In Praise of Sake (corrections Feb2020)

Ōtomo Tabito

Robert Casteels

for soprano voice,
solo percussion
(glockenspiel, 2 small bongos,
a small suspended triangle and a small suspended cymbal)
koto quintet
(three 13-string kotos and two 15-string bass kotos)
Niibori ensemble
(one soprano, two altos, three primes, four basses, three contrabass and two guitarrones)

opus 88 N°5B

Full score in C (original transposed to fa)

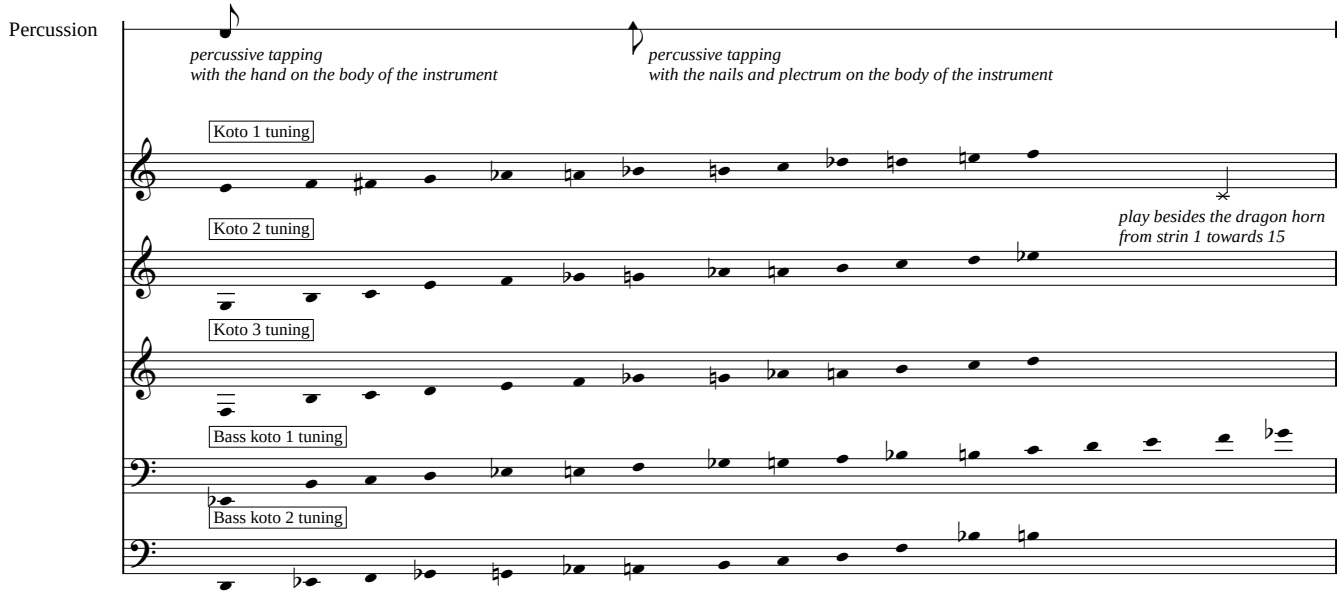
Duration 3'25"

In Praise of Sake is the 7th song of Music from the Heart
a cycle of eight happy songs premiered in 2012.
Each song is set in a different language and
explores different facet of human love.
This song celebrates the love of fine liquor.

After leading an expeditionary force in Kyūshū,
Ōtomo no Tabito (665 – 731) was appointed Governor-General of Dazaifu in 728.
Most of his poems come from his last years when he was Councillor of State in the capital.
Ōtomo Tabito also wrote in Chinese and was deeply influenced by Taoist thought.

The poem In Praise of Sake consists of 13 tankas.
'Tanka', meaning literally short poem, is a genre in classical Japanese poetry.
The musical structure follows the 5-7-5-7-7 structure of a tanka.

By the combined magic of sake, moonlight and sakura blossom,
the poet's beloved late wife appears in the form of a heavenly nymph.



RCasteels (2012)©/(2019)

♩ = 144

It is no use to worry. It seems I'd better drink a cup of sake.

Sop. *mp*

Shi-ru-shi-na-ki　Mo-no-o-mo-wa-zu-wa　Hi-to-tsu-ki-no

literal translation: avail no, worry not one cup of

Percussion: glockenspiel, small triangle, small cymbal, 4 wood blocks and 2 small bongos

Perc. Glsp *p* two small bongos *p* suspended small triangle *p*

Kt. 1 *p*

Kt. 2 *p*

Kt. 3 *p*

Sop. gtr. *p* *p*

Alt. gtr. *p* *p*

Pr. gtr. *p* *p*

Bs. gtr. *p* *p*

Cbs. gtr./ Gtr. *p* *p*

5

Sop.

sudden *f* sudden *p*

Ni-go-re-ru sa ke o No-mu-be-ku-a-ra-shi

に ご れ る さ ー け ー を の む べ く あ ら し

unrefined sake drink should seem

Perc.

wood block

p cresc. *mf* *p* *p*

Kt. 1

solo shout *f*

Sa - ké

Kt 1 Prc.

(play)

p

(= shaking the string)

Kt. 2

f *pp*

(= shaking the string)

Kt. 3

f *pp*

(= shaking the string)

Bs. kt. 1

f

(= shaking the string)

Bs. kt. 2

f

Sop. gtr.

f *pp*

Alt. gtr.

f *pp*

Pr. gtr.

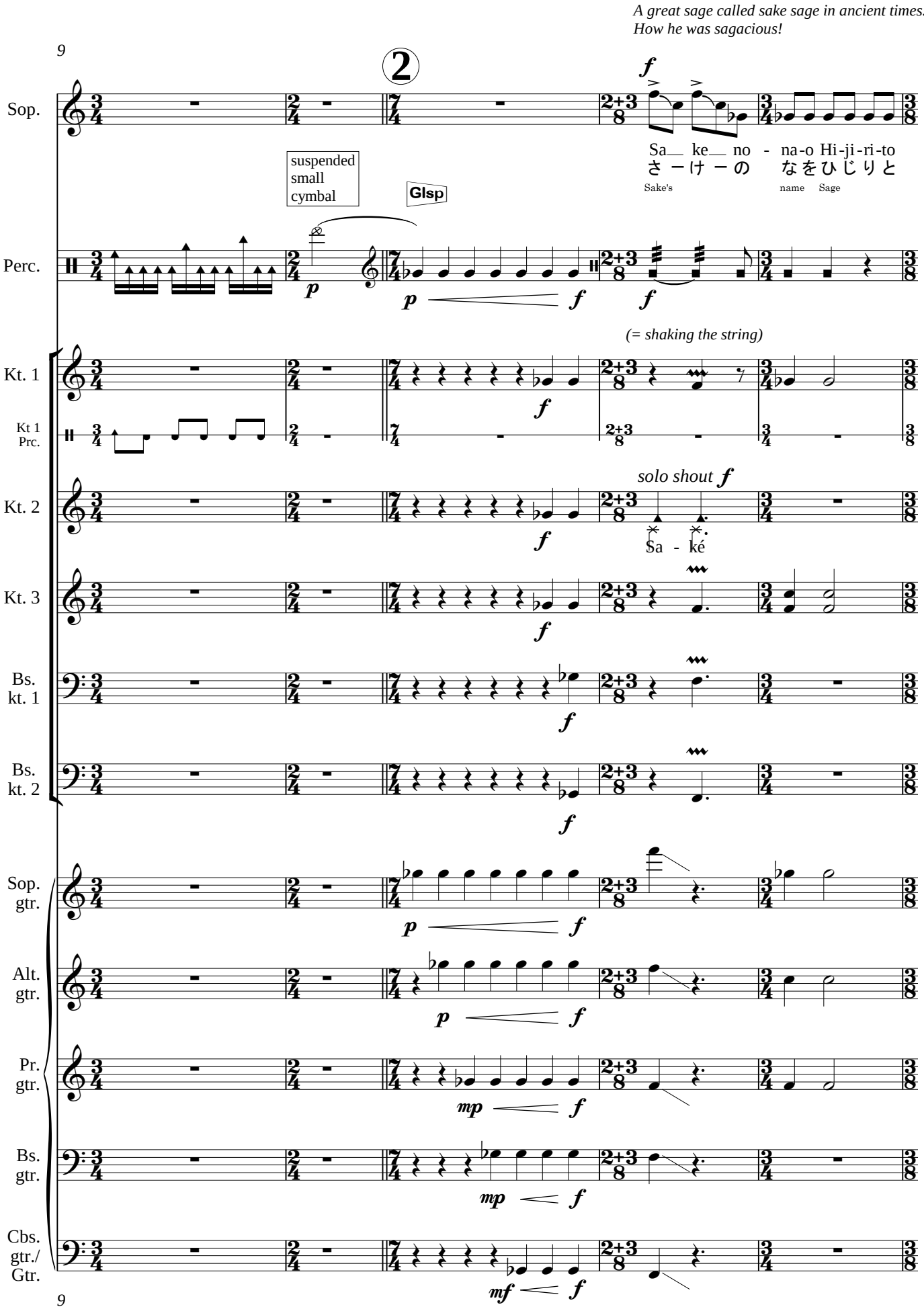
f *pp*

Bs. gtr.

f

Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.

f


A great sage called sake sage in ancient times.
How he was sagacious!
9
2
Sop.
Sa__ ke__ no - na-o Hi-ji-ri-to
さーけーの なをひじりと
Sake's name Sage
suspended small cymbal
Glsp
Perc.
(= shaking the string)
Kt. 1
Kt 1 Prc.
solo shout
Kt. 2
Sa - ké
Kt. 3
Bs. kt. 1
Bs. kt. 2
Sop. gtr.
Alt. gtr.
Pr. gtr.
Bs. gtr.
Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.
9

14

Sop.

o - se - shi　I - ni - shi - e - no　O - o - ki　hi - ji - ri - no　Ko - to - no - yo - ro - shi - sa

お せ し　い に し え の　お お き　ひ じ り の　こ と の よ ろ し さ

call　ancient times　Great　Sage's　words　suitable

Perc.

Kt. 1

Kt. 2

Kt. 3

Sop. gtr.

Alt. gtr.

Pr. gtr.

Bs. gtr.

Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.

14

18

3

Perc.

p　*pp*　*pp*　*ppp*

Sop. gtr.

ppp

Sop Nrm.

pp

Alt. gtr.

