The Camilla Polka

by Francisca Gonzaga

arranged for

Trombone Quartet

by Joanna Ross Hersey

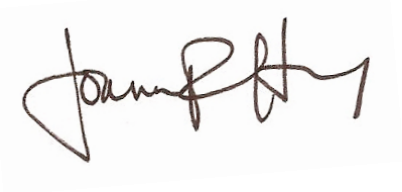
Program Notes

The Camilla Polka — Francisca Gonzaga (1847-1935) arr. Hersey

Composer Francisca, known as Chiquinha, Gonzaga is a wonderful mentor for combining a career in music with activism and strength of purpose. Born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1847, and trained in the musical arts as a young girl, Francisca began composing at the age of eleven. Her mother, Maria Rose de Lima, was of African descent, and together with father José, a military officer, encouraged her musical training. She would write more than two thousand works over her lifetime, including many in the 'choro' genre, a new style emerging in Brazil at that time, which was a merging of African and Portuguese styles. In addition to her performance and composing, she was active in the abolitionist movement, donating sales from her music to the cause of freedom. She also wrote many plays, and was active as a conductor and educator. Her work *Camilla, Polka para Piano*, composed in 1879 when she was 32 years old, was from a collection of dance works for solo piano published in Rio de Janeiro. I chose this work to arrange for low brass because I loved how the melody is often directed to the lower register as the phrases develop, and how the jaunty polka rhythms combine with more complex areas of technique.

This work is dedicated to my dear friends of the Euphonium and Tuba Association of Brazil, leaders of collaborating to bring the love of low brass music to all.

My special thanks to the MULHERES NA MÚSICA: Iris Viera, Andressa Luz, Natália Porto Coimbra, Tais Do Nascimento Silva, Jamie Lipton, and Del Santos for collaboration across the miles.



Trombone Quartet

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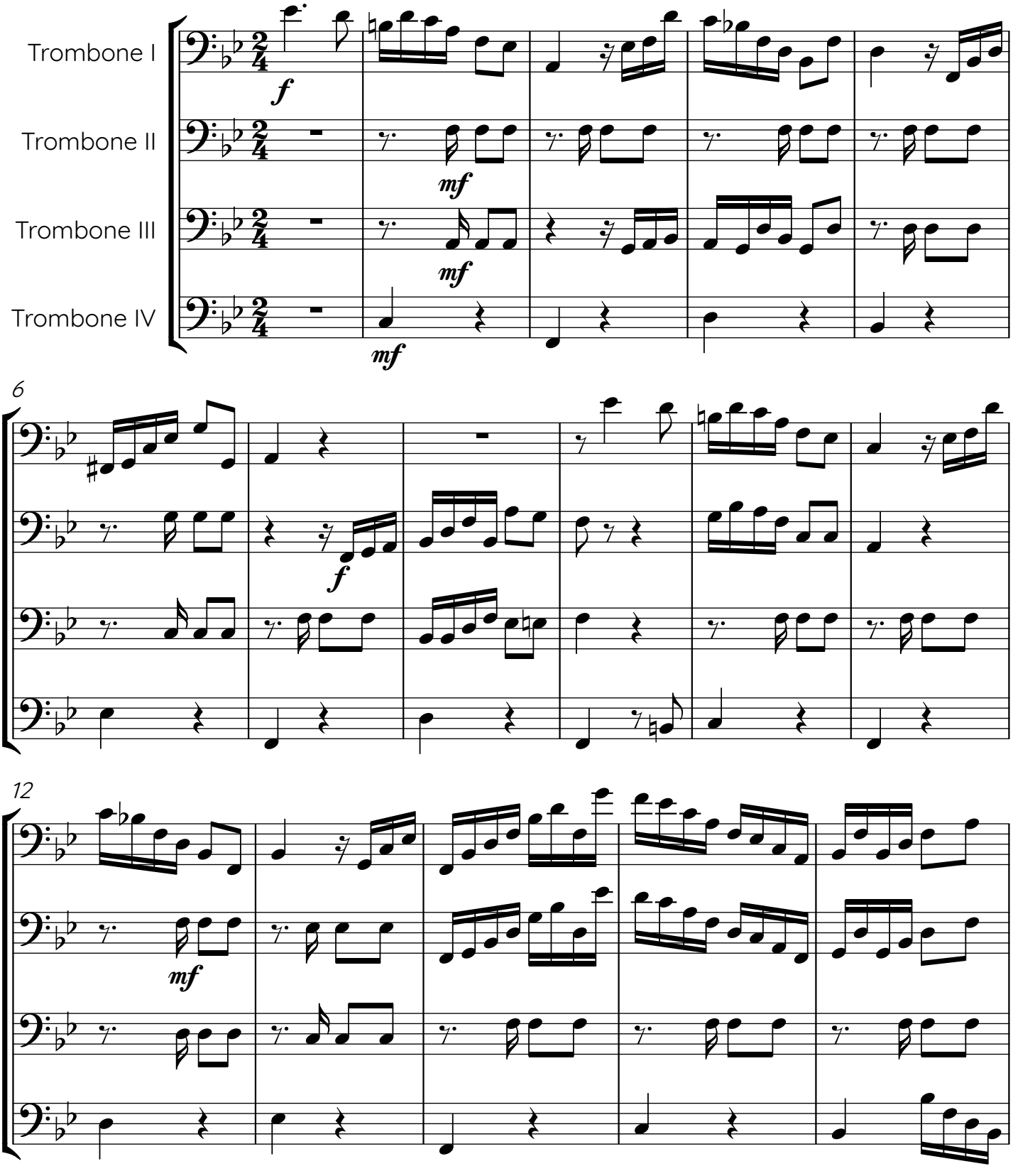
Con grazia ♩ = 88



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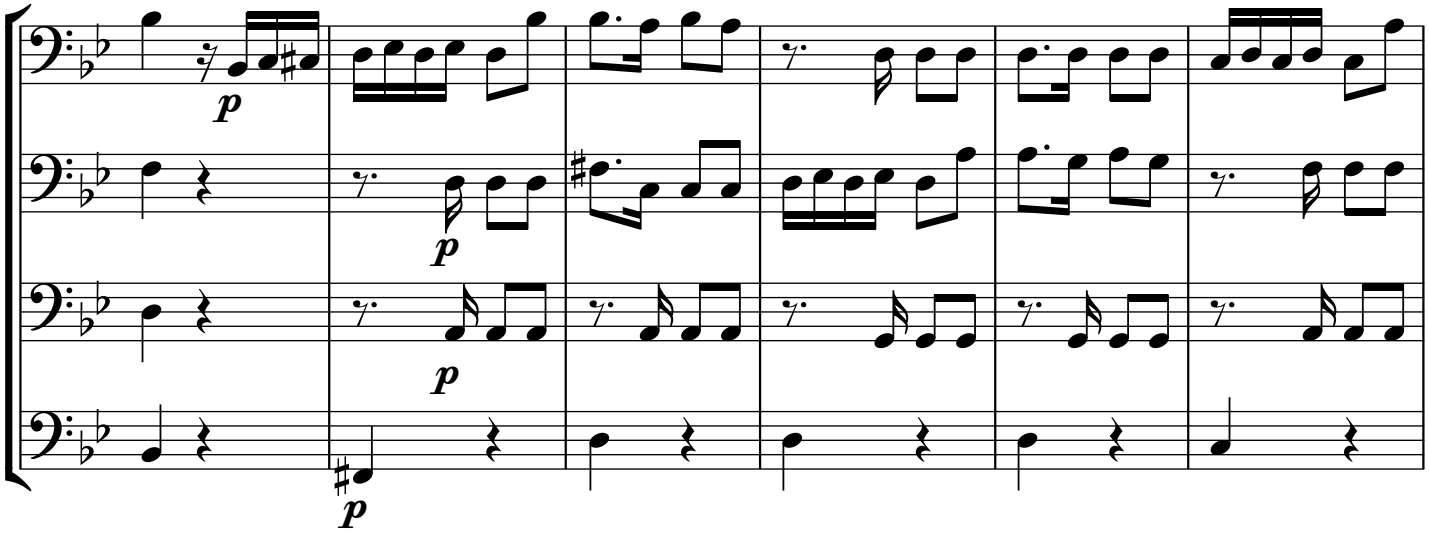

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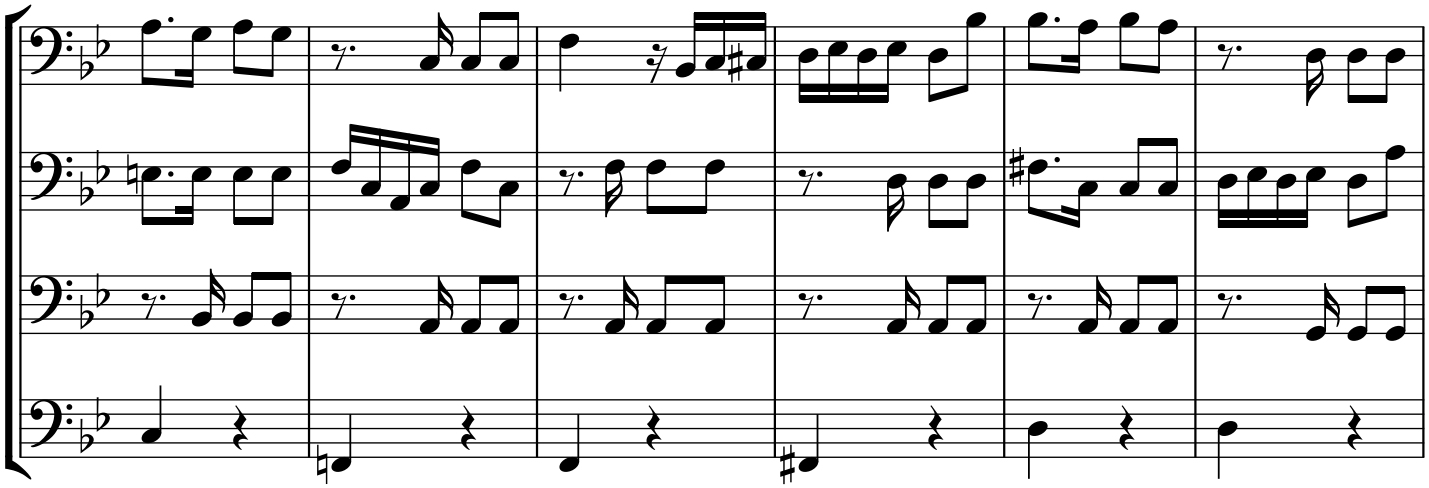

