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June 19 89

I hereby recommend that the thesis prepared under my supervision by John K. Boyle, Jr.

entitled "American Success"

be accepted as fulfilling this part of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts

Approved by:

Darrell Handel

Joel Hoffman

Frederick Bianchi

AMERICAN SUCCESS

A Thesis submitted to the

Division of Graduate Studies and Research
of the University of Cincinnati

in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS

in the Department of Theory, Composition, and History
of the College-Conservatory of Music

1989

by

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B.M., Illinois Wesleyan University, 1982

M.M., Bowling Green State University, 1985

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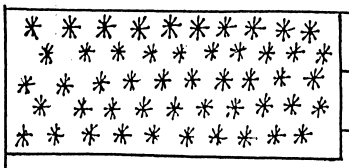

AMERICAN SUCCESS

John K. Boyle, Jr.

NOTES ON *AMERICAN SUCCESS*

American Success was inspired by an essay entitled **"The Music of Failure: Variations on an Idea"** by Bill Holm.* The essay examines the American definition of failure and it explores how we as Americans have dealt with our failures. By tracing the history of an immigrant family in Minneota, Minnesota (all American "failures"); Mr. Holm makes a passionate and convincing argument about the beauty of failure in their lives, his life, and our own.

American Success is my affirmation of the ideas found in **"The Music of Failure."** My piece follows the attitude of the essay as it moves from a tone of sadness/darkness to one of hope/joy. This is depicted in the transformation of the ground bass. The piece is divided into variations that parallel the "variations" in the essay.

I have read **"The Music of Failure"** many times and it holds my interest from start, "At fifteen I could define failure fast: to die in Minneota, Minnesota," to the uplifting finish, "The heart can be filled up anywhere on earth." I thank Mr. Holm for his inspiration.

* Available in *The Music of Failure*
Plains Press, Southwest State University
Marshall, Minnesota 56258
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INSTRUMENTATION

1 Piccolo
2 Flutes
1 Alto Flute
2 Oboes
1 English Horn
1 Eb Clarinet
2 Bb Clarinets
1 Bb Bass Clarinet
2 Bassoons
1 Bassoon/Contrabassoon

4 Horns in F
2 C Trumpets
3 Trombones
2 Tubas
1 Triangle
1 Xylophone
1 Celesta

Strings(minimum)
12-12-10-8-6

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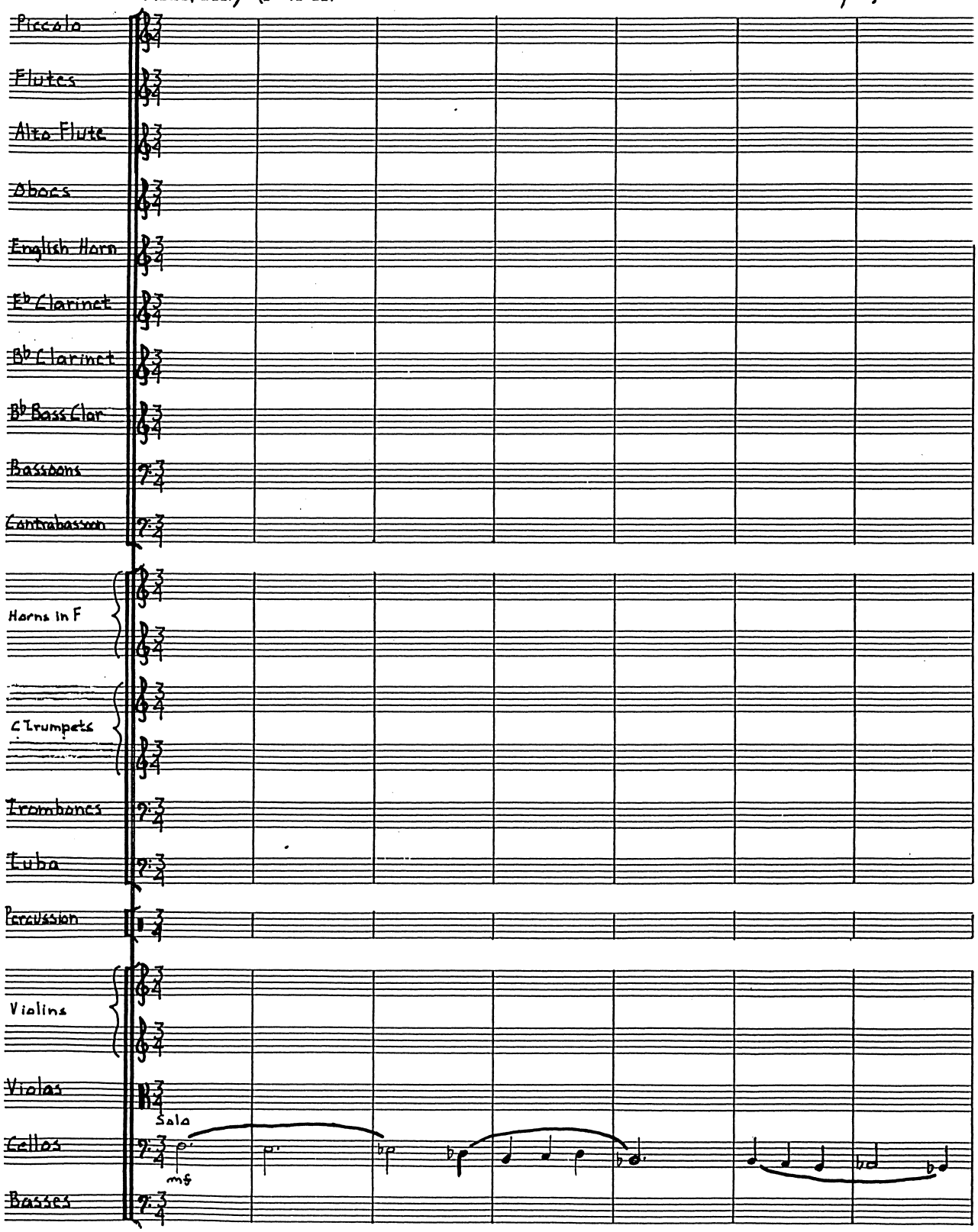
markings will be charged
to the borrower as having
been defaced!!!

American Success

Transposed Score

Moderately (♩ = 76-80)

John Bayle, Jr.



