Variations on a Theme by Haydn

JOHANNES BRAHMS
Arranged by JOHN WHITNEY (ASCAP)

INSTRUMENTATION

1 Conductor
1 1st Flute
1 2nd Flute
1 Oboe
1 1st B♭ Clarinet
1 2nd B♭ Clarinet
1 B♭ Bass Clarinet
1 Bassoon
1 1st F Horn
1 2nd F Horn
1 3rd F Horn
1 4th F Horn
1 1st B♭ Trumpet
1 2nd B♭ Trumpet
1 3rd B♭ Trumpet
1 1st Trombone
1 2nd Trombone
1 3rd Trombone
1 Tuba
1 Mallet Percussion (Bells)
1 Timpani (G-C-D)
1 Percussion I (Triangle)
8 1st Violin
8 2nd Violin
5 Viola
5 Cello
5 String Bass

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

The original Brahms' setting of the Haydn theme is in B♭ Major and lasts for approximately 17 minutes. The repeat signs in the first 46 measures of this paraphrase may be considered optional. They are there to reflect Brahms' instructions when he adapted the "Chorale St. Antoni" for his variations. If the repeats are observed, it will add about two minutes to the performance time. This work has a very linear style, with long lines and sinewy inner parts moving in counterpoint. The character of the music changes quite radically, beginning at measure 110. The triplets begin a marcato section, which carries through to the grandiose ending. Some portions of the piece have phrases, which might be shown more successfully with a two-beat from the podium. One of our chief goals, as music educators, should be to offer "aesthetic experiences" for our students as often as possible. Masterpieces like those adapted by Merle Isaac and others need to be included in the repertoire presented to school groups. Hopefully, you will enjoy the beauty and craft of Mr. Brahms with your orchestra!

John Whitney
Music Director, Southern Tier Symphony

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

All Belwin string parts have been carefully bowed and fingered appropriately by level. The Yellow Very Beginning series includes many bowings as well as reminder fingerings for first-time readers. The Red Beginning series includes frequent bowings to assist younger players. Fingerings for altered pitches are often marked. The Green Intermediate series includes appropriately placed bowings for middle-level students. Fingerings and positions are marked for notes beyond first position. The Blue Concert series includes bowings appropriate for the experienced high school player. Fingerings and position markings are indicated for difficult passages.

Bob Phillips
Belwin/Pop String Editor

Please note: Our band and orchestra music is now being collated by an automatic high-speed system. The enclosed parts are now sorted by page count, rather than score order.

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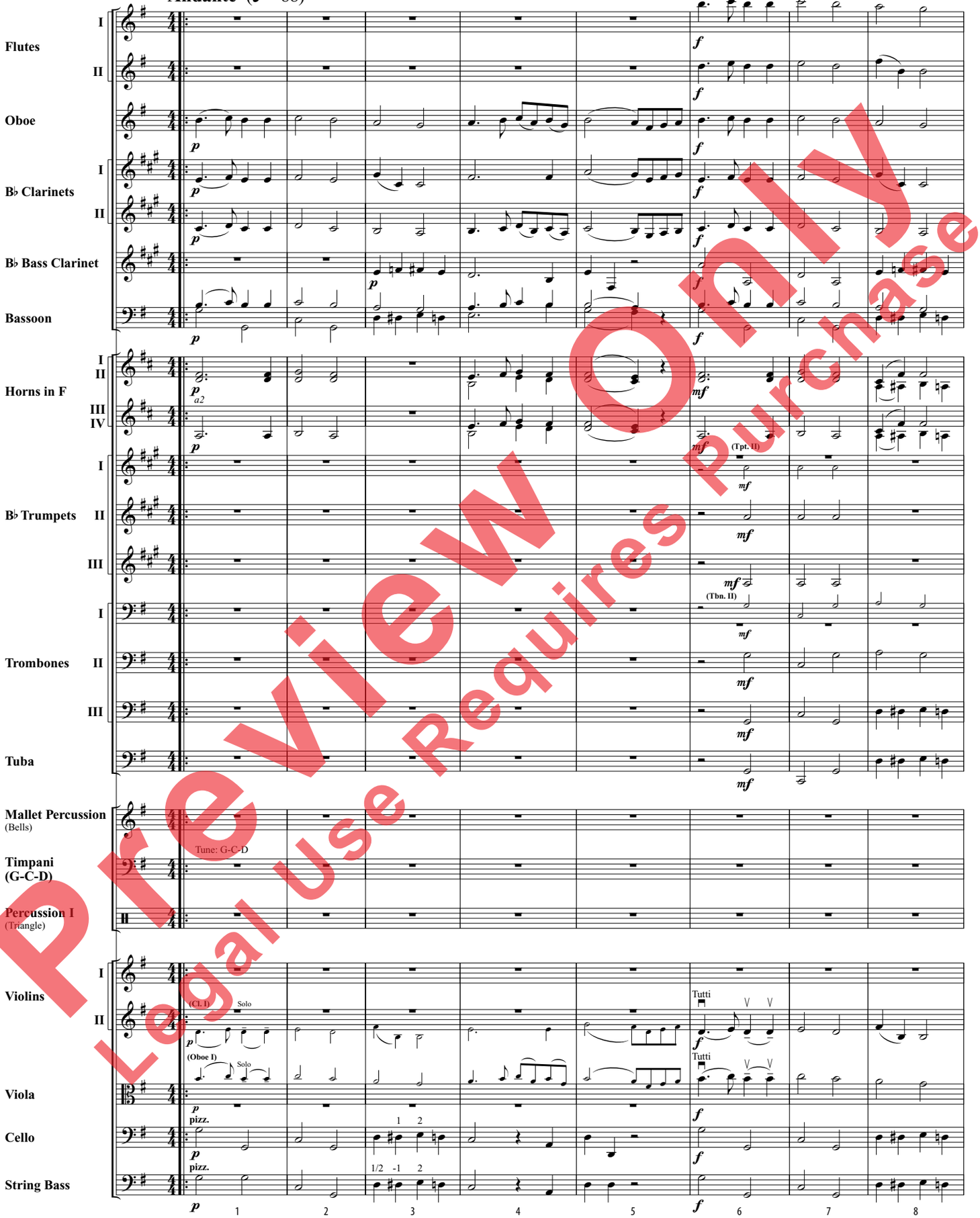
Variations on a Theme by Haydn

CONDUCTOR SCORE
Duration - 4:45

Johannes Brahms
Arranged by John Whitney (ASCAP)

Andante (♩ = 88)



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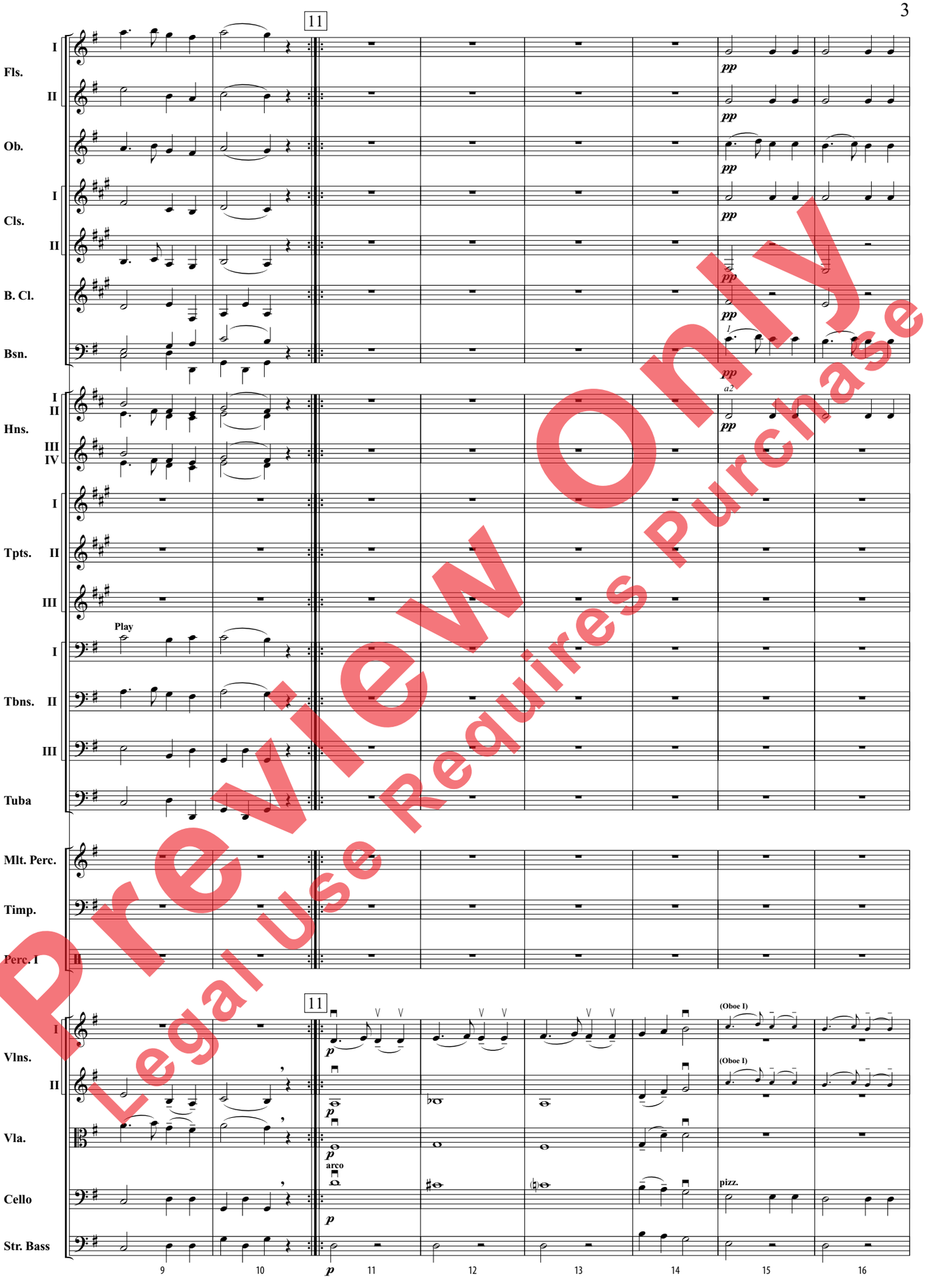

