Down Among the Dead Men

Composed by Henry Purcell
Arranged by John Sweden

A Solo for feature for Bass Trombone

1:30 Minutes

4 Trumpets
1 Horn in F
4 Trombones
1 Tuba

Trumpet 4 doubles on Flugelhorn

Alternative transposed parts for E♭ Soprano Cornet, E♭ Tenor Horn, B♭ Trombone, Euphonium or Baritone in Treble Clef and E♭ & B♭ Bass in Treble Clef are automatically included in both hard copy and download formats.

If you require additionally transposed parts, please drop me an email at info@superbrass.co.uk

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Programme Notes

"Down Among the Dead Men" is an English drinking song first published in 1728, but possibly of greater antiquity. The song begins with a toast to "the King" and continues with obeisance's to the god Bacchus which become increasingly less subtle descriptions of the benefits of alcohol in procuring opportunities for sex. At the conclusion of each stanza of the song, those who deny the song's declarations are condemned to lay "down among the dead men," a euphemism for drunken unconsciousness. The lyrics to the song have been most widely attributed to John Dyer. It was first performed at the theatre at Lincoln's Inn Fields. The song makes use of a number of metaphors, most prominently the "Dead men" being a term for empty bottles and the expression to "lie down among the dead men" means to get so drunk as to slip from one's chair and land under the table where the empty bottles have been discarded. The song maintained its popularity into the Victorian era, with the lyrics modified to replace the word "King" with the word "Queen" during the reign of Queen Victoria. Several vocal and instrumental performances of "Down Among the Dead Men" are included in the soundtrack to the 2013 video game Assassin's Creed IV: Black Flag.

Henry Purcell

Henry Purcell (1659-1695) is generally considered to be one of the England's greatest composers, his music instantly recognisable by a unique mix of tradtionally european baroque elements. Following the restoration of the monarchy in 1660 england was able to experience a return to public performance of music both sacred and secular. The newly crowned Charles II had come to adore theatre during his exile in Louis xiv's french court and so the reinstatement of court music led to the composition of all kinds of incidental music to masques and pageants.

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Roger Argente / Artistic Director

Superbrass Music

Score in C

Down Among the Dead Men

Composed by Henry Purcell
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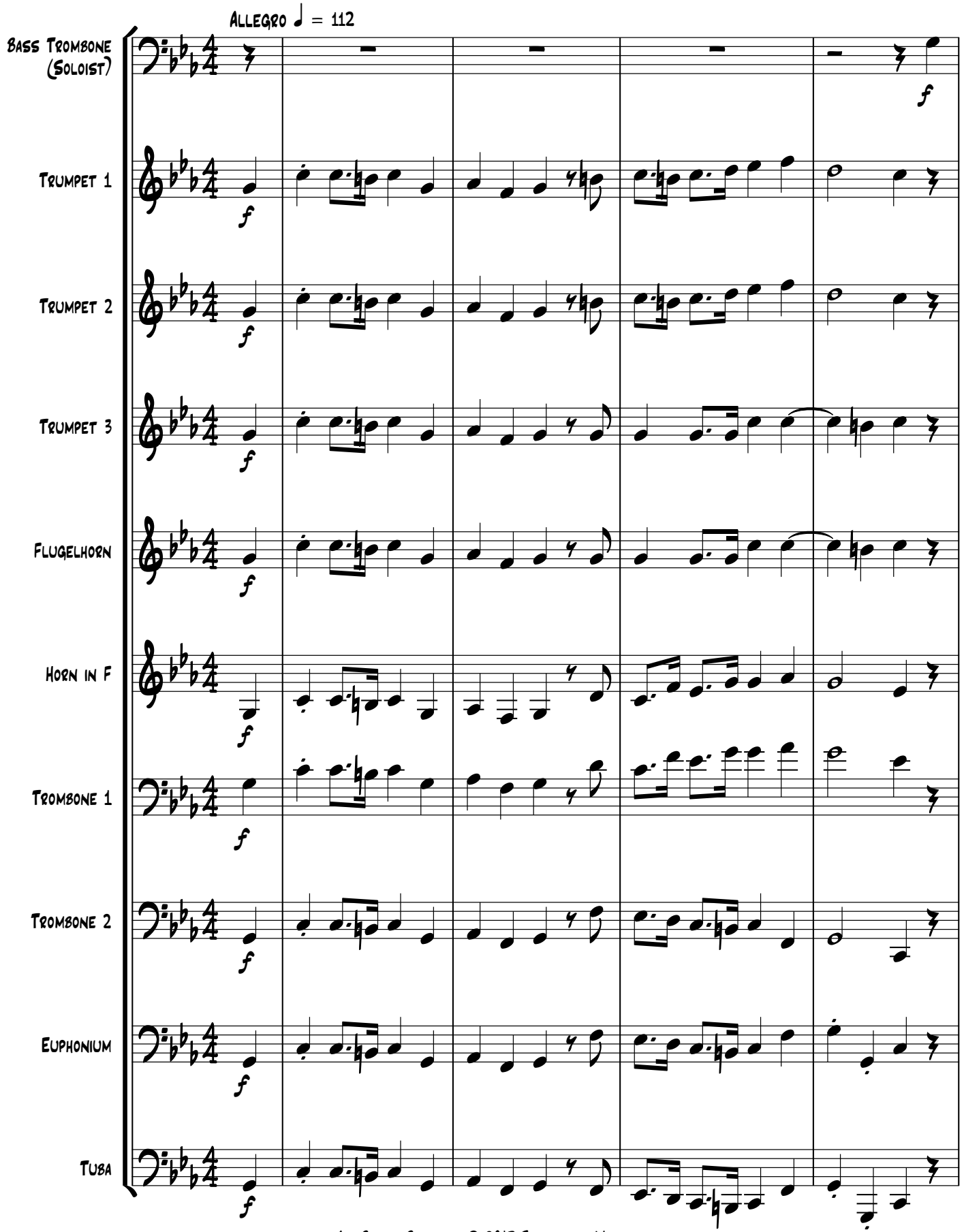
Edited by Roger Argente



