Commissioned by and written for Melissa Doecke and Ben Opie of Inventi Ensemble
premiered at the Melbourne Recital Centre, 3 July 2017.

October in the Chair

For Chamber Ensemble

Duration approx. 8 minutes

sample

Melody Eötvös (2017)

melodyeotvos.com

© Melody Eötvös 2017 | Eötvös Publishing

Program Notes

Based on Neil Gaiman's short story *October in the Chair*, this work parallels the whimsical yet dark undertones of what is essentially a Graveyard story. This particular tale personifies each month of the year into a group of twelve people who are having their monthly meeting around a campfire. The current month is Octobers to lead. After settling in and asking if anyone has a story to tell (which no one does, that hasn't been told before or is substantial enough to tell fully), October begins to tell his. I won't recall it all for you here, but a very brief and cruel summary would be that a young boy, named "The Runt", runs away from his family who treats him poorly. He meets a ghost in a graveyard and decides that he'd prefer to die and stay with the ghost (who played with him kindly all afternoon) than return to his family. Sad? Yes. However the way it is told and the setting portrayed by the months has an unmistakable playfulness full of animated conversation and characters. This composition focuses mostly on those characters, leaving a centered 'serious' section of the music for the dark reality of "The Runt's" situation. It doesn't last long though as the momentum picks up again into the final moments of the piece. Another interesting consequence of this work was my recent aural saturation of lullabies and music set heavily in major tonalities, due to the birth of my son and my daily efforts to get him to sleep with calming 'classic' baby music. Unaware of how much I'd absorbed of those pretty little tunes, the writing of this work once again revealed my susceptibility to what I listen to!

sample

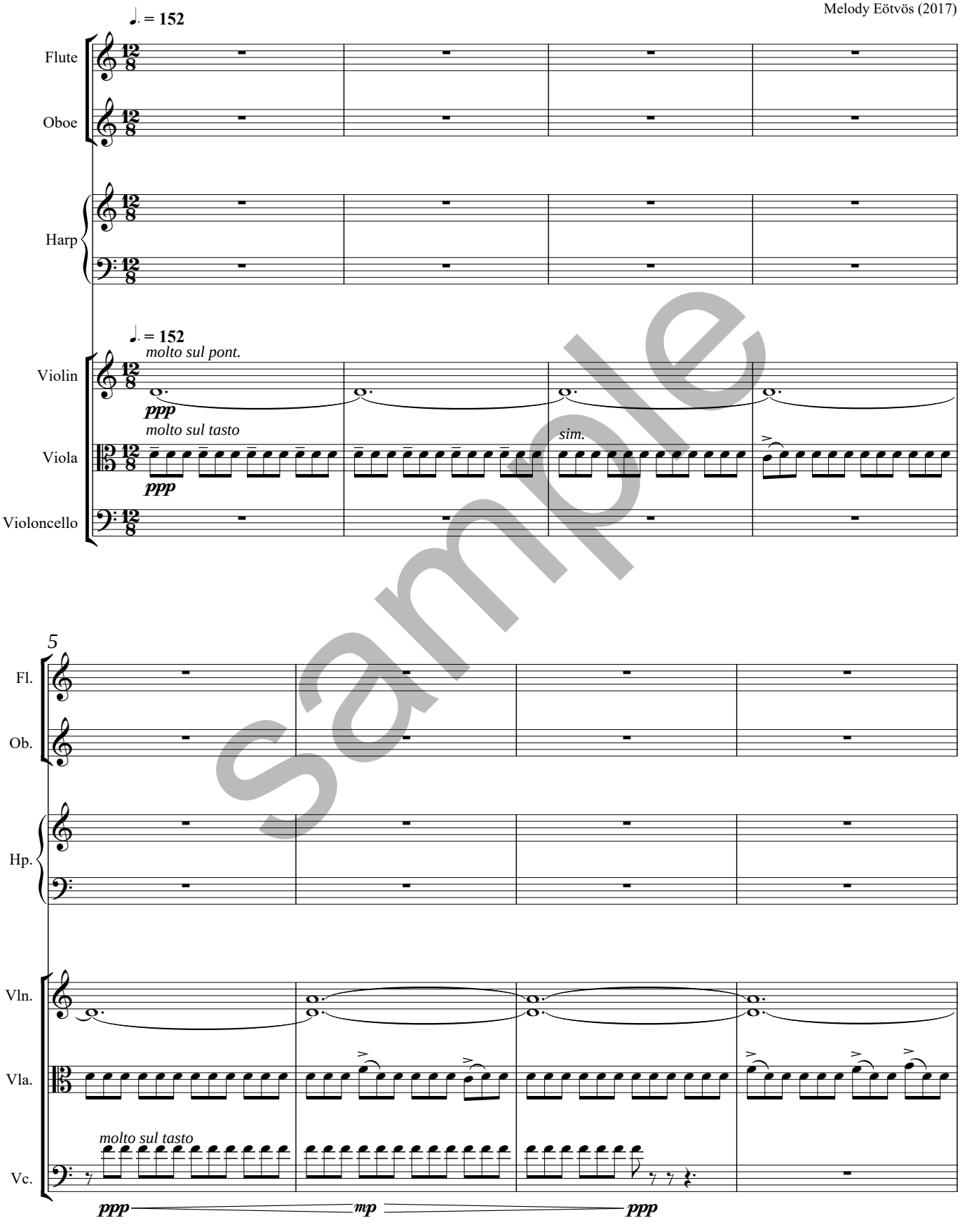
FULL SCORE

Commissioned by and written for Melissa Doecke and Ben Opie of Inventi Ensemble
premiered at the Melbourne Recital Centre, 3 July 2017.

