Jölly Old Variations

For String Orchestra, Grade 4
by Murray, Brahms, Haydn, Et.al,
Arranged by Caryn Wiegand Neidhold (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

1 - Full Score
8 - Violin 1
8 - Violin 2
3 - Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)
5 - Viola
5 - Cello
5 - Bass
2 - Optional Percussion
(Sleigh Bells, Bells, Triangle)
1 - Optional Beginning String Part*

Note from the Editor:

This grade 4 piece provides all sections with extensive shifting opportunities and bow technique packed within only 3 minutes of music. The optional percussion adds to the character of the work.
*An optional copyable Beginning String part is included in the score.
- Katie O'Hara LaBrie

Full Set - $70.00 **Extra Conductor Score - $12.00** **Extra Part - $4.00**

Randall Standridge Music, LLC - 26 County Road 472 - Jonesboro, AR 72404 - 870-926-3479
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Jölly Old Variations

Arranged by Caryn Wiegand Neidhold, Grade 4

Program Notes:
An array of enduring composers join forces to celebrate with holiday cheer. Joseph Haydn's *St. Anthony's Chorale* from his *Divertimento in F* was famously adapted by Johannes Brahms into the *Variations on a Theme by Haydn*. Some consider the chorale incorrectly attributed to Haydn and insist it was truly written by Haydn's student Ignaz Pleyel. Our third (or fourth) acclaimed composer is James R. Murray, who is attributed as the composer of *Jolly Old St. Nicholas*, written about the same time Brahms wrote *Variations on a Theme by Haydn*. There is some contention regarding authorship, and John Piersol McCaskey's great-great grandson claims his ancestor composed *Jolly Old St. Nick* ten years before Murray. This lively arrangement blends Brahms's *Variations on a Theme by Haydn* with *Jolly Old St. Nicholas*, creating a new holiday favorite. With our arranger, Caryn Wiegand Neidhold, we now have holiday wishes from Haydn, Pleyel, Brahms, McCaskey, Murray, and Neidhold!

Performance Notes:
For string players, Brahms's music and the romantic style, in general, sound best with a broad bow stroke that will help produce the characteristic sound of the era. Interestingly, this is a theme by a classical composer adapted by a romantic composer, making the style a bit lighter but not genuinely classical. To help students internalize the style, character, and balance, have them listen to performances of Brahms's *Variations on a Theme by Haydn.*

Inviting young students to perform with your orchestra is one way to include the community in your holiday performance. Included in the score is a copyable set of melody parts for treble, alto, and bass clef. Students may play the *Jolly Old St. Nicholas* theme (twice) along with the orchestra starting at measure 55; more advanced students may also play the melody at measure 28 at the faster tempo. The students will need to be cued in as to when to place their instruments and begin playing. Experience has shown that the orchestra's sound may become covered if too many beginning players participate in the performance.

– Caryn Wiegand Neidhold

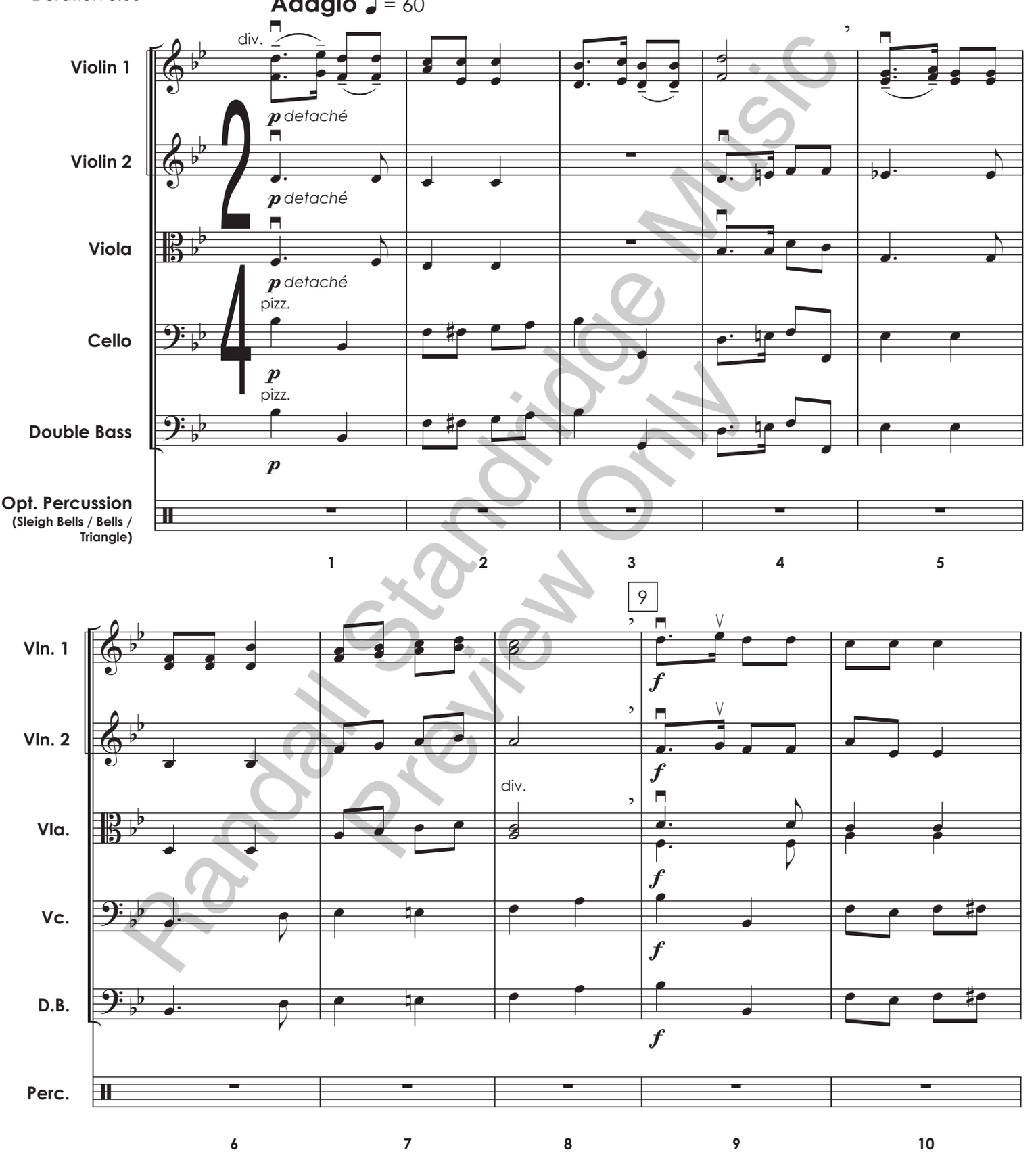
About the Composer
Caryn Wiegand Neidhold is a composer and arranger for student level through professional ensembles. Her focus includes arranging classical "gems" and composing music for eclectic styles, including fiddle, rock, and jazz. With an emphasis on learning technique through literature, Caryn's music always distributes musical challenges to all string sections.

