# The Singapore Experience

opus 165

Hardy Mertens

Wind Band

During the summer of 1990 I have spend several weeks in Singapore as a guest-conductor for the *National Theatre Symphonic Band*.

Inspired by the experience, I have decided to compose a symphonic poem and dedicate it to the *NTSB*.

The program for this symphonic poem is centered around five concepts which may be considered characteristic for the life in this asian metropole.

The introduction presents the *green and clean*-concept, referring to the respect of the Singaporean for his natural surroundings.

Cifre [4] displays the young and fresh but meanwhile deeply in tradition rooted vision on life.

An originally chinese *Lion's Dance*, in which magic is prominent to the day, is presented at [8].

On [15] I have created a harmonic atmosphere as referring to the political opinion that a multiracial society can survive but through unity.

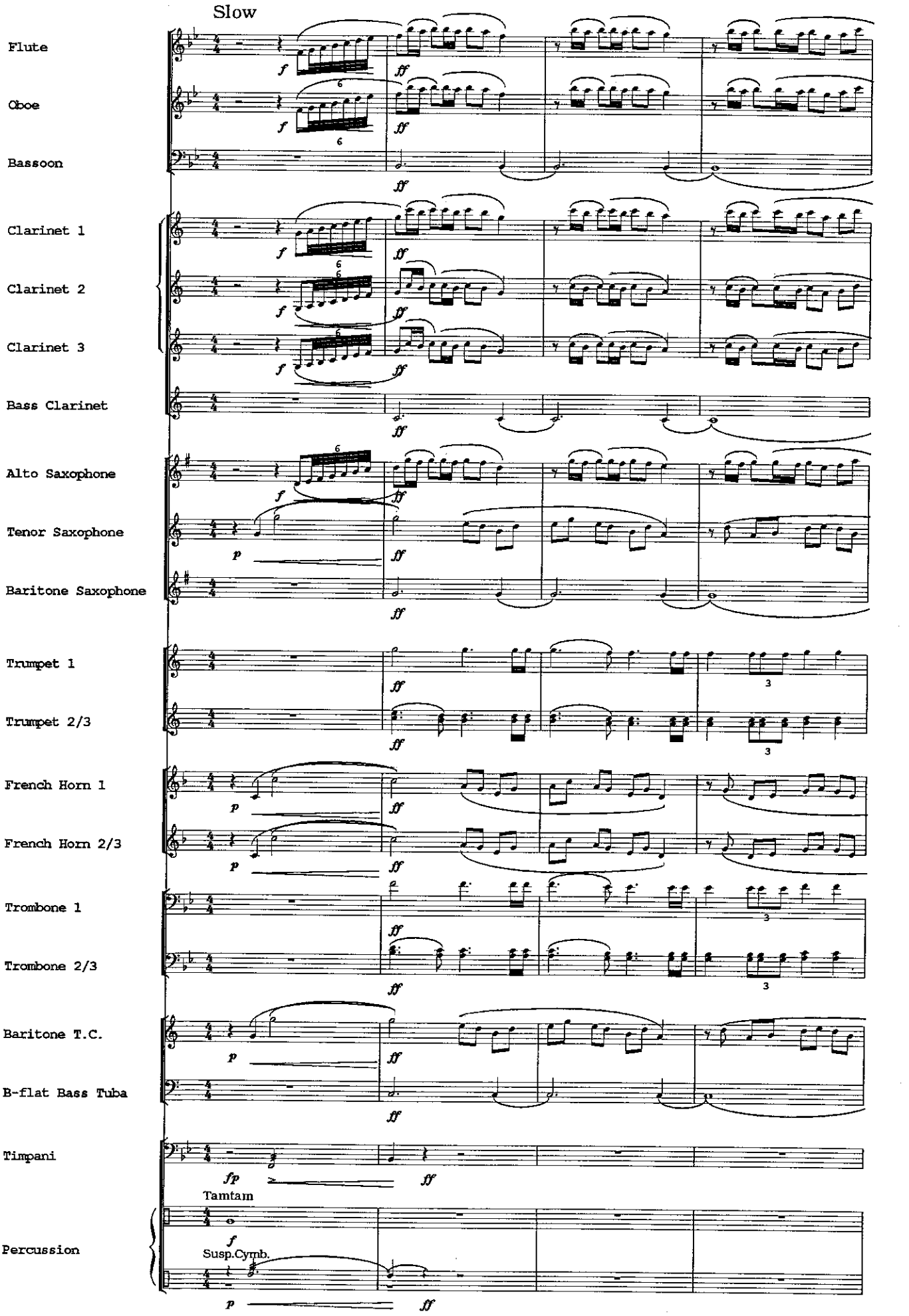
Finally cifre [19] introduces the world of the *Hawker Centers*, where the Singaporean spends the small hours with his friends, lavishly treating himself with spises and liquor.

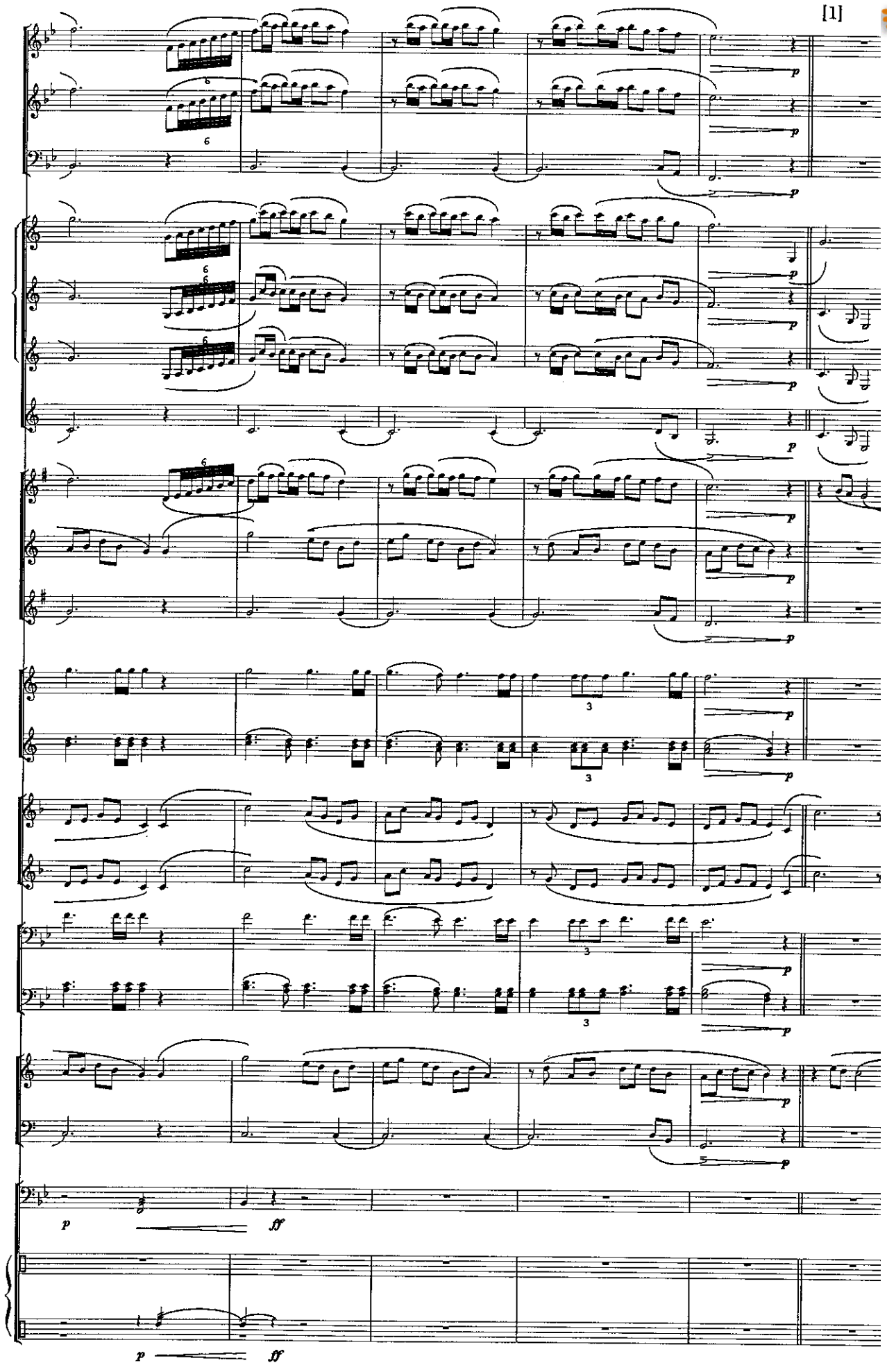
In music-analytical sense the composition is based on three traditional folk-songs: *'Stand up for Singapore'*, *'Count on me Singapore'* and *'We are Singapore'*.

**Hardy Mertens**

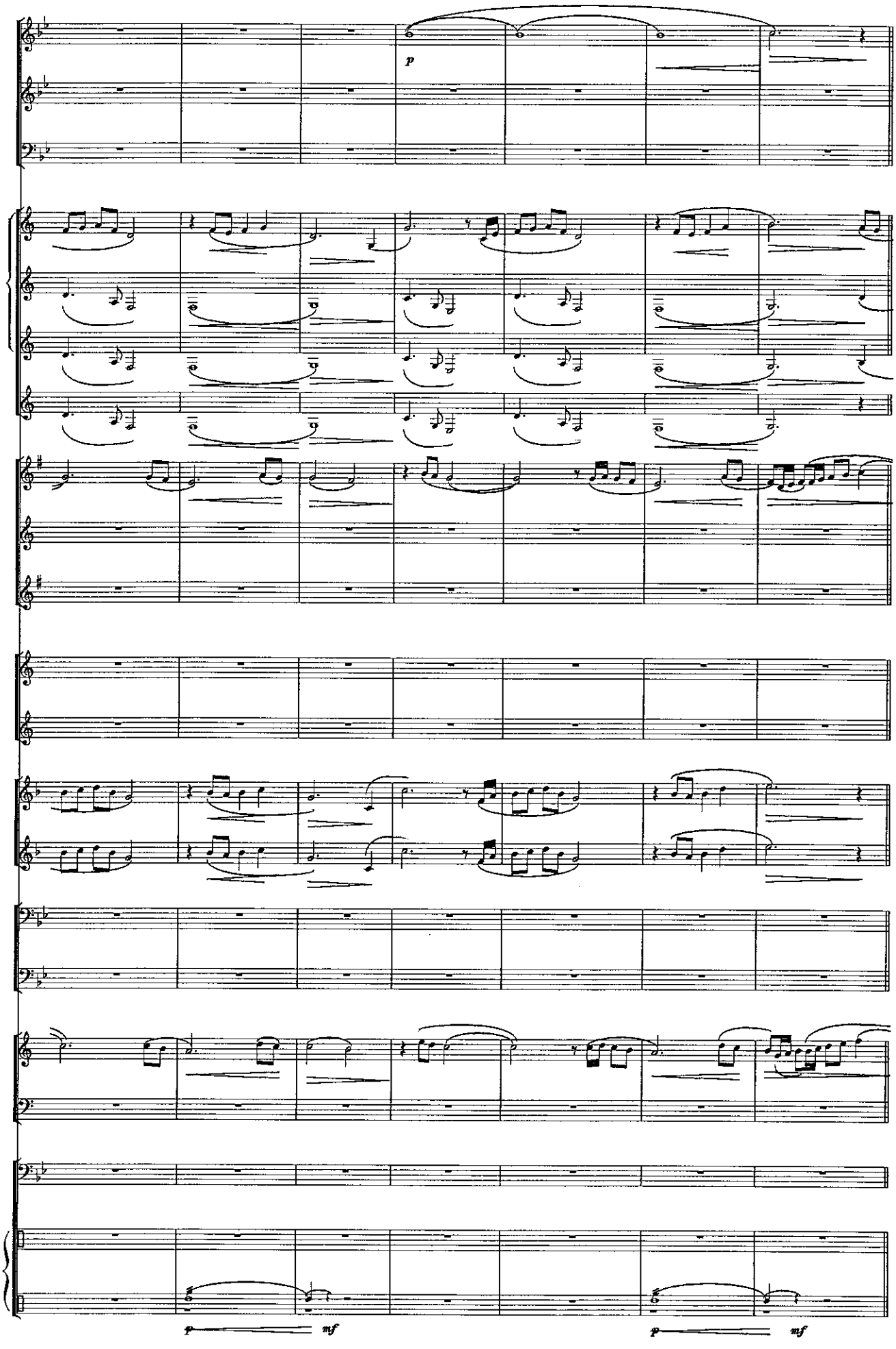
www.hafabramusic.com

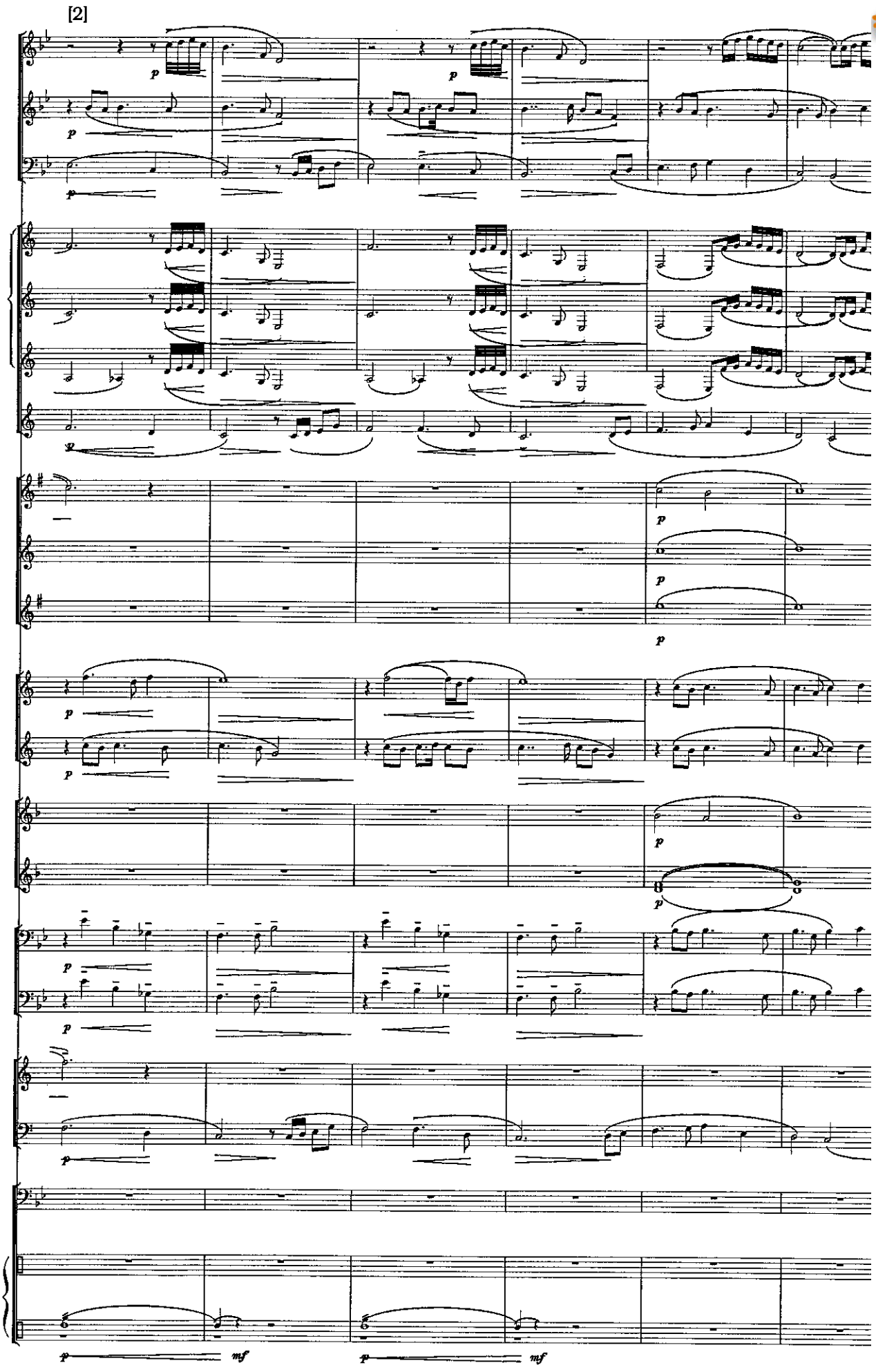
Full recording available on :
CD « Portrait of Hardy Mertens »



