for Johnny

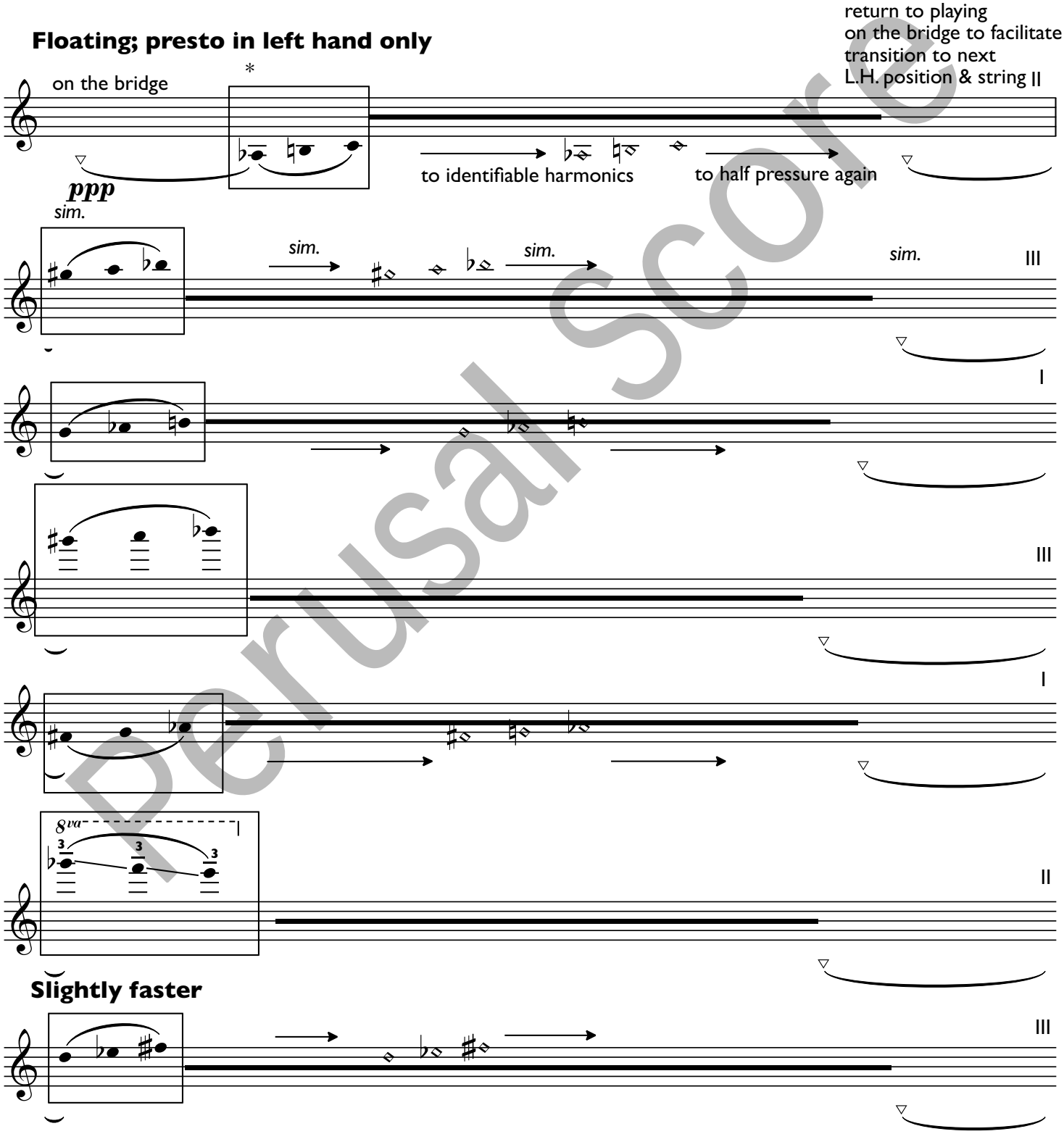
Dance Suite

for solo violin

Text concepts from Ohad Naharin

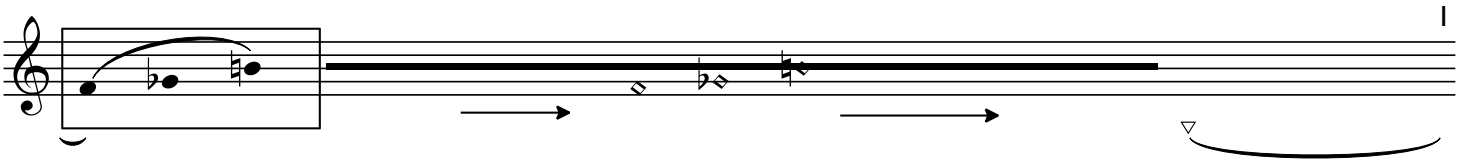
Maya Miro Johnson
(2021)