Caryn's background includes extensive work as a middle school educator, Suzuki teacher, and youth symphony conductor and coach. In addition, she has years of performance experience as a violist and violinist with orchestras including the Fairbanks Symphony, New World Symphony, Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra, and the Reno Phil. Caryn enjoys writing articles for music education publications and presenting seminars for string educators.

Jölly Old Variations

Score
Grade 4
Duration 3:00

Murray, Brahms, Haydn, Et al.
arr. Caryn Wiegand Neidhold (ASCAP)



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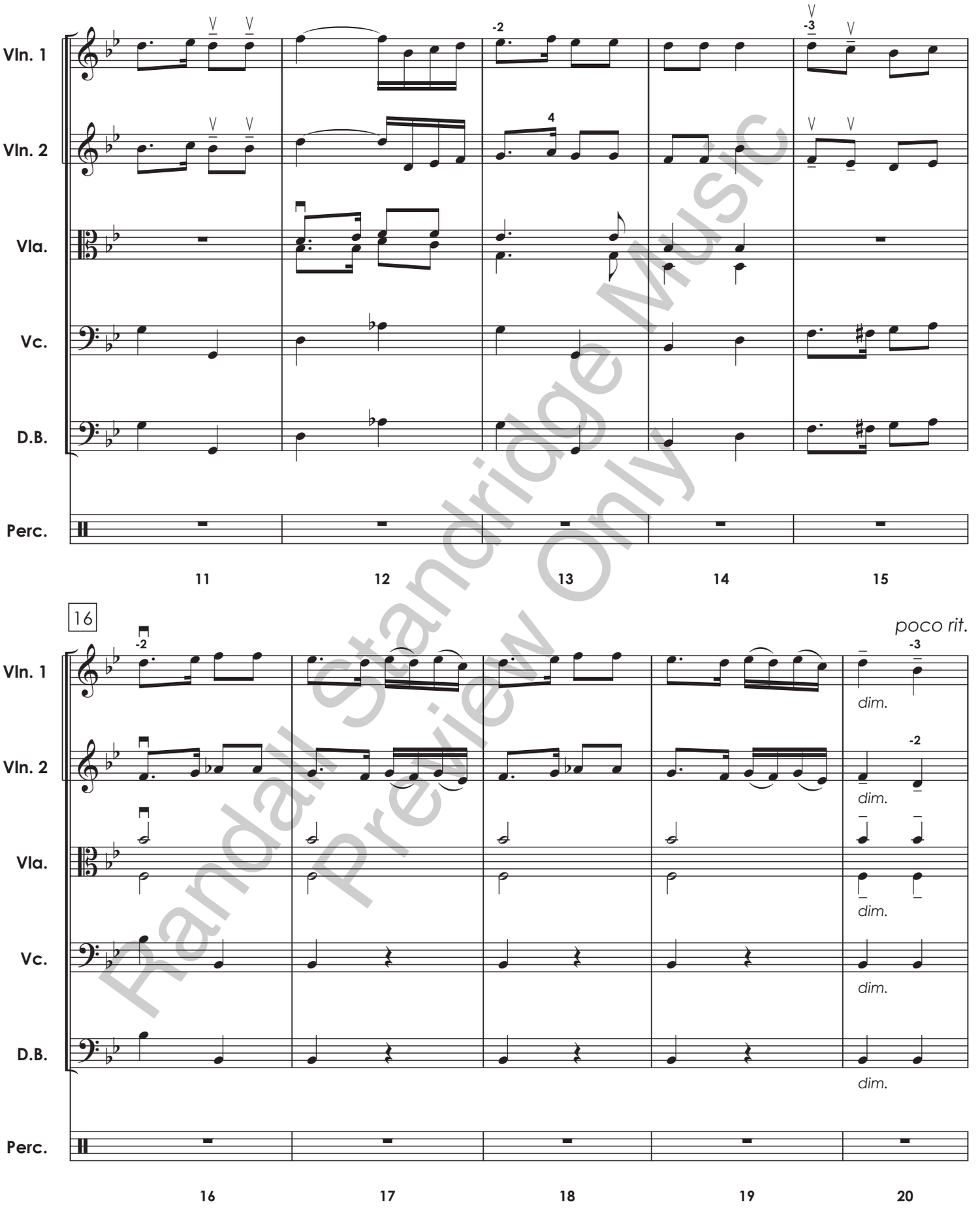

