Celluloid Resurrection - Dancing Songs

for piccolo, clarinet, violin, cello, and piano

Sam Longbottom

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2024

Celluloid Resurrection - Dancing Songs

A video score for ensemble in two movements.

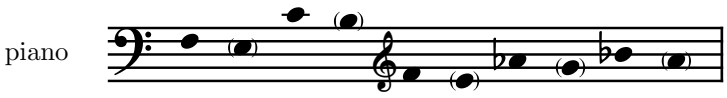
Written for The House of Bedlam and Angharad Davies.

N.b., this is not a playing score, see below for more information

instrumentation

- piccolo
- clarinet in Bb
- violin
- cello
- piano

F3, C4, F4, Ab4, and Bb4 of the piano should be prepared with a neodymium magnet placed on the string. With a bell-like tone, the pitch of these notes should sound almost a semitone below. To achieve this, place the magnet towards one end of the string, experimenting until it sounds almost in unison with the pitch a semitone below. It should beat against the note below, creating a colourfully hazy sound.



video score / rehearsal score

The score for this piece is an mp4 video score with animated notation. Please contact the composer for a copy of the file.

Notes do not have specified durations, instead they are notated spatially. A line, similar to a bar line, moves across each player's system indicating when to play. The player should play when the line passes through a note, this should be as accurate as possible. The lines indicating to play often move at different rates between the ensemble, occasionally coming into sync.

The score contained within these pages is not intended for performance. It does not contain or allow for the specific control of timing that the video score does. This version of the score is merely for the players to get an overview of the piece in its entirety and to assist with practicing.

staging / playing the video

The ideal playback of the video score for the performers is using two computer monitors and a tablet or laptop.

The tablet or laptop should control playback of the video while mirroring its display to the monitors.

The pianist should use the tablet or laptop, while the monitors should be used one between two for the other instruments. They should be placed on stands, and achieve a similar effect to sharing a regular music stand one between two.

The visual of the monitors should be as unobtrusive as possible. It should look like regular chamber music as much as possible.

If available, you can also replace the monitors with tablets (on music stands), one between two or one each.

Shakespeare, Rembrandt, Beethoven will make films. . . . All legends, all mythologies, and all myths, all the founders of religions, indeed, all religions, . . . await their celluloid resurrection, and the heroes are pressing at the gates

Abel Gance (2008, 22)
found in *The Work of Art in the Age of Its Technological Reproducibility* by Walter Benjamin

bar = approx. 6 seconds
dynamic - around ***m***

N.b., this is not a playing score
see video score

plain, sightly detached (rest in blank bars)
notes above E5 played pizz, everything below arco
awkward double stops (2nds) may be played as grace notes

Violin

m

7

Vln

11

Vln

14

Vln

with lots of air - slightly detached
notes in lowest octave played lip pizz

18

Picc.

m

Vln

22

Picc.

Vln

25

Picc.

Vln

28

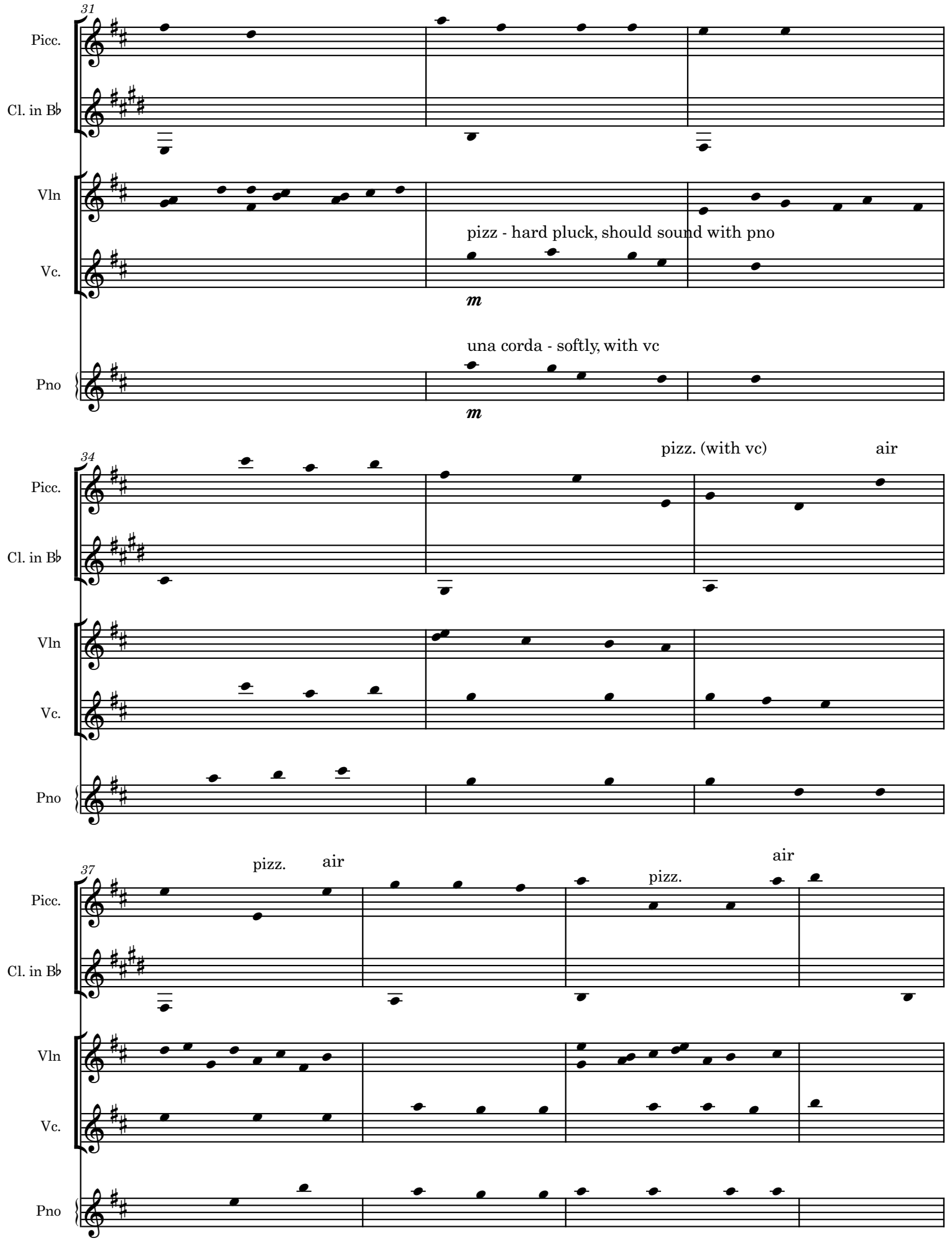
Picc.

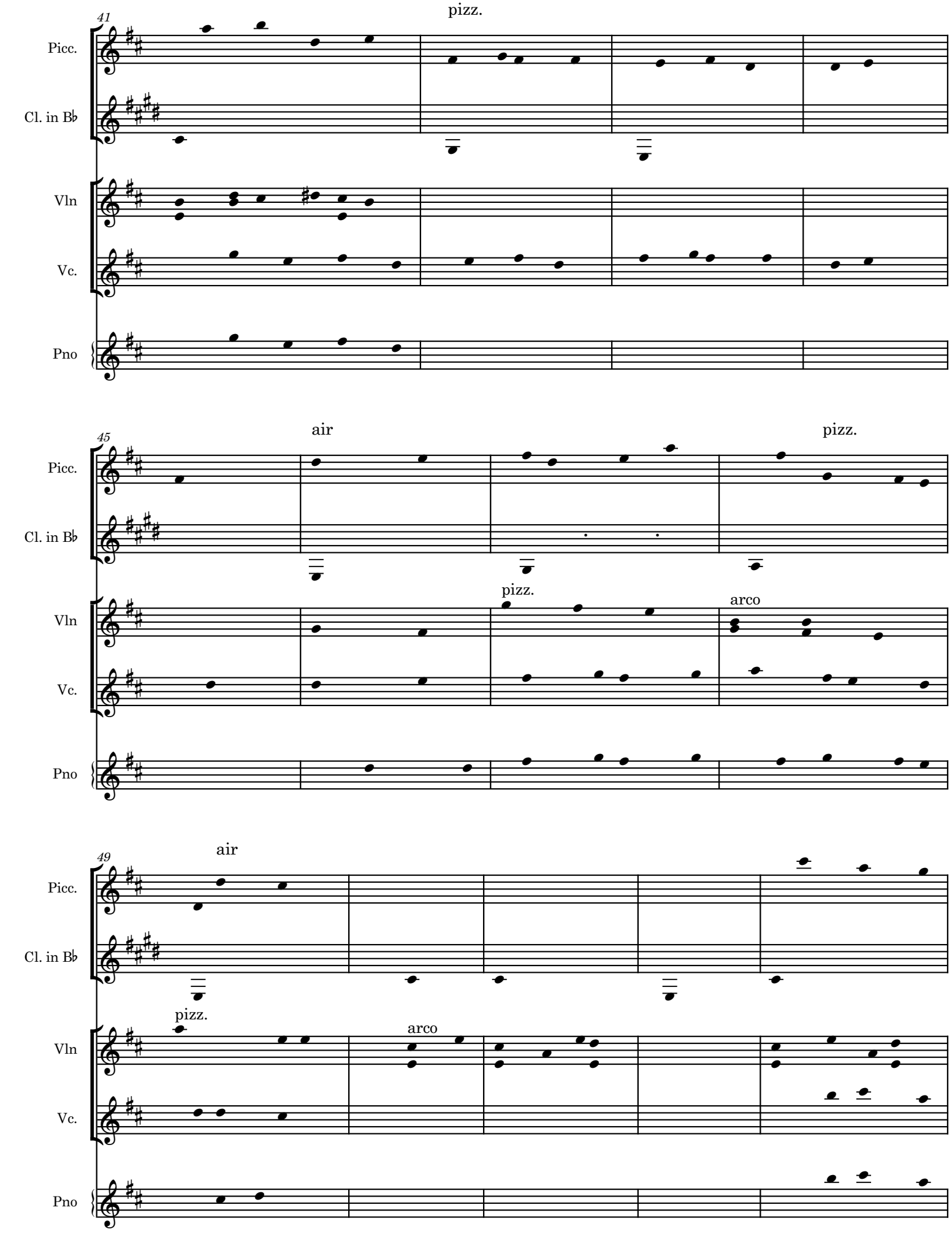
come from nothing to extremely quiet
always droning in the background