October in the Chair

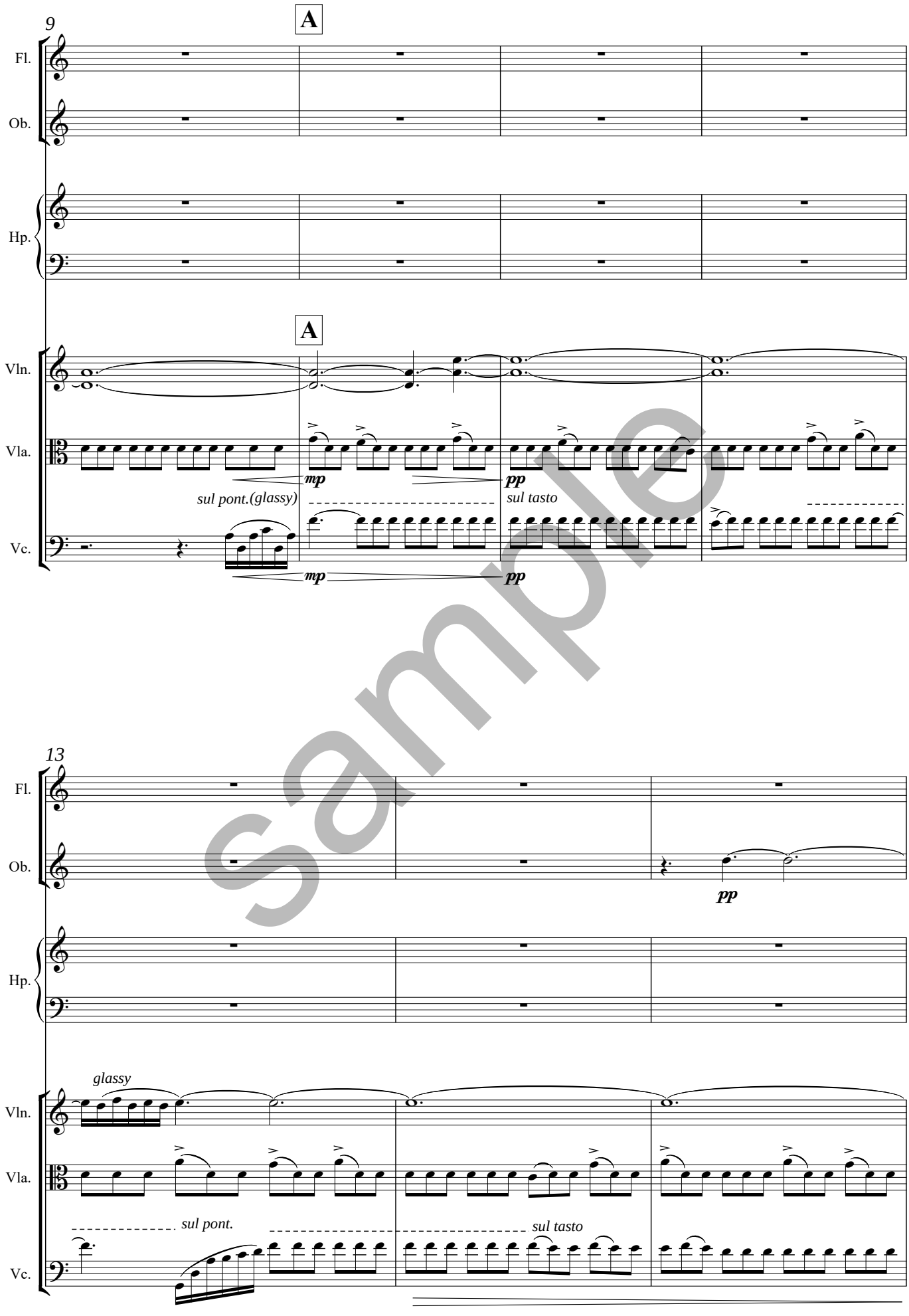
For Chamber Ensemble

Melody Eötvös (2017)

