CAROL BARNETT

CYPRUS:
FIRST IMPRESSIONS

for Alto Flute, String Quartet and Double Bass

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CYPRESS: FIRST IMPRESSIONS

for Alto Flute, String Quartet and Double Bass

To celebrate women in music
Commissioned by Sigma Alpha Iota, Minneapolis/St. Paul Alumnae Chapter

Premiered October 8, 2000 by Judy Ranheim, alto flute;
Shirley Decker and Shirley Santoro, violins; Julie Moyer, viola;
Lucia Magney, cello; and Nancy Bjork, double bass
At Ultan Recital Hall, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

c. 9 minutes

PROGRAM NOTE:

We landed in the evening,
circling slowly down
over small, gleaming jewels
nestled in the shadowy patch
of black velvet flung carelessly
on the iridescent, undulating sea...

A long-standing wish to write something for alto flute was realized thanks to this commission from the international music fraternity Sigma Alpha Iota. Fresh from a trip to Cyprus, I decided to make use of some of the ideas and materials that I had collected while there. One can hear part of the muezzin's call from a minaret in the Turkish quarter of Nicosia, the cry of a fruit vendor in the old city, and fragments of the traditional Greek Cypriot wedding song. The dance section is in the Greek style, including the accompaniment figure of dotted eighth, sixteenth, and two eighths. The mood of the beginning and end is contemplative, reflecting on the seemingly intractable problem of a politically divided country.

I am most grateful to Sigma Alpha Iota for this commission, and to Professor Theofanis G. Stavrou and the Inter- University Research Committee on Cyprus for their additional support.

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ΚΥΠΡΟΣ: FIRST IMPRESSIONS

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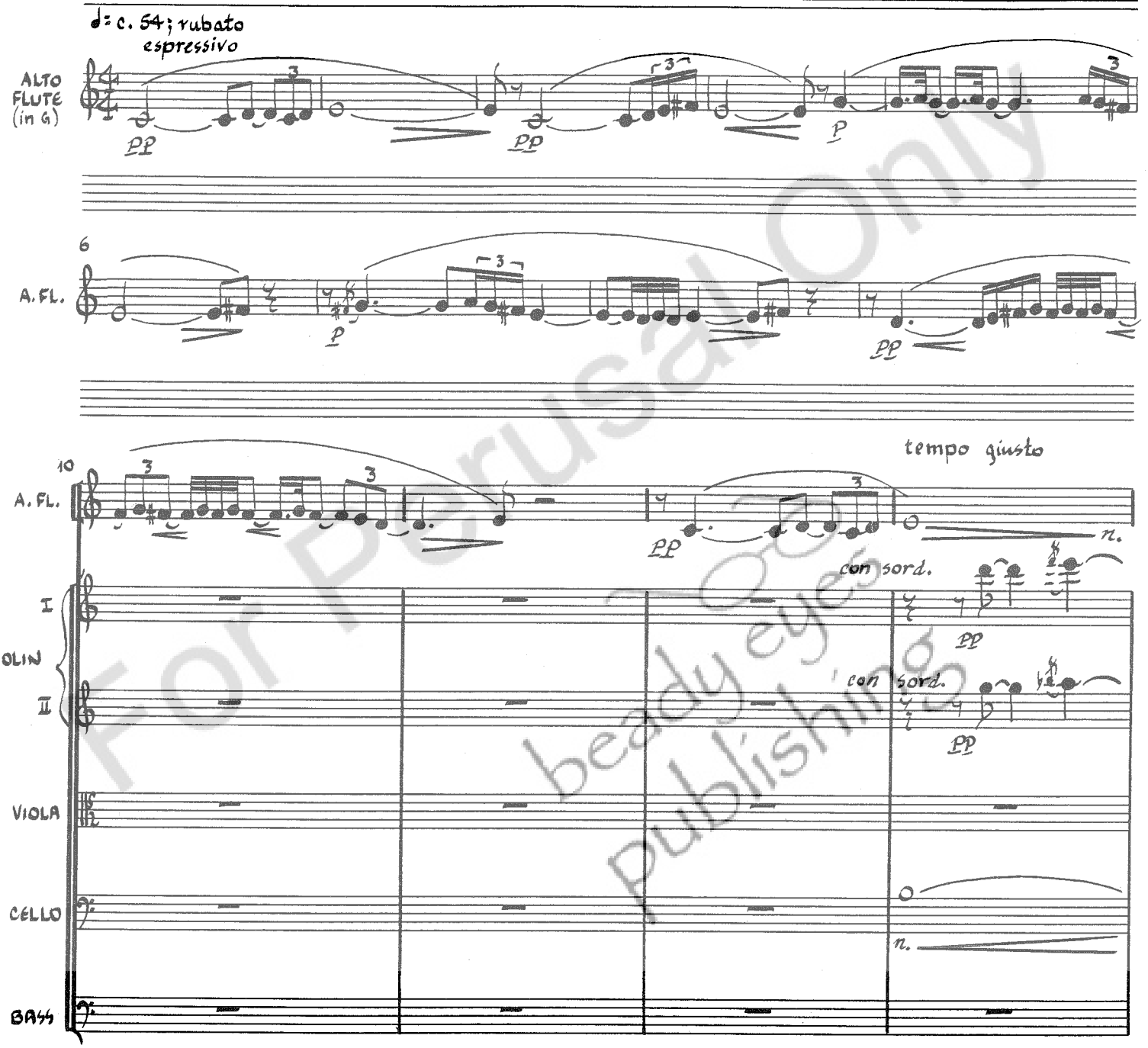

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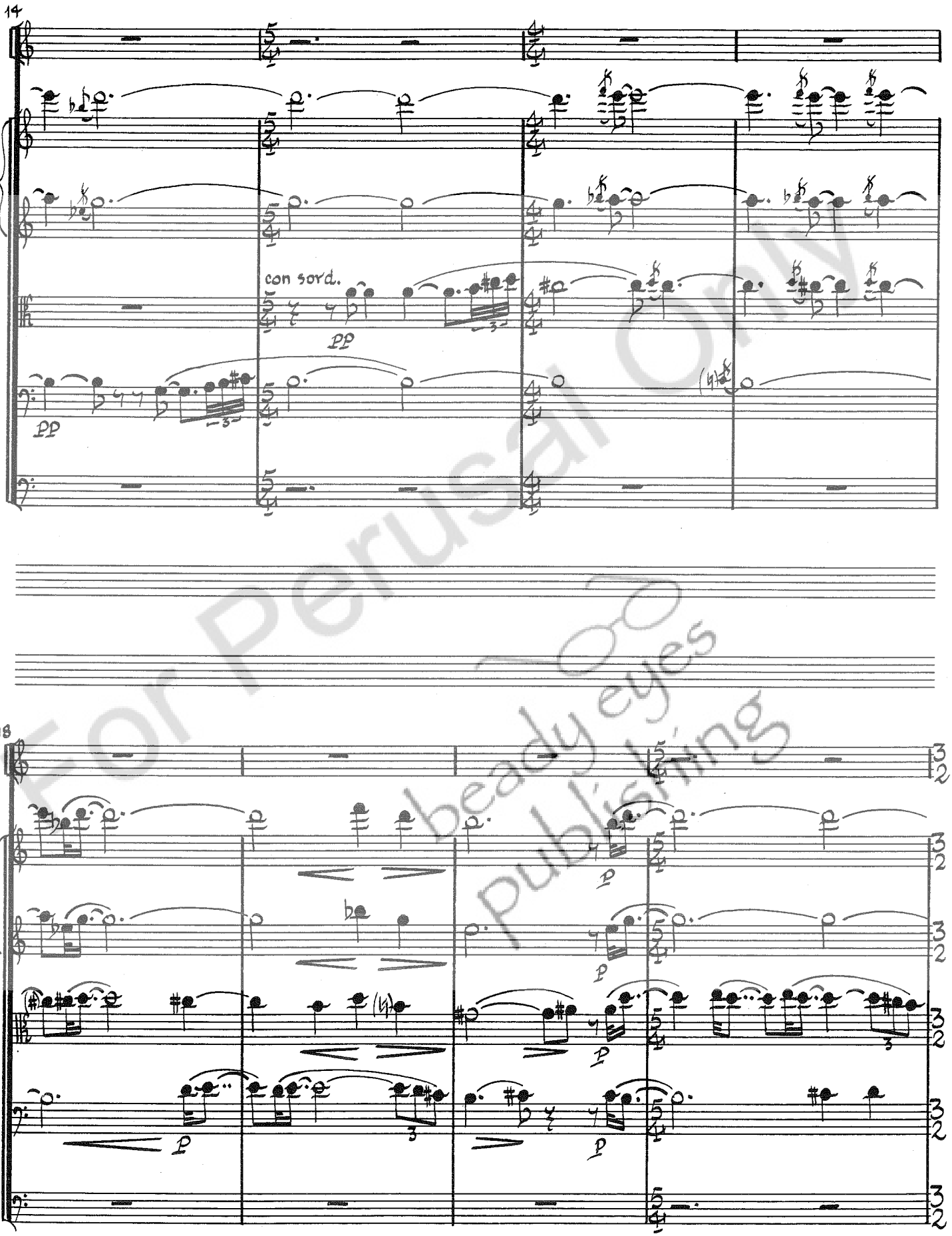

