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RICE UNIVERSITY

SCREAMING AZALEAS

by

SCOTT MCALLISTER

A THESIS SUBMITTED
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE
DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS

APPROVED, THESIS COMMITTEE

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Composition and Theory

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Kirkland Mullen Professor of Music

Richard Lavenda, Associate Professor
of Composition and Theory

Hally Beth Poindexter, Professor of
Human Performance and Health
Sciences

Houston, Texas

April, 1996

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ABSTRACT

Screaming Azaleas

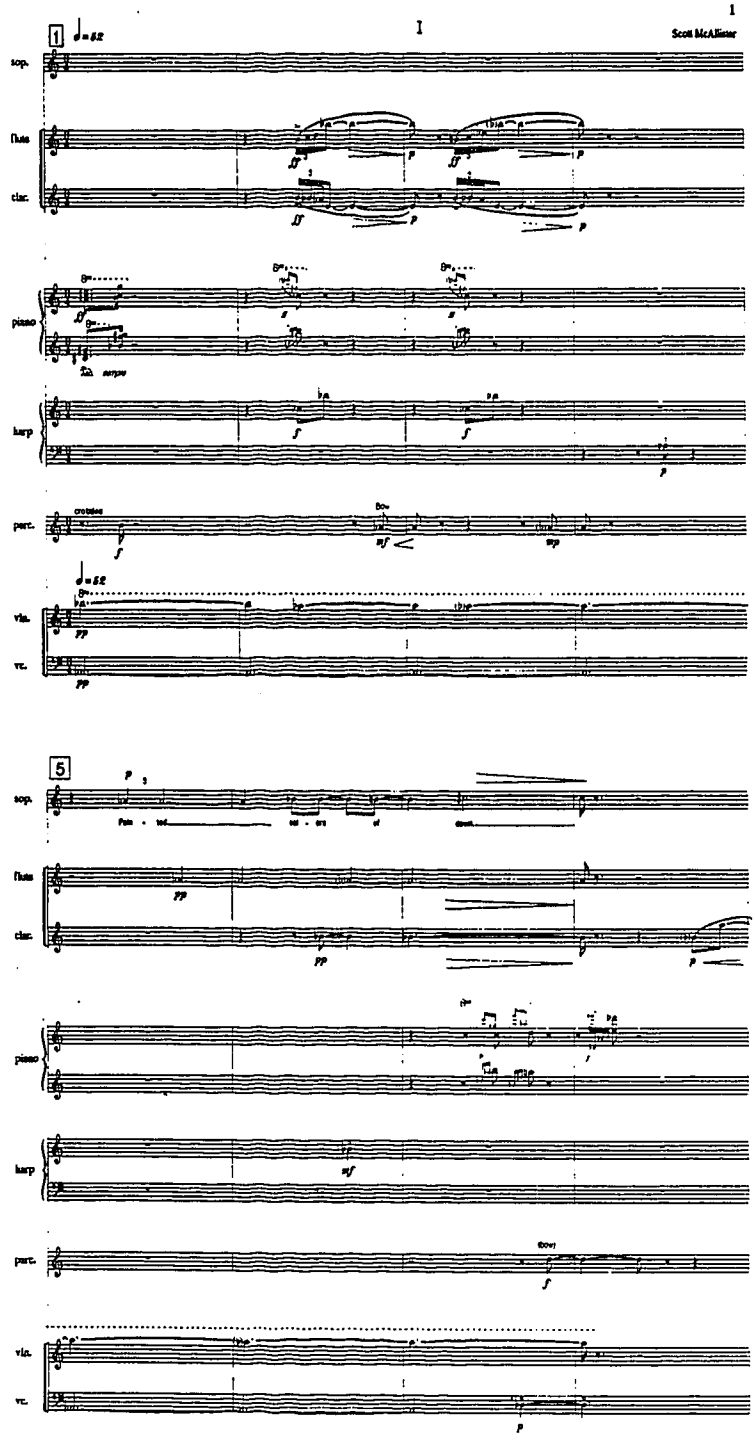
by

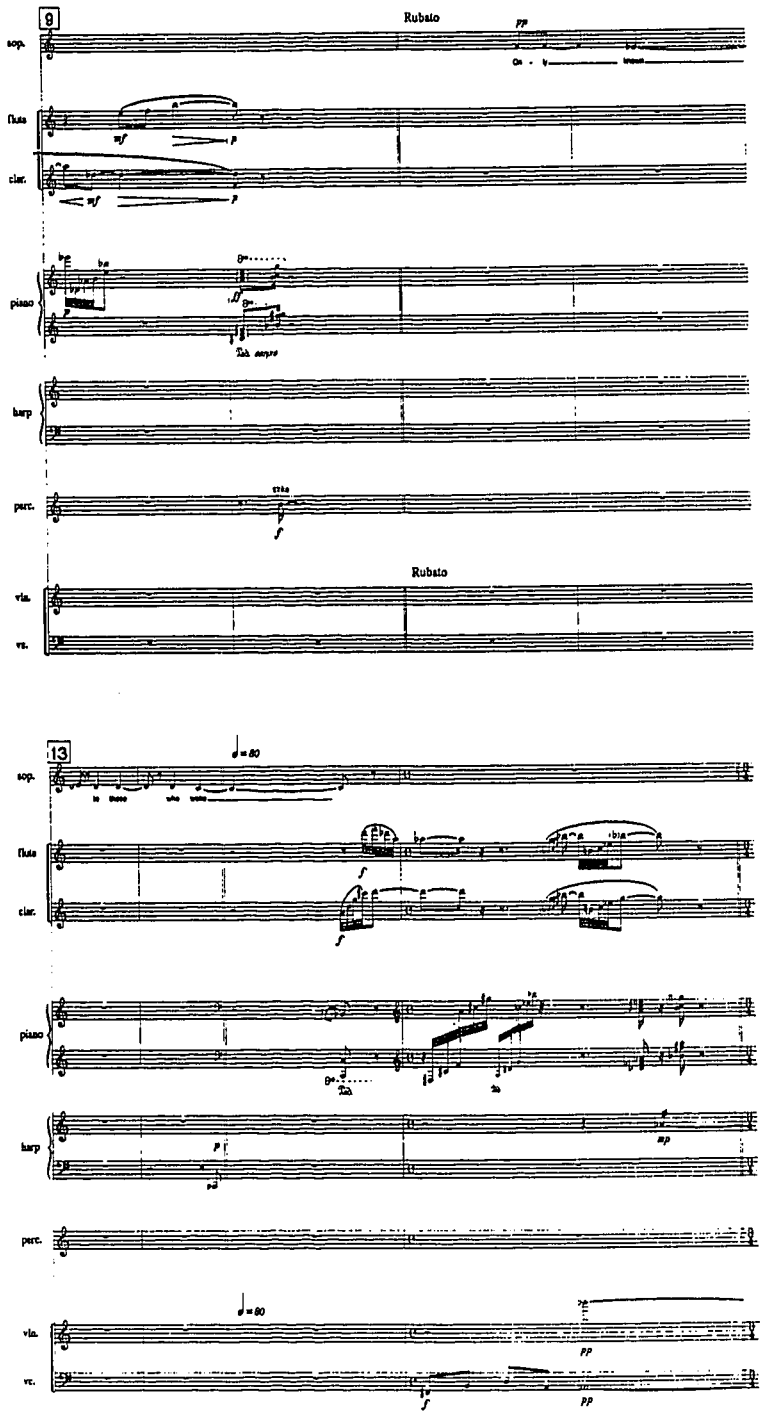
Scott McAllister

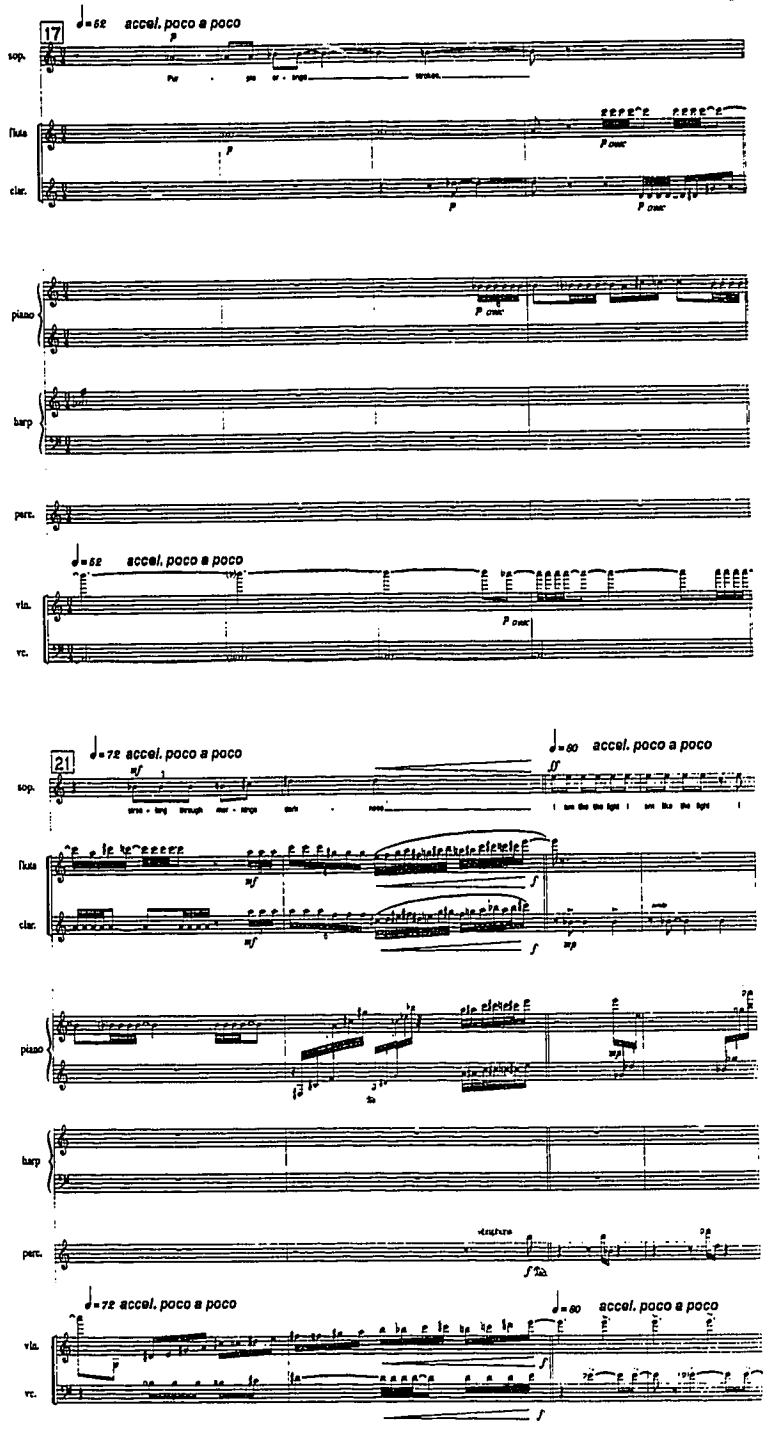
Screaming Azaleas is a set of songs about life in the South. The focus of this work is similar to a common thematic motif in classic southern literature--the idea of being trapped in an endless cycle of disasters. The first poem reflects images of life and light through the eyes of a mother's child. The second poem deals with the sharp reality of death and the disbelief of a mother who has lost her son. Finally, the last song is the mother's last moment with her son, a moment which takes place at the gravesite. The recurring azalea, a southern flower which blooms only once a year for a very short time, reflects the fragile, temporary existence of life.

