David

# SCHIFF

## Divertimento from *Gimpel the Fool*

for Clarinet in Eb/Bb, Violin, Cello, & Piano

*Score and Parts*

Perusal

Perusal

David

# SCHIFF

## Divertimento from *Gimpel the Fool*

for Clarinet in Eb/Bb, Violin, Cello, & Piano

*Piano Score*

*Commissioned & Recorded by Chamber Music Northwest, Delos*
*Australian recording by Collusion, Move Records*


I. Overture/ The Rabbi ..... 3
II. Wedding Song ..... 10
III. Pantomime/ Bread Song ..... 17
IV. Who Knows One?/ Mazal Tov ..... 25


Duration ca 17'

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Perusal

***Program Notes***

*My opera, Gimpel the Fool, with libretto by I. B. Singer based on his famous story, was first staged at the 92nd Street Y in 1979 as the first offering of in the series "Jewish Opera at the Y". It tells the story of the naive baker, Gimpel, who is deceived by his wife Elka and everyone else in the village of Frampol. In 1982 I composed the Divertimento for Chamber Music Northwest, combining various numbers from the opera to form a four movement suite for clarinet, violin, cello and piano:*

*1) Overture/The Rabbi's advice ("He who brings shame on his fellow man must lose the world to come.")*
*2) Wedding Song ("Clouds lift me up and take me to where my heart yearns to be.")*
*3) Bread Song (Gimpel and the Apprentice)*
*4) Who Knows One? Mazel Tov!*

*The style of the music draws on Jewish liturgical modes and on Klezmer music (which was just beginning to be revived when I began composing the opera in the mid seventies) , but I used very few folk melodies--one of them is heard in the introduction to the Bread Song.*

*-David Schiff*

**Duration ca. 17 minutes**

Perusal

FULL SCORE

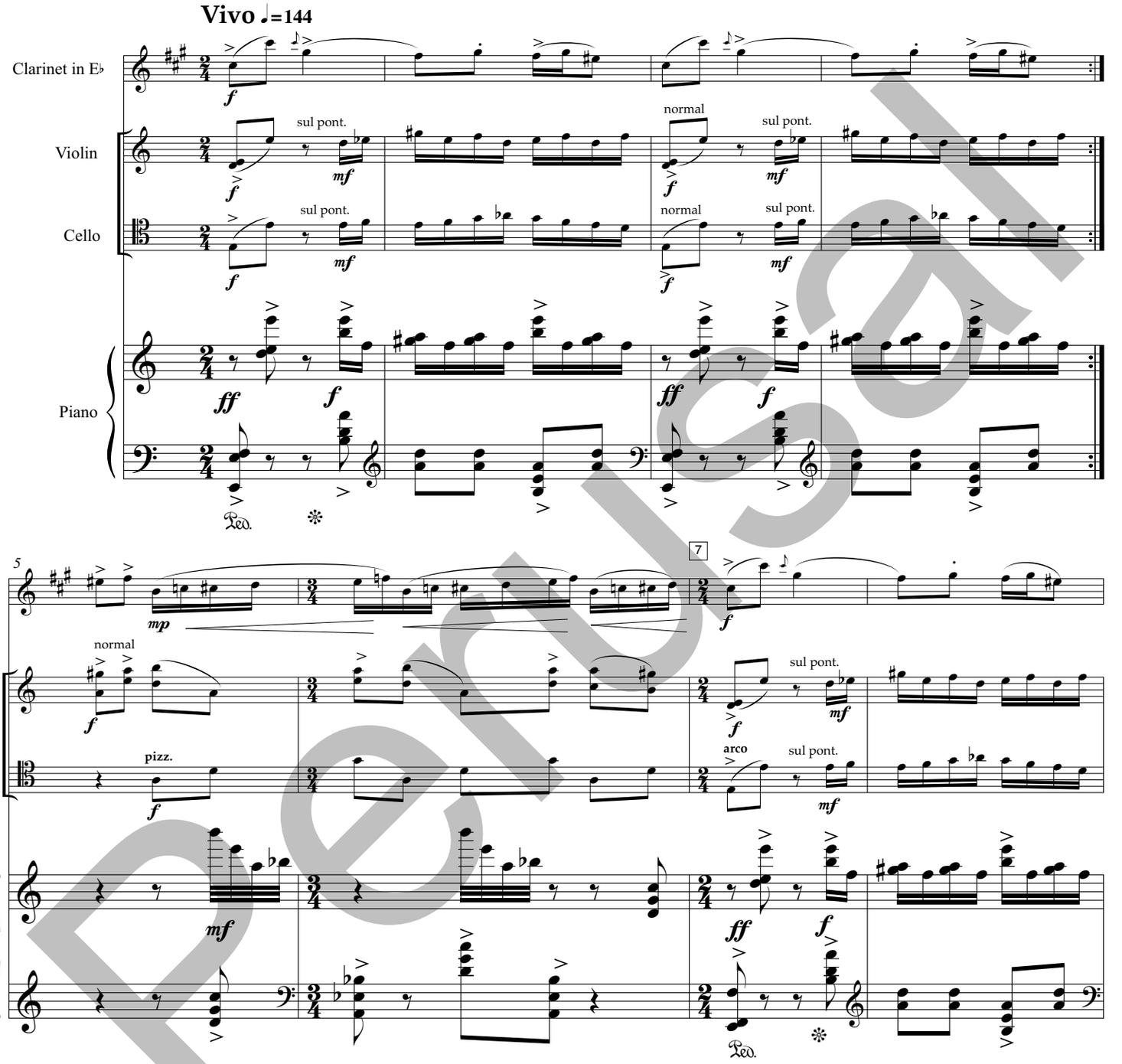
*Dedicated to David Shifrin and Chamber Music Northwest*

# Divertimento

## from GIMPEL THE FOOL

David Schiff

**I: OVERTURE/THE RABBI**




Perusal

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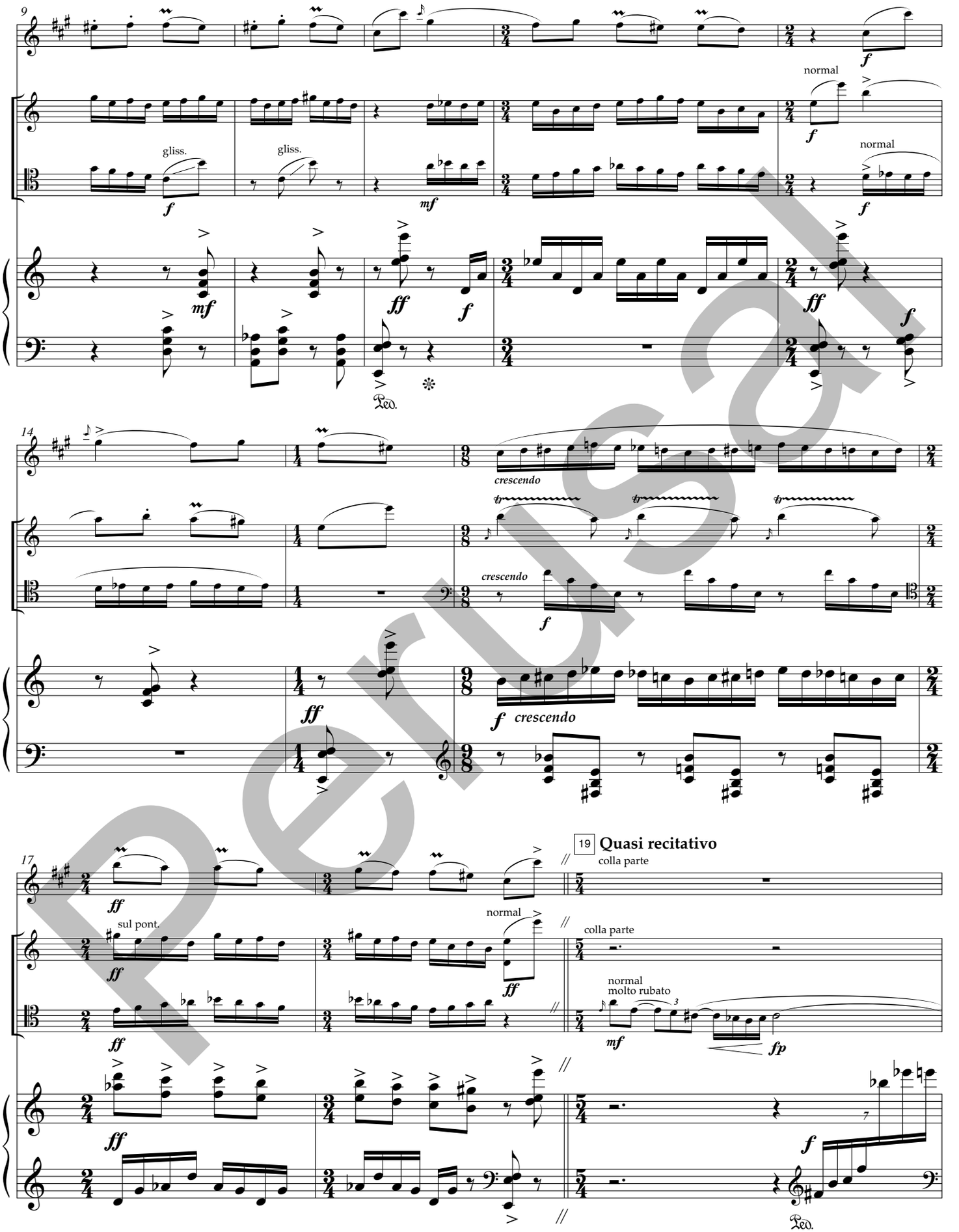
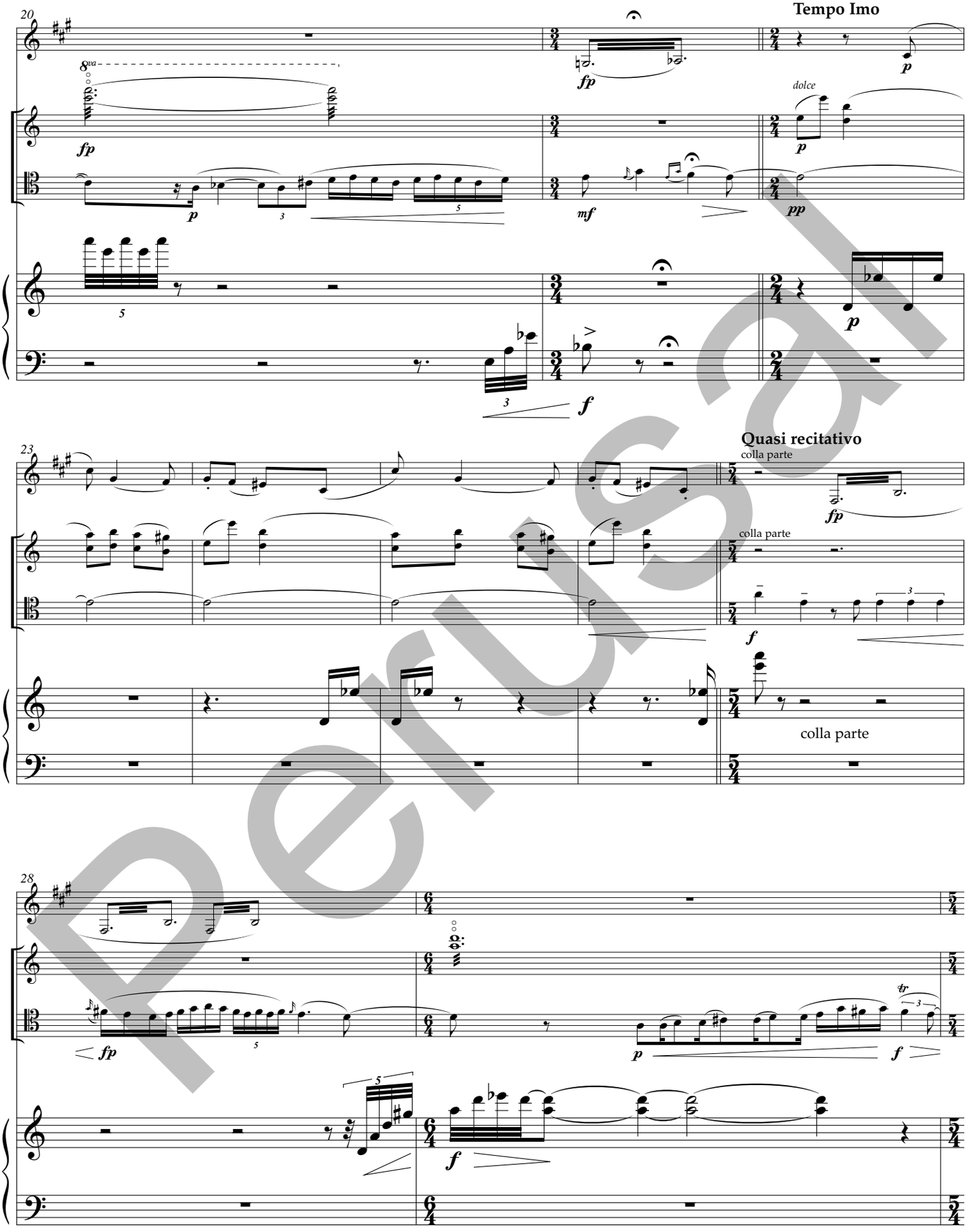
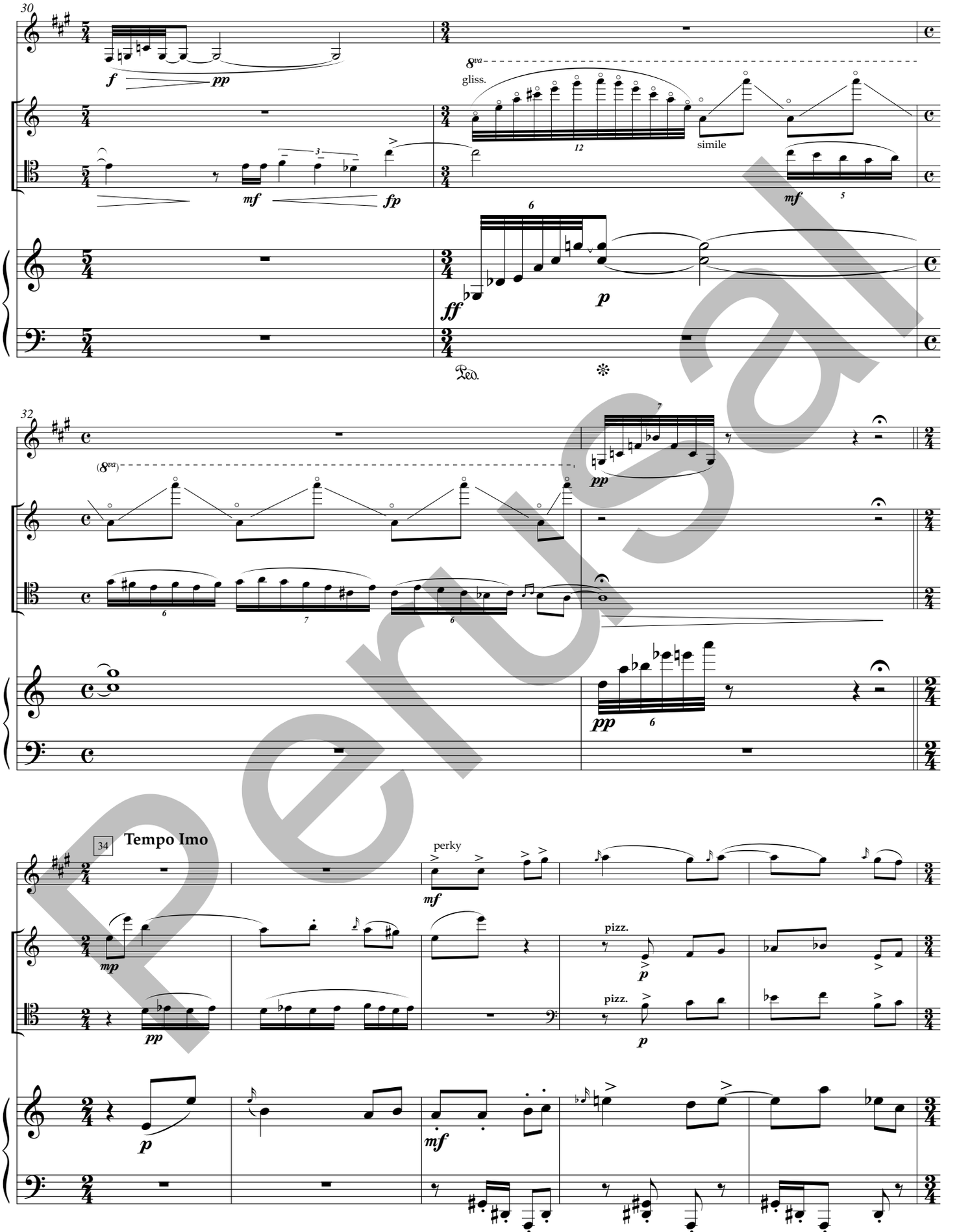

9
gliss.
gliss.
normal
normal
14
crescendo
crescendo
crescendo
17
19 Quasi recitativo
colla parte
sul pont.
normal
colla parte
normal
molto rubato