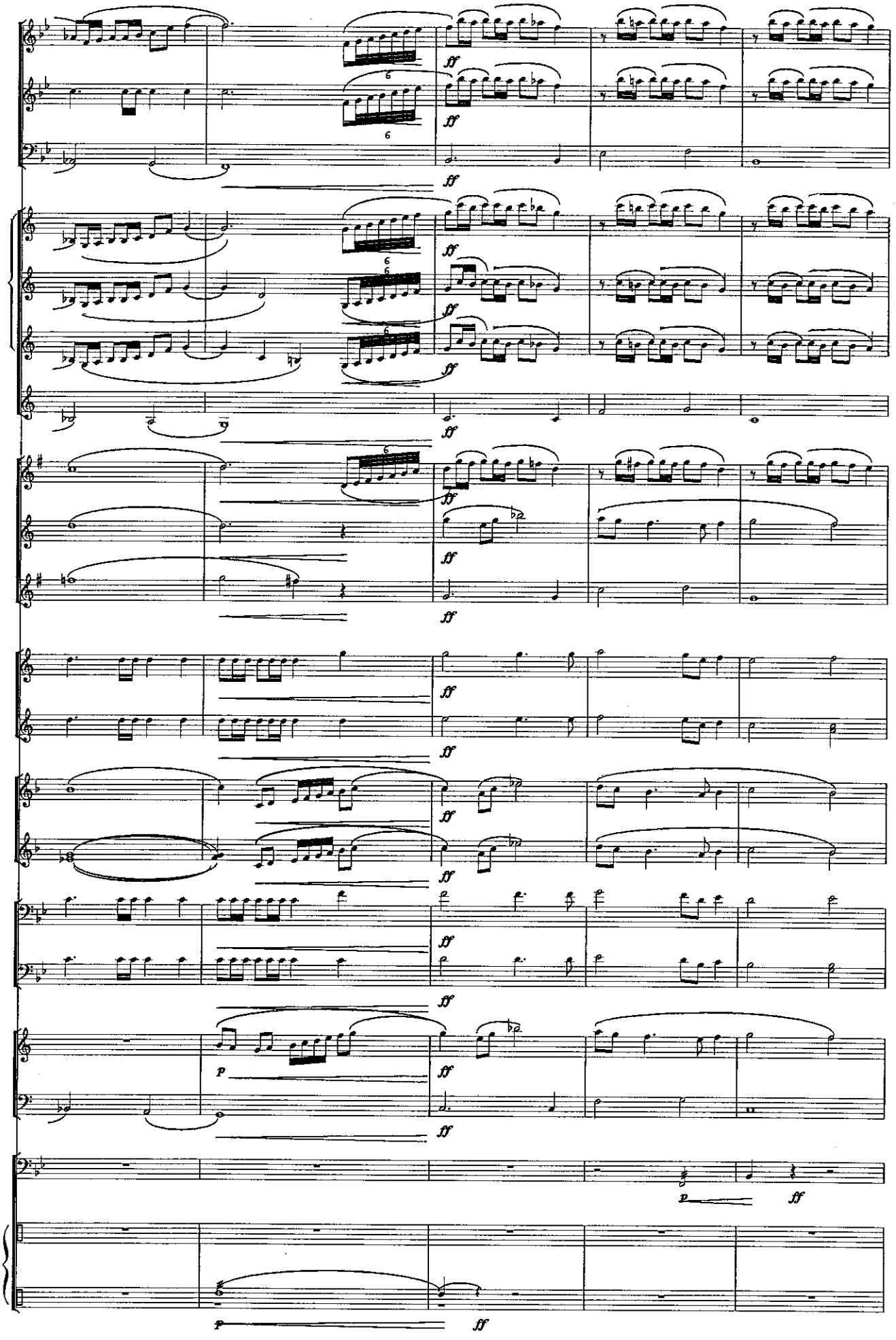


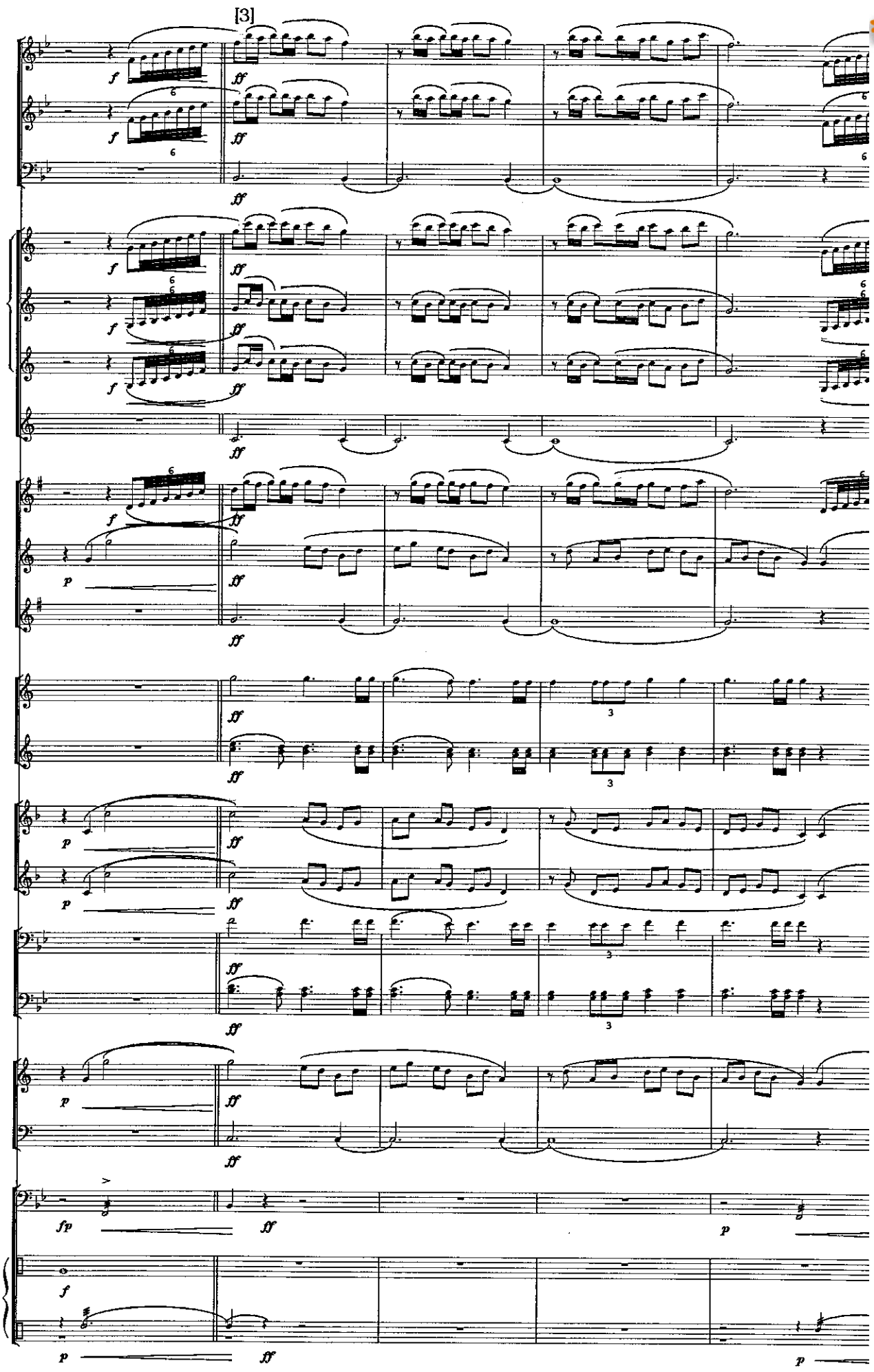

www.hafabramusic.com


p
p
mf
p
mf

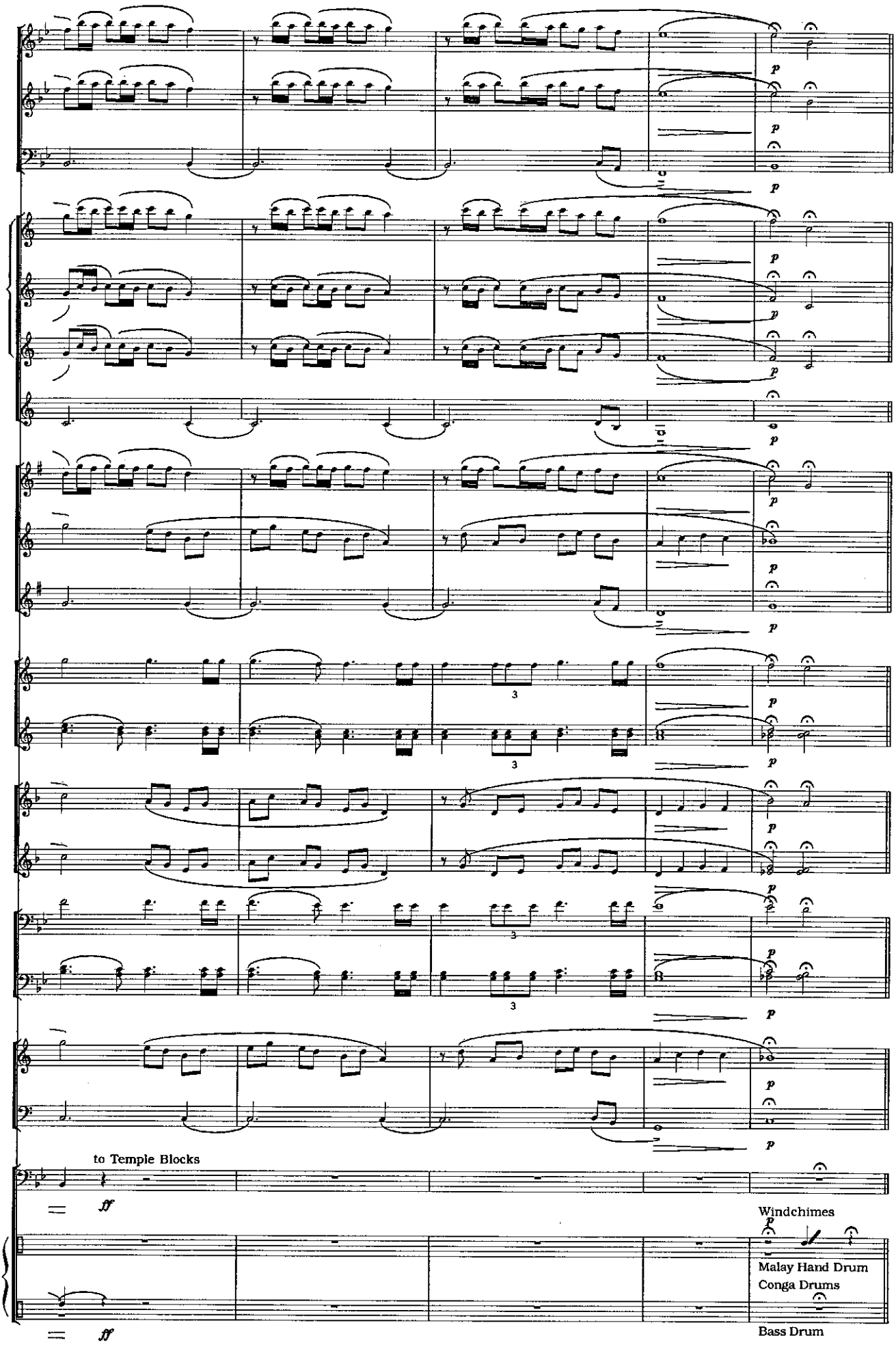


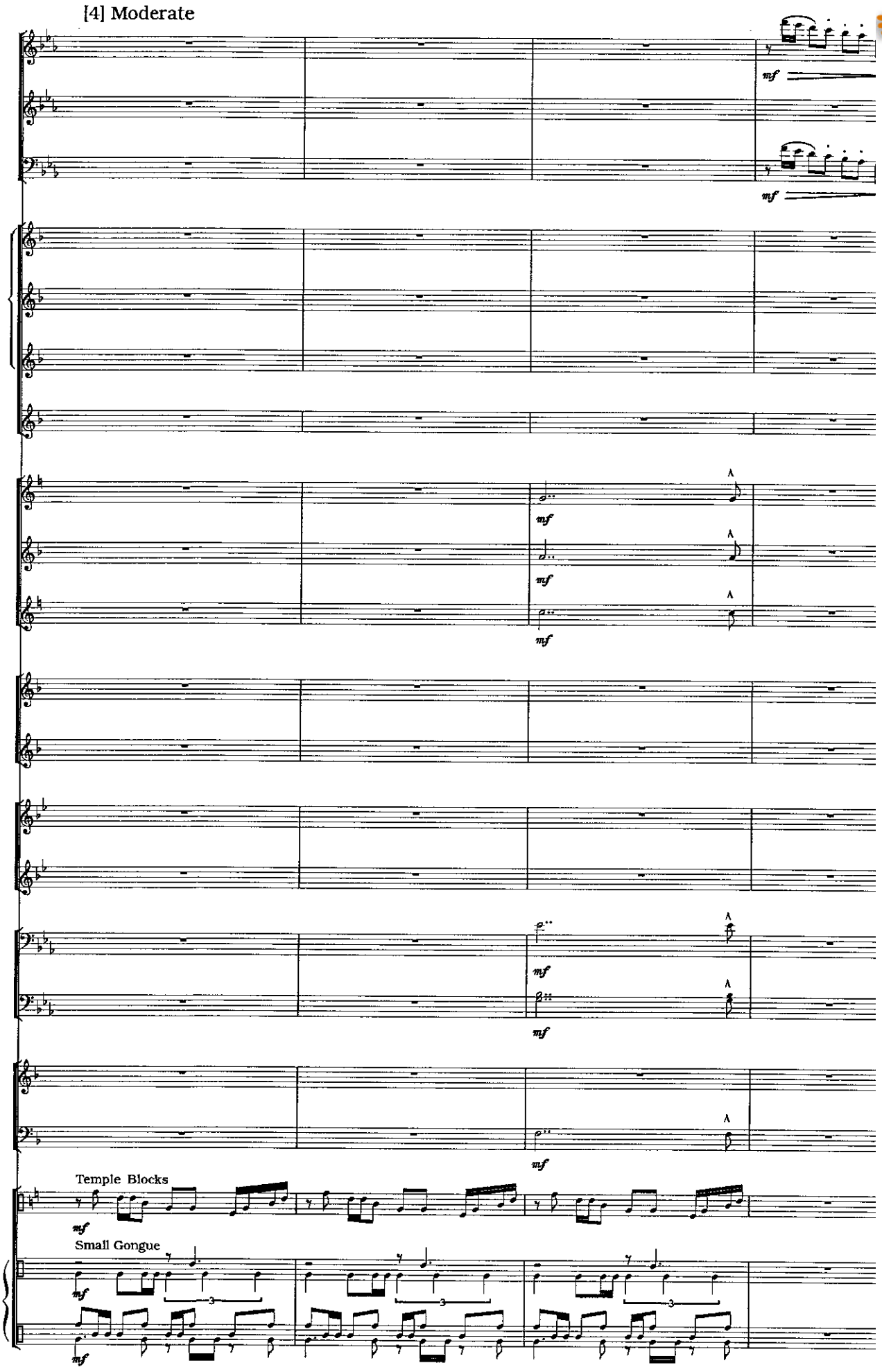

www.hafabramusic.com



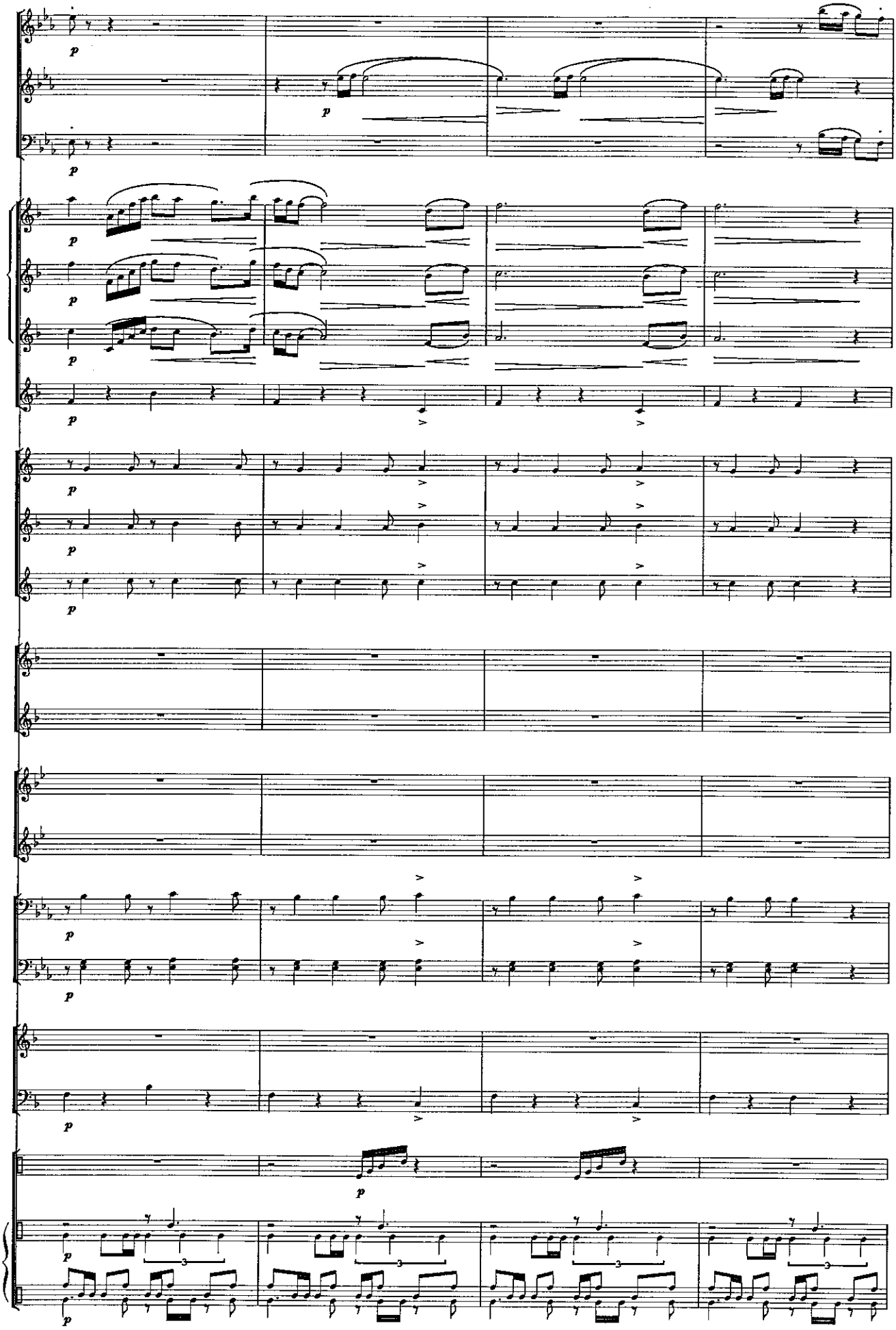


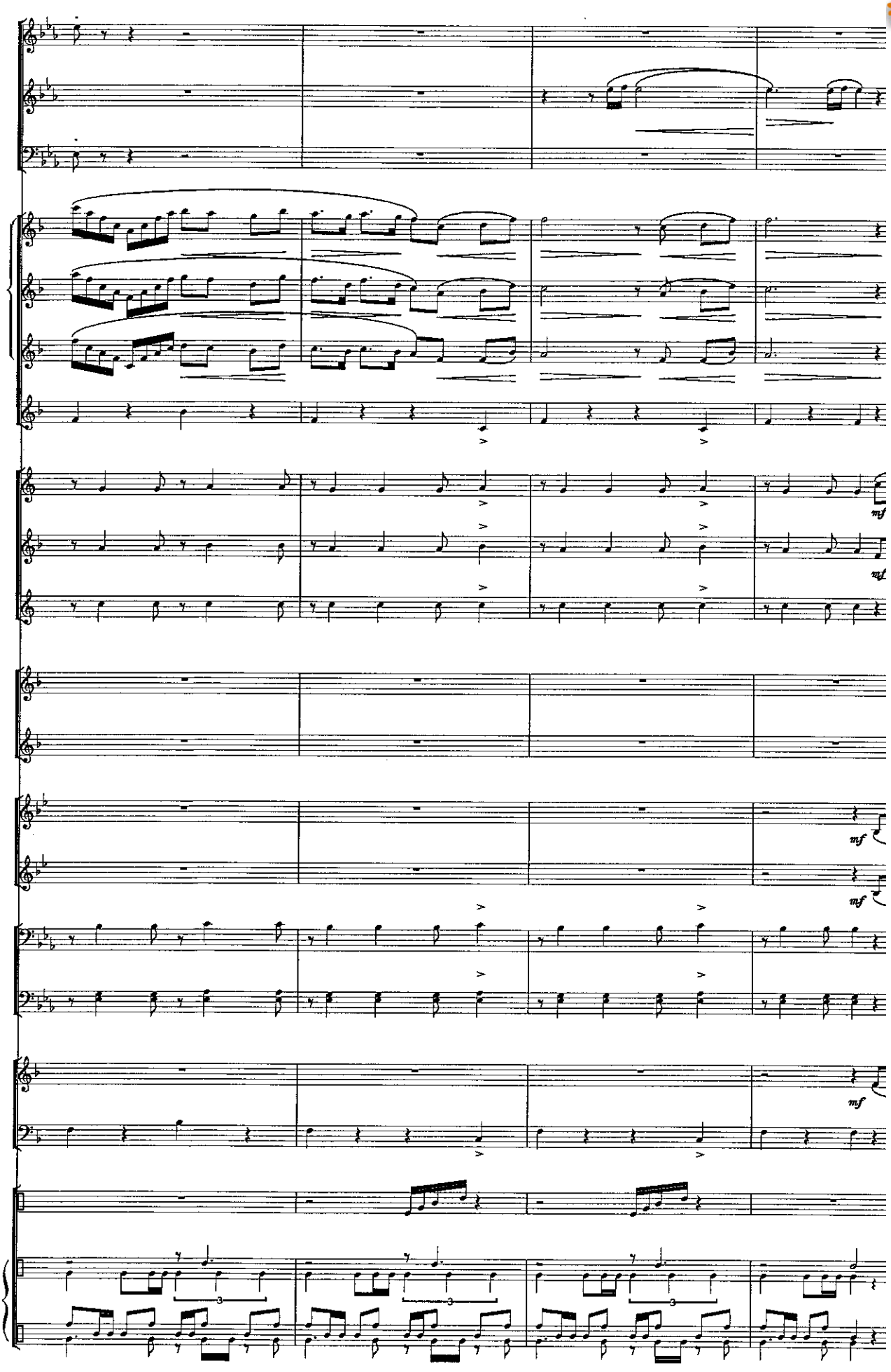

www.hafabramusic.com


p
3
to Temple Blocks
ff
Windchimes
