UNITED STATES

AIR FORCE ACADEMY BAND

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Colorado Springs, Colorado

Announces an Opening for

PERCUSSION

STRONG COMMERCIAL DRUM SET SKILLS REQUIRED

Résumé and CD Due: Sept 7, 2015

Live Audition Date: Oct 26, 2015

Starting annual salary is $38K to $42K
Full medical and dental benefits
30 days paid vacation per year
Post-9/11 GI Bill for college up to $80K

For information about this position, please contact

The USAFA Band
Audition Staff
(719) 556-9965
usafabandauditions@gmail.com

www.bands.af.mil/careers

THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

15 July 2015

The U.S. Air Force Academy Band
520 Otis Street
Peterson AFB CO 80914-1620

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for inquiring about auditioning for a percussion/drum set position in the United States Air Force Academy Band. This musical audition will be conducted in two parts: (a) an initial screening by pre-recorded CD and (b) a live audition for those selected out of the initial screening. Details concerning both CD submission and the live audition are attached. Please look over these requirements carefully to determine if you are prepared to take the audition at this time. The following information outlines the requirements and important dates.

Sep 7, 2015	Deadline for receipt of all musical pre-screening materials and résumé. Demonstration CDs cannot be returned to applicant.
Sep 18, 2015	Each candidate will be notified whether or not he/she is invited to participate in the live auditions.
Oct 26, 2015	Live auditions at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, CO.

In addition to passing the musical audition, you must also meet other criteria in order to become a member of an Air Force Band. Before applying, carefully determine if you feel you meet the following Air Force eligibility requirements.

Age:	You must be able to enlist in the Air Force PRIOR to your 39th birthday.
Weight:	Individuals must meet weight requirements in order to enlist in the Air Force. A weight scale according to height is attached. If you foresee having a problem in this area I can recommend various solutions.
Medical:	Individuals must be qualified for worldwide duty. Chronic medical problems, congenital defects etc., may be disqualifying factors.
Financial:	A severe financial problem could be a disqualifying factor.
Criminal:	A criminal record could be a disqualifying factor.
Citizenship:	You must be a natural born citizen, naturalized, or able to complete the naturalization process within four years.

If you have any questions that pertain to the aforementioned eligibility requirements, please do not hesitate to contact us. In order to attend the live audition, you must meet with the United States Air Force recruiter in your area to be pre-qualified to attend basic training. Our office will initiate this visit after we find you musically qualified. You must return a memorandum from your recruiter visit to our offices in order to attend the audition.

Thank you so much for contacting the United States Air Force Academy Band regarding our upcoming audition. We hope you have a great experience during this process and wish you the best of luck. Please let me know if I can help you with anything. Do not hesitate to contact me directly at (719) 556-9965 or email usafabandauditions@gmail.com if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

MONICA J. DING, TSgt, USAF
The USAF Academy Band
NCOIC, Auditions

Attachments:

1. Audition Requirements (pre-screen/live)
2. Audition Music
3. USAF Bands Frequently Asked Questions

UNITED STATES
AIR FORCE
ACADEMY BAND

ANNOUNCES AN OPENING FOR

PERCUSSION/DRUM SET

PRE-SCREENING REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:

1) Résumé
2) Demo recording demonstrating musical versatility on percussion and drumset. Specifically, recordings must include:

   a) The following etude excerpt and orchestral excerpts *(please refer to bracketed excerpts as provided by the Academy Band)*:

   SNARE DRUM: "Etude No. 1" from *Douze Etudes pour Caisse Claire* – Jacques Delecluse

   XYLOPHONE: Colas Breugnon Overture – Kabalevsky

   GLOCKENSPIEL: The Magic Flute: Act I, Finale – Mozart

   TIMPANI: Symphony No. 9, mvt I, coda – Beethoven

   b) One or more recital-grade solo works for marimba or vibraphone. Brief passages of longer selections are acceptable. *Maximum 5 minutes.*

   c) Drum set performances in assorted jazz and popular styles. It is strongly preferred that samples include accompaniment with a band/combo, or with "music minus one"-style tracks. *Total 5-10 minutes.*

All résumés and pre-screening materials must be received by September 7, 2015

LIVE Audition Date: October 26, 2015, Peterson AFB, Colorado Springs, CO

Each candidate will be notified of results by September18, 2015. Live audition is by invitation only.

E-mail WAV or MP3 Files and Résumé via Dropbox to:
usafabandauditions@gmail.com

Annual salary: $38,000–$42,000
Benefits: Full medical and dental benefits
30 days paid vacation per year
Post-9/11 GI Bill for college up to $80,000

Call (719) 556-9965, e-mail usafabandauditions@gmail.com, or
visit our website at www.usafacademyband.af.mil for further information.
The United States Air Force is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

UNITED STATES
AIR FORCE
ACADEMY BAND

ANNOUNCES AN OPENING FOR
PERCUSSION/DRUM SET

LIVE AUDITION REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:

Orchestral Excerpts

Xylophone
1. Appalachian Spring – Copland
2. Colas Breugnon Overture – Kabalevsky
3. Ein Volksfest – Shostakovich/arr. Rembach

Glockenspiel
1. The Magic Flute: Act 1, Finale – Mozart
2. The Sorcerer's Apprentice – Dukas

Vibraphone
1. West Side Story: Symphonic Dances – Bernstein

Snare Drum
1. Capriccio Español, mvt. 4 – Rimsky-Korsakov
2. Lt. Kijé, mvt. 1 – Prokofiev
3. Scheherazade, mvt. 4 – Rimsky-Korsakov
4. Symphony #10, mvt. 2 – Shostakovich

Tambourine
1. Carnival Overture – Dvorak

Cymbals
1. Romeo and Juliet – Tchaikovsky

Timpani
1. New England Triptych, mvt. 1 – Schuman
2. Symphony #4, mvt. 1 – Tchaikovsky
3. Symphony #9, mvts. 1 and 2 – Beethoven

Solos

Marimba
1. "Tempo di Bourrée" from J. S. Bach's Violin Partita #1 in B Minor

Snare Drum
1. "Etude #1" from Jacques Delécluse's Douze Etudes pour Caisse-Claire

Drum Set

(With the Academy Band Falconaires)
1. Take the "A" Train
2. Beyond the Bluebird
3. Evidence
4. Rippin 'N Runnin'
5. Gettin' to It

(With the Academy Band Rock Combo)
1. Signed, Sealed, Delivered

Rudimental

1. USAFA Band Cadence No.1 (2/4)
2. USAFA Band Cadence No. 2 (6/8)

Please refer to the bracketed excerpts and drum charts provided by the USAF Academy Band.
Sight reading may also be requested on any instrument.

LIVE Audition Date: October 26, 2015, Peterson AFB, Colorado Springs, CO

Each candidate will be notified of results by September 18, 2015. Live audition is by invitation only.

Annual salary: $38,000–$42,000
Benefits: Full medical and dental benefits
30 days paid vacation per year
Post-9/11 GI Bill for college up to $80,000

Call (719) 556-9965, e-mail usafabandauditions@gmail.com, or
visit our website at www.usafacademyband.af.mil for further information.
The United States Air Force is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

UNITED STATES
AIR FORCE
ACADEMY BAND

ANNOUNCES AN OPENING FOR

PERCUSSION/DRUM SET

LIST OF INSTRUMENTS PROVIDED FOR LIVE AUDITION:

MARIMBA: Adams five-octave "Alpha" model (MAHA50)

XYLOPHONE: Musser M-50 (height adjustment blocks available, candidates are also welcome to bring their own blocks)

GLOCKENSPIEL: Fall Creek K-100 (will be set on height-adjustable x-stand)

VIBRAPHONE: Musser "Piper" model (M-58)

DRUM SET: 4-piece kit; 20" kick/12" and 14" toms; one ride, two crashes.

FIELD DRUM: Cooperman sling-worn rope drum

Though unlikely, the USAF Academy Band reserves the right to substitute different instruments for any of those listed, without prior notice to candidates.

The Academy Band will also provide a pro-quality concert snare drum, tambourine, and crash cymbals, though candidates are welcome to bring and use their own.

Candidates will be given an opportunity before each round to adjust instrument heights and placements as necessary.

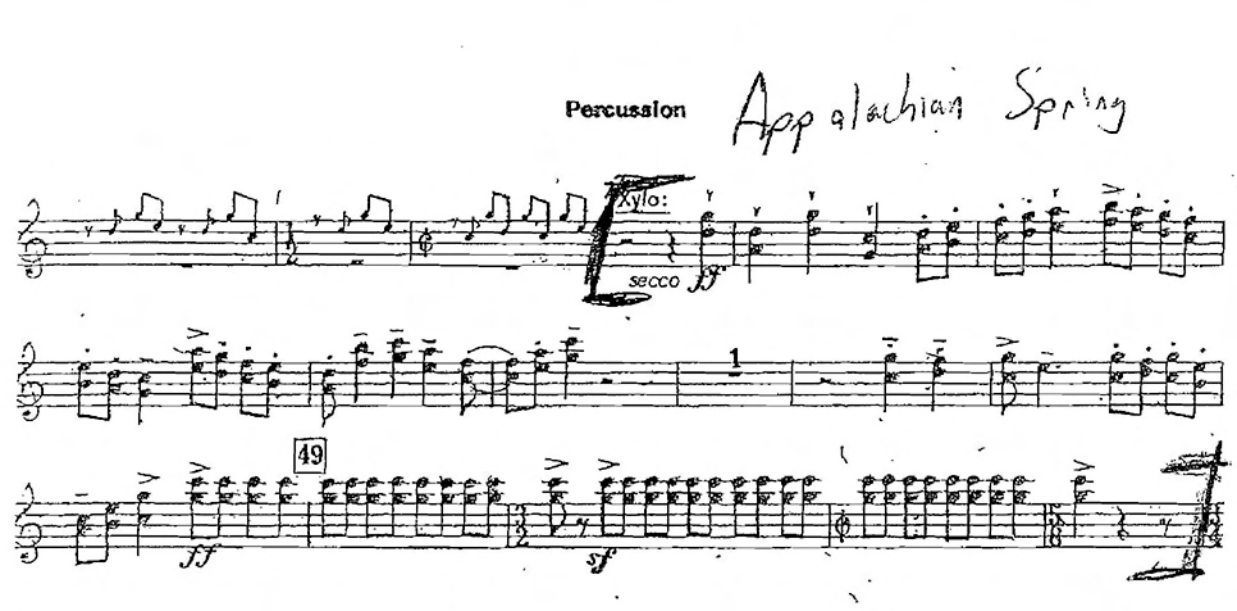
PERFORMANCE NOTES:

REGARDING SONGS WITH JAZZ COMBO:

Candidates should be familiar with the tune and prepared to take instruction during the audition on performance structure (intros/endings, solos, etc.)

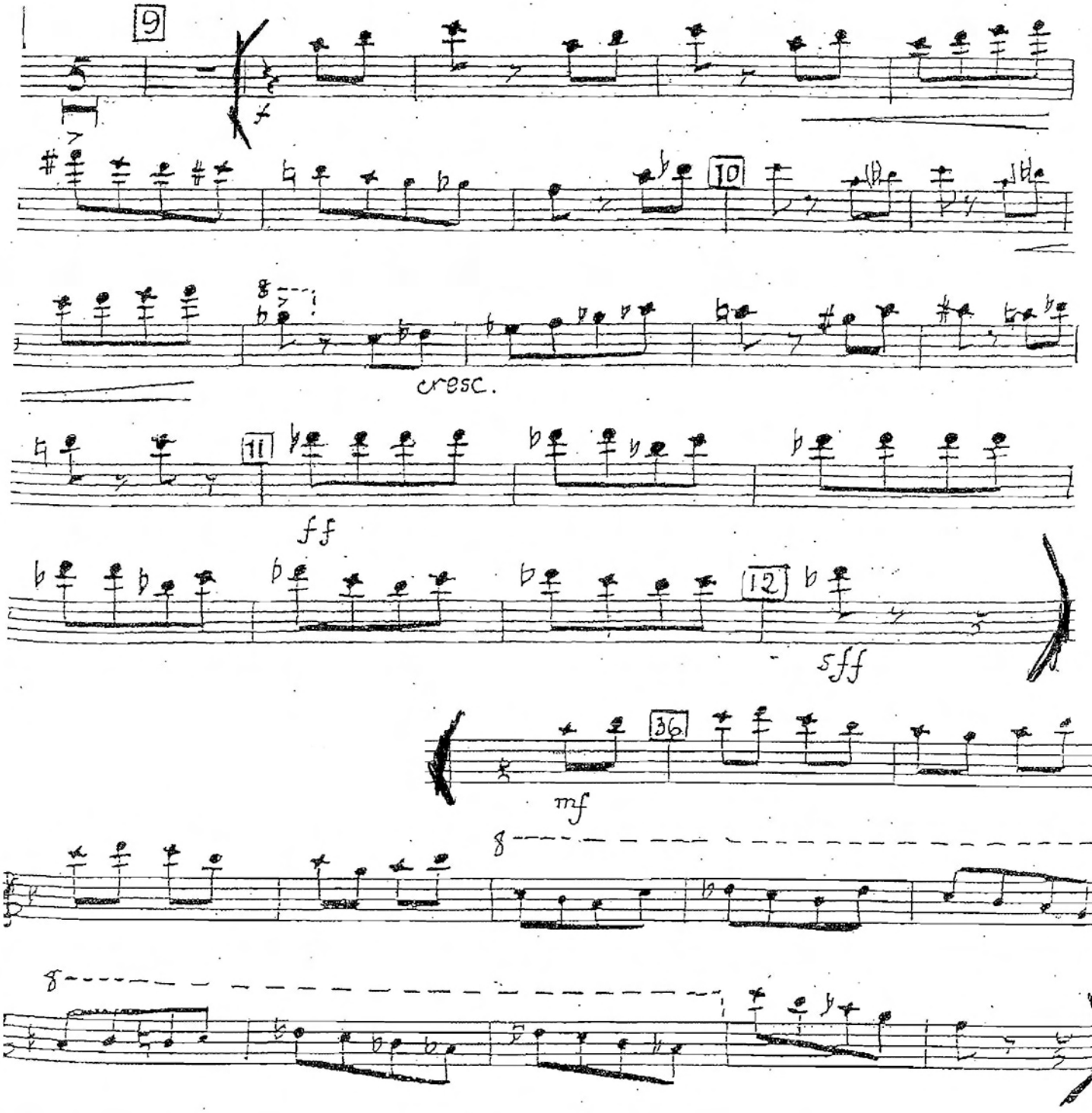
REGARDING RUDIMENTAL CADENCES:

Candidates will use a sling-worn rope drum, provided by the Academy Band. CANDIDATES WILL BE REQUIRED TO USE TRADITIONAL GRIP. Candidates may be asked to loop cadences for several repetitions. No marching will be required.


