Meglio Stasera (**It Had Better Be Tonight**) (1964)

* Music by Henry Mancini

* Italian lyrics by Franco Migliacci (songwriter)

* English lyrics by Johnny Mercer

** Composed for the original installment of the film series *The Pink Panther*.

It showcases a young actress named Fran Jeffries, who sings the song while slowly dancing around a fireplace at a ski lodge where all the principal players of the film are gathered. The song appears on the soundtrack record album in two versions. One is an instrumental that resembles the underscore of Fran's rendition. The other is a group vocal with only vaguely related English lyrics, and it can be heard in the background during the fancy dress ball / costume party whilst the attempted robbery is taking place. The original Italian version does not appear on the album.

It Had Better Be Tonight

♩ = 216

1 9

Vocal
Alto 1
Alto 2
Tenor 1
Tenor 2
Bari
Trumpet 1
Trumpet 2
Trumpet 3
Trumpet 4
Trumpet 5
Trombone 1
Trombone 2
Trombone 3
Trombone 4
Guitar
Piano
Bass
Drums

Meg - lio sta - ser - a ah, ba - by go, go, go

mf (unis) (div) tr

C♯7 G♯M7(♭5) C♯7 G♯M7(♭5) F♯07 F♯M6 G♯07 F♯M6/A G C♯7(♭9) F♯M6

Sticks "2-3" Samba

It Had Better Be Tonight

17 21

Vocal
12 Or as we_ nat - ives say: Fa su - bi - to If you're ev - er gon - na kiss_ me,

Alto 1

Alto 2

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Bari

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3
(unis)

Tpt. 4
(unis)

Tpt. 5
(unis)

Tbn. 1
(unis)

Tbn. 2
(unis)

Tbn. 3
(unis)

Tbn. 4

Guitar
F♯MMA7 D6/9(♯11) F07 F♯M6 G♯07 F♯M6/A G6/9 F♯M ♯5 F♯M6 F♯M7 F♯MMA7 F♯M7 F♯M6 F♯M+ F♯M B♭M6

Piano
F♯MMA7 D6/9(♯11) F07 F♯M6 G♯07 F♯M6/A G6/9 F♯M ♯5 F♯M6 F♯M7 F♯MMA7 F♯M7 F♯M6 F♯M+ F♯M B♭M6

Bass
F♯M F♯M B♭M6

Drums
2 2
Play Time

29

Vocal
24 it had bet-ter be to-night while the man-do-lins are play-ing, and stars are bright.

Alto 1 (unis)
Alto 2 (unis)
Tenor 1 (unis)
Tenor 2 (unis)
Bari

Tpt. 1 Soli mf
Tpt. 2 Soli mf
Tpt. 3 Bring out
Tpt. 4 Bring out
Tpt. 5

Tbn. 1 (div) (unis)
Tbn. 2 (div) (unis)
Tbn. 3 (div) (unis)
Tbn. 4

Guitar C♯7 F♯M6/9 F♯7 BM6 G♯7 C♯7
Piano C♯7 F♯M6/9 F♯7 BM6 G♯7 C♯7
Bass C♯7 F♯M F♯7 BM6 G♯7 C♯7

Drums 2 2 Play Time

37 45

Vocal
36 If you've an - y - thing to tell me, it had bet-ter be to -night or some-bod-y else might tell me, and

Alto 1
(Opt. 8va)

Alto 2
(Opt. 8va)

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Bari
mf (w/Trbs)

Tpt. 1
(vib.)

Tpt. 2
(vib.)

Tpt. 3
mf

Tpt. 4
mf

Tpt. 5
mf

Tbn. 1
mf

Tbn. 2
mf

Tbn. 3
mf

Tbn. 4
mf

Guitar
F♯M B M7 C♯7 F♯M9MA7 F♯13 C♯07/B B M6

Piano
F♯M B M7 C♯7 F♯M9MA7 F♯13 C♯07/B B M6

Bass
B M6 C♯7

Drums
Fill

53

Vocal: 49 whis - per the words just right | Meg - lio sta - ser - a ah, ba - by go, go, go | Or as we nat - ives say: | Fa su-bi -

Alto 1 | Alto 2 | Tenor 1 | Tenor 2 | Bari | Tpt. 1 | Tpt. 2 | Tpt. 3 | Tpt. 4 | Tpt. 5 | Tbn. 1 | Tbn. 2 | Tbn. 3 | Tbn. 4

Guitar: F♯M/C♯ | C♯7 | F♯M9MA7 | F♯07 F♯M6 | G♯07 F♯M6/A | G C♯7(♭9) F♯M6 | F♯MMA7 | D♭9(♯11) | F♯07 F♯M6 | G♯07 F♯M6/A | G♭9

Piano: F♯M/C♯ | C♯7 | F♯M9MA7 | F♯07 F♯M6 | G♯07 F♯M6/A | G C♯7(♭9) F♯M6 | F♯MMA7 | D♭9(♯11) | F♯07 F♯M6 | G♯07 F♯M6/A | G♭9

Bass | Drums

61 65 69

Vocal

61 to

If you're ev - er gon - na hold me,

Alto 1

Alto 2

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Bari

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Tpt. 4

Tpt. 5

(unis) (div)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

Guitar

F♯M F♯M+ F♯M6 F♯M7 F♯MMA7 F♯M7 F♯M6 F♯M+ GM GM+ GM6 GM7 GMMA7 GM7 GM6 GM+ GM CM9

Piano

f Ped.

Bass

F♯M GM CM

Drums

Fill Play Time

77

72

Vocal: It had bet - ter be to - night. | Or some - bo - dy else may hold me | They might make me feel just right.

Alto 1 | Alto 2 | Tenor 1 | Tenor 2 | Bari | Tpt. 1 | Tpt. 2 | Tpt. 3 | Tpt. 4 | Tpt. 5 | Tbn. 1 | Tbn. 2 | Tbn. 3 | Tbn. 4

(div) (div) (div)

Guitar: D7 | Gm9ma7 G13 | D°7/C Cm6 | Gm/D

Piano: D7 | Gm9ma7 G13 | D°7/C Cm6 | Gm/D D7

Bass: D7 | G7 | Cm | Gm/D D7

Drums: Fill | Play Time

85 93

Vocal
84
Meg - lio sta - ser - a ah, ba - by
Alto 1
Alto 2
Tenor 1
Tenor 2
Bari
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
Tpt. 4
Tpt. 5
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tbn. 4
Guitar
Piano
Bass
Drums

Soli
Tacet
Gm9ma7
F♯07 Gm F♯07 Gm
Closed HH
Clave on side of Snare

101

Vocal
95 go, go, go Or as we nat - ives say: Fa su-bi - - to
Alto 1
Alto 2
Tenor 1
Tenor 2
Bari
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
Tpt. 4
Tpt. 5
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tbn. 4
Guitar
Piano
Bass
Drums

107

110

Vocal: For this poor A-mer-i-can-o, ah, who knows a lit-tle of your speech,

Alto 1

Alto 2

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Bari

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Tpt. 4

Tpt. 5

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

Guitar: $D^{\flat}M^{7}$ DM^{7} D^{7} GM

Piano: $D^{\flat}M^{7}$ DM^{7} Solo GM ^{MA7} GM^{7} GM^{6} GM+ CM ^{MA7} CM^{7} CM^{6} CM+ DM ^{MA7} DM^{7} DM^{6} DM+ $D^{7}SUS$ D^{7} $^{+5}$ $D^{\flat 7}$ D^{7}

Bass: Tacet

Drums: Fill Tacet

118 124

Vocal
118 Be a nice I-tal-i-an-a, and start to teach.

Alto 1
Alto 2
Tenor 1
Tenor 2
Bari
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
Tpt. 4
Tpt. 5
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tbn. 4
Guitar
Piano
Bass
Drums

mp
(unis)
Opt tacet.
D°7/Cm Cm7 A7 G7 Cm
Latin
2

128 136

Vocal: 128 Ah, show me how in old Mi-lan-o lov-ers hold each oth-er oh, so tight. But I warn you sweet Pi-san-a, that it

Alto 1 | Alto 2 | Tenor 1 | Tenor 2 | Bari: mf ... f

Tpt. 1 | Tpt. 2 | Tpt. 3 | Tpt. 4 | Tpt. 5: mf ... f

Tbn. 1 | Tbn. 2 | Tbn. 3 | Tbn. 4: mf ... f

Guitar: Gm | Cmadd9 | D7 | Gm9ma7 | G13 | D°7/C | Cm6

Piano: Gm | Cmadd9 | D7 | Gm9ma7 | G13 | D°7/C | Cm6

Bass: Gm | Cm | D7 | G13 | Cm6

Drums: 2 | 2 | Fill | Play Time | 2

144

Vocal
140 had bet - ter be to - night. Meg - lio sta - ser - a ah, ba - by go, go, go Or as we

Alto 1
Alto 2
Tenor 1
Tenor 2
Bari
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
Tpt. 4
Tpt. 5
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tbn. 4
Guitar
Piano
Bass
Drums

mf (unis) (div)

Gm/D D7 Gm9ma7 F#o7 Gm6 Ao7 Gm6/Bb Ab D7(b9) Gm6 Gma7 Eb6/9(#11) F#o7 Gm6

152 156

Vocal: 149 nat - ives say: "Fa su - - - - - bi - - - - - to"

Alto 1 · Alto 2 · Tenor 1 · Tenor 2 · Bari · Tpt. 1 · Tpt. 2 · Tpt. 3 · Tpt. 4 · Tpt. 5 · Tbn. 1 · Tbn. 2 · Tbn. 3 · Tbn. 4 · Guitar · Piano · Bass · Drums

Guitar: A°7 Gm6/Bb Ab6/9 Ab6 Gm7 AbMA7

Piano: A°7 Gm6/Bb Ab6/9 8va Gm7 AbMA7

Bass: Ab6 Gm Ab6

160

Vocal

Alto 1

Alto 2

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Bari

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Tpt. 4

Tpt. 5

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

Guitar

Gm9

Piano

Gm9

Bass

Drums

Fill

(unis)

8va

It Had Better Be Tonight

Sung by: Michael Buble / CD: Call Me Irresponsible (2007)

Chorus: Meglio stasera, Baby go go go
Or as we natives say, "Fa subito!"

Verse 1: If you're ever gonna kiss me, it had better be tonight
While the mandolins are playing, and stars are bright

Verse 2: If you've anything to tell me, it had better be tonight
Or somebody else may tell me, and whisper the words just right

Chorus: Meglio stasera, Baby go go go
Or as we natives say, "Fa subito!"

Verse 3: If you're ever going to hold me, it had better be tonight
(key chg) Or somebody else may hold me, they might make me feel just right

Horn riff/Chorus:

Meglio stasera, Baby go go go
Or as we natives say, "Fa subito!"

For this poor Americana(o), who knows little of your speech
Be a nice Italiano(a), who starts to teach

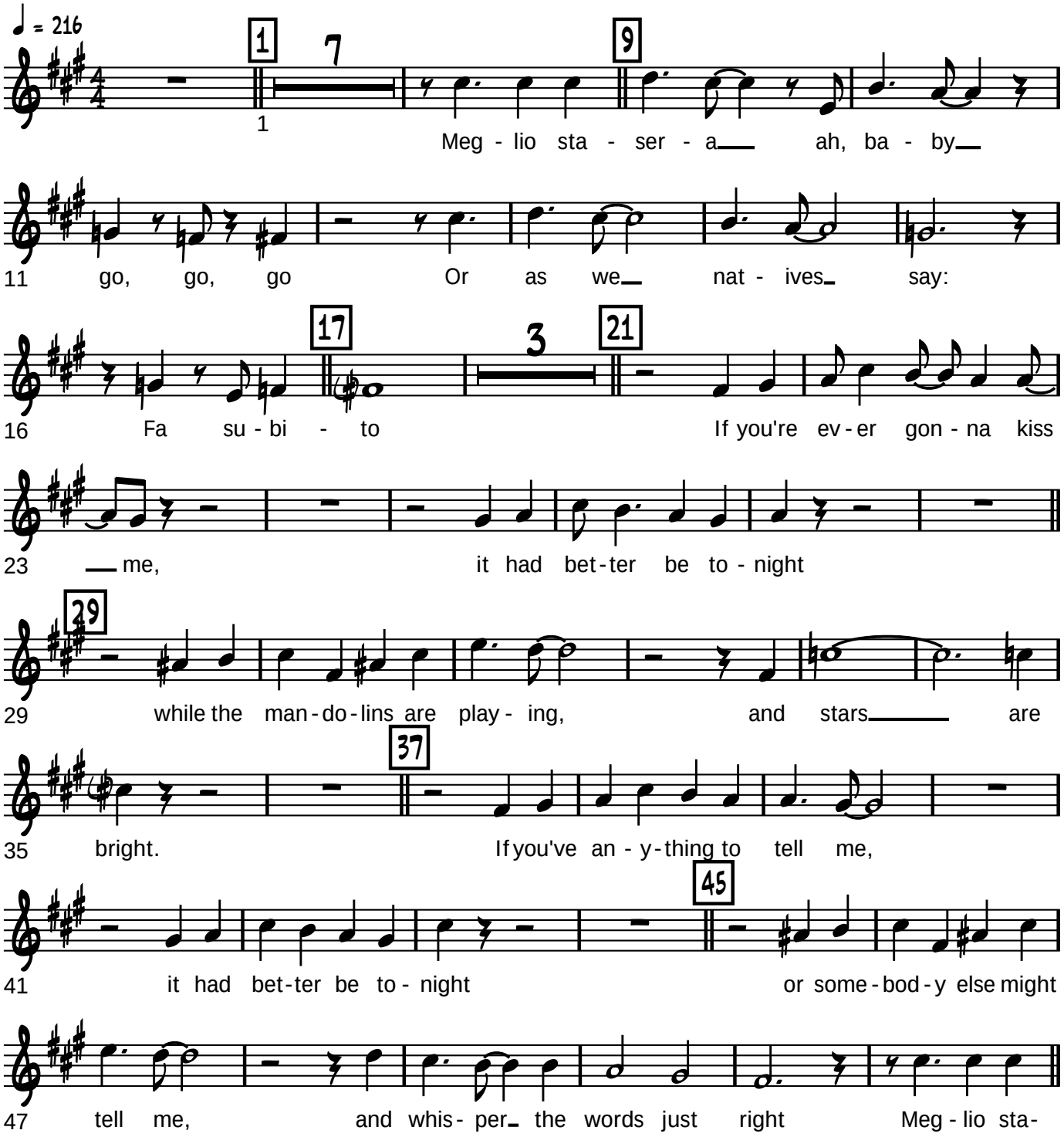
Show me how in old Milano, lovers hold each other oh so tight
But I warn you sweet Pisano(a), that it had better be tonight

Chorus: Meglio stasera, Baby go go go
Or as we natives say, "Fa.....su.....bi.....to!"