Malay Hand Drum
Conga Drums
Bass Drum

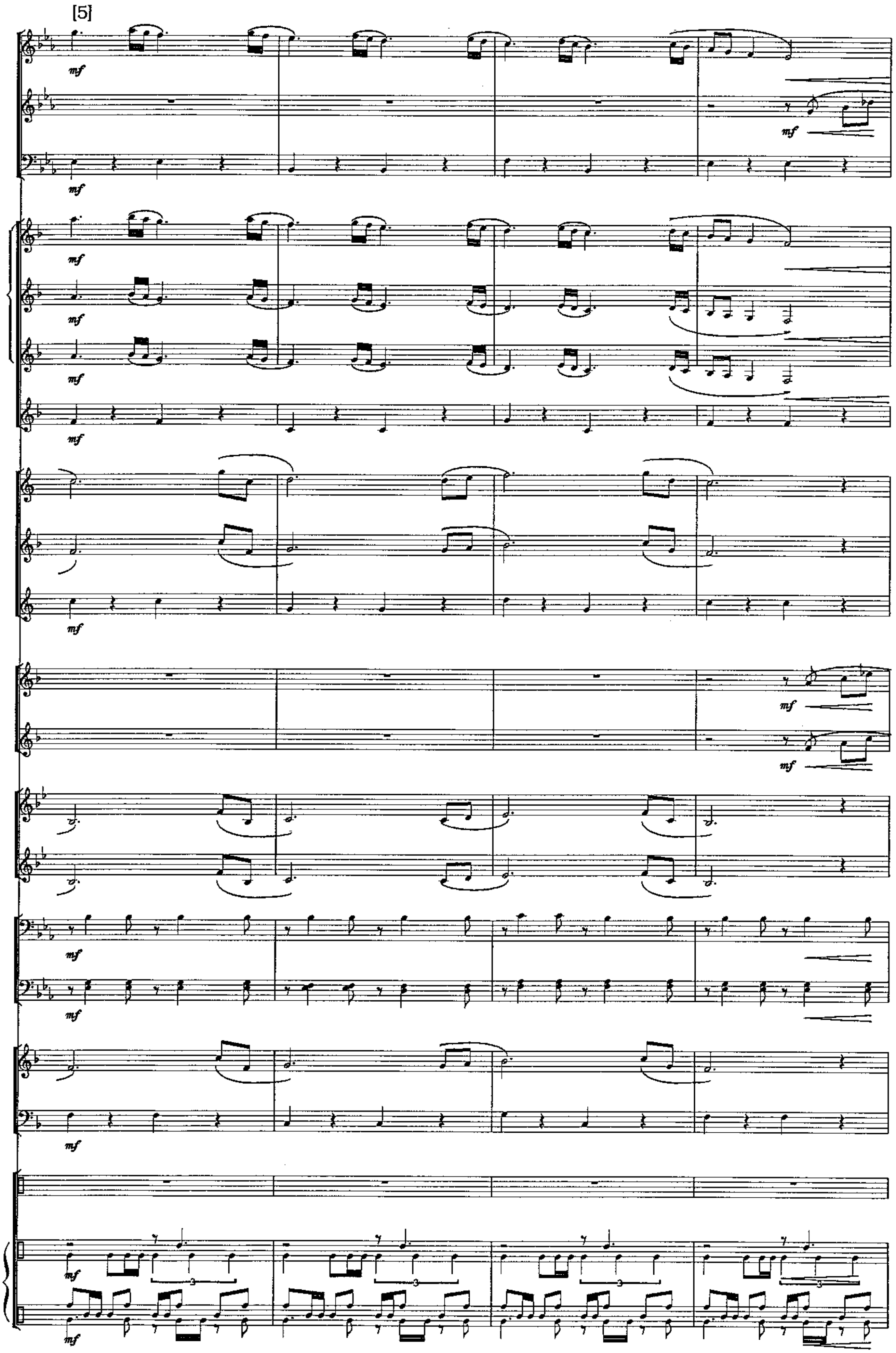


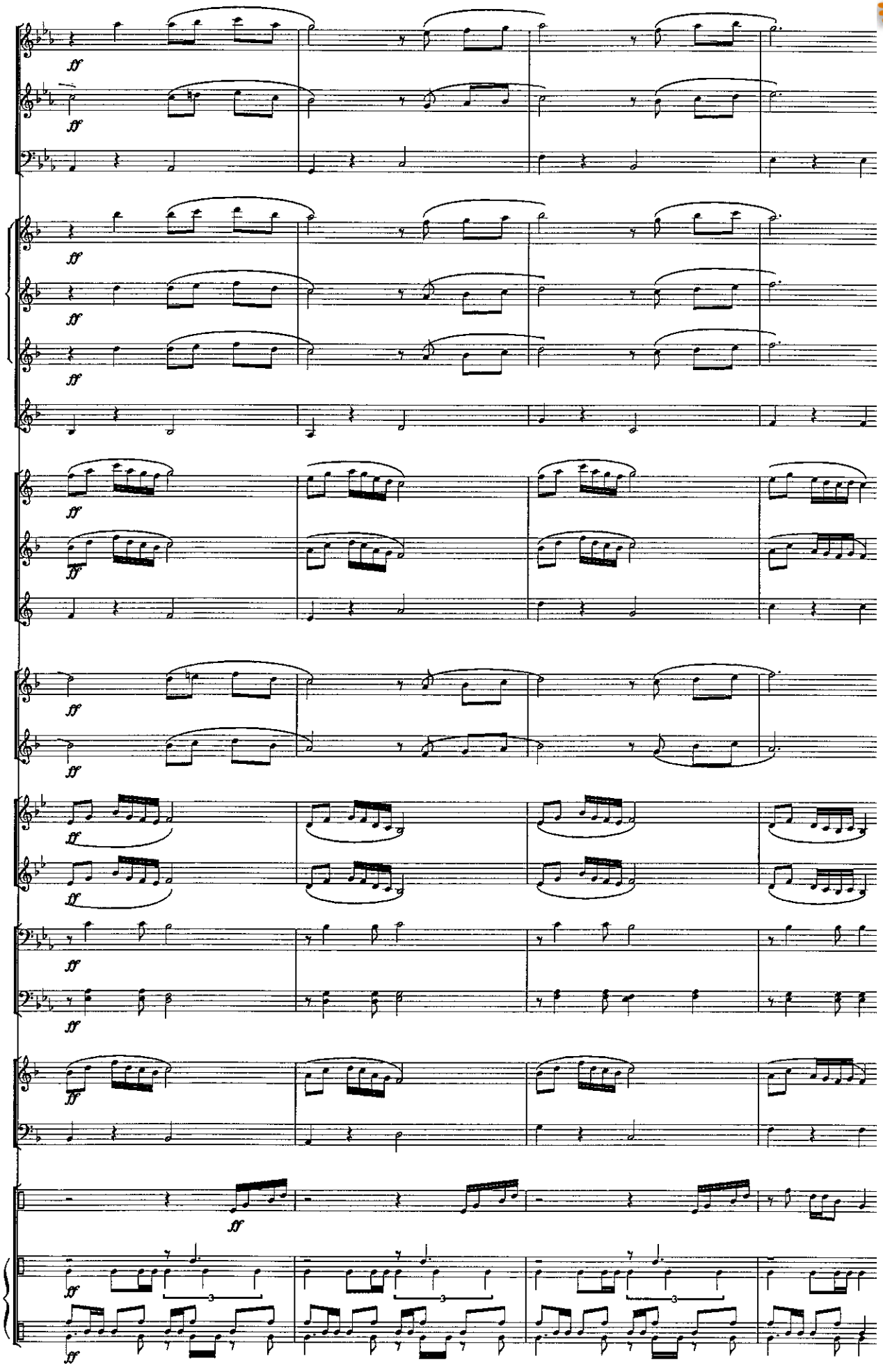

www.hafabramusic.com



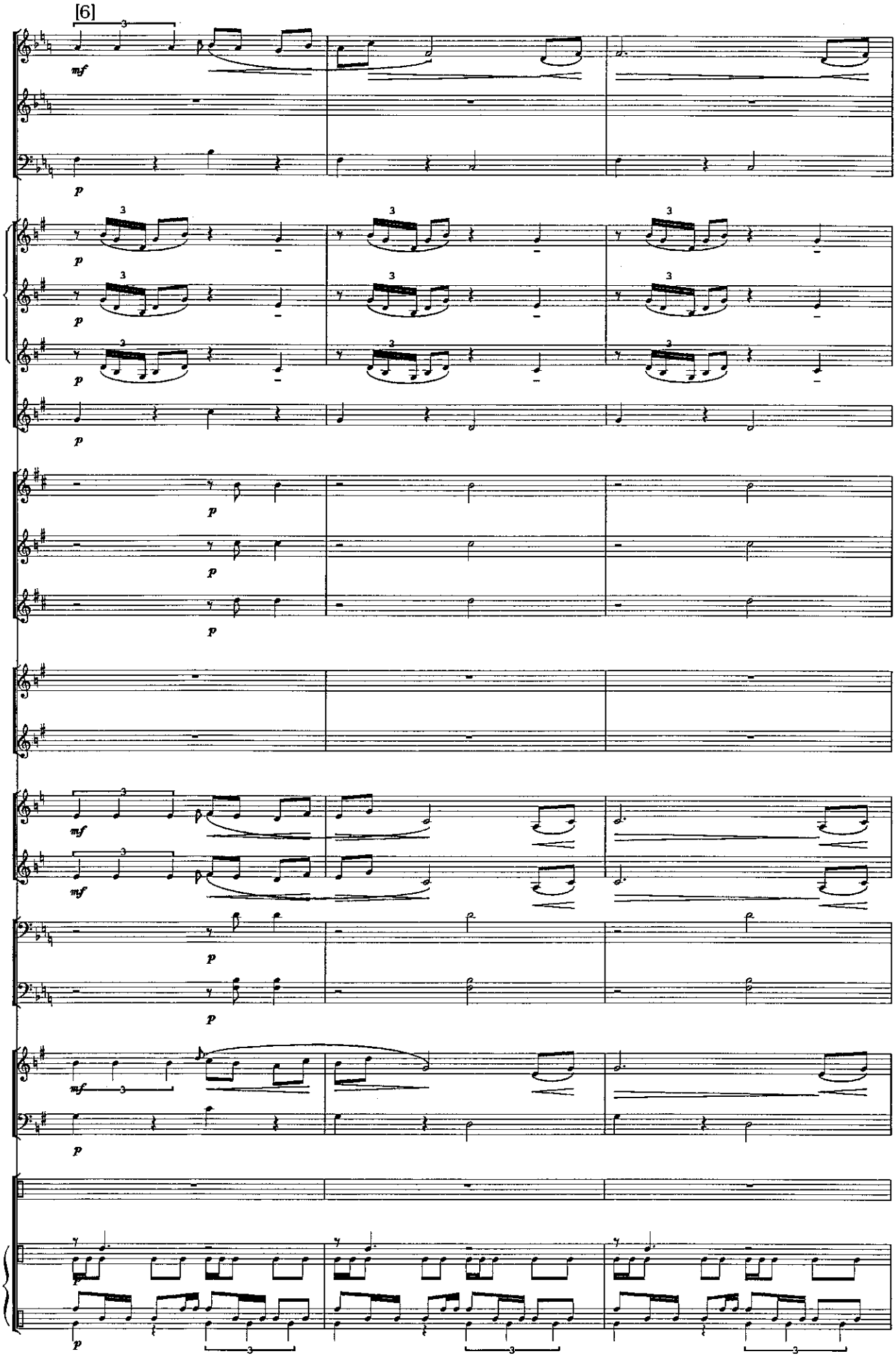


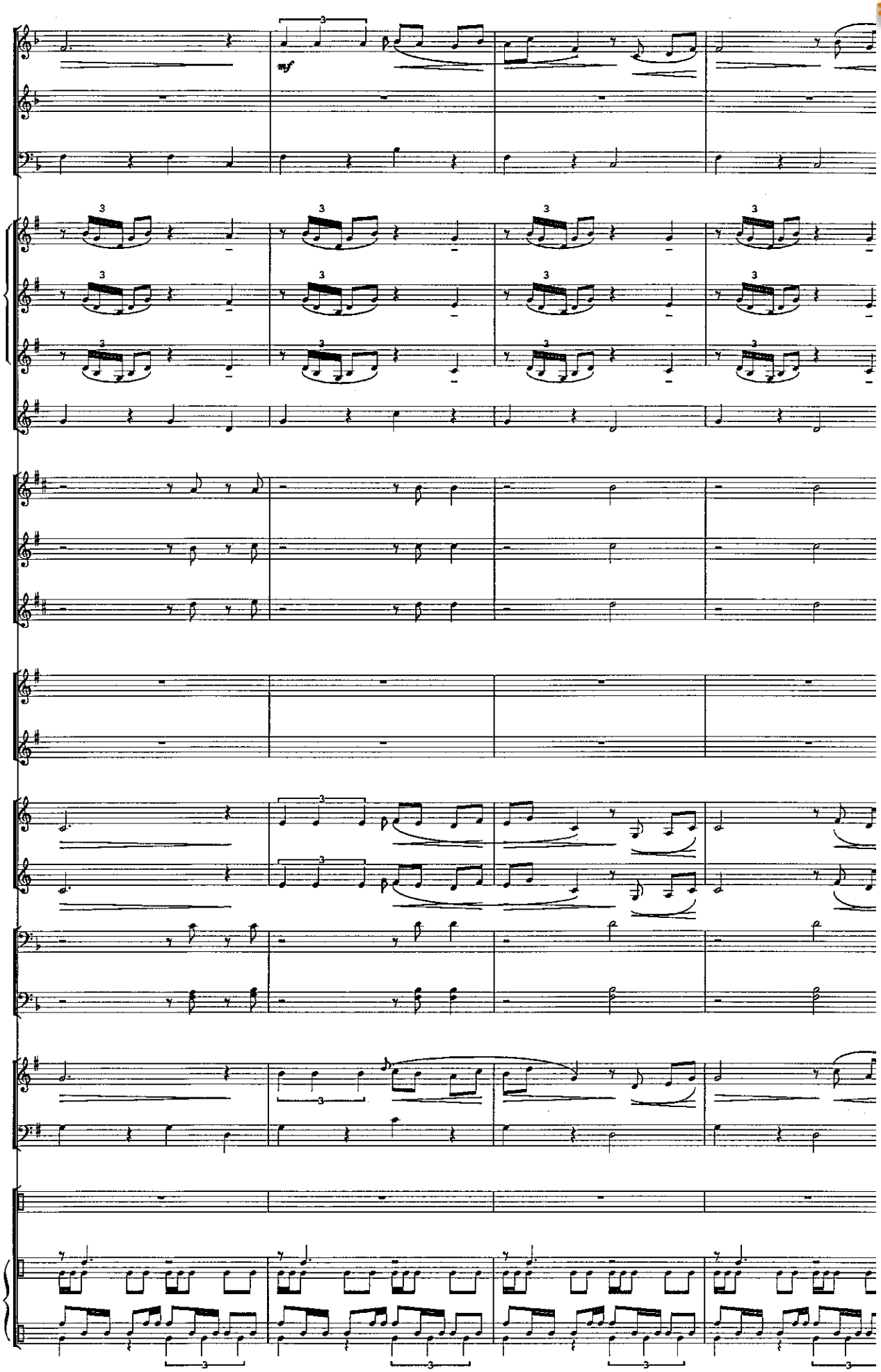

www.hafabramusic.com


[5]
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
3
3
3
3

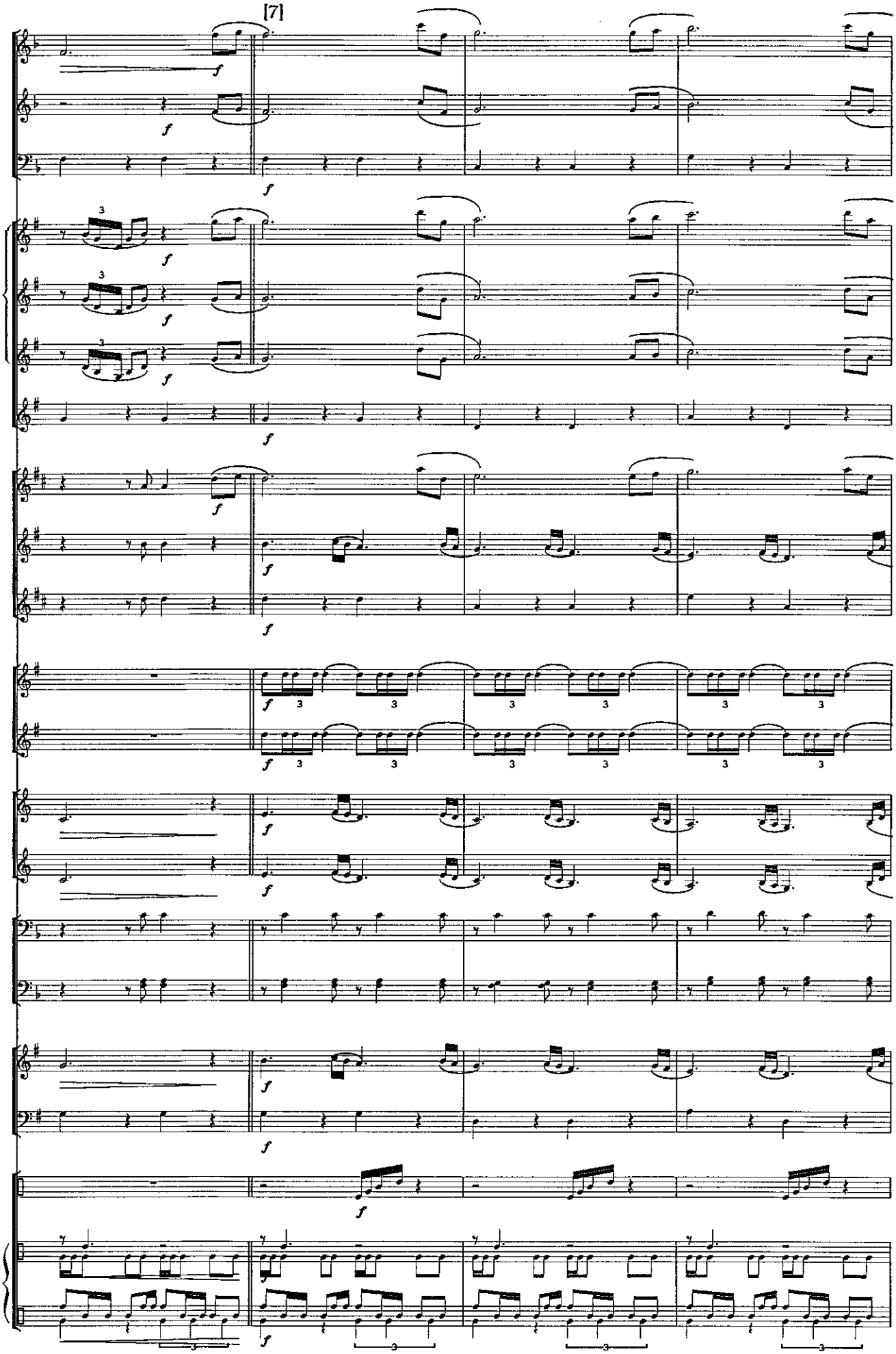


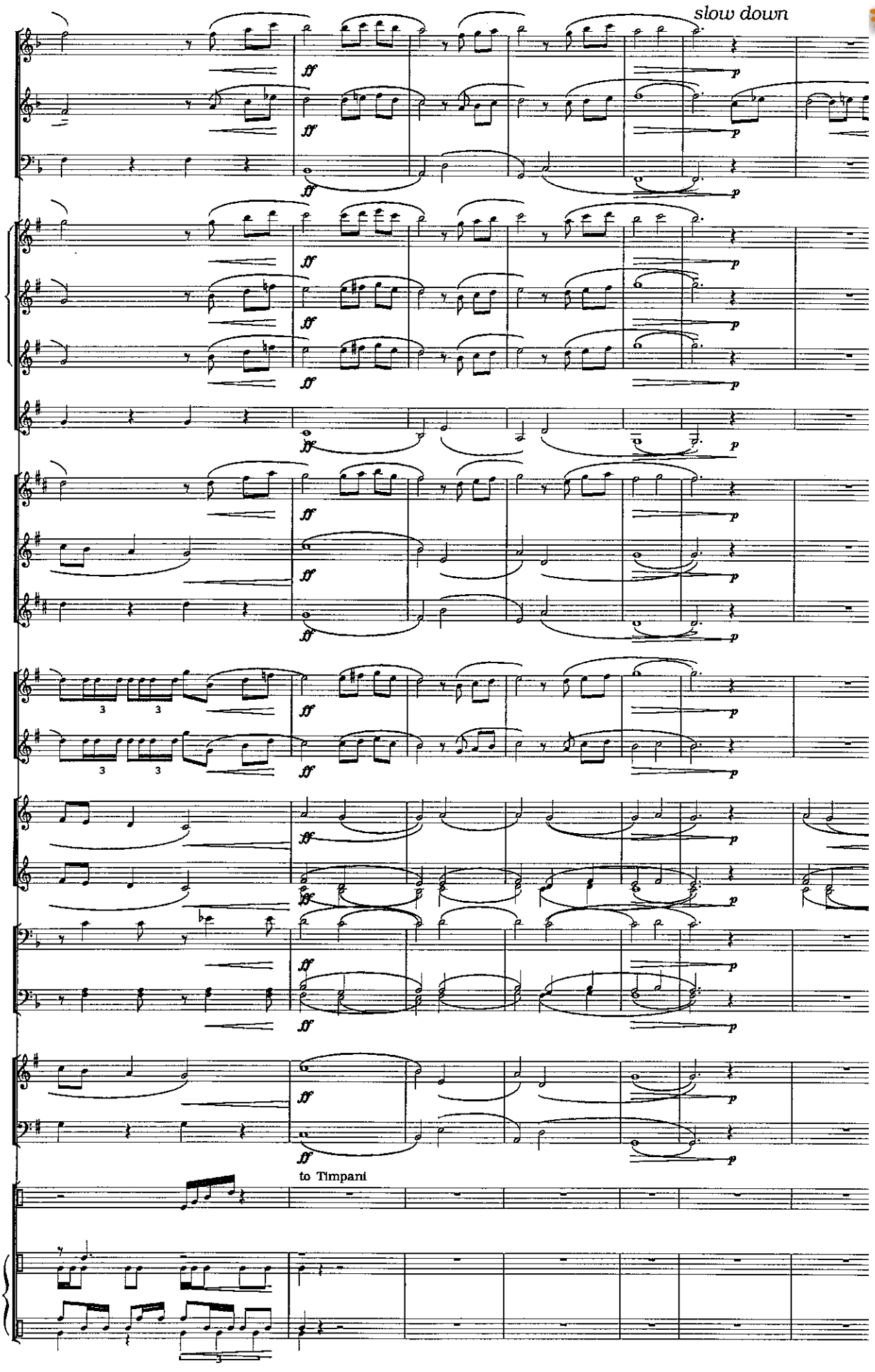
