Concerto Grosso

Opus 6, No. 3

(Polonaise)

GEORGE FREDERICK HANDEL
Arranged by TIM McCARRICK

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INSTRUMENTATION

1 Conductor
8 1st Violin
8 2nd Violin
5 3rd Violin (Viola 𝄞)
5 Viola
5 Cello
5 String Bass

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

The landmark collection of concertos that is Handel's Opus 6 produced some of the finest string playing in the entire Baroque period. This enchanting polonaise in the key of G Major is a rarity; it is one of the only times Handel specifically placed and named a dance form movement into a concerto grosso. (Instead he chose purely instrumental music with only tempo markings such as *Allegro* or *Andante*.) In keeping with the style, your soloists or first desk players get a few "concertino" passages while your "ripieno" players rejoin them at the tutti. This is solid Baroque literature and very true to the original. Many people know the somber polonaises from Chopin in the romantic era, but historically they were elegant and upbeat. The word "polonaise" simply means "from Poland" and is used as the name of this elegant dance, usually a promenade of couples. So the tempo of this piece must never be too fast. Also the phrasing is unusual with the second beat being the *beginning* of the musical phrase that leads to the downbeat. I hope you enjoy this unusual work from G.F. Handel!

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.

In memory of Dr. Constantine Johns, teacher and mentor

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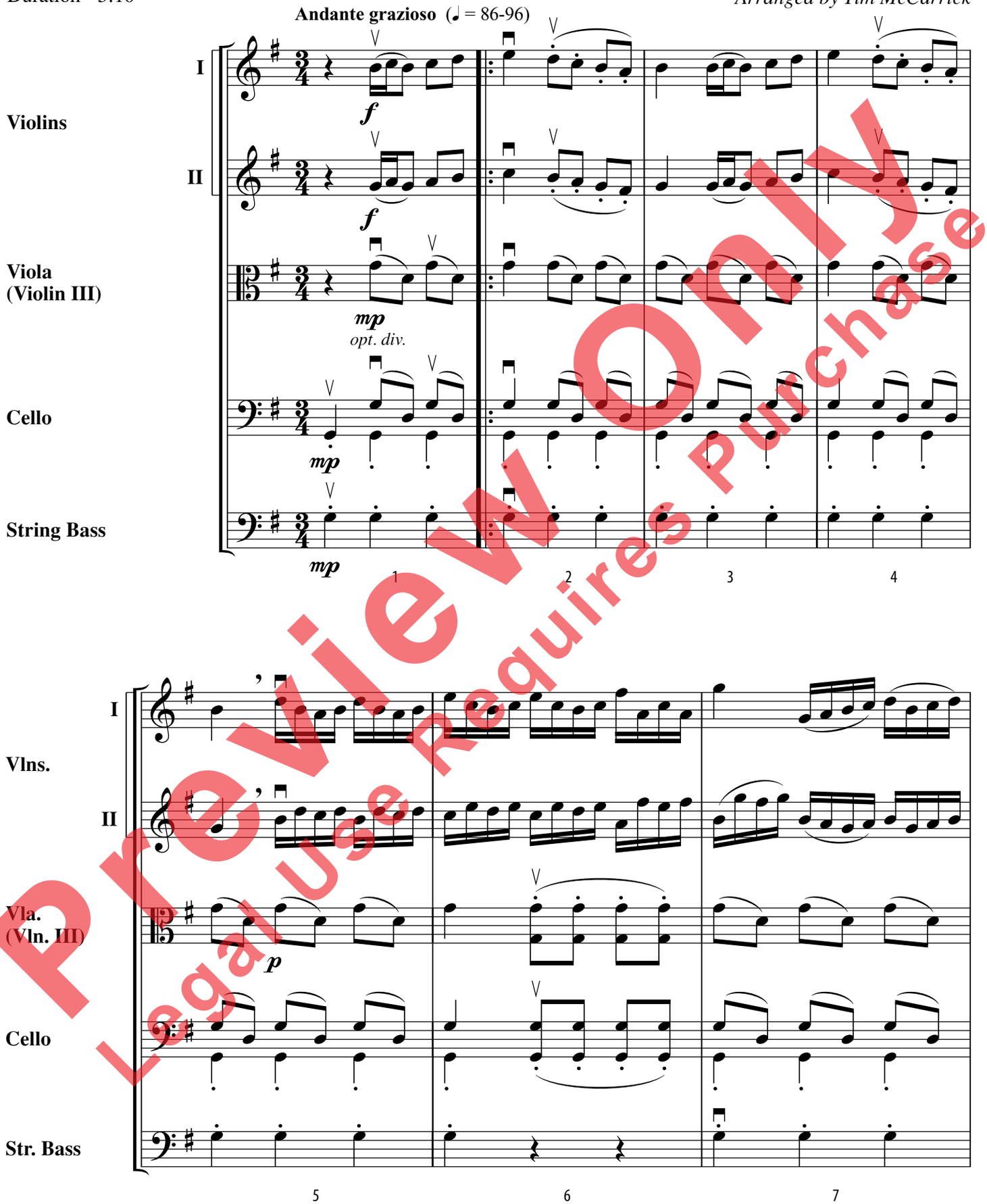
(Polonaise)

CONDUCTOR SCORE
Duration - 5:10

George Frederick Handel
Arranged by Tim McCarrick



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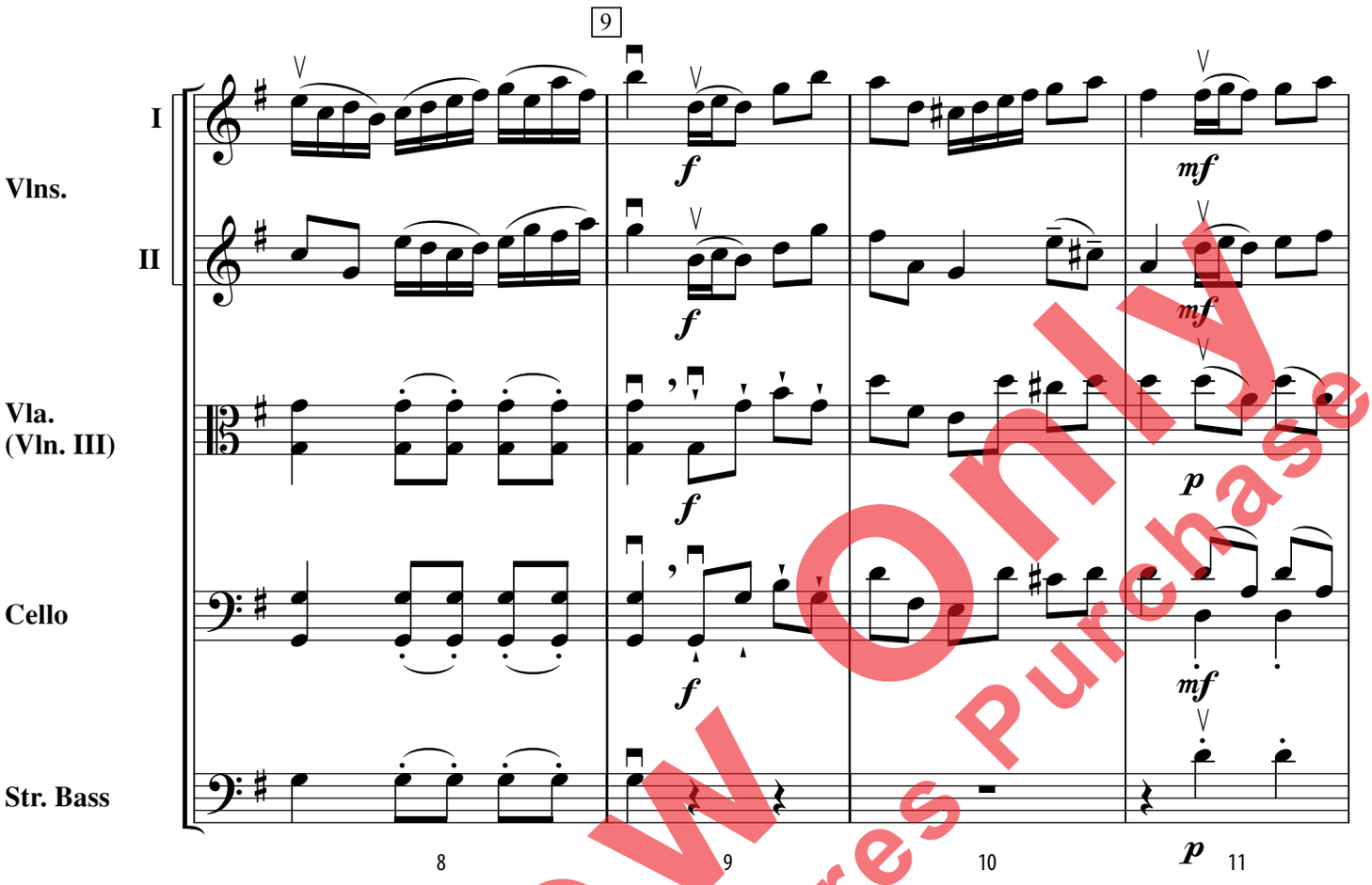