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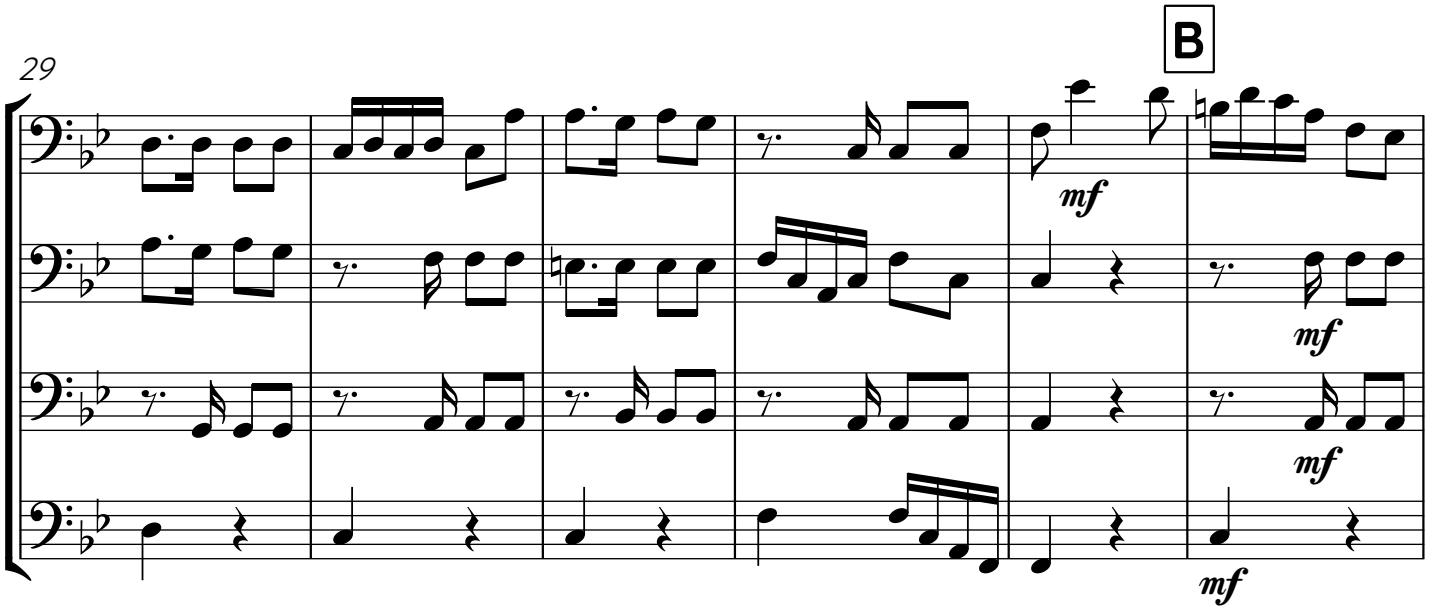

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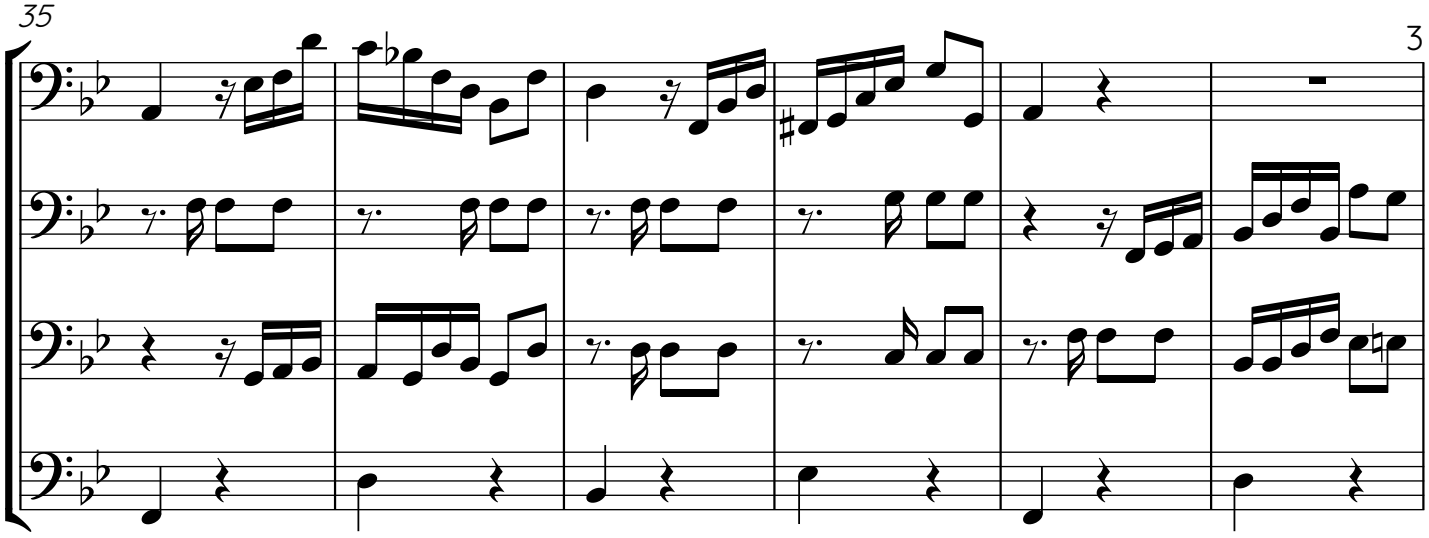

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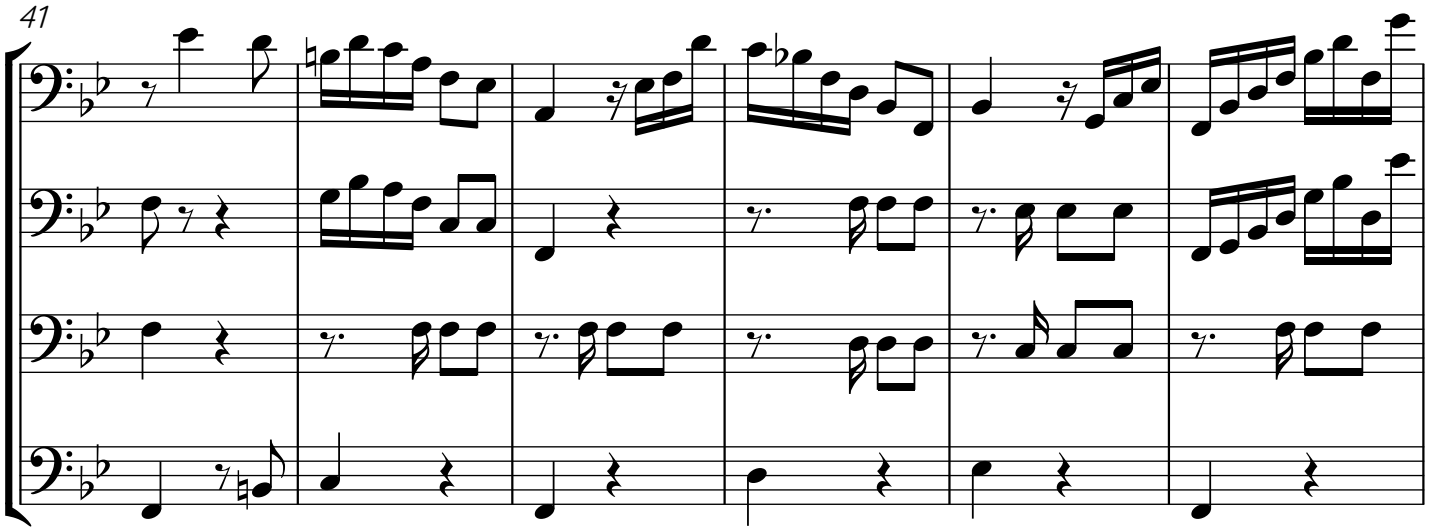

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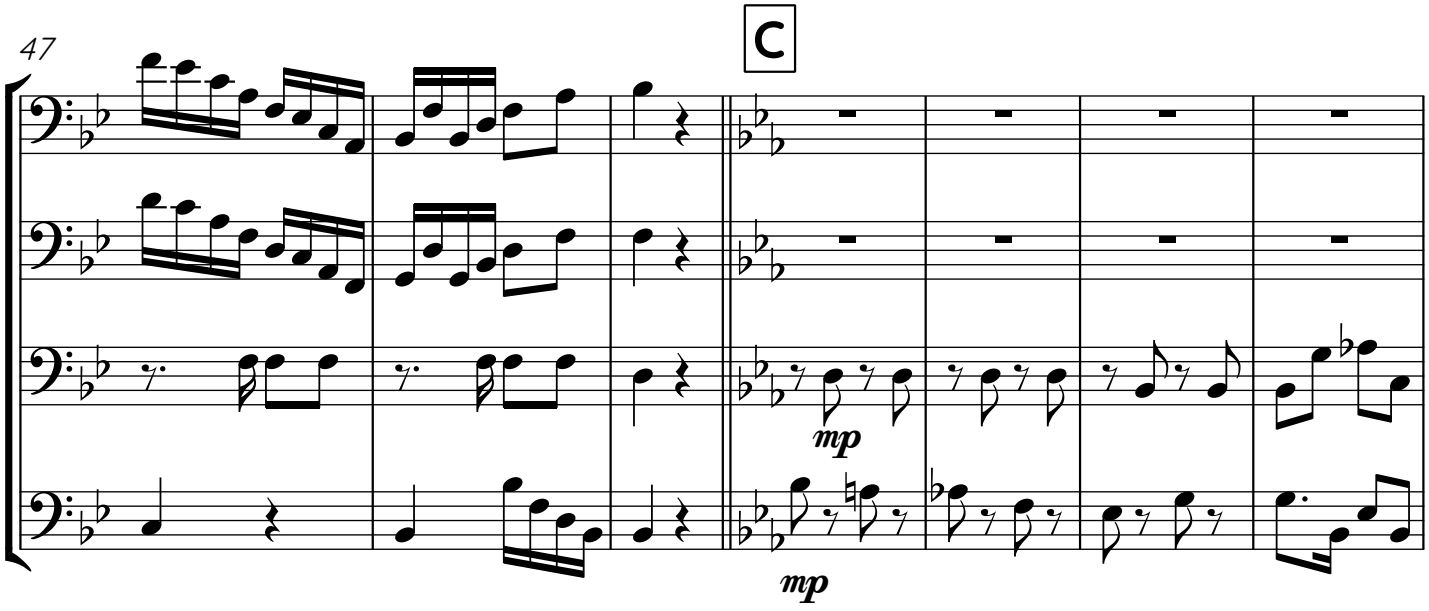