www.hafabramusic.com


[6]
mf
p
3



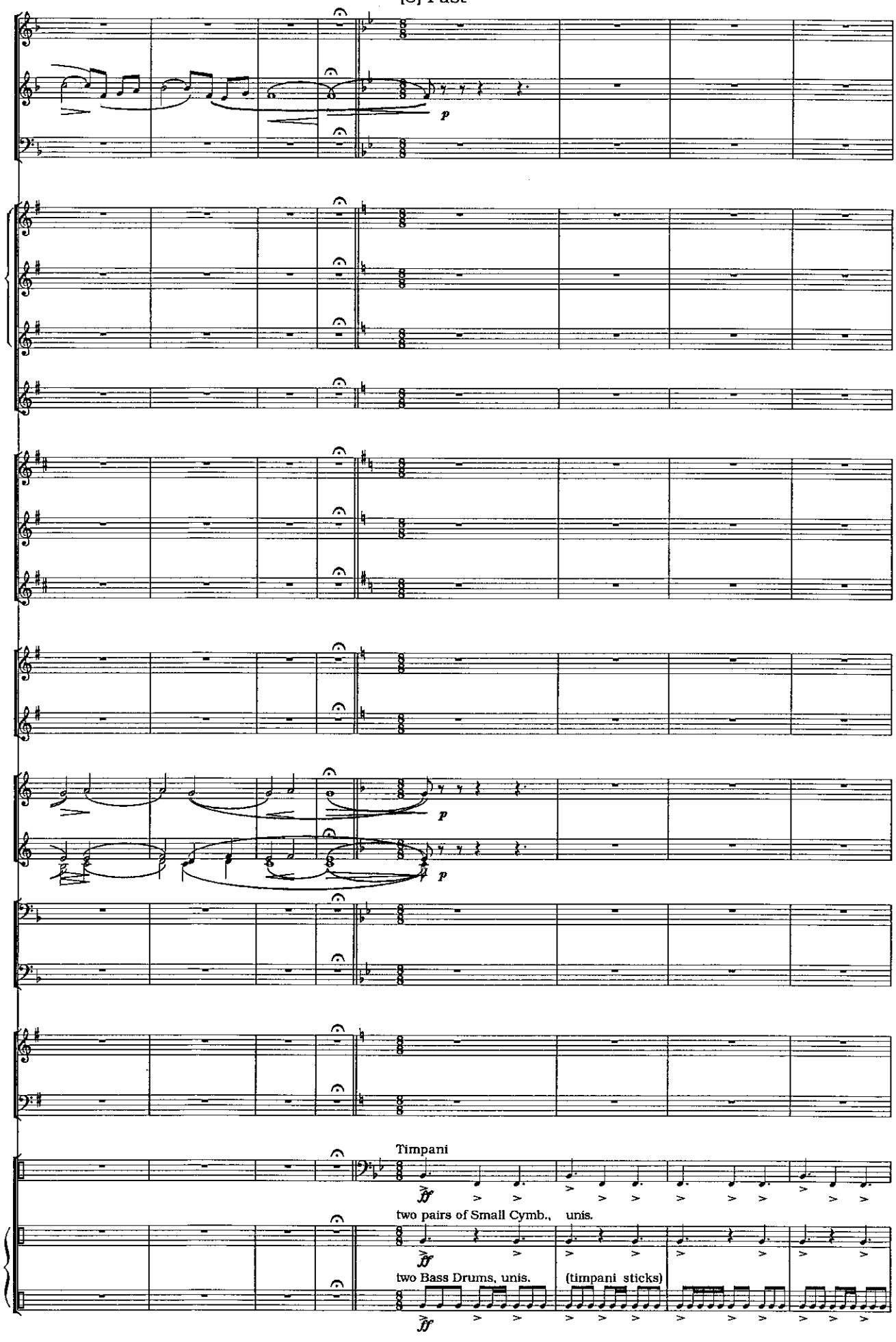

www.hafabramusic.com

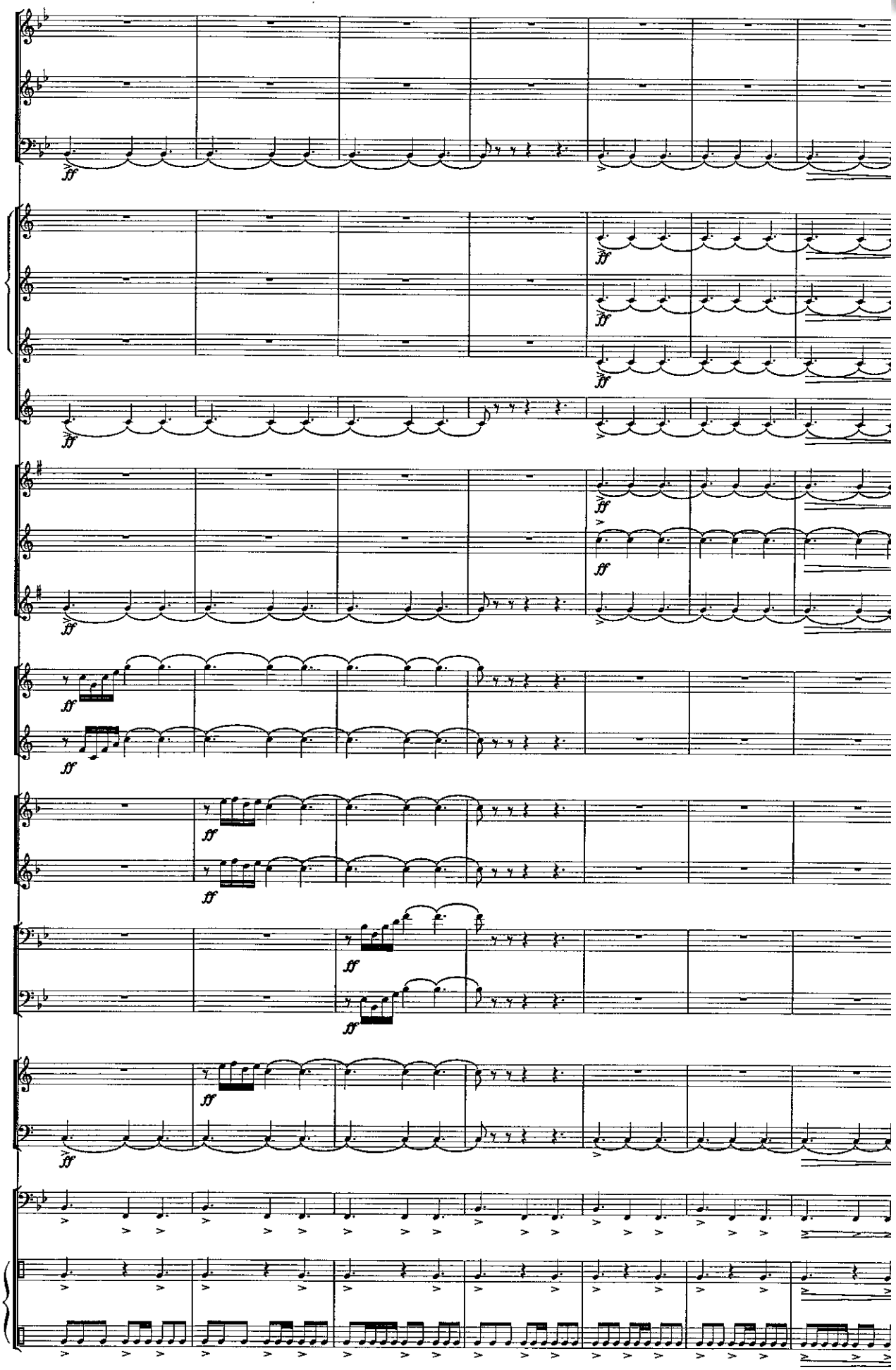

[7]



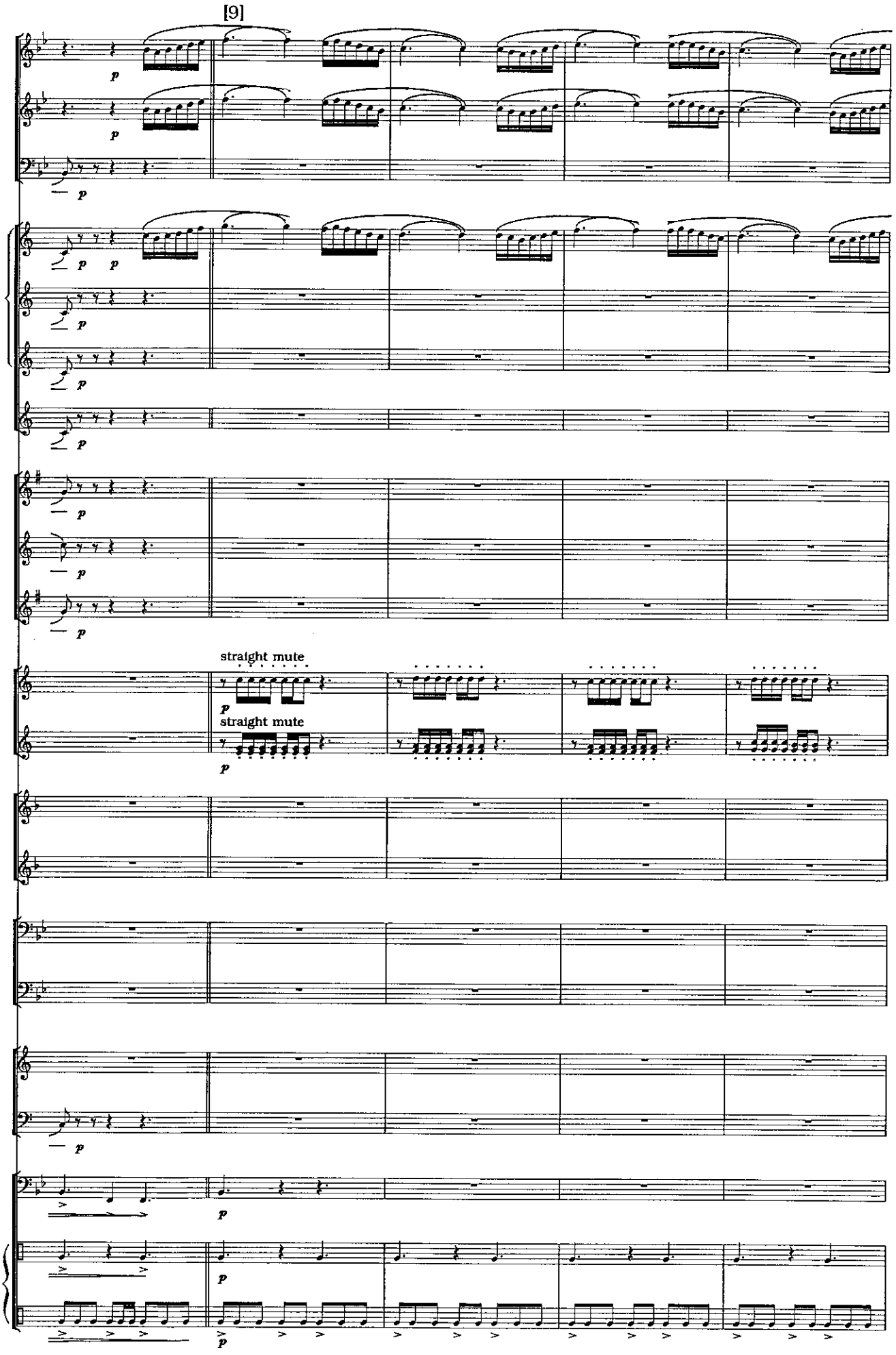

www.hafabramusic.com

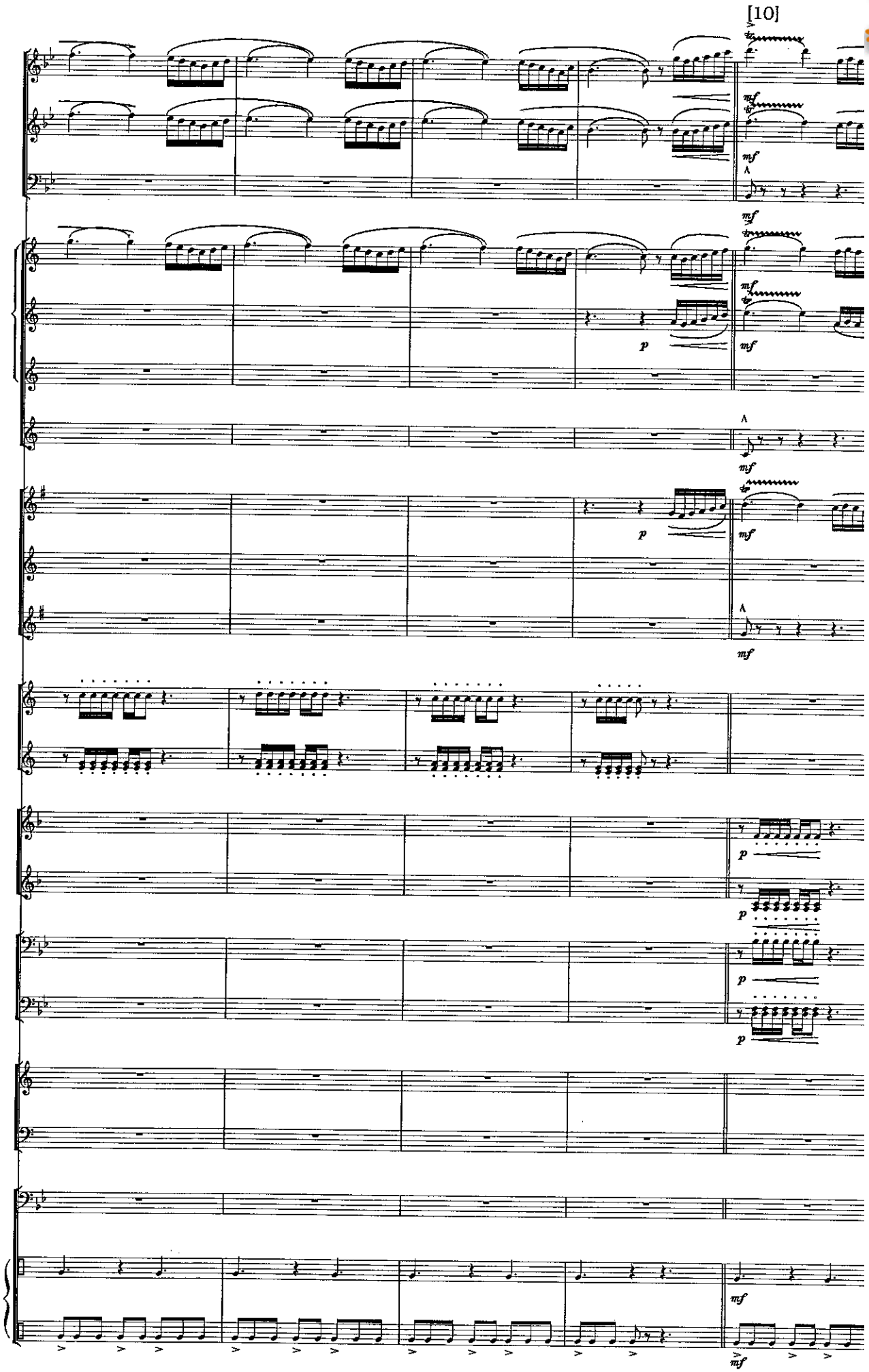
[8] Fast


p
p
p
Timpani
ff
two pairs of Small Cymb., unis.
ff
two Bass Drums, unis.
(timpani sticks)
ff

