Two Sea Shanties for String Orchestra

Traditional Sea Shanty Melodies

arranged by
John Mock

1 Full Score

8 Violin I

8 Violin II

5 Viola

5 Cello

5 Bass

Extra Part - P3036051

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Program Notes

Growing up in New England meant hearing many intriguing tales and history relating to man and the sea. As a boy, the arranger would visit Mystic Seaport in Mystic, Connecticut and hear the shantymen there singing and playing concertina. Years later, he took up the concertina as well, and out of homesickness began playing this music. These songs were sung a cappella and used by sailors to set a rhythm for specific tasks on a ship that needed to be performed in unison. Though shanties were very practical, most are very beautiful melodies as well. These two shanties were chosen for their lyricism and arranged for string orchestra in a way that seemed fitting for a love of the sea.

About the Arranger

John Mock is an artist, and the ocean and its coasts are his muse. From his native New England to the shores of Ireland and Scotland, John captures in music and story the heritage of the sea.

Whether appearing solo or with a symphony orchestra, John shares this heritage through his captivating concert presentations which include original instrumental compositions performed on guitar, concertina, mandolin, and tin whistle. Audiences are charmed not only by John's music, but also by his narration and storytelling, which bring to life the characters and places upon which the music is based. A multimedia version of the concert is also available in which John's own photography is projected, providing a beautiful backdrop for the music.

Widely sought after as a composer, arranger, and multi-instrumentalist, John has worked with such notable artists as the Dixie Chicks, James Taylor, Dolly Parton, Nanci Griffith, Maura O'Connell, Sylvia, Kathy Mattea, and Mark O'Connor. John's credits as composer and featured soloist include performances with the Nashville Chamber Orchestra, the Nexus Chamber Orchestra, the Nashville Philharmonic, the Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra, and the National Orchestra of Ireland. He has also worked extensively across the country as a solo performer.

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Duration: 4:45

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for String Orchestra

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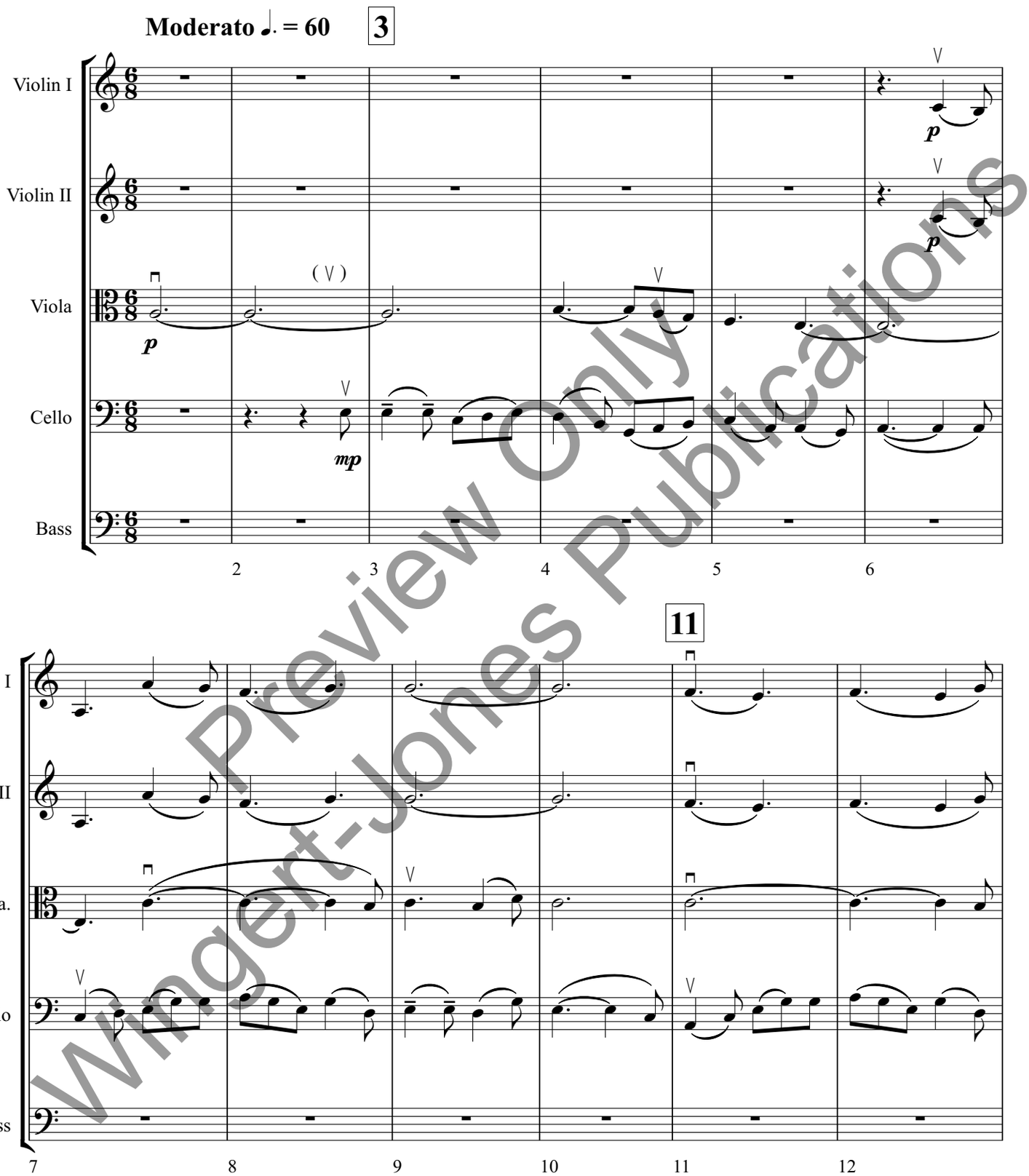
I. Go To Sea Once More



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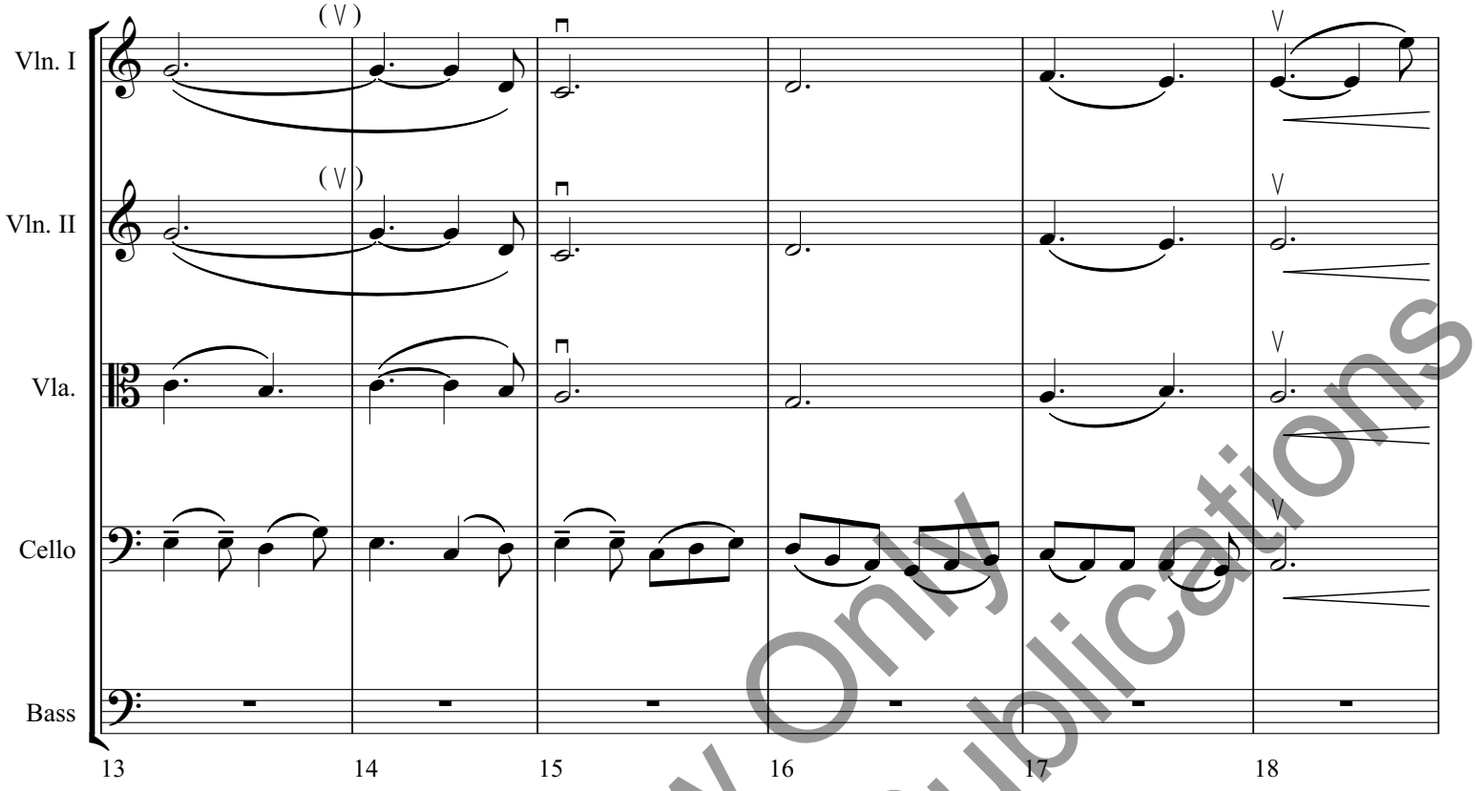

