JUDITH SHATIN

Mariola

Viola & Marimba

Mendigo Music

Program Note

The Piedmont Duo's unique combination of viola and marimba inspired the title *Mariola*, which delightfully suggests the instrument names and also refers to a hardy shrub that grows in the Southwest of the US and can handle extremely dry conditions. It overcomes them to blossom in the summer with delicate white flowers. This provided a rich metaphor for the compositional process, from pushing ideas into shape to their gradual flourishing. Likewise, it embodies the interpretive process, growing from study and practice that gradually brings performance to fruition. The piece begins with the intensity of seeds taking root and growing. The harmonic anchor gradually changes, and ultimately rises a major second as the plants reach the light, culminating in a stratospheric registral close. I am delighted that my colleagues and dear friends Ayn Balija and I-Jen Fang, the founders of the innovative Piedmont Duo, not only commissioned this piece, but also enthusiastically collaborated in exploring the marvelous range of their instruments. For more information visit www.judithshatin.com.

World Premiere
Ayn Balija & I-Je Fang
Old Cabell Hall
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA
3/22/2024

Duration: 8:45

Performance Notes

Accidentals apply in register throughout the bar.

Accelerating or slowing grouped notes do not indicate the precise number of notes.

Viola

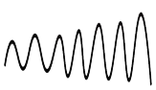
s.p. Sul ponticello

msp. Molto sul ponticello

q.s.p. Quasi sul ponticello

1/2 1/2 Dampen low G with bow on string.

Indicates intensitifcation of bow pressure to the point of noise.



Represents the amount of bow to use in relation to the dynamic level.

Marimba

Wrap sticks, such as a rubber mallet shafts, once around with moleskin, extending about 2" up.

Soft yarn

Medium soft yarn

Medium hard yarn

x

x notehead indicates a rim shot. To perform this, hit the key and the edge with the moleskin-wrapped mallet(s) held as flat as possible. The result is an extremely strong contact sound that includes pitch.

Square noteheads indicate a hit on the edge of the key, again using the moleskin-wrapped mallets, making a contact sound that is strong, but not as powerful as the rim shot. Again, the pitch should be clearly heard.

