Pamela J. Marshall

Star in the East

eight horns

Spindrift Music Company
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Publishing contemporary classical music
and promoting its performance and
appreciation

Star in the East

for eight horns

by Pamela J. Marshall

Duration approximately 3'45

Notes

In the 1970s, I arranged several Christmas tunes for two horns and for two horns and voice so that my friends and I could perform them in the Boston subway.

My arrangements included a few standards, like Silent Night and God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen, but I was more interested in less often heard music. I found several unfamiliar tunes in a folk song collection in the Boston Public Library (I'm not sure anymore what book it was, but I think it was Ruth Crawford Seeger's American Folk Songs for Christmas). I was enchanted by several of them and arranged them for our small group.

More recently, I rediscovered my collection and wanted to hear the tunes again. I arranged Star in the East for 8 horns (horn players love to play music for large ensembles). My setting has several variations and interludes.

Then I decided to expand that arrangement into a version for orchestra because I wanted to inject a little variety into the standard holiday programs. Along the way, I added two more tunes, making it a medley. The other tunes in Three Appalachian Carols are Can't You Hear the Lambs A'Cryin' and Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day.

Star in the East is a lively modal hymn tune that I have seen in various hymnals, often under the name of Brightest and Best. It has many verses, which I've seen used with other tunes too. The words of the refrain are:

> Brightest and best of the stars of the morning
> Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid.
> Star in the East, the horizon adorning
> Guide where our infant Redeemer was laid.

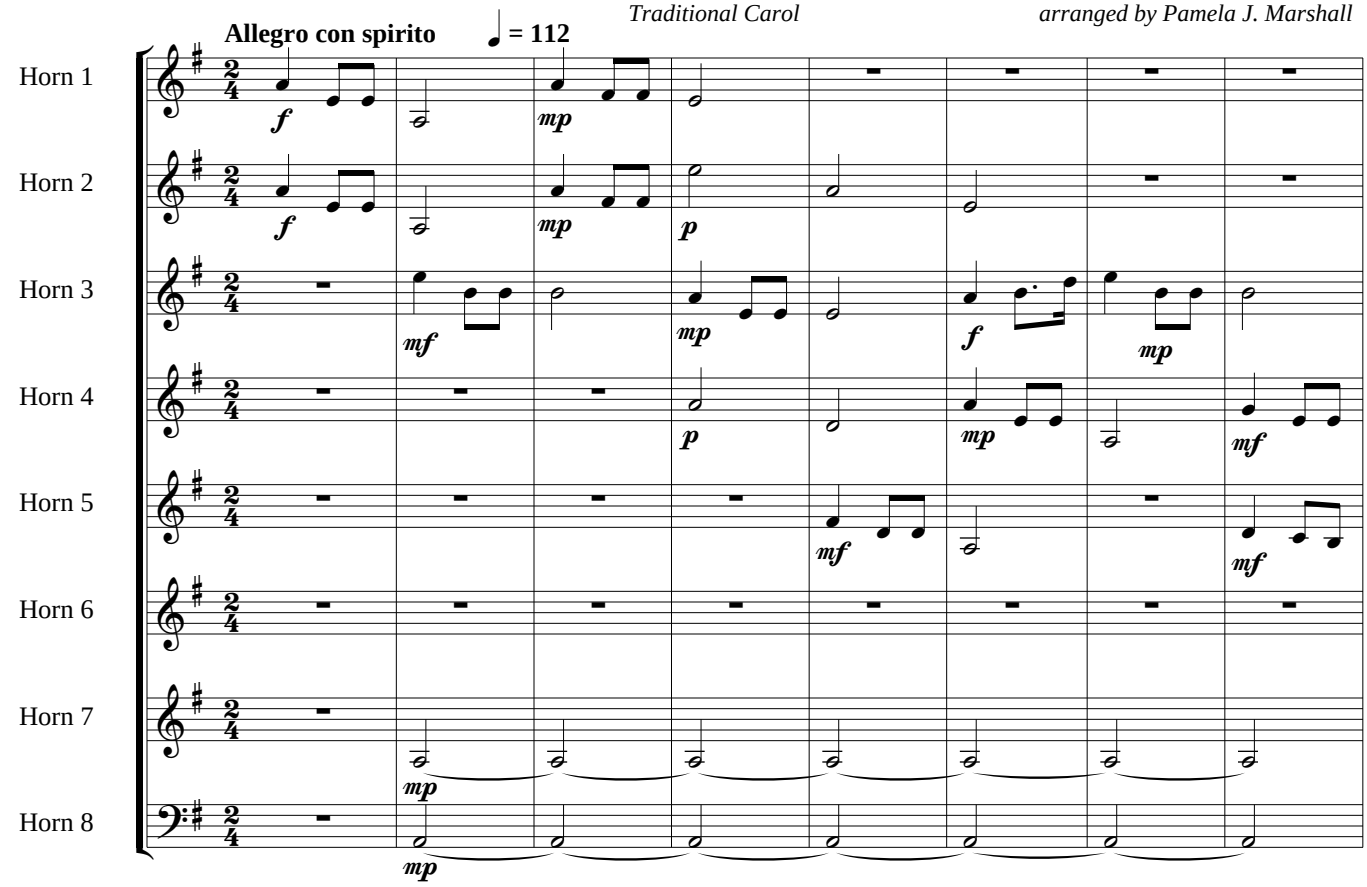
Pamela J. Marshall
Updated March 1999

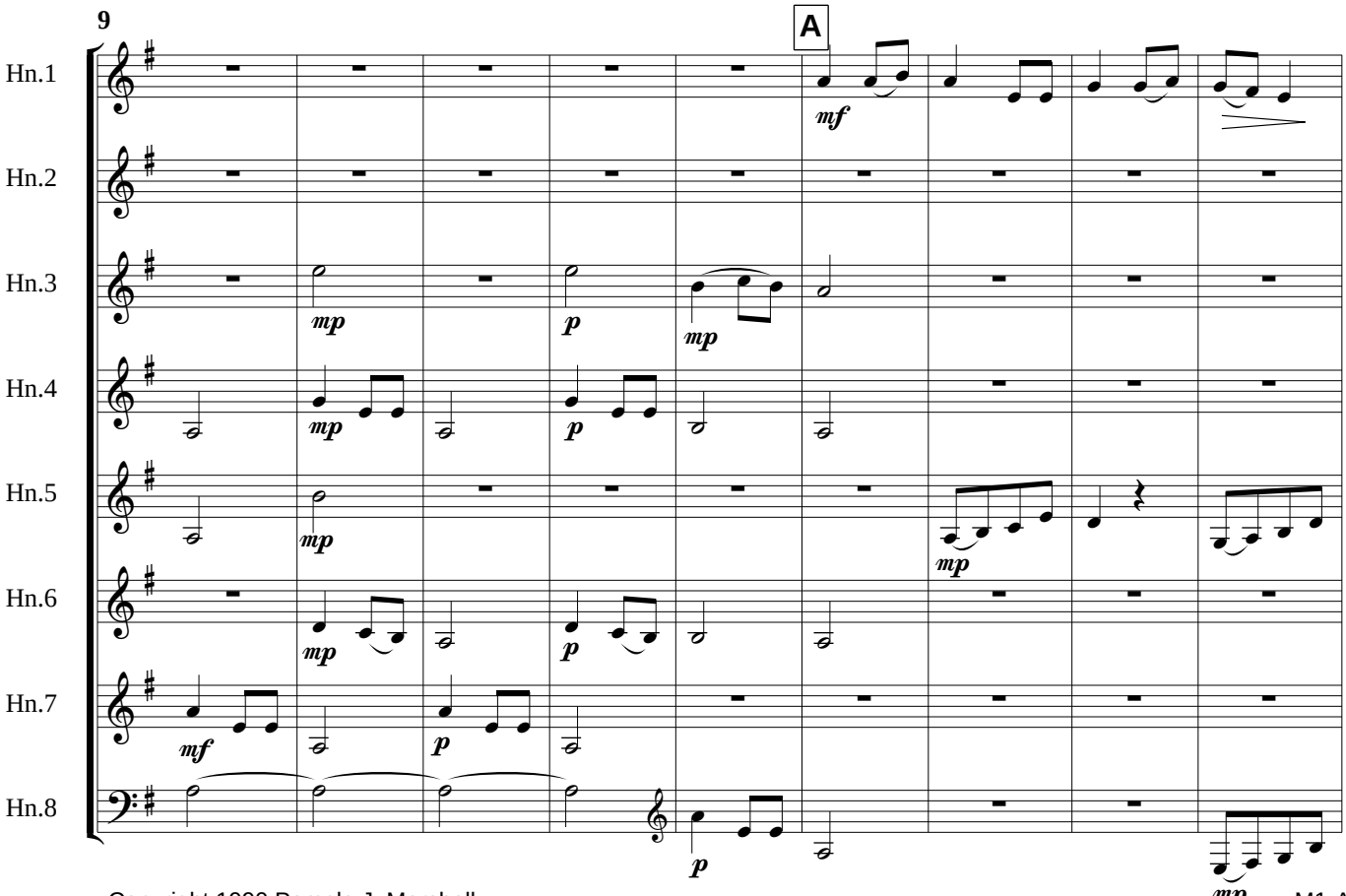
Spindrift Music Company
38 Dexter Road
Lexington, MA 02420
781-862-0884 On the Web at http://www.spindrift.com