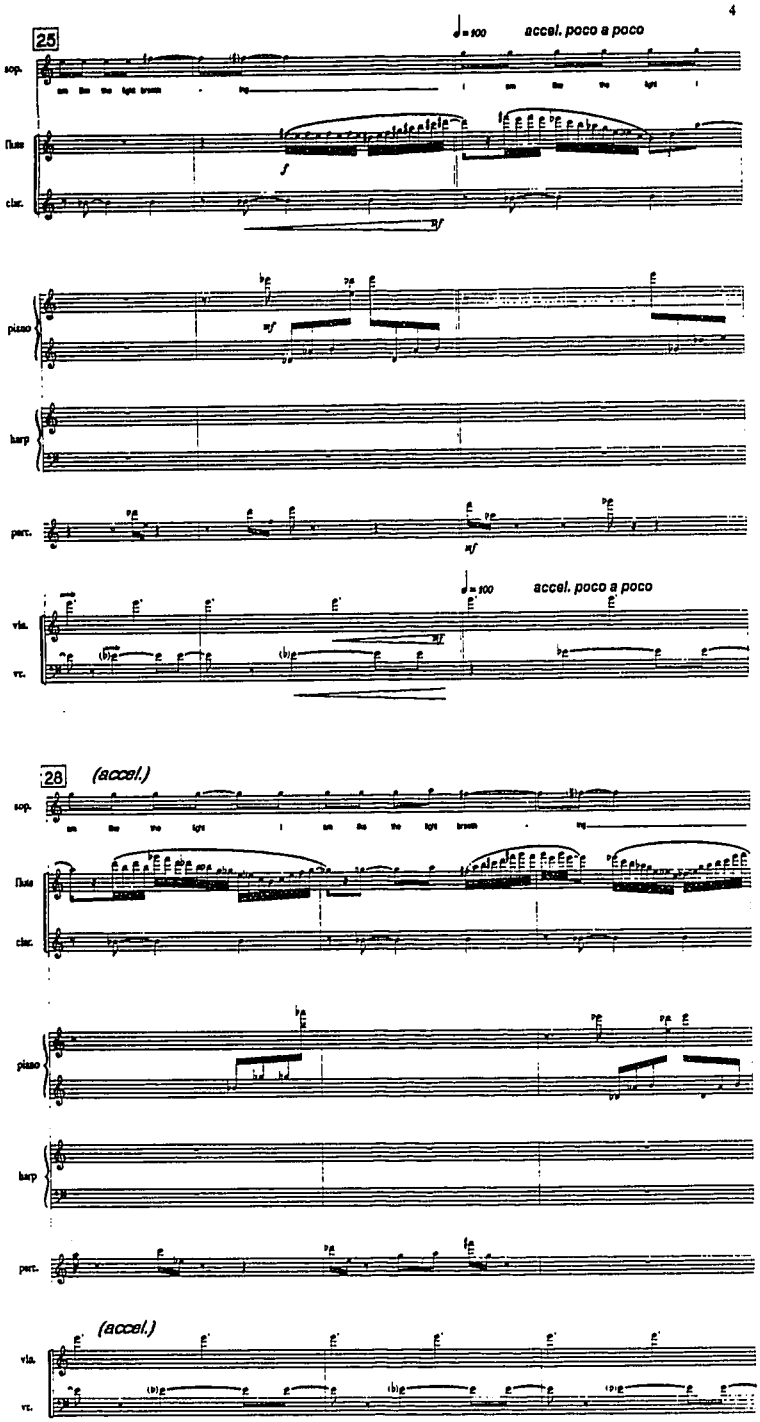
I

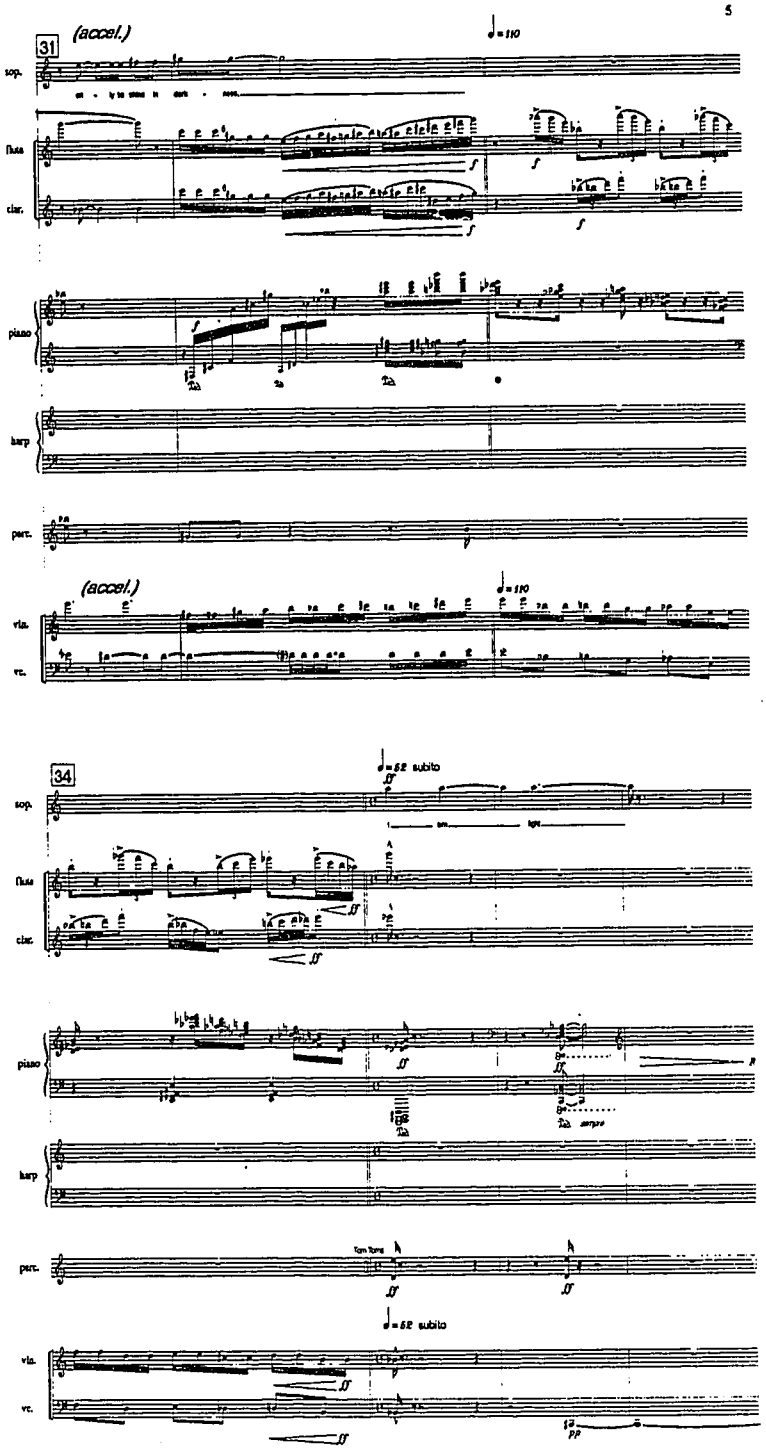
Scott McAllister

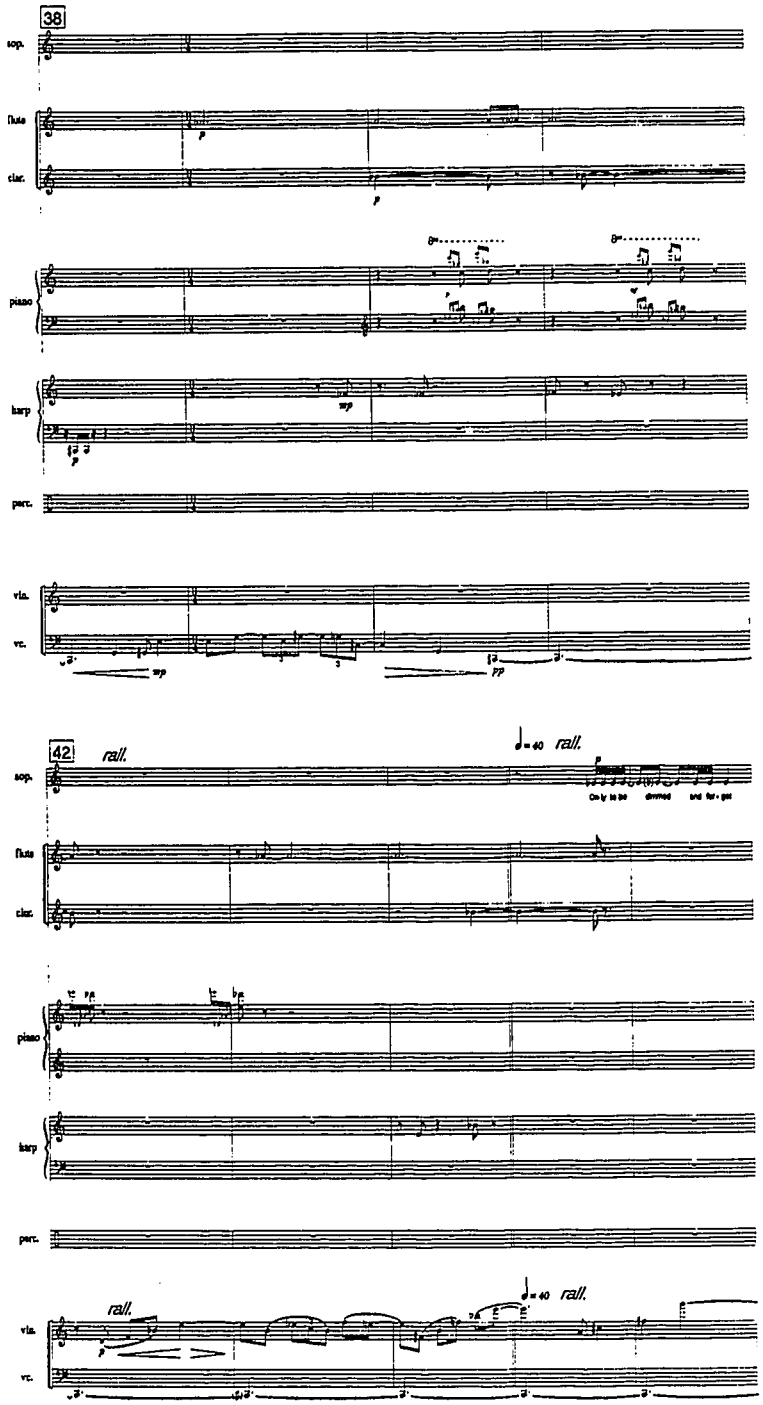


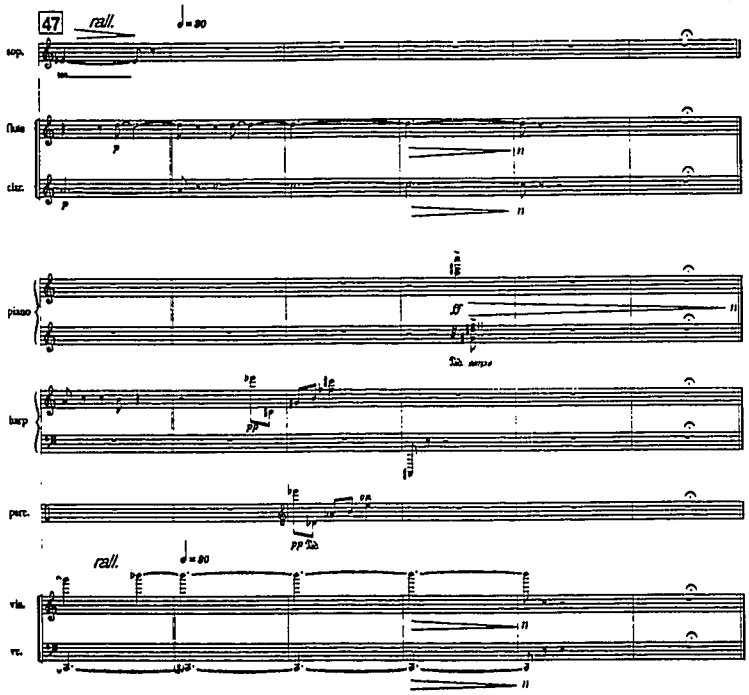

9
Rubato
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vln.
vc.
13
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vln.
vc.


17
♩=52 accel. poco a poco
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
♩=52 accel. poco a poco
vln.
vc.
21
♩=72 accel. poco a poco
♩=80 accel. poco a poco
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
♩=72 accel. poco a poco
♩=80 accel. poco a poco
vln.
vc.

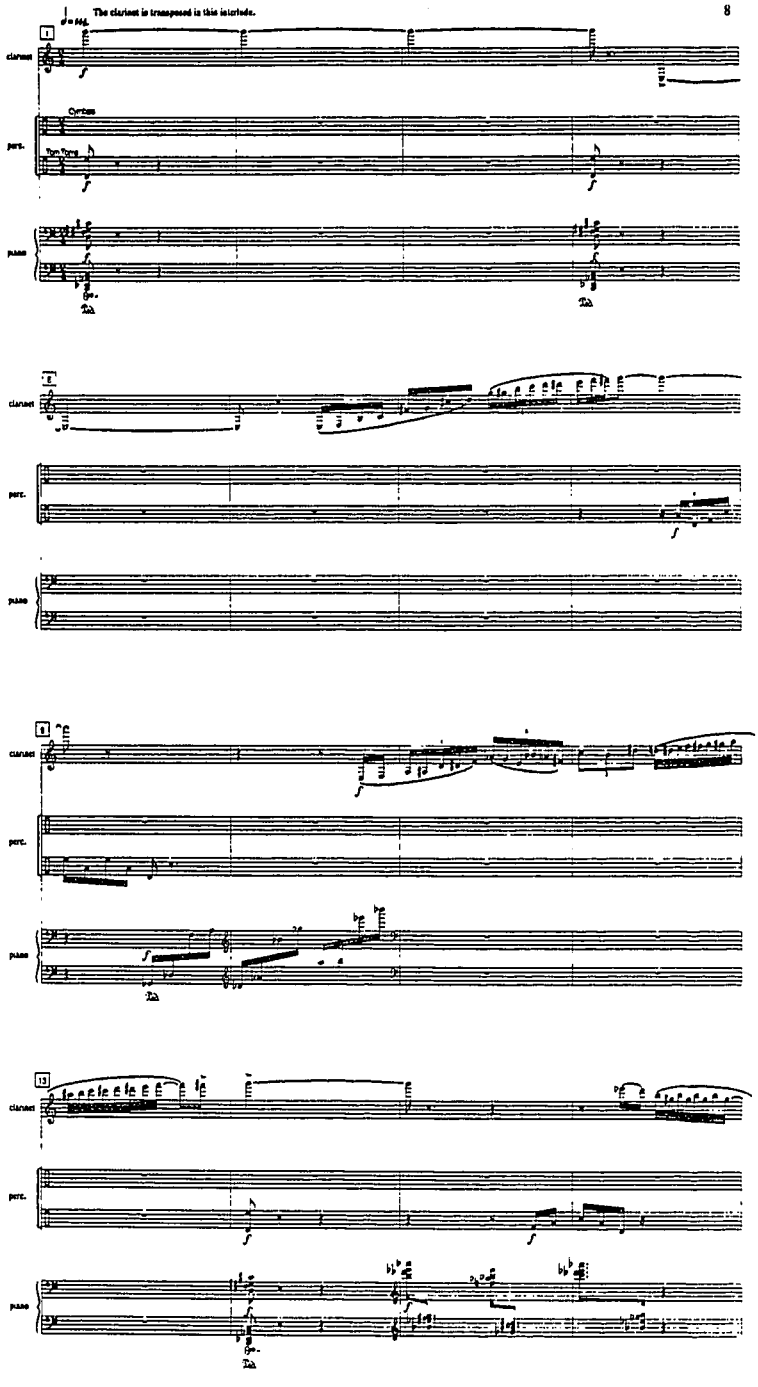

25
accel. poco a poco
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vla.
vc.
28
(accel.)
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
(accel.)
vla.
vc.