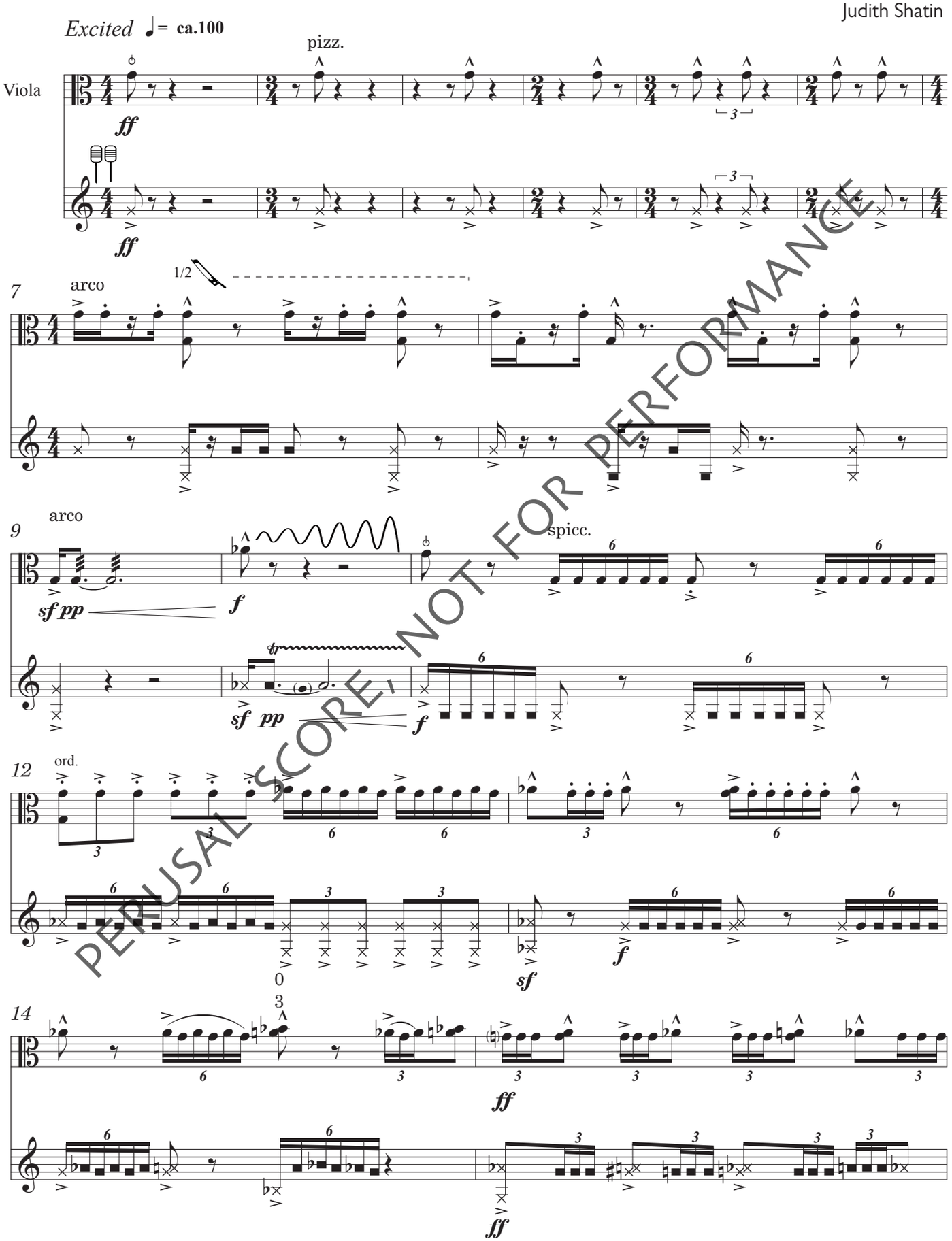
+ A cross indicates a dead stroke

1/2 **+** Indicates a half-muted stroke

To Ayn Balija and I-Jen Fang

Mariola

Judith Shatin



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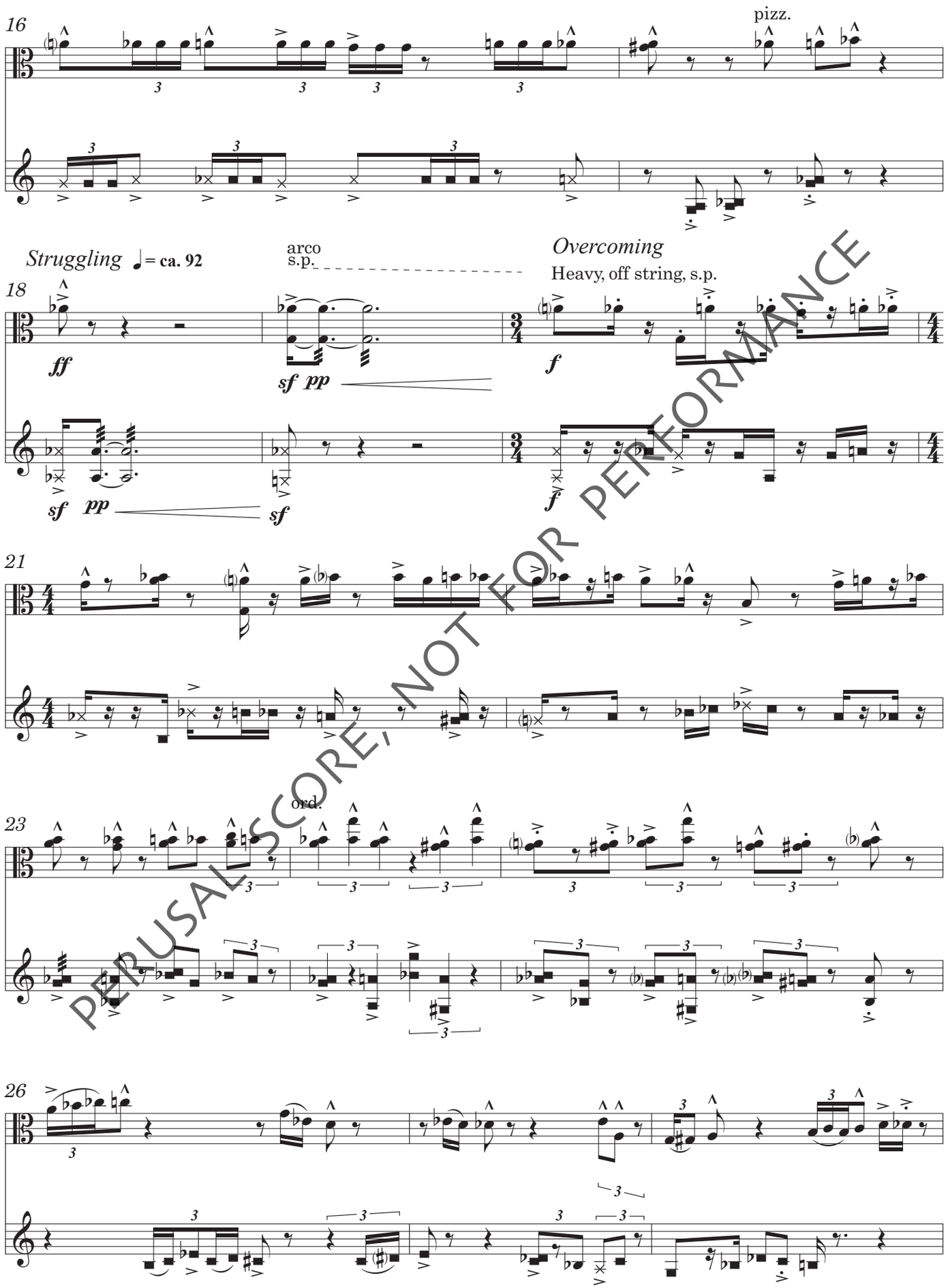

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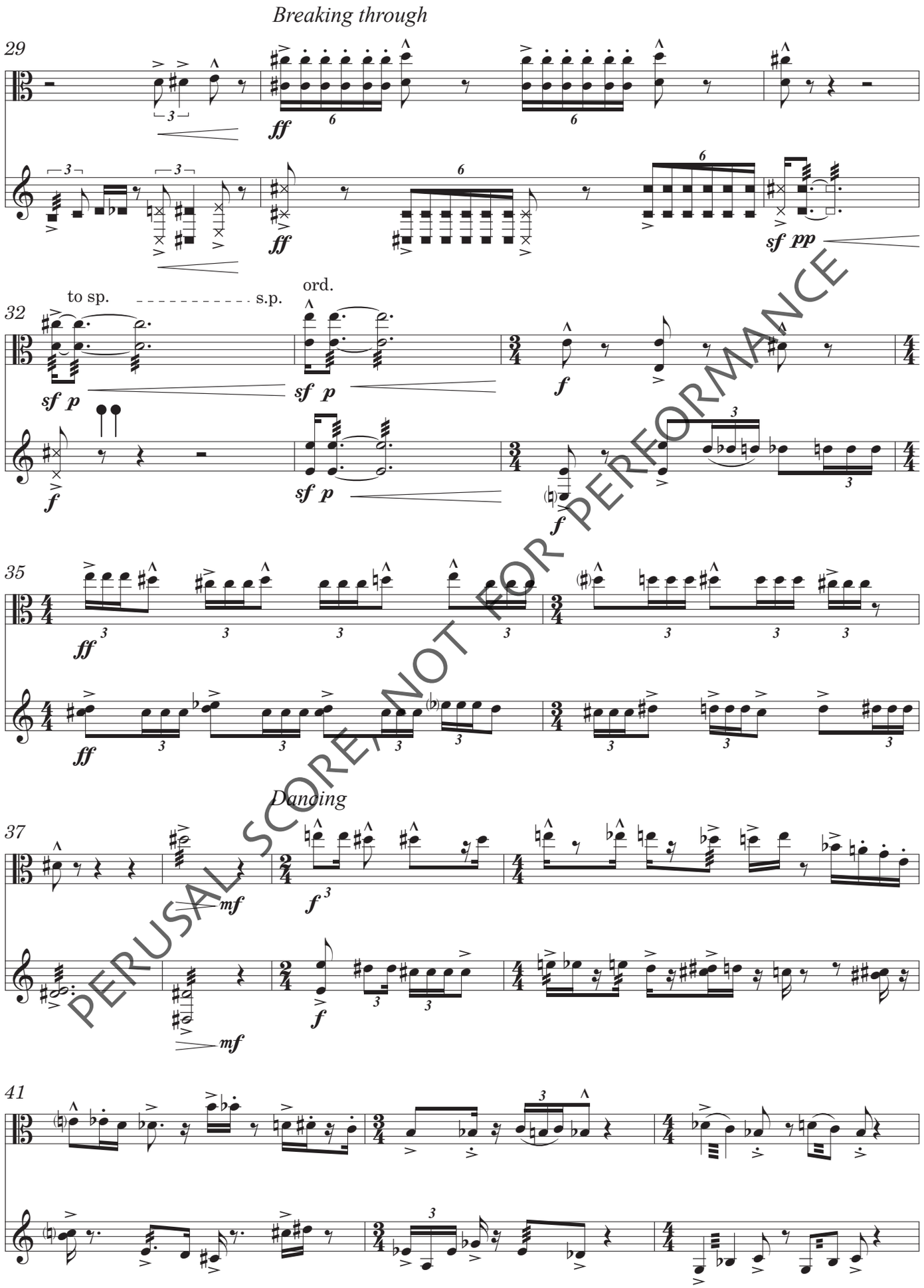