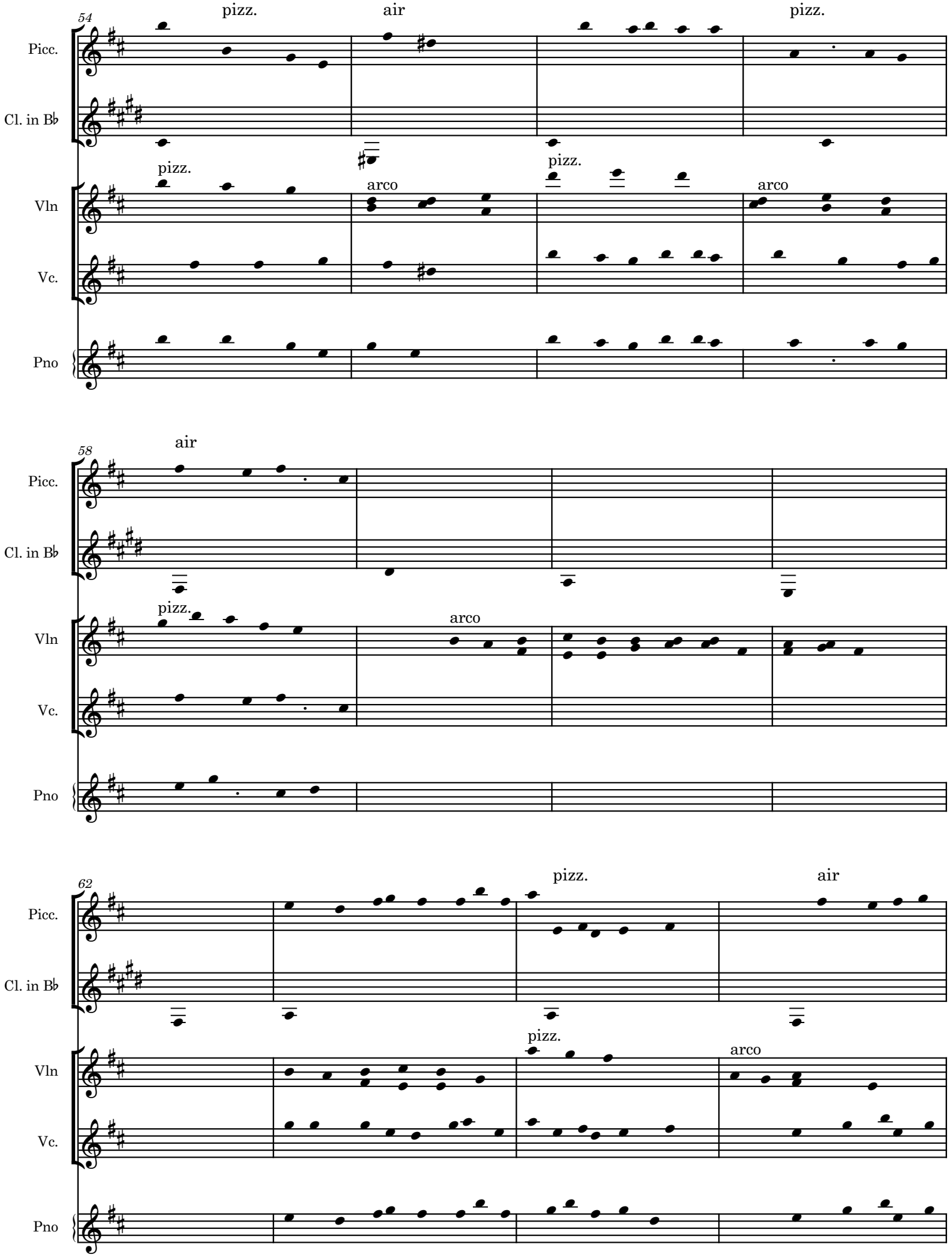
Cl. in B♭

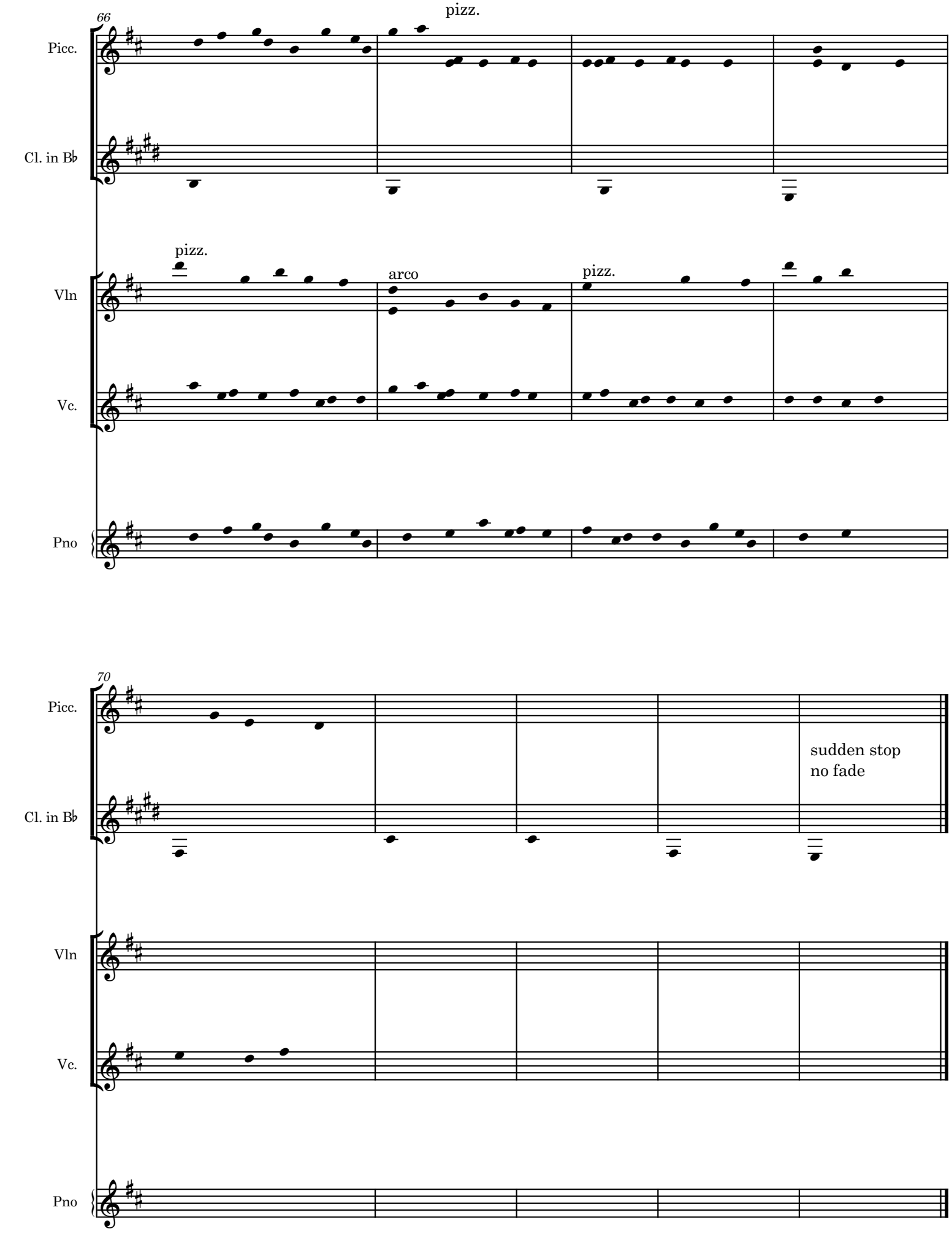
ppp

Vln

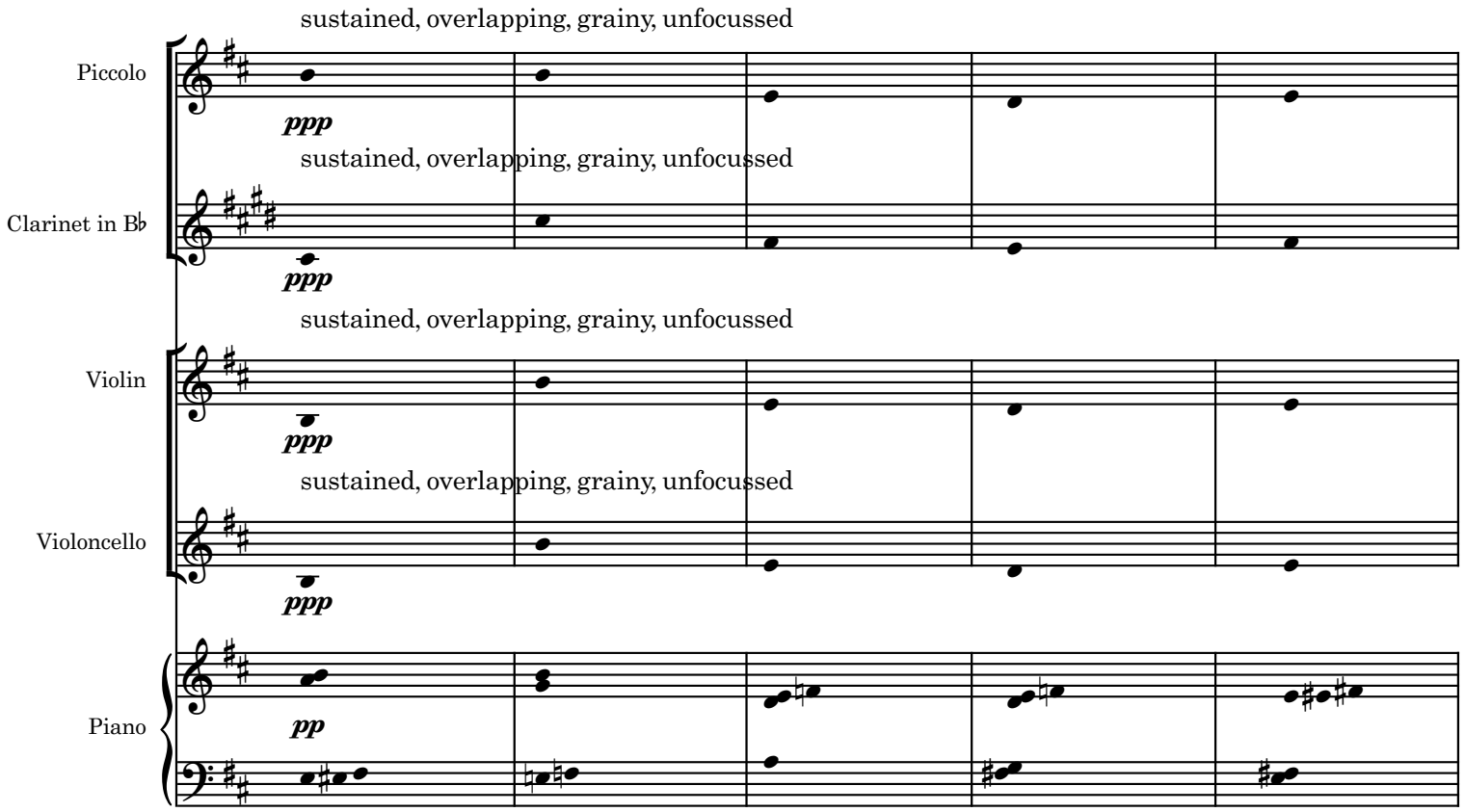

31
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
pizz - hard pluck, should sound with pno
m
Pno
una corda - softly, with vc
m
34
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
pizz. (with vc)
