Brian Blume

Scenes from the Woods

for marimba quartet

Scenes from the Woods by Brian Blume
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TSPCE-61

Program Notes

Growing up in rural Indiana, I got to spend a great deal of time in the woods. This piece is a look back at some of the special times I spent in the woods near my parents' house: a fast-paced game of tag or hide-and-seek; the quiet moments of solitude and reflection; a mysterious, foggy evening; the sun's rays slicing through the canopy of trees; and making the most of a rainy day. *Scenes from the Woods* was premiered in 2011 by the Center Grove High School percussion ensemble (Josh Torres, director) at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Scenes from the Woods is dedicated to my parents, who helped give me a fun and memorable childhood and provided every opportunity I could ask for.

– Brian Blume (2011)

Performance Notes

The piece may be performed using two 4.3-octave marimbas and two 5-octave marimbas. If only one 5-octave marimba is available, players 2 and 4 may switch parts in mm. 38-52 in order to keep the lowest notes in the Marimba 4 part.

Each player uses one wood block as indicated below:

- Marimba 1 - high
- Marimba 2 - med. high
- Marimba 3 - med. low
- Marimba 4 - low

Players should place the wood block in front of the middle-upper range of the keyboard (or wherever works best), as some parts require playing the wood block and marimba with the same hand (players 1 & 4, mm. 72-75).

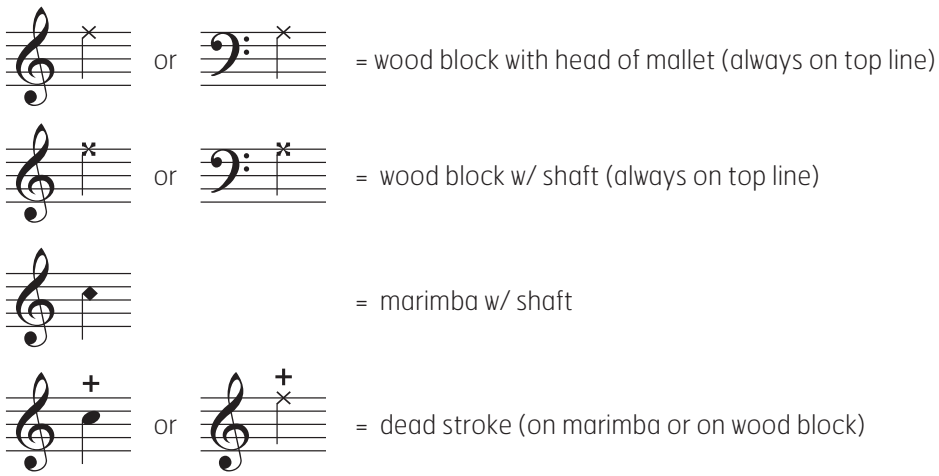
Mallet choices are indicated by the following markings and apply until another mallet choice is indicated:

- (hard) - hard mallets
- (med.) - medium mallets
- (soft) - soft mallets
- (w/ shafts) - play with the back end of the mallets

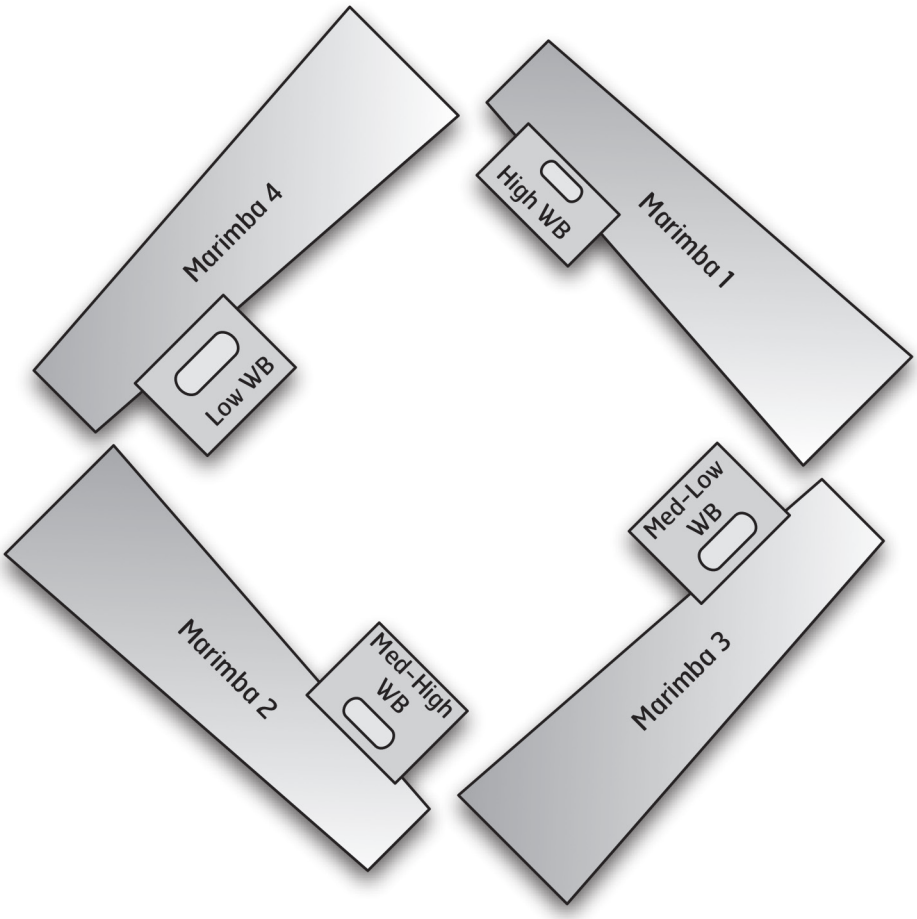
When using the shafts to play, the loudest sound is produced by striking the bar or the wood block with the shoulder of the stick on the edge of the bar or block. This may be useful within louder dynamics. Also, in order for the marimba w/ shaft to match the dynamic of the marimba dead strokes (rehearsal letter I), the shaft notes need to be struck harder than the dead strokes.

Feathered beams ( ) over long wood block notes mean to start a roll slowly and increase the roll speed until the beams begin to go the other way, at which point the roll speed slows back down. These beams are also found in the marimba parts at letter E and also mean to begin slowly, speed up, and slow back down.

Notation Key



Suggested Setup



Level: Advanced
Approx. playing time: 8'15"

Dedicated to my parents, Craig and Andra Blume.
Written for Center Grove H.S., for performance at PASIC 2011.

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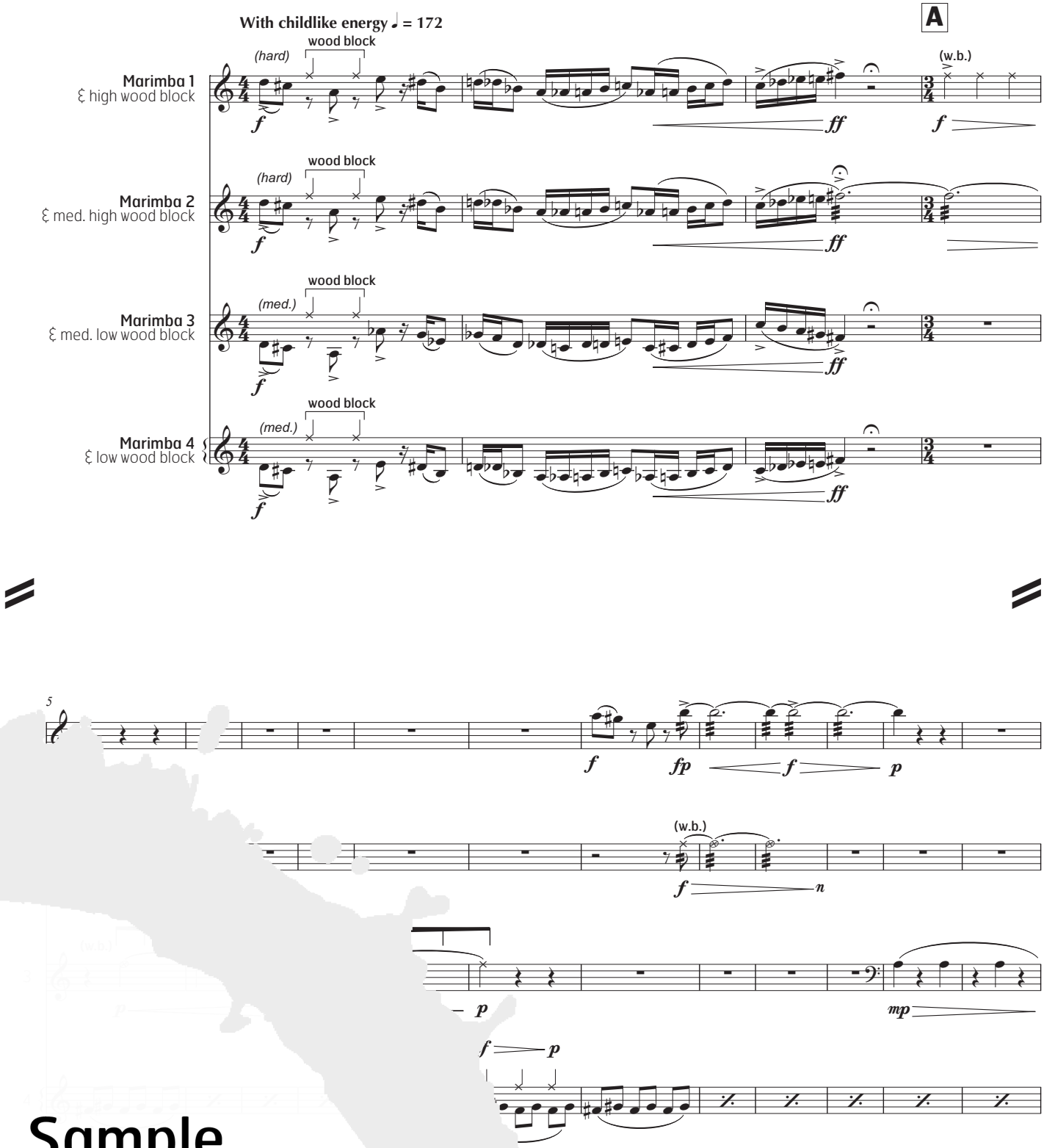

