Byzantine Dances

CAROL BRITTIN CHAMBERS

Instrumentation

Part A

C Instruments (High) 3
(Suggested use: Flute, Violin, Guitar)

C Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Oboe, Violin, Guitar)

B♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: B♭ Clarinet, B♭ Trumpet)

E♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Alto Saxophone)

Part B

C Instruments 3
*(Suggested use: *Oboe, Violin, Guitar)*

B♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: B♭ Clarinet, B♭ Trumpet)

E♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Alto Saxophone)

Part C

C Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Violin, Guitar)

C Instruments (Alto Clef) 2
(Suggested use: Viola)

B♭ Instruments 3
*(Suggested use: B♭ Clarinet, B♭ Trumpet, *Tenor Saxophone)*

E♭ Instruments 3
*(Suggested use: Alto Saxophone, *Baritone Saxophone)*

F Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Horn in F)

Part D

C Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Trombone, Euphonium, Bassoon, Cello, String Bass)

B♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Bass Clarinet, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone T.C.)

E♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Baritone Saxophone, E♭ Contra Alto Clarinet)

F Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Horn in F)

Part E

C Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Trombone, Euphonium, Bassoon, Cello, String Bass)

B♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Bass Clarinet, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone T.C.)

E♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Baritone Saxophone, E♭ Contra Alto Clarinet)

C Instruments (low) 3
(Suggested use: Tuba)

Percussion

Timpani 2
(F: B♭: E♭)

Mallets 2
(Bells)

Percussion 1 3
(Snare Drum, High Castanet, Bass Drum)

Percussion 2 4
(Tam-tam, Suspended Cymbals, Tambourine, Tom-toms, Finger Cymbals)

Piano 1

* *This part can be used with this instrument but is not ideal*

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About the Composer

Carol Brittin Chambers is currently on the music faculty at Texas Lutheran University. She lives in San Antonio, Texas, where she is the owner and composer of Aspenwood Music. She also maintains an active performance schedule, including appearances with the Mid-Texas and San Antonio Symphonies. Chambers is commissioned each year to compose and arrange works for concert band, marching band, and various other ensembles. She has arranged and orchestrated marching shows for numerous high school bands across the country, as well as The Crossmen Drum Corps.

Before coming to TLU, Chambers taught middle school and high school band for many years in the North East Independent School District, San Antonio, TX. She also taught private lessons in NEISD. Chambers received a Master of Music in Trumpet Performance from Northwestern University and a Bachelor of Music Education from Texas Tech University. She studied under Vincent Cichowicz, John Paynter, Arnold Jacobs, James Sudduth, and Will Strieder.

About Byzantine Dances

Byzantine Dances was commissioned by the Ronald Reagan High School Band in San Antonio, TX, Dan Morrison, Greg White, Mason Daffinee, and Ray Ulibarri, directors. The piece premiered at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago, December 2018.

Byzantine Dances is generally meant to portray a set of Turkish Dances. The opening dance is fast and energetic, written in the style of a Roma Gypsy dance. During this upbeat dance, the melody incorporates grace notes that are fun to play, while the harmony and bass line incorporate enjoyable countermelodies and syncopated lines. The slower section in the middle of the piece is written in the style of a Zeybek dance. This type of dance is often performed by a solo dancer symbolizing courage and heroism. The dancer uses out-stretched arms, almost resembling a great hawk.

In this piece, I chose to incorporate some uniquely Turkish-sounding elements. Much of the melodic material is based on either the Byzantine scale or the Harmonic Major scale, both of which produce a somewhat exotic sound. Another element is the use of Turkish Zills, or finger cymbals, which are often used in dances of this region.

The Byzantine Empire, also known as the Eastern Roman Empire, lasted from about 400-1453 A.D. and covered much of the area of what is now Turkey. With the conquest of the Byzantine Empire's capital, Constantinople, the Ottoman Empire began its reign in 1453. After WWI, the Ottoman Empire fell, and the Republic of Turkey was formed in 1923.

Please enjoy *Byzantine Dances*!

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Note to the Conductor

Use this piece to introduce or reinforce the following musical concepts:

- Grace notes (optional for less-advanced players)
- Variety of styles – fast articulation vs. slower lyrical passages
- Unique body instruments, such as fingersnaps and handclaps
- Syncopation (small amount)

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Sincerely,

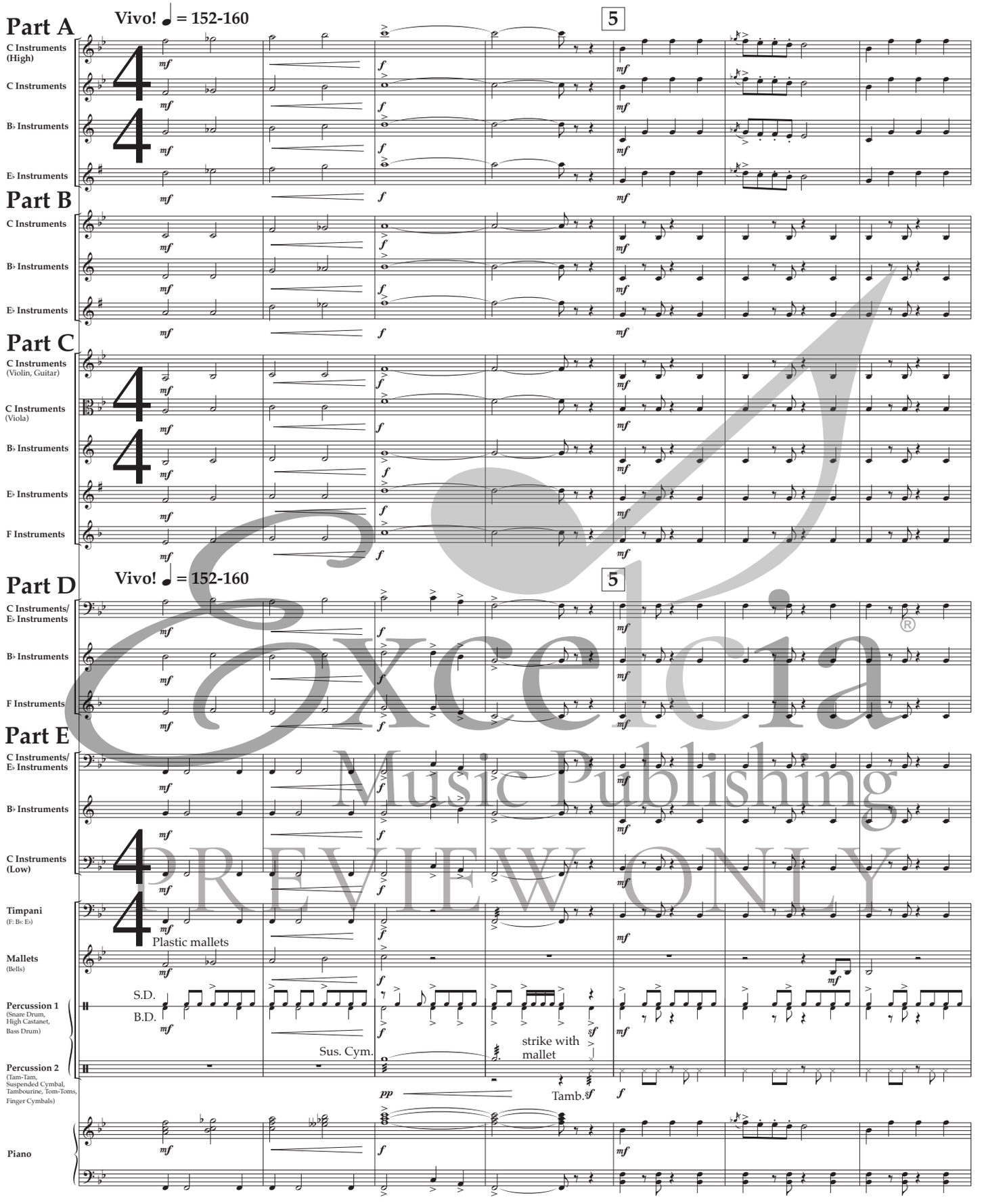
Larry Clark
President
Excelcia Music Publishing, LLC

