Eve Beglarian

Wonder Counselor

1996

for organ or synthesizer(s) and pre-recorded tape

EVBVD MUSIC
468 Sixth Avenue #4
New York, NY 10011
www.evbvd.com

Wonder Counselor gets its title from the Jerusalem Bible translation of Isaiah 9:6, which is more familiarly translated as "...his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." I am delighted by the idea of a higher power serving as my wonder counselor, maybe dressed as a scout leader, taking me around to point out the marvels of the world. While I was initially thinking about the piece, I did a concordance search for the word "wonderful" in the Bible and found the following proverb:

Three things are too wonderful for me;
    four I do not understand:
the way of an eagle in the sky,
    the way of a serpent on a rock,
    the way of a ship on the high seas,
and the way of a man with a maiden. (Proverbs 30:18-19)

The piece embeds these four wonderful sounds into an electronically transformed recording of a single organ sonority.

The live organist then plays a loose set of variations on the sequence "Res est admirabilis" ("It is a wondrous thing") from the thirteenth century Gradual of Eleanor of Brittany. The sequence is aptly-named: it has some of the strangest counterpoint I have ever heard. I was introduced to it by Marcel Peres' excellent recording.

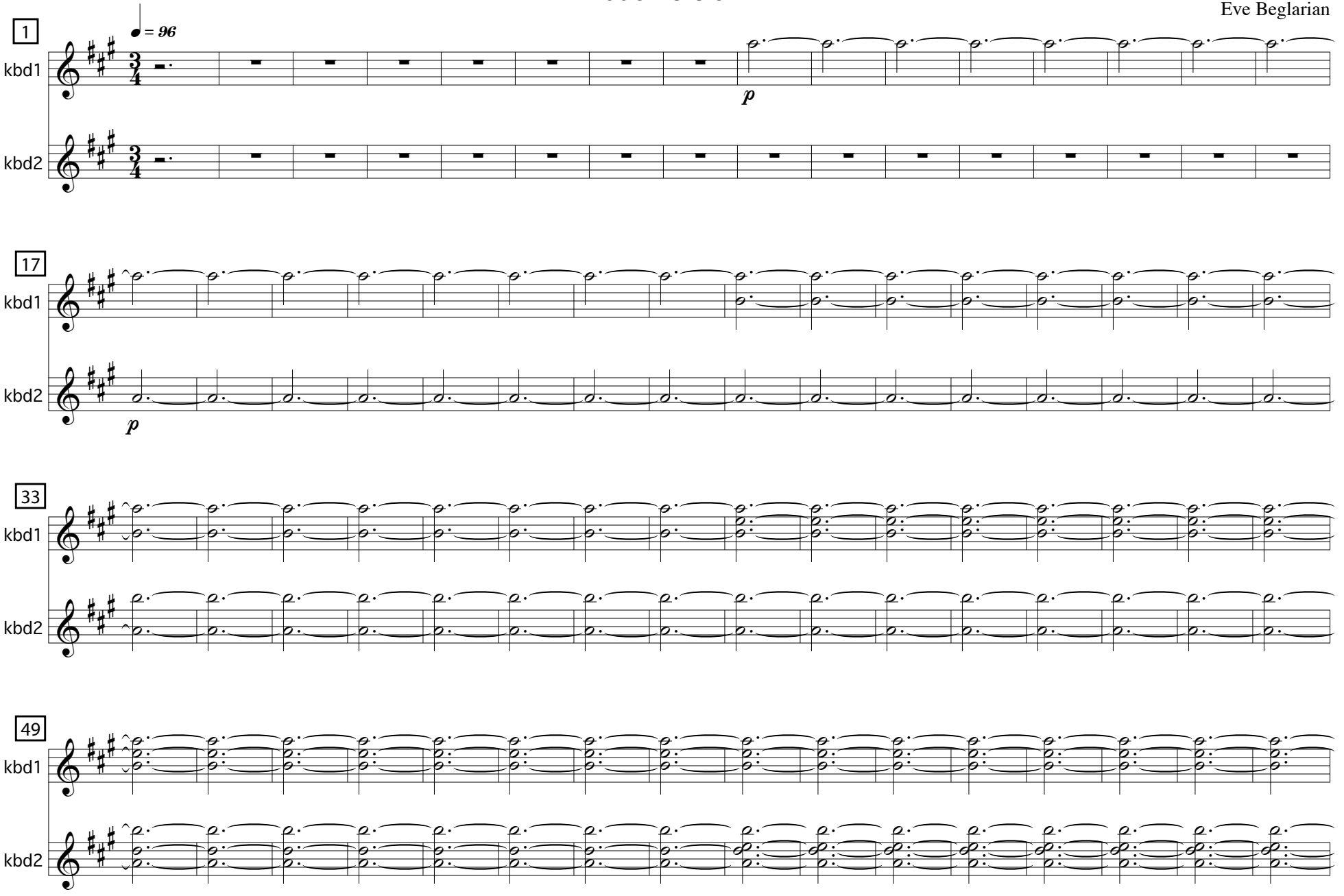
Wonder Counselor was commissioned by the American Guild of Organists to celebrate their 100th Anniversary and premiered at their National Convention by Kyler Brown at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin in New York in July 1996. I want to thank Kyler Brown and Reverend Edgar F. Wells for their advice and insight while I was making this piece.

To the performer: To play the complete piece single-handedly requires a four-manual organ, and is very difficult! Please contact me if you would like that solo version. In the meantime, I have made a duo version which can be performed by two live players, or with KBD2 pre-recorded (or MIDI-controlled) and KBD1 played live. If you wish to play the piece on a single synth rather than a two-manual organ, you can map the swell notes (marked p in the score) to trigger as they sound in the score, but played two octaves below where they are written, and then map the bomb notes (marked f in the score) to go from middle C up, just as they appear in the score. Please get in touch if you would like clarification of any of this! You can reach me at eve@evbvd.com.