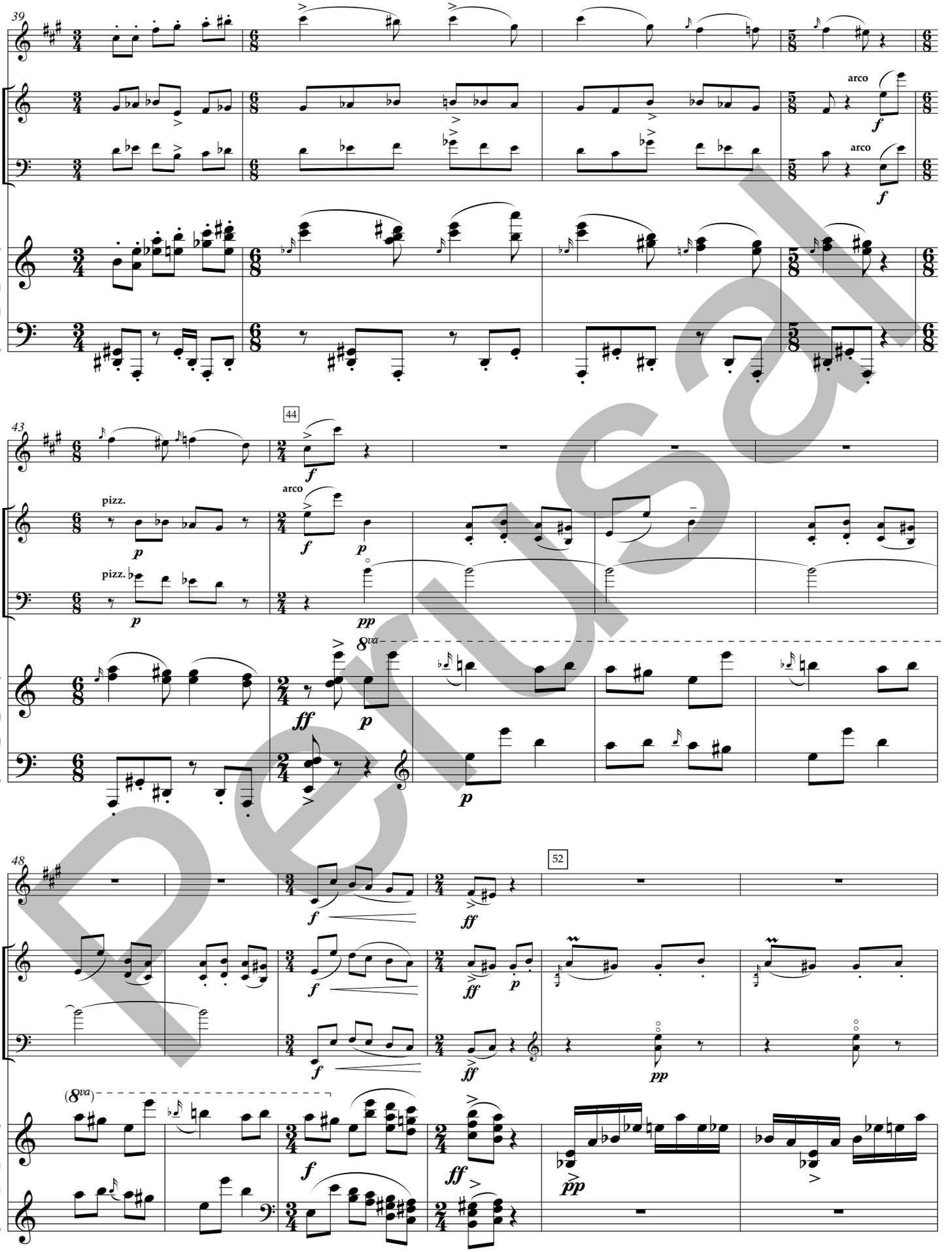
Perlsal


20
Tempo Imo
dolce
23
Quasi recitativo
colla parte
colla parte
colla parte
28

Perusal


30
f
pp
8va
gliss.
simile
mf
fp
ff
p
Ped.
32
(8va)
pp
34
Tempo Imo
perky
mp
pizz.

perusal

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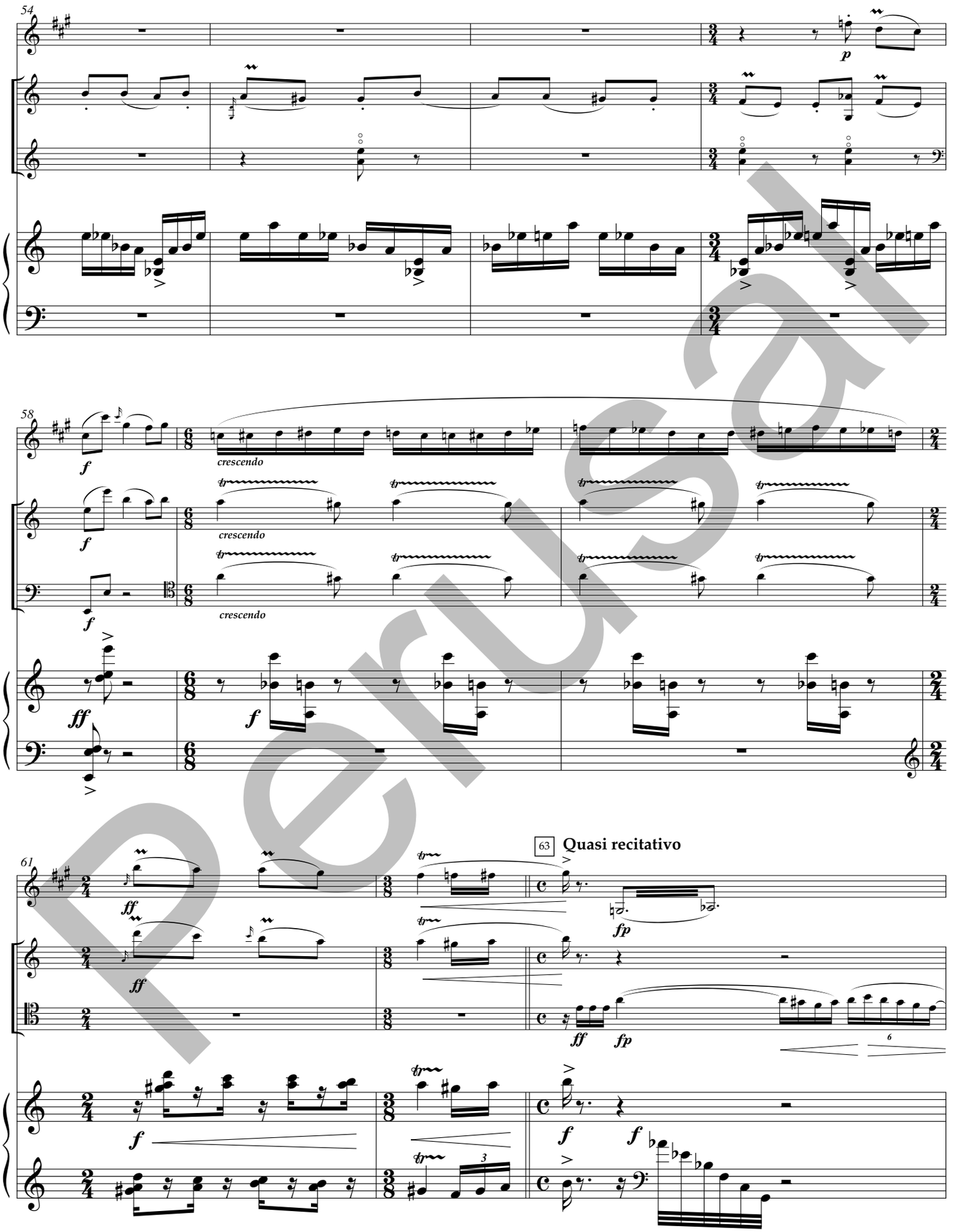


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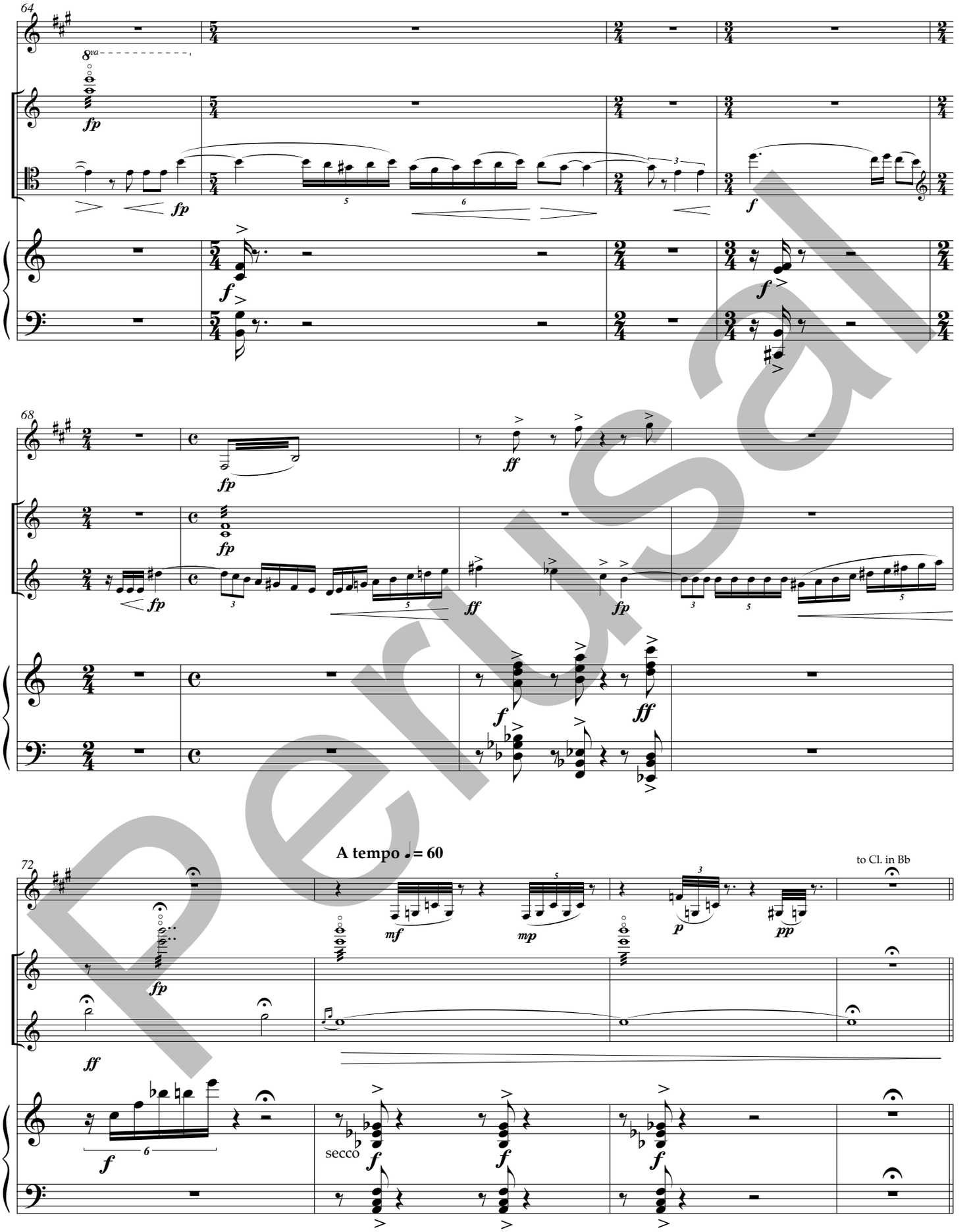
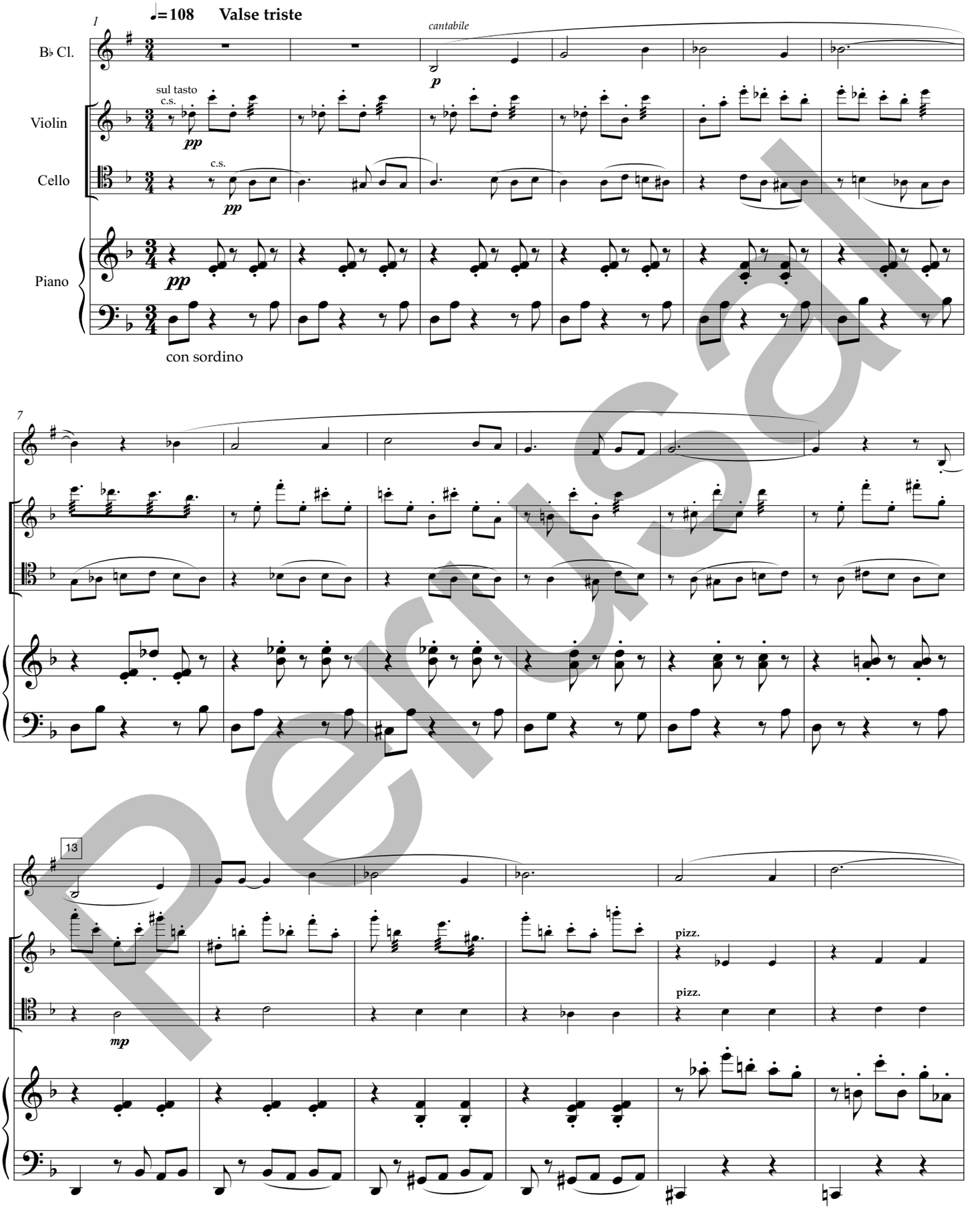

64
8va
fp
fp
f
f
f
68
fp
fp
ff
fp
ff
fp
f
ff
72
A tempo ♩= 60
to Cl. in Bb
fp
mf
mp
p
pp
ff
f
secco
f
f
f

