RWS Symphony Band Series

Grade: 5

Conductor Score: RWS-2428-01

Sound Paints The Sky

Peter Sciaino

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RWS Music Company

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INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Piccolo	1
Flute 1	5
Flute 2	5
Oboe	2
B♭ Clarinet 1	4
B♭ Clarinet 2	4
B♭ Clarinet 3	4
B♭ Bass Clarinet	2
Bassoon	2
E♭ Alto Saxophone 1	3
E♭ Alto Saxophone 2	3
B♭ Tenor Saxophone	2
E♭ Baritone Saxophone	1
B♭ Trumpet 1	3
B♭ Trumpet 2	3
B♭ Trumpet 3	3
F Horn 1-2	4
Trombone 1	2
Trombone 2	2
Trombone 3	2
Euphonium B.C.	2
Euphonium T.C.	2
Tuba	4
Mallet Percussion: Xylophone, Bells, Chimes	3
Timpani	1
Percussion 1: Snare Drum, Bass Drum	3
Percussion 2: Wind Chimes, Suspended Cymbal, Tom Tom (High and Low), Crash Cymbals, Woodblock	2

PROGRAM NOTE

Composer Peter Sciano shares the story behind this work:

"The Hanover Wind Symphony has been a staple in the band community of northern New Jersey for many years, having been "born out of the spirit of the community" in 1985. While writing a piece to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the Hanover Wind Symphony, I returned to a specific pair of images (from a children's book I had read to my own children) that ultimately inspired the score. Both of these images are ever-present in the Native American story, which was later told and illustrated by Tommie dePaola titled, "The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush." In this tale, a young artist desires to paint an awe-inspiring sunset but lacks the colors to do so. One day, out of the grey clouds, a vision of his tribal ancestors tells him to use his given talents to serve his people, and he will accomplish great things and ultimately find the colors he desires.

After being commissioned, I visited the HWS website and was struck by an "In Memoriam" section that lists former members who recently passed away. This reminded me that we, as a culture, put a lot of weight on anniversaries of 25 or 50 years. Yet, 35 years can be a generational crossroads for an organization, family, business, etc. It's a point when long-time veterans may become scarce, and a group needs to rely on newer members to keep things moving forward. The opening trumpet solo and lyrical texture represent this legacy and are a tribute to members' past. As the piece moves forward, gaining momentum along the way, the soundscapes are intended to show a legacy of energy and spirit that is charged to the next generation, much like the elders of the tribe who encourage the young artist in the story above.

Additionally, there is a beautiful convergence of humanity ever present in the community band and in so many community bands around the country that I wanted to capture. Yes, this group is intergenerational and draws musicians from various backgrounds and professions, but beyond that, its members lead full and often complicated lives full of joy and sorrow, the exciting and the mundane. The members can check chaos at the door and focus on a single passion as a team at each and every meeting. It is quite powerful because there are few "community" experiences like a community band. Members remain true to their gifts and use them to create art that serves the people of their community. It's this image that ultimately informs the title. While we all share the sky, we often lack the metaphoric "colors" to paint it. Sometimes, the sky is grey from our perspective, but it's hard to imagine a colorless horizon when you share it with other passionate and creative people."

NOTES TO CONDUCTOR

The initial up-tempo section, complete with divergent, short, and scattered (however melodic) motives, is meant to feel fragmented like lost souls. These segments eventually evolve into more bold and unified themes, the first of which occurs in the brass section at measure 57. Make sure your musicians interpret this moment as an arrival point and allow the previous material to build to this moment. As the piece evolves further, the scattered themes return and are layered in ways that make for textures that are very cohesive despite their contrasting pace and beat division. Rehearse the like rhythms so the players identify who to "lock in" with and then layer these motives one at a time to create a confident weaving of sound.

Thank you for choosing to perform ***Sound Paints The Sky***. Please visit my composer page at rwsmusic.com to connect.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Peter Sciaino (b.1975) is a passionate music educator, author and composer of band and orchestra music for all levels. The creator of the United System for Winds and Percussion, he is primarily published with Excelcia Music Publishing, RWS Music Company and Wingert-Jones Publications and has also been published with Alfred Music, C.L. Barnhouse Company, C. Alan Publications, Carl Fischer Music and Hafabra Music. Additionally, Peter has had music selected to Bandworld Magazine's Top 100, J.W. Pepper's Editors' Choice and various state assessment lists.

Peter holds a BM from Syracuse University in Music Education and an MA from New York University in Music Composition. An instrumental music teacher at Whippany Park High School (NJ) for over 25 years, he directs both the concert band and jazz ensemble while co-directing the marching band and teaching AP Music Theory.

Peter writes and arranges music for marching bands, jazz ensembles, and chamber ensembles in addition to his work with symphonic groups. He also serves as a clinician and guest conductor and accepts commissions for original work.

His professional affiliations include ASCAP, NAfME, and NJMEA. Peter resides in New Jersey with his wife and two children. In his spare time, Peter listens to and collects jazz on vinyl while obsessing over small-batch, independent coffee roasters.

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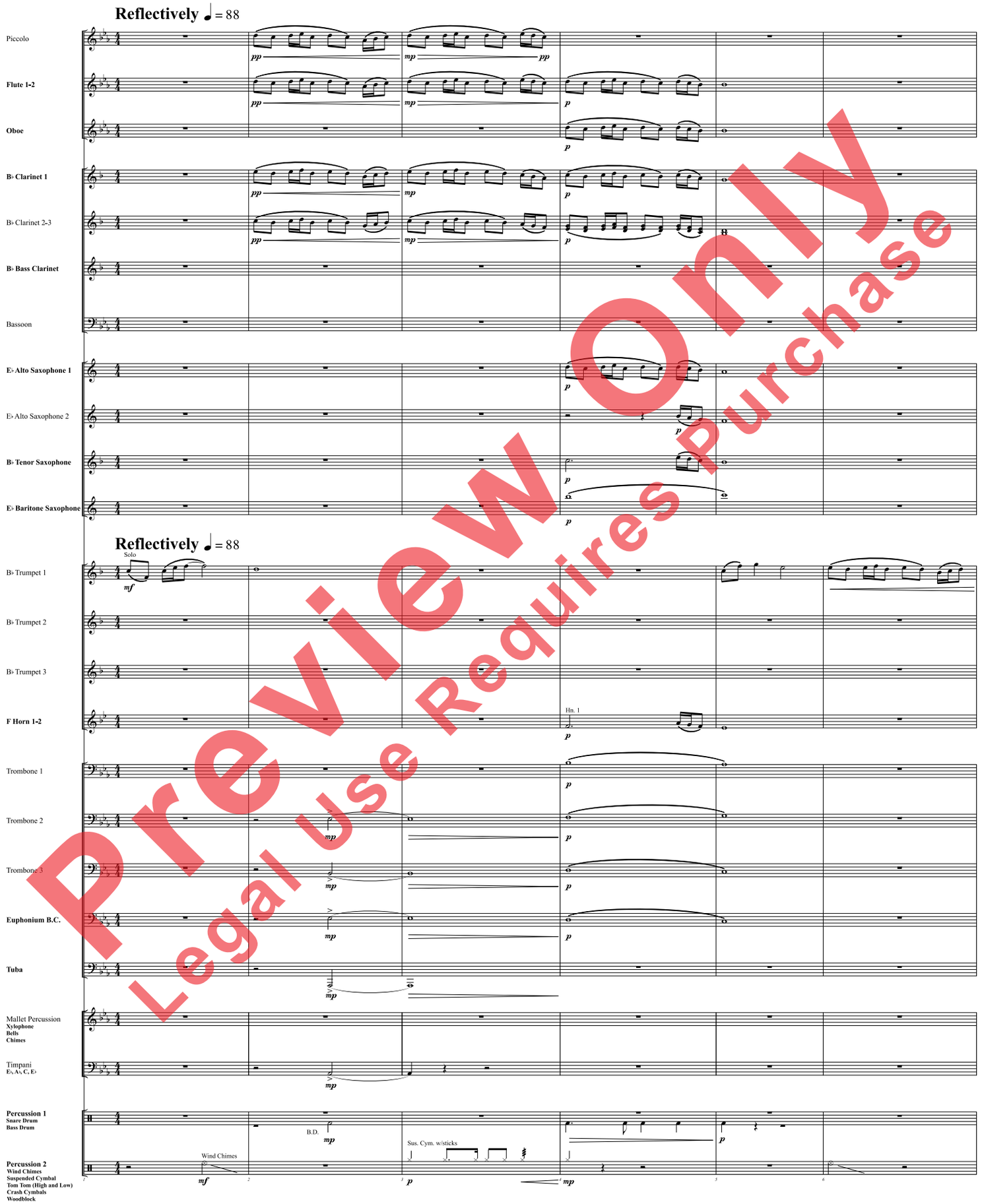
Commisioned by and dedicated to the Hanover Wind Symphony
in commemoration of their 35th anniversary
Matthew Paterno, Music Director

SOUND PAINTS THE SKY

Conductor Score
RWS-2428-00

Peter Sciaino (ASCAP)



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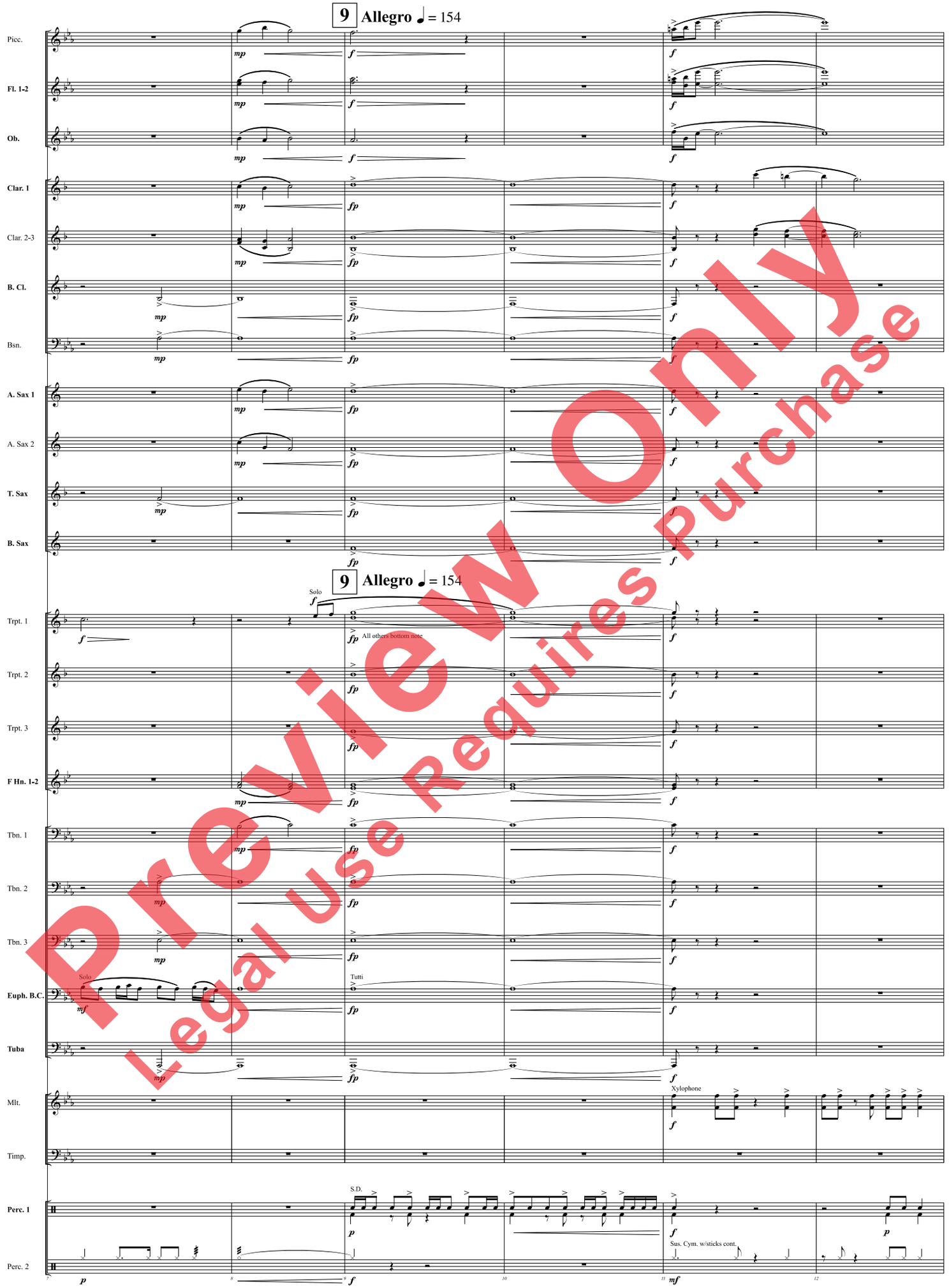

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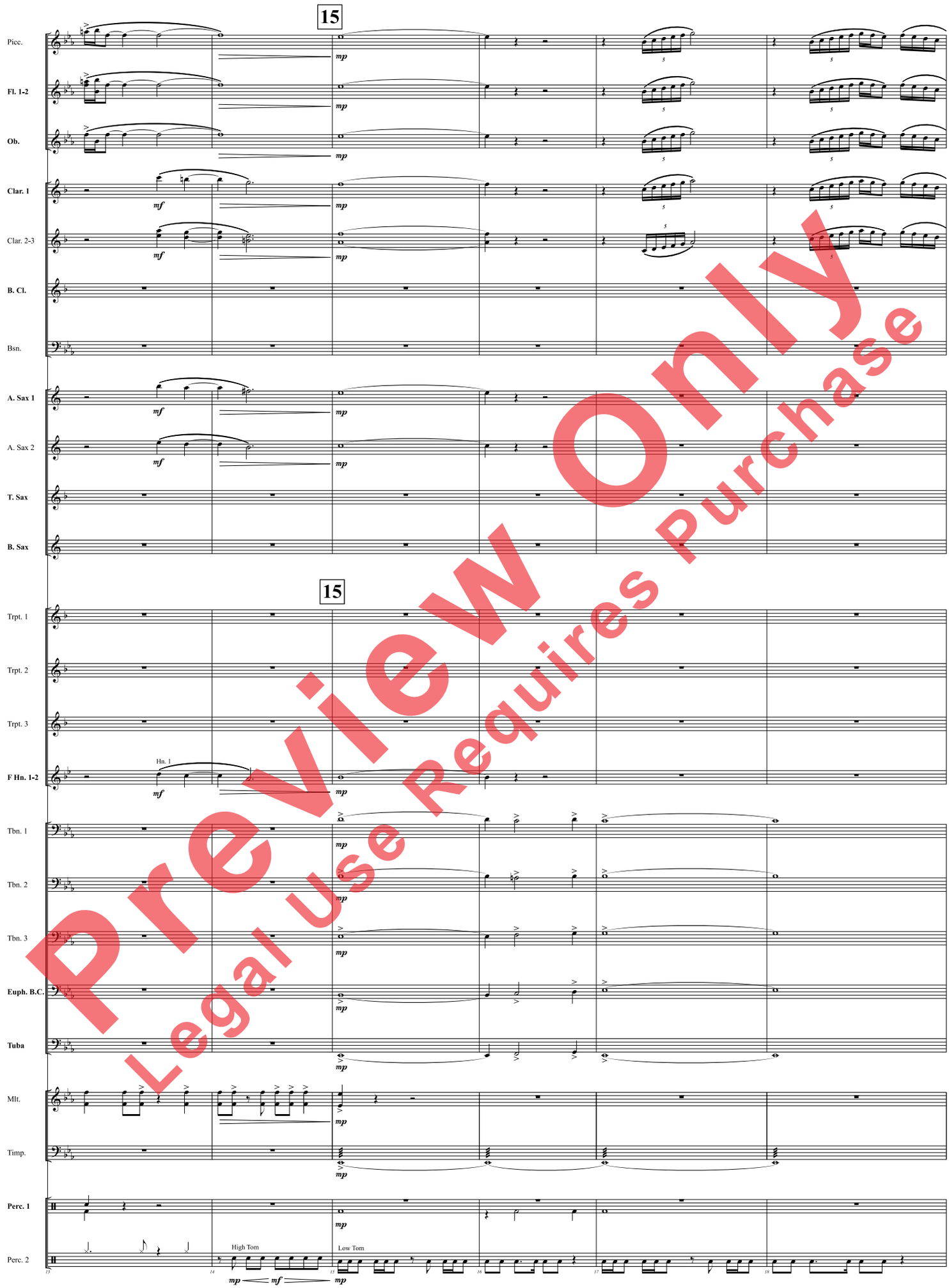

