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Role-Taking in Free Improvisation and Collaborative Composition

Volume II. Improvisation Transcriptions.

Jacqueline S. Walduck

PhD Thesis

City University
Department of Music

October 1997.

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Key to transcriptions.

= note of unclear pitch.

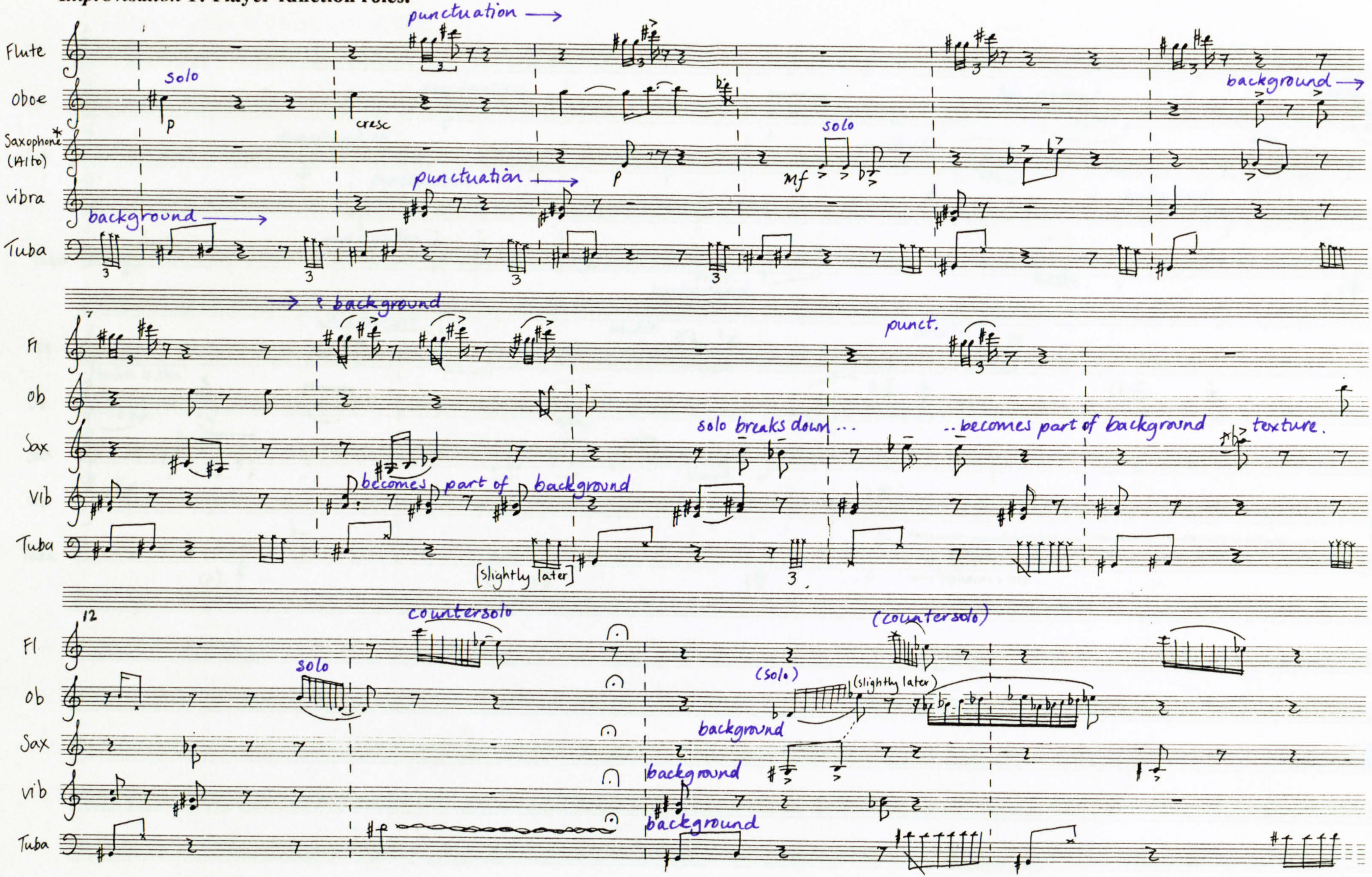
= (no noteheads) - variable or indeterminable number of notes in gesture.

In *Improvisation 1* and *Improvisation 3*, vertical dashed lines indicate implied barring.

In *Improvisation 2*, vertical dotted lines indicate synchrony between events, and diagonal lines indicate non-synchronous relationships between events.

All transcriptions are written at actual pitch.

***Improvisation 1*: Player-function roles.**



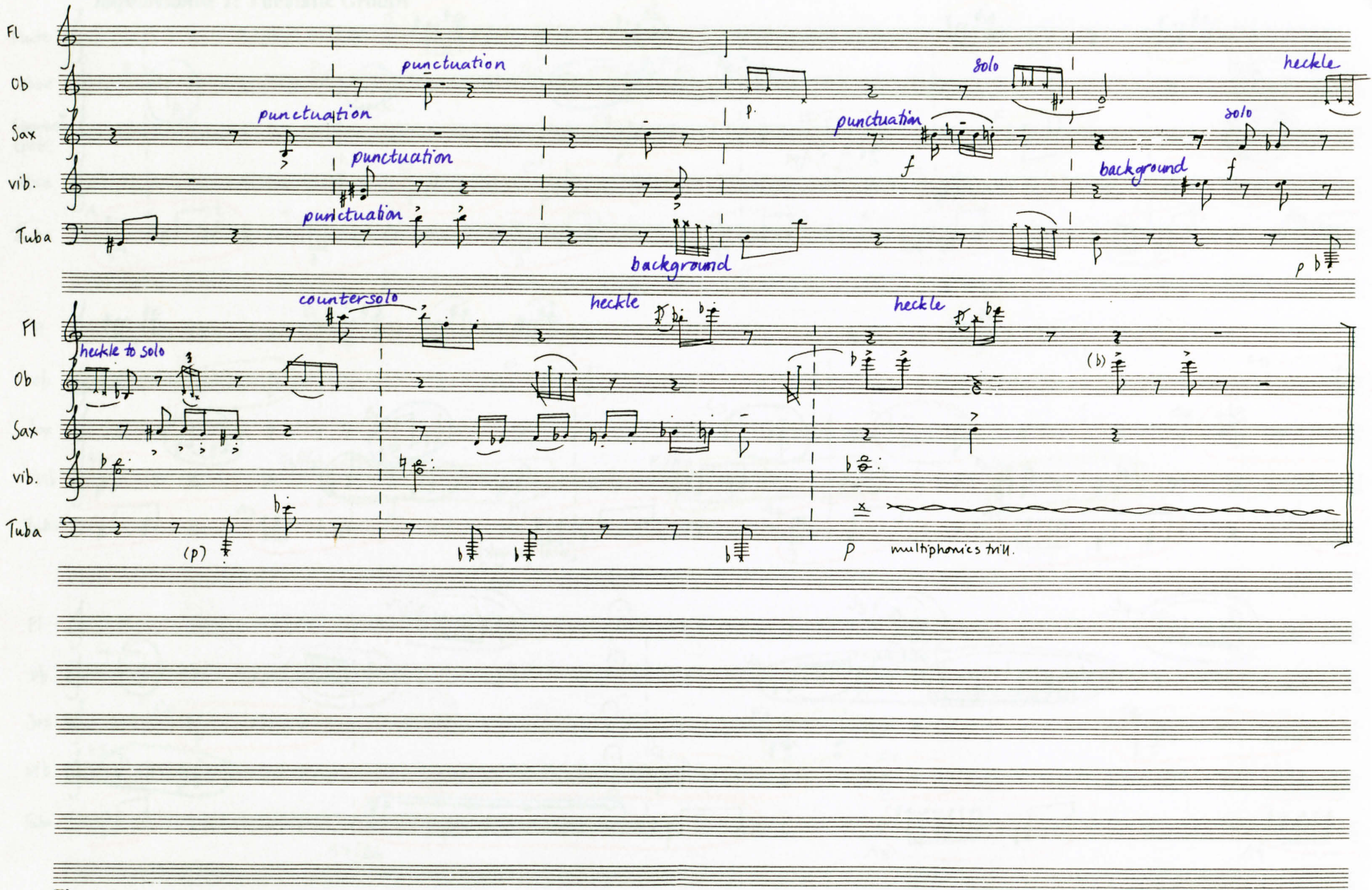


Fig. 3.1. *Improvisation I*: Player-function roles.

