From *OK Computer*

Paranoid Android

Words and Music by THOMAS YORKE, JONATHAN GREENWOOD, PHILIP SELWAY, COLIN GREENWOOD and EDWARD O'BRIEN
Arranged by ERIC GORFAIN

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INSTRUMENTATION

1 Conductor
8 1st Violin
8 2nd Violin
5 Viola
5 Cello
5 String Bass

PROGRAM NOTES

Radiohead, Britain's premier "avant-rock" band, are well known for taking rock music to new heights. Orchestral in scope, but rock by instrumentation, the band released the album *OK Computer* in 1997, spawning critical acclaim and a devoted legion of fans. Ever since, that work has been routinely hailed as the best album of that decade. "Paranoid Android" is the epic centerpiece of the album. Consisting of three distinct sections or movements, with a last-minute reprise of the second movement, the song weaves a sophisticated web of both torment and elation. Taking its title from a character in Douglas Adams' *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* series, Radiohead frontman Thom Yorke wrote this bleak yet darkly humorous song after feeling alienated in a crowded room in Hollywood; no wonder that "Paranoid Android" conveys claustrophobic panic. Within this musical journey, beautiful melodies float above rhythmically aggressive riffs, scratchy sounds clutter the creepy calm and, above all, an epic masterpiece of the rock genre finds a new home in this orchestral setting.

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.

Belwin ORCHESTRA
a division of Alfred

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This arrangement is challenging; time signature changes, precise rhythms, string crossing and aggressive playing are just a few of the things that will keep both the conductor and musicians on edge. However, the piece is not just playable, but fun to play once a little woodshedding has been done. Right at the beginning, the celli and violas must rhythmically lock in together with the pizzicato. Take care not to drag! At m. 17, the rhythmic feel changes and the violas have an undulating yet dynamically flat figure that propels the ensemble. Here the bass must be strong.

At m. 41, the second movement of the piece begins. The 1st violins' pizzicato stabs should be jarring while not stepping on the celli motif. The 7/8 time signature should have a "4 and 3" feel, and again, take care to keep the tempo steady. At m. 61, the 1st violins play a wild melody while the lower strings hammer away down below. The 1st violins remain in a wild mode in mm. 67–72.

At m. 75, the quiet movement of the piece enters. Barber's "Adagio for Strings" is a good model for this section; the beautiful melody belies the impending doom on the horizon. Mm. 99–106 is the most intense passage, though the 1st violins' melody should, at the last minute, become strangely calm, as indicated by the non-vibrato marking in m. 107.

The wild 2nd movement section returns at m. 107, though this time the 1st violins should be pretty wild while remaining rhythmically solid; let the 1st violins have fun with a slow yet exaggerated portamento upwards into oblivion during the tremolo double stop in mm. 117–118 before falling back to earth for the downbeat of m. 119.

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Paranoid Android

CONDUCTOR SCORE
Duration - 6:00

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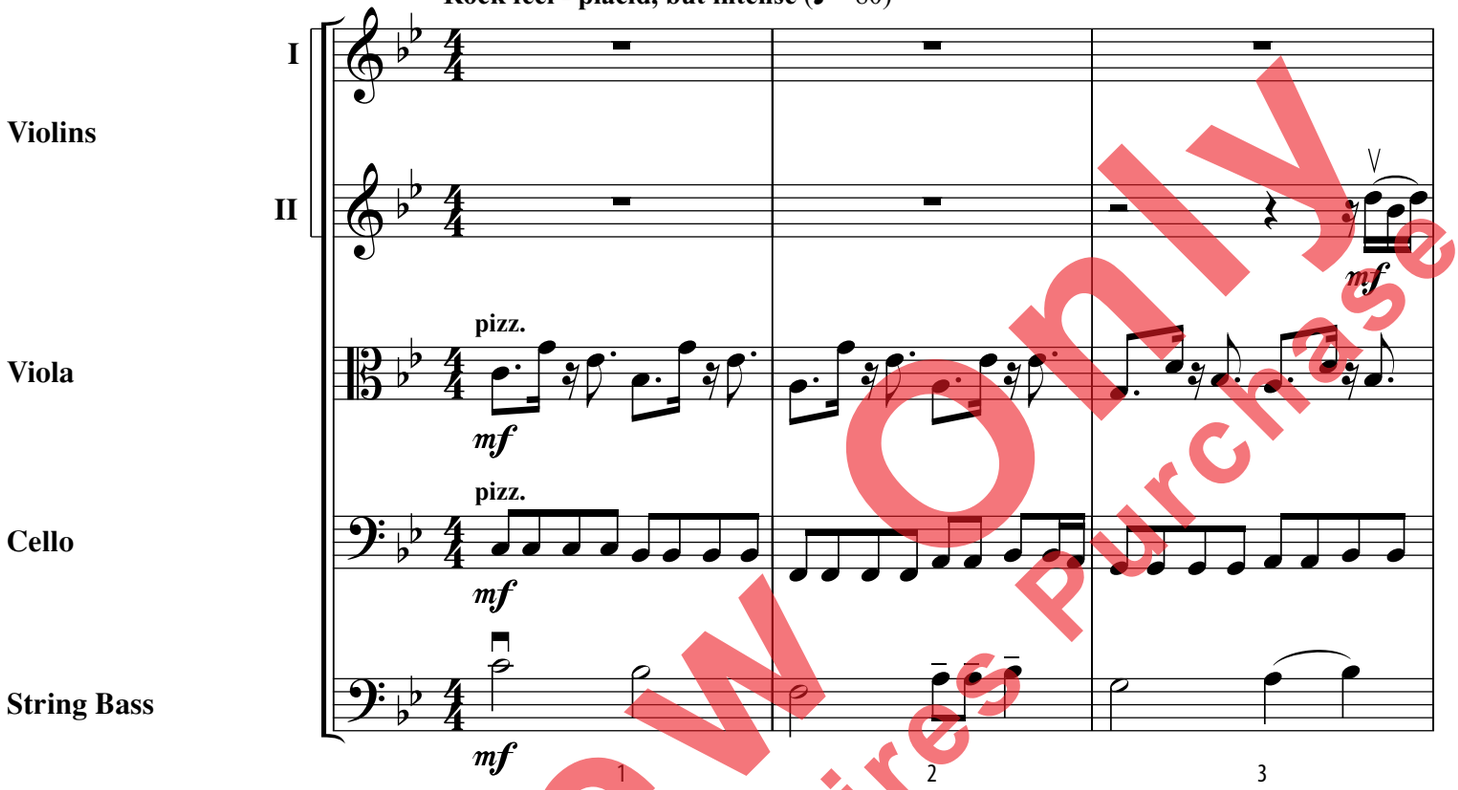
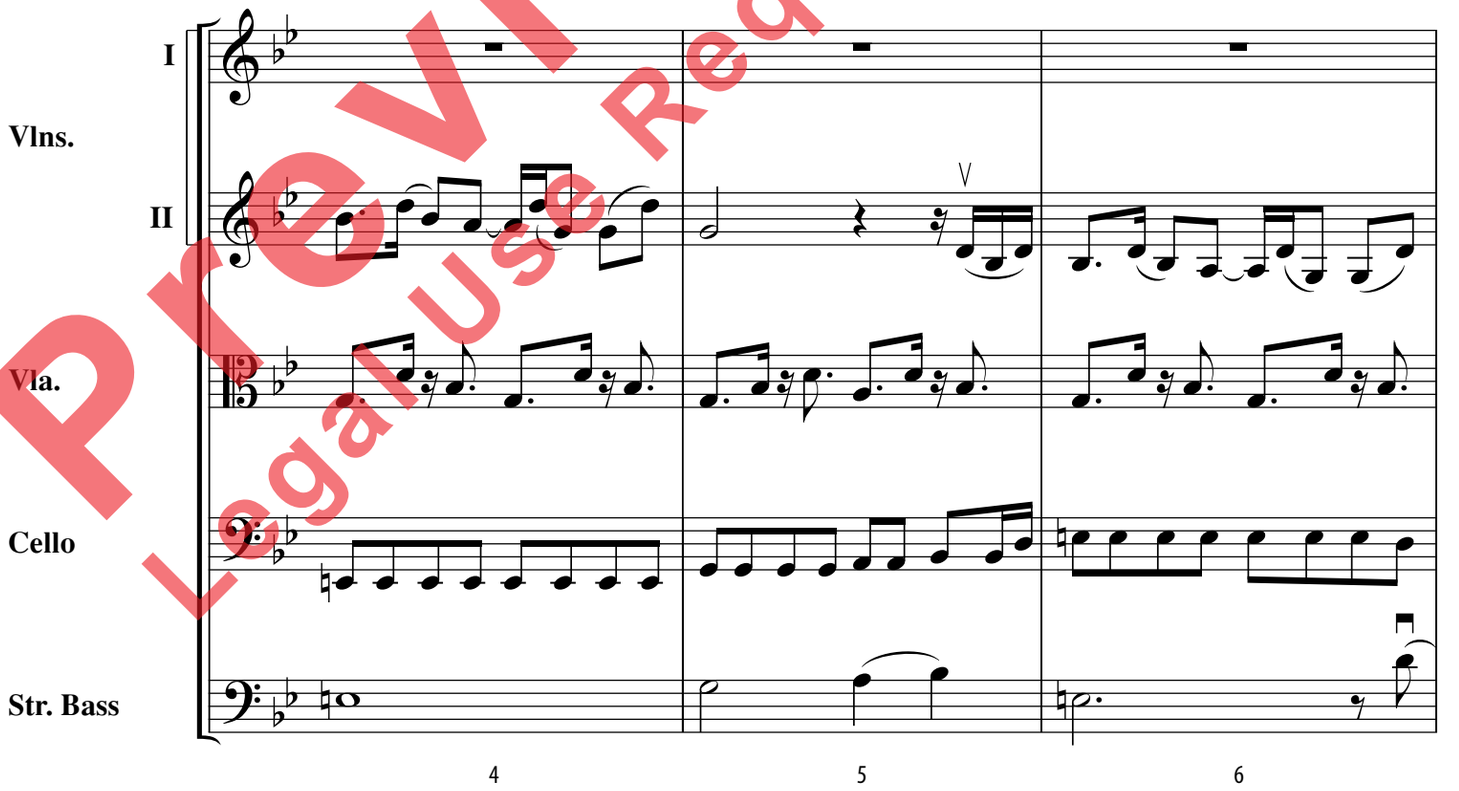
Rock feel - placid, but intense (♩ = 80)