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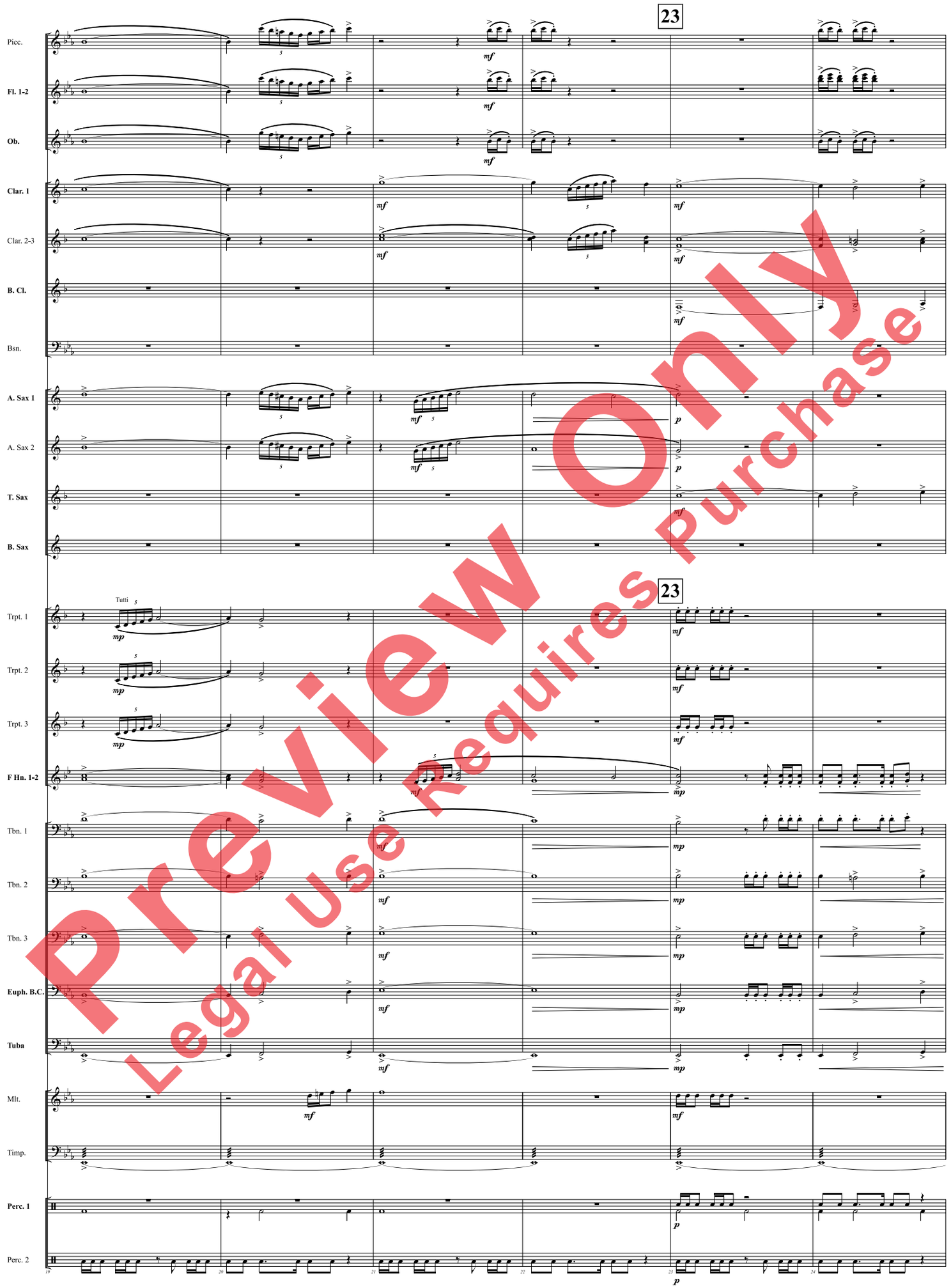

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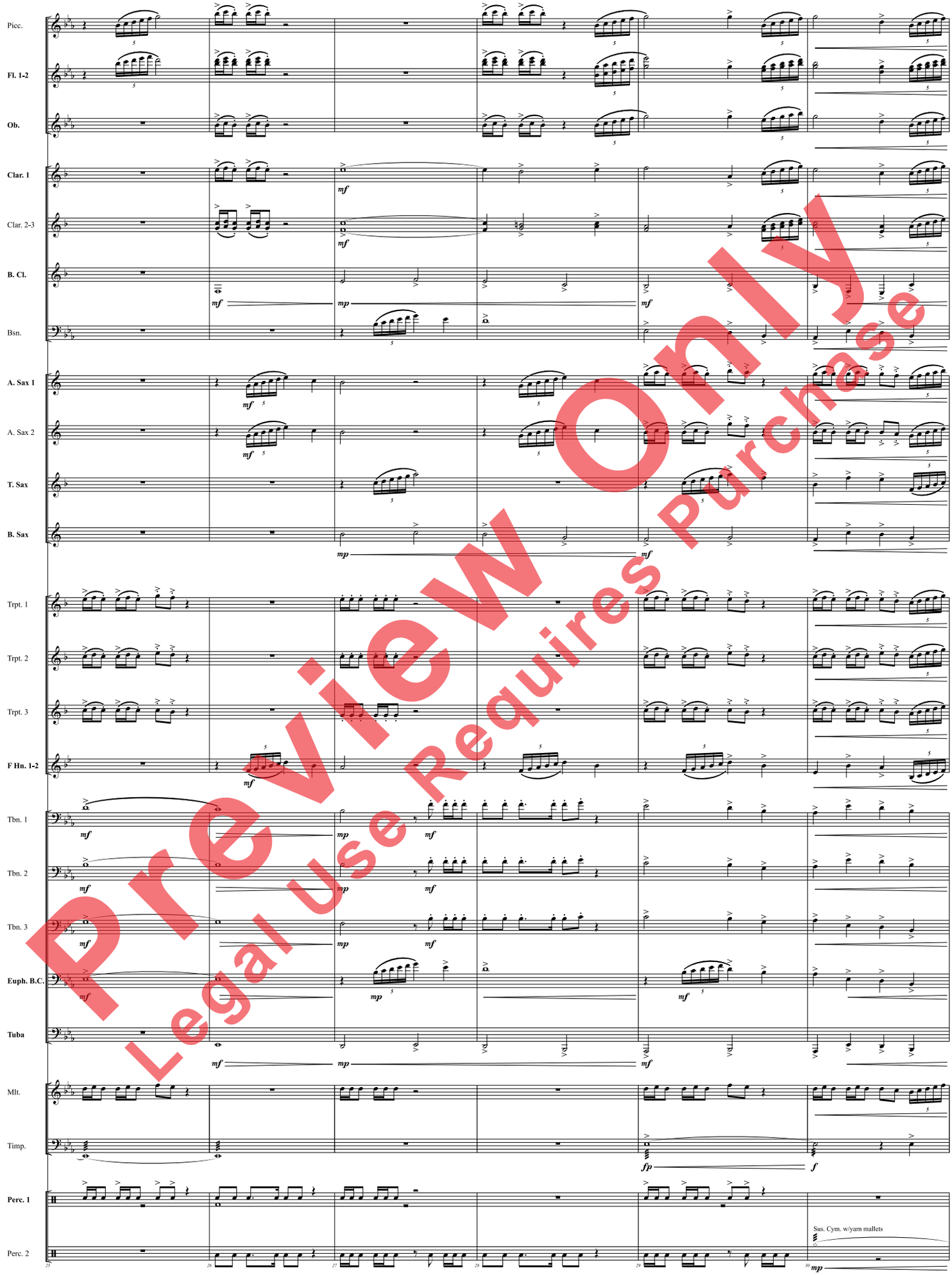

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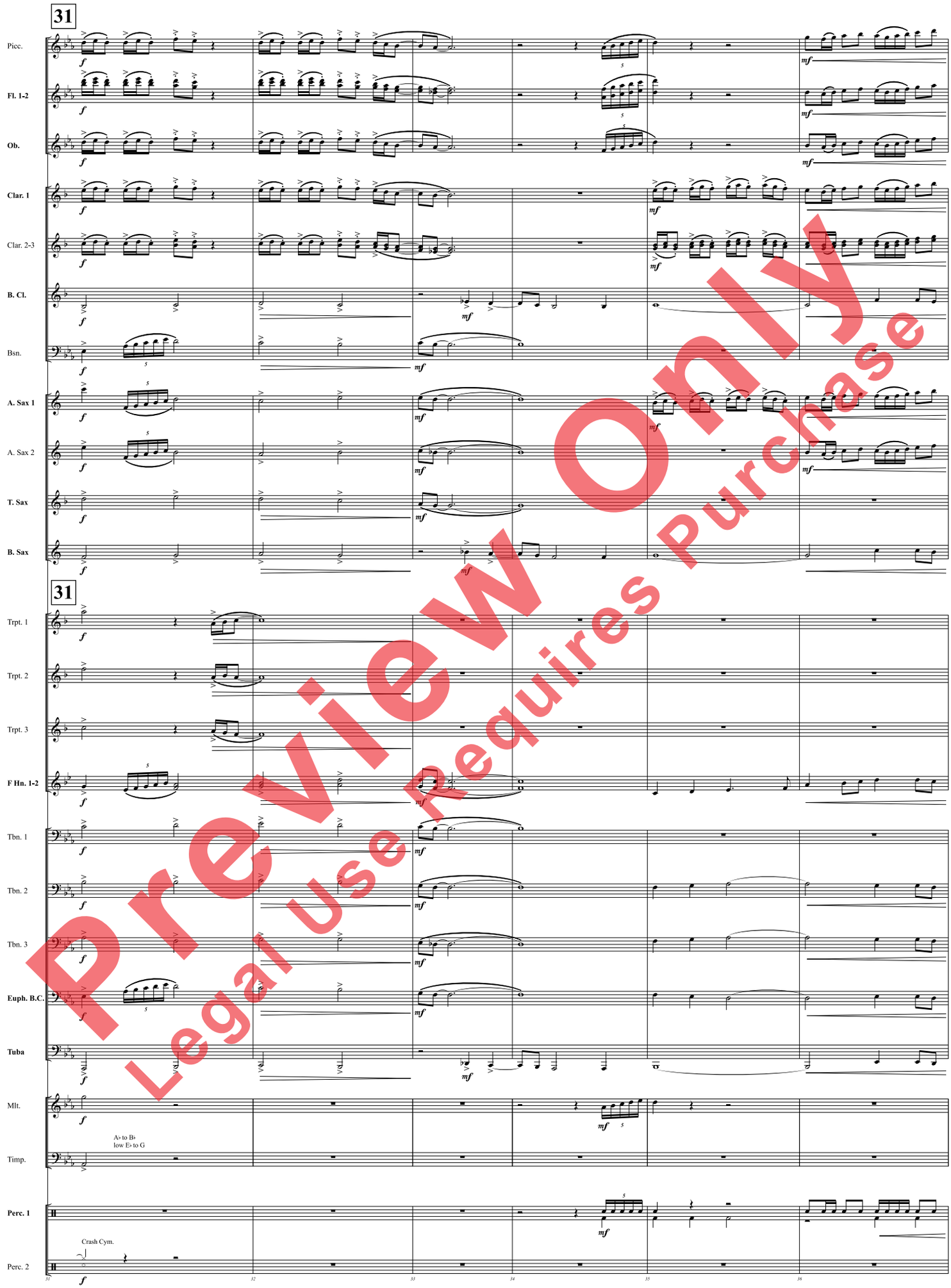

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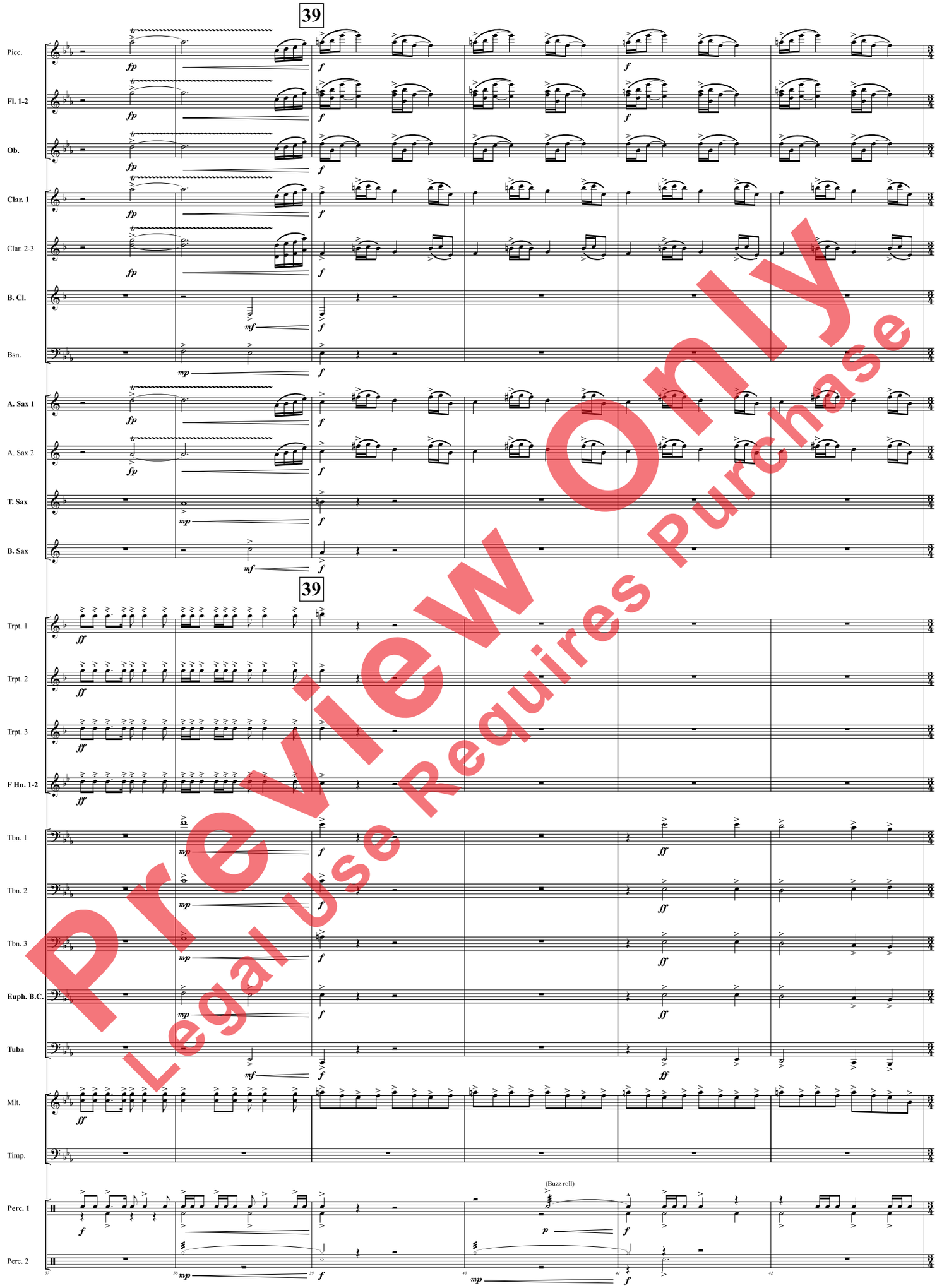

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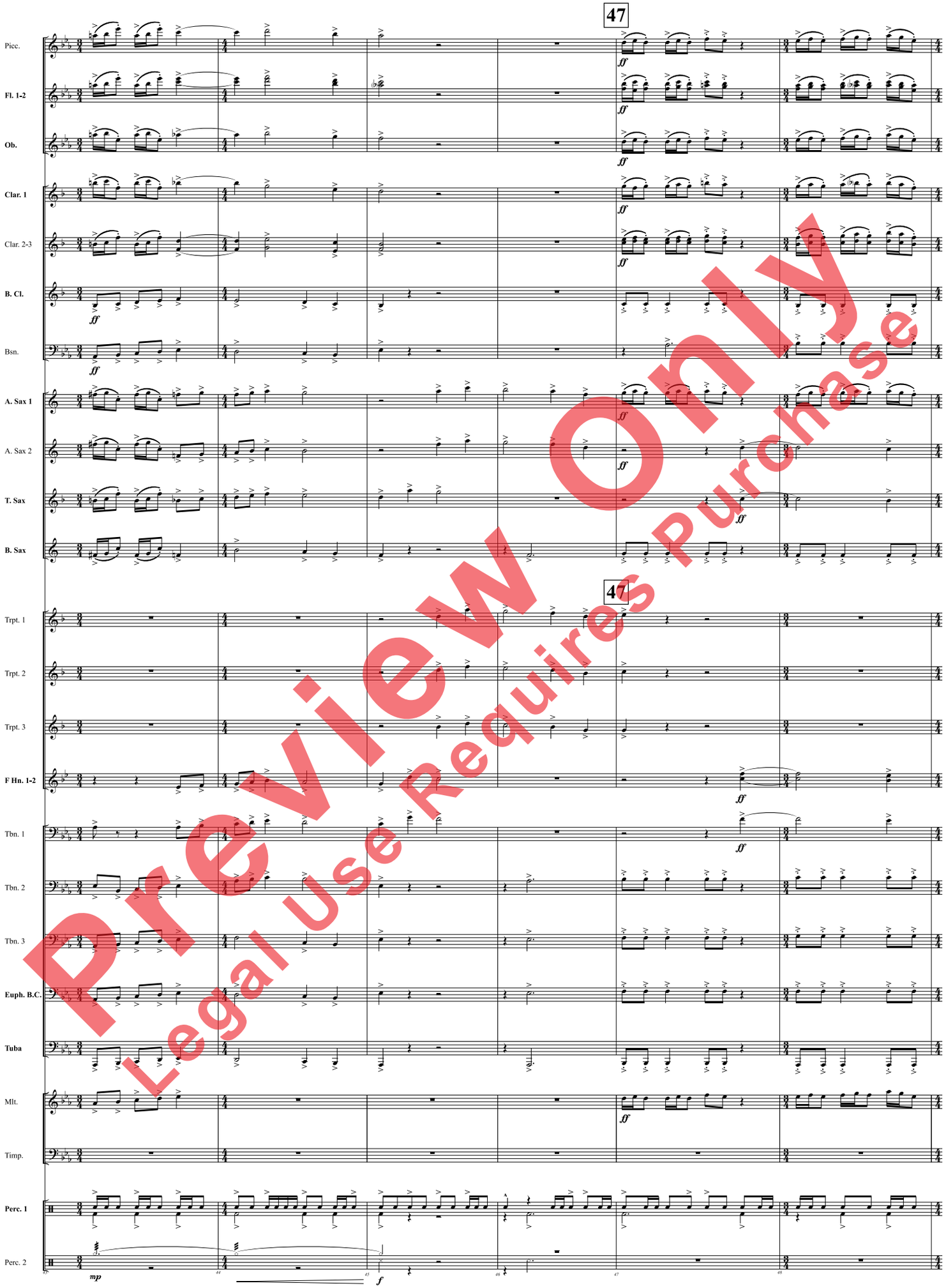