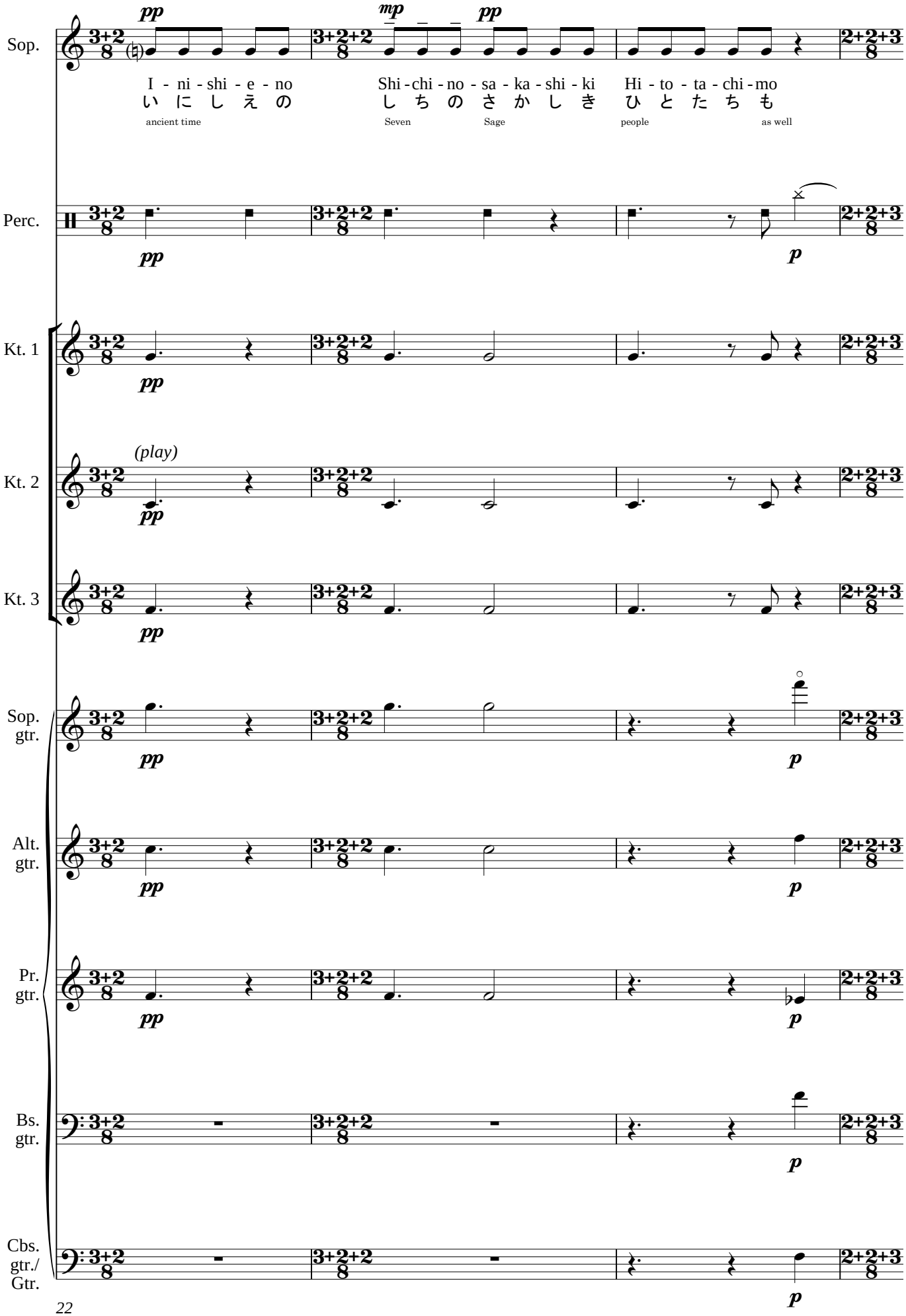
ppp

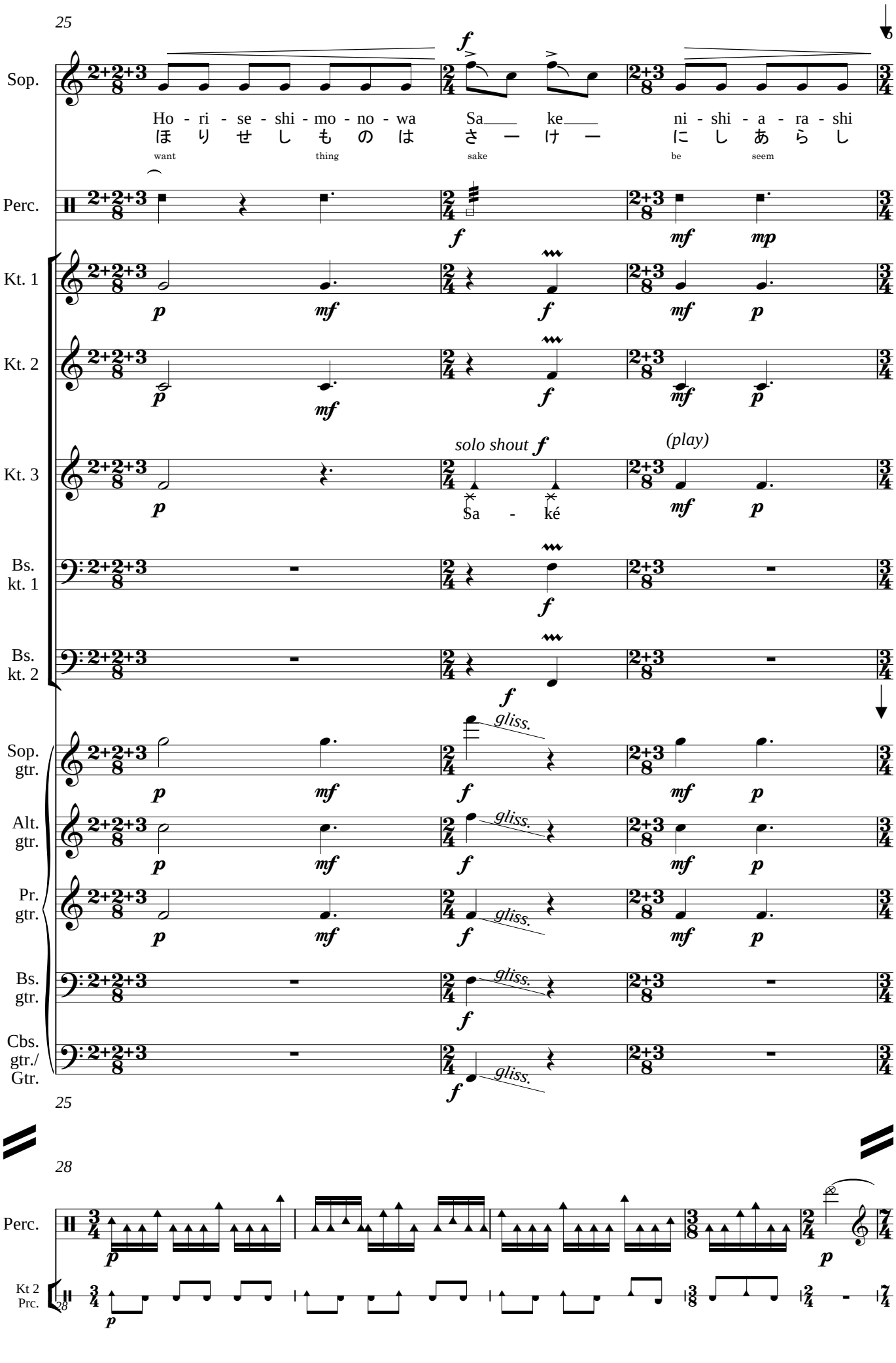
Alt Nrm.