air
Vln
Vc.
Pno
37
Picc.
pizz.
air
Cl. in B♭
pizz.
air
Vln
Vc.
Pno

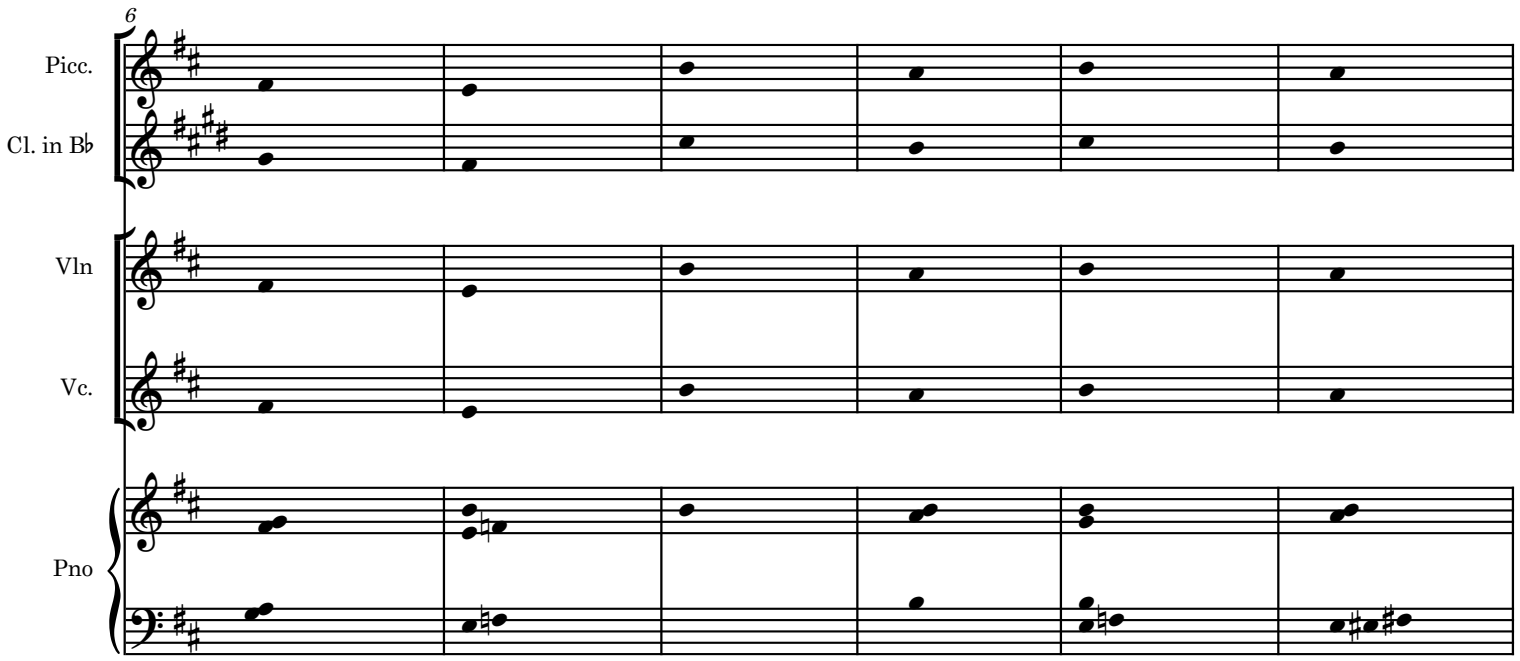

41
pizz.
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
Pno
45
air
pizz.
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
pizz.
arco
Vln
Vc.
Pno
49
air
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
pizz.
arco
Vln
Vc.
Pno