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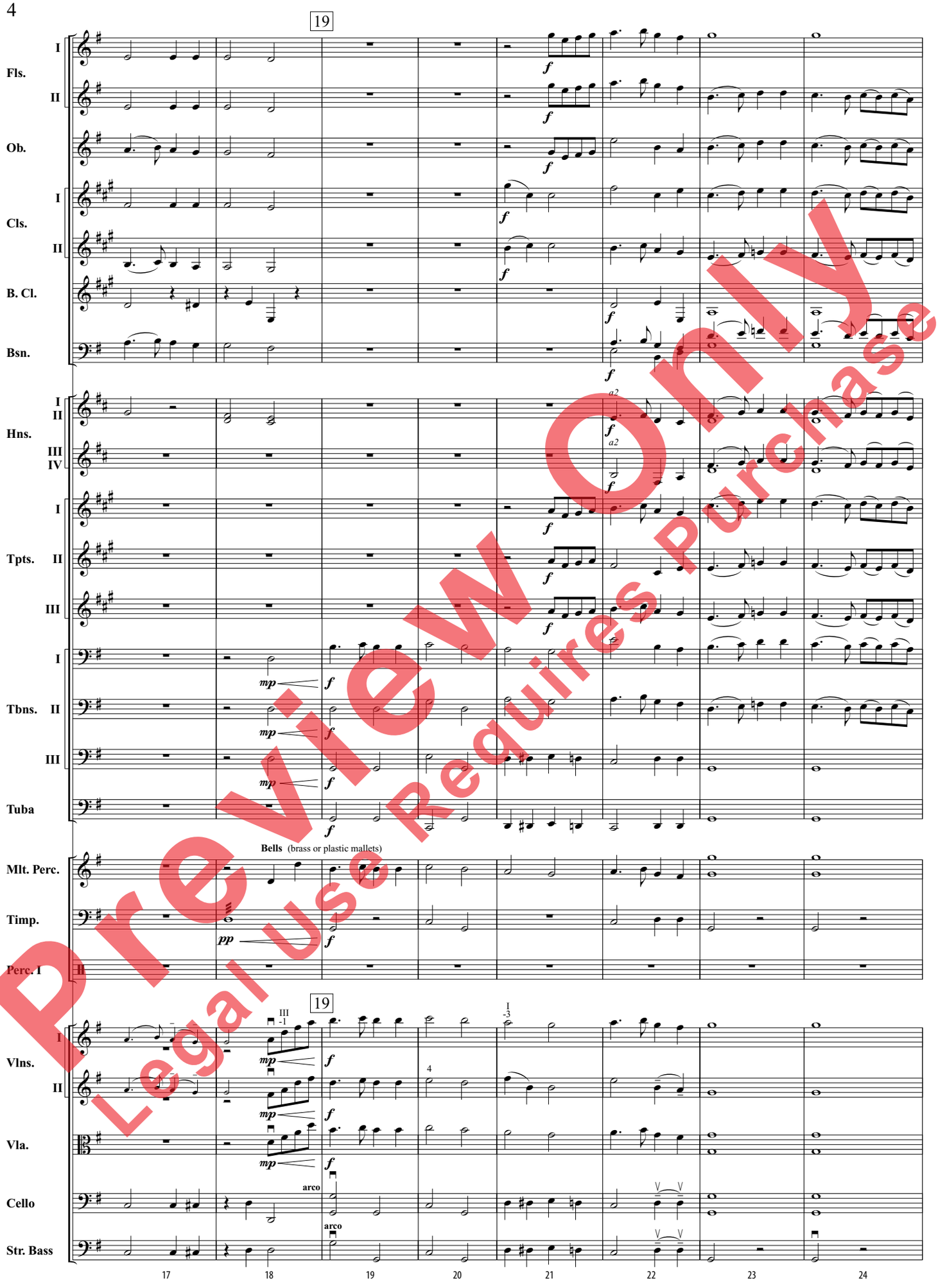

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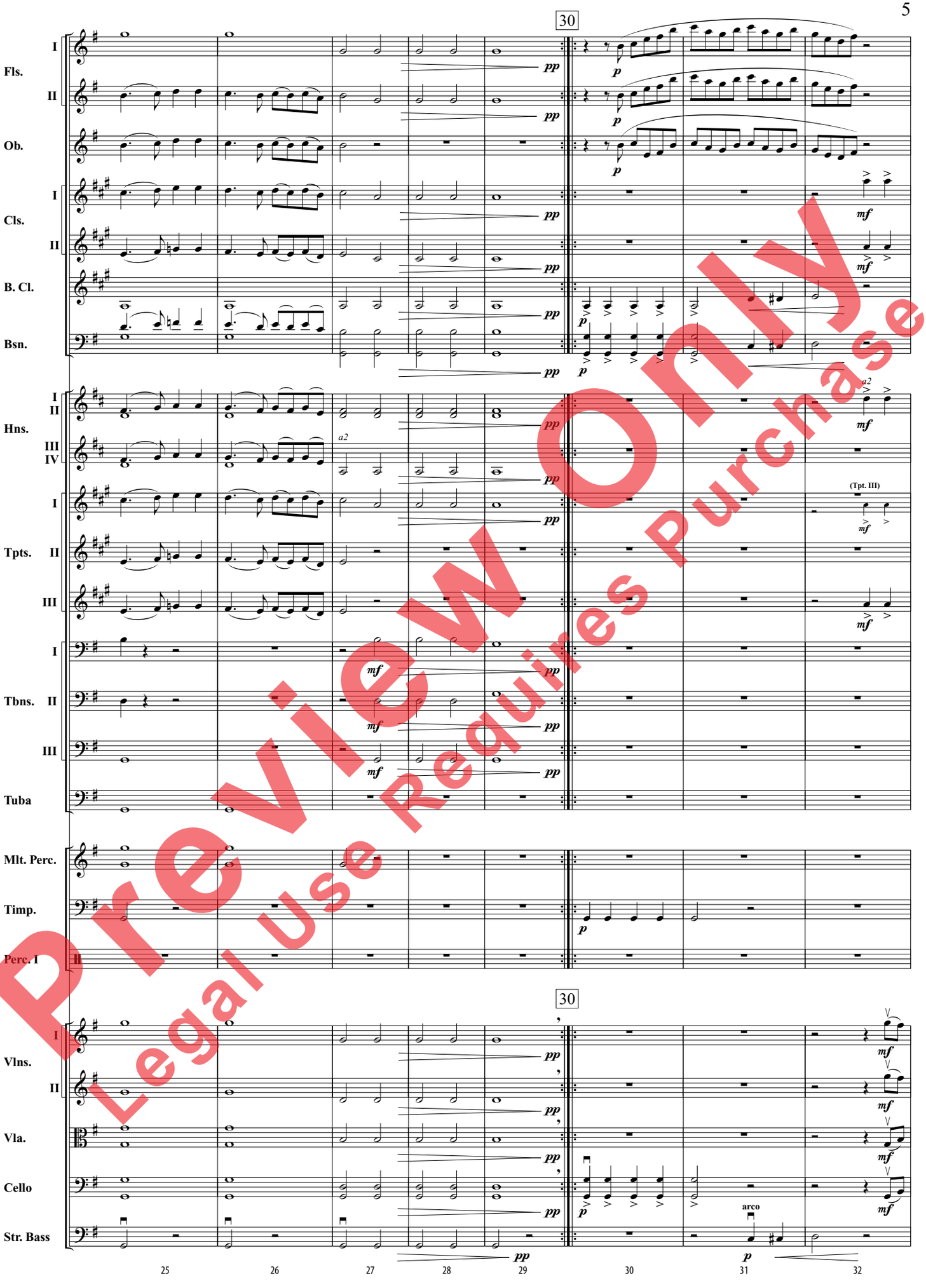

