MINOTAUR

By Richard Meyer (ASCAP)

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INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Viola	5
Cello	5
String Bass	5

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

The myth of the minotaur—half-man, half-bull—has haunted generations since it was first told centuries ago. This colorful tone painting will give your advanced high school orchestra a real workout and challenge every section as they tell the story of the warrior Theseus' descent into the mysterious labyrinth and his heroic struggle with the terrible monster within. An outstanding opportunity for cross-curricular studies, this epic piece is sure to become a favorite of your students and your audience.

The Myth of Theseus and the Minotaur

King Minos of Crete kept a minotaur (m. 2), a terrifying monster that was half-man, half-bull, hidden in an intricate labyrinth. Minos routinely imprisoned his enemies from Athens in this labyrinth so that the minotaur could eat them. After several years of this torture, Theseus, an Athenean warrior (m. 22), vowed to put an end to these human sacrifices and volunteered to enter the labyrinth to kill the minotaur. King Minos knew that even if he did manage to kill the minotaur, Theseus would never be able to exit the labyrinth.

Upon his arrival in Crete, Theseus met Princess Ariadne (m. 79), daughter of King Minos, who fell madly in love with him and decided to help Theseus. She gave him a thread and told him to unravel it as he made his way through the labyrinth, so that he could find his way back out. Theseus followed her suggestion and entered the labyrinth, unraveling the thread behind him (m. 103).

Theseus made his way through the labyrinth in search of the minotaur (m. 111) and finally located the monster (m. 140). After a terrible struggle (m. 153), Theseus killed the minotaur (m. 197) and emerged from the labyrinth victorious (m. 208).

HIGHLAND/ETLING
A DIVISION OF Alfred

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.

Dedicated to the Loudoun Valley High School String Orchestra, Purcellville, Virginia, Michael Gerdes, conductor

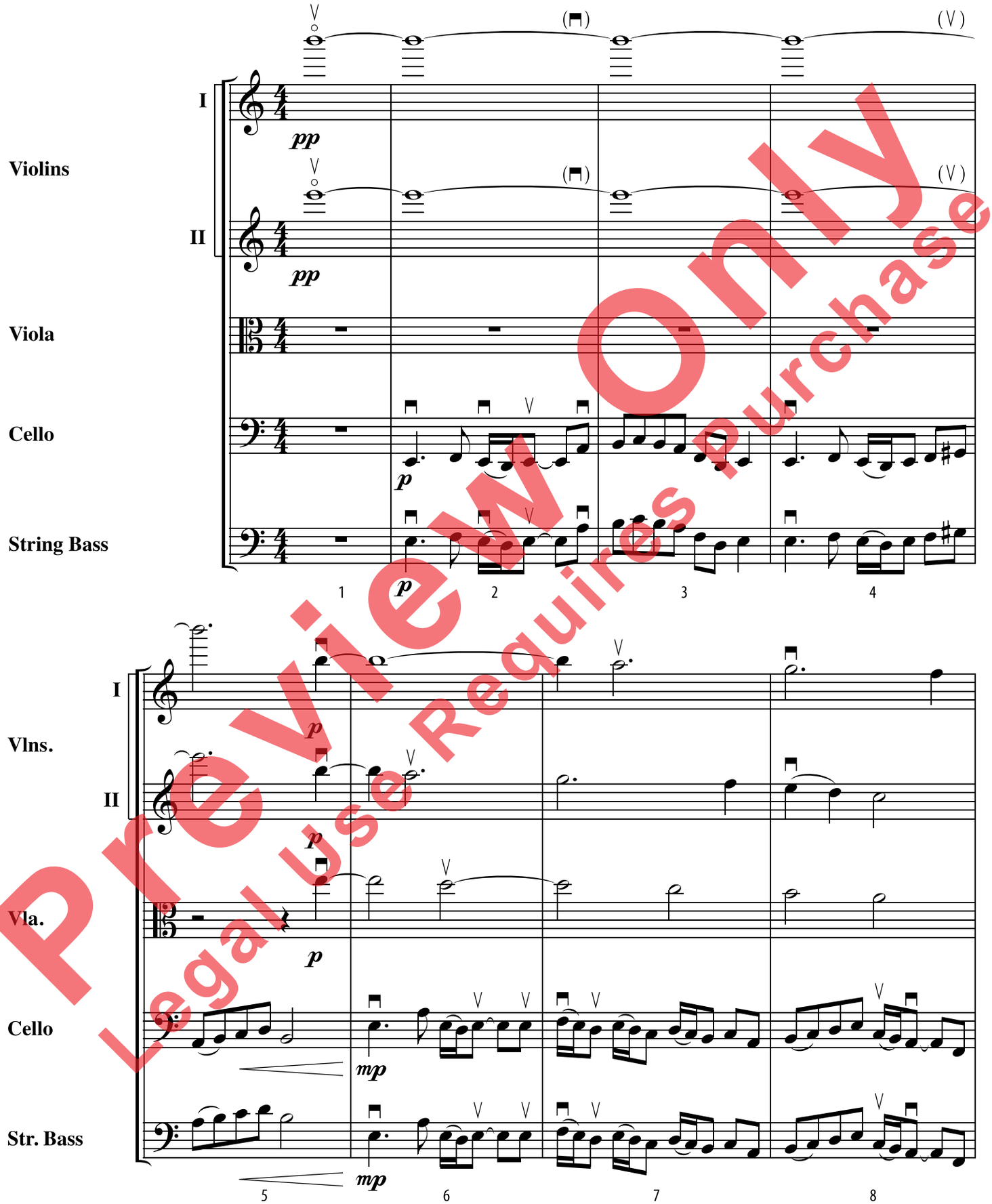
Minotaur

CONDUCTOR SCORE
Duration - 7:45

Largo misterioso (♩ = 60)

Richard Meyer (ASCAP)

The Minotaur—Half Man, Half Bull



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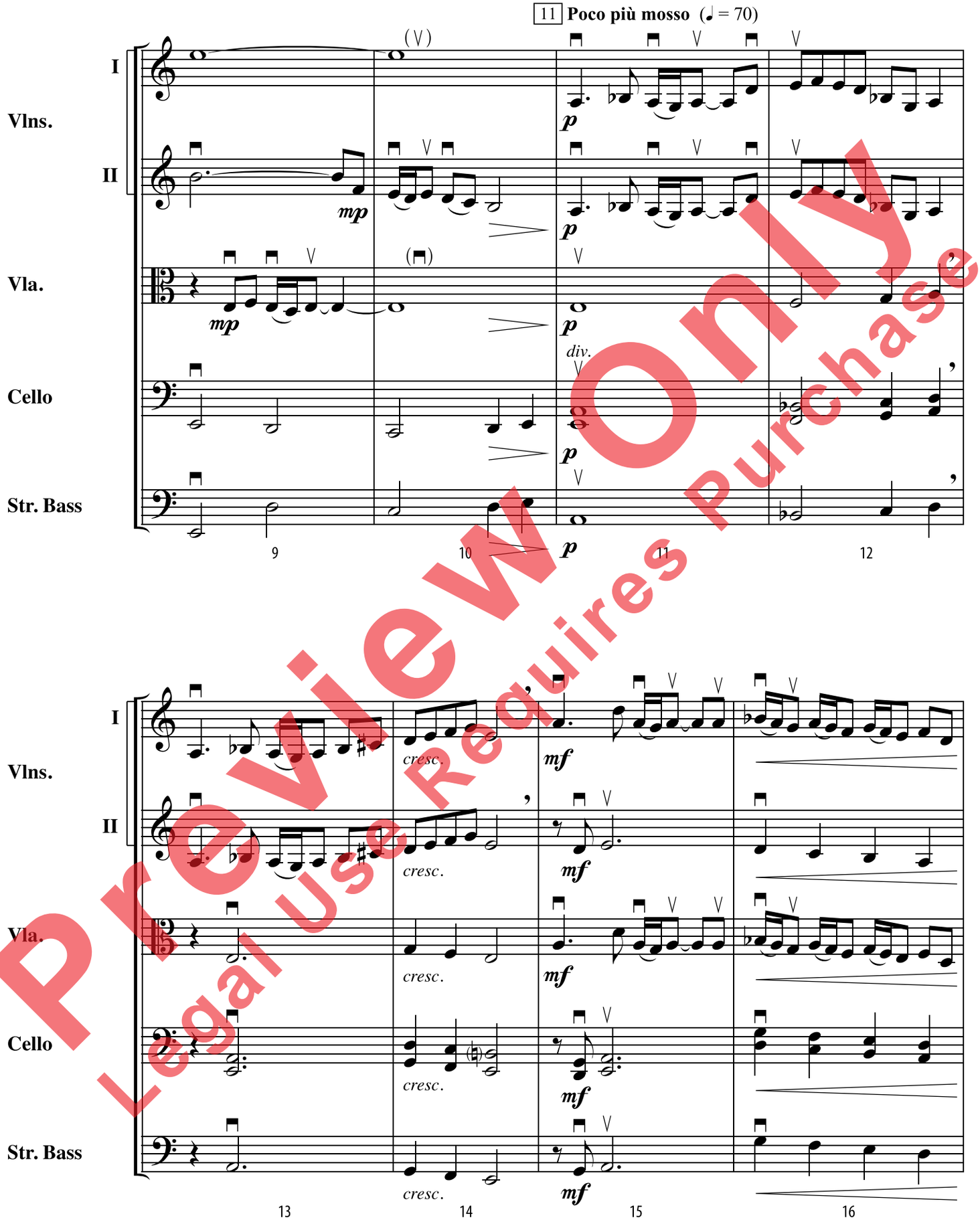

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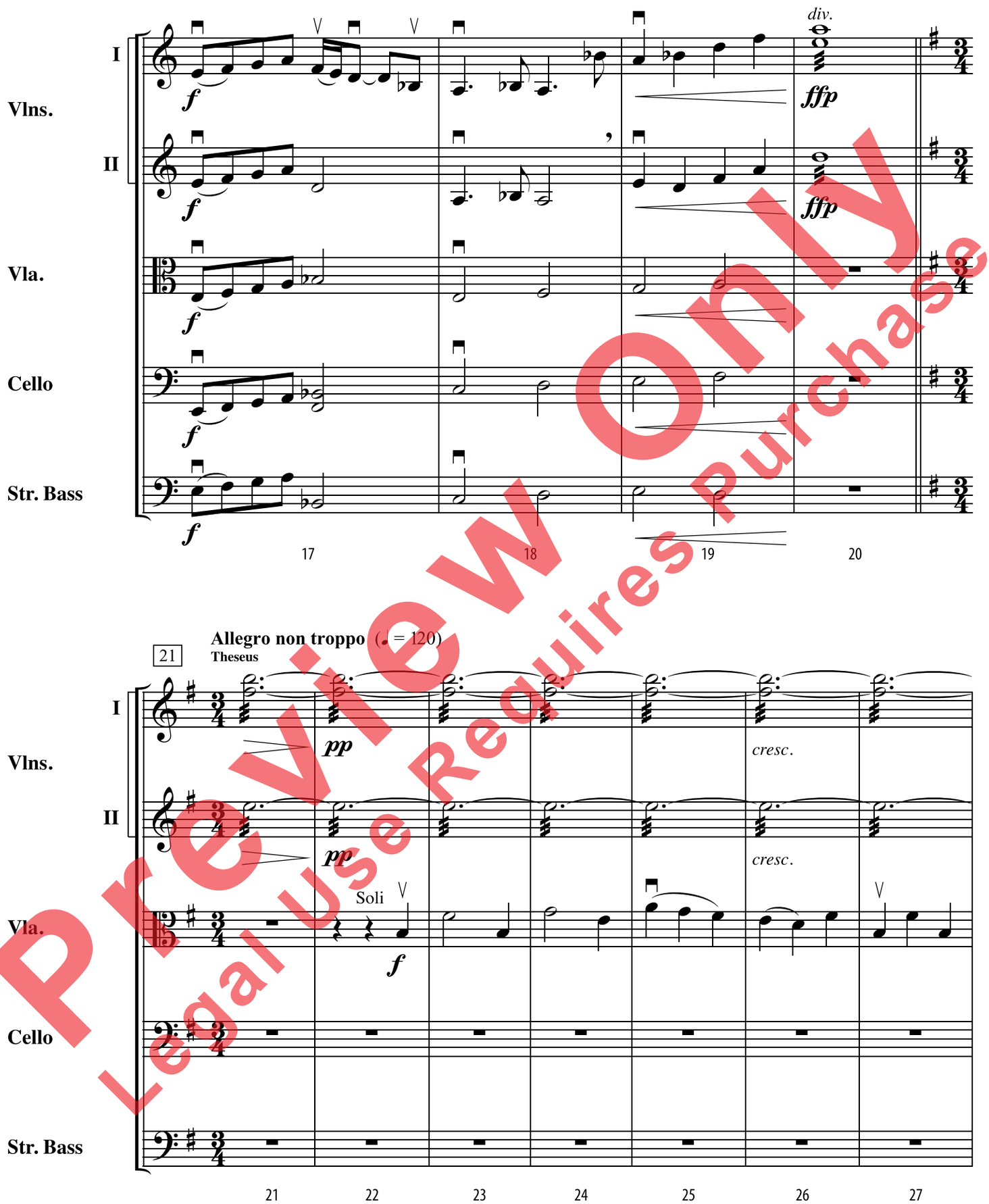

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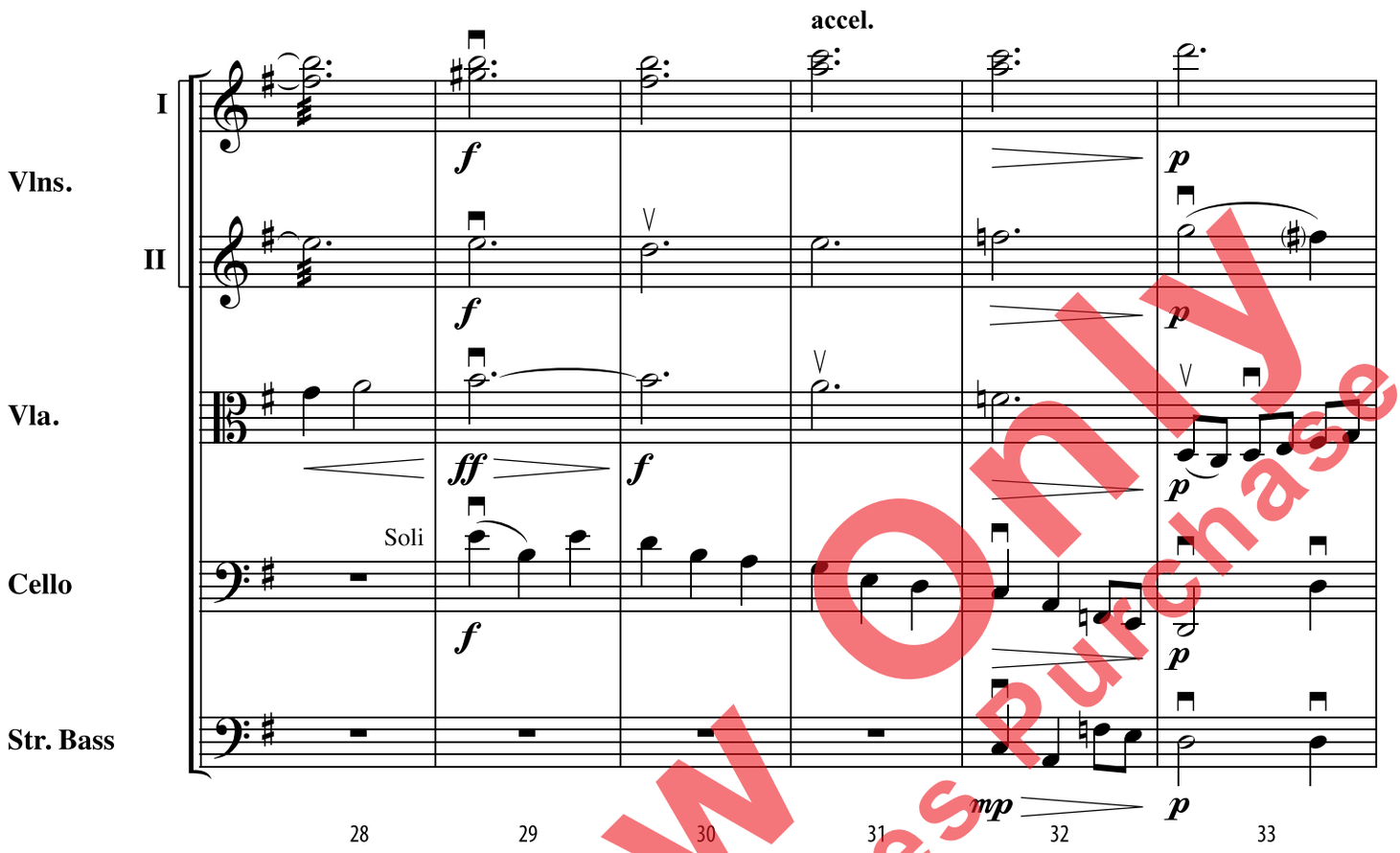