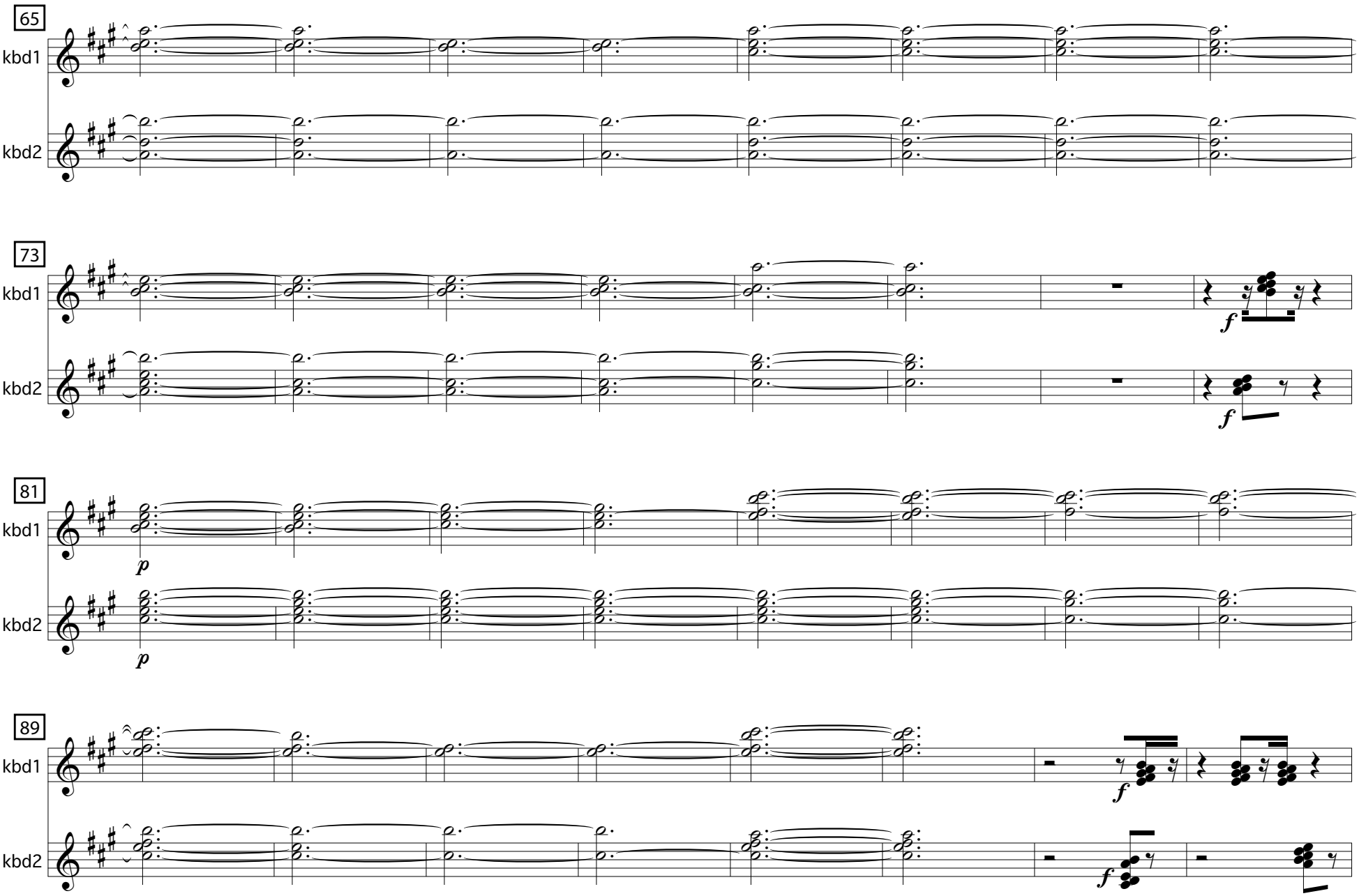
Wonder Counselor

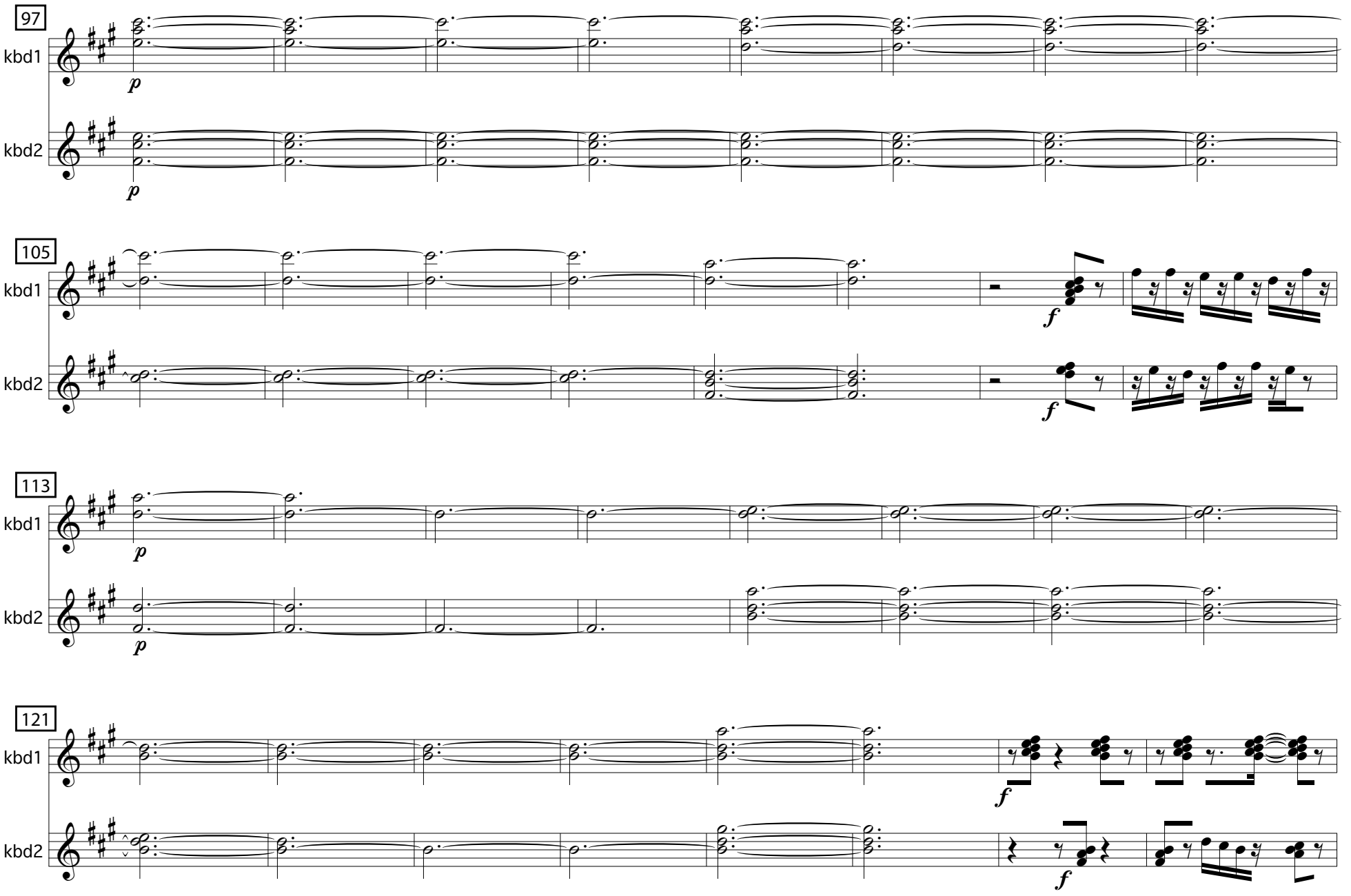
