humans are stories of non-human things

Joel Kirk (2019-20)

amplified trumpet trio

c. 9 minutes

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program note:

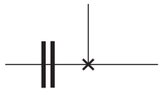
When the apocalypse has come and the human race is no more, the world will be covered in a layer of detritus that will signify our time here. This layer will be primarily comprised of our waste; the things we have thrown away. Materials such as plastic, glass, concrete, and radiation will be all that survive us.

This piece aims to bring the 'waste' or 'away' sounds of the trumpet and its player into sharp focus. Breath noise, tongue-rams, valve-clicks, throat noise, and split tones caused by inconsistencies of the embouchure are the entire focus of this piece. These are all sounds that are generally negated and ignored by the performer; ironed out by years of practice and good technique.

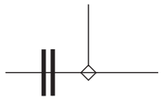
Reminiscent of a land-fill site, this piece is about trash; tons and tons of putrefied garbage processually and continually being tossed into a landfill site. The trash gets crushed under its own weight, gradually being boiled down to a rancid broth of carrion and carcasses.

notations

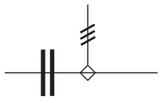
INDETERMINATE PITCH



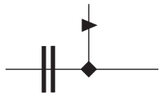
valve-click (valve specified)



blow air through instrument

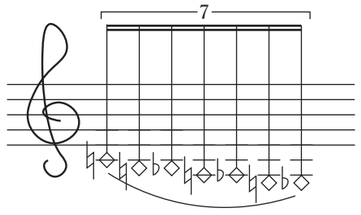


blow air through instrument (flz.)

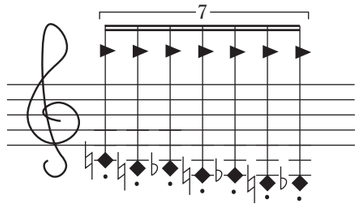


tongue-ram

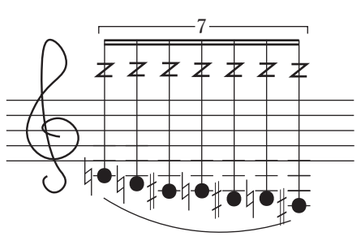
DETERMINATE PITCH



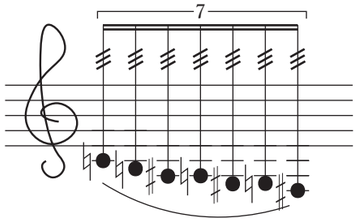
blow air through instrument



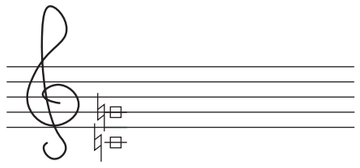
tongue-rams



throat-growl



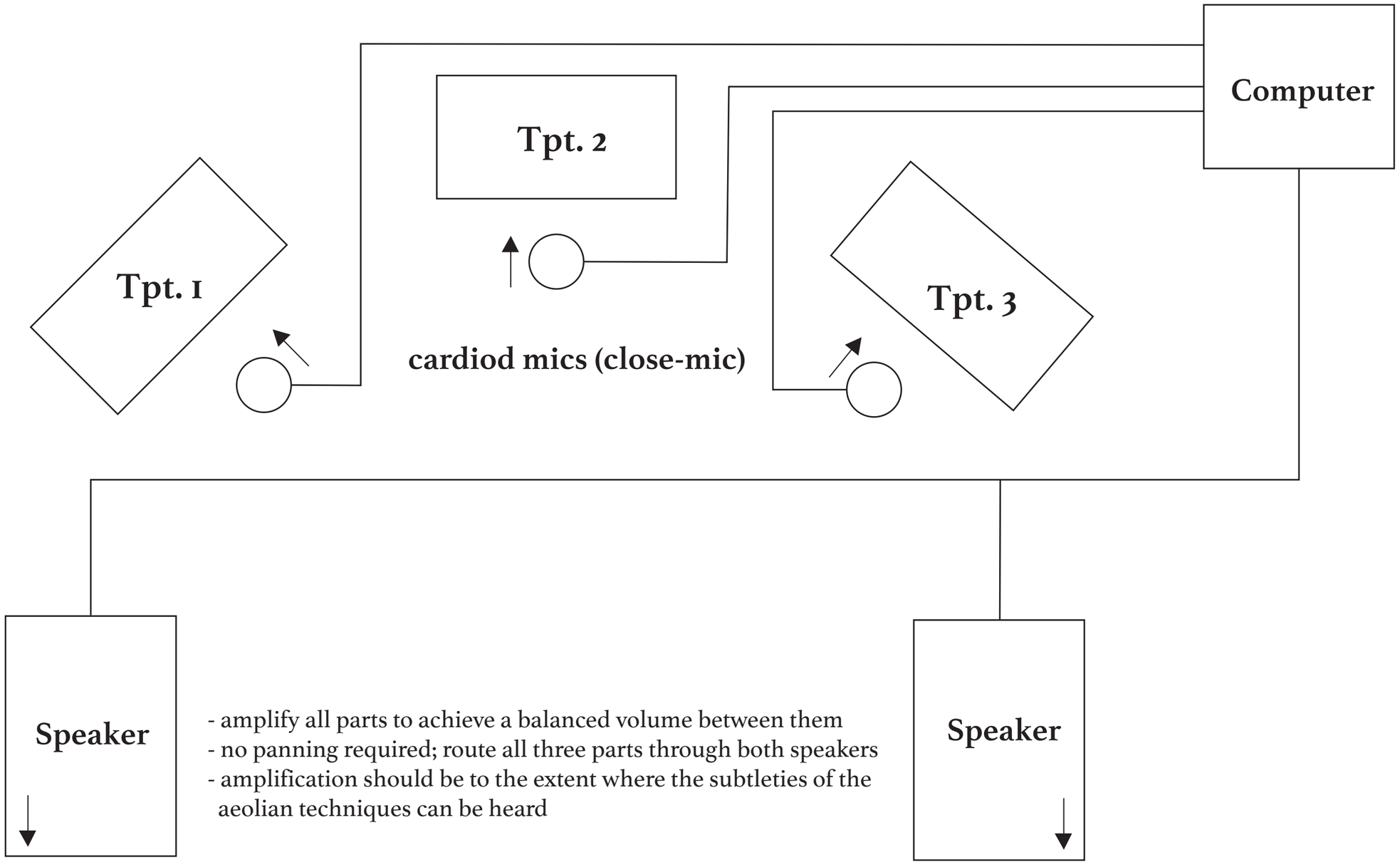
flz.