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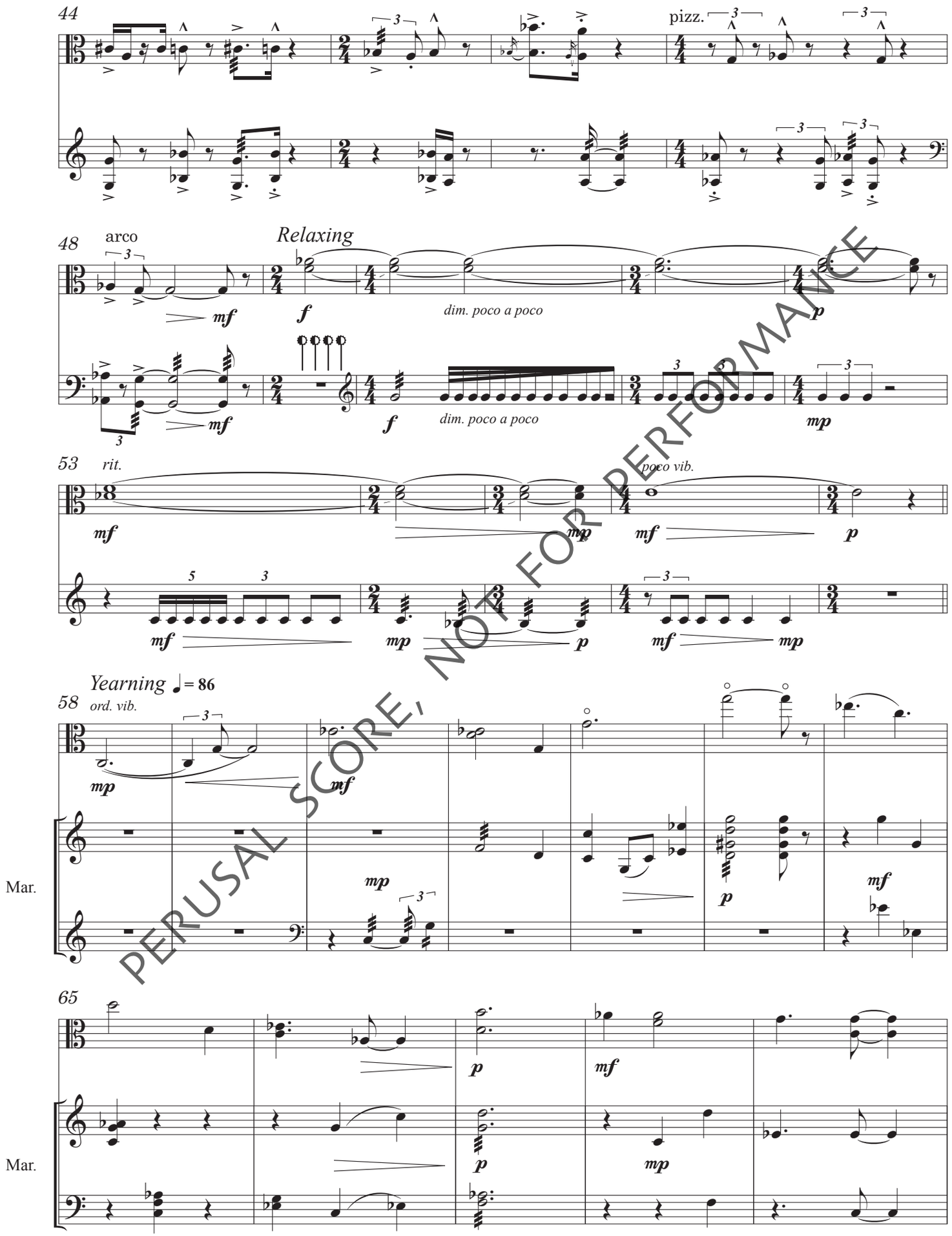

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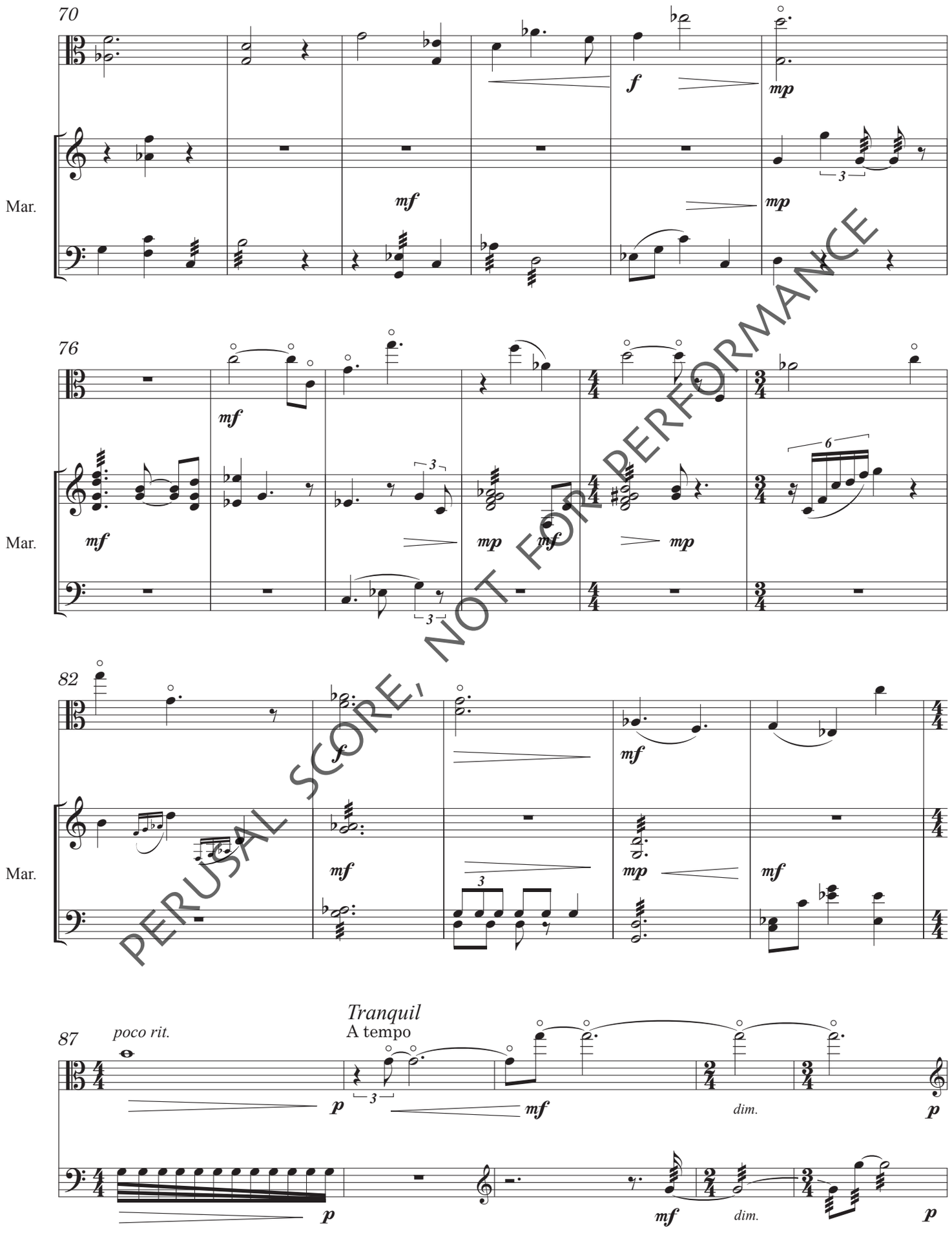

