The Tale is Told

PETER TERRY

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Instrumentation

Full Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Violin III (Viola T.C.)	3
Viola	5
Cello	5
Bass	5
Piano (Rehearsal Only)	1

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About the Composer

Peter Terry (b. 1957) is an award-winning composer, conductor and educator. He holds a bachelor's degree in trumpet from the University of Michigan, a master's degree in music composition and theory from Bowling Green State University, and a doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin in music composition and theory with an emphasis in computer music synthesis and applications.

Dr. Terry's compositions have been performed and broadcast worldwide and appear on numerous contest and festival required music lists. With over 40 works published by Carl Fischer, BRS Music, Dorn Publications and Music for Percussion, Inc., Dr. Terry is sought out for commissions by numerous chamber groups, choirs, concert bands and orchestras. He is accomplished at every level of ensemble writing from beginner to middle school, high school and advanced ensembles. His music is colorful, dramatic, and characterized by a rhythmic verve and a deep lyricism that shows the influences of American popular music, world music and American classical composers such as Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland and Samuel Barber. He is particularly proud of the emphasis on playability and melodic interest for all the instruments in his compositions.

Dr. Terry has served on the faculties of the University of Texas at Austin, Cal State-Los Angeles, Bowling Green State University and Bluffton University. He served on the composition/theory faculty of the Interlochen Arts Camp.

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The Tale is Told

Story telling is an important part of every culture. Stories teach, preach and entertain. In Hawaiian culture this is especially true, and there are many forms of story telling, both with and without music, with chanting and with dance and words in some forms of hula. In western culture many stories start, "Once upon a time...". In Hawaiian culture many stories end with "*Pīpī holo ka'ao*" ("the tale is told/ continues"). This phrase is an encouragement to repeat the tale to future generations, and a reminder that no good story really ever ends. *The Tale is Told* does not attempt to sound like Hawaiian traditional music, but takes inspiration from the idea that every piece is like a story being told, which shapes the structure of this work.

There are three melodic ideas in the piece. The first melody opens the work simply and is repeated with development from 10-17. This sets the mood and introduces the journey in the tale to be experienced.

In 18 we see the tale progressing joyfully forward and introducing a second theme in 26-33 which builds in intensity and sweeps us into a triumphant restatement of this theme in 34.

In measure 44 we see a variation of the opening with a different, more dramatic presentation of the melody in the Bass. In 52 there is a restatement of the music in measure 18, which sweeps us into the music from 34, but this time in e minor. In measure 70 there is a return of the music from 44, bringing the tale to completion.

I hope you find this piece a great resource for teaching expressive contrast, dramatic structure, and different types of lyrical playing.

peterterrycomposer.com peterterrymusic @KendorMusicInc

Recordings are available on all major streaming services.

The Tale is Told

PETER TERRY
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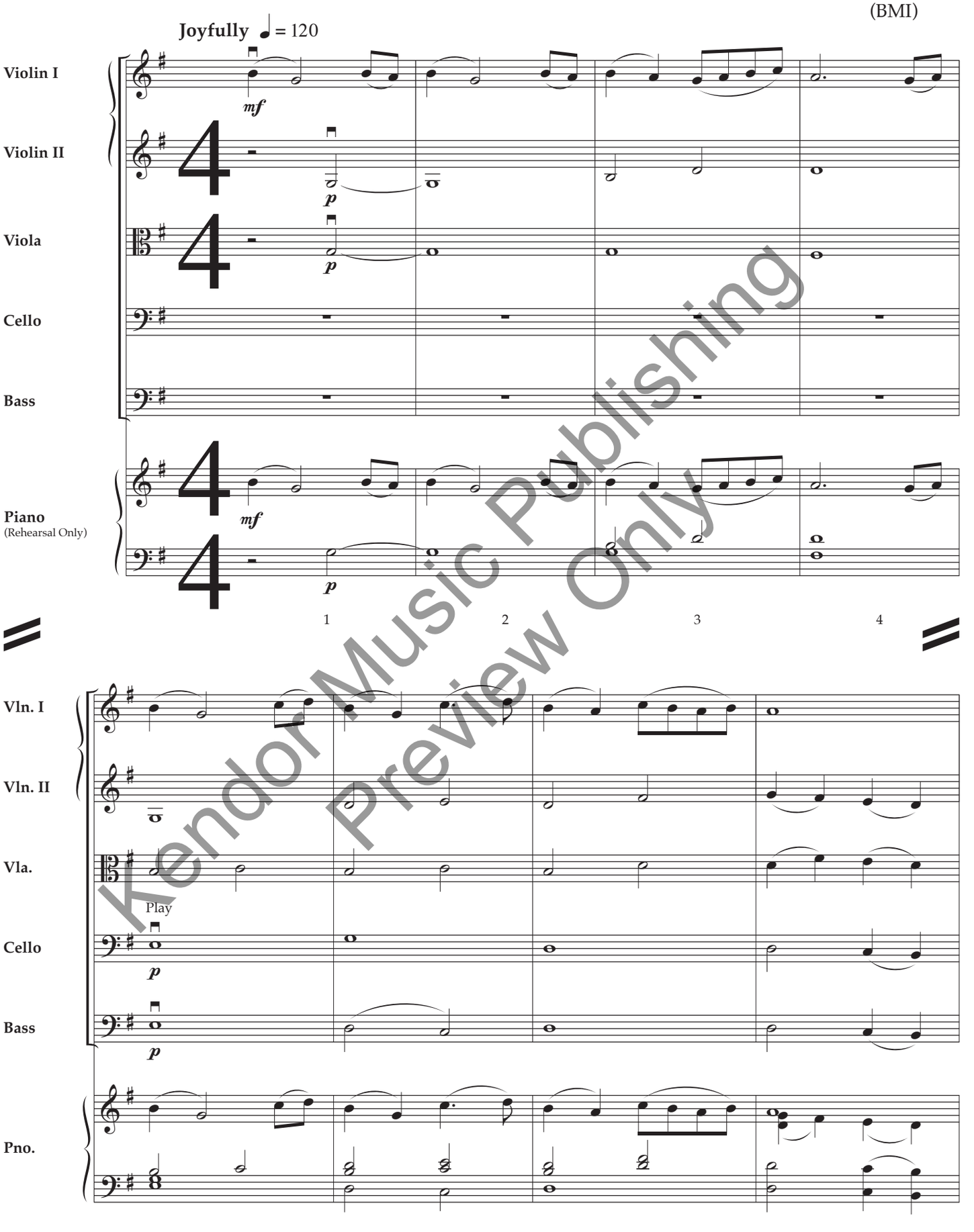

