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FJH STRING ORCHESTRA

Grade 5

MARE TRANQUILLITATIS

(SEA OF TRANQUILITY)

Roger Zare

Instrumentation

1 - Conductor's Full Score
8 - Violin 1
8 - Violin 2
5 - Viola
5 - Violoncello
5 - Double Bass

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FJH is now using a high-speed sorting system for parts.
As a result, all single page parts are collated before multiple page parts.

THE F·J·H MUSIC COMPANY INC.
Frank J. Hackinson

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The Composer

Roger Zare has been praised for his "enviable grasp of orchestration" (New York Times) and for writing music with "formal clarity and an alluringly mercurial surface." He was born in Sarasota, Florida, and has written for a wide variety of ensembles, from solo instruments to full orchestra. His works have been performed across the United States by such ensembles as the American Composers Orchestra, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Sarasota Orchestra, the Omaha Chamber Symphony, the Aspen Music Festival Contemporary Ensemble, and the New York Youth Symphony. An award winning composer, Zare has received the ASCAP Nissim Prize, two BMI Student Composer Awards, a New York Youth Symphony First Music Commission, the 2008 American Composers Orchestra Underwood Commission, a 2010 Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and many other local and regional honors. He has been composer in residence at the Chamber Music Festival of Lexington and the SONAR new music ensemble.

Zare is currently pursuing his DMA at the University of Michigan, where he has studied with Bright Sheng, Michael Daugherty and Paul Schoenfield. He holds degrees from the Peabody Conservatory (MM) and the University of Southern California (BM), and his previous teachers include Christopher Theofanidis, Derek Bermel, David Smooke, Donald Crockett, Tamar Diesendruck, Fredrick Lesemann, and Morten Lauridsen.

About the Music

In *Mare Tranquillitatis (Sea of Tranquility),* I sought to create a tightly cohesive and moving work. Upon close inspection, one finds that all the musical material is derived from only two ideas — the descending fourth heard in the opening bar, which is later inverted in the cello line at bar seven; and the flowing melody heard for the first time in the violas at measure 22, which borrows some motives from the aforementioned cello line.

The piece also gives an opportunity to the leaders of each section besides the basses to play in a solo quartet, juxtaposing lush *tutti* playing with delicate and intimate passages.

The emotional arc of the piece culminates in the return of the second theme, the viola melody, at measure 70. It grows and transforms into a sweeping gesture, bringing closure to the pent up tension. What follows is an epilogue, and the piece ends with one final tender moment with the solos.

String Editing: Carrie Lane Gruselle

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Duration: 7:30

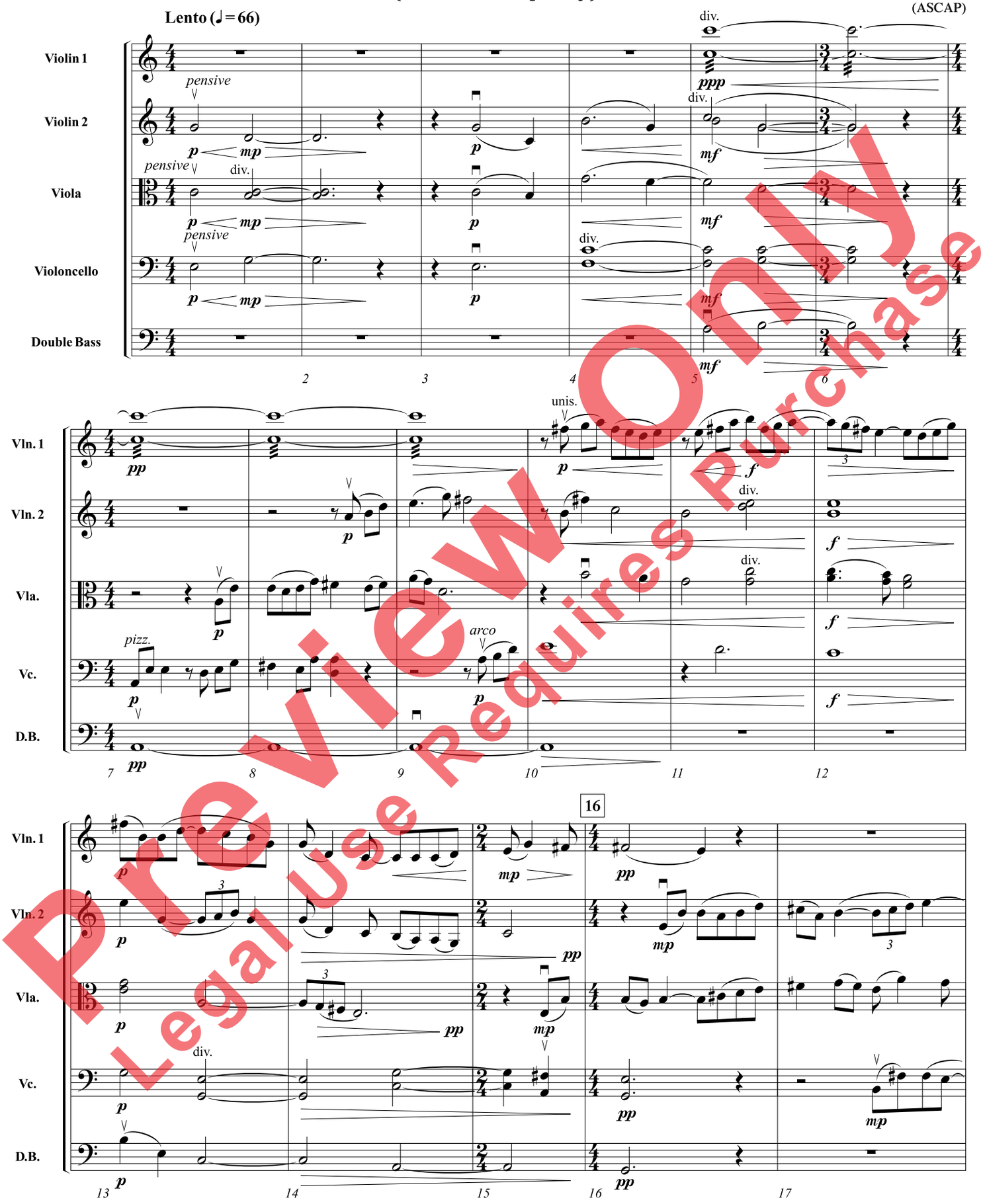
commissioned by the Shawnee Mission Northwest High School Orchestra
Shawnee Mission, KS; Jeffrey Bishop, Director

