AKHET – ATEN

(Fourth Movement)
(Akhenaten, Opus 51 No. 2)

for

CHORUS/TENOR SOLO AND ORCHESTRA
or BARITONE

with

Text

by

Gene Gutchë

Vocal Score $3
REGUS PUBLISHER

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PROGRAM NOTE

by

Gene Gutchë

. . . 3,300 years ago Pharaoh Akhenaten declared himself god over all Upper and Lower Egypt. By this decree he challenged the prevailing order throughout his Empire. Hence he became *sole* god to rule the Universe.

In spite of the maxim: history does not repeat itself a parallel can be drawn today between Akhenaten and society.

Certainly contemporary art in its design is strongly indicative of Egyptian influence: our architecture, aesthetics in painting, inventive devices in music. More pointedly is the prevailing power complex which defies the pretentions of existing forces.

The music reflects eidetic images. The paramnesia: an illusory impression — something previously experienced (déjà vu), heard (déjà entendu), understood (déjà compris), fulfilled (fait accompli).

AKHENATEN

(Eidetic Images)

a

Dramatic Suite

in

Four Movements

MOVEMENT I . . . . .RA . . . déjà vu.

When the sun rises, the world is a beautiful thing to behold. Whether you see it rise on the horizon over a mountain top, through the green leaves of a forest, or in between the shafts of skyscrapers . . . for you and me it will remain a symbol of a hope never dying. The sun speaks with a promise, to some even of fulfillment, but to all of us it is the Spring of vitality.

In the days of Akhenaten for the Egyptians, RA — the sun, was the supreme god. And rightly so: from the sun comes the fruit of the earth, and it is from the fruit of the earth we gather our strength for a continued life. Truly, the sun is the great wonder of the world, for its light reflects everything we are.

MOVEMENT II THE NILE . . . déjà entendu.

For the Egyptians it was the Nile, for the Latins it is the Amazon, but for us it will always be the Mississippi . . . so we are told. We rarely question things that are taken for granted. It isn't until you have swum, fished, rowed, or taken a journey on any one you begin to live the beauty and even terror which sometimes threatens, and as quickly vanishes. Before the majesty of these waters you somehow feel the littleness of self. For these bodies of water reach out to let you know: not all is lost. That at your very last hour there will always be something to hold you safe.

MOVEMENT III THE SPHYNX . . . déjà compris.

I see . . . . . .yet time is sightless.
I speak. . . . . .do the sands remember?
I hear. . . . . .but who will hear me?

VOCAL TEXT

MOVEMENT IV . . . . . .AKHET-ATEN . . . . . .fait accompli

There can only
be one
* Aten. Its
majesty gathers
all divided
into an
entity.

I, Amonhotep, to
please
Aten,
am reborn
** Akhen-Aten.

The
will of
Akhen-Aten
we emulate
Aten.
Erect and
worship him in
*** Akhet-Aten.

O wondrous-radiant Aten!
from
whence all life
springs out of
this earth:
the mountains,
waters,
fruits.
For you we
labor, thrive,
create and
multiply.

Divided we
sink into the
shadows. As
one we
rise again
each day.

So far and yet
so near, your
rays embrace
all that
lives.
Brings
peace.
Contentment.
Fulfillment.

There can only
be one
Aten.
His
covenant:
Life bring
peace on
earth.

