Consort

for four soprano saxophones

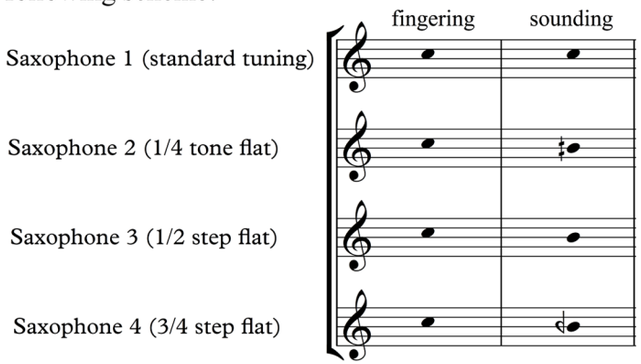
(2012)

Dave Reminick

Performance Notes

Tuning

The saxophones must to be detuned (by adjusting the mouthpiece position) in the following scheme:



Because this detuning results in inconsistent intonation throughout the range of the instrument, is important that each performer experiment with different mouthpiece positions to find the most successful overall tuning. Additionally, it should be noted that all written pitches (with the exception of those in the bracketed sections) represent fingered notes.

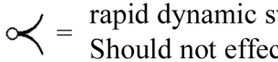
The further the saxophone is detuned, the more unpredictable the lower register becomes. Lower register notes in the detuned instruments (especially 3+4) tend to "break up" when played at any dynamic above p. Accordingly, when low register notes occur at any dynamic above p, this "breaking up" is desired. However, when softer dynamics are asked for (at H, for example), these notes can be played with reasonable consistency as subtones.

Trills/Tremolos

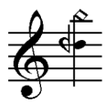
- all trills should be up a semitone, except as notated.
- tremolos are notated as trills, however the secondary note is included in parentheses.
- in certain instances, trills/tremolos are notated by indicating which finger(s) to move; in such situations, the appropriate key(s) appear above the trill-line in parentheses. For example: (C5) tr

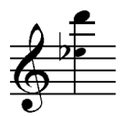
Symbols/General

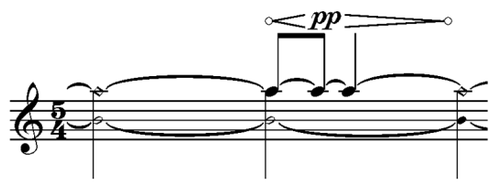
+ = slap tongue

 = rapid dynamic swell from silence to piano or mezzo-piano with a staccato release. Should not effect previous or subsequent dynamics.

= indicates a passage in which the exact intonation of notes are of primary importance. For example, during a bracketed passage, a notated D# in Saxophone 2 should sound precisely as a D♯ played by Saxophone 1 (itself sounding at concert C).

 = underblown, producing a muted, muffled tone; the diamond notehead indicates fingering, while the small notehead shows the sounding pitch.

 = finger the top note, but sound both the fingered and underblown pitches.

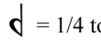
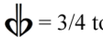


= while underblowing a fingering (as above), briefly fade in the fingered note.

- dynamics/hairpins above the staff correspond to the upper pitch of a multiphonic.

- no vibrato should be used, except where indicated

Quarter-tones

 = 1/4 tone flat
 = 3/4 tone flat
 = 1/8 tone sharp
 = 1/4 tone sharp
= 3/4 tone sharp
 = 1/8 tone flat