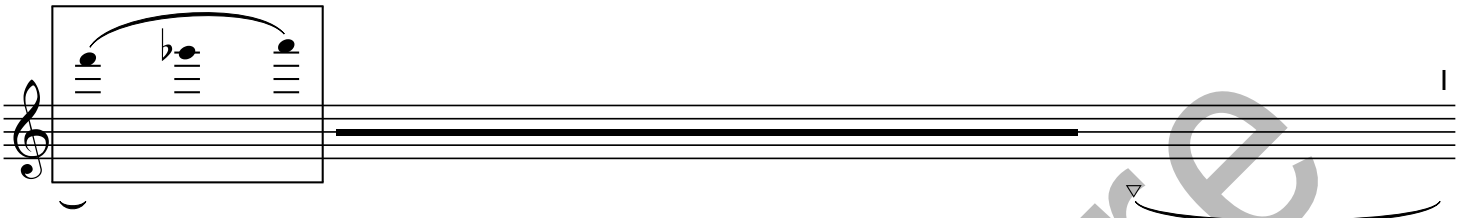
I. negating gravity on a molecular level (meditation)

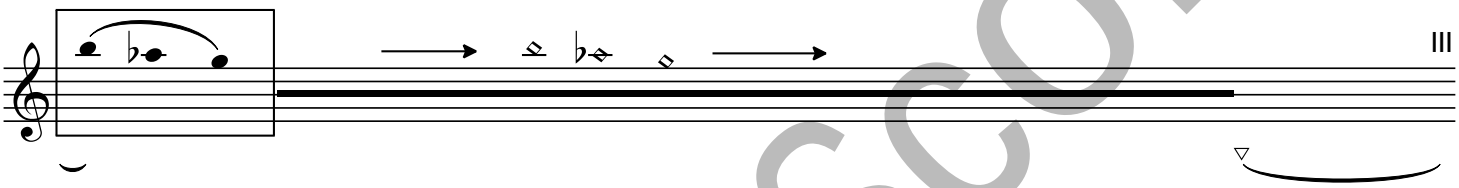


Perusal Score

*slow bow, ponticello, half pressure, lots of noise; repeat notes very quickly, *often non-linearly (*in any order)