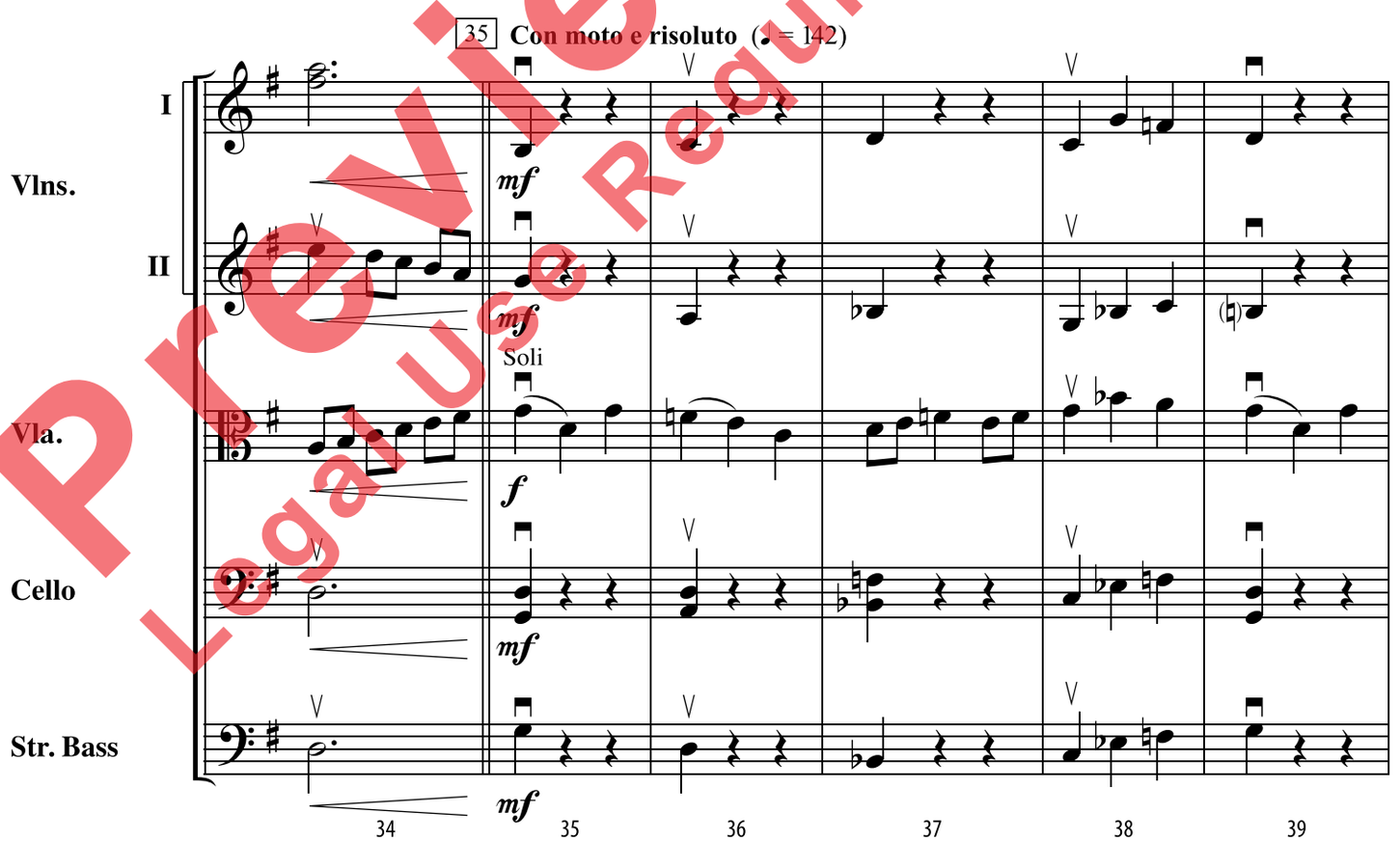

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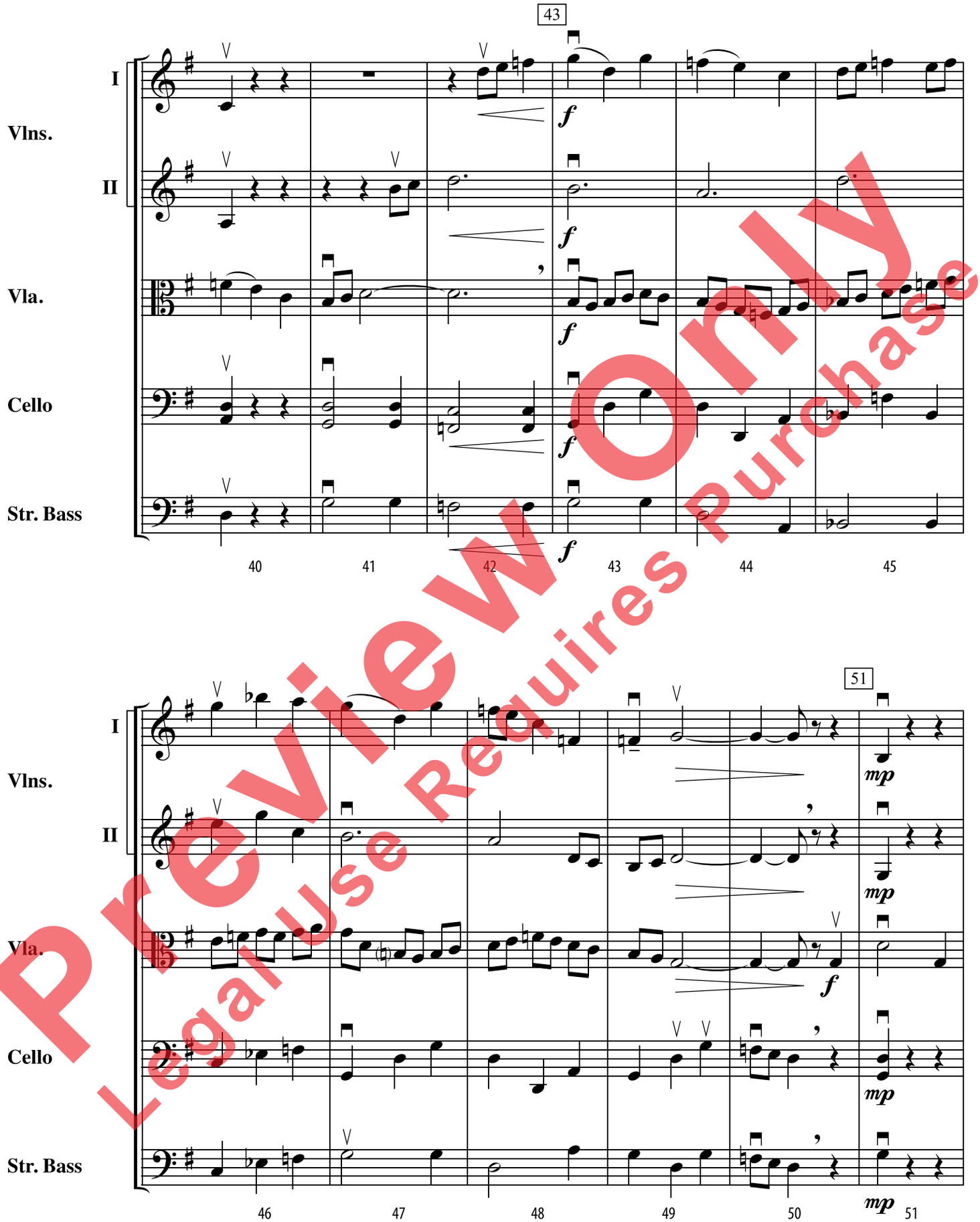

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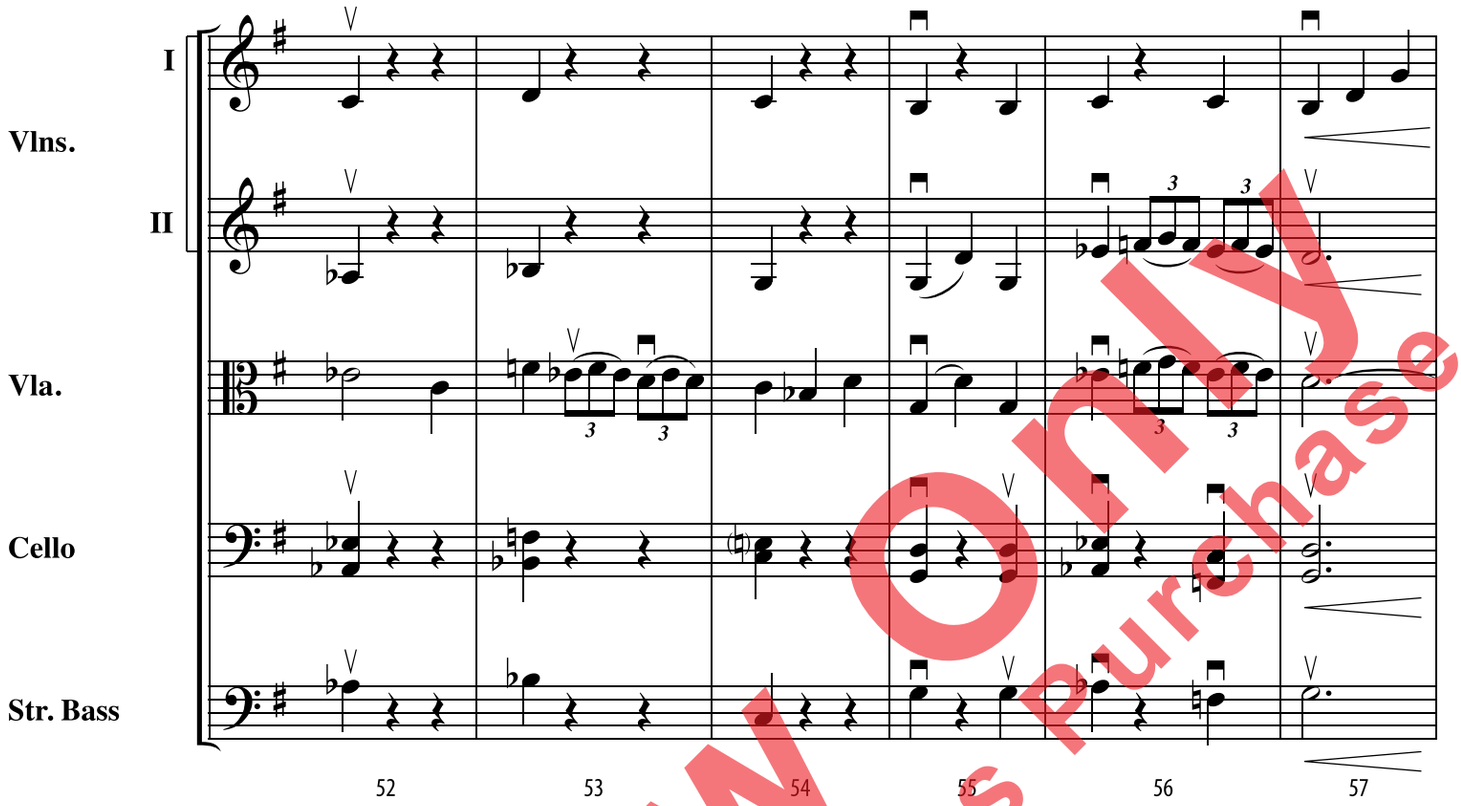

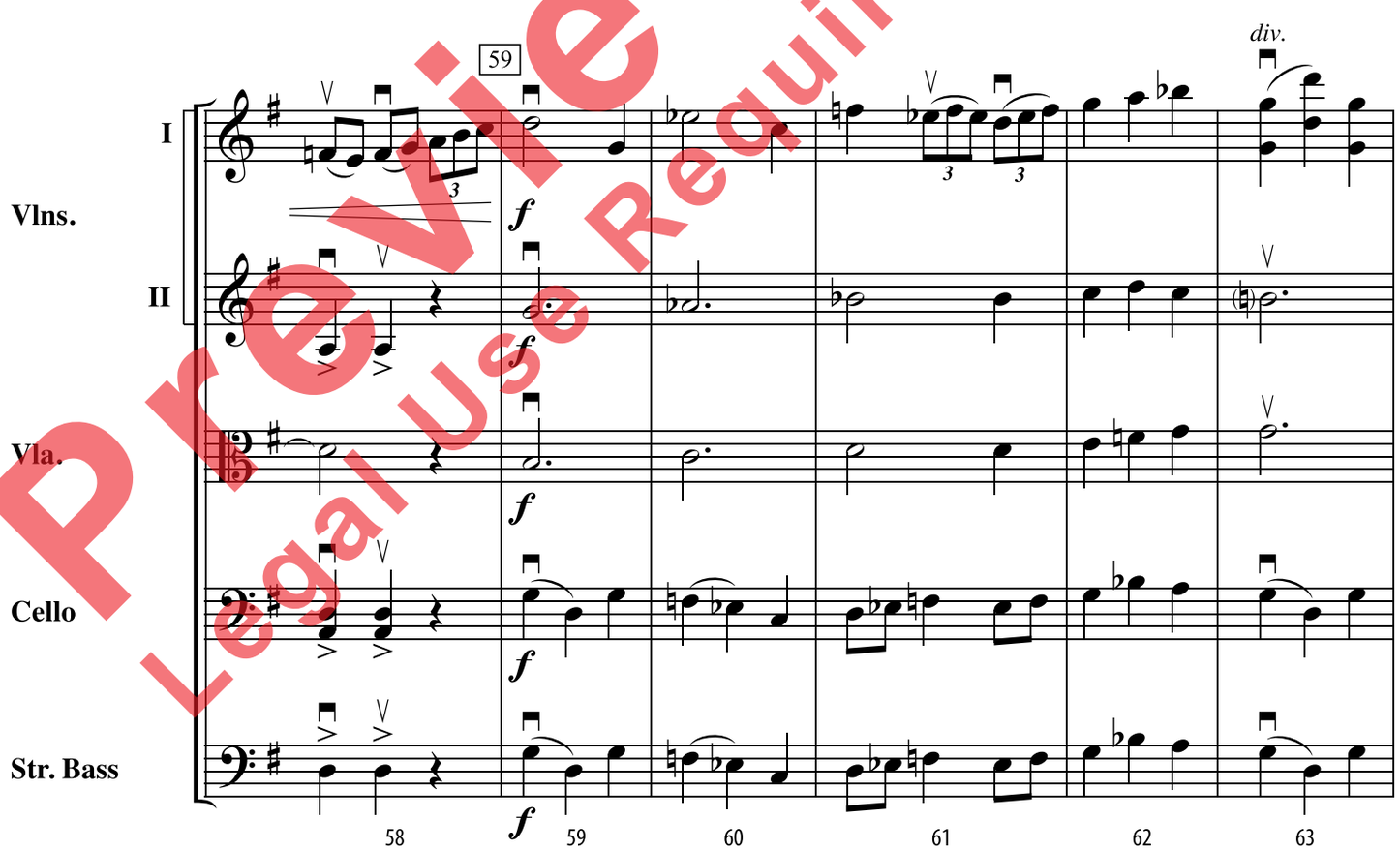

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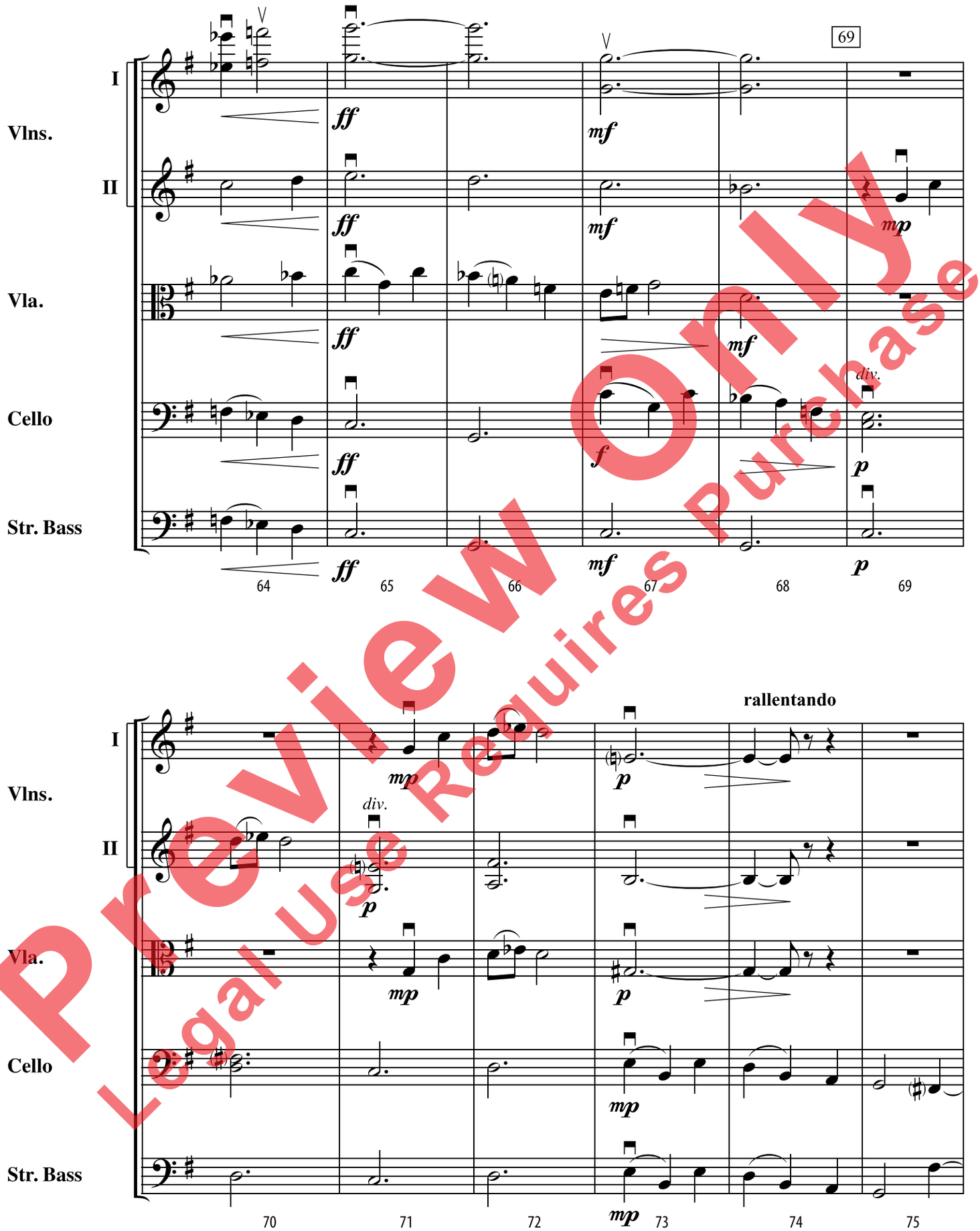

