Soif

for solo violin

Alex Stephenson

2019

Score

2019.10.20

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

First performance: Miranda Cuckson, Conrad Prebys Experimental Theater, UC San Diego, La Jolla, California, 16 May 2019

Duration: approximately 10 minutes, 30 seconds

To contact the composer: alex@alexstephenson.com

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Performance Notes

General

ø	Niente
s.p.	Sul ponticello
m.s.p.	Molto sul ponticello

Accidentals

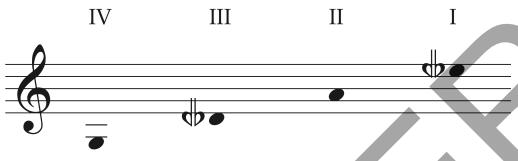
Accidentals remain in effect through the end of the measure. The following quarter-tone accidentals are used throughout:

𝄫	3/4 tone flat
𝄳	1/4 tone flat
𝄲	1/4 tone sharp
𝄰	3/4 tone sharp

An upward arrow (↑) applied to an accidental indicates that it should be sharpened by approximately 1/8 tone.

Scordatura

The instrument should be tuned as follows:



Tremolos

Four unusual tremolos, which were devised in collaboration with Miranda Cuckson, appear in this work. Each tremolo results in a highly irregular articulation of six pitches. When one of the tremolos is used, the score simply gives the six pitches as a sort of shorthand notation. Below, the tremolos are explained in detail.

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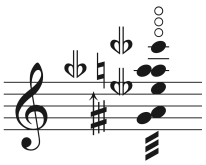
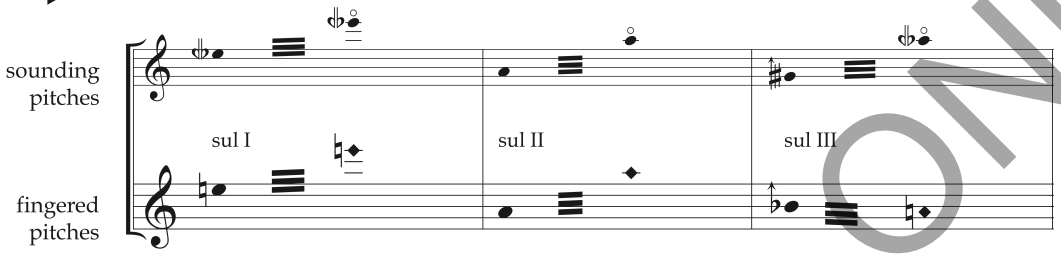
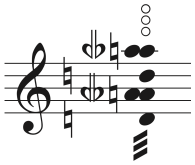
Left Hand

The left hand performs rapid alternations between an open string/stopped note and a natural harmonic on three strings simultaneously.

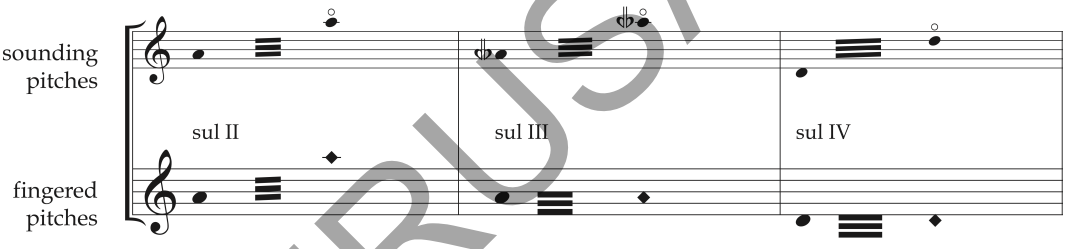


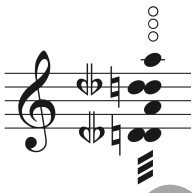
indicates the following simultaneous actions on I, II, and III:



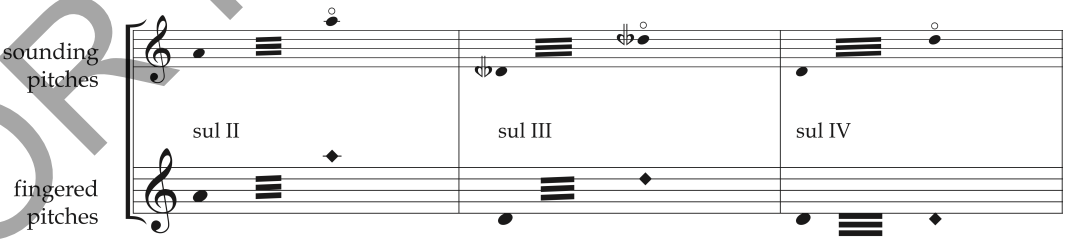


indicates the following simultaneous actions on II, III, and IV:





indicates the following simultaneous actions on II, III, and IV:



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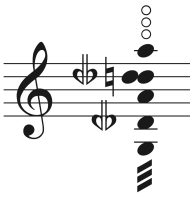
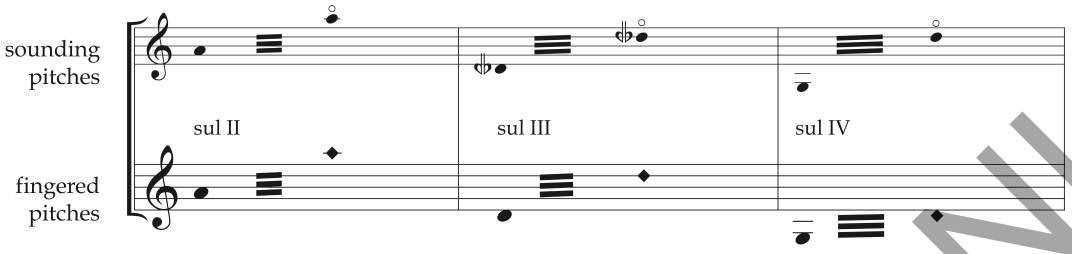
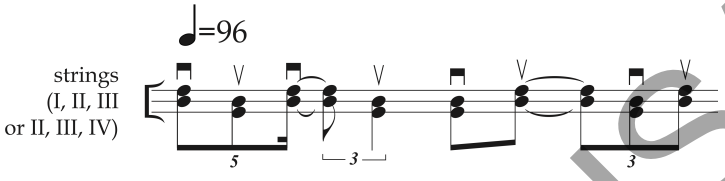


indicates the following simultaneous actions on II, III, and IV:



Right Hand

The bow performs a series double-stop slurs occurring at short, irregular intervals, selecting *ad libitum* pairs of strings among the three strings that are involved in the tremolo. A characteristic example of bow rhythm is given below; tremolos always appear at the tempo shown. Aim for an ecstatic, wild, kaleidoscopic sound!