E.g. Italiano = male, italiana = female

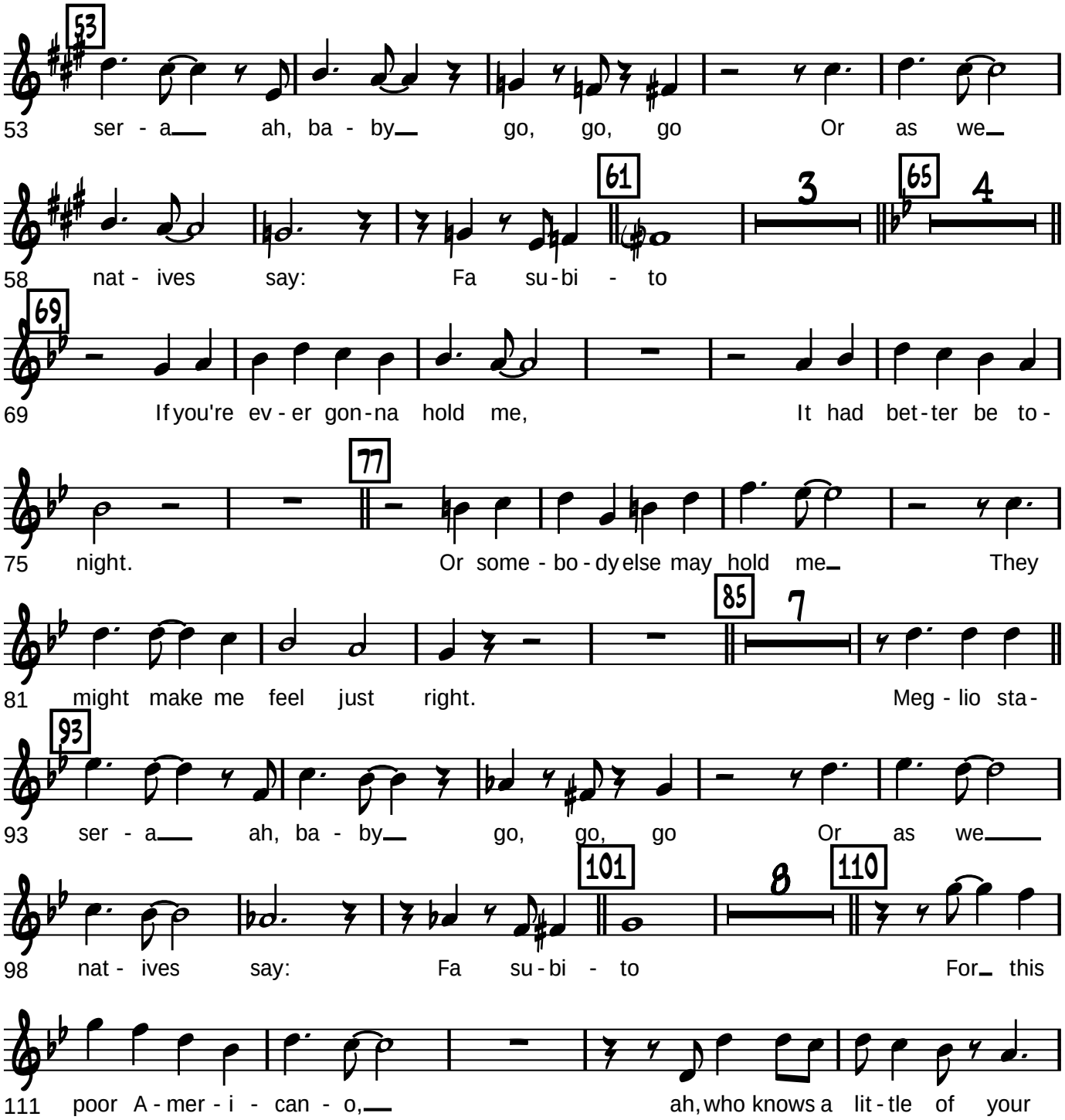
VOCAL

IT HAD BETTER BE TONIGHT



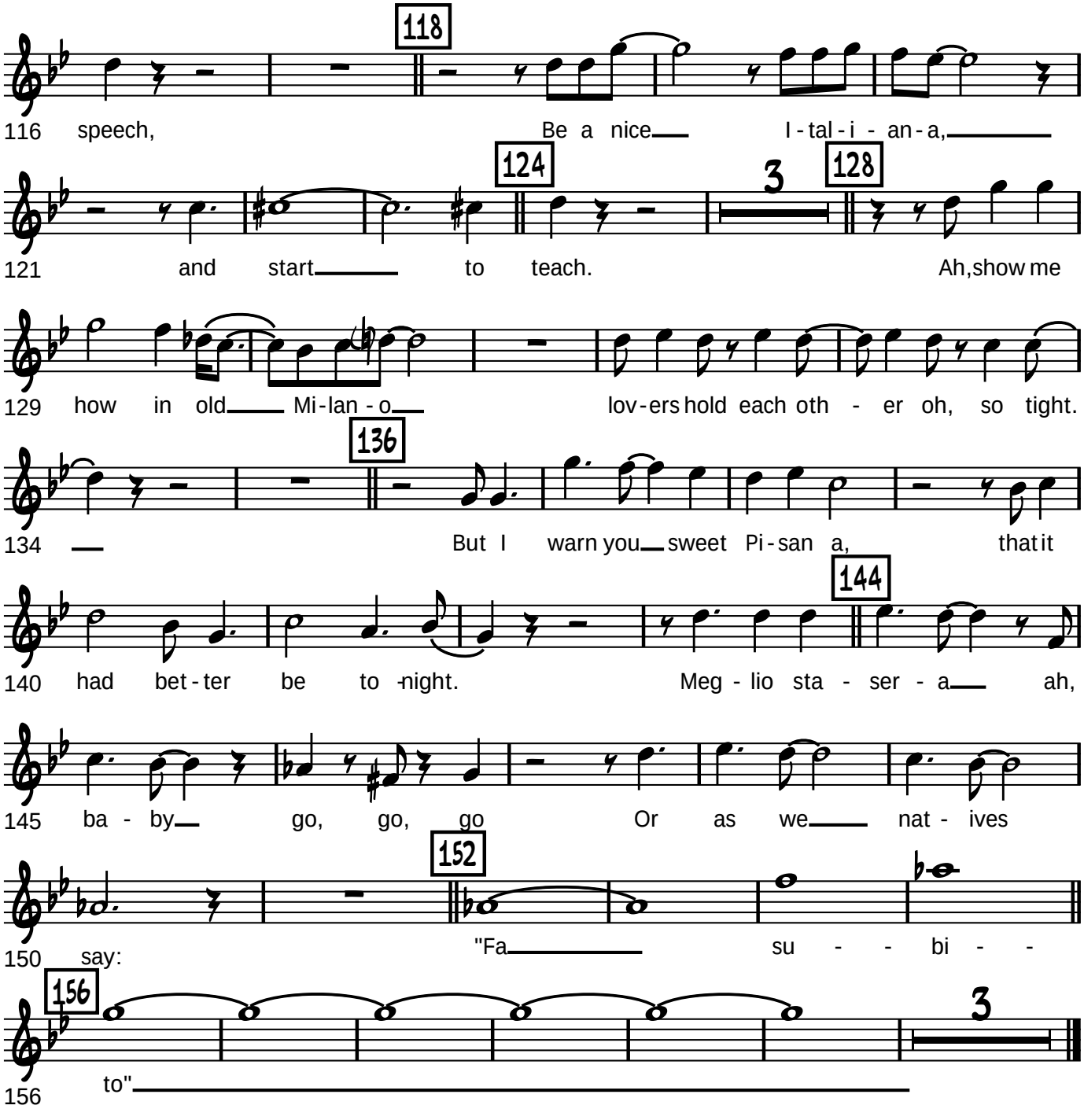
It Had Better Be Tonight

Vocal



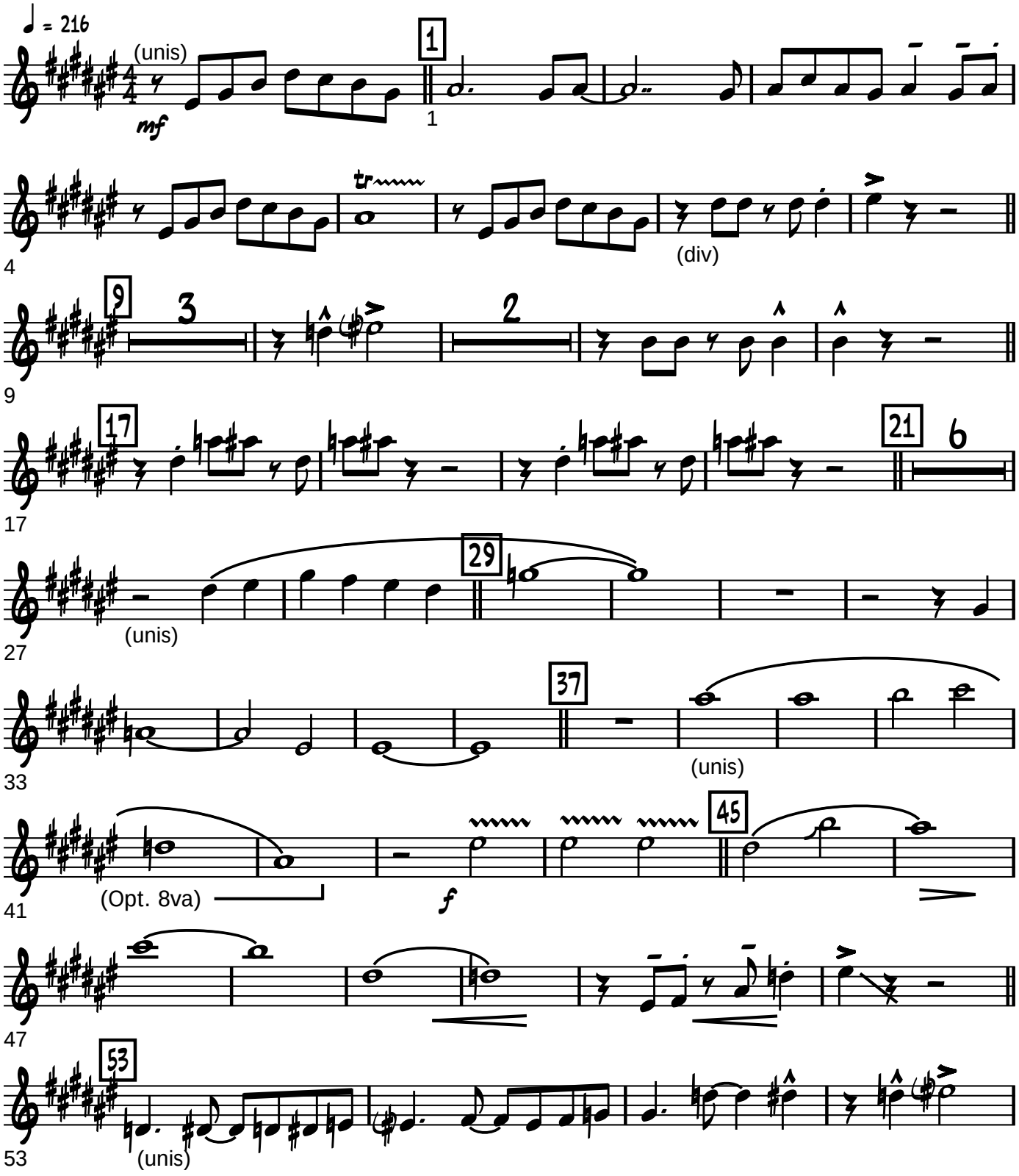
It Had Better Be Tonight

Vocal



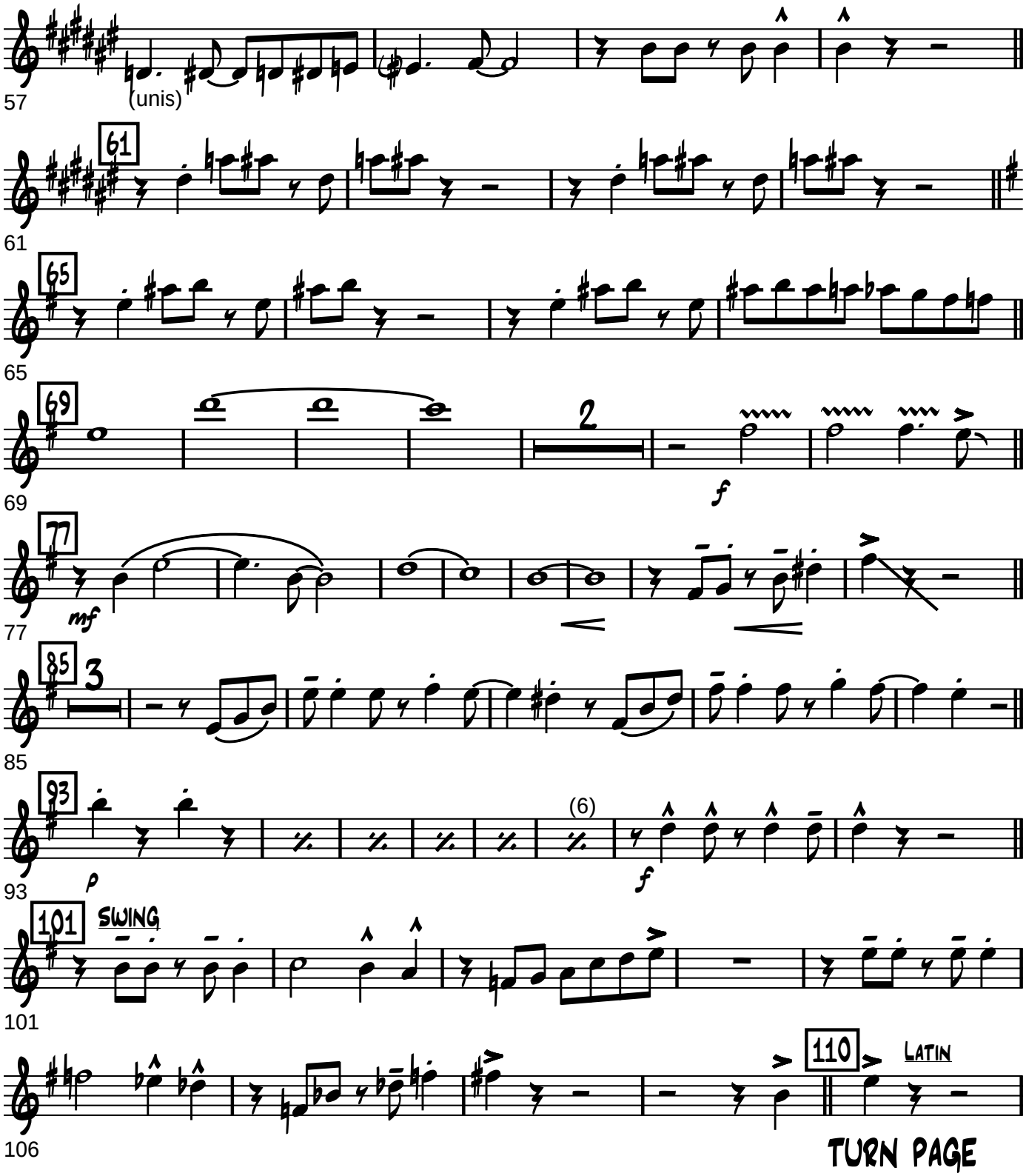
Alto 1

It Had Better Be Tonight



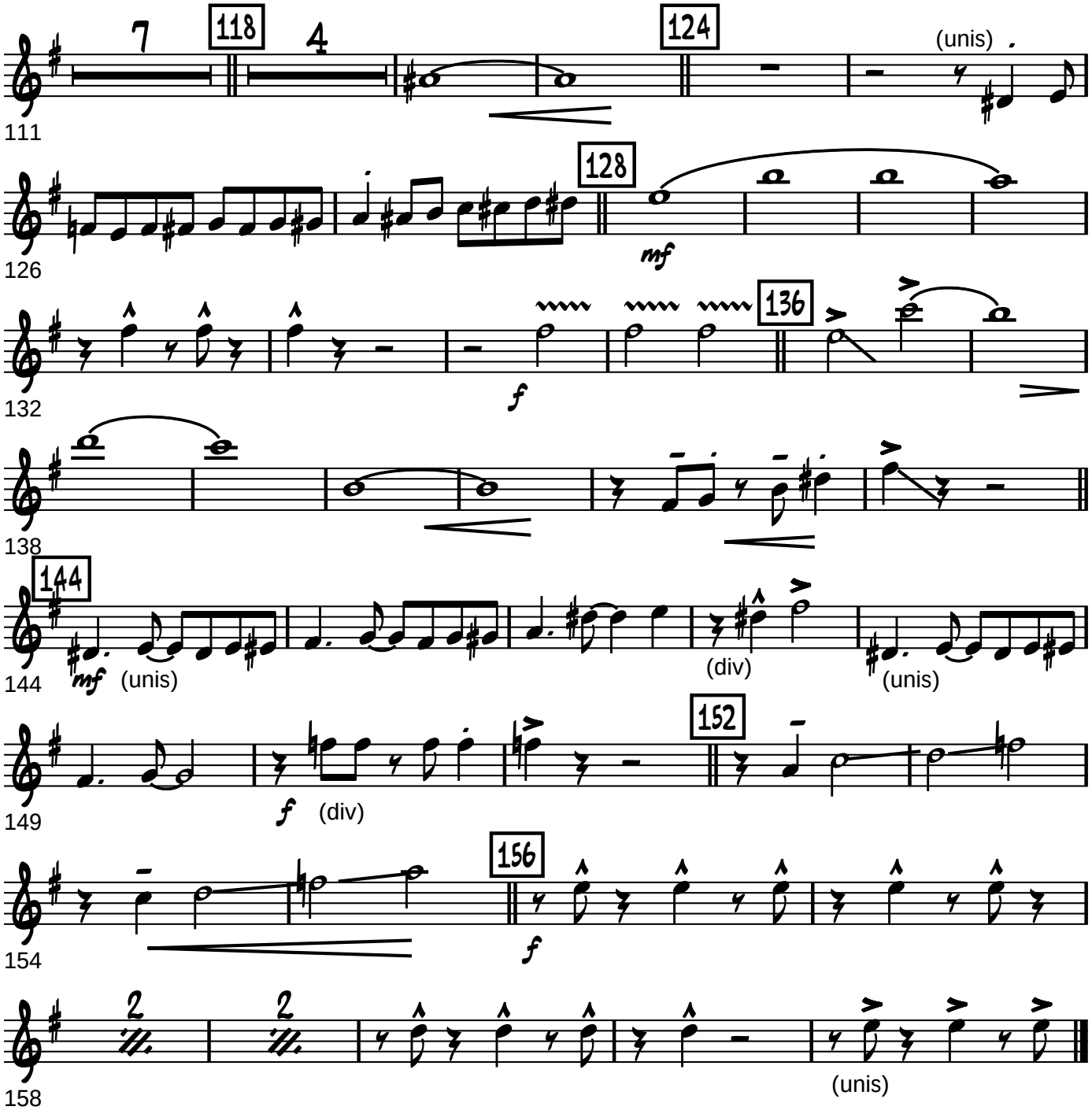
It Had Better Be Tonight

Alto 1



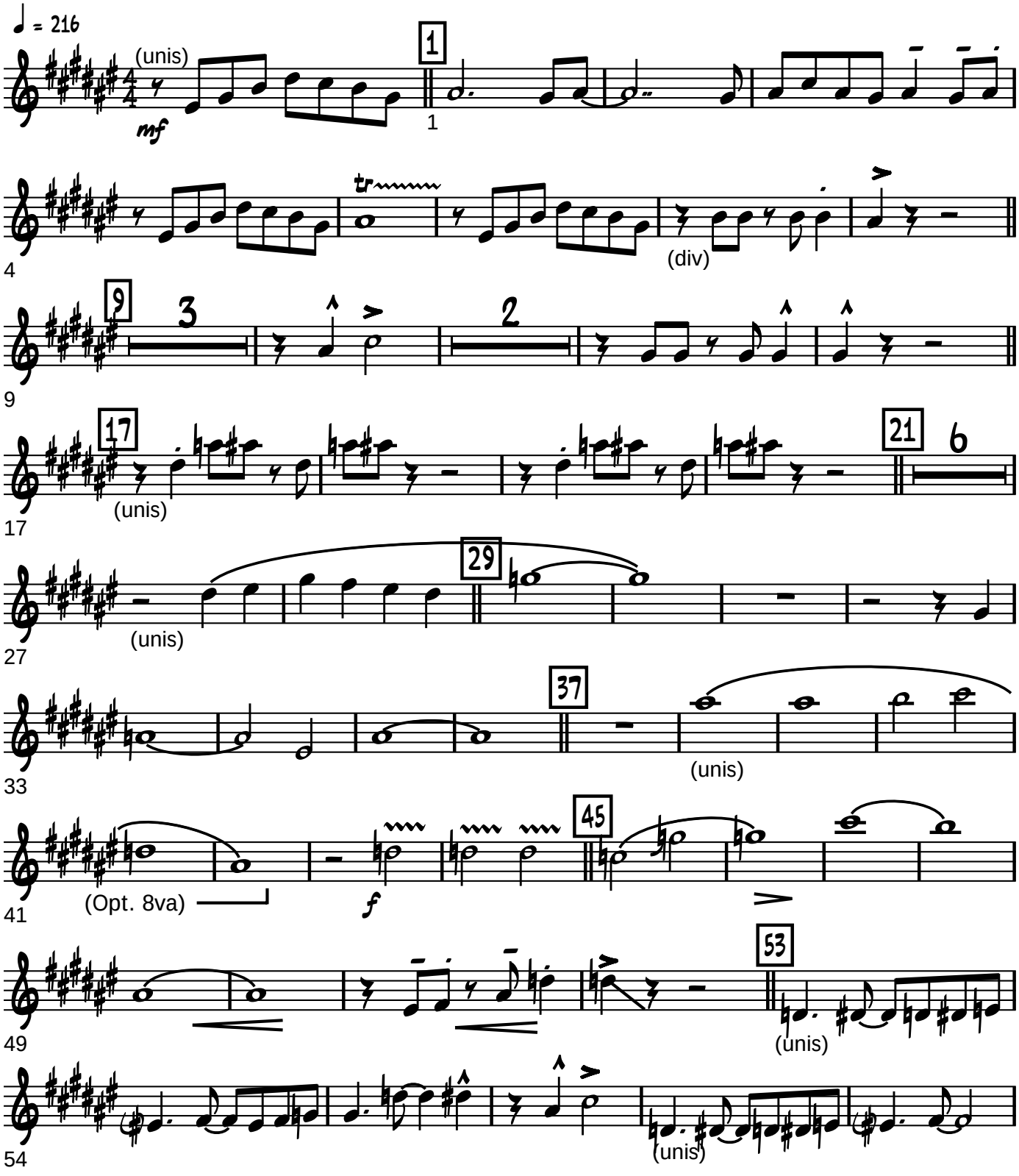
It Had Better Be Tonight

Alto 1



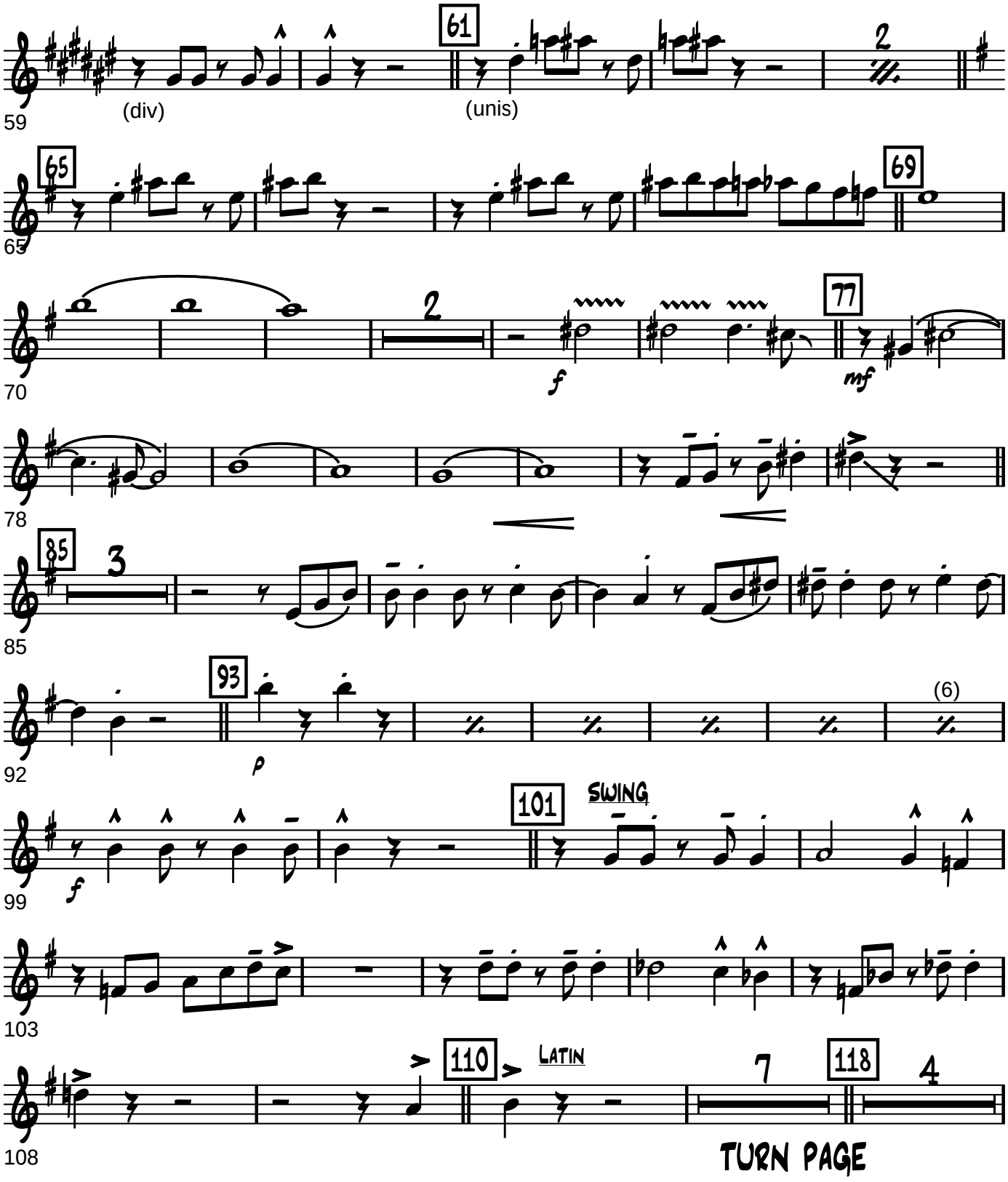
Alto 2

It Had Better Be Tonight



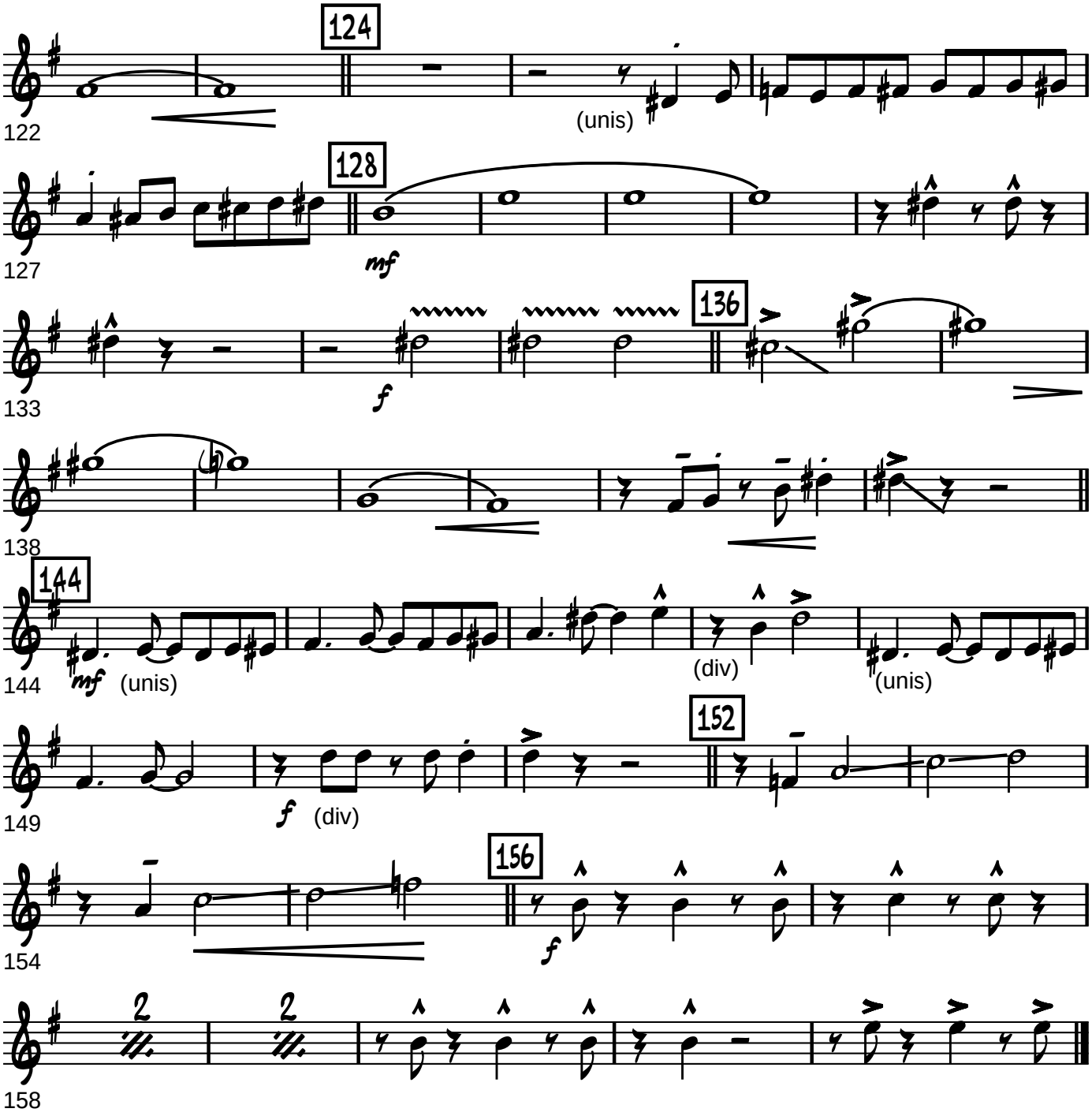
It Had Better Be Tonight