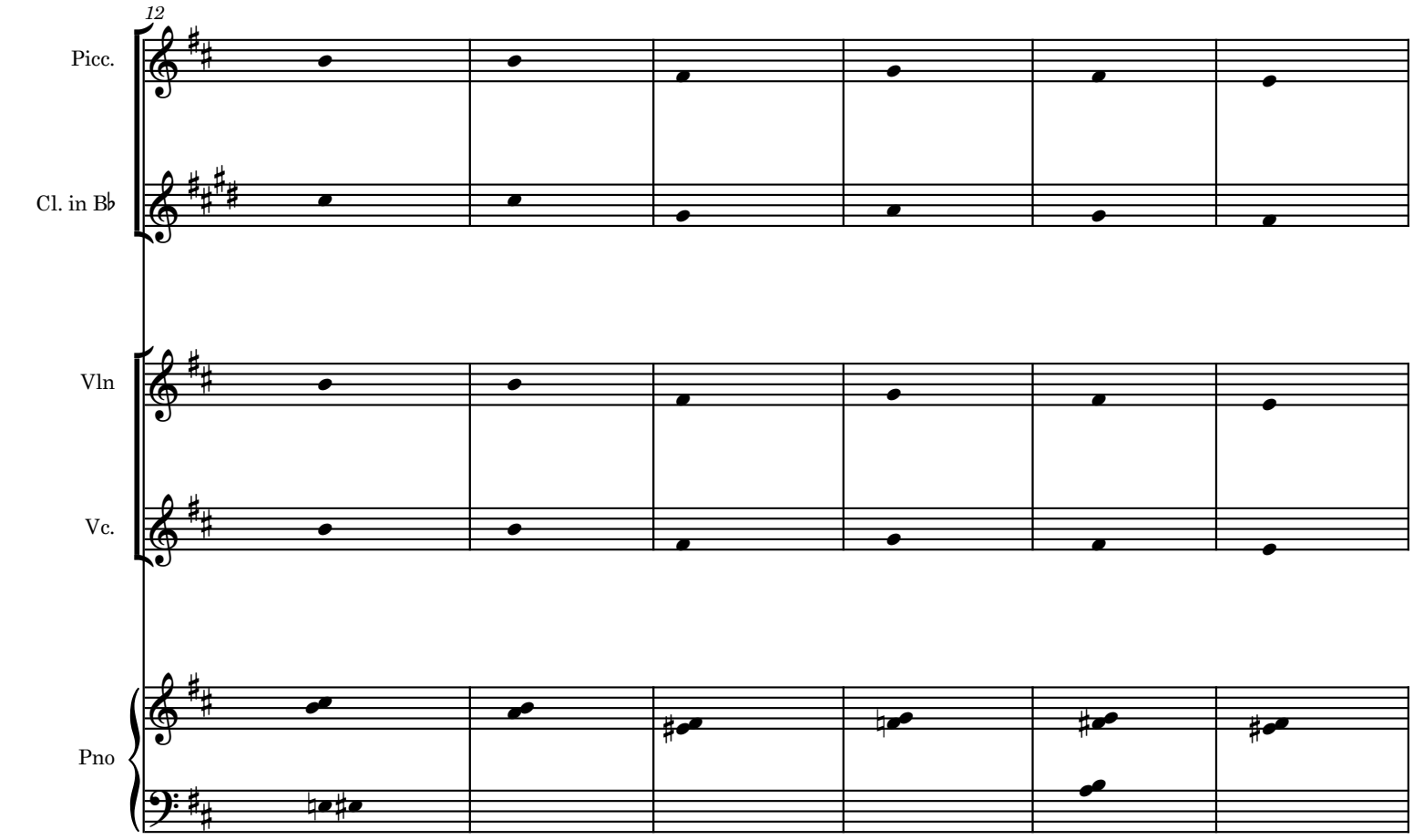

54
pizz.
air
pizz.
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
Vln
Vc.
Pno
58
air
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
pizz.
arco
Vln
Vc.
Pno
62
pizz.
air
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
pizz.
arco
Vln
Vc.
Pno


66
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
Pno
pizz.
pizz.
arco
pizz.
70
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
Pno
sudden stop
no fade

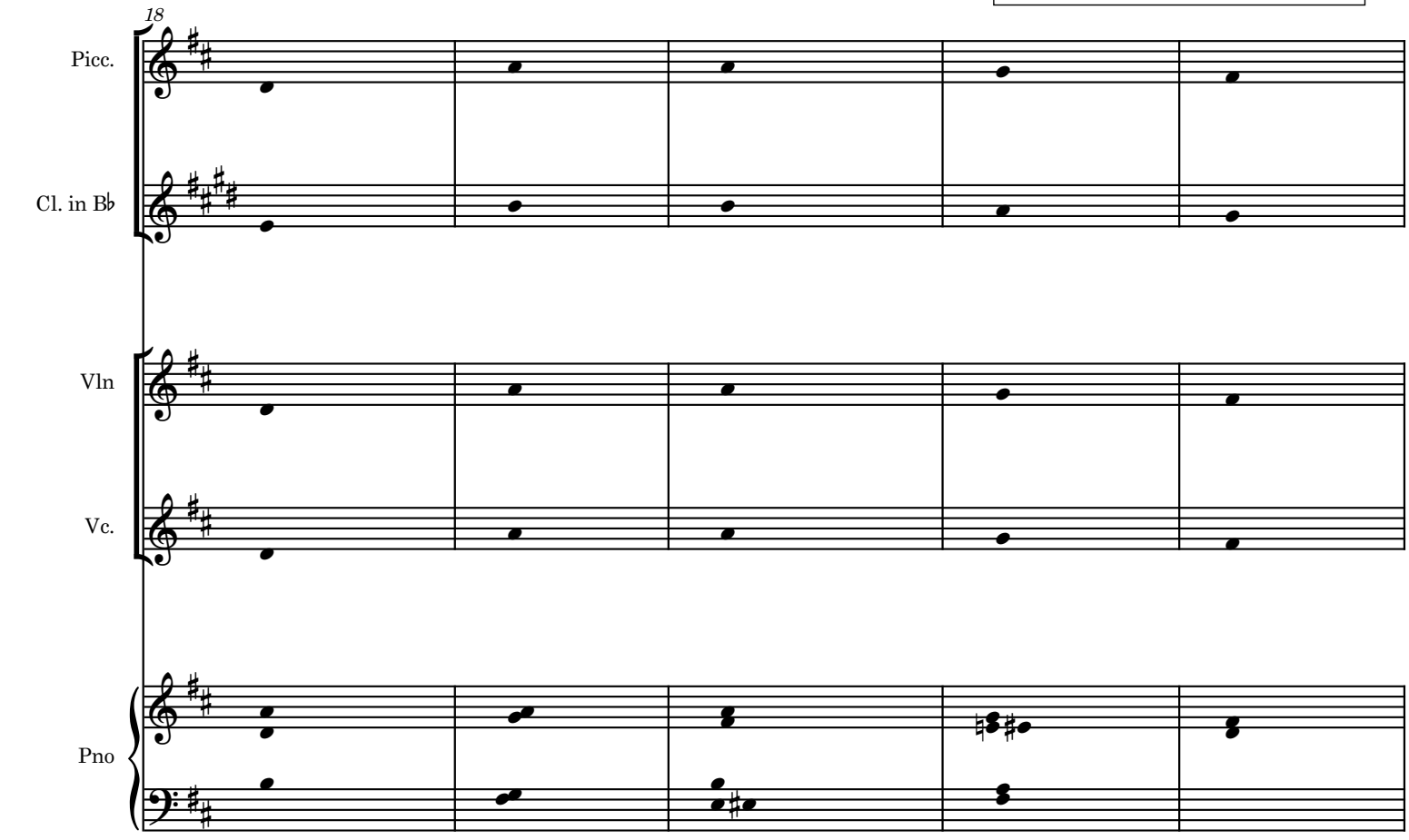
bar = approx. 8 secconds
dynamic - very quiet ***ppp*** behind/emerging from piano
gliss down
no more than a quarter tone, may occasionally go further
don't have to play every note, may continue gliss down instead