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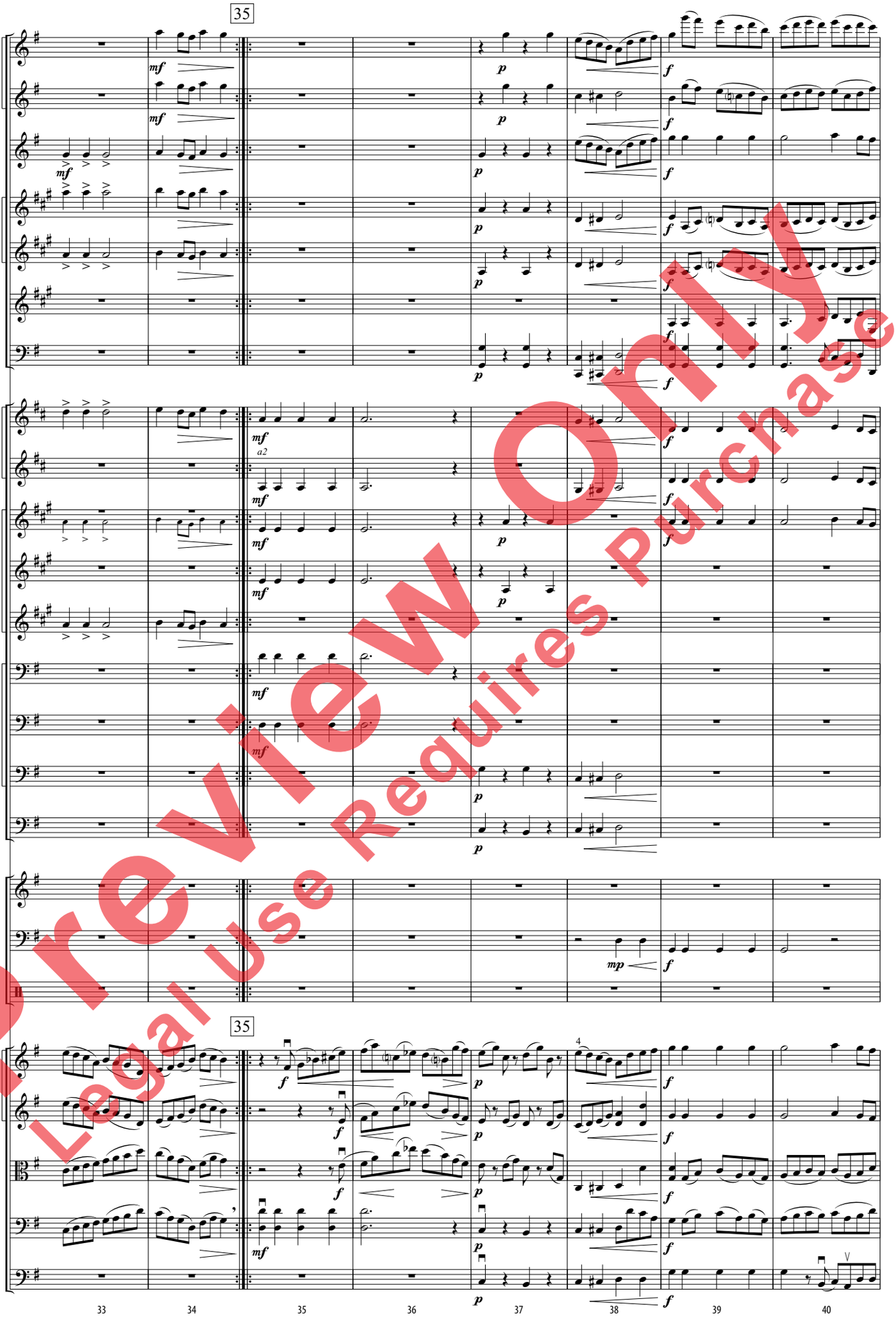

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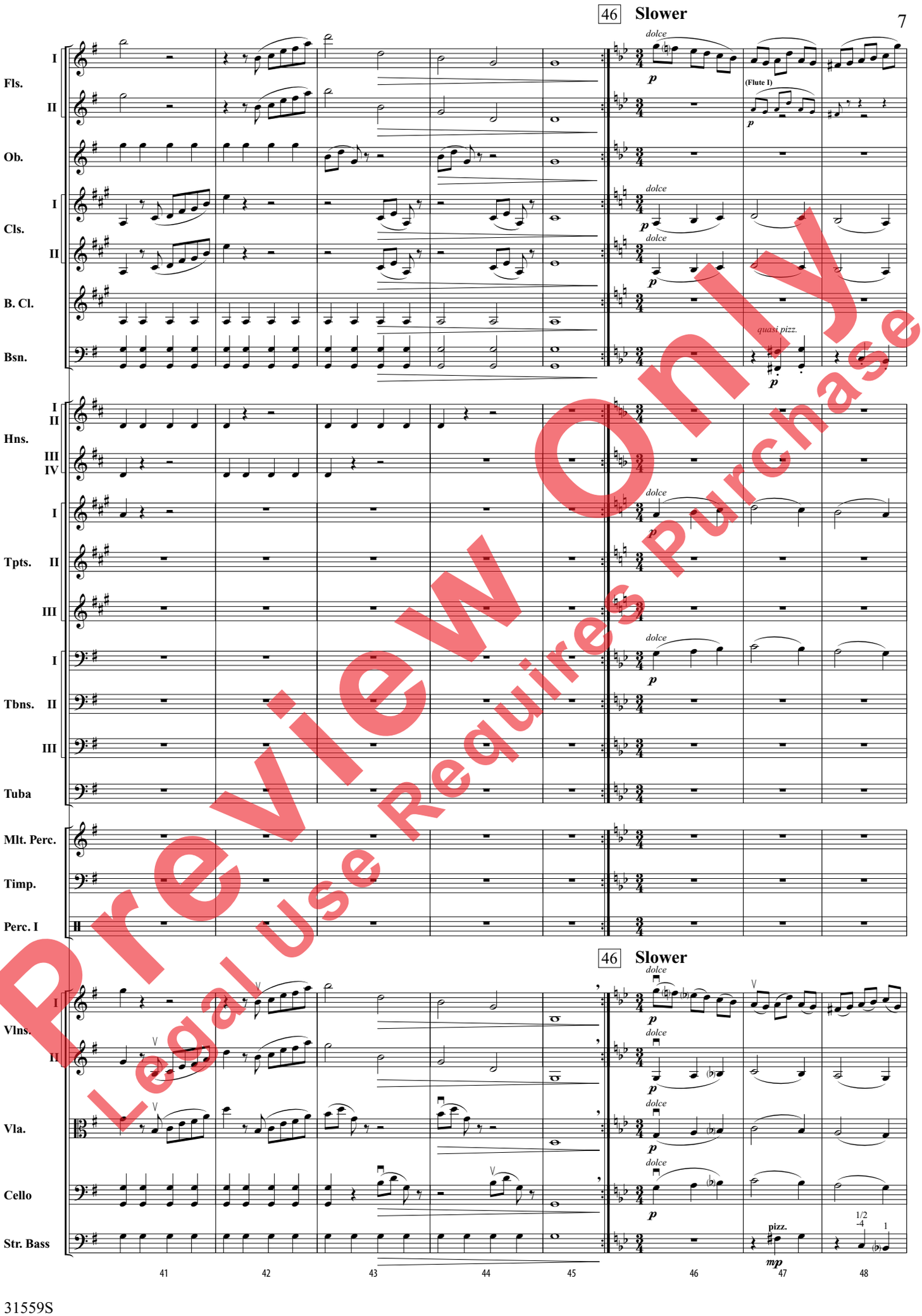

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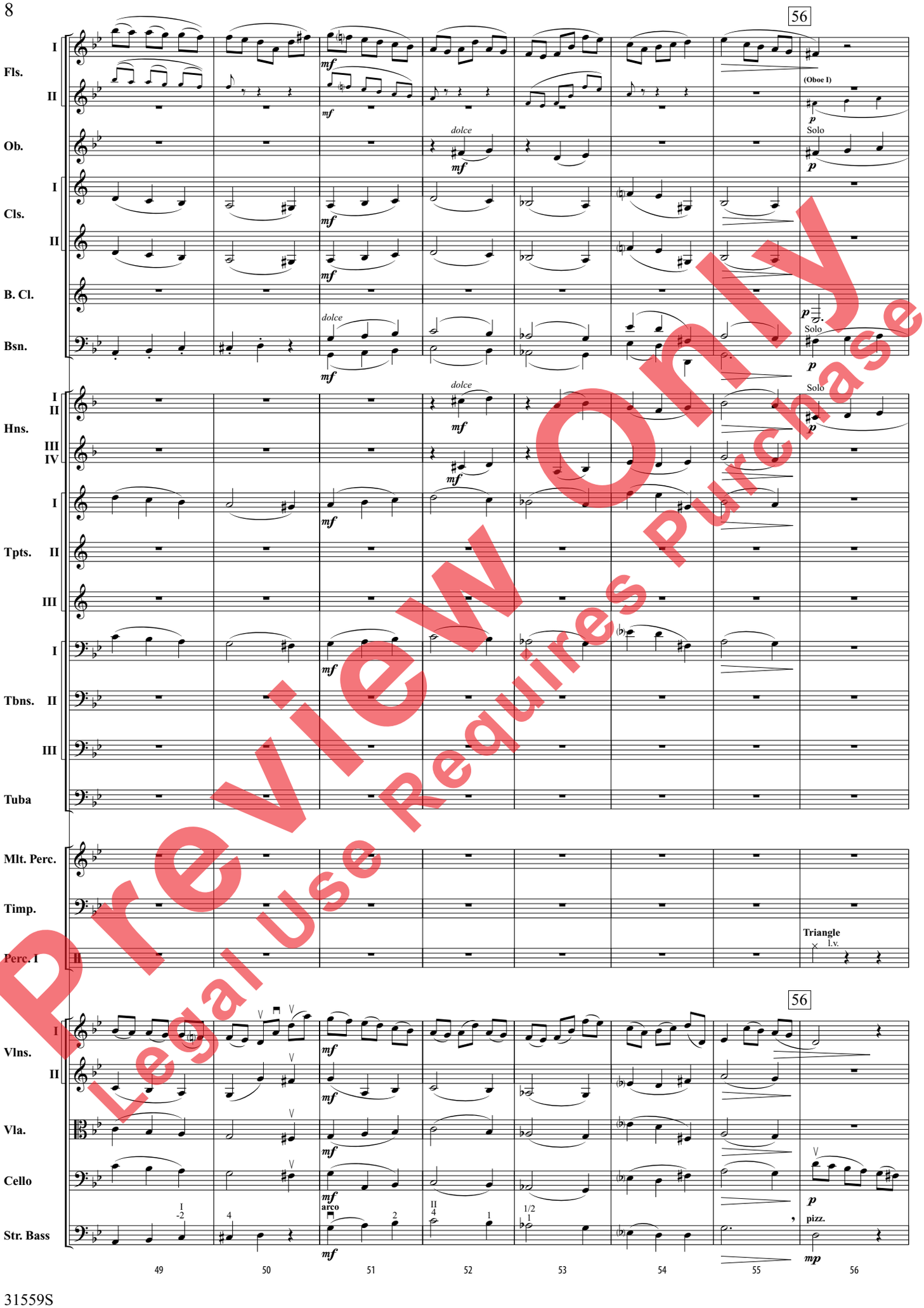

