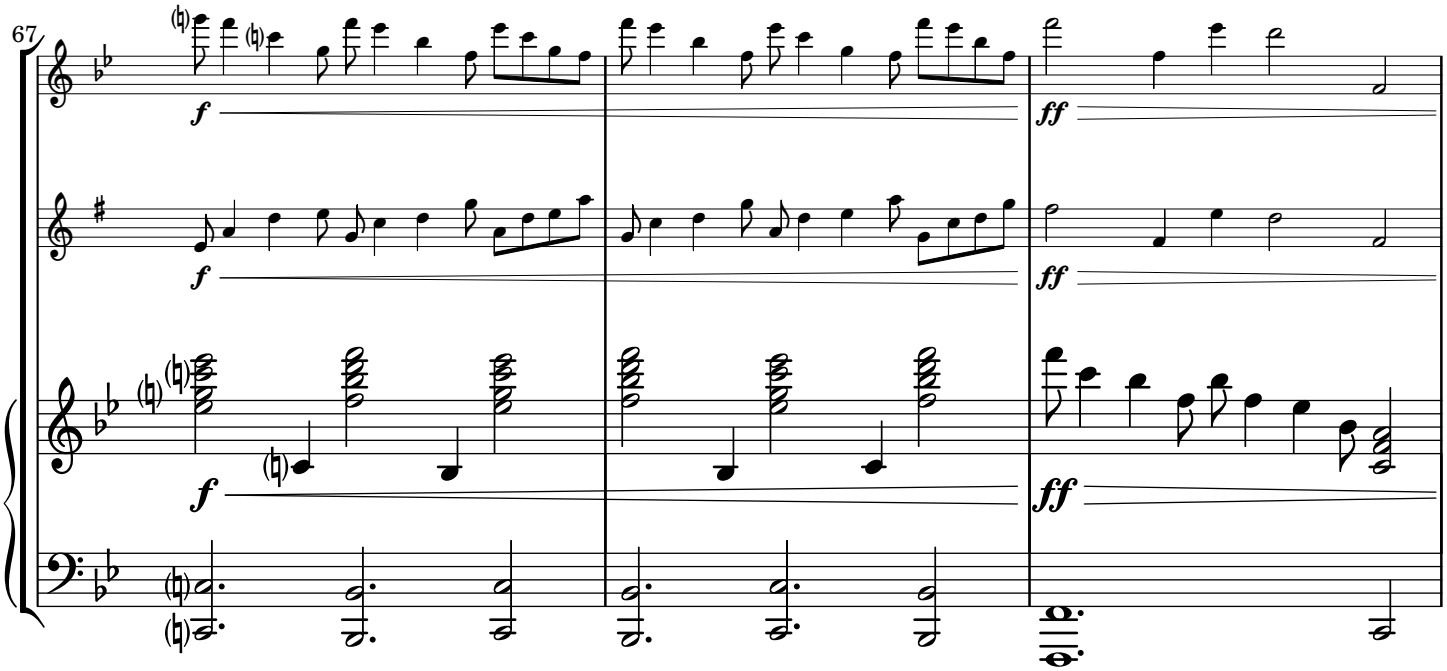
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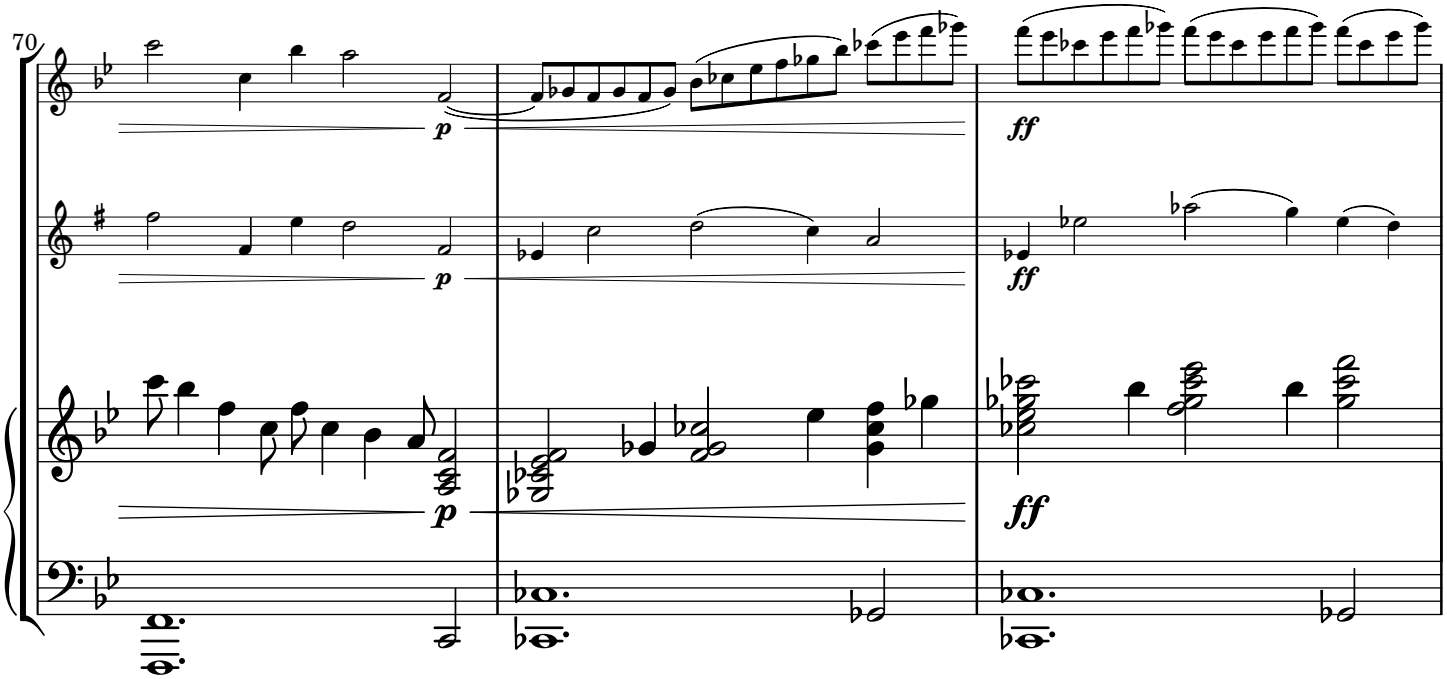
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77

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p

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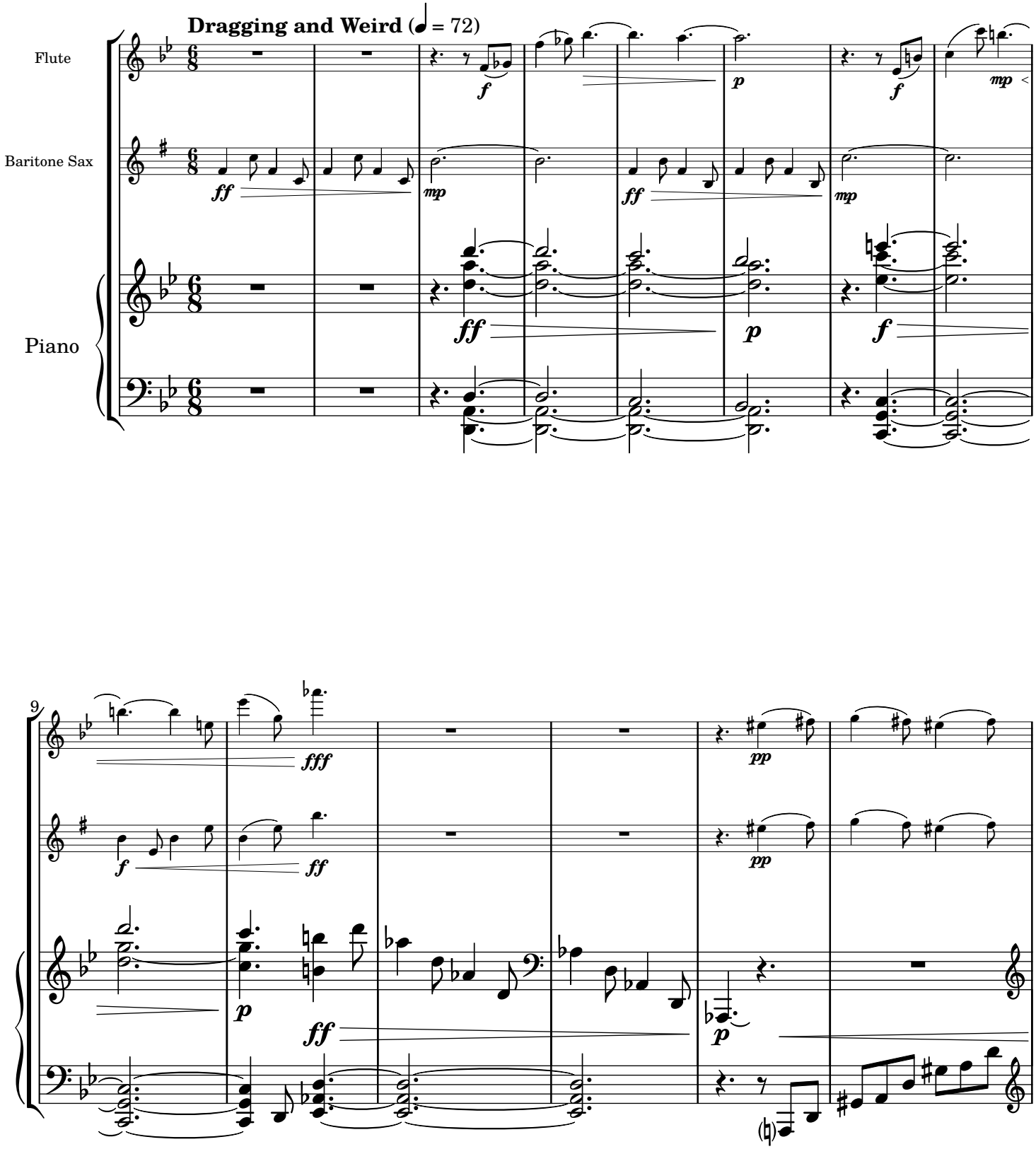
Movement II

Craig Bakalian



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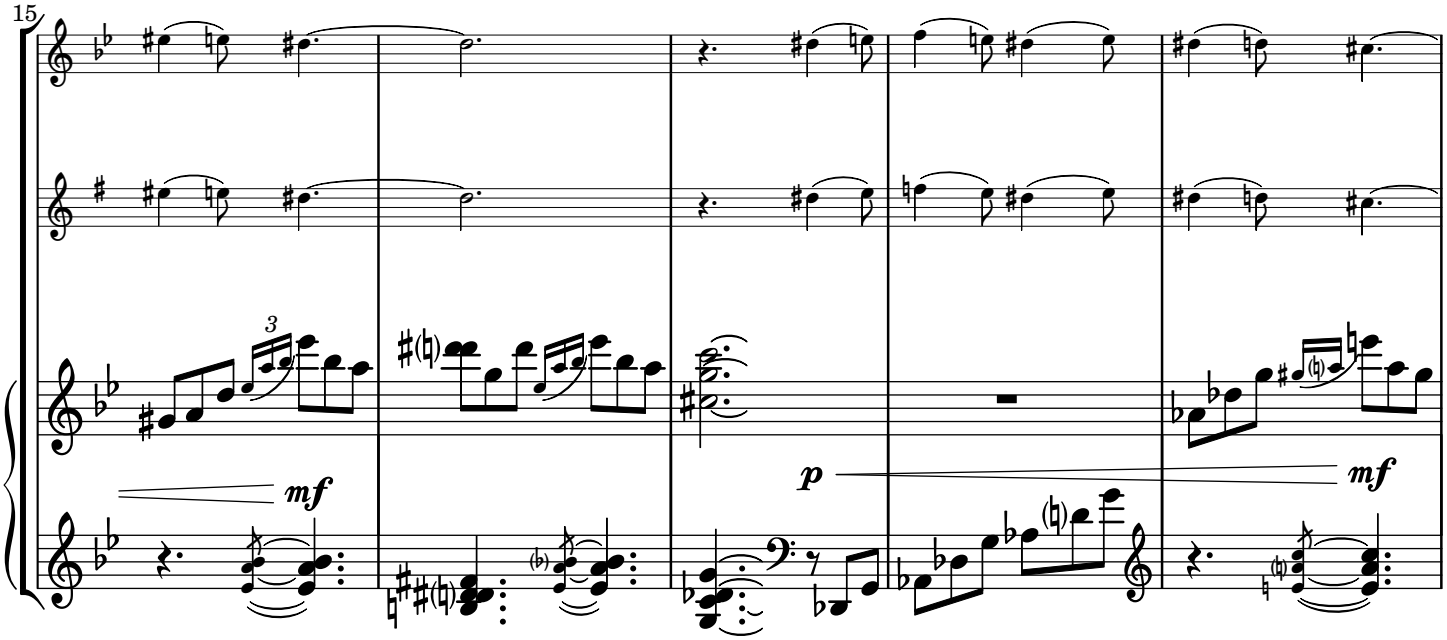

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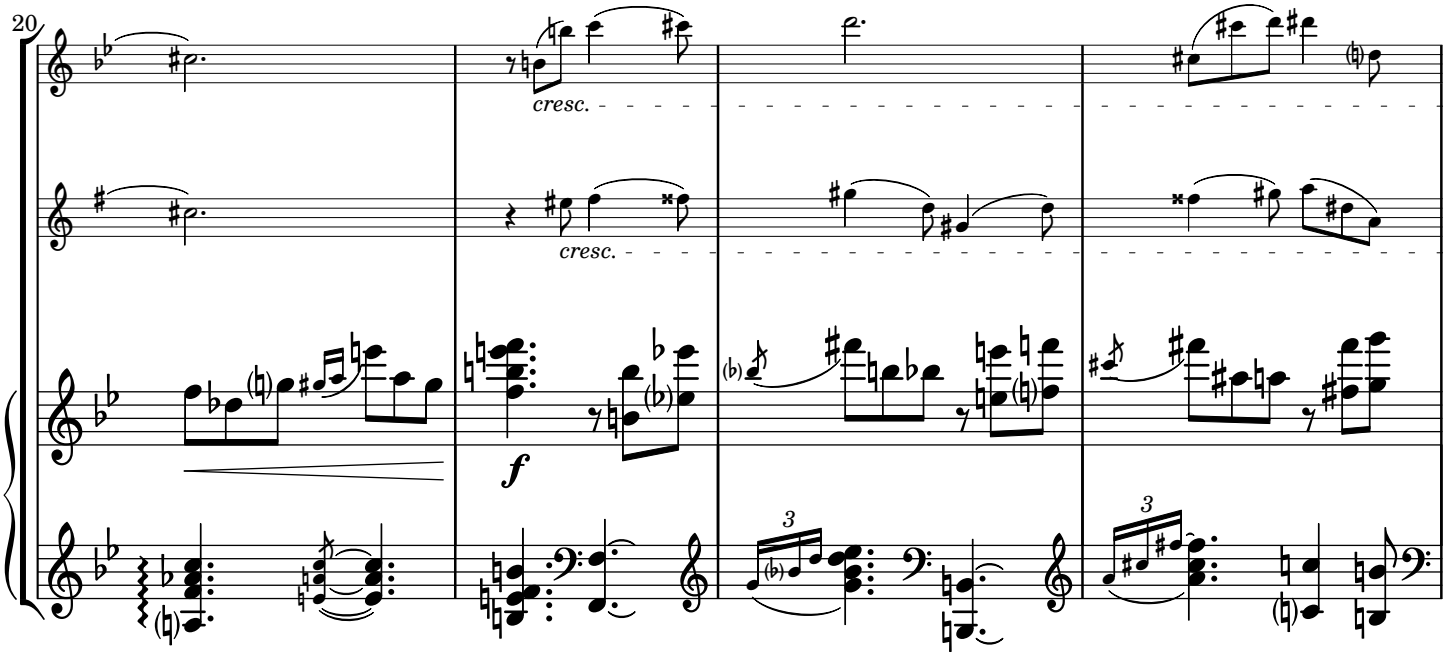

