John Arrigo-Nelson (2002)

Solo/Duo

for violin and piano

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Performance Notes

• Improvisation/Cells

The rhythmic value written in a cell represents the fastest subdivision that should be used. This does not mean that it is the only subdivision to be used, but simply the fastest, and most prevalent.

Above each cell, a large number appears, followed by a quarter note. This indicates the number of quarter note beats over which the event in the cell should occur.

A horizontal line connected to a cell means to continue the cell. A stemmed note from the horizontal line (in the piano part) means to play that note and immediately return to playing the cell. A diagonal line going from a violin event to a piano event means that the pianist should play the event as a reaction to the violin.

Polytempo

In sections of the score where the two instruments are to play in independent tempi, the music of each part is written in correct proportion to the other. It is not expected that every event in these areas will occur exactly where written on the page. The events should occur, however, in the general area in which they are written.

There are several places in the score where events must occur as indicated:

- p.1: Tempo of quarter = 69 in the piano part should be reached by the time the violin has the G# grace note.
- p. 3: The piano 4/4 measure should begin somewhere early on in the violin's seven-beat cell.
- p. 4: The piano cell in the first system should begin with the violin harmonic.
- p. 5: The piano's line in the second system should begin simultaneously with the violin's half-note rest.
- p. 6: Both instruments should be at quarter= 120 in the last measure of the second system.
- p. 13: The piano 4/4 measure at quarter = 36 in the last system should begin simultaneously with the violin's 4/4 measure at quarter = 80.
- p. 15: In the first system, last measure, the violin's 3rd beat should line up with the piano's 4th beat, and the two instruments should stay in the same tempo (quarter =36) for the rest of the page.

^{*} The duration of all improvisatory events preceding these areas can be altered to facilitate coordination.

Piano

Wherever the pianist is asked to dampen the strings, it should be done so that some pitch can still be heard. In the opening several pages, the sound should approximate that of the pizzicato violin. The indicated pitch range that should be covered will need to be altered to work on different pianos with different frames. The range that should be covered should be as close as possible to what is written.

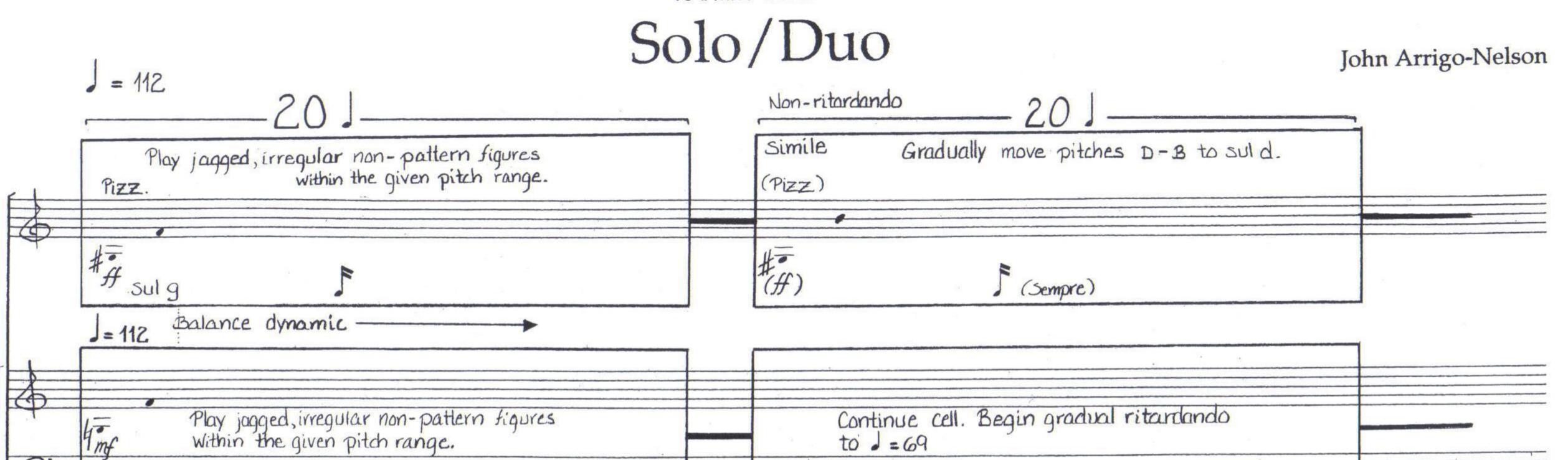
The harmonic that is called for in the second system of page 2 may not be possible with the framework of certain pianos. A possible alternate approach is to touch the F string (a perfect fifth lower than the written C on page 2) in order to produce a harmonic that sounds somewhere in the Bb – A range.