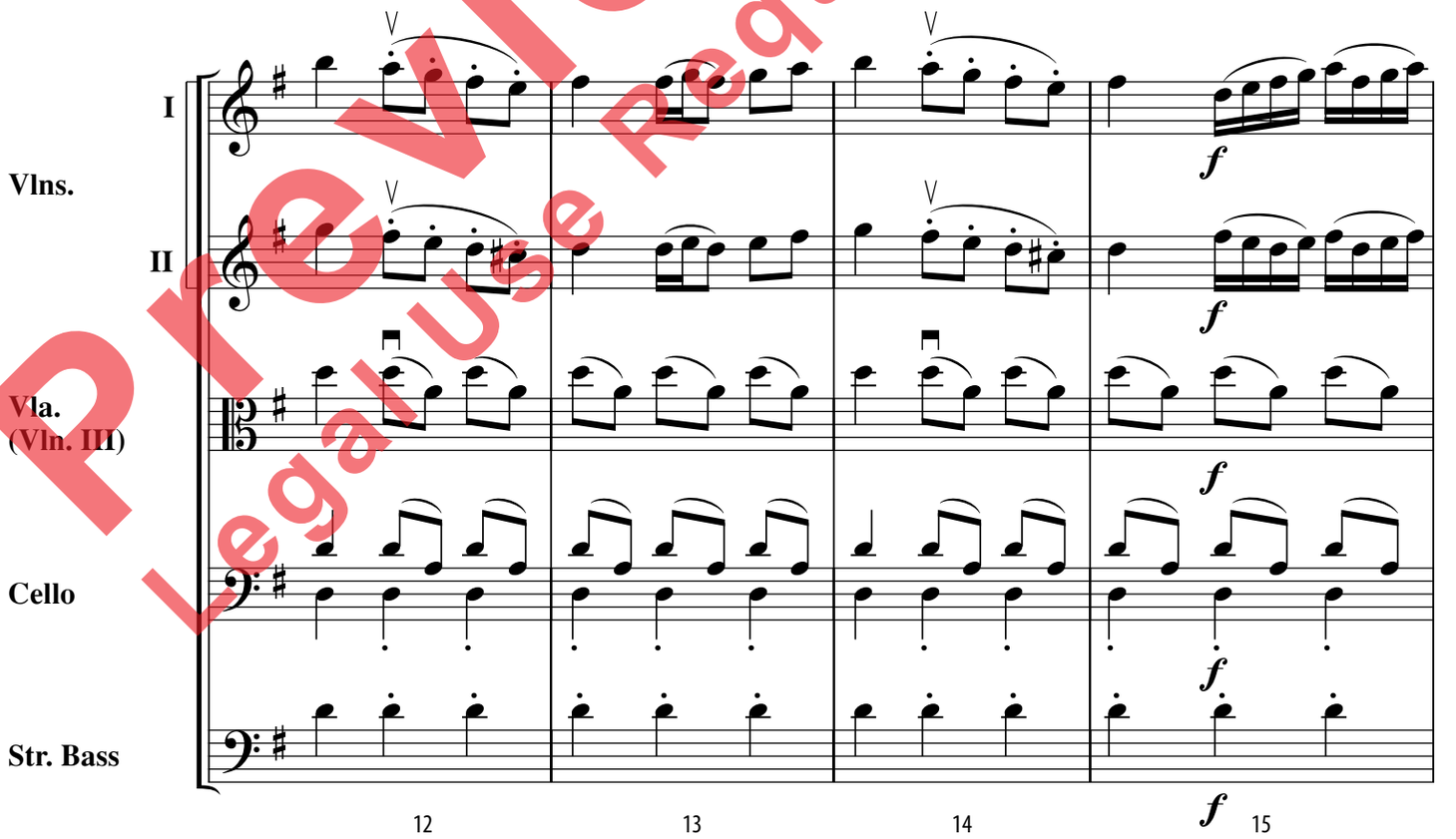

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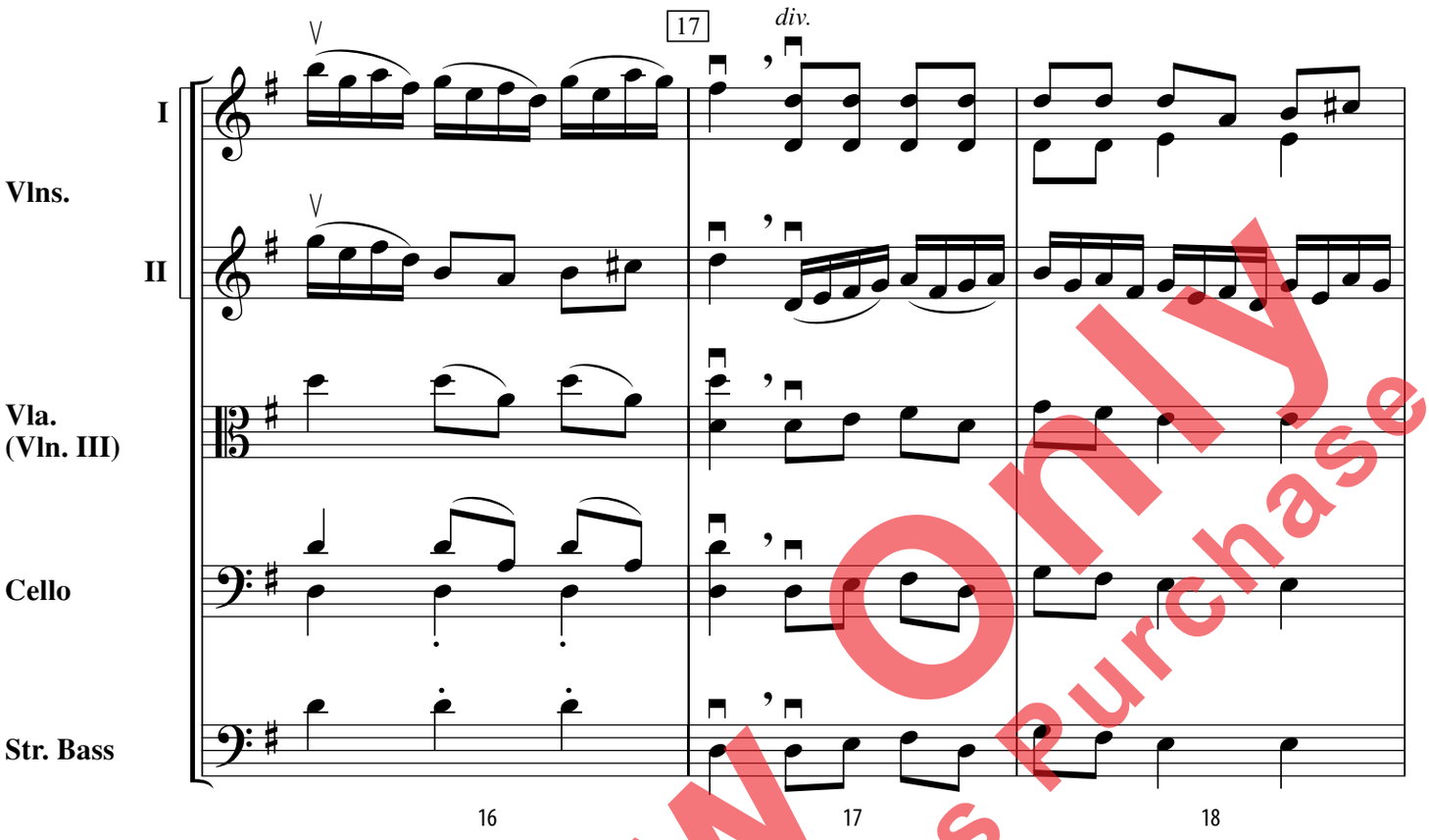

