CANONICALS

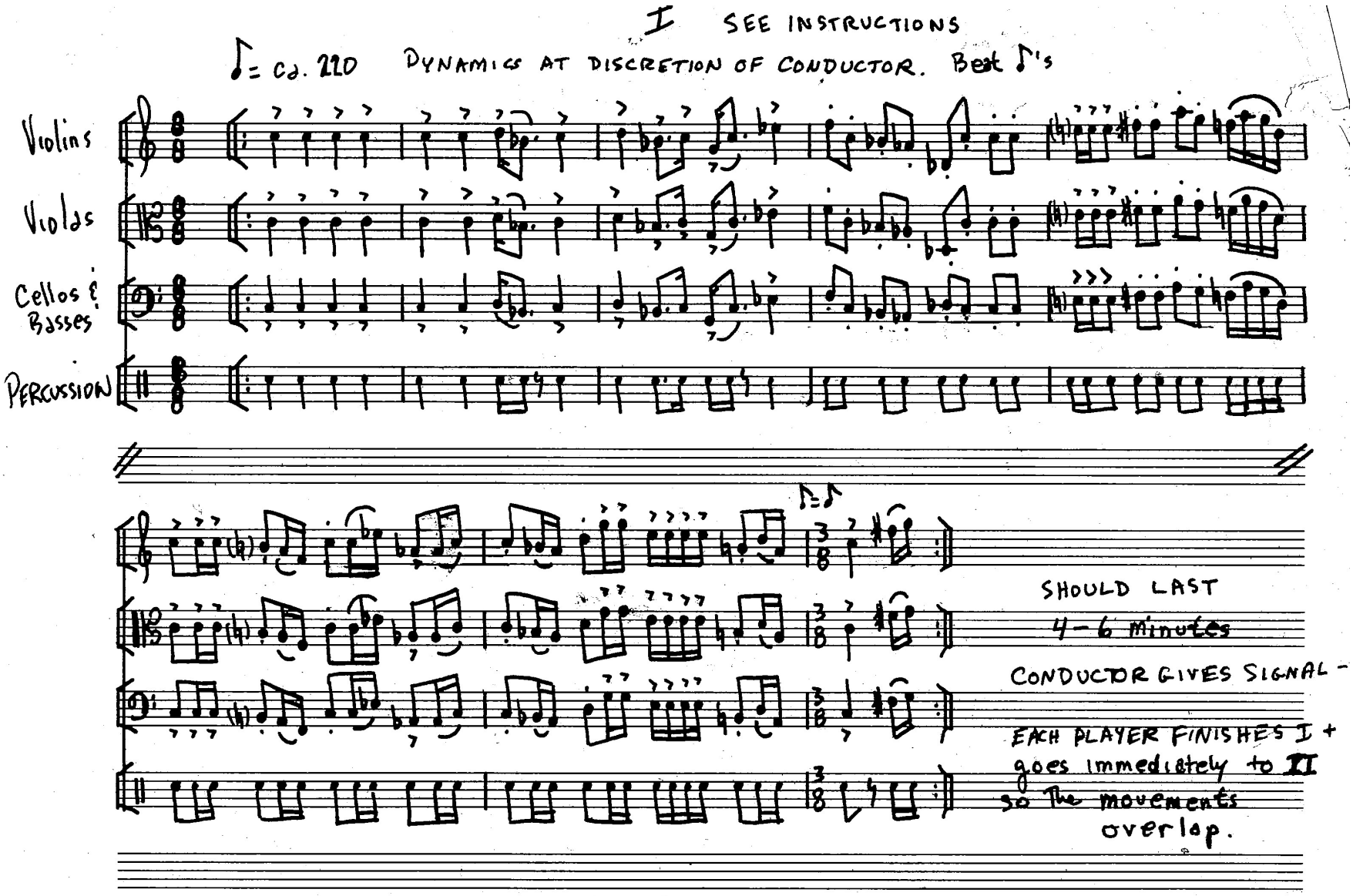
GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. THE PIECE IS WRITTEN FOR FROM 4 to 30 string instruments and from 2 to 8 percussionists who play a variety of non-pitch instruments.
   a. There should be around twice as many strings as percussion up to 8 percussionists. Higher strings should predominate in more or less orchestral-string-section proportion.
2. Dynamics in I, III, V and CODA are up to the conductor; conductor should be watched carefully, in other words.

Movements I + III;

1 There are 3 ways to begin - choose one ~~for each or both~~ mvmts.
   A. All play in unison.
   B. Percussion plays in unison, then strings after percussion has begun repeat in canon.
   C. Same as 2 but strings begin.