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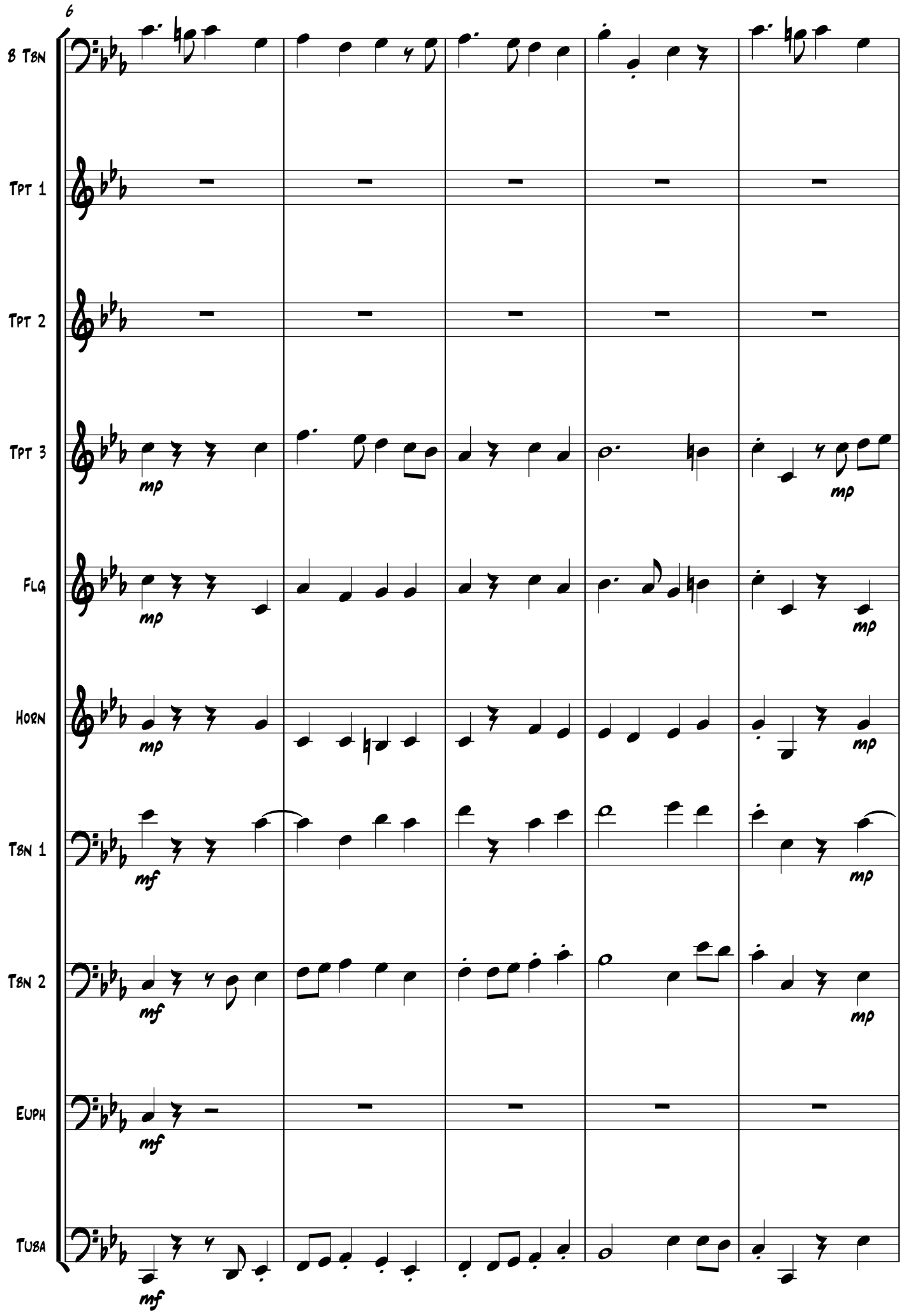
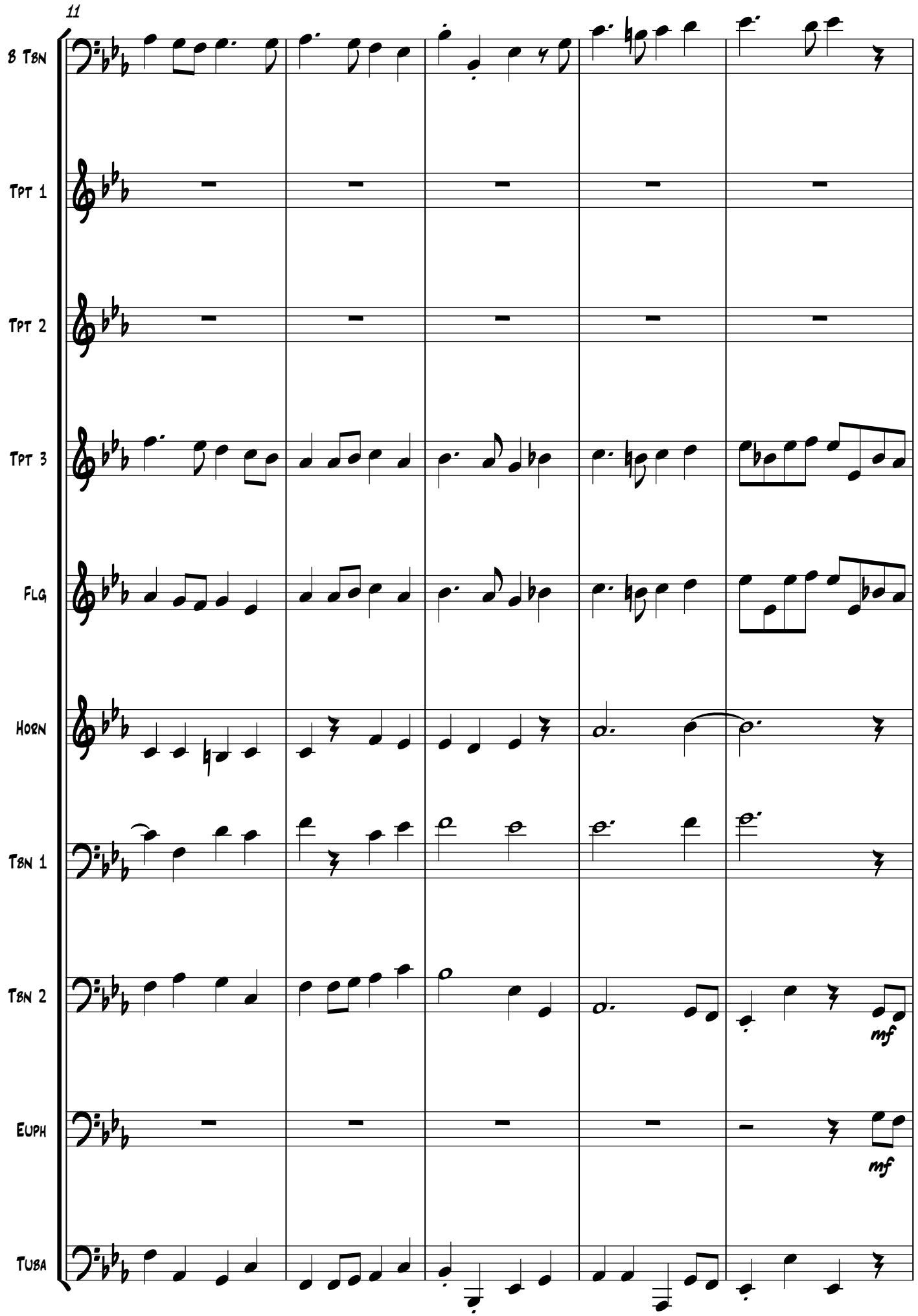