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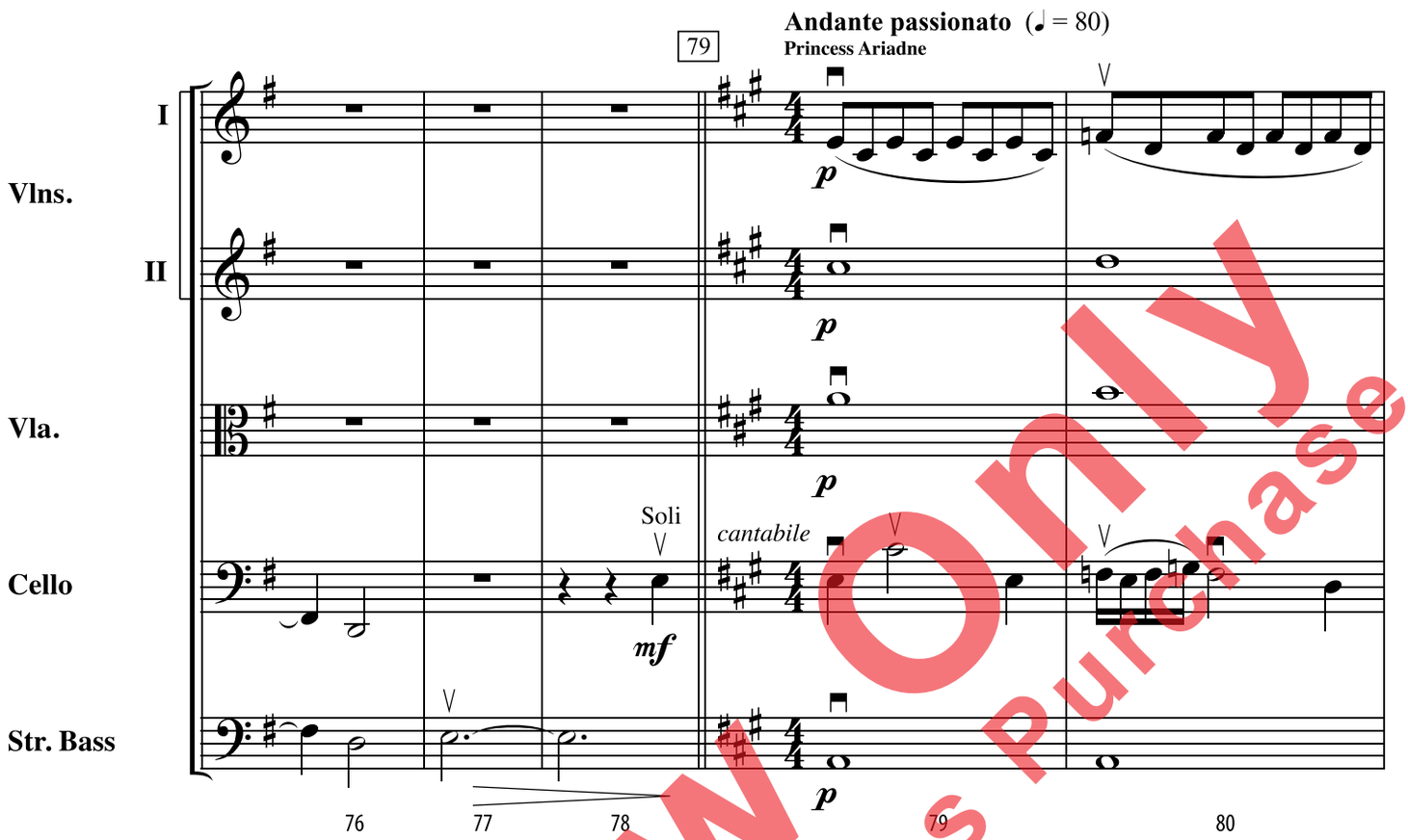

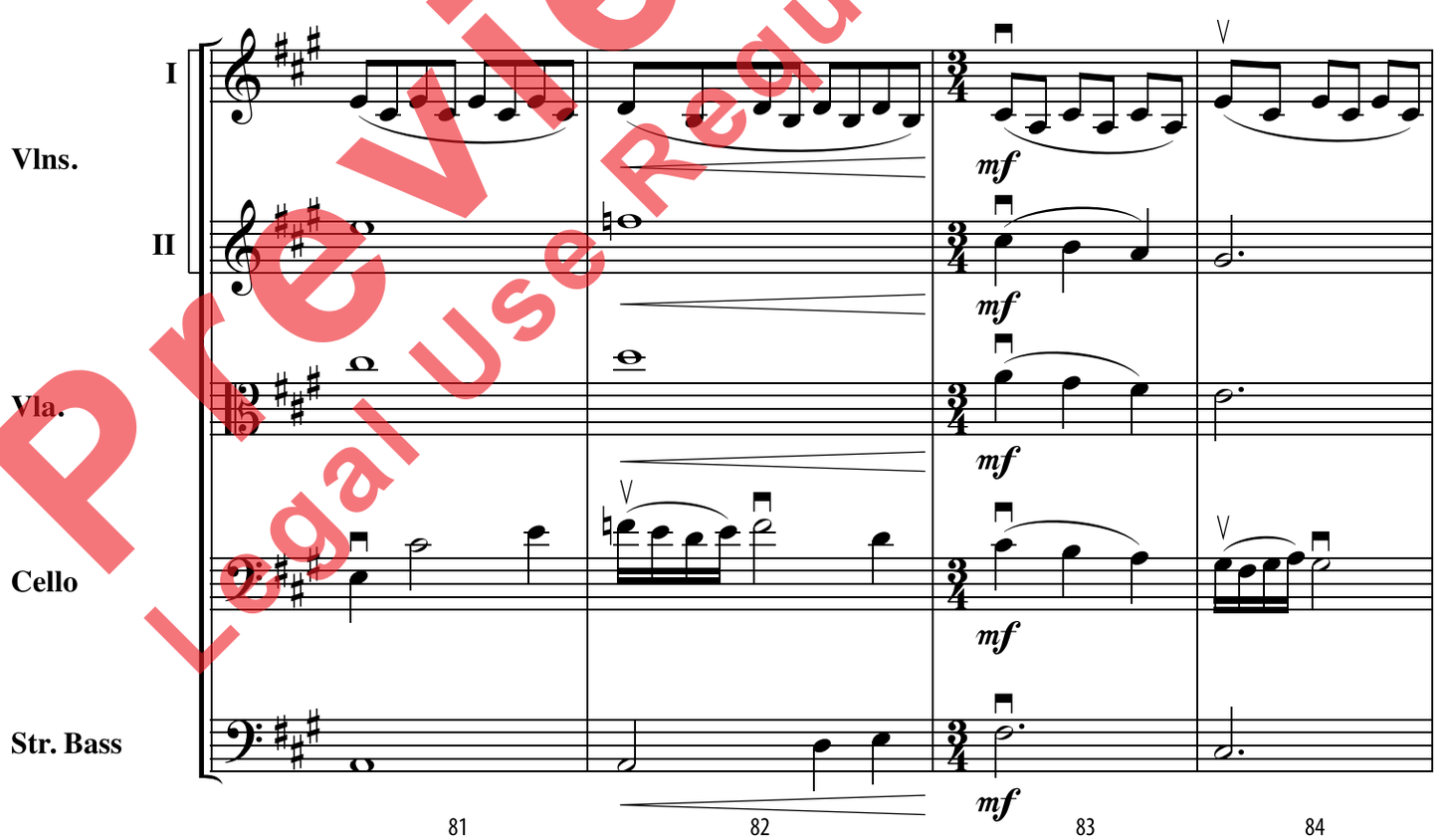

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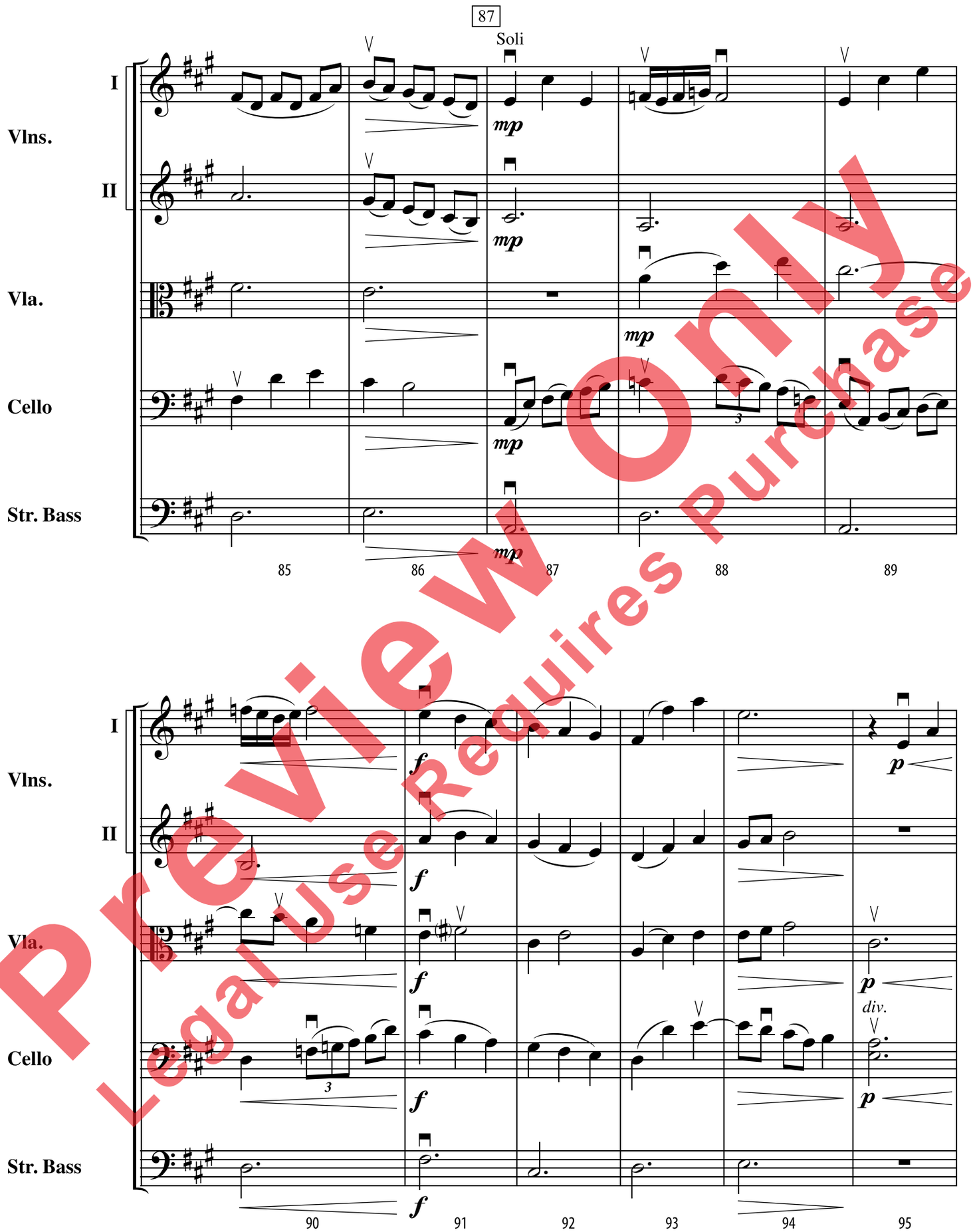

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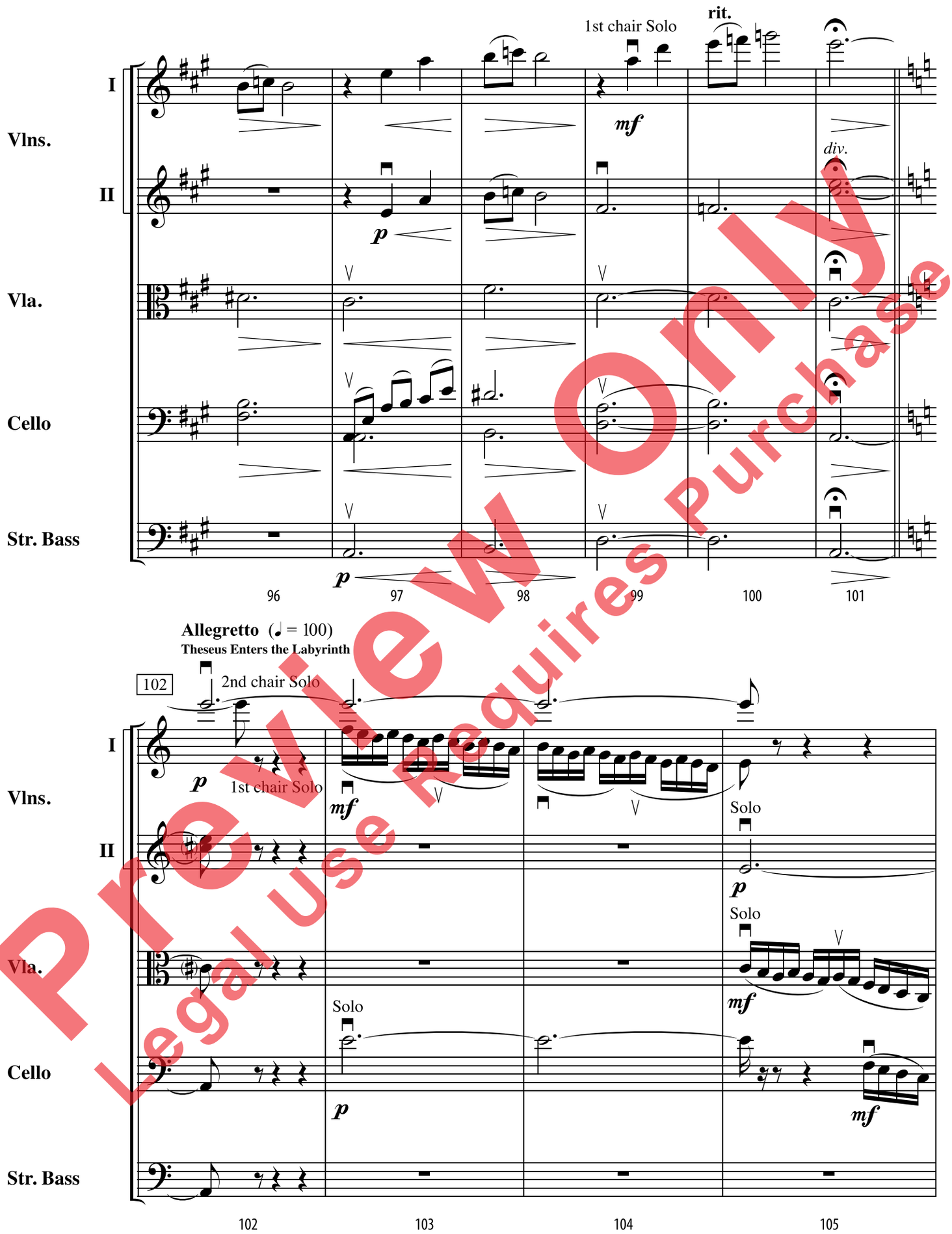

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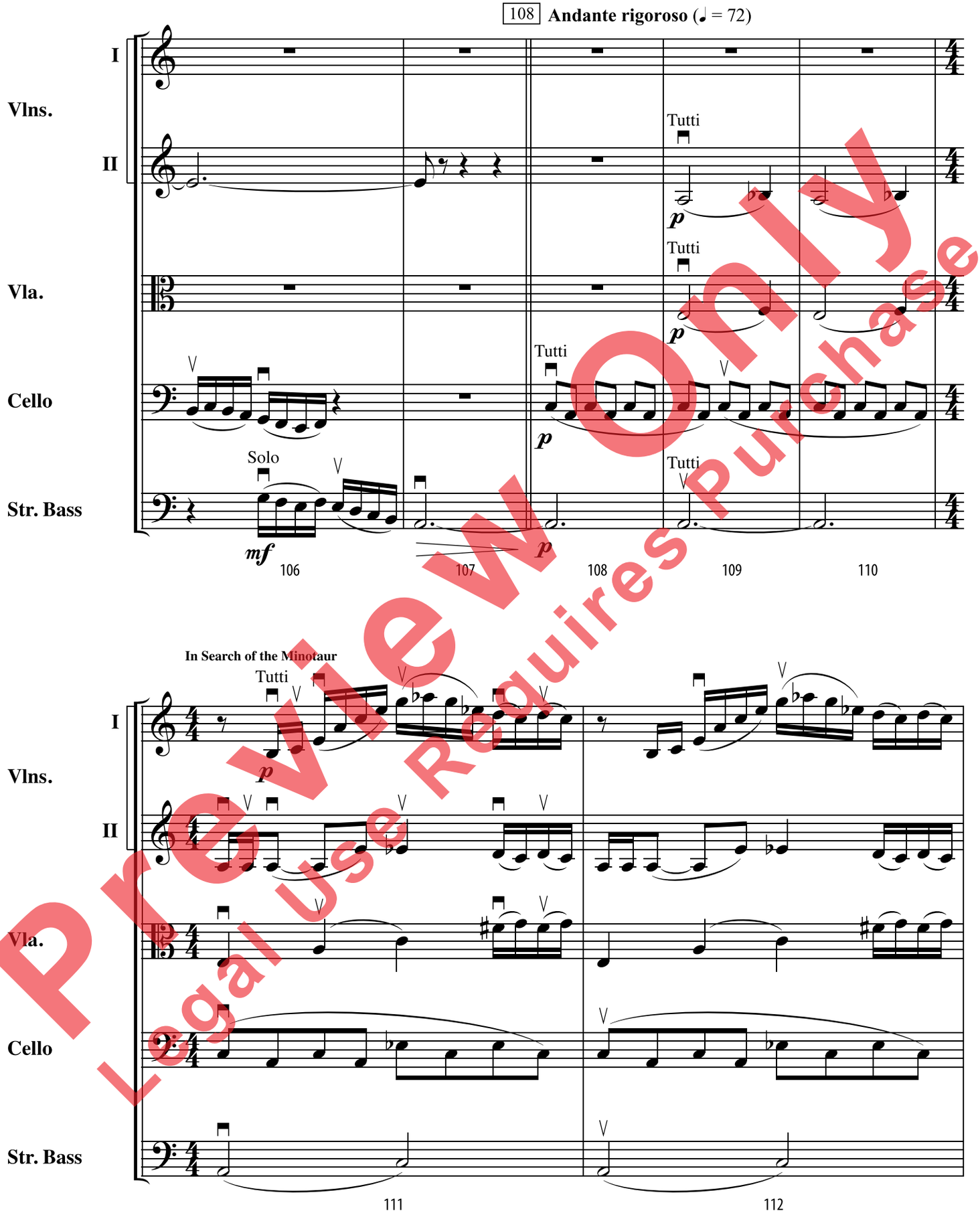