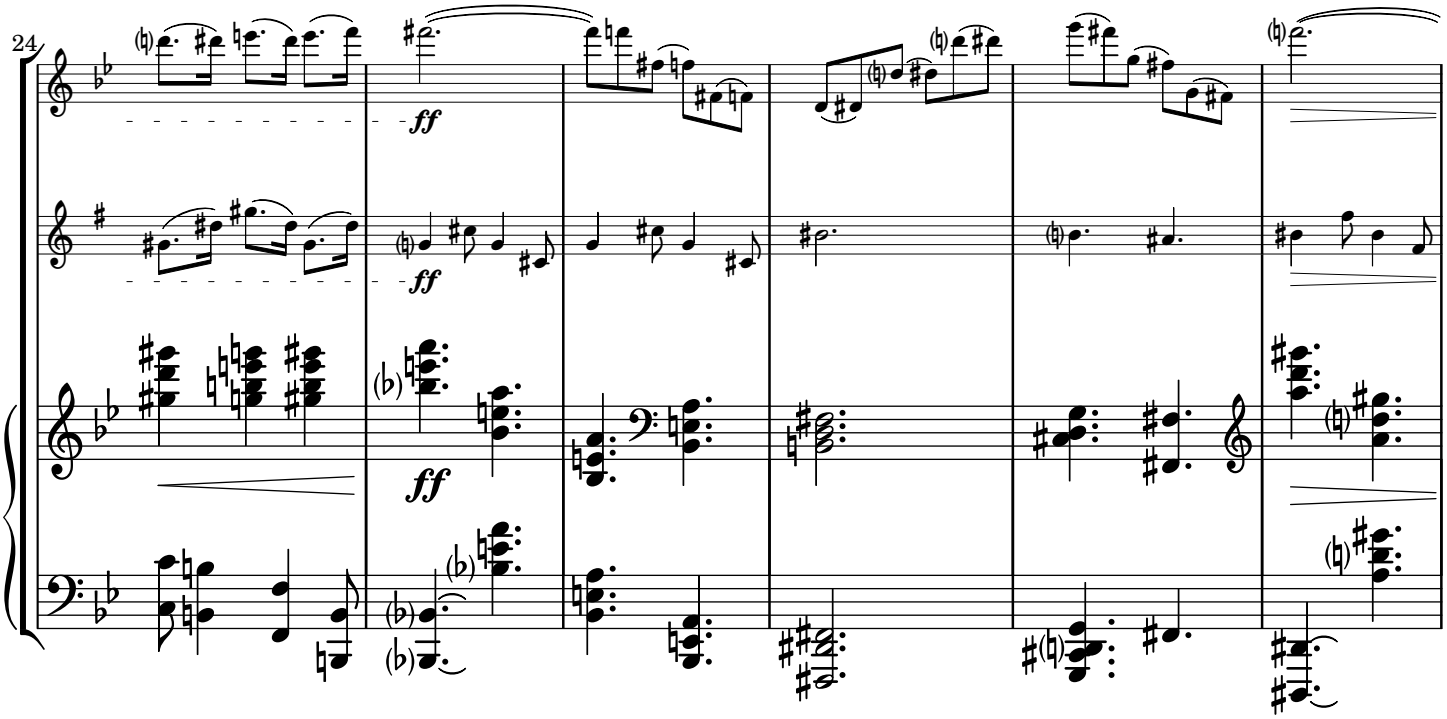
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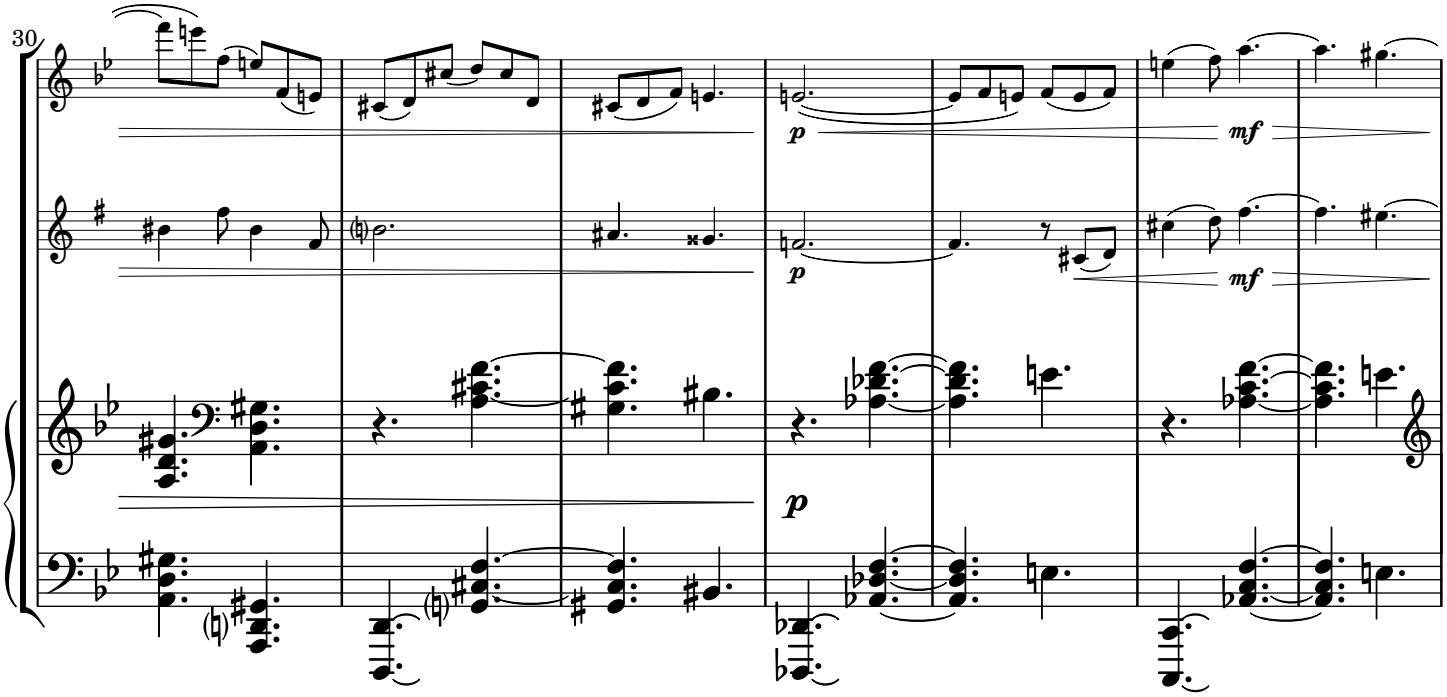
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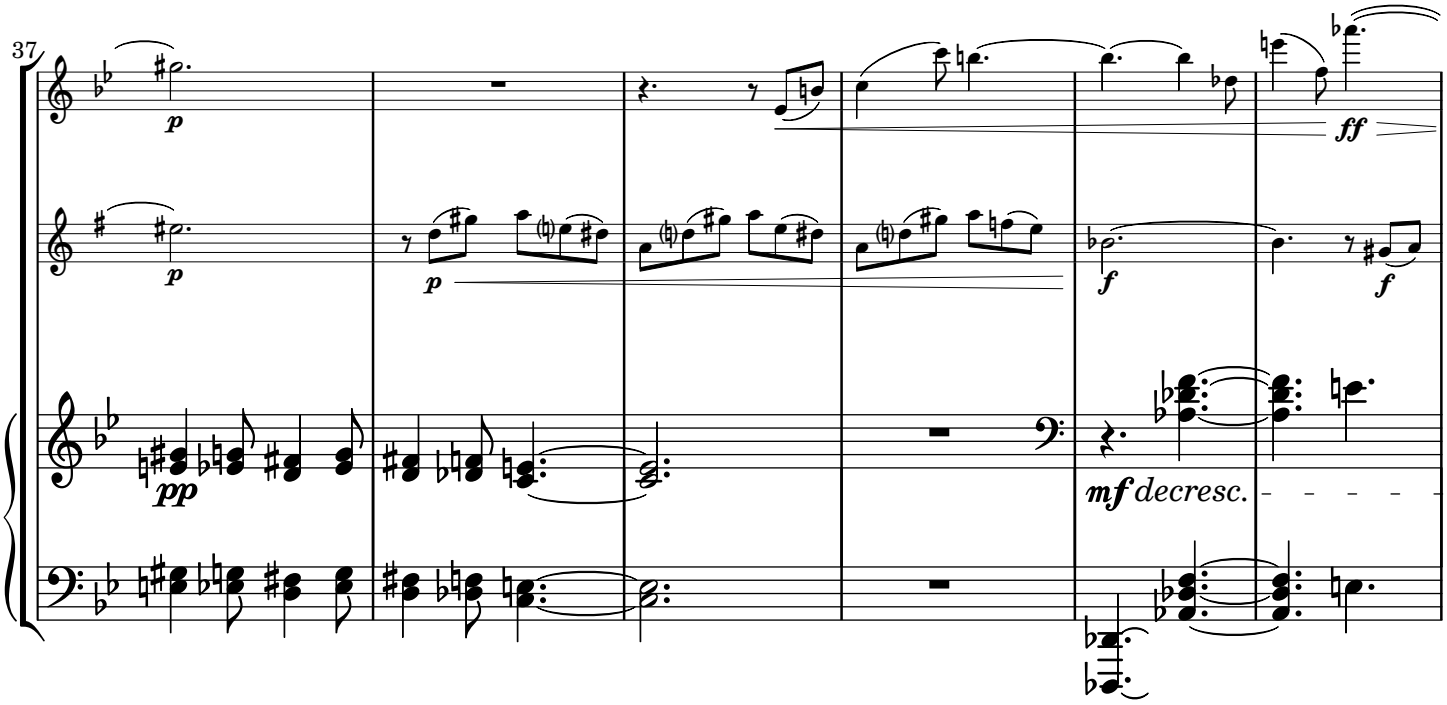
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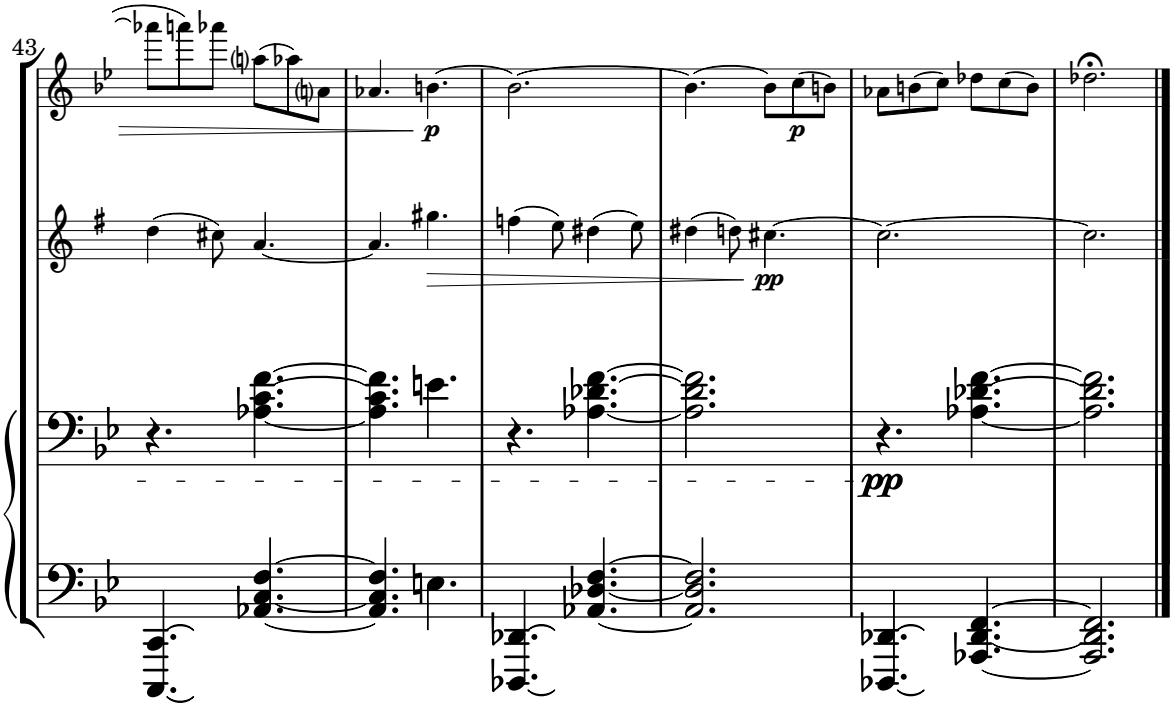
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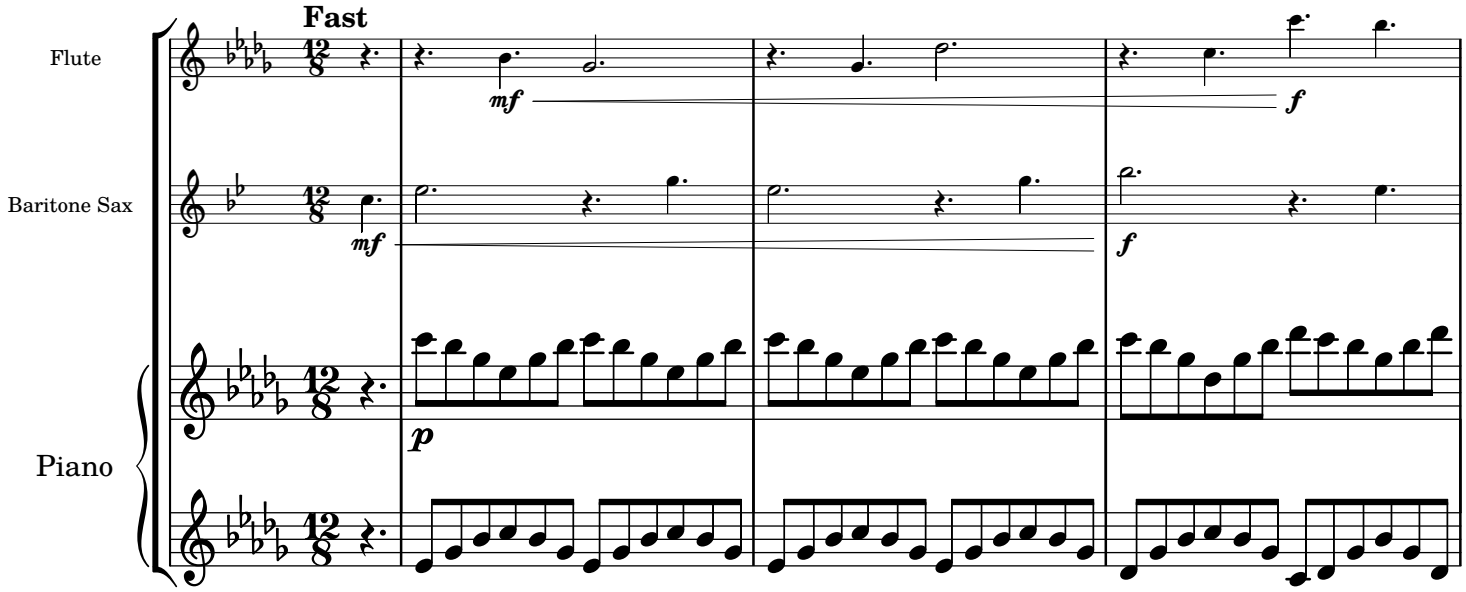
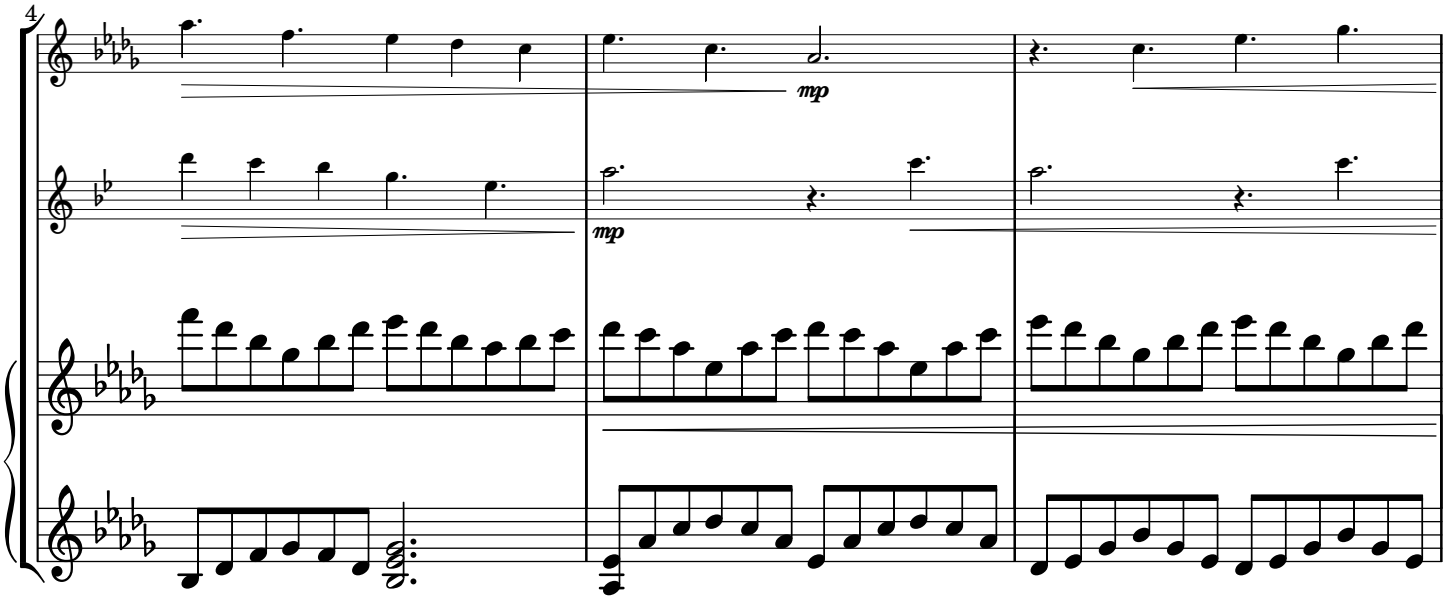
Movement III