6
B Tbn
Tpt 1
Tpt 2
Tpt 3
Flg
Horn
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Euph
Tuba
mp
mf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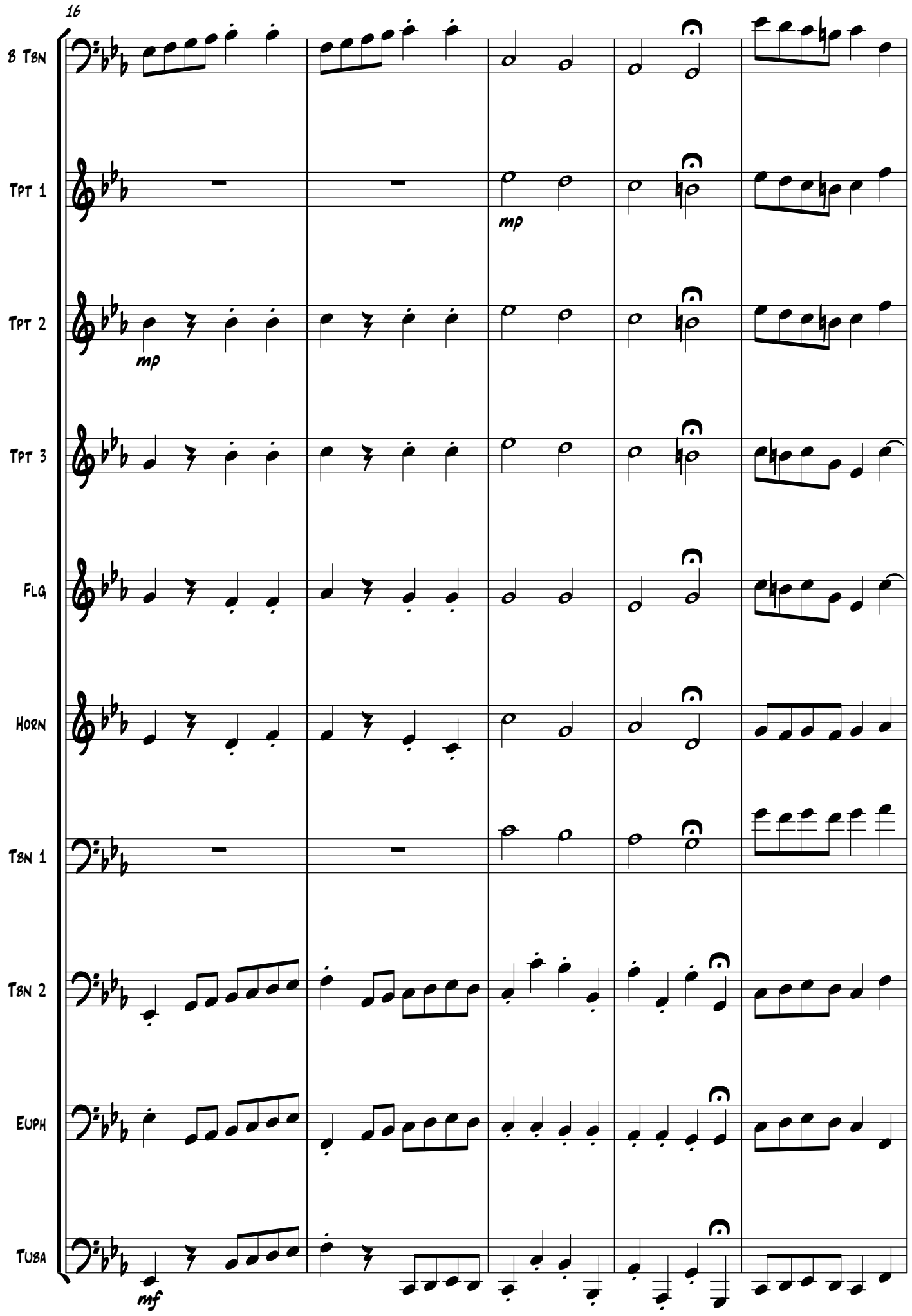
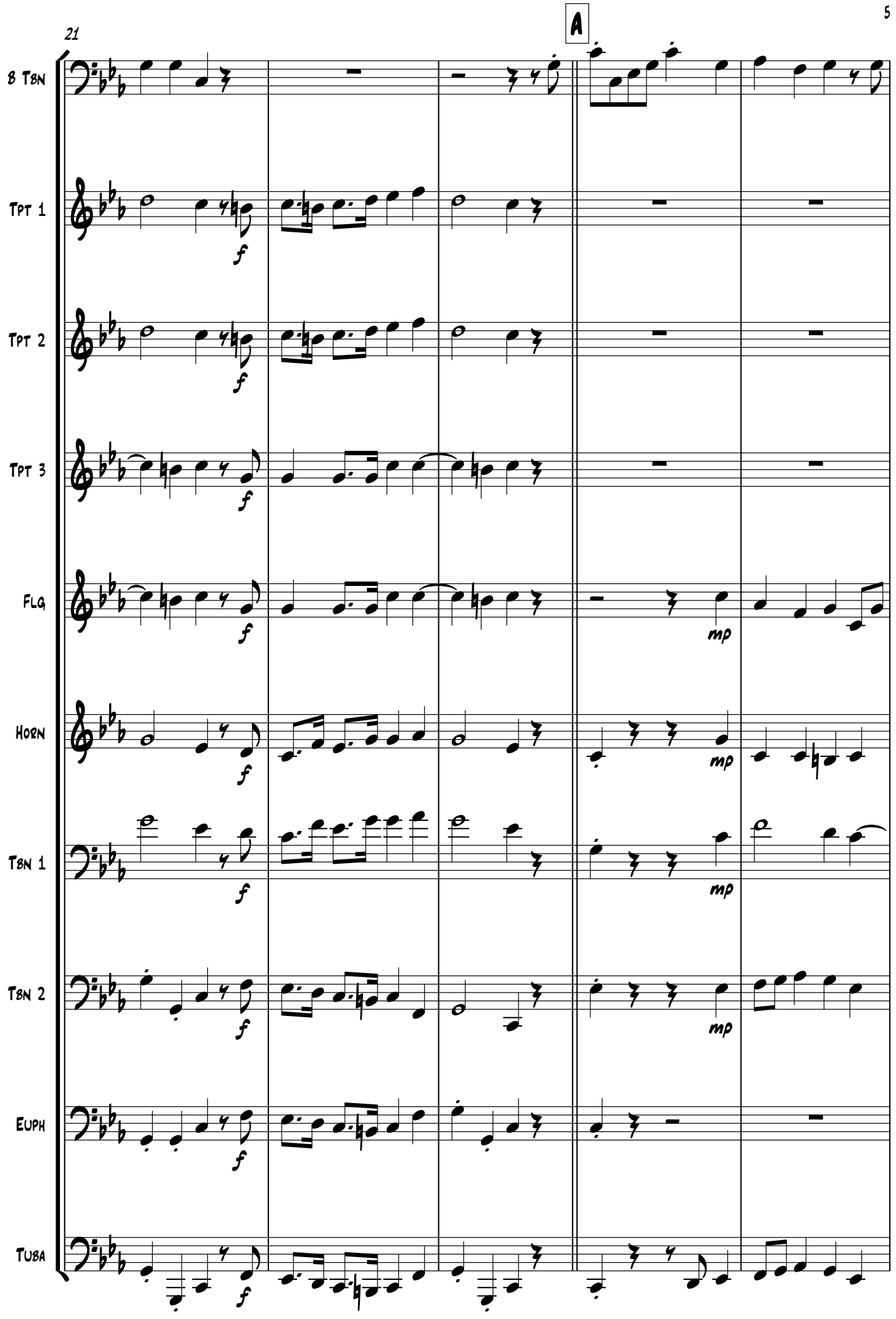