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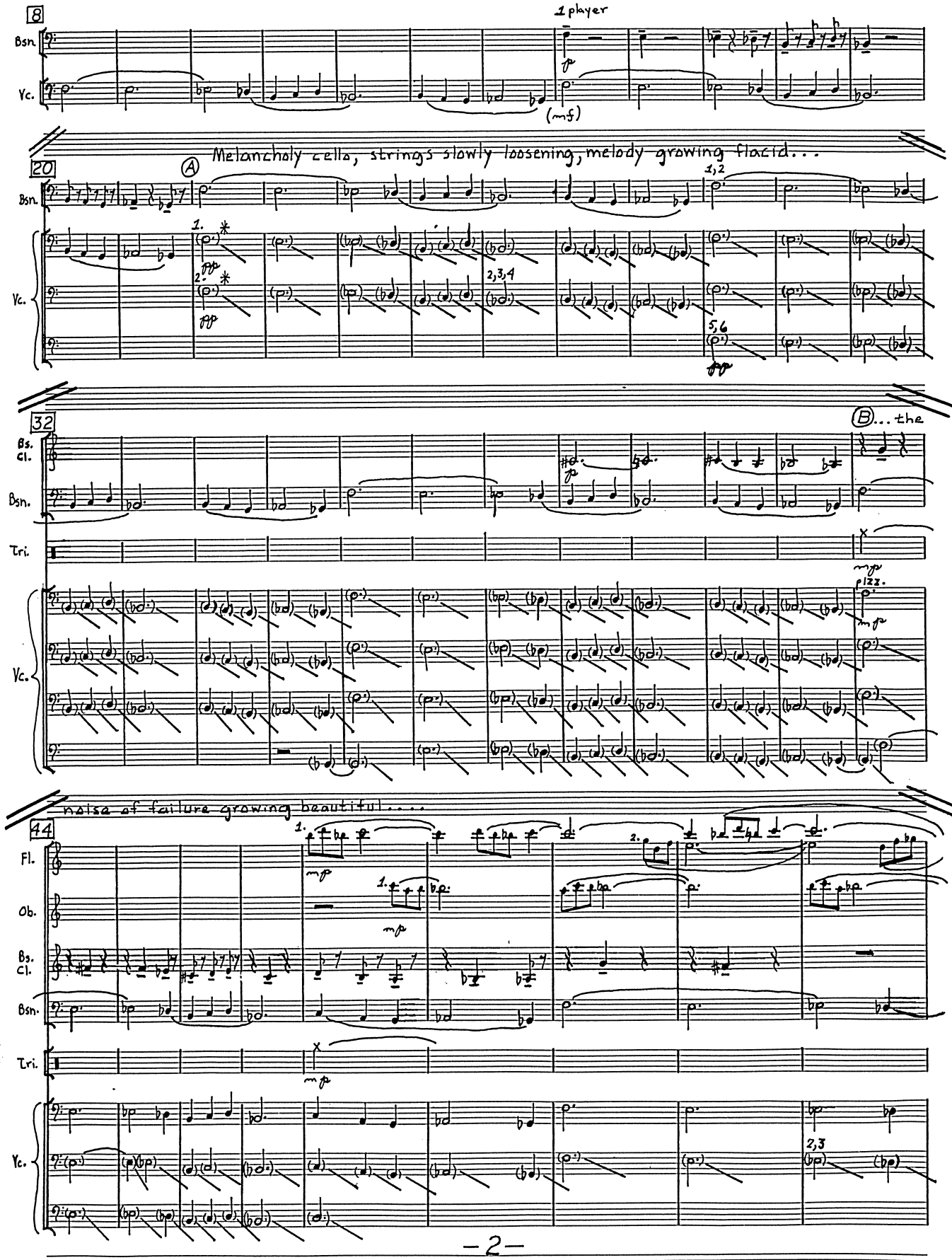
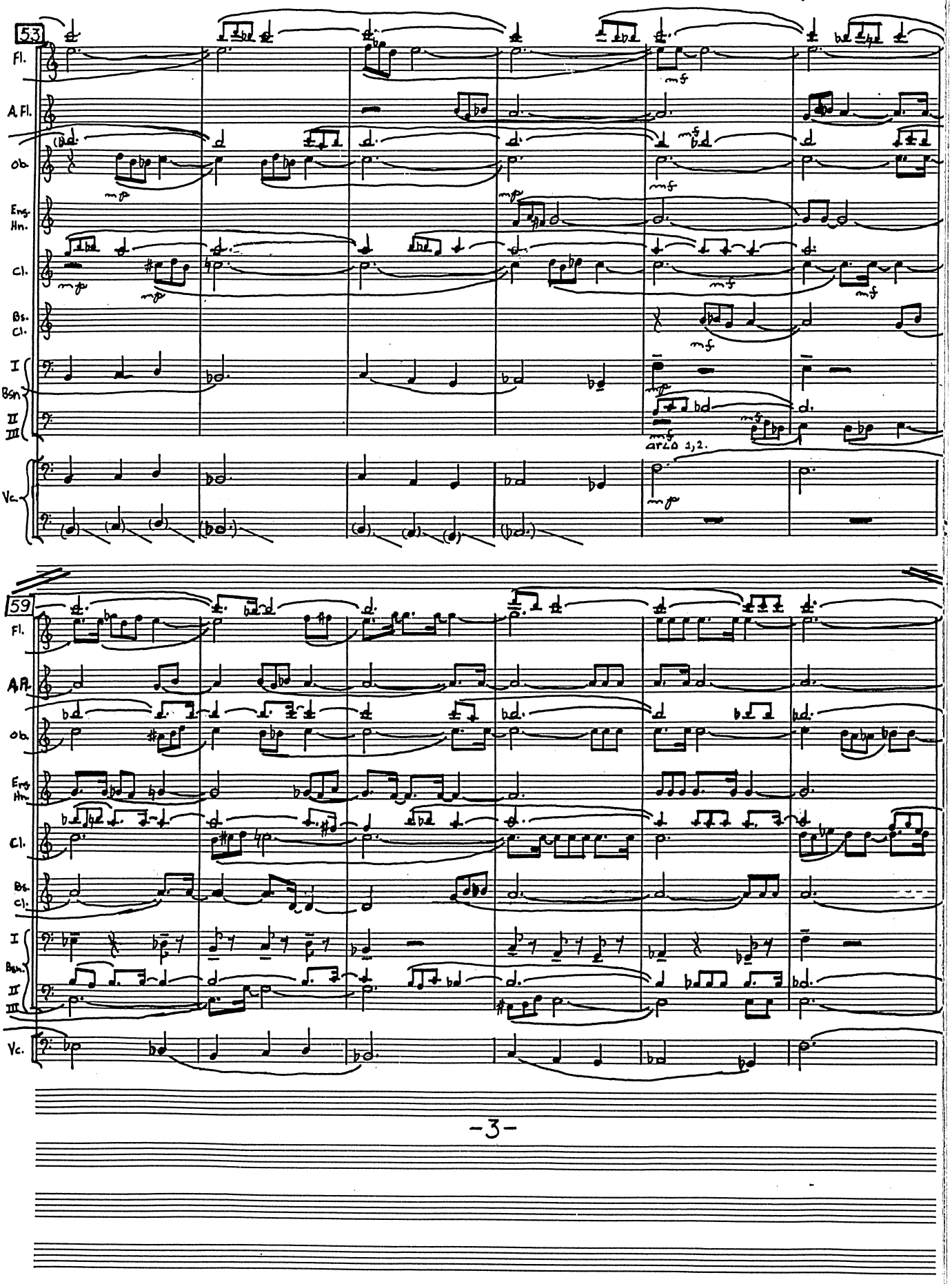
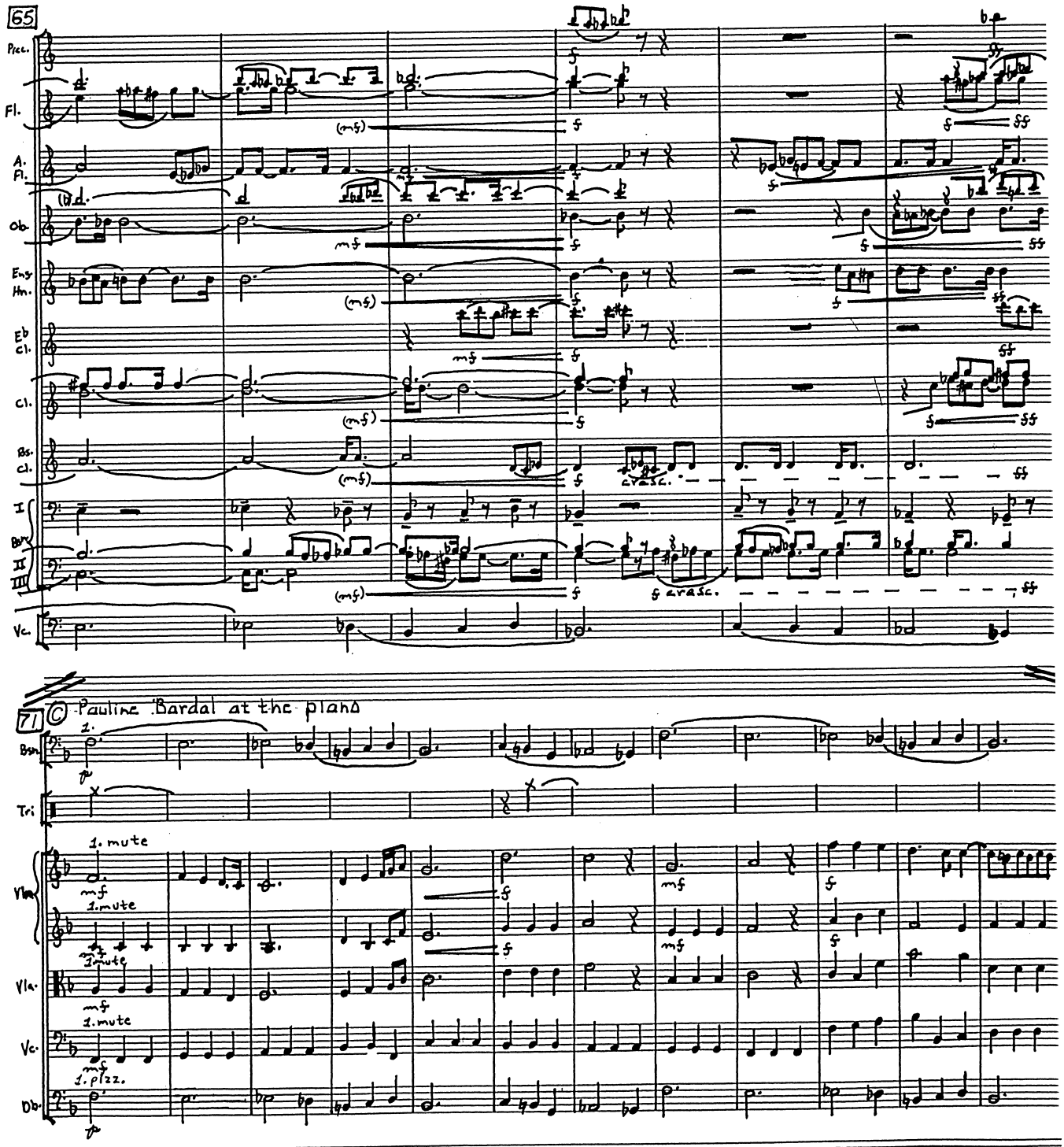
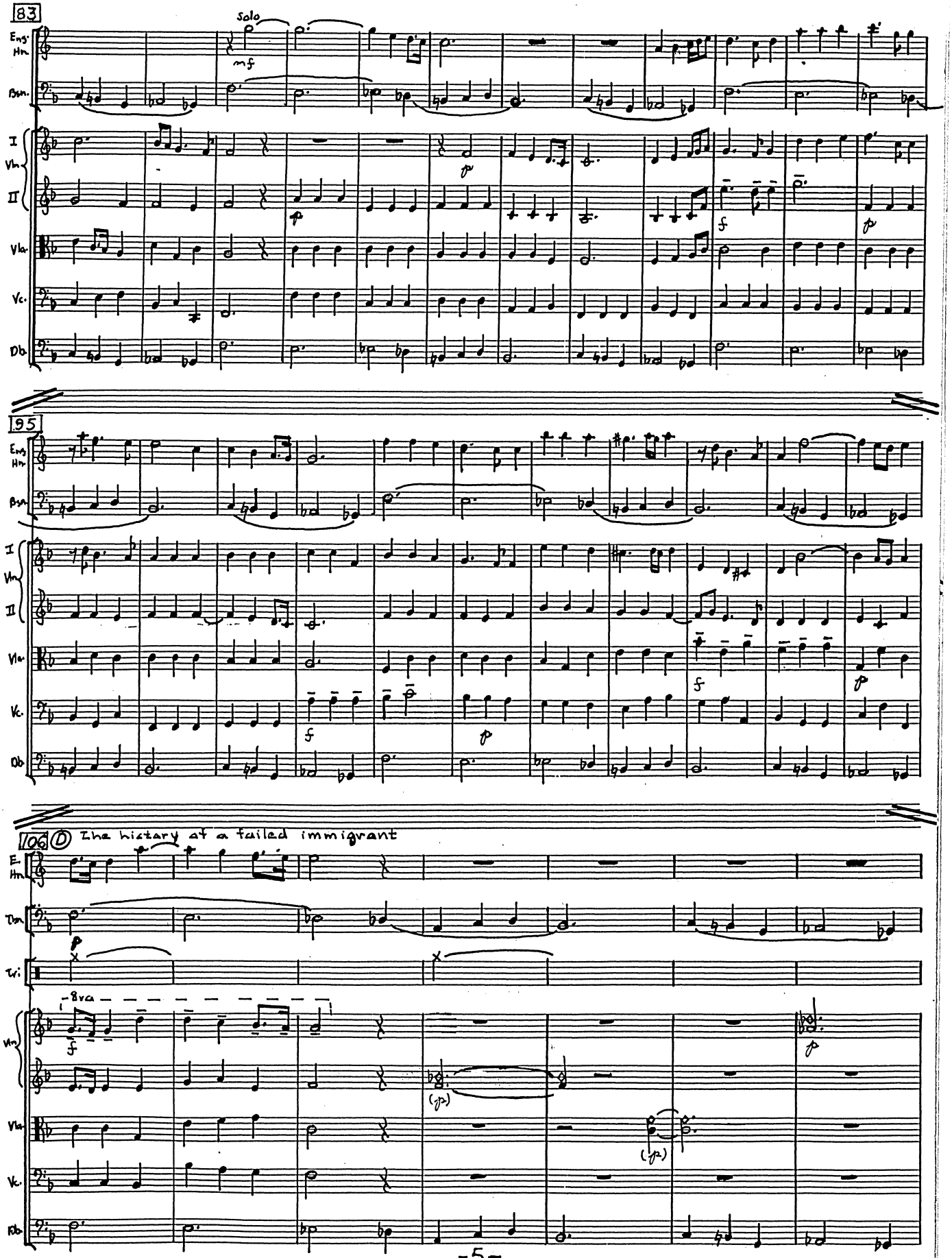
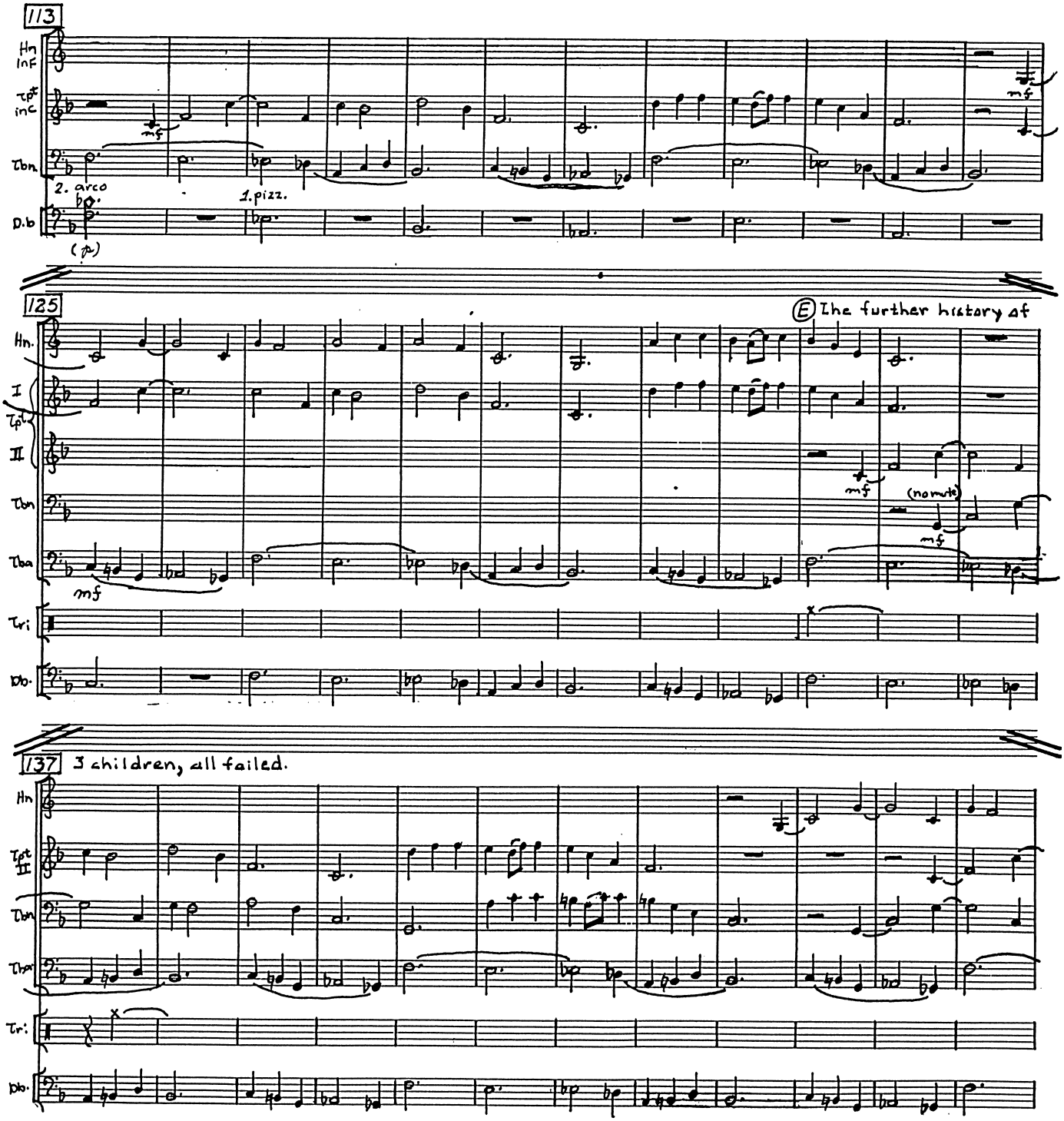