Commissioned by the Ronald Reagan High School Band: San Antonio, TX for the 2018 Midwest Clinic
Dan Morrison, Greg White, Mason Daffinee, and Ray Ulibarri, directors

Full Score

Byzantine Dances

CAROL BRITTIN CHAMBERS
(ASCAP)



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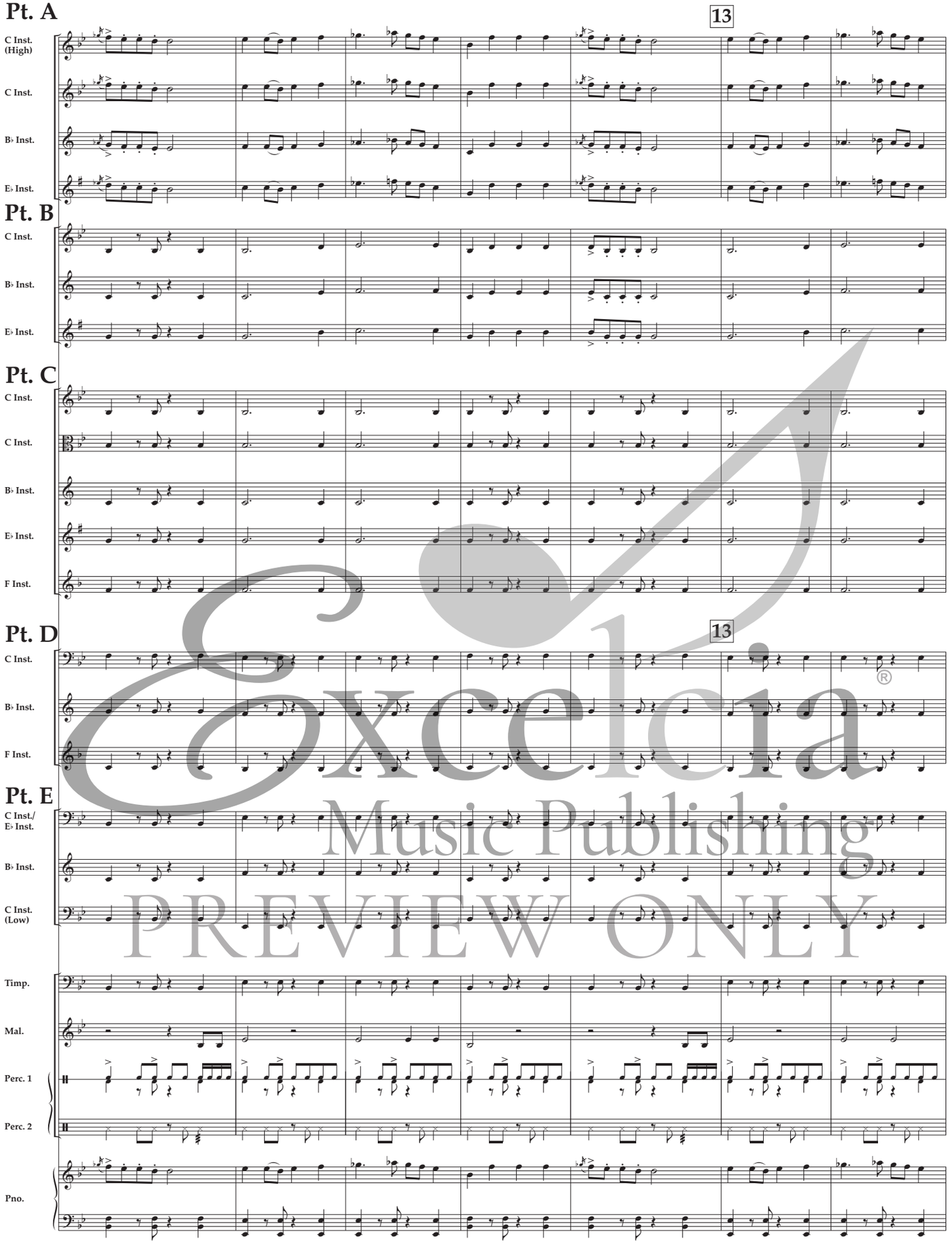