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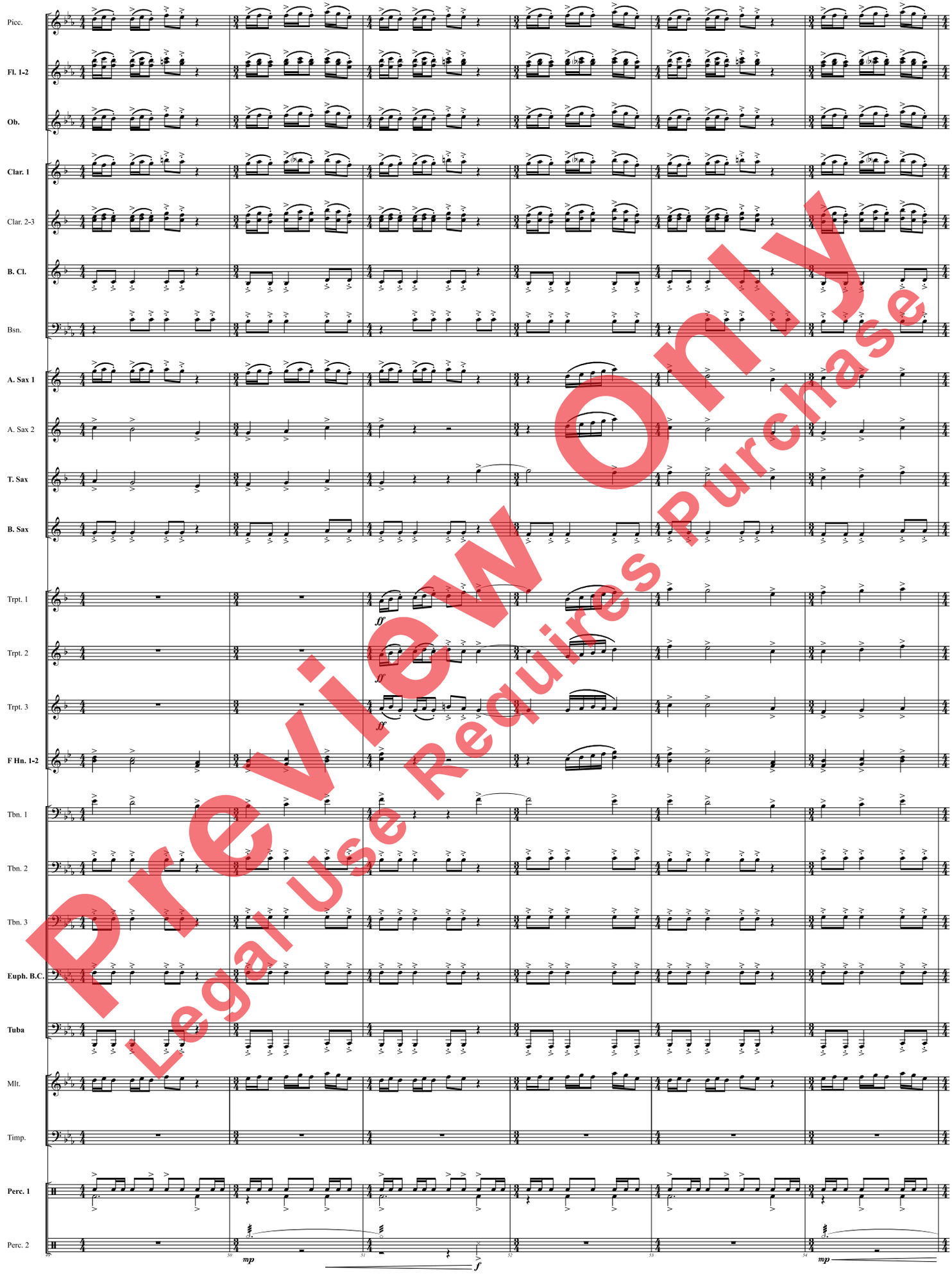

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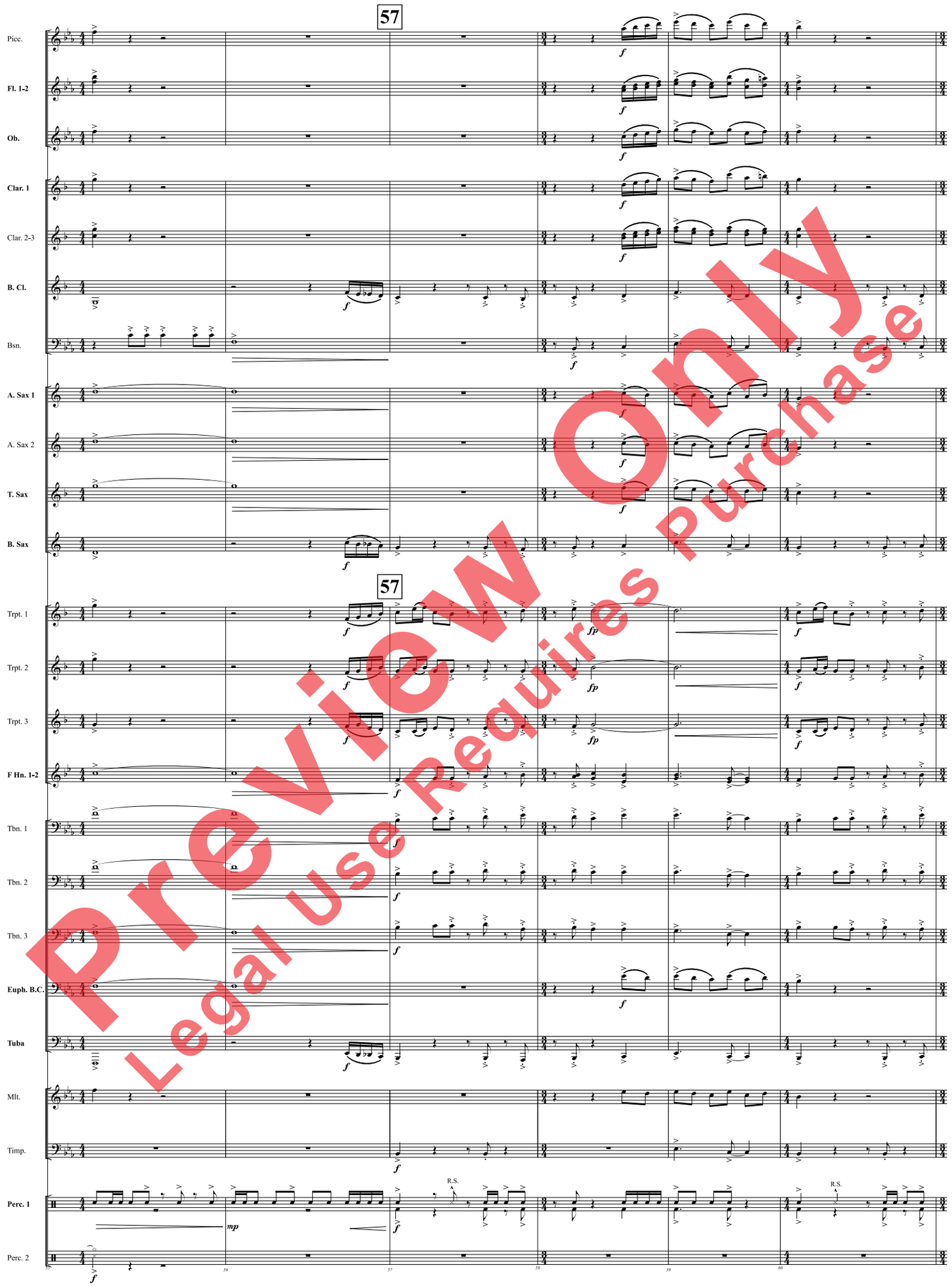

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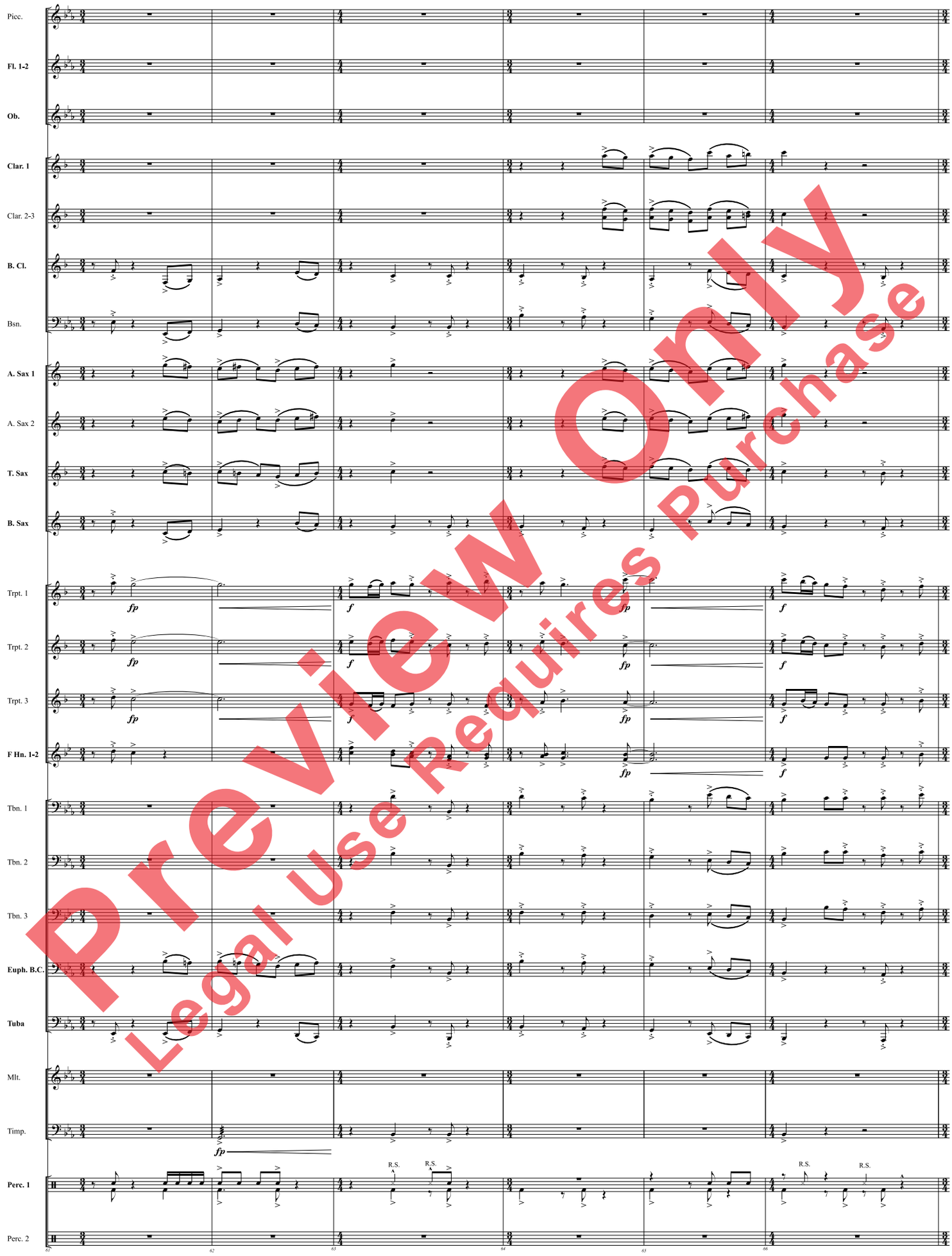

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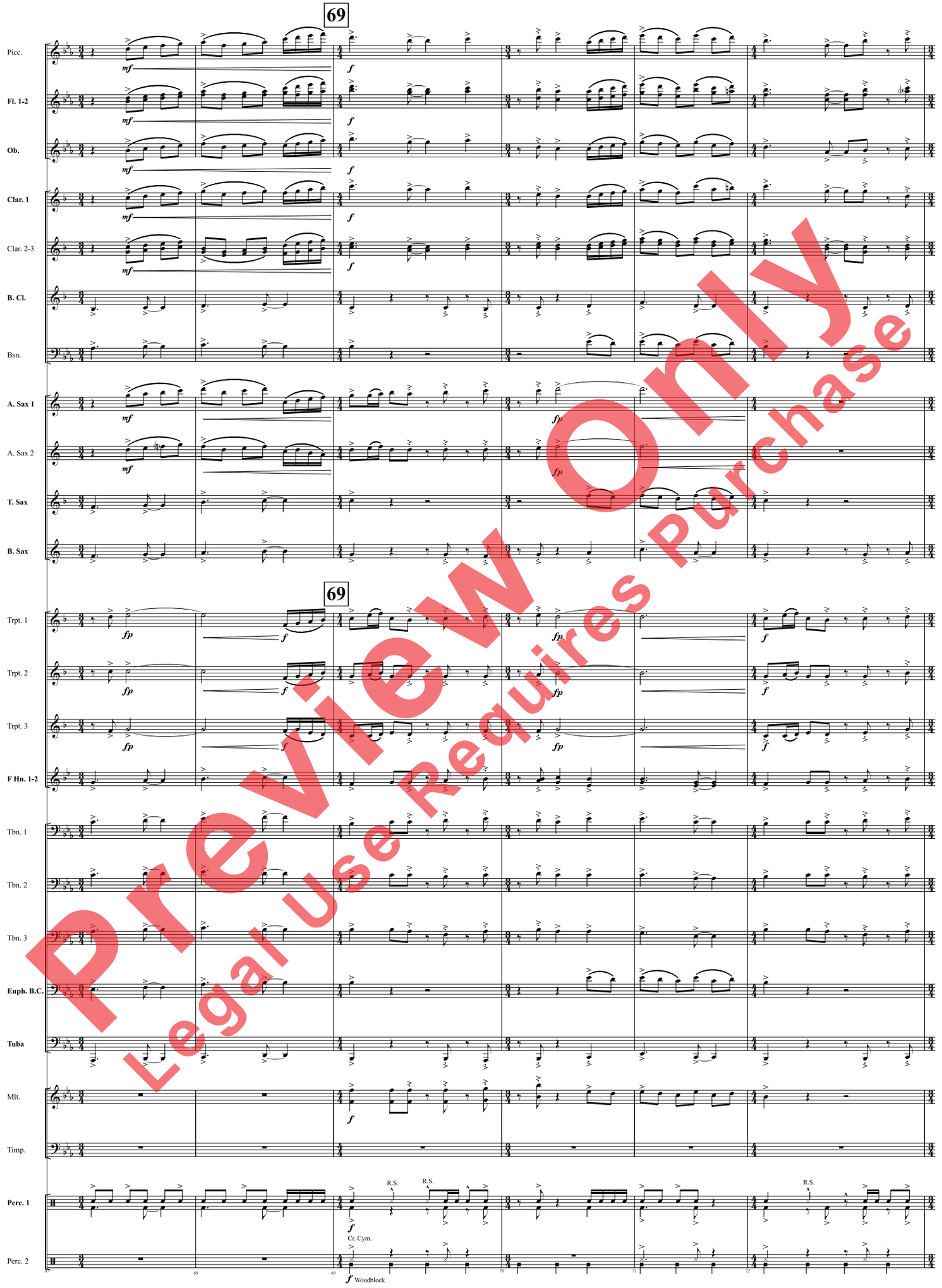

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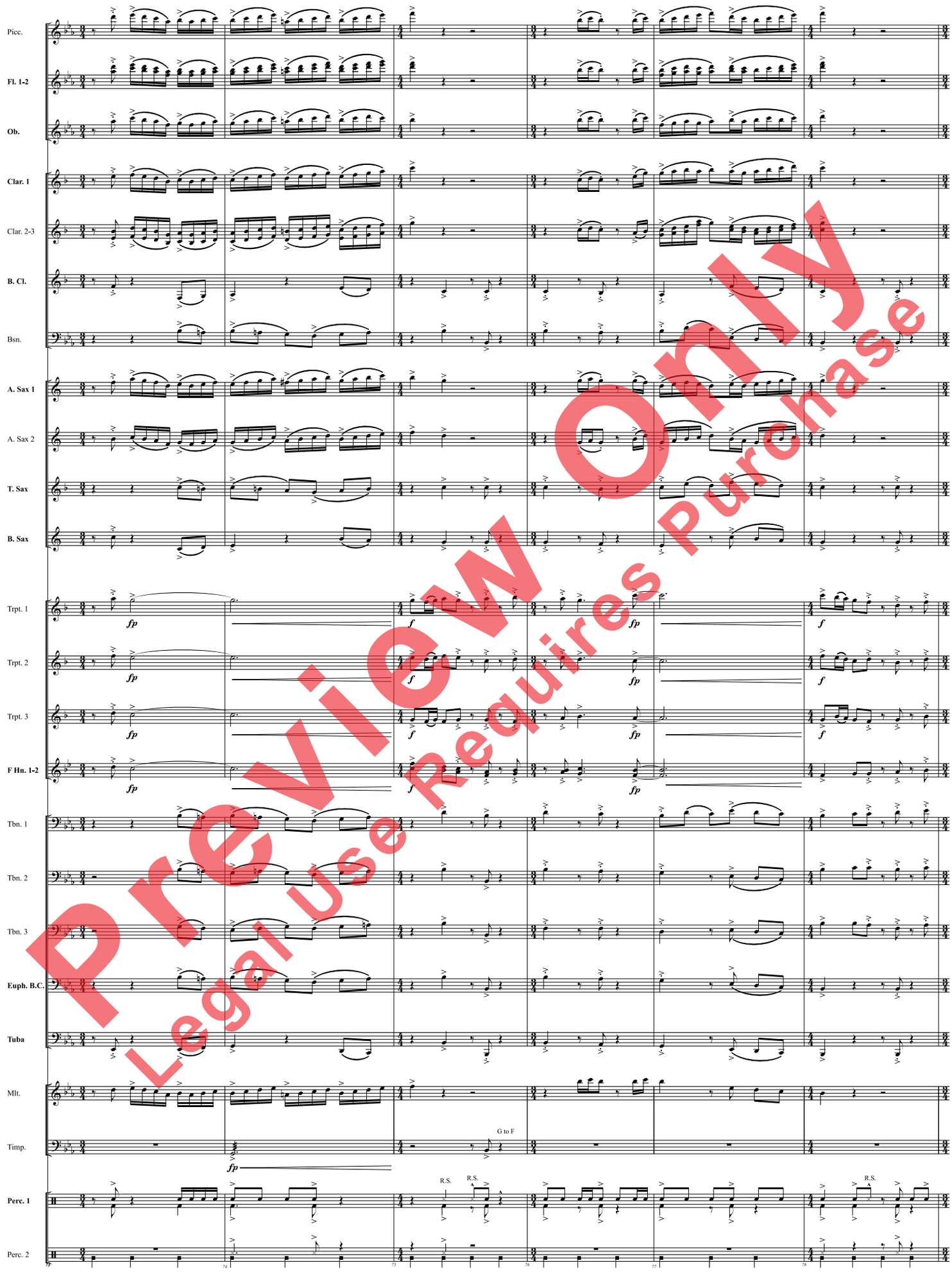