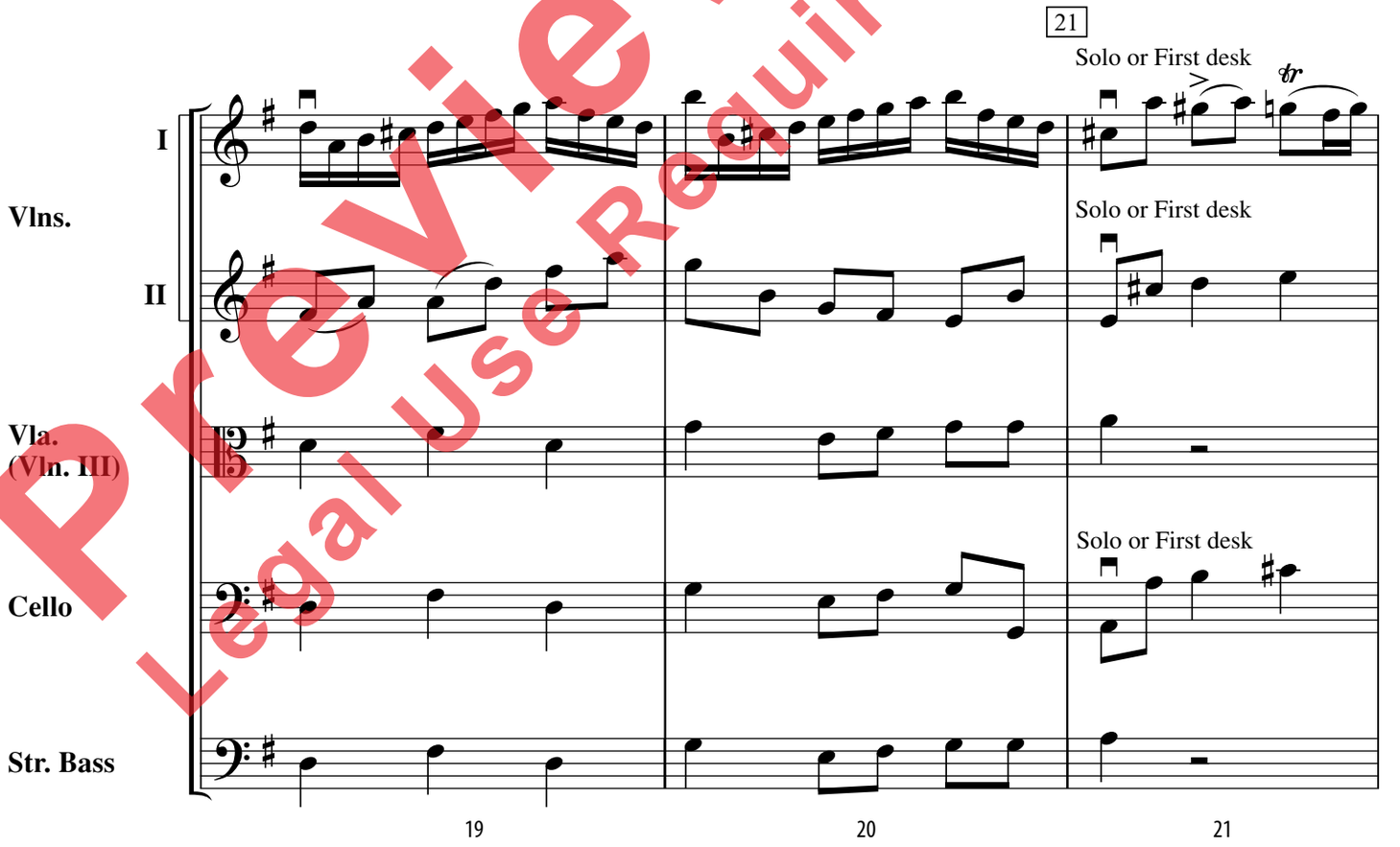

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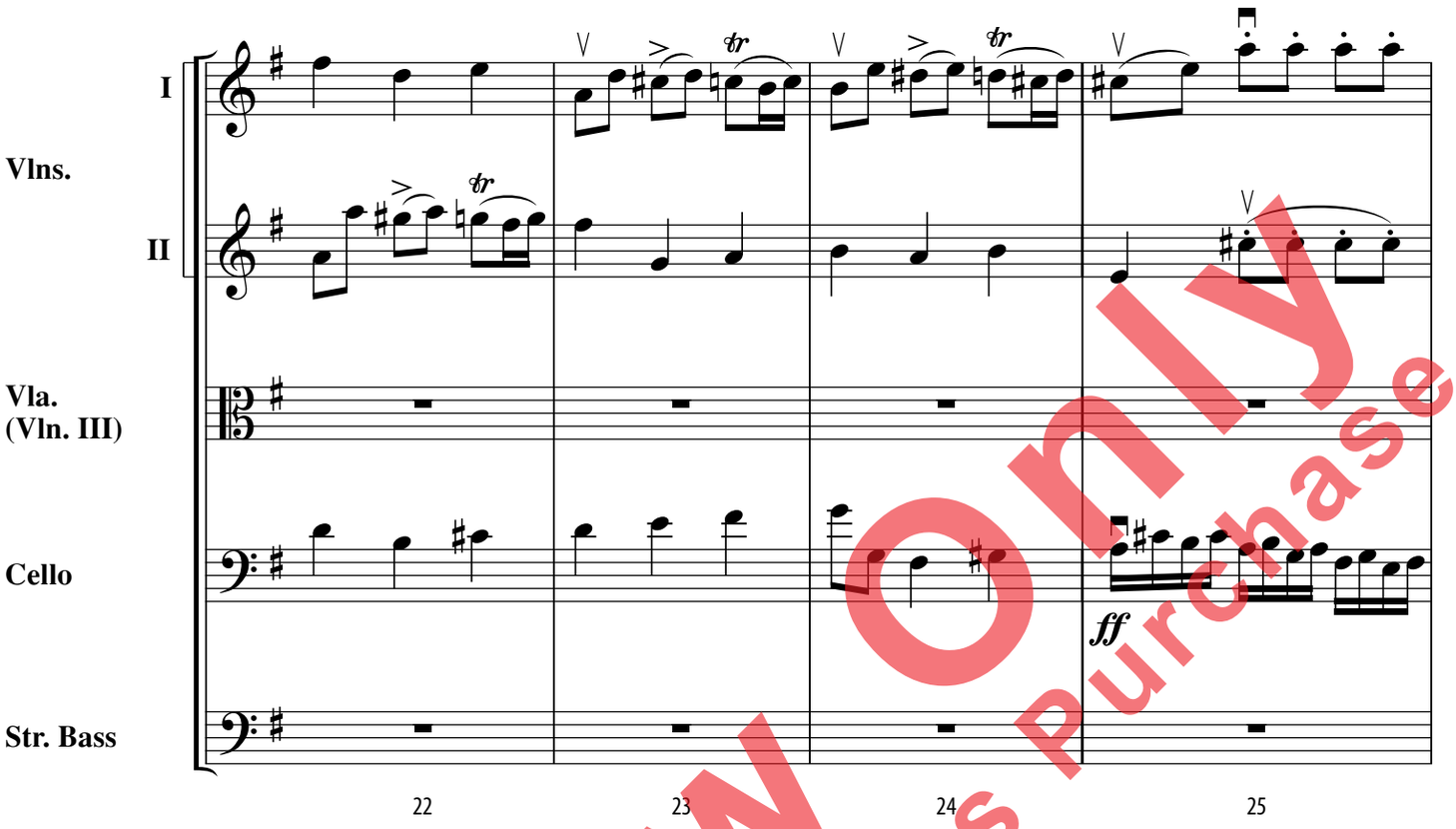

