Alan Keown

Constructive Interference

for solo multipercussion

creativity in percussion™

Constructive Interference by Alan Keown
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TSPCS-61

Program Notes

In physics, interference is a phenomenon in which two waves superpose to form a resultant wave of greater or lower amplitude. Interference usually refers to the interaction of waves that are correlated or coherent with each other, either because they come from the same source or because they have the same or nearly the same frequency. Interference effects can be observed with all types of waves, for example, light, radio, acoustic and surface water waves.

If a crest of one wave meets a crest of another wave of the same frequency at the same point, then the magnitude of the resulting wave is larger – this is constructive interference. If a crest of one wave meets a trough of another wave, then the two waves cancel each other out and the resulting wave is a straight line – this is known as destructive interference.

This piece is not a literal representation of this principle but takes its inspiration from the concept. The slow,t opening movement should be played as lyrically as possible, legato and following the phrase markings. The movement begins and ends with a "heartbeat" motive that is consistent throughout the piece. This movement was written on a plane after hearing an amazingly lyrical marimba performance by Pius Cheung at a PASIC concert.

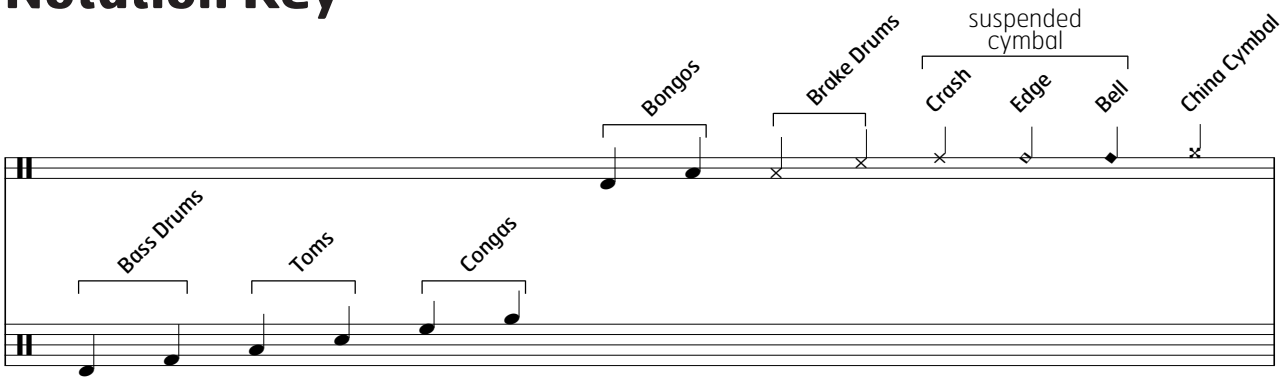
The second, fast movement builds upon a driving sixteenth-note motive that is interrupted by the "heartbeat" motive that was presented in the first movement.

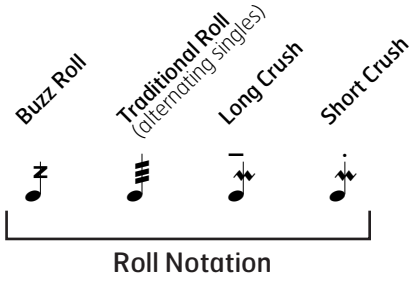
Instrumentation

Constructive Interference requires **1 player** with the following instrumentation:

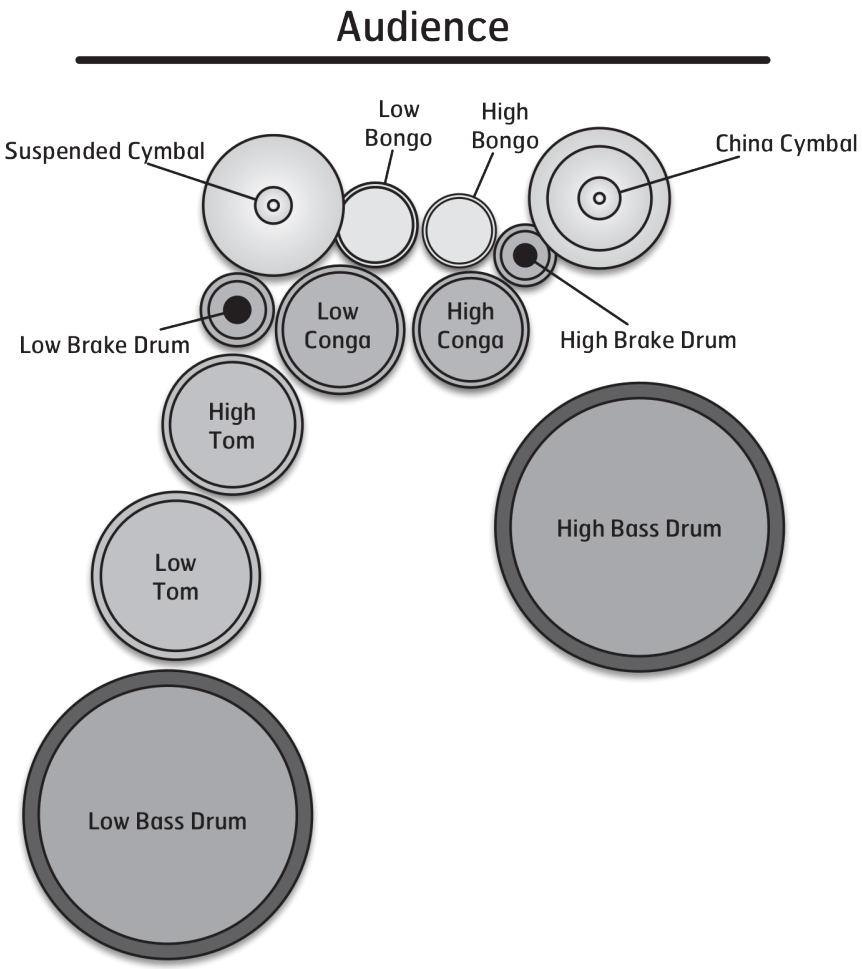
- **1 china cymbal** (16")
- **1 suspended cymbal** (18")
- **2 brake drums** (1 high, 1 low)
- **1 set of bongos**
- **1 set of congas** (1 high, 1 low)
- **2 concert toms** (1 high, 1 low)
- **2 bass drums** (1 high, 1 low)

Notation Key





Suggested Setup



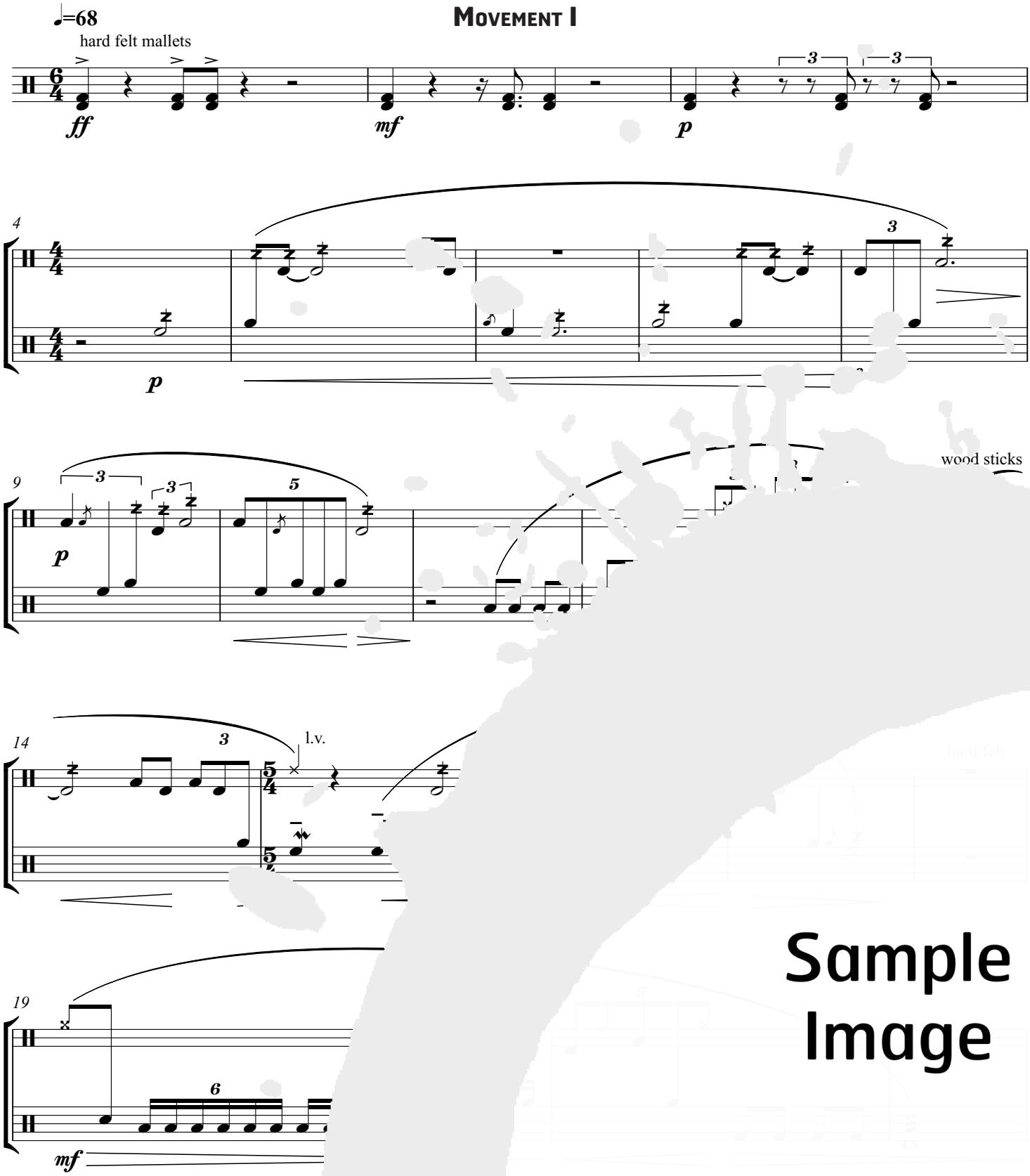
Level: Med-Advanced
Approx. playing time: 6'40"