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***Improvisation 1*: Thematic Groups**

Flute
Oboe
Saxophone* (Alto)
vibra
Tuba

B1 p
B2 cresc
B3
B4
D
C2 p
E mf
F
G
H
C
C
C
C3
A
A
A
A1
A2

Fl
ob
Sax
vib
Tuba

D1
H
C2
C5
G1
B5
G3
I
C4
C1
G2/H21
F1/H3
F2/H4
A3
A1 [slightly later]
A4
A5
A6

Fl
ob
Sax
vib
Tuba

J1
J3
J4
G4
J
J2 (slightly later)
C6
F3
C8
G5
C1
C7
A7/B6
A8
A9

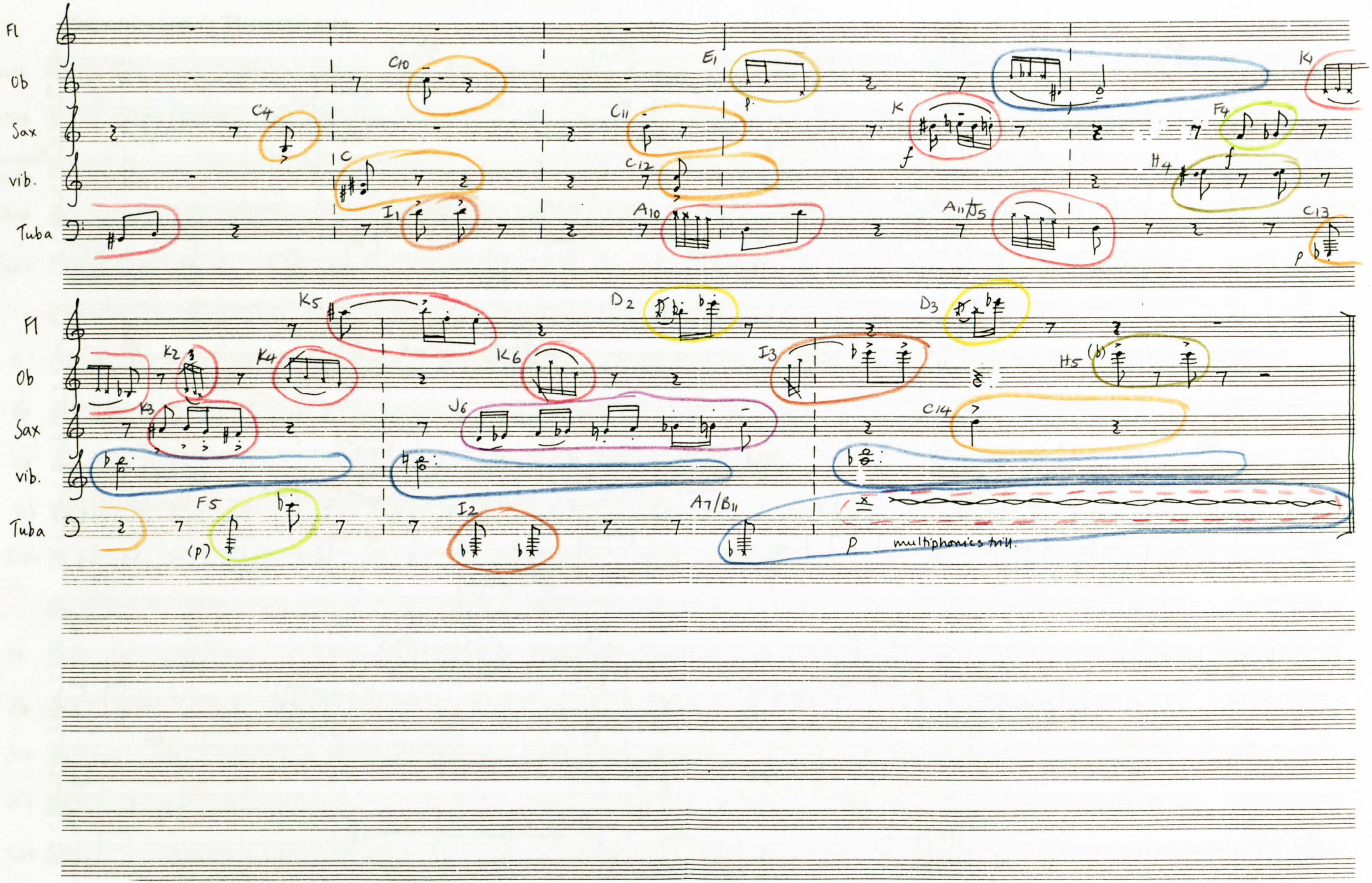

Fig. 3.2. *Improvisation 1*: Thematic groups analysis.

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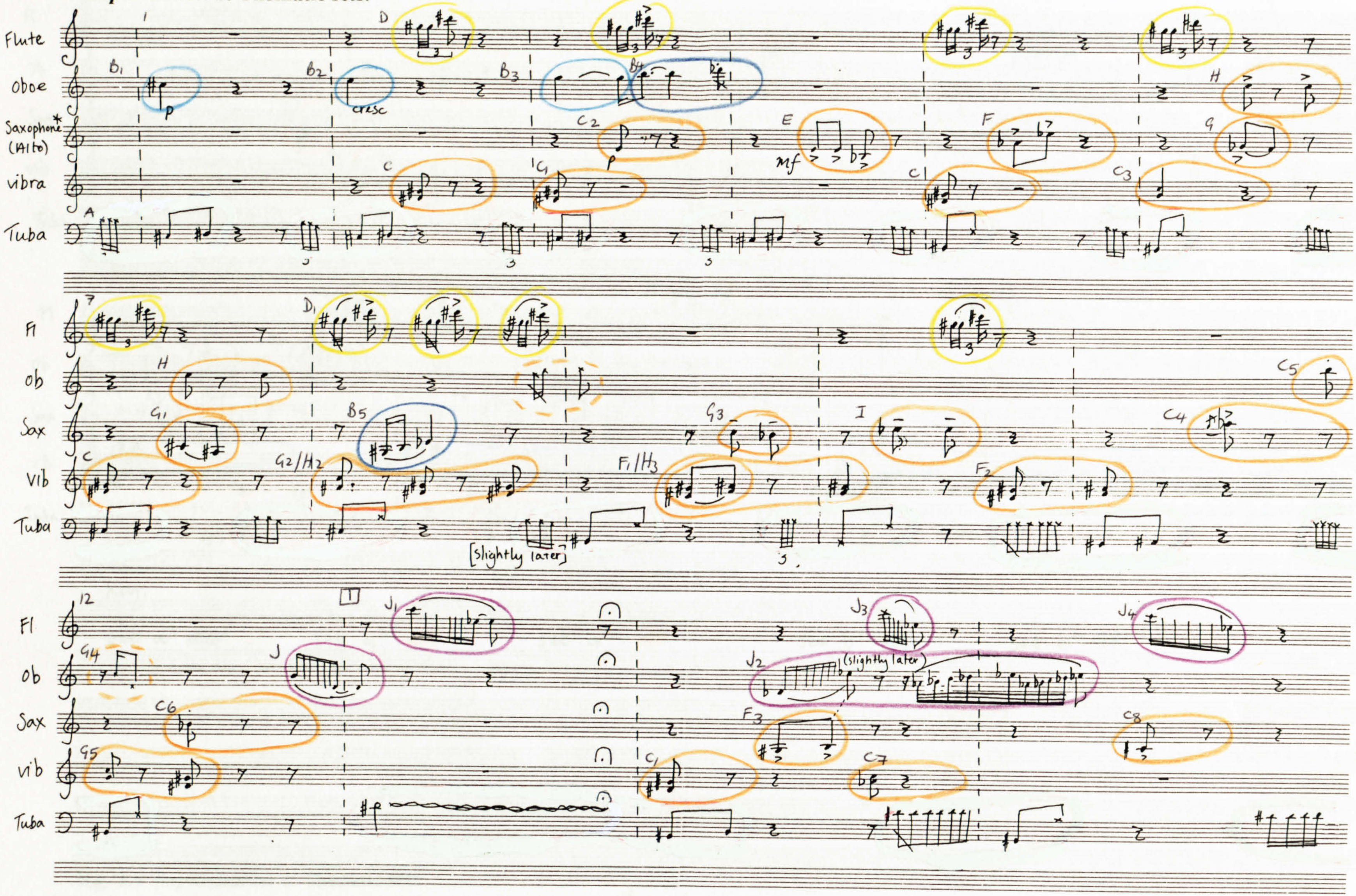
***Improvisation 1*: Thematic sets.**