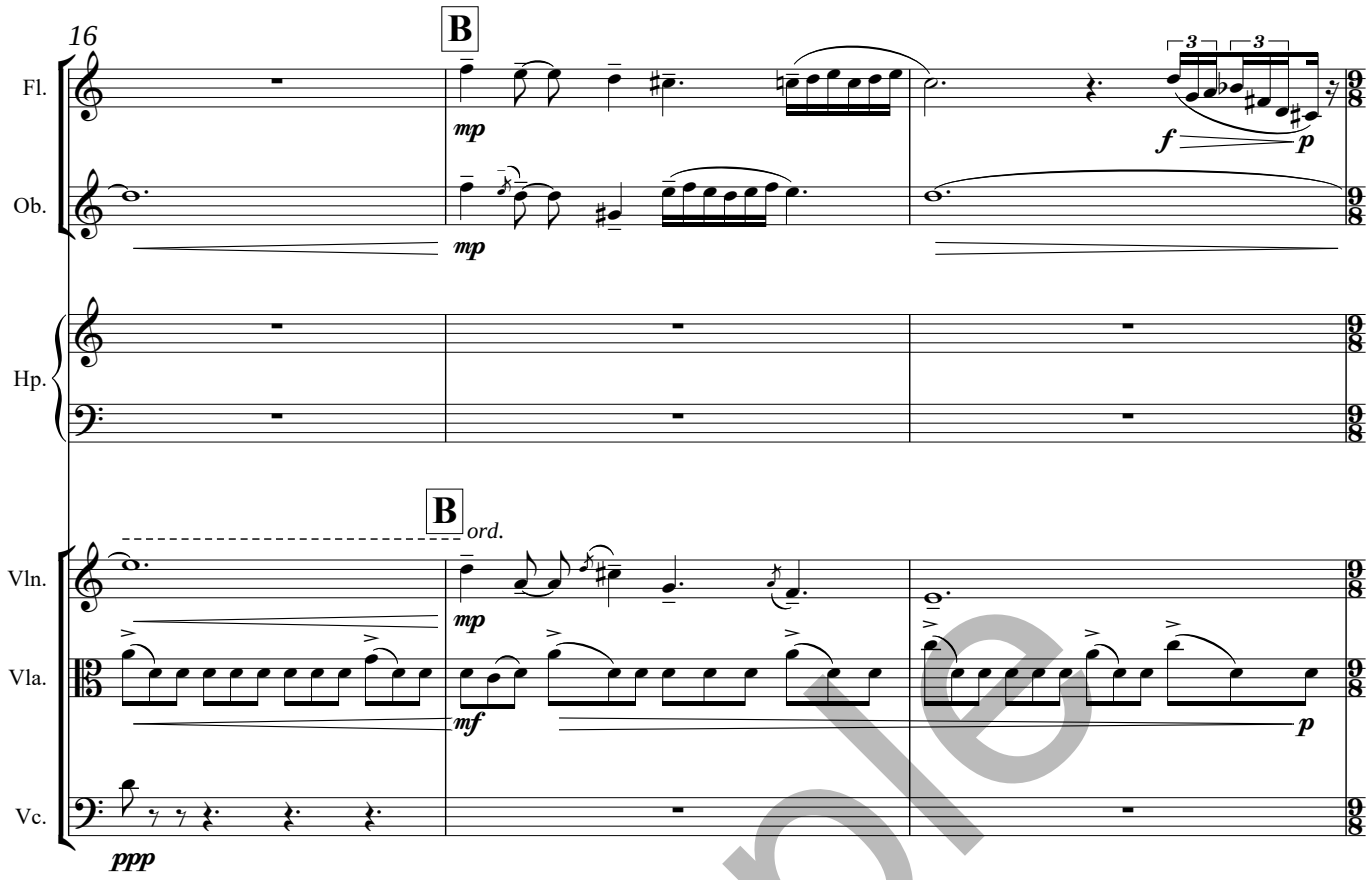


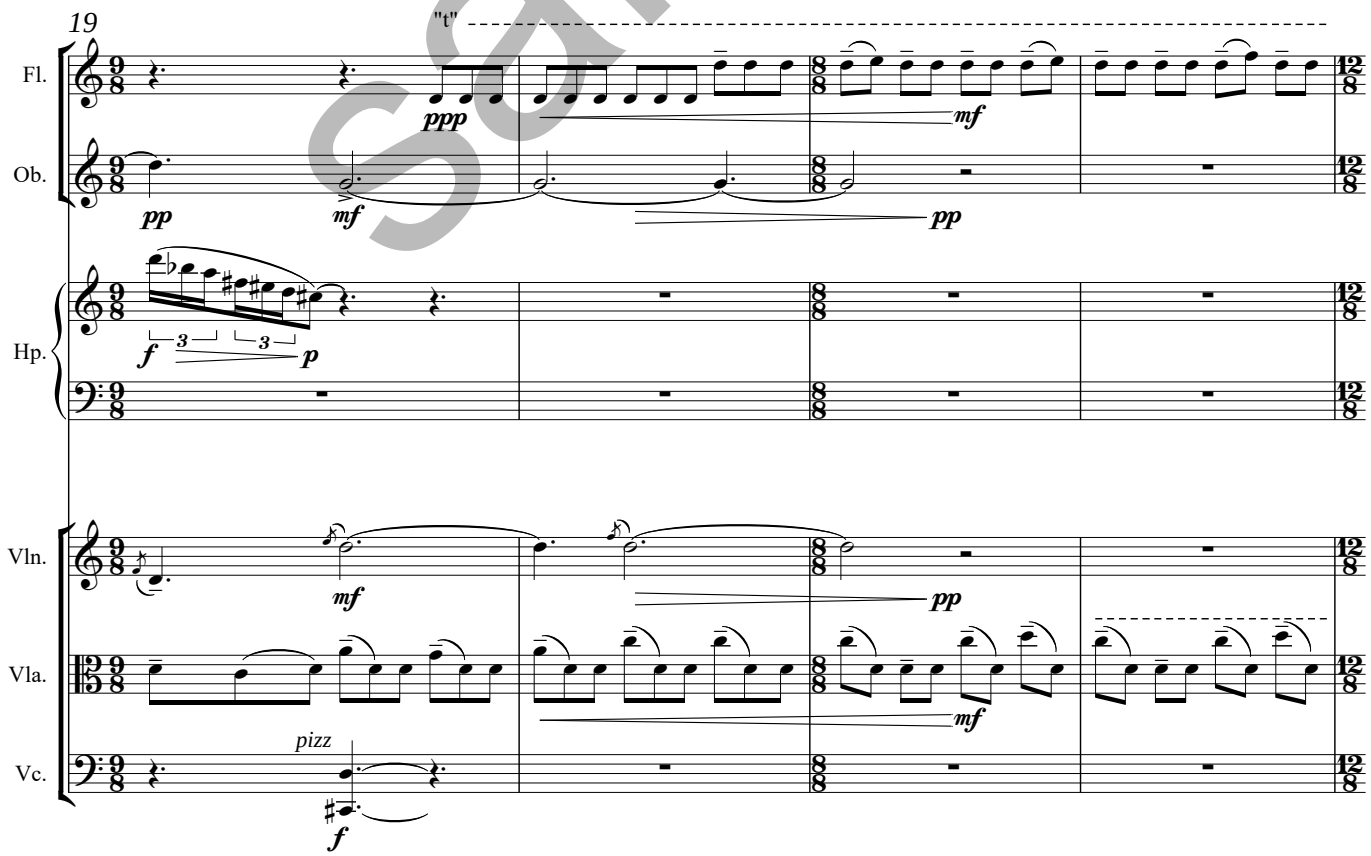
sample

Copyright © Melody Eötvös 2017 | Eötvös Publishing

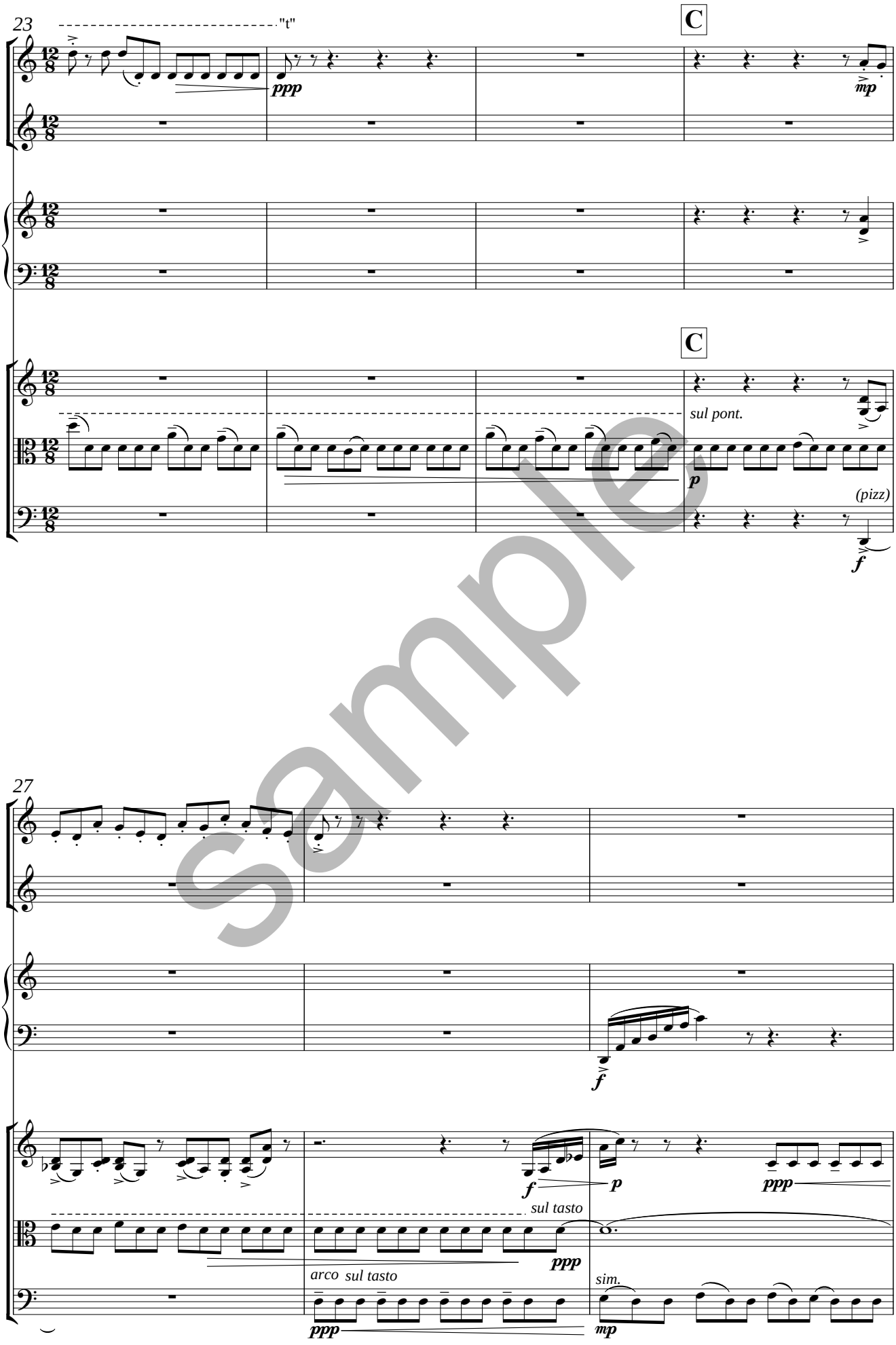

9
A
Fl.
Ob.
Hp.
A
Vln.
Vla.
mp
pp
sul pont.(glassy)
sul tasto
Vc.
mp
pp
13
Fl.
Ob.
pp
Hp.
glassy
Vln.
Vla.
sul pont.
sul tasto
Vc.