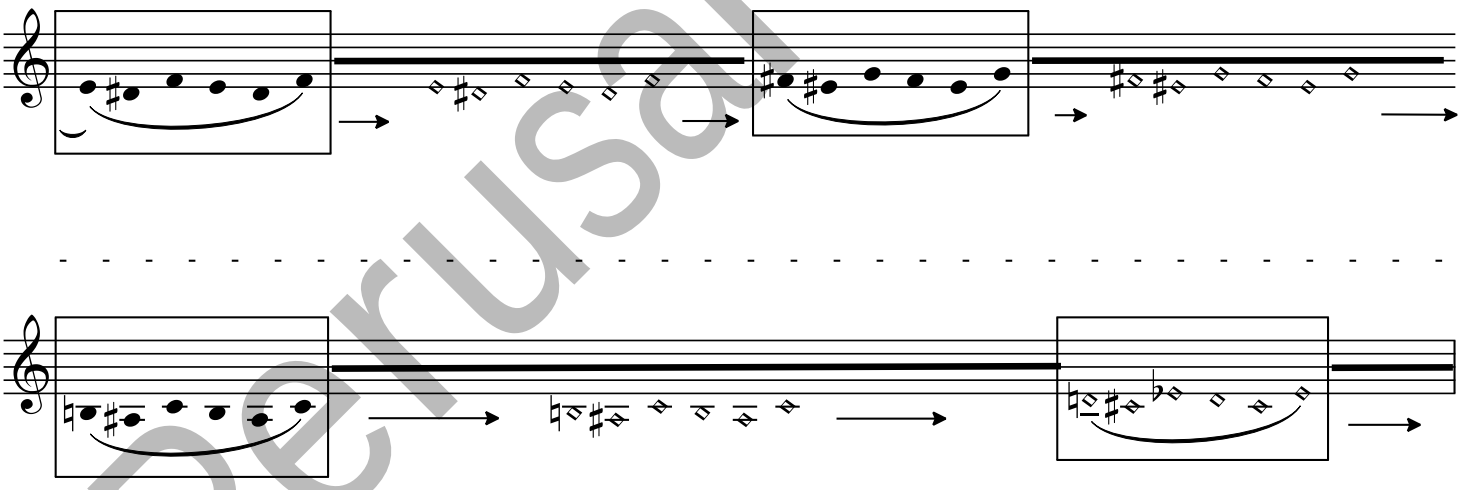




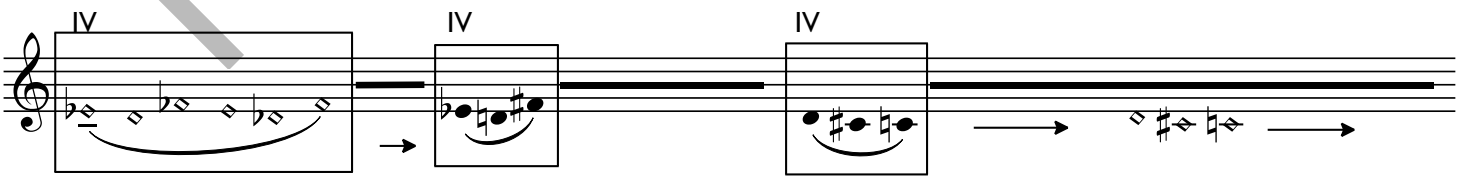


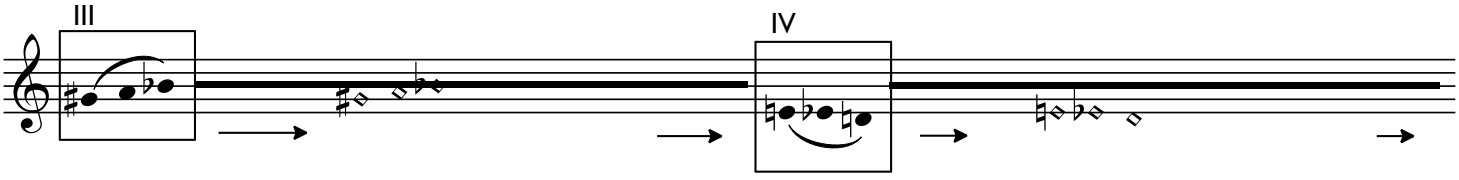
poco accel.