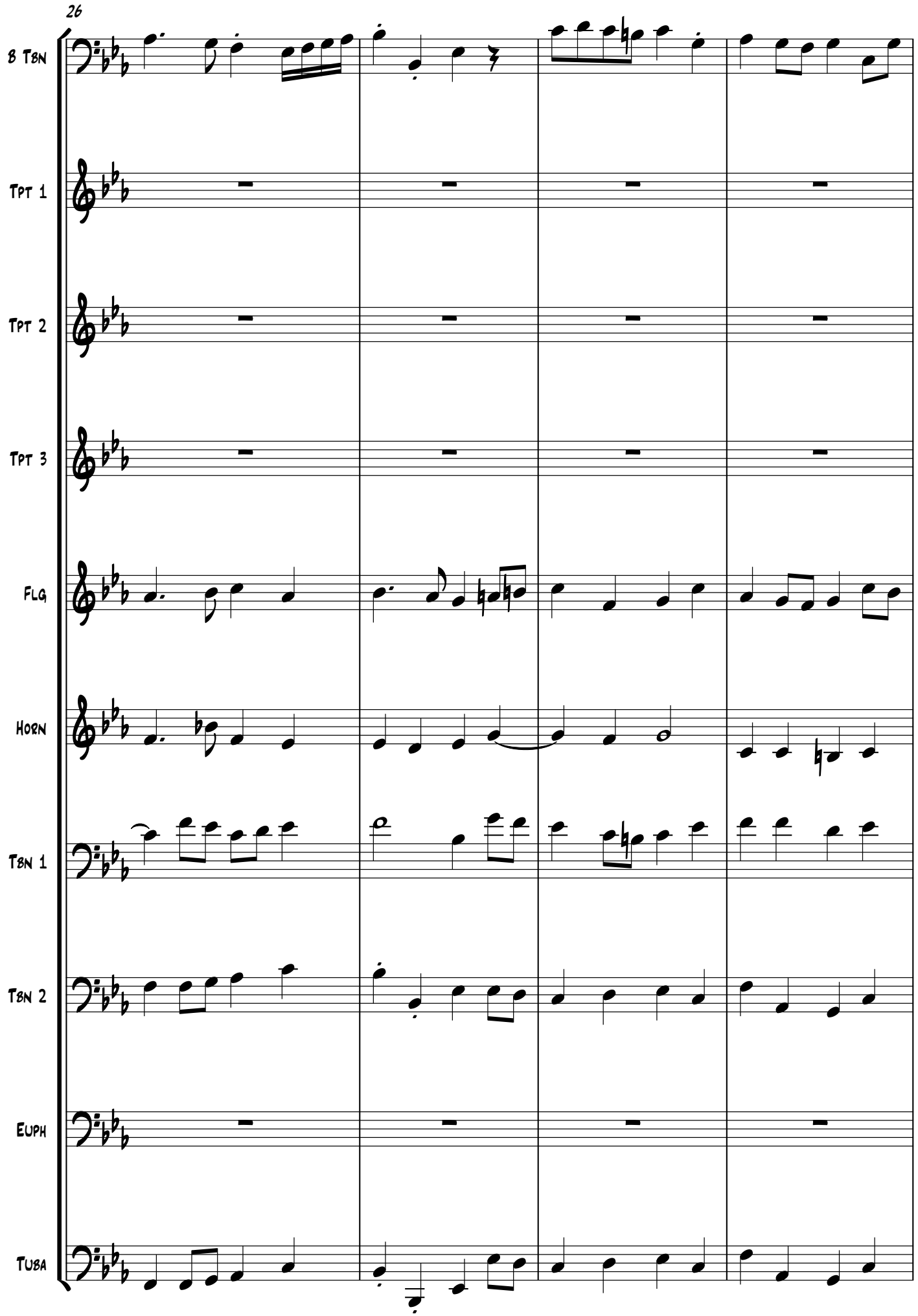
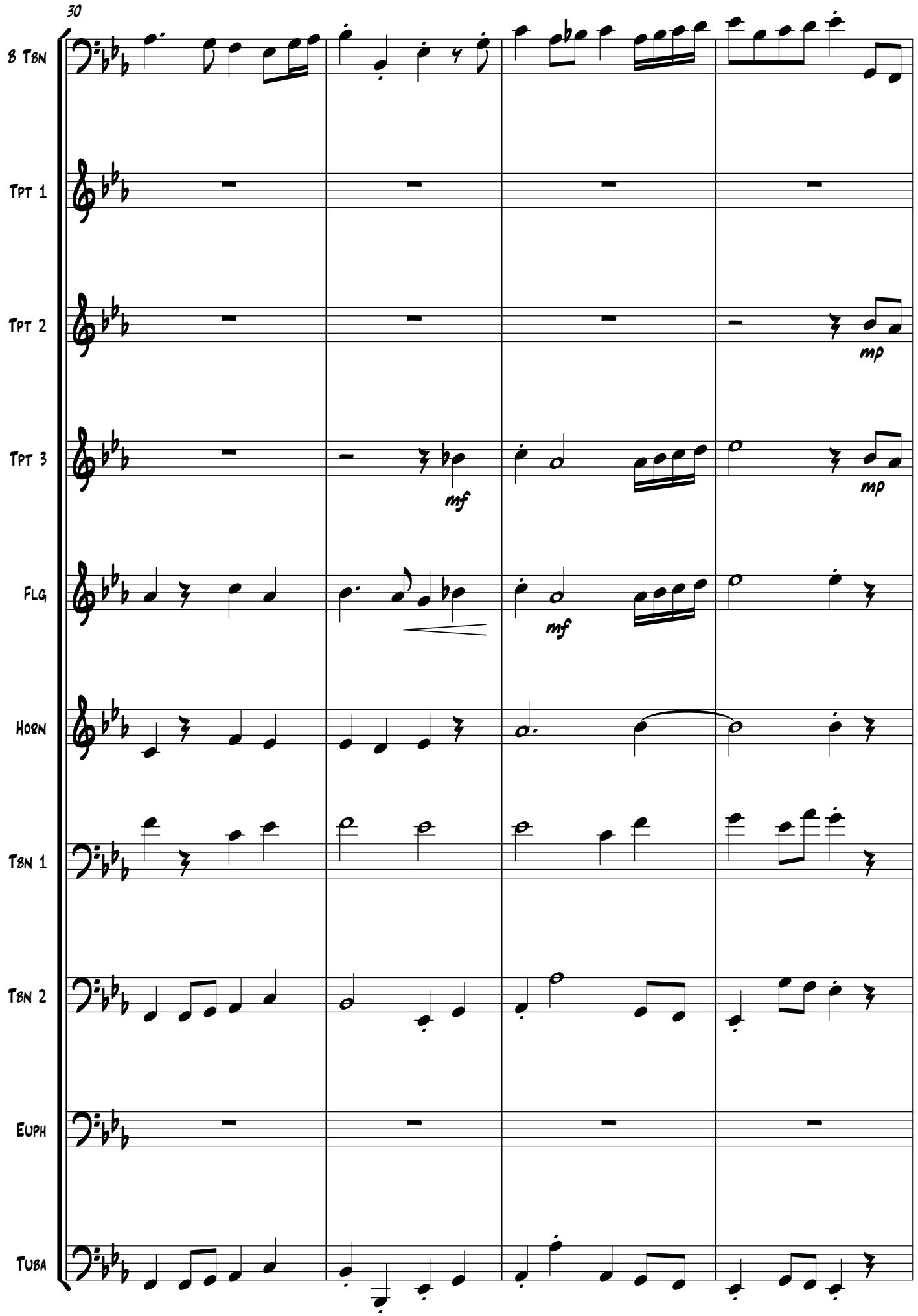
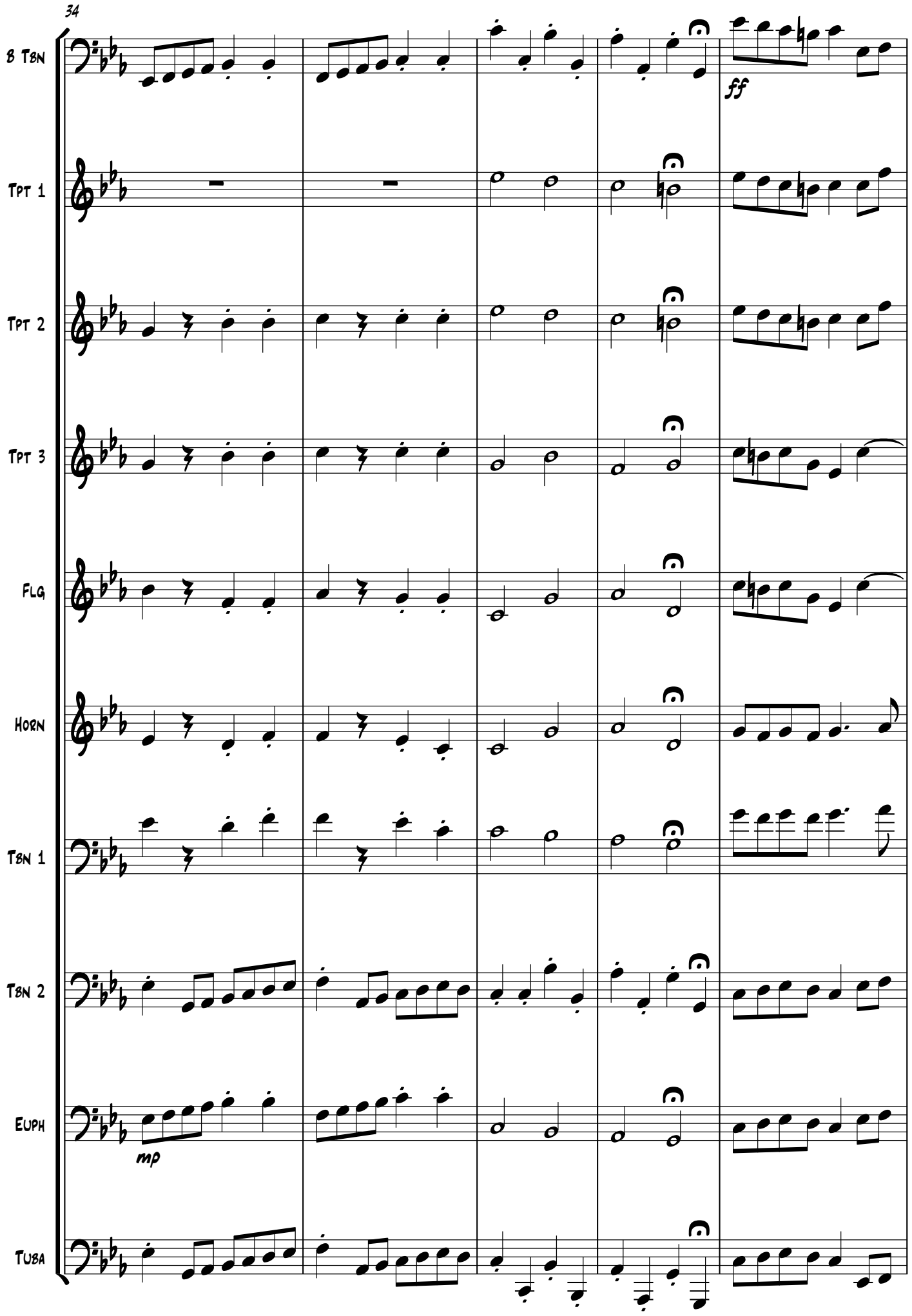
B Tbn
Tpt 1
Tpt 2
Tpt 3
Flg
Horn
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Euph
Tuba
mf
mf