MARE TRANQUILLITATIS

(Sea of Tranquility)

ROGER ZARE
(ASCAP)

Lento (♩ = 66)



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MP3
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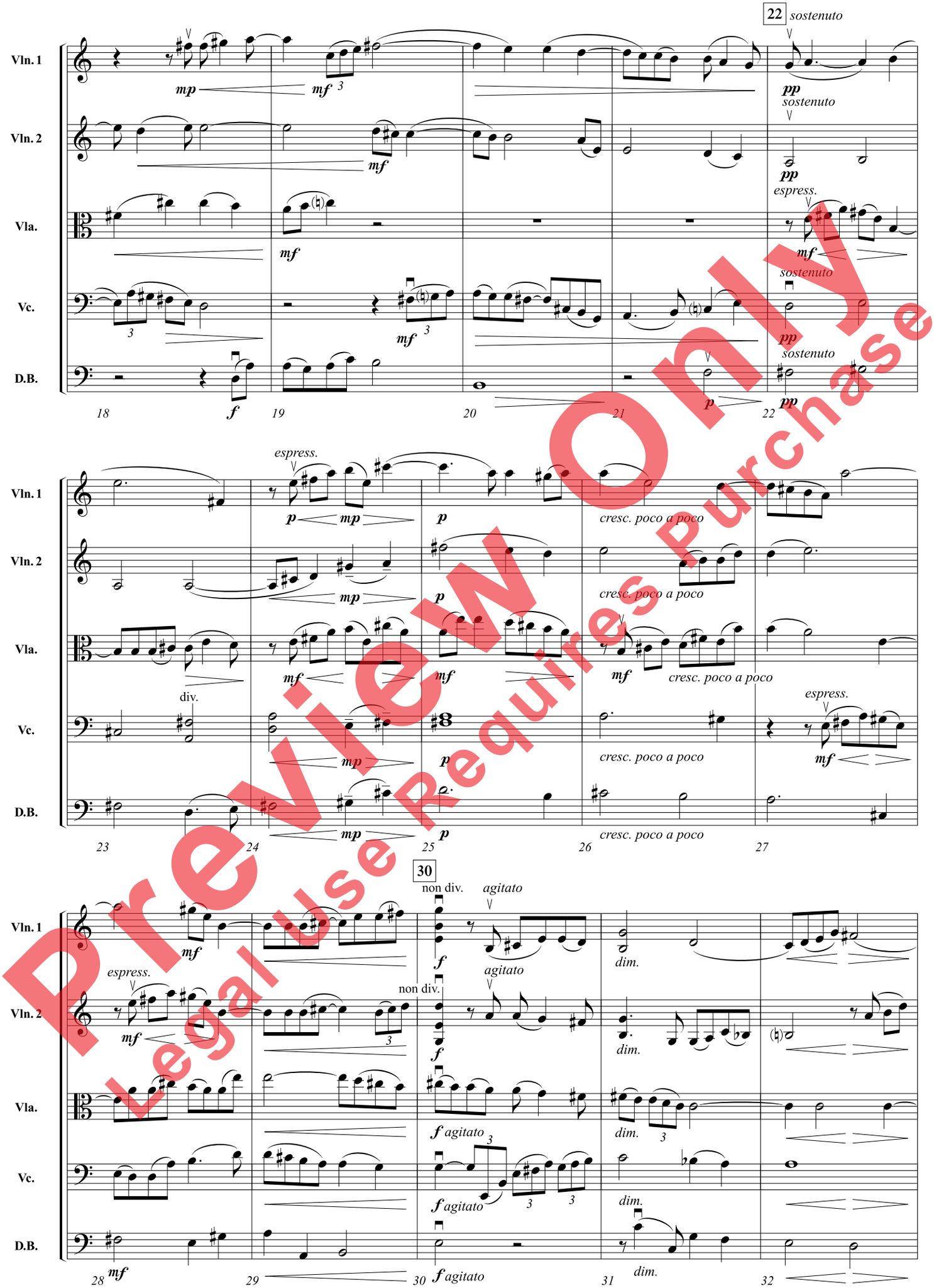