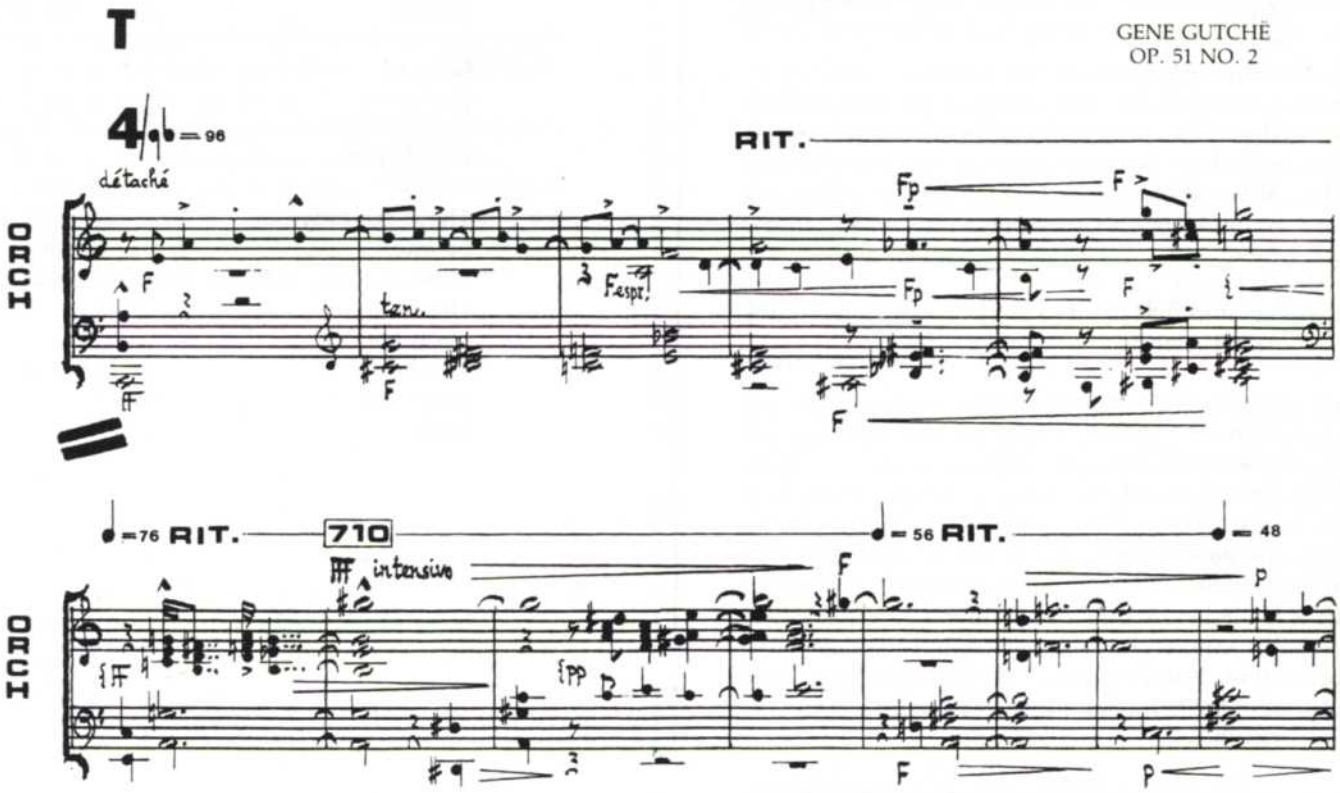
---

* ATEN . . . . . .RA — the Sun God.
** AKHEN-ATEN . . . . . .Pleasing to Aten.
*** AKHET-ATEN . . . . . .Temple of Aten.

