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The Bleached Bones of a Story

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THE BLEACHED BONES OF A STORY

by

Coral Douglas

A THESIS

Presented to the Faculty of

The Graduate College at the University of Nebraska

In Partial Fulfillment of Requirements

For the Degree of Master of Music

Major: Music

Under the Supervision of Professor Greg Simon

Lincoln, Nebraska

May, 2022

THE BLEACHED BONES OF A STORY

Coral Douglas, M.M.

University of Nebraska, 2022

Advisor: Gregory Simon

All ideas stored in our heads are simplistic in nature, or relational to others, which allows for the production of more complex ideas. As is such, small memories supplement beautifully full, yet inherently relational concepts. Small scale ideas are useful to performers (and to audiences), as it is difficult to handle brain capacity overload; it's impossible to multi-task, let alone keep multiple ideas going at once to their fullest, especially when presented with dense new materials. In composing with mental participation for audience members and performers in mind, I propose that composers should create clear formal devices, intend their materials to have memorable purpose, and allow for repetition of material and silence, so that audiences may process and commit materials to memory. Composers should also strive to lessen the effects of performance anxiety and create trigger moments to refresh momentary awareness. Allowing performers' minds to rest for periods of time has also been proven to improve performance. A composer may also unite certain materials with each other to give new context and afford their audience the ability to emotionally participate with the work. In trying to prove the effects of these methods, I wrote a seven-movement piece that introduces materials, supplies moments of rest and recontextualization, allows for audience and performer emotional self-inserts, and prioritizes playability for performers, in efforts to showcase the importance of the intersection between memory, time, and musical cognition.

coral douglas

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the bleached bones of a story



instrumentation

Bb Clarinet/Bass Clarinet Piano Percussion (4) Violin Viola Cello Bass

program note

take a moment to reflect on a moment from earlier today.

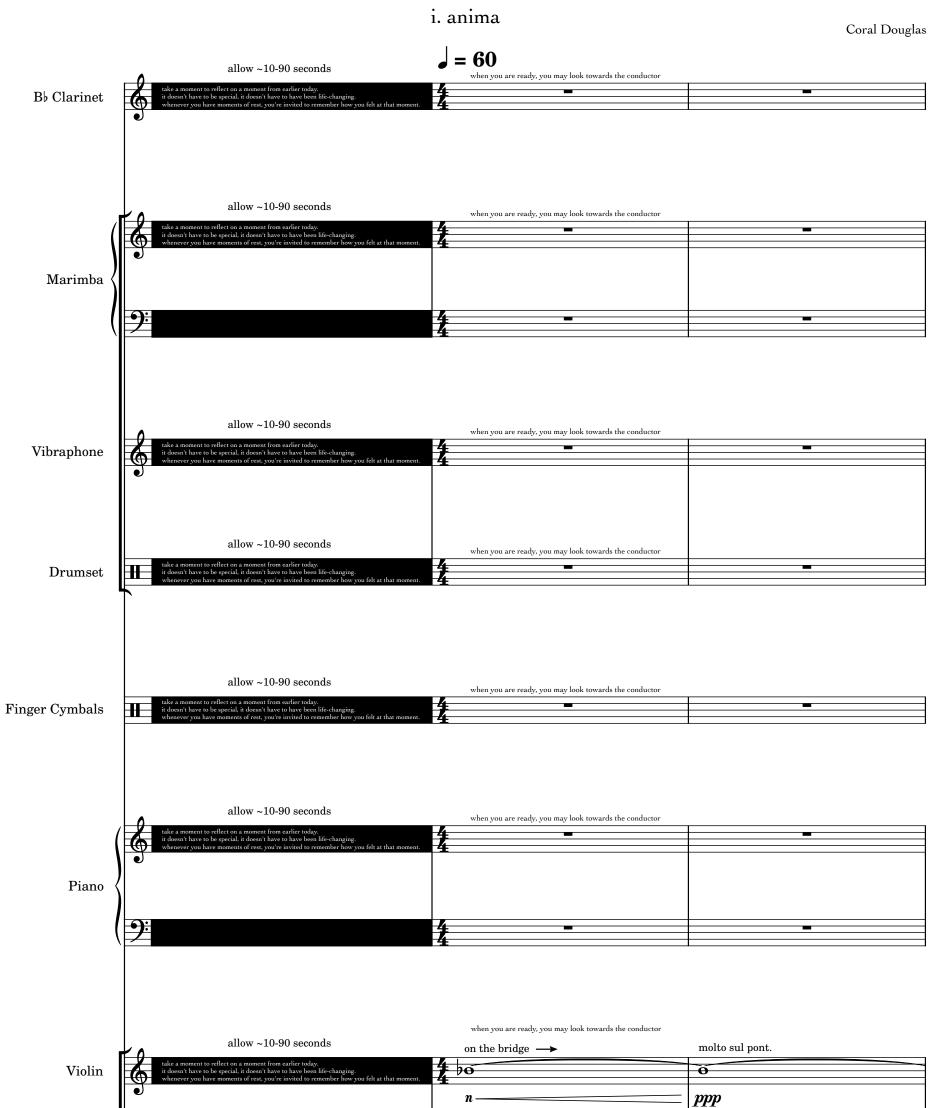
it doesn't have to be special, it doesn't have to have been life-changing.

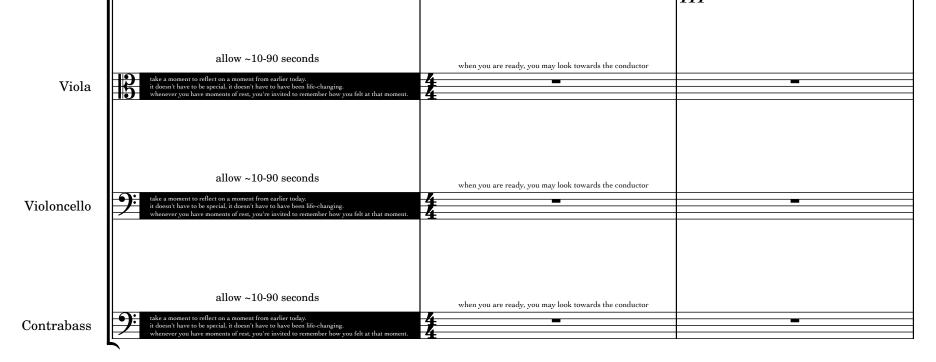
whenever you have moments of rest, you're invited to remember how you felt at that moment.

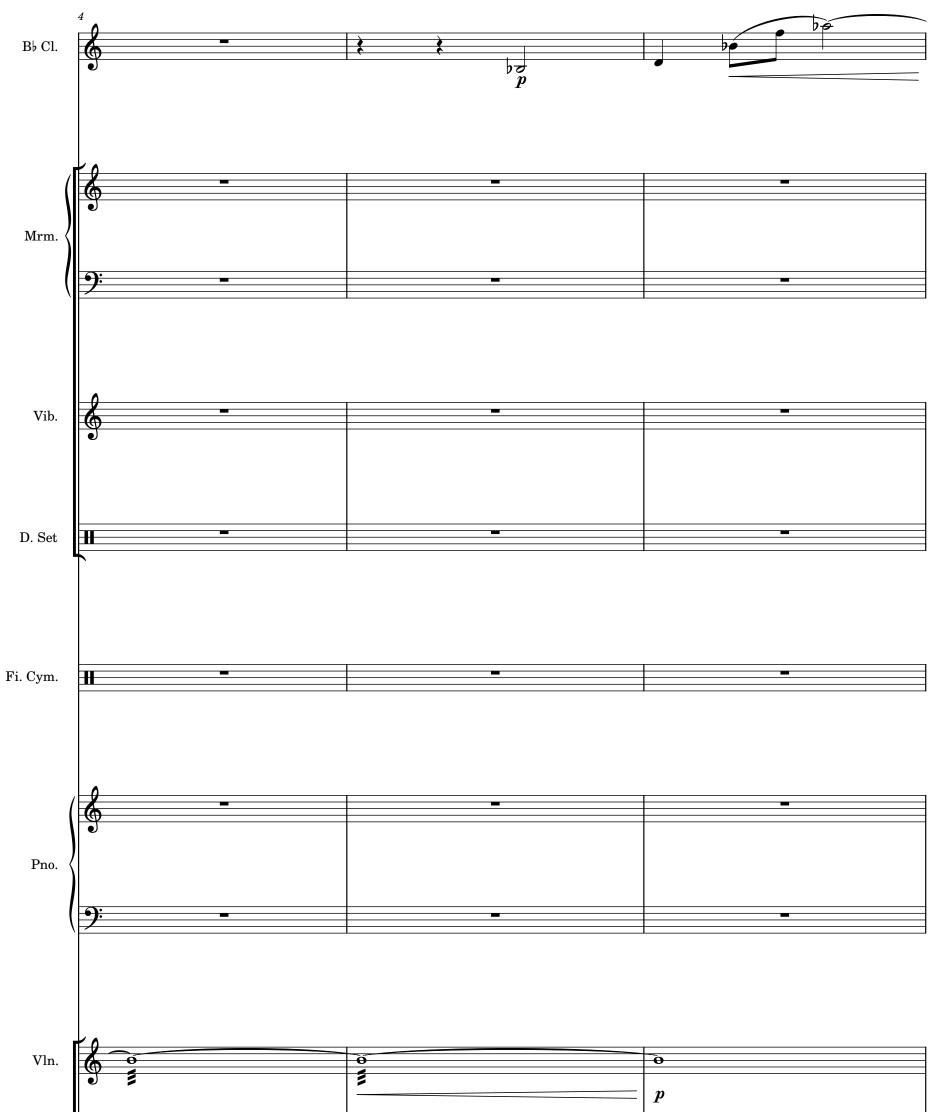
dedicated to ben armeni

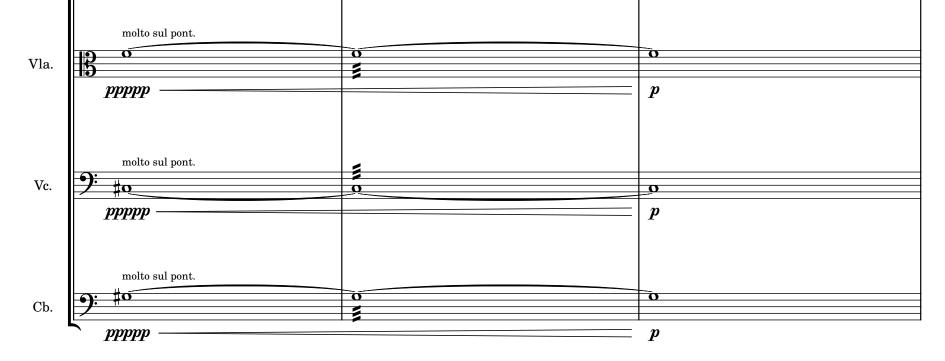
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the bleached bones of a story

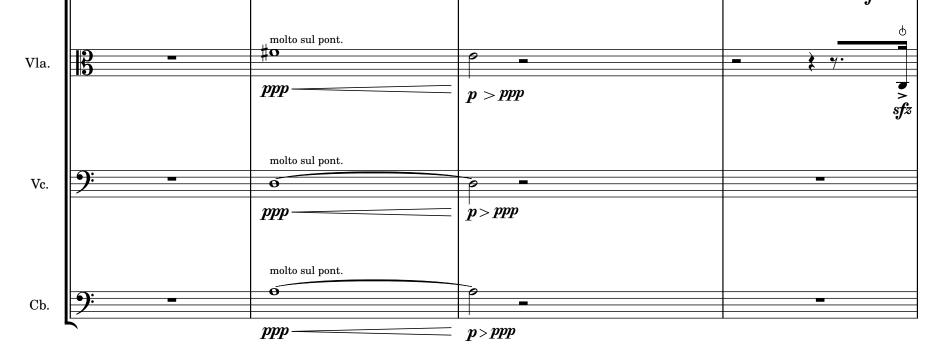






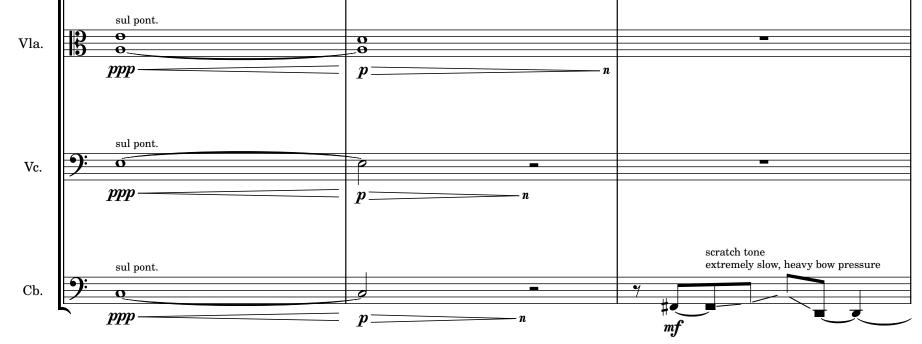




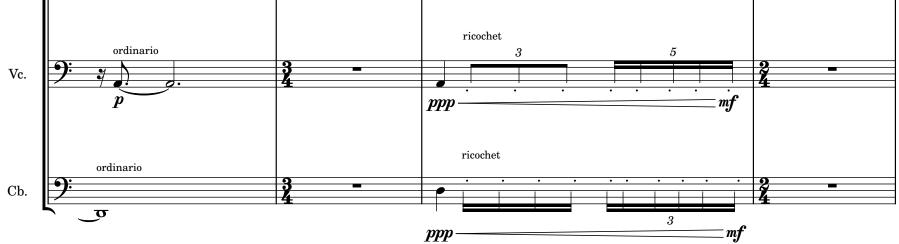


the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - i. anima





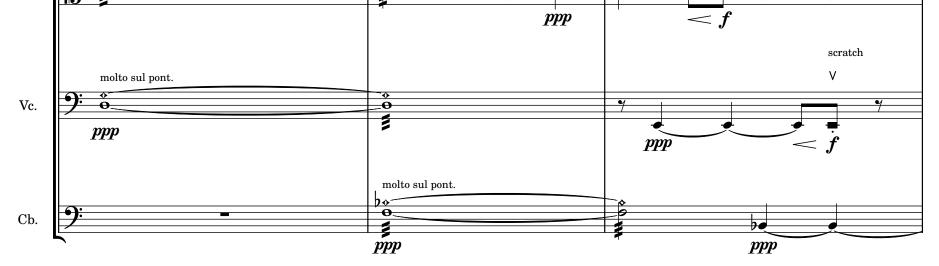




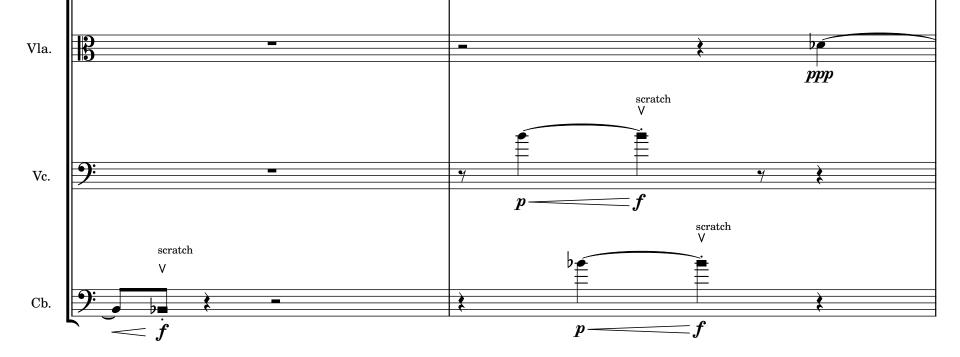






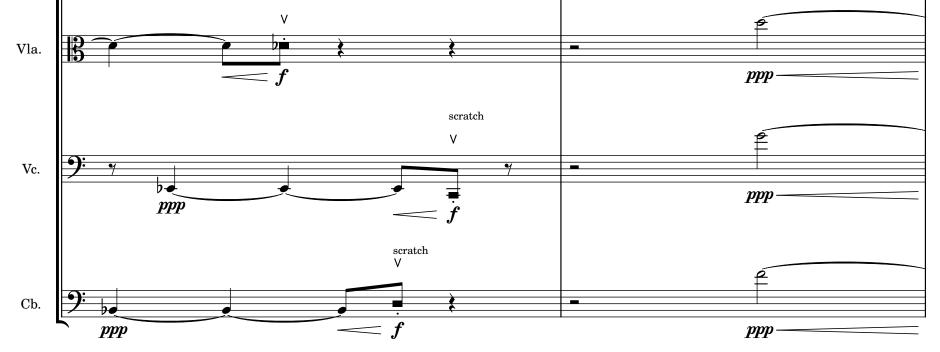






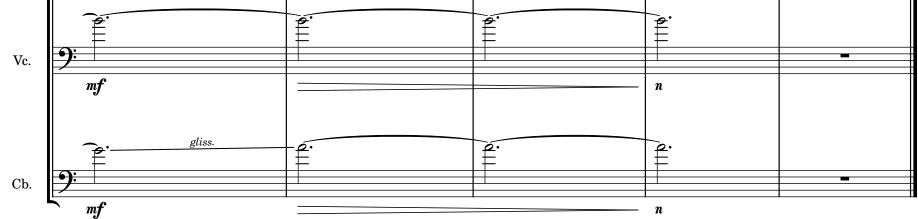
the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - i. anima