Craig Bakalian





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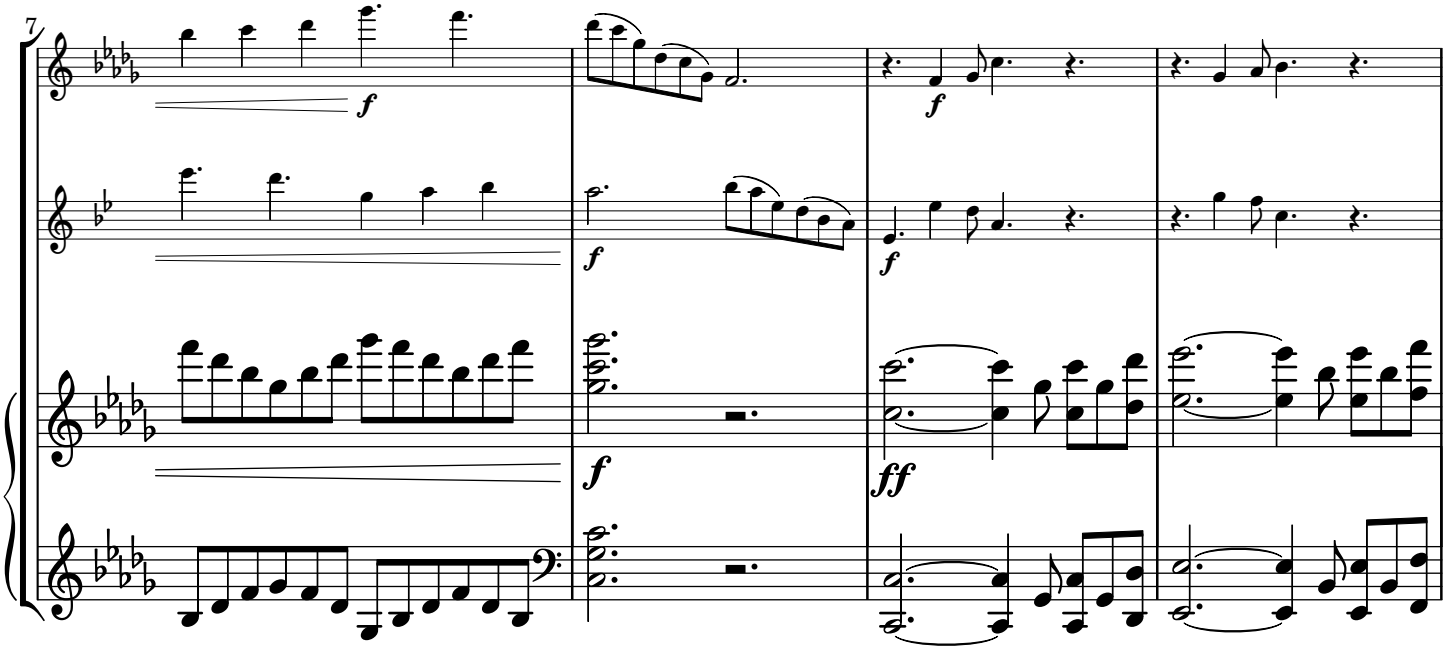
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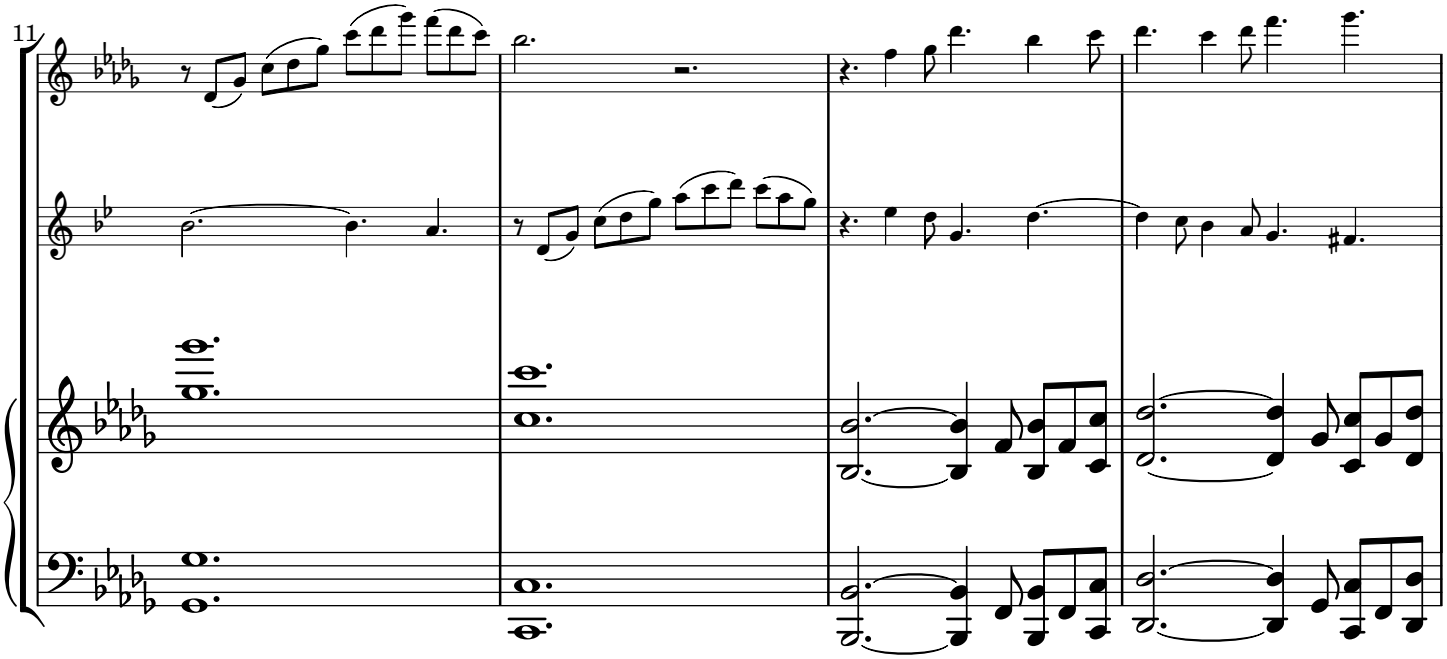
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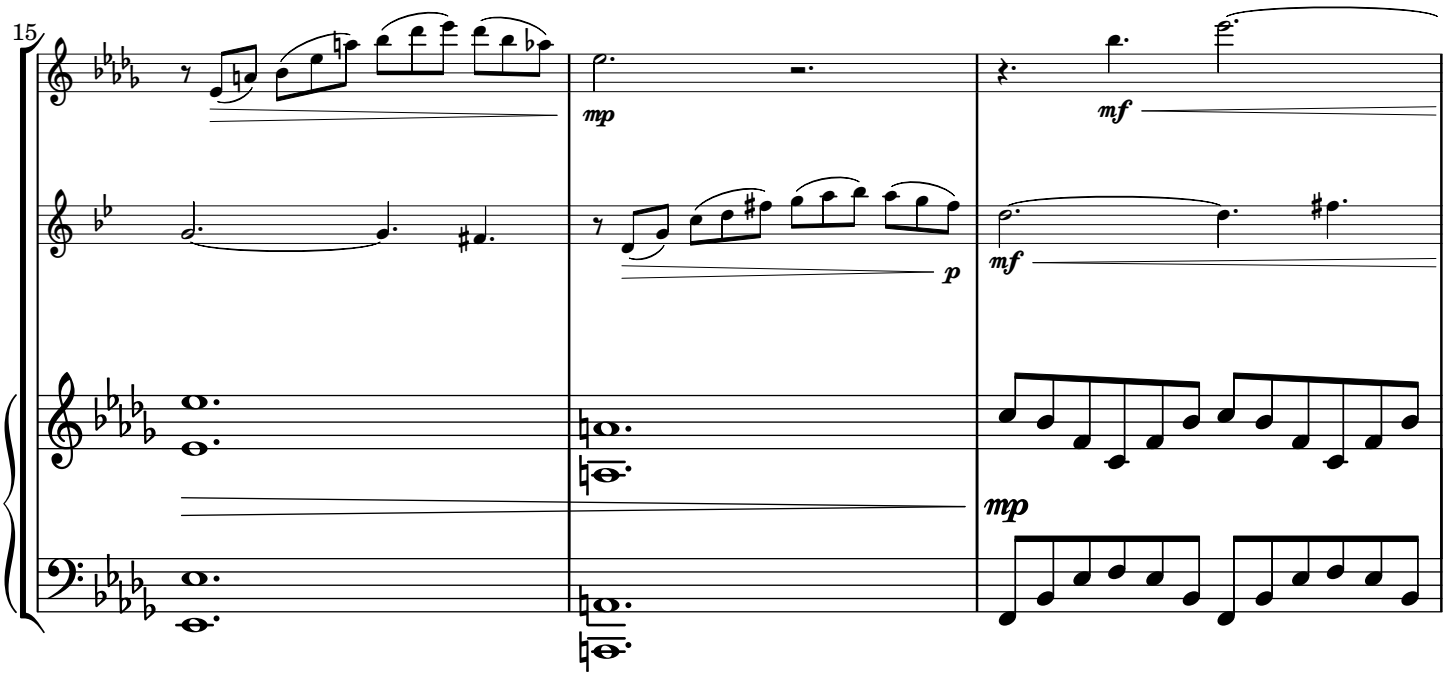
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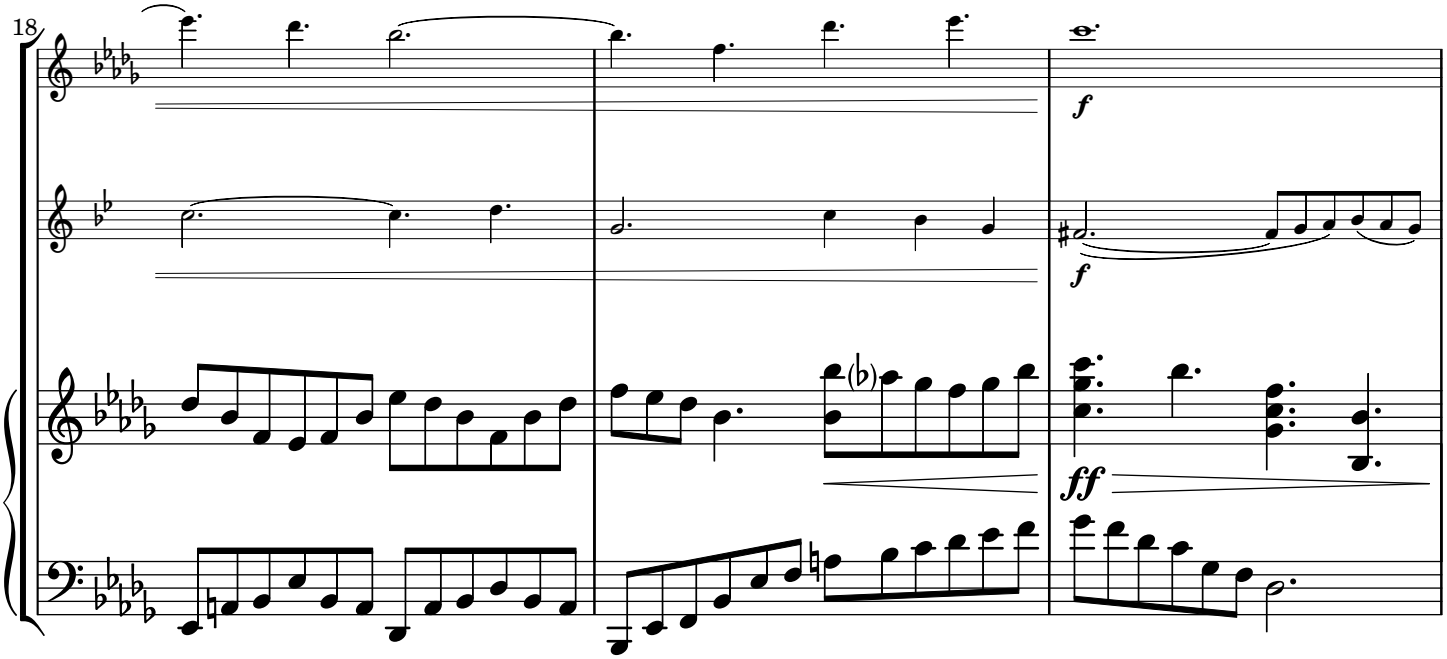
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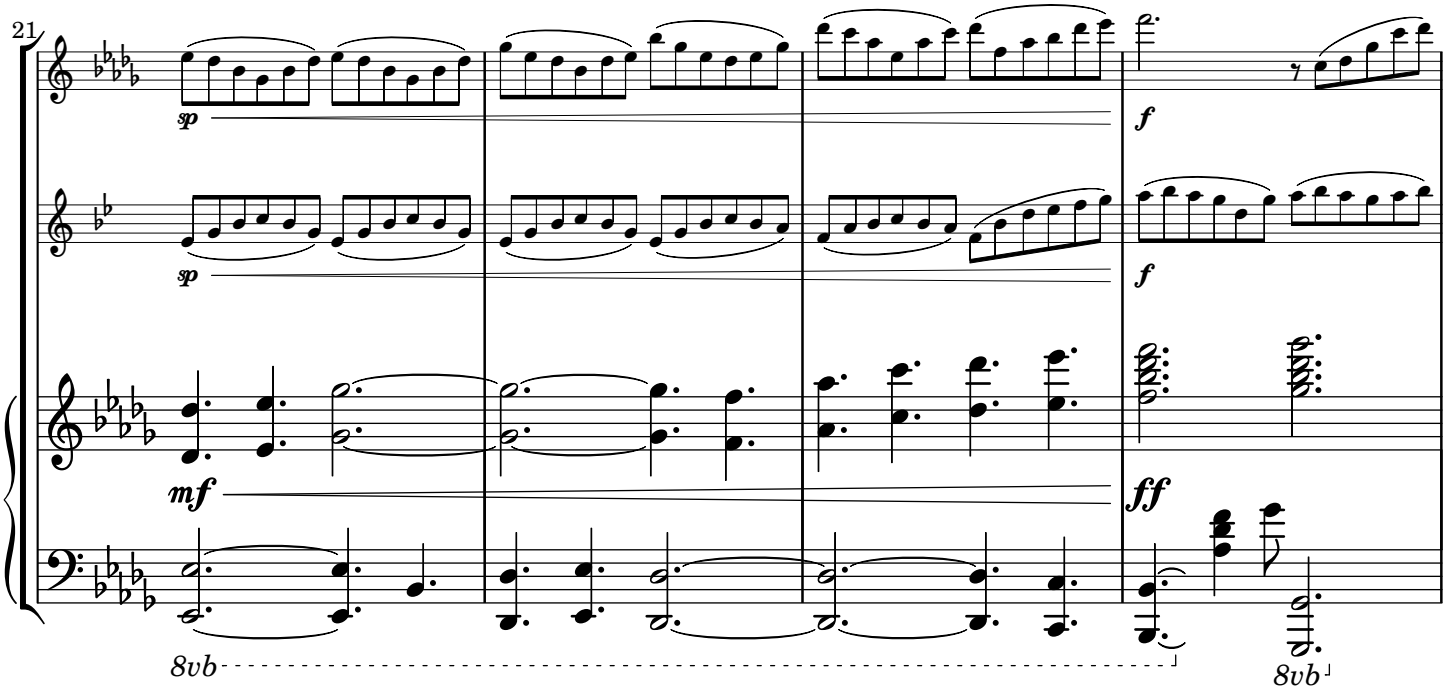
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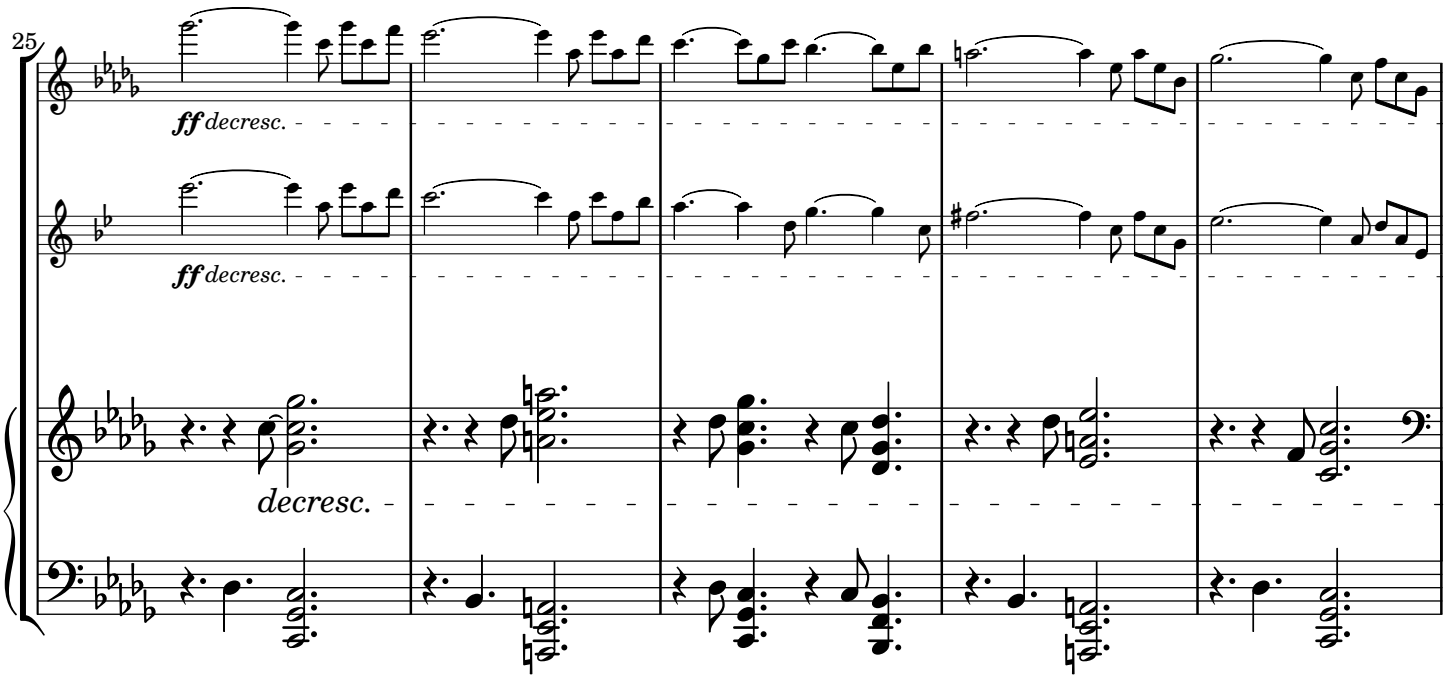
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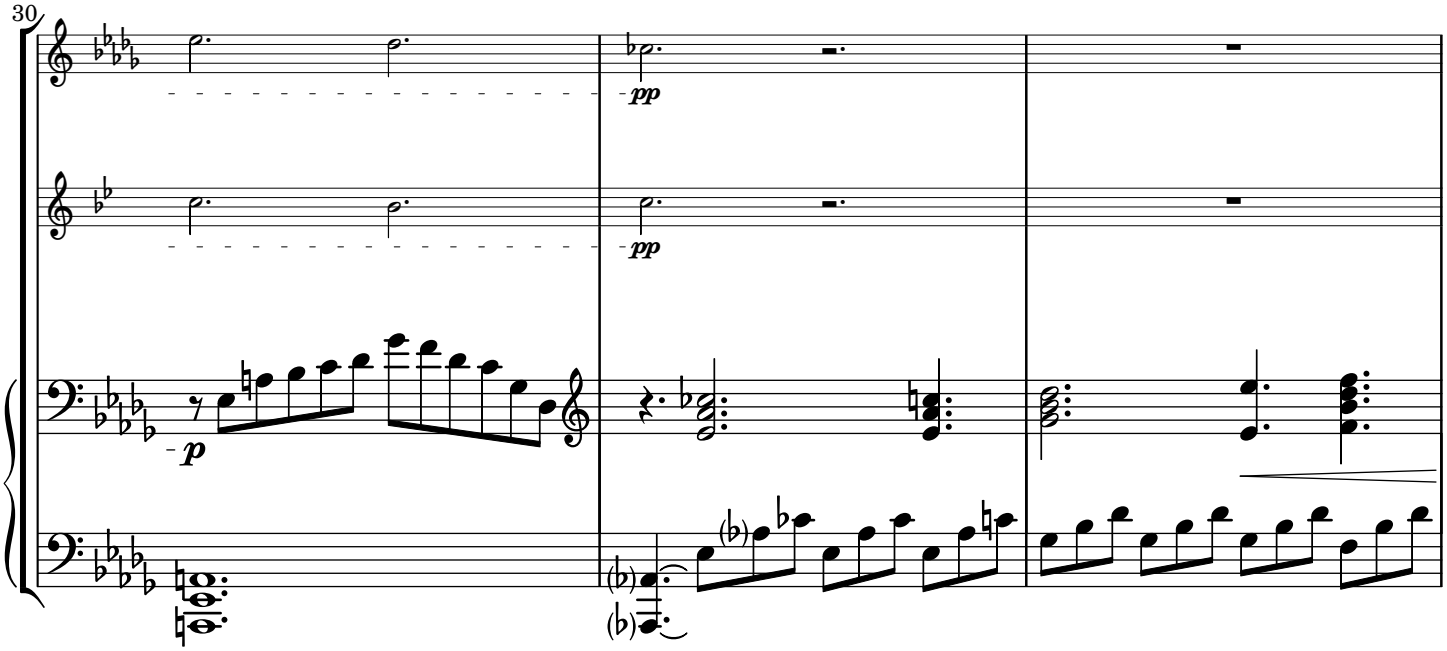
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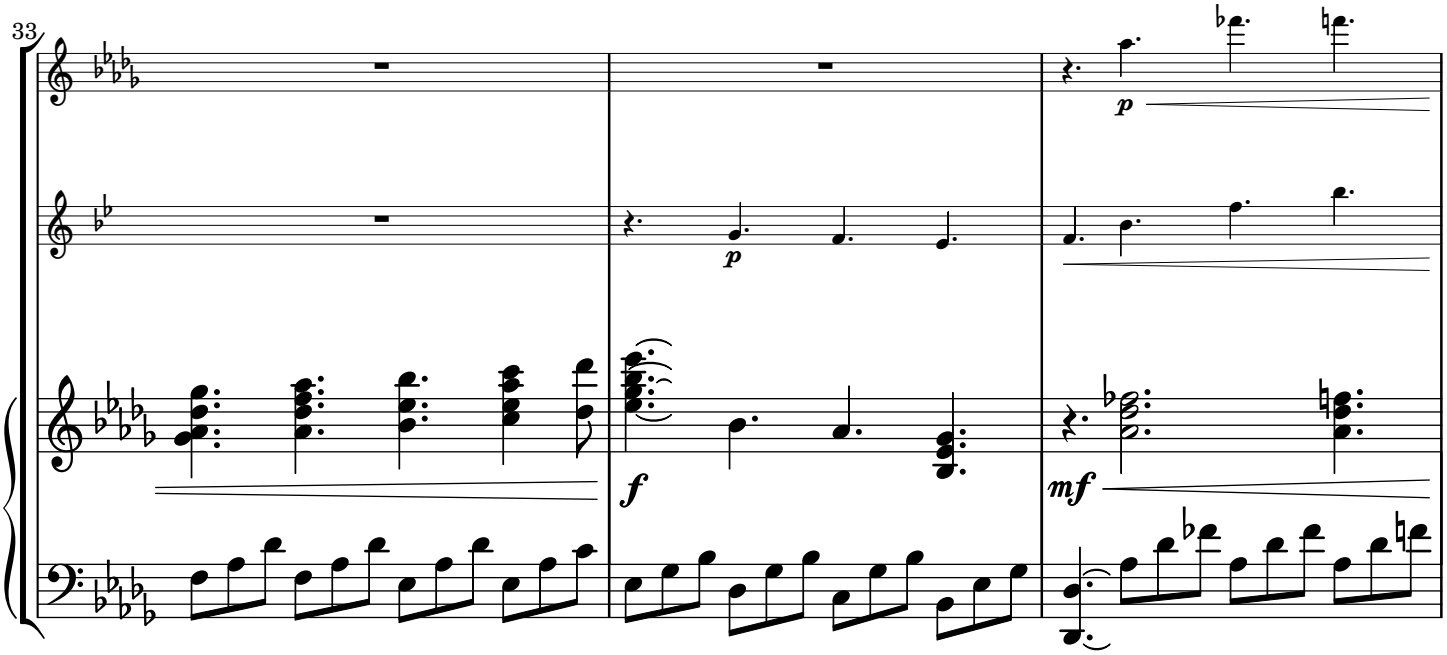
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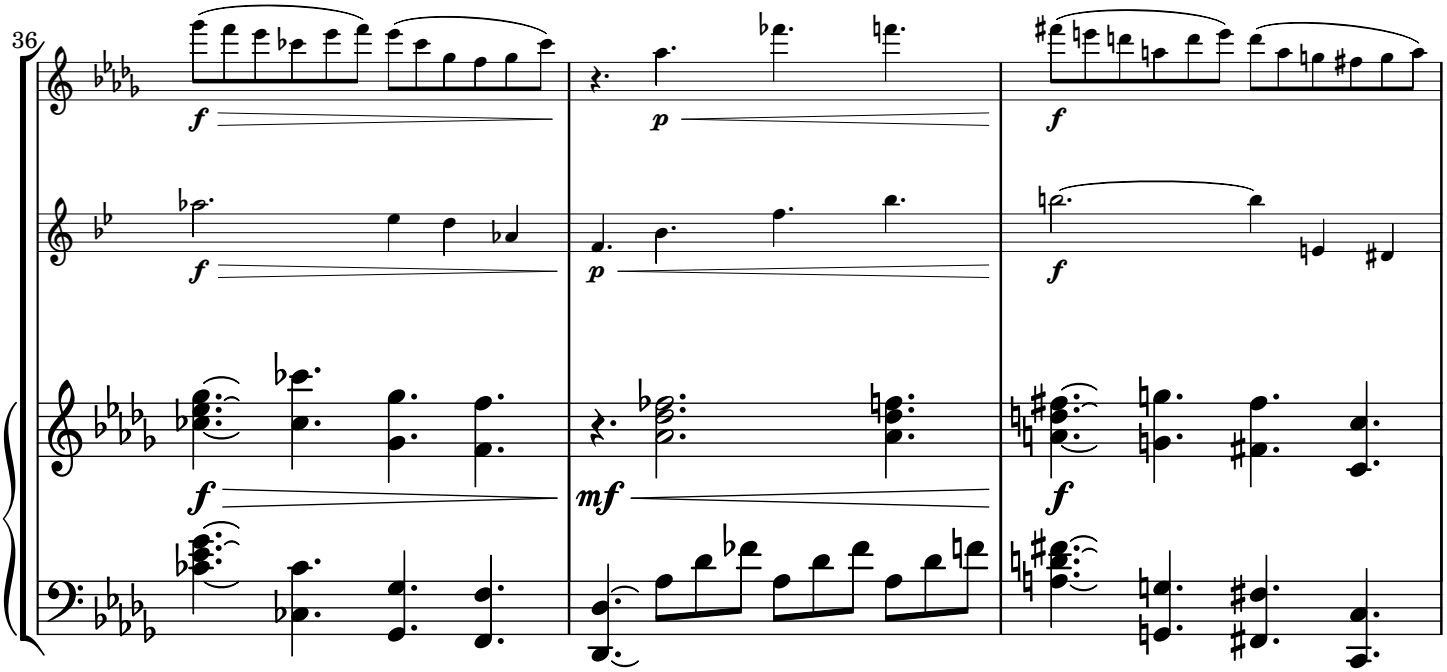
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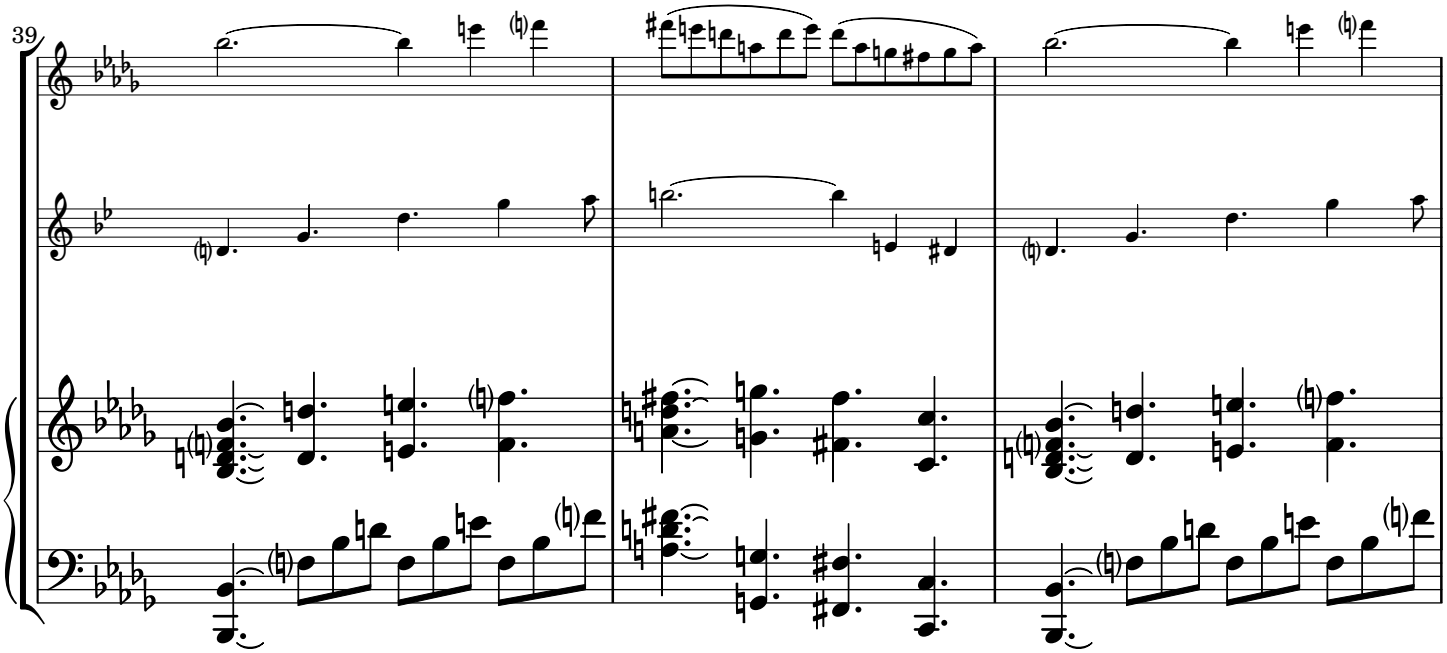