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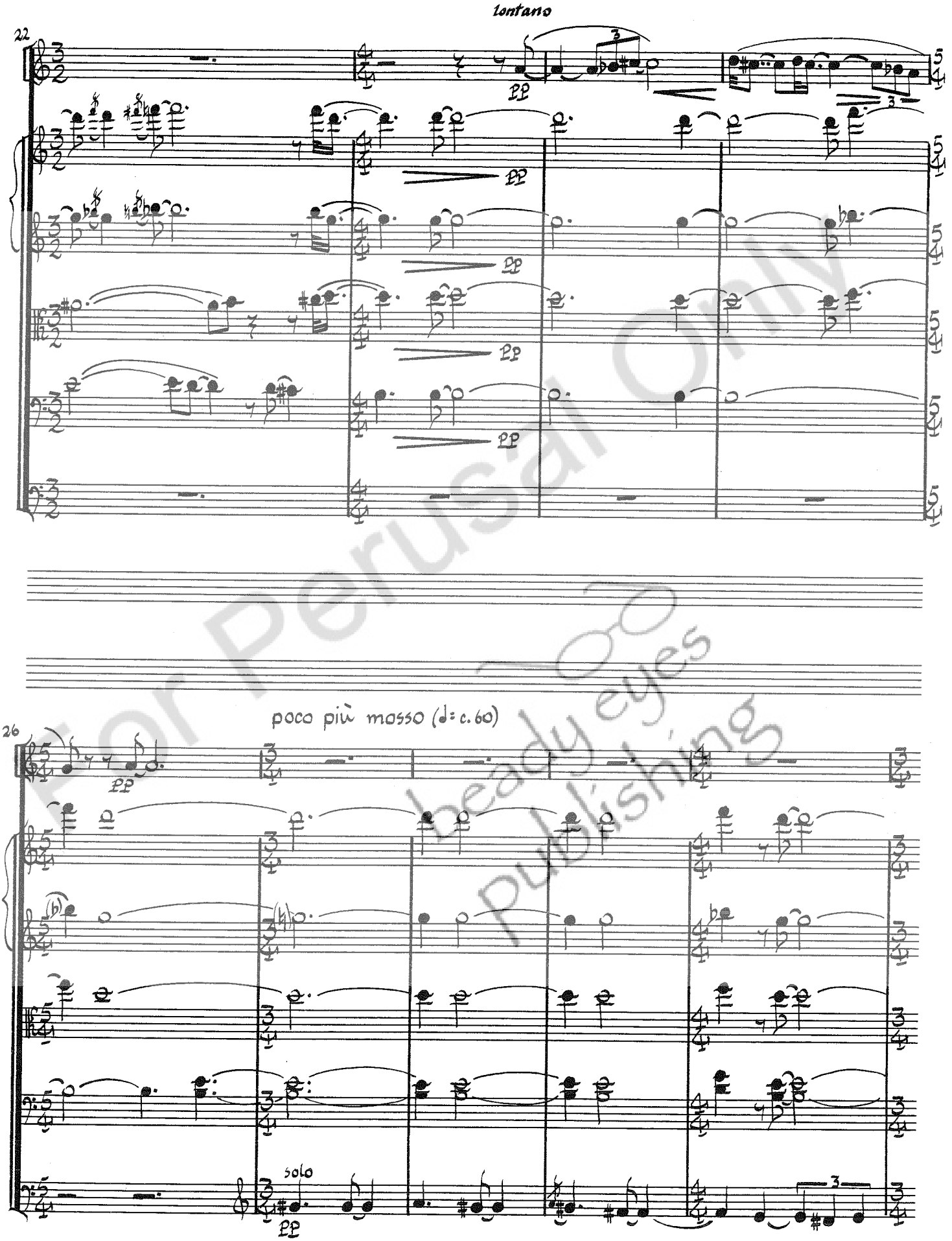

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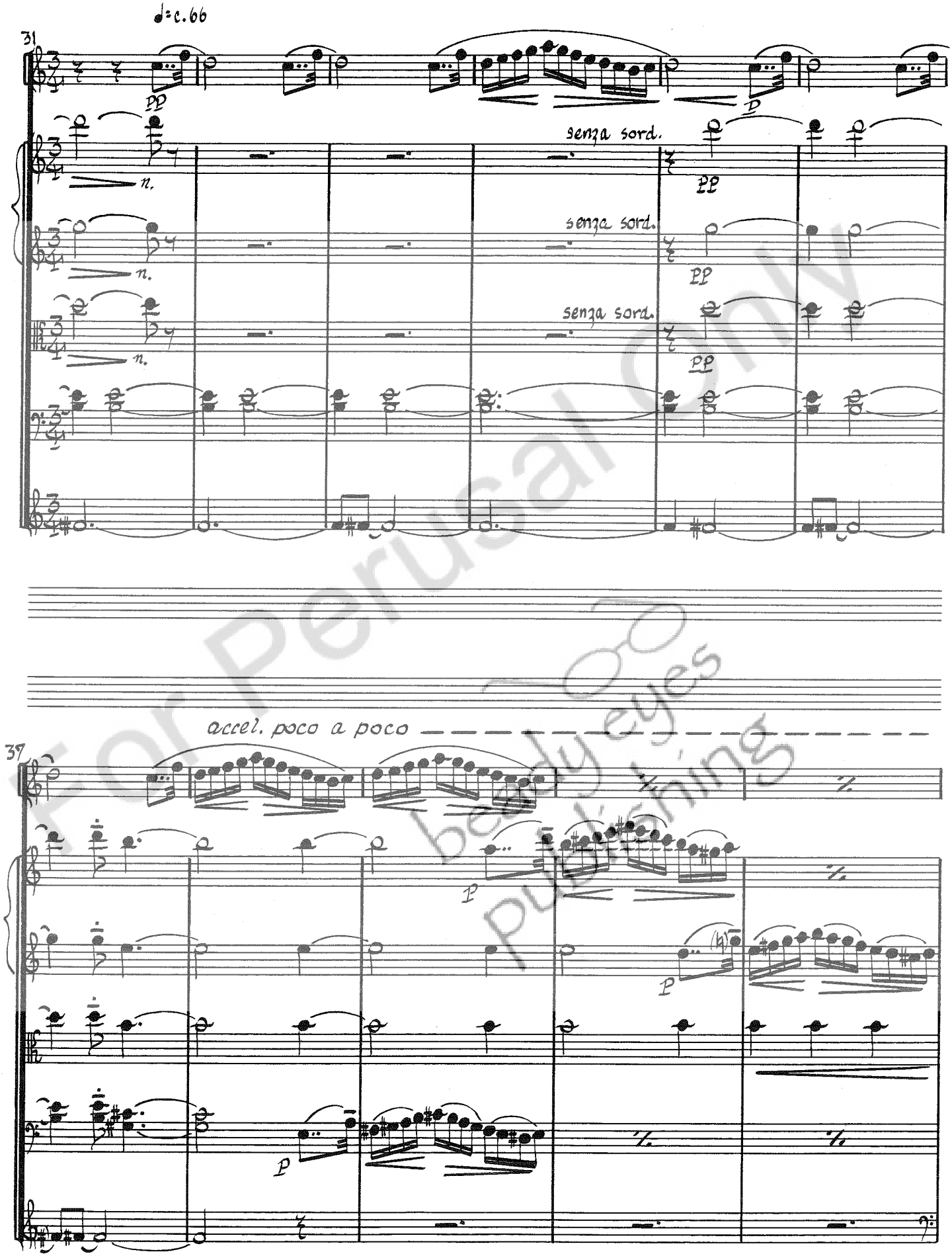

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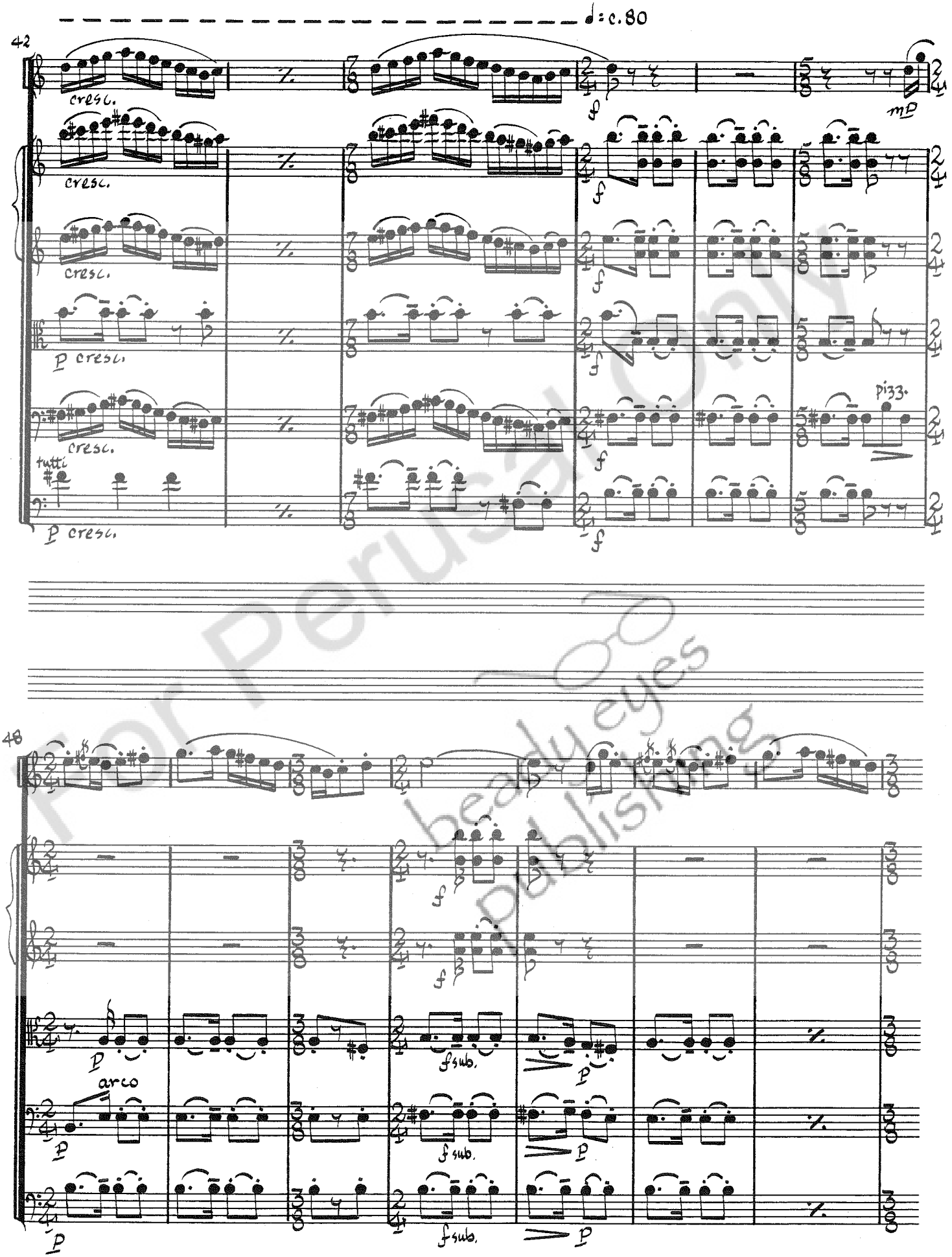