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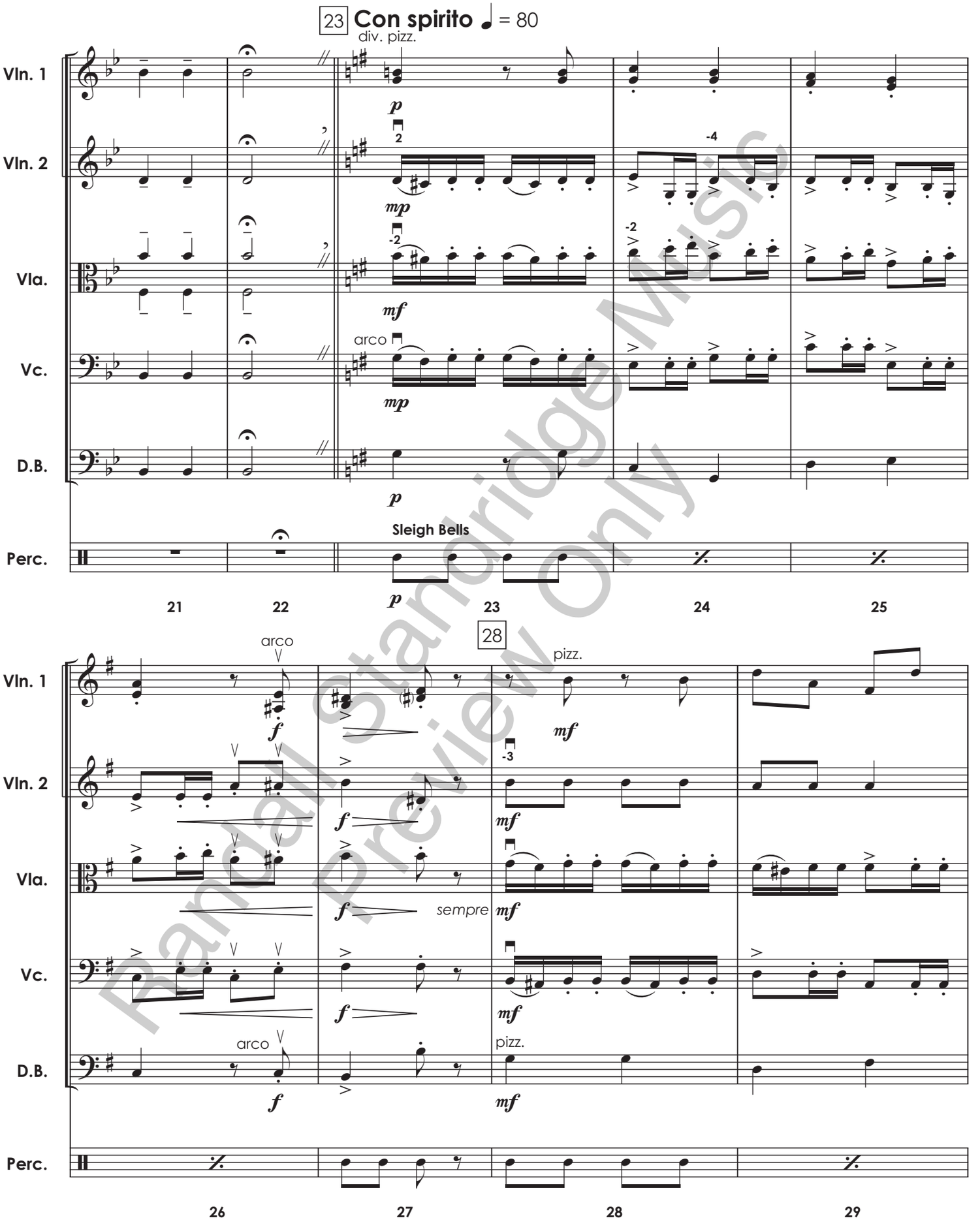

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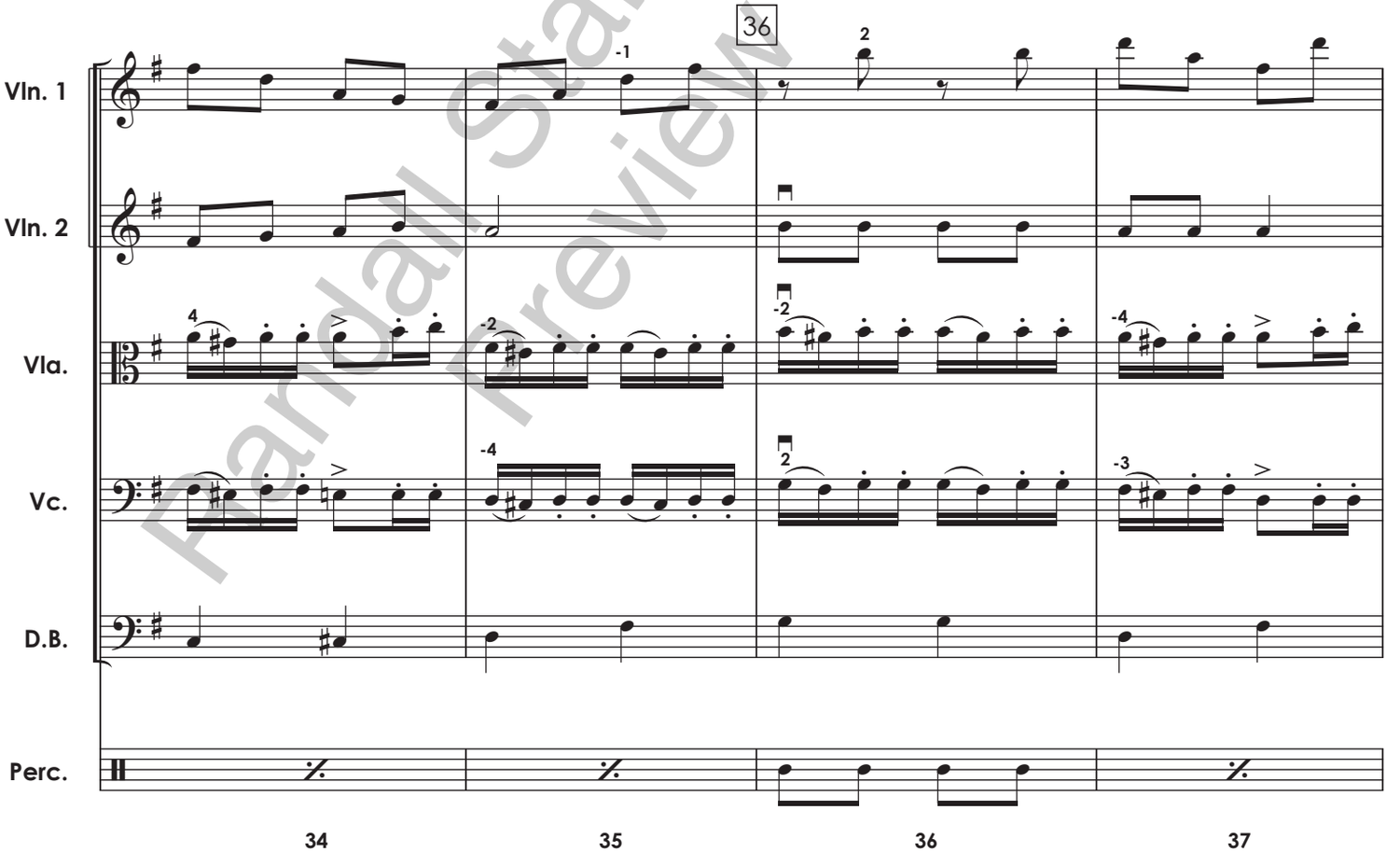