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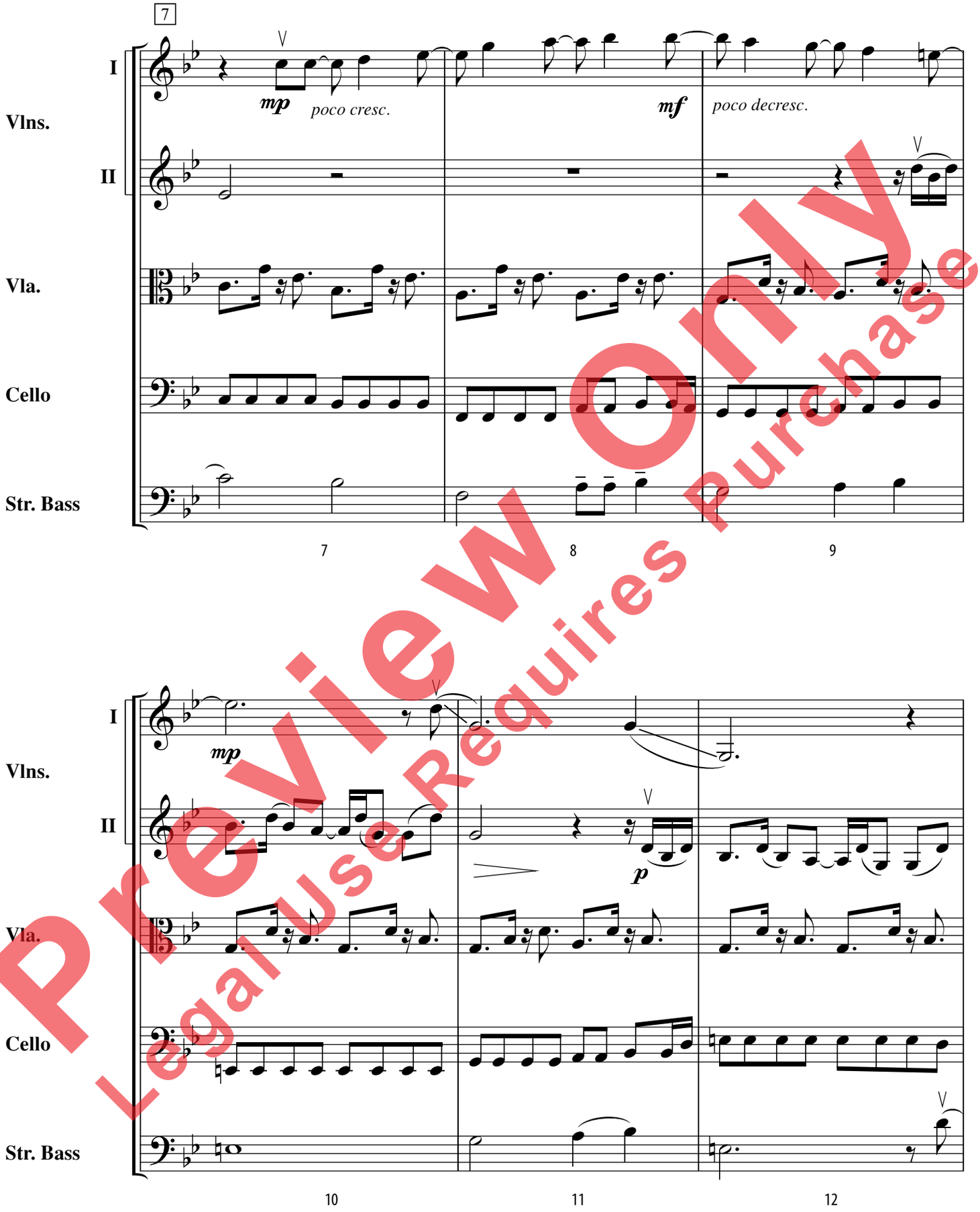

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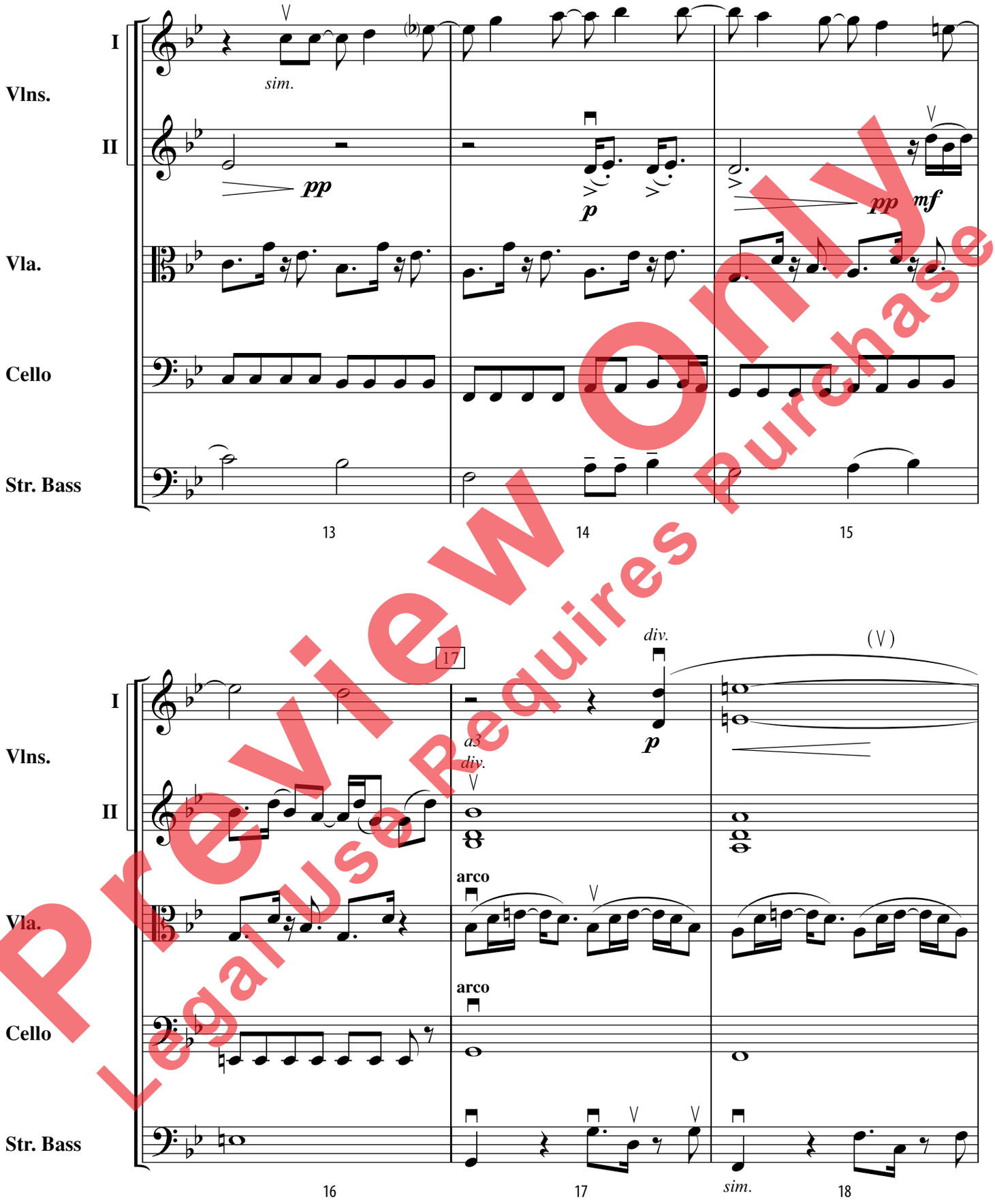

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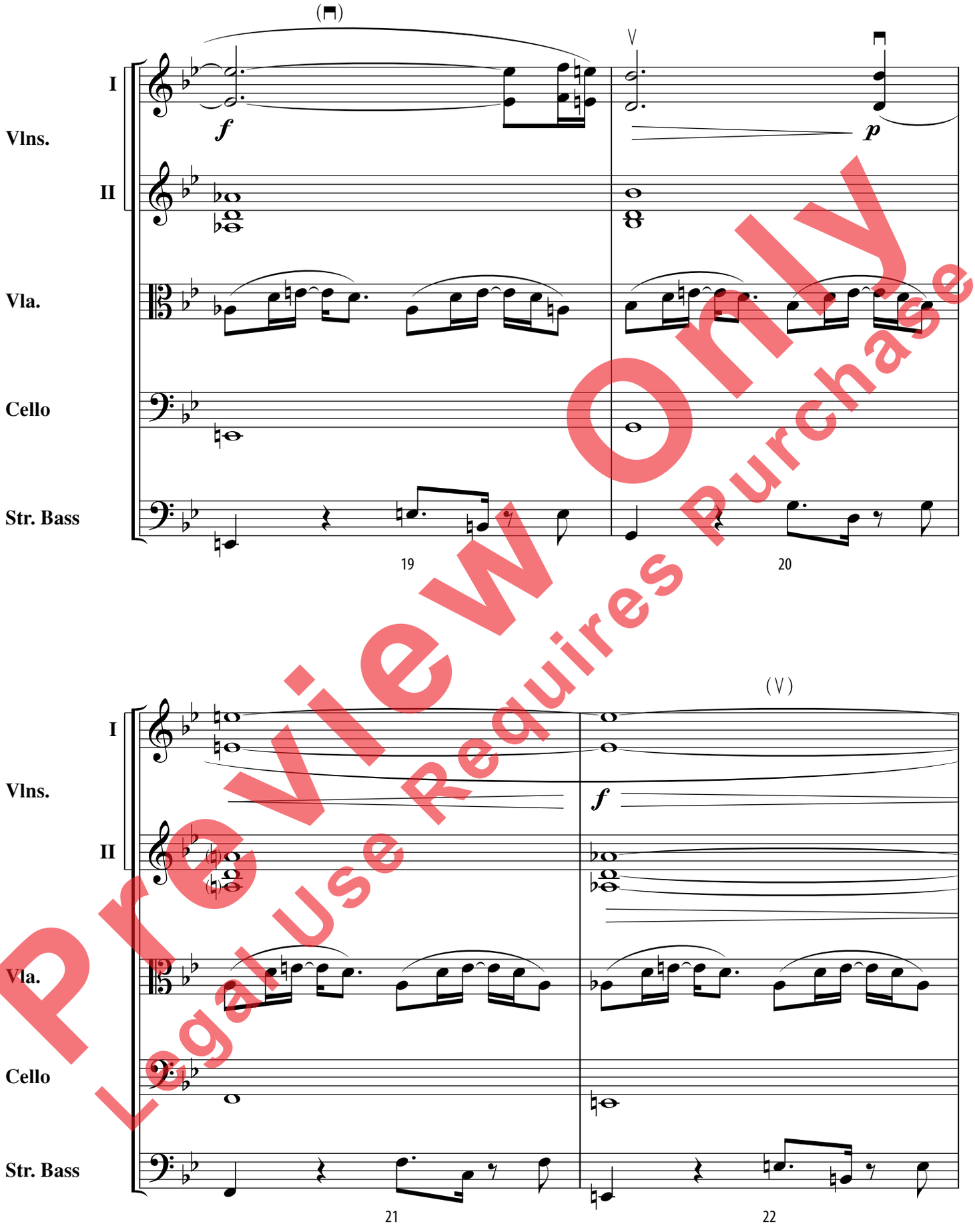

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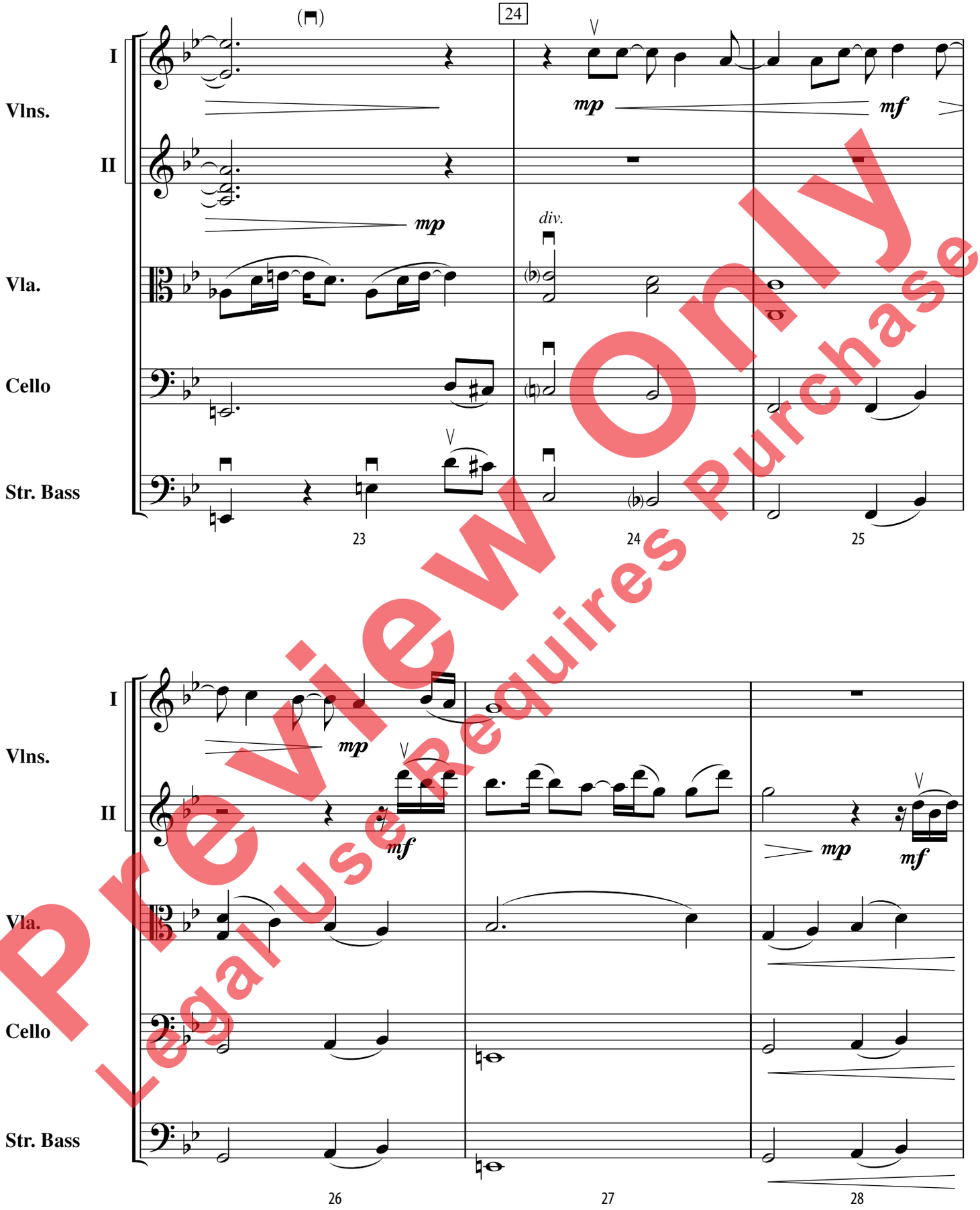