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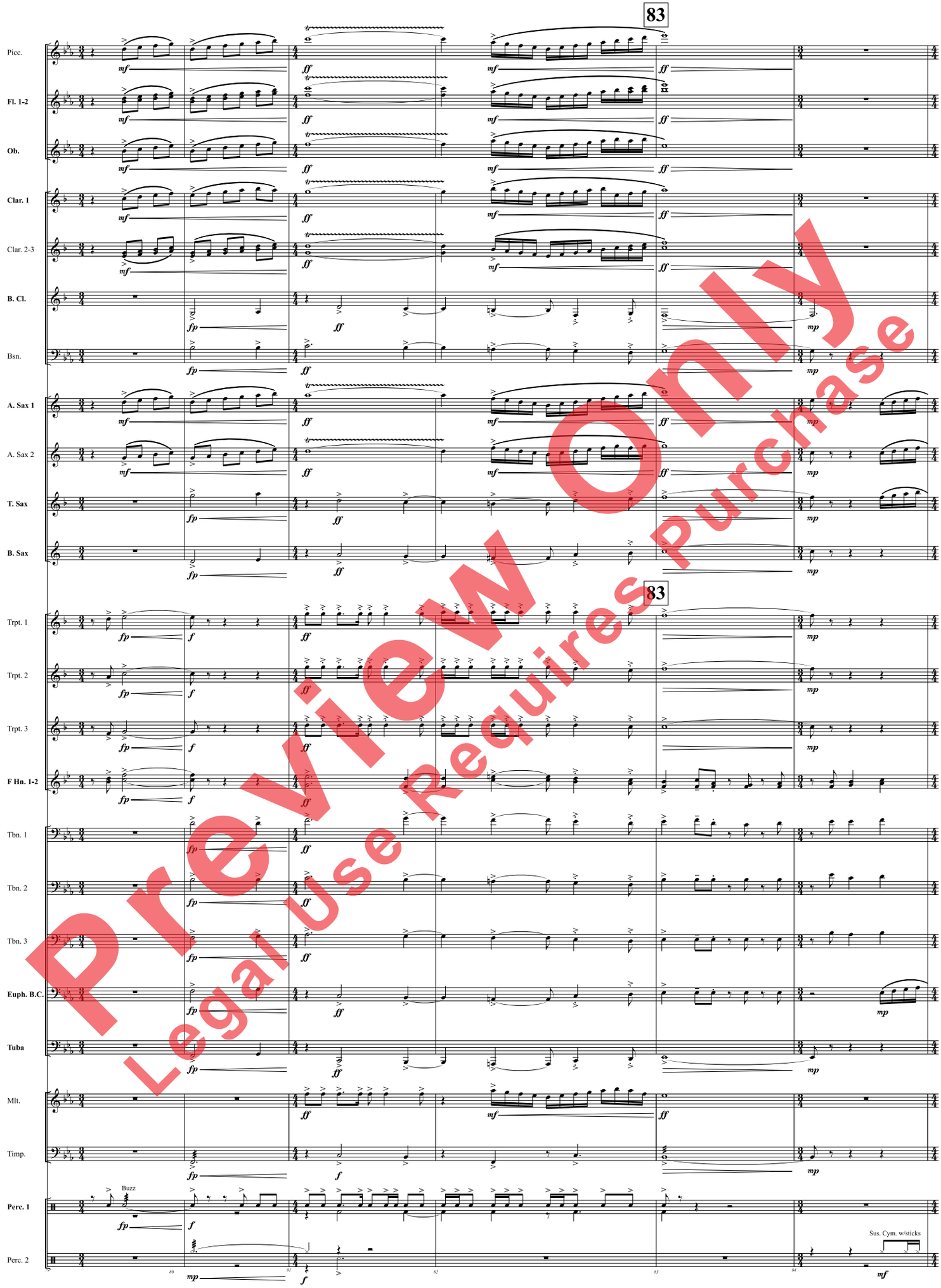

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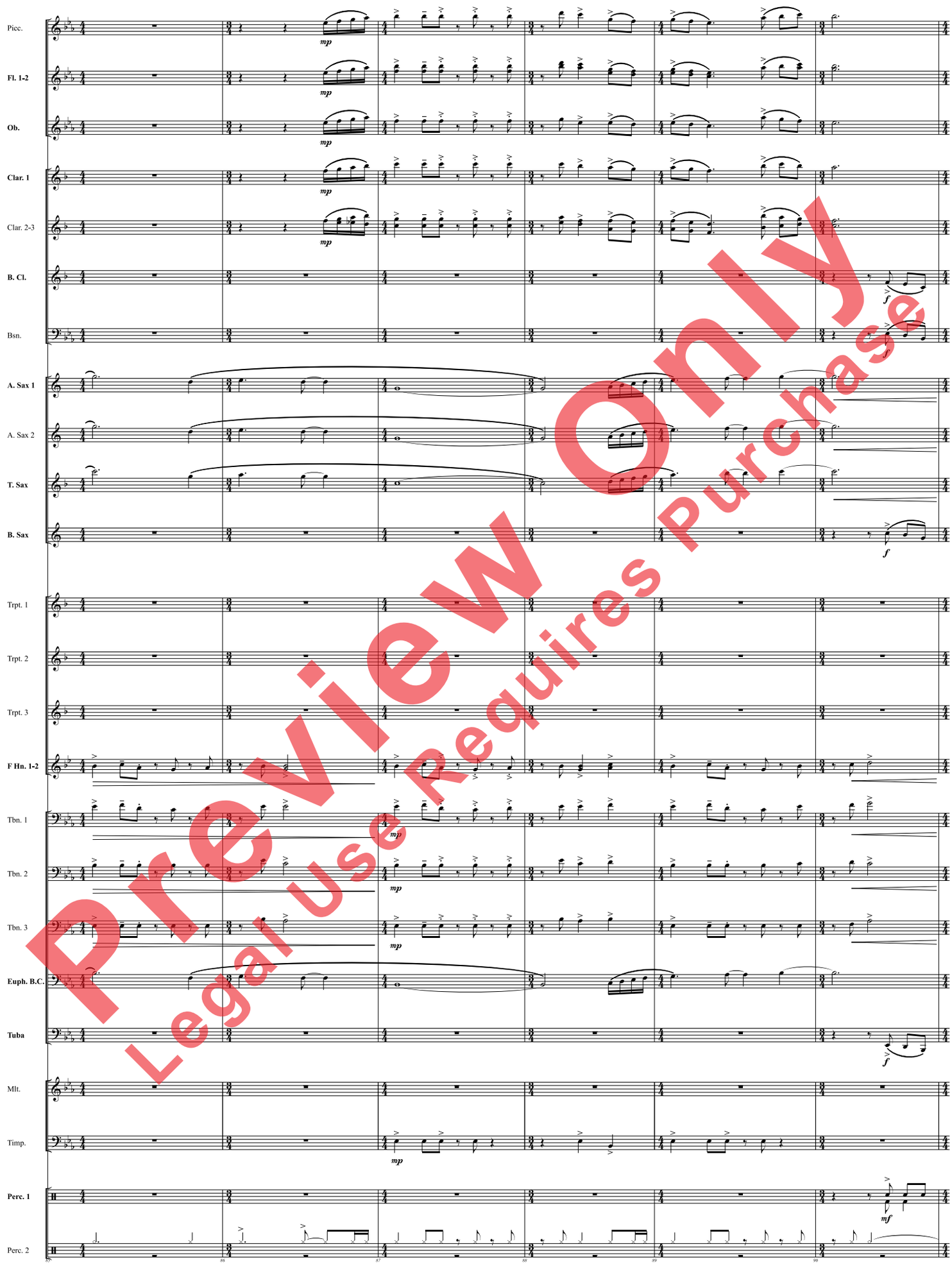

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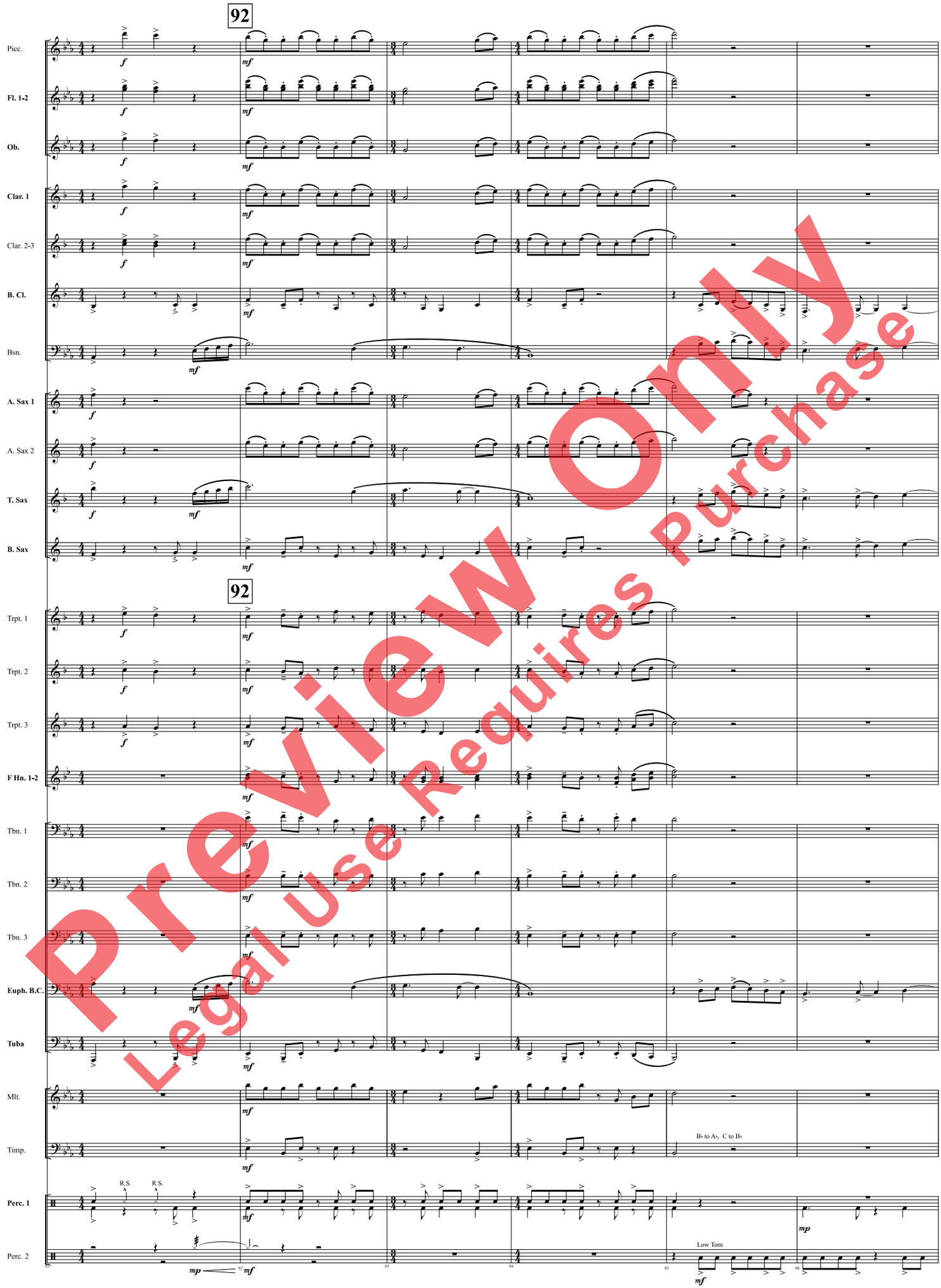

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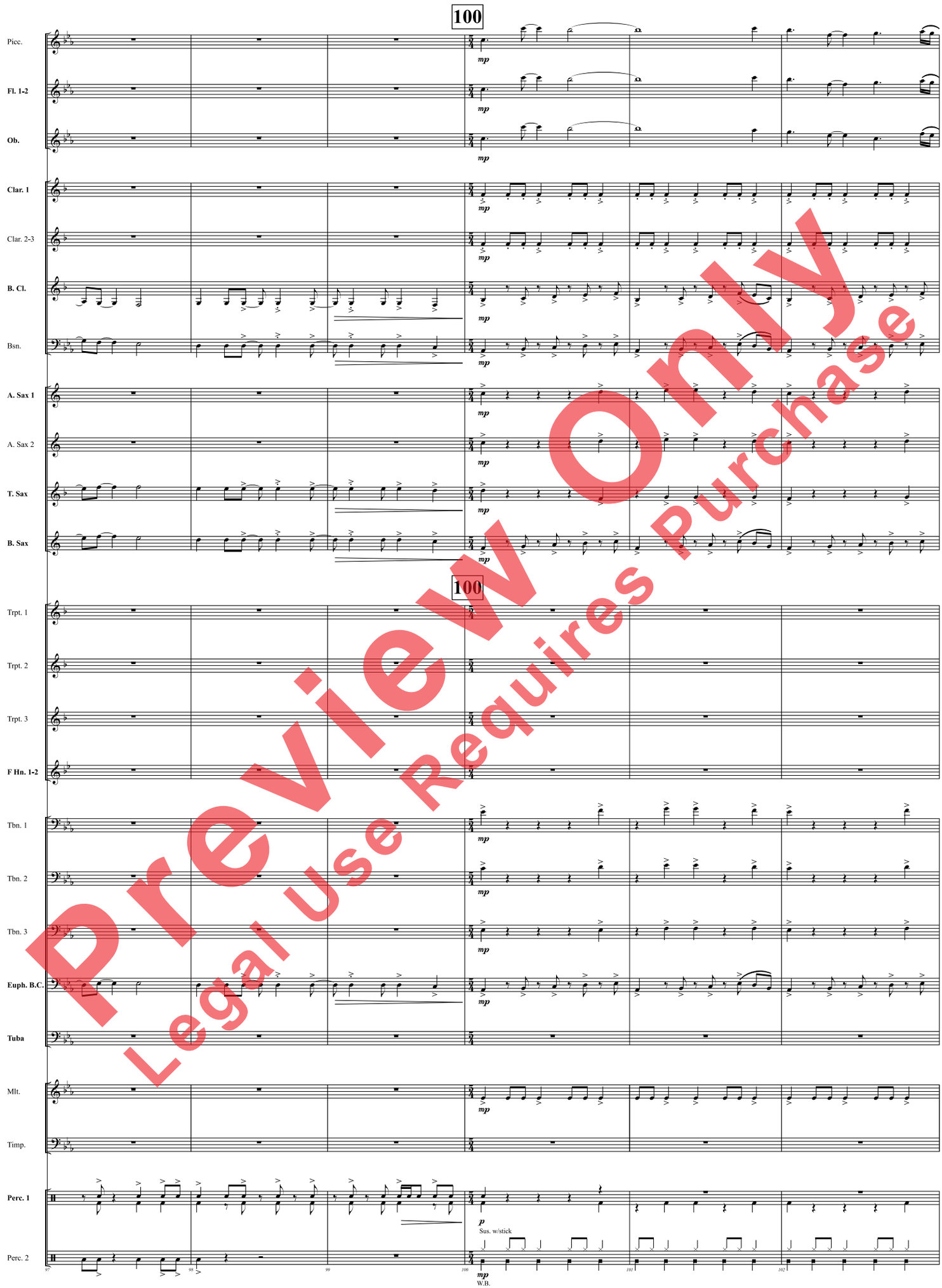