commissioned by the Anubis Quartet

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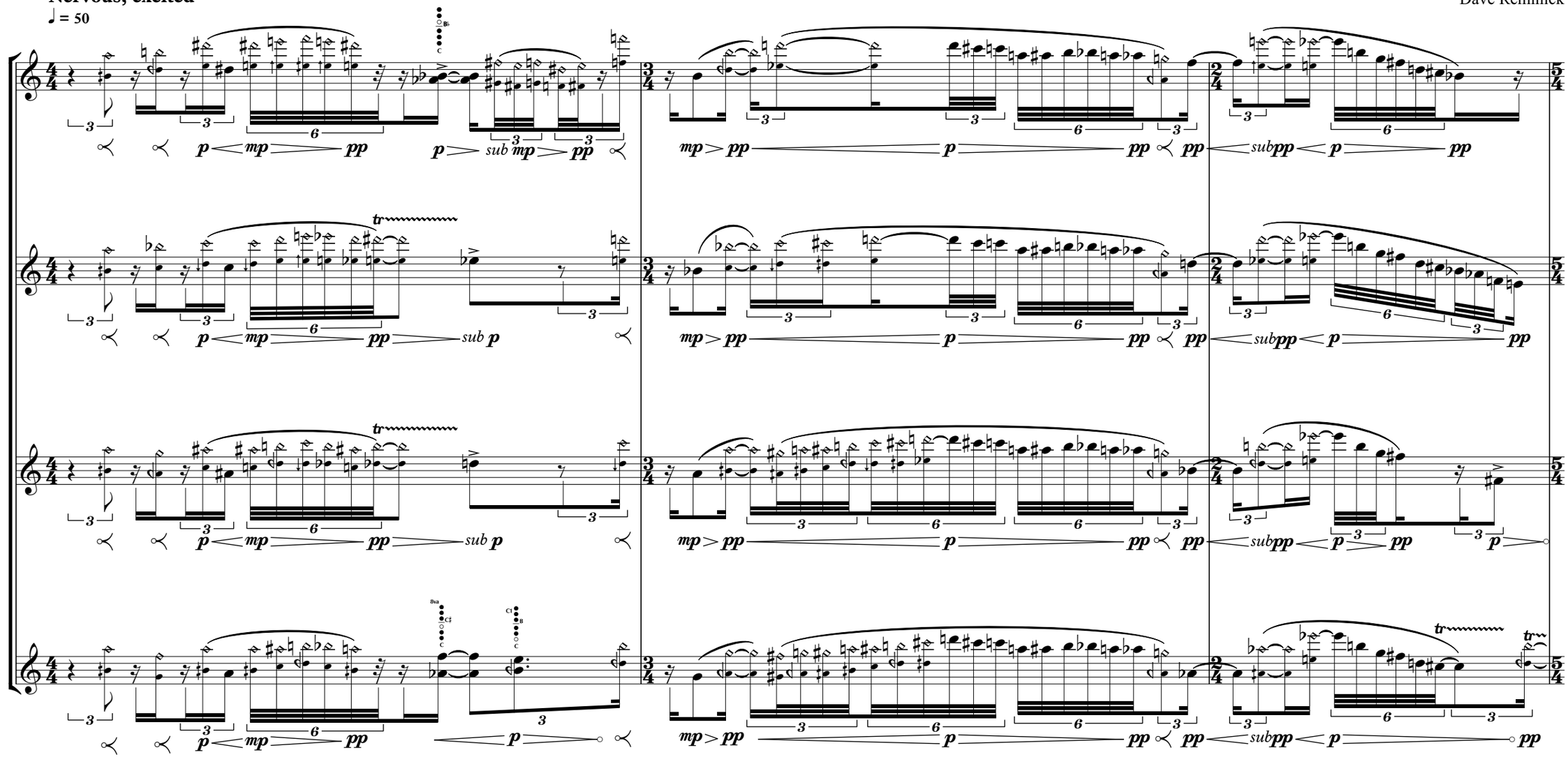
Nervous, excited