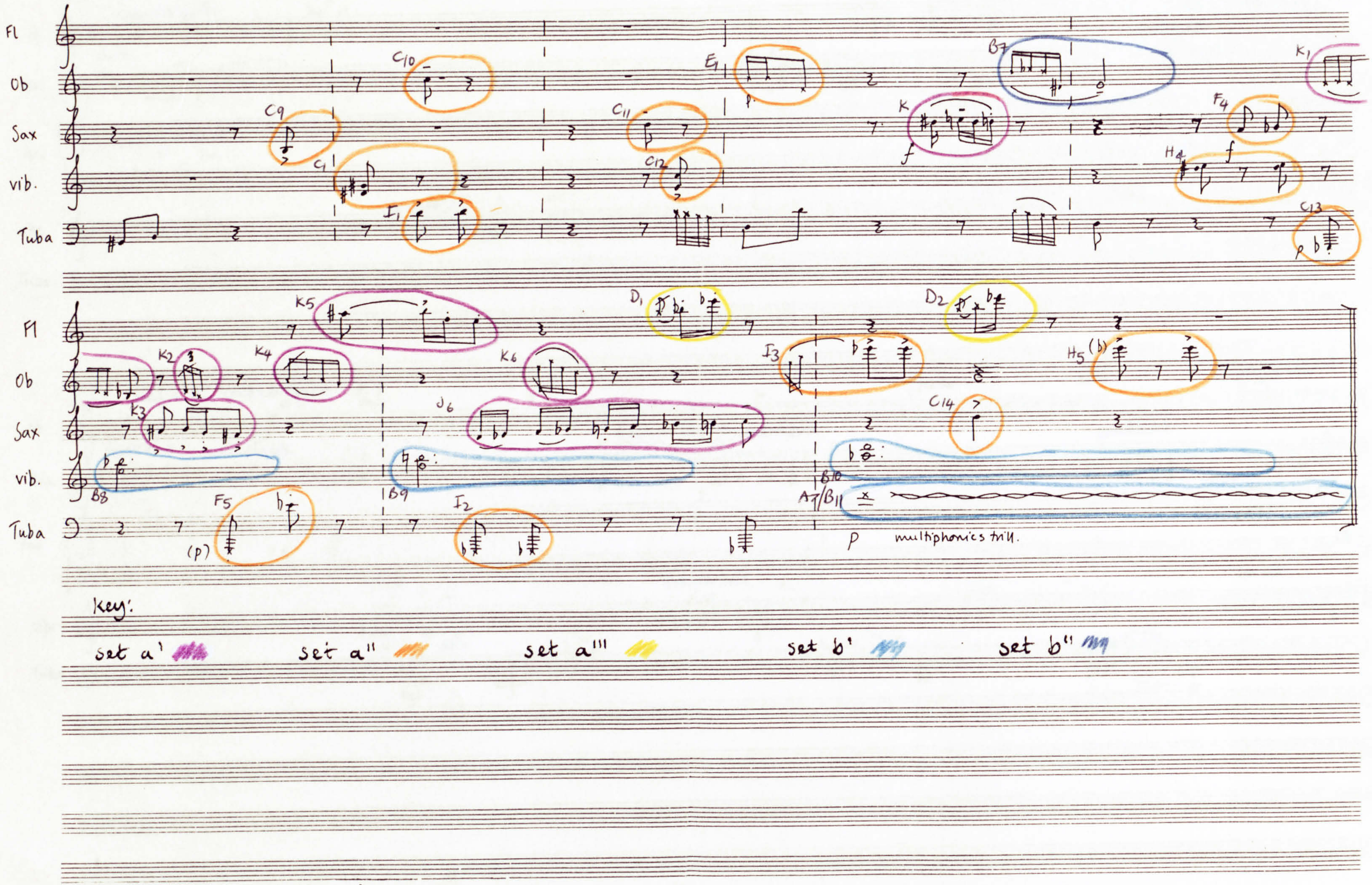


Fig. 3.5. *Improvisation I*: Thematic sets.

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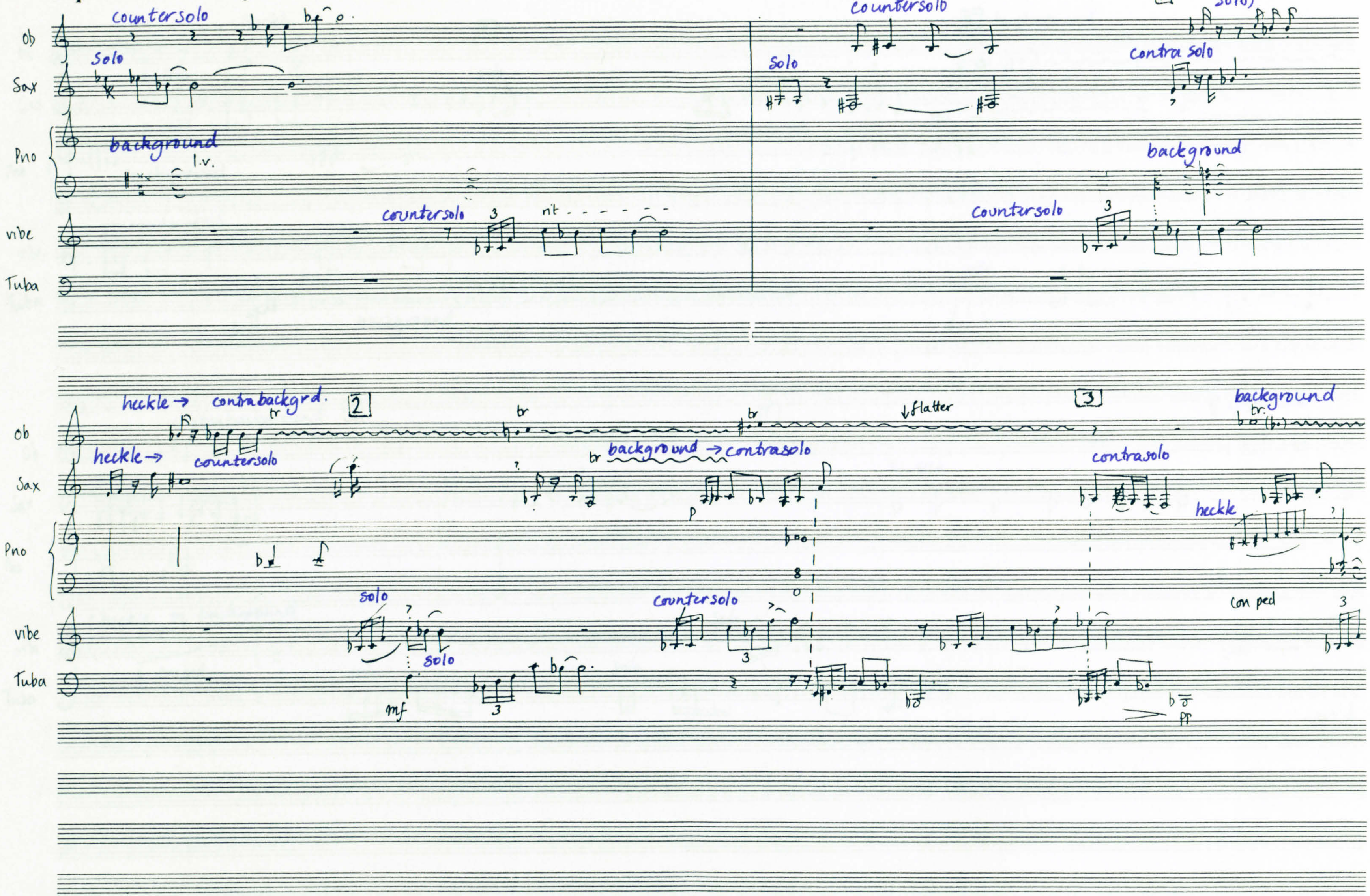
***Improvisation 2*: Player-function roles**