To indicate the application of sustain pedal, the standard "Ped" marking is used. The release of the sustain pedal is indicated using the standard, "*" " The other pedals are indicated as "U.C." = una corda, and "M" = middle (sostenuto). In areas where more than one pedal is being used, the release of pedals is indicated with "*" "followed by the abbreviation for the pedal. In these areas, "*" is used to indicate the release of the sustain pedal.

On page 6, the pianist is asked to play inside the piano. The general pitch range is specified, as is the rhythm. The indicates a flurry of attacks to be played as fast as possible, beginning on the beat specified. Where these figures are written on consecutive beats, the attack on the beginning of each beat should be accented.

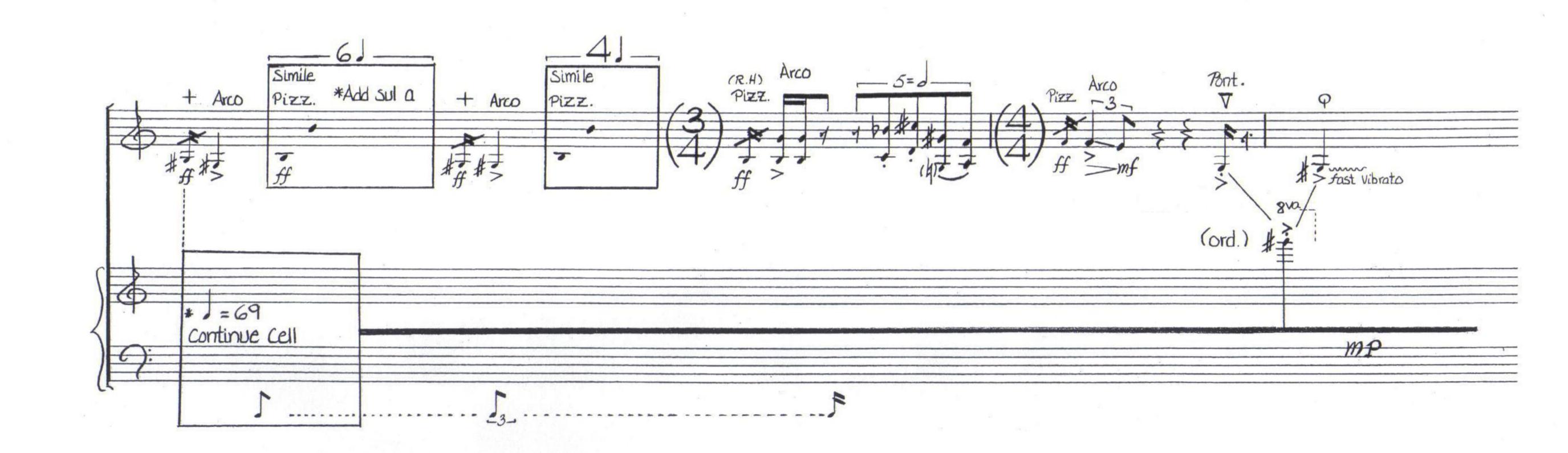
Violin

On pages 8-10, $\sqrt{}$ indicates that the bow should be applied using overpressure. The rectangle attached to the note indicates location on the string over which the bow should be drawn (over the fingerboard), and the written pitch indicates the string on which it is to be drawn (it is always played sul G). Together, this should produce a low, scratchy sound, without much pitch.