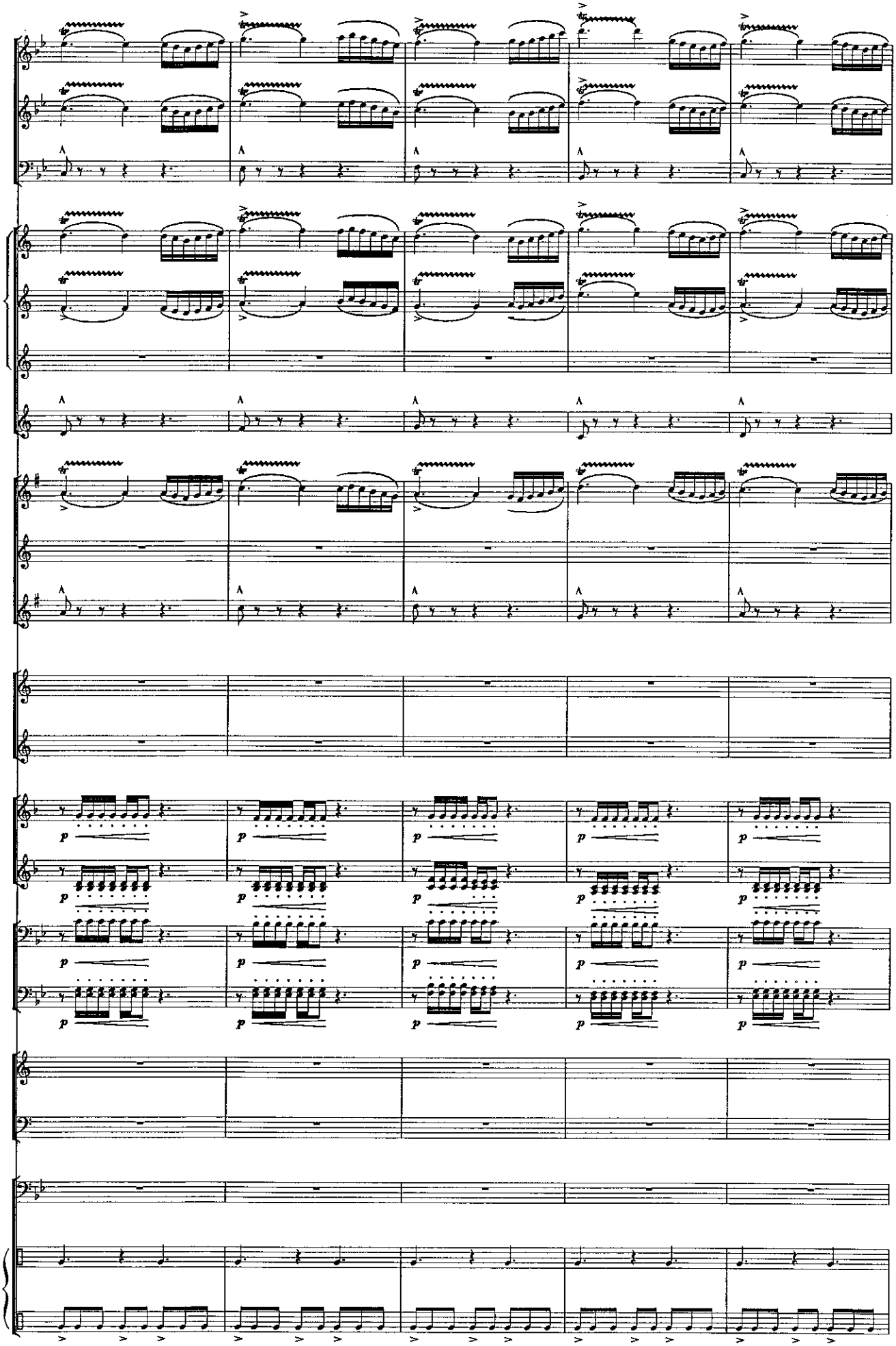


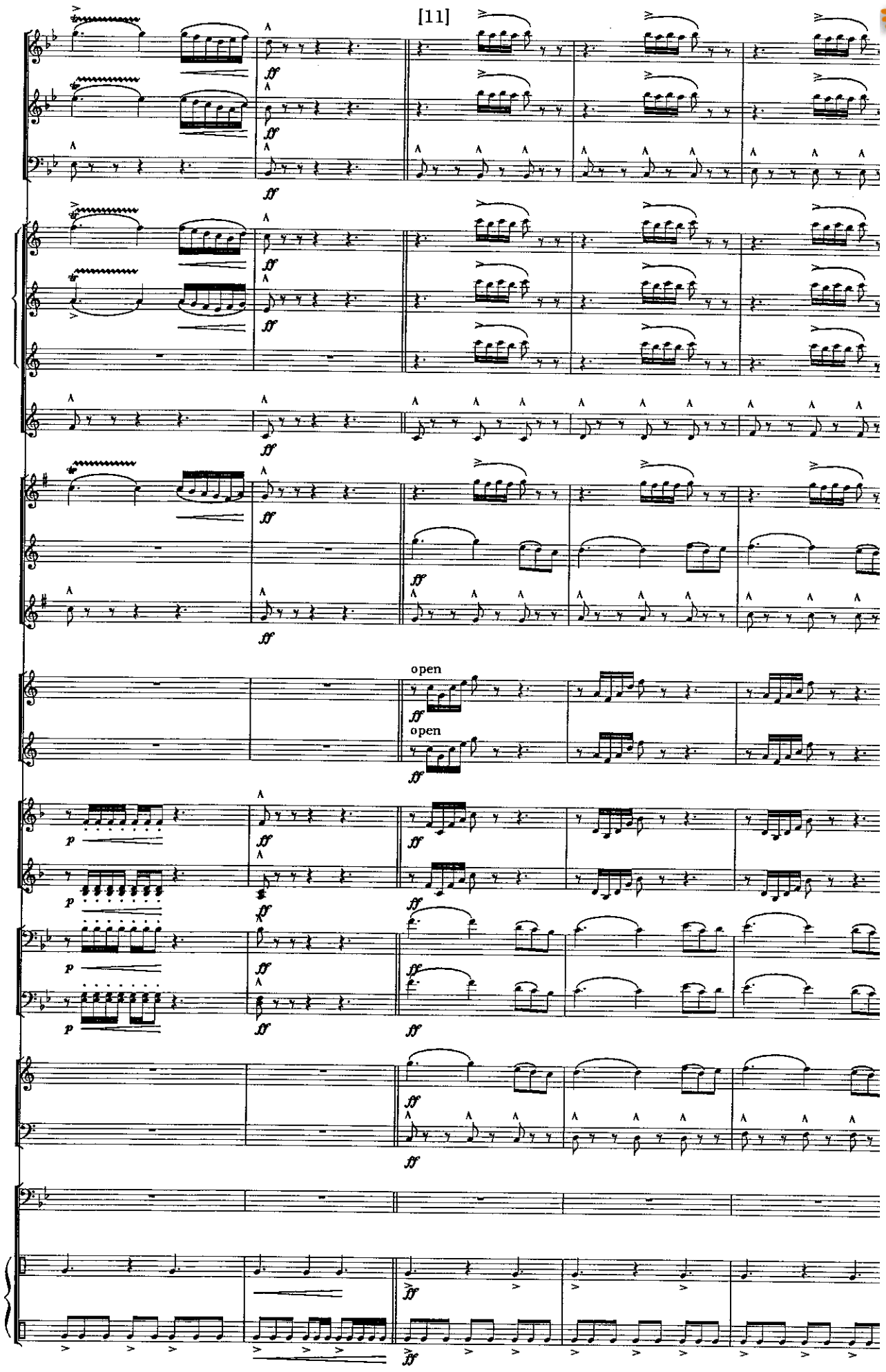
www.hafabramusic.com


[9]
straight mute
straight mute

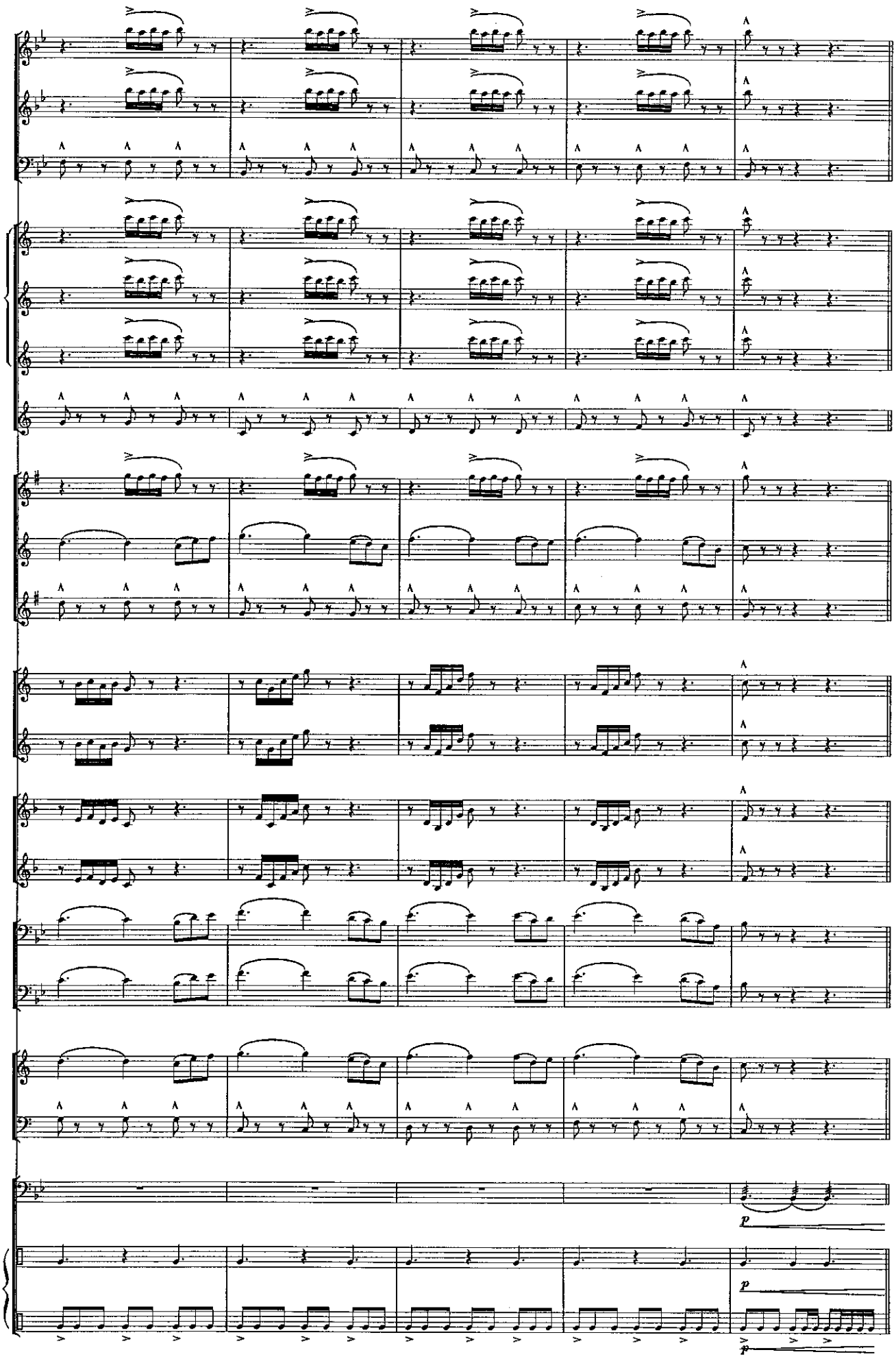



www.hafabramusic.com

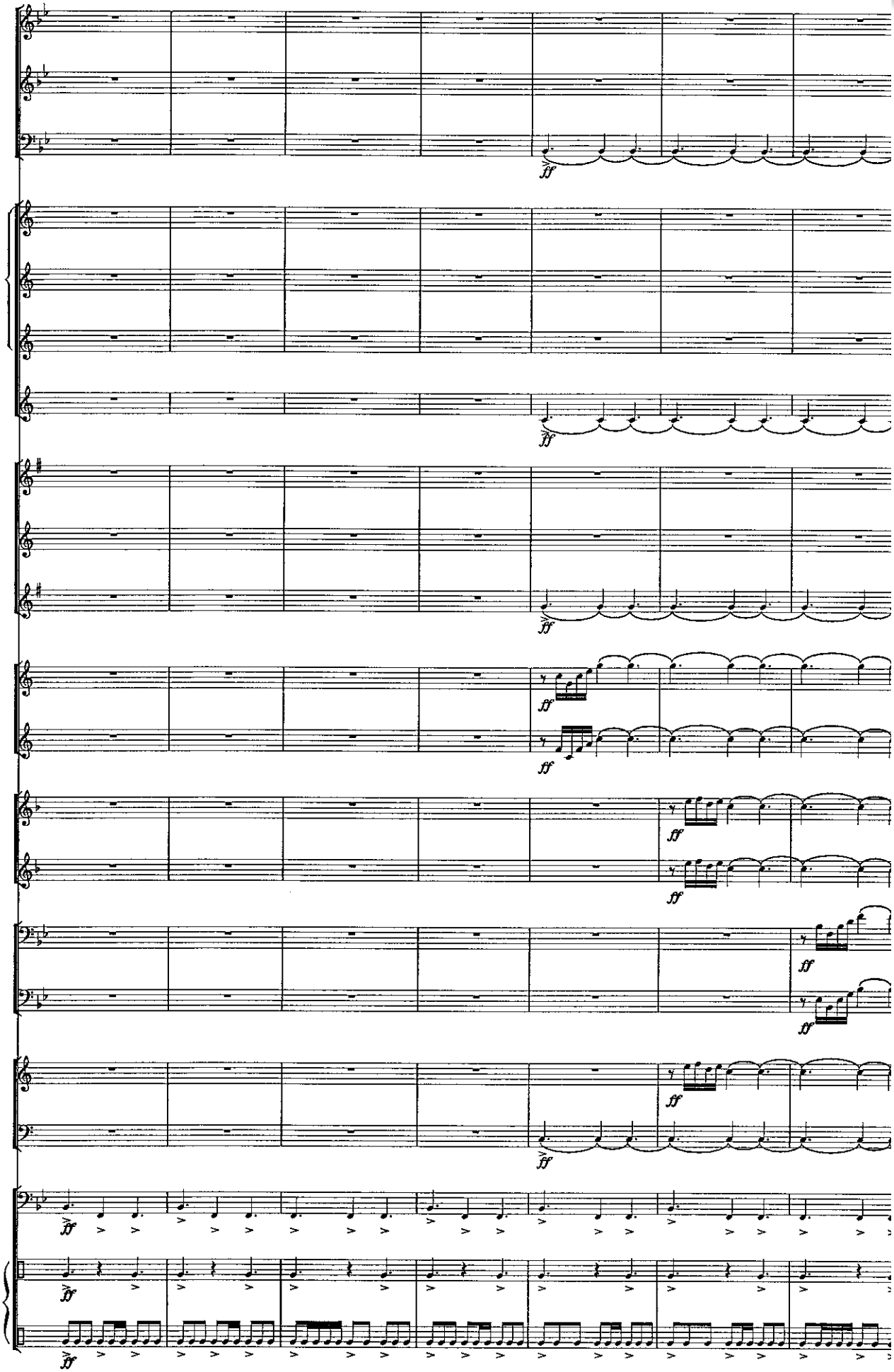




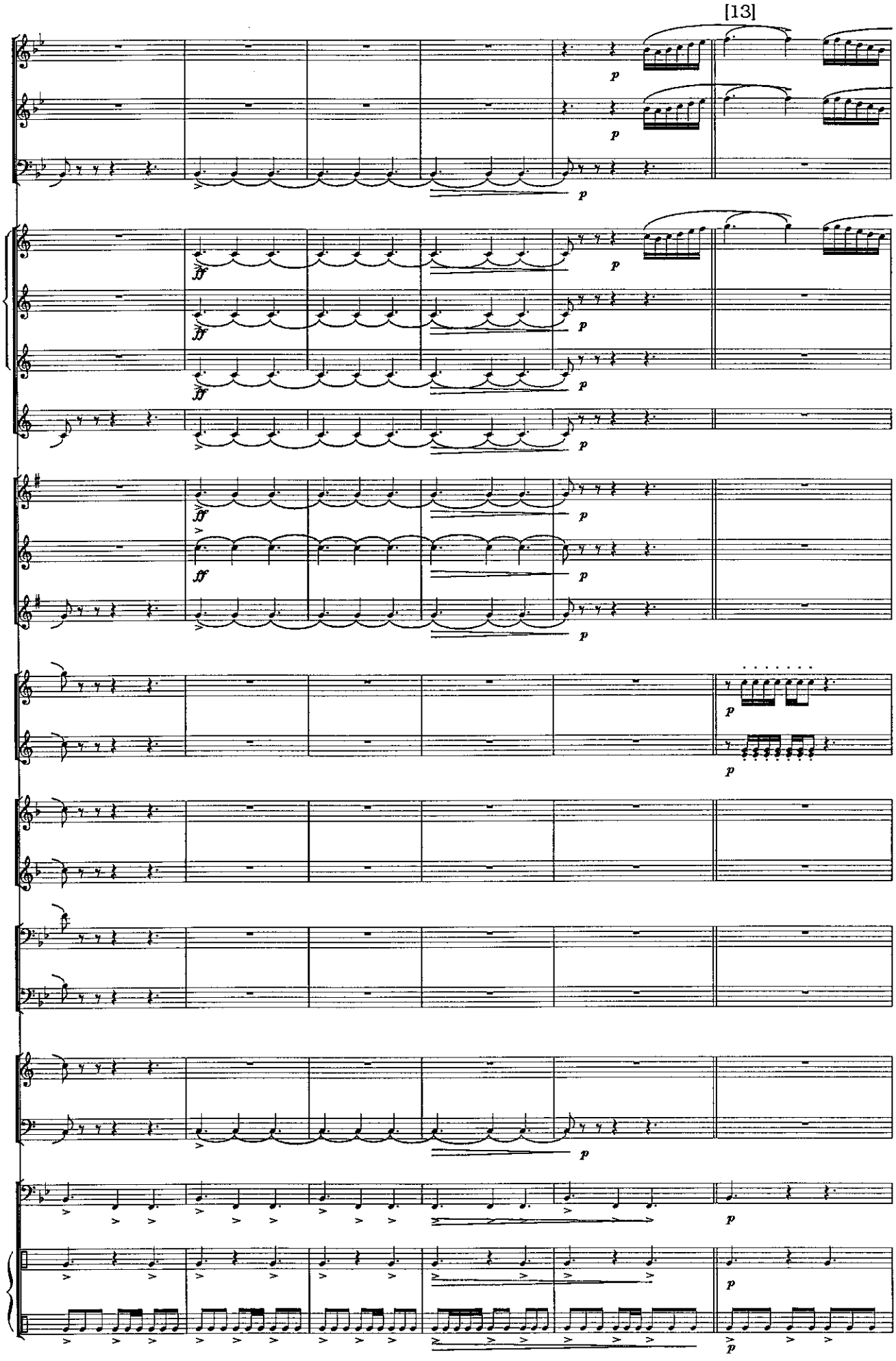

www.hafabramusic.com

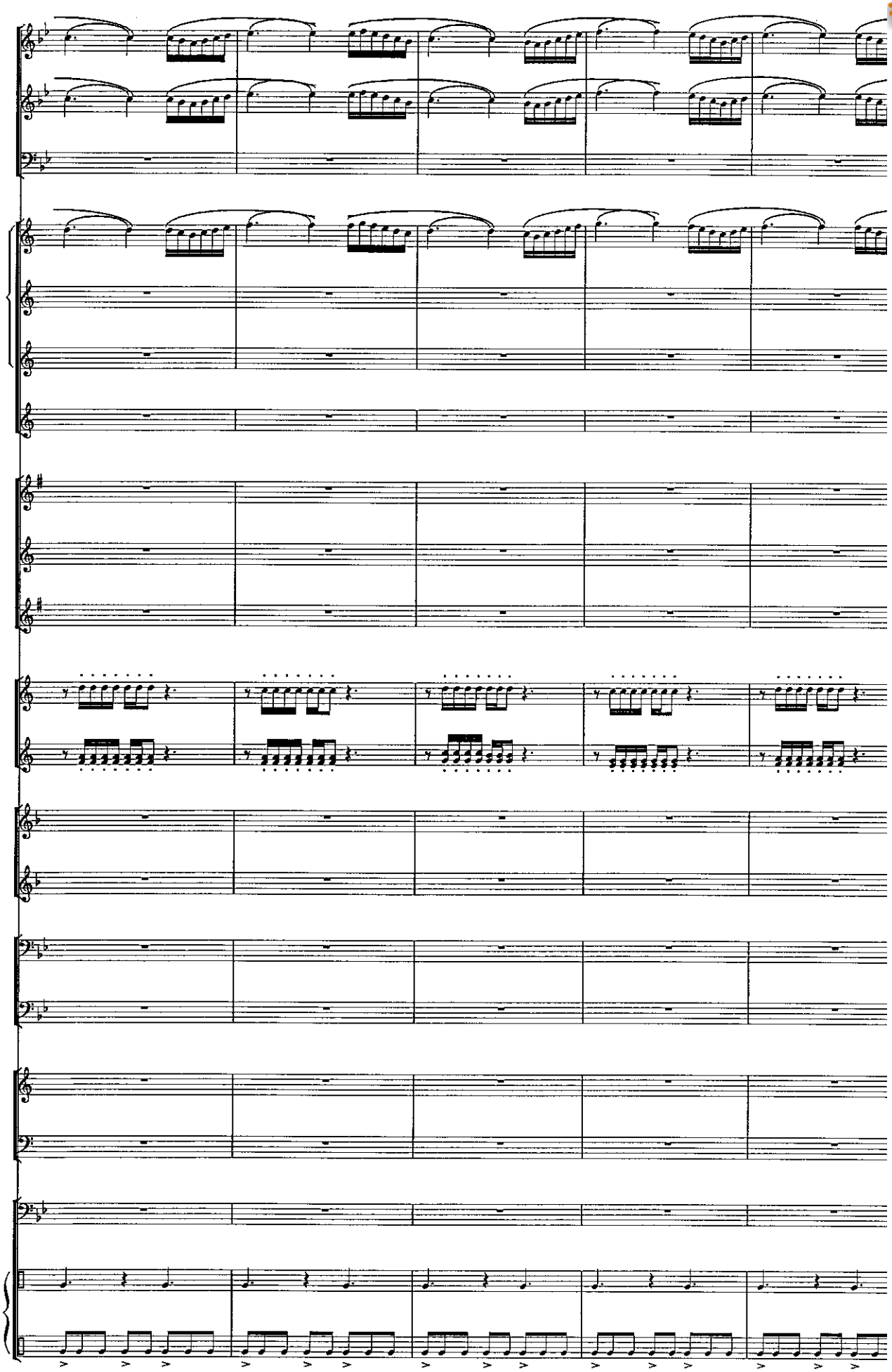

p
p
p

[12]