♩ = 50



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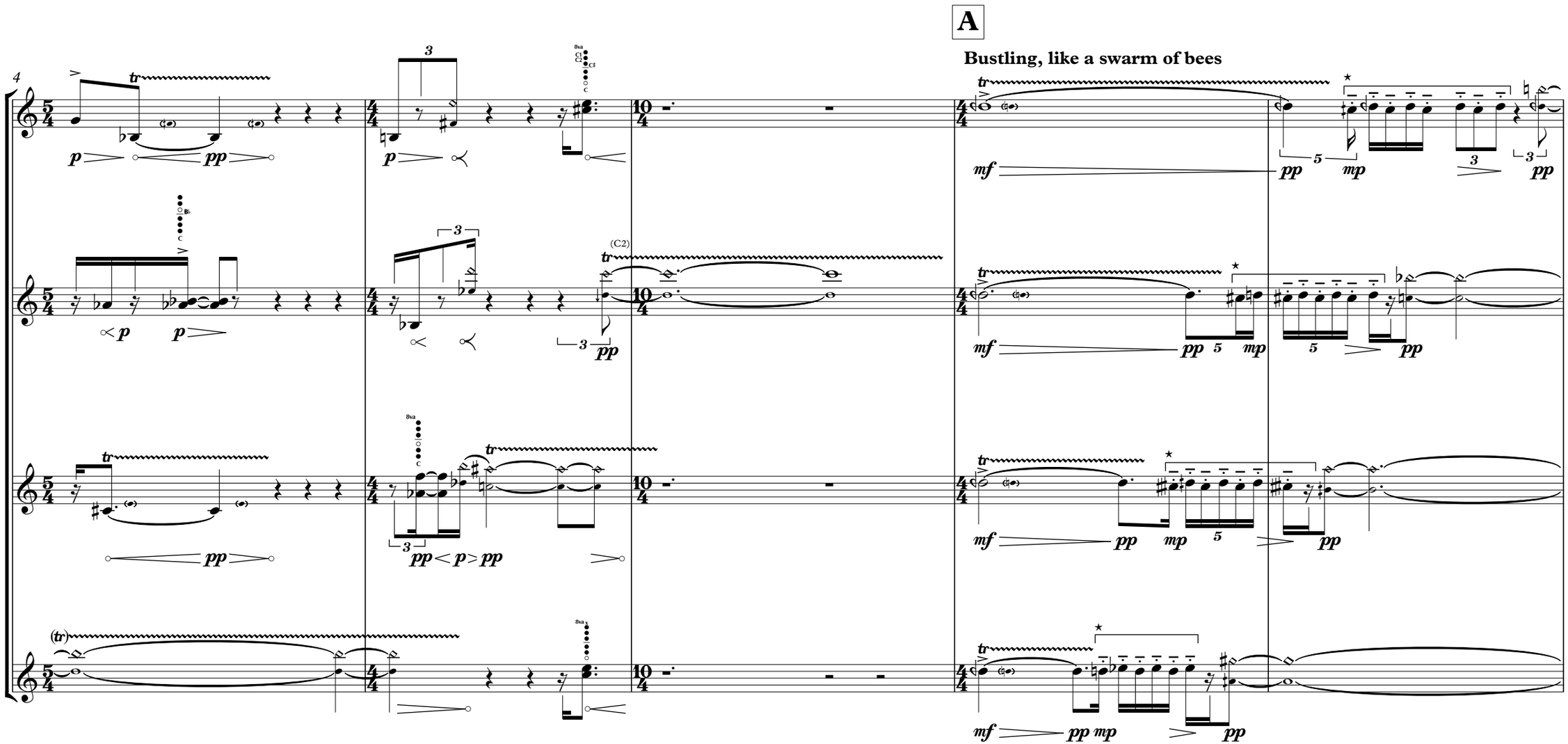
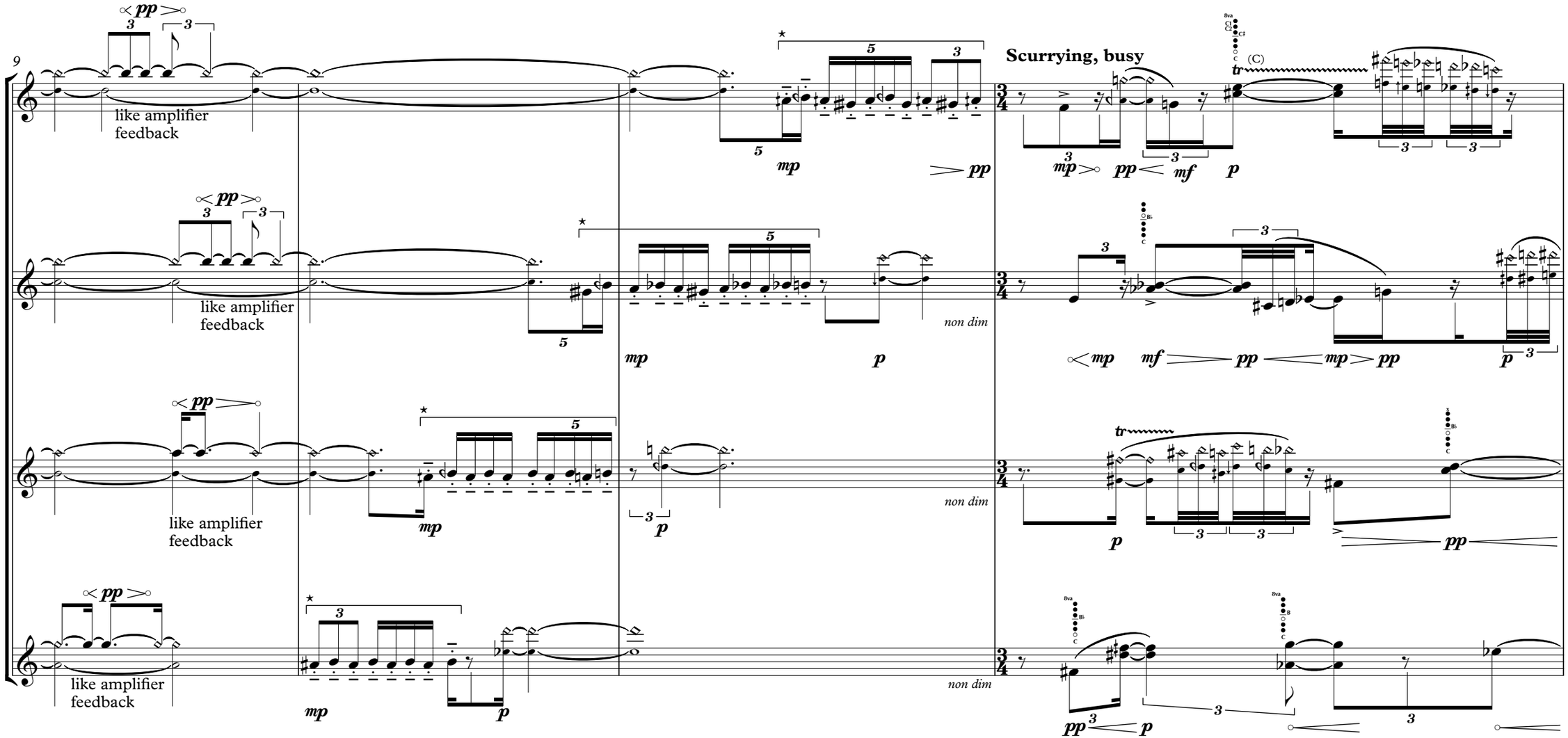