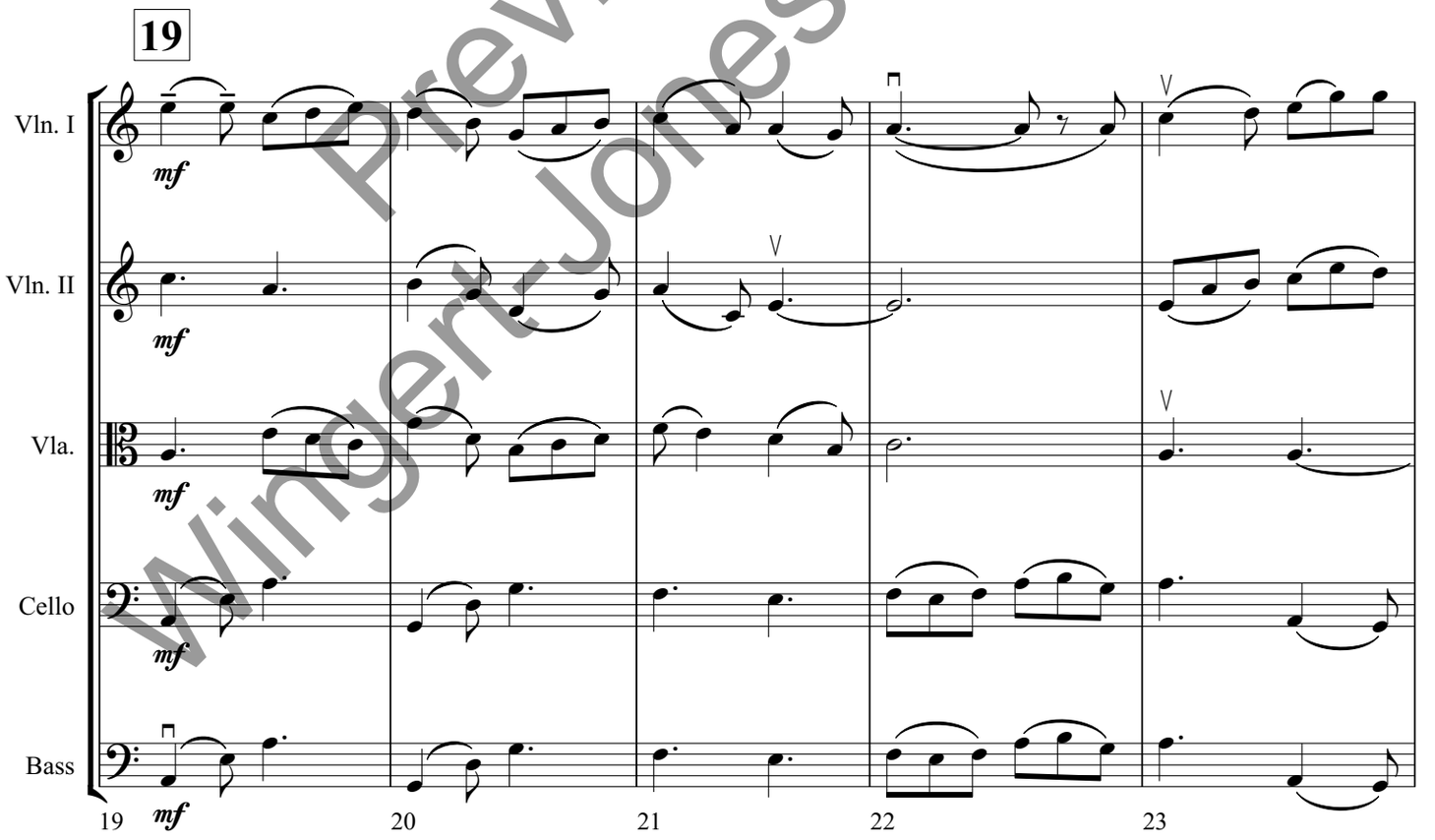

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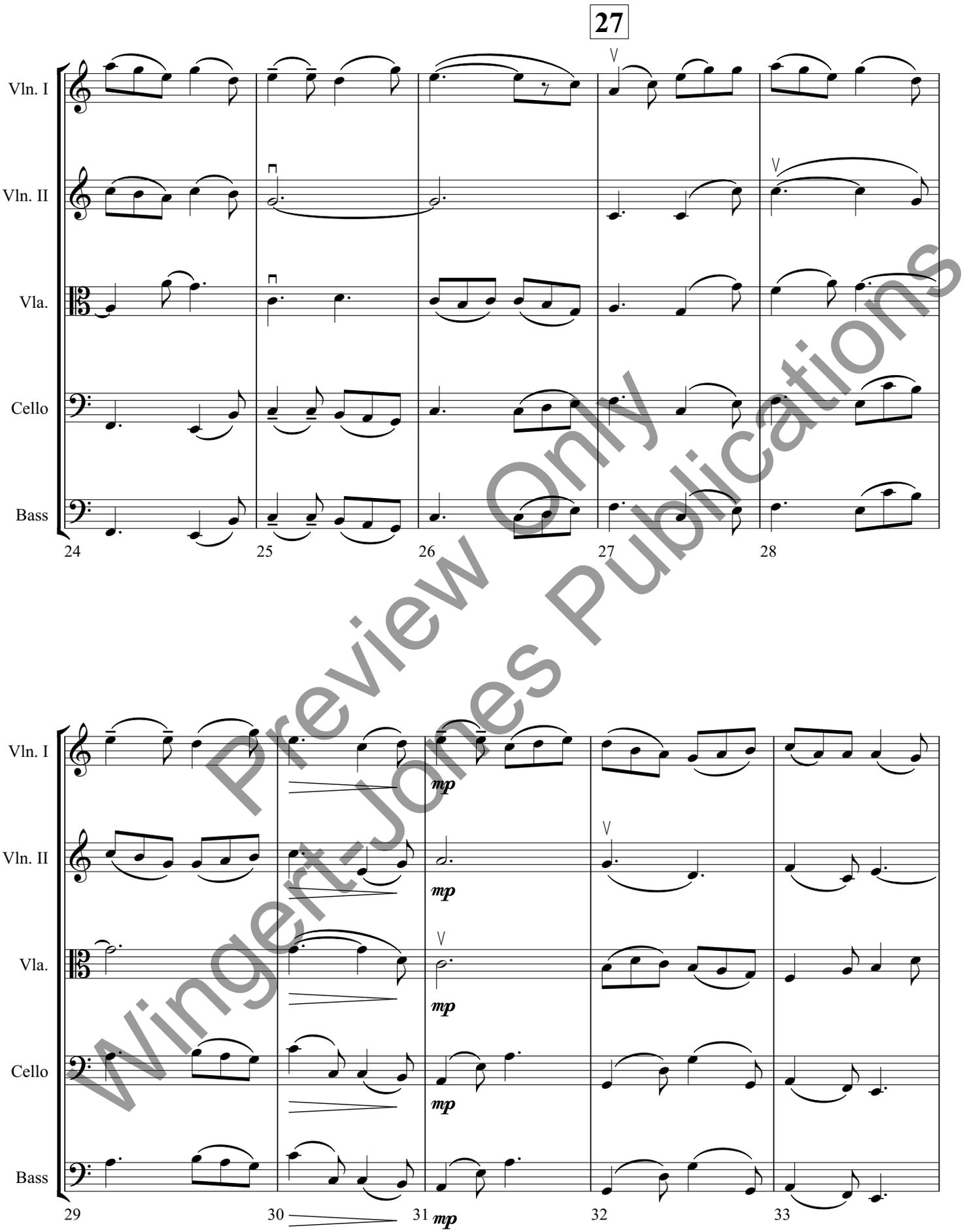

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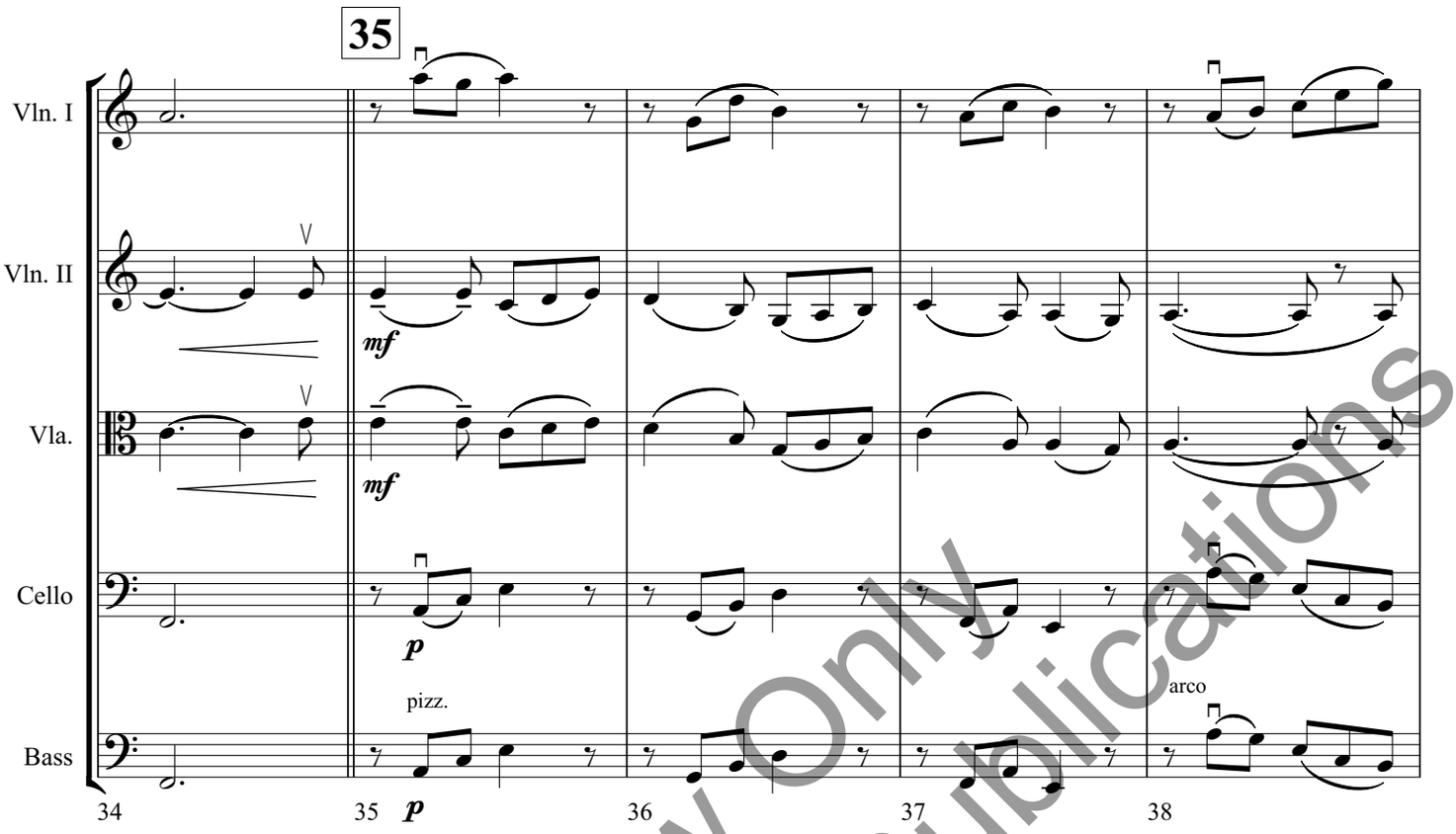

