CHRISTIAN
MUSICOLOGICAL
SOCIETY OF INDIA

GAT
FOR SMALL ORCHESTRA

JERRY AMALDEV

Part I of a Thesis

Presented to the Faculty of the
Graduate School of Cornell University
for the Degree of Master of Fine Arts

June 1975

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Jerry Amaldev was born in Cochin, India on April 15, 1939. Although he exhibited musical talent from the age of 5, he received no formal training until 17. During this time, he met his first musical mentor, Fr. Michael Panakkal, and as a choirboy at the local Carmelite monastery, he taught himself to read and write the Western staff notation. At 14, unaided by anybody, he wrote down the music for a song in popular Hindi movie style, and a year later, a Mass in two voices.

He was enrolled in the Pontifical Athenaeum, Poona, India where he received the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy in 1962.

From 1965 to 1969 he worked in Bombay as assistant to Mr. Naushad Ali, the well-known movie music director of India. In September 1969, with help from his brother, Mr. V. J. Carmelus, he came to the United States and began studies in Western music at Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans on a scholarship. He took the degree of Bachelor of Music in May 1971. In the same year he was given a scholarship along with a teaching assistantship in the graduate school at Cornell.

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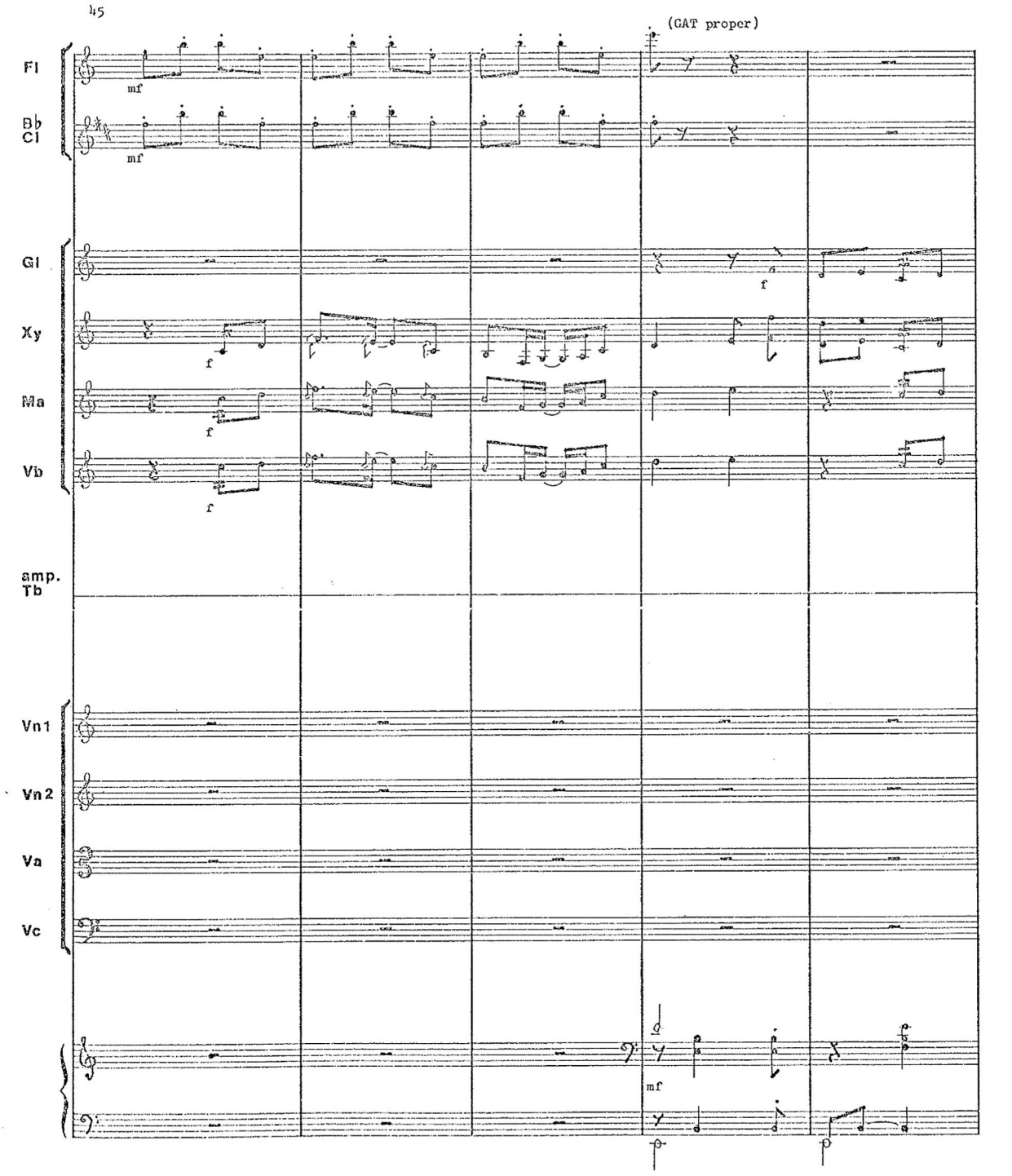
To