Percussion
Appalachian Spring
Xylo:
secco
ff
1
49
ff
sf

COLAS BRUEGNON

SILOFONO — OVERTURE — D. KABALEVSKY

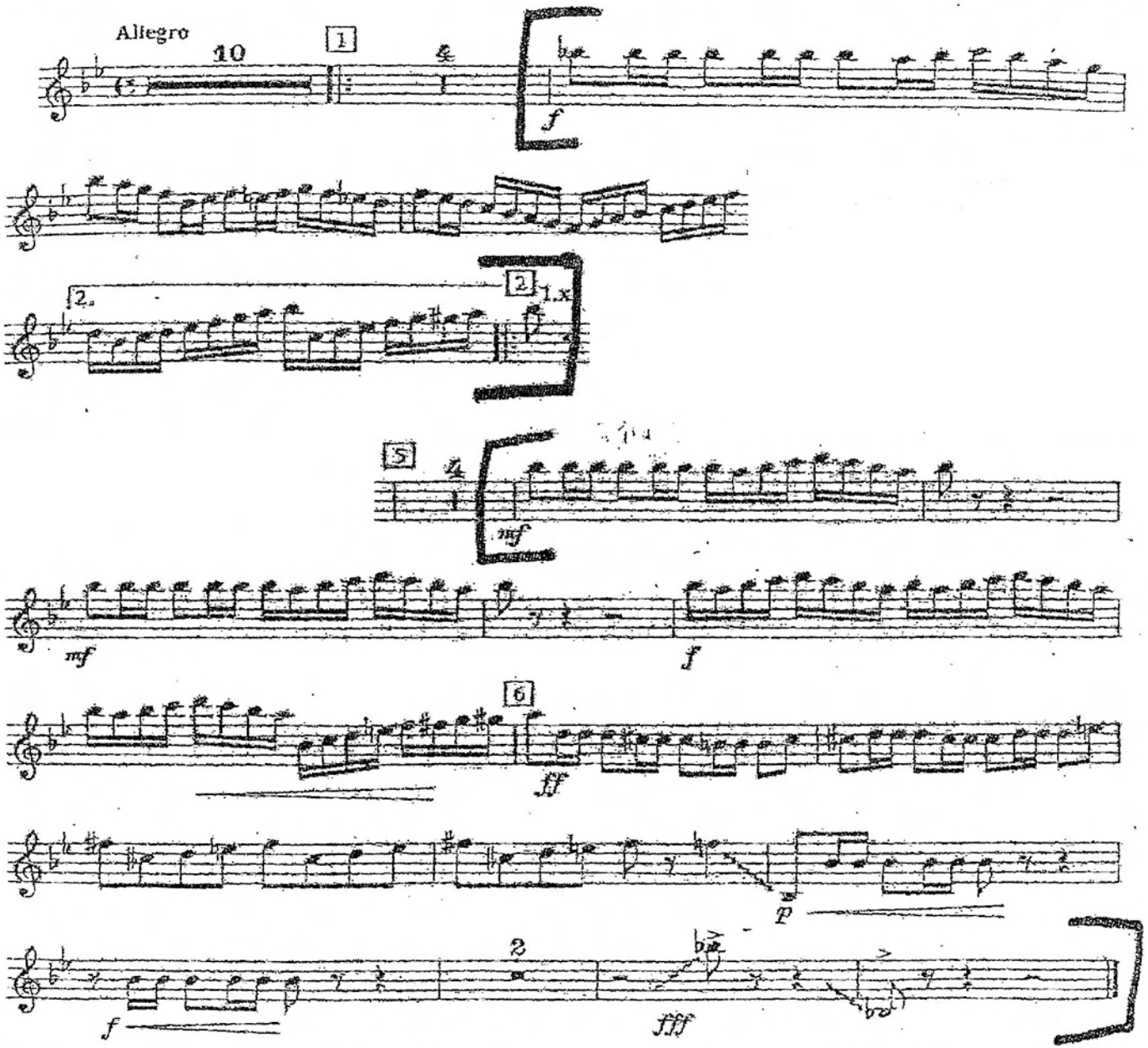


Xylophon
(Xylophone)

Ein Volksfest

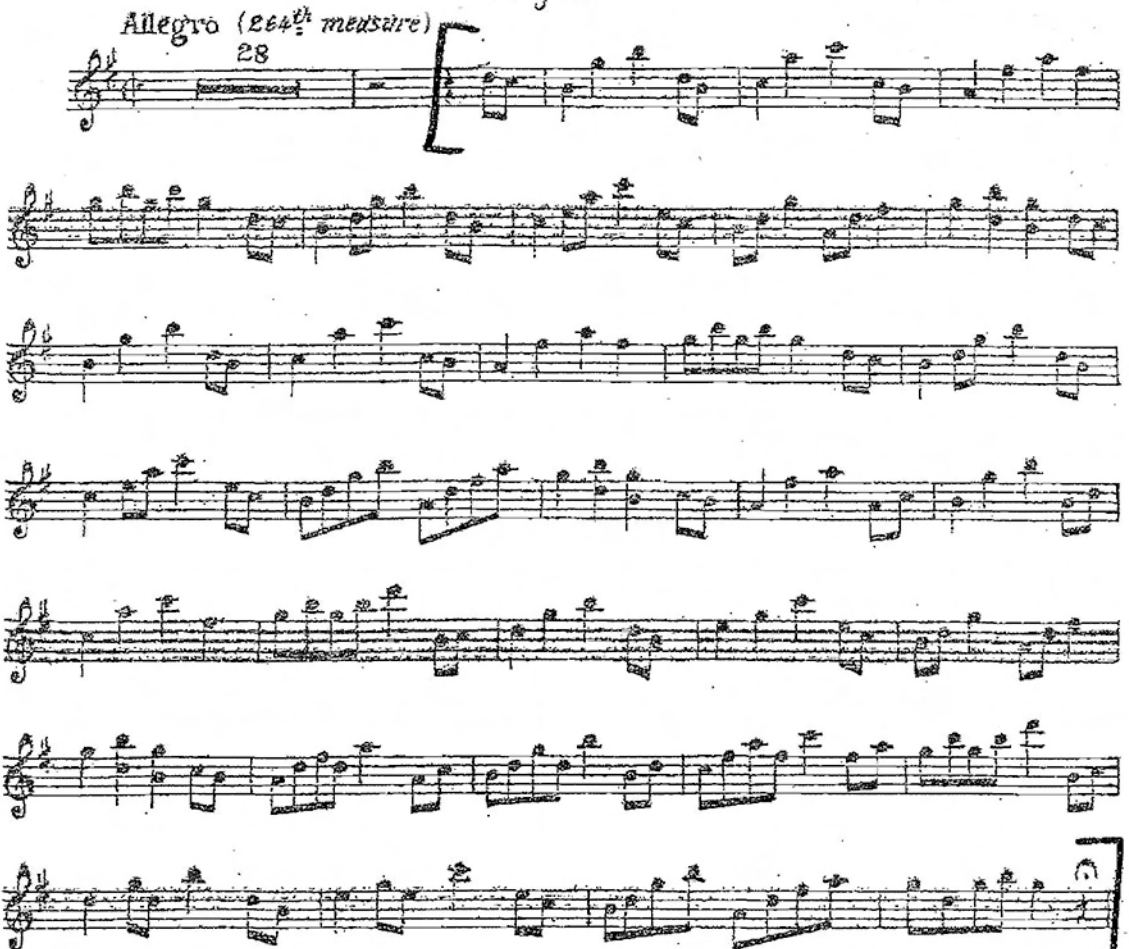
(Ouvertüre)

Dimitri Schostakowitsch
Bearbeitung: Ernst Rembach



© - Copyright 1995 by -CONCERT MUSIC- Oskar Bihler, Blasmusikfachverlag, D-88 138 Hergensweiler (Germany)

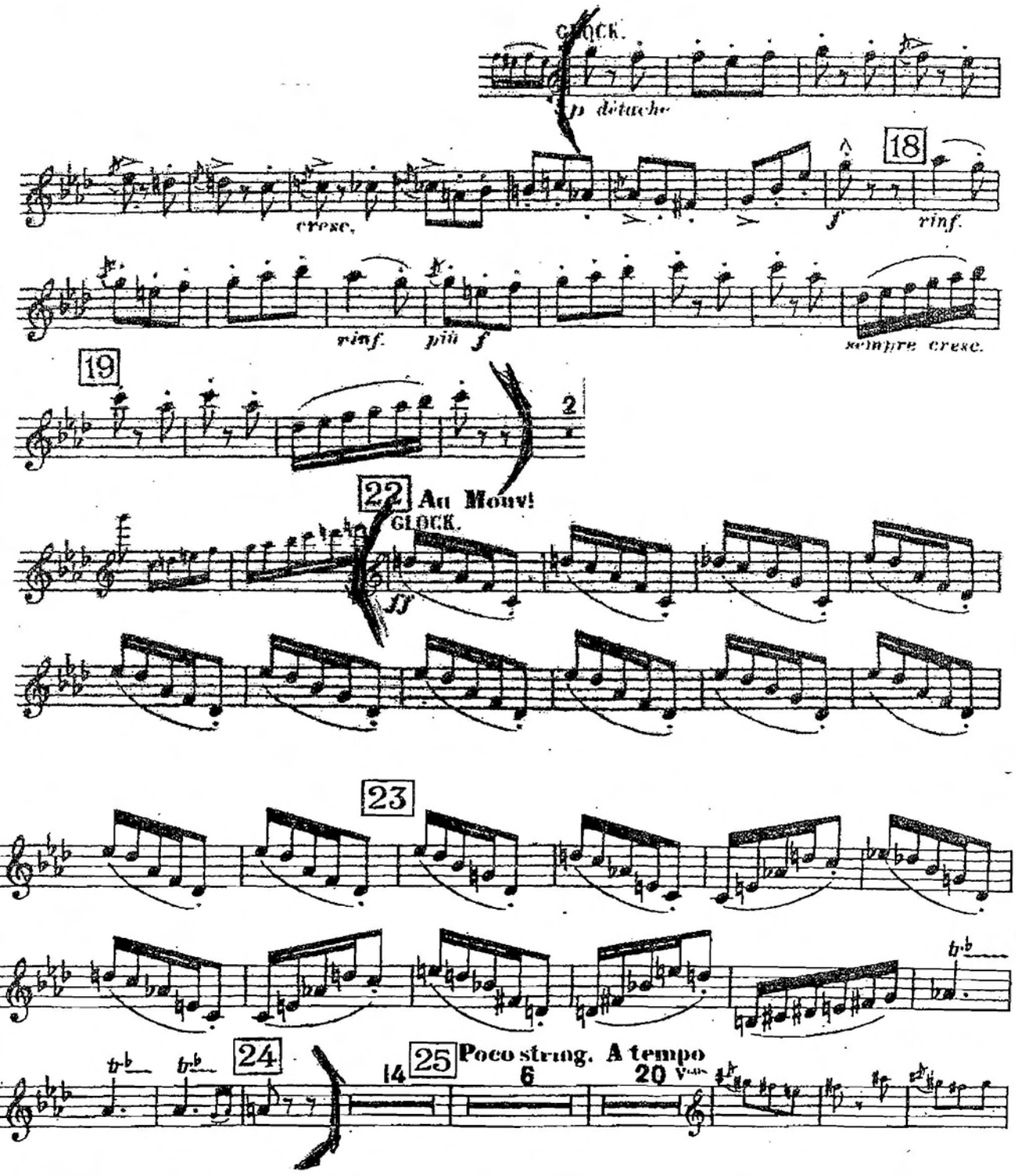
Magic Flute

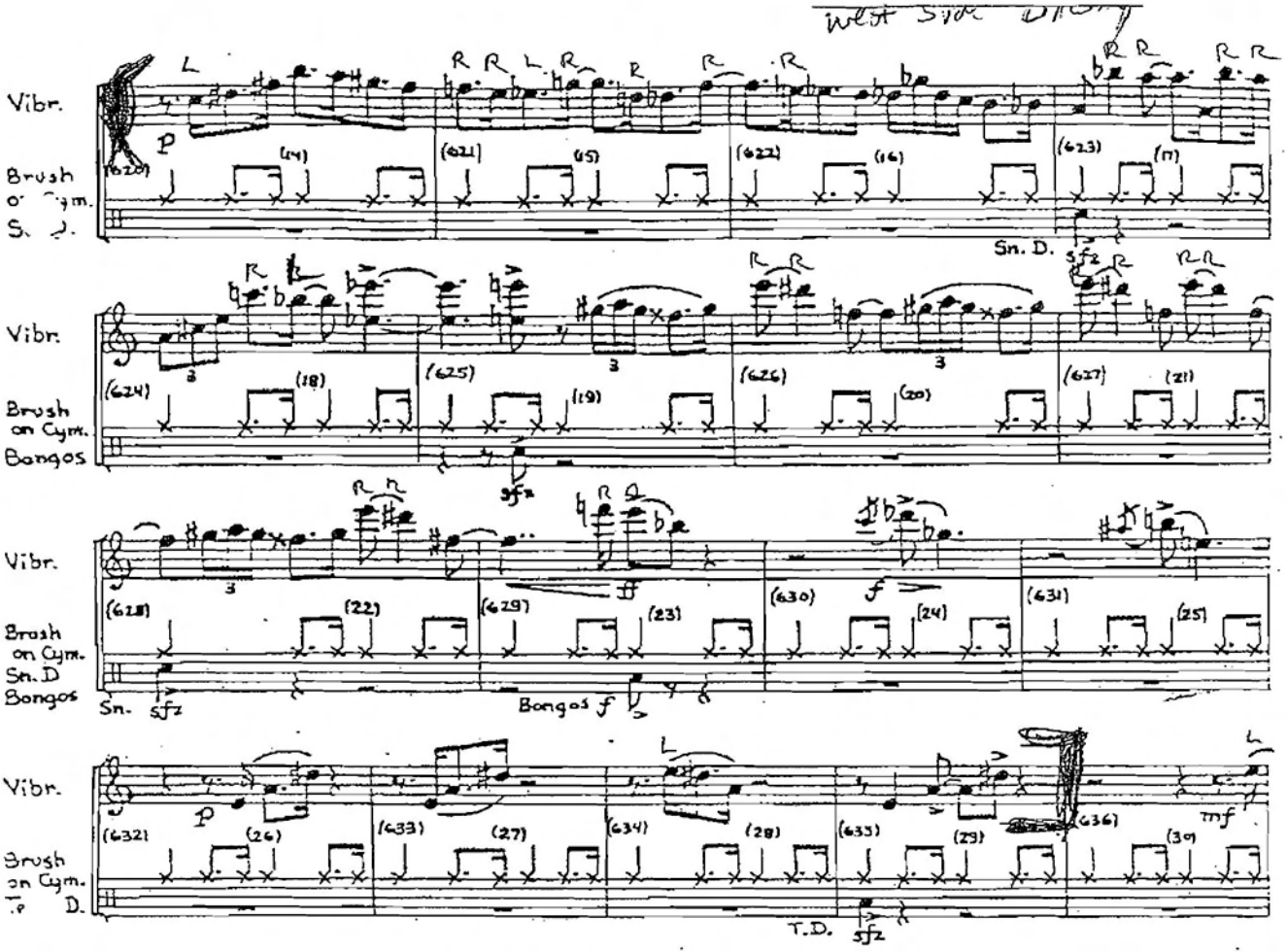


The Sorcerer's Apprentice

GLOCKENSPIEL

(after a Ballade by Goethe)




West Side Drag
Vibr.
Brush on Cym.
Sn. D.
Bongos
Sn. D
Sn.
T.D.
sfz
p
f
mf

Tamburo.

IV. Scena e Canto gitano.

Allegretto.

4 Corni Solo.

quasi Cadenza (I)

Tamburo Solo.

dimin.

