GRADE LEVEL: 4

THE HIGHLAND/ETLING FULL ORCHESTRA SERIES

Selections from
American Suite

Antonín Dvořák
Arranged by Brendan McBrien

A musical postcard to the world! Your audiences will be thrilled with this early piece of Americana, and your musicians will love the colors and energy of this uniquely American music as imagined by the great Czech master following his visit to America in the 1890s. This work contains music inspired by African-American, Native-American and Scottish music and features three movements (I, IV and V) of Dvořák's original five-movement suite.

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1	Trombone I	1
Flute/Piccolo	2	Trombone II	1
Oboe I	1	Tuba	1
Oboe II	1	Timpani (A-E)	1
Bassoon I	1	Percussion I (Triangle, Crash Cymbals)	1
Bassoon II	1	Percussion II (Snare Drum, Bass Drum)	2
B♭ Clarinet I	1	Violin I	8
B♭ Clarinet II	1	Violin II	8
F Horn I	1	Viola	5
F Horn II	1	Cello	5
B♭ Trumpet I	1	String Bass	5
B♭ Trumpet II	1		

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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.

PROGRAM NOTES

Composed in 1895, Dvořák's *American Suite* is an amalgam of musical elements Dvořák heard while traveling throughout the mid and eastern portions of the United States during his residency here from 1892–1895. During one of his summer visits to the Czech-speaking community of Spillville, Iowa, Dvořák heard the African-American spiritual songs "Deep River" and "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," numerous Native-American songs, as well as folk music of America. In a *New York Herald* interview he proclaimed these themes the "product of the very soil of America and the foundation for the future music of the country." Even though the suite contains "American" music spun through the imagination of a Czech composer, there are undoubtedly authentic American elements present in the music, even if derived from distant sources (i.e. Africa, Asia, Scotland, etc.), thus making it truly American in flavor and character.

This arrangement consists of movements I, IV and V from Dvořák's original five-movement suite. This first movement contains a decidedly "Southern" flavor in its sweeping, nostalgic melody containing the "Scottish snap" which can be found in ragtime music of that era, while the second movement seems to suggest an African-American spiritual as its inspiration. In the third movement, Dvořák marries a Native-American sounding theme with the drive and energy of one of his Slavonic Dances. In typical Dvořák style, the work ends as it begins with a restatement of its opening, sweeping melody.

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American Suite

I.

CONDUCTOR SCORE
Duration - 7:00
(I. 3:00, II. 2:00, III. 2:00)

Antonin Dvořák
Arranged by Brendan McBrien

Andante con moto (♩ = 72)

Flute/ Piccolo

Oboes I II

B♭ Clarinets I II

Bassoons I II

F Horns I II

B♭ Trumpets I II

Trombones I II

Tuba

Timpani (A-E)

Hard Mallets

Percussion I (Triangle, Crash Cymbals)

Percussion II (Snare Drum, Bass Drum)

Andante con moto (♩ = 72)

Violins I II

Viola

Cello

String Bass

pizz.

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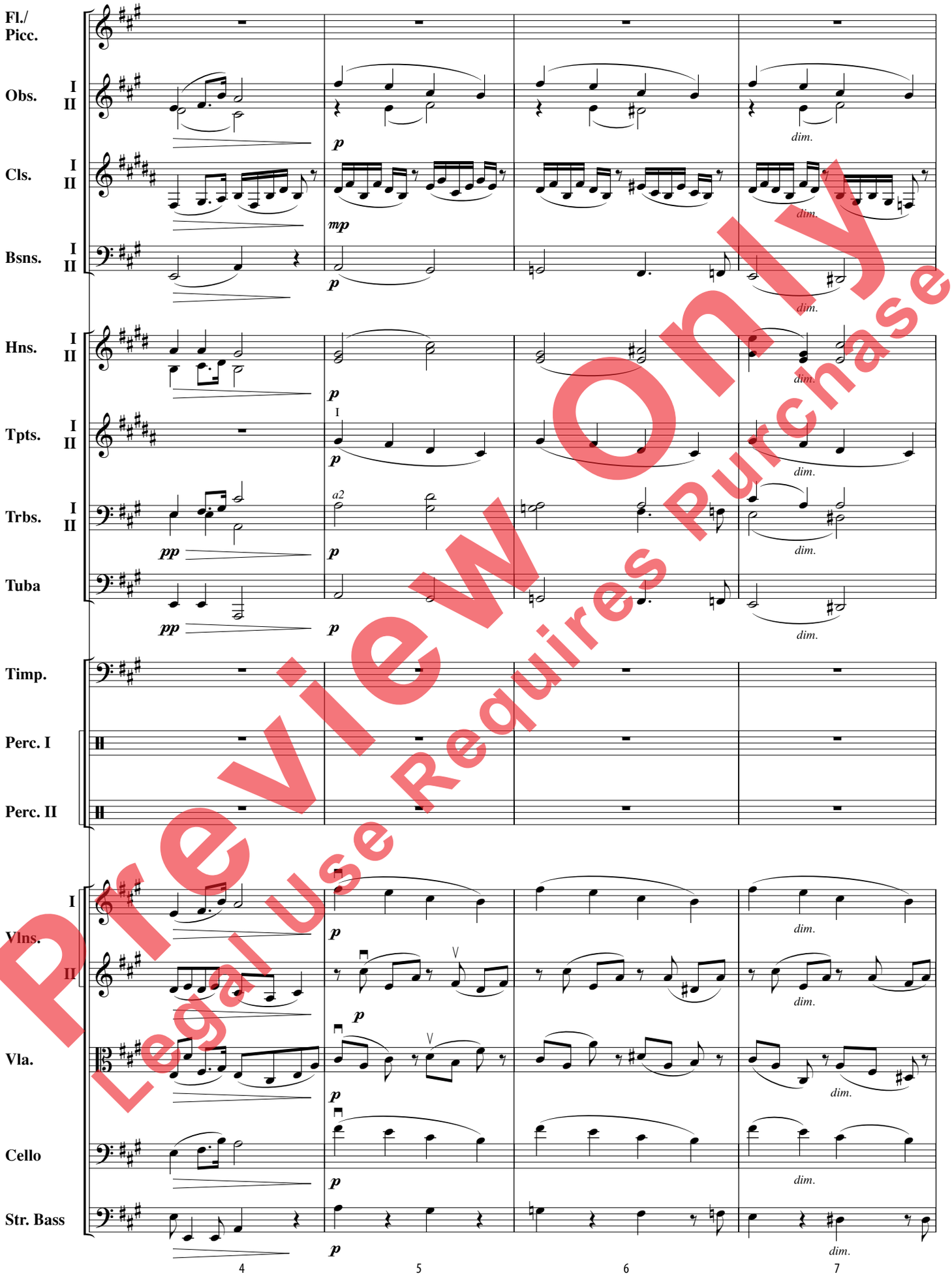

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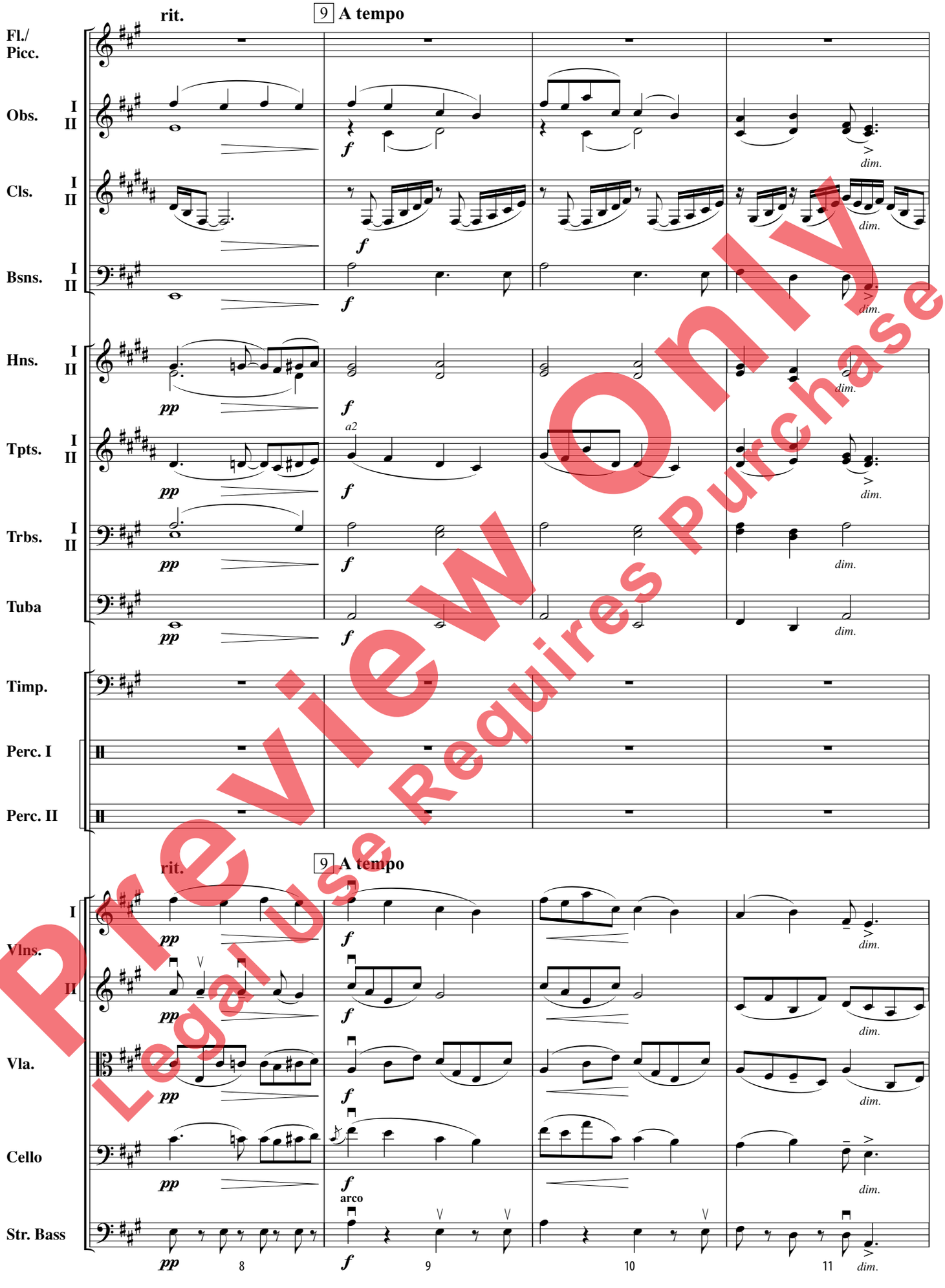

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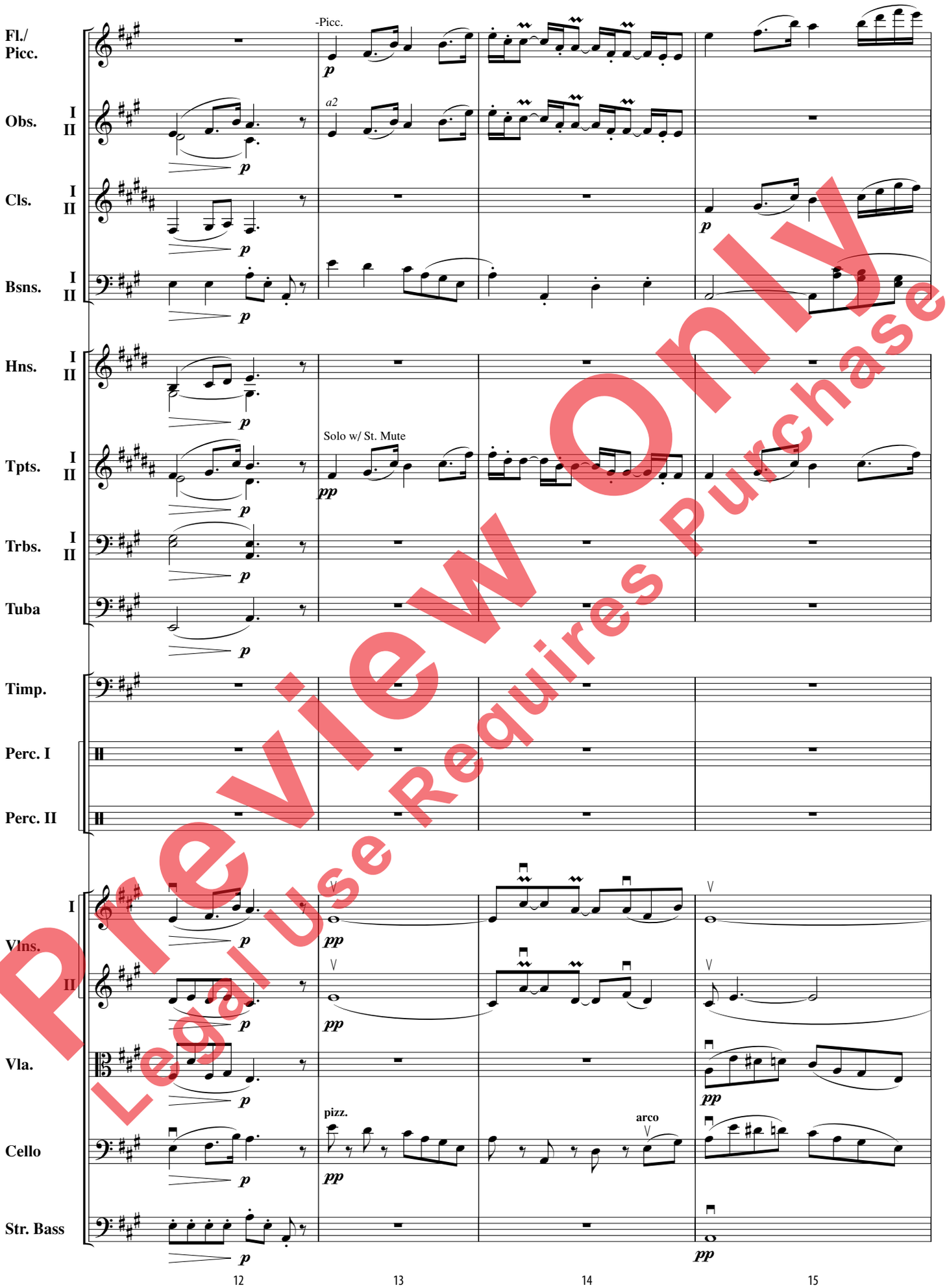