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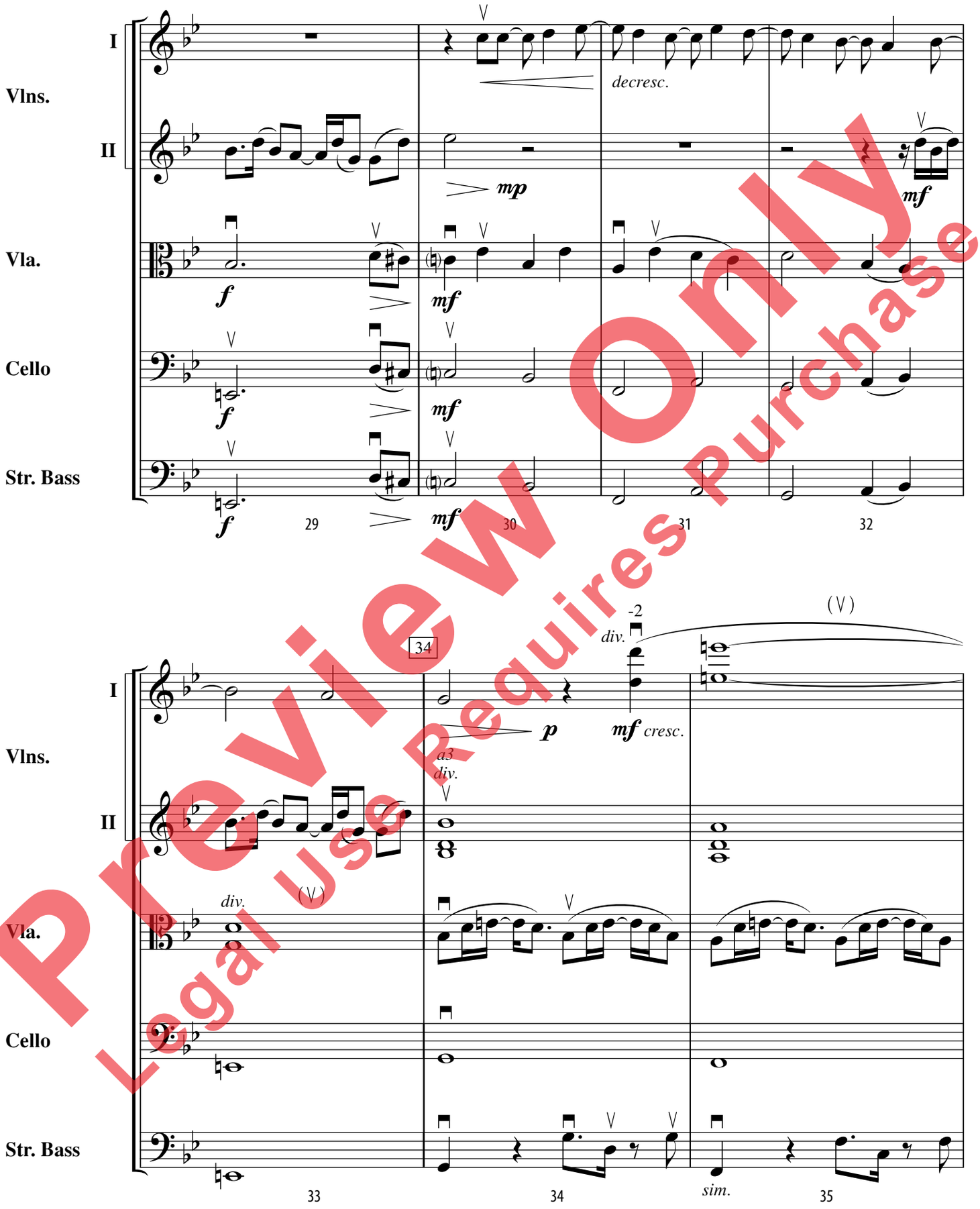

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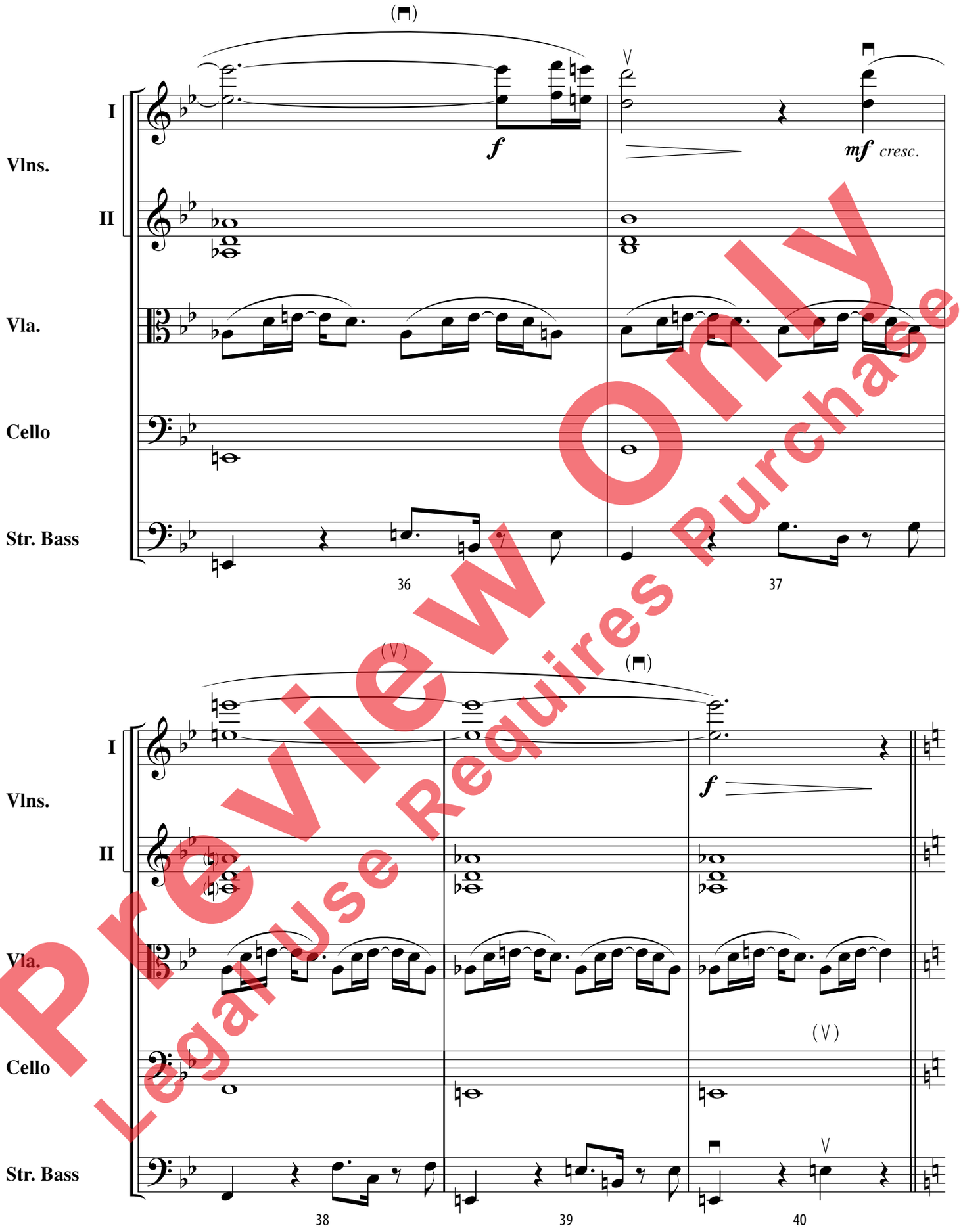

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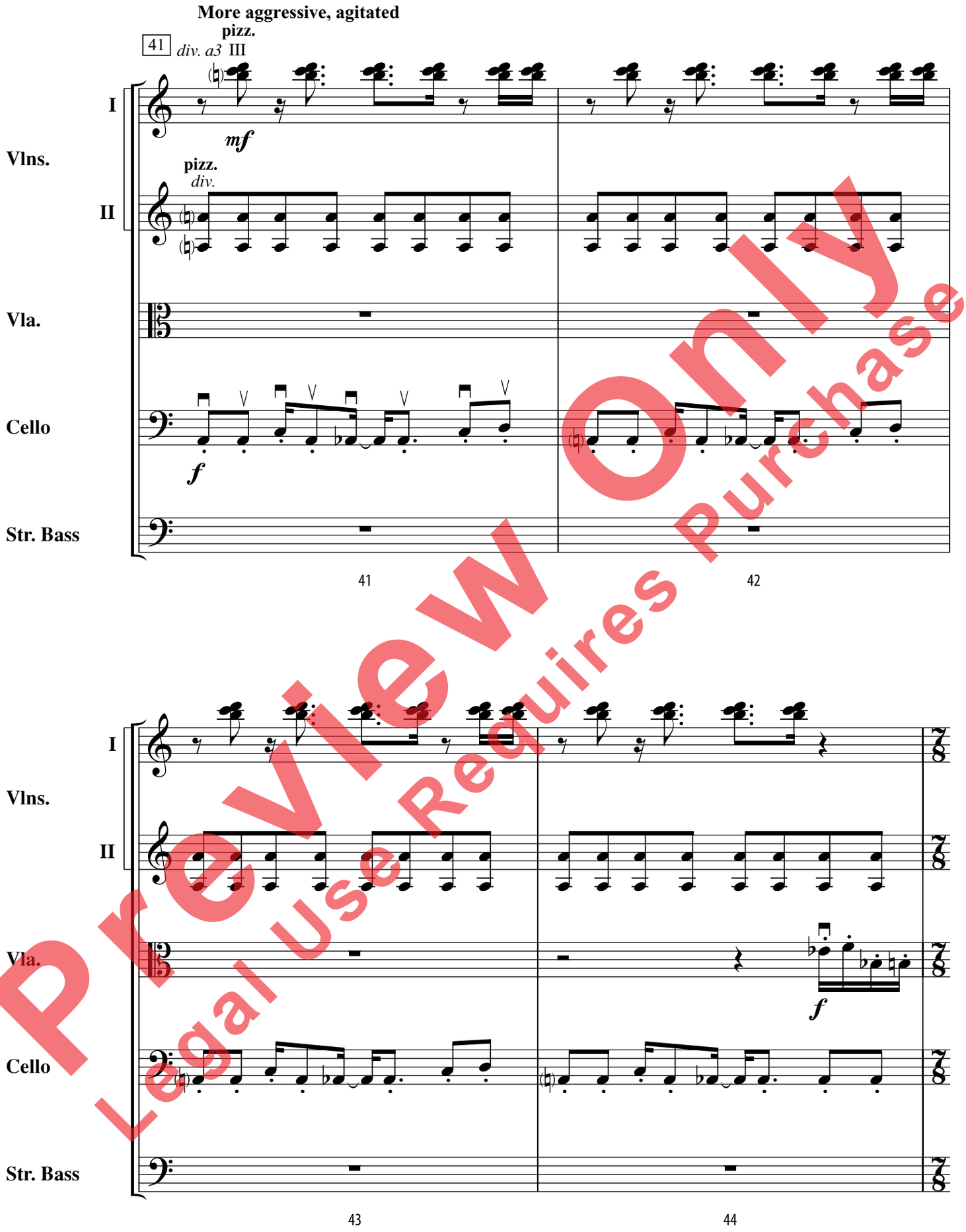