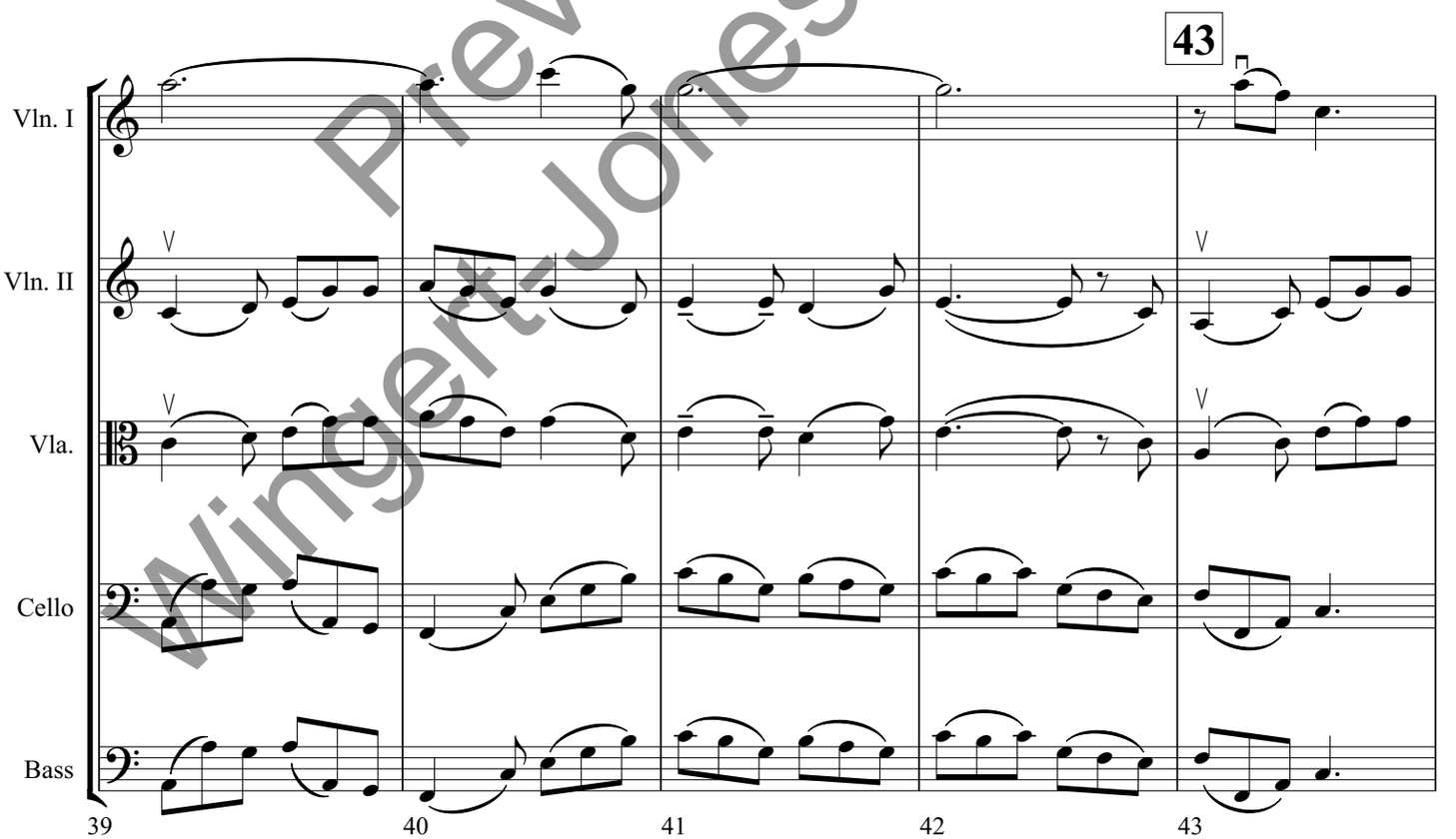

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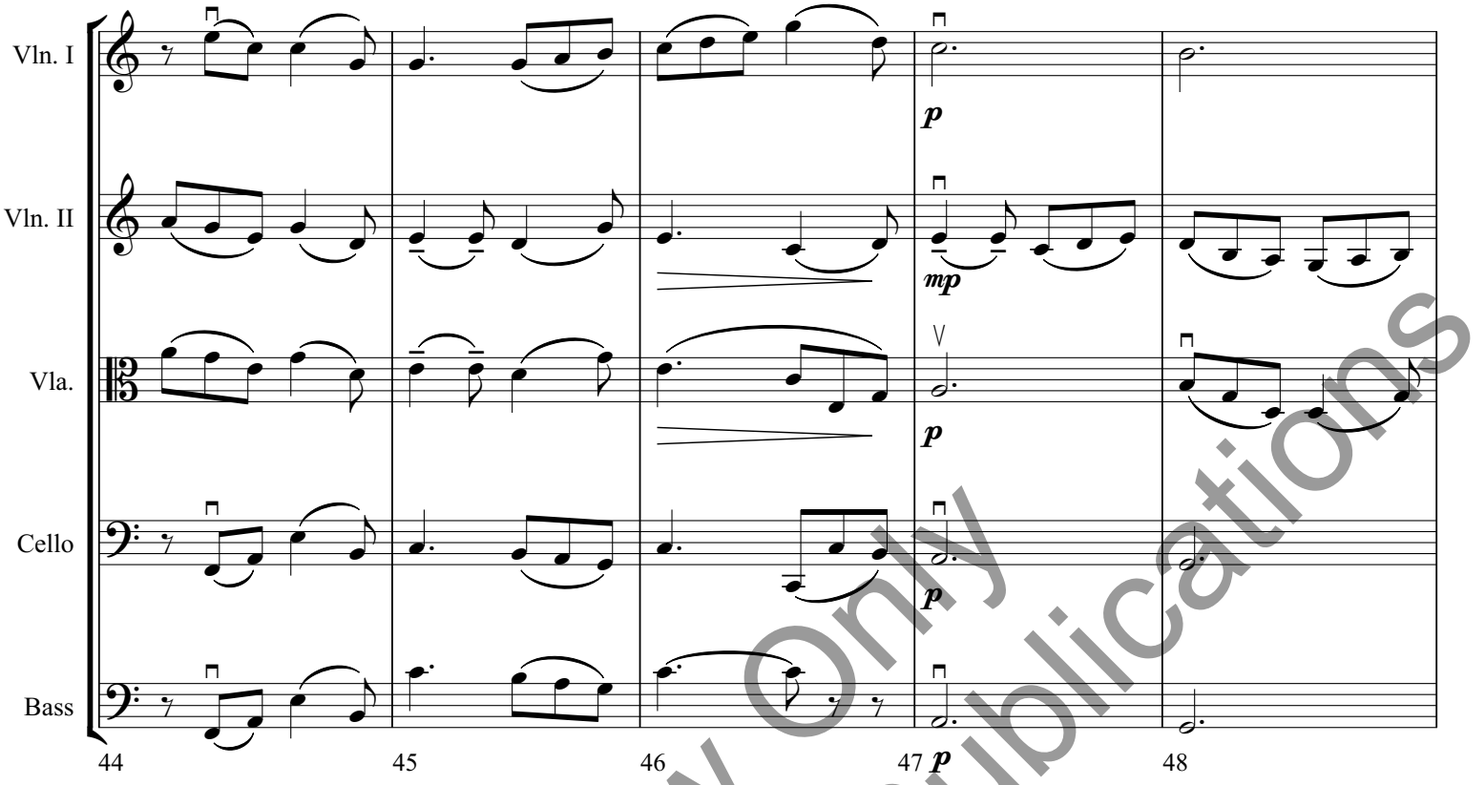