sample

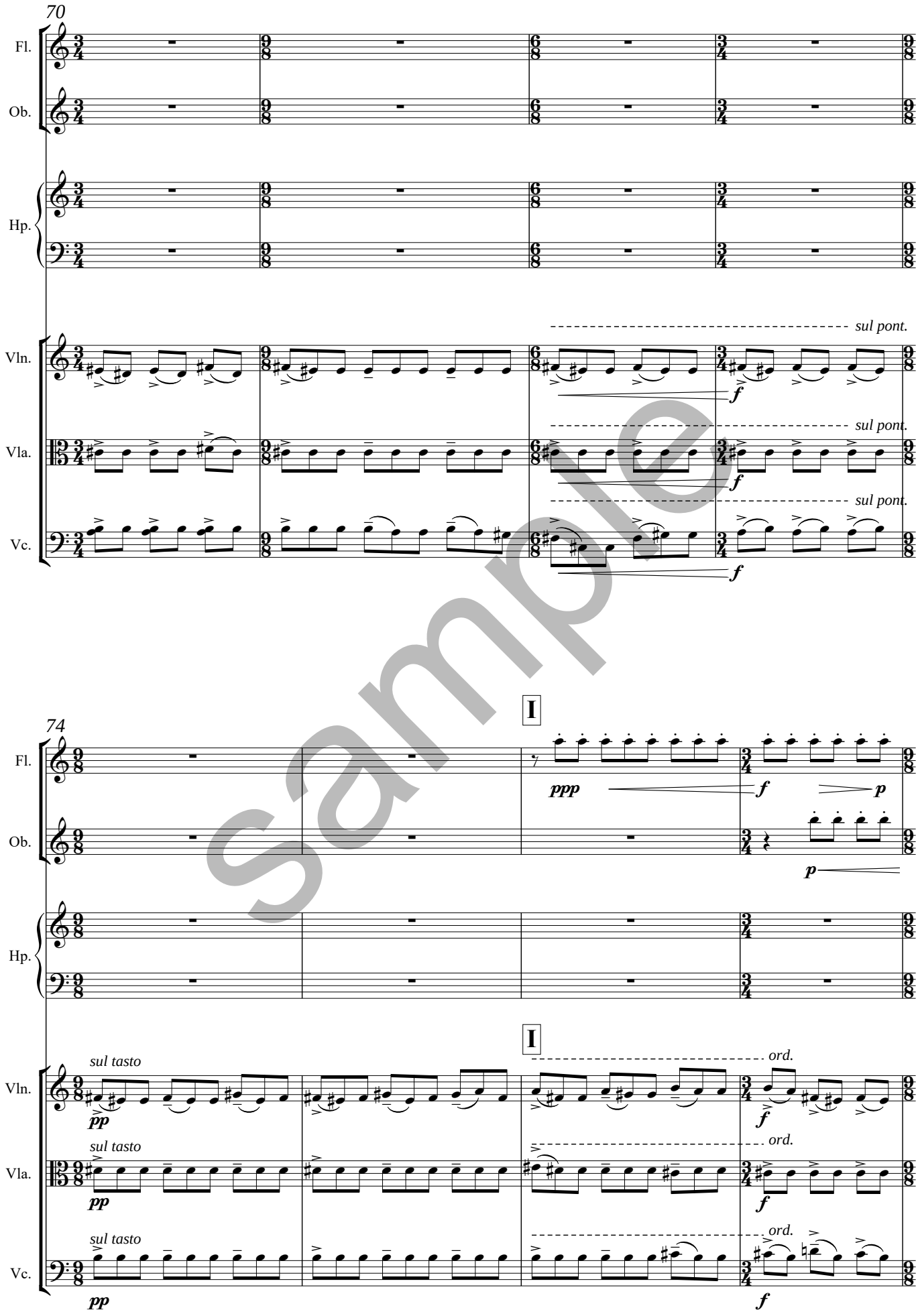

16
B
Fl.
Ob.
Hp.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mp
f
p
ord.
mf
ppp


19
"t"
Fl.
Ob.
Hp.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
ppp
mf
pp
f
p
pizz

sample

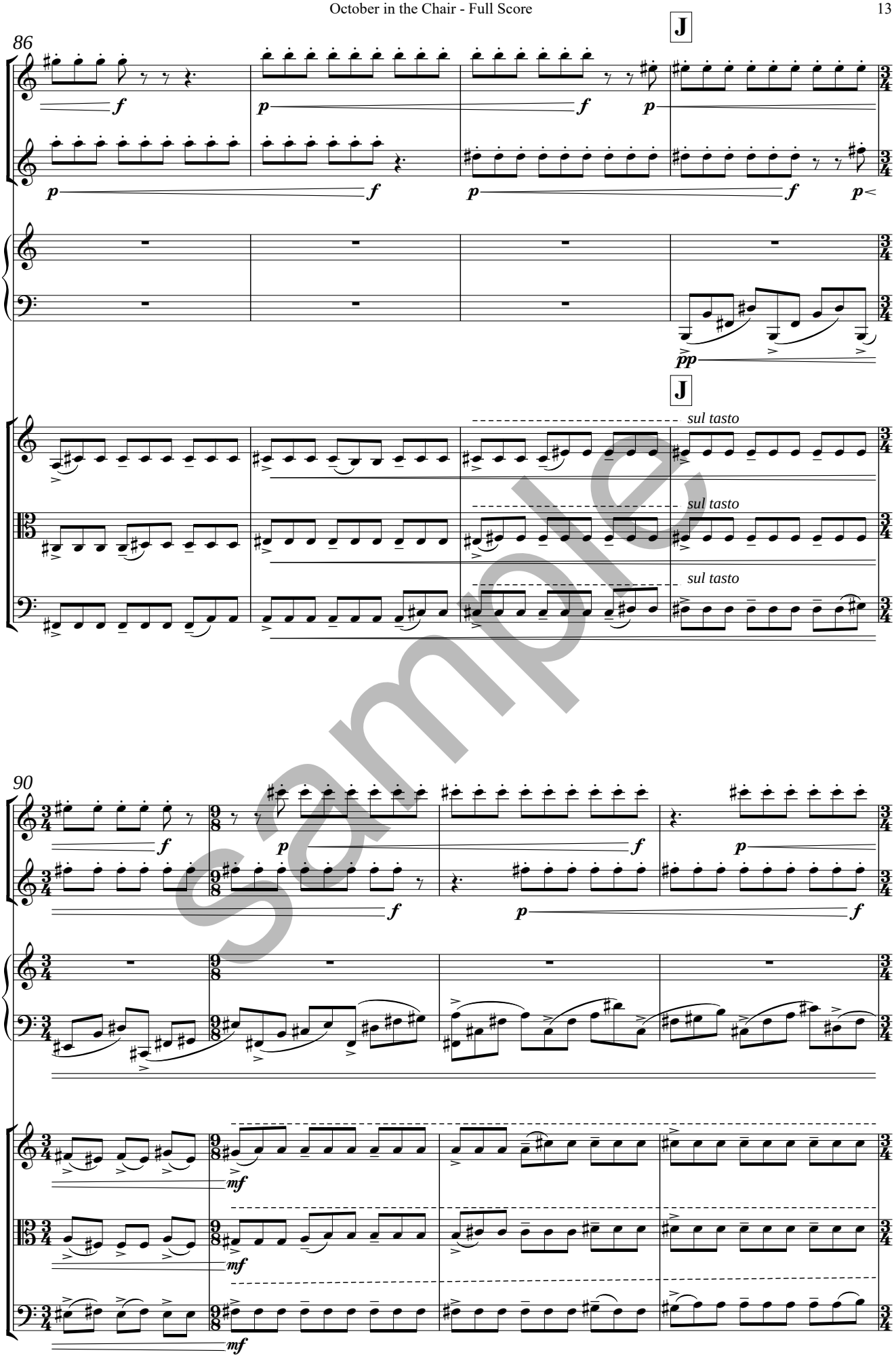

23
"t"
C
Fl.
Ob.
Hp.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
ppp
mp
sul pont.
p
(pizz)
f
27
f
p
ppp
sul tasto
arco sul tasto
sim.
mp

sample


70
Fl.
Ob.
Hp.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
sul pont.
sul pont.
sul pont.
f
f
f
74
I
ppp
f
p
p
I
sul tasto
pp
ord.
f
sul tasto
pp
ord.
f
sul tasto
pp
ord.
f

