YOUNG JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Belwin JAZZ
a division of Alfred

Groove Merchant

Words and Music by Jerome Richardson
Arranged by Rich Sigler

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor
1st E♭ Alto Saxophone
2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone
1st B♭ Tenor Saxophone
2nd B♭ Tenor Saxophone
E♭ Baritone Saxophone (Optional)
1st B♭ Trumpet
2nd B♭ Trumpet
3rd B♭ Trumpet
4th B♭ Trumpet (Optional)
1st Trombone
2nd Trombone
3rd Trombone (Optional)
4th Trombone (Optional)
Guitar Chords
Guitar (Optional)
Piano
Bass
Drums

Optional/Alternate Parts

C Flute
B♭ Clarinet
Vibraphone
Tuba (Doubles Bass)
Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone)
1st Baritone Horn T.C./B♭ Tenor Saxophone (Doubles 1st Trombone)
2nd Baritone Horn T.C./B♭ Tenor Saxophone (Doubles 2nd Trombone)

Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

General articulation information:
Staccato notes are generally very short and accented, with bite. Rooftop or *marcato* accents are short and accented, like staccato, but a little heavier—think "daht." Quarter notes with no articulations are generally long, or full value.

General notes:
This arrangement is a done in a rock style with a gospel-like flavor, so—unlike the traditional versions of *Groove Merchant*, it has straight eighth notes throughout. It begins with a chromatic line in the horns that crescendos into the melody at m. 5. Here, the melody is played in unison rather aggressively in the saxes at m.5, and continues at m. 21 in the trumpets. Students should focus on pitch and blend for the unison melody lines. At m. 35, the saxes play the melody in harmony briefly before the full band picks it up at m. 37. A return to the chromatic intro leads into the solo section at m. 45. The solo backgrounds beginning at m. 65 should be played soft enough so that the trumpet solo can be heard over them until m. 78, when the full band crescendos into m. 79.

At m. 81, it's important for the drummer to play a very solid (but not too loud) snare on beat 3. This creates a half-time feel and sets up the band soli at m. 85. At m. 97, the drummer again sets the feel back to the standard $\frac{4}{4}$ rock beat by hitting the snare on beats 2 and 4. The students should be aware that the melody at m. 97 is in the brass, while the saxes have a countermelody that is equally important. Also, the brass shout is harmonized while the sax countermelody is in unison. The shout continues until m. 109, where the tag and ending is played by the full band. The note on beat 3 of the last measure should be strong and fat, but short enough for the bass notes to be heard on beat 4.

Rhythm section:
Switching between $\frac{4}{4}$ rock and the half-time rock feel at m. 81 will be important in this arrangement. For the half-time feel, the two most important things are the snare hits on beat 3 of every measure, and the hi-hat playing the eighth notes. The bass drum can either play the written rhythm with the bass or remain tacet for a less-advanced beat. Bass can play either electric or upright bass.

Sections to focus on for rehearsal:
When first reading this arrangement, establish a good quarter note length for the notes with rooftop accents. They should be almost staccato, but accented a little more and with a little more body—again, think "daht." Articulating the melody in this style will really give it life. Of course, any time there is a note with a staccato indication, it should be played short but not clipped.

The soli section at m. 81 can be rehearsed separately so that everyone can be conscious of the half-time feel. Stress the importance of the snare drum on beat 3. It should be strong along with the eighth notes in the hi-hat to establish the new groove. The volume should start at *mf* for most of the soli at m. 85, but then gradually crescendo to *f* from mm. 89–97.

For the shout at m. 97, if possible, rehearse the saxes and the brass separately with the rhythm section. For the brass, focus on the balance of the inner parts that fill out the harmony under the melody in the 1st trumpet. For the saxes, focus on the unison line, stressing the importance of listening across the section for balance and pitch. This line should have a very full sax section sound.

I hope you enjoy *Groove Merchant*!

—Rich Sigler

Rich Sigler

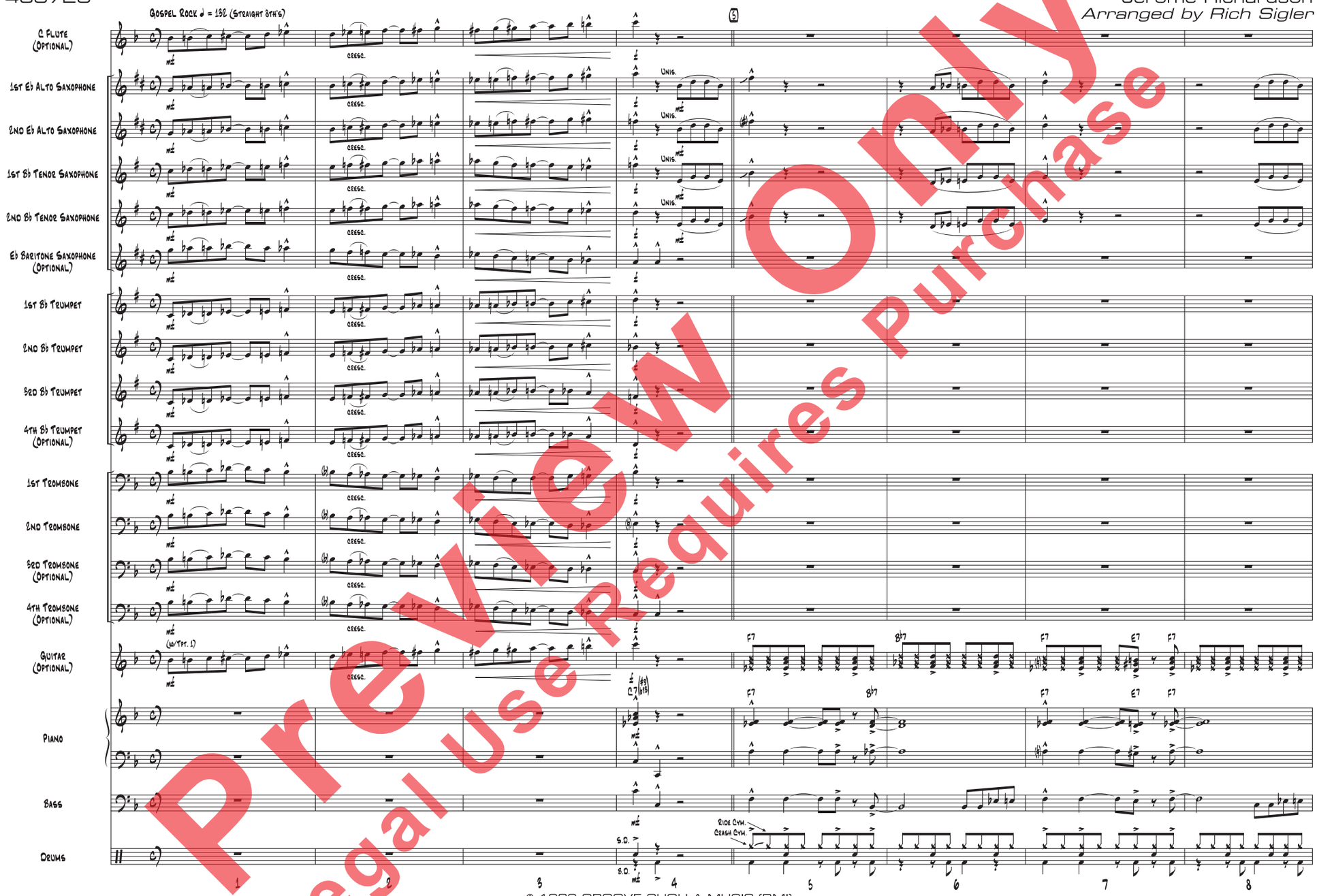
Rich Sigler is former jazz trumpeter and music director for the USAF Airmen of Note. An acclaimed composer, arranger, educator, and producer, his music and performances have been featured with many artists, including Jerry Bergonzi, Roseanna Vitro, James Williams, Phil Woods, Nicholas Payton, Slide Hampton, Al Jarreau, Michael and Randy Brecker, Peter Erskine, Bob Mintzer, and Clark Terry. As a producer, Rich's work can be heard on numerous recordings, including the highly acclaimed Airmen of Note recording *A Cool Yule*, the recently released *Eastern Standard Time* by the Alan Baylock Jazz Orchestra, as well as the Airmen of Note's most recent recording, *Compositions*. In addition, Rich is the creator of the Jazz Font used in Finale music notation software.

Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase

CONDUCTOR
45072S

GROOVE MERCHANT

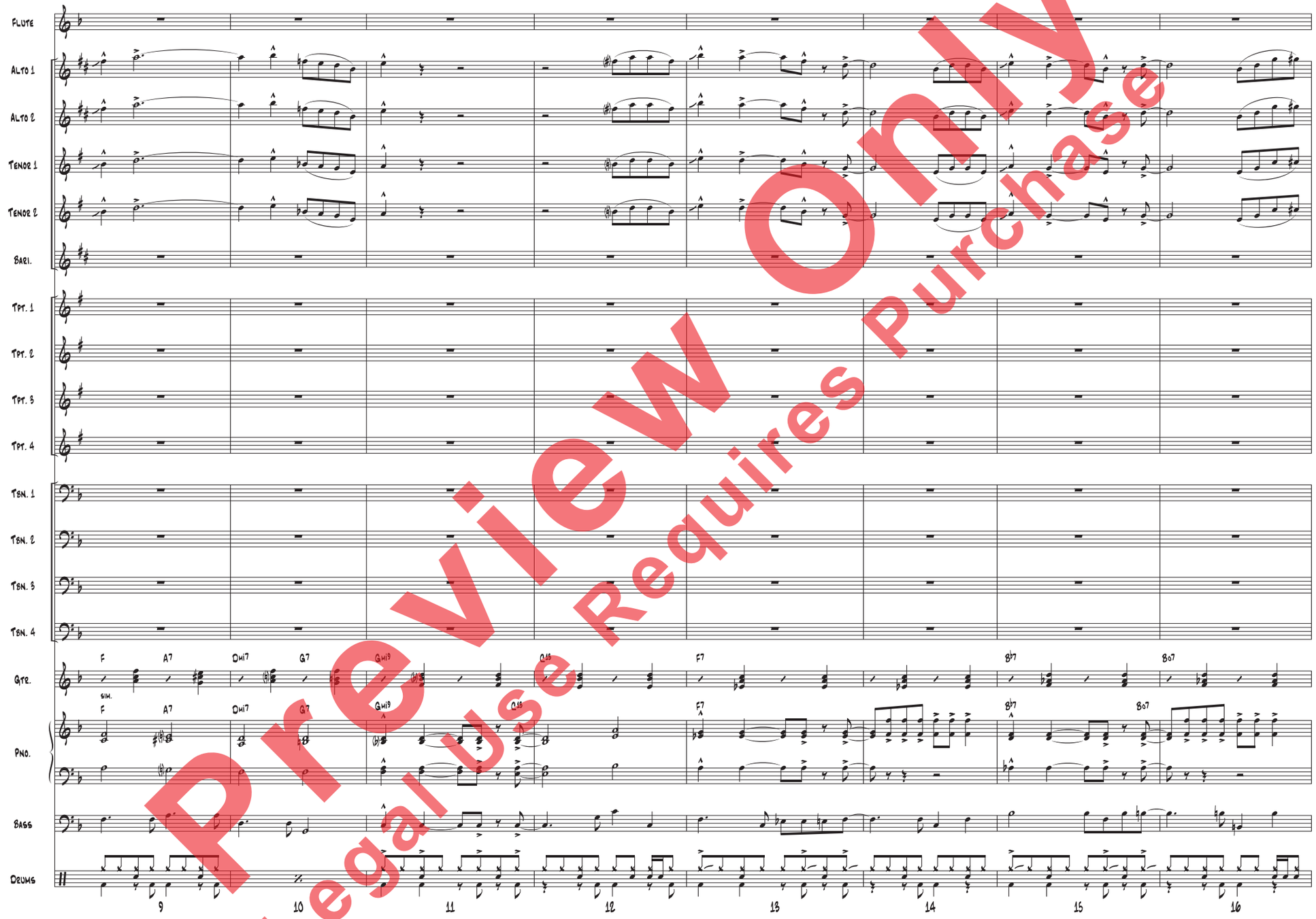
Words and Music by
Jerome Richardson
Arranged by Rich Sigler



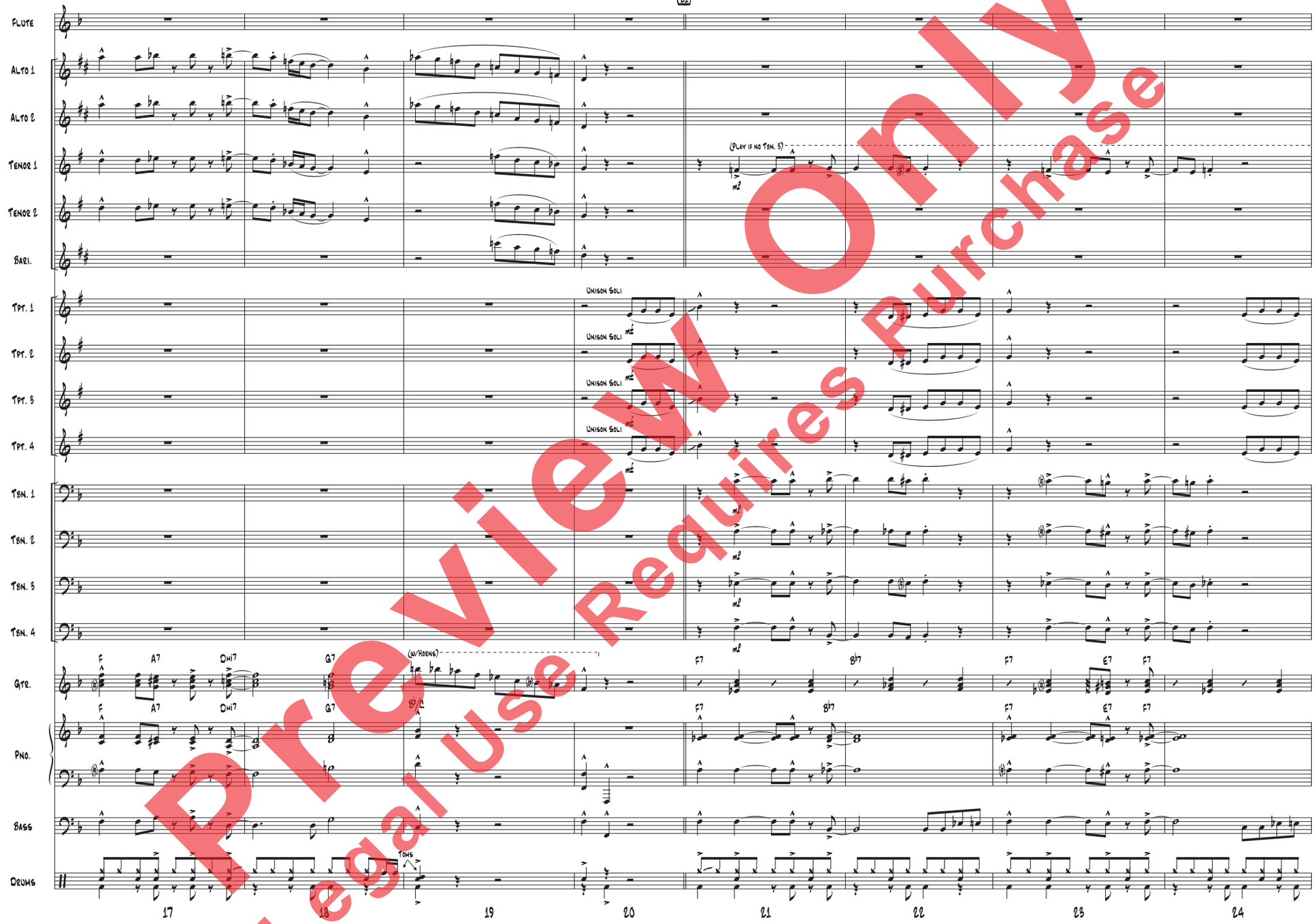
© 1982 GROOVE CHOLLA MUSIC (BMI)
All Rights Administered by BLUEWATER MUSIC SERVICES CORP. This Arrangement © 2016 GROOVE CHOLLA MUSIC (BMI)
All Rights Reserved including Public Performance Used by Permission

Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase

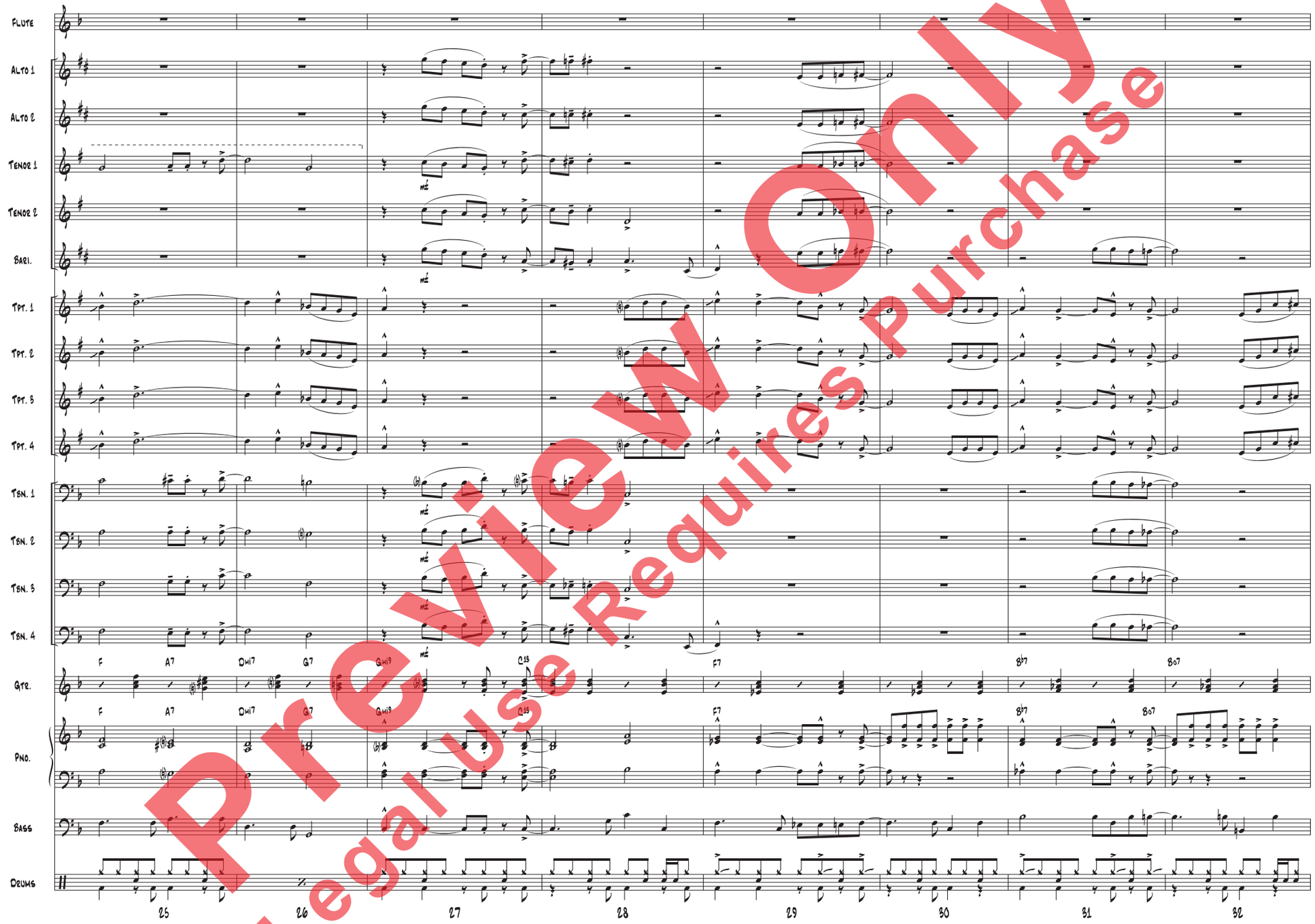
mp3
Purchase a full-length performance recording!
alfred.com/downloads



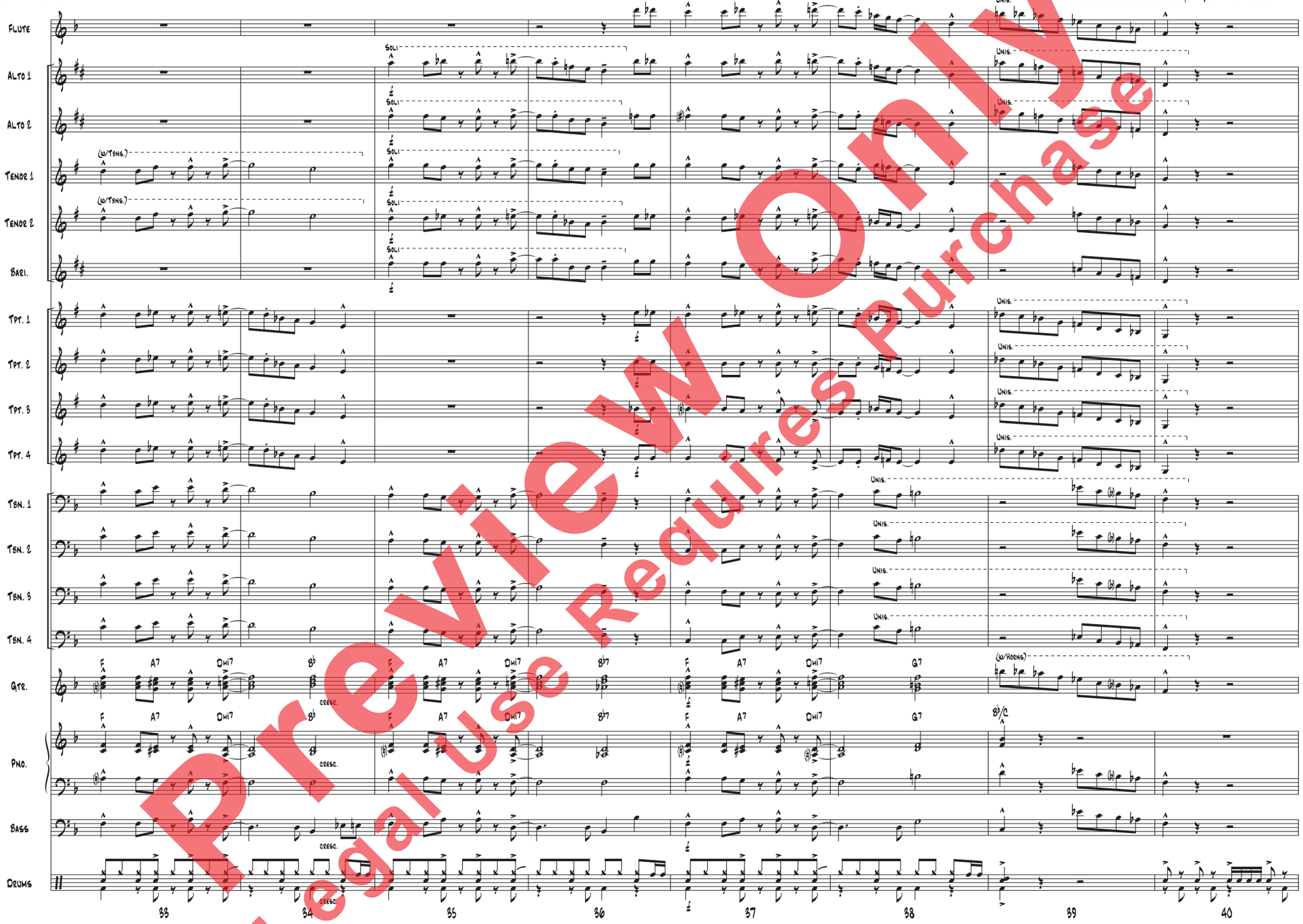
Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