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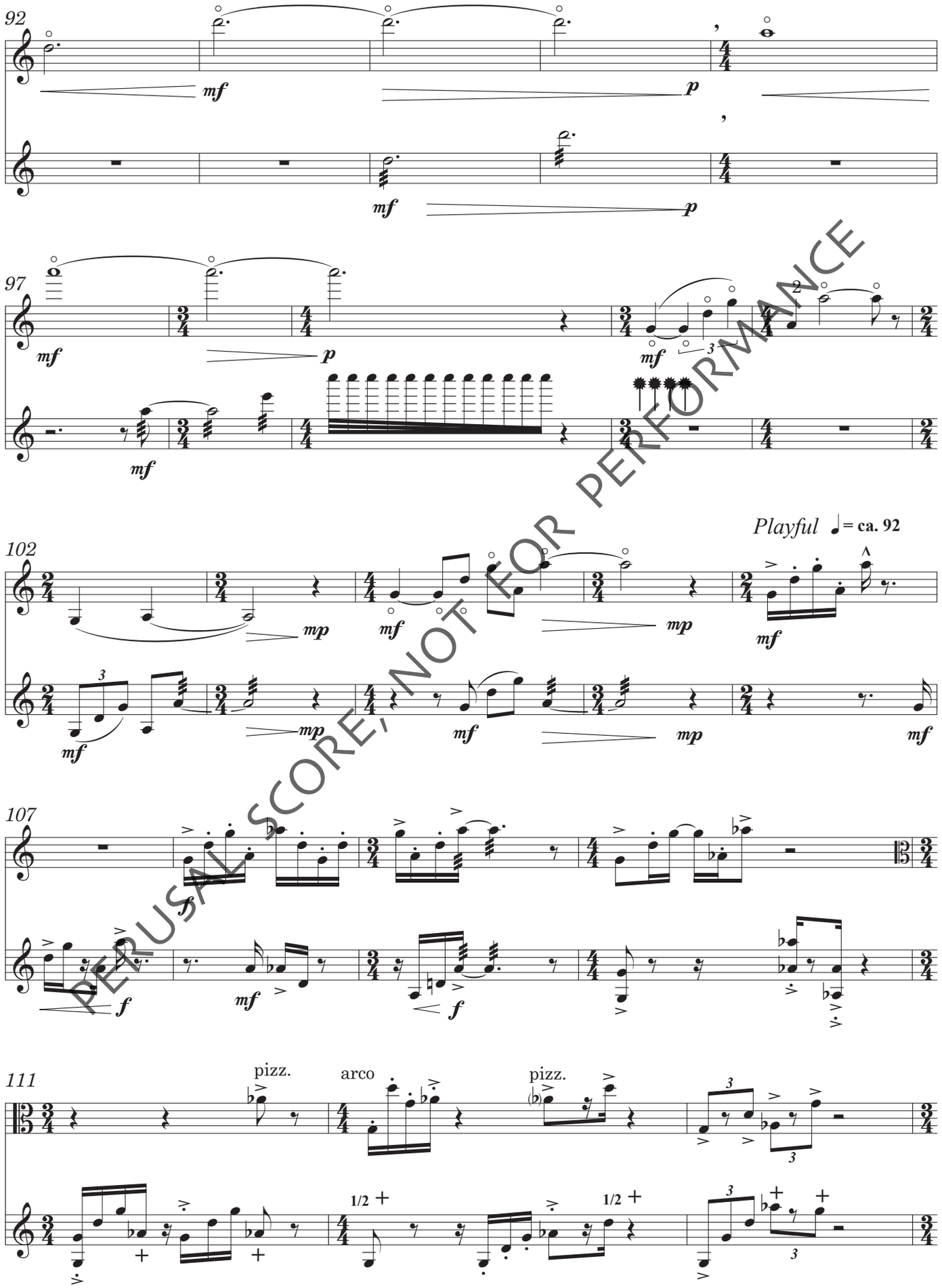