16
B Tbn
Tpt 1
mp
Tpt 2
mp
Tpt 3
Flg
Horn
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Euph
Tuba
mf


21
A
B Tbn
Tpt 1
Tpt 2
Tpt 3
Flg
Horn
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Euph
Tuba
f
mp


26
B Tbn
Tpt 1
Tpt 2
Tpt 3
Flg
Horn
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Euph
Tuba

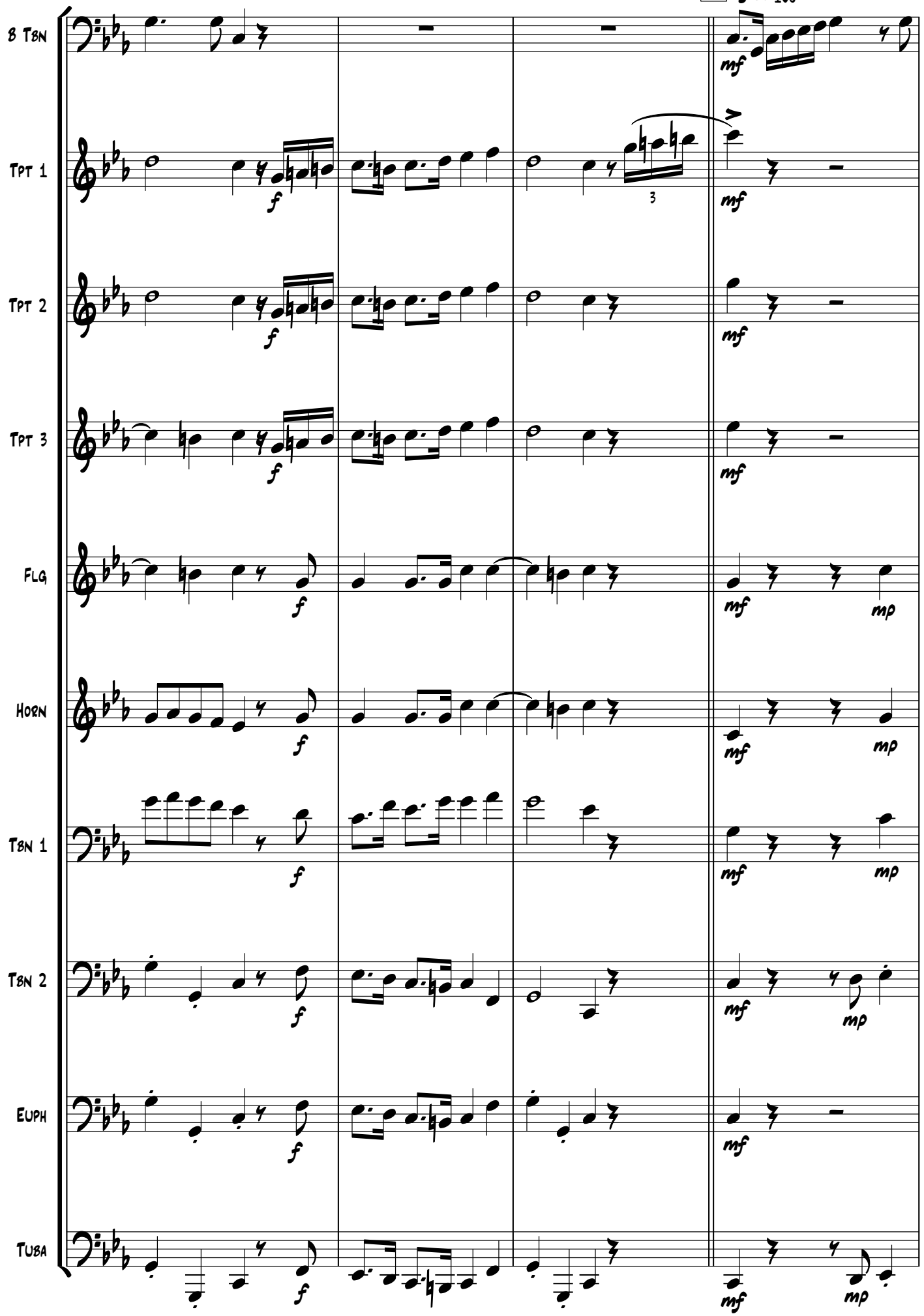

30
B Tbn
Tpt 1
Tpt 2
mp
