PART 2 - The Project

# Existence Precedes Essence

by

David Robert Gibson

03/20/2008

## Existence Precedes Essence

*Existence Precedes Essence* is divided into individual cells. Each of which represent a single idea of sound that is meant to blend into the next idea. The performers are limited to specific notes but they are encouraged to improvise on these notes in any way possible. The performers must play all notes written in each individual cell, however they can play in any order they decide, in any duration, in any figure (cluster, scale, etc.), in any rhythm, and in any length of repetition unless otherwise specified. The rhythms should, however, not maintain any ostinati or pulse-like regularity and are to be free of a sense of time (with an exception in the percussionist in measure 44). The performers will accomplish this without a break in the sound, phasing gradually into each new cell, unless otherwise notated. All dynamics should match what is written in the score, however the dynamics may adjust as the music determines. The performers should interpret the certain performance suggestions however they please, including aspects of phrasing, articulation, pedaling, and comments like "short and fast." Performers should discuss these ideas during rehearsals and make choices. Any of the instruments may be substituted for another if the designed instrument is unavailable. *Existence Precedes Essence* should not be conducted and all the performers must be aware of their surroundings. The piece ends when the performers stand.

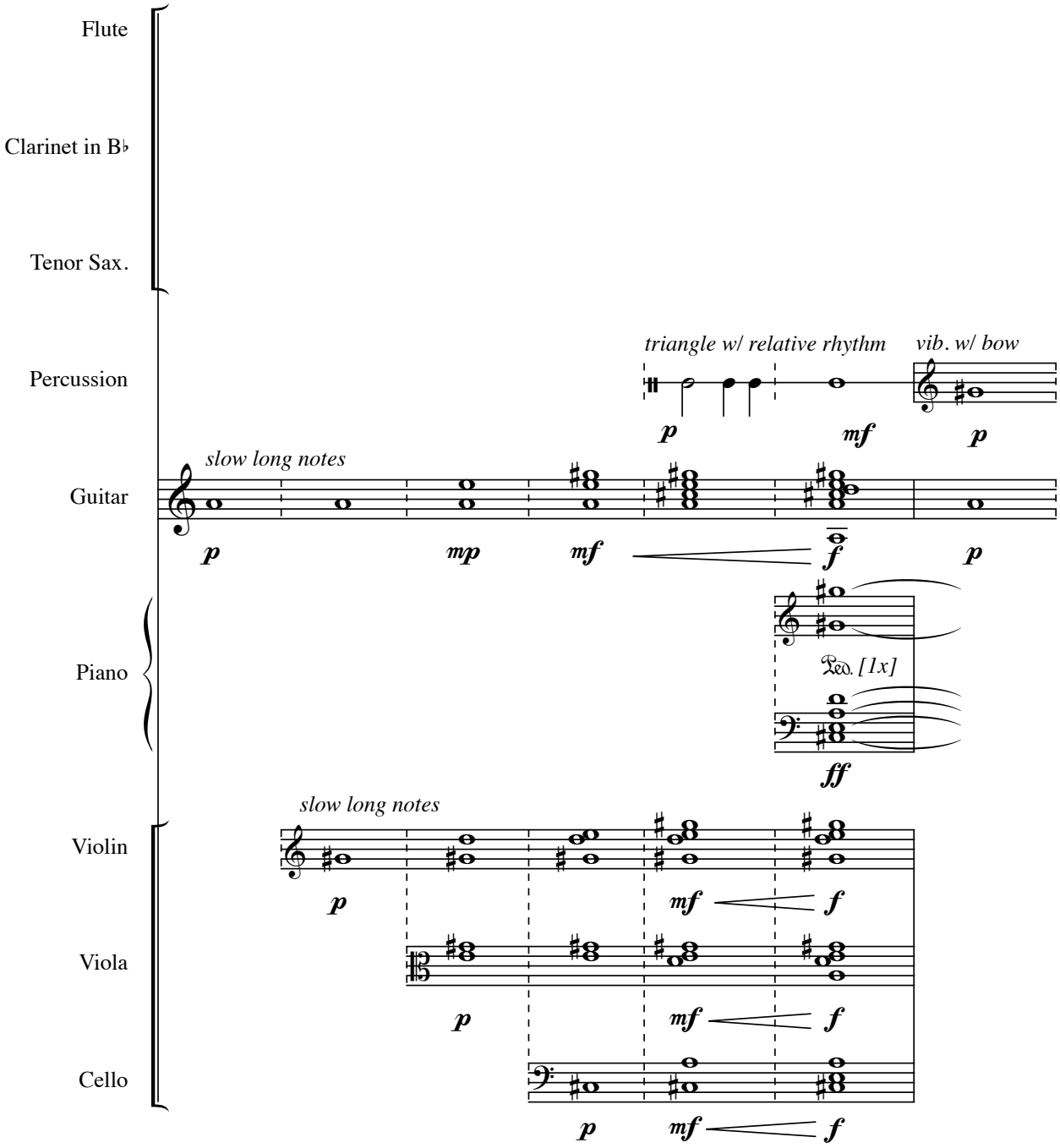
## Clarification of unconventional notation

Dashed bar lines are used to give the illusion of one cell blending into the next. Solid bar lines appear where all the performers should be at an area of arrival. No bar lines represent an order of notes, free to be any time length desired. Where *[1x]* is found in the score, the event or cell should only be performed one once by the individual performer that it applies to.