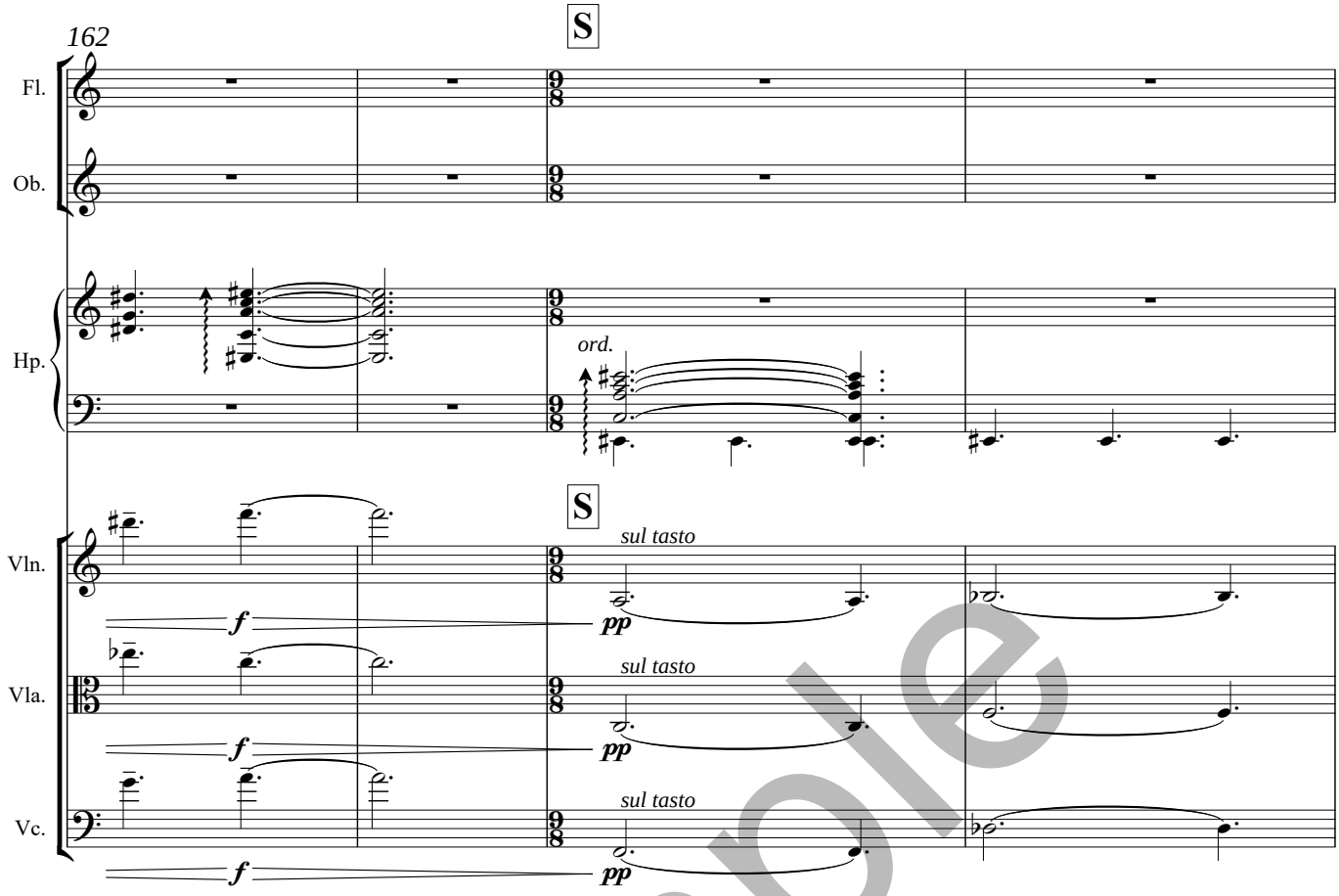
sample

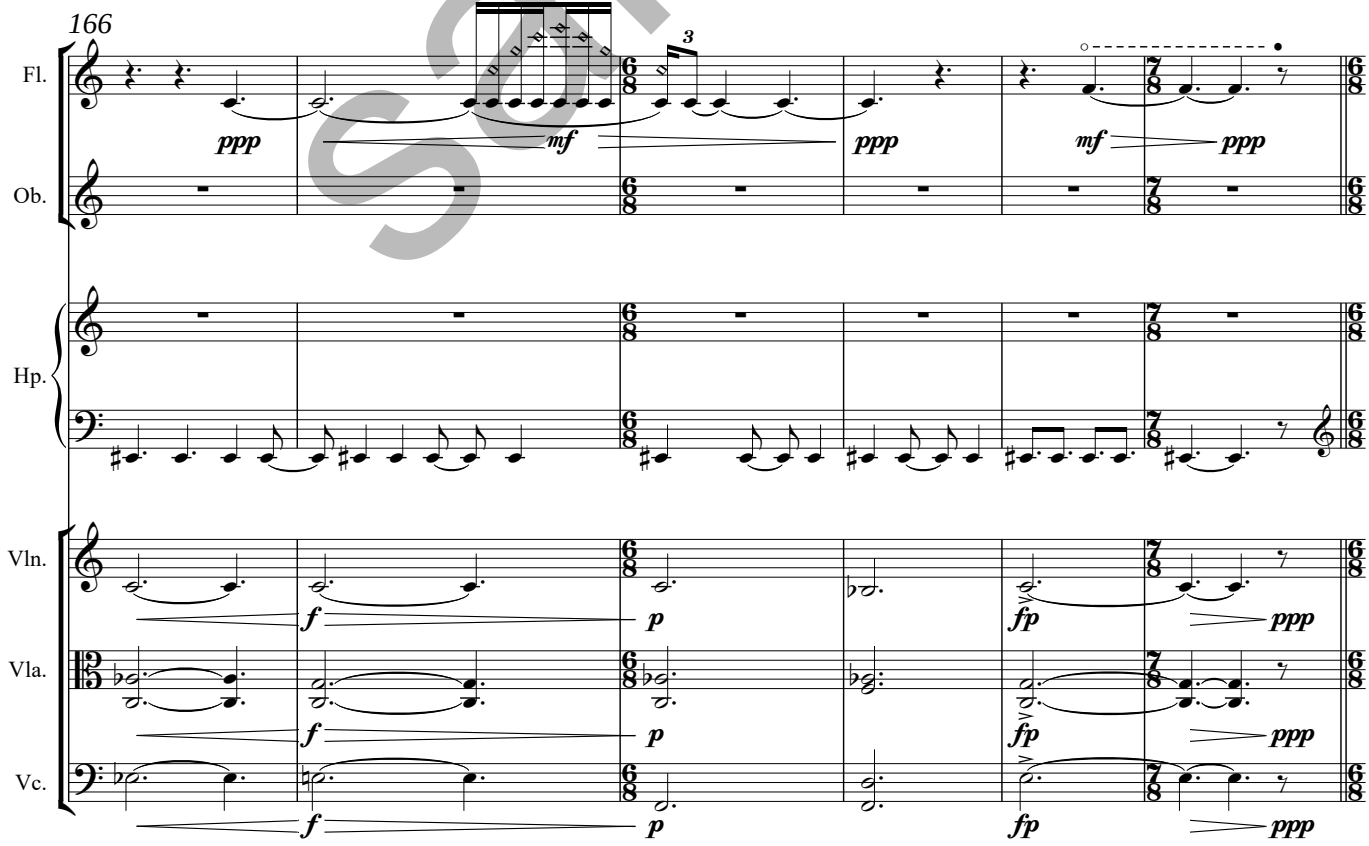
sample



sample

sample

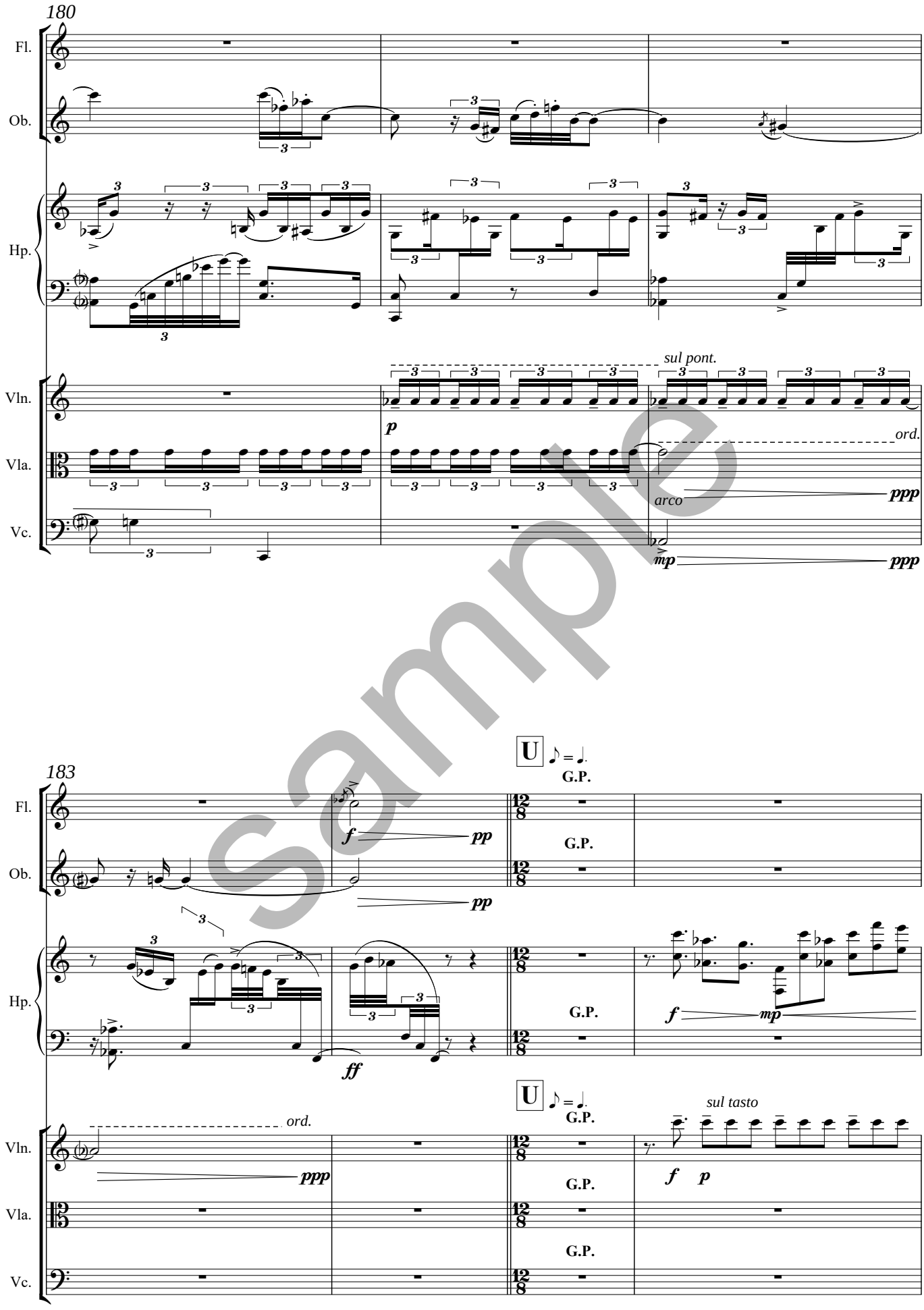

162
S
Fl.
Ob.
Hp.
ord.
S
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
sul tasto
sul tasto
sul tasto
f
pp


166
Fl.
Ob.