split tone

technology set-up

3x cardiod mics, 2x speakers, 1x computer



- amplify all parts to achieve a balanced volume between them
- no panning required; route all three parts through both speakers
- amplification should be to the extent where the subtleties of the aeolian techniques can be heard

trumpet trio

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* pitch of air is determined by valve depressed

** only lift valve as you depress the next one; the valve clicks when it rises (this is why valve three must be depressed ready to lift as you depress valve one at the beginning of the piece).

*** lift whichever valve is depressed so all valves are open (this allowed you to 'reset' for the next repeat)

= 72 **SEMPRE MOLTO MECCANICO E RITMICO**

IX **2X**

Tpt. 1 valve-clicks / air

valve-caps untightened (valves click when depressed)

Tpt. 2 valve-clicks / air

valve-caps untightened (valves click when depressed)

Tpt. 3 valve-clicks / air

valve-caps untightened (valves click when depressed)

tighten cap of 3rd valve with left hand

tighten cap of 3rd valve with left hand

tighten cap of 3rd valve with left hand

tongue -ram

mp

IX 2X

Tpt. 1 valve-clicks air

Tpt. 2 valve-clicks air

Tpt. 3 valve-clicks air

tighten cap of 2nd valve with left hand

tongue -ram

mp

IX 2X

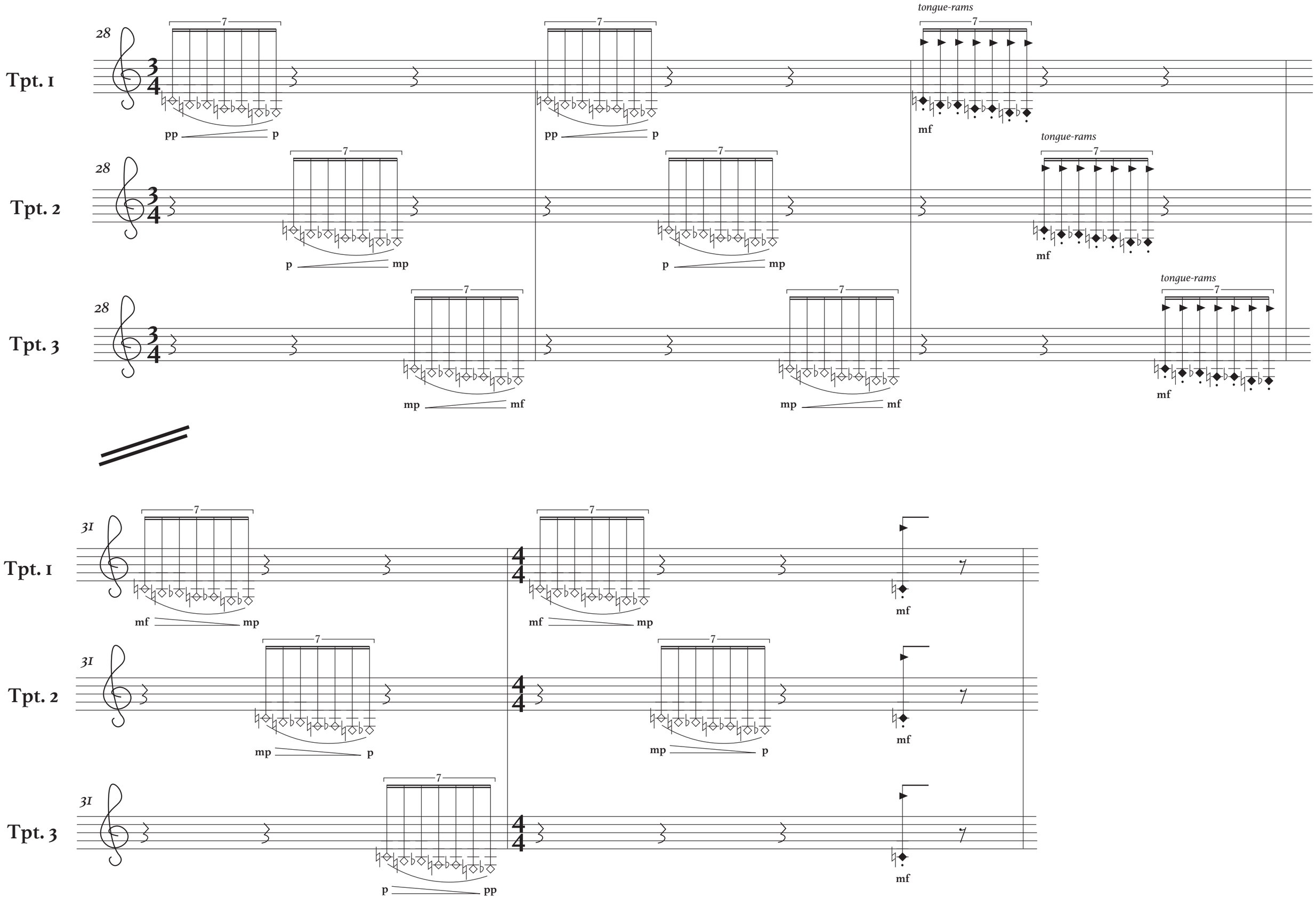
Tpt. 1 valve-clicks air

Tpt. 2 valve-clicks air

Tpt. 3 valve-clicks air

tighten cap of 1st valve with left hand

tongue -ram


28
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
7
pp
p
mp
mf
tongue-rams
31
4
4