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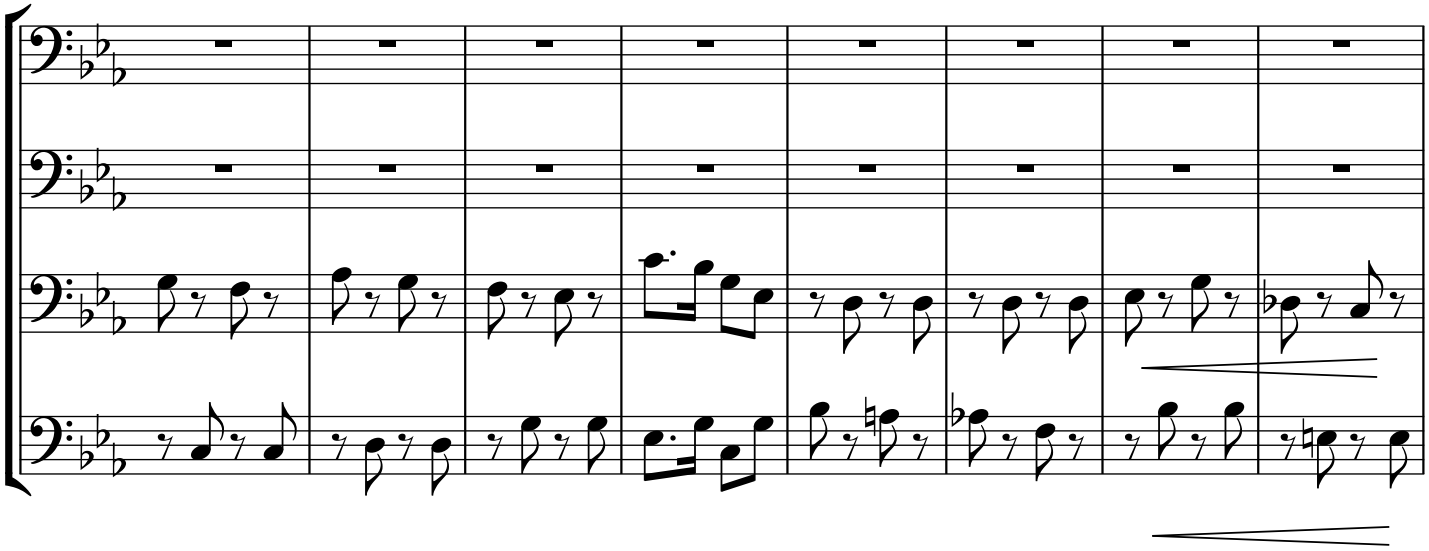

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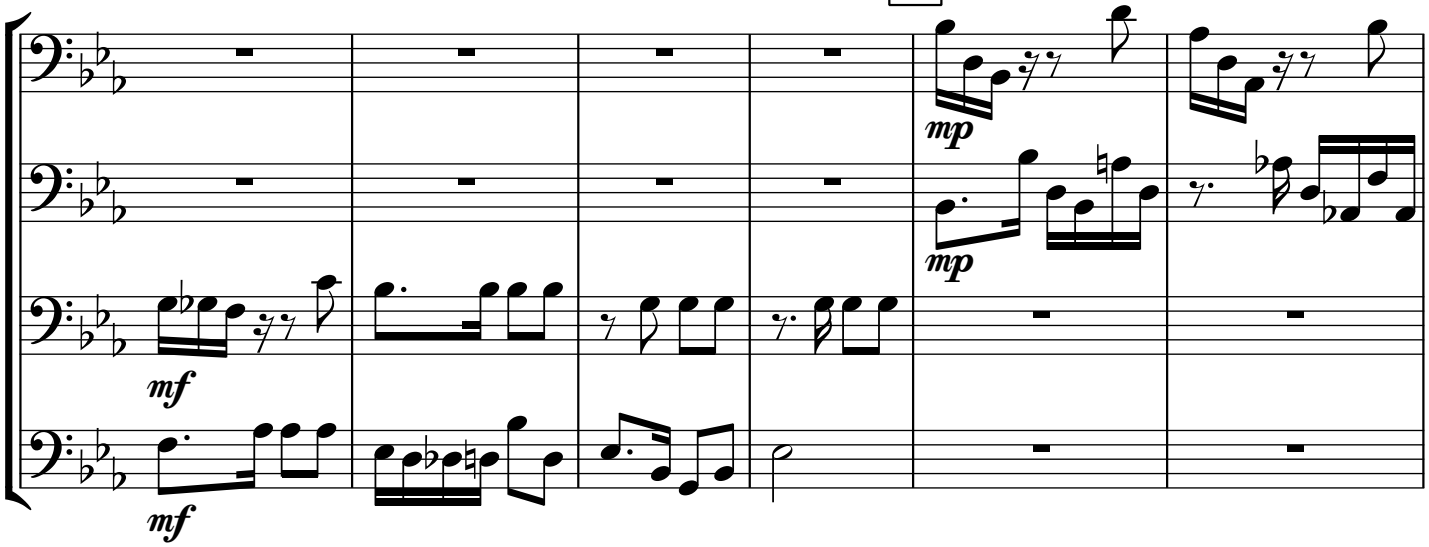

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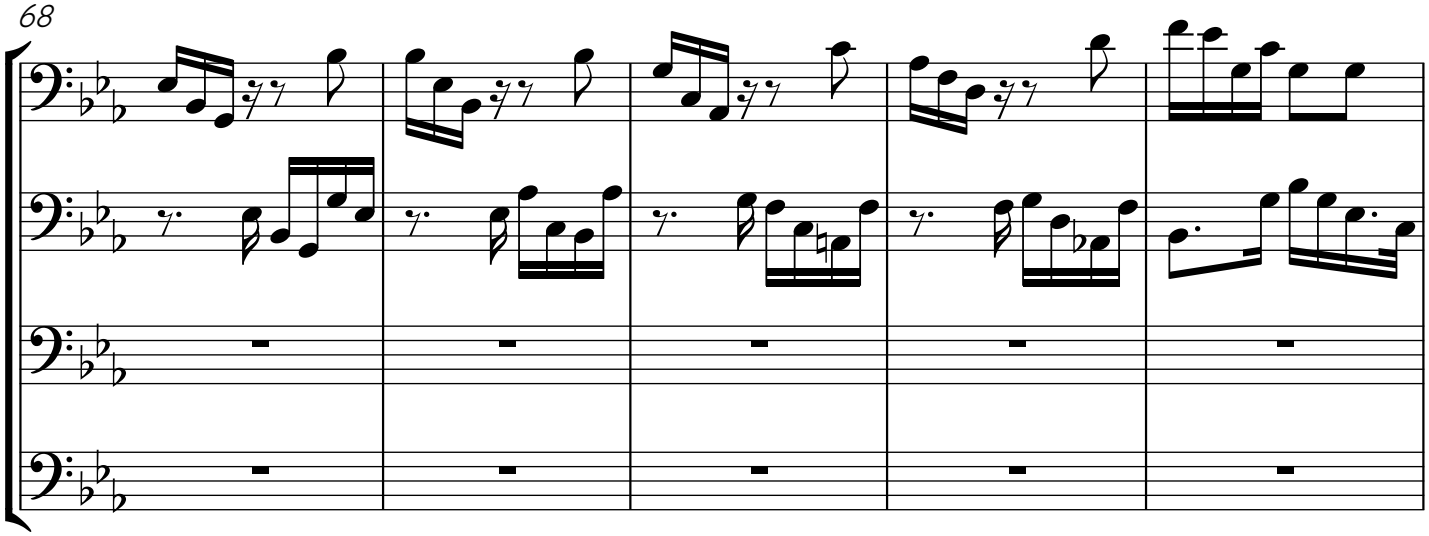

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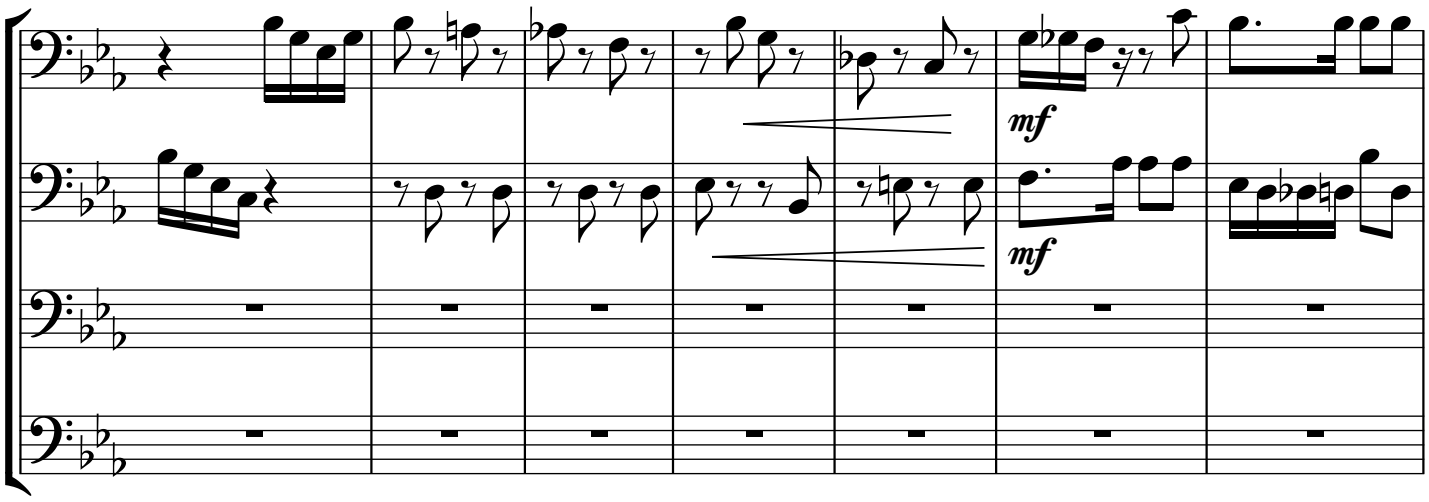