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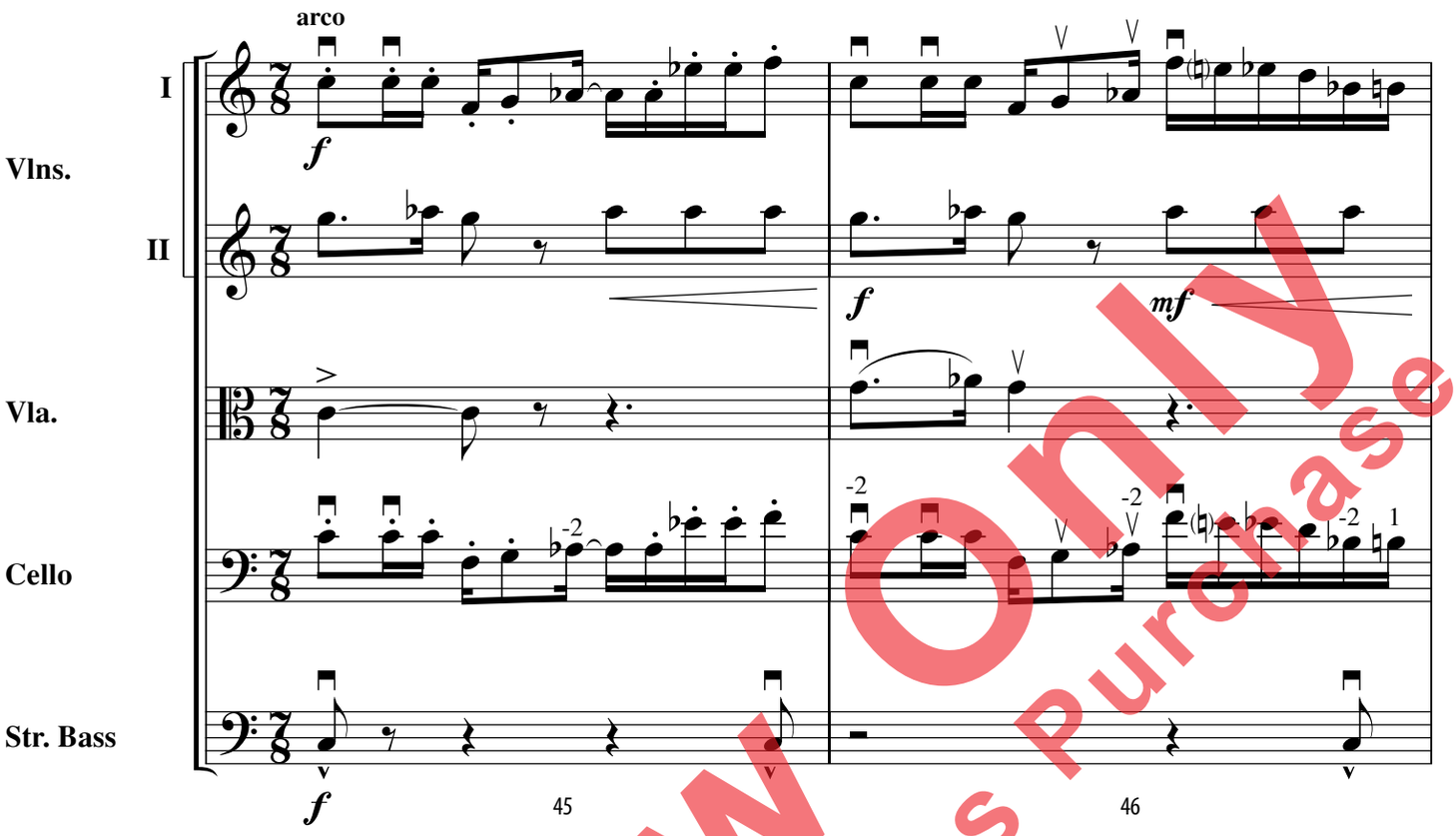

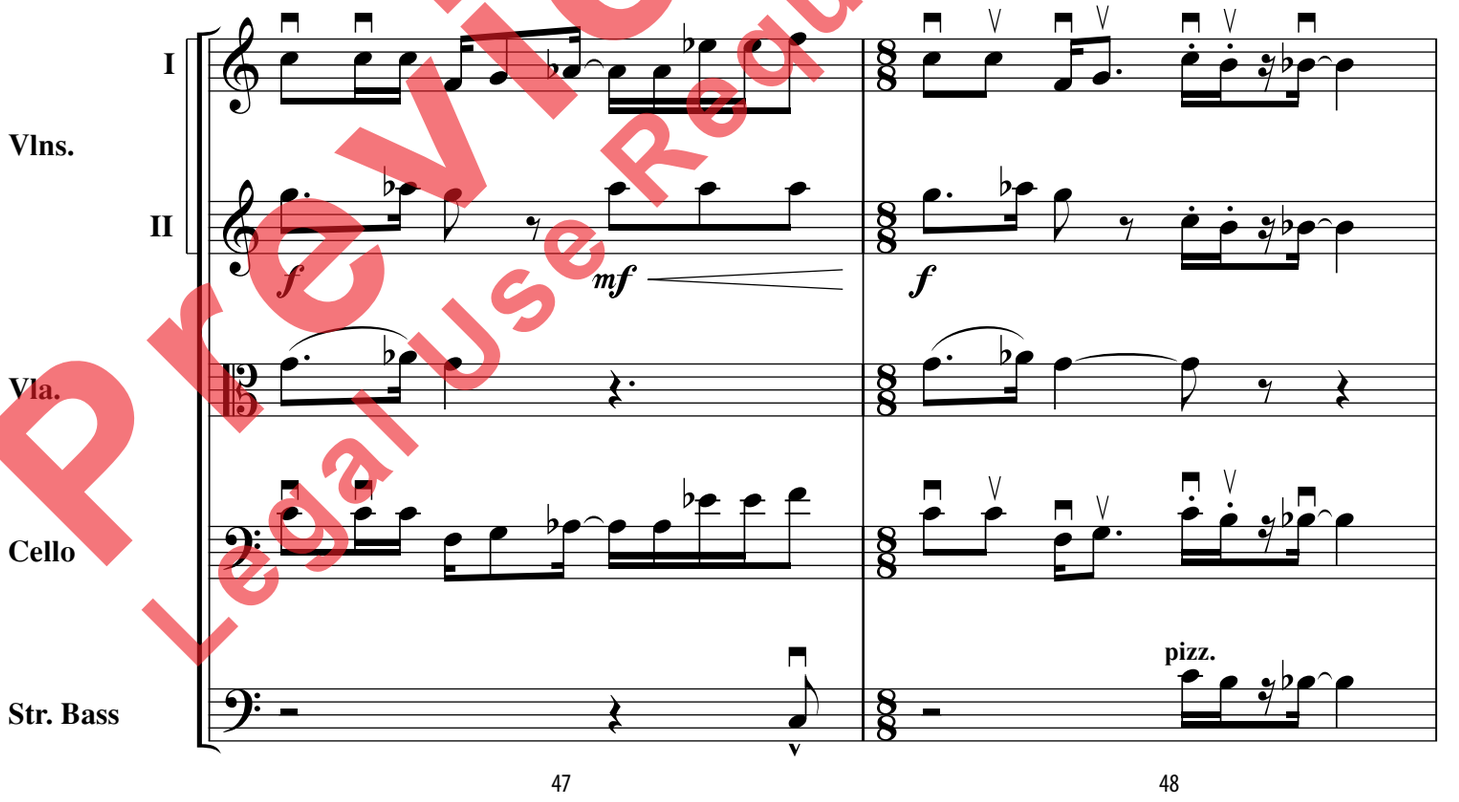

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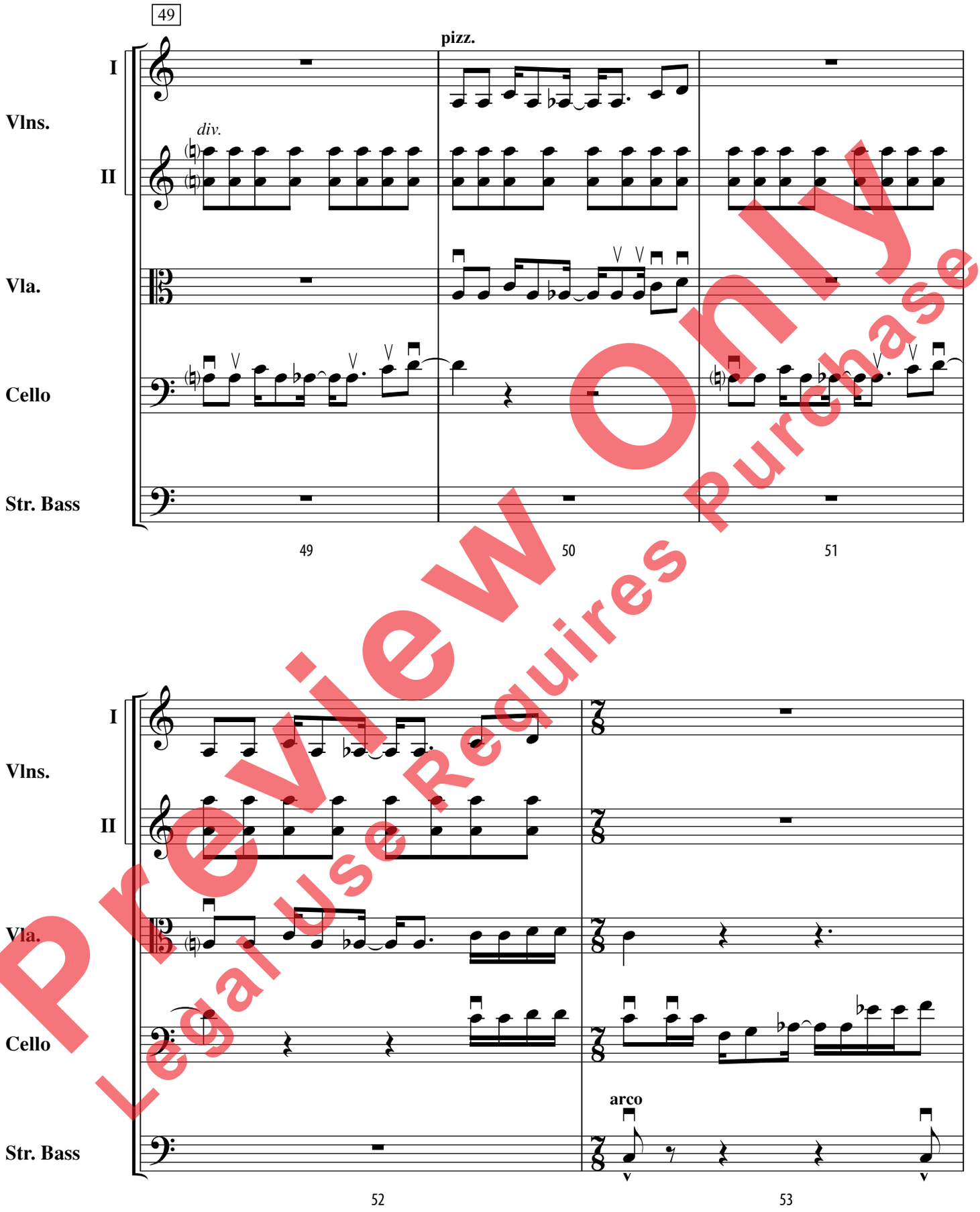

