FULL SCORE

Concert String Orchestra

CARL FISCHER PERFORMANCE SERIES

Grade 3

# Dies Irae: Fantasia

## Deborah Baker Monday

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*CAS70*

**INSTRUMENTATION**

Full Score.....1
Violin I.....8
Violin II.....8
Viola.....5
Cello.....5
Bass.....5
Piano.....1

CARL FISCHER®

# About the Composition

*Dies Irae* is a hymn from the thirteenth century based on a poem which describes the day of judgement where some will be saved and others will not. The Latin words "dies irae" literally mean "day of wrath."

The *Dies Irae* hymn became one of the sequences used in the Catholic liturgy. These sequences were based on various texts which were added to the jubilatio (melismas over the final syllable of the Alleluias) relating to the liturgy of the day. The *Dies Irae* was incorporated into the Requiem Mass (Mass for the Dead)

Many composers have written a Requiem Mass (Mozart, Verdi, and Berlioz to name a few) and have included the Dies Irae. Other composers have chosen to use a more positive or uplifting part of the requiem such as Pie Jesu or In Paradisium along with the standard parts of the mass (the Kyrie, Sanctus and Agnus Dei).

The tune of the Dies Irae is a somber plainchant (Gregorian chant) with descending character (Do-Ti--Do-La-Ti-Sol-La). It is easily recognized and has been quoted in numerous works by classical composers from Franz Joseph Haydn (Symphony No. 103) to Stephen Sondheim (Sweeney Todd). You may also know the Halloween song *Ghost of John*, which is also based on this tune.

Ms. Monday has taken the *Dies Irae* and interspersed some of her favorite settings of the theme into this freely composed fantasia. Students will enjoy exploring the many techniques used in composing this fantasy. There is also the opportunity to have students engage in critical listening activities to recognize the *Dies Irae* in many musical masterpieces.

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# About the Composer

Deborah Baker Monday currently teaches in the Logan City School District Orchestra Program in Logan, Utah. She is a cello/bass specialist who works with 4th through 8th grade students in several schools. Ms. Monday received her B.M.E. from Florida State University with an emphasis in strings and a M.M. in composition from the University of Alabama. She began working on a D.M.A. at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge while teaching string classes at the 4th through 12th grade levels.

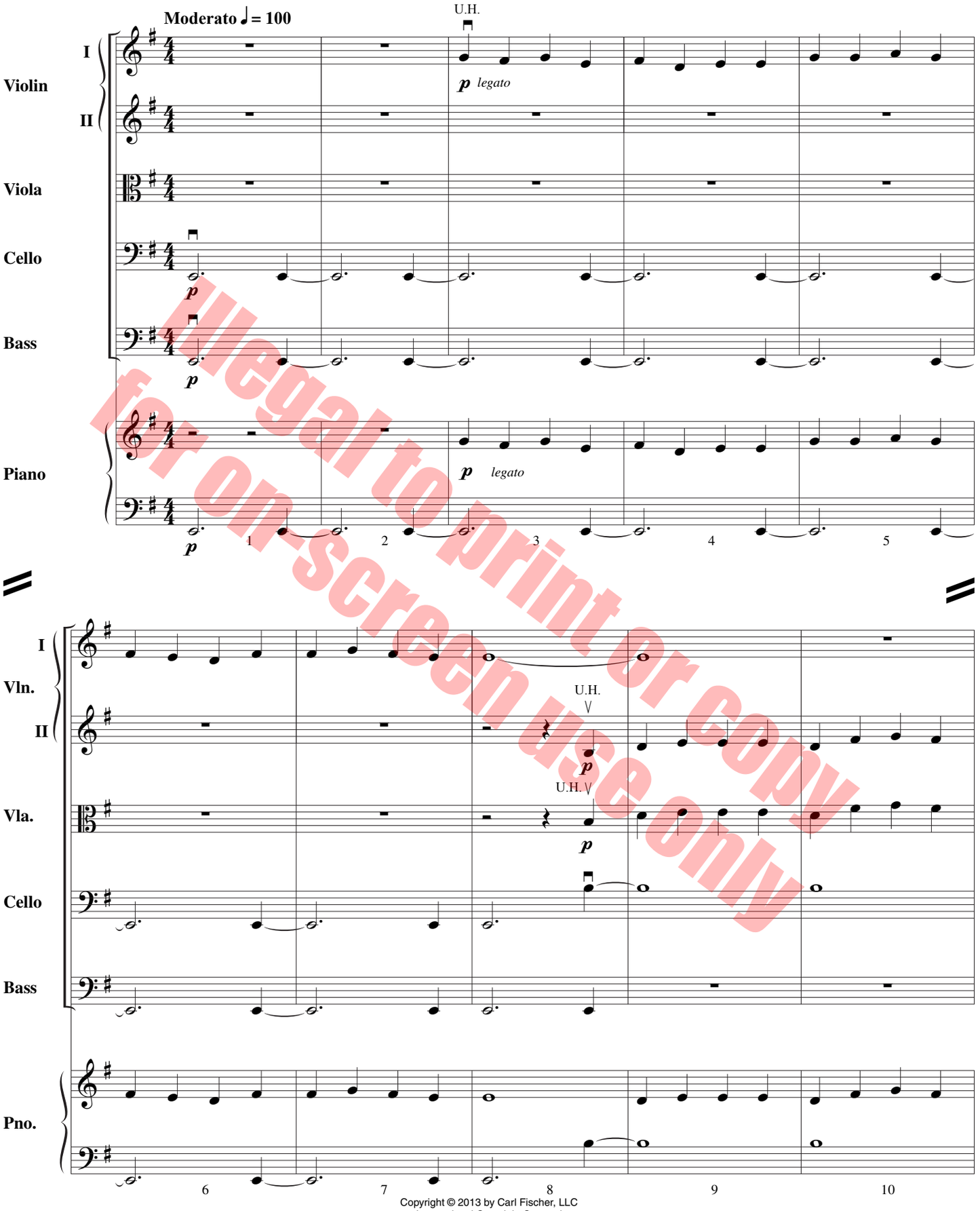
Ms. Monday is an active bass performer and private teacher. She has served as an adjunct bass instructor at Utah State University for several years, has been on the faculty of the Utah ASTA with NSOA Bass Fest, and has served as a clinician at the Midwest Clinic, ASTA with NSOA National Conference, and various state music educators conventions throughout the country. In 1999, she was named the Utah ASTA with NSOA Elementary Teacher of the Year and she also received the award for "Superior Accomplishment" at the 2003 Utah Music Educators Association Conference acknowledging her exceptional contributions to educational music for young string players. Ms. Monday was declared winner of the 2006 Utah ASTA Composition Competition for her composition Chant-Formations. She continues to conduct and present sessions promoting solid string teaching through well balanced string orchestra compositions and arrangements.

Ms. Monday has many publications to her credit including three collections co-authored with Janice L. McAllister, Strings Extraordinaire!, Holidays Extraordinaire!, and More Strings Extraordinaire! She is also co-author with Robert S. Frost of Artistry in Ensembles. She and her husband, Bill, maintain busy teaching schedules and a bustling household with their four children.

# Dies Irae: Fantasia



DEBORAH BAKER MONDAY

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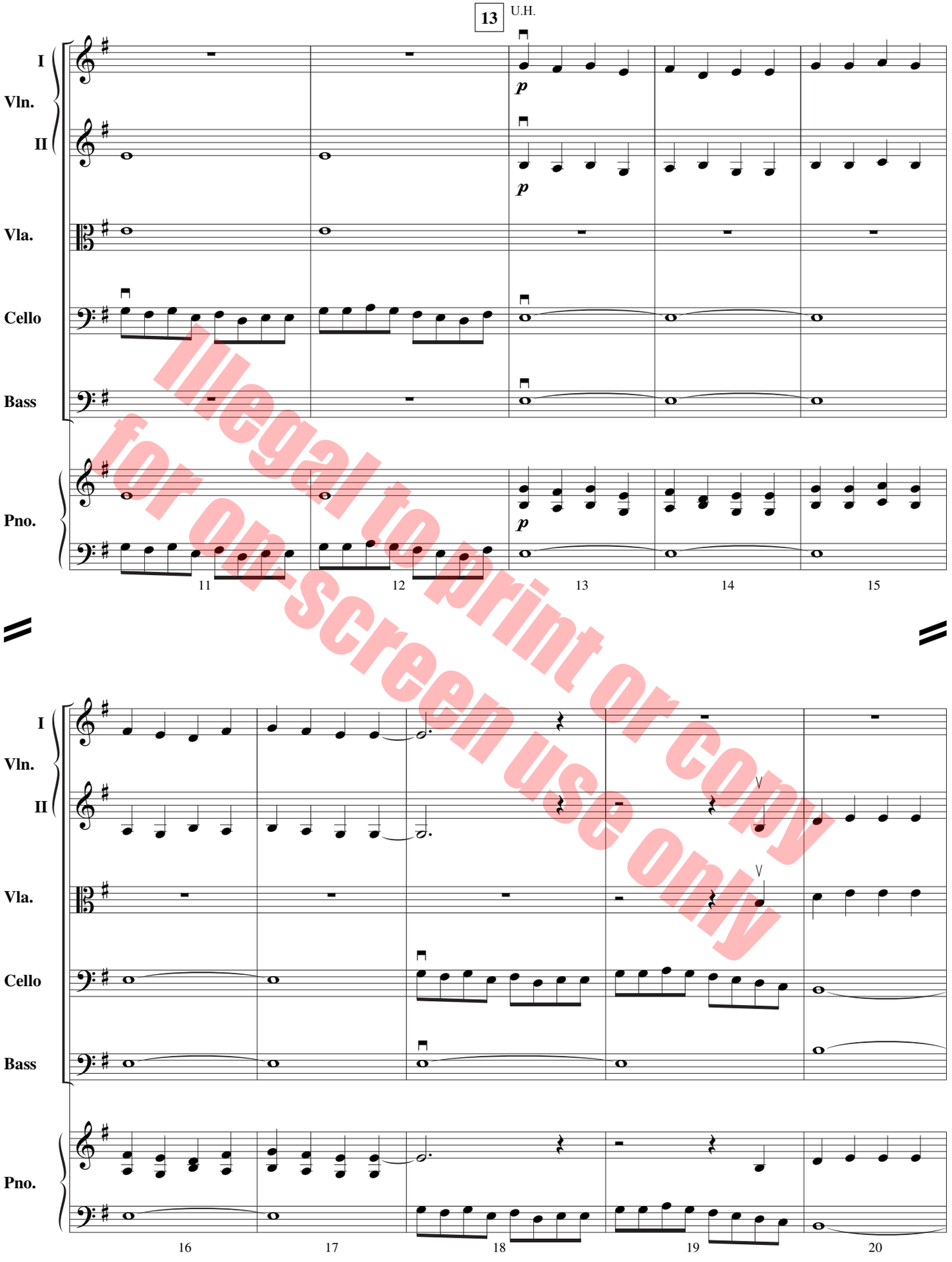


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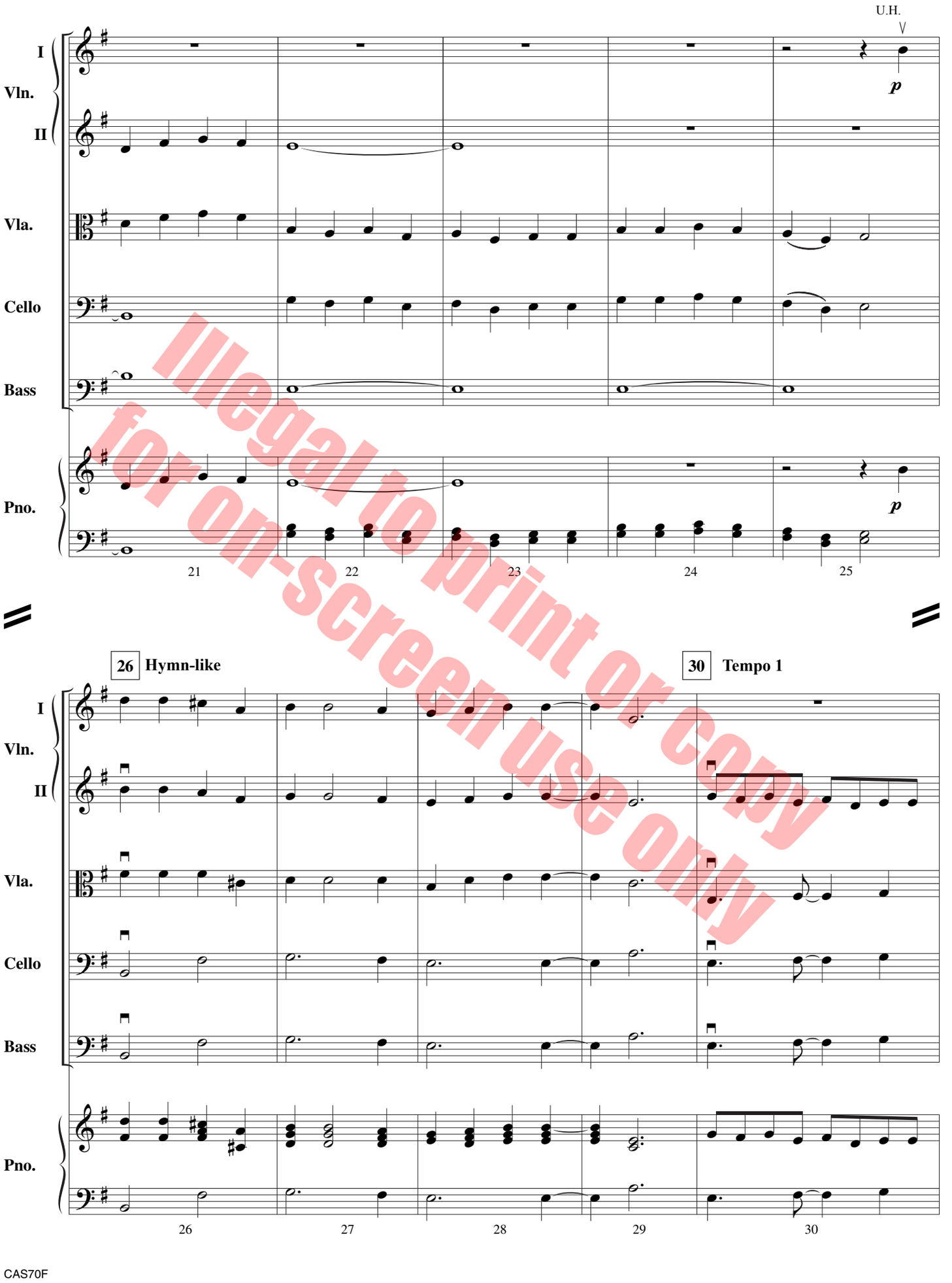


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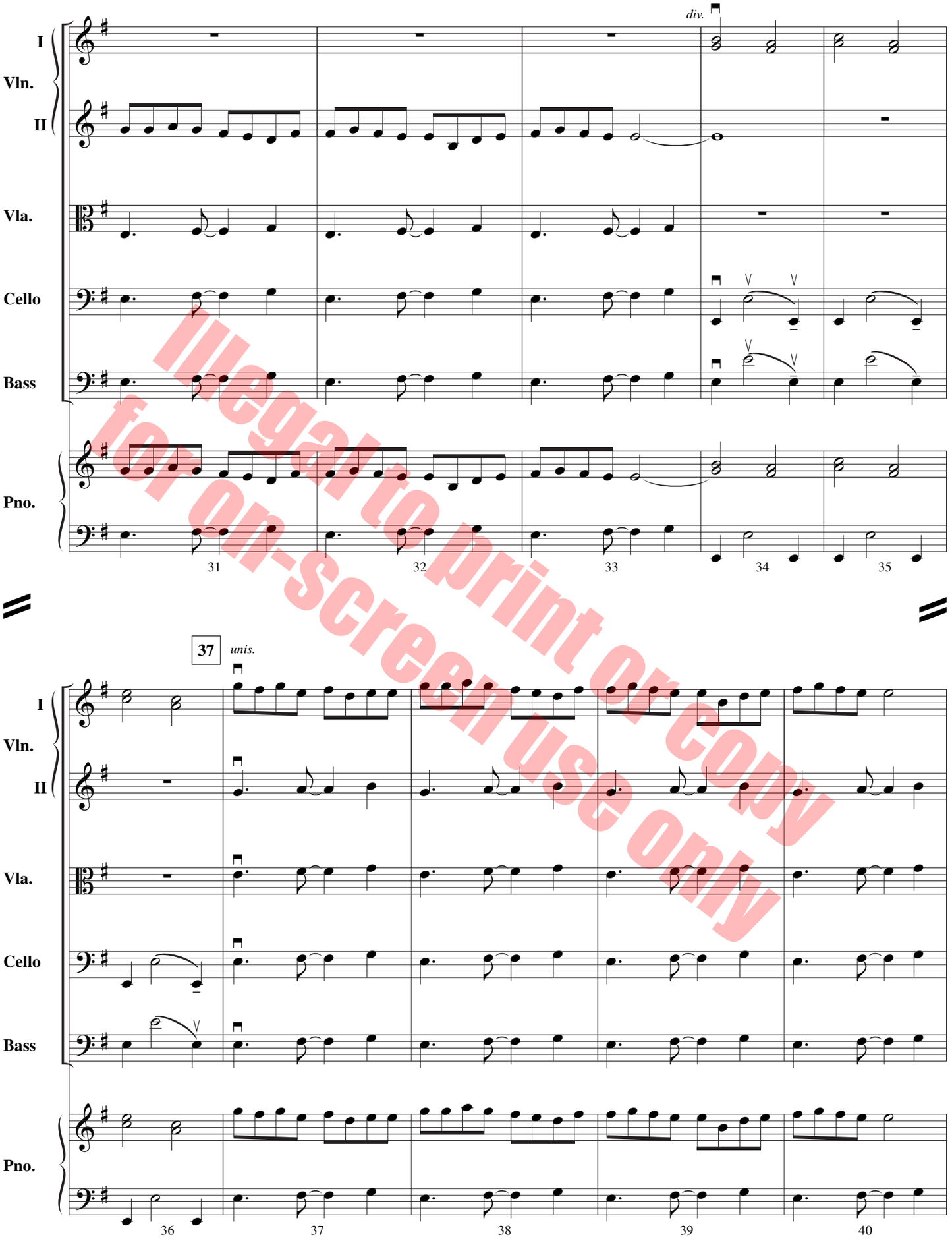


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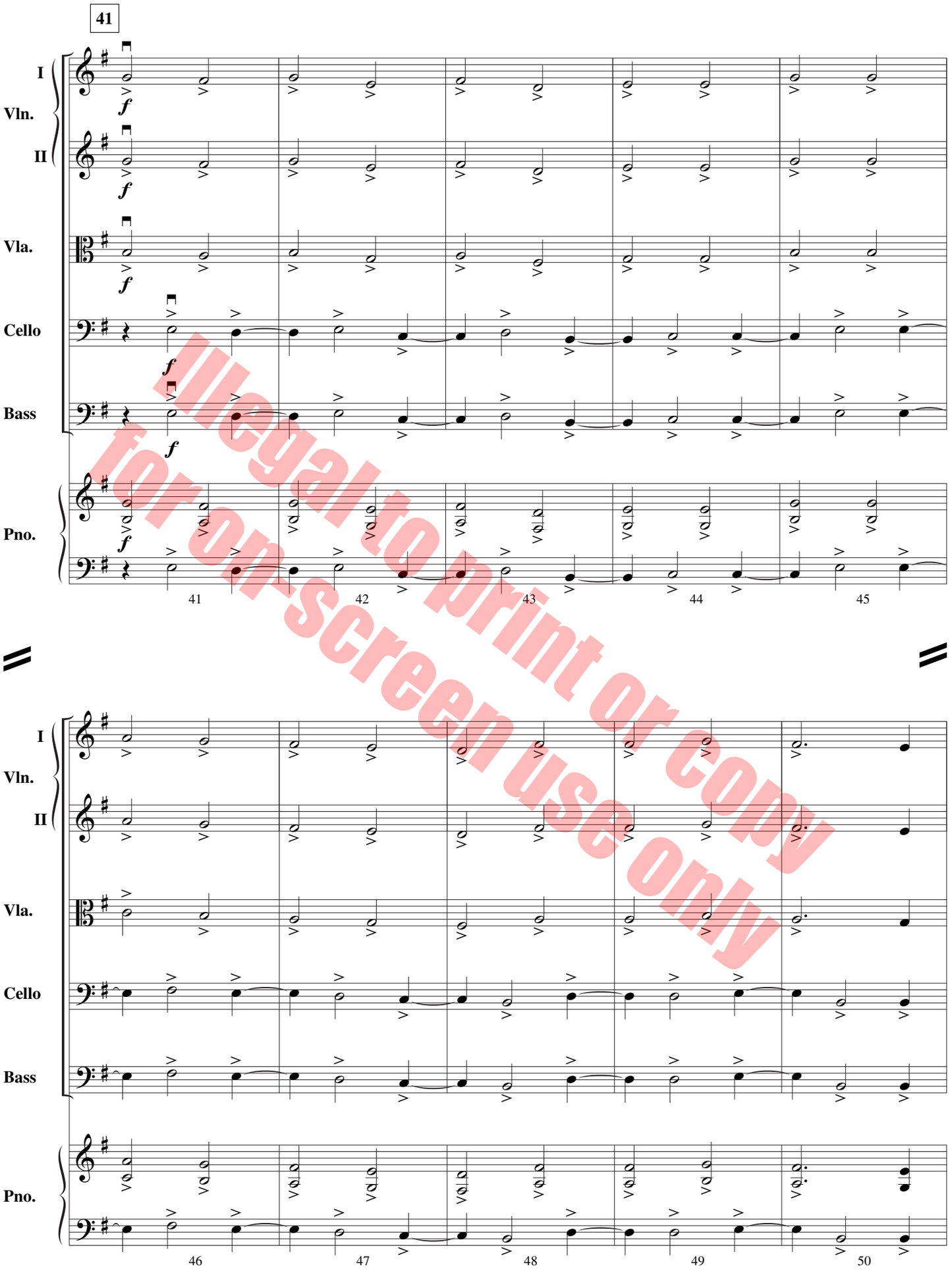


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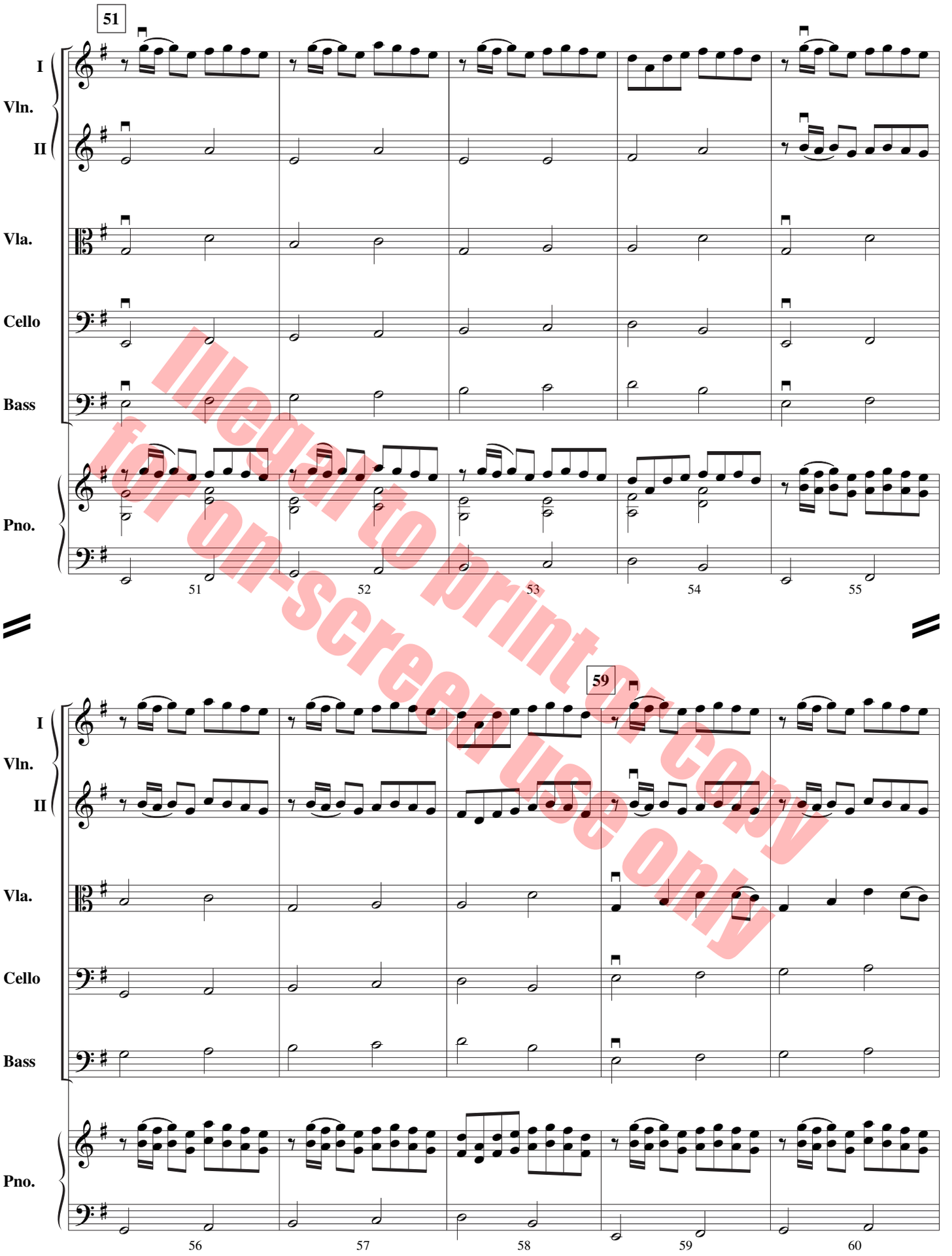


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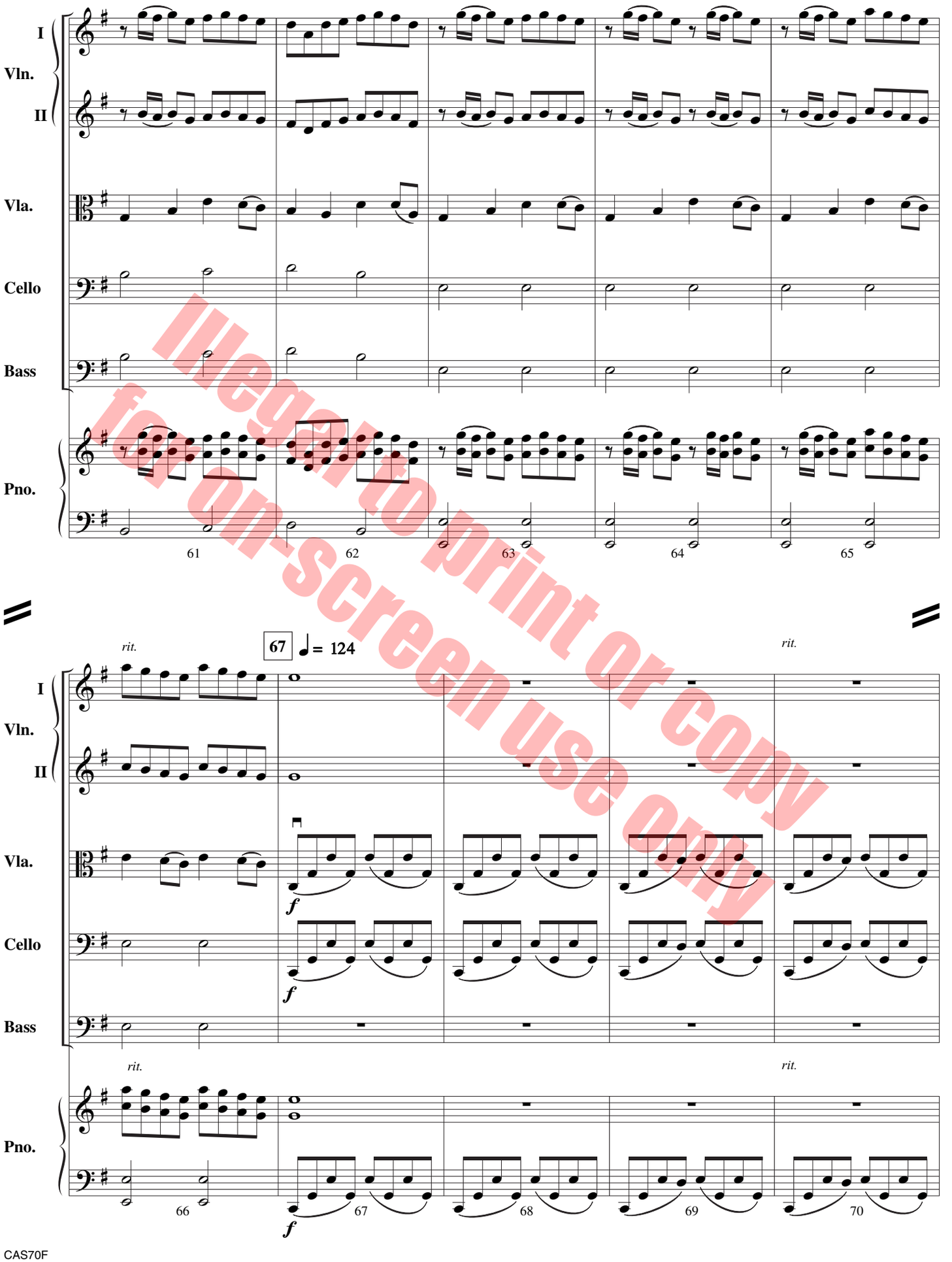


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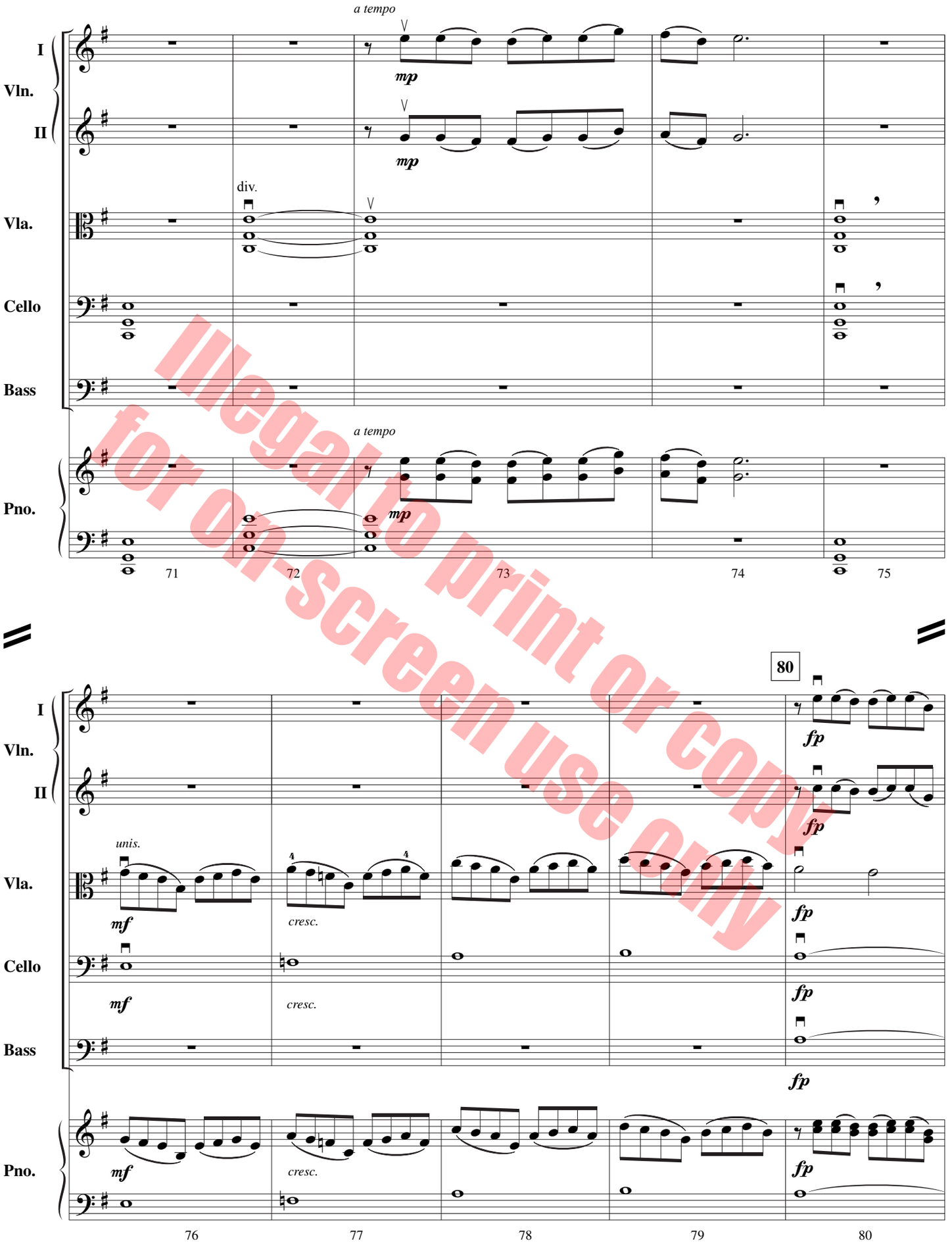


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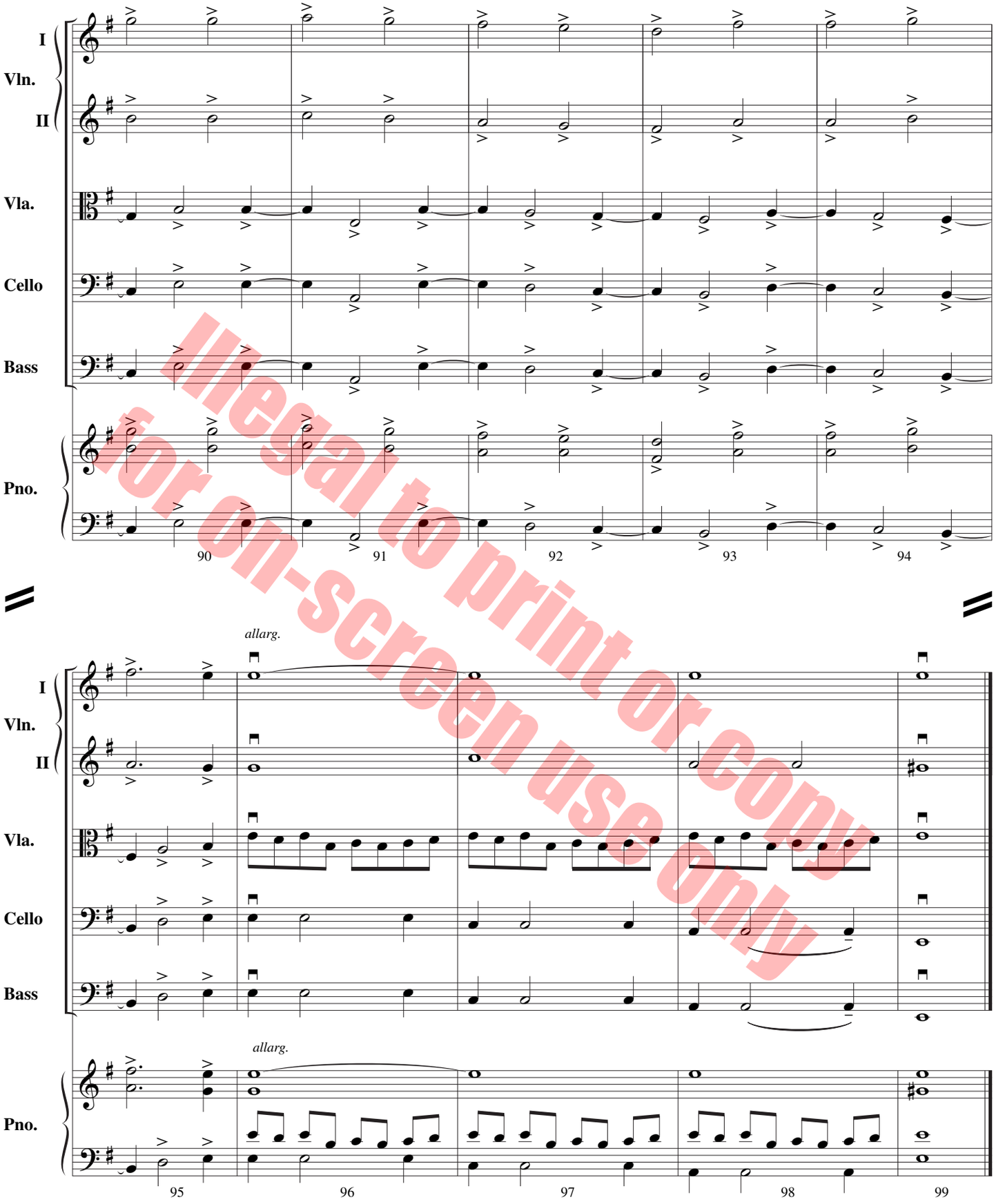


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