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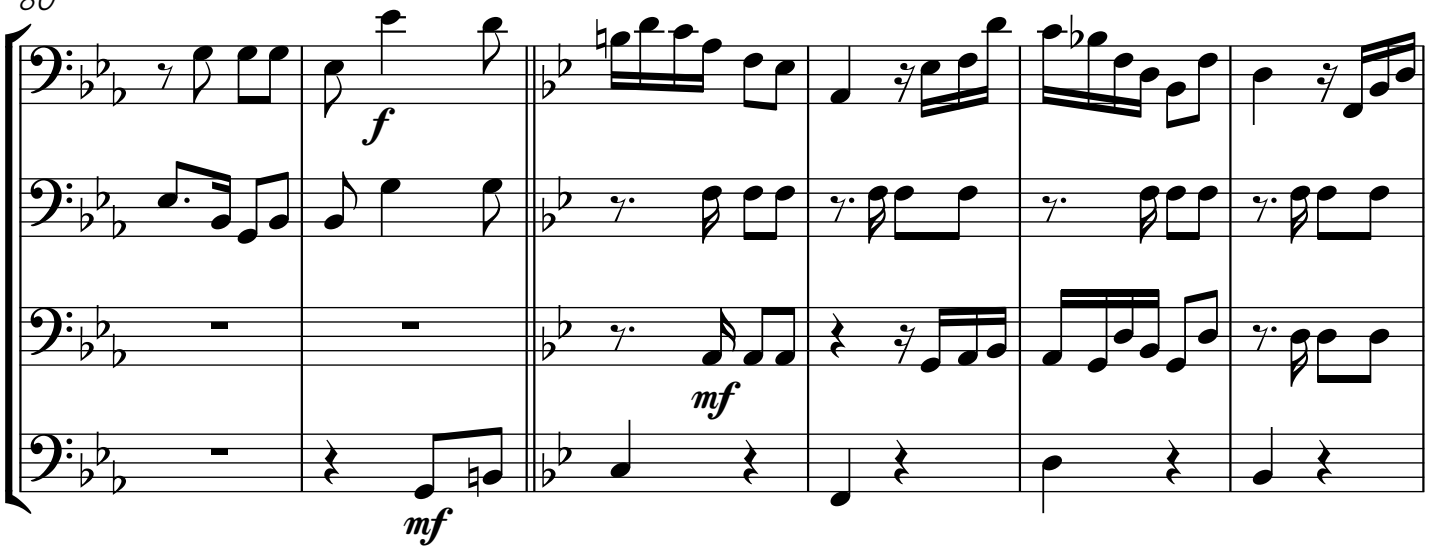

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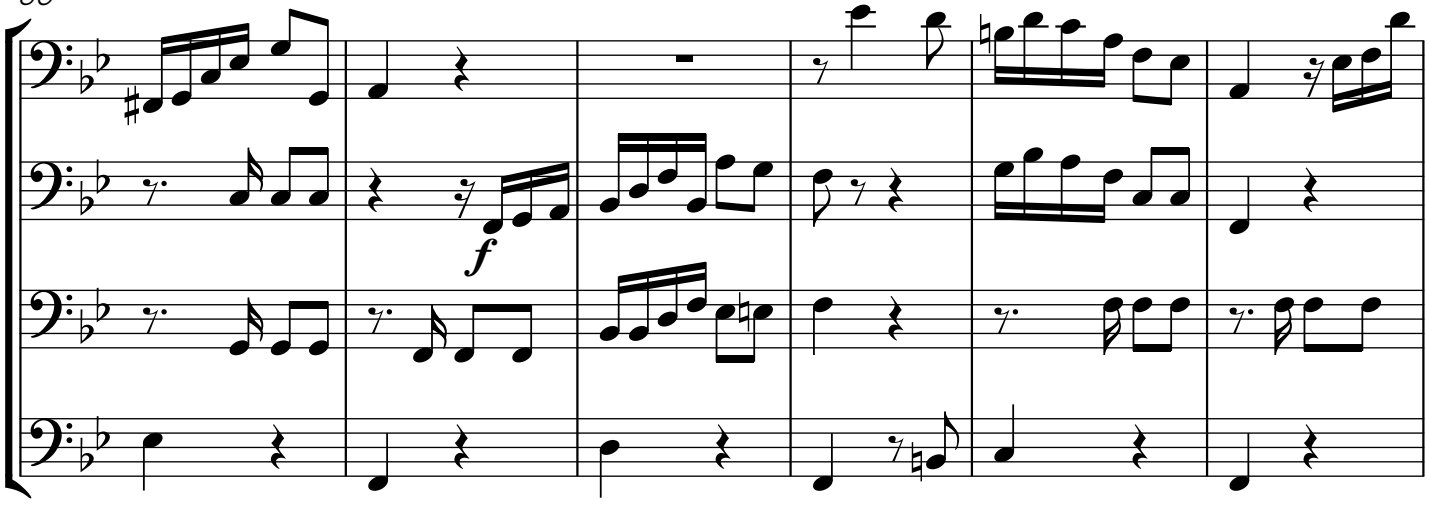

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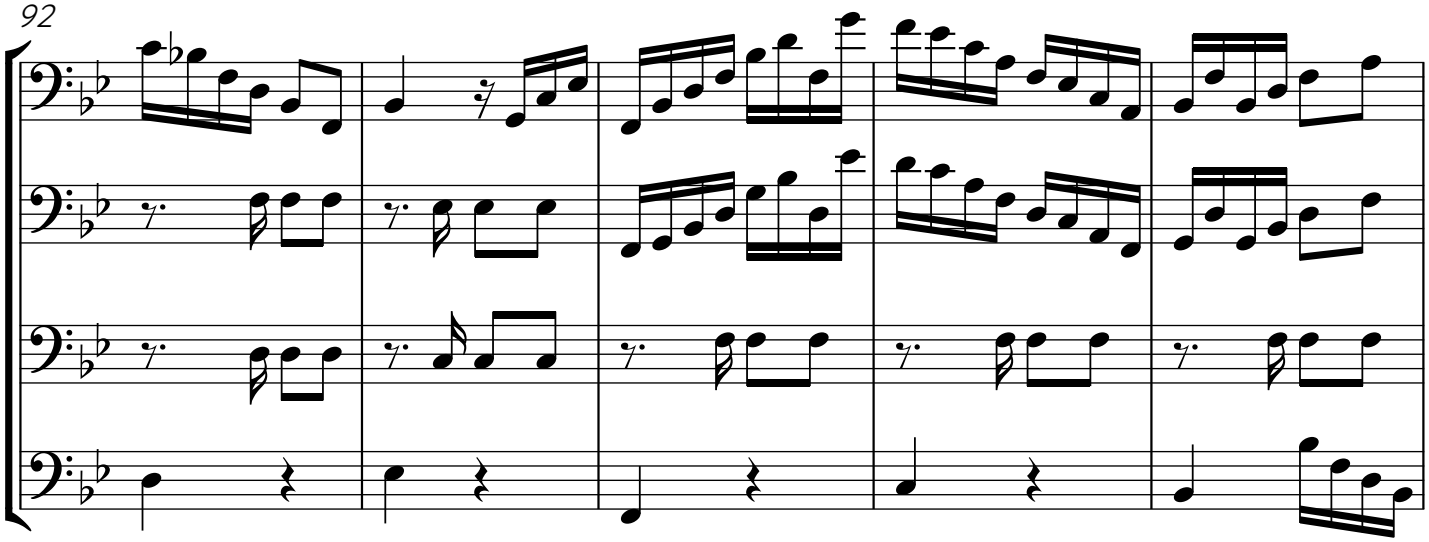

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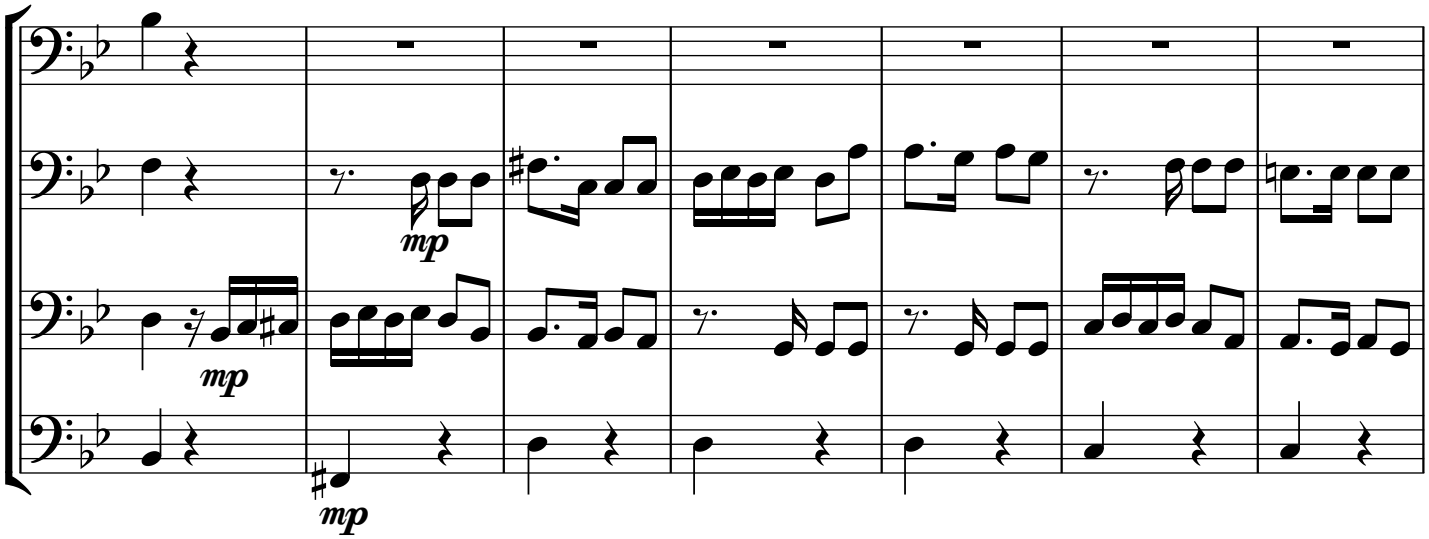