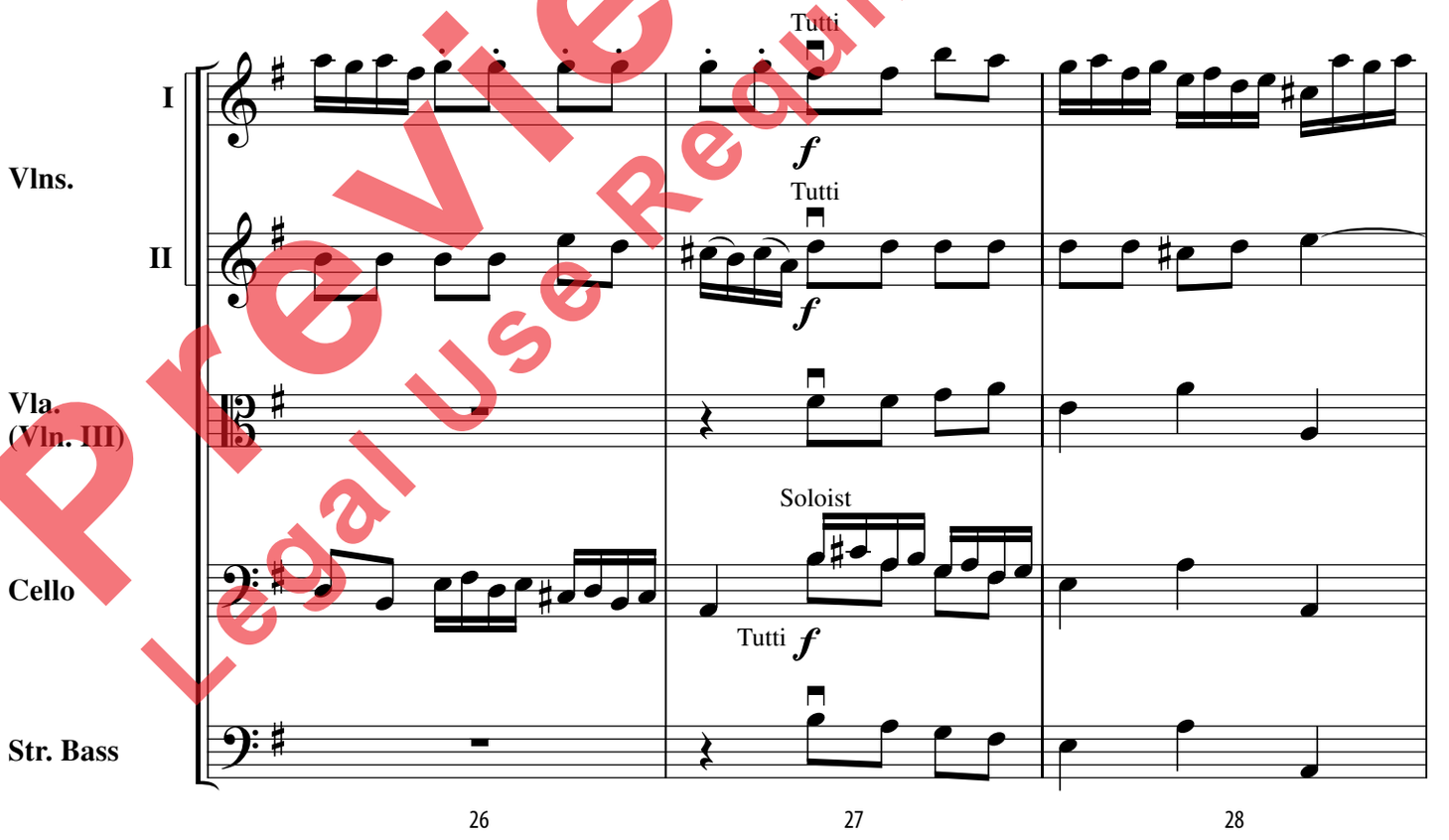

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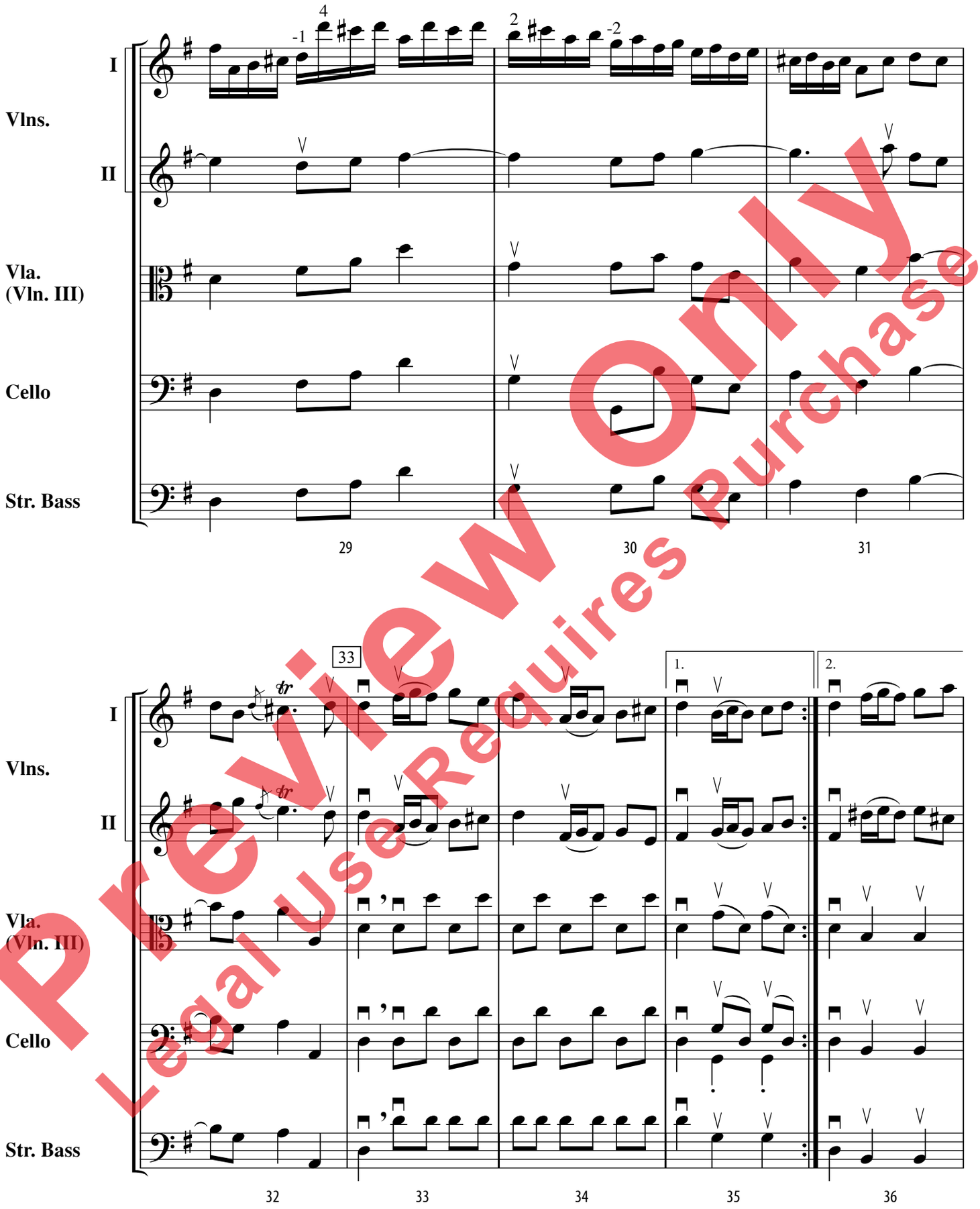