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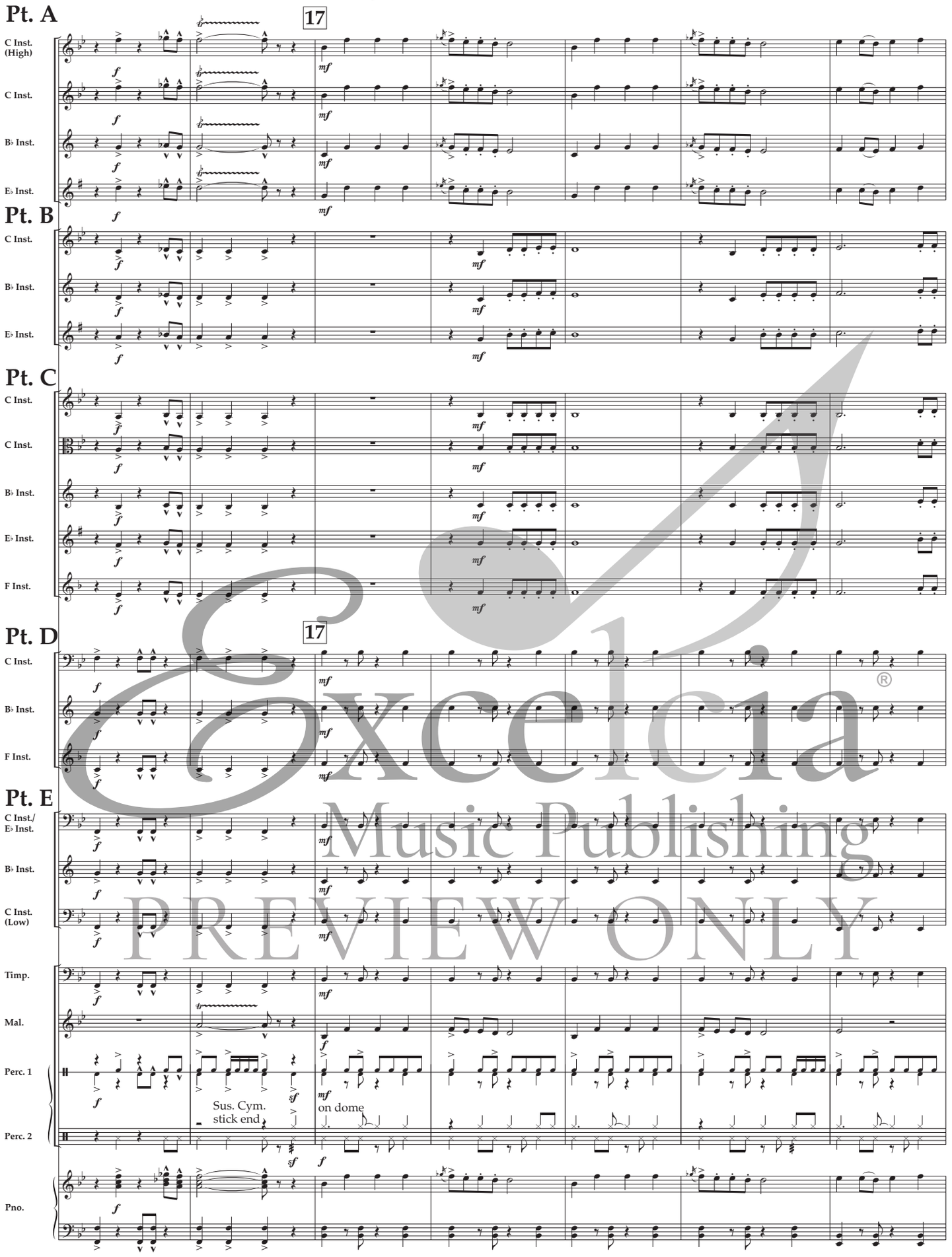

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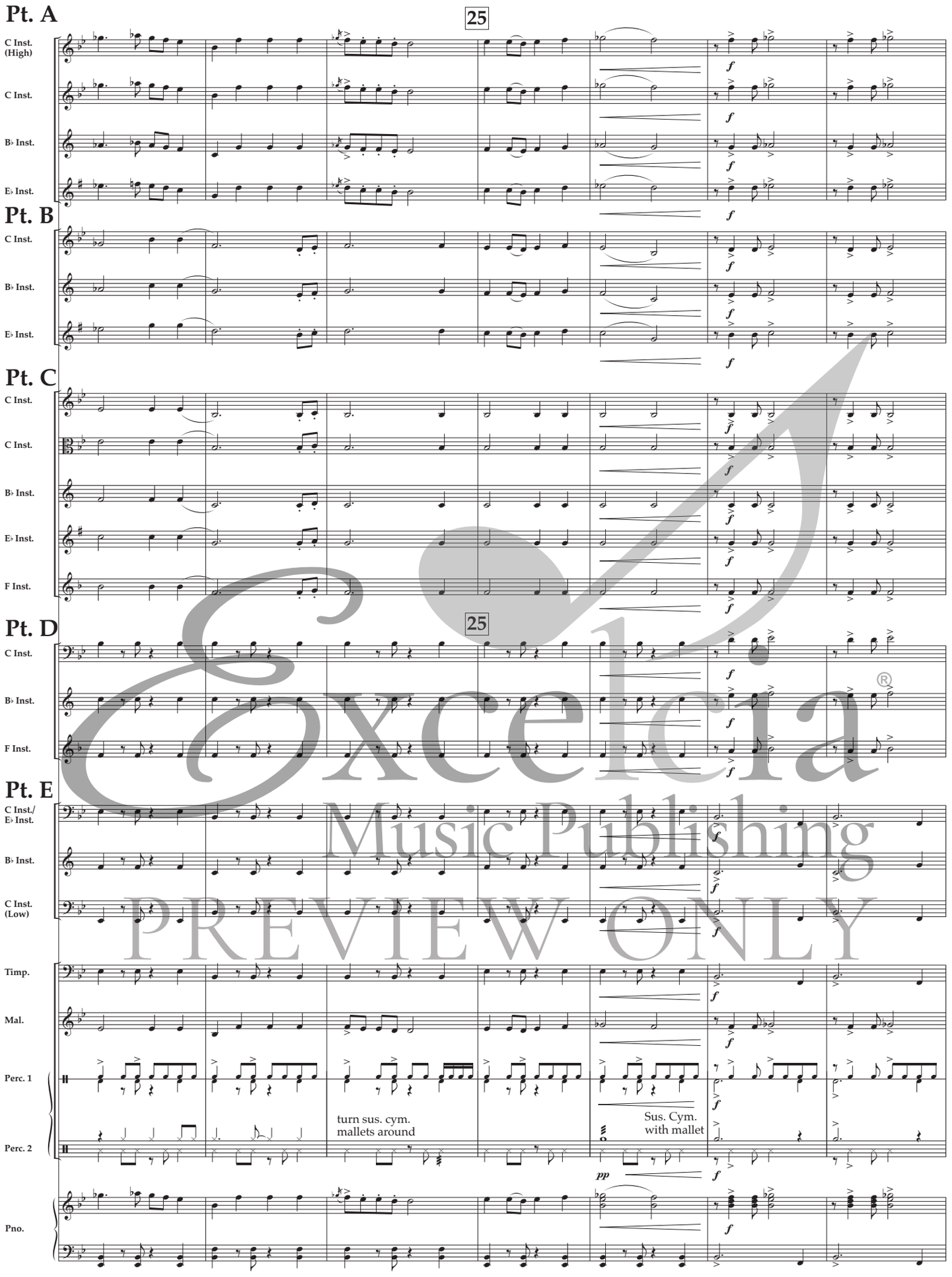

