Dark Illumination

SEAN O'LOUGHLIN

Instrumentation

Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Viola	5
Cello	5
Bass	5
Piano (Rehearsal only)	1

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About the Composer

Sean O'Loughlin (b.1972) is the Principal Pops Conductor of Symphoria, the exciting new symphony in Syracuse, NY and the newly appointed Principal Pops Conductor of the Victoria Symphony in Victoria, B.C. Canada. His music is characterized by vibrant rhythms, passionate melodies, and colorful scoring. As a conductor and arranger, he has led performances with the Boston Pops Orchestra, the San Francisco Symphony, the Chicago Symphony, the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Dallas Symphony, the Atlanta Symphony, the Houston Symphony and the Seattle Symphony amongst others. He has served as conductor for national and world-wide tours with Josh Groban, Sarah McLachlan, and the Jerry Garcia Symphonic Celebration. He has also appeared on ABC's Good Morning America with Josh Groban and NBC's "A Very Pentatonix Christmas."

Recent collaborations include such artists as Sarah McLachlan, Adele, Josh Groban, Pentatonix, Steven Tyler and Joe Perry, Kelly Clarkson, Diana Ross, Journey, Melissa Etheridge, Weird Al Yankovic, Blue Man Group, Janelle Monáe, Audra McDonald, Hall and Oates, Gloria Estefan, the Indigo Girls, Diana Krall, Itzhak Perlman, Brandi Carlile, Martina McBride, and others.

Through his growing number of commissioned and published works, Sean is excited to continue contributing to the rich history of orchestral and wind band literature. His music is published by Excelcia Music, Hal Leonard and Carl Fischer. He is a frequent guest conductor with professional orchestras around the country and abroad. An annual ASCAP Special Awards winner, Sean was a composition fellow at the Henry Mancini Institute in Los Angeles, and holds composition degrees from New England Conservatory and Syracuse University.

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Dark Illumination was commissioned by the Mona Shores Orchestra Parents Association and dedicated to the Mona Shores High School Orchestra students of Norton Shores, Michigan, and their director, Kelly DeRose. The title comes directly from the students' suggestions and reflects their musical ideas and interests.

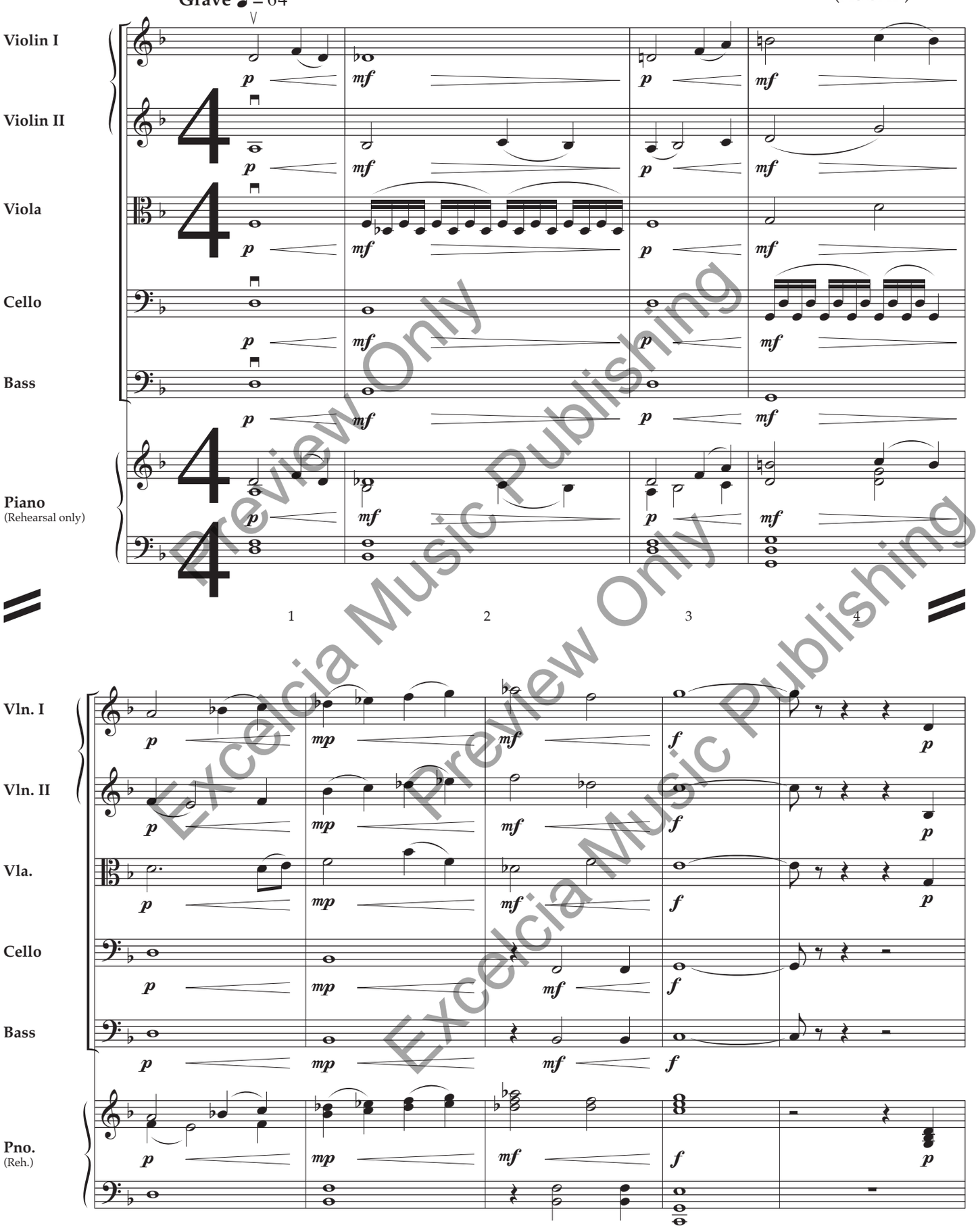
This composition was originally written for full orchestra; however, I felt the music would translate well to string orchestra. It is very cinematic in nature, to reflect the suggestions of the students. The work begins with a simple yet haunting melodic idea in the first violins. The pulse quickens at bar 12 to establish a new sonic environment. The melody returns at bar 30 over the top of this pulse. A section at bar 46 follows with some interplay between *col legno* and *pizzicato* techniques. The music turns more passionate at bar 58 and builds to a big moment at bar 72.