From now on play each box *only* linearly



Building momentum- no more than 4" on each box





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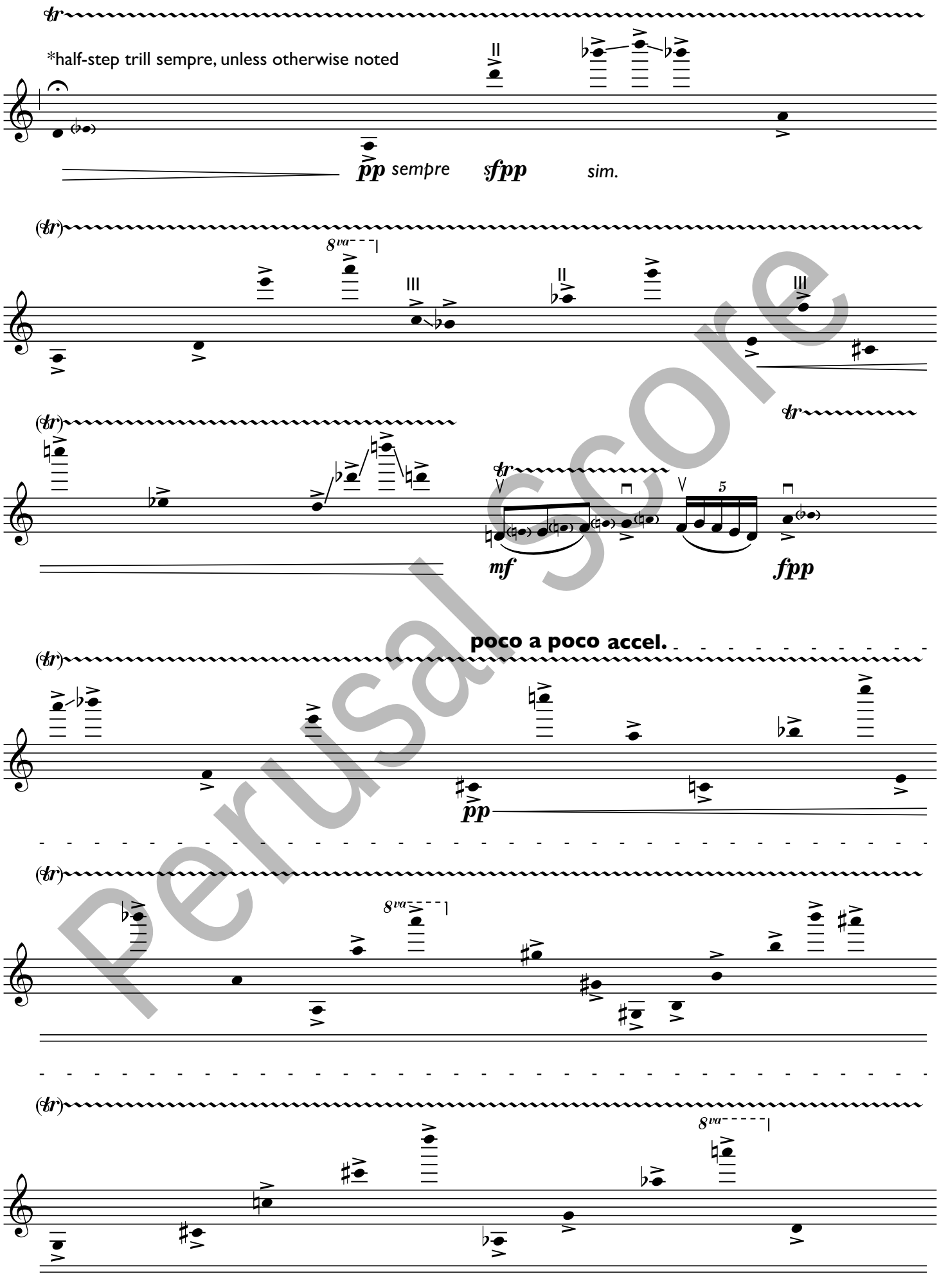