Cadenza (II) Violino Solo.

dim.

ppp sempre ppp

L

Timp.

a tempo

pp

2 3 4 5

6 7 8 9

10

Bass Drum
Military Drum
Triangle
Cymbals
Tambourine
Sleigh Bells

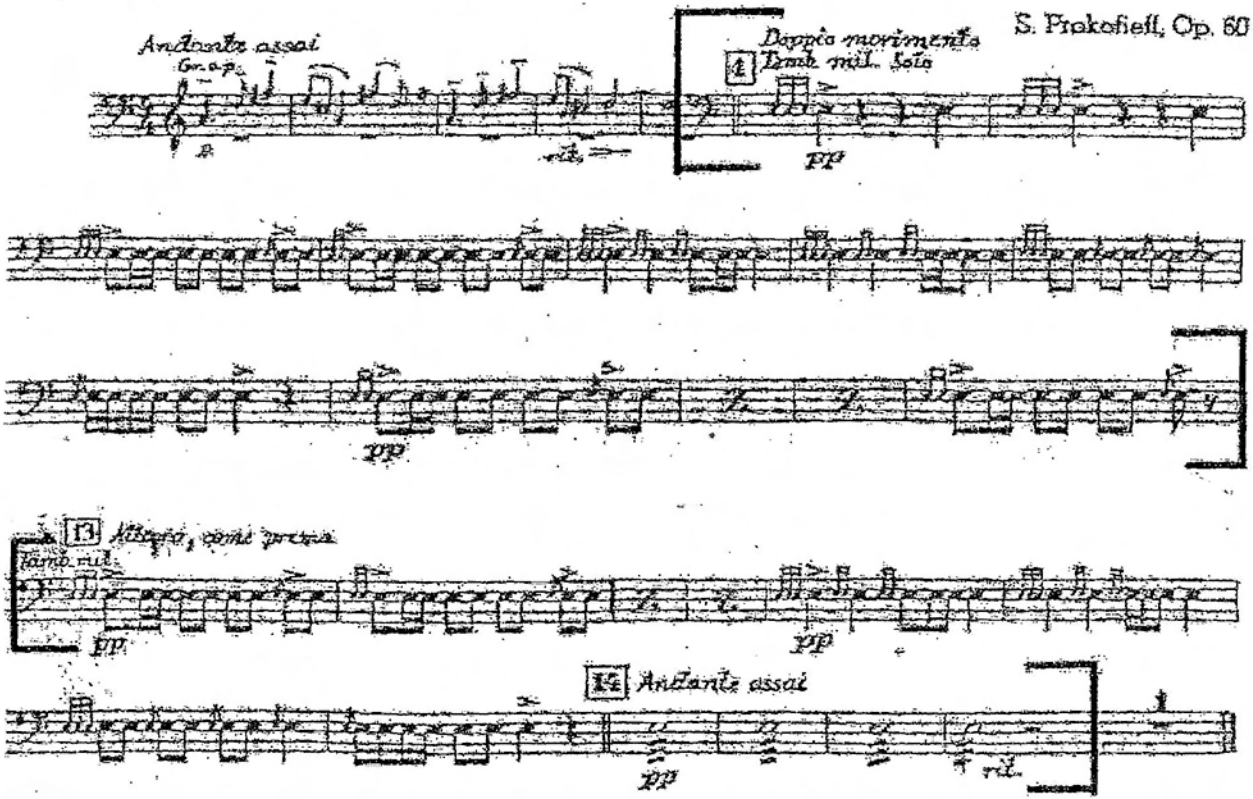
LIEUTENANT KIJÉ

Suite Symphonique

I

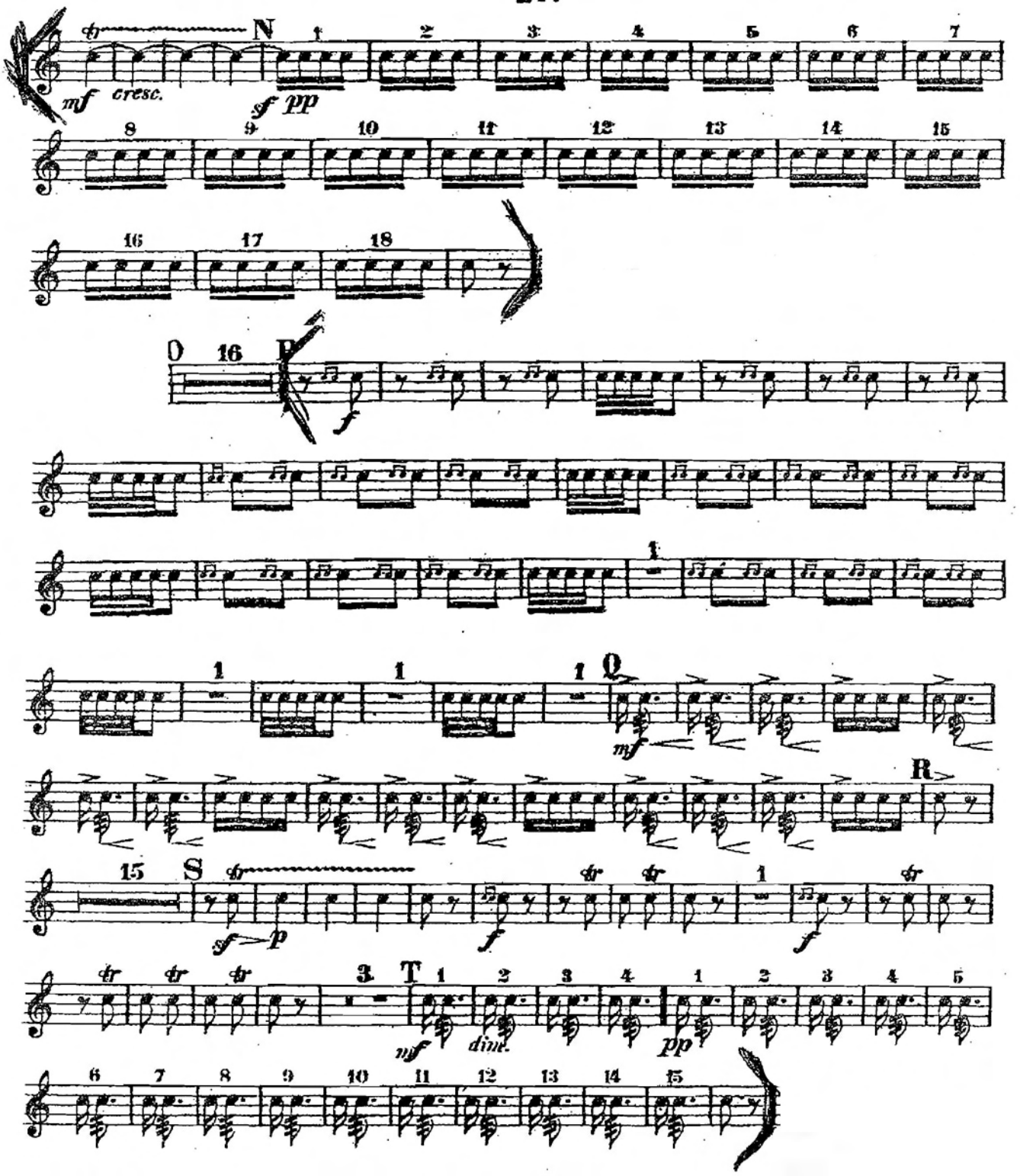
THE BIRTH OF KIJÉ

S. Prokofieff, Op. 60



Tambur piccolo.

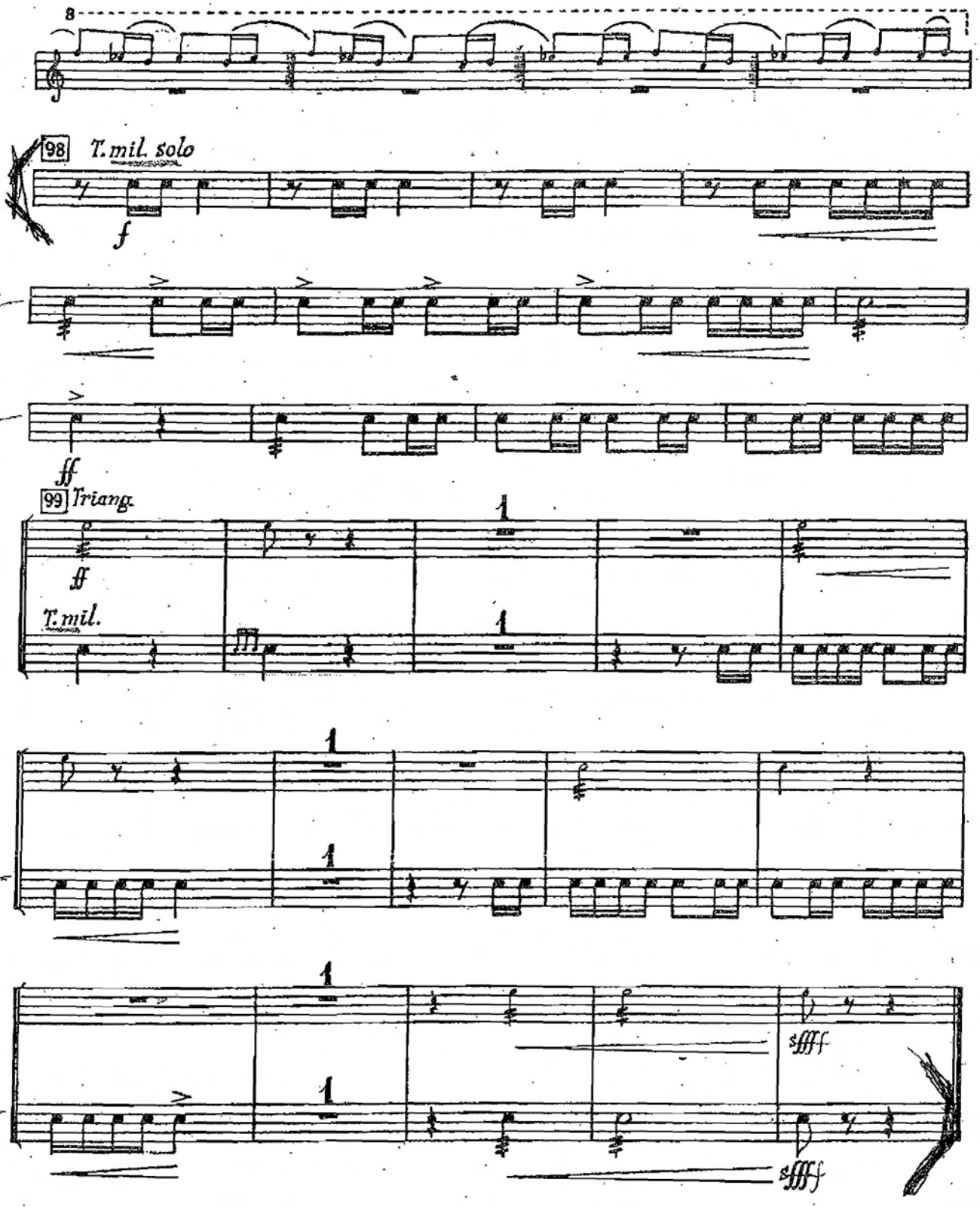
IV.



Shostakovich Symphony 10

TAMBOUR

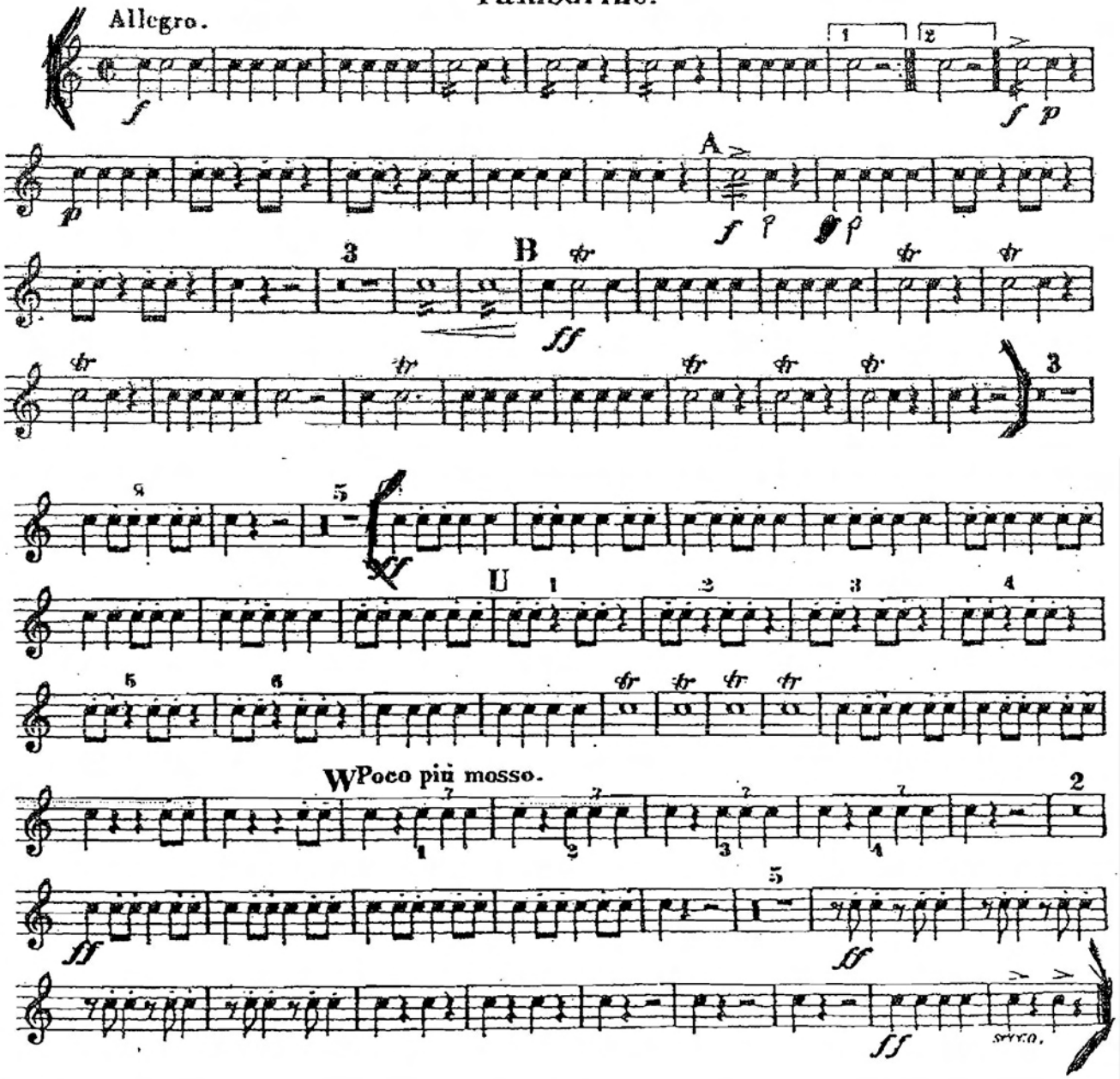
МАЛЫЙ БАРАБАН



Antonin Dvorak

Carnival Overture, Op. 92

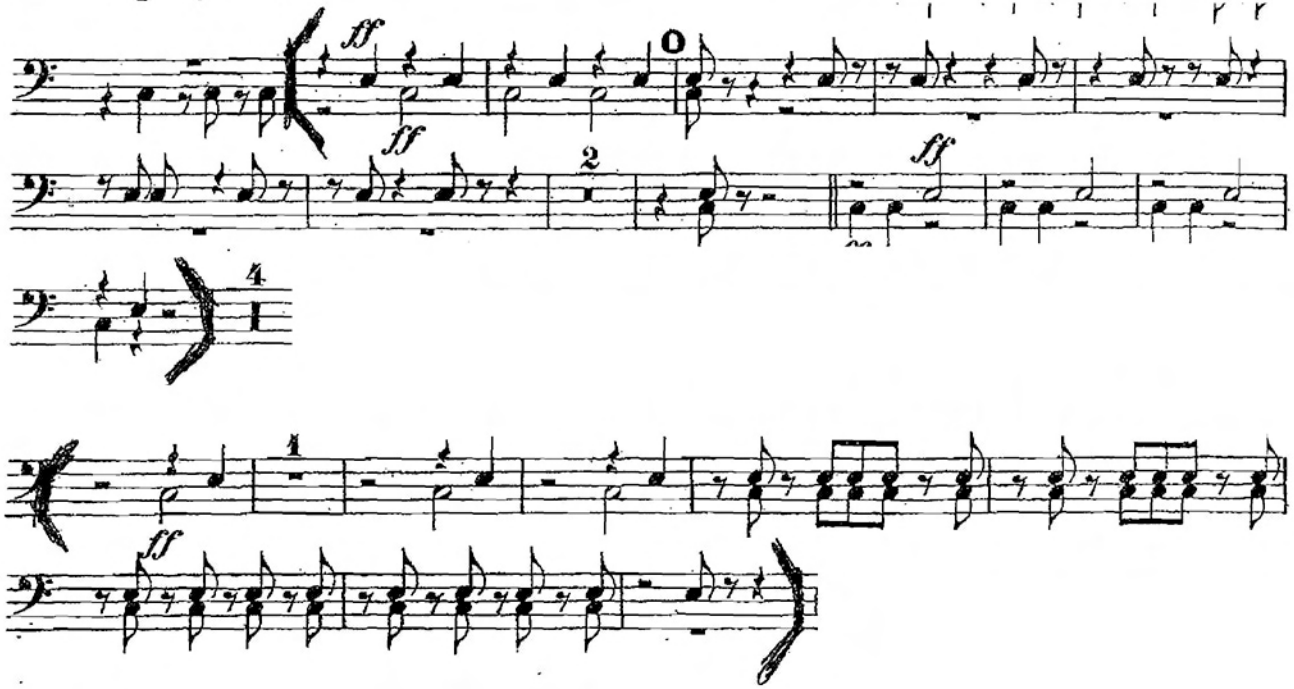
Tamburino.



Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Romeo and Juliet, Fantasy Overture

Allegro giusto.



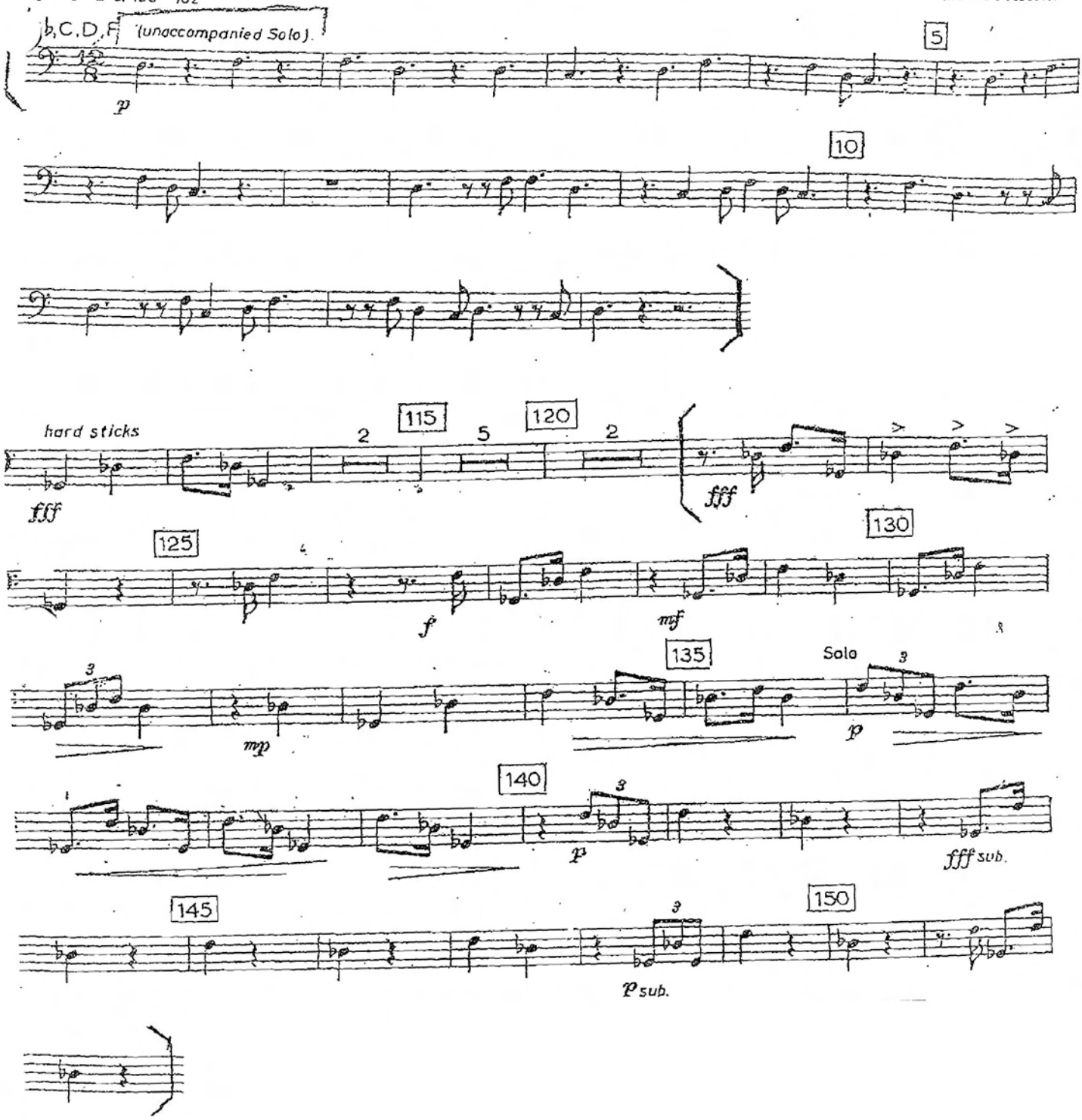
WILLIAM SCHUMAN

New England Triptych

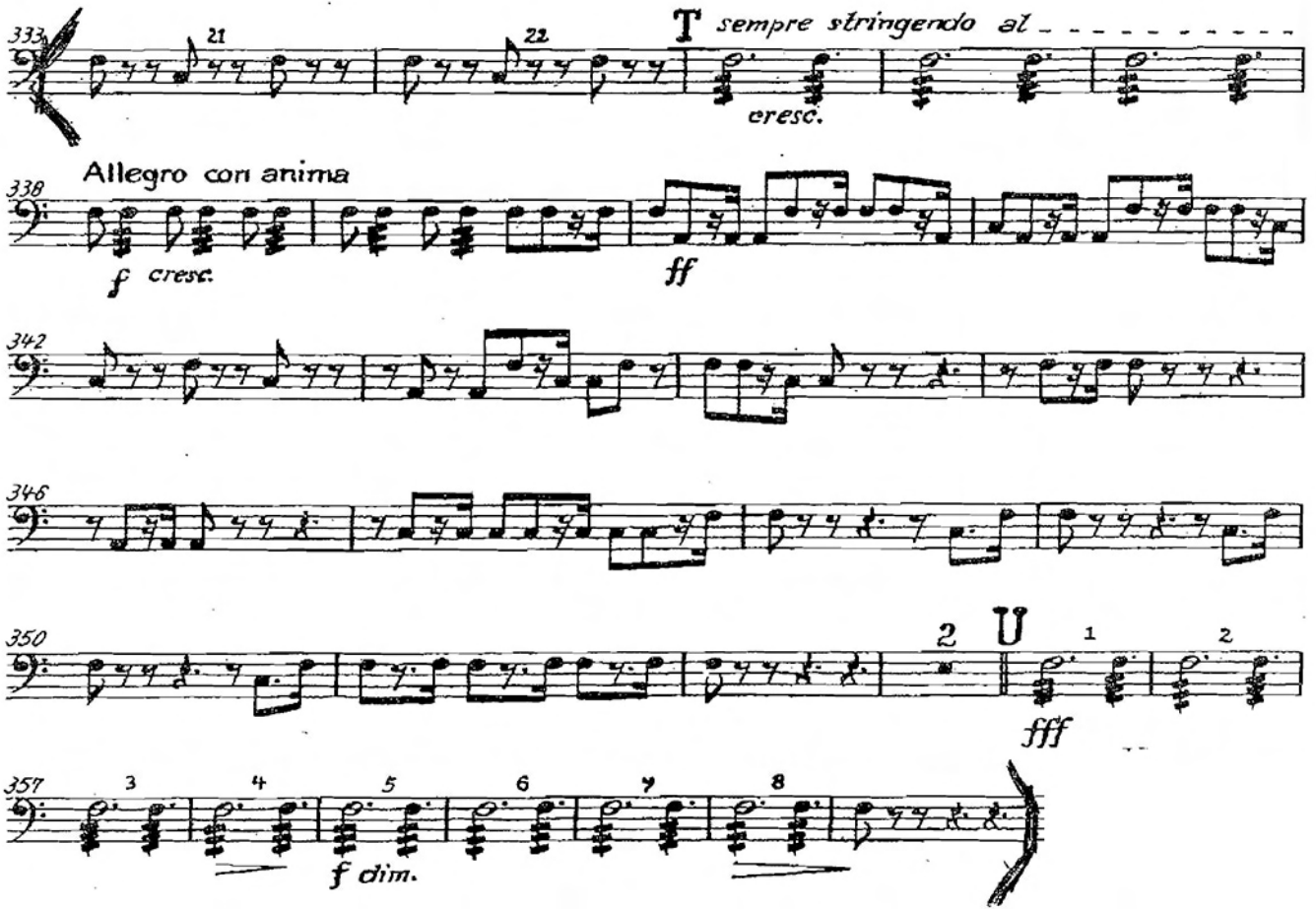
© Copyright 1957 Merion Music
By special permission Theodore Presser, Inc.

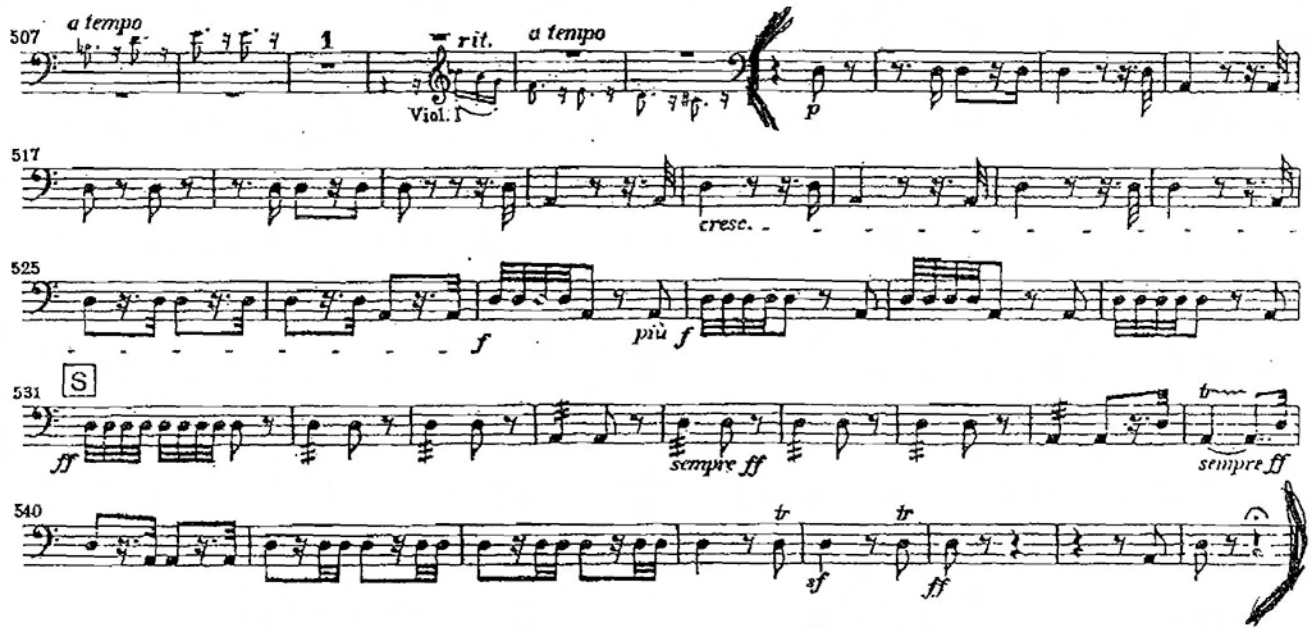
1 ♩. = c. 126 - 132

b, C, D, F (unaccompanied Solo)



Pauken


333
21
22
T
sempre stringendo al
cresc.
Allegro con anima
338
f cresc.
ff
342
346
350
2
U
1
2
fff
357
3
4
5
6
7
8
f dim.

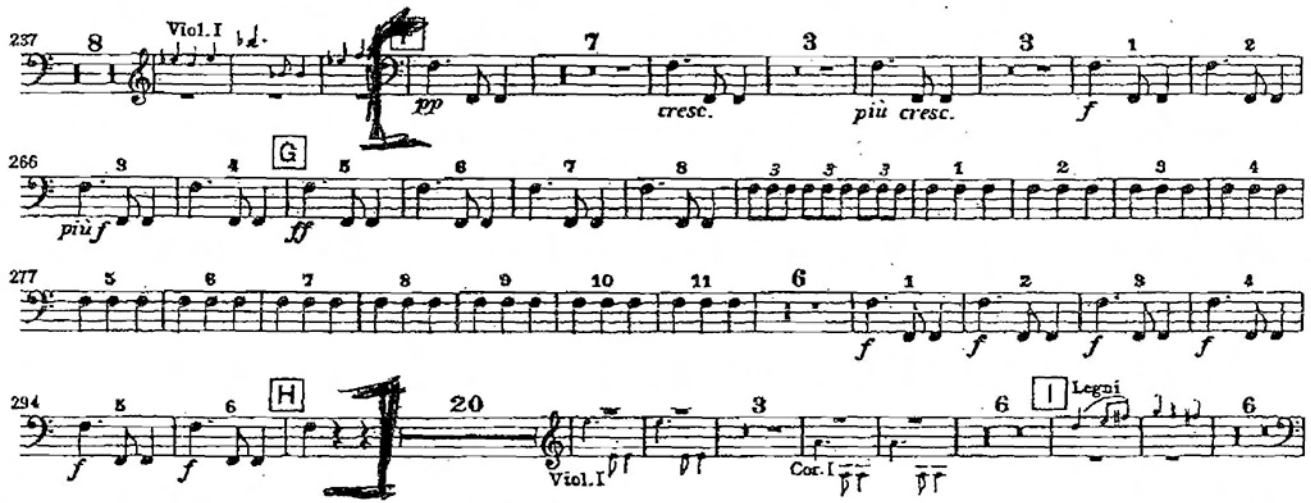

507
a tempo
1
rit.
Viol. I
a tempo
p
517
cresc.
525
f
più f
531
S
ff
sempre ff
tr
sempre ff
540
tr
tr
sf
ff