Perusal

# II: WEDDING SONG

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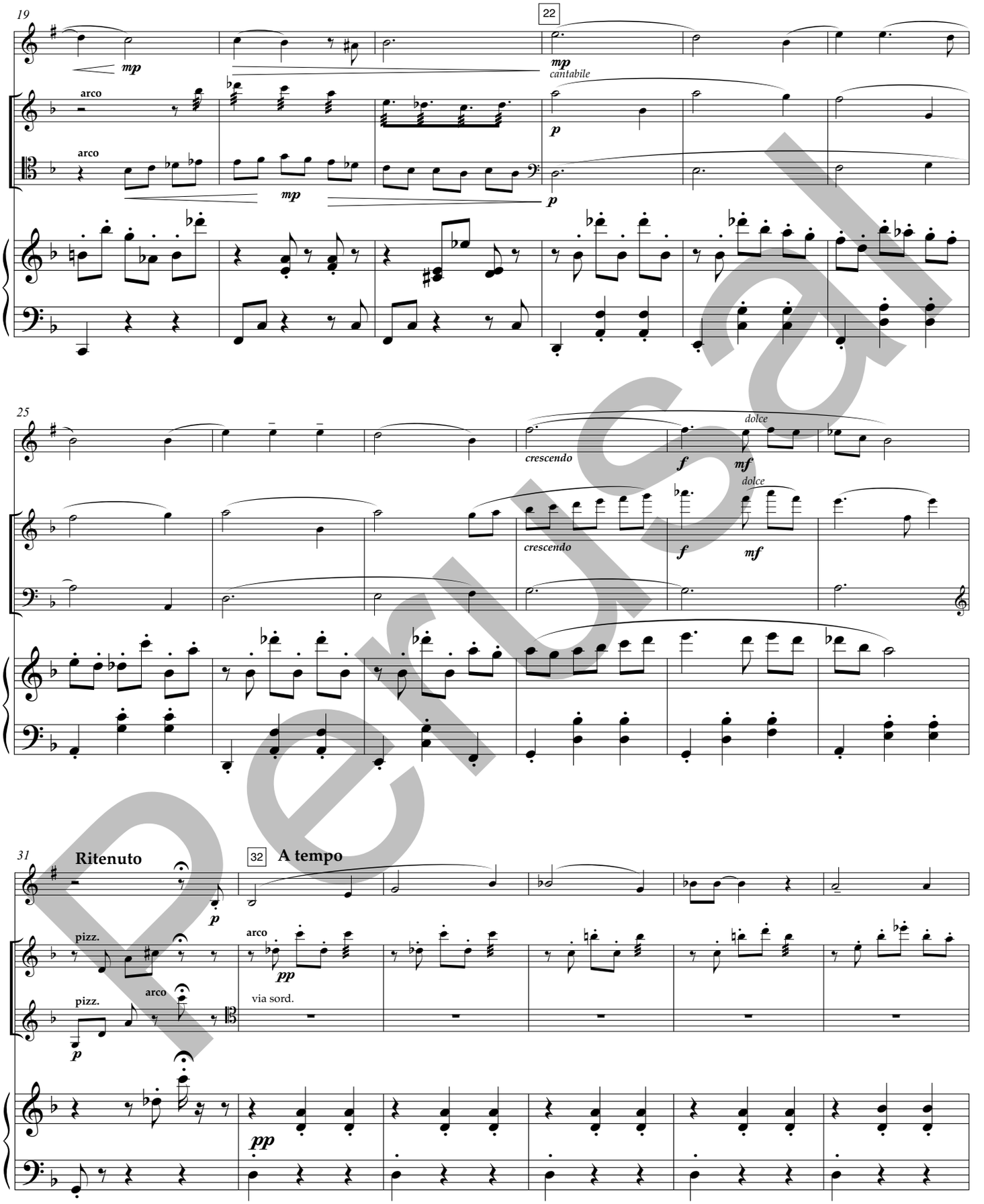
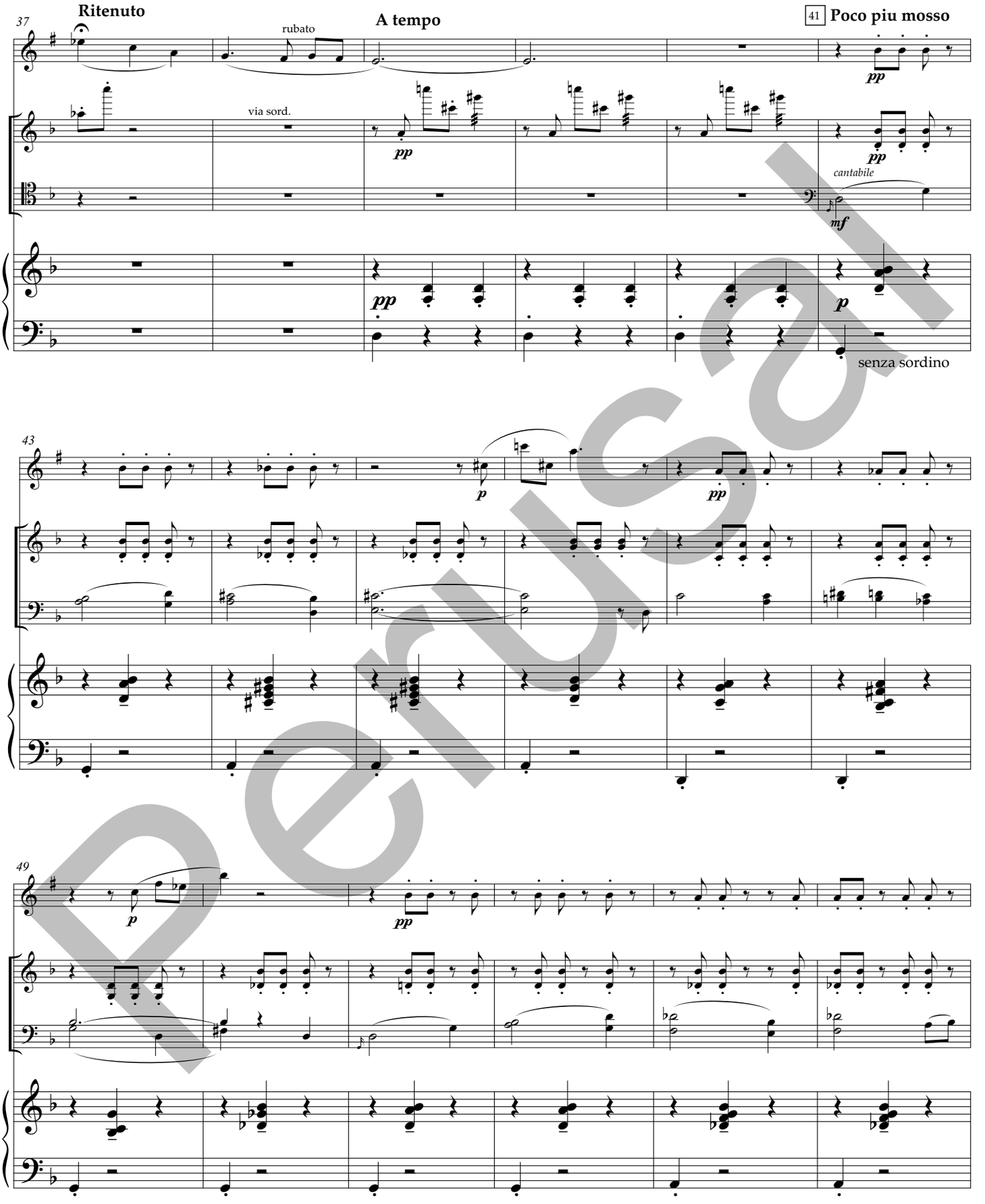
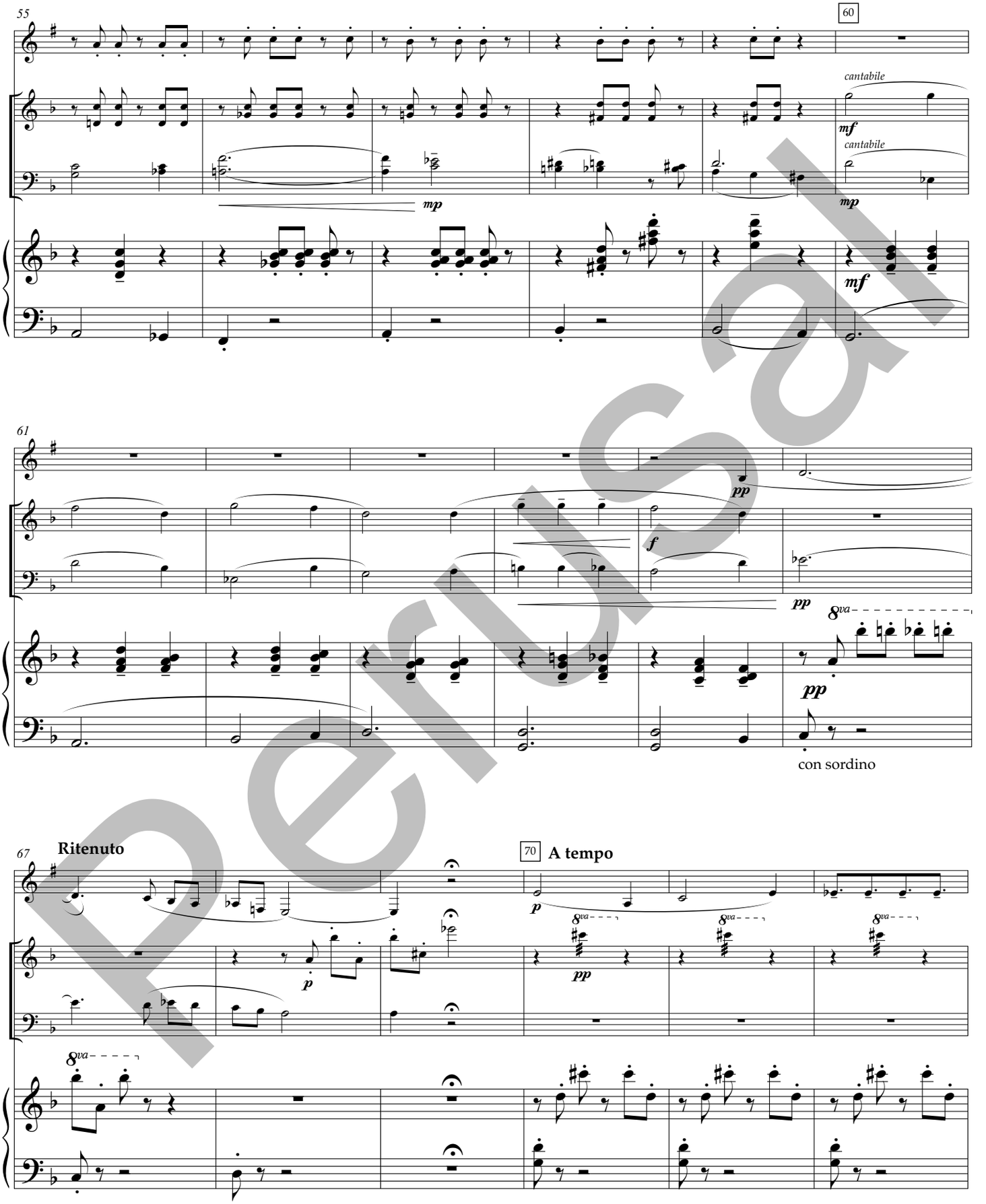

19
22
mp
arco
mp
cantabile
p
arco
mp
p
25
crescendo
f
mf
dolce
crescendo
f
mf
dolce
31
Ritenuto
p
32
A tempo
pizz.
arco
pp
via sord.
pizz.
arco
p
pp

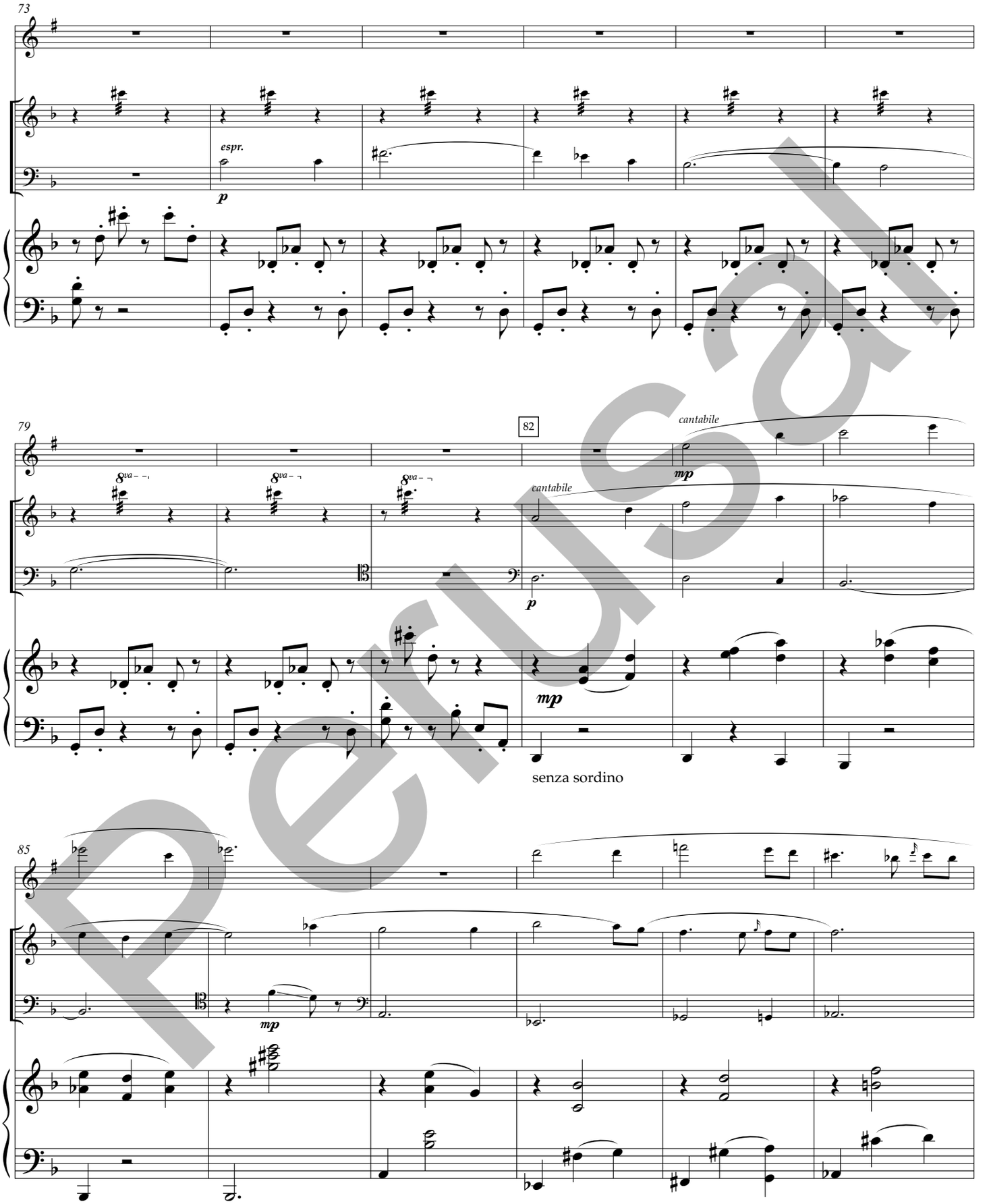
Perusal


37
Ritenuto
rubato
A tempo
41 Poco piu mosso
via sord.
cantabile
senza sordino
43
49

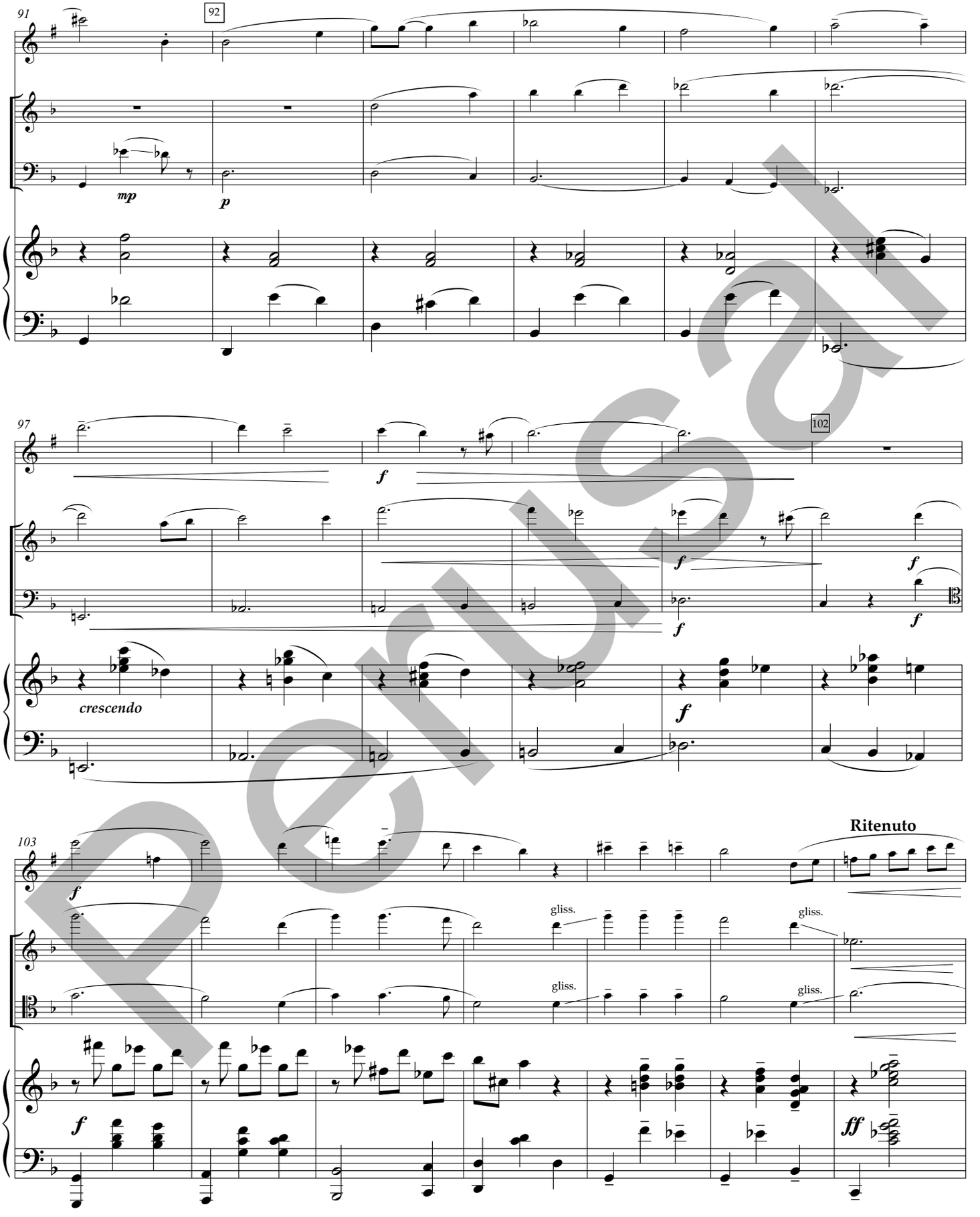
Perusal


55
60
cantabile
mf
cantabile
mp
mp
mf
61
pp
f
pp
8va
pp
con sordino
67
Ritenuto
70
A tempo
p
8va
pp
8va
8va
p
8va