for Matt Keown

Constructive Interference

Alan Keown

Movement I



Sample Image

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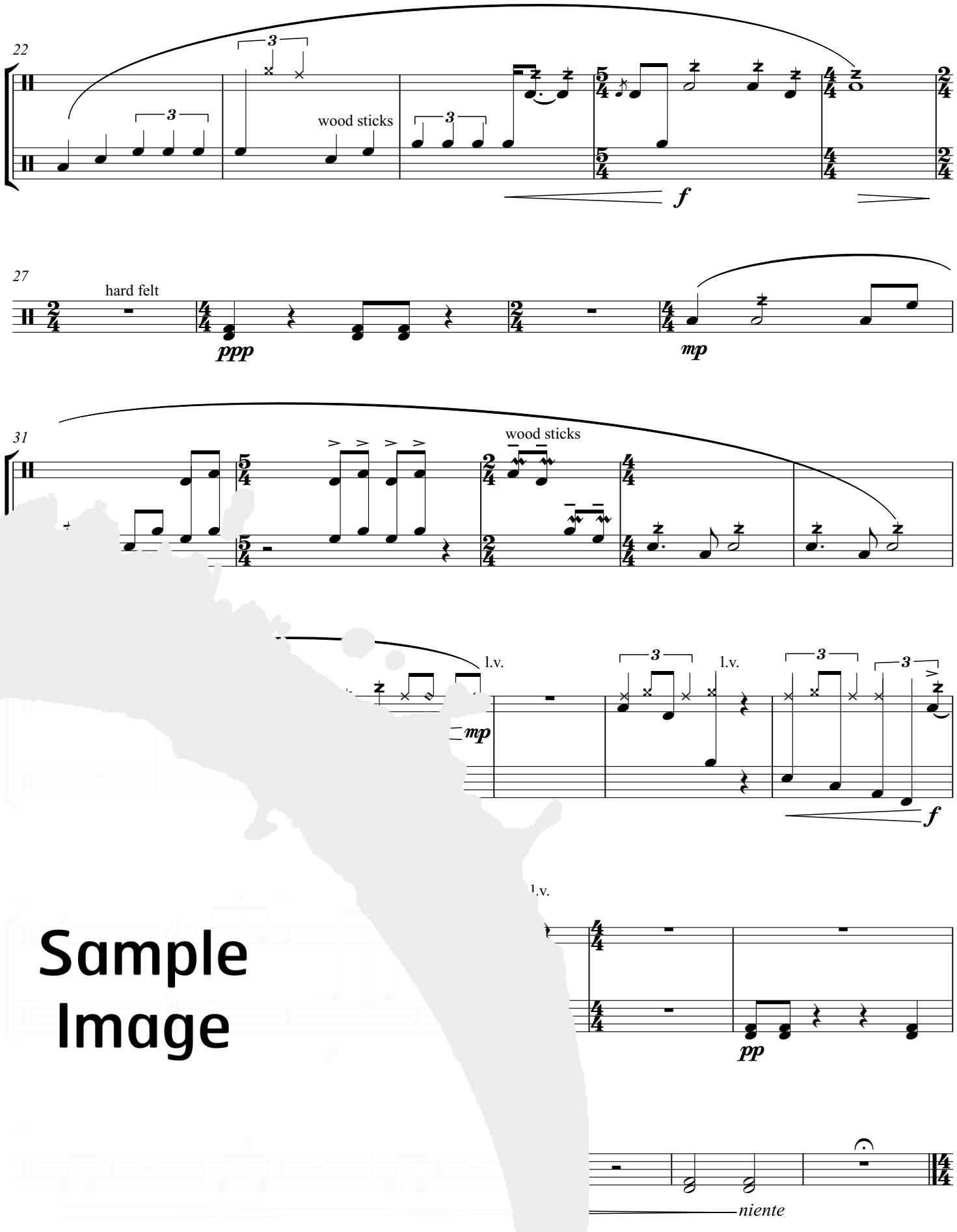

