

# PLUTO

for orchestra

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#### MUSIC BY STAN GRILL

#### VOCAL MUSIC

VOCAL MUSIC				
The Snow Begins (W.C. Williams)		1975	soprano, piano	3 min
Earth and Sea (Eskimo texts)		1975	soprano, piano	3 min
Preludes (T.S. Eliot)		1978	soprano, violin, cello	10 min
6 Songs (W.B. Yeats)		1983	soprano, piano	15 min
To a Child (W.B. Yeats)		1987	soprano, string quartet	20 min
Crazy Jane Sings (W.B. Yeats)		1999	soprano, fl, vn, va, vc, pn	25 min
Vignettes/Flowers (W.C. Williams)		2002	SATB, cello	18 min
Love Poems (W.C. Williams)		2003	SSAA	10 min
Vignettes/Trees (W.C. Williams)		2004	2 voices, 2 cellos	15 min
Thinking of You (John MacKenzie)		2005	soprano, vc, harp	7 min
Ariettas without words		2005	soprano, vc, harp	9 min
Scetate (Ferdinando Russo)	2005	SSATT		
In Their Flight (Mark Doty)		2006	soprano, mezzo soprano, vn, vc	6 min
Rilke Songs		2009	soprano, va d'amore, vc	15 min
4 Songs to Poems by Hart Crane		2010	tenor, piano	12 min
Sonnets to Orpheus (Rilke)		2012	tenor, piano	35 min
MUSIC FOR STRINGS ALONE				
6 Contrapuntal Pieces	IVIUS	1986		20 min
For Laura		1987	string quartet string quartet	25 min
As Easy as 1,2,3		1987	string quarter string trio	10 min
The Beckoning Stars		2001	string trio string quartet	13 min
Imaginary Dances		2001	violin solo	18 min
Short Stories		2003	vn, va, vc, db	18 min
Passion (a love duet)		2003	Va, vc	9 min
Pavanne (for a world without war)		2005	string orchestra	8 min
Meditations for String Orchestra		2006	string orchestra	8 min
American Landscapes		2007	string quartet	24 min
Motet for String Orchestra		2007	string quartet string orchestra	7 min
Ecstasy		2009	viola solo	9 min
Transformations		2009	viola da gamba solo	12 min
Sonatine		2010	3 violins	9 min
			BER MUSIC	•
Three for Three		1992	vn, vc, pn	16 min
Civil War Songs		1992	va, pn	18 min
Take Five		1993	2 vns, va, vc, pn	25 min
Serenade		1999	fl, vn, va, vc	11 min
Distant Music		2000	cl, vn/va, vc, pn	20 min
Driven by the Wind		2001	fl, vc, pn	25 min
Nonet (for New York)		2002	fl, ob, cl, hn, bn, 2vns, va, vc	35 min
A Little Sweet		2003	fl, vc	10 min
On the edge of sleep & dreaming		2003	hn, vc, harp	31 min
5 Pastoral Scenes		2004	ob, bn, vn, va, vc	30 min
I was dreaming of the sea		2004	vn (or fl), vc, pn	7 min
Little Tales of Mirth & Woe		2004	vn (or fl), vc, pn	6 min
An Ode to the Possibility of Peace		2005	cl, vn, vc	15 min
Elements Motet for Brass Instruments		2006	fl, ob, cl, hn, bn	11 min
Motet for Brass Instruments		2006	2 trp, hn, trb, tu	7 min
ORCHESTRAL MUSIC				
Appalachian Songs	`	1988	chamber orchestra	25 min
Morning Music		2001	cl, string orchestra	22 min
Two Sad Songs (W.B. Yeats)		2002	soprano, string orchestra	15 min
Invisible Ballet		2003	strings & diverse instruments	33 min
Pluto		2005	orchestra	15 min
Ophelia Songs (Shakespeare)		2005	soprano, harp, string orchestra	12 min
Love's Little Pleasures		2008	soprano, string orchestra	15 min
The Four Elements		2009	va, string orchestra	22 min
Mystical Songs		2009	soprano va string orchestra	18 min