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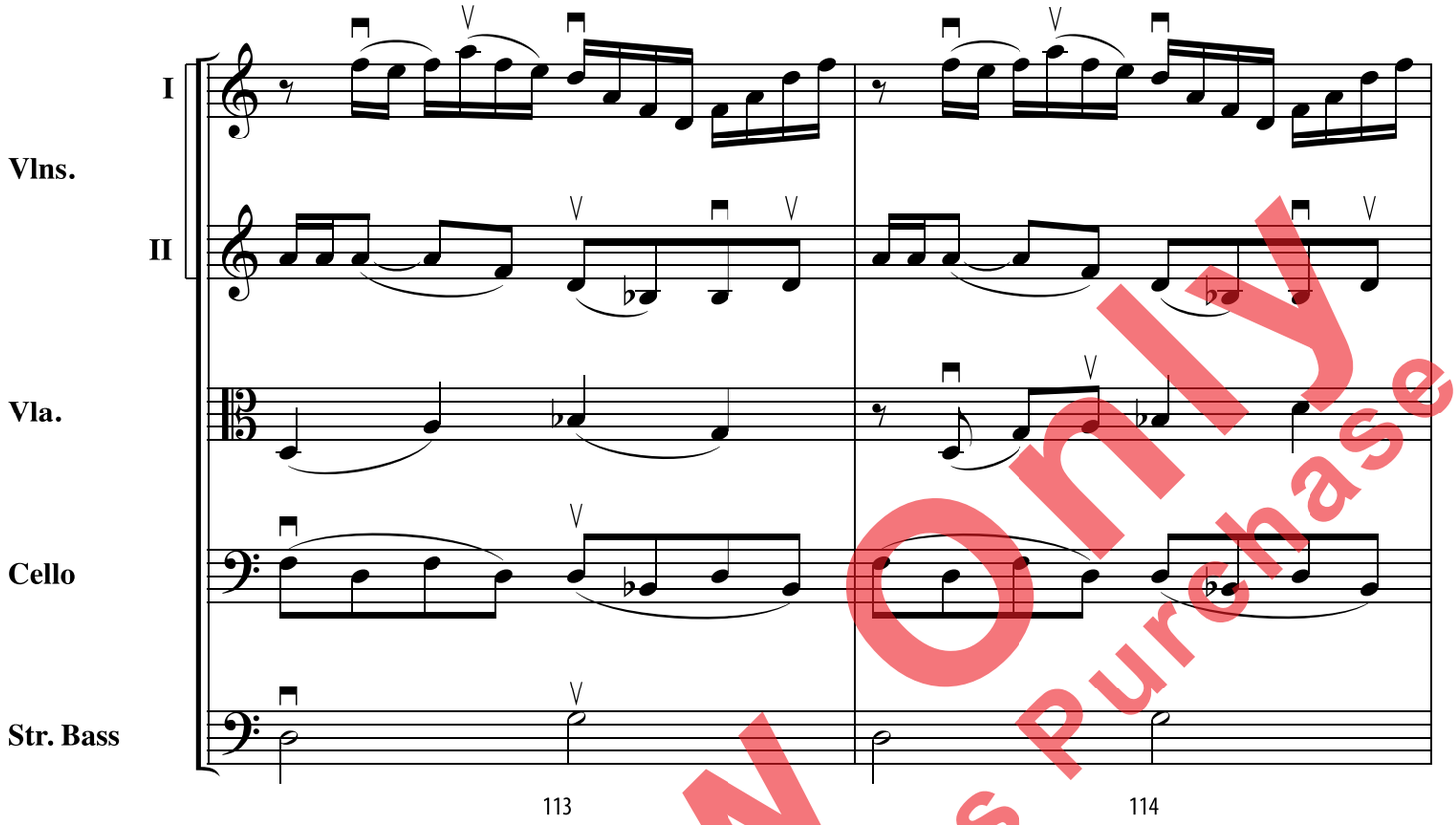

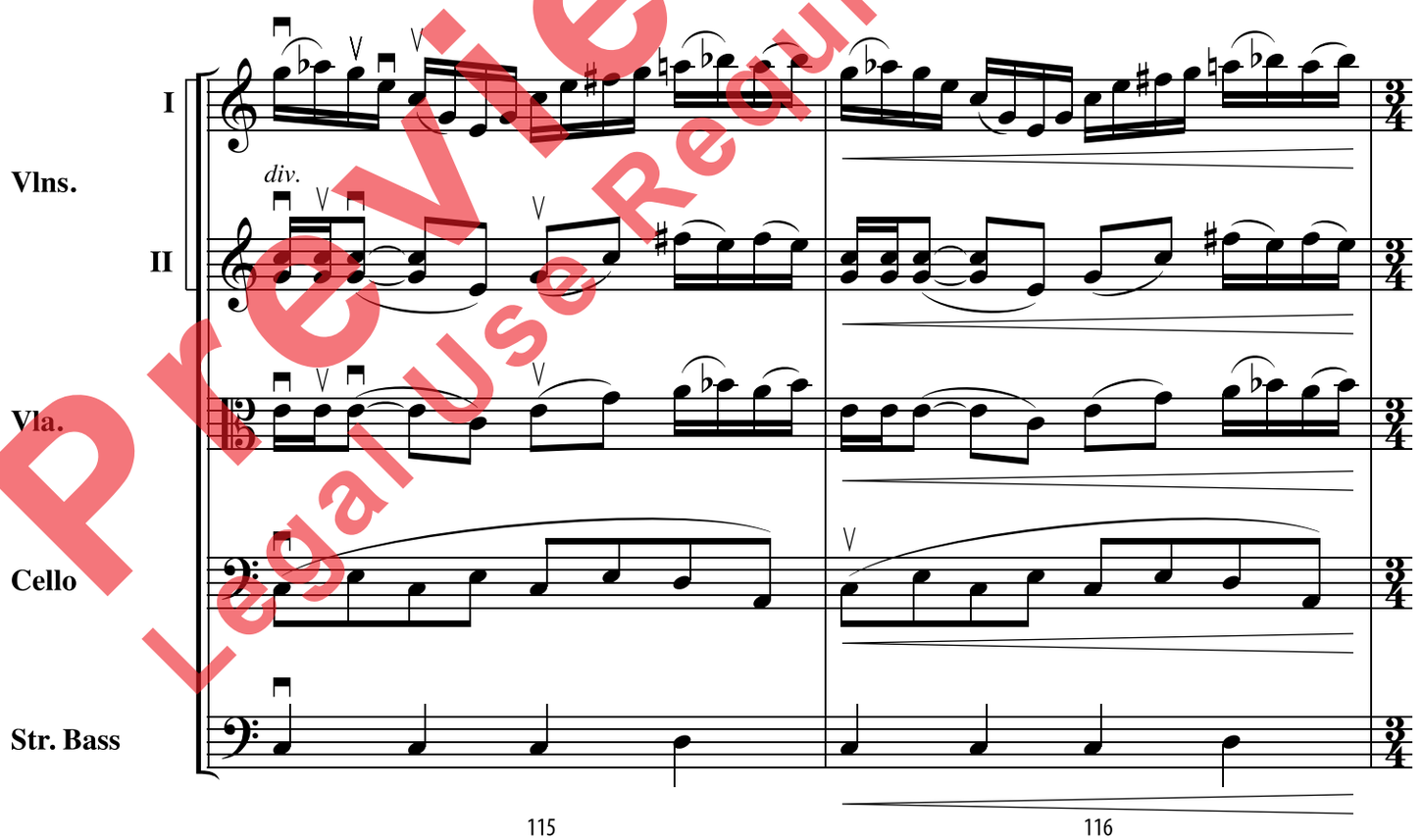

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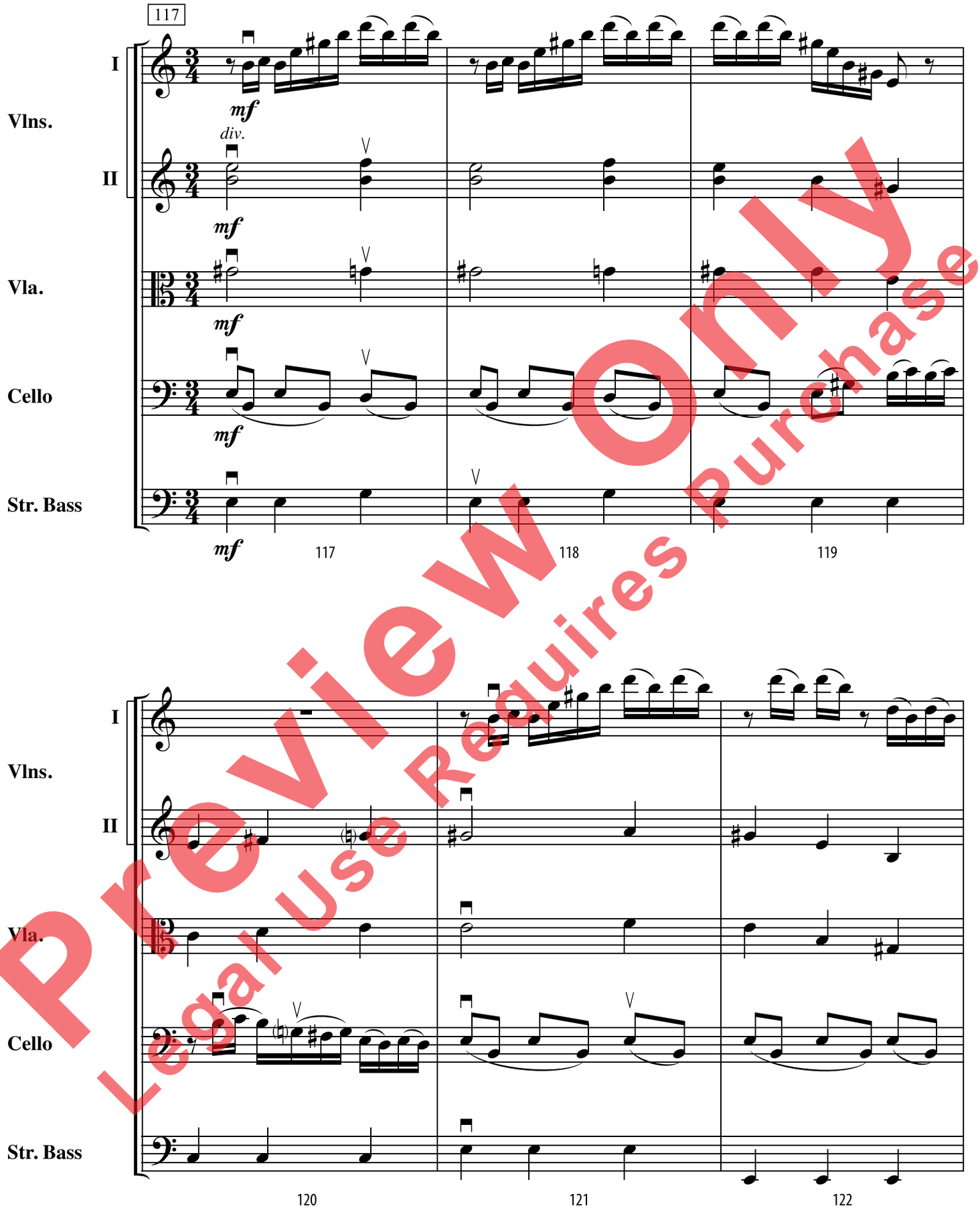

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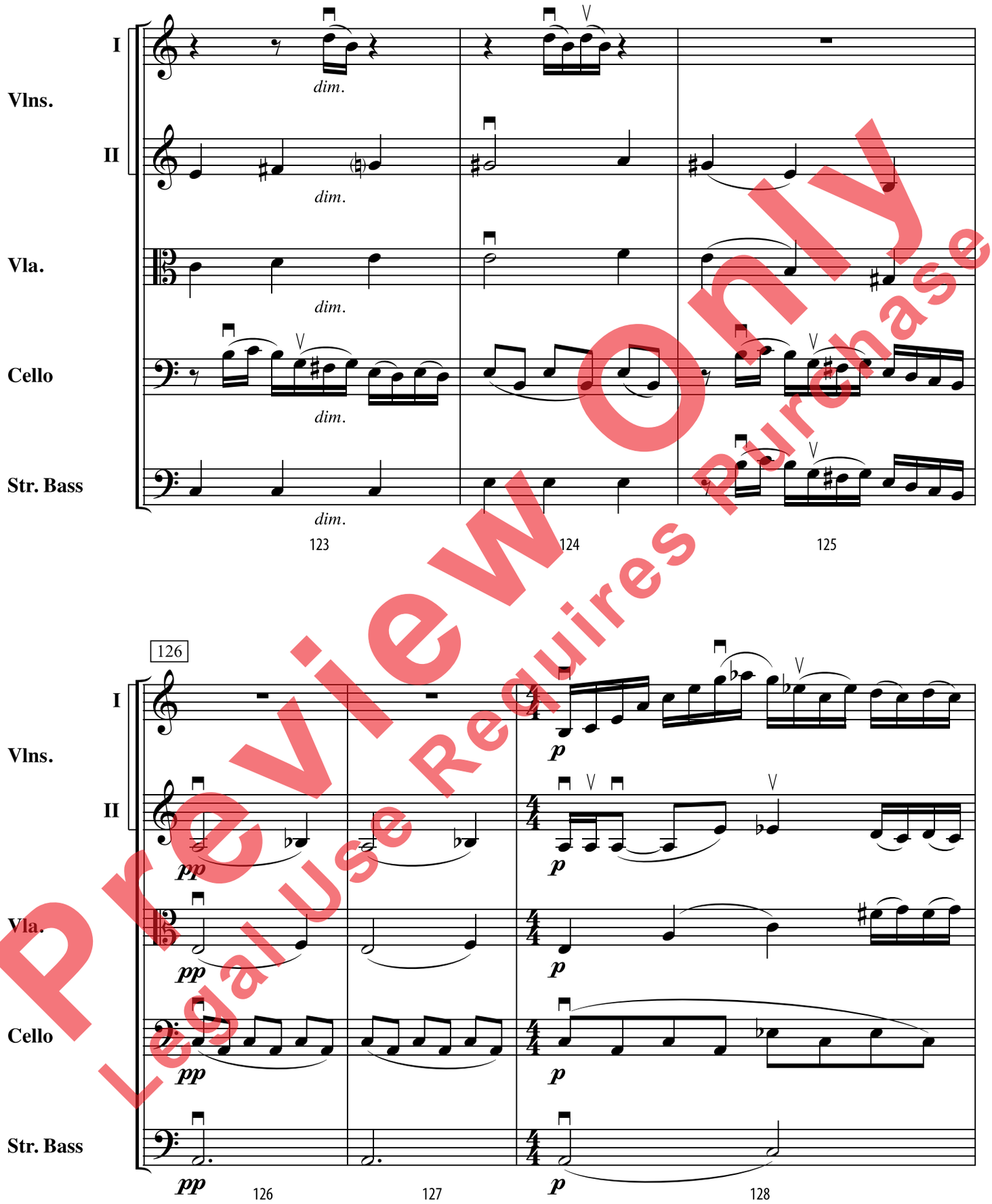

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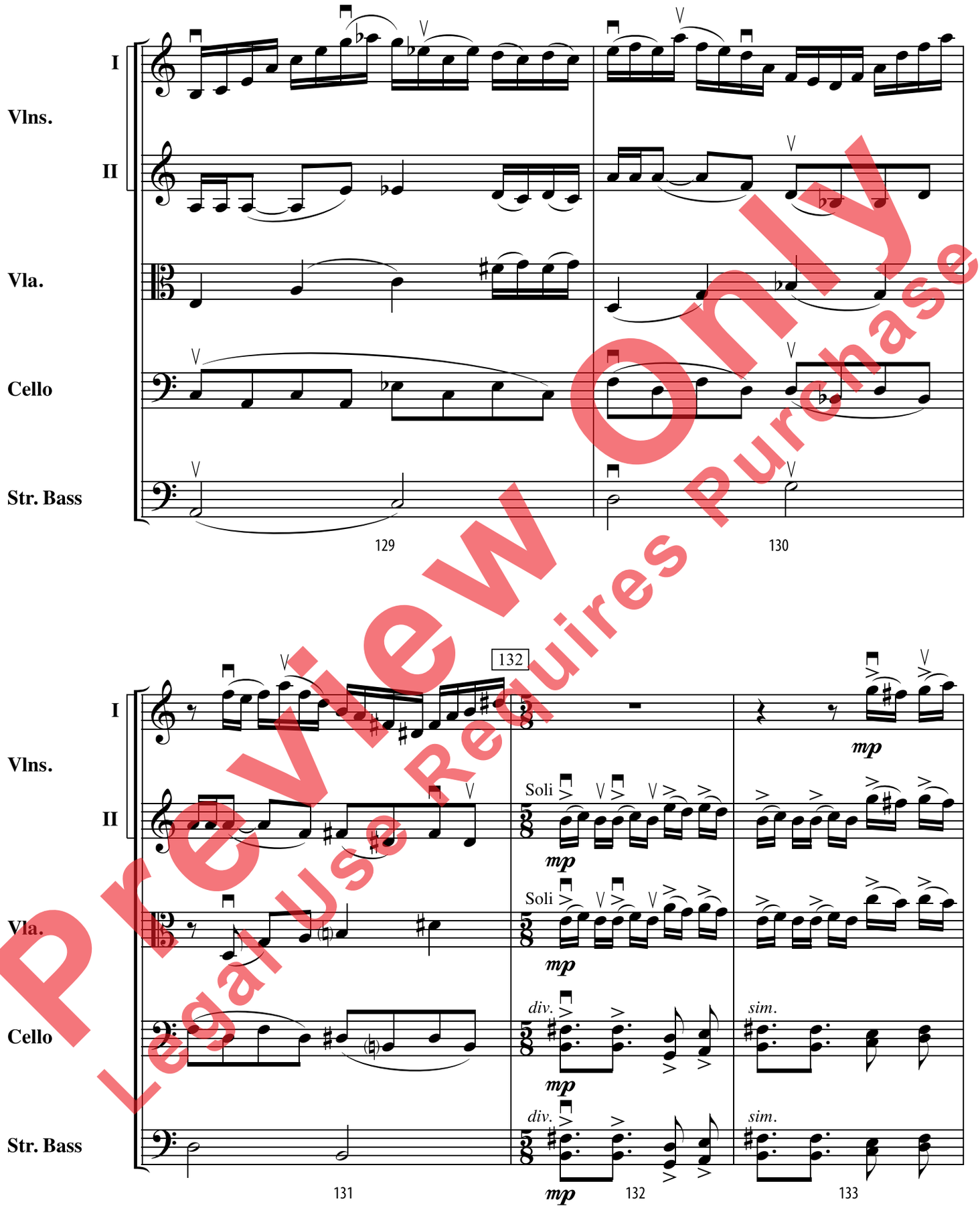