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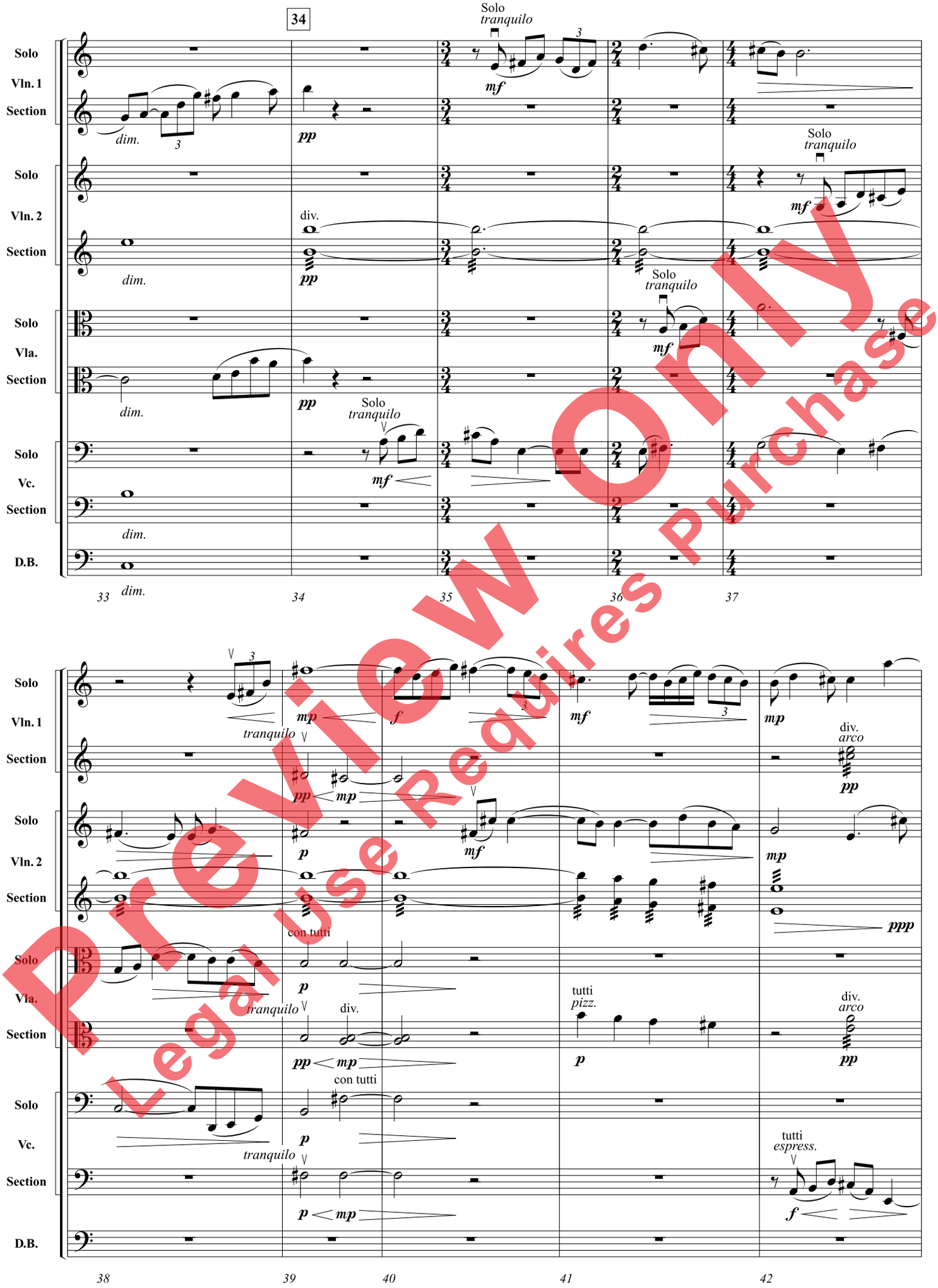