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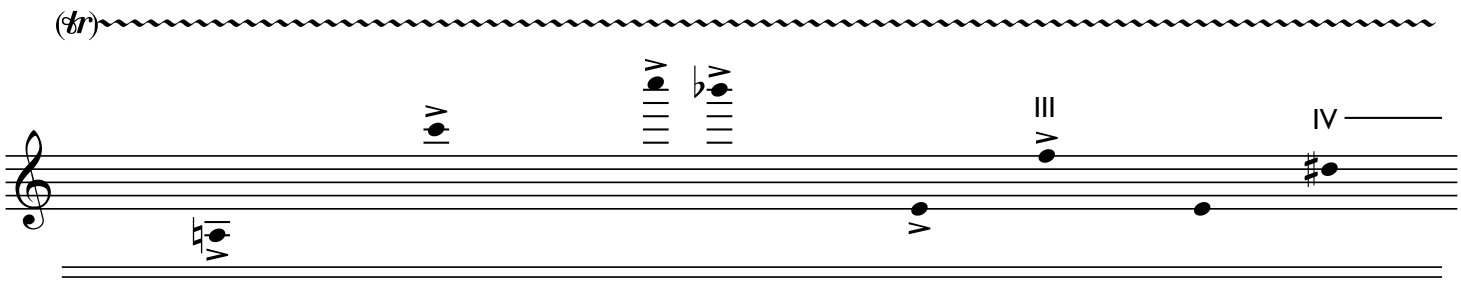
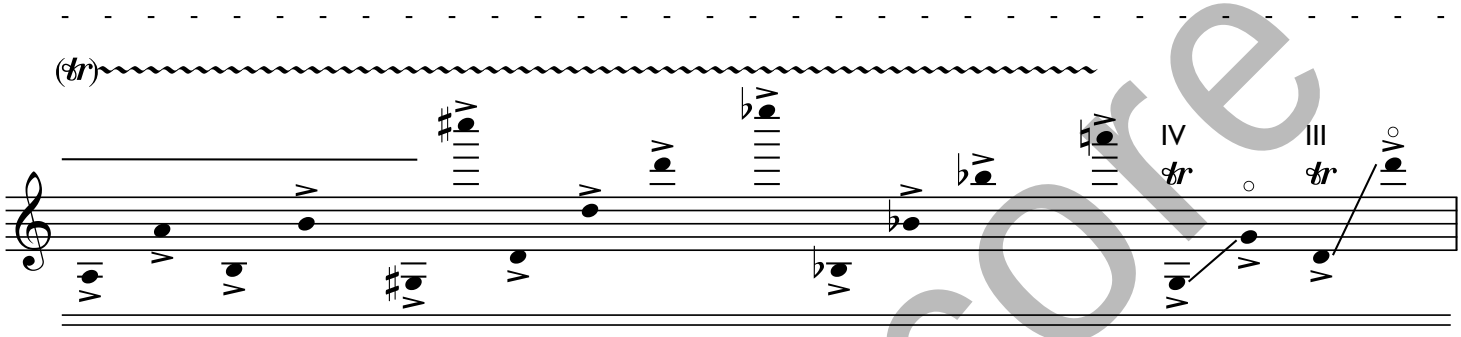
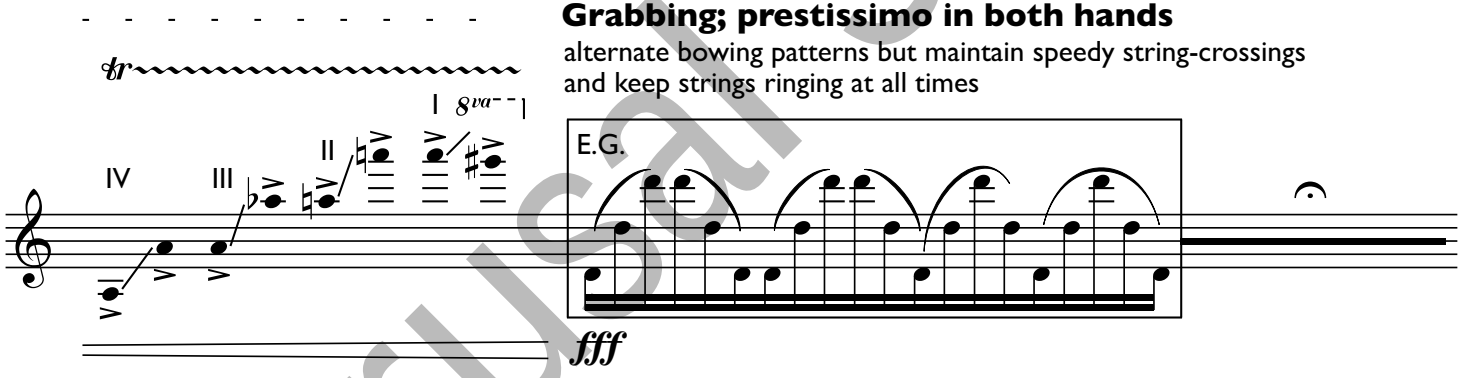
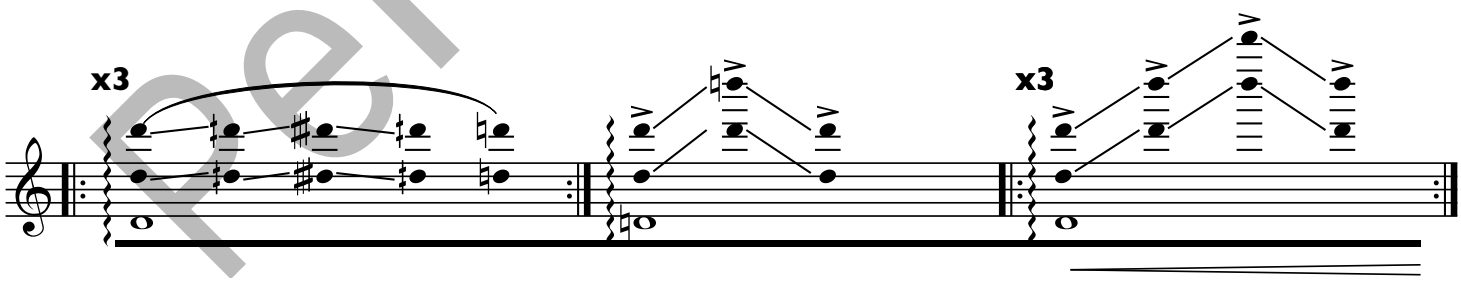