Star in the East

Traditional Carol

arranged by Pamela J. Marshall





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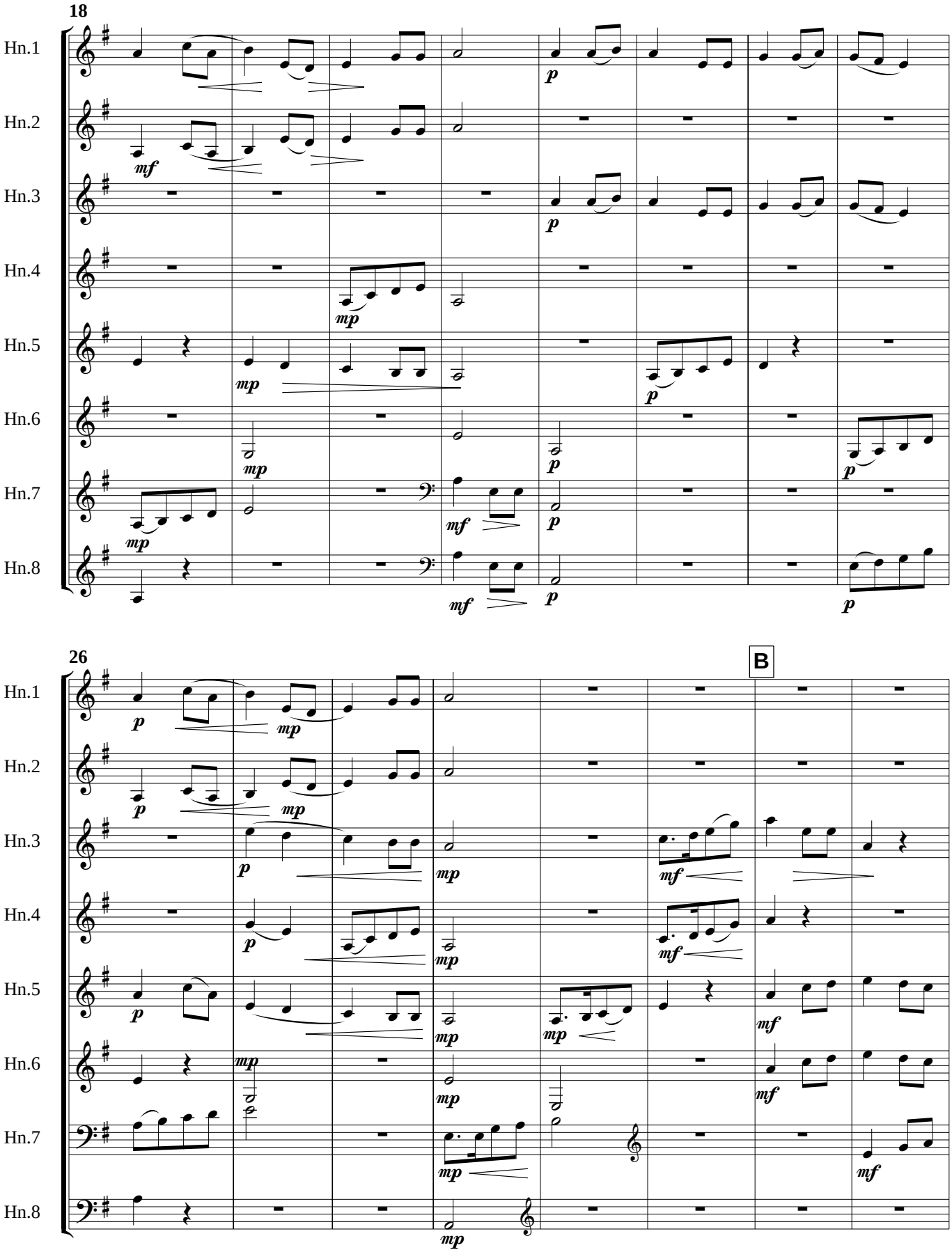
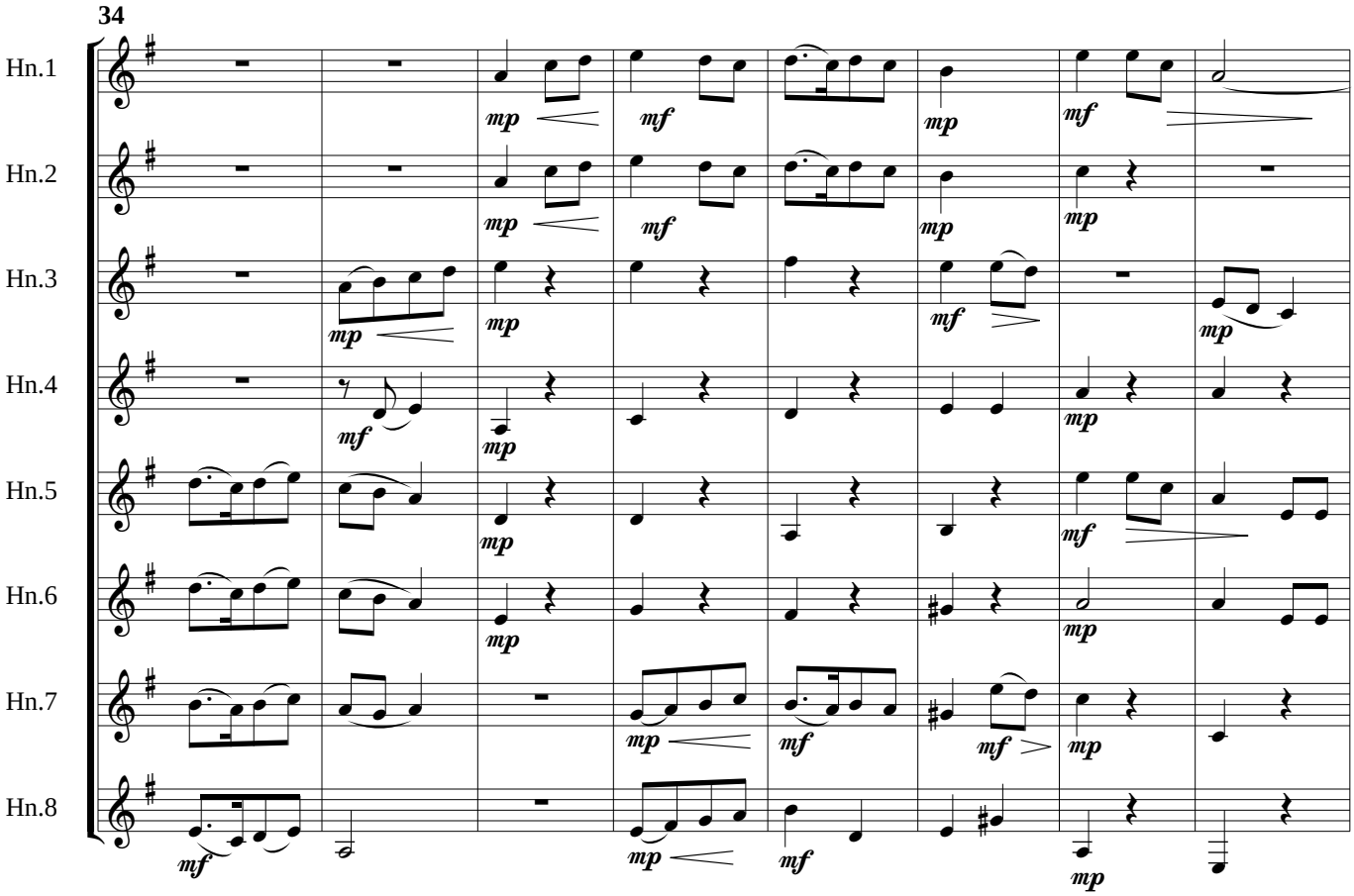