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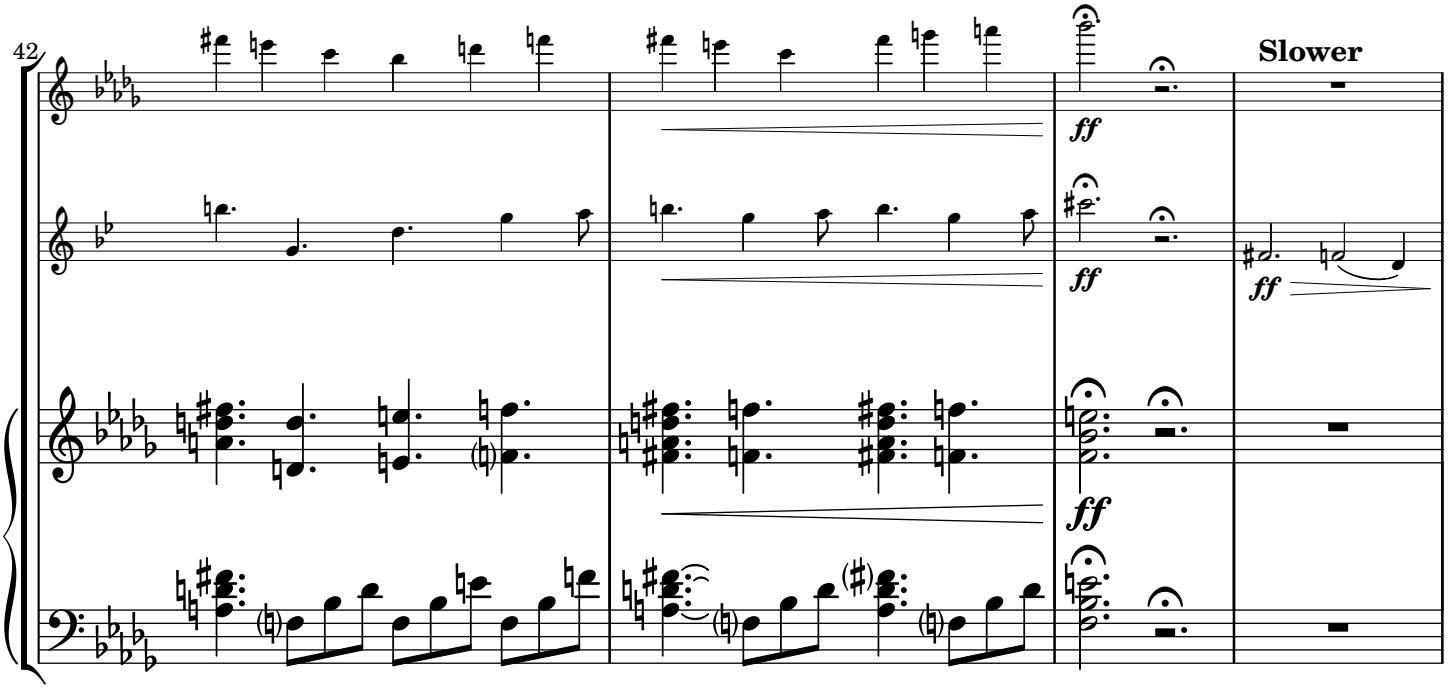
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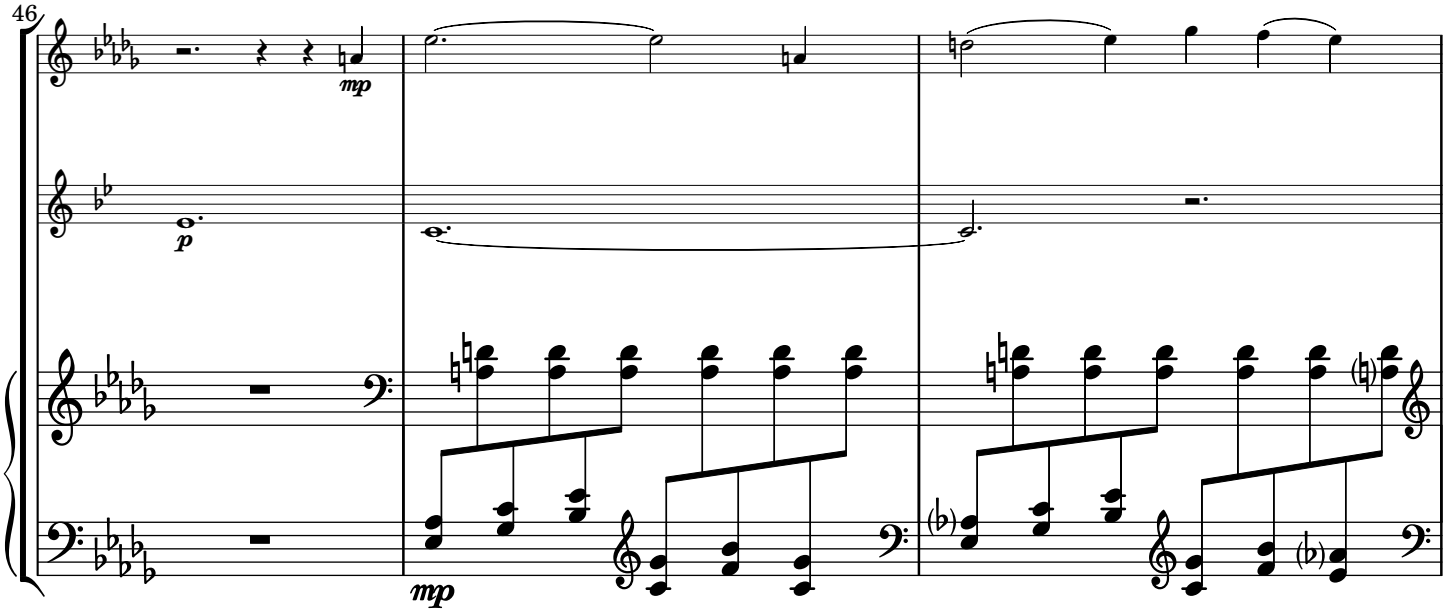
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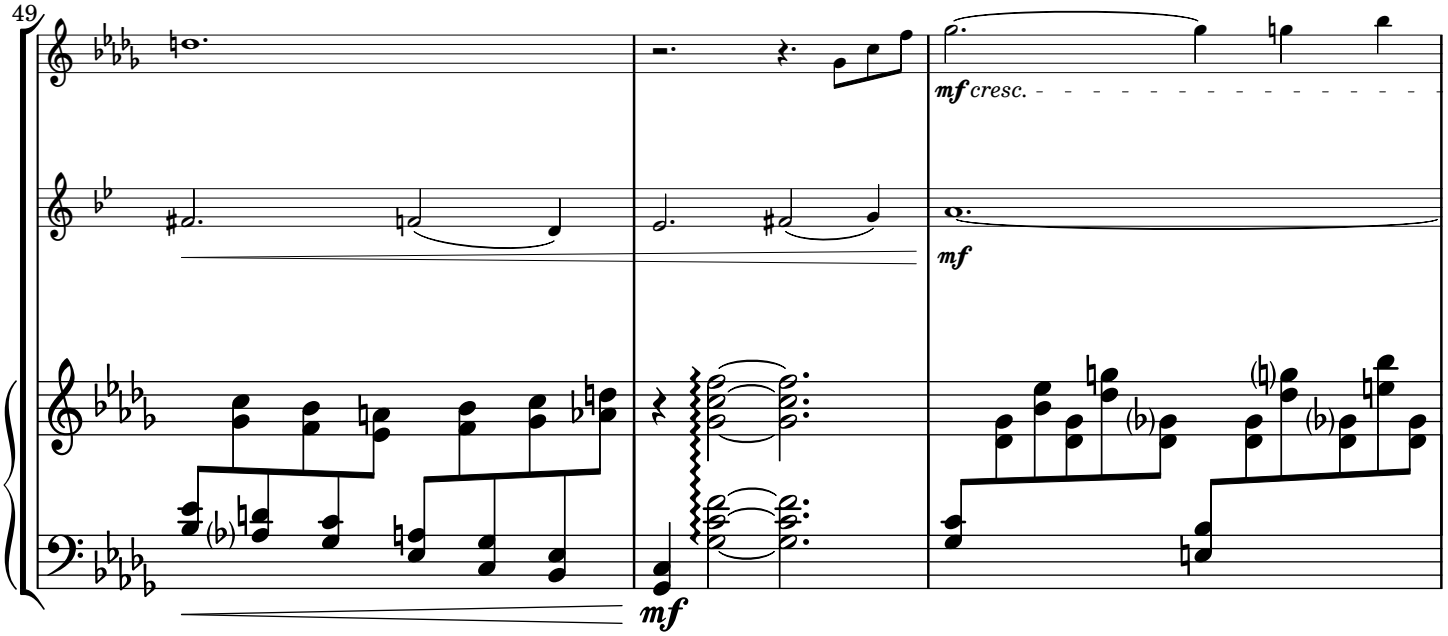
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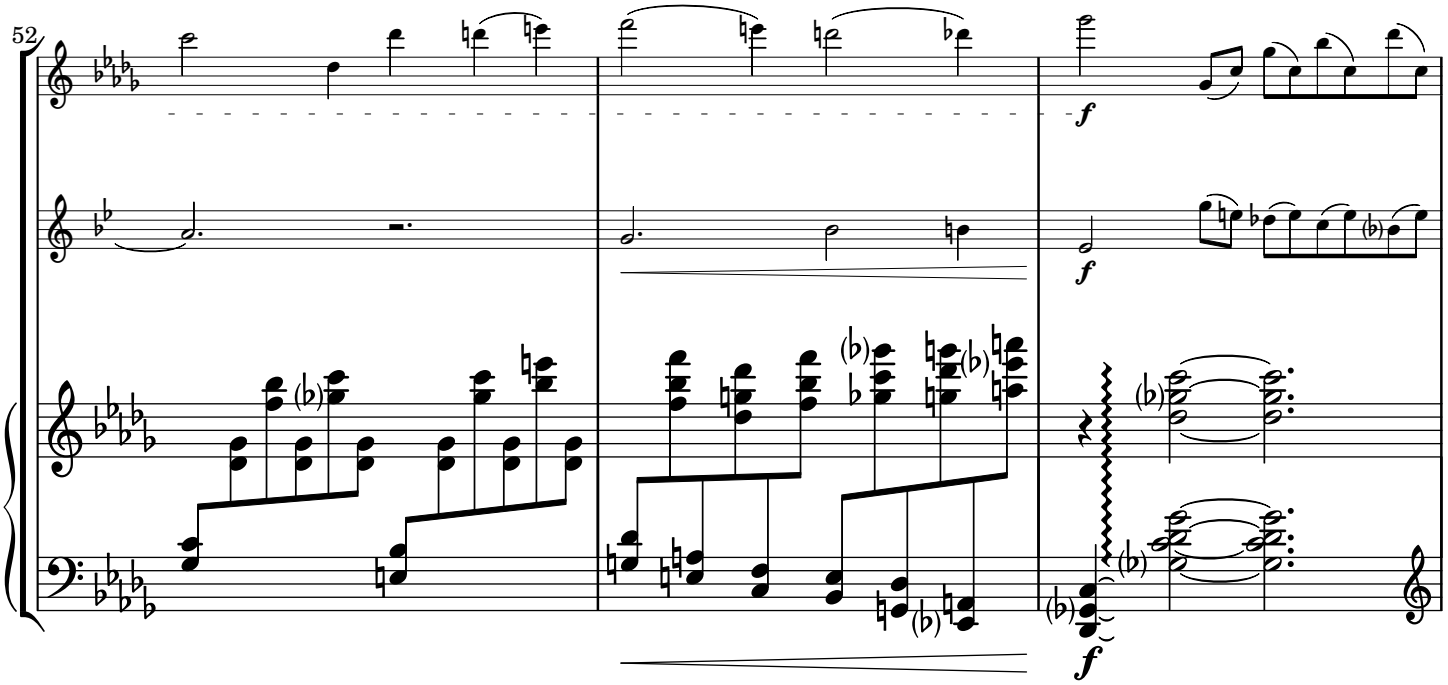
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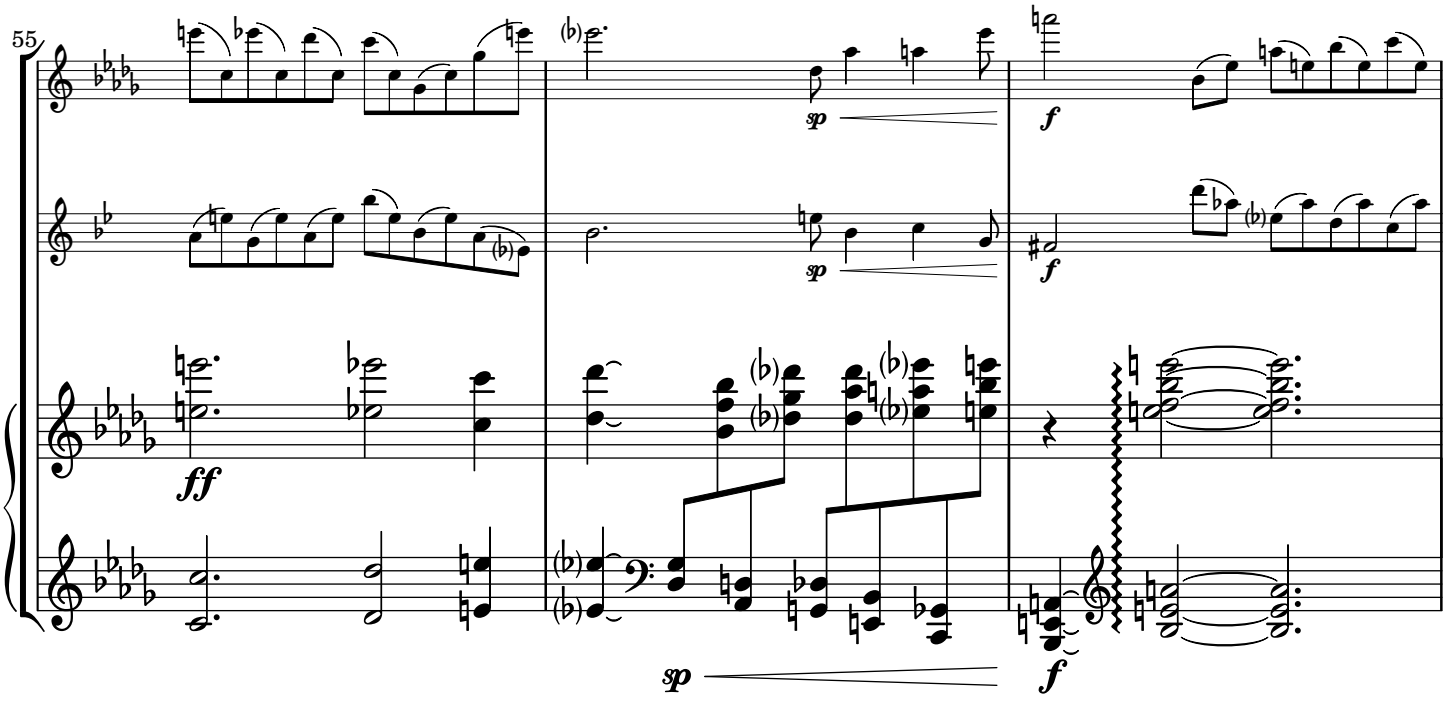
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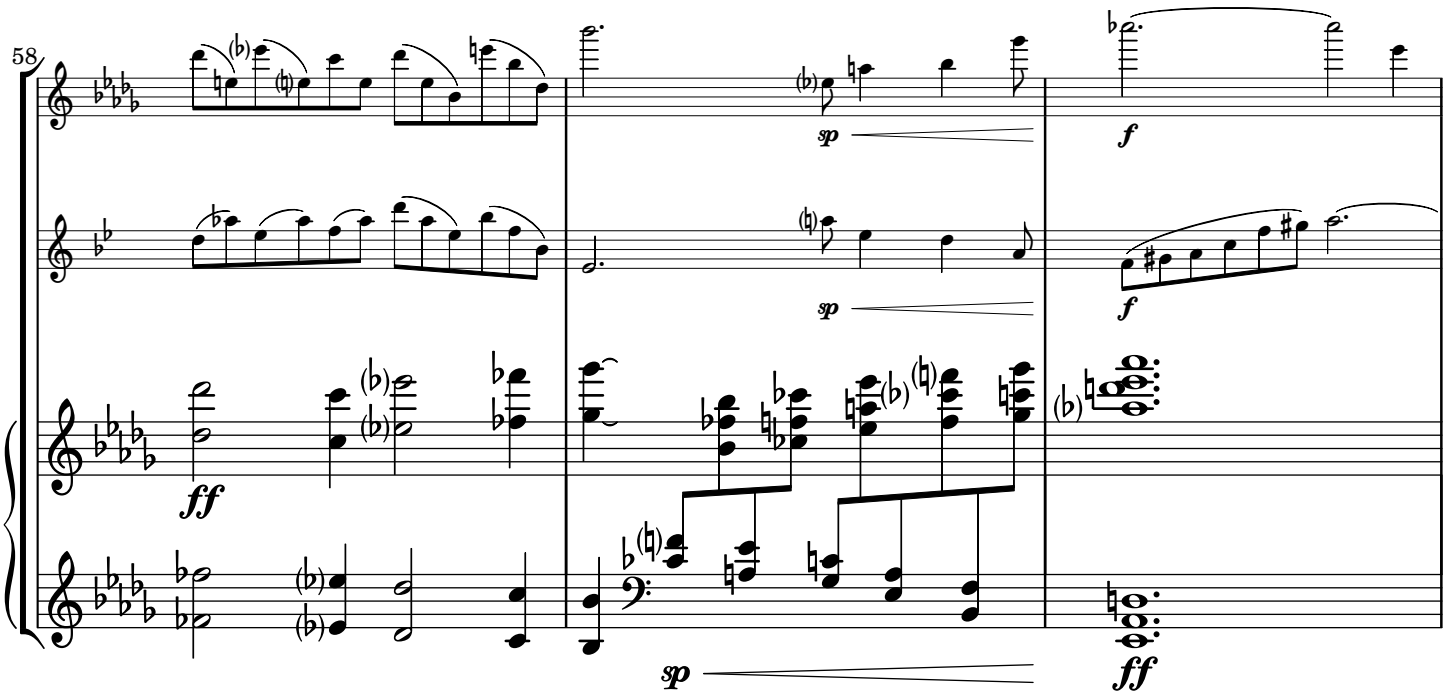
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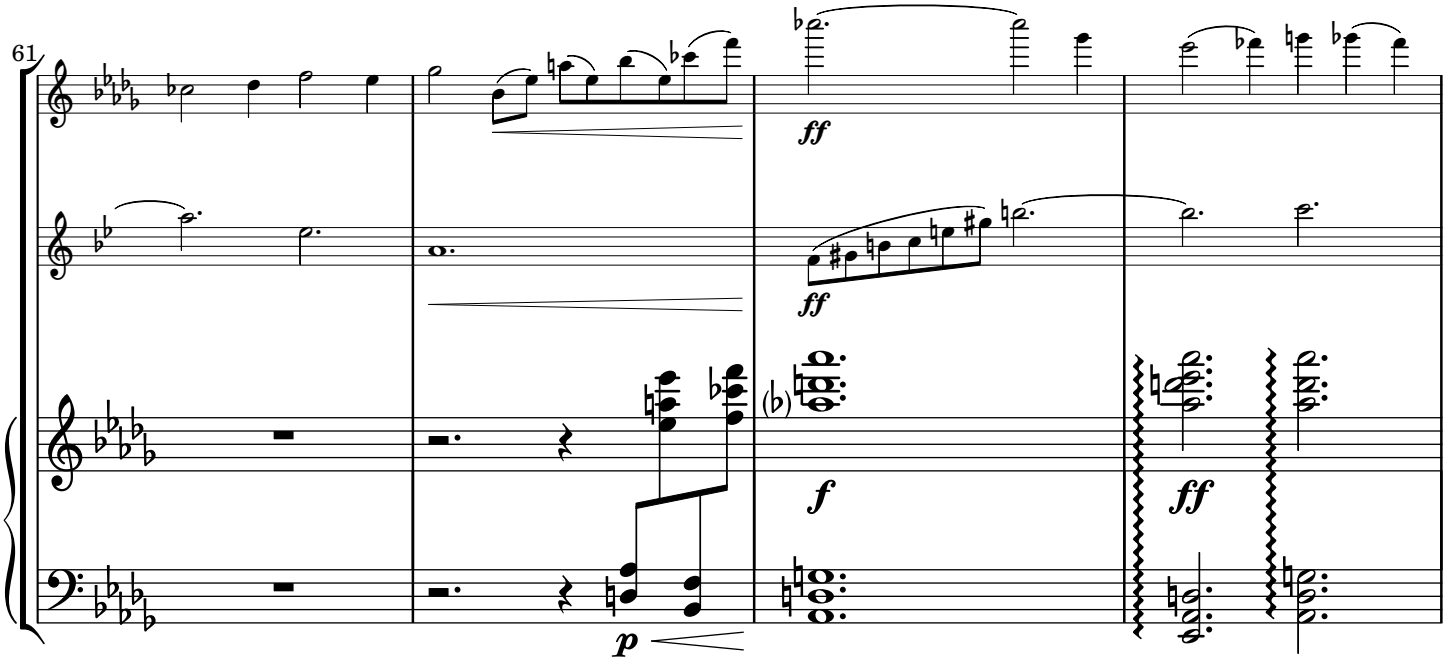
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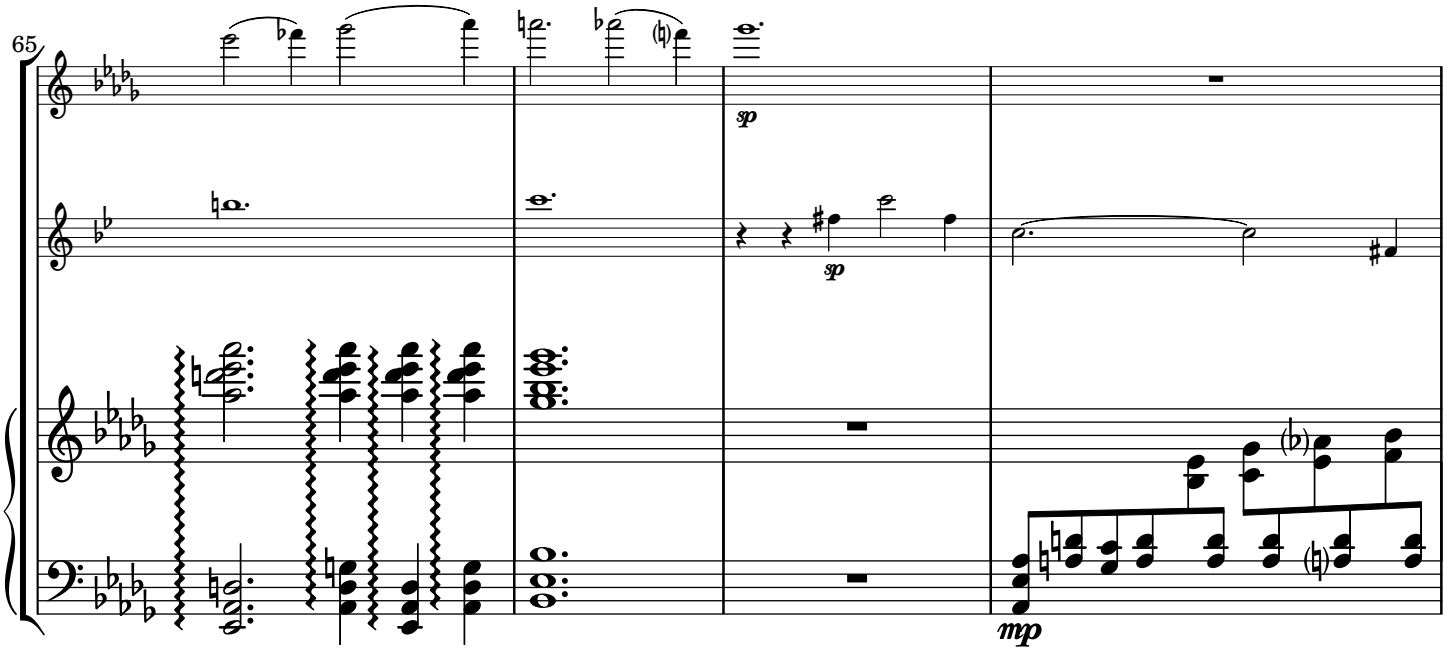
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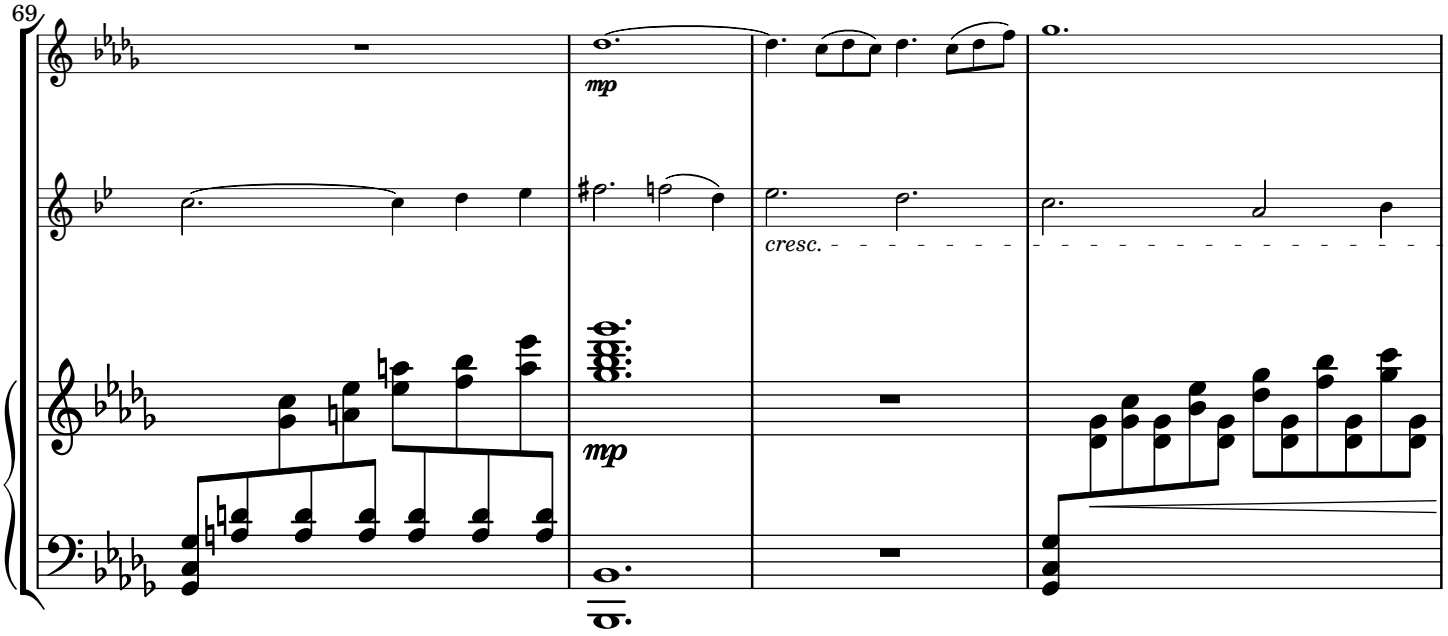
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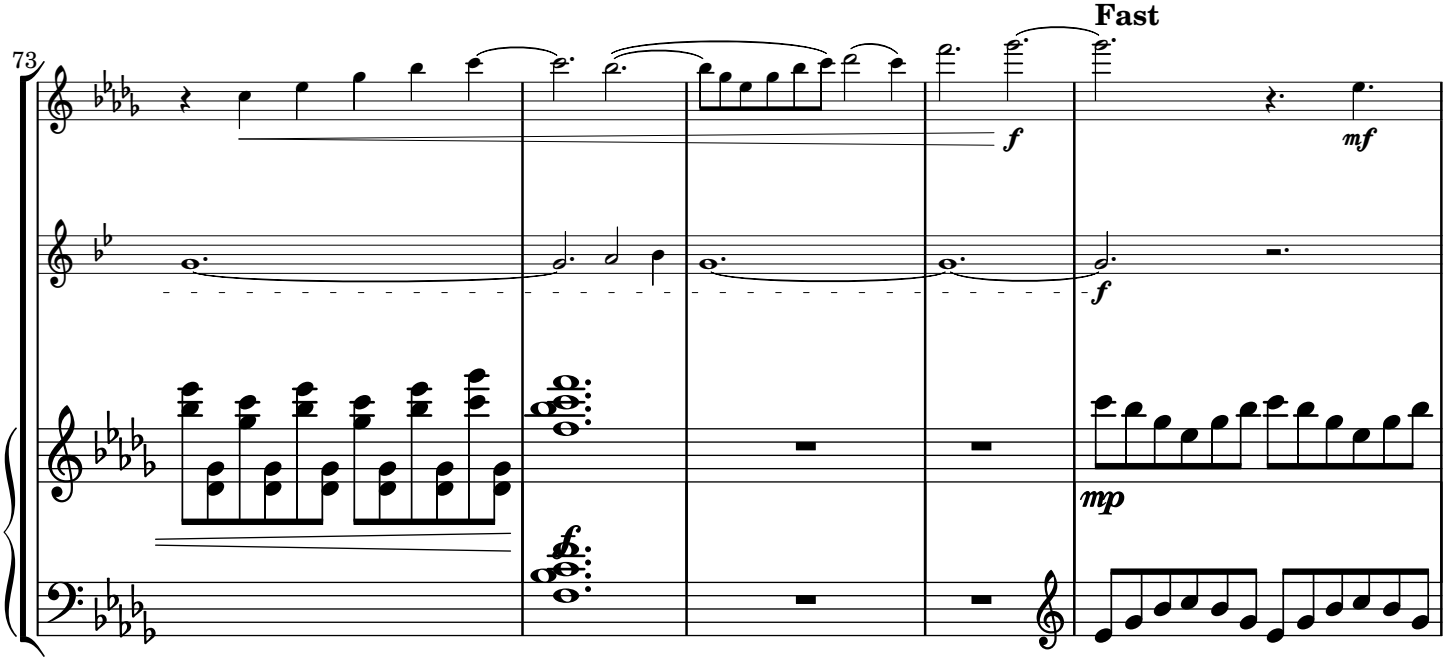
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78