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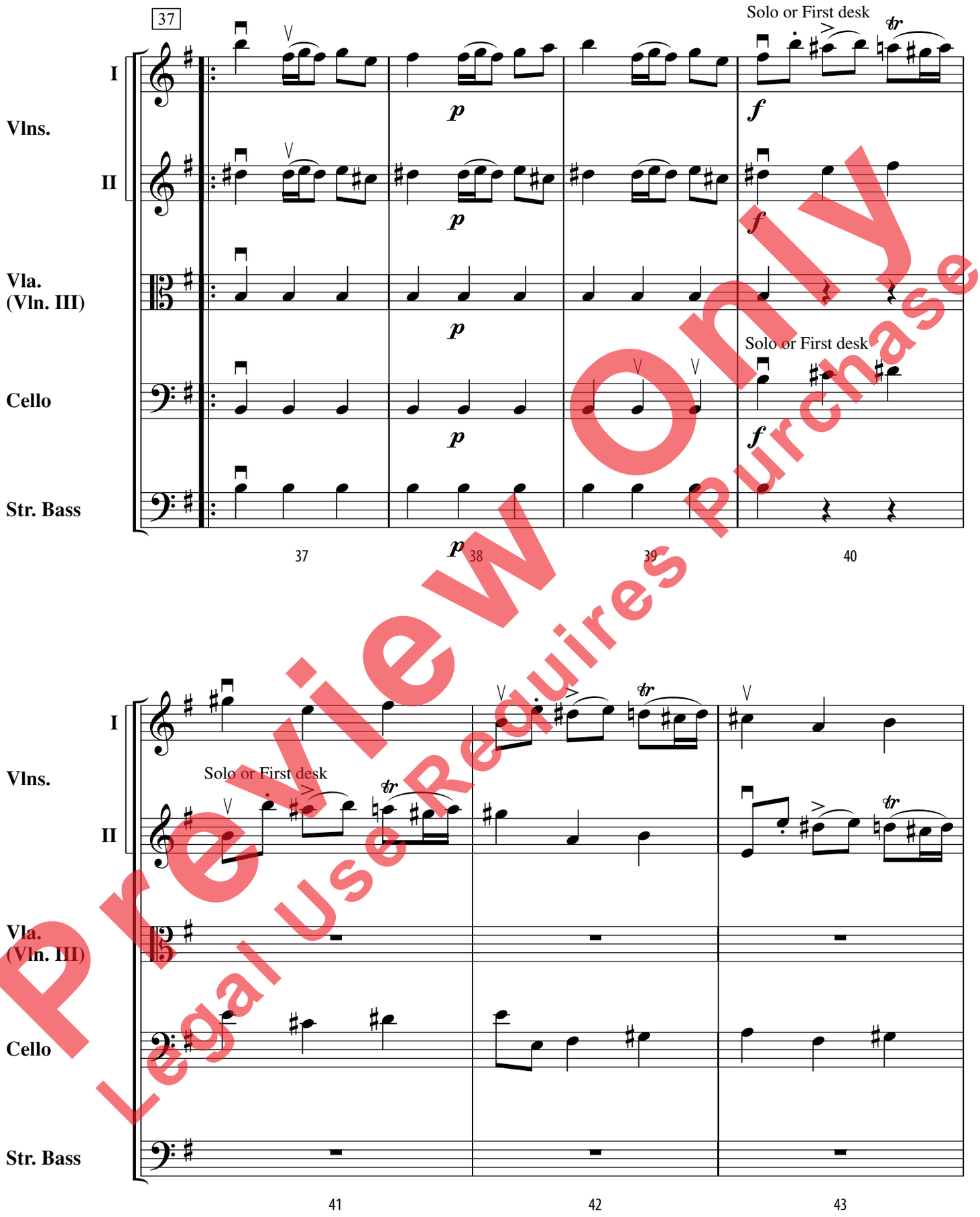

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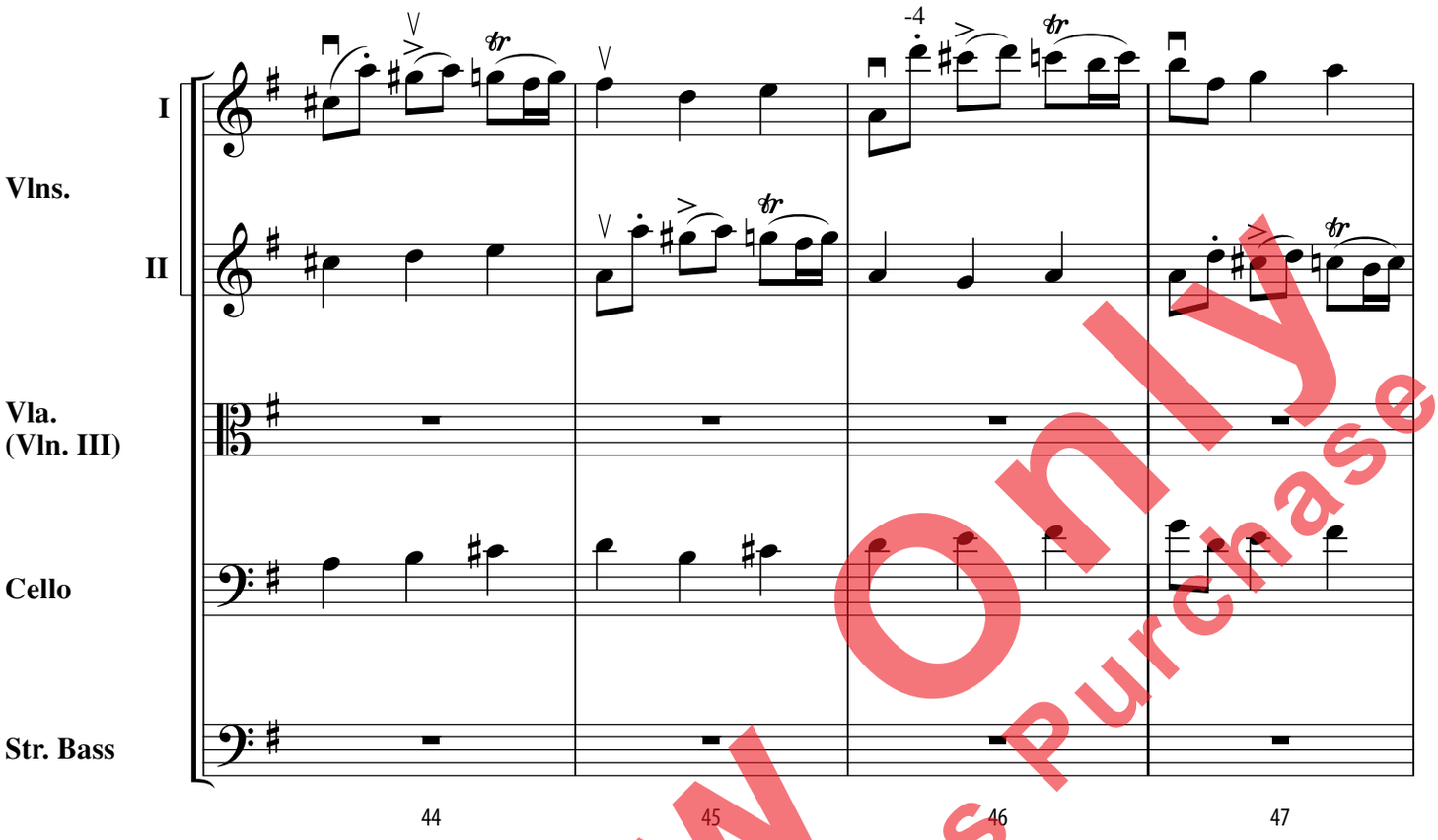