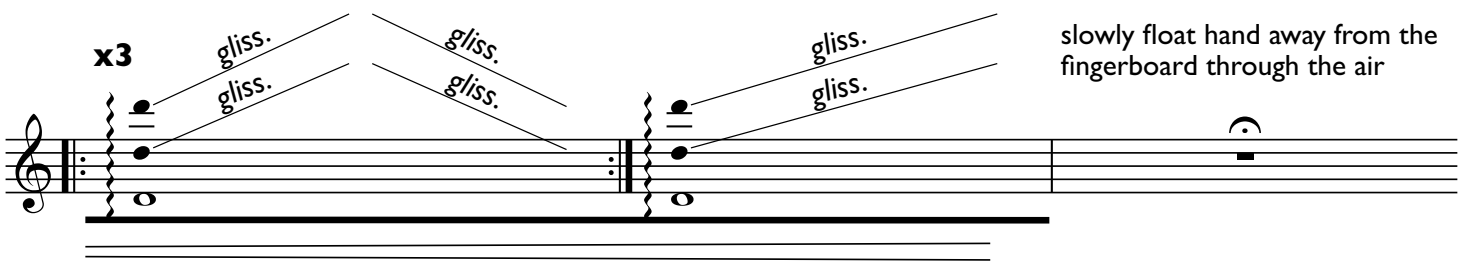


Grabbing; prestissimo in both hands

alternate bowing patterns but maintain speedy string-crossings and keep strings ringing at all times







slowly float hand away from the fingerboard through the air

Perusal score

II. the virtue of lightness

Look at your elbows and begin to carve circles in space.

You don't have to finish the circles; just describe them as they happen, while keeping the volume low, at a simmer.

As you work – carving, floating, watching – feel the ignition of an engine in your elbows and feel the spark travel downward through your hands and out your fingertips.

Use the small muscles and delicate bones and transition the circles to twists and rotations.

Bring the volume up, creating a texture that keeps itself alive.

Now reverse direction, elbow to tip of the shoulder, and generate lift, like an airplane wing.

Now combine directionalities, a radiation of circles and twists from the locus of the elbow; allow yourself to get caught by surprise.

Move quickly, lightly, and nimbly like cat's paws.

Let the lightness sink down and create a thicker texture that travels- it has a start point and an end point and in transit it will connect with other textures (like on the subway, you might encounter thousands of people who are all traveling from start points to end points through the texture of their life in that moment).

Now that the textures are traveling, allow them to ignite in foreign places like the ribcage and upper back.

Switch the locus of movement to the point where your shoulder-blades meet to form wings and move textures from there.

Feel a little silly, like a little songbird that flaps its wings very fast and in a quirky, groovy way. Connect to the fantasy of a hummingbird, moving quickly without moving really at all: this is the virtue of lightness.

Travel lightly by dropping your baggage.

Feel from the silly effort the beginning of a secret smile all over the flesh, and place a hot air balloon in the center of each joint, allowing a perpetual lift to permeate the body: let the torso float on the pelvis, hips, thighs, knees, shins, ankles, and feet, which are pressing into the ground and lifting you up.

Allow gusts of hot air to lift your frame, bringing your elbows and shoulder blades.

Describe circles using lift, ignition, virtue of lightness, groove, silliness, traveling textures, secret smile, and the fantasy of a childhood aspiration, when there were no limit.

Perusal Score

Be absurd.
Smile in your journey from point a to point b and feel available for shortcuts, delays, detours, and changing your mind, the direction of energy, and the flow of your life.

Float, totally weightless, without any dead flesh.

