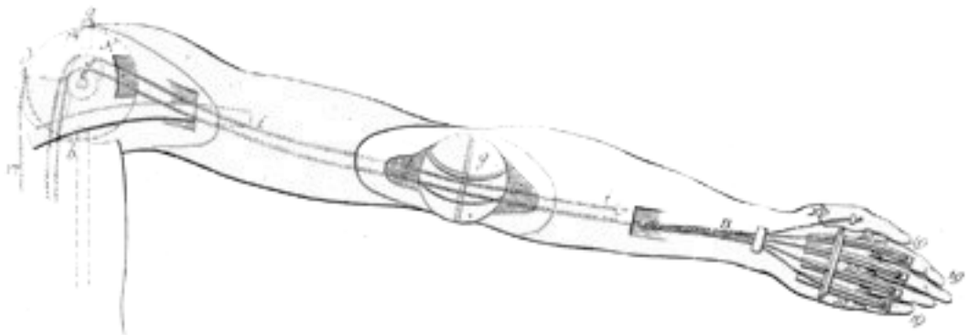
In Wahrheit saß ein buckliger Zwerg darin, der ein Meister im Schachspiel war und die Hand der Puppe an Schnüren lenkte

-for alto kalimba and electronic sounds-



Ethan Hayden

2013

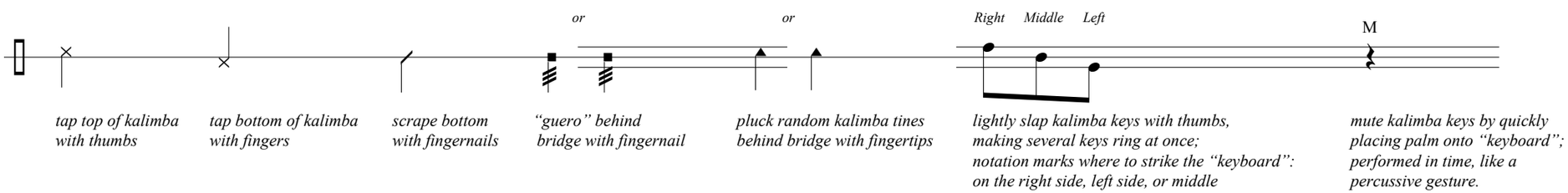
Instrumentation:

- Alto kalimba (preferably Hugh Tracey model), amplified
- Computer (running Max/MSP 5.1.8 or higher)
- 2 or 4 loudspeakers, preferably with subwoofer

Performance Notes:

- Numbered electronic cues are shown above the kalimba part in triangles. These should be cued by the performer, preferably with a foot pedal.
- The amplified kalimba should be the same volume as the samples of unprocessed kalimba notes. There is an example sound in the patch which can be used to test levels.

Percussion Notation:



Duration: ca. 7.5'

Program Note:

The story is told of an automaton constructed in such a way that it could play a winning game of chess, answering each move of an opponent with a countermove. A puppet in Turkish attire and with a hookah in its mouth sat before a chessboard placed on a large table. A system of mirrors created the illusion that this table was transparent from all sides. Actually, a little hunchback who was an expert chess player sat inside and guided the puppet's hand by means of strings.

- Walter Benjamin, *Theses on the Philosophy of History*

In Wahrheit saß ein buckliger Zwerg darin, der ein Meister im Schachspiel war und die Hand der Puppe an Schnüren lenkte consists of contrapuntal dialogue between a live equal-tempered kalimba and its just-intoned and/or ring-modulated electronic reflections. The piece was composed for and is dedicated to percussionist Patti Cudd, with great thanks for her enthusiasm and artistry.