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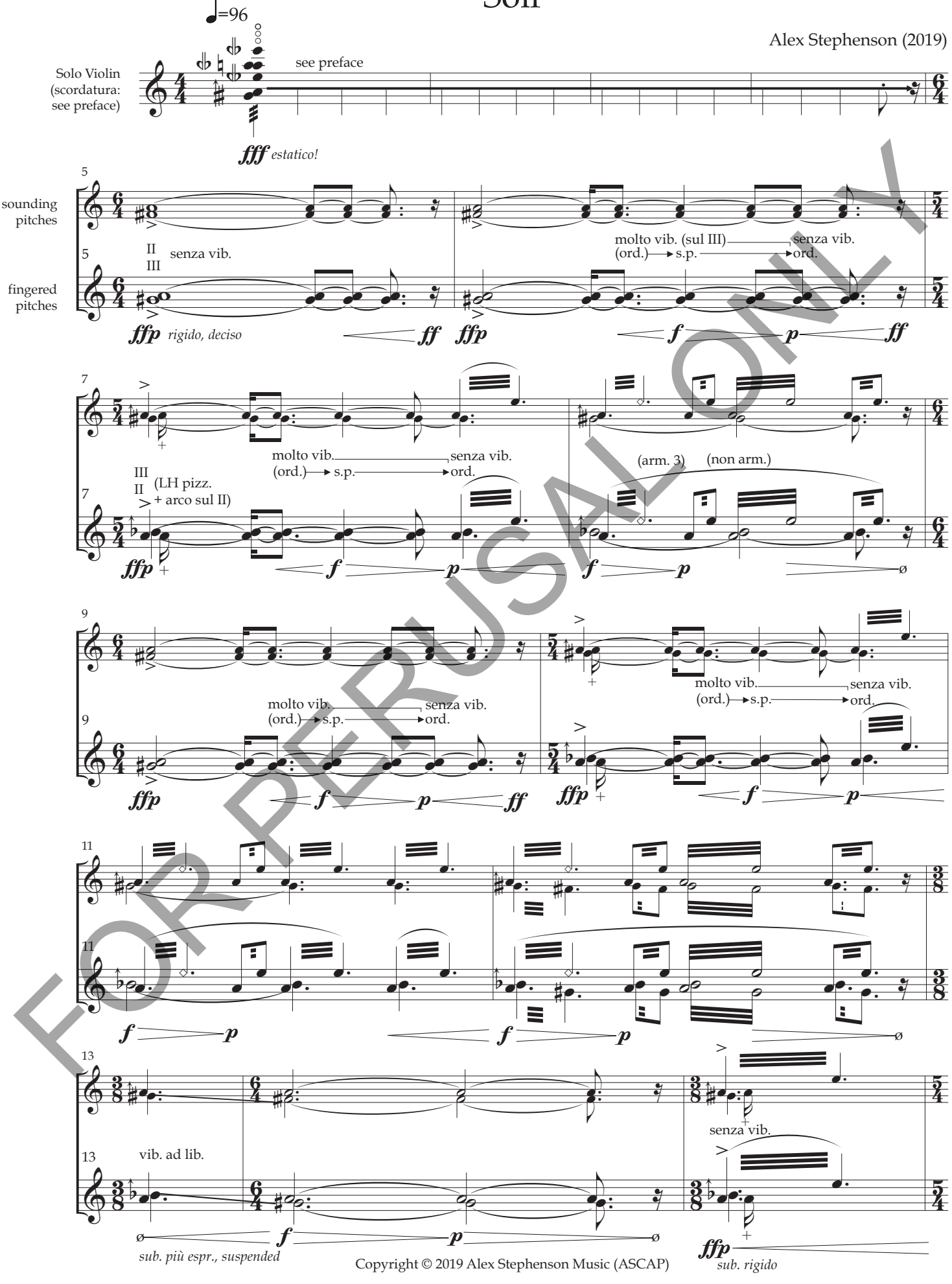

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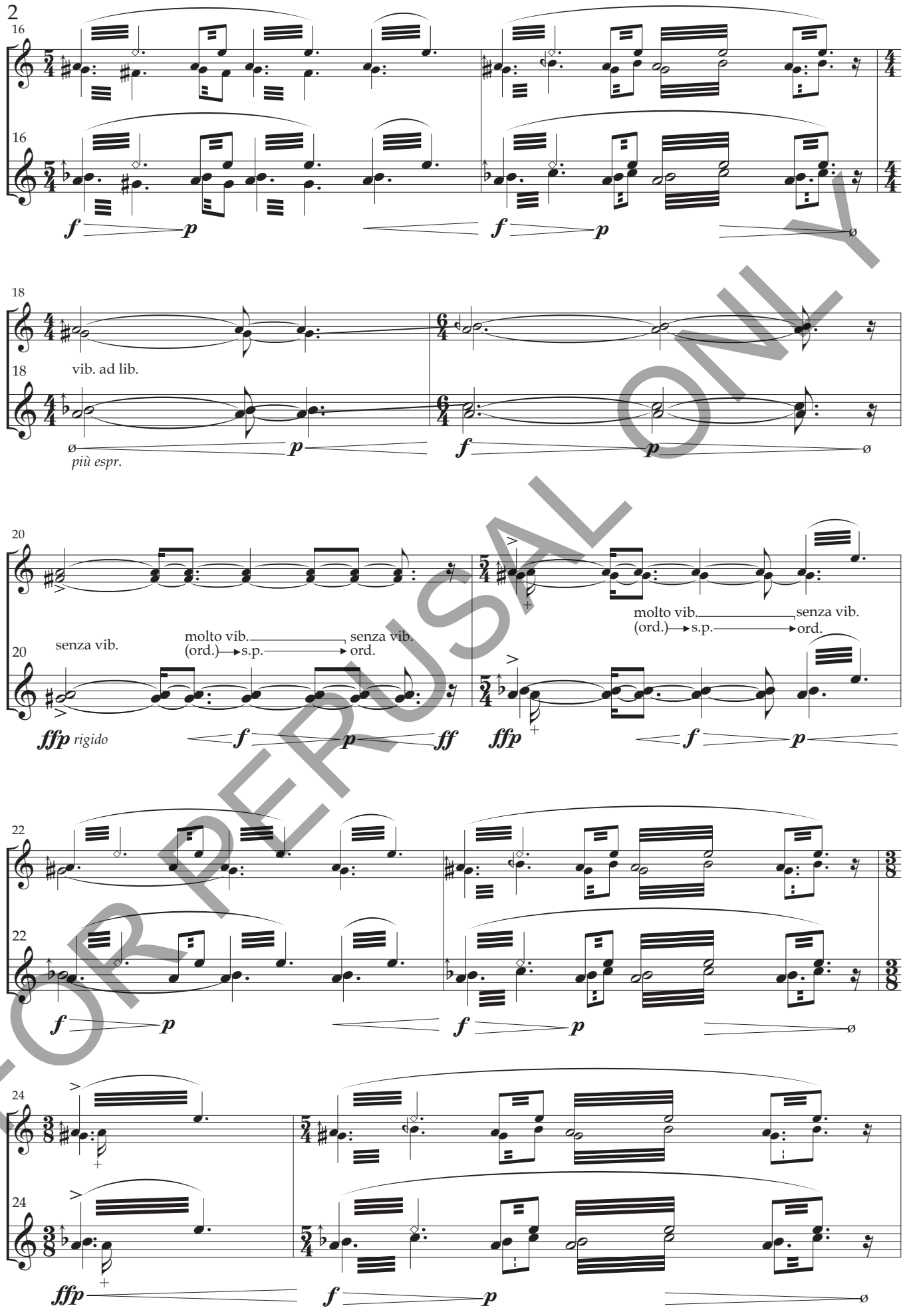