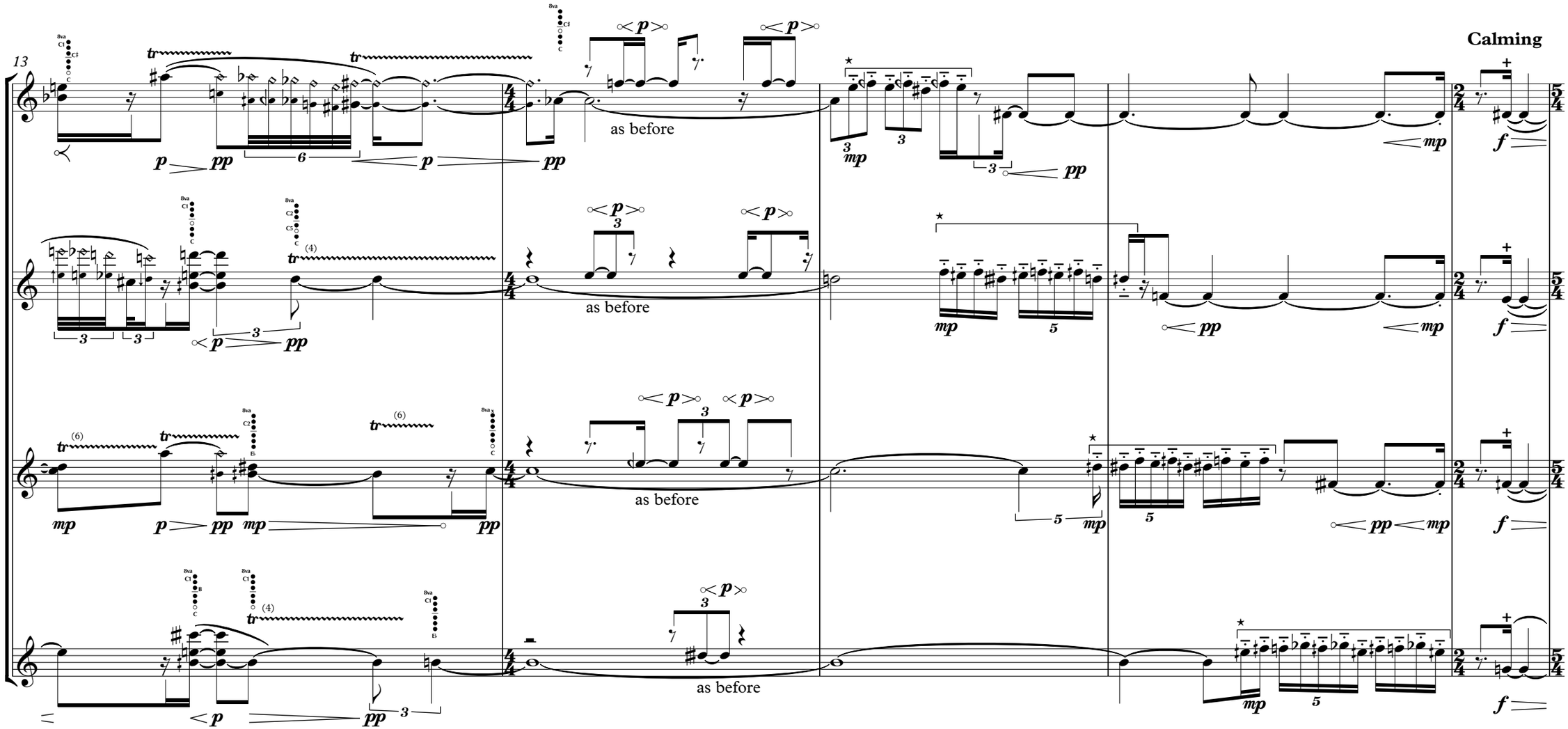
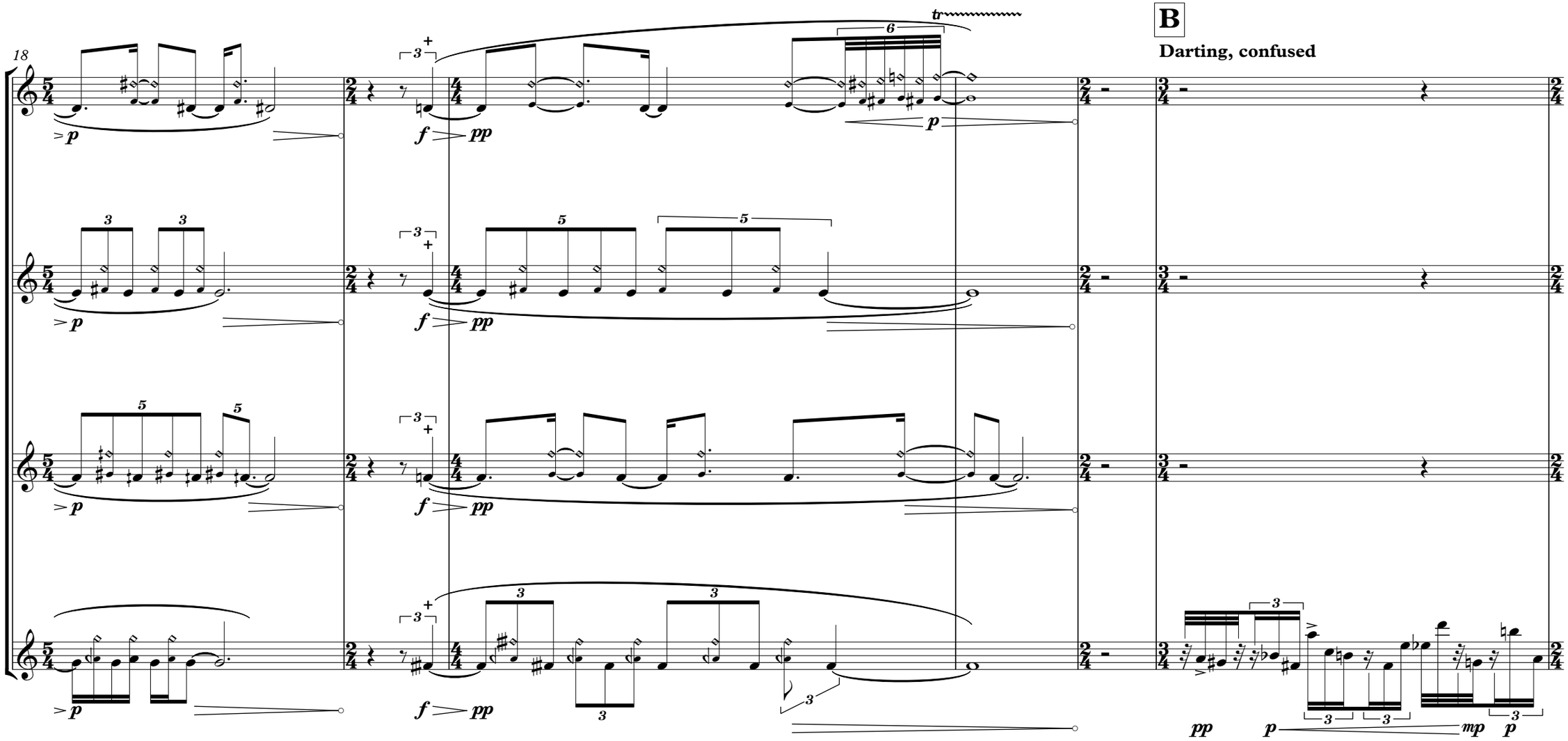

A
Bustling, like a swarm of bees
4
(C2)


9
like amplifier feedback
like amplifier feedback
like amplifier feedback
like amplifier feedback
Scurrying, busy
non dim
non dim
non dim


13
Calming
as before
as before
as before
as before


18
B
Darting, confused