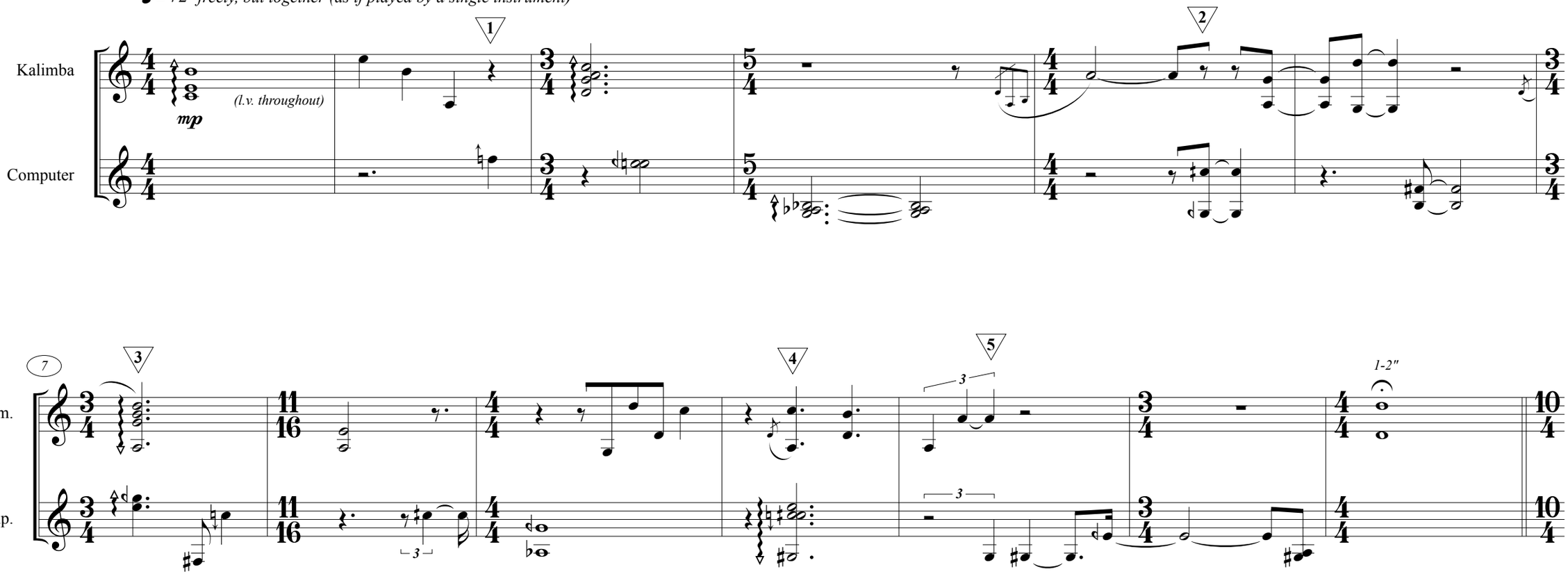
In Wahrheit saß ein buckliger Zwerg darin, der ein Meister im Schachspiel war und die Hand der Puppe an Schnüren lenkte