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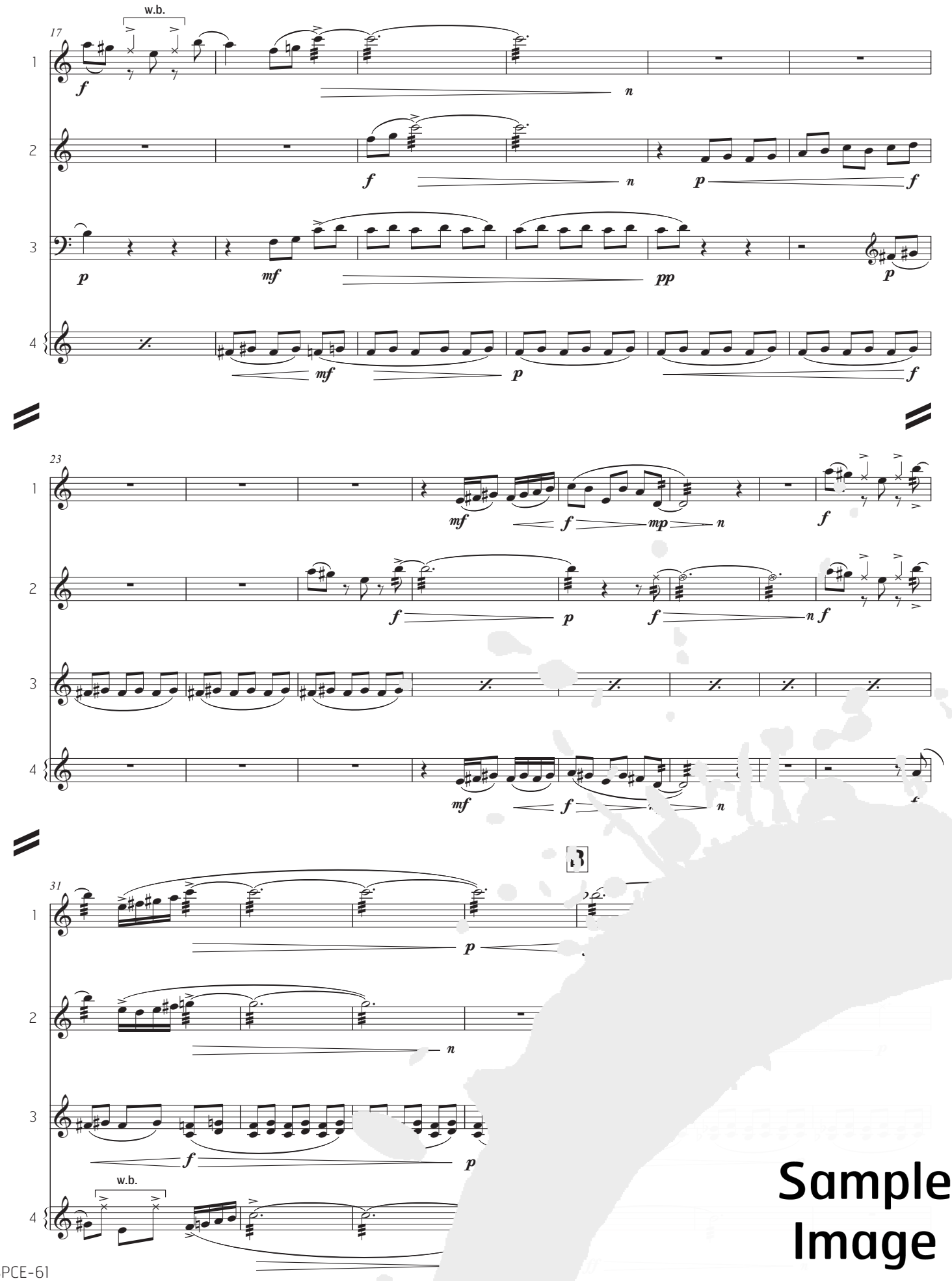

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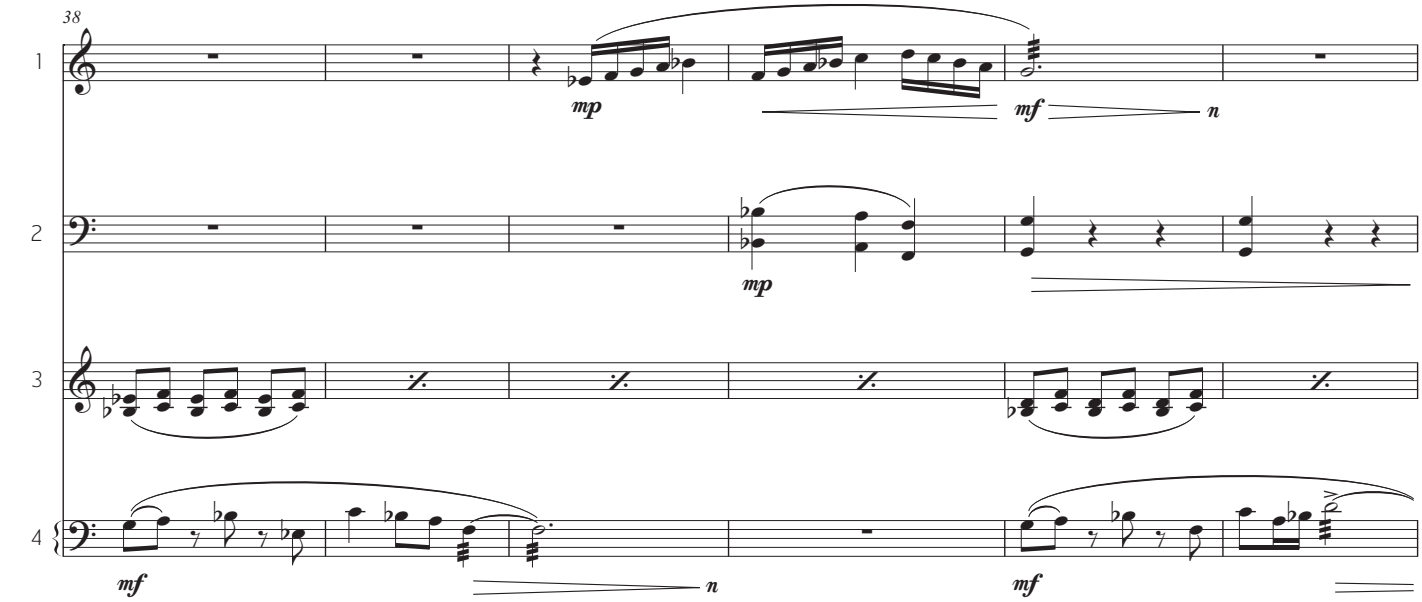

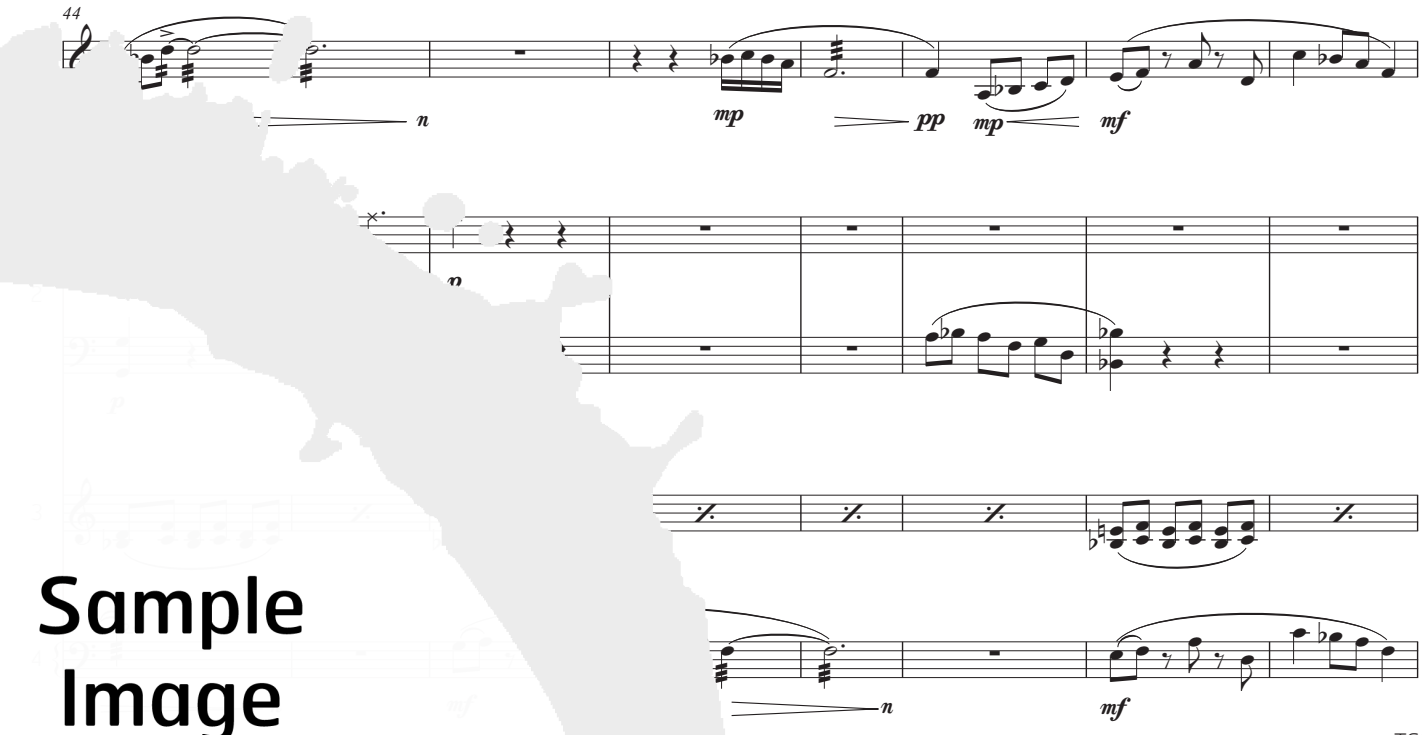

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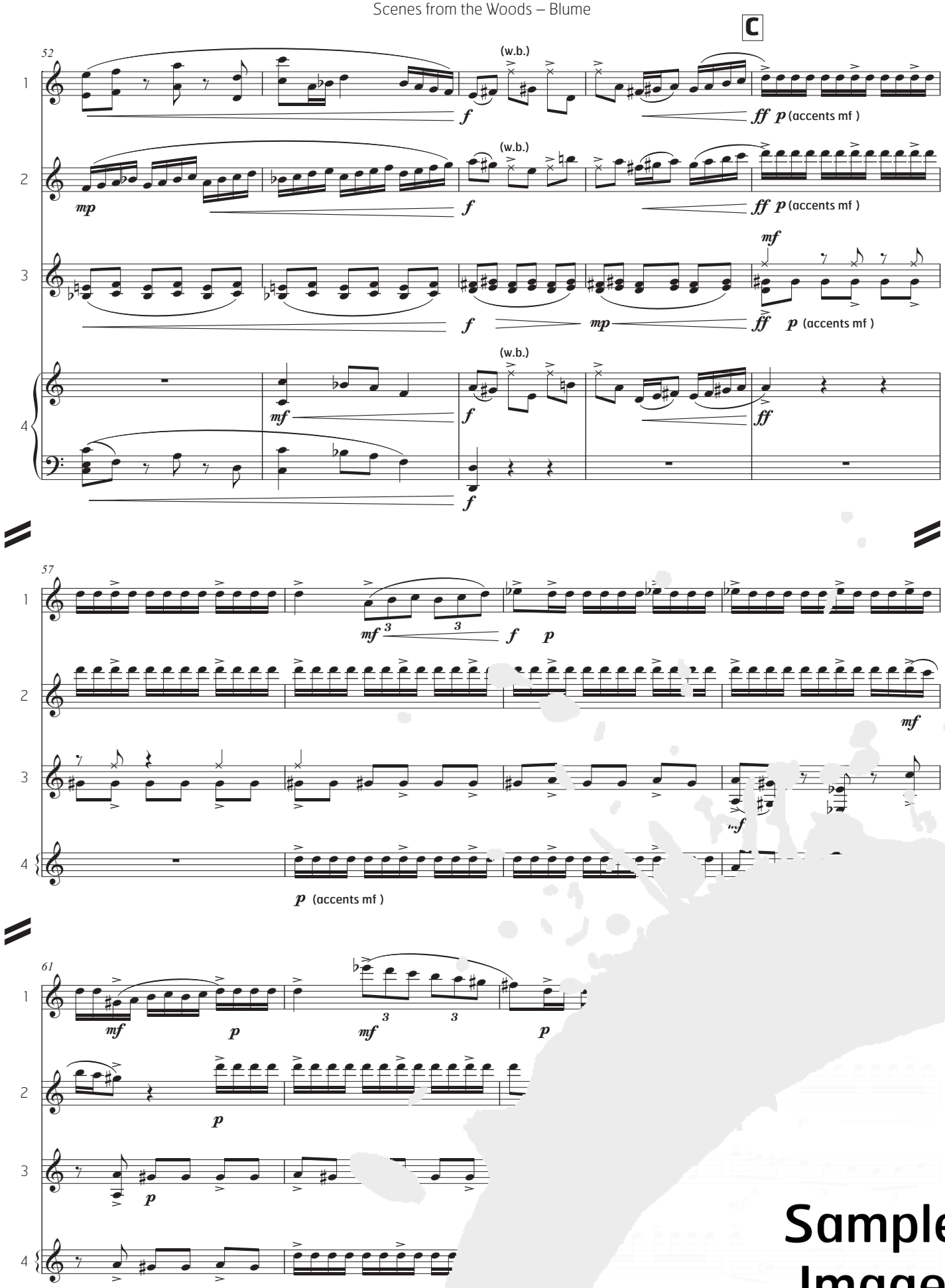