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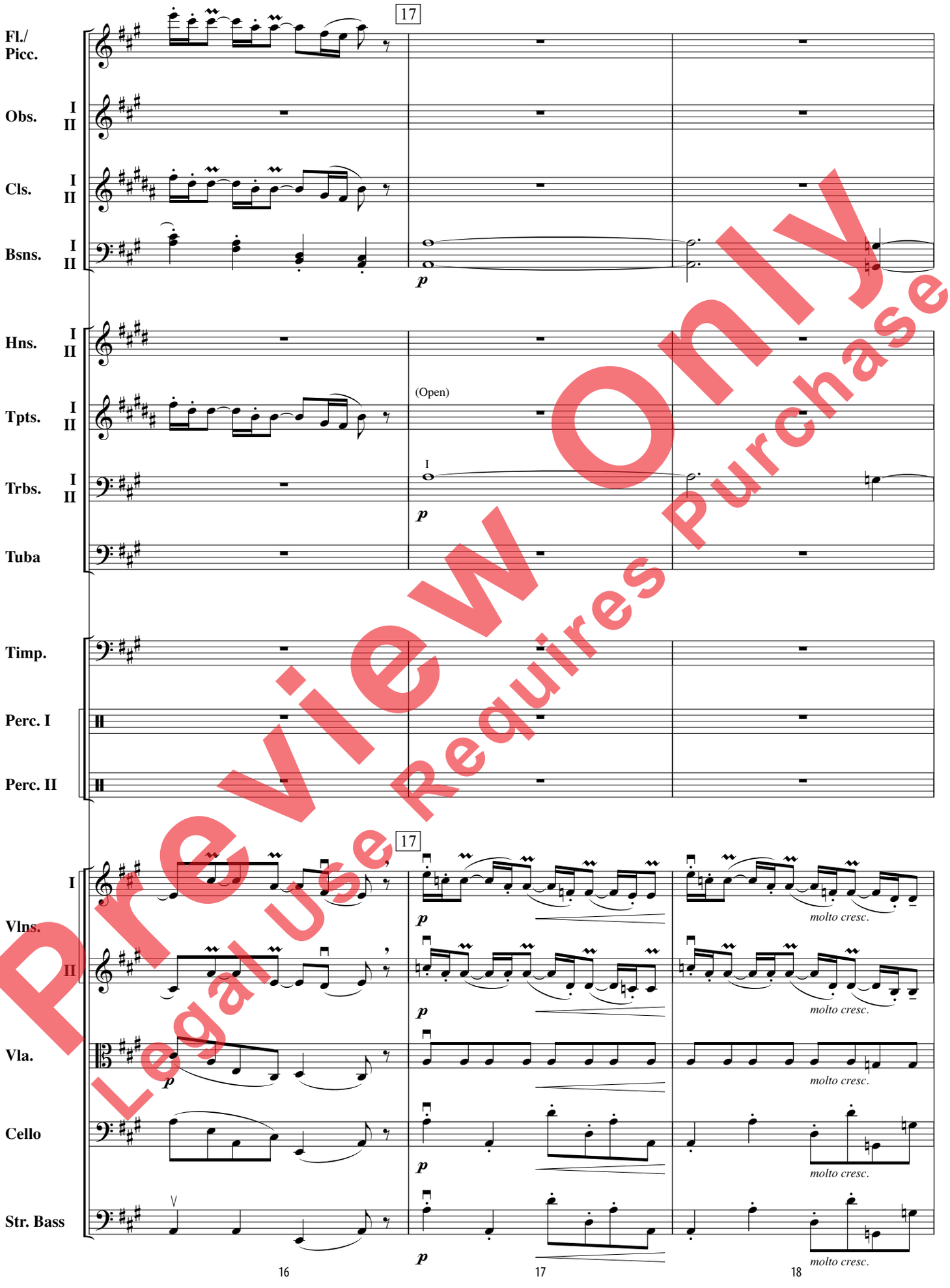

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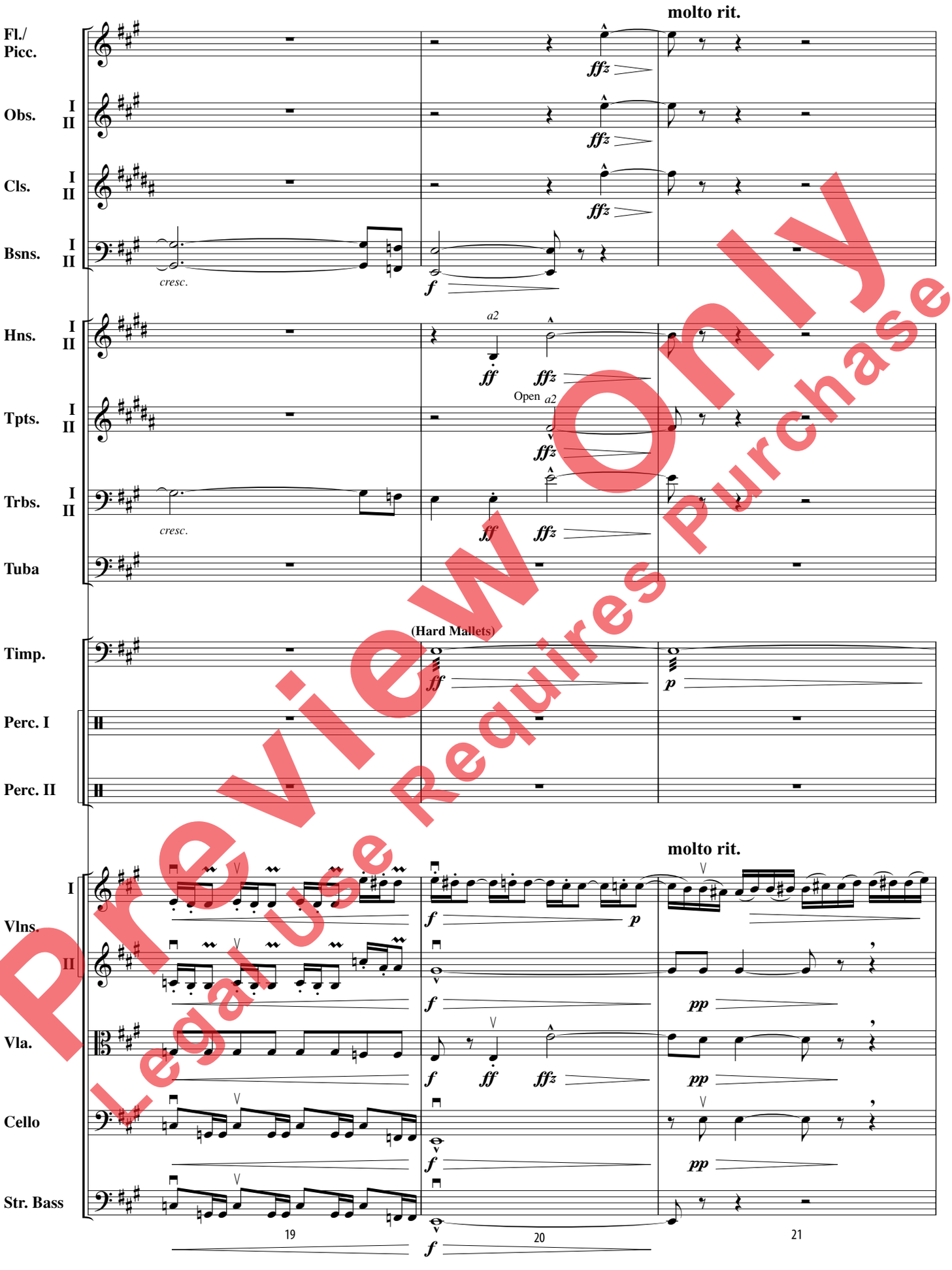

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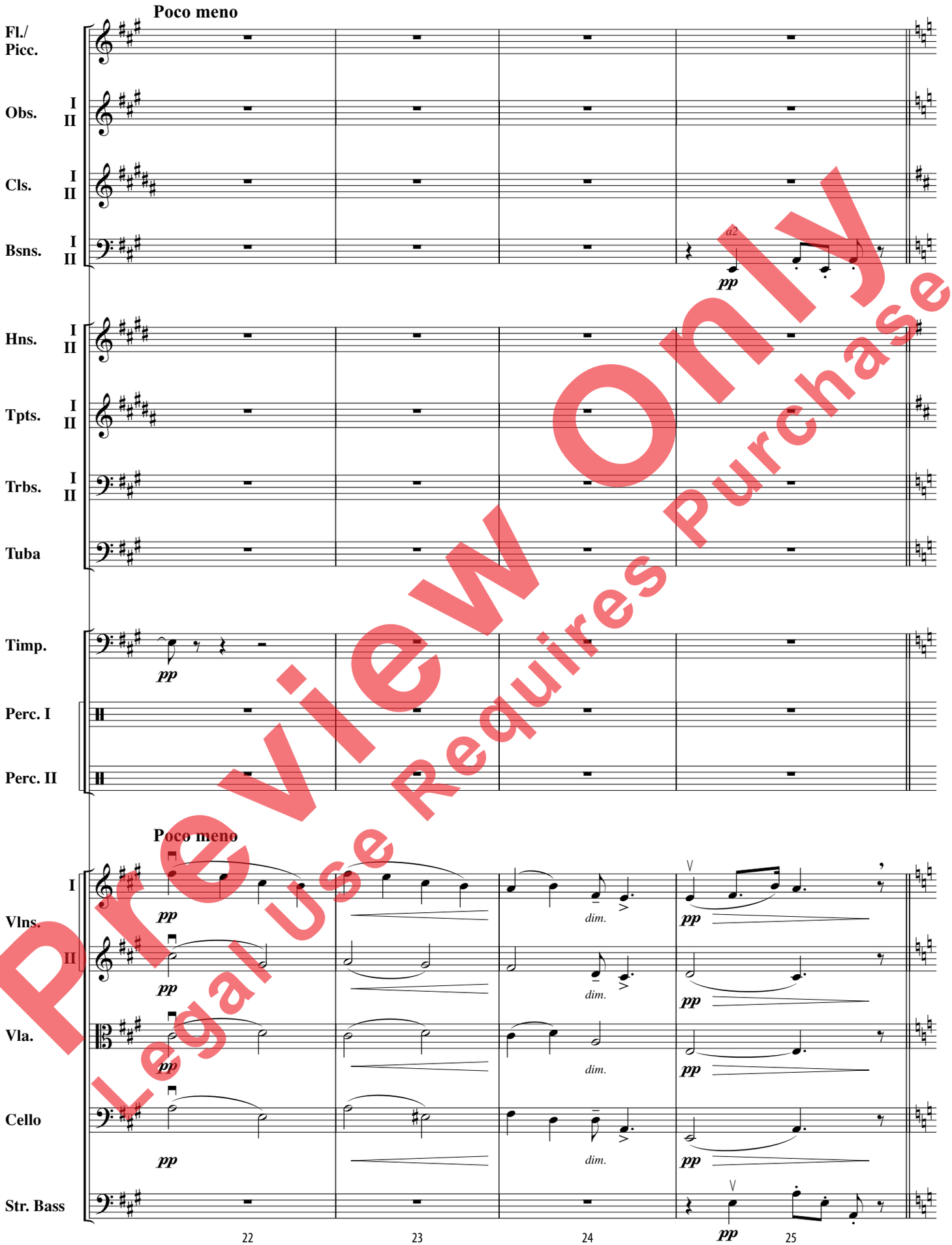

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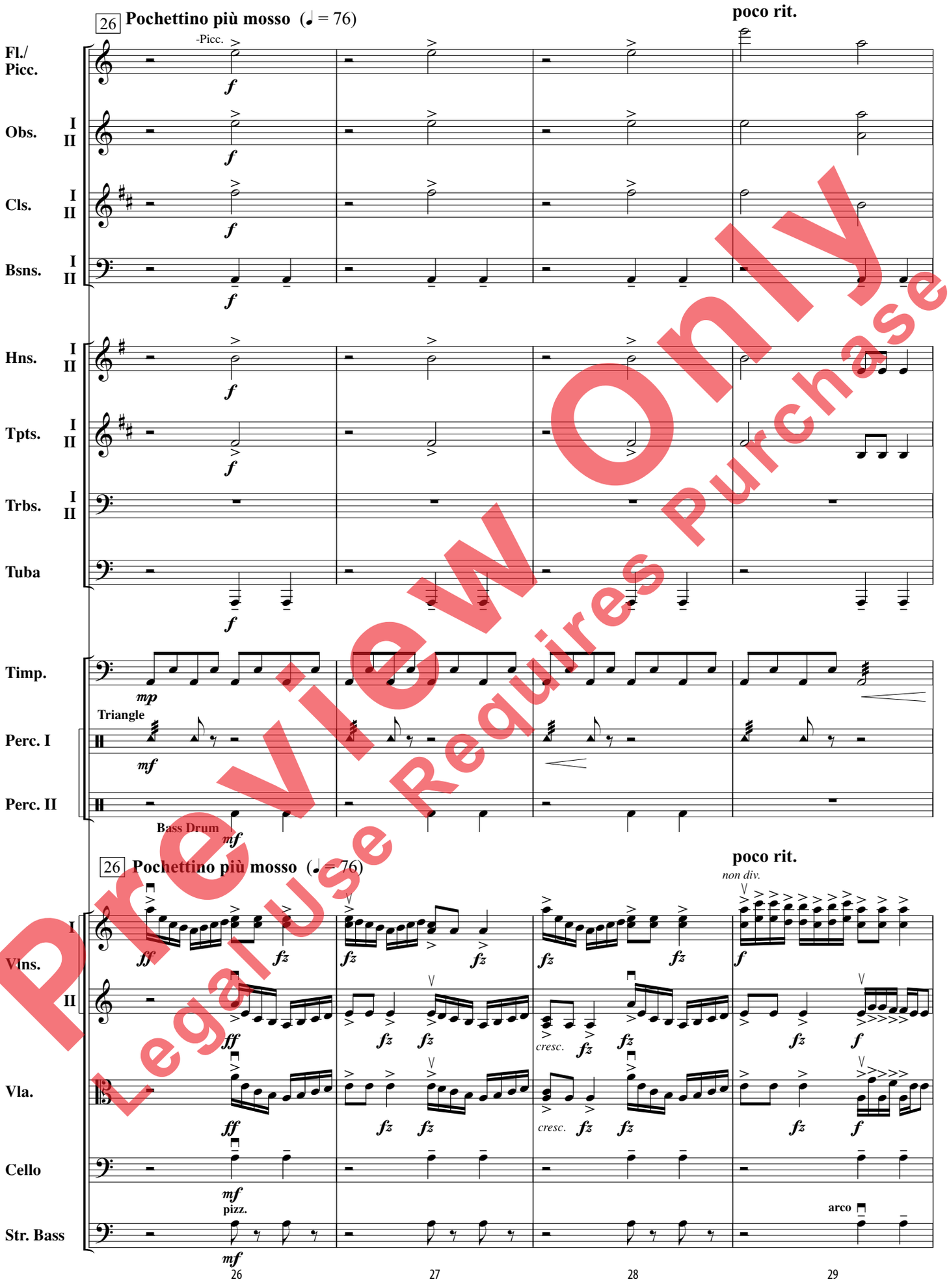