-for Patti Cudd-

Ethan Hayden

- introduction -

♩ = 72 *freely, but together (as if played by a single instrument)*



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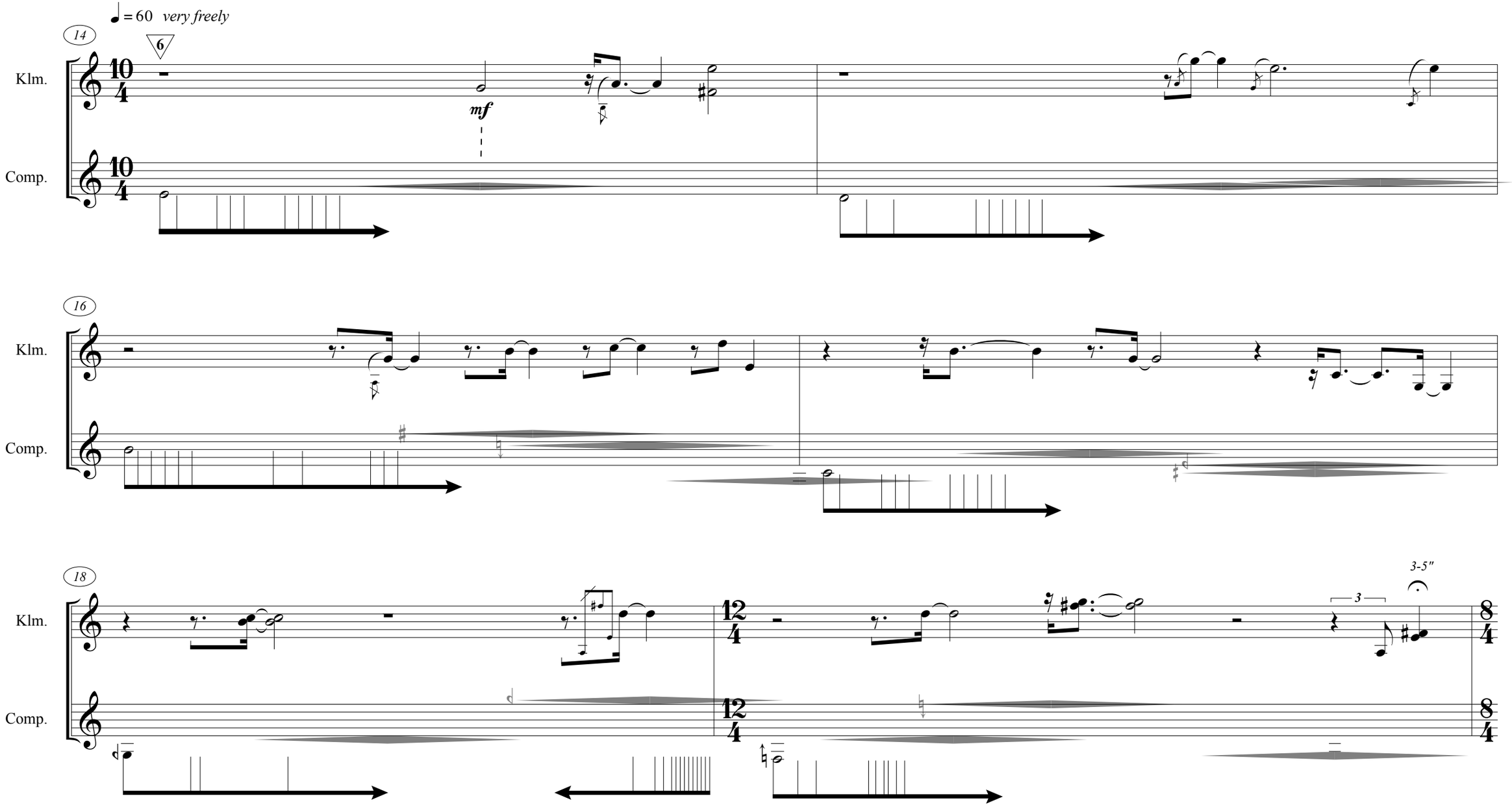