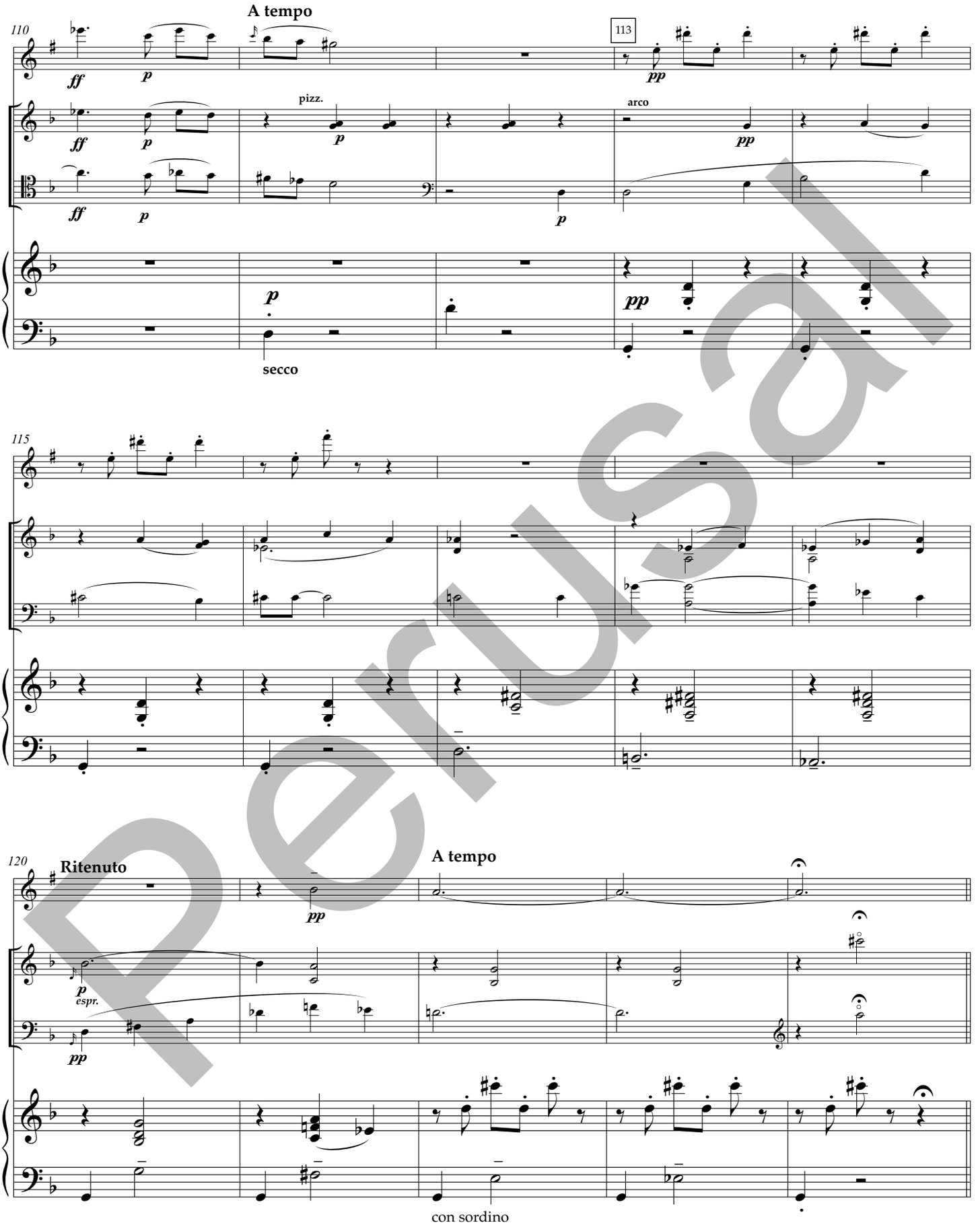
Perusal


73
espr.
p
79
82
cantabile
mp
8va
cantabile
p
mp
senza sordino
85
mp

perusal

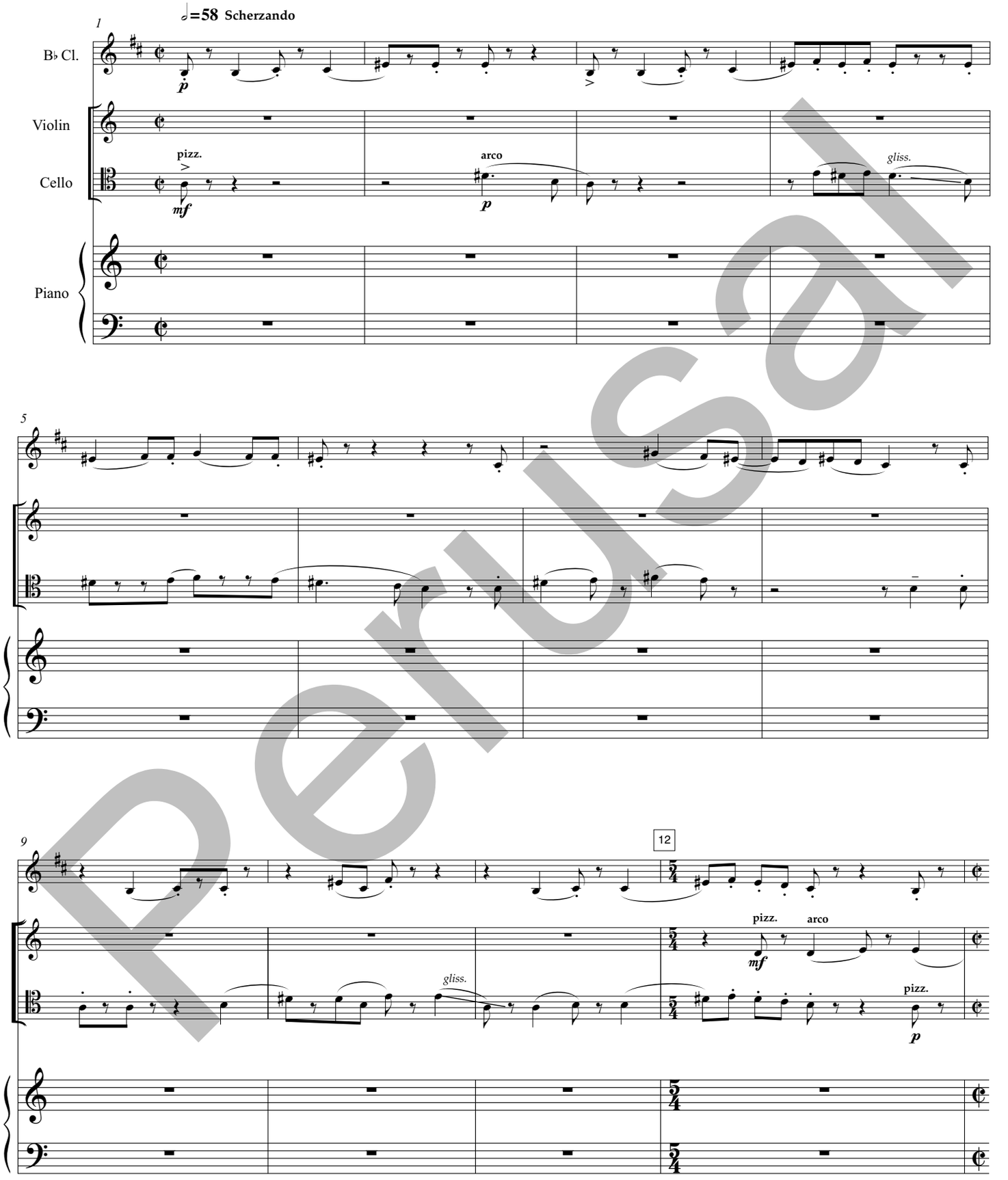

91
92
mp
p
97
f
102
f
f
f
crescendo
f
103
f
Ritenuto
gliss.
gliss.
gliss.
gliss.
f
ff
with pedal

Perusal


110
A tempo
113
pizz.
arco
secco
115
120
Ritenuto
A tempo
con sordino

perusal

# III: PANTOMIME/BREAD SONG

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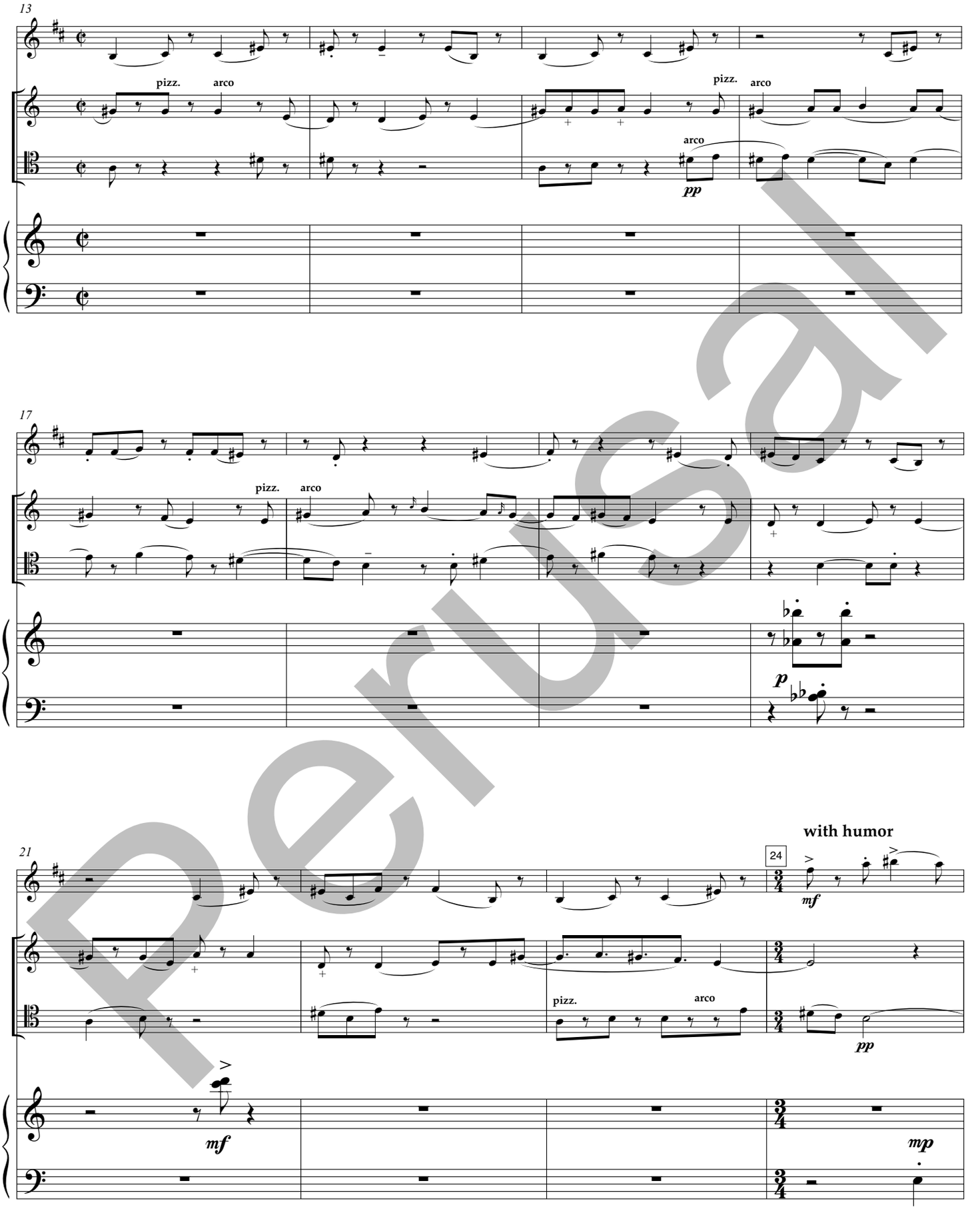
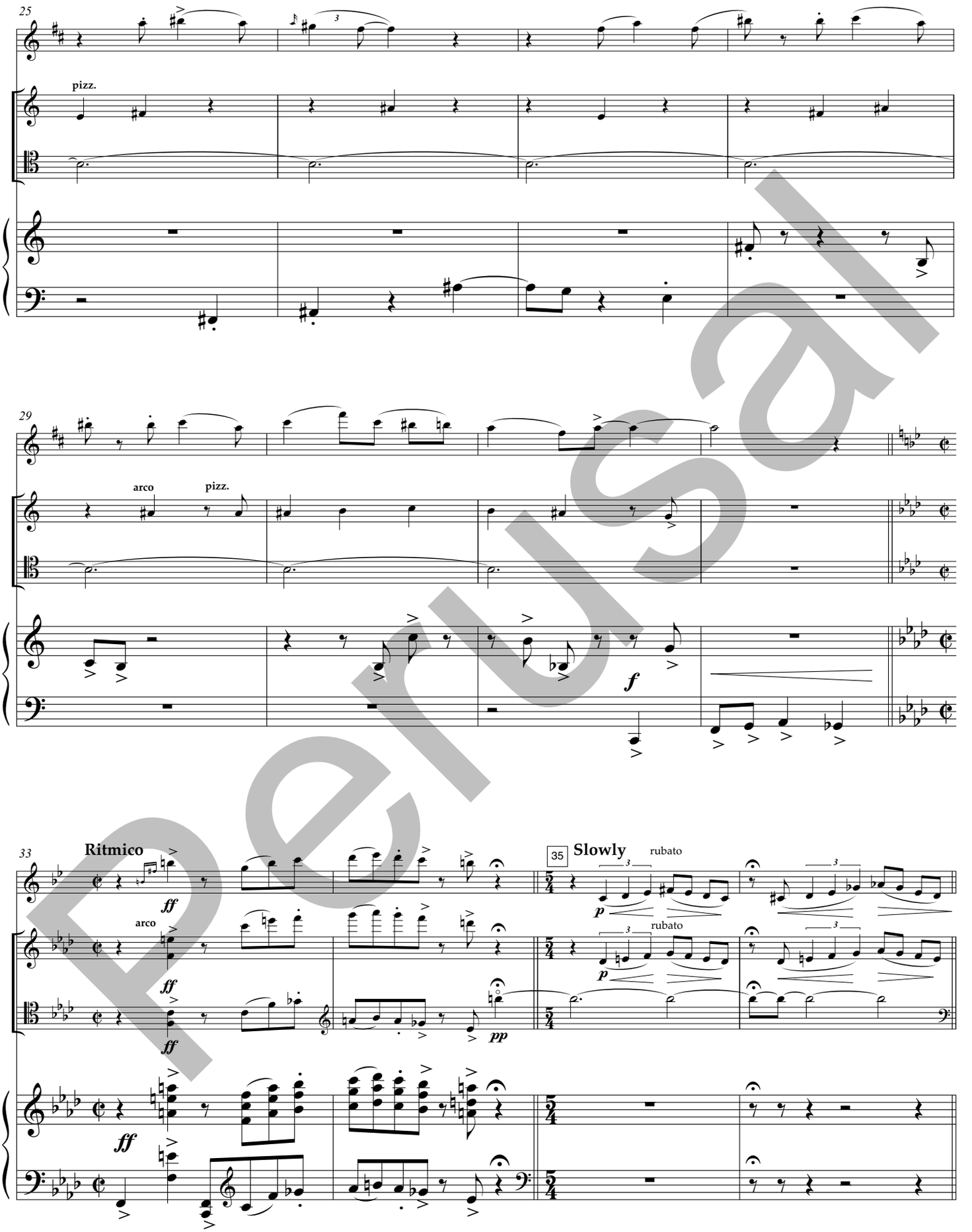
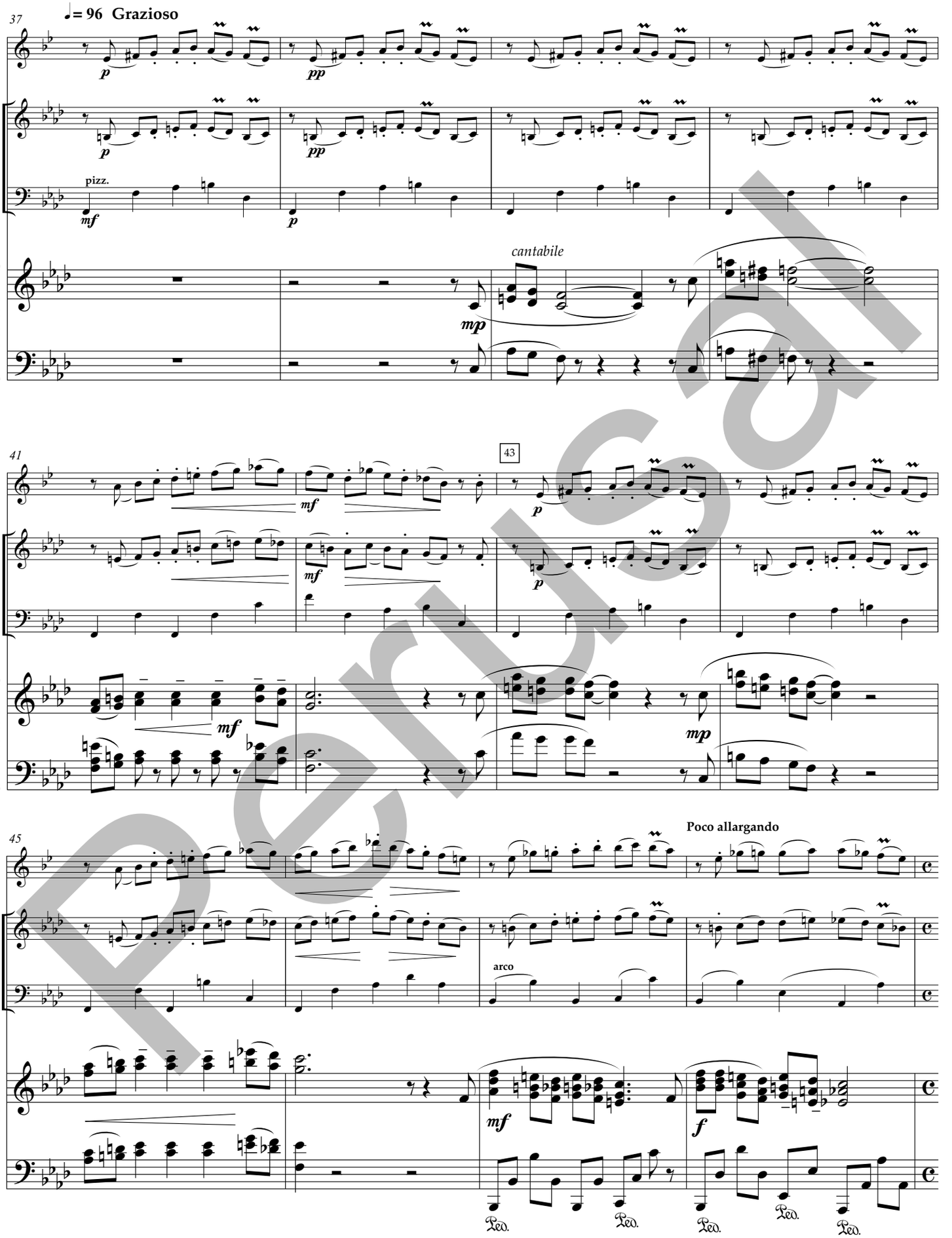

13
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
arco
pp
17
pizz.
arco
p
21
24
with humor
mf
pizz.
arco
pp
mf
mp