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81

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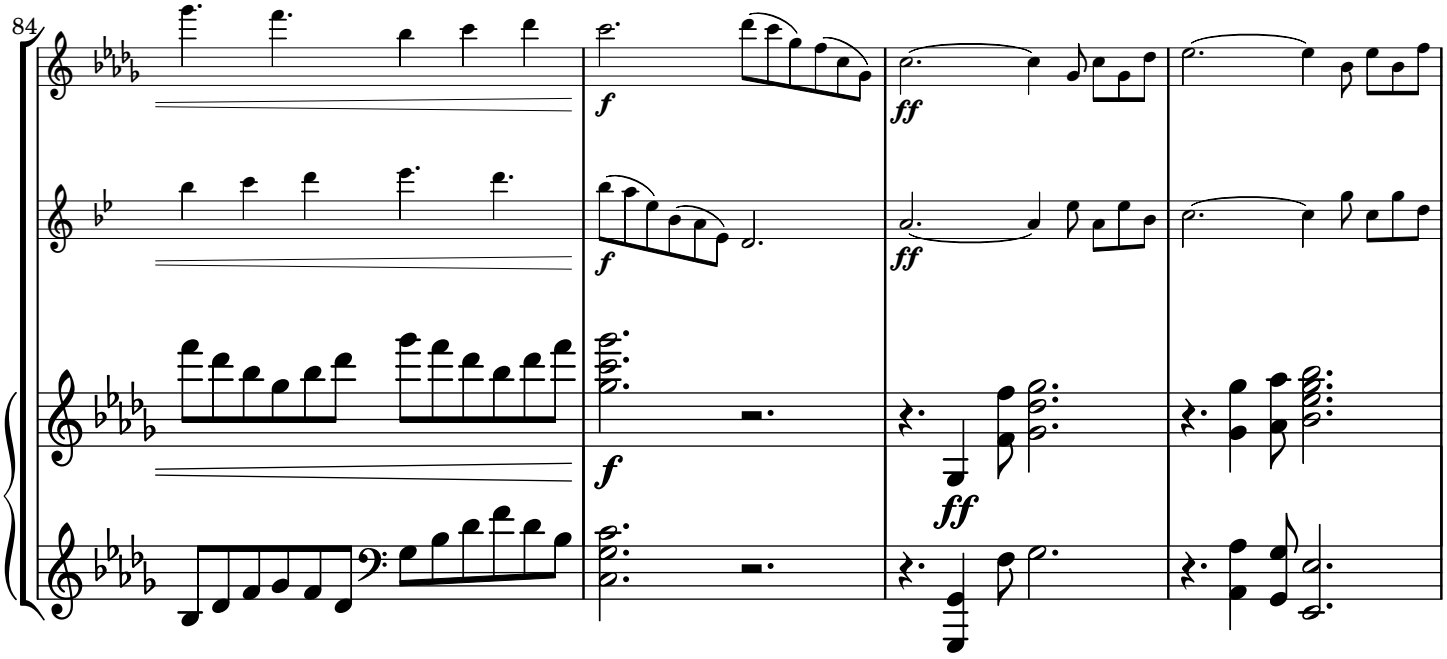
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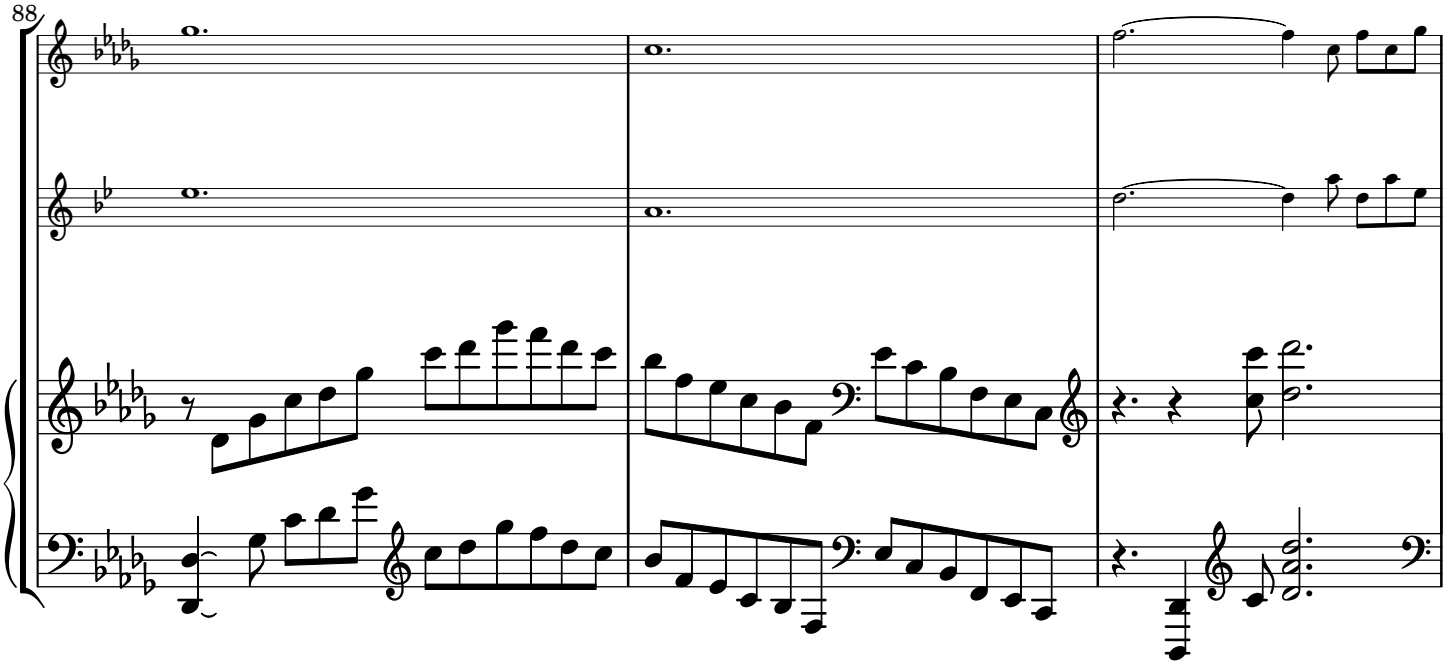
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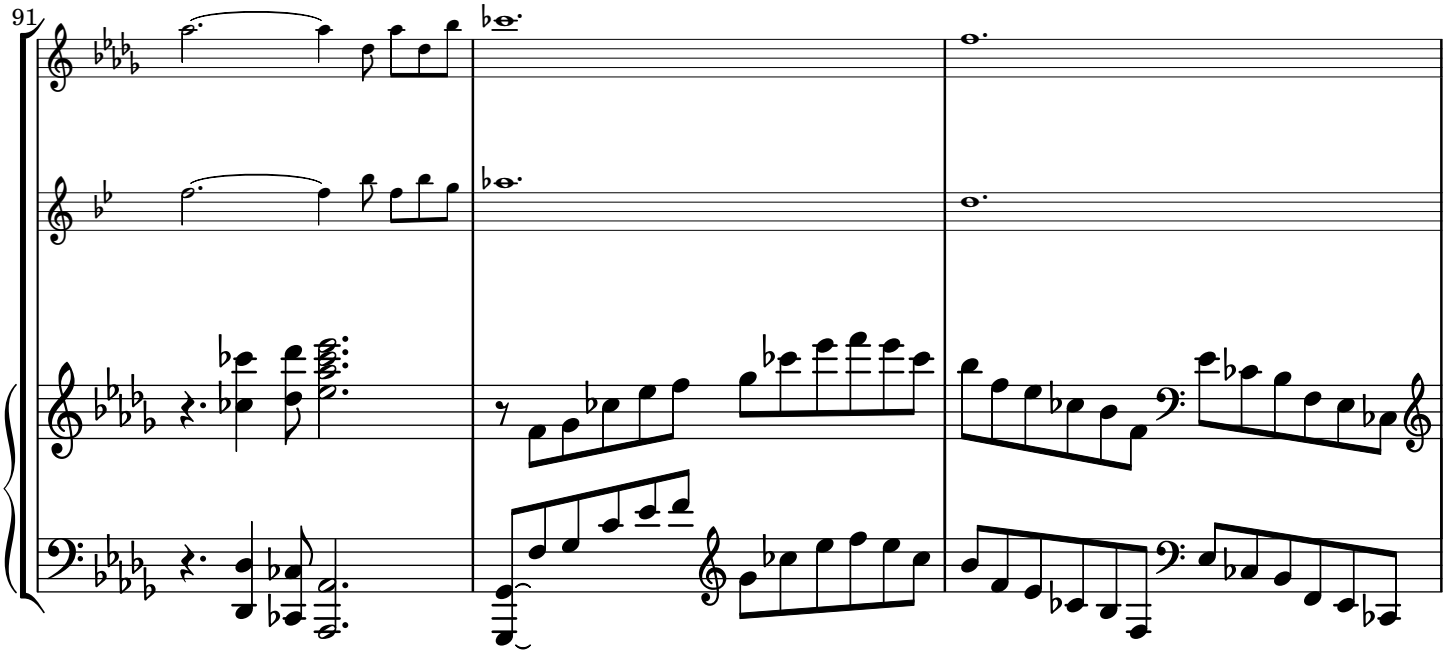

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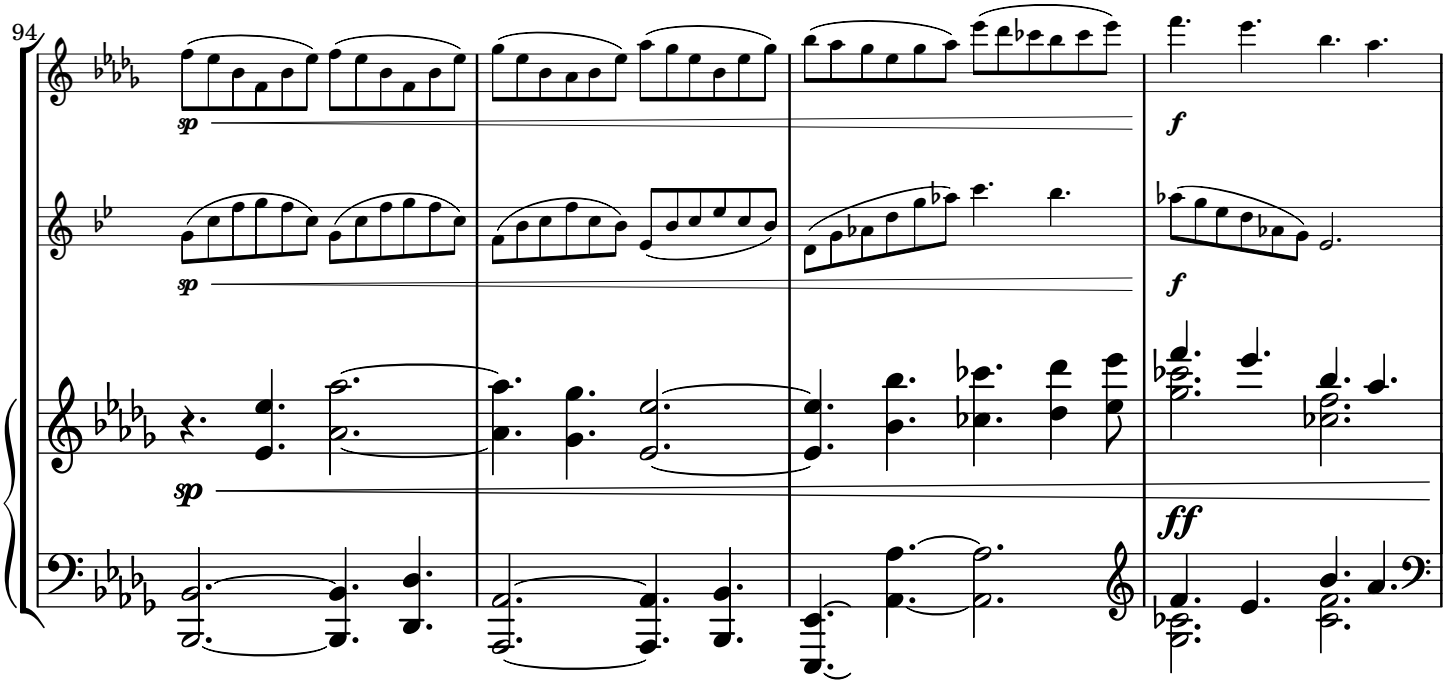