Alto 2



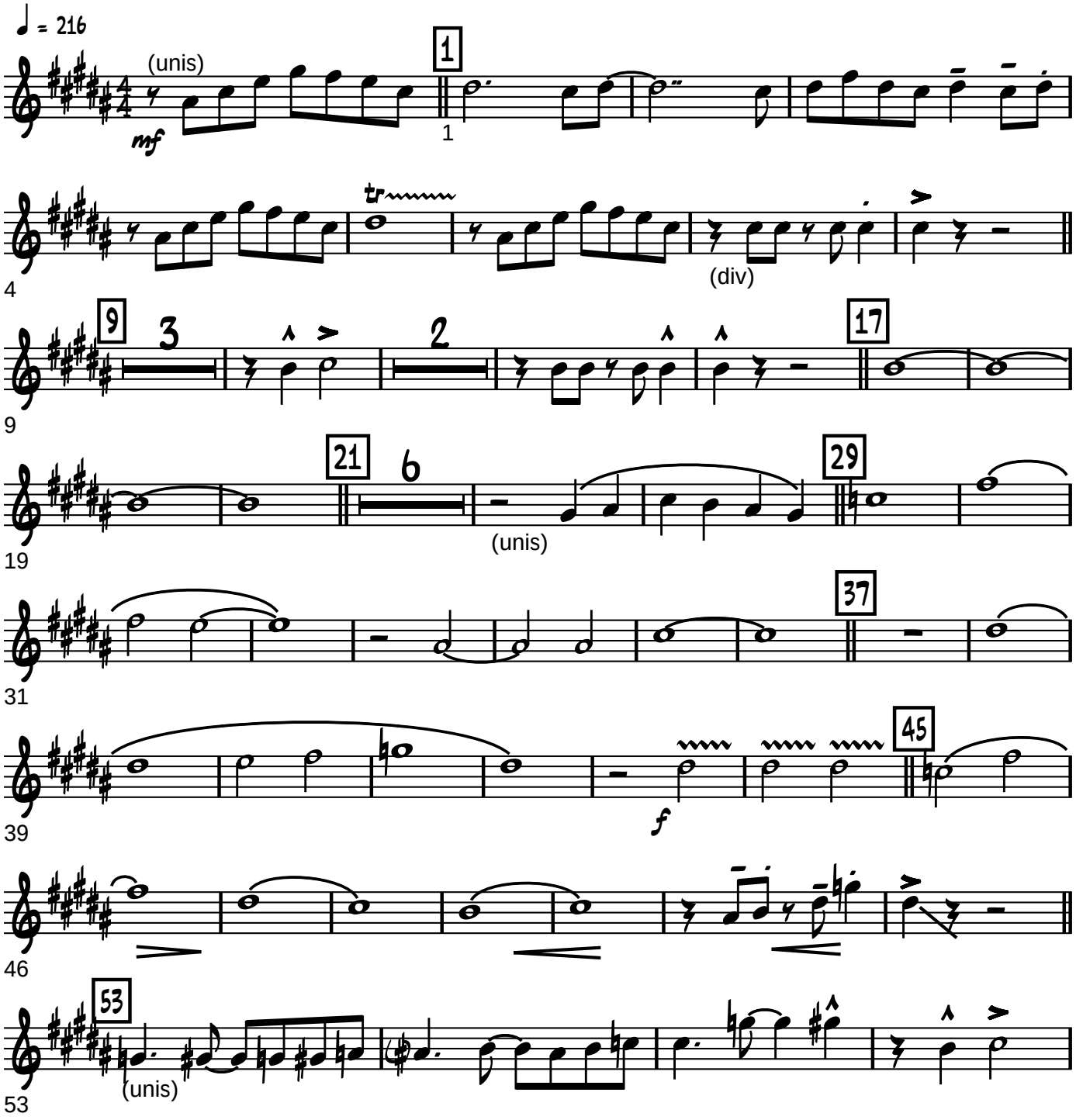
It Had Better Be Tonight

Alto 2



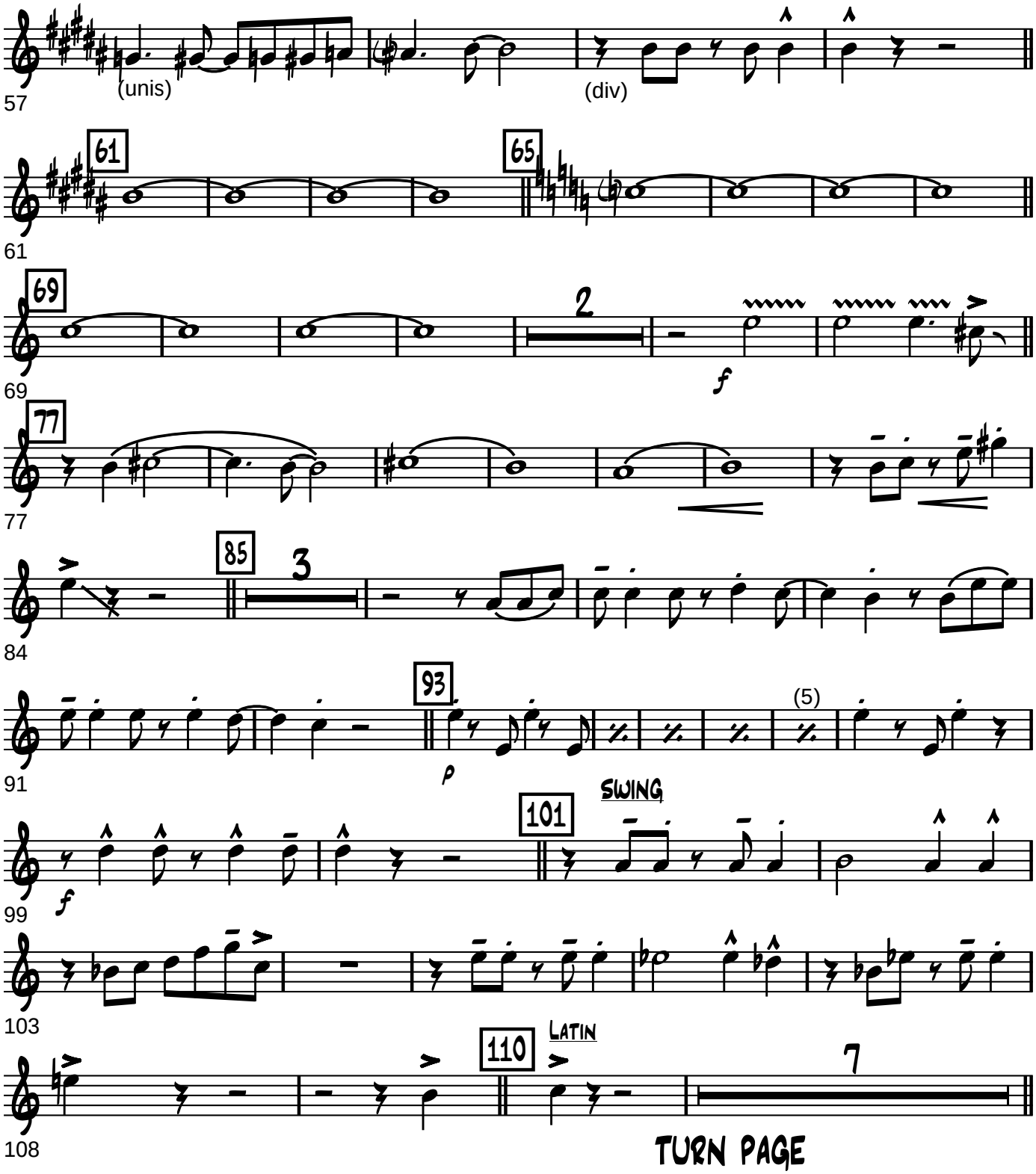
Tenor 1

It Had Better Be Tonight



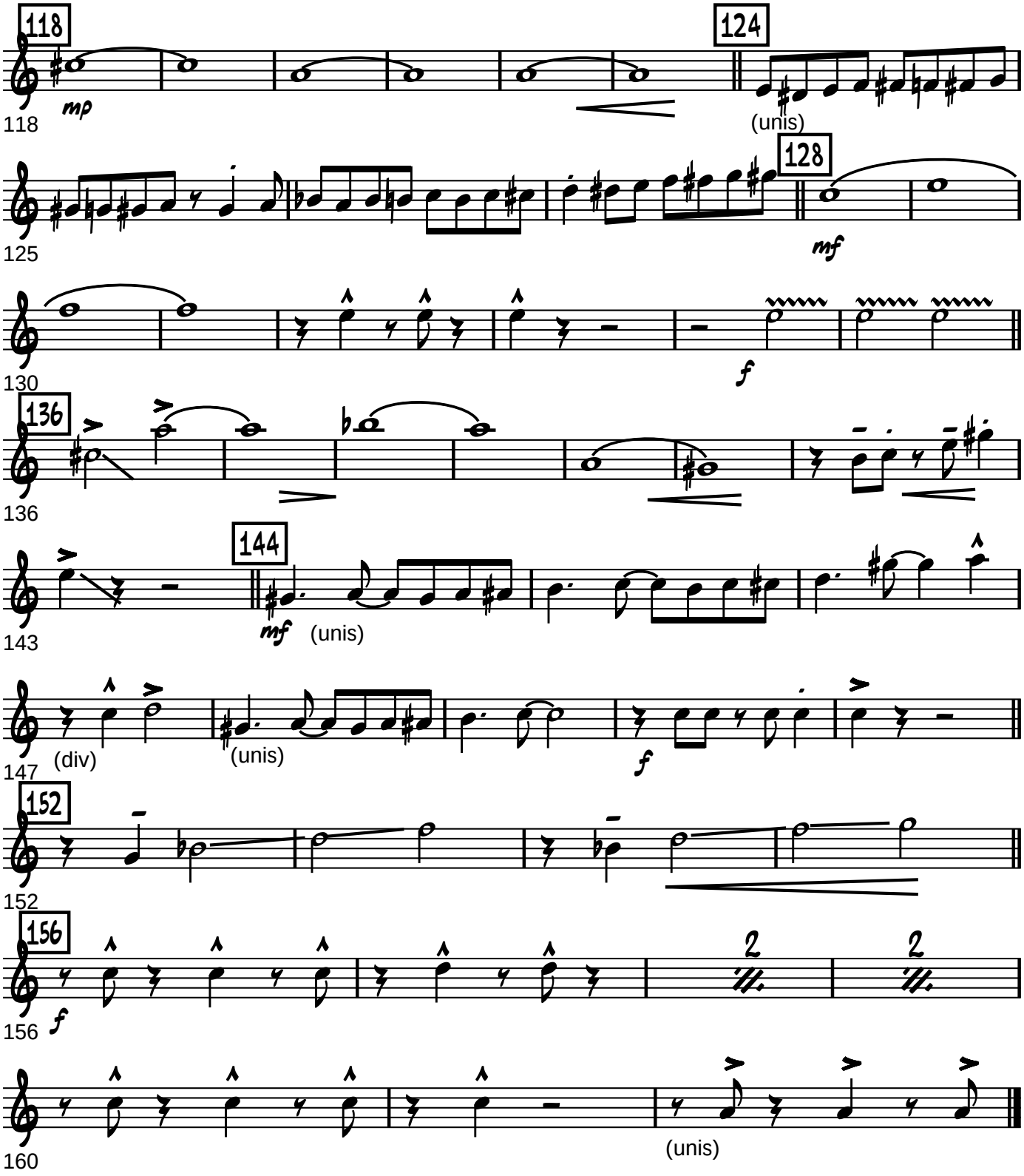
It Had Better Be Tonight

Tenor 1



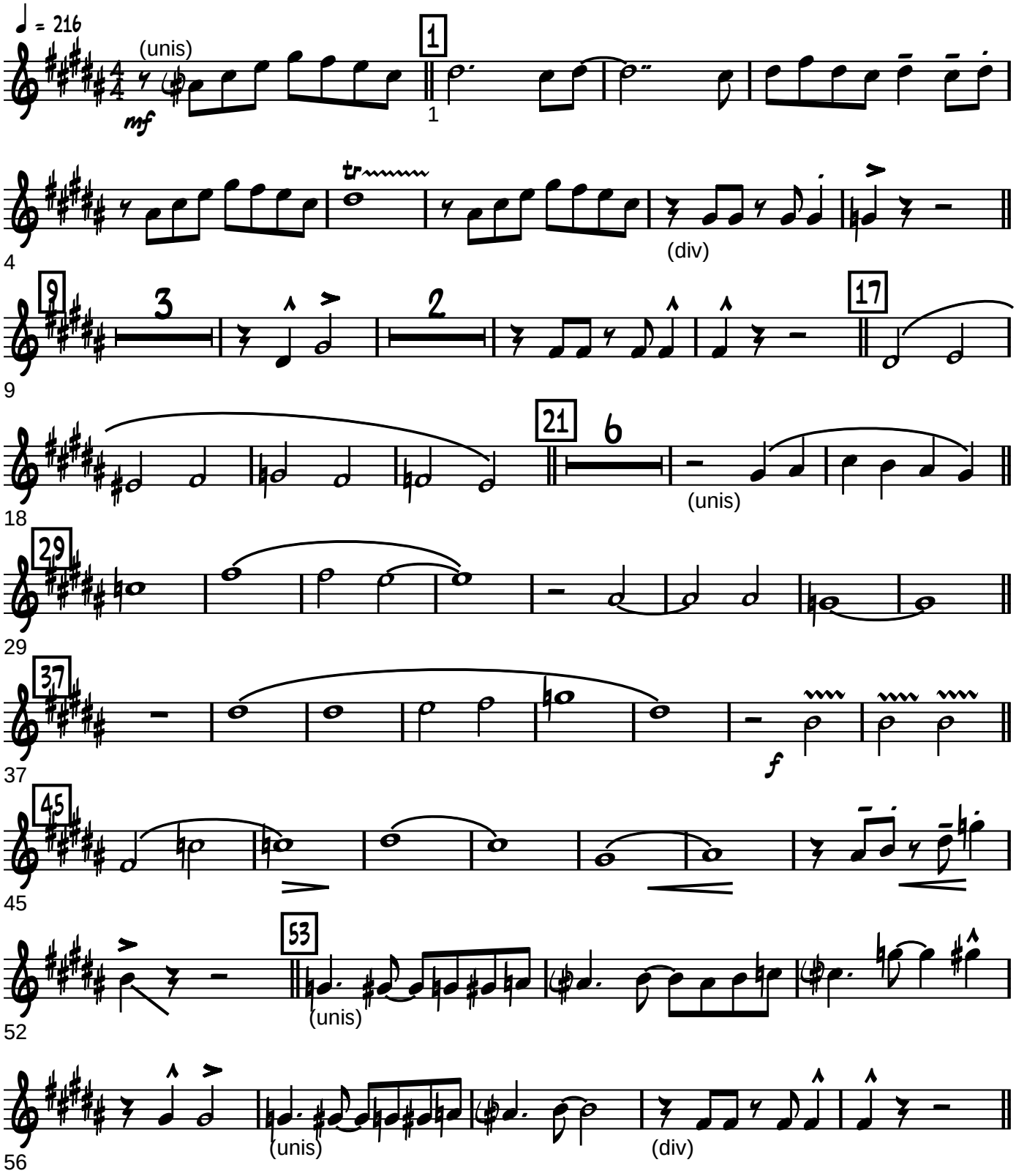
It Had Better Be Tonight

Tenor 1



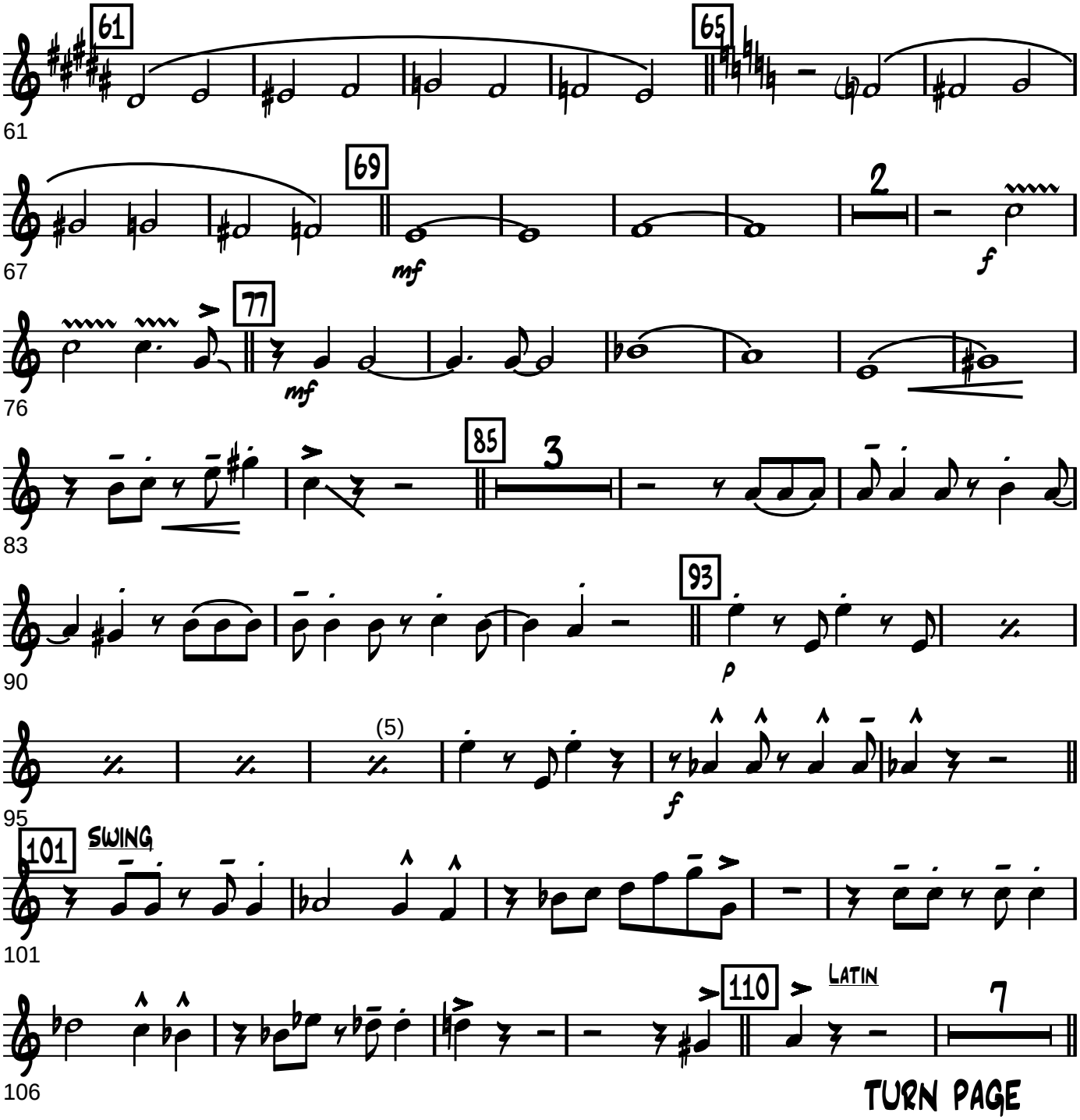
Tenor 2

It Had Better Be Tonight



It Had Better Be Tonight

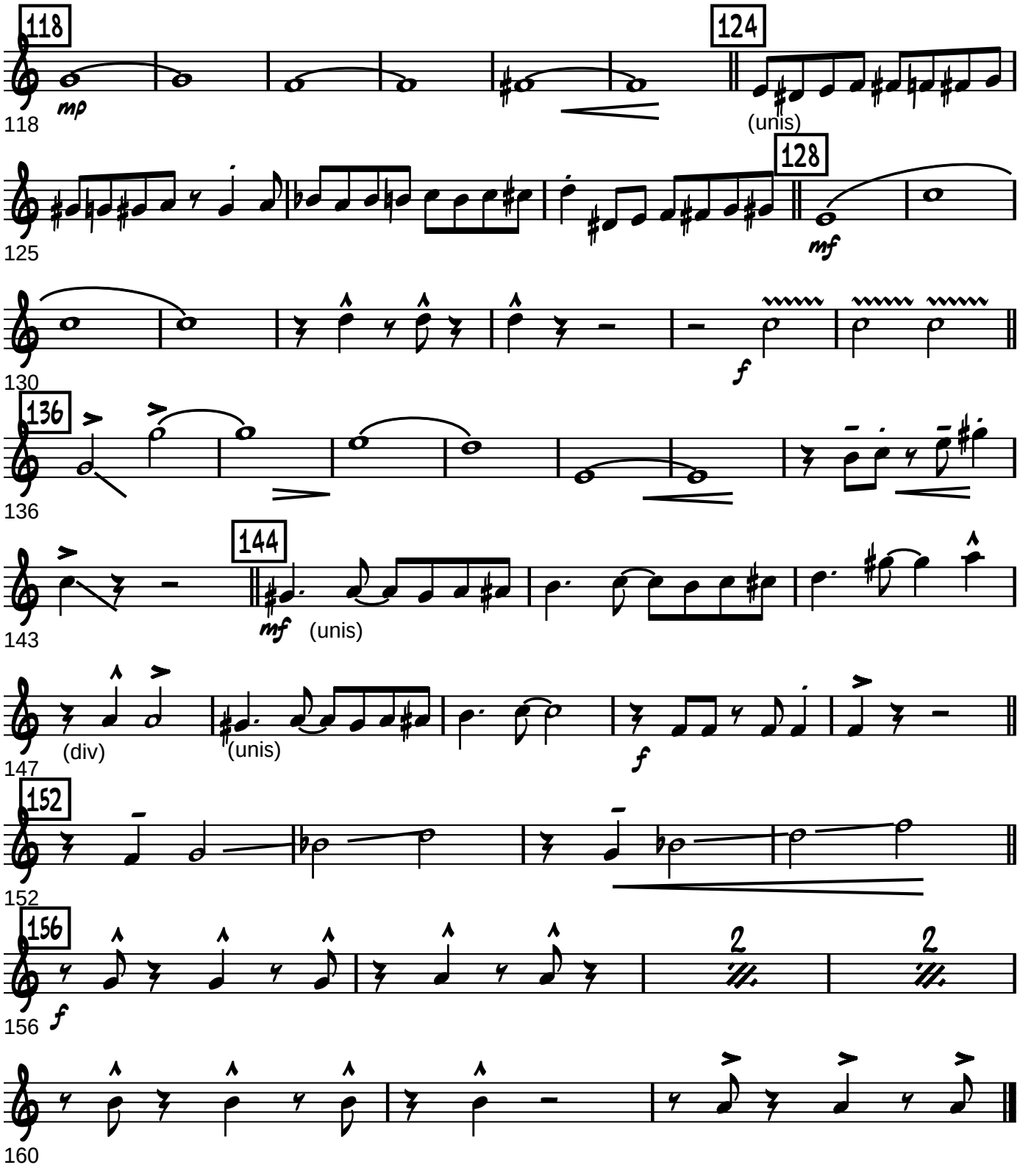
Tenor 2



TURN PAGE

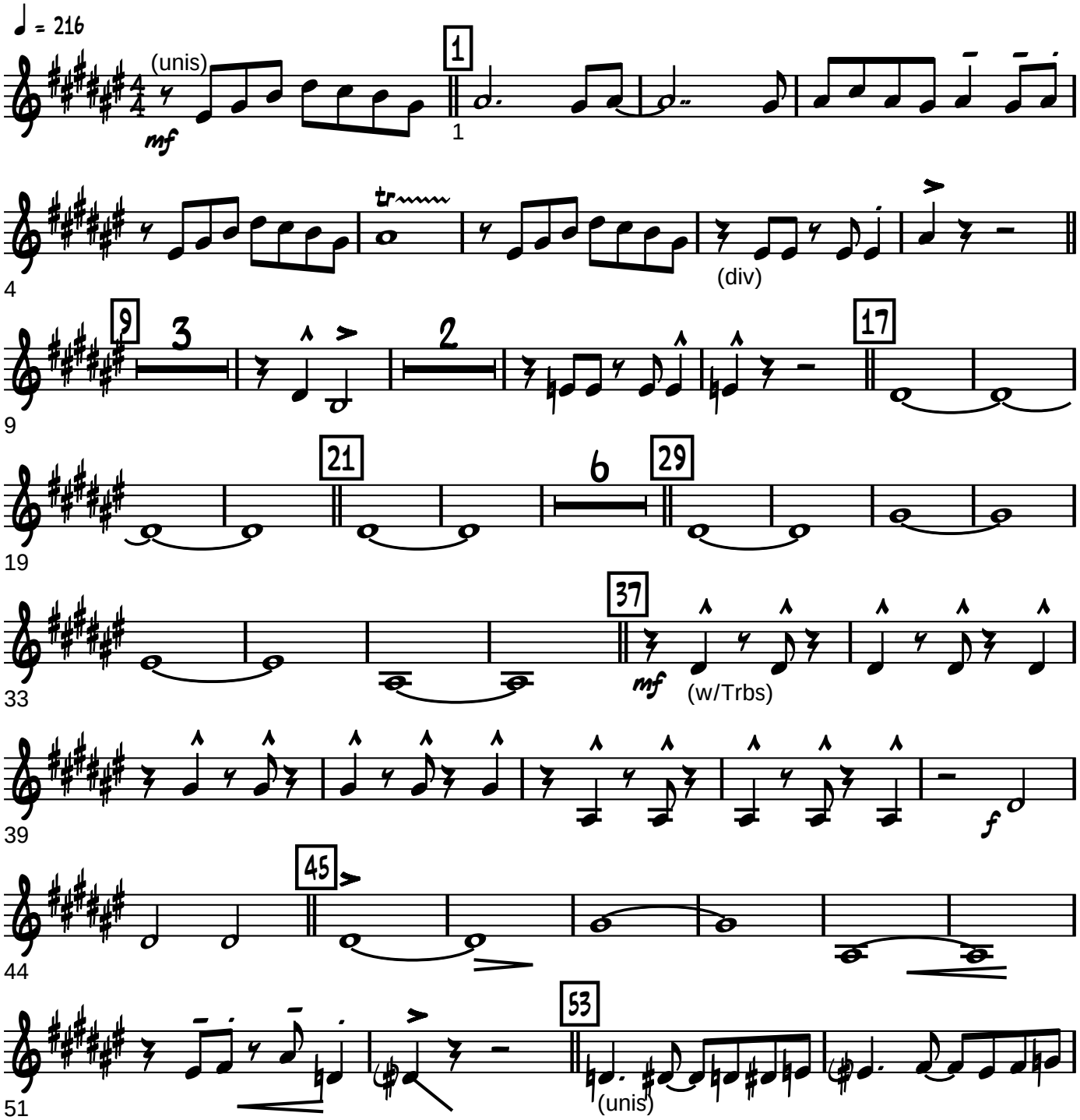
It Had Better Be Tonight

Tenor 2



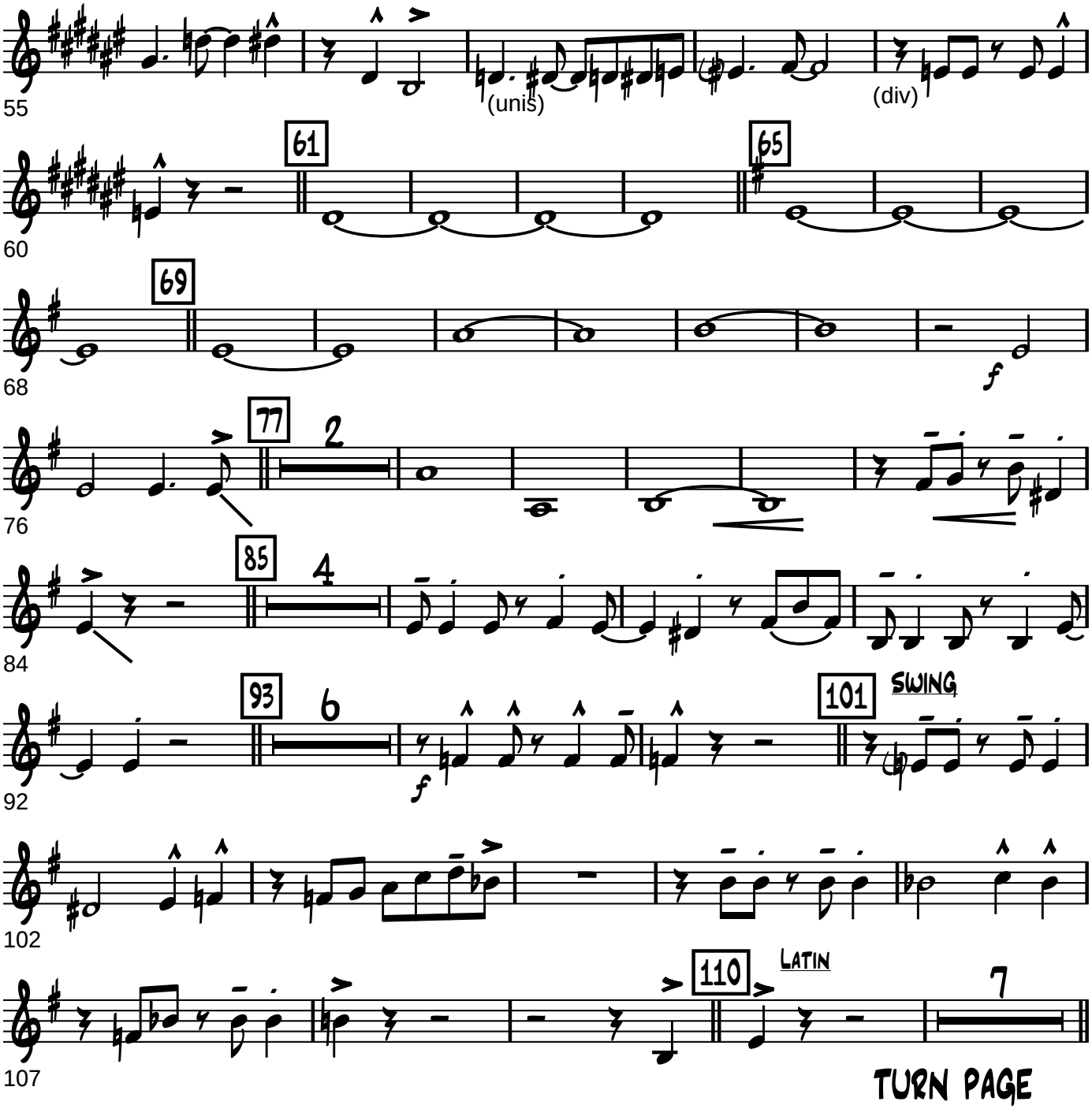
BARI