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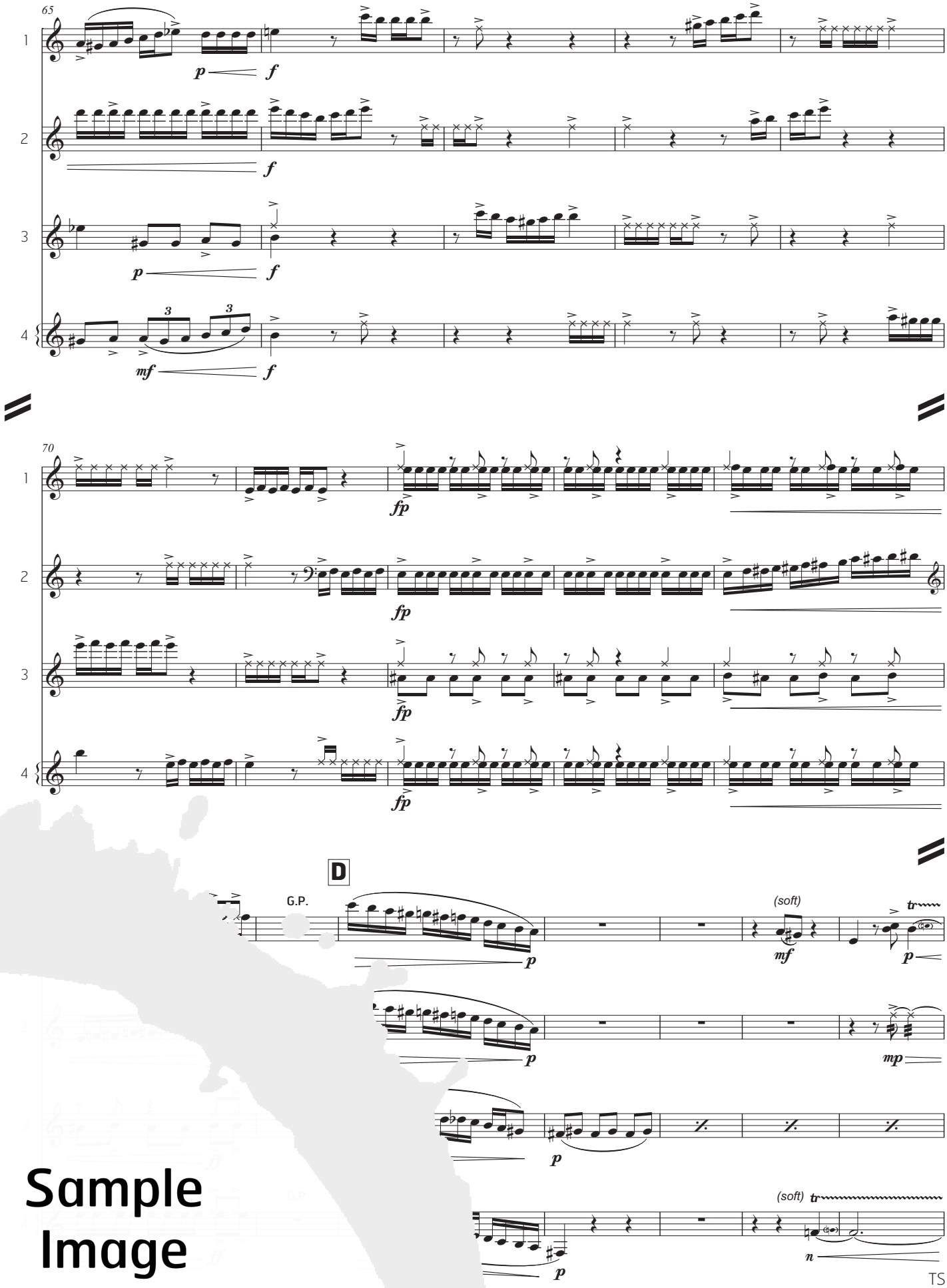

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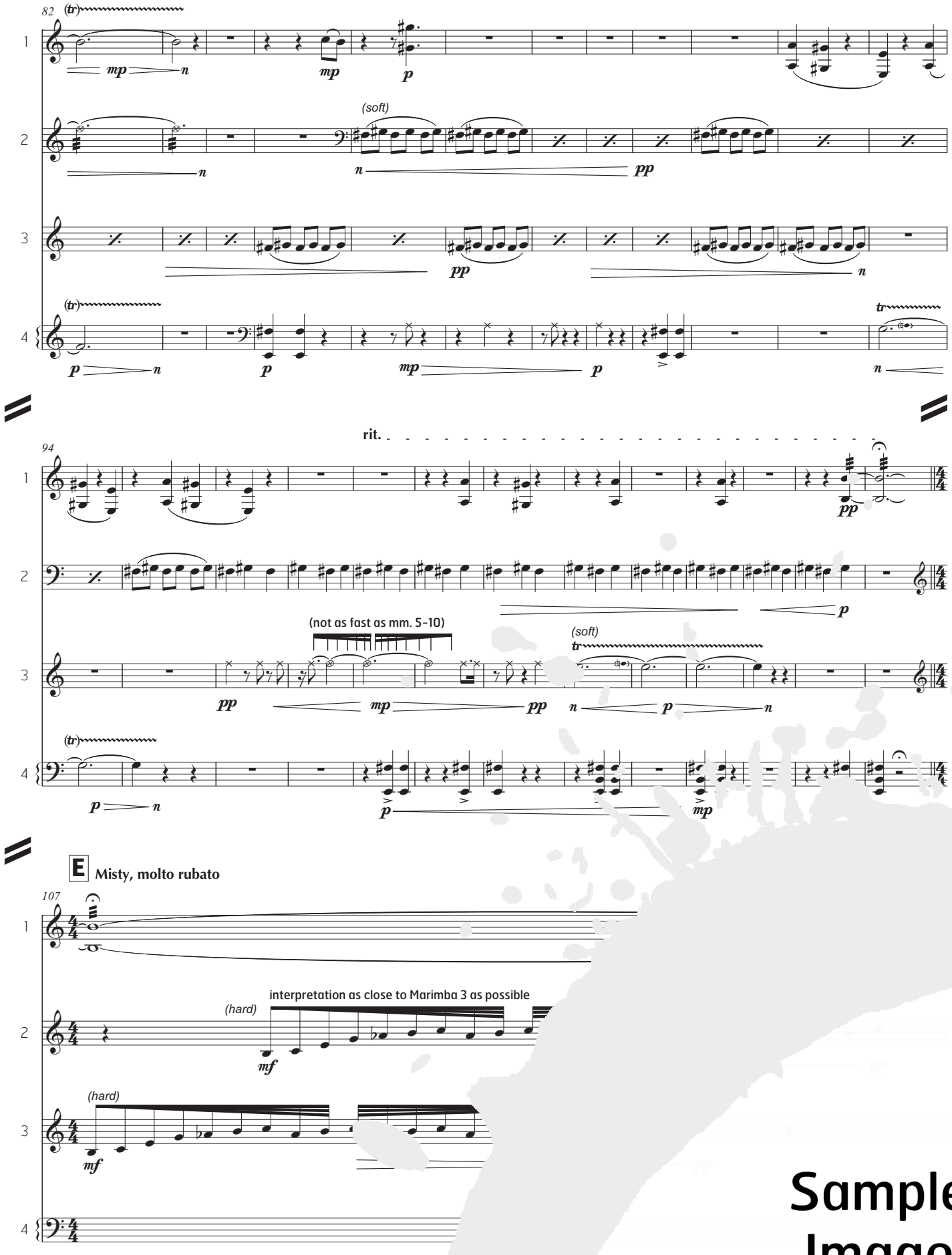

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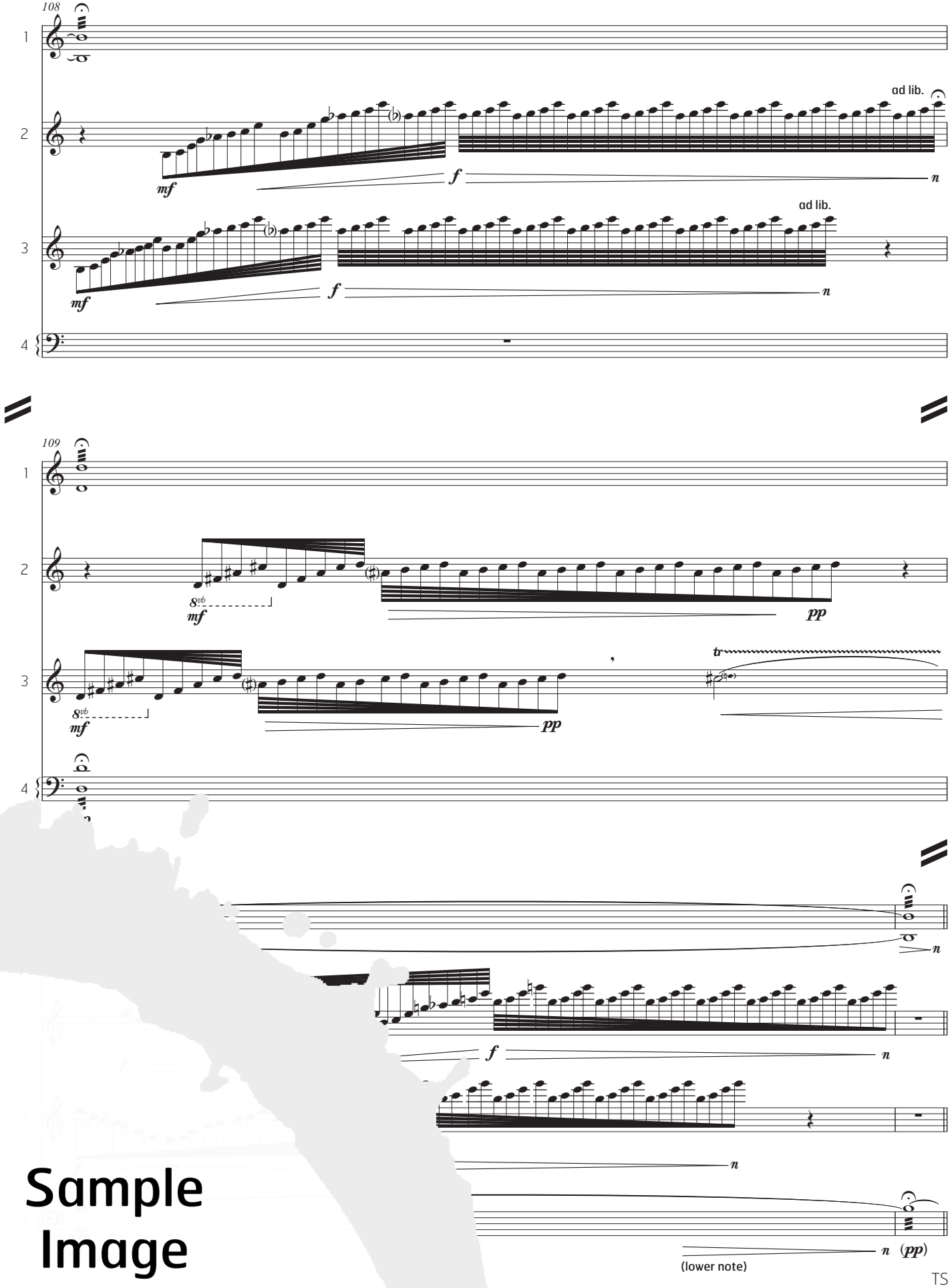

