Madeleine Isaksson
2012

Isär

for
seven instruments

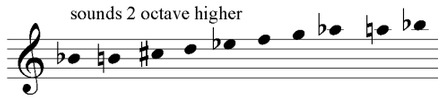
score

Isär (Apart)

Flute (Bass, Alto, Piccolo)
Clarinet (Bass, in Bb)

Piano
Percussion:

Water-tam: (20" or larger) suggested to be hanged up by rubber band slightly *in* the water
large Tam-tam
Frame drum mounted (large)
2 Darbouka (medium, small) preferable with natur goat skin played by hands
3 Cymbals (high, medium, low)
Crotales :



2 Bottles, tuned with water:

Violin
Viola
Cello

Disposition

Piano Percussion

Viola

Violin Clarinet

Flute Cello

Conductor

Performance Notes

Winds:

▮/■/□ = breath sound with a perciptable pitch

× = key click

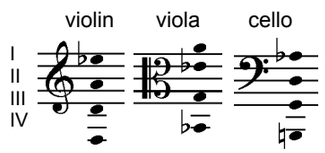
■ = the embouchure closed by the tongue

⊡ = tongue ram, created by closing the mouthpiece with the whole mouth, and then making a big and very rapid movement with the tongue, against the teeth (*ht!*)

= "overblow", blow less or more violently with the aim of producing the indicated harmonics

Strings:

scordatura:



The strings are transposed only in the parts.

flaut. = flautando, with a minimum of bow pressure

■/□ = very noisy, blurry sound with almost no pitch (produced, when possible, with molto sul tasto)

= bow on the side of instrument body to produce a breath-like noise without pitch

Piano:

◇ = touch the corresponding string with the right hand near the pin (no harmonics) and release quickly in order to obtain a free, sonorous sound, together with the pedal

■ = mute the corresponding strings with thick fabric as felt or similar to create a muffled sound, yet with hearable pitch.

Percussion:

▮/■/□ = breath sound, not overblowed! (Bottle)

General:

= all tremolos should be played un-rythmical and very tight, as a increasing/decreasing moving sound

Score in C:

the Bass Flute sounds one octave lower, the Piccolo Flute one octave higher,
the strings are notated as they sound in the score, whereas in the parts, the strings are finger-notated with, as in the score, the resulting harmonics above the main staff.
Duration: 11’

Isär was commissioned by and for the ensemble Norrbotten NEO (NNEO), first performed by the ensemble, conducted by Petter Sundkvist, the 20 of April 2012 at New Sweden Festival, Stockholm.

Comments

Isär

(*in memory of my father*)

My father grew up in a little Finnish speaking village by river Muonio which forms a border between Sweden and Finland.
I knew beforehand that this work would bear traces of my father. My thoughts circled daily around him, my Isä - Finnish for father -
who had suffered for years with Alzheimer's disease. His thoughts retreated to his childhood in Norrbotten during the 1940's.
An accelerating and obsession overcame him to leave home. Finally, nothing could keep him alive: the time felt apart - or (isär in Swedish).

Madeleine Isaksson

Isär

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Intro

Bass Flute (sounds an octave lower)
Bass Clarinet
Percussion
Piano
Violin
Viola
Cello

(♩ = 48) (♩ = 72) rit. (♩ = 48) (♩ = 72) rit. (♩ = 48)

br. br. t. norm. breath tone with key click slow gliss. br. t.

sfp f p fz pp p pp mp mf pp

Water-tam in water out of water (nearly) p

blow in a bottle tuned with water (mp) mf pp

Frame drum (hands) ppp

resulting harmonic

scordatura sord. bow on the side of instrument body (f) flaut. p f (sul tasto) sub p (mf) pizz. p sf arco pp

scordatura sord. bow on the side of instrument body (f) sul tasto pp (mf)

scordatura sord. mp arco pizz. mf pizz. fp sf p arco

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8

B. Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pi.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

slow gliss.

(♪ = 144)

rit.

(♩ = 56)

(br. t.)

tr

Water-tam

bottle

Tam-tam

Water-tam

(muted strings)

senza sord.

norm.

m.s.t.

senza sord.

gliss.

pizz.

arco

bow on the side of instrument body

18

accel. – – (♩ = 72)

rit. – (♩ = 56)

attacca

B. Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

bottle

u.c. **Ped.**

Pi.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

arco

norm.

senza sord.

A (♩ = 72)

Isär

26

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

jeté

norm.

meno mosso (♩ = 66)

35

gliss.