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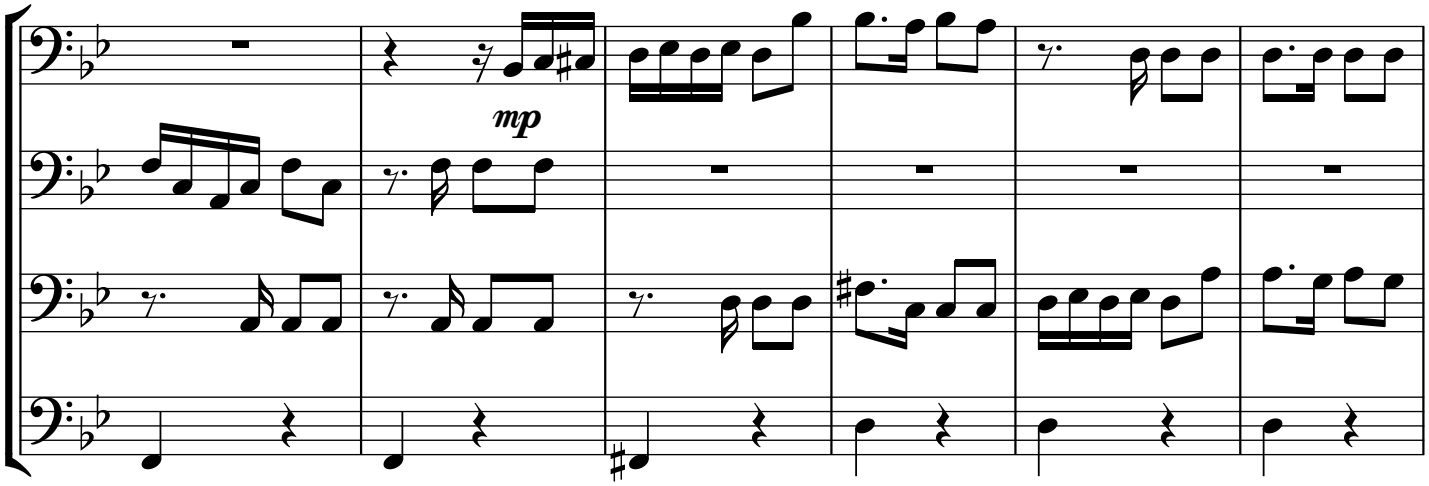

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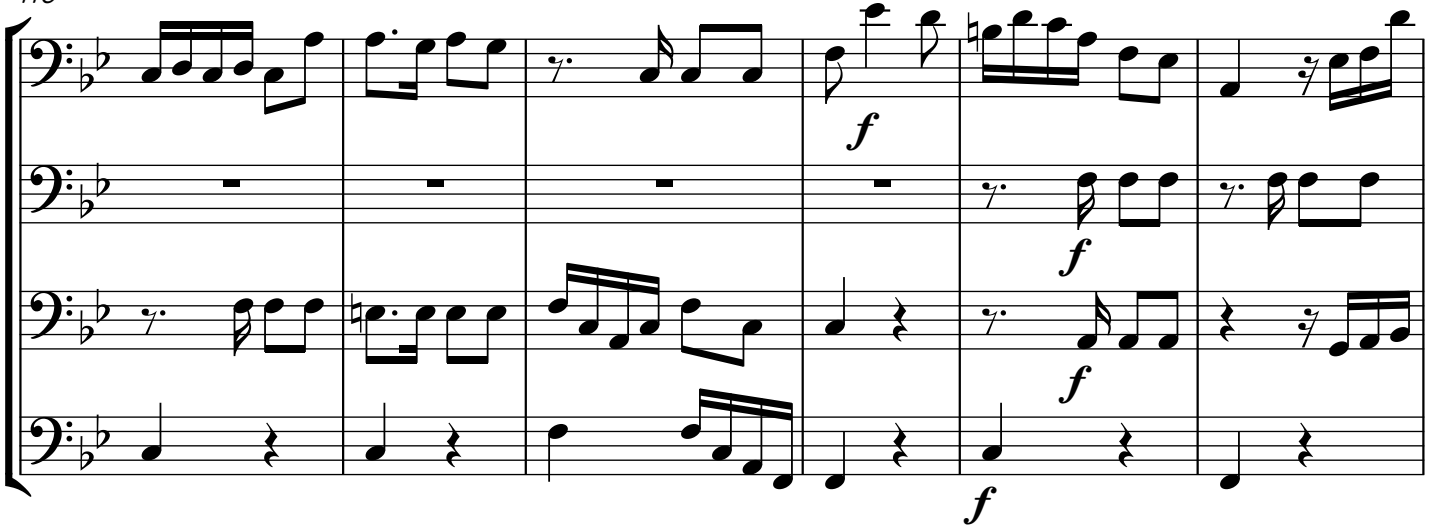

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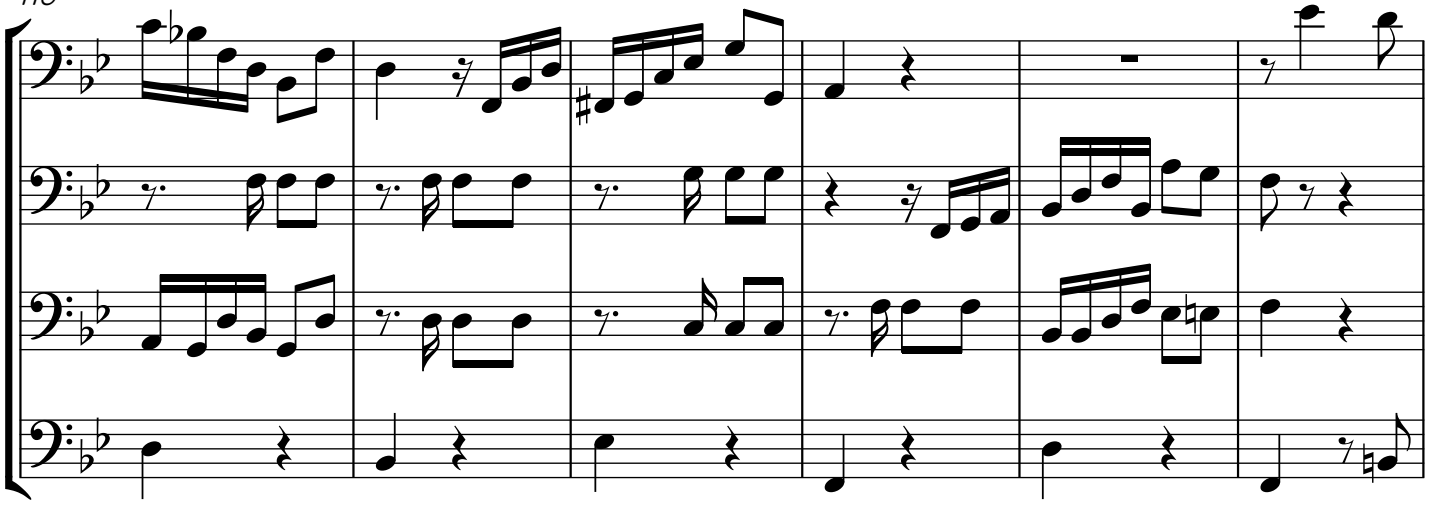

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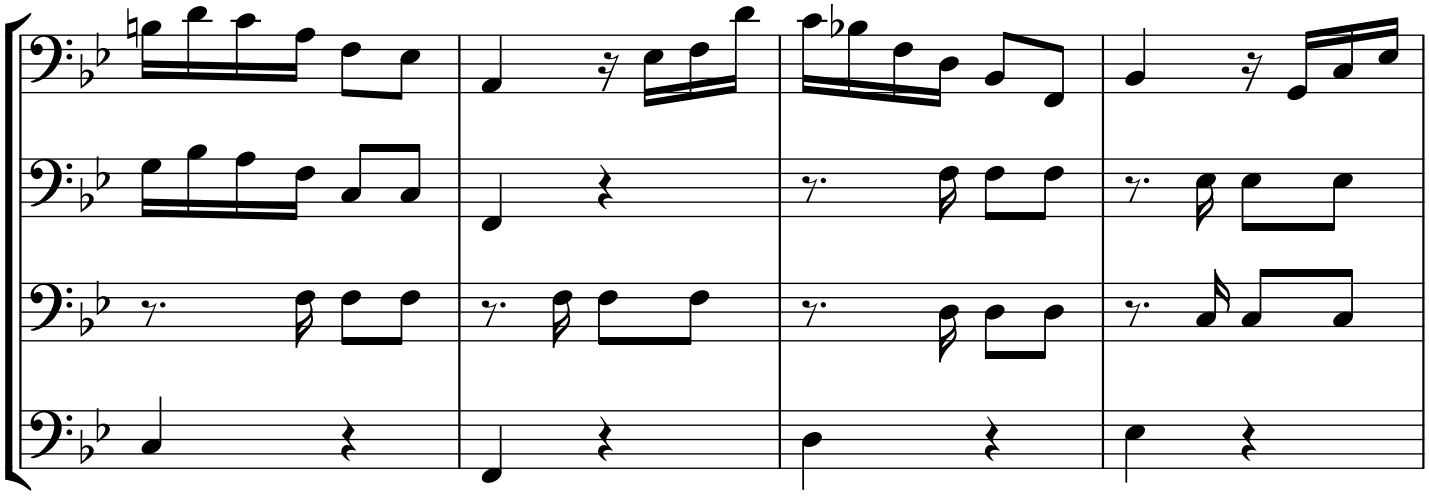