duo version

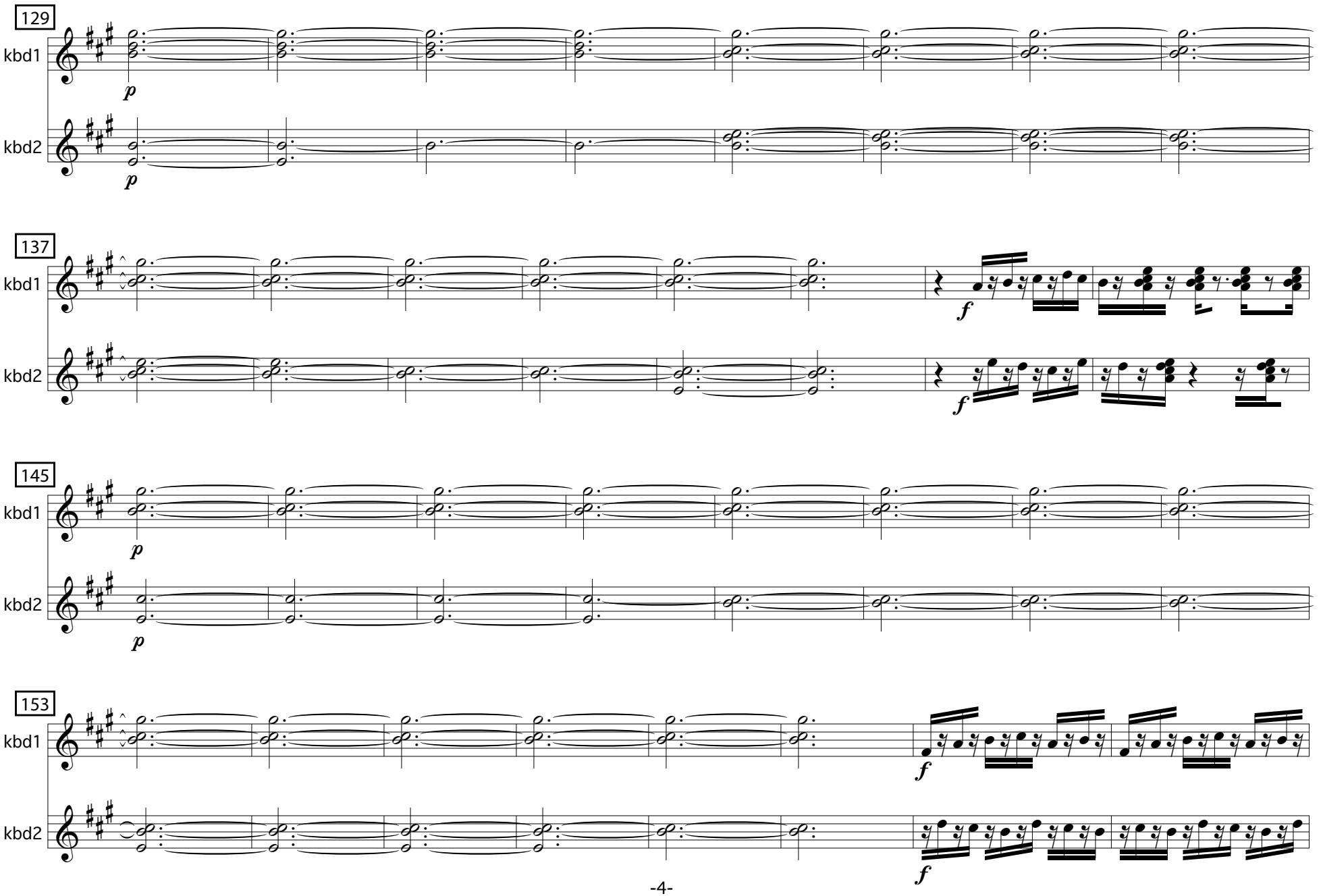
Eve Beglarian