45

rit. – (♩ = 56)

B. Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

hands Frame drum

Pi.

45

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

51
accel.
(♩= 66)
B. Fl.
B. Cl.
Perc.
Pi.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
poco f
p
pp
mfp
mf
gliss.
espr.
sub p
sf
mp
sub pp
tr
sfp
(in one bow)
norm.

59

accel. – – – (♪ = 144)

B. Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pi.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

65

rit. (♩ = 56)

B. Fl.

change to Piccolo

B. Cl.

change to Clarinet in Bb

Perc.

arco
med. Cymb

low Cymb.

laisser vibr.

Frame drum

Pi.

very tight drill as the two
sounds melt into eachother

laisser vibr.

Ped.

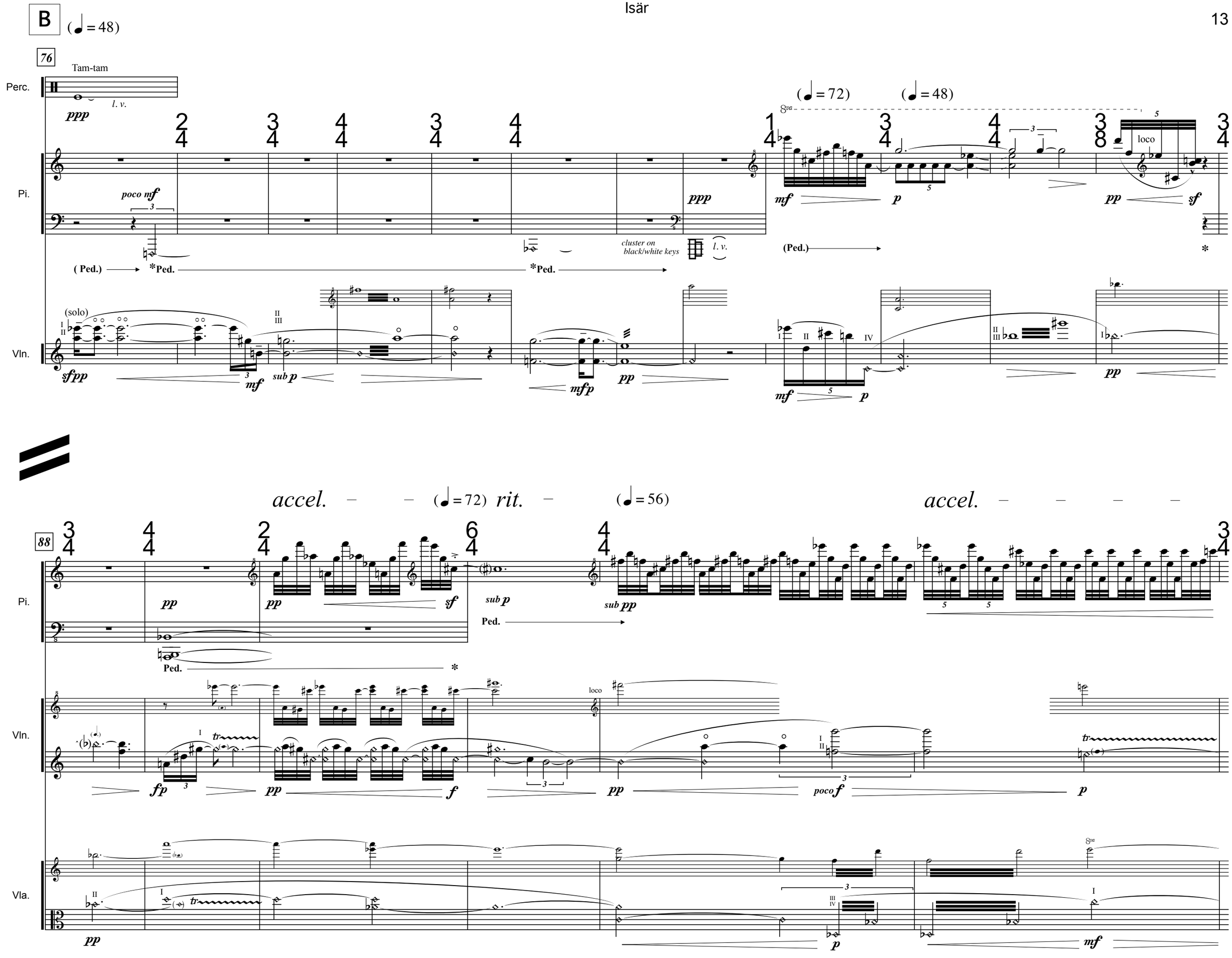
Vln.