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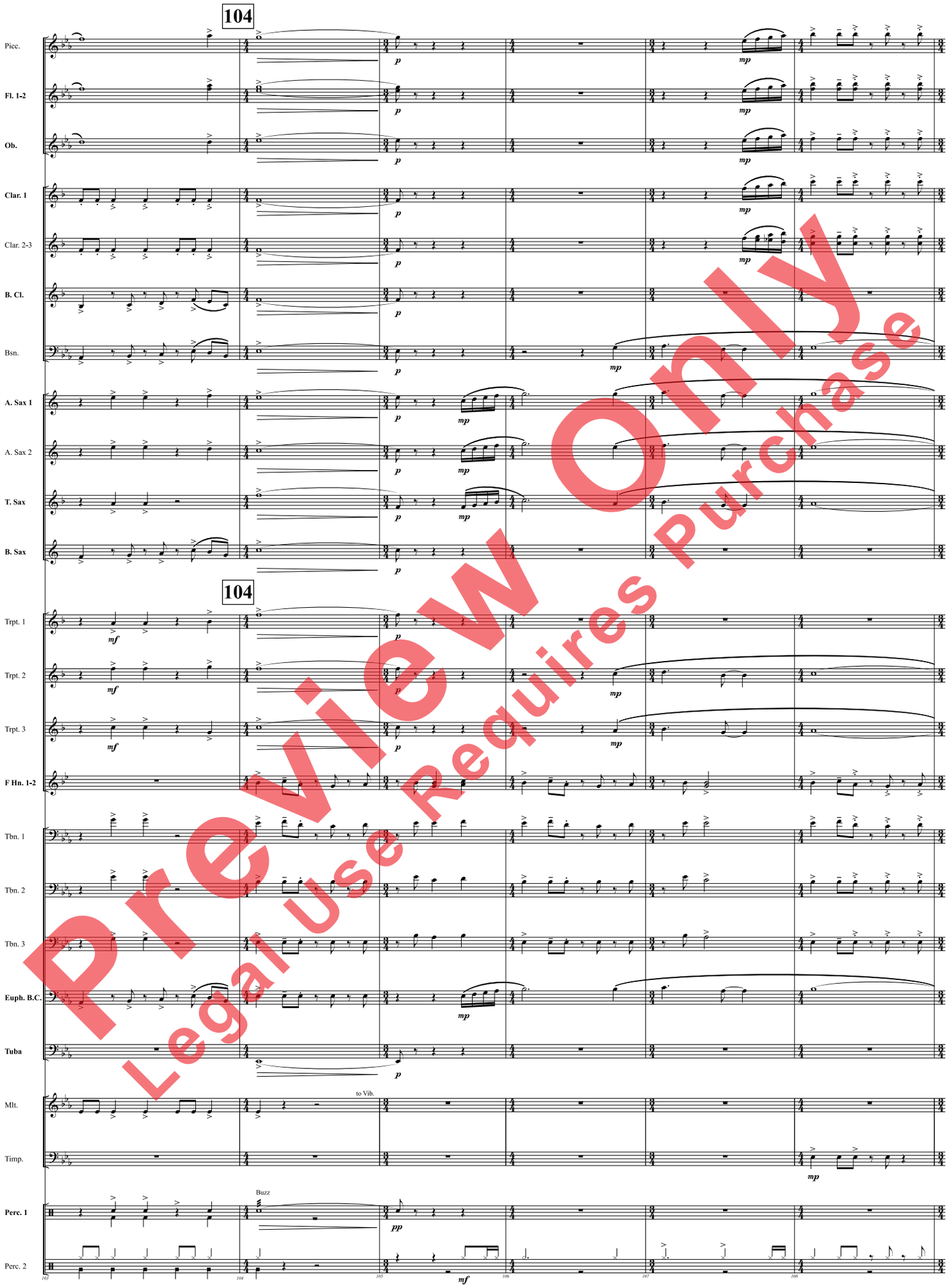

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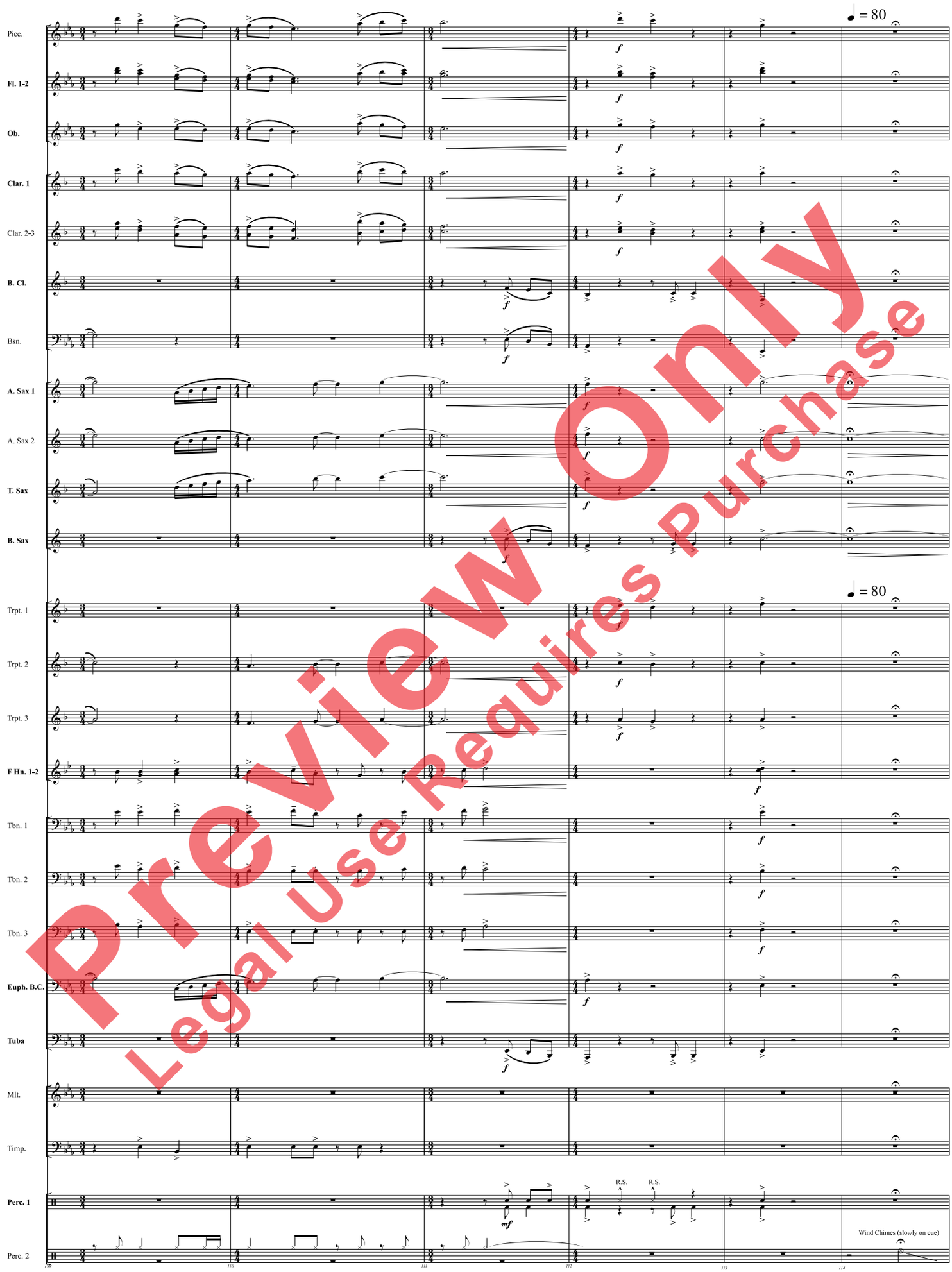

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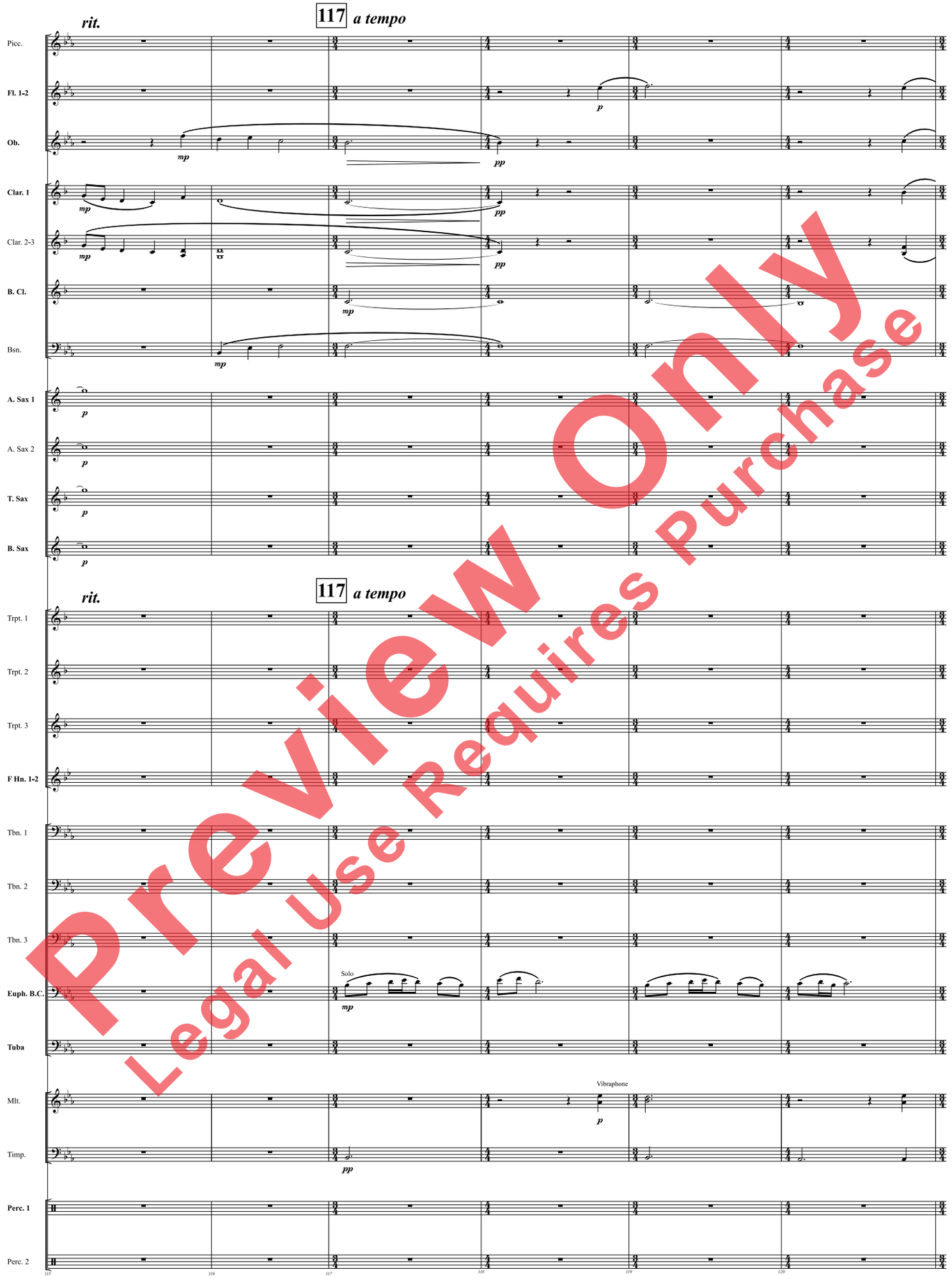

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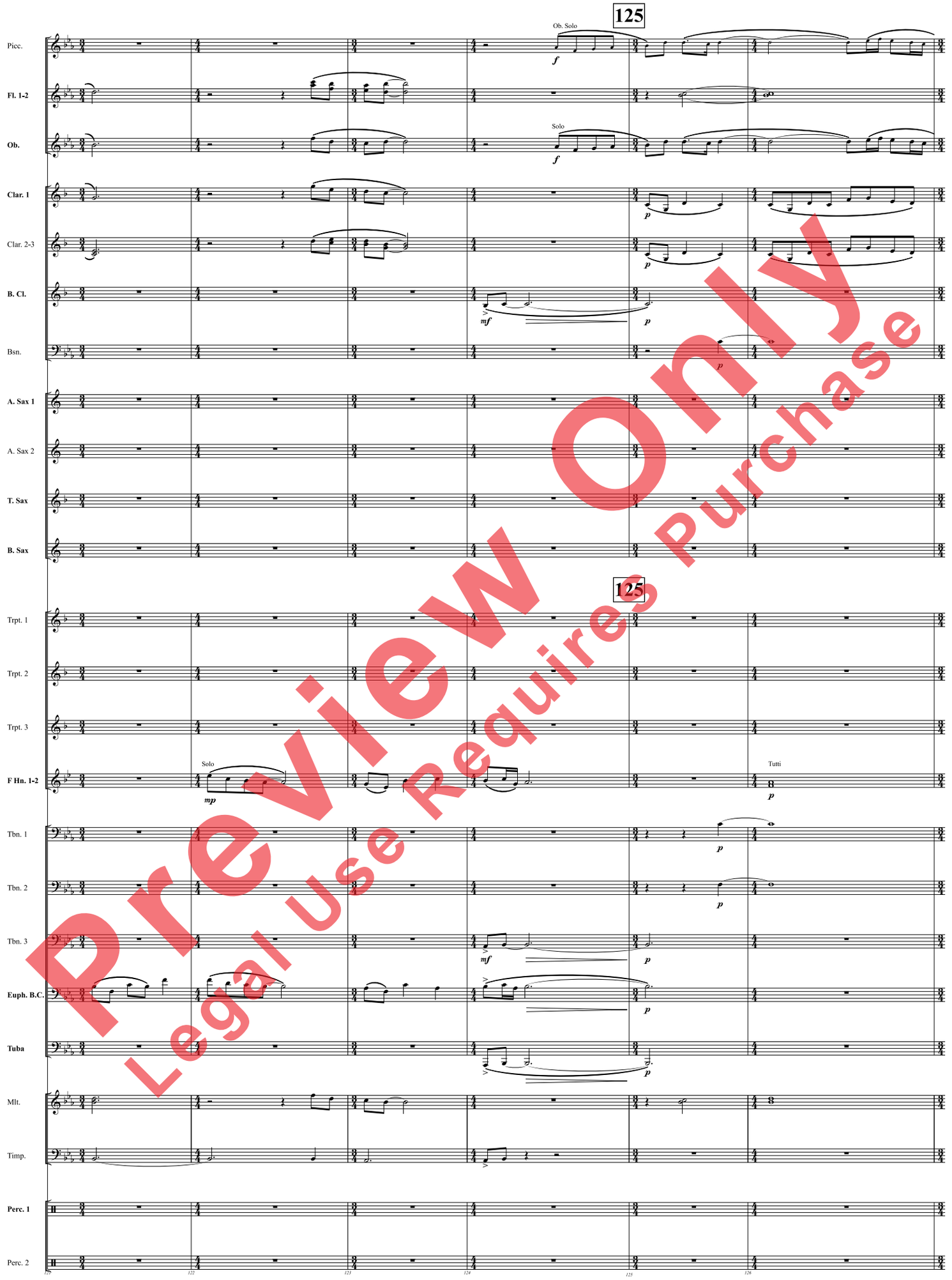

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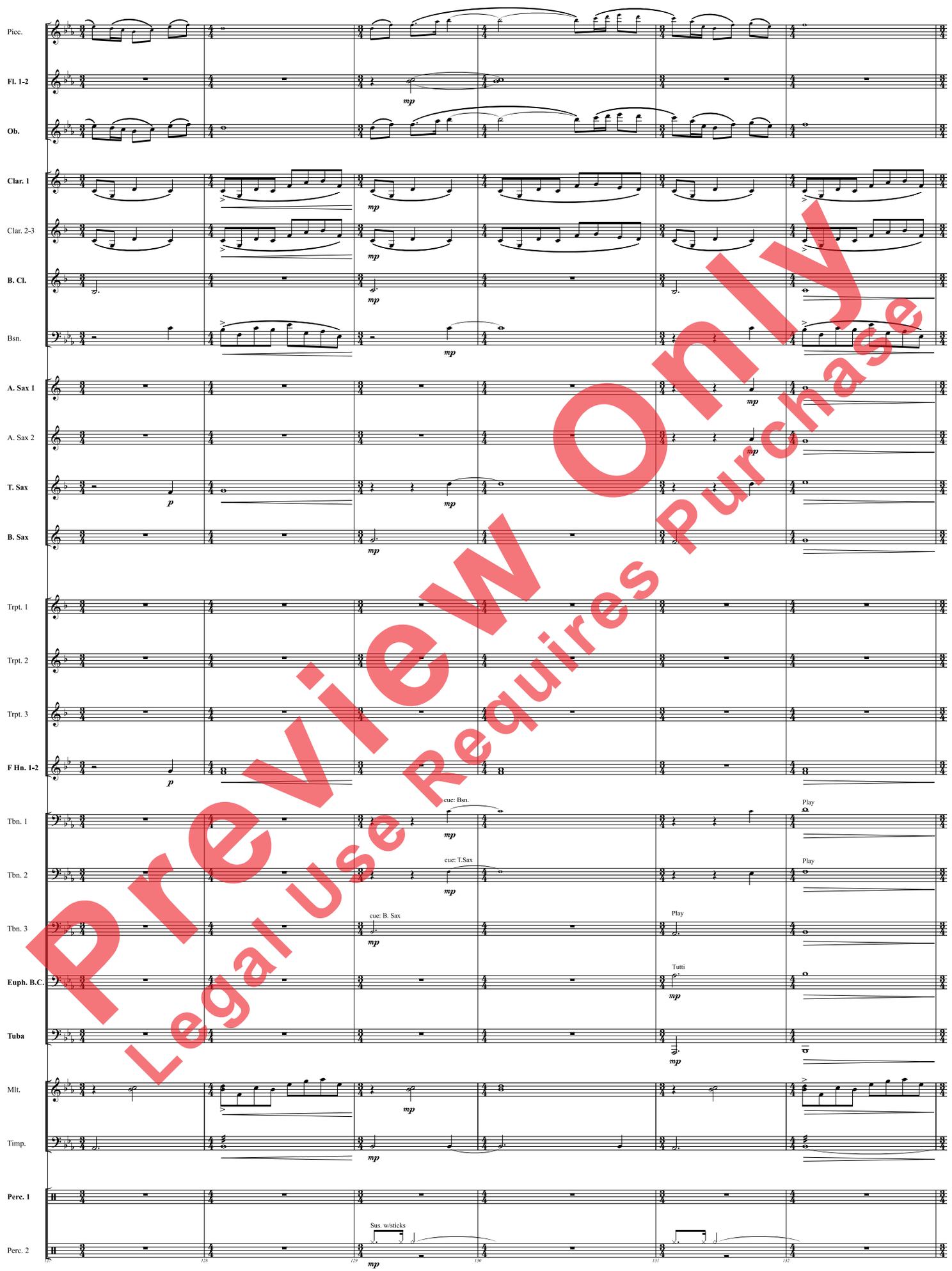