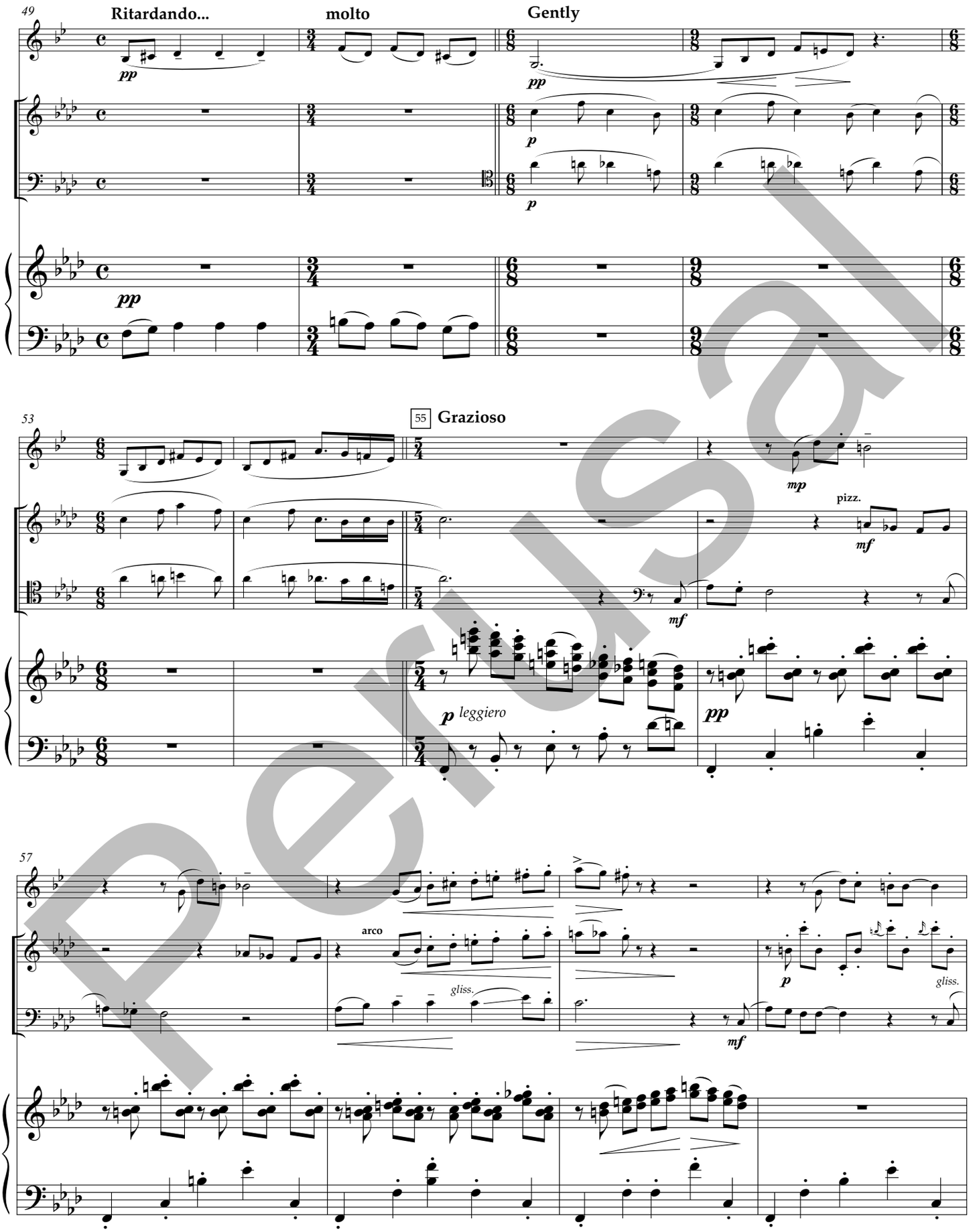
Perusal


25
pizz.
29
arco
pizz.
f
33
Ritmico
ff
arco
ff
ff
ff
pp
35
Slowly
rubato
p
rubato
p

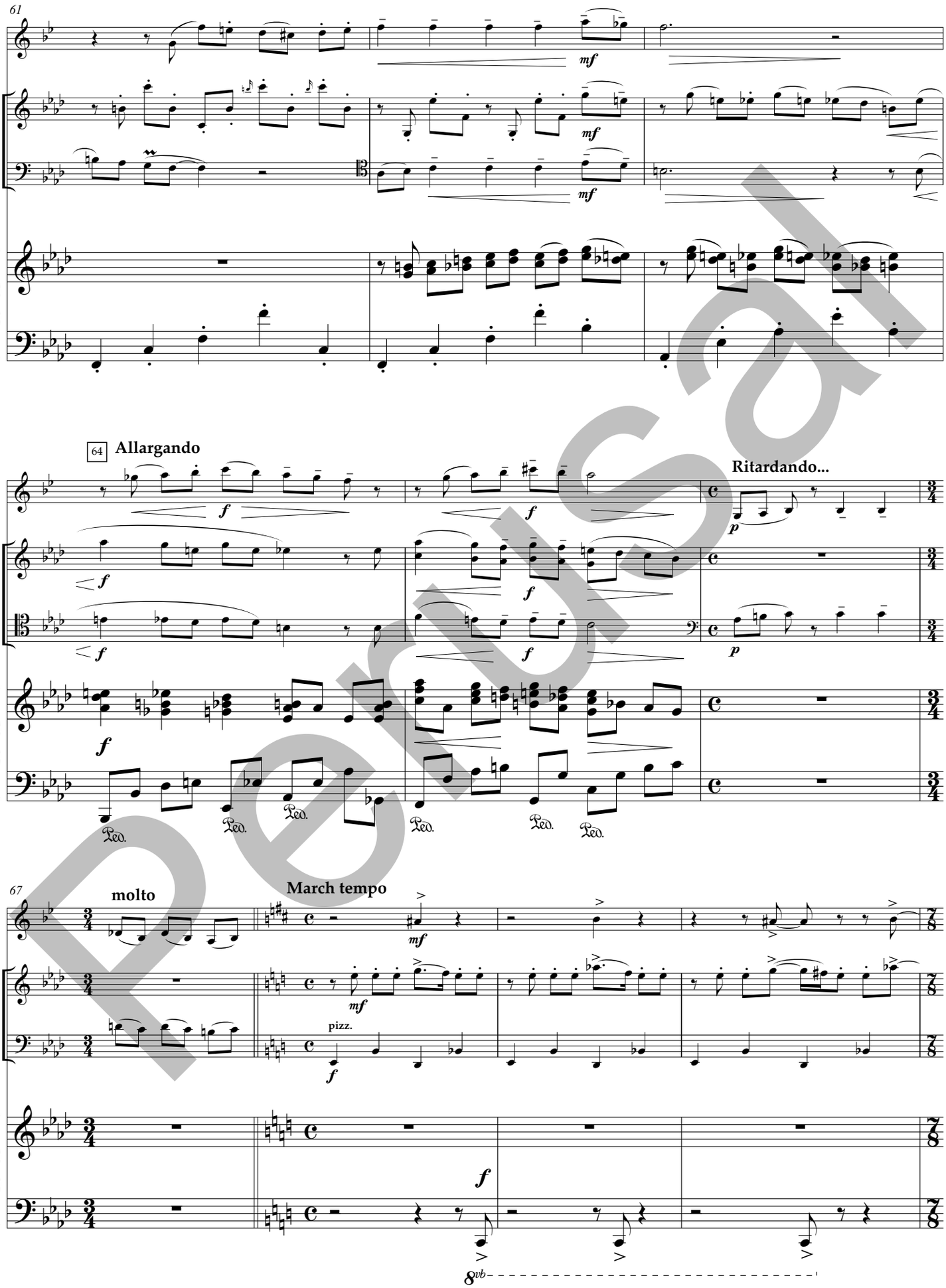
Perusal


37
♩= 96 Grazioso
p
pp
pizz.
mf
cantabile
mp
41
43
Poco allargando
arco
f
Ped.

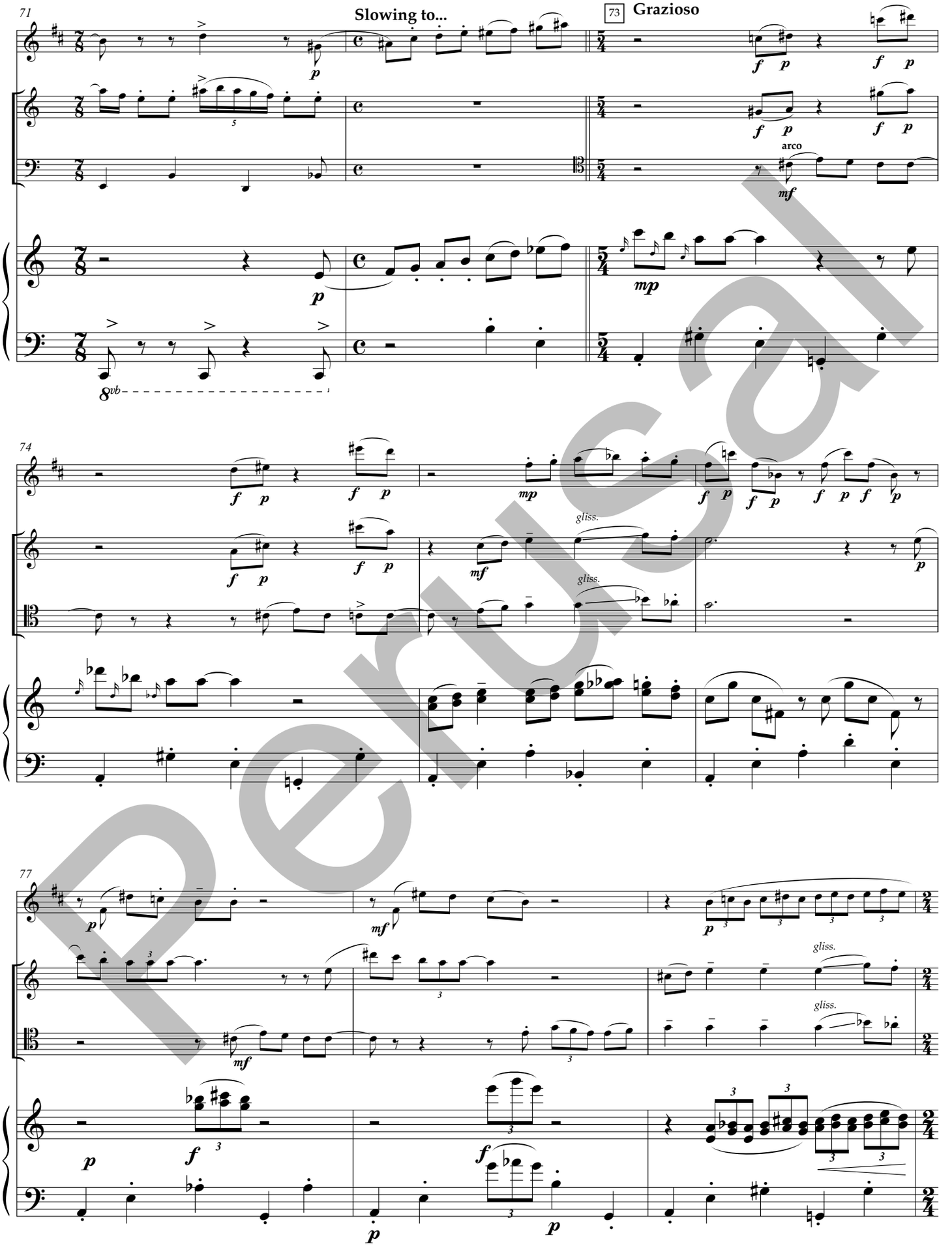
Perusal


49
Ritardando...
molto
Gently
pp
p
53
55 Grazioso
mp
pizz.
mf
p leggiero
pp
57
arco
gliss.
p
gliss.
mf

Perusal


61
mf
64
Allargando
f
Ritardando...
p
Ped.
67
molto
March tempo
mf
pizz.
8vb

Perusal

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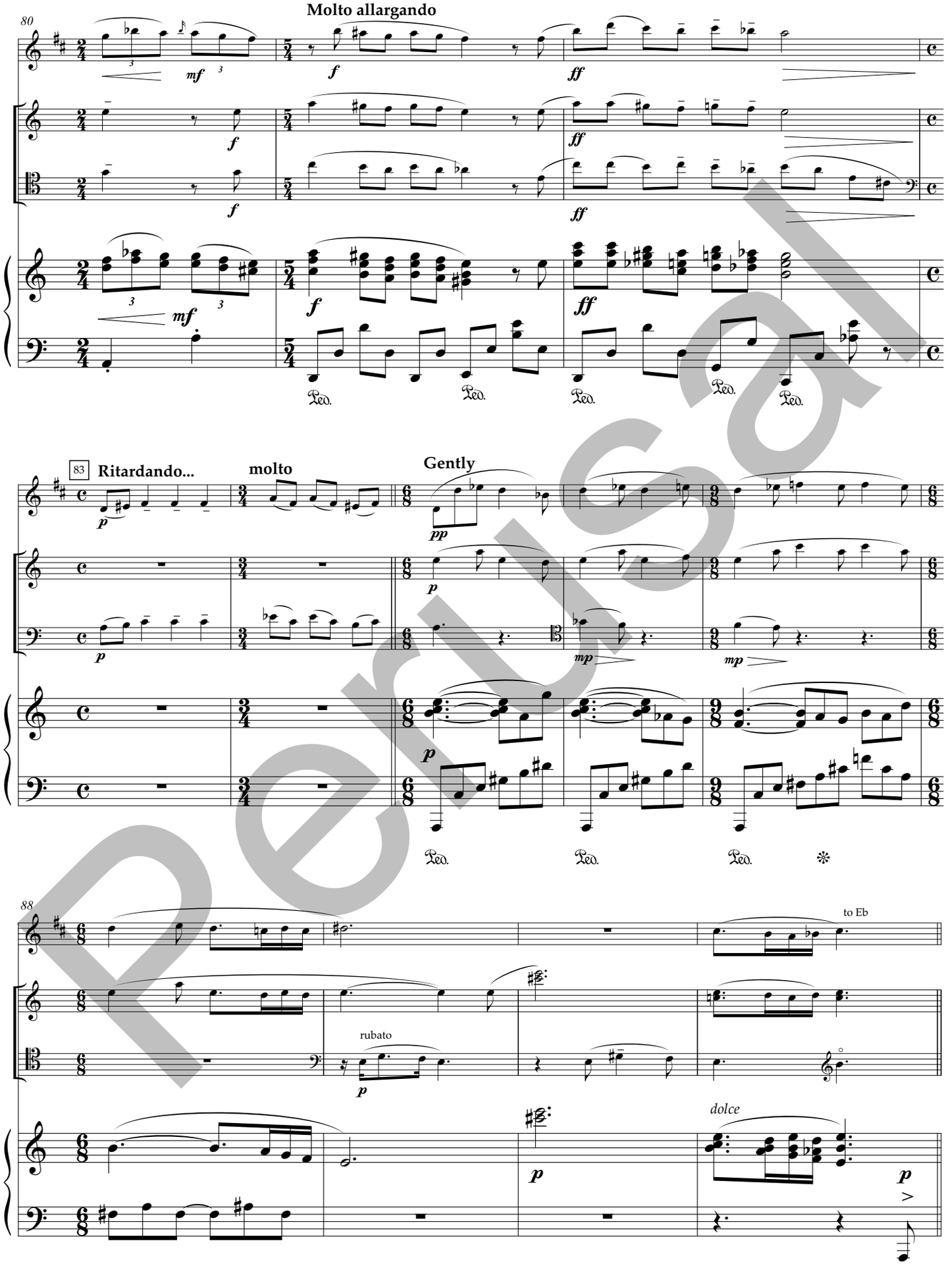
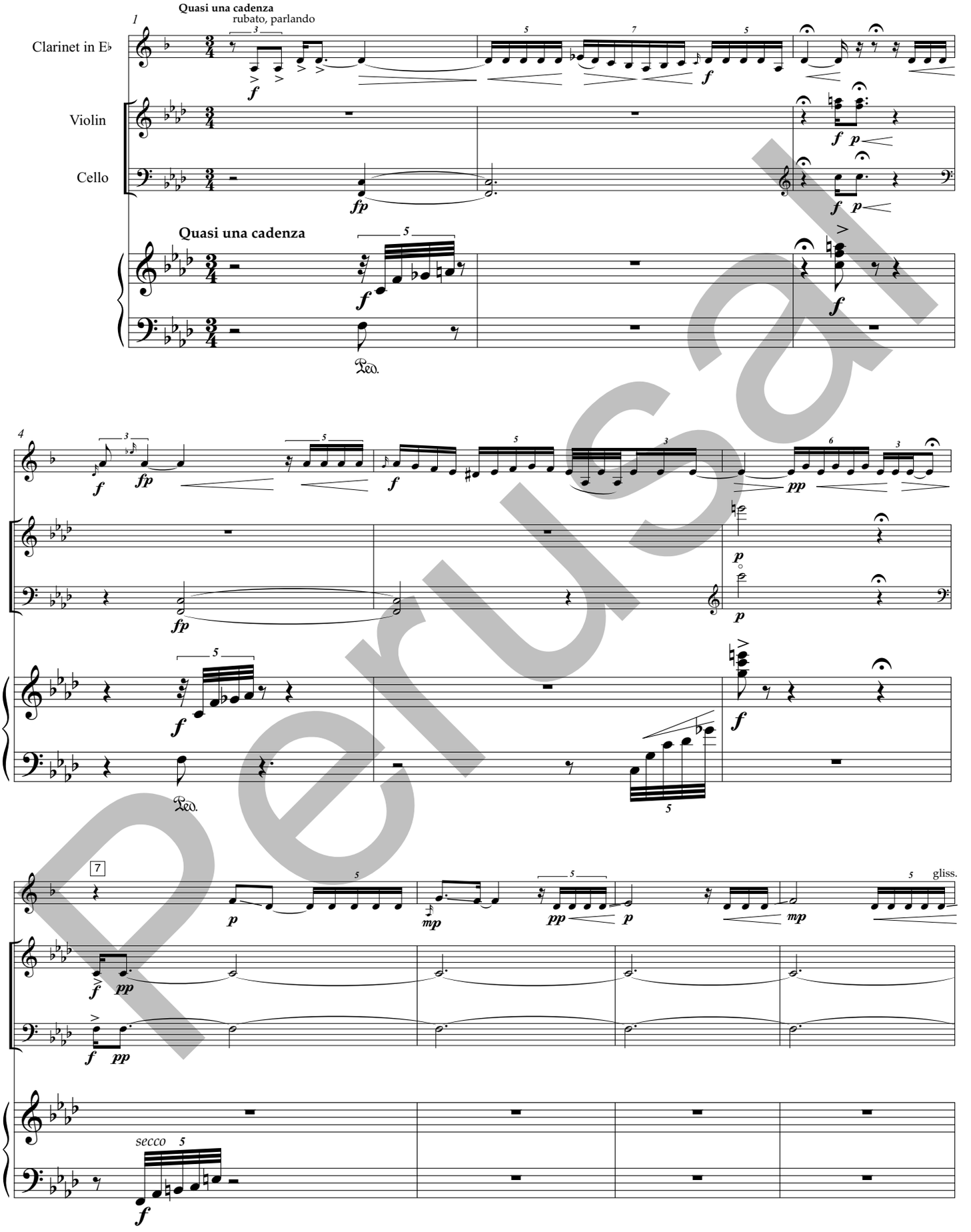