18
Hn.1
Hn.2
Hn.3
Hn.4
Hn.5
Hn.6
Hn.7
Hn.8
26
B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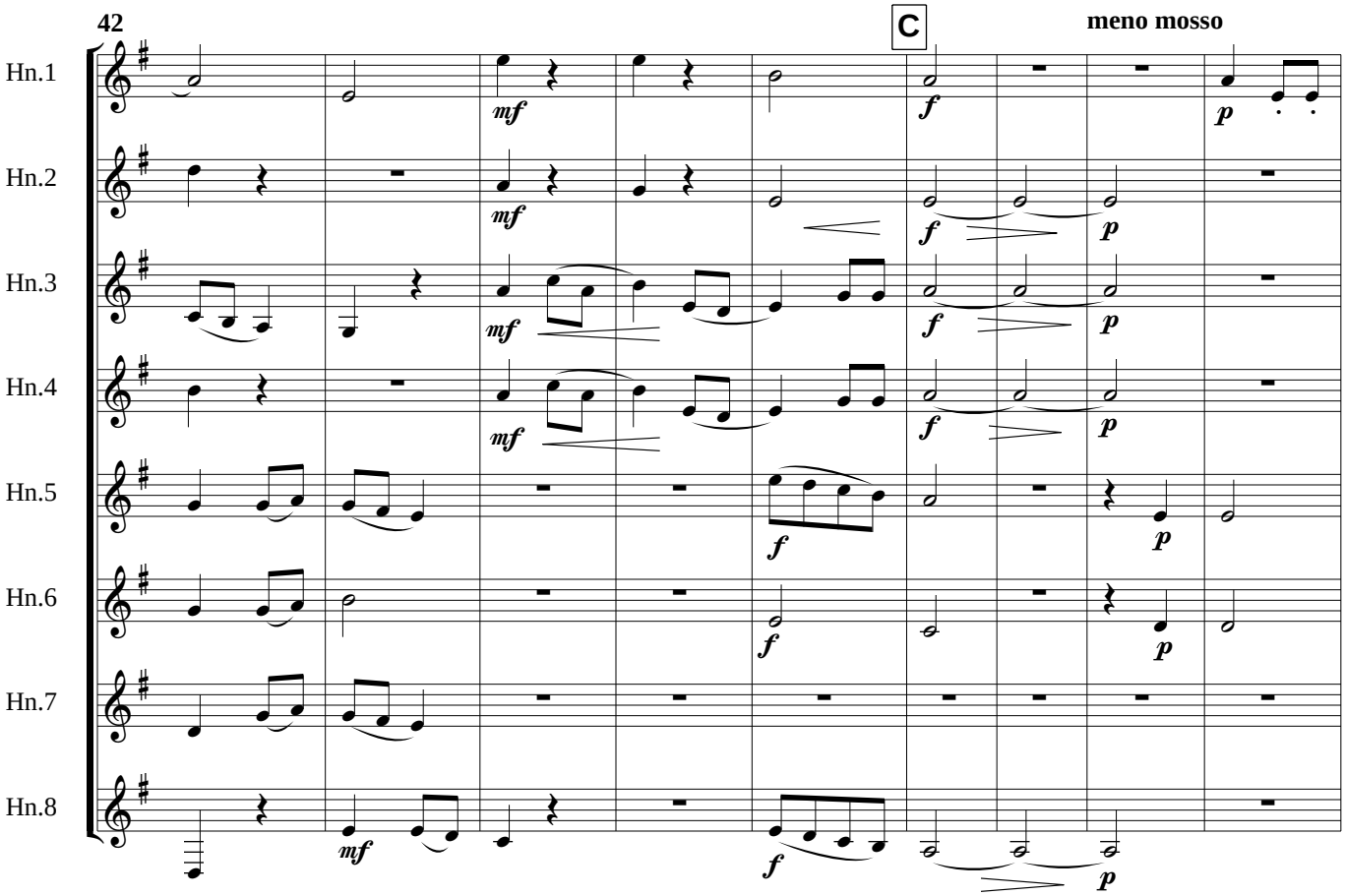