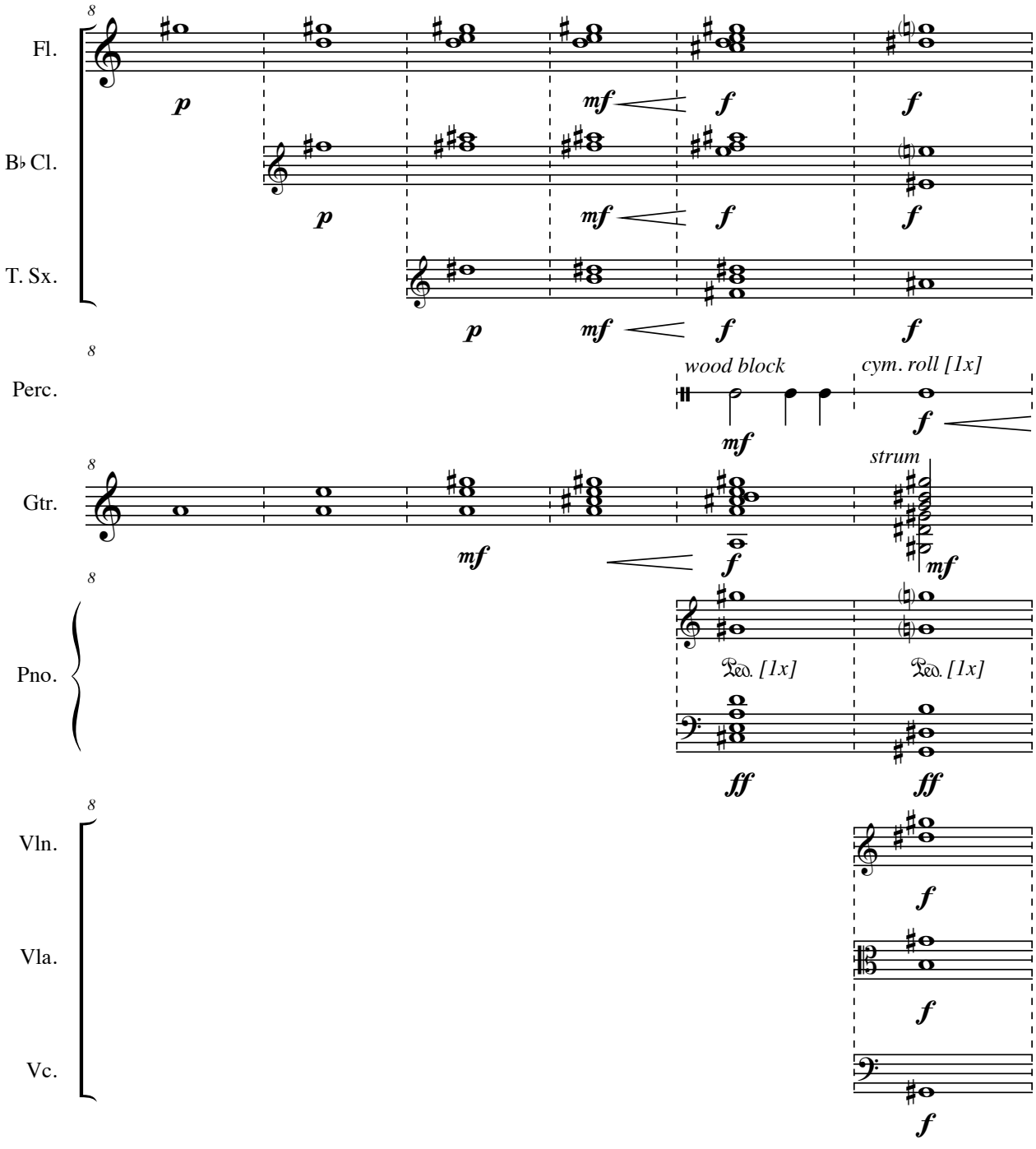
**Existence Precedes Essence**

Score

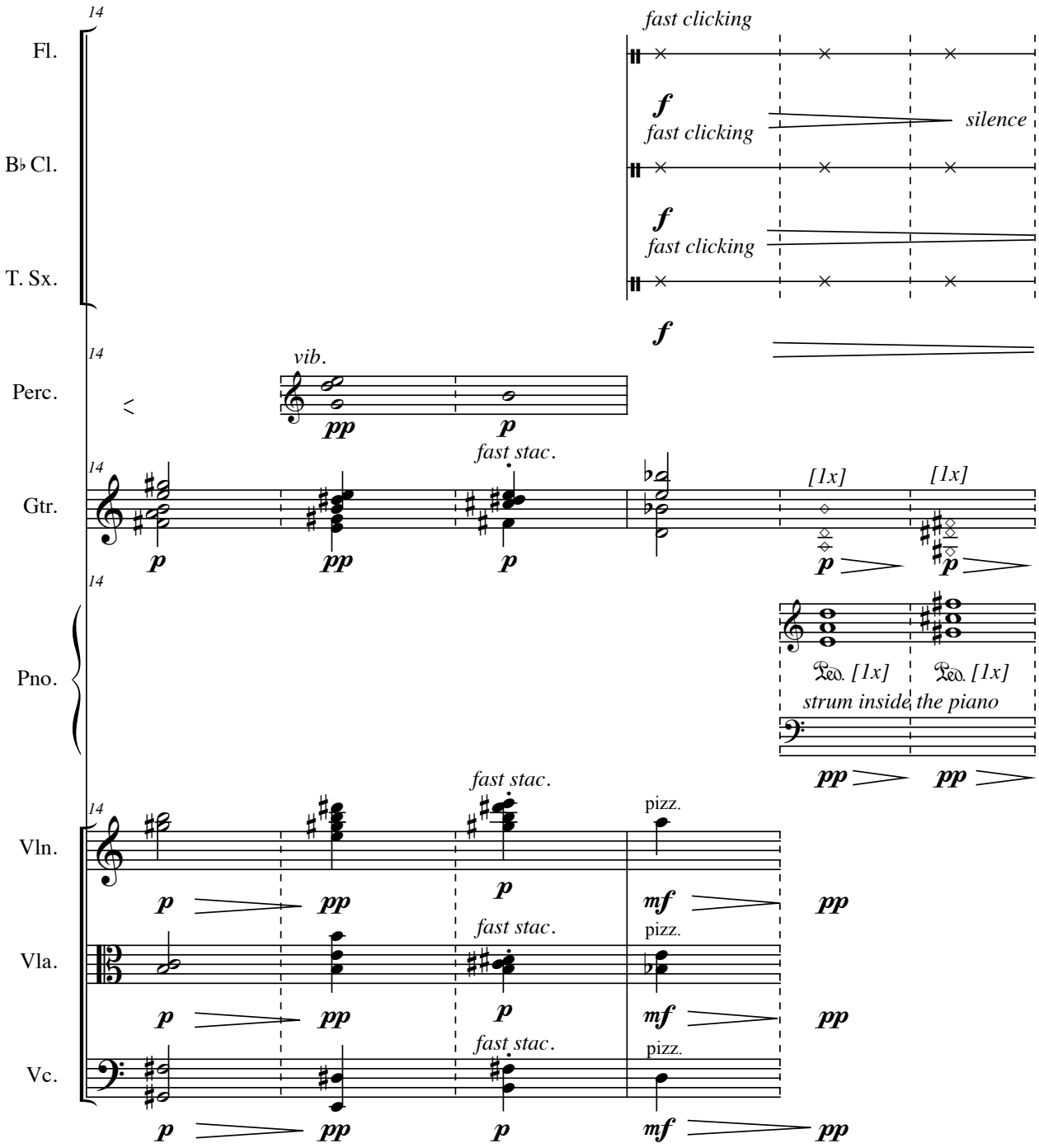