The fast pulse returns at bar 73 setting up a presentation of the melody in the low strings in augmentation. The voices in the ensemble come together for a final arrival at bar 105. There is a postlude at bar 111 that ties up the different elements of the work into a dramatic ending

Commissioned by the Mona Shores Orchestra Parents Association and dedicated to the Mona Shores High School Orchestra students of Norton Shores, Michigan, and their director, Kelly De Rose

Dark Illumination

SEAN O'LOUGHLIN
(ASCAP)



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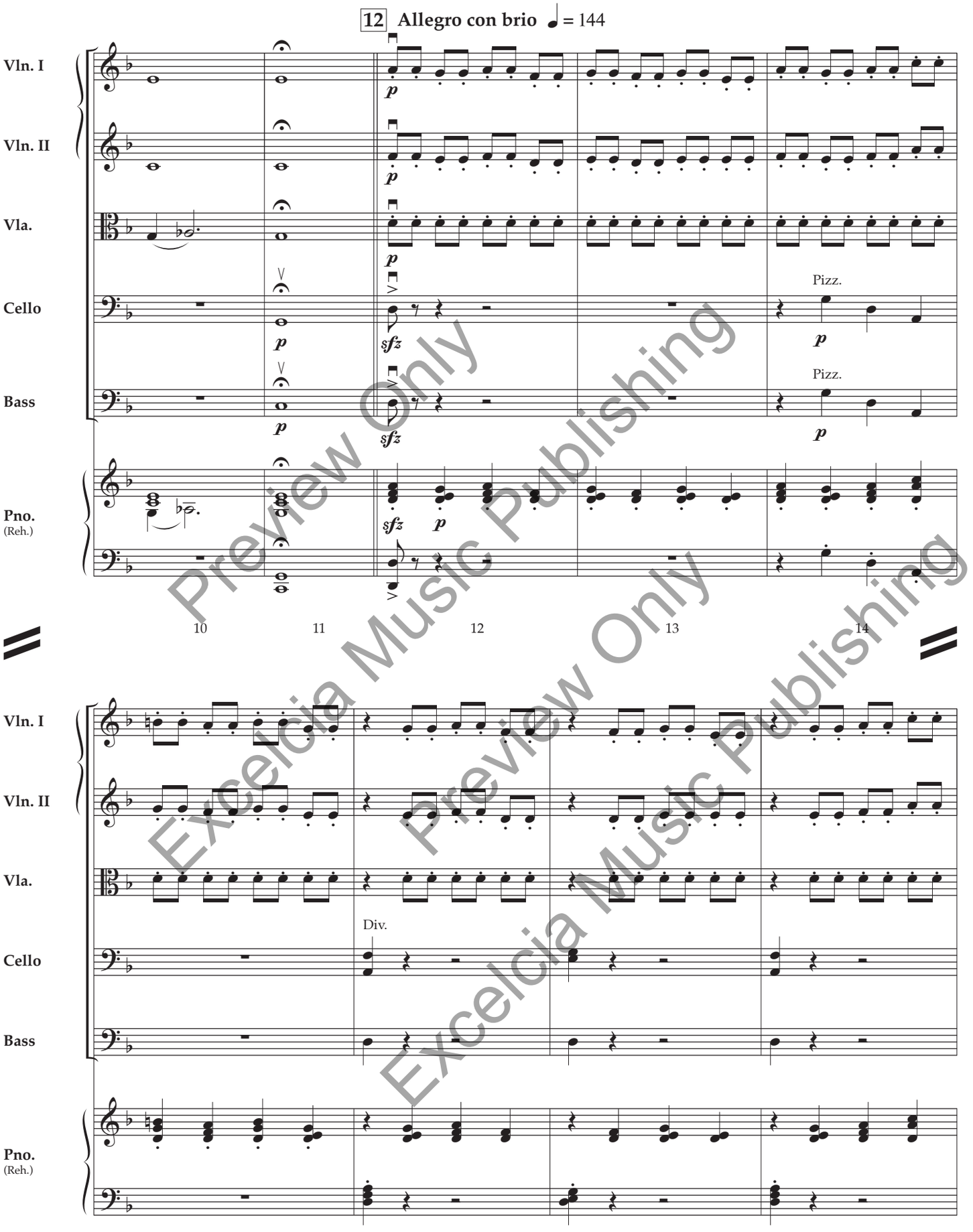

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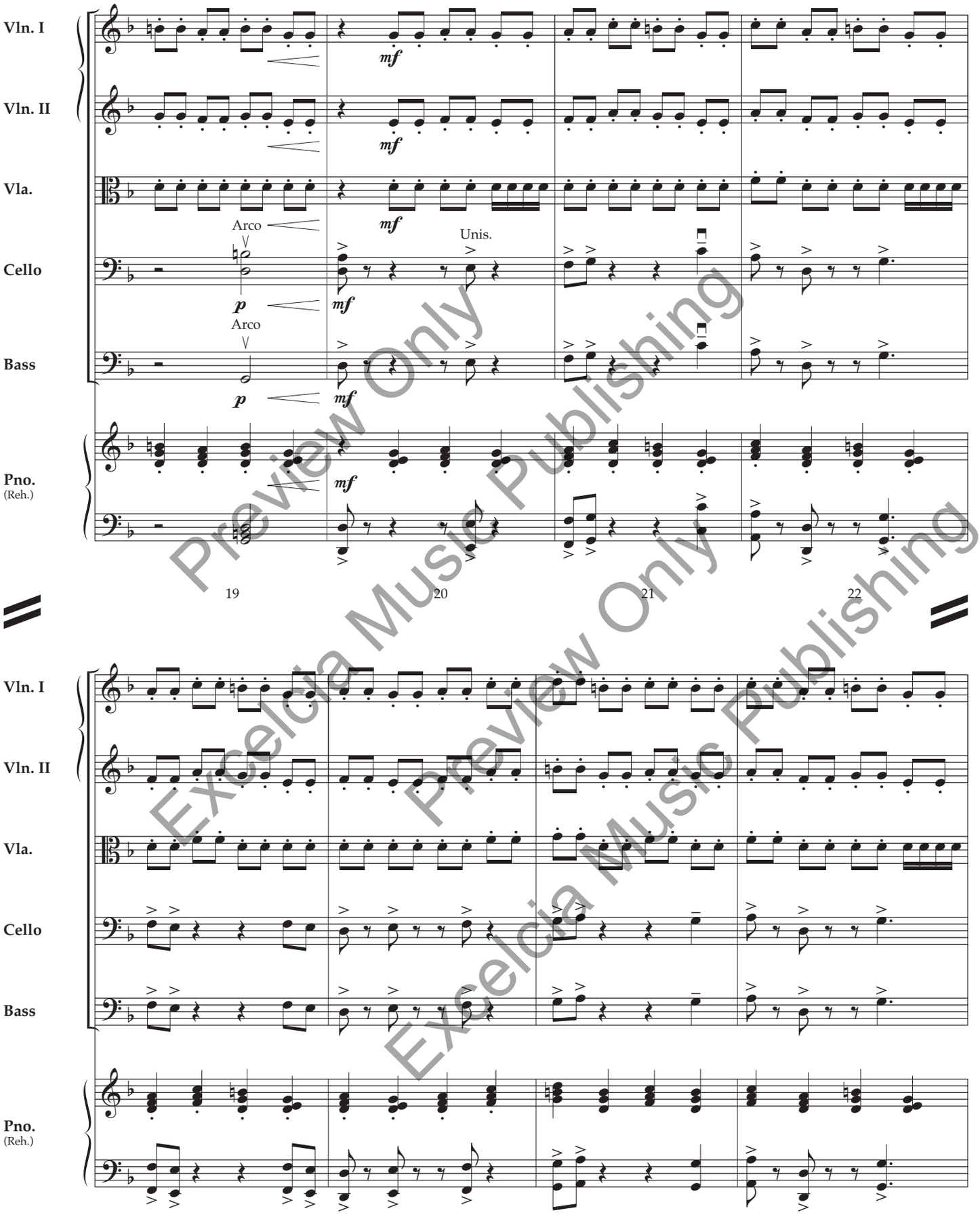