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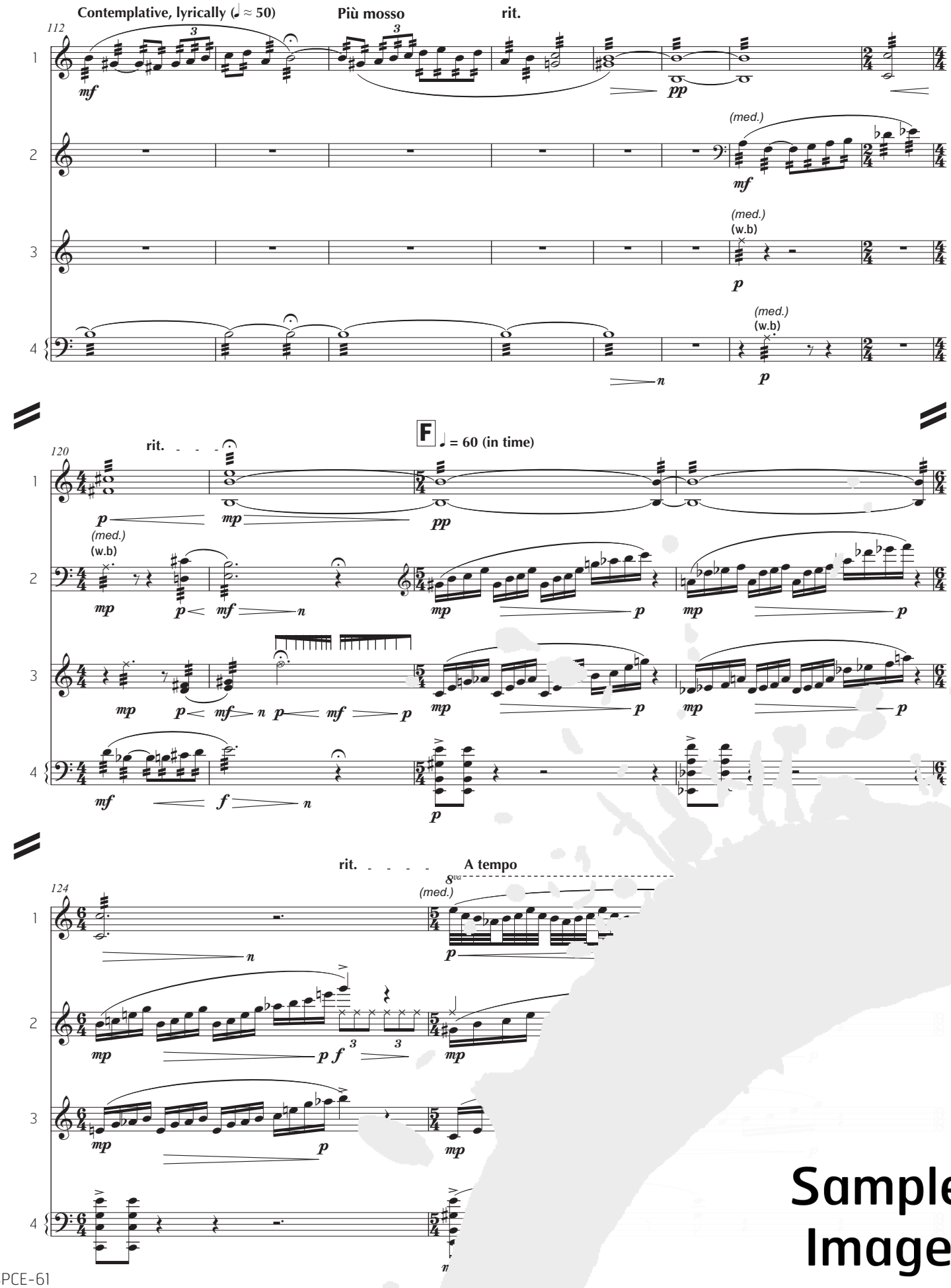

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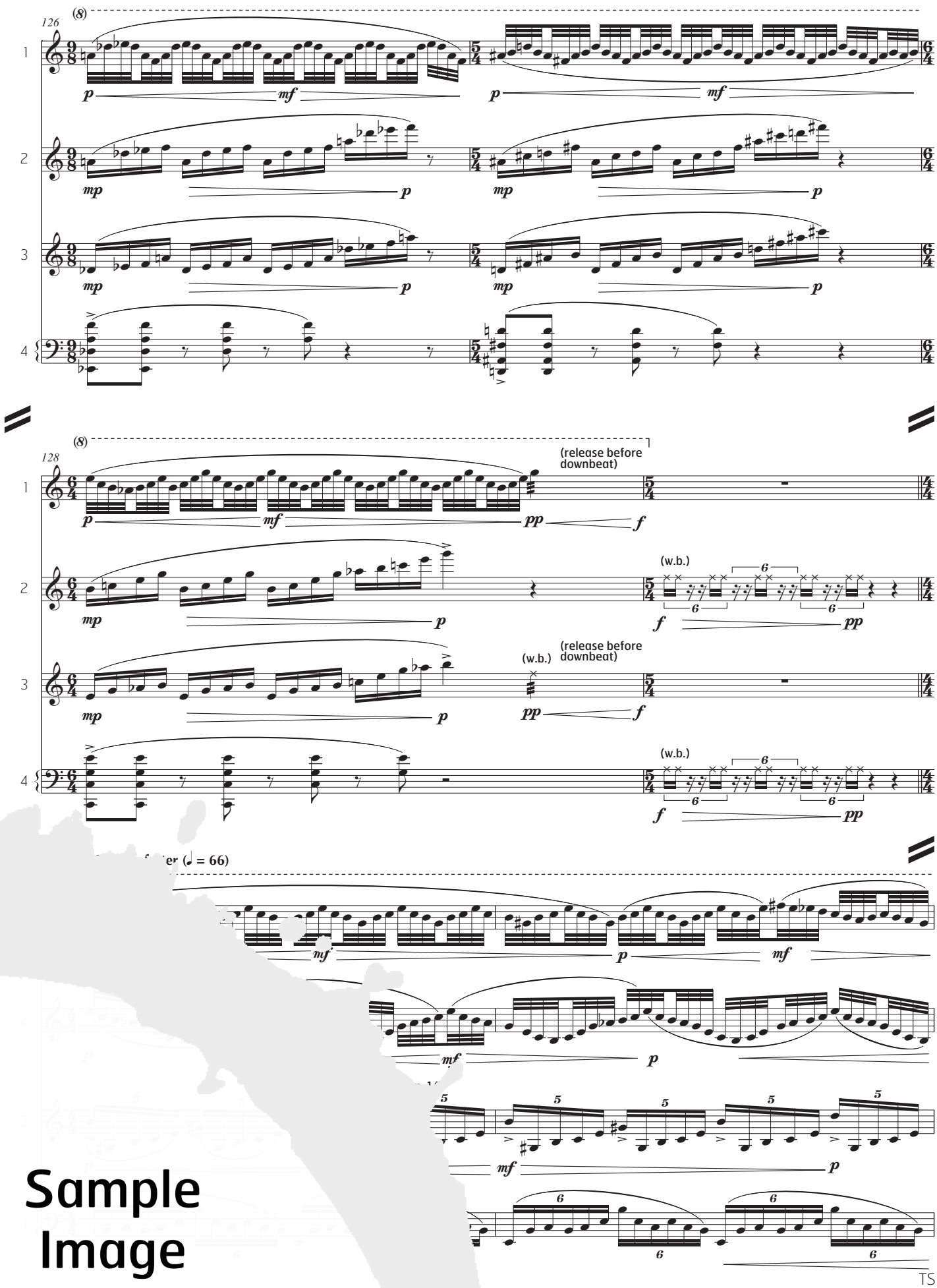