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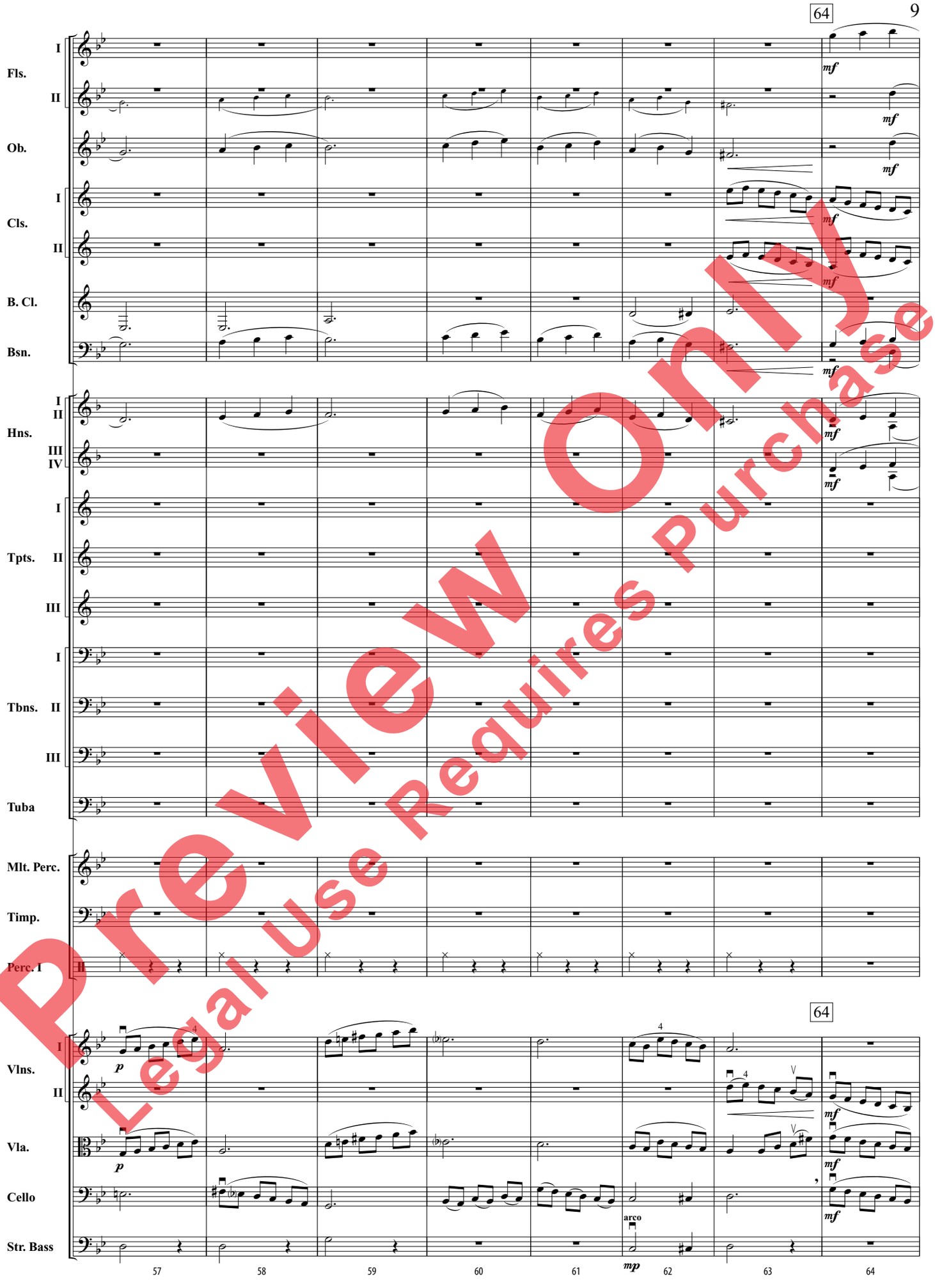

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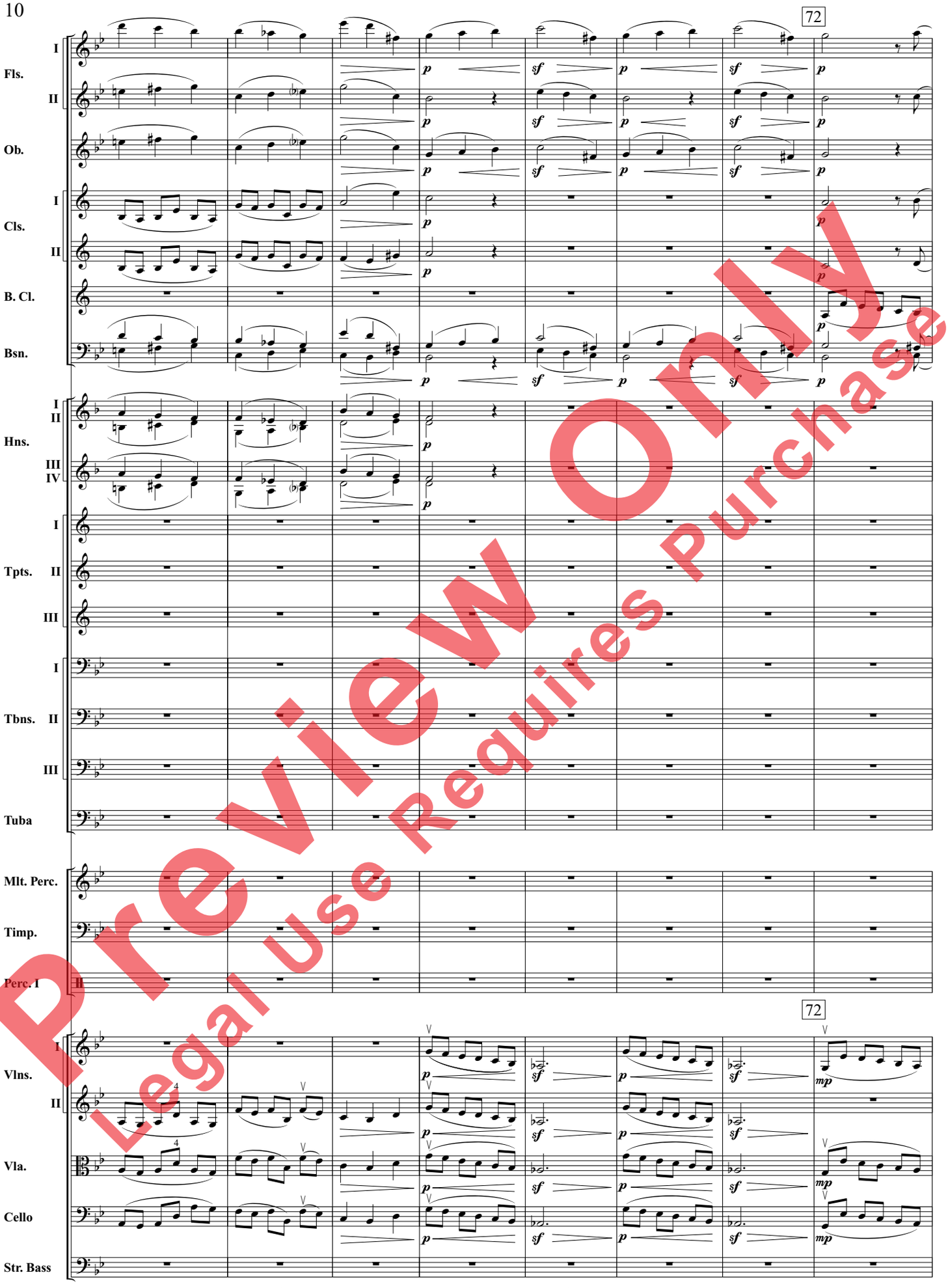