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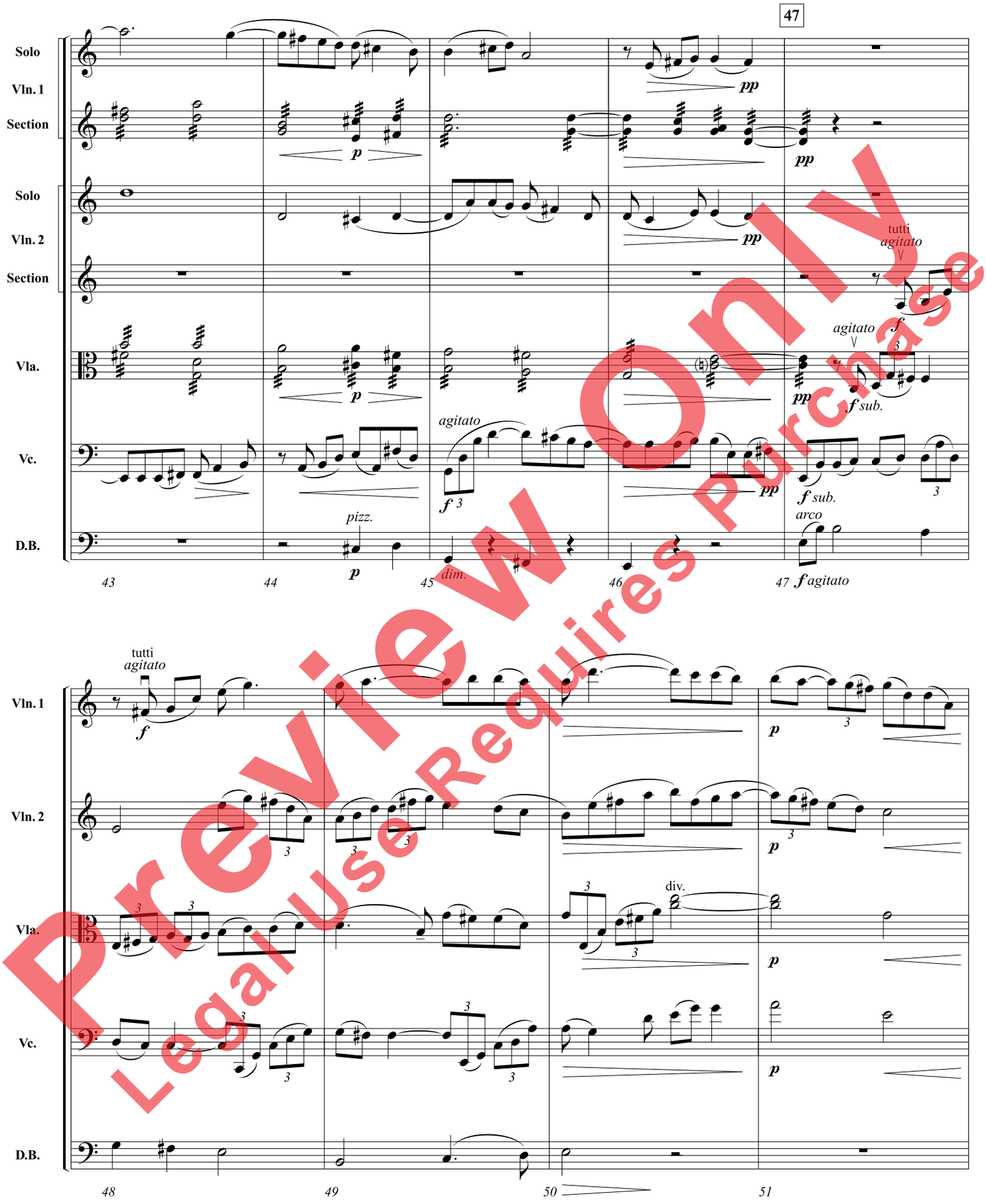