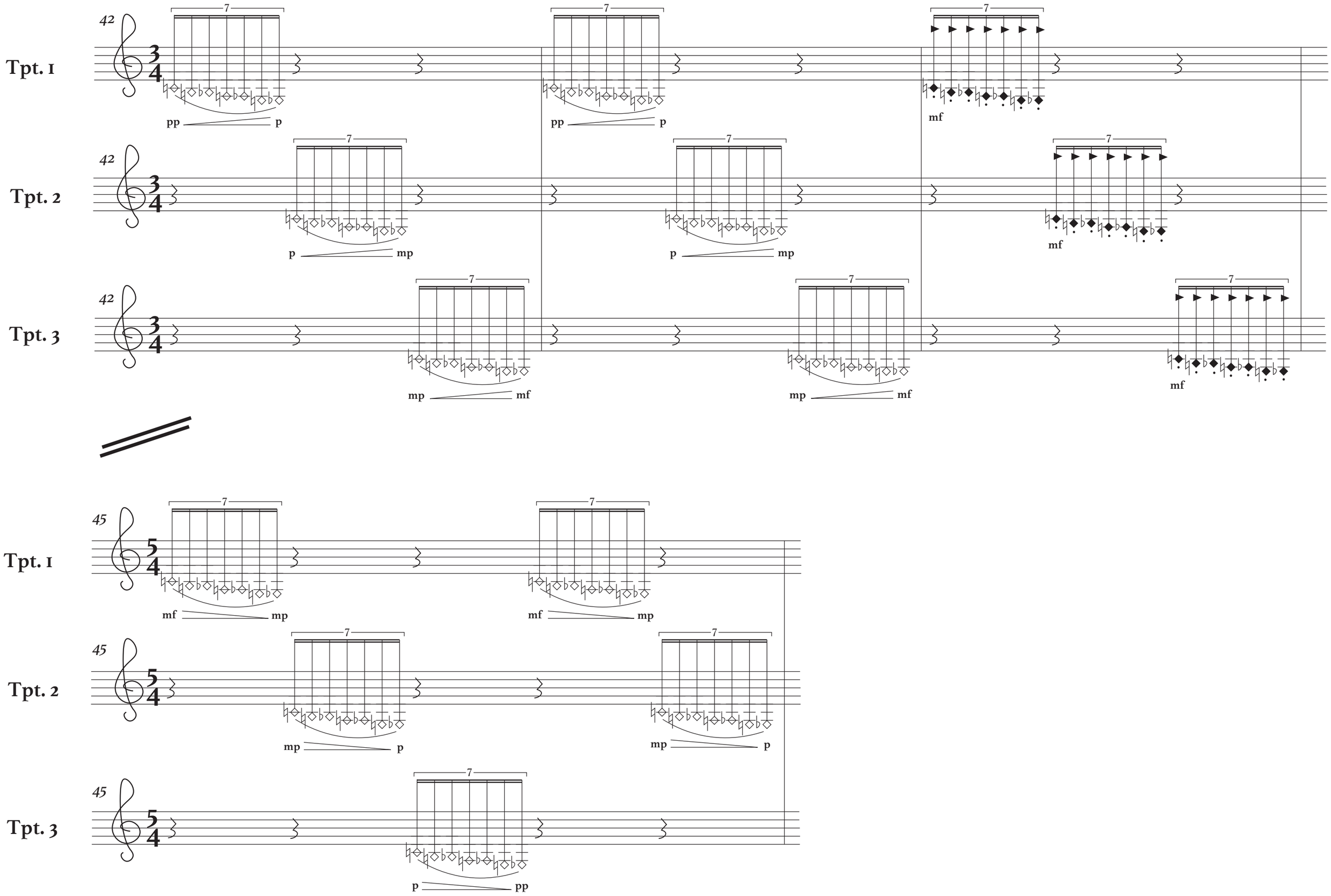
1x 2x

Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
valve-clicks
air

33

38

mp


Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
42
45
3/4
5/4
7
pp
p
mp
mf

(throat growl)

Tpt. 1

47

ff

Tpt. 2

47

Tpt. 3

47

Half-speed

(= 72)

Tpt. 1

49

mp

Tpt. 2

49

mp

Tpt. 3

49

mp

IX

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

51

15
16

A tempo

(= 72)