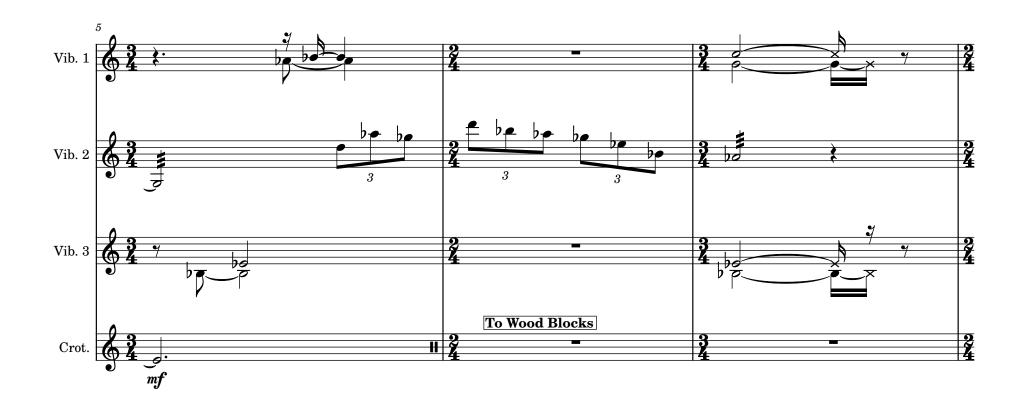


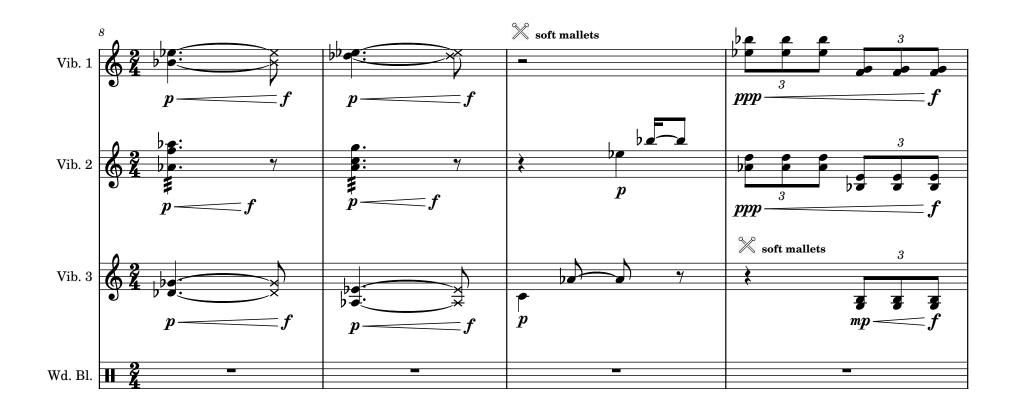


the bleached bones of a story

ii. the center of the universe







Coral Douglas







the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - $\,$ ii. the center of the universe



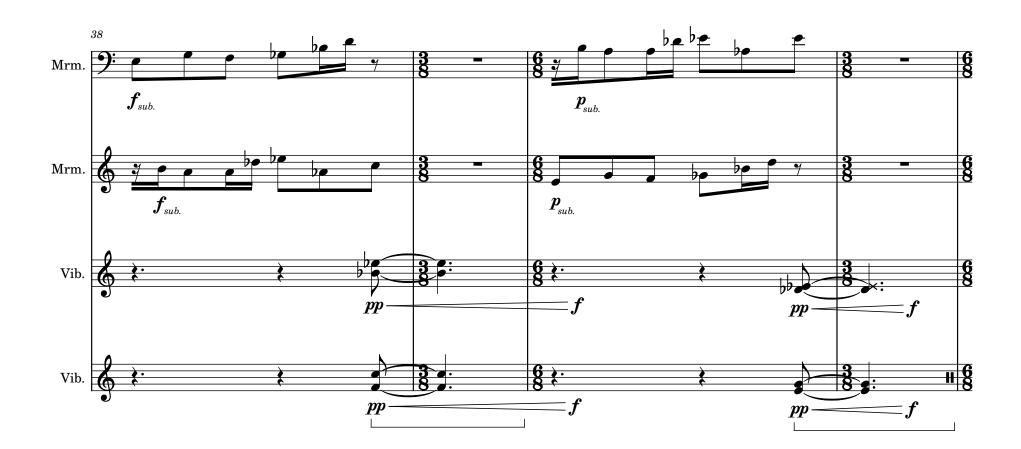






the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - $\,$ ii. the center of the universe

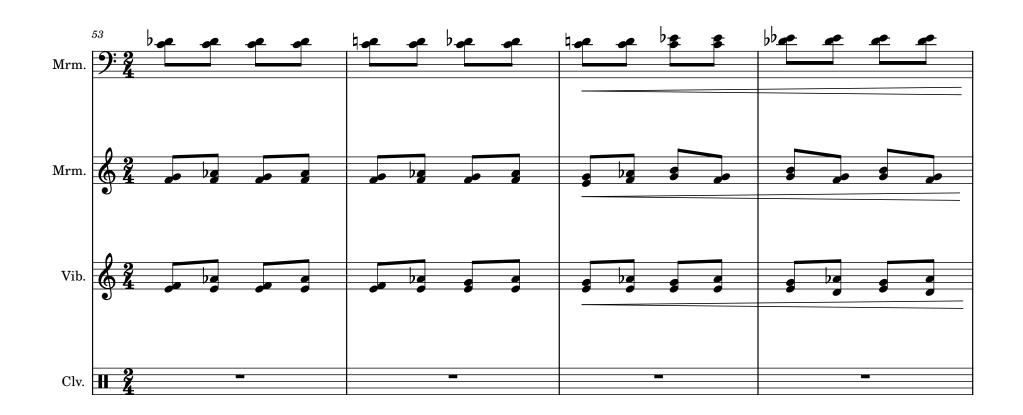




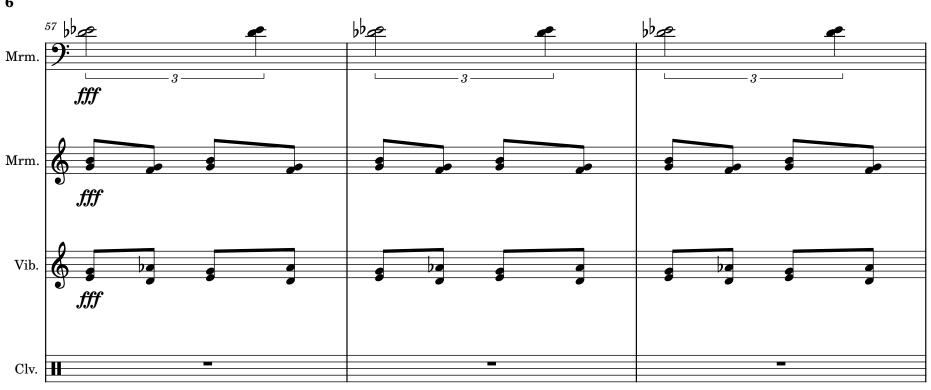




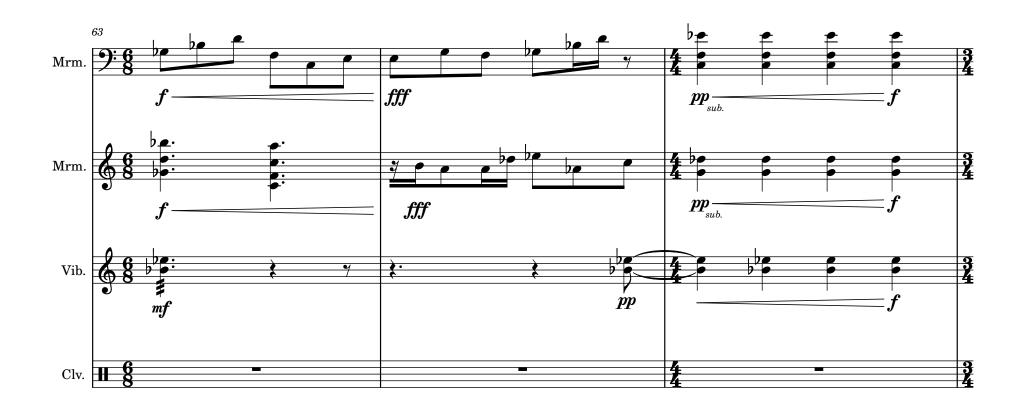




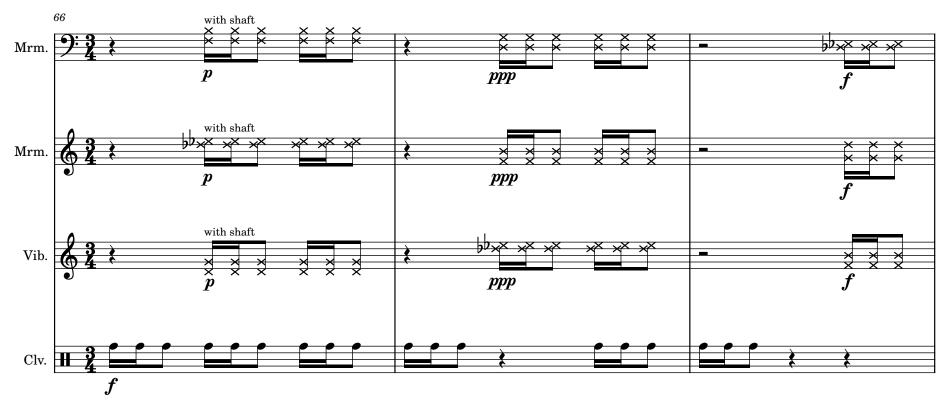
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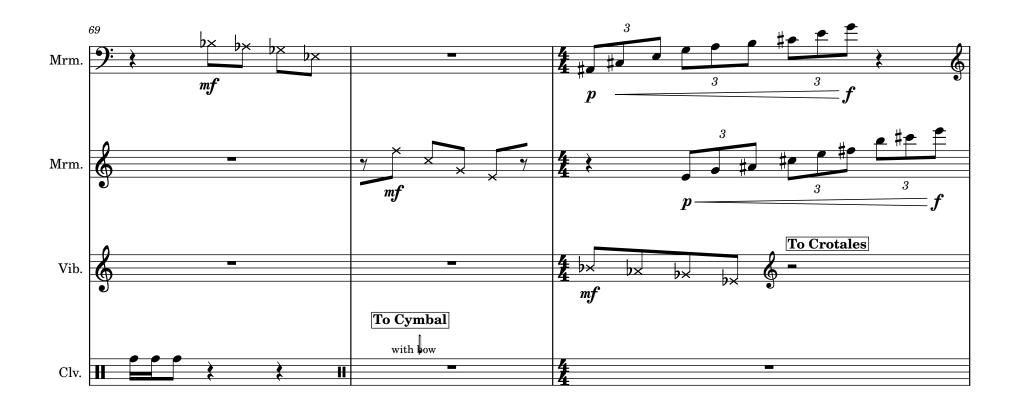




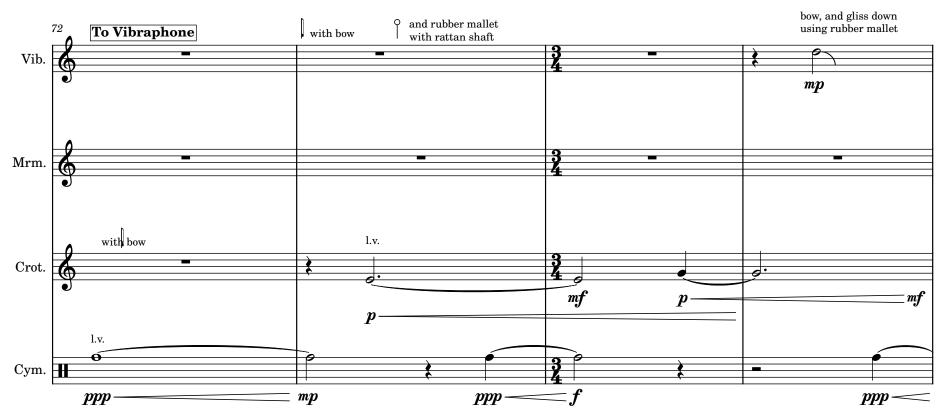


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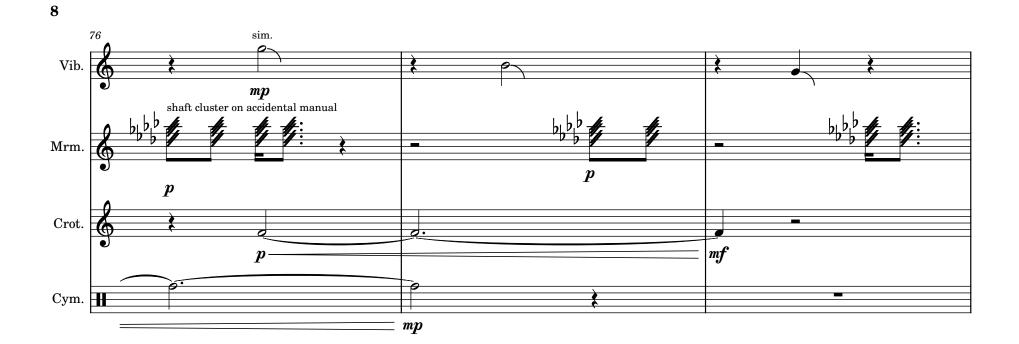


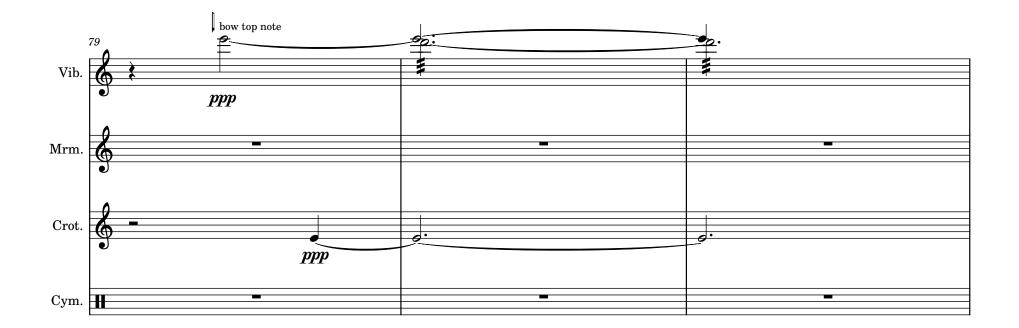


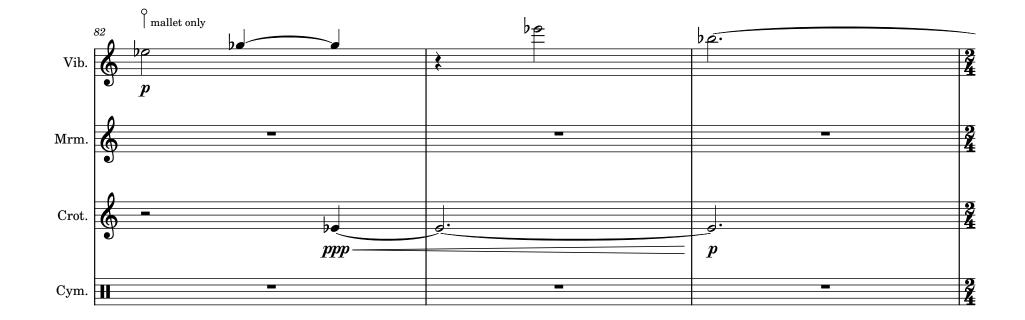
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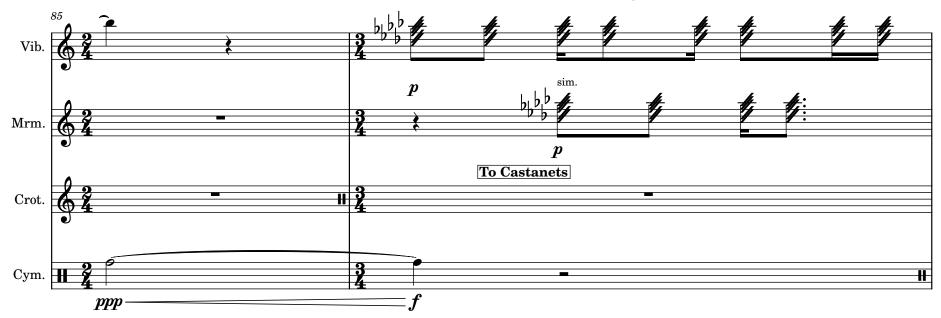
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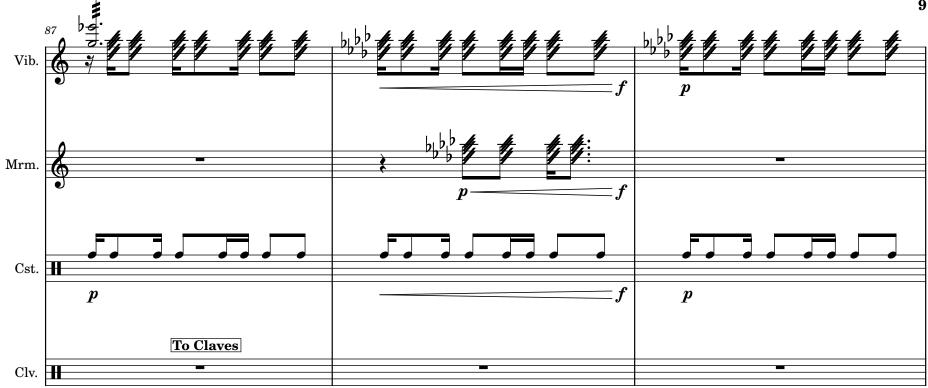