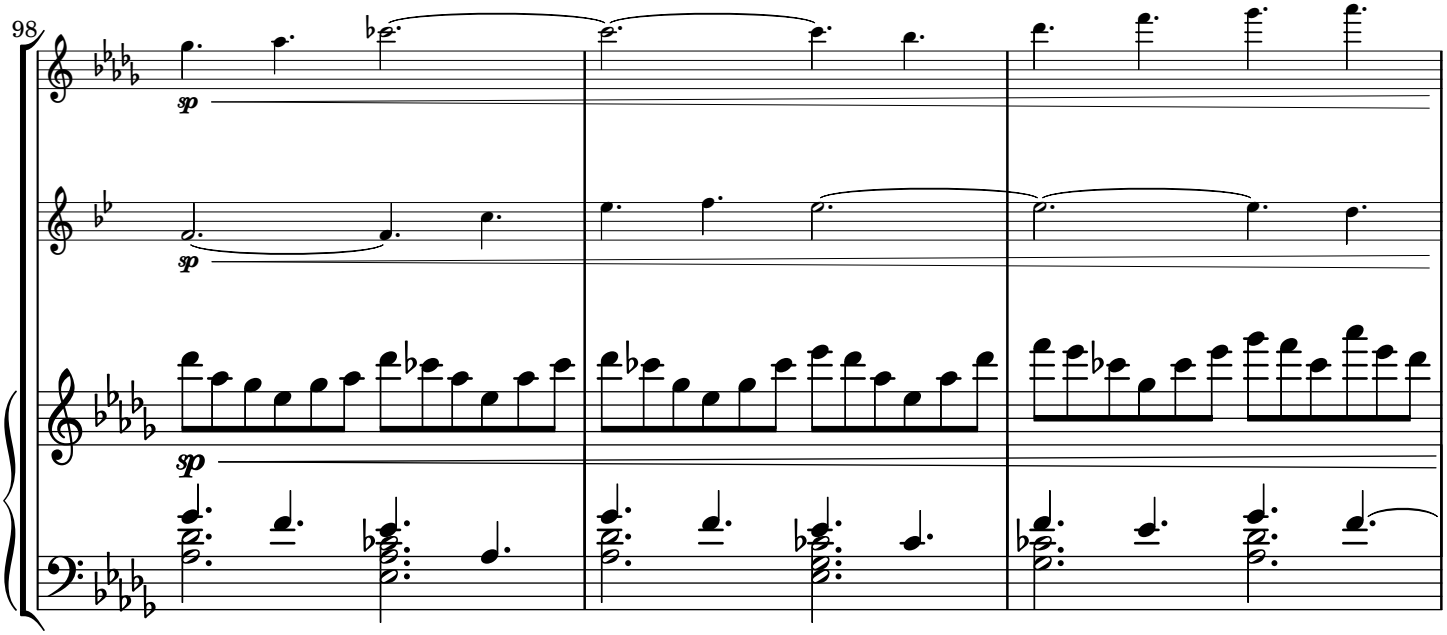
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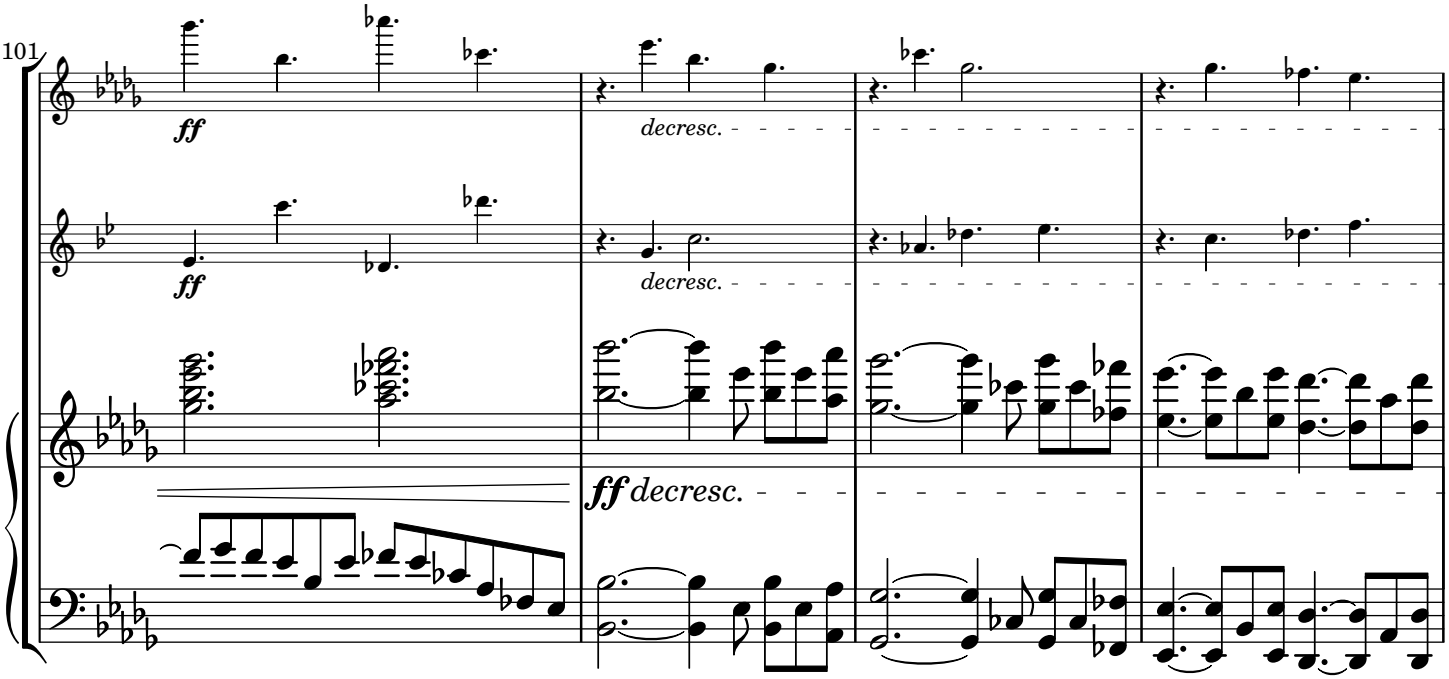
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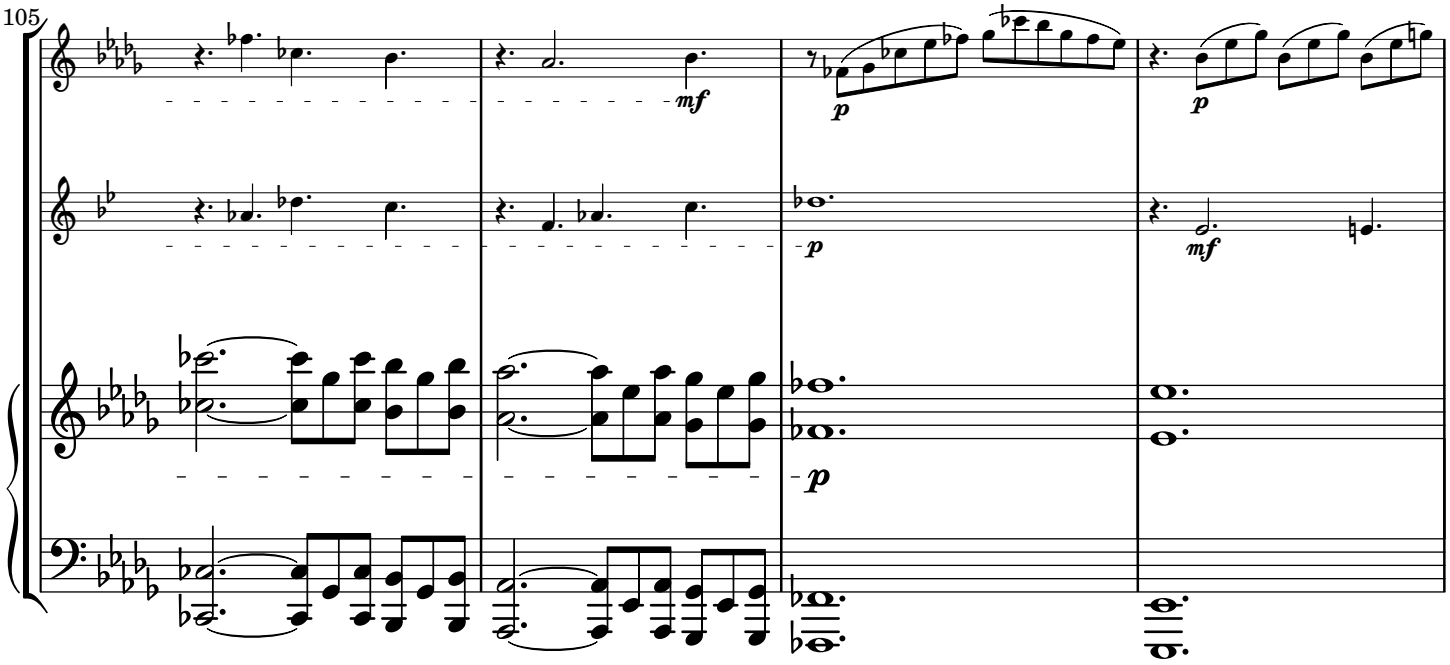
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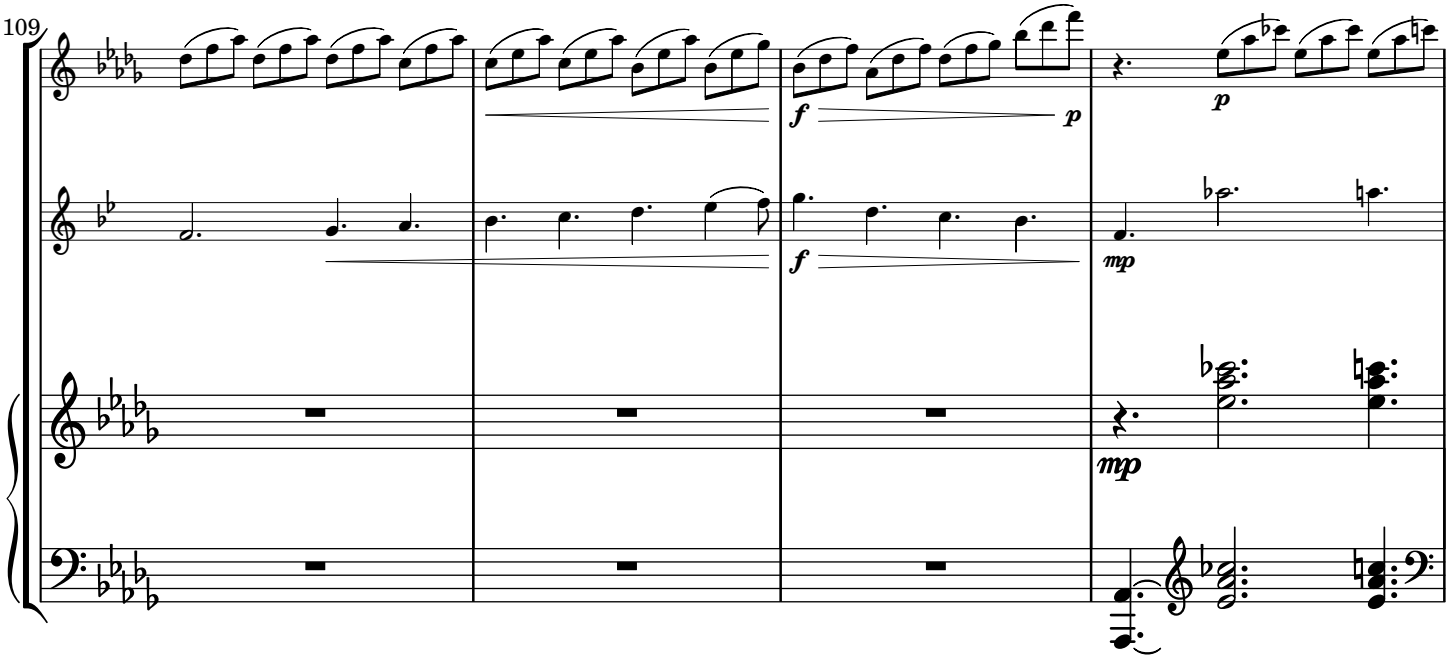
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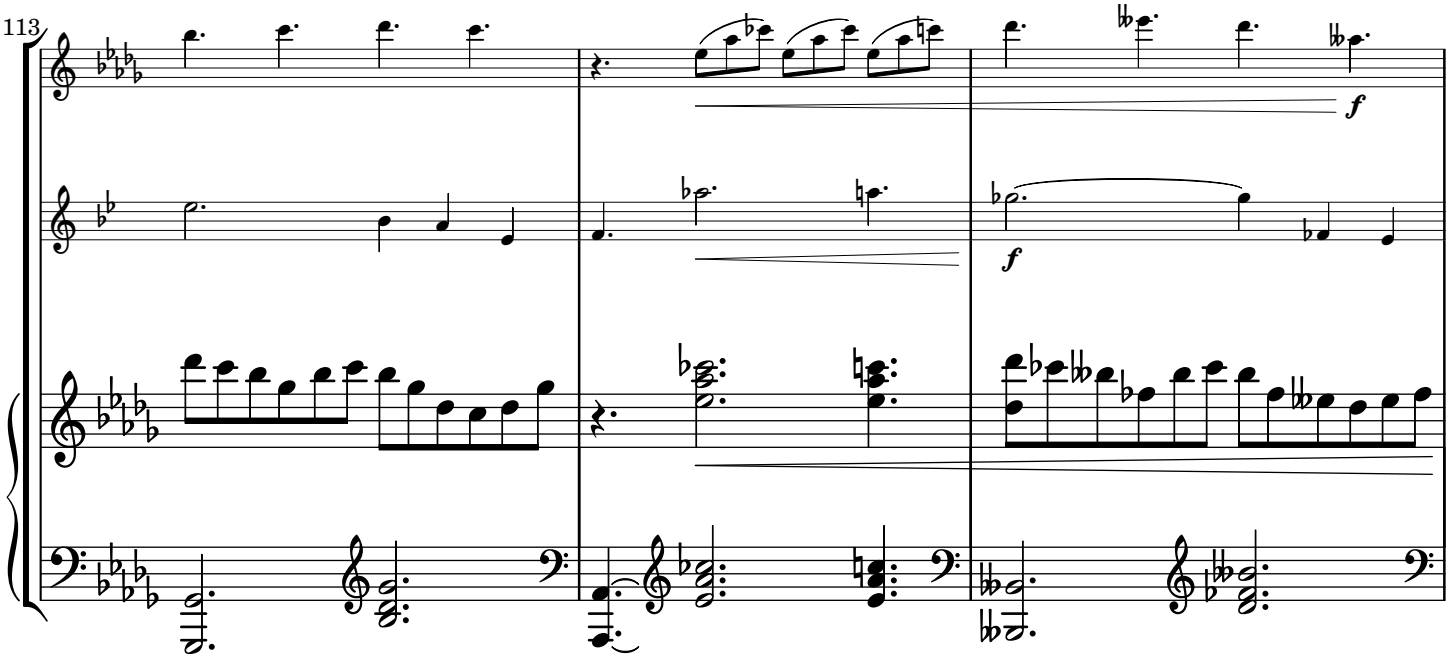
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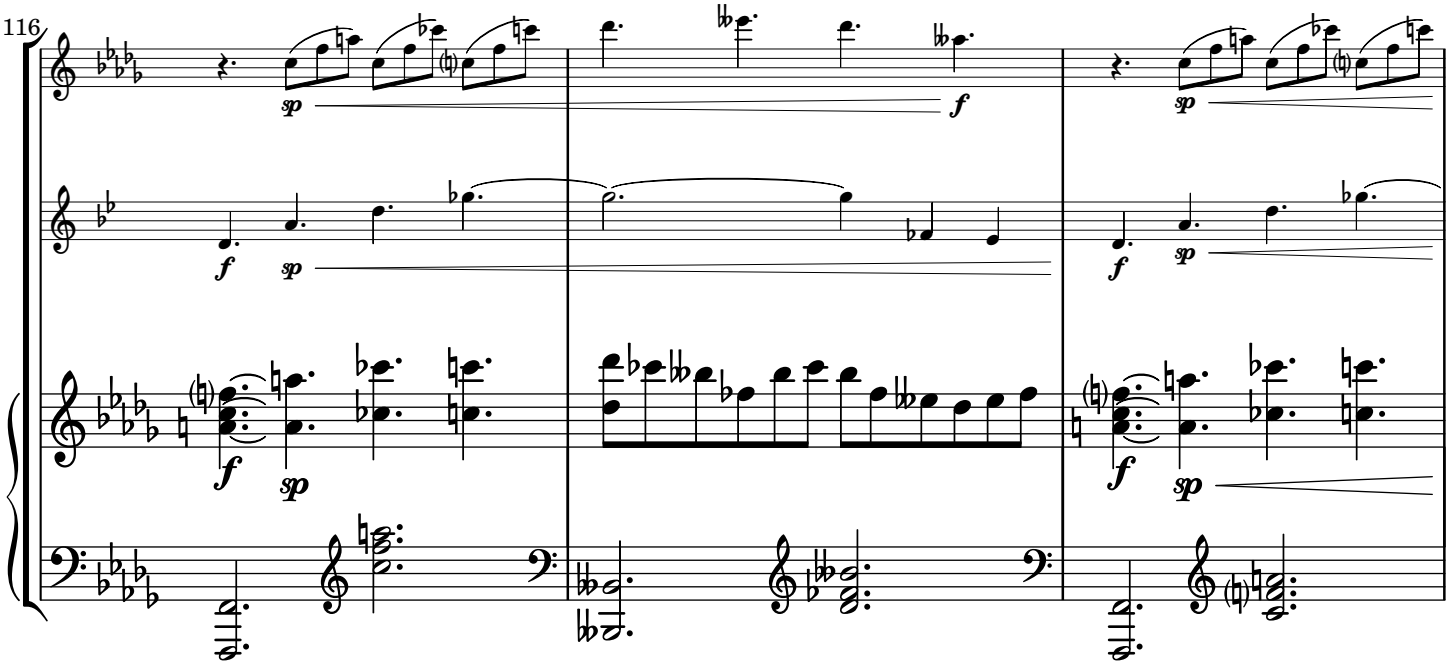
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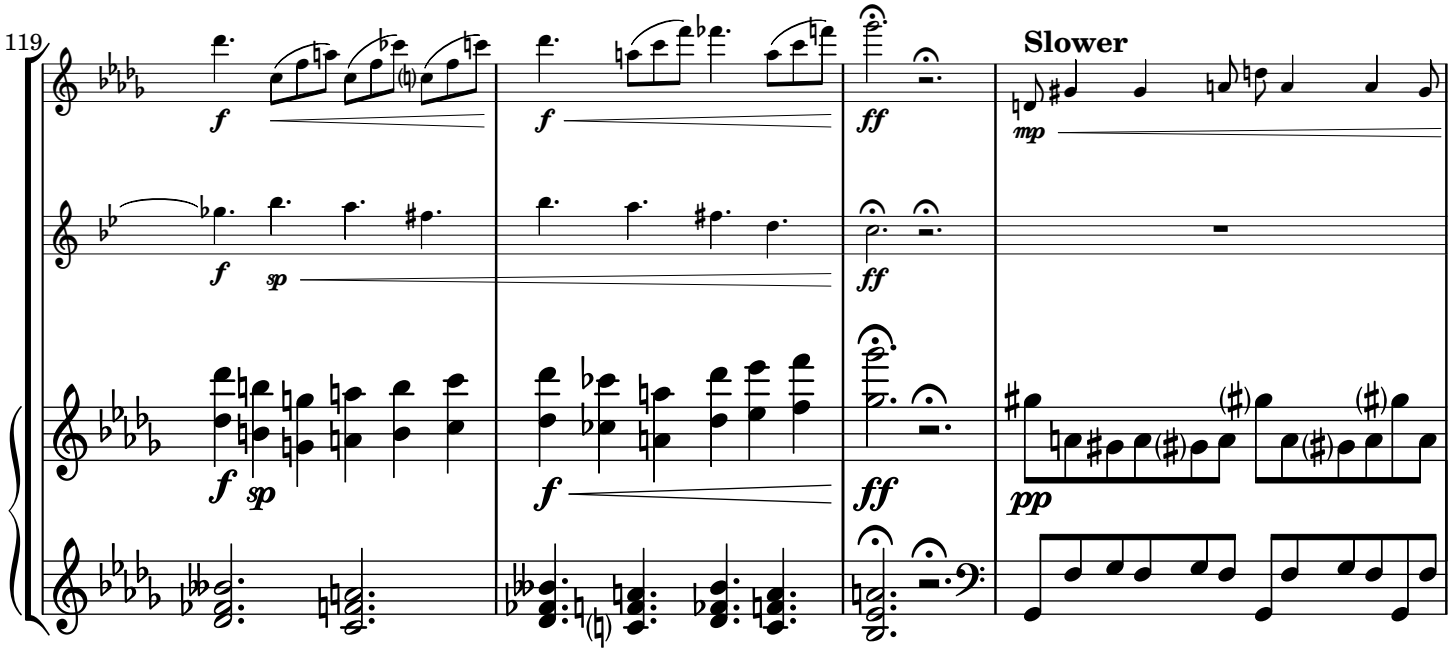
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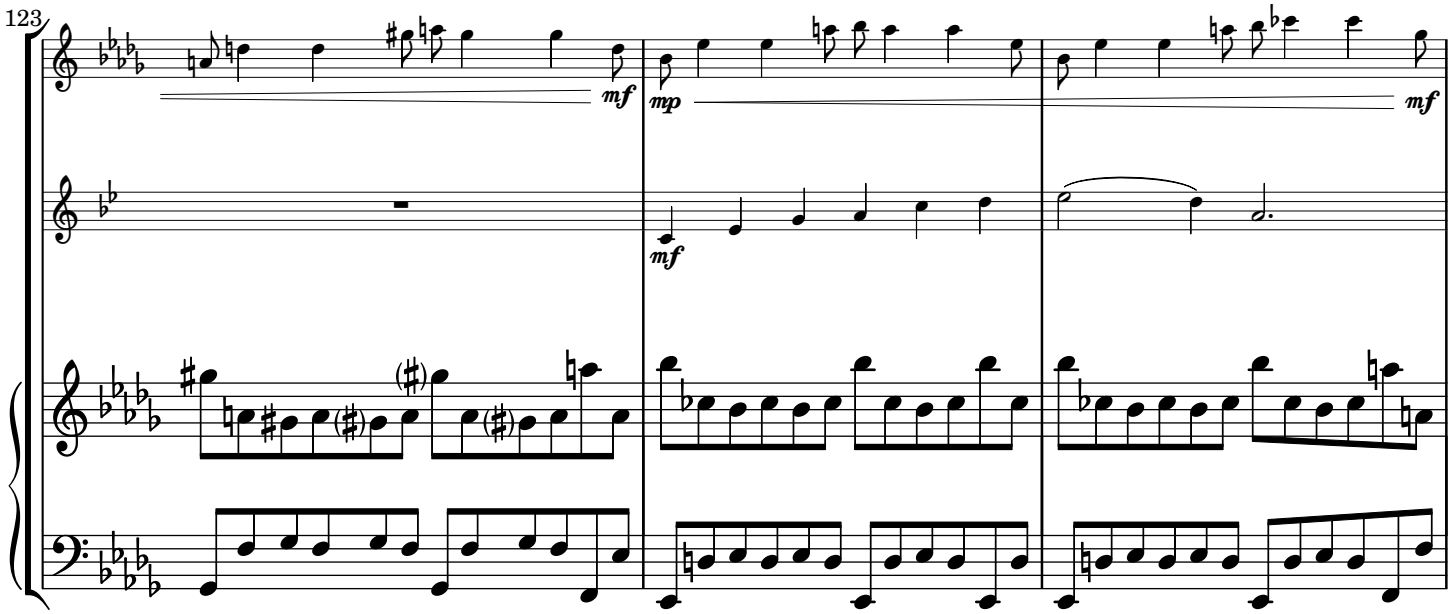
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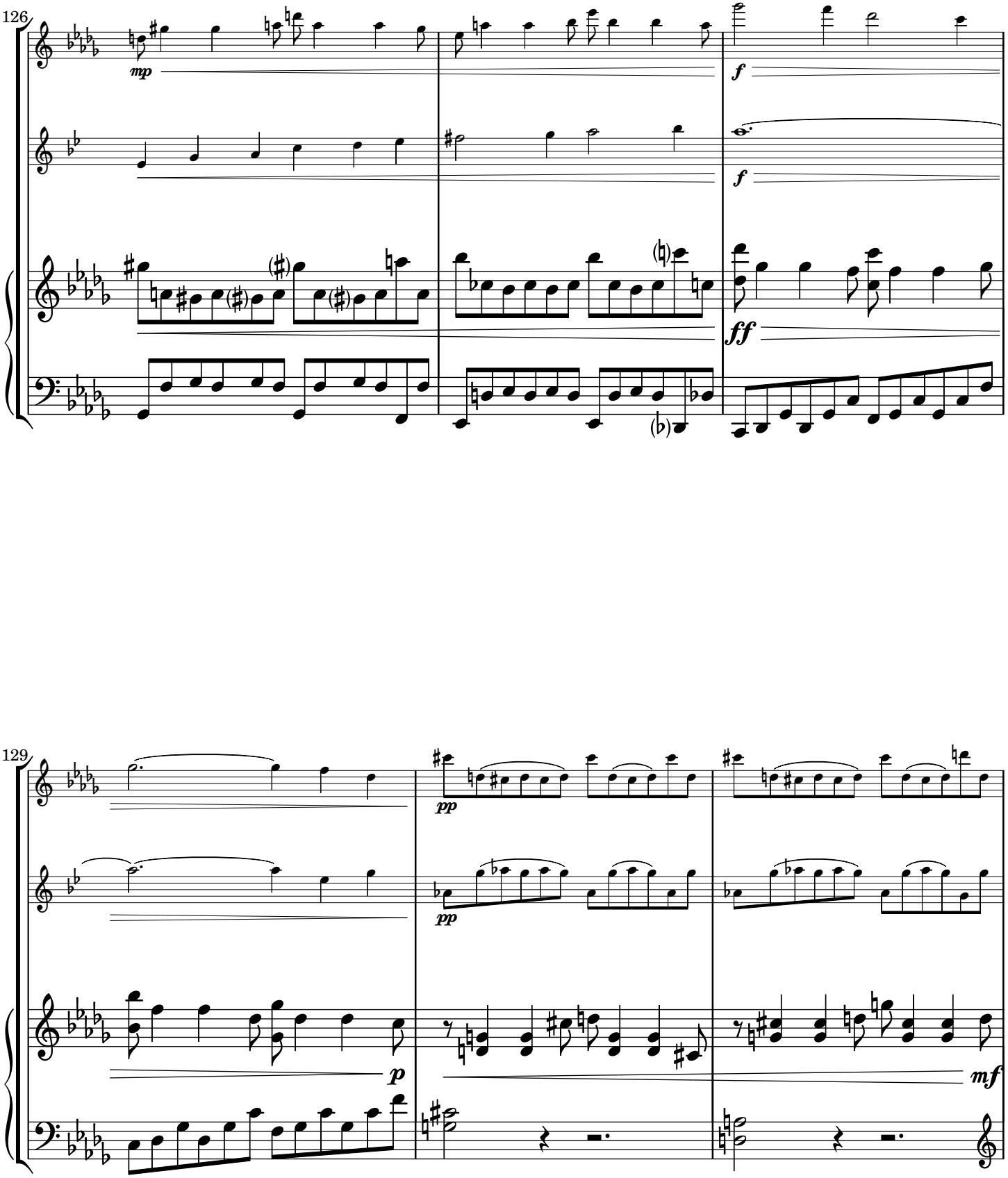
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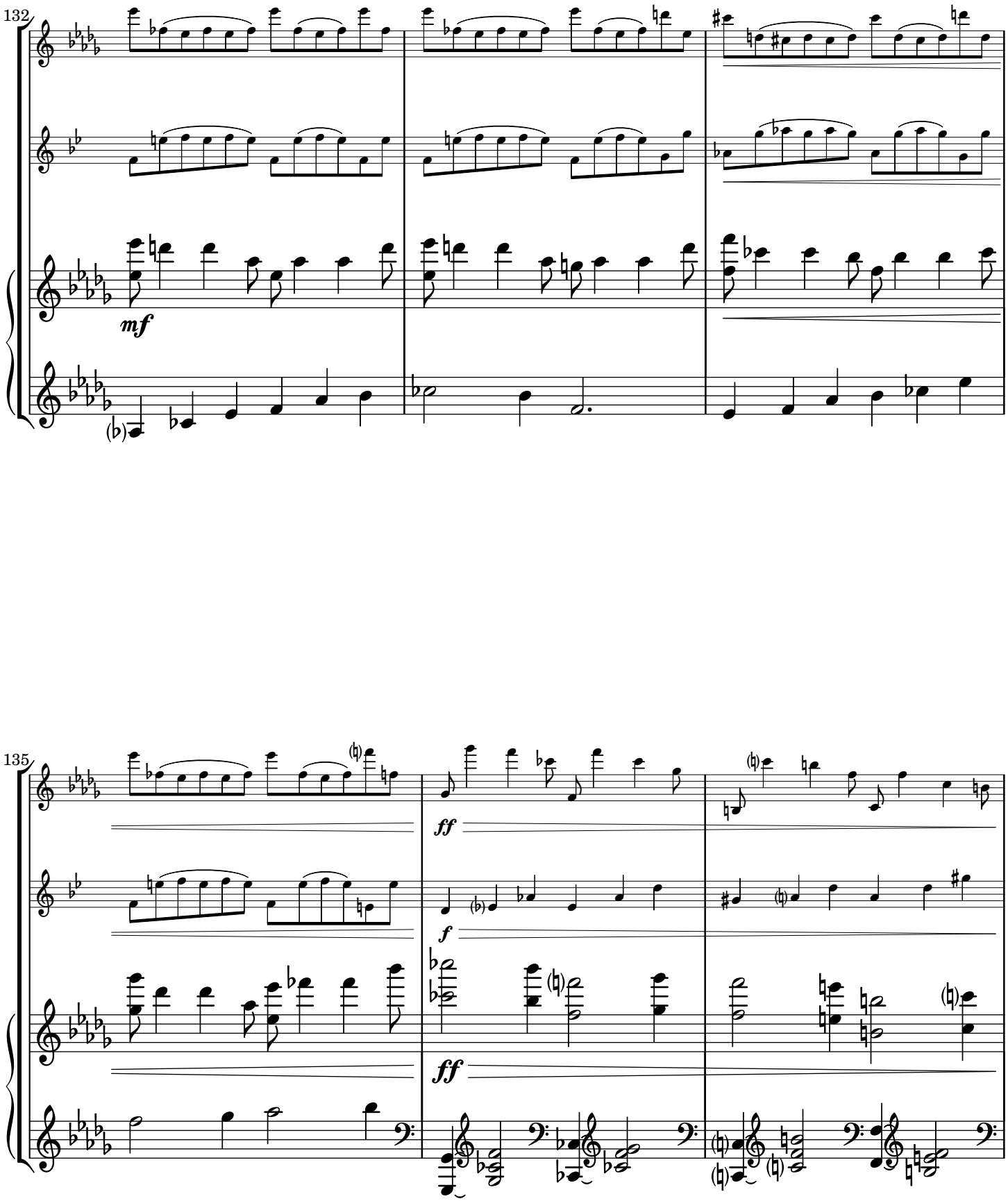
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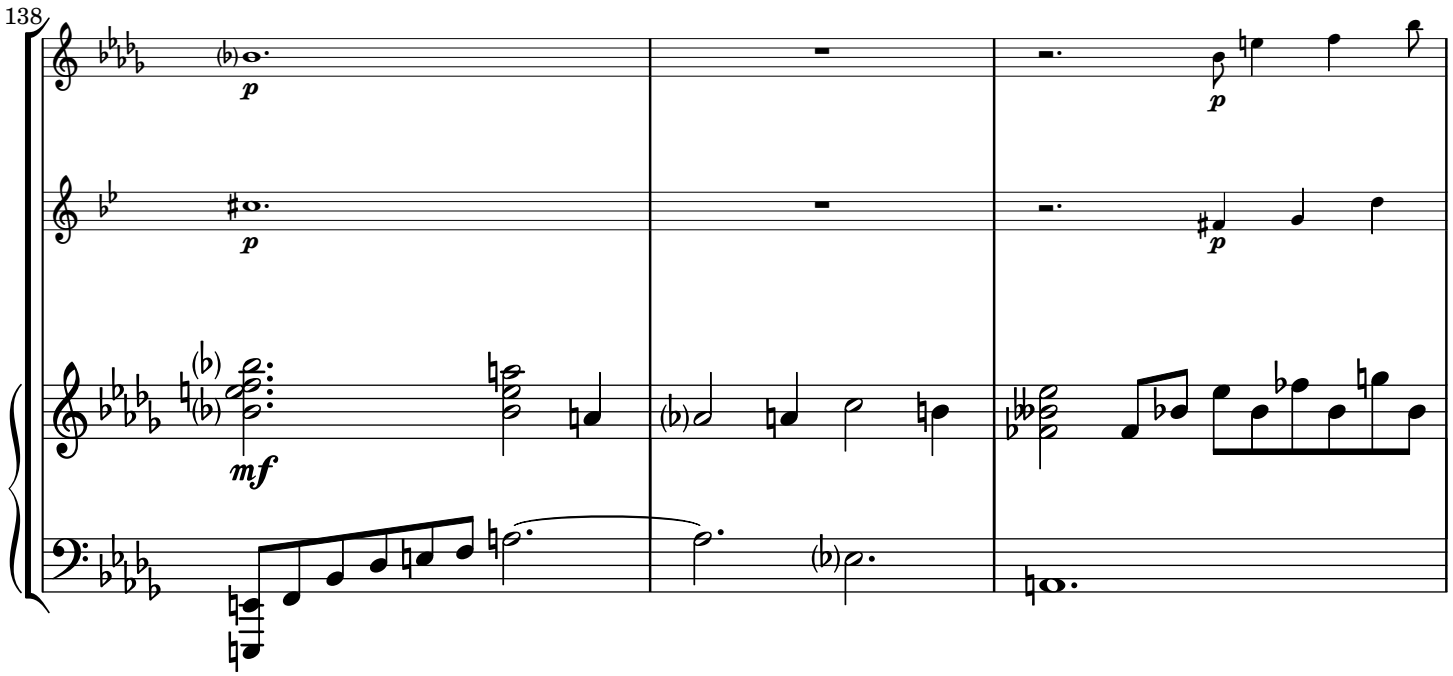
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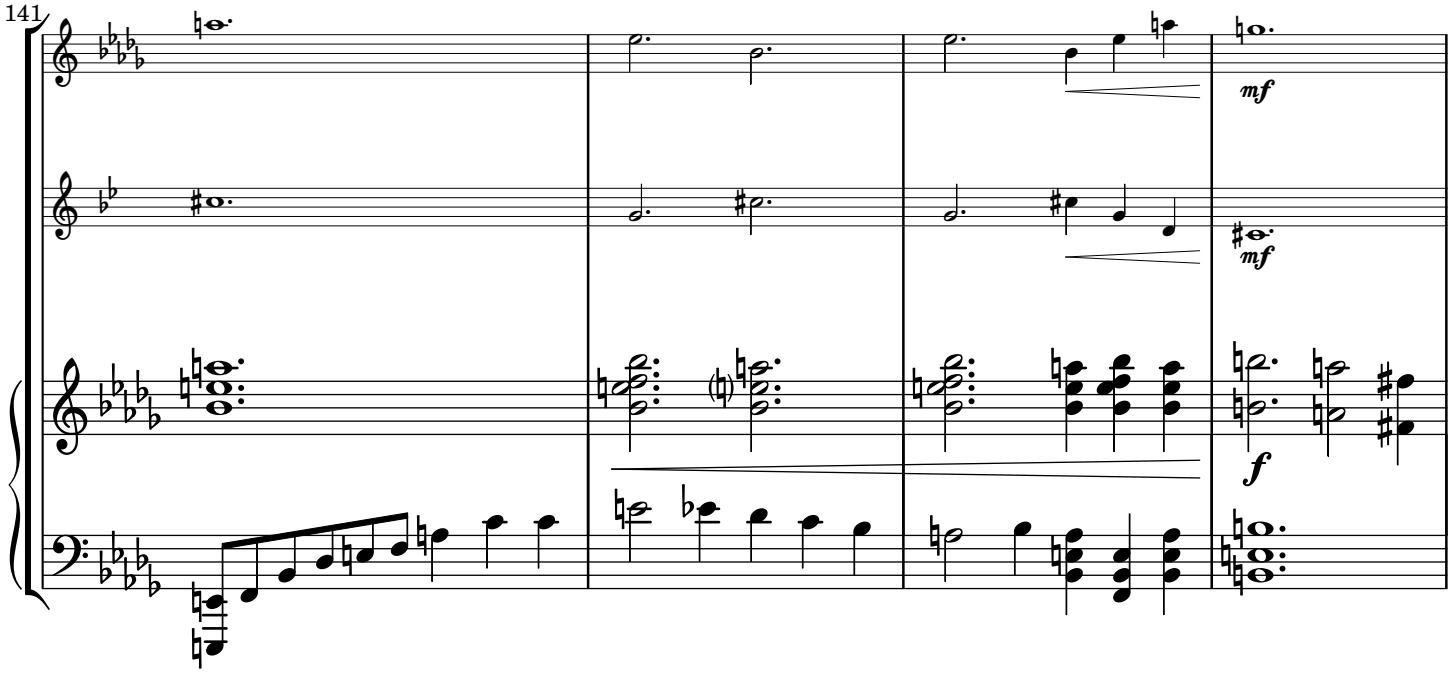
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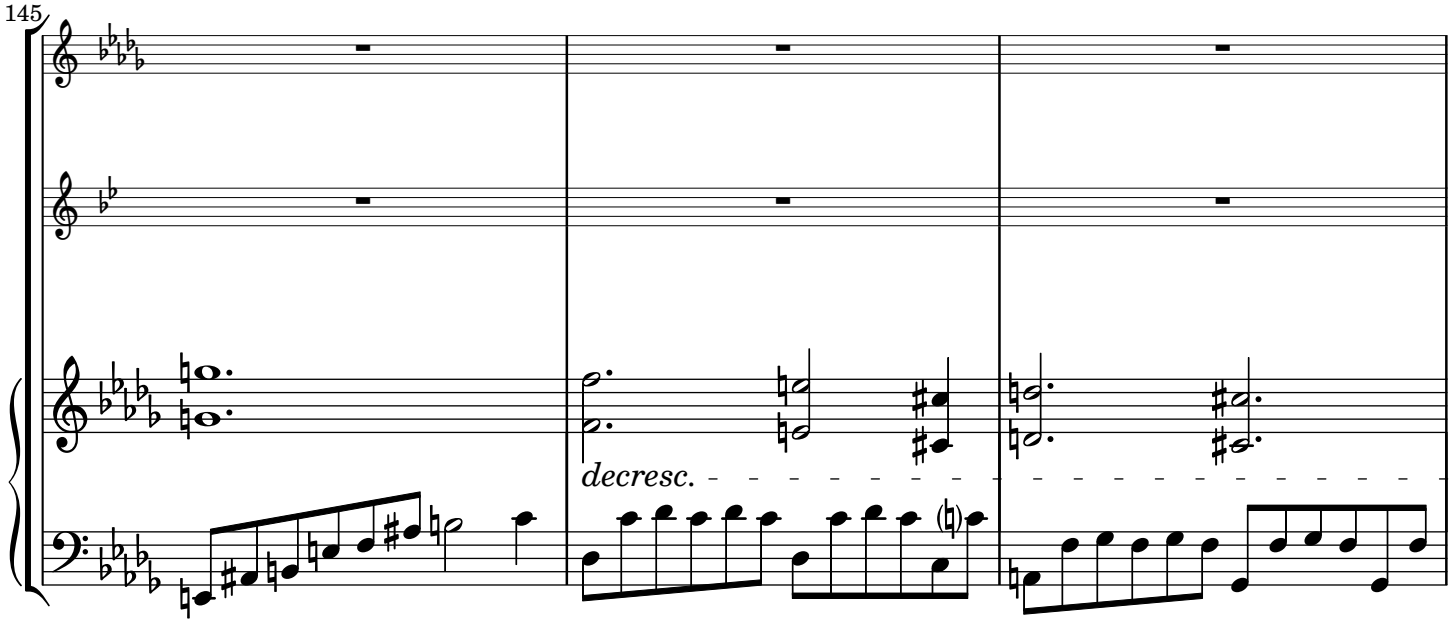