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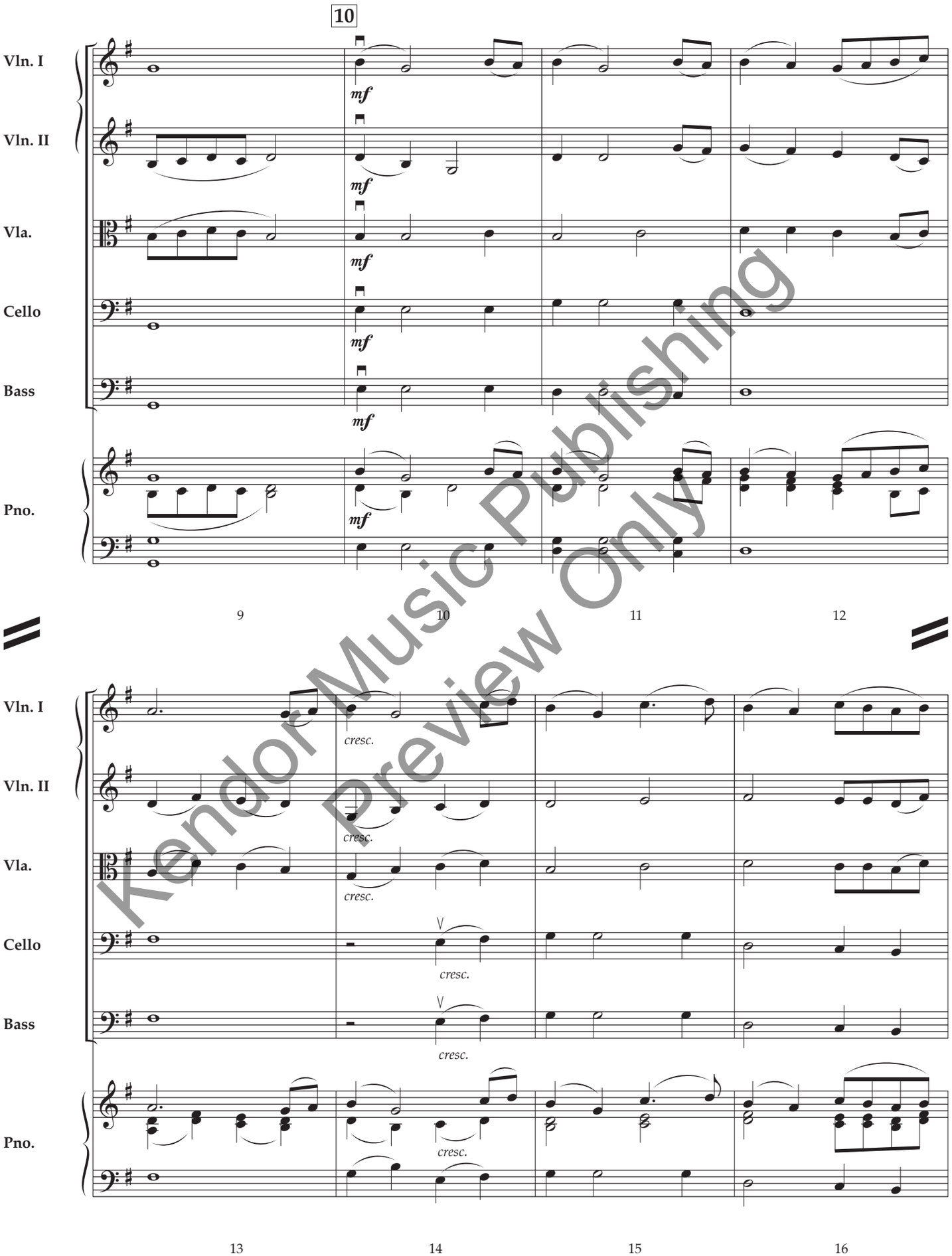

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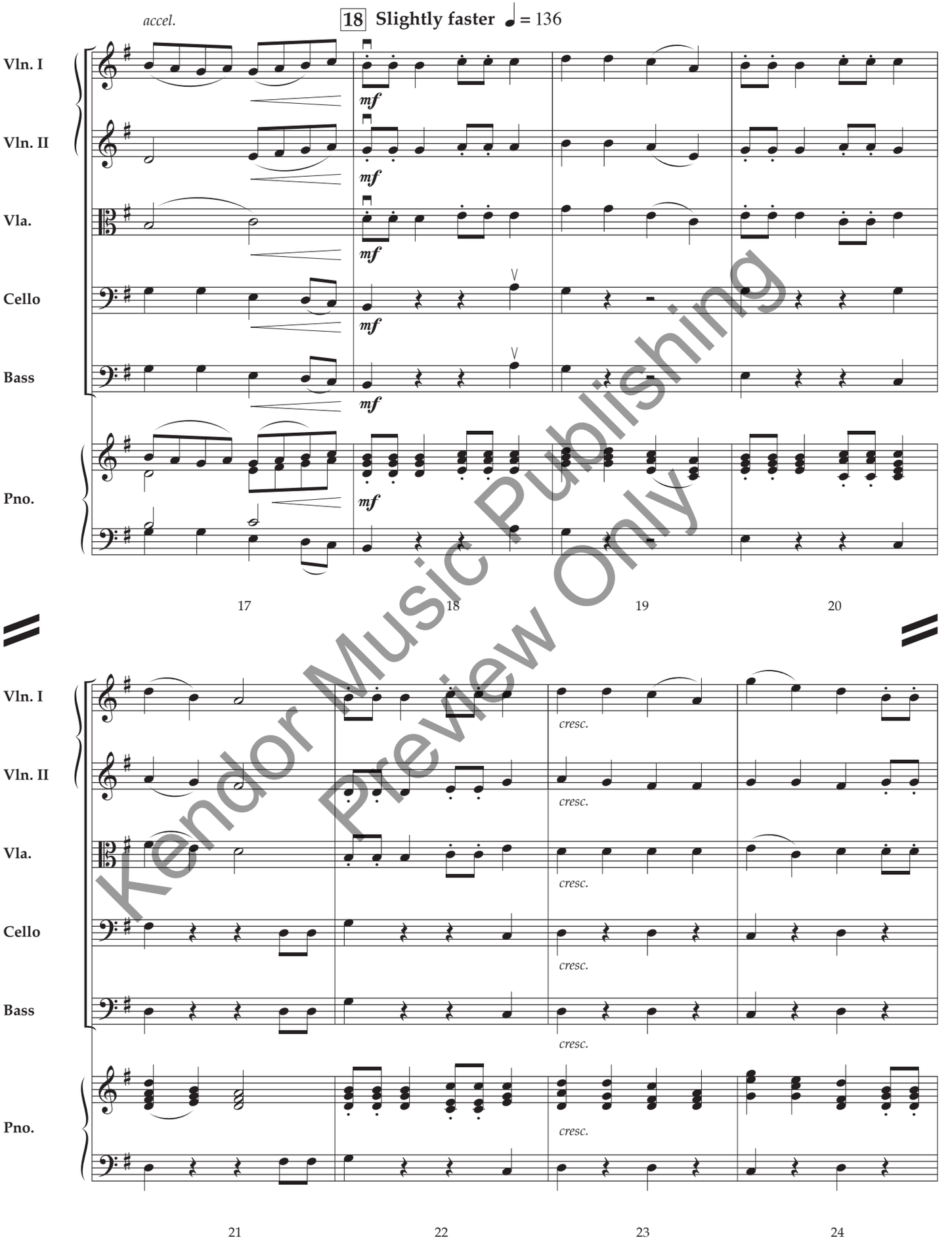