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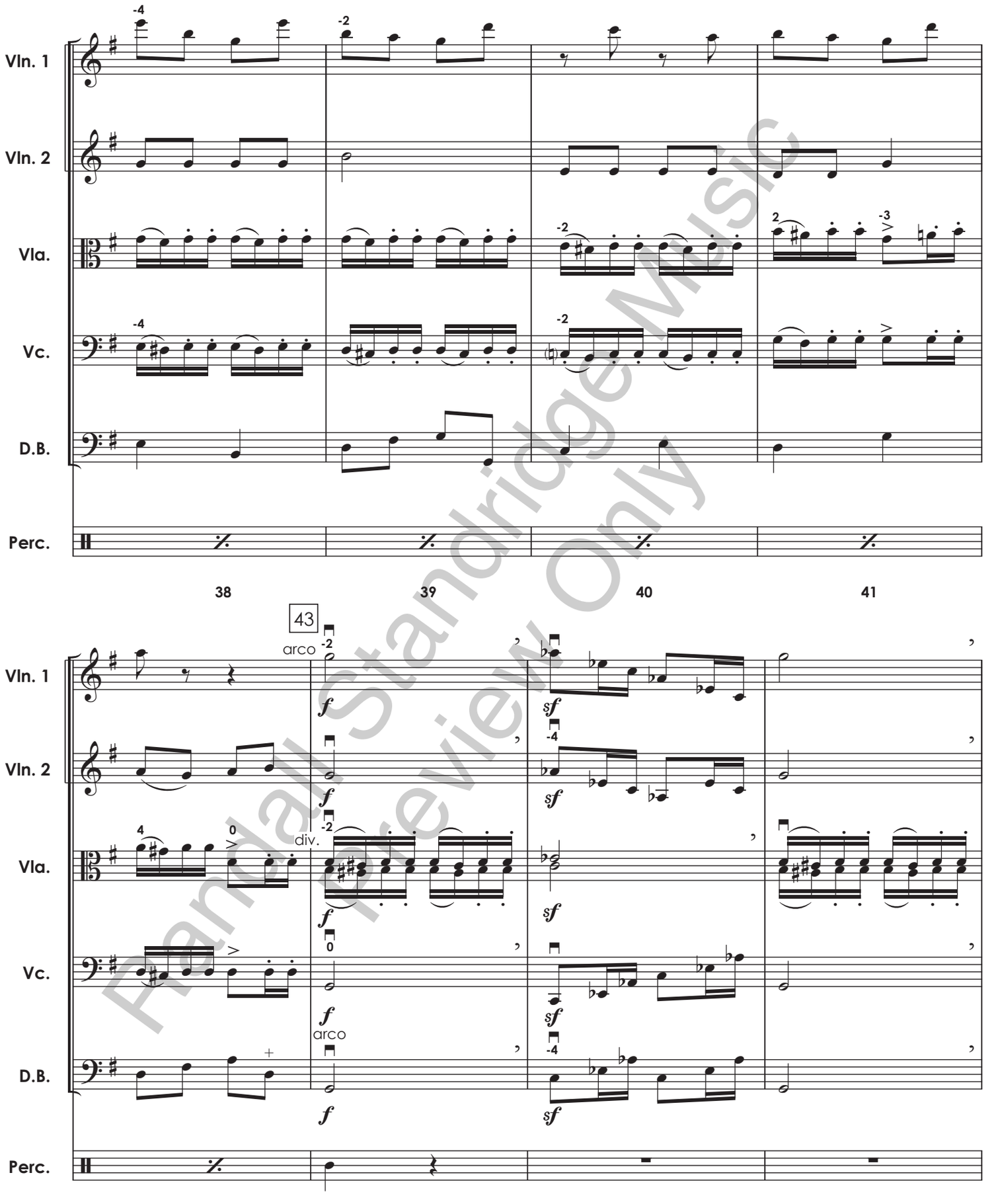