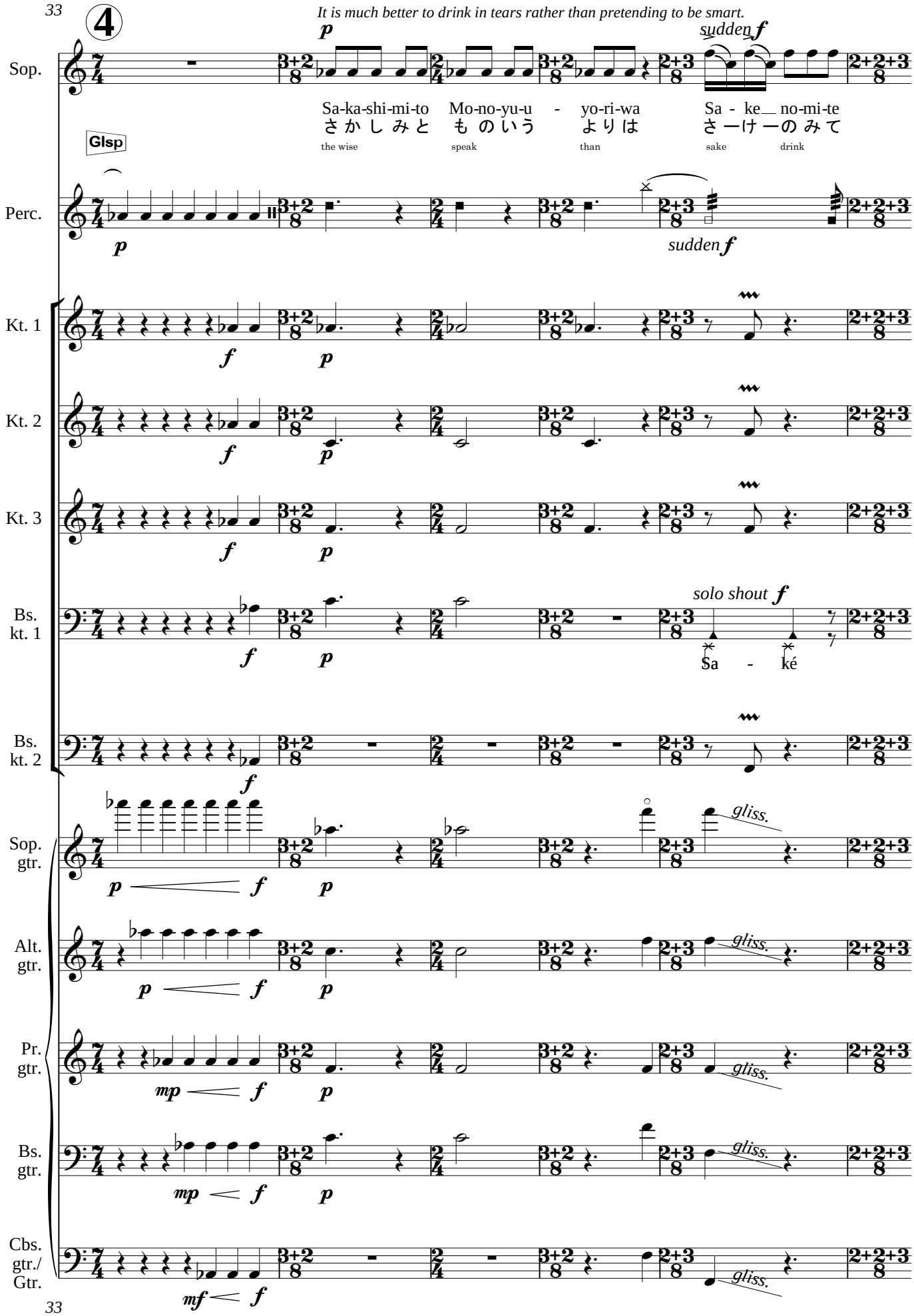
p

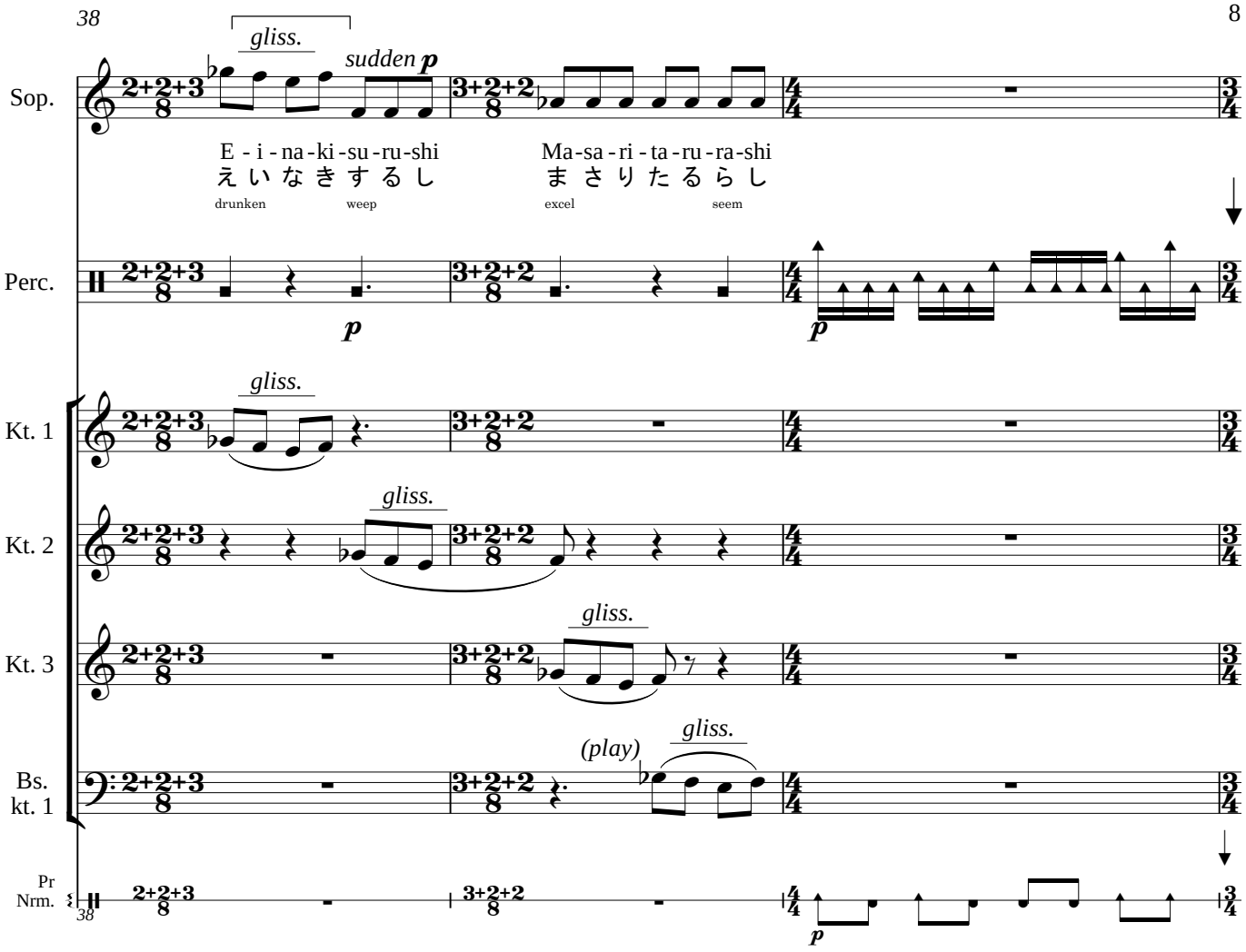
22

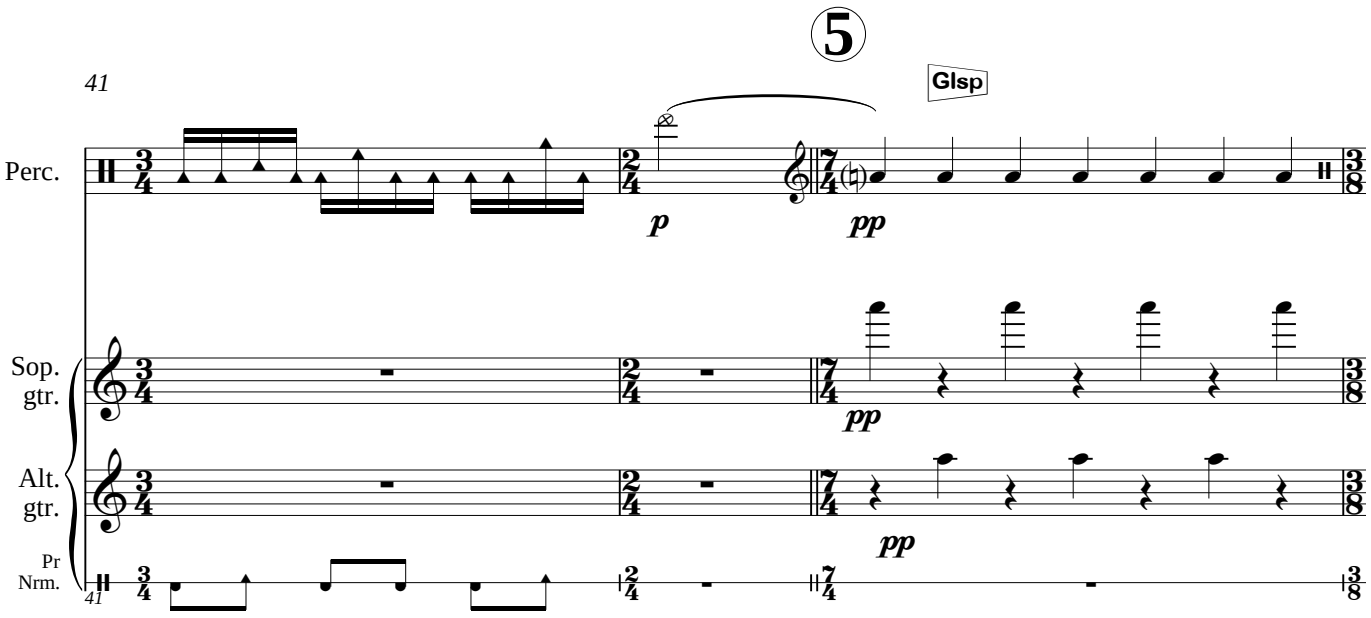
What did the Seven Sages want in ancient times? It seems sake.



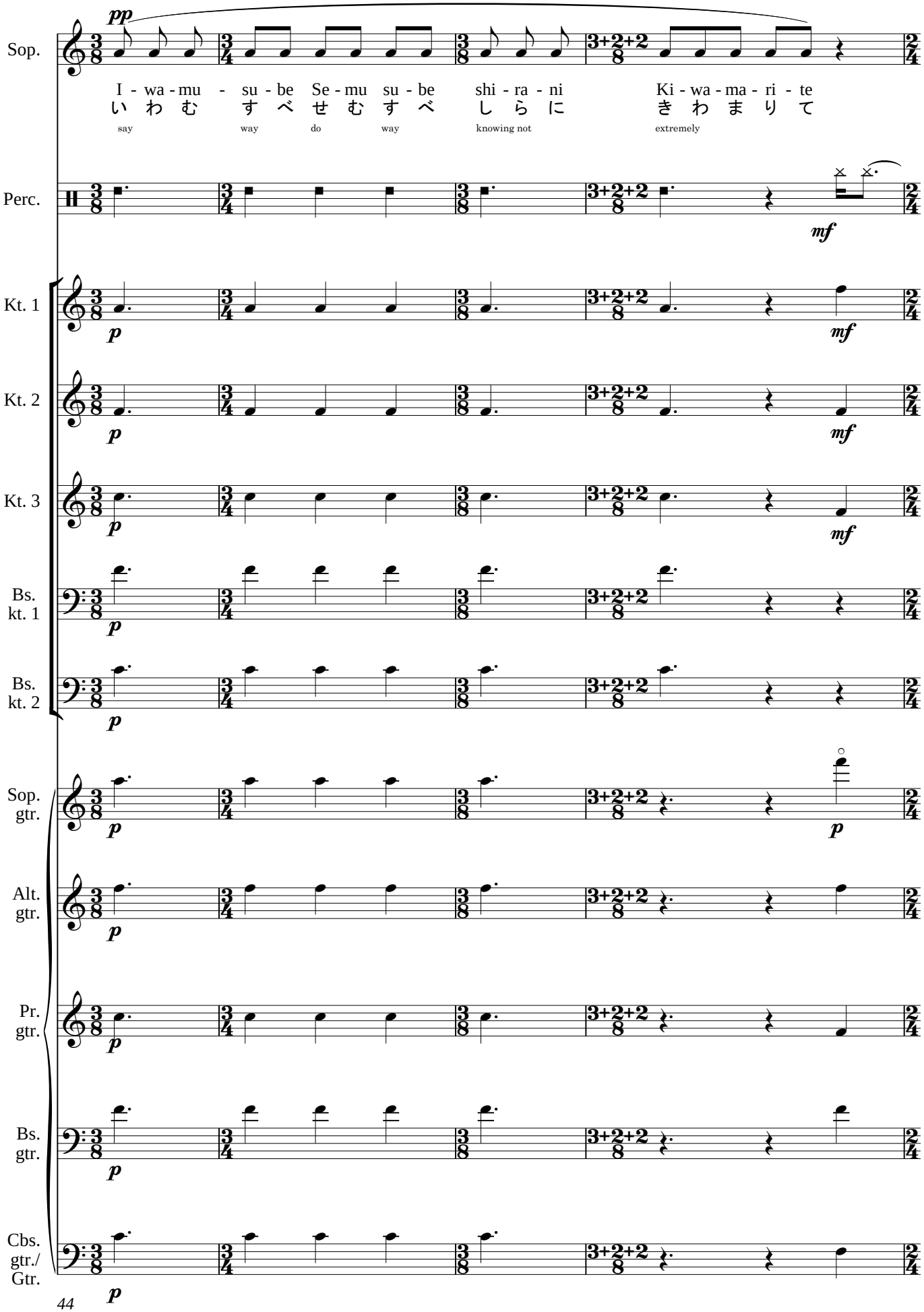

25
Sop.
Ho - ri - se - shi - mo - no - wa Sa ke ni - shi - a - ra - shi
ほ り せ し も の は さ ー け ー に し あ ら し
want thing sake be seem
Perc.
Kt. 1
Kt. 2
Kt. 3
solo shout
(play)
Sa - ké
Bs. kt. 1
Bs. kt. 2
Sop. gtr.
Alt. gtr.
Pr. gtr.
Bs. gtr.
Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.
gliss.
25
28
Perc.
Kt 2 Prc.
28


33
4
It is much better to drink in tears rather than pretending to be smart.
Sop.
Sa-ka-shi-mi-to Mo-no-yu-u - yo-ri-wa Sa - ke no-mi-te
さ か し み と も の いう よりは さーけ ーの みて
the wise speak than sake drink
Glsp
Perc.
Kt. 1
Kt. 2
Kt. 3
Bs. kt. 1
solo shout
Sa - ké
Bs. kt. 2
Sop. gtr.
Alt. gtr.
Pr. gtr.
Bs. gtr.
Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.
gliss.
33