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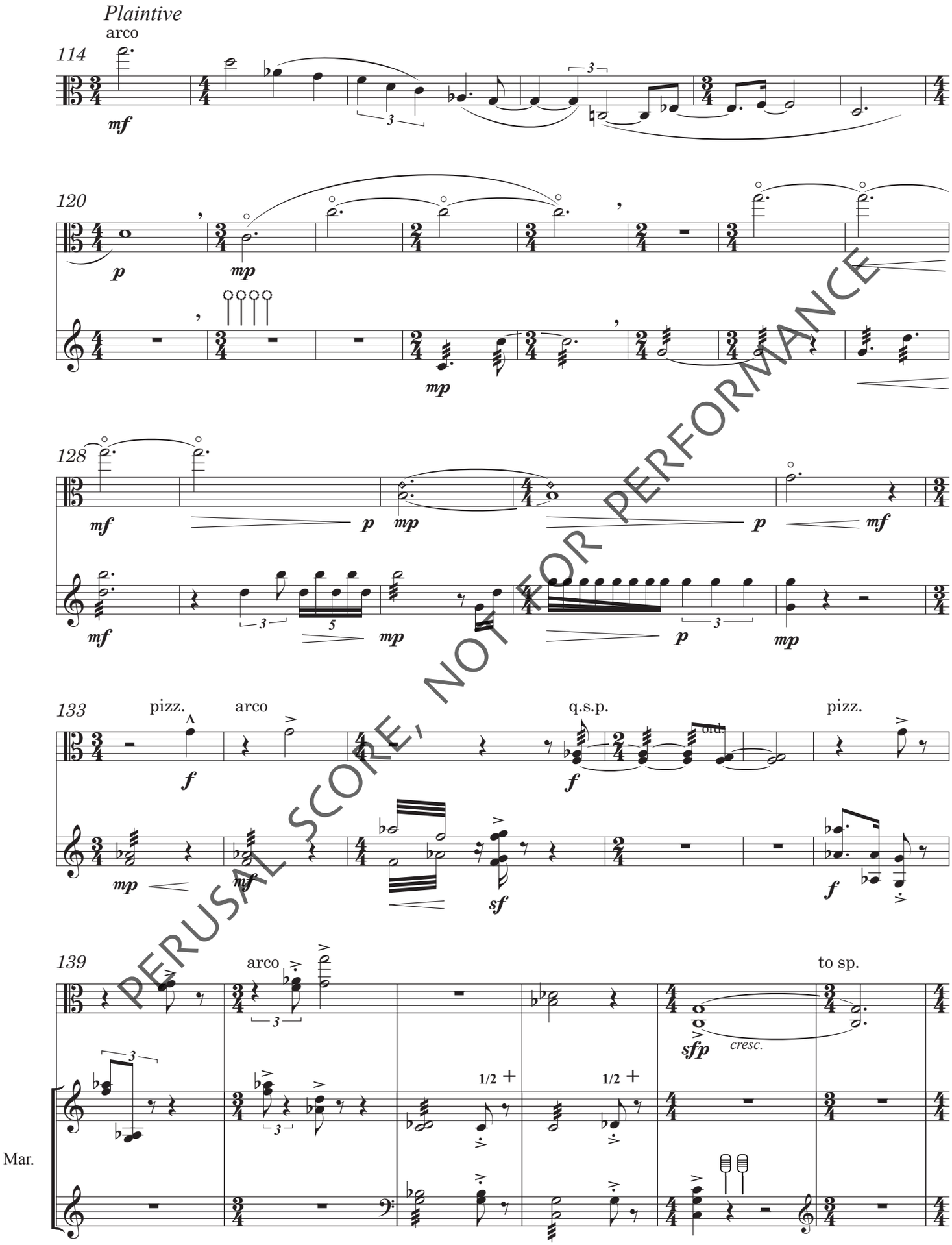

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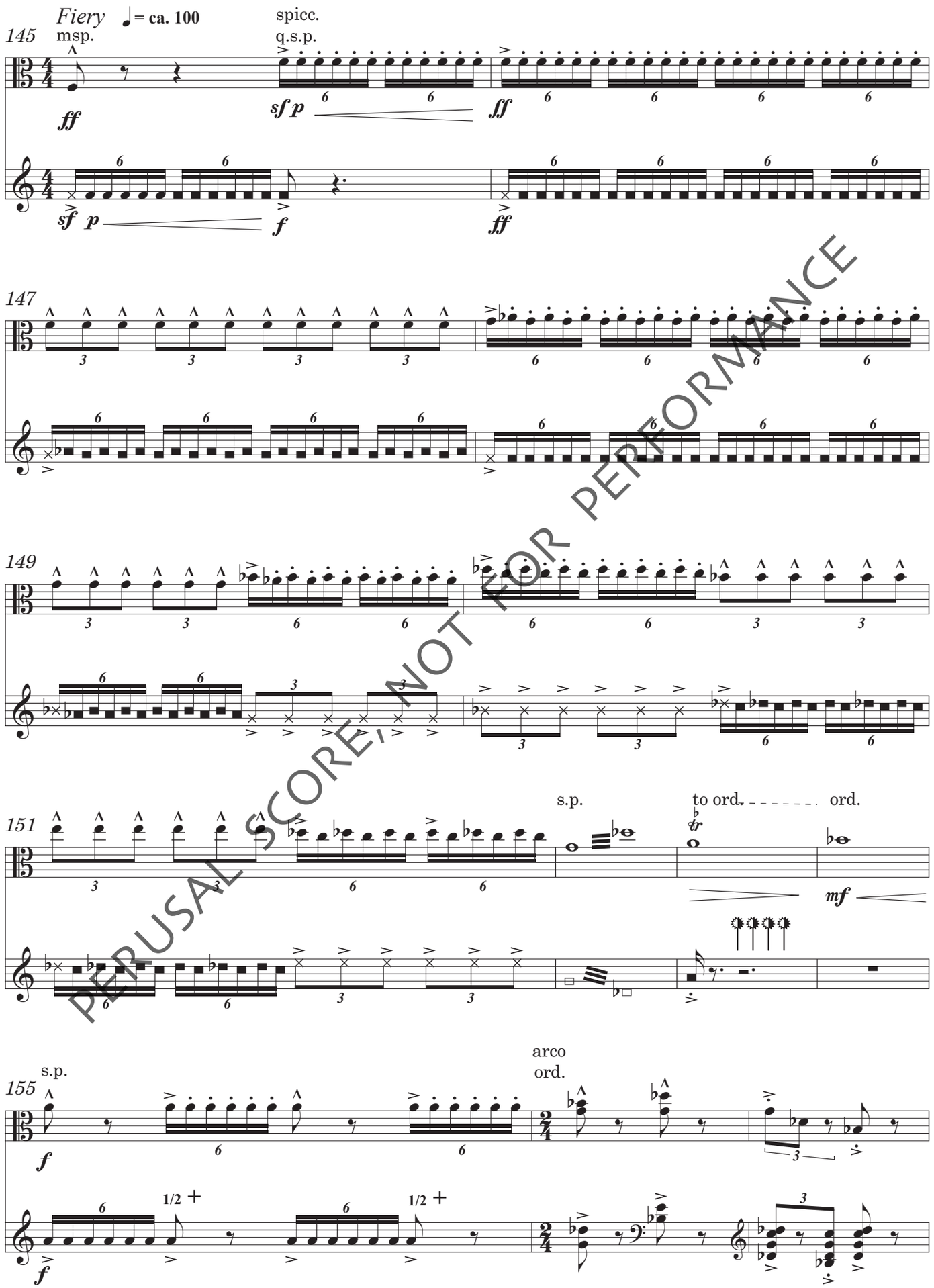