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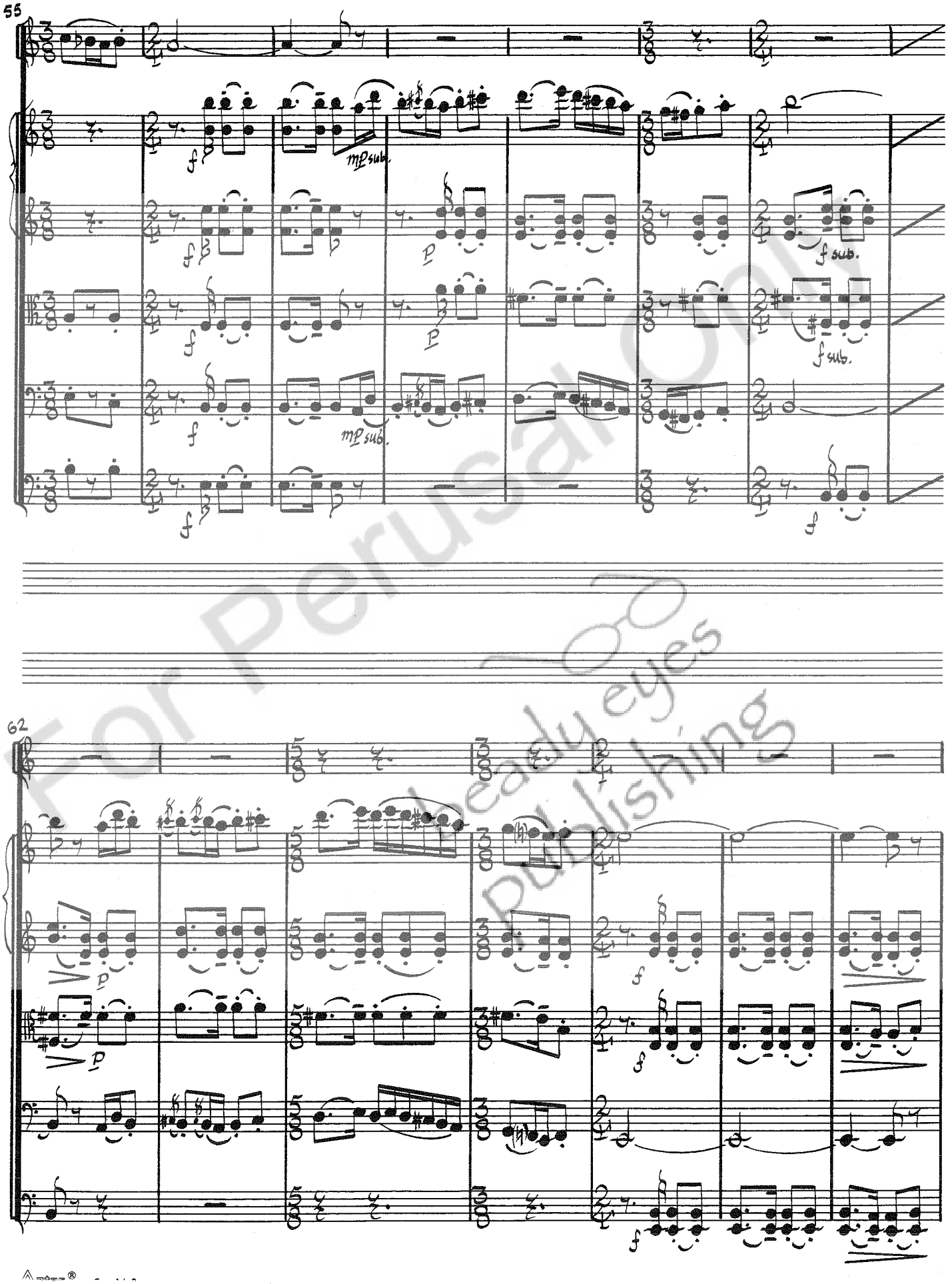

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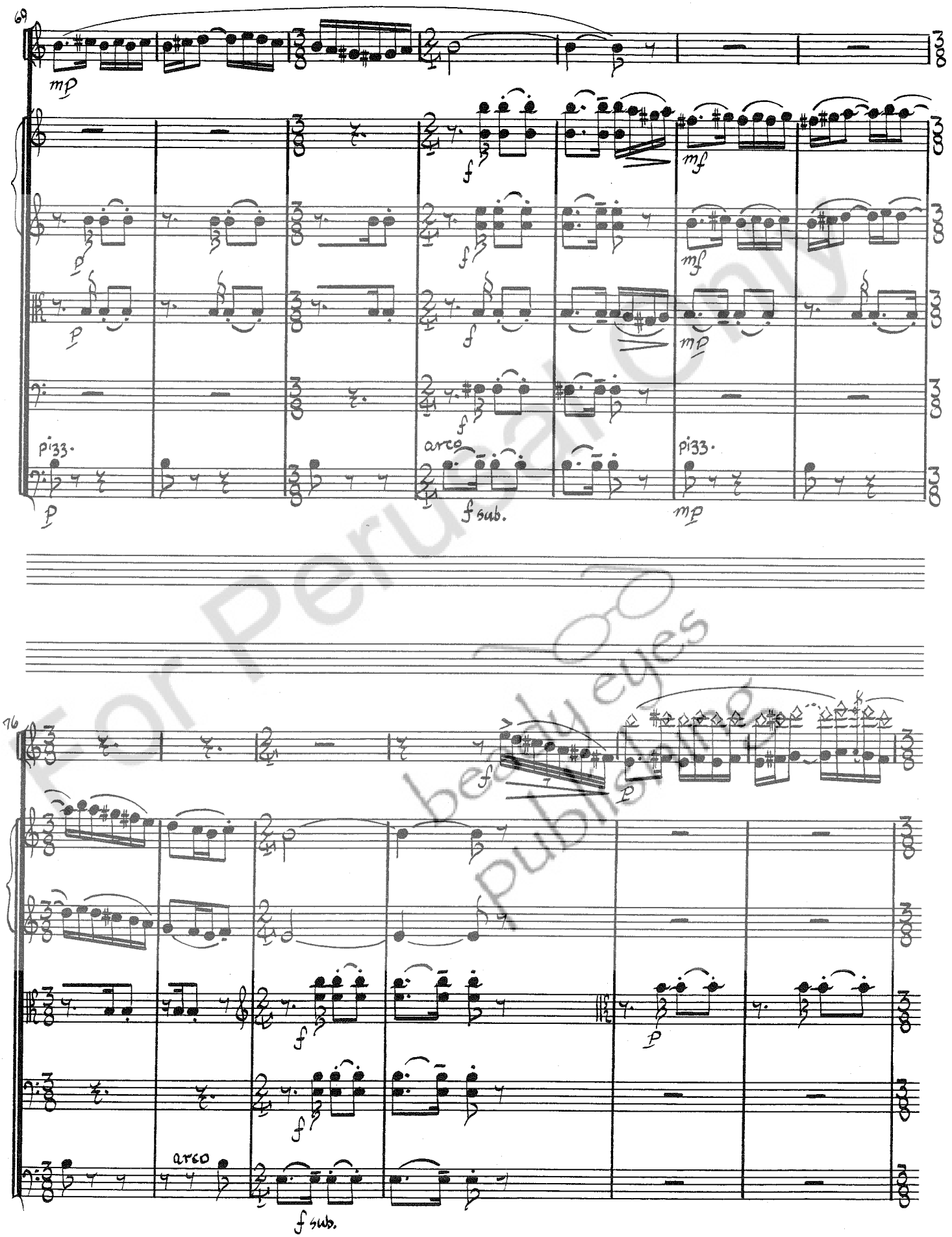

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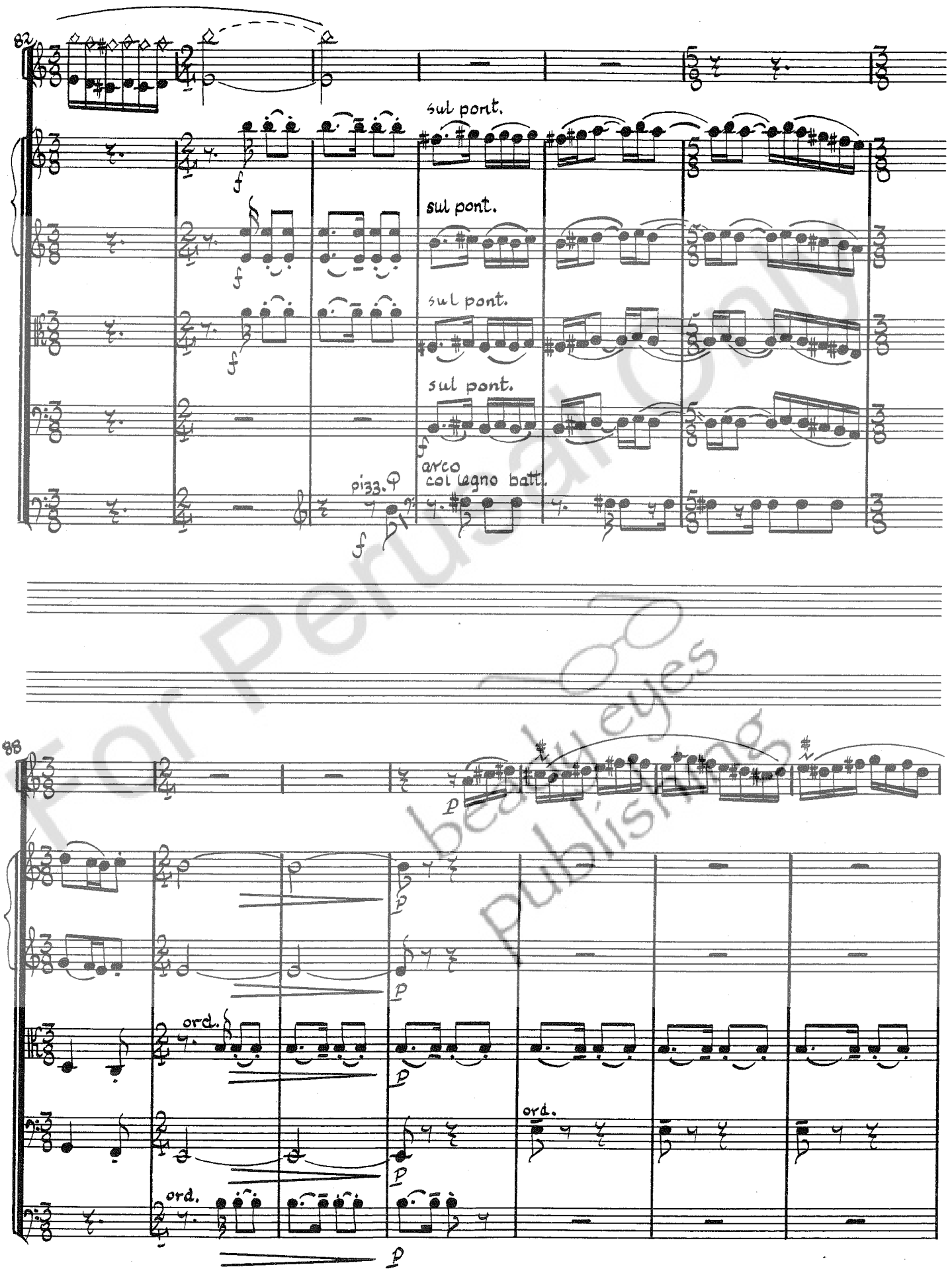