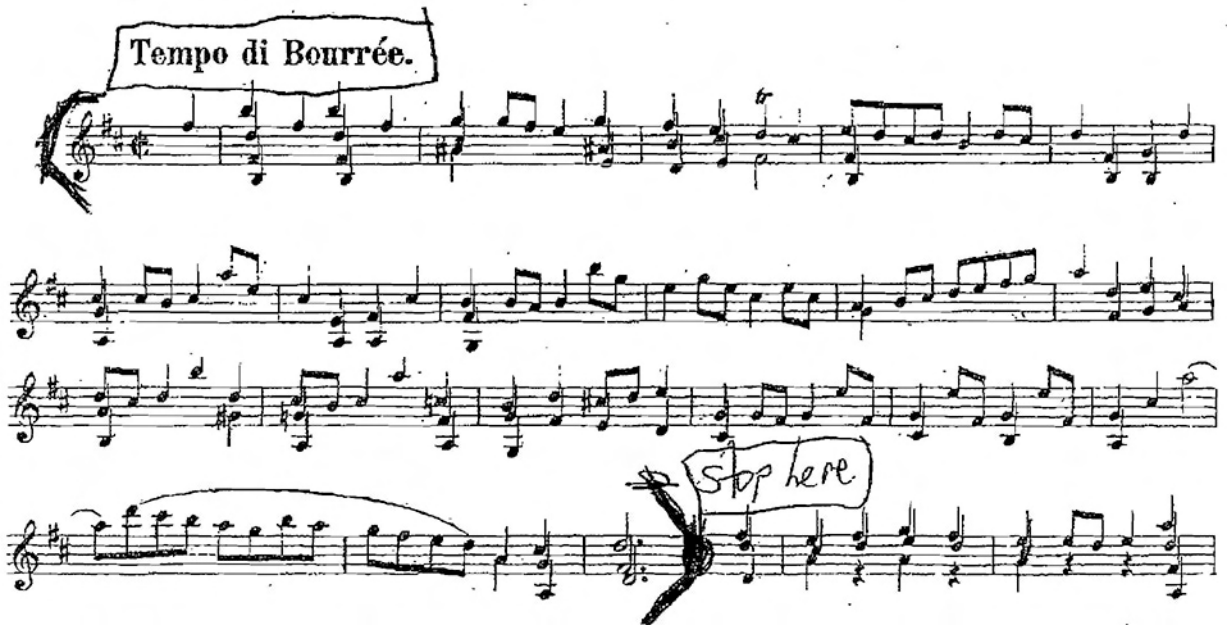
Beethoven — Symphony No. 9

Timpani

in

Molto vivace ♩.=116




Tempo di Bourrée.
Stop here

DOUZE ETUDES

pour Caisse-Claire

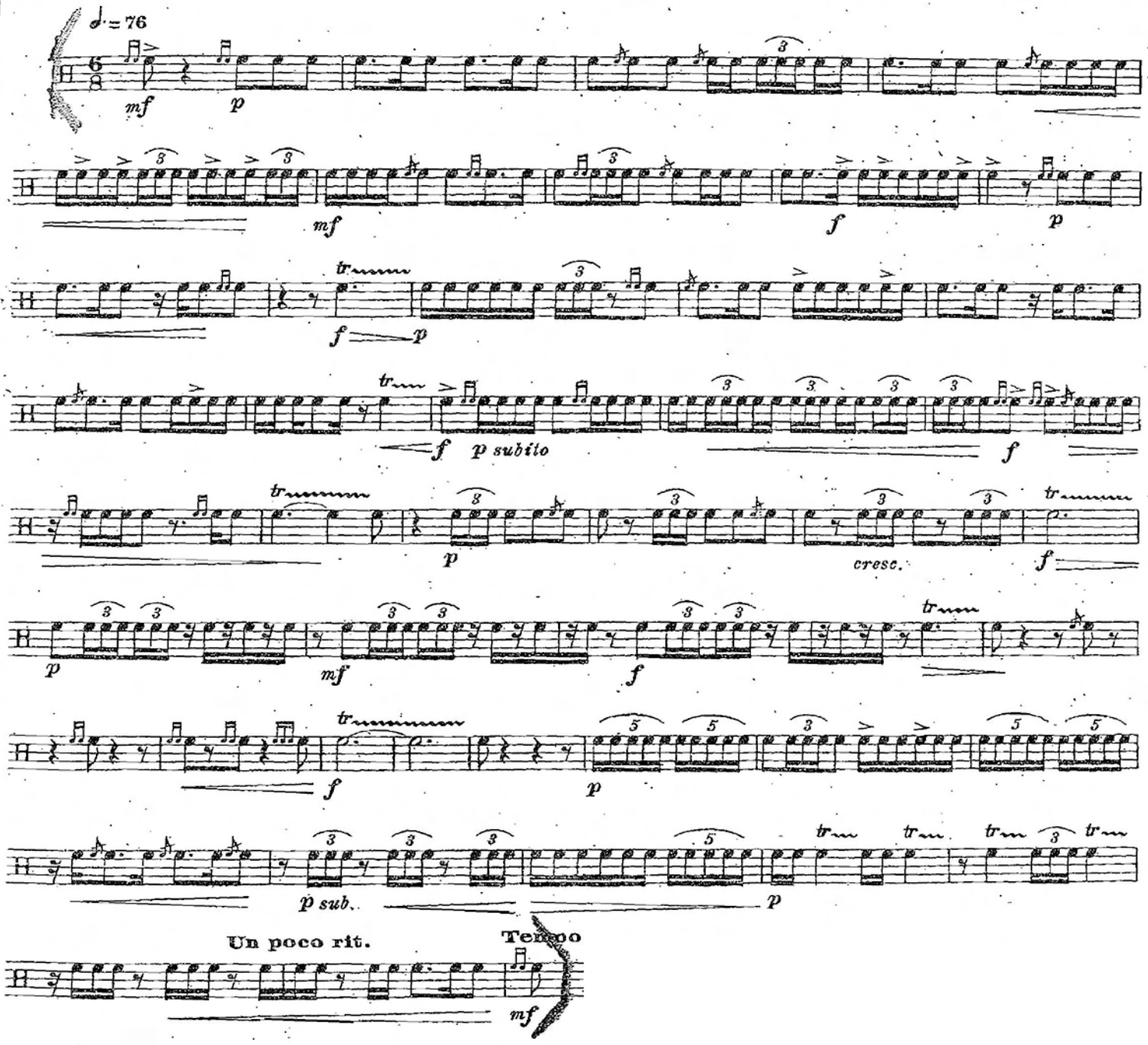
TWELVE STUDIES | ZWÖLF ETÜDEN | DOCE ESTUDIOS

for the Drum | für die Trommel | para Tambor militar

JACQUES DELÉCLUSE

Soliste au Théâtre National de l'Opéra et à la Société des Concerts du Conservatoire

1



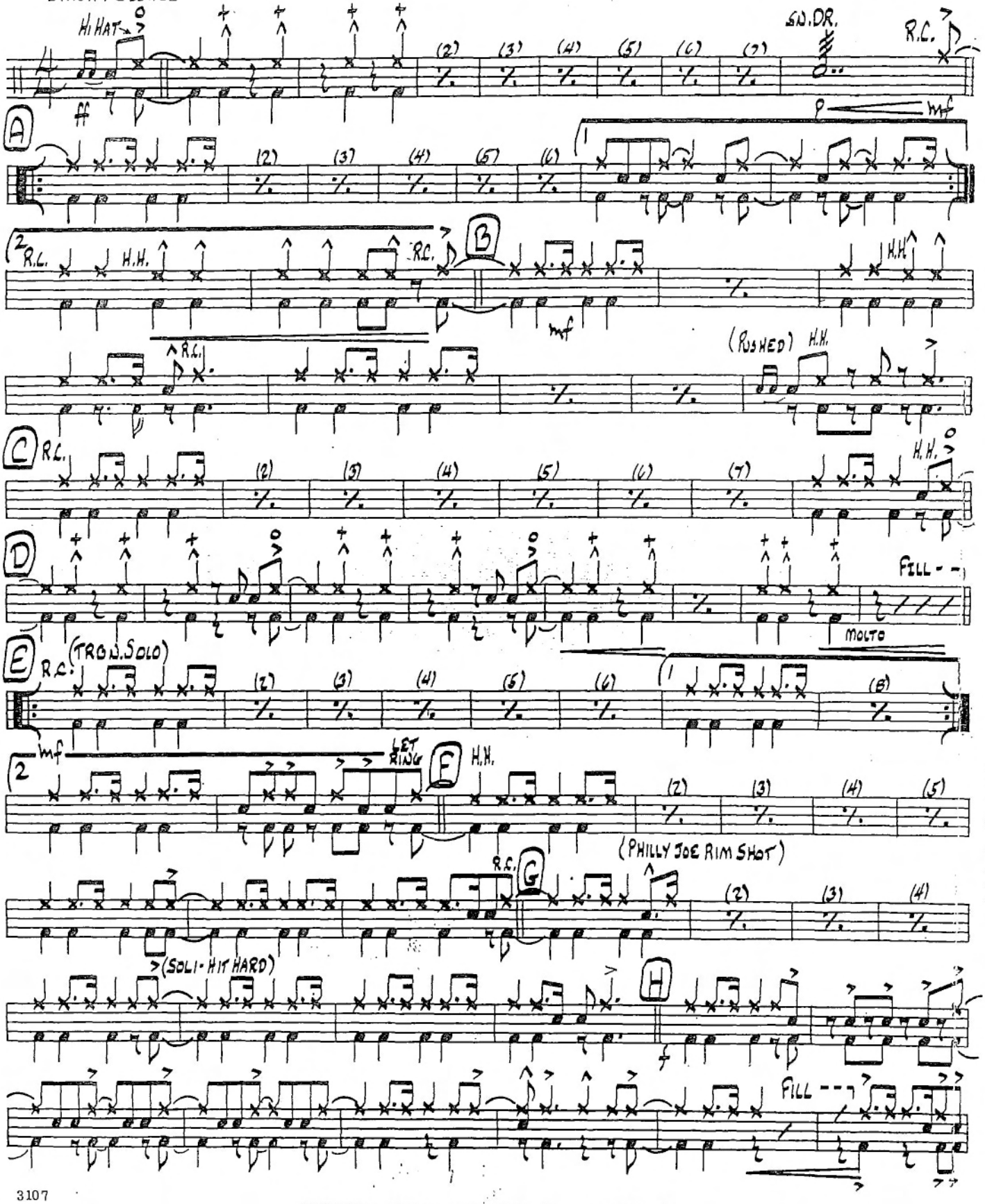
NOTICE: The law provides penalties for any unauthorized copying or reproduction of any copyrighted musical work.

Take The "A" Train

1943

by Billy Strayhorn
arranged by Don Sebesky

DRUMS
BRIGHT SWING



3107

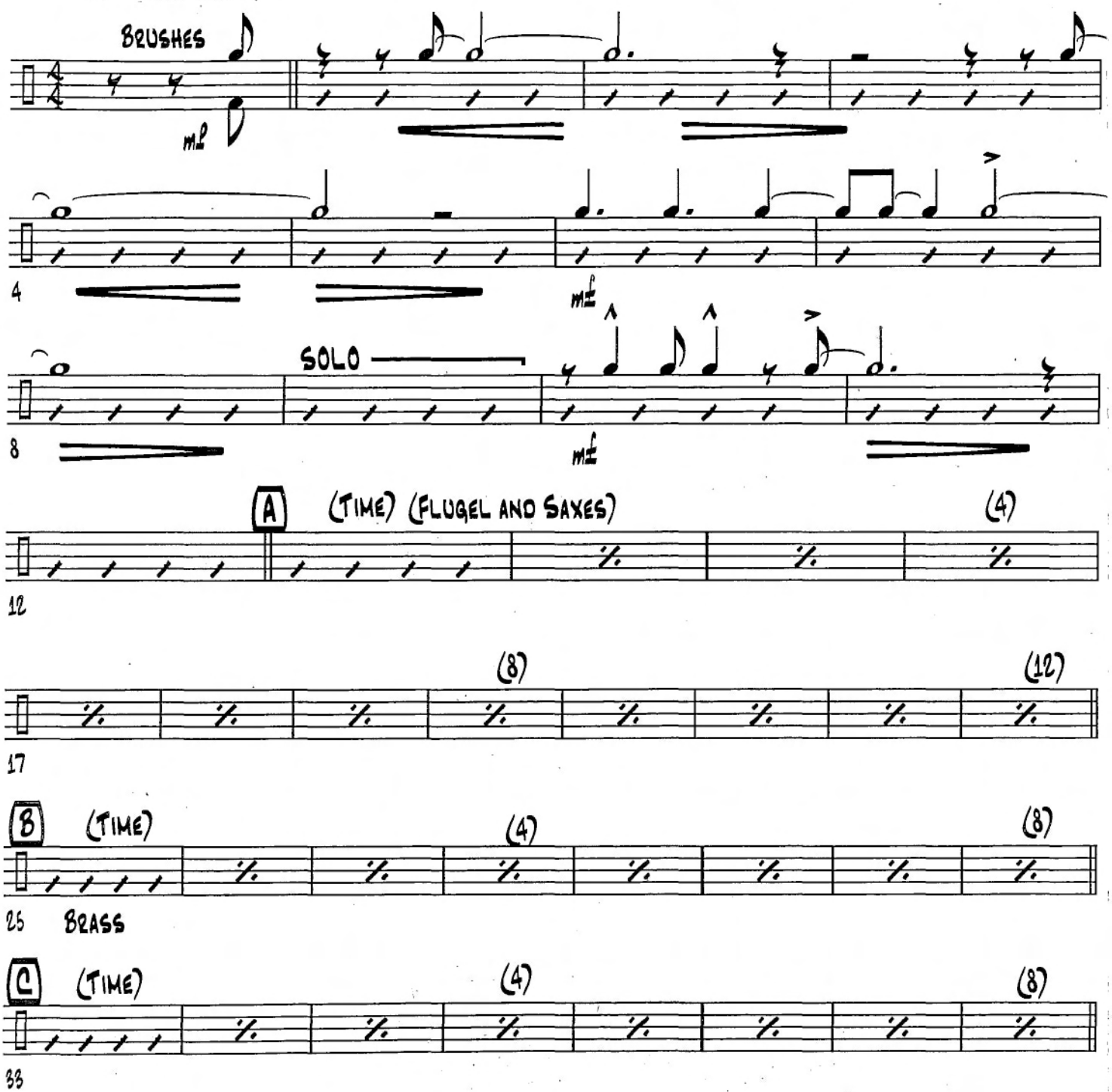
COPYRIGHT © 1941 BY TEMPO MUSIC, INC., NEW YORK, NY
COPYRIGHT © RENEWED 1969 BY TEMPO MUSIC, INC.
THIS ARRANGEMENT © 1981 BY TEMPO MUSIC, INC. - USED BY PERMISSION
INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT SECURED - MADE IN U.S.A. - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED
SOLE SELLING AGENT FOR THIS ARRANGEMENT: KENDOR MUSIC, INC., DELEVAN, NY 14042