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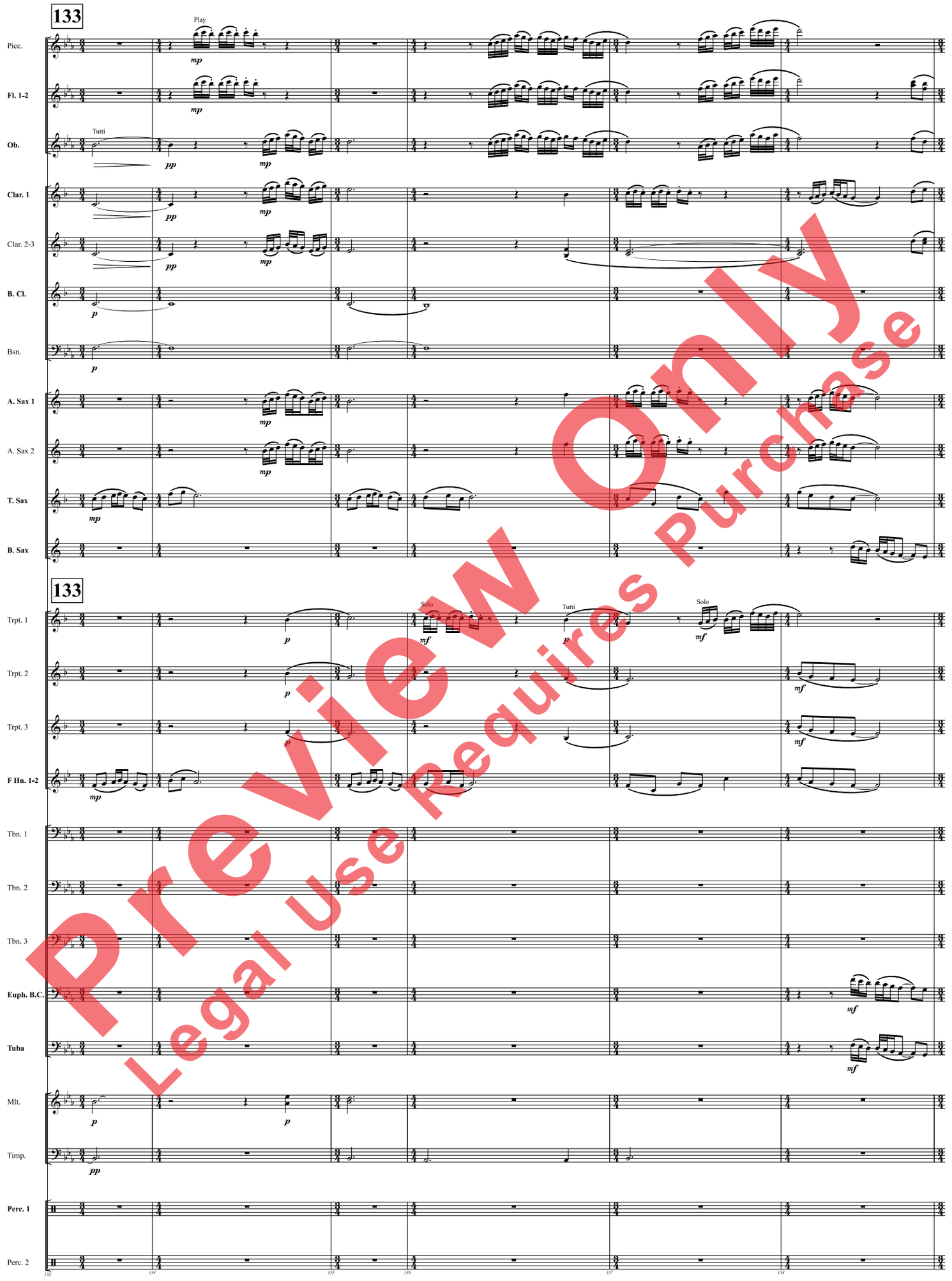

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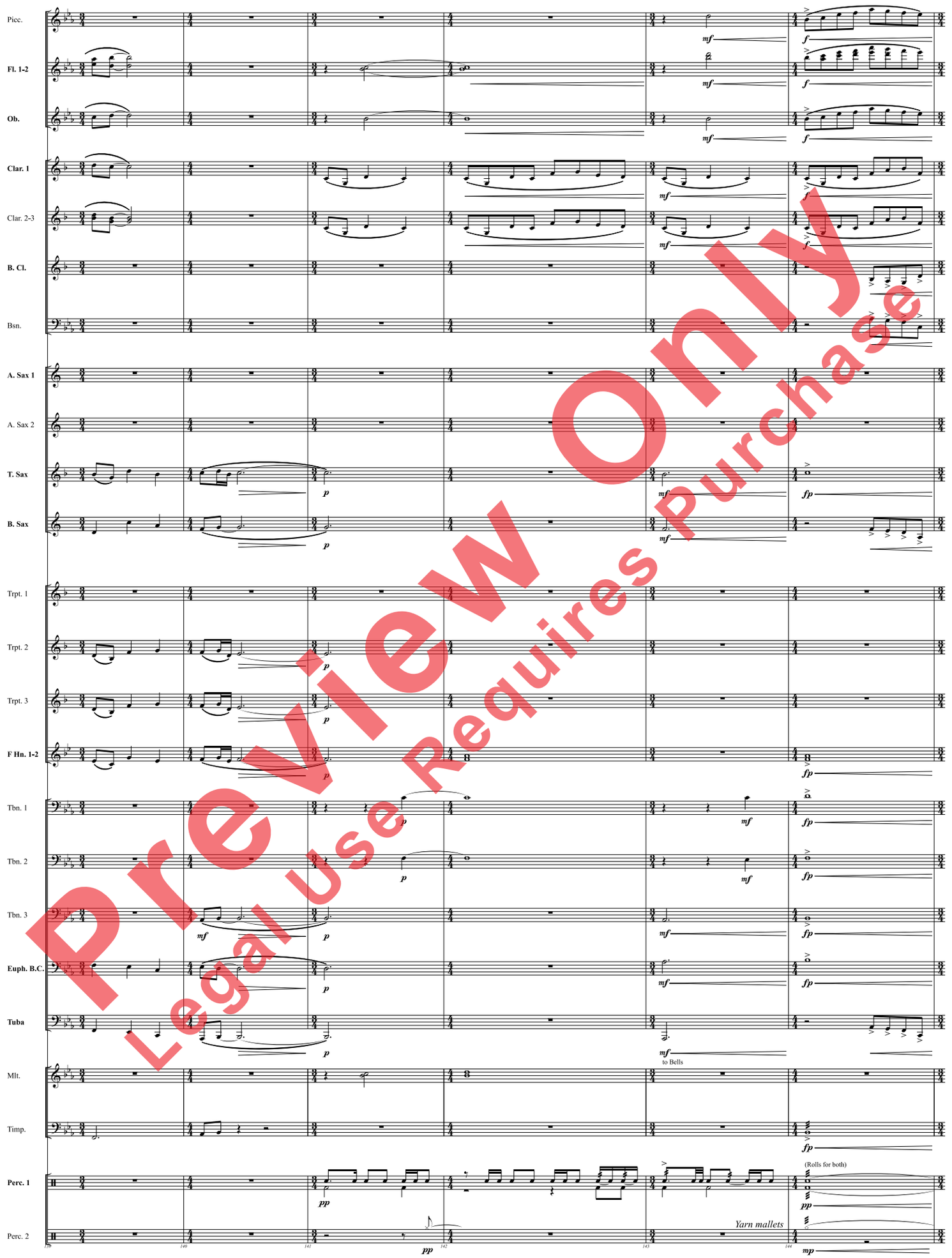

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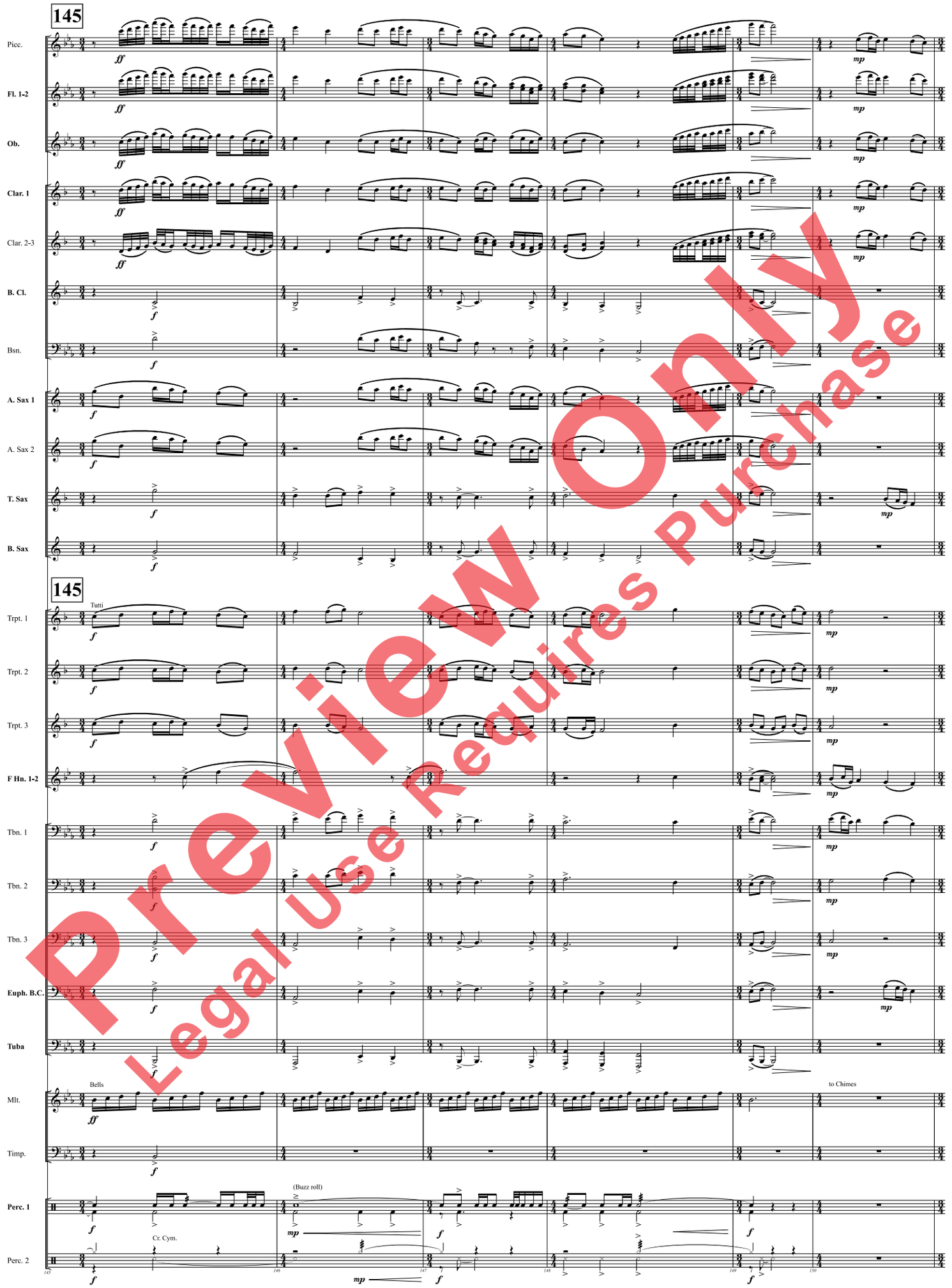

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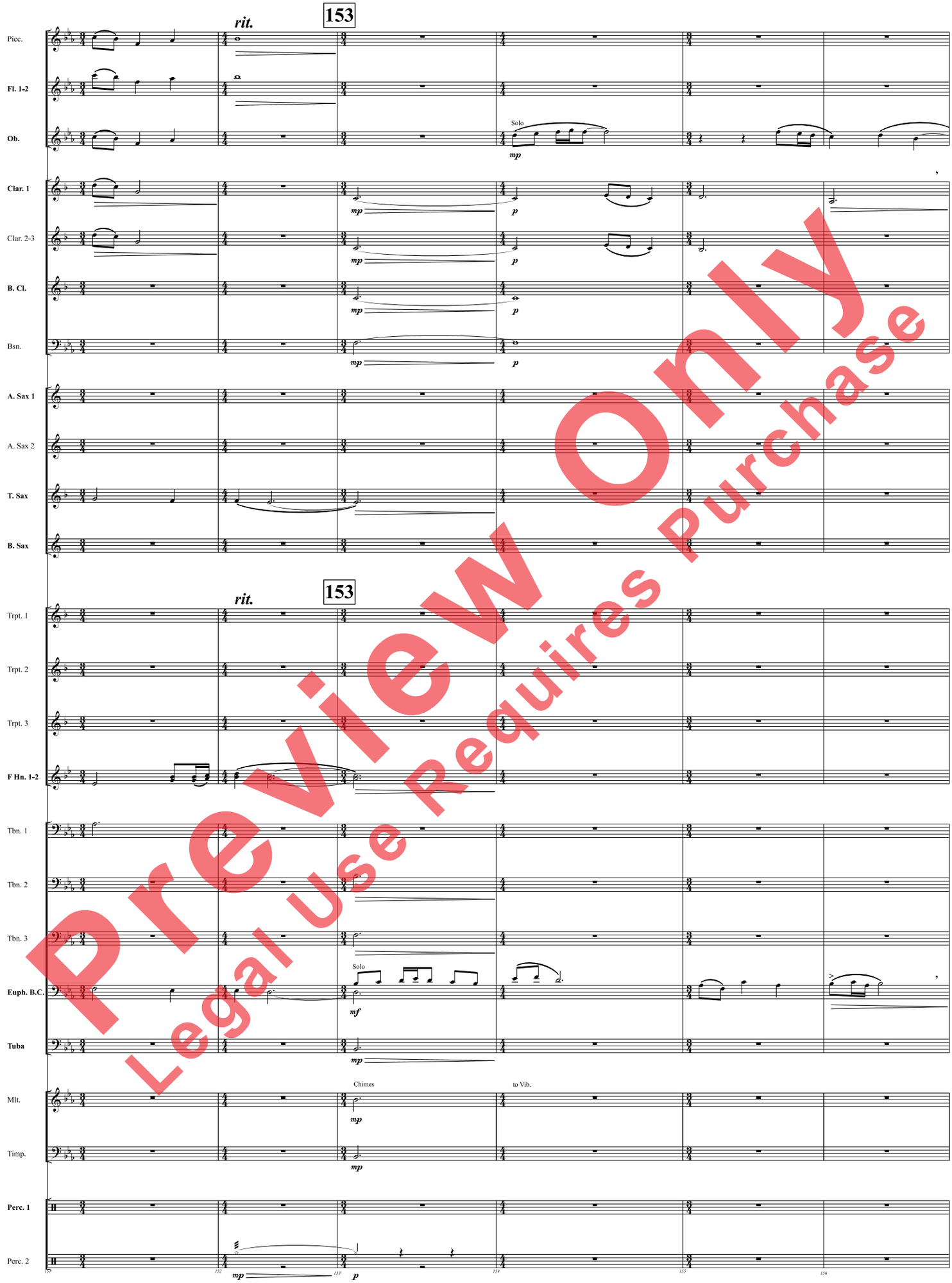

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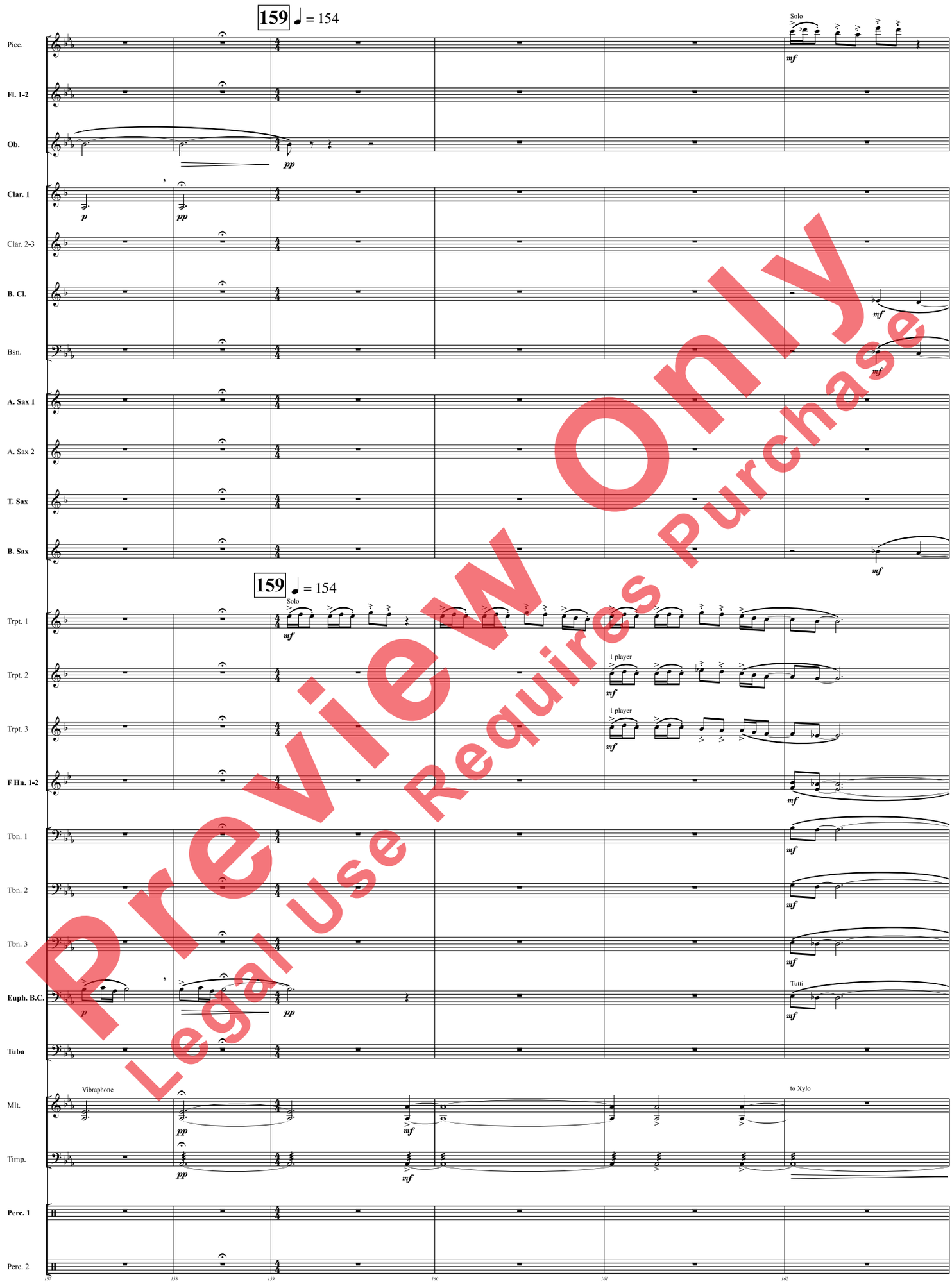