2009

soprano, va, string orchestra

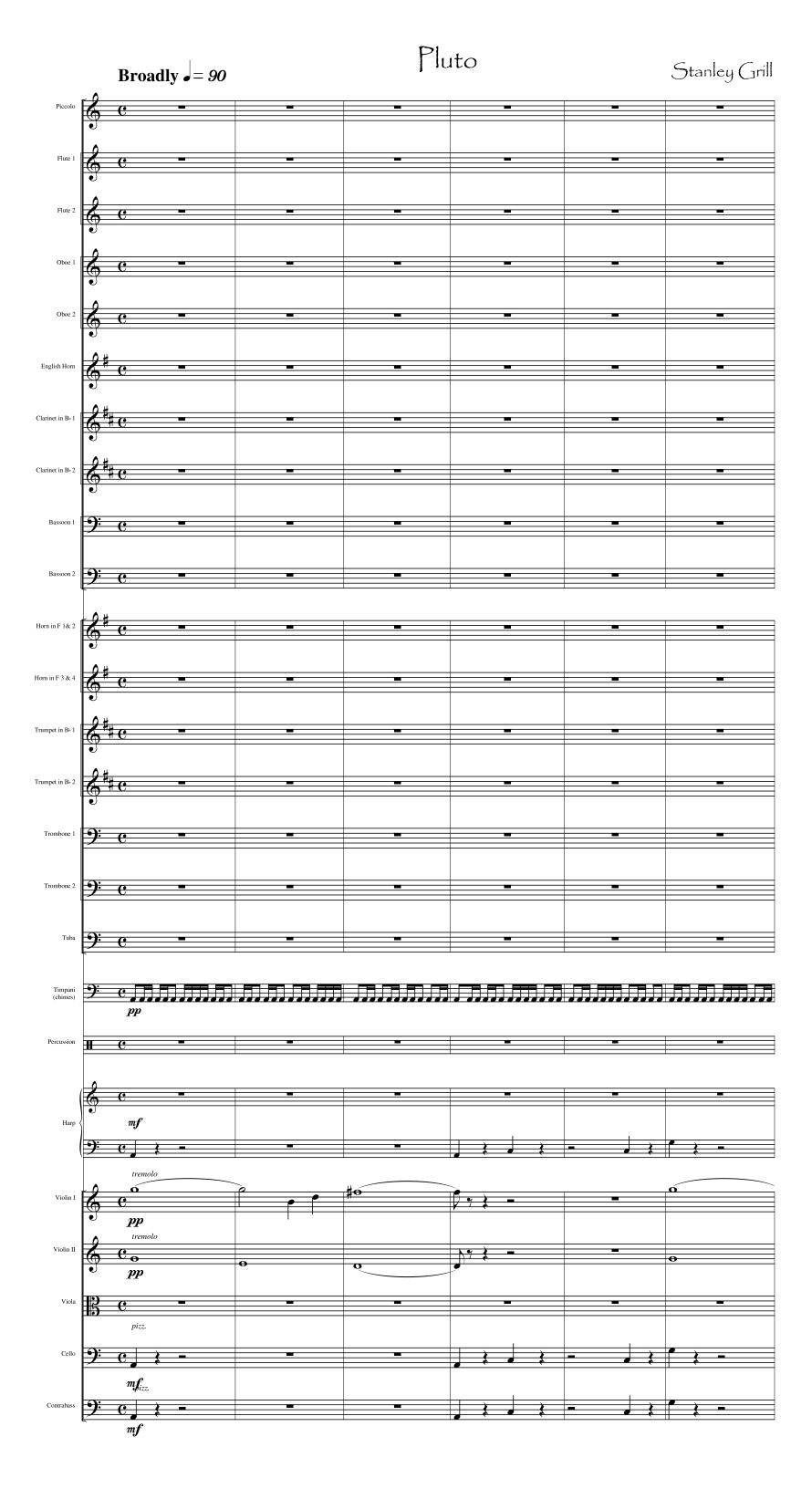
18 min

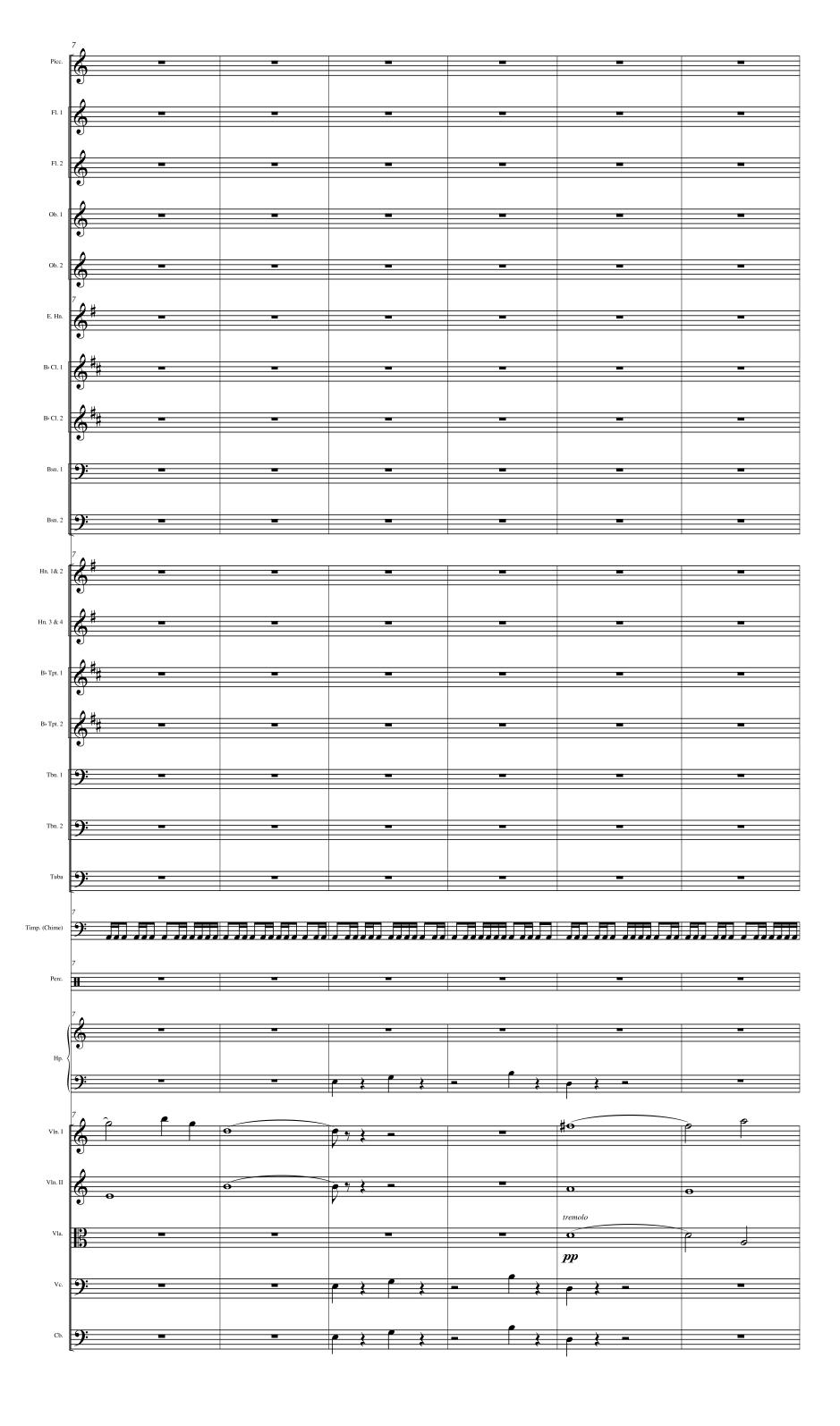
Mystical Songs

## PLUTO

Composed for One World Symphony to provide the missing planet in a program presenting Holst's The *Planets*, this music is intended to capture something of the eternal sweep of this cold and mysterious planet around its distant sun. The music is structured in great circles, expanding and then returning again and again to the opening theme. It is a reminder that as we sit here, at this very moment as in every moment of our lives, through unimaginable distances, stars move, vast energies are released and exchanged, and mysteries both within and beyond our capacity for knowing are at work. Such matters may seem distant to our concerns, but I believe it hugely important that we hold the vast and mysterious world ever present in our hearts. If more did so, perhaps we would find more cause for the pursuit of knowledge and less for the unceasing violence that has marked us throughout that tiny fraction of time/space that we think of as our history.