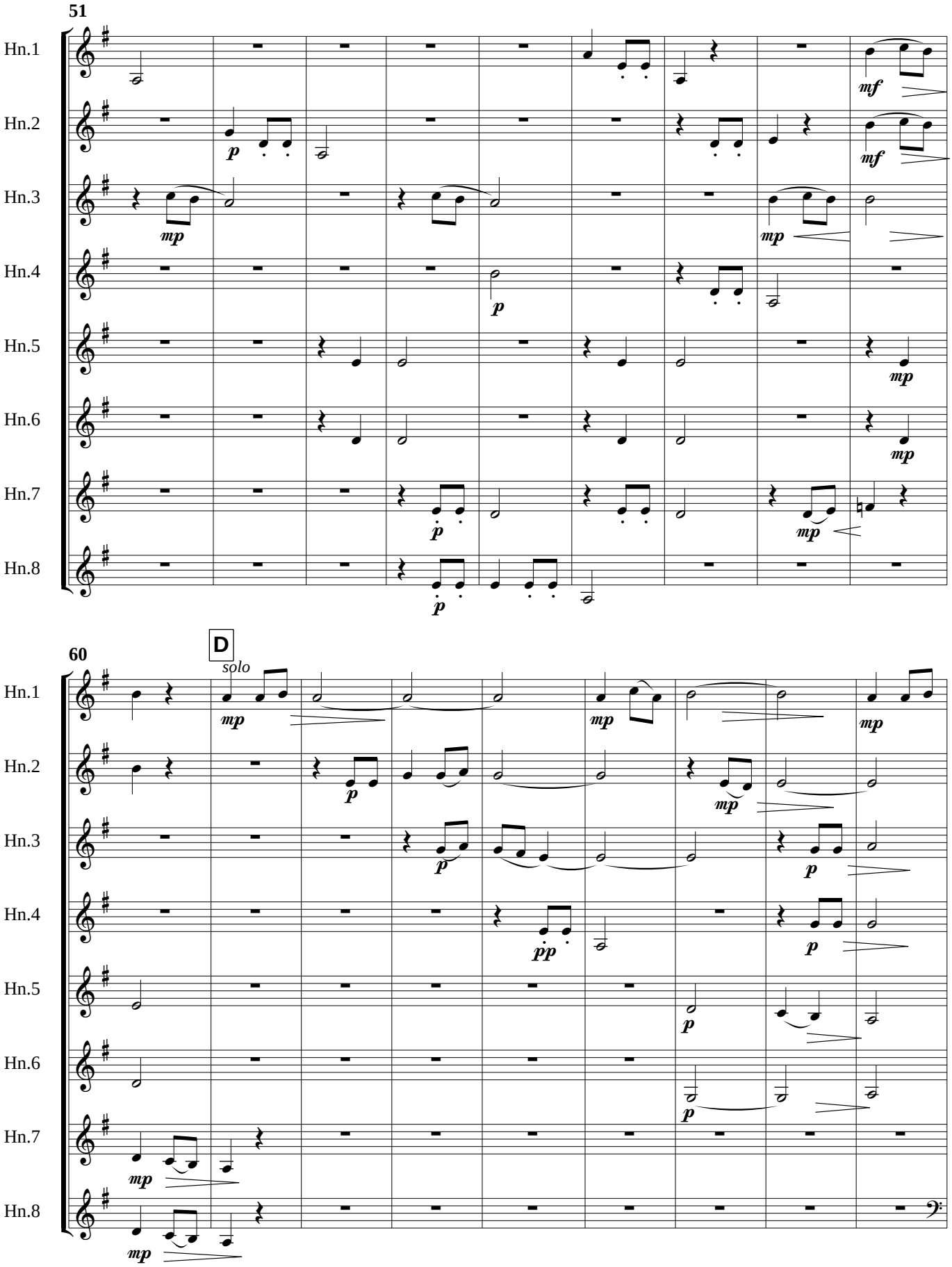
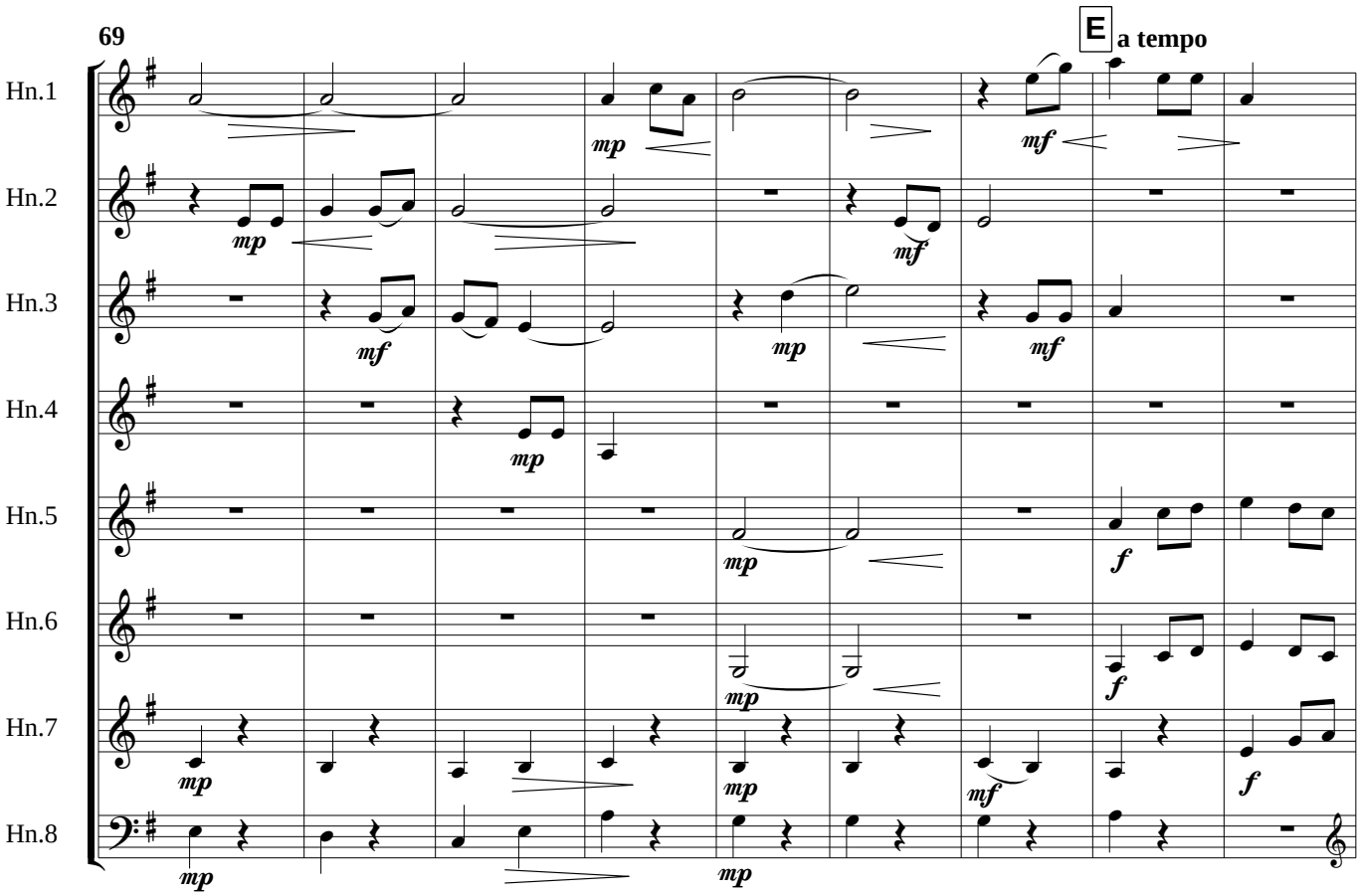
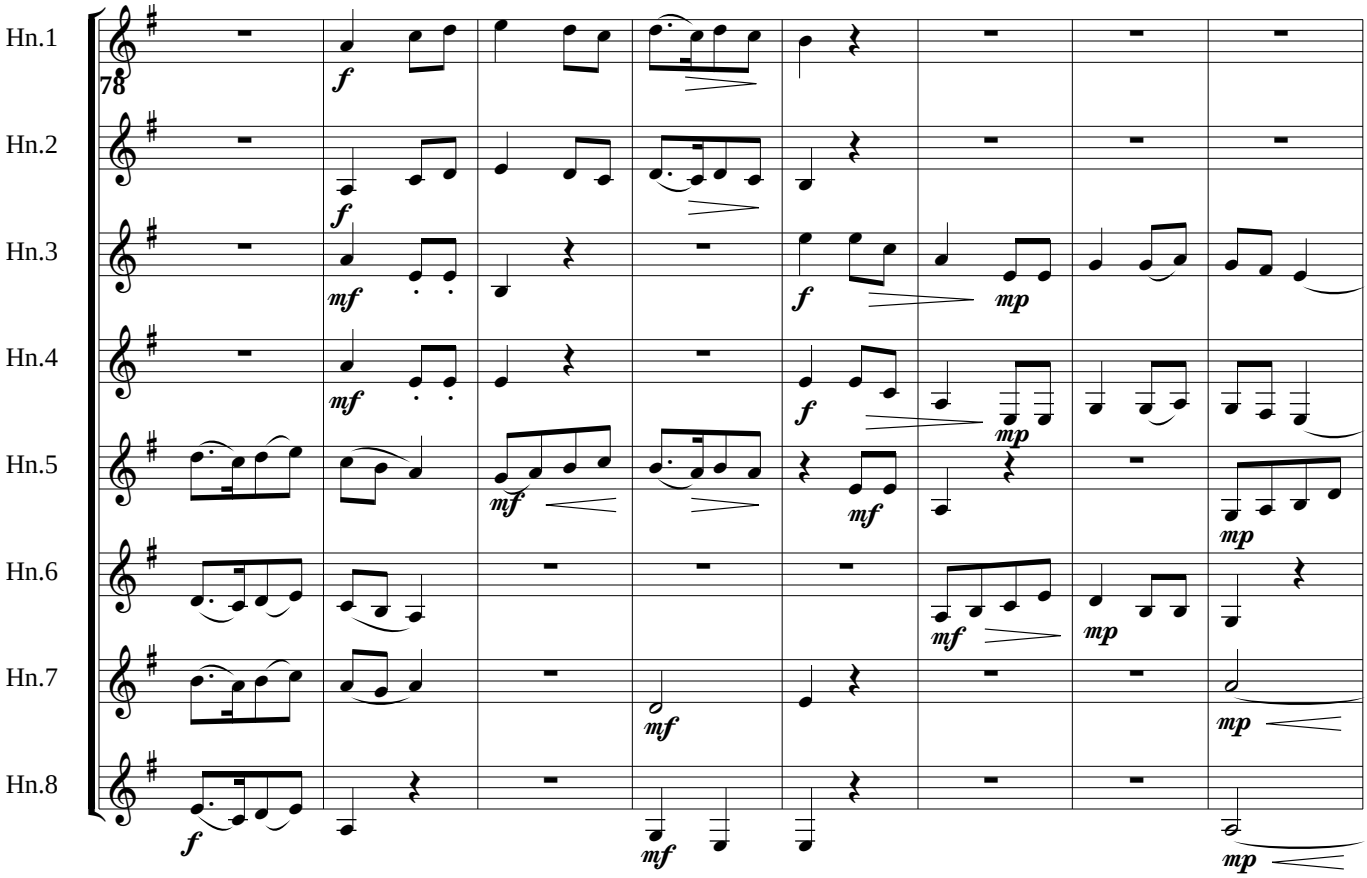
Hn.1
Hn.2
Hn.3
Hn.4
Hn.5
Hn.6
Hn.7
Hn.8