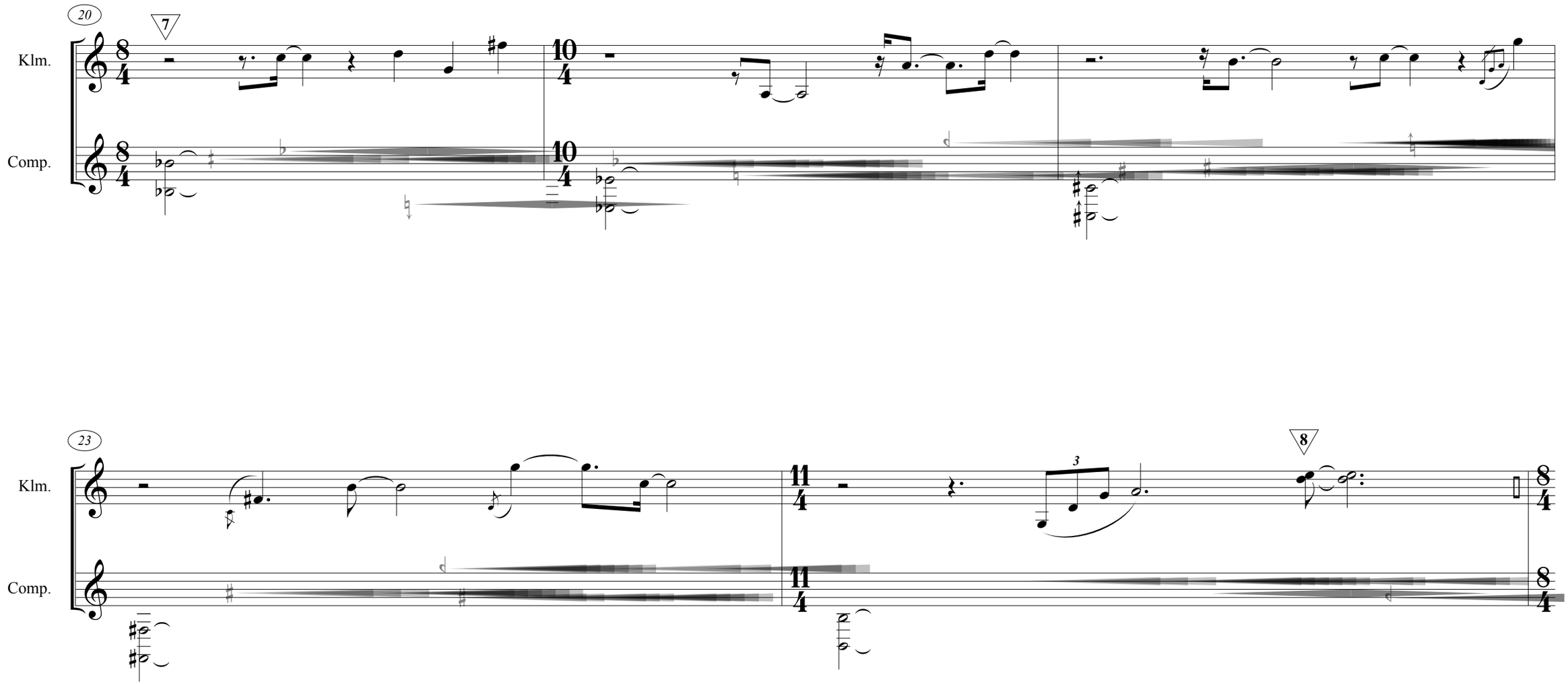
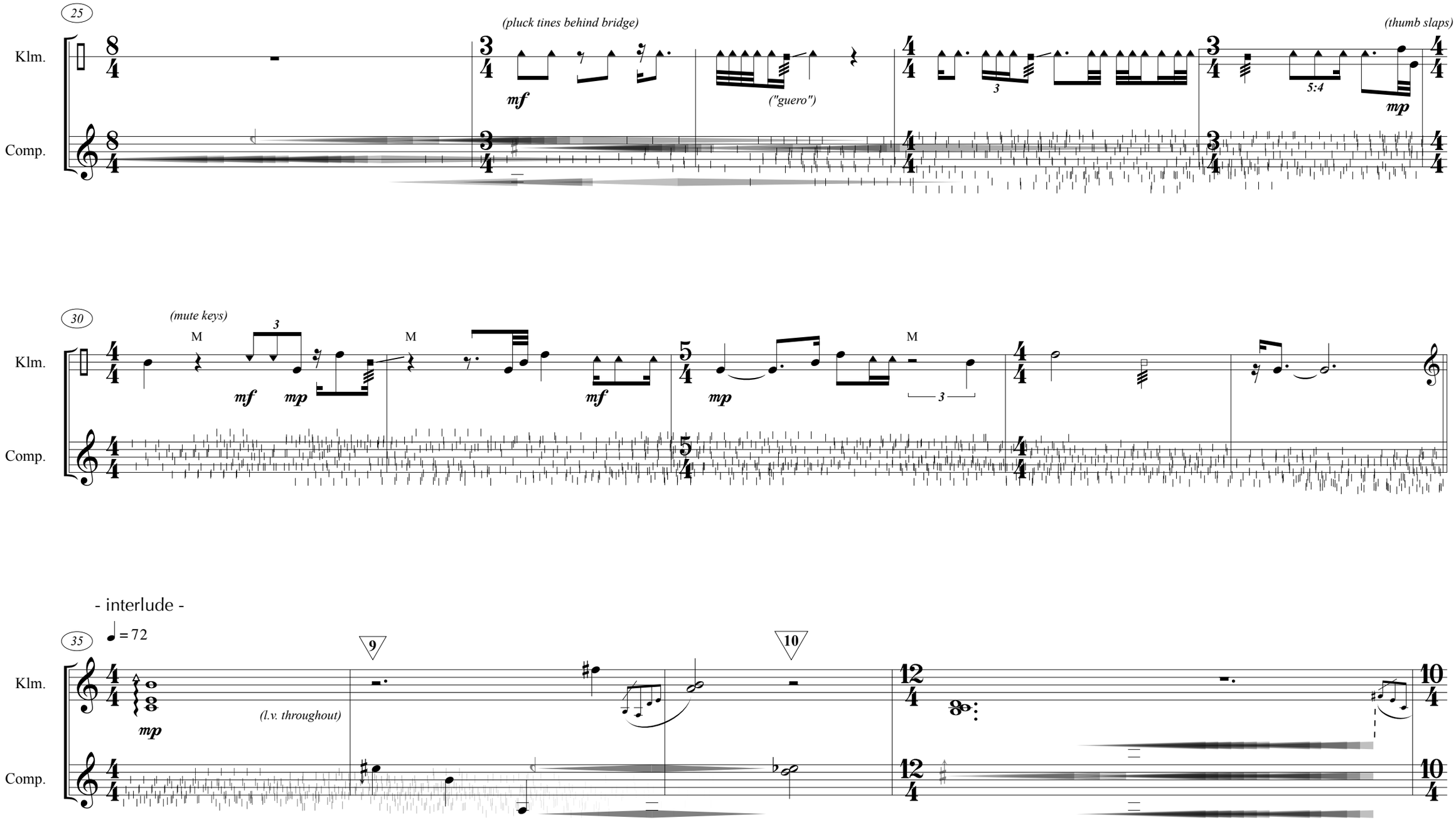
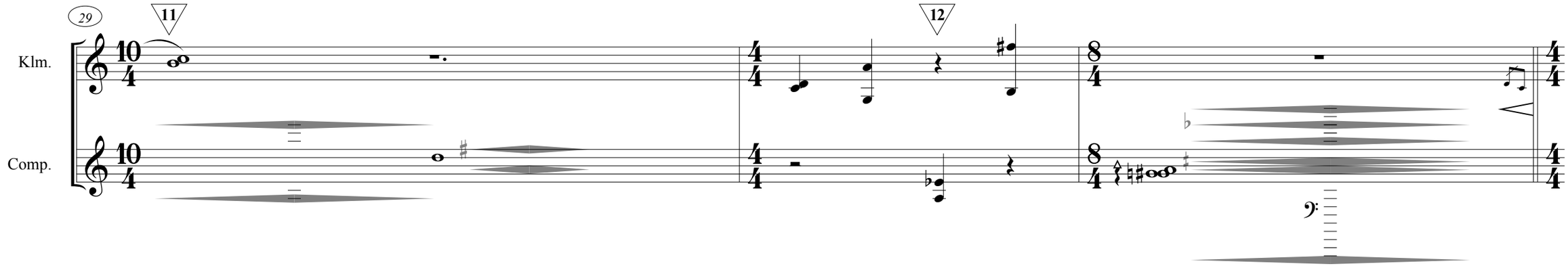
- Durch ein System von Spiegeln wurde die Illusion erweckt, dieser Tisch sei von allen Seiten durchsichtig -