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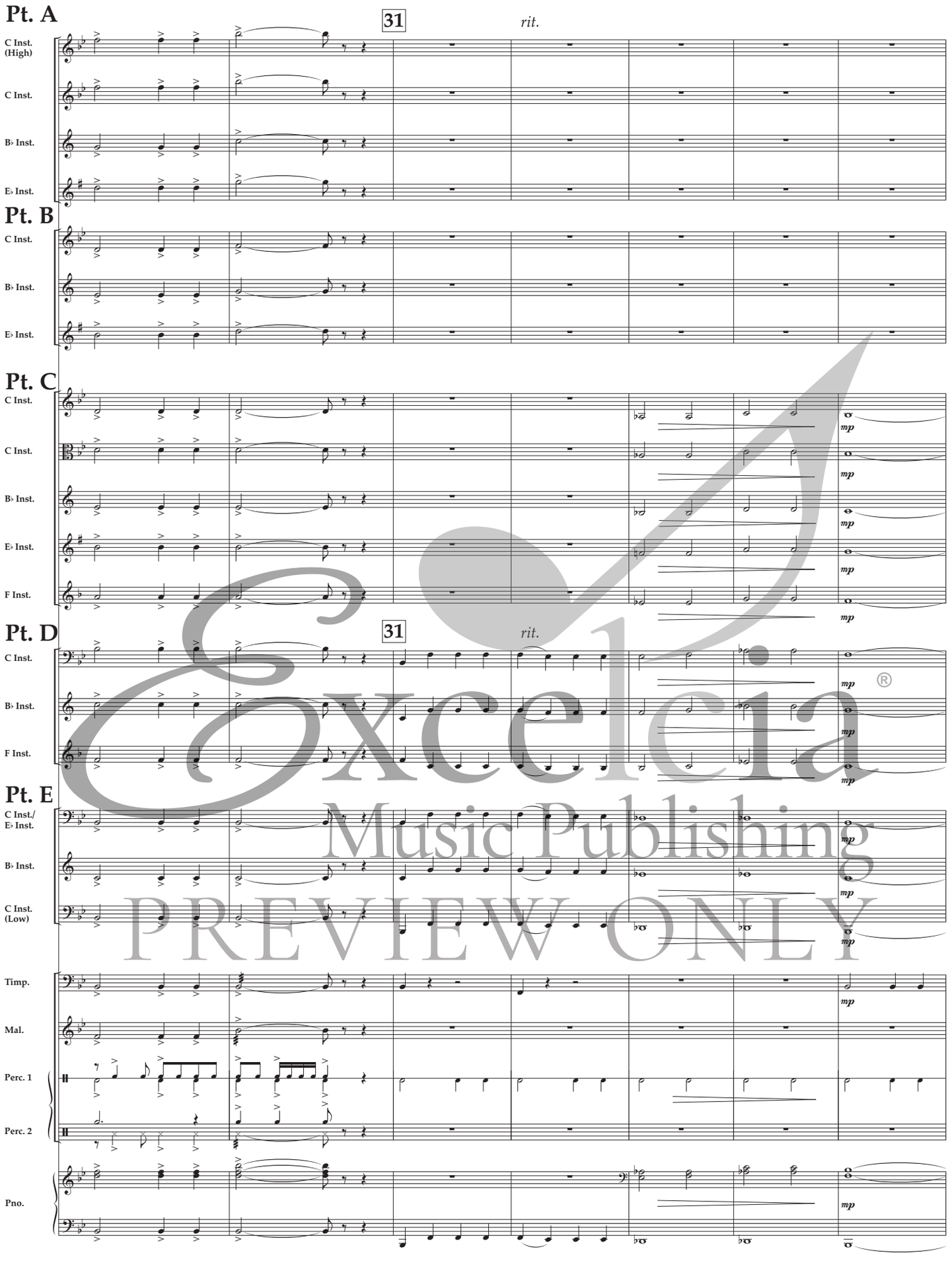