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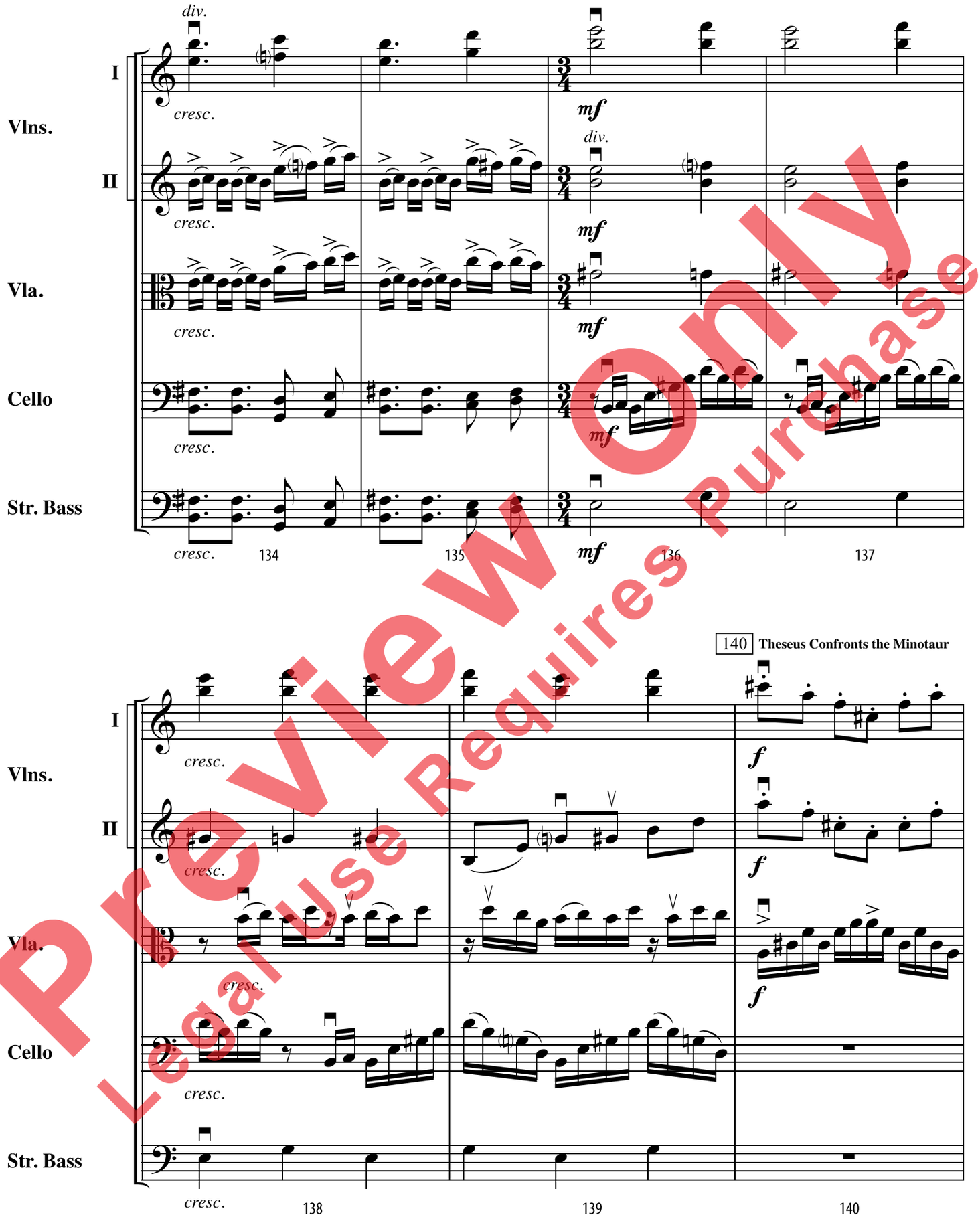

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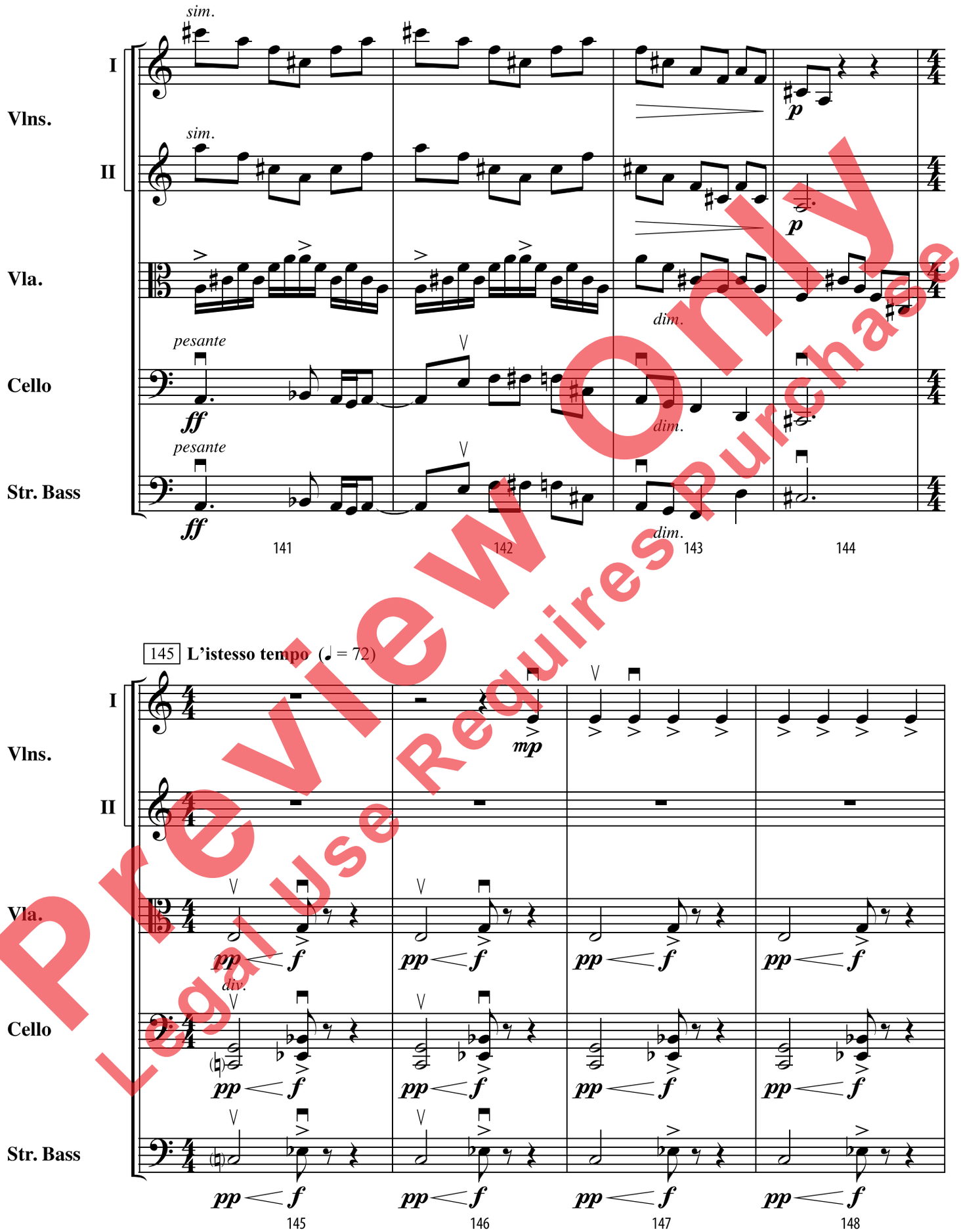

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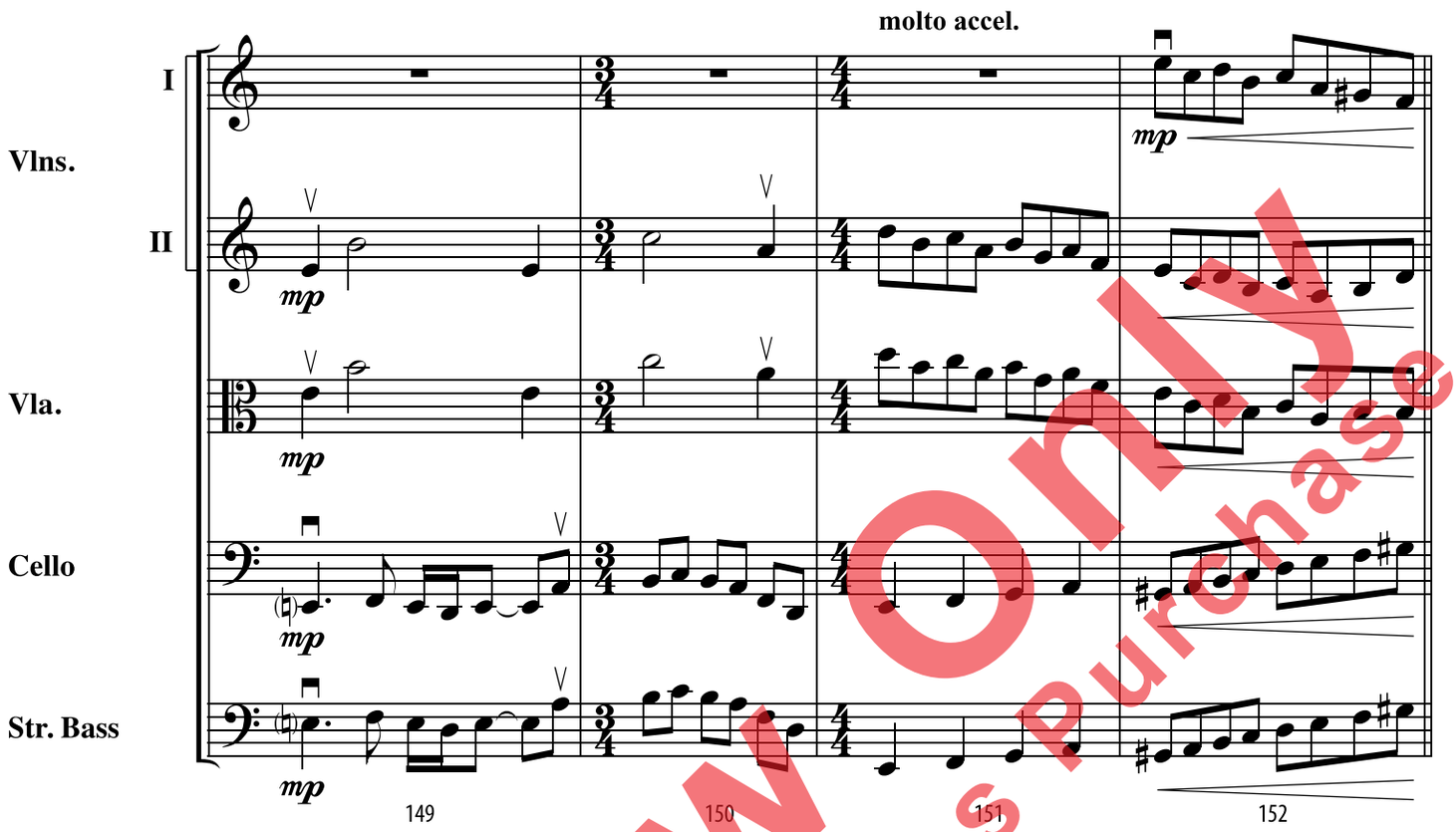

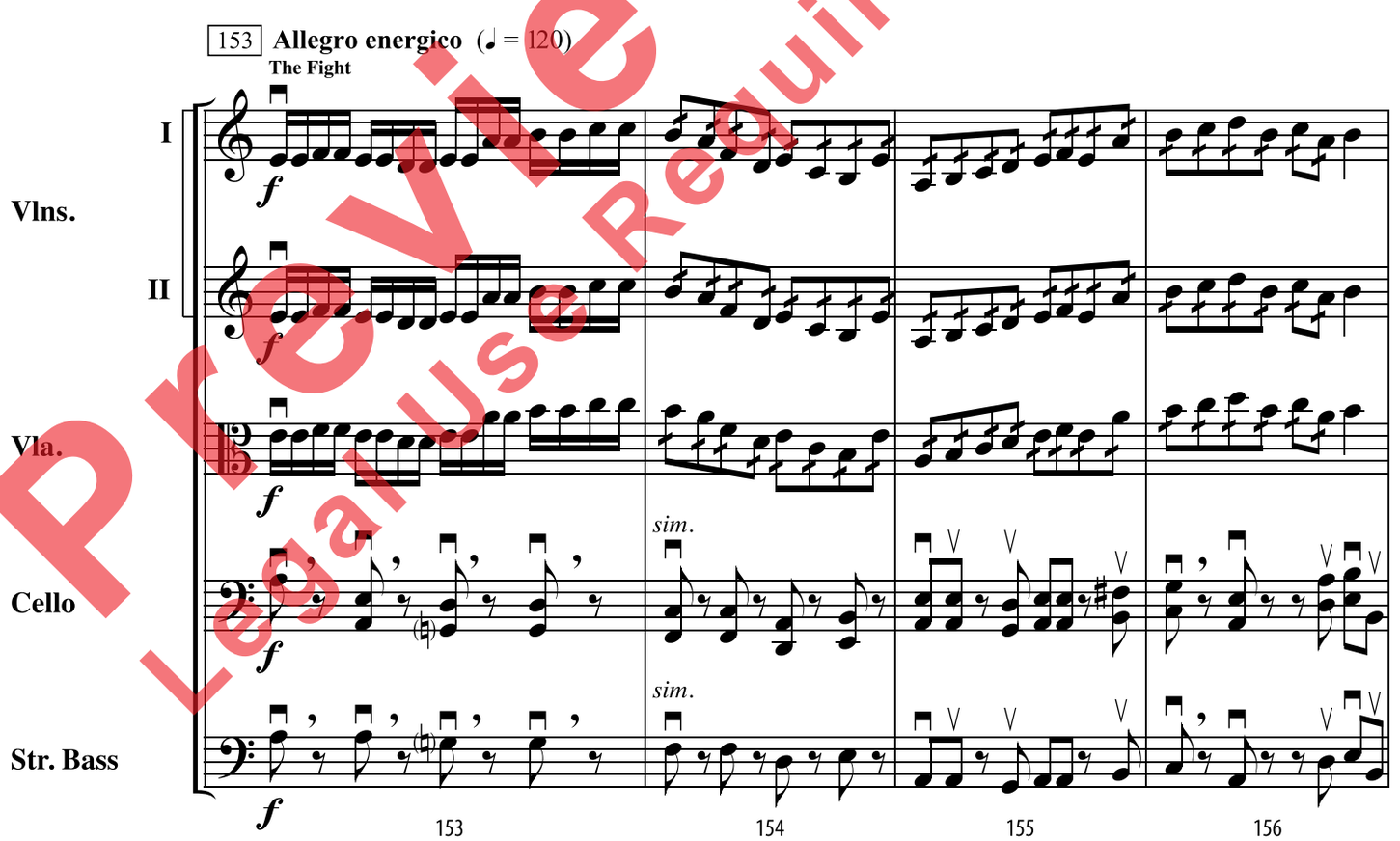

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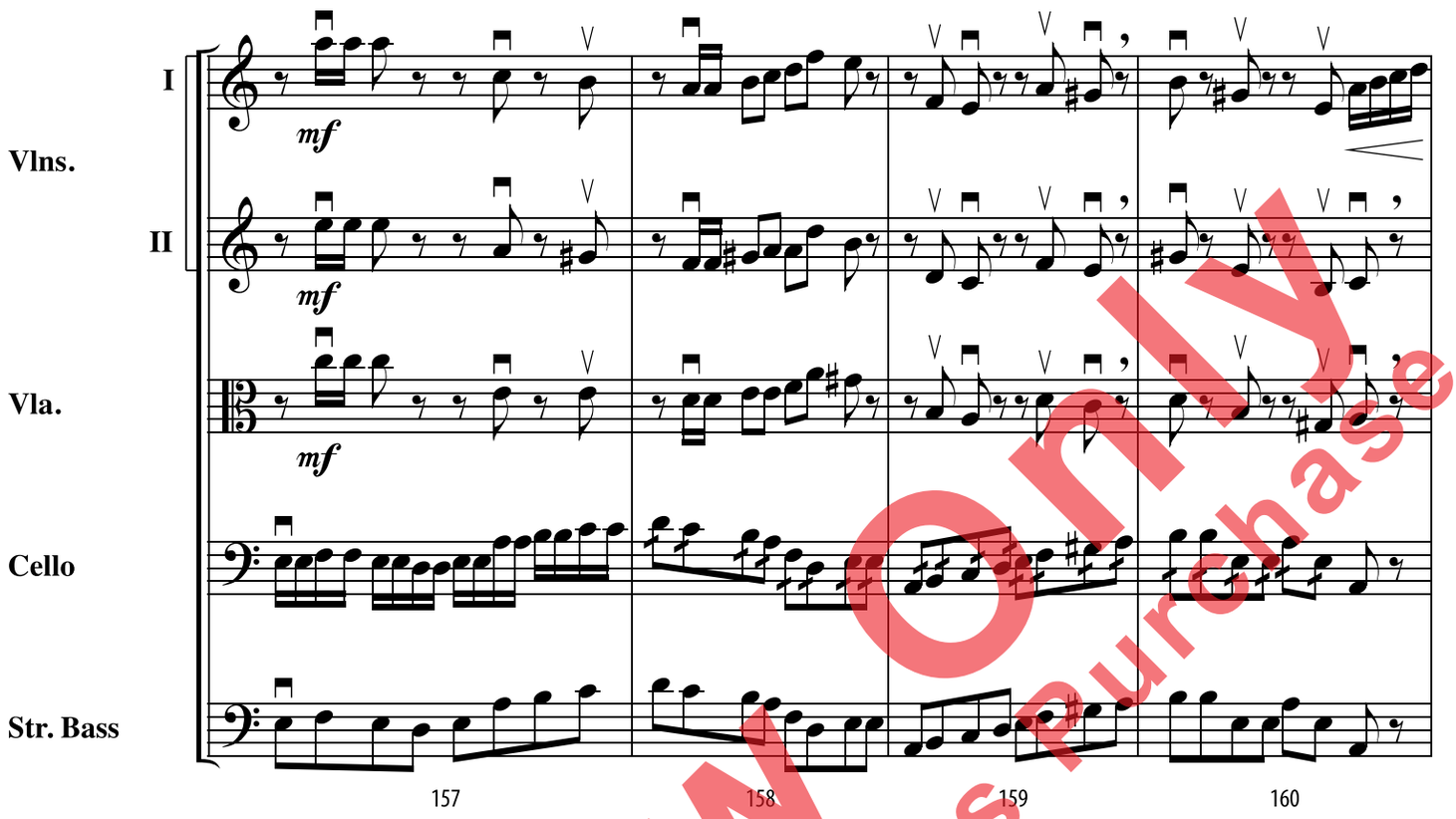