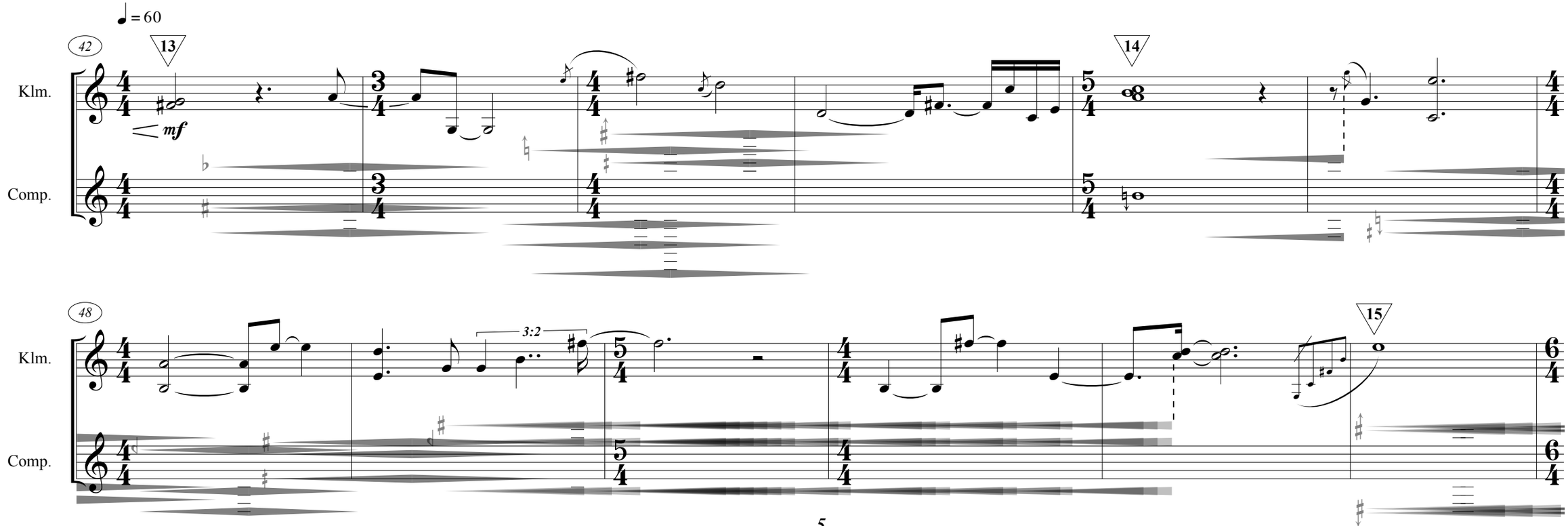


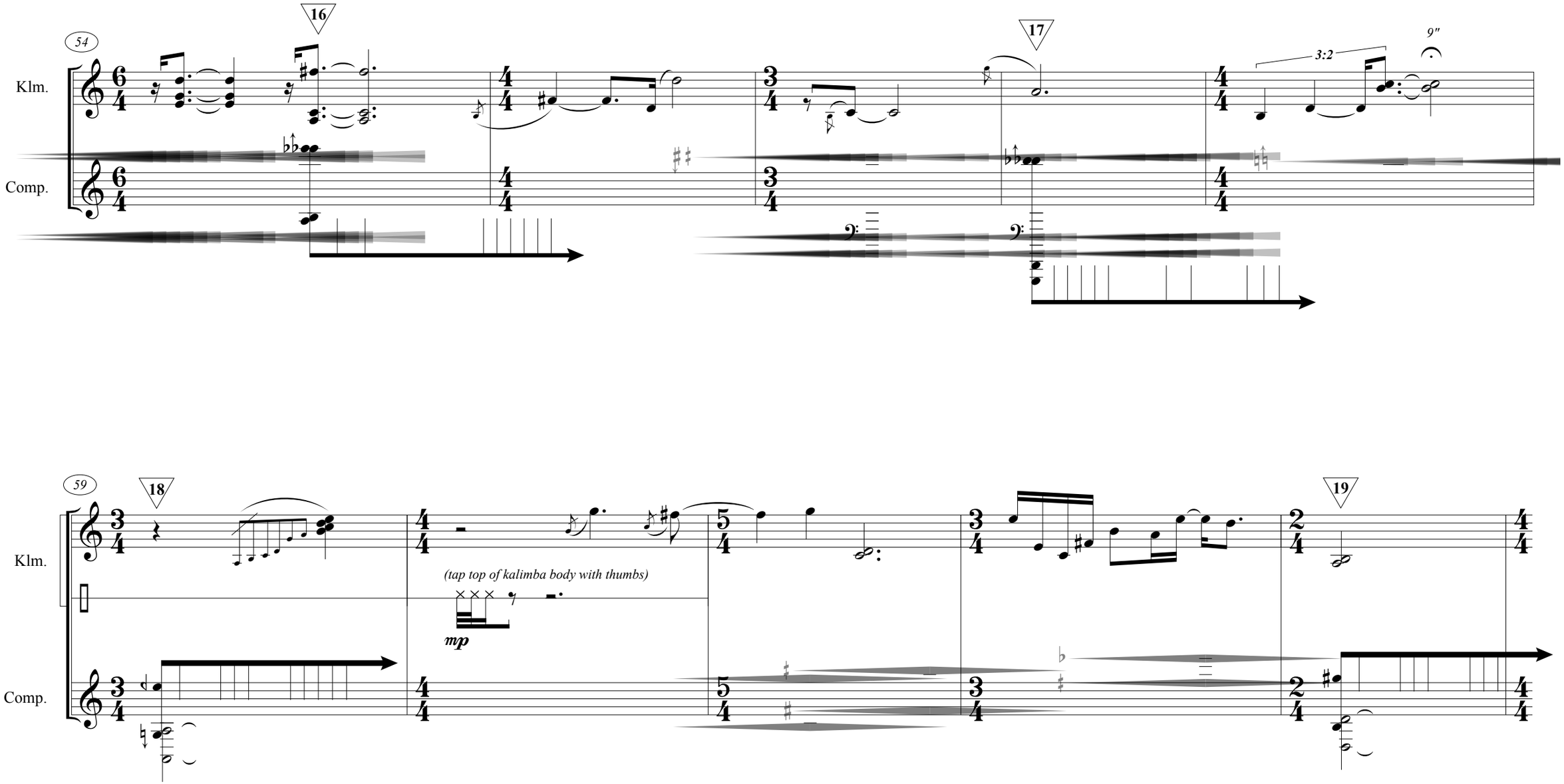

20
7
Klm.
Comp.
8
3

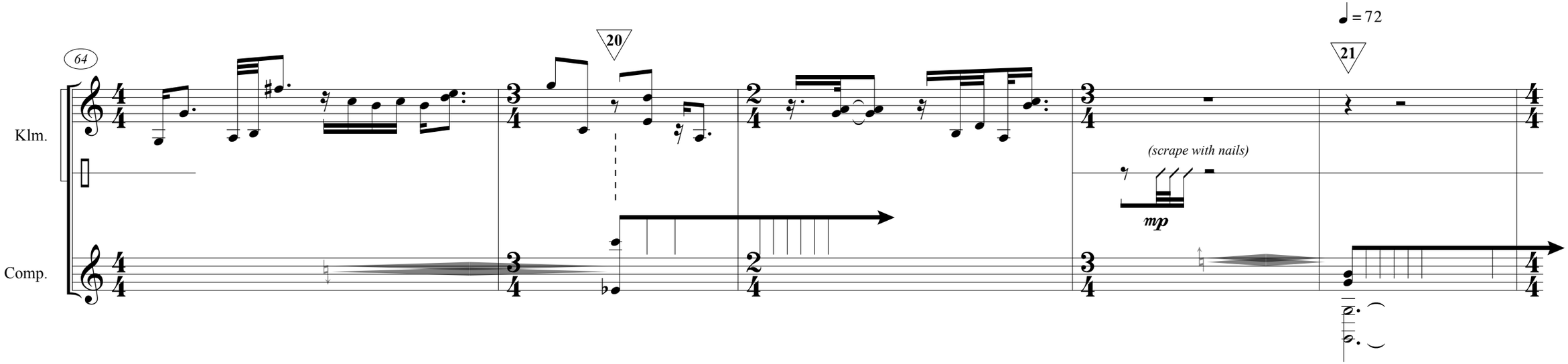

25
(pluck tines behind bridge)
(thumb slaps)
Klm.
Comp.
mf
("guero")
3
5:4
mp
30
(mute keys)
M
3
mf
mp
mf
mp
3
35
- interlude -
♩ = 72
9
10
(l.v. throughout)
mp