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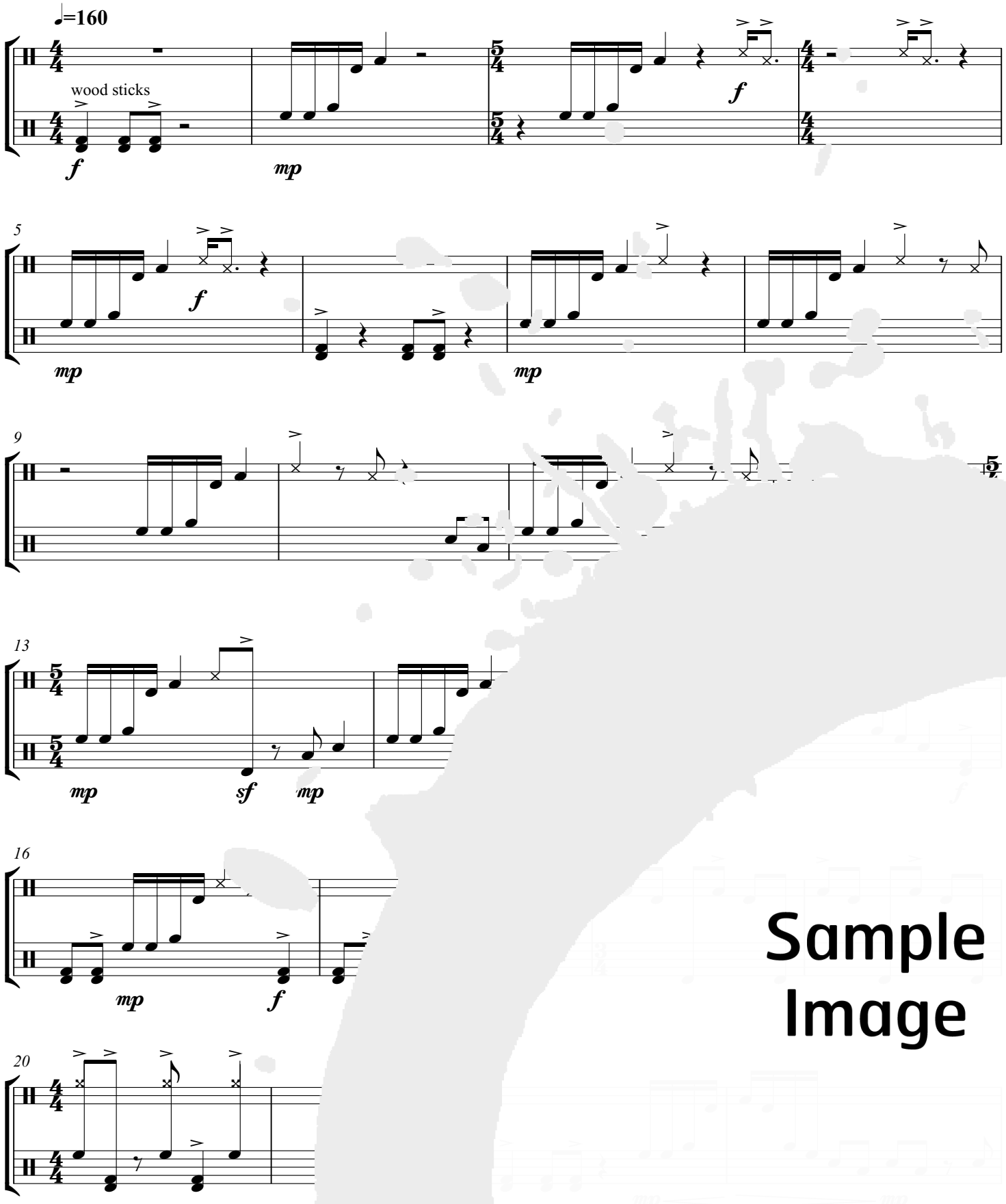
Movement II