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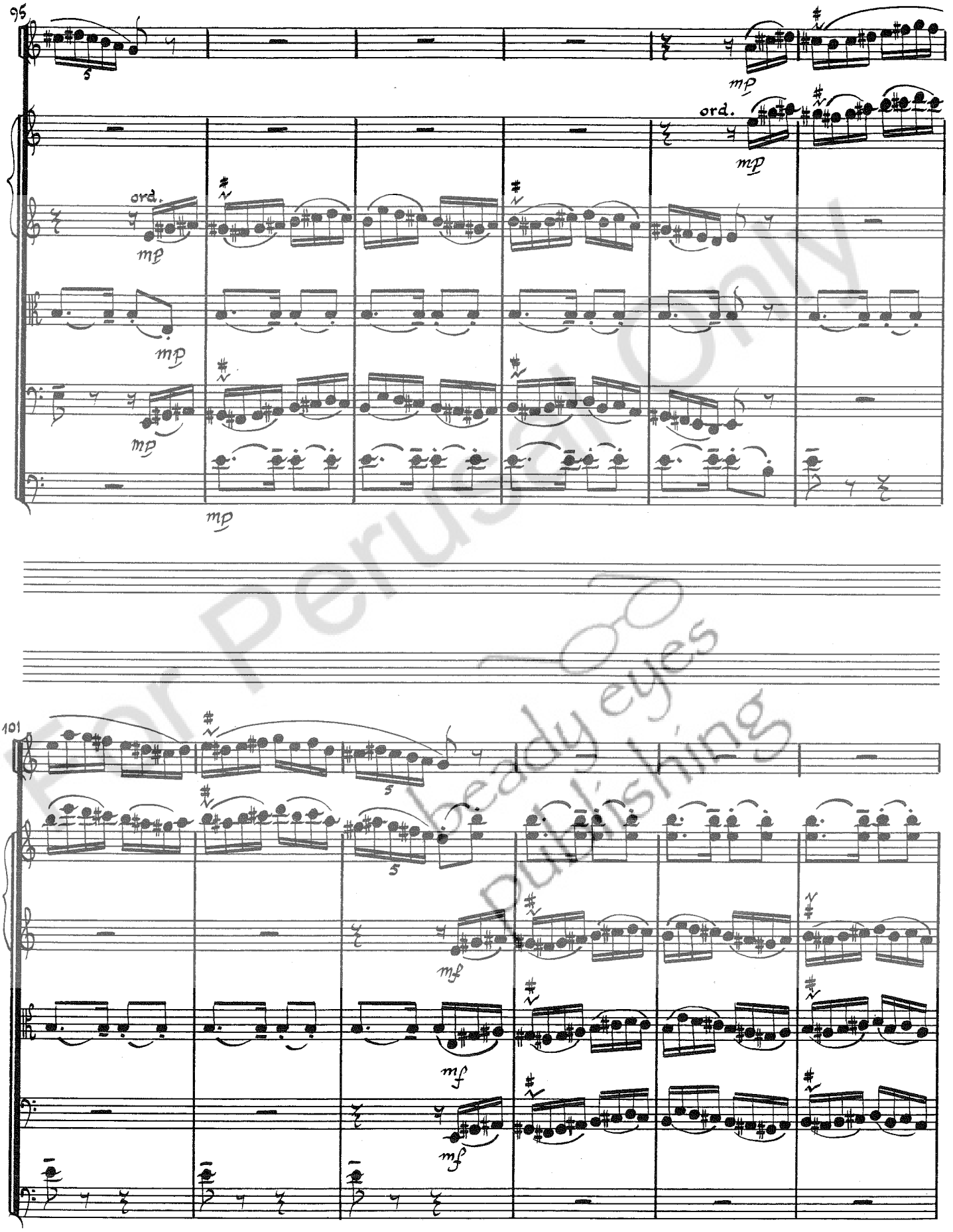

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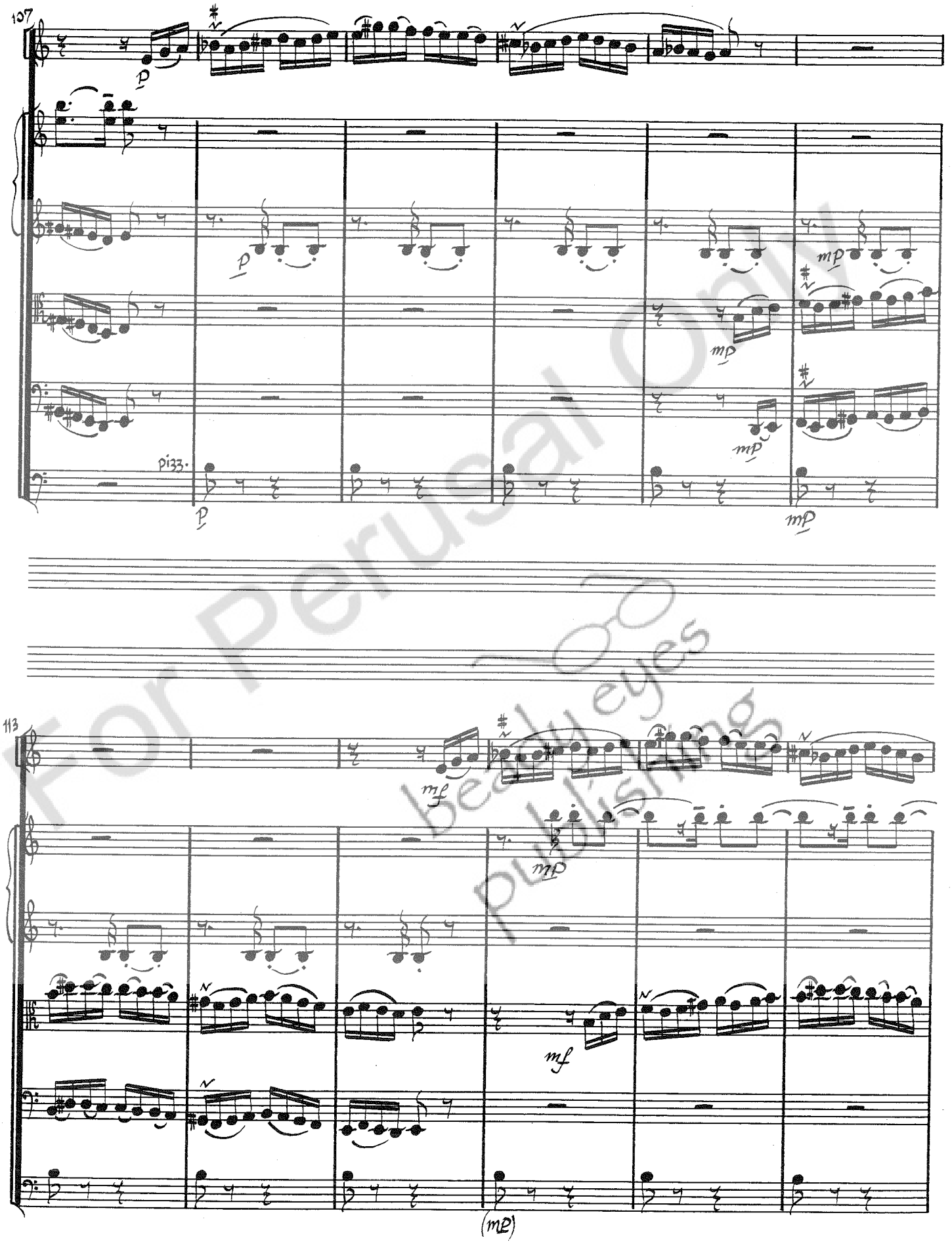