42
C
meno mosso
Hn.1
Hn.2
Hn.3
Hn.4
Hn.5
Hn.6
Hn.7
Hn.8


51
Hn.1
Hn.2
Hn.3
Hn.4
Hn.5
Hn.6
Hn.7
Hn.8
mf
mp
p
60
D
solo
pp


69
E a tempo
Hn.1
Hn.2
Hn.3
Hn.4
Hn.5
Hn.6
Hn.7
Hn.8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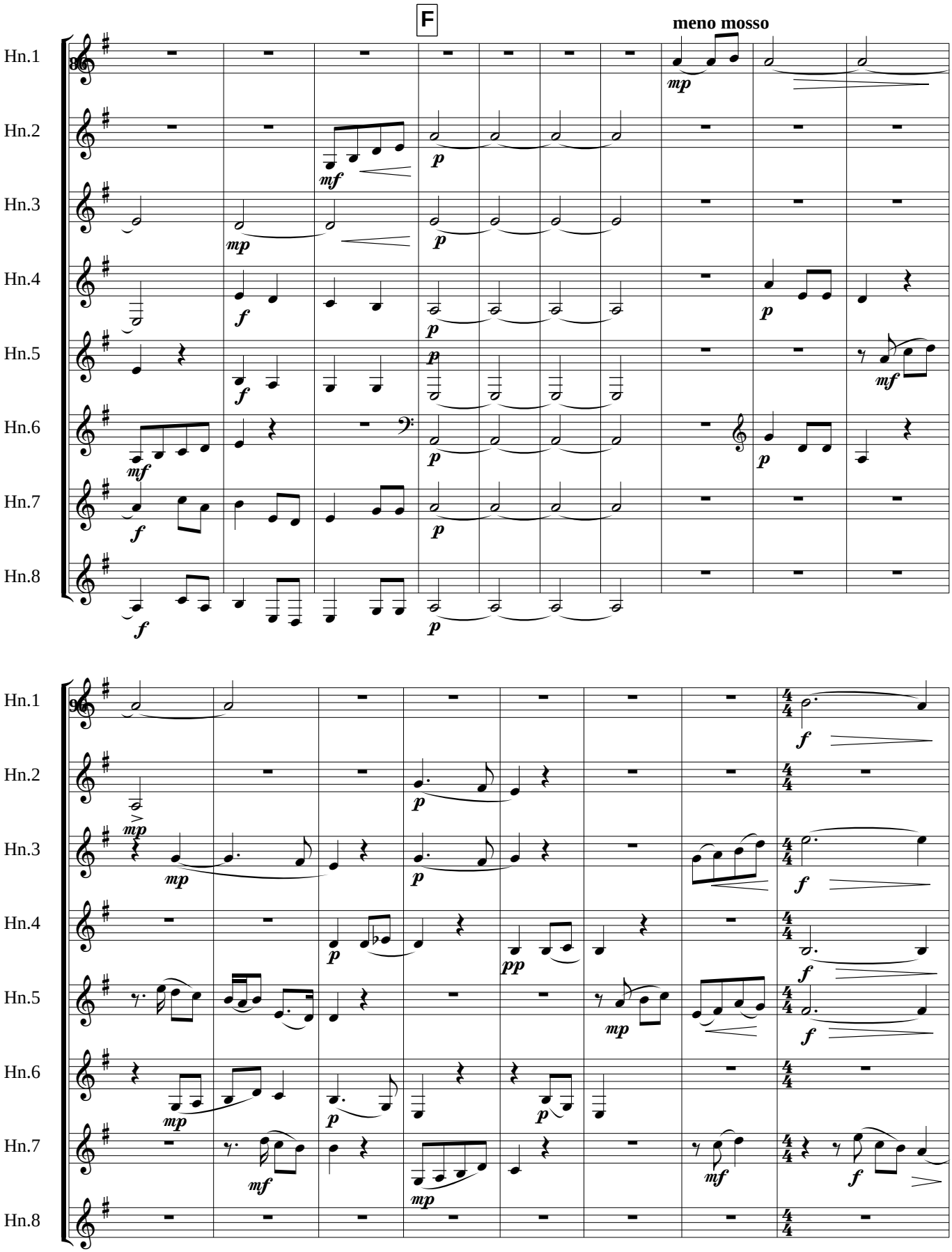
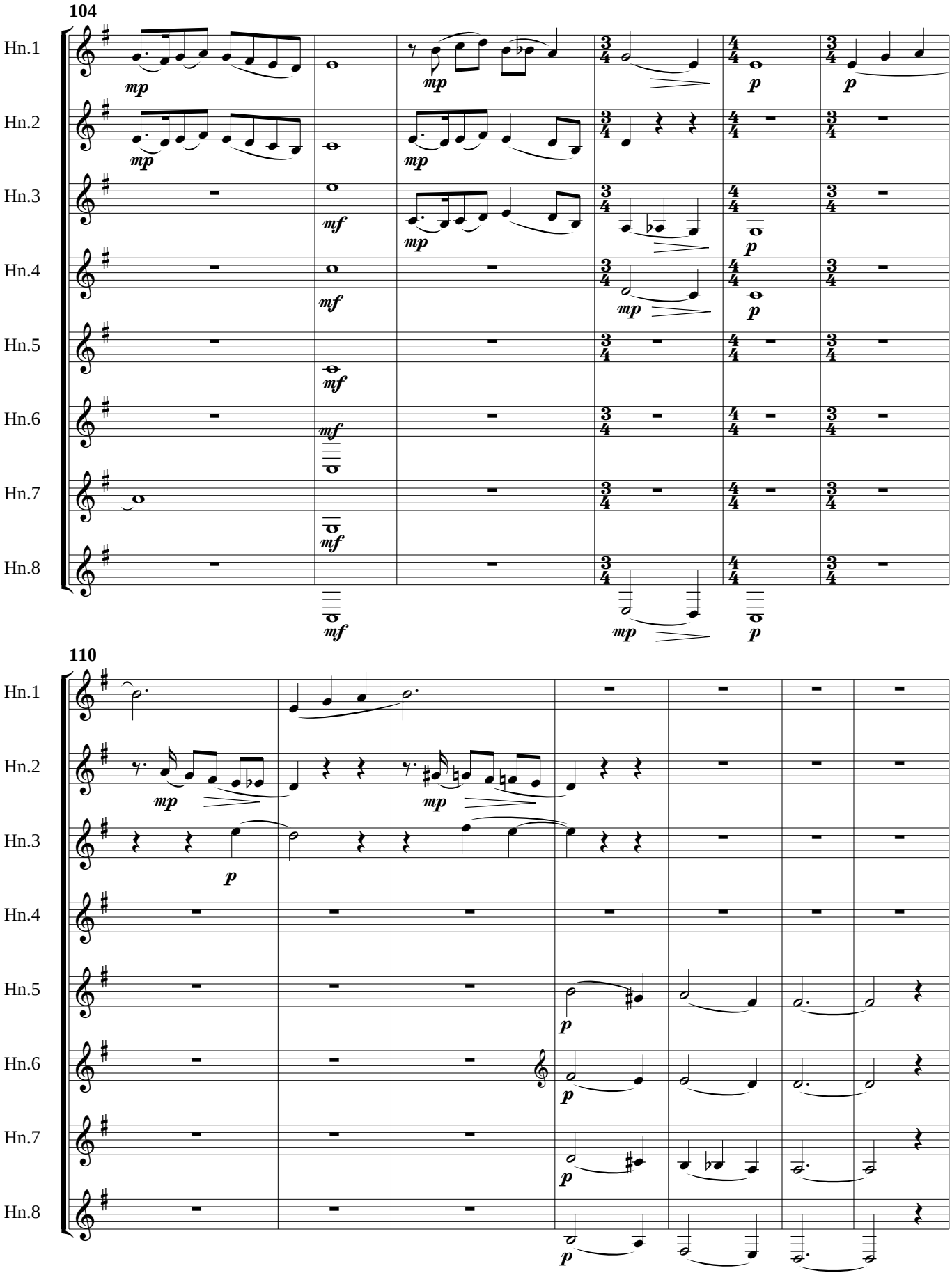