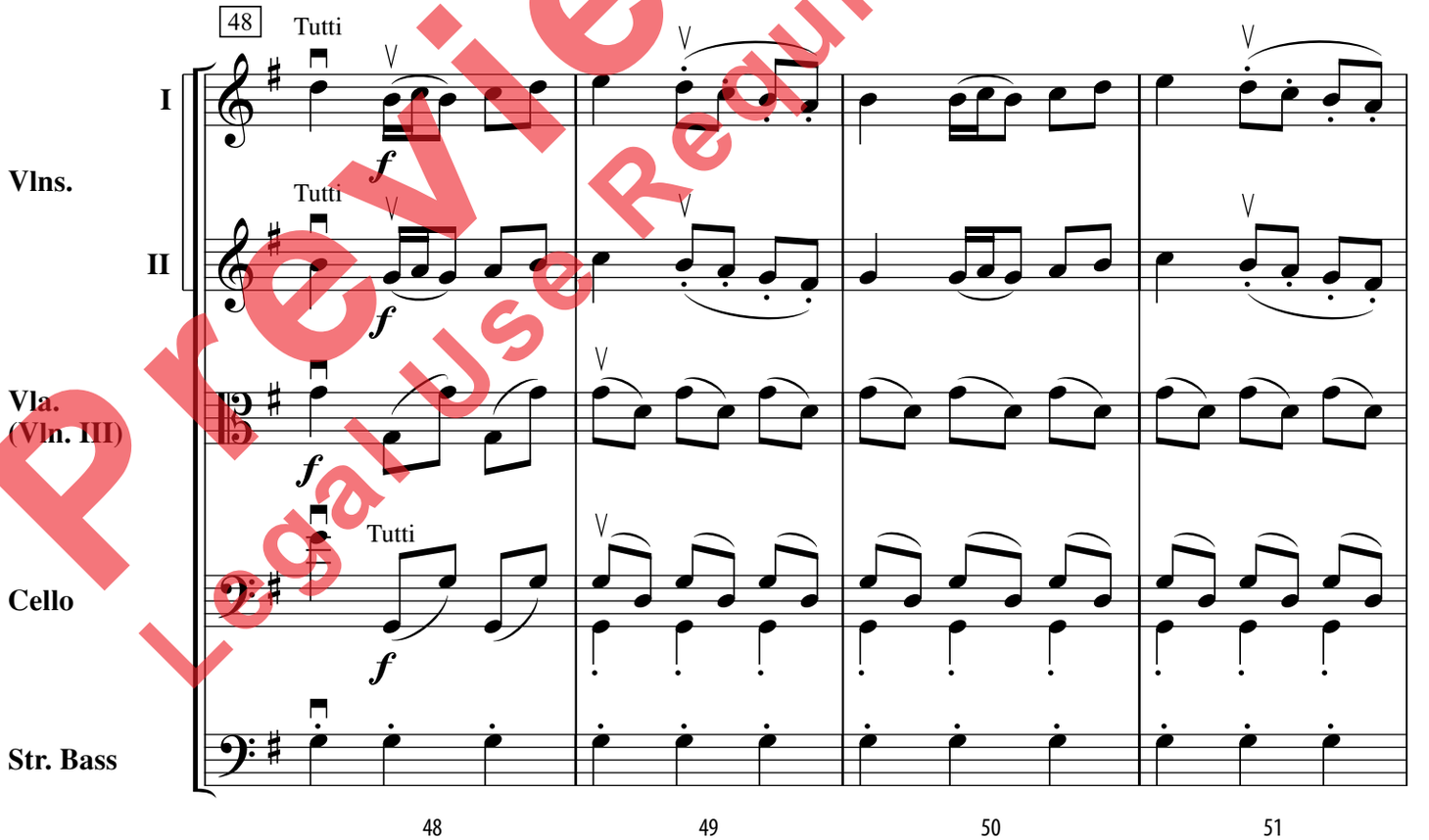

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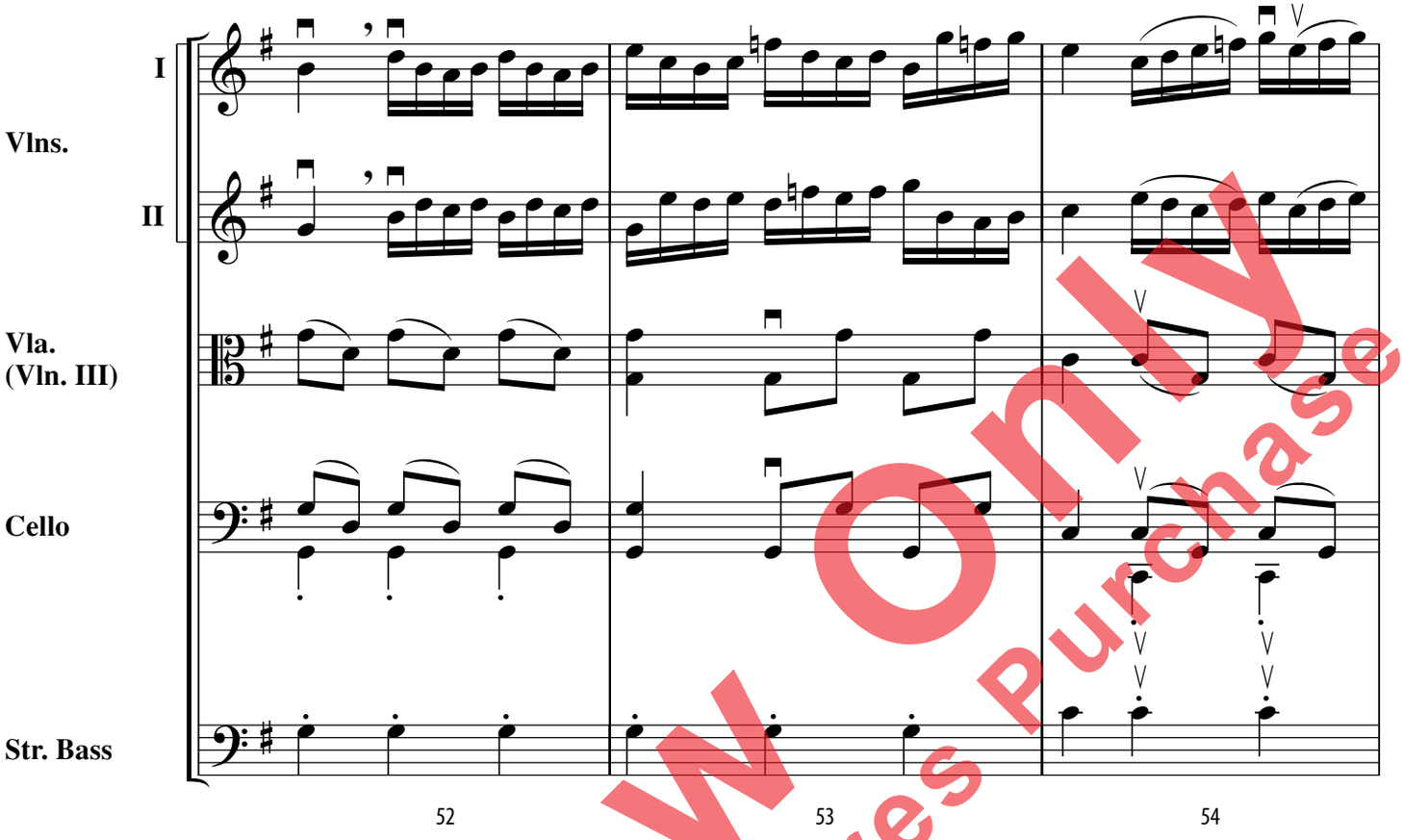