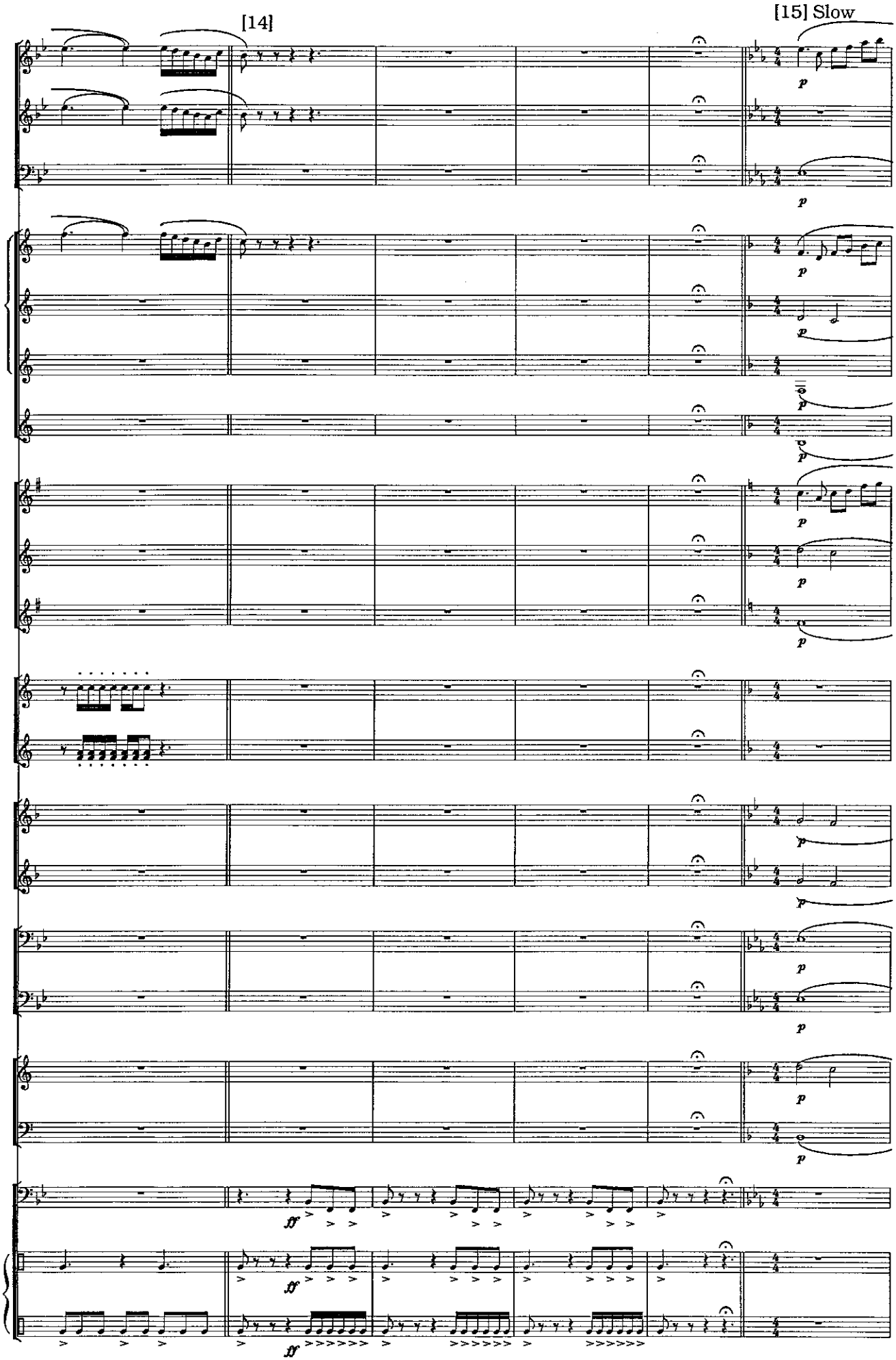


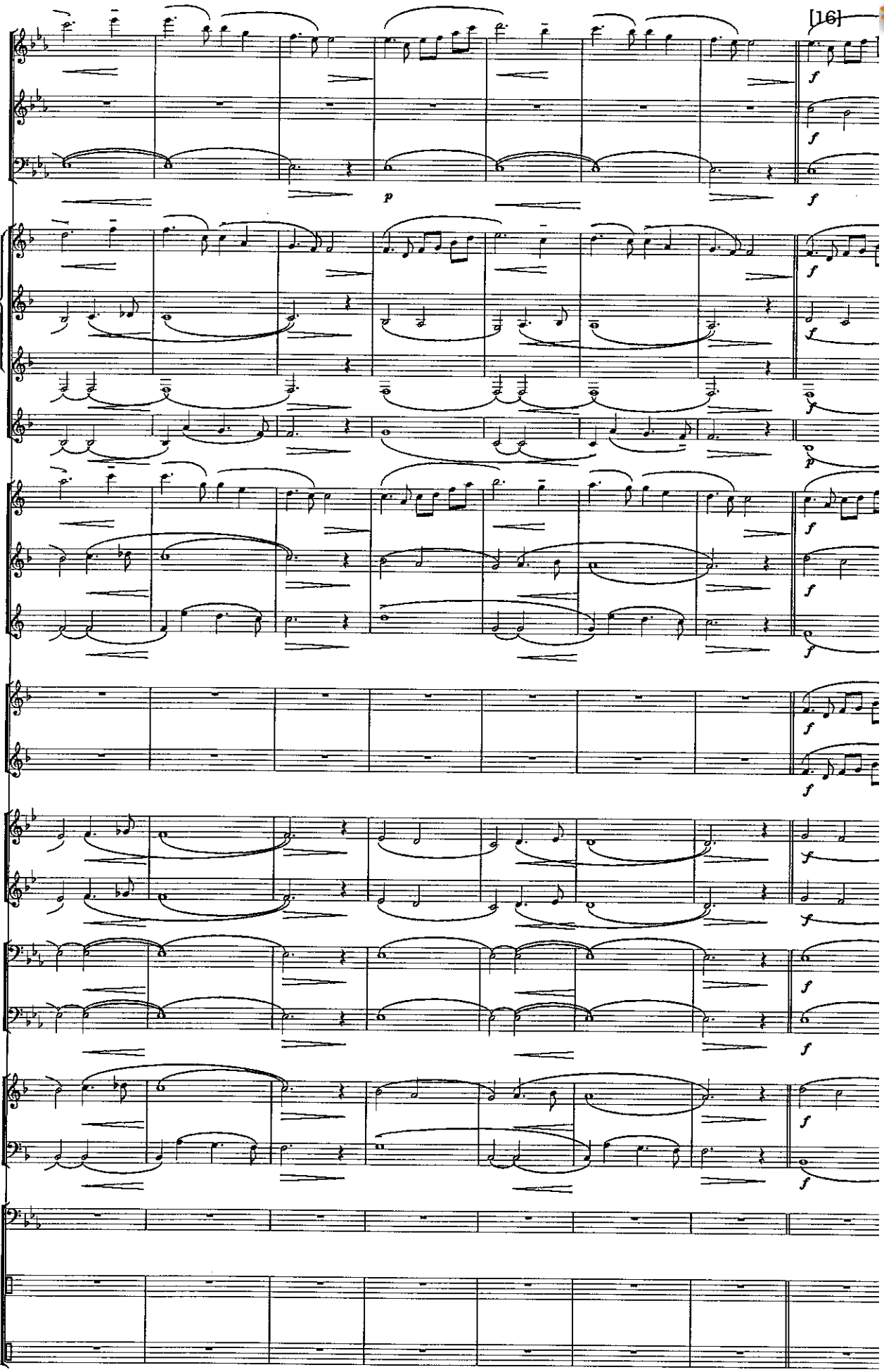

www.hafabramusic.com


[13]