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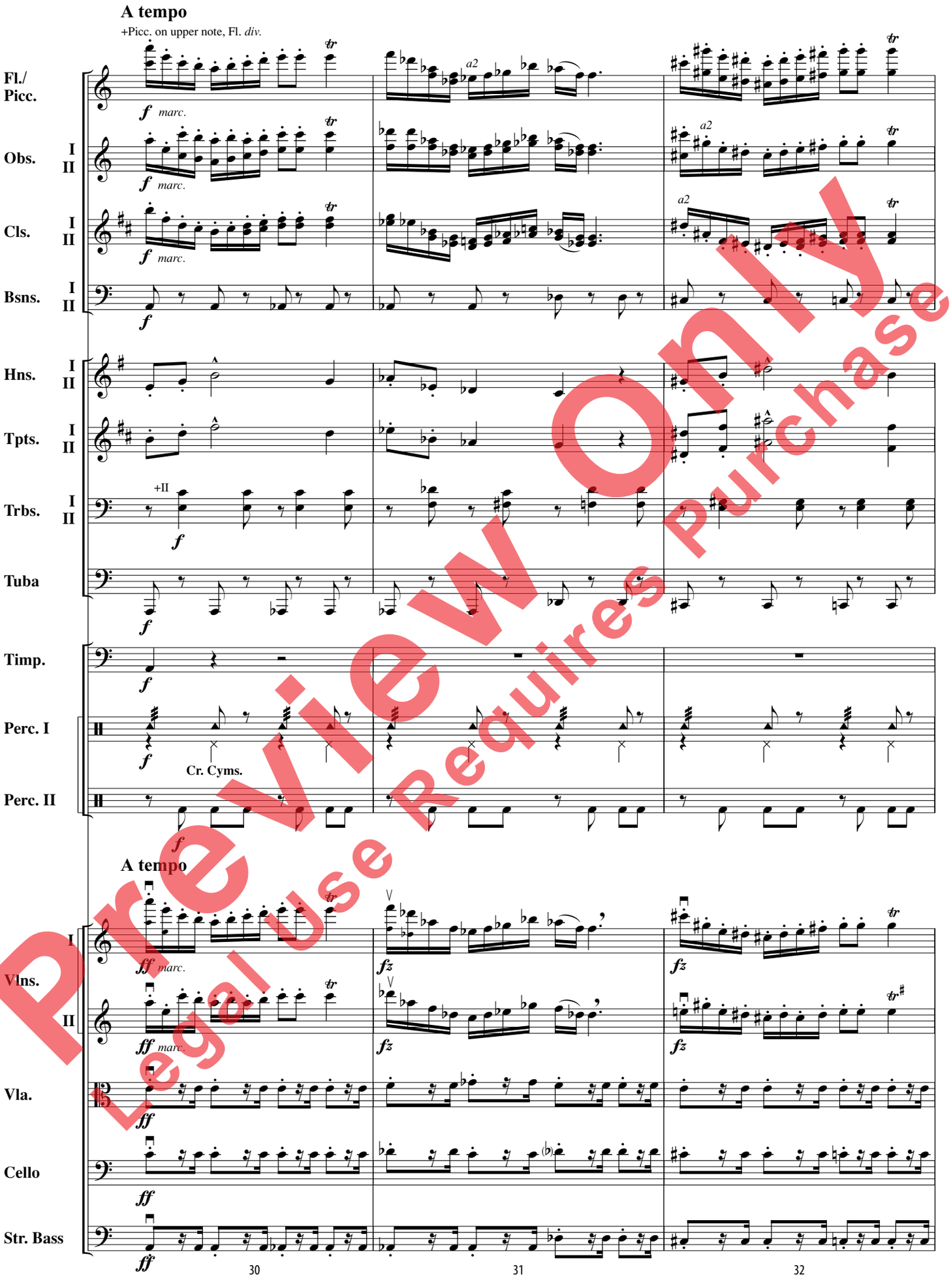

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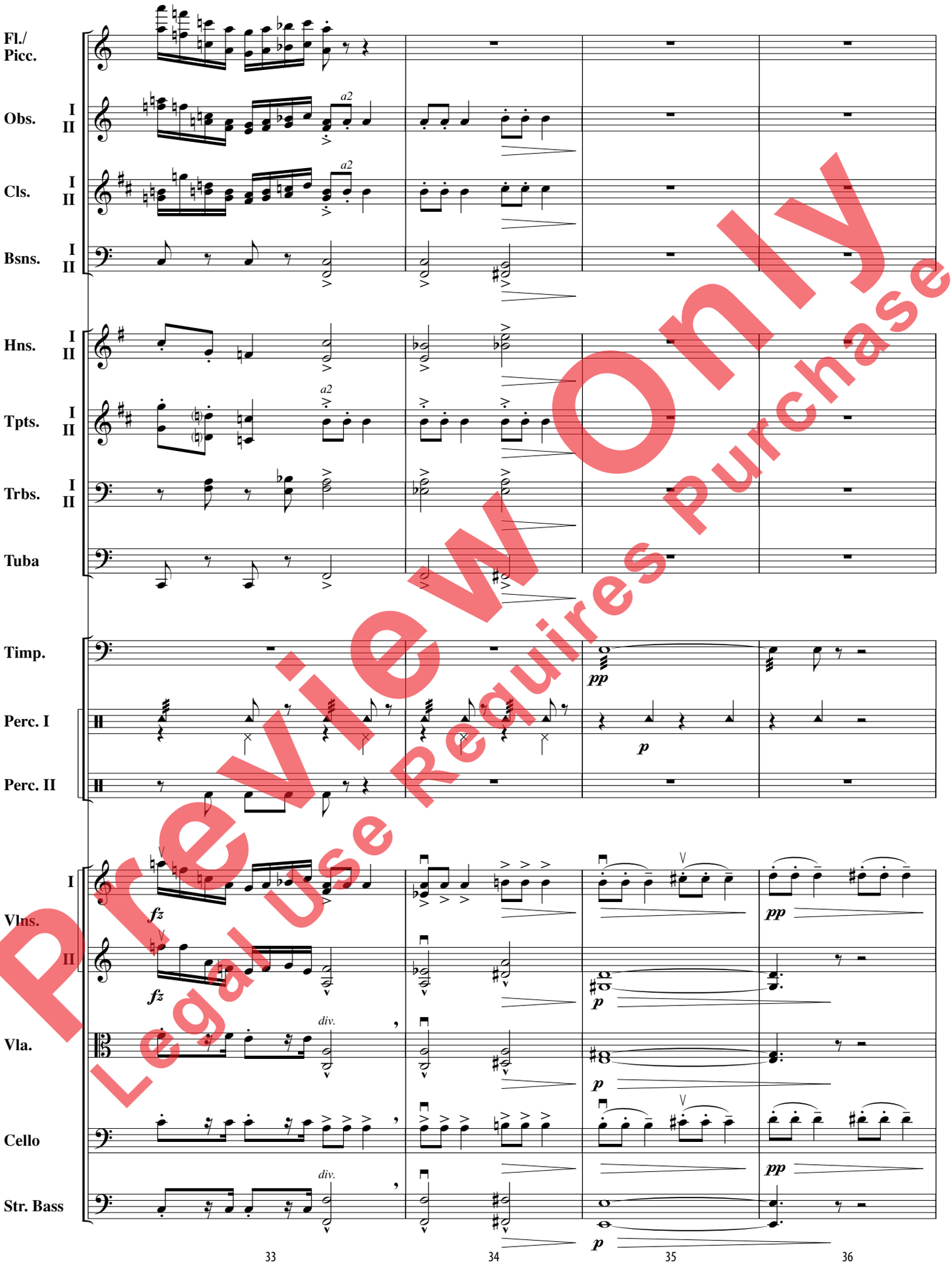

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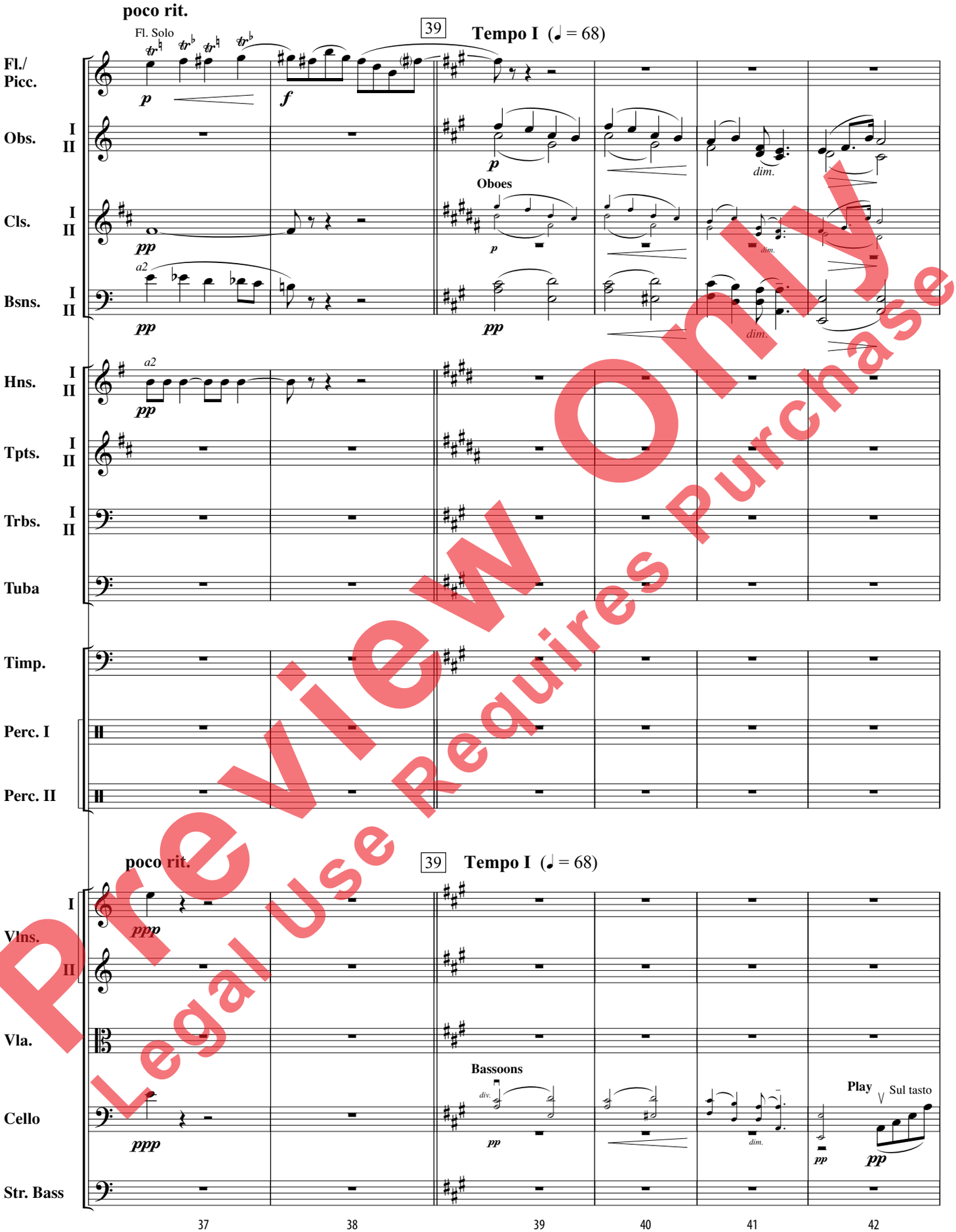

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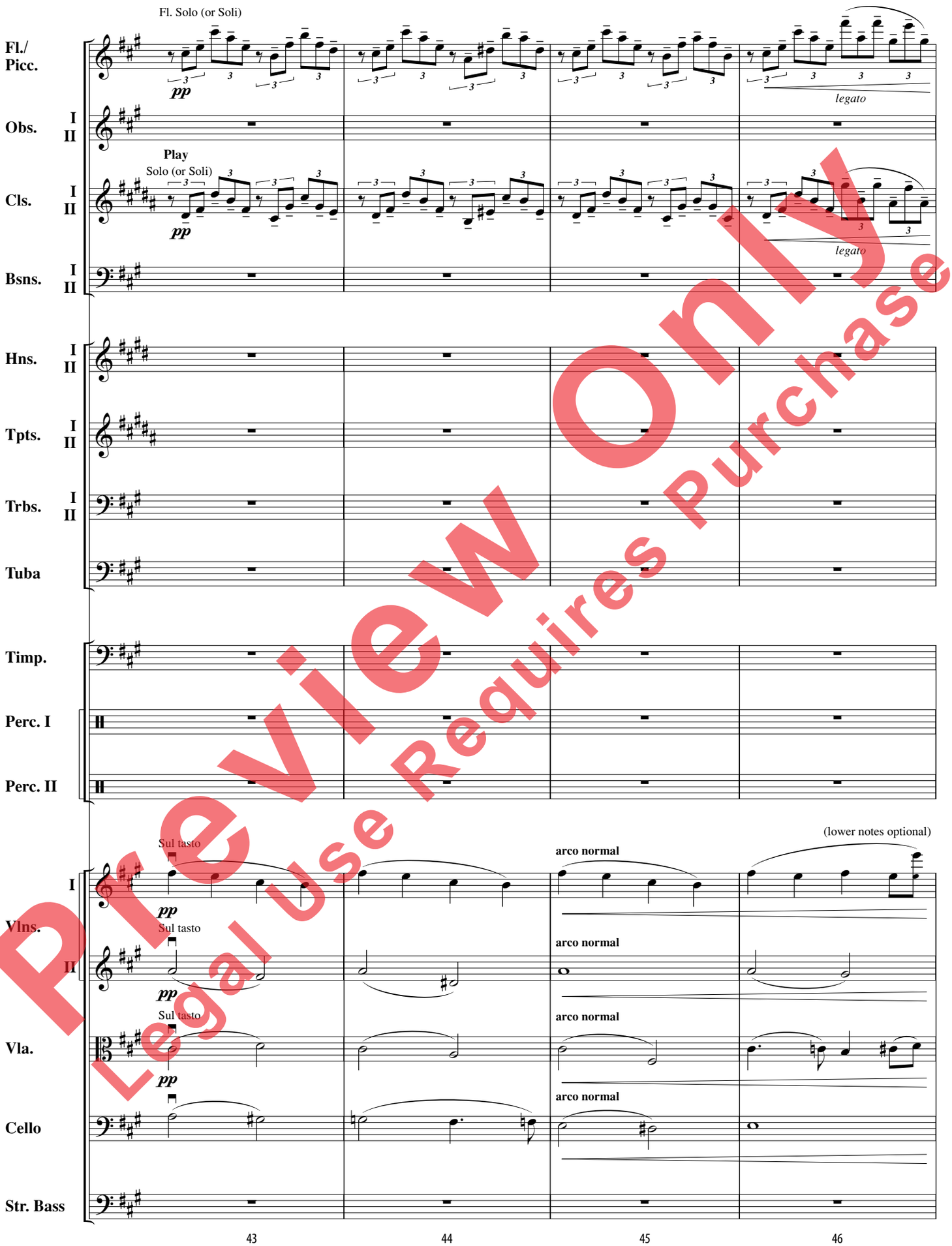