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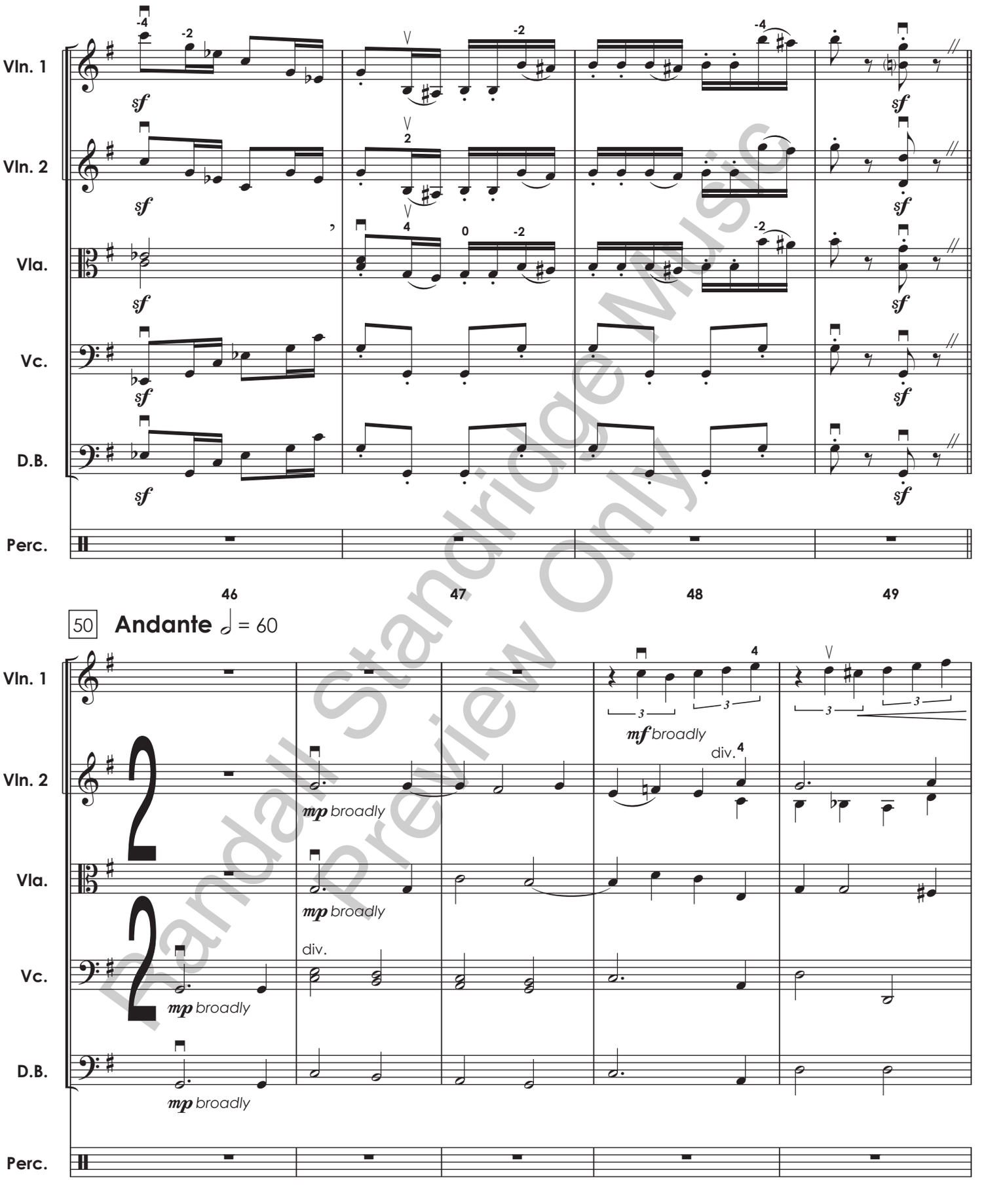

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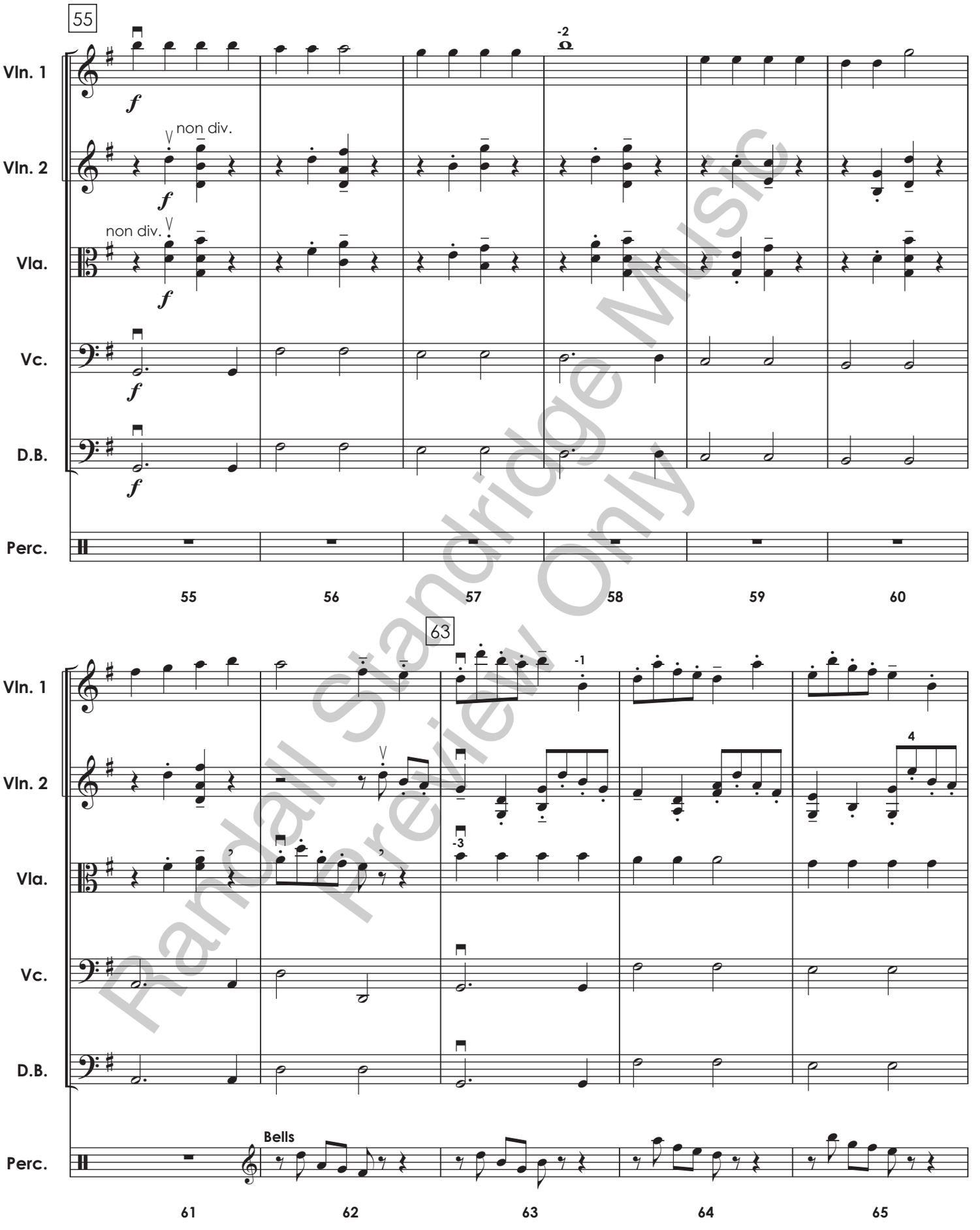