Vla.

pizz.

arco

Vc.


B
(♩ = 48)
76
Tam-tam
Perc.
l. v.
ppp
Pi.
poco mf
(Ped.)
*Ped.
cluster on black/white keys
(♩ = 72)
(♩ = 48)
8va
mf
p
pp
sf
loco
(Ped.)
Vln.
(solo)
sfpp
mf
sub p
mfp
pp
accel.
(♩ = 72)
rit.
(♩ = 56)
accel.
88
Pi.
pp
sf
sub p
sub pp
Ped.
Vln.
fp
f
poco f
p
Vla.
pp
mf

94

Perc.

Darbouka (medium)

hands *bend up* *rub*

Pi.

(Ped.)

Vln.

Vla.

(melody)

accel.

98

Perc.

Pi.

Vln.

Vla.

loco

Ped.

104

B. Fl.

Cl in Bb

Perc.

Pi.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

rit.

Piccolo

(melody)

Clarinet in Bb

flz.

gliss.

high Cymb.

Darbouka (small)

(hands)

legato

(melody)

norm.

sub p

110

accel. (♩ = 96) rit.

Picc.

Cl in Bb

Perc.

Pi.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

(melody)

change to Alto Flute

rub

high Cymb.

loco

l. v.

Ped.

118

(♩ = 66)

rit.

Picc.

Alto Flute

Cl in Bb

Perc.

med. Cymb.

Pi.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

126

(♩ = 56)

rit.

(♩ = 48)

A .Fl

Cl in Bb

Perc.

low Cymb.

l. v.

Pi.

Vln.

page turned by the pianist

Vla.

Vc.

20 C ♩ = 72 (♪=♩) **poco a poco agitato**

133

A .Fl

Cl in Bb

Perc.

Pi.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

137

accel.

A .Fl

Cl in Bb

Perc.

high Cymb.

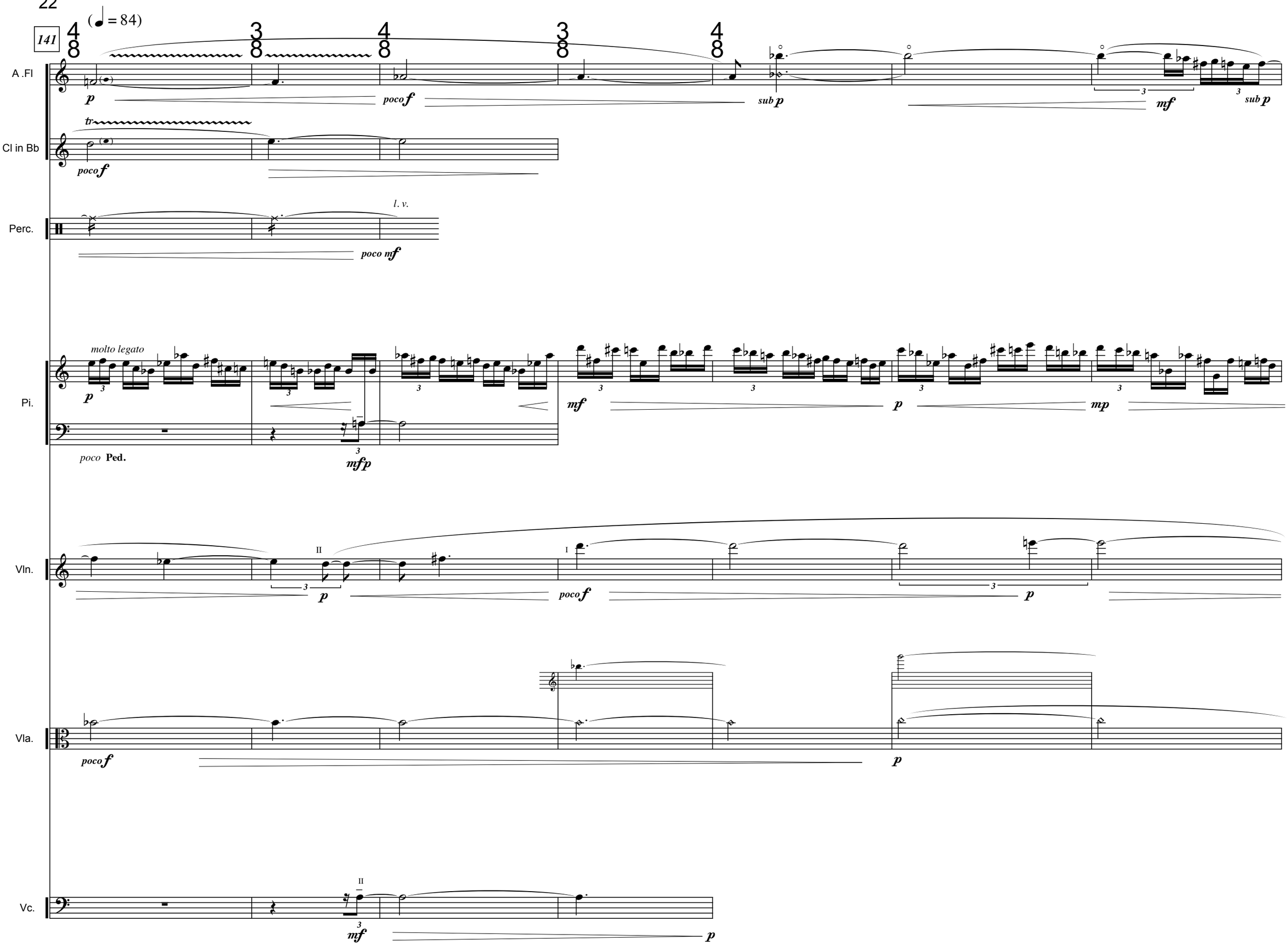
Pi.

