Large Ensemble Placement Audition Guidelines for Trombone

General thoughts
EVERYONE is welcome to play in ensembles. Whether you are a seasoned performance major or a novice who would like to continue playing trombone in college, you are welcome and encouraged to participate in ensembles at Lawrence. Auditions are meant to place students in ensembles with players of similar ability and experience. There is an ensemble for everyone at Lawrence. Work diligently on the material below over the summer, and come prepared to play your best.

Your ensemble placement does not define you
Neither your audition result nor your ensemble placement are a judgment of your character. They are not a reflection on one's value to the trombone section, ensemble or studio. Moreover, each ensemble at Lawrence has something to teach you. No matter what ensemble you are placed in, rest assured that you will be challenged. Be on the lookout. You may be surprised at how and when that challenge appears!

BM Students and other students wishing to audition to enter Wind Ensemble and/or Orchestra
Prepare all material listed below for your instrument (tenor or bass trombone). Any rests longer than one measure should be skipped. All other rests should be played in time. In addition to the prepared material, you may be asked to sight read.

Music Minors and BA students
Prepare one piece (etude, solos, excerpt, etc.) of your choice, **OR** play this etude.

Tips for preparation
- Listen to several recordings of these works!!! Listen along with the score. Take note of tempi, phrasing and breaths, orchestration, dynamics and style.
- Practice playing along with recordings
- Practice with a metronome, tuner and/or a drone (see useful resources below).
- Practice playing from memory.
- Practice playing with a sense of style appropriate to the piece.
- Practice some sight reading every day.
- Relax. Practice mindfulness, meditation, slow breathing, etc to help calm nerves.
- Enjoy the process. The audition committee's goal is to make the audition as painless as possible. We want to hear you enjoying the music.

Useful resources:
- Tromboneecerpts.org, Spotify and YouTube for recordings of audition material.
- Tuning CD for intonation Tonal Energy Tuner for intonation and metronome work.
- Your peers – reach out to fellow students to play for each other and share practice tips.
- Me! I am always happy to meet with anyone over the summer for a lesson on these excerpts. Send me an email and we'll set one up.

If you have any questions, please contact me at albright@lawrence.edu.

Moderato pesante

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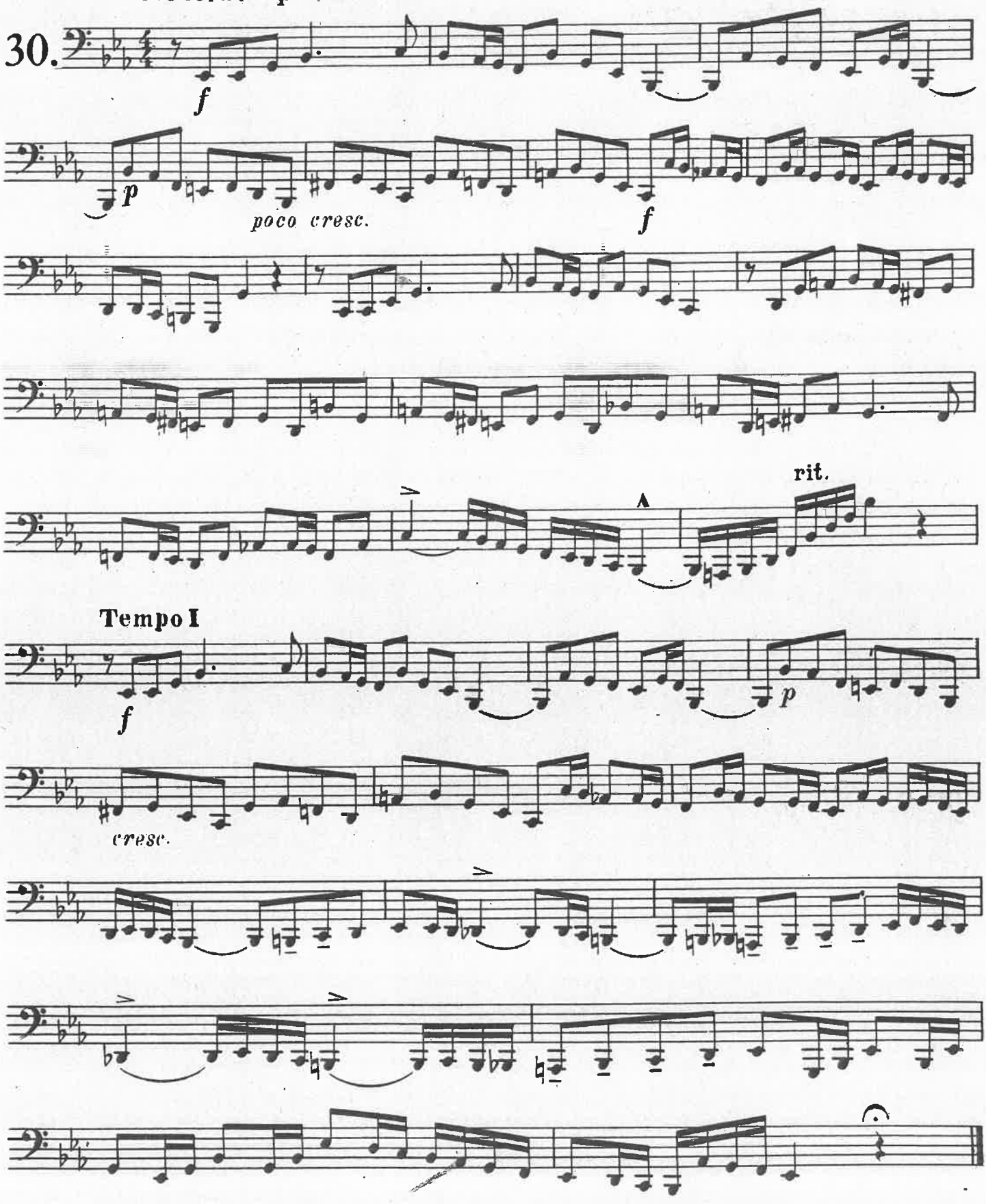