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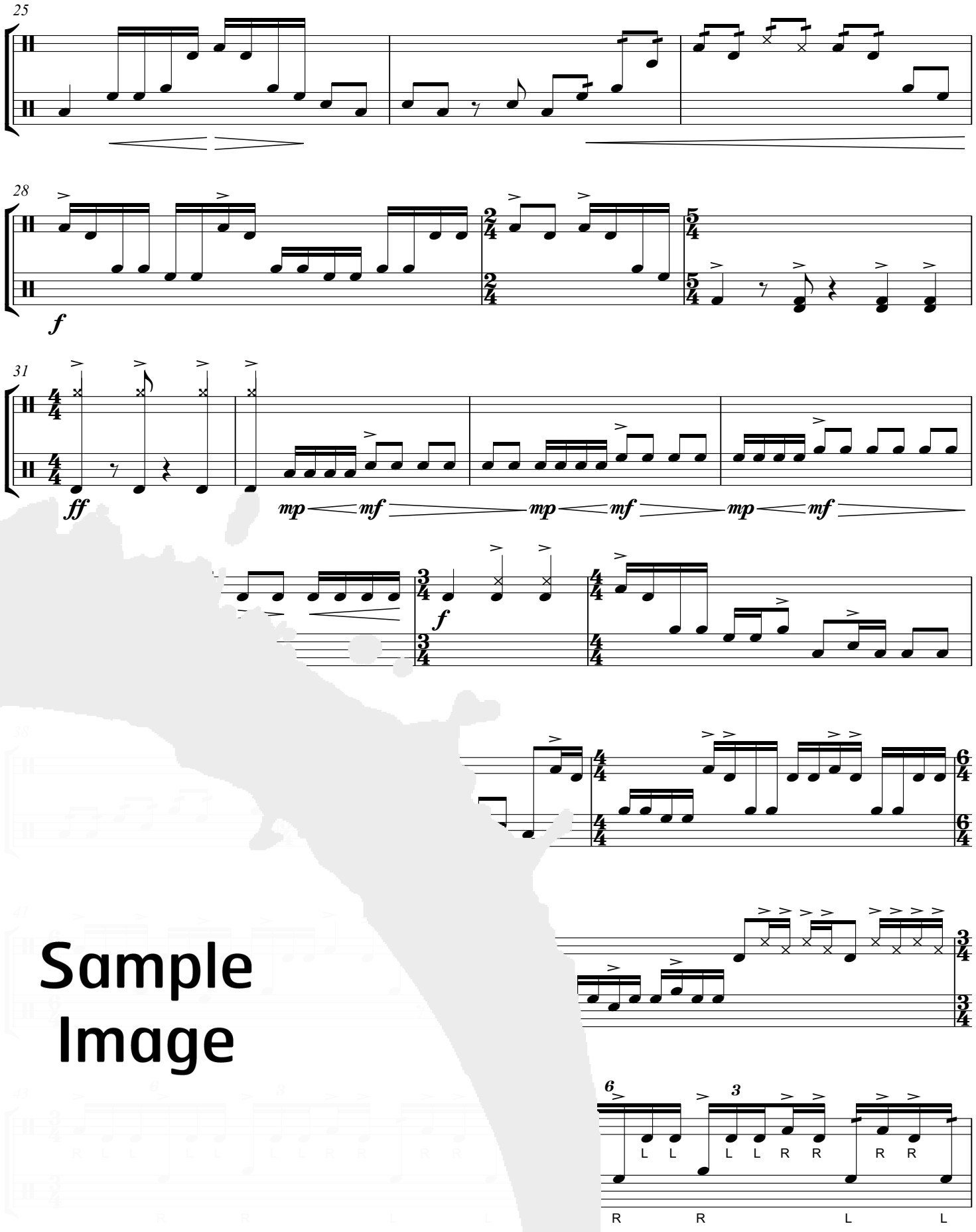