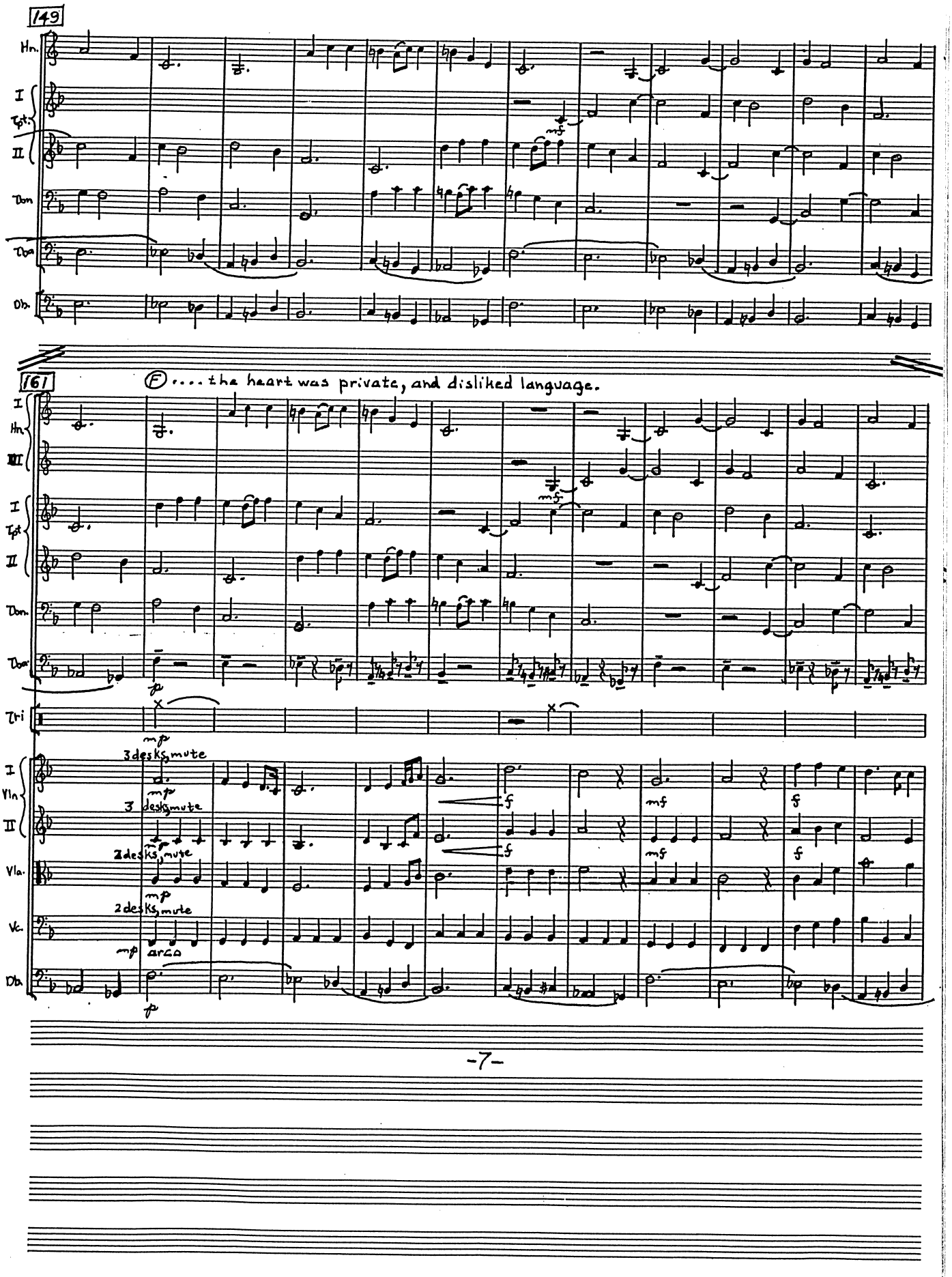
* Notation calls for approximate pitch at approximate time indicated.
Performers should not be off by more than a whole step or one quarter-note beat.
Performers should not attempt to coordinate with others.