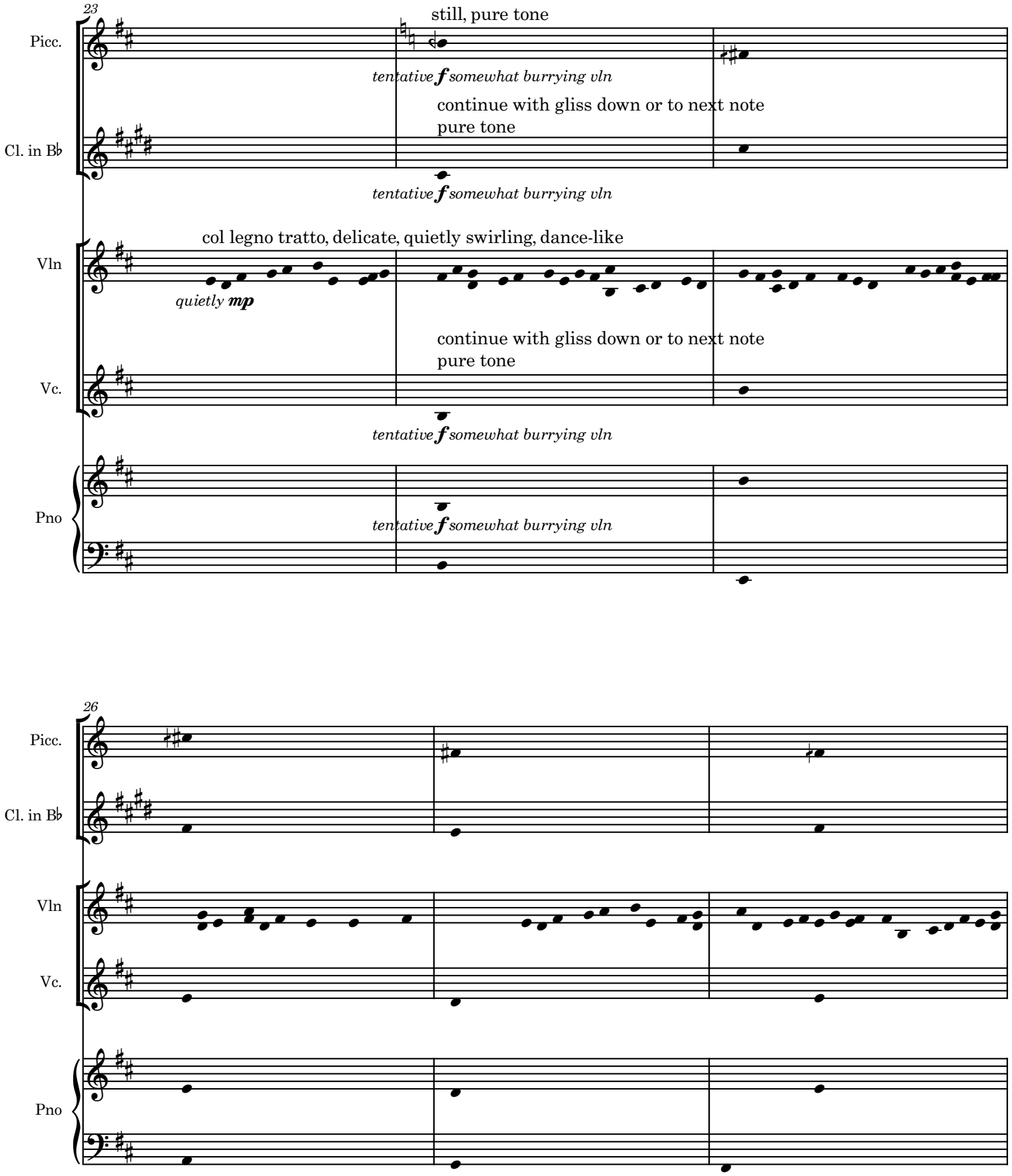


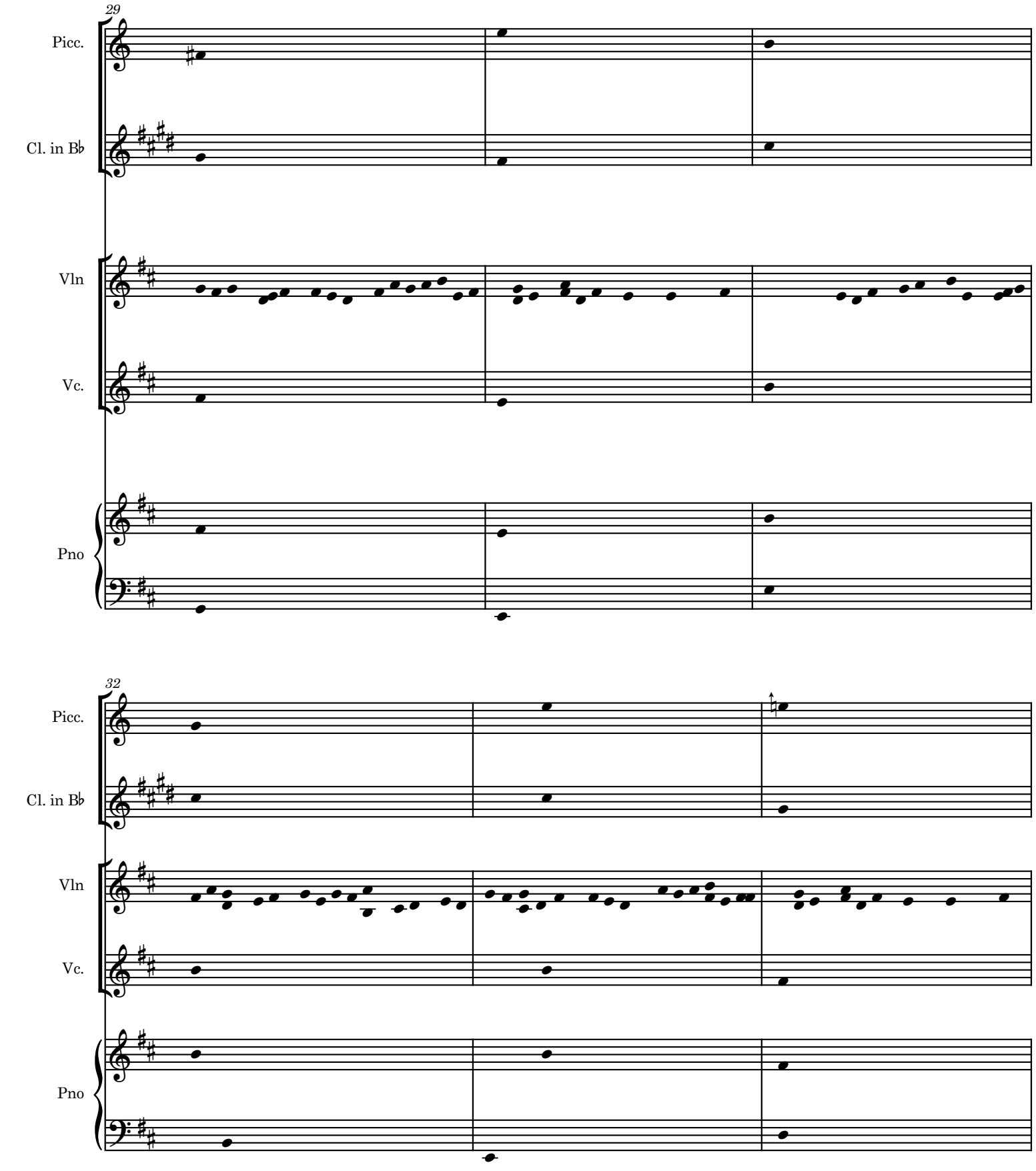


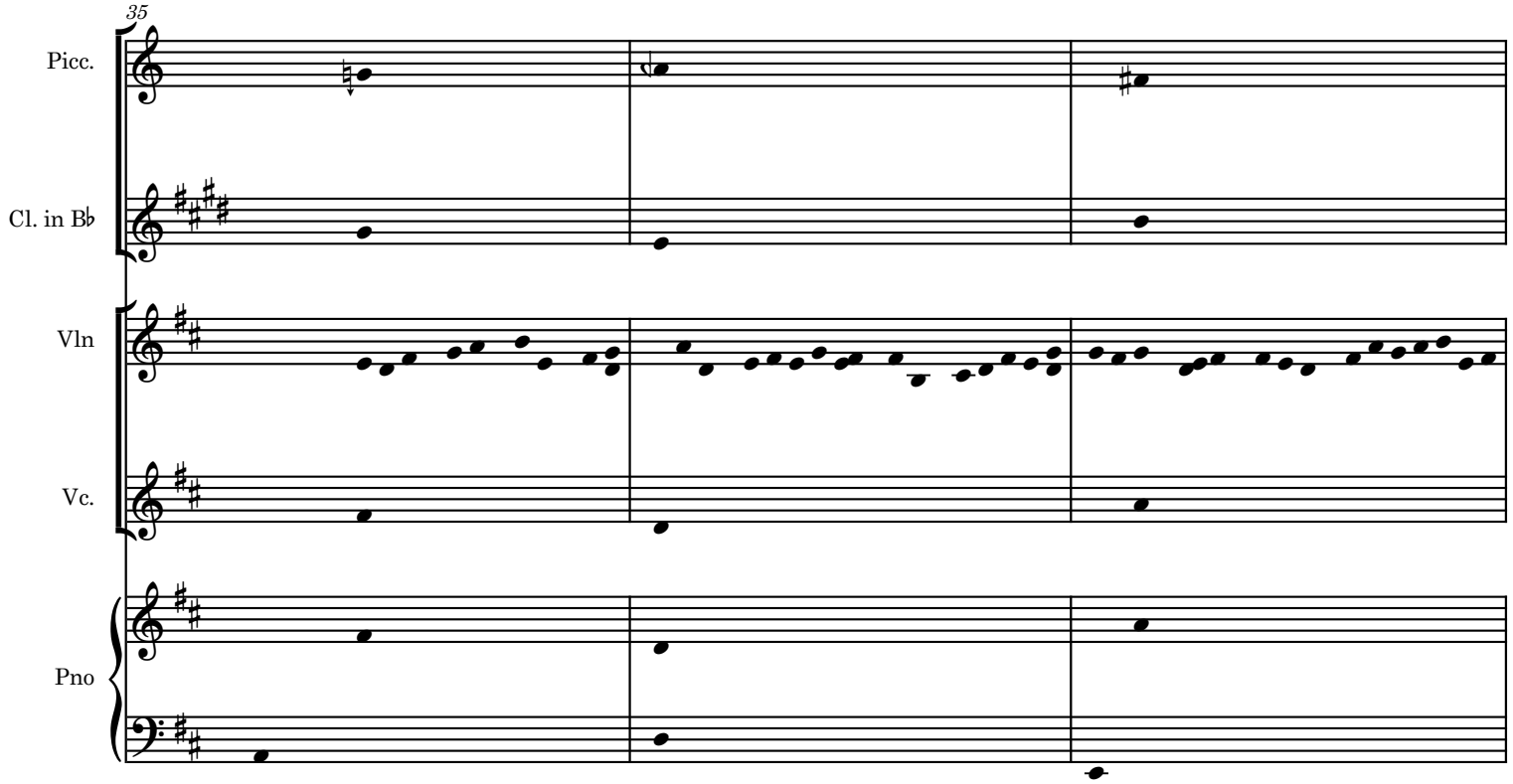
fade out before bar 24
vln before 23