loco

loco

Vln.

Vla.


141
(♩ = 84)
A .Fl
Cl in Bb
Perc.
Pi.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
tr
l. v.
molto legato
poco Ped.
poco f
sub p
mf
mfp
mp
p
II
I

148

A .Fl

Cl in Bb

Perc.

Pi.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

change to Bass Clarinet

B. Cl.

154

A .Fl

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pi.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

espr.

poco f

over-blow

sub ppp

fp

sf

p

br. t.

norm.

pp

sub p

mf

ffp

fz

sfp

Ped.

sub pp

pizz.

(pizz.)

mf

161

A .Fl

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pi.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

(♩ = 56) (♩ = 84) (♩ = 56) (♩ = 84) *accel.*

flz.

soft mallets Crotales

Tam-tam

arco

(pizz.)

pizz.

(*)

166

A .Fl

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pi.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

accel.

(♩ = 96)

♩ = 56

(♩ = 112)

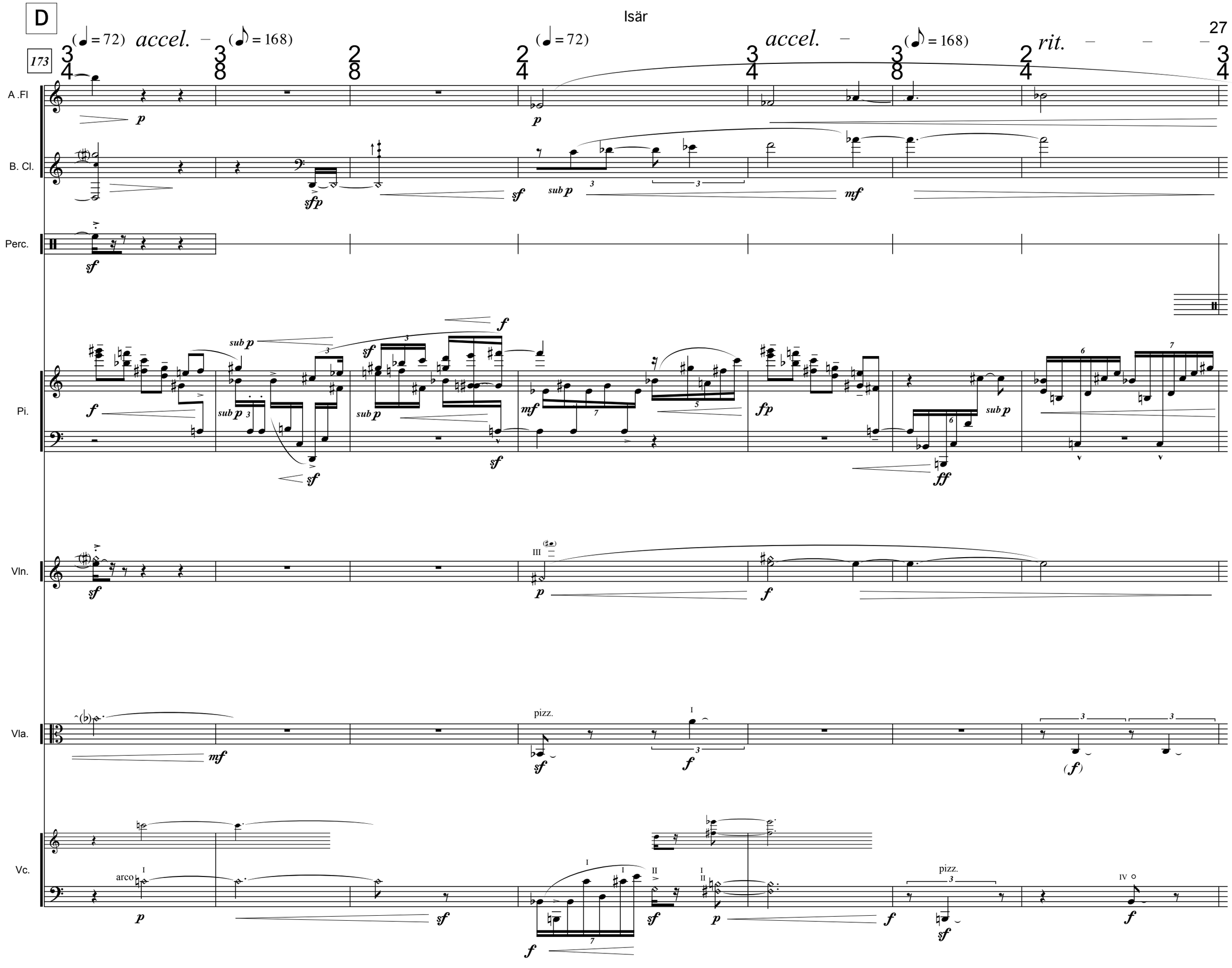
Darbouka (small)