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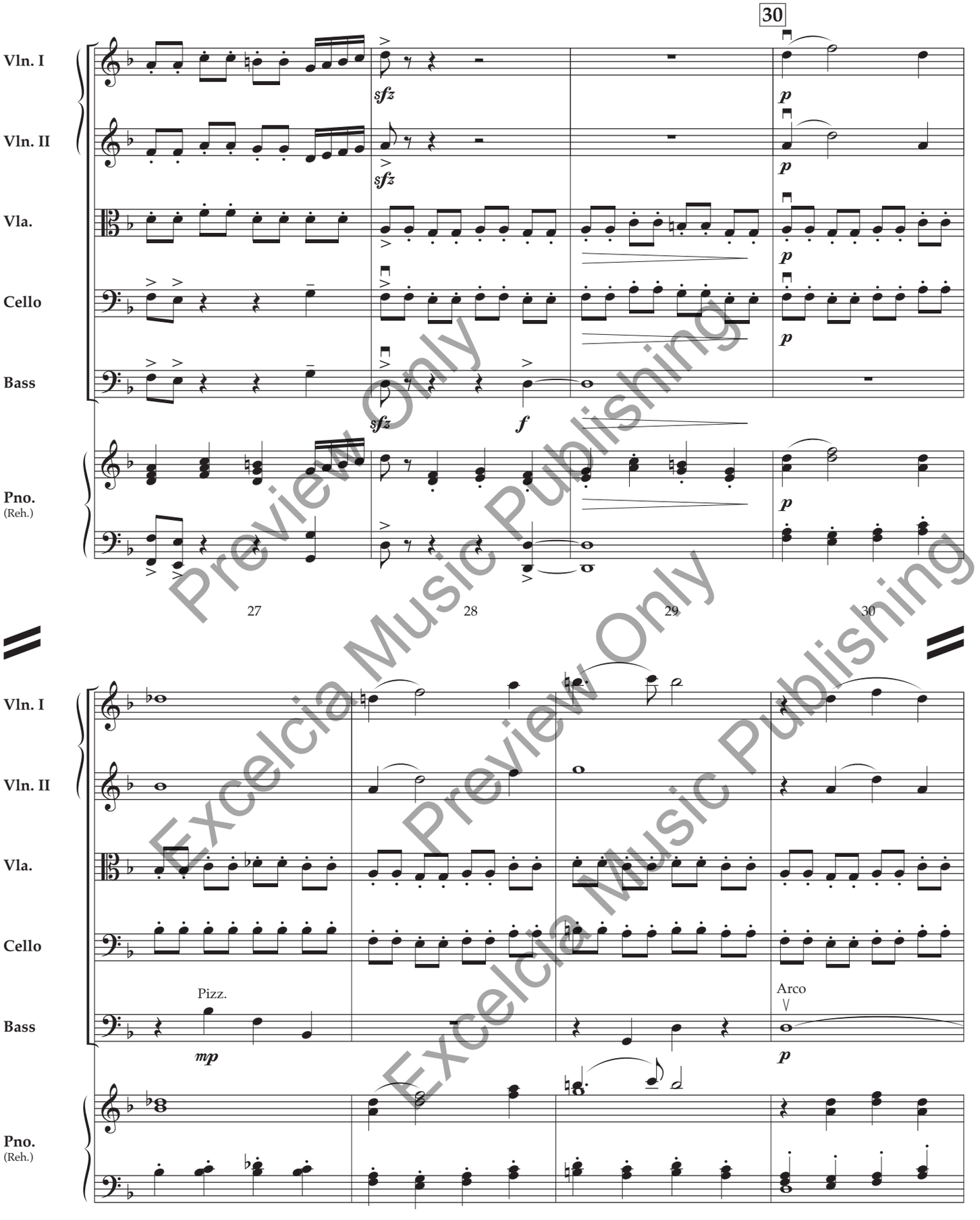

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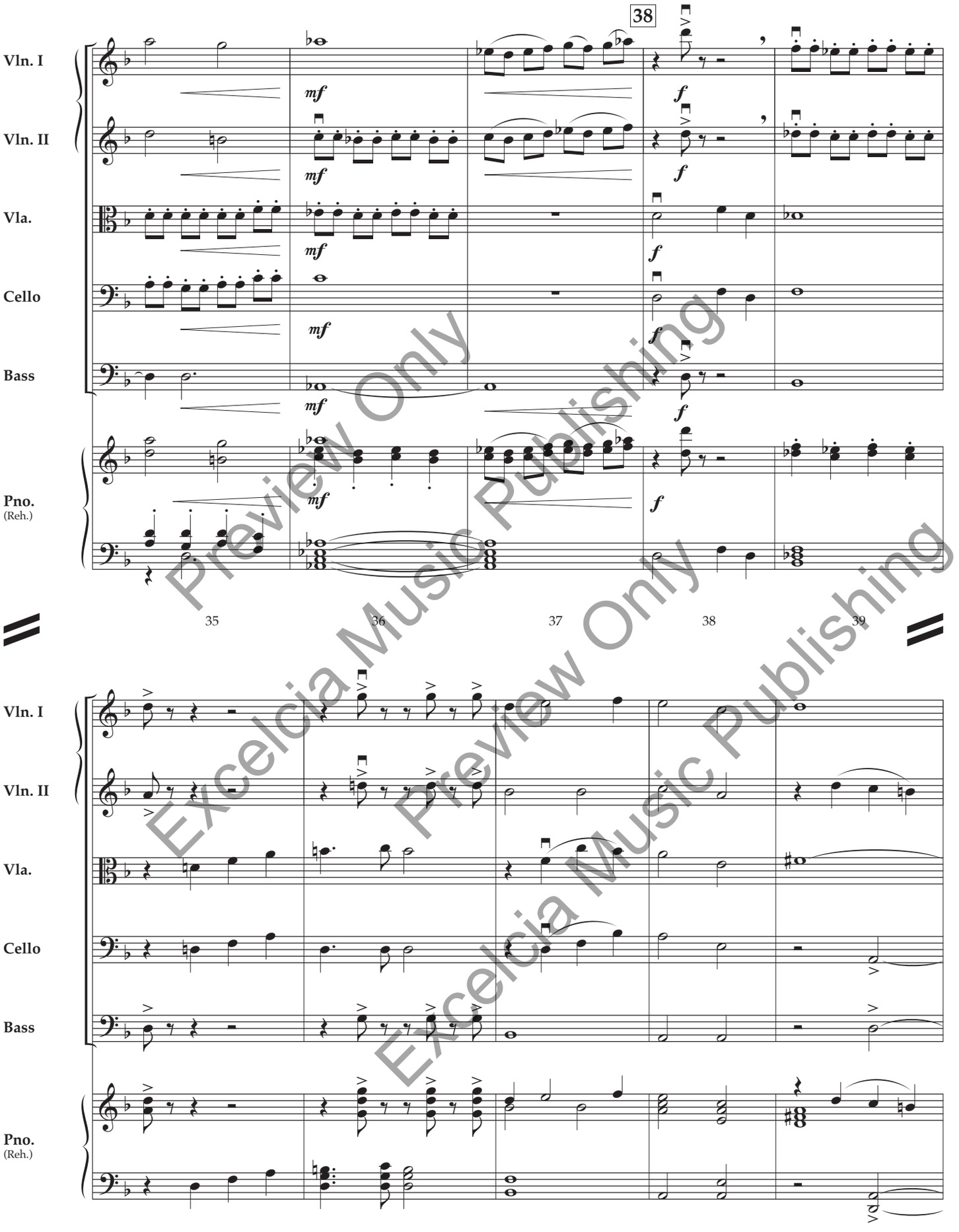