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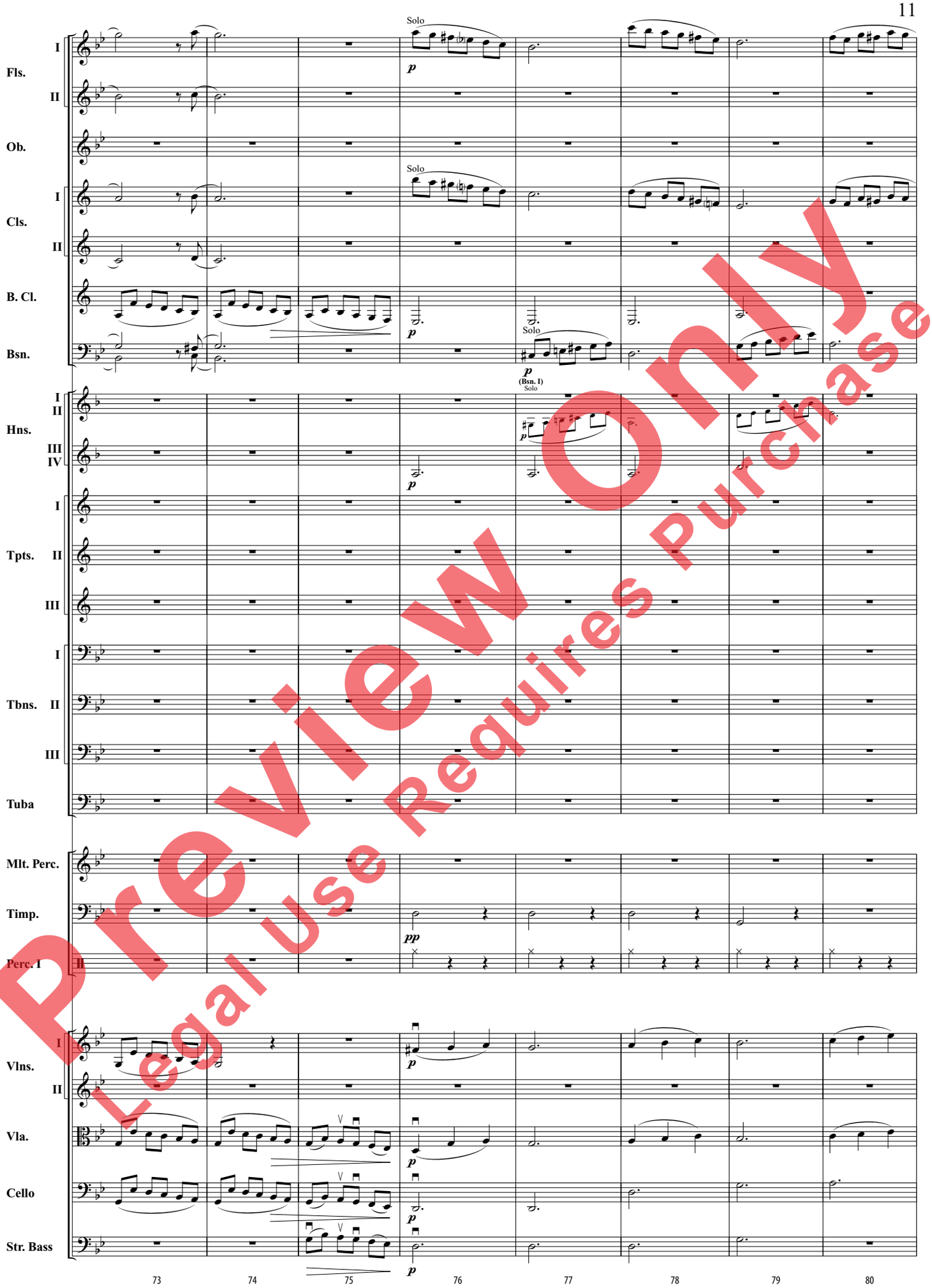

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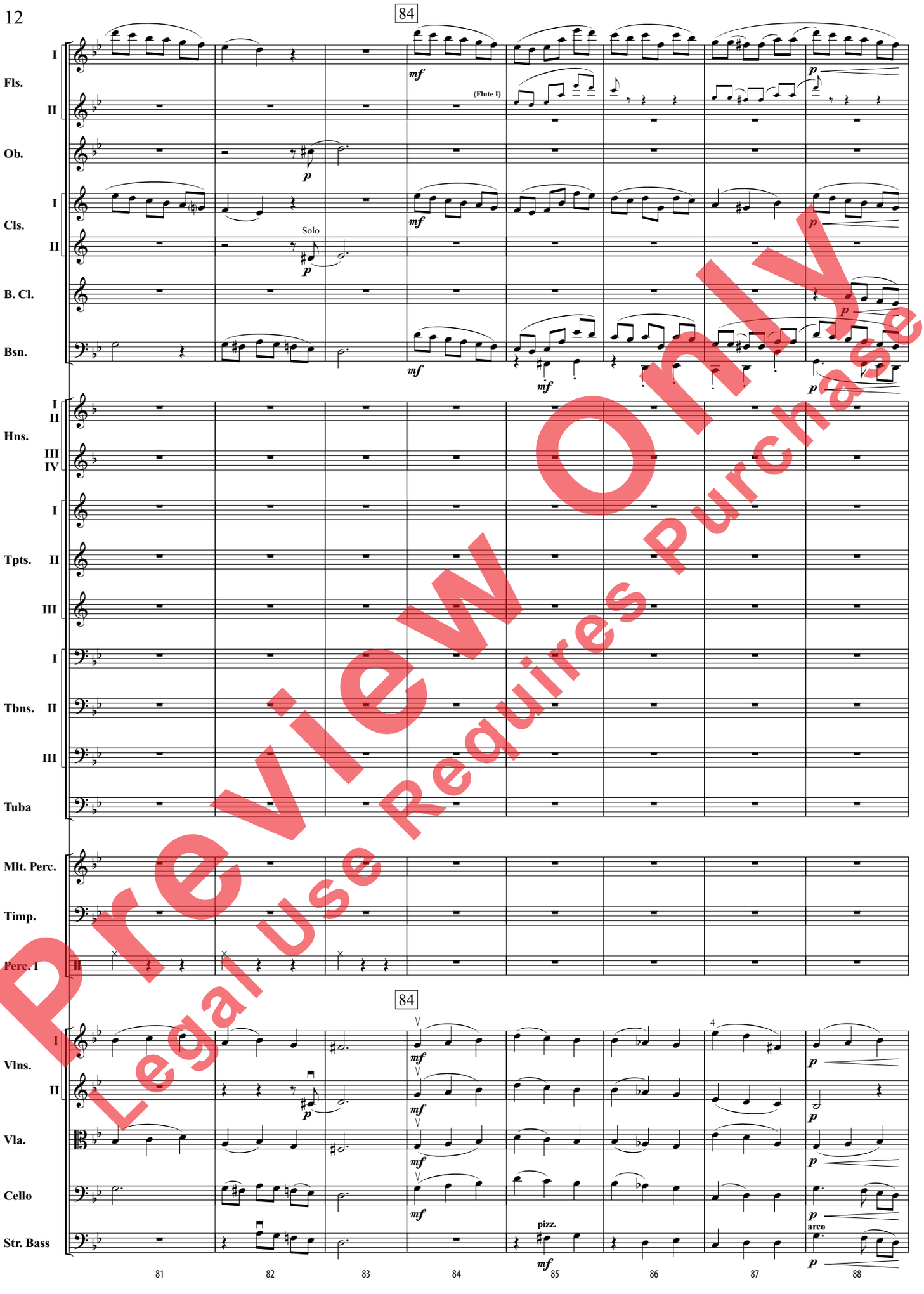

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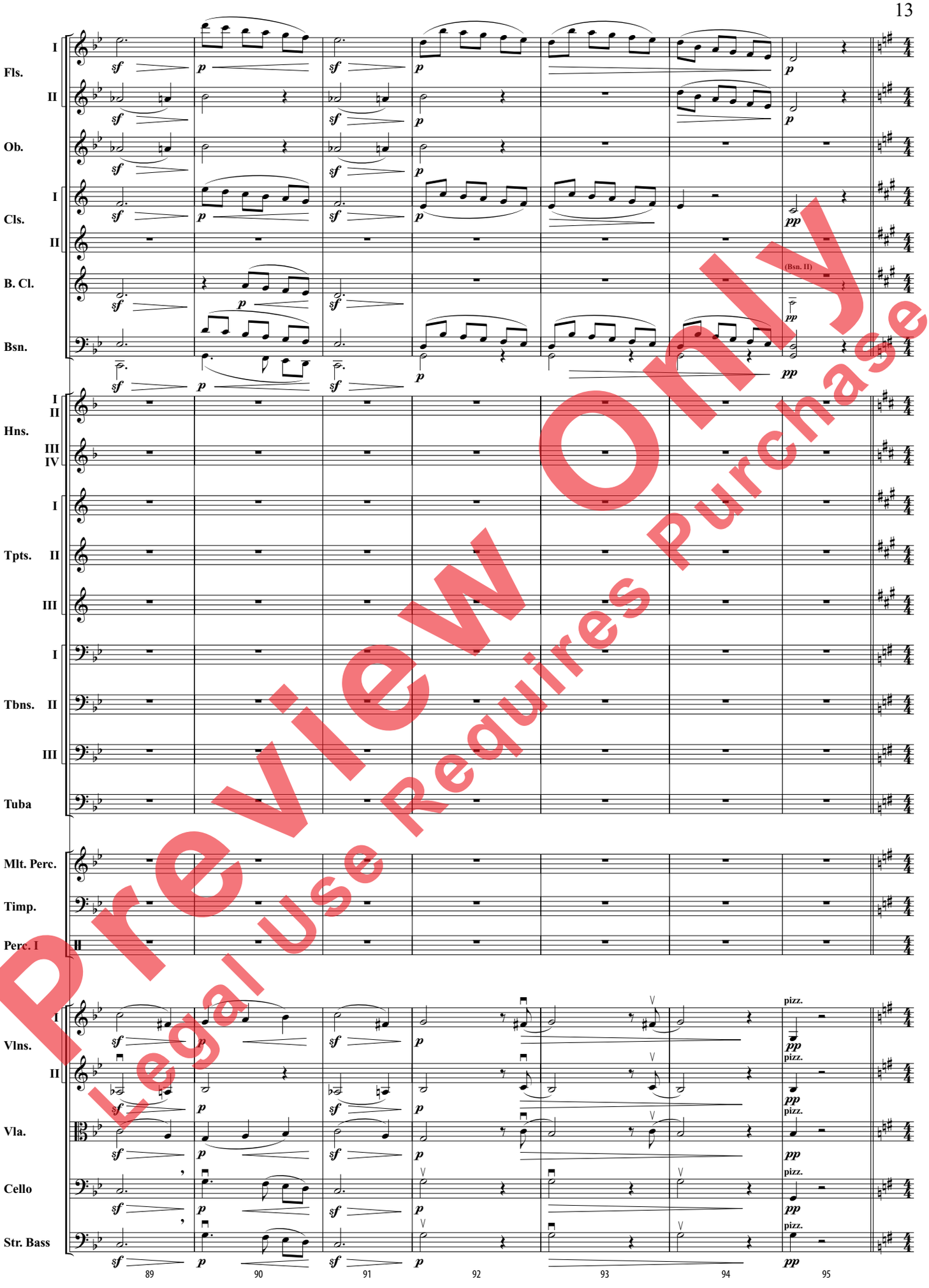