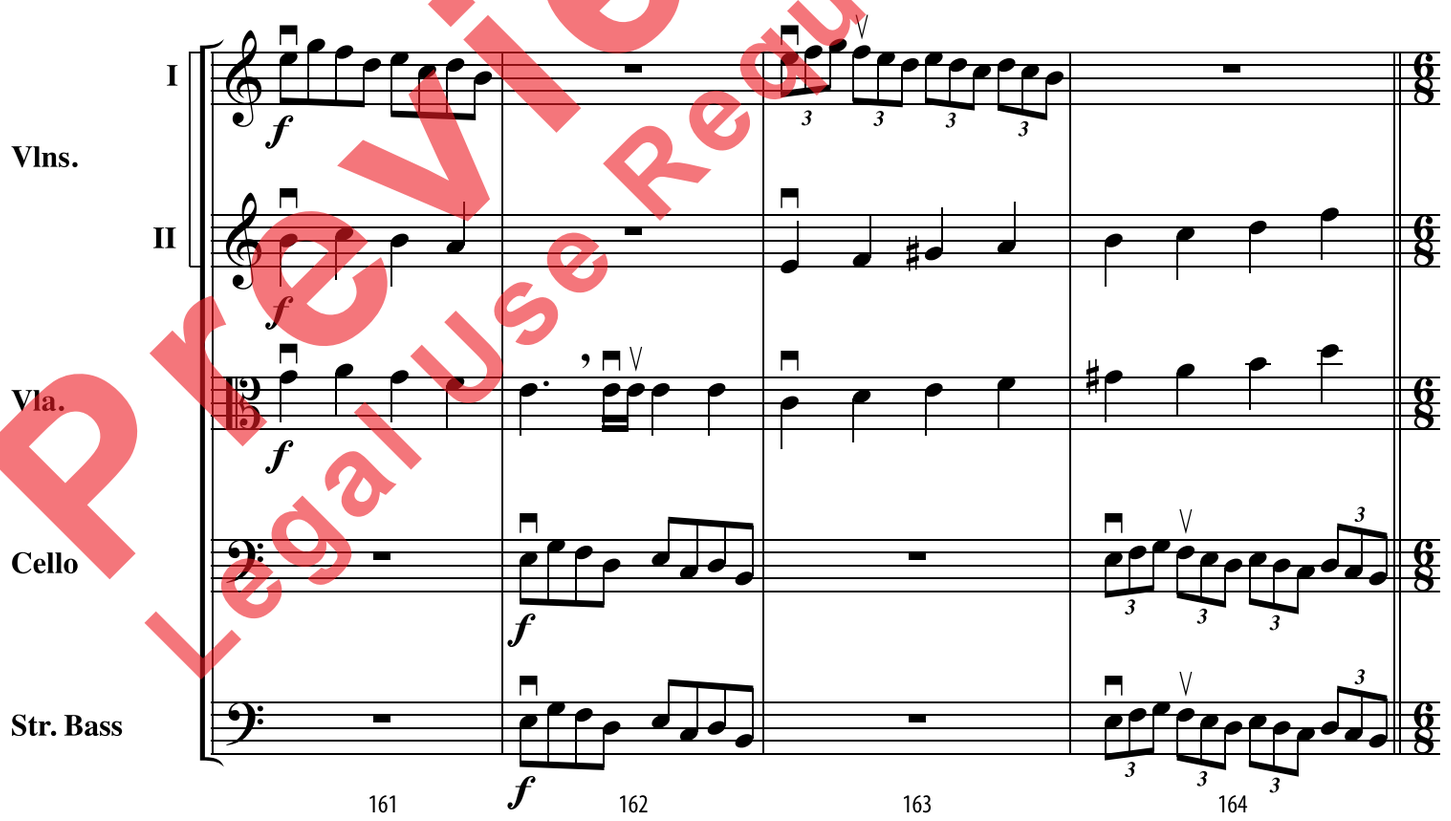

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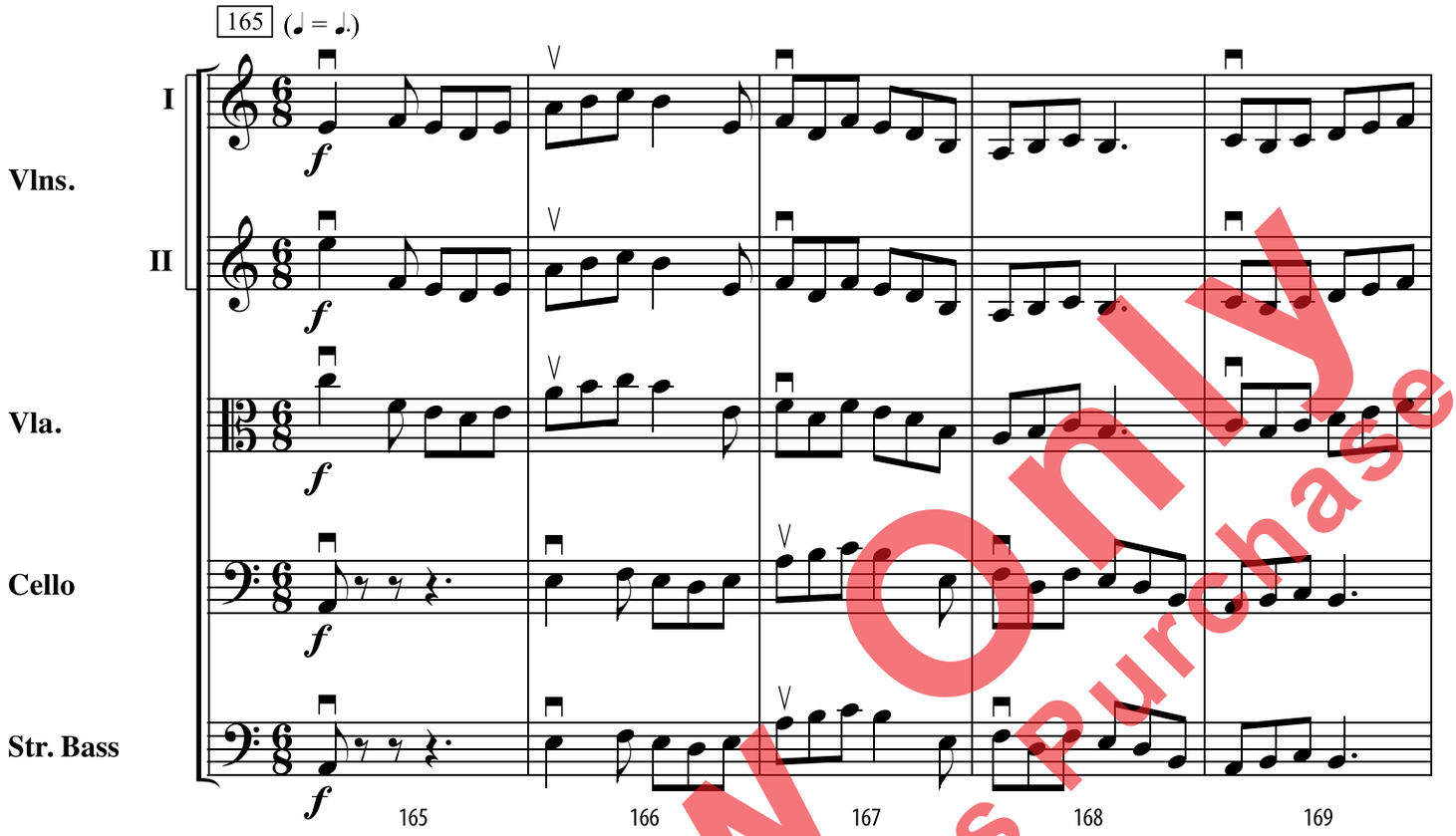

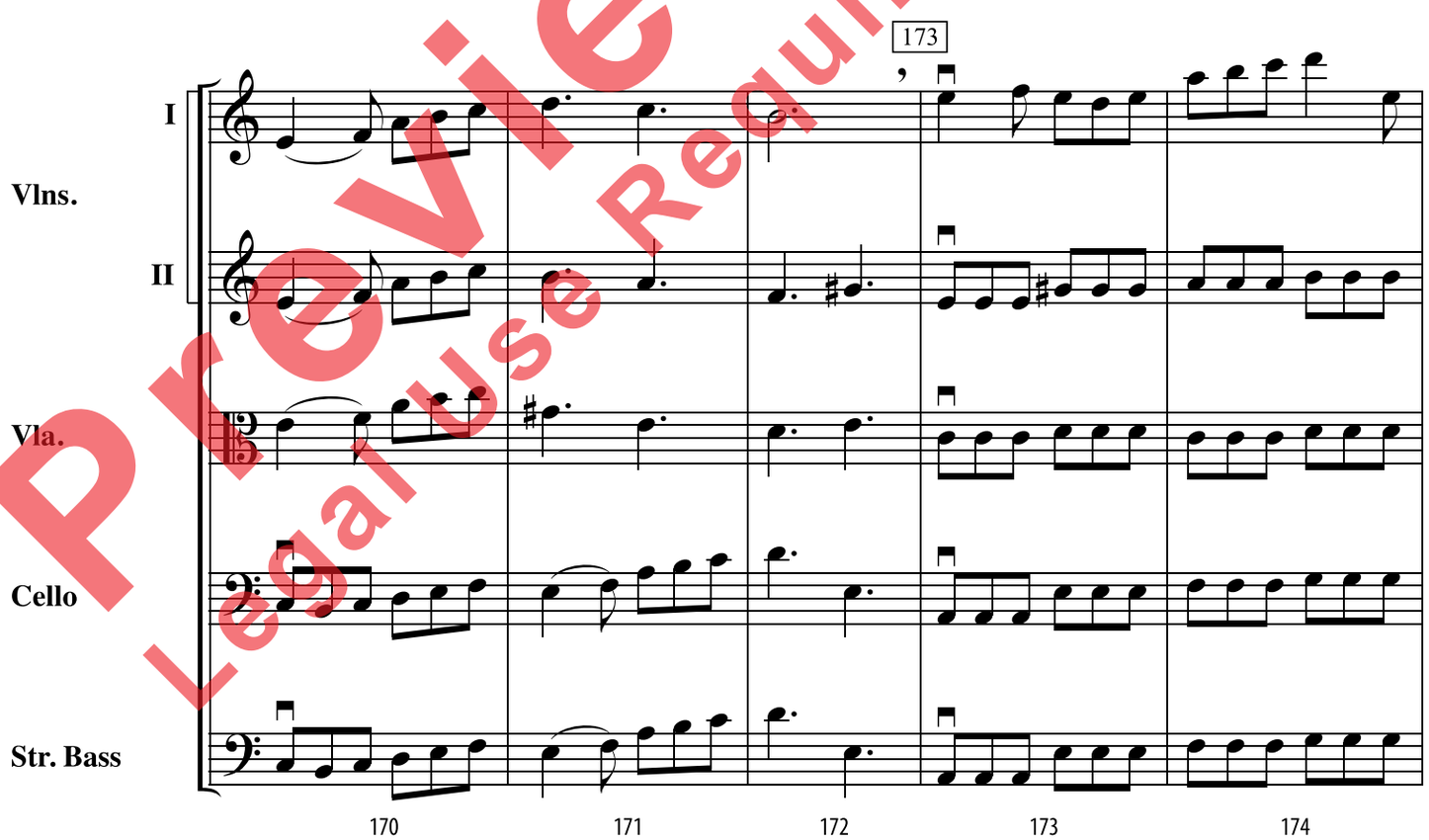

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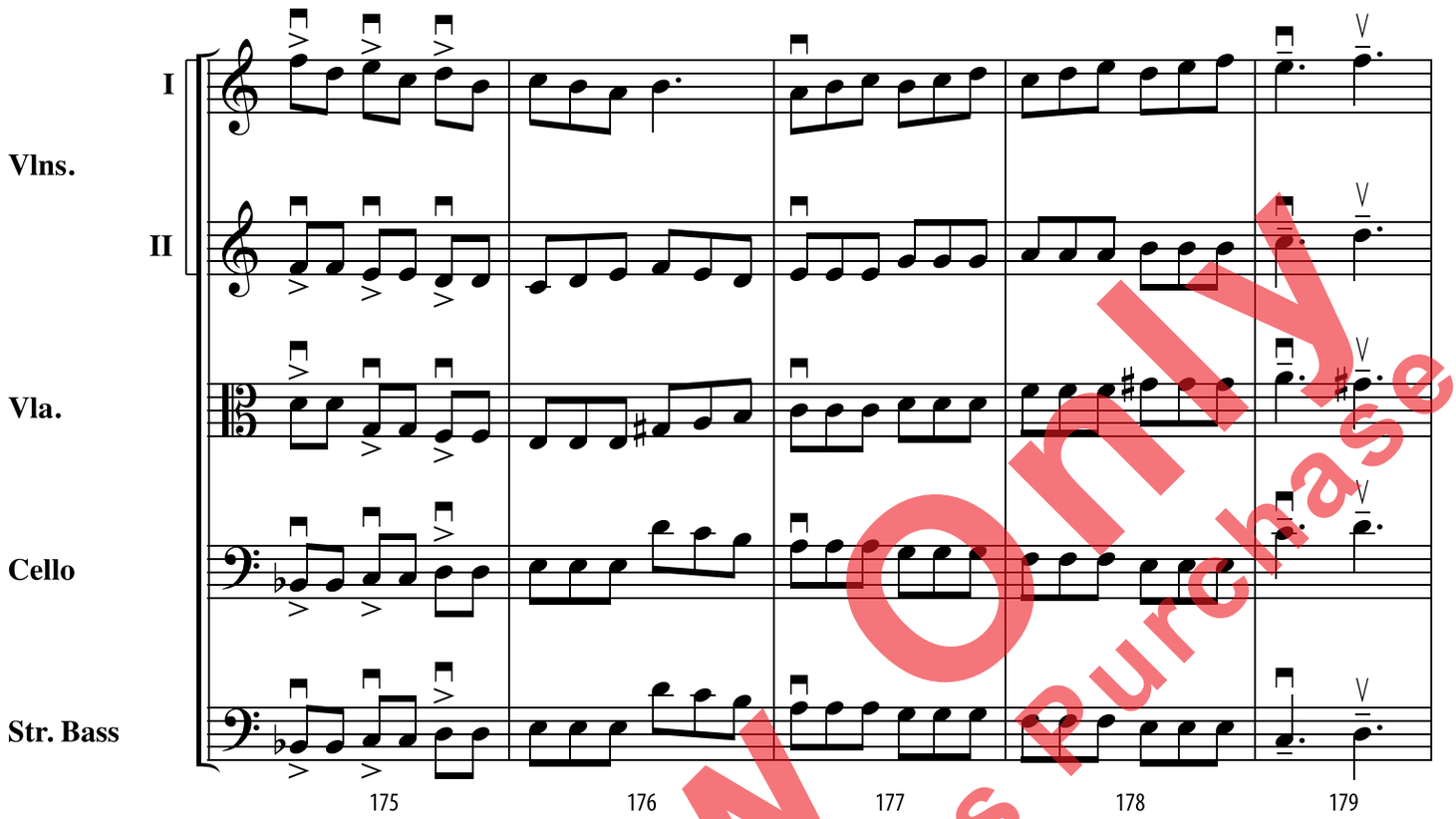