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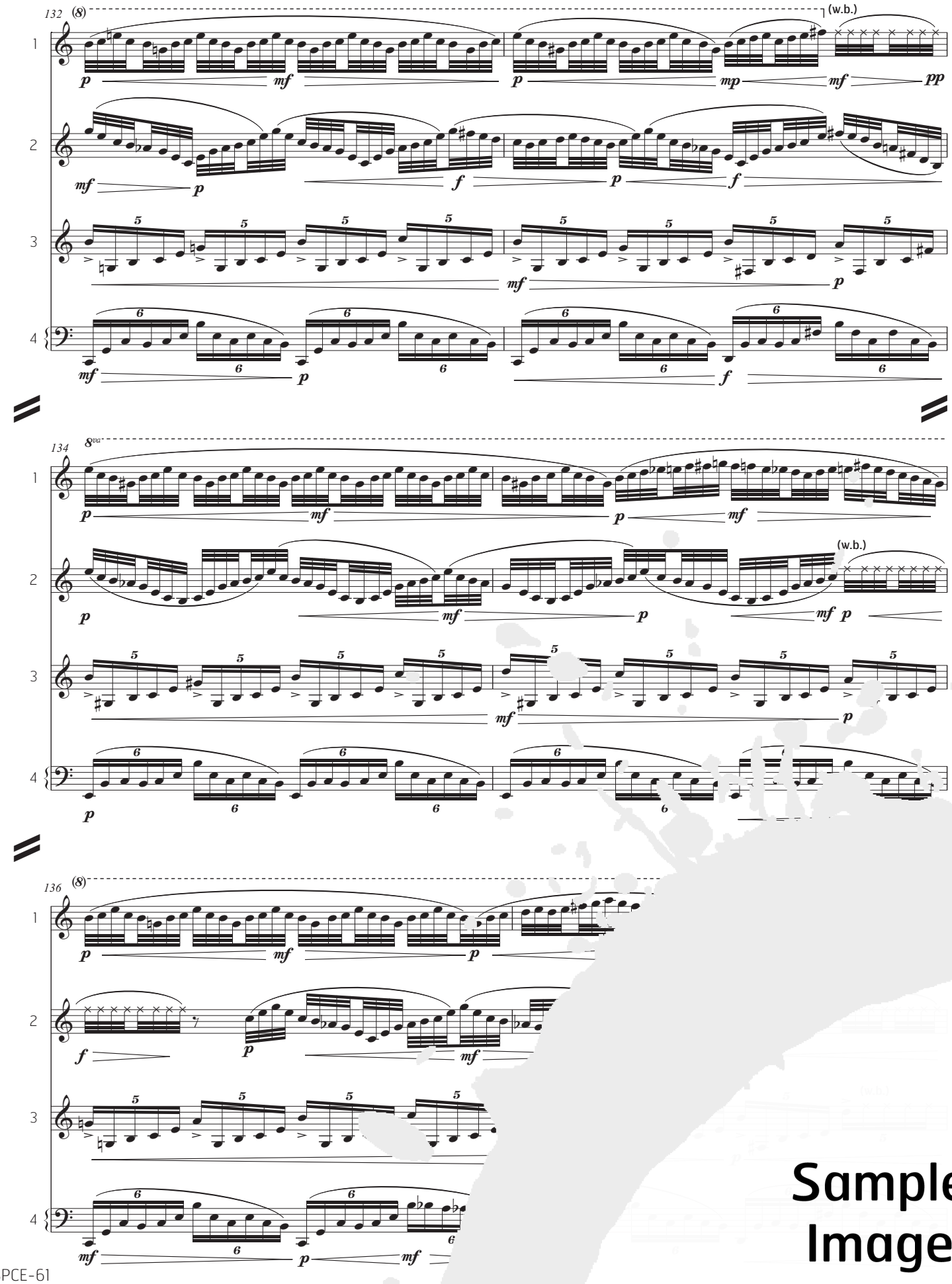

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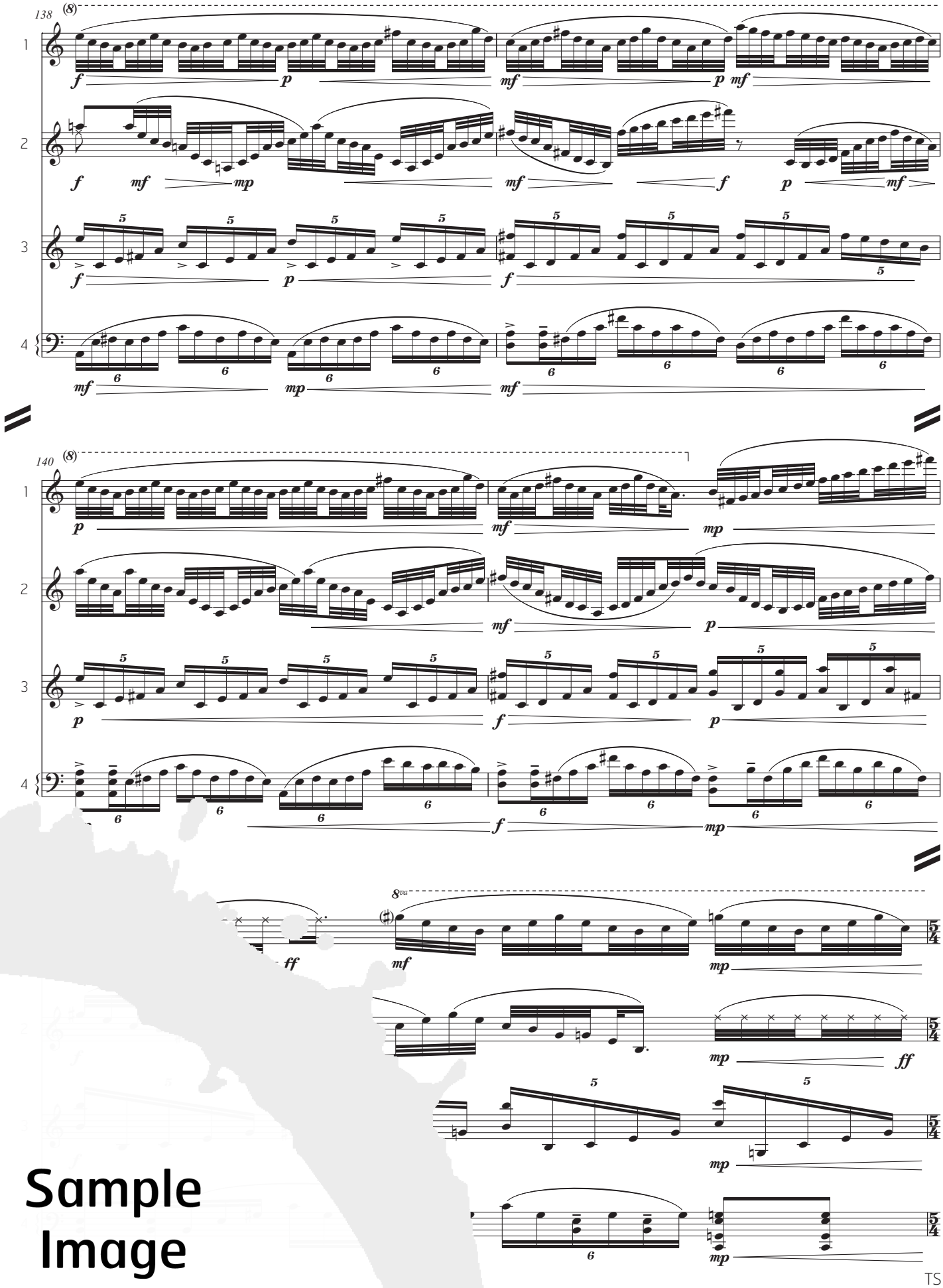

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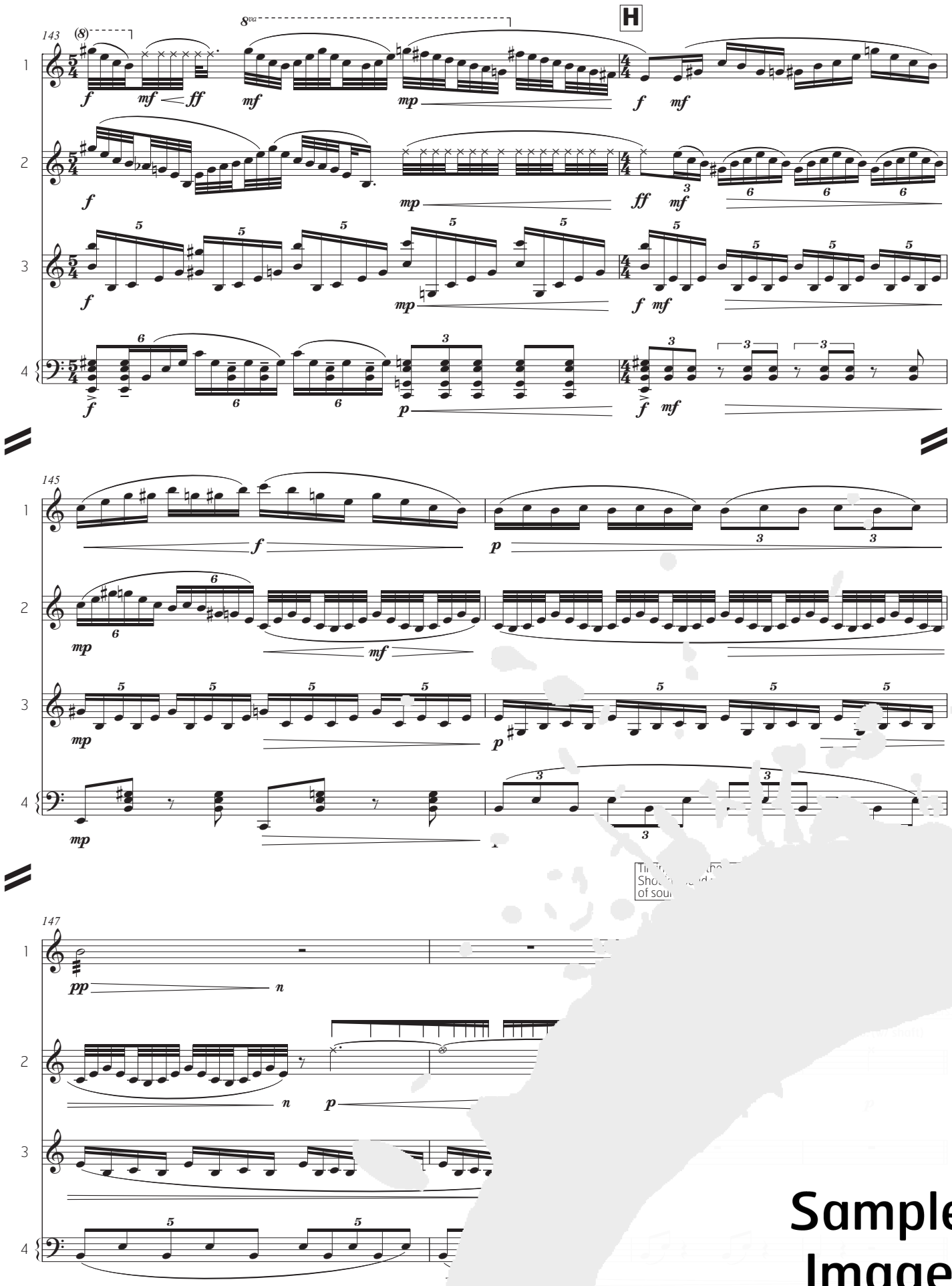