I — II — III TACET

IV

AKHET — ATEN



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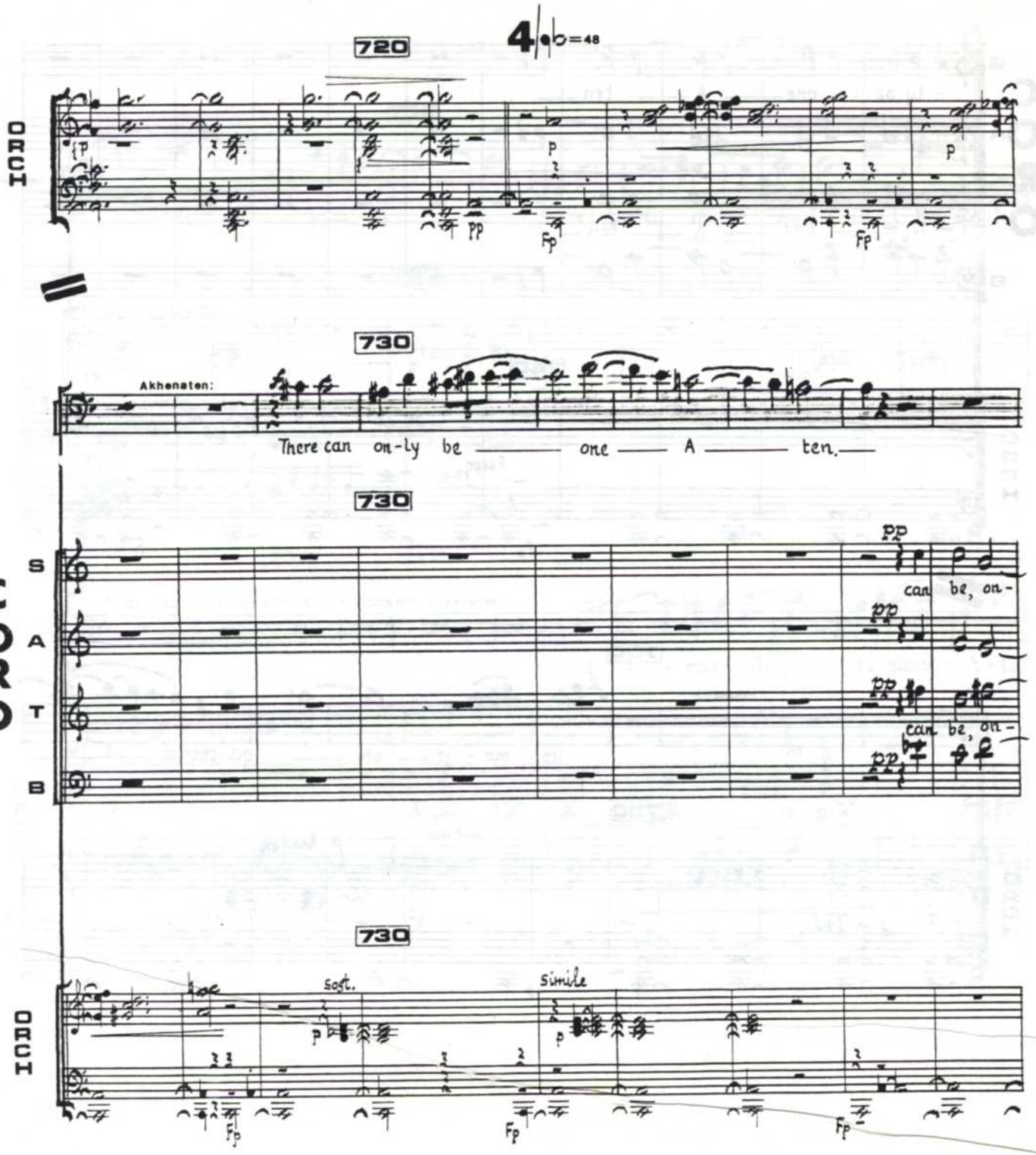
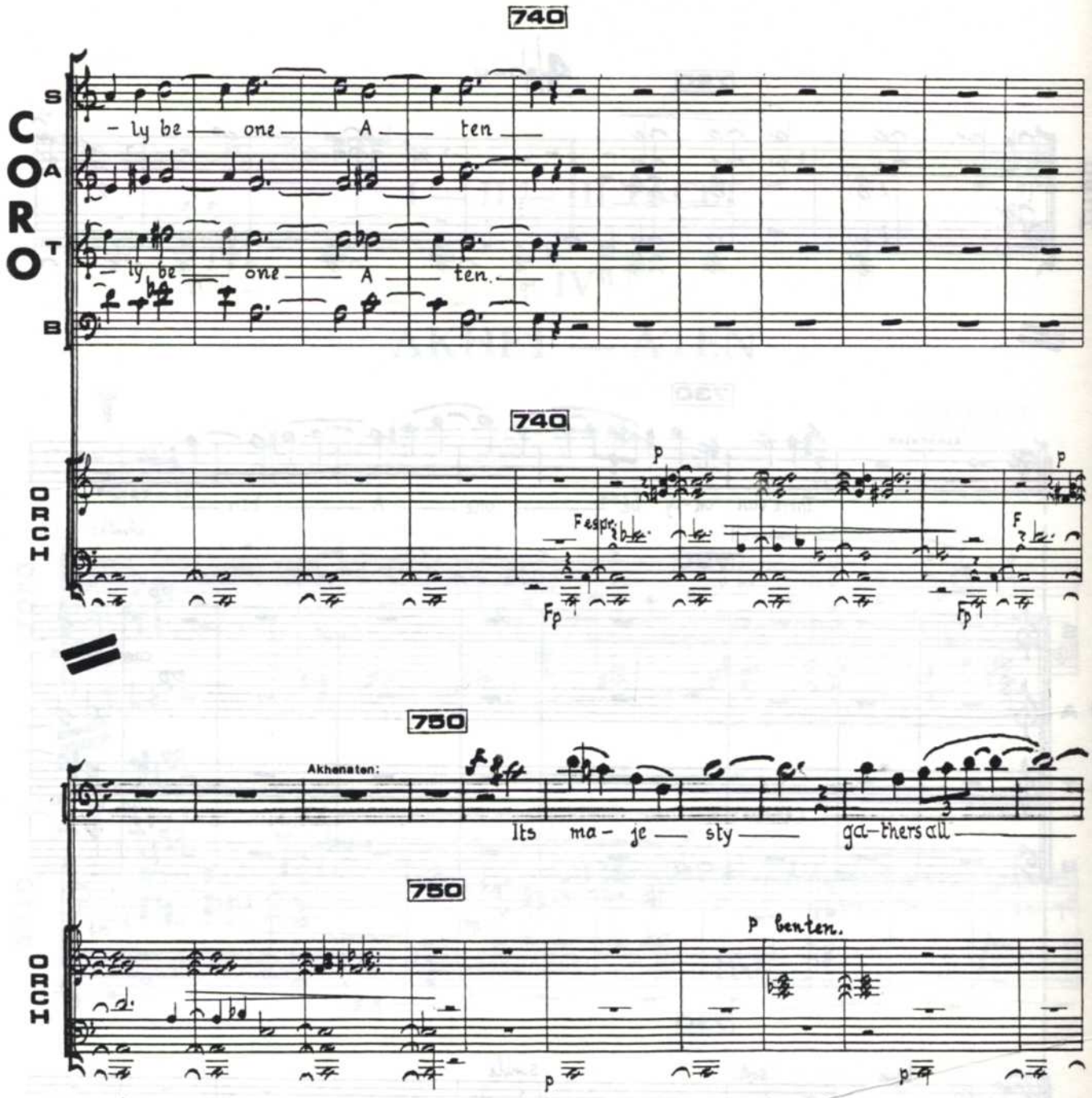