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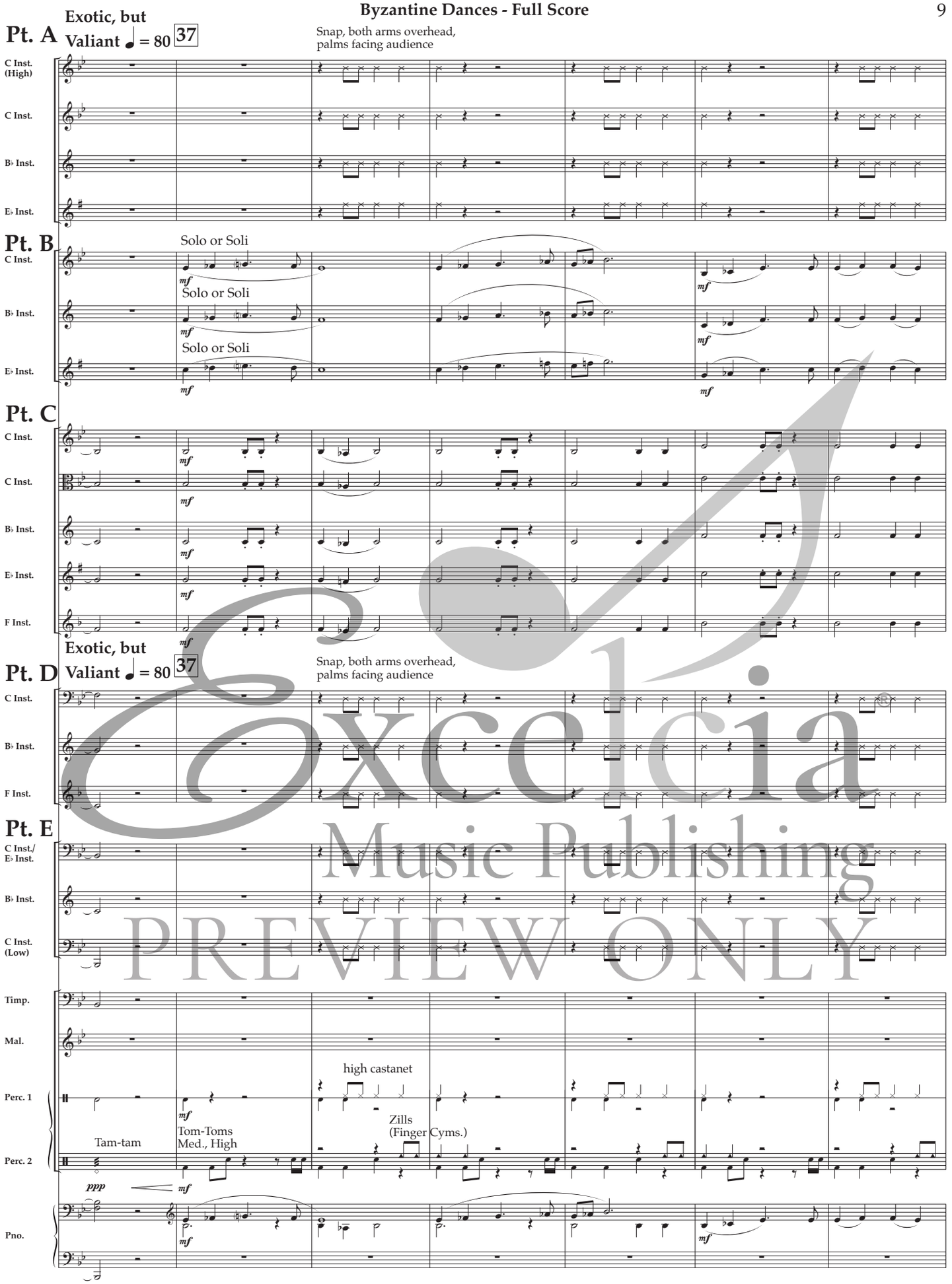

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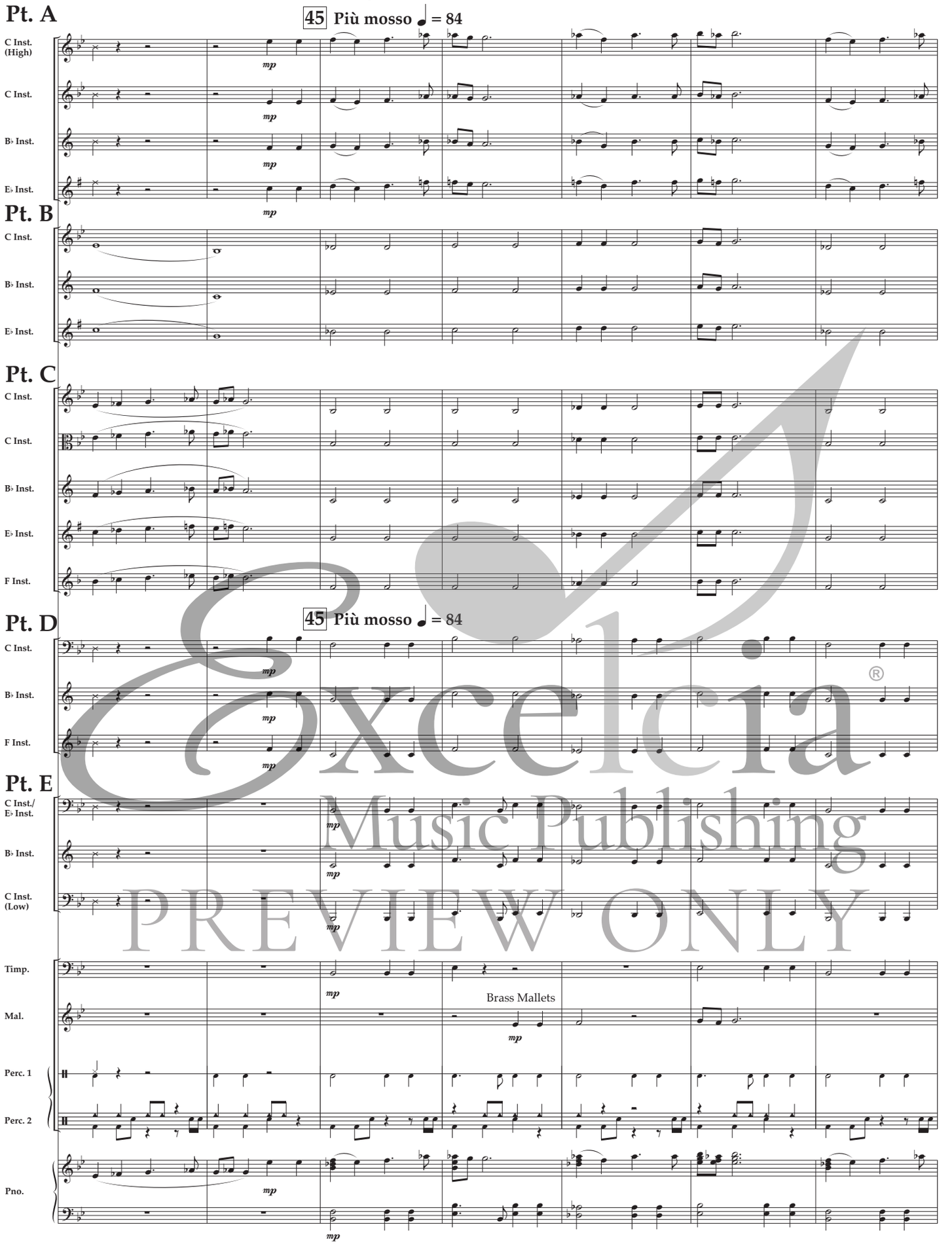