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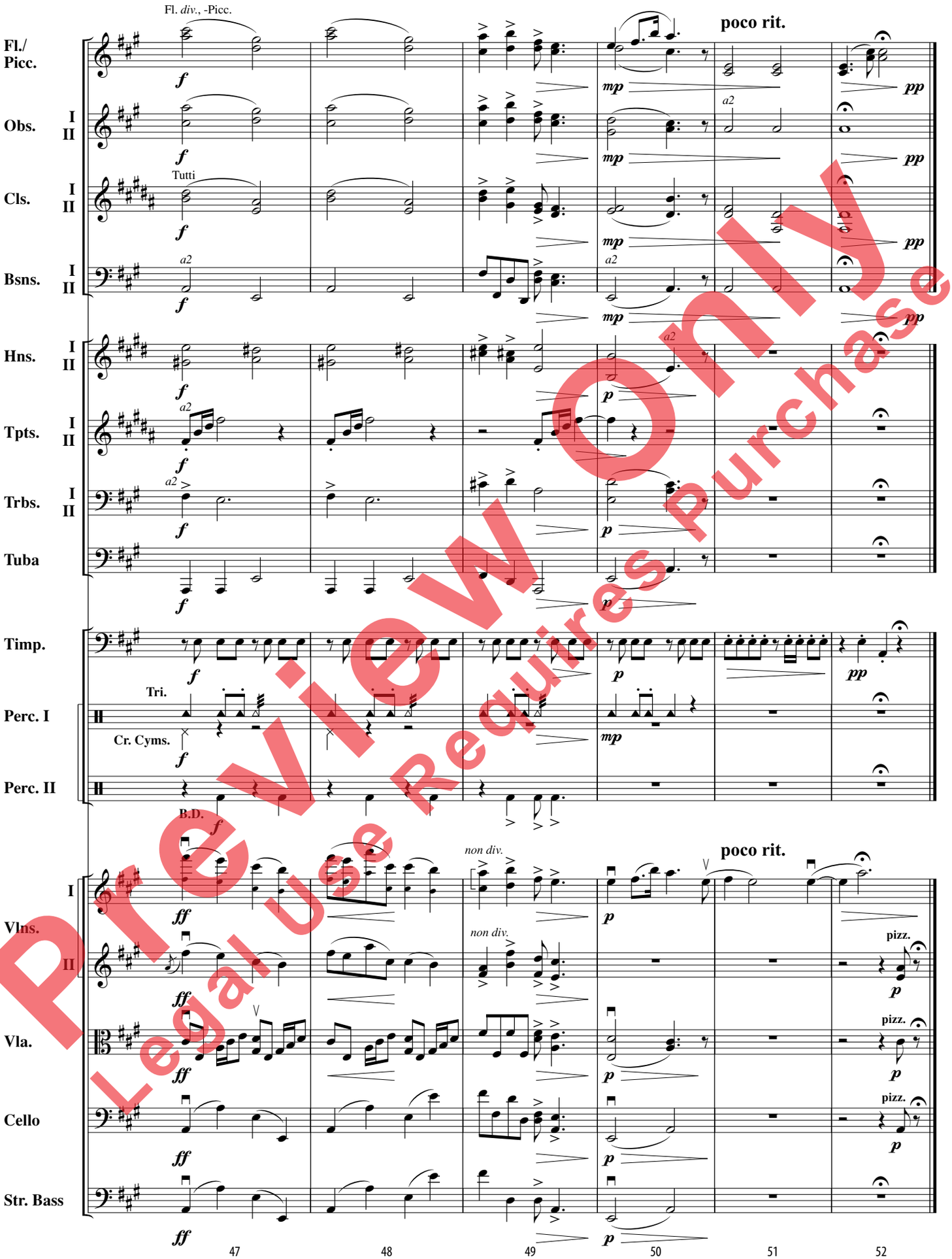

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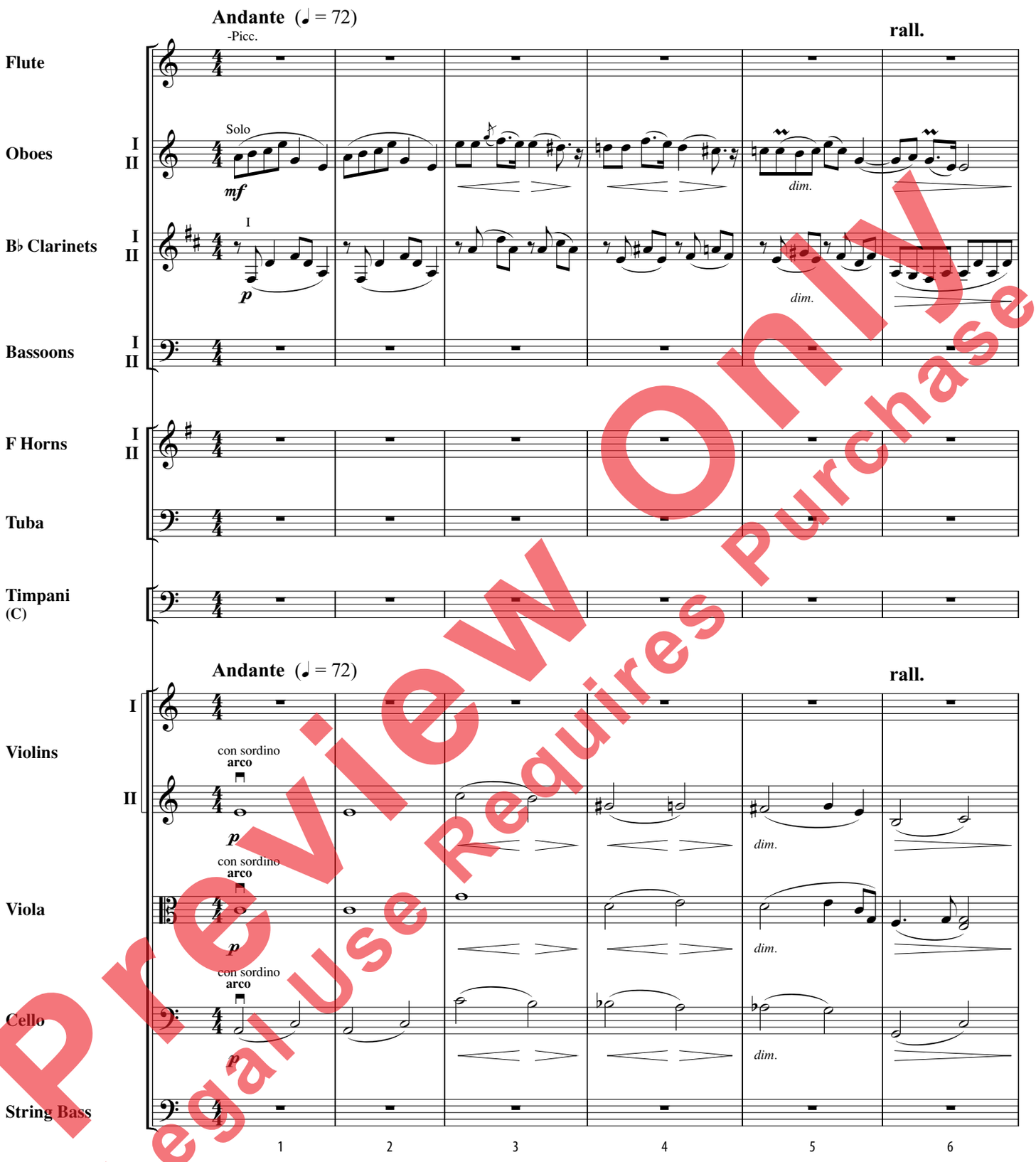

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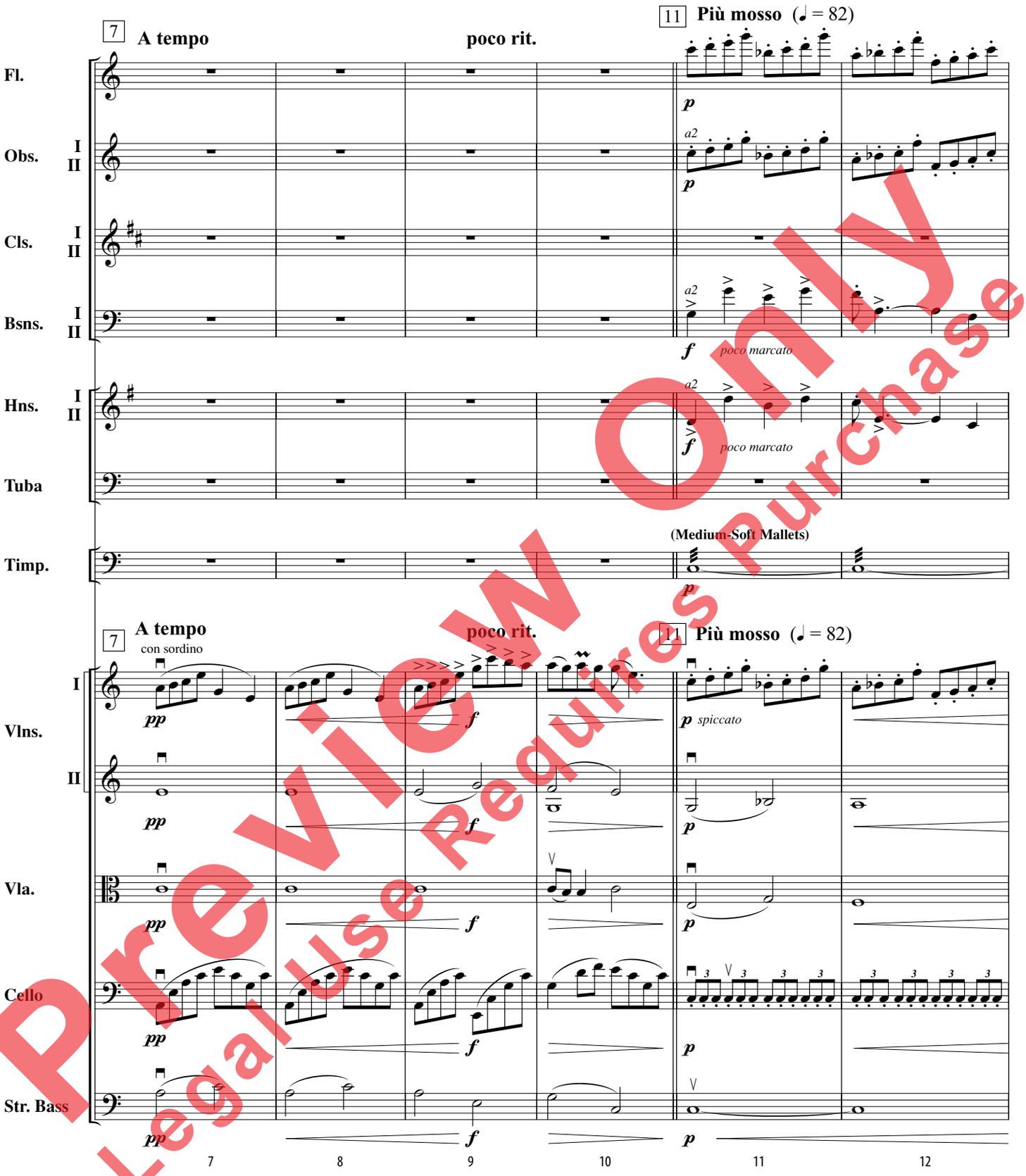

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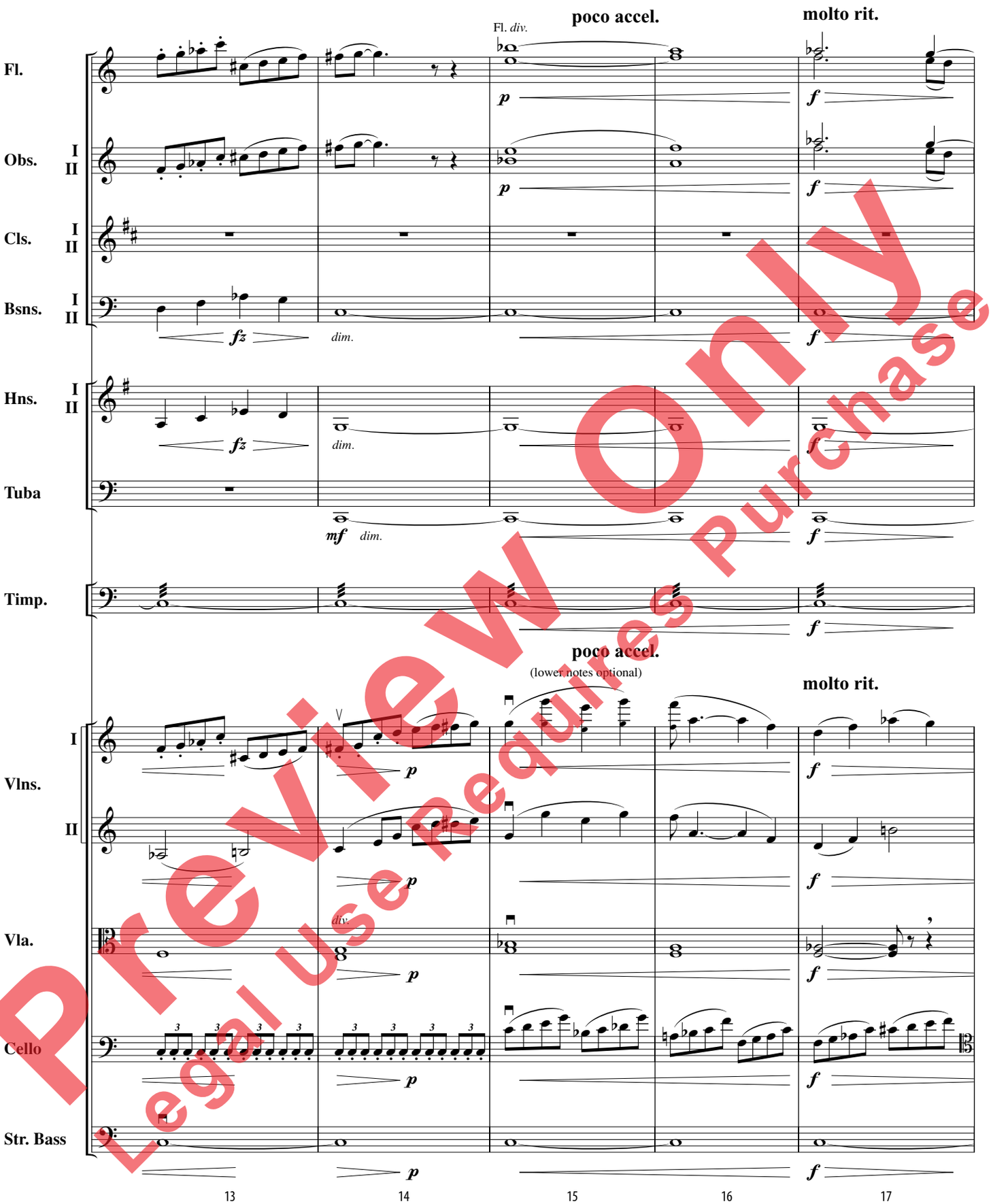

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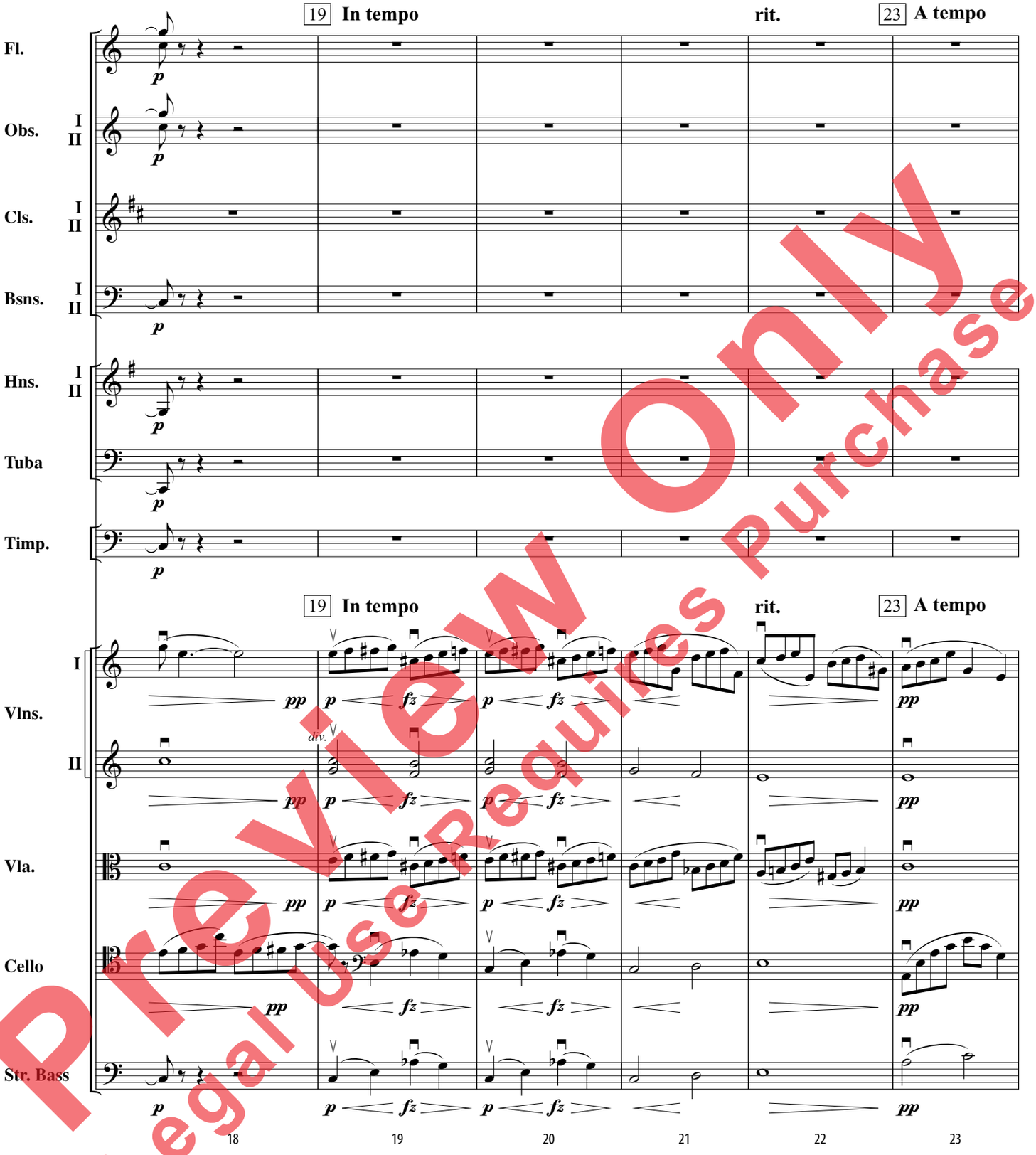