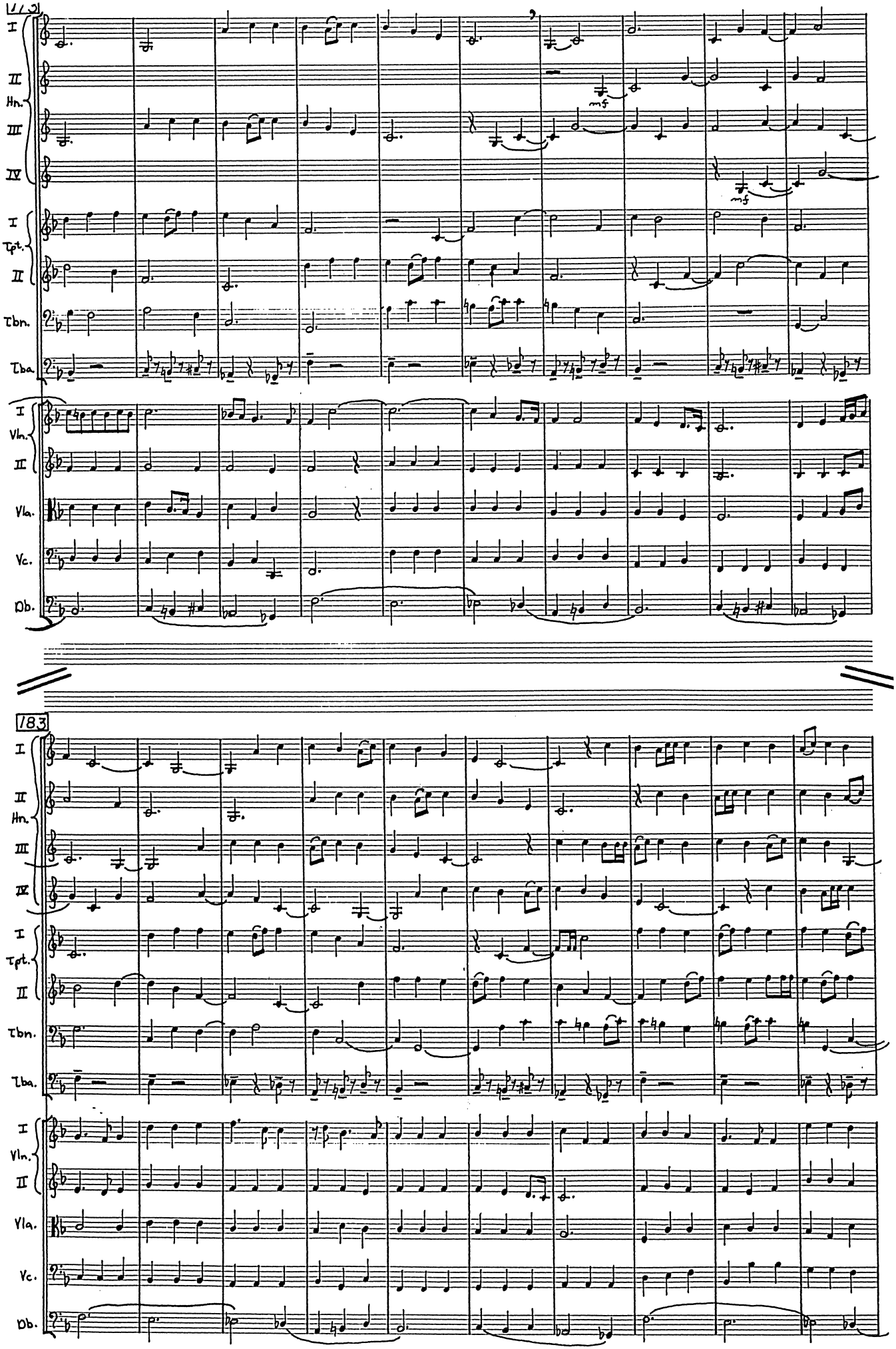

53
Fl.
A. Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
Bs. Cl.
I
Bsn.
II
III
Vc.
mp
mf
arco 1,2.
59
Fl.
A. Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
Bs. Cl.
I
Bsn.
II
III
Vc.