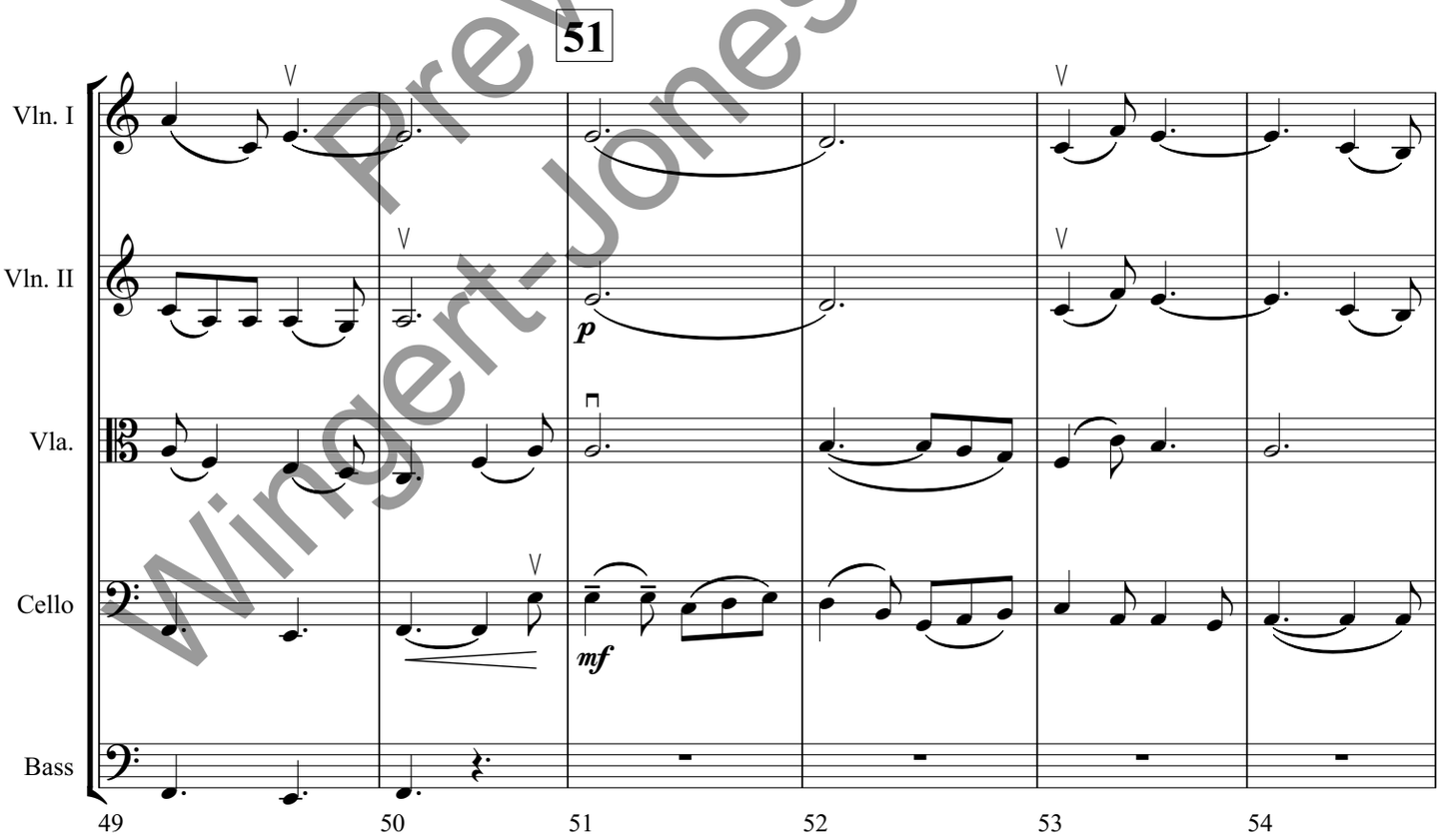

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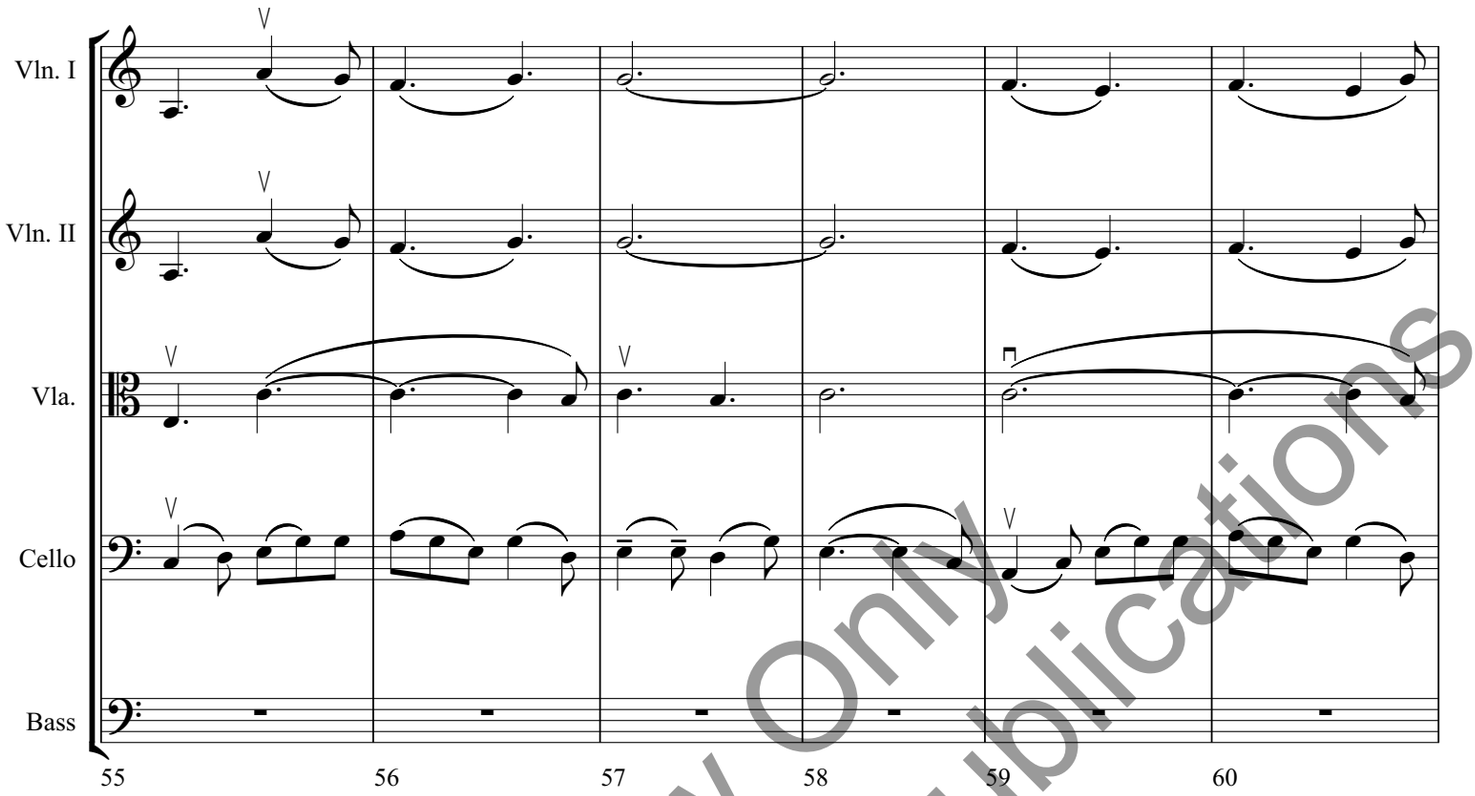

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II. The Banks of Newfoundland

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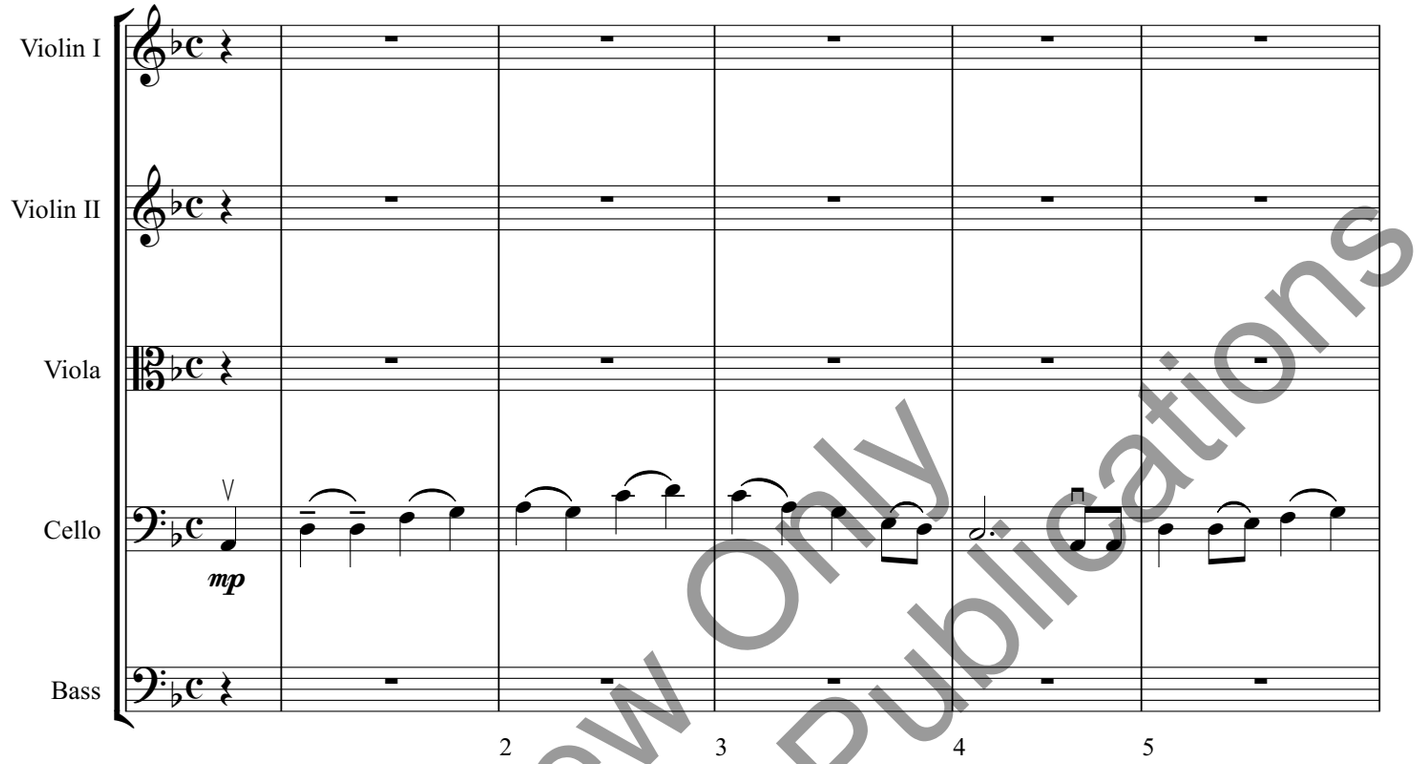