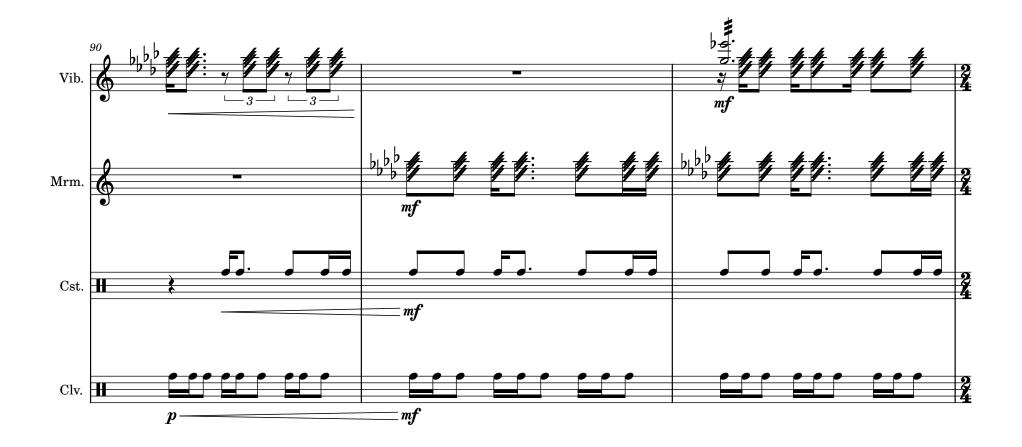


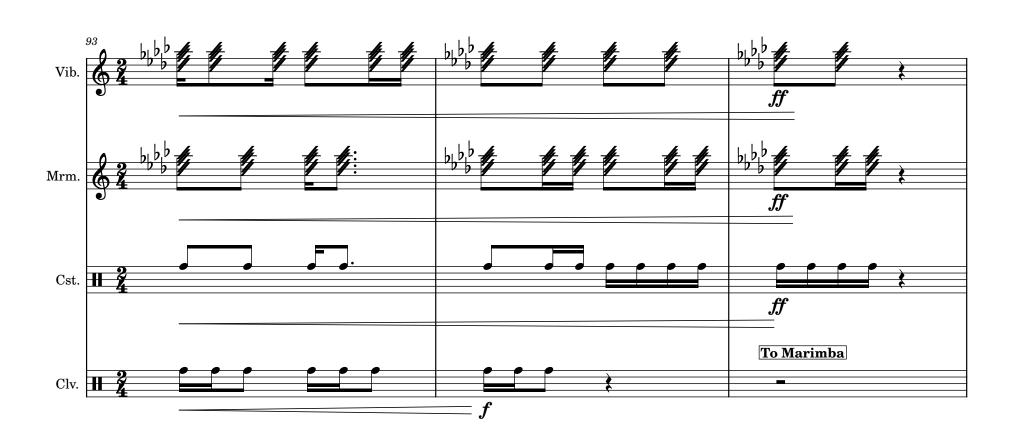


shaft cluster on accidental manual in LH, grab RH mallets



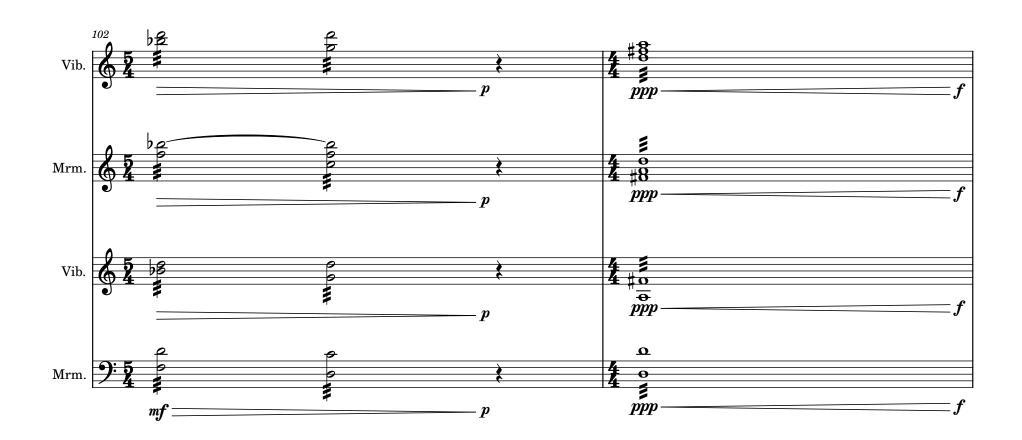












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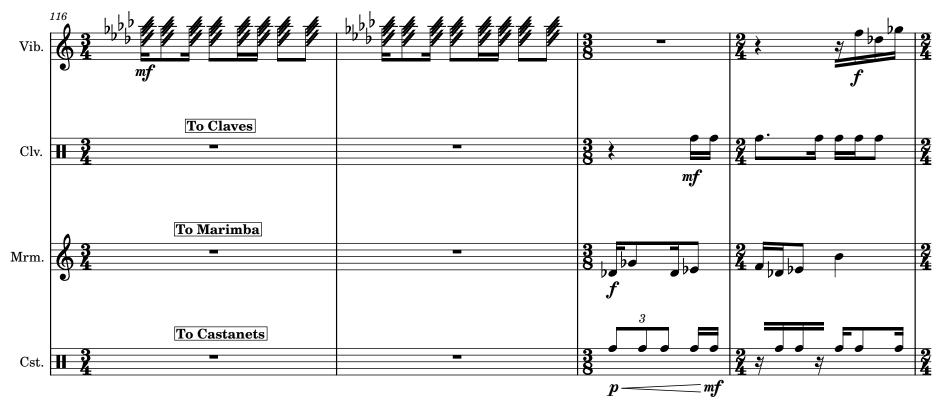
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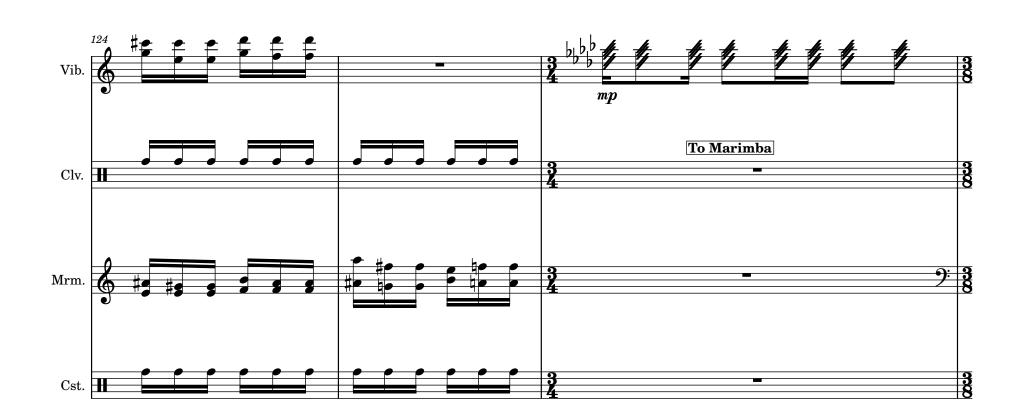




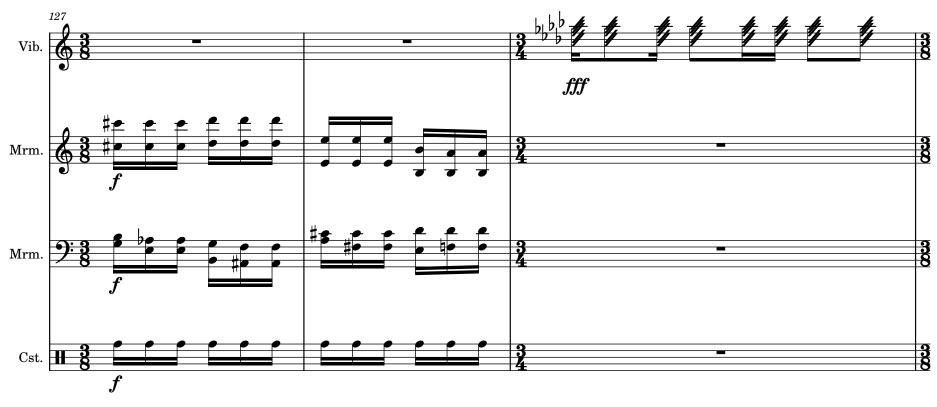
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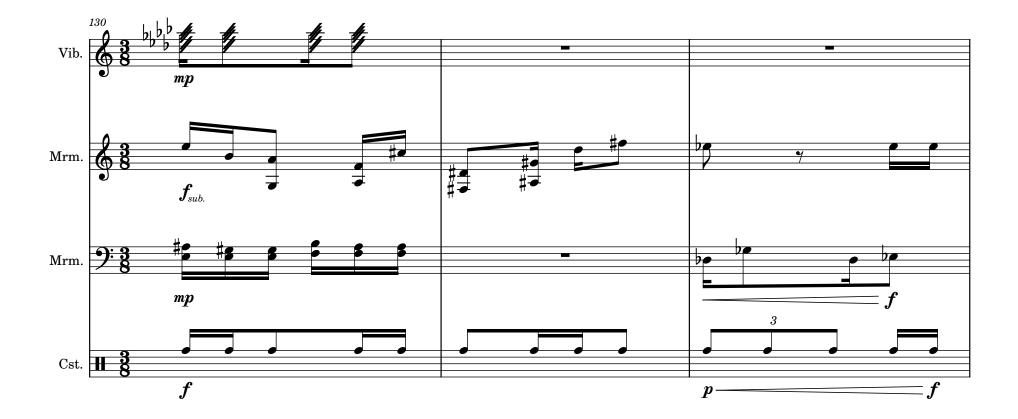






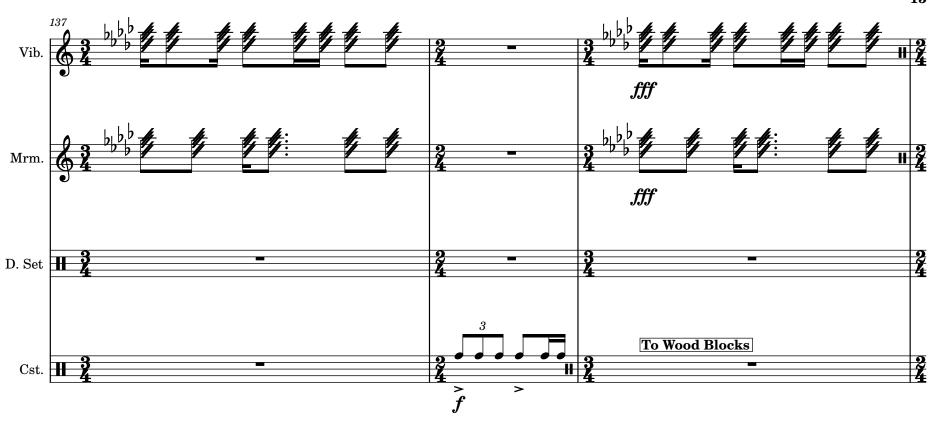
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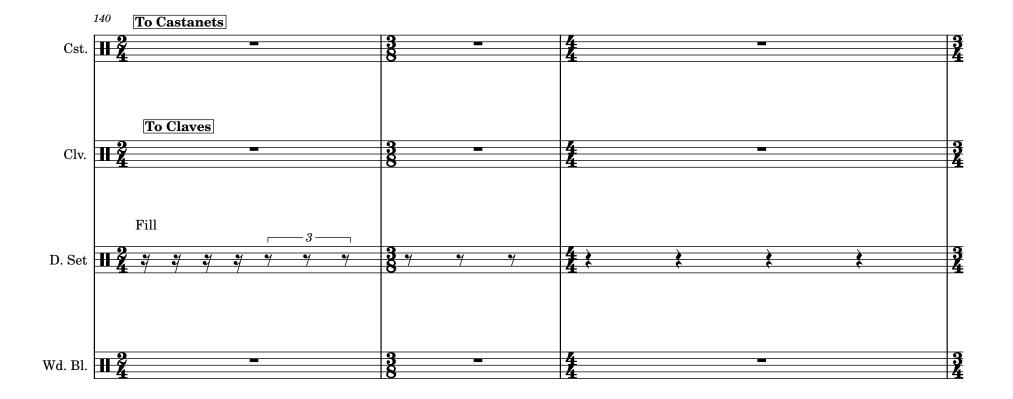




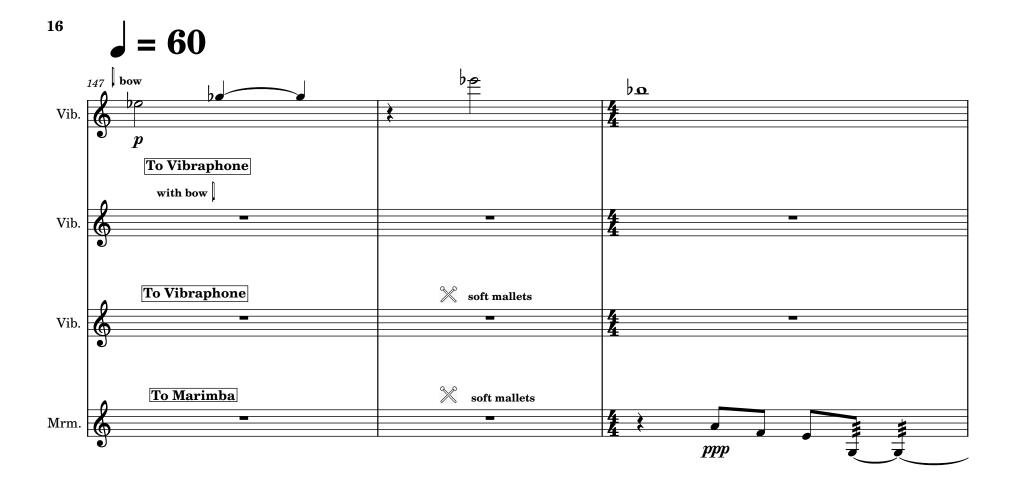


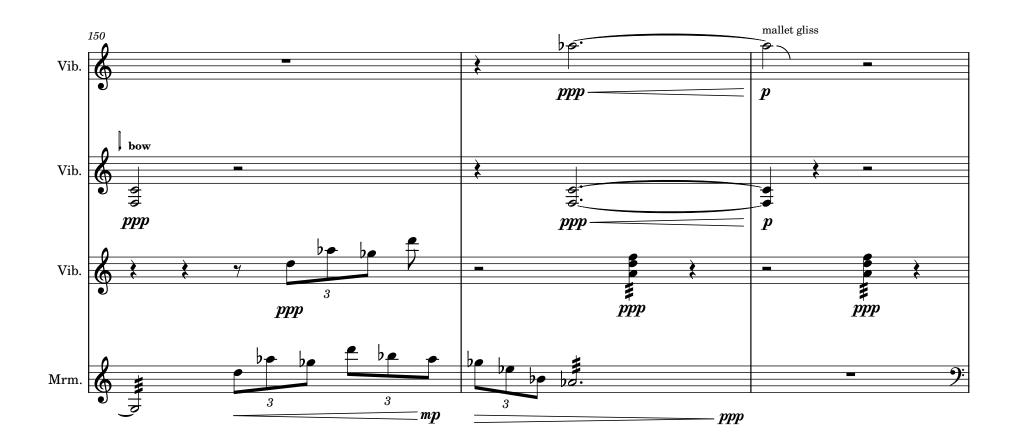
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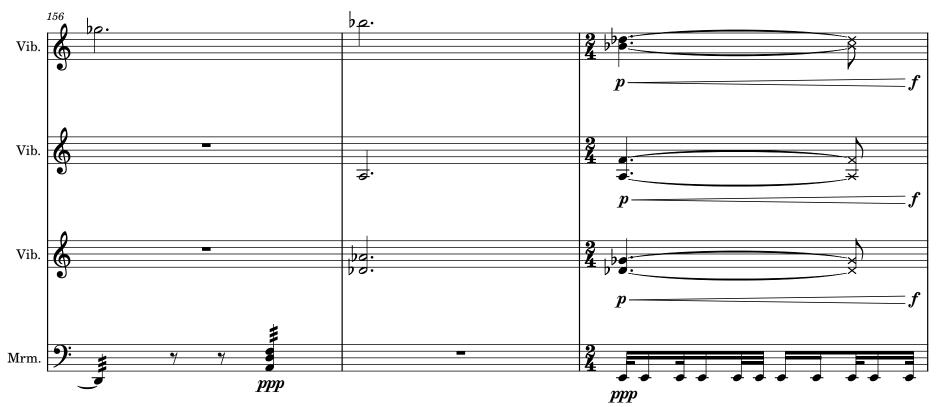