65
Picc.
Fl.
A. Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Eb Cl.
Cl.
Bs. Cl.
I
Bsn
II
III
Vc.
(mf)
f
ff
cresc.
71
© Pauline Bardal at the piano
Bsn.
Tri
Vln
Vla.
Vc.
Db.
1. mute
1. pizz.
mf
p

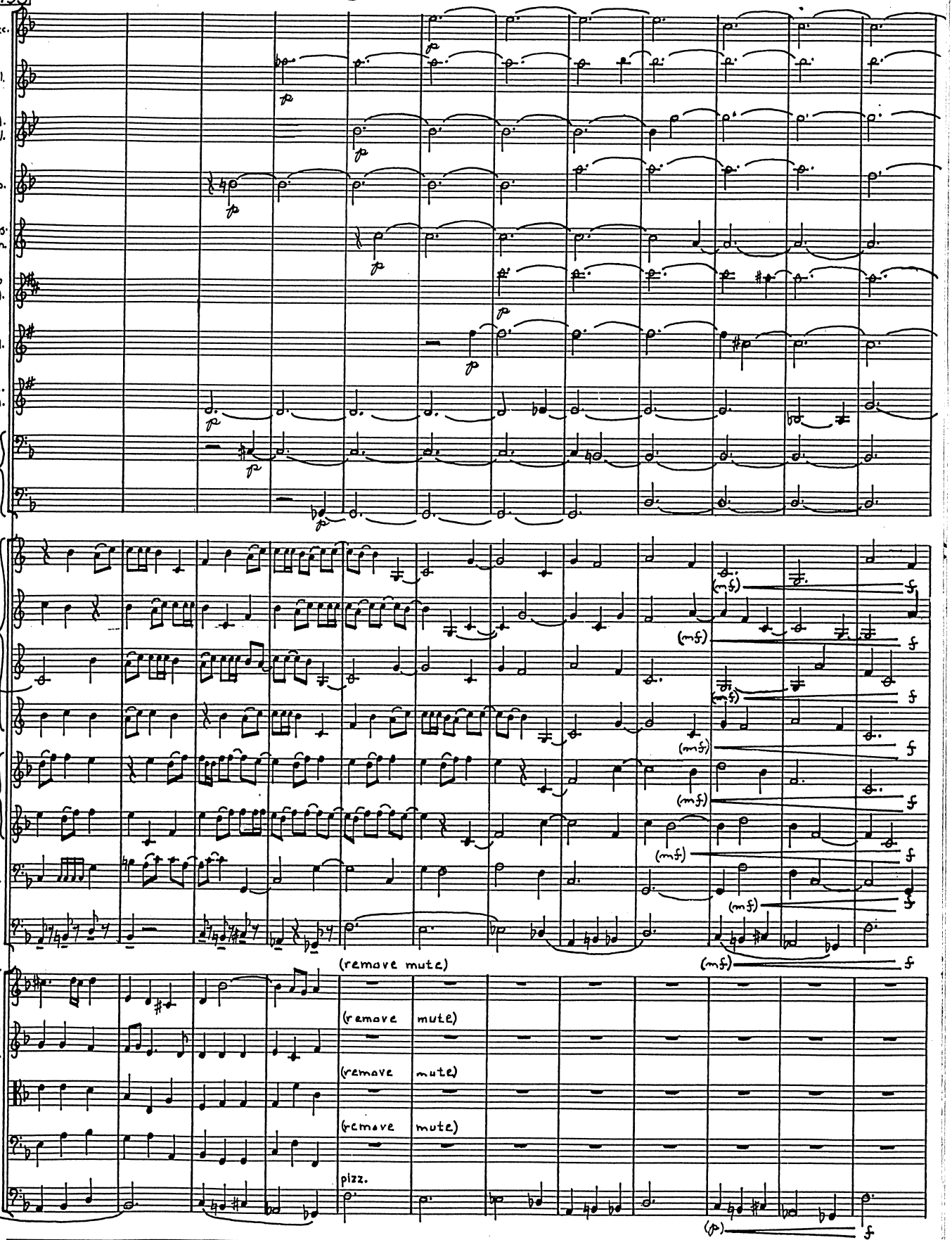

83
Solo
mf
Eng. Hn.
Bsn.
I Vn.
II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.
p
f
95
106 D The history of a failed immigrant
E. Hn.
Tbn.
Tri.
8va
(p)
-5-


113
Hn
Inf
Tpt
inc
Tbn
2. arco
1. pizz.
D.b
(p)
mf
125
Hn.
I
Tpt
II
Tbn
Tba
Tri
Db.
mf
(no mute)
E The further history of
137
3 children, all failed.
Hn
Tpt
II
Tbn
Tba
Tri
Db.

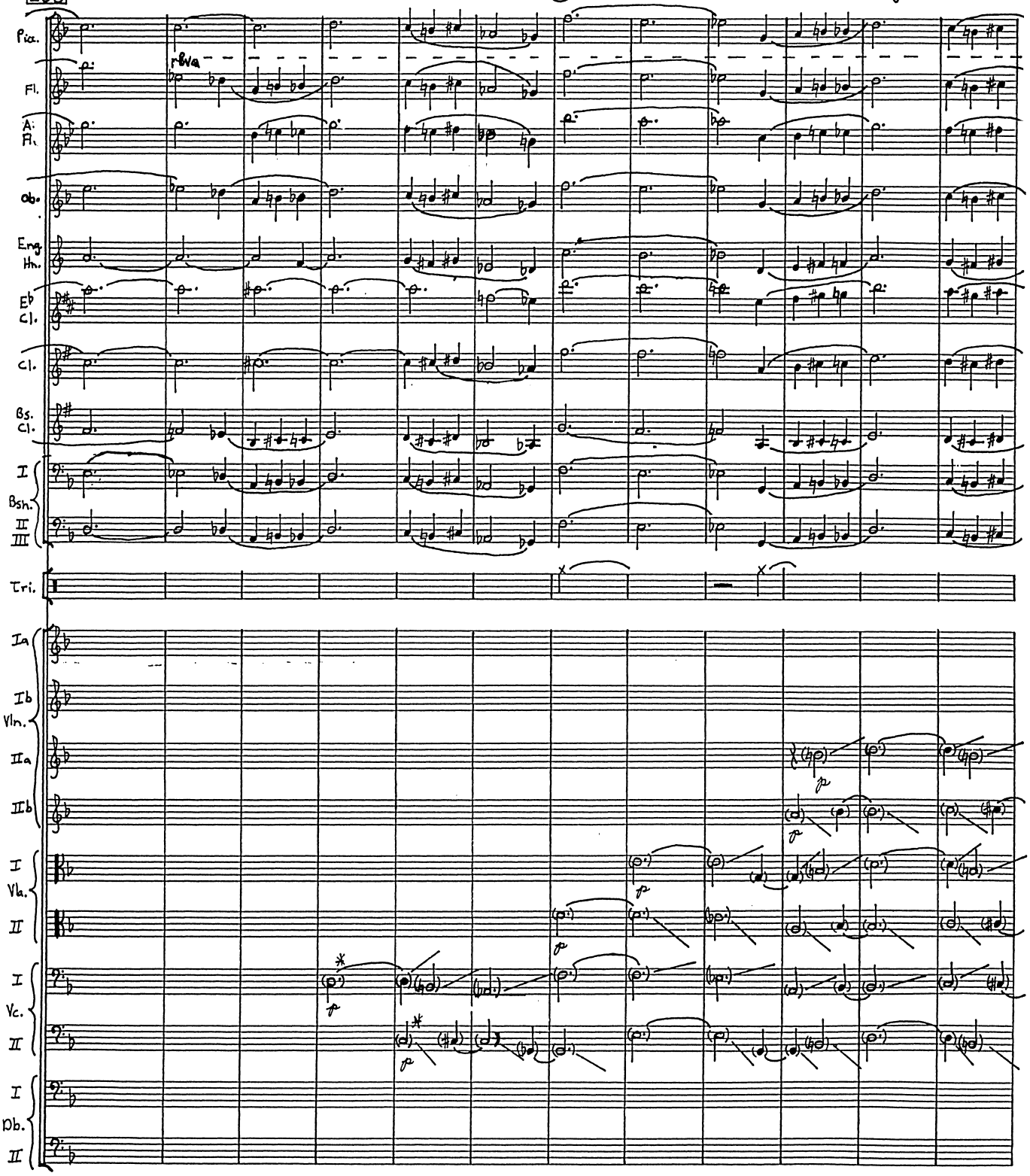

149
Hn.
I
Tpt.
II
Tbn.
Db.
161
(F) . . . . the heart was private, and disliked language.
I
Hn.
III
I
Tpt.
II
Tbn.
Tri
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vc.
Db
3 desks, mute
3 desks, mute
2 desks, mute
2 desks, mute
arco