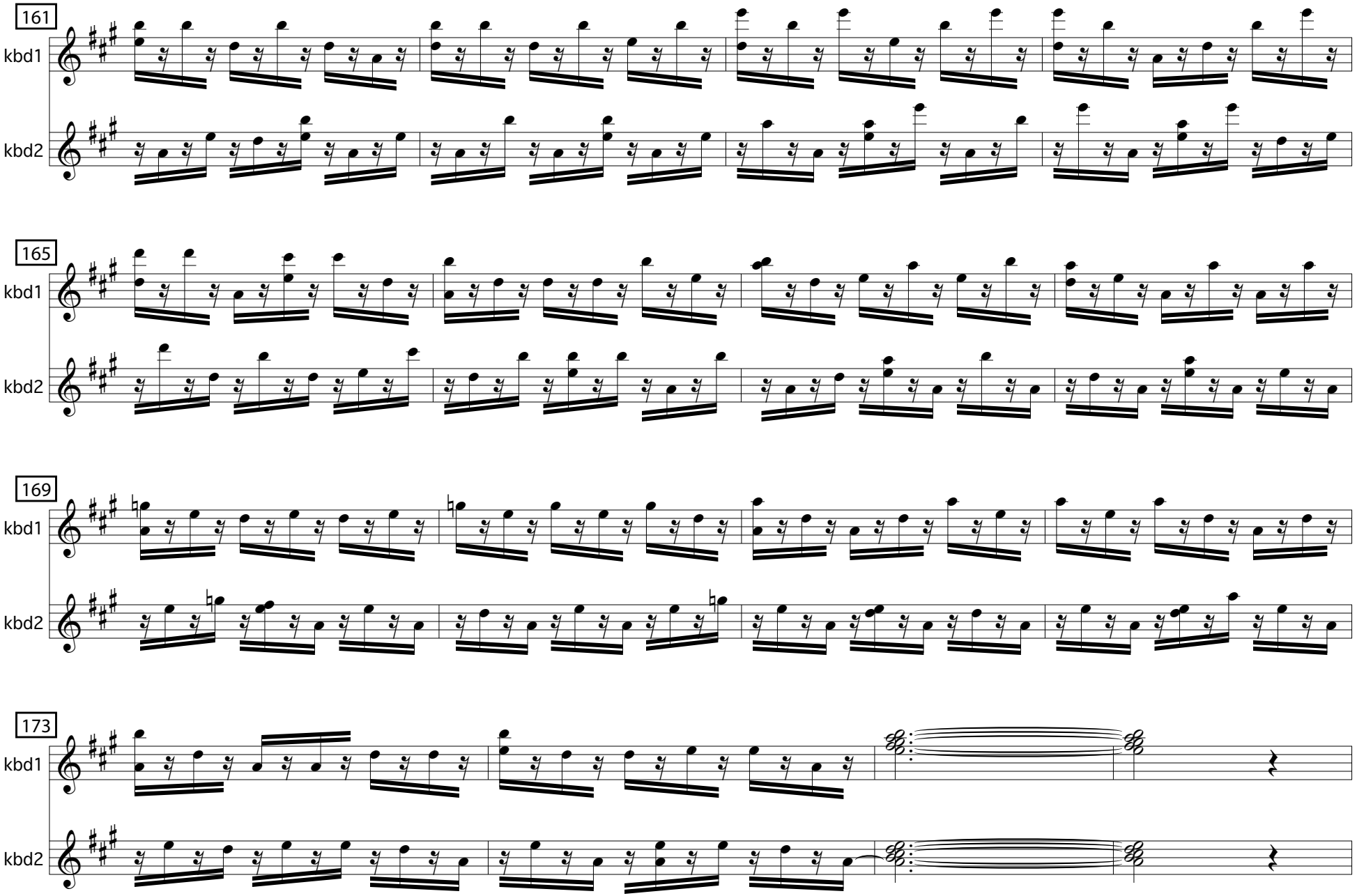


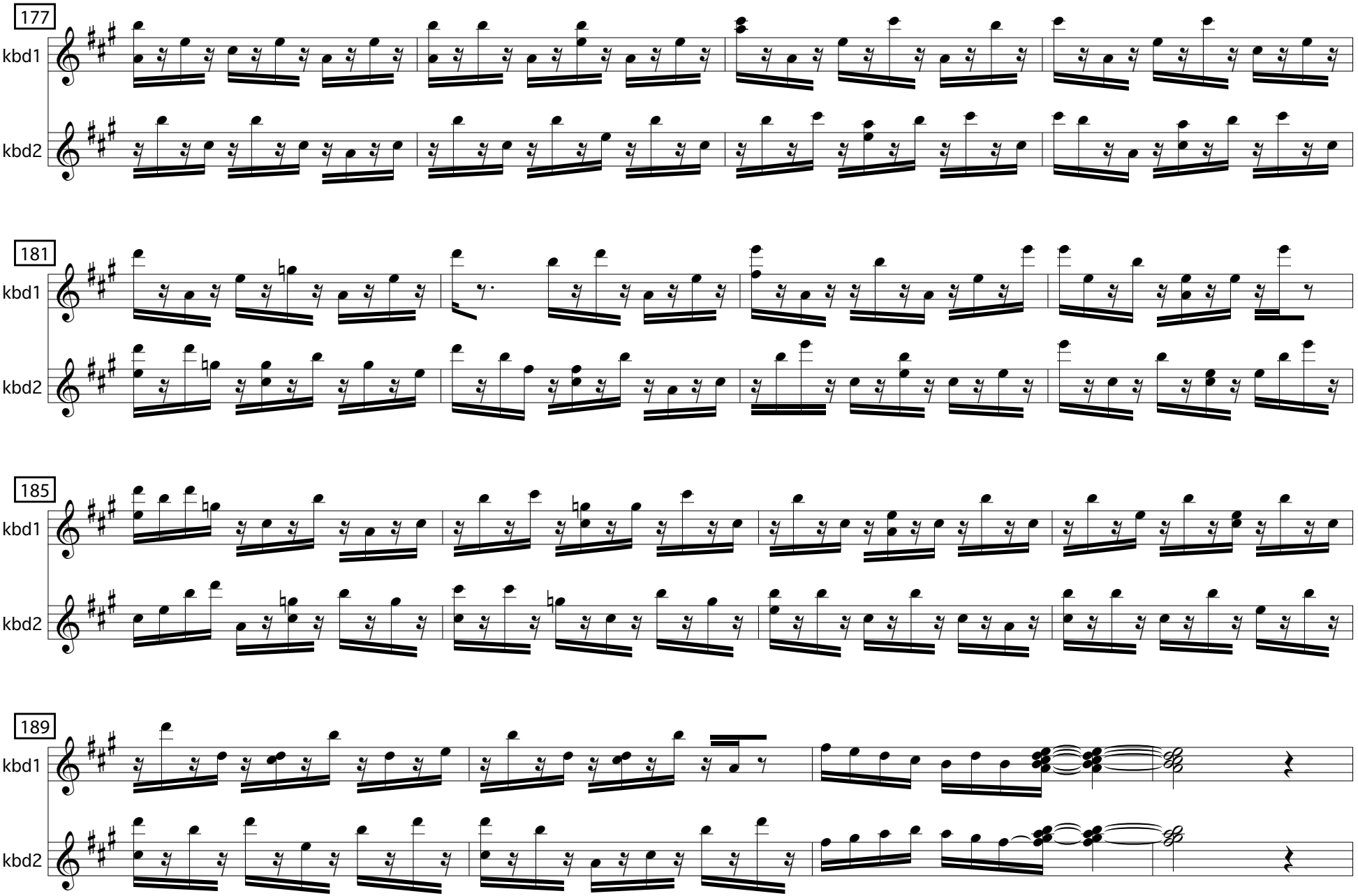
© 1996 EVBVD Music [ASCAP]