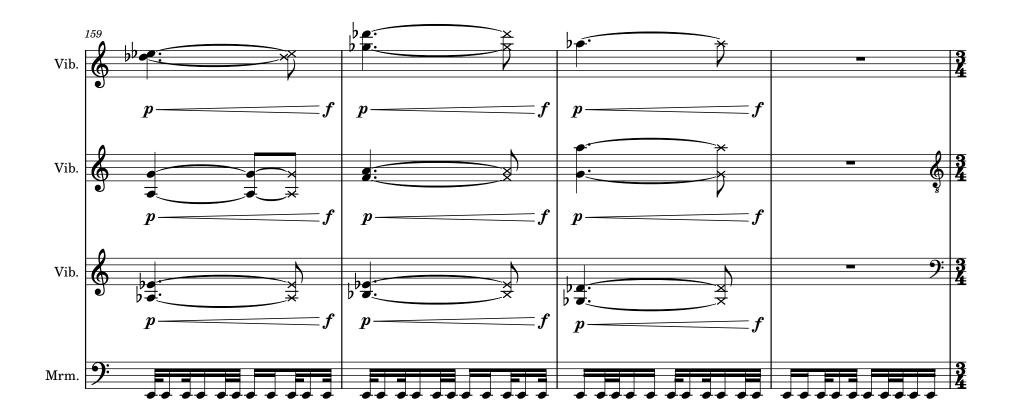




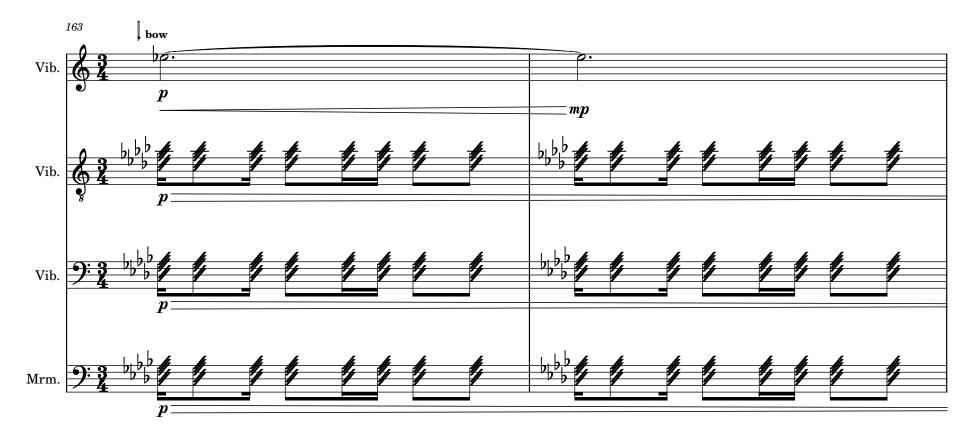


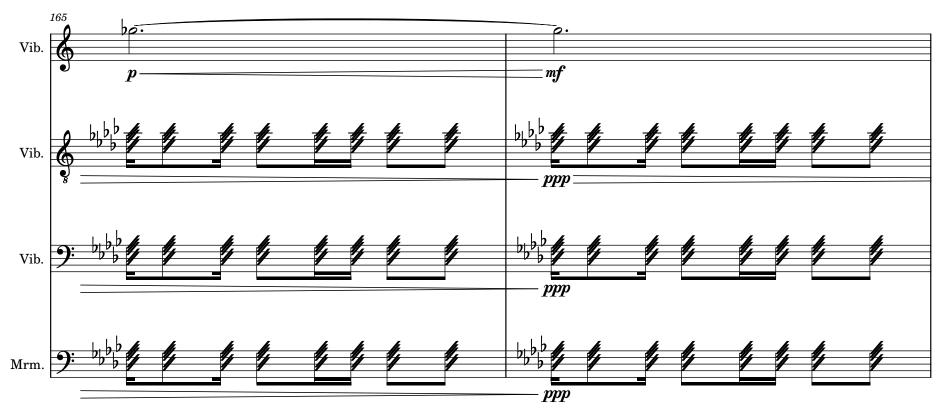
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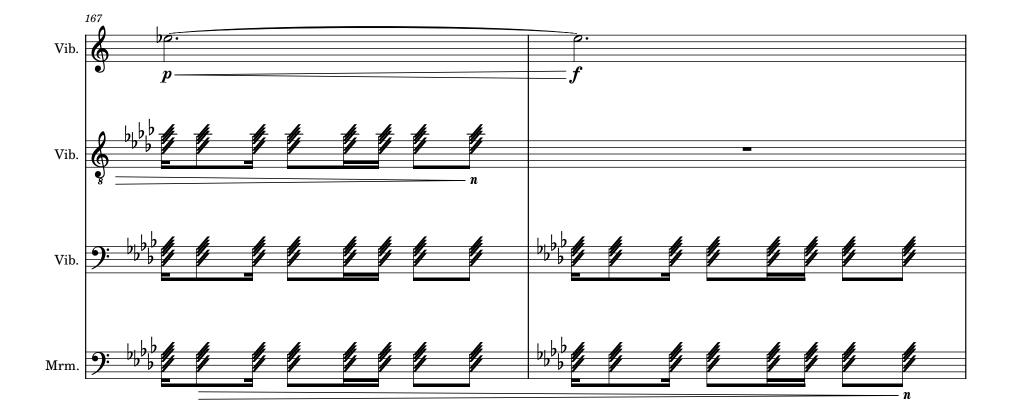


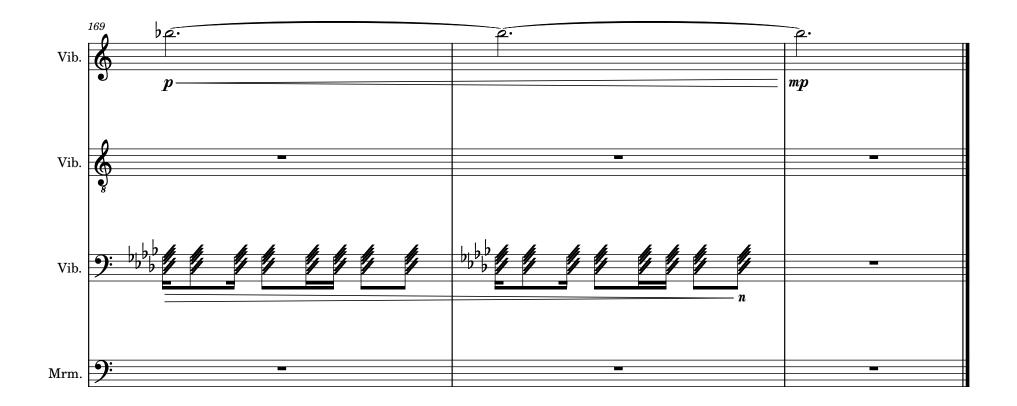


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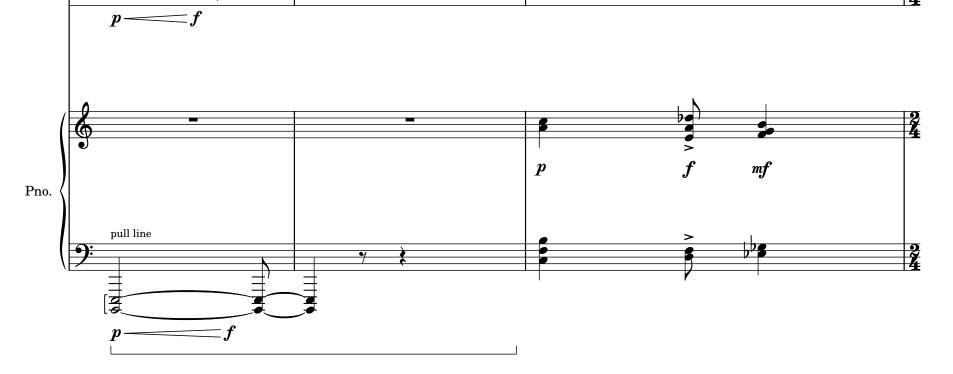




the bleached bones of a story

iii. capacity to stand and speak



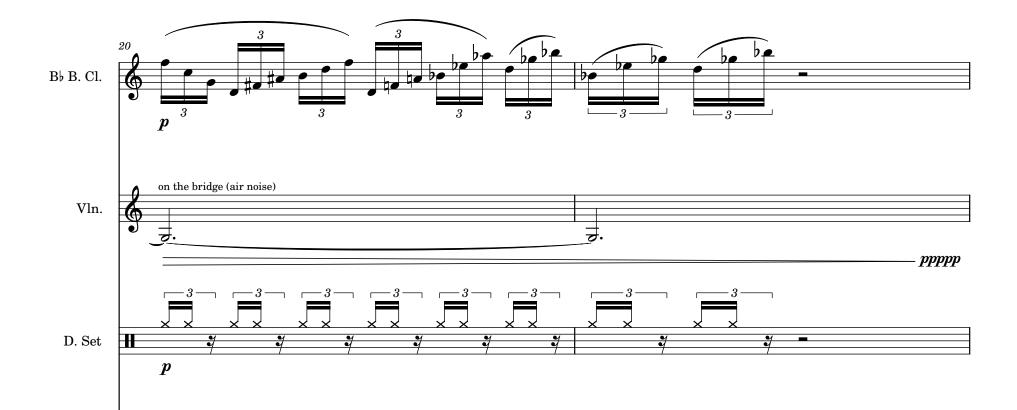


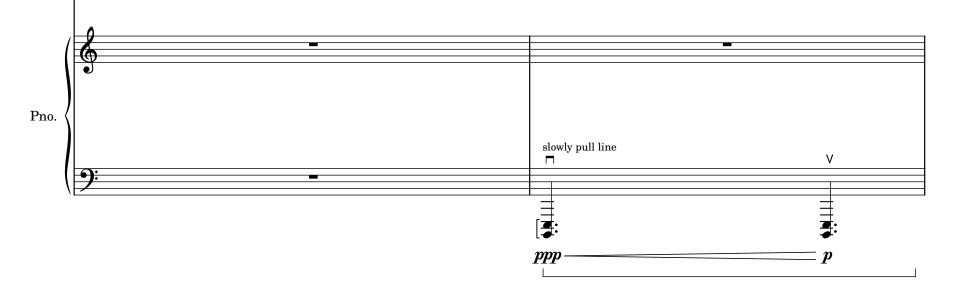


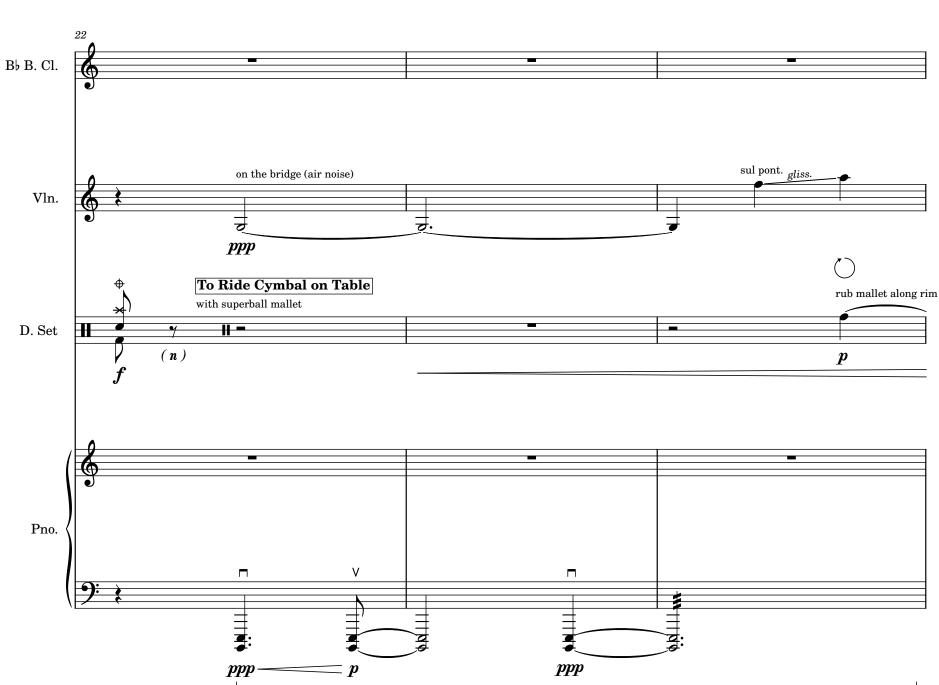


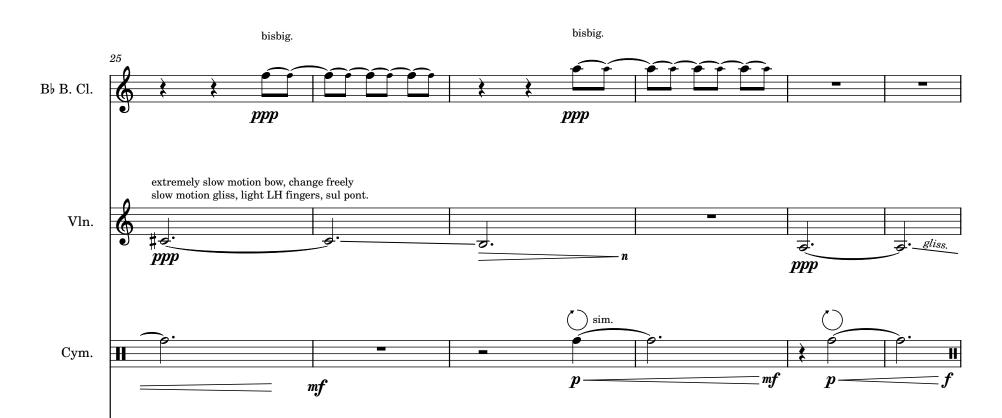
the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - iii. capacity to stand and speak