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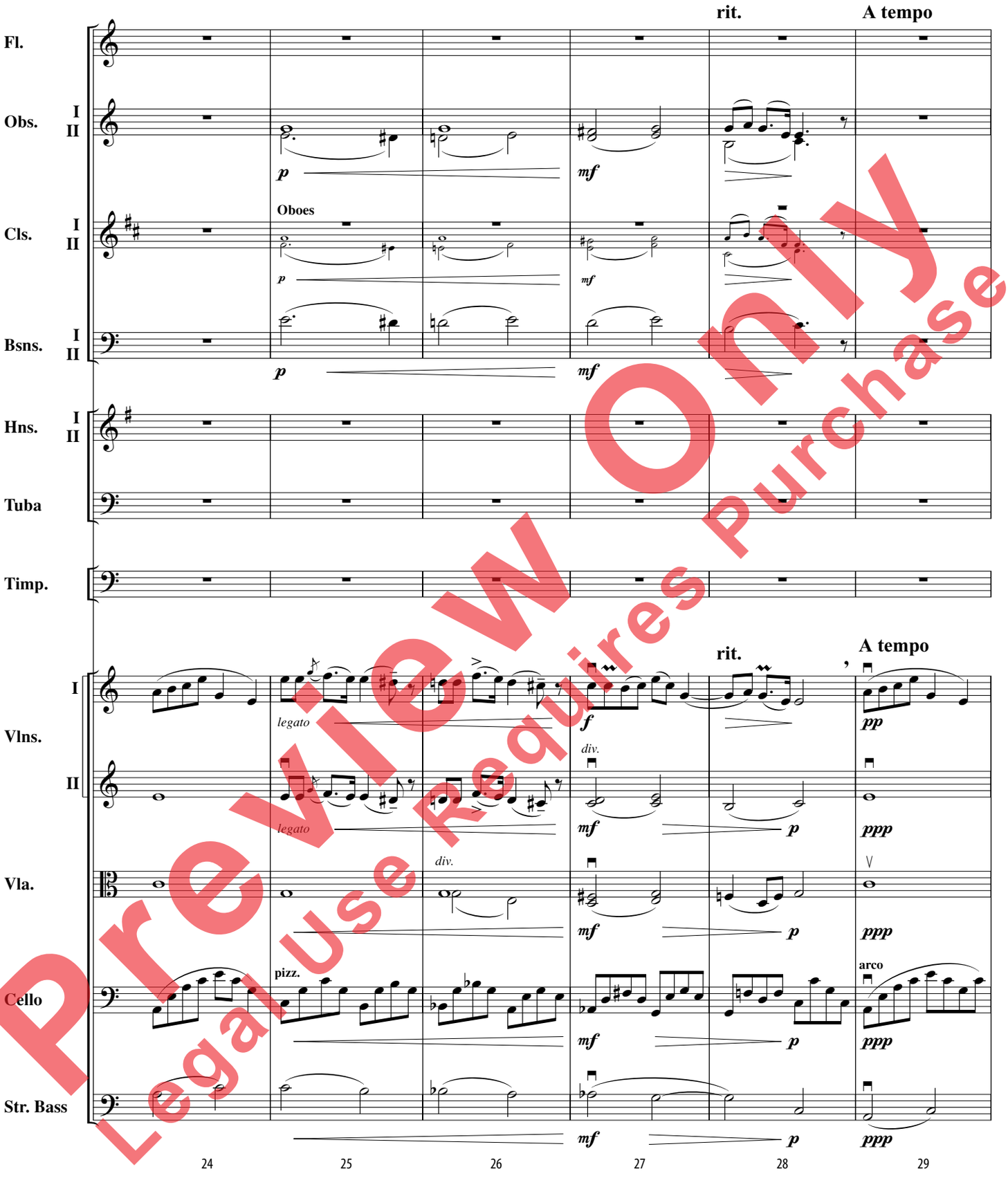

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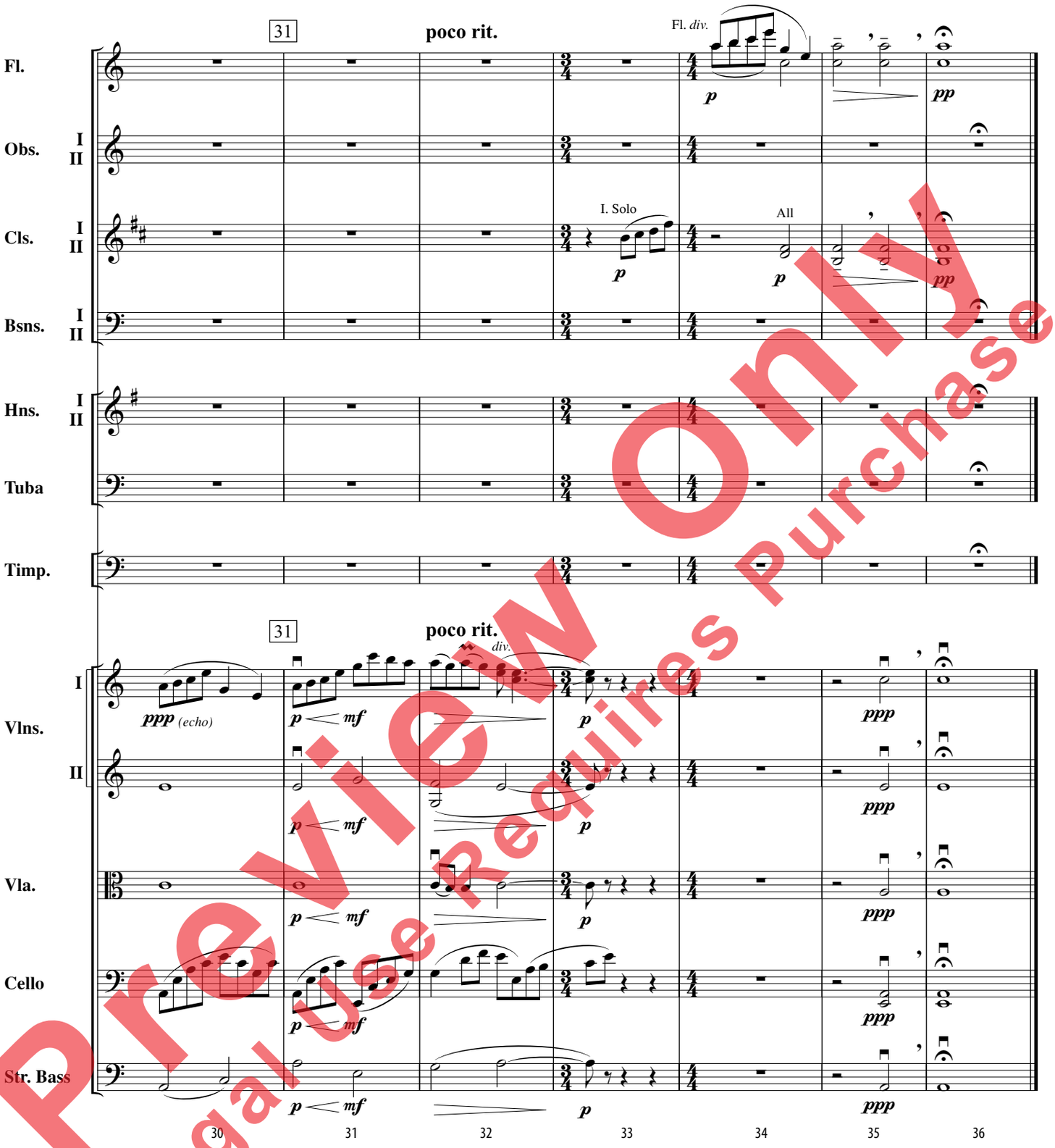

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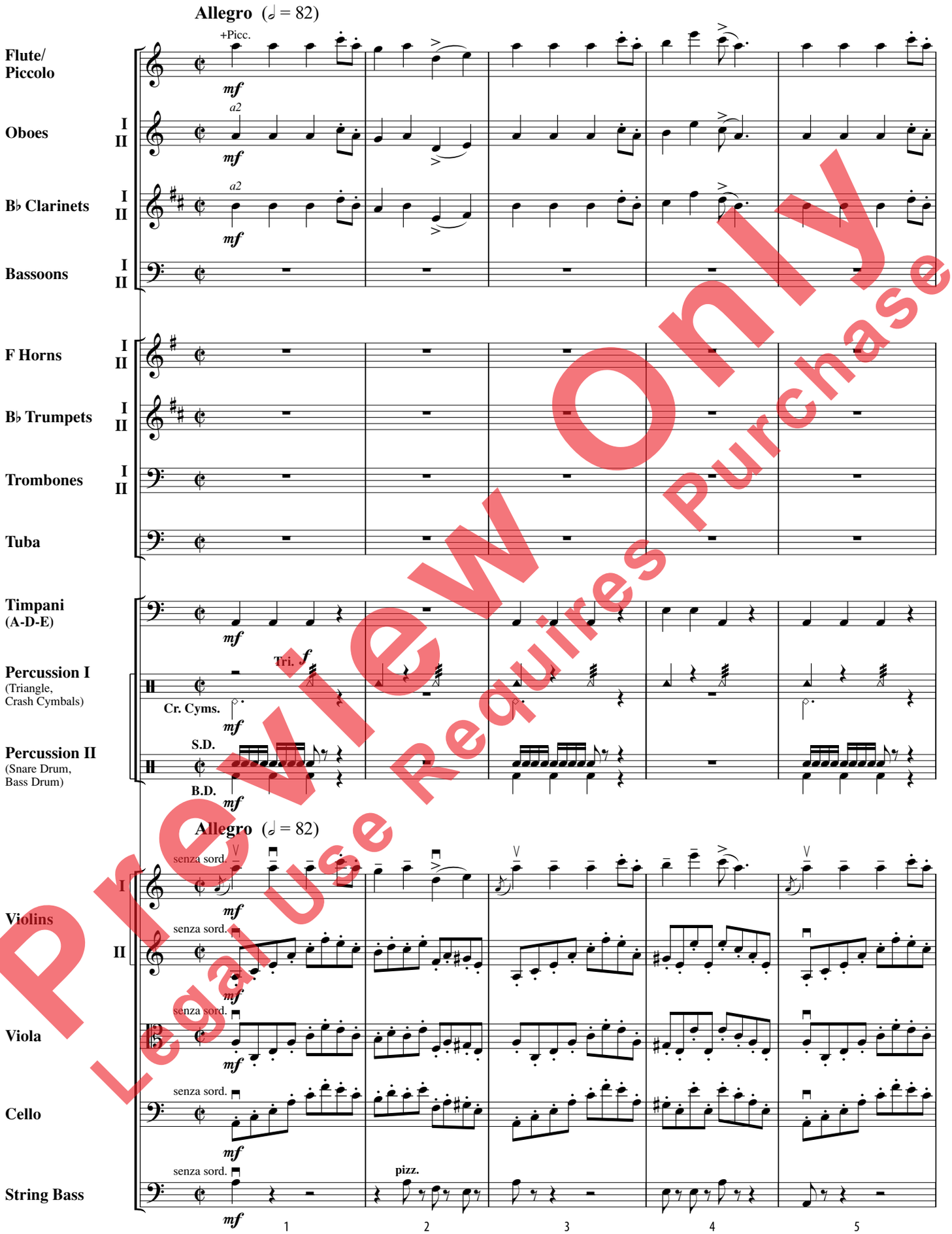

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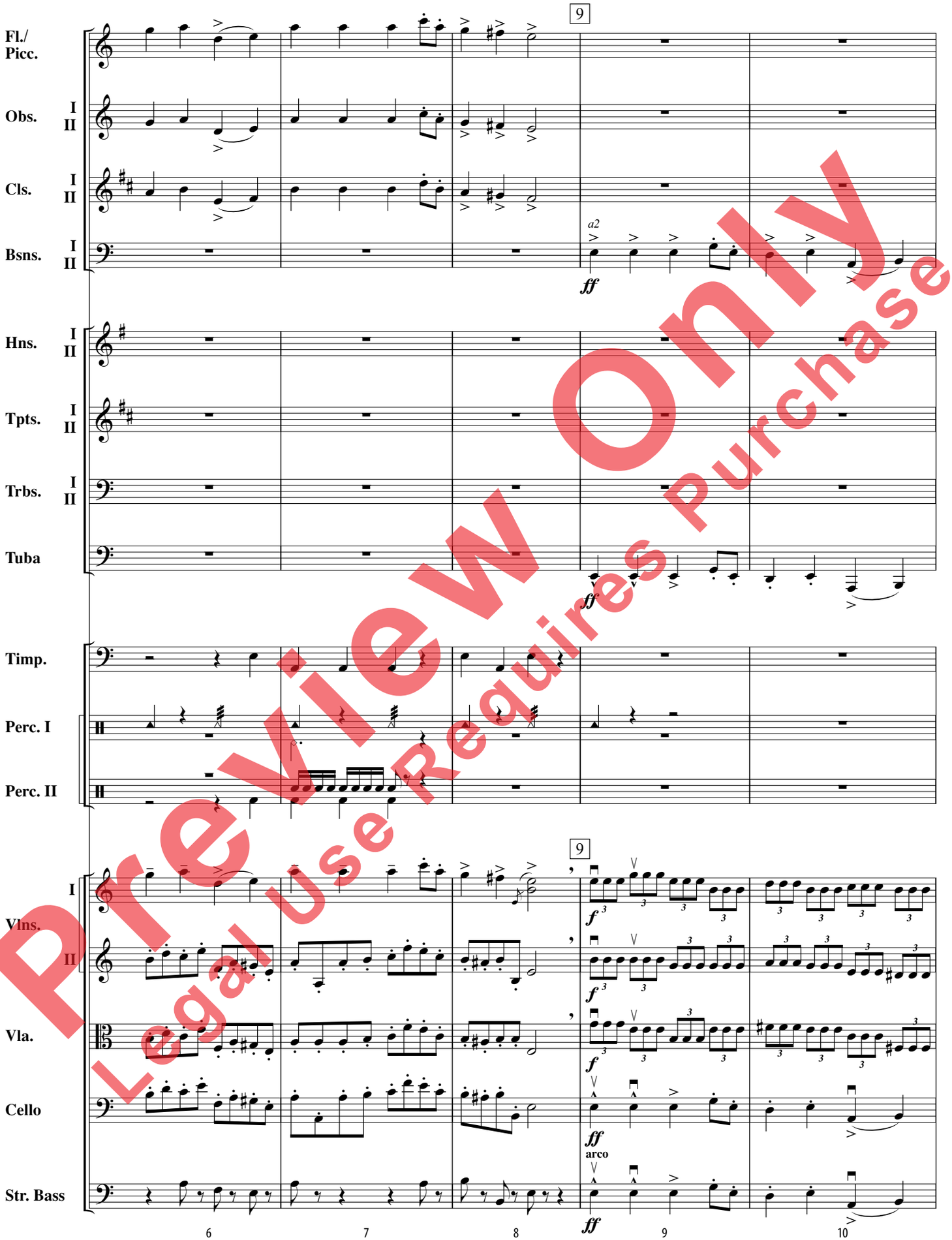