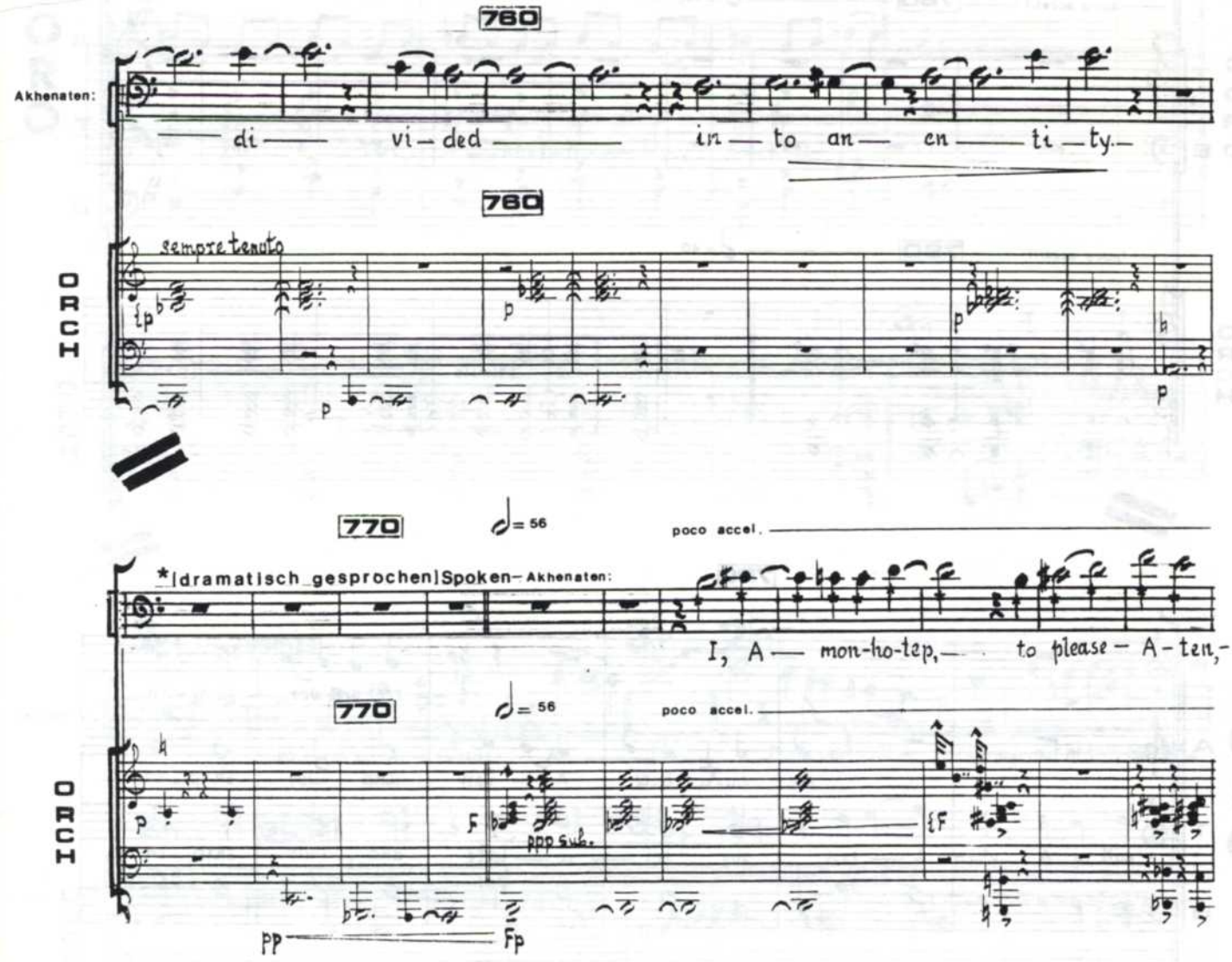
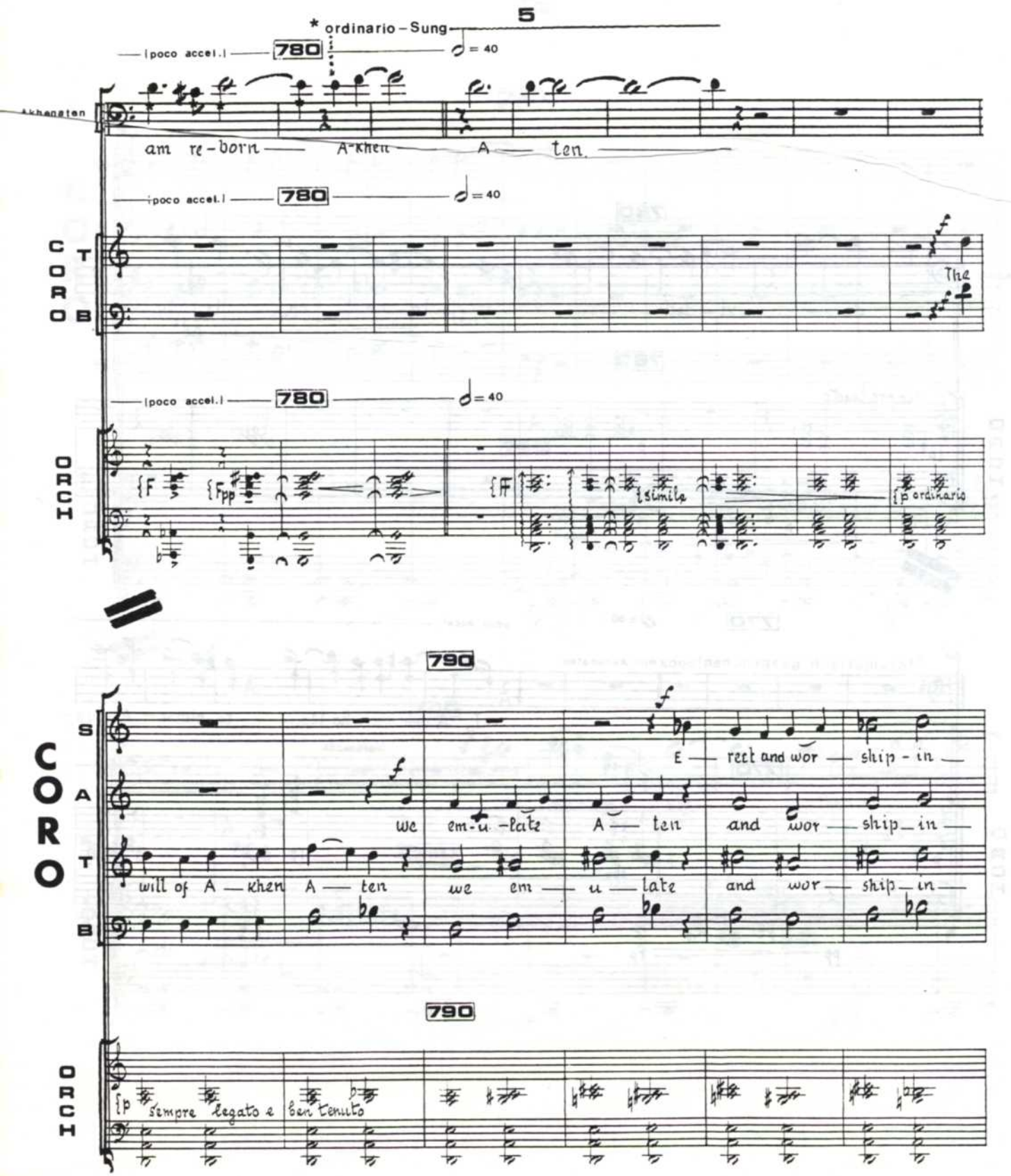