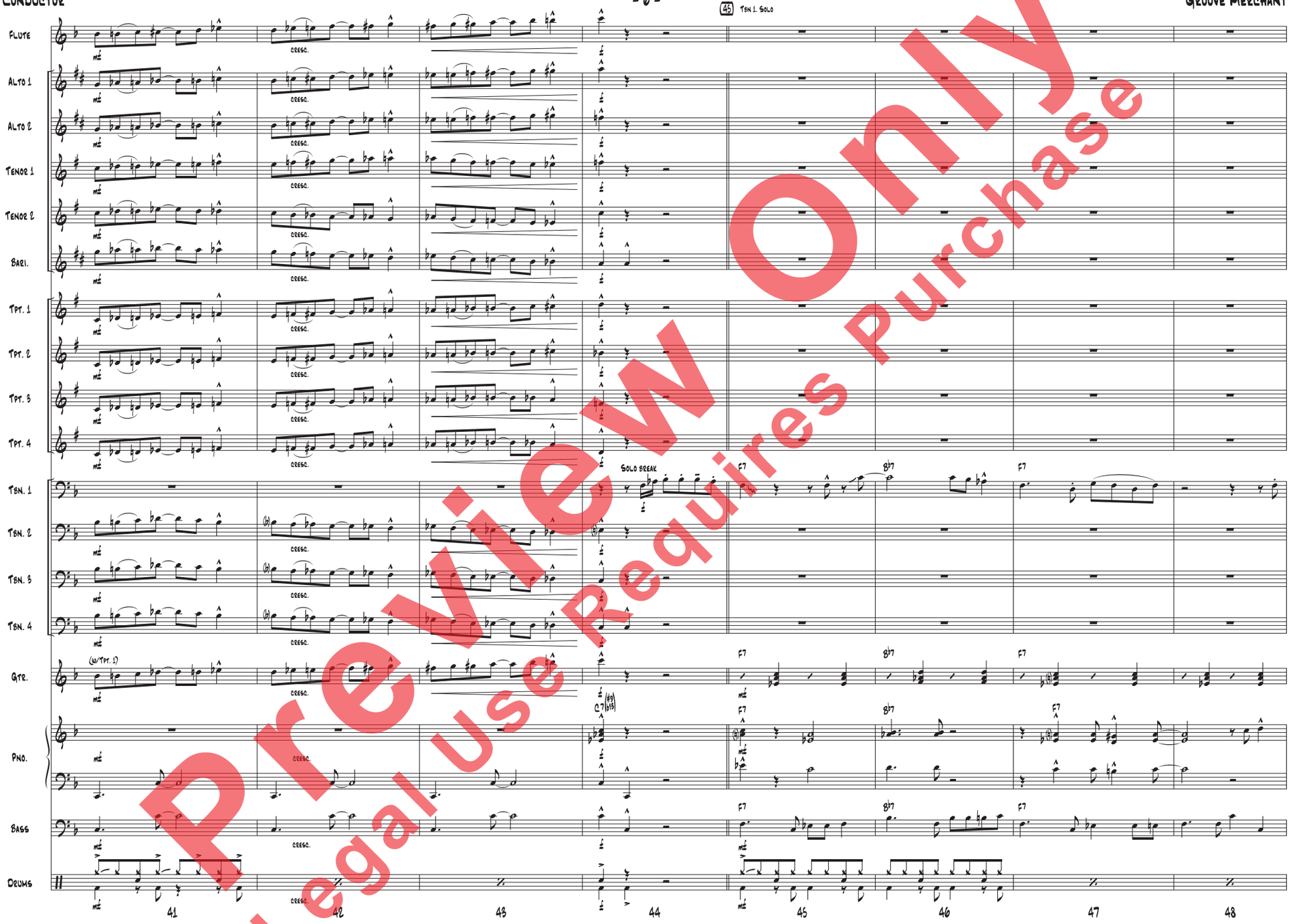
Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



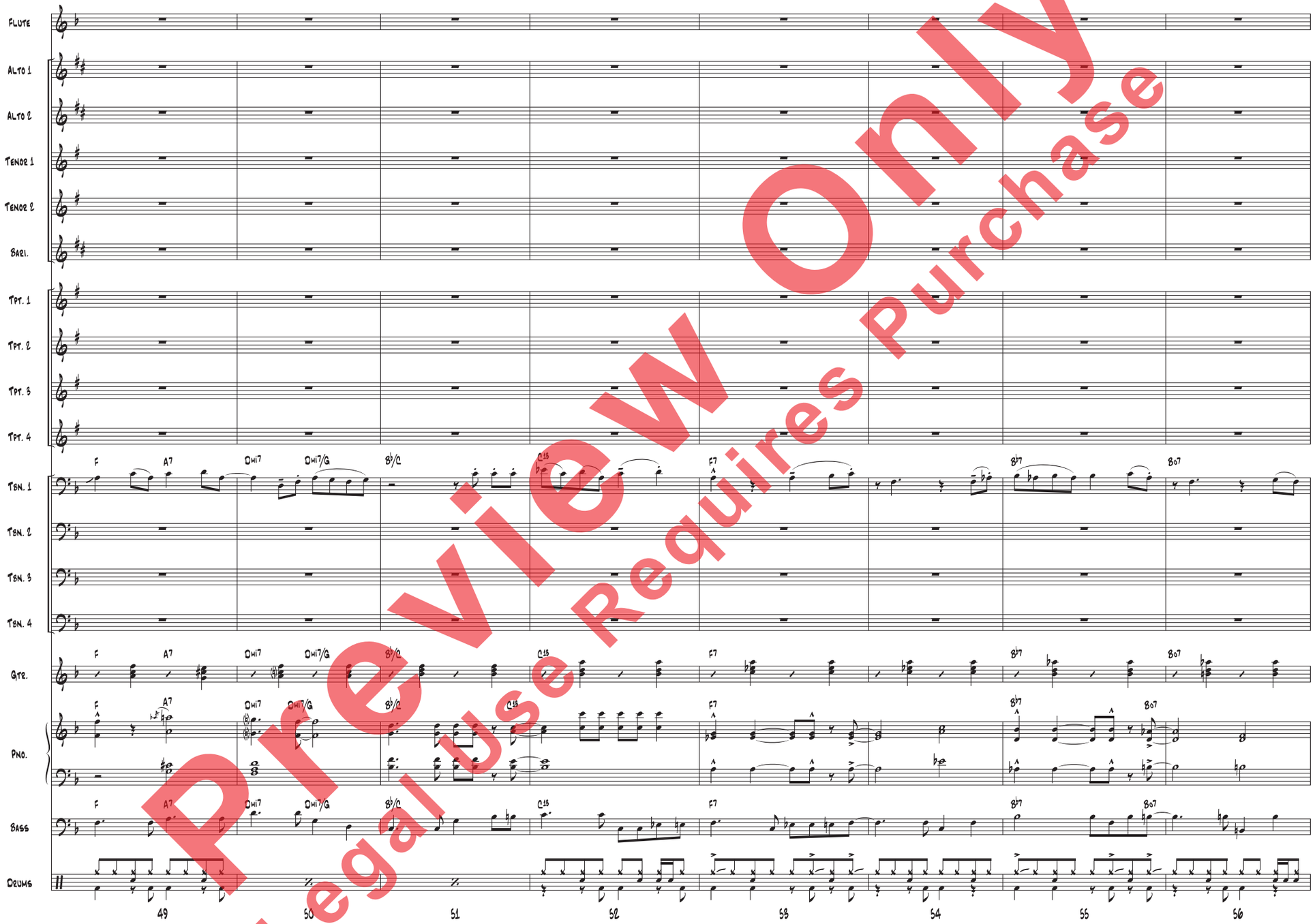
Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