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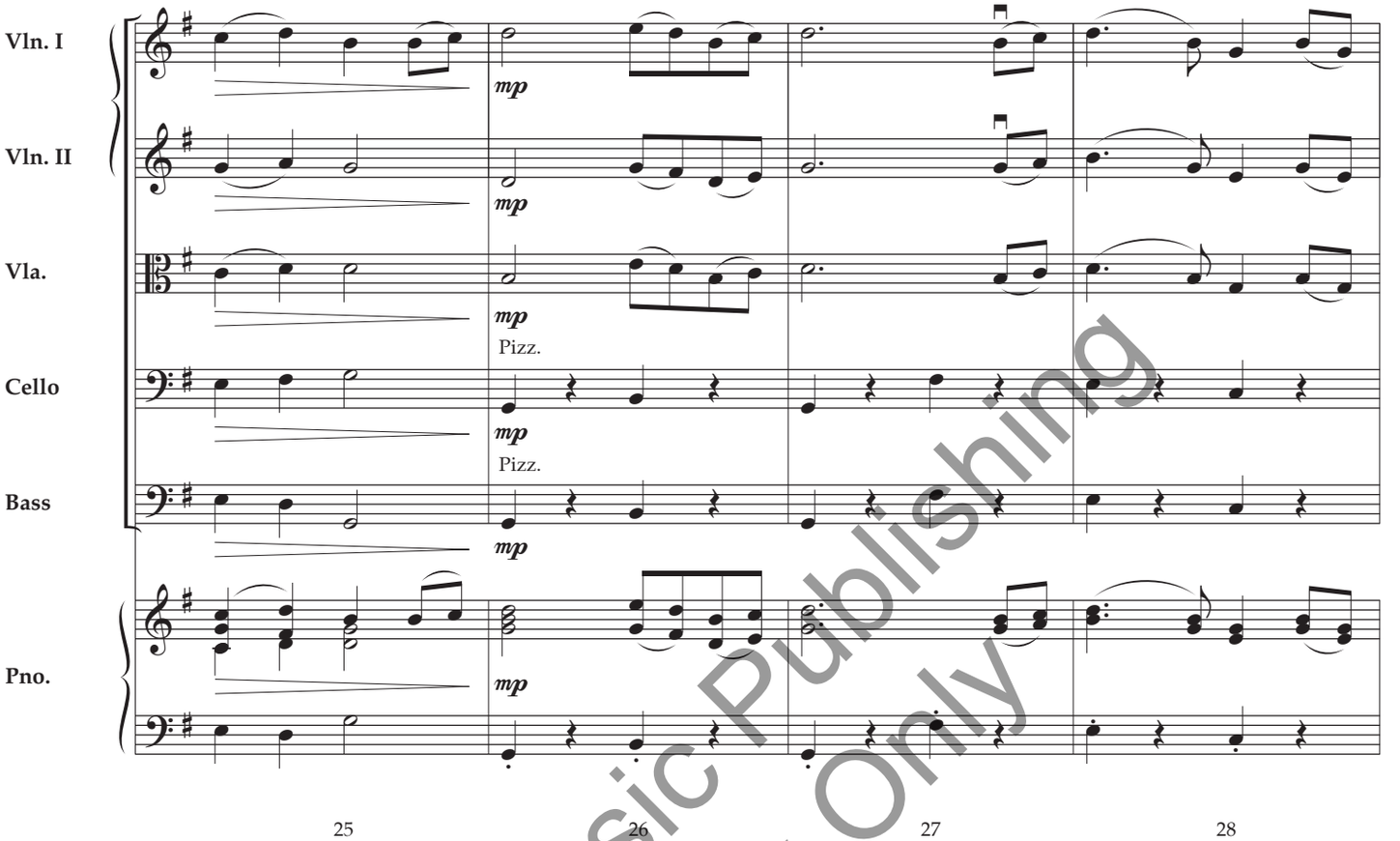