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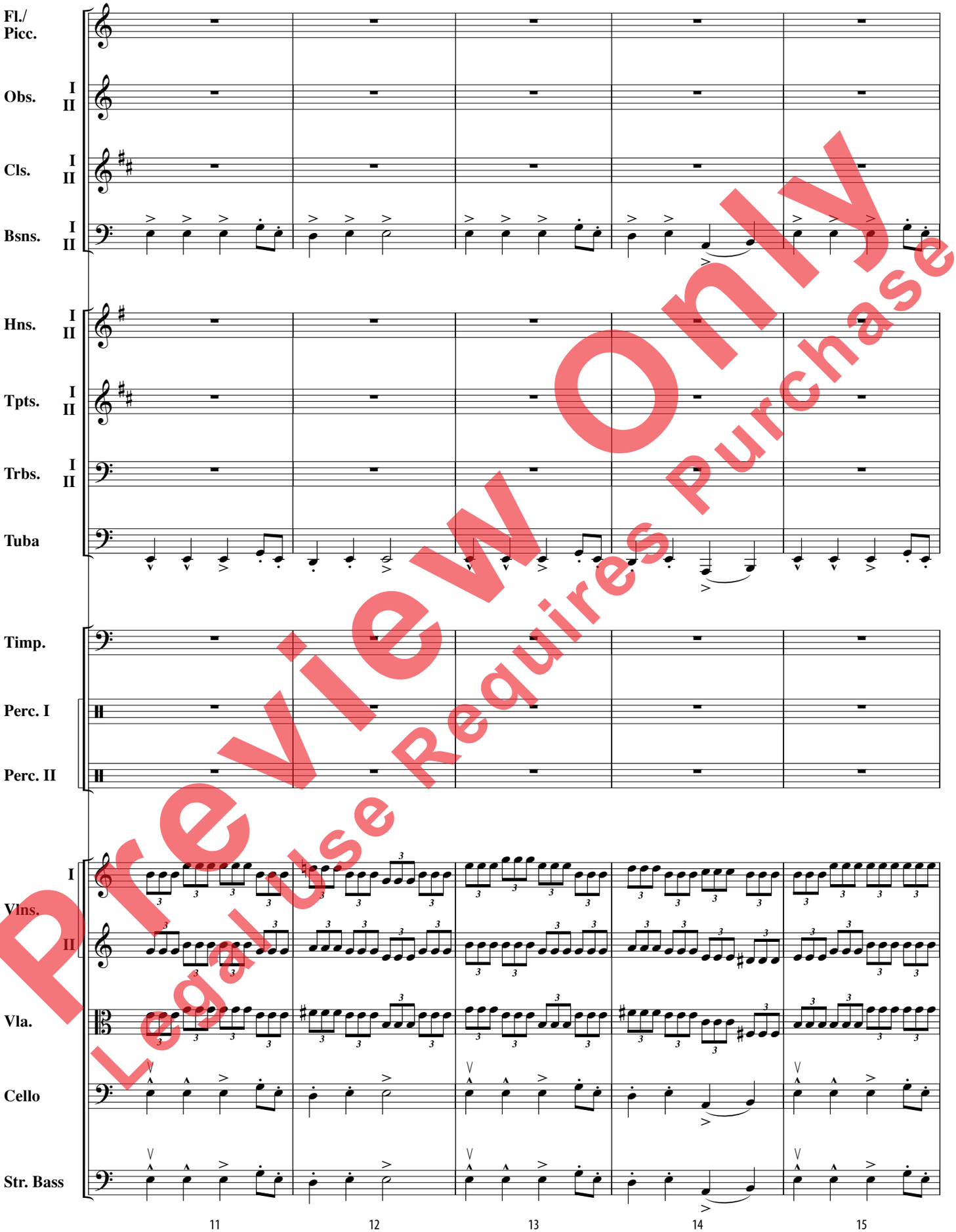

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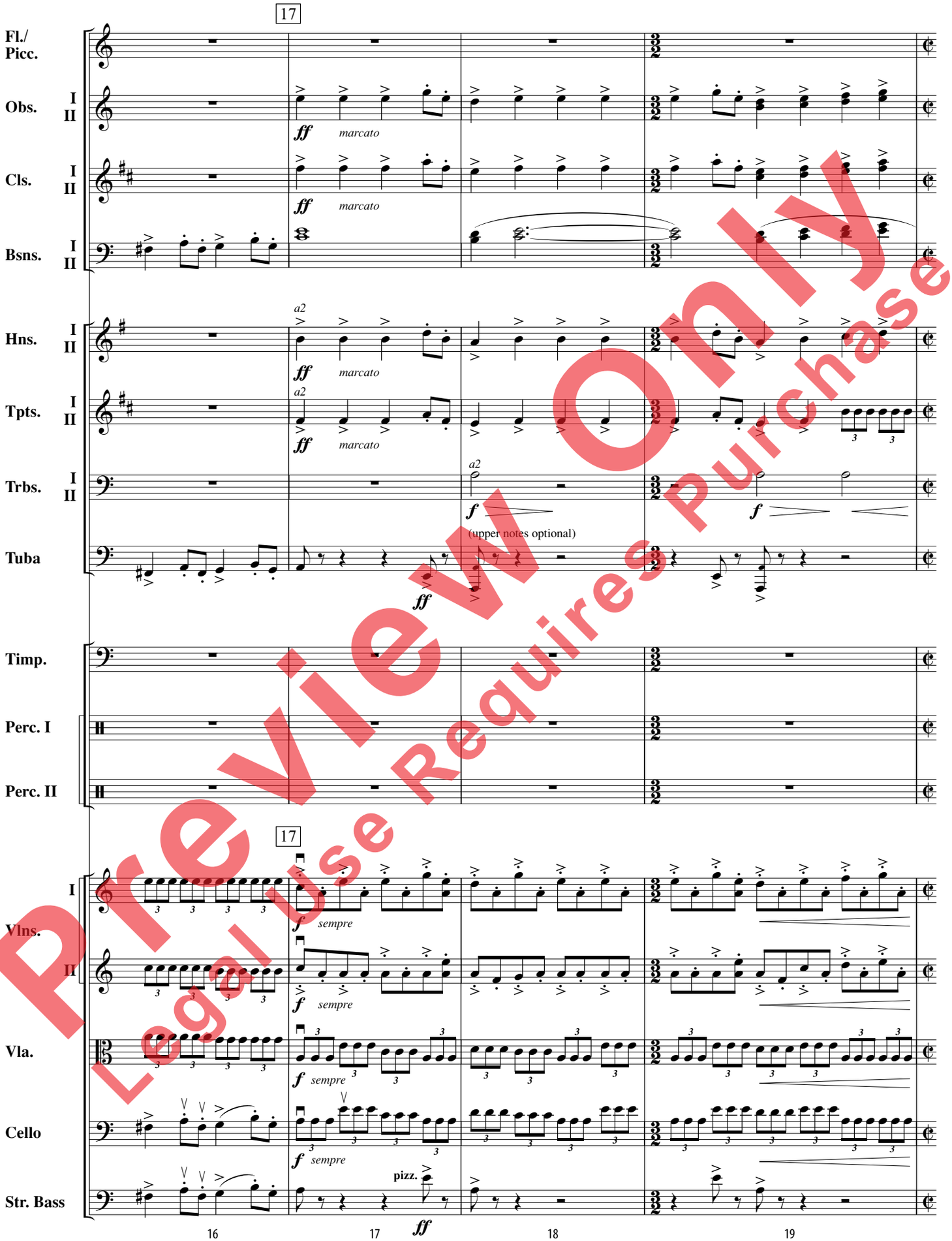

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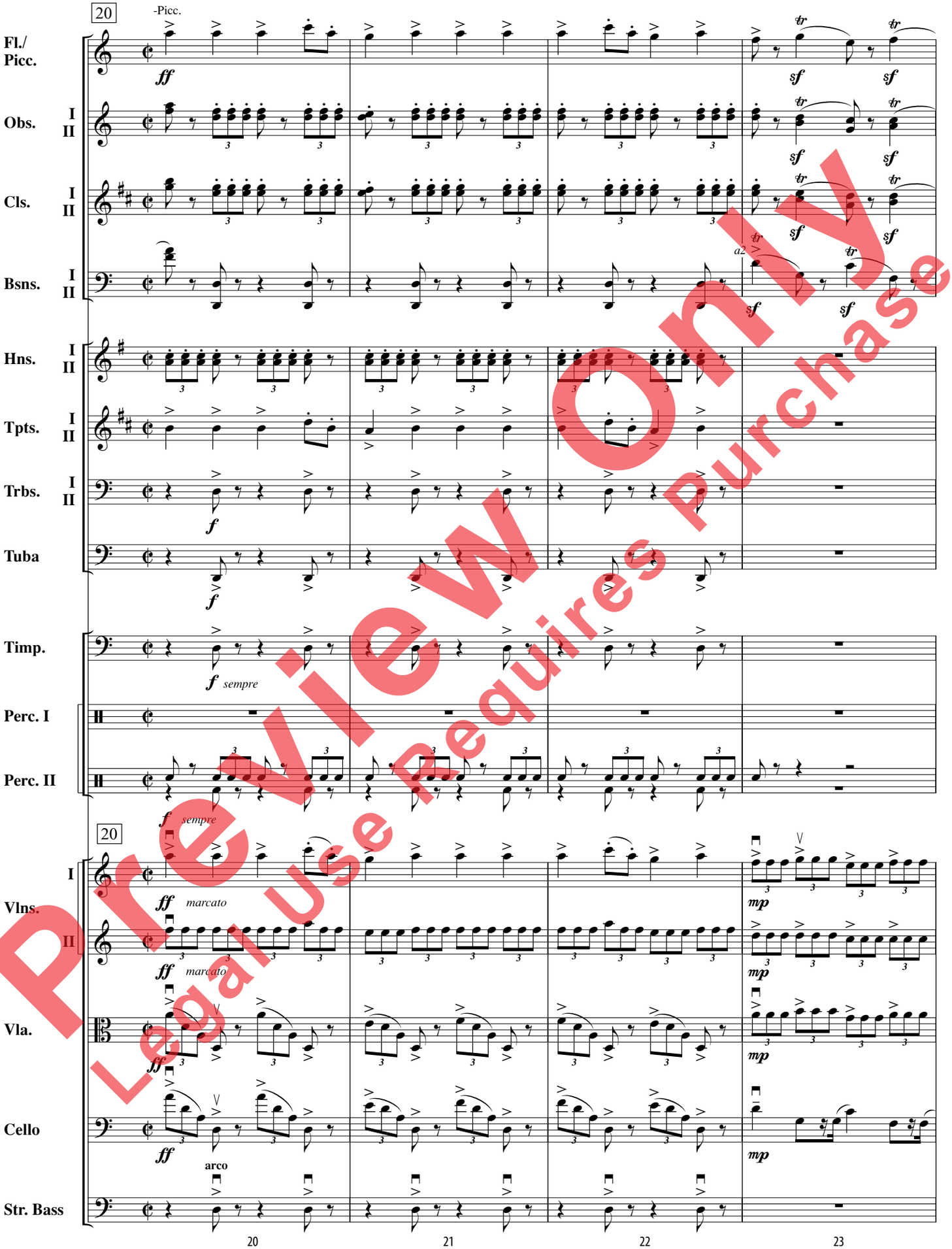

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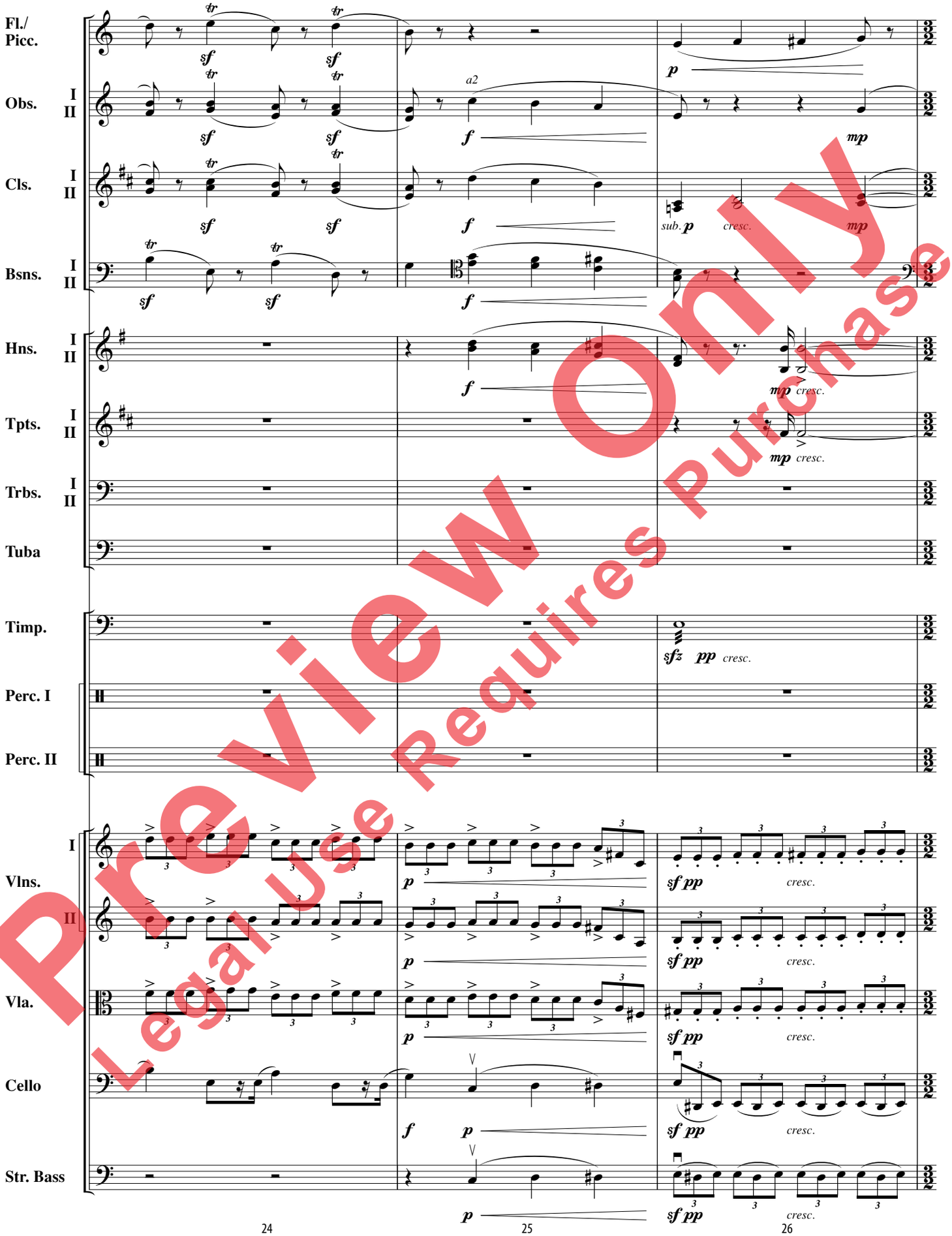