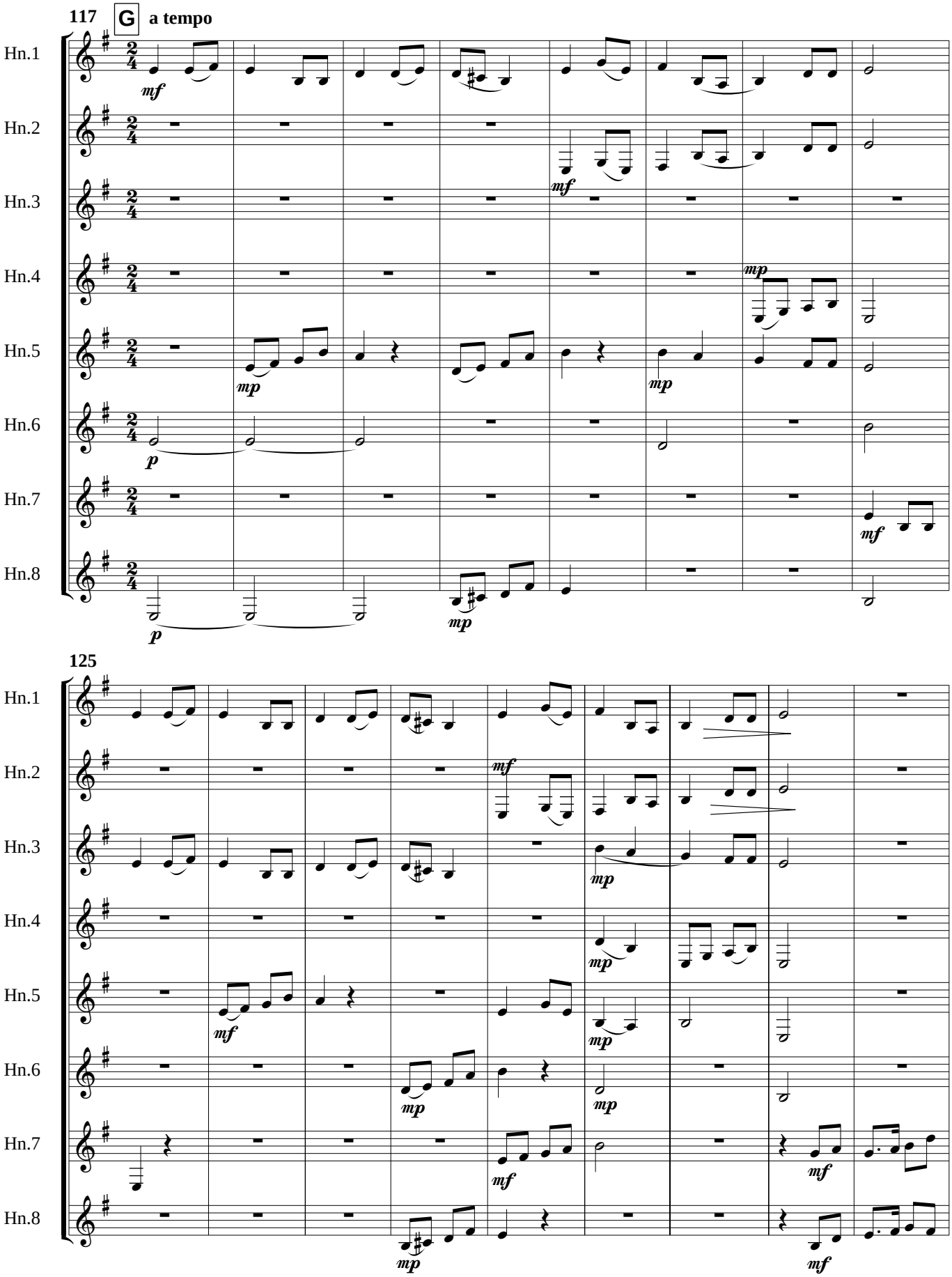
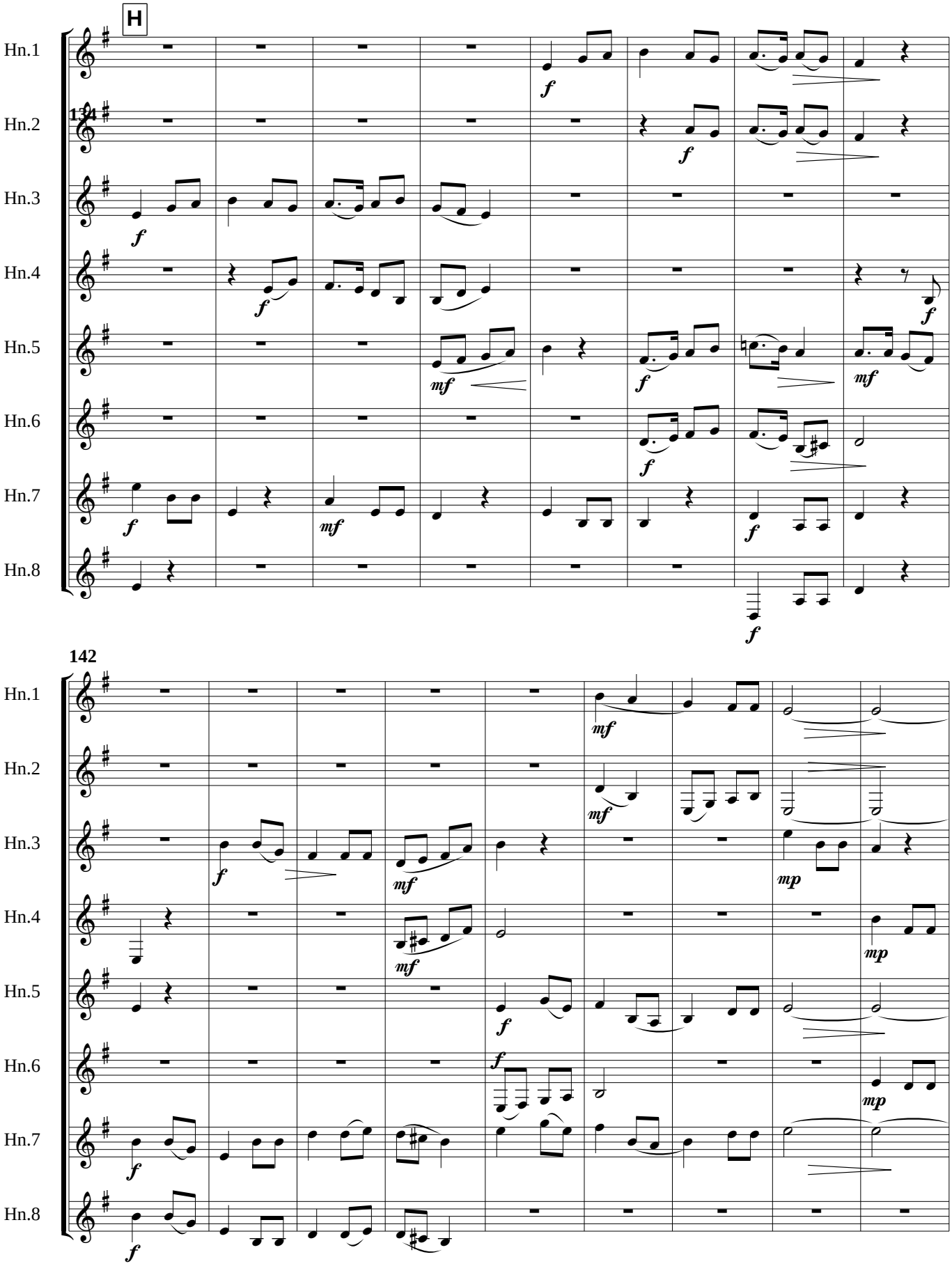
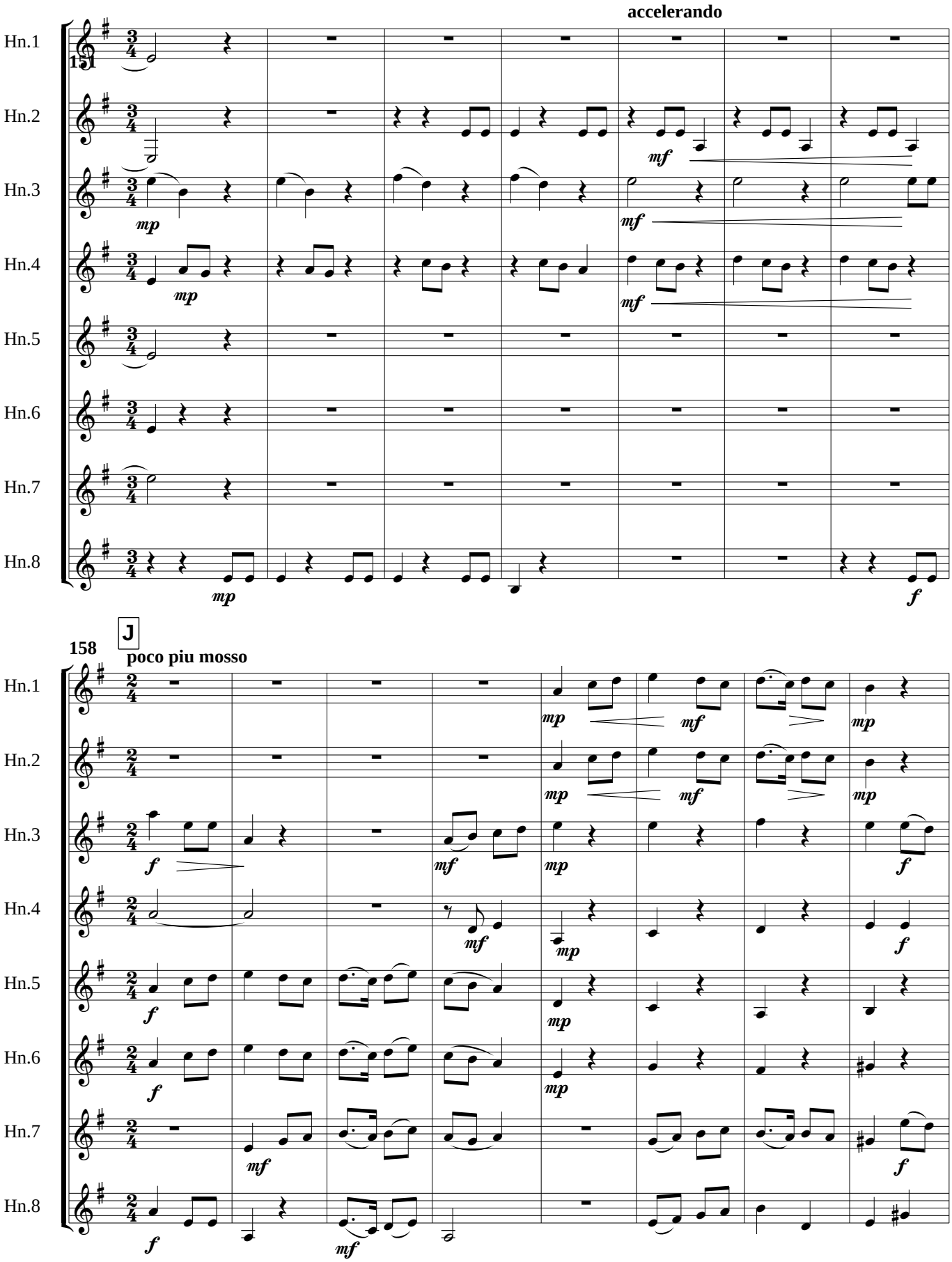
Hn.1
Hn.2
Hn.3
Hn.4
Hn.5
Hn.6
Hn.7
Hn.8