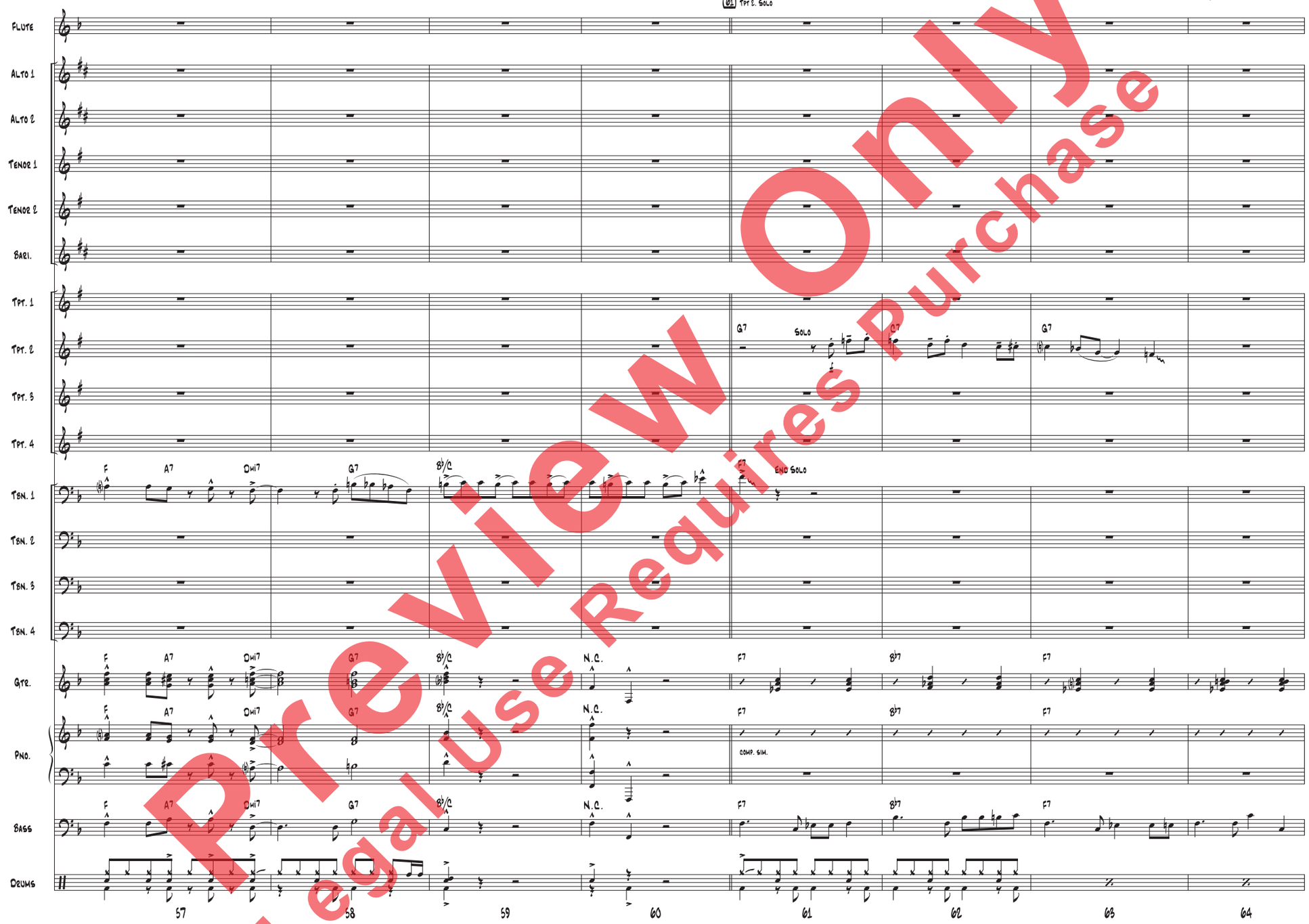
Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



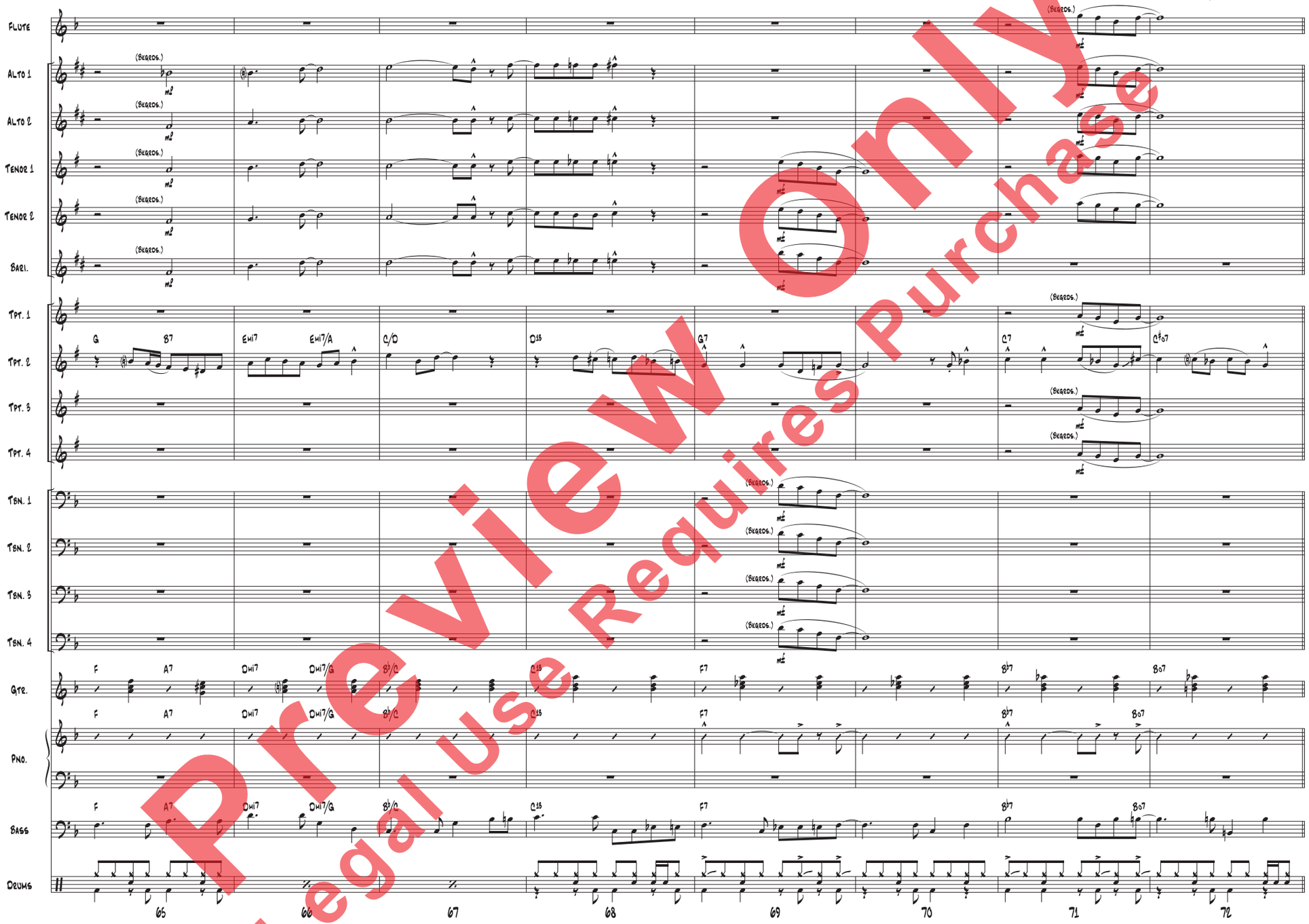
Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