Hp.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
3
3
ppp
mf
ppp
mf
ppp
f
p
fp
ppp

Sample

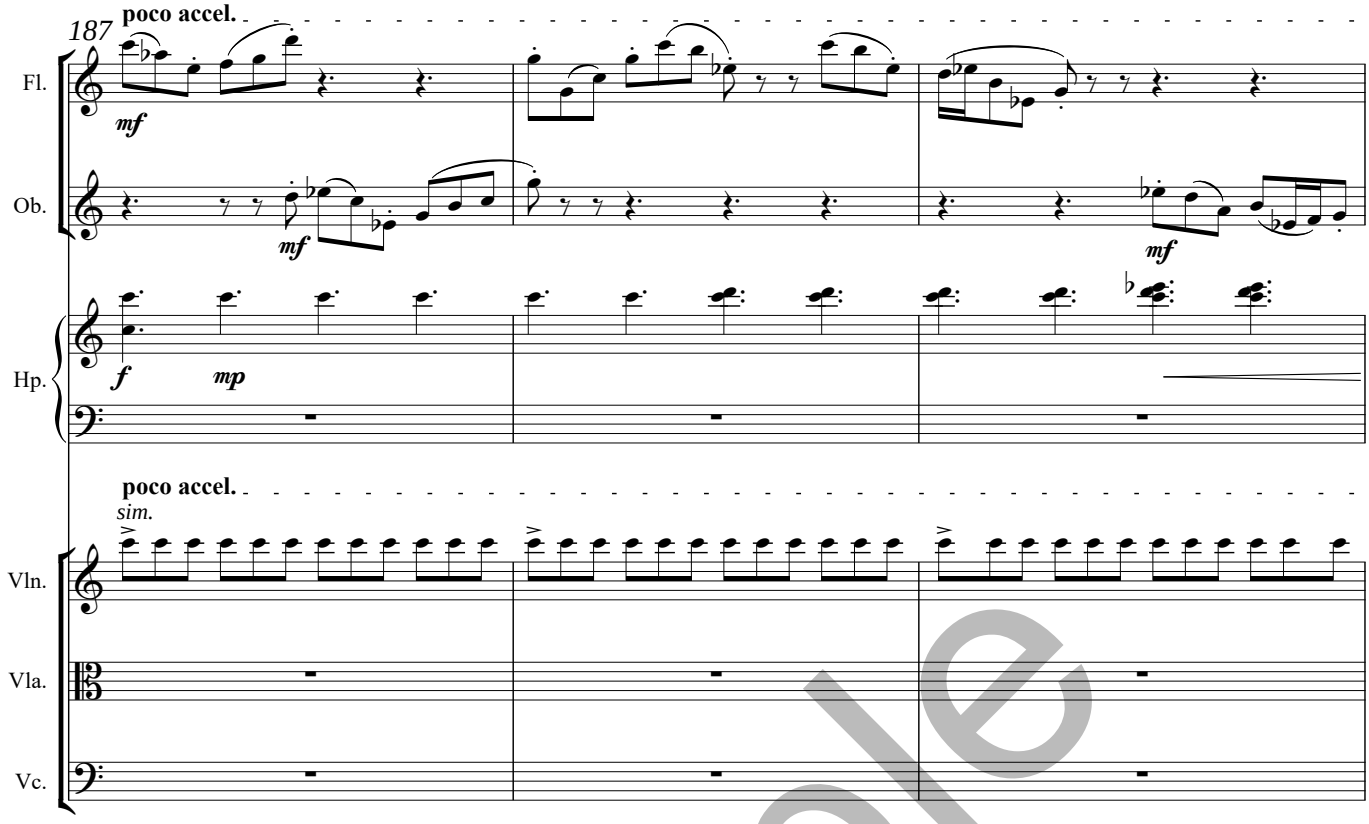
172
T ♪ = 120
Fl.
Ob.
Hp.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
ppp
f
mf
ff
p
senza sord
ord.
pizz
176
fp
sim.
sul pont.
sul D
gliss.