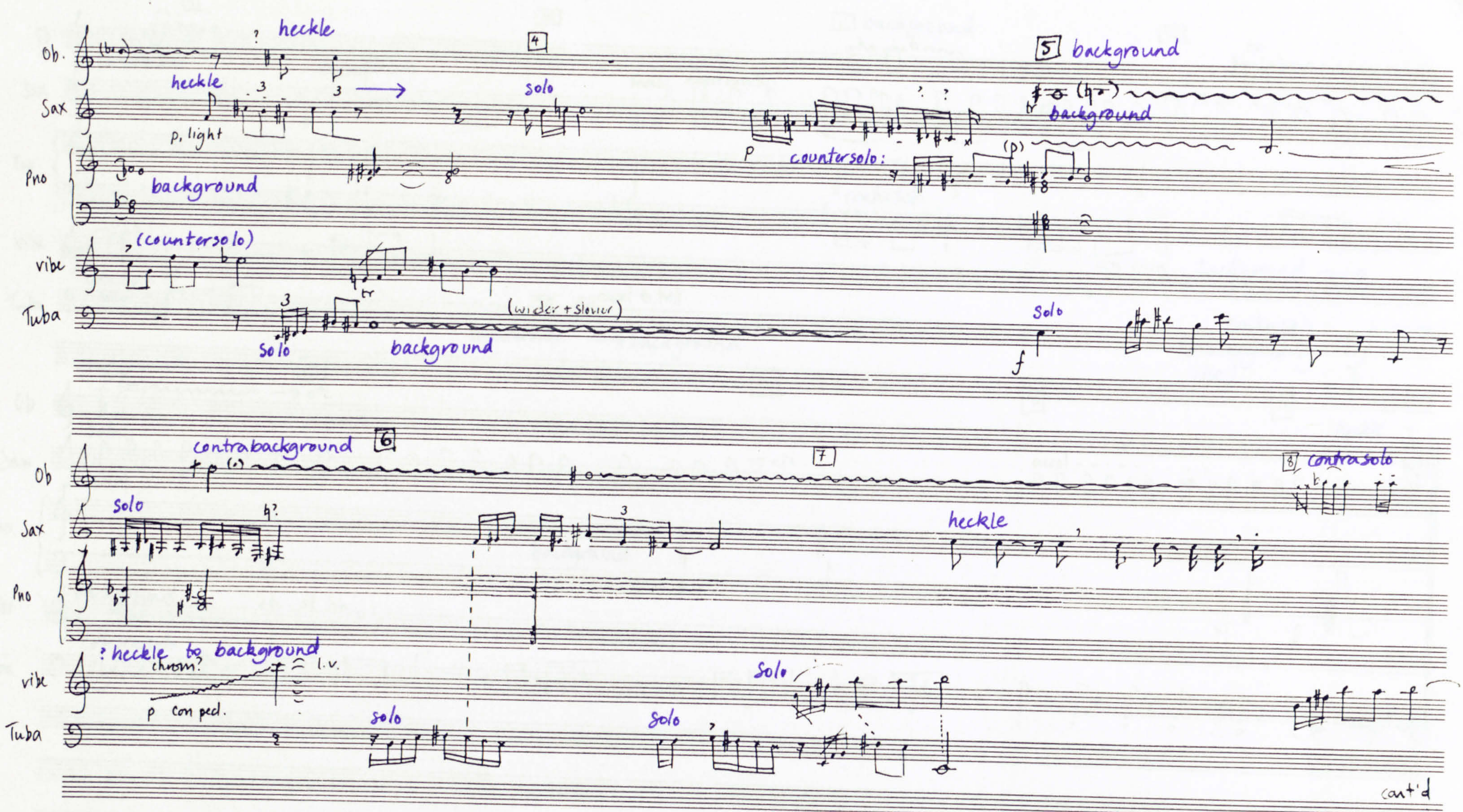

Ob.
Sax
Pno
vibe
Tuba
heckle
heckle
p, light
solo
background
(countersolo)
solo
background
(wider + slower)
4
5
background
background
countersolo:
p
(p)
Solo
f
contrabackground
6
7
8
contrasolo
Solo
heckle
heckle
? heckle to background
chrom?
p con ped.
l.v.
solo
Solo
Solo
cont'd

Fig 3.11

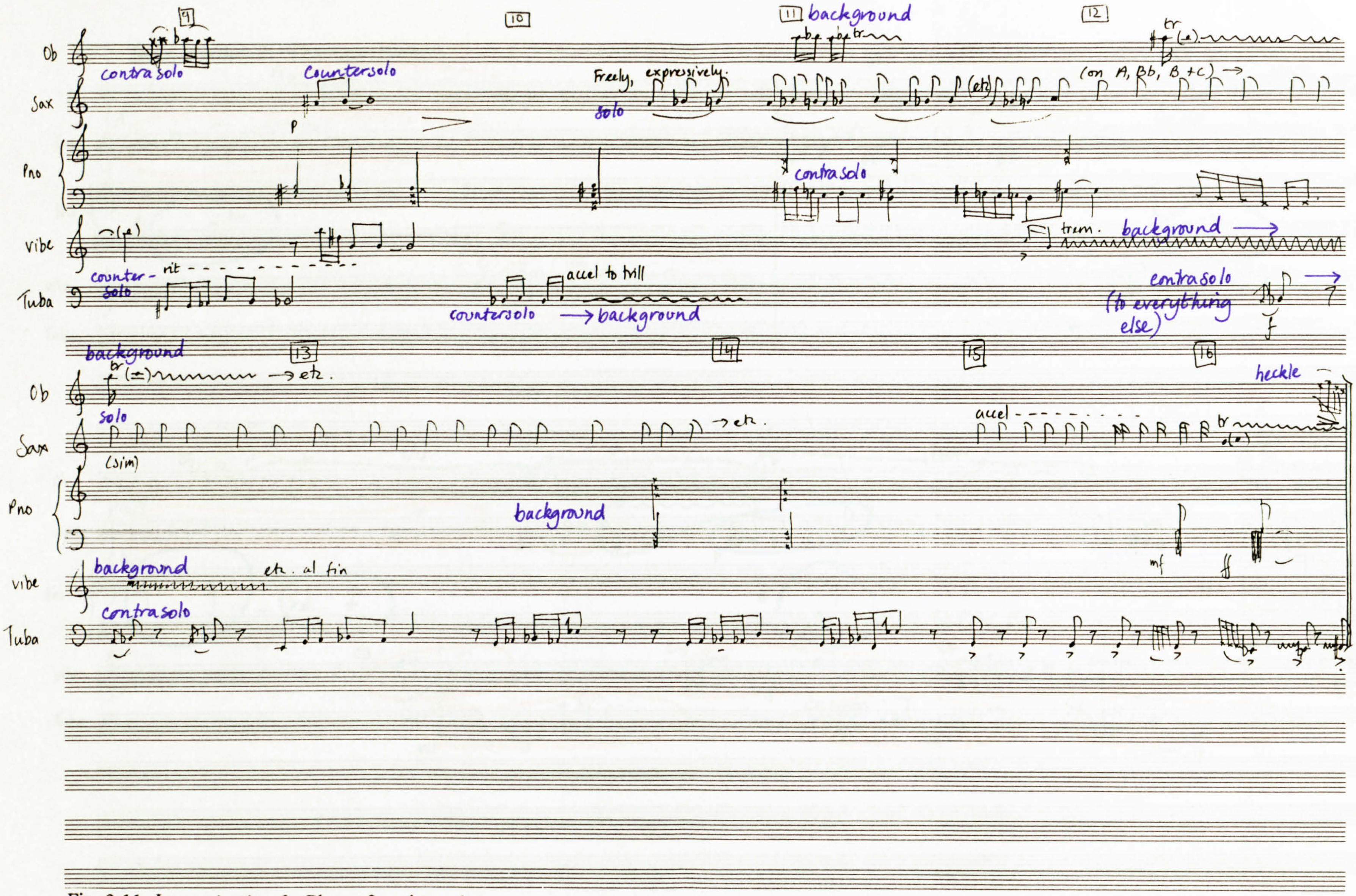


Fig. 3.11. *Improvisation 2*: Player-function roles.