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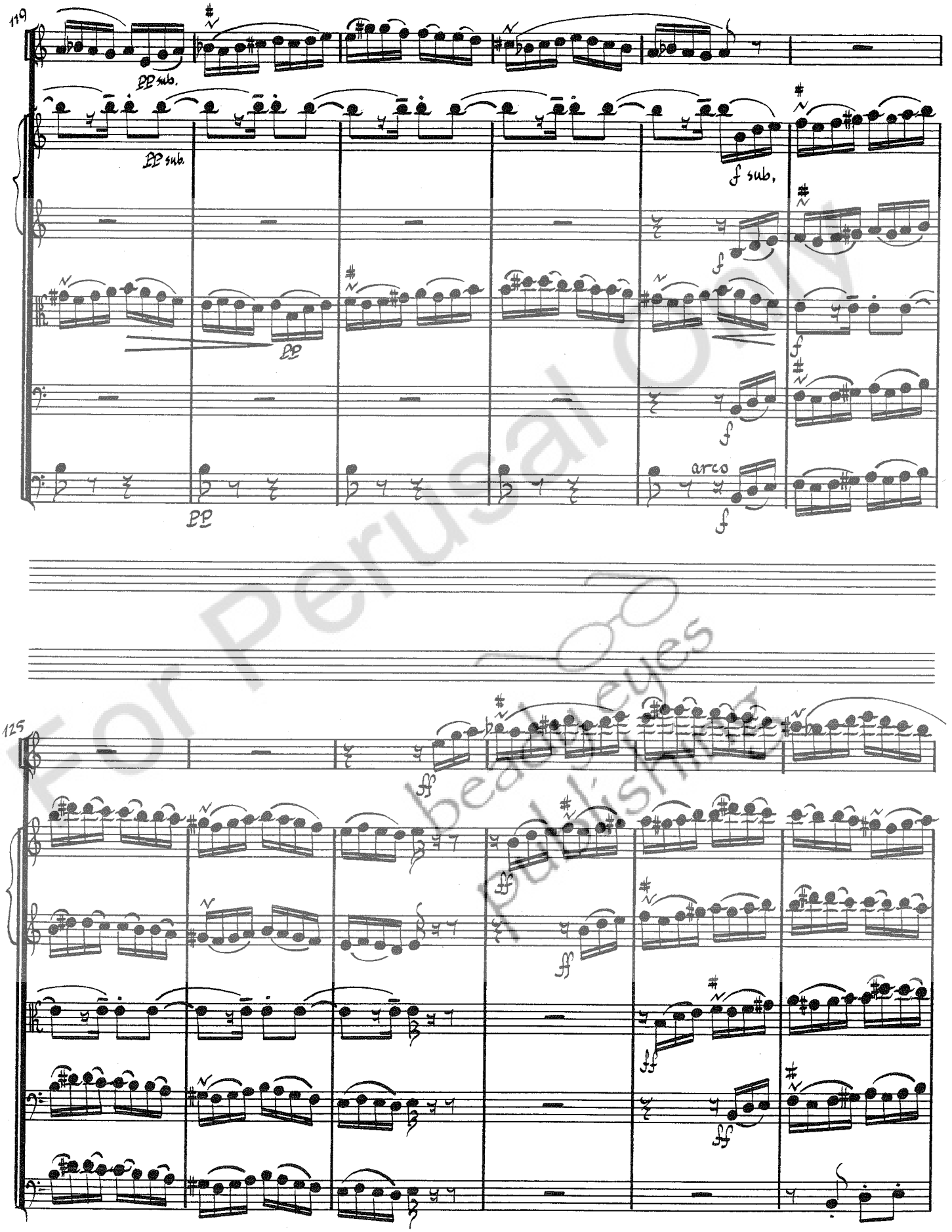

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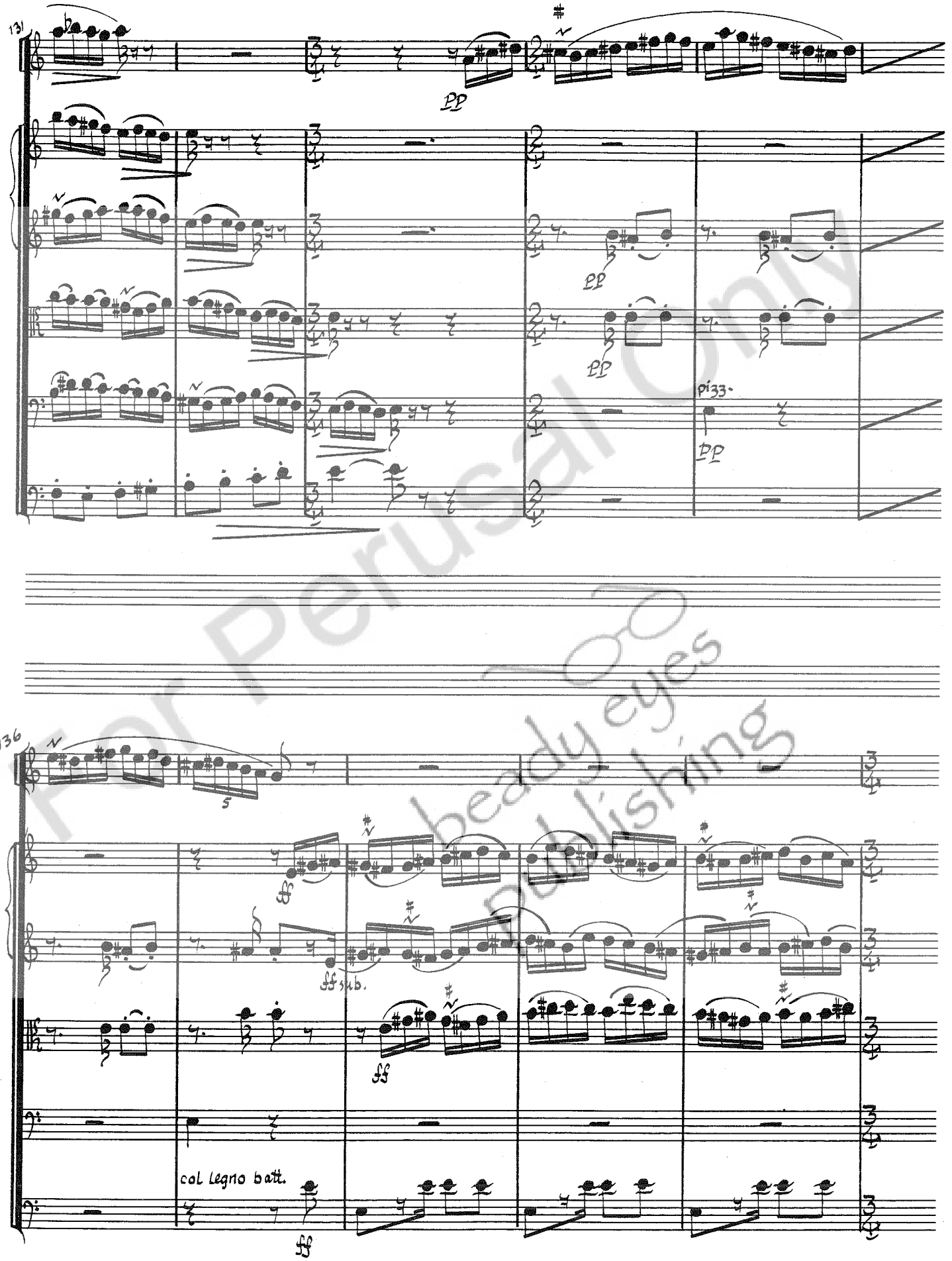

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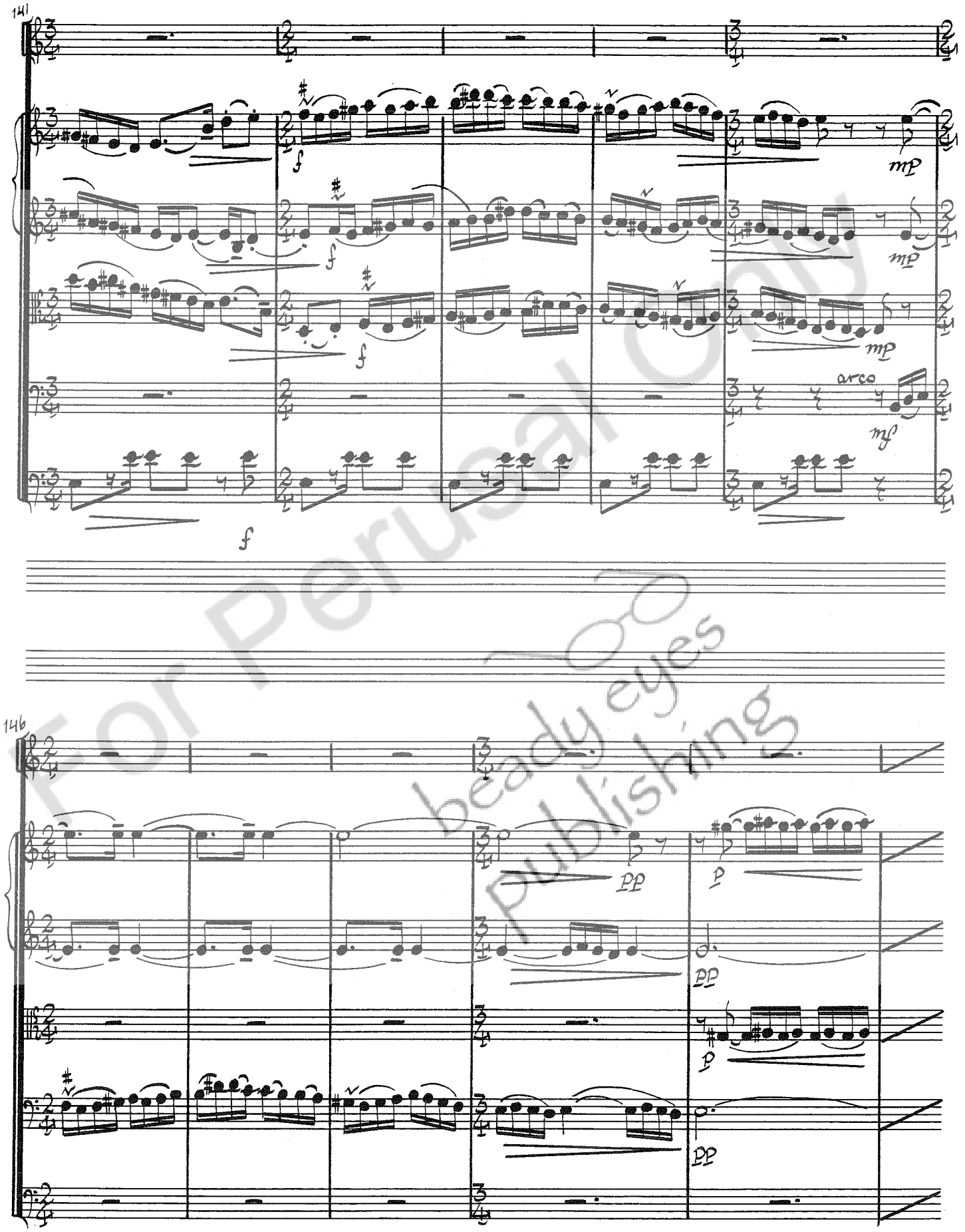