Stan Gríll Haworth, NJ 2005











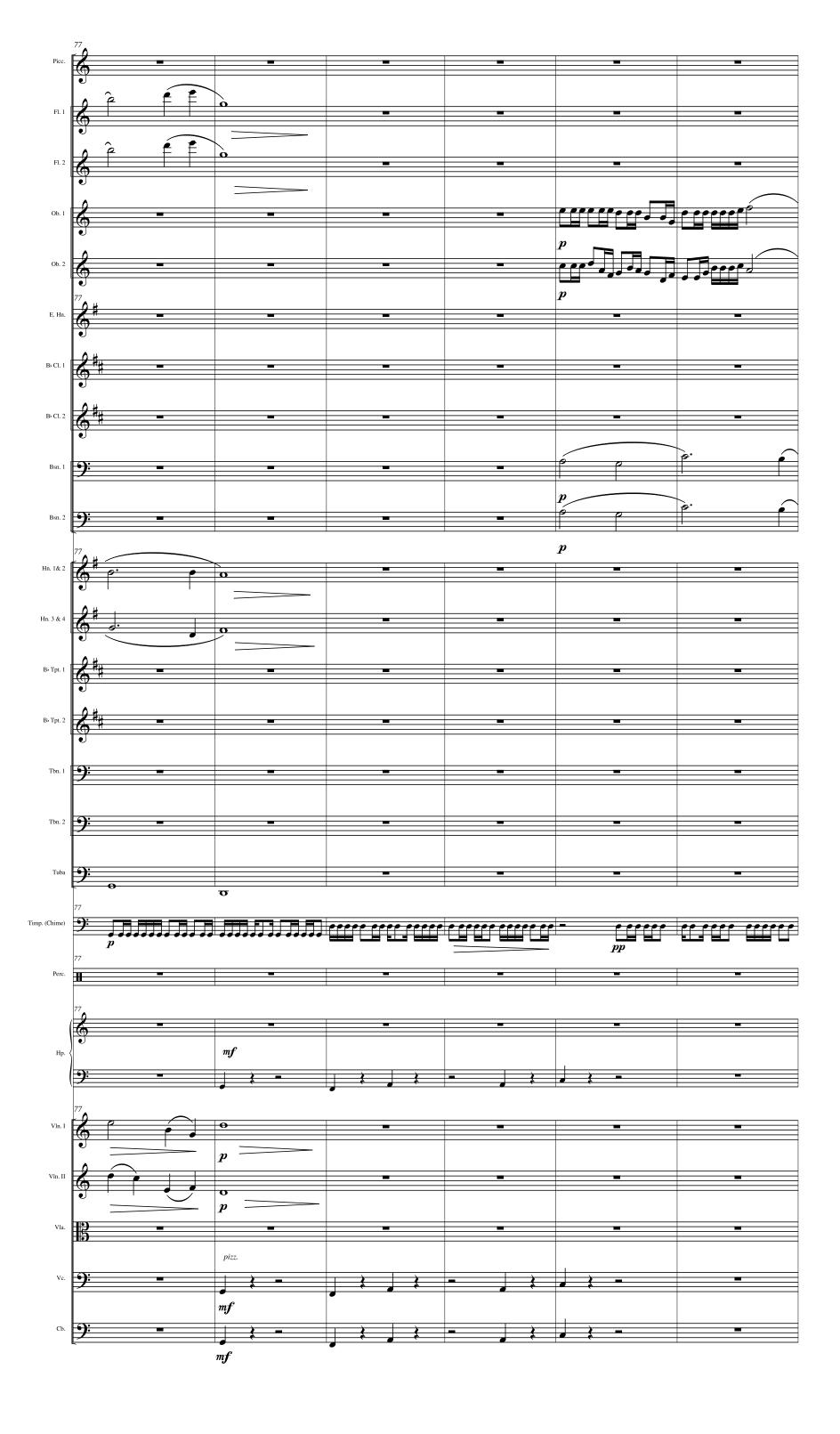


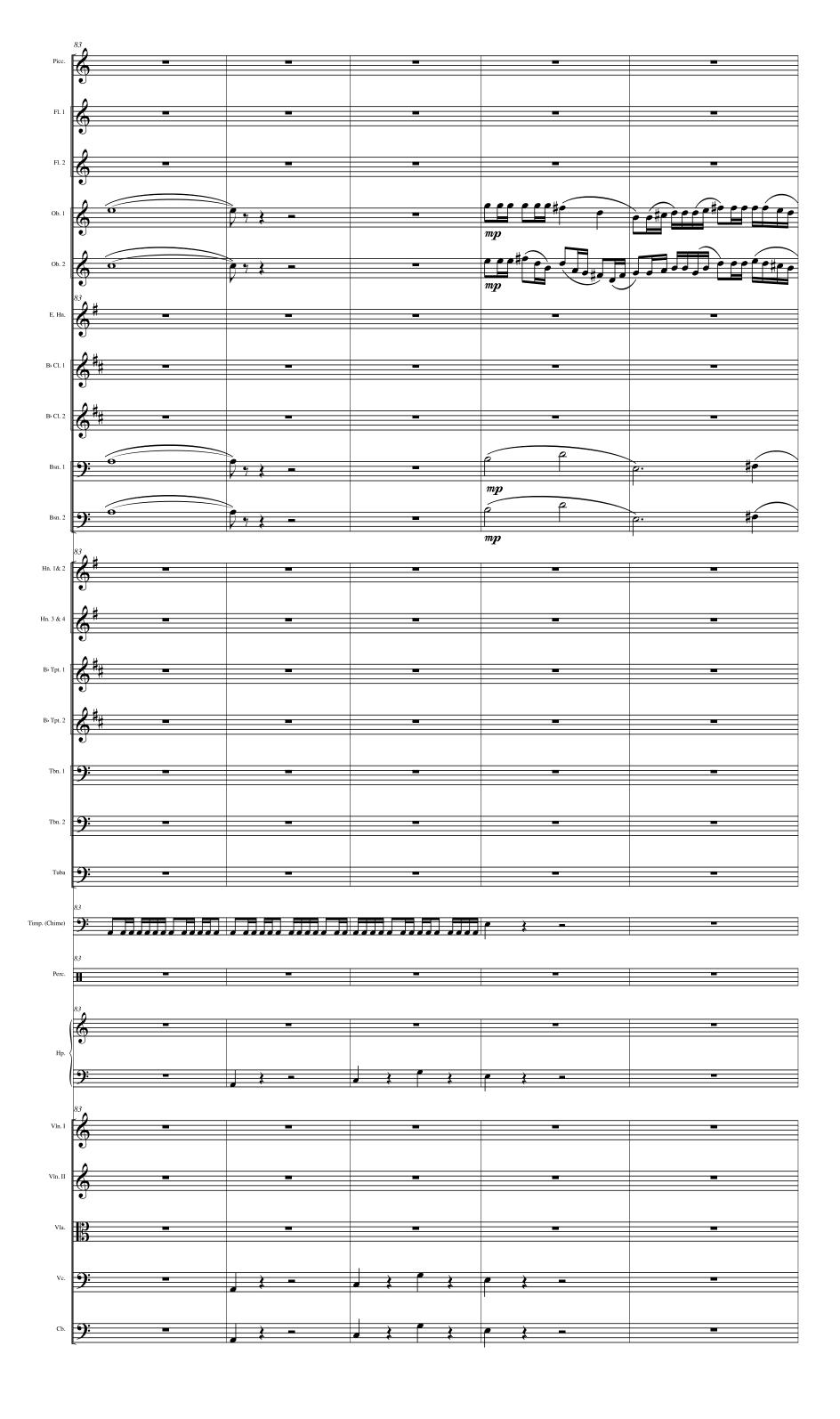




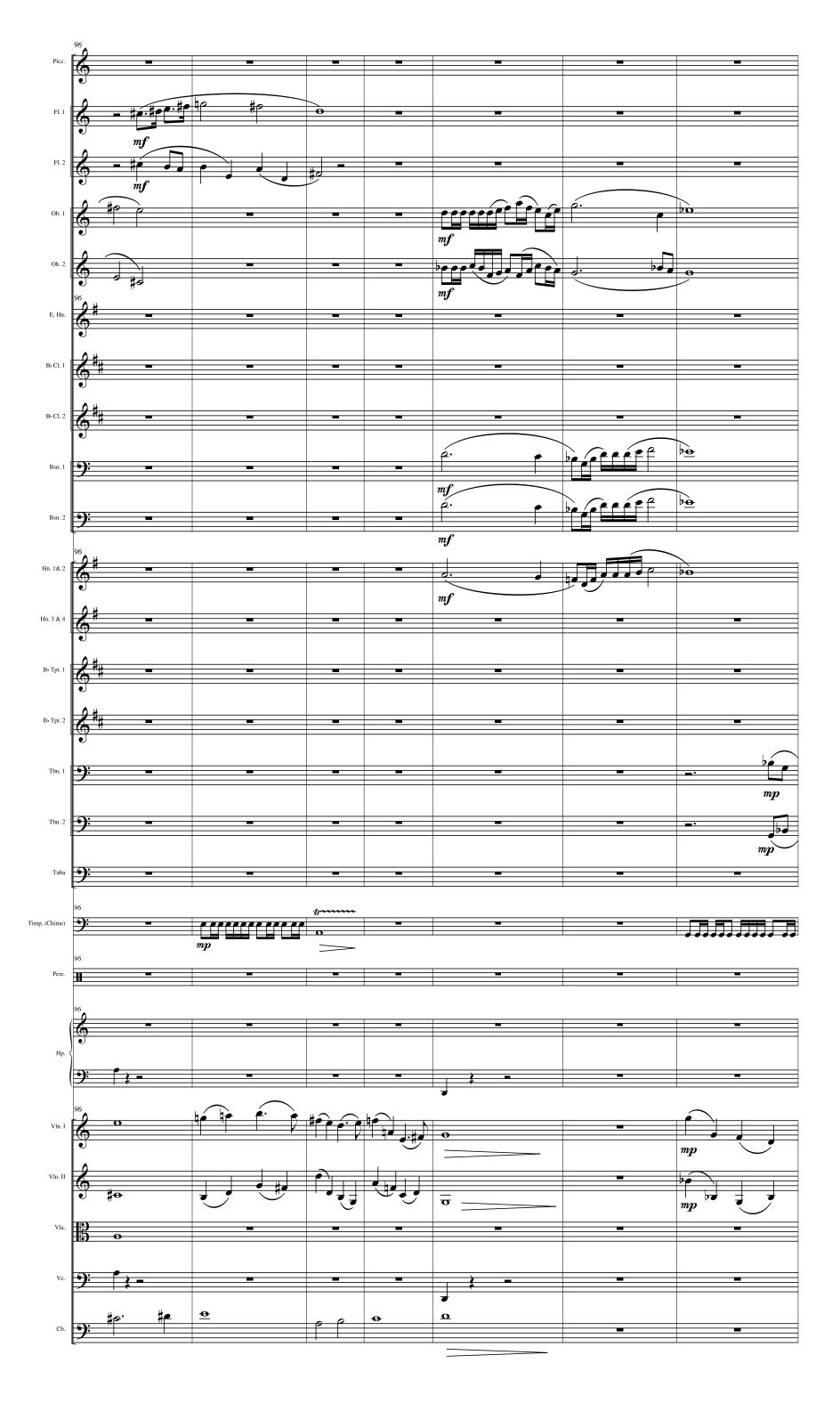




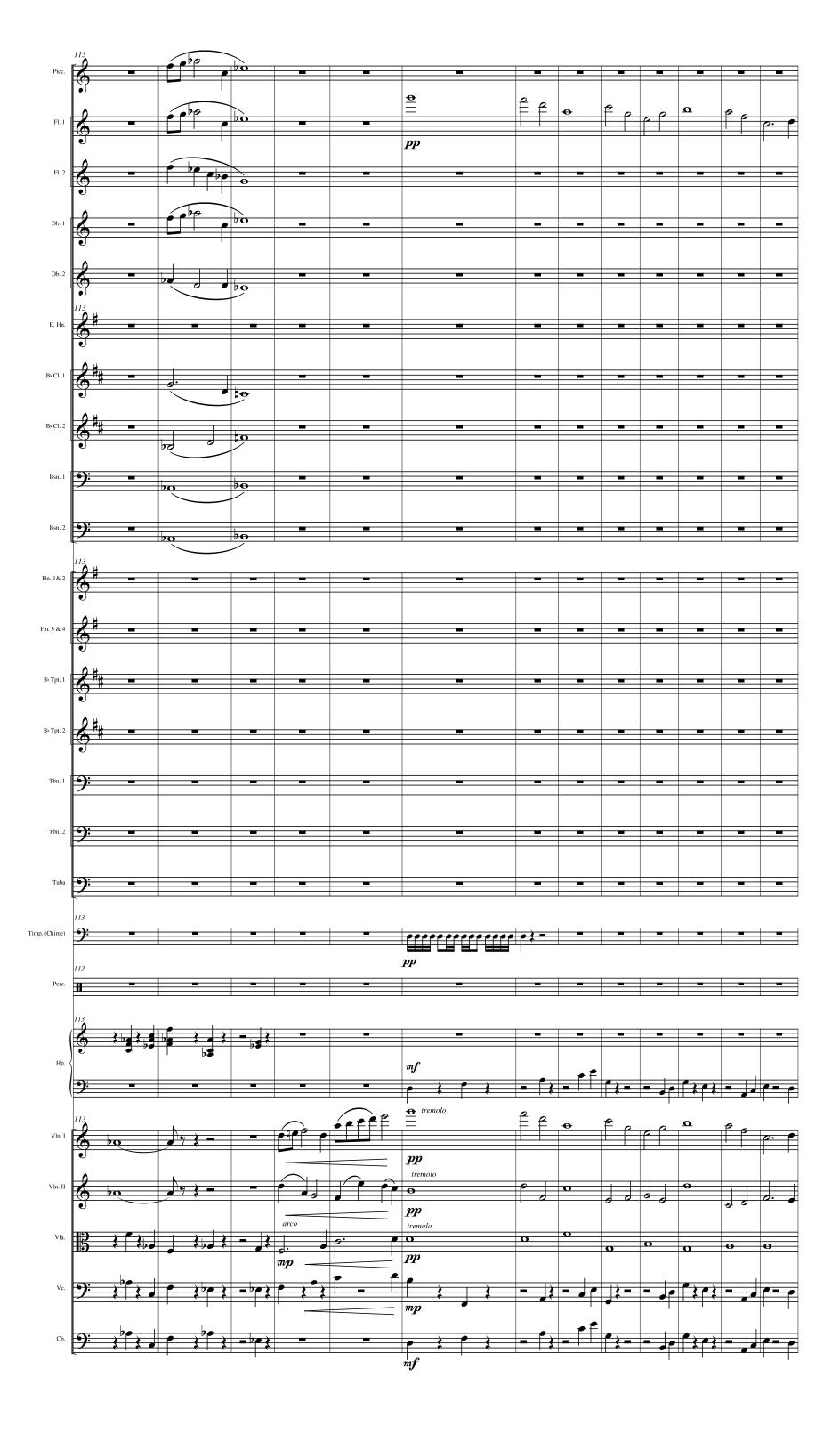
























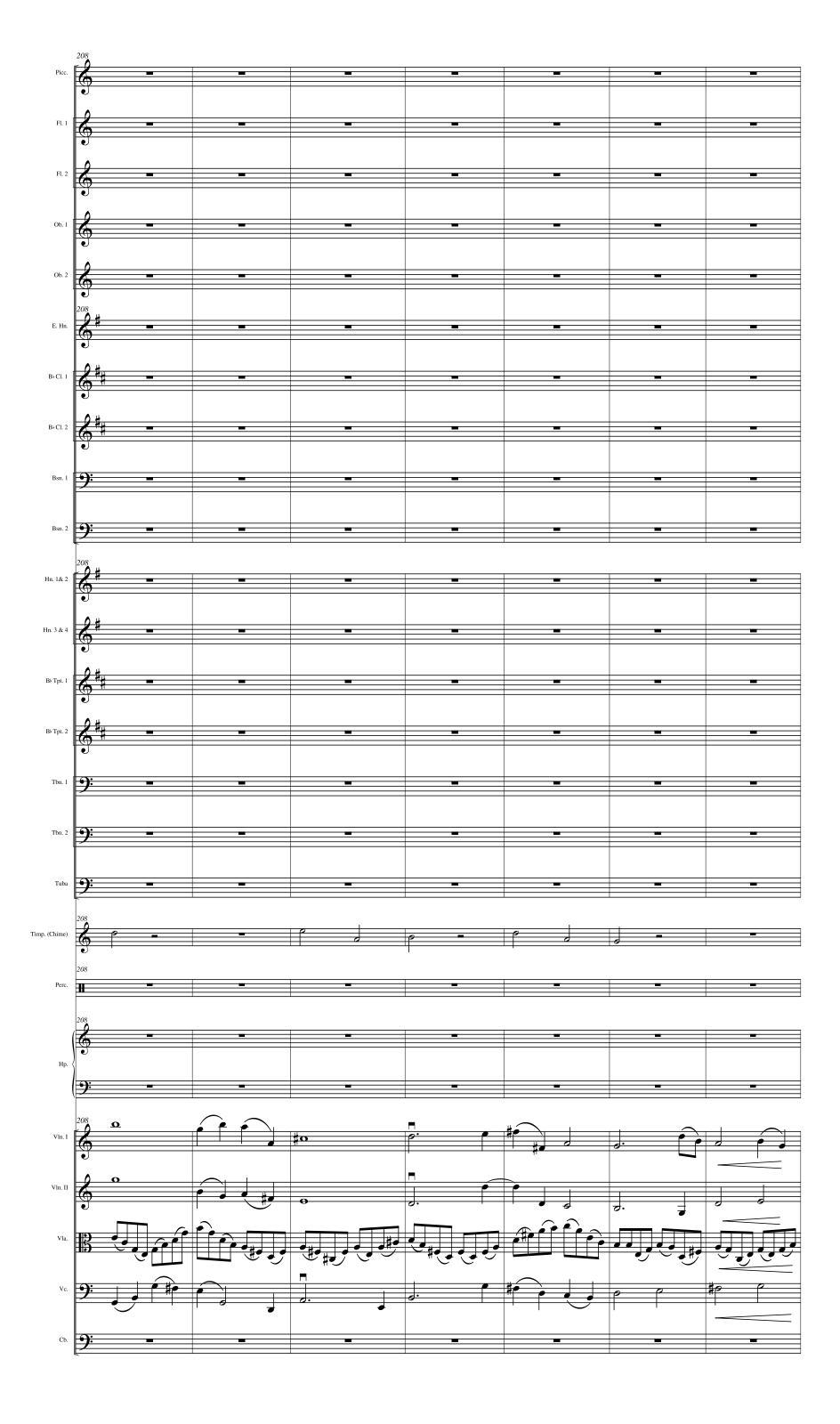




















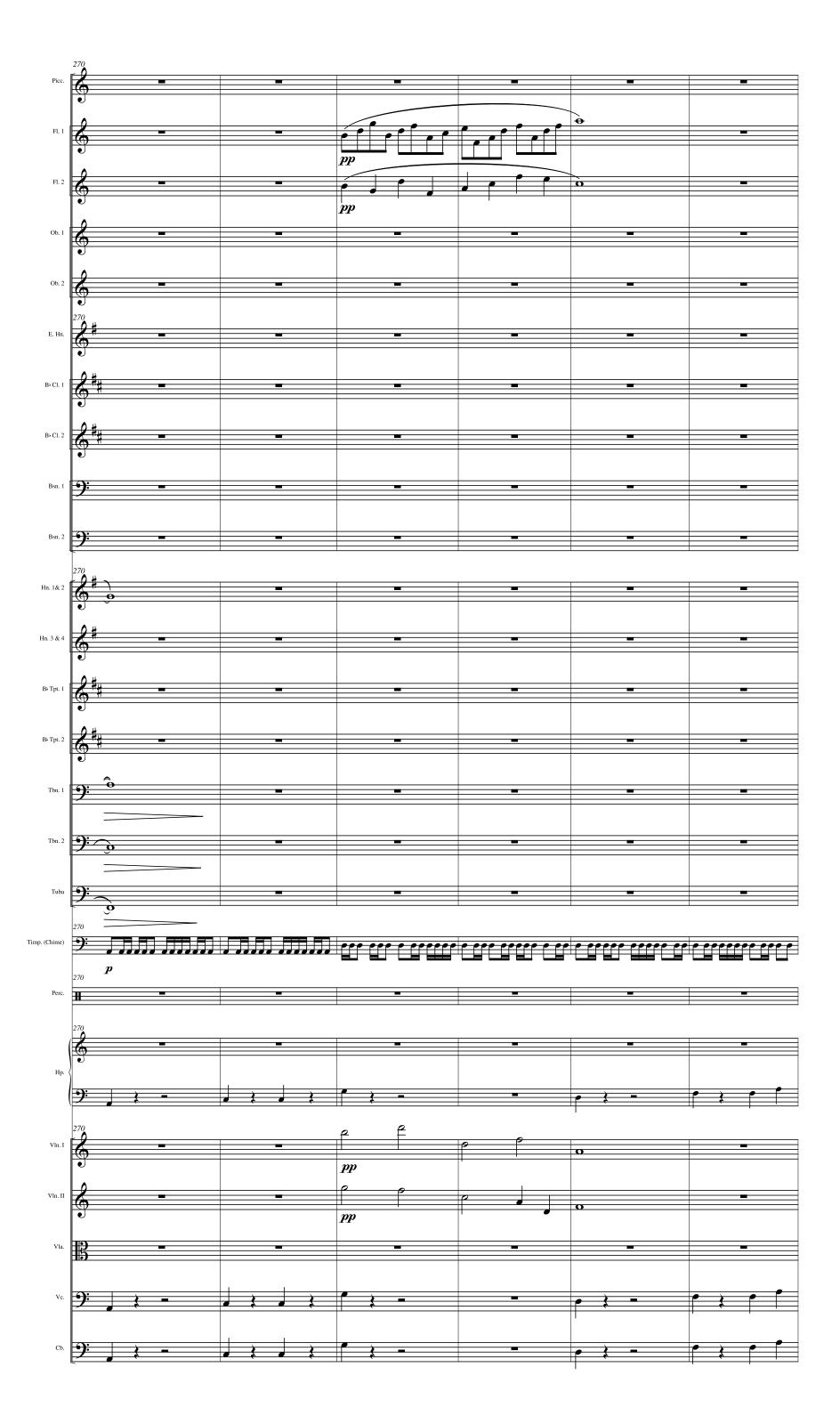


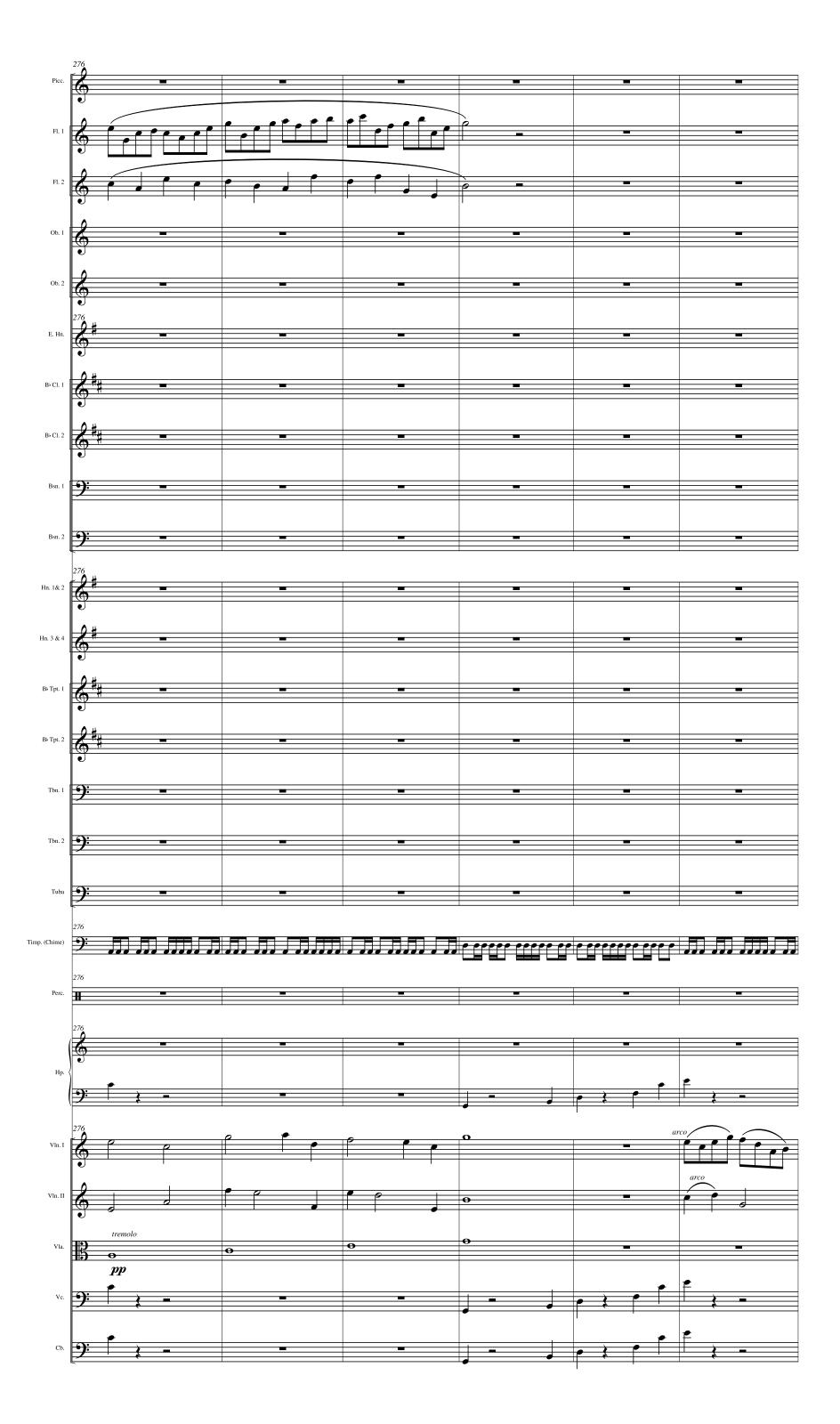


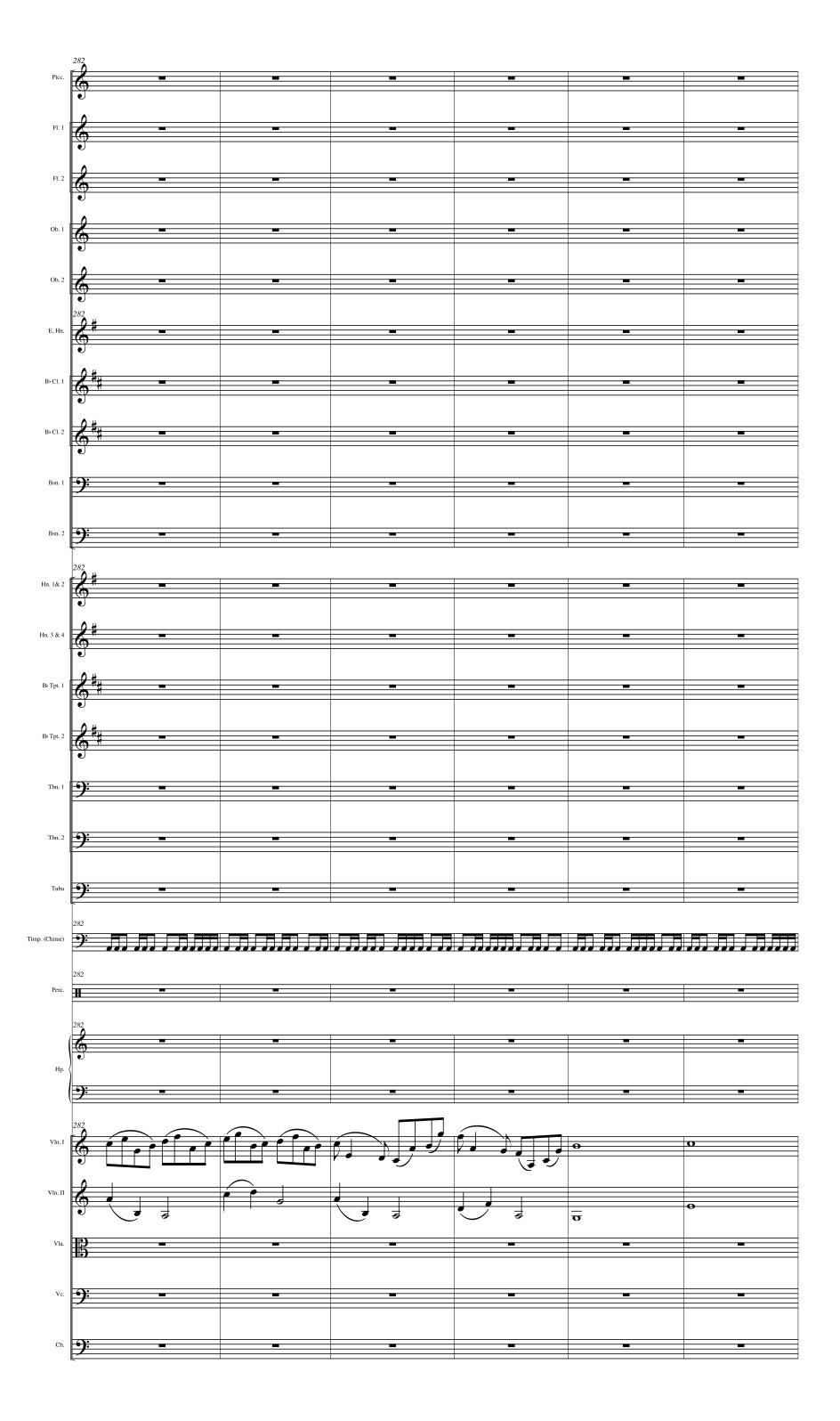


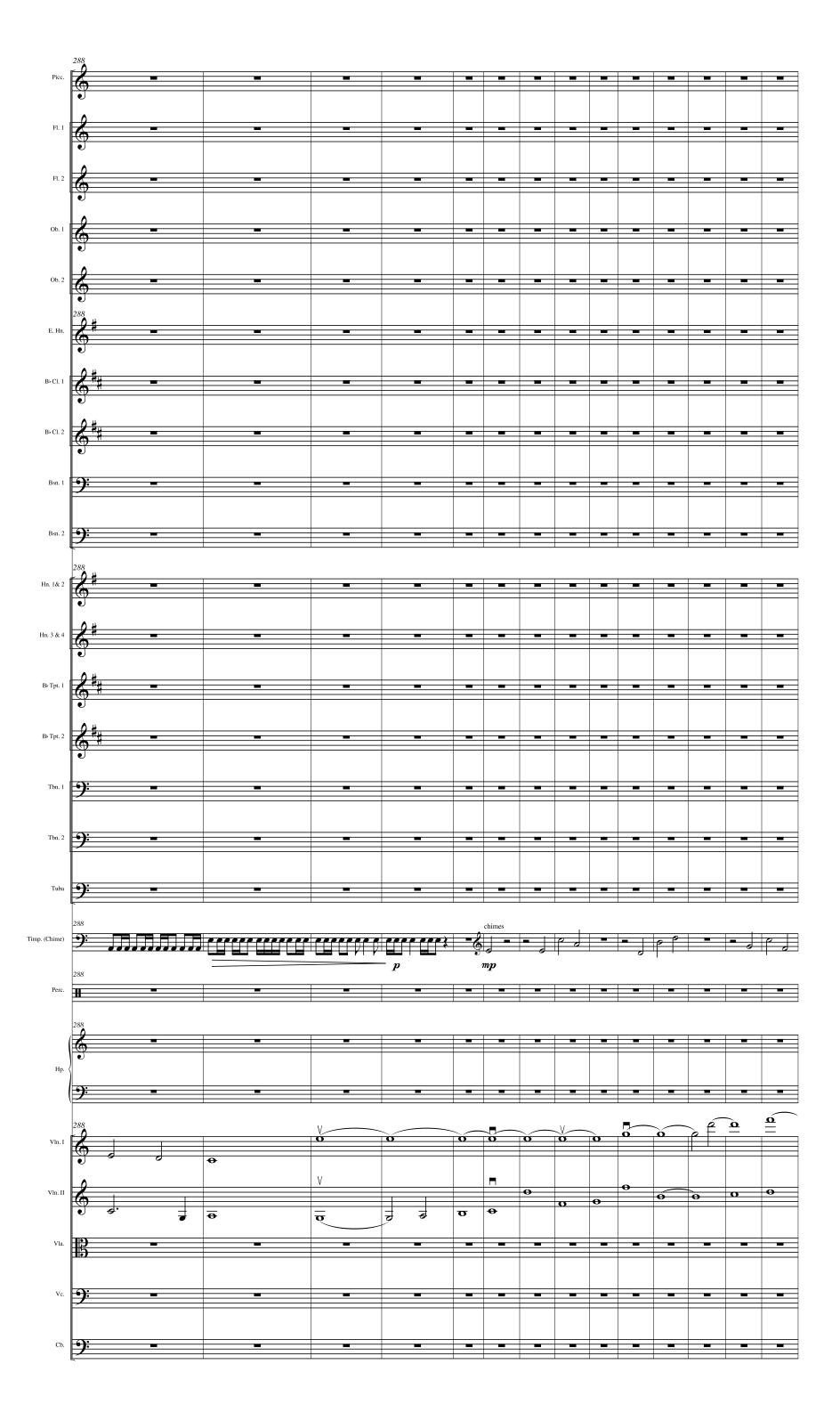


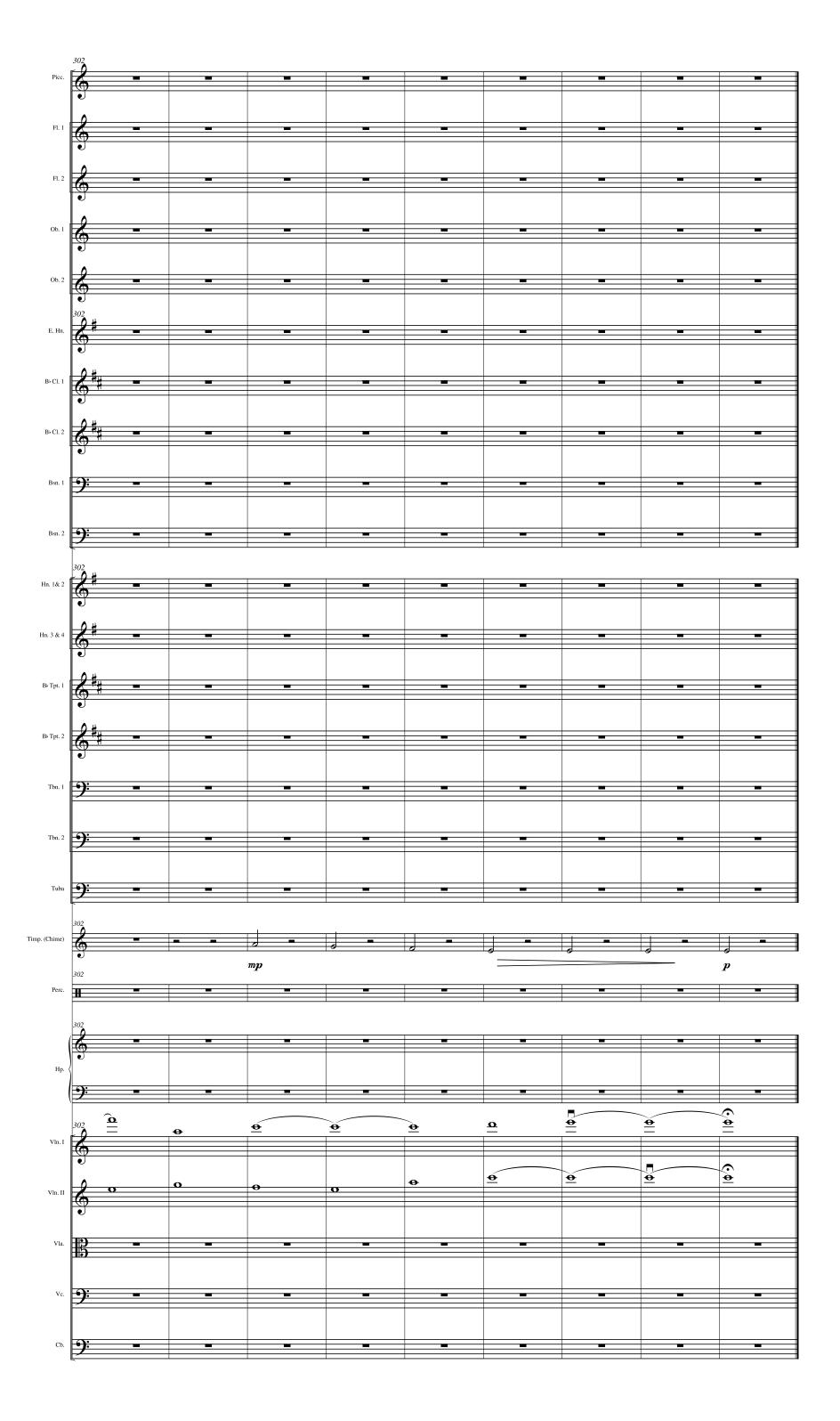












### A few words about (and by) the composer

Stan Grill was raised in the Bronx, studied at the Bronx House School of Music, and later graduated from the Manhattan School of Music with undergrad and graduate degrees in music theory. He studied