Fr. Michael Panakkal
musician, mentor and friend
remembering the musical days together
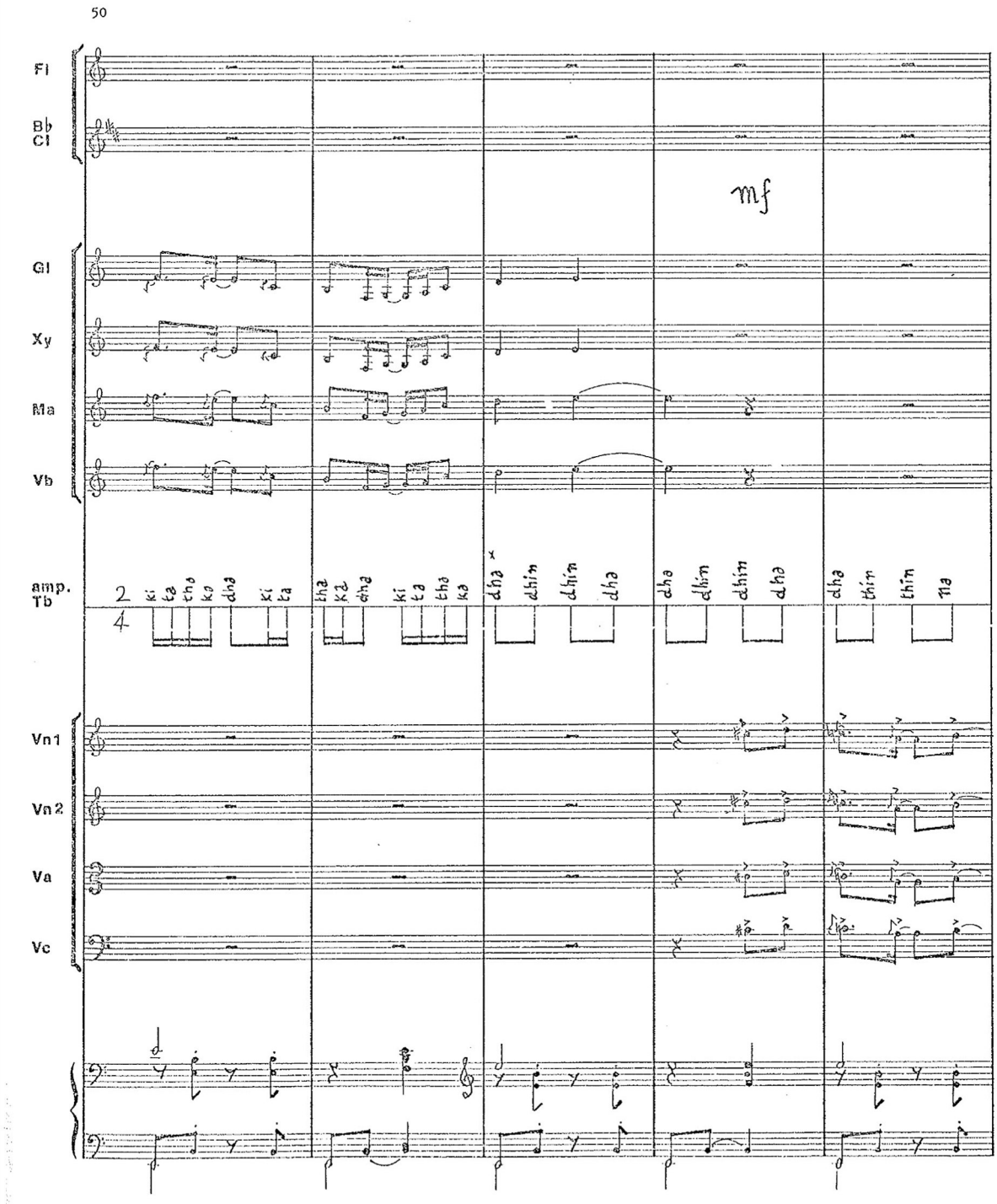
–Jerry Amaldev