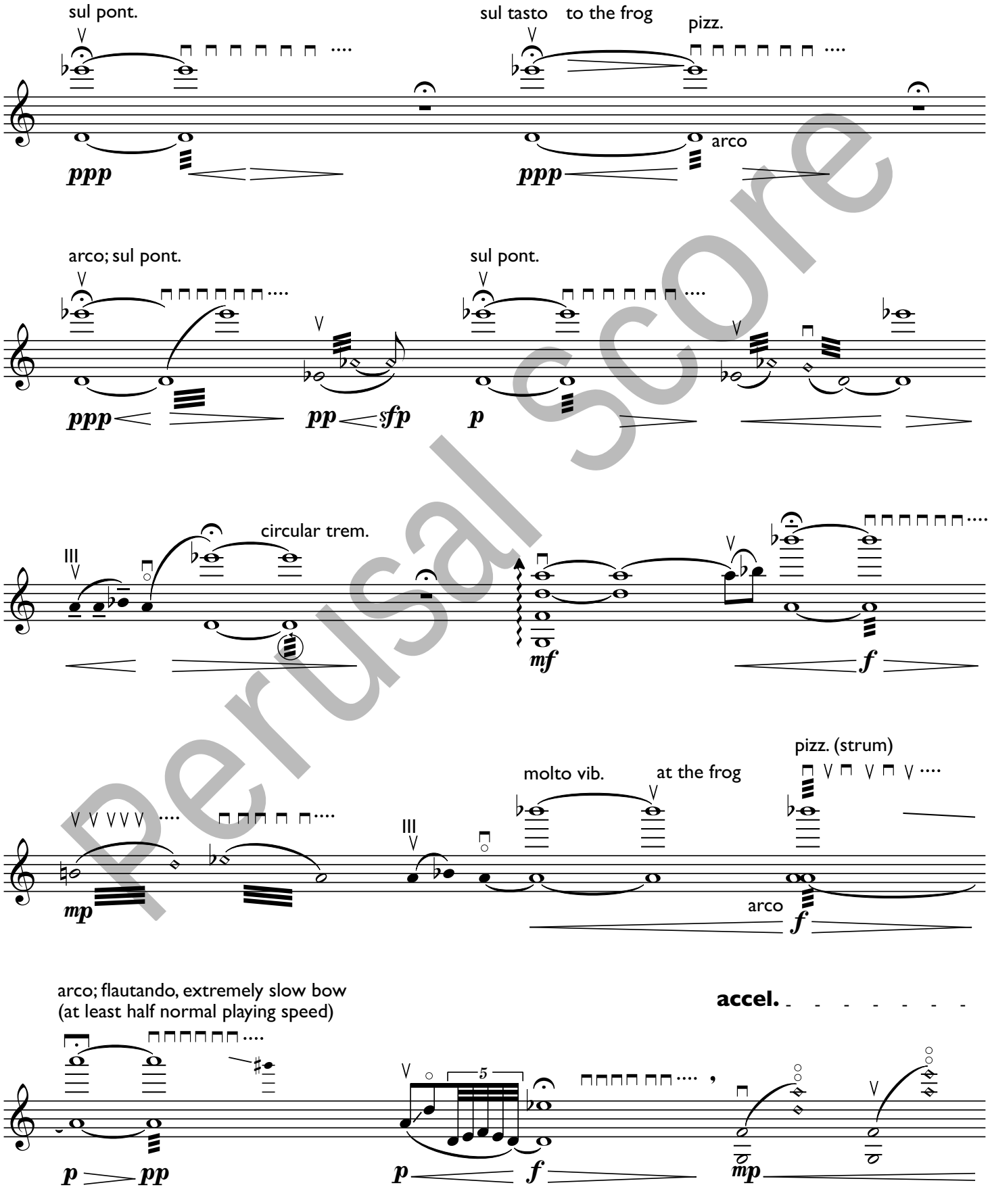
Describe an eternal lift in an environment with no gravity.

Finally, drift down as if you weigh nothing at all but must inevitably come to rest.