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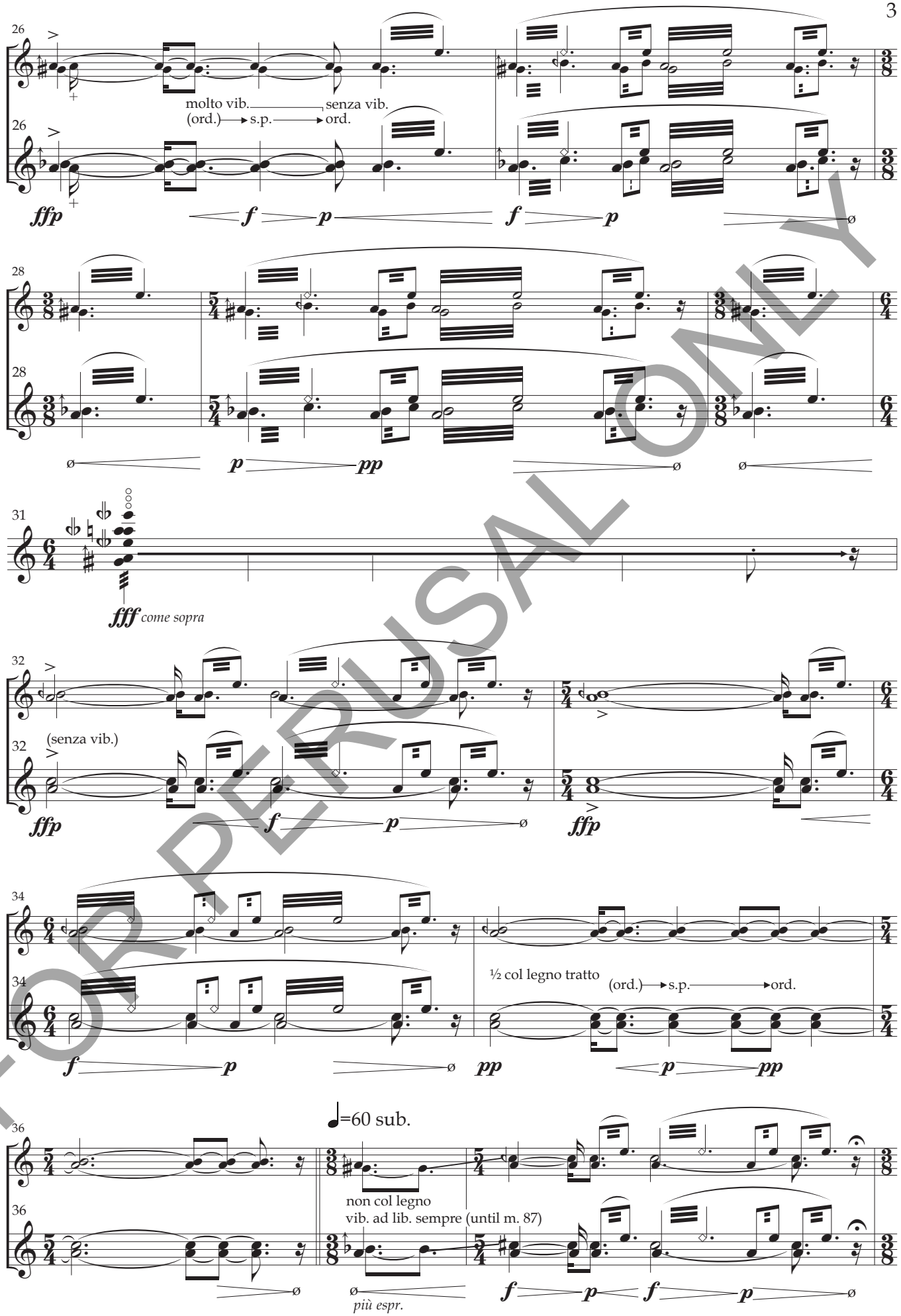