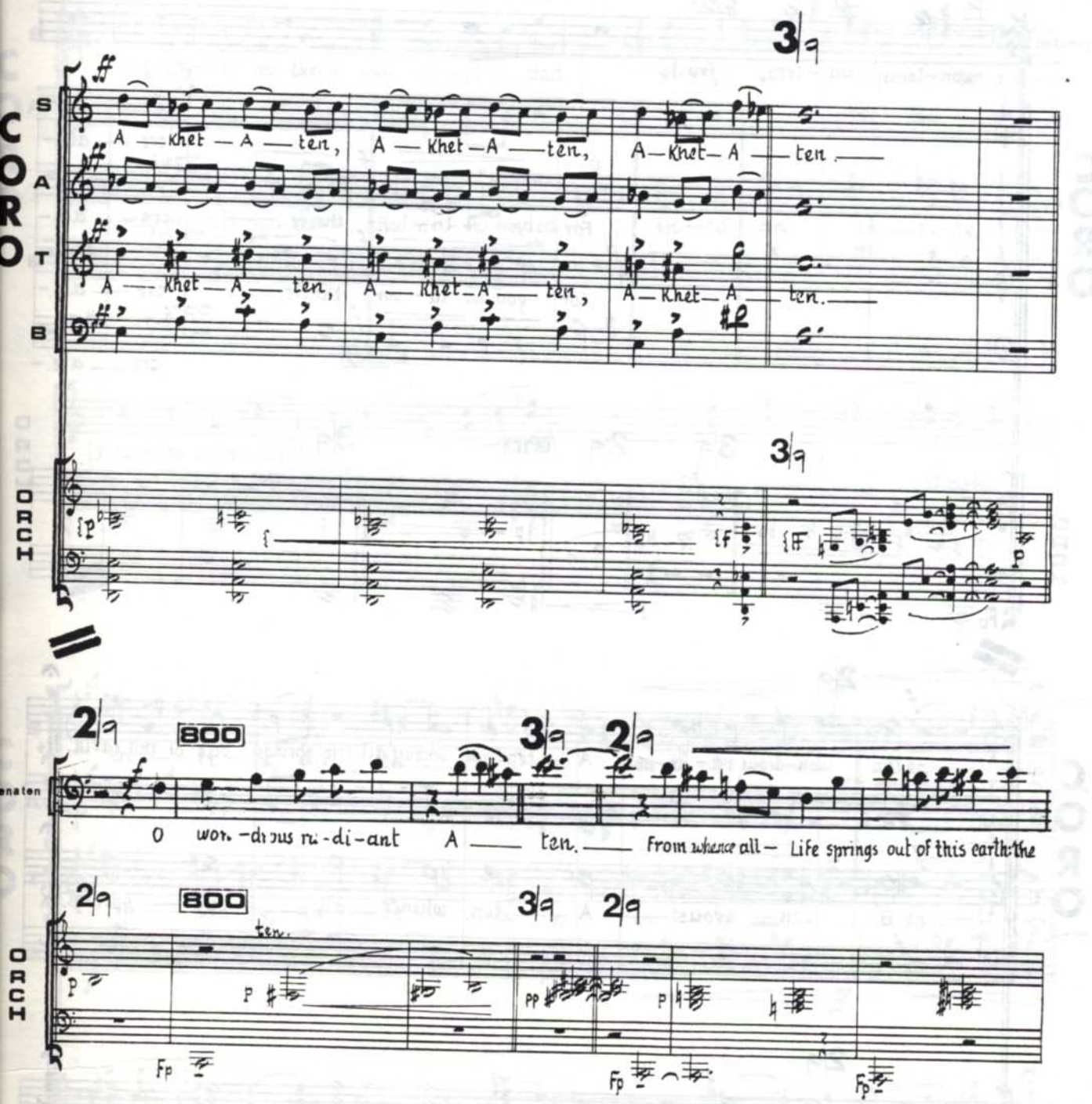
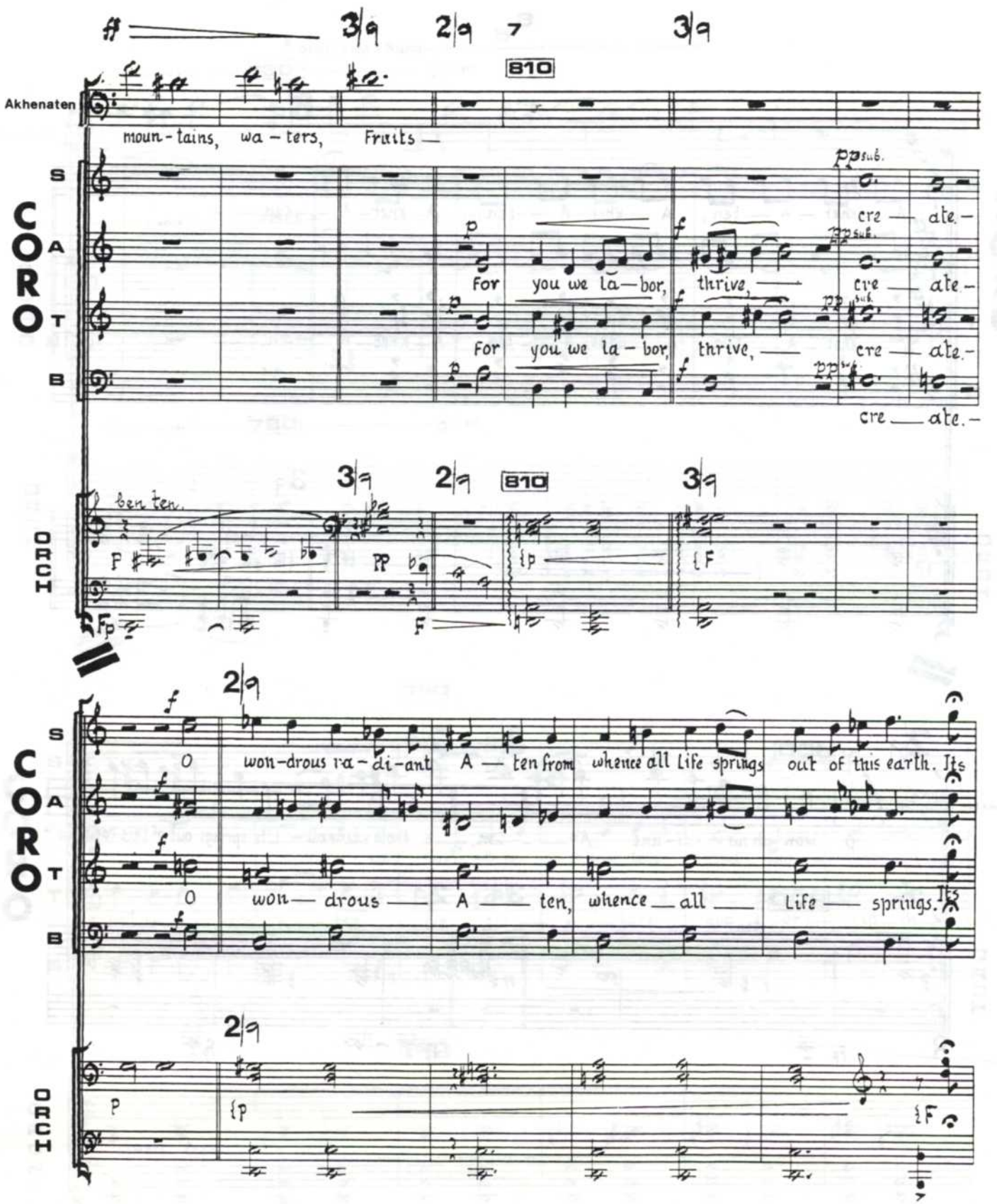