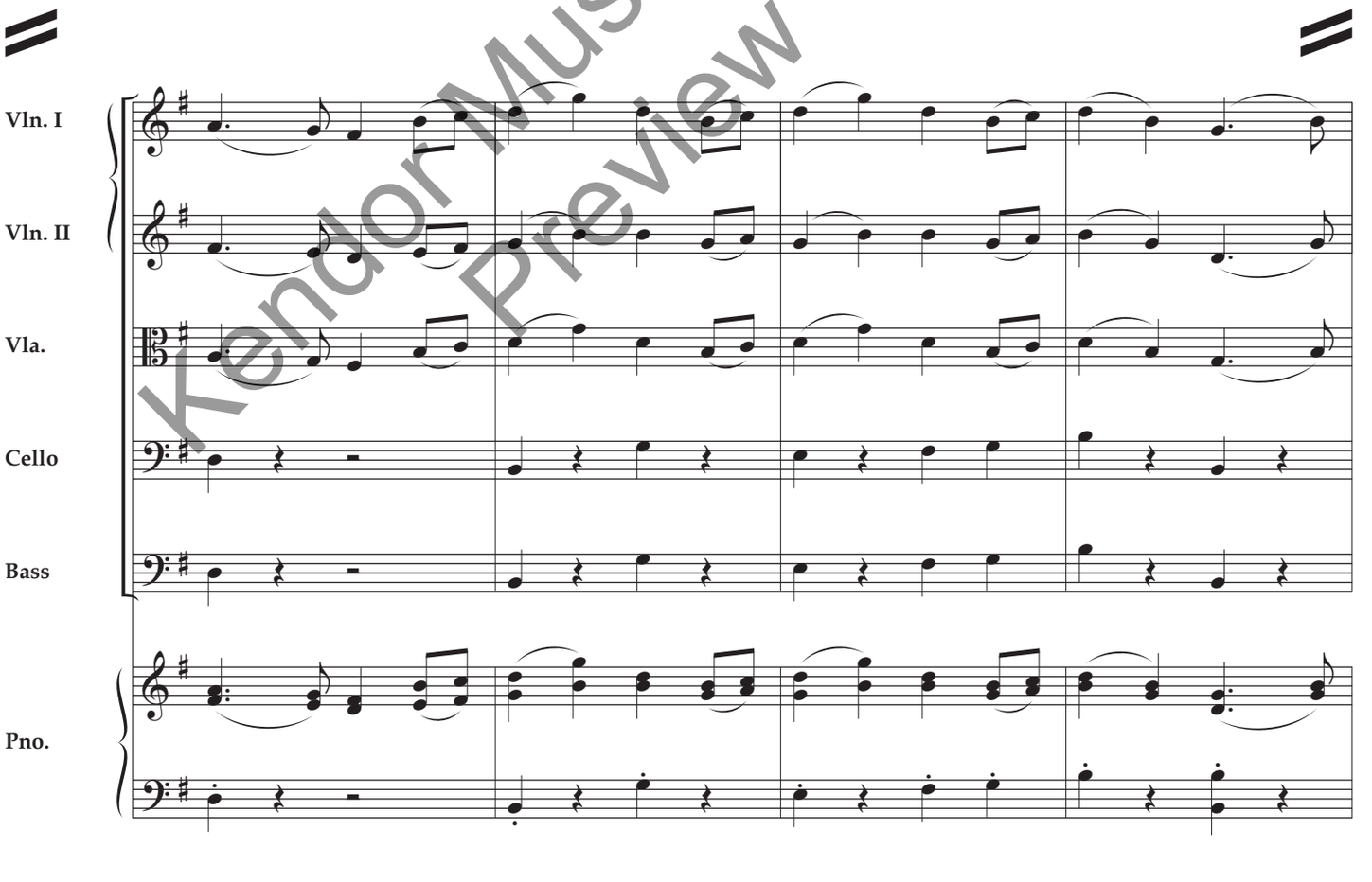

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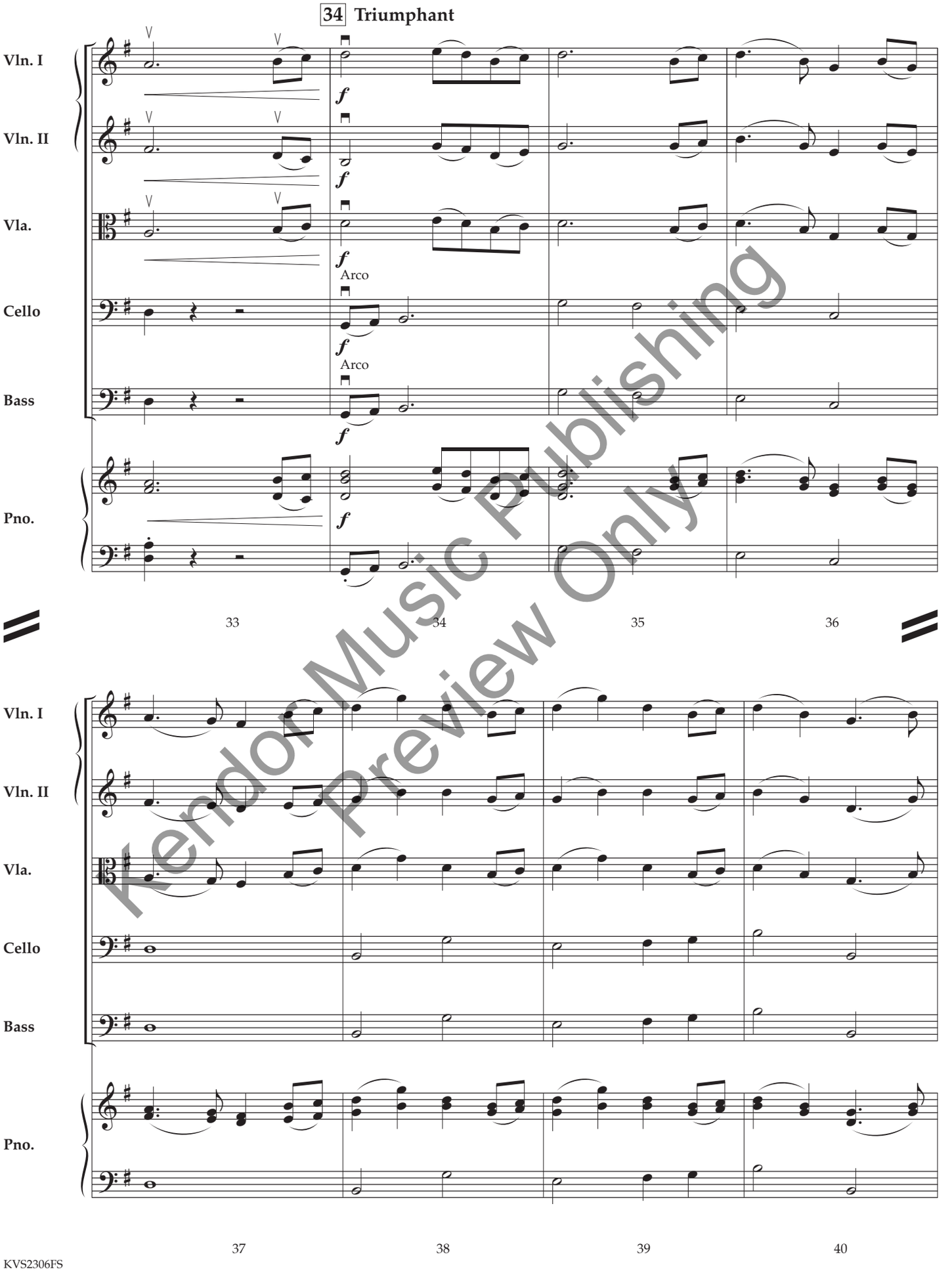