***Improvisation 2*: Thematic groups.**

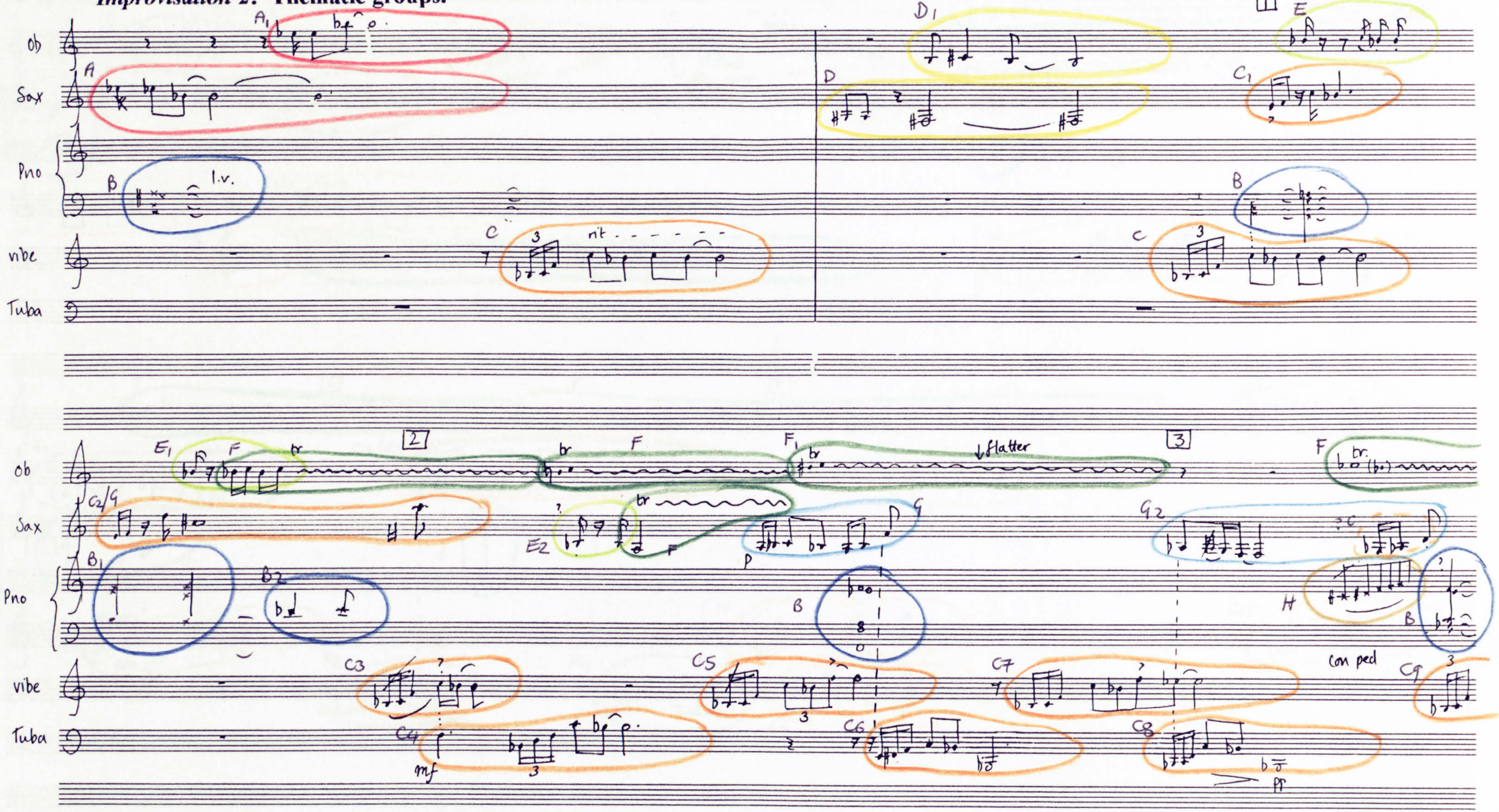


Fig 3·13

Ob.

Sax

Pno

vibe

Tuba

4

5

E3

I

p, light

J

K

p

C11

(p)

F

B

C4

C9

(wider + slower)

C12

f

Ob

Sax

Pno

vibe

Tuba

6

7

8

F

K1

C13/K3

E4

E5

B1

B

chrom?

p con ped.

l.v.

C14

C15

K2

K4

C6

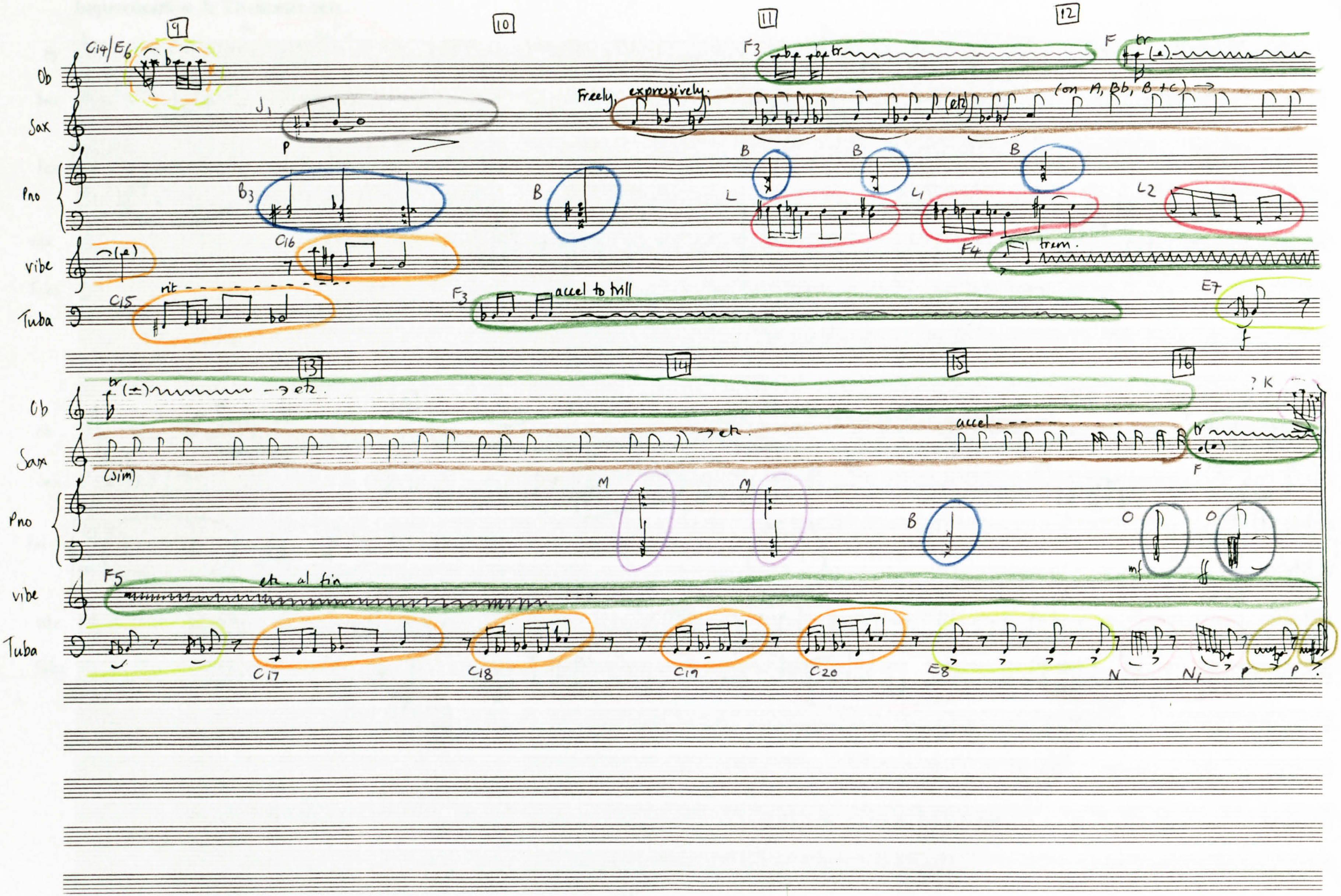
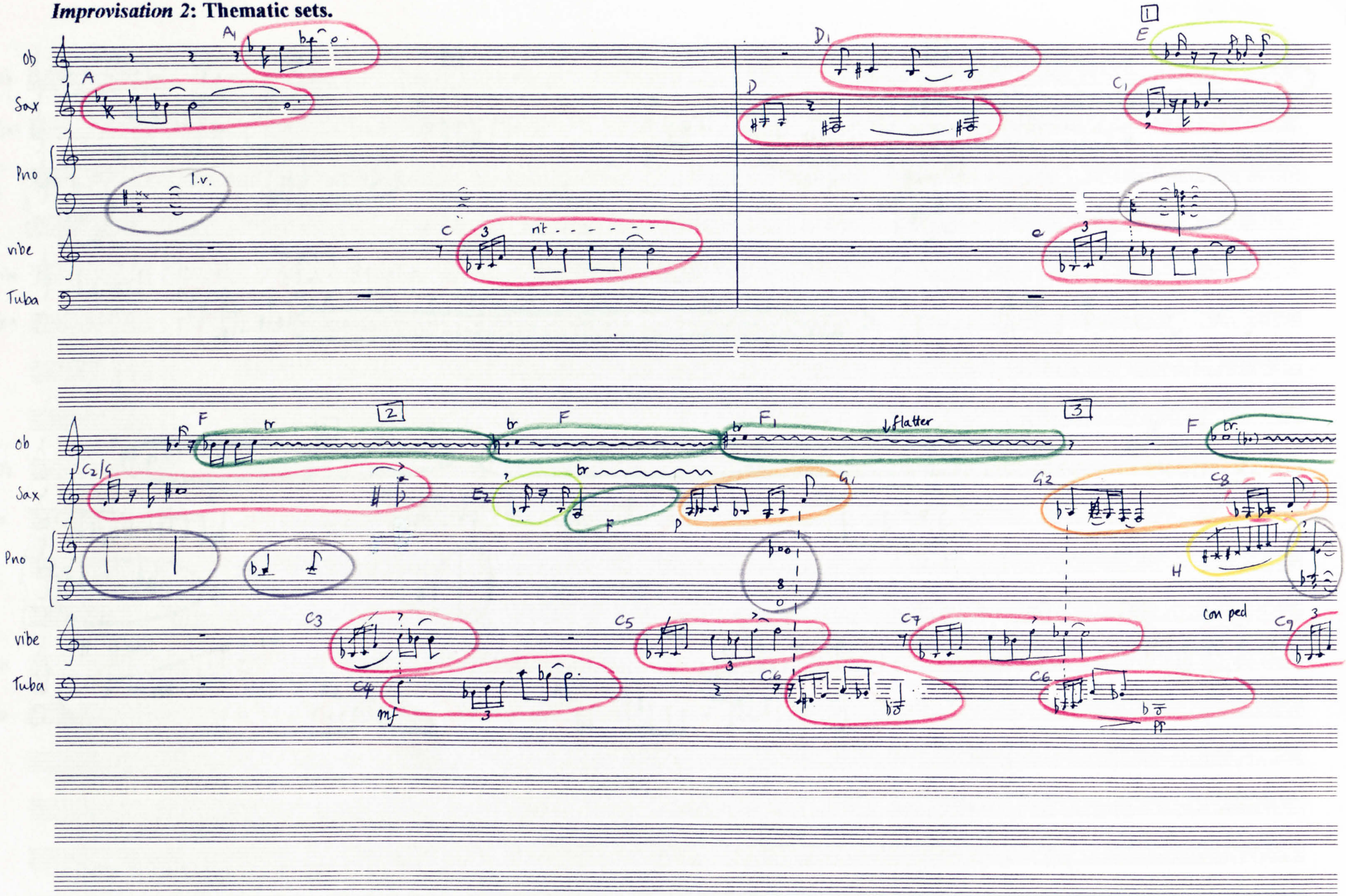