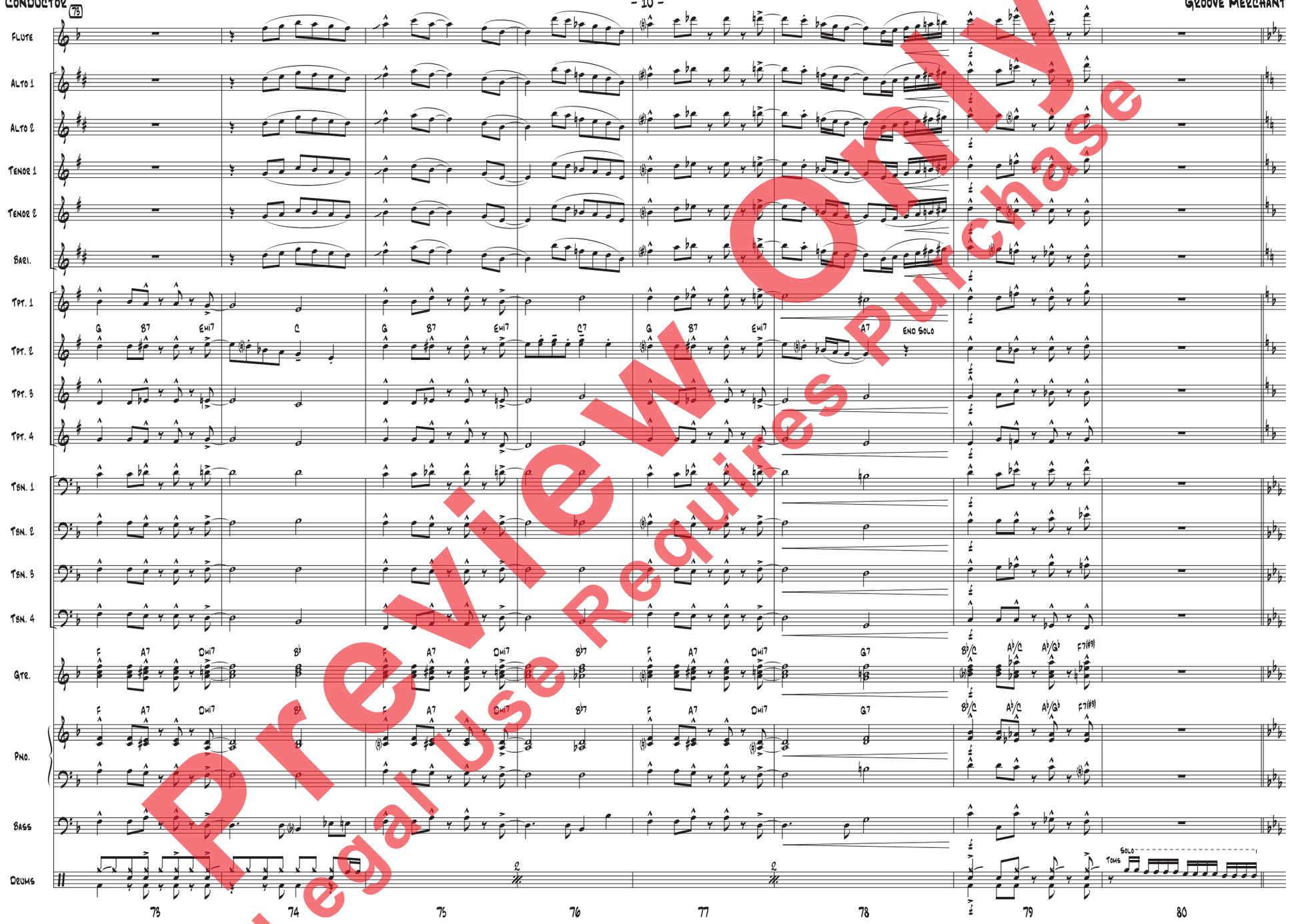
Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



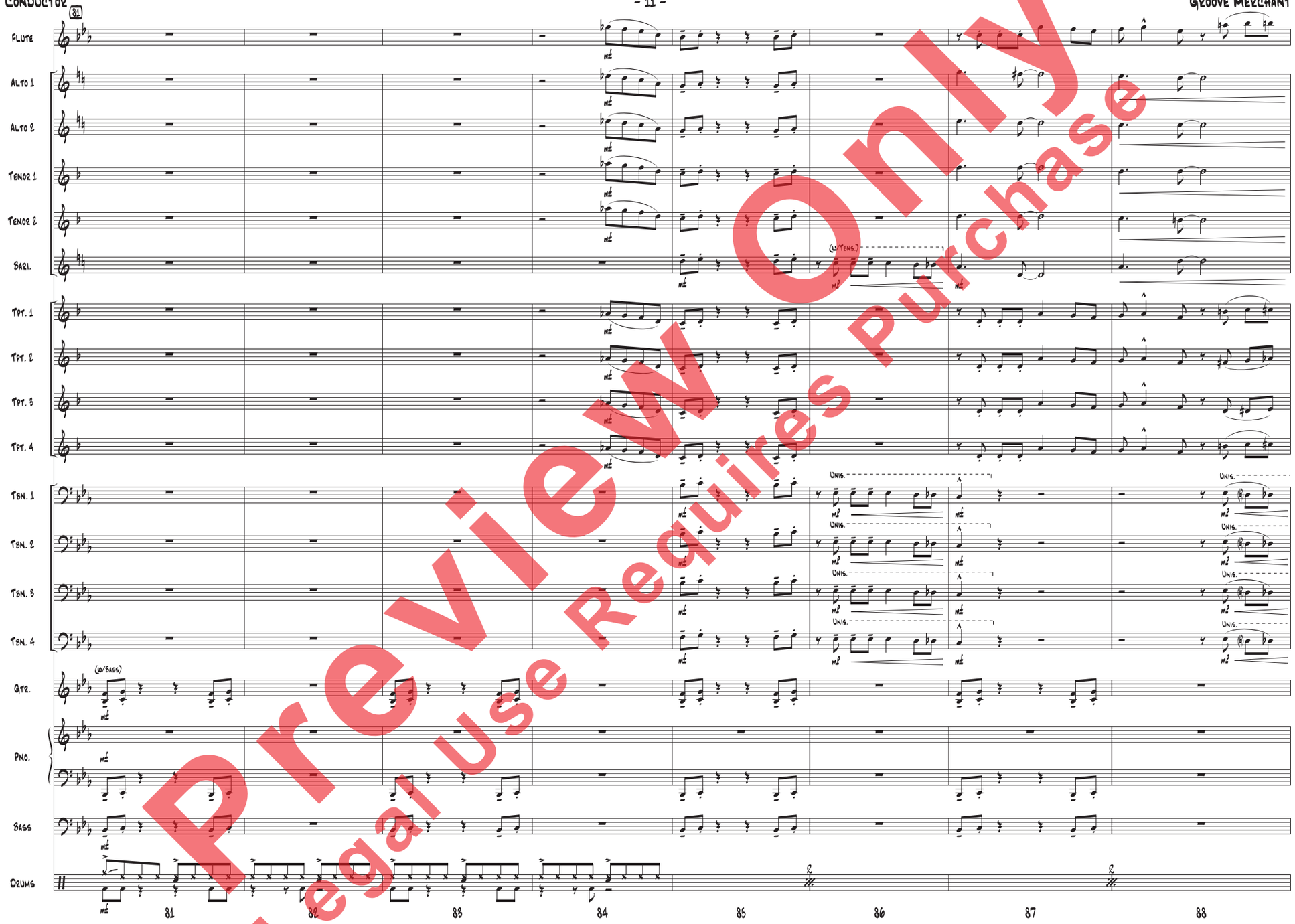
Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