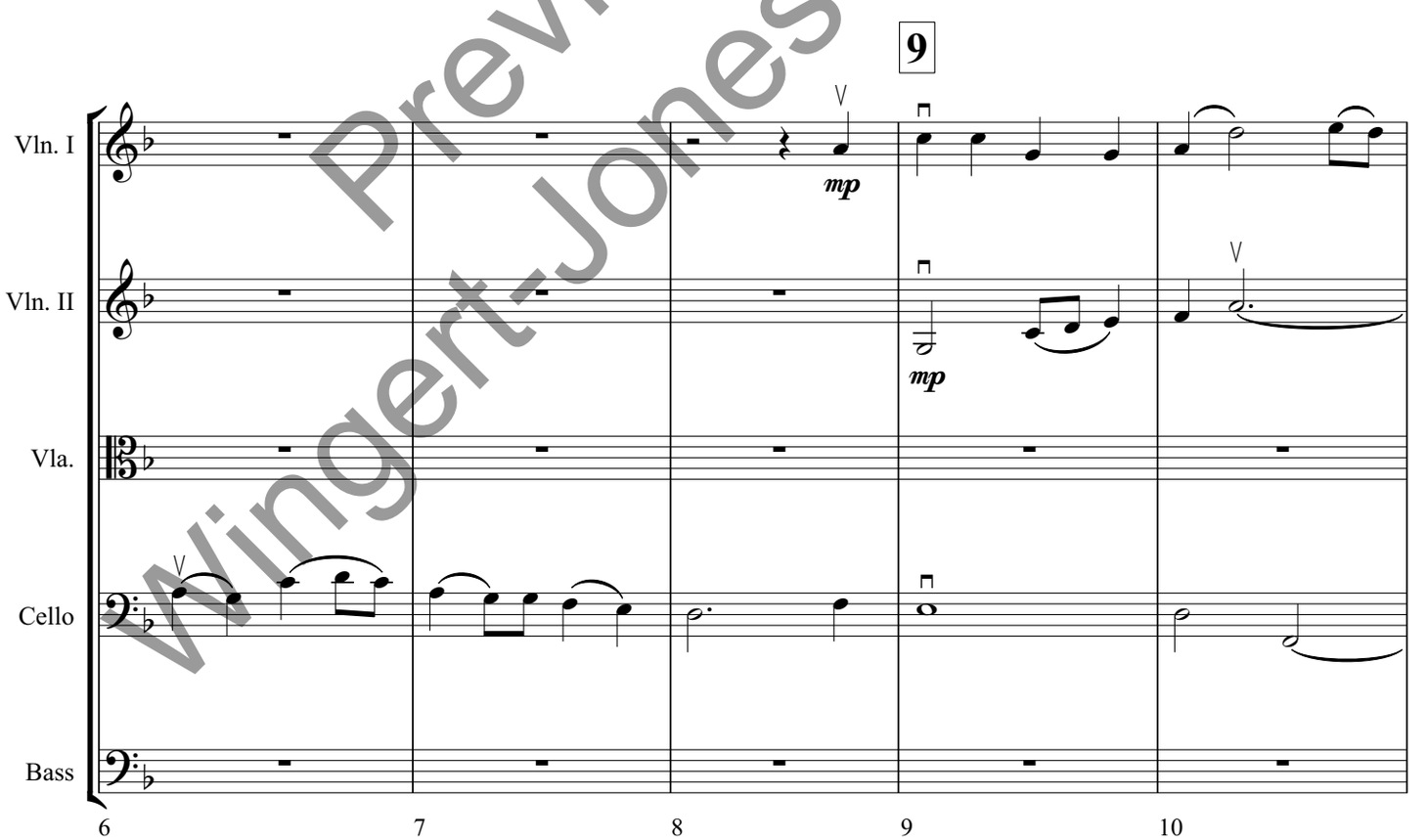

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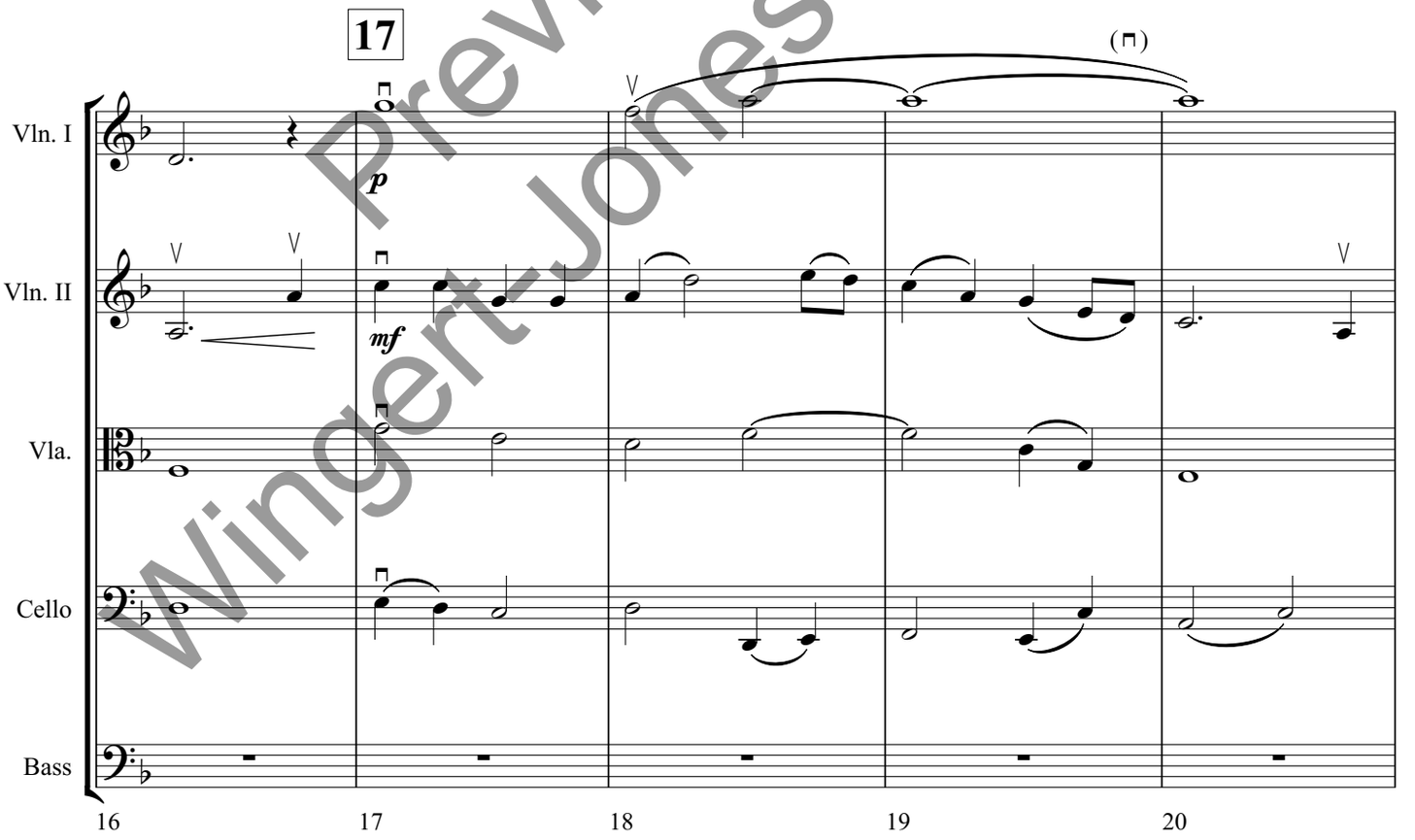

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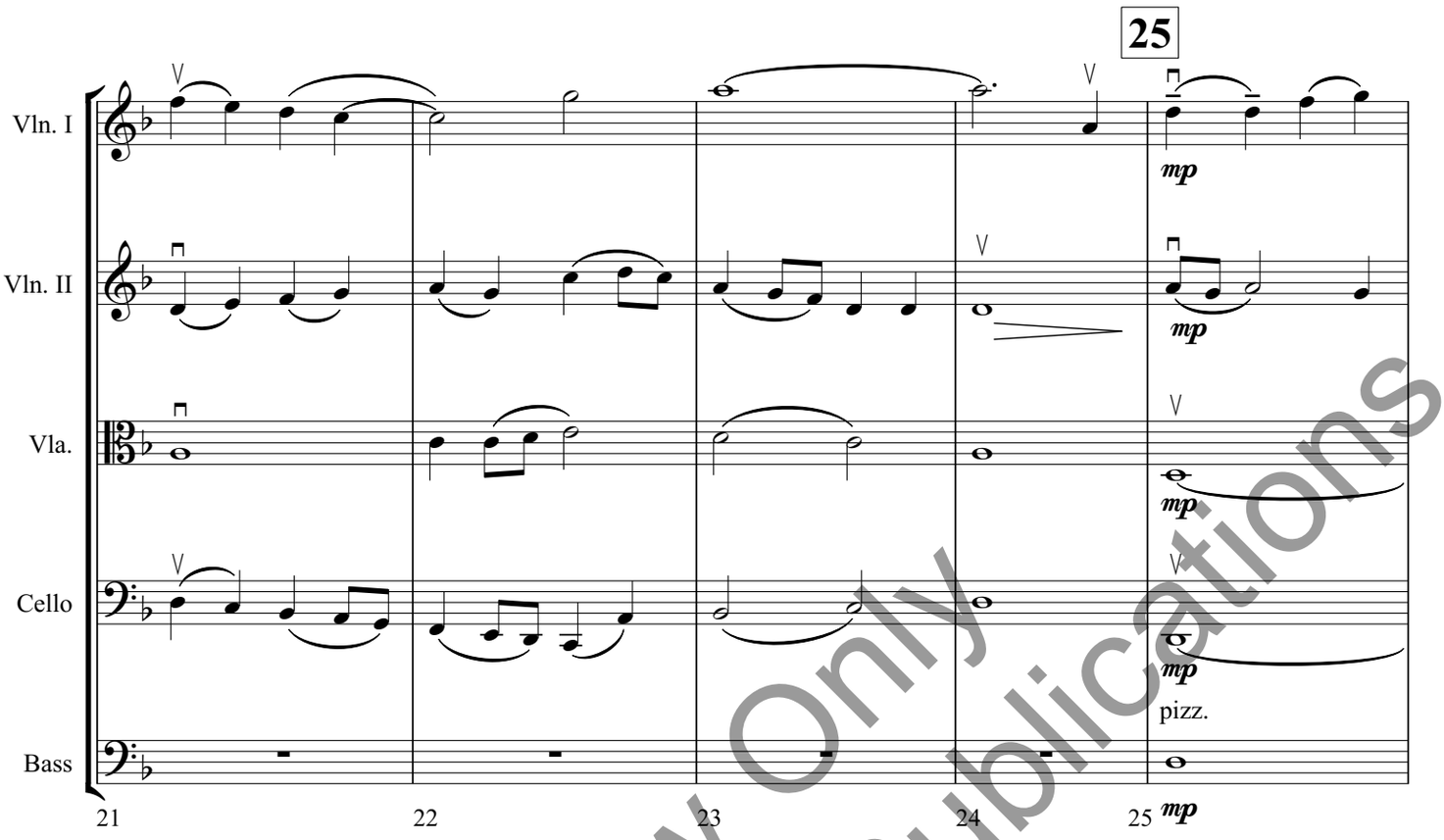