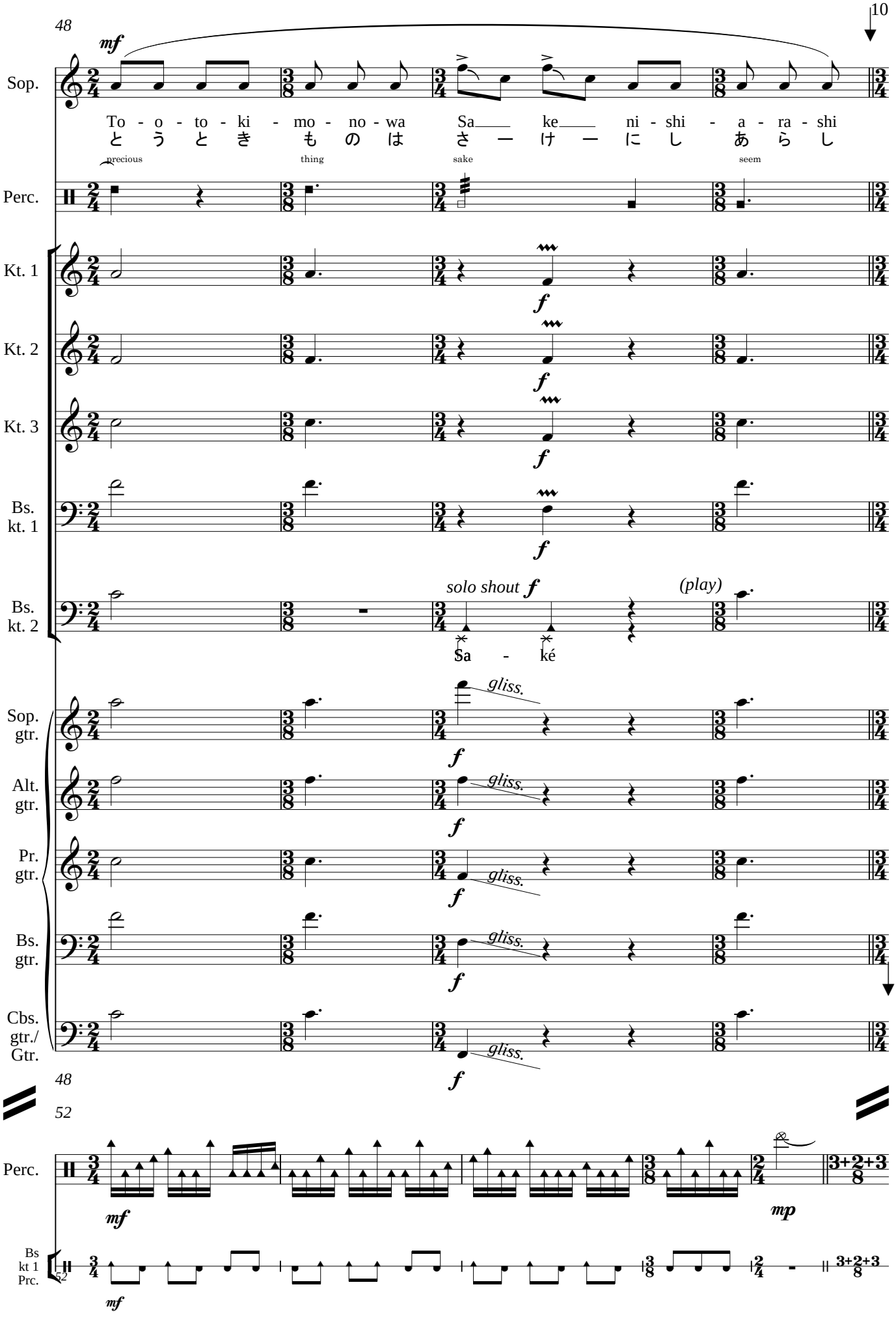

38
gliss.
sudden p
Sop.
E - i - na - ki - su - ru - shi
えいなきするし
drunken
weep
Ma - sa - ri - ta - ru - ra - shi
まさりたるらし
excel
seem
Perc.
p
gliss.
Kt. 1
gliss.
Kt. 2
gliss.
Kt. 3
(play)
gliss.
Bs.
kt. 1
Pr
Nrm.
38


5
41
Glsp
Perc.
p
pp
Sop.
gtr.
pp
Alt.
gtr.
pp
Pr
Nrm.
41

44 *I know no way to mention and no way to do with it. The mosty precious thing seems sake.*



44


48
mf
Sop.
To - o - to - ki - mo - no - wa Sa ke ni - shi - a - ra - shi
と う と き も の は さ ー け ー に し あ ら し
precious thing sake seem
Perc.
Kt. 1
Kt. 2
Kt. 3
Bs. kt. 1
Bs. kt. 2
solo shout f
(play)
Sa - ké
Sop. gtr.
Alt. gtr.
Pr. gtr.
Bs. gtr.
Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.
gliss.
f
48
52
Perc.
mf
mp
3+2+3
Bs kt 1 Prc.
52

57

I wish I were a sake jar rather than a man so that I would immerse myself in sake.

6

Sop.

Na-ka-na-ka-ni Hi-to-to - a-ra-zu-wa Sa-ka-tsu-bo-ni Na-ri-ni-te-shi-ka-mo
な か な か に ひ と と あ ら ず は さ か つ ぼ に な り に て し か も
half-heartedly man be not sake jar become wish

Perc.

Kt. 1

Kt. 2

Kt. 3

Bs. kt. 1

Bs. kt. 2

Sop. gtr.

Alt. gtr.

Pr. gtr.

Bs. gtr.

Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.

cresc.

61

Sop.

Sa - ke ni - shi - mi - na - mu
さ ー け ー に し み な む
sake immerse shall

Perc.

Kt. 1

Kt. 2

Kt. 3

solo shout

Bs. kt. 1

Sa - ké

Bs. kt. 2

Sa - ké

Sop. gtr.

gliss.

Sop Nrm.

Alt. gtr.

Alt Nrm.

Pr. gtr.

Bs. gtr.

Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.

64

61

Perc.

Sop Nrm.

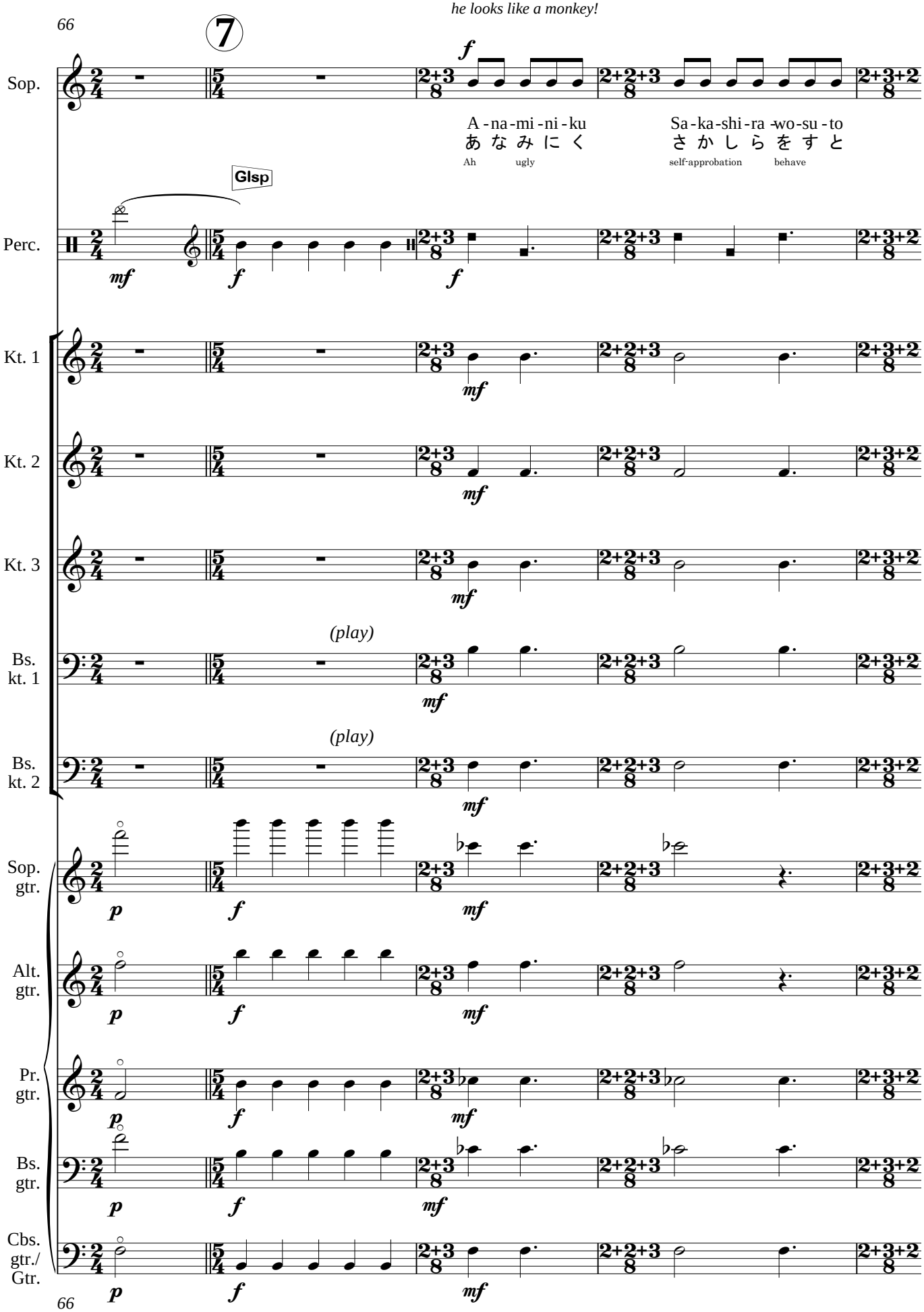
Alt Nrm.

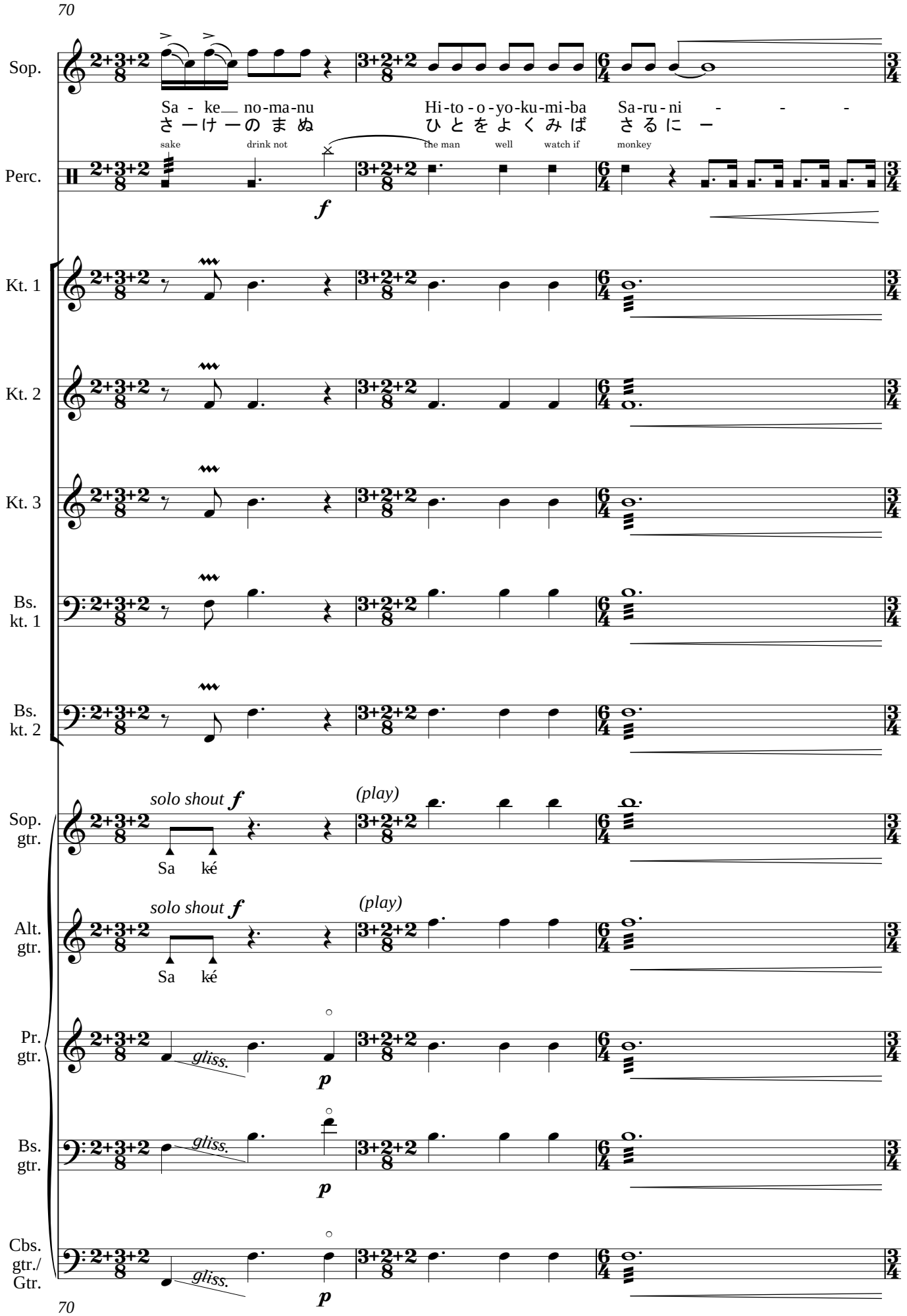
Pr Nrm.