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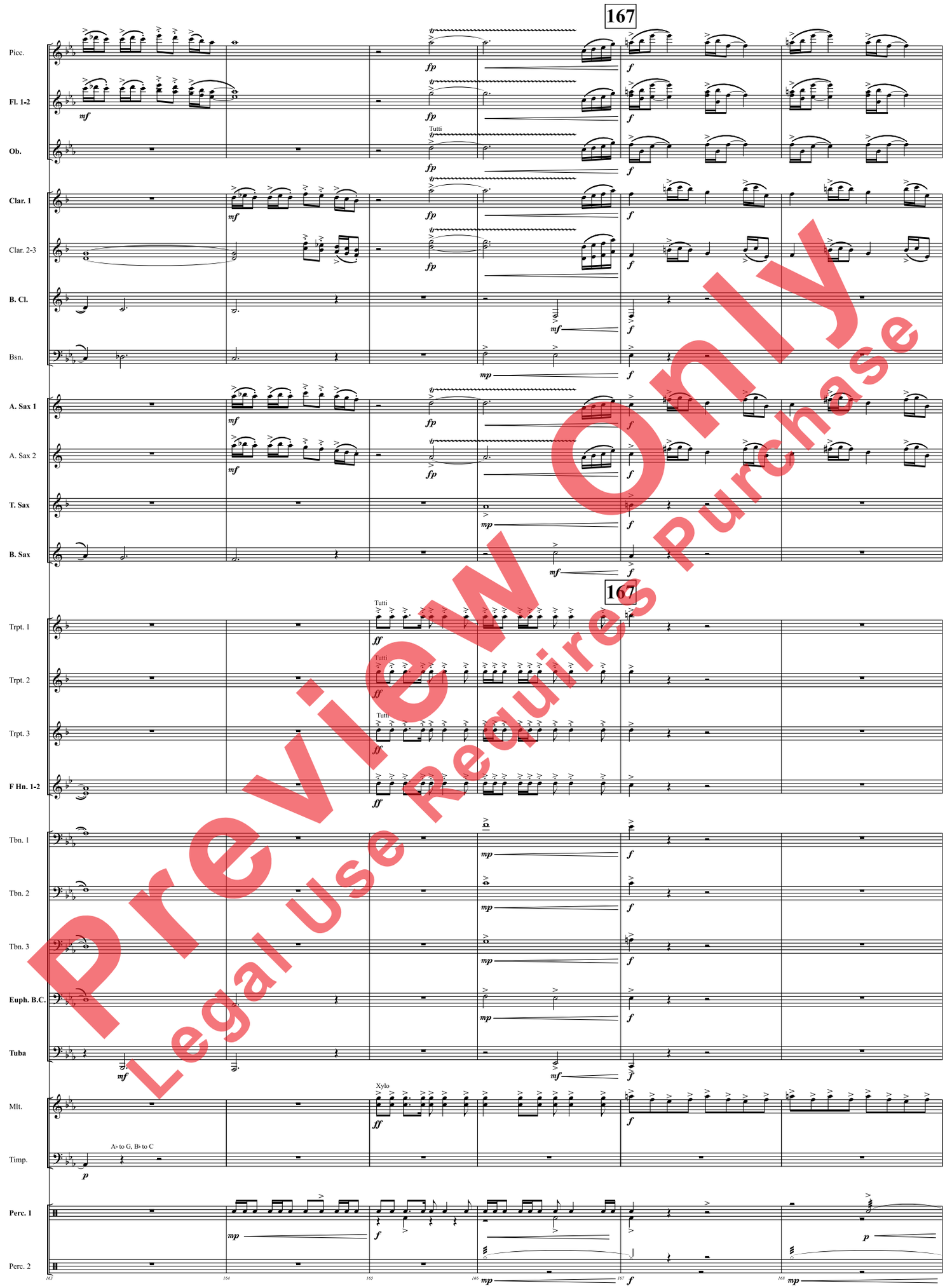

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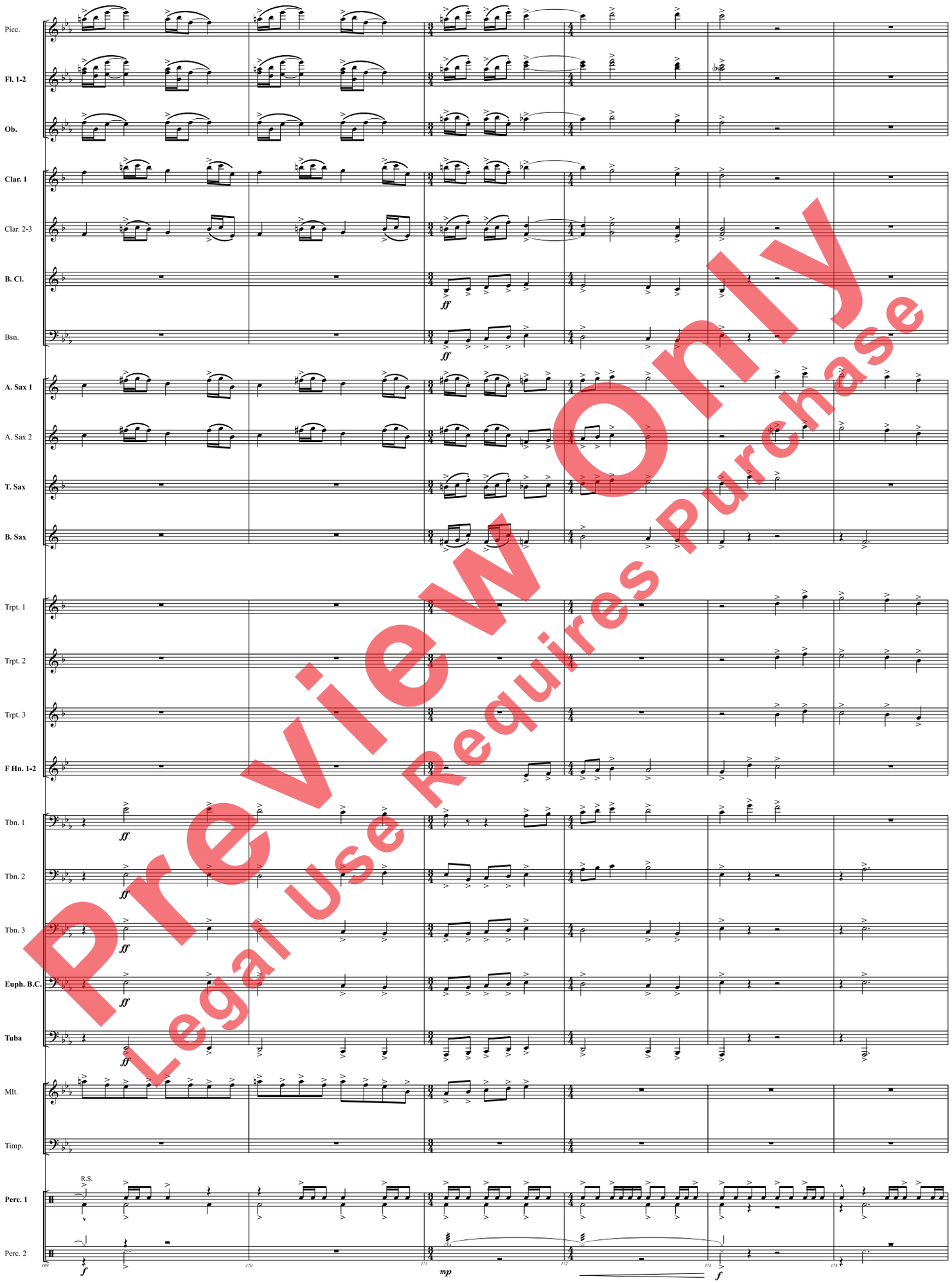

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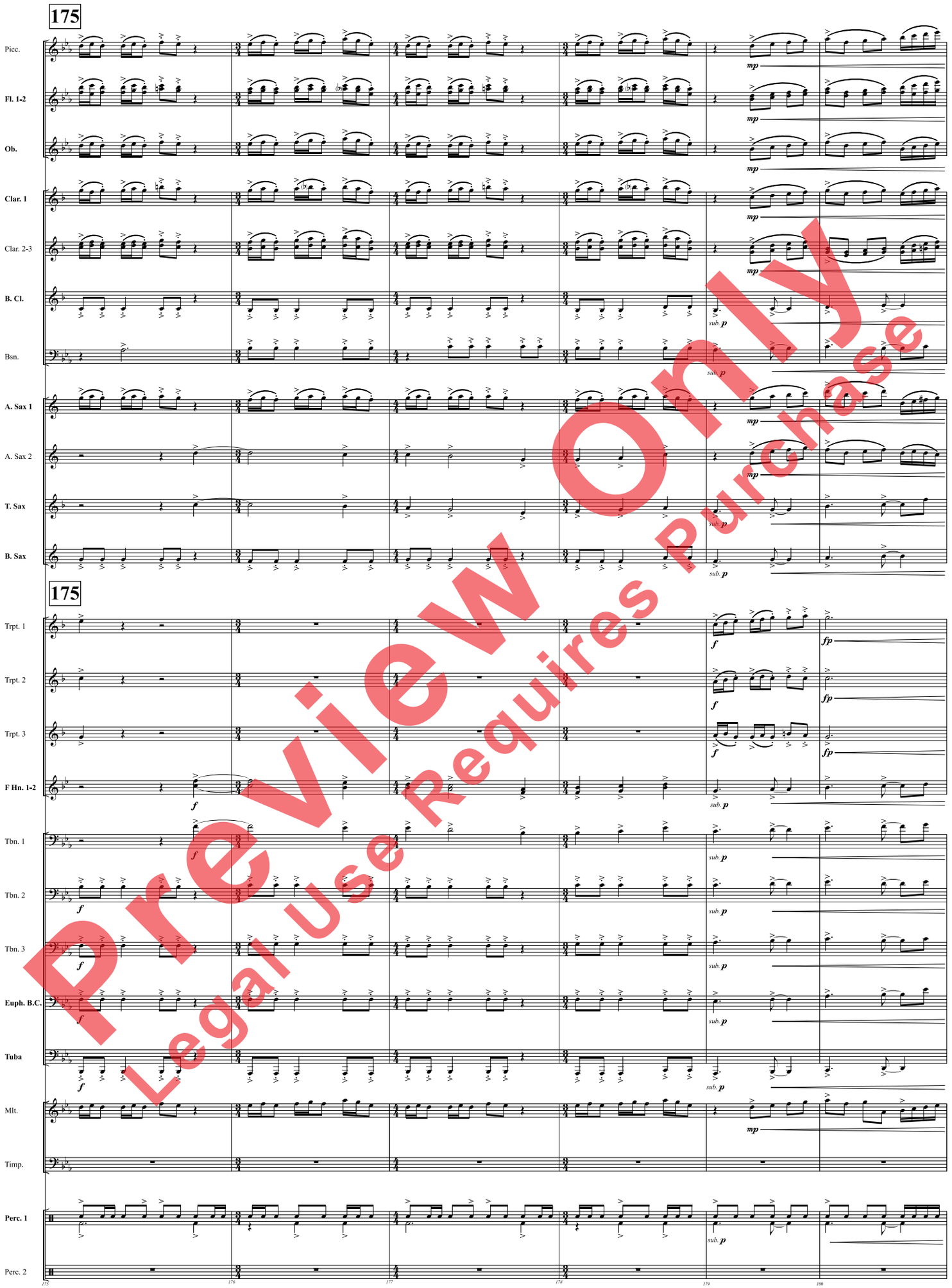

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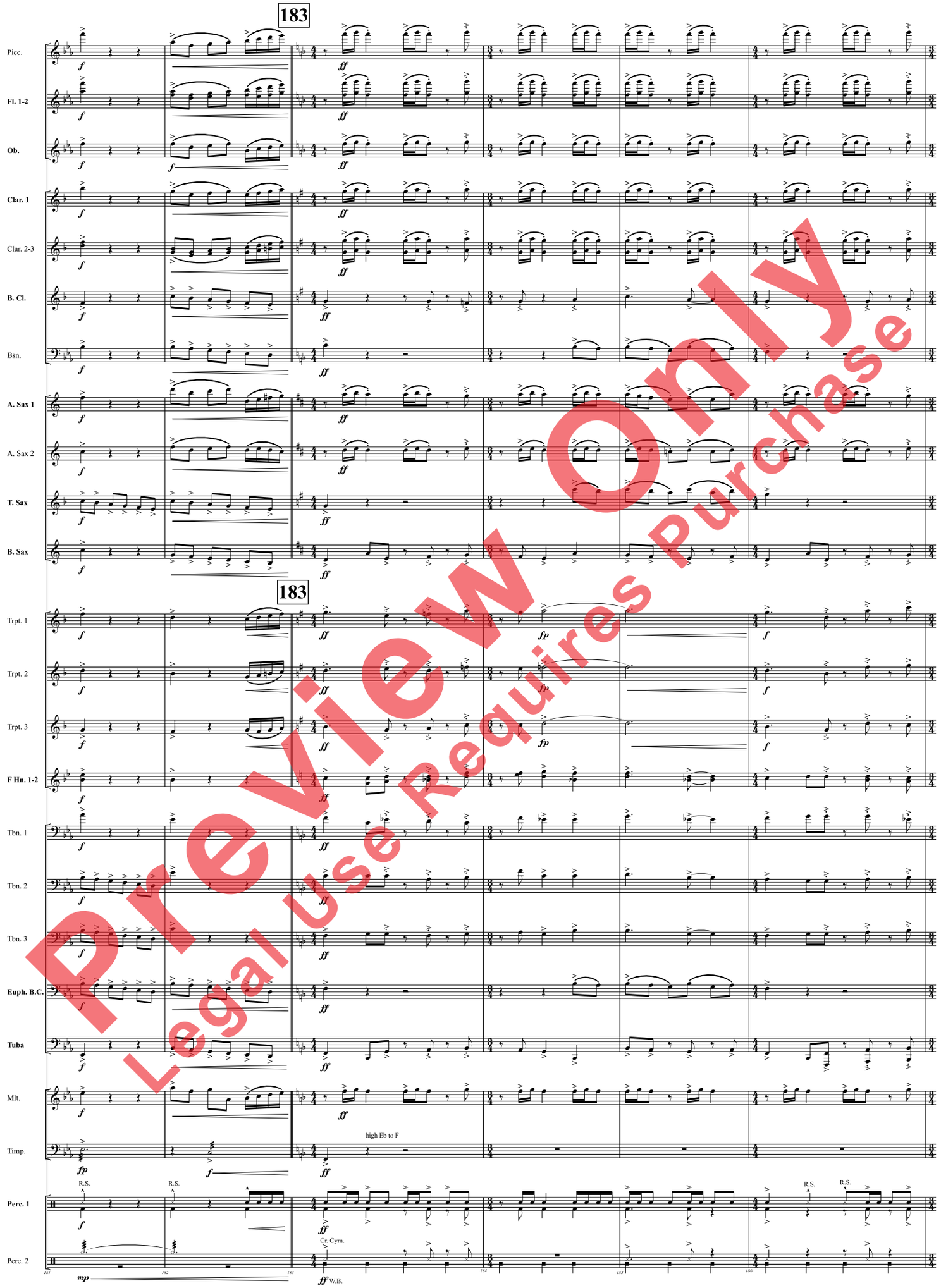