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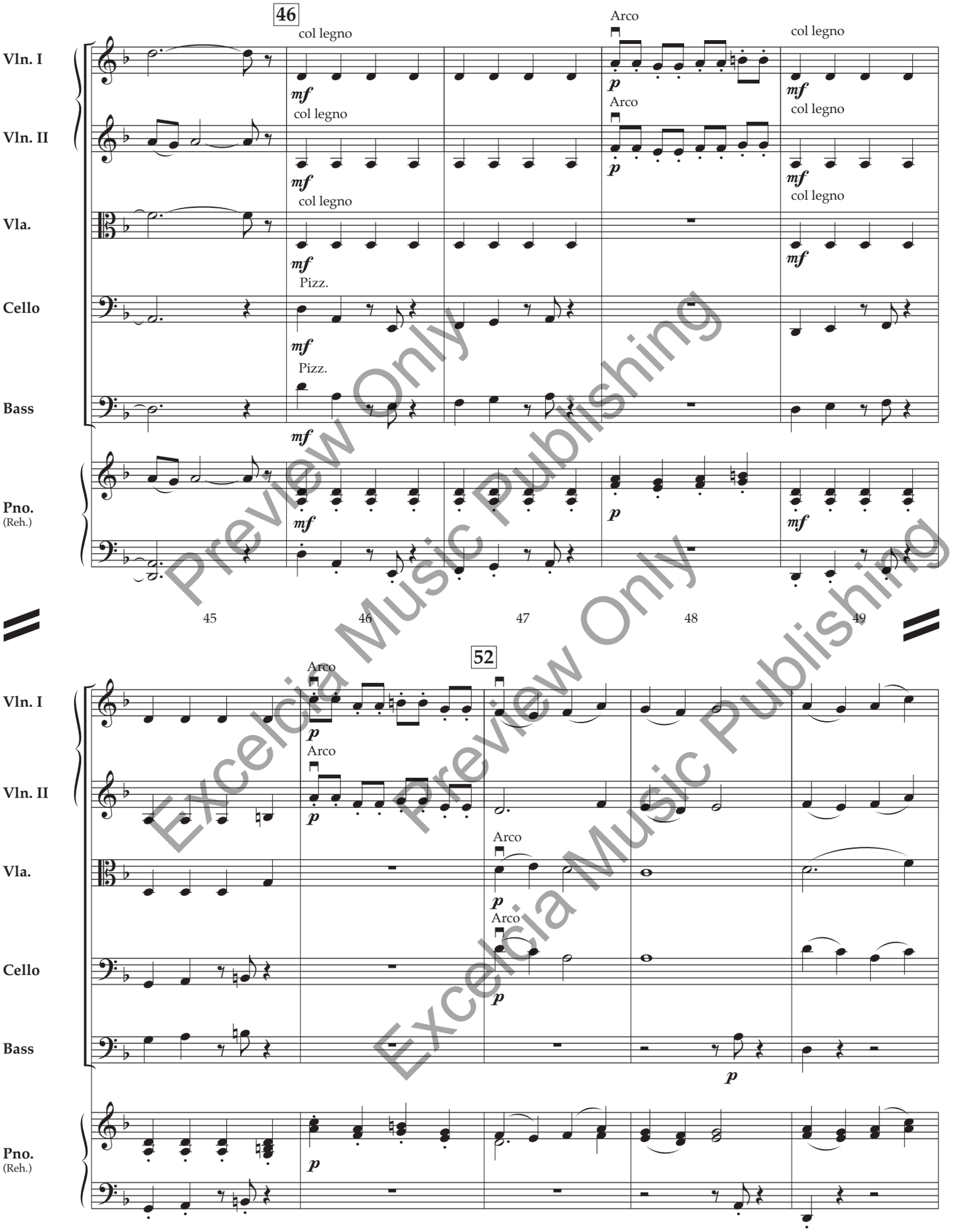

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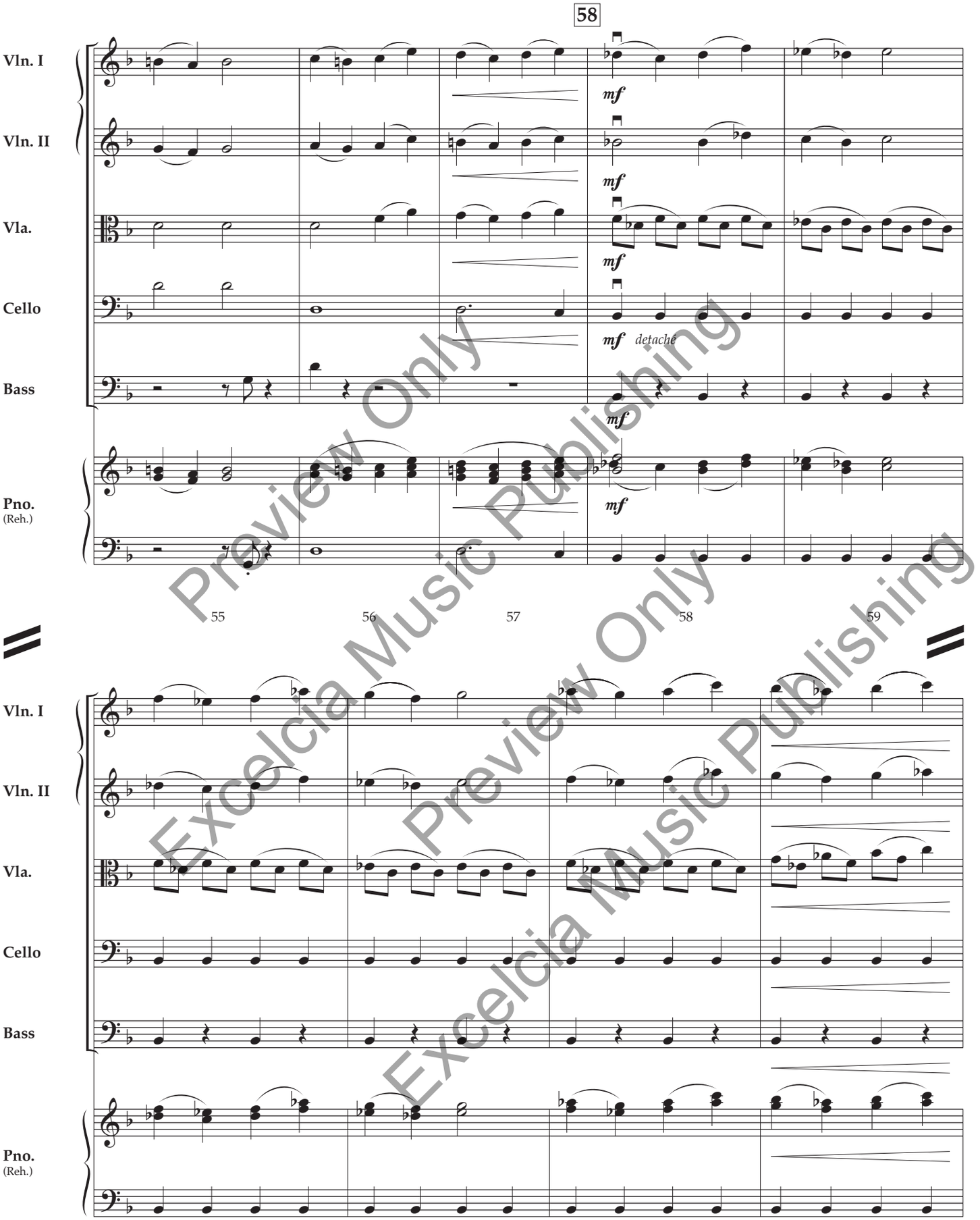