DRUMS

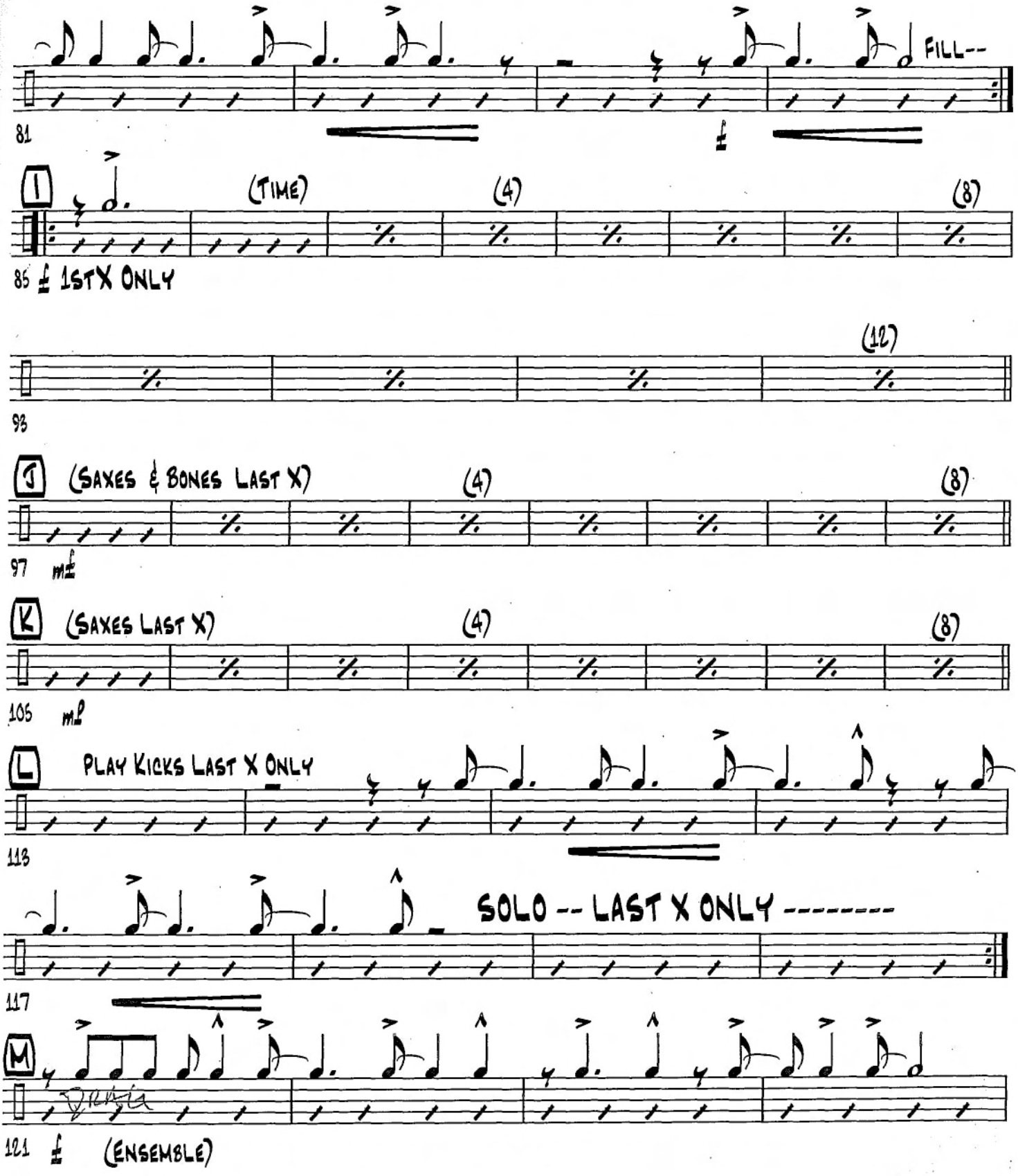
BEYOND THE BLUEBIRD

♩=116--MED. SWING

TOMMY FLANAGAN -- ARR. BY RICH SHANKLIN



BEYOND THE BLUEBIRD -- 3 -- DRUMS



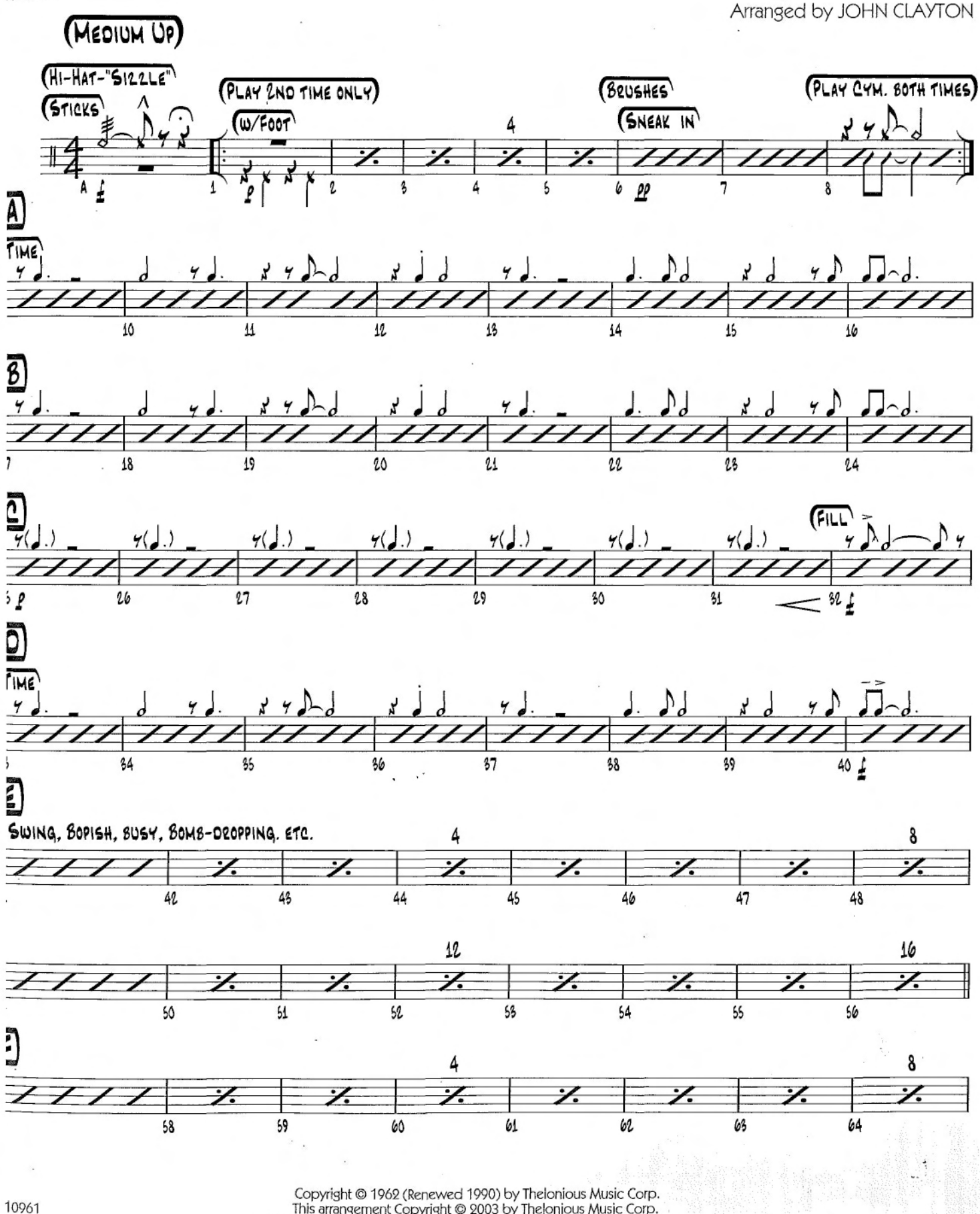
Recorded by the CLAYTON-HAMILTON JAZZ ORCHESTRA

EVIDENCE

♩ = 128

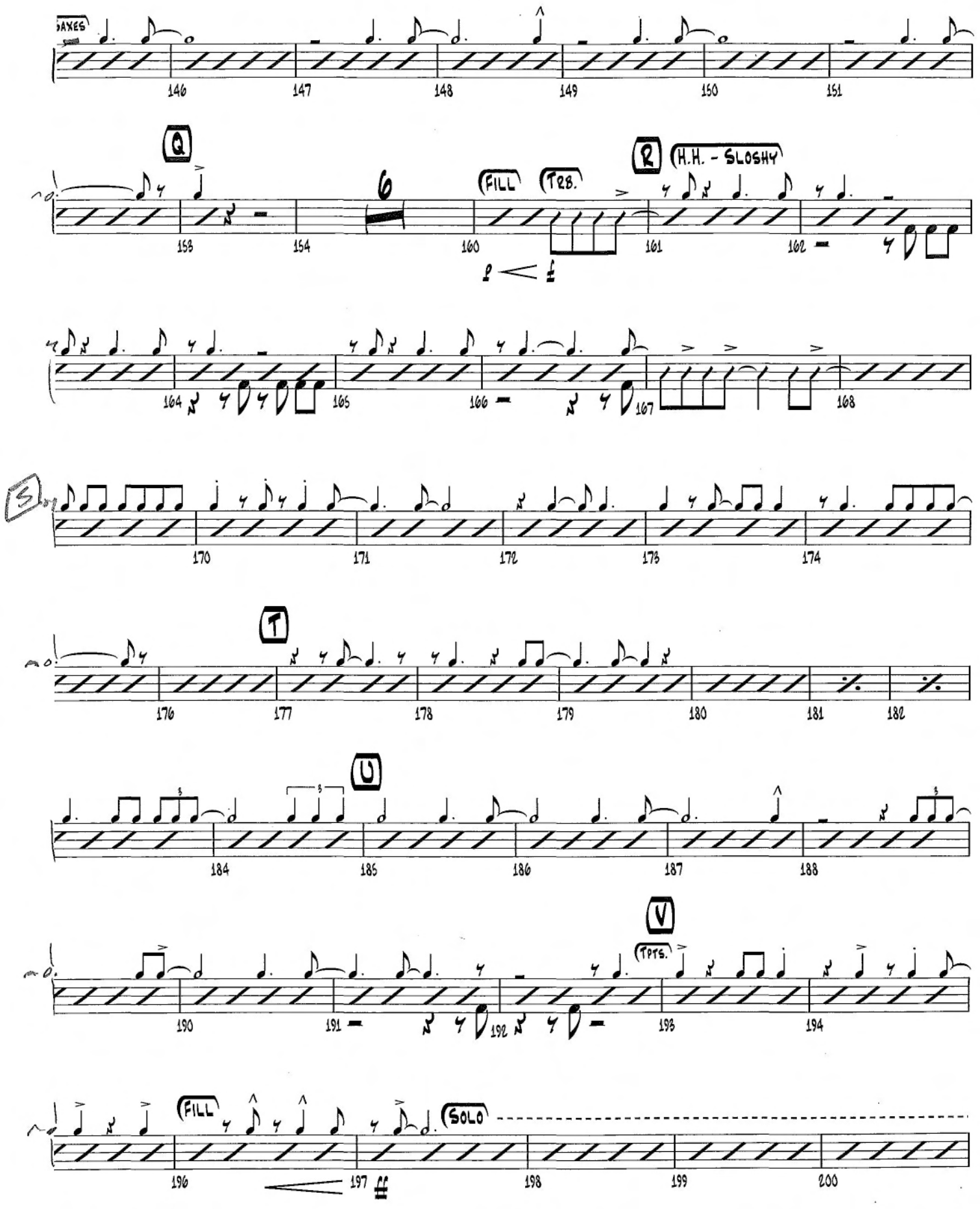
DRUMS

By THELONIOUS MONK
Arranged by JOHN CLAYTON



Copyright © 1962 (Renewed 1990) by Thelonious Music Corp.
This arrangement Copyright © 2003 by Thelonious Music Corp.
International Copyright Secured All Rights Reserved

DRUMS

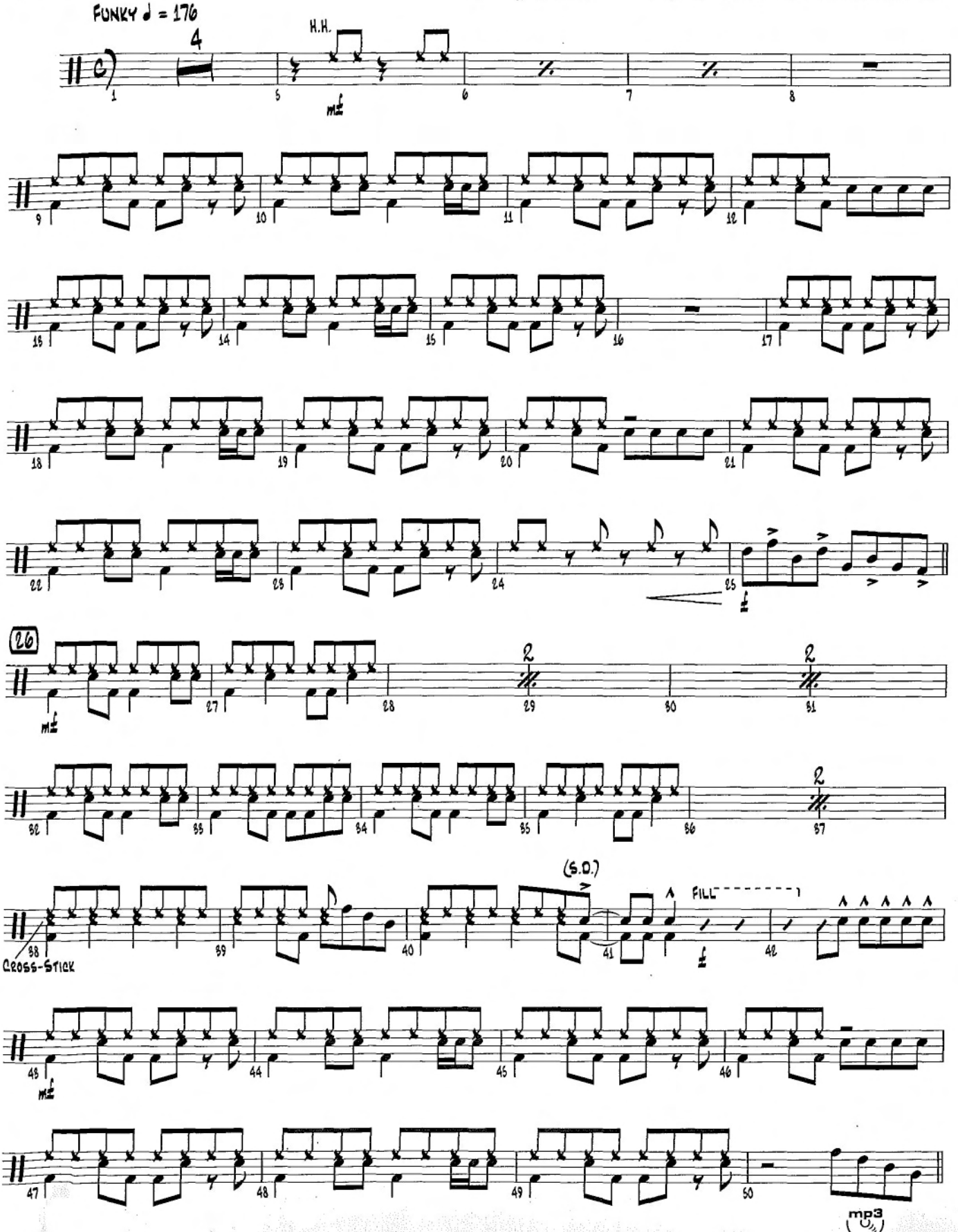

SAXES
146
147
148
149
150
151
Q
153
154
6
FILL
TRB.
160
R
H.H. - SLOSHY
161
162
164
165
166
167
168
S
170
171
172
173
174
T
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
U
184
185
186
187
188
V
TPTS.
190
191
192
193
194
FILL
SOLO
196
197
198
199
200

RIPPIN 'N RUNNIN'

DRUMS

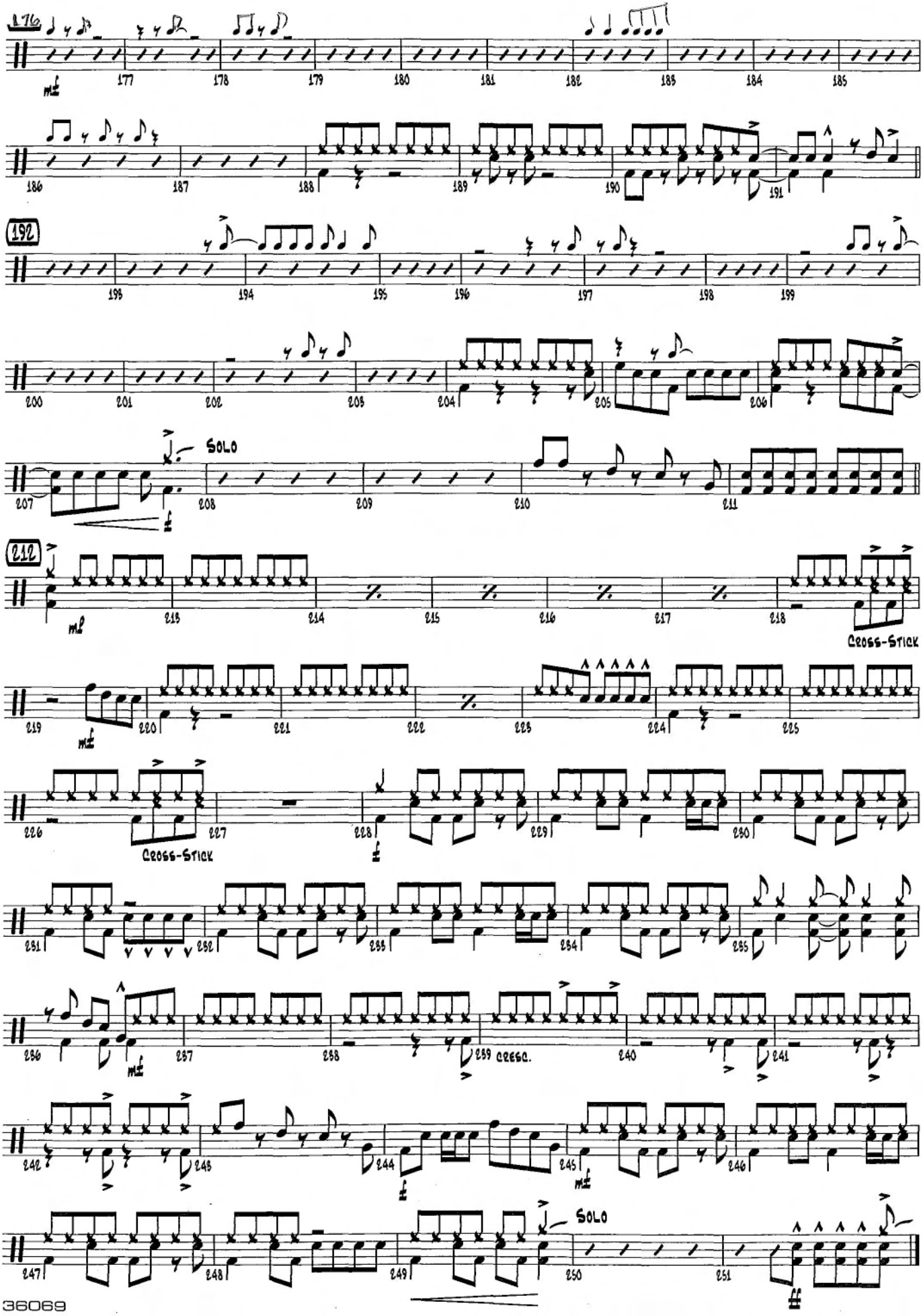
2747

By GORDON GOODWIN



© 2011 WINGOOD MUSIC PRODUCTIONS, INC. (ASCAP)
All Rights Administered by ALFRED MUSIC PUBLISHING CO., INC.