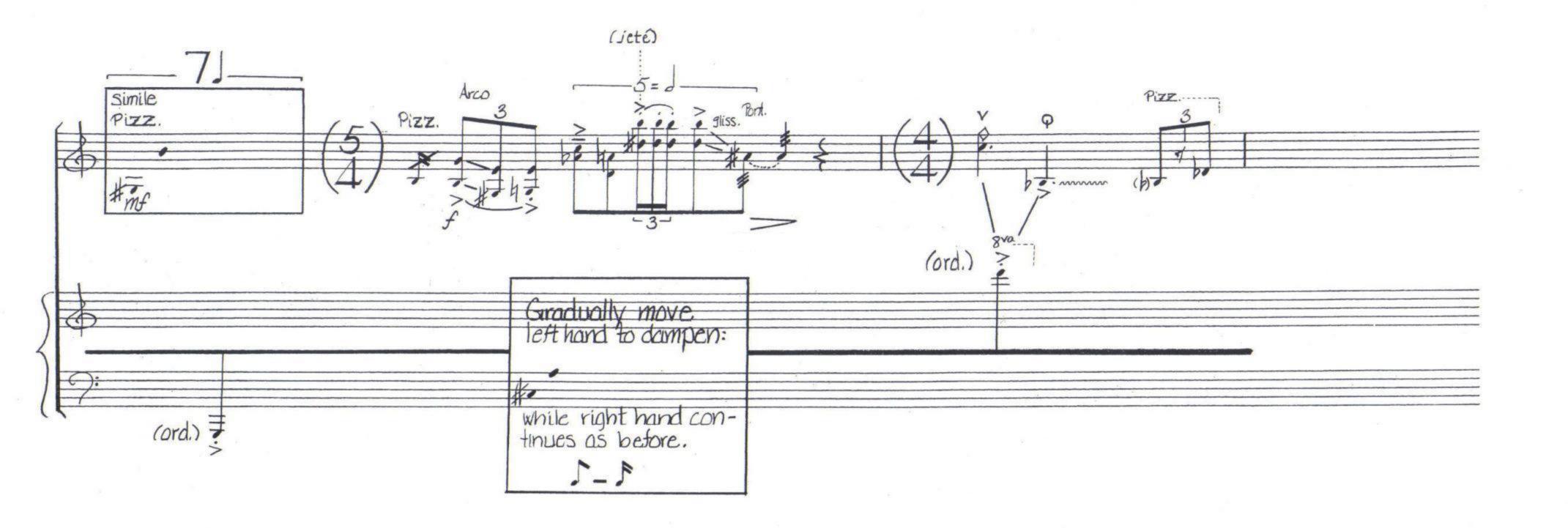


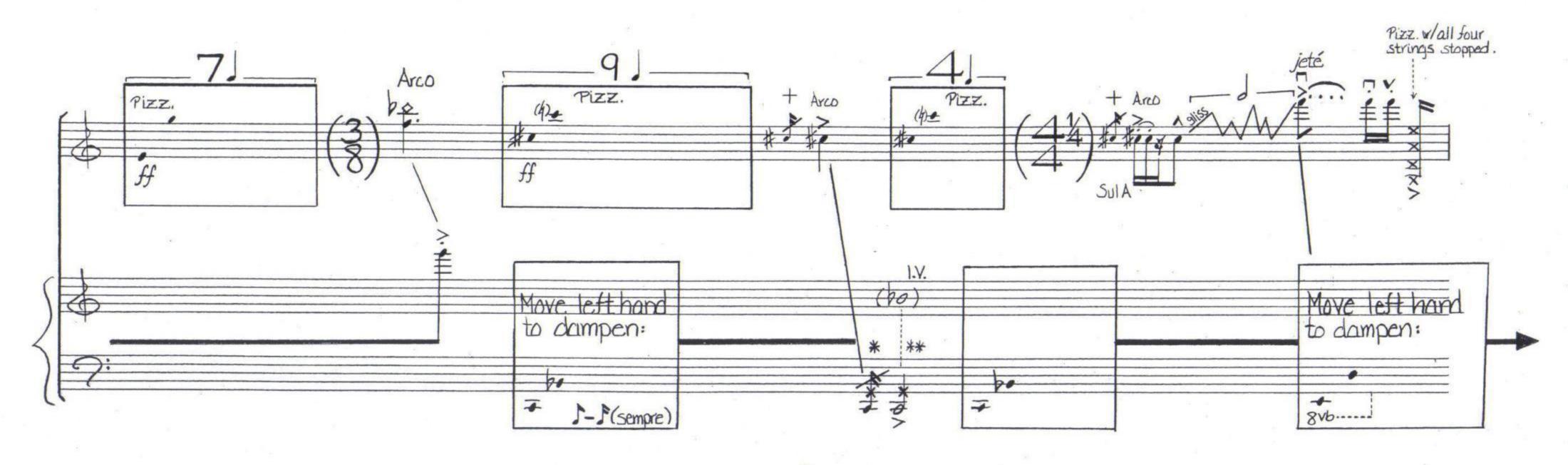