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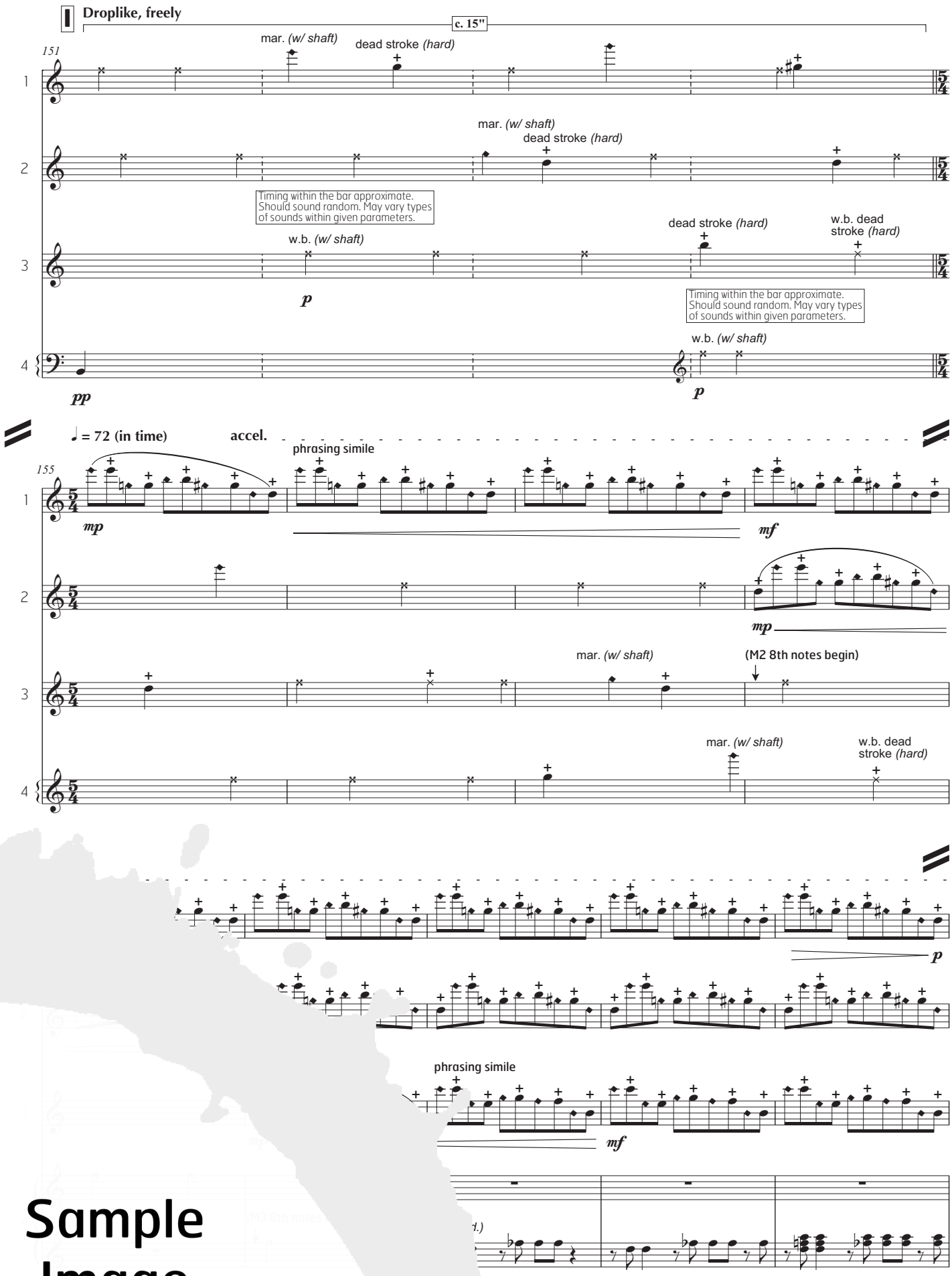

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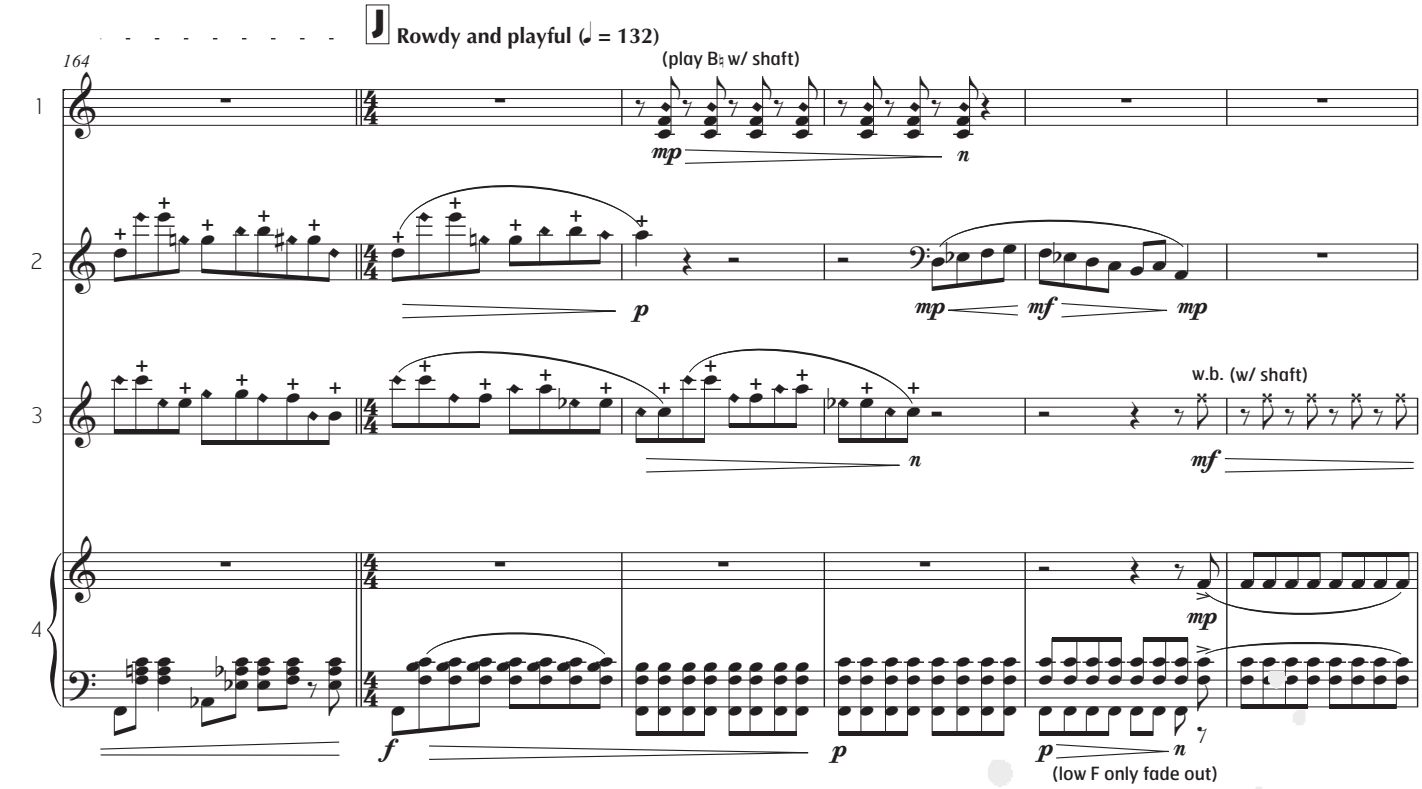

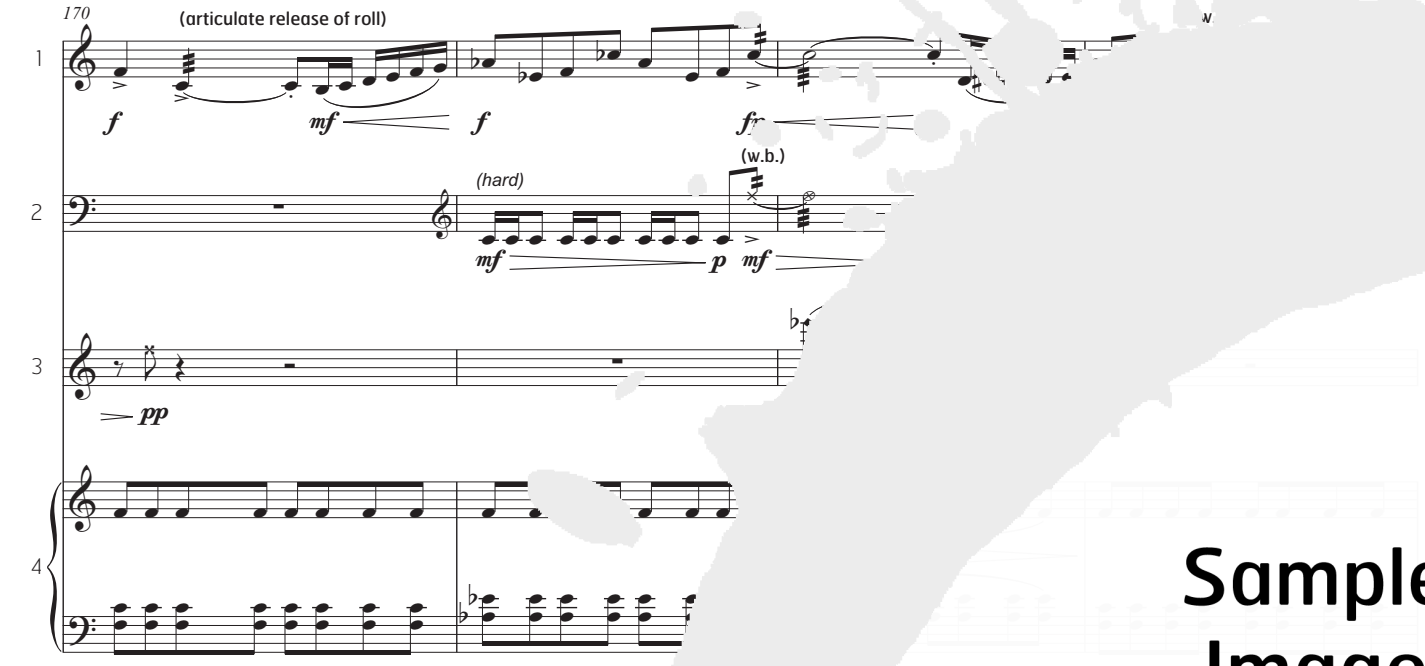

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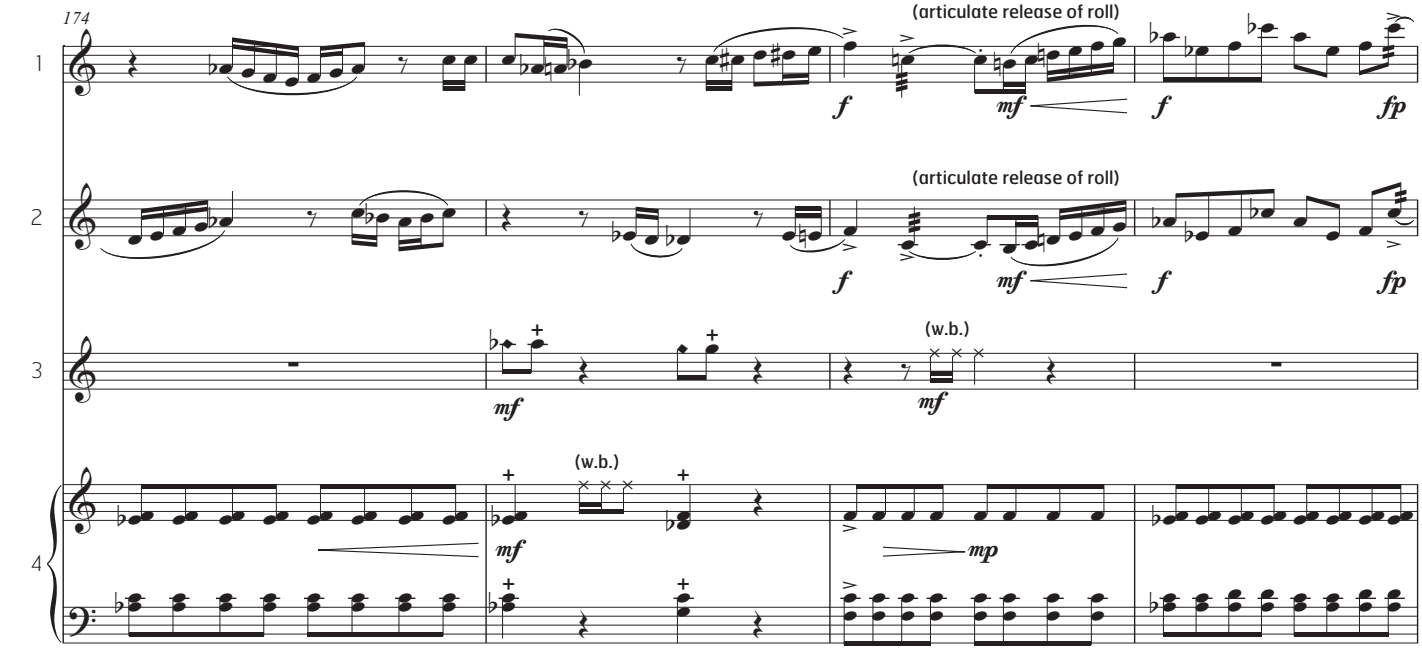