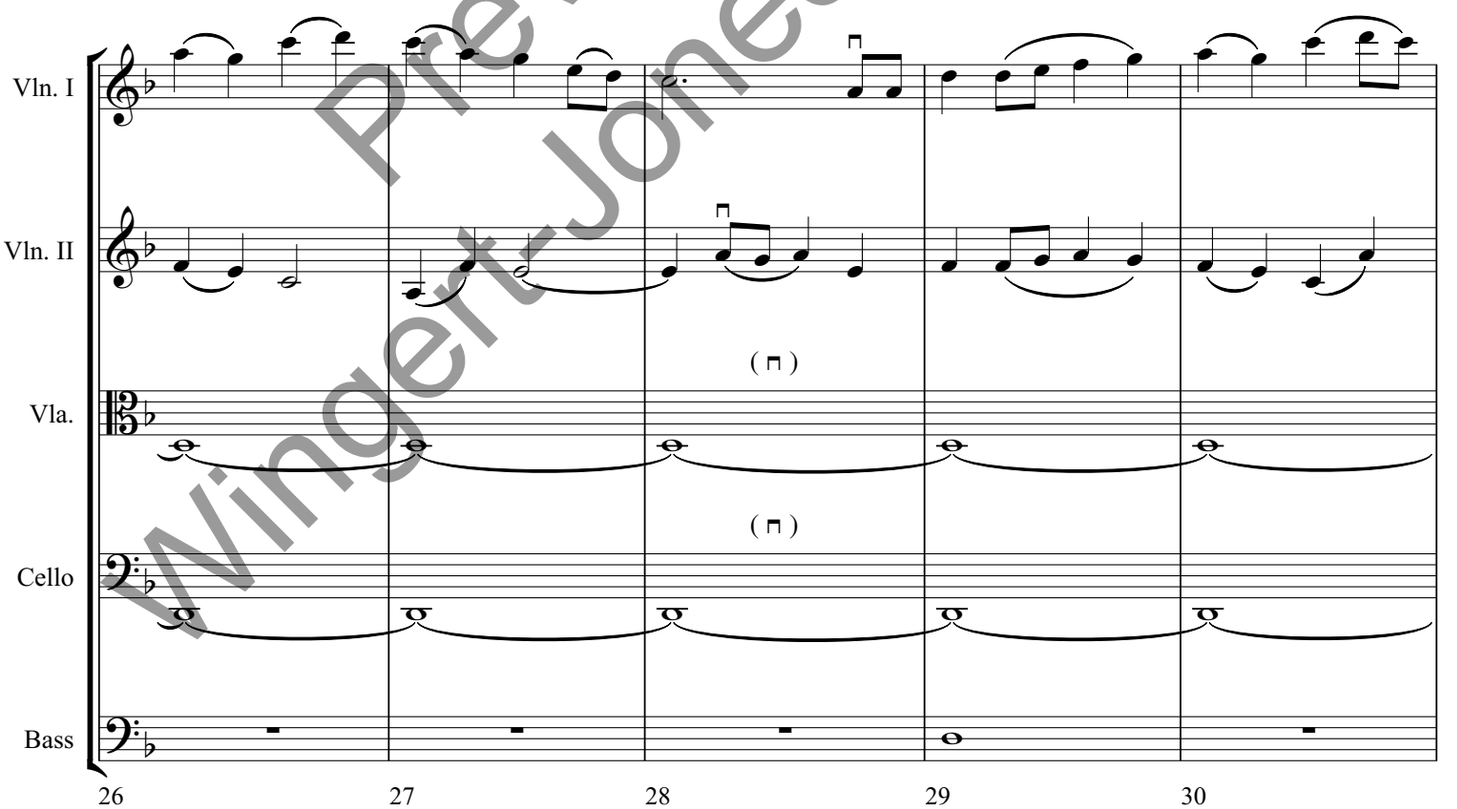

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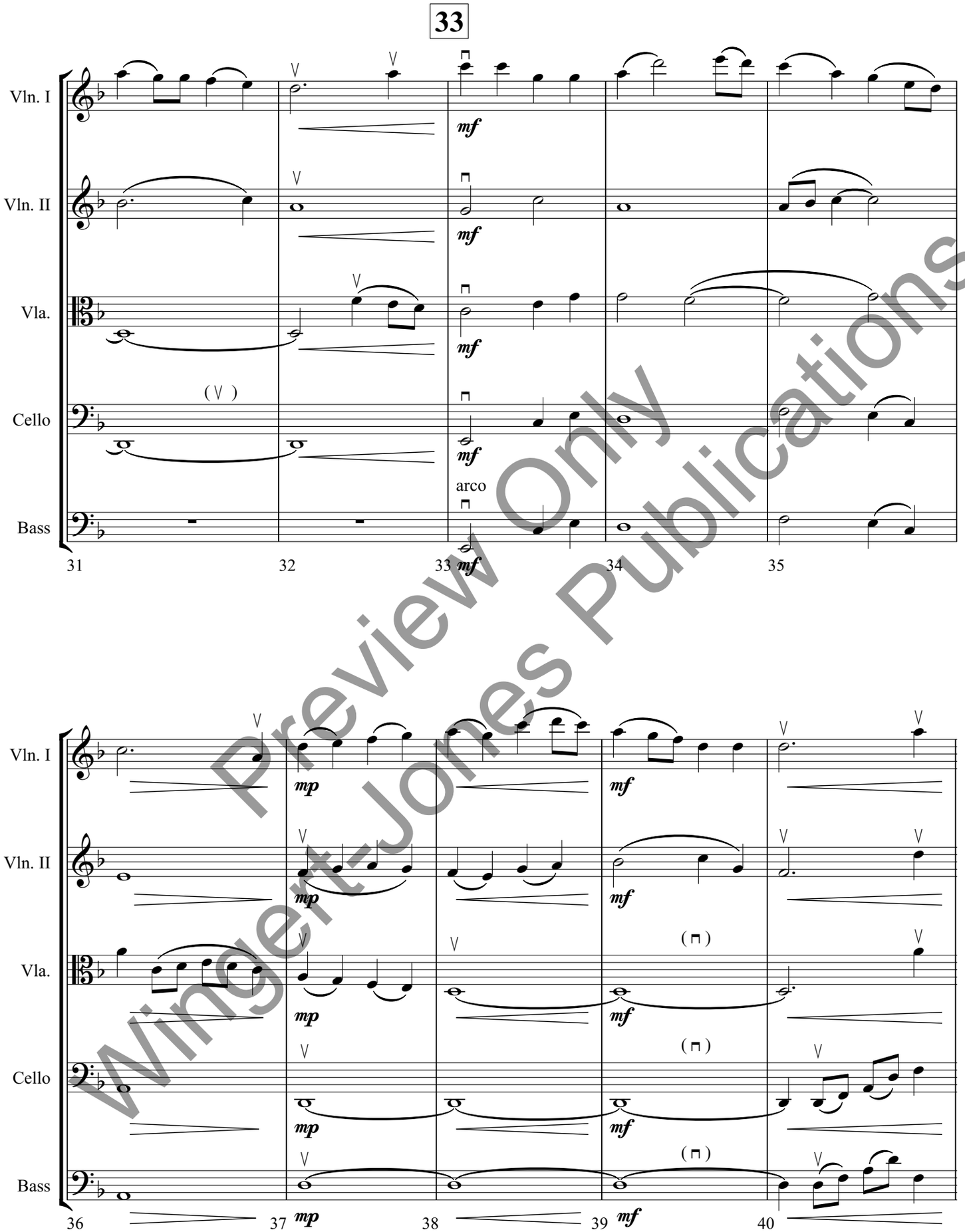

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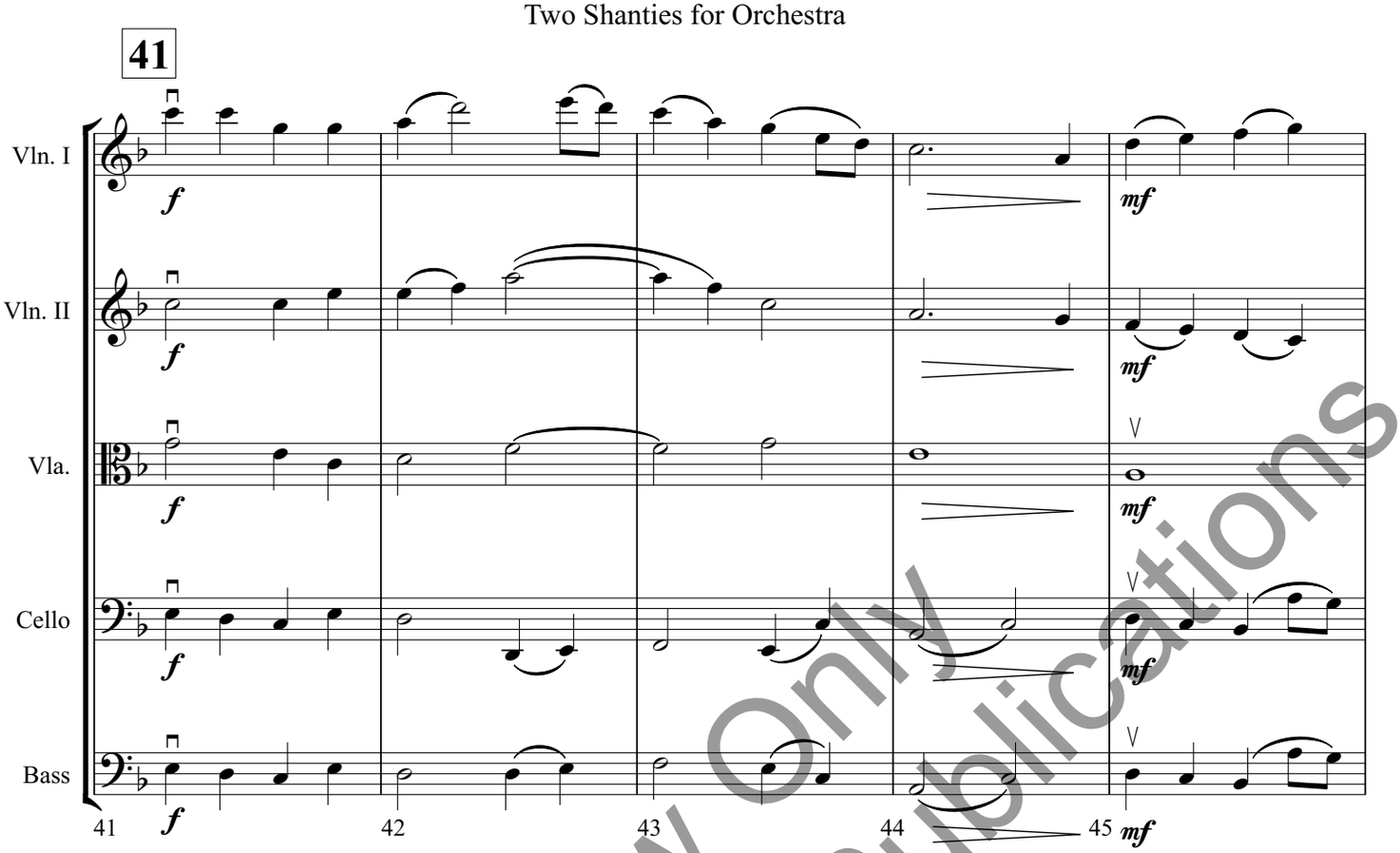

