Martin Smolka

Rubato

for violin and piano

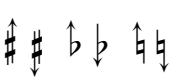
1995

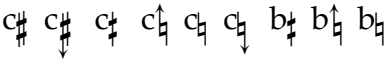
Explanations:

Accidentals are valid for the whole bar.

Violin

= 1/4-tones

 = 1/8-tones

An example of 1/8-tone scale down: 

In a section with piano it is recommended to relate the tuning of microtones to tones of piano. In a ***pppp*** solo section all microtones are derivable from *c' sharp*, *c'* and *b*, which can serve as kind of intonation axis. In the ***ff*** sections the open strings will help. (Bar 19, 20, 30: = neutral third –nor minor, nor major- of a triad in A♭.)

In practice the eight-note steps need not be perfectly exact nor equal, it just should be kept that, for example, on a way down from *c sharp* to *c* there are 4 micro-steps (or, in other words, 3 new pitches within the minor second). The tiniest step may give impression of rather color-change than pitch-change.

Open strings and *non vibrato* ***ff*** – crude sound (like folk fiddler).

S*empre non vibr.*, ***ppp*** *quasi niente* - very silently, static, as if motionless. The sound might be flavored by *flautato, sul tasto* or so. Violin and piano should be balanced to the extent of merging in one unit, violin should not dominate. Search for color similarities of both instruments is desired.

Piano

ppp *quasi niente* Press the keys extremely softly, mildly and gently; with each sound it should be taken a risk that the sound might not come out. To obtain extremely soft sound, it is recommended to touch the keys as much as possible on their margins. Tones of each chord should be balanced very carefully. Violin and piano should be balanced to the extent of merging in one unit, violin should not dominate. Search for color similarities of both instruments is desired.

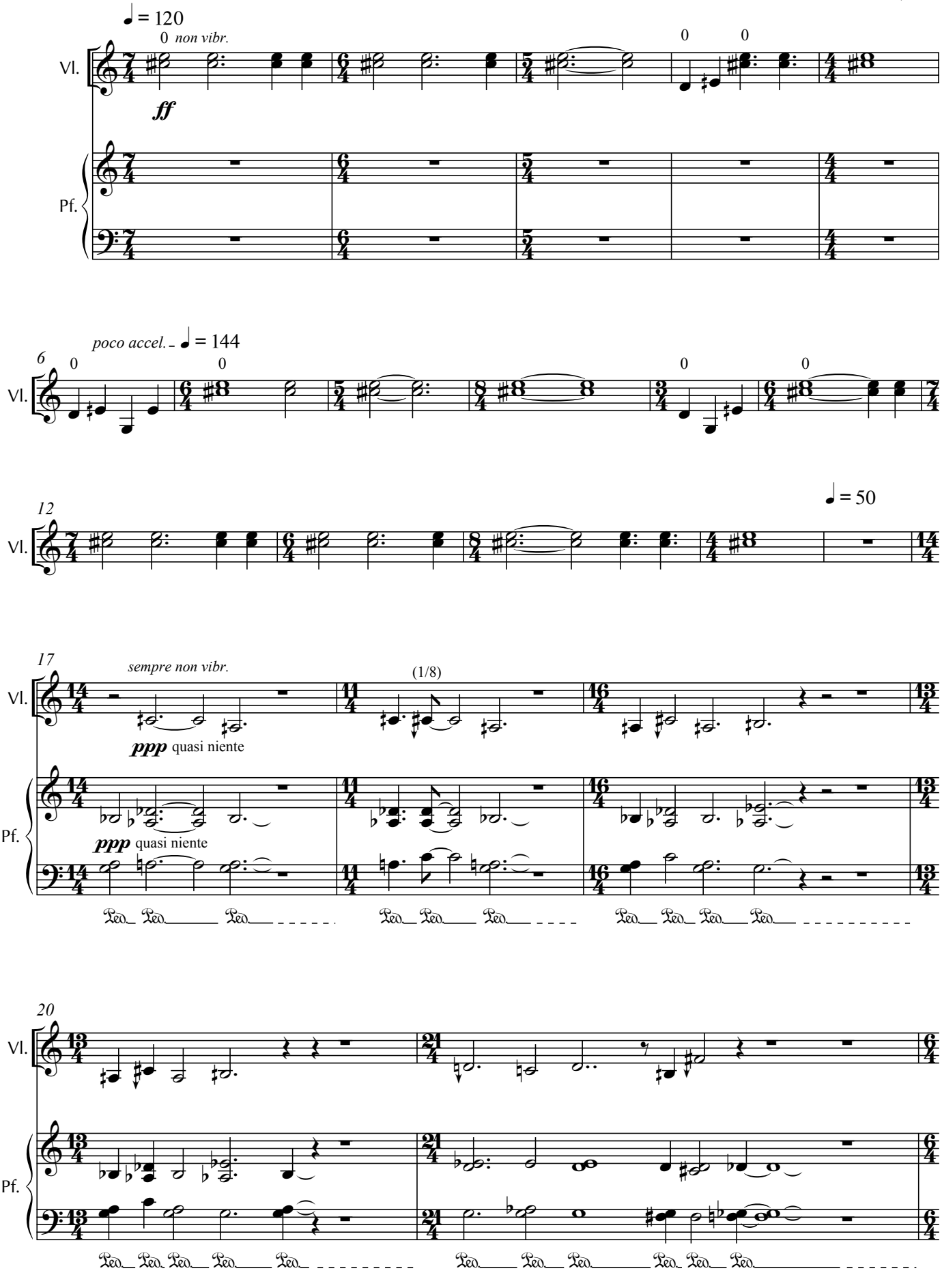
Ped _____ _ _ _ _ _ = sustain pedal first held, then un-pressed gradually to produce a very gentle buzzing of the strings and then the „echo" of the other resonating strings. This effect must not be reason for playing louder.