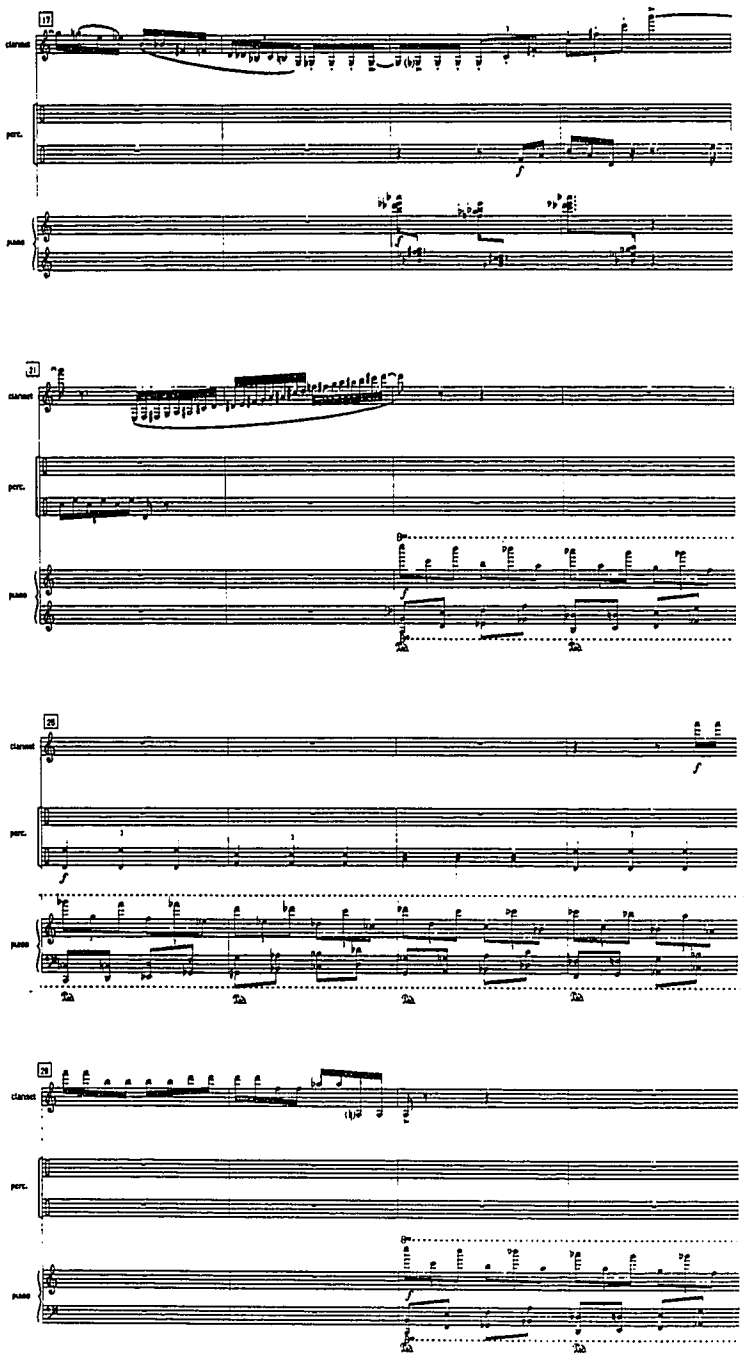

31
(accel.)
♩= 110
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
(accel.)
♩= 110
vln.
vc.
34
♩= 52 subito
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
♩= 52 subito
vln.
vc.

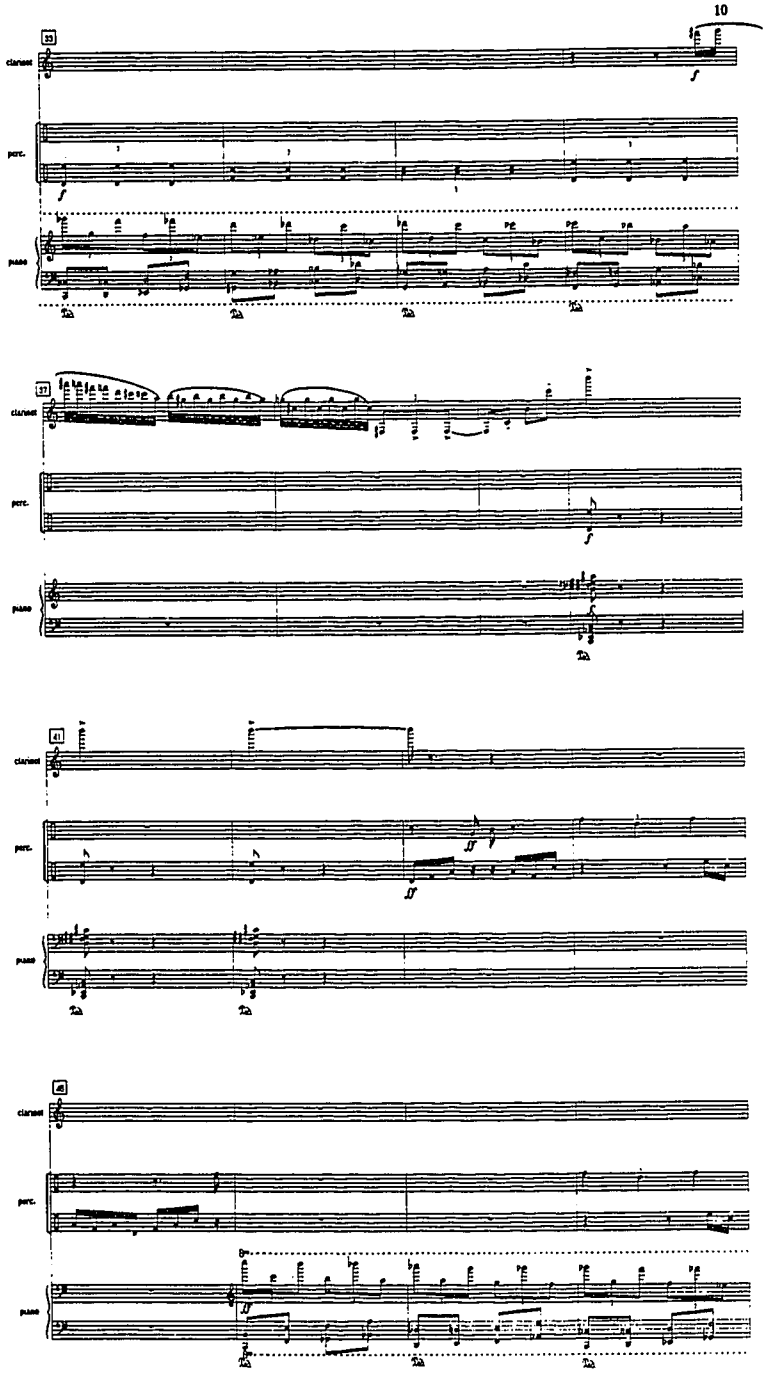

38
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vln.
vc.
42
rall.
♩= 40 rall.
Only to be dimmed and for-get
rall.
♩= 40 rall.

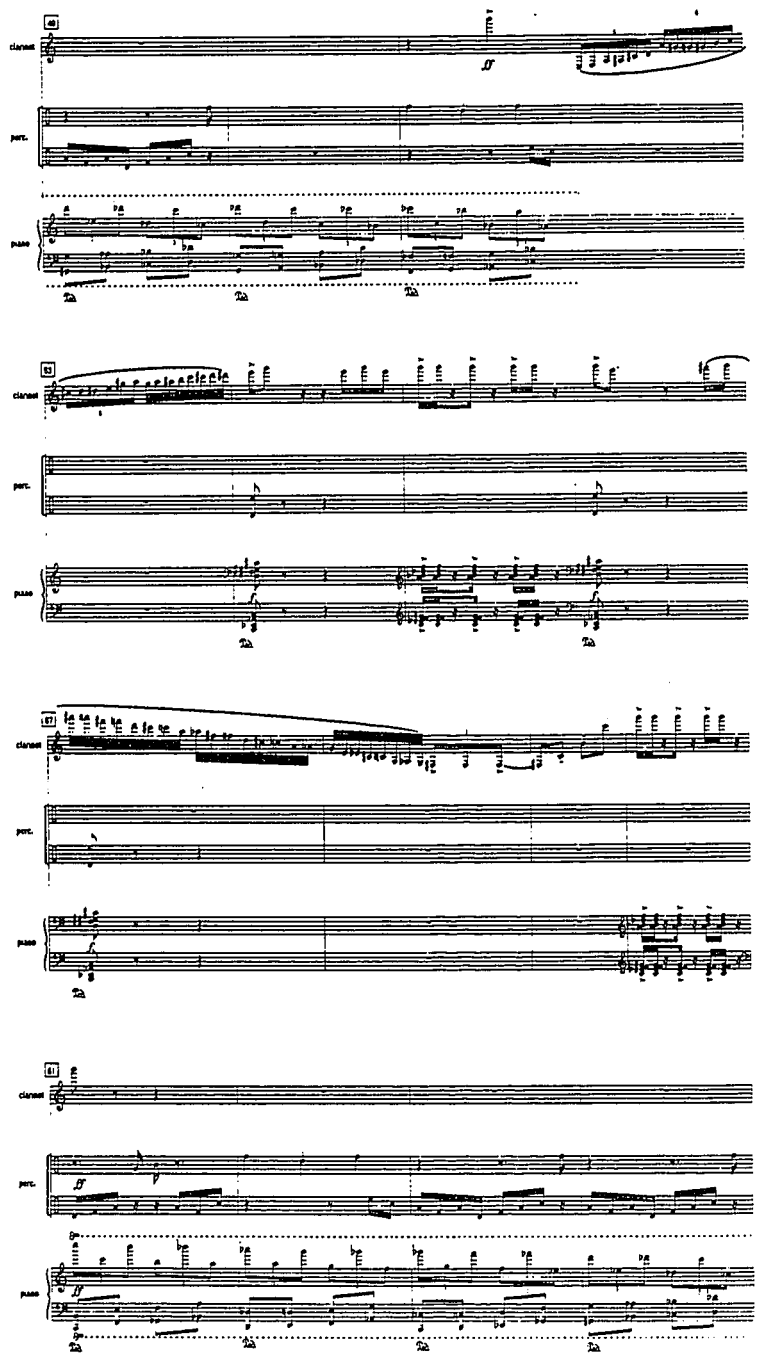

47
rall.
♩= 80
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
rall.
♩= 80
vln.
vc.

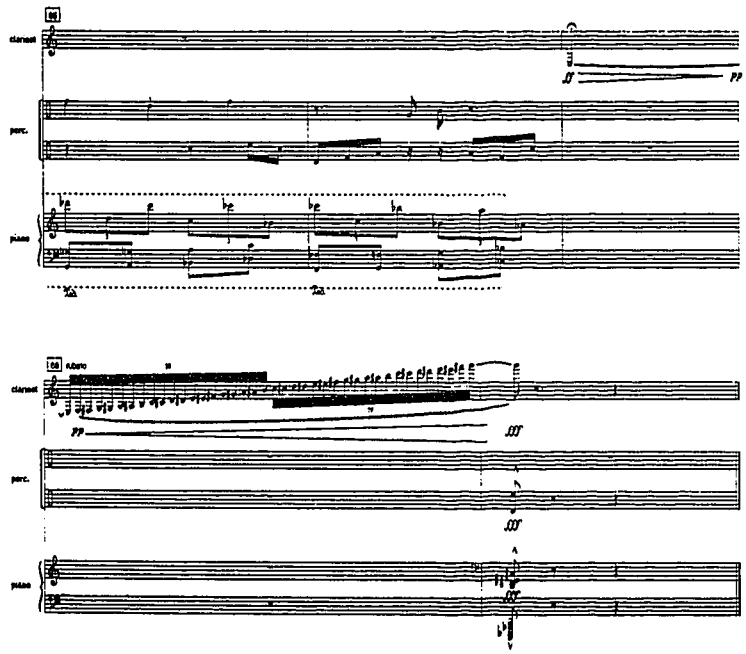
Interlude I

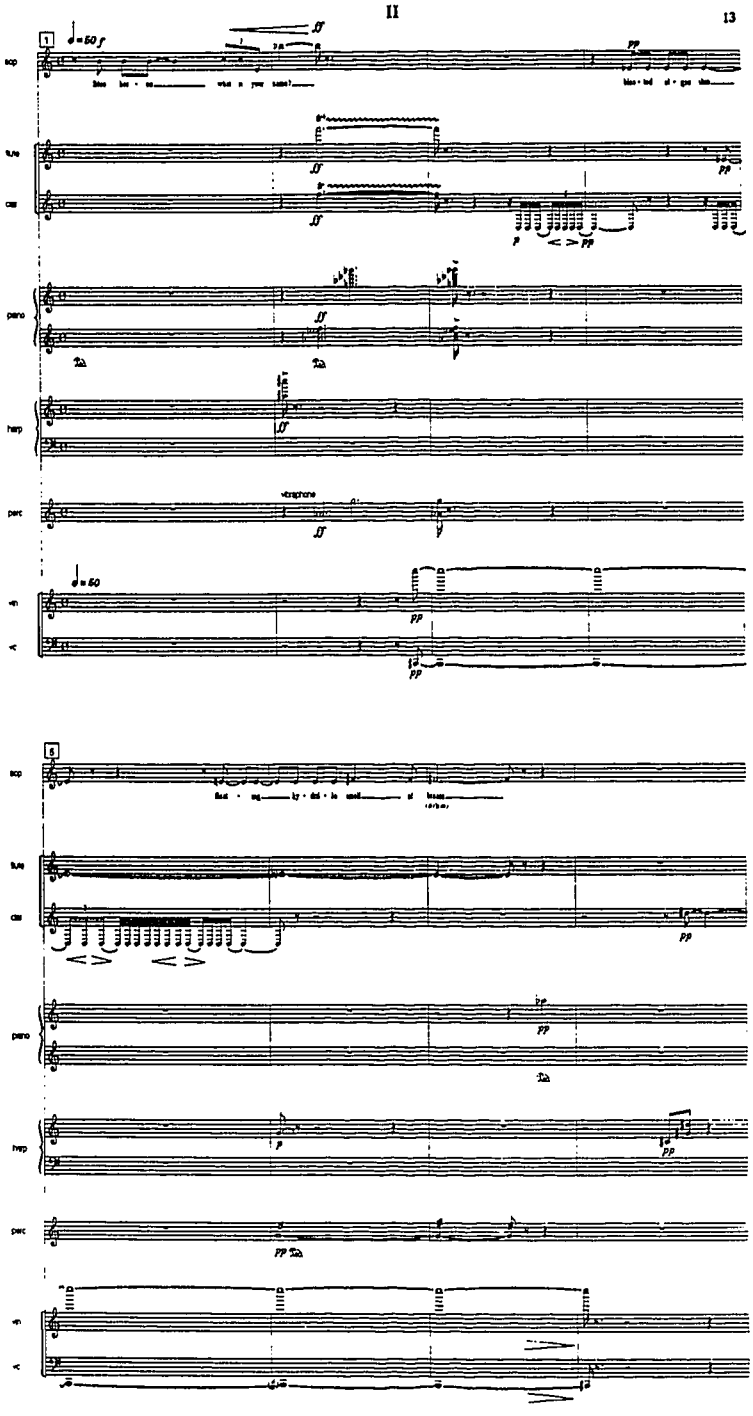

The clarinet is transposed in this interlude.
clarinet
perc.
Cymbal
Tam-Tam
piano
clarinet
perc.
piano
clarinet
perc.
piano
clarinet
perc.
piano