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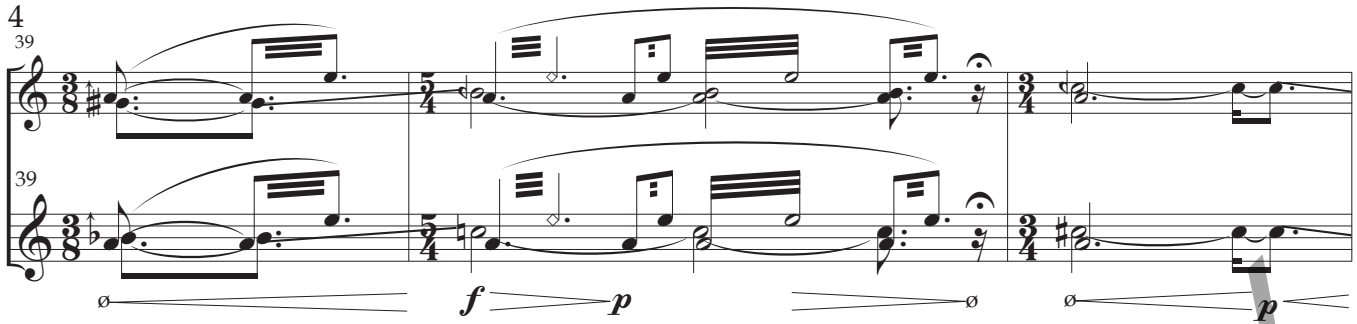
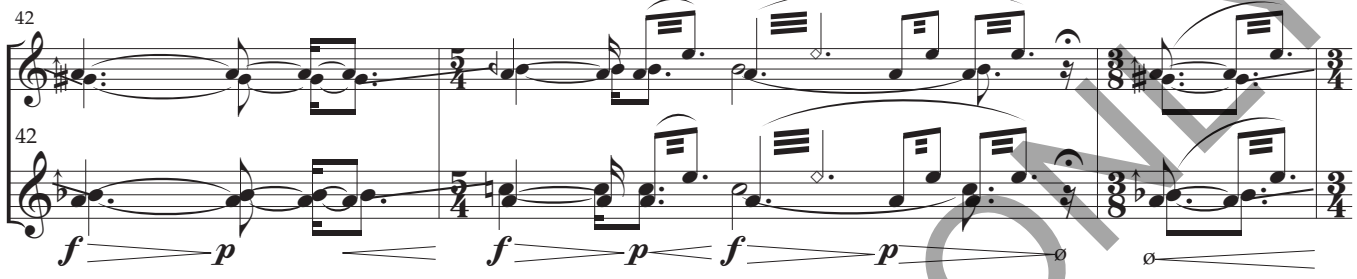
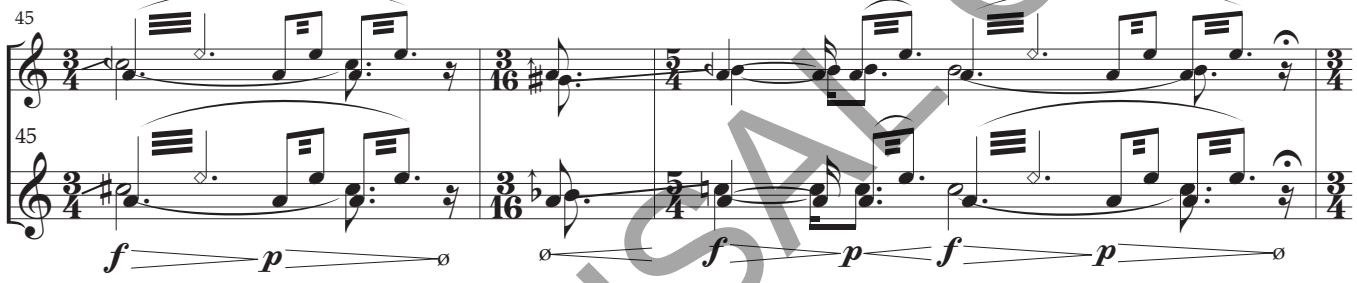
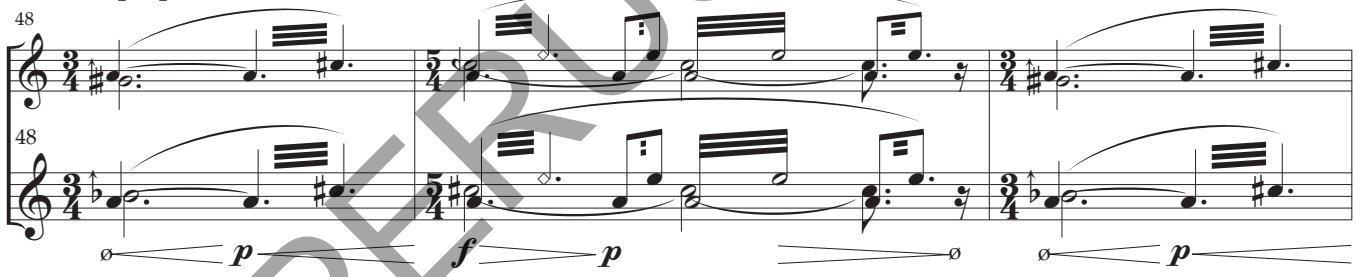
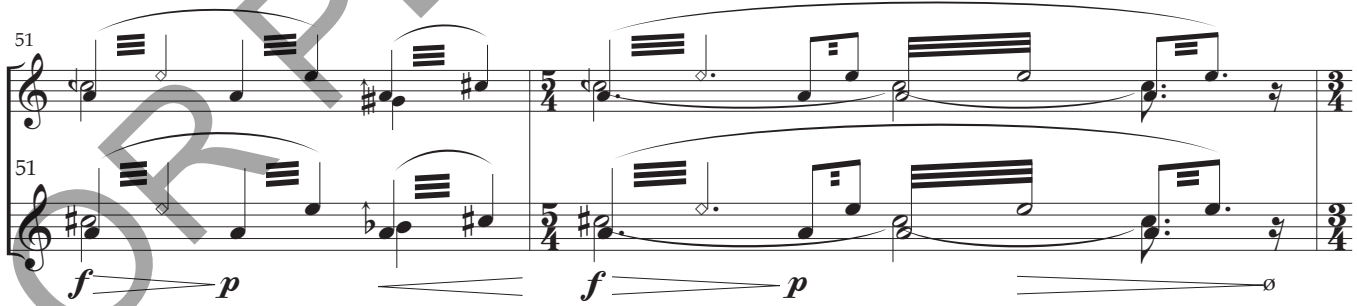




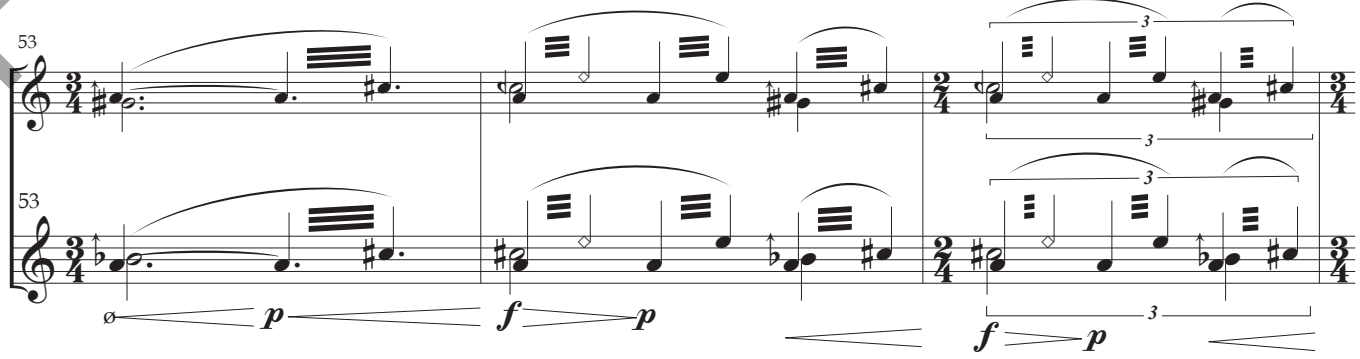


Tempo più flessibile





poco a poco accel.