Violin

Piano

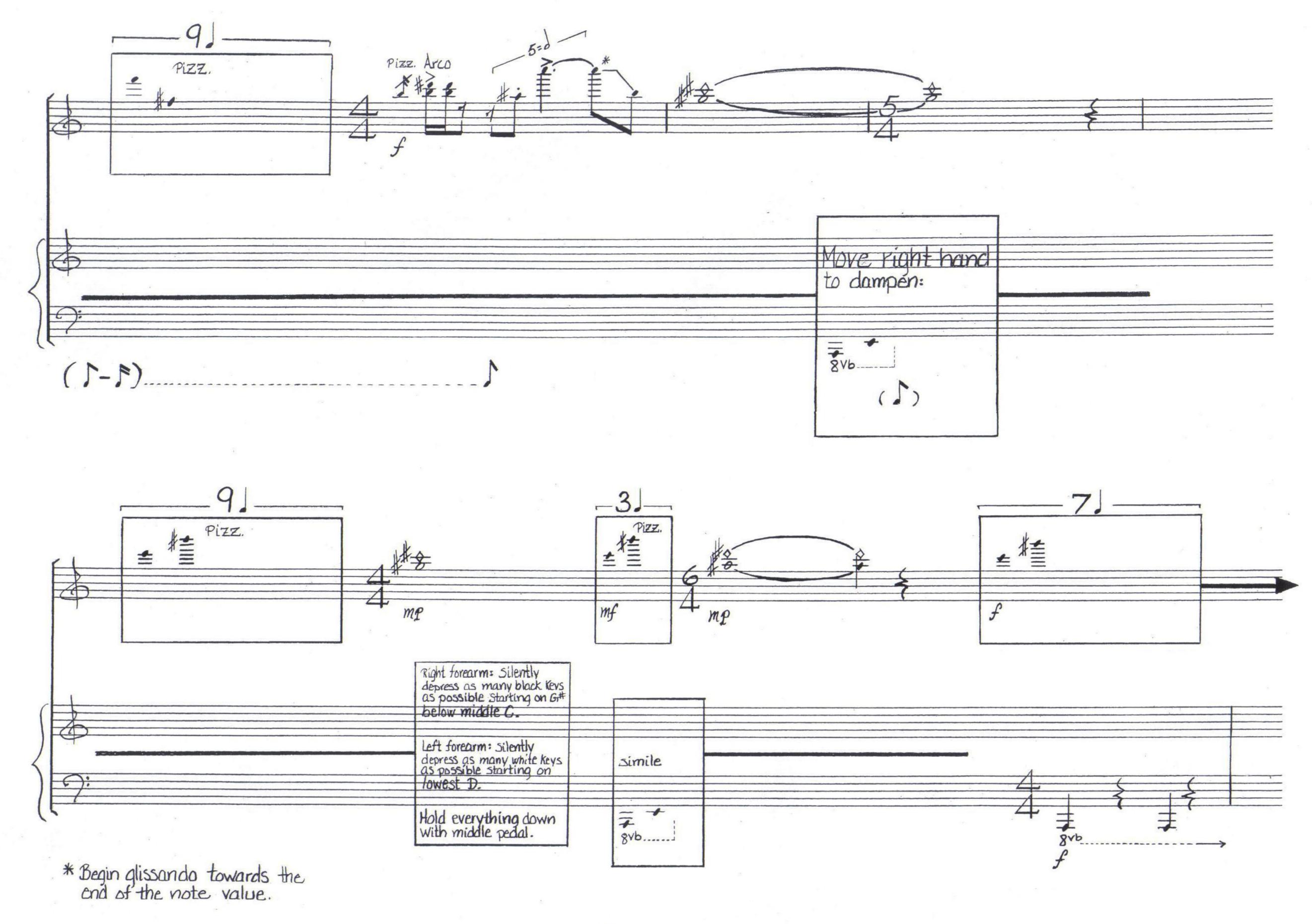