Fig. 3.13. *Improvisation 2*: Thematic groups.

***Improvisation 2*: Thematic sets.**



Ob.
Sax
Pno
vibe
Tuba

4
5
6
7
8

E3
I
p, light
J
K
p
B
C4
C9
F
(wider + slower)
C11
f

Ob
Sax
Pno
vibe
Tuba

K1
C12
E4
B
H chrom?
l.v.
p con ped.
K2
K3
C13
C6
E5

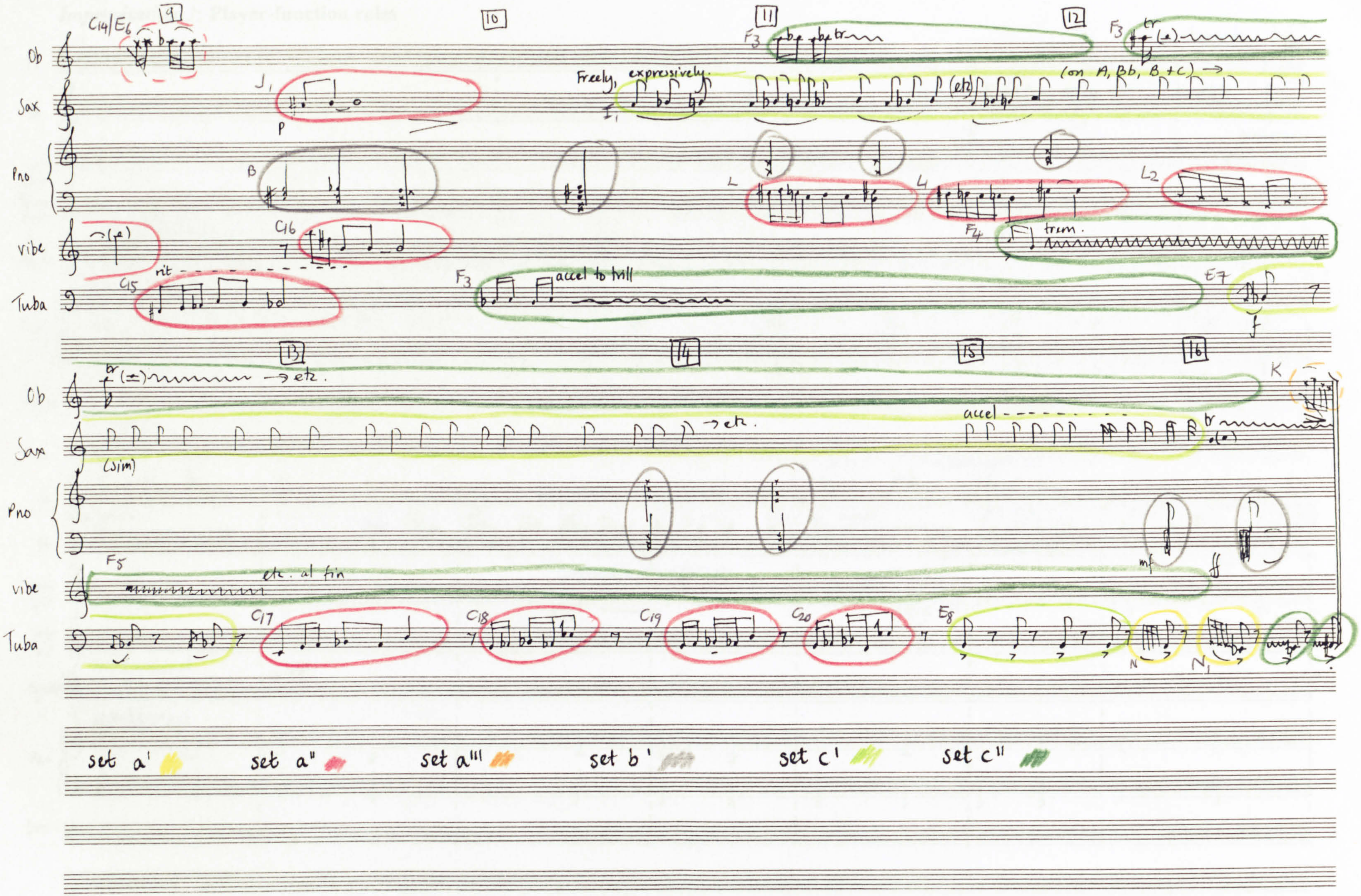
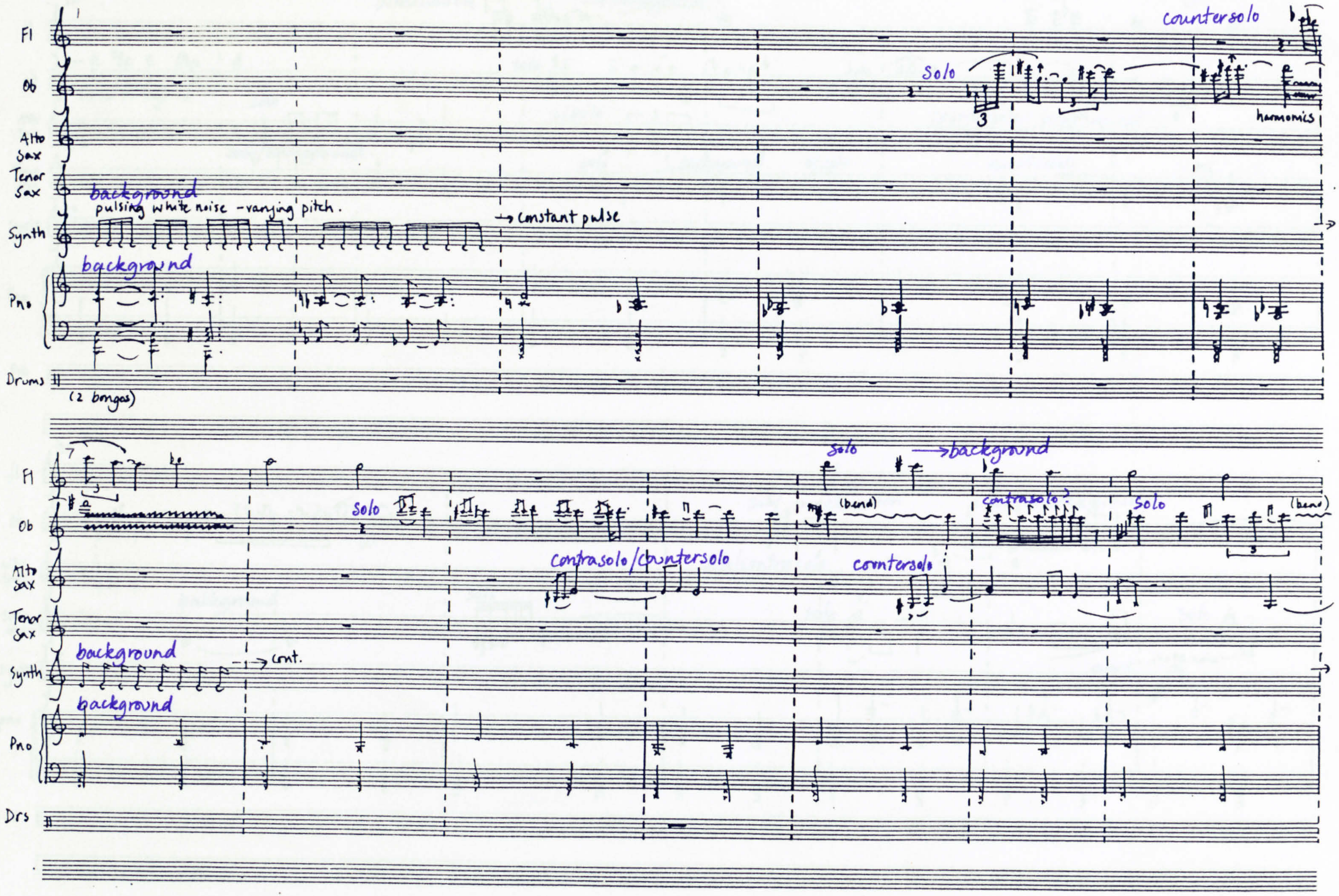


Fig. 3.15. *Improvisation 2*: Thematic sets.