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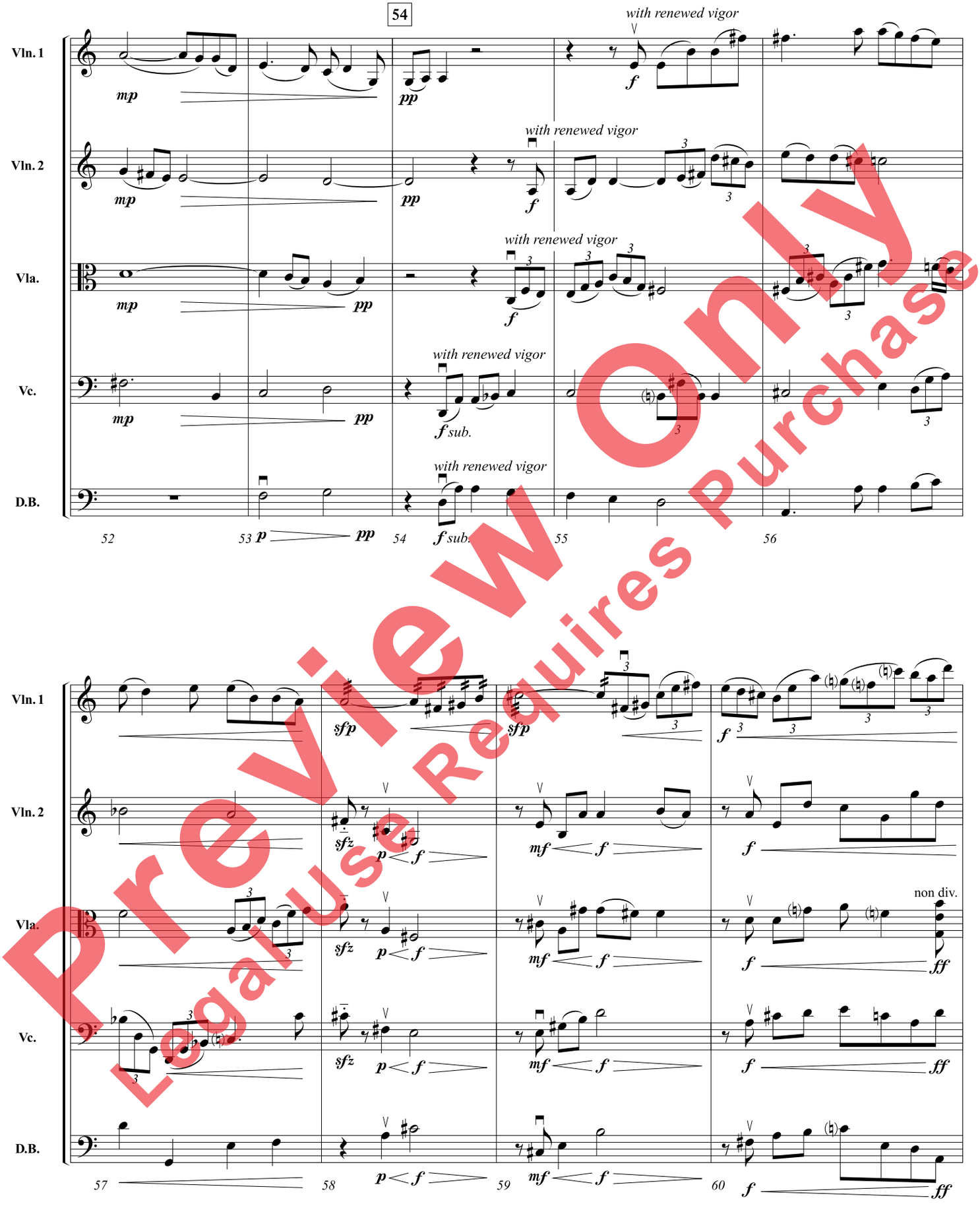