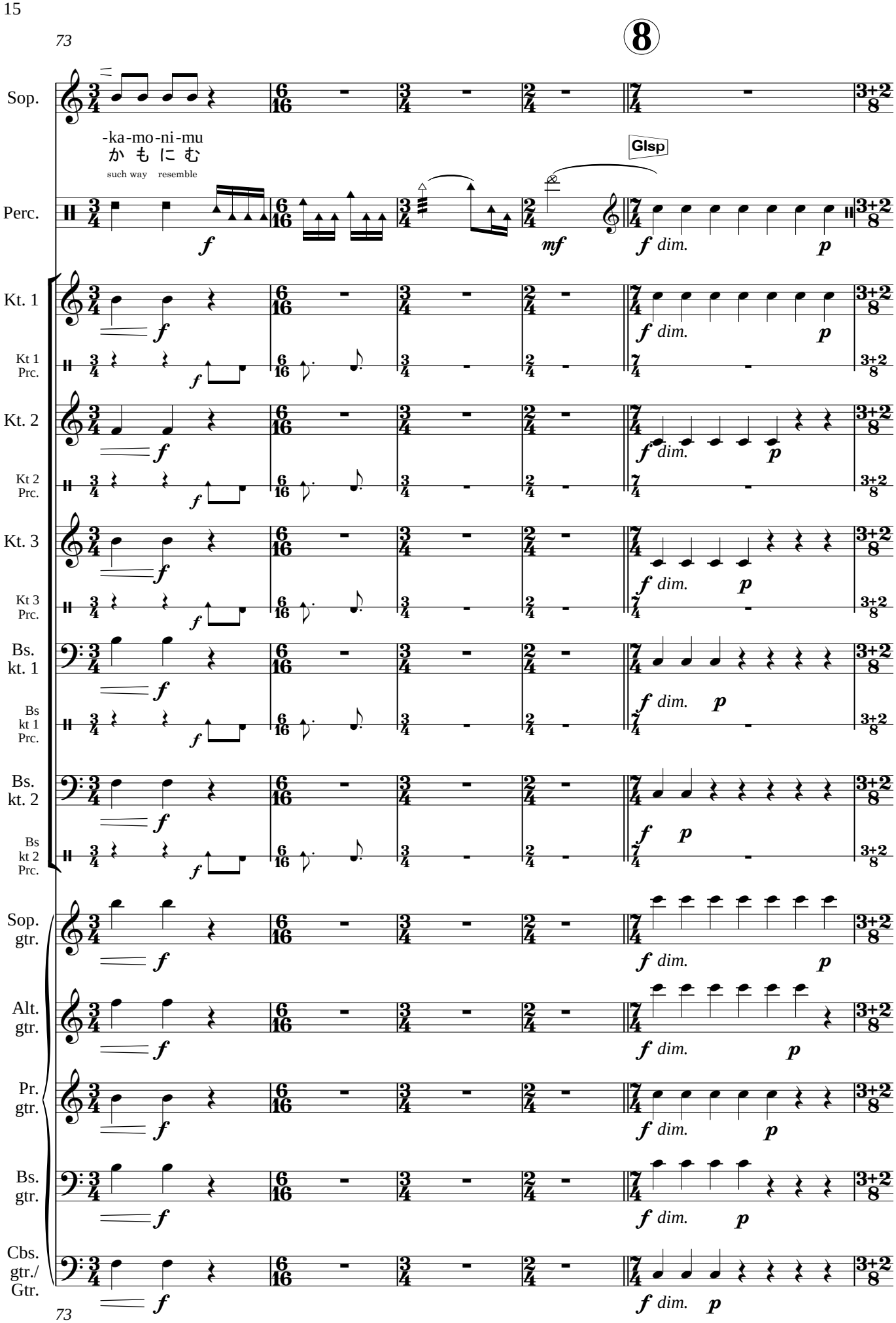
Bs Nrm.

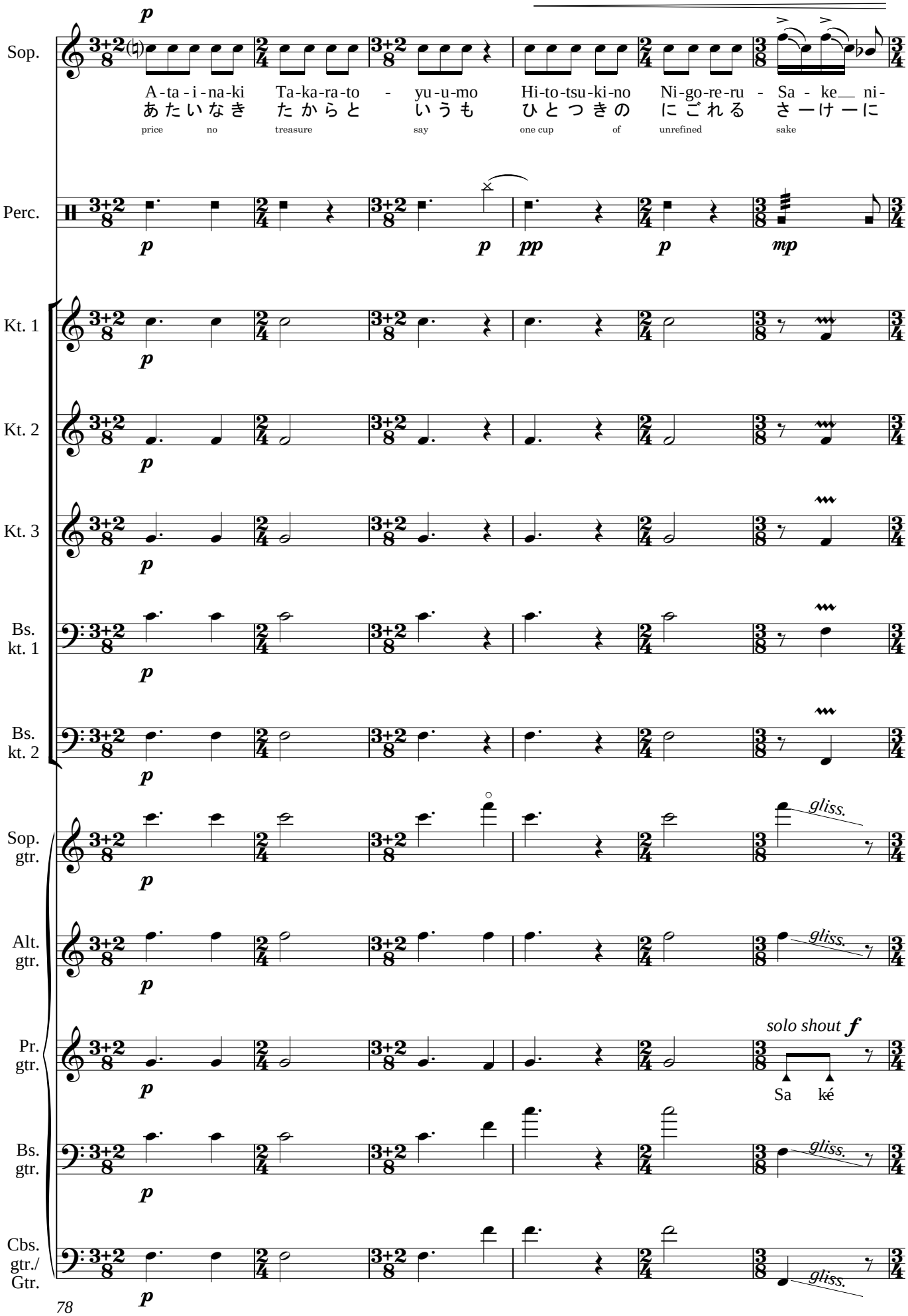
64

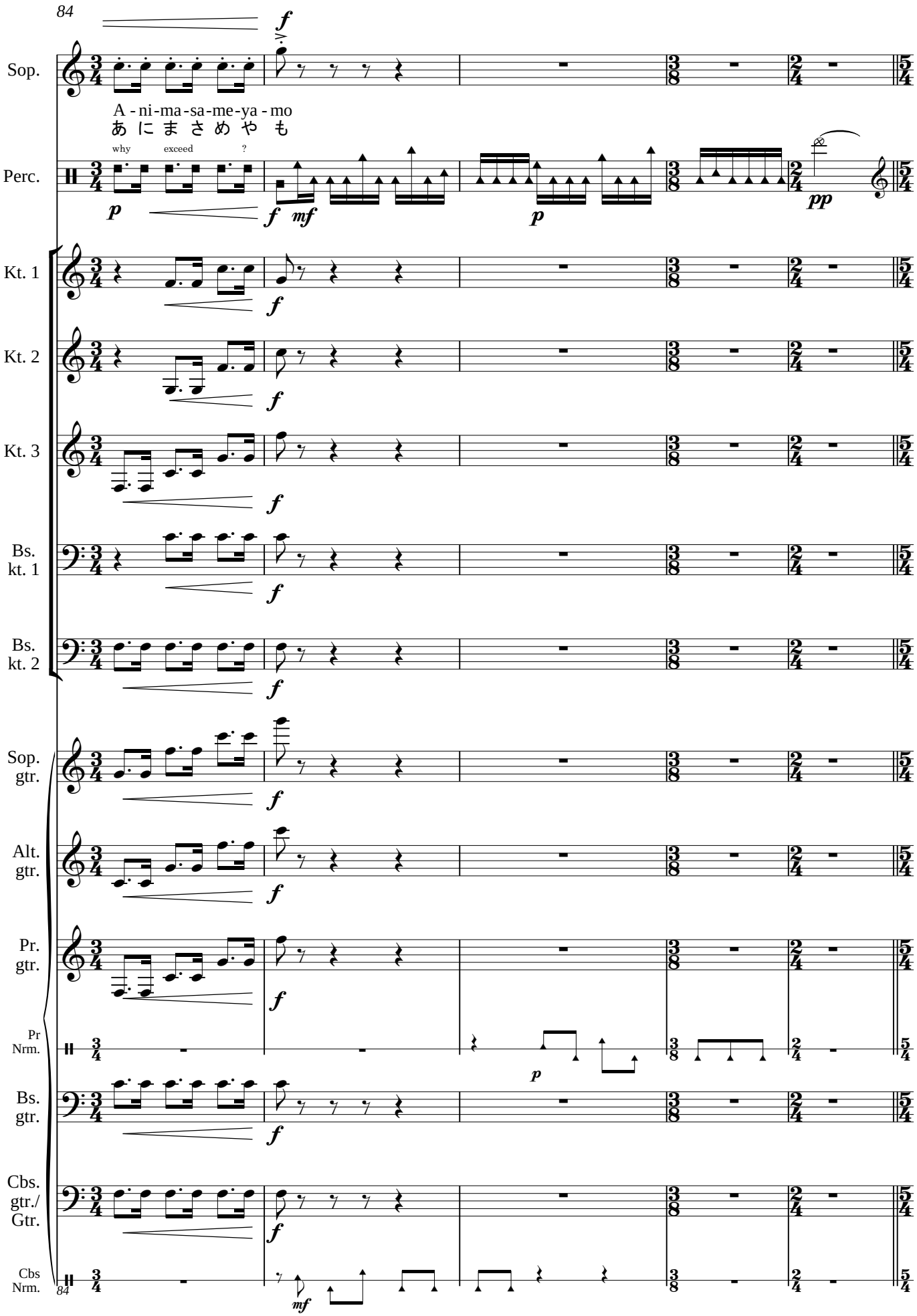
How ugly he is! When I watch a person who does not drink sake and stays sober, he looks like a monkey!