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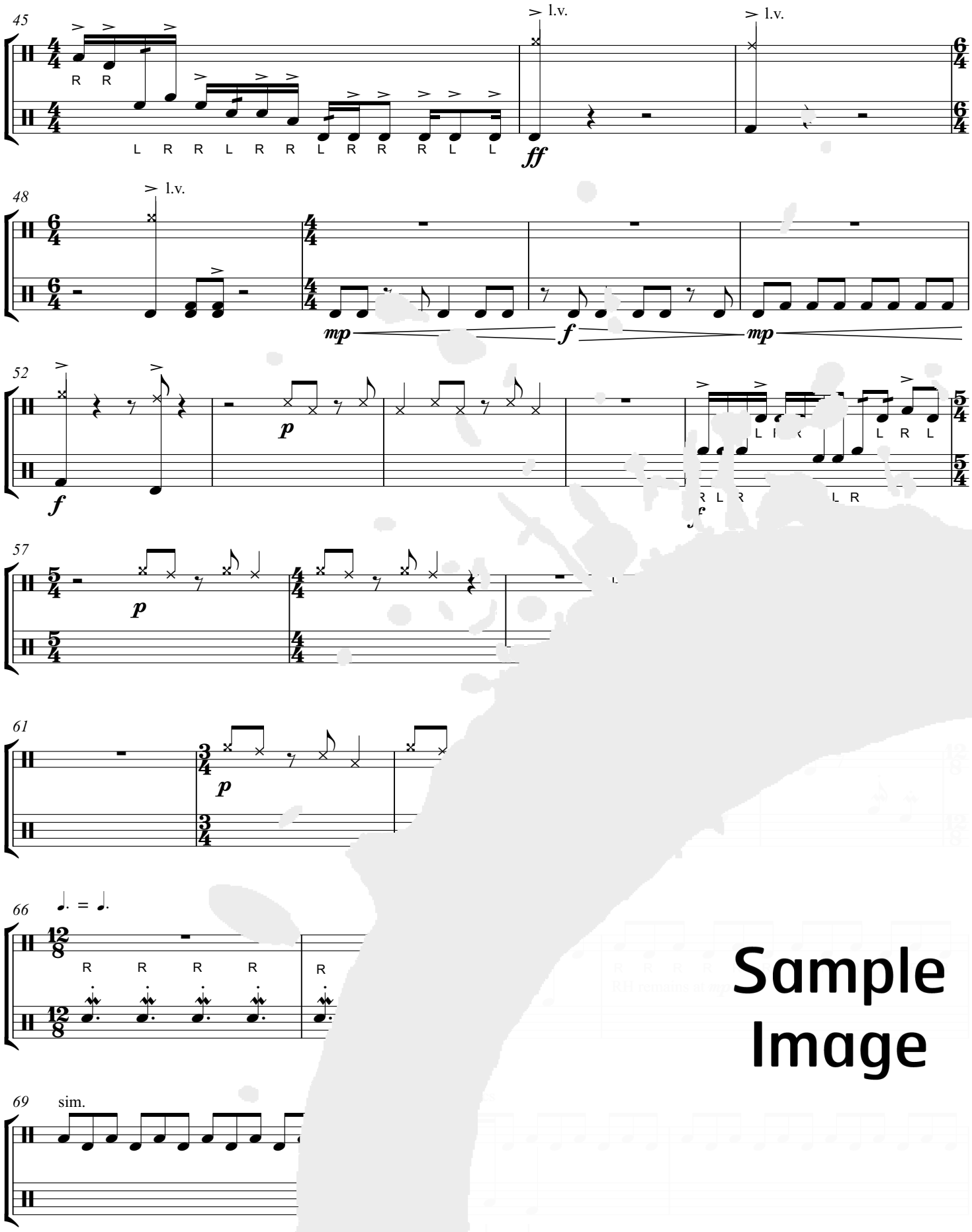

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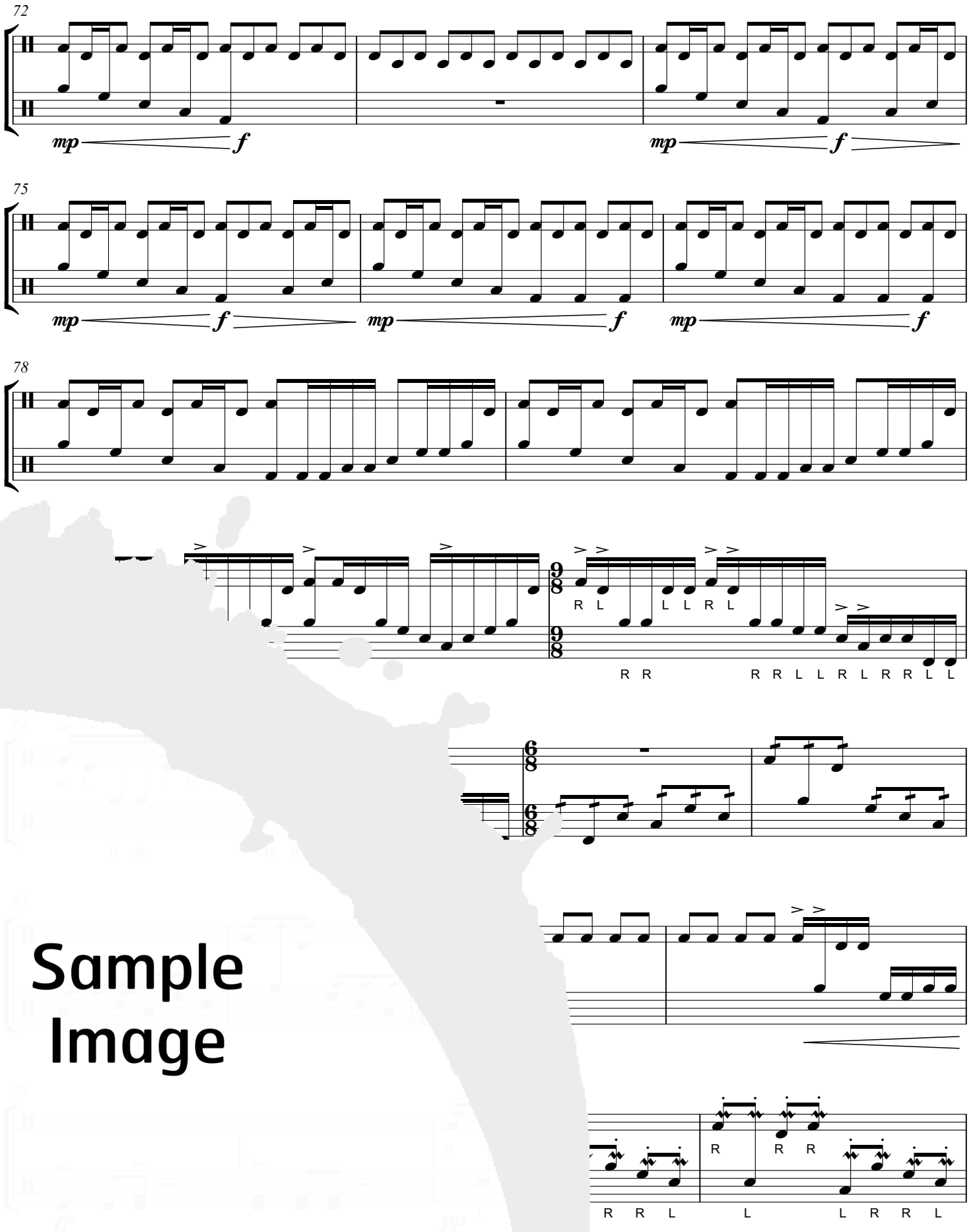