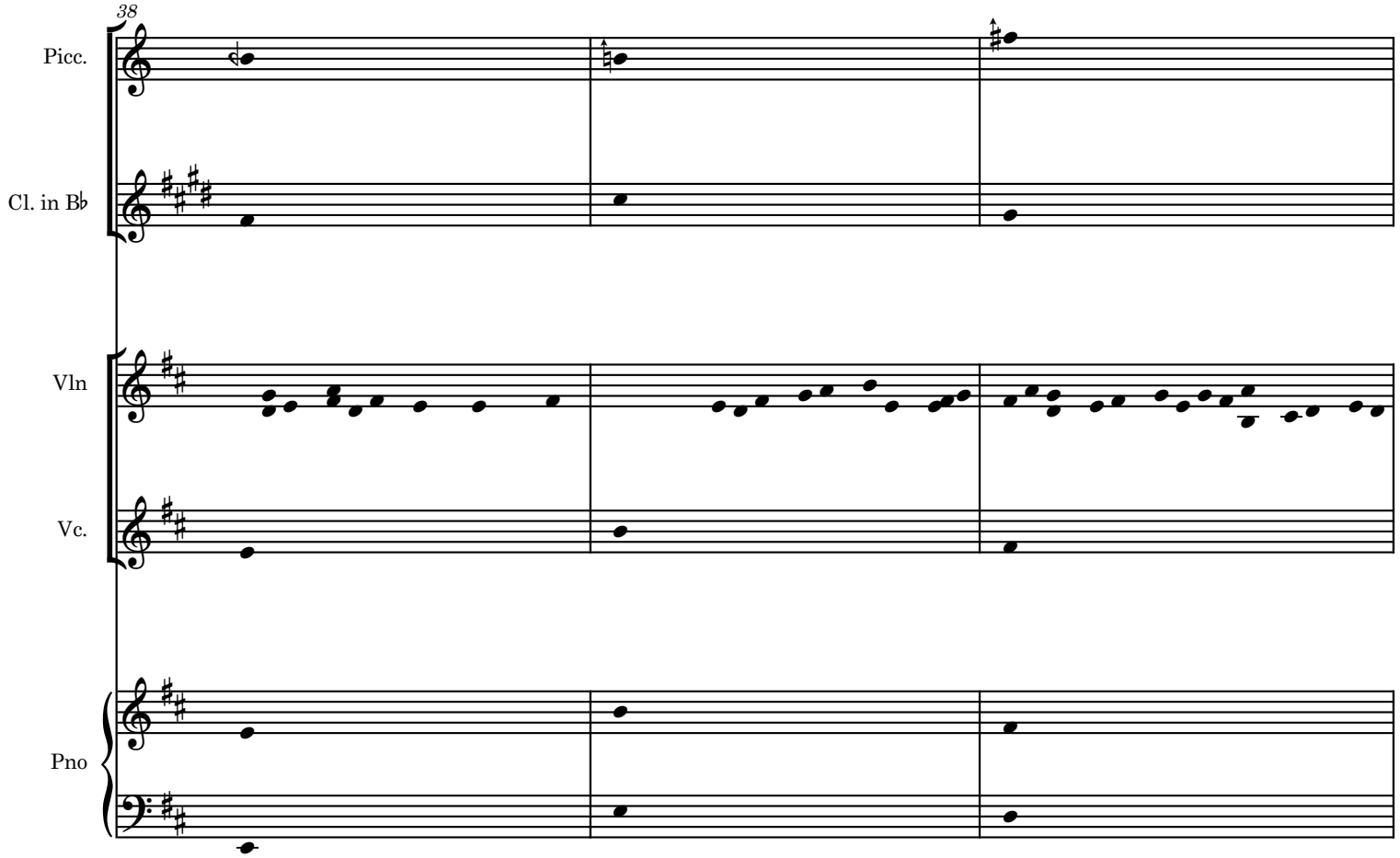


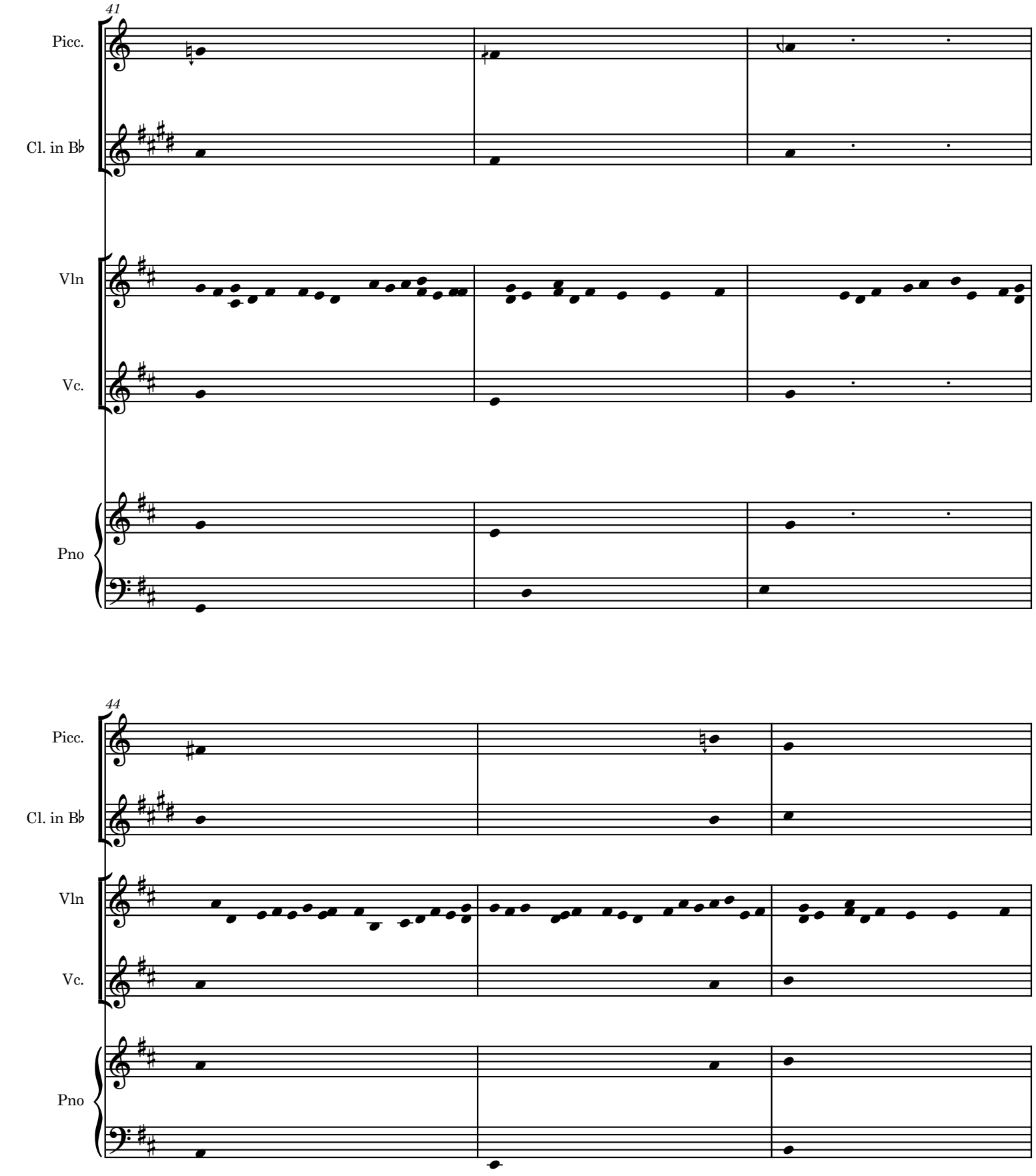
ensemble together, coordinate
sustained to end of bar with short gaps before following note