80
Molto allargando
mf
f
ff
Ped.
83
Ritardando...
molto
Gently
pp
p
mp
88
rubato
to Eb
dolce

Perusal

# IV: Who Knows One?/Mazal Tov

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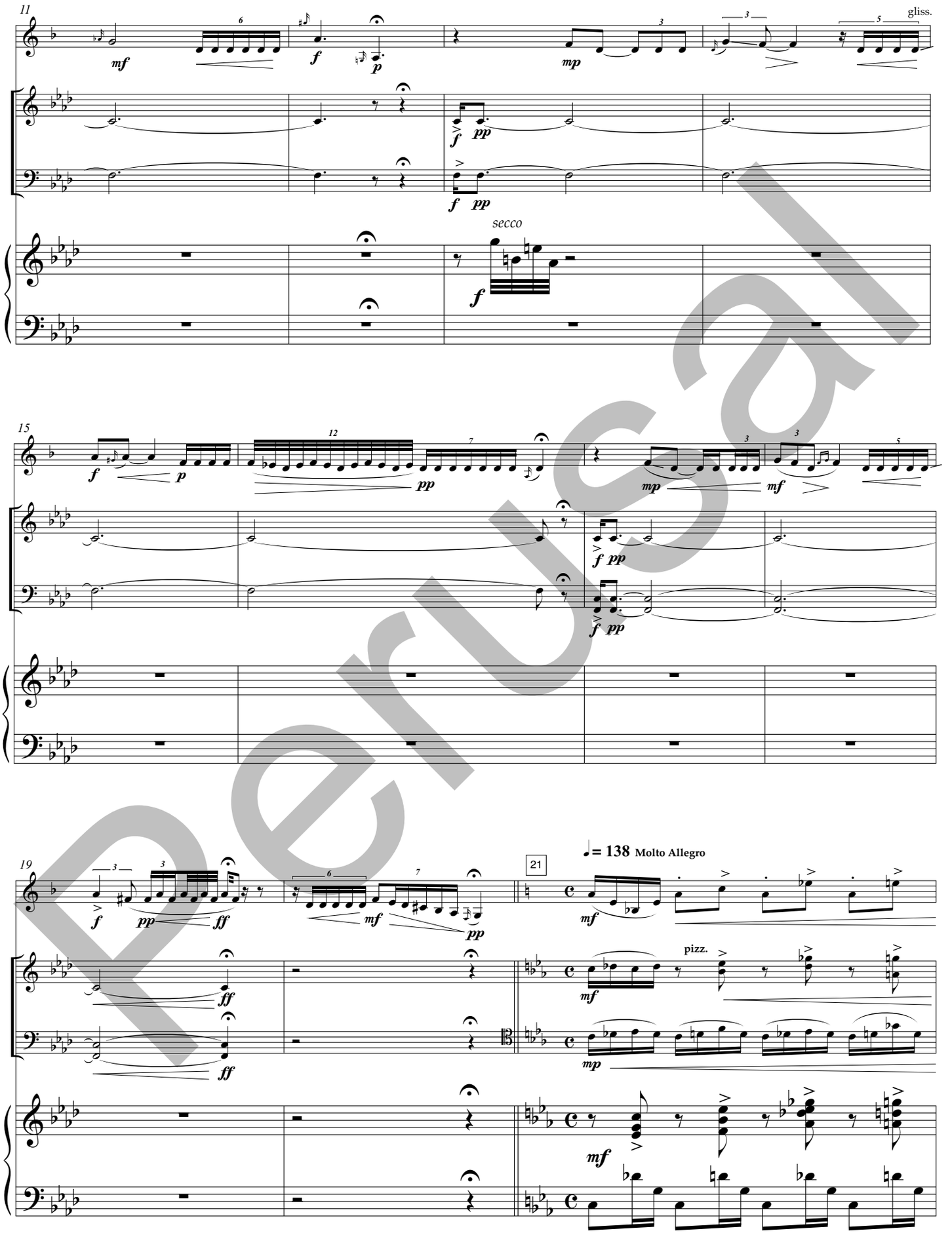


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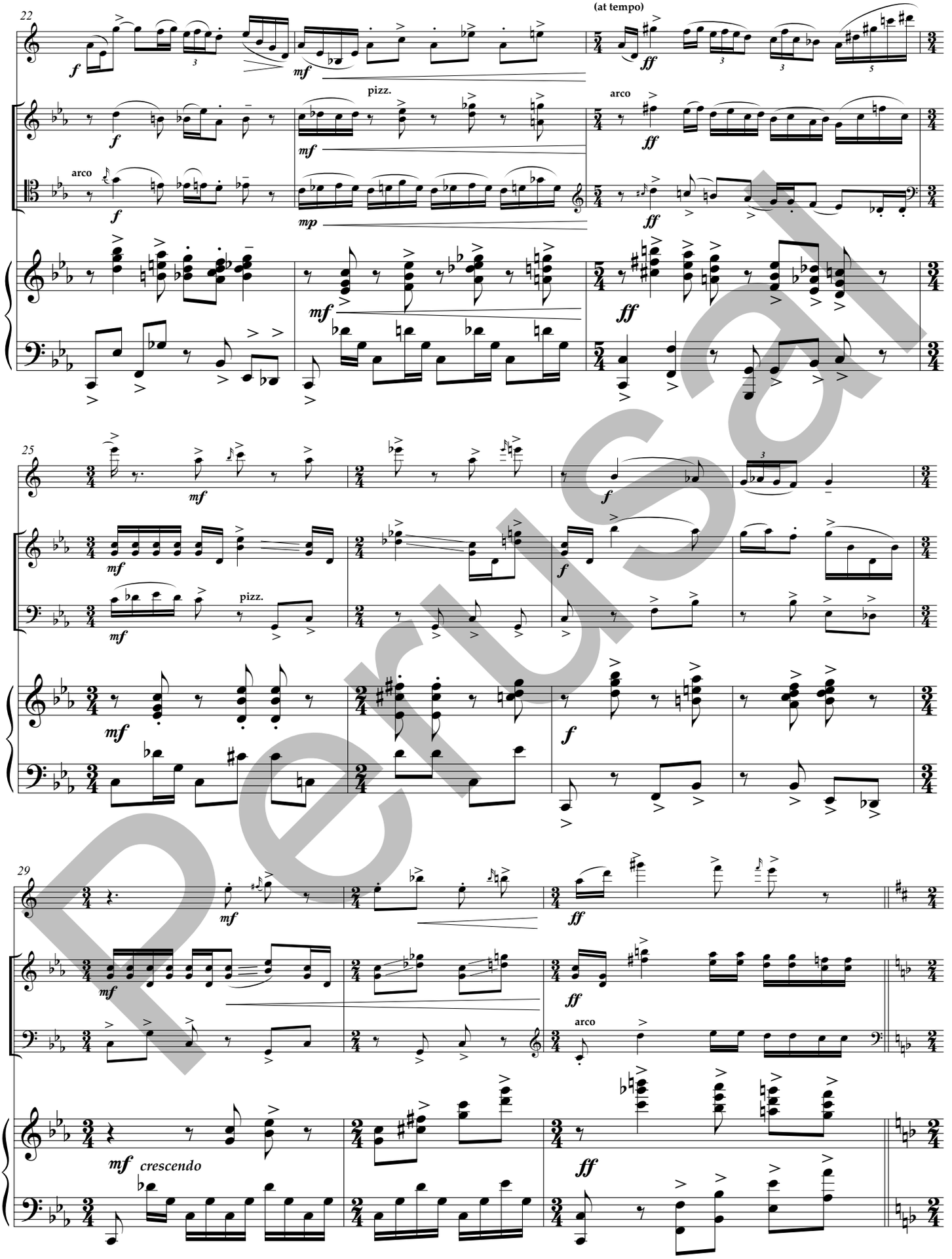


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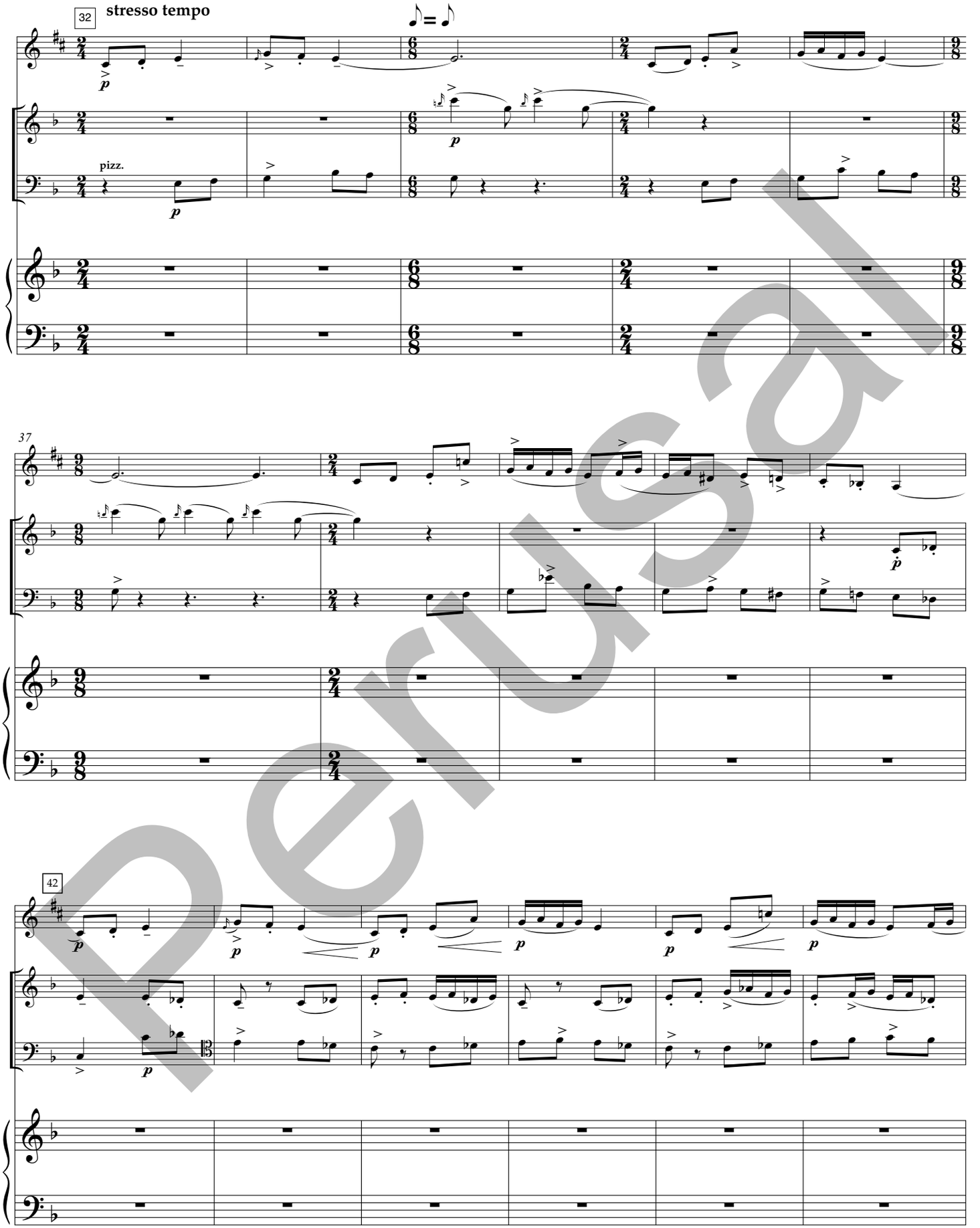


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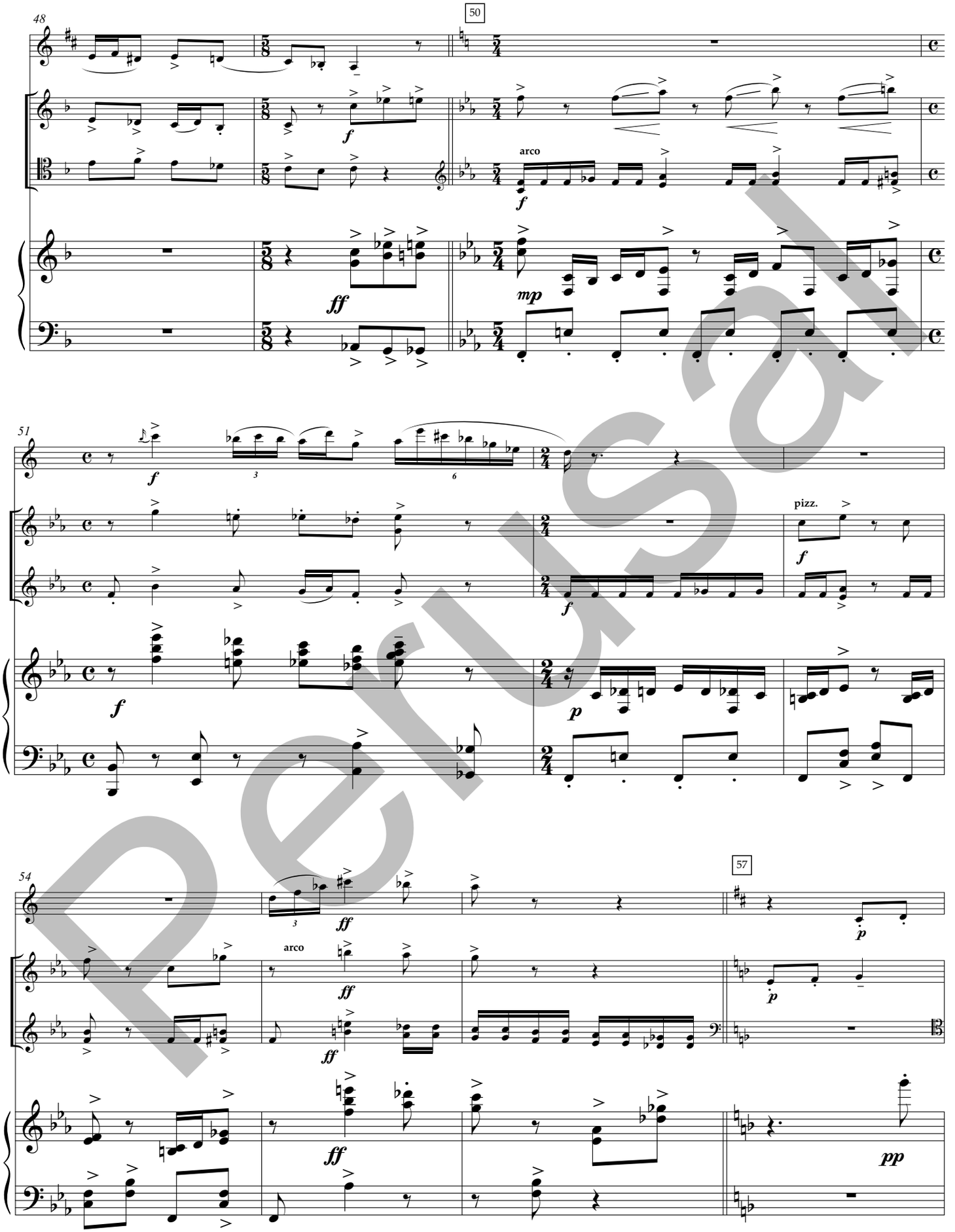


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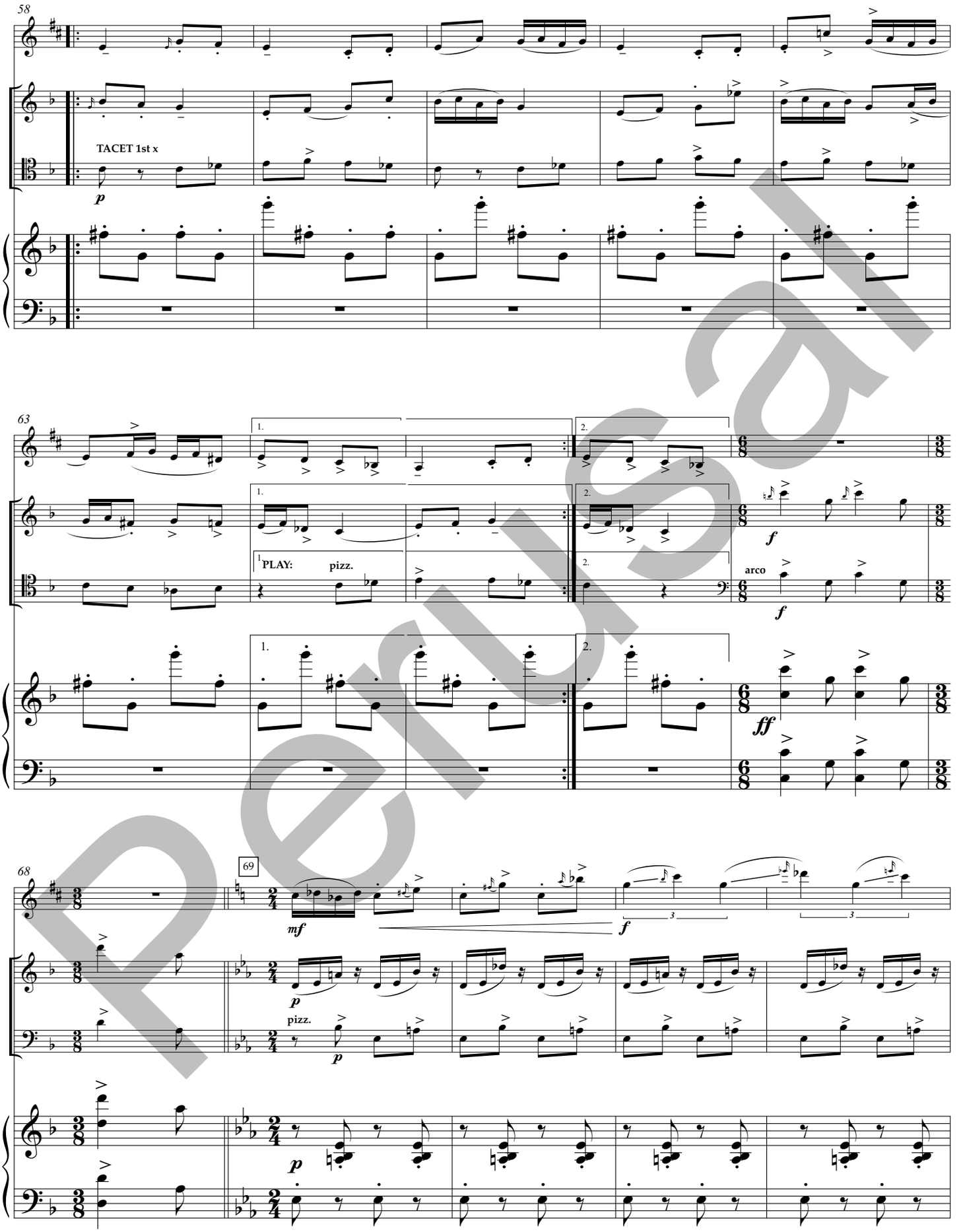