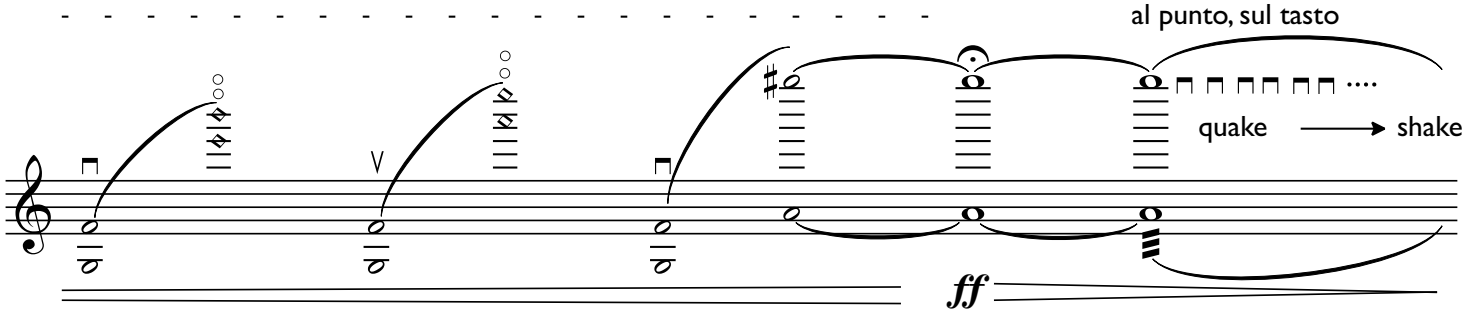
Perusal Score

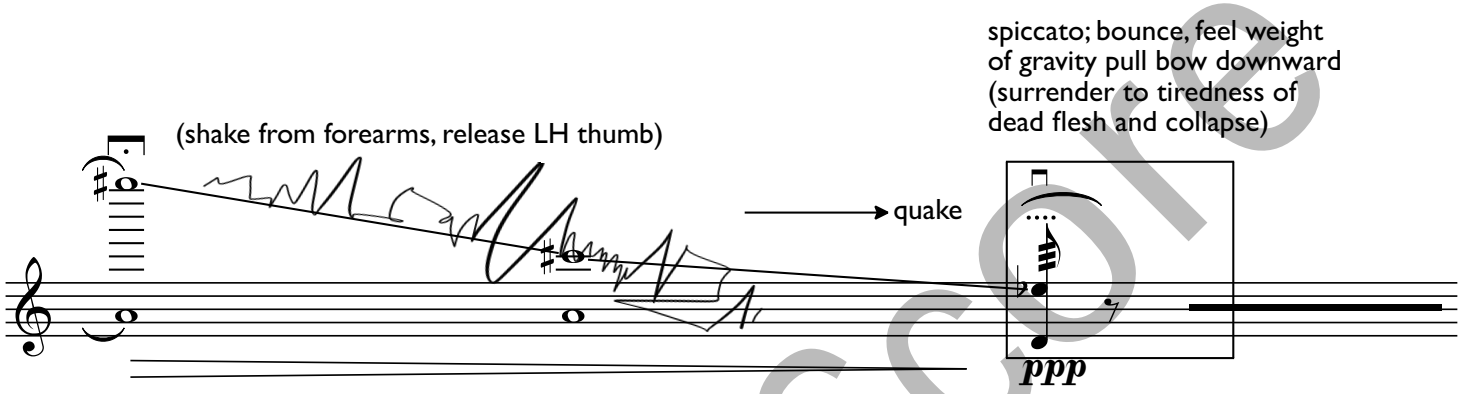
III. surrender to your tiredness (tragedy)

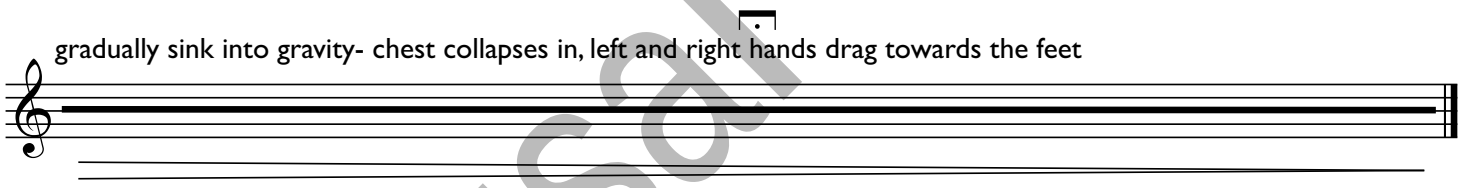
Thick and spacious texture; adagio



Perusal score







Perusal Score