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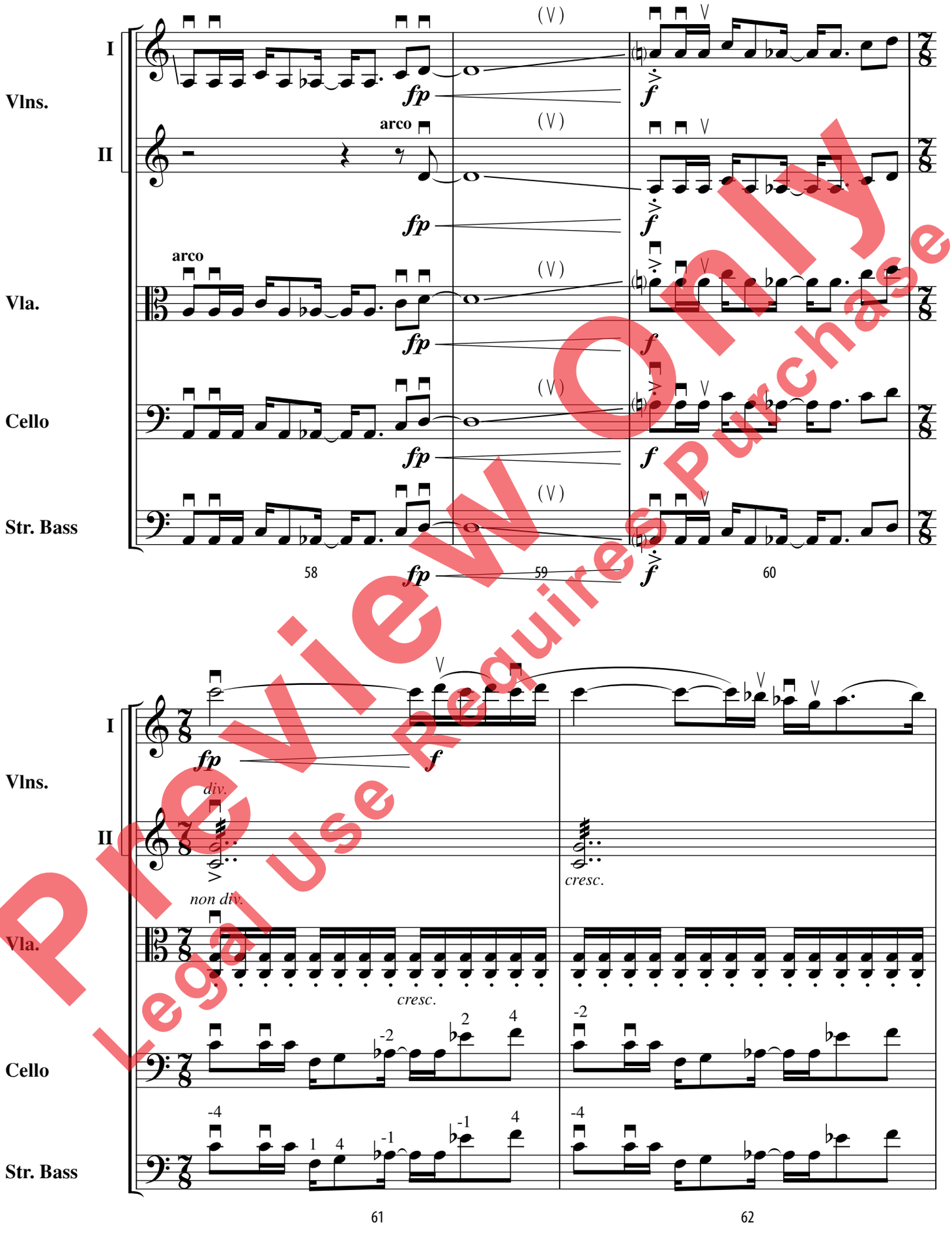

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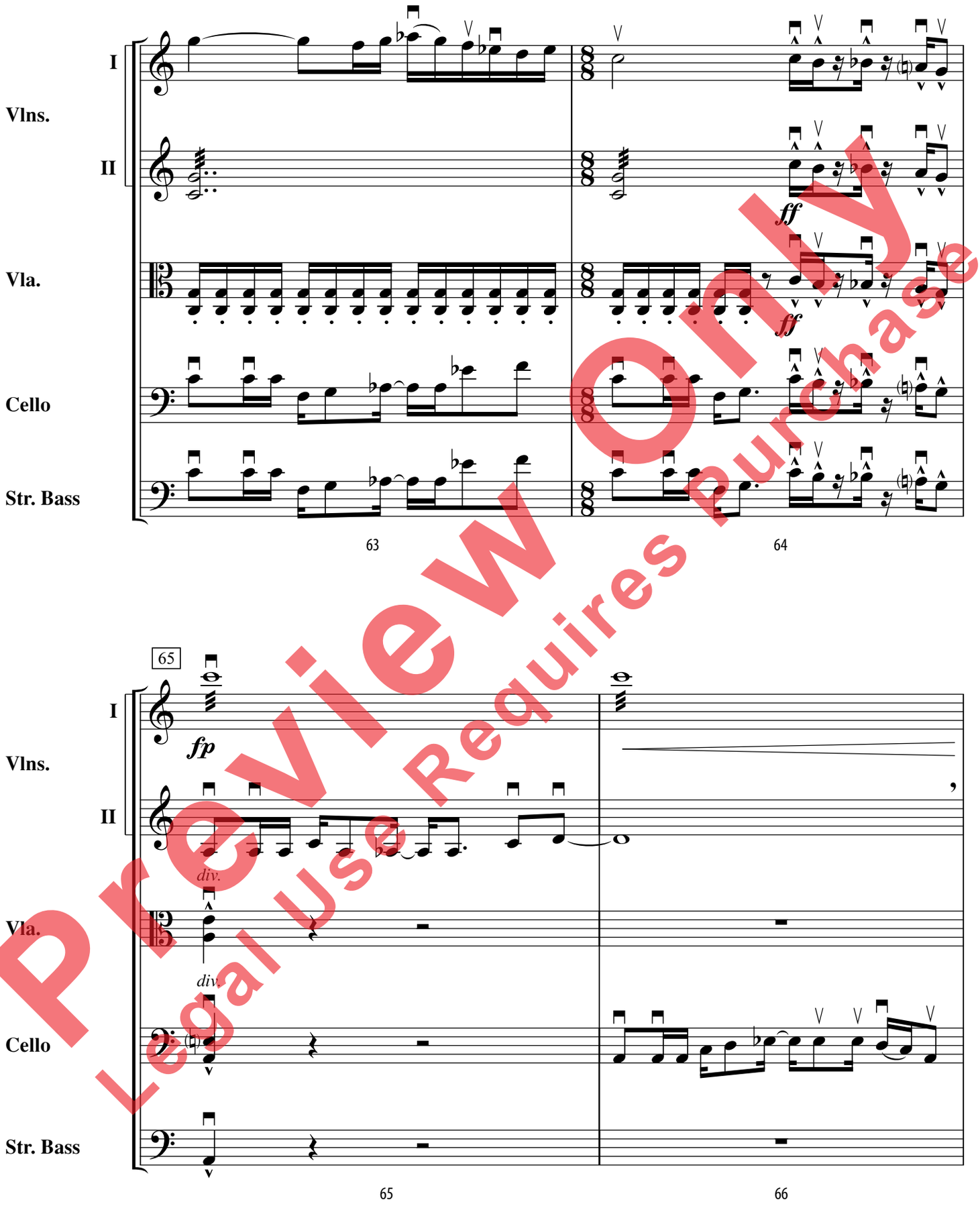

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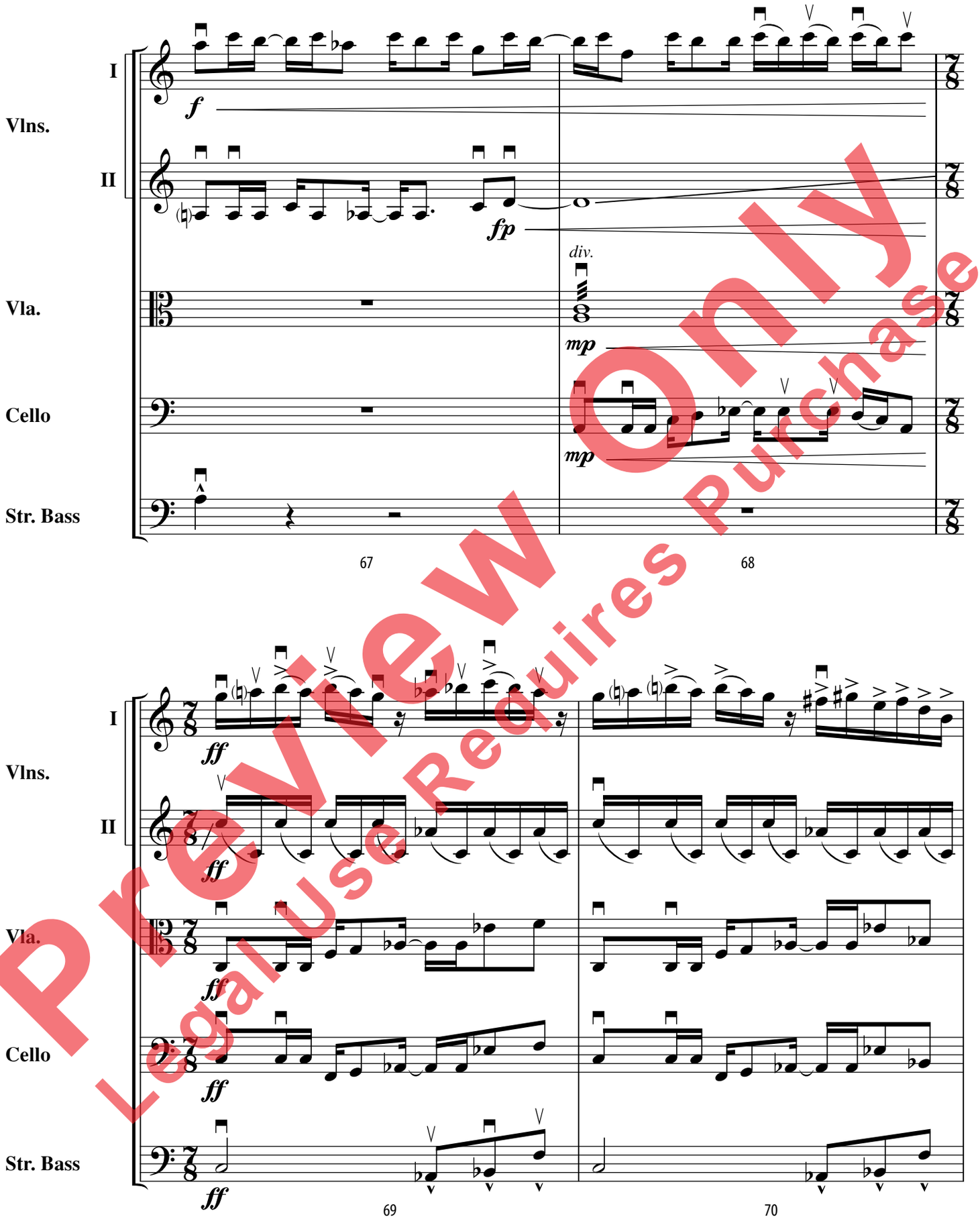