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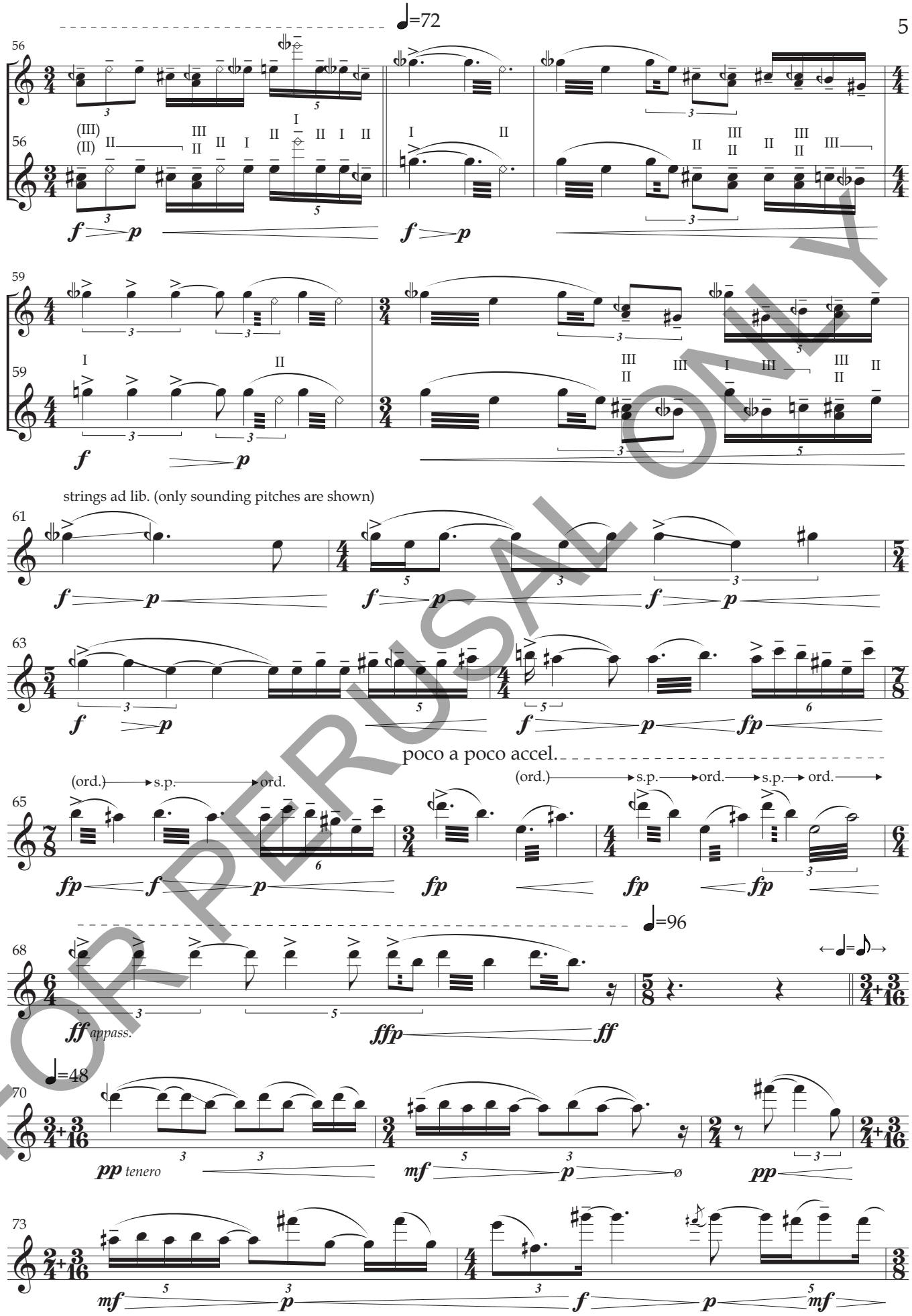

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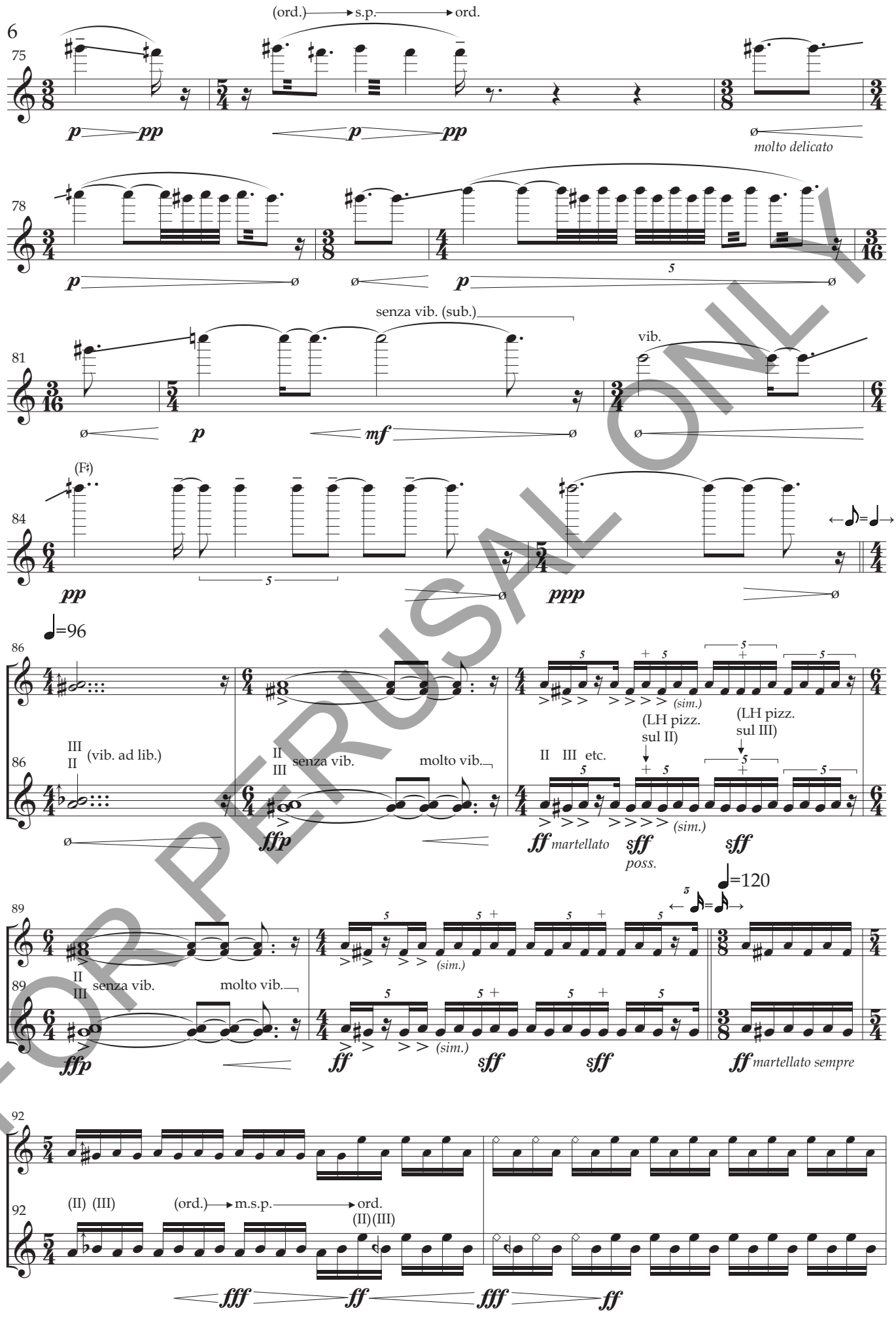