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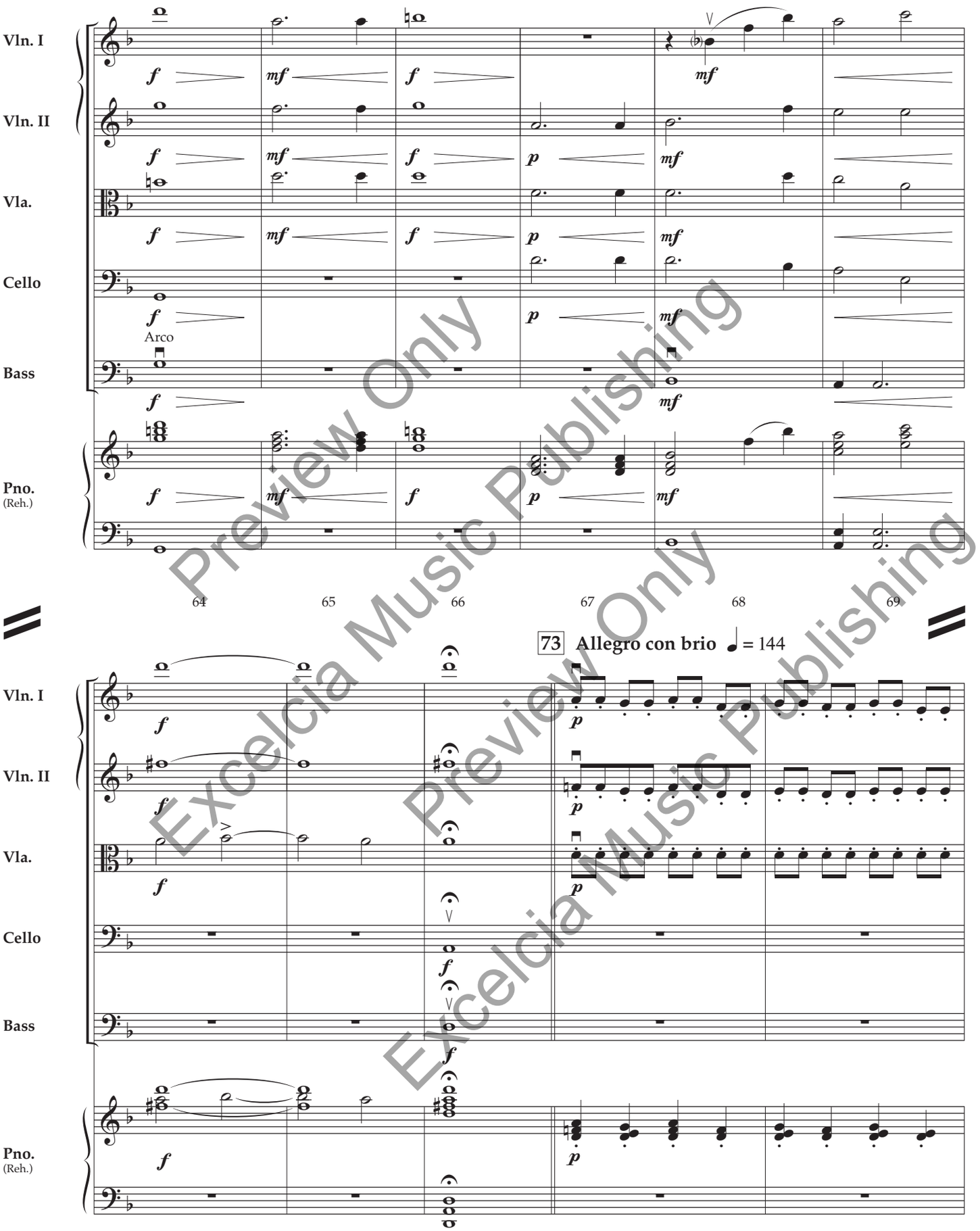