720
4/♭ = 48
ORCH
730
Akhenaten:
There can on-ly be one A ten.
730
CORO
S
A
T
B
can be, on-
730
ORCH
soft.
simile

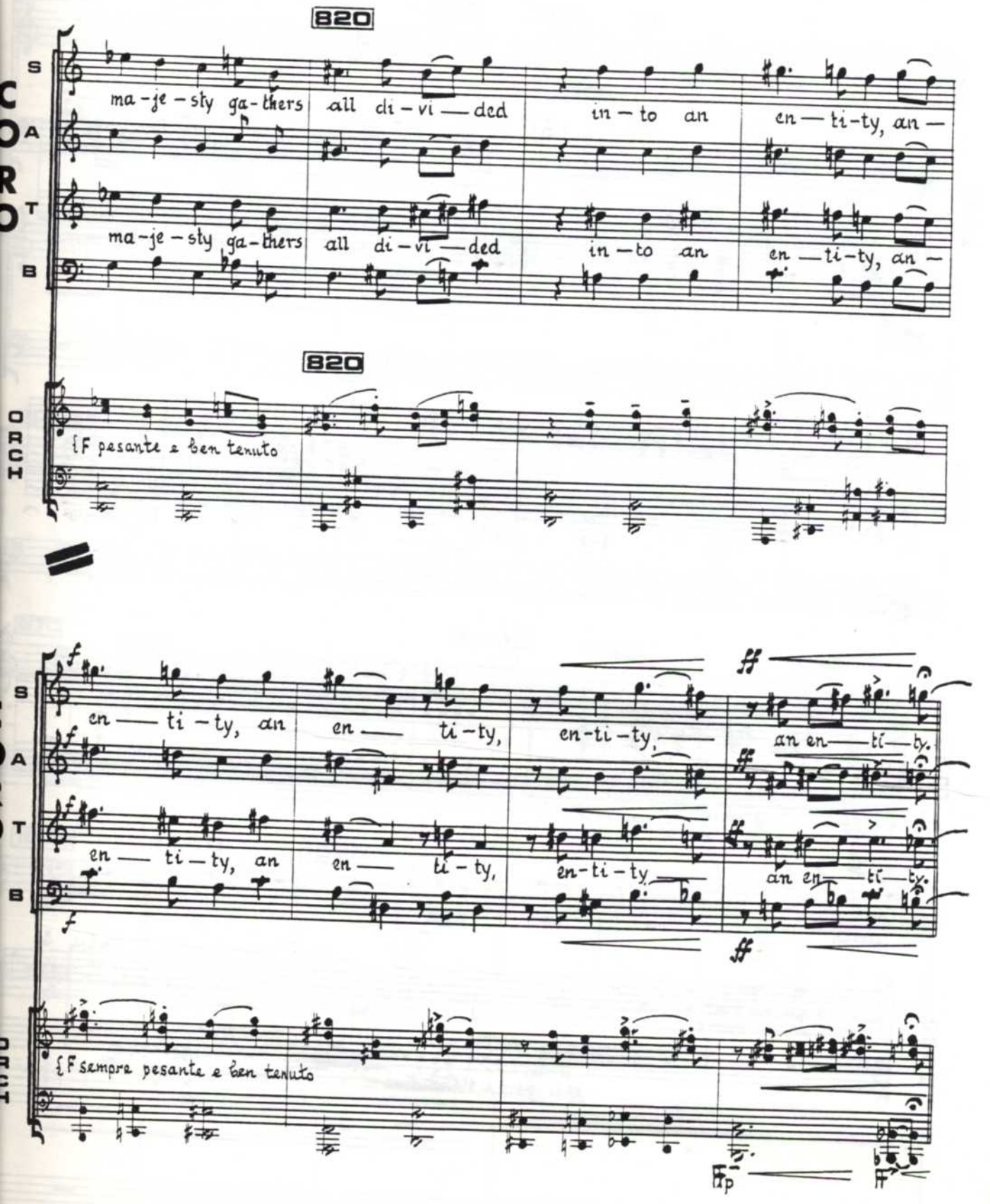

740
CORO
S
A
T
B
- ly be — one — A — ten —
- ly be — one — A — ten. —
740
ORCH
p
F espr.
Fp
F
p
Fp
750
Akhenaten:
Its ma - je — sty — ga - thers all —
750
ORCH
p benten.
p
p

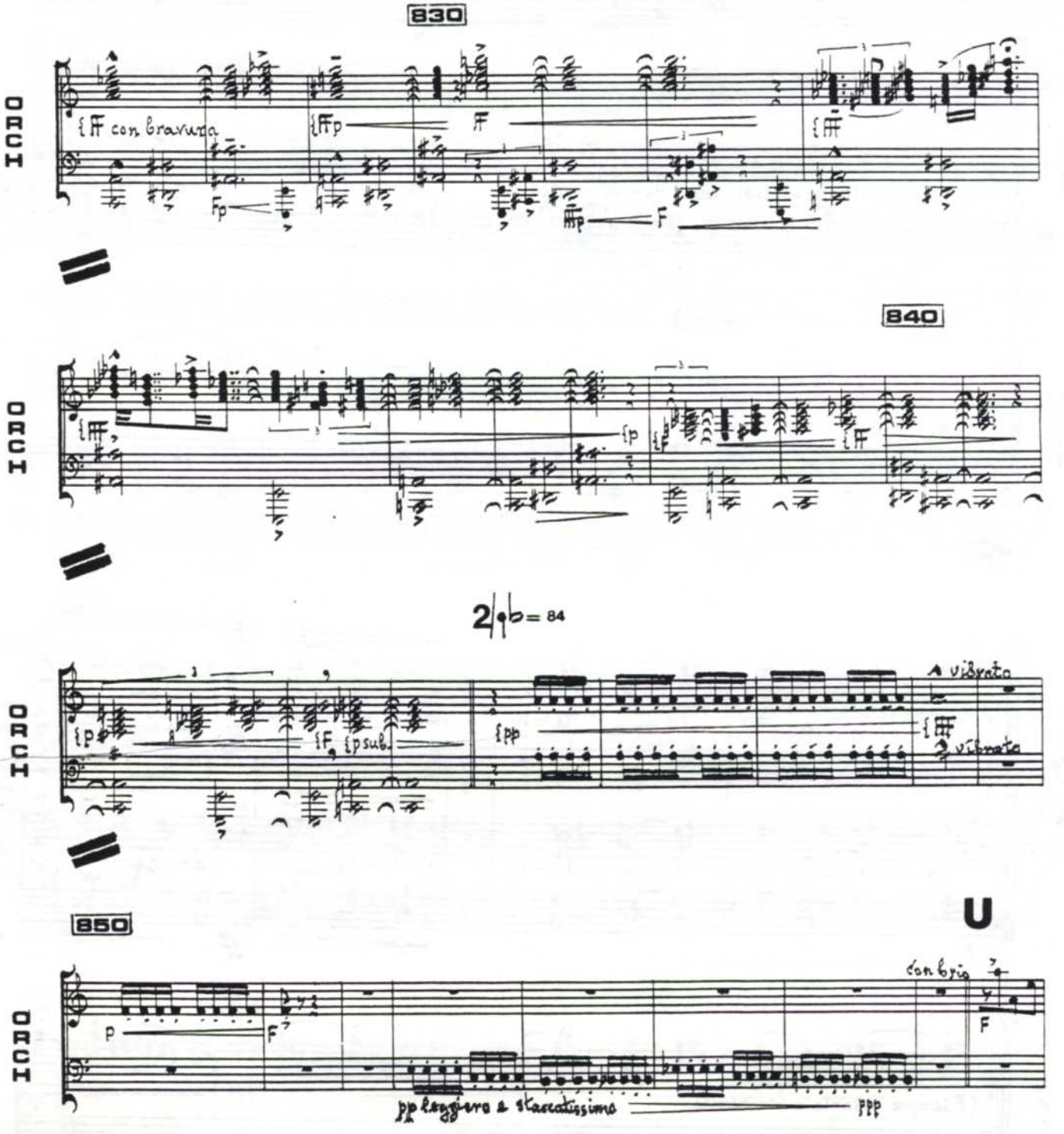

760
Akhenaten:
di — vi — ded — in — to an — en — ti — ty.
760
sempre tenuto
ORCH
770
= 56
poco accel.
*[dramatisch gesprochen] Spoken — Akhenaten:
I, A — mon-ho-tep, — to please — A - ten,
770
= 56
poco accel.
ORCH
ppp subito
pp
fp