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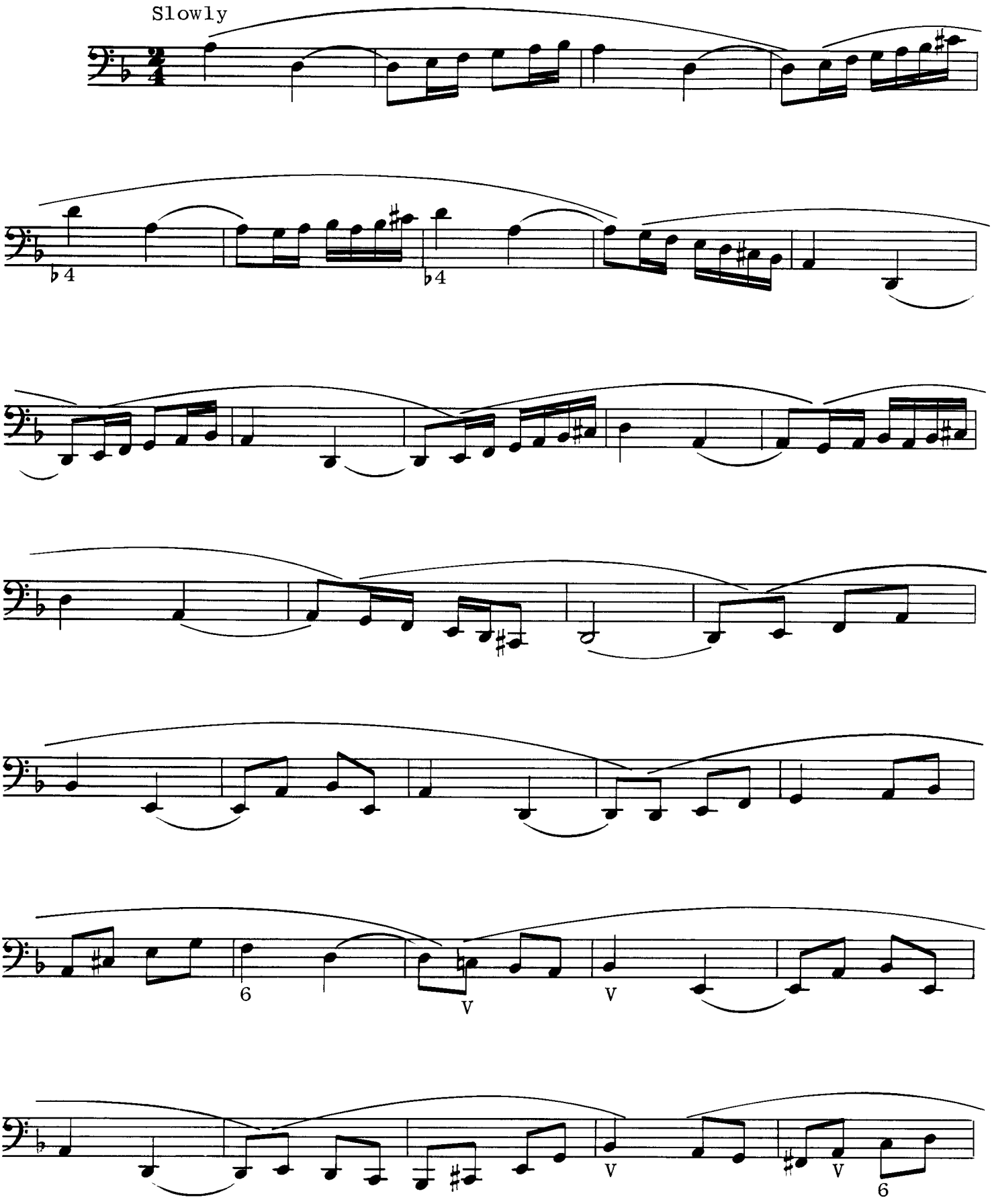