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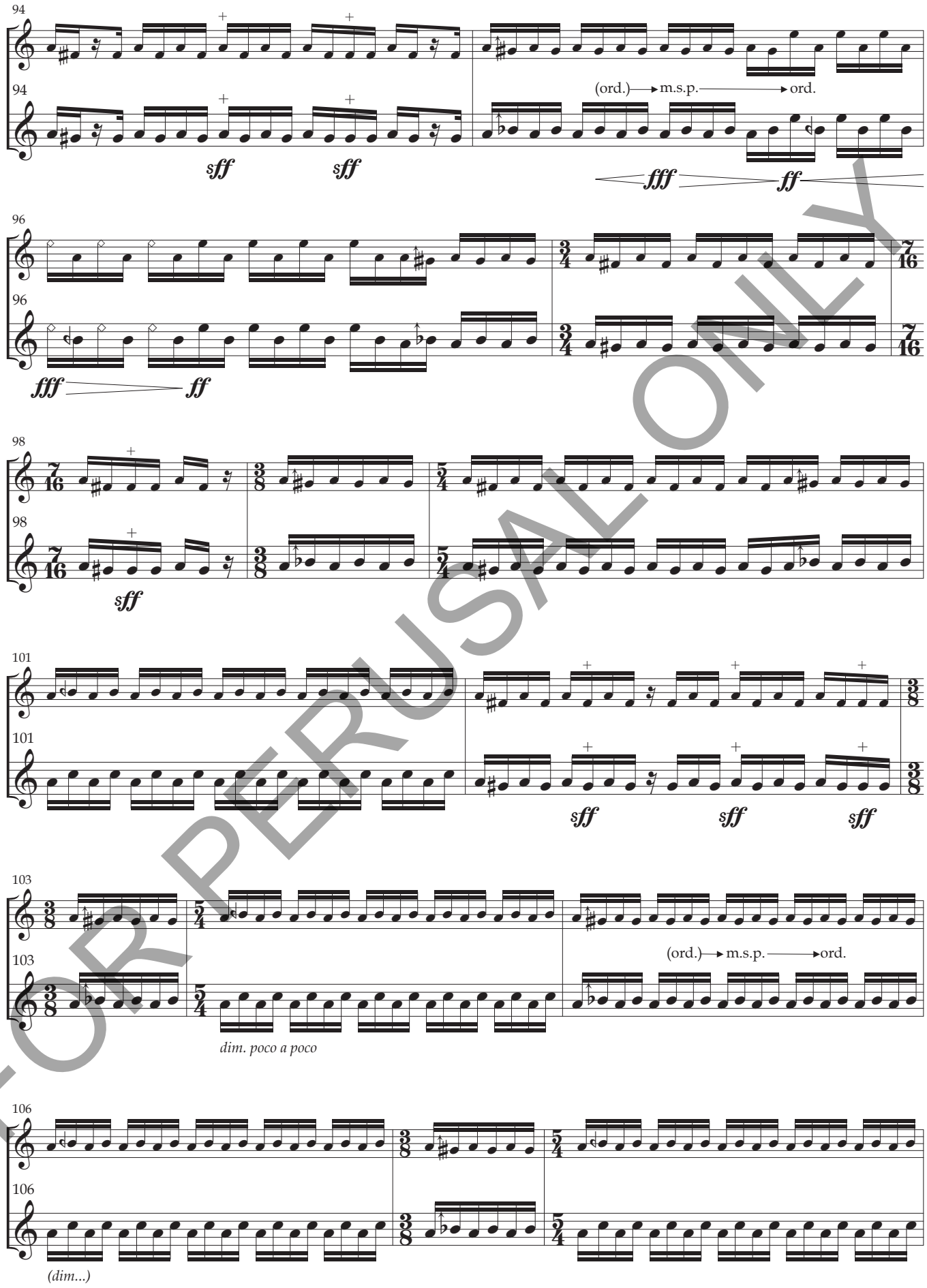

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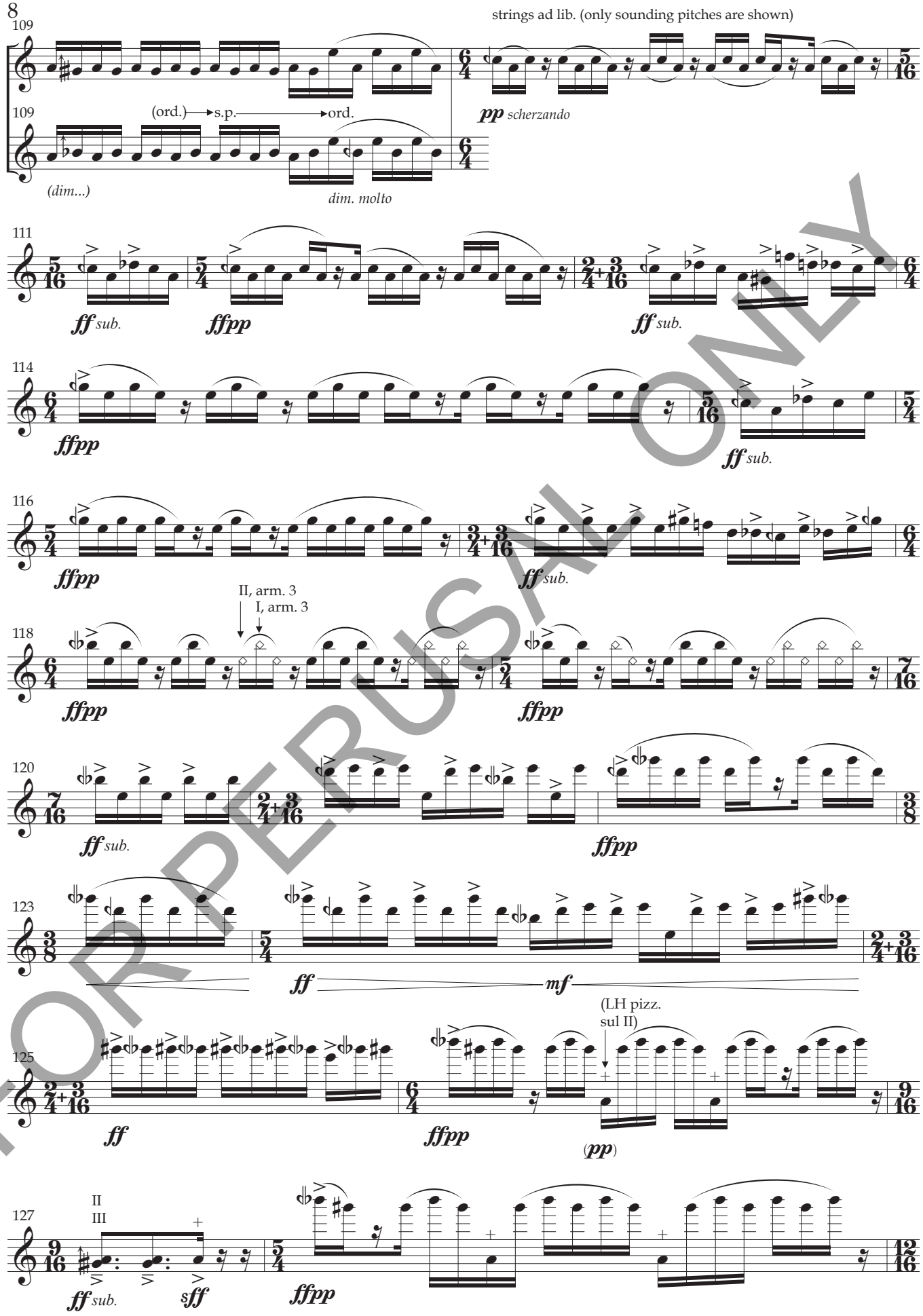