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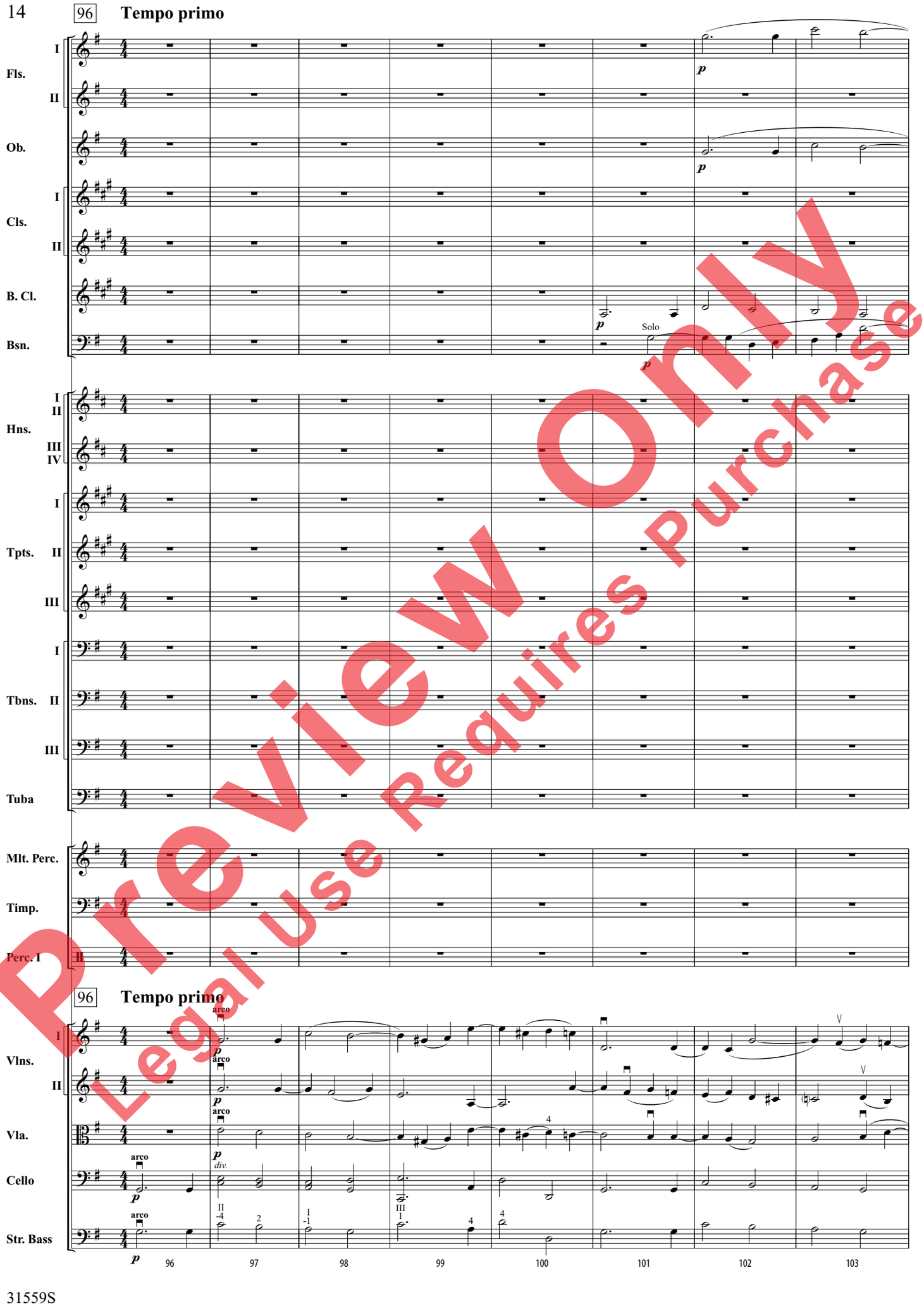

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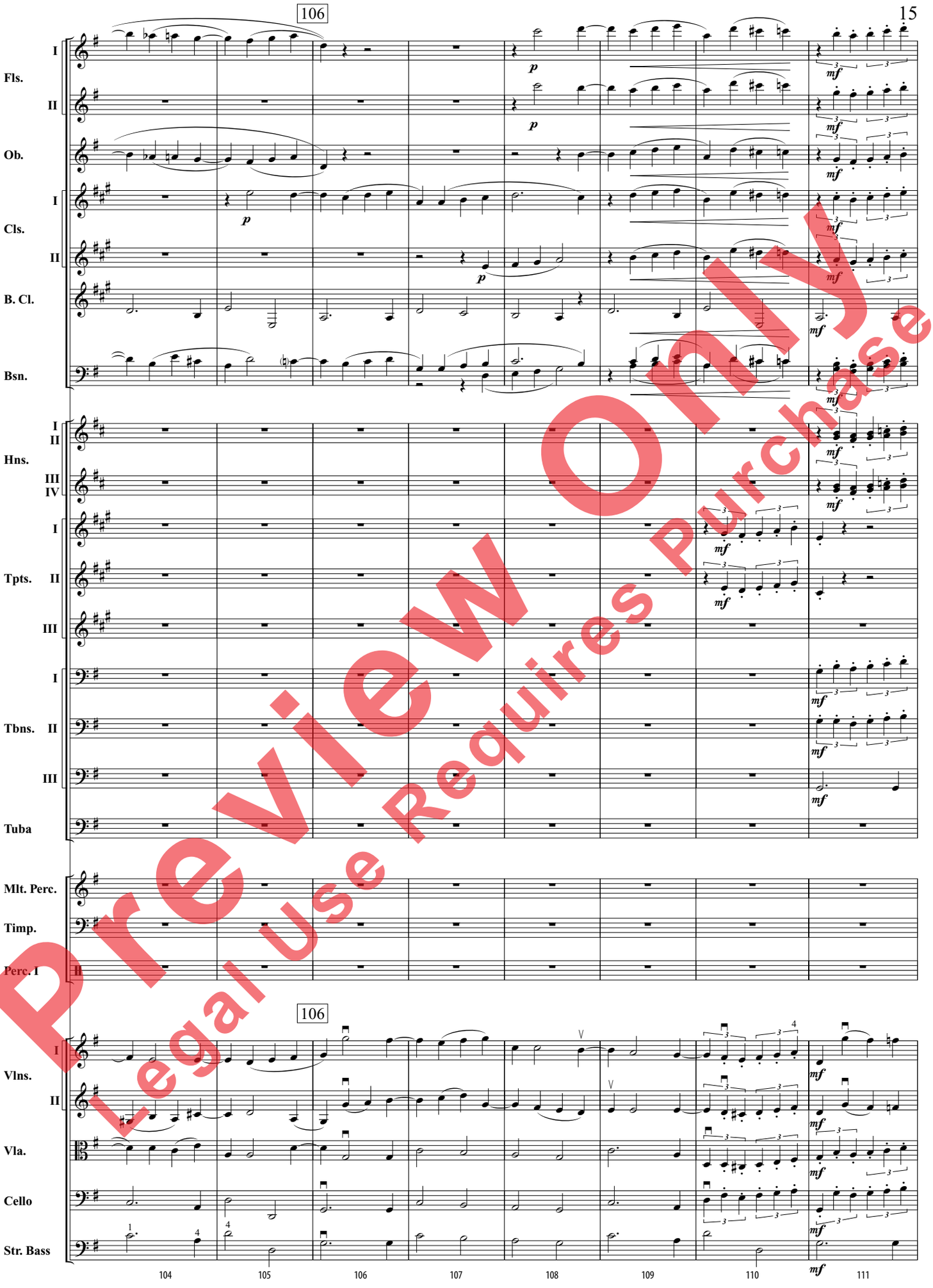