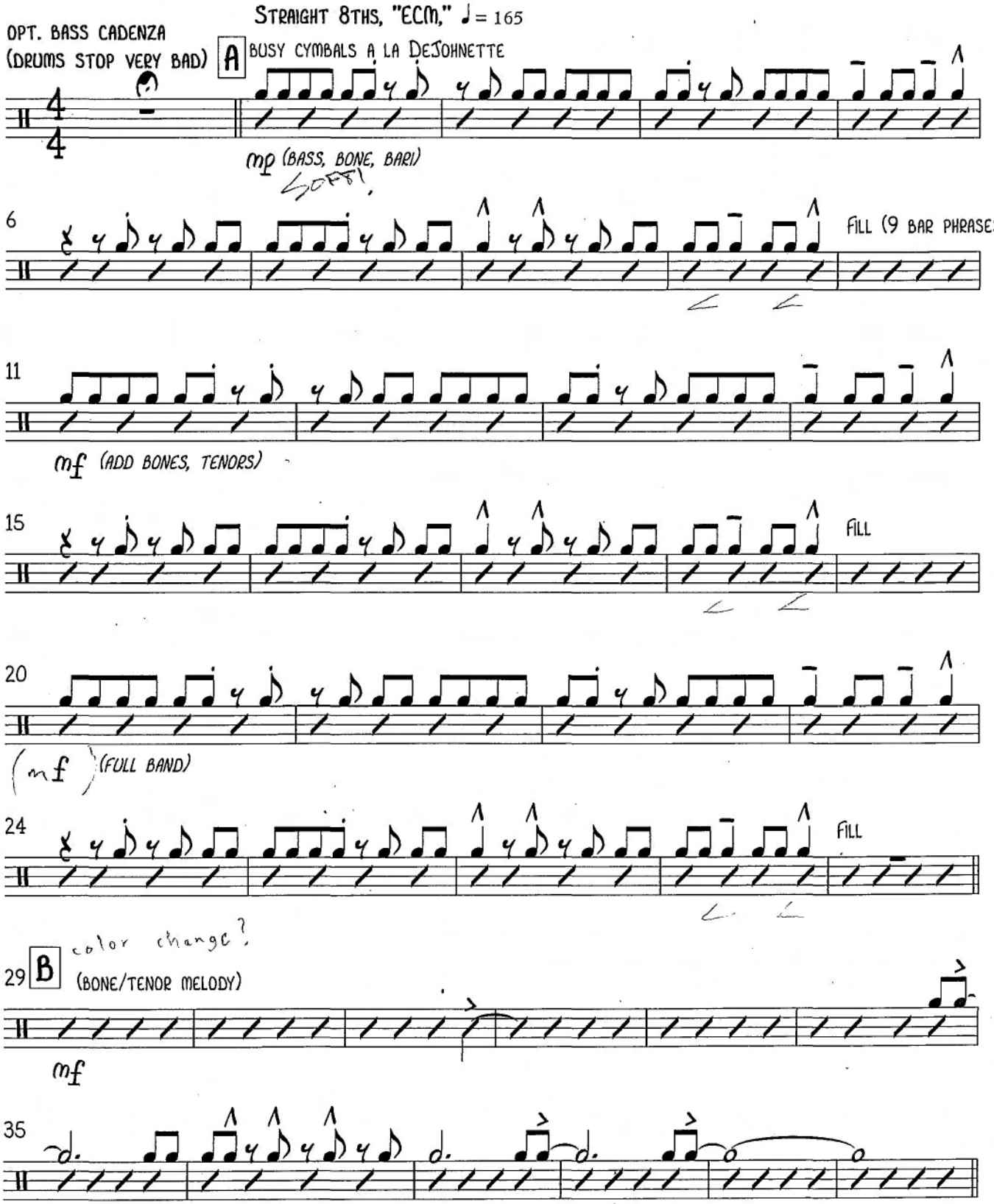
mp3
Purchase a full-length performance recording!


176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198
199
200
201
202
203
204
205
206
207
SOLO
208
209
210
211
212
213
214
215
216
217
218
Cross-Stick
219
220
221
222
223
224
225
226
Cross-Stick
227
228
229
230
231
232
233
234
235
236
237
238
239
cresc.
240
241
242
243
244
245
246
247
248
249
SOLO
250
251

Drums

Gettin' To It ... Finally

Jason Crowe, arr. Ryan Janus



Copyright © 2013 USAFA band

DRUMS

C (TPT BACKGROUND)

41

47

cresc

D ♩ = ♩.

53 AFRO-CUBAN 12/8

59

(BONE BACKGROUND)

63

67

(FULL BAND)

73

f

77

81

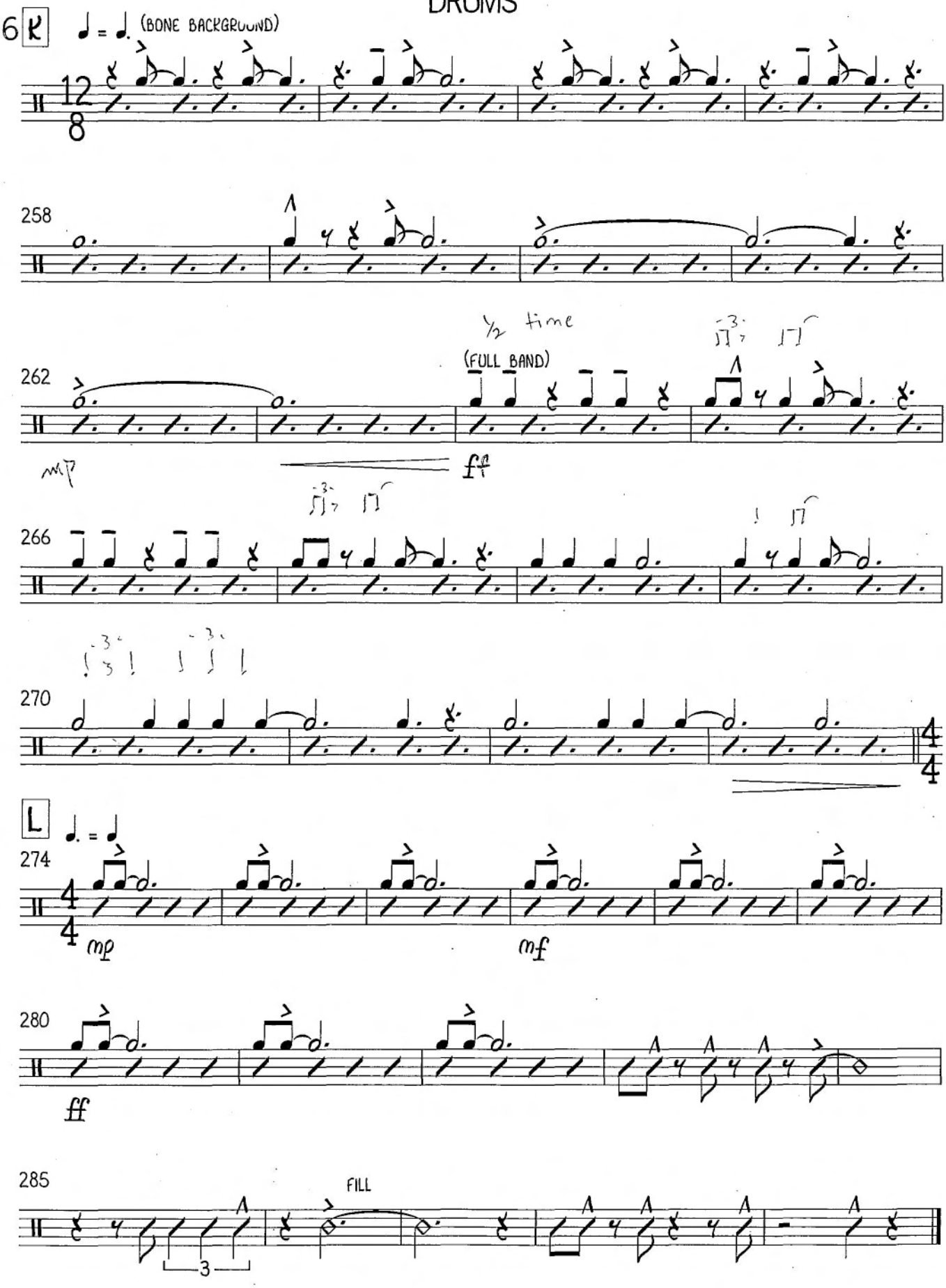
E ♩. = ♩

ff

86

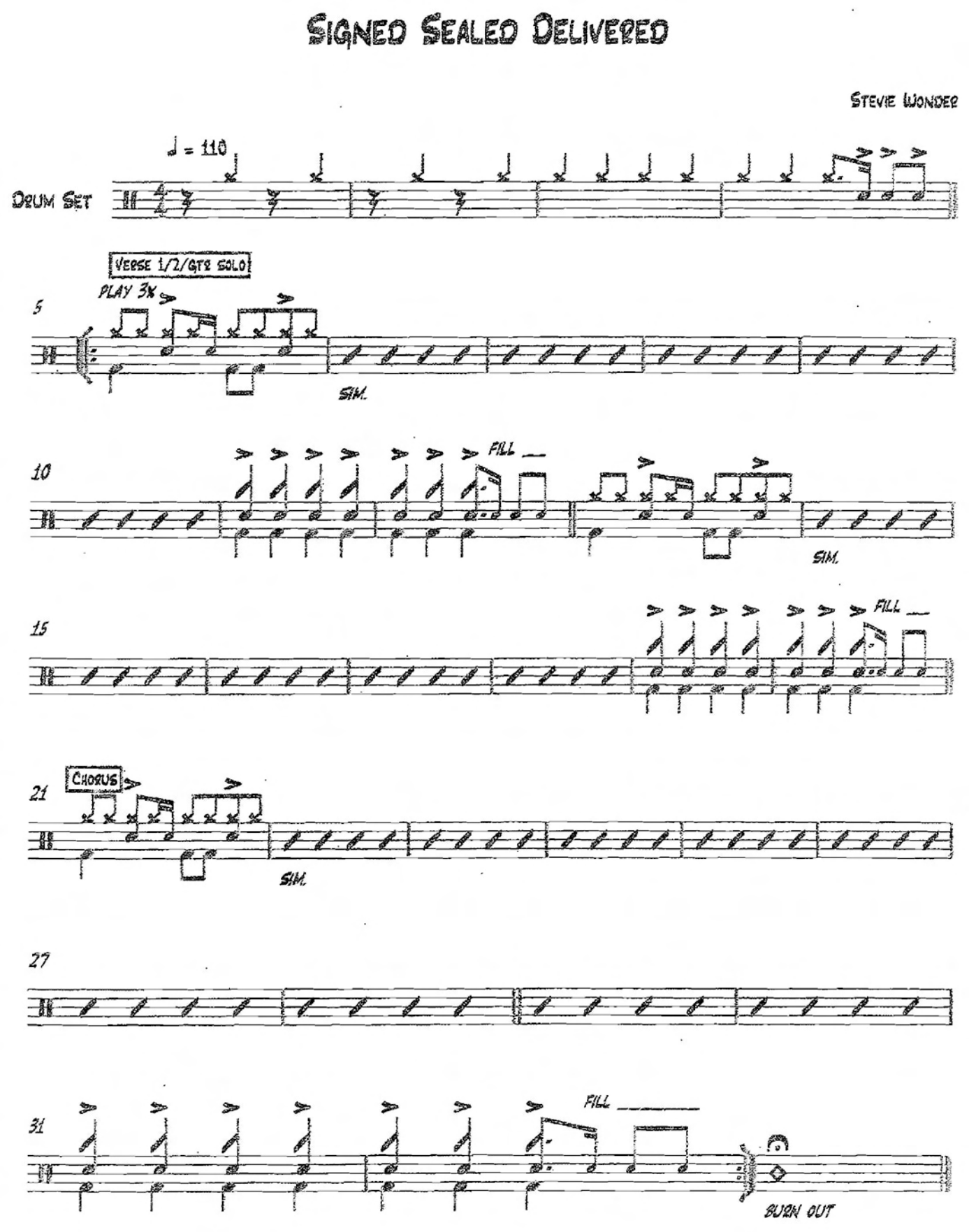
3

DRUMS


6
K
♩ = ♩. (BONE BACKGROUND)
12/8
258
262
½ time
(FULL BAND)
mp
ff
266
270
4/4
L
♩. = ♩
274
4/4
mp
mf
280
ff
285
FILL
3

SIGNED SEALED DELIVERED

STEVIE WONDER



2/4 cadence 10/12

(5) (5)

R R L R L R L R L R L R

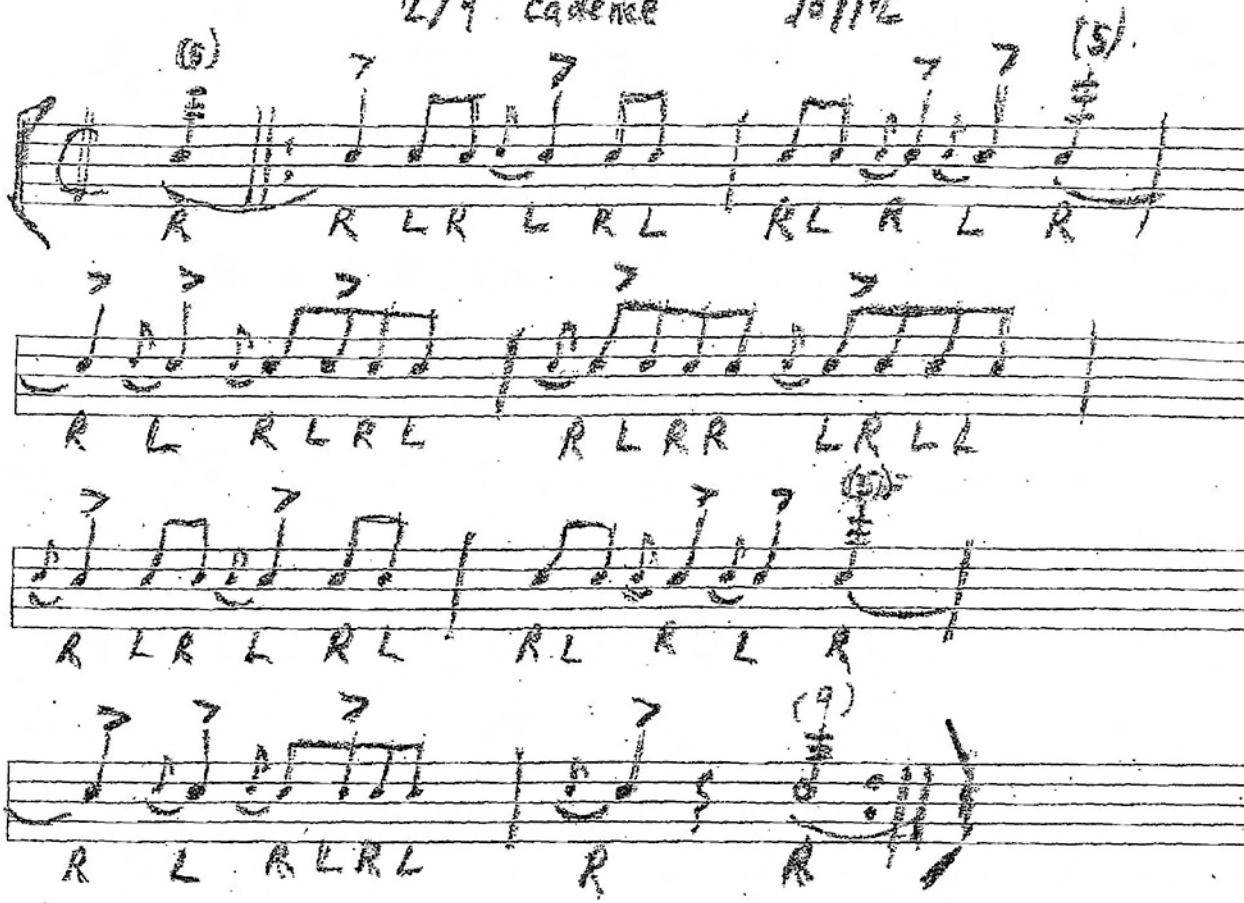
R L R L R L R L R R L R L L

R L R L R L R L R L R

R L R L R L R R

(9)