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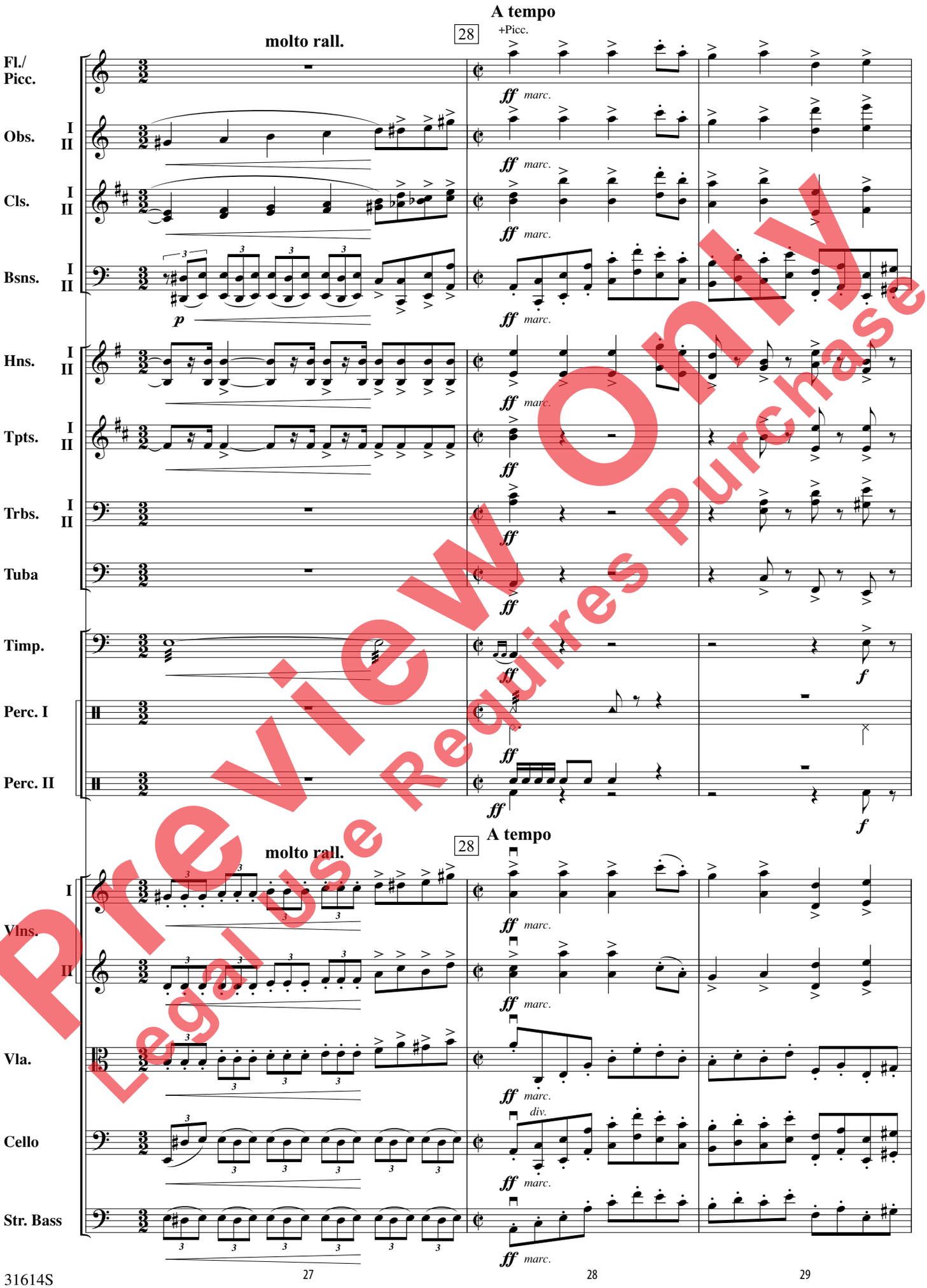

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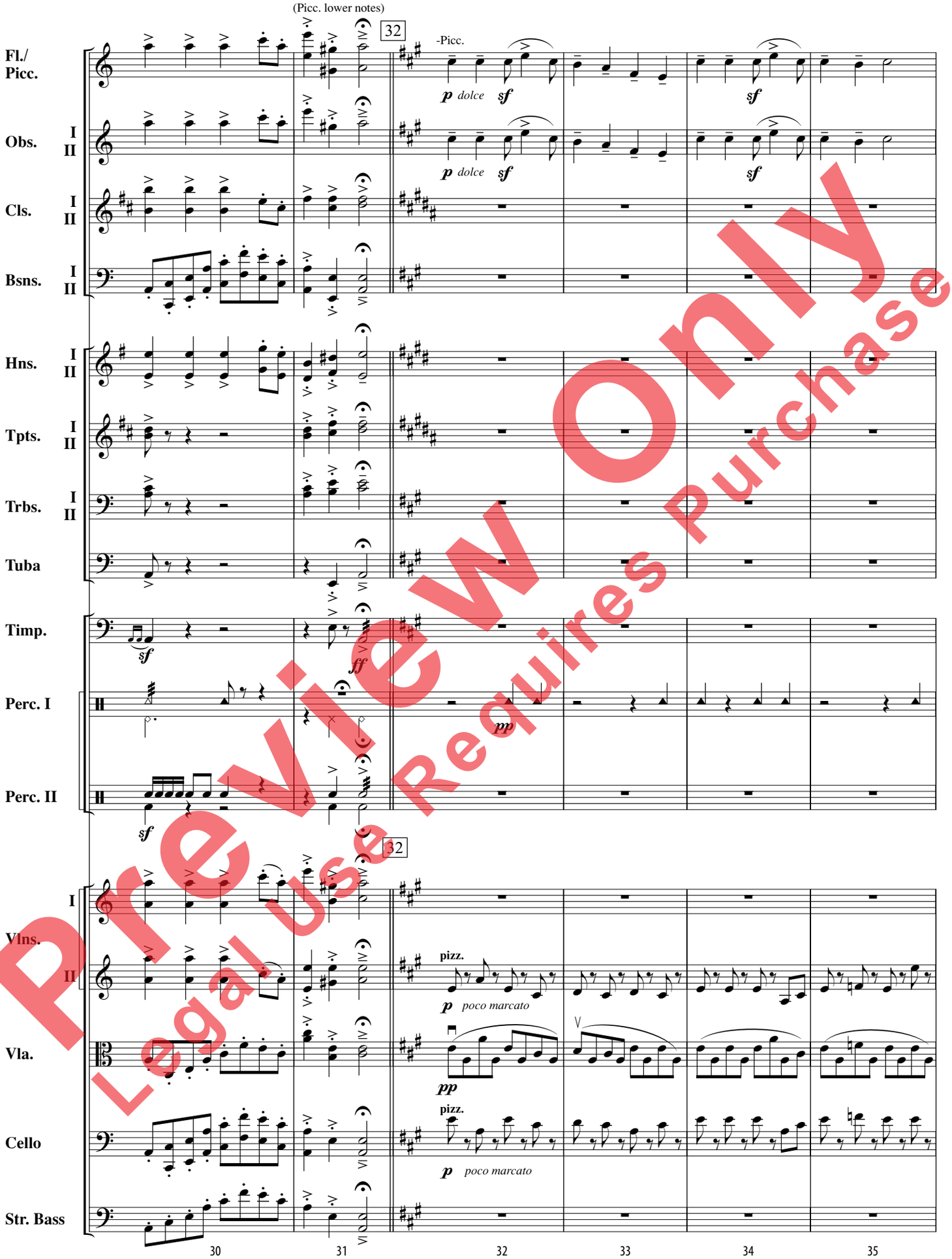

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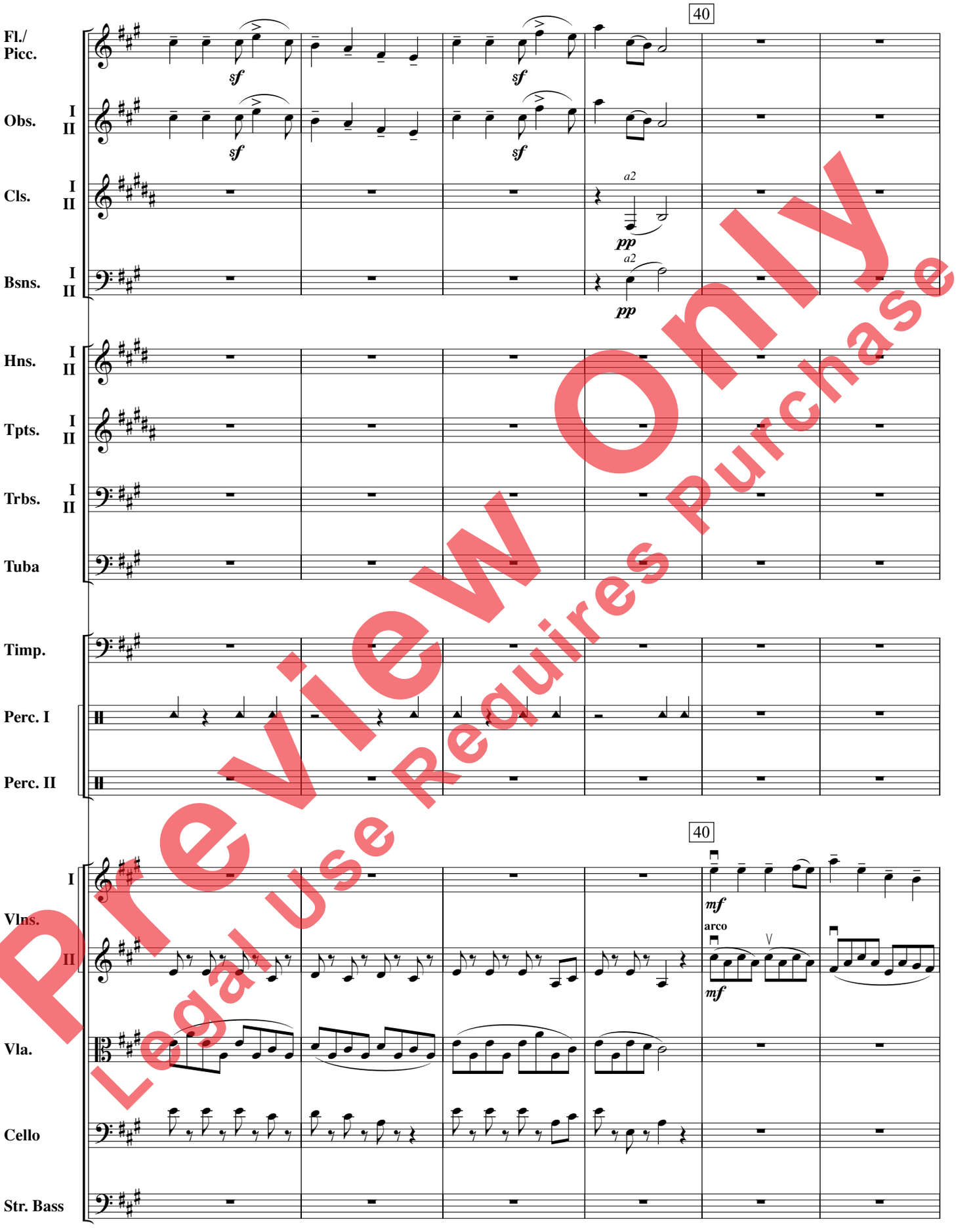

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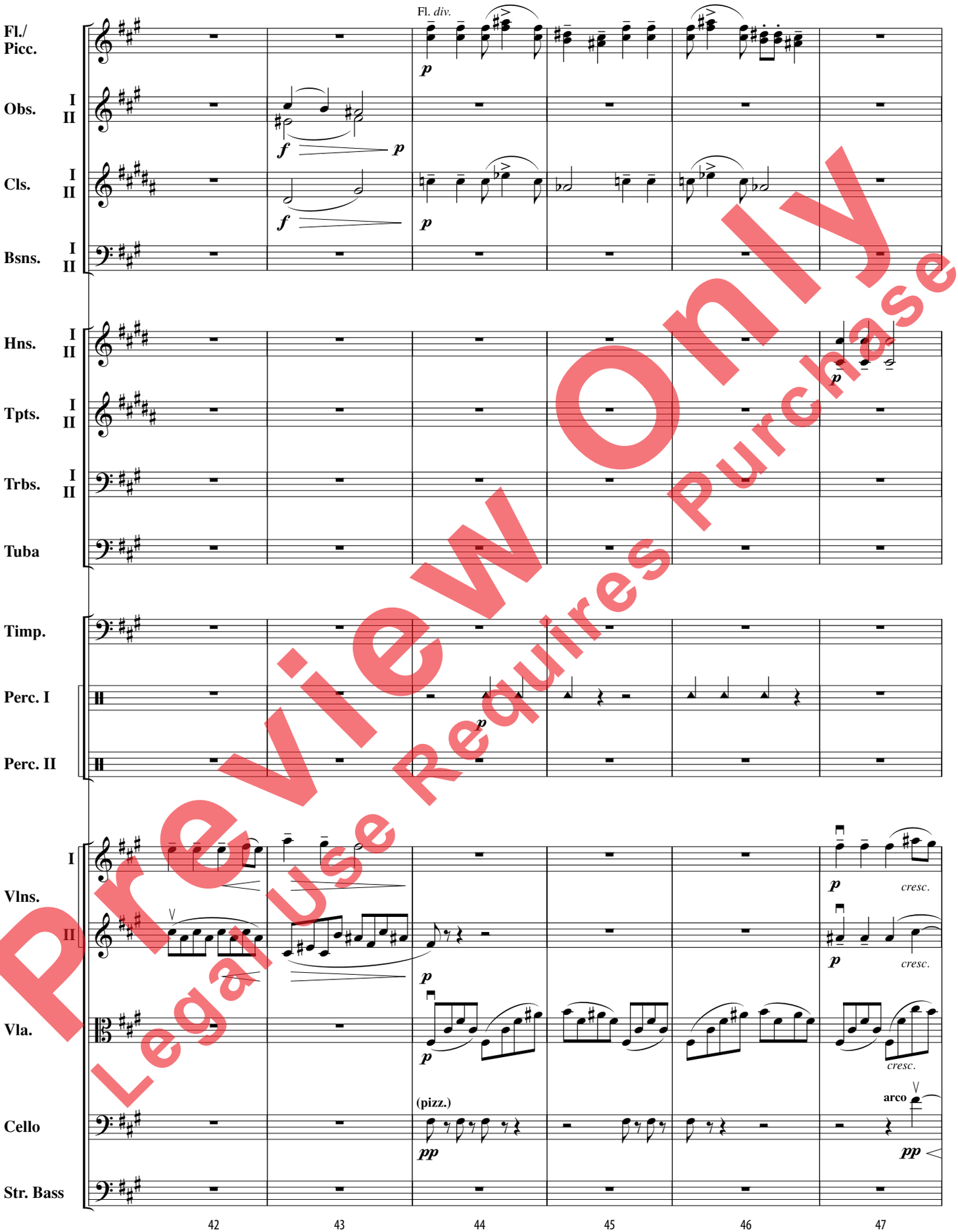