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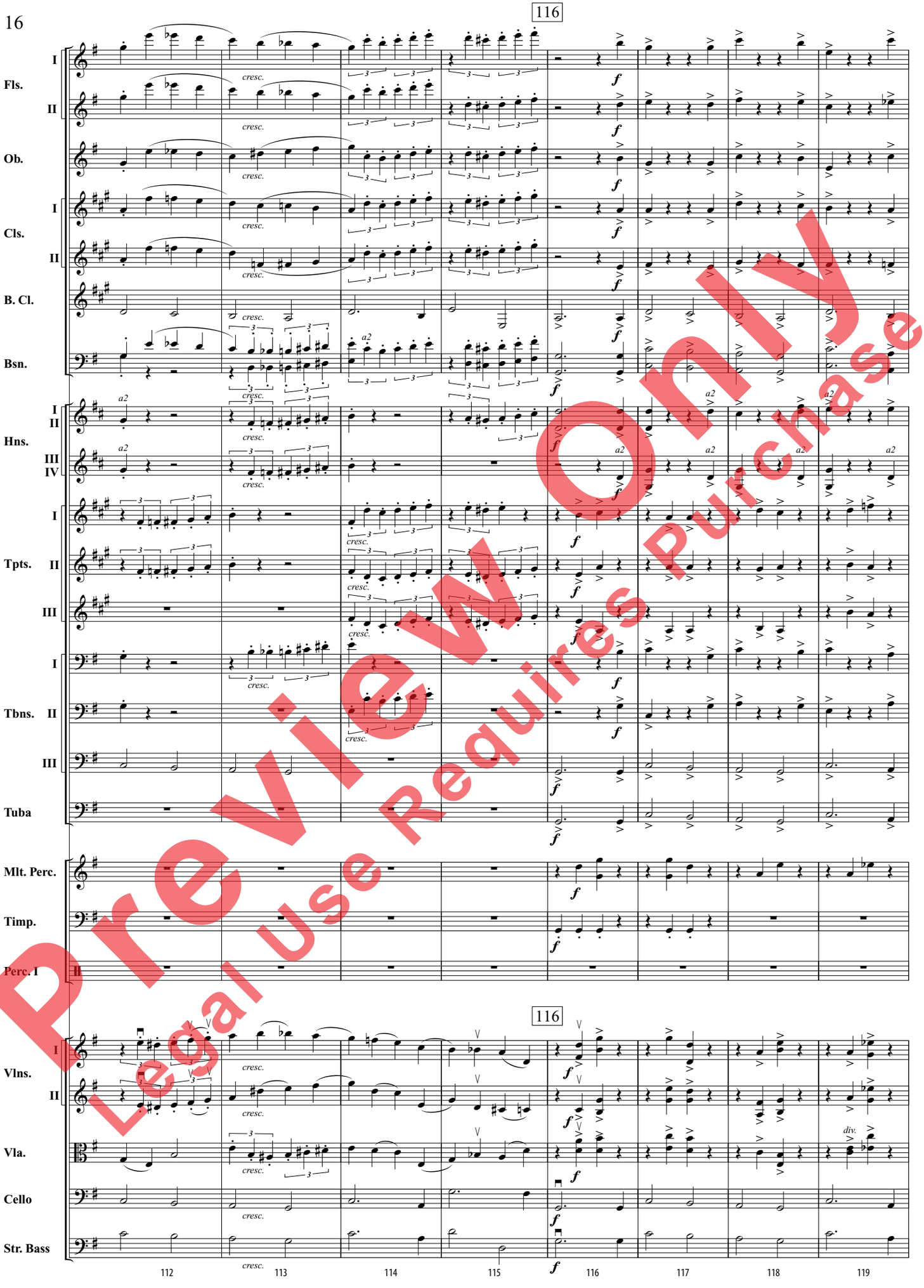

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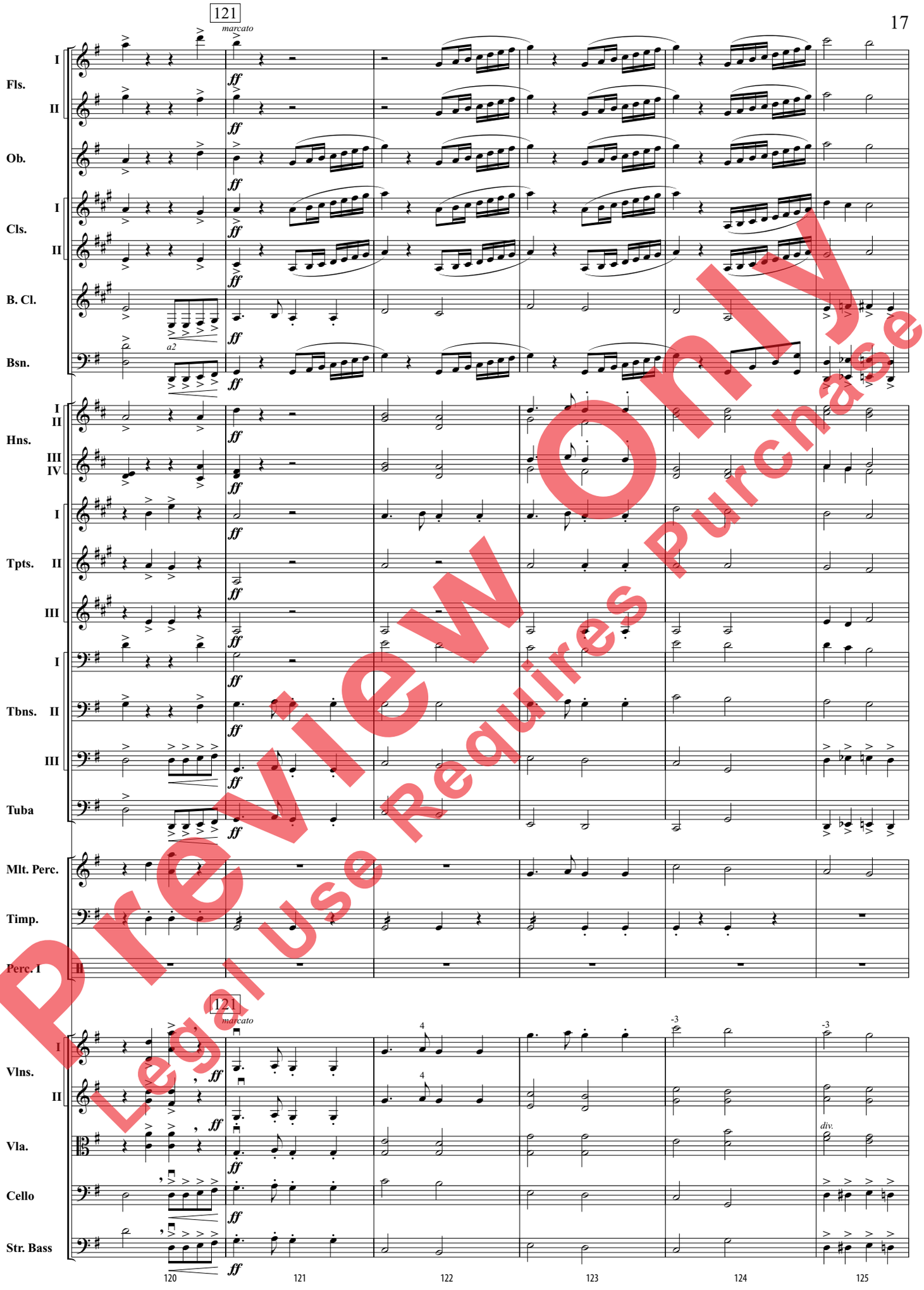

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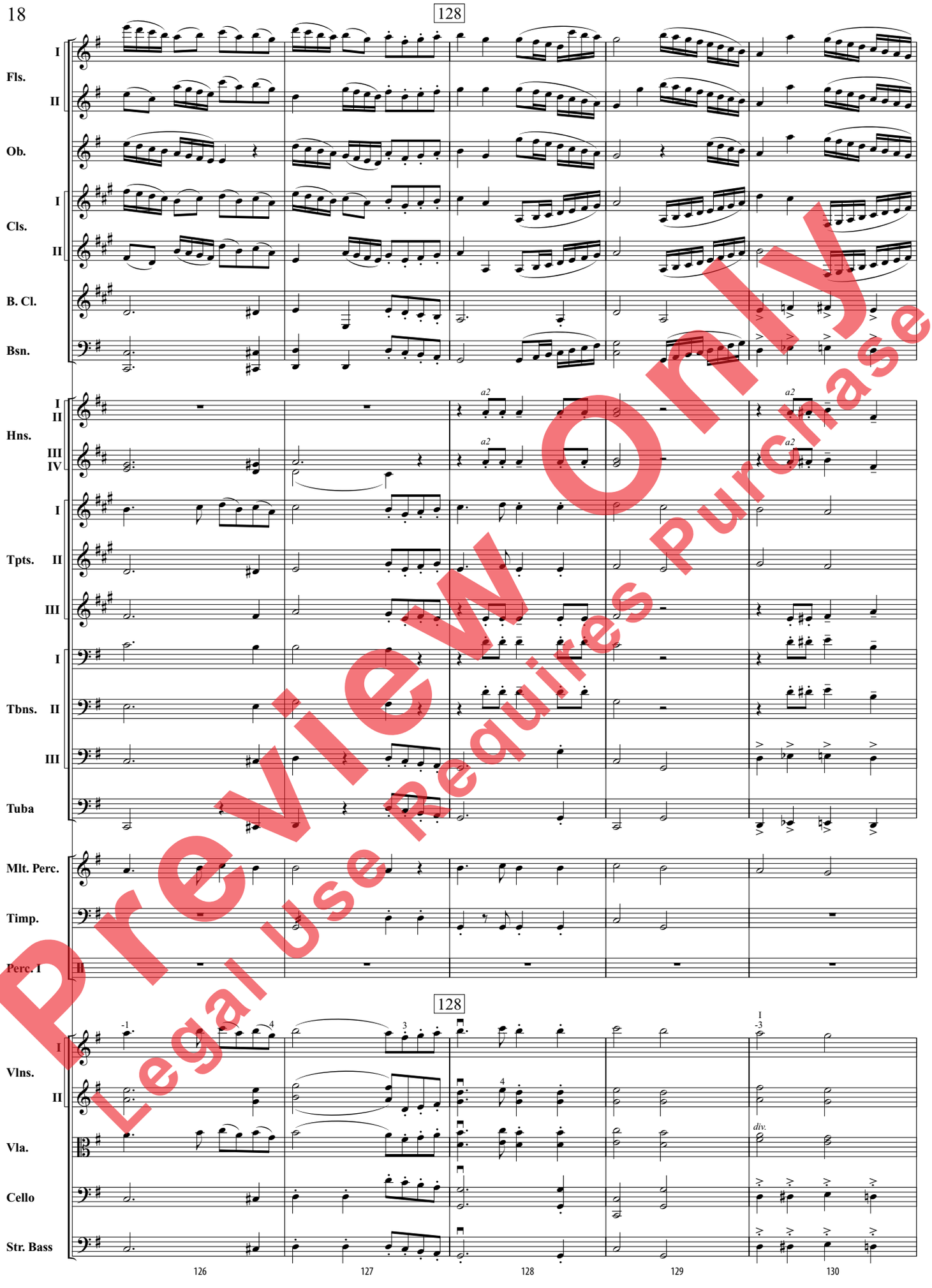