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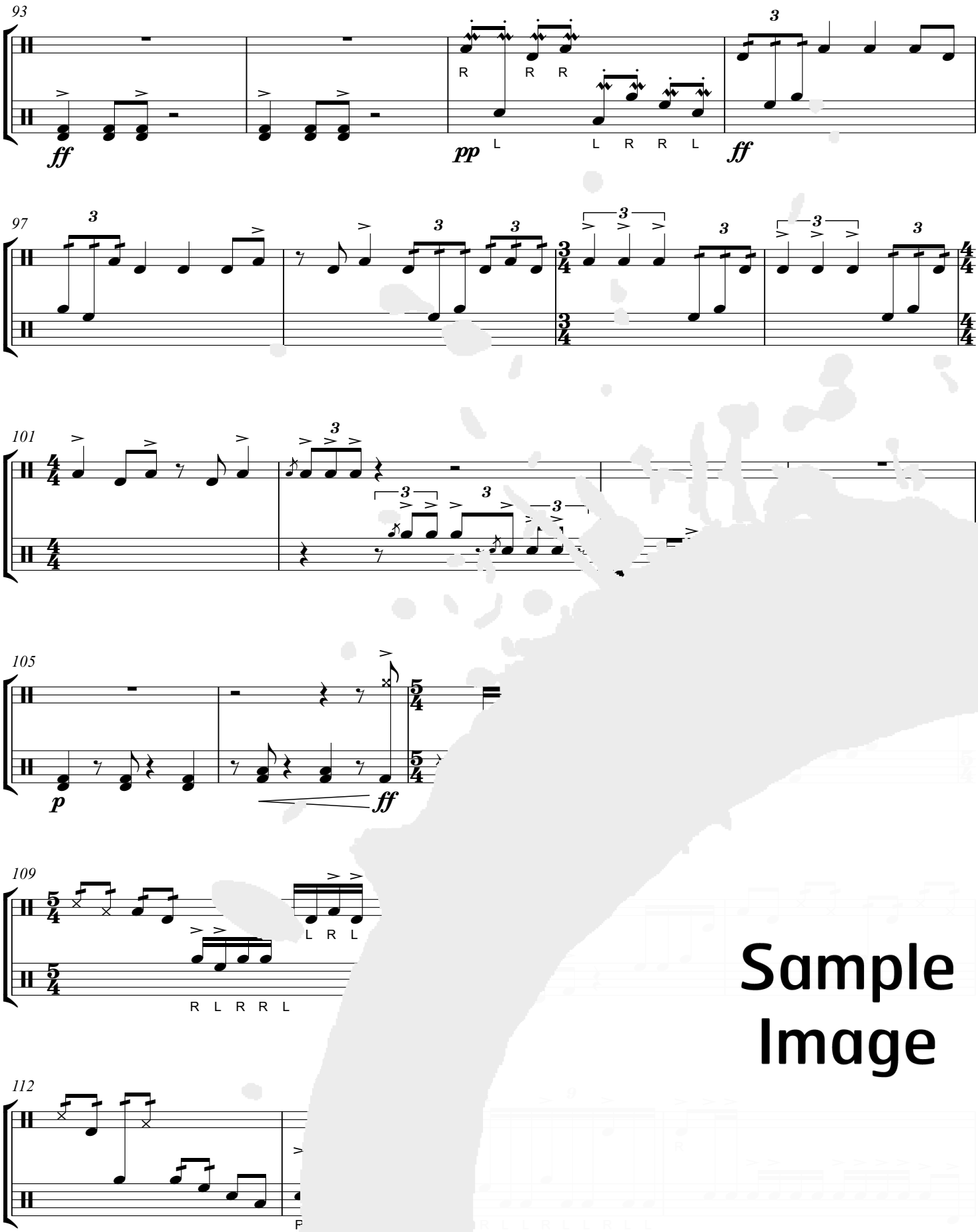

