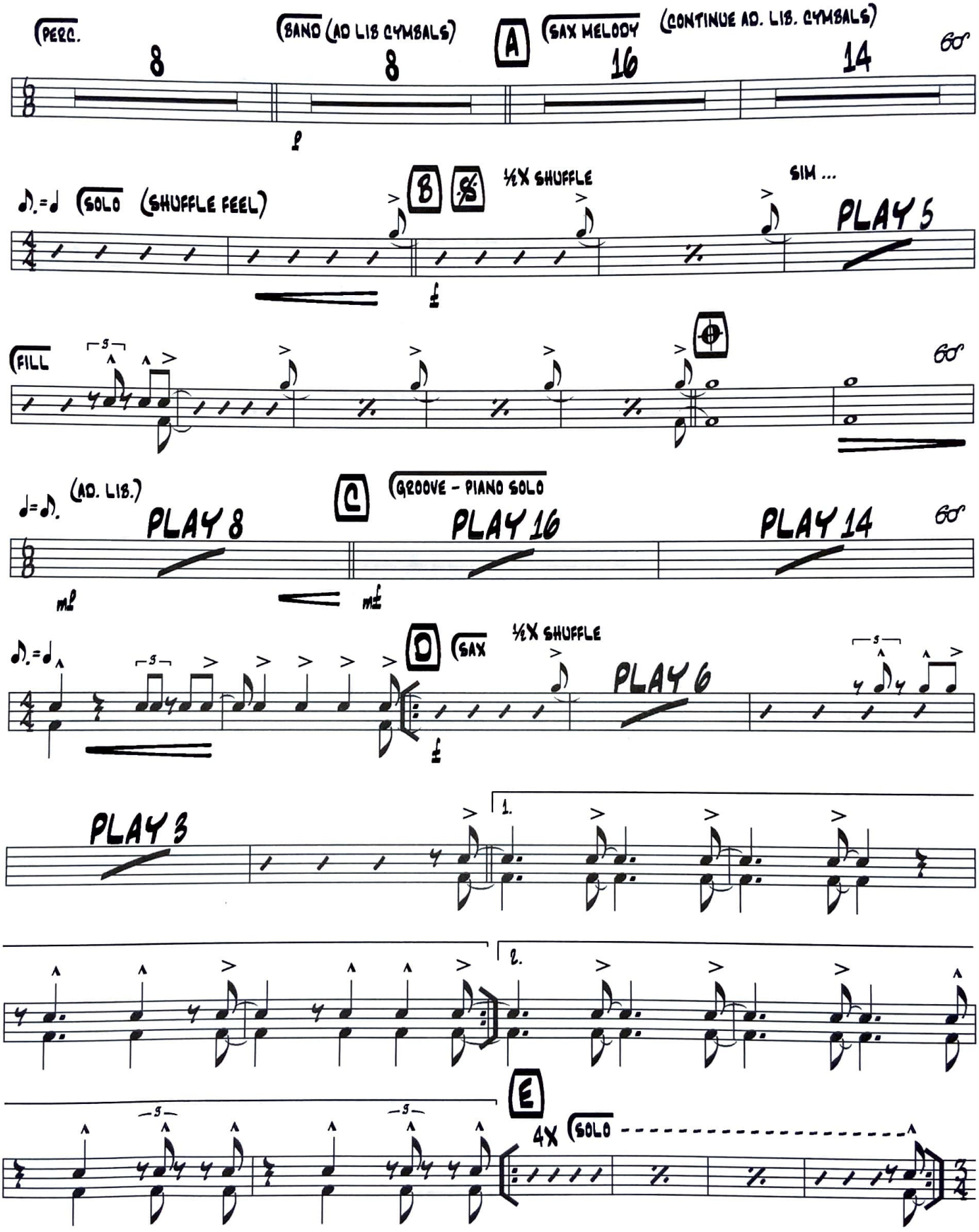
GLOBAL TOURS

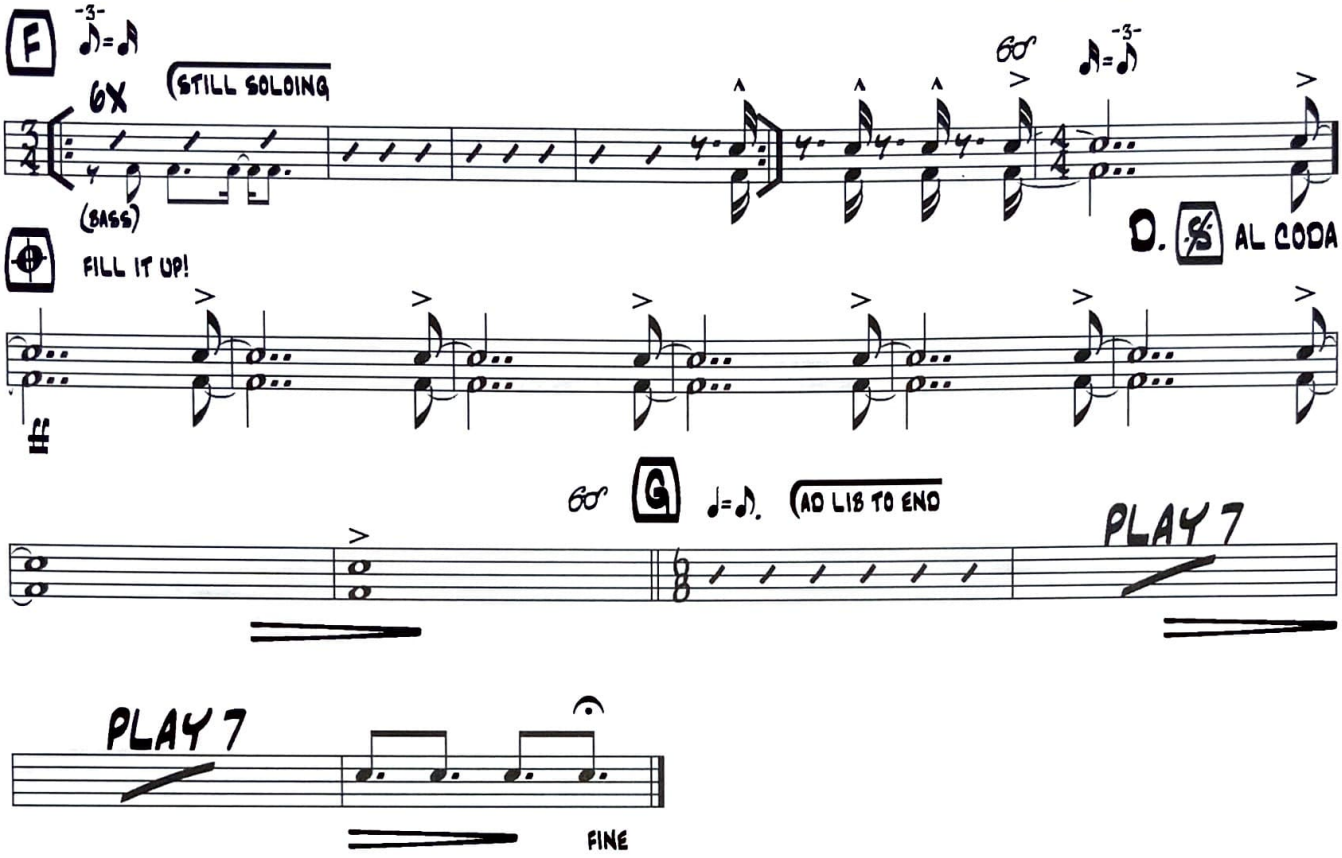
ENDURE Track 86

CHART



GLOBAL TOURS

CHART



The last tune on the DVD is a piece entitled "Endure." Since I play it on the DVD, I'm offering it to you here, but let it be known that this is a very challenging piece of music that requires the conceptualization of many advanced topics. I started out writing this composition as a tribute to one of my favorite artists, the Senegalese singer Youssou N'Dour ("Endure"—get it?), but as usually happens with my pieces, all sorts of other influences came to the party. You can hear harmonic ideas from the Yellowjackets and rhythmic mischief à la Chick Corea. However, at its core, the idea was to explore, as N'Dour does, the line between playing in "6," "4," and "3," and blurring the lines between them.

The three grooves explored in "Endure" are:

- **6/8 Afro-Cuban (heavily modified to our musical needs)**
- **Half-Time Shuffle**
- **Funk in 3/4 time (soloing over it)**

The long solo breaks are something you'll want to practice over and over again, and I'm leaving the click in for you here. After you get comfortable, please don't be a slave to the click and play stiff, "vertical" solo ideas. Rather, think of the click as a very reliable dance partner that you know can take care of itself if you decide to go off on your own for a second or two. Thinking in this way will allow you to play longer, "linear" solo ideas that flow forward and keep the listener's ear intrigued.

The take you see on the DVD was my one and only shot to get this, because literally, there was an unbelievable blizzard raging outside (January of 2004), and everyone in the production crew had to pack up and try to get back to Brooklyn or risk being stranded for two days in the woods of upstate New York. So, you can see what I mean about pressure: sometimes it brings out the best you have.