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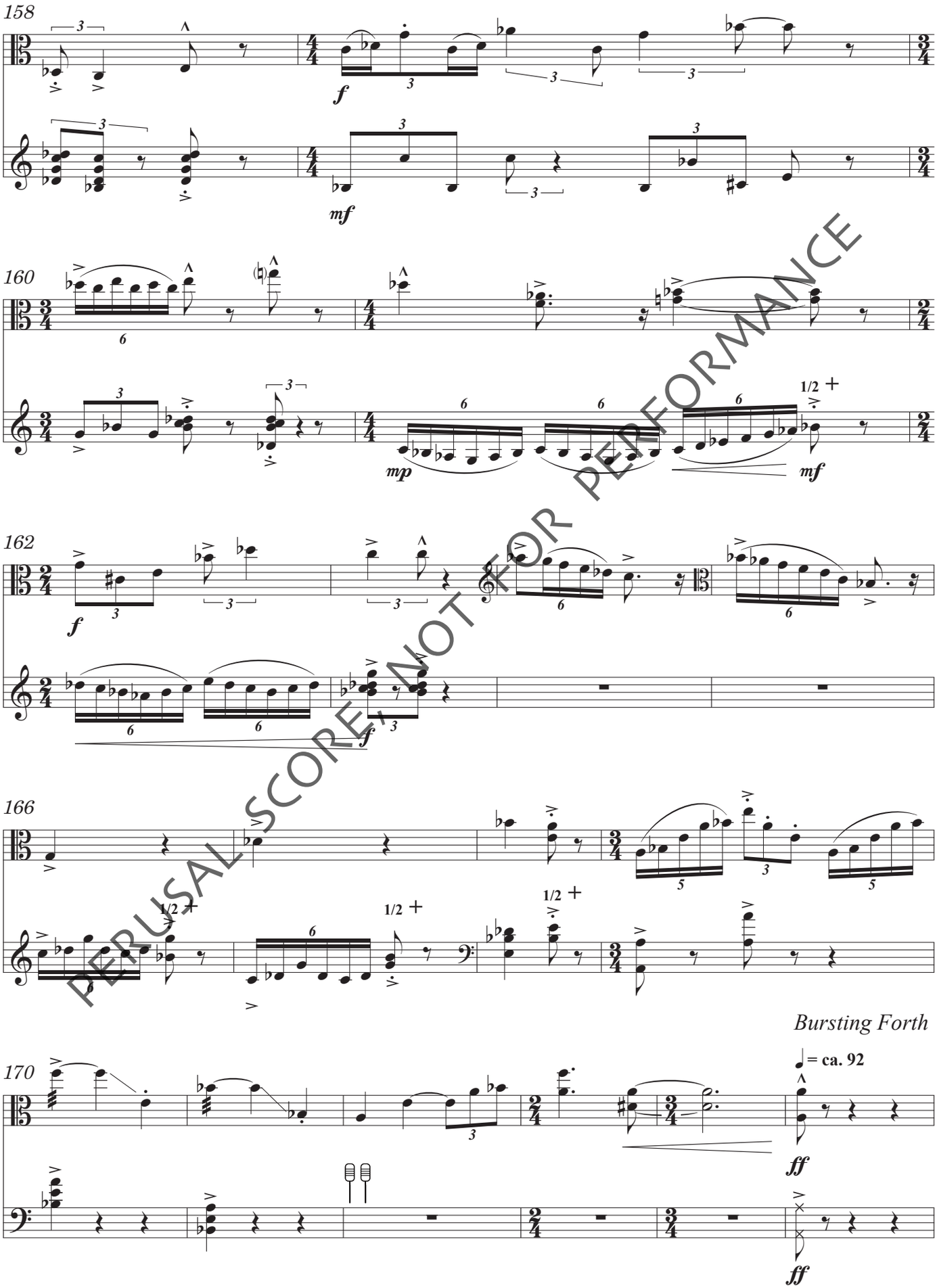

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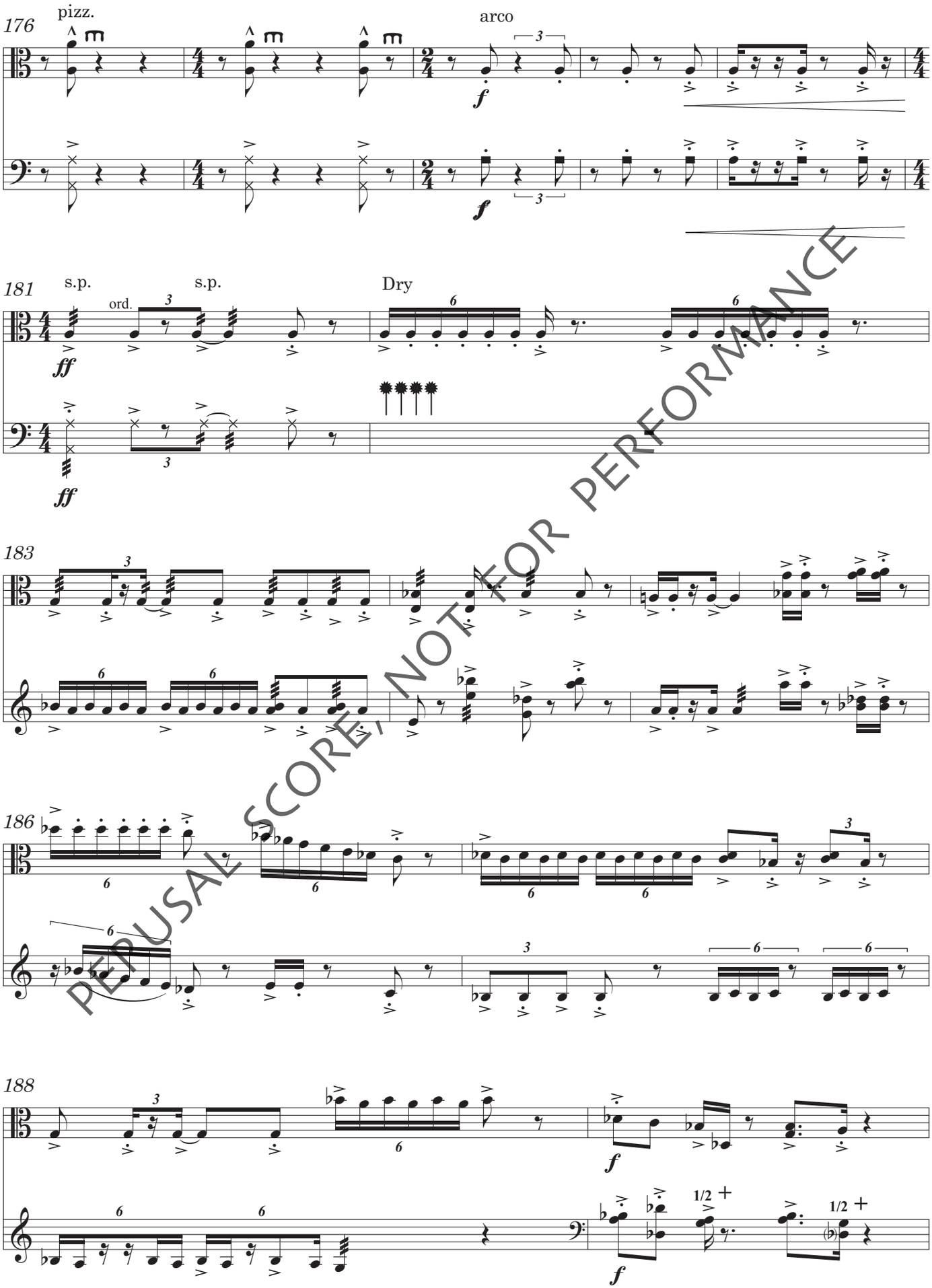