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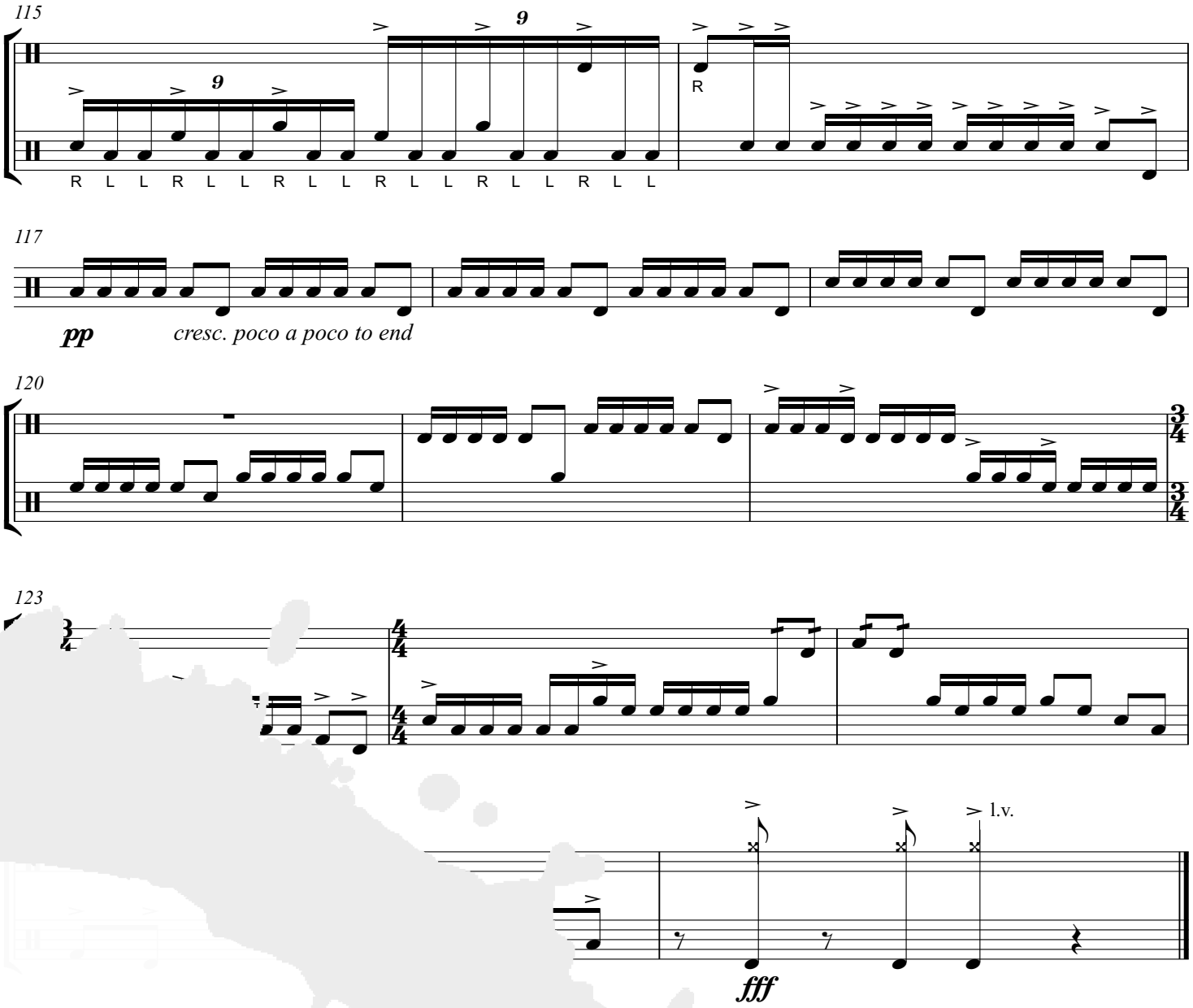

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