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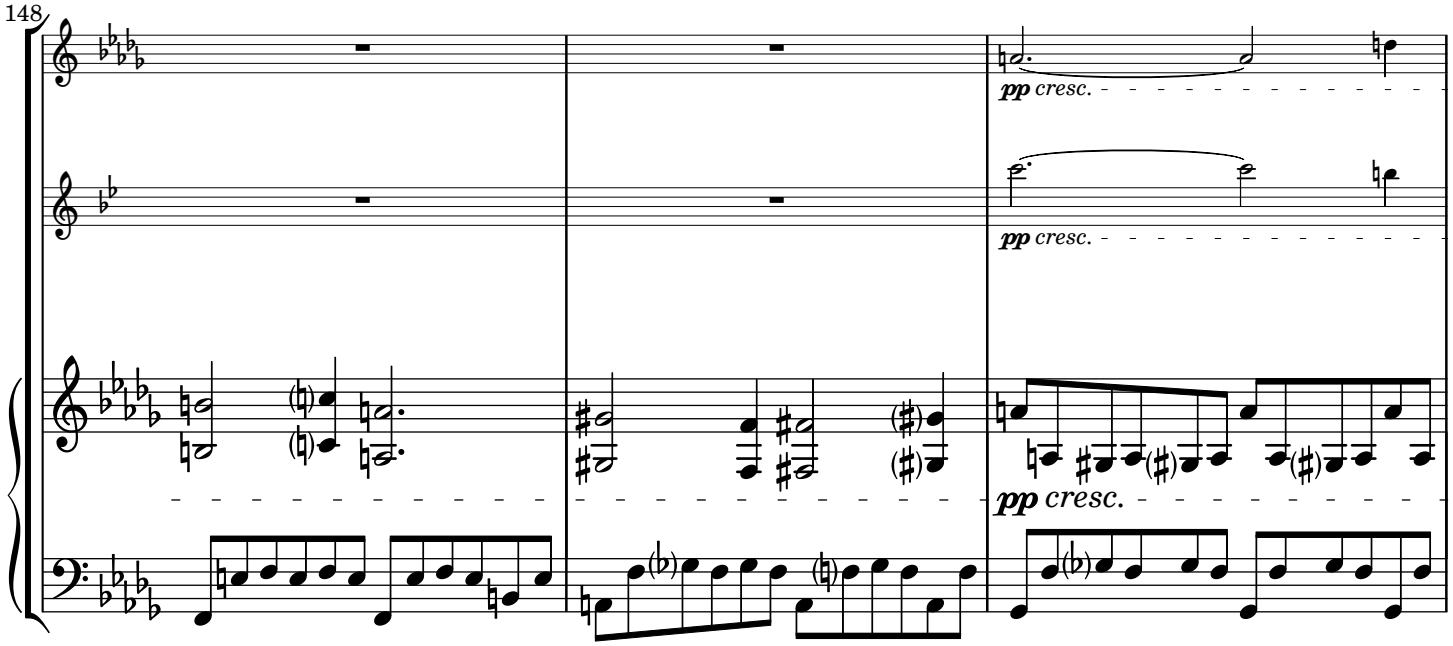

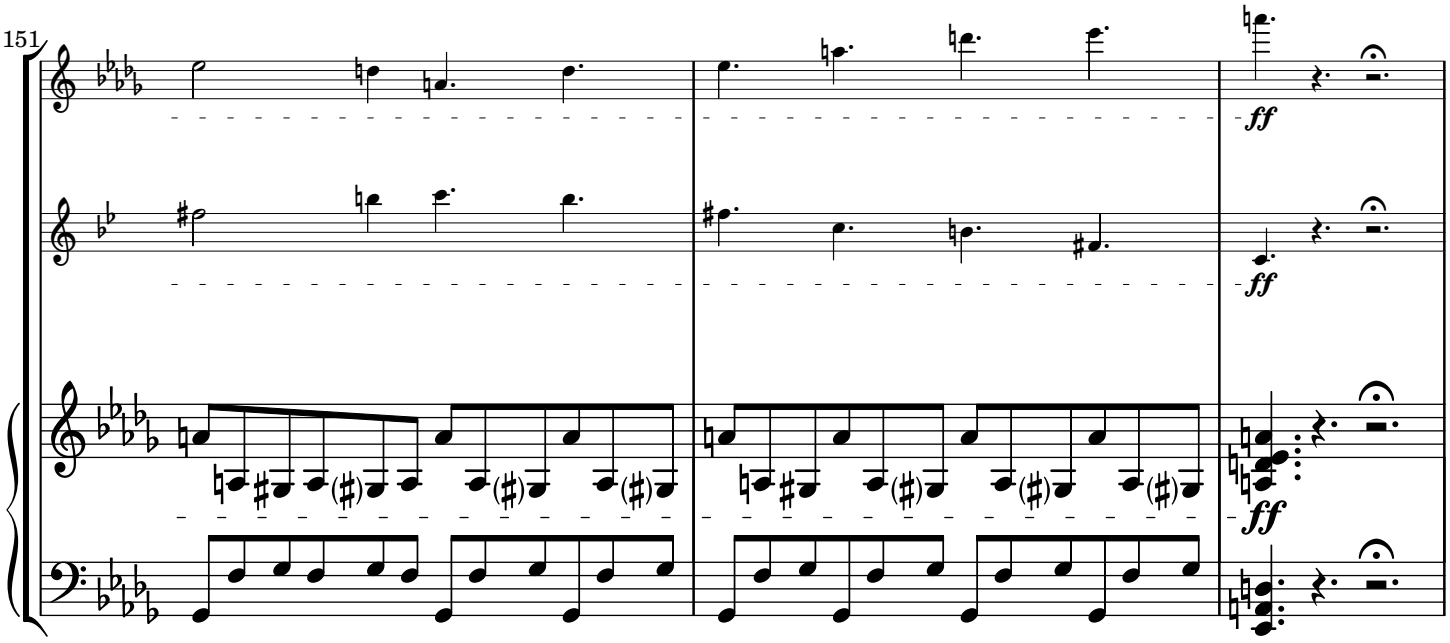
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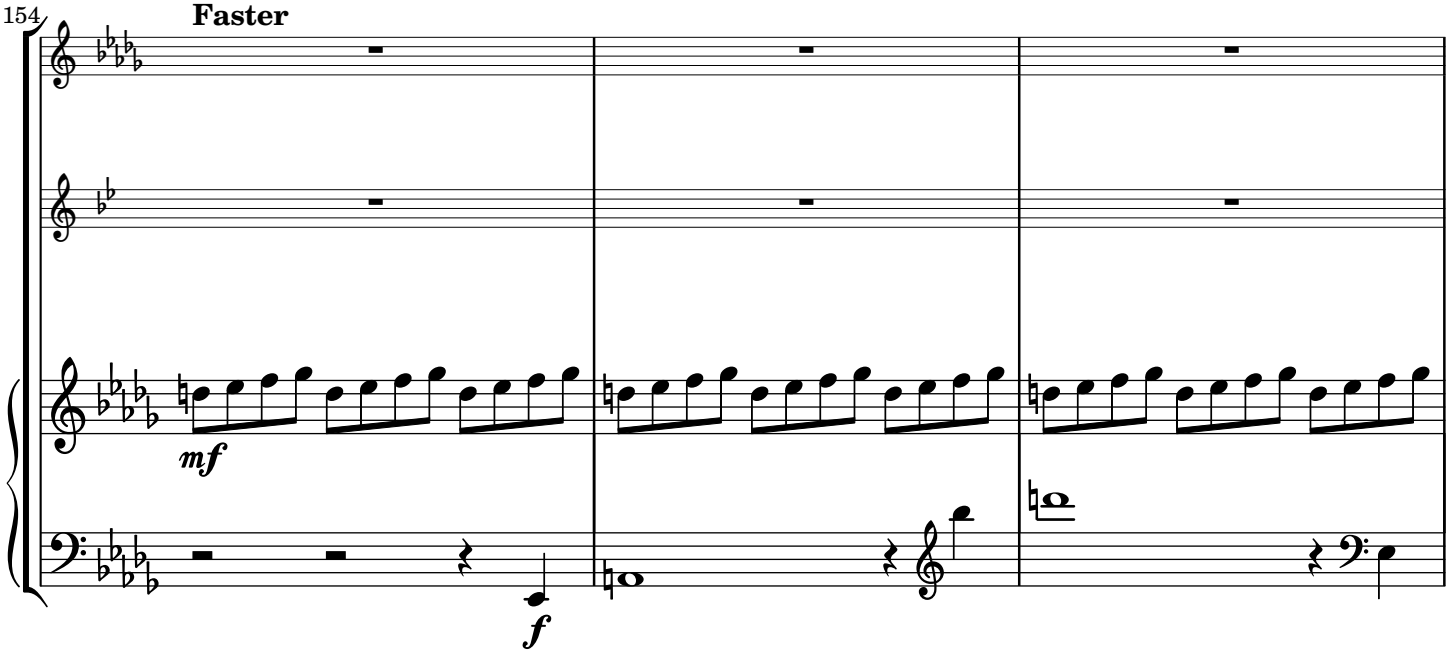
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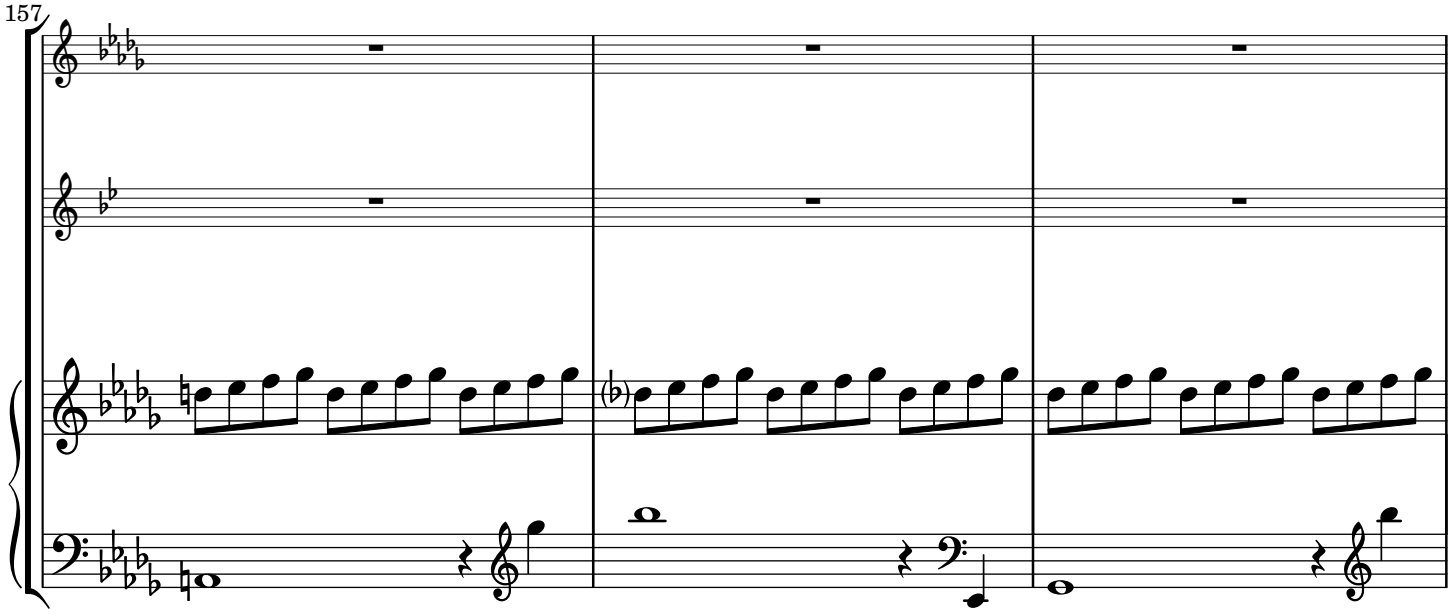
157



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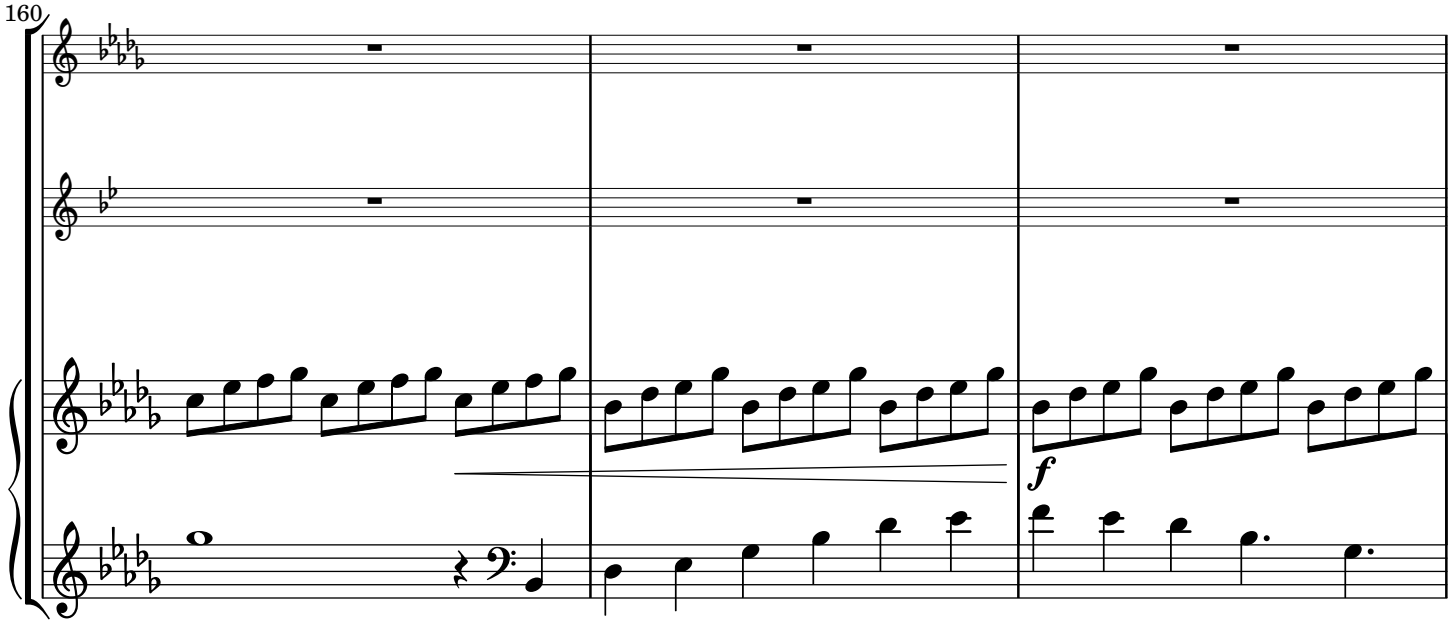