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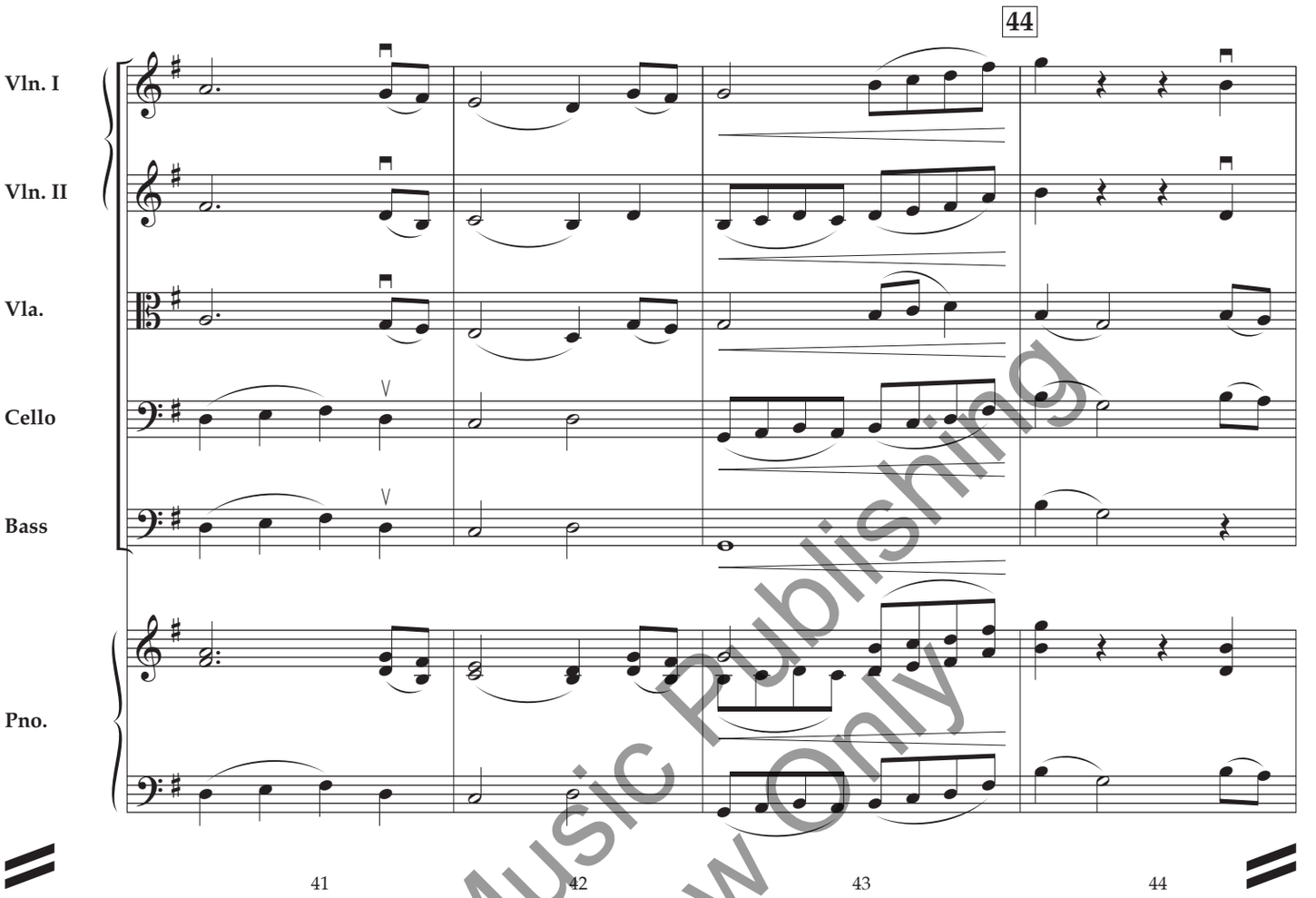