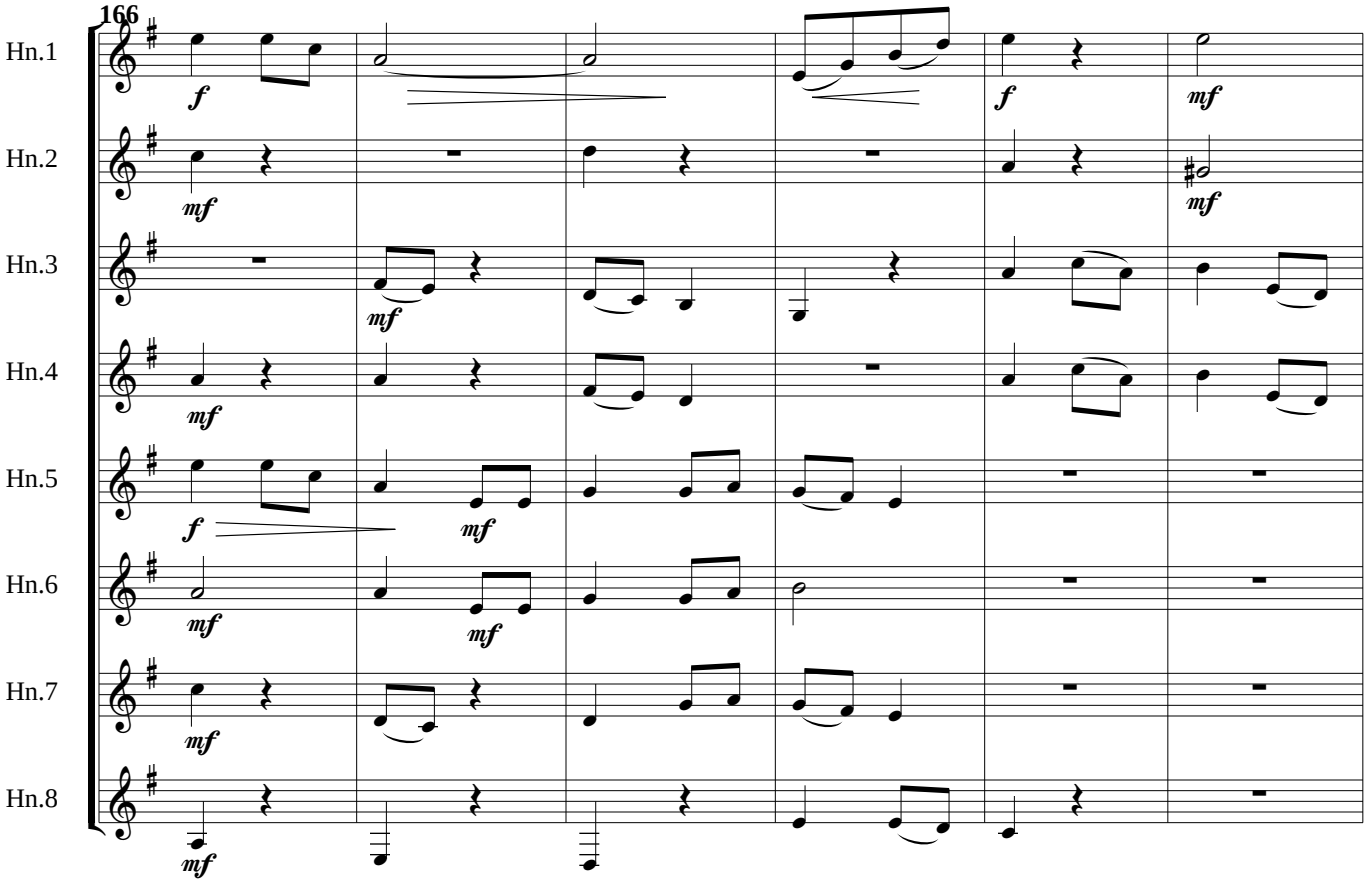

F
meno mosso
Hn.1
Hn.2
Hn.3
Hn.4
Hn.5
Hn.6
Hn.7
Hn.8

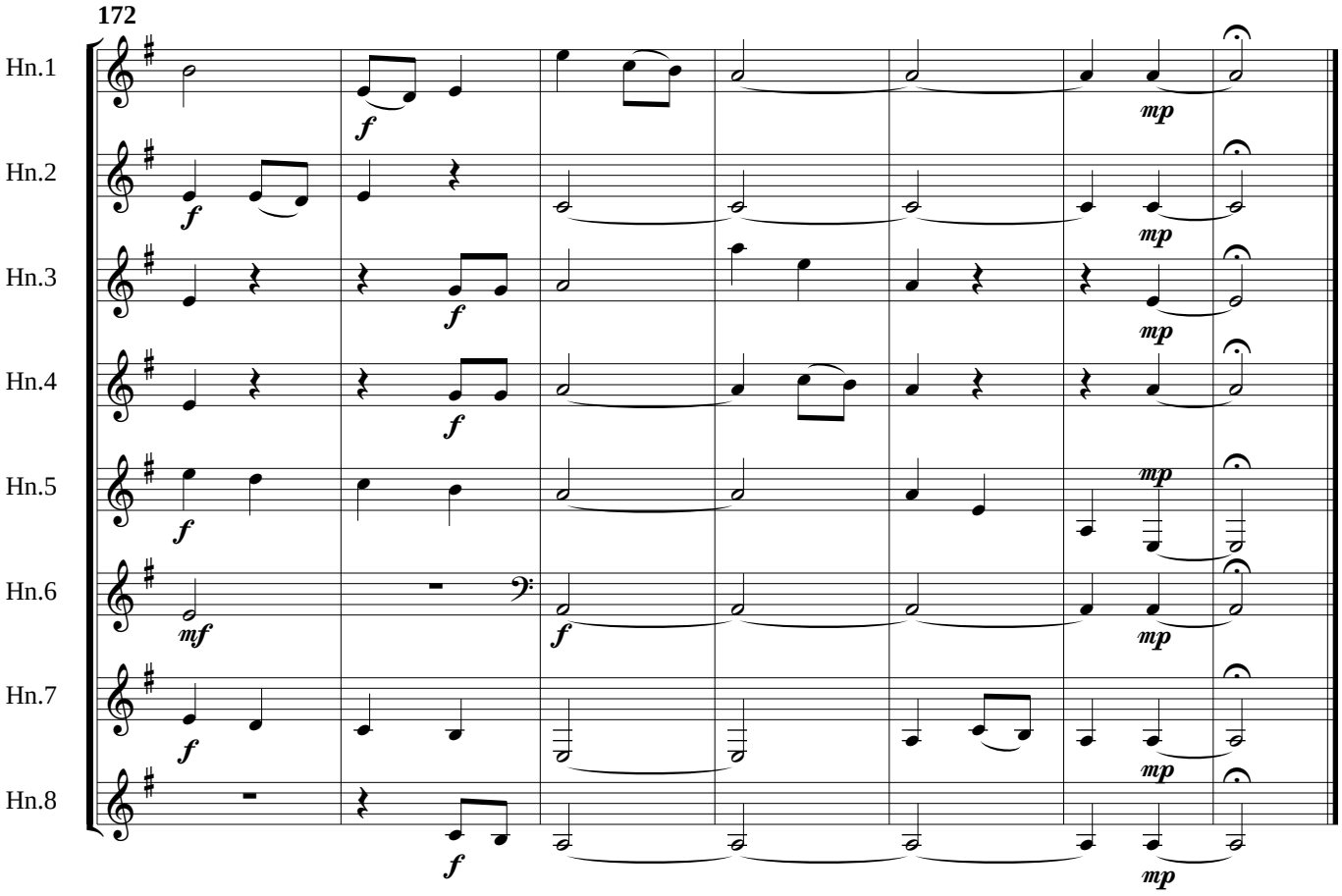

104
Hn.1
Hn.2
Hn.3
Hn.4
Hn.5
Hn.6
Hn.7
Hn.8
110
Hn.1
Hn.2
Hn.3
Hn.4
Hn.5
Hn.6
Hn.7
Hn.8


117
G
a tempo
Hn.1
Hn.2
Hn.3
Hn.4
Hn.5
Hn.6
Hn.7
Hn.8
125


H
134
142
Hn.1
Hn.2
Hn.3
Hn.4
Hn.5
Hn.6
Hn.7
Hn.8


accelerando
151
Hn.1
Hn.2
Hn.3
Hn.4
Hn.5
Hn.6
Hn.7
Hn.8
158
J
poco piu mosso


166
Hn.1
Hn.2
Hn.3
Hn.4
Hn.5
Hn.6
Hn.7
Hn.8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Hn.1
Hn.2
Hn.3
Hn.4
Hn.5
Hn.6
Hn.7
Hn.8