2X

53

mp

ff

sfz

53

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

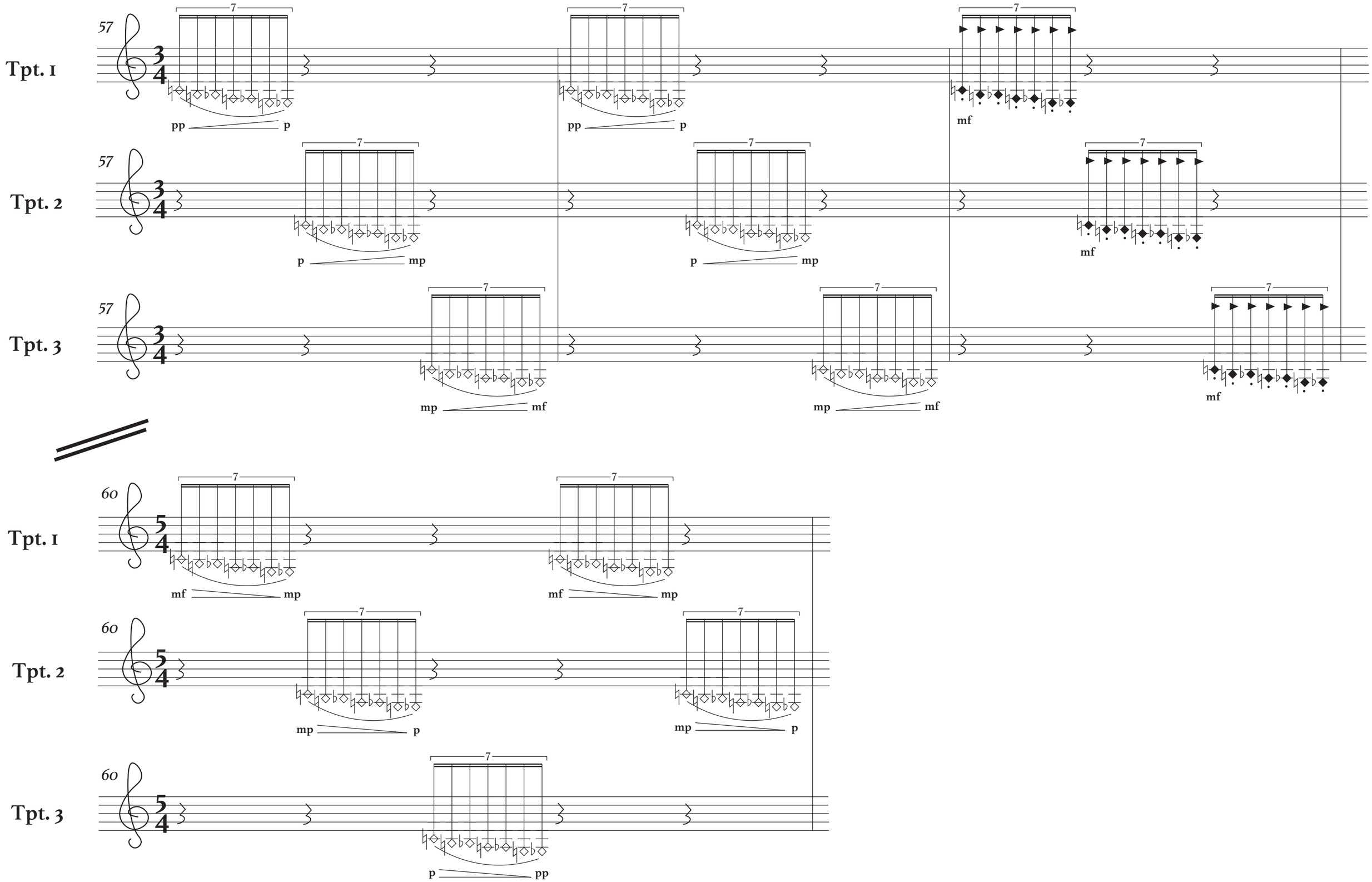
Tpt. 3

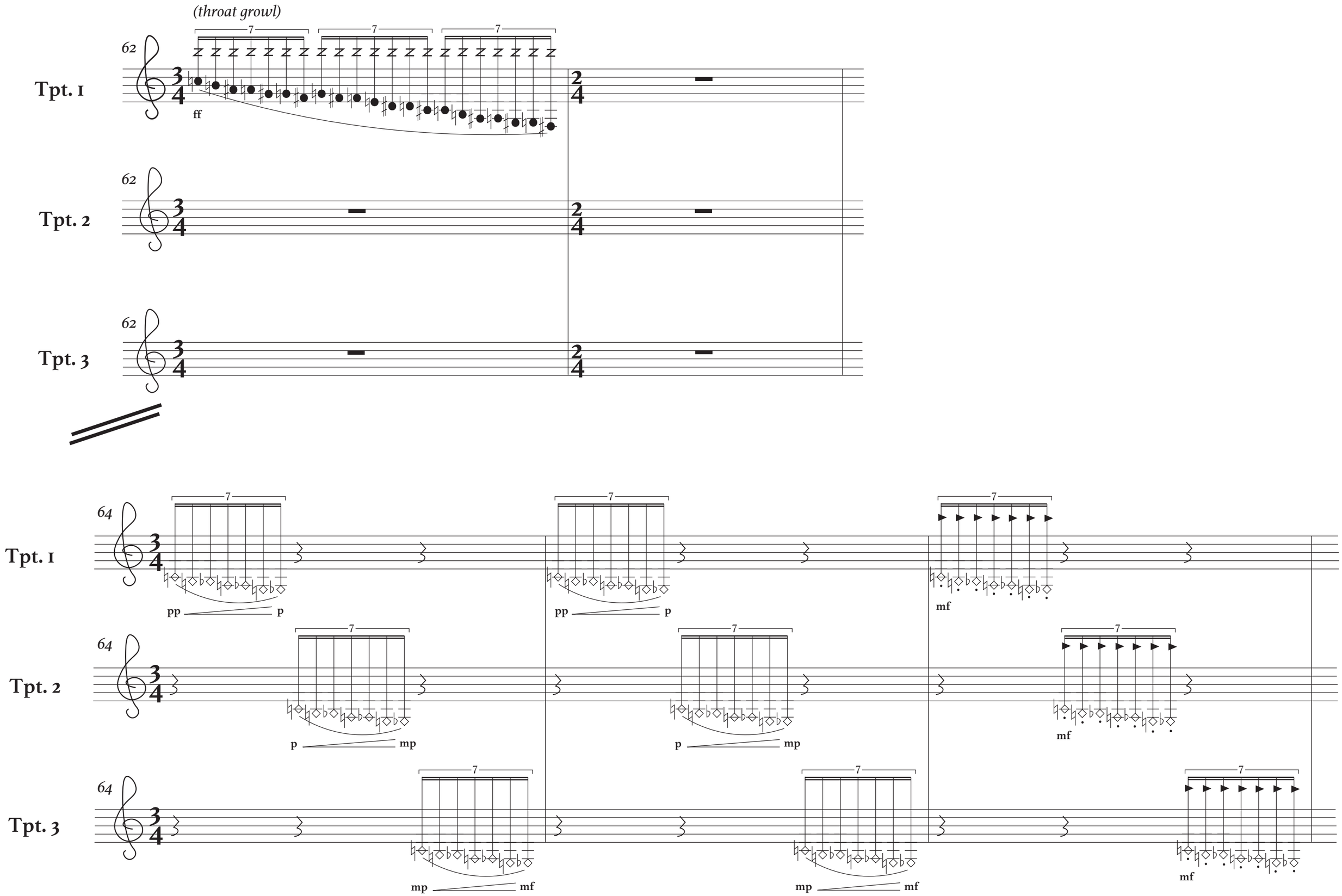
mp ff sfz

(throat growl; quasi ad lib.)

55

ff


57
Tpt. 1
pp
p
mf
Tpt. 2
p
mp
Tpt. 3
mp
mf
60
Tpt. 1
mf
mp
Tpt. 2
mp
p
Tpt. 3
p
pp


(throat growl)
62
Tpt. 1
ff
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
64
pp
p
mp
mf

67

Tpt. 1

7 7 7

mf mp mf mp mf

Tpt. 2

7 7 7

mp p mp p mf

Tpt. 3

7 7 7

p pp mf

69

Tpt. 1

3 3 3 3 3 3

mp mp mp f

Tpt. 2

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

ff sfz sfz ff ff sfz sfz ff

Tpt. 3

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

mp mp mp mp

71

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

mp mp

sfz ff ff sfz

mp f

(simile)

ff

73

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

mp mp mp f

ff sfz sfz ff

mp mp mp f

75

Tpt. 1

mp

mp

(simile)

ff

Tpt. 2

sfz

ff

ff

sfz

(throat growl; quasi ad lib.)