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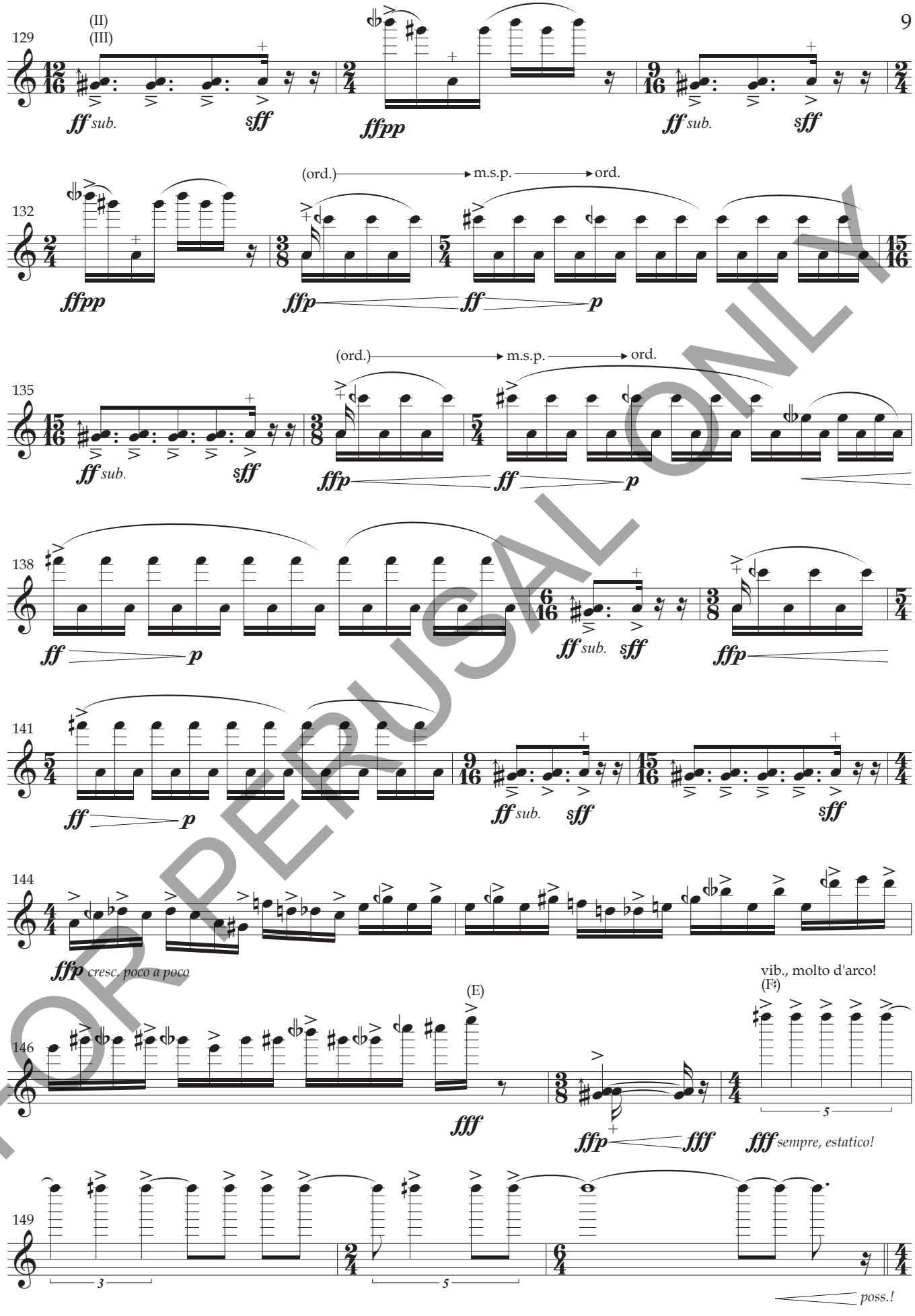