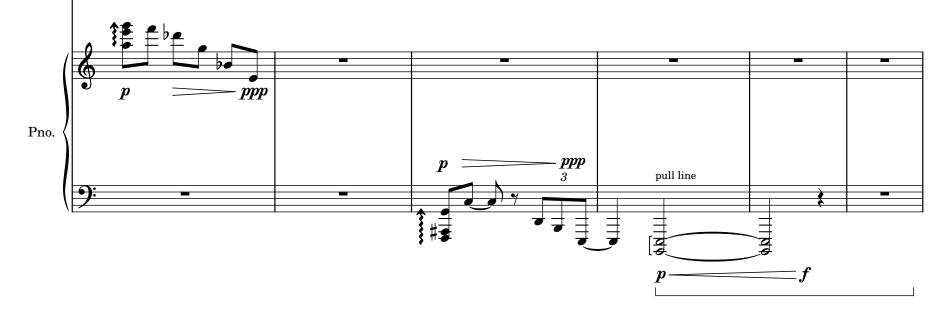


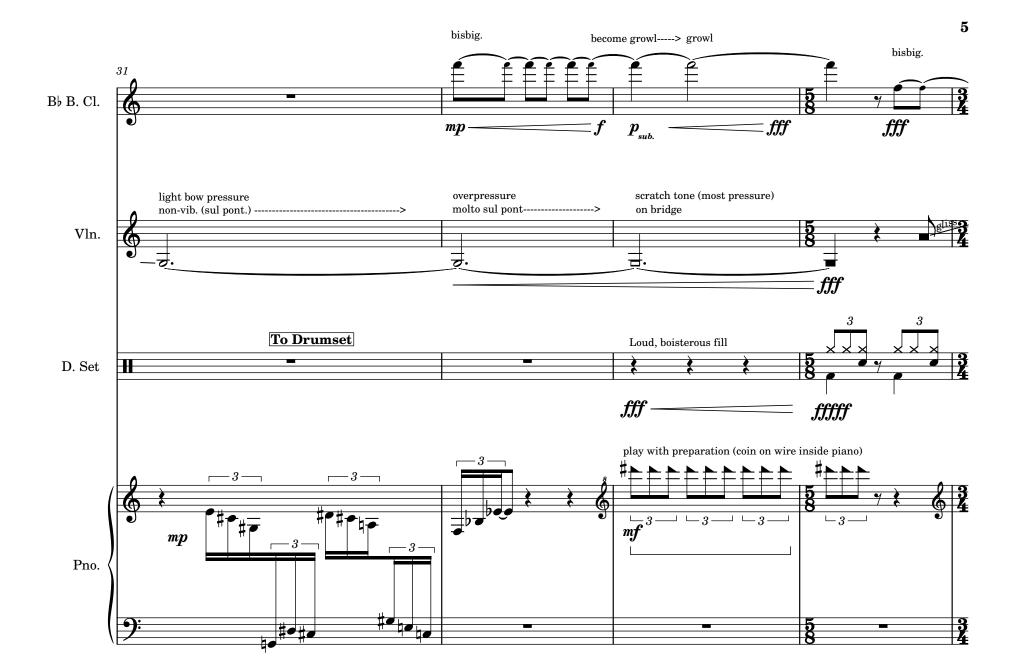




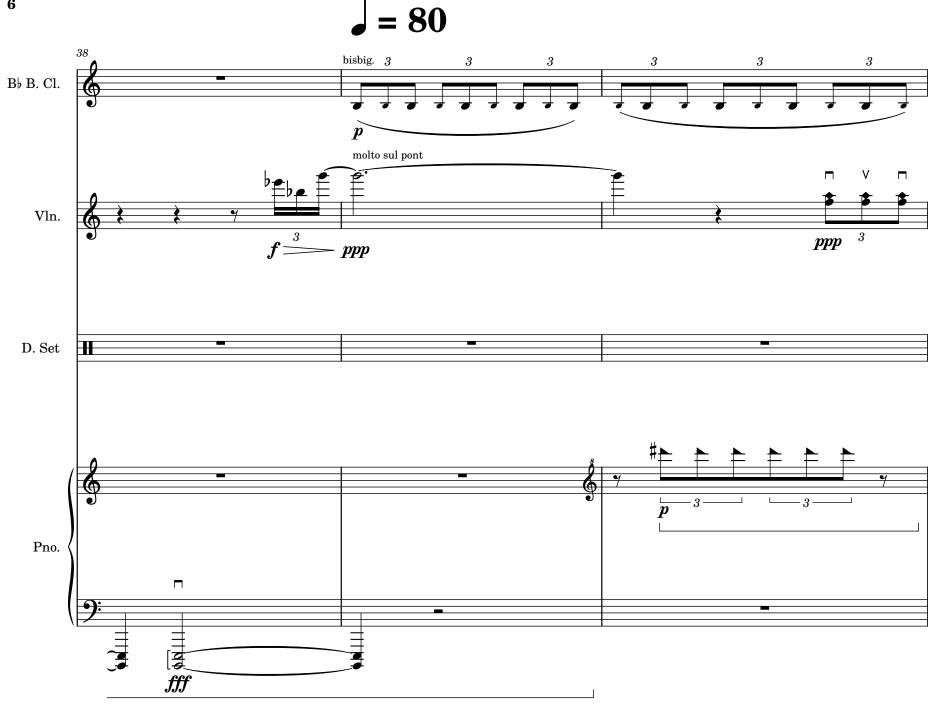


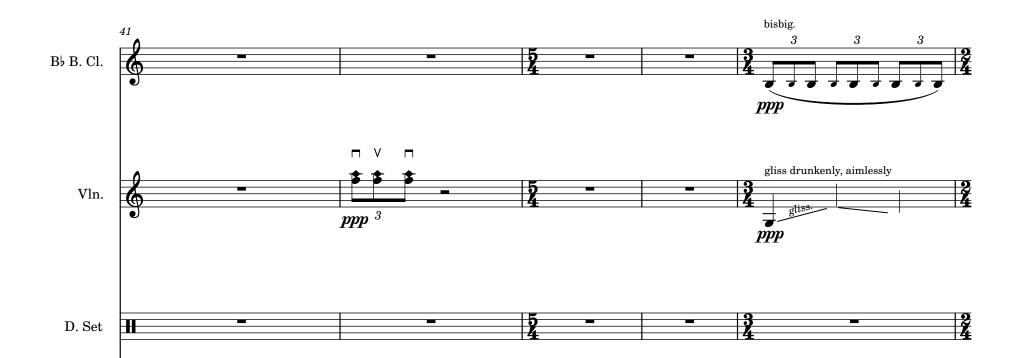


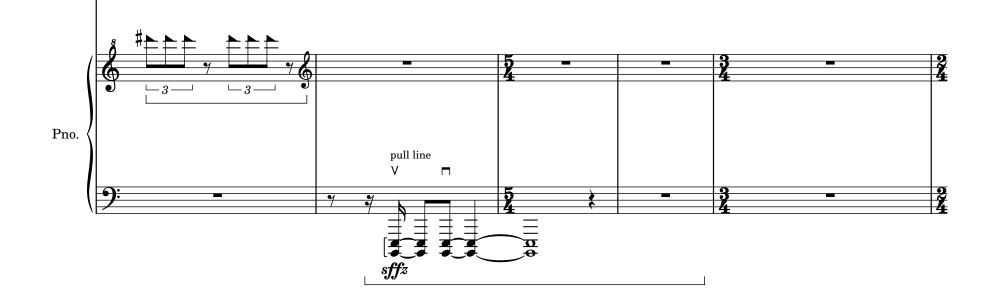










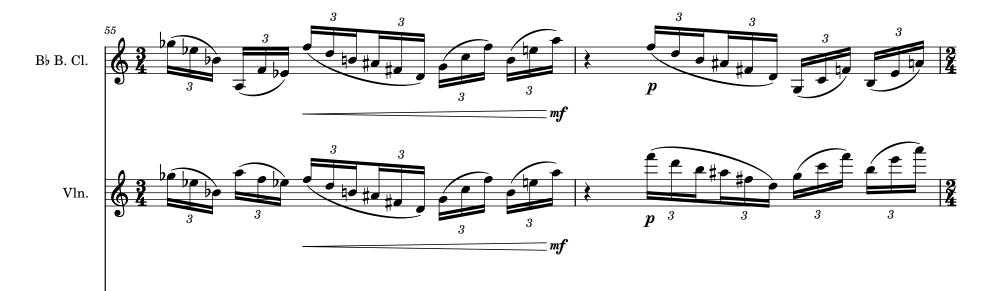


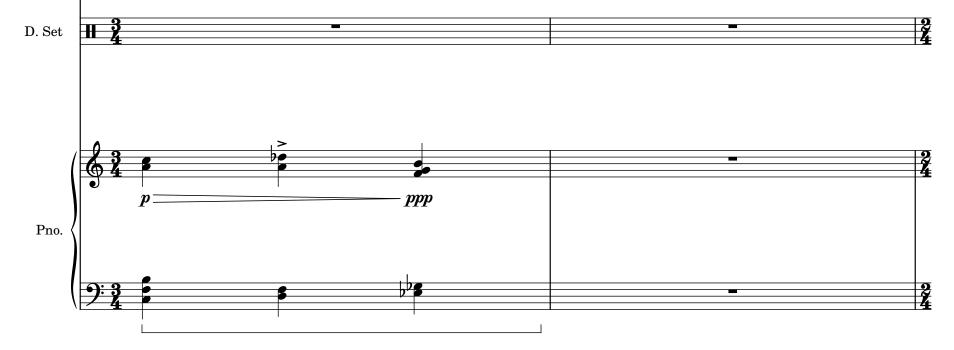




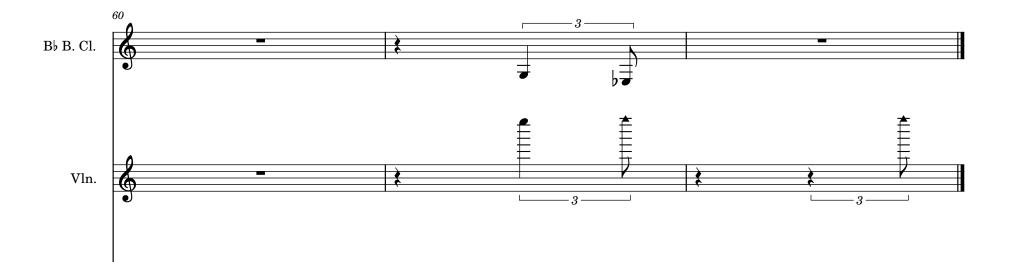
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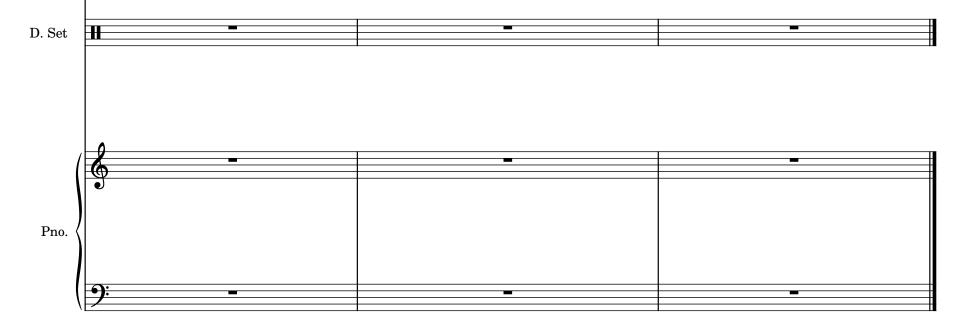








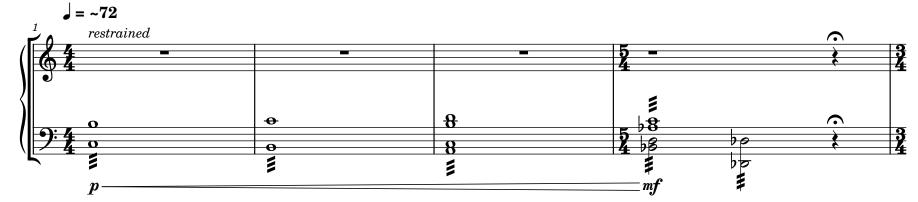


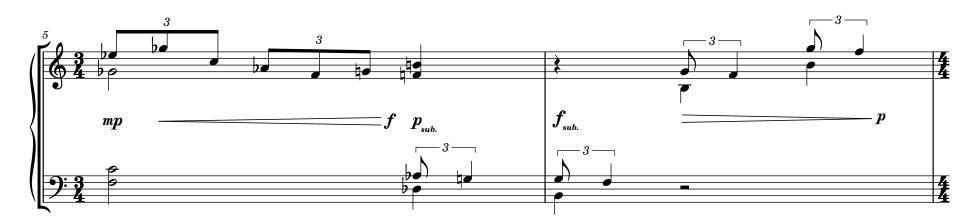


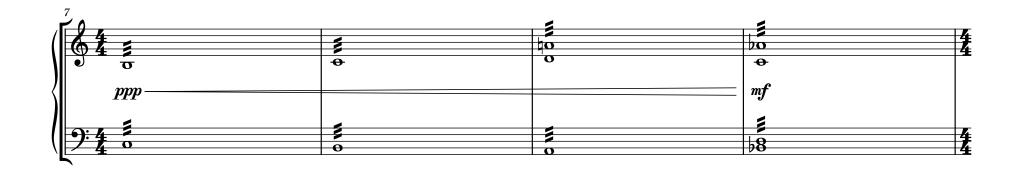
the bleached bones of a story

iv. basking in the creekbed

Coral Douglas









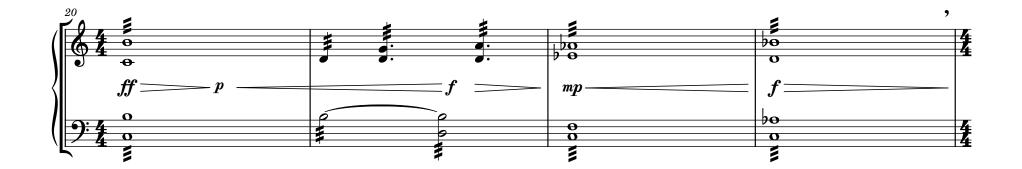


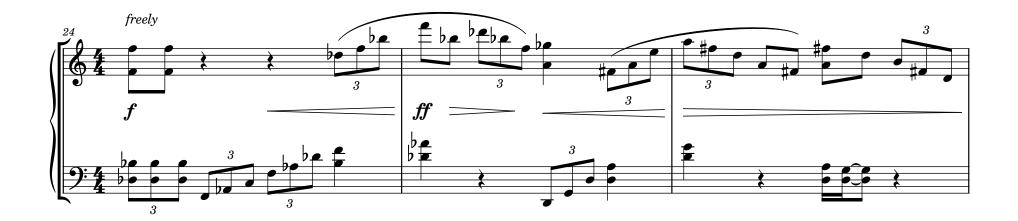


the bleached bones of a story - iv. - Coral Douglas - Keyboard Solo

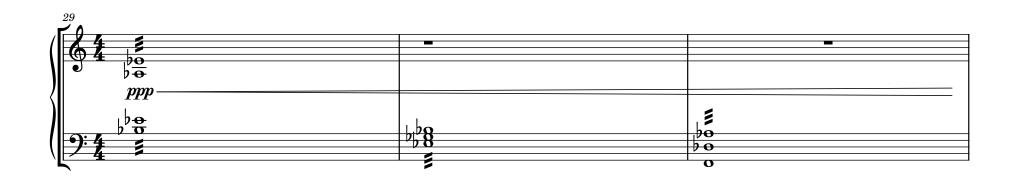


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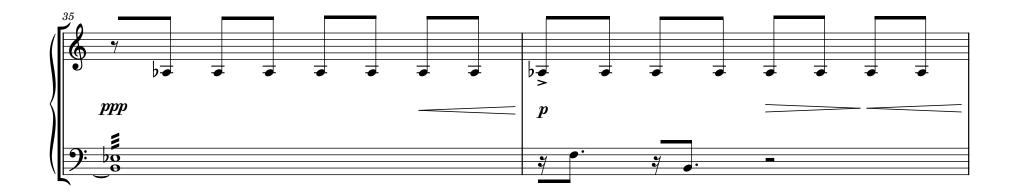




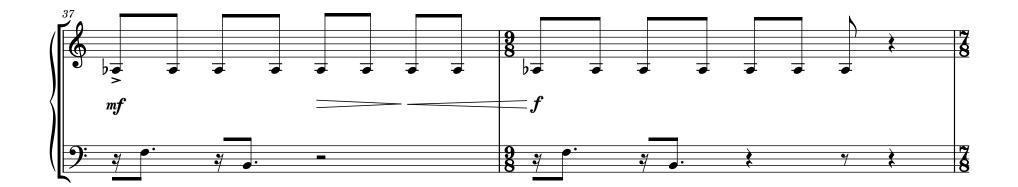


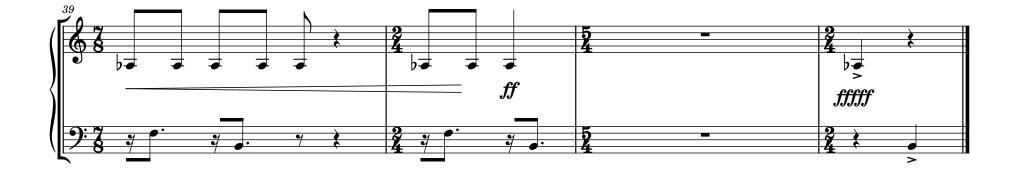


the bleached bones of a story - iv. - Coral Douglas - Keyboard Solo



3





the bleached bones of a story - iv. - Coral Douglas - Keyboard Solo

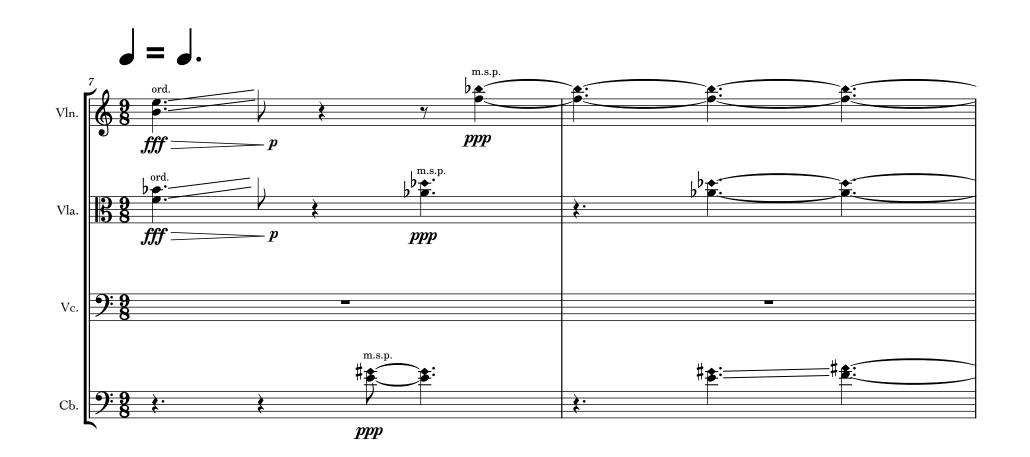
the bleached bones of a story

v. the angel with its beak in the petals

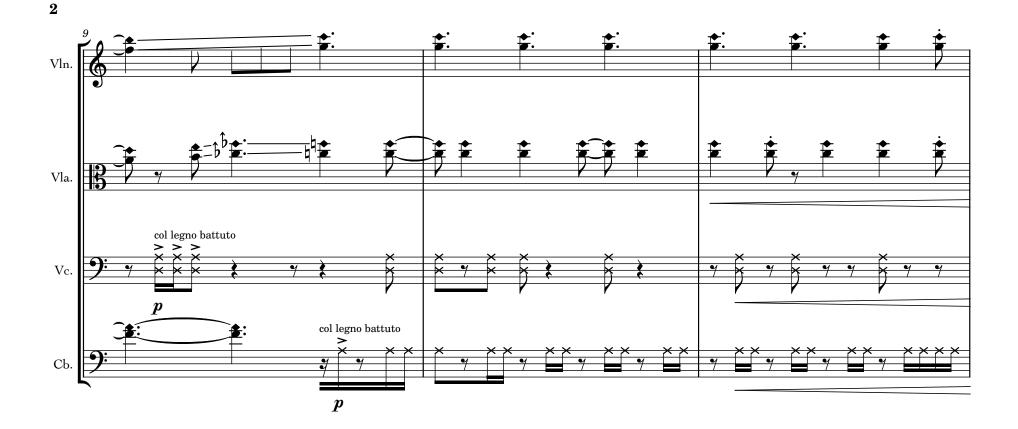


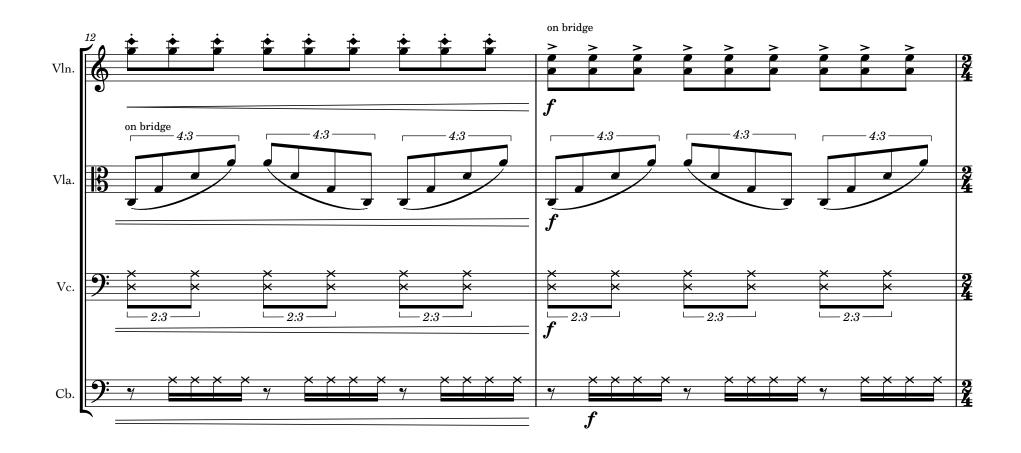


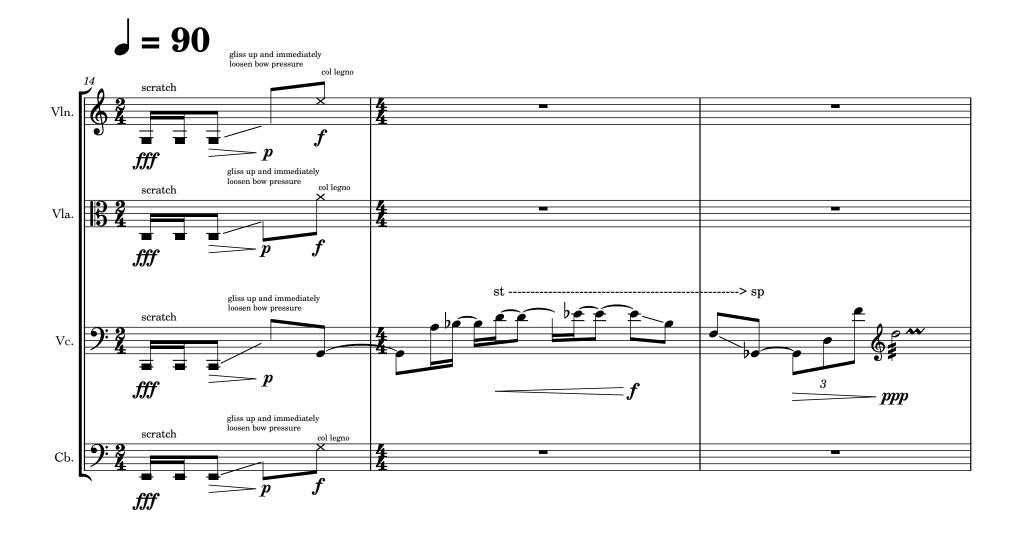
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the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - v. the angel with its beak in the petals