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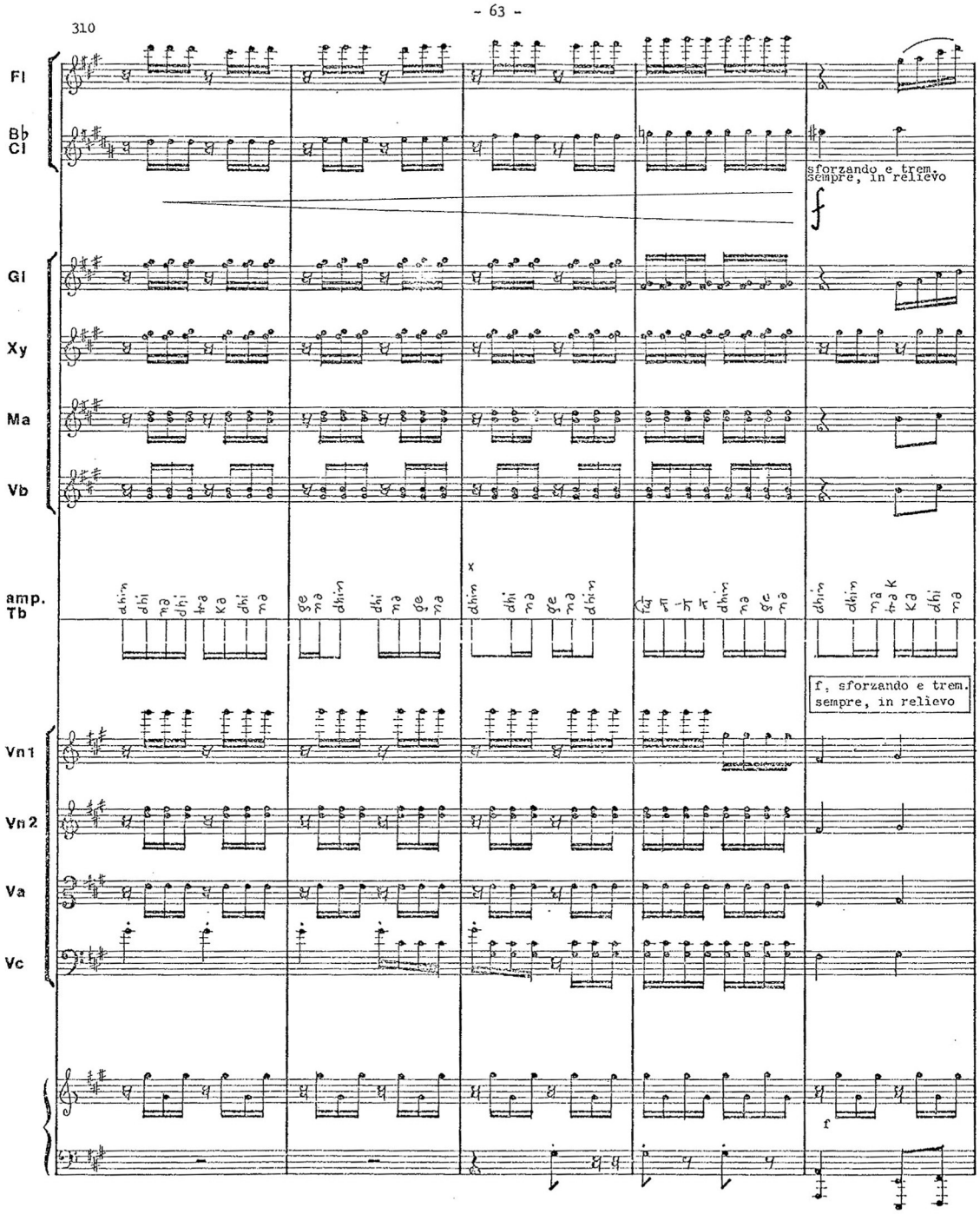
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