David Robert Gibson



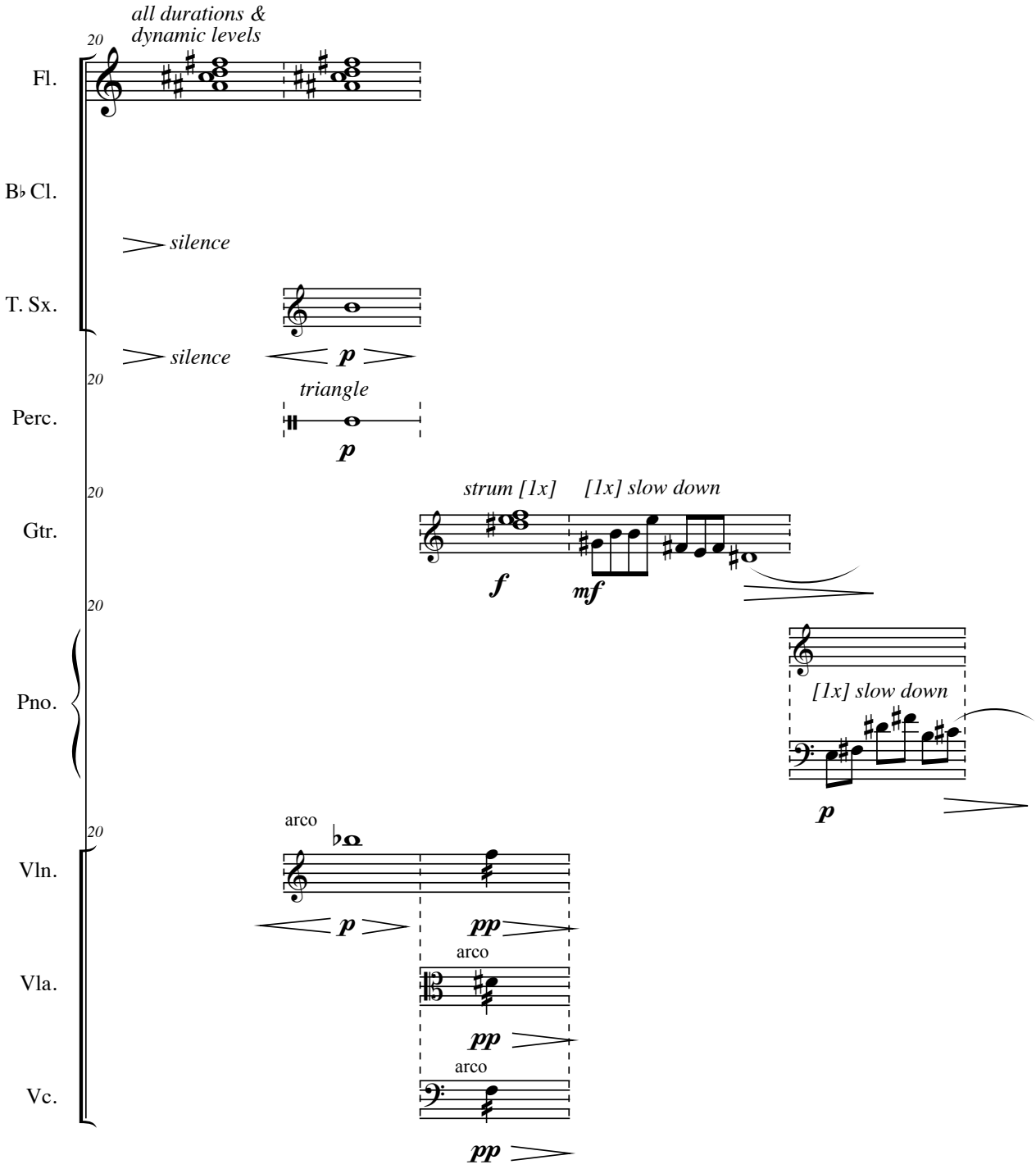
**Existence Precedes Essence**