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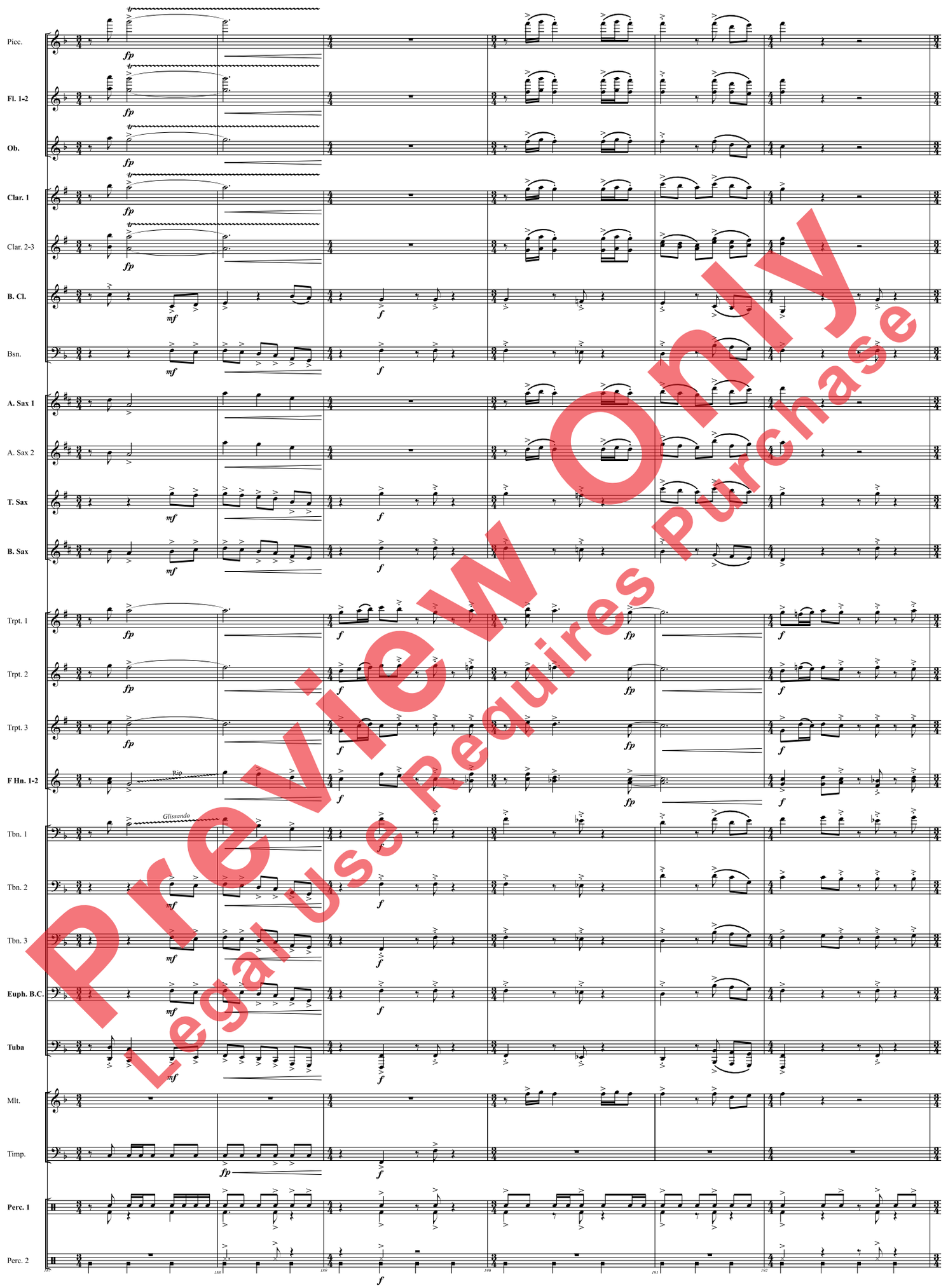

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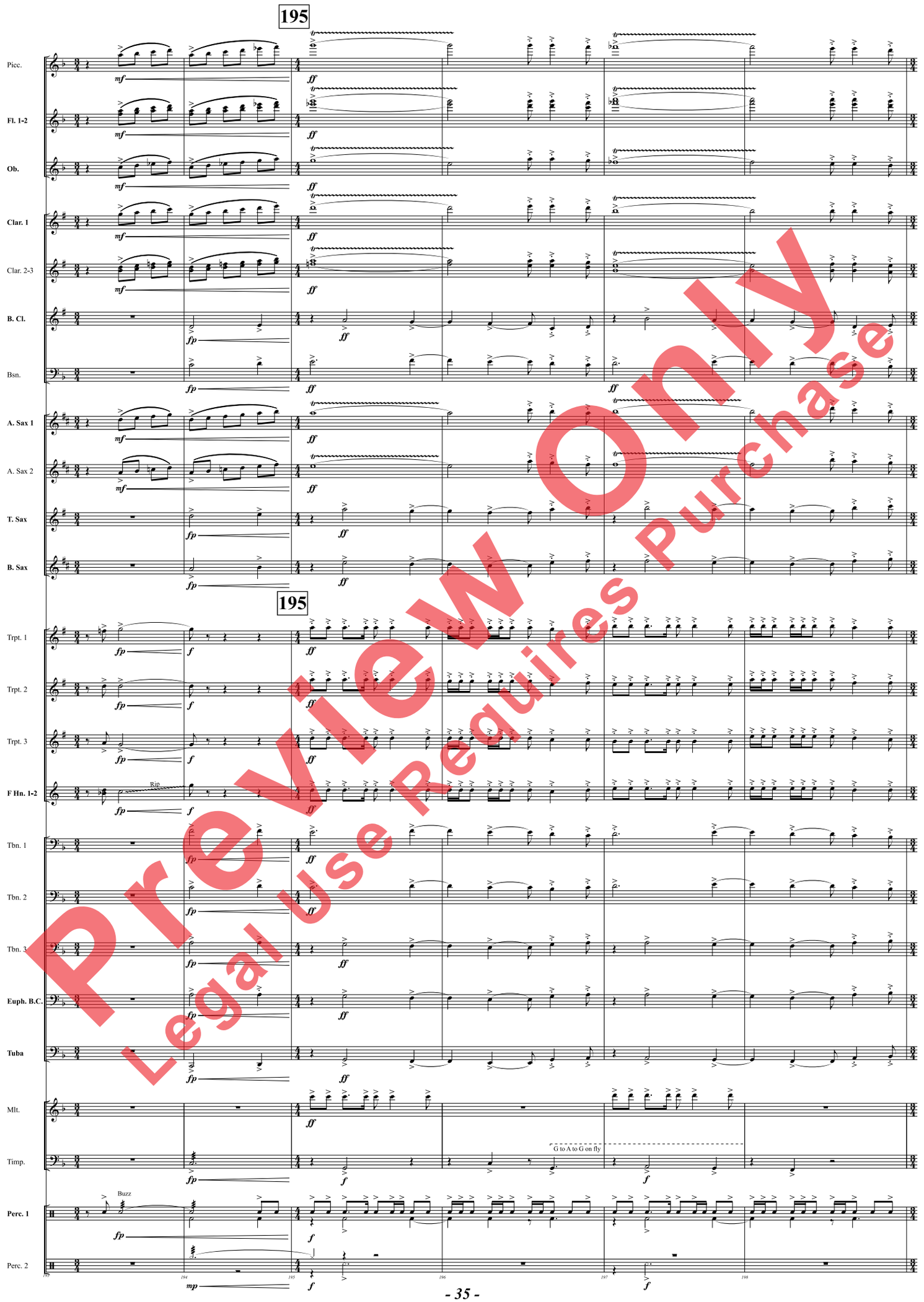

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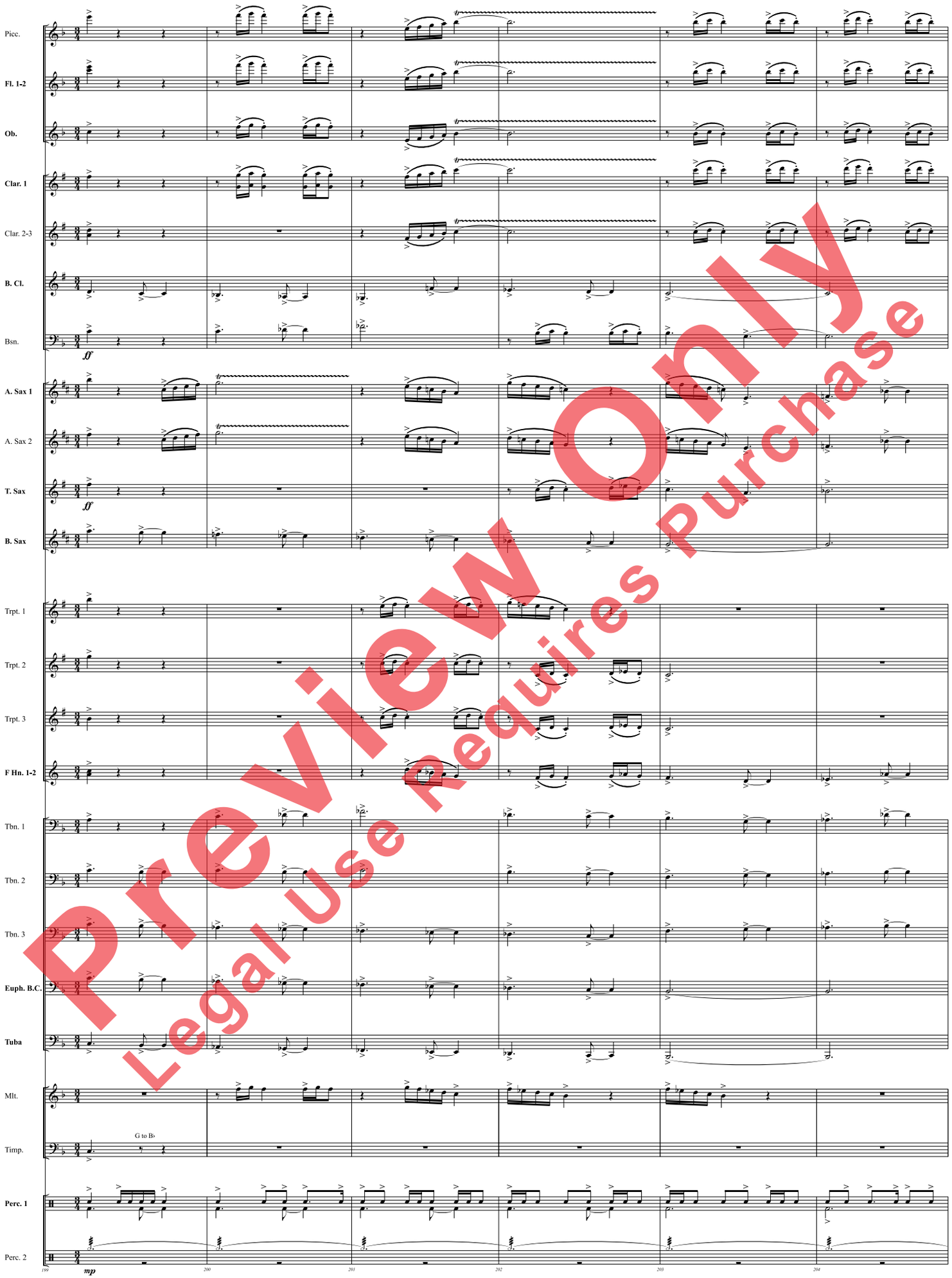

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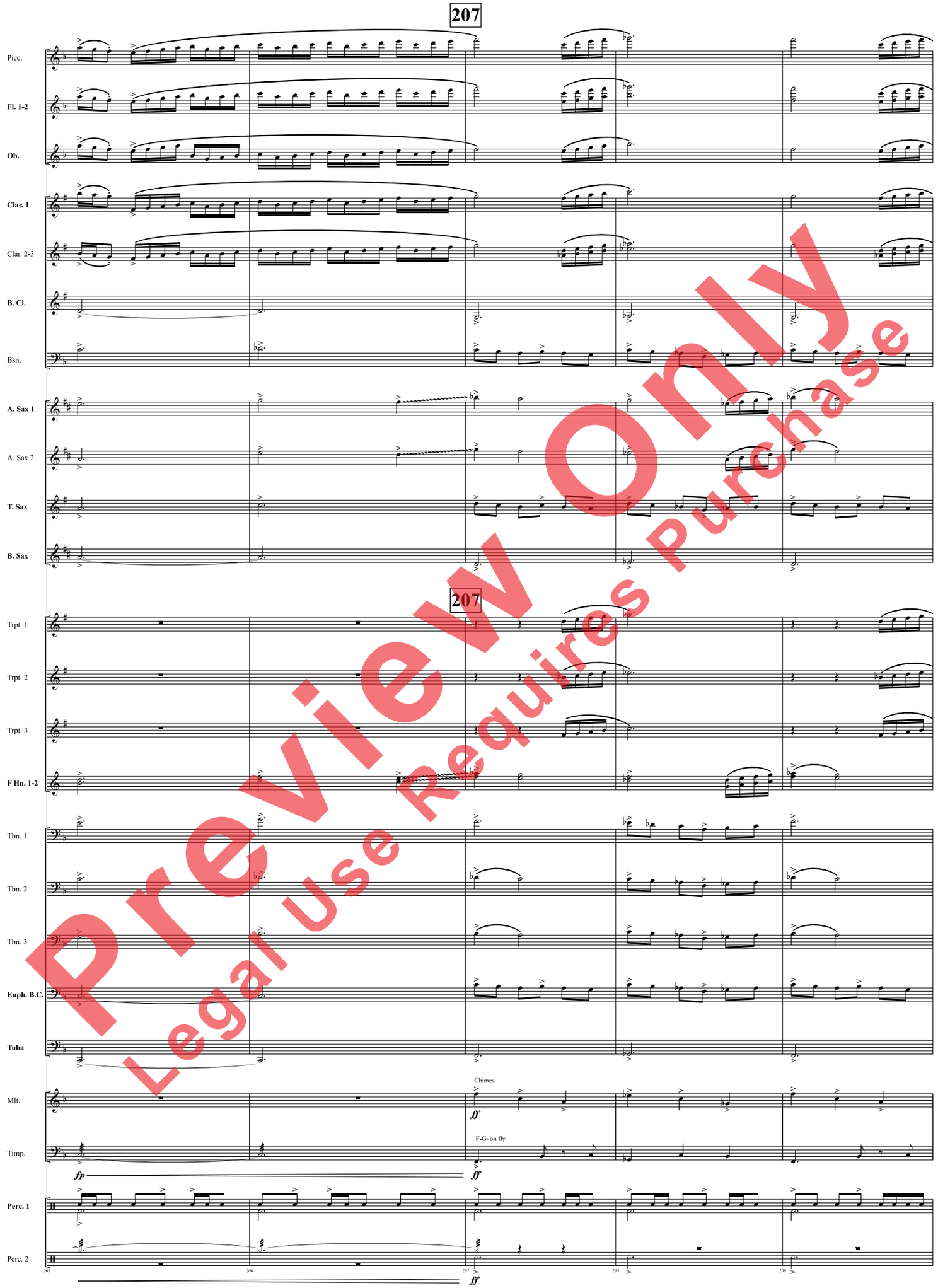

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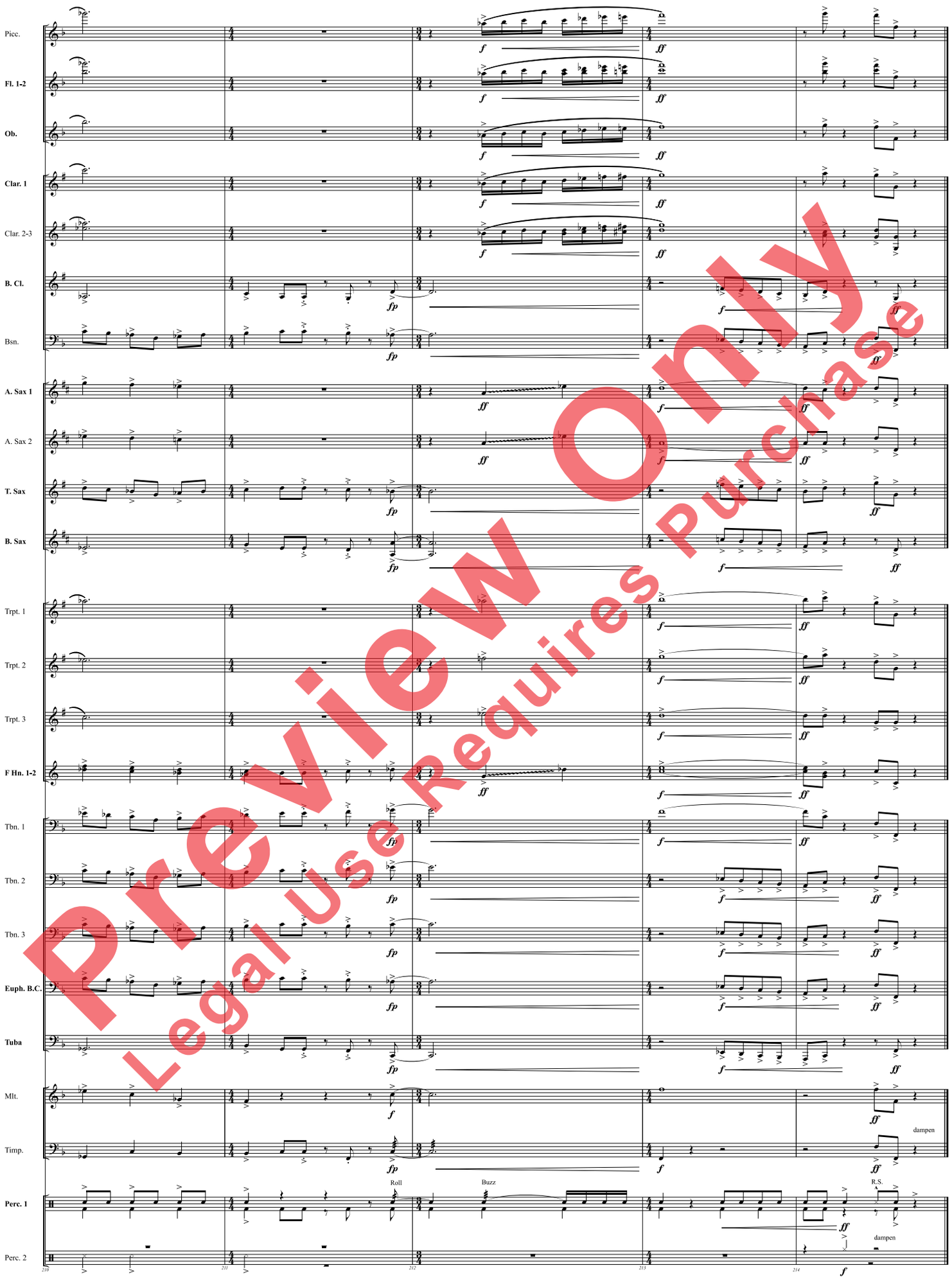

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