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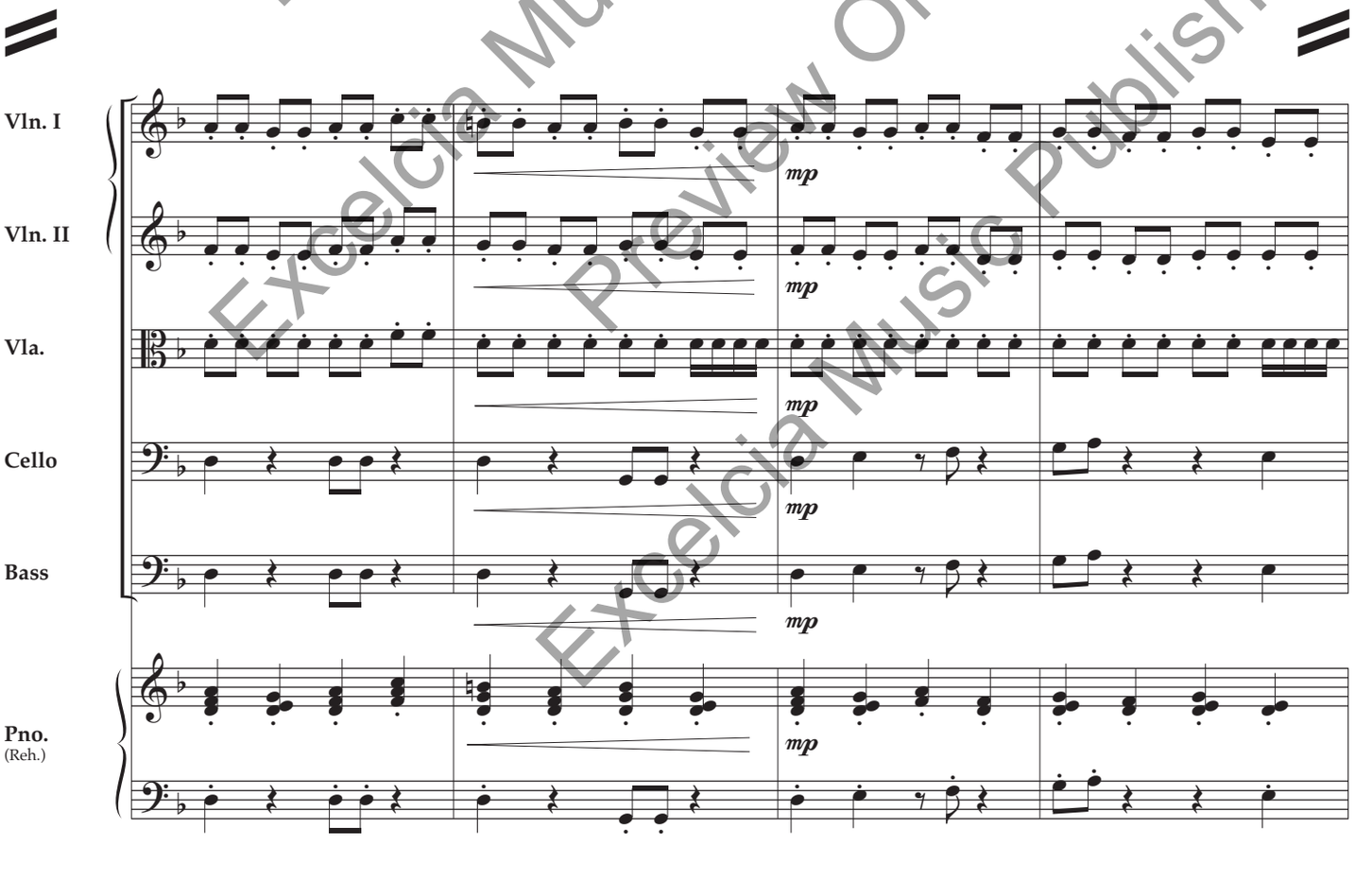

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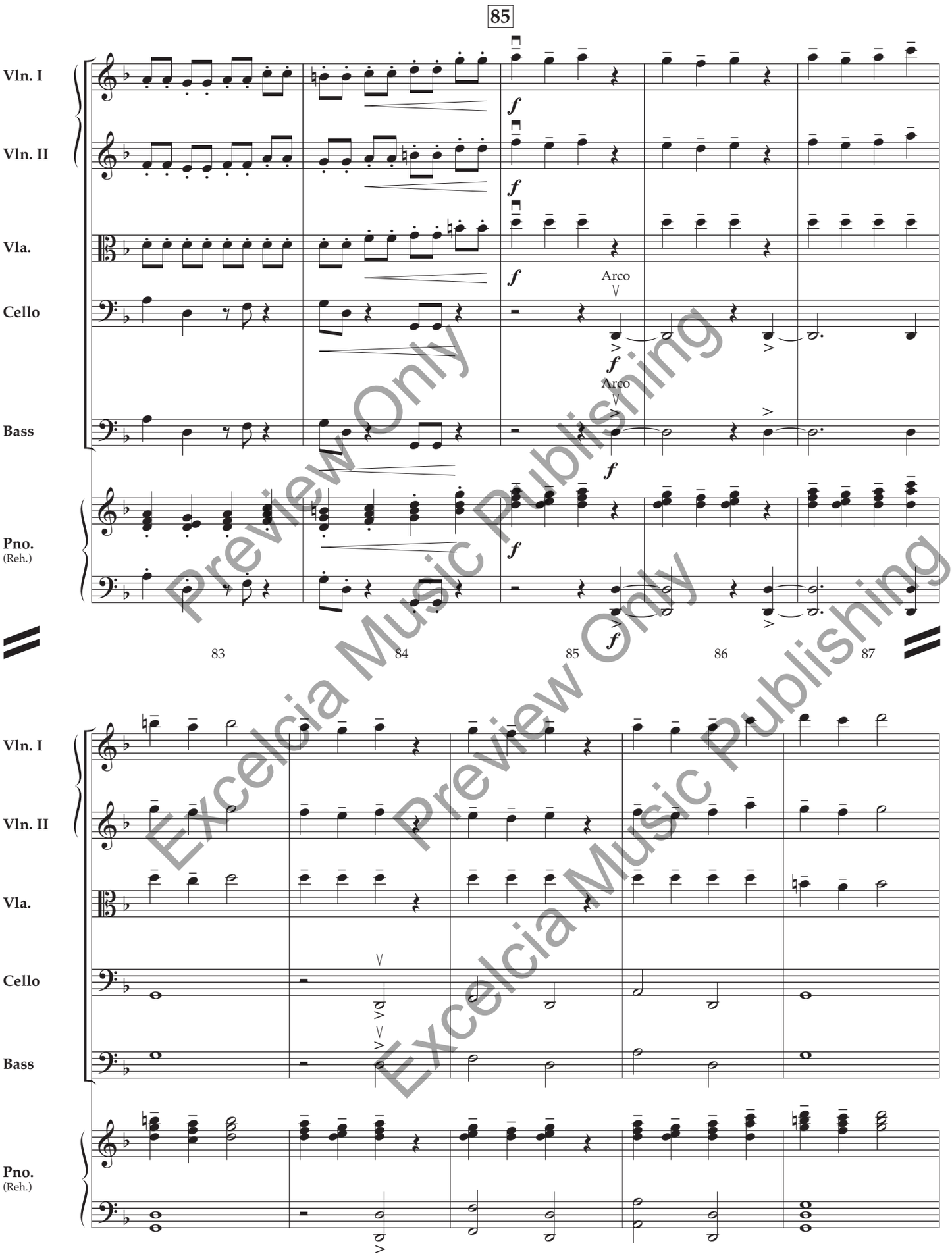