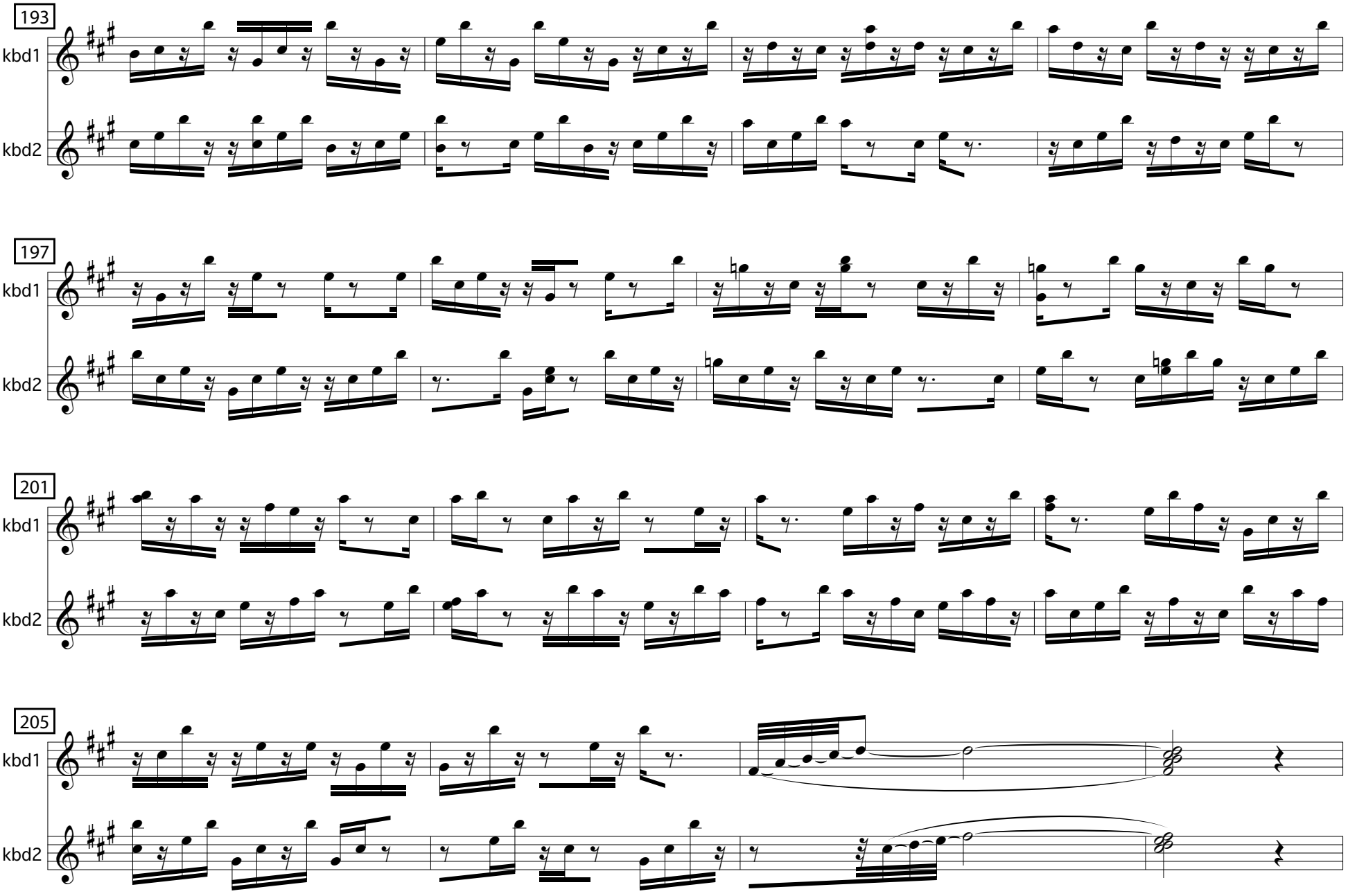

65
kbd1
kbd2
73
kbd1
kbd2
f
f
81
kbd1
kbd2
p
p
89
kbd1
kbd2
f
f

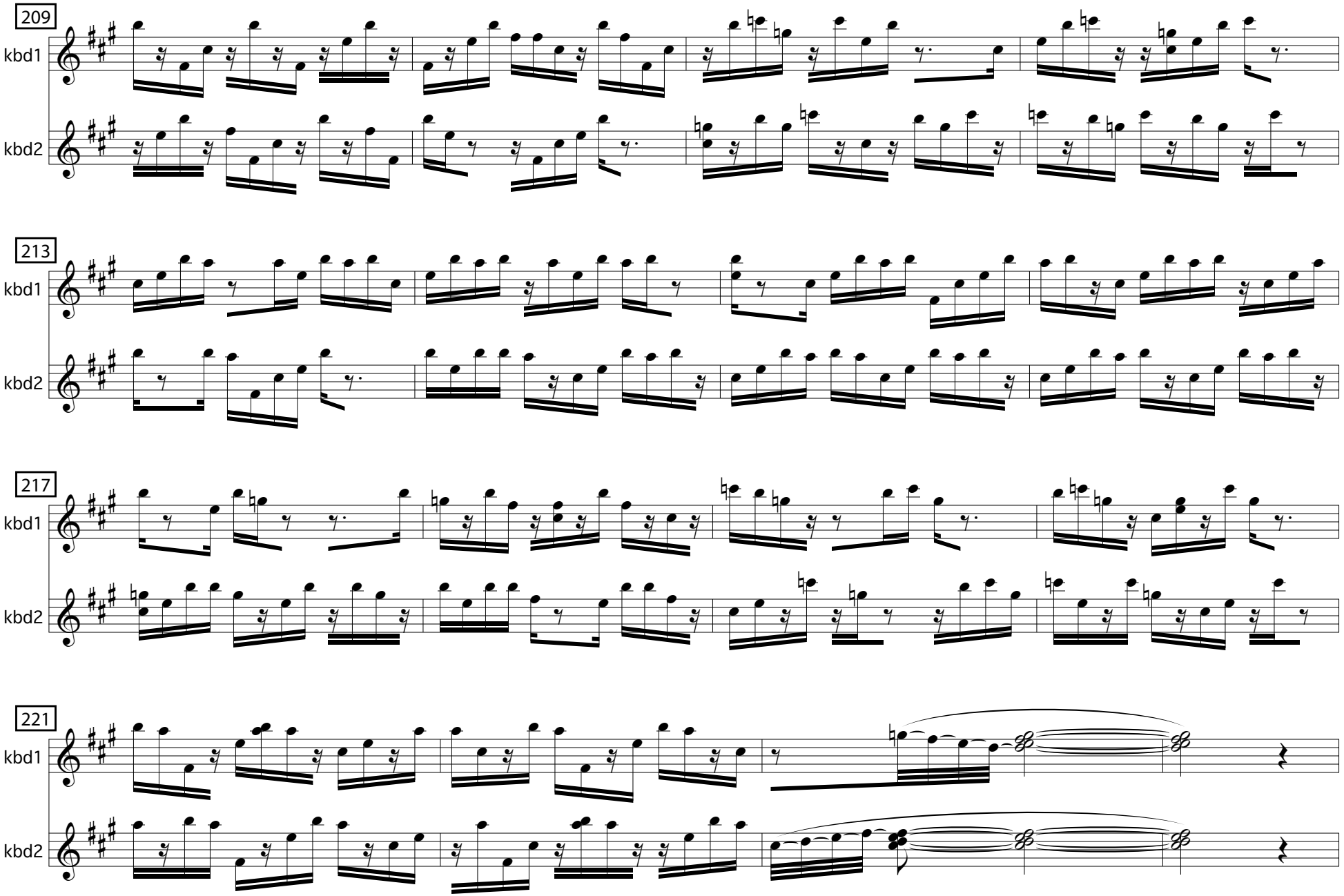

97
kbd1
kbd2
p
p
105
kbd1
kbd2
f
f
113
kbd1
kbd2
p
p
121
kbd1
kbd2
f
f

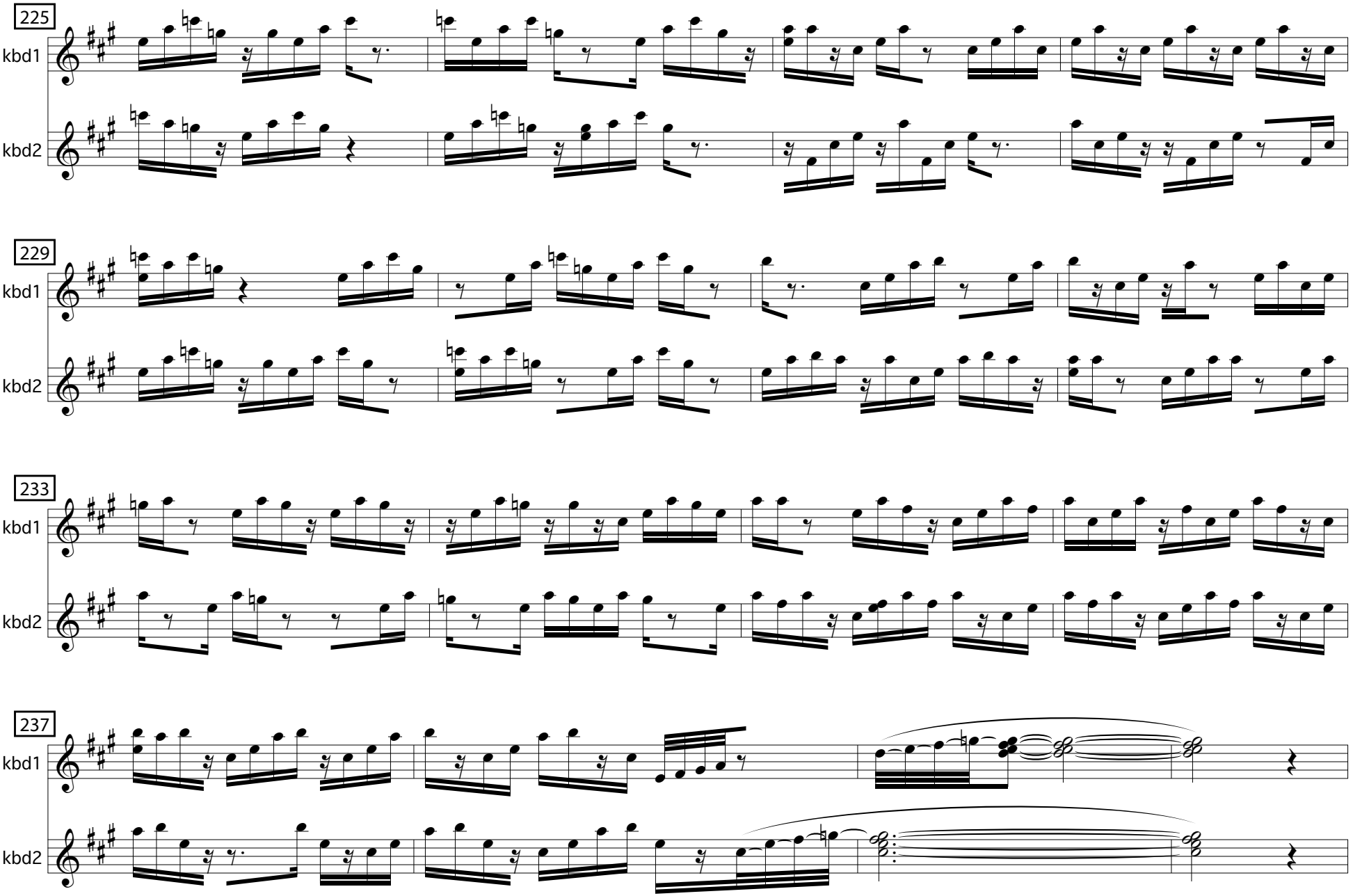