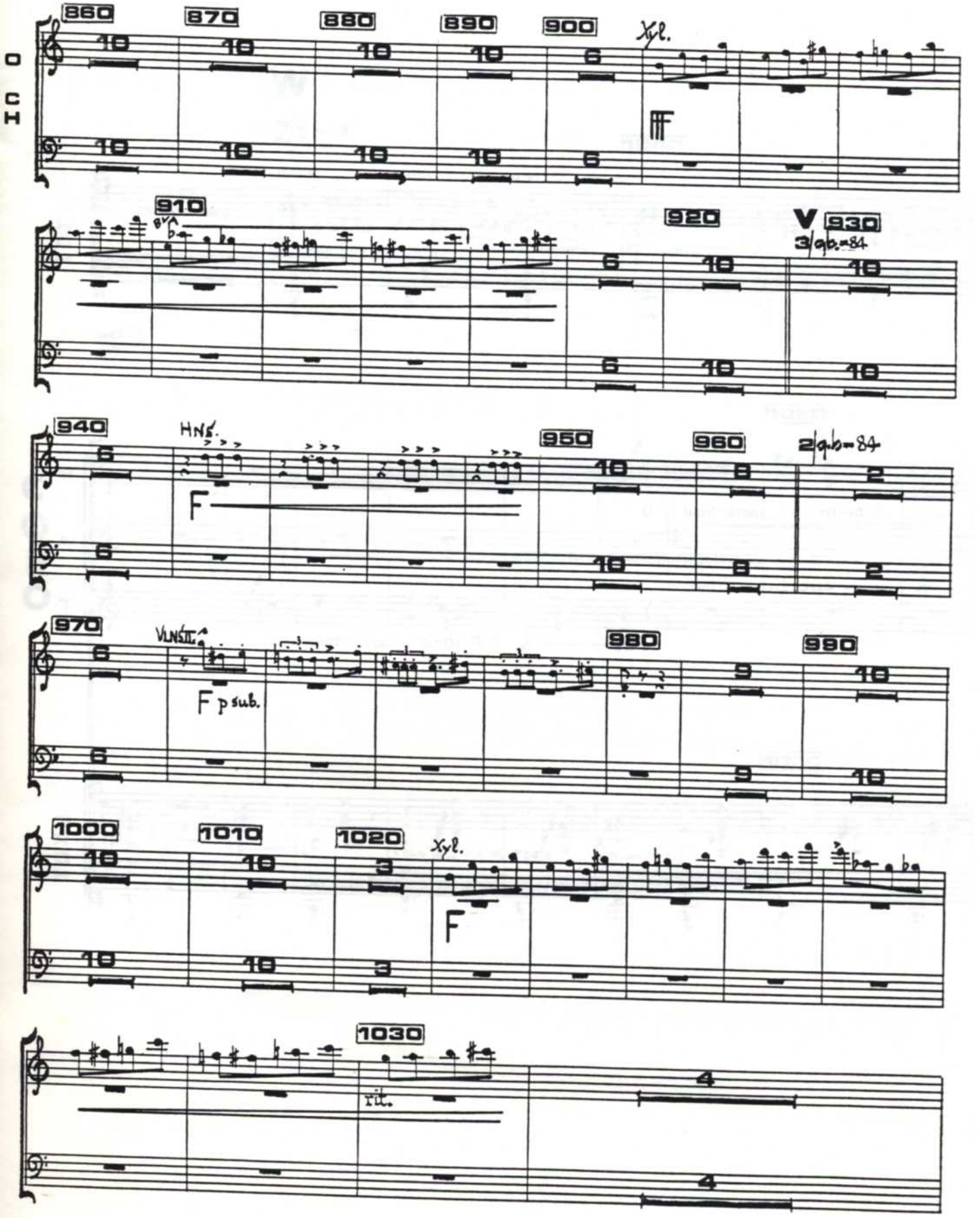

* ordinario – Sung
(poco accel.)
780
= 40
Akhenaten
am re-born A-khen A ten
CORO
T
B
The
ORCH
F
Fpp
FF
simile
p ordinario
790
S
A
T
B
E rect and wor ship-in
we em-u-late A ten and wor ship in
will of A khen A ten we em u late and wor ship in
p sempre legato e ben tenuto


CORO
S
A
T
B
ORCH
A — Khet — A — ten, A — Khet — A — ten, A — Khet — A — ten.
A — Khet — A — ten, A — Khet — A — ten, A — Khet — A — ten.
3/9
2/9
3/9
2/9
800
O won-drous ra-di-ant A — ten. — From whence all — Life springs out of this earth: the
ten.
Fp
Fp
Fp


Akhenaten
moun-tains, wa-ters, Fruits —
CORO
S
A
T
B
For you we la-bor, thrive, cre — ate.-
For you we la-bor, thrive, cre — ate.-
cre — ate.-
ORCH
ben ten.
O won-drous ra-di-ant A — ten from whence all Life springs out of this earth. Its
O won — drous — A — ten, whence — all — Life — springs. Its


820
S
A
T
B
ma-je-sty ga-thers all di-vi-ded in-to an en-ti-ty, an-
ma-je-sty ga-thers all di-vi-ded in-to an en-ti-ty, an-
820
ORCH
{F pesante e ben tenuto
en-ti-ty, an en-ti-ty, en-ti-ty, an en-ti-ty.
en-ti-ty, an en-ti-ty, en-ti-ty, an en-ti-ty.
{F sempre pesante e ben tenuto


830
ORCH
con bravura
840
ORCH
2 = 84
ORCH
vibrato
vibrato
850
U
ORCH
con brio
pp leggiero e staccatissimo


860
870
880
890
900
Xyl.
FF
910
8va
920
V
930
3/qb.=84
940
Hns.
F
950
960
2/qb.=84
970
Vlns II.
F p sub.
980
990
1000
1010
1020
Xyl.
F
1030
rit.