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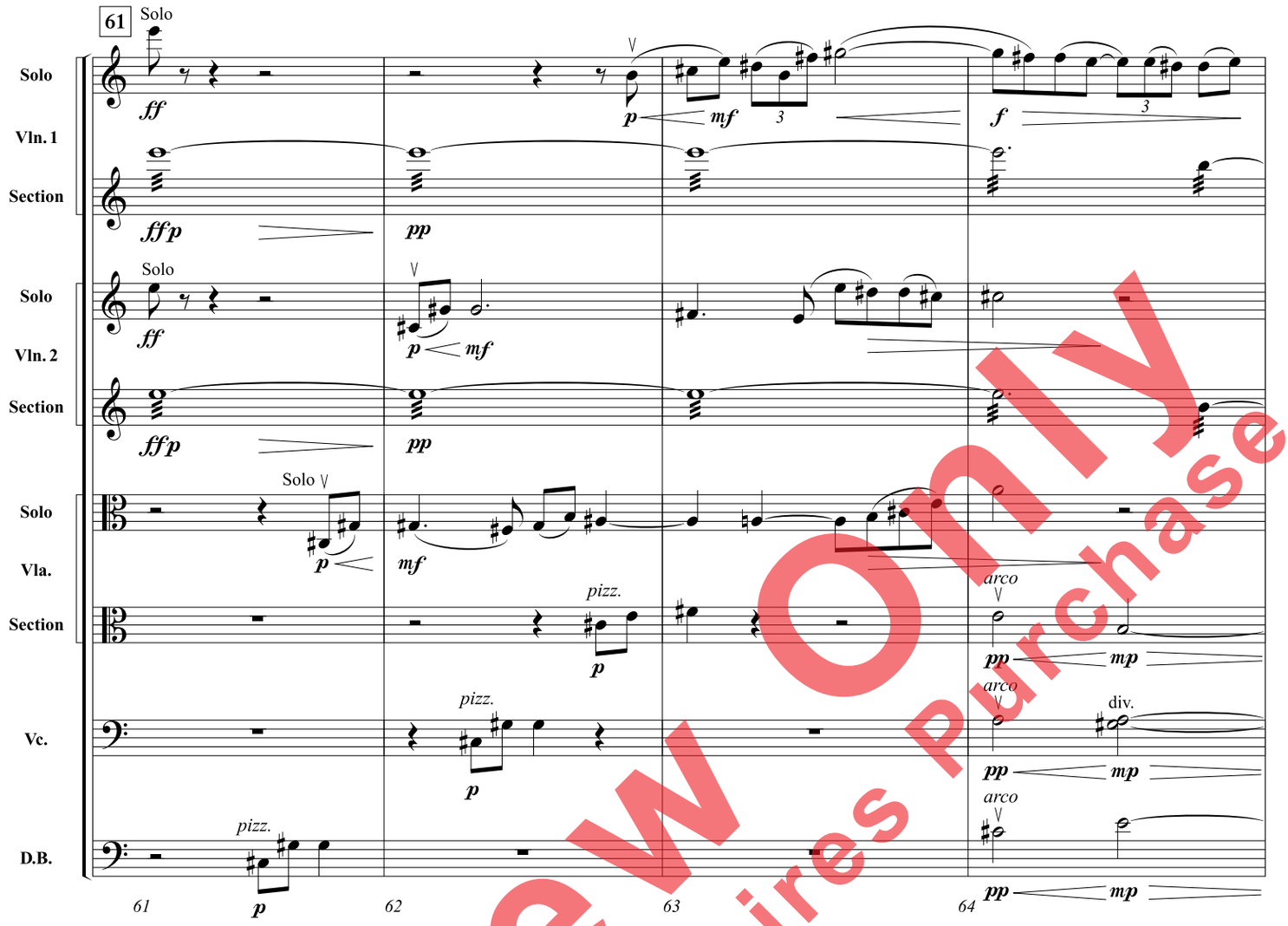