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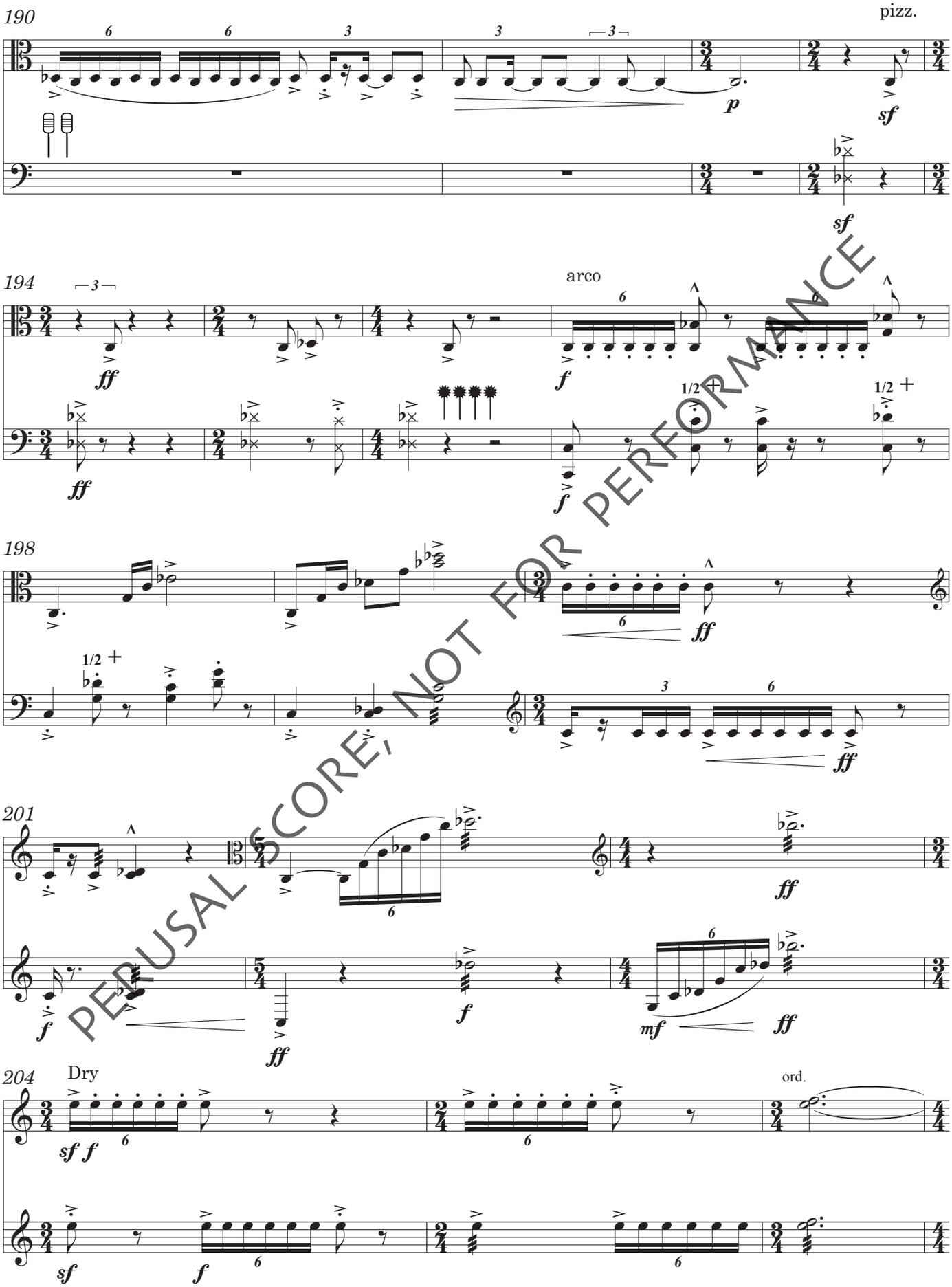