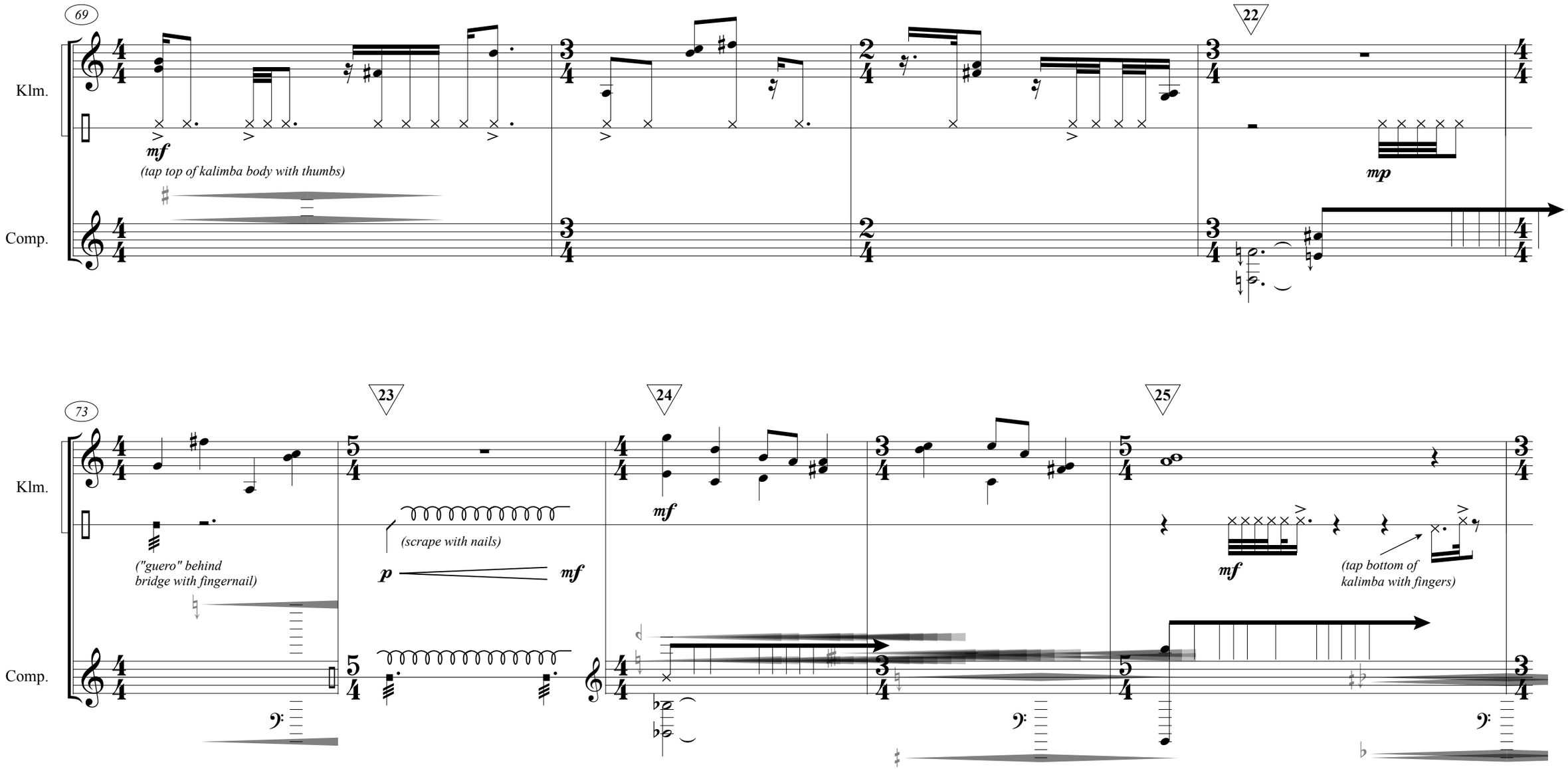


- In Wahrheit saß ein buckliger Zwerg darin, der ein Meister im Schachspiel war und die Hand der Puppe an Schnüren lenkte -