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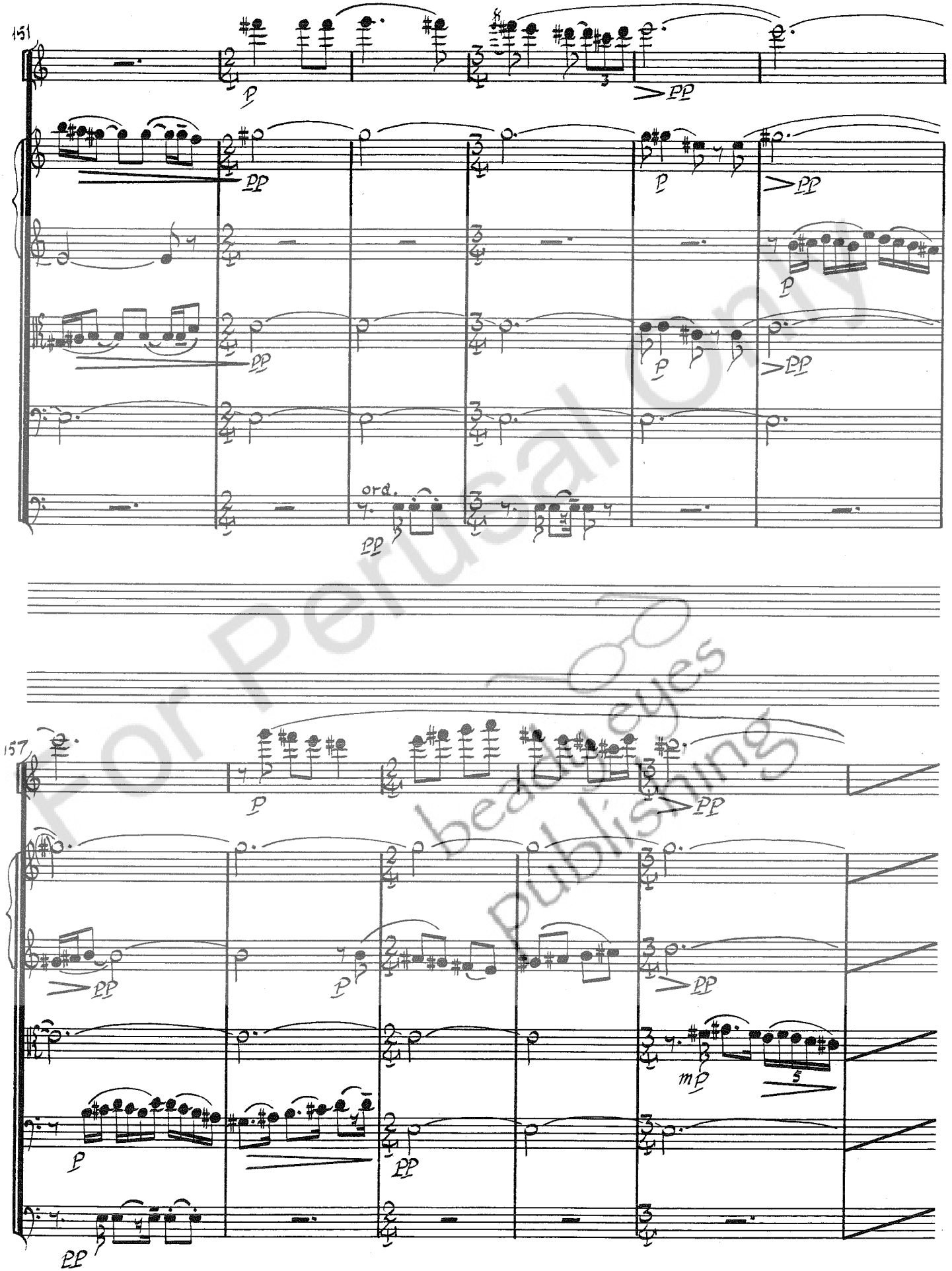

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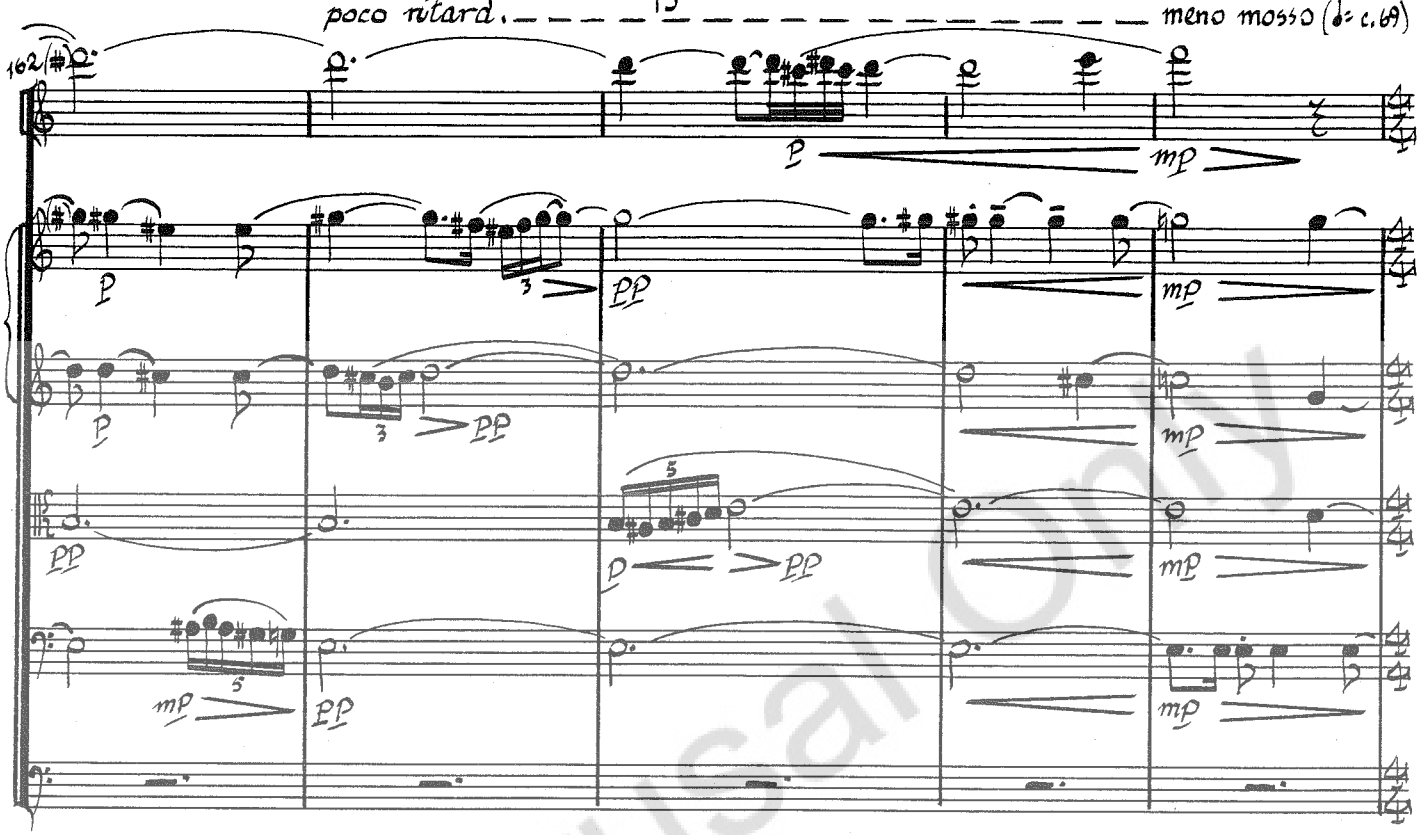
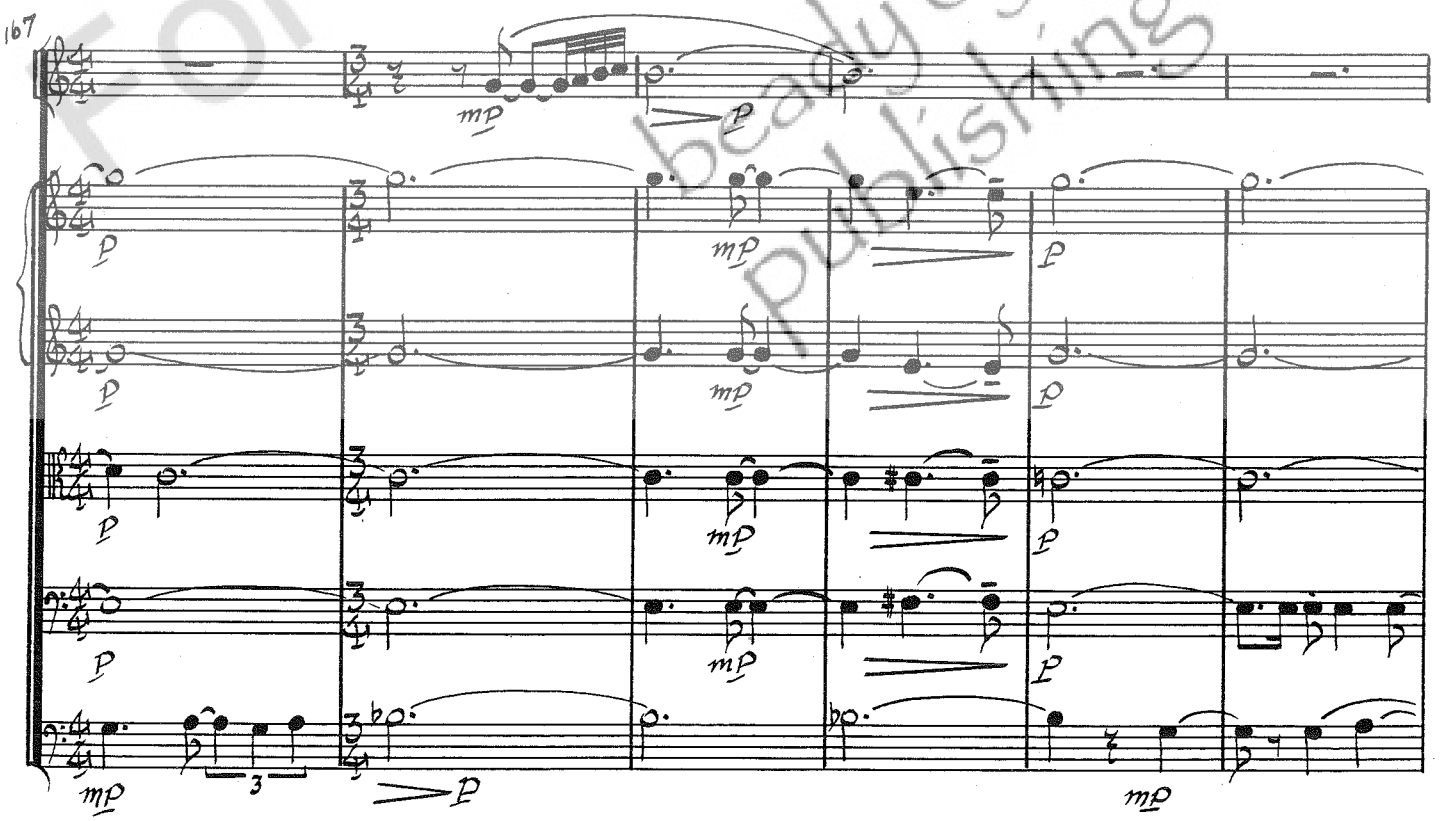
poco ritard. meno mosso (♩= c.69)