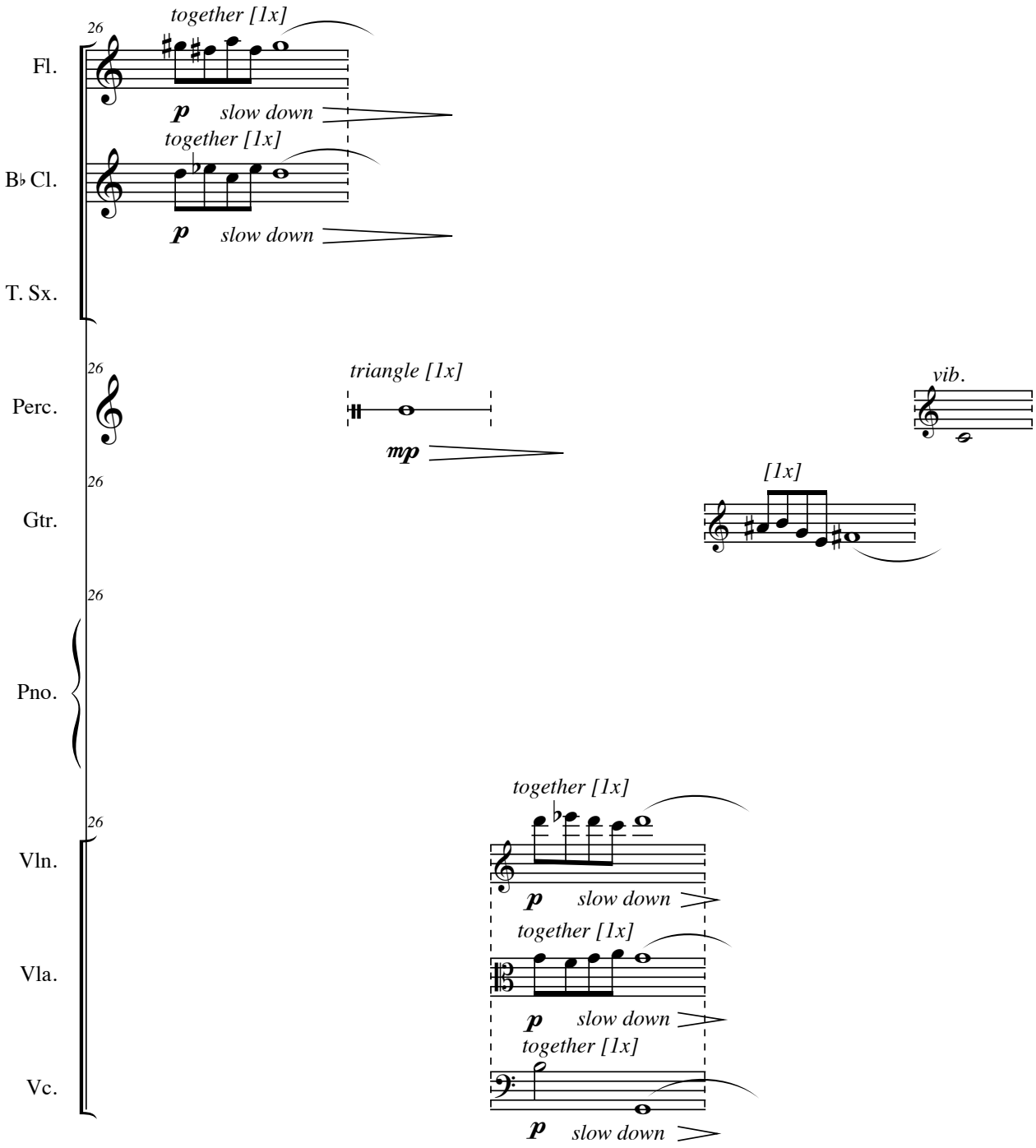
**Existence Precedes Essence**



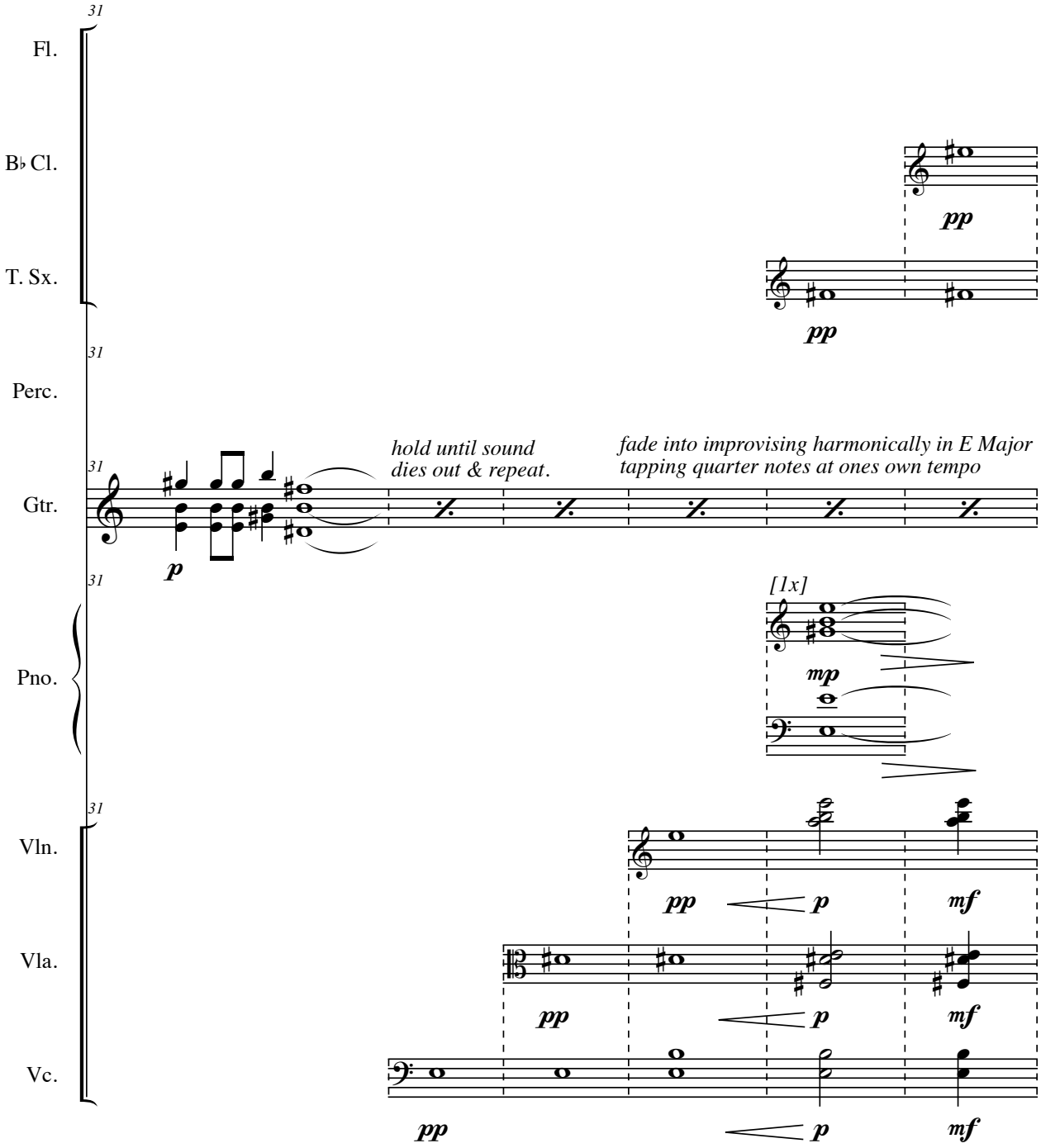