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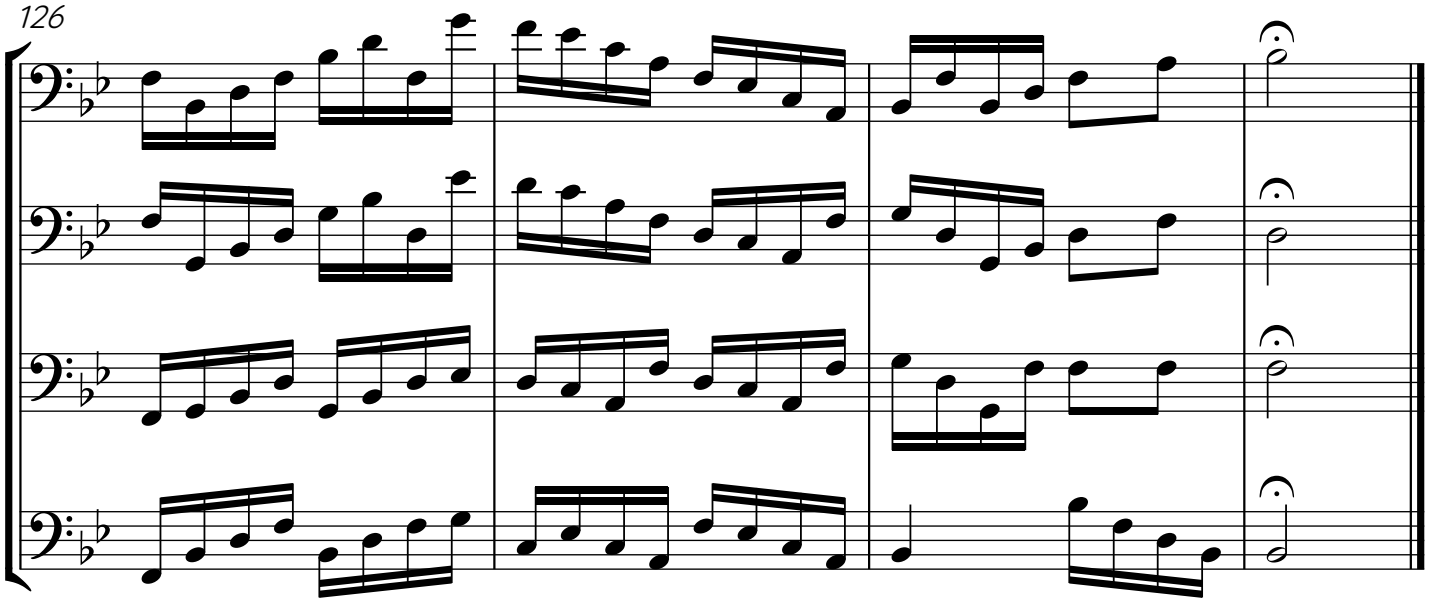
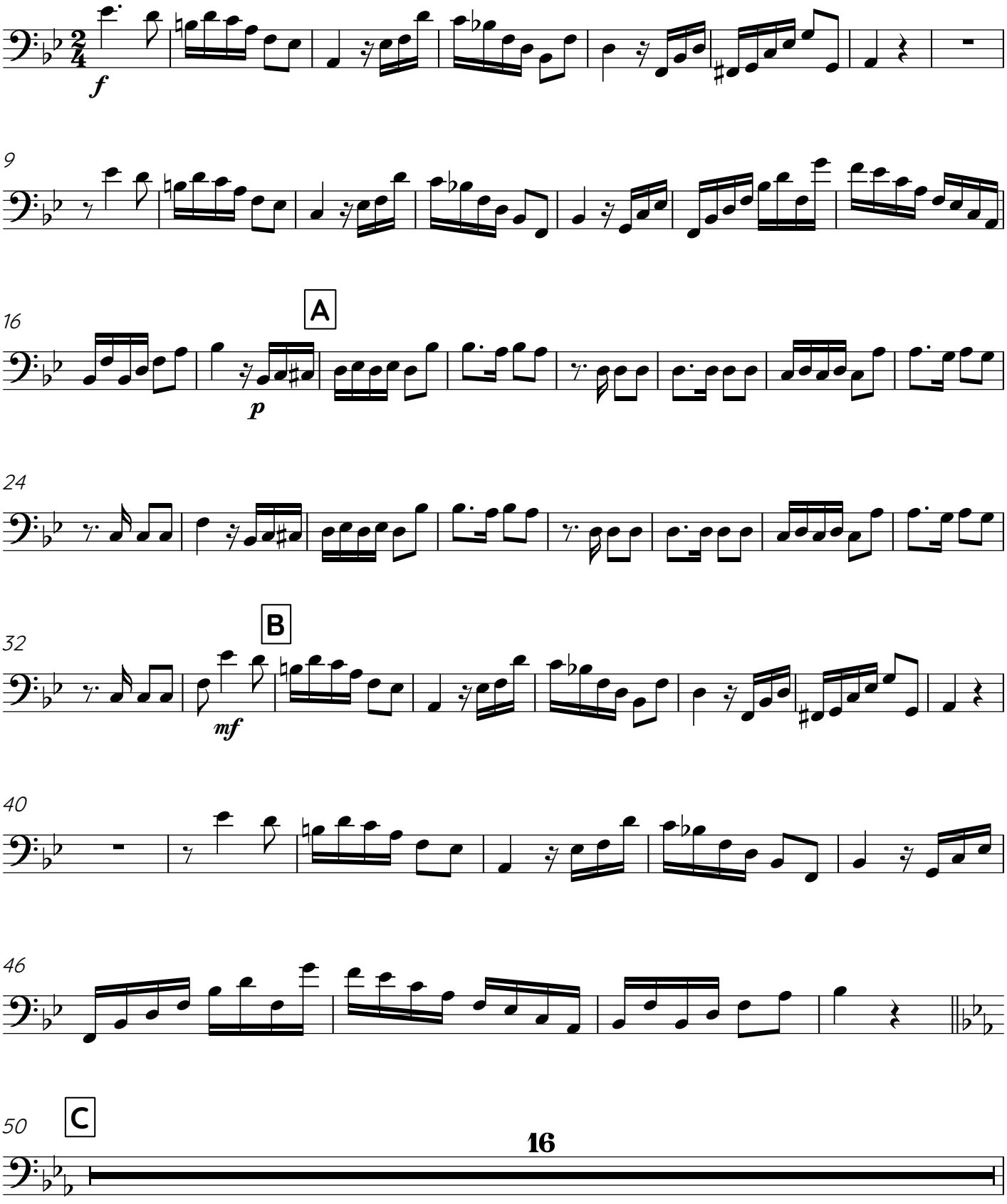