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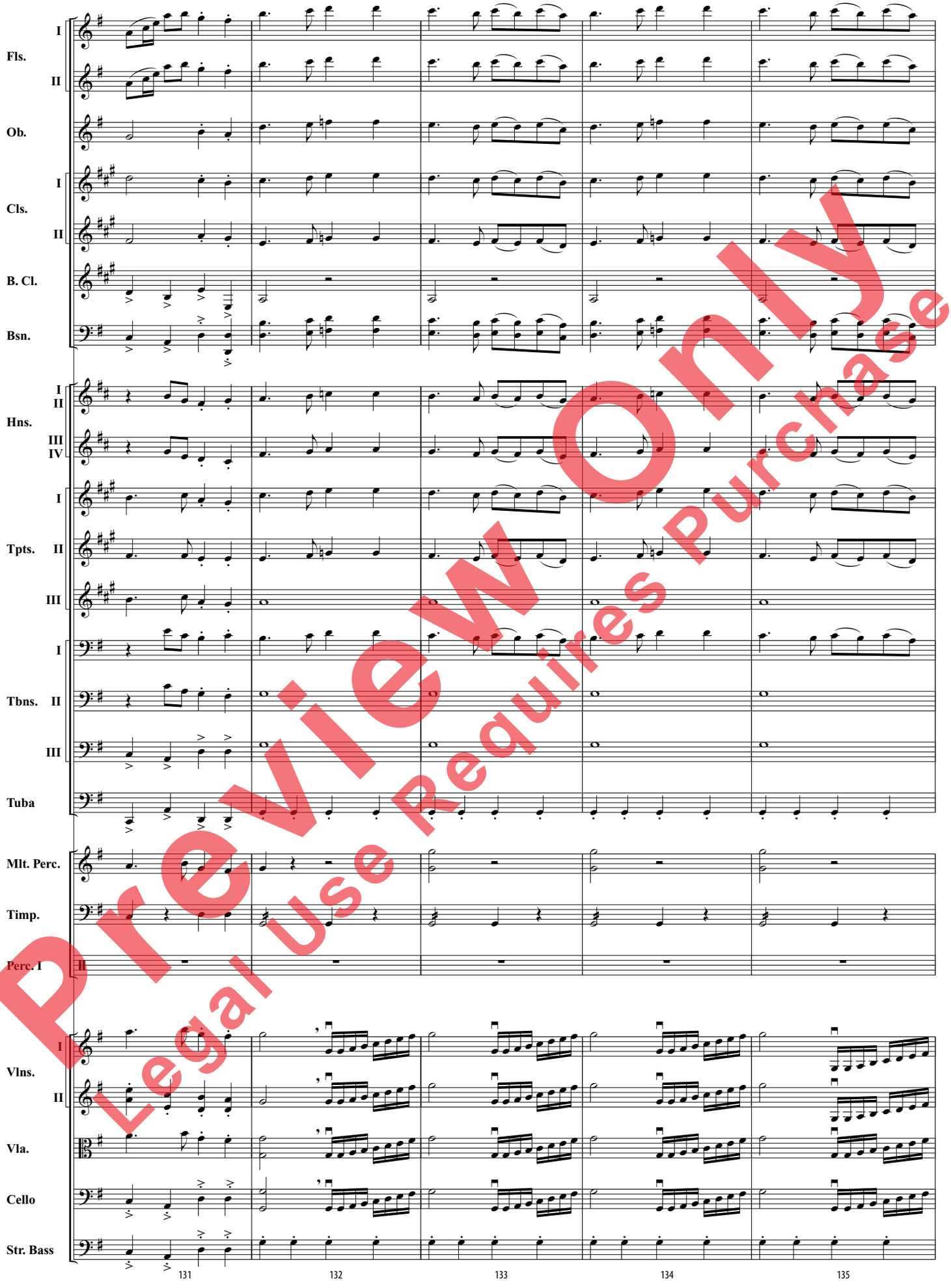

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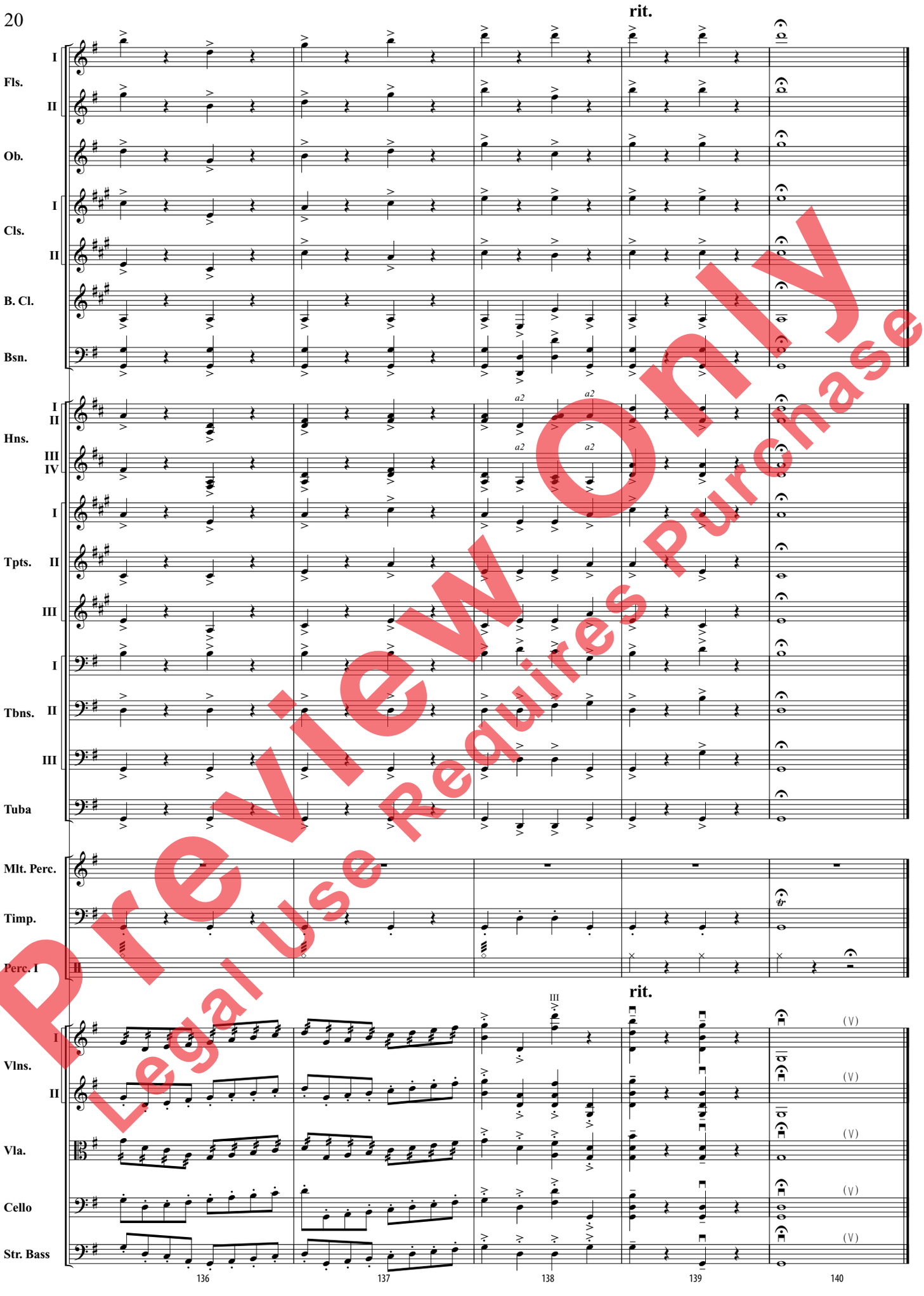

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