2. After str. + percussion have played through once in unison, each player enters again at different times, on any beat, so that the music becomes canonic/polyphonic. With smaller groups the point of entrance may be left up to the players (taking care to avoid doubled entrances). In larger groups it may be wise to assign entrances to avoid doublings. The conductor must be careful to show only tempo to allow entrances on any beat without suggesting a pattern to the players. The movements are to be repeated in canon over and over until they stop being interesting.



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II (INTERMEZZO) NOT CONDUCTED AS SOON AS ALL HAVE FINISHED I

II PLAY I. EACH BEGINNING WHEN HE/SHE HAS PLAYED TO LAST MEAS. OF I.

STRINGS PIZZ. each INDIVIDUALLY AS

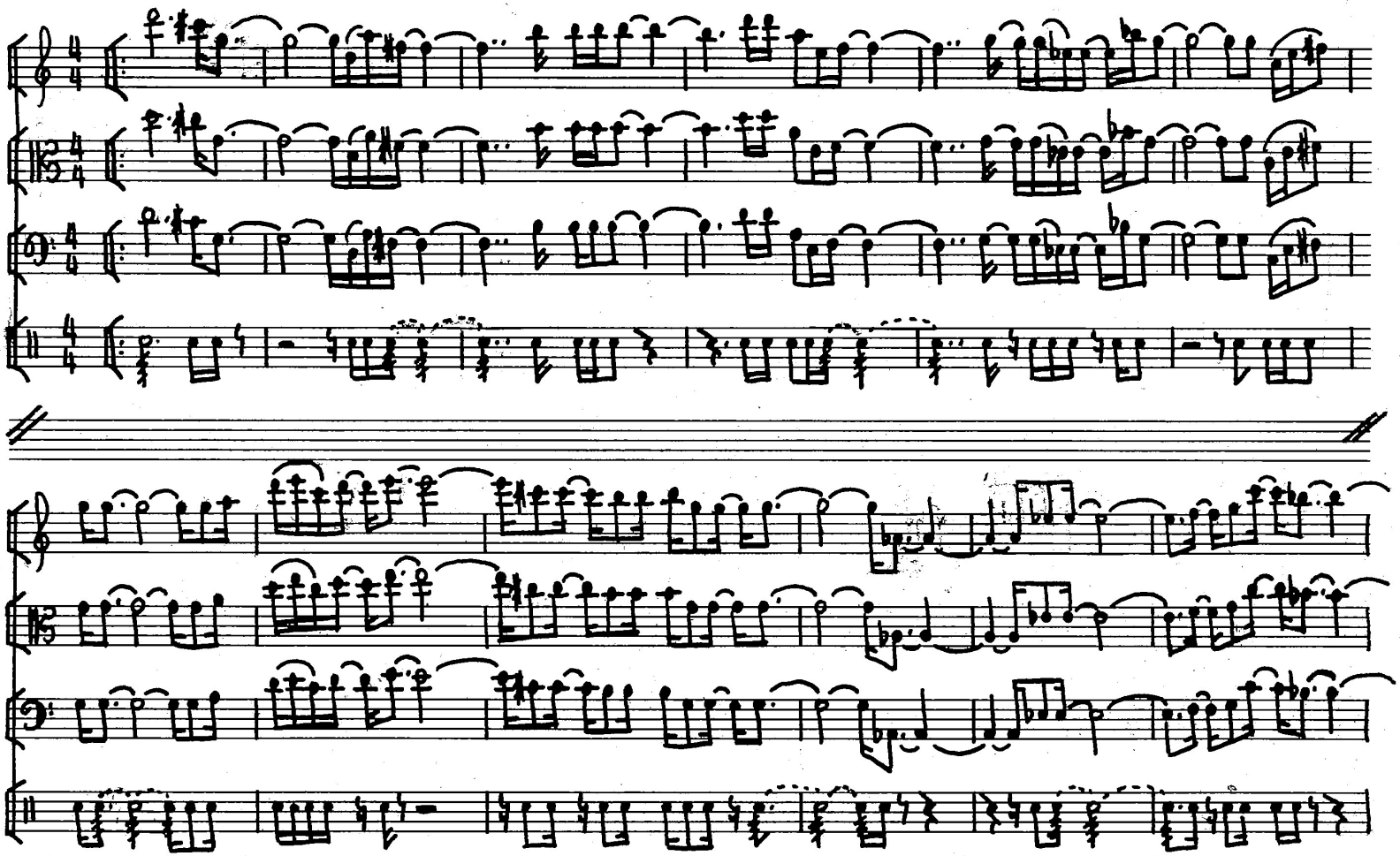
FAST AS POSSIBLE. SHOULD LAST 1-2 minutes