It Had Better Be Tonight



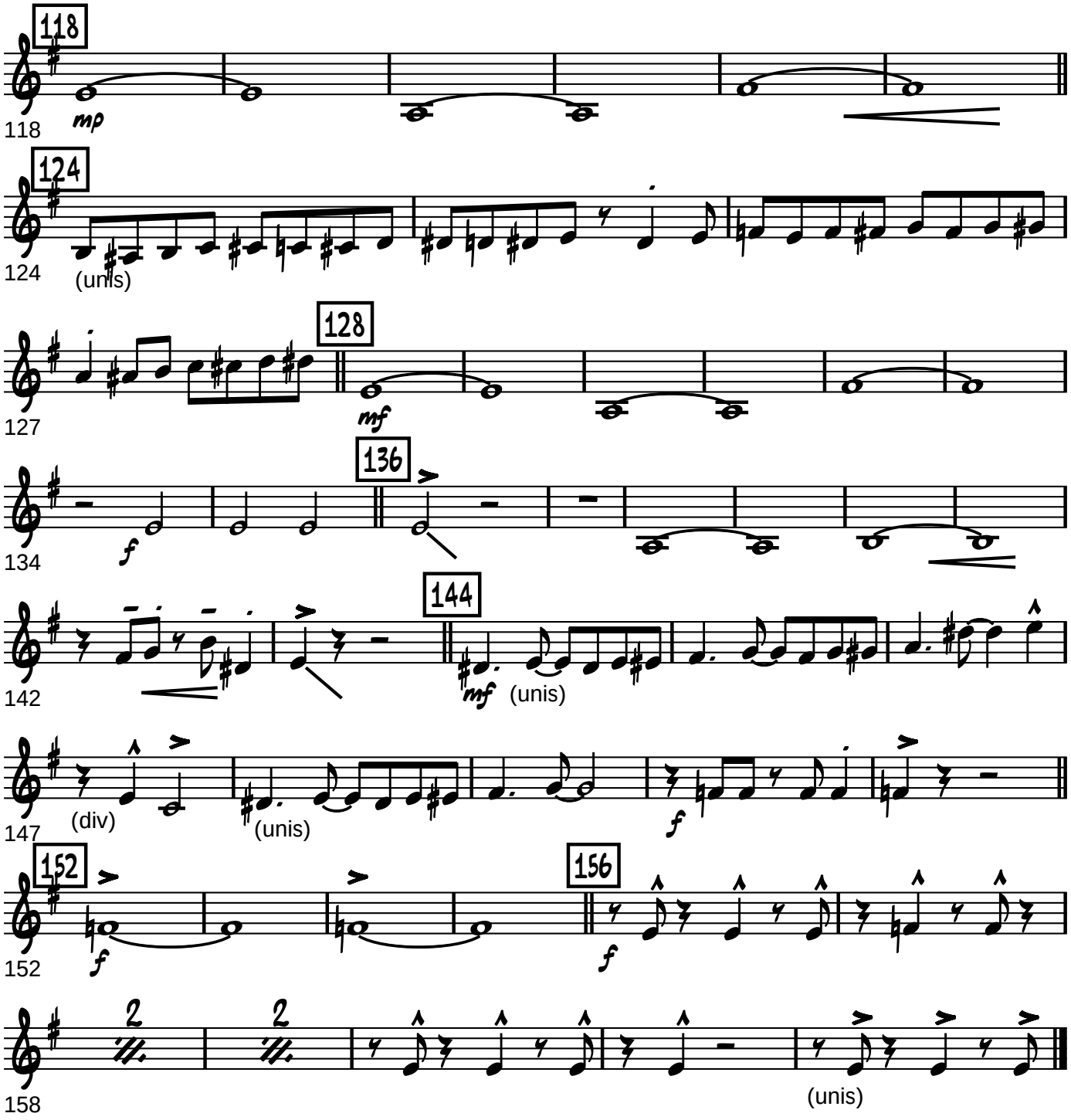
It Had Better Be Tonight

Bari



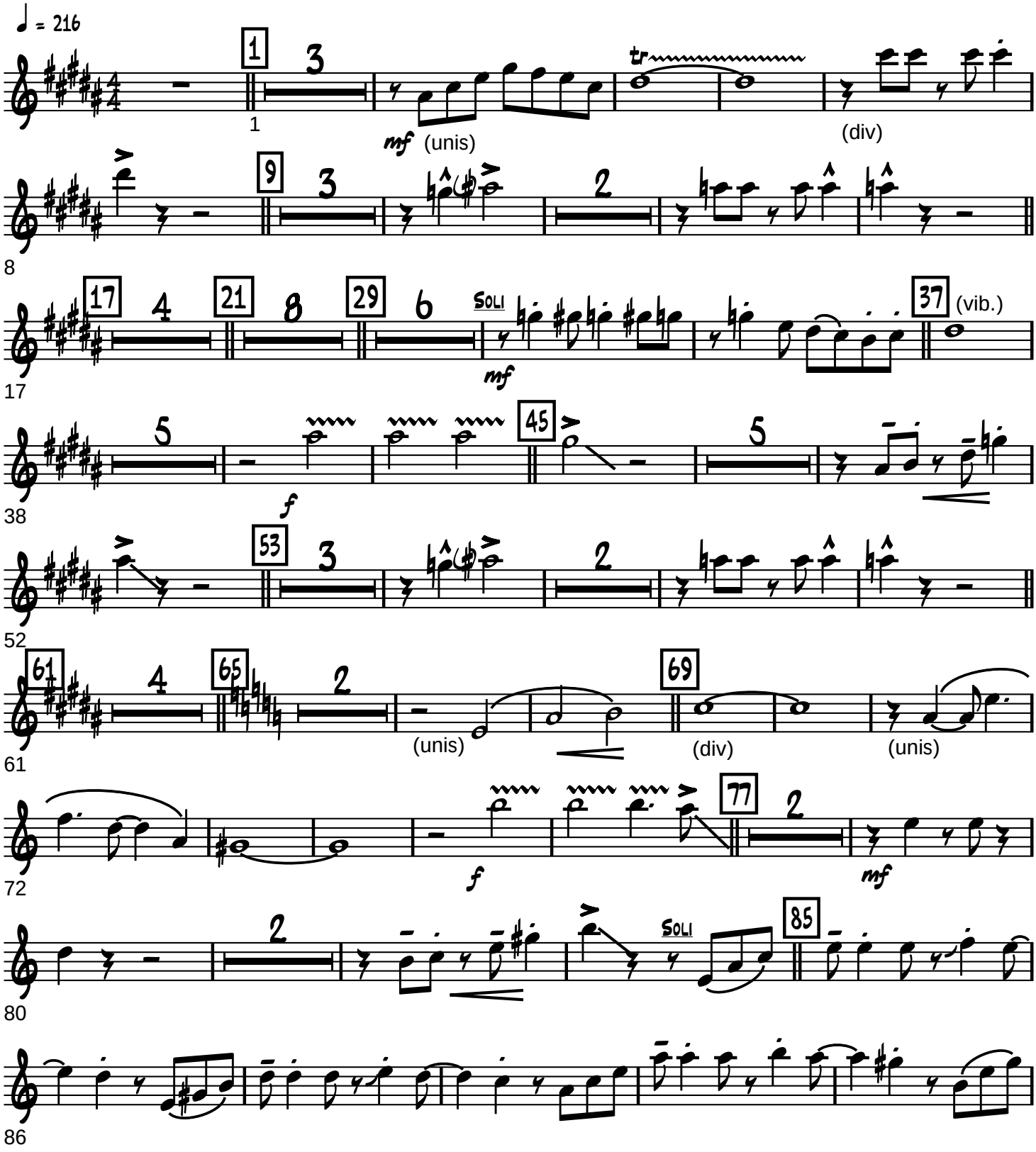
It Had Better Be Tonight

Bari



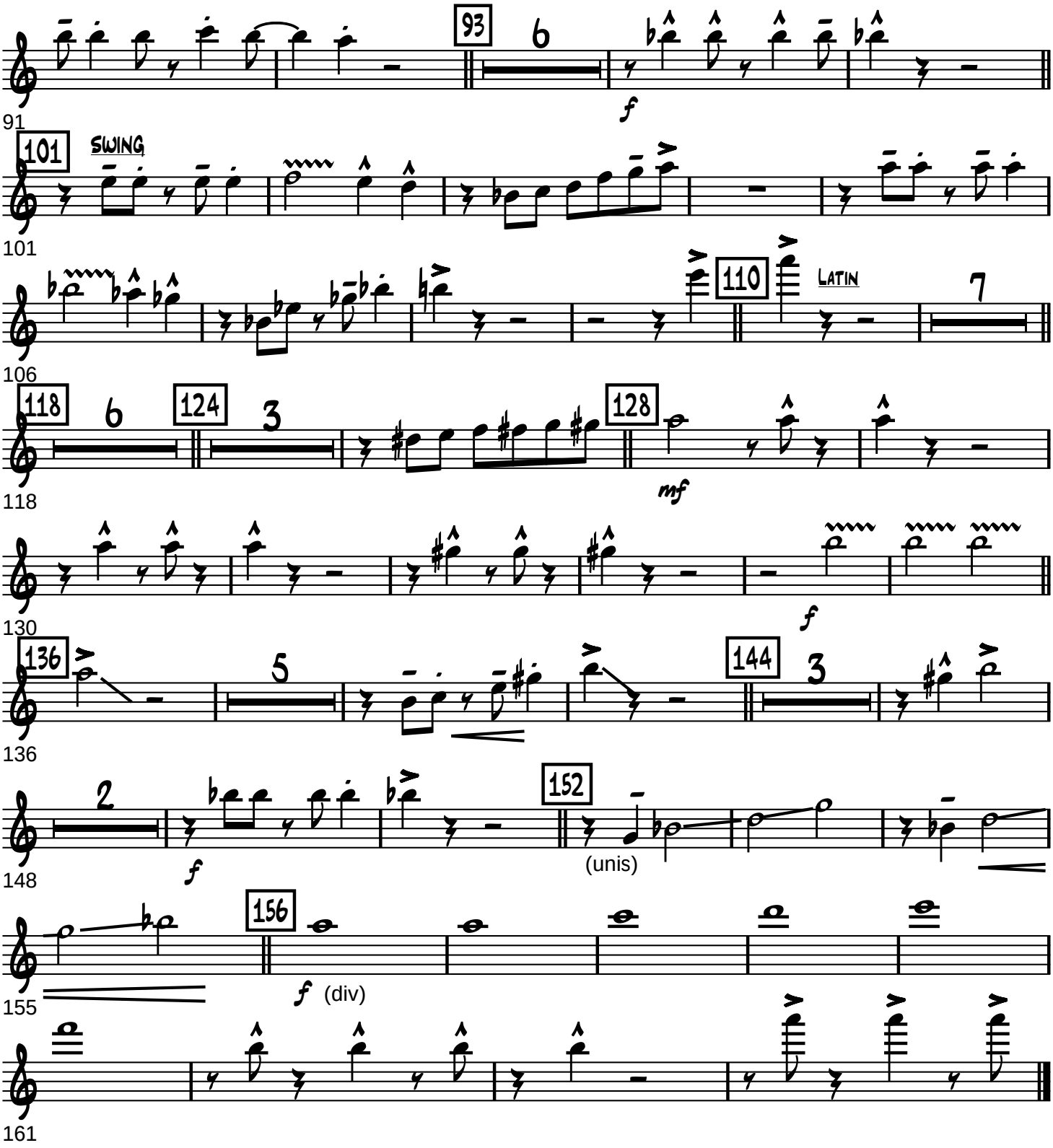
Trumpet 1

It Had Better Be Tonight



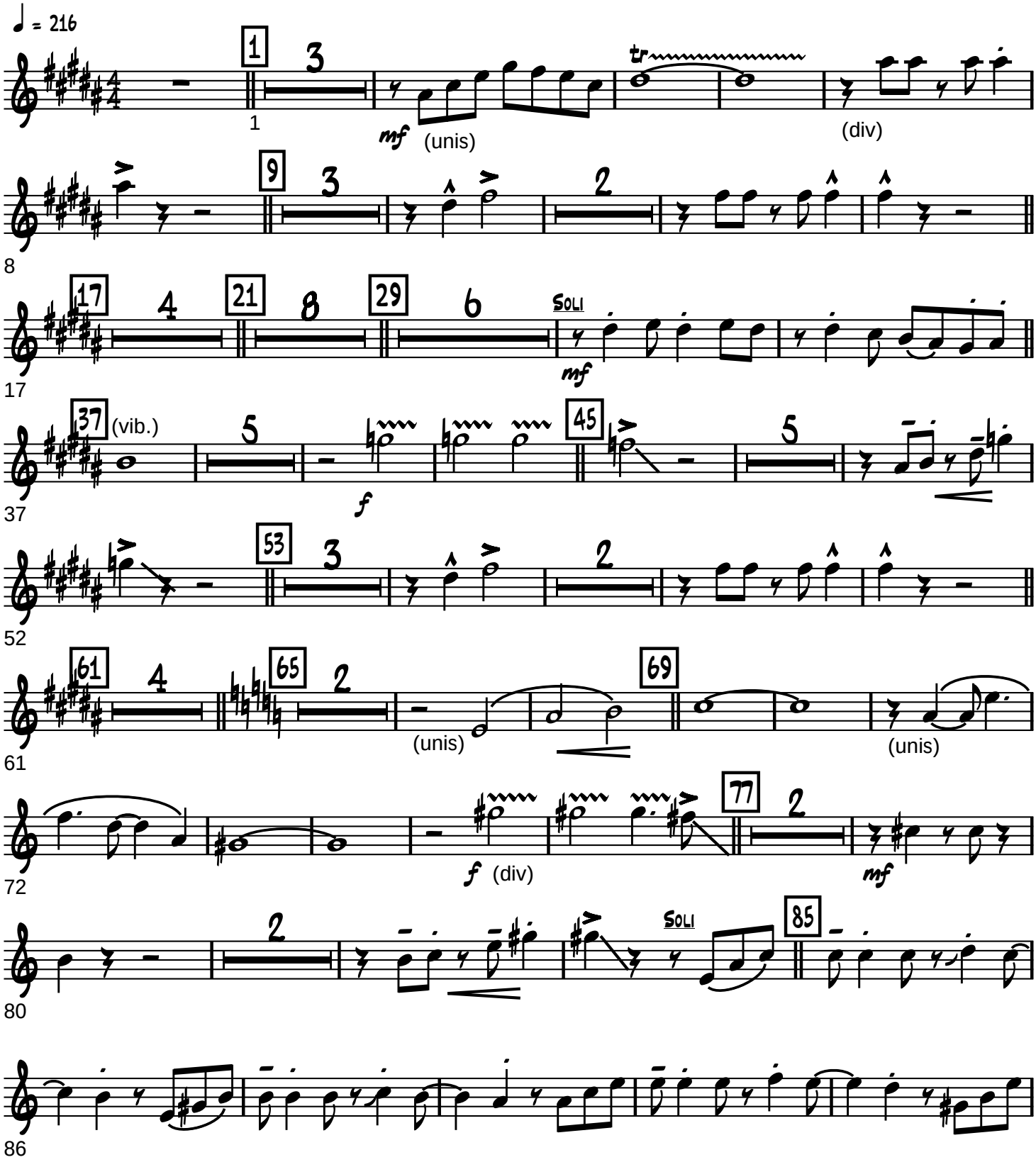
It Had Better Be Tonight

Trumpet 1



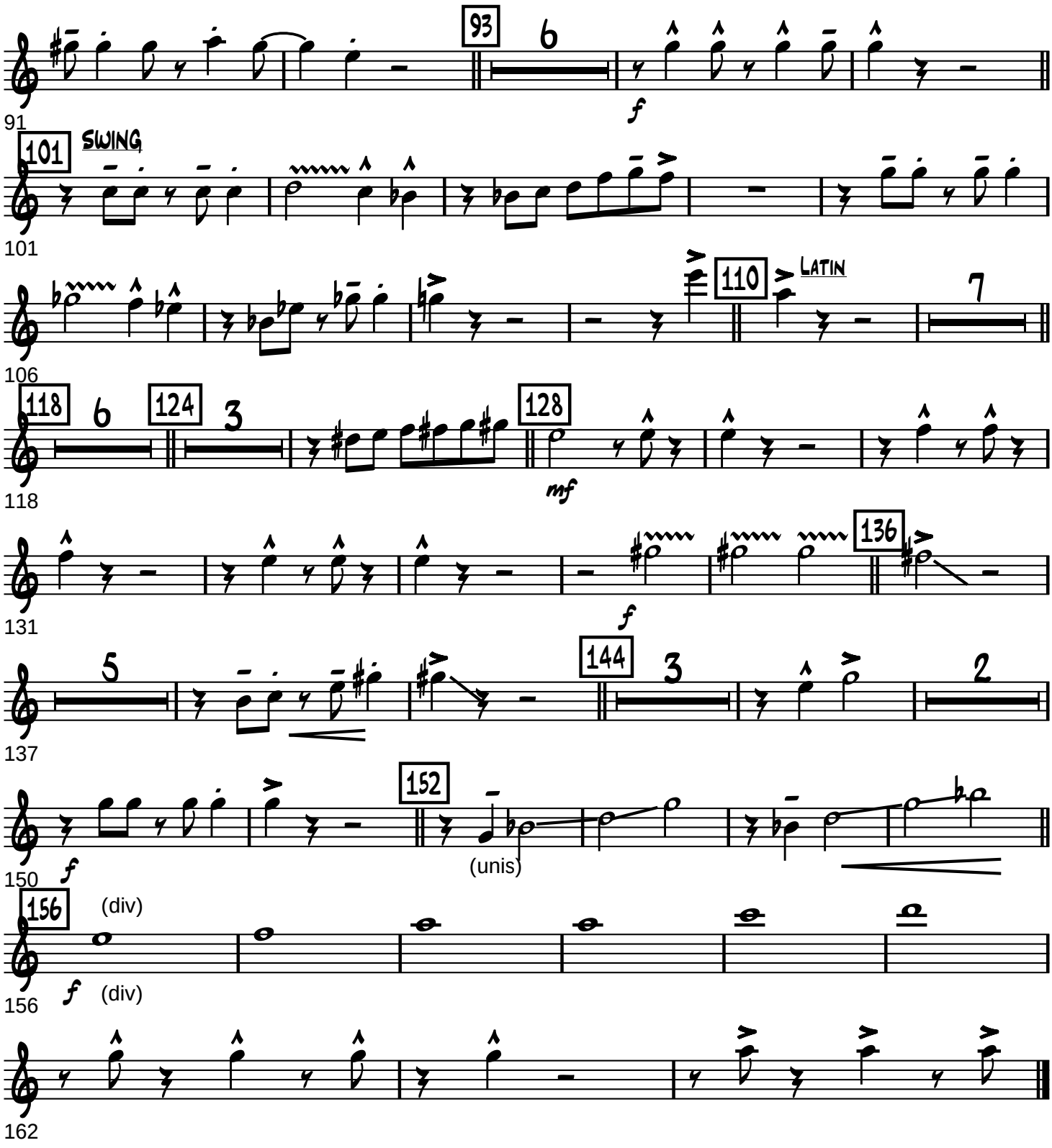
Trumpet 2

It Had Better Be Tonight



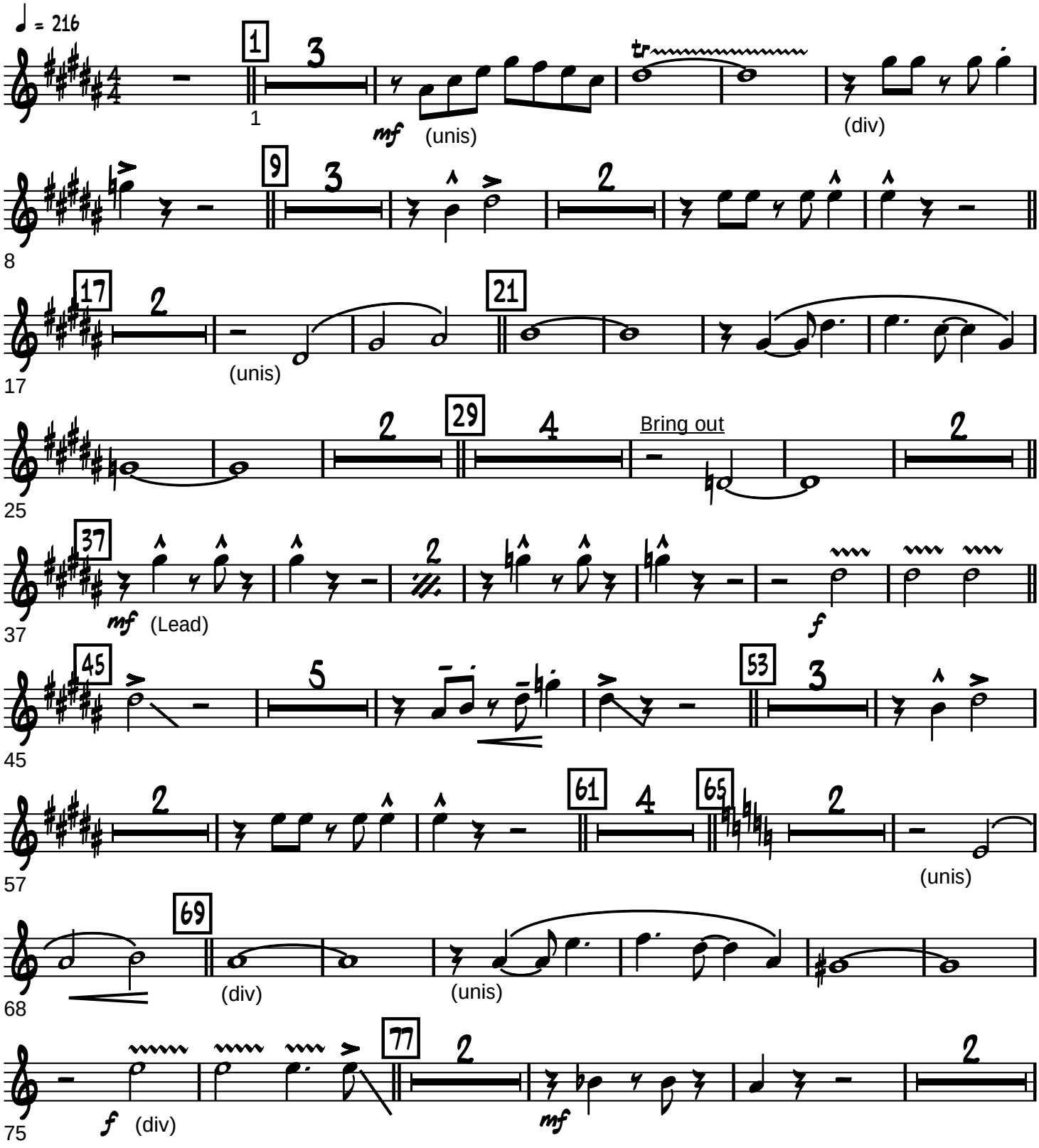
It Had Better Be Tonight

Trumpet 2



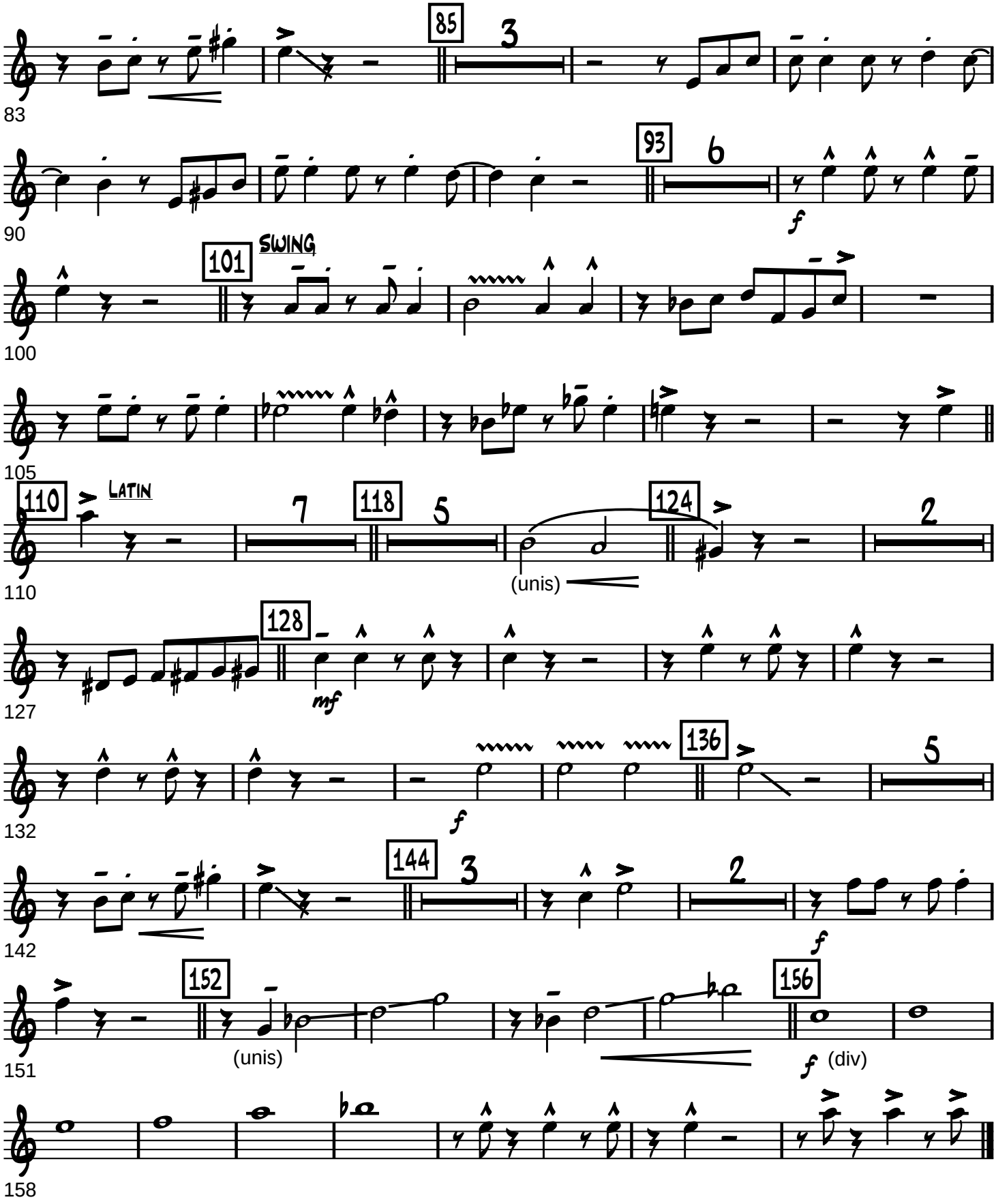
Trumpet 3

It Had Better Be Tonight



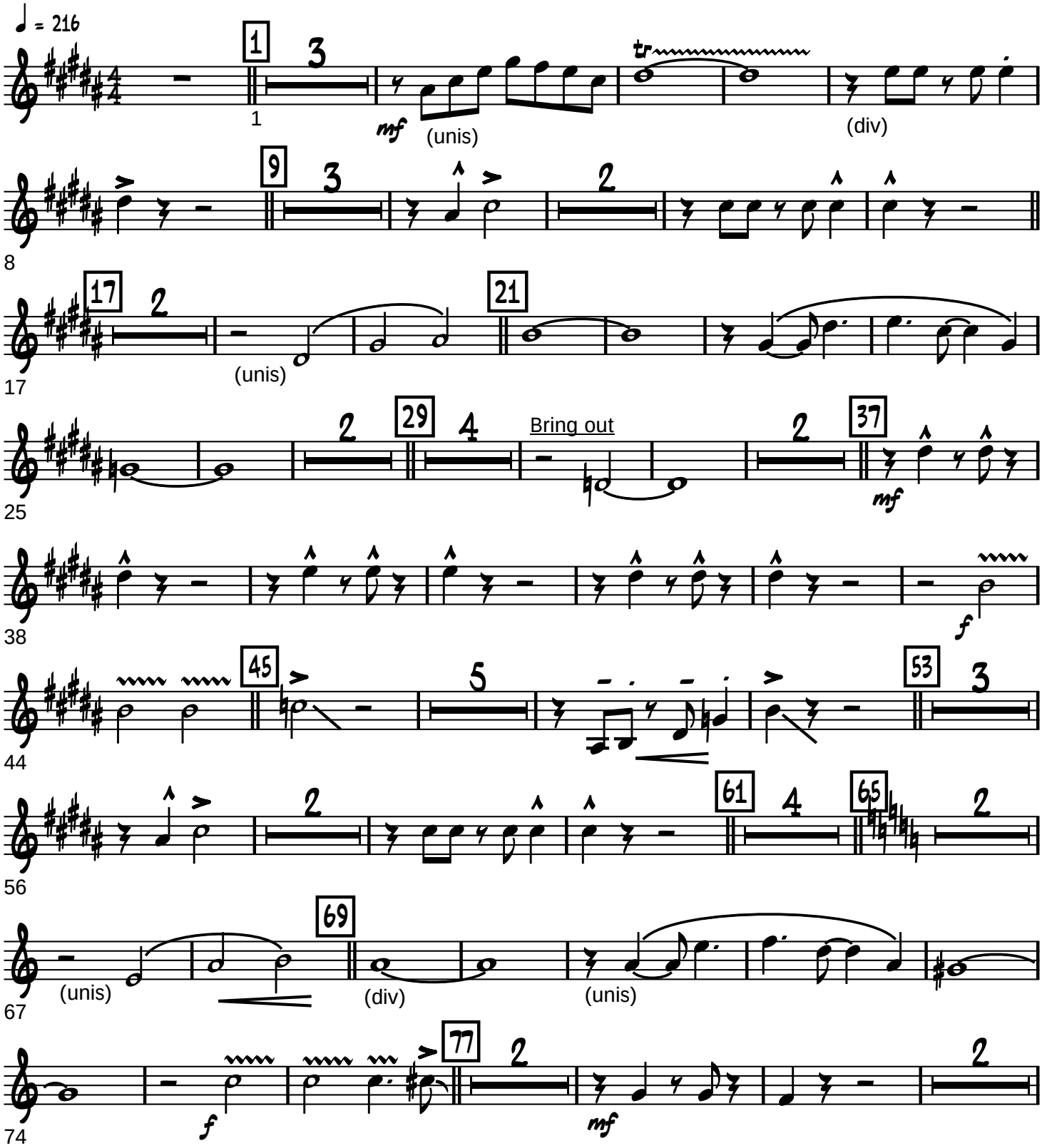
It Had Better Be Tonight