piano with Robert Helps and Leon Kushner and composition with Ursula Mamlok and Joseph Prostakoff. Major works include music for string orchestra and voice, string orchestra and clarinet, a nonet for winds and strings, and several song cycles for mixed voices and chamber ensemble. Performances have been produced by the composer, as well as presented by the Composers Guild of New Jersey, the St. Paul's Church Festival of the Arts, the Leonia Chamber Players, the New York Composers Circle, the Northern New Jersey Camerata, the Bronx Arts Ensemble and the Duo + Ensemble. During the 2004-06 seasons, he was composer in residence of One World Symphony, a New York City based orchestra. One World Symphony has premiered several major works, including "Invisible Ballet" for orchestra, "Two Sad Songs" setting poems by W.B. Yeats for soprano & string orchestra, and a cycle of songs for two cellos and two mezzo sopranos setting poems by the New Jersey poet William Carlos Williams. In 2006, One World commissioned three works – a setting of the Ophelia songs from Shakespeare's "Hamlet" for soprano, harp and string orchestra, an orchestral work, "Pluto," for a program featuring Holst's "The Planets," and a setting of poetry for a concert honoring those who lost their lives on 9/11. Recent works include "The Four Elements" for viola and string orchestra commissioned by violist Brett Deubner and "Mystical Songs" for soprano, viola and string orchestra commissioned by the Universidad Tecnica Particular de Loja. In 2009, an entire