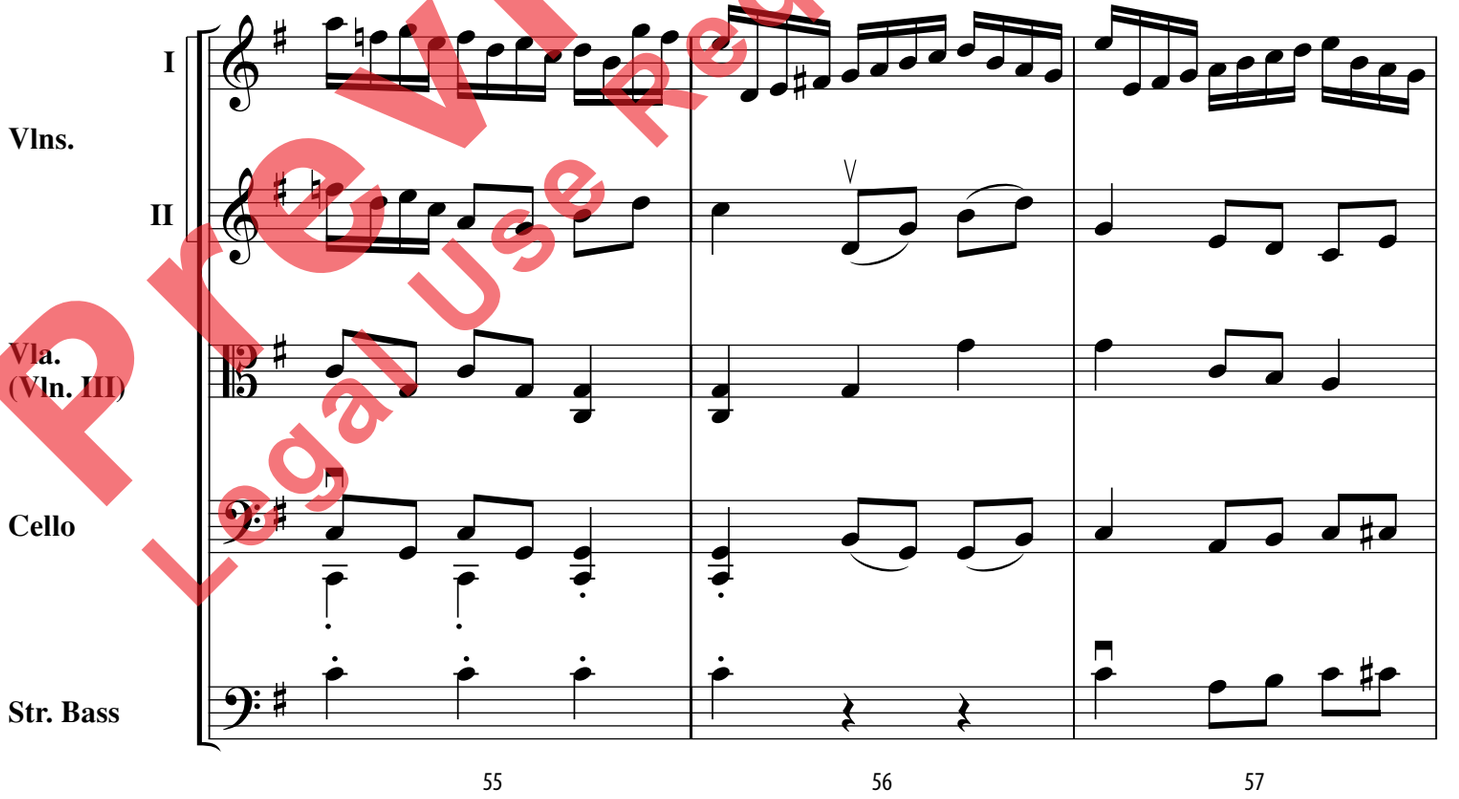

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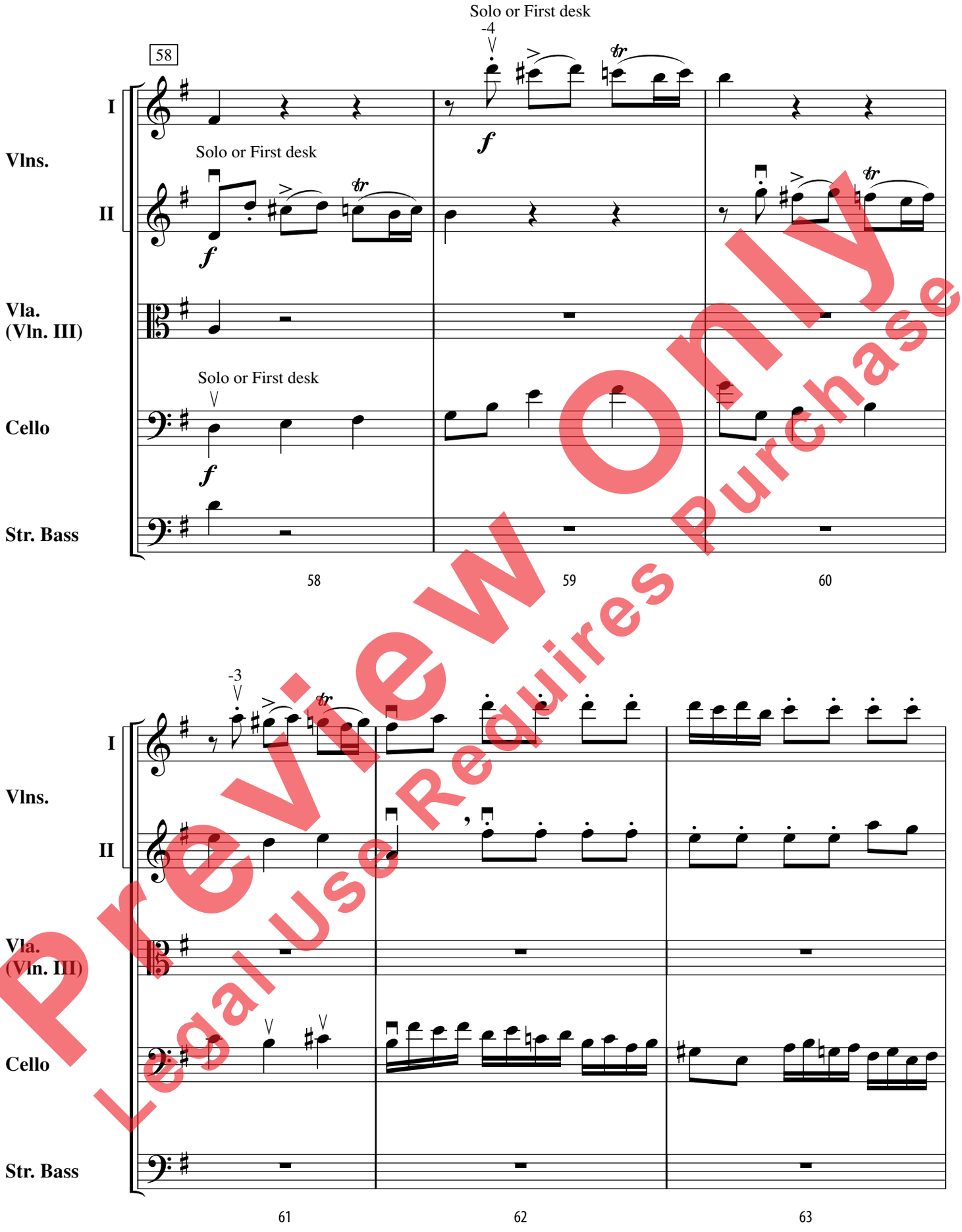

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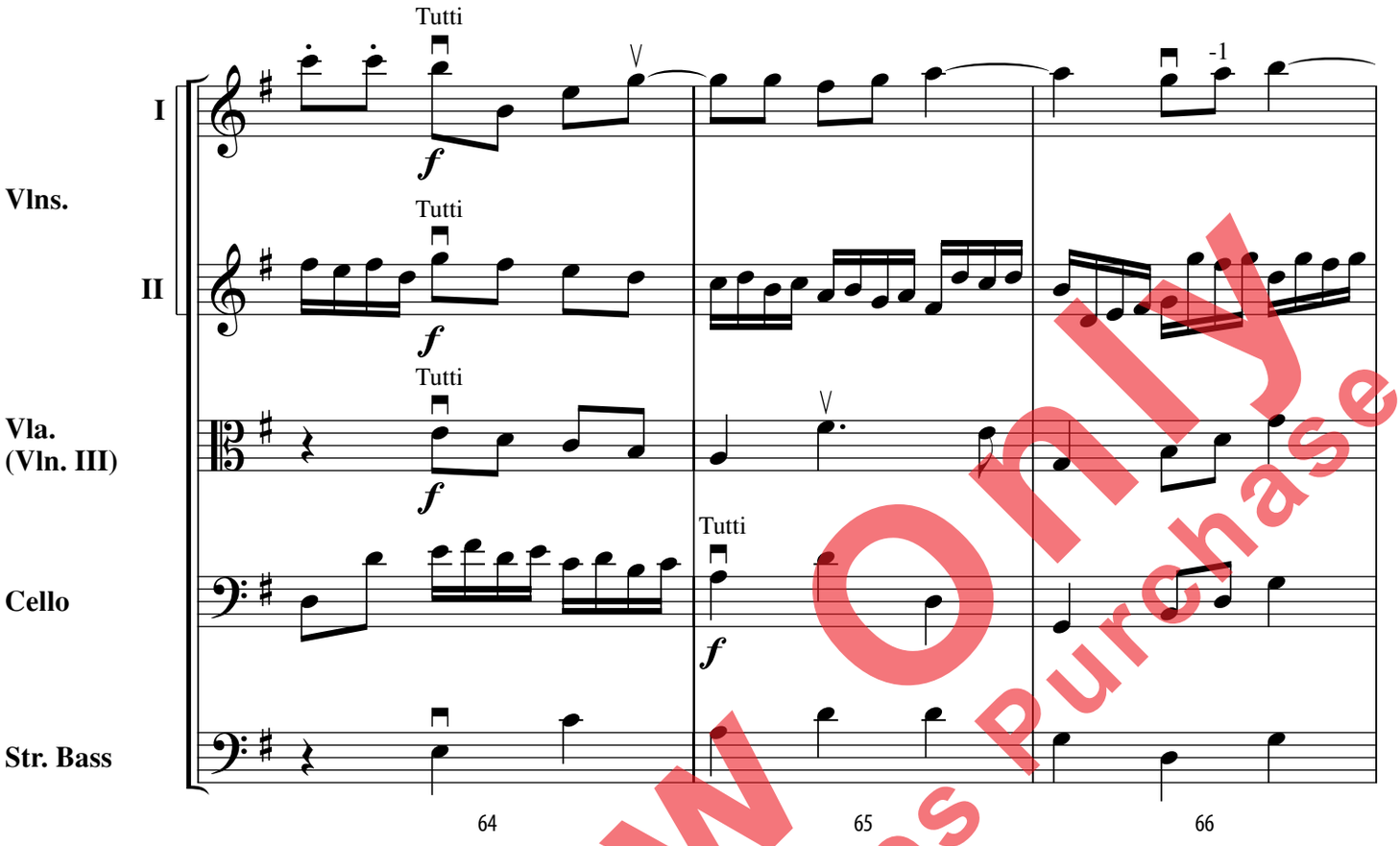