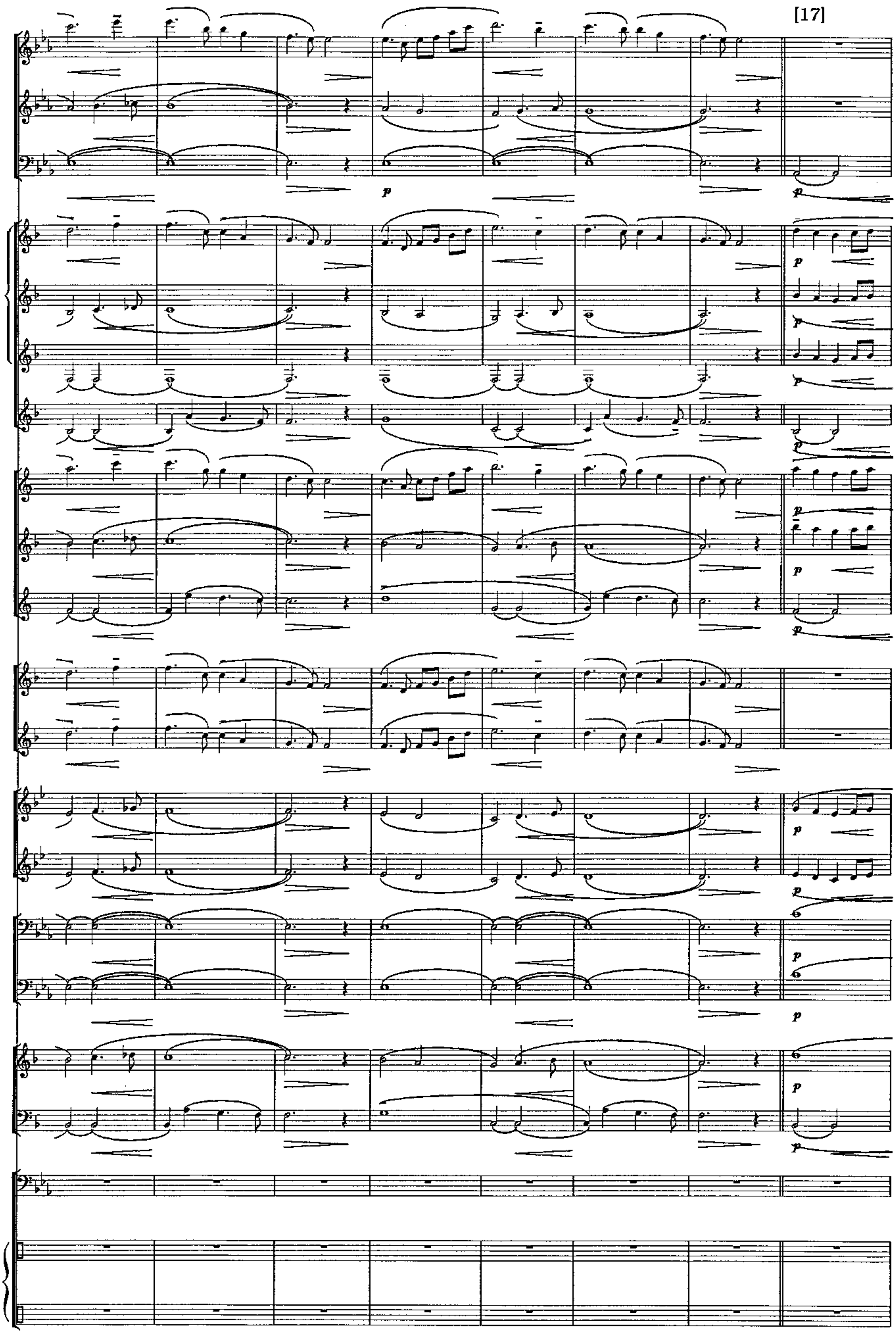


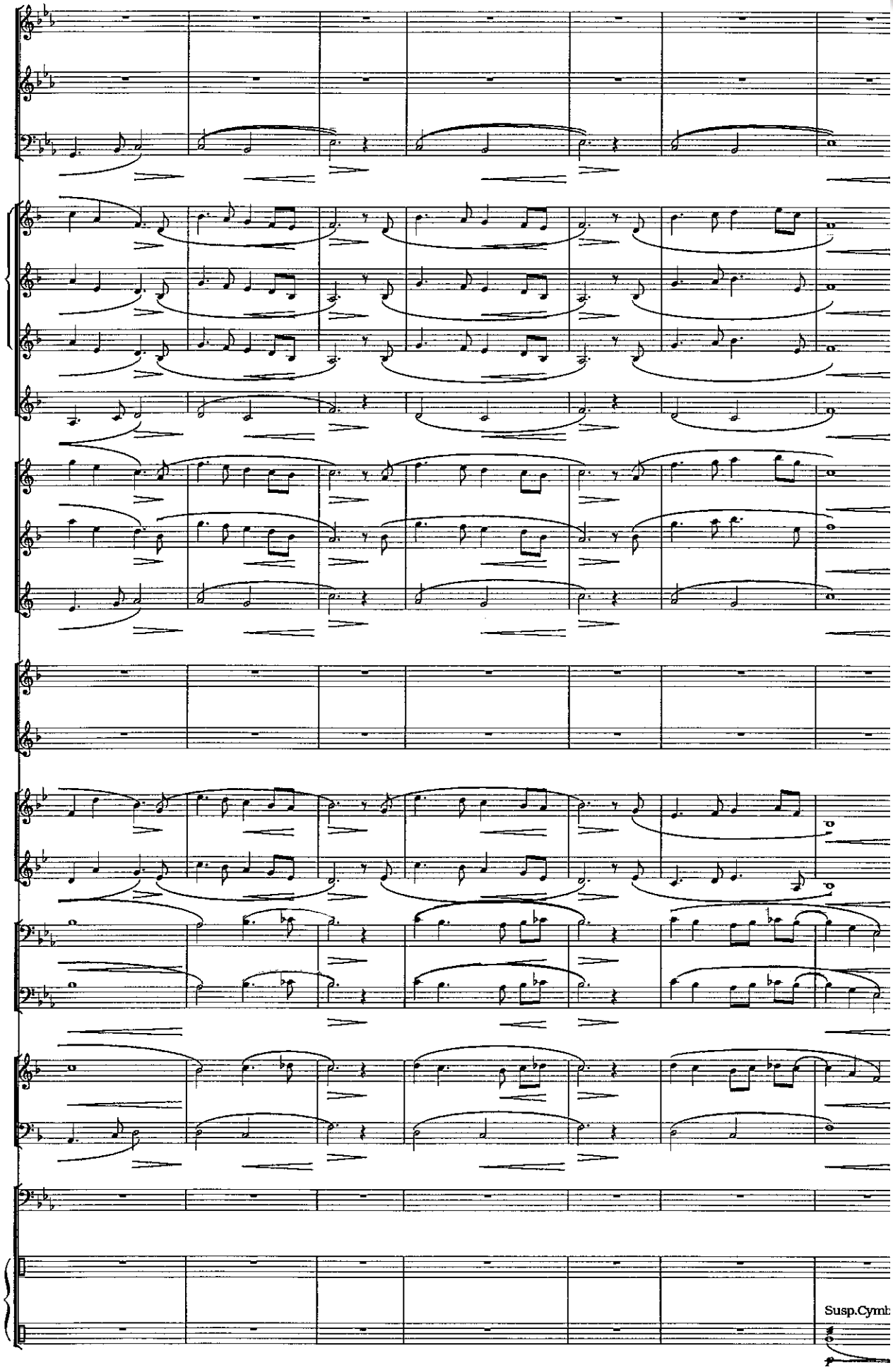
www.hafabramusic.com


[14]
[15] Slow

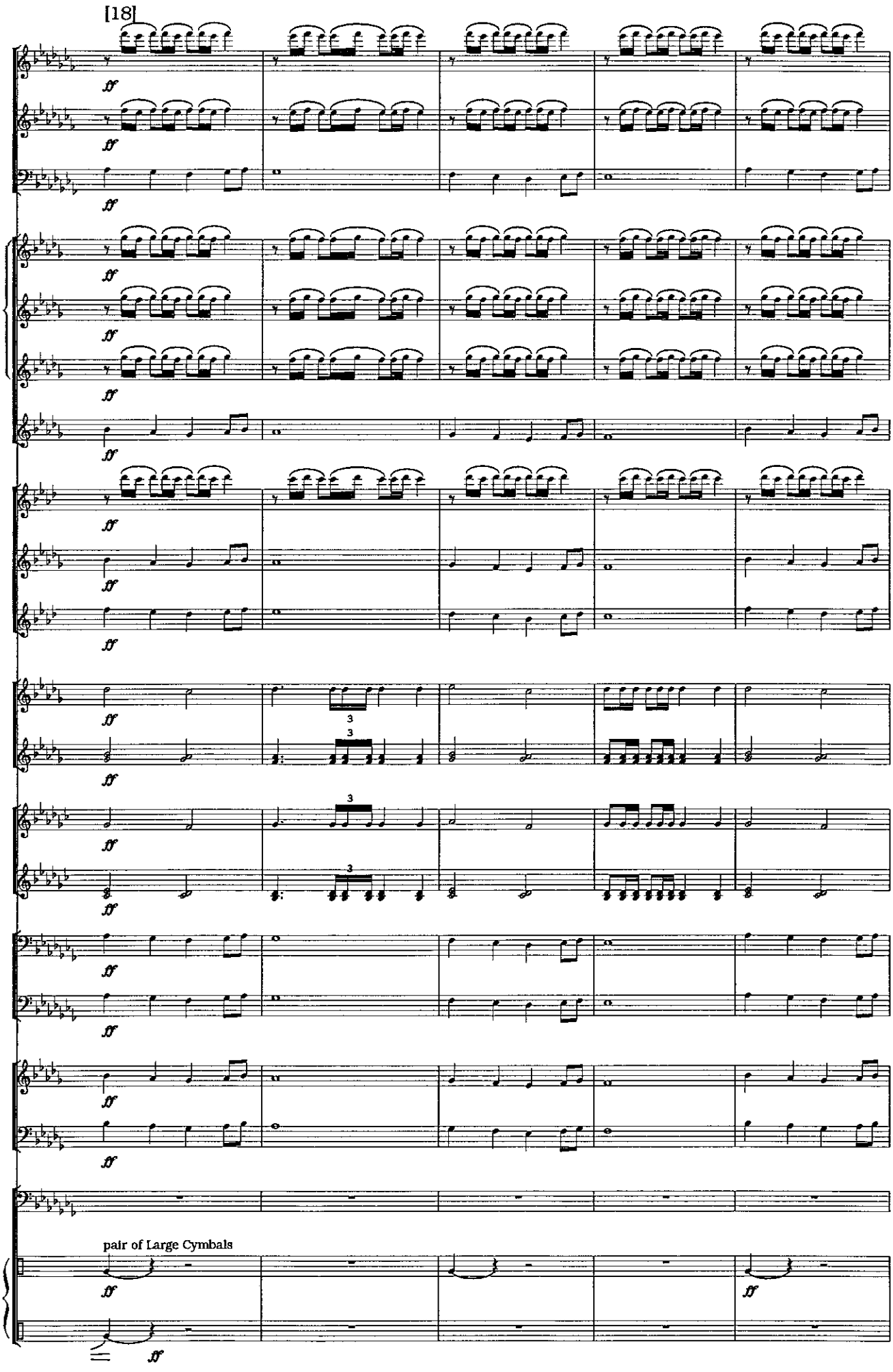


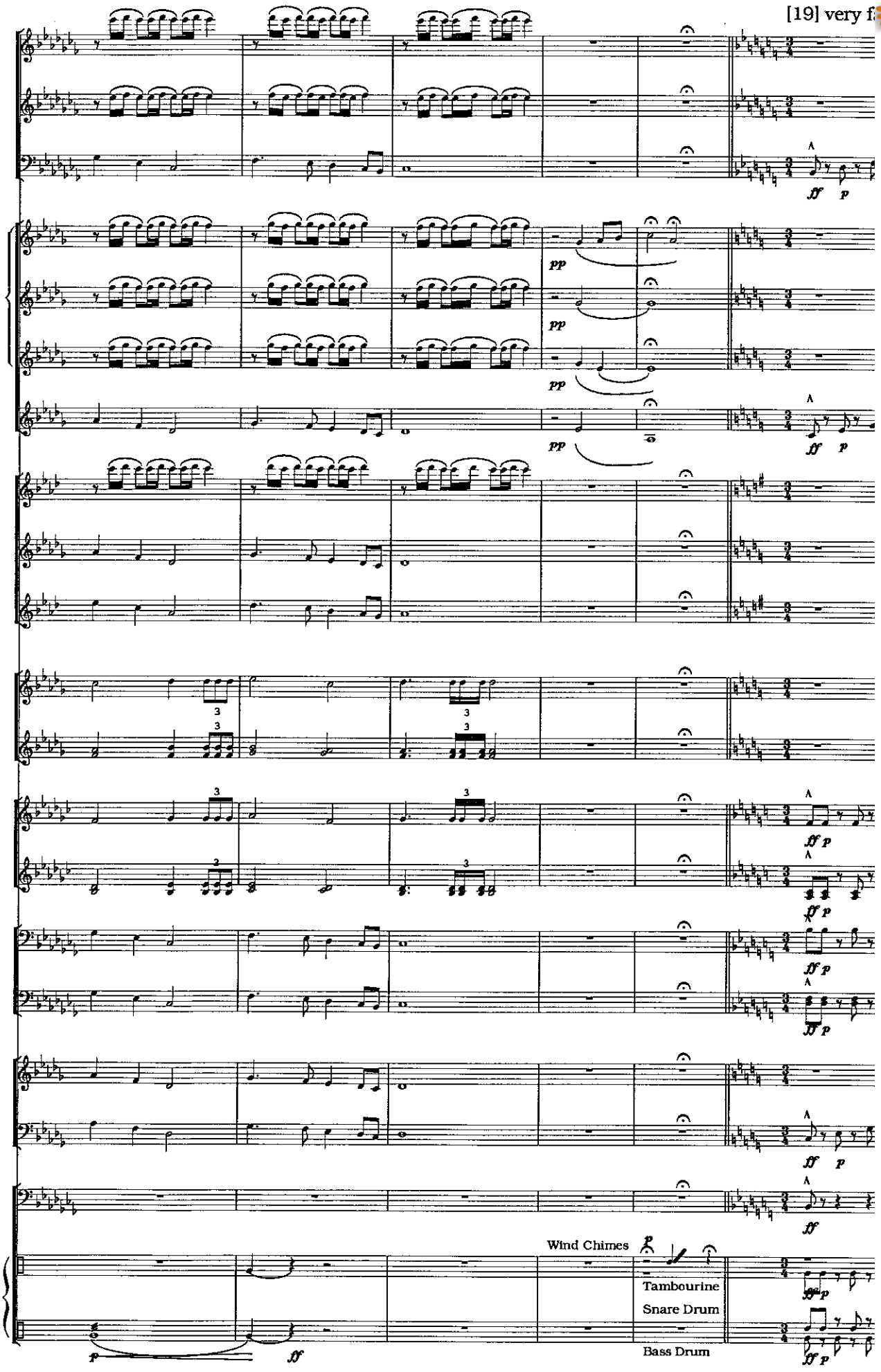

www.hafabramusic.com


[17]
p

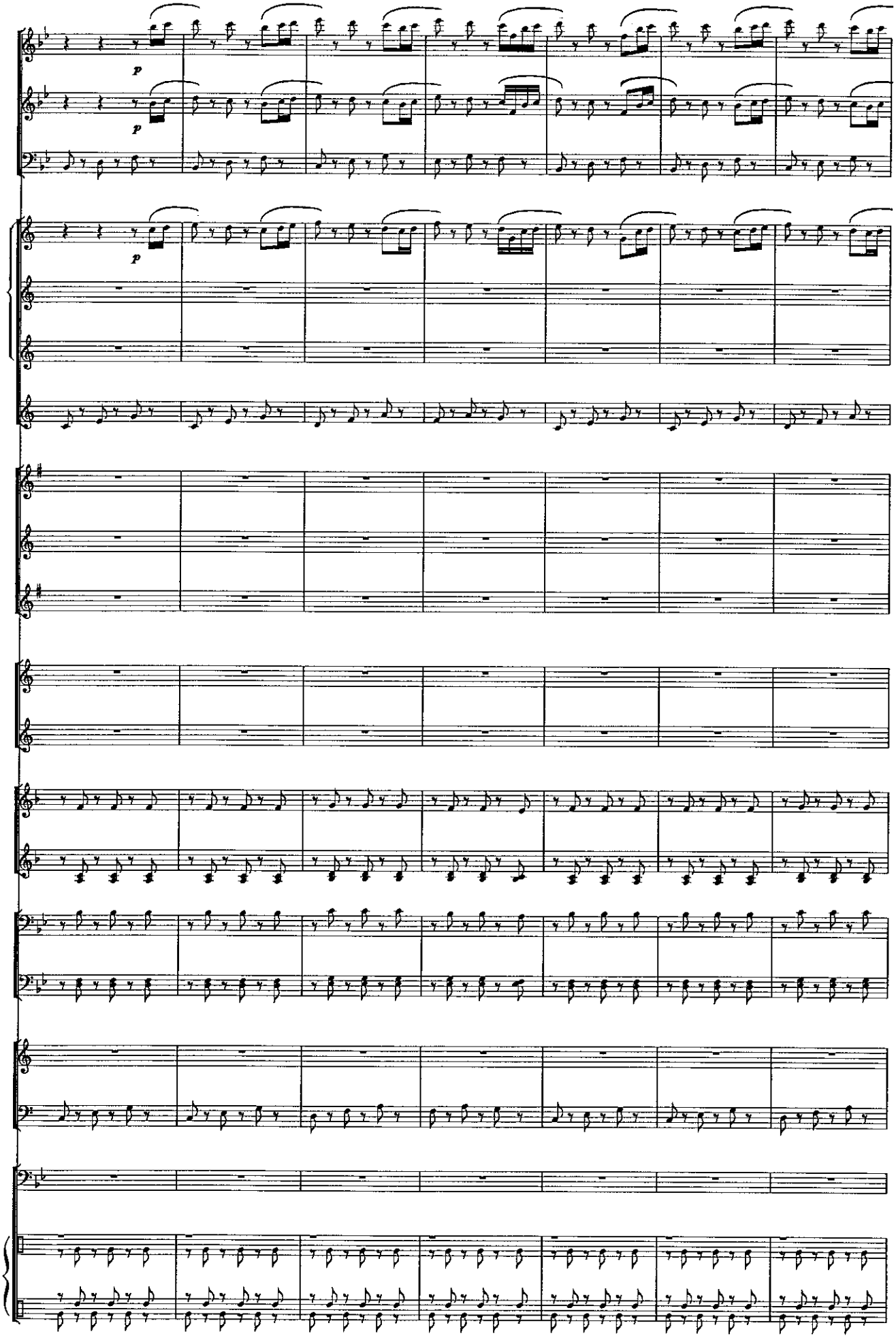


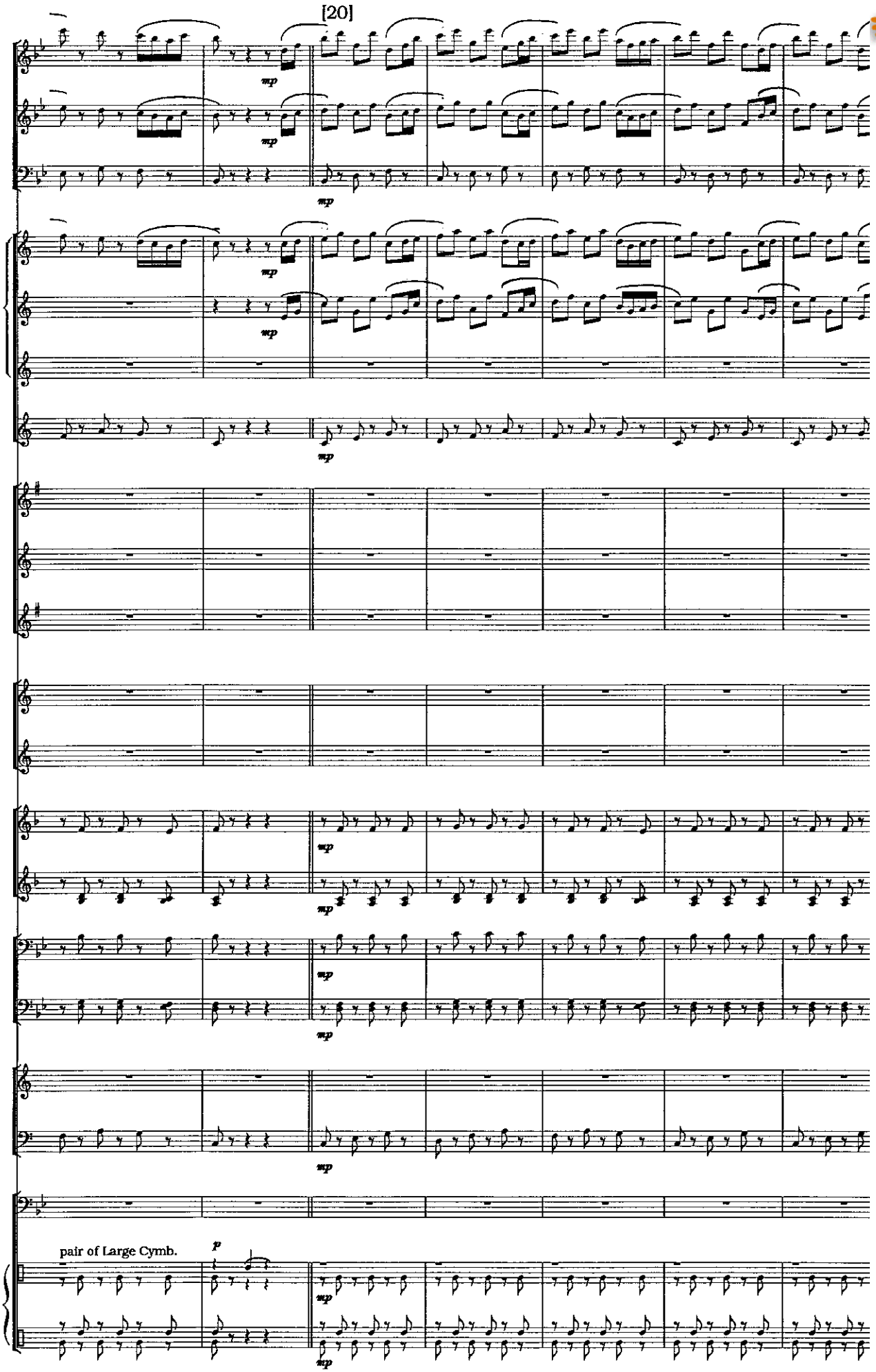

www.hafabramusic.com


[18]
pair of Large Cymbals



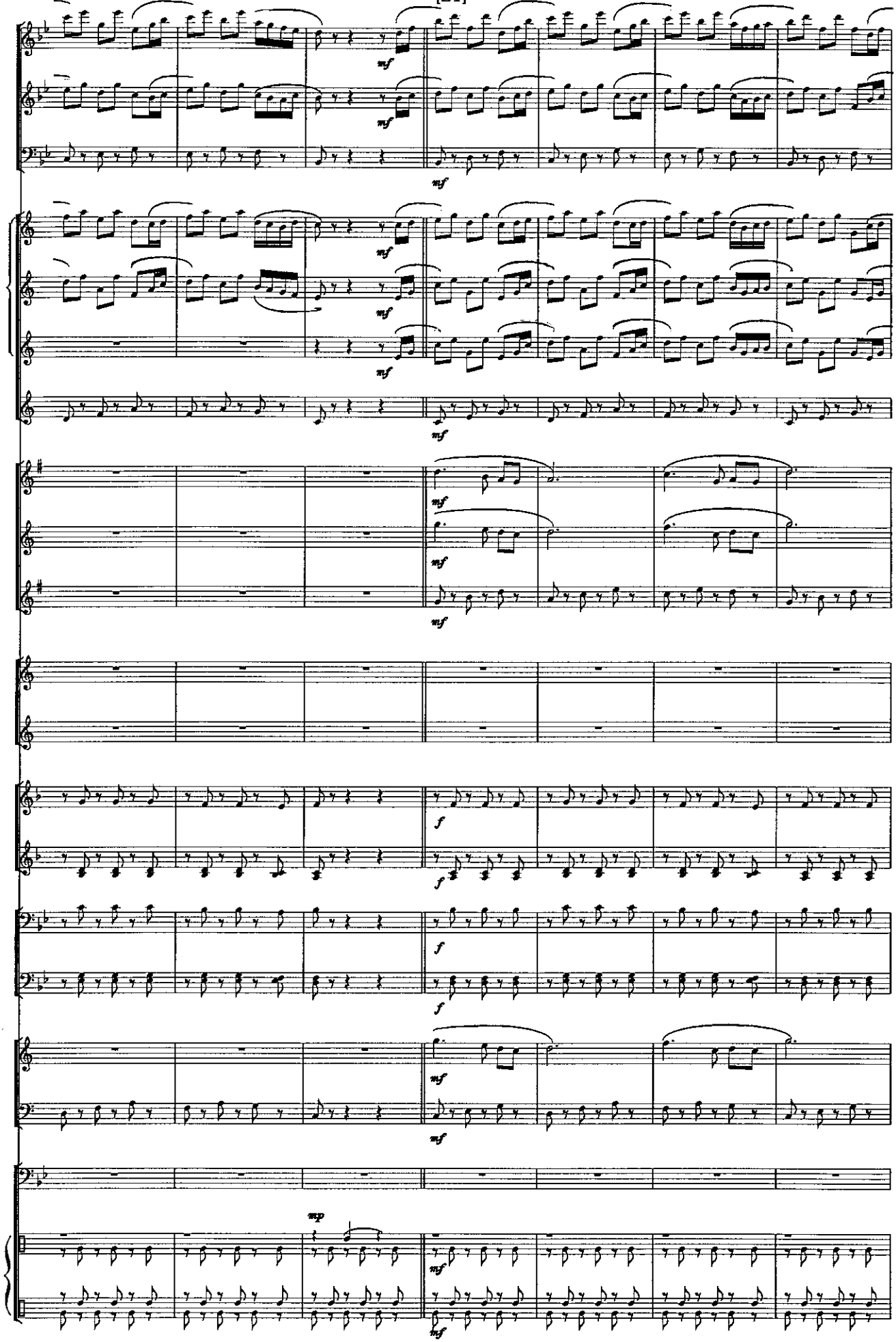

www.hafabramusic.com