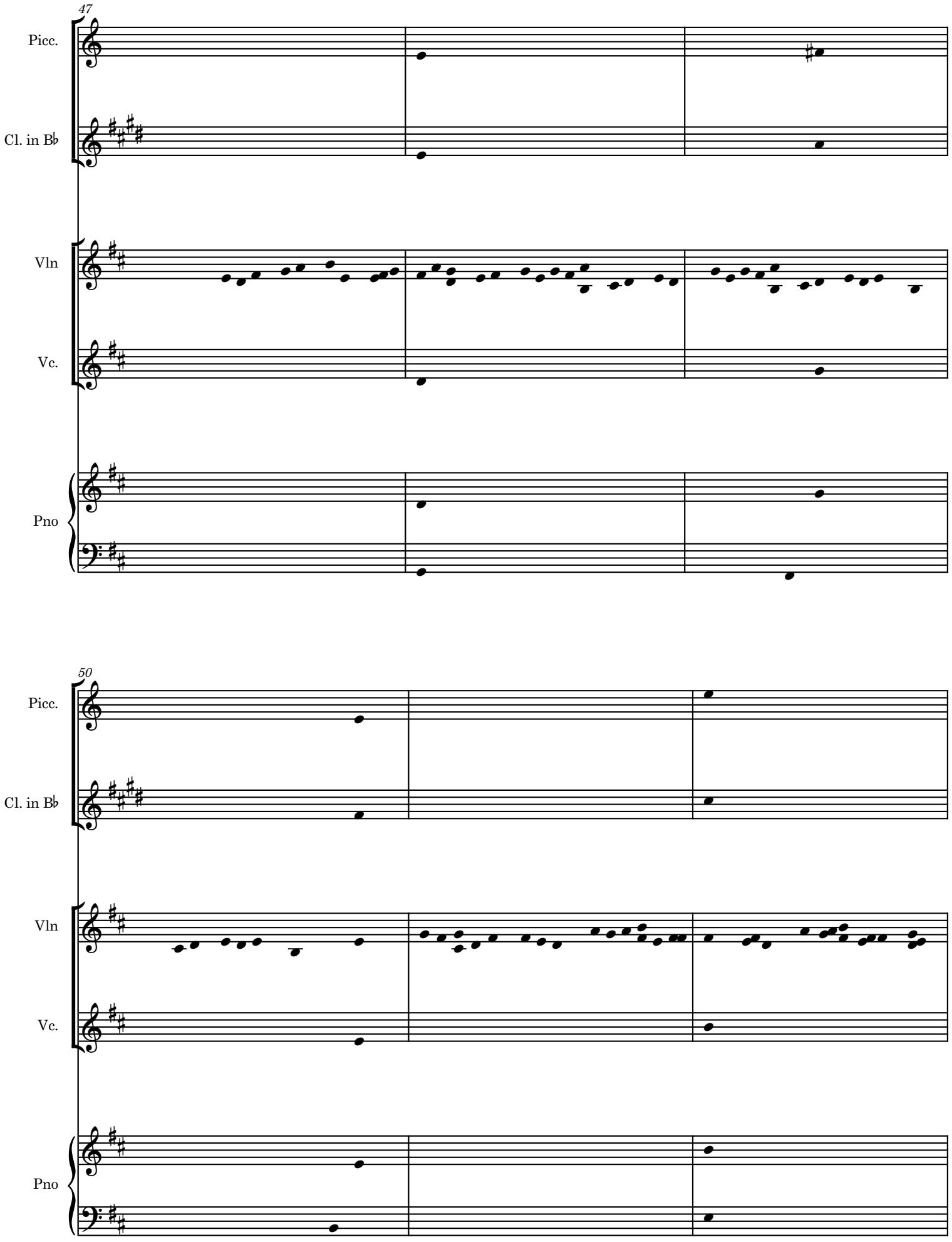


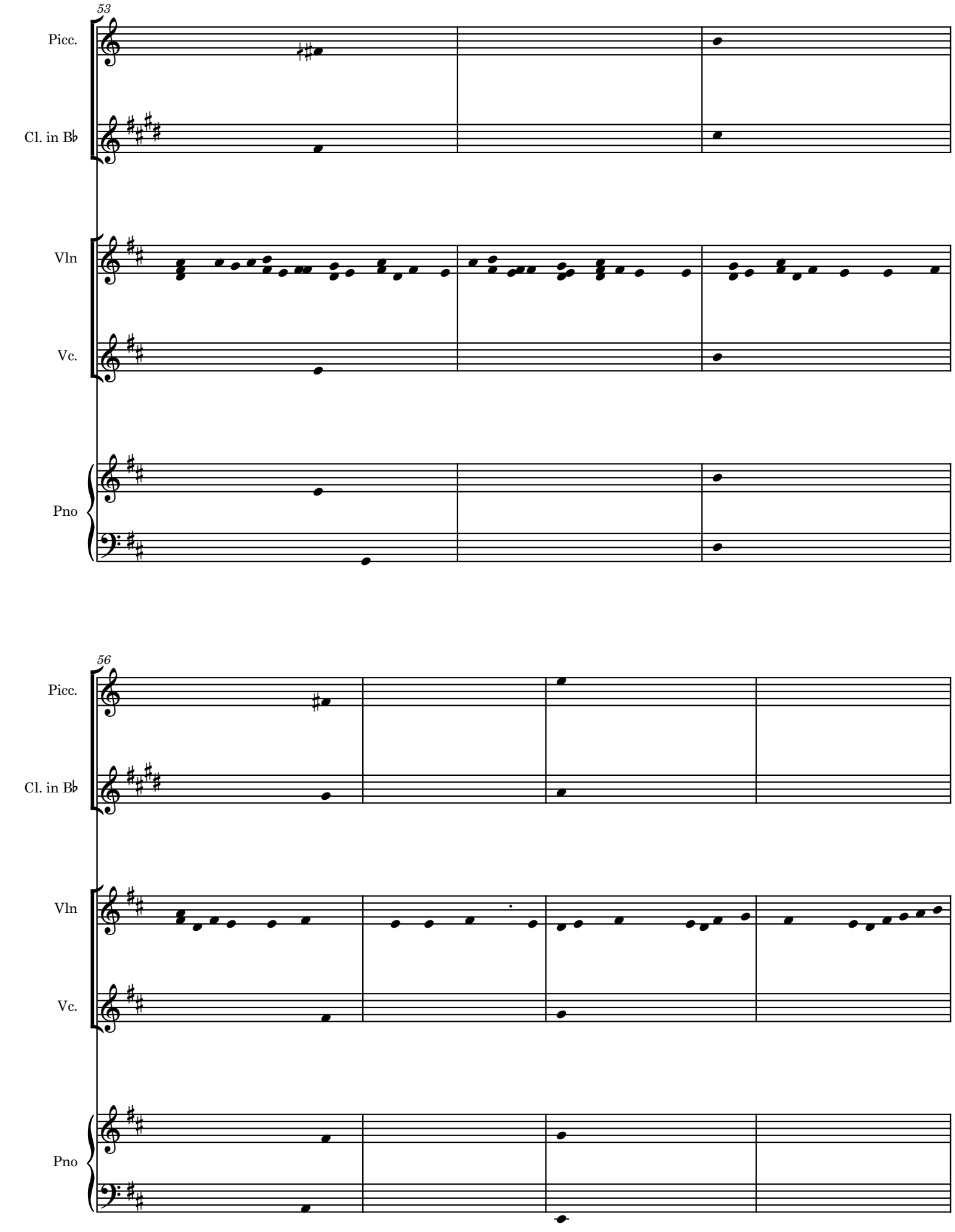

29
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
Pno
32
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
Pno