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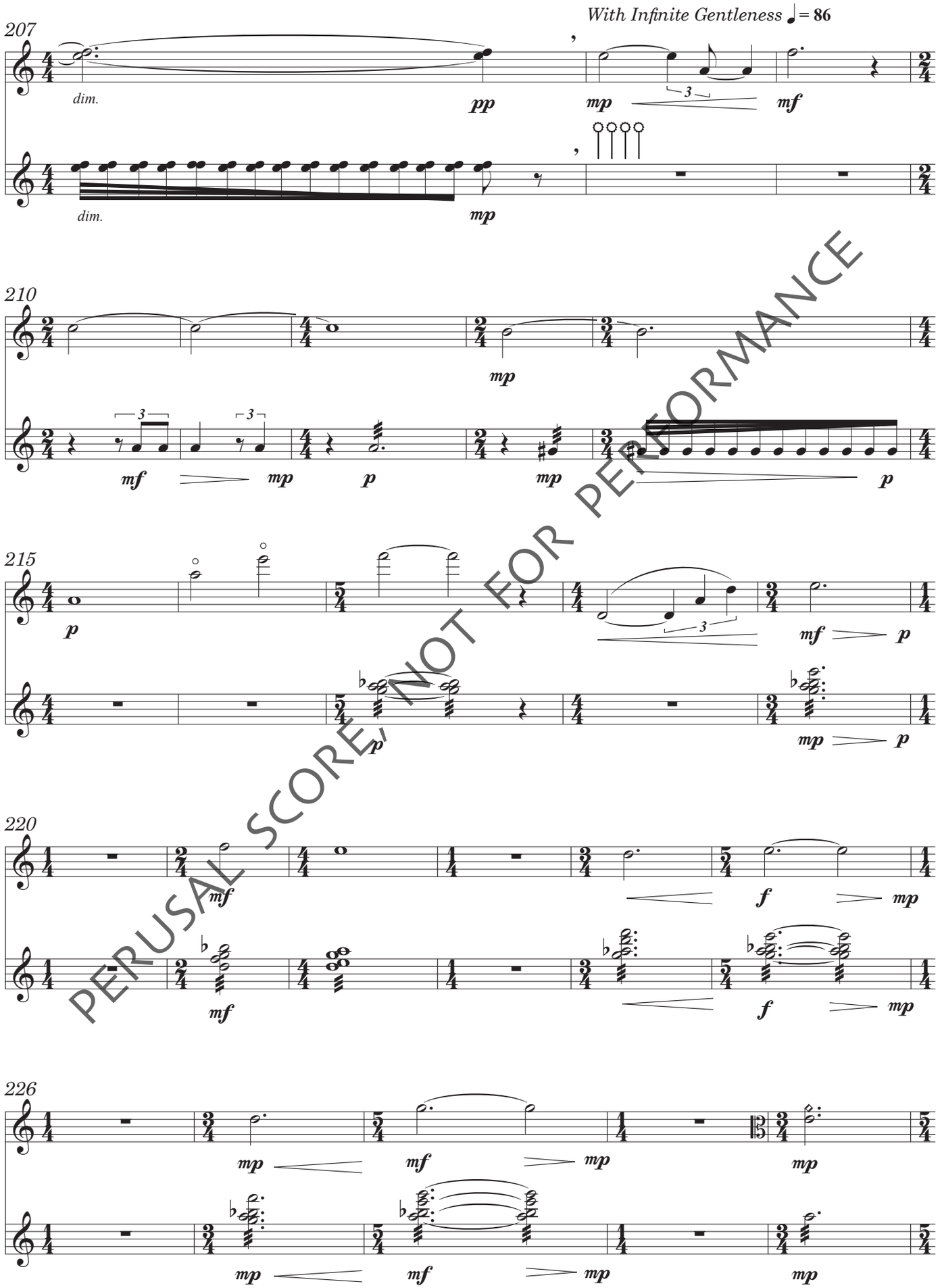

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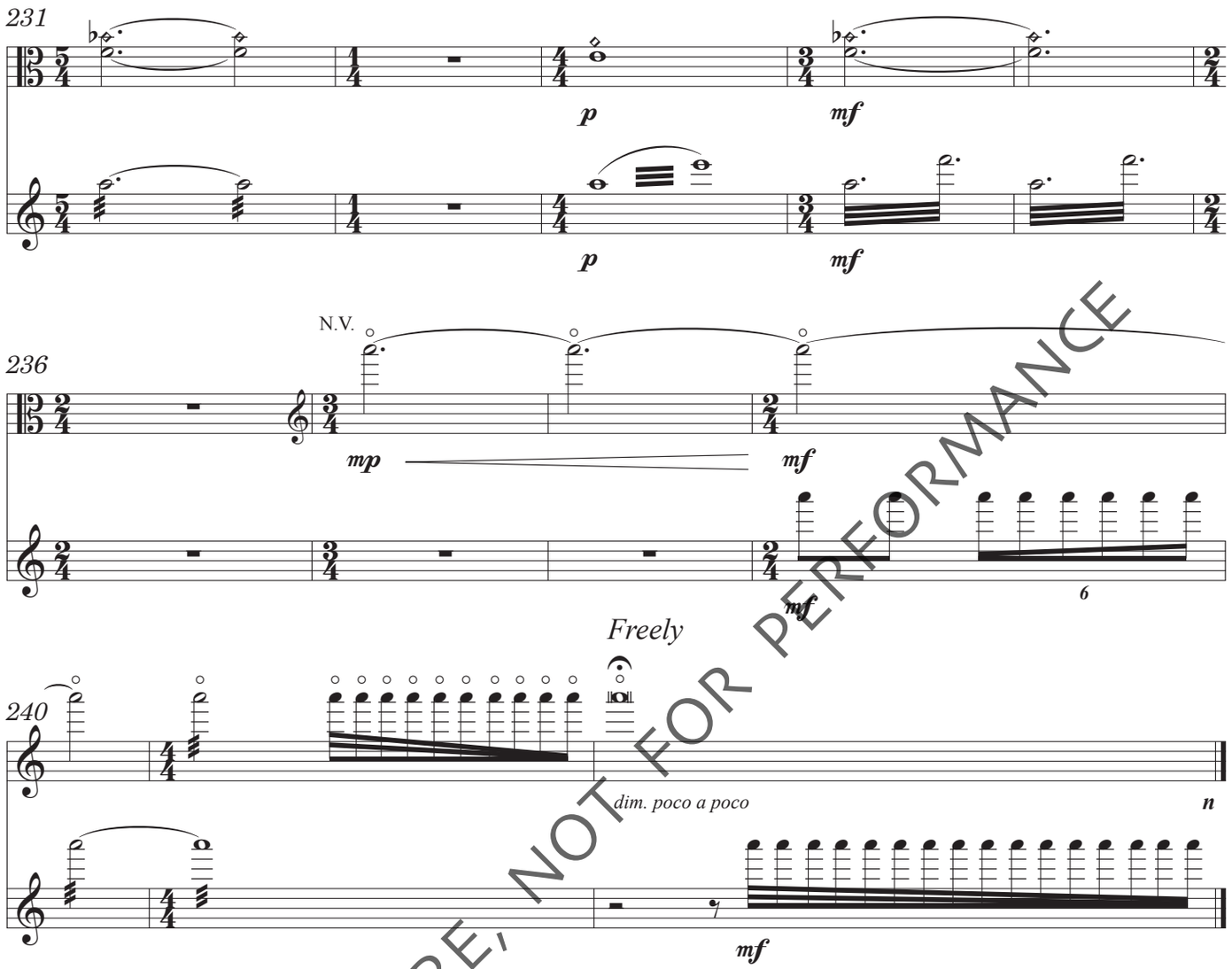

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