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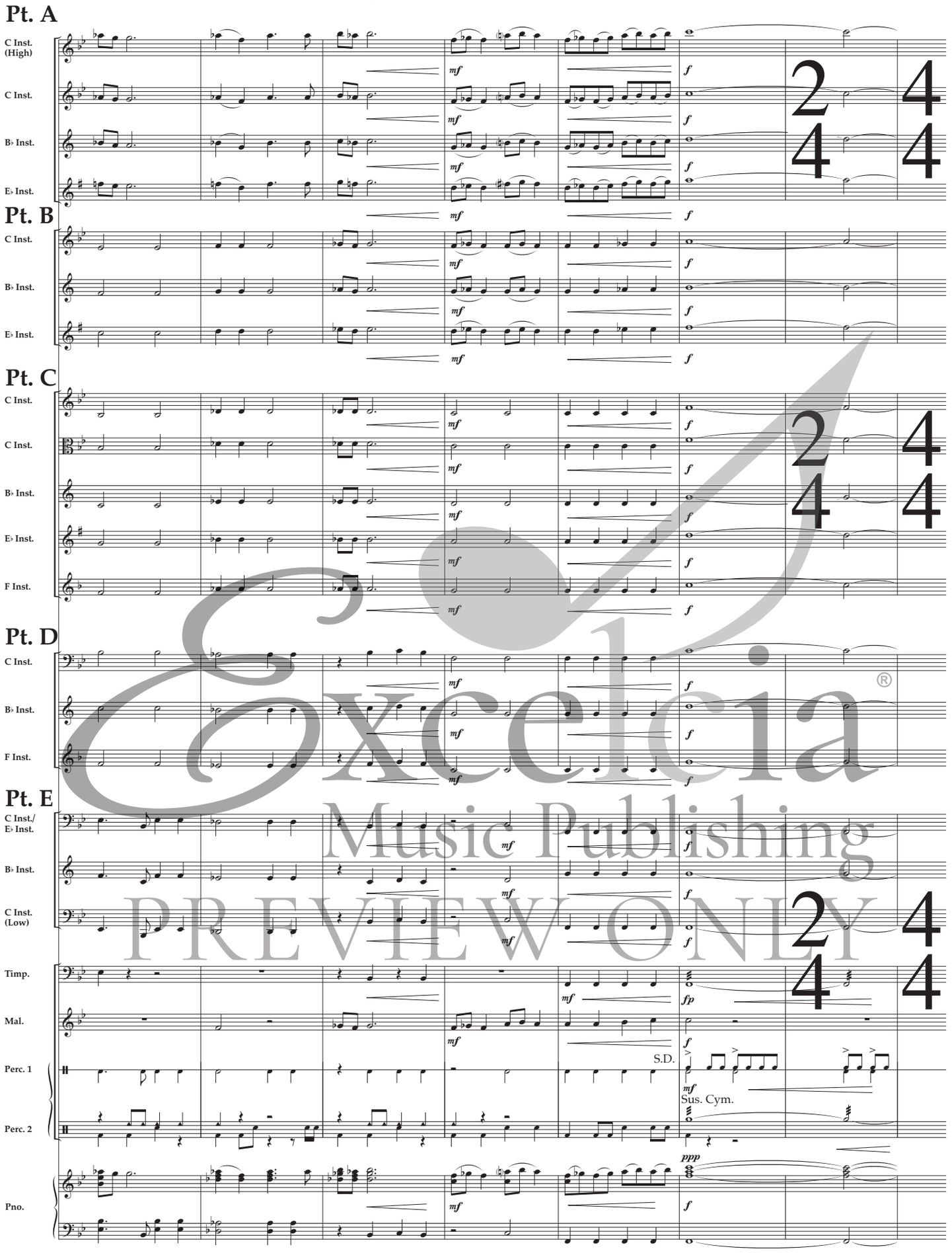

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Byzantine Dances - Full Score

Pt. A **Tempo Primo** ♩ = 152-160 58

*Note:
Hand claps should be head-high
so as to be seen by the audience.

62

C Inst. (High)
C Inst.
B♭ Inst.
E♭ Inst.

Pt. B

C Inst.
B♭ Inst.
E♭ Inst.

Pt. C

C Inst.
C Inst.
B♭ Inst.
E♭ Inst.
F Inst.

Hand Claps

Pt. D **Tempo Primo** ♩ = 152-160 58

62

C Inst.
B♭ Inst.
F Inst.

Hand Claps

Pt. E

C Inst./ E♭ Inst.
B♭ Inst.
C Inst. (Low)
Timp.
Mal.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
Pno.

Plastic mallets
Rim
strike with mallet
Tamb.

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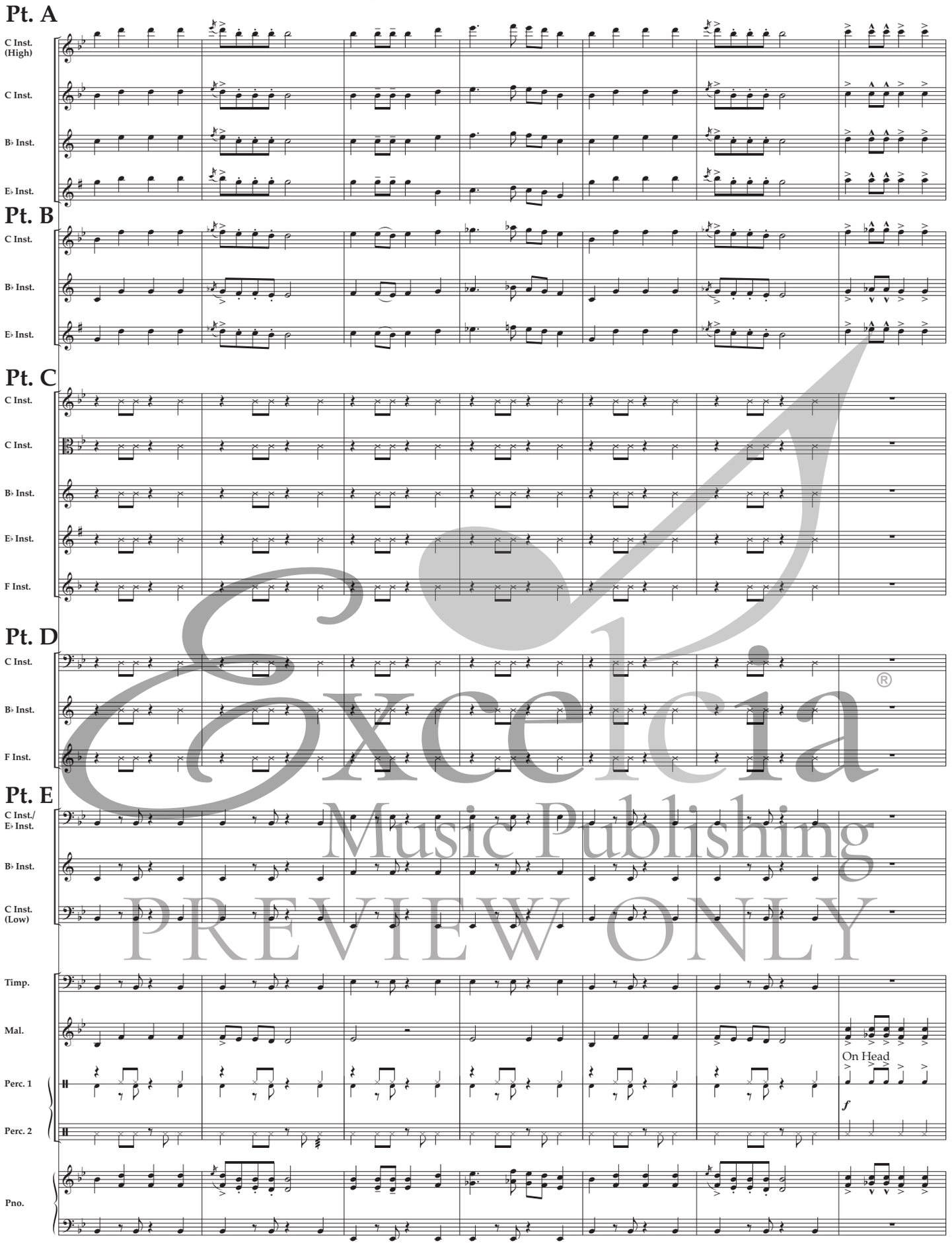
57 58 59 60 61 62 63