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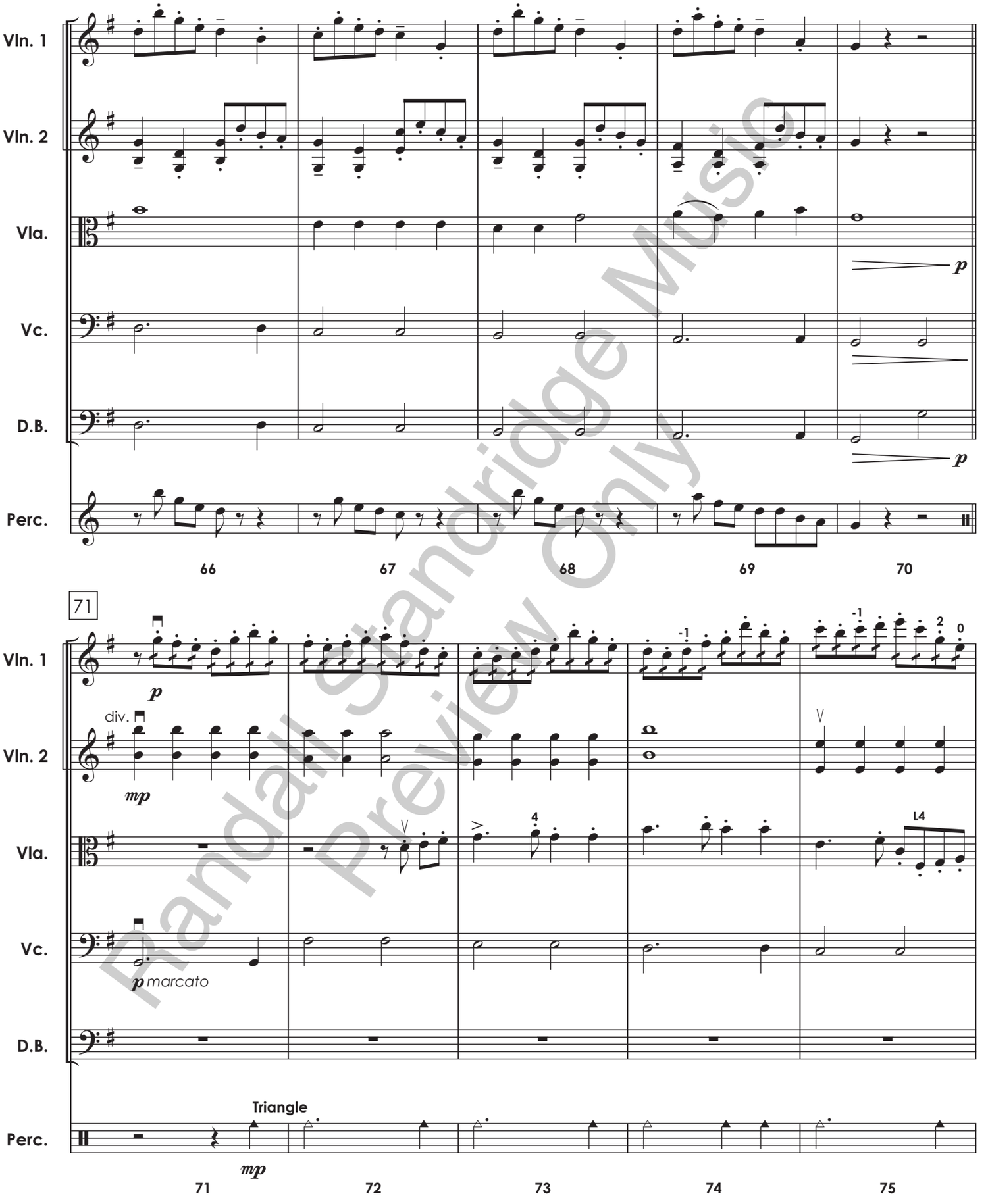

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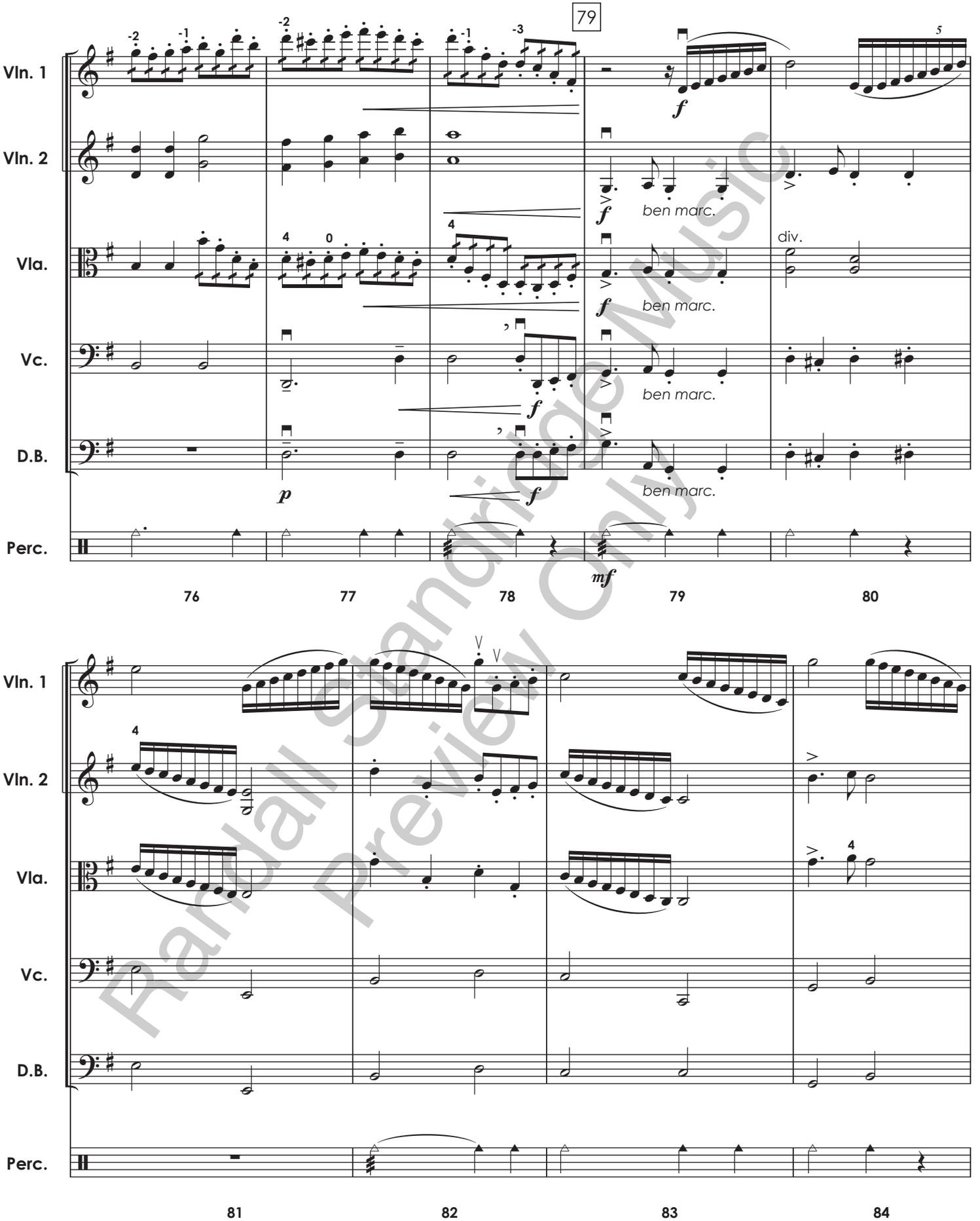