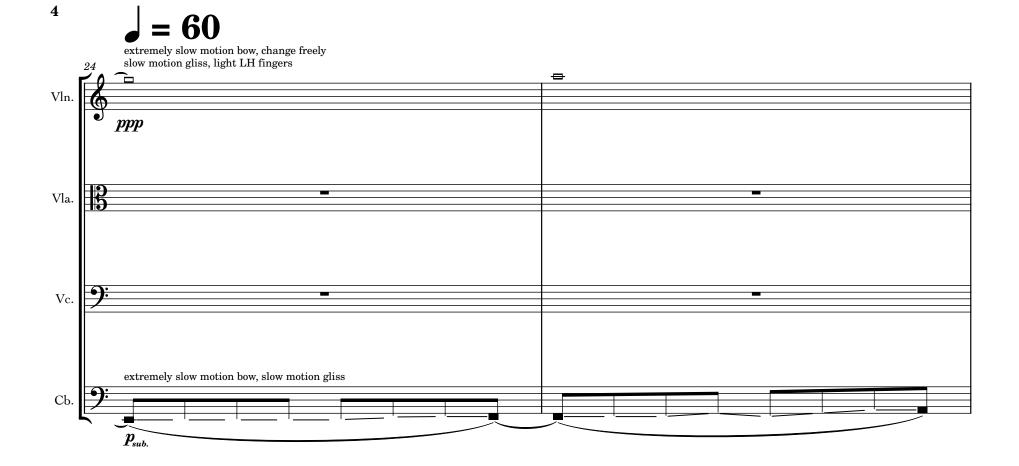


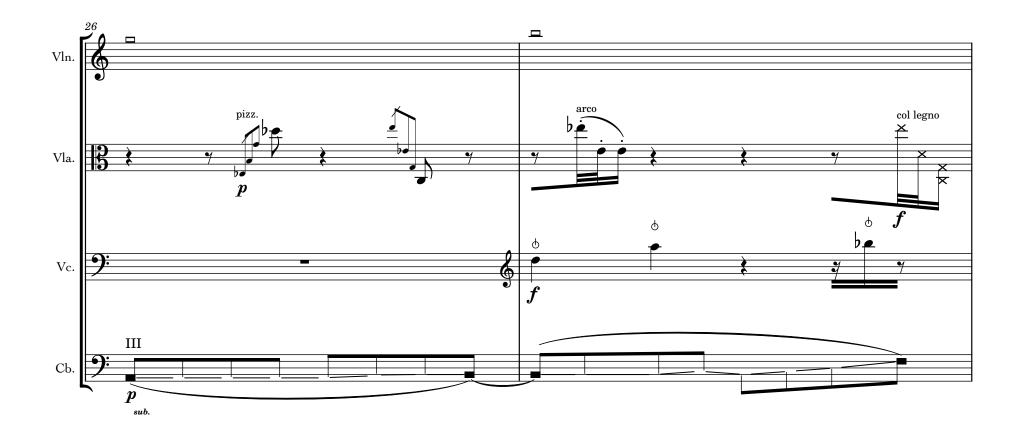


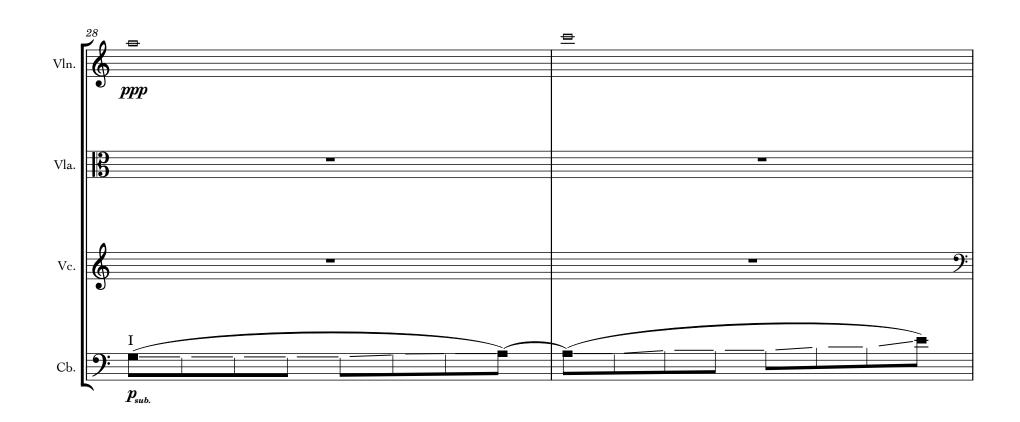


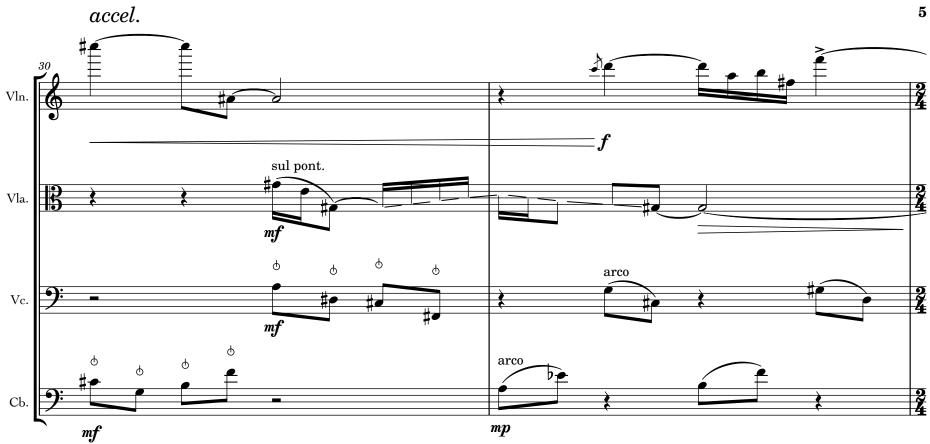


the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - v. the angel with its beak in the petals

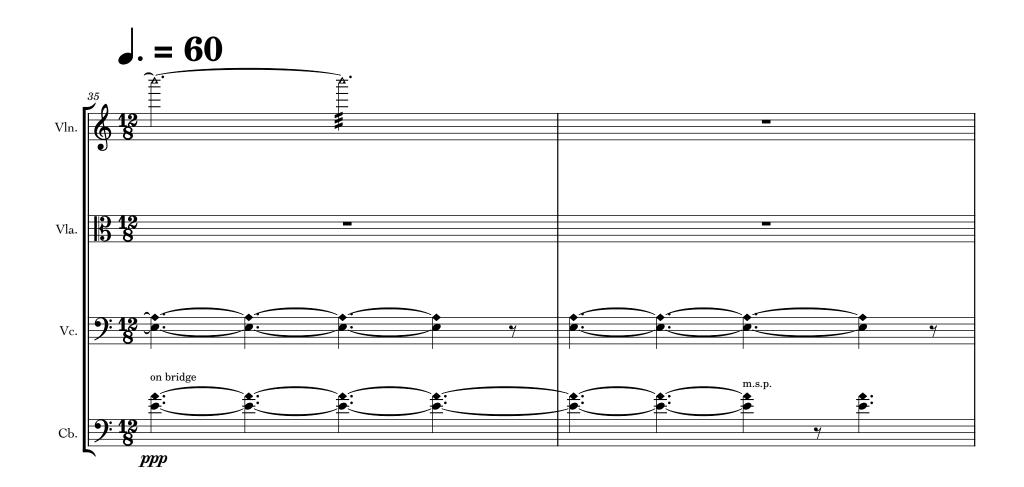


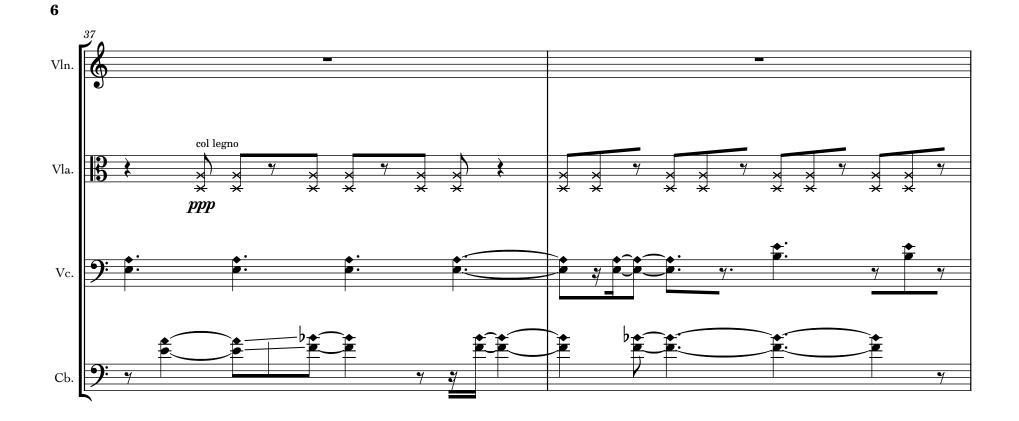


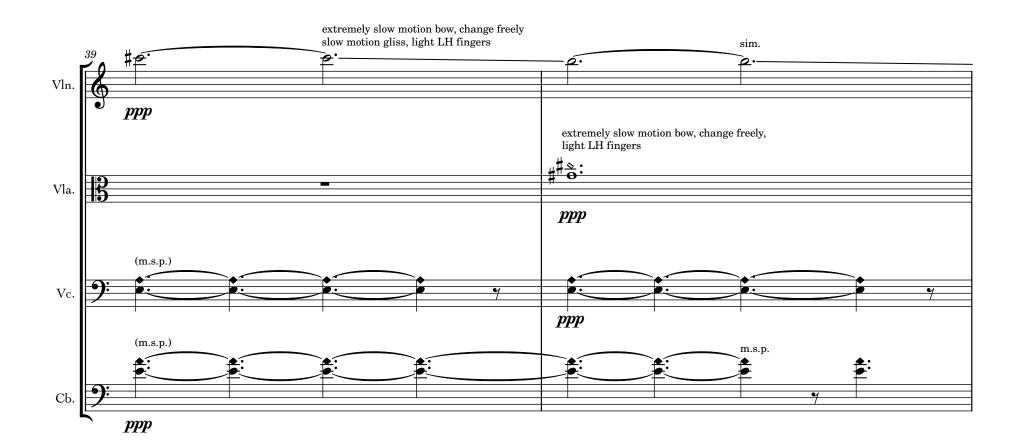






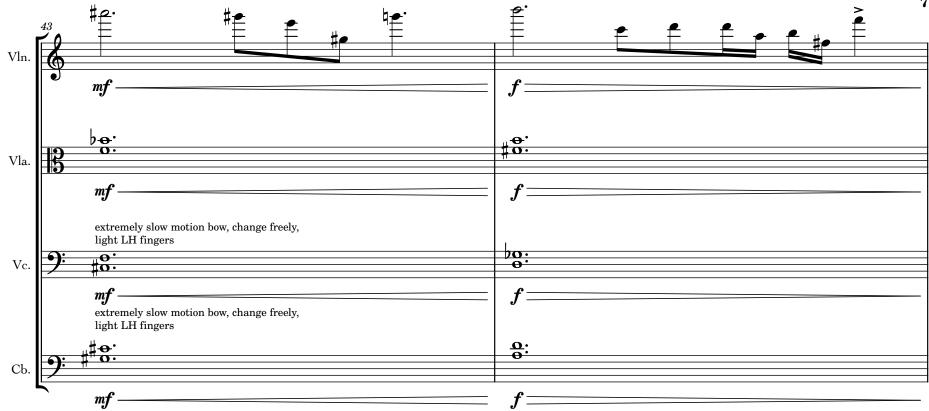


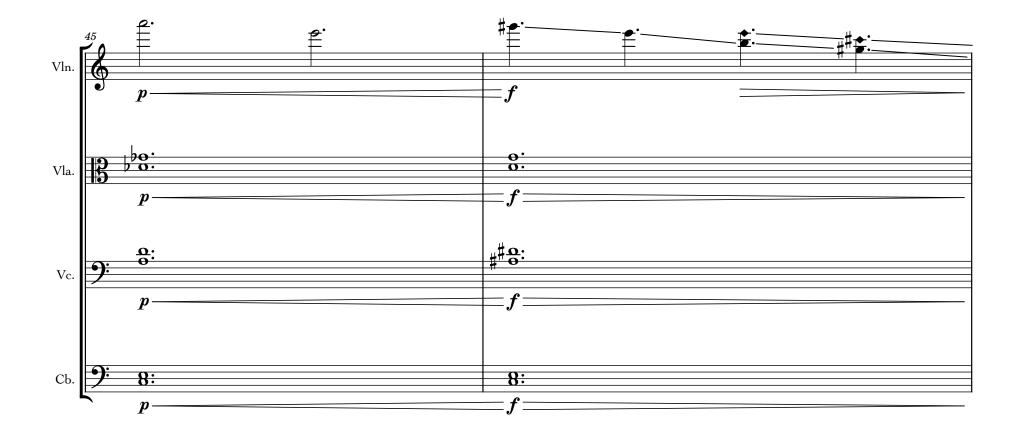






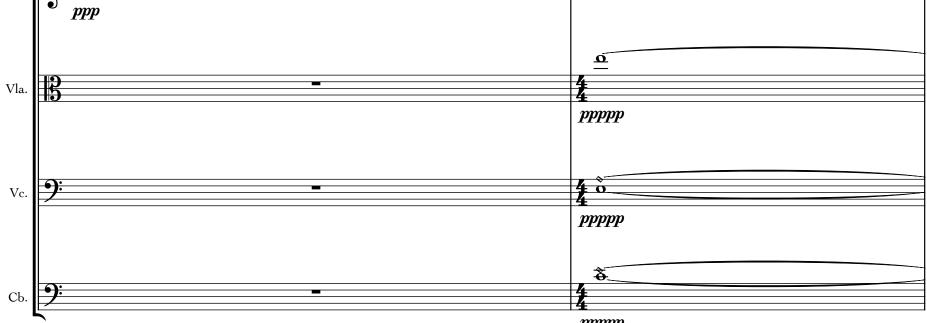






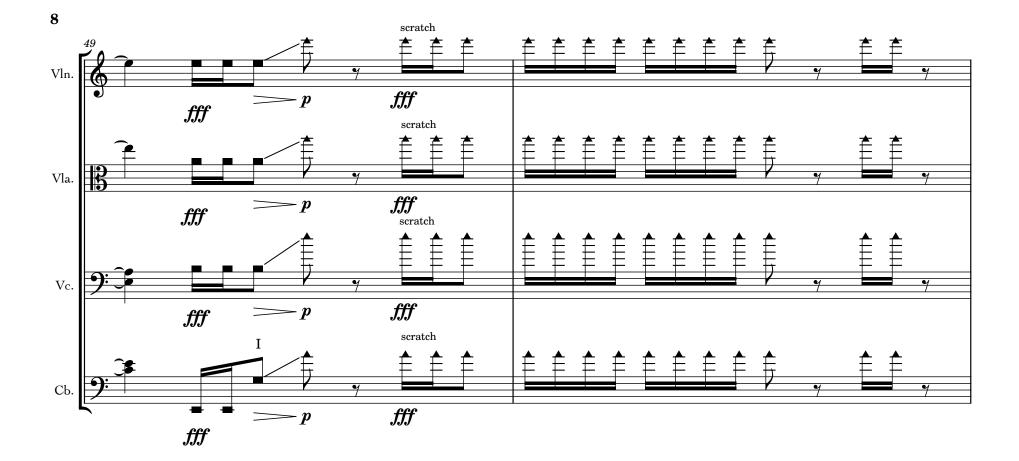
m.s.p. extremely slow motion bow, change freely, light LH fingers