129
kbd1
kbd2
p
p
137
kbd1
kbd2
f
f
145
kbd1
kbd2
p
p
153
kbd1
kbd2
f
f

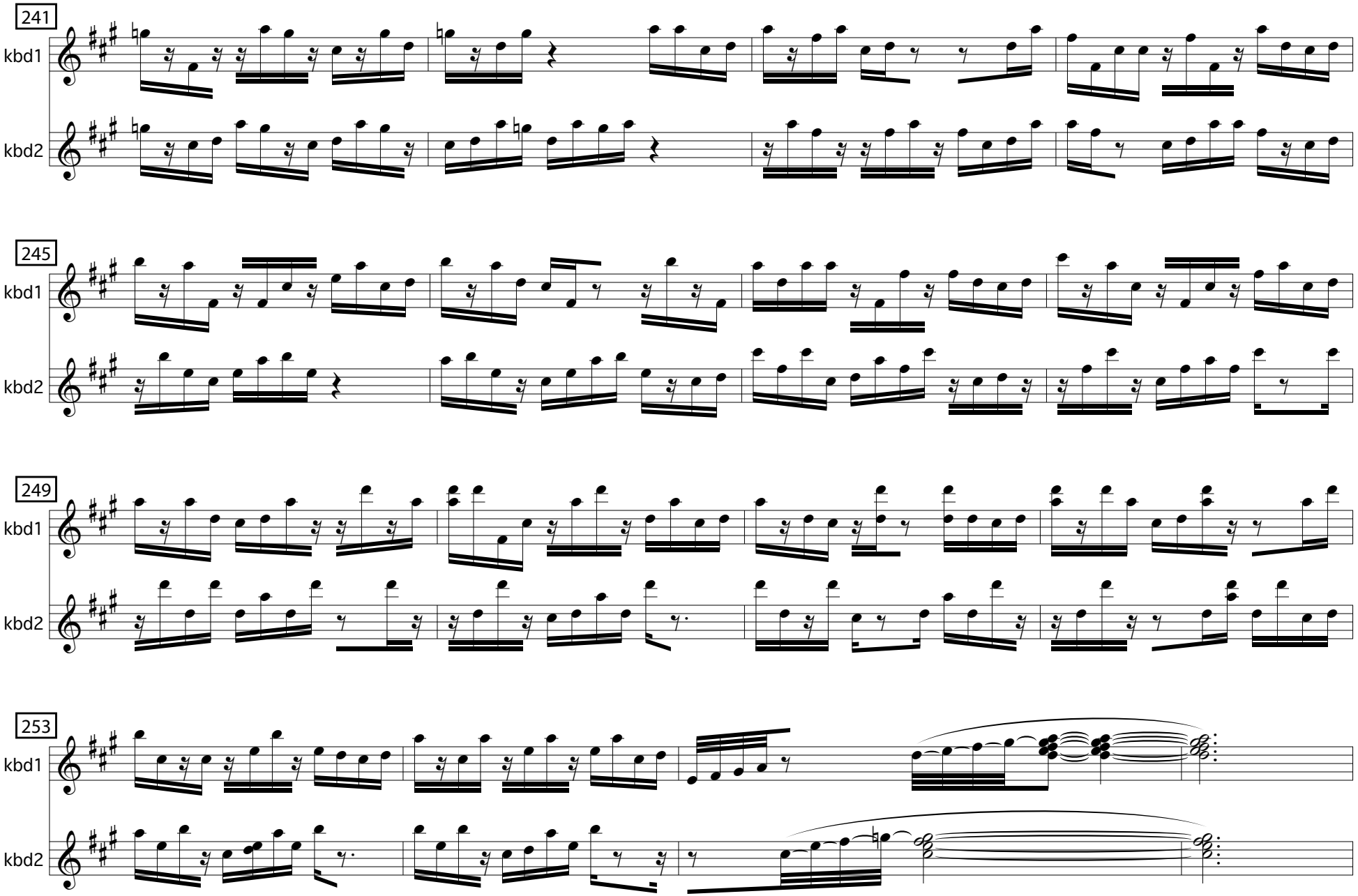

161
kbd1
kbd2
165
kbd1
kbd2
169
kbd1
kbd2
173
kbd1
kbd2

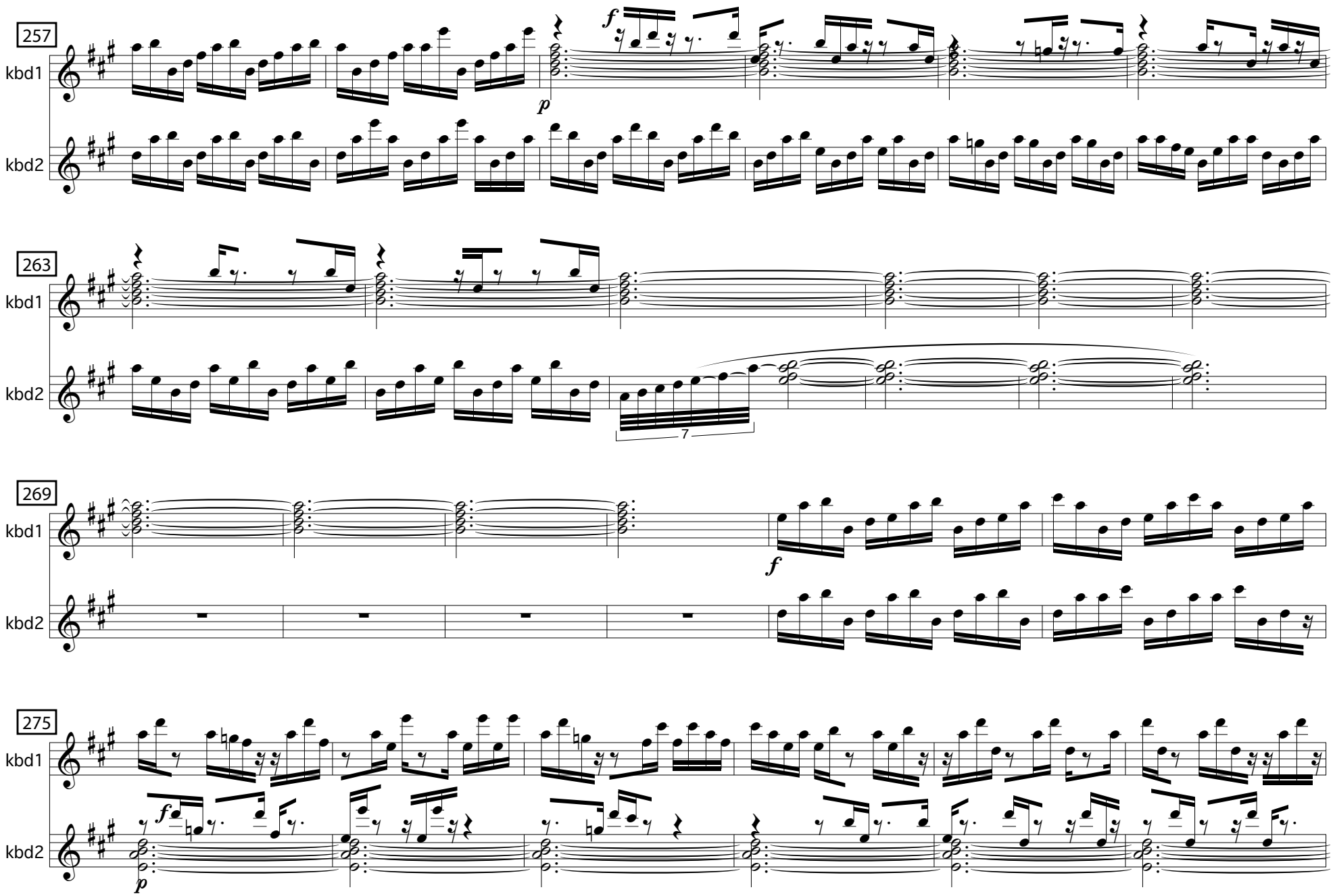

177
kbd1
kbd2
181
kbd1
kbd2
185
kbd1
kbd2
189
kbd1