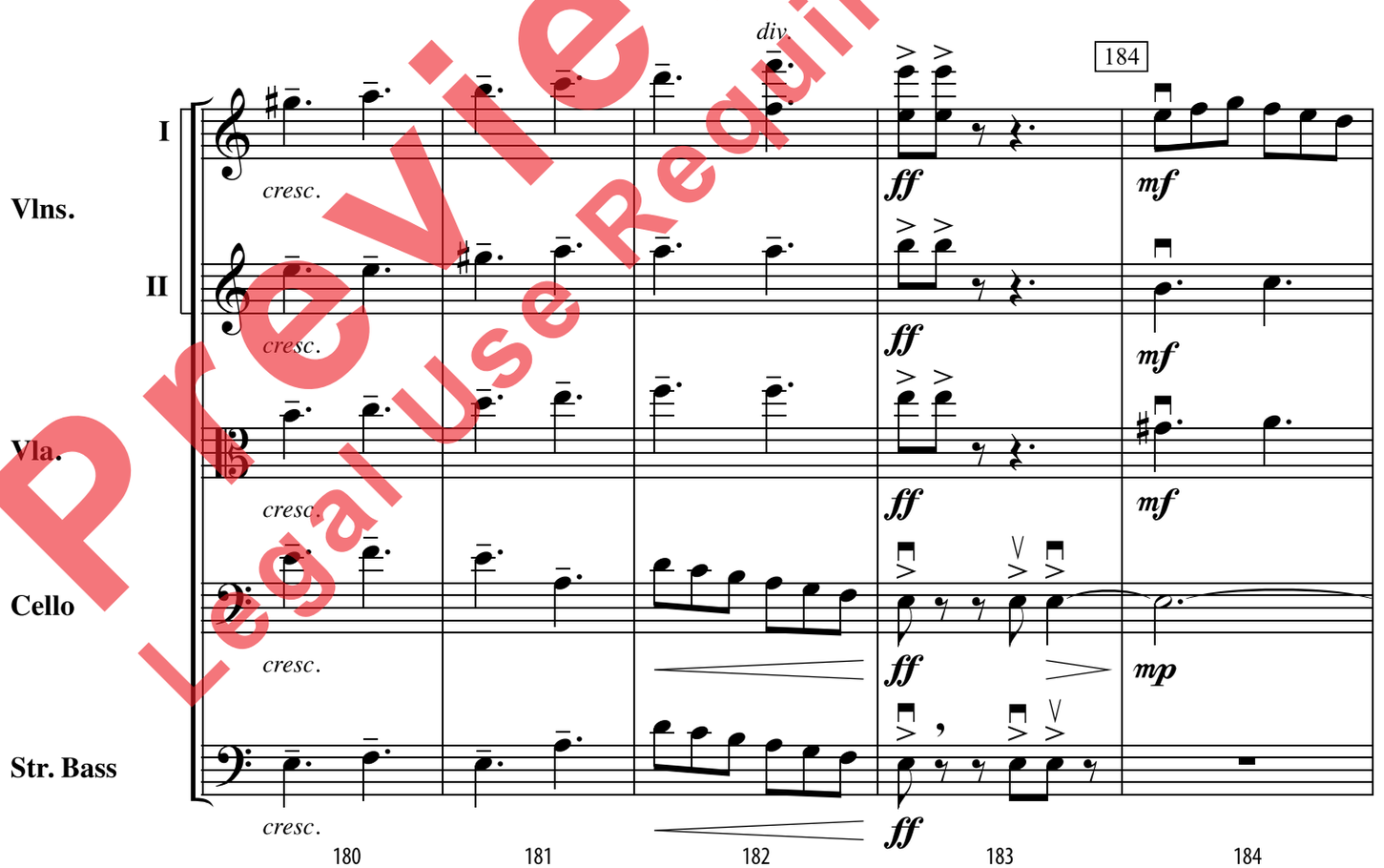

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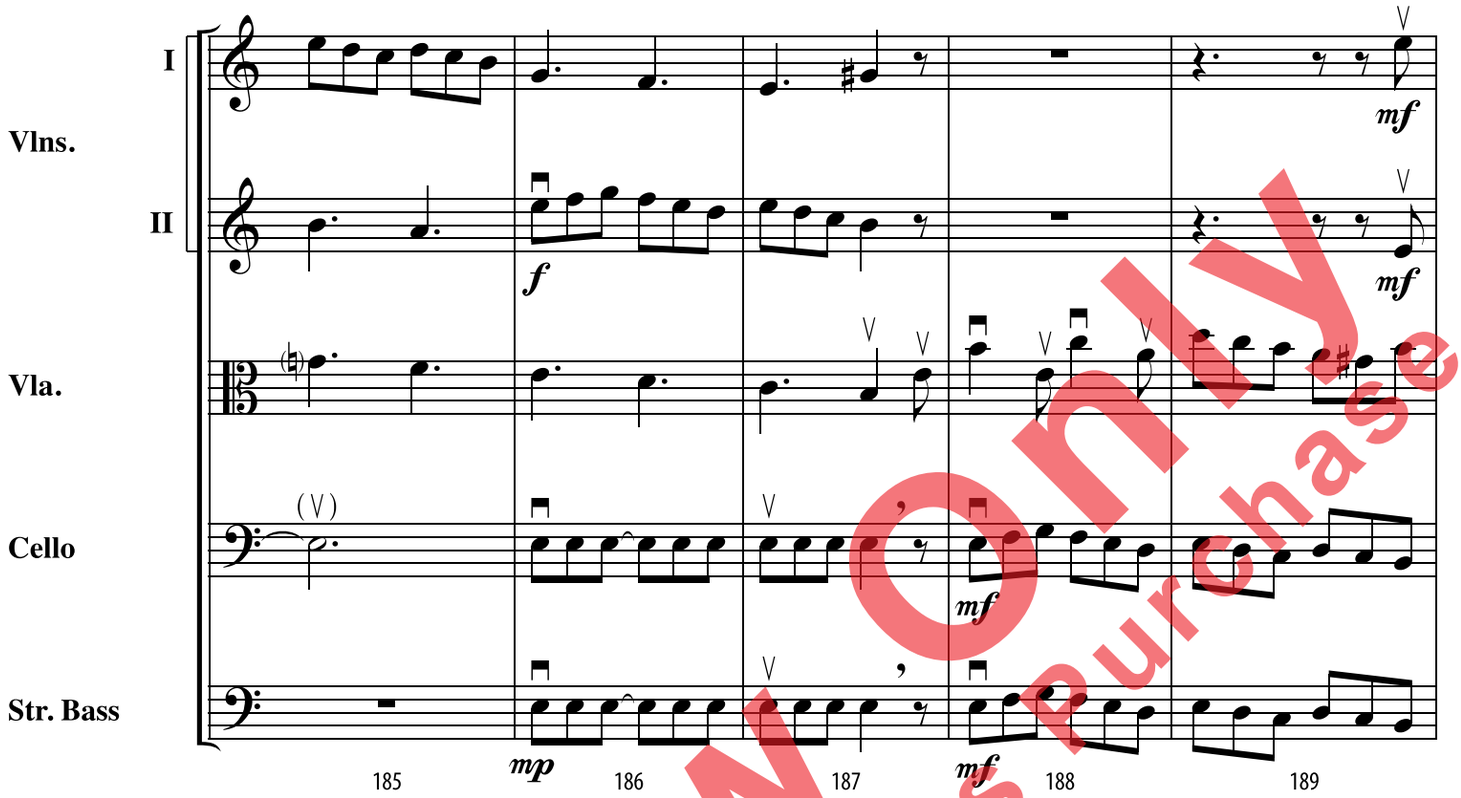

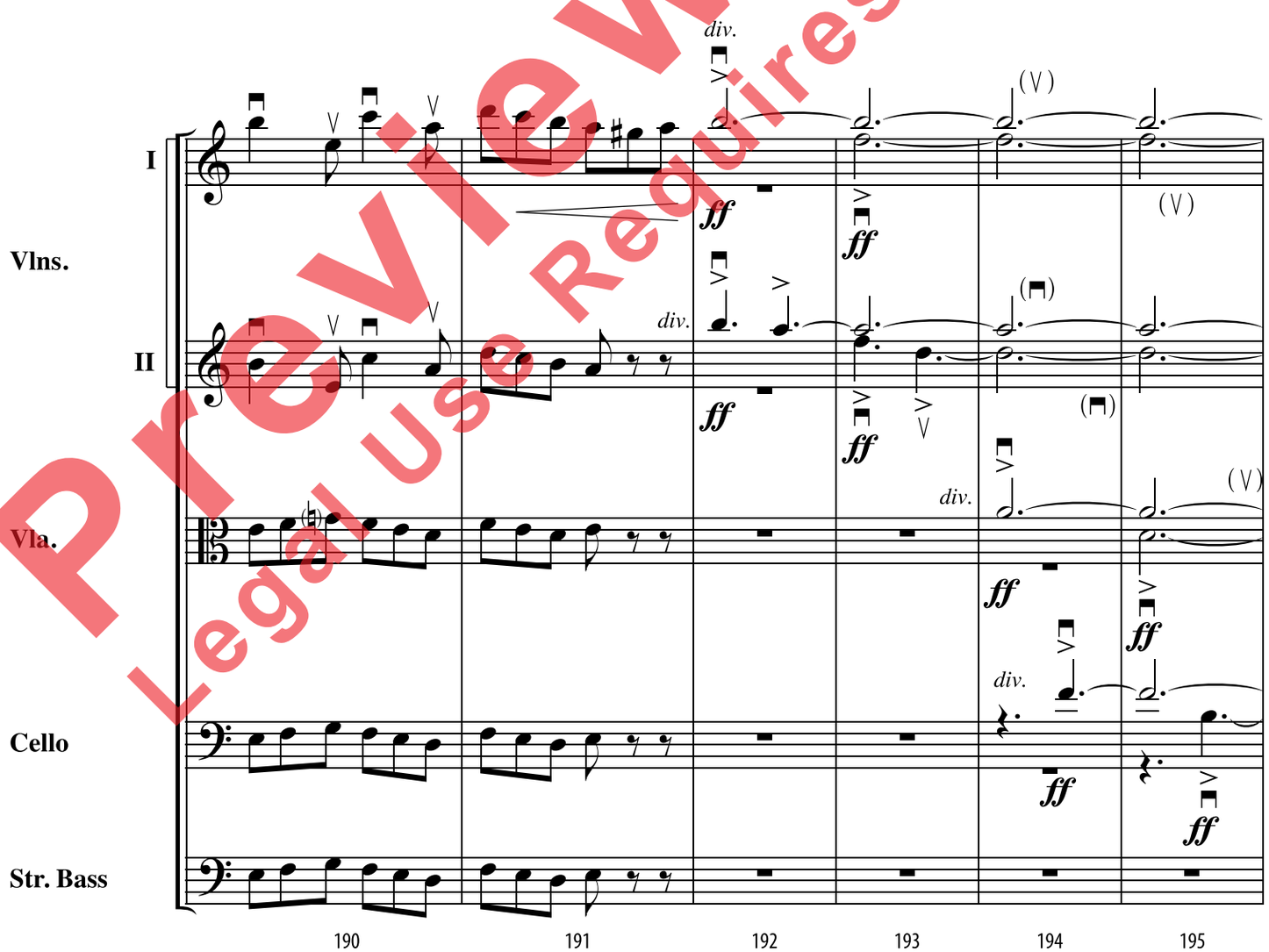

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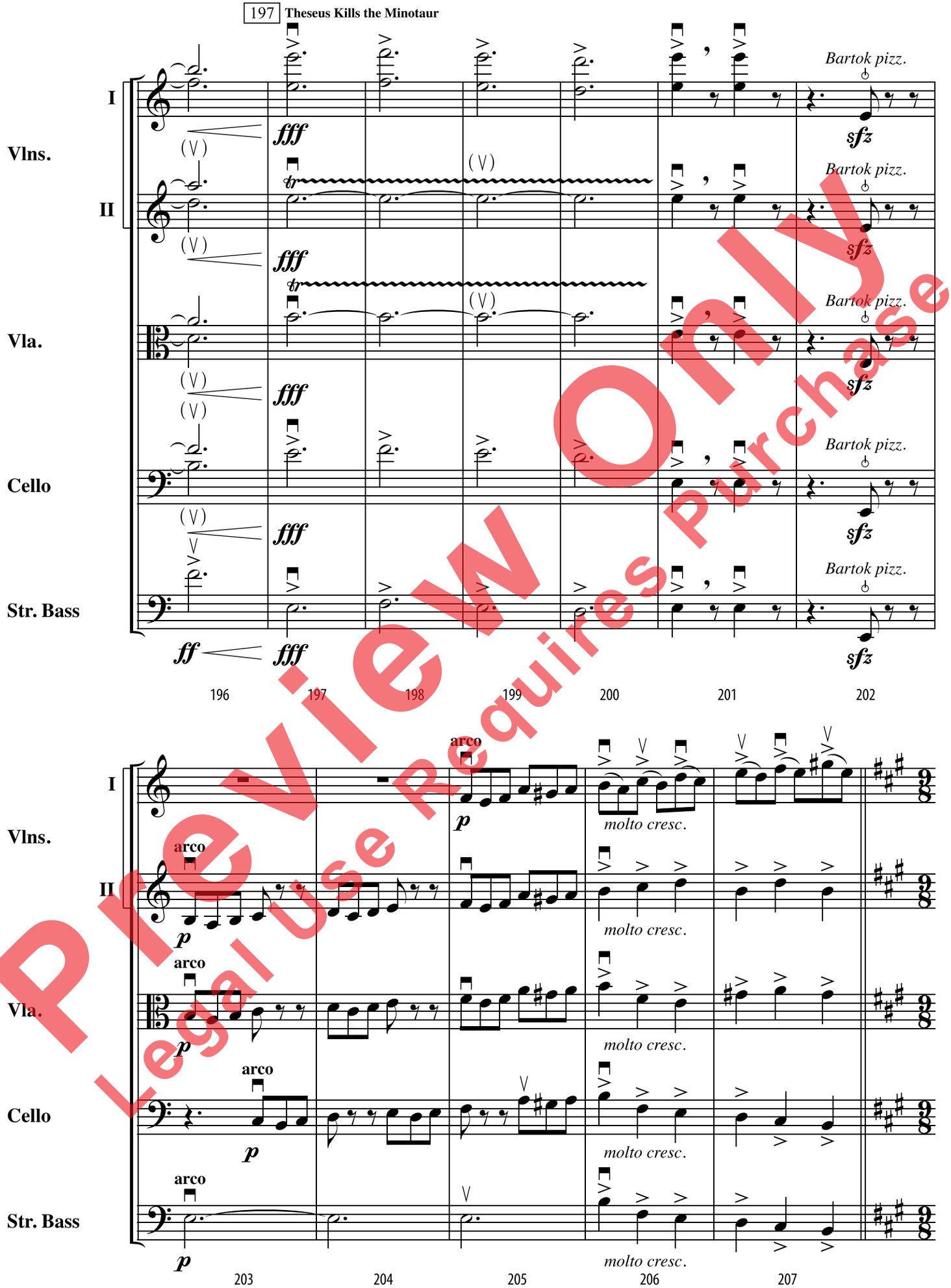

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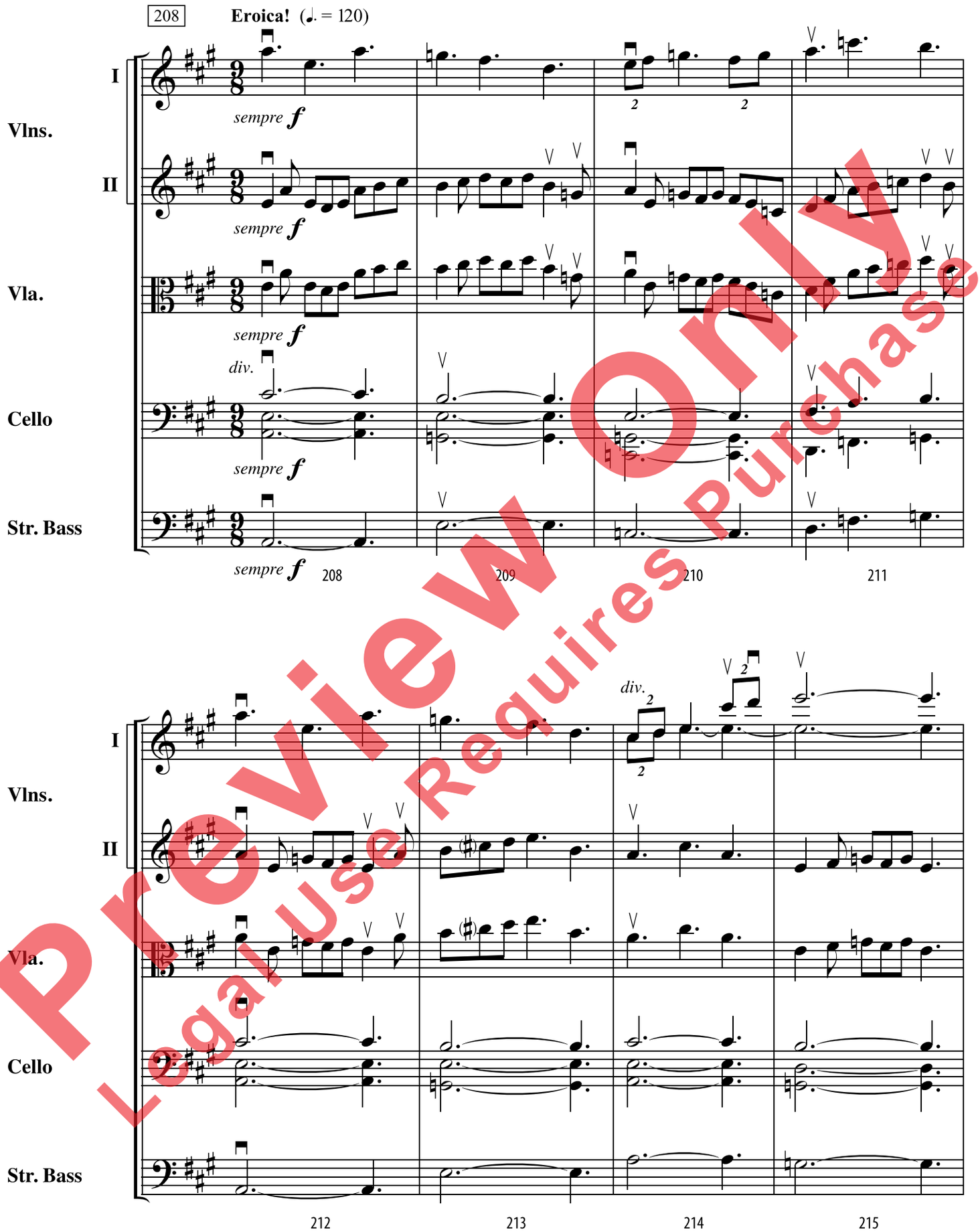

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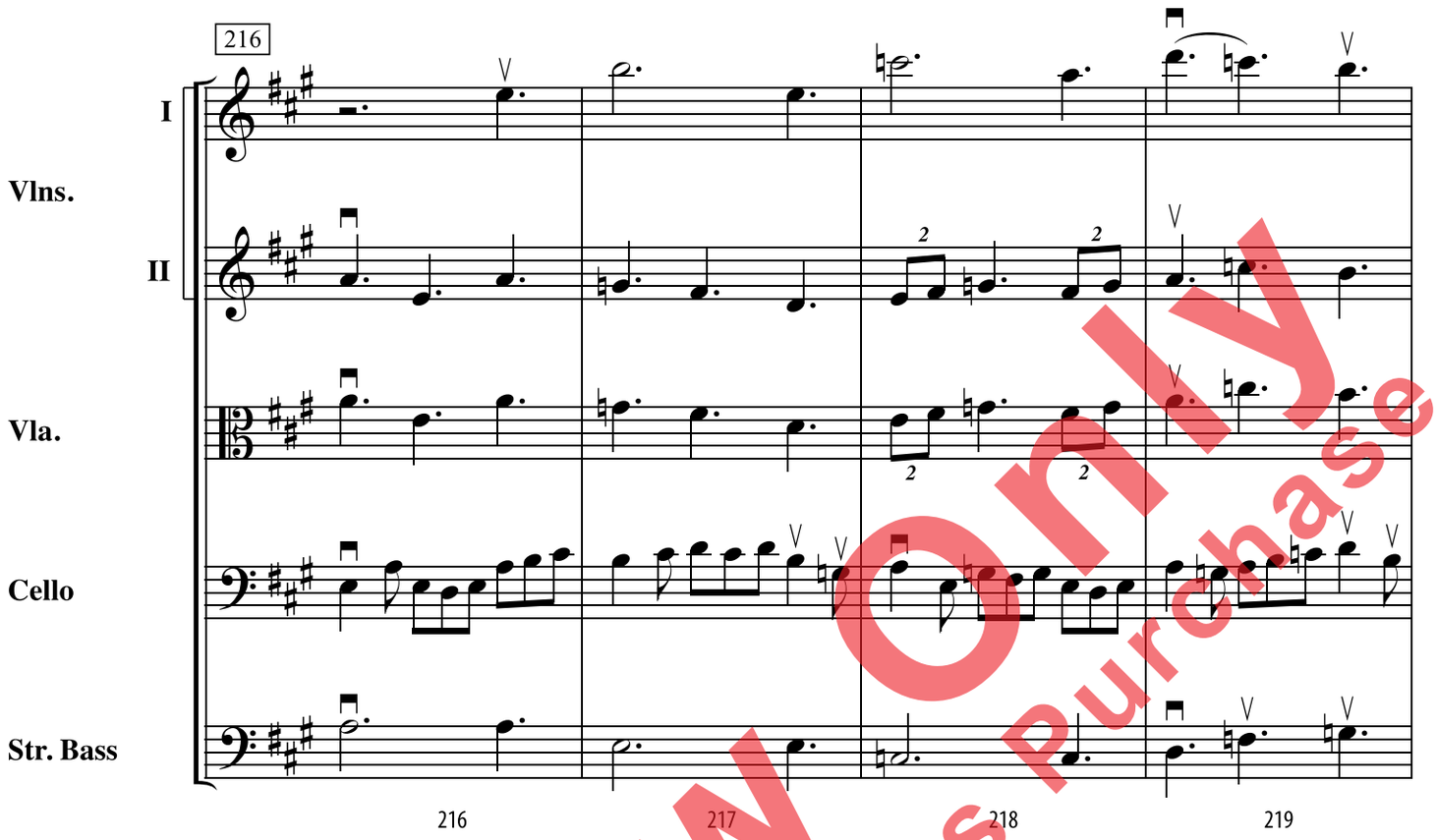