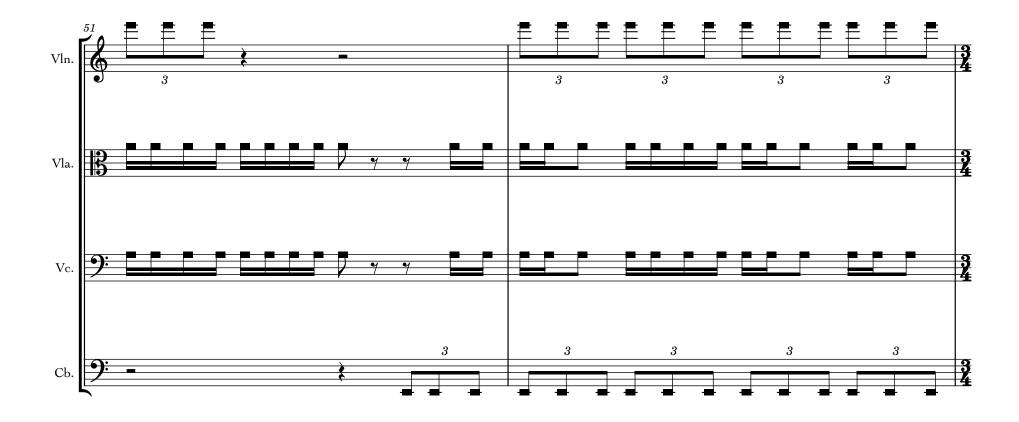
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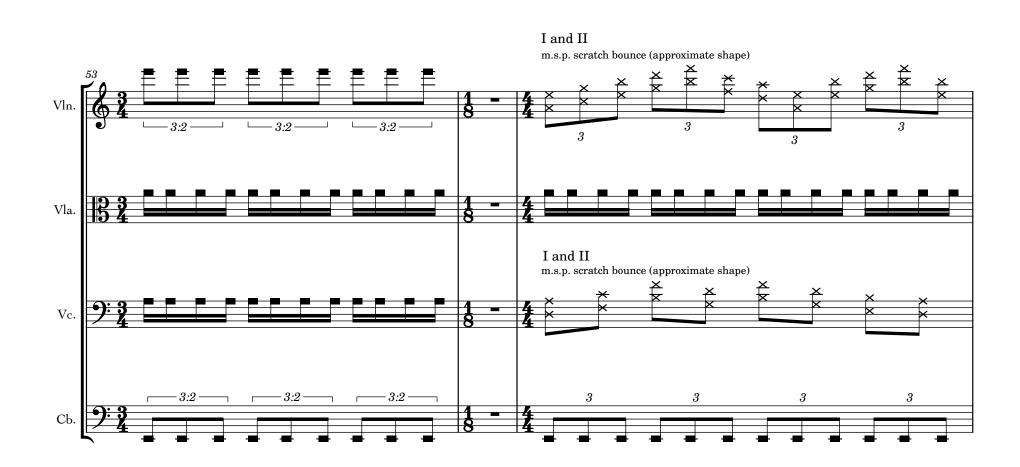


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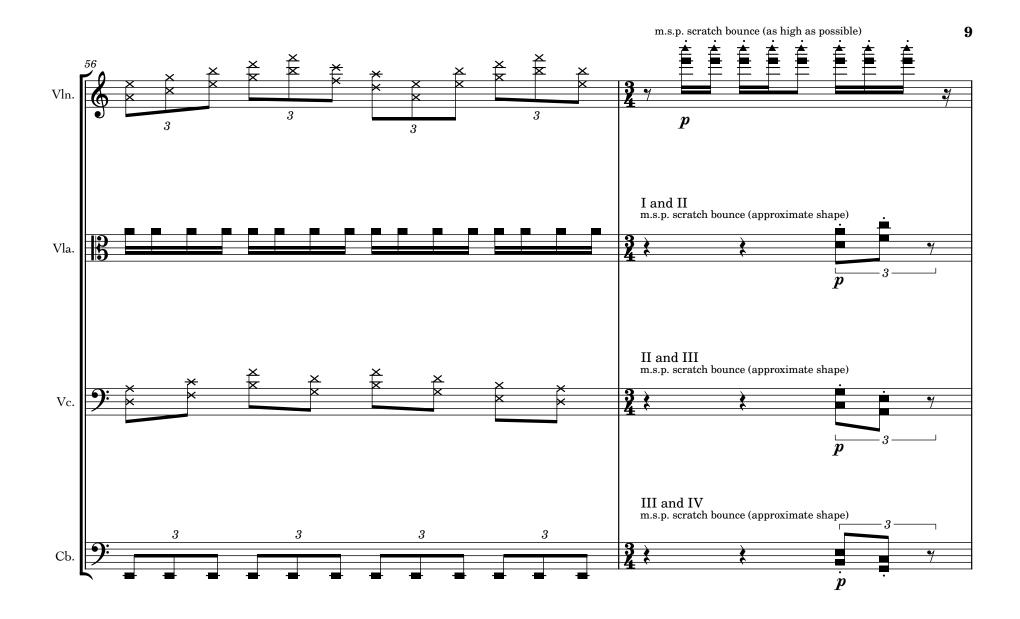
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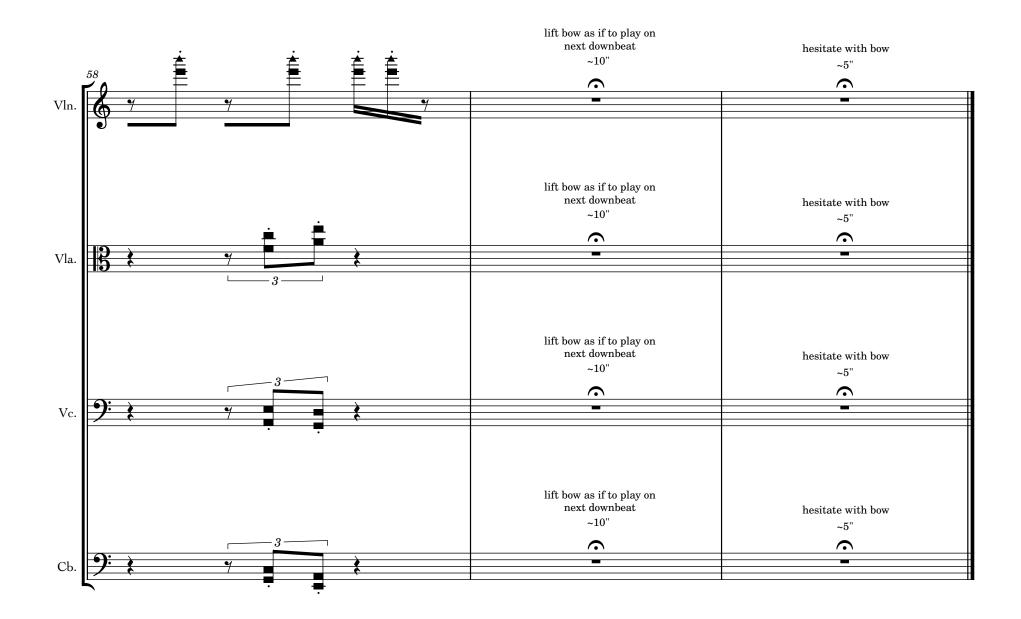






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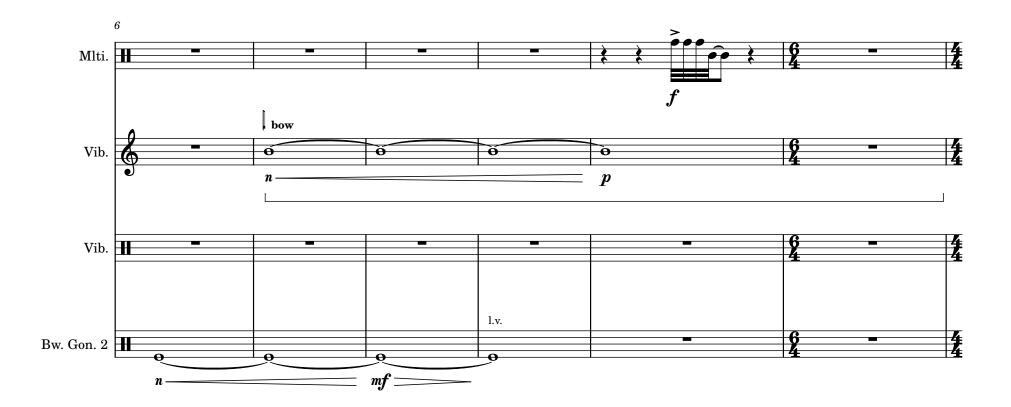


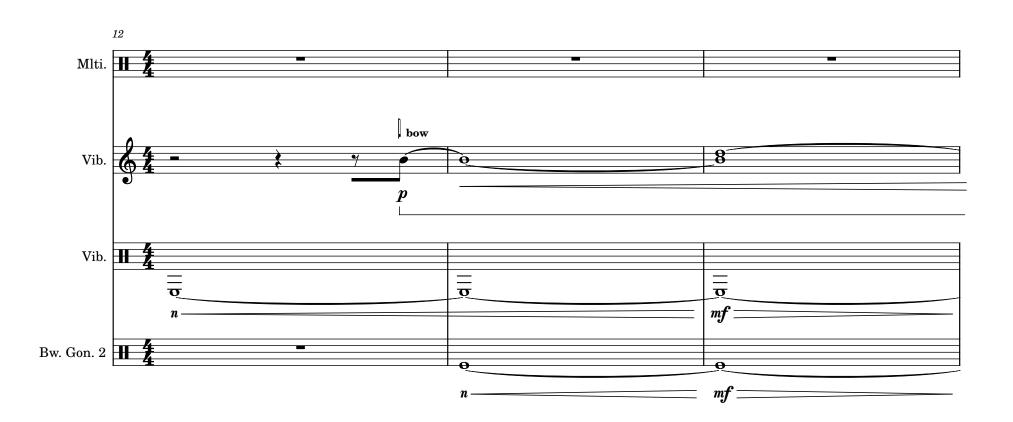


the bleached bones of a story vi

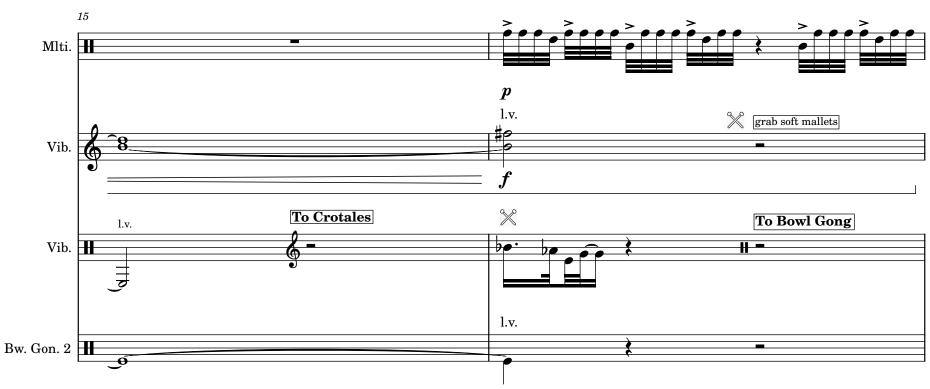
vi. ever-warming and ancient air

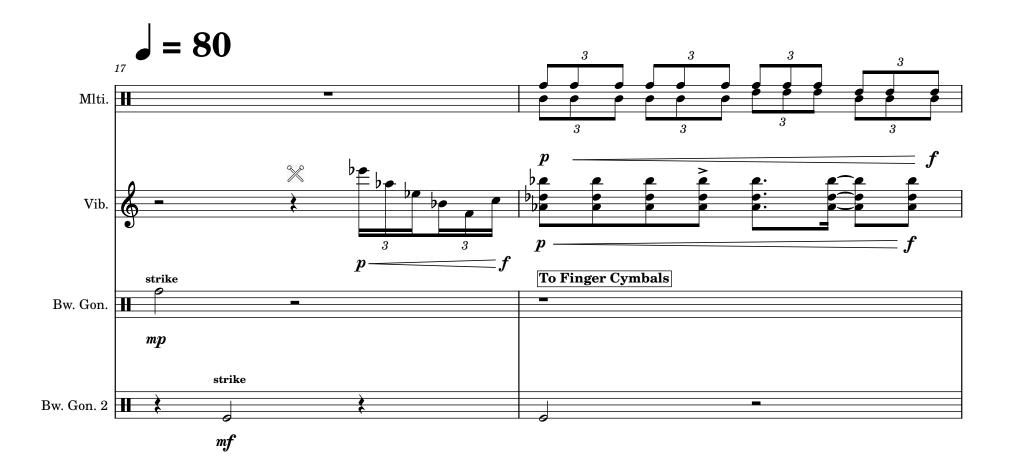
Coral Douglas = 60 Multi Setup Perc 1 Vibraphone Perc 2 Bowl Gong 1 Perc 2 Bowl Gong 2 l.v. Perc 4 Θ 0 0 mf = **n** -





the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - vi. ever-warming and ancient air

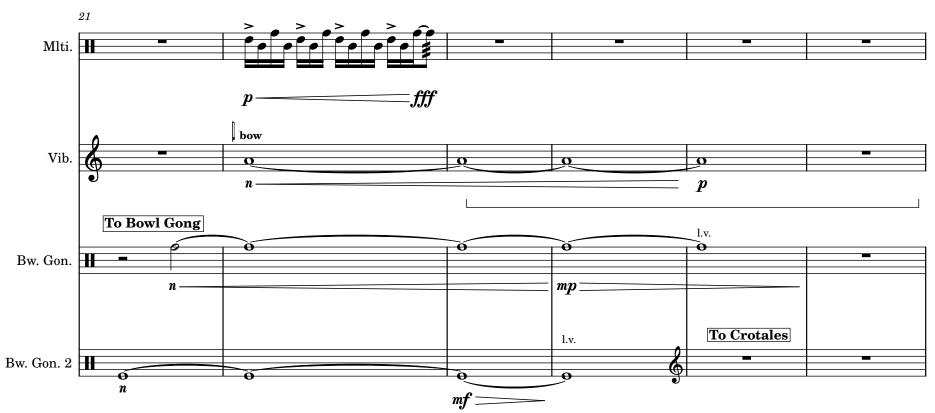


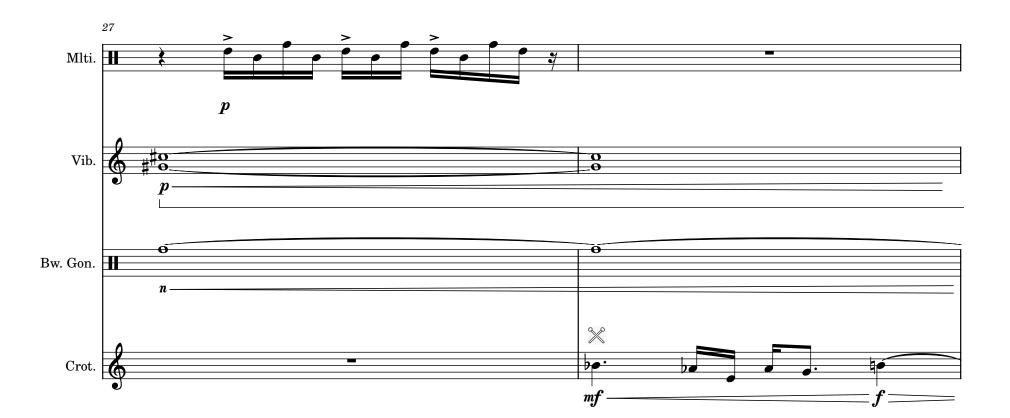






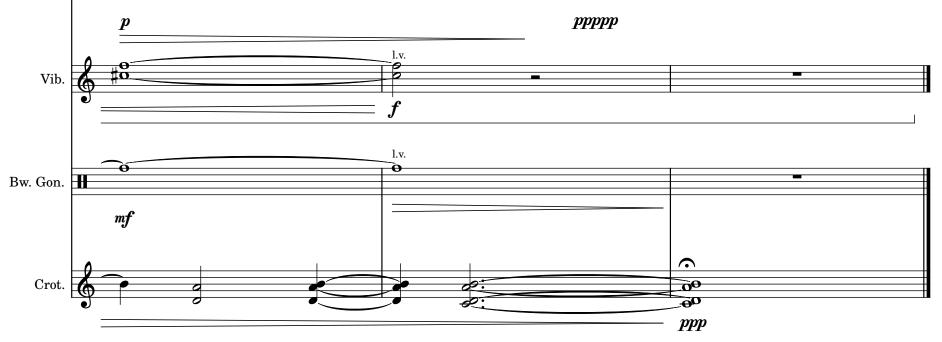
the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - vi. ever-warming and ancient air







3



the bleached bones of a story

vii. things whose holiness my memory often betrays

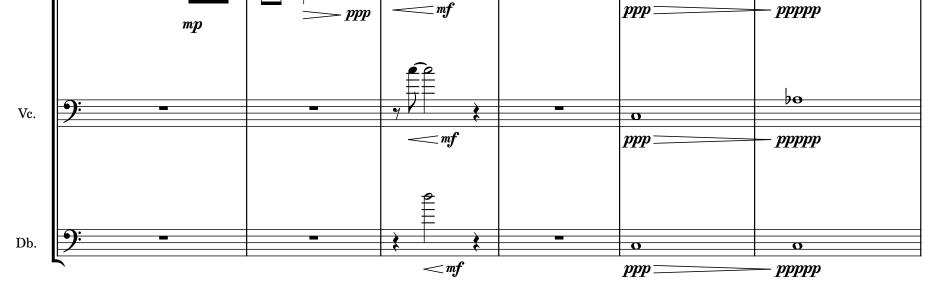




the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - vii. things whose holiness my memory often betrays



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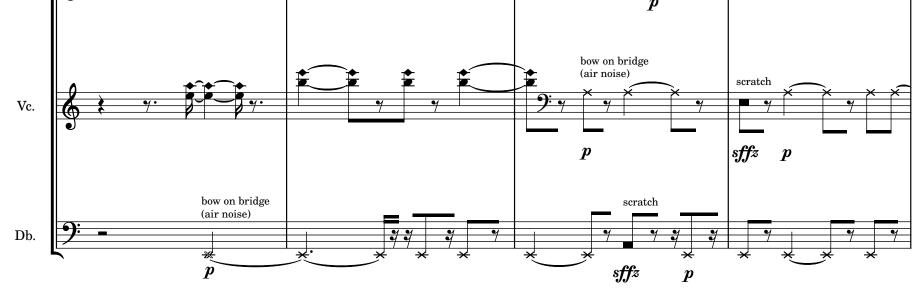


the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - vii. things whose holiness my memory often betrays