Trumpet 3



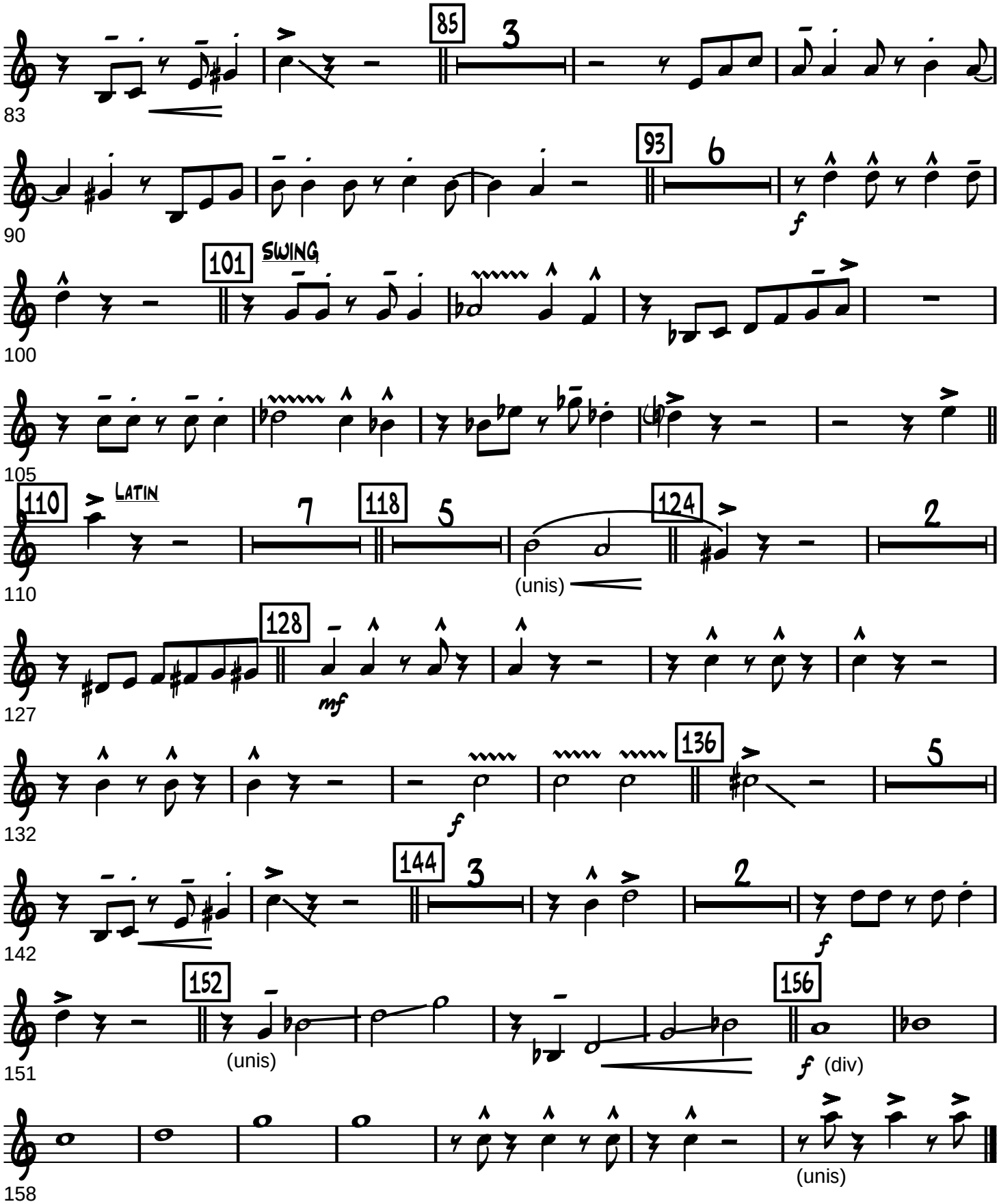
Trumpet 4

It Had Better Be Tonight



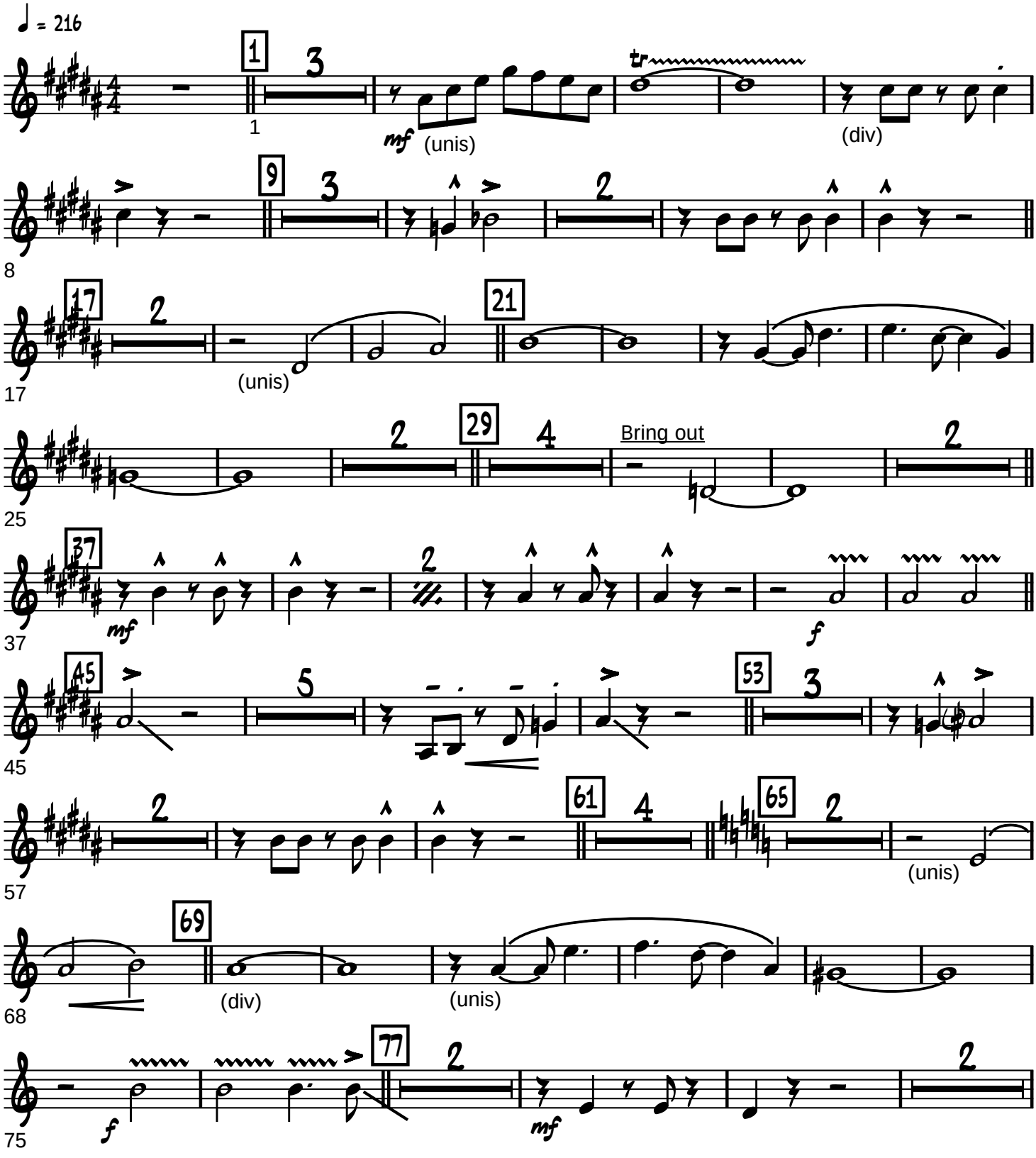
It Had Better Be Tonight

Trumpet 4



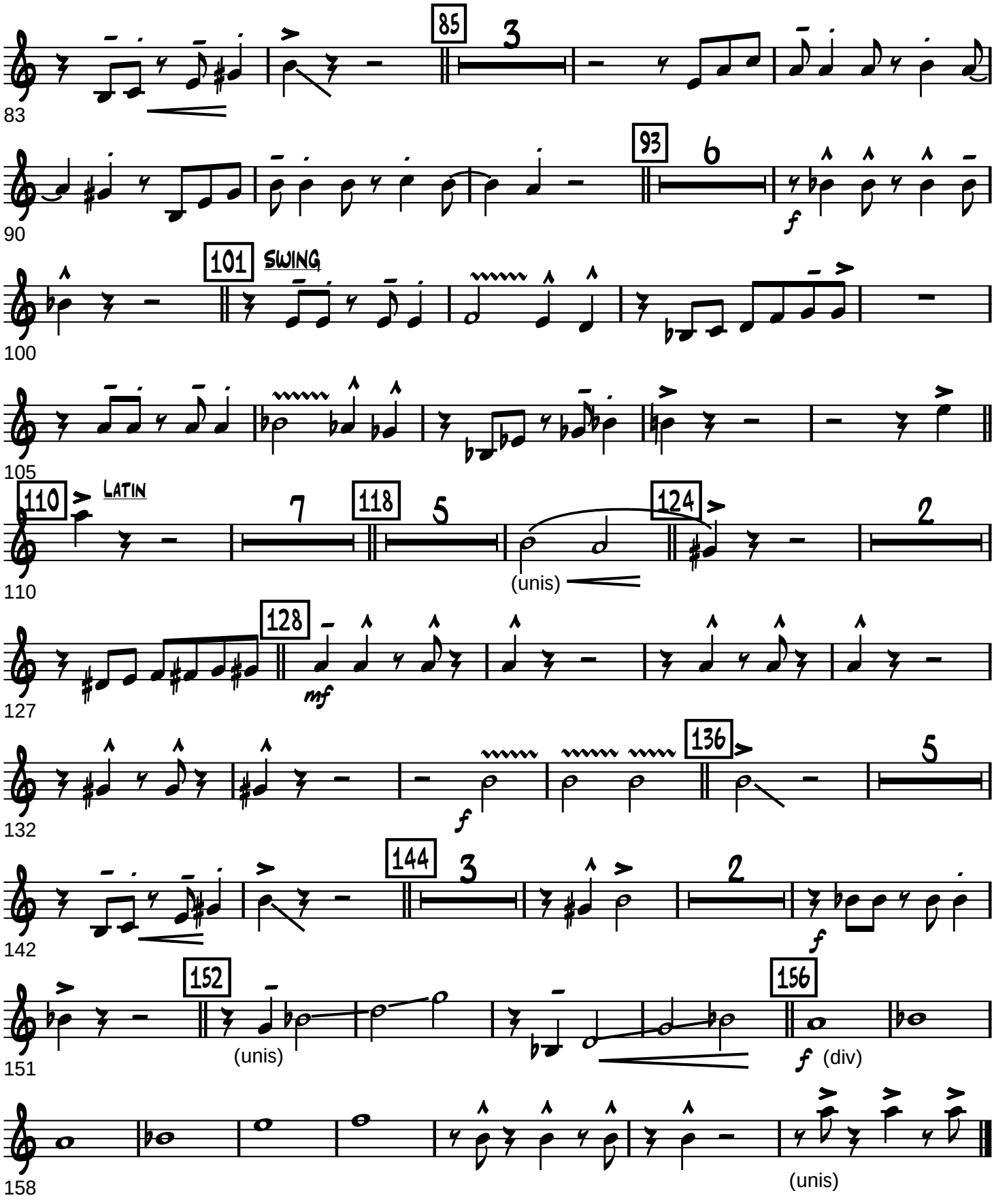
Trumpet 5

It Had Better Be Tonight



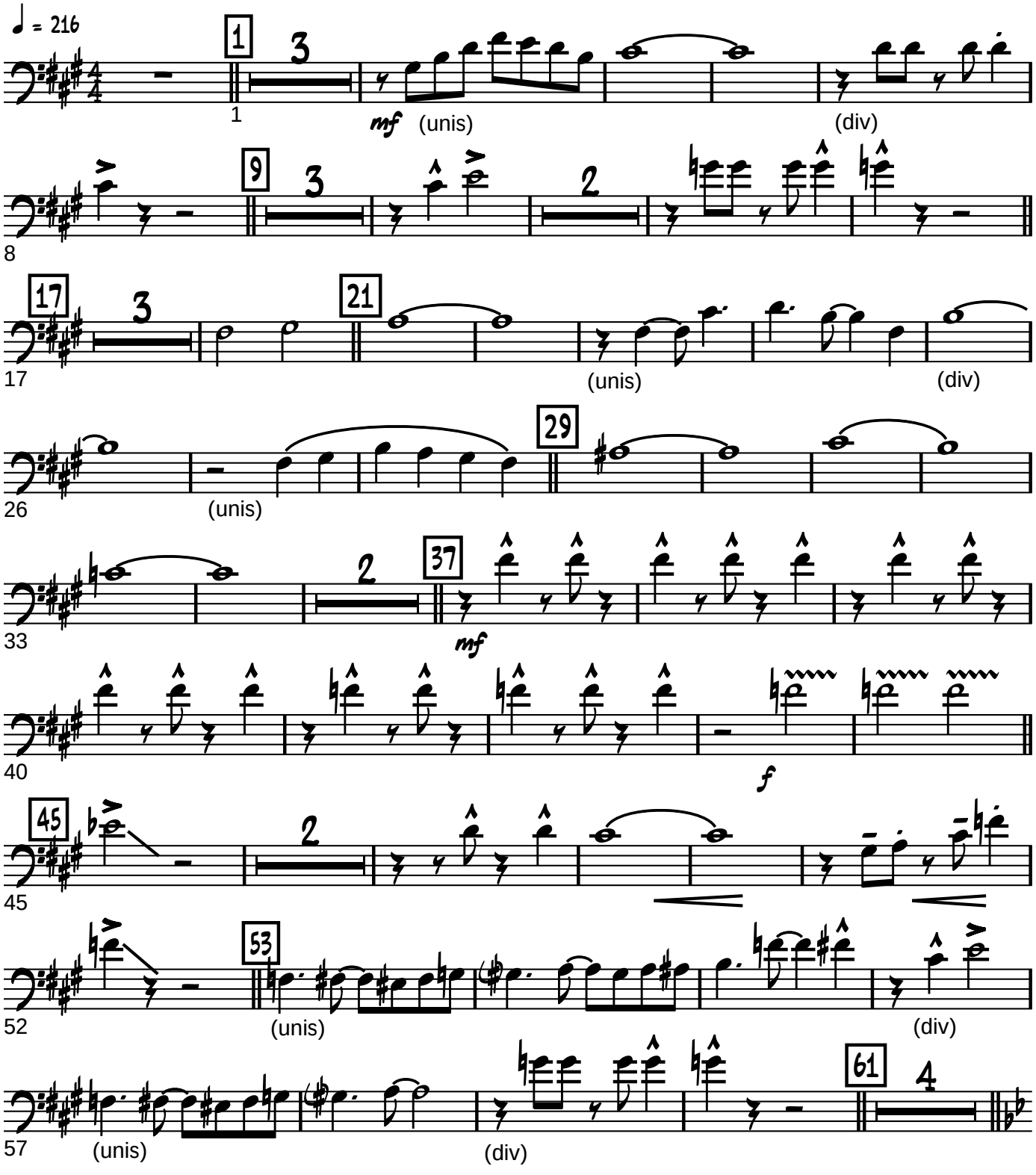
It Had Better Be Tonight

Trumpet 5



Trombone 1

It Had Better Be Tonight



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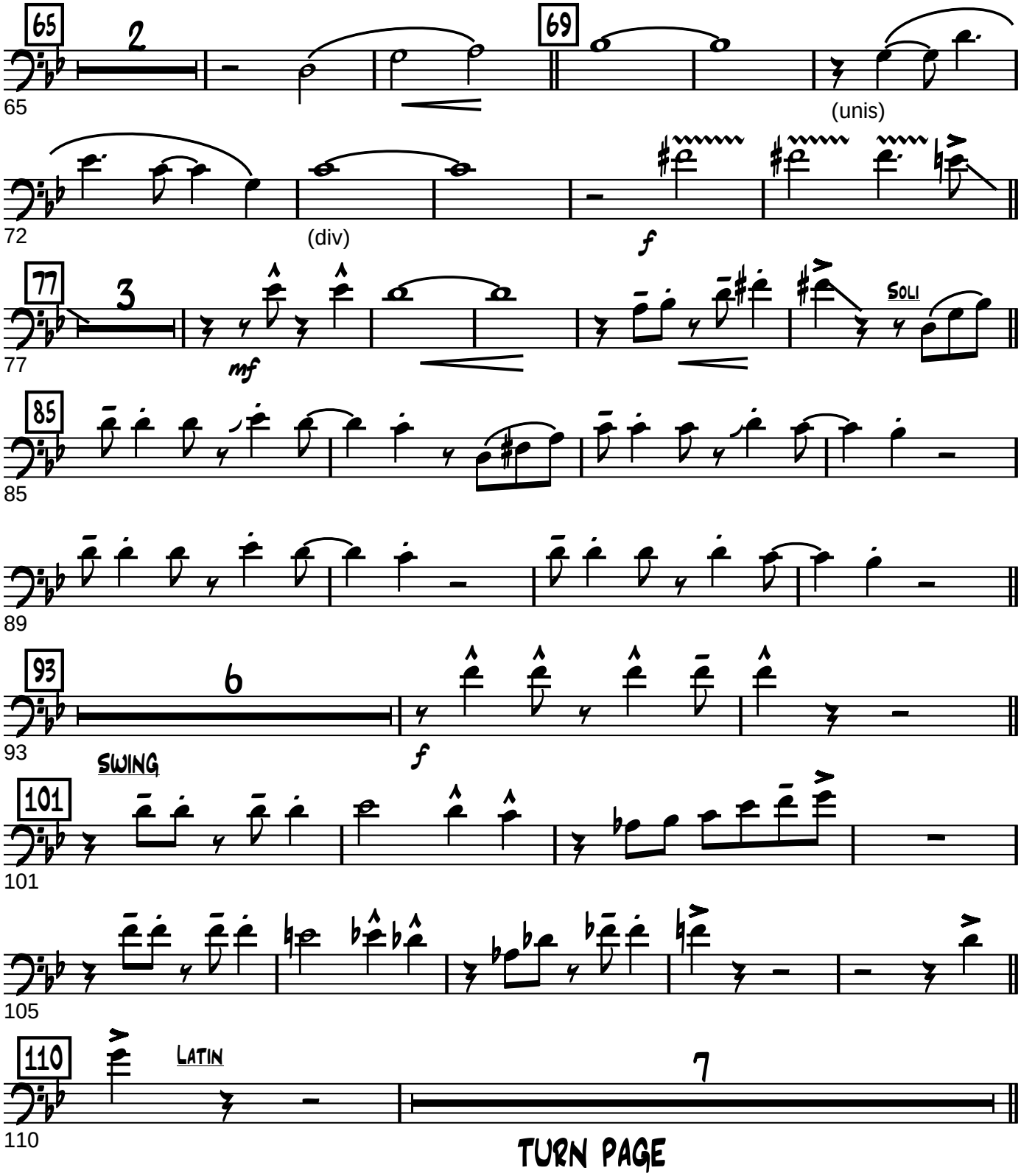
Trombone 1



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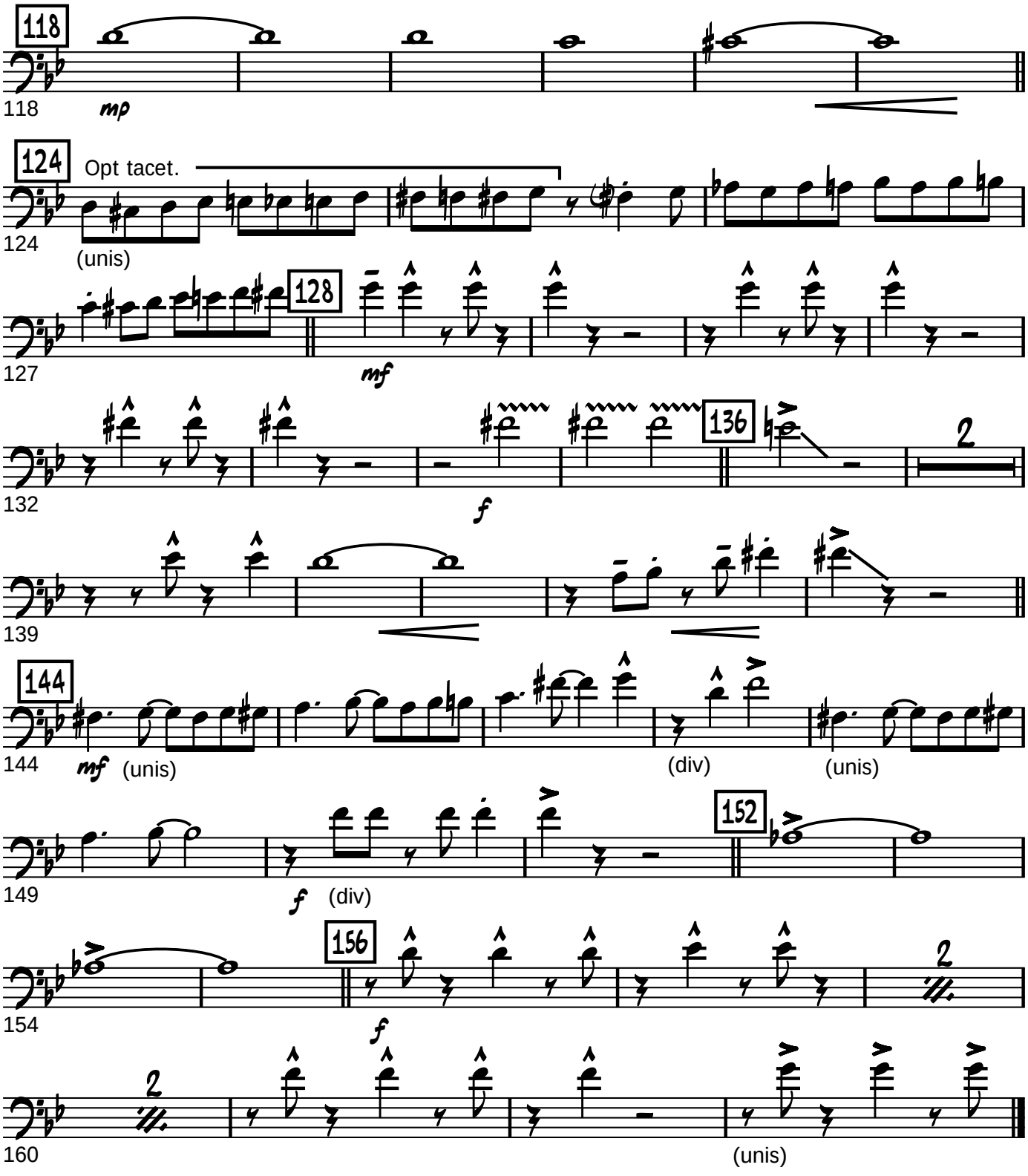
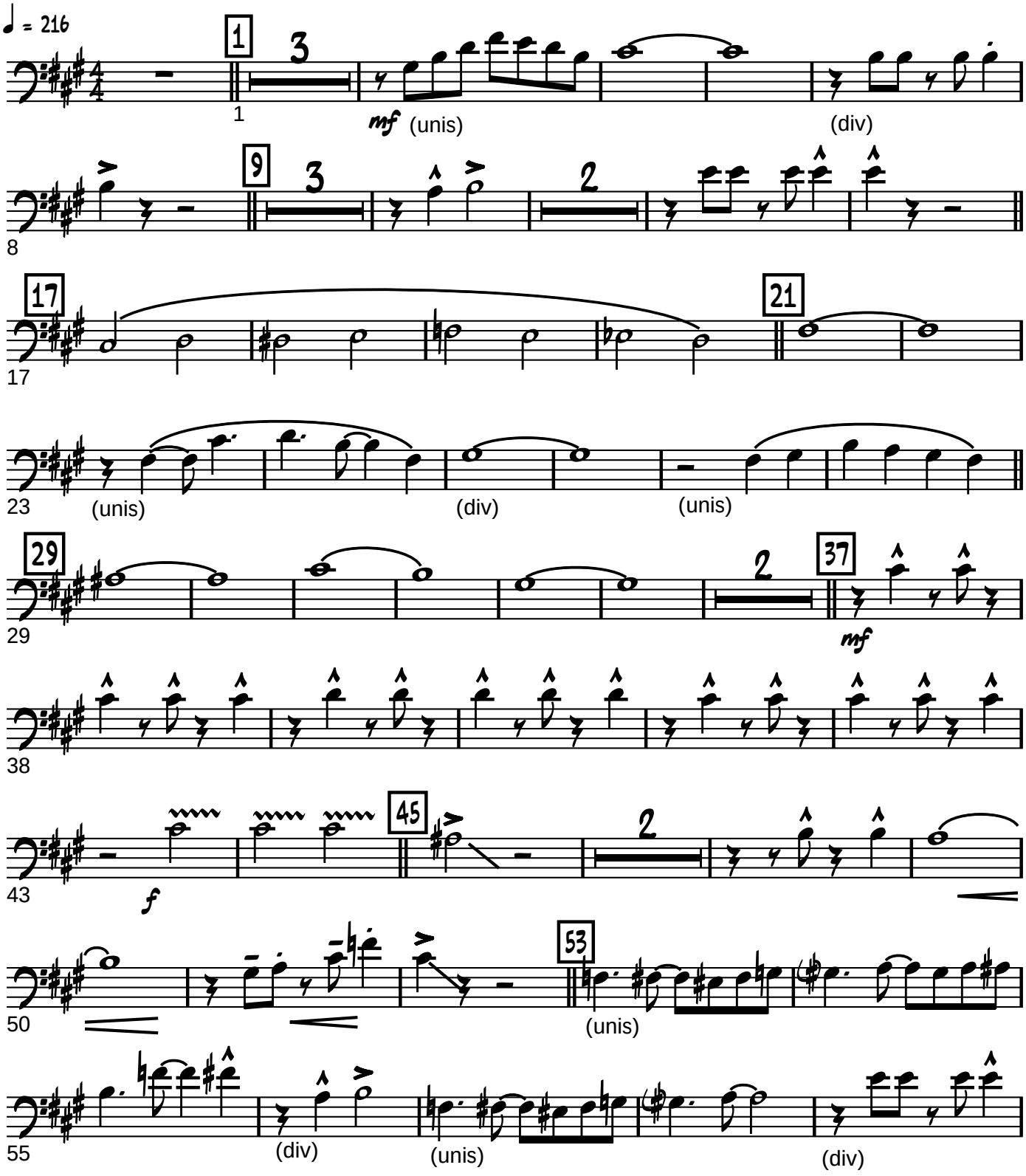
Trombone 1