(hands)

pizz.

arco

rep.


D
Isär
173
(♩ = 72) accel.
(♪ = 168)
(♩ = 72)
accel.
(♪ = 168)
rit.
A .Fl
B. Cl.
Perc.
Pi.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
sub p
pizz.
arco

Isär

180

(♩ = 56) *accel.* – – (♩ = 72) *rit.* – – (♩ = 72) *accel.* – (♩ = 84)

A .Fl

poco ***f*** *sub* ***p*** ***p*** ***mf***

change to Clarinet in Bb

B. Cl.

p

Crotales

Perc.

p ***p*** ***p*** ***pp*** ***mf***

Tam-tam

pp

Pi.

p *poco* **Ped.** ***sf***

Vln.

III ***pp*** ***mp*** II ***p***

Vla.

arco II ***pp*** ***mf***

Vc.

arco II ***pp*** ***mf*** *sub* ***pp*** ***mf***

188

rit. accel.

(♩ = 96)

A .Fl

B. Cl.

Clarinet in Bb

Perc.

Darbouka (small)

Pi.

Ped.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

sord.

30

195

(♪ = 144)

accel.

(♪ = 168)

A .Fl

Cl in Bb

Perc.

Pi.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

very tight drill

(Ped.)

(Ped.)

204

A .Fl

Cl in Bb

Perc.

Perc.

Pi.

Crotales

blow in a bottle
tuned with water

(Ped.)

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

210

A .Fl

Cl in Bb

pp

pp

stroke slowly with nails
in circular slowmovements

Perc.

pp mfp mf

Pi.

(Ped.)

Vln.

mfp mfpp mfp sub pp mfp sfp

Vla.

p mfp mfp mfp sub pp p mfp sfpp

Vc.

mfp mfp mfpp mfp sub pp mfpp

217

A .Fl

Cl in Bb

Perc.

Pi.

(Ped.)

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

pp poco f pp p

poco mf sub pp sotto voce pp

poco f p mf pp poco f pp sfpp

poco f sub pp sfpp

mp pp mp sub pp poco f

Isär

223

rit. (♩ = 72)

A .Fl

flz.

change to Bass Flute

Cl in Bb

change to Bass Clarinet

Perc.

Crotales

med. Cymb

Pi.

(Ped.)

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

230

B. Fl.

B.Fl

br. t.

norm.

accel.

Cl in Bb

B.Cl

br. t.

high Cymb.
arco

Perc.

Pi.

Vln.

sord.

sim.

norm.

Vla.

Vc.

Coda

Isär

235

(♩ = 112) (♩ = 56) rit. (♩ = 48)

B. Fl.

tongue ram

poco f fz f sf

key click

poco mf

B. Cl.

flz.

pp sf

(br. t.)

ppp

pp

Perc.

arco

p

bottle

(f)

Tam-tam

ppp

Water-tam

in water

pp p

Pi.

tr

sf

(on the strings)

mf

*Ped.