70
Sop.
Sa - ke no-ma-nu
さーけーの まぬ
sake drink not
Hi-to-o-yo-ku-mi-ba
ひとをよくみば
the man well watch if
Sa-ru-ni - - -
さるにーー
monkey
Perc.
f
Kt. 1
Kt. 2
Kt. 3
Bs. kt. 1
Bs. kt. 2
Sop. gtr.
solo shout f
(play)
Sa ké
Alt. gtr.
solo shout f
(play)
Sa ké
Pr. gtr.
gliss.
p
Bs. gtr.
gliss.
p
Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.
gliss.
p
70


73
8
Sop.
-ka-mo-ni-mu
か も に む
such way resemble
Perc.
Glsp
Kt. 1
Kt 1 Prc.
Kt. 2
Kt 2 Prc.
Kt. 3
Kt 3 Prc.
Bs. kt. 1
Bs kt 1 Prc.
Bs. kt. 2
Bs kt 2 Prc.
Sop. gtr.
Alt. gtr.
Pr. gtr.
Bs. gtr.
Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.
f
mf
p
dim.
3+2
8
73


Sop.
A-ta-i-na-ki Ta-ka-ra-to - yu-u-mo Hi-to-tsu-ki-no Ni-go-re-ru - Sa - ke ni-
あたいなき たからと いうも ひとつきの にごれる さーけーに
price no treasure say one cup of unrefined sake
Perc.
Kt. 1
Kt. 2
Kt. 3
Bs. kt. 1
Bs. kt. 2
Sop. gtr.
gliss.
Alt. gtr.
gliss.
Pr. gtr.
solo shout f
Sa ké
Bs. gtr.
gliss.
Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.
gliss.


84
Sop.
A - ni-ma-sa-me-ya - mo
あ に ま さ め や も
why exceed ?
Perc.
Kt. 1
Kt. 2
Kt. 3
Bs. kt. 1
Bs. kt. 2
Sop. gtr.
Alt. gtr.
Pr. gtr.
Pr Nrm.
Bs. gtr.
Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.
Cbs Nrm.
84

A jewel shines at night, but drinking sake shines my heart much better.

89

9

Sop.

pp

Yo-ru-hi-ka-ru Ta-ma-to - yu-u-to-mo
よ る ひ か る た ま と いうと も
night shine gem say but

sudden ***f***

Sa - ke no-mi-te
さ ーけ ーの み て
sake drink

Perc.

pp

pp

p *cresc.*

Kt. 1

p

f

Kt. 2

p

f

Kt. 3

p

f

Bs. kt. 1

p

f

Bs. kt. 2

p

f

Sop. gtr.

p

p

f

gliss.

Alt. gtr.

p

f

gliss.

Pr. gtr.

p

f

gliss.

Bs. gtr.

p

solo shout ***f***

Sa ké

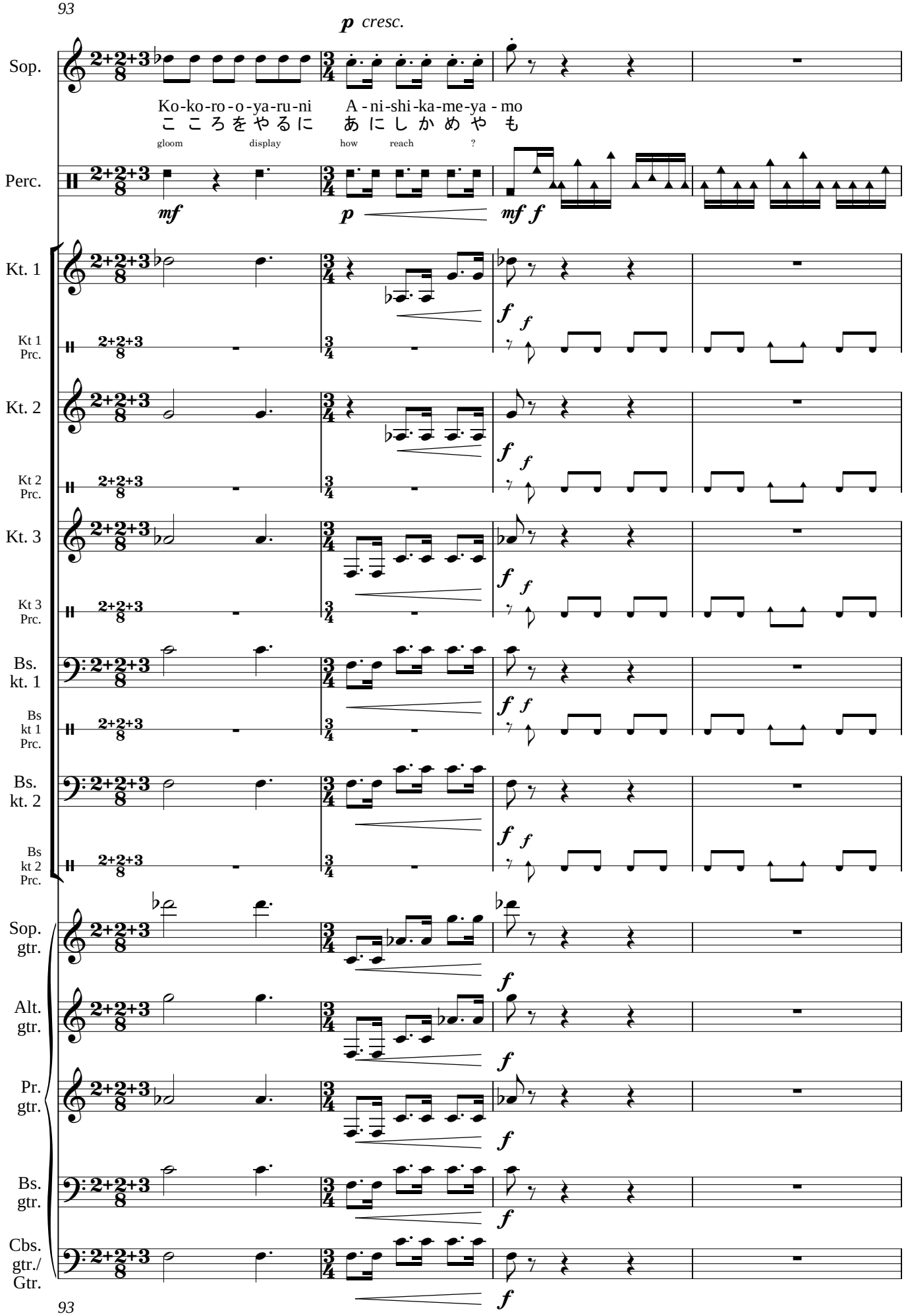
Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.

p

f

gliss.

89


93
p cresc.
Sop.
Ko-ko-ro-o-ya-ru-ni
こ こ ろ を や る に
gloom display
A - ni-shi-ka-me-ya - mo
あ に し か め や も
how reach ?
Perc.
mf
p
mf f
Kt. 1
Kt 1 Prc.
Kt. 2
Kt 2 Prc.
Kt. 3
Kt 3 Prc.
Bs. kt. 1
Bs kt 1 Prc.
Bs. kt. 2
Bs kt 2 Prc.
Sop. gtr.
Alt. gtr.
Pr. gtr.
Bs. gtr.
Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.
f
93

10

97

Sop.

Perc.

Glsp

Kt. 1

Kt 1 Prc.

Kt. 2

Kt 2 Prc.

Kt. 3

Kt 3 Prc.

Bs. kt. 1

Bs kt 1 Prc.

Bs. kt. 2

Bs kt 2 Prc.

Sop. gtr.

Alt. gtr.

Pr. gtr.

(play)

Bs. gtr.

Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.

97

101

Everywhere in this human world, the best amusement seems to be drinking in tears.

f

Sop.

Yo - no - na - ka - no
よ の な か の
human world

A - so - bi - no - mi - chi - ni
あ そ び の み ち に
play way

A - ma - ne - ki - wa
あ ま ね き は
everywhere

Perc.

Kt. 1

Kt. 2

Kt. 3

Bs. kt. 1

Bs. kt. 2

Sop. gtr.

Alt. gtr.

p

Pr. gtr.