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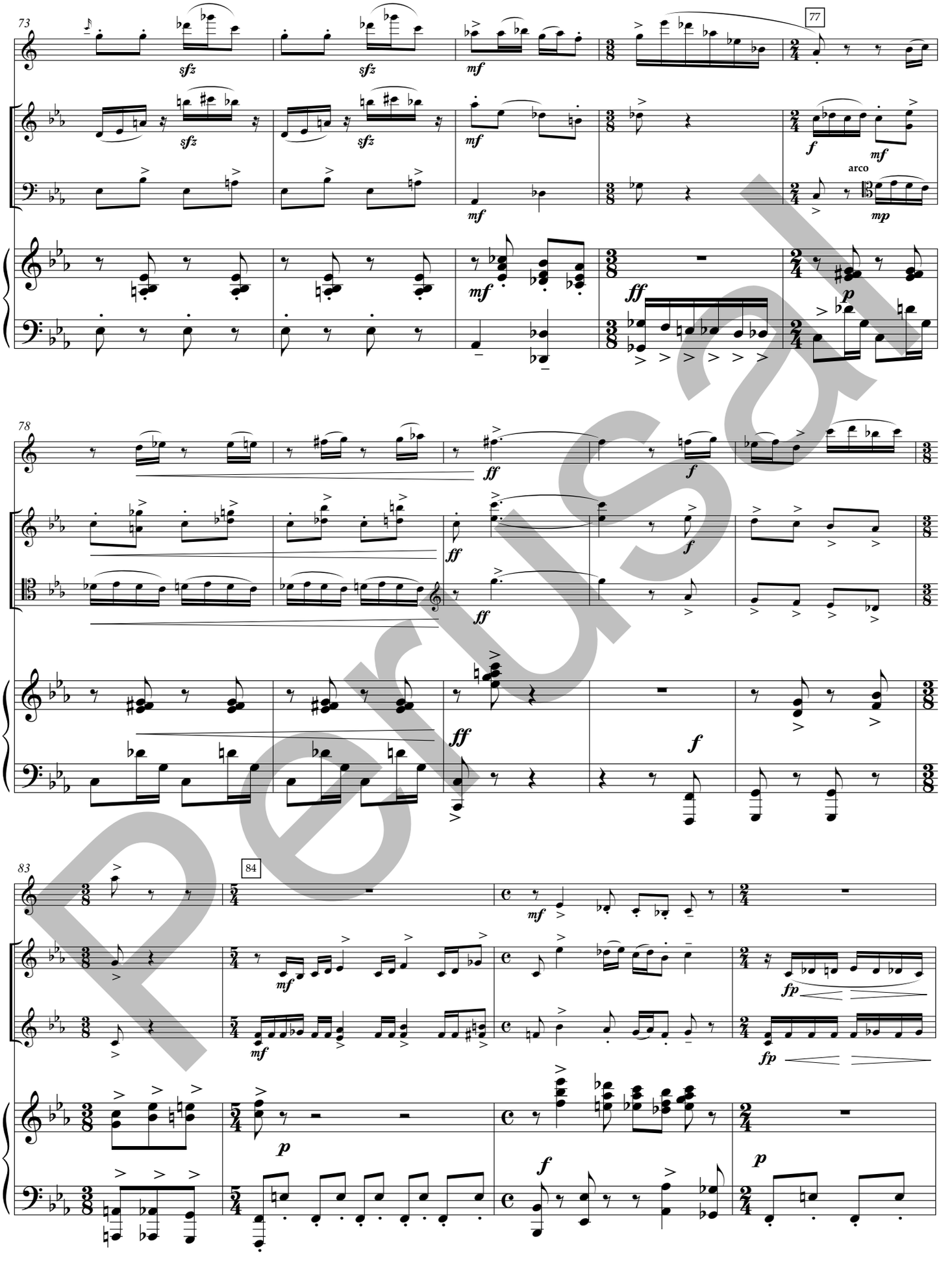


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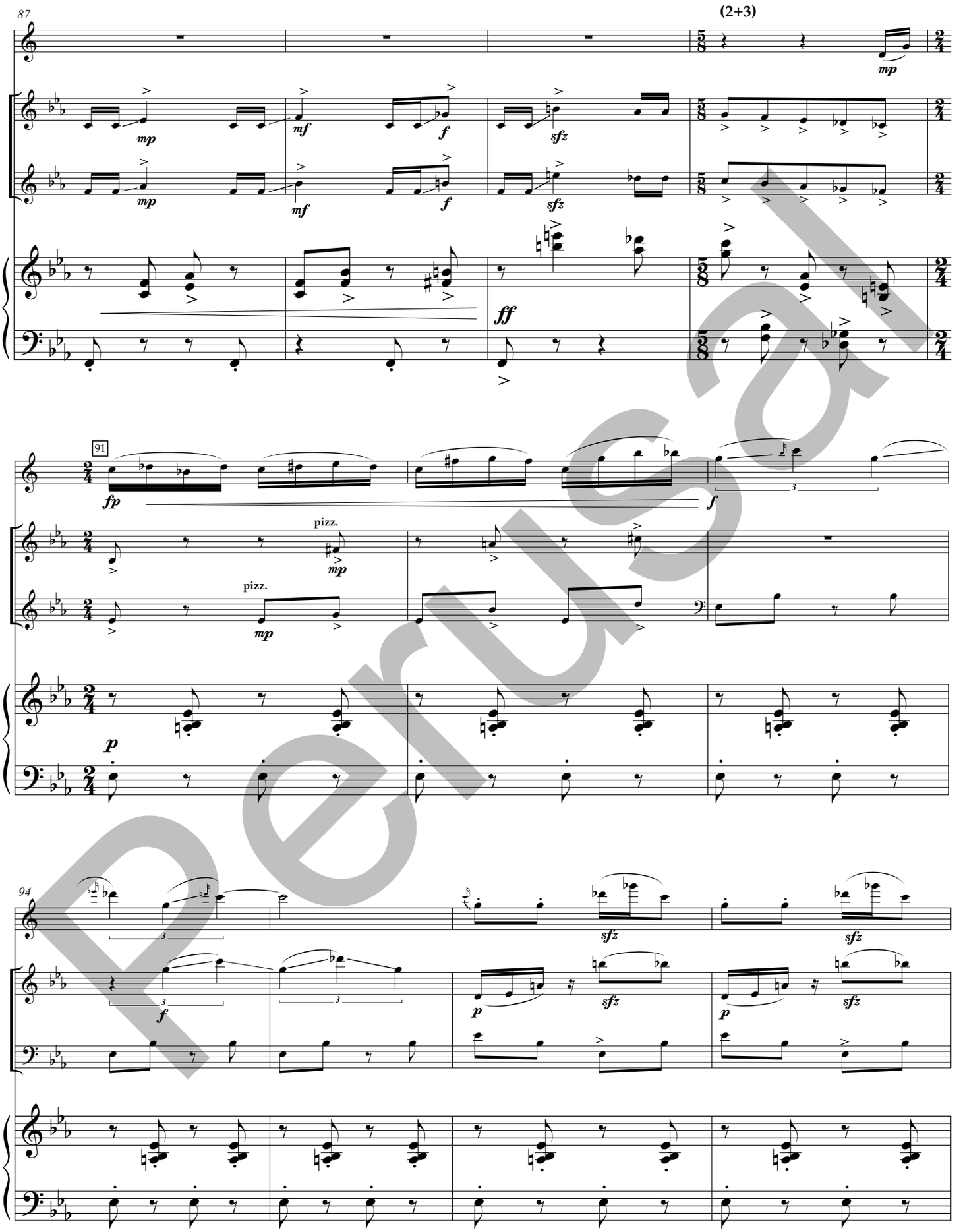


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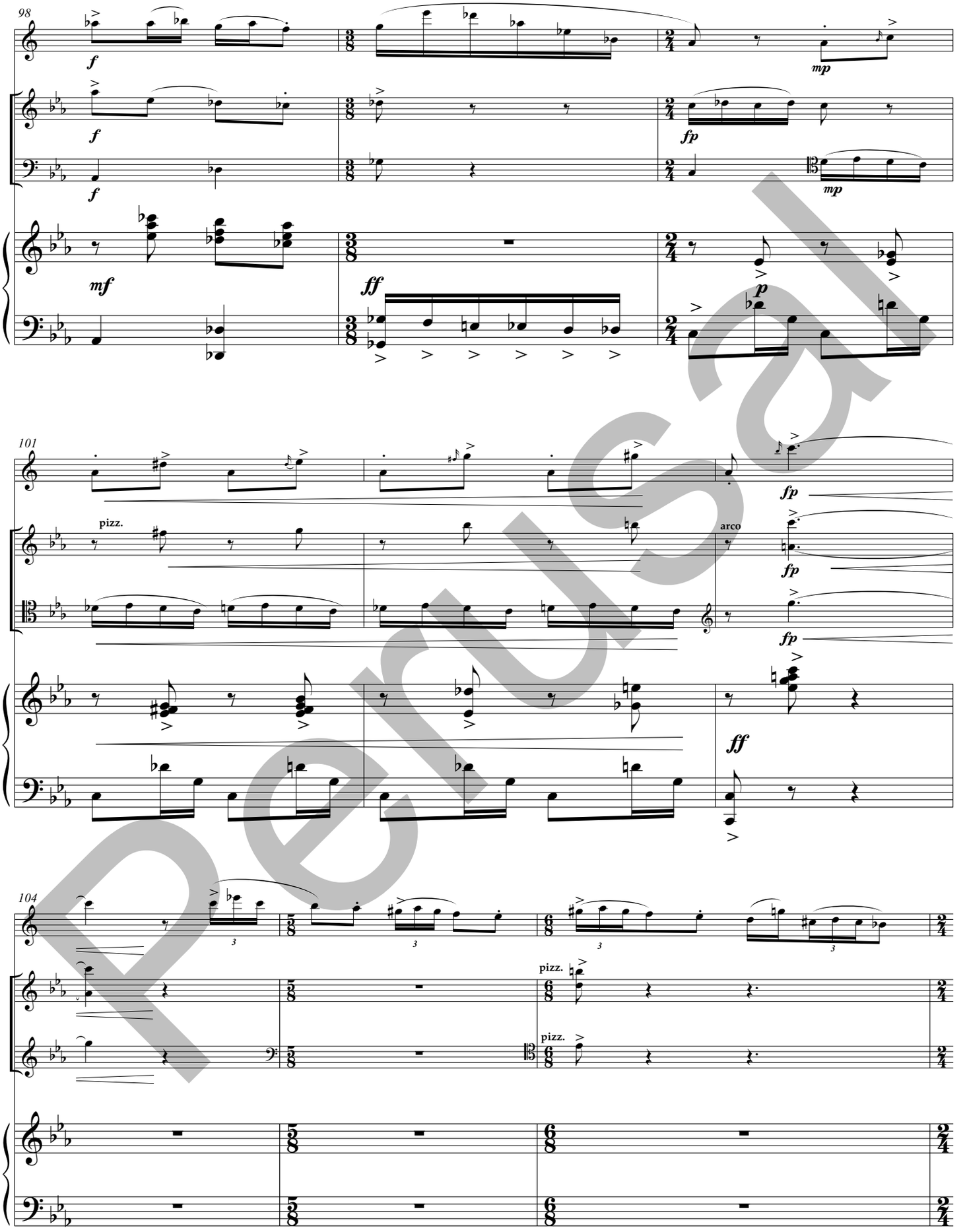


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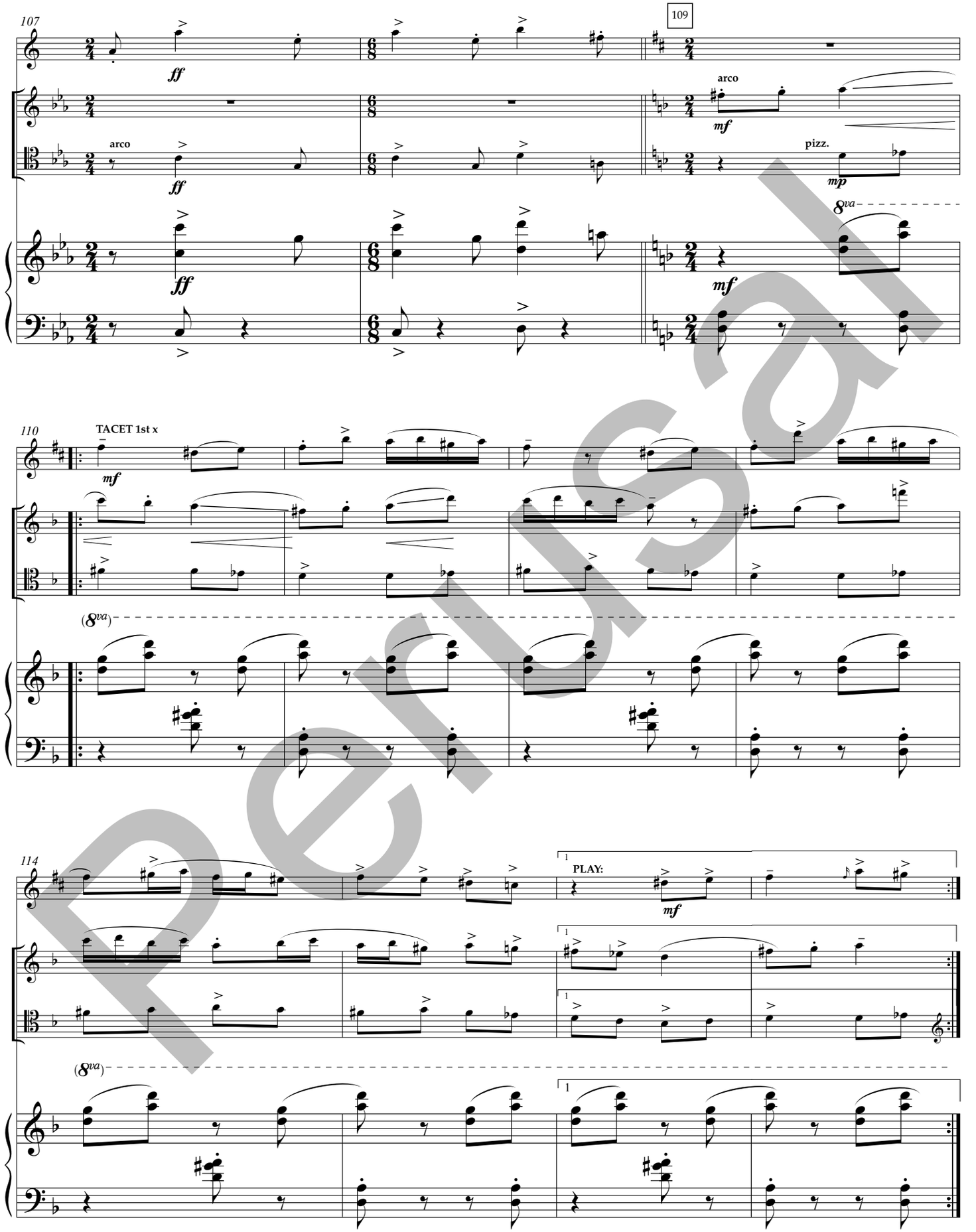