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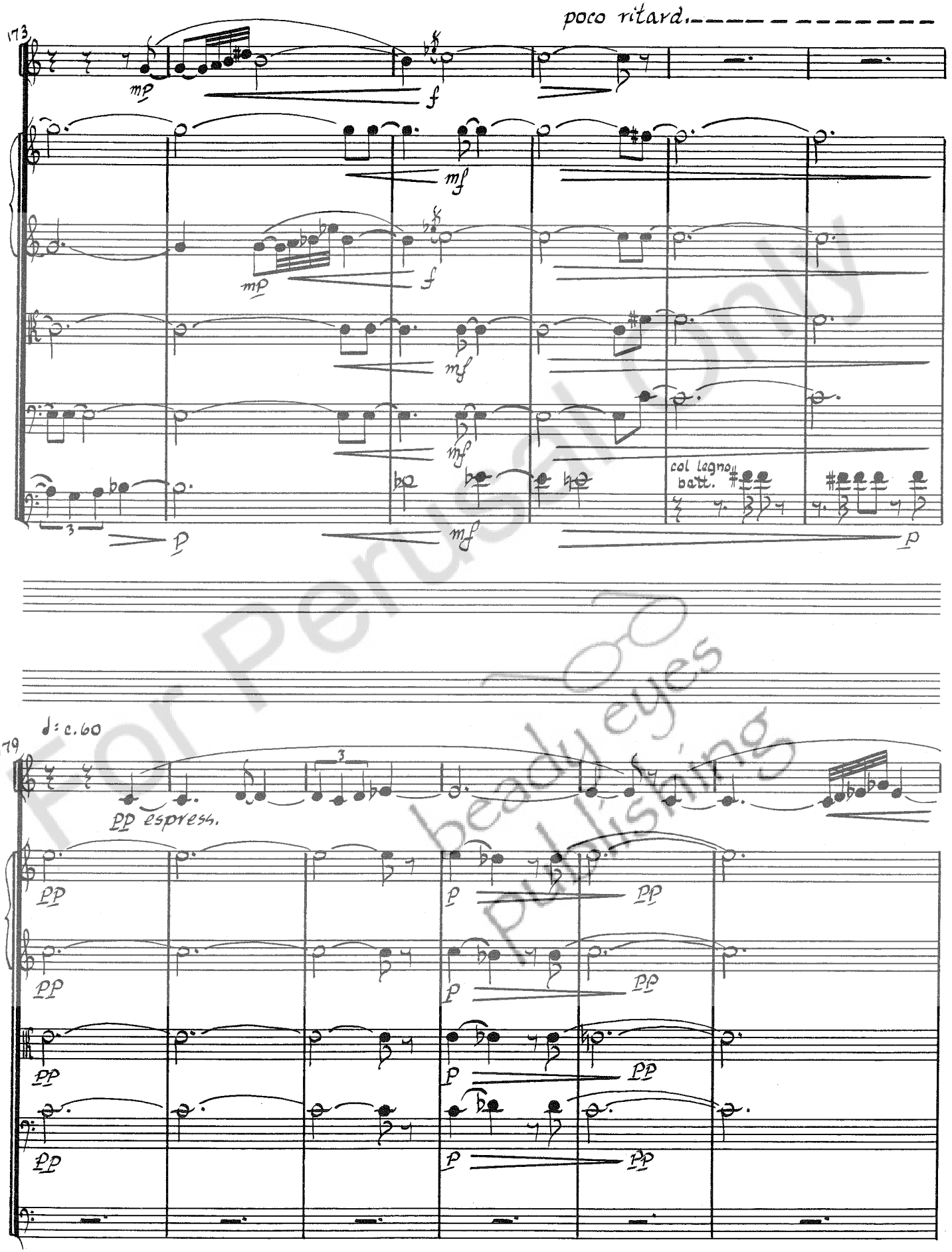

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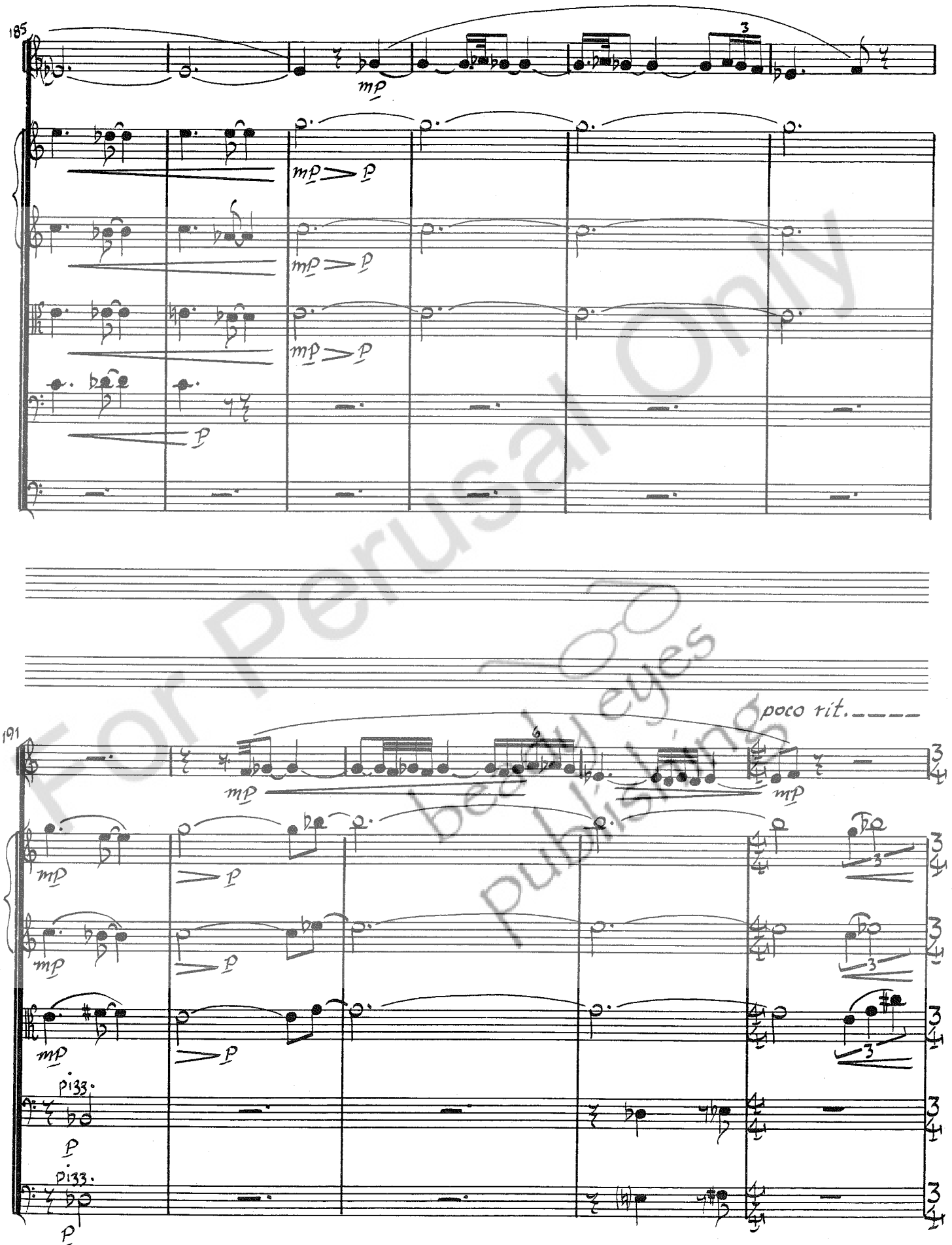