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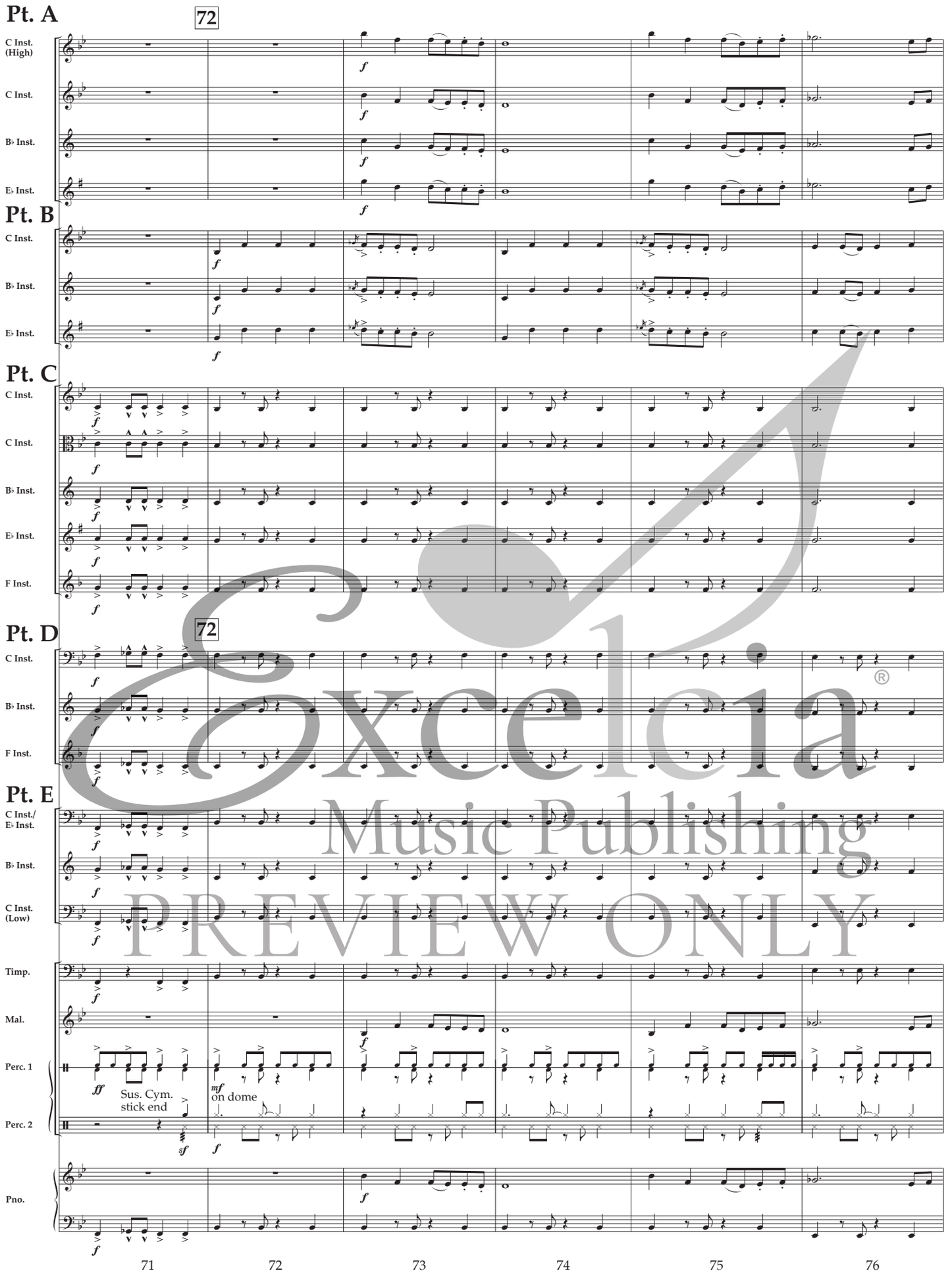