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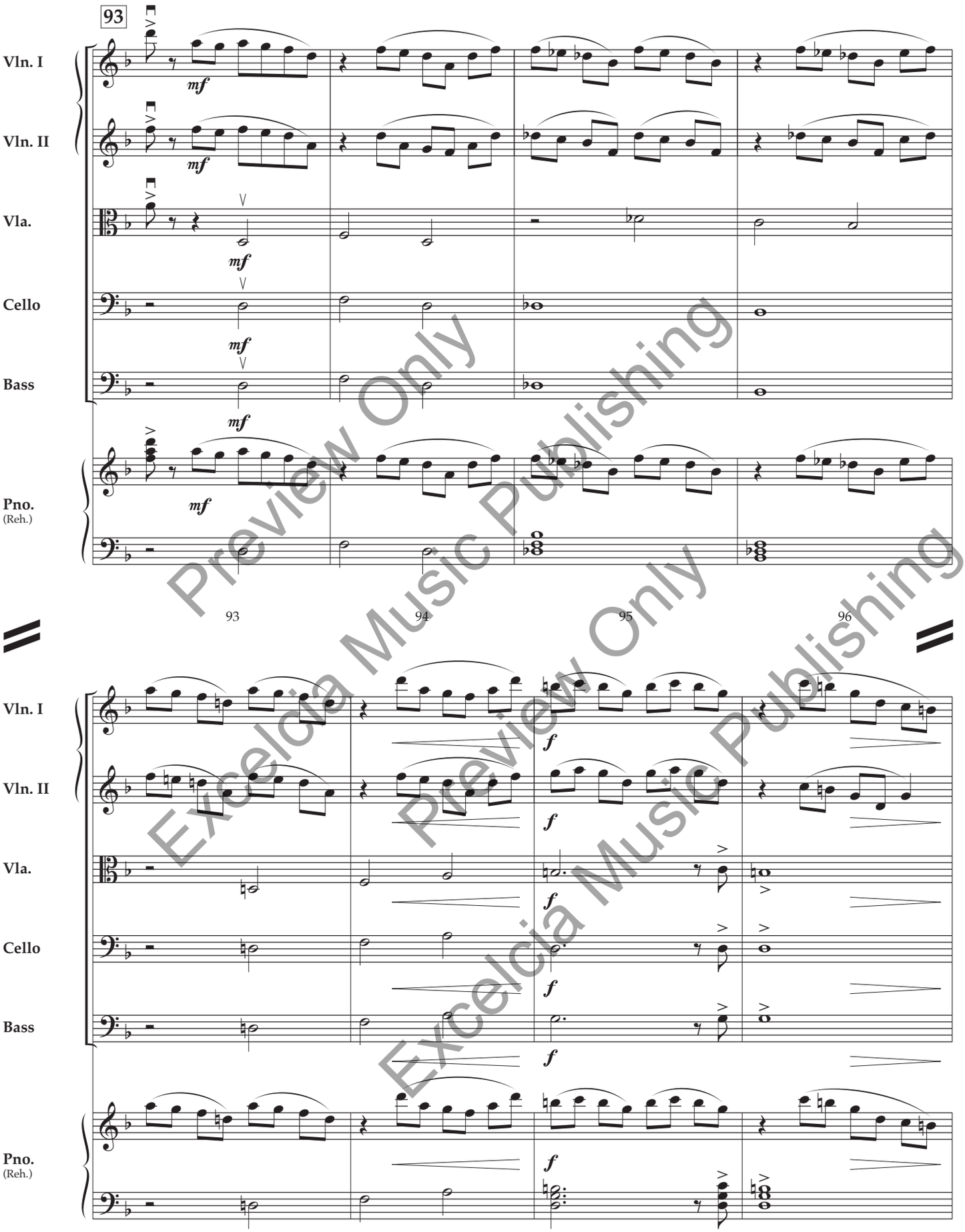

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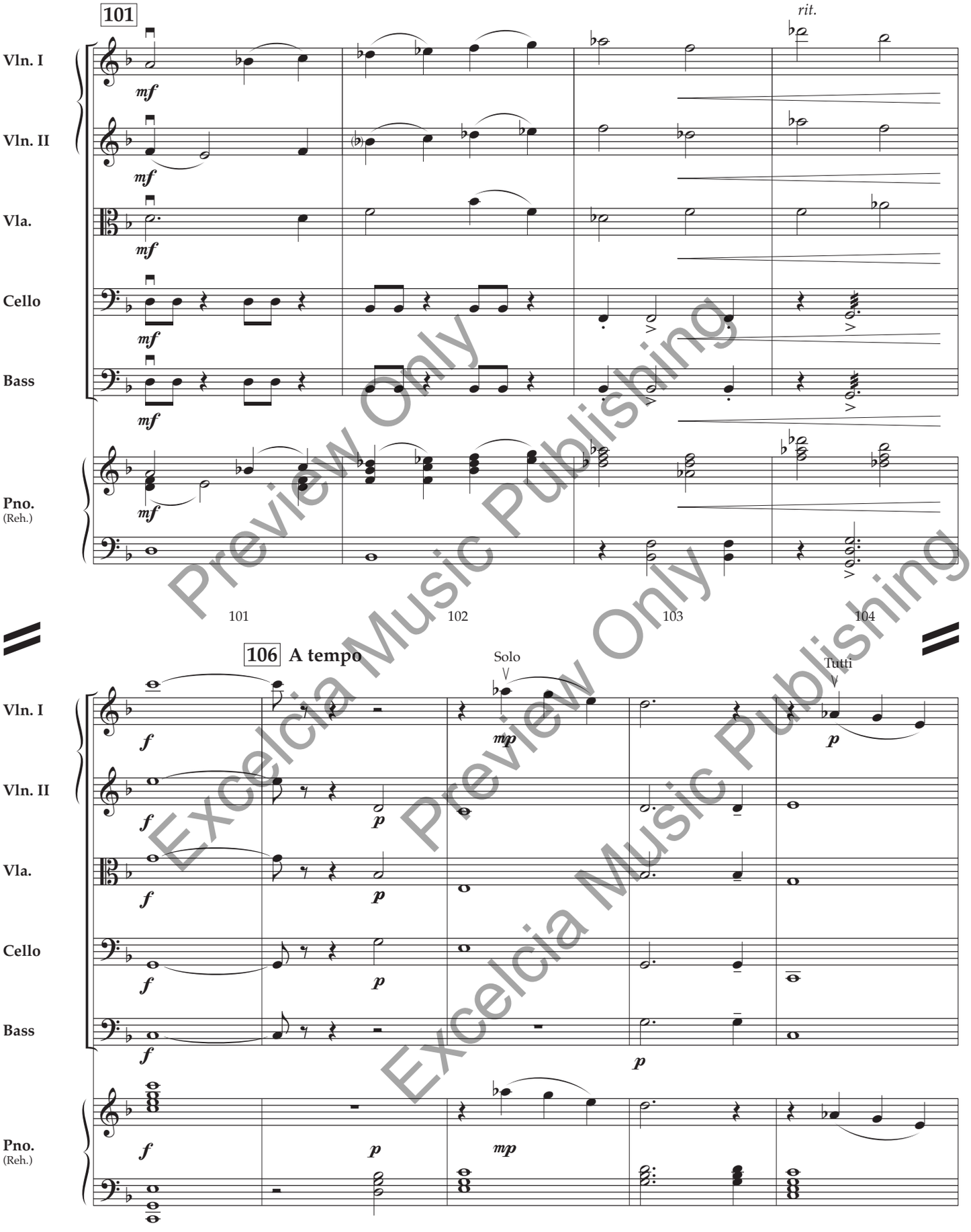