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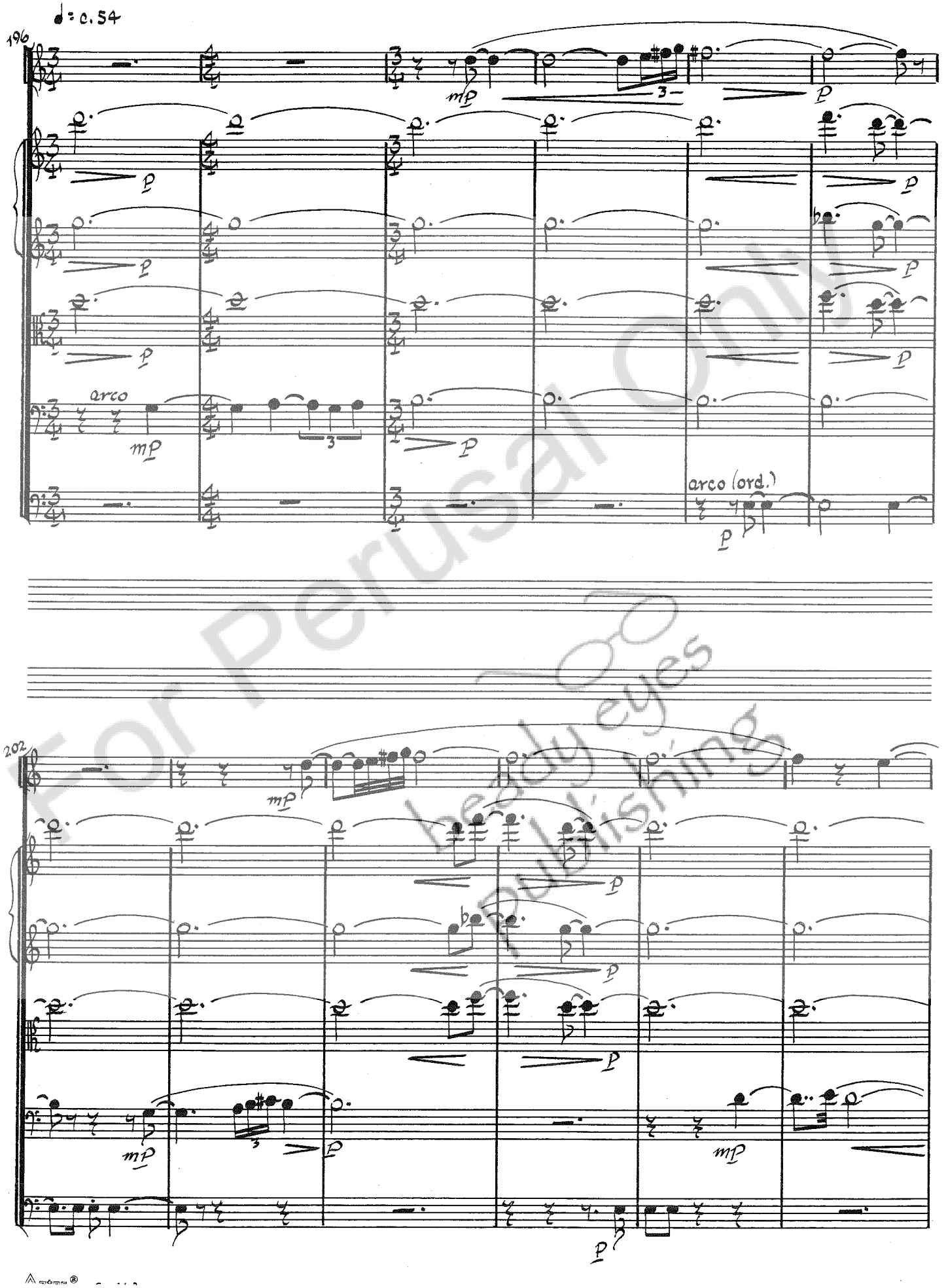

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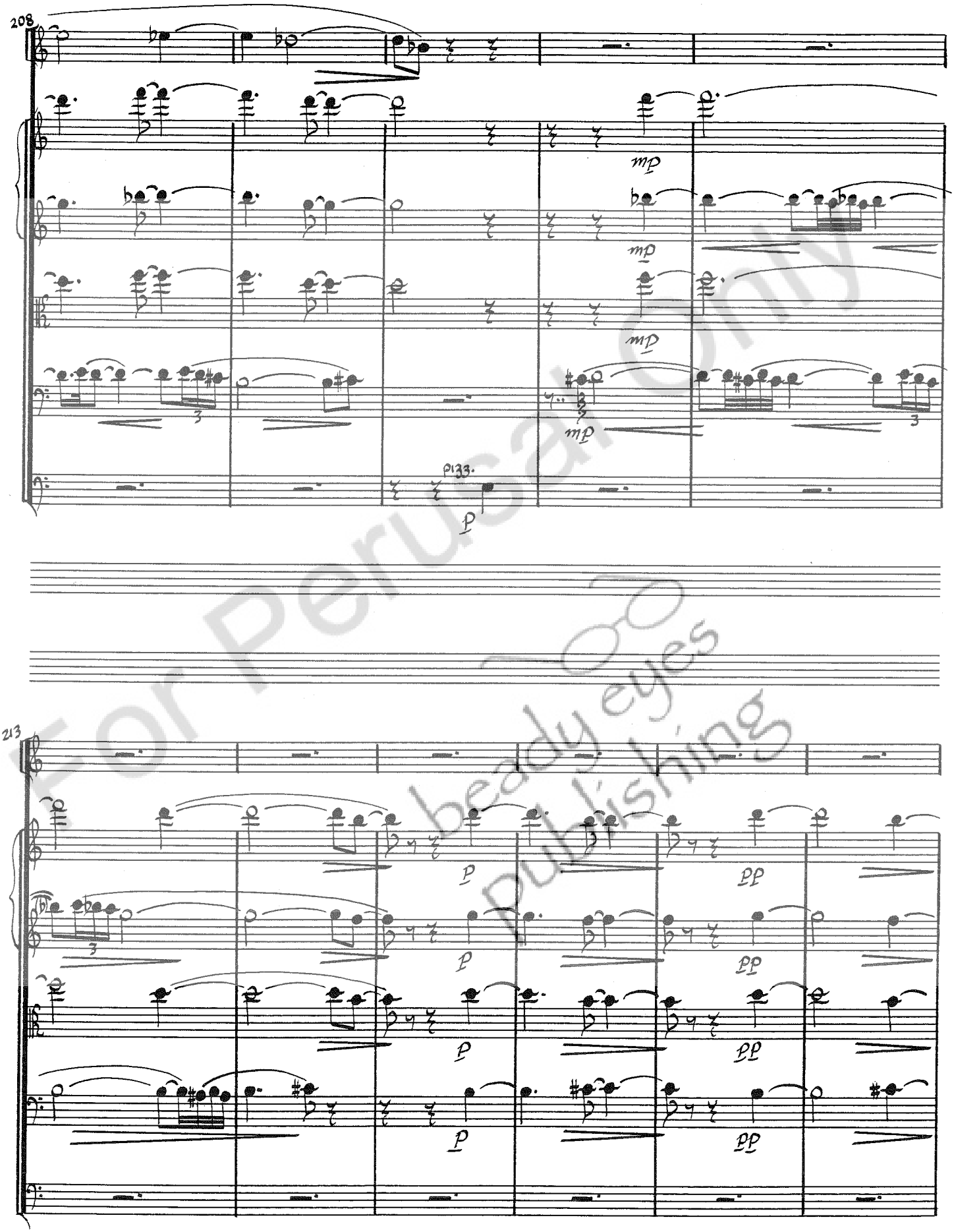

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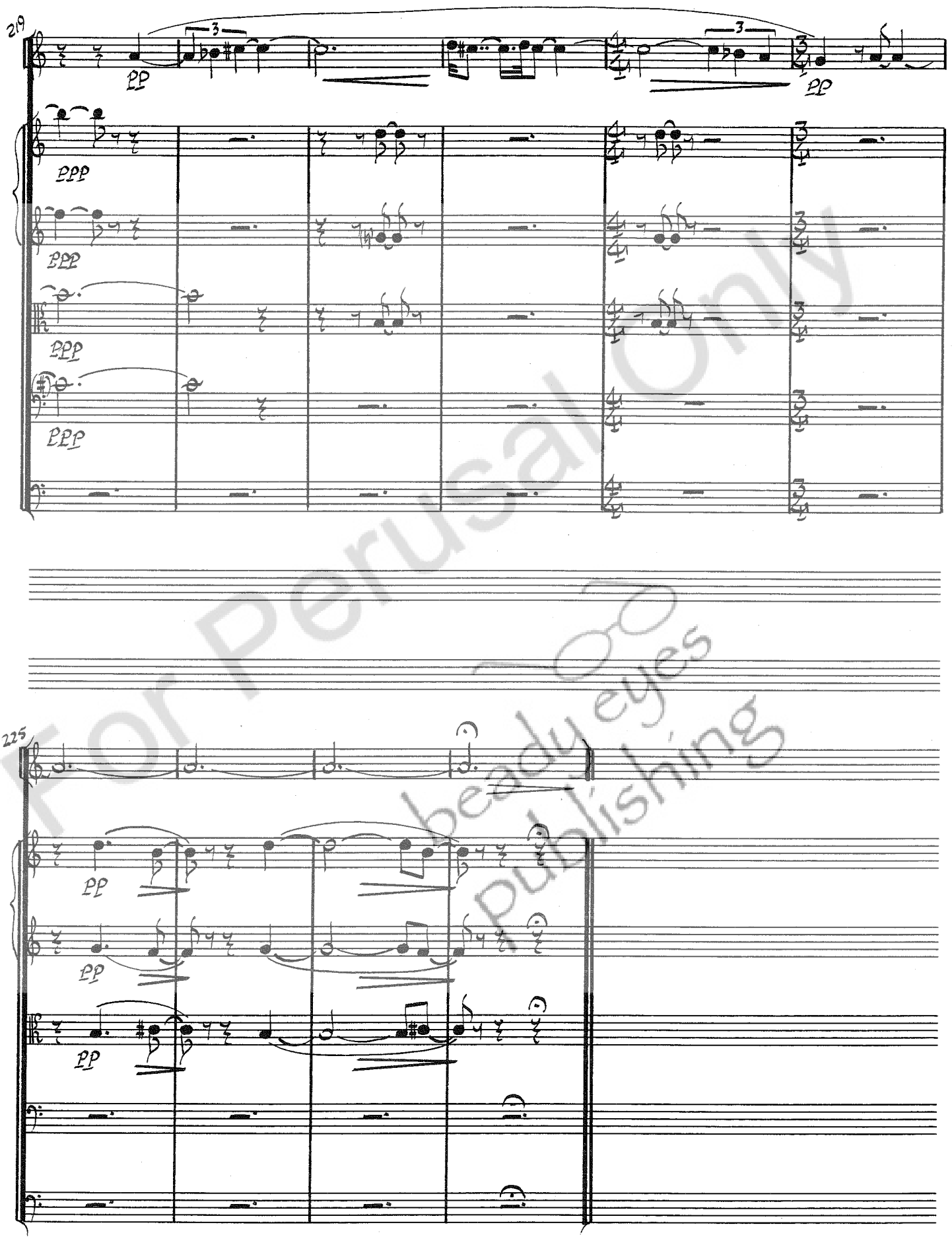

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