Trombone 2

It Had Better Be Tonight



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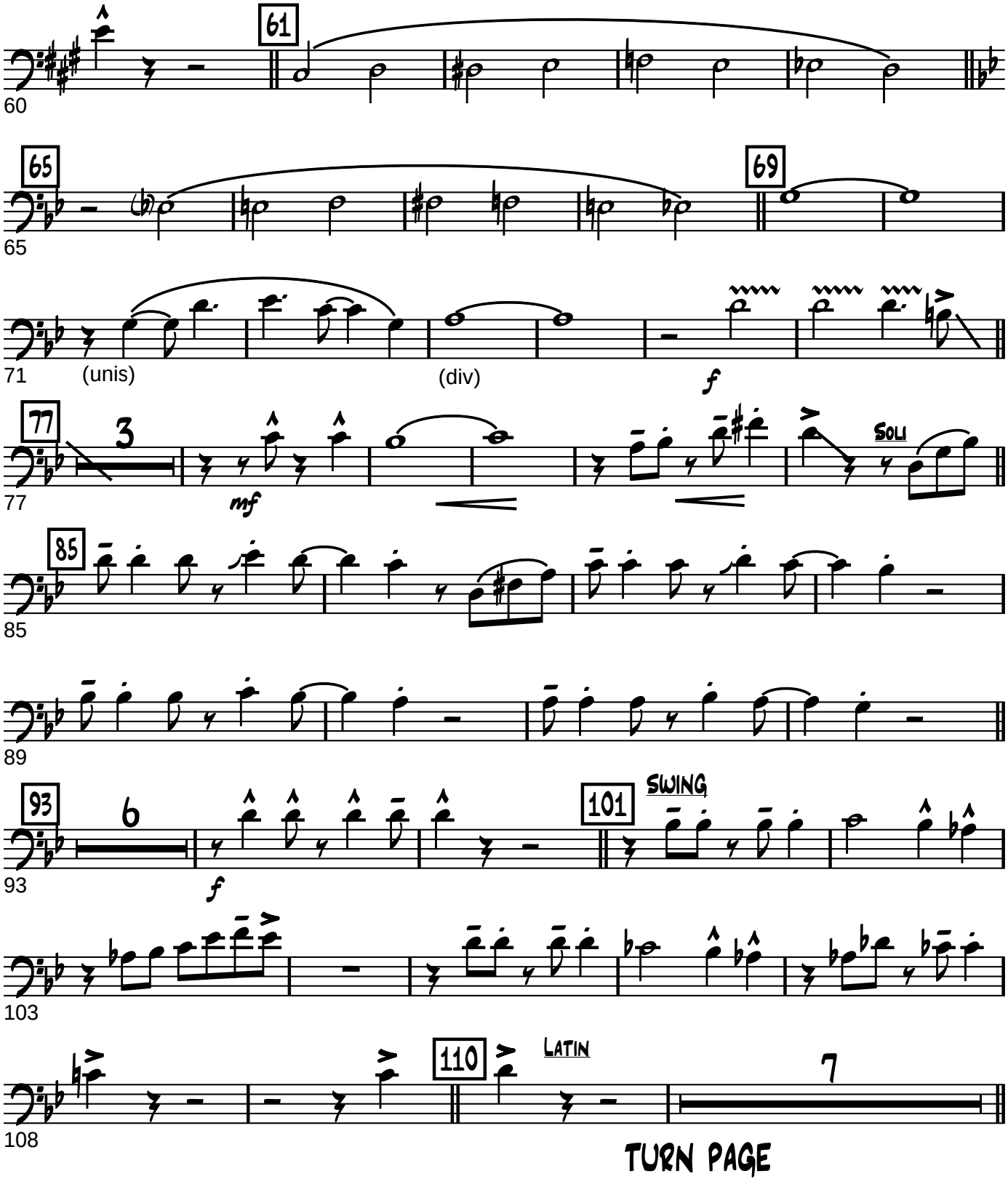
Trombone 2



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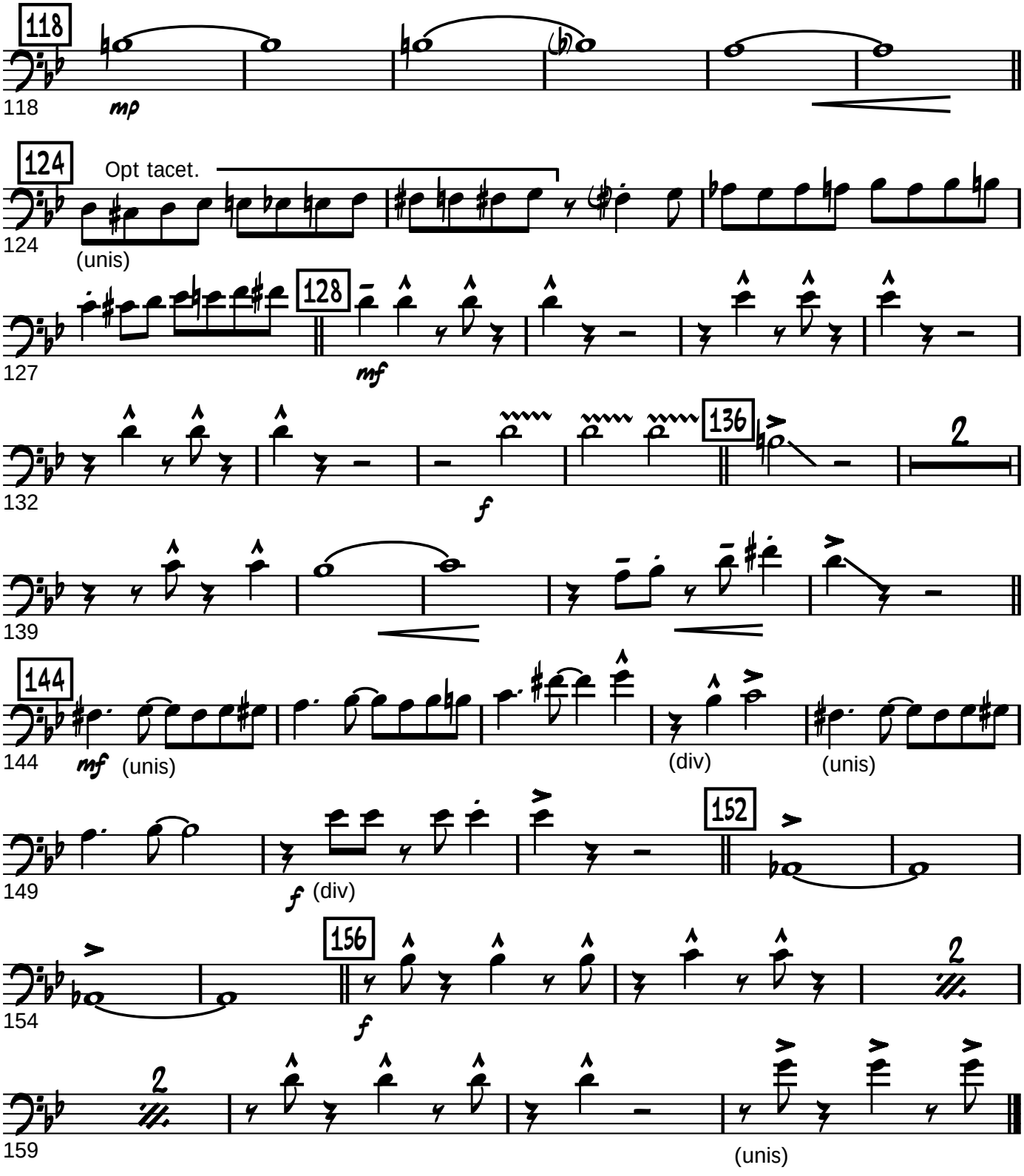
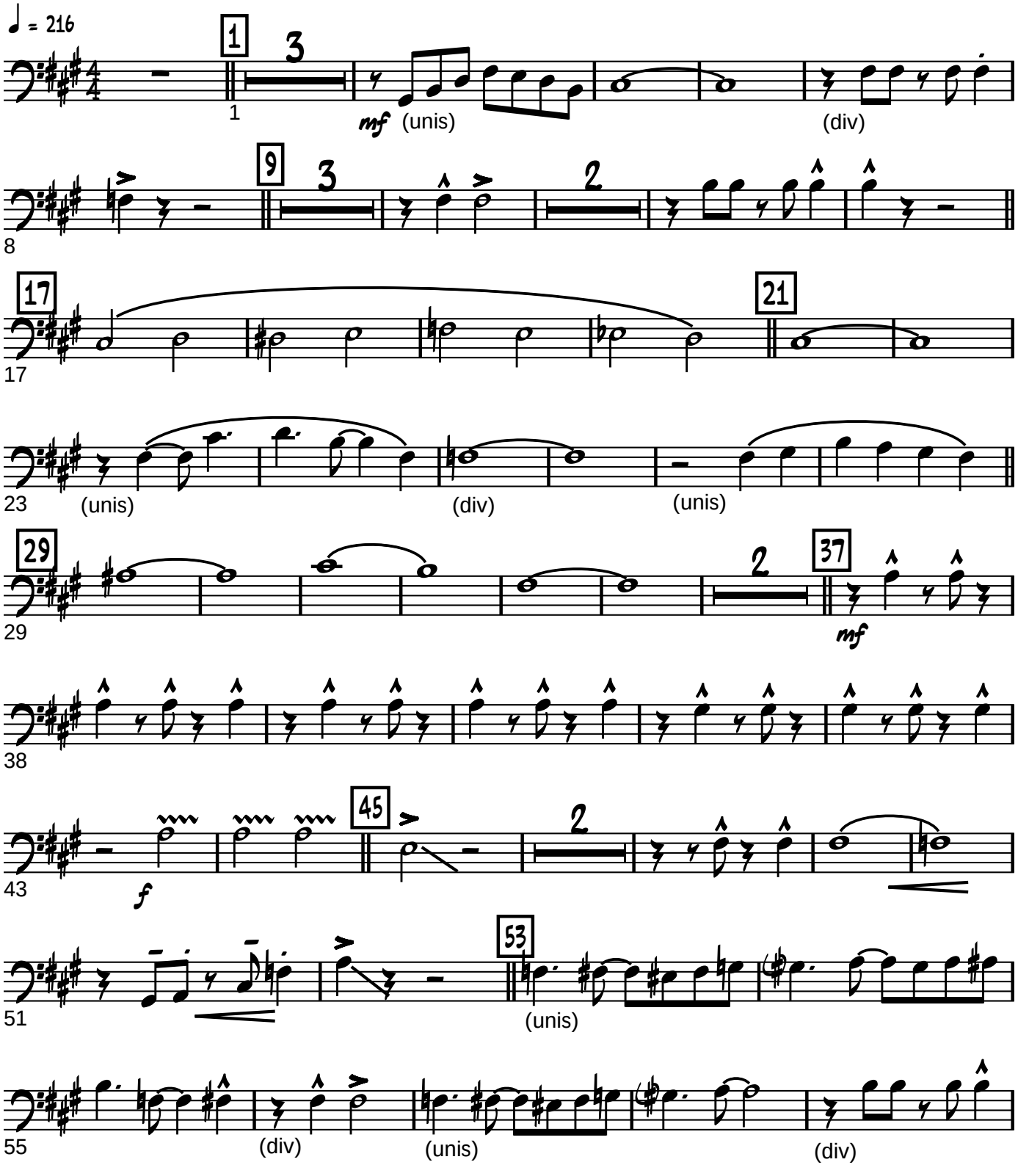
Trombone 2



Trombone 3

It Had Better Be Tonight



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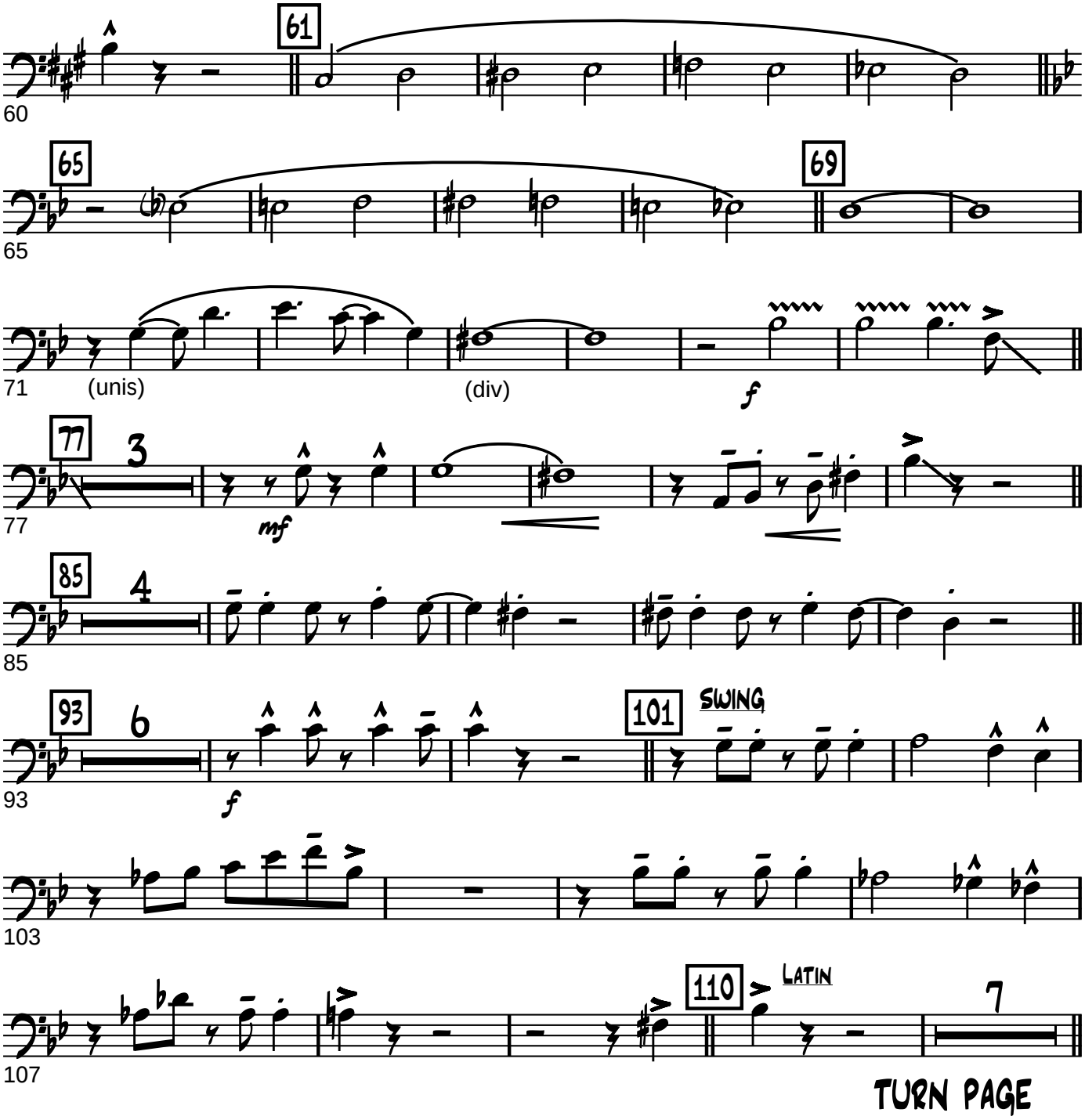
Trombone 3



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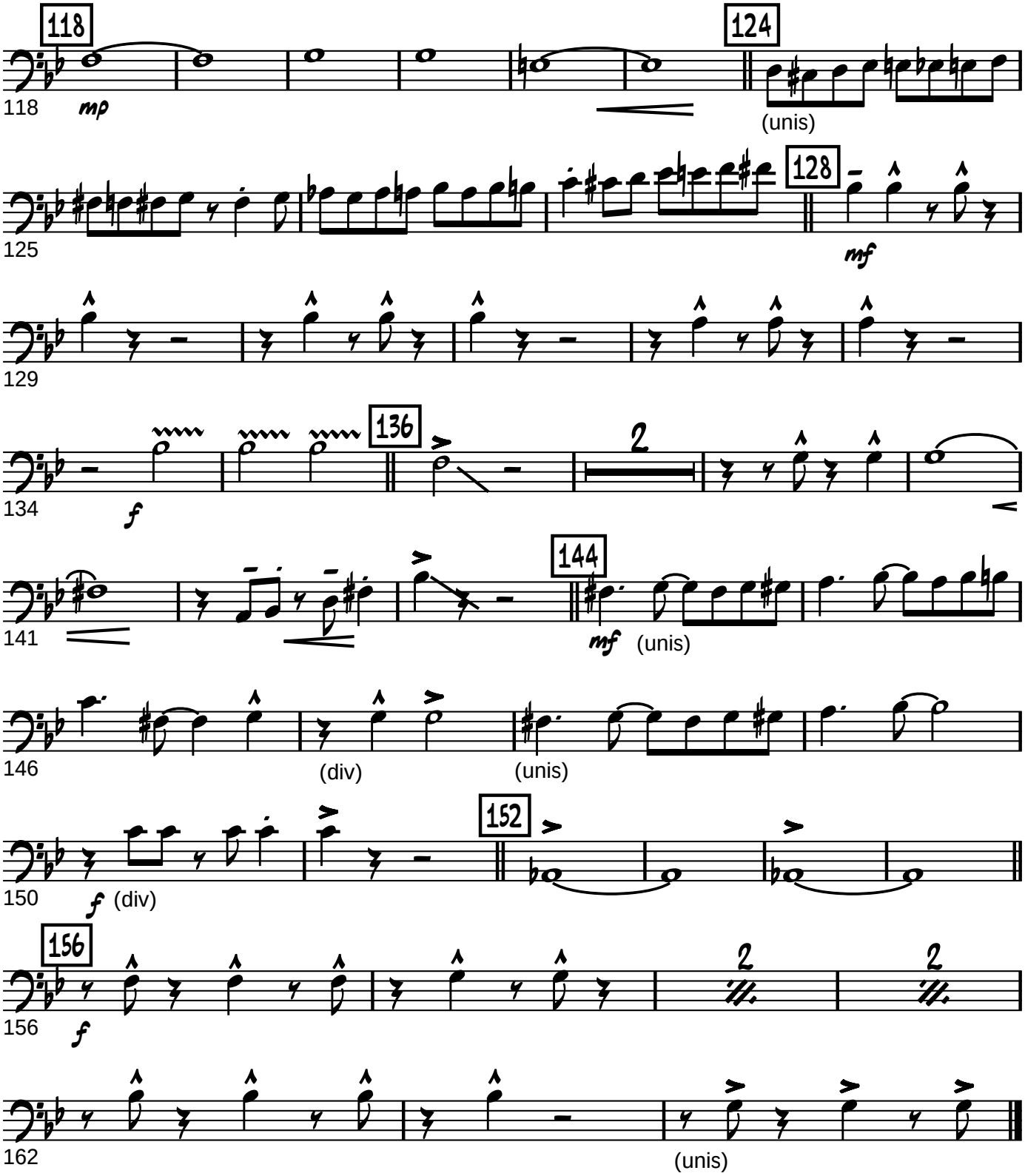
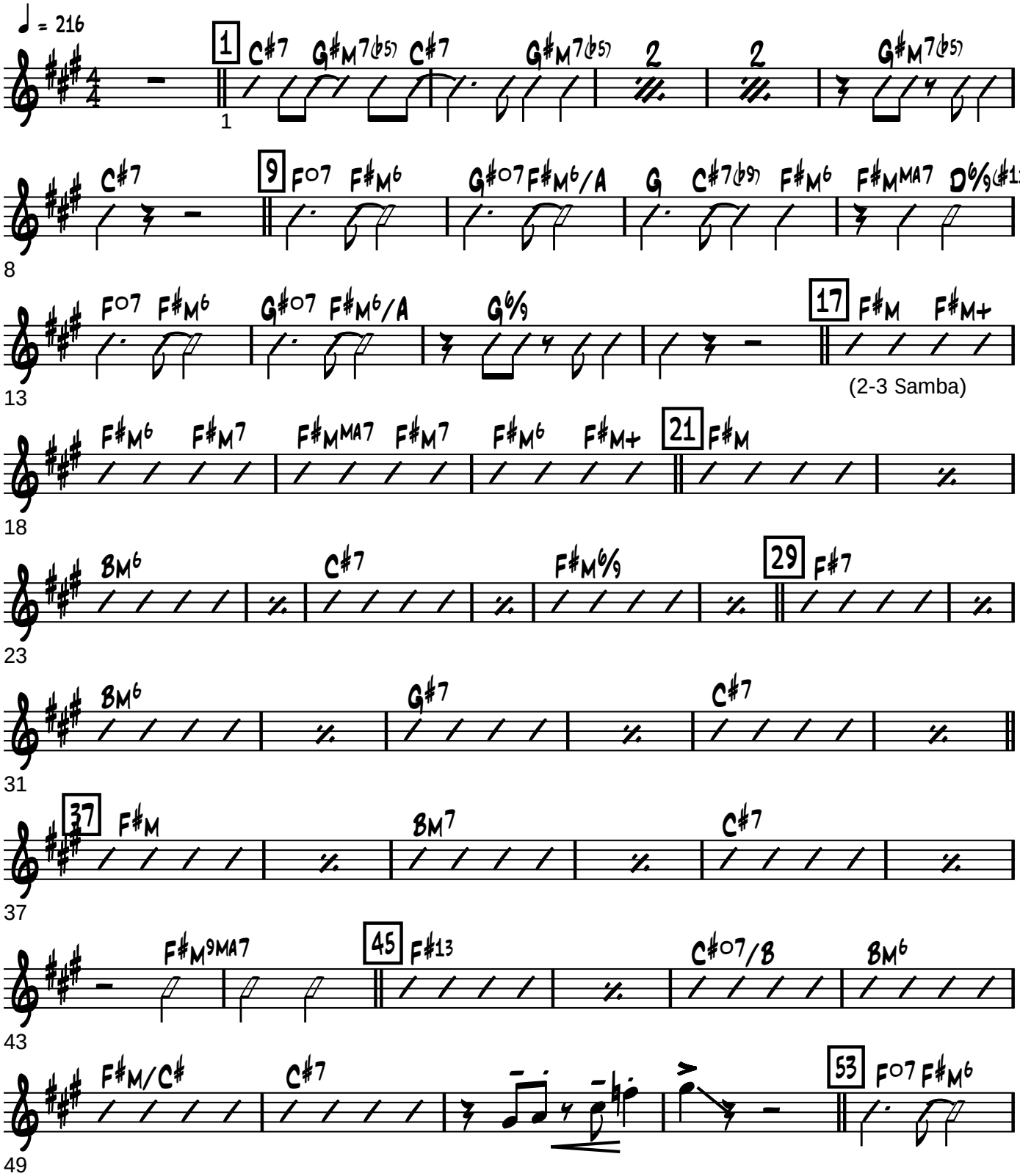
Trombone 3