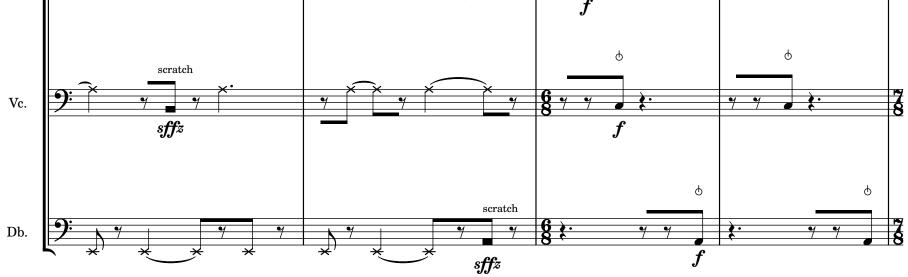
the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - vii. things whose holiness my memory often betrays





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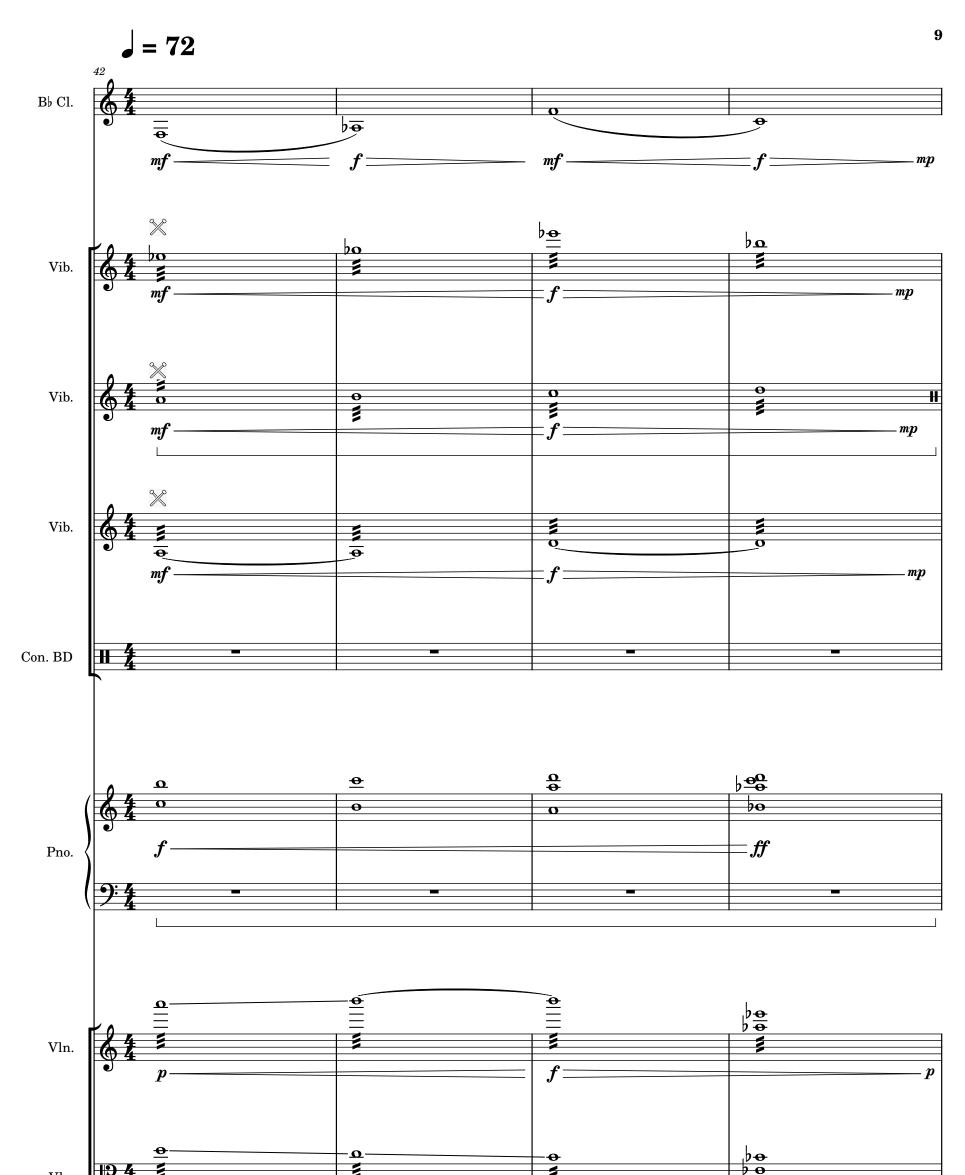
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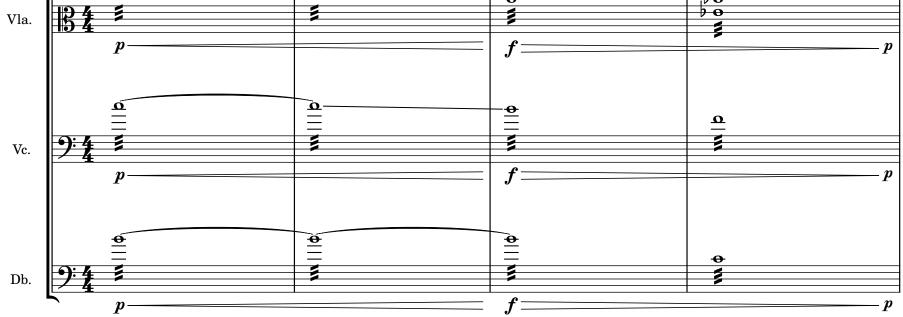


8



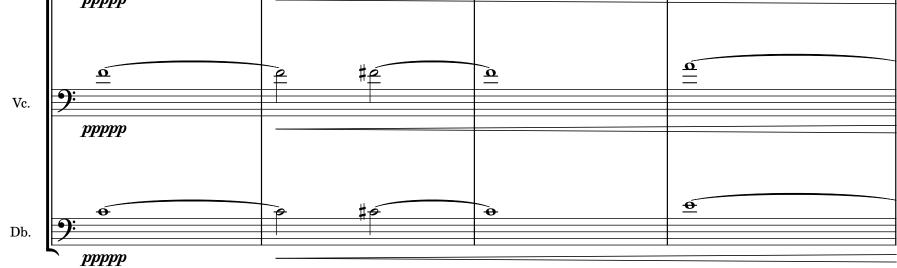
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the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - vii. things whose holiness my memory often betrays





the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - vii. things whose holiness my memory often betrays



the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - vii. things whose holiness my memory often betrays



the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - vii. things whose holiness my memory often betrays

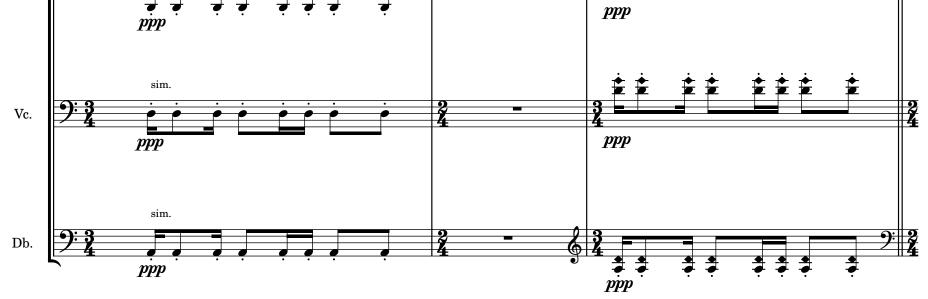


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the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - vii. things whose holiness my memory often betrays

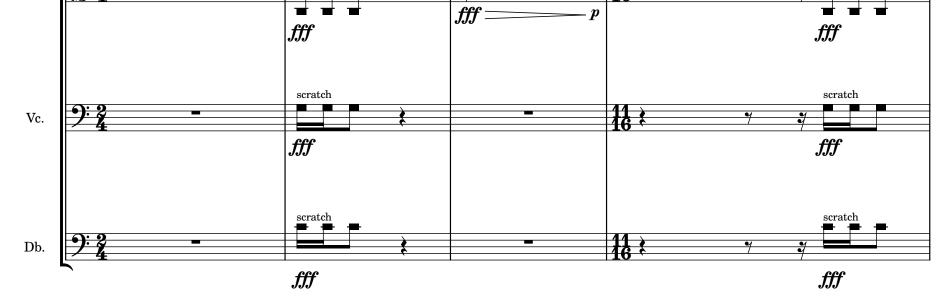




the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - vii. things whose holiness my memory often betrays



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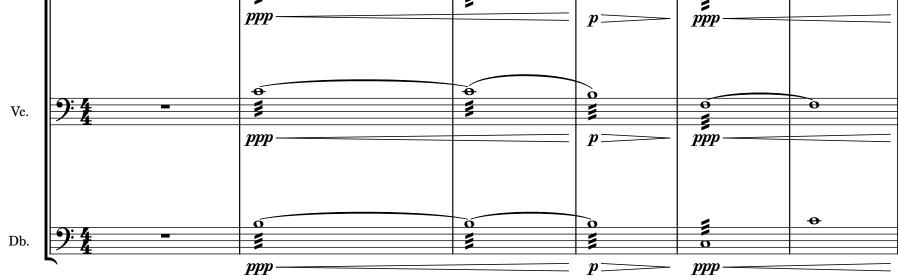
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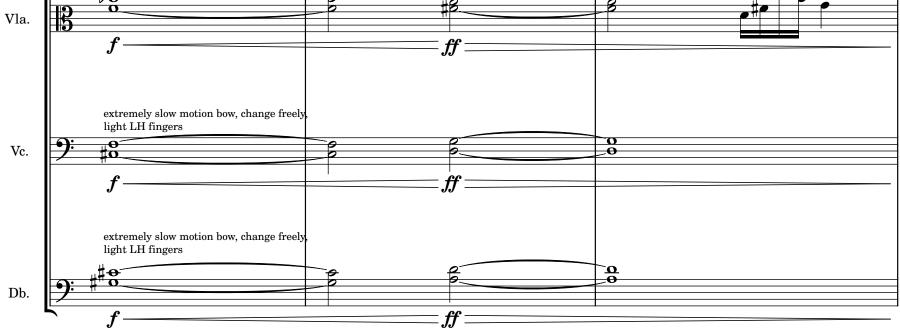
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the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - vii. things whose holiness my memory often betrays

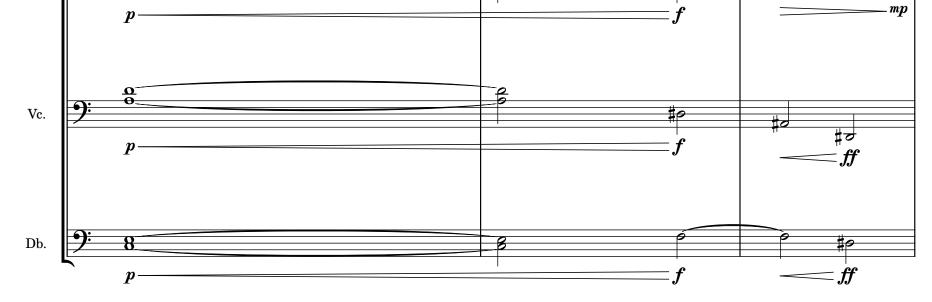




the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - vii. things whose holiness my memory often betrays

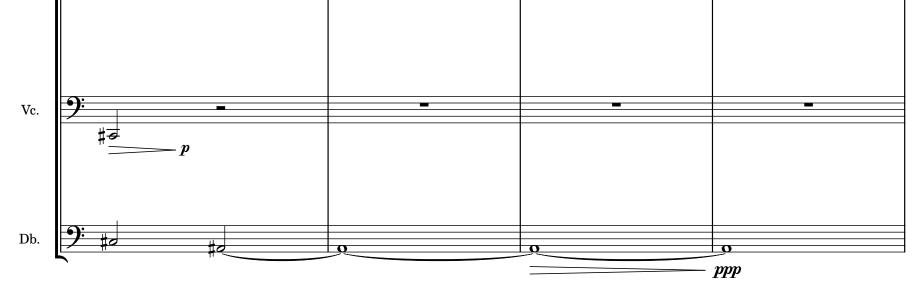




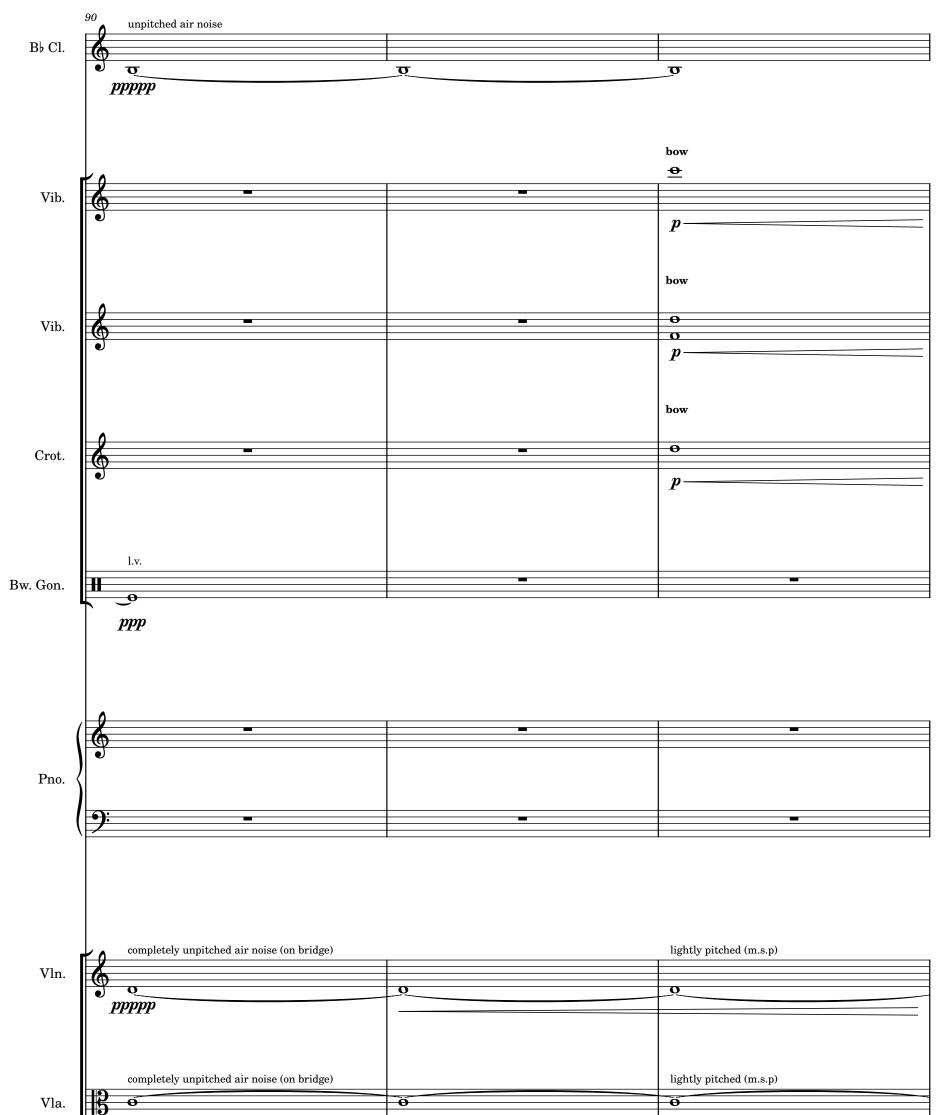


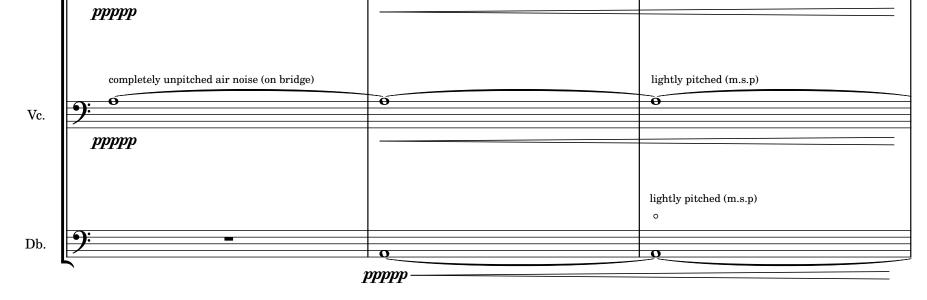
the bleached bones of a story - Coral Douglas - 2022 - vii. things whose holiness my memory often betrays





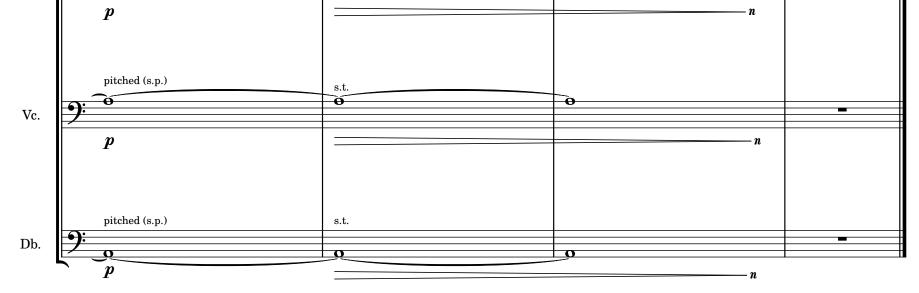
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