Duration ca. 8'

Rubato

to Ivan Ženatý

Martin Smolka, 1995



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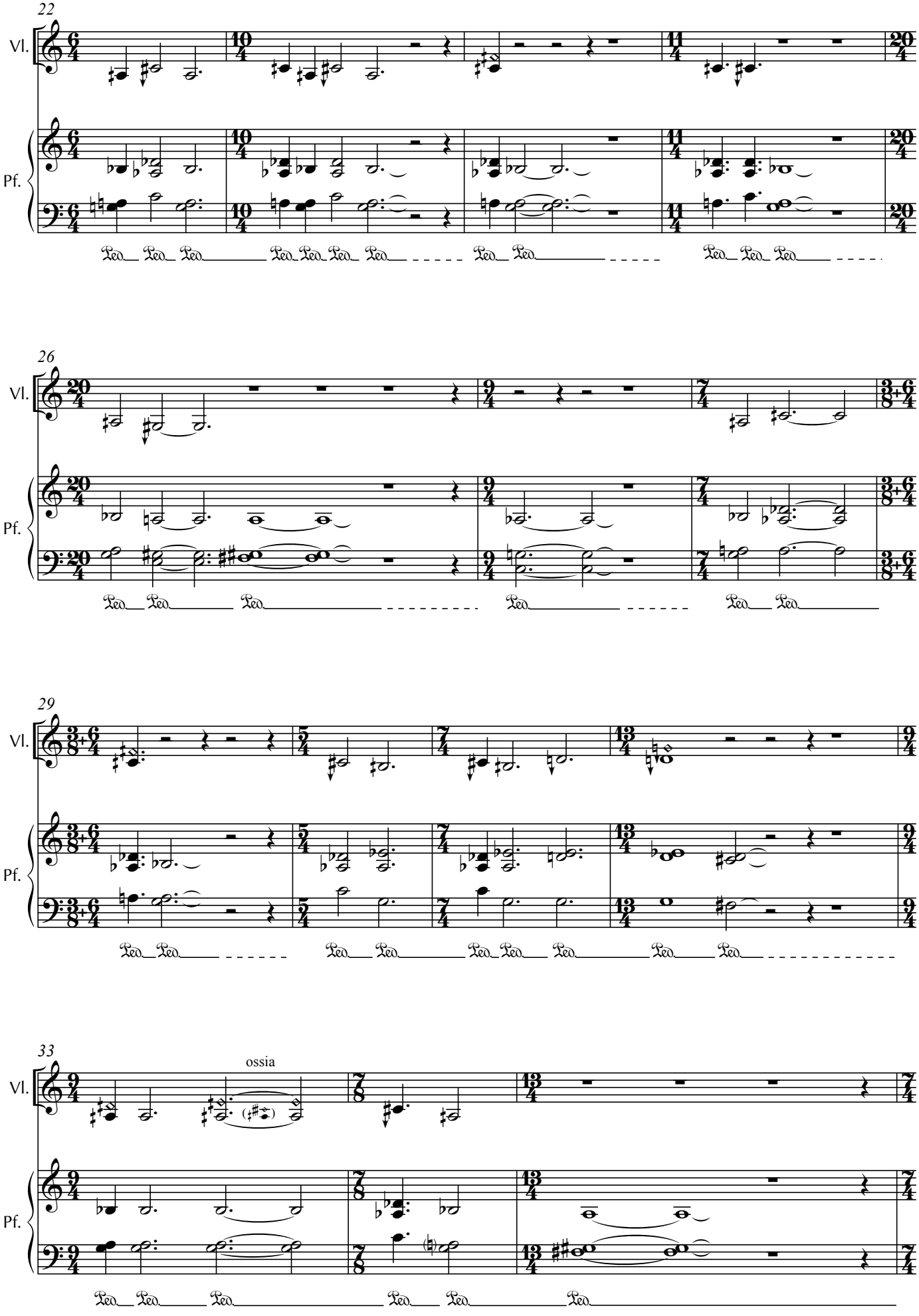