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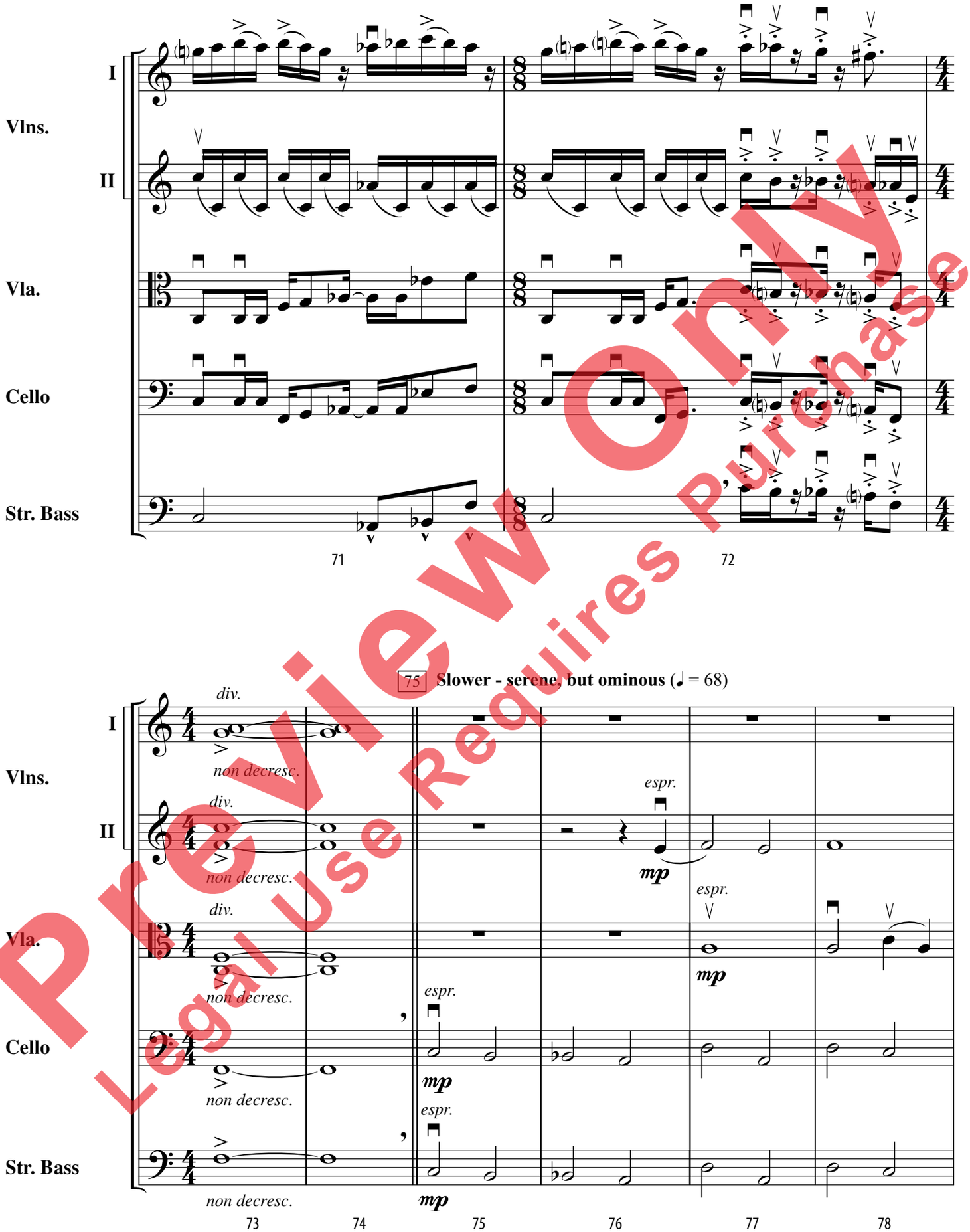

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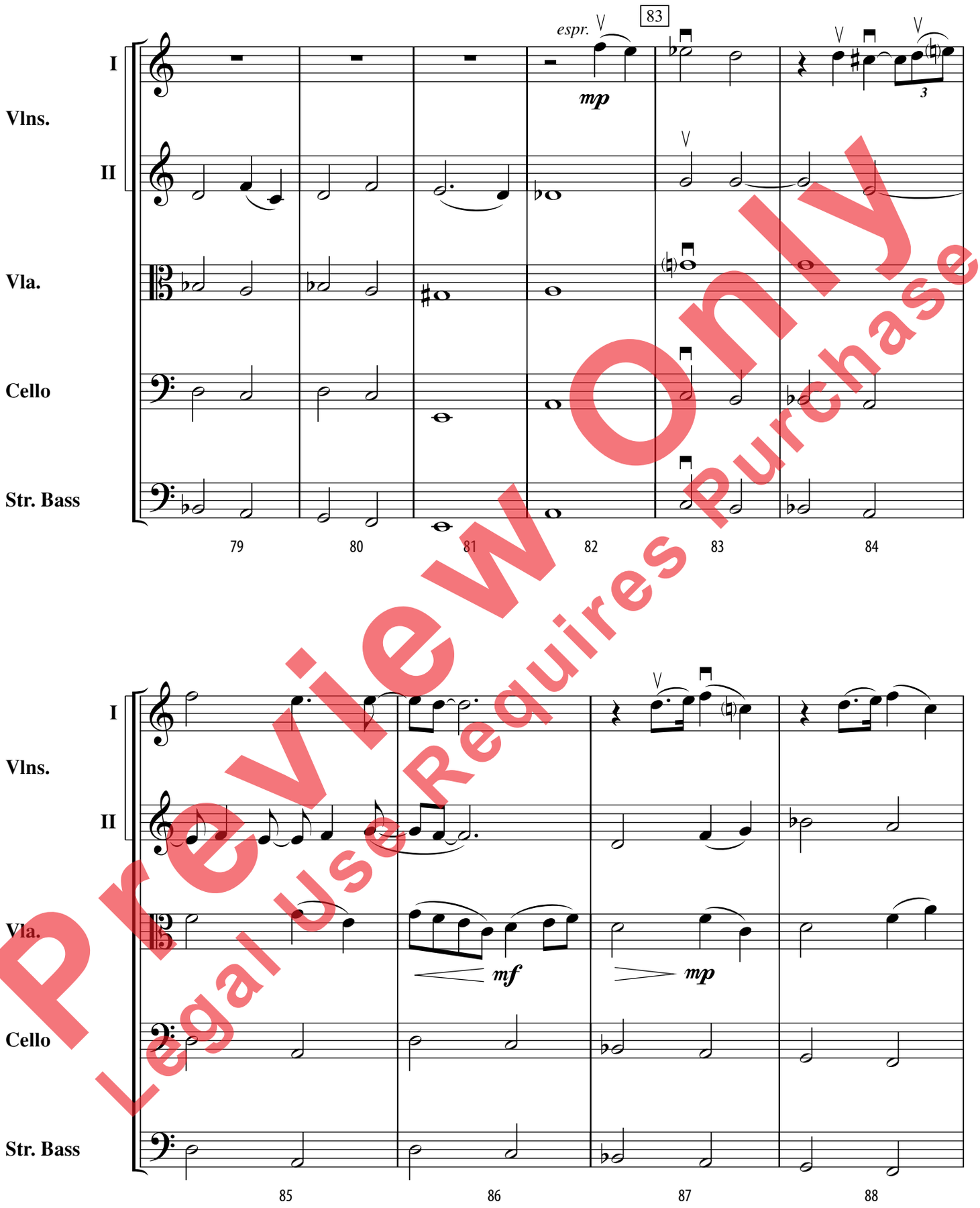

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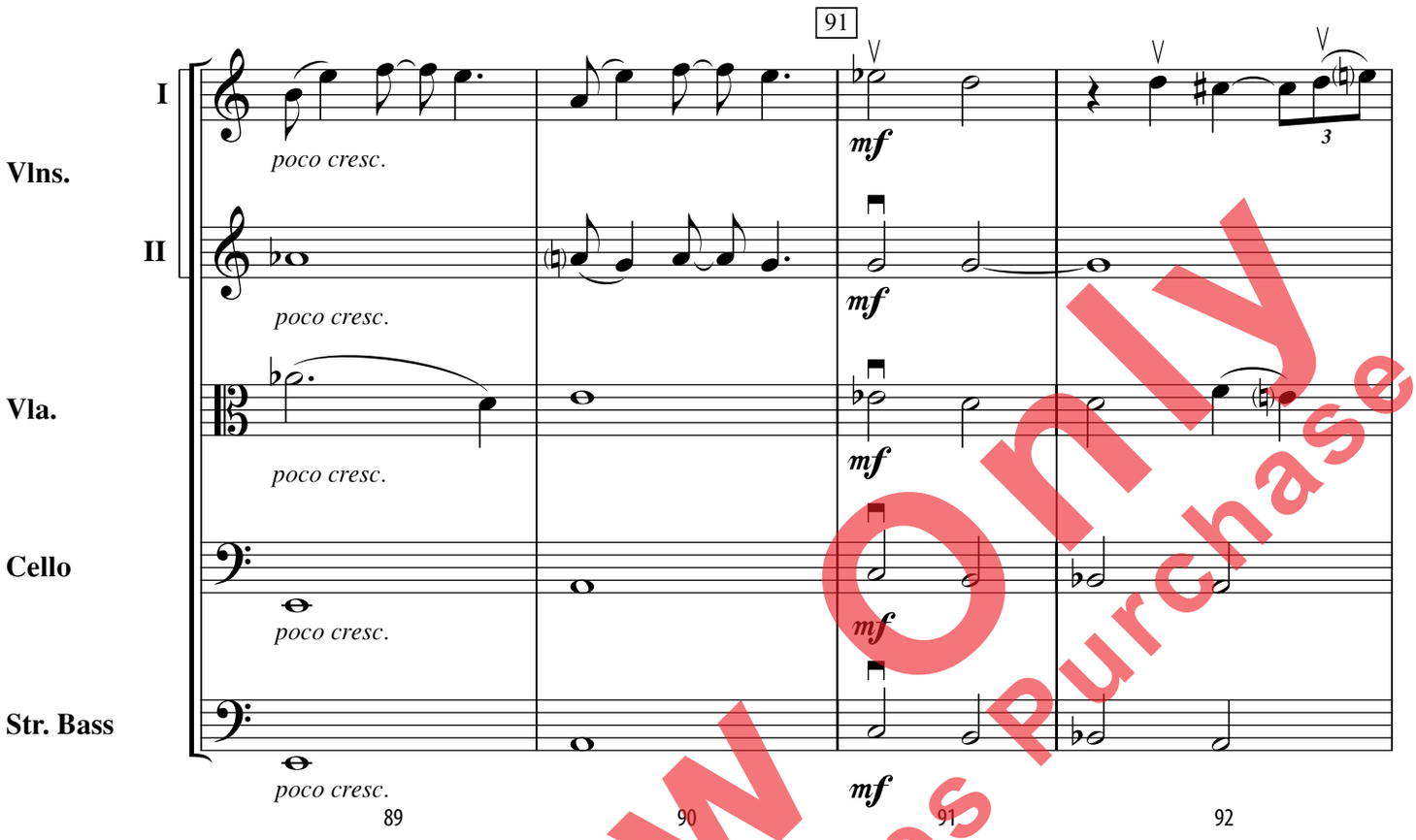