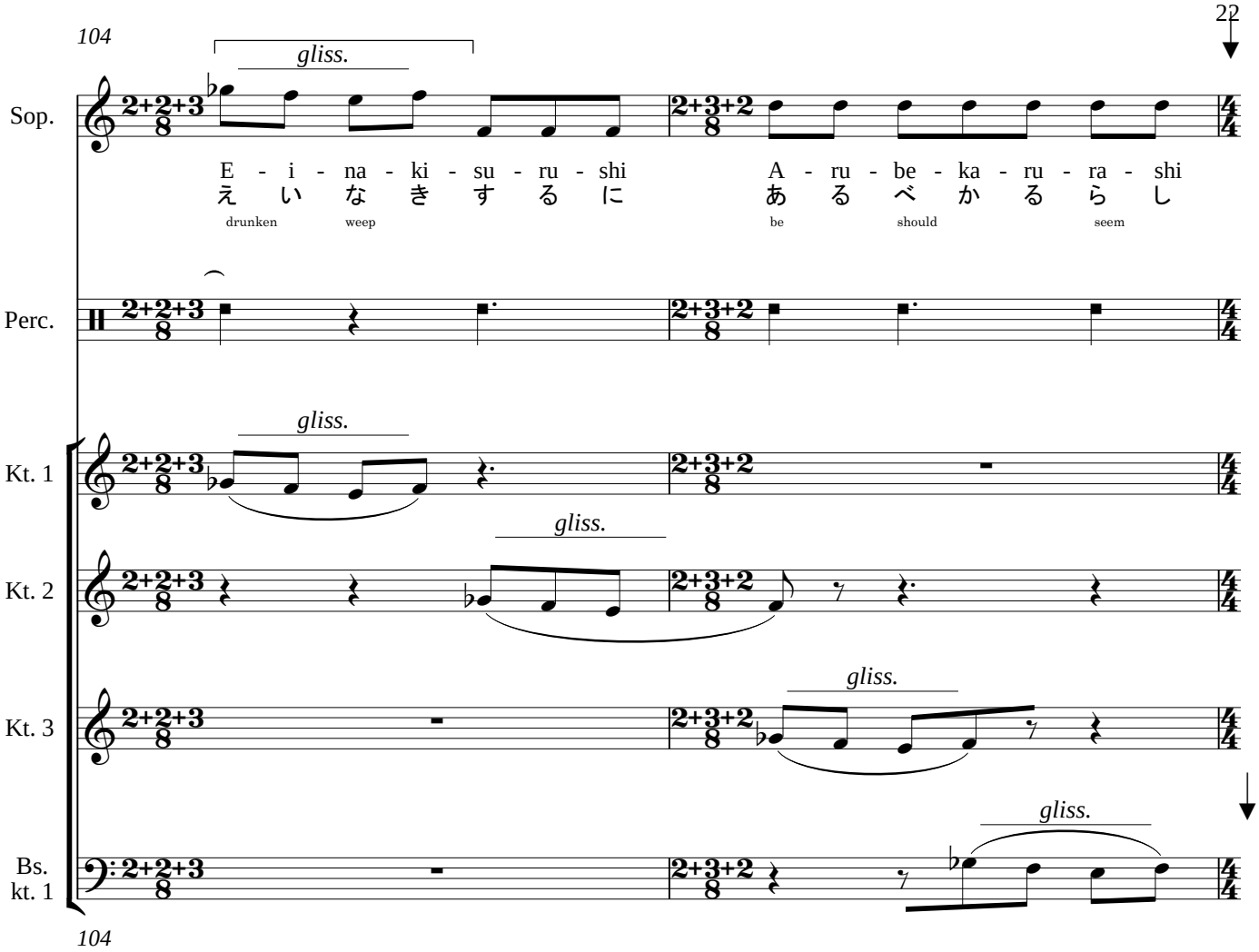
p

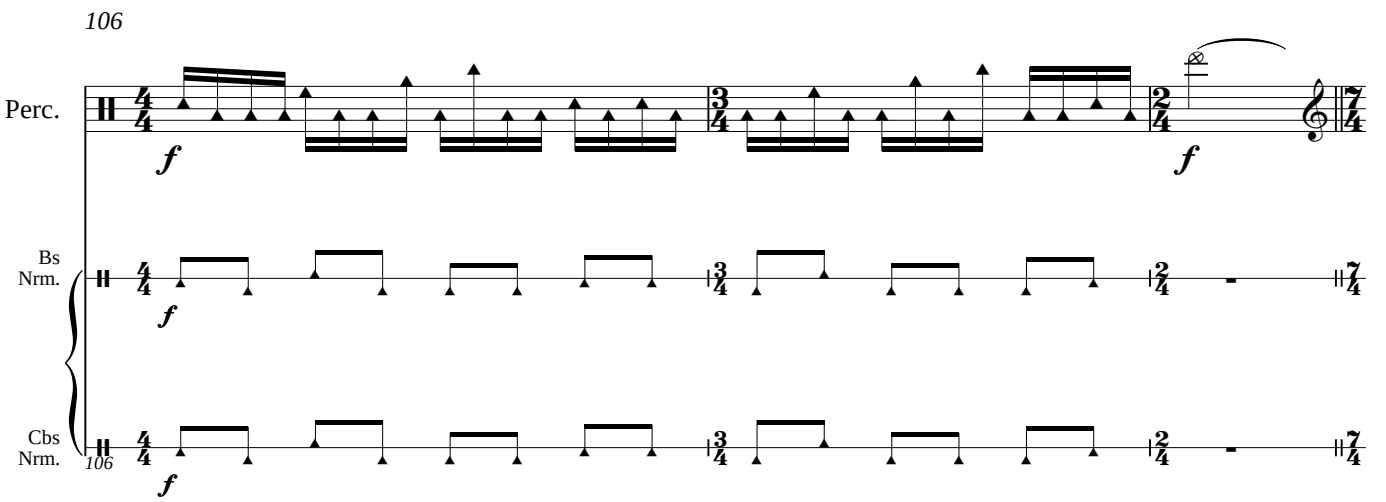
Bs. gtr.

p

Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.

p


104
gliss.
Sop.
E - i - na - ki - su - ru - shi
え い な き す る に
drunken weep
A - ru - be - ka - ru - ra - shi
あ る べ か る ら し
be should seem
Perc.
gliss.
Kt. 1
gliss.
Kt. 2
gliss.
Kt. 3
gliss.
Bs. kt. 1
104


106
Perc.
f
f
Bs Nrm.
f
Cbs Nrm.
f
106

11

If I can enjoy this world, I shall become a worm or a bird in the next world.

109

Sop.

Ko-no-yo-ni-shi Ta-no-shi-ku - a-ra-ba Ko-mu - yo-ni-wa
こ の よ に し た の し く あ ら ば こ む よ に は
this world enjoyable be if next world

Glsp

Perc.

Kt. 1

Kt. 2

Kt. 3

Bs. kt. 1

Bs. kt. 2

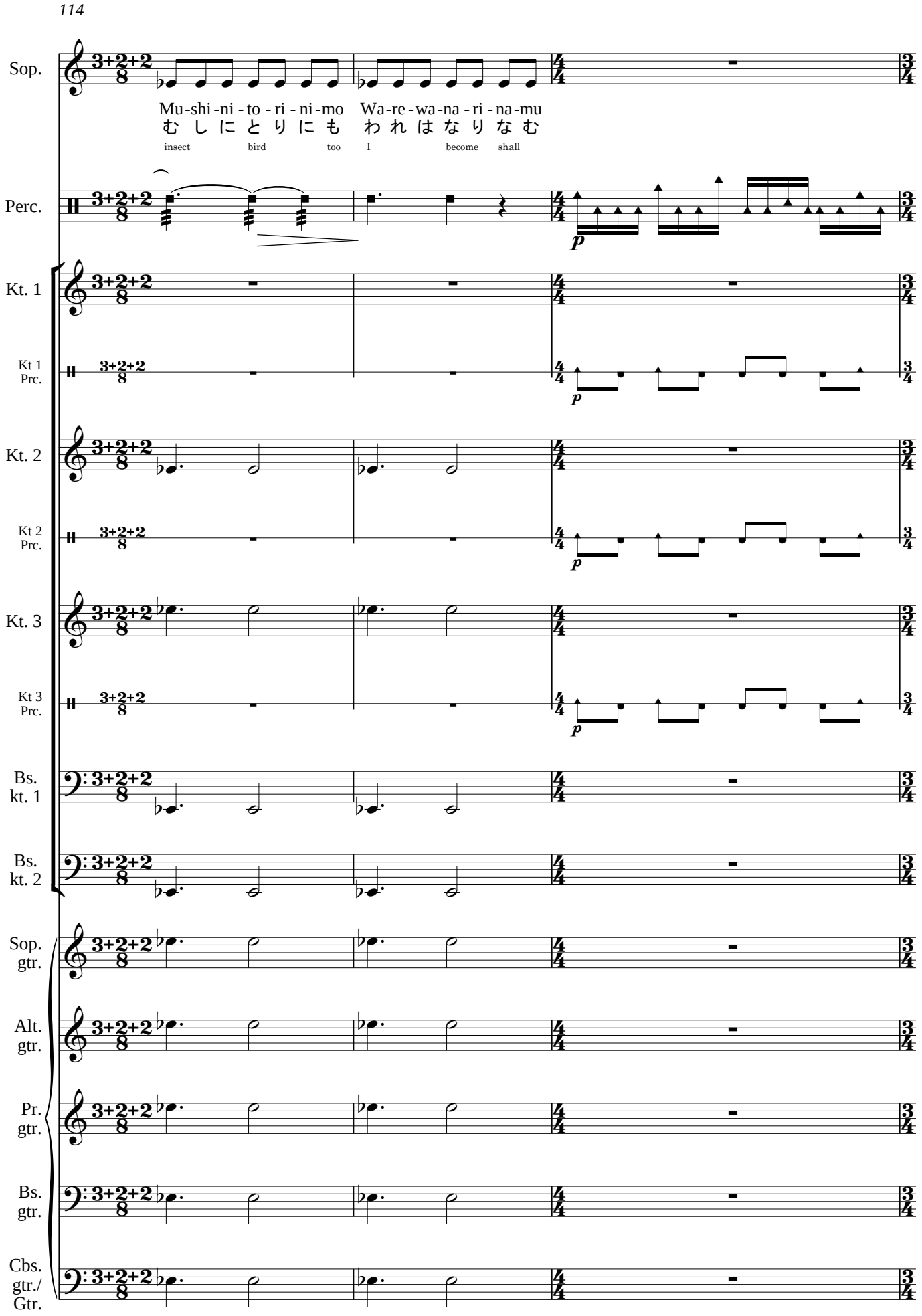
Sop. gtr.

Alt. gtr.

Pr. gtr.

Bs. gtr.

Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.


114
Sop.
Mu-shi-ni-to-ri-ni-mo Wa-re-wa-na-ri-na-mu
む し に と り に も わ れ は な り な む
insect bird too I become shall
Perc.
Kt. 1
Kt 1 Prc.
Kt. 2
Kt 2 Prc.
Kt. 3
Kt 3 Prc.
Bs. kt. 1
Bs. kt. 2
Sop. gtr.
Alt. gtr.
Pr. gtr.
Bs. gtr.
Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.
114

12

Things are born and will die at the end anyway, then, I should enjoy myself in this world.

117

Sop.

U-ma-ru-re-ba Tsu-i - ni mo - shi-nu-ru Mo-no
う ま る れ ば つ い に も し ぬ る も の
born then finally die things

Perc.

Kt. 1

Kt 1 Prc.

Kt. 2

Kt 2 Prc.

Kt. 3

Kt 3 Prc.

Bs. kt. 1

Bs. kt. 2

Sop. gtr.

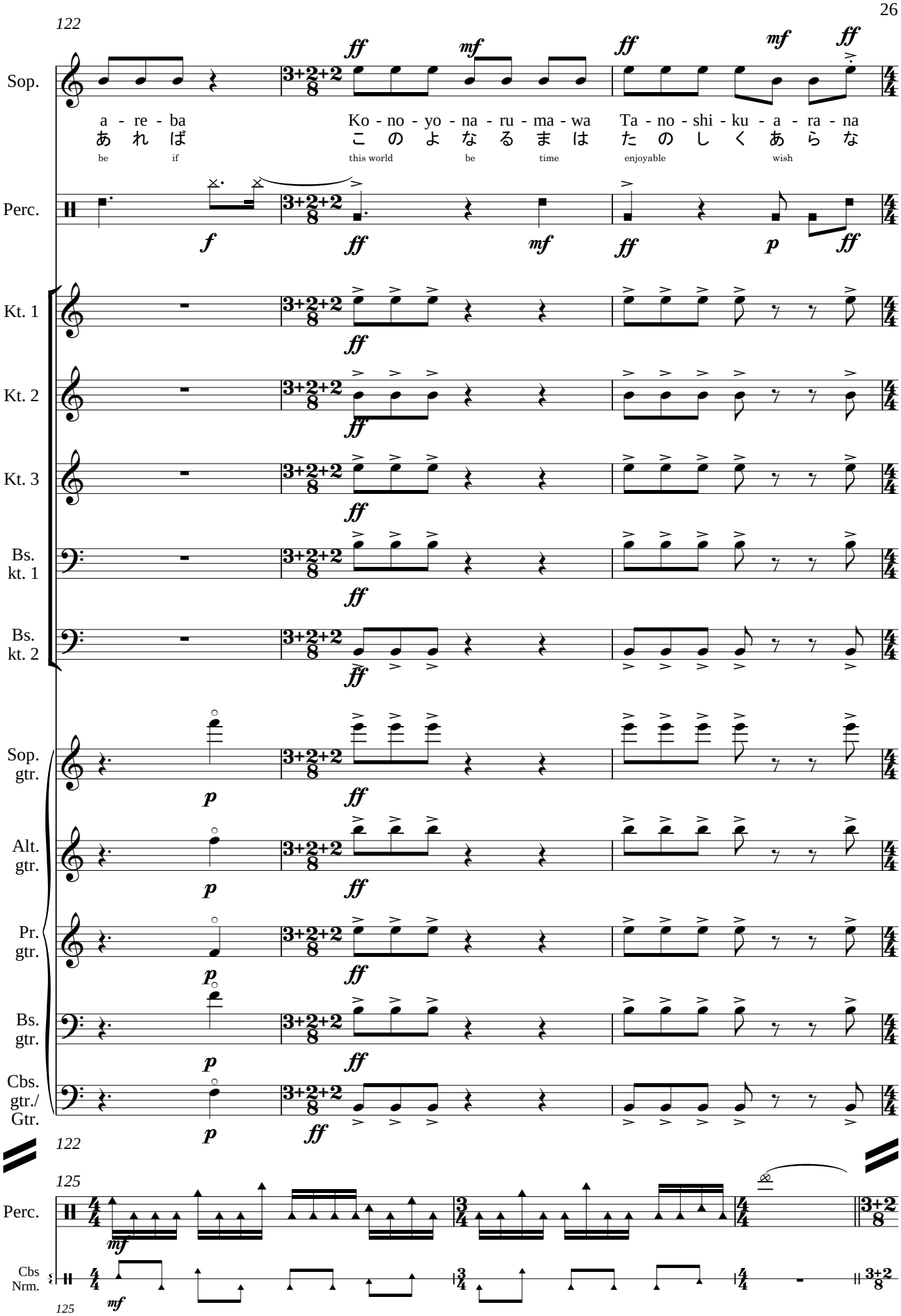
Alt. gtr.