**Existence Precedes Essence**



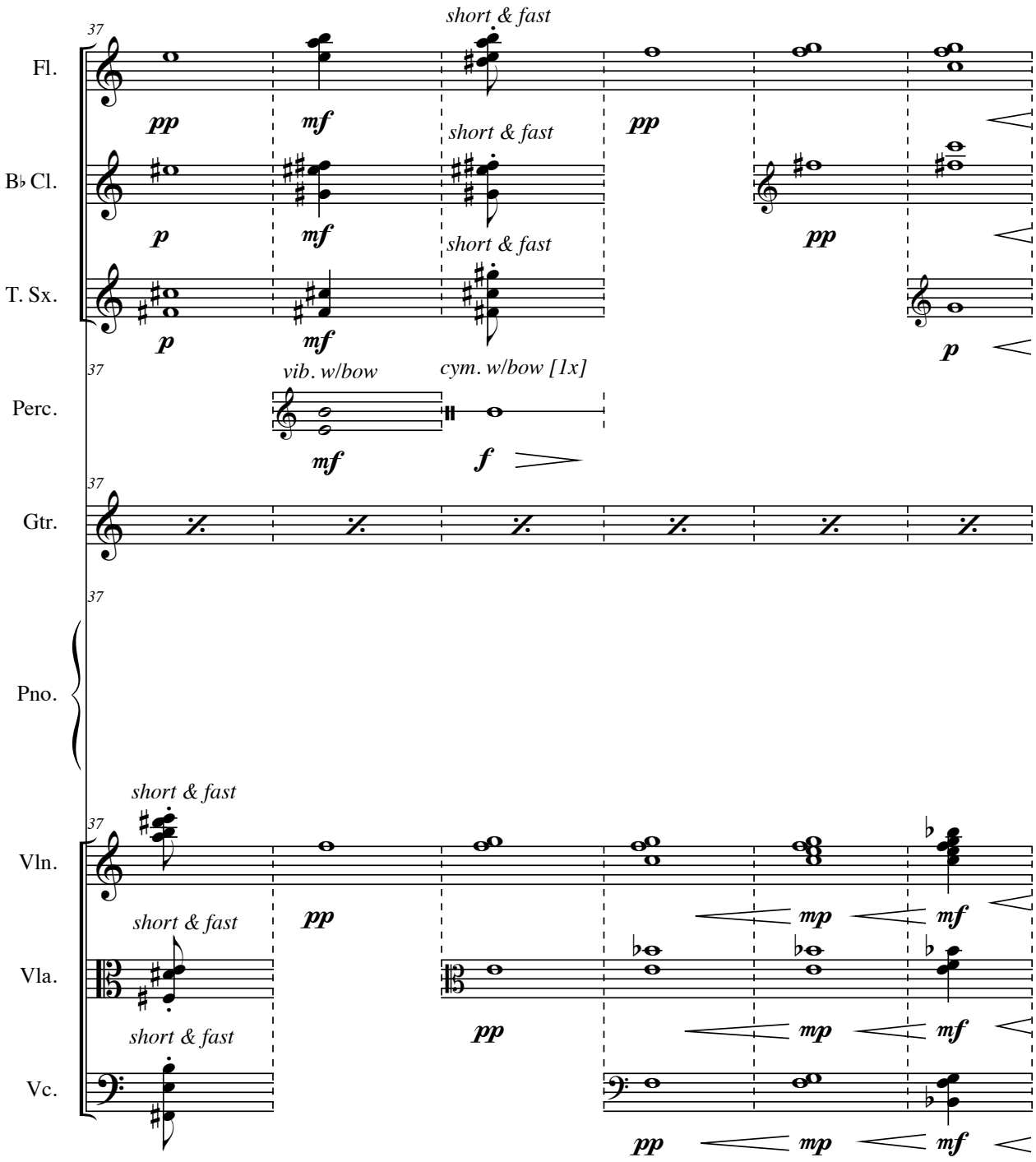
**Existence Precedes Essence**