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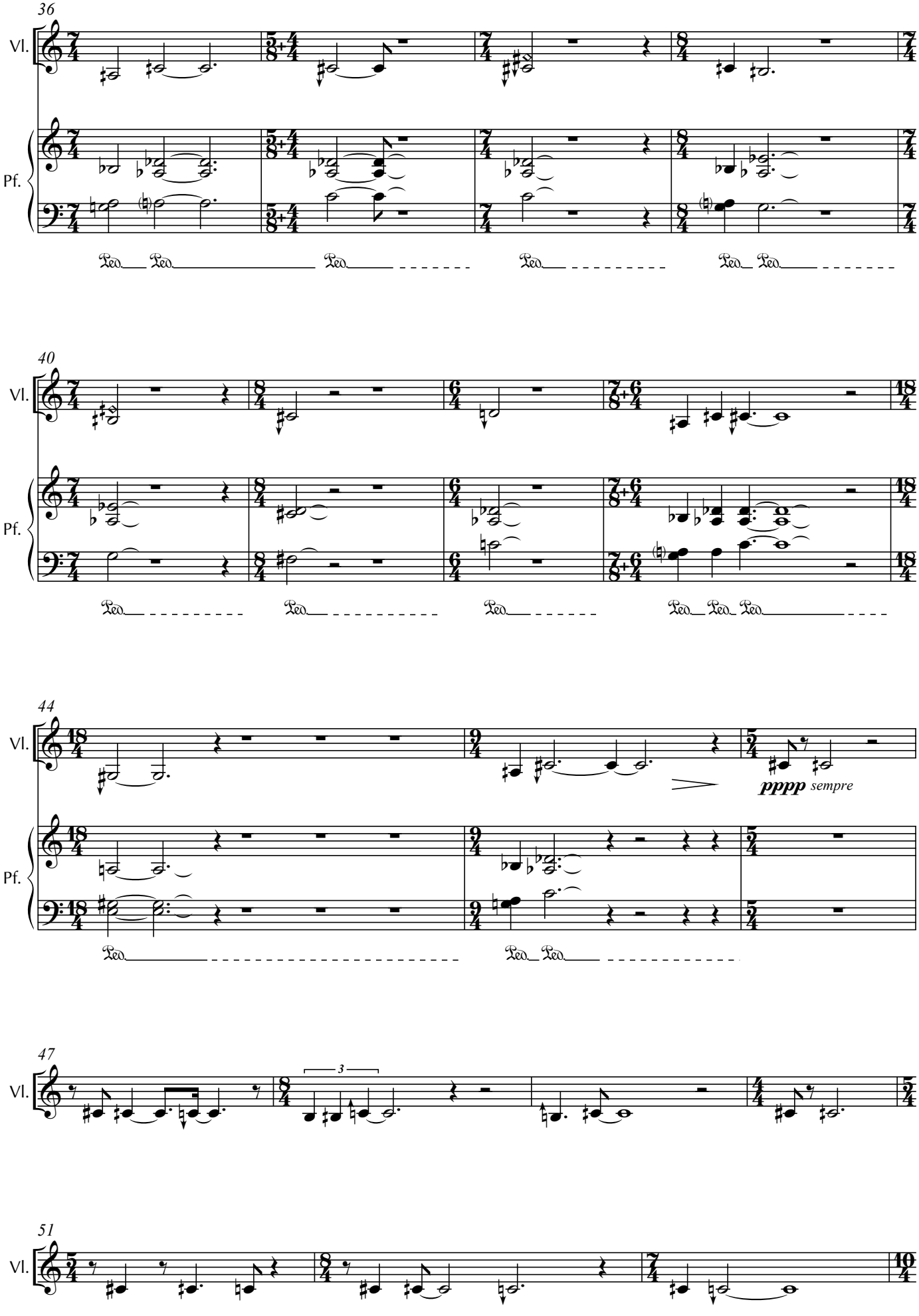