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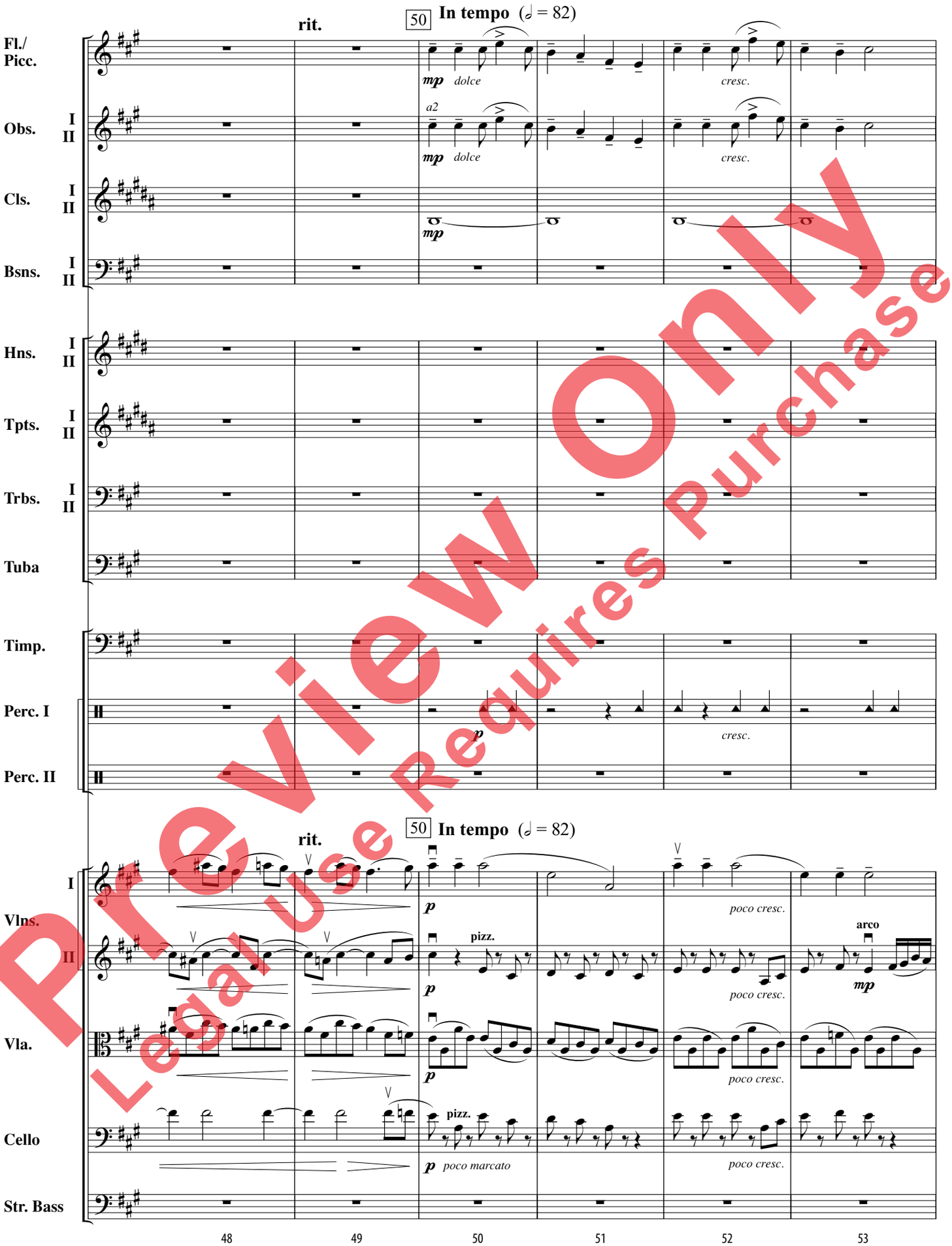

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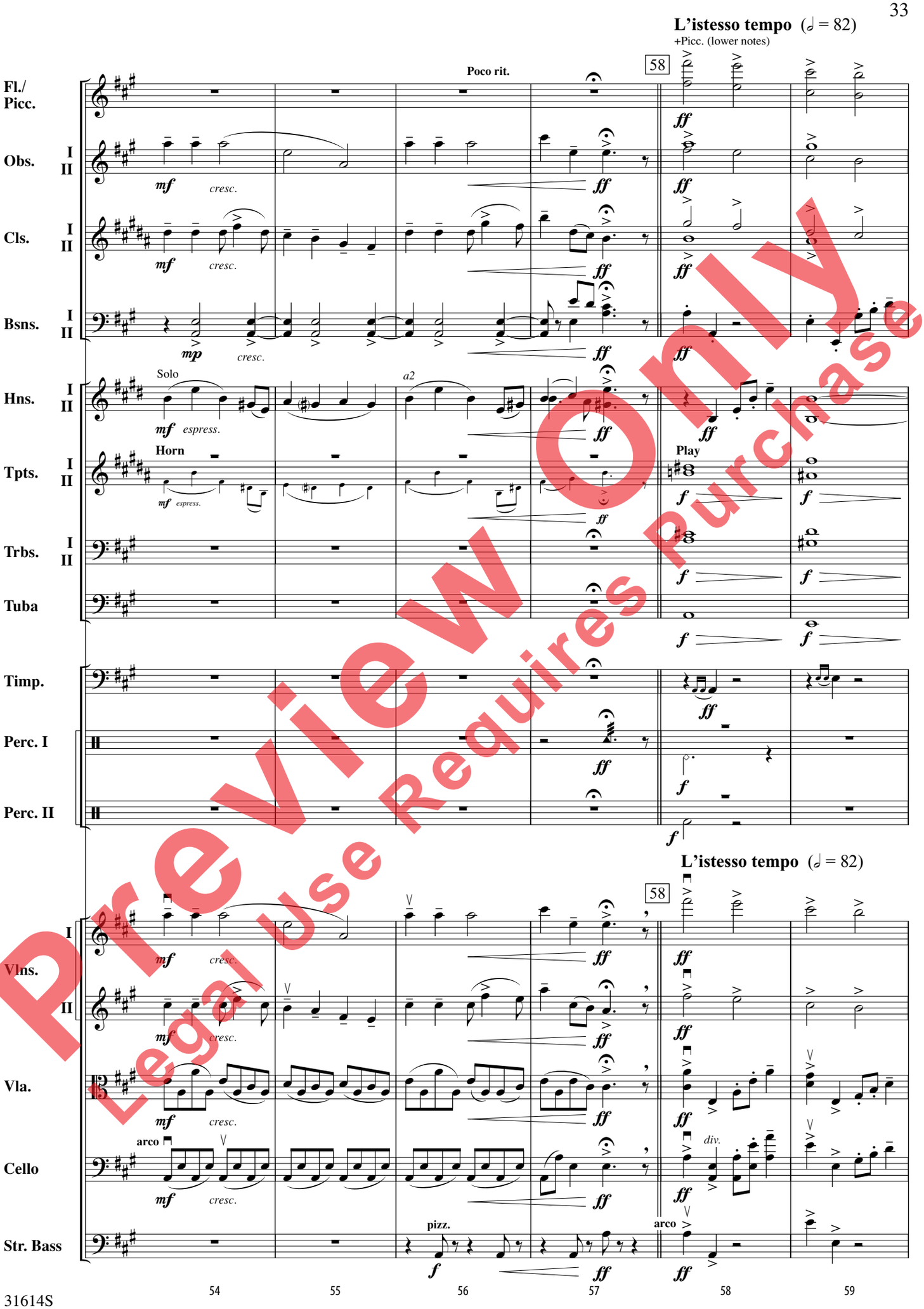

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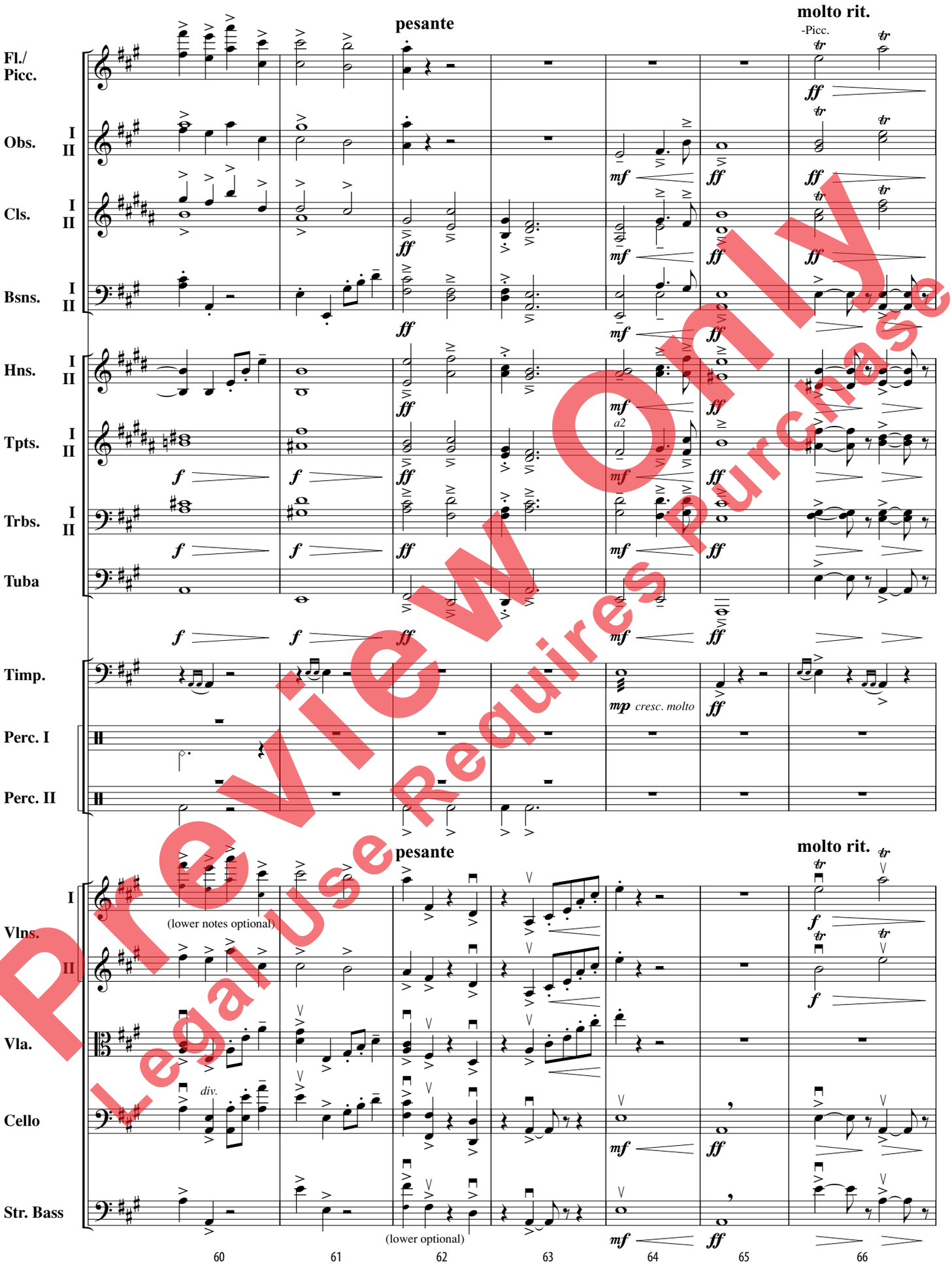

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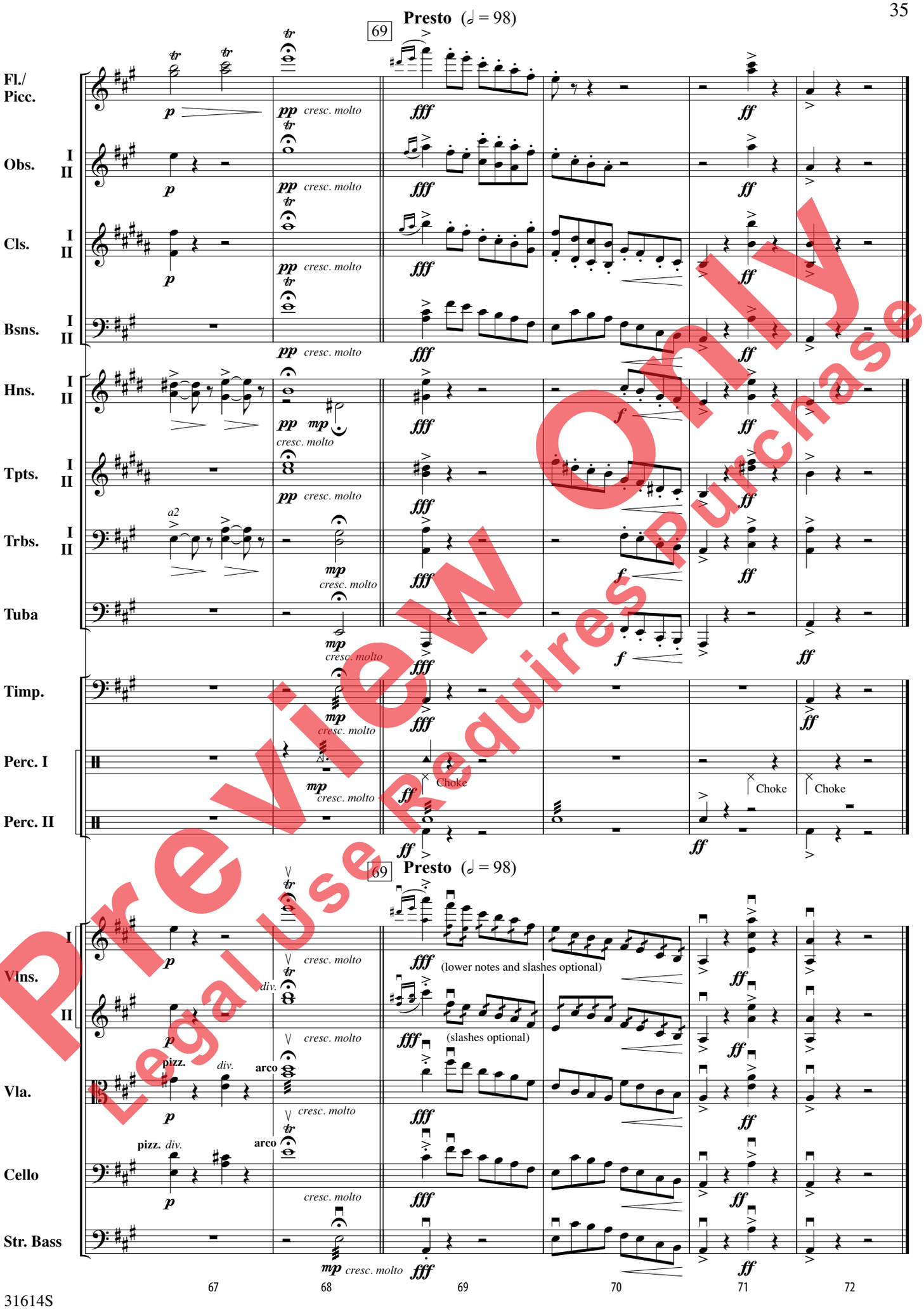

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