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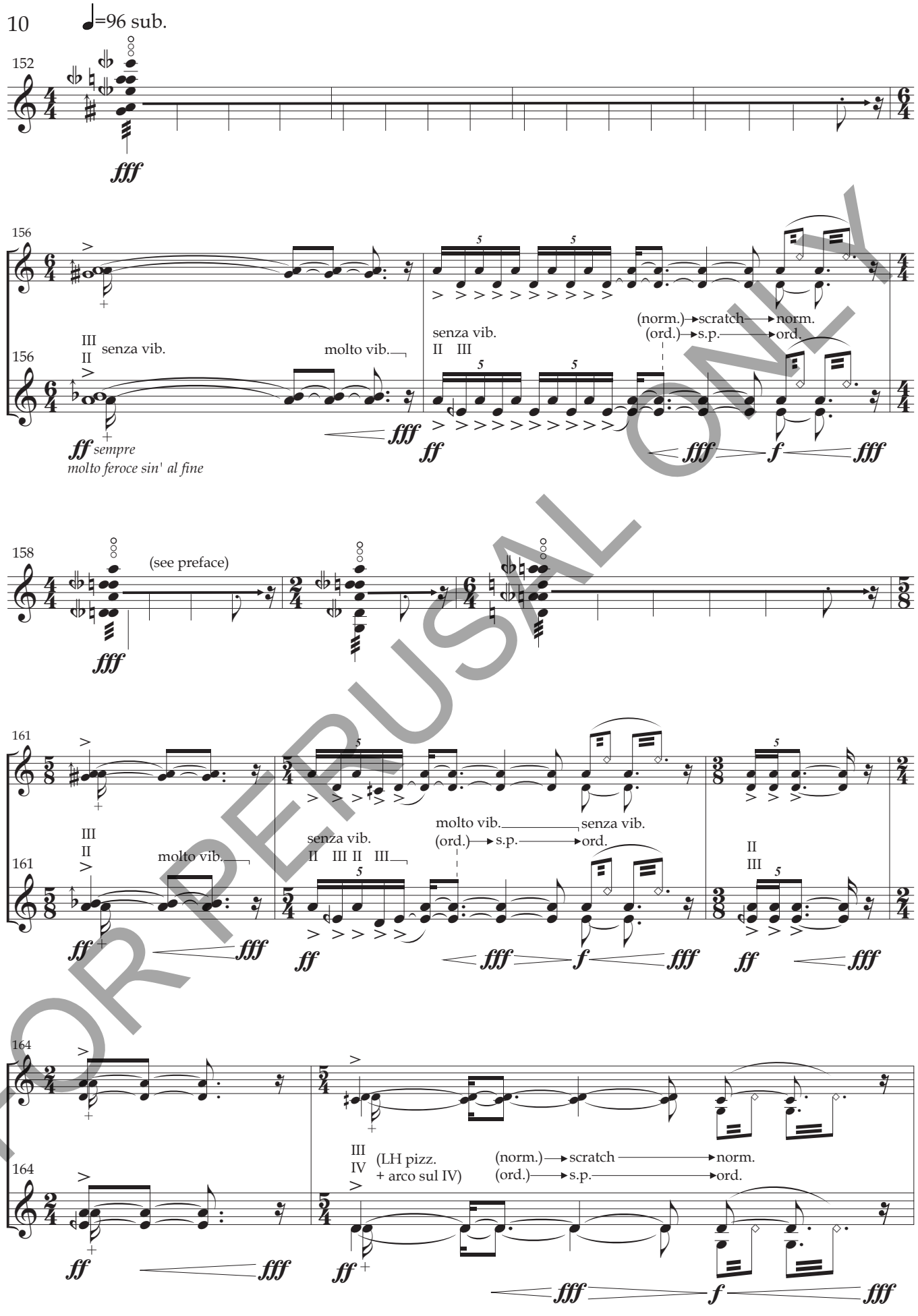

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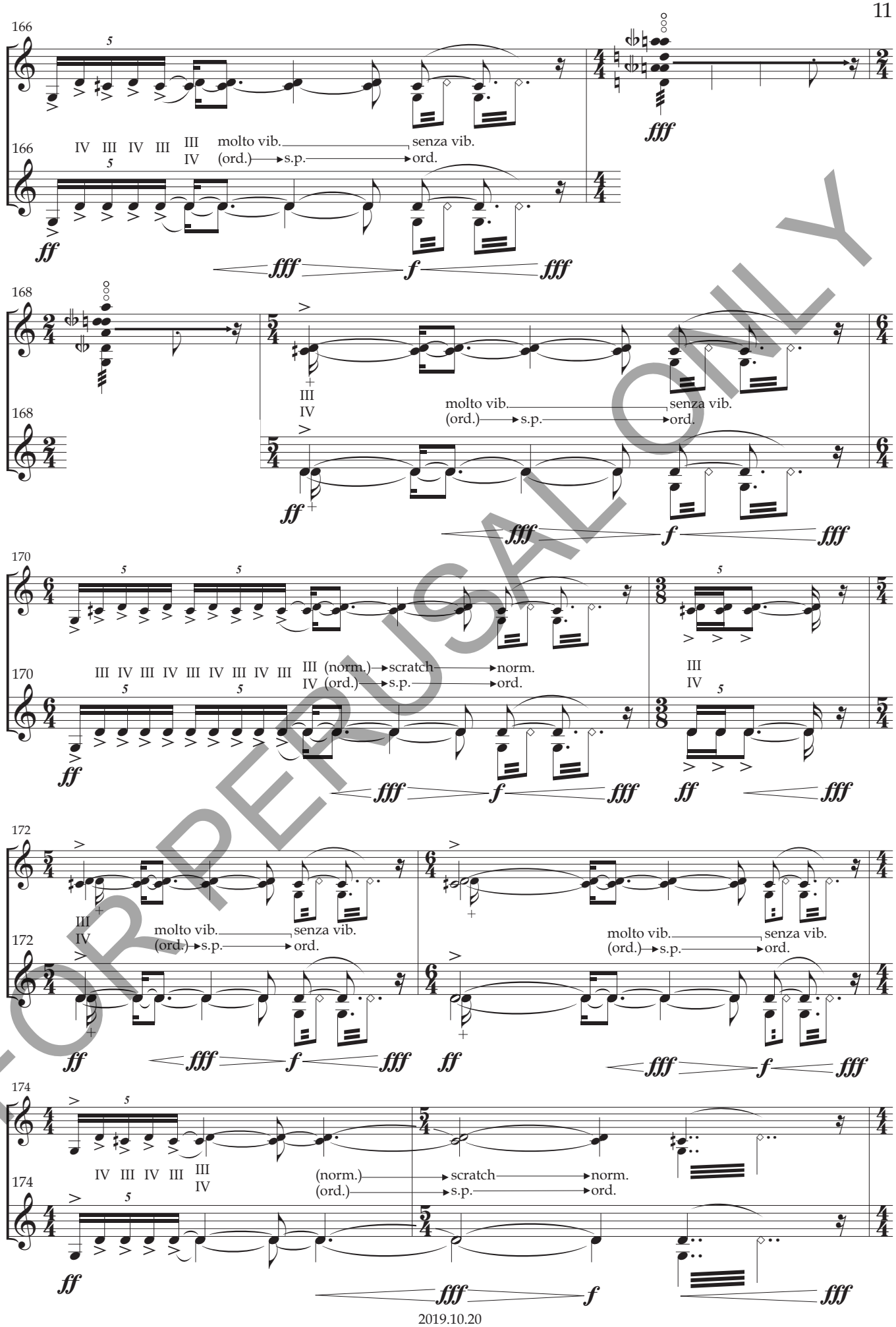

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176

(norm.) → scratch → norm.
(ord.) → s.p. → ord.

molto vib.
(ord.) → s.p.

poss.!

fff ***sempre, con la massima intensità!***

179

(norm.) → scratch → norm.
(ord.) → s.p. → ord.

molto vib.
(ord.) → s.p.

poss.!

182

184

(norm.) → scratch → norm.
(ord.) → s.p. → ord.

poss.!

(norm.) → scratch → norm.
(ord.) → s.p. → ord.

poss.!

187

fff *poss.!*

gliss. arm. sul IV
(rhythms approximate; high partials understood to be increasingly unstable and indistinct)

190

fff *poss.!*

fff ***p*** *dim. poco a poco*

192

(dim...)

pppp

February 21, 2019
La Jolla, California

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