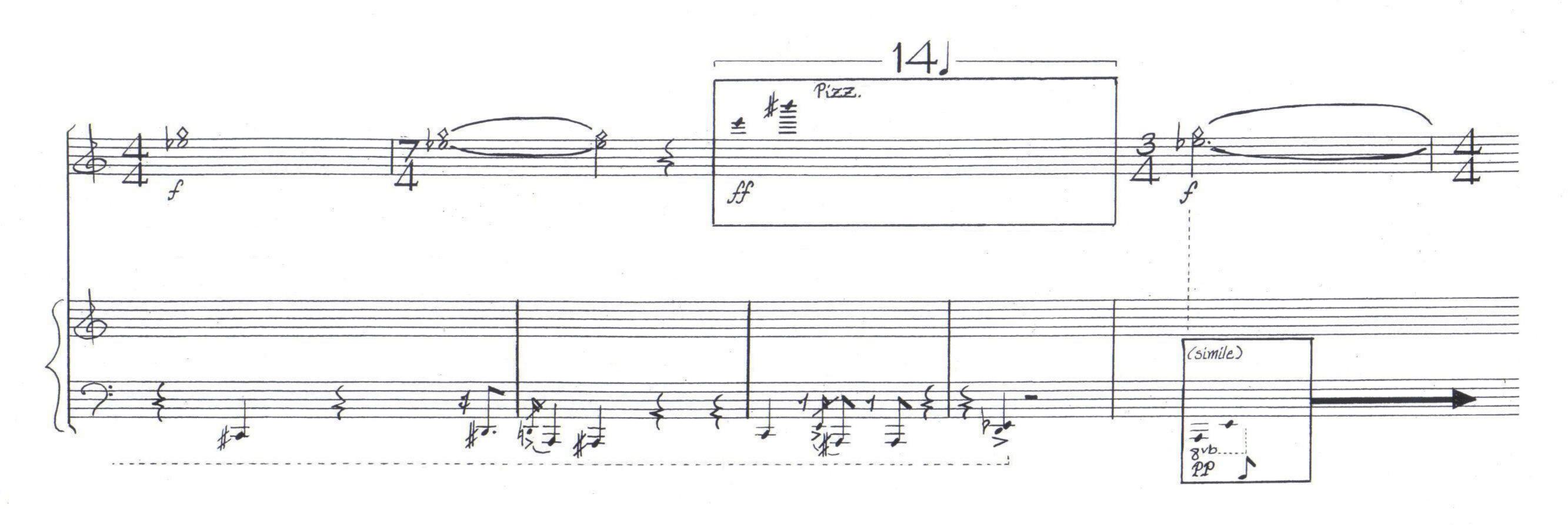
* Dampen strings inside piano with left hand*