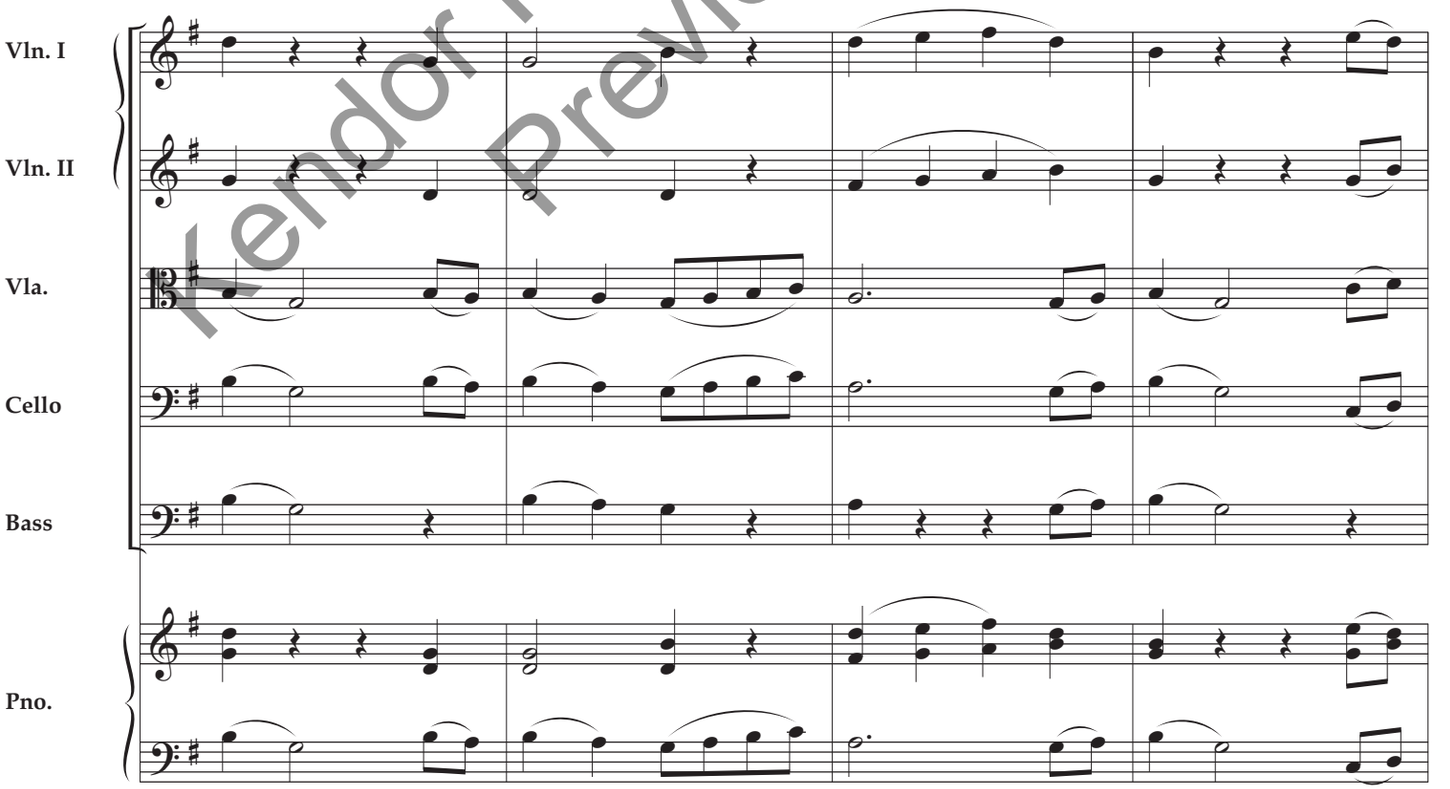

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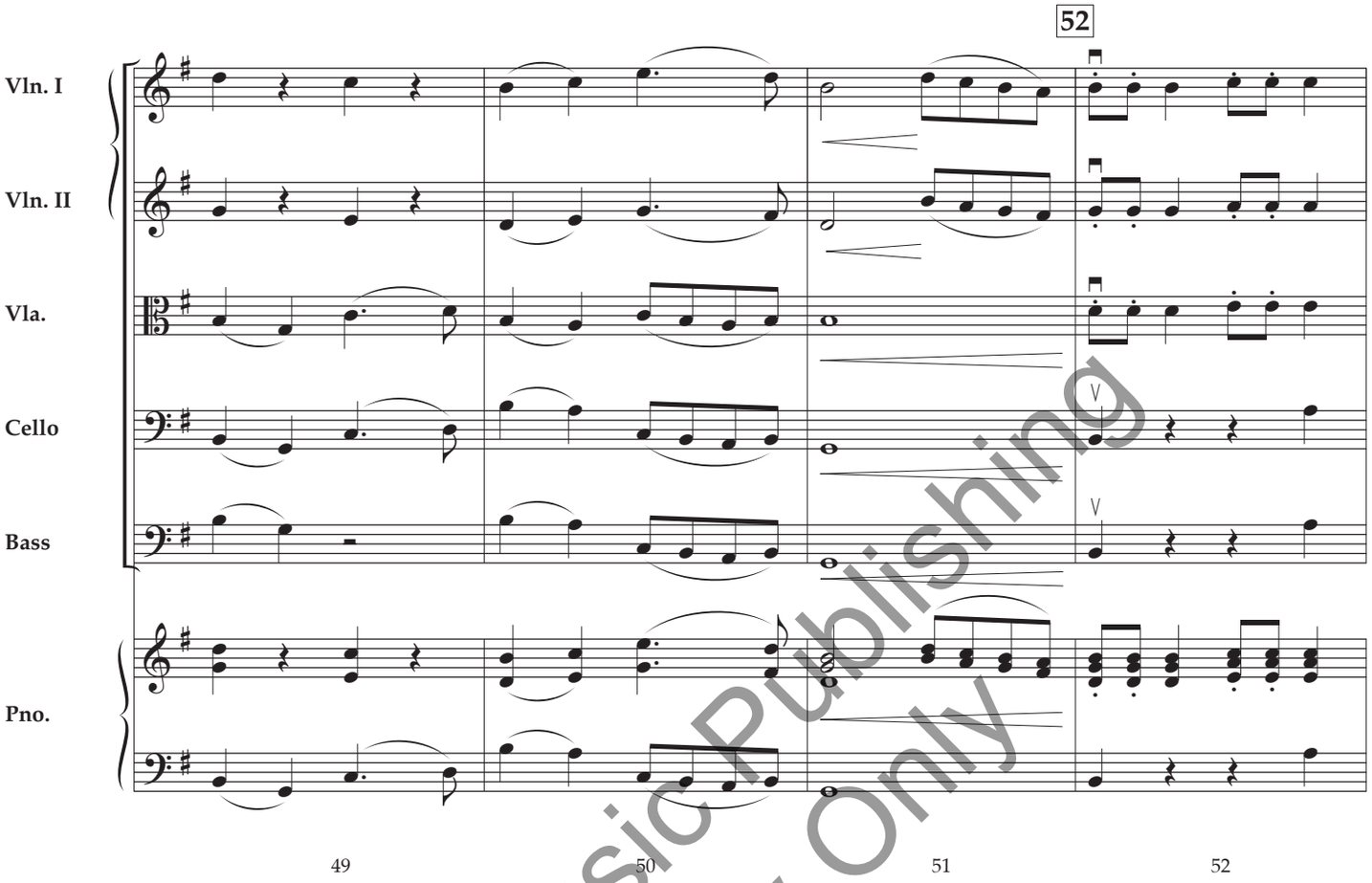

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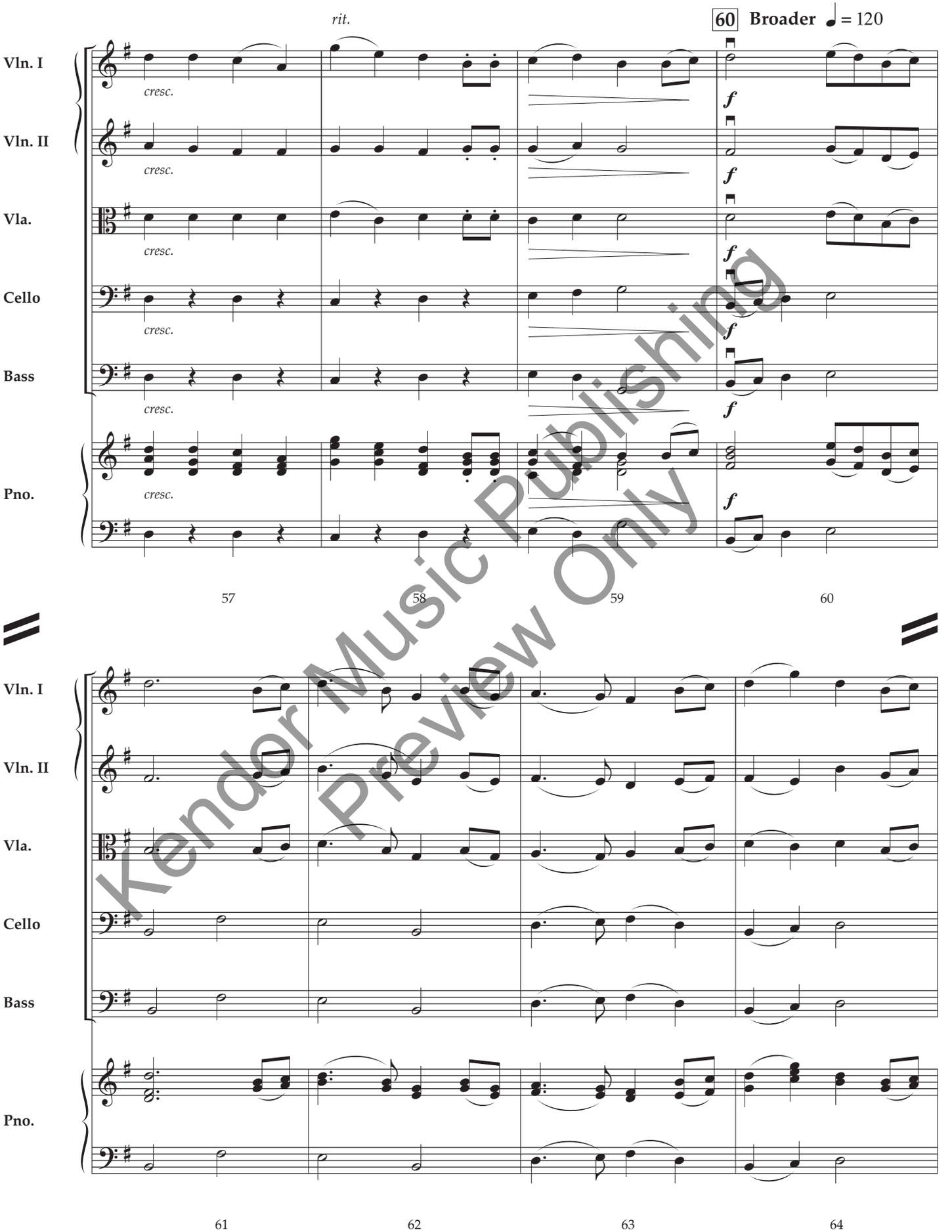