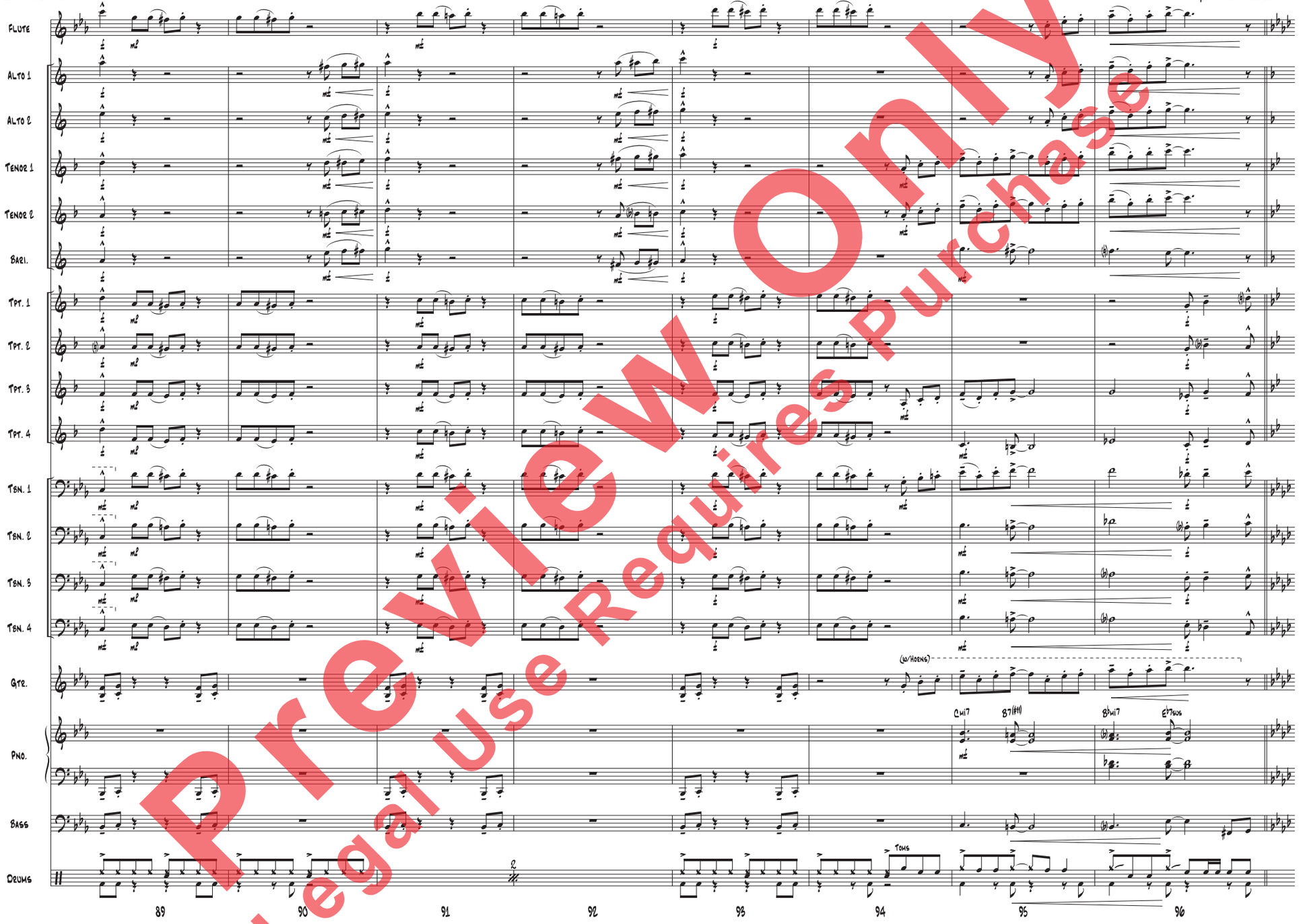
Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



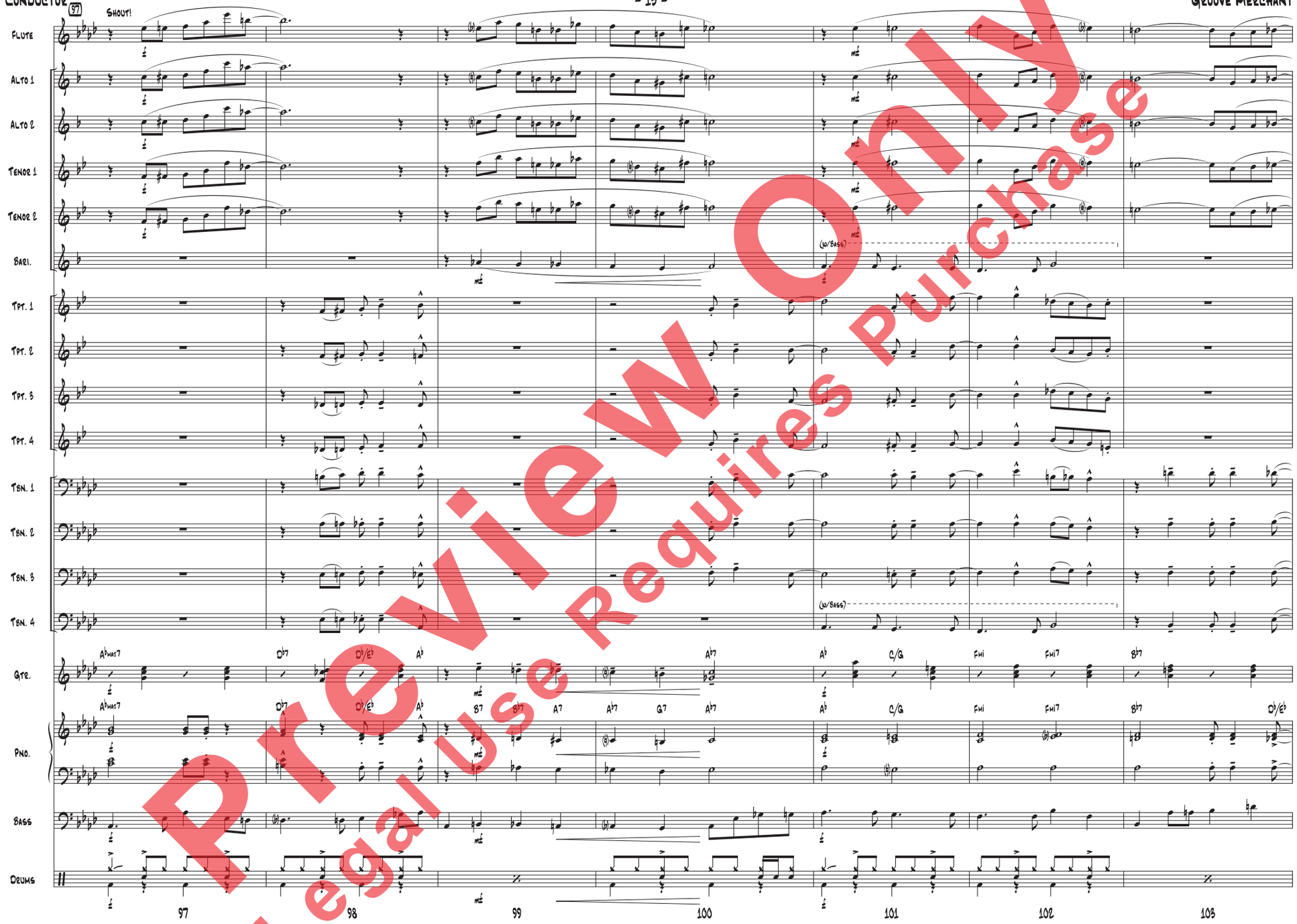
Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