177
I
II
Hn.
III
IV
I
Tpt.
II
Tbn.
Tba.
mf
mf
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.
183
I
II
Hn.
III
IV
I
Tpt.
II
Tbn.
Tba.
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

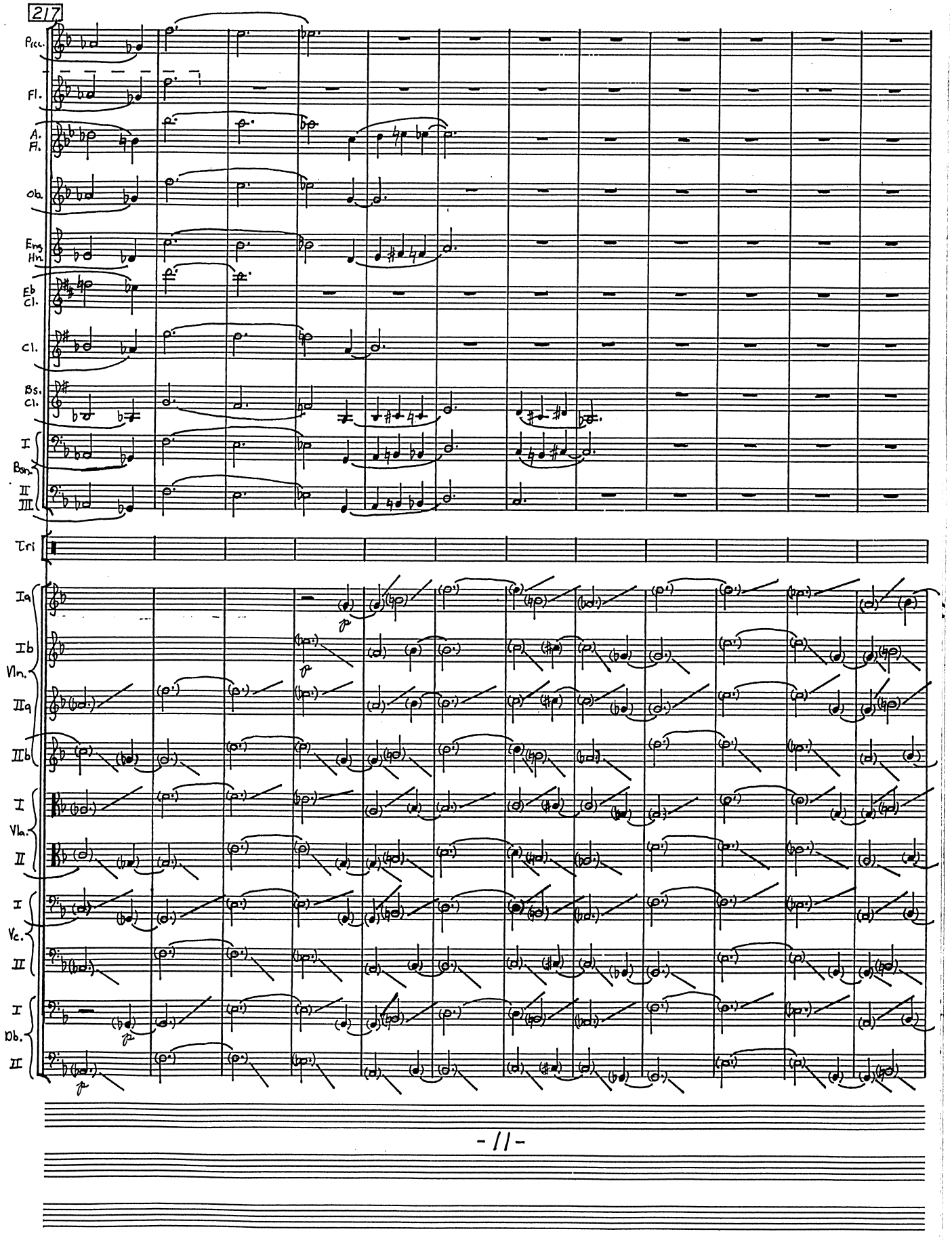
⑥ Pack rat houses, and what they tell

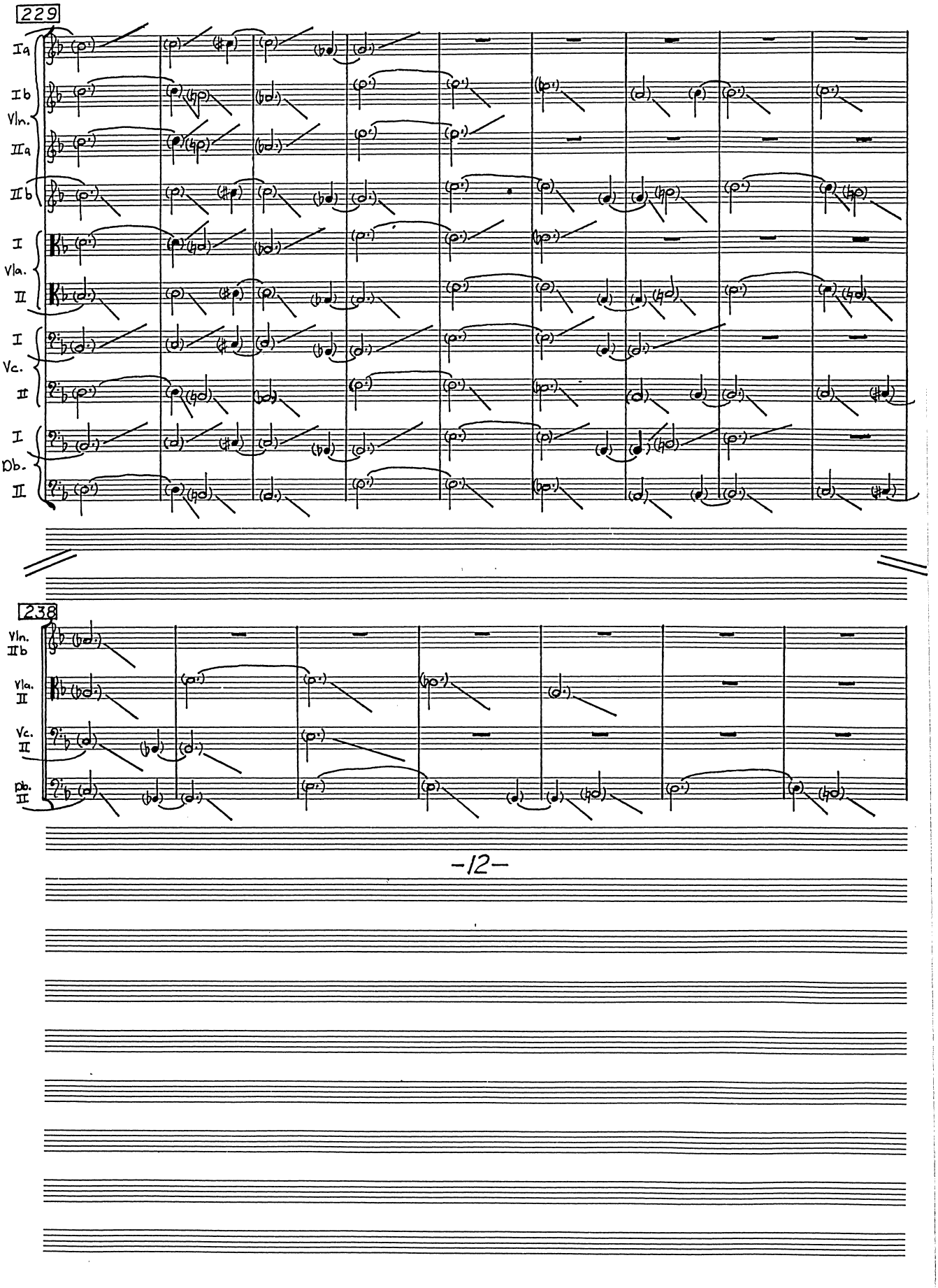


Ⓗa consciousness of the "death in things"....