program of music by Stan Grill was performed in Tokyo by the Duo + Ensemble. He currently works in Philadelpia, and lives happily in New Jersey with his wife, cats and piano.

"As I see it, as much as we strive to find reason and purpose in our having been born into this amazing, mysterious and awe-inspiring universe, that attempt is largely futile. It is however, the best part of our nature that obliges us to make the attempt, though the most we can hope for is to gain some small degree of understanding of the world around us, and, more importantly, of ourselves. To achieve this, we each approach the problem in our own way, uniquely shaped by our cultural background, innate talents and abilities, education and so on. For some, science may be the window through which they best perceive and interpret the world, for others, religion. For those to whom the world seems to express itself most clearly and beautifully through sound, music is the voice that speaks to us and through which we, in turn, best express ourselves. Now, I can write notes that will make pretty music because I've been trained to do so — but the best of my music has arrived, rather inexplicably, as part of a personal effort to understand the world and myself. It is, in a way, an act of translation. The world says something, I try to understand it, and then translate it into musical language. The particular musical language which I speak, is, of course, a product of my conservatory training and personal musical tastes, but hopefully, the outcome, imperfect a translation as it may be, will convey to others something of its original intent."

Stan's music is melodic, modal, contrapuntal, characterized by extended, interweaving lines. His musical influences span the centuries, and include Machaut, Josquin, Palestrina, Monteverdi, Lassus, Britten, Ives, Vaughn Williams and Shostakovich. Two main themes permeate many of the pieces - music intended to influence the minds and hearts of those who hear it in such a way as to encourage thoughts about the possibility of world peace - and music composed in an attempt to translate something about the nature of the physical world.

Complete scores are available in the American Music Center's on-line library. Please go to Stan's web page at **American Music Center**.