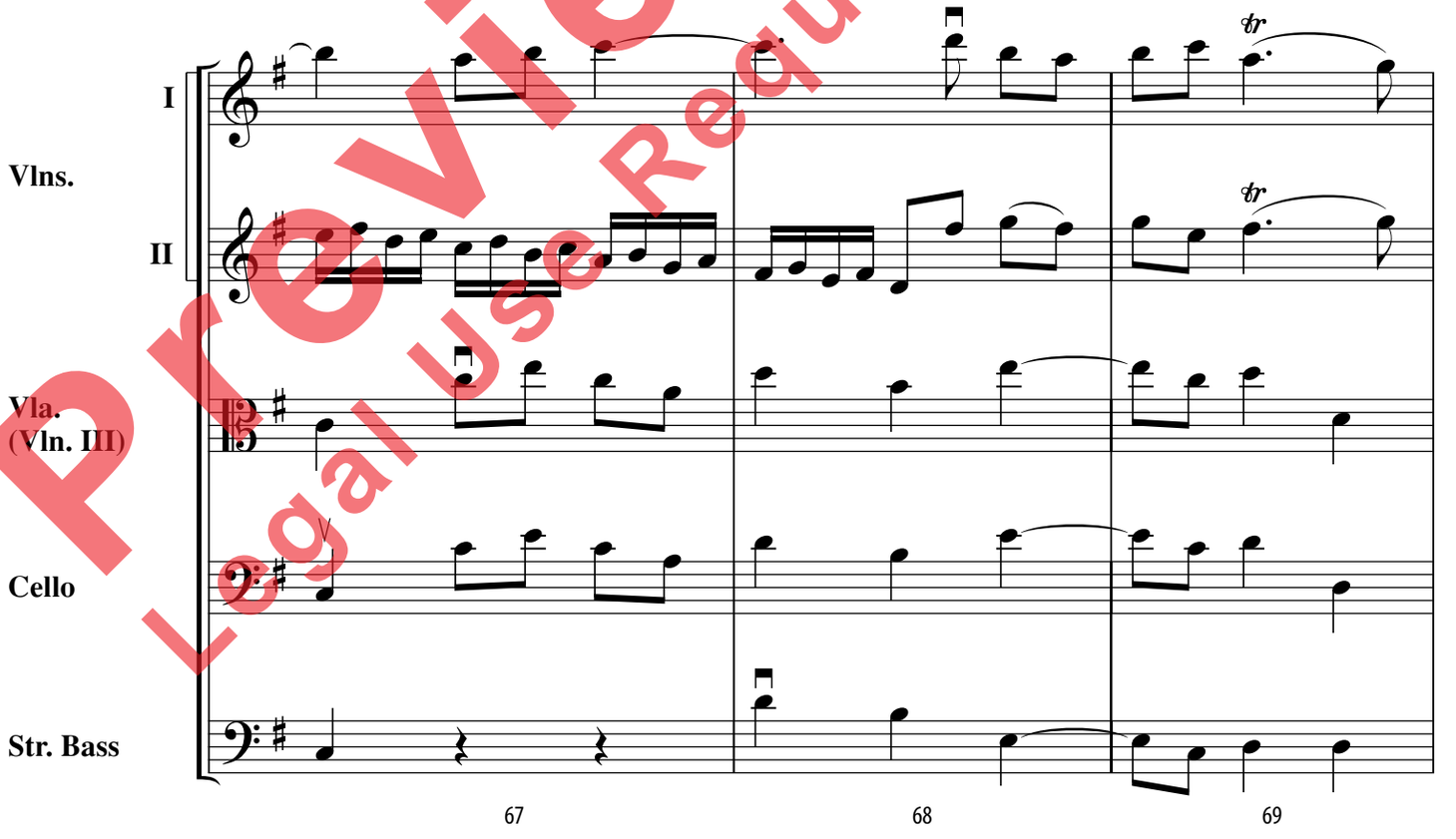

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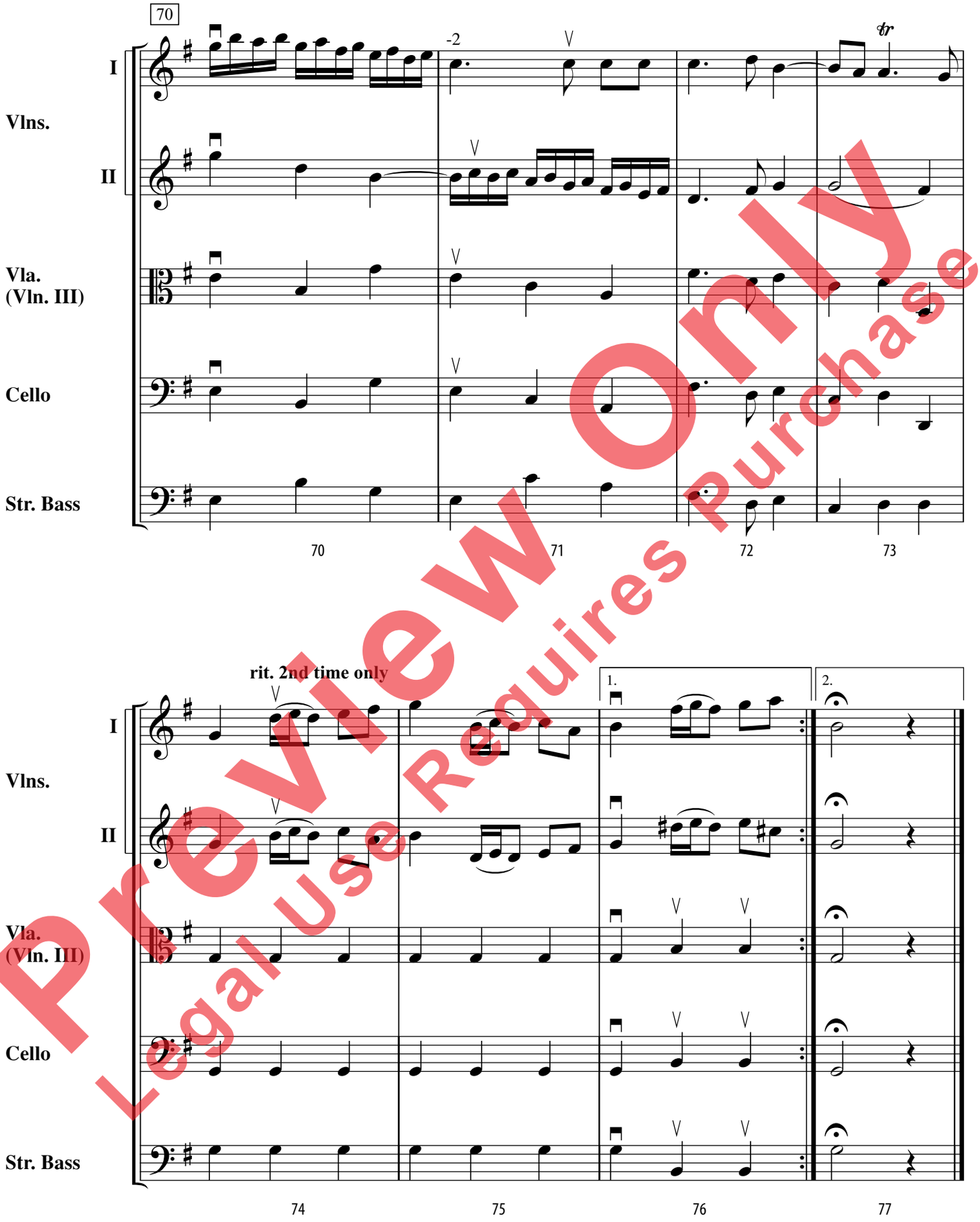

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