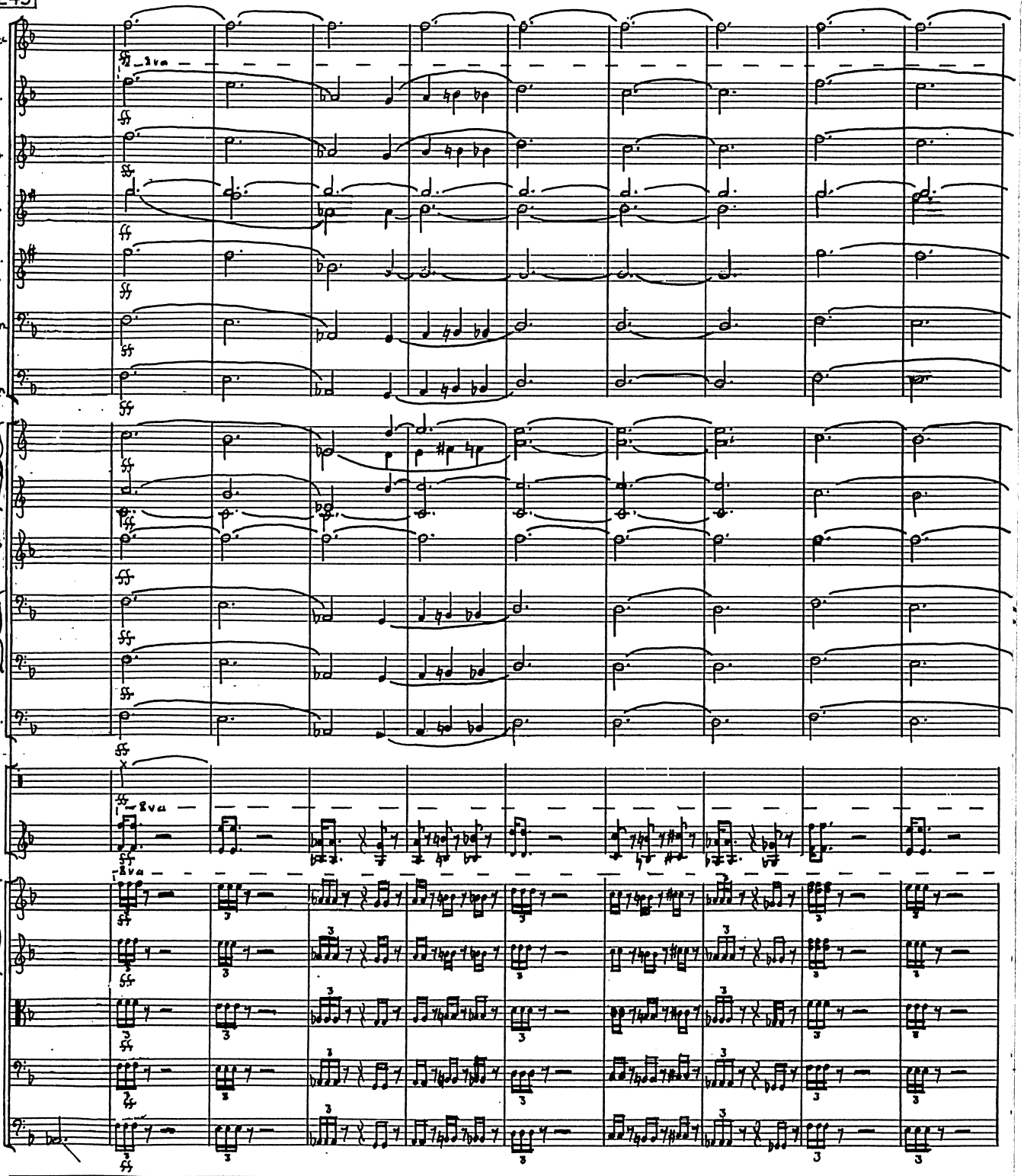
*See note on pg. 2

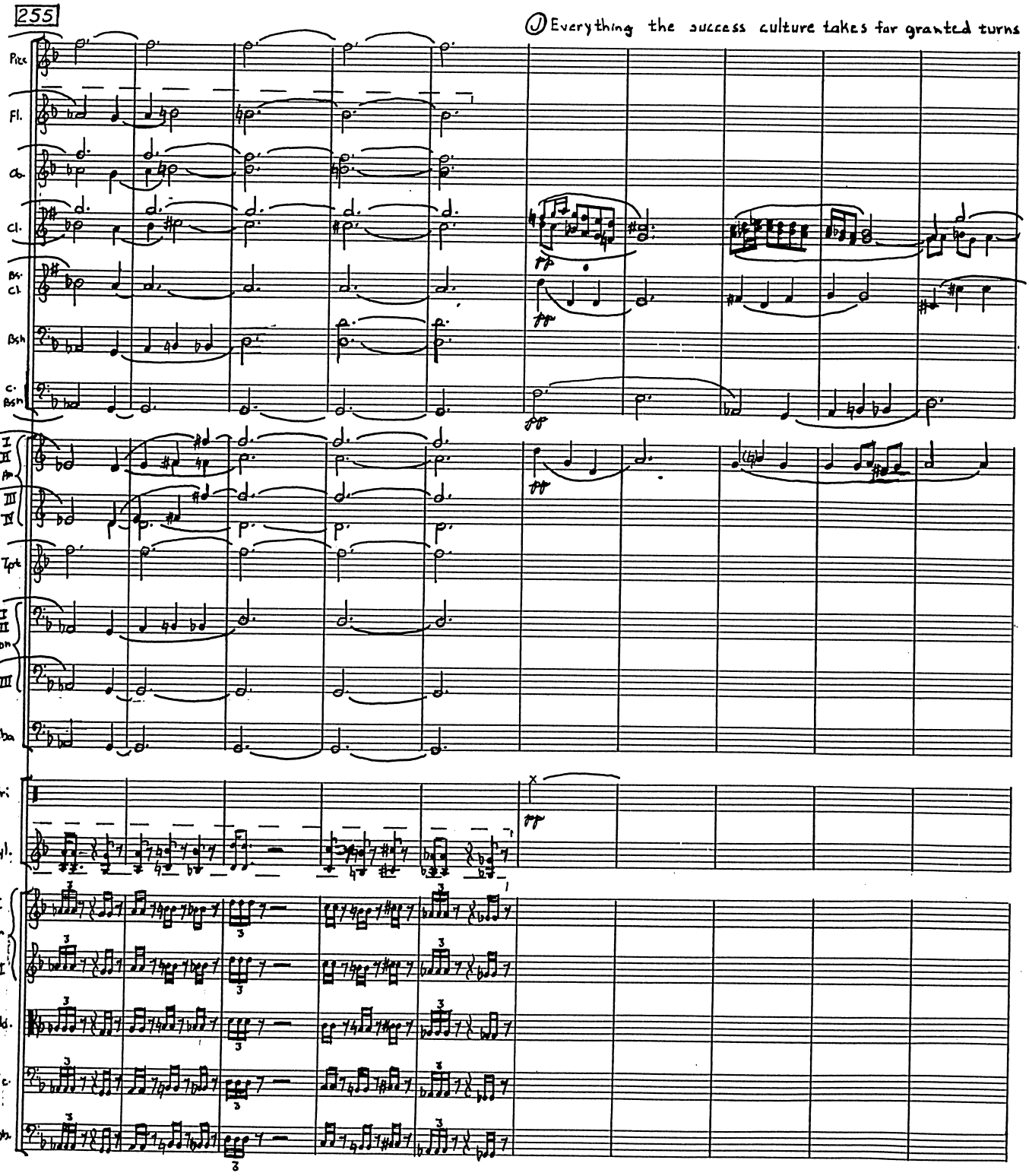

217
Picc.
Fl.
A. Fl.
Ob.
Eng Hn.
Eb Cl.
Cl.
Bs. Cl.
I
Bsn.
II
III
Tri
Ia
Ib
Vln.
IIa
IIb
I
Vla.
II
I
Vc.
II
I
Db.
II
p
p
p