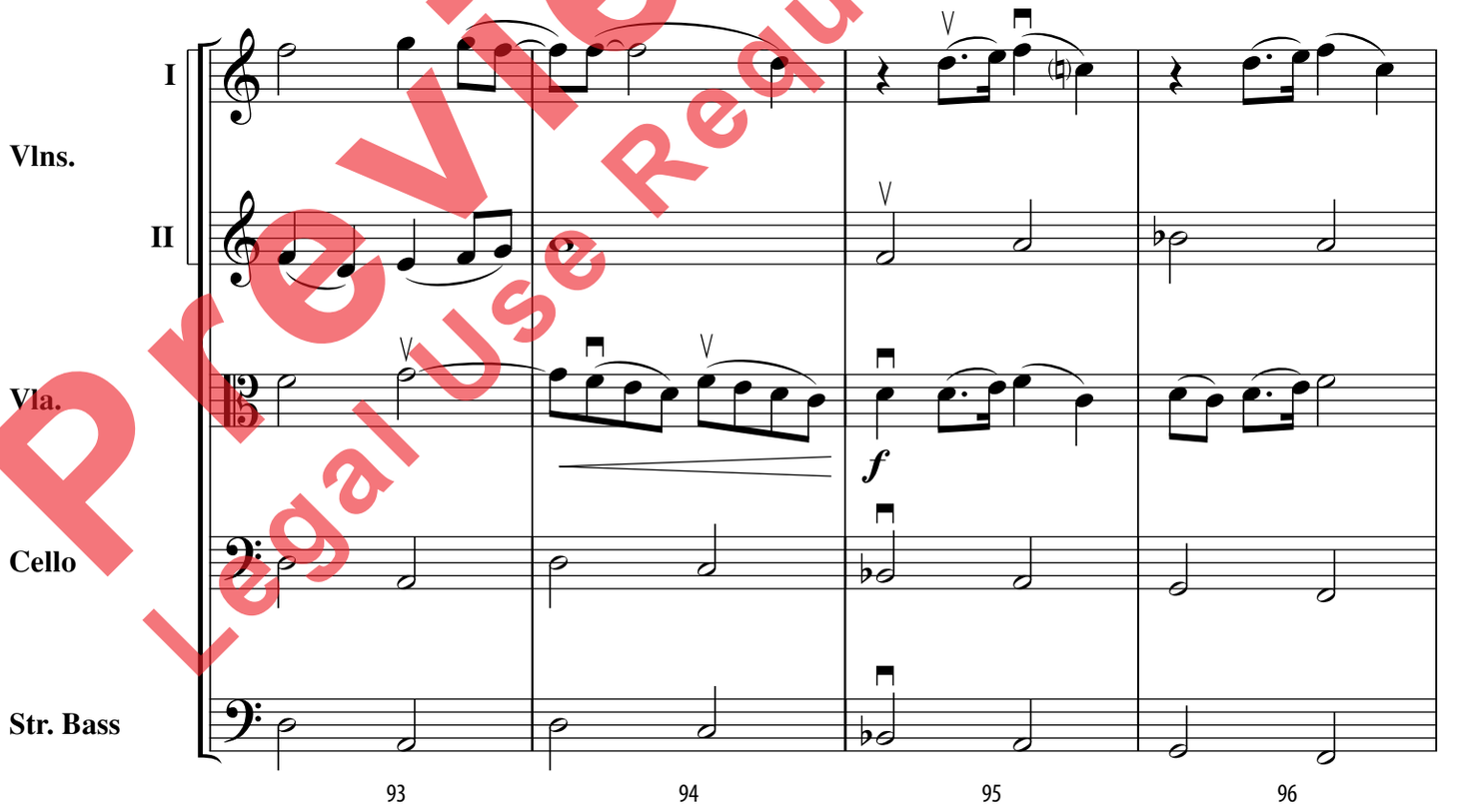

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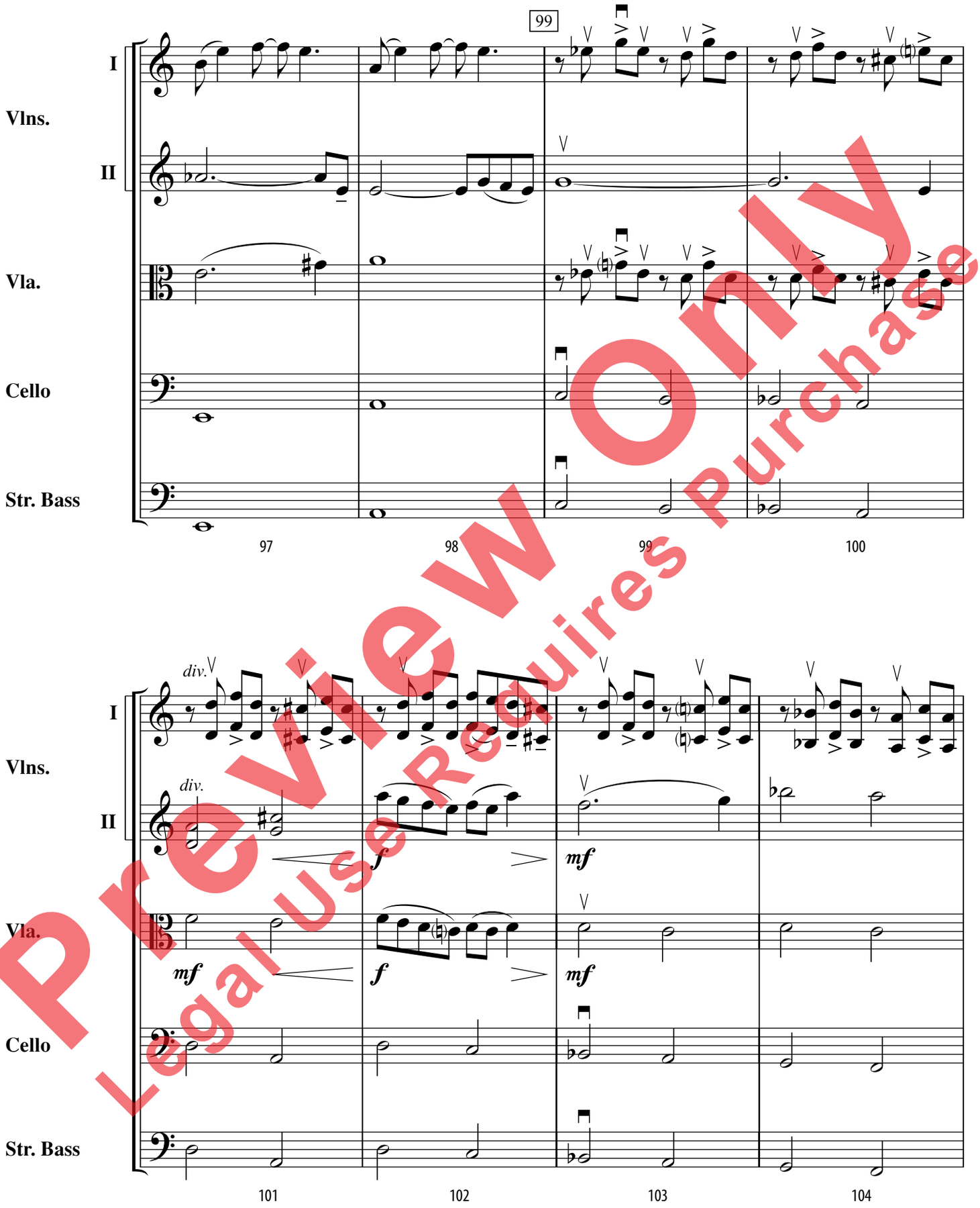

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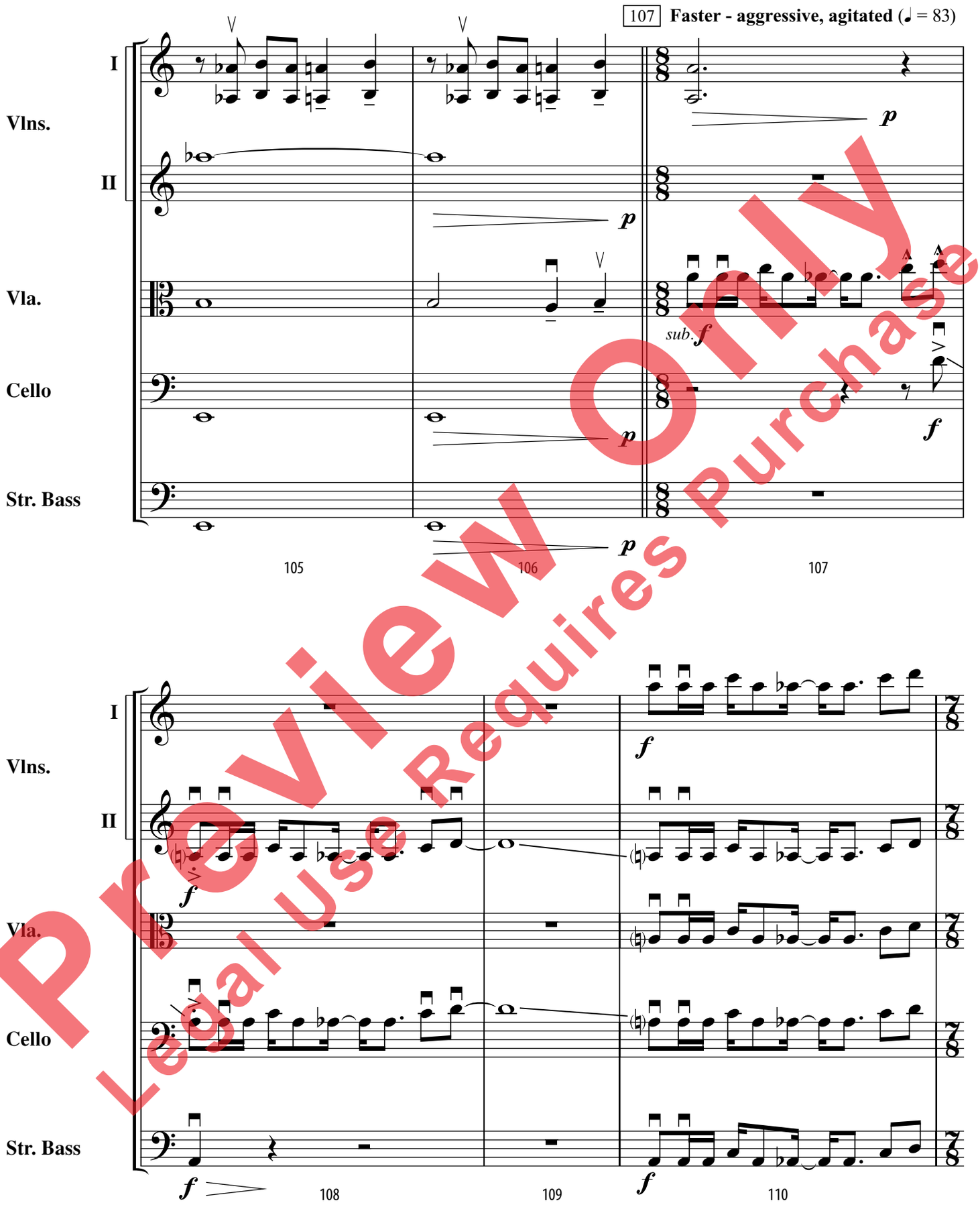

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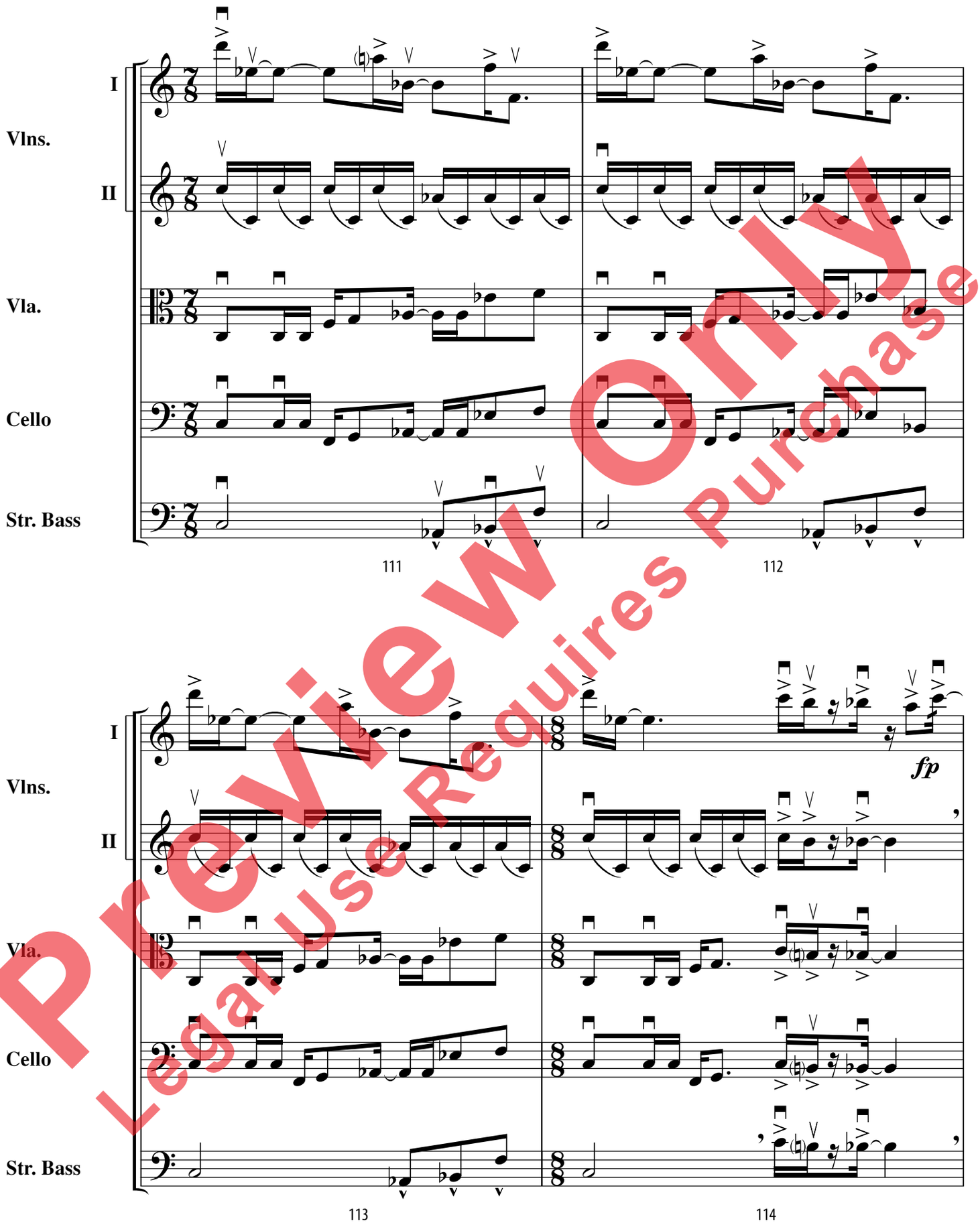