Tpt 3
mf
mp
Flg
mf
Horn
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Euph
Tuba

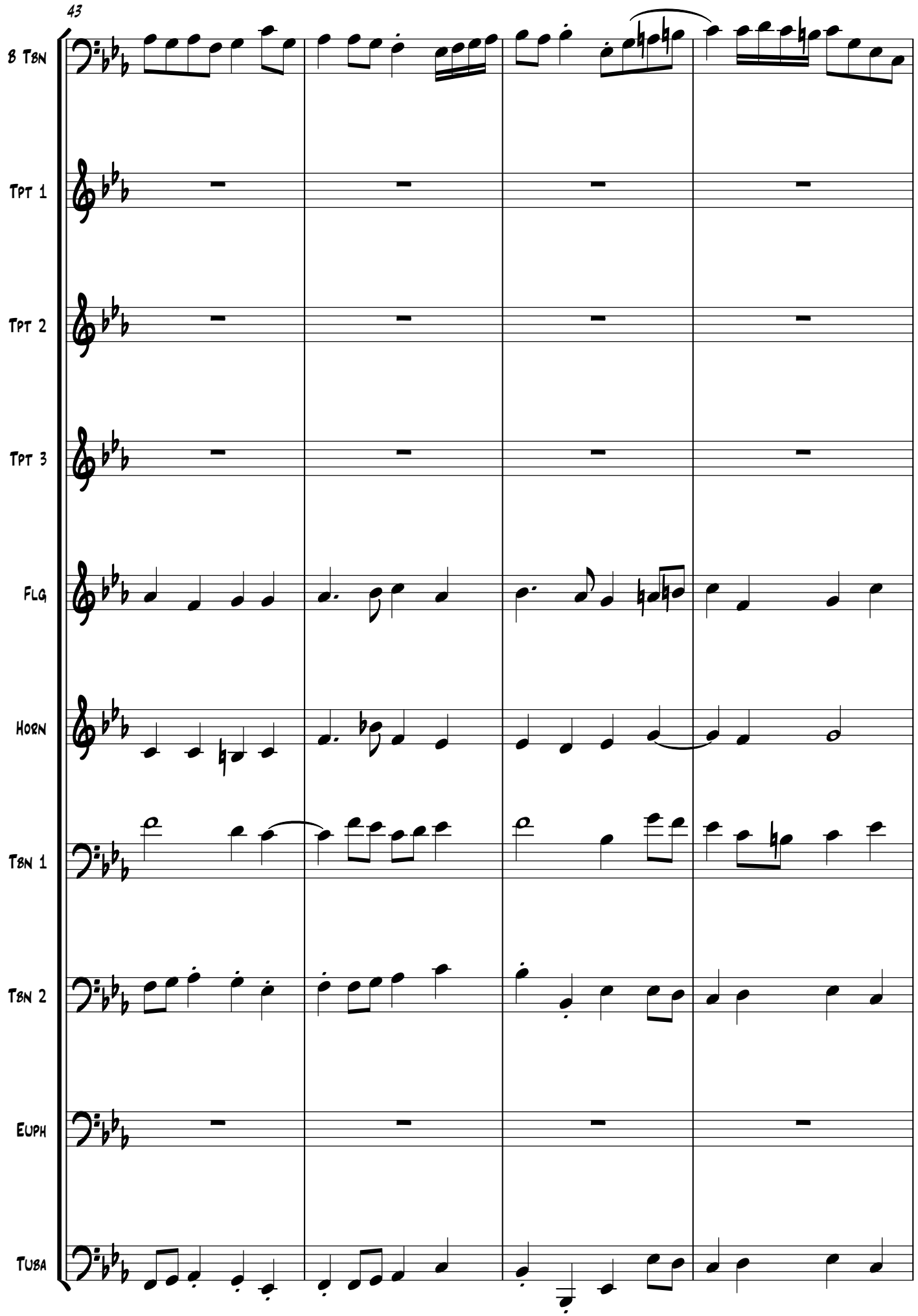

34
B Tbn
Tpt 1
Tpt 2
Tpt 3
Flg
Horn
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Euph
Tuba
ff
mp

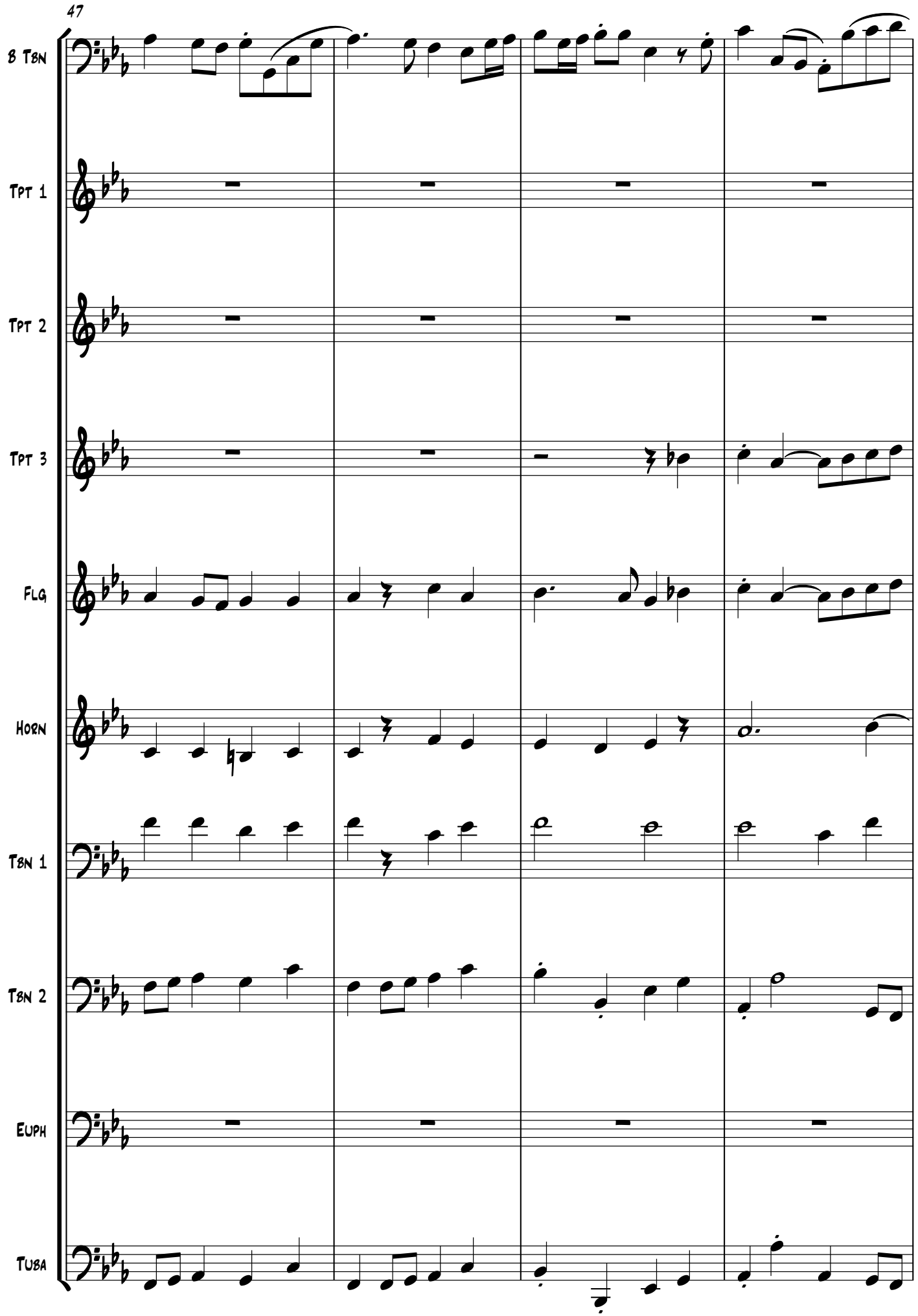
39

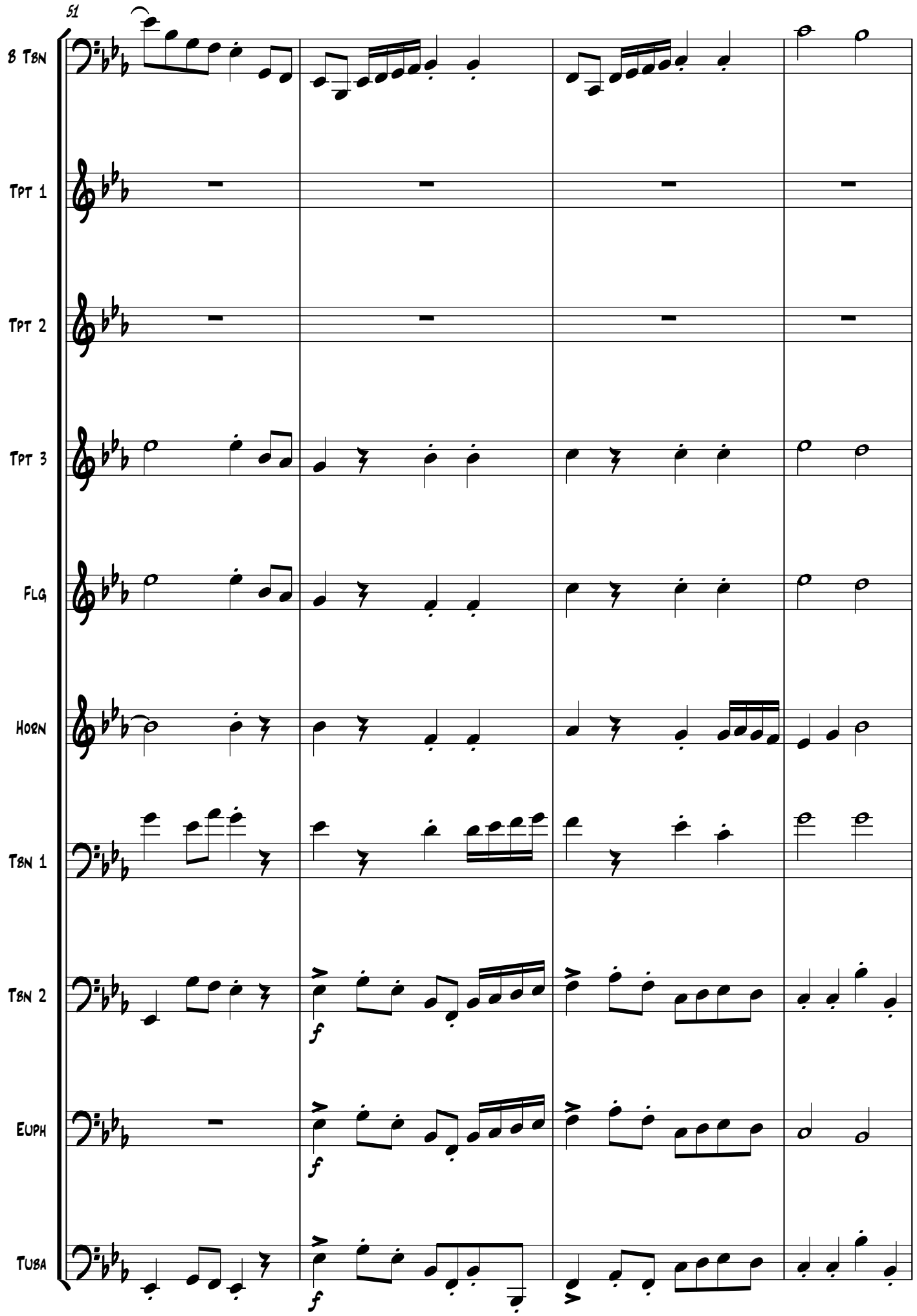
B Poco Meno Mosso

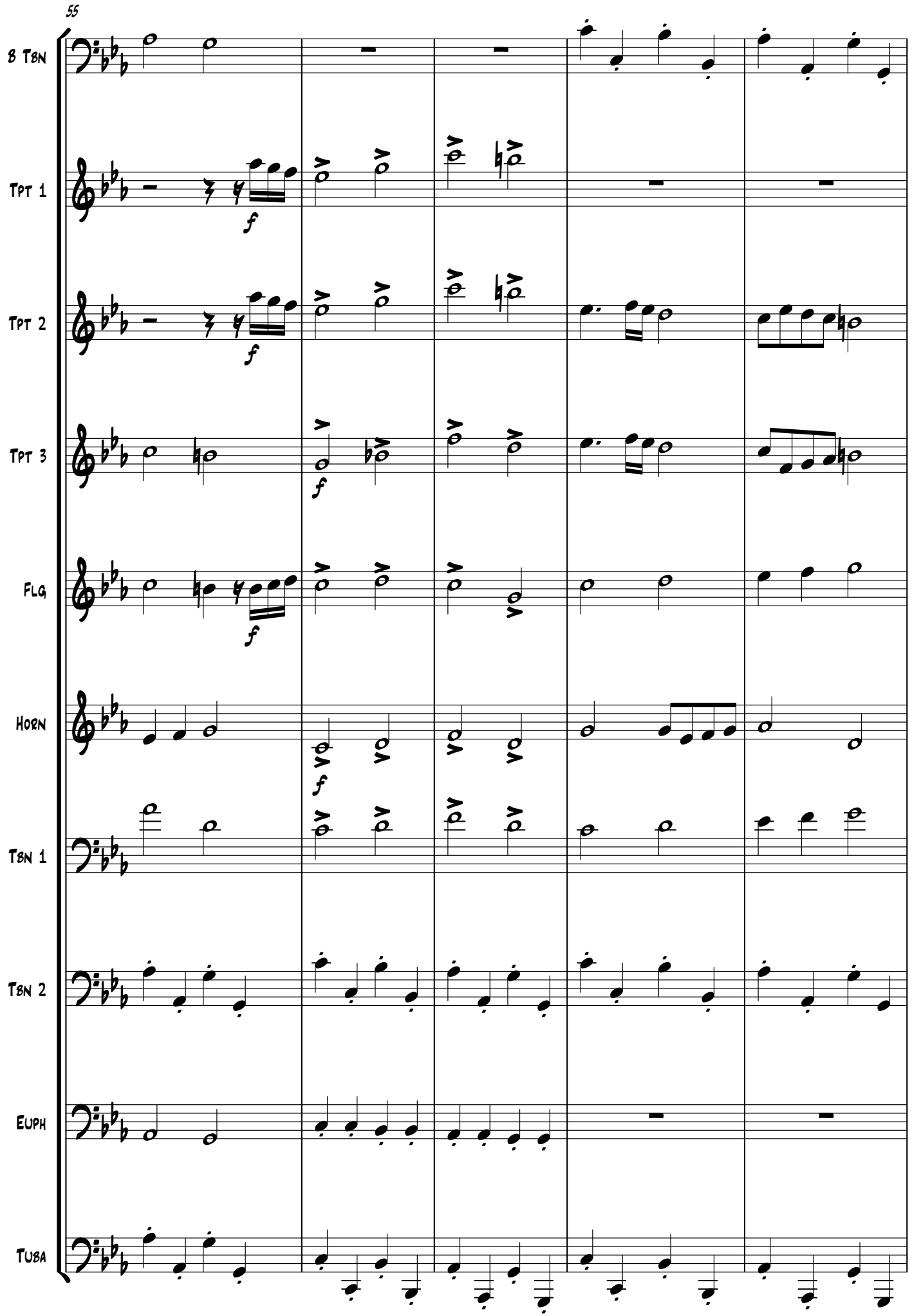