ff

Tpt. 3

mp

f

77

Tpt. 1

mp

mp

mp

f

Tpt. 2

ff

sfz

sfz

ff

ff

sfz

sfz

ff

Tpt. 3

mp

f

mp

f

79

Tpt. 1

mp

f

(simile)

ff

Tpt. 2

sfz

ff

ff

sfz

(simile)

ff

Tpt. 3

mp

f

(throat growl; quasi ad lib.)

ff

81

Tpt. 1

ff

Tpt. 2

ff

Tpt. 3

ff

ff

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

83

mp mp f f

ff sfz sfz ff ff sfz sfz ff

mp f mp f

85

mp f f ff

sfz ff ff sfz ff sfz sfz ff

mp f mp f

(simile) (simile) (simile)

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

87

ff

89

7/4

91

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

93

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

95

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

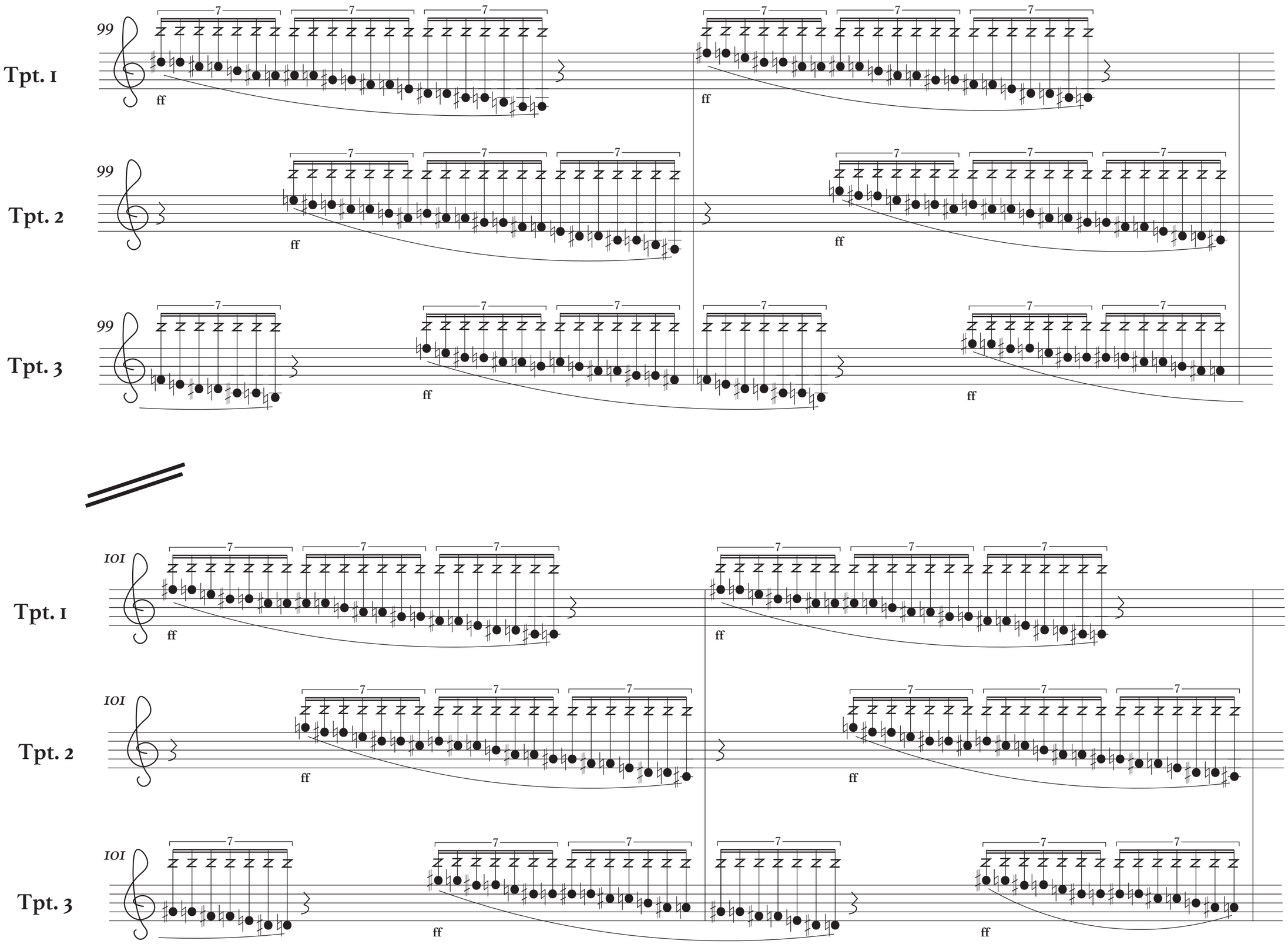
Tpt. 3

97

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3


99
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
7
ff
101

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

103

ff

106

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