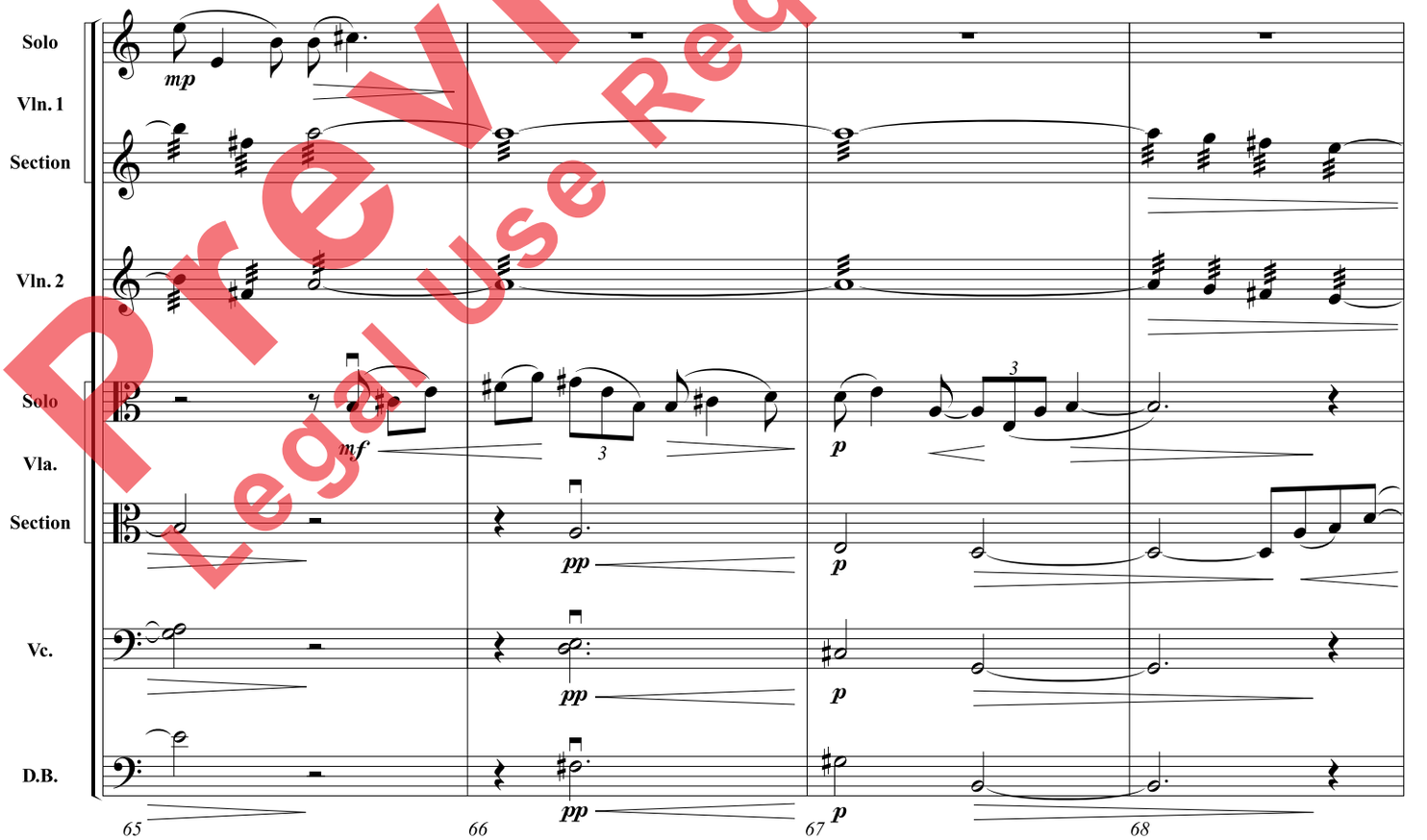

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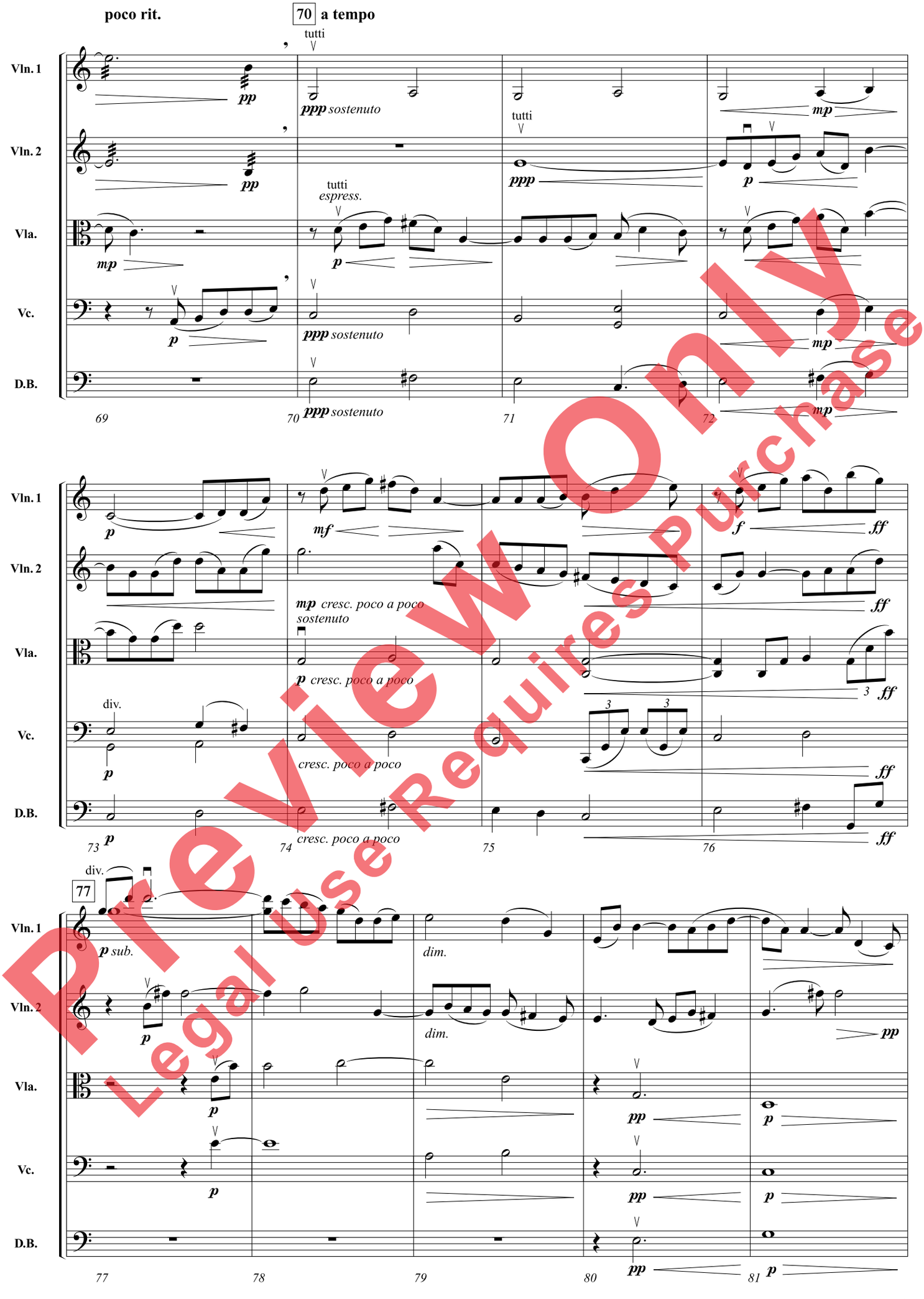