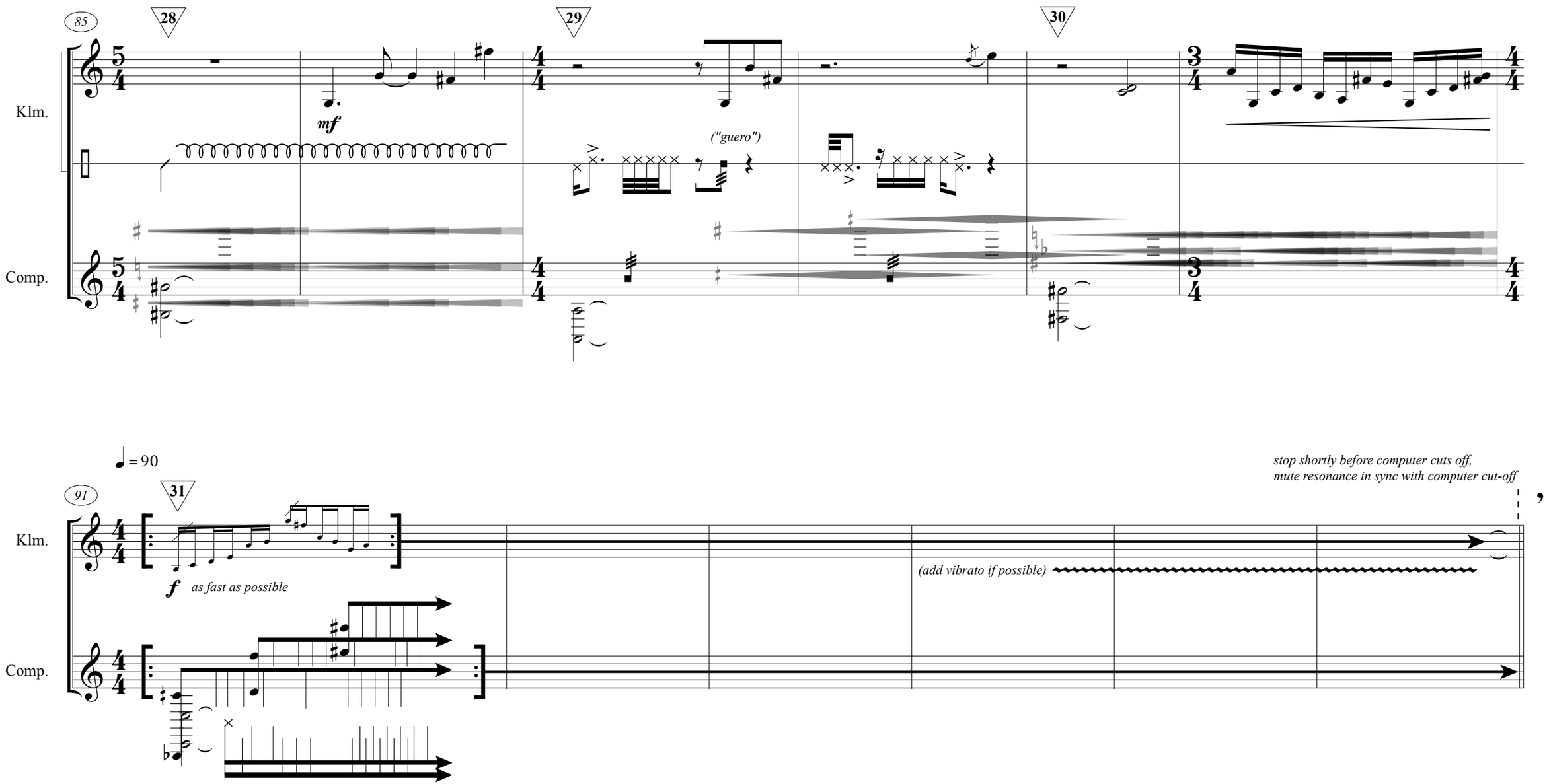
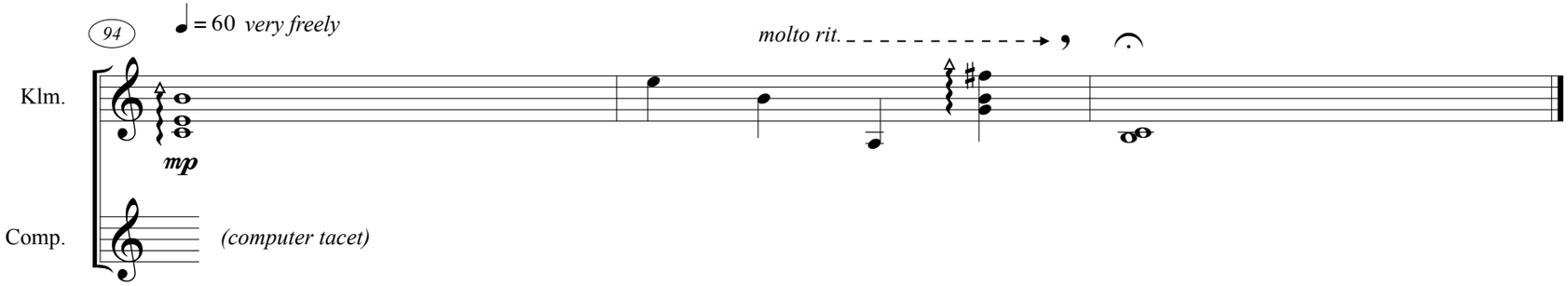



54
16
17
9"
3:2
Klm.
Comp.
59
18
19
(tap top of kalimba body with thumbs)
mp
Klm.
Comp.


64
20
21
♩ = 72
Klm.
Comp.
(scrape with nails)
mp


69
Klm.
Comp.
mf
(tap top of kalimba body with thumbs)
22
mp
73
23
24
25
("guero" behind
bridge with fingernail)
(scrape with nails)
p
mf
mf
mf
(tap bottom of
kalimba with fingers)

78
26
Klm.
Comp.
mp
mp
81
27
Klm.
Comp.
mf
(tap bottom of kalimba with fingers)


85
28
29
30
Klm.
mf
("guero")
Comp.
♩ = 90
91
31
f as fast as possible
(add vibrato if possible)
stop shortly before computer cuts off,
mute resonance in sync with computer cut-off

- coda -