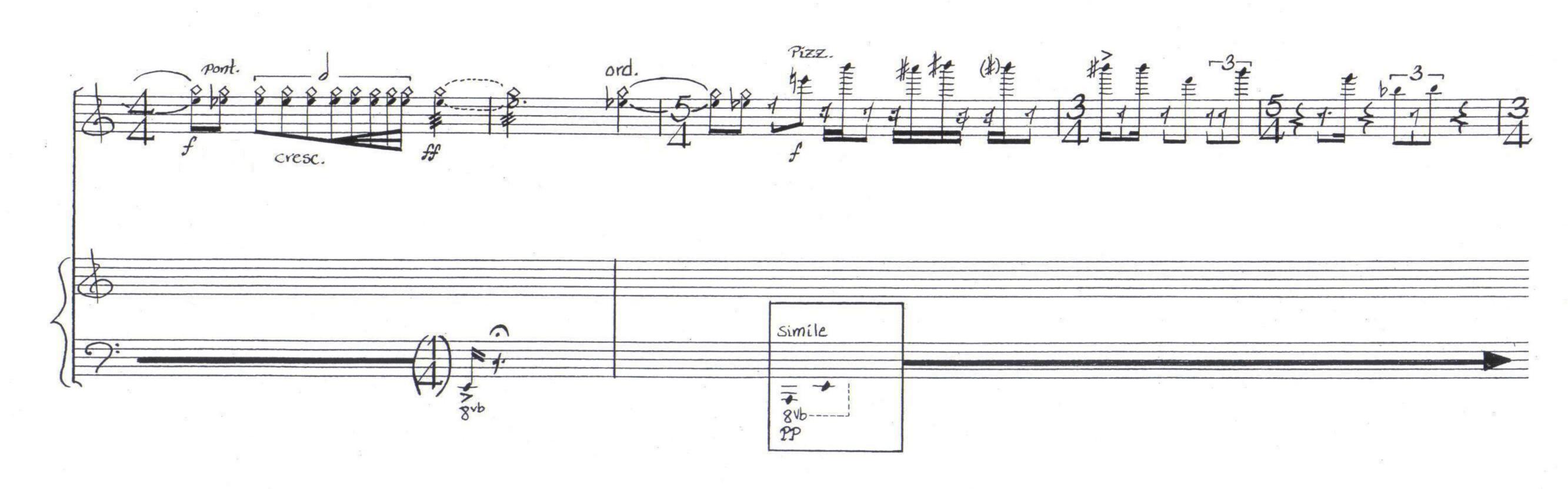




** Touch C string inside piano to produce B harmonic. ** See performance note for alternate option



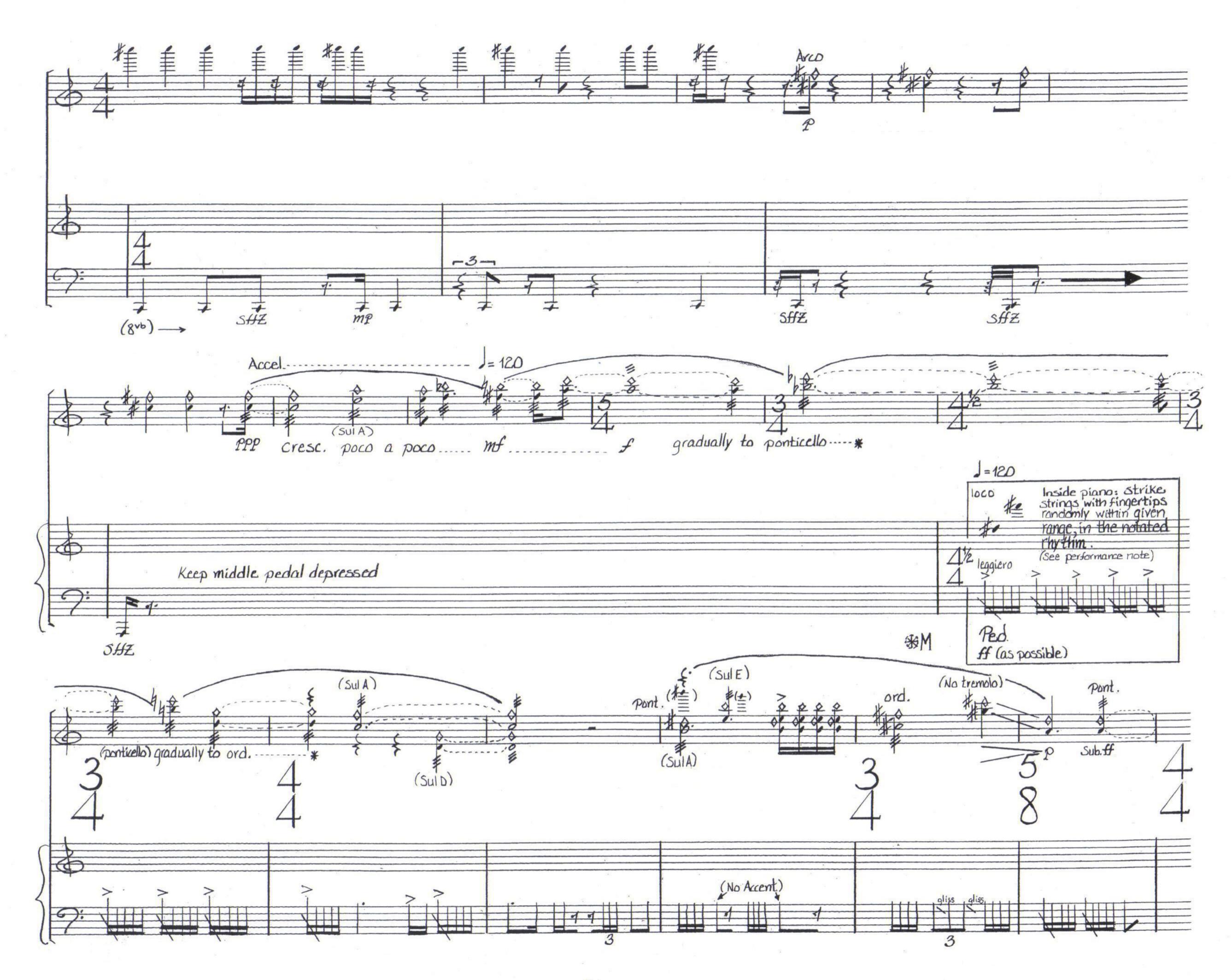








* Articulate through glissando













^{*} Bow in continual eighth notes during trills.