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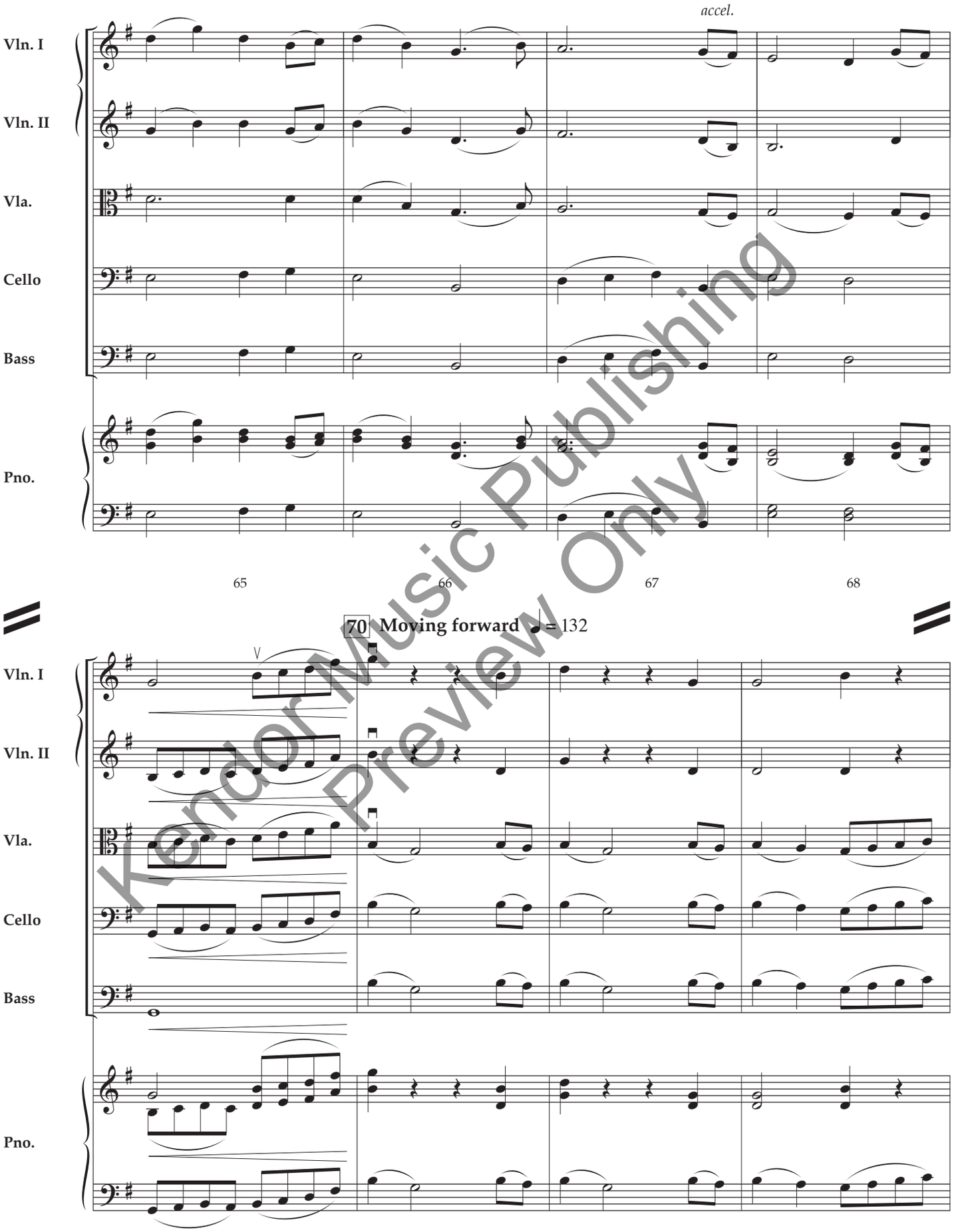