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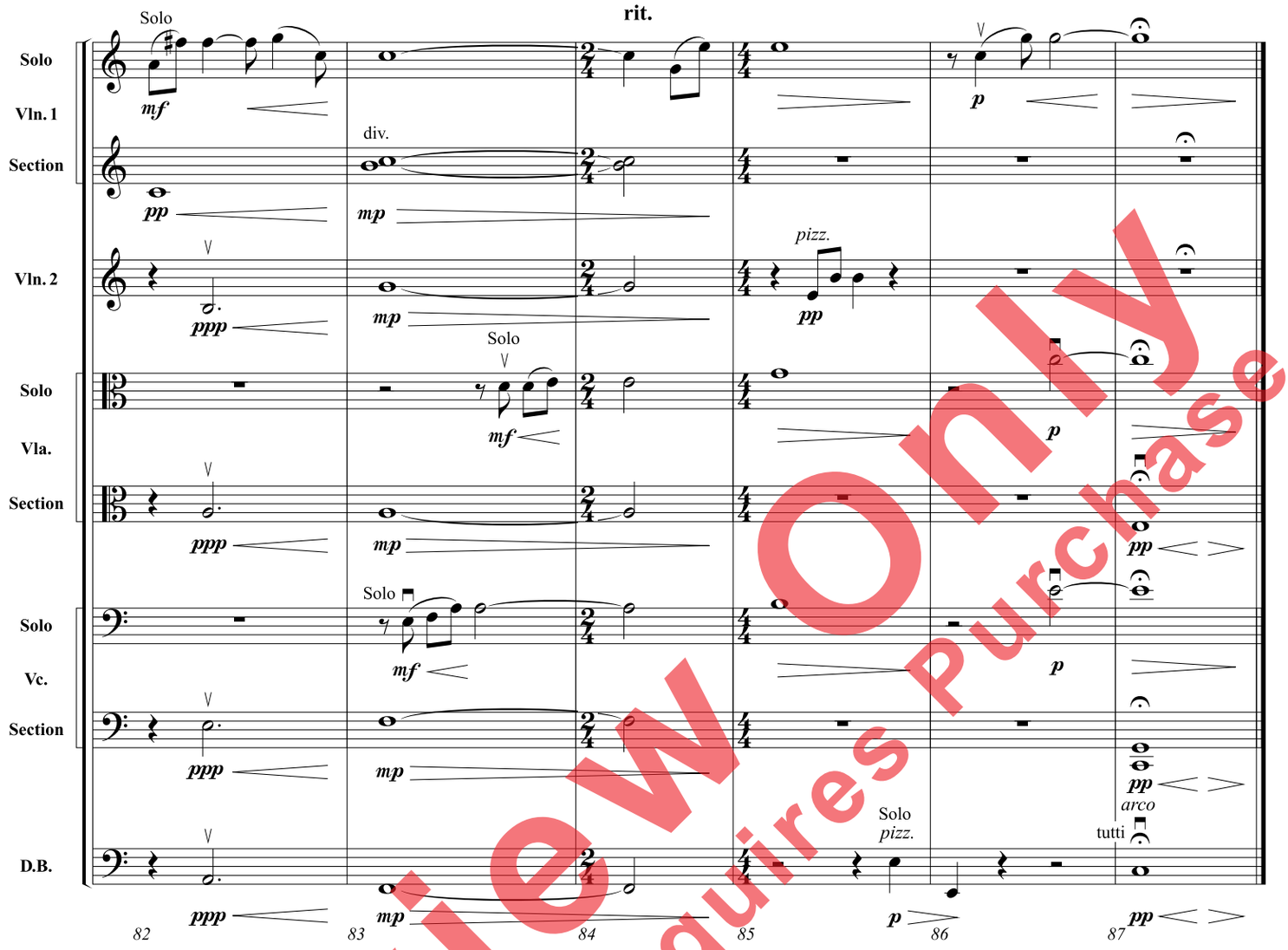

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