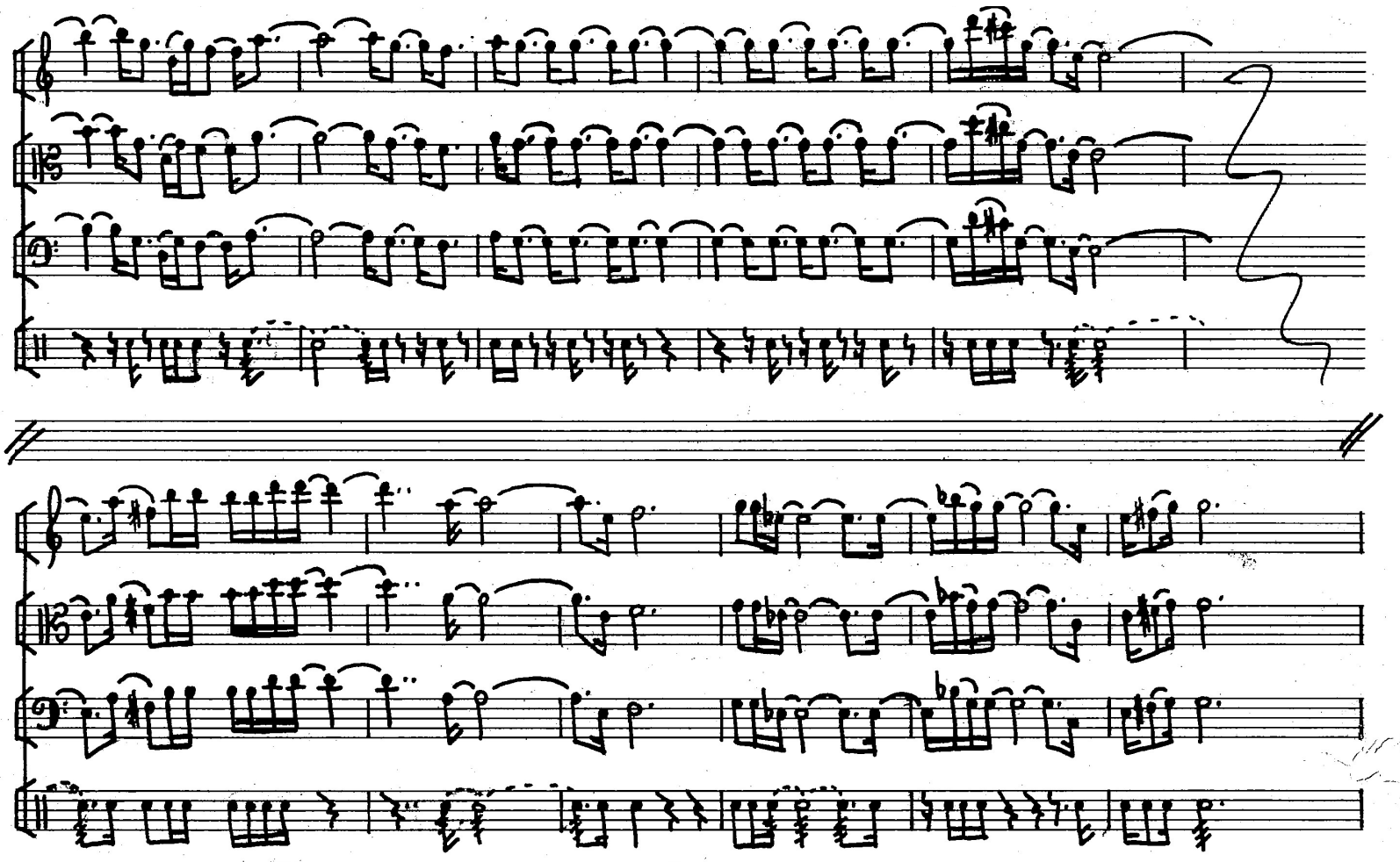
CONDUCTOR CUTS ALL OFF, EACH STOPS WHEREVER HE/SHE IS.