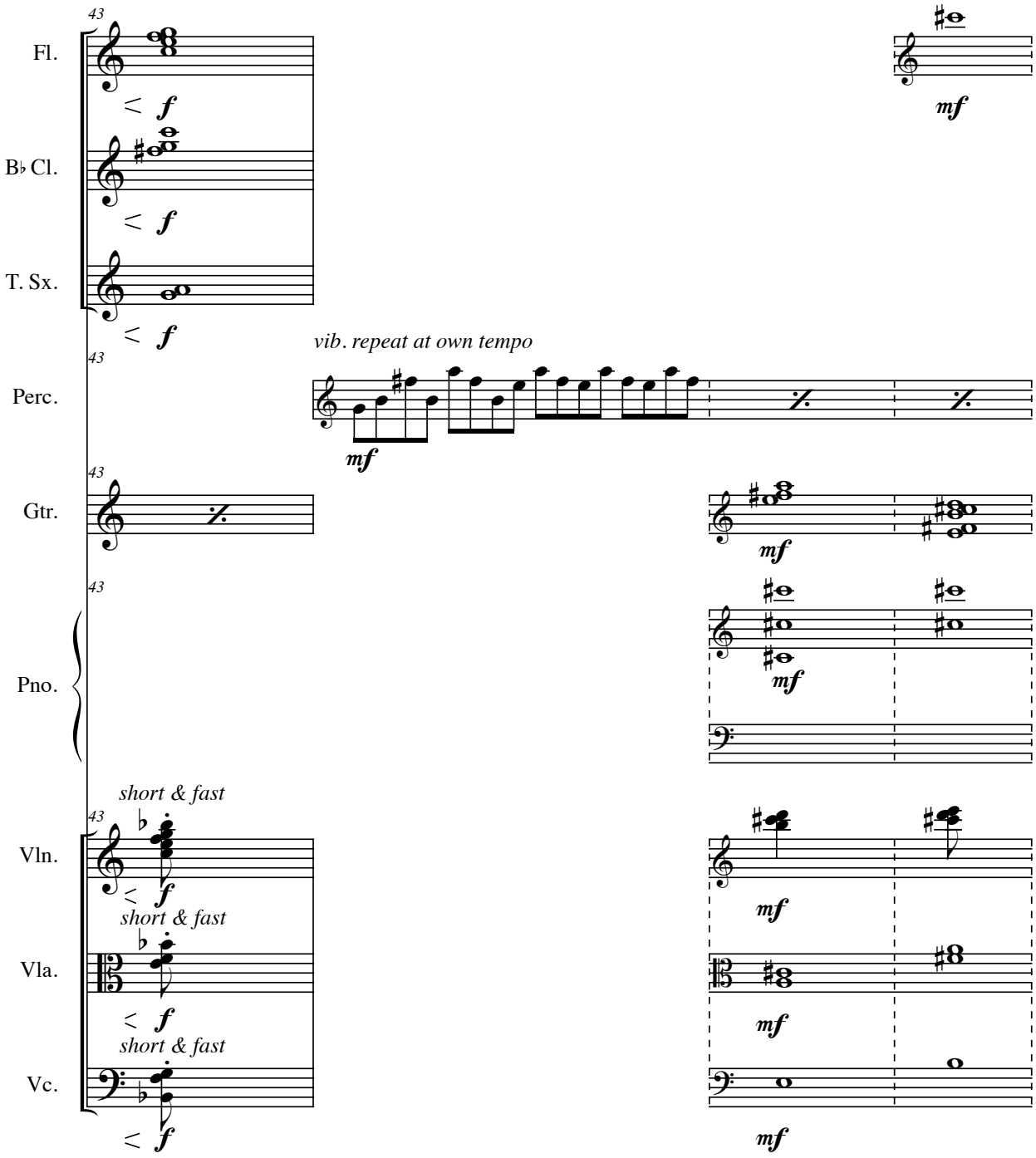
**Existence Precedes Essence**



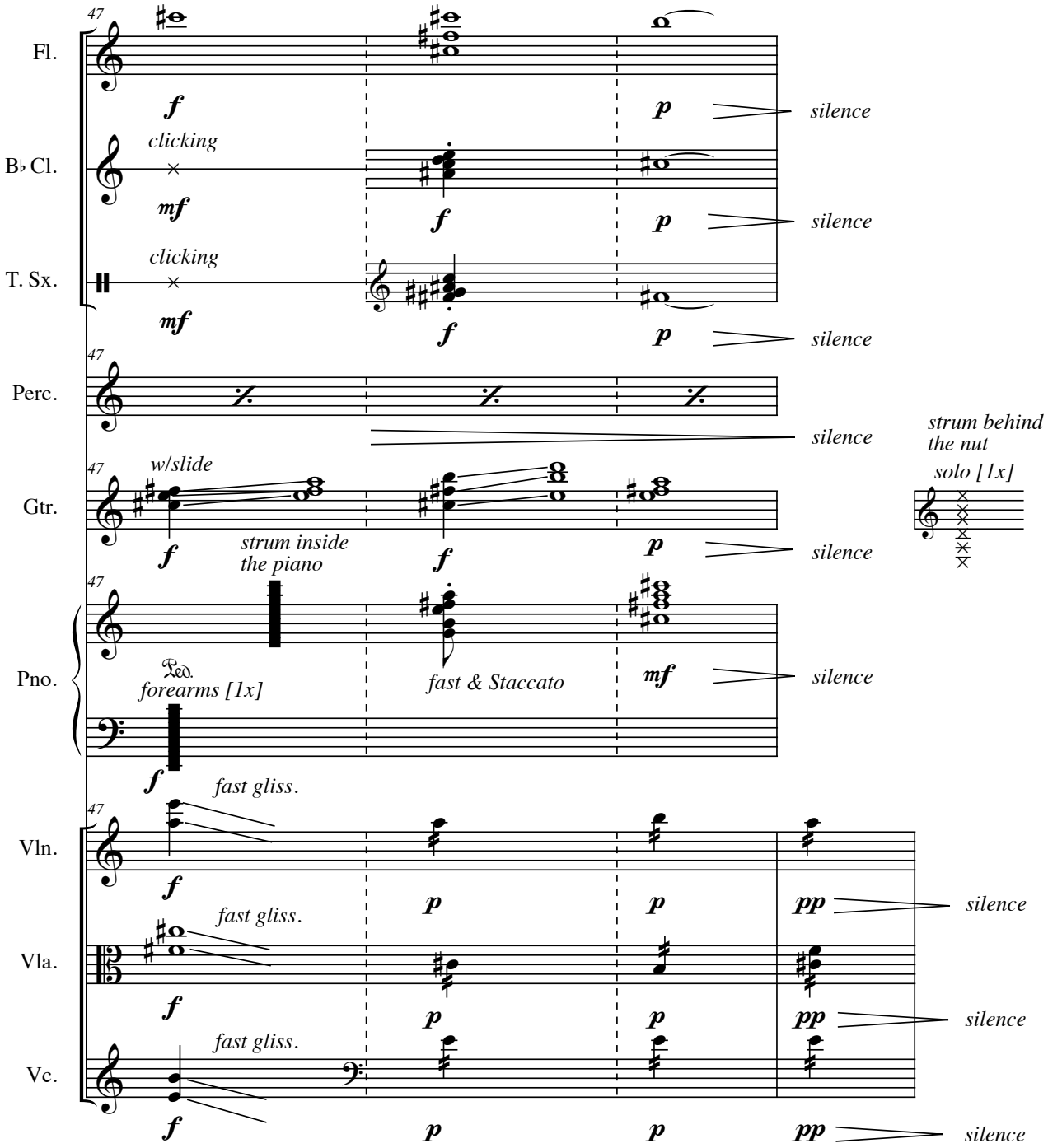