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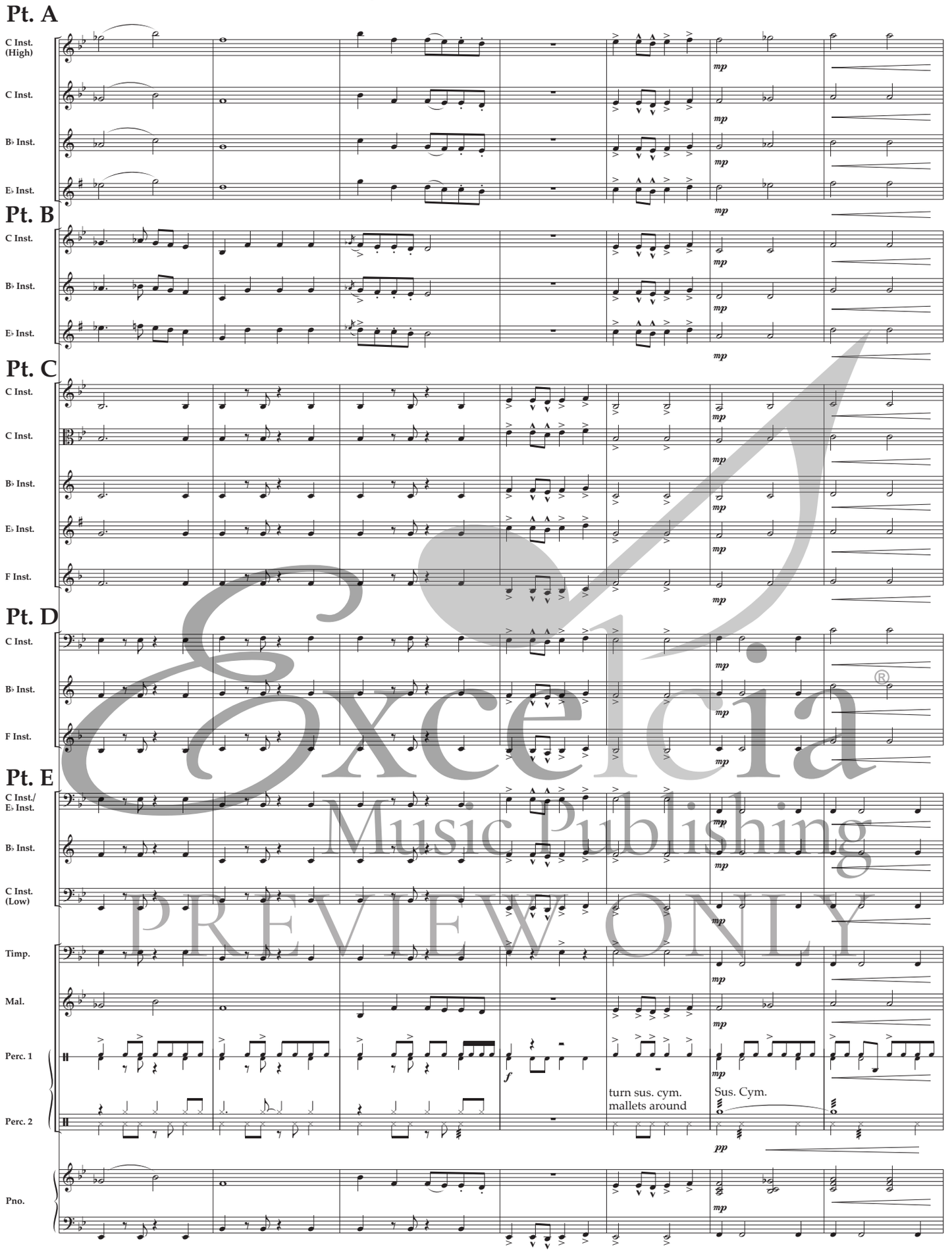

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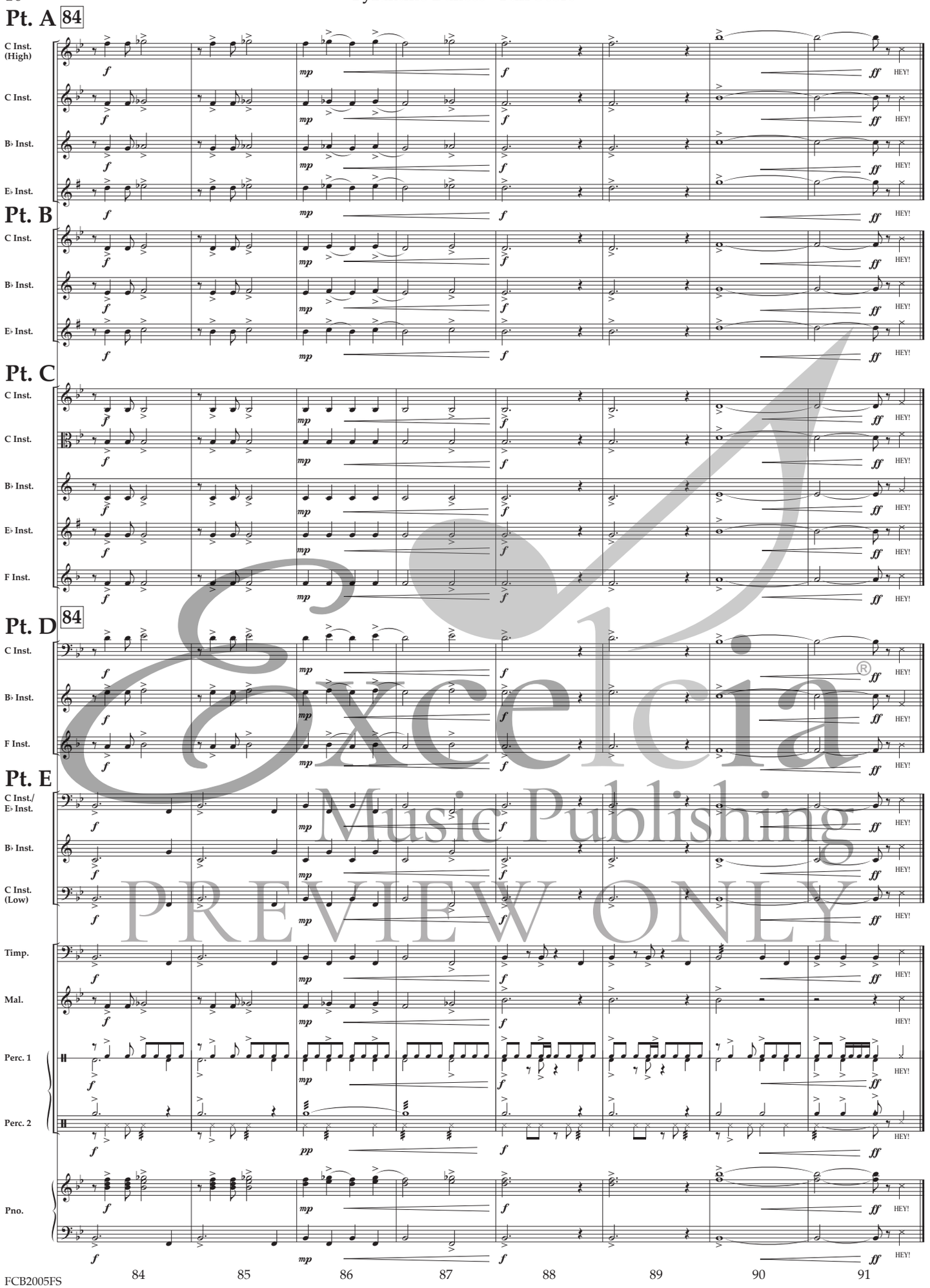

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