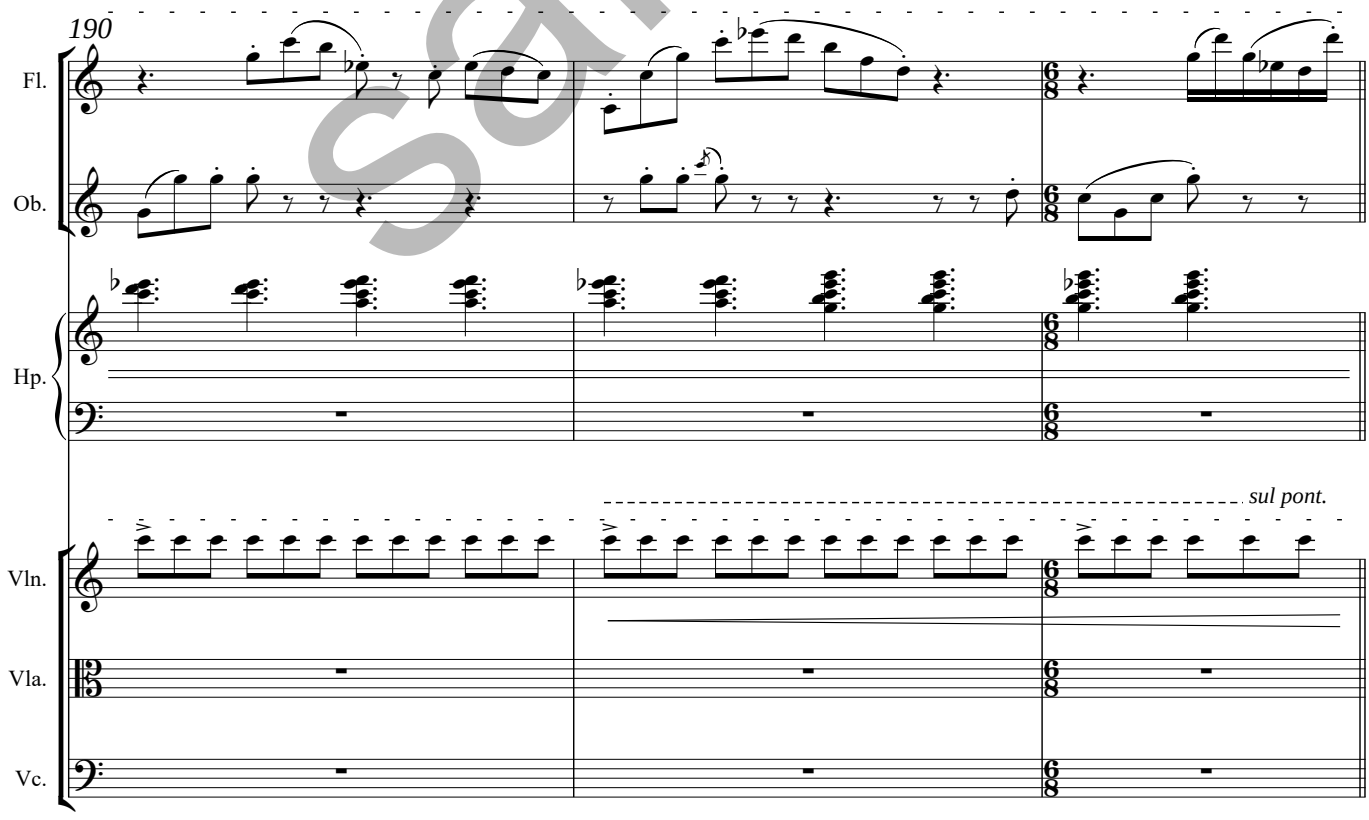
sample


180
Fl.
Ob.
Hp.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
sul pont.
p
ord.
arco
ppp
mp
ppp

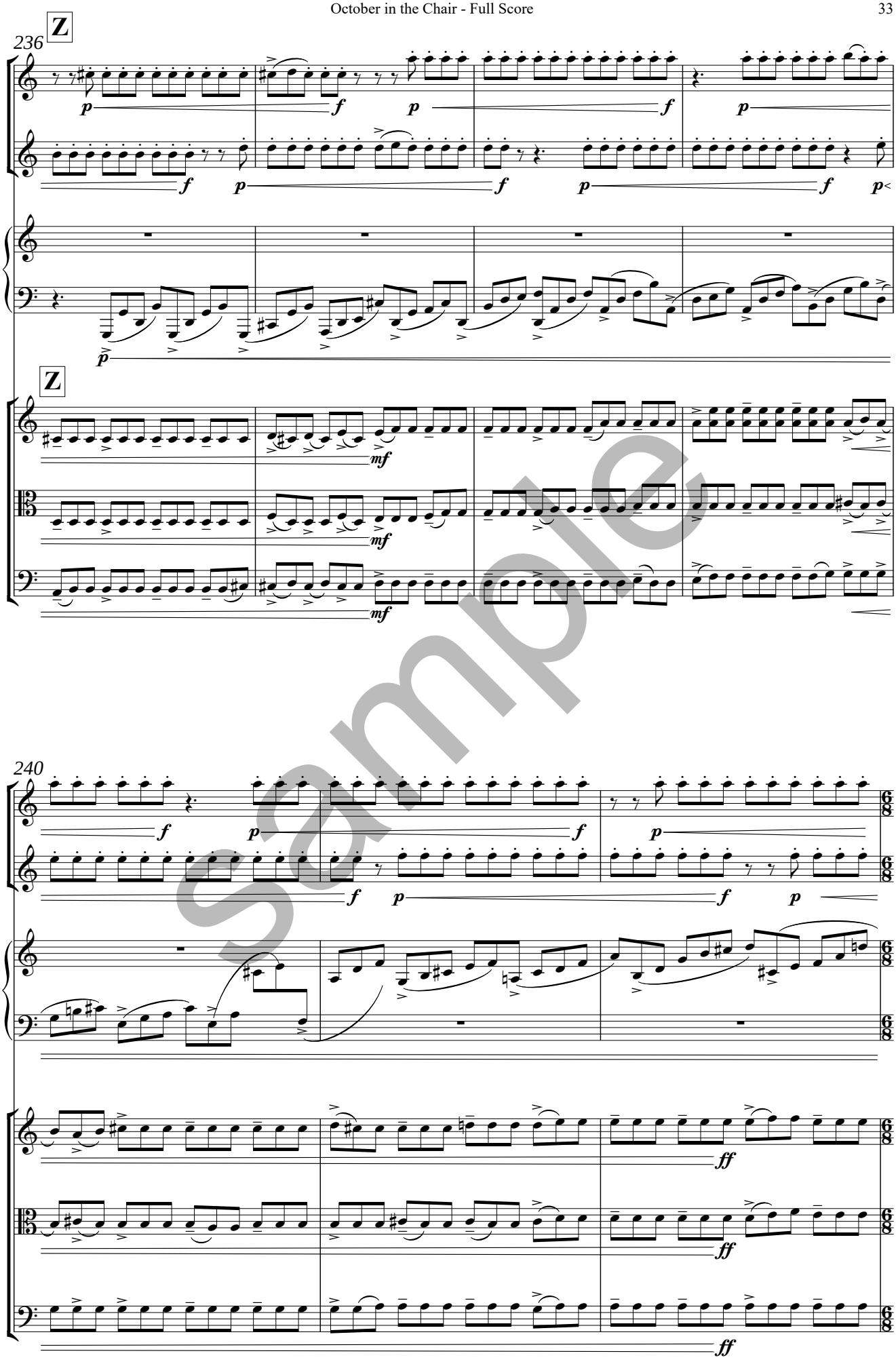
U
♪ = ♩.
G.P.
183
Fl.
Ob.
Hp.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
f
pp
pp
ff
f
mp
ord.
ppp
sul tasto
f
p