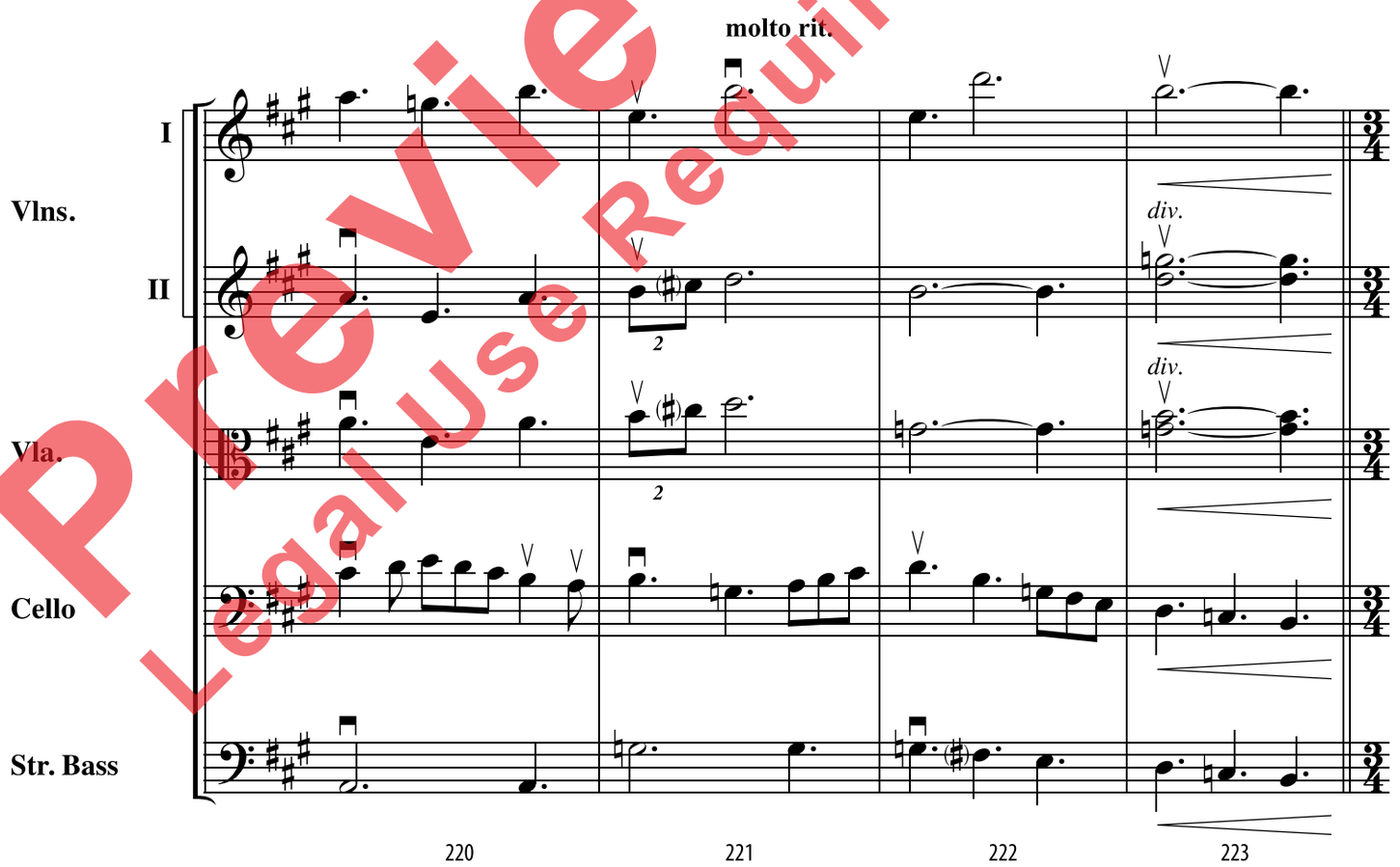

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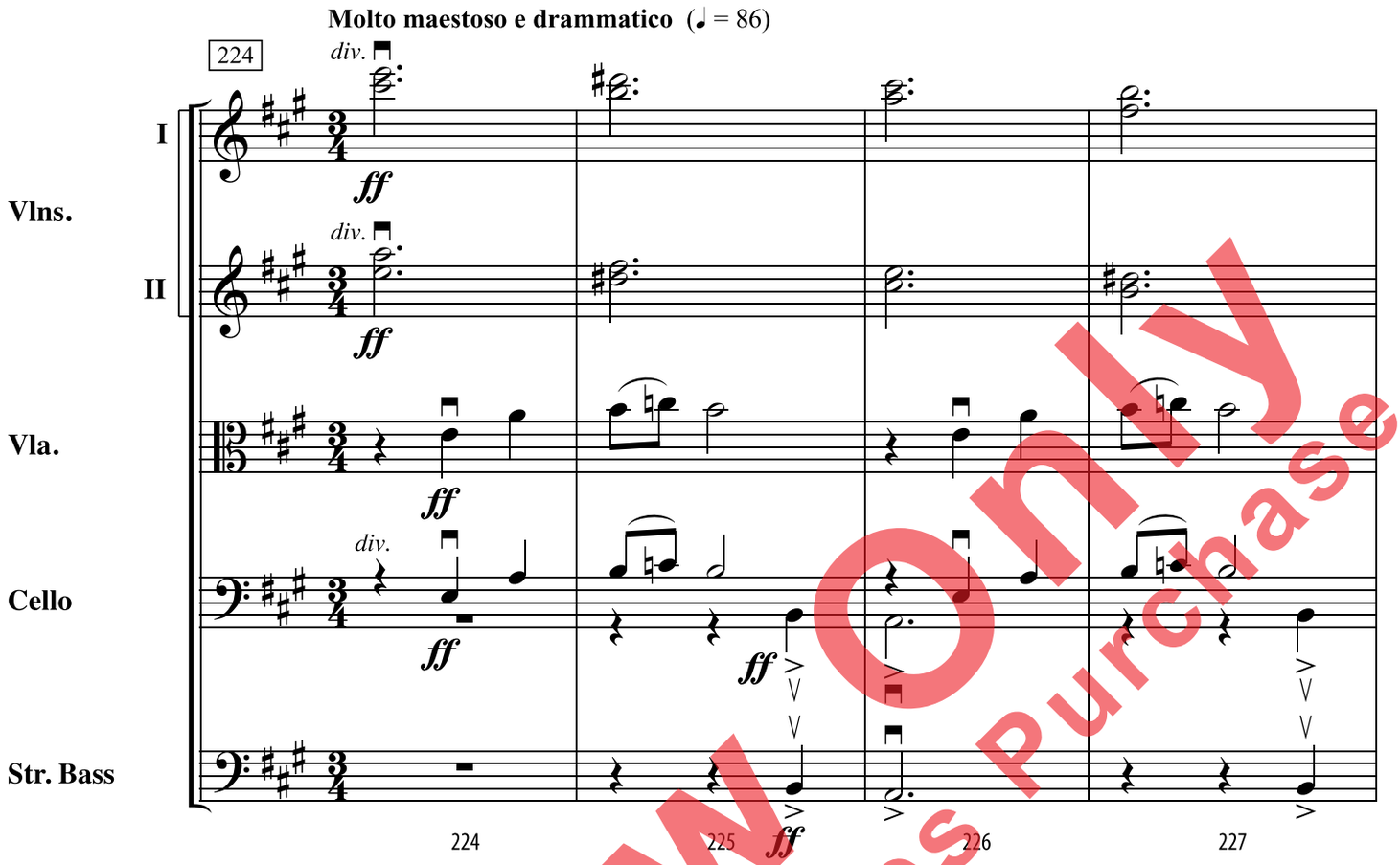

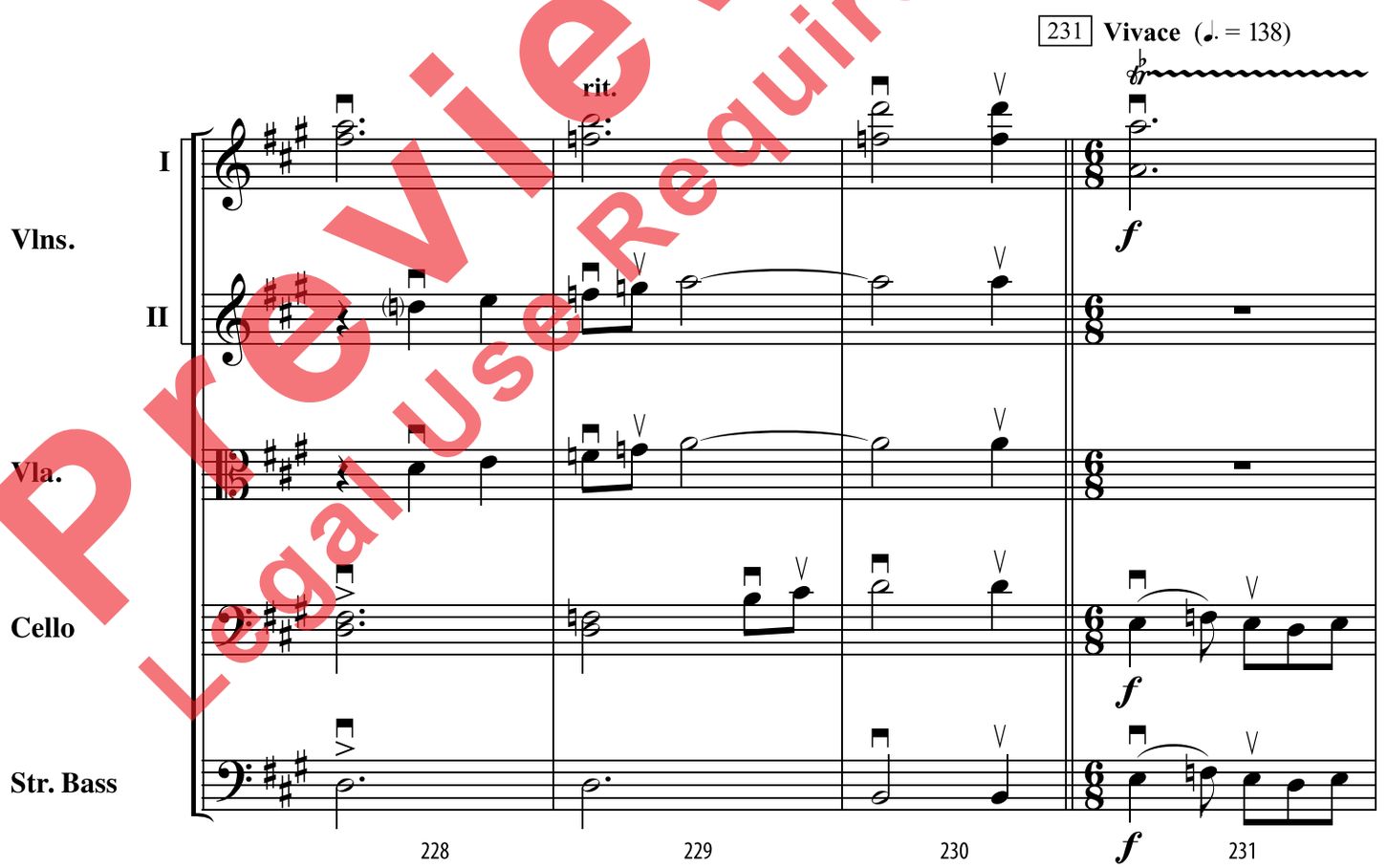

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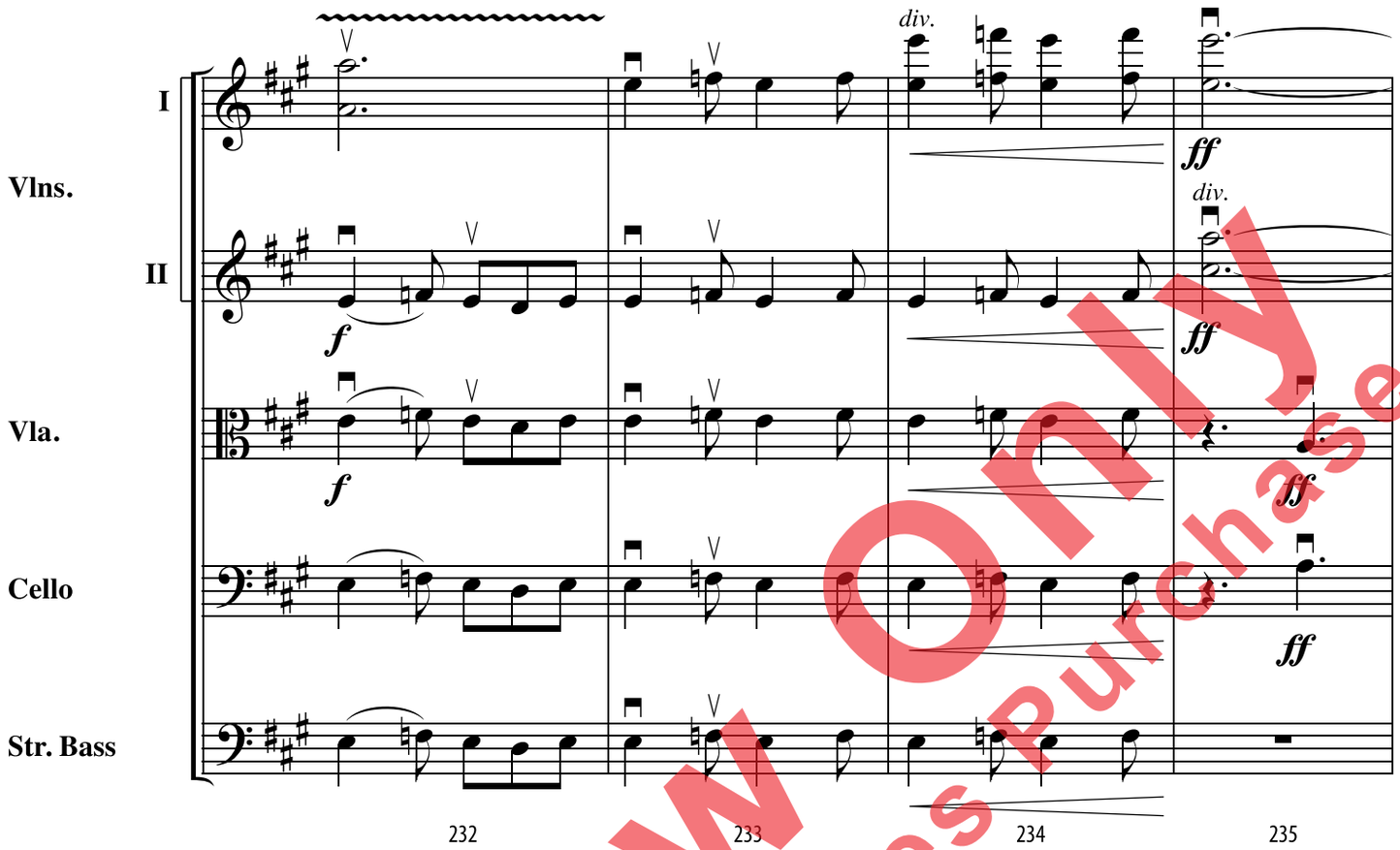

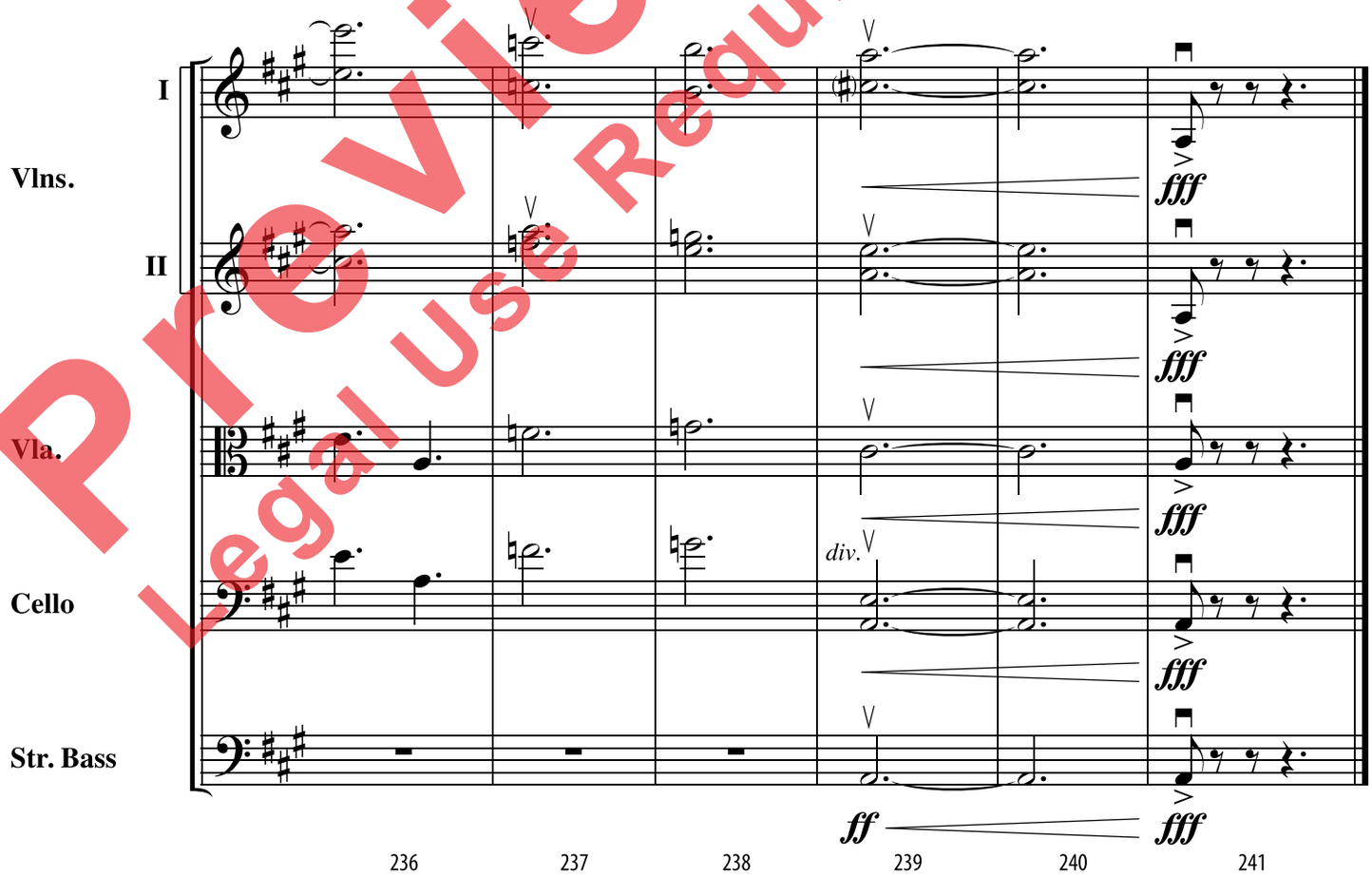

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