Vln.

I II

sfp pp

m.s.t.

mfp

pp

mfp

Vla.

7 fp pp

mp pp

pizz.

(IV)

mf

m.s.t.

mfp

Vc.

7 pizz. IV II 3

sf p

III IV arco

mfp

m.s.t.

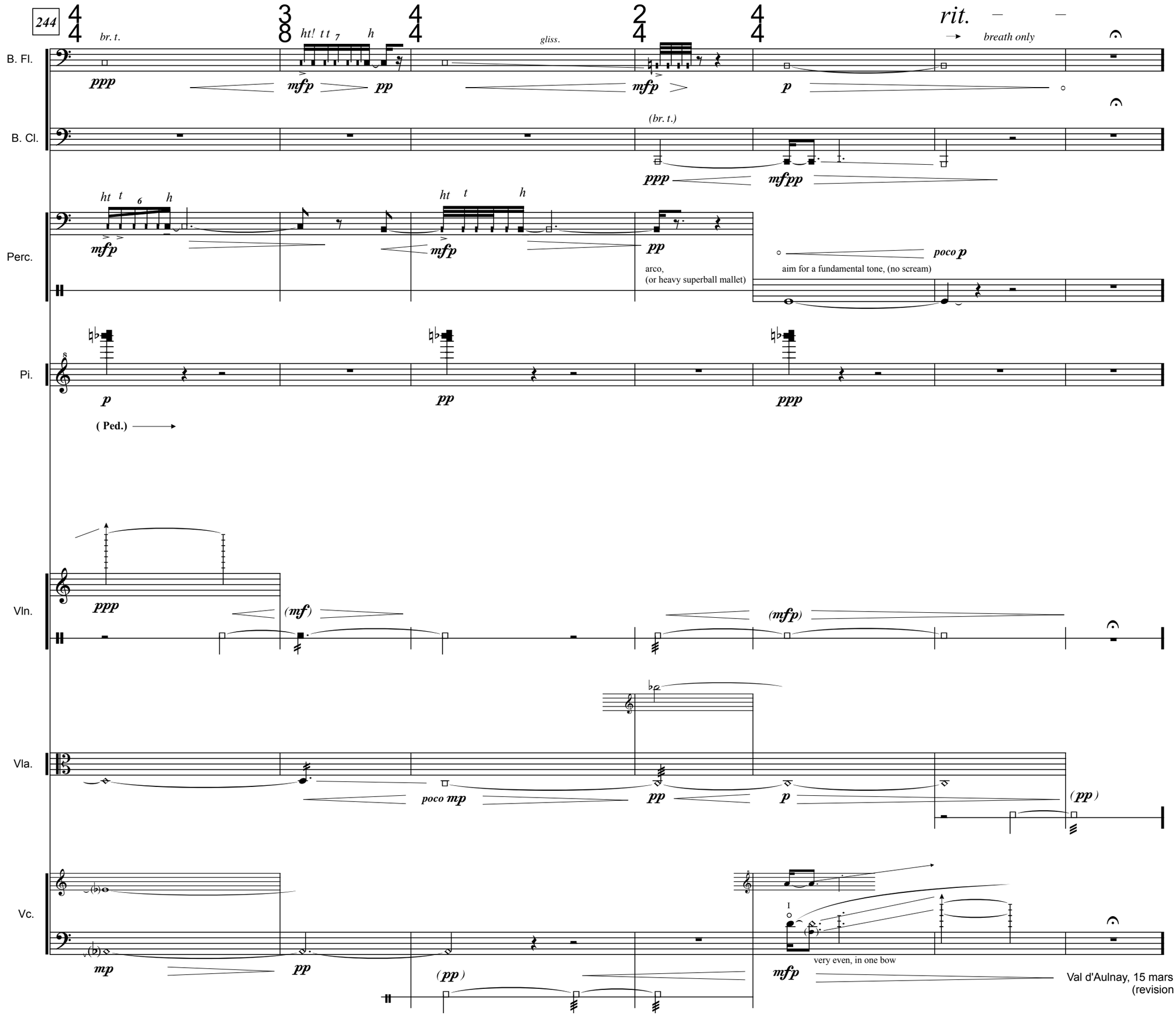
pp

3

mfp pp mfp

(IV)

pp



Val d'Aulnay, 15 mars 2012
(revision 2017)