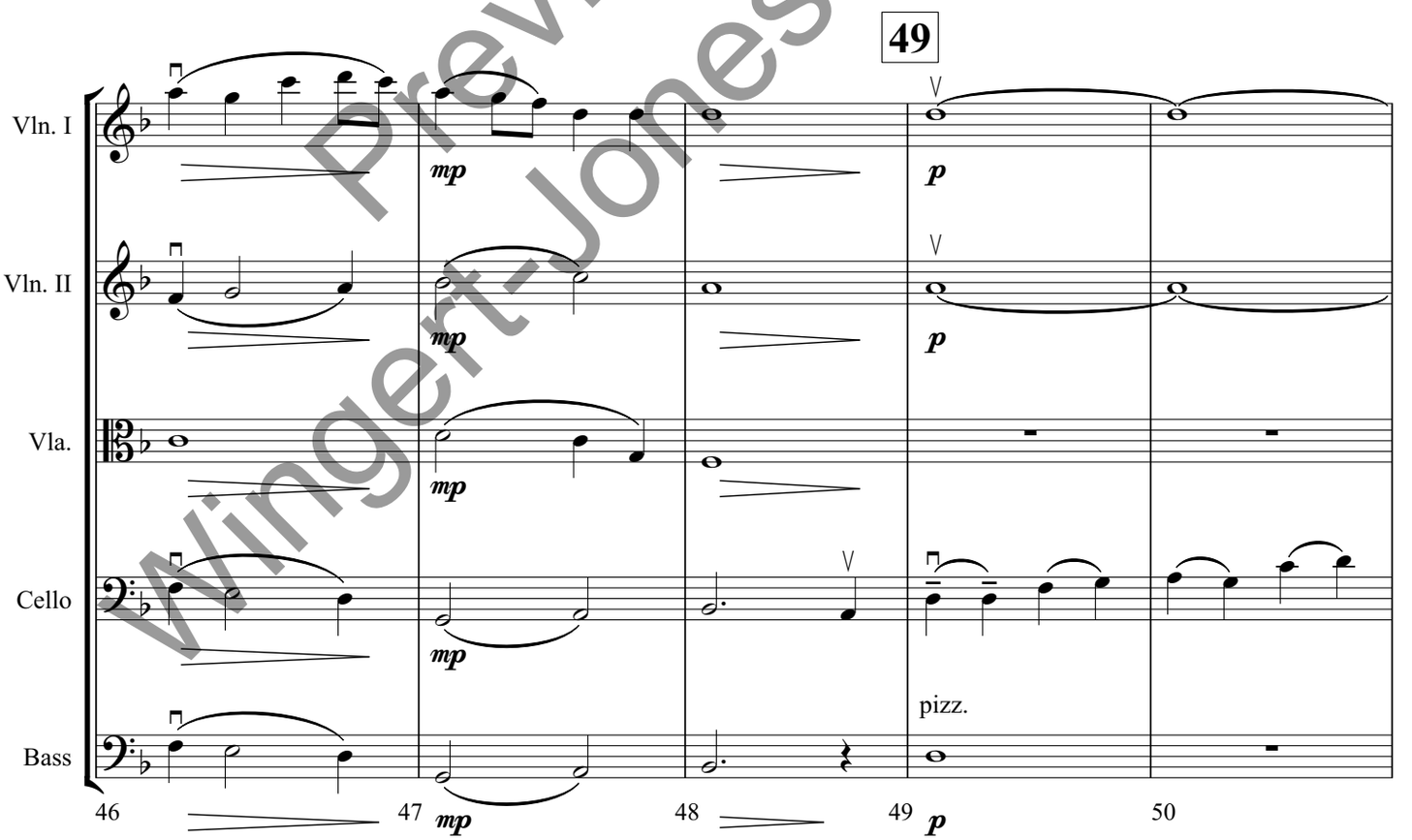

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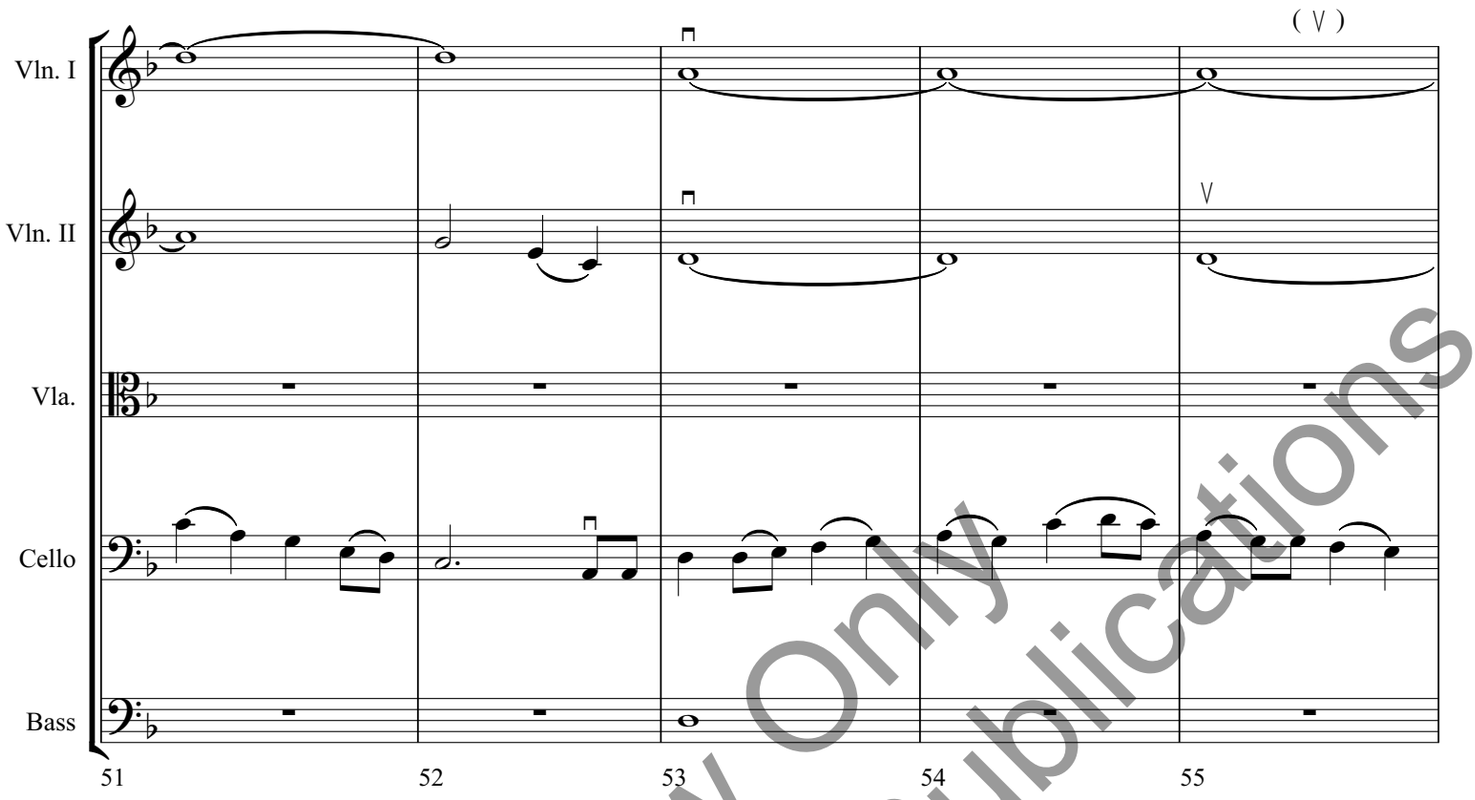