Pr. gtr.

Bs. gtr.

Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.

117


122
Sop.
a - re - ba
あ れ ば
be if
Ko - no - yo - na - ru - ma - wa
こ の よ な る ま は
this world be time
Ta - no - shi - ku - a - ra - na
た の し く あ ら な
enjoyable wish
Perc.
Kt. 1
Kt. 2
Kt. 3
Bs. kt. 1
Bs. kt. 2
Sop. gtr.
Alt. gtr.
Pr. gtr.
Bs. gtr.
Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.
122
125
Perc.
Cbs Nrm.
125

rall.

13 *Staying silent and sober cannot come close to drinking in tears.*

128 ***Slowing down until the end***

Sop. — *p* — *f*

Mo-da-o-ri-te　Sa-ka shi-ra - su-ru wa　Sa - ke no-mi-te
もだおりて　さかしら　するは　さーけーのみて
silent stay　wise excessive　behave　sake　drink

Perc. — *p*

Kt. 1 — *p*

Kt. 2 — *p*

Kt. 3 — *p*

Bs. kt. 1 — *p*

Bs. kt. 2 — *p*

Sop. gtr. — *p* — *gliss.*

Alt. gtr. — *p* — *gliss.*

Pr. gtr. — *p* — *gliss.*

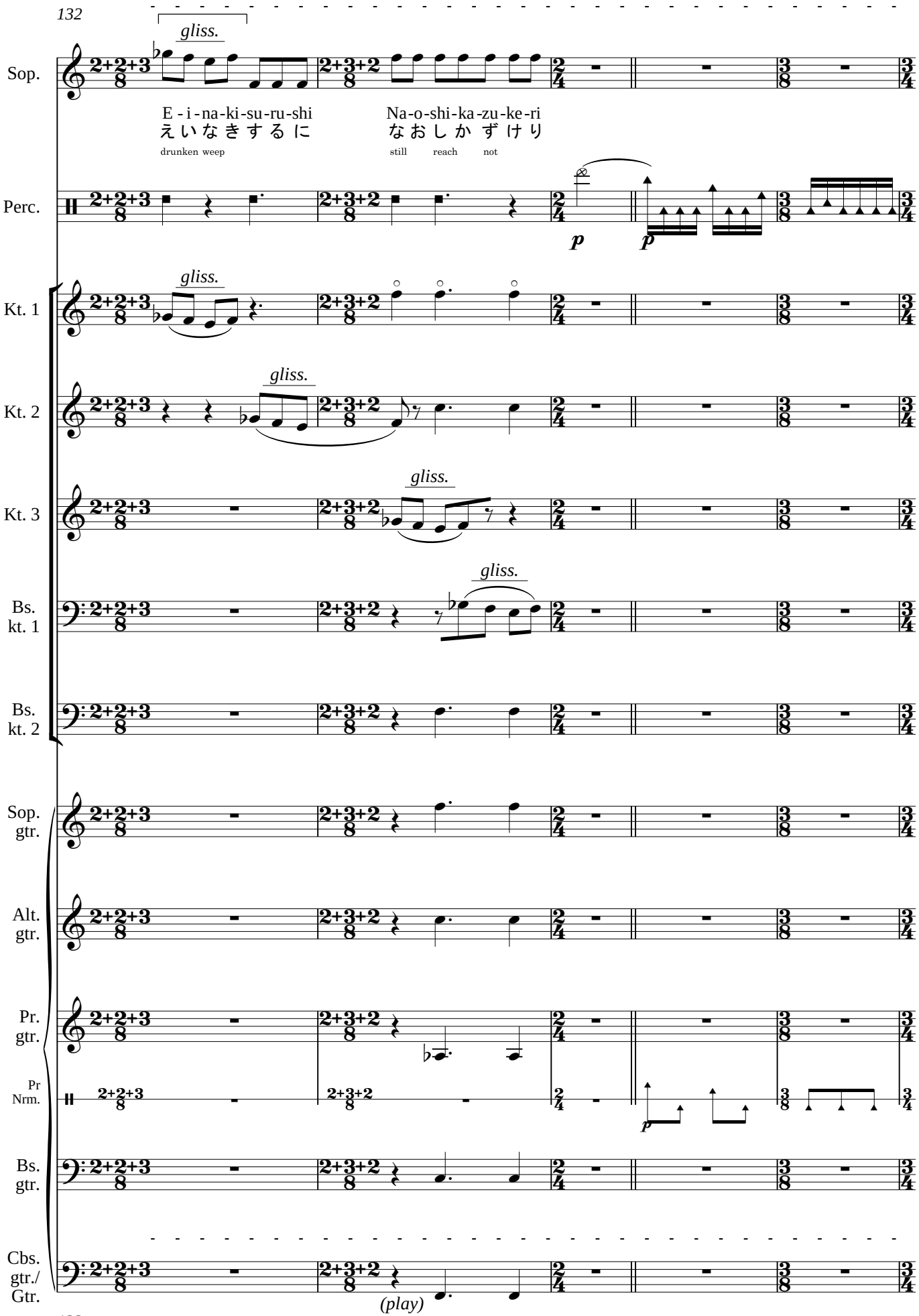
Bs. gtr. — *p* — *gliss.*

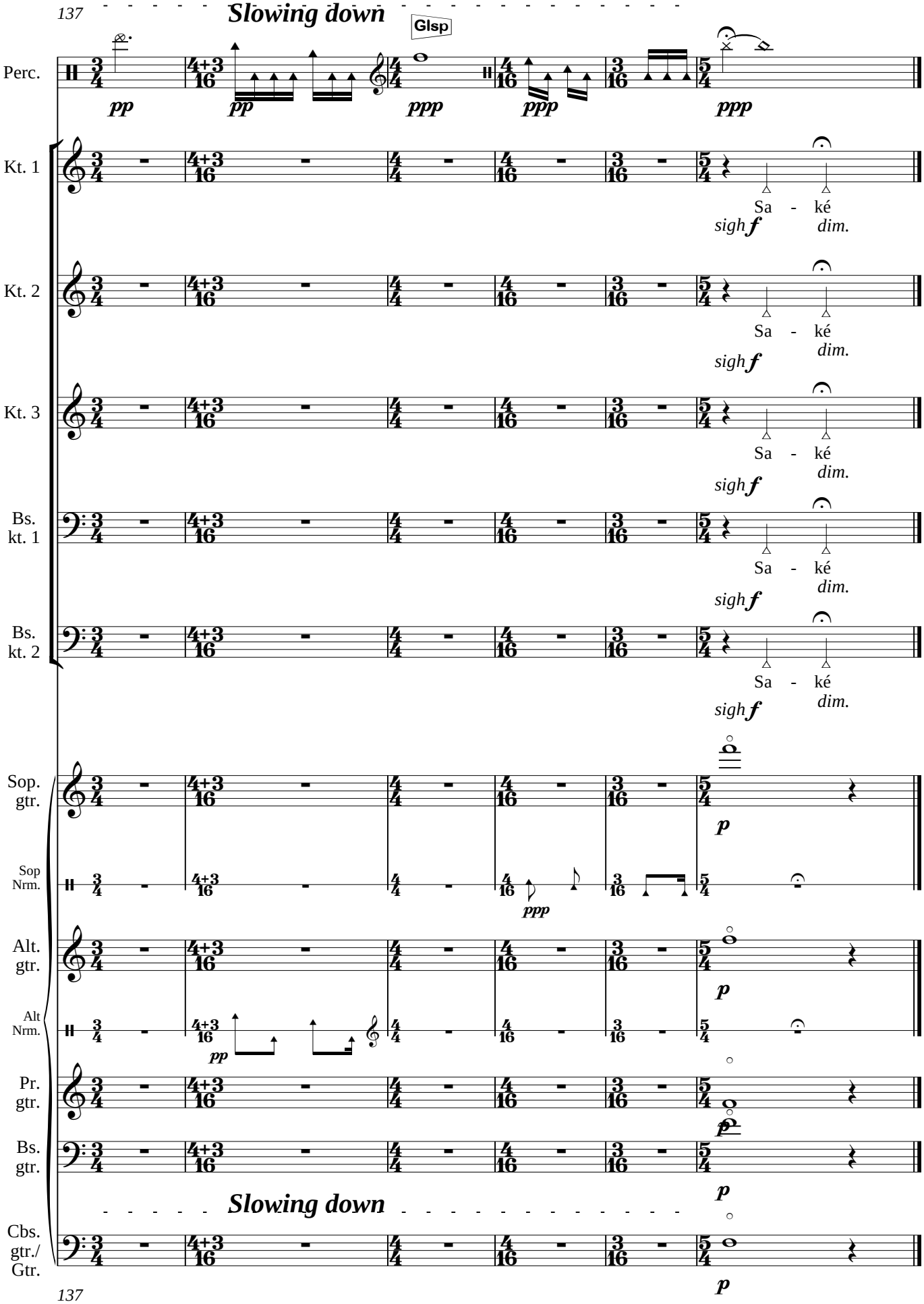
rall.

Cbs. gtr./ Gtr. — *p* — *solo shout* ***f***

Sa　ke

128


132
gliss.
Sop.
E - i - na - ki - su - ru - shi
えいなきするに
drunken weep
Na - o - shi - ka - zu - ke - ri
なおしかずけり
still reach not
Perc.
p
p
gliss.
Kt. 1
gliss.
Kt. 2
gliss.
Kt. 3
gliss.
Bs. kt. 1
Bs. kt. 2
Sop. gtr.
Alt. gtr.
Pr. gtr.
Pr Nrm.
p
Bs. gtr.
Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.
(play)
132


137
Slowing down
Glsp
Perc.
pp
pp
ppp
ppp
ppp
Kt. 1
Sa - ké
sigh
f
dim.
Kt. 2
Sa - ké
sigh
f
dim.
Kt. 3
Sa - ké
sigh
f
dim.
Bs. kt. 1
Sa - ké
sigh
f
dim.
Bs. kt. 2
Sa - ké
sigh
f
dim.
Sop. gtr.
p
Sop Nrm.
ppp
Alt. gtr.
p
Alt Nrm.
pp
Pr. gtr.
p
Bs. gtr.
p
Slowing down
Cbs. gtr./ Gtr.
p
137