Grade Level: 2½

THE HIGHLAND/ETLING STRING ORCHESTRA SERIES

MILLENNIUM CYCLONE

By Andrew H. Dabczynski (ASCAP)

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INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Viola	5
Cello	5
String Bass	5
Piano Accompaniment	1

Attention thrill-seekers! Step aboard the *Millennium Cyclone* rollercoaster, and take off on a wild ride filled with twists, turns, ups, and downs. This piece uses repeated 16th-note figures, and dramatically contrasting dynamics delight players!

HIGHLAND/ETLING
A DIVISION OF Alfred

Please note: Our band and orchestra music is now being collated by an automatic high-speed system. The enclosed parts are now sorted by page count, rather than score order.

Program Notes

Millennium Cyclone is a wild, musical rollercoaster ride. The title recalls the "Millennium Force" ride at Sandusky, Ohio, and the famous wooden "Cyclone" coaster at Coney Island, NY. First, the orchestra and audience step aboard the Millennium Cyclone while a calliope plays happily in the amusement park. But then it takes off—with a driving bass line, syncopated accompaniment, and ominous melody. Listen as the coaster charges up and down with great dynamic and pitch changes. Then hear many twists and turns represented by sudden accents and dynamic contrasts, along with screeching clashes in the melody. The calliope melody returns momentarily so we can take a rather queasy breather, before the coaster takes off once again. After rocketing up and down, the ride slows to a breathless close. Please exit to the right, then come back and listen again!

Notes to the Conductor

This piece will be most effective if care is taken to perform articulations as indicated, and to exaggerate dynamic contrasts. The G-major introduction (mm. 1–8) represents the happy sounds of an amusement park calliope as the riders take their seats on the coaster. After a dramatic *ritardando* (mm. 7–8), the coaster takes off with a driving pizzicato bass line and E-minor syncopated figure in the violas (mm. 9–12). Here, the new "*Suddenly Allegro*" tempo should be played as fast as possible (♩. = 126–144), depending on students' ability.

The main "coaster" theme is introduced in the violins (m. 13) and taken over by 2nd violins and violas (m. 21). The theme is extended (m. 29–34) with repeated 16th-note patterns. Craziness then ensues (mm. 53–56); the gliss begins on the note indicated, sliding immediately higher for two beats on 1st finger to an arbitrary high note, then back for two beats to the original pitch. Clashing chromatic lines, with a *molto ritardando* and fermata, lead to an extended re-statement of the opening calliope theme (mm. 63–76). This section represents a calmer, gentler portion of the coaster ride, with humorous—even queasy-sounding—accompaniments.

Emphasize the dynamic swells in the Coda. Another *molto ritardando* (mm. 85–86) leads to a final statement of the opening calliope theme, culminating in a tremolo fermata and final unison 'g' (m. 91–92—note the dramatic ***fp***). Players can exit to the right, and come back on stage for another ride!

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Millennium Cyclone

CONDUCTOR SCORE
Duration - 3:30

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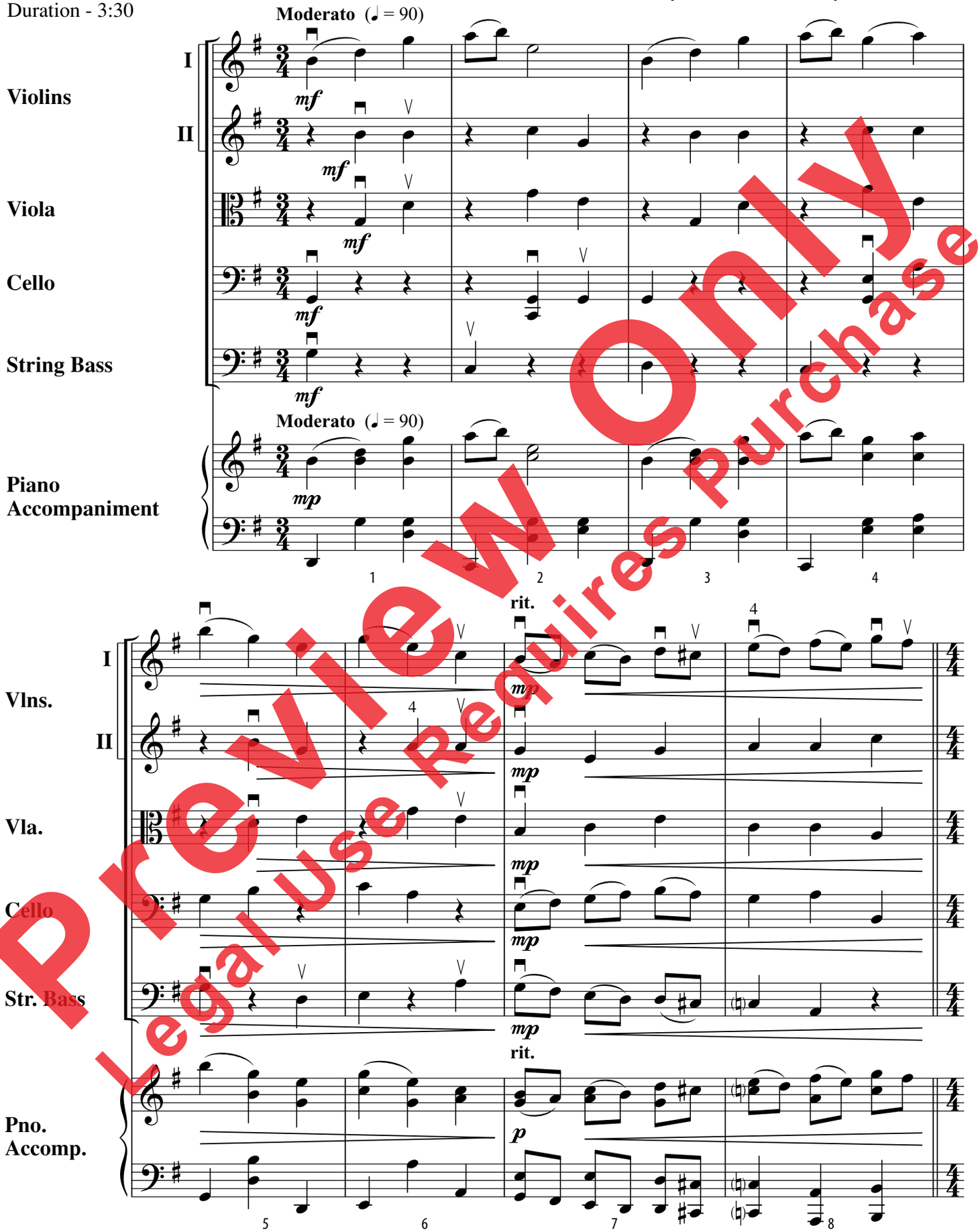

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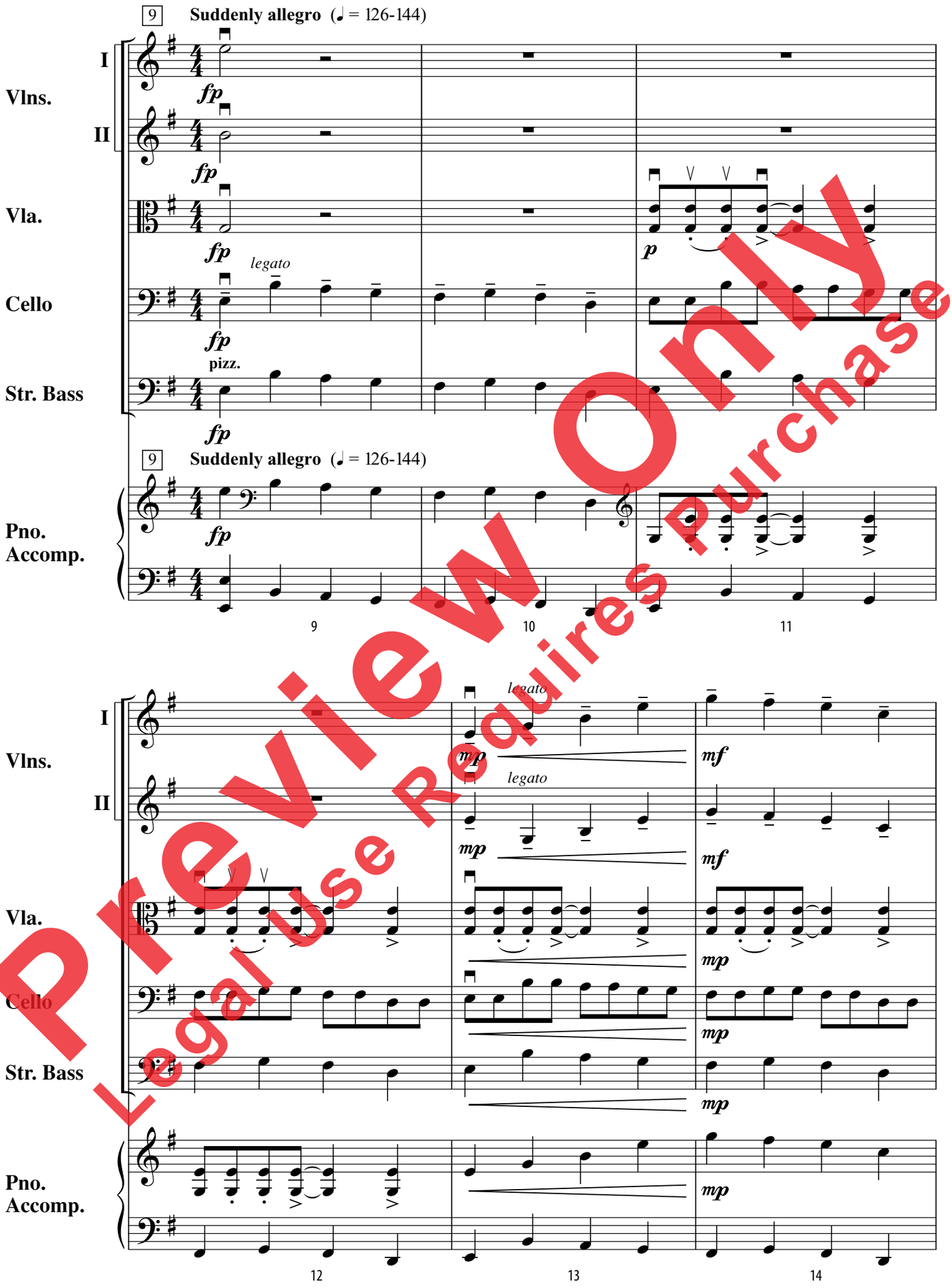

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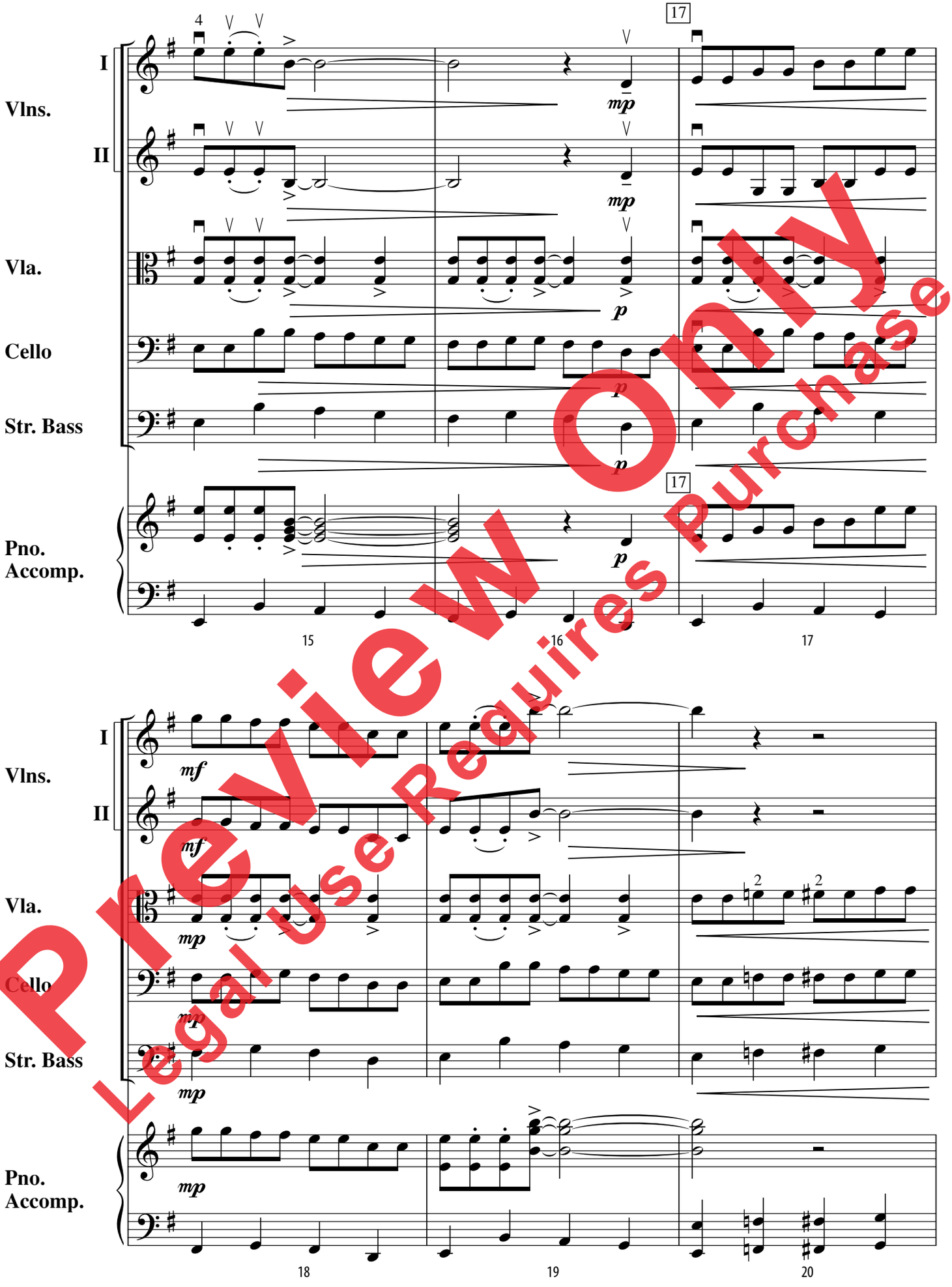

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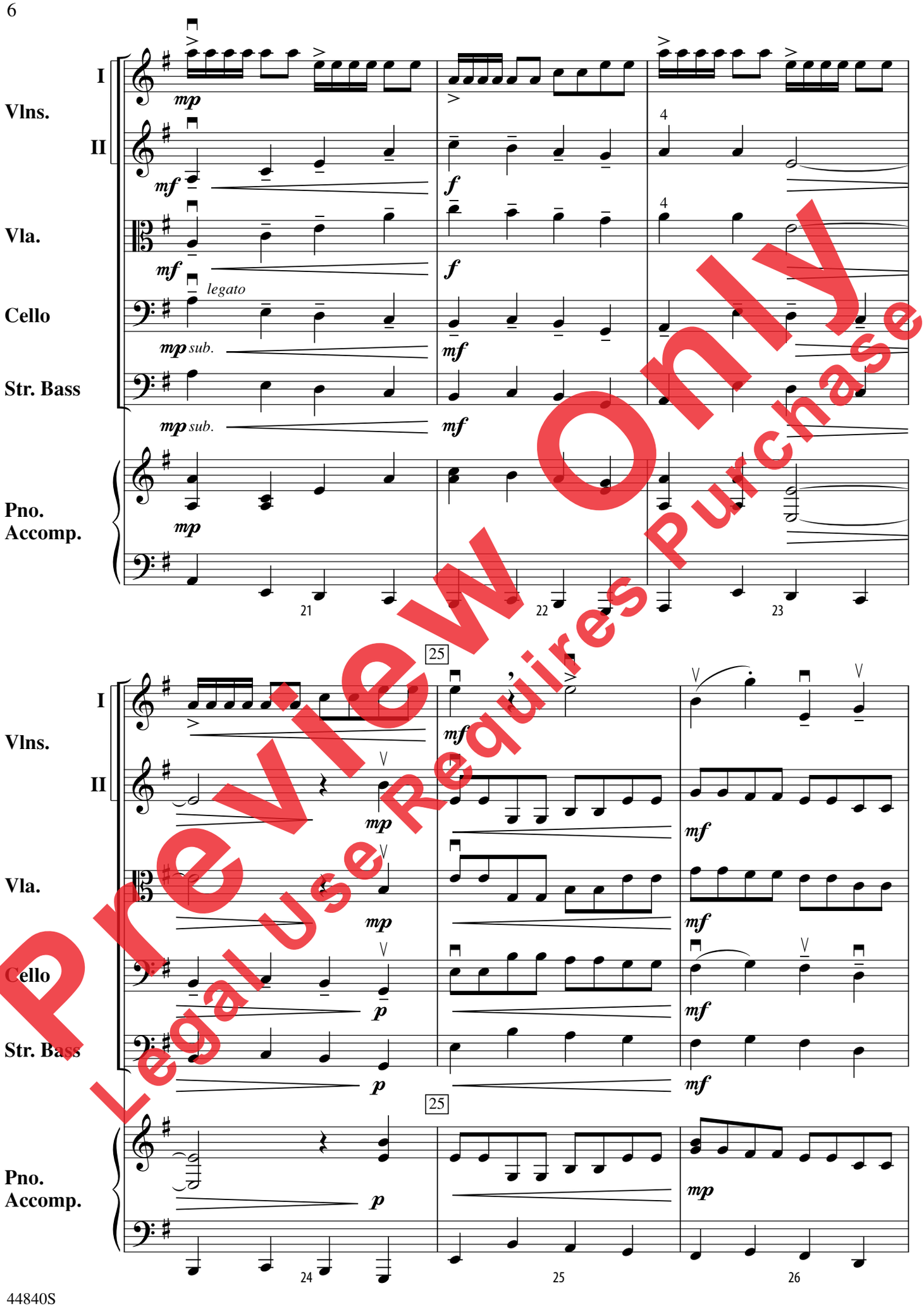

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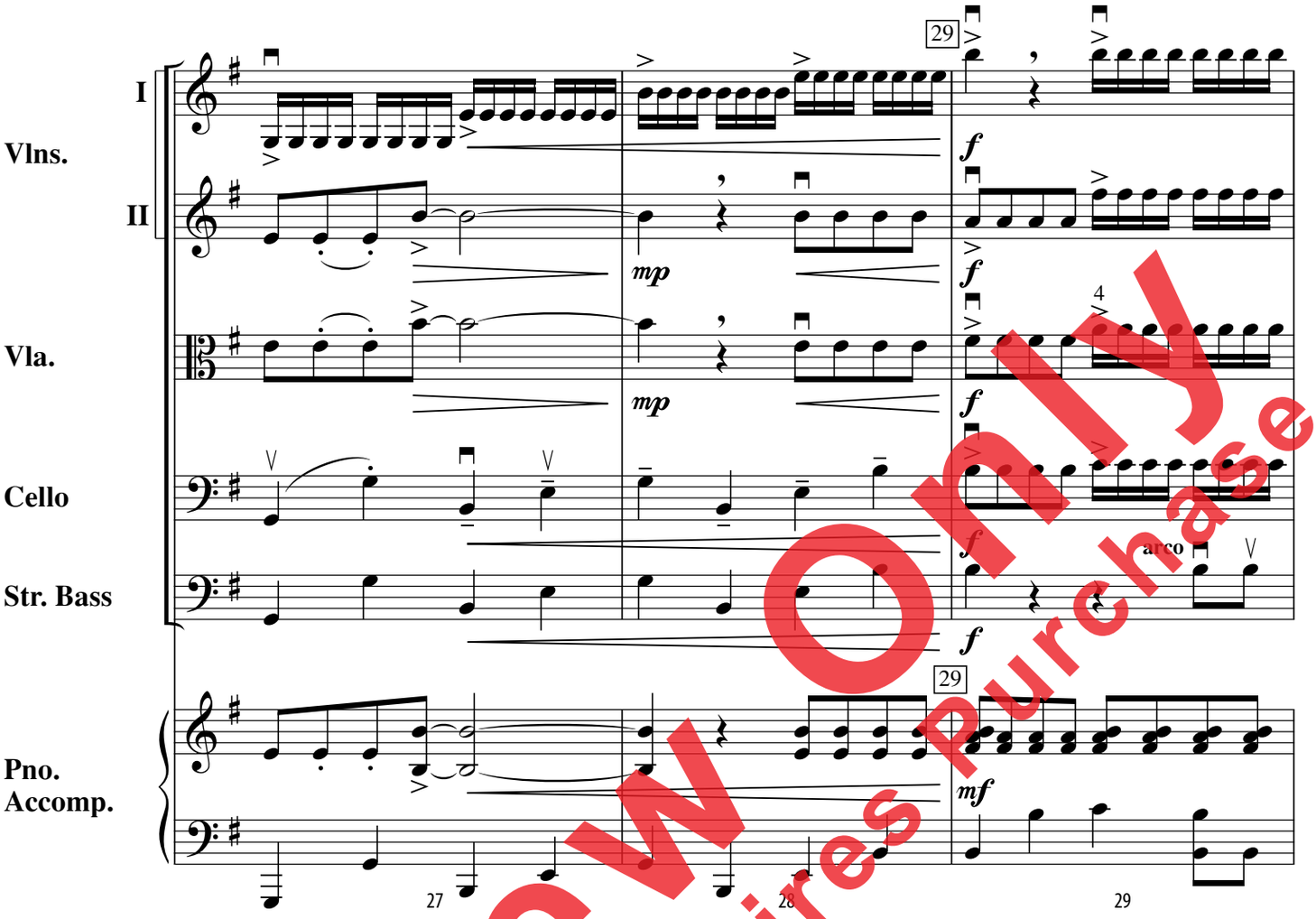

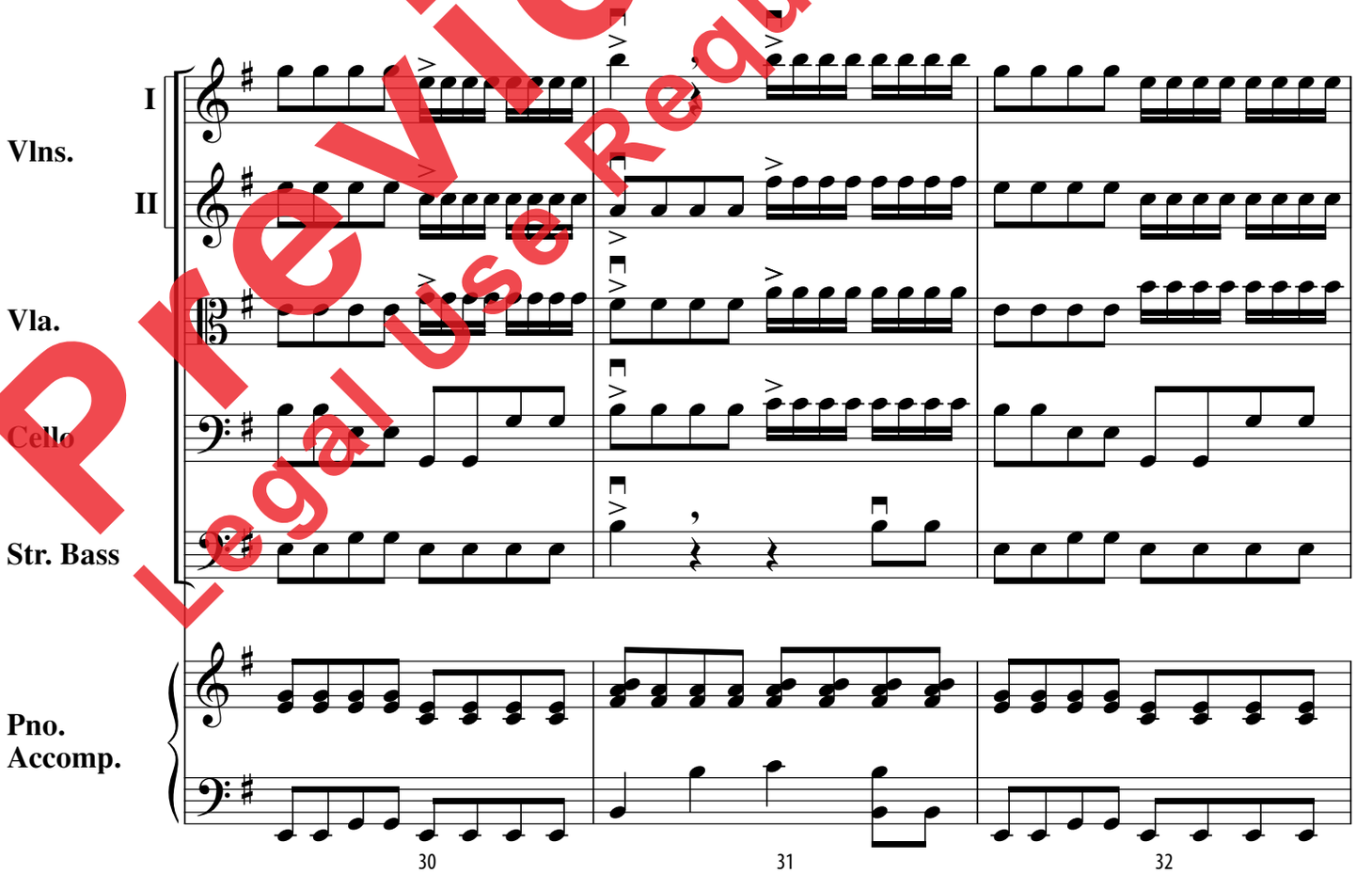

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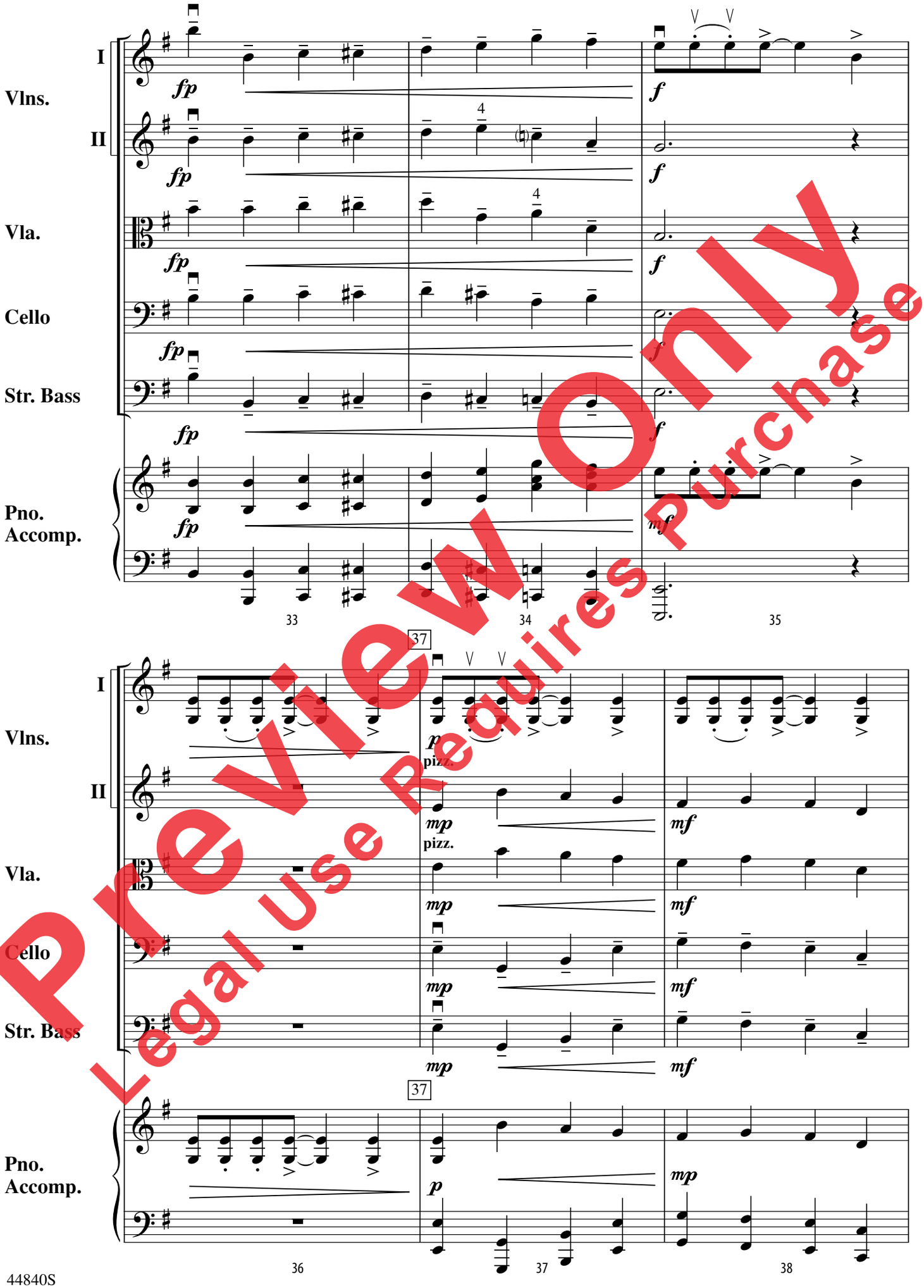

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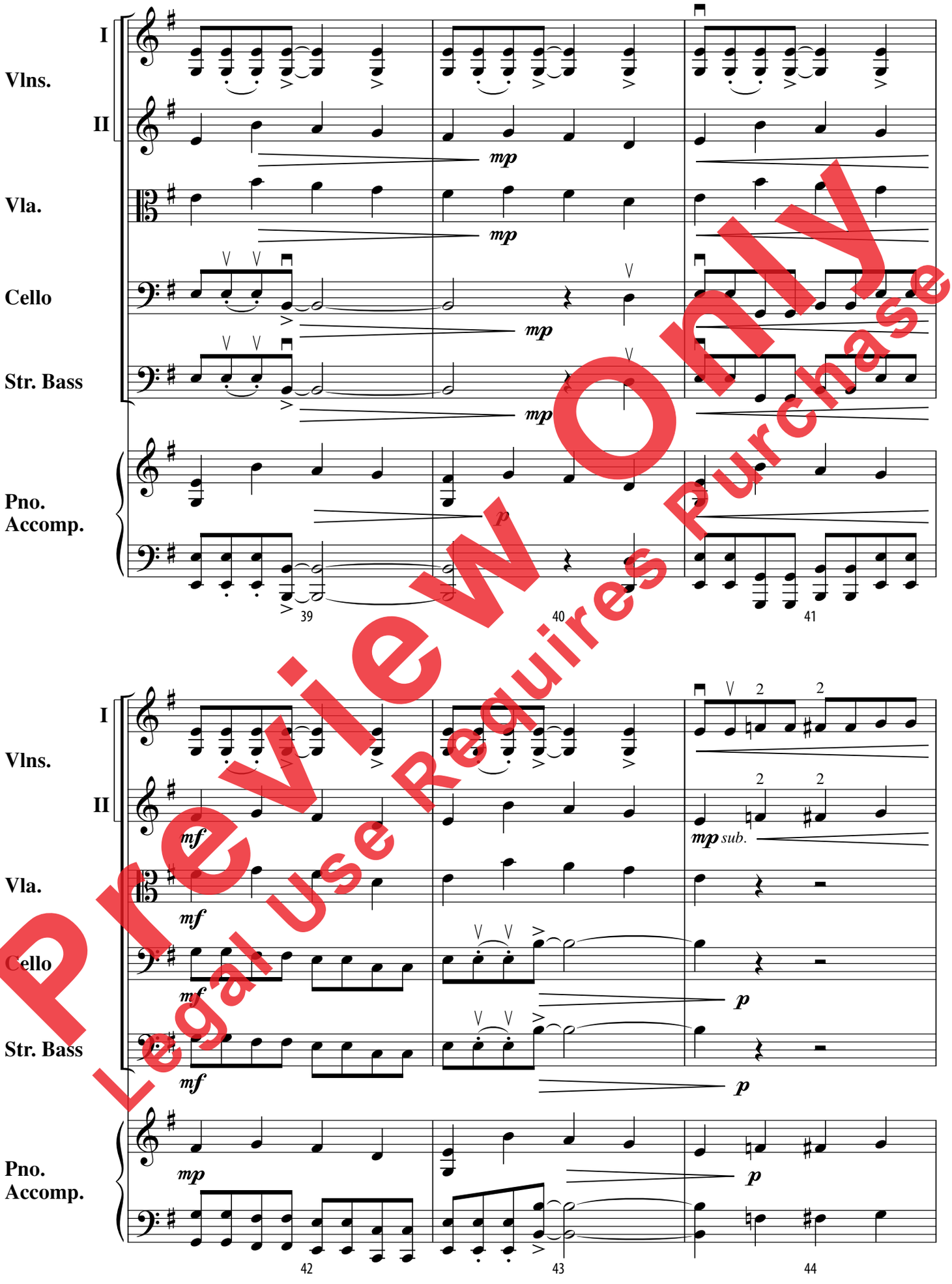

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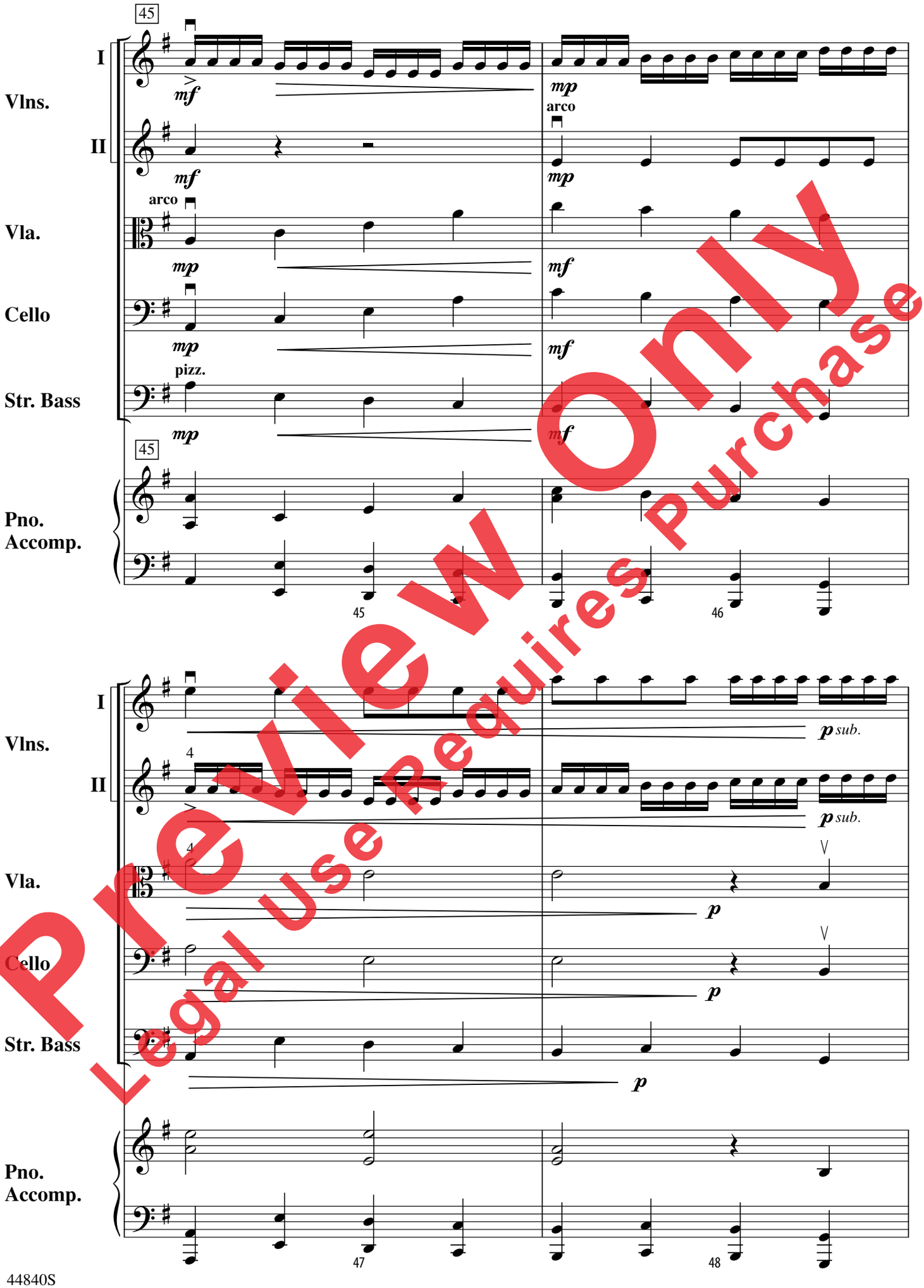

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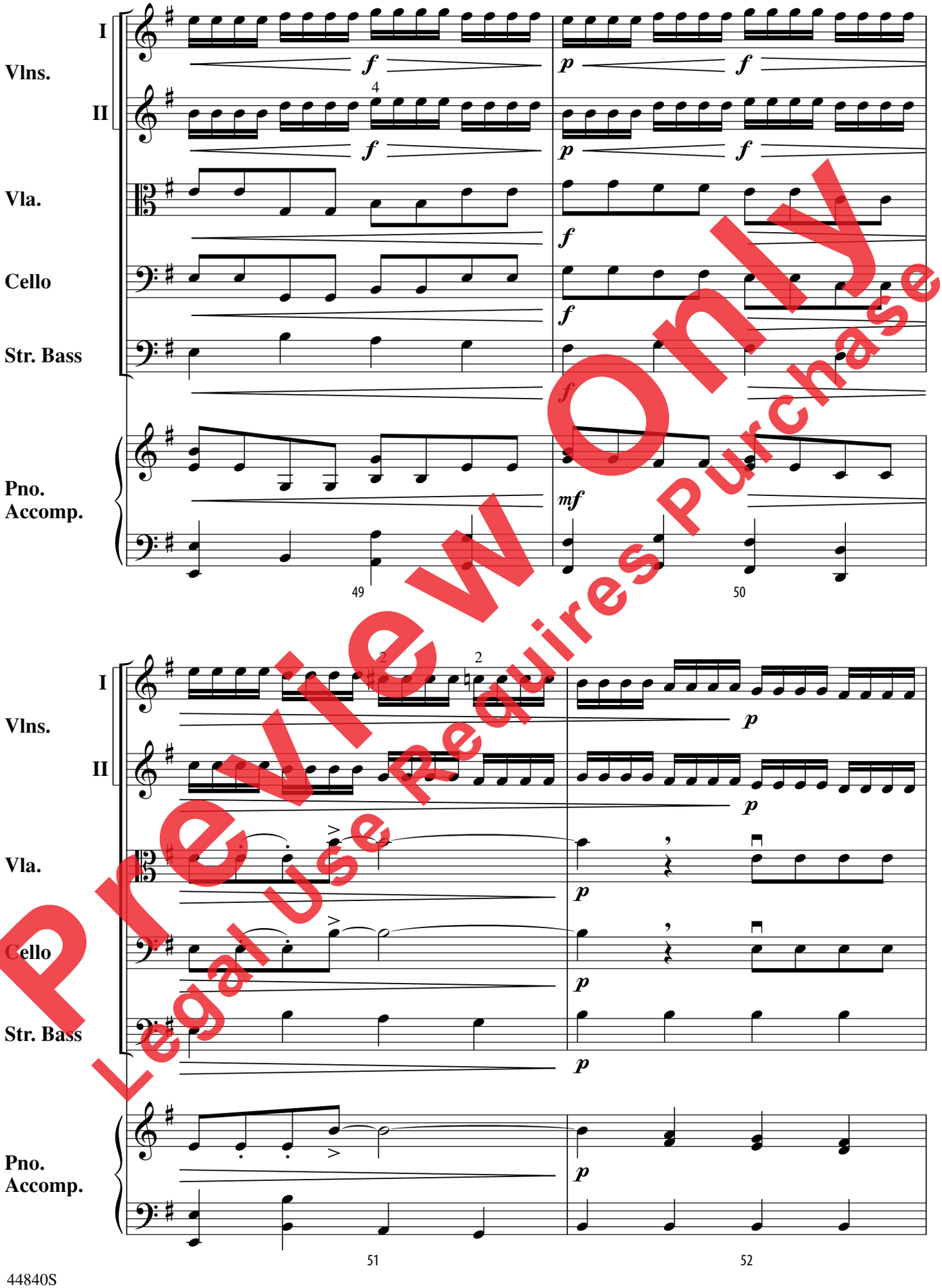

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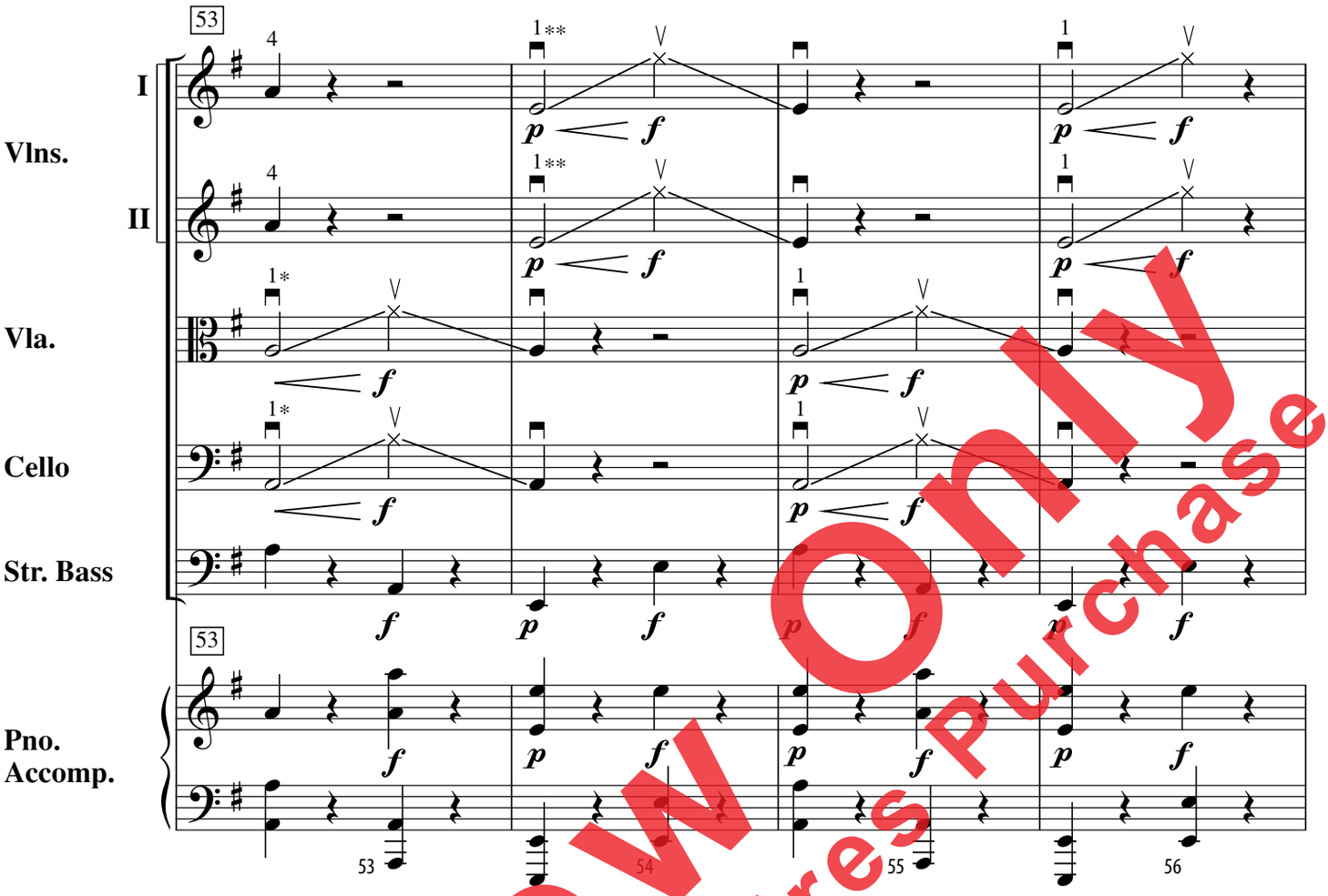
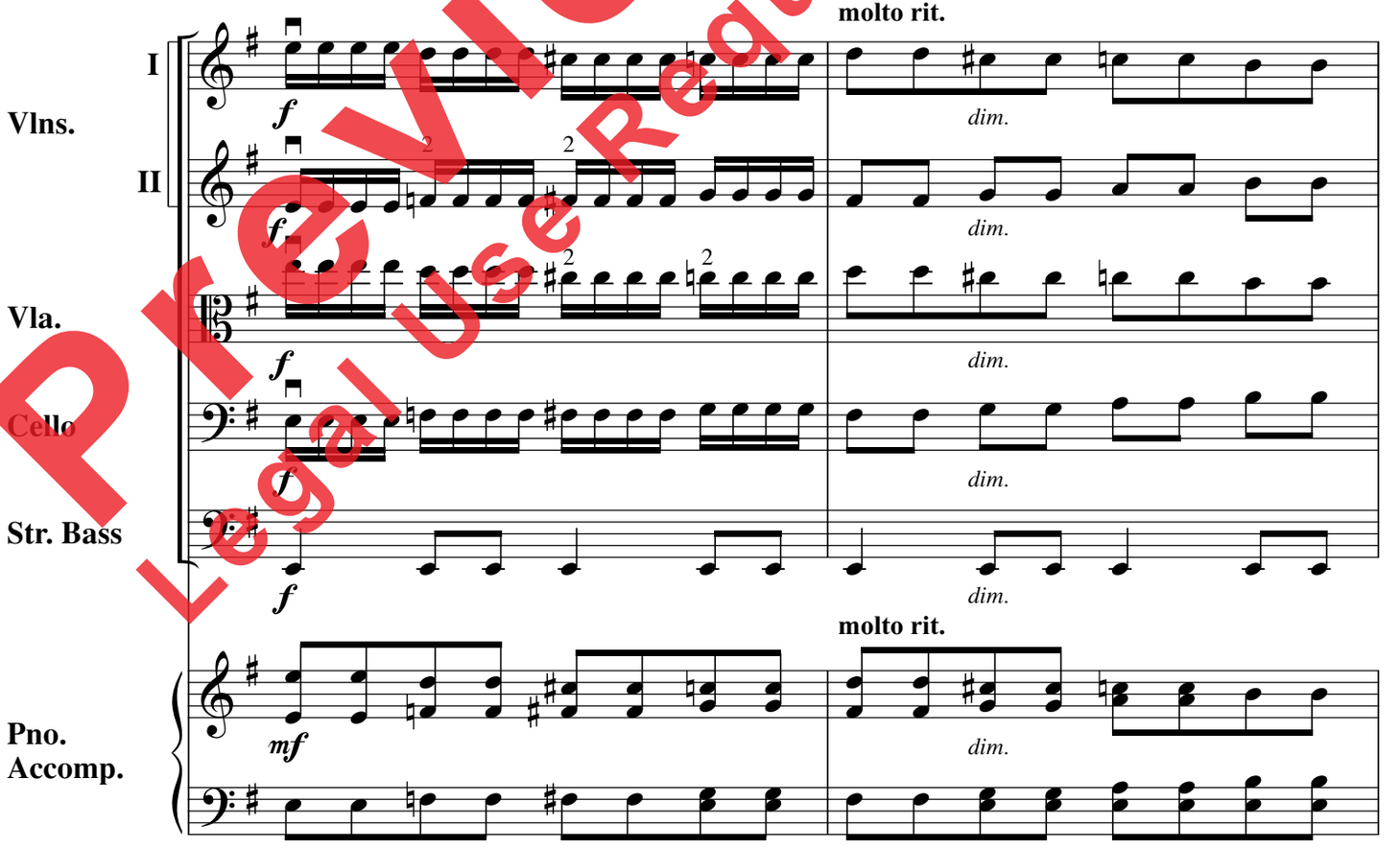


*Slide 1st finger as high as possible and back again on G string

**Slide 1st finger as high as possible and back again on D string



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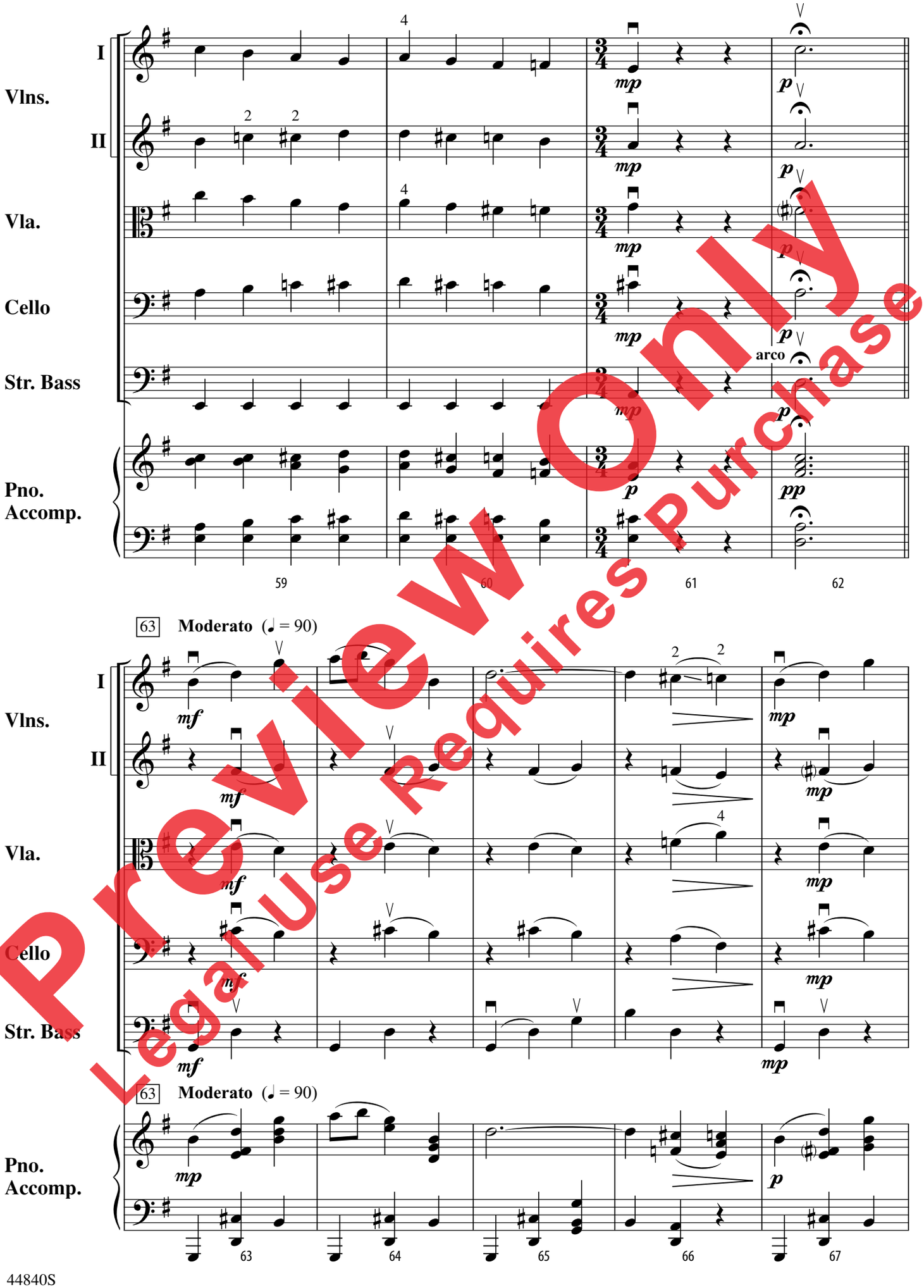

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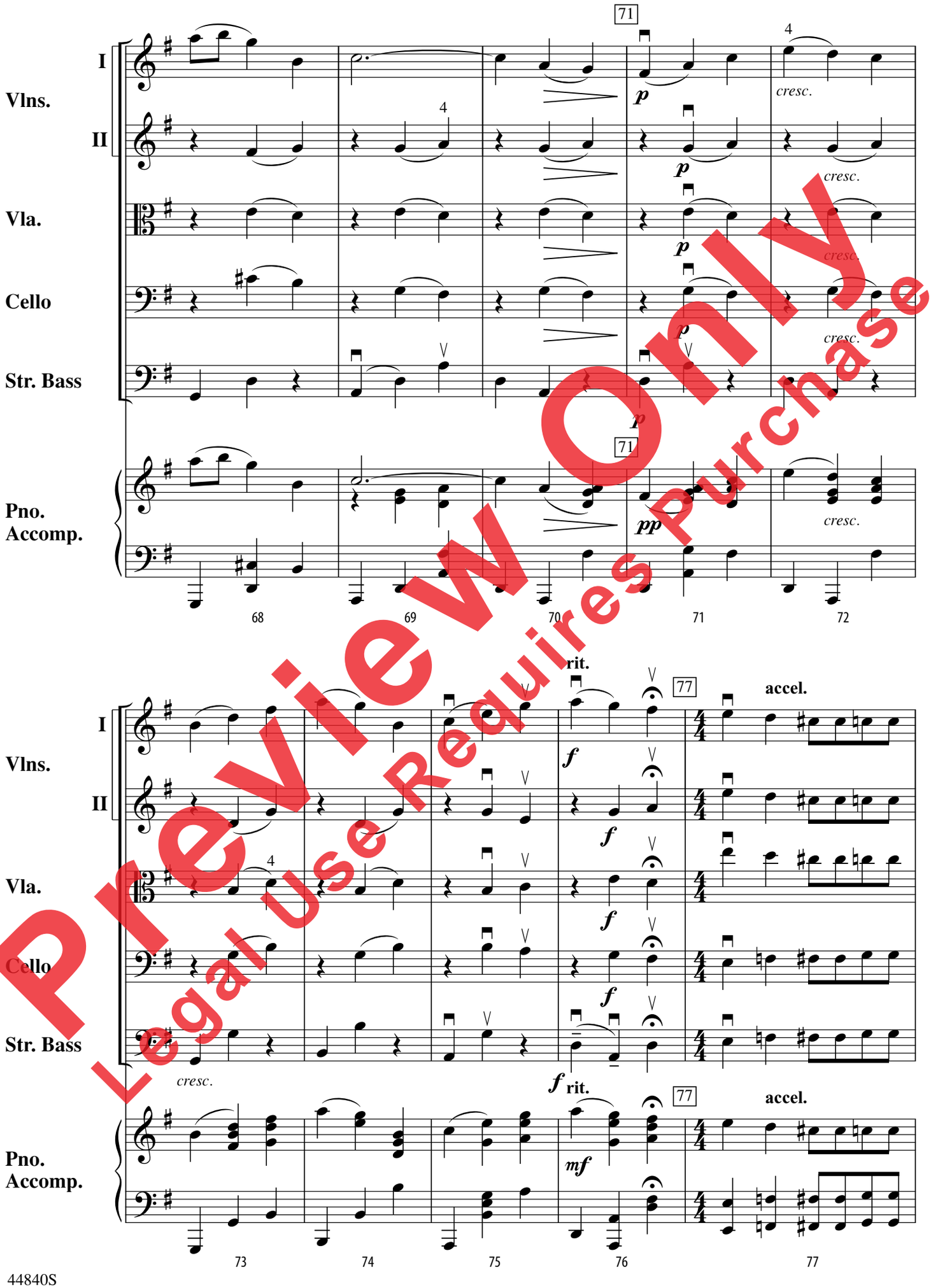

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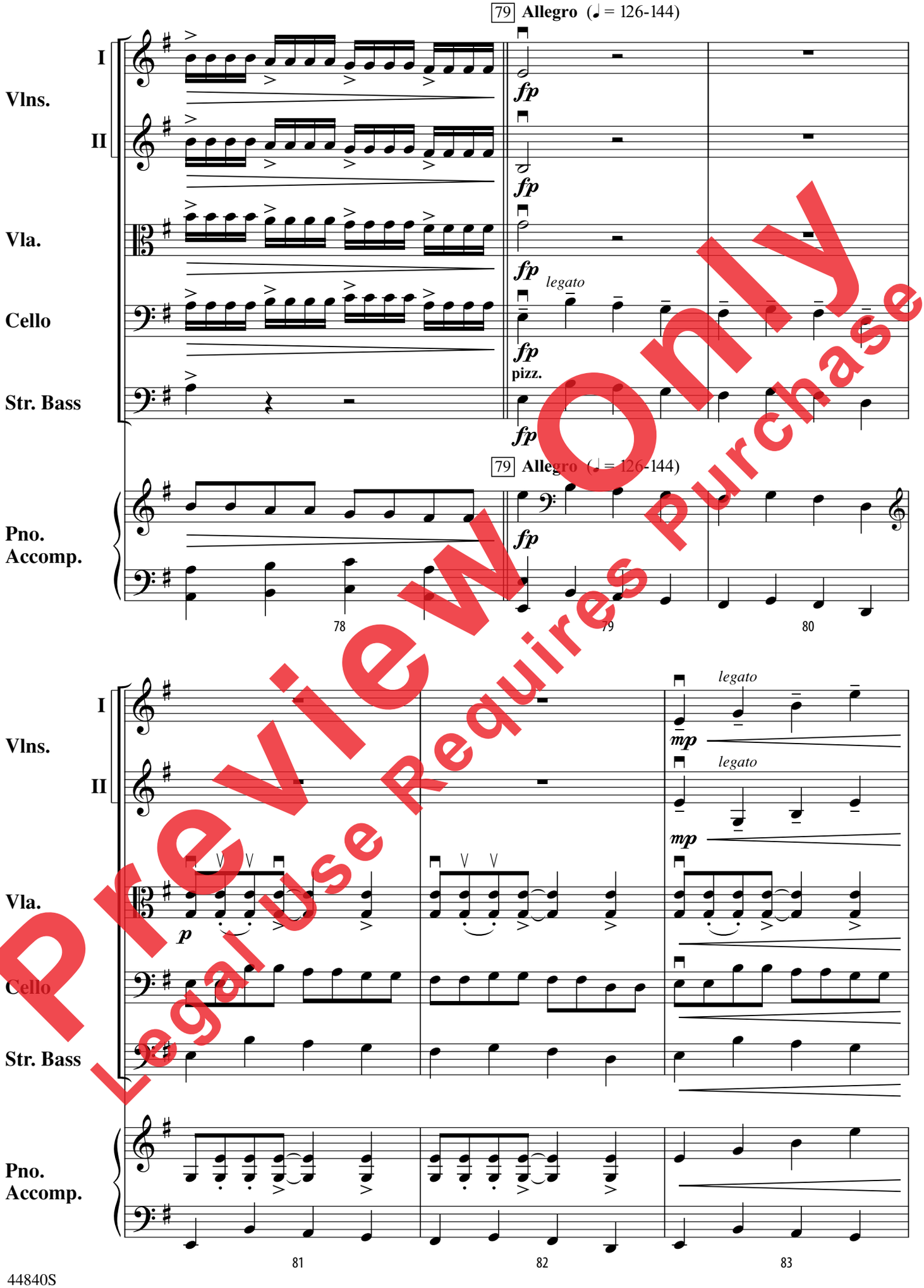

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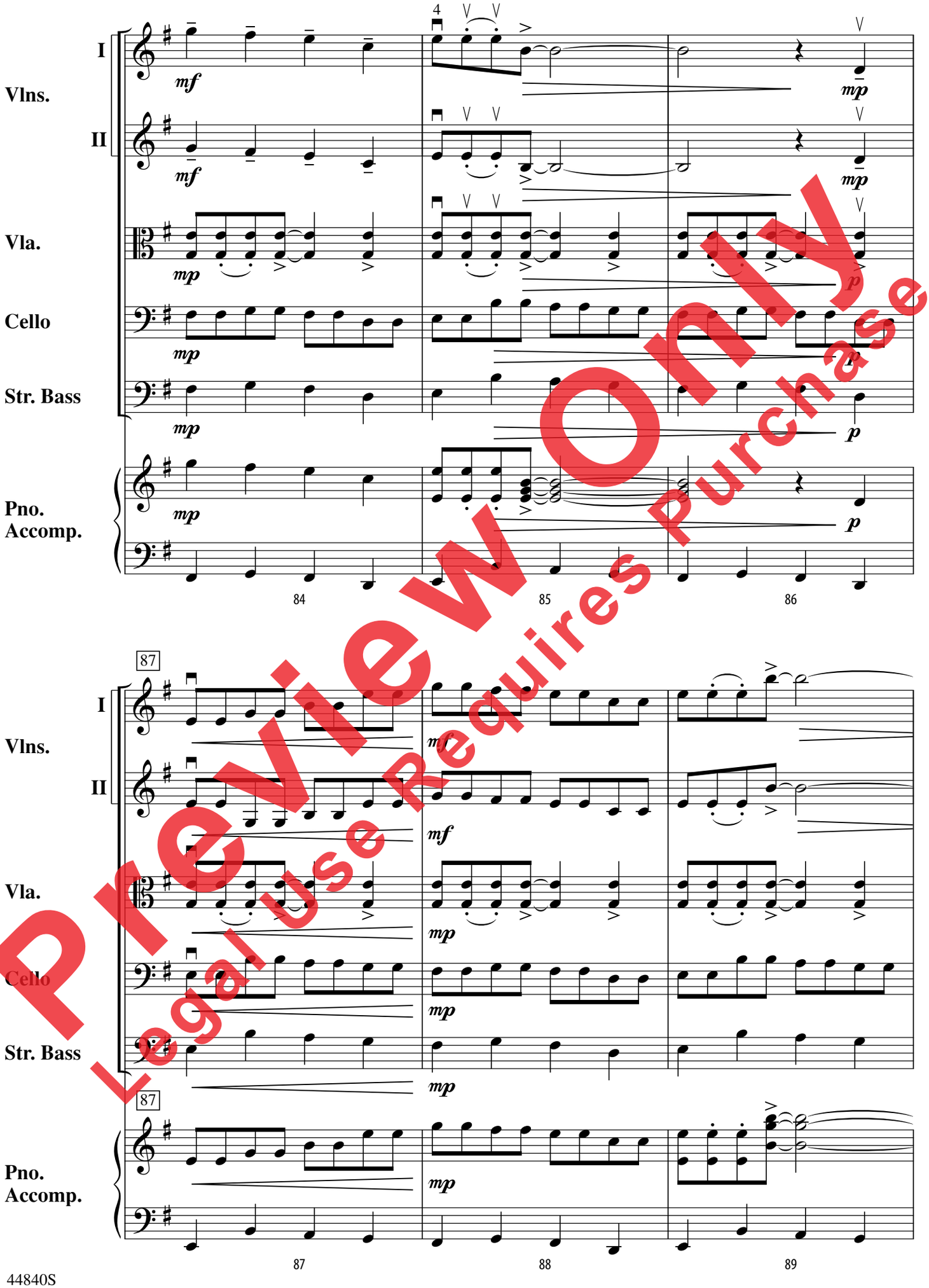

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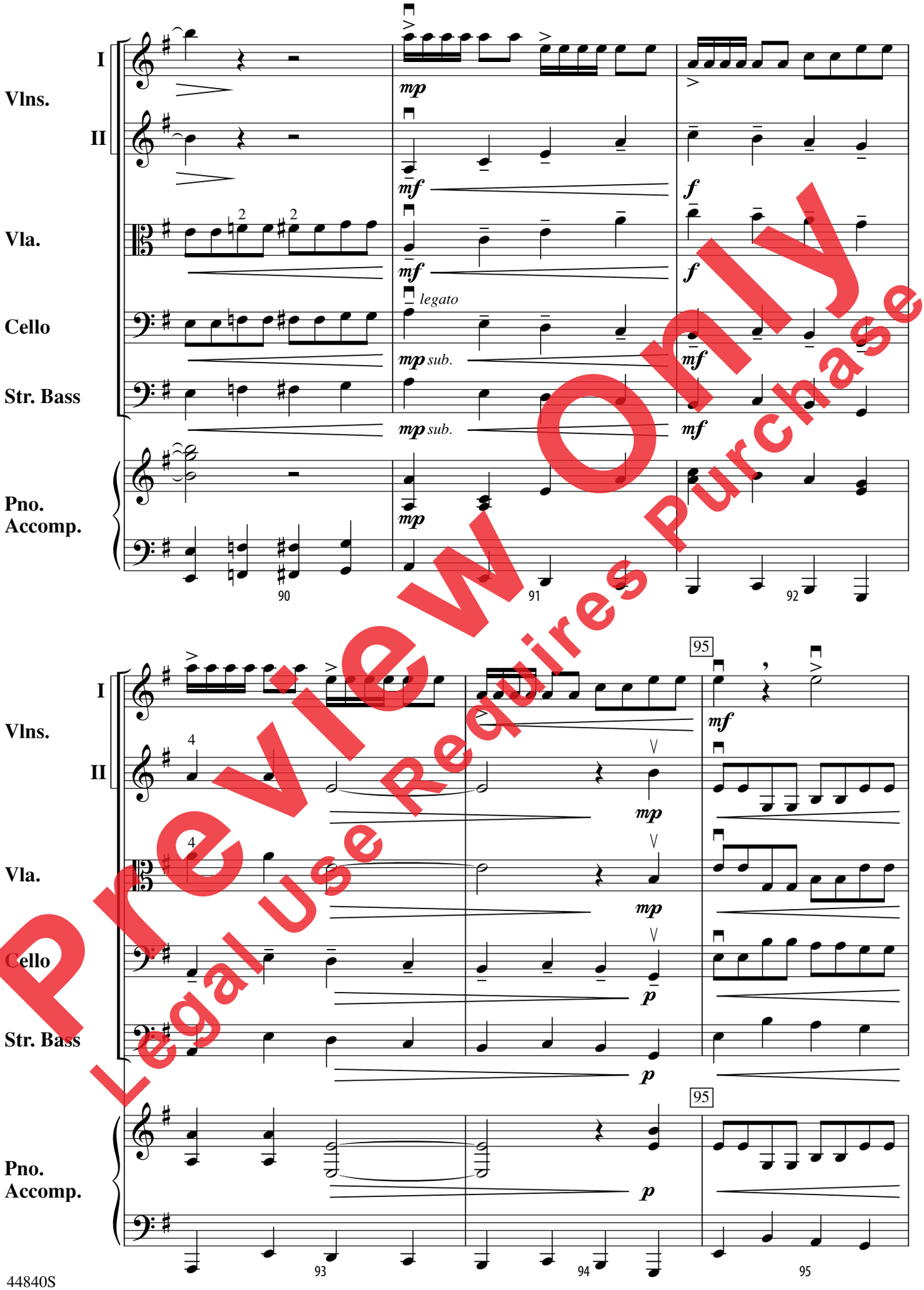

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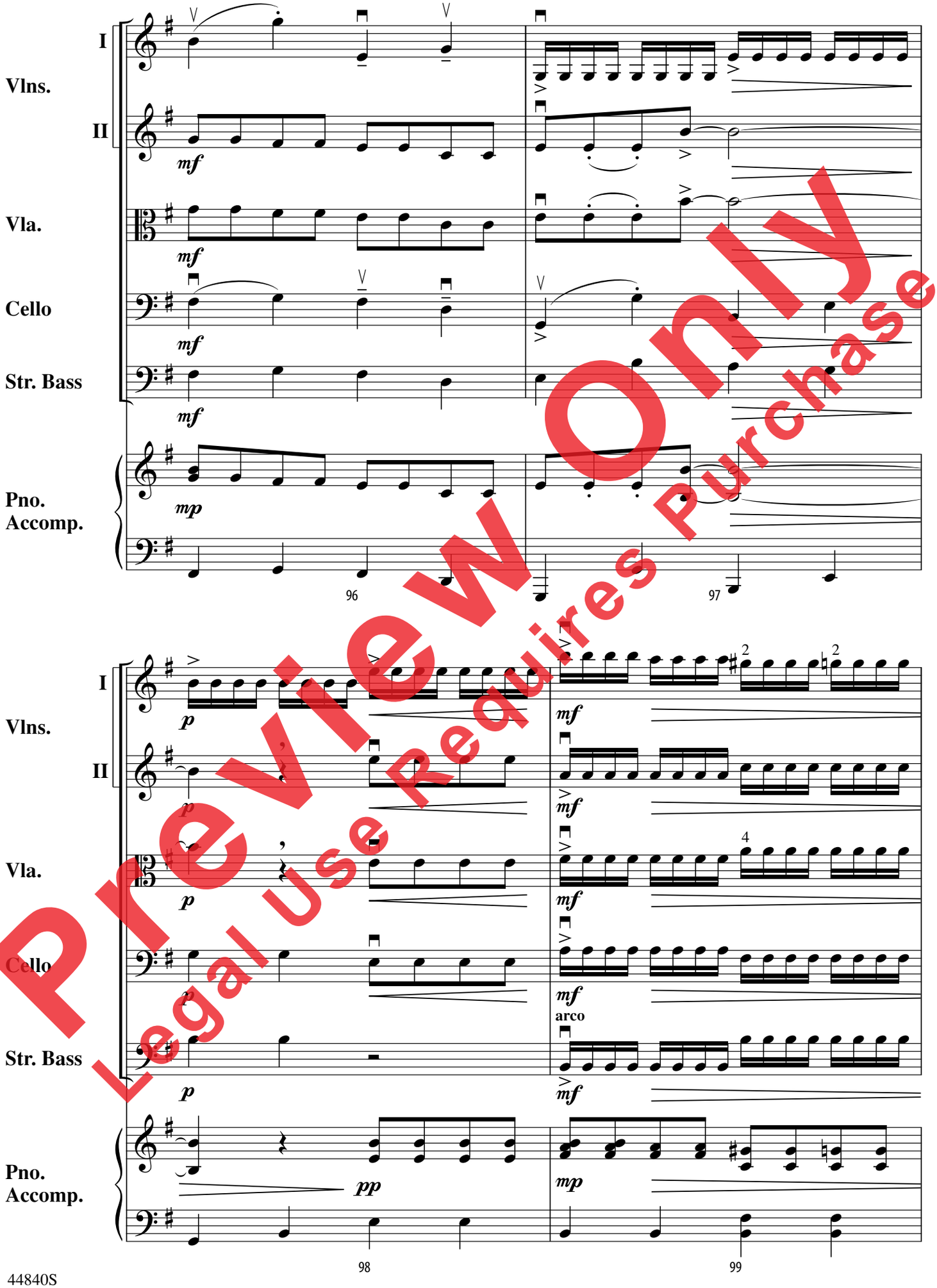

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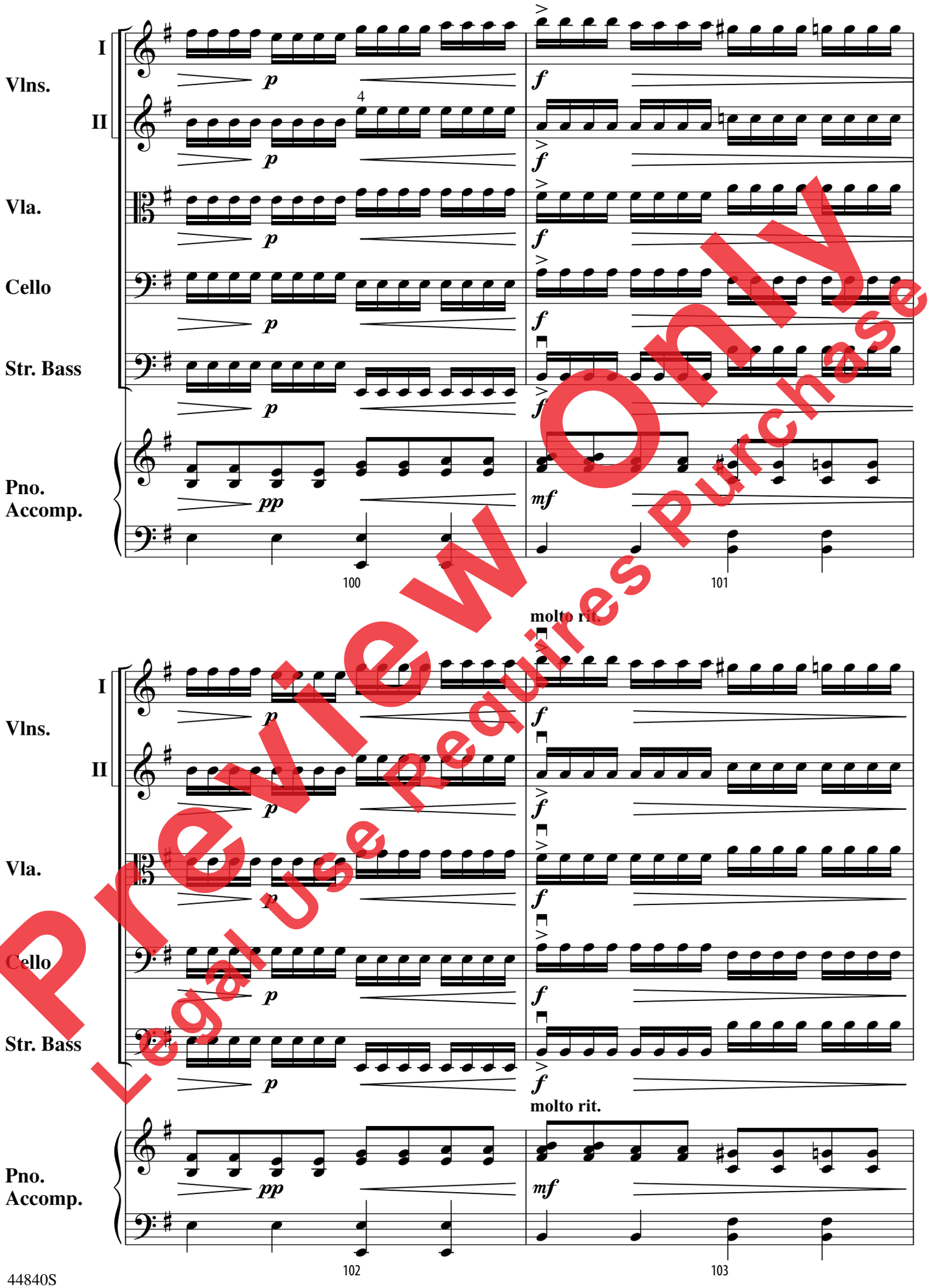

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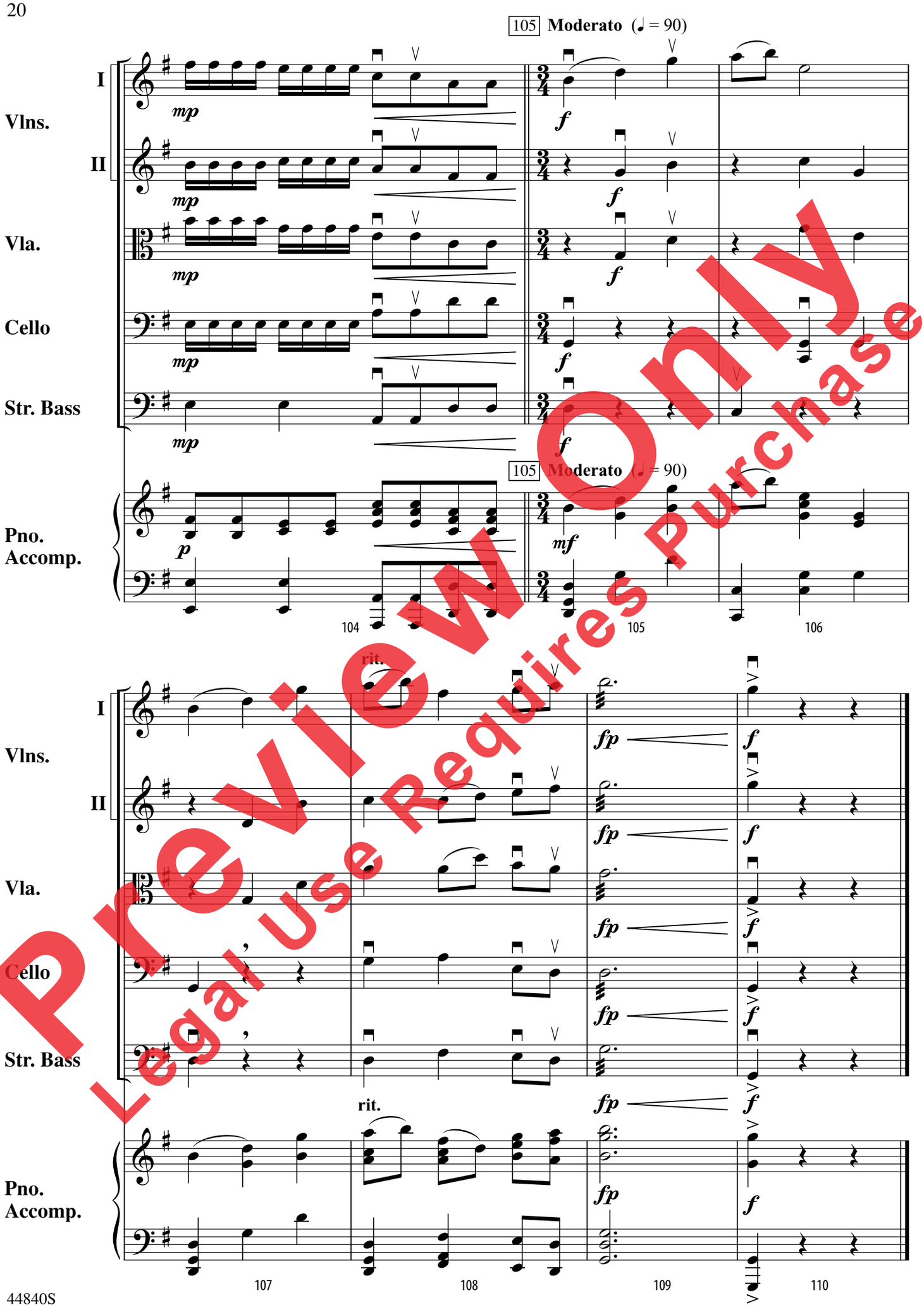

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