**Existence Precedes Essence**



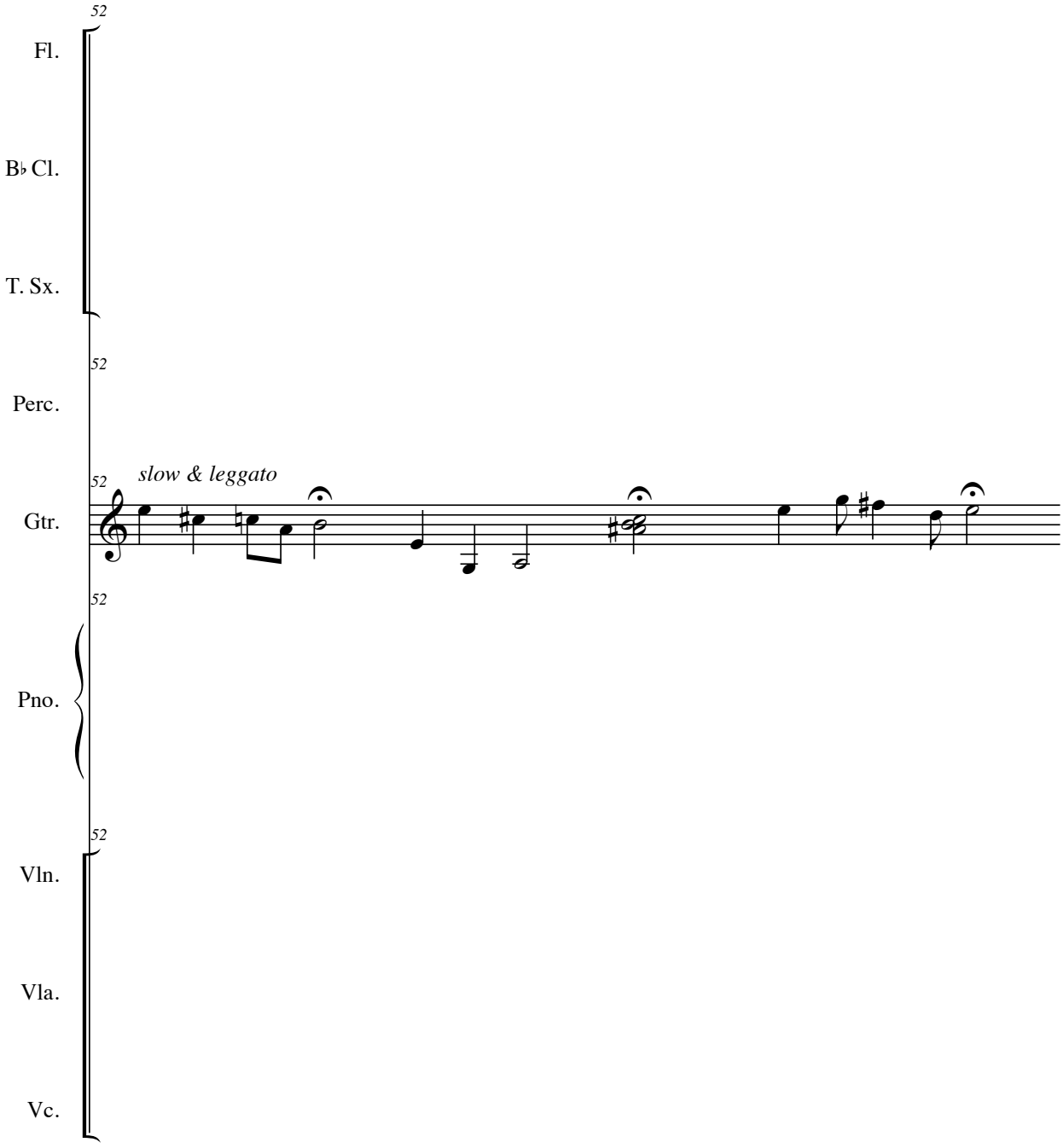
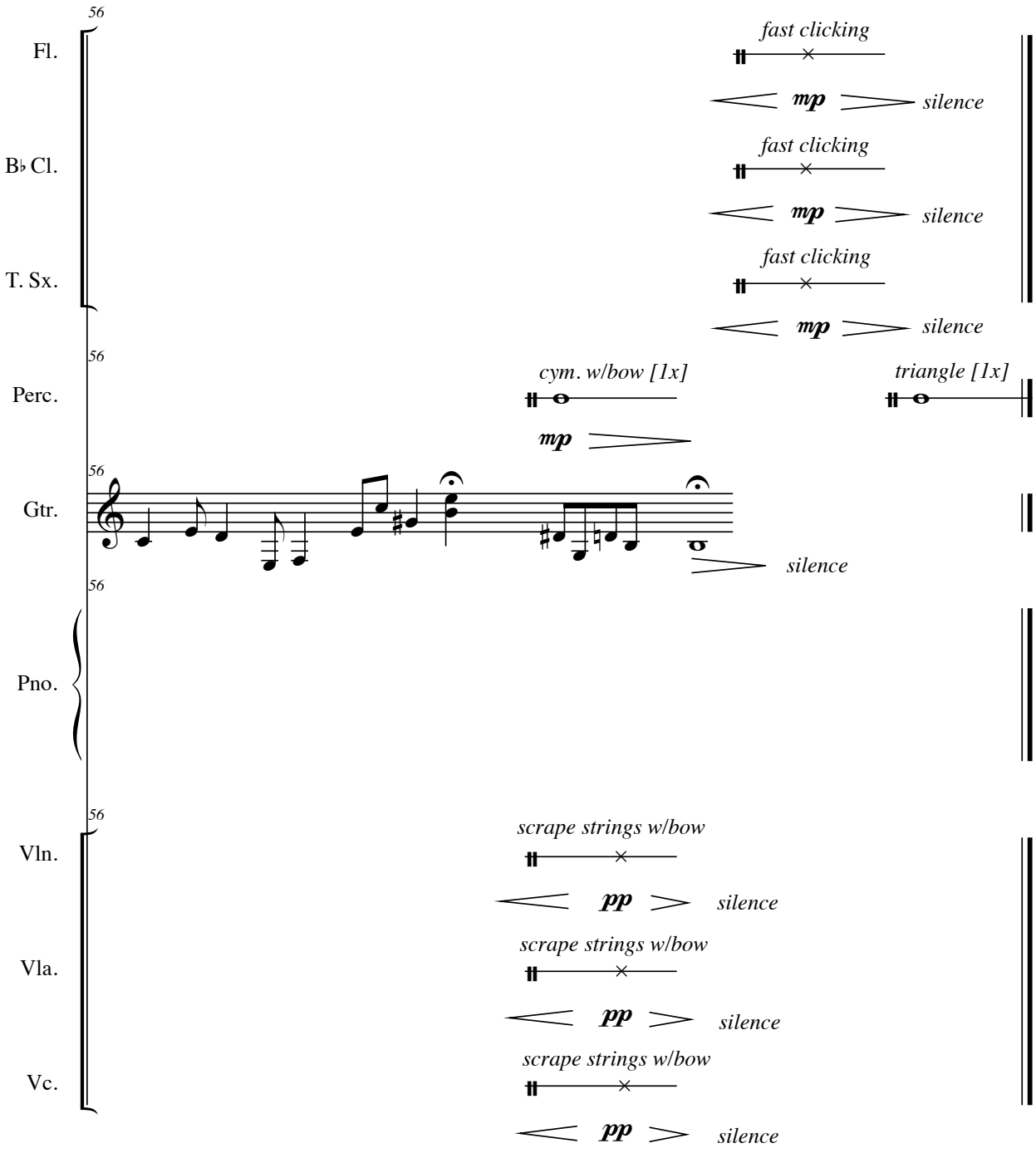
**Existence Precedes Essence**



**Existence Precedes Essence**



**Existence Precedes Essence**



**Existence Precedes Essence**