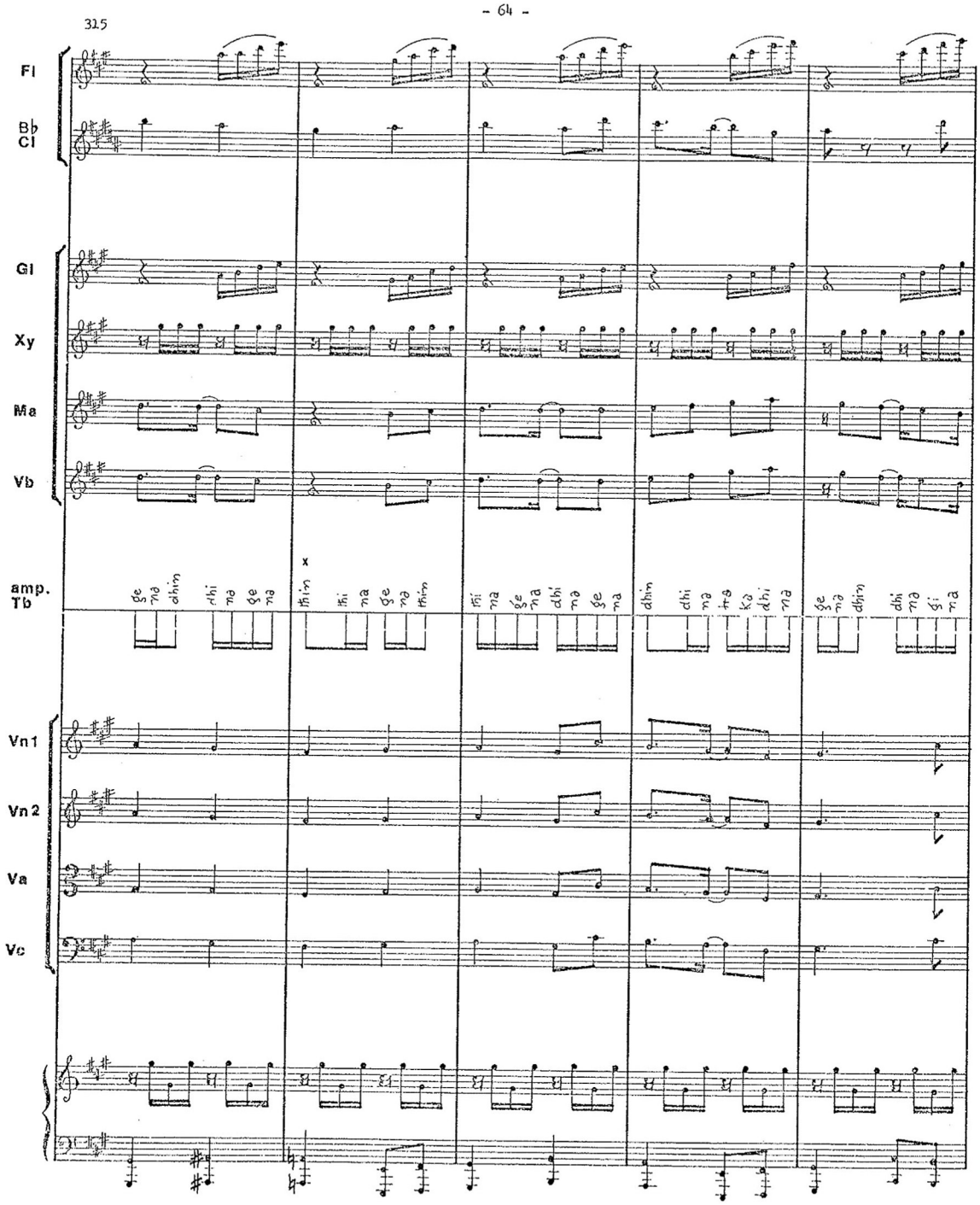


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