♩ = 108

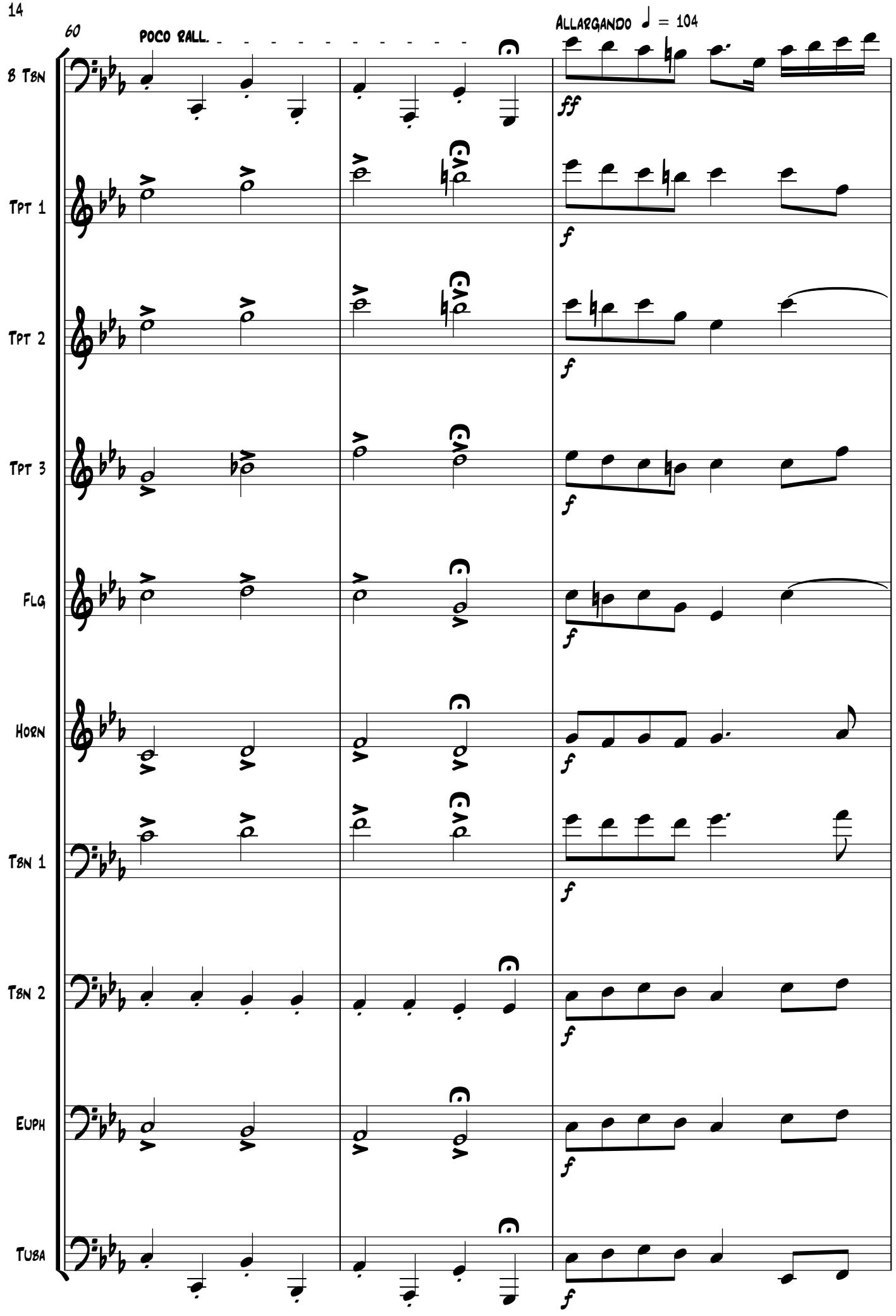


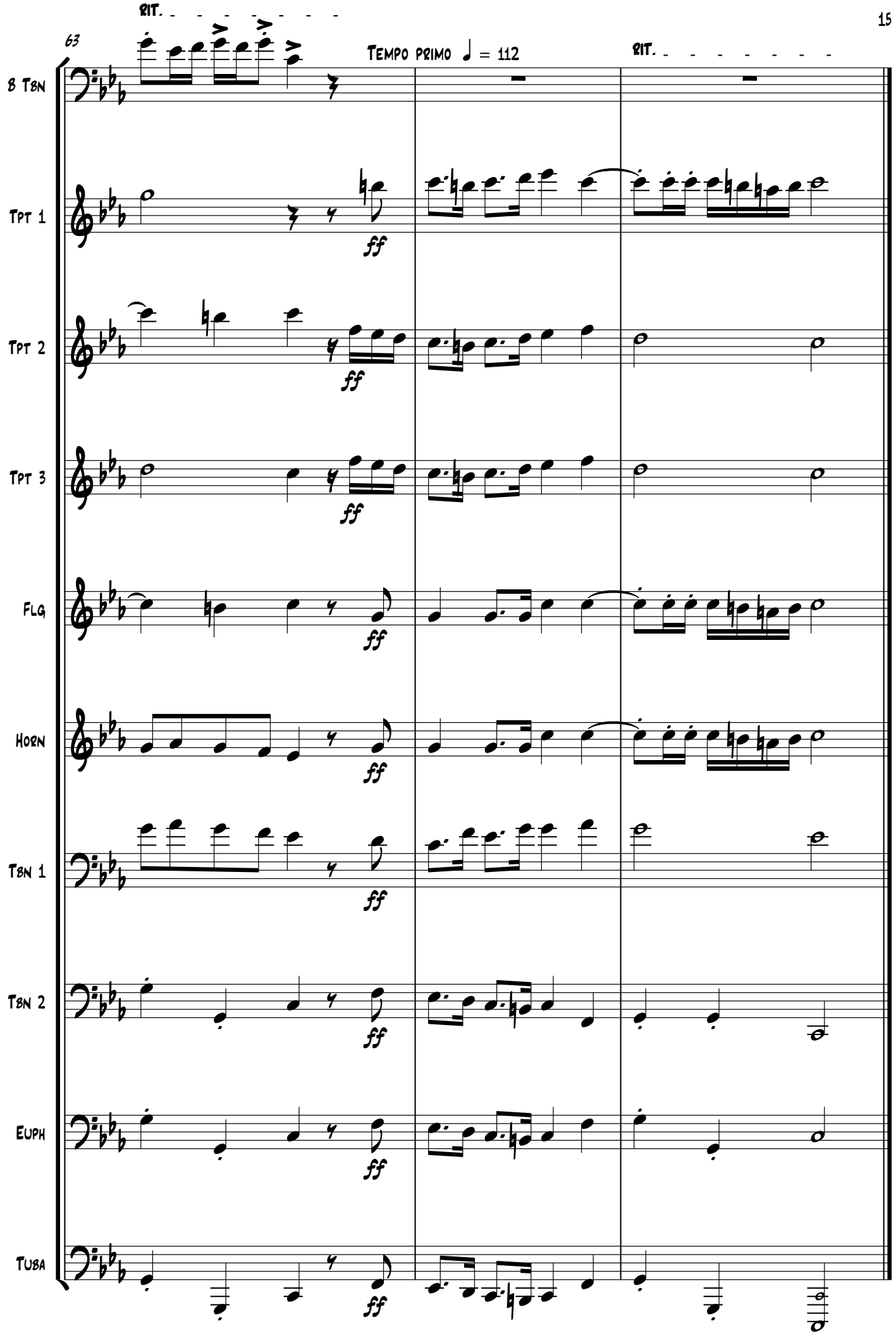

43
B Tbn
Tpt 1
Tpt 2
Tpt 3
Flg
Horn
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Euph
Tuba


47
B Tbn
Tpt 1
Tpt 2
Tpt 3
Flg
Horn
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Euph
Tuba


51
B Tbn
Tpt 1
Tpt 2
Tpt 3
Flg
Horn
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Euph
Tuba
f
f
f


55
B Tbn
Tpt 1
Tpt 2
Tpt 3
Flg
Horn
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Euph
Tuba
f


60
POCO RALL.
ALLARGANDO ♩ = 104
B Tbn
Tpt 1
Tpt 2
Tpt 3
Flg
Horn
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Euph
Tuba
fff
f


63
rit.
Tempo primo ♩ = 112
rit.
B Tbn
Tpt 1
Tpt 2
Tpt 3
Flg
Horn
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Euph
Tuba
fff