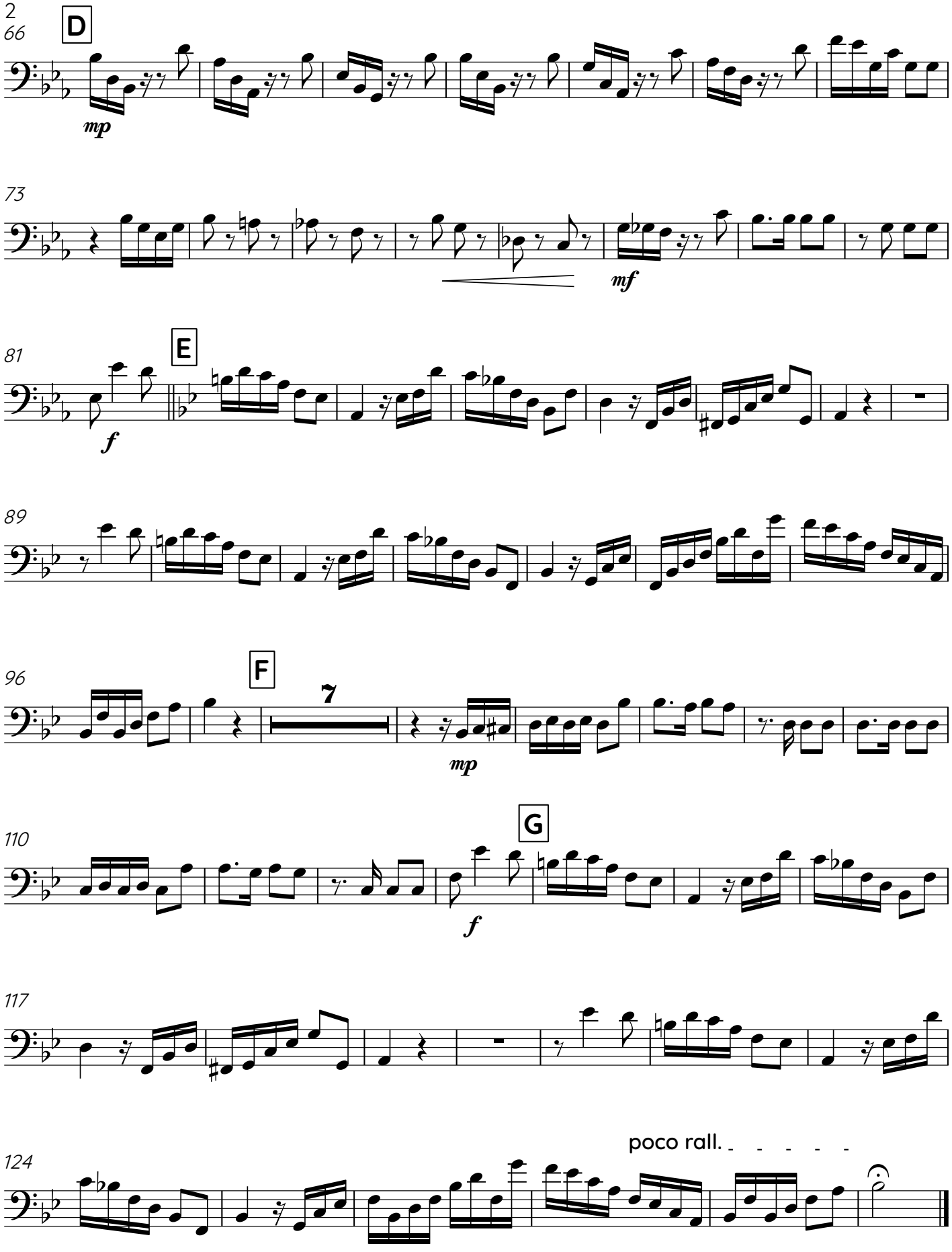
Trombone I

The Camilla Polka

Francisca Gonzaga (1847-1935) arr. Hersey

Con grazia ♩ = 88

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Trombone II

The Camilla Polka

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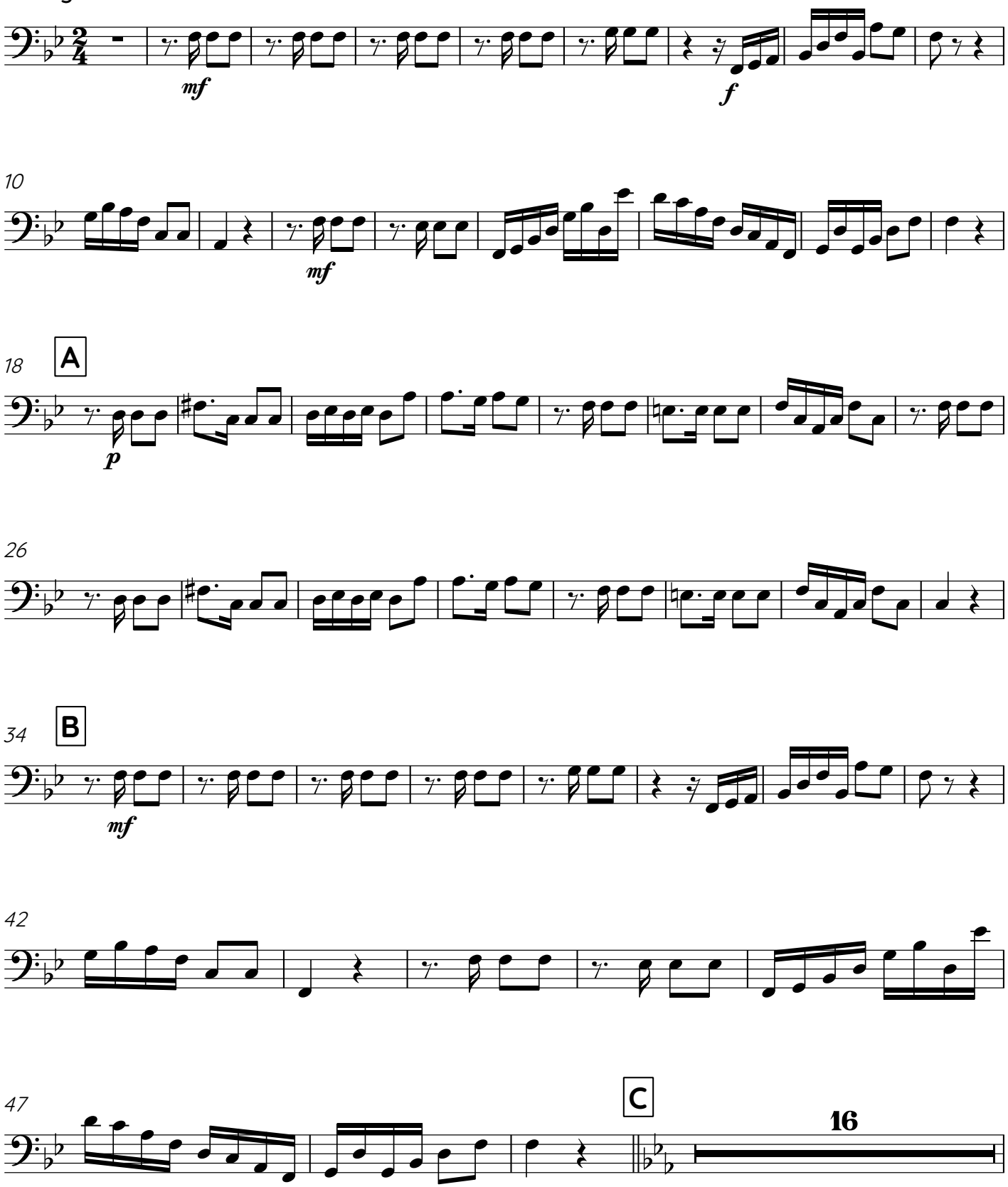
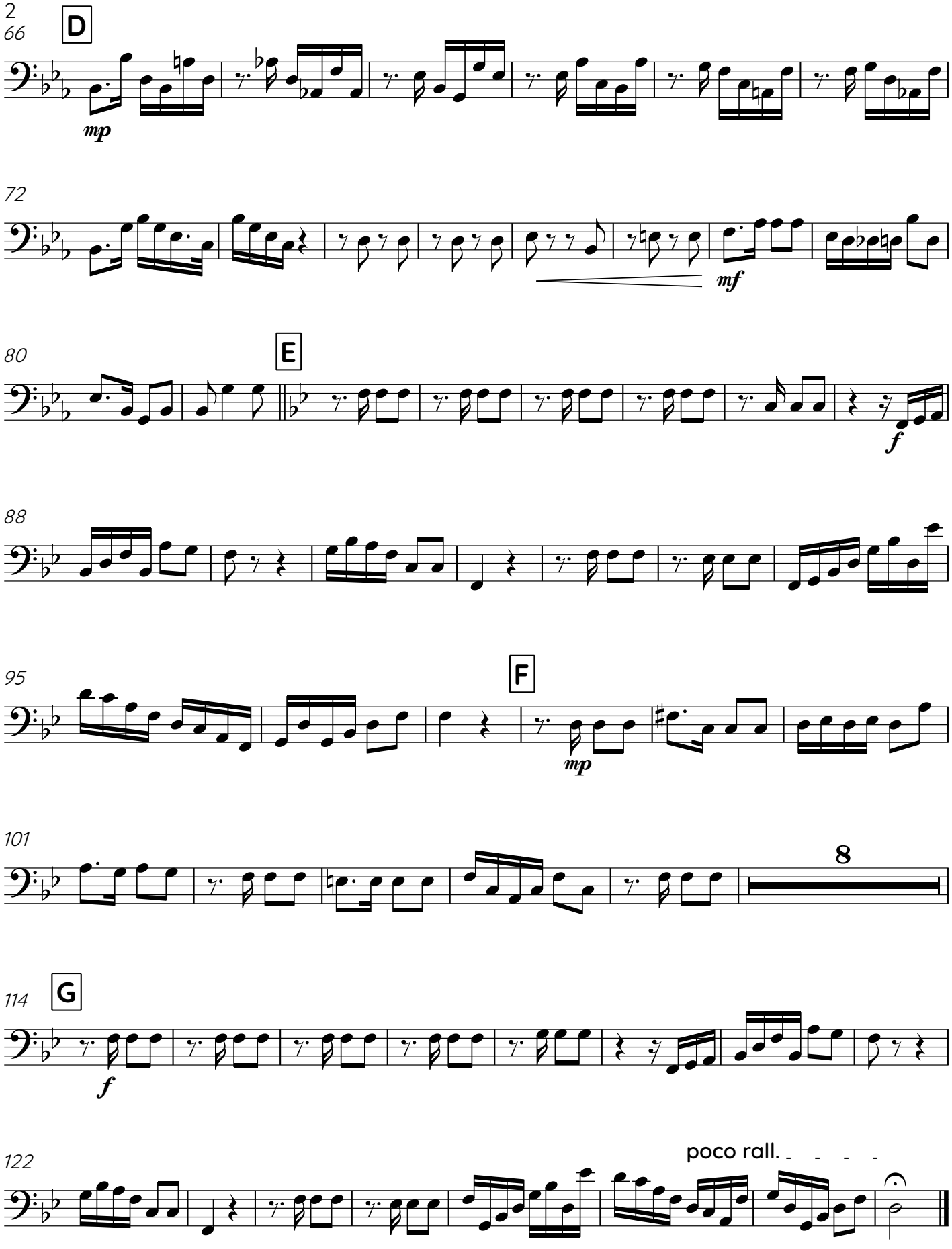
Con grazia ♩ = 88

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Trombone III

The Camilla Polka

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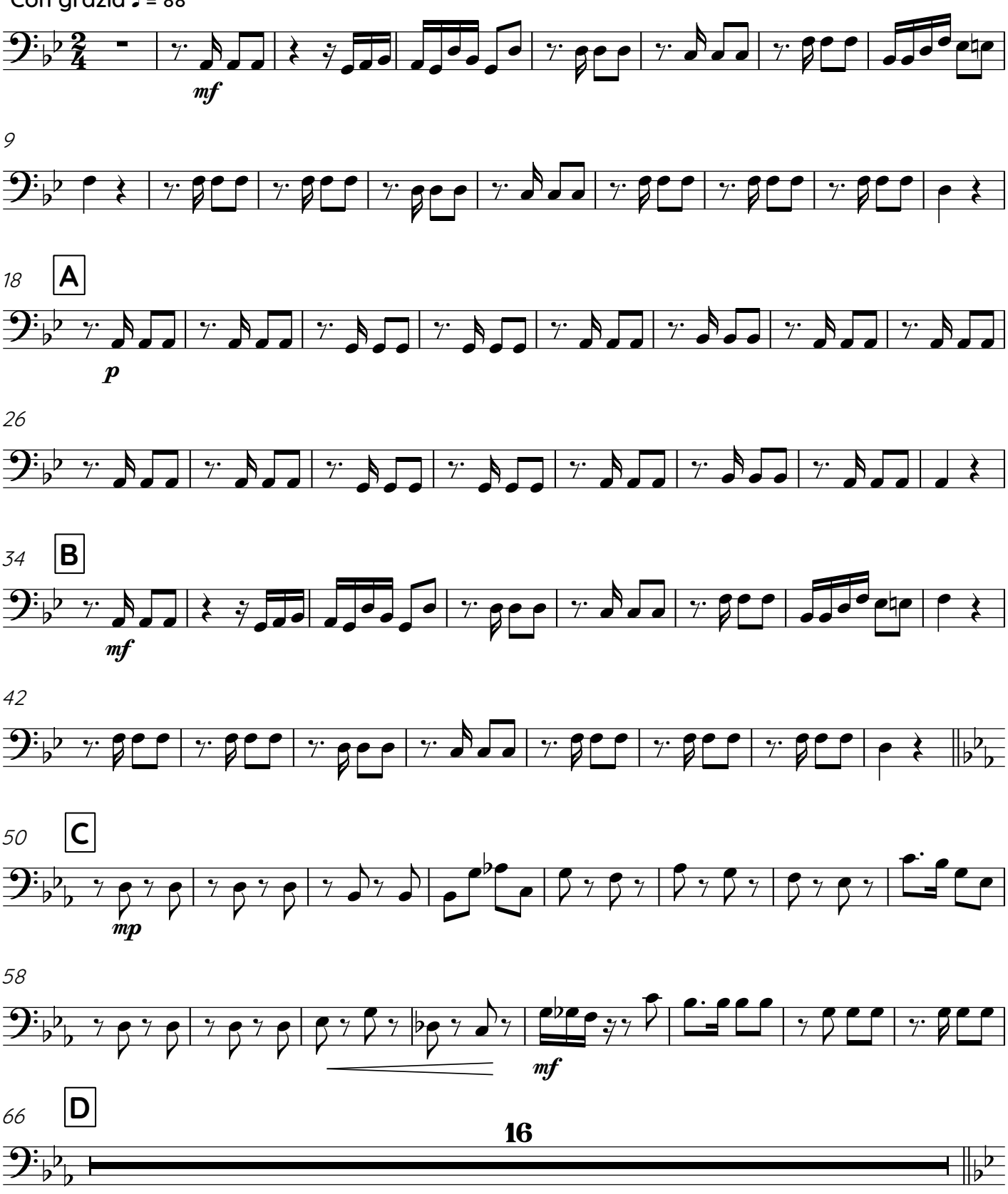
Con grazia ♩ = 88



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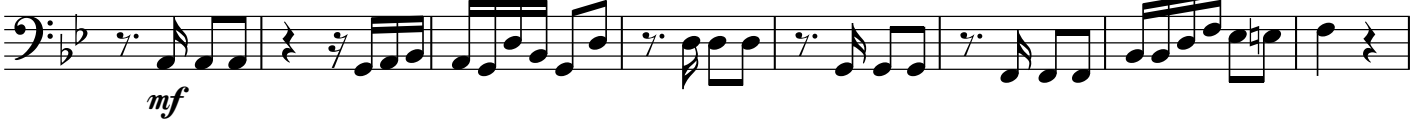

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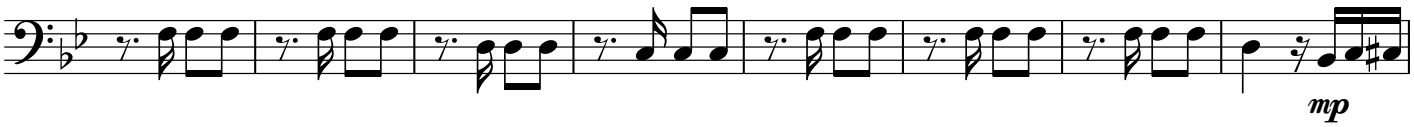