kbd2

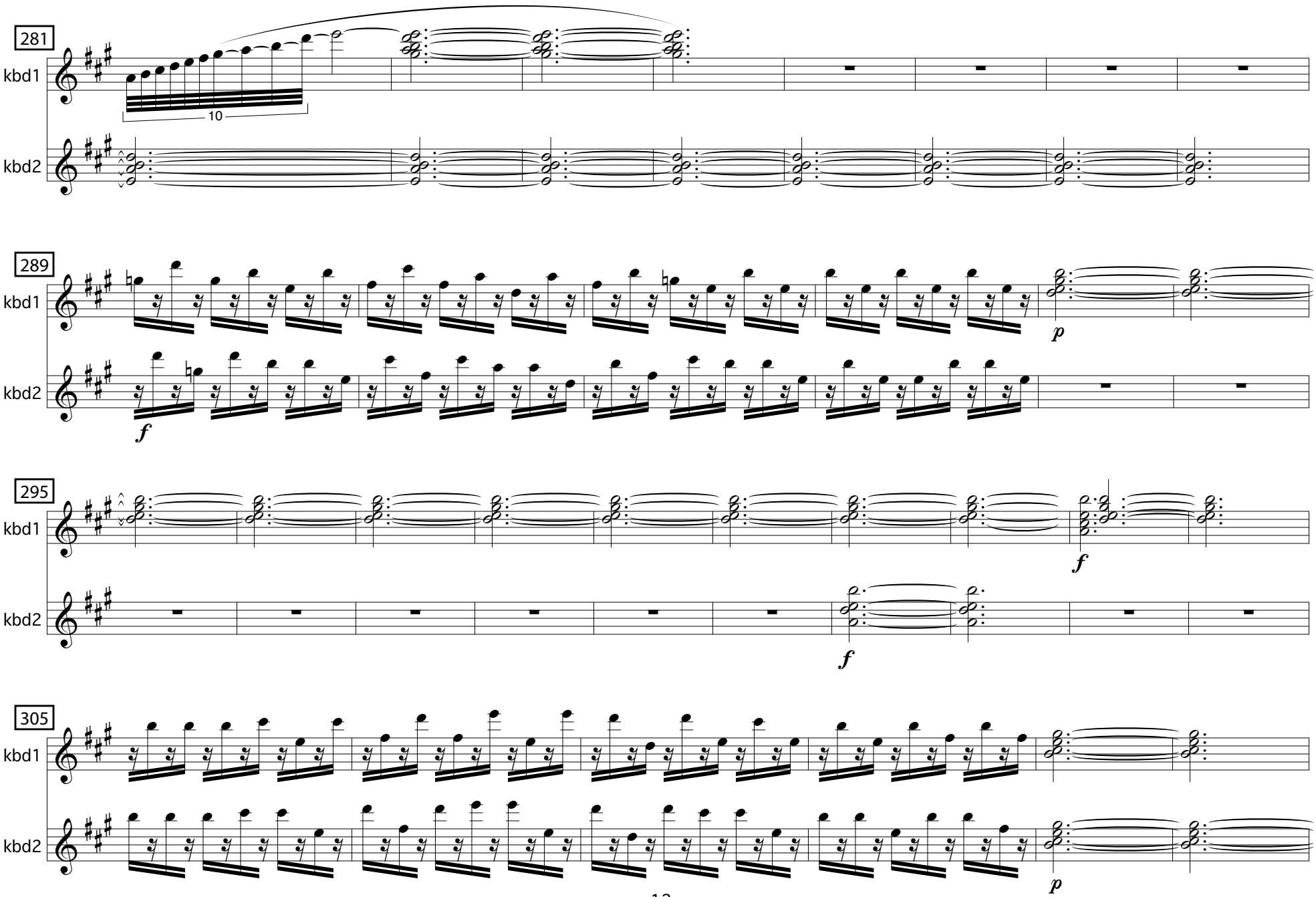

193
kbd1
kbd2
197
kbd1
kbd2
201
kbd1
kbd2
205
kbd1
kbd2

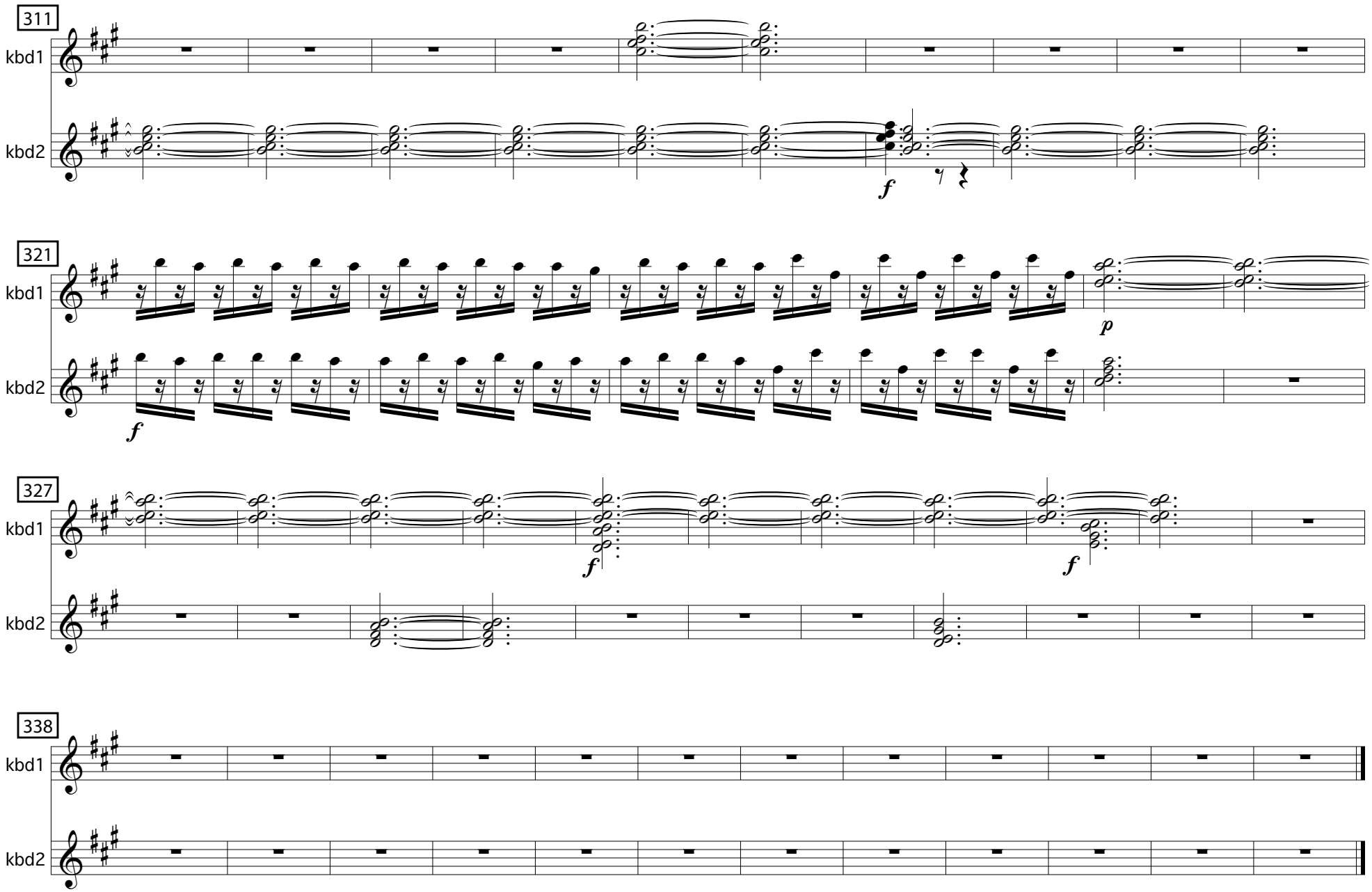

209
kbd1
kbd2
213
kbd1
kbd2
217
kbd1
kbd2
221
kbd1
kbd2


225
kbd1
kbd2
229
kbd1
kbd2
233
kbd1
kbd2
237
kbd1
kbd2


241
kbd1
kbd2
245
kbd1
kbd2
249
kbd1
kbd2
253
kbd1
kbd2


257
kbd1
kbd2
f
p
263
kbd1
kbd2
7
269
kbd1
kbd2
f
275
kbd1
kbd2
f
p


281
kbd1
10
kbd2
289
kbd1
p
kbd2
f
295
kbd1
f
kbd2
f
305
kbd1
kbd2
p


311
kbd1
kbd2
f
321
kbd1
kbd2
f
p
327
kbd1
kbd2
f
f
338
kbd1
kbd2