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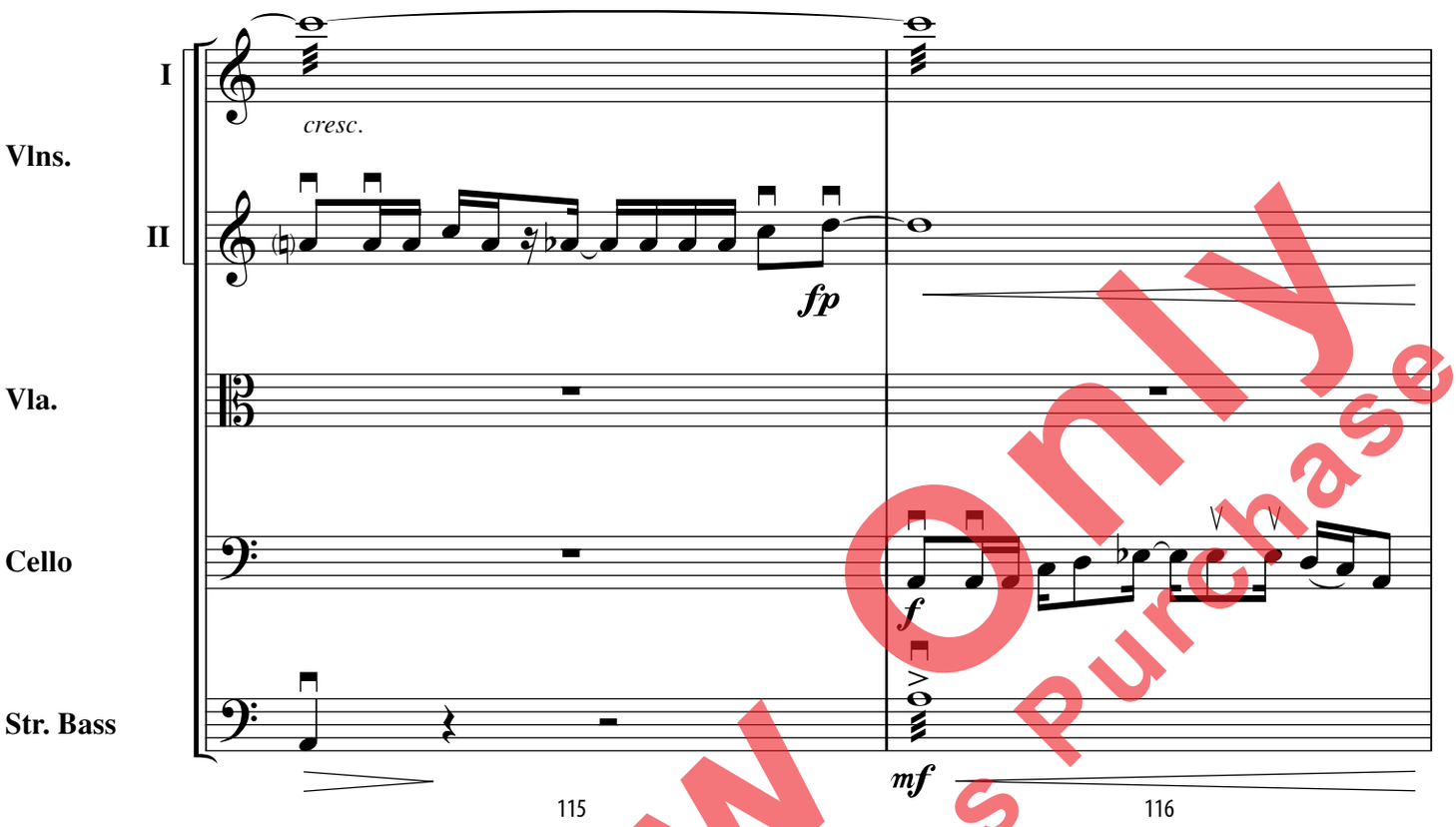

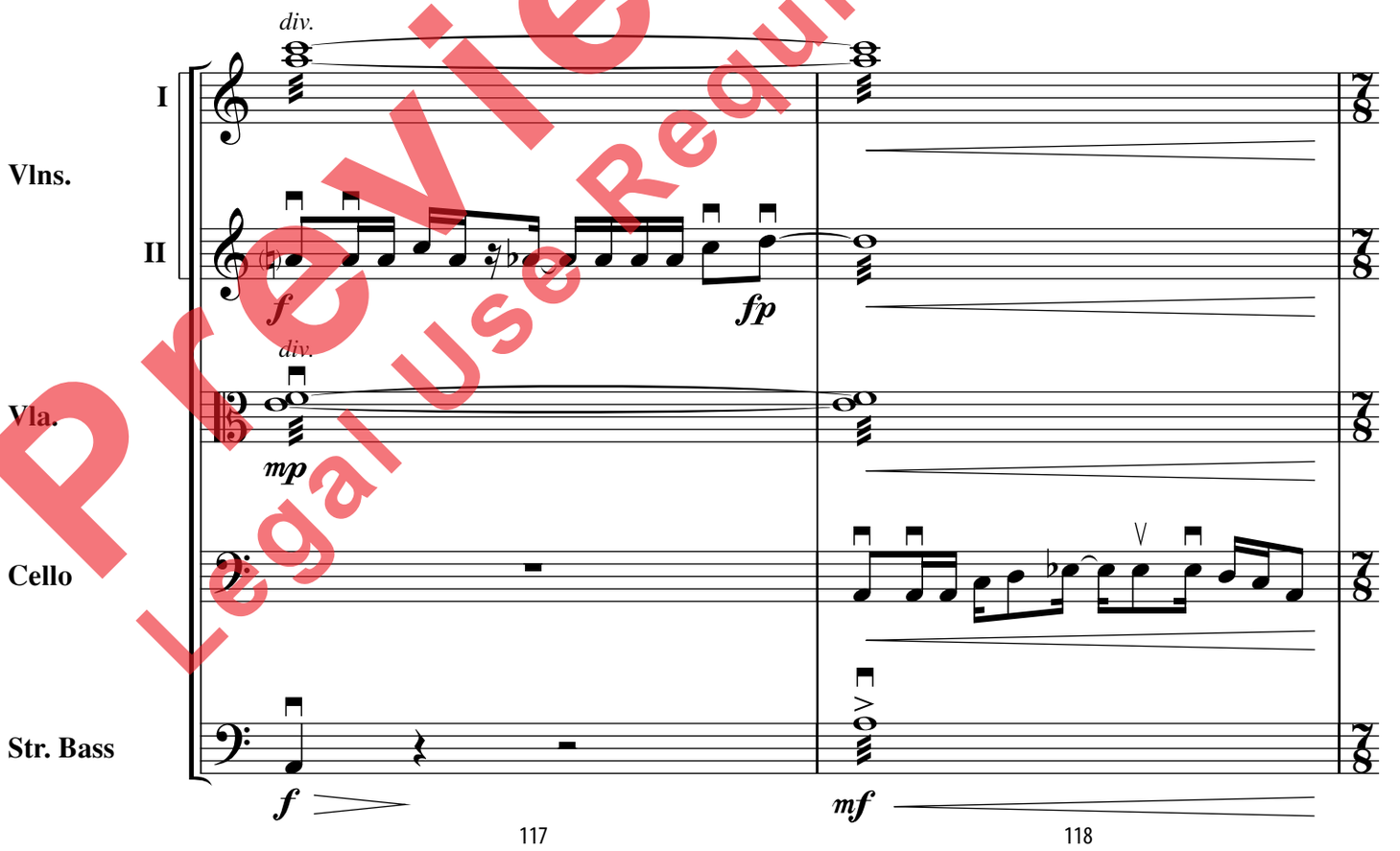

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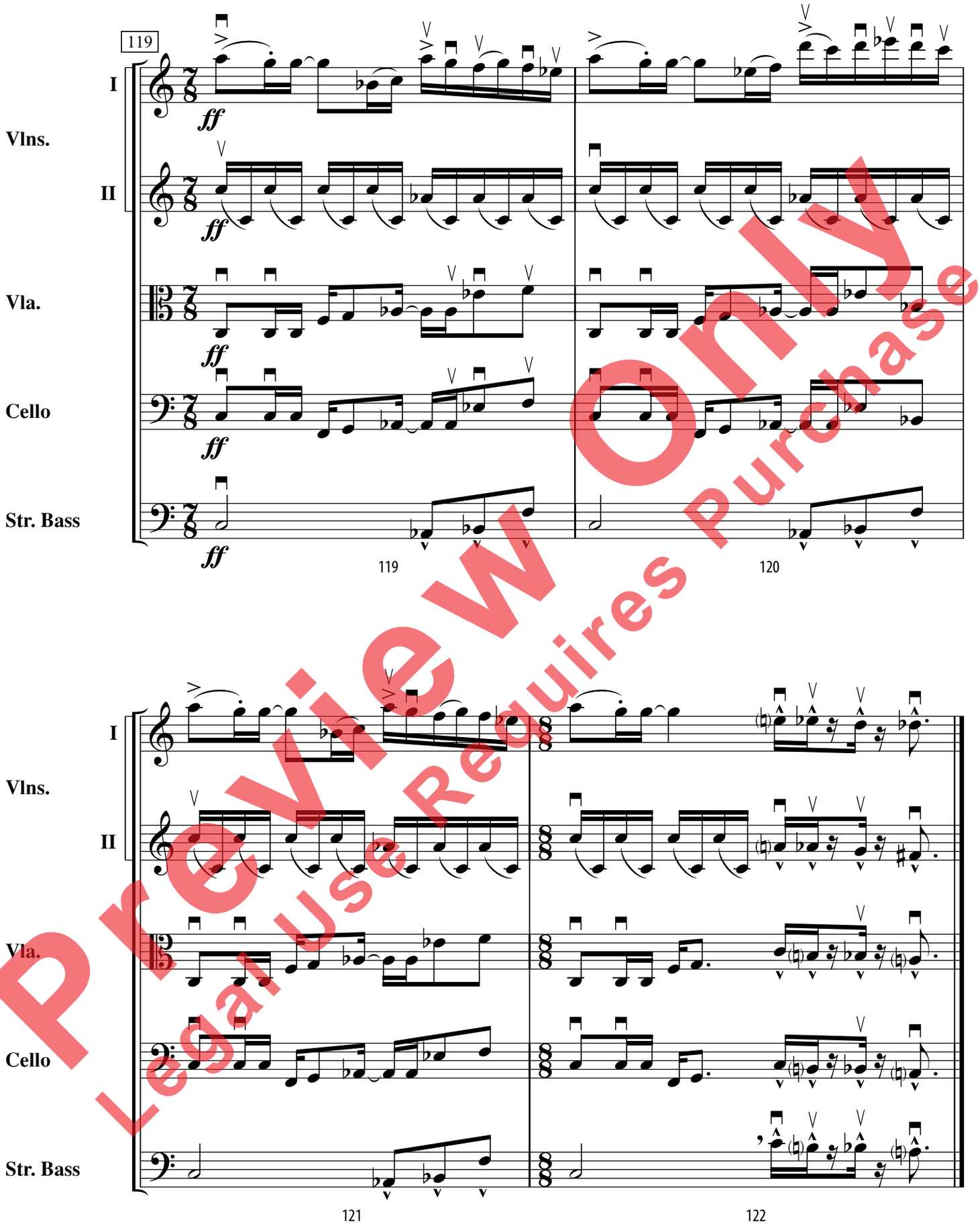

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