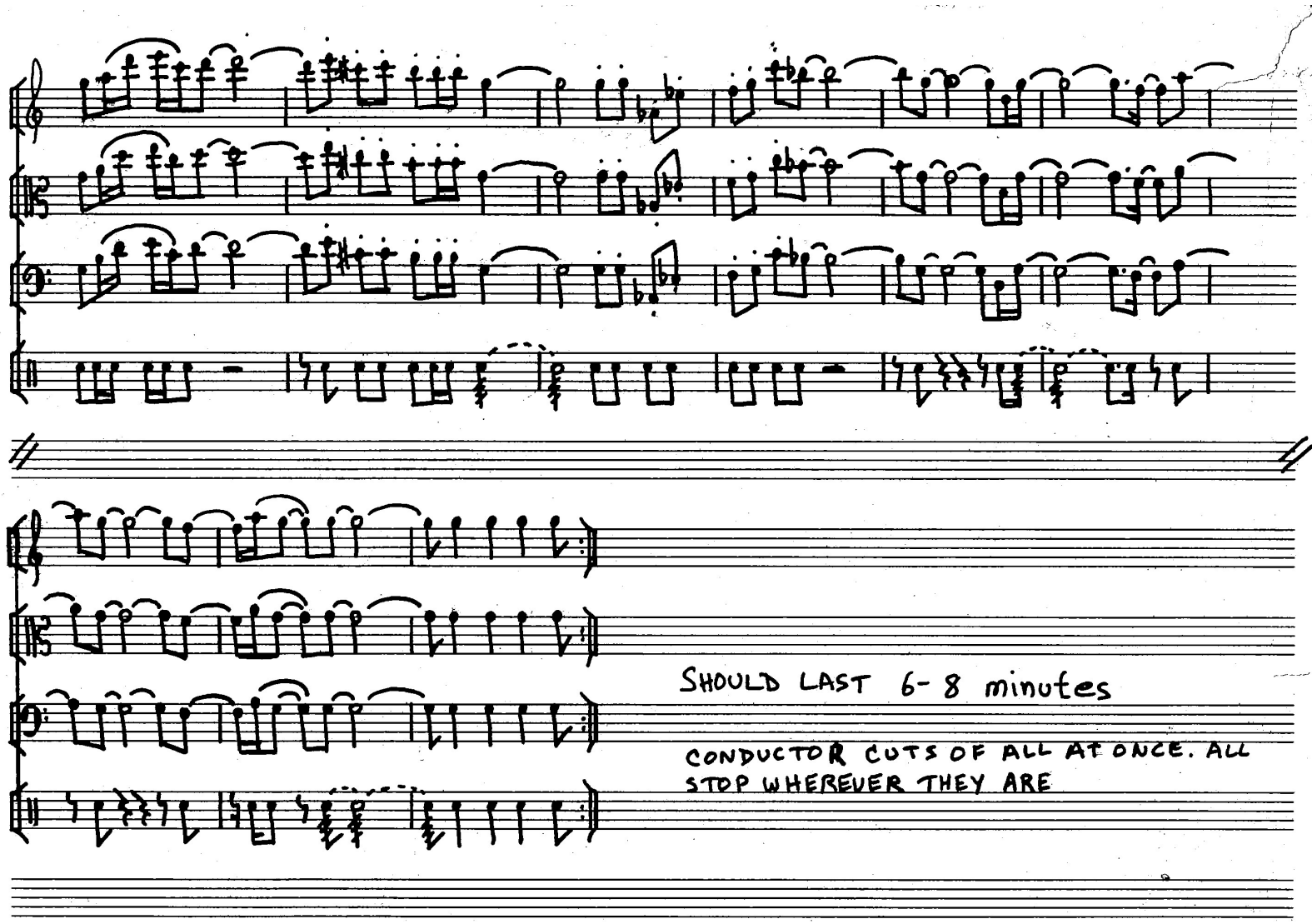
III

PLAYED IN THE SAME WAY AS I, but optional rest up to 3 beats before repeating each time after 1st time.

♩ = ca. 90 Mysteriously Beat 1's






SHOULD LAST 6-8 minutes
CONDUCTOR CUTS OF ALL AT ONCE. ALL STOP WHEREVER THEY ARE

IV (INTERMEZZO) NOT CONDUCTED

PP All begin together, each individually as fast as possible, playing III.

Strings sul ponticello. SHOULD LAST 1-3 minutes. Conductor

cuts all off at whatever measure each is playing.

V.

PLAY I. DYNAMICS up to Conductor. EACH PLAYER ENTERS INDIVIDUALLY at different times; PLAY measures in any order. Do not repeat any measure until all have been played. Lasts 2-4 minutes. Go on to coda without break after playing all measures. ~~optional rest of up to 3 beats between measures.~~

CODA.

PLAY I.

EACH PLAYER chooses a measure + plays it over + over. optional rest of up to 3 beats between repetitions. Conductor cuts off after 30-40 seconds.

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