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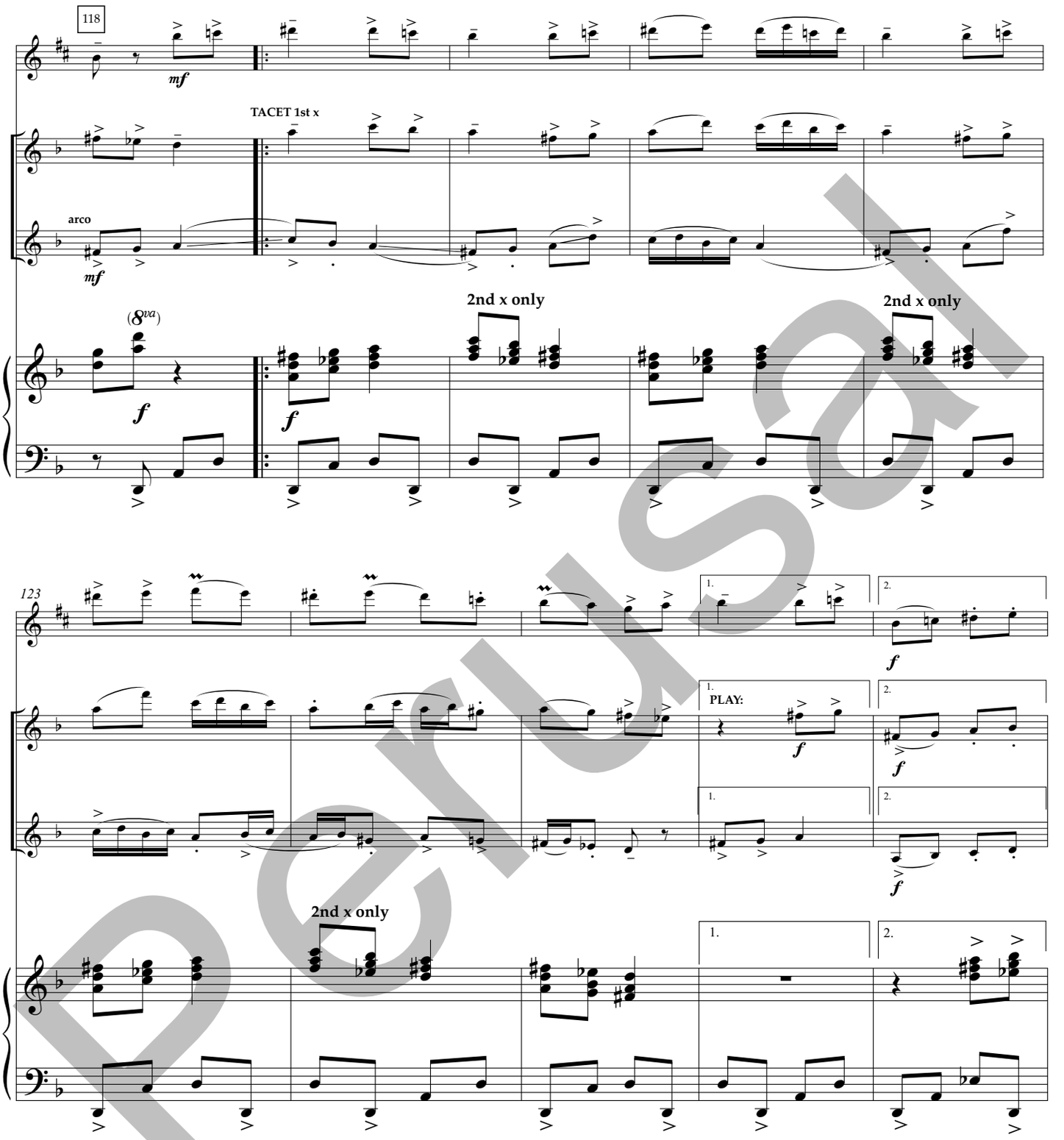
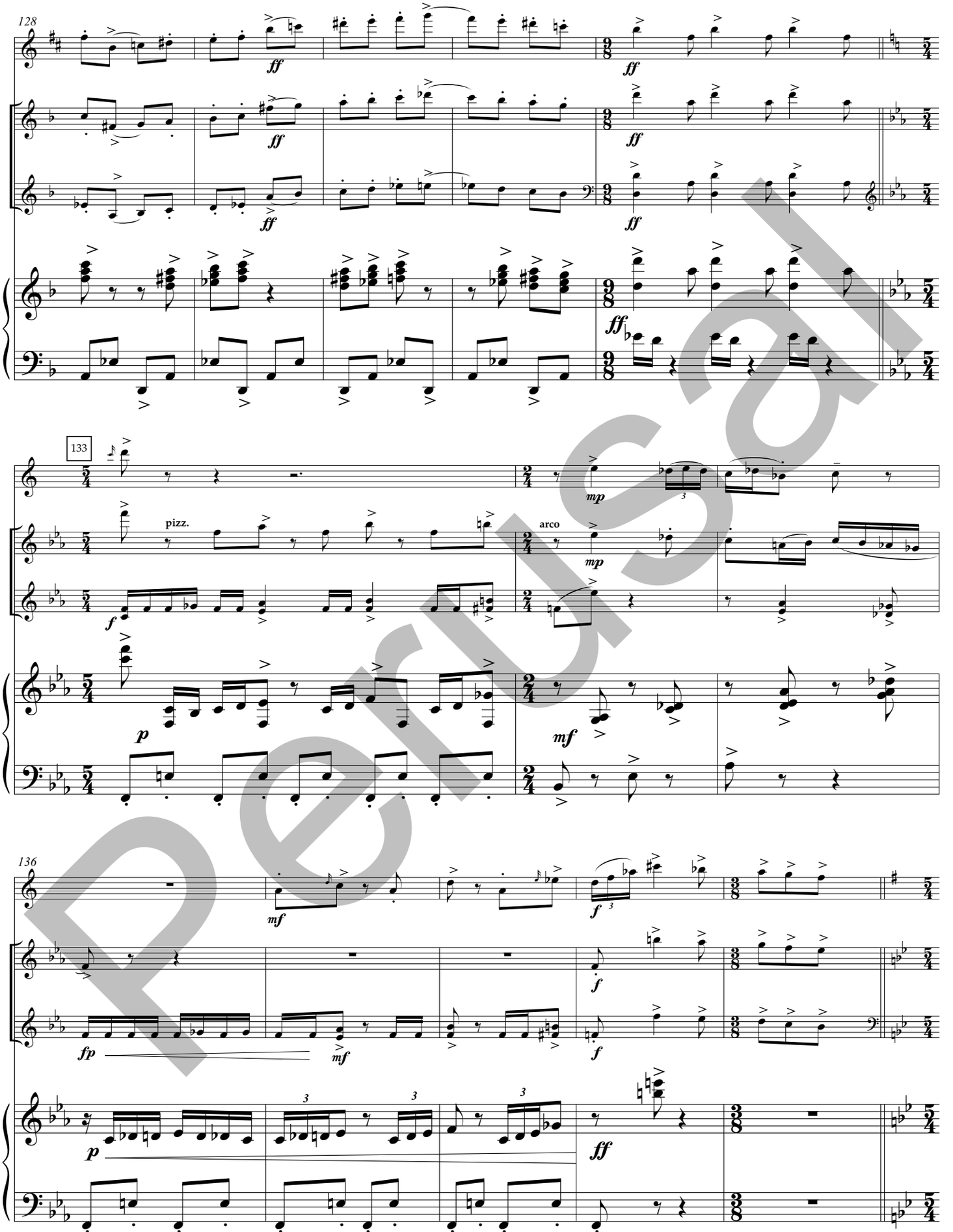

118
mf
TACET 1st x
arco
mf
(8va)
f
2nd x only
2nd x only
123
1.
2.
f
1.
2.
PLAY:
f
f
1.
2.
f
2nd x only
1.
2.

Perusal

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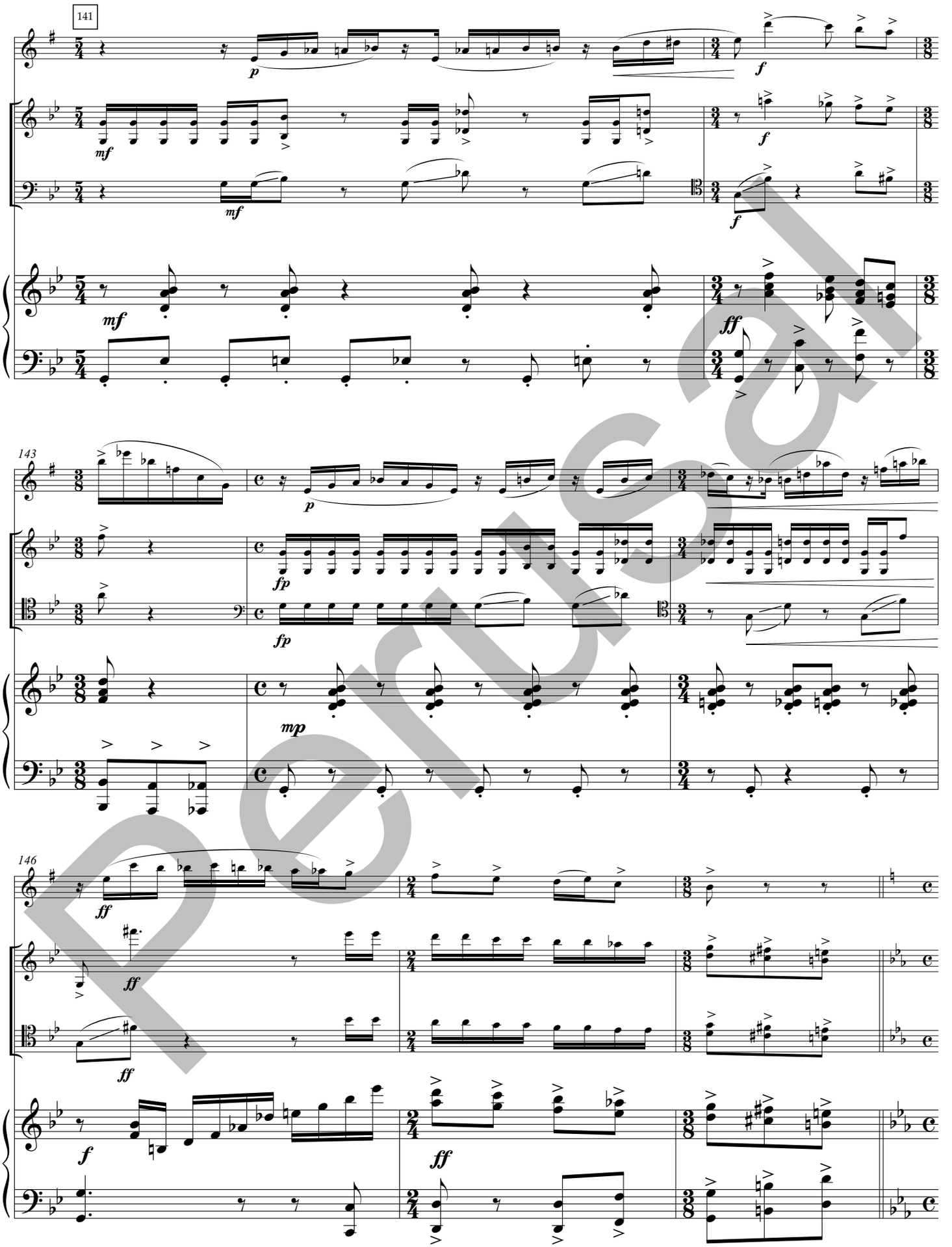


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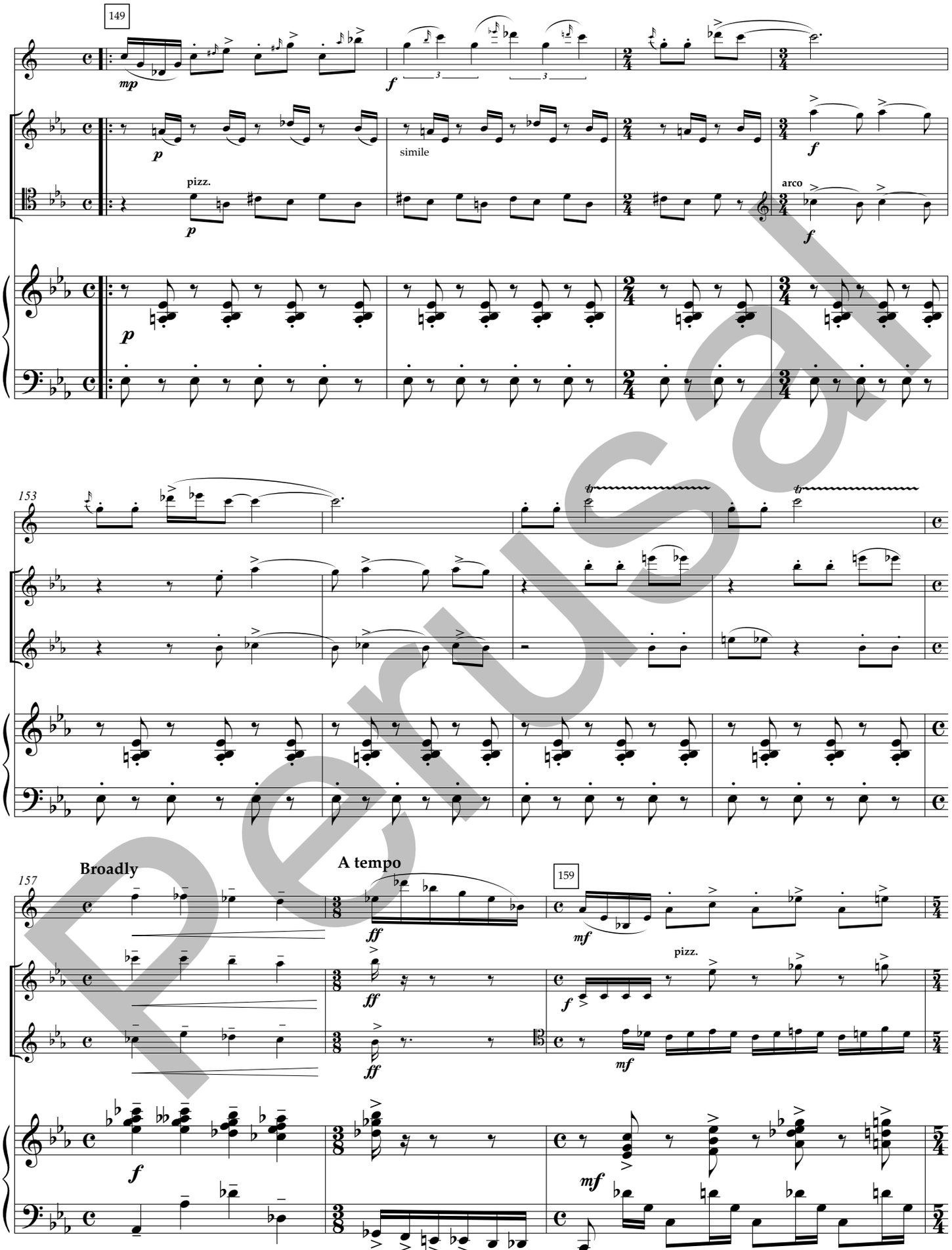
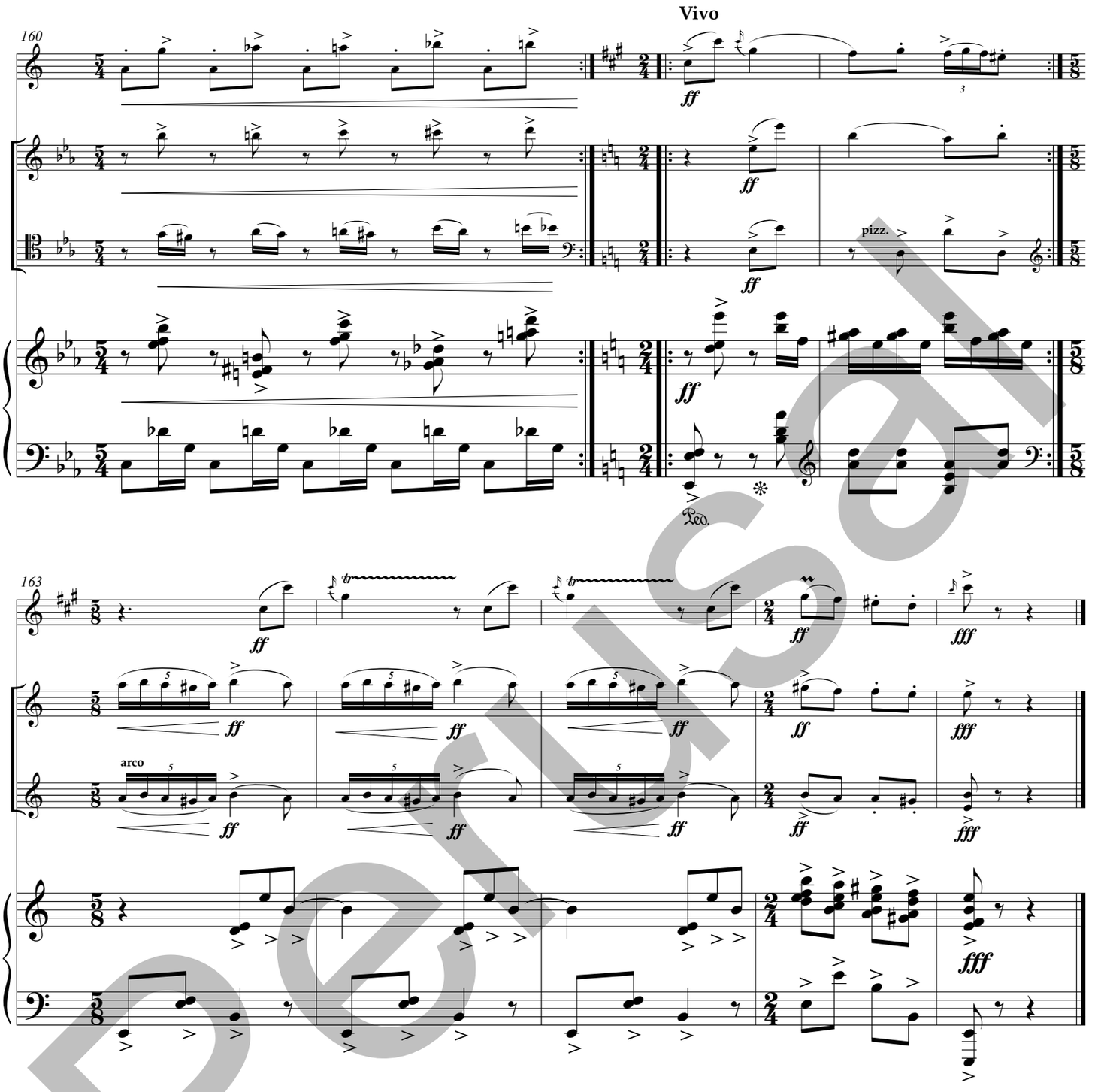

149
mp
f
p
simile
pizz.
arco
153
Broadly
A tempo
157
159
ff
mf
pizz.

Perusal




Persisal

Composer and author David Schiff was born in New York City on August 30, 1945. He studied composition with John Corigliano and Ursula Mamlok at the Manhattan School of Music, and with Elliott Carter at the Juilliard School where he received his D.M.A.. He holds degrees in English literature from Columbia and Cambridge Universities. Schiff is the R.P. Wollenberg Professor of Music at Reed College in Portland, Oregon. He is the author of *The Music of Elliott Carter* (Cornell University Press) and George Gershwin: Rhapsody in Blue (Cambridge University Press) as well as many articles on music for the New York Times, the Atlantic Monthly, Opera News and Tempo.

Major works include the opera *Gimpel the Fool*, with libretto by I. B. Singer, the *Sacred Service*, written for the 125th anniversary of Congregation Beth Israel of Portland, *Slow Dance*, commissioned by the Oregon Symphony, *Stomp*, commissioned by Marin Alsop for Concordia, and recorded by the Baltimore Symphony conducted by David Zinman, *Solus Rex*, for bass trombone and chamber ensemble commissioned by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and premiered by David Taylor, *Speaking in Drums*, a concerto for timpani and string orchestra commissioned by the Minnesota Orchestra for its timpanist, Peter Kogan, *Vashti*, a retelling of the Book of Esther for mezzo-soprano, clarinet and piano, commissioned by the Gold Coast Chamber Music Festival and *4 Sisters*, a concerto for jazz violin and orchestra, which premiered in Cambridge, England in 1997 and received its American premiere with Regina Carter and the Detroit Symphony in January 2004.

Recent works include *New York Nocturnes*, a piano trio written for Chamber Music Northwest, *Pepper Pieces*, arrangements of songs by Jim Pepper for jazz violinist Hollis Taylor and strings, *Canti di Davide*, a concerto for clarinet and orchestra premiered by David Shifrin and the Virginia Symphony in October 2001, *Singing in the Dark*, for Alto Saxophone and String Quartet, premiered at Chamber Music Northwest in July 2002 by Marty Ehrlich and the Miami String Quartet, *All About Love*, a song cycle for mezzo-soprano, tenor and chamber ensemble which premiered at Chamber Music Northwest in July 2004 and *Canzona* for brass, percussion and strings commissioned by the Seattle Symphony and premiered by them in January 2005 conducted by Gerard Schwarz.

Three of his compositions, *Divertimento from Gimpel the Fool*, *Suite from the Sacred Service*, and *Scenes from Adolescence*, may be heard on Delos CD #3058 performed by artists of Chamber Music Northwest and the composer's wife Cantor Judith Schiff. *Shtik*, written for David Taylor, appears on the album "Past Tells" on the New World label.

Perusal

Perusal

Perusal

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