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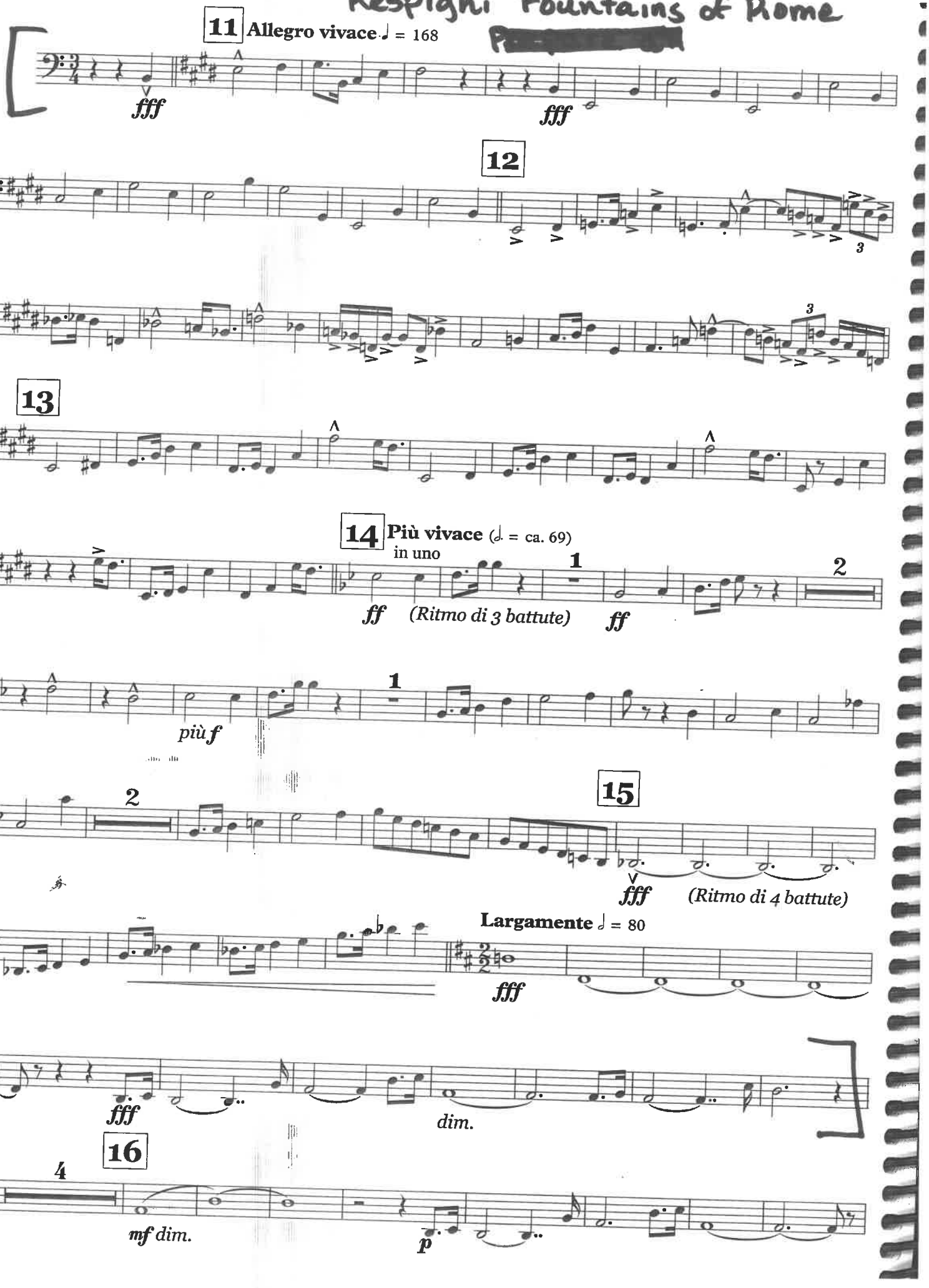
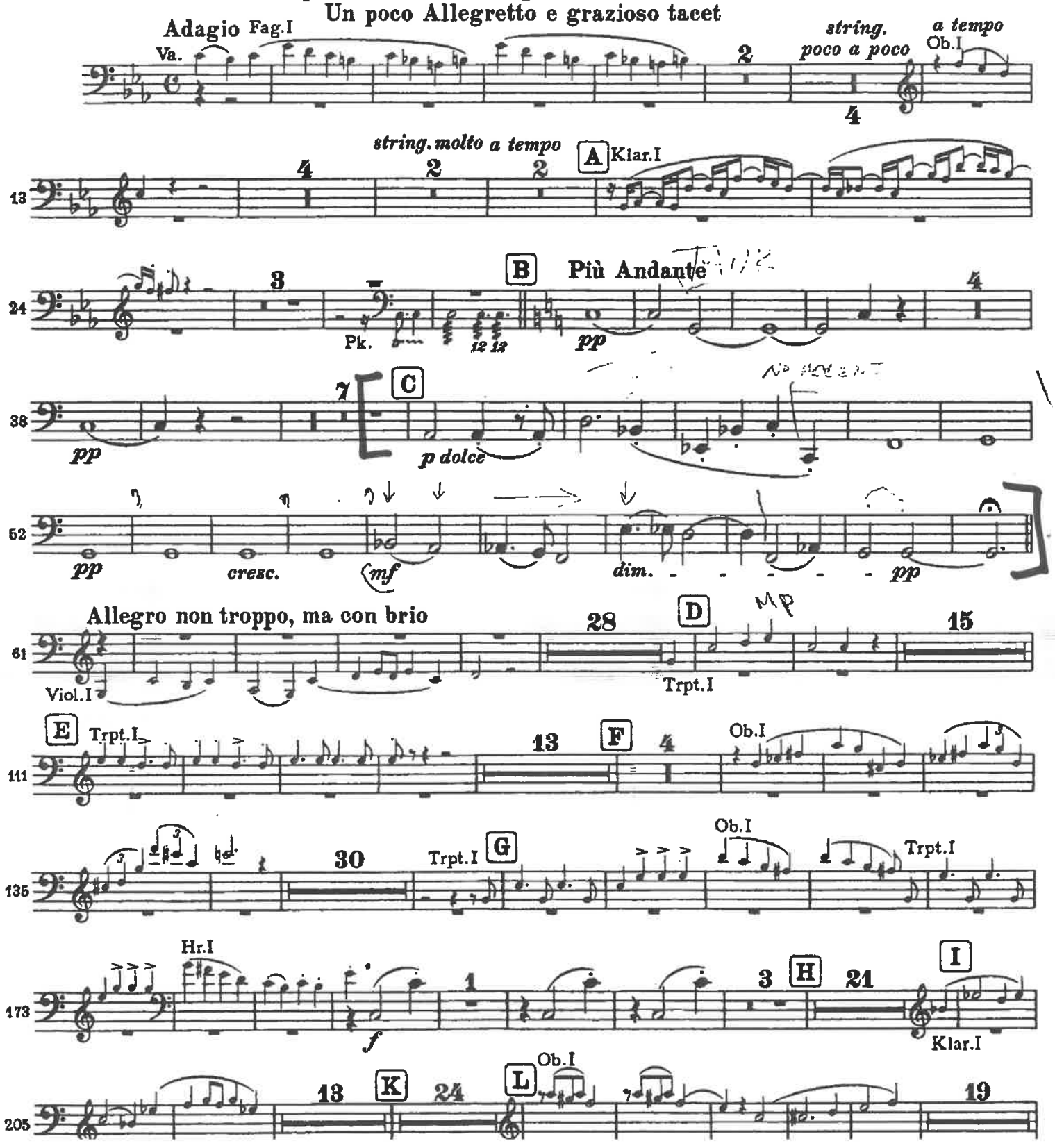


Sinfonie Nr. 1 c-Moll

Posaune III (Baß)

Johannes Brahms, op. 68

Un poco sostenuto-Allegro, Andante sostenuto,
Un poco Allegretto e grazioso tacet