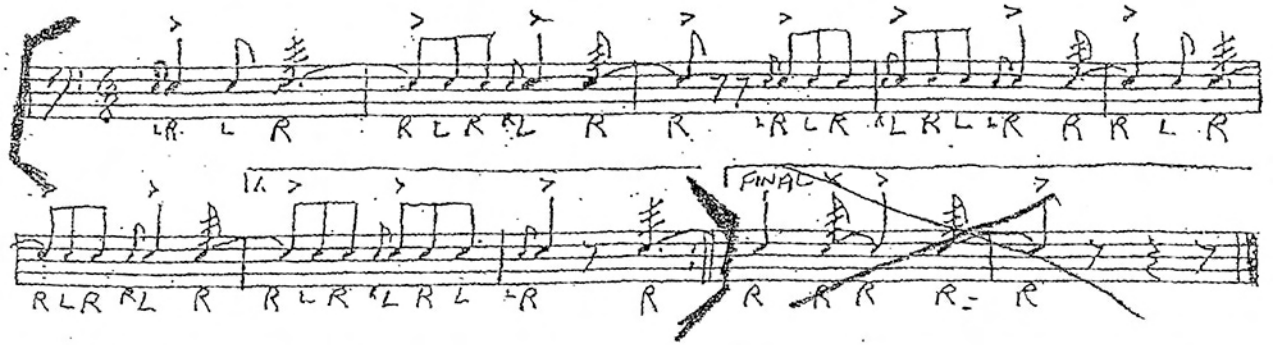
6/8 CADENCE



L R L R R L R L R R L R L R L R L R R R L R

R L R R L R R L R L R L R R R R R R R

FINAL



The United States Air Force Bands Program

http://www.bands.af.mil/
Contact us: 703-692-8168

QUALIFICATIONS

Do I need a college degree?
Although most Air Force band musicians have earned undergraduate degrees, a college degree is not required to qualify. Candidates are offered positions solely on the basis of a successful audition.

Are there physical requirements?
To be considered for a position with an Air Force band you must be between the ages of 18 and 39. Additionally, you must not have a medical condition that would prevent you from enlisting in the United States Air Force. Waivers for medical conditions may be applied for if you do not meet these requirements, but are decided on a case by case basis and no guarantee can be made that they will be granted.

As a member of the Air Force, you must maintain high standards of personal appearance and physical fitness. You will be required to pass bi-annual physical fitness evaluations and will be subject to random drug urinalysis testing at any time during your enlistment. Prior to your audition, you will be asked to demonstrate that you fall within the Air Force maximum allowable **weight standards**.

AUDITION PROCEDURES

How do I find out about openings?
Current openings and audition requirements are posted on the USAF Bands website: **http://www.bands.af.mil/careers/** and Facebook, and are advertised in professional trade journals.

How do I qualify for an audition?

Step One: Send required materials to the audition coordinator for the advertised vacancy. A committee will review the materials and determine whether an applicant demonstrates the professional musical skills necessary to warrant a live audition with an Air Force Band.

Step Two: Applicants are contacted by their local Air Force recruiter who sets up an in-person prescreen interview to determine the applicant's eligibility to enlist in the U.S. Air Force.

Step Three: Applicants who pass the initial prescreening are invited to a live audition. They are asked to perform various prepared compositions and to demonstrate outstanding ensemble skills and music theory knowledge. Note: Those invited to the audition travel at their own expense.

What happens if I win the audition?
If you are found musically qualified and are the best candidate, you will be offered a position with one of our Air Force bands. Normally, the position will be with the Air Force band you audition for, however we do offer positions with other Air Force bands if additional vacancies are available.

JOINING THE AIR FORCE

Where do I start?
When you accept a position with an Air Force band, you will be given an Air Force Form 485, *Application for Enlistment in an Air Force Band*, which allows you to begin the enlistment process and join the Air Force. Simply take the form to your local recruiter who will guide you through the enlistment process. You must take and pass the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (a skills assessment test) and complete a physical exam. The enlistment process is completed at your local Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) where you will sign an enlistment contract. After enlisting, you will go directly to Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, to complete Basic Military Training.

Does every Air Force band musician have to go through basic training?
Yes, basic training is a requirement for every Air Force musician.

What is Basic Training like and how long is it?
Basic training is an initial 8 1/2 week course at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas. While in basic training, you'll learn standard military drill and ceremonies, Air Force history, customs and courtesies, and will participate in daily physical fitness exercises. For more details, go to: **http://www.basictraining.af.mil/questions/index.asp**

Do Air Force musicians attend a technical school after basic training?
No. While in basic training, all enlisted musicians are assigned to the 737th Training Group Drum and Bugle Corps flight for initial skills qualification. After basic training, Airman musicians report directly to their assigned unit.

Assuming I'm going into the Air Force in another career field, can I audition for an Air Force band while in basic training?
No. However, you can apply to audition for the band career field when a vacancy becomes available and your service requirements have been met. As with other applicants, you must submit required audition materials and pass a live audition. Once qualified for entrance into the band career field, you would apply for retraining status. Normal military service requirements apply: A first-term Airman (four-year enlistment contact) assigned to a stateside base is eligible to apply for retraining after he or she has completed 35 months (no more than 43 months) of military service. Six-year enlistees may apply to re-train after completing 59 months of military service.

How and when will I know which band I'm assigned to?
As a general rule, you'll know which band you'll be assigned to before you enlist, usually the same day as your audition. Musicians are rarely diverted from that initial assignment.

After Basic Training, what happens?
When you graduate from Basic Military Training, you will be immediately assigned to an Air Force band unit. You are allotted a specific number of travel days to move from your home of record to your new duty station.

Where can I find information about joining the Air Force?
The Air Force has a comprehensive Website - **www.AirForce.com** - that provides a great deal of information about joining the Air Force. Additionally, your local Air Force recruiter will answer all of your questions about the benefits of joining the Air Force. To find your local recruiter, call (800) 423-USAF

SCHEDULE

What is a normal day like for an Air Force Musician?
Each band is unique in its scheduling and has different rehearsal/performance requirements that change on a weekly basis according to the mission. Band units frequently perform on evenings and weekends, and compensatory days off are often given on weekdays. For example, if a performance tour goes over a weekend, days off may be scheduled on weekdays following the return. The band schedule typically includes the same number of days off enjoyed by the rest of the Air Force.

As military bands are a traditional part of American patriotic celebrations, you should expect to work on major holidays such as Veteran's Day, Memorial Day, and Independence Day.

A typical non-performance day consists of rehearsals and administrative duties.

Will I have any non-musical duties?
Air Force bands are self-contained organizations, meaning its people must perform a variety of non-musical duties to ensure the smooth day-to-day functioning of the unit. These duties may range from performing simple clerical work to coordinating and managing the activities of an entire unit.

Music Library: Organize and distribute music to unit ensembles

Publicity: Develop publicity materials, web site development and maintenance

Operations: Coordinate group tours and performances

Supply: Instrument purchase/repair, uniforms, supplies

Finance: Manage unit funding, purchases

Administration: Manage personnel records, awards and decorations, training, auditions

Computer Staff: Application development, network administration, software/hardware maintenance

Vehicles: Coordinate scheduling/maintain band vehicles

Load Crew: New members also serve on loading crew and are responsible for loading, unloading, setting-up and tearing down equipment before and after each performance.

Is the band career field a full-time job? Is it secondary to being an Airman?
Working as an Air Force band musician is a full-time profession, not a side activity. You will be an active duty member of the United States Air Force. In wartime or peacetime, your primary duty is to perform as a musician. However, in emergency situations such as hurricanes, tornadoes or earthquakes, you might be used in the base manpower pool to assist with clean-up efforts around your base.

Will I deploy?
All Air Force bands deploy. The most commonly deployed ensembles are our Rock/Popular Music Ensembles. Deployments generally last about 90 days. During that time, Airman musicians bolster troop morale, build partnerships, and strengthen relationships with host nation communities through musical performances. While deployed, Air Force bands are not assigned non-musical tasks. Air Force bands deploy up to 10 members at a time on a rotational schedule. Once a band has deployed, generally it will not deploy again for at least 36 months.

PROFESSIONAL LIFE

What kind of musical ensembles will I typically perform with?
Most musicians usually perform in two or more ensembles

Flute, clarinet, oboe, and bassoon: Woodwind quintet and/or clarinet quartet along with concert band and ceremonial band.

Saxophone: Jazz band or a pop music combo along with concert band and ceremonial/marching band.

French horn: Concert band and woodwind quintet or brass quintet as well as ceremonial/marching band.

Tuba and euphonium: Brass quintet or low brass ensemble, concert band, and ceremonial/marching band.

Trumpet and trombone: Jazz band, pop music combo or brass quintet along with concert band and ceremonial/marching band.

Rhythm section: (percussionists, pianists, guitarists, bassists) Rock/pop music ensemble or jazz band as well as protocol combos and/or concert band. Percussionists are essential in the ceremonial/marching band and along with pianists, may assist in chamber ensembles, brass, or woodwind quintets.

Vocalist: Rock/pop music ensemble or jazz band as well as protocol combos and/or concert band. They may also perform solo anthems and augment protocol combos, chamber winds, and ceremonial bands.

Audio engineers: May augment a group occasionally, depending on their skill, but are not typically tasked to play an instrument.

Where does the band perform?
Each Air Force Band is assigned a geographical area of responsibility or "region" for performing. For instance, the USAF Band of the West performs in a region that includes Texas, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Missouri, and Oklahoma. Bands typically perform within their geographic area of responsibility but occasionally travel outside this area to meet special Air Force priorities or community relations requirements.

What are the performance venues like?
Performances take place in a wide variety of settings to include concert halls, public school or civic auditoriums, gymnasiums, field houses, outdoor concert venues, stadiums, and festivals.

What type of audience does the band play for?
Air Force Bands perform for military and civilian audiences around the world in support of official military, recruiting, and community outreach events. In a ceremonial capacity, bands perform for military functions, funeral honors, ceremonies, and troop support events. Outreach events may include public concerts, school assemblies, master classes, recitals, and special youth programs.

How many performances do bands give per year?
On average, each Air Force band performs over 400 programs annually for military, recruiting, and outreach events. This number includes the total of all unit performances, from soloists to massed ensembles.

PAY AND BENEFITS

How much is the salary and other allowances?

Basic Pay: Regional band members who have satisfactorily completed at least 45 semester hours or 67 quarter hours of college credit are awarded the rank of Airmen First Class (E-3 pay grade) after graduating from basic training. Pay and allotments increase as tenure and cost-of-living increases. For specific rates, click on the following link:
http://www.airforce.com/benefits/enlisted-pay/?m=2012easearch&pl=google&med=cpc

In addition to basic pay, members earn a non-taxable basic allowance for housing and basic allowance for sustenance.

Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH): The Air Force ensures the basic needs of every Airman are taken care of. Off-base residents receive a monthly tax-free housing allowance to help defray living expenses. On-base residents have their living expenses paid in full, to include utility bills and maintenance. BAH is calculated based on the location to which you are assigned. To calculate your BAH, go to the following website:
http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/bah.cfm

Subsistence (Food) Allowance (BAS): Airmen also receive tax free food allowances called Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS). Rates adjust annually according to cost of living averages.

Uniform Allowance: Airmen receive an annual tax-free clothing allowance to replace uniform items.

Travel Expenses: When traveling for job-related reasons (otherwise known as temporary duty [TDY] away from your home base), you'll receive additional tax-free money to cover your meals, lodging, and other incidental expenses.

Are Health care and life insurance available?
All members of the U.S. Armed Forces are automatically enrolled in TRICARE - the Department of Defense's health care program for active duty personnel, retirees, and their families. Through TRICARE, military members receive FREE, comprehensive medical and dental care. Family members may also be enrolled in TRICARE and receive medical care at military or civilian facilities through various options for little or no cost. Inexpensive dental care programs may be purchased for family members as well.

Members are not charged leave for sick days, and with doctor authorization, will receive as many as necessary to return to full health.

Service Member's Group Life Insurance, or SGLI, is a low cost group life insurance plan for service members. SGLI coverage is available in increments of $50,000 to a maximum of $400,000. For example, for only $29 per month, members may purchase life insurance coverage of $400,000.

Is there a pension or retirement program?
The Air Force provides a 20-year retirement program for its members. After serving 20 years, members will receive 50% percent of their basic pay in retirement compensation. This amount increases each year by 2.5%, and after 30 years of service, members will receive 75% of their basic pay in retirement compensation. Retirement income is adjusted each year to compensate for increases in the cost of living.

The federal Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) allows participants to place a portion of their monthly pay into an account similar to a 401(k) investment plan. The contributions are considered pretax dollars and therefore reduce the amount of income subject to tax, and the accounts grow tax-free. Enrollment is available when members first join the military and anytime thereafter. Unlike traditional military retirement, which requires a commitment of at least 20 years of active duty, money invested in the TSP belongs to individual members, no matter how many years they serve. Income contributed to the TSP is not taxed until withdrawn from the account. Withdrawal before age 59-1/2 may be subject to penalty; however, the TSP account can be rolled over into an IRA or another employer's retirement account.

Can I shop at the base commissary and exchange?
Members and their families are permitted to shop at military commissaries (grocery stores), base exchanges (department stores) and service stations. These facilities offer tax-free shopping and a savings of about 30% over similar off-base stores. Additionally, recreational facilities and skills shops are available at a significant cost savings.

EDUCATION

Are there opportunities for continued education?
Yes. The Air Force encourages its members to seek continued development in their area of expertise. For the first few years, band members undergo extensive on-the-job training (OJT) to develop their performance and administrative skills. Part of this training may include private instruction and participation in professional workshops or conferences. In addition, members can take advantage of the following education incentives:

Tuition Assistance: The Air Force Tuition Assistance (TA) program is designed to help active-duty personnel pursue voluntary, off-duty educational opportunities. Currently, the program pays 100% (up to $250 per semester hour or equivalent) of the cost of college tuition with a limit of $4500 per fiscal year. Courses and degree programs may be academic or technical and can be taken from two- or four-year institutions on base, off base or by correspondence.

Post-9/11 GI Bill: Post-9/11 GI Bill offers increased education benefits to veterans who served on or after 11 Sep 01. Benefits are based on aggregate, honorable service, and include college tuition (up to a certain amount), a monthly housing stipend and an annual books/supplies stipend. Active duty and distance learning students may receive a pro-rated benefit. Eligible active duty service members and Selected Reserve may choose to transfer benefits to DEERS-

registered dependents, but stipulations apply and require eligibility determination by Service component.

Everyone with at least 90 aggregate, active duty days of honorable service on or after 11 Sep 01 is eligible for benefits under the new GI Bill. For full benefits, a member must have served at least 36 months active duty on or after 11 Sep 01. Reserve and National Guard members with 3 years of aggregate, active duty service on or after 11 Sep 01 can also qualify for full GI Bill benefits. Eligibility stipulations and benefit details are available at base education offices and at **http://www.gibill.va.gov**.

Height (inches)	Max Weight (lbs)
58	131
59	136
60	141
61	145
62	150
63	155
64	160
65	165
66	170
67	175
68	180
69	186
70	191
71	197
72	202
73	208
74	214
75	220
76	225
77	231
78	237
79	244