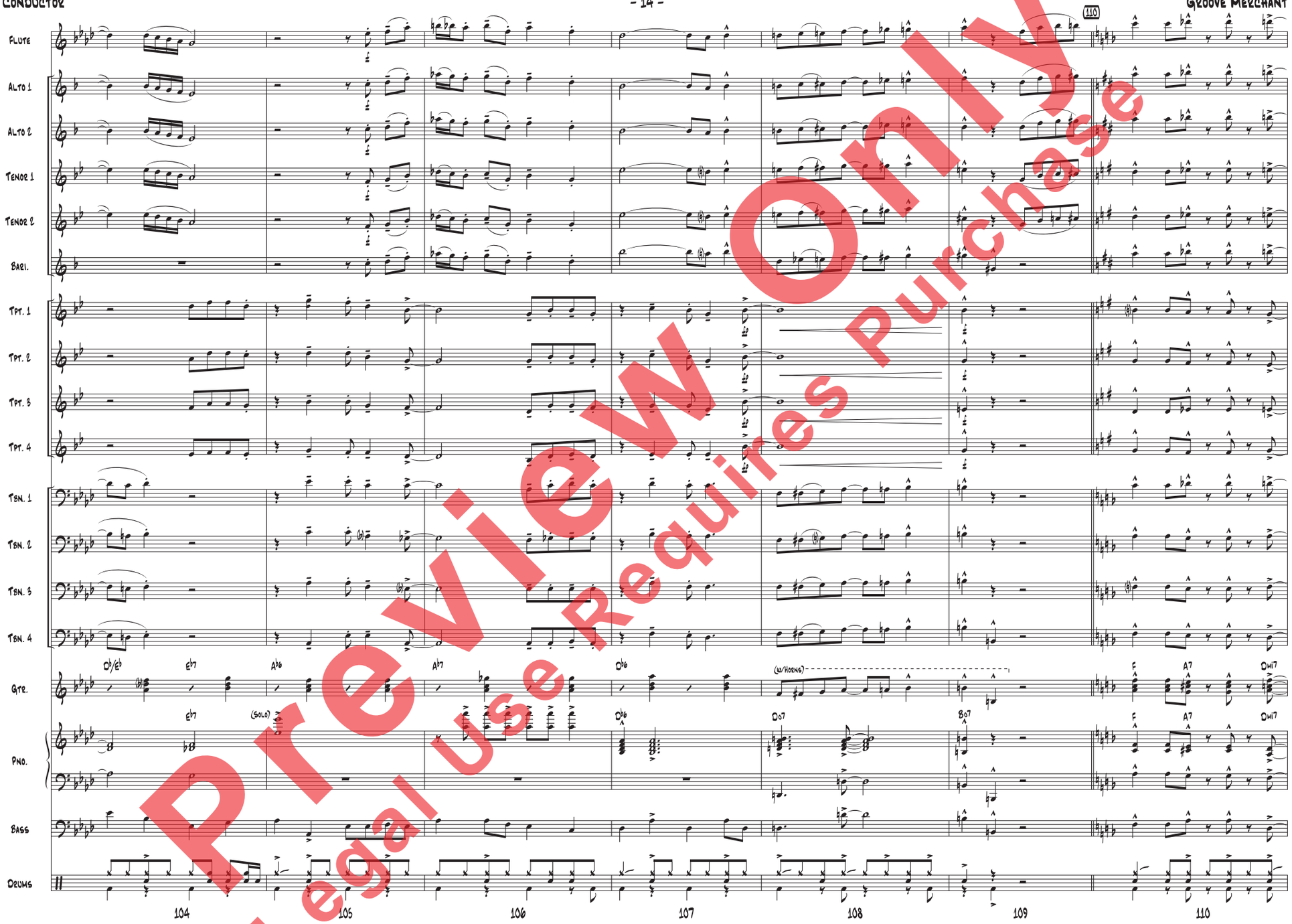
Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



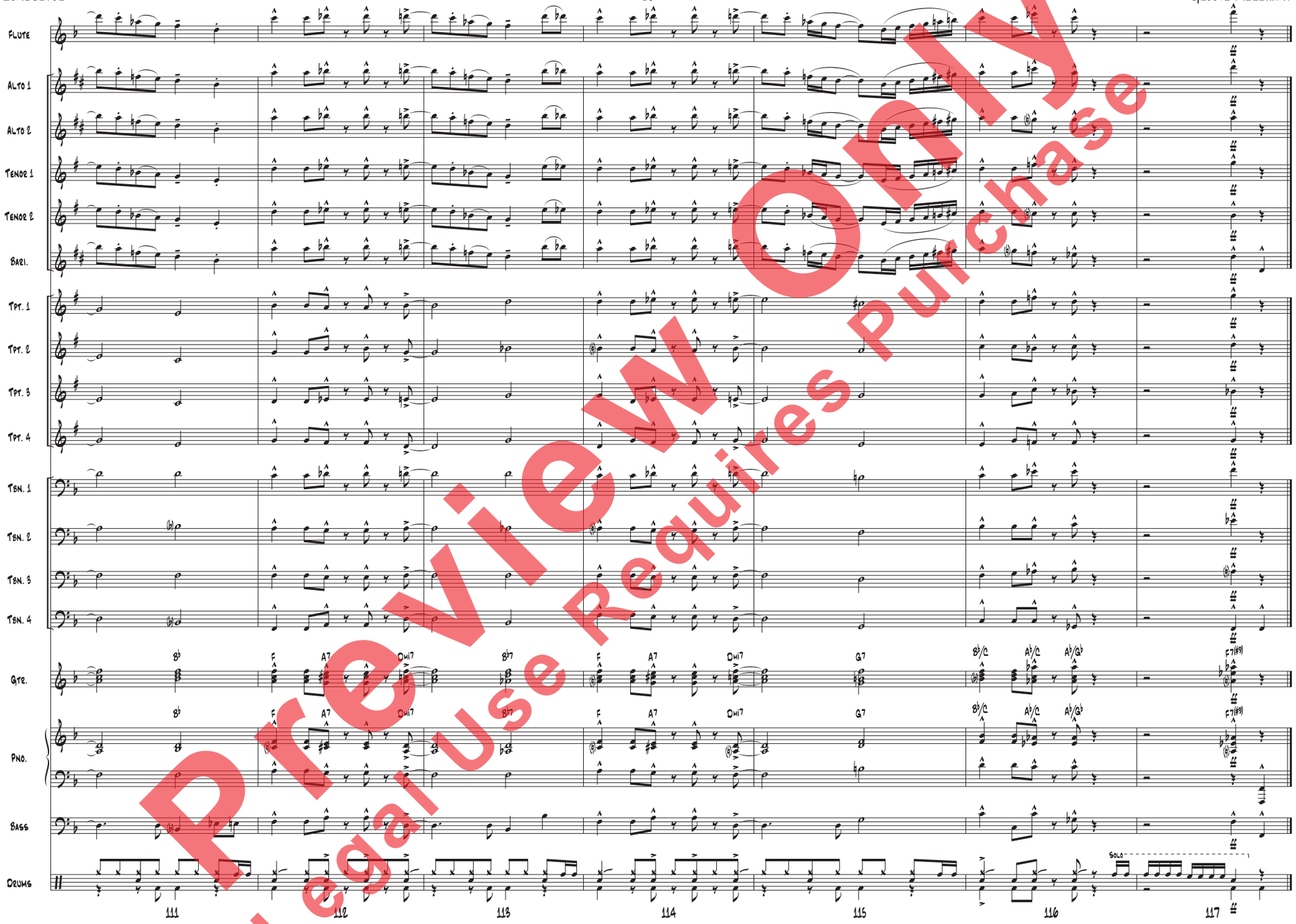
Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase

Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase

Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase

Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase

Alfred

alfred.com

45072S US $9.00

0 38081 50998 3