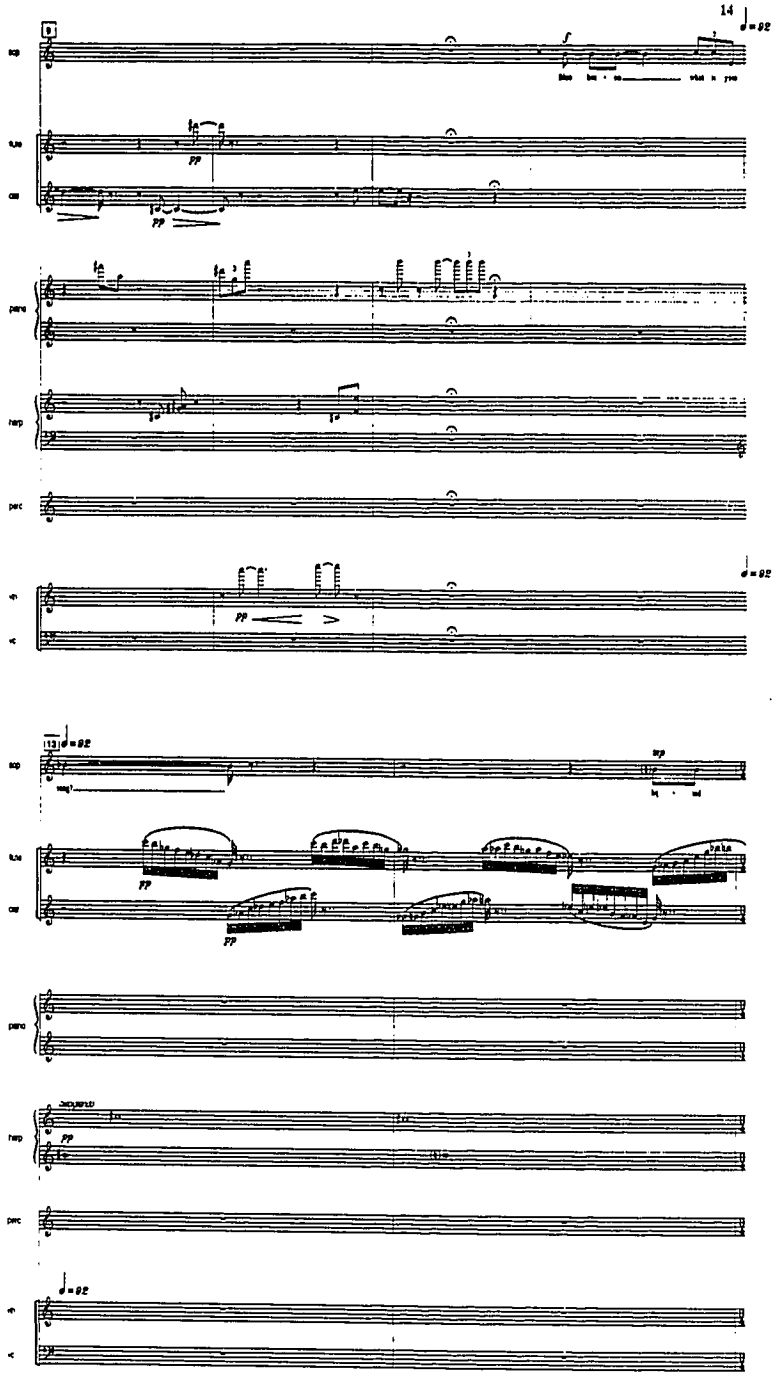

17
clarinet
perc.
piano
21
clarinet
perc.
piano
25
clarinet
perc.
piano
29
clarinet
perc.
piano

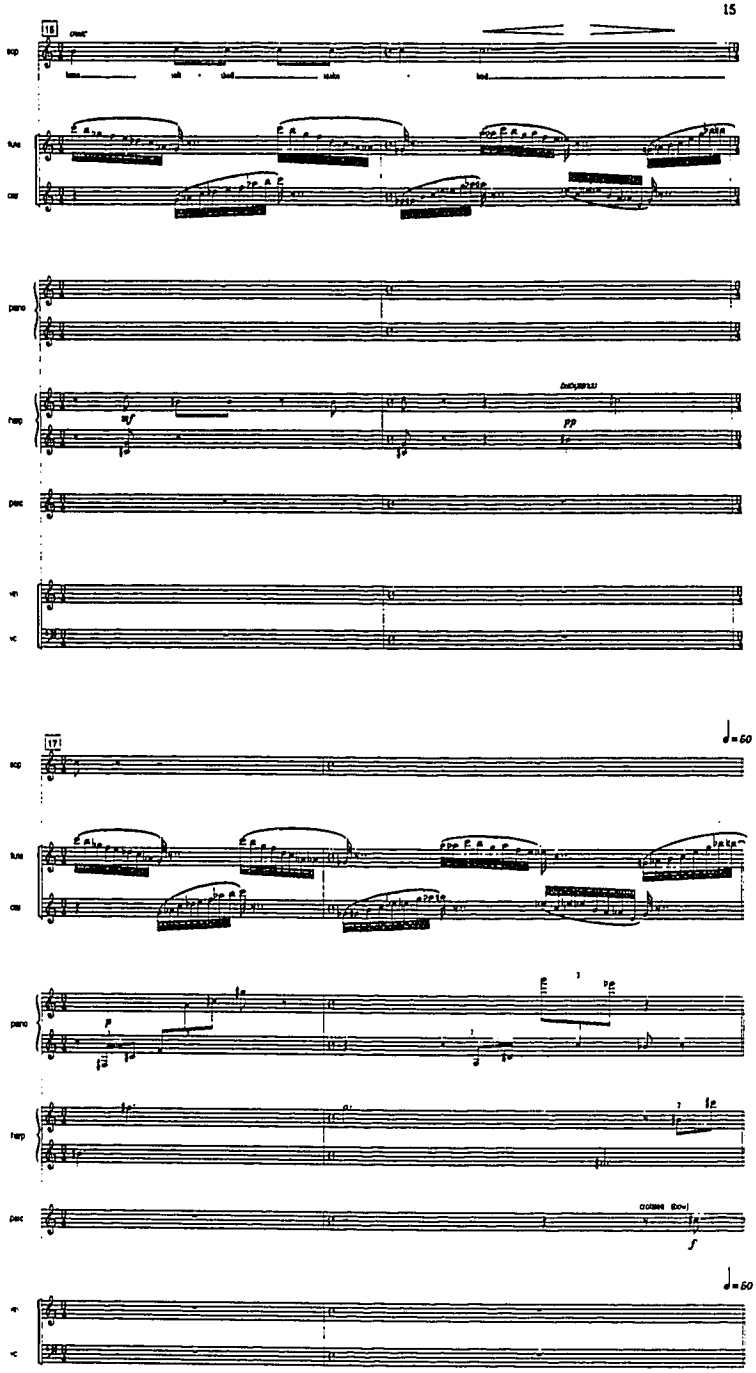

35
clarinet
perc.
piano
37
clarinet
perc.
piano
41
clarinet
perc.
piano
45
clarinet
perc.
piano