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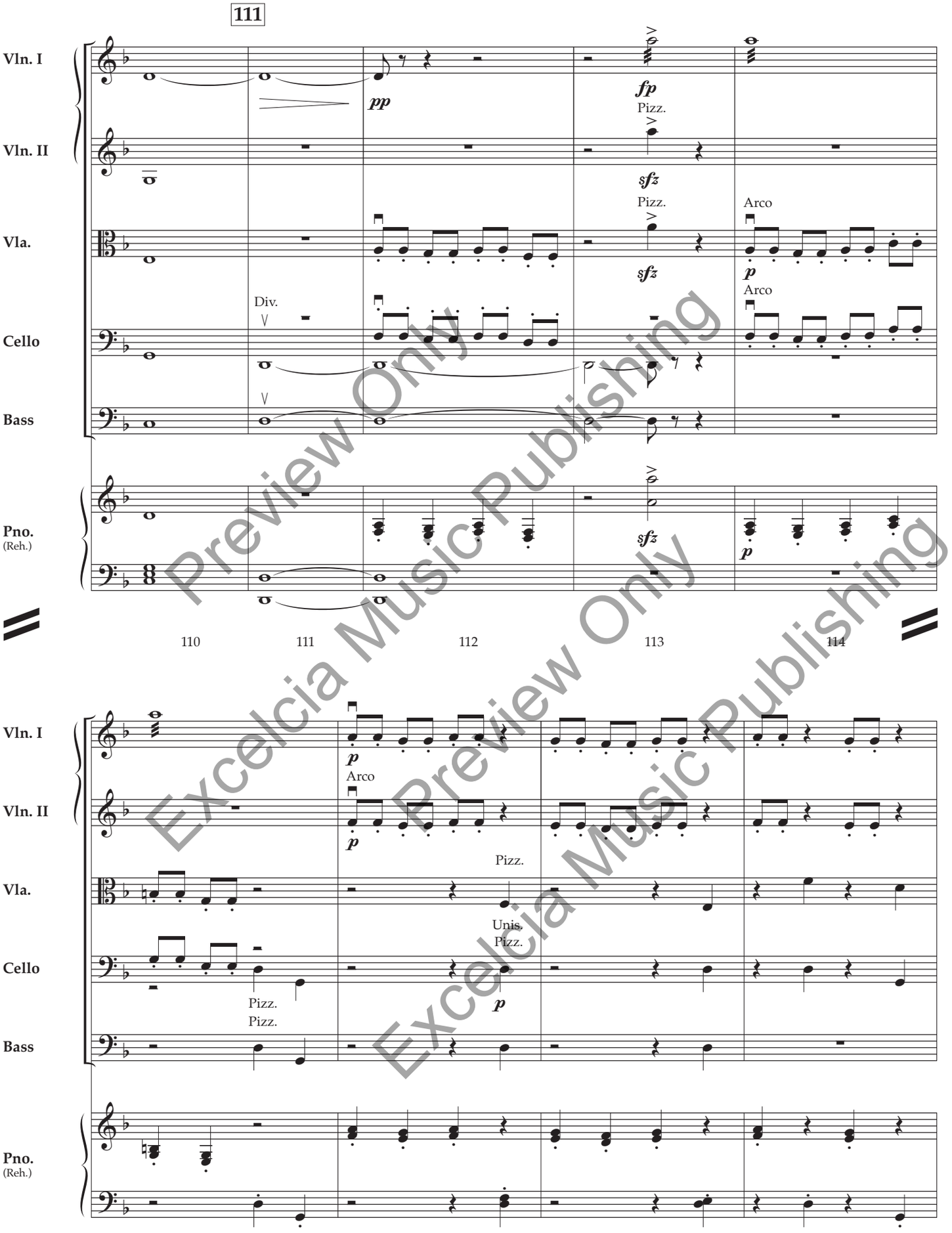

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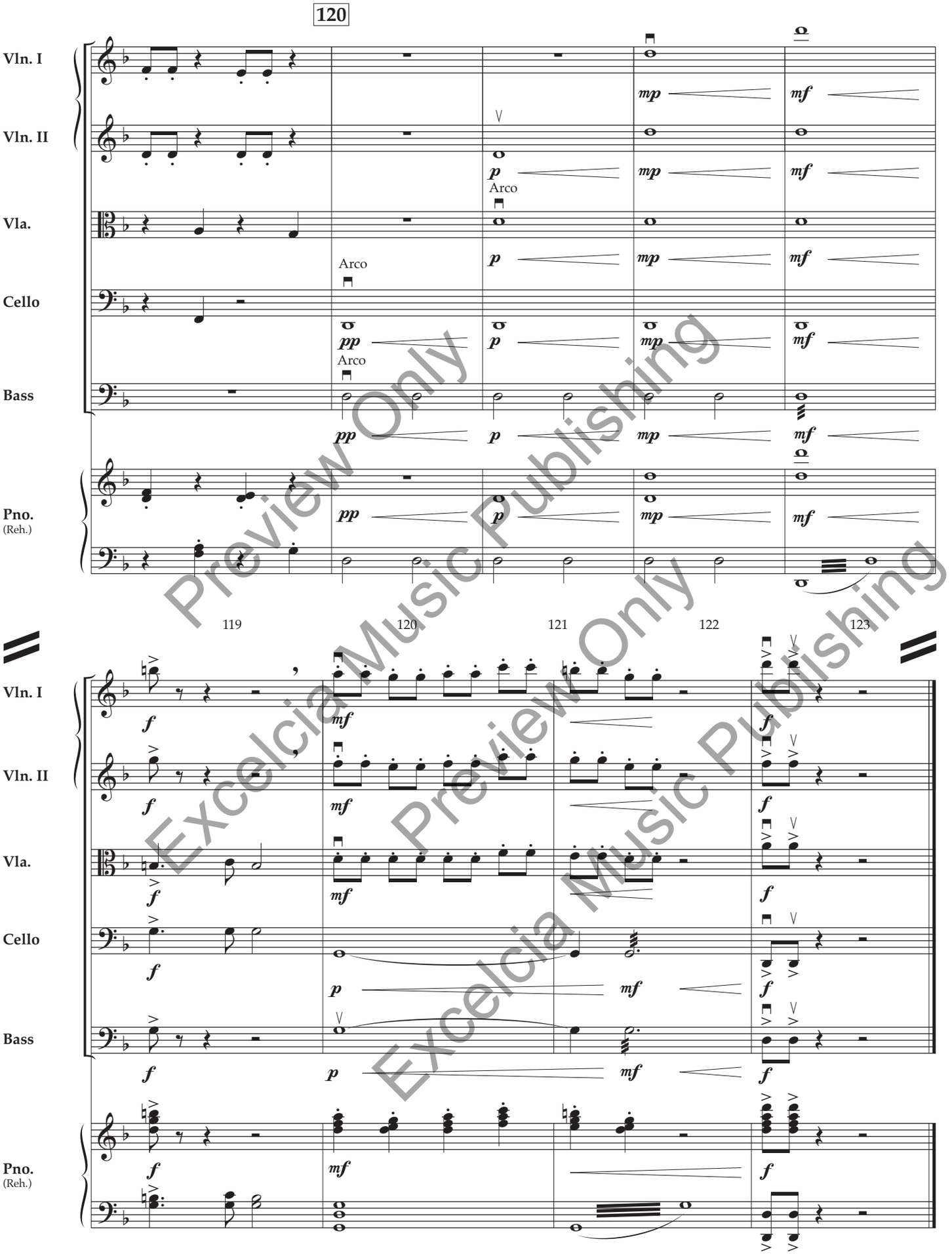

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