Improvisation 3: Player-function roles



14

fl

ob

(loose timing) →

Alto Sax

solo

solo/background

Tenor Sax

Synth

Pno

Drs

punctuation → background

solo

c/solo

solo

? background

c/solo

contrasolo → background

countersolo

background

countersolo

21

fl

ob

alto sax

background

tenor sax

solo

synth

pno

drs

25

?

solo/ punctuation

counterbackground

solo/contrasolo

solo

punct.

white noise

Solo

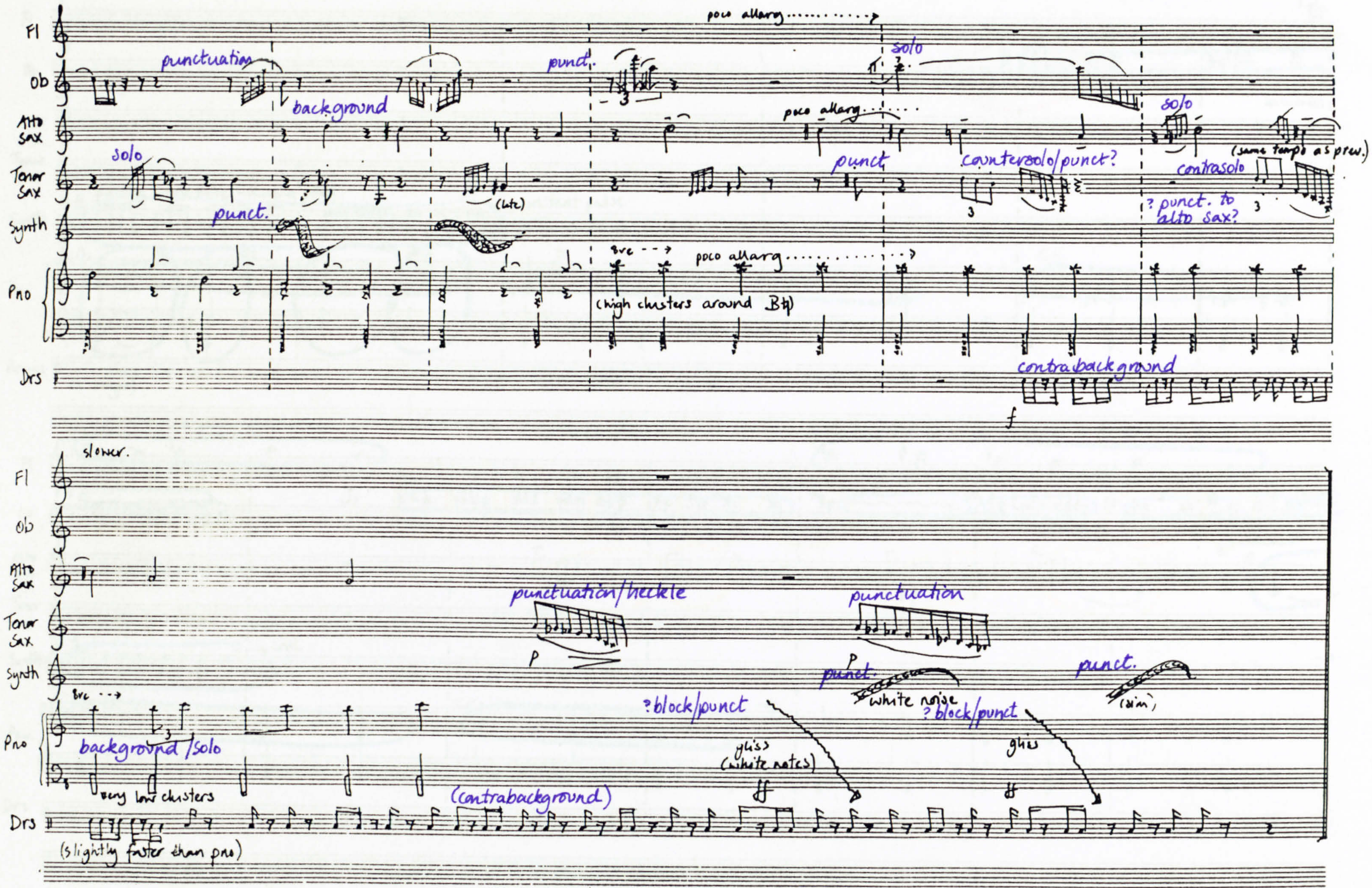
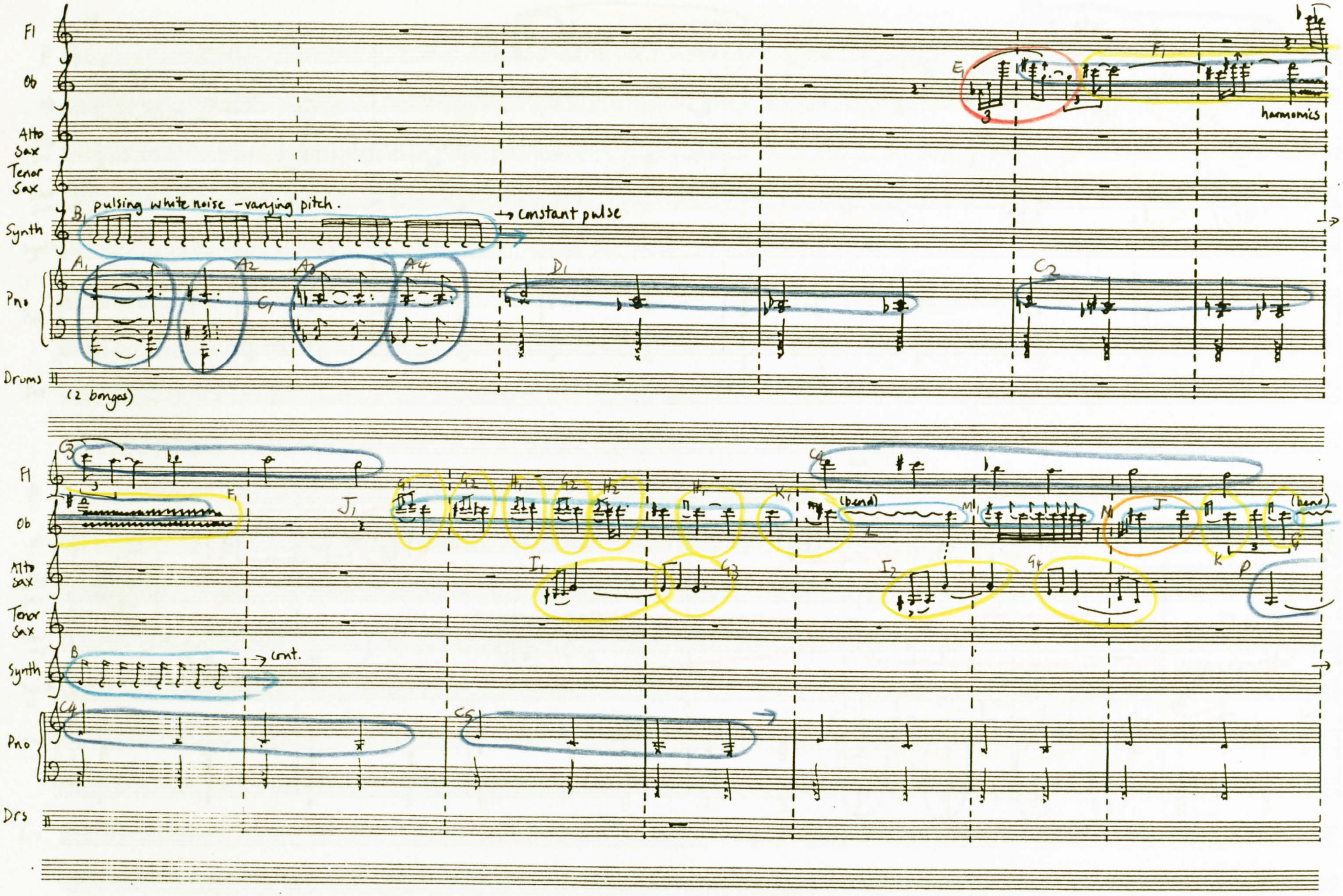
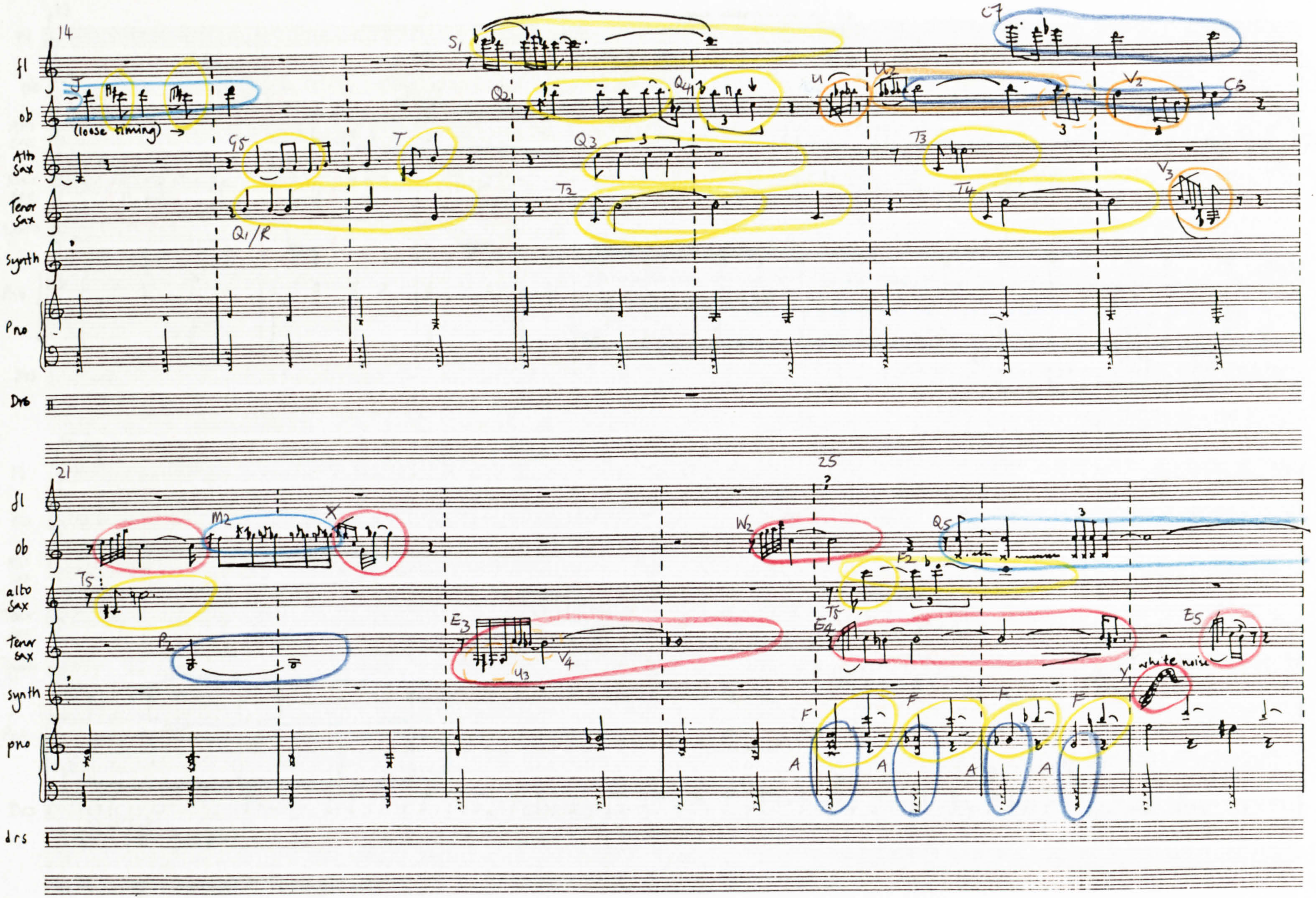