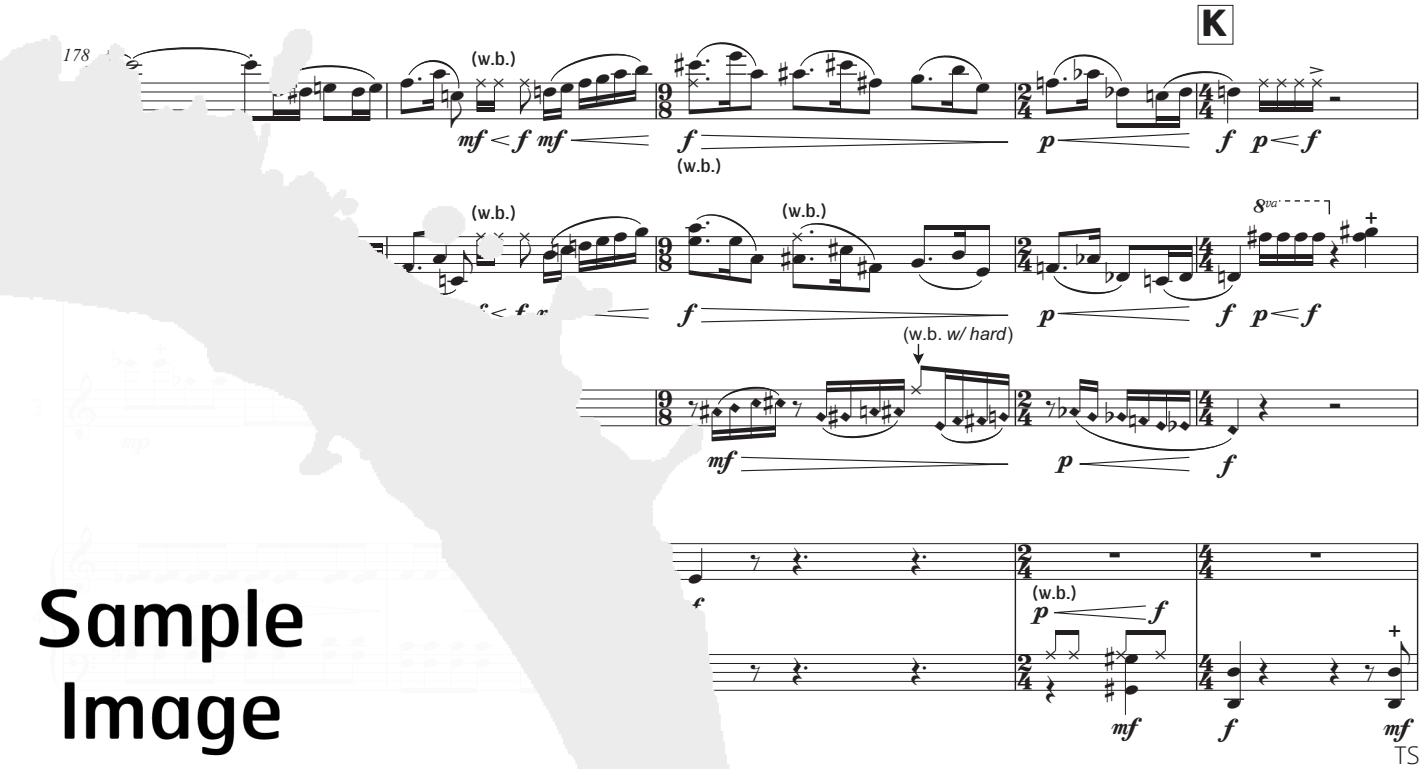

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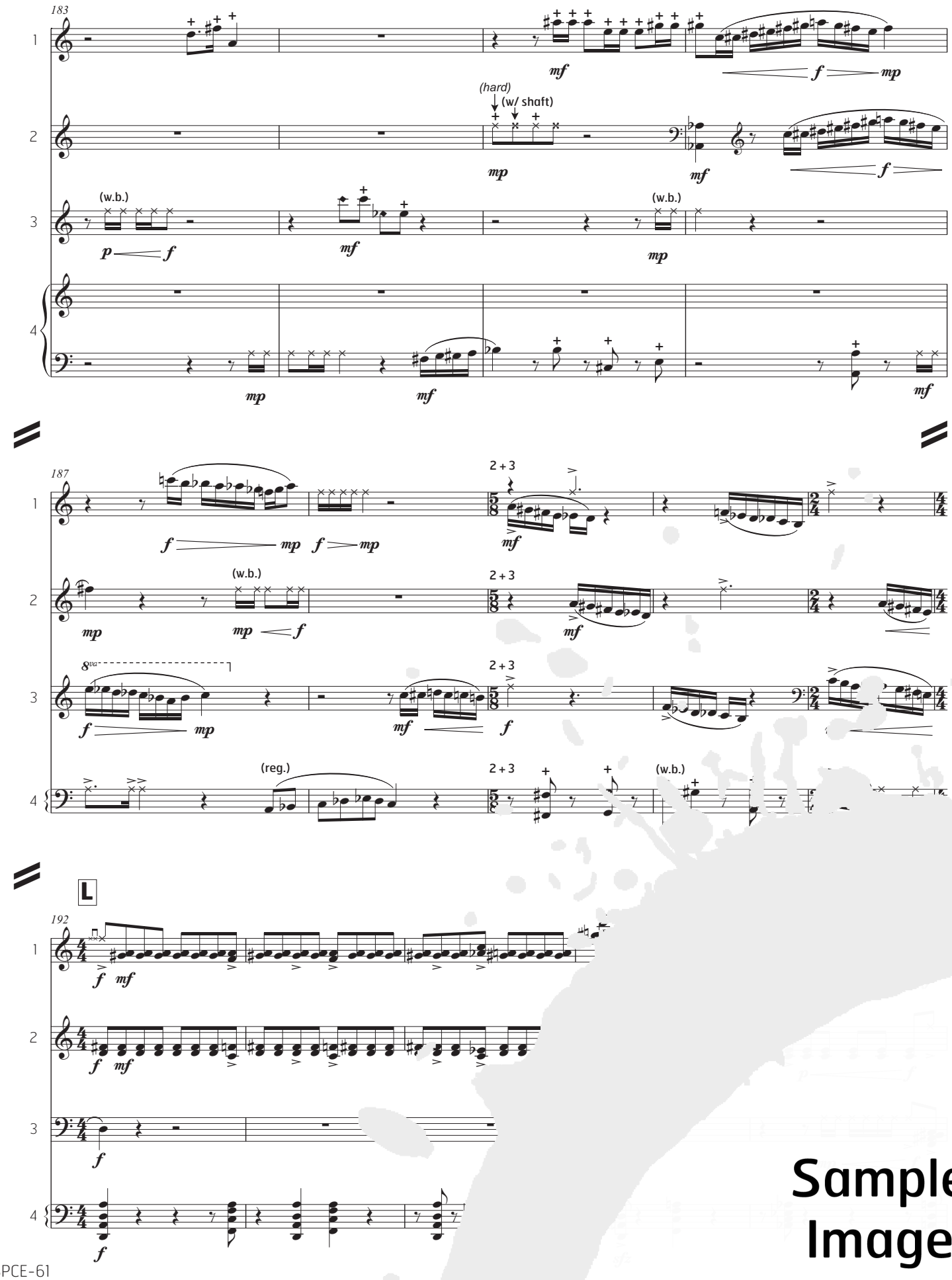
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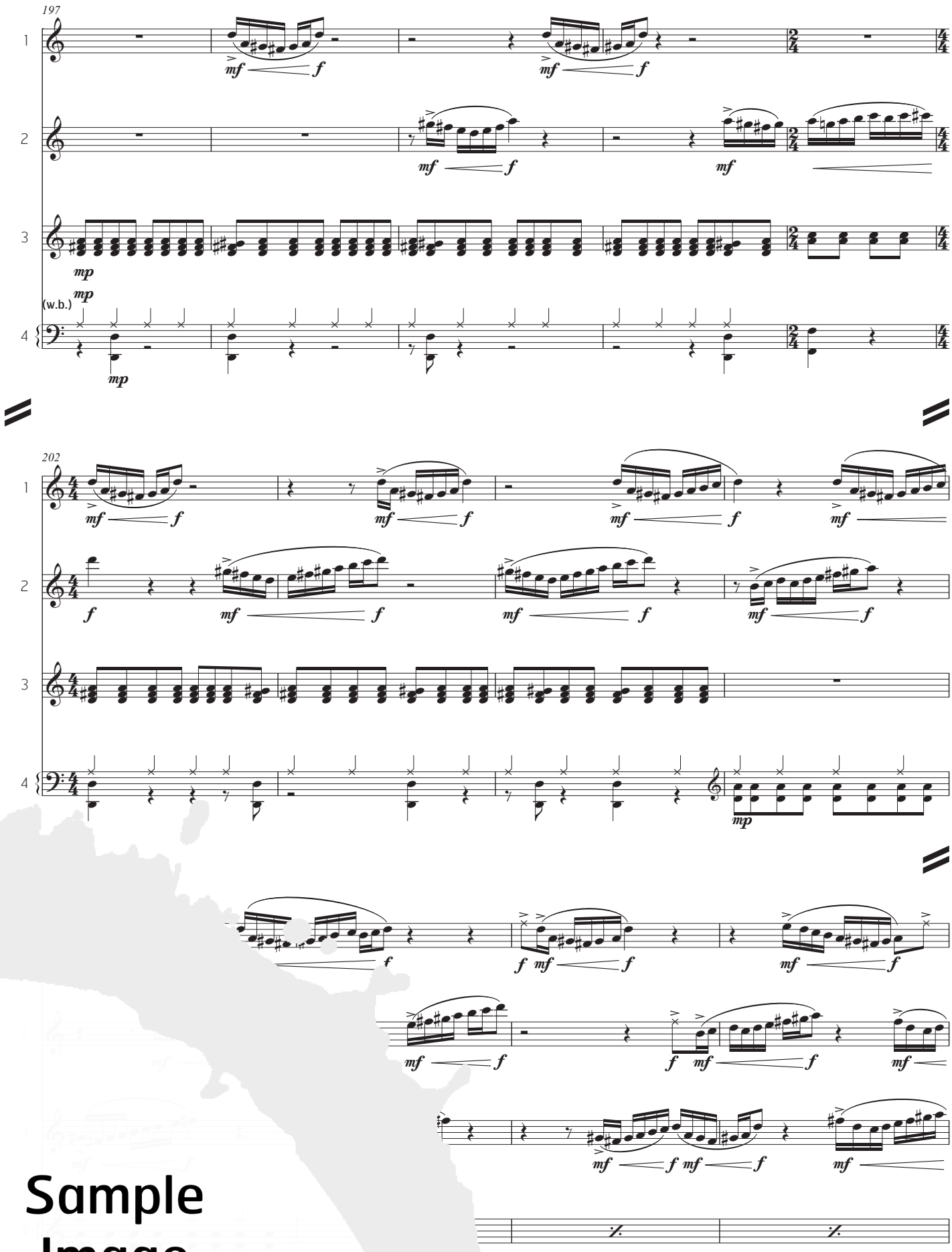