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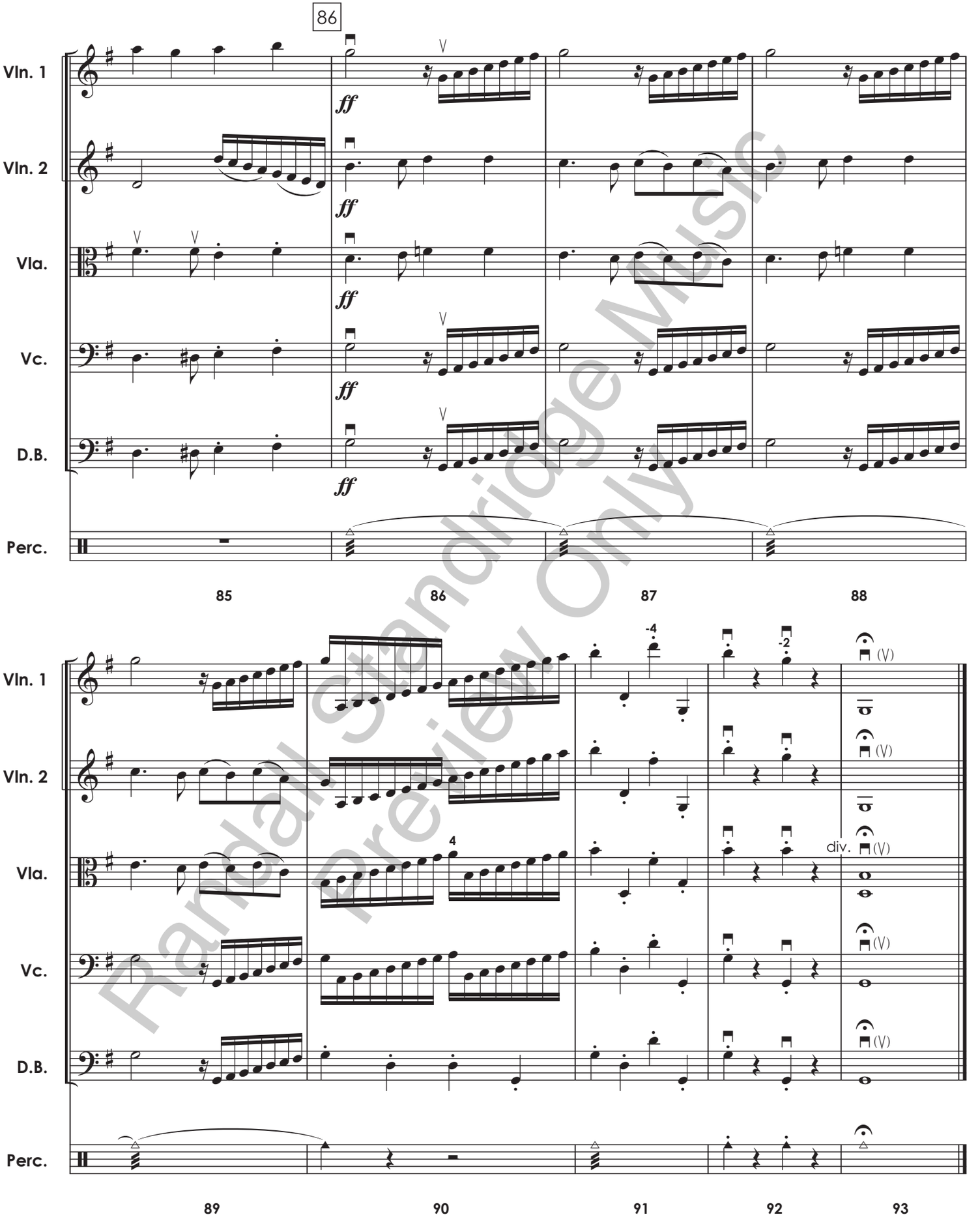

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Melody Supplement

Murray, Brahms, Haydn, Et,. al.
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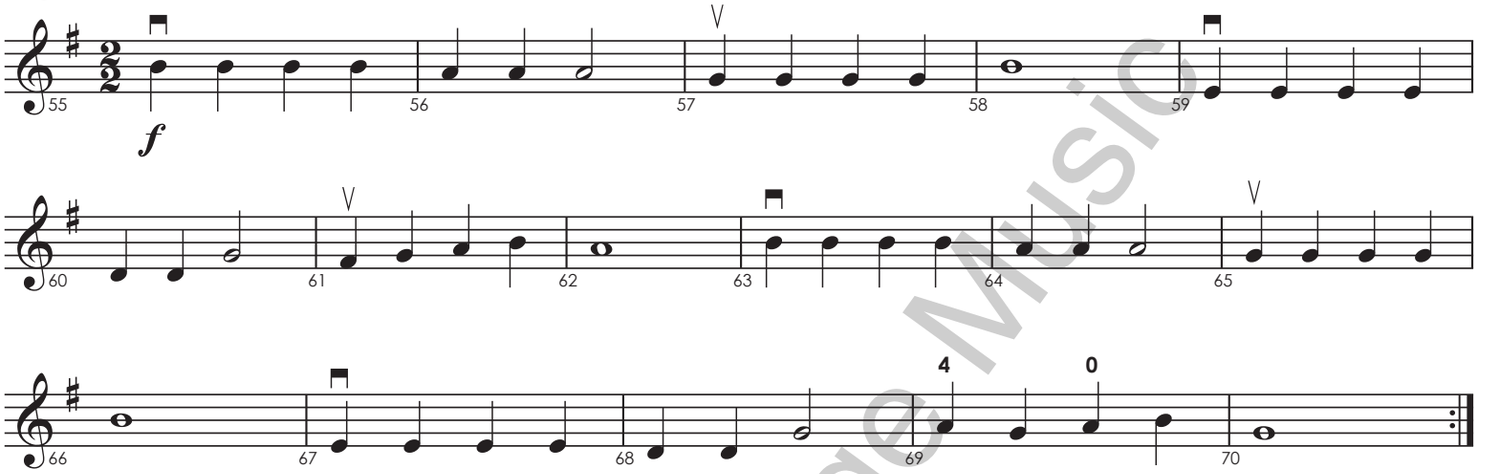
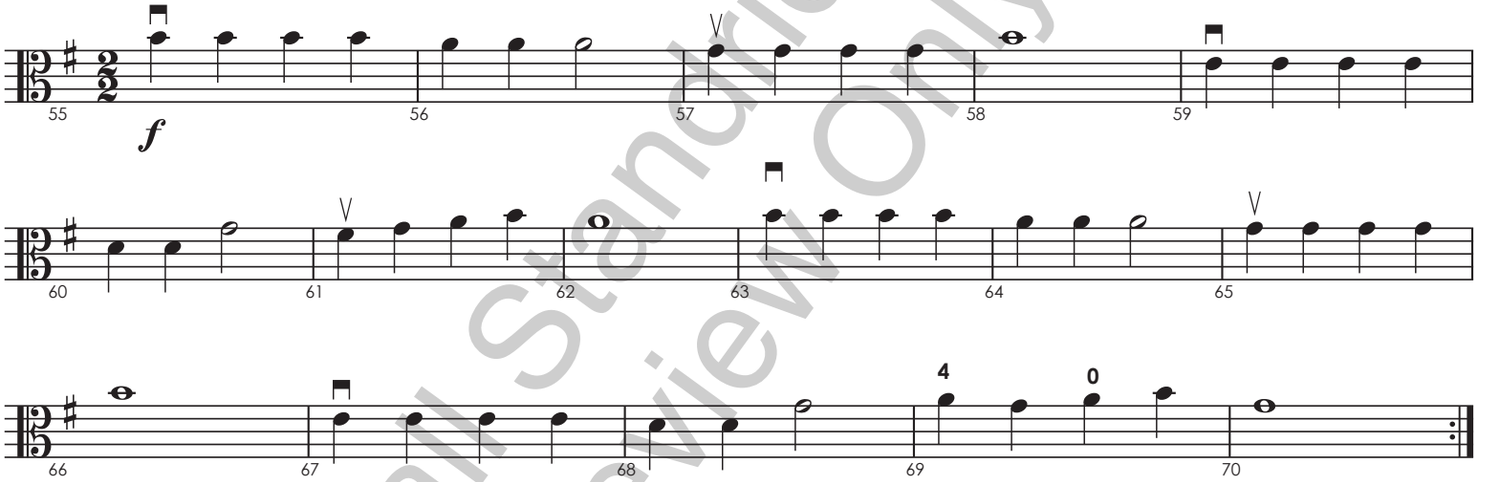
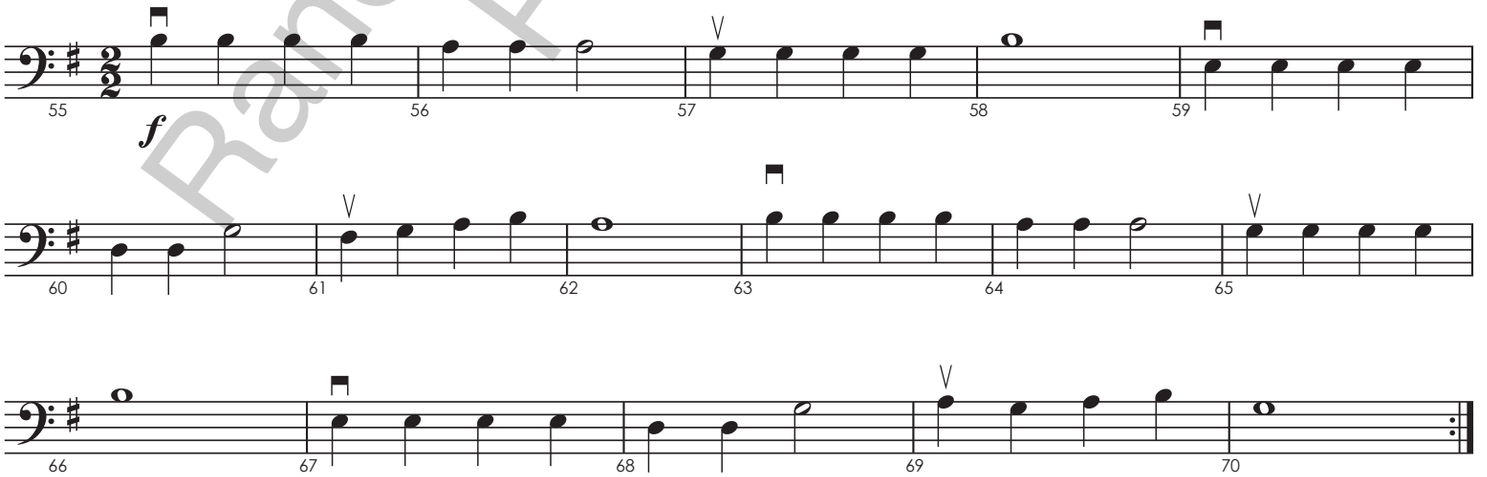
Violin



Viola



Cello/Bass



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