Fig. 4.1. *Improvisation 3*: Player-function roles

Improvisation 3: **Thematic sets.**




14
fl
ob
(loose timing) →
Alto Sax
Tenor Sax
Synth
Pno
Drs
21
25
alto sax
white noise

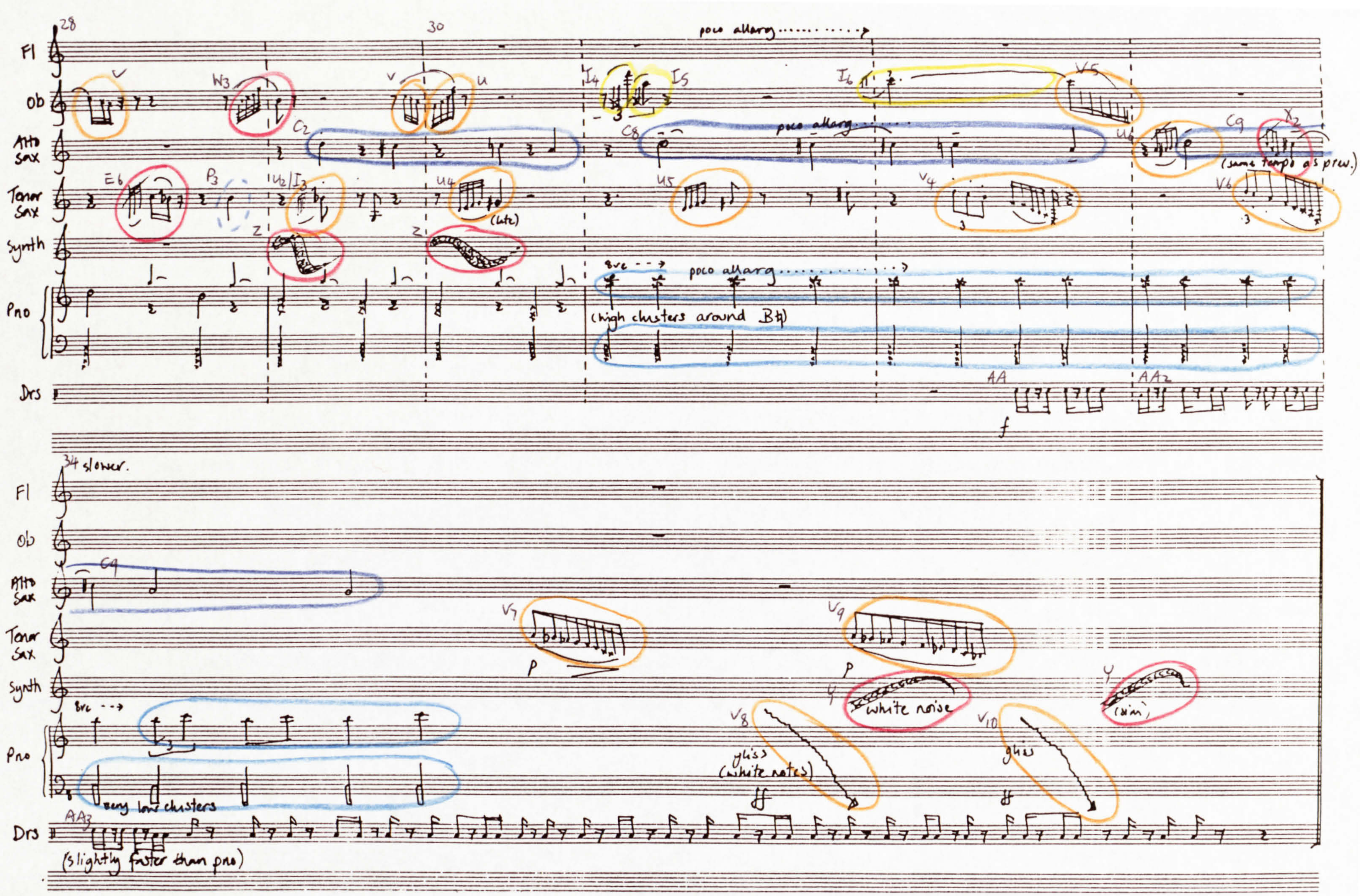


Fig. 4.5. *Improvisation 3*: Thematic sets.