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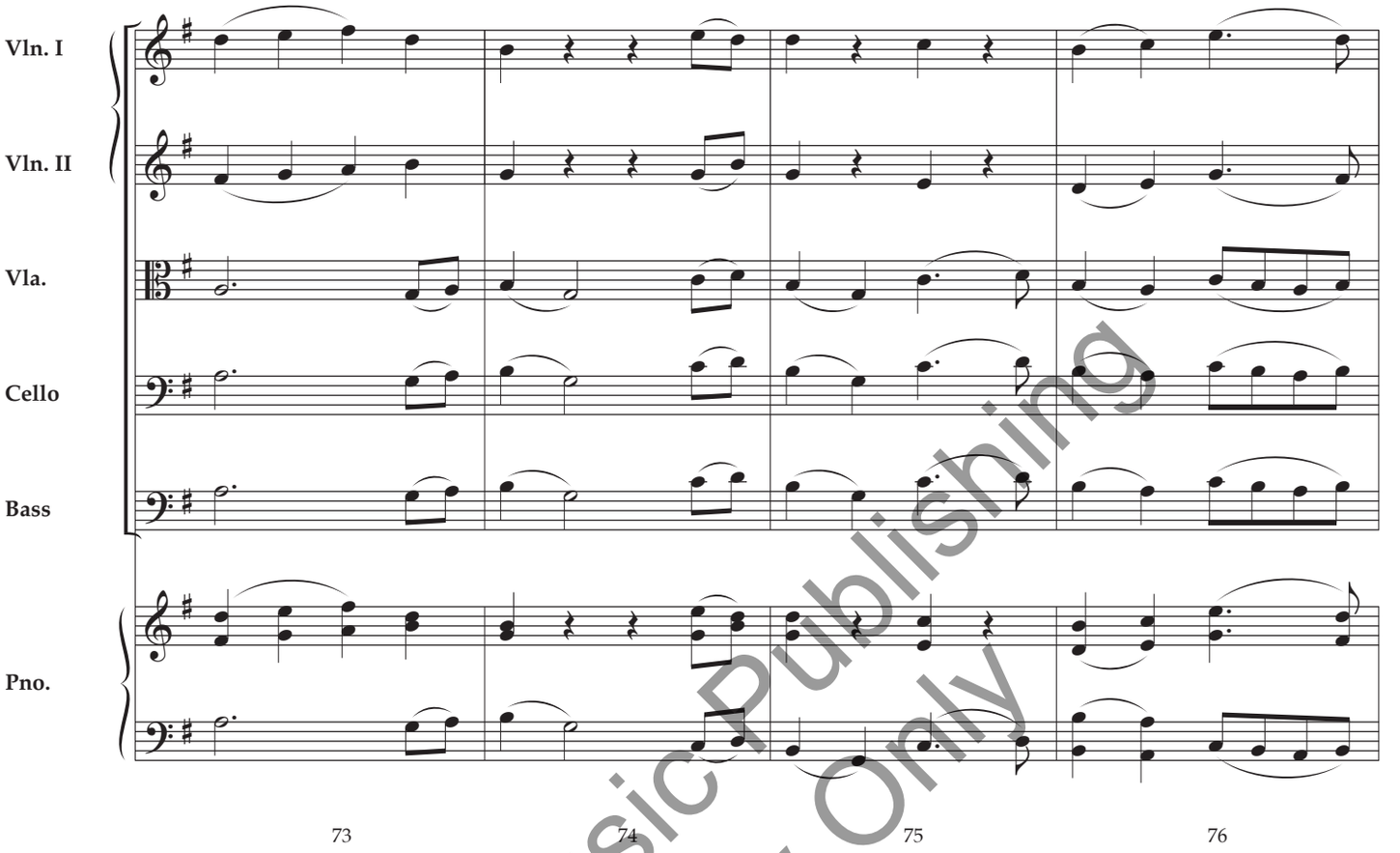

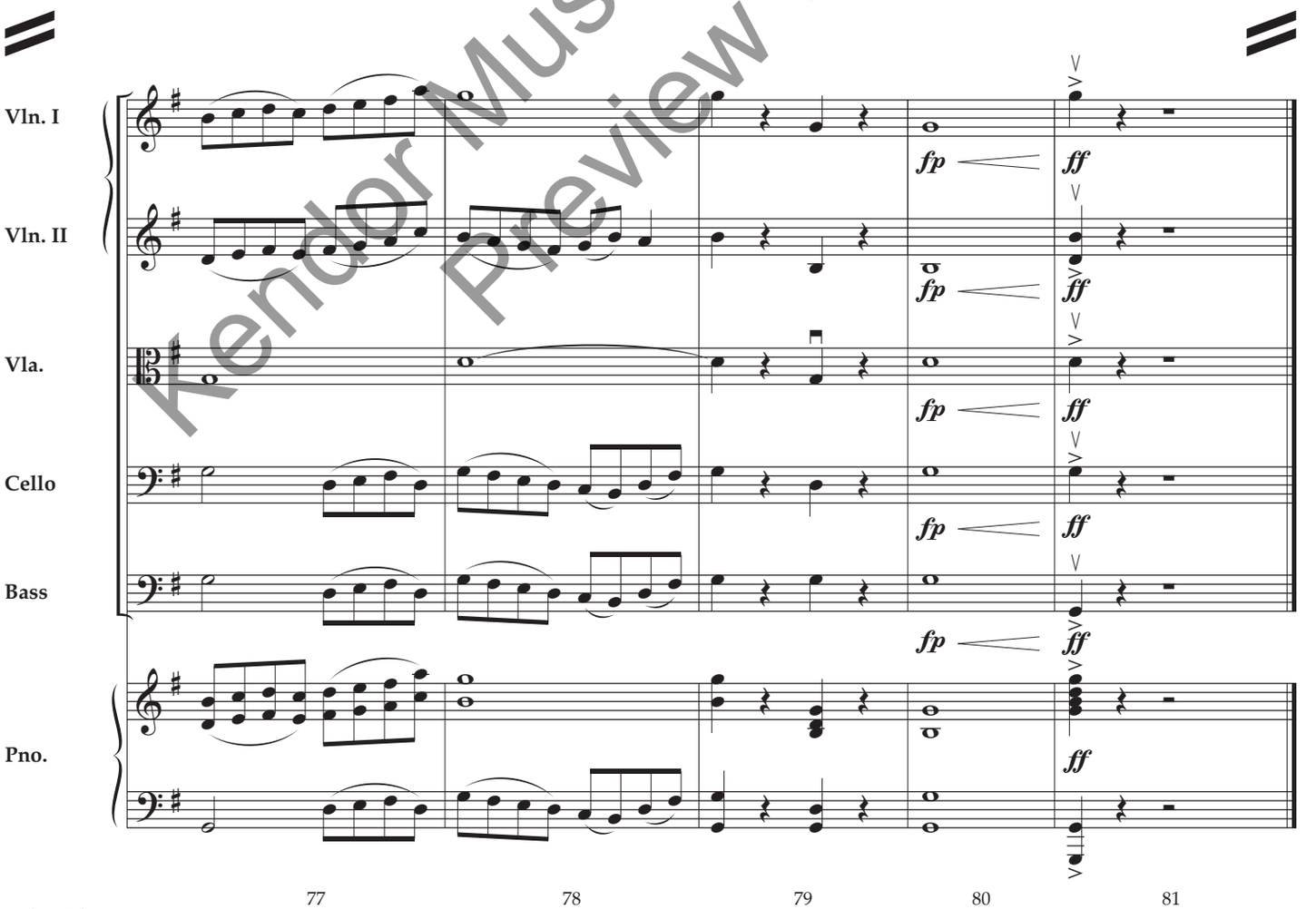

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