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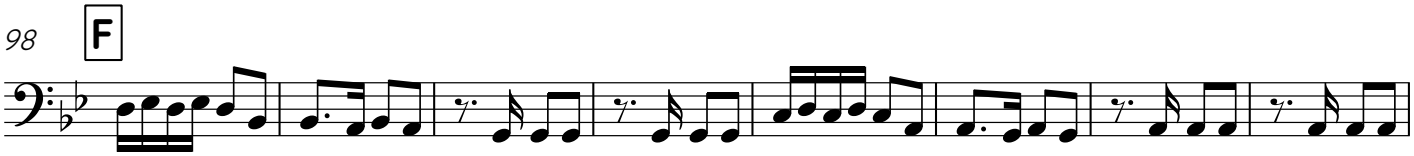

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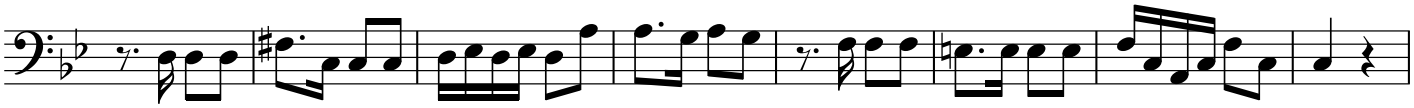

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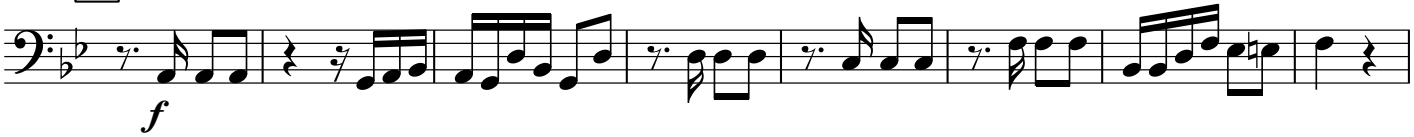

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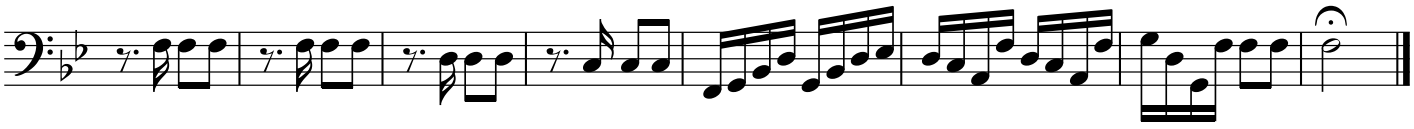

Trombone IV

The Camilla Polka

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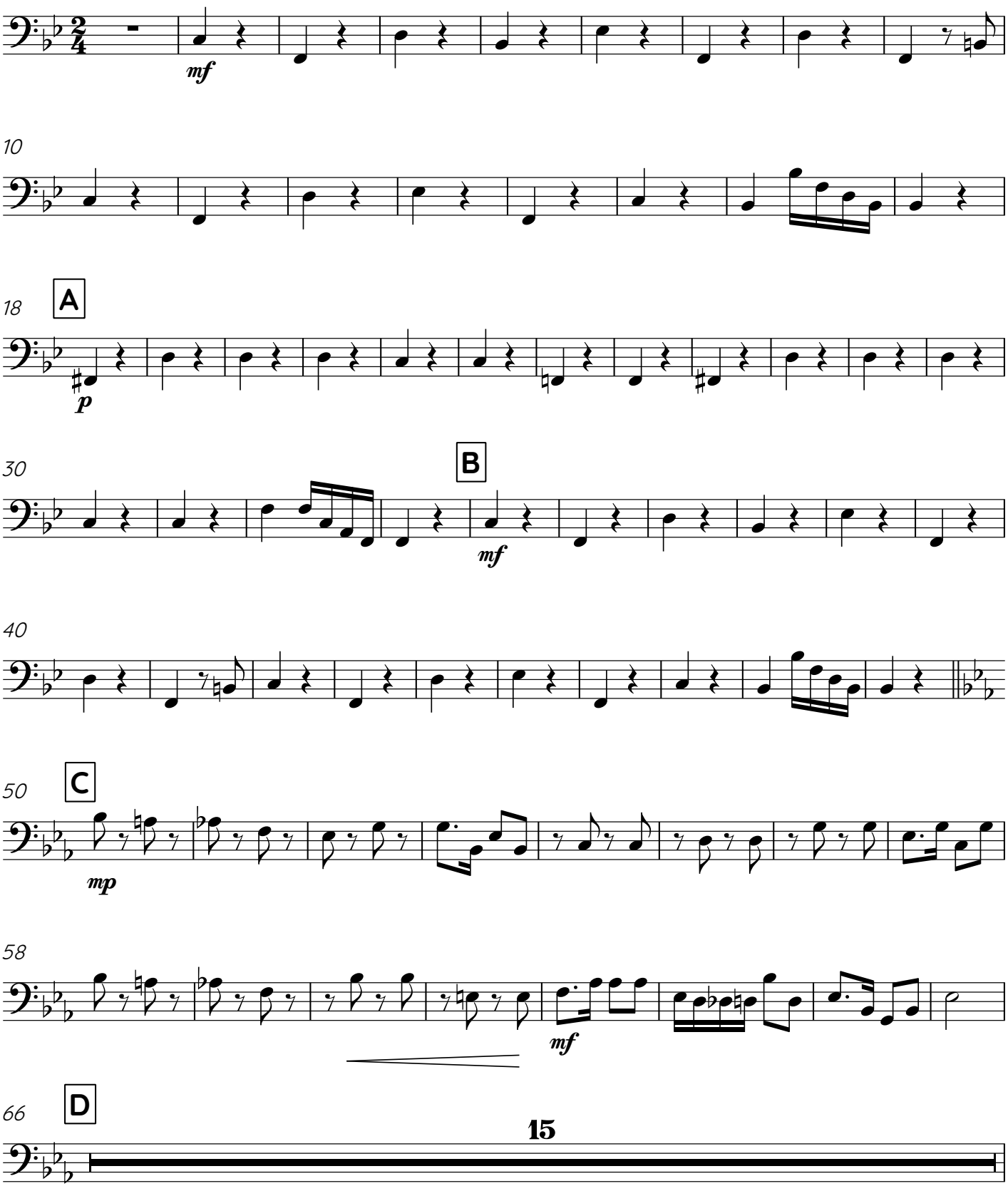
Con grazia ♩ = 88



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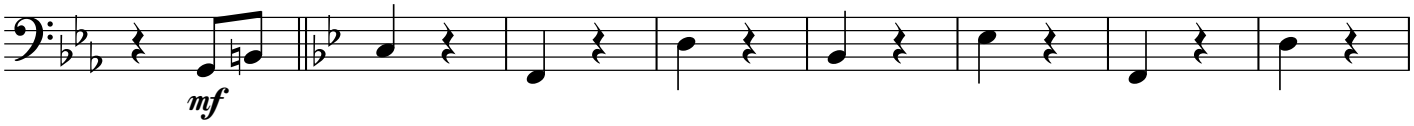

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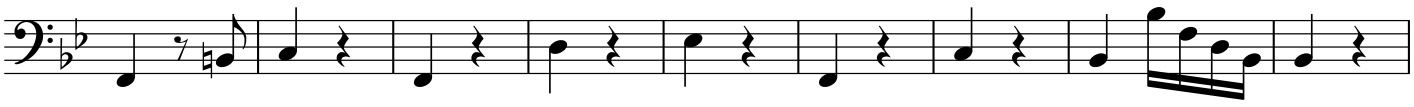

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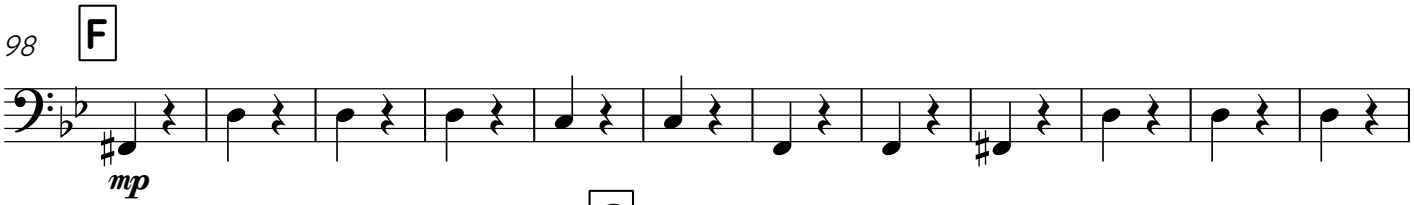

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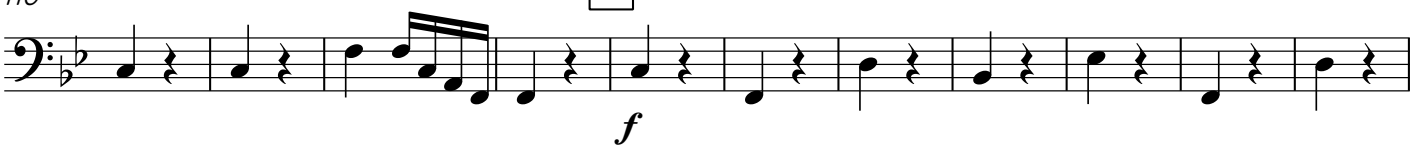
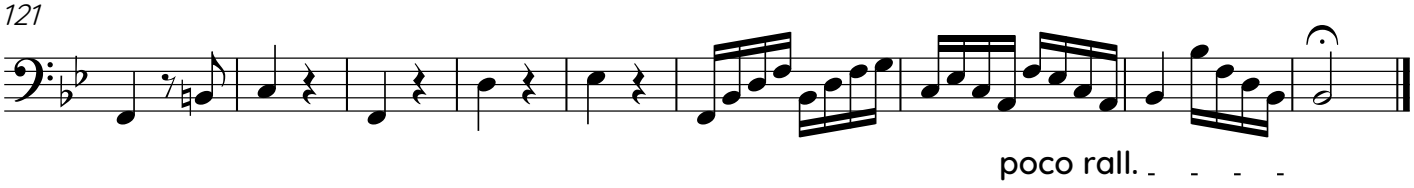
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