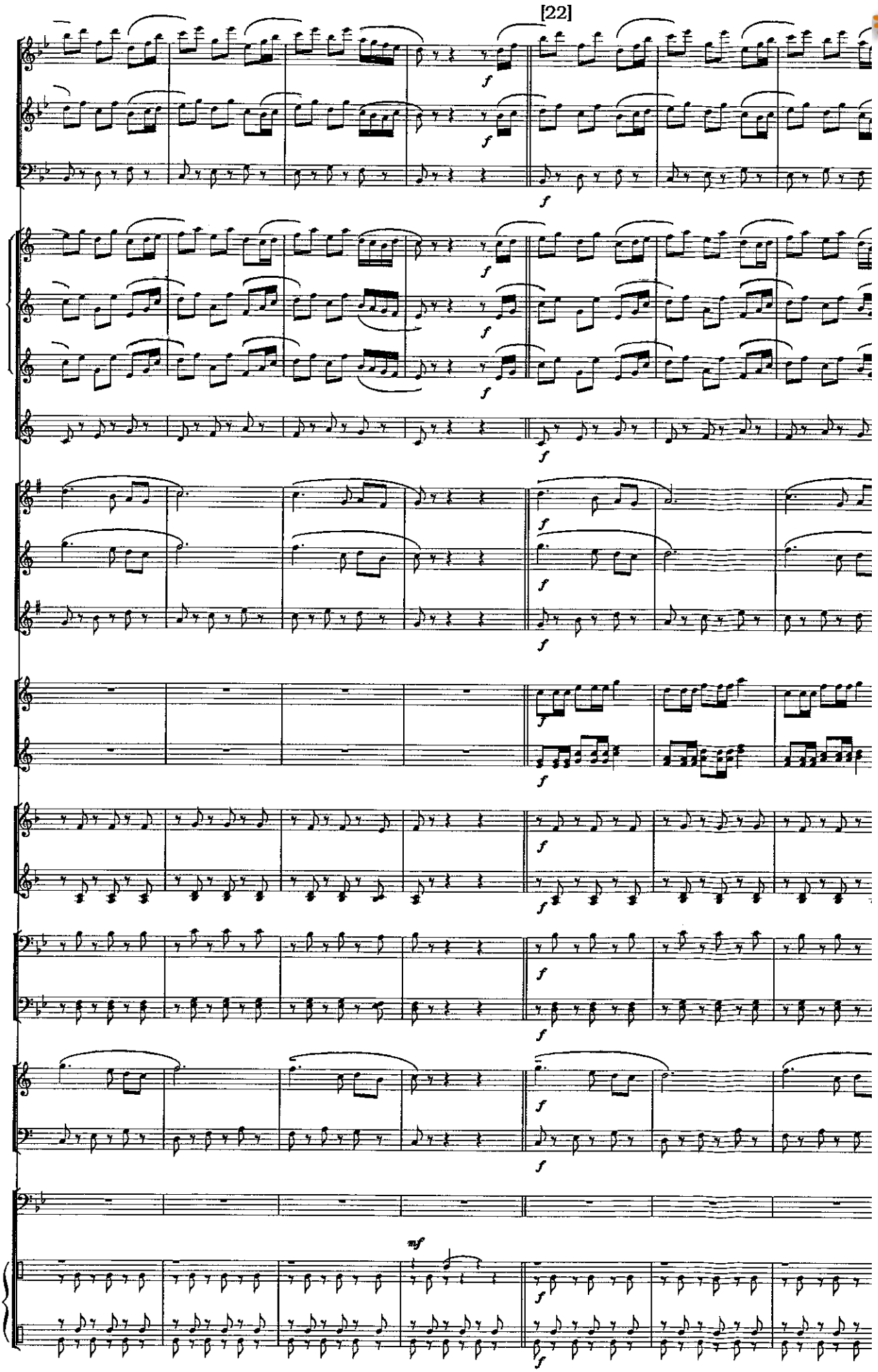

p
p
p



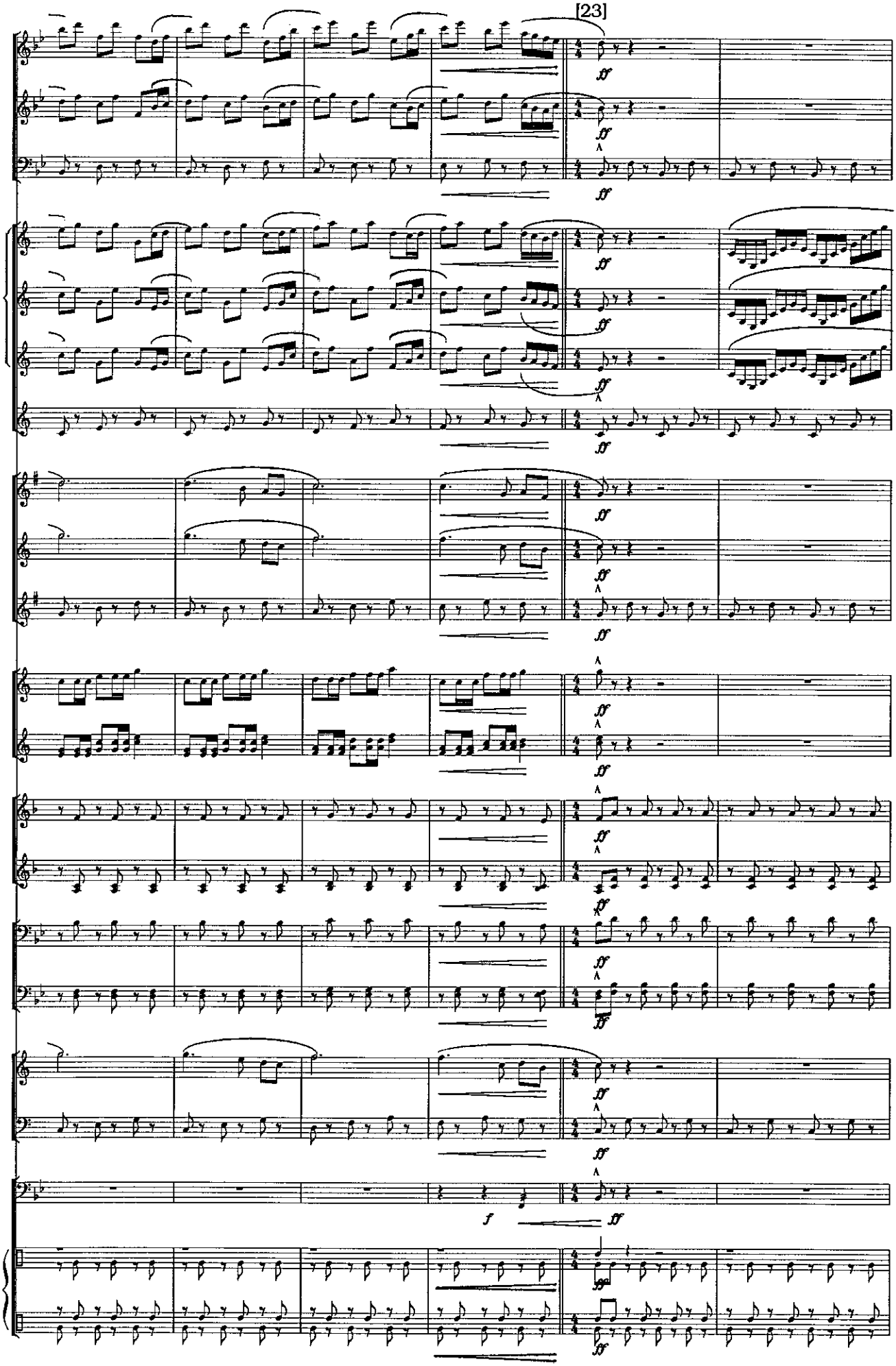

www.hafabramusic.com

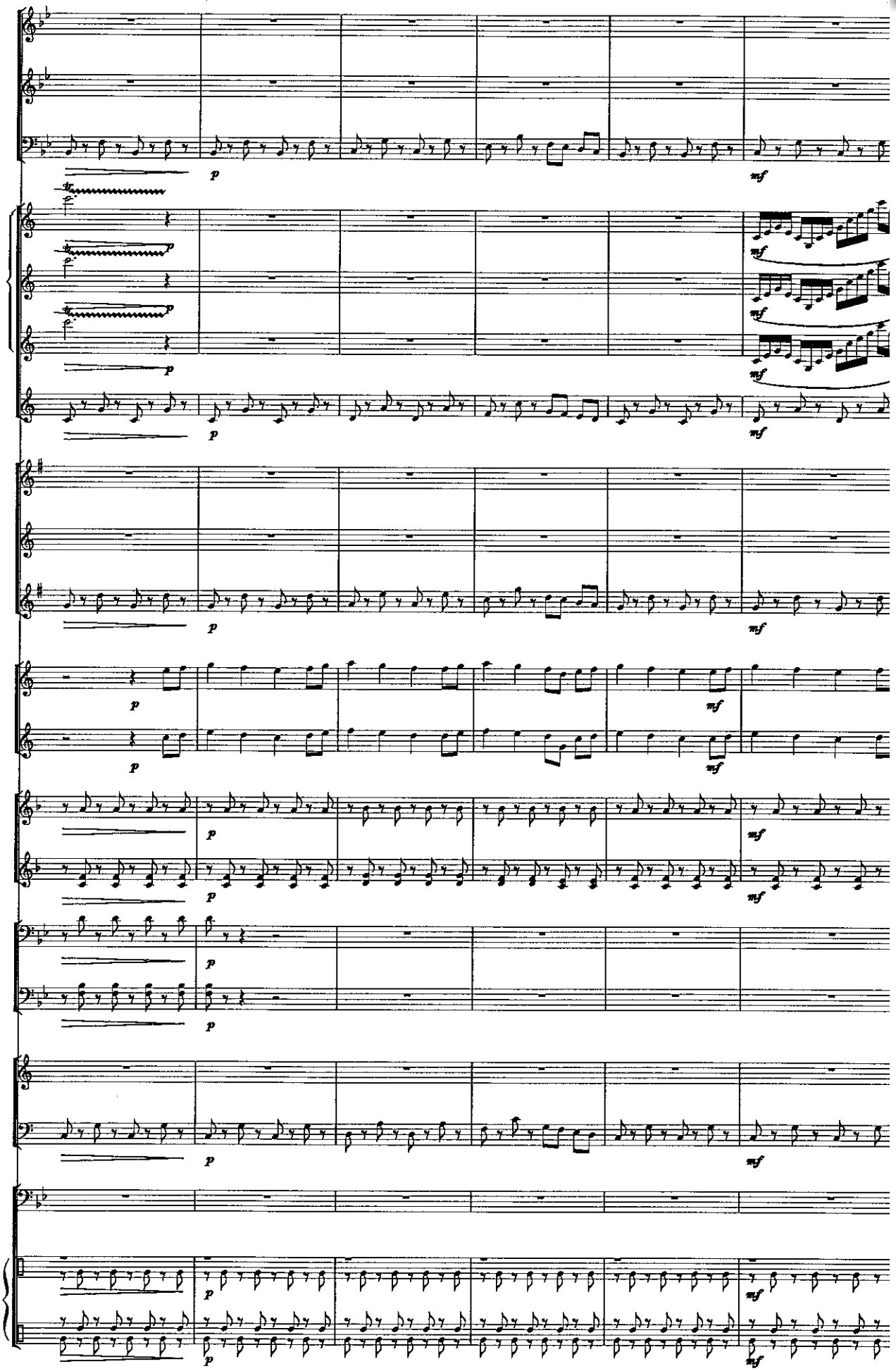
[21]



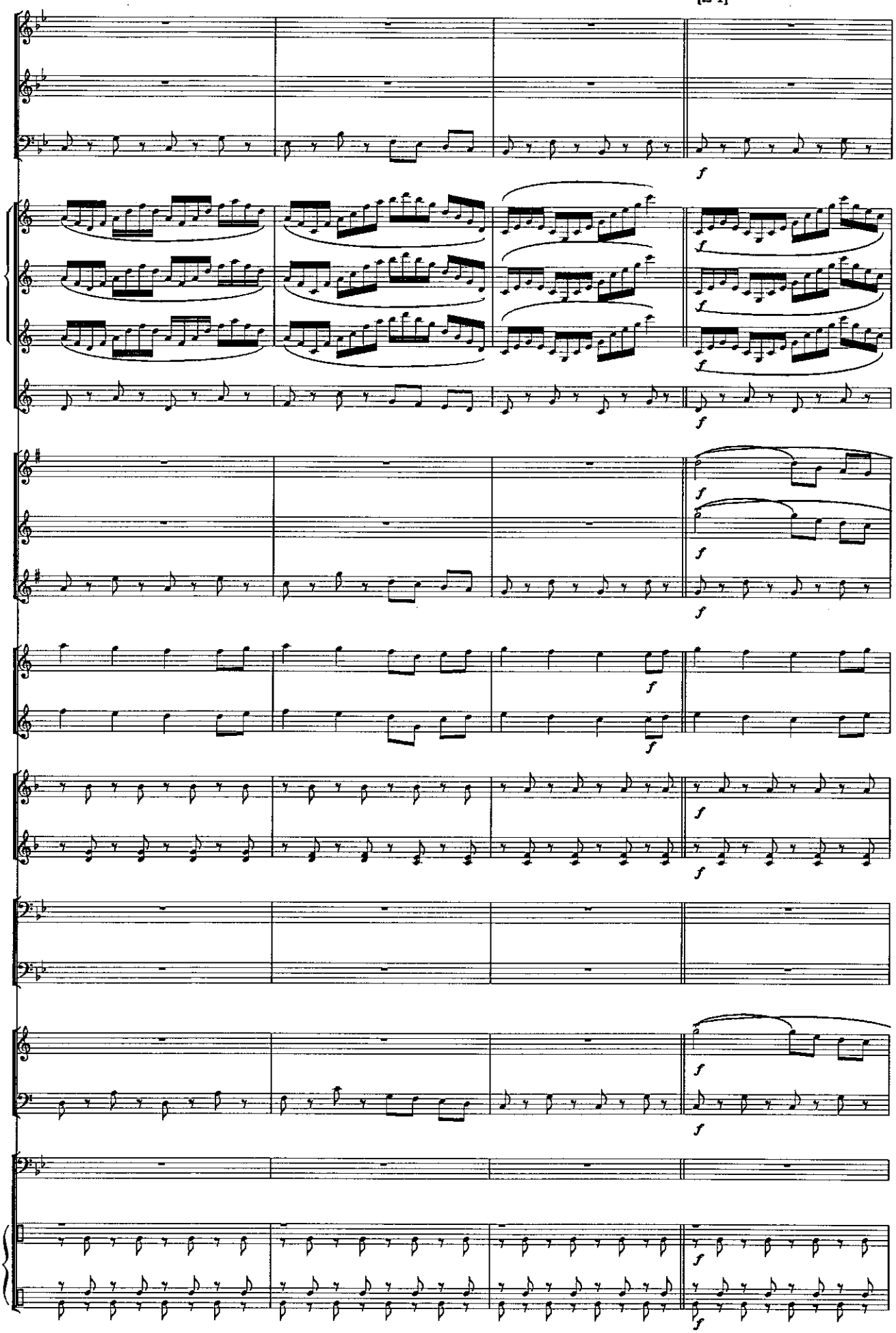


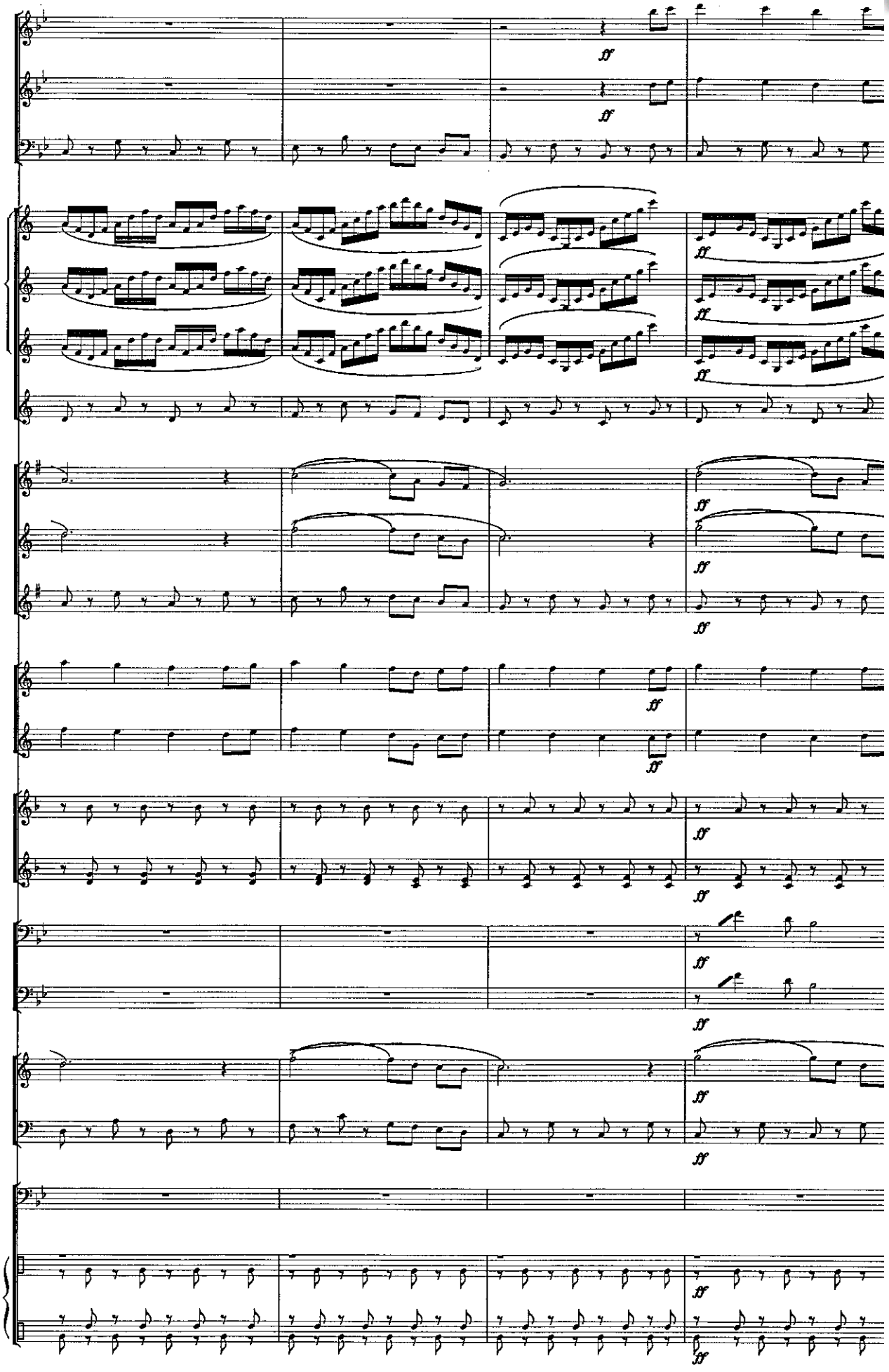

www.hafabramusic.com


[23]

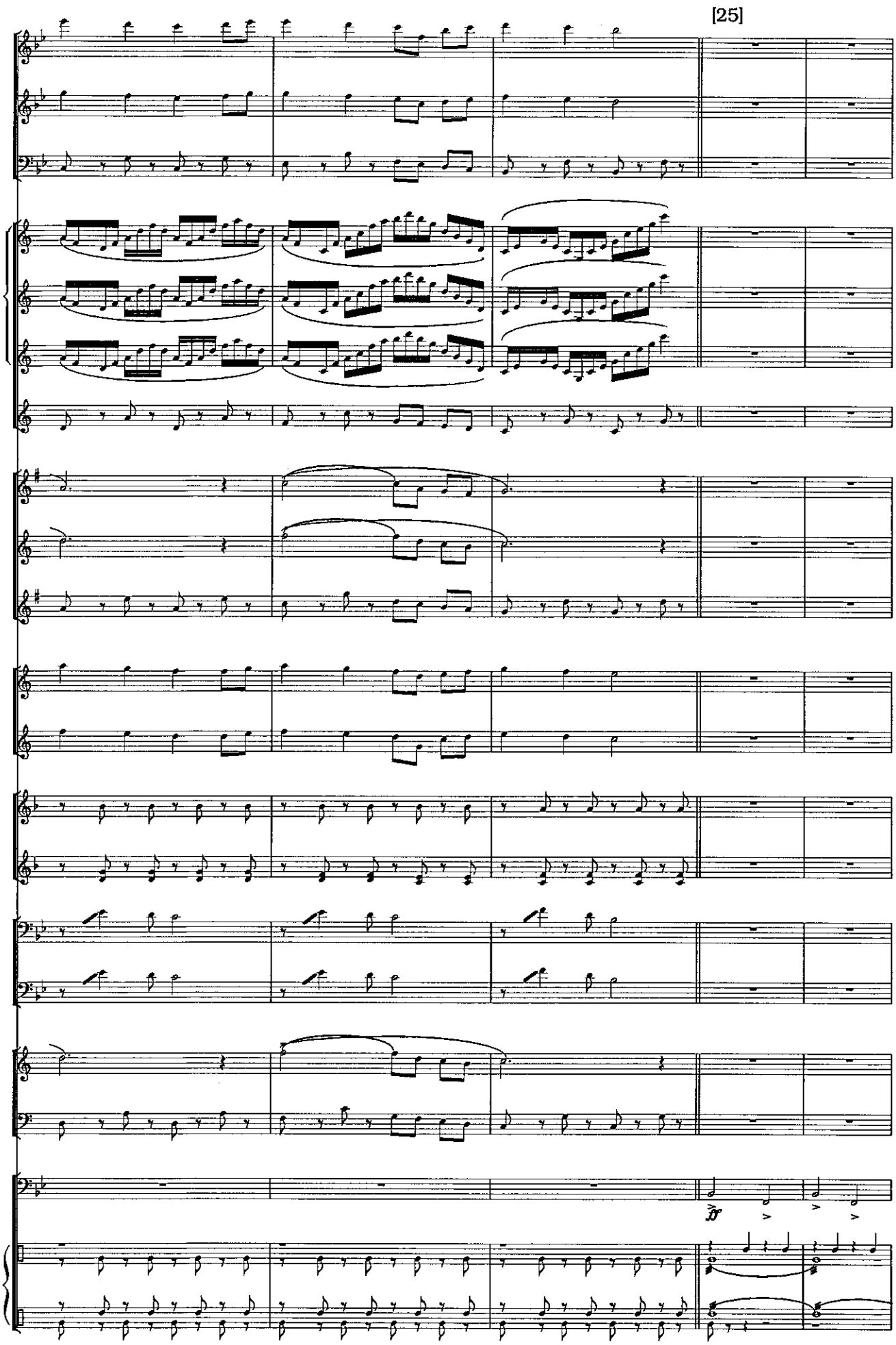


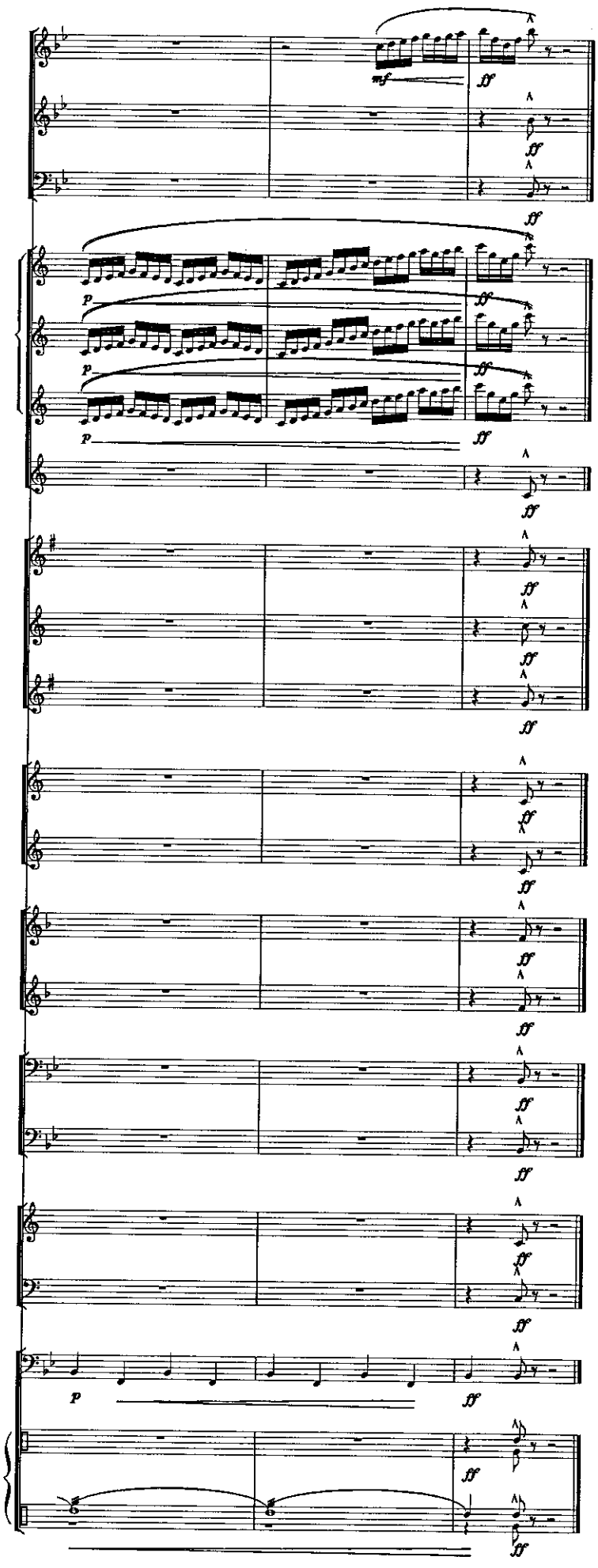
www.hafabramusic.com


[24]




www.hafabramusic.com


[25]
ff




www.hafabramusic.com