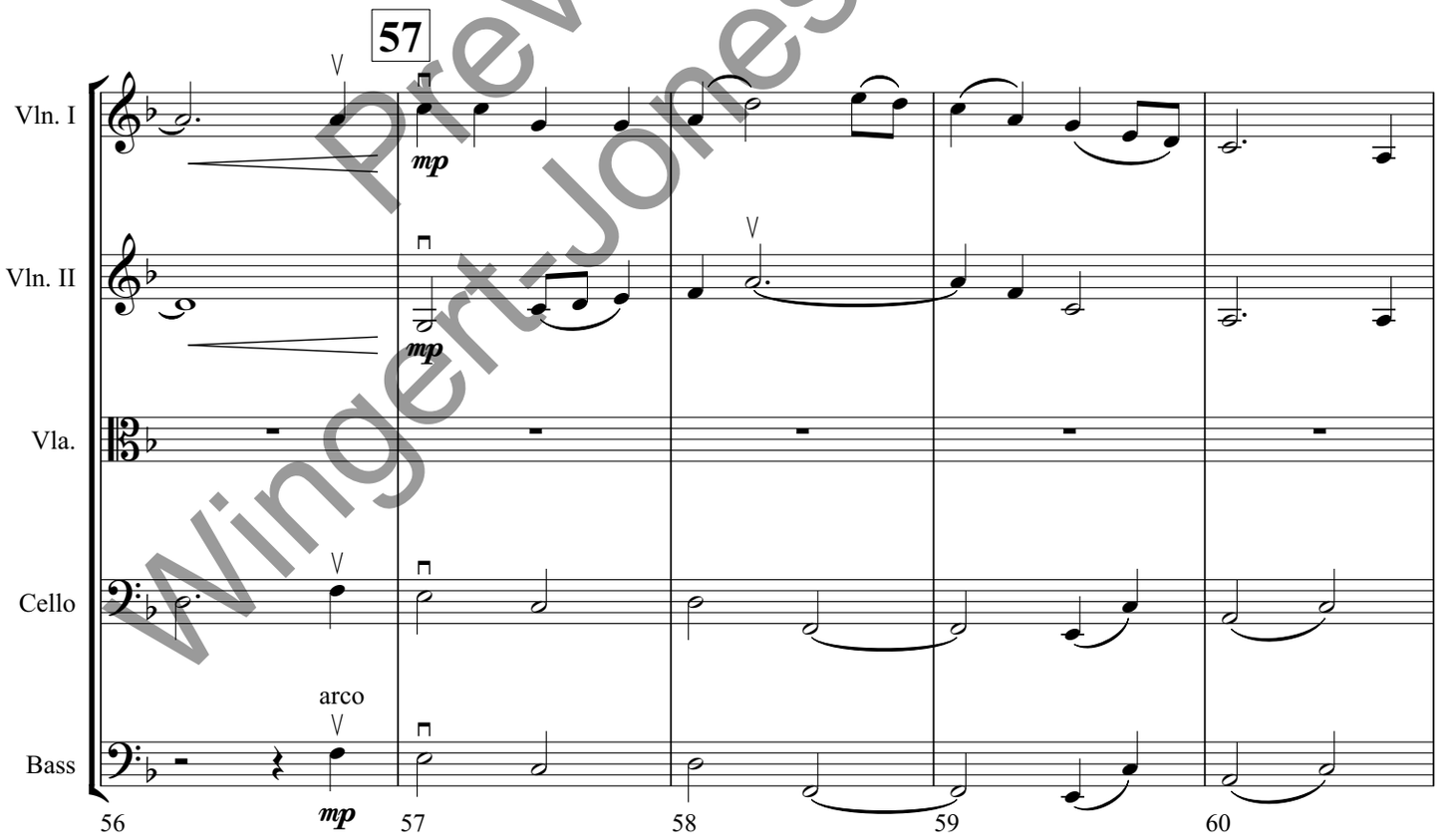

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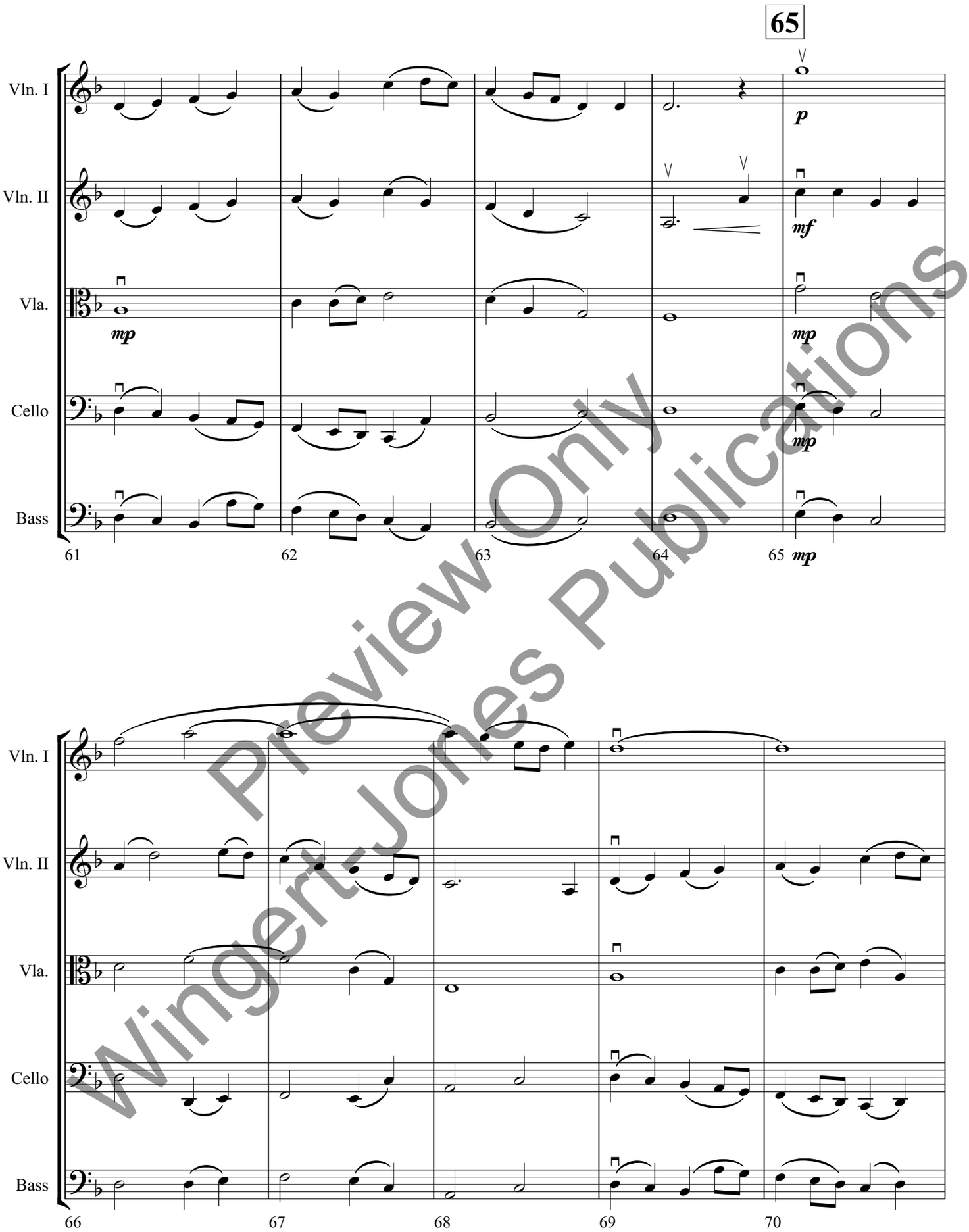

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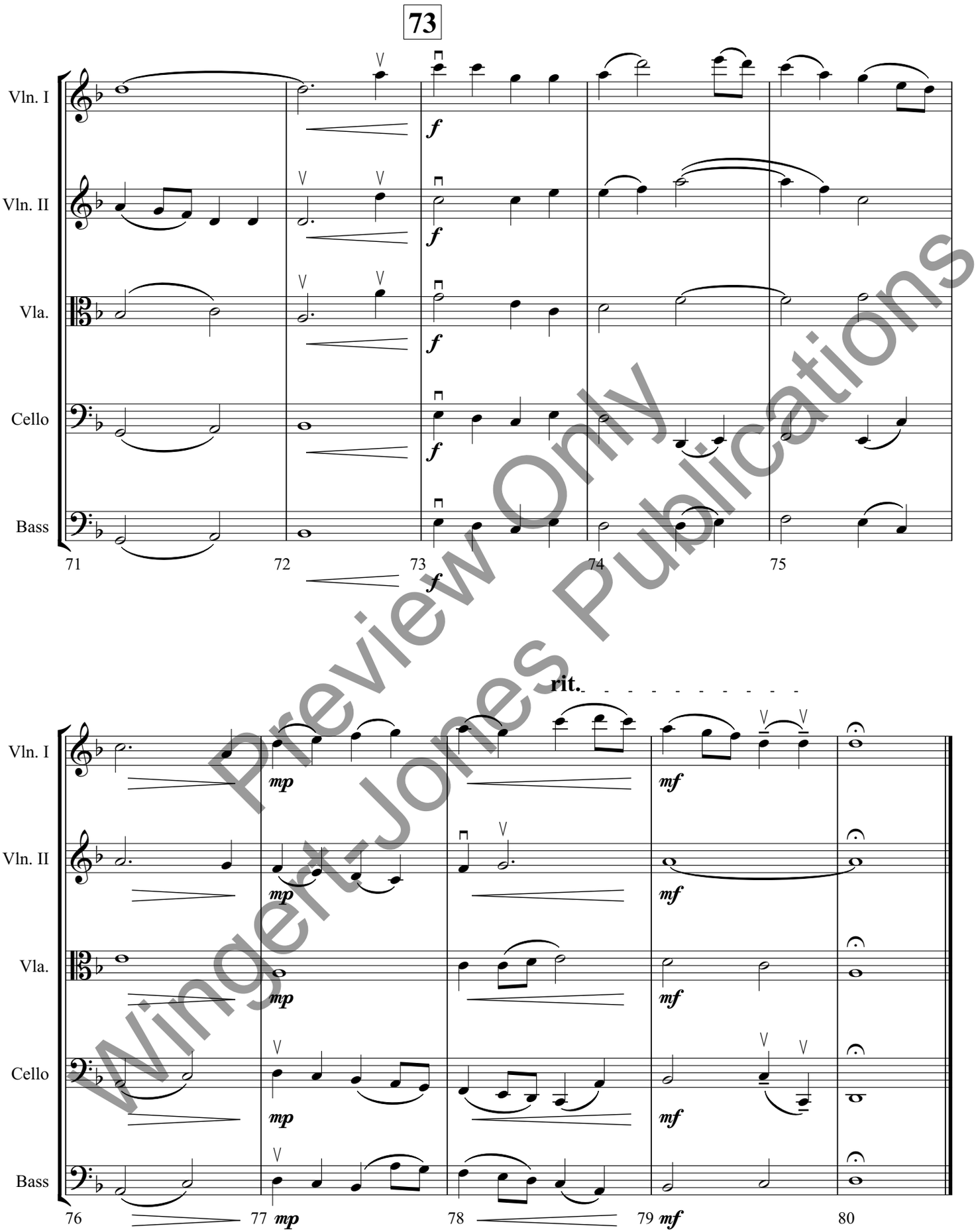

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