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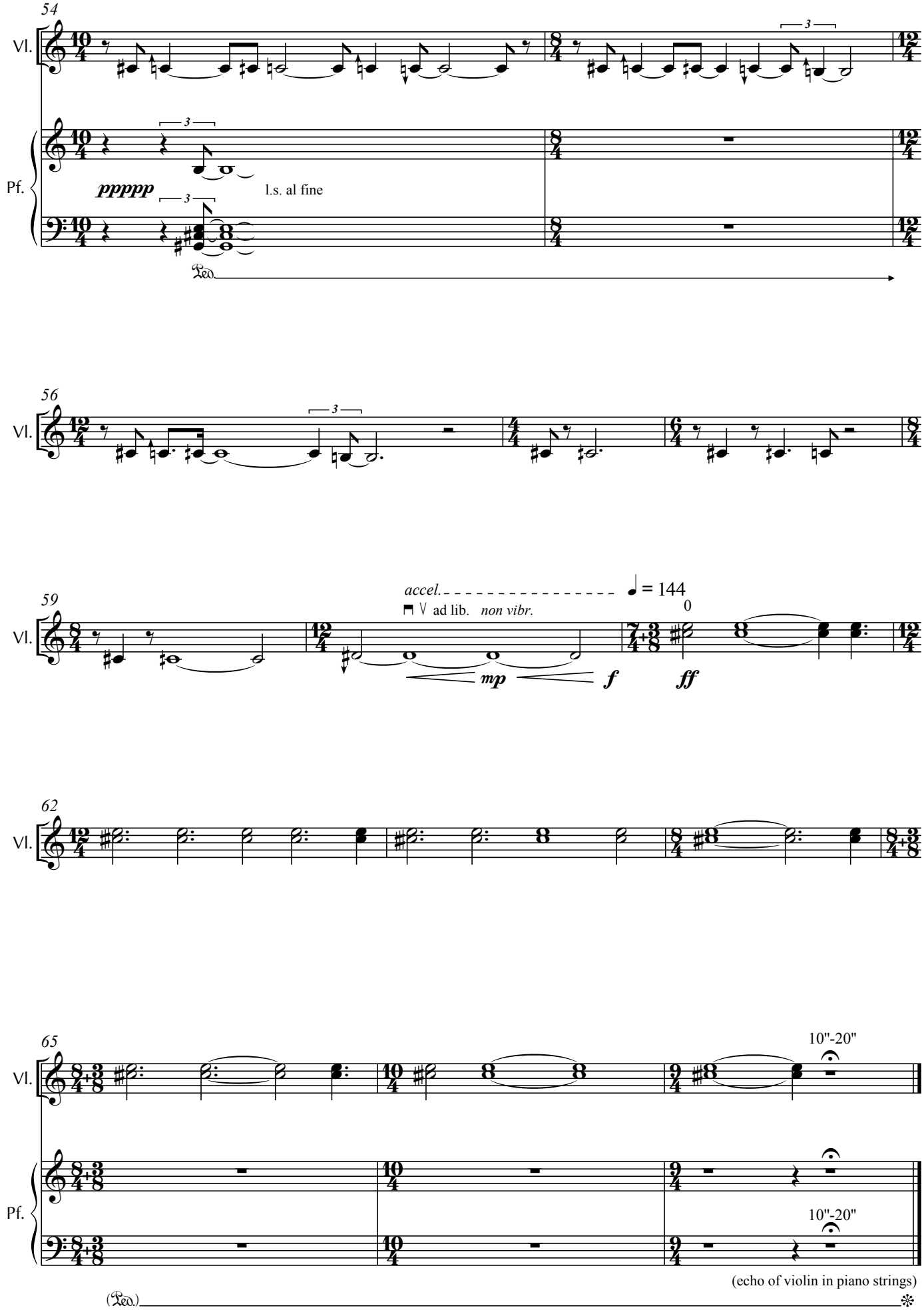
54
Vl.
Pf.
ppppp
3
l.s. al fine
Ped.
56
59
accel.
ad lib.
non vibr.
= 144
mp
f
ff
62
65
10"-20"
(echo of violin in piano strings)
(Ped.)

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