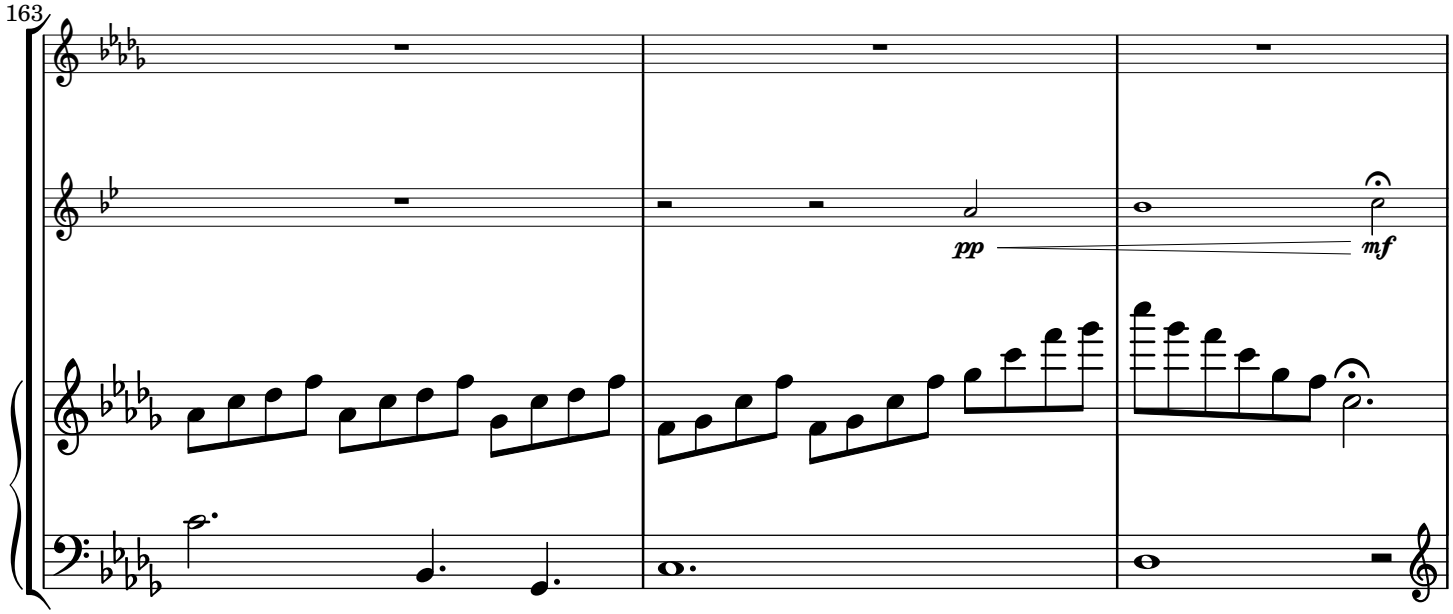
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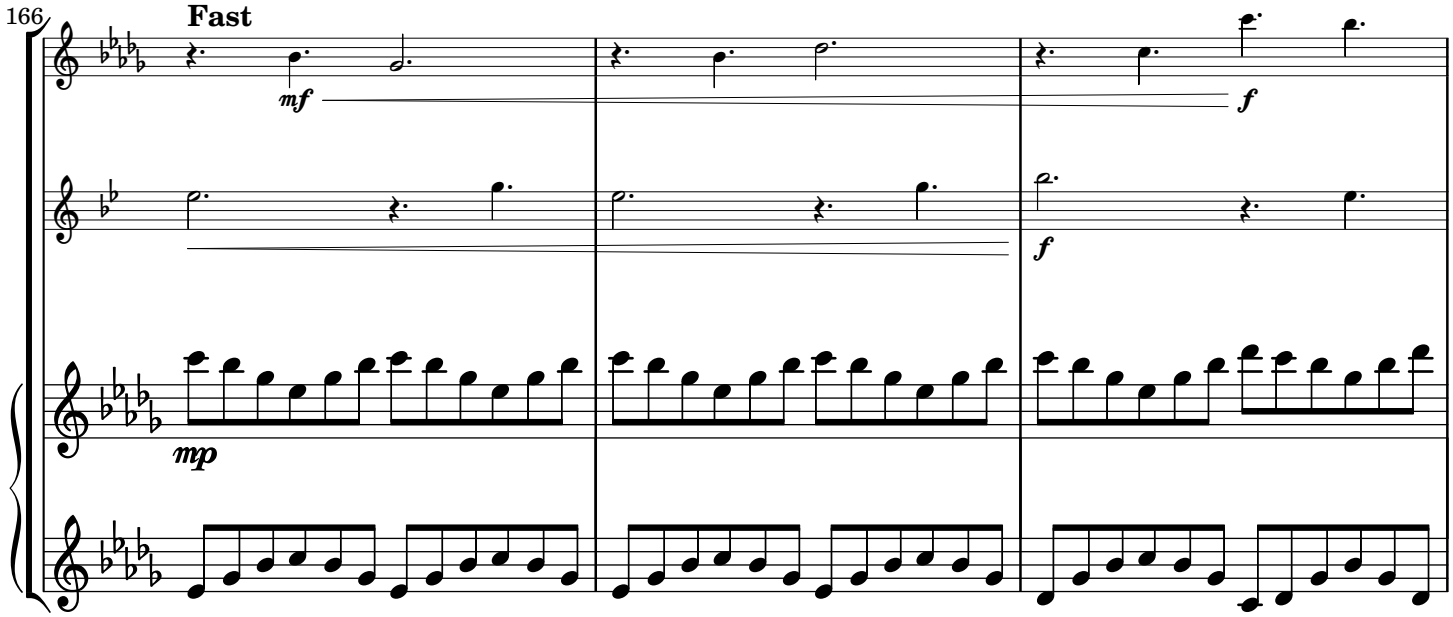
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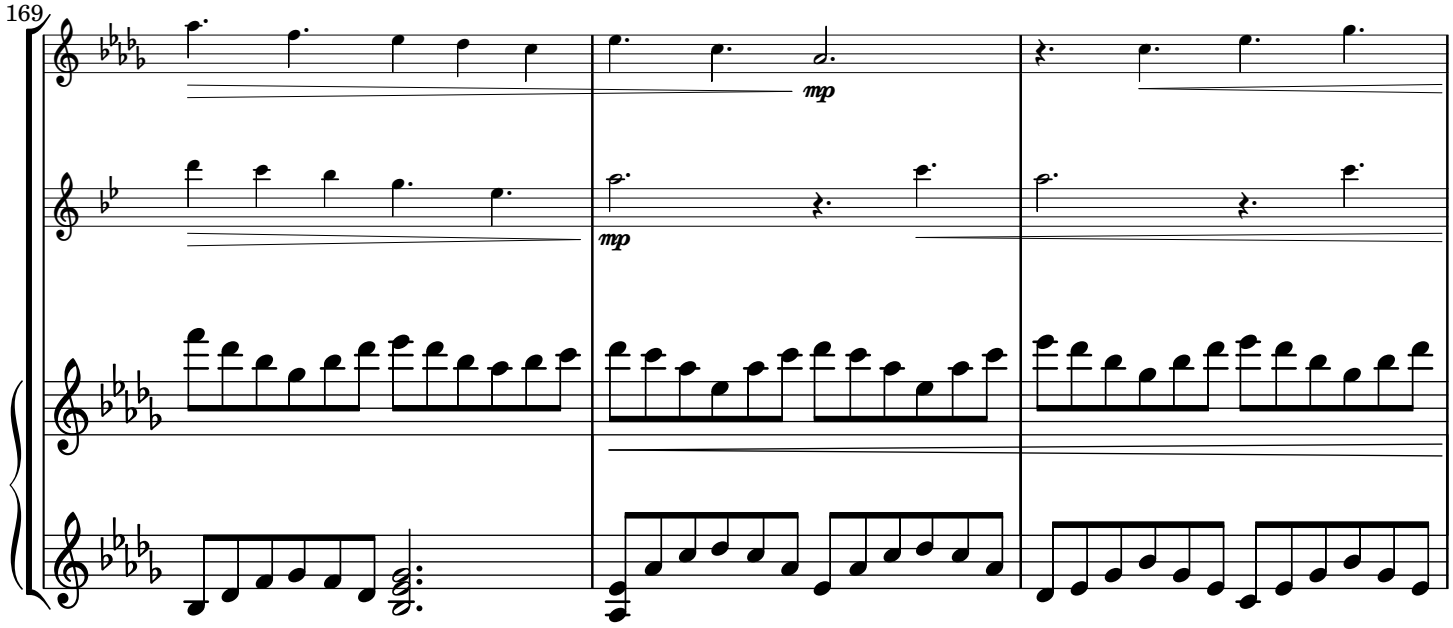
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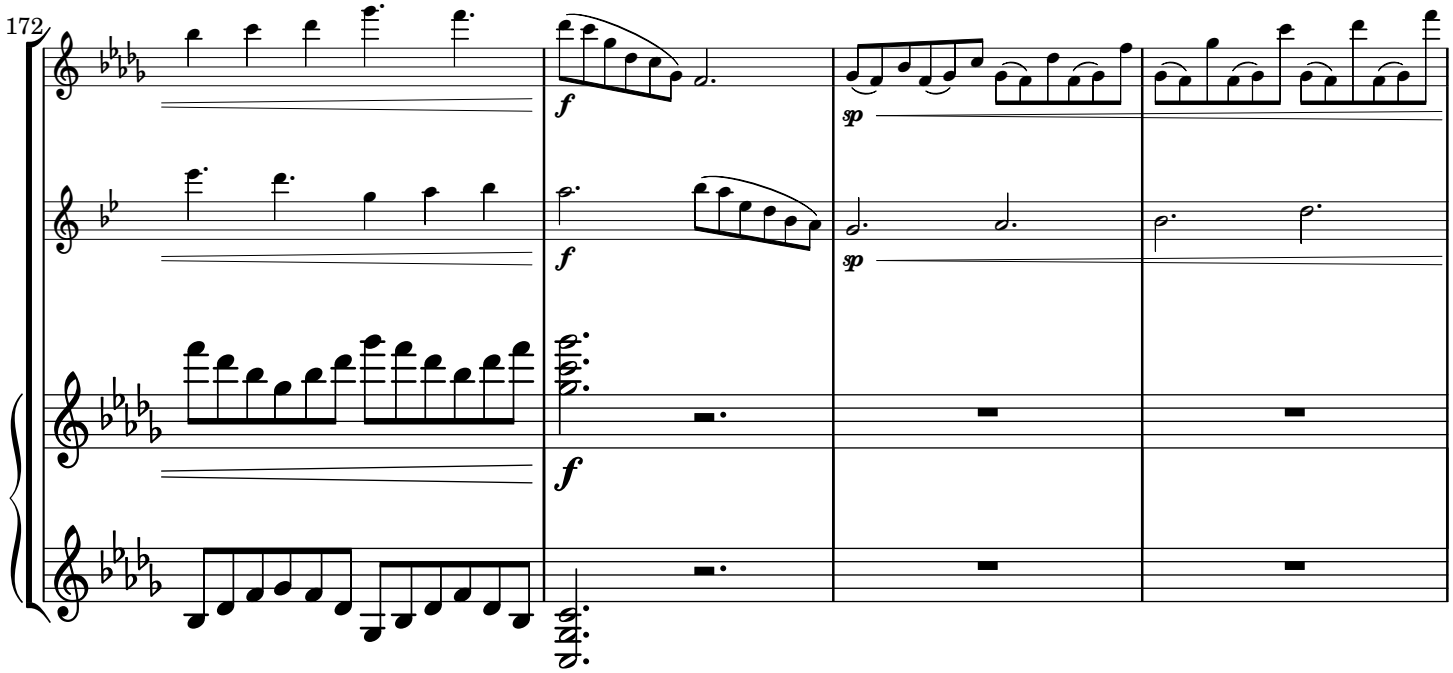
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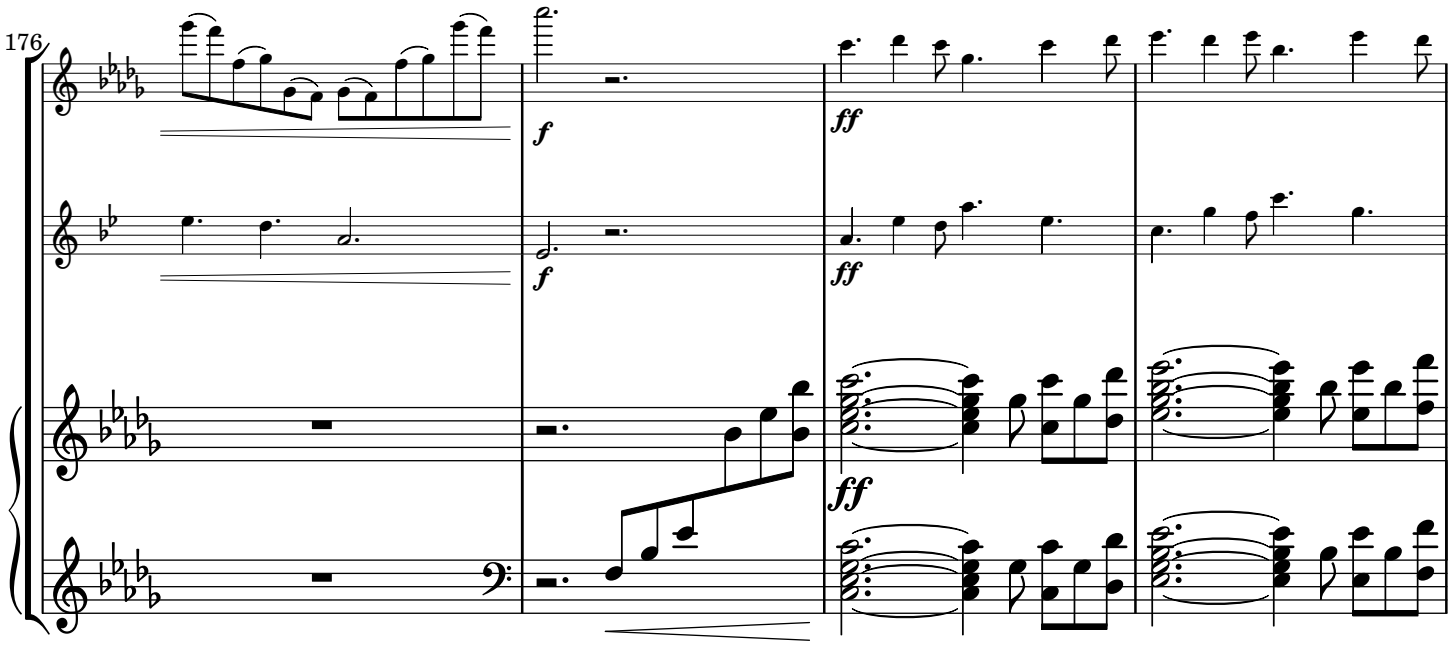
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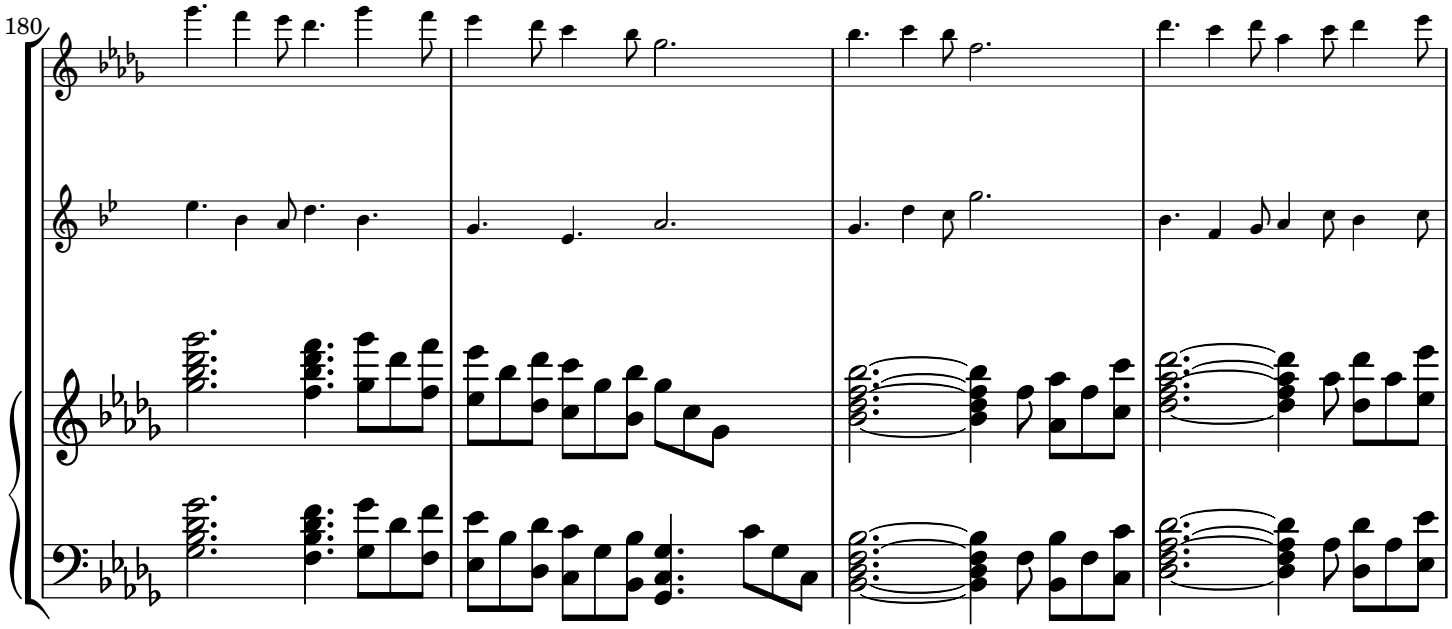
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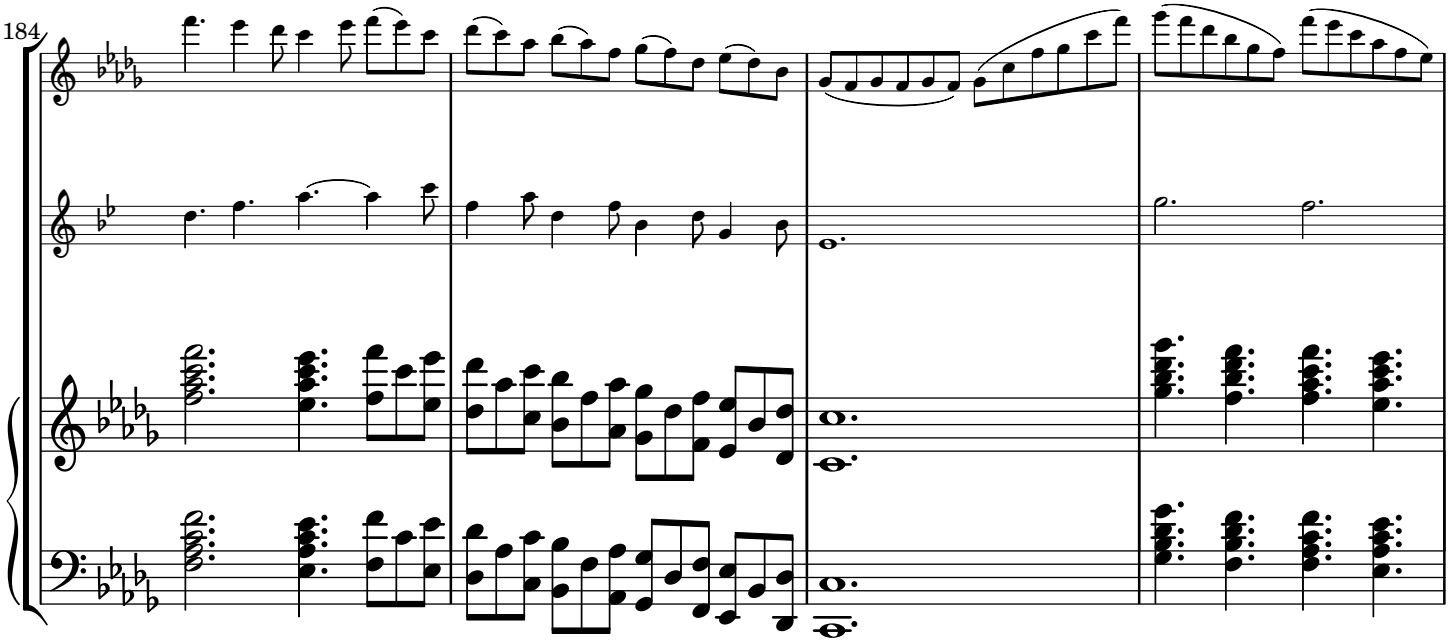

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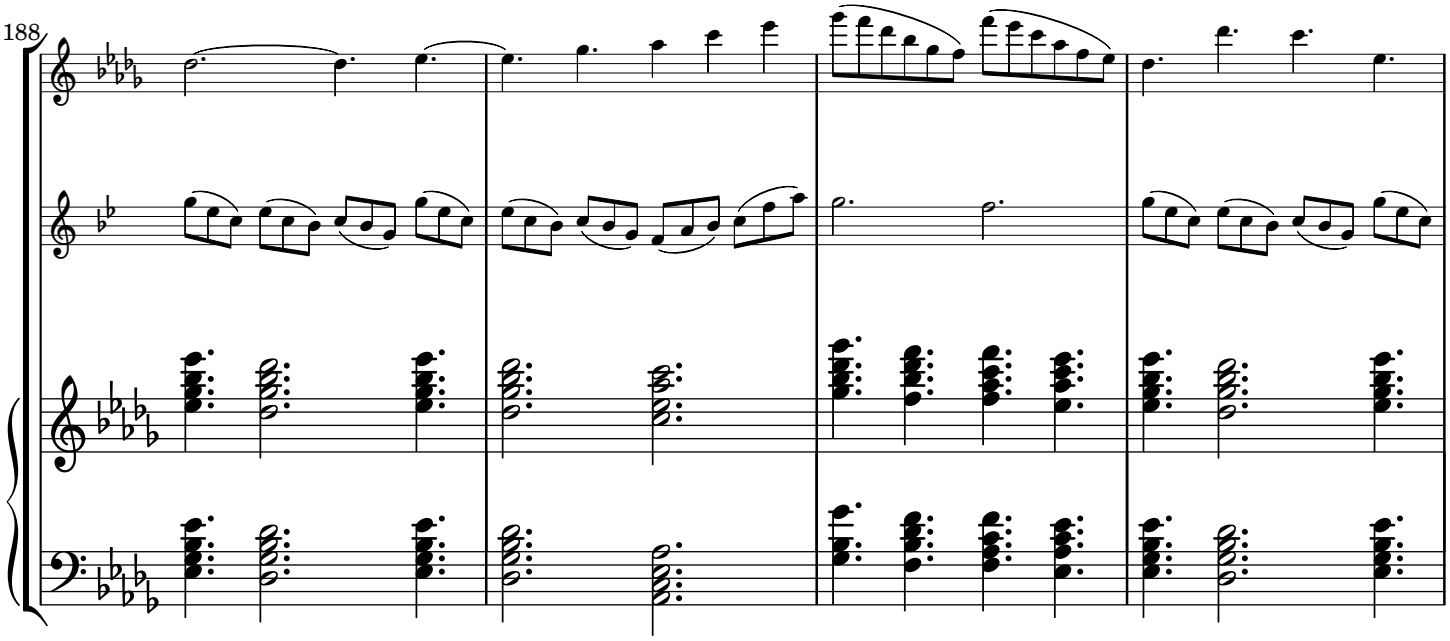

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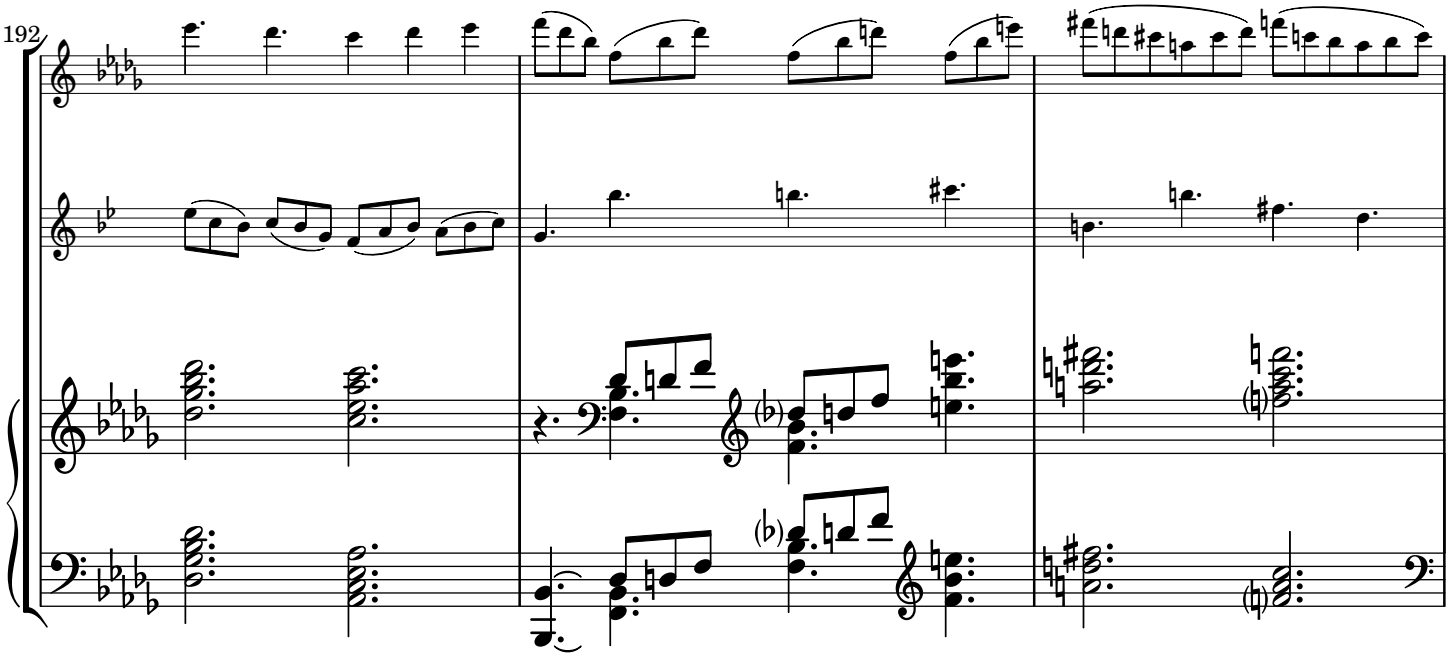

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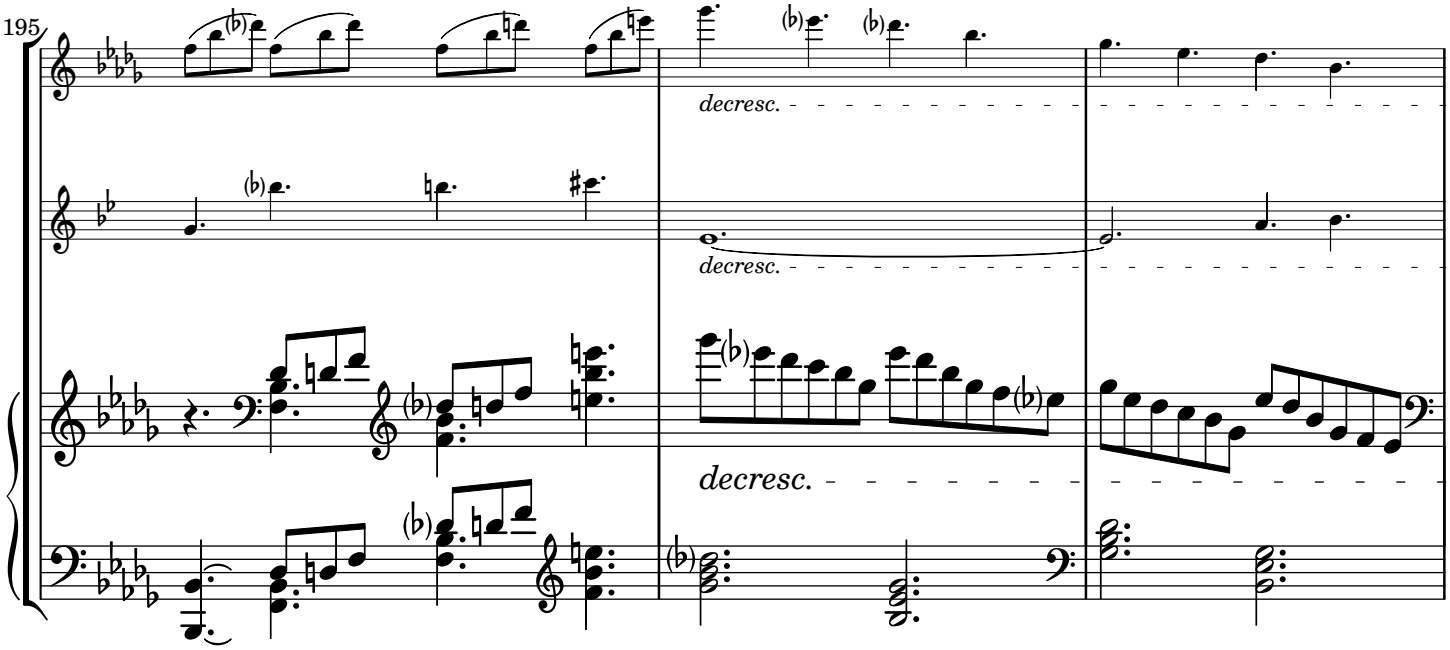

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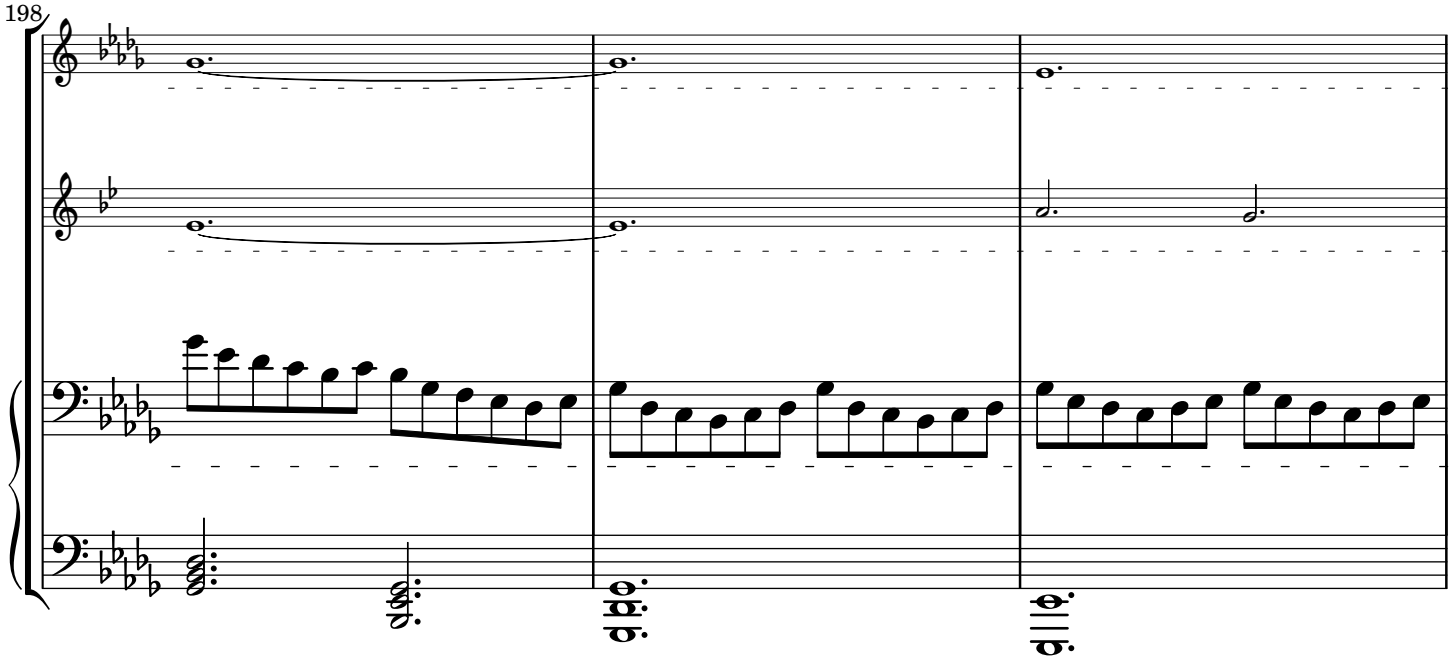
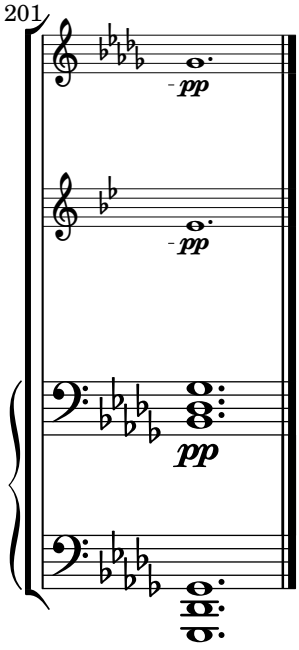
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