109

7 7 7

3/4 4/4

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

III

split tones; very unstable/dirty

4/4

mf

117

Tpt. 1

117

Tpt. 2

117

Tpt. 3

123

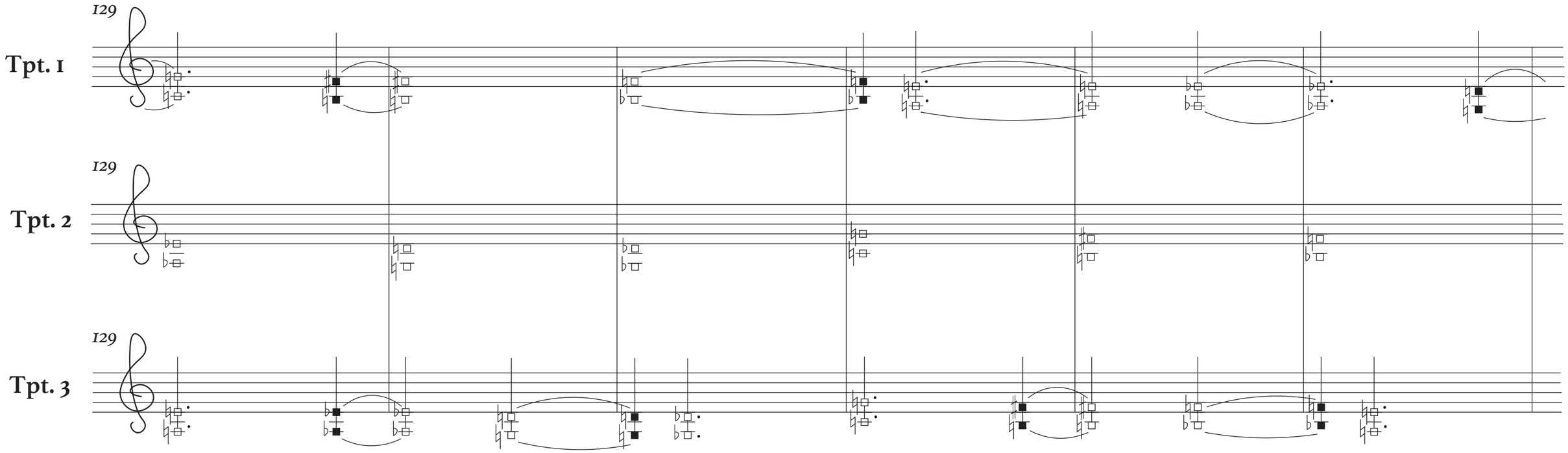
Tpt. 1

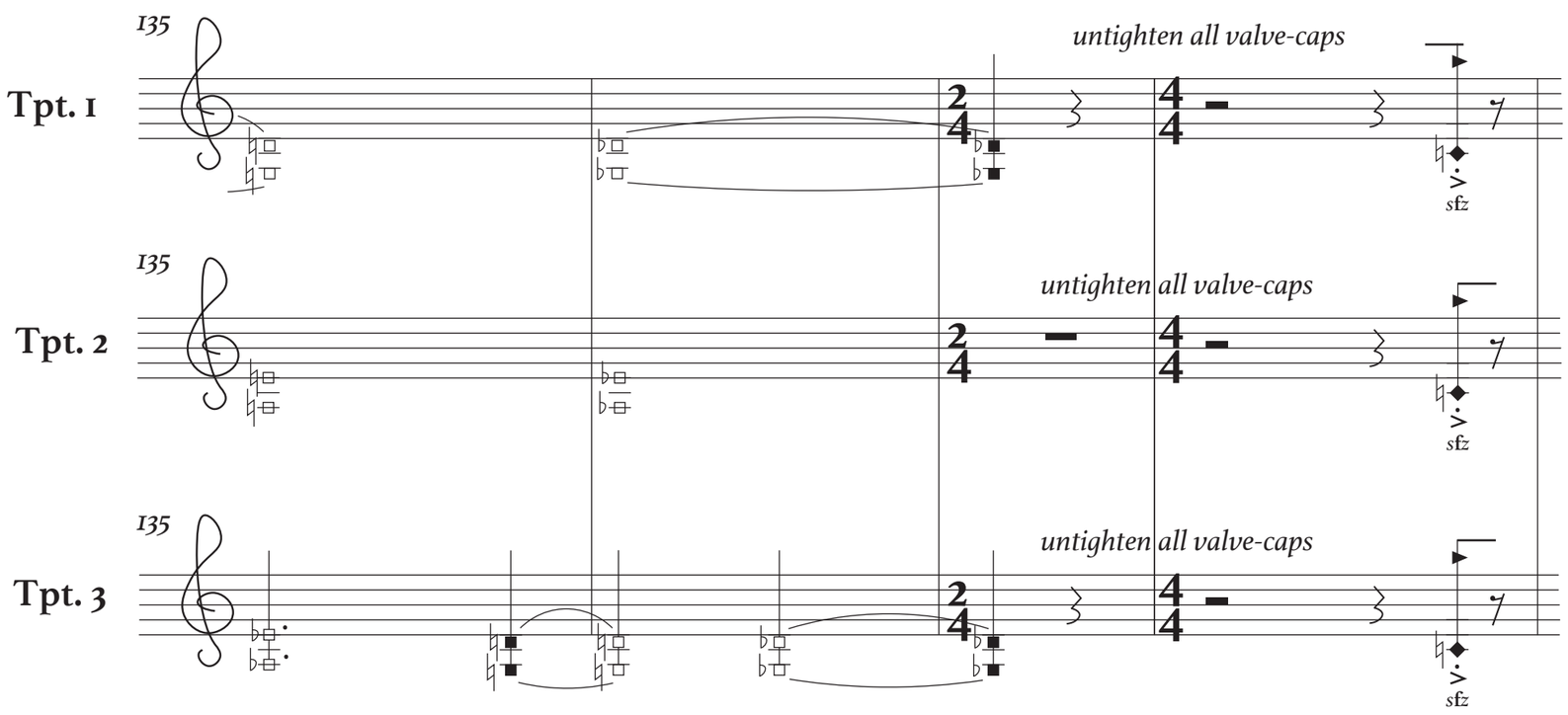
123

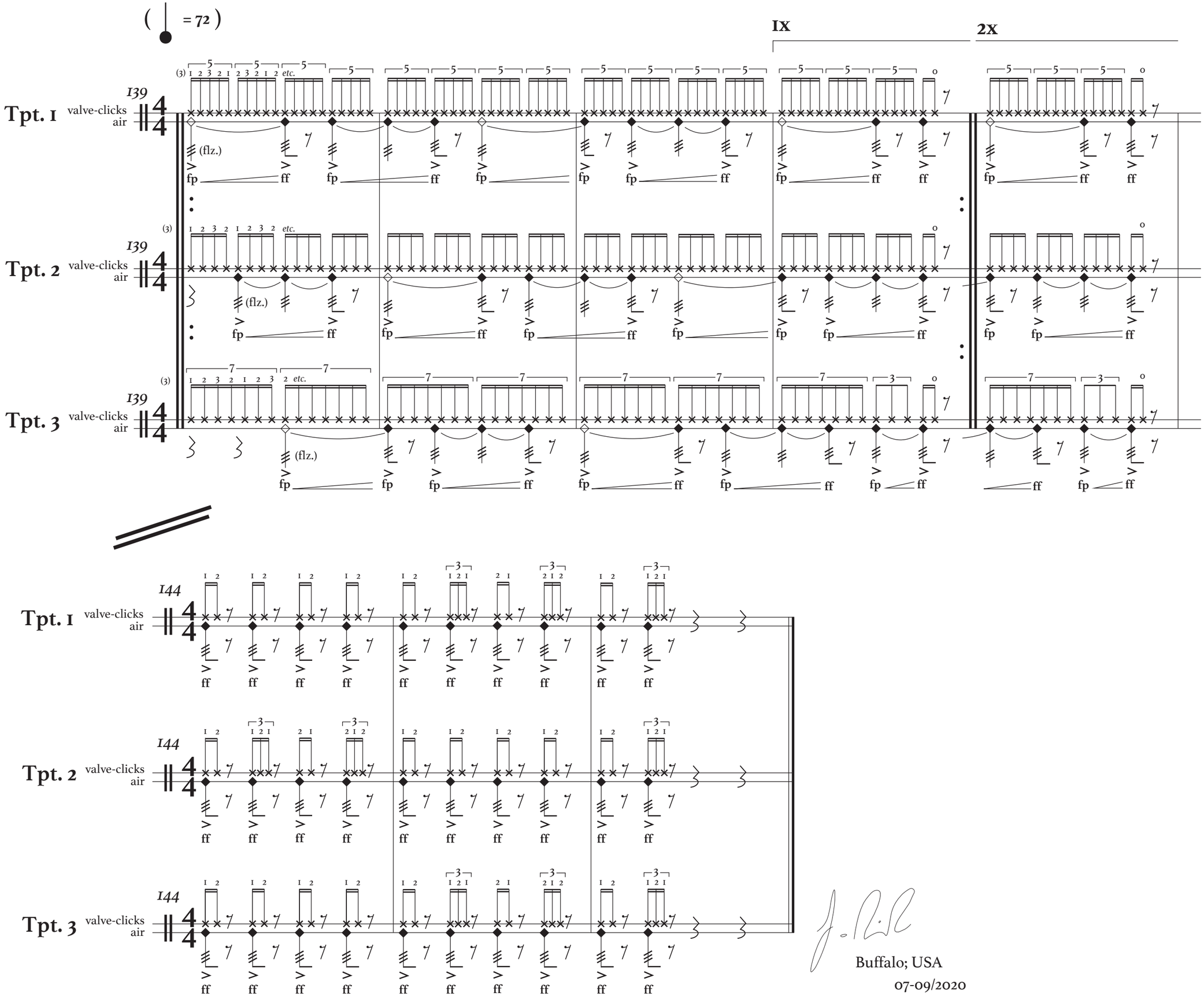
Tpt. 2

123

Tpt. 3


129
Tpt. 1
129
Tpt. 2
129
Tpt. 3


135
Tpt. 1
untighten all valve-caps
sfz
135
Tpt. 2
untighten all valve-caps
sfz
135
Tpt. 3
untighten all valve-caps
sfz



Buffalo; USA
07-09/2020