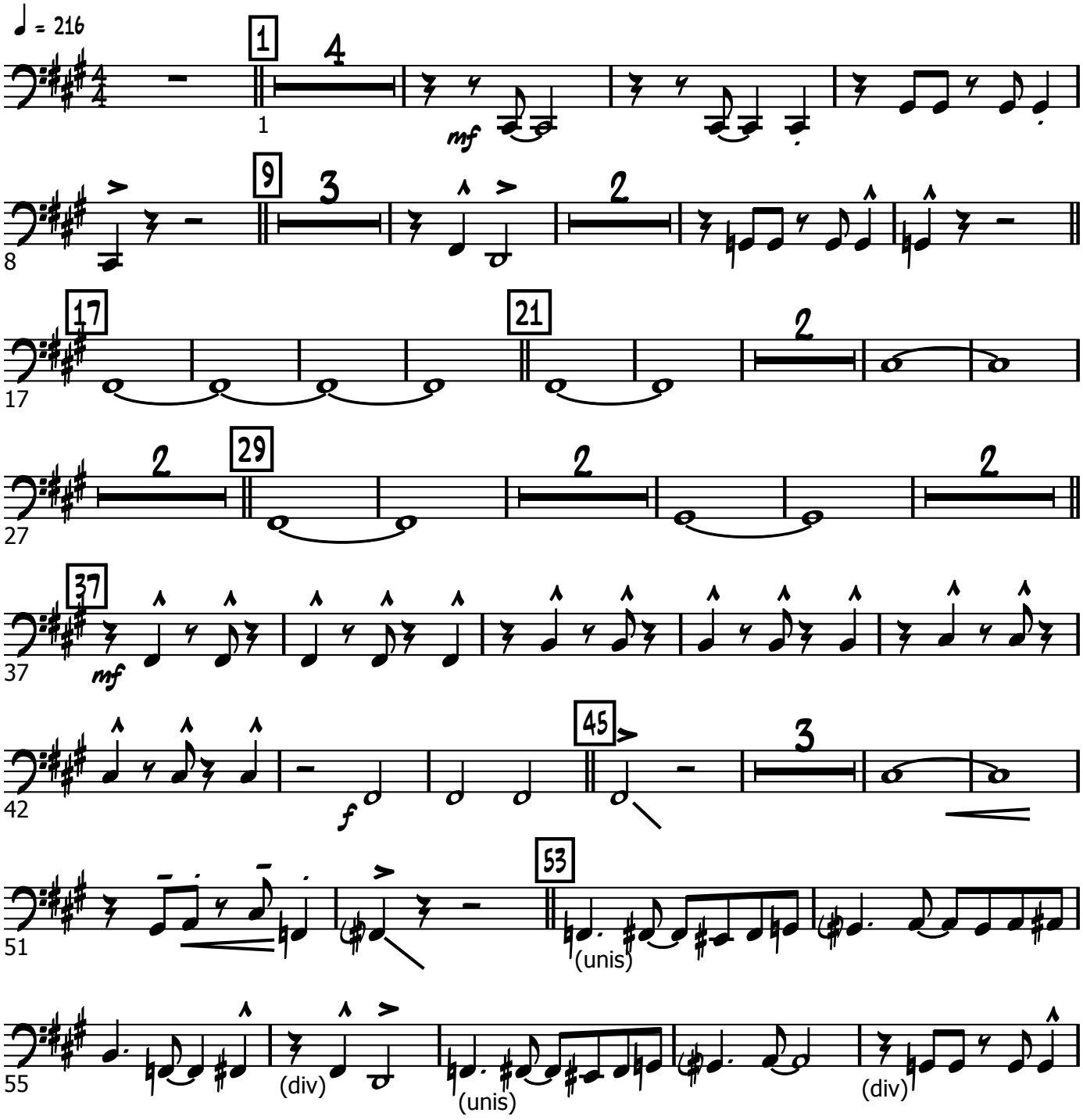
Guitar

It Had Better Be Tonight



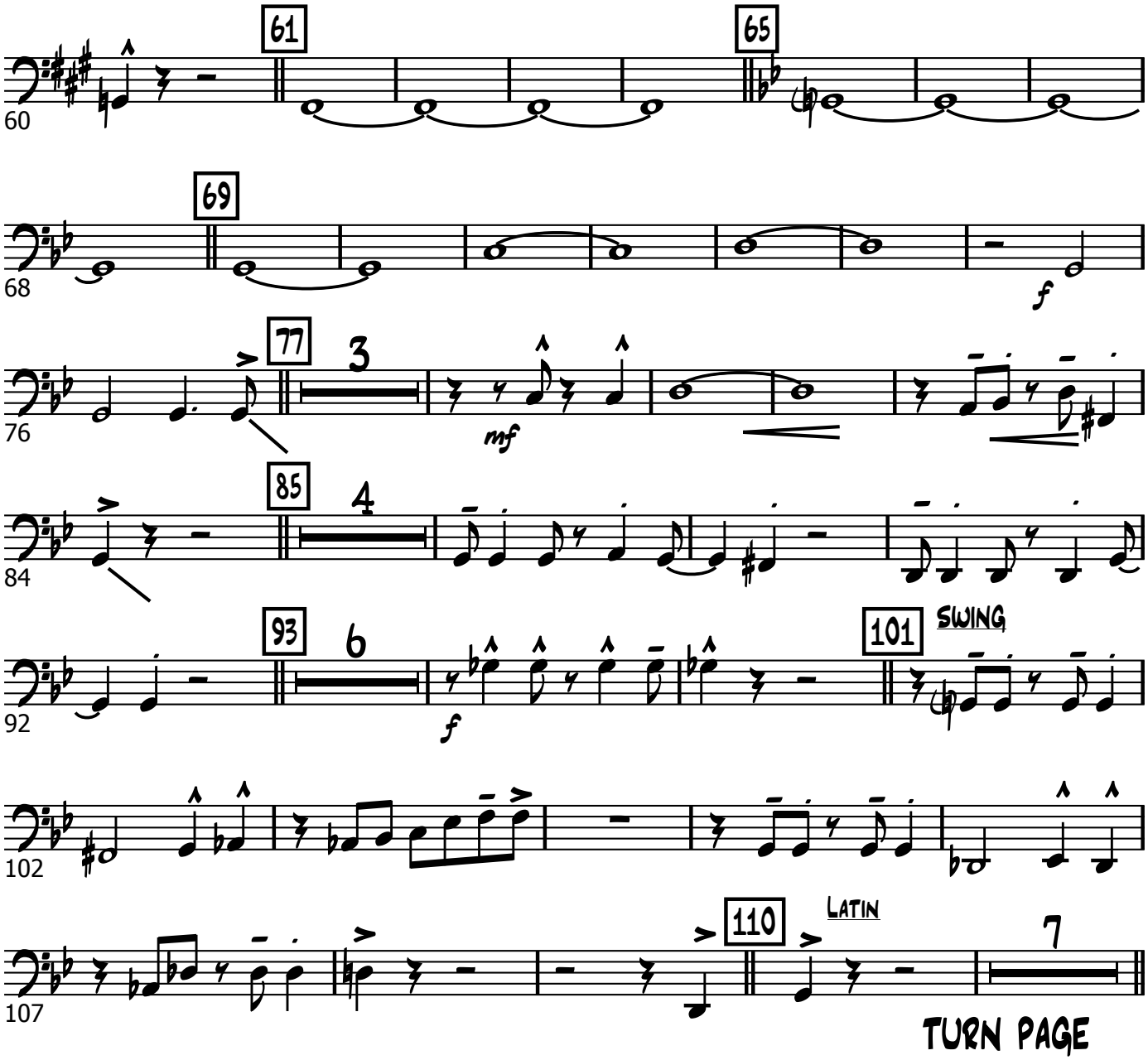
Trombone 4

It Had Better Be Tonight



It Had Better Be Tonight

Trombone 4



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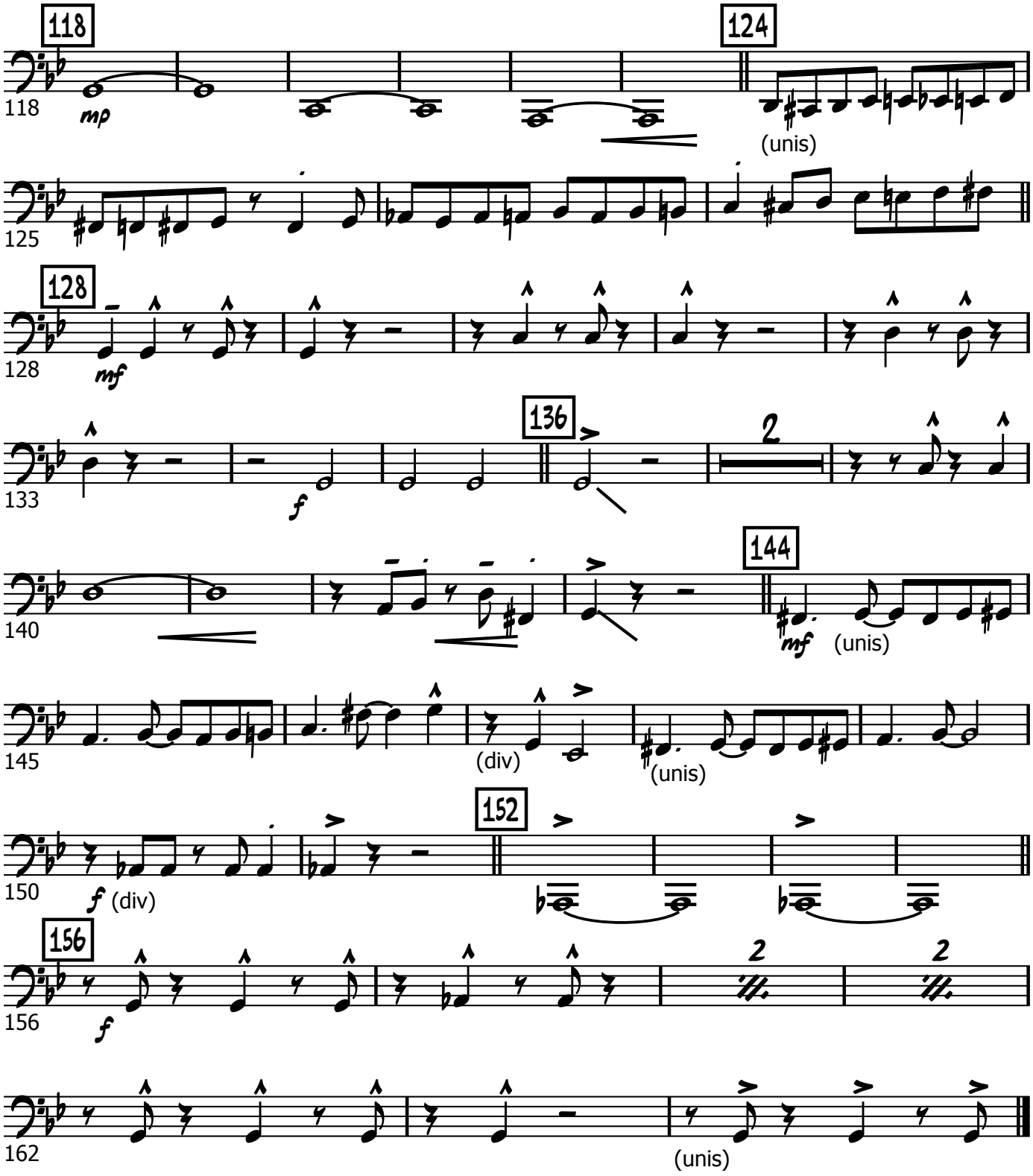
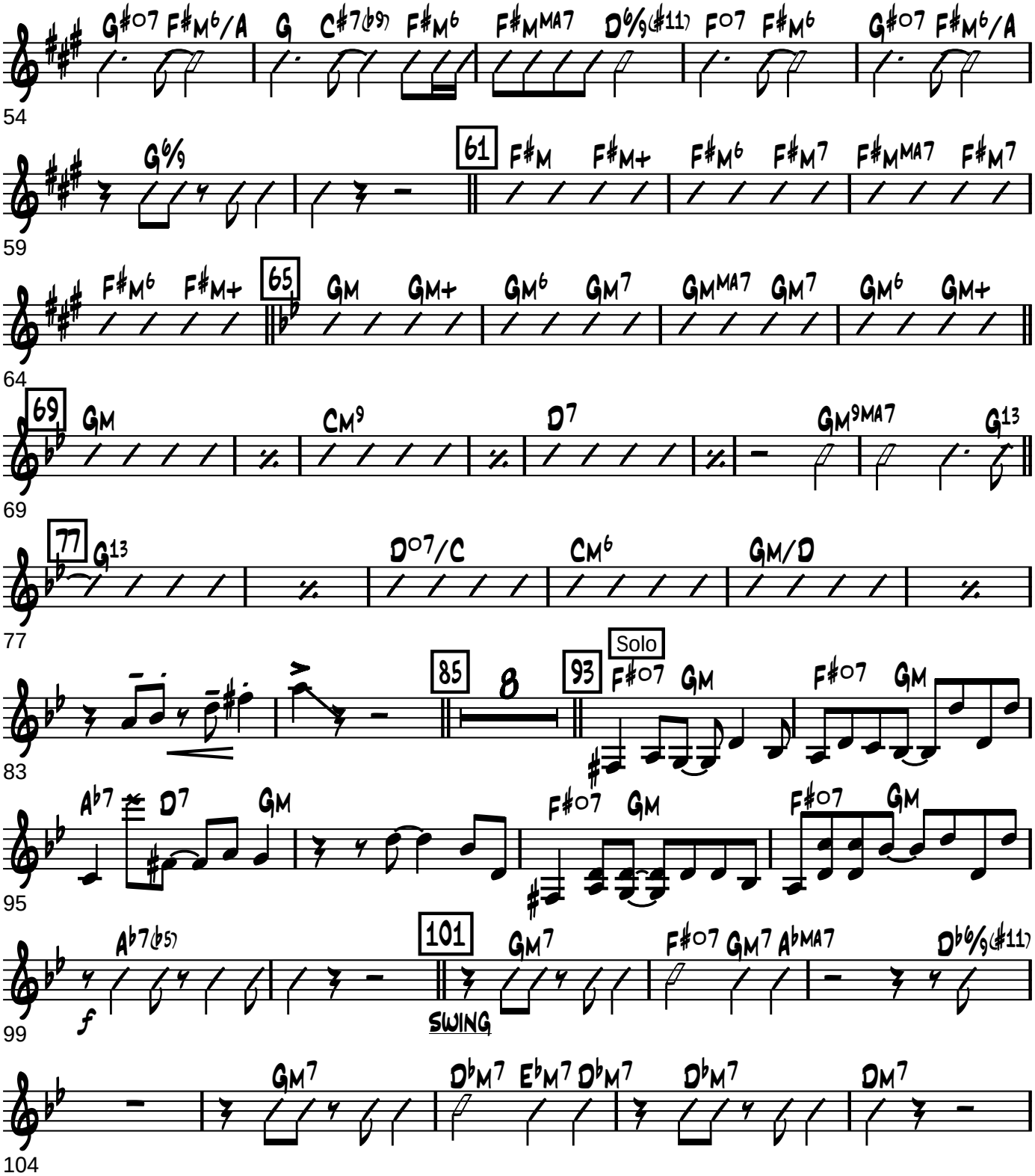
Trombone 4



It Had Better Be Tonight

Guitar



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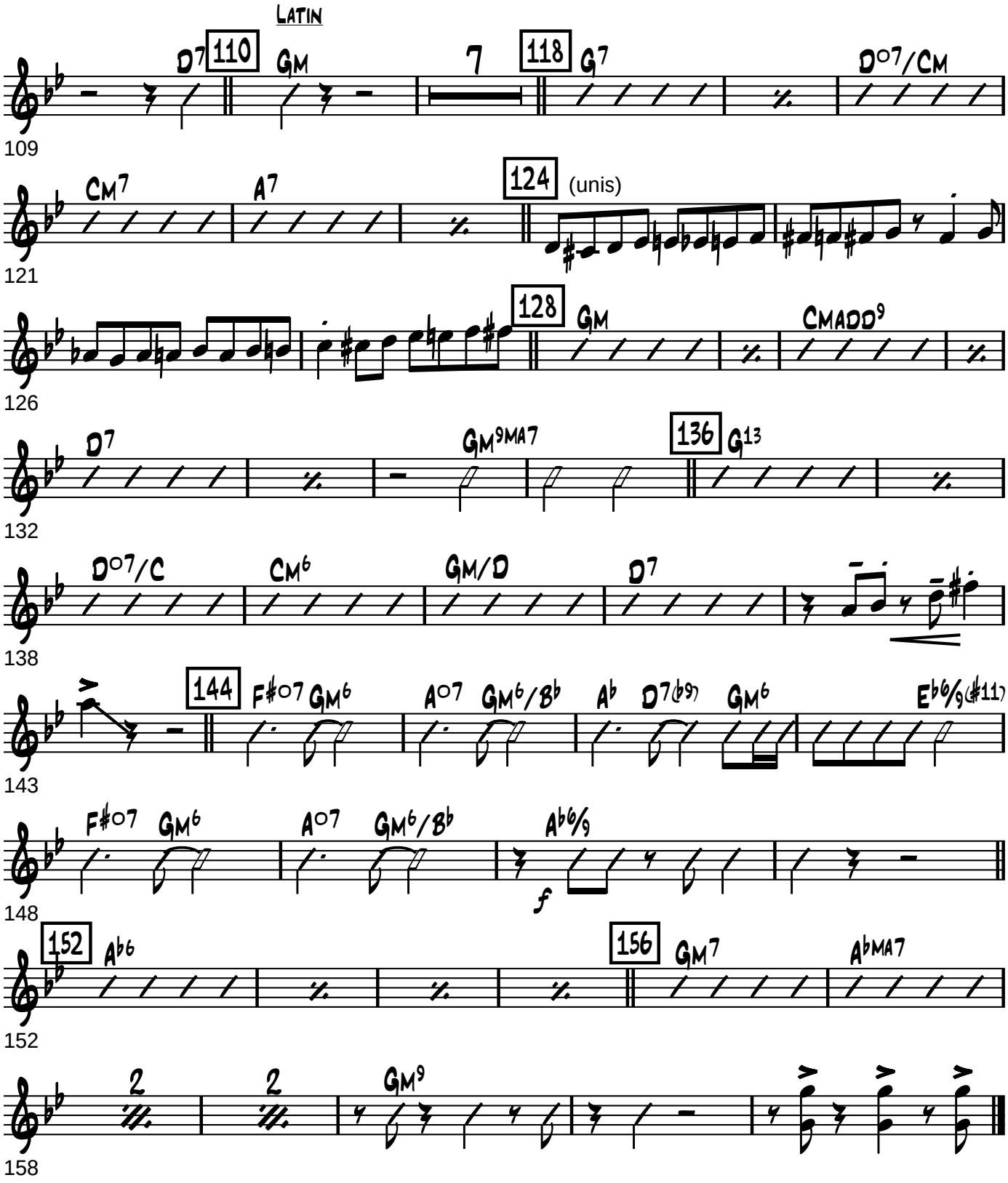
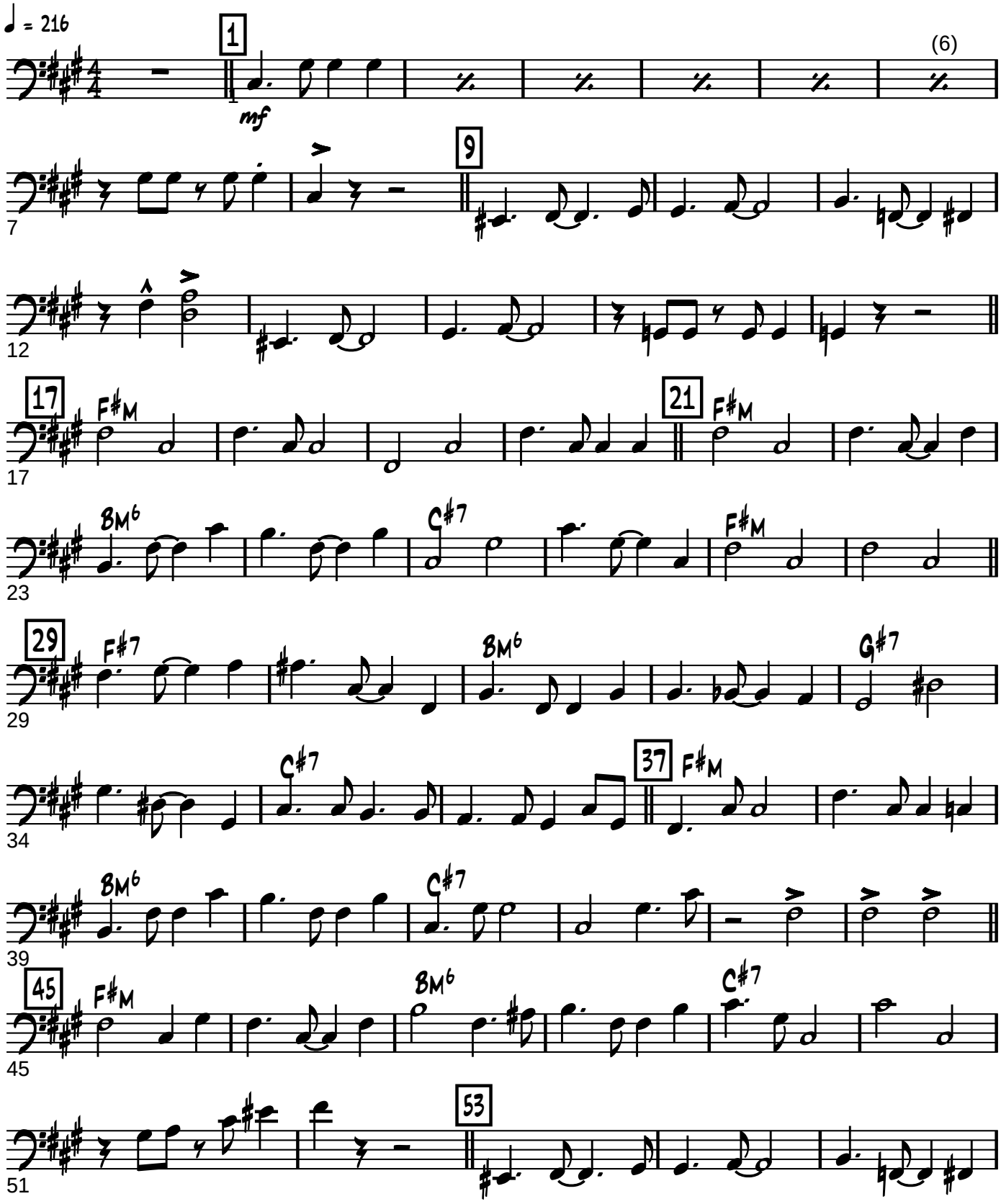
Guitar



Bass

It Had Better Be Tonight



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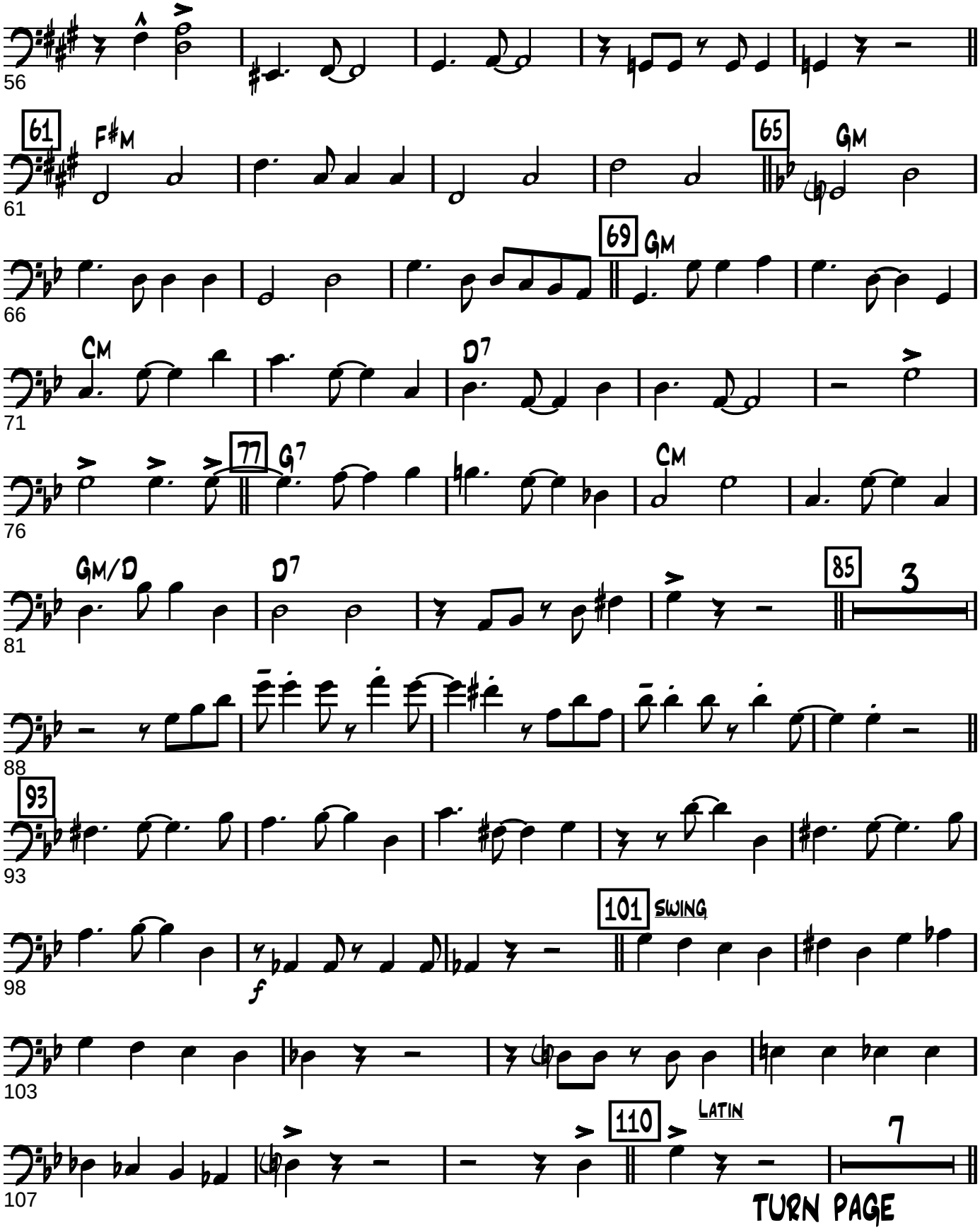
Bass



