Grade 2½

Music for String Orchestra

Ghoultide Bells

James Pierpont

Arranged by

Steve Parsons

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INSTRUMENTATION

Violin I 8
Violin II 8
Violin III (Viola T.C.) 2
Viola 5
Cello 5
Bass 5

YAS257F

CARL FISCHER®

Arranger's Notes

Ghoultide Bells imagines what would happen if the quirky Halloween aesthetic of Tim Burton's films met the familiar Christmas tune *Jingle Bells*. Programmable for either a fall or winter concert, driving ostinatos and fun chromatic embellishments turn the festive song into a ghostly adventure, as amusing "creatures of the night" celebrate the holidays while soaring through the air on Santa's sleigh. Every section takes a turn at the melody, each one representing a different wacky character's take on the crazy ride. Careful scoring makes this accessible to young ensembles who want something different and fun to liven up their seasonal performances.

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About the Arranger

Steve is an award-winning composer, orchestrator and music director. Among his many composing credits are: *Evensong* (for Choir and Orchestra), *Distant Thunder*, *Seascapes*, *Frankenstein: The Puppet Opera* (Translations Art Gallery), *Visions* (an oratorio), *College Slam* (video game, Akklaim), and numerous commissions for symphony orchestra, wind ensemble and choral ensembles. An experienced arranger for marching bands and show choirs throughout the United States and Canada, many of his original works and arrangements have been featured in national championships and state contest lists, including several Outstanding Music awards at Bands of America finals, and numerous featured works on both J.W. Pepper's "Editor's Choice" list, and Bandworld's Top 100. Steve's musical adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* is published by Broadway Licensing Global in New York and has enjoyed performances at The Players Guild Theatre (15 seasons), New York (Off-Off Broadway), Los Angeles, and Vietnam (The International Choir and Orchestra of Ho Chi Minh City.)

As an orchestrator, Steve has arranged the Grateful Dead musical *Cumberland Blues* (NYMF, NY), *Life Could Be A Dream* (Additional vocal arrangements/orchestrations, LA), *It's A Wonderful Life* (Regional), and *Footloose* (Additional vocal arrangements/orchestrations, Rodgers & Hammerstein Library). His other credits include: *Nunsense* and *Nunsense A-Men!* (music preparation, NY), *The Tick* (member of the "Tickestra," FOX), and *Defying Gravity: The Creative Career of Stephen Schwartz* (consultant and contributor, Applause Books). Steve has both Bachelor of Music and Master of Arts degrees in composition from Kent State University, and is a member of ASCAP and the Dramatists Guild of America.

to John Popa and Jason Swank