35
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
Pno

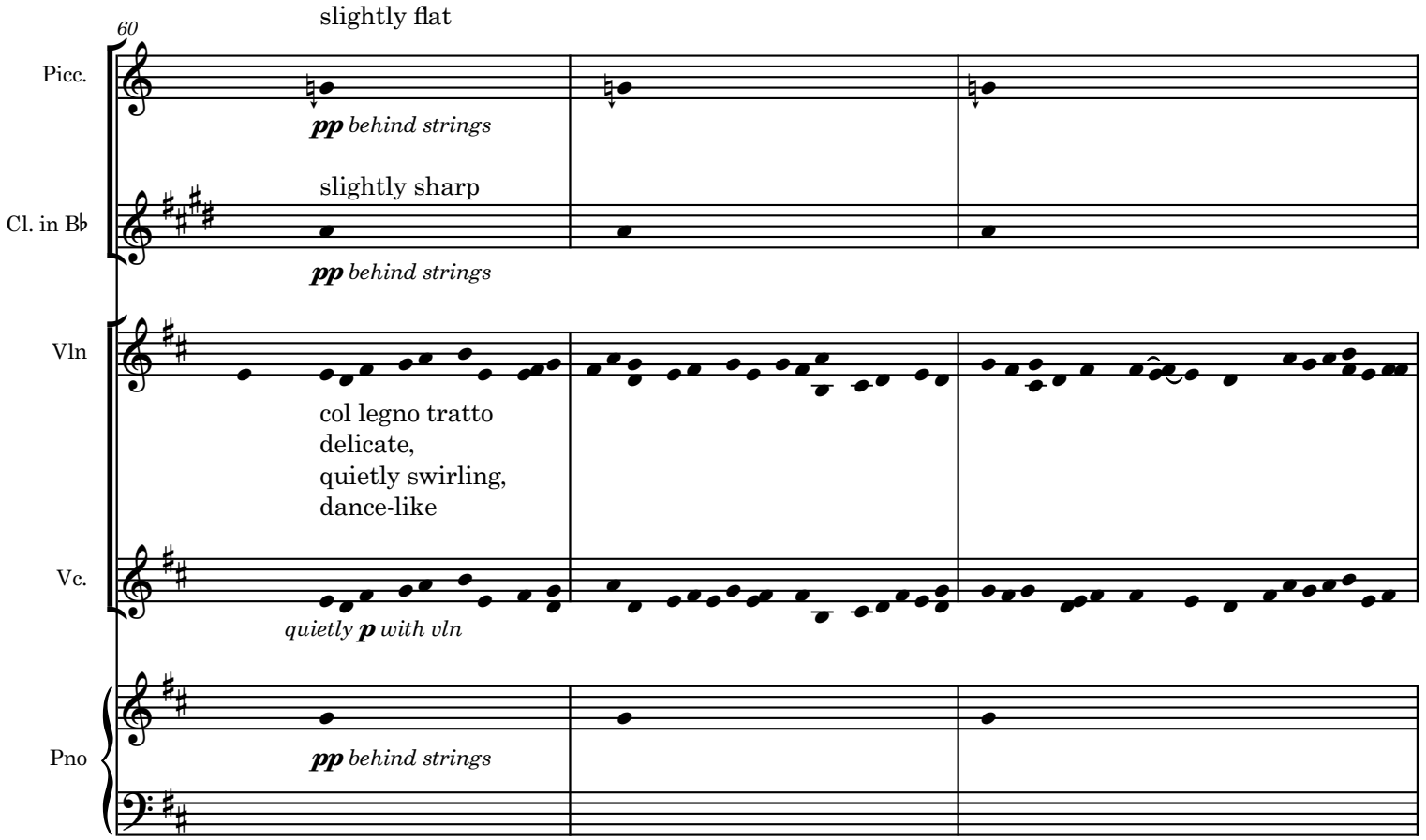

38
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
Pno

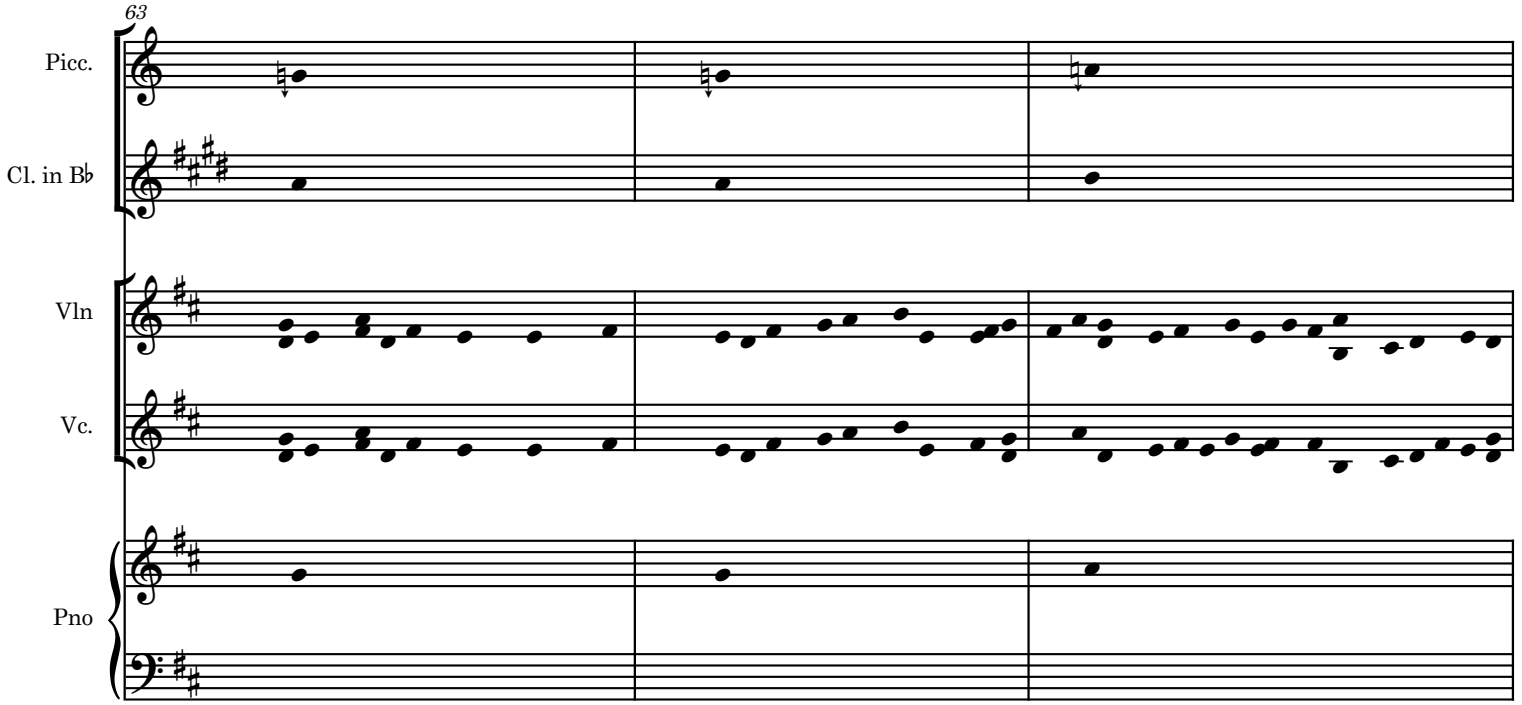

41
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
Pno
44
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
Pno

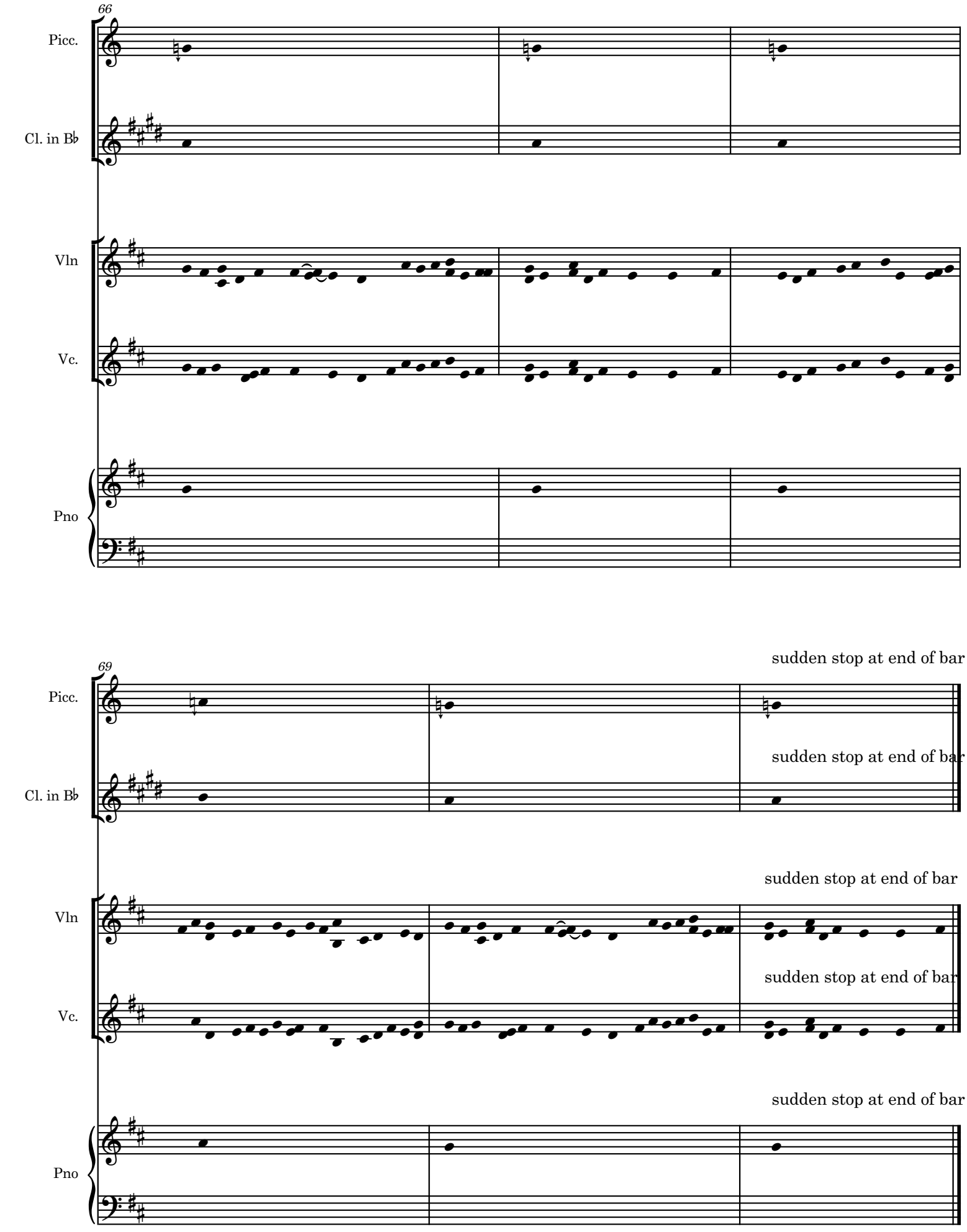

47
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
Pno
50
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
Pno


53
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
Pno
56
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
Pno

strings together
winds with pno - sounding as if sustaining from the string, hold notes throughout (no gaps)






66
Picc.
Cl. in B♭
Vln
Vc.
Pno
69
sudden stop at end of bar
sudden stop at end of bar
sudden stop at end of bar
sudden stop at end of bar
sudden stop at end of bar