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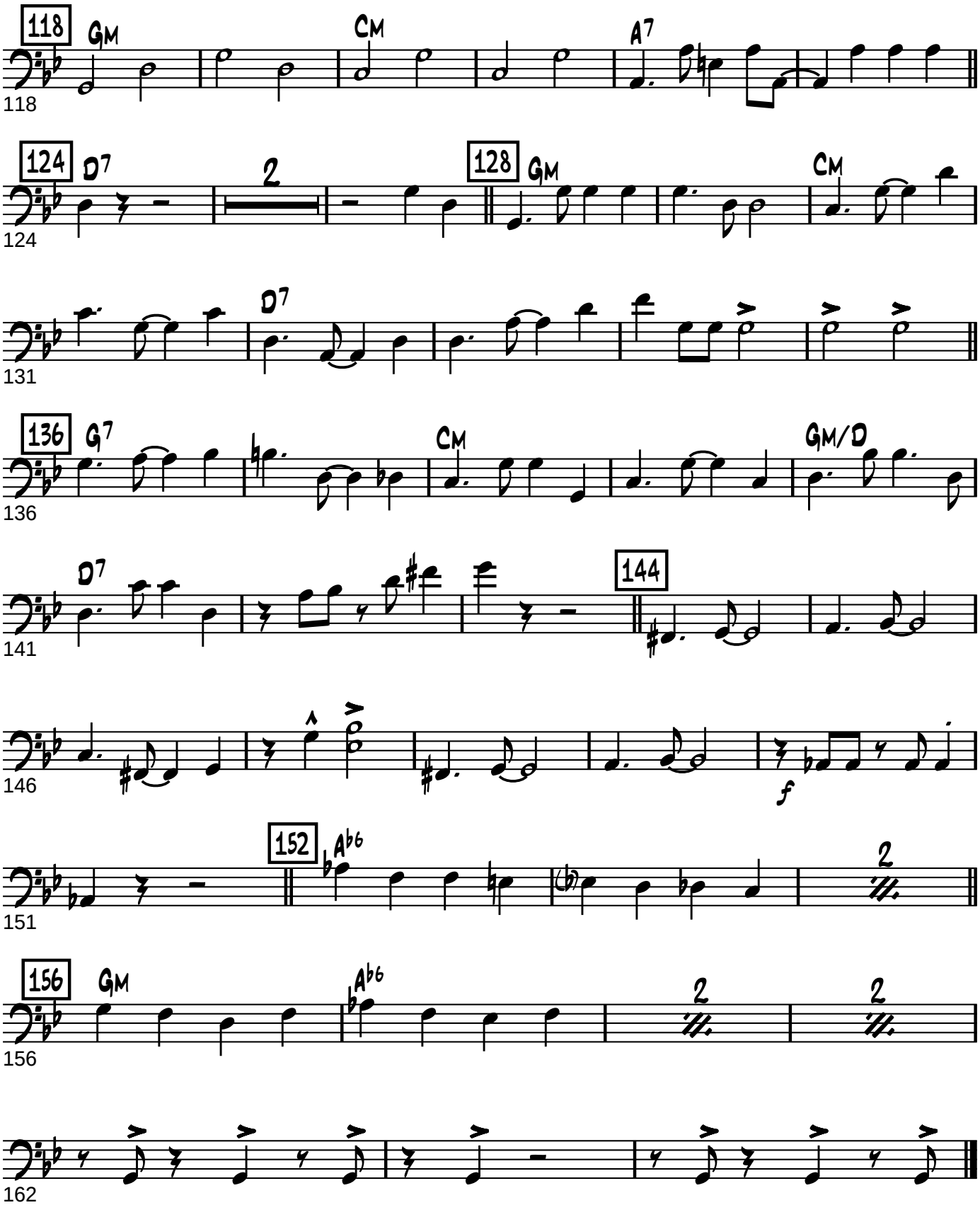
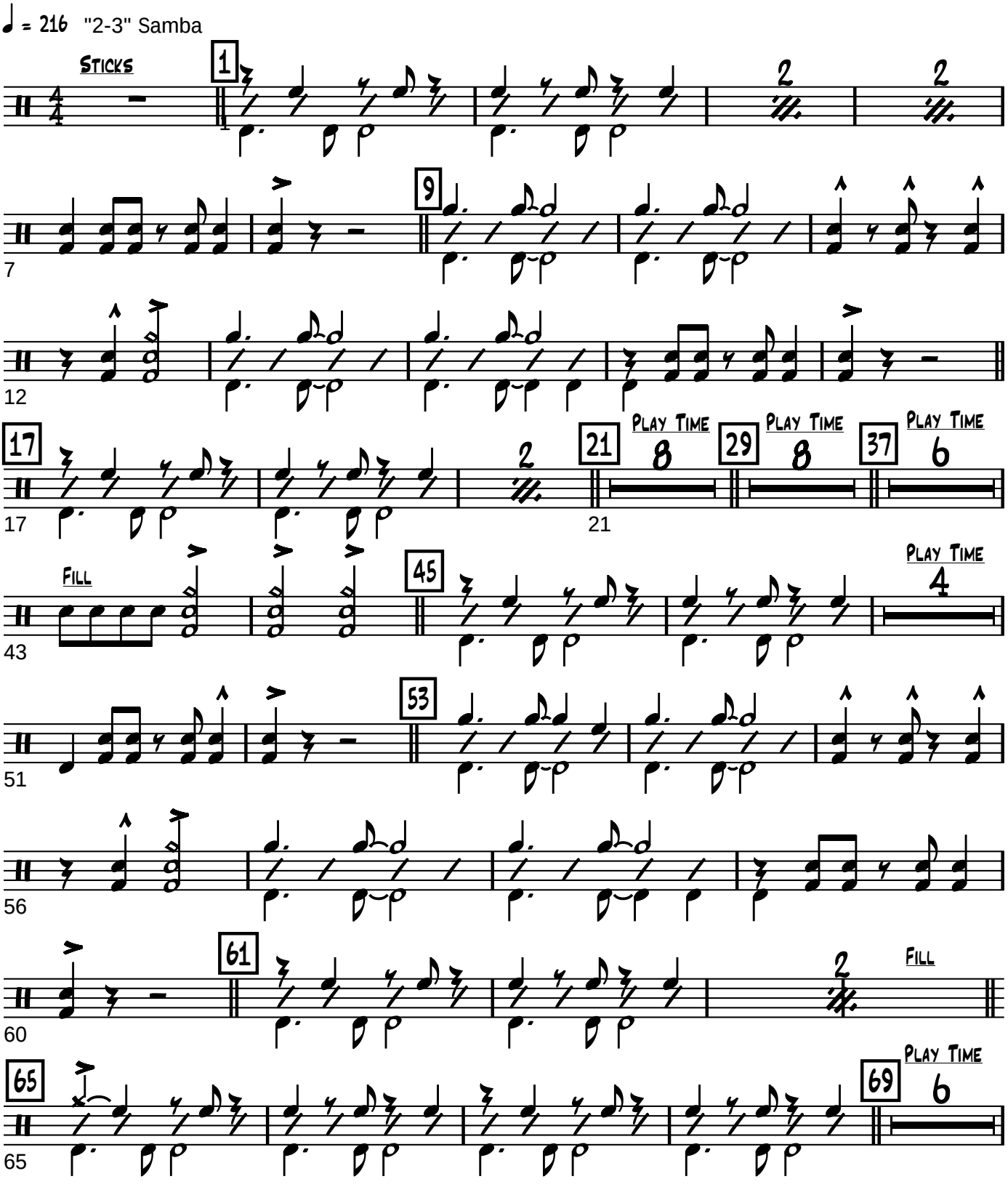
Bass

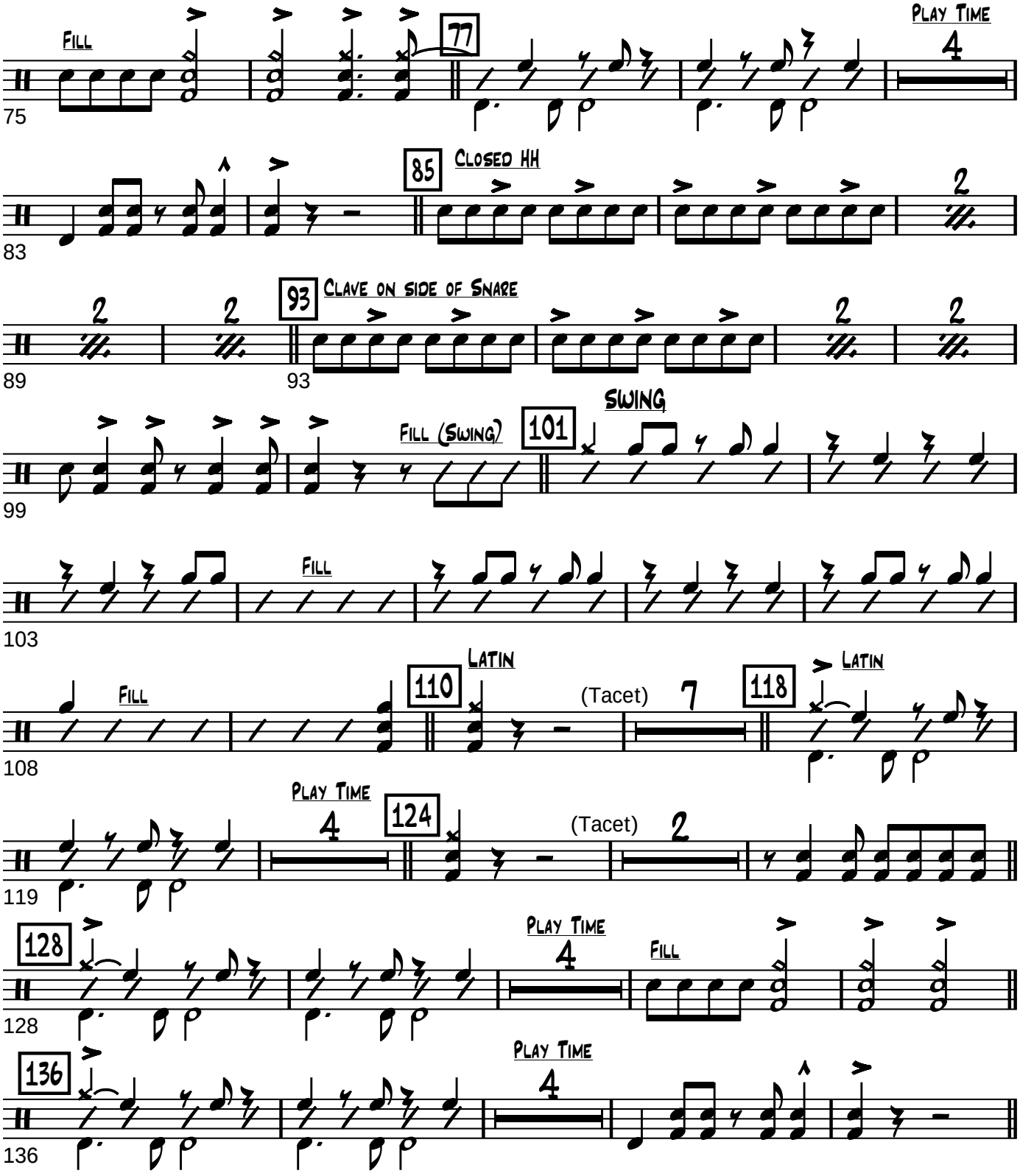


Drums

It Had Better Be Tonight



It Had Better Be Tonight
Drums



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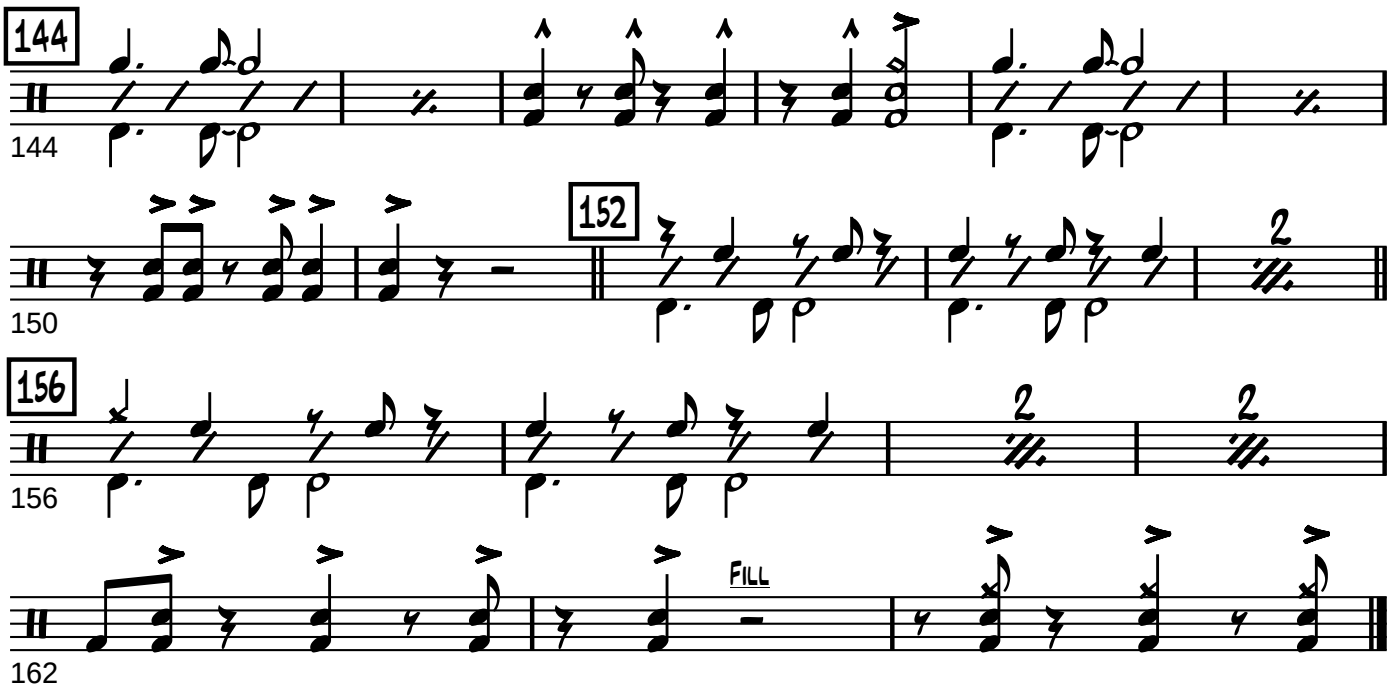
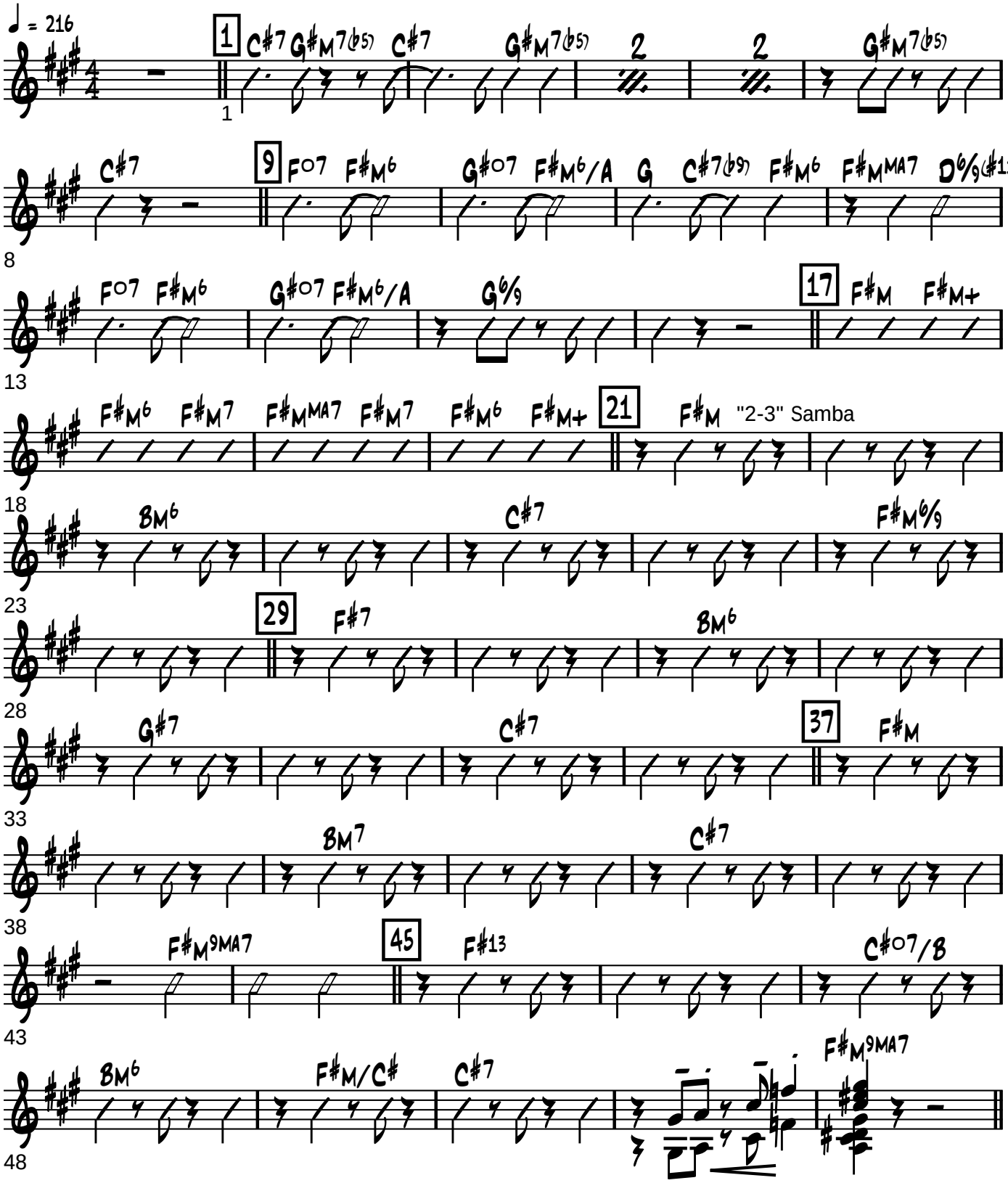
Drums



Piano

It Had Better Be Tonight



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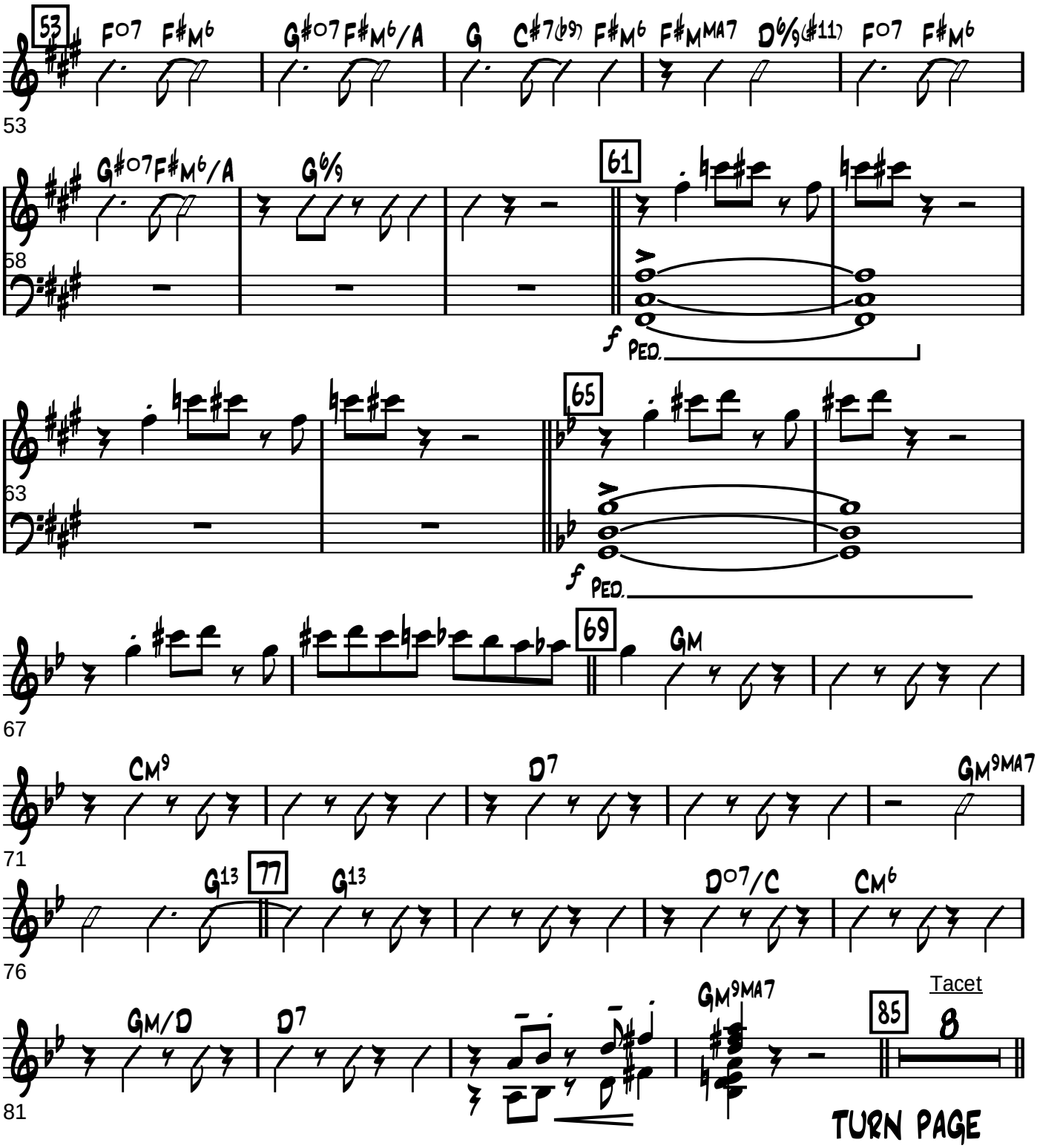
Piano



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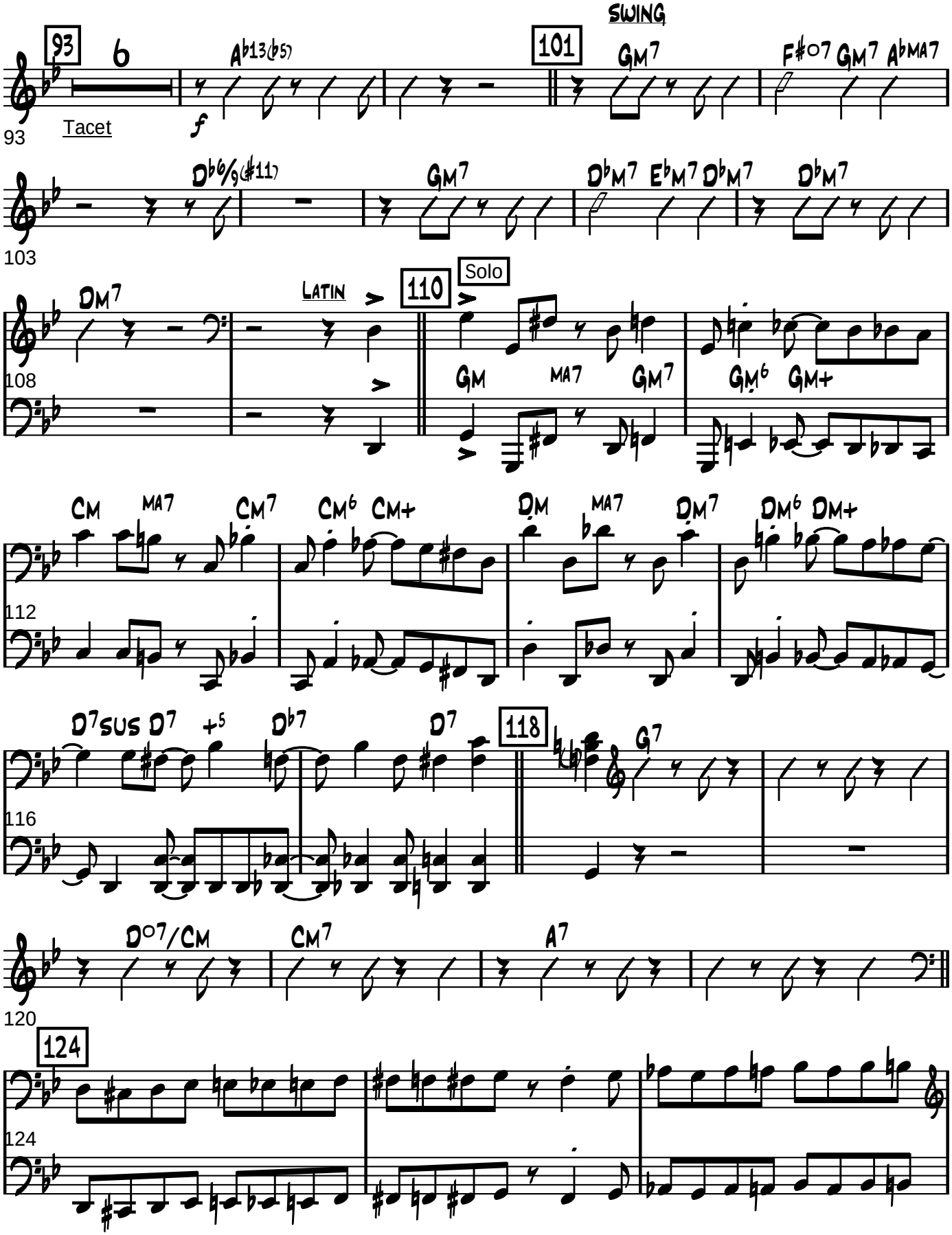
Piano



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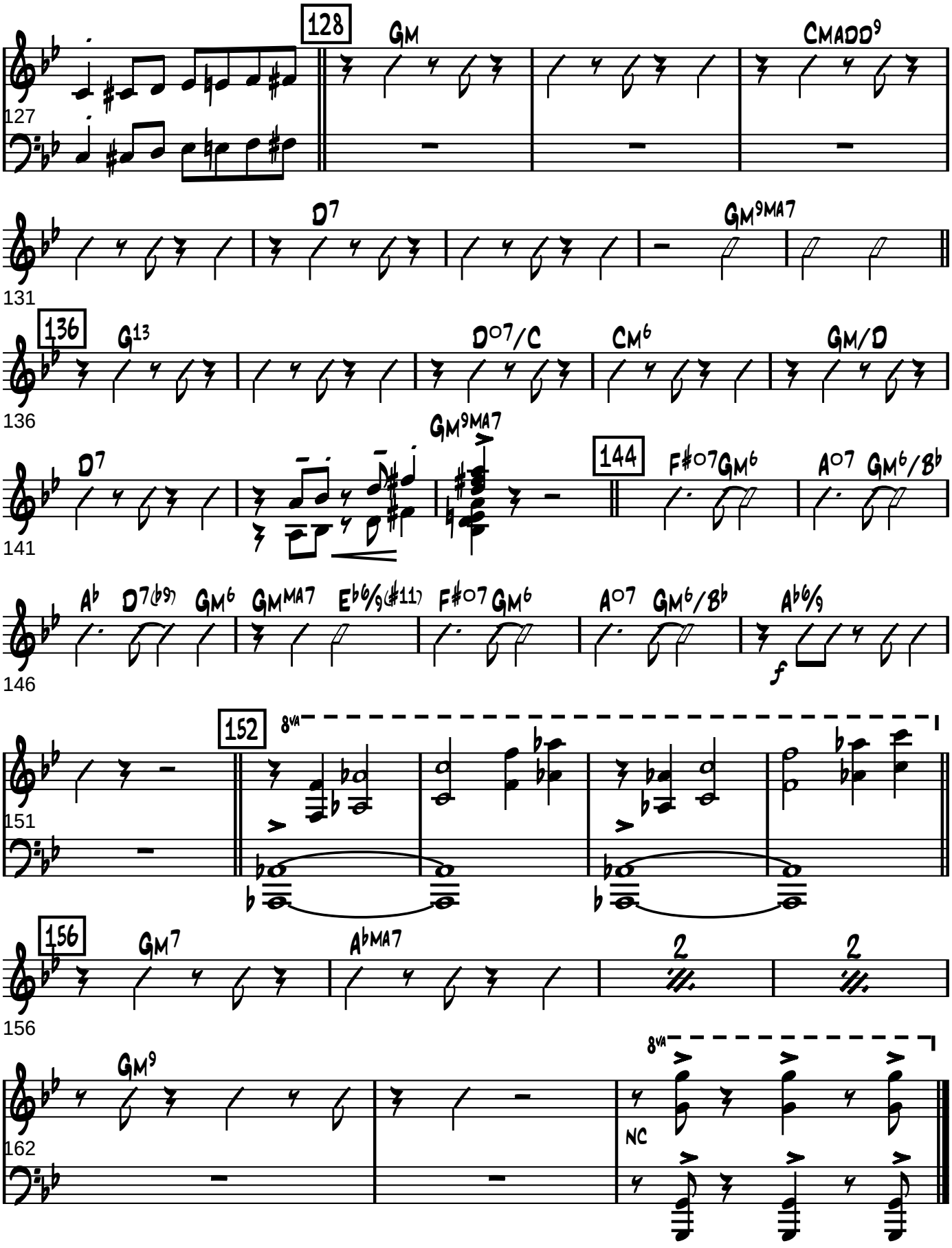
Piano