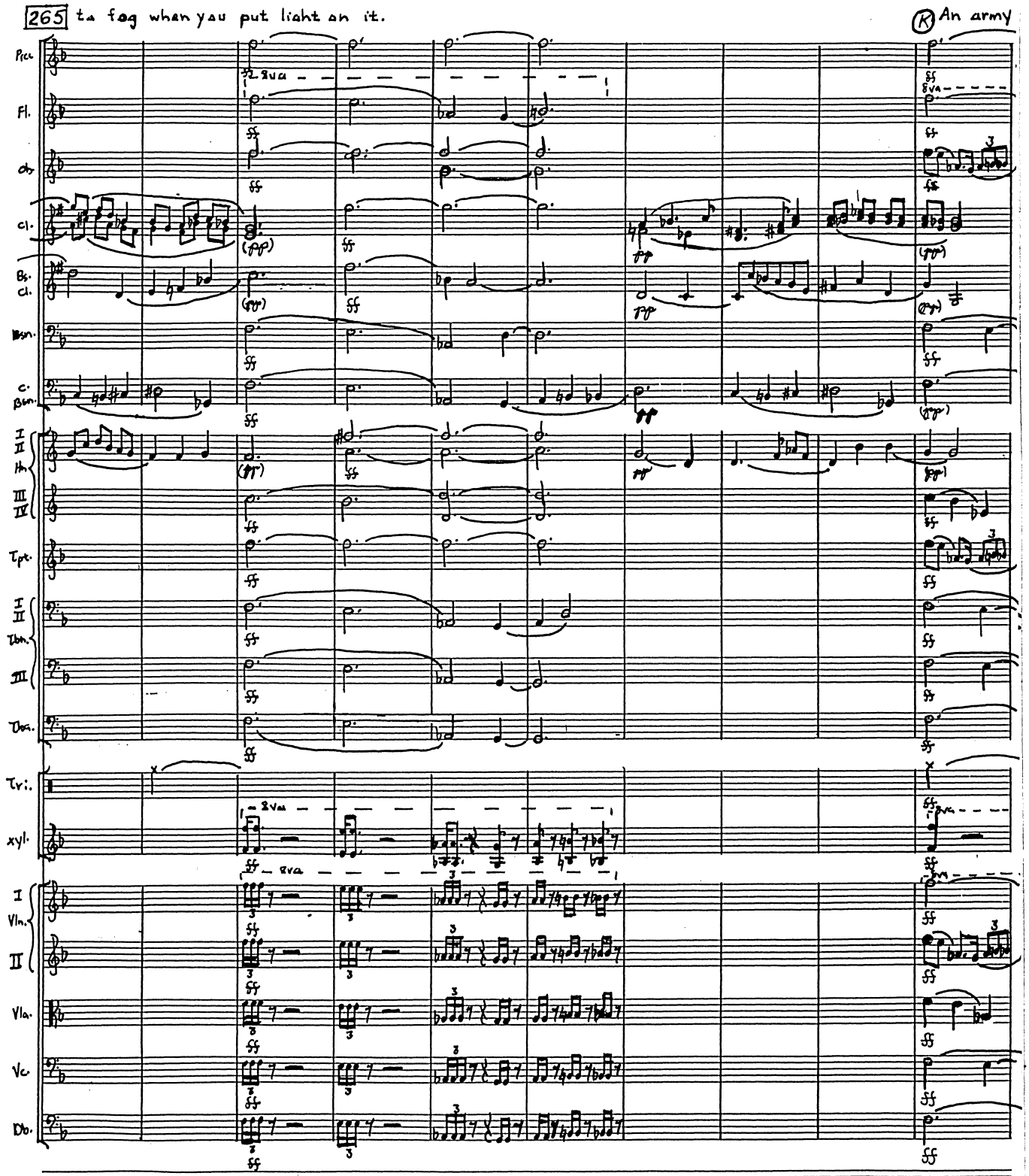

229
Ia
Ib
Vln.
IIa
IIb
I
Vla.
II
I
Vc.
II
I
Db.
II
238
Vln.
IIb
Vla.
II
Vc.
II
Db.
II

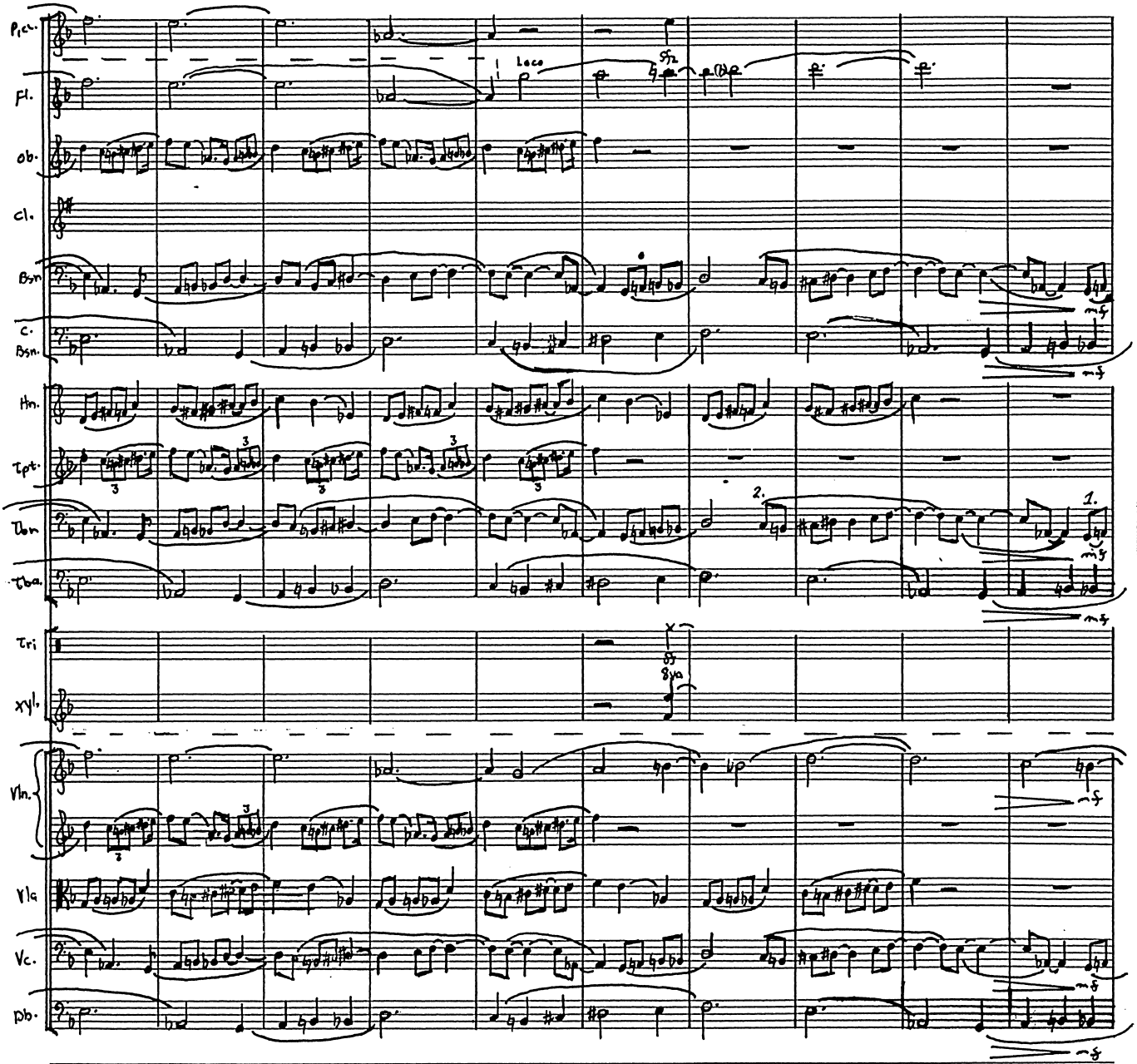
245

A fortissimo blast from Walt Whitman




255
J Everything the success culture takes for granted turns
Picc
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn
C. Bsn
I
II
III
IV
Hn
Tpt
I
II
Tbn
III
Tba
Tri
Xyl.
I
Vln
II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.


265 to fog when you put light on it.
K An army
Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Bs. Cl.
Bsn.
C. Bsn.
I II Hn.
III IV
Tpt.
I II Tbn.
III
Tba.
Tri.
xyl.
I Vln.
II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.
8va
ff
(pp)
pp


Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Bsn
C. Bsn.
Hn.
Tpt.
Tbn
Tba.
Tri
Xyl.
Vln.
Vla
Vc.
Db.
Loco
8va
mf
1.
2.

285

Ⓛ Something succeeds if it is itself

1. Solo

Ob.
Bsn.
C. Bsn.
Tbn.
Tba.
Tri.
Cel.
Vln I
Vc.
Db.

pp mf mf 1. Solo 8va to end

297

The heart can be filled up anywhere on earth

Ob.
Tri.
Cel.
Vln I

ff

ca. 11-12 mins.

* Glissando slowly to highest possible note (+)

September, 1988
Cincinnati, Ohio