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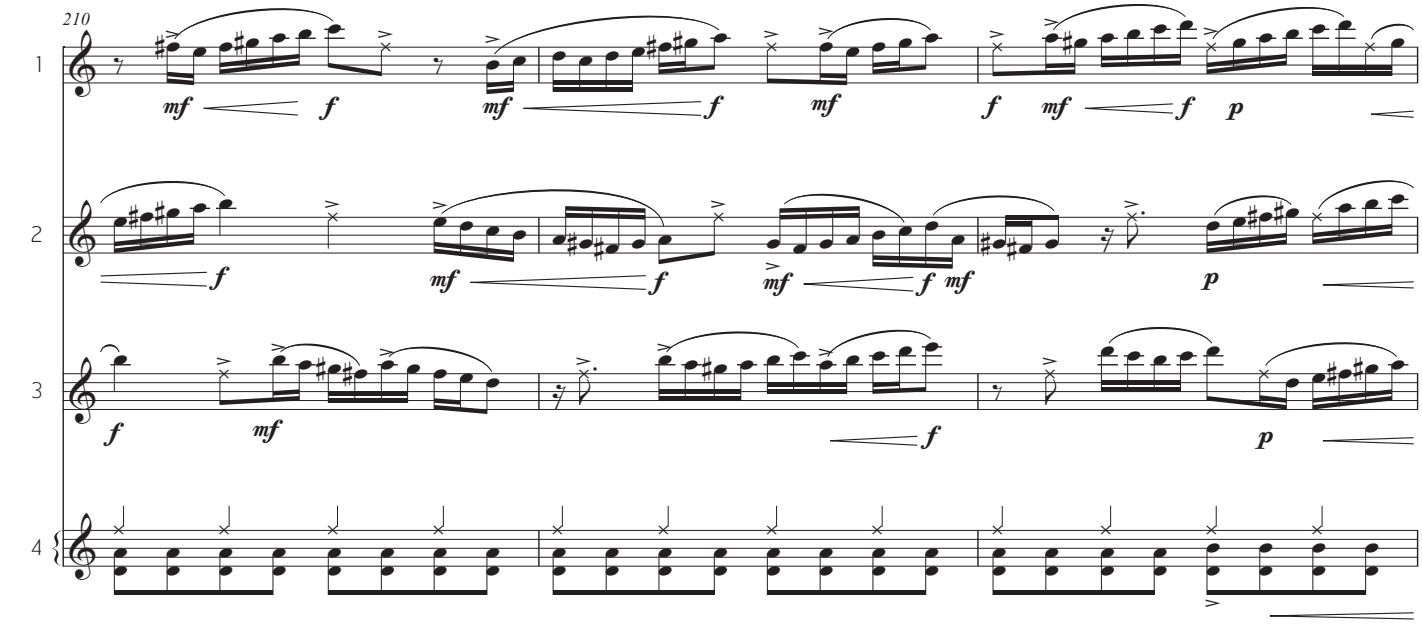

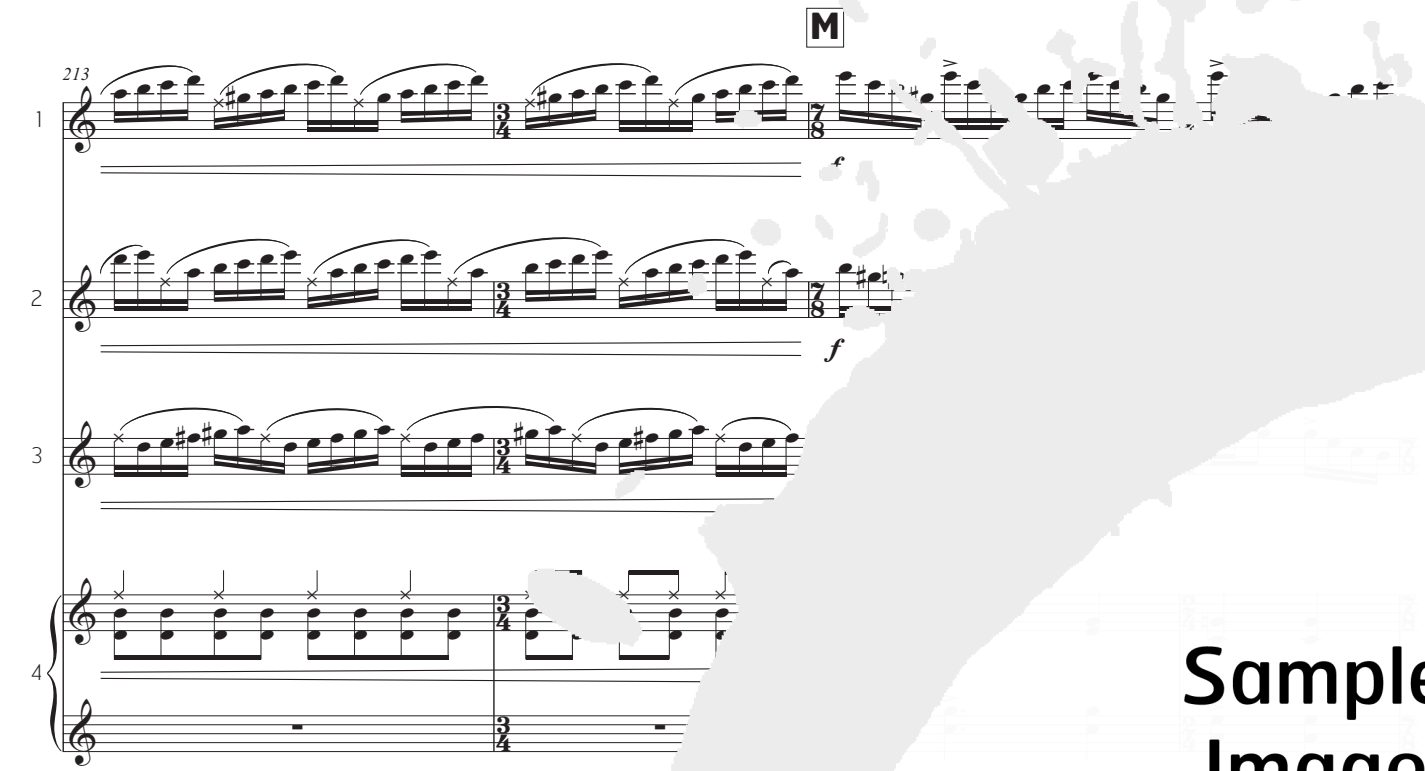

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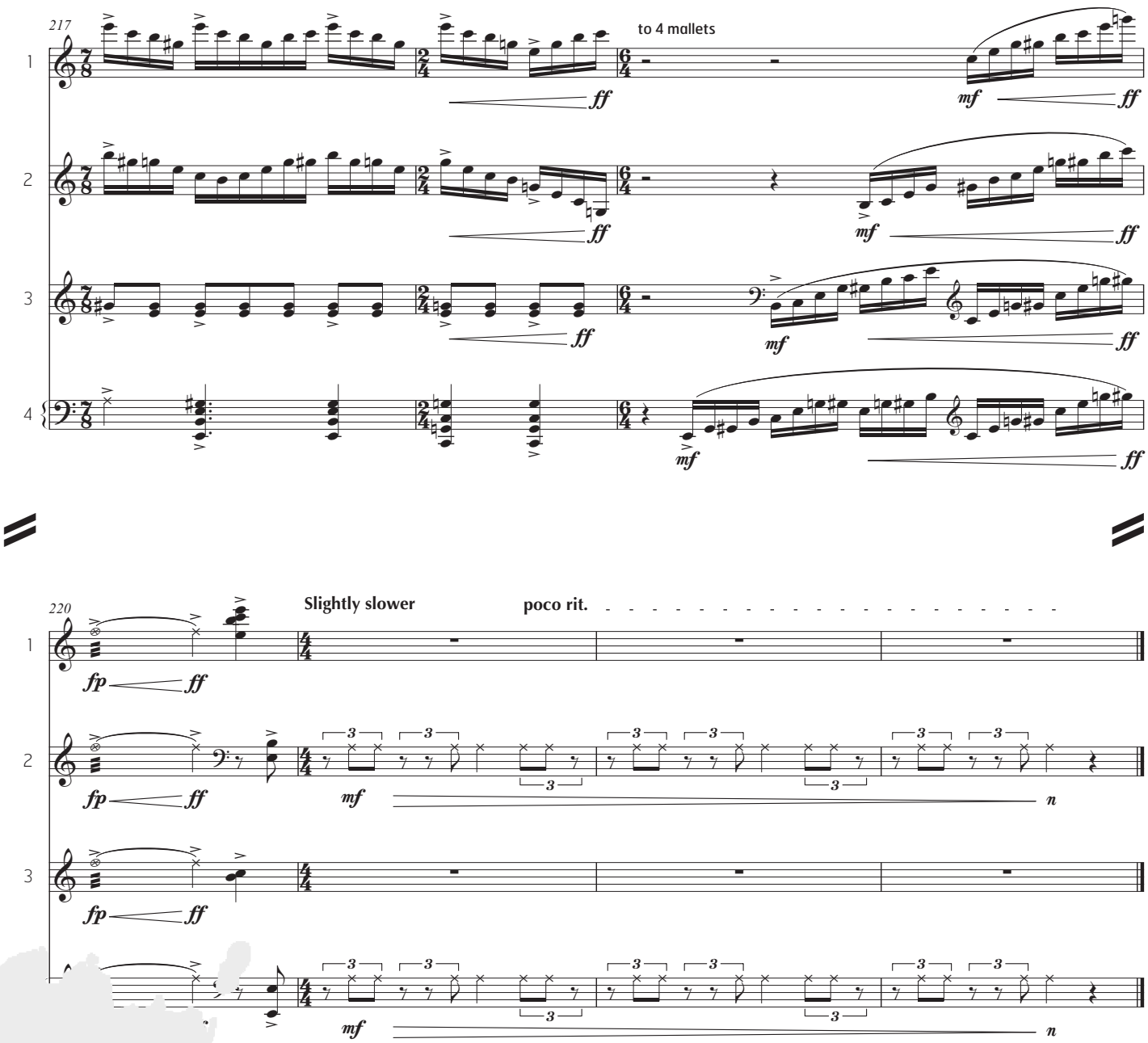

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