sample

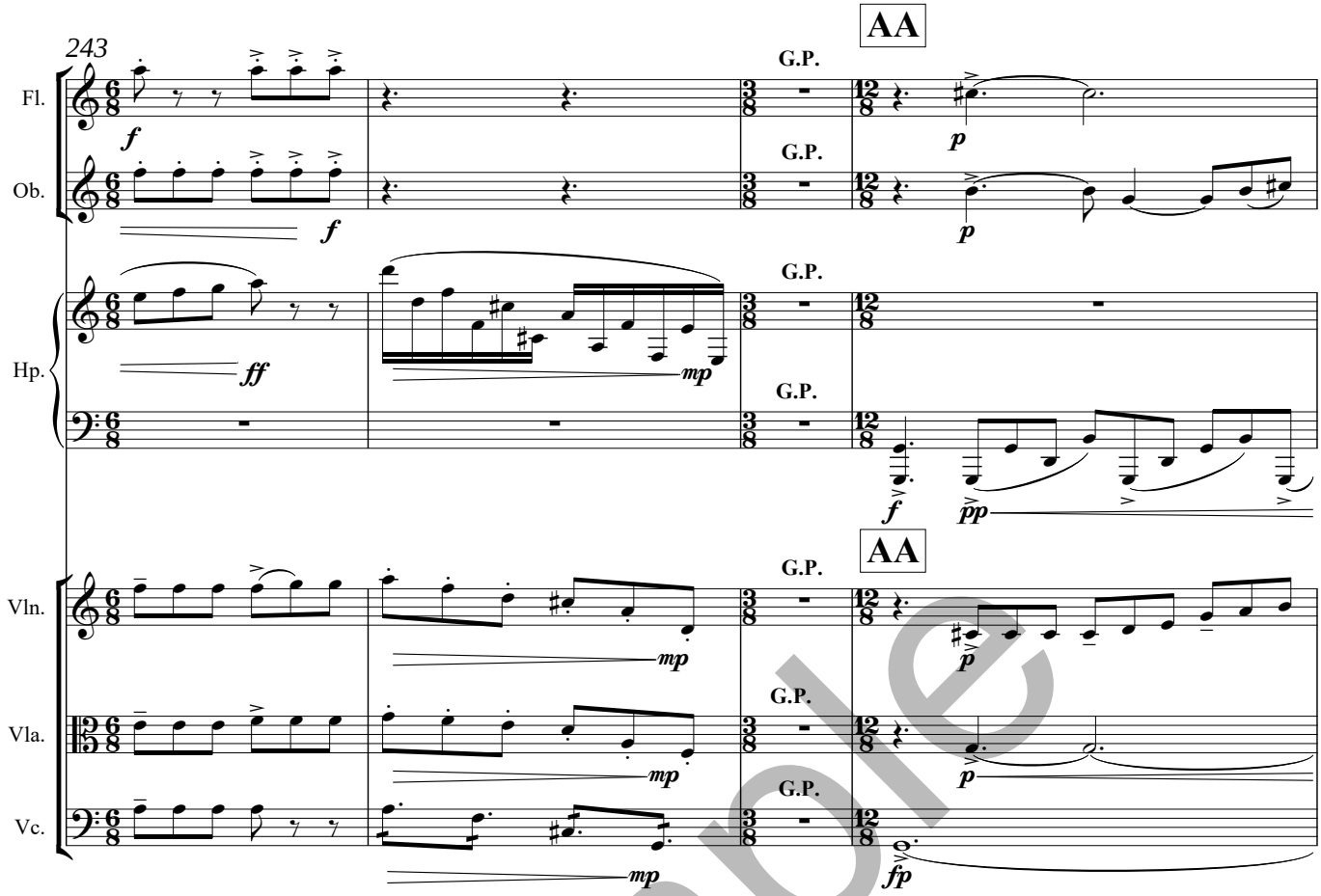

187
poco accel.
Fl.
mf
Ob.
mf
mf
Hp.
f
mp
poco accel.
sim.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

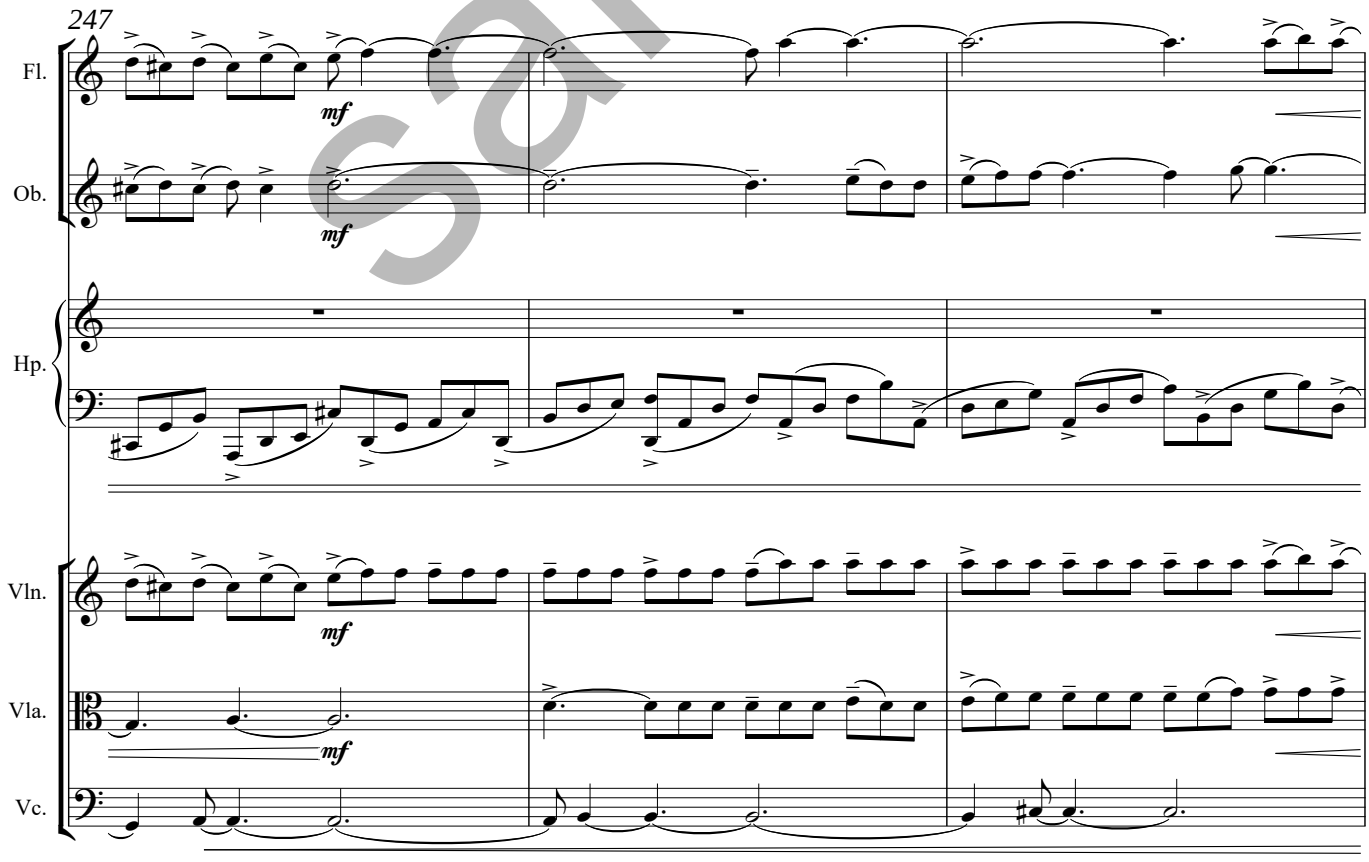

190
Fl.
Ob.
Hp.
sul pont.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

sample



sample


AA
243
Fl.
Ob.
Hp.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
G.P.
f
ff
mp
p
pp
fp


247
Fl.
Ob.
Hp.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mf

sample

sample