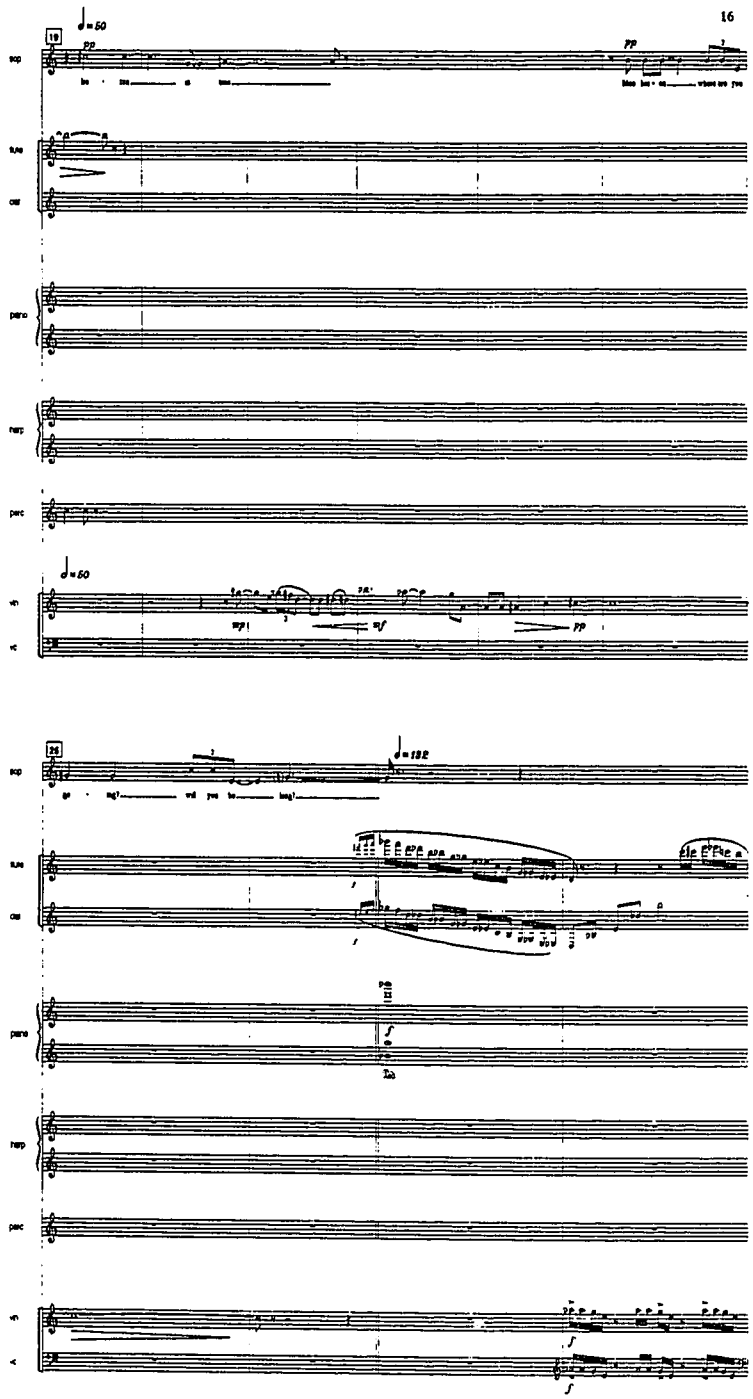

clarinet
perc.
piano
ff
53
57
61

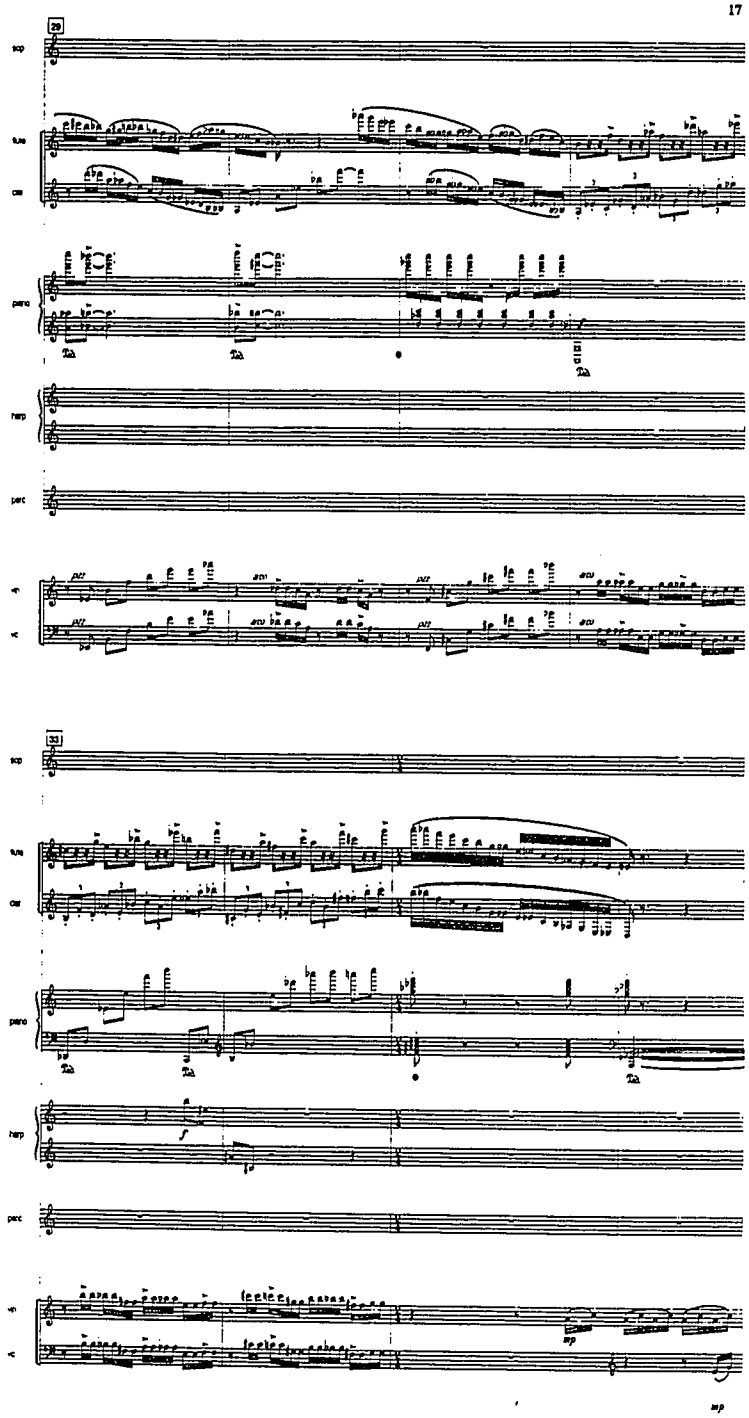

clarinet
perc.
piano
clarinet
perc.
piano

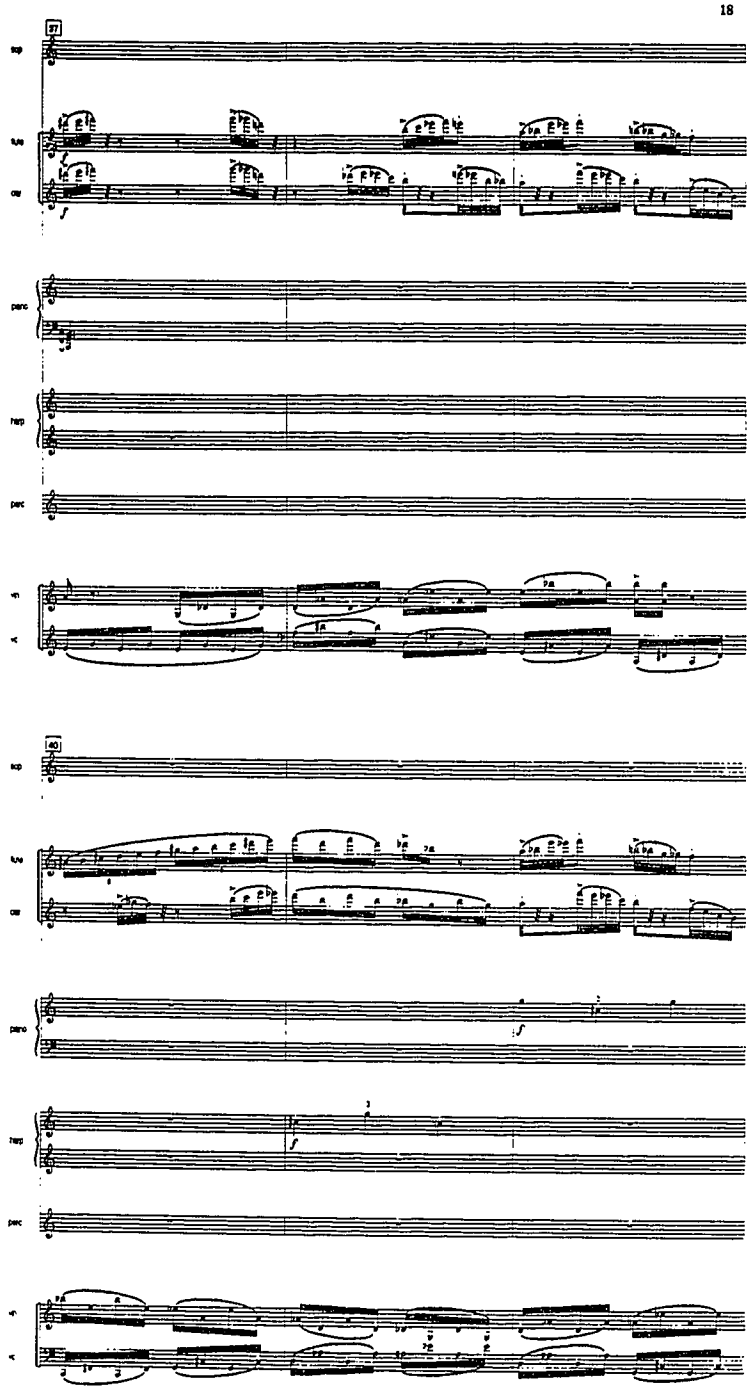

sop
flute
cas
piano
harp
perc
vibraphone
vln
vc

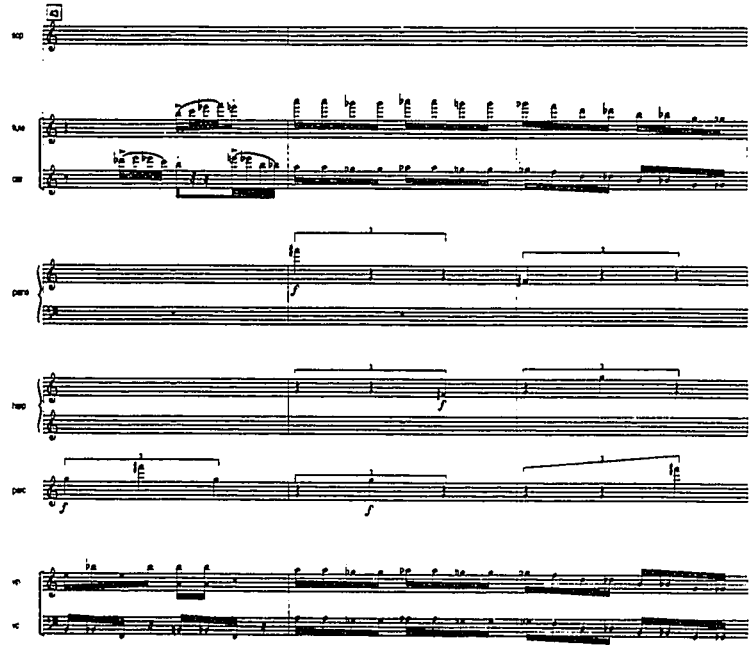

sop
flute
cello
piano
harp
perc
vln
vc
sop
flute
cello
piano
harp
perc
vln
vc

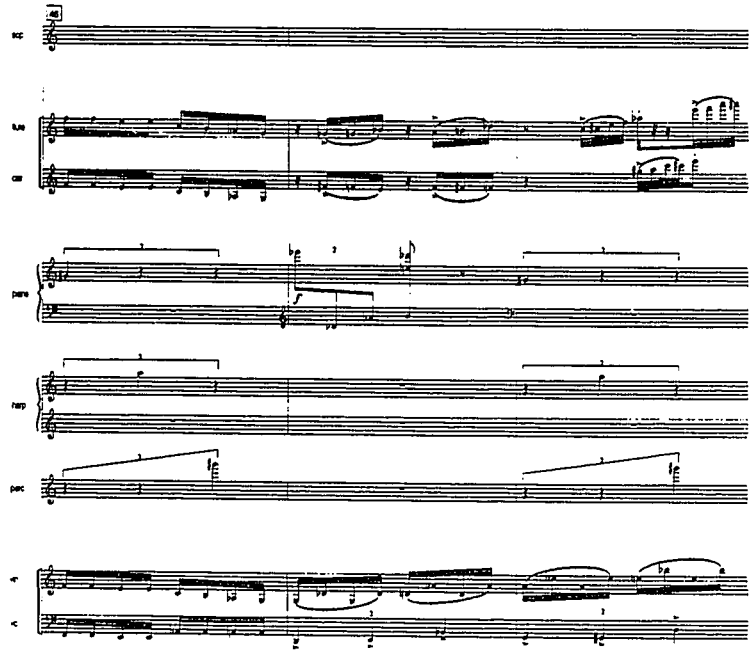

15
sop
flute
cla
piano
harp
perc
vln
vc
17
sop
flute
cla
piano
harp
perc
vln
vc

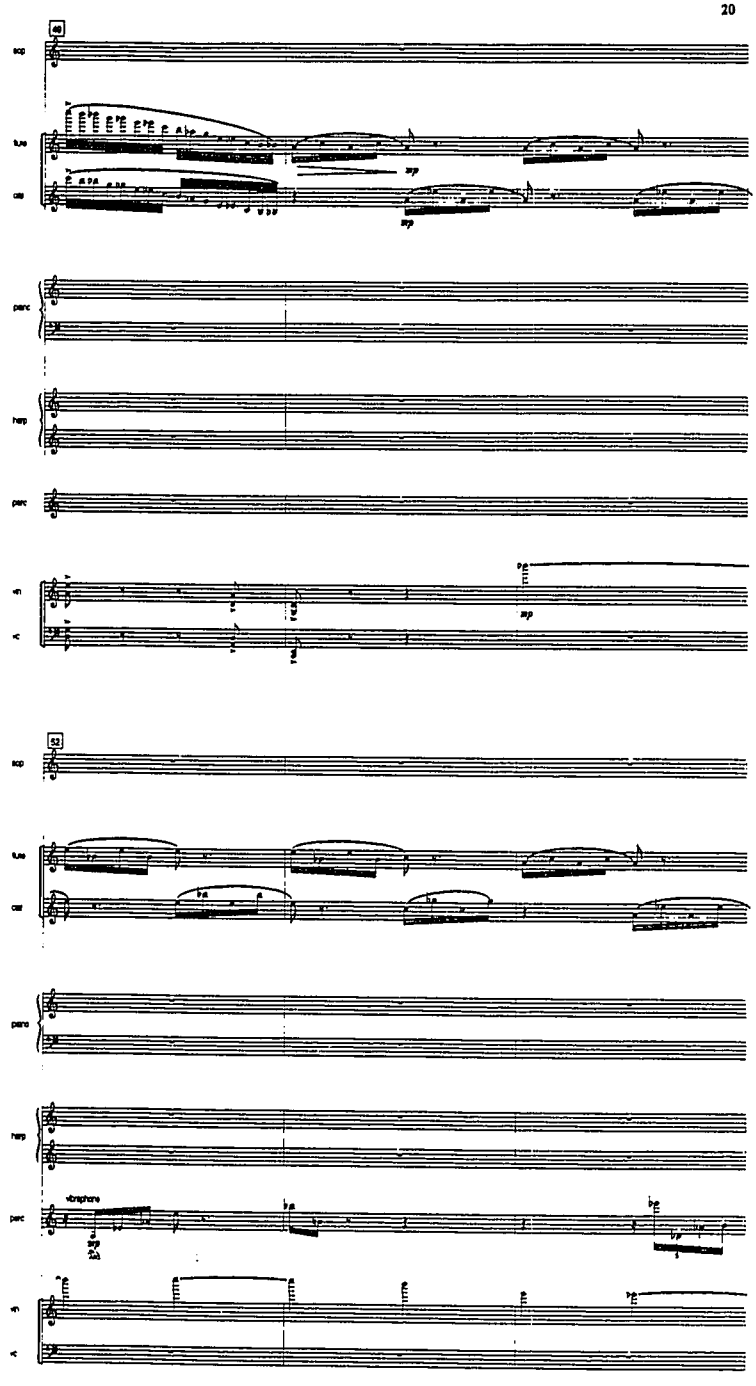

19
♩=50
pp
sop
tuba
cor
piano
harp
perc
vln
vc
mp
mf
pp
25
♩=132
sop
tuba
cor
piano
harp
perc
vln
vc
f

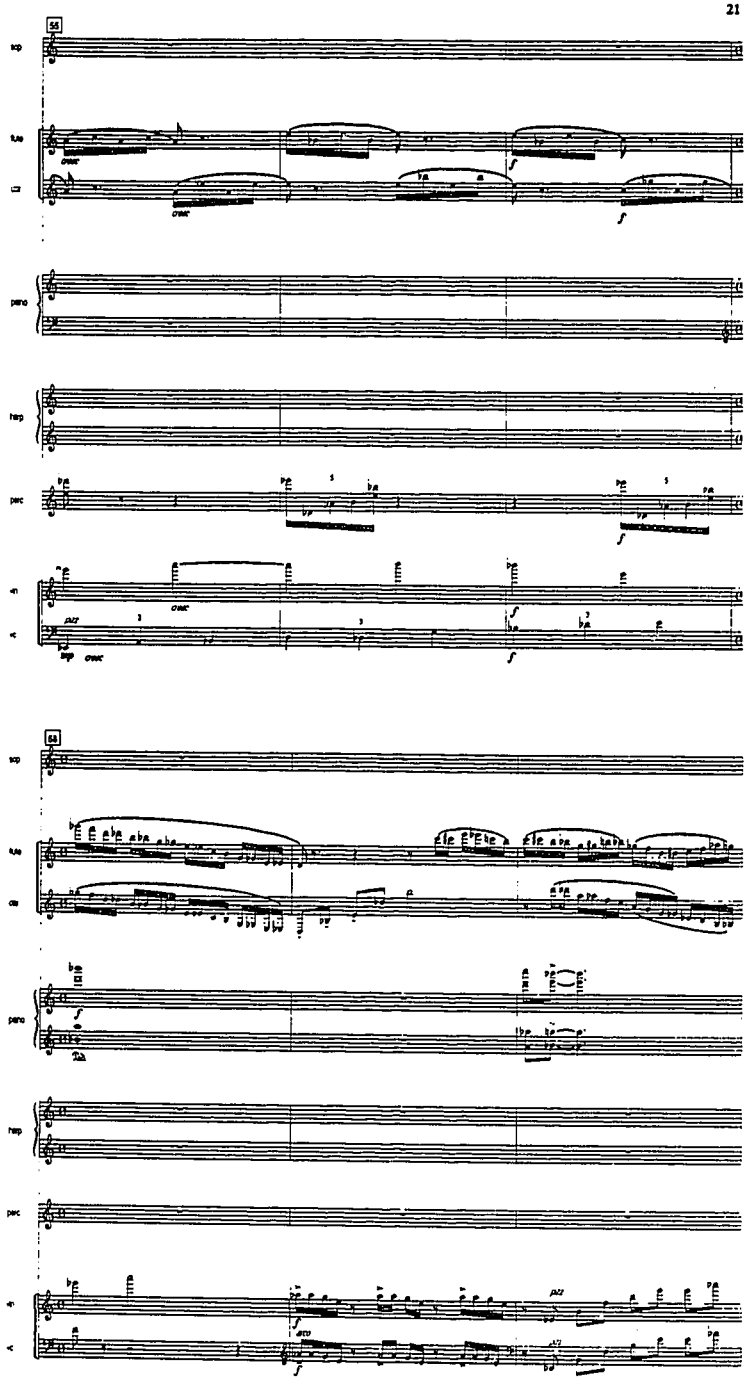

29
sop
flute
cor
piano
harp
perc
vln
vc
33
sop
flute
cor
piano
harp
perc
vln
vc

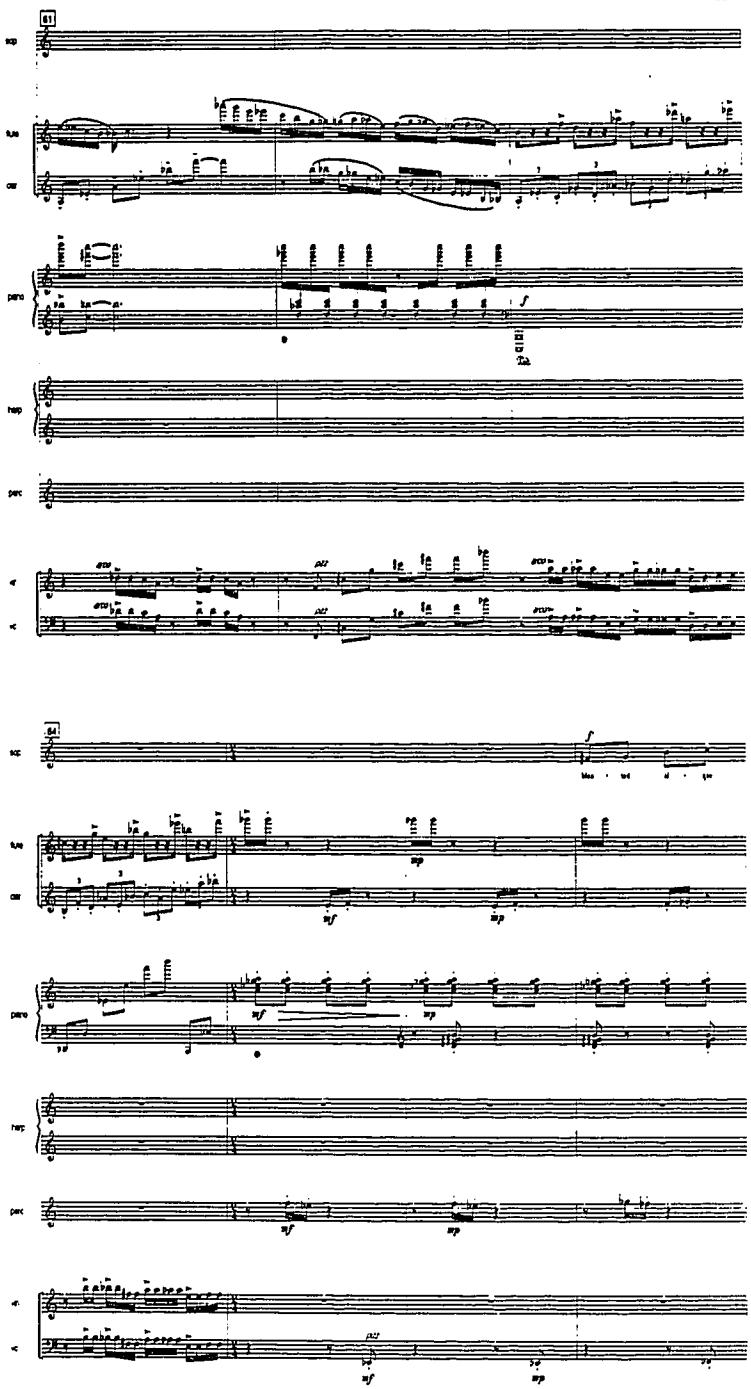

37
sop
flute
cler
perc
harp
perc
vln
vc
40
sop
flute
cler
perc
harp
perc
vln
vc

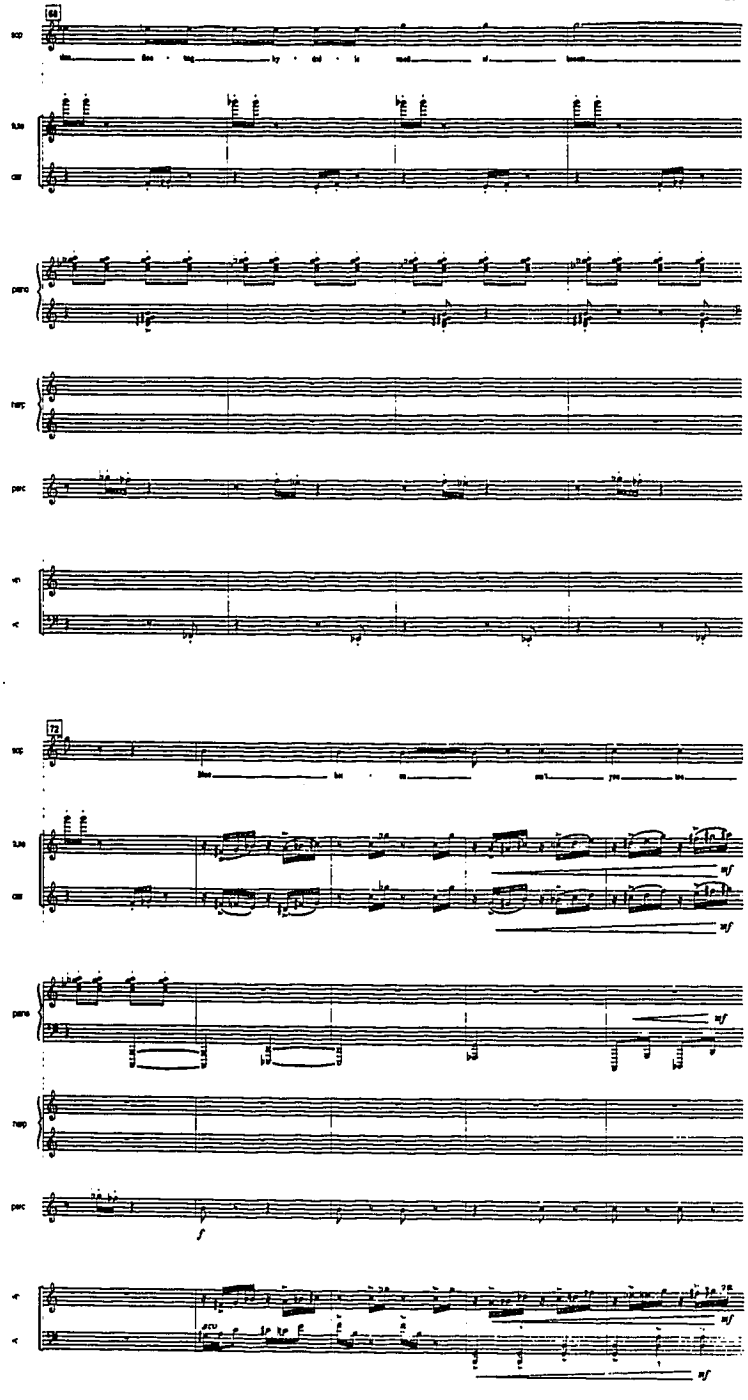

43
scp
tuo
cor
pano
harp
perc
vn
vc

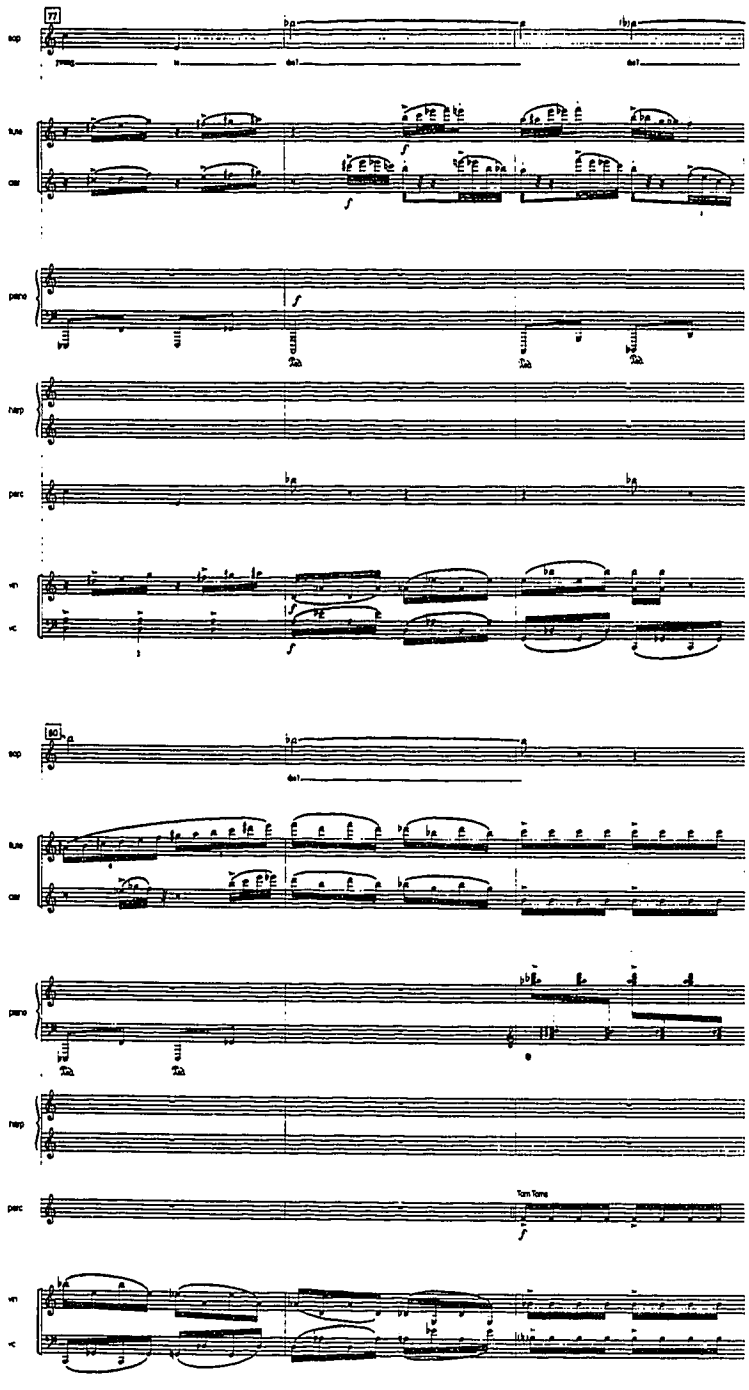

46
scp
tuo
cor
pano
harp
perc
vn
vc

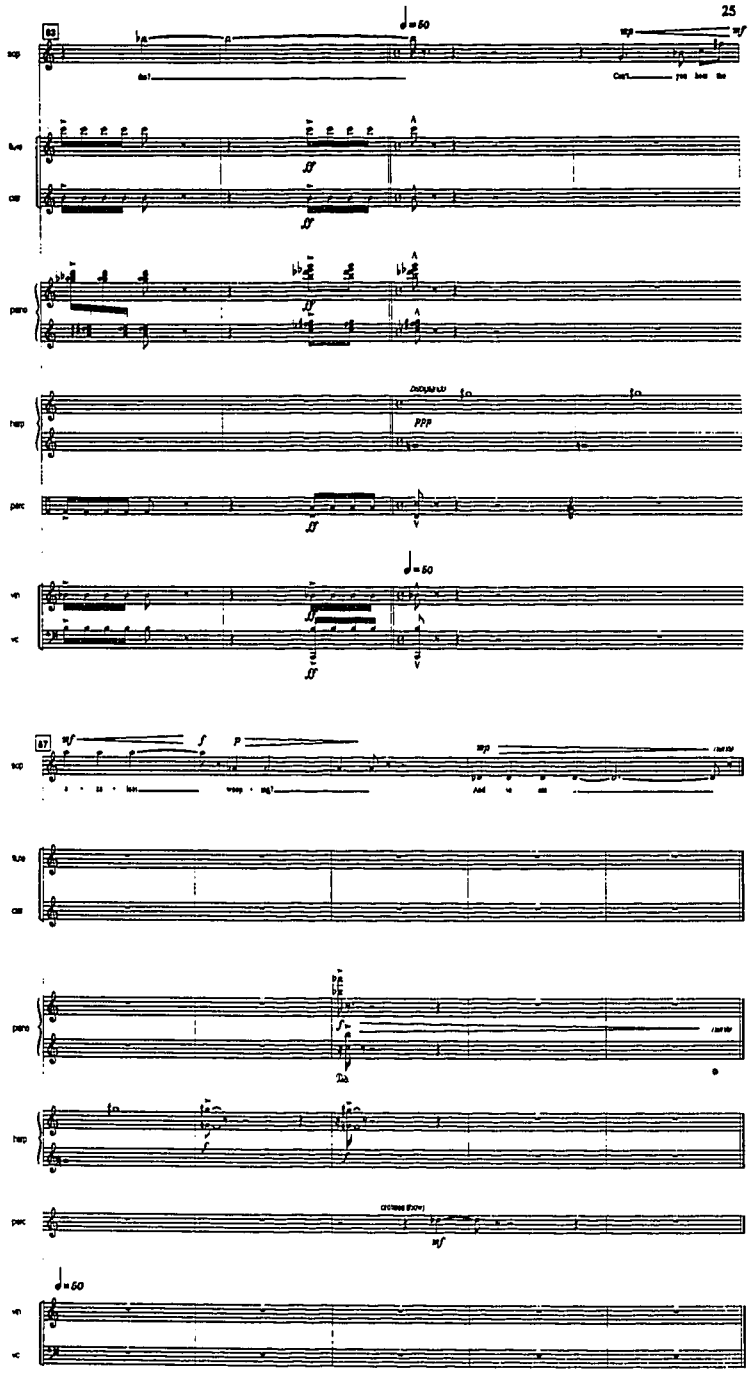

sop
flute
clar
perc
harp
perc
vln
vc
sop
flute
clar
perc
harp
perc
vibraphone
vln
vc


55
sop
flute
cla
piano
harp
perc
vln
vc
58
sop
flute
cla
piano
harp
perc
vln
vc

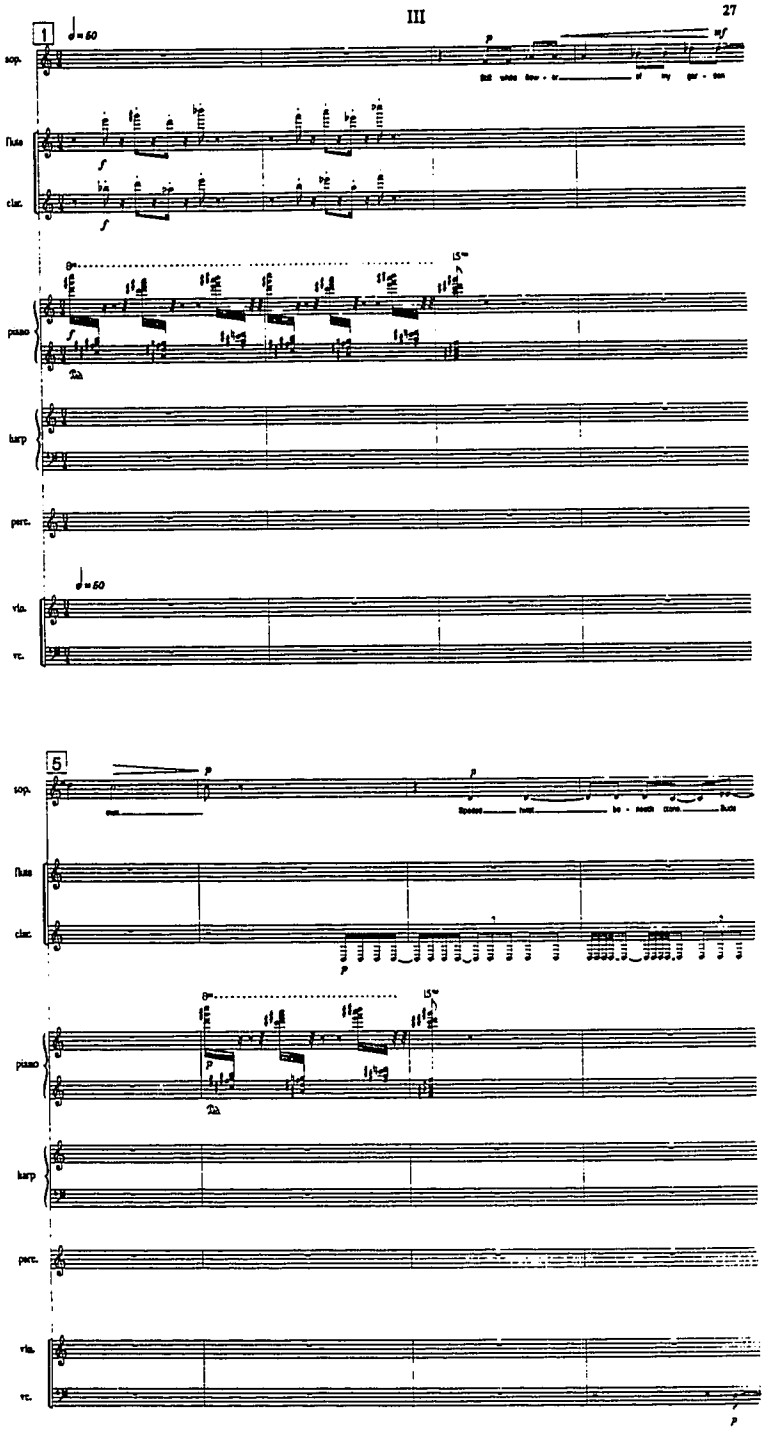

61
sop
fl.
cl.
pano
harp
perc
vl
vc
64
sop
fl.
cl.
pano
harp
perc
vl
vc

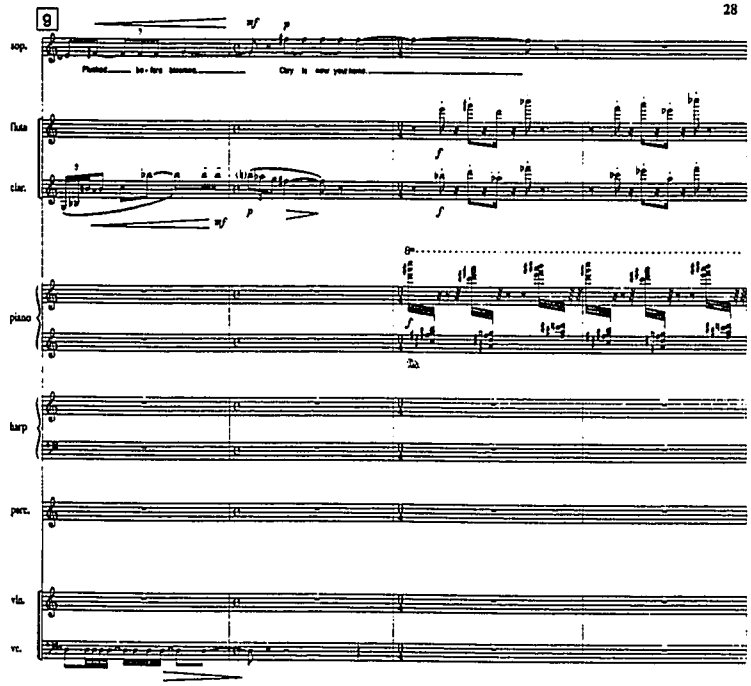

68
72
mf
f

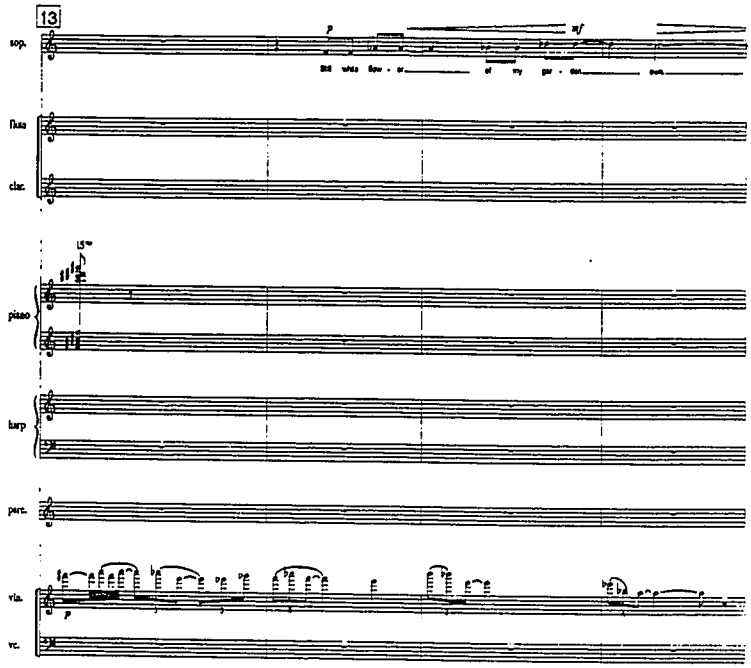

77
sop
fl/a
cl/a
piano
harp
perc
vn
vc
80
Tom Toms

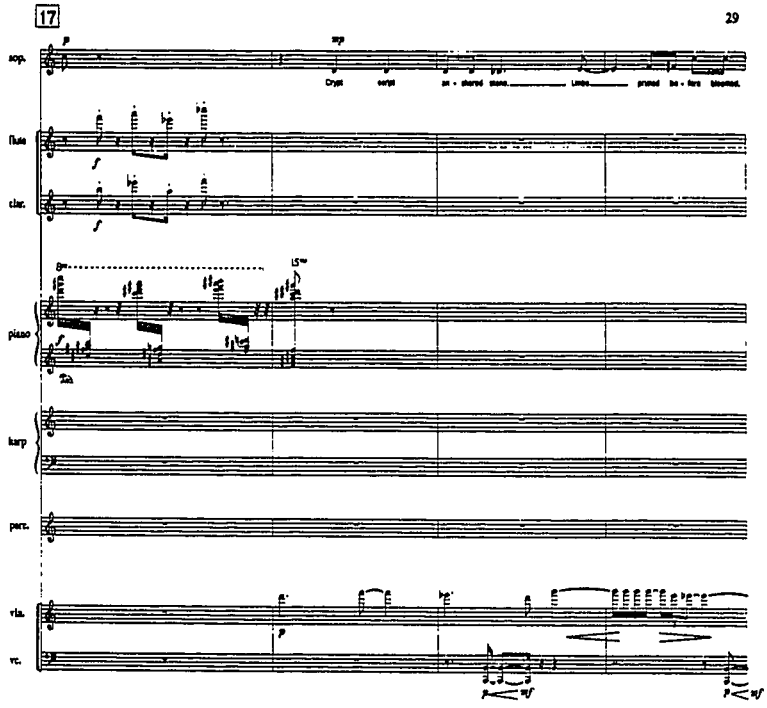

83
♩=50
sop
flute
cl
piano
harp
perc
vn
vc
87
mf
f
p
mp
rallen
cresses (now)
mf
♩=50

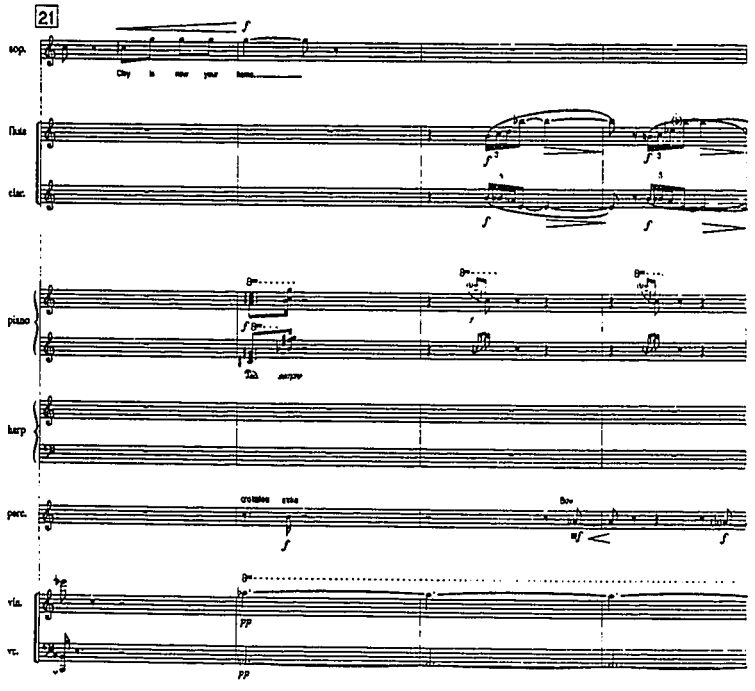
Interlude II

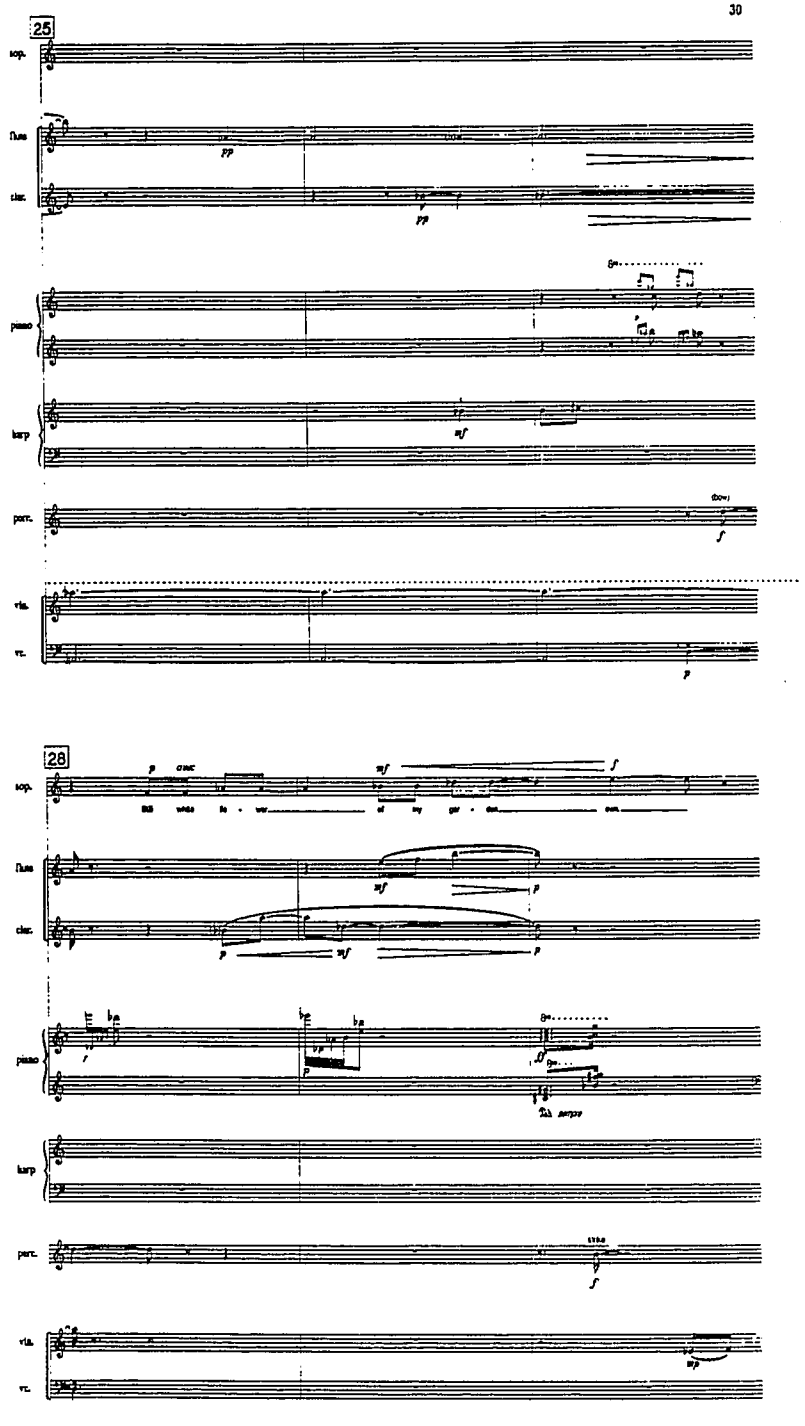

1
♩= 60
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vln.
vc.
5

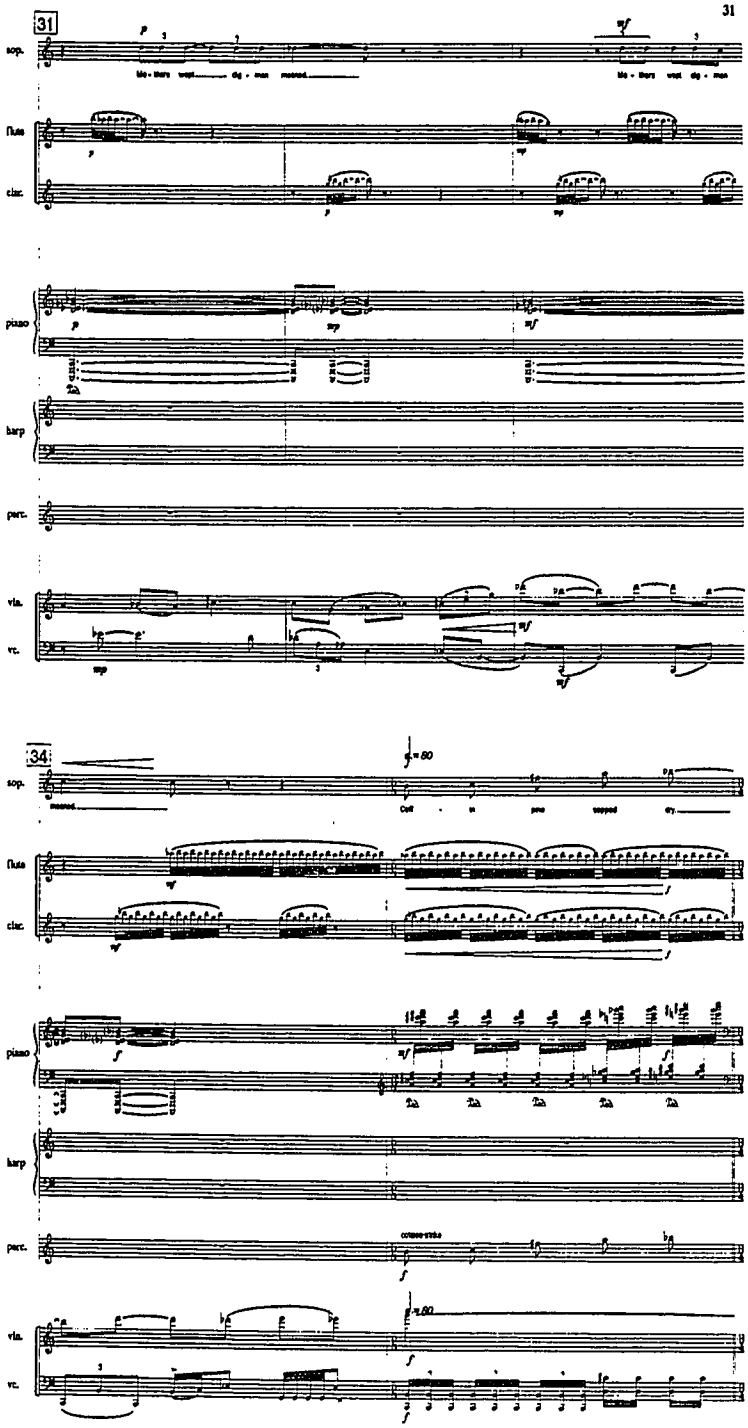

9
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vln.
vc.

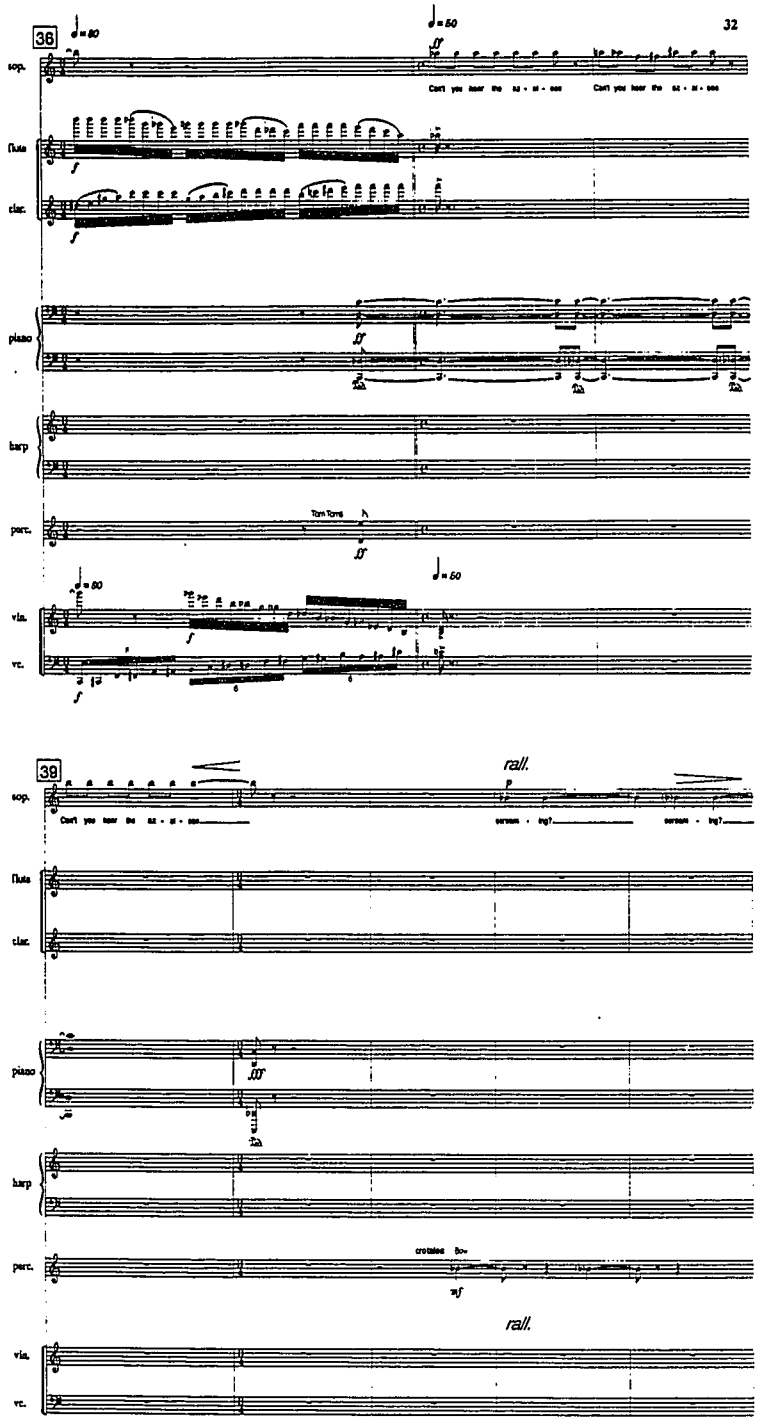

13
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vln.
vc.

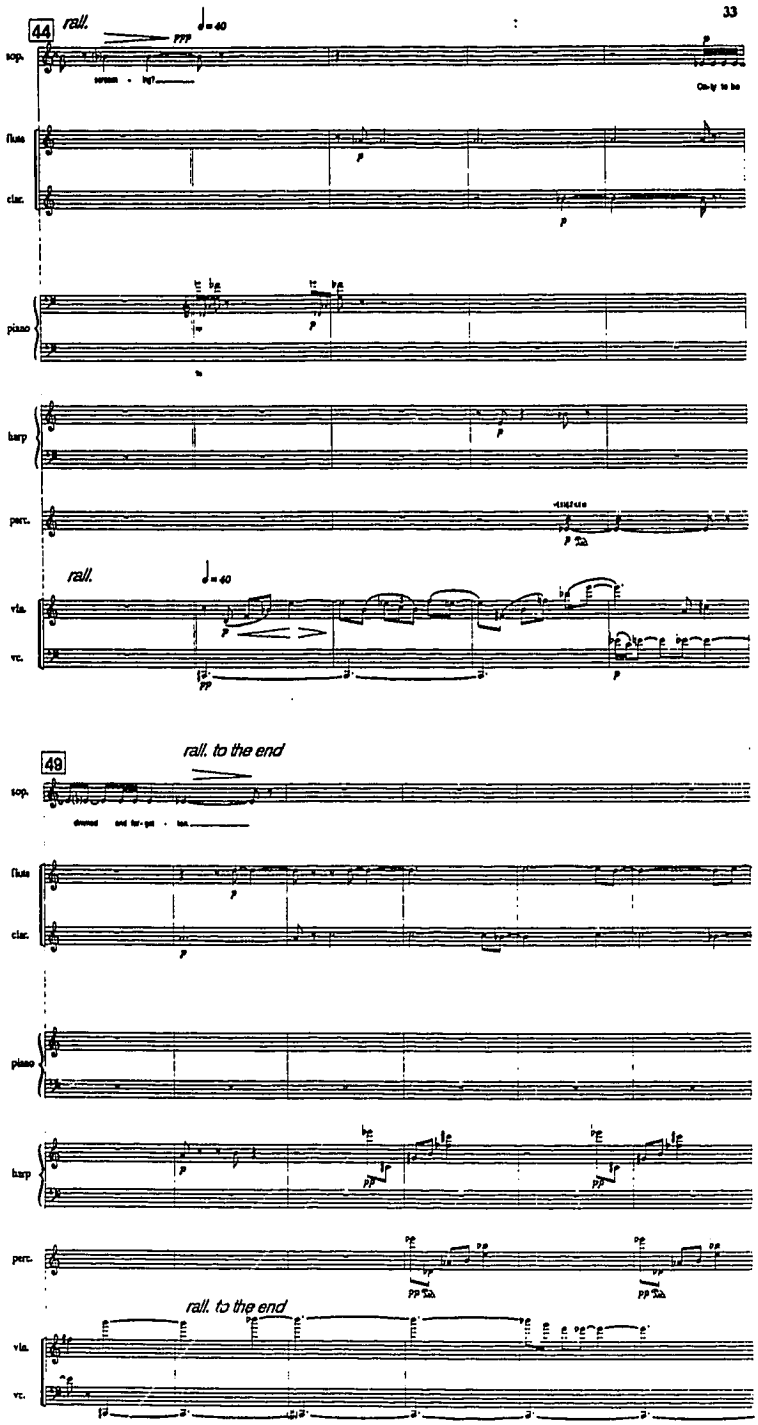

17
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vln.
vc.

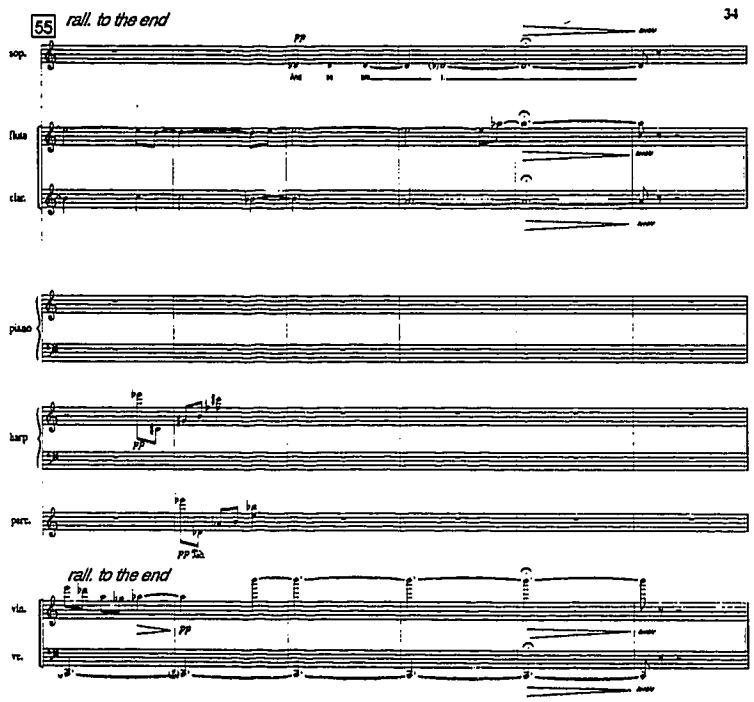

21
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vln.
vc.


25
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vln.
vc.
28
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vln.
vc.


31
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vln.
vc.
34
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vln.
vc.


36
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vln.
vc.
39
rall.
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vln.
vc.


44
rall.
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vla.
vc.
49
rall. to the end
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
vla.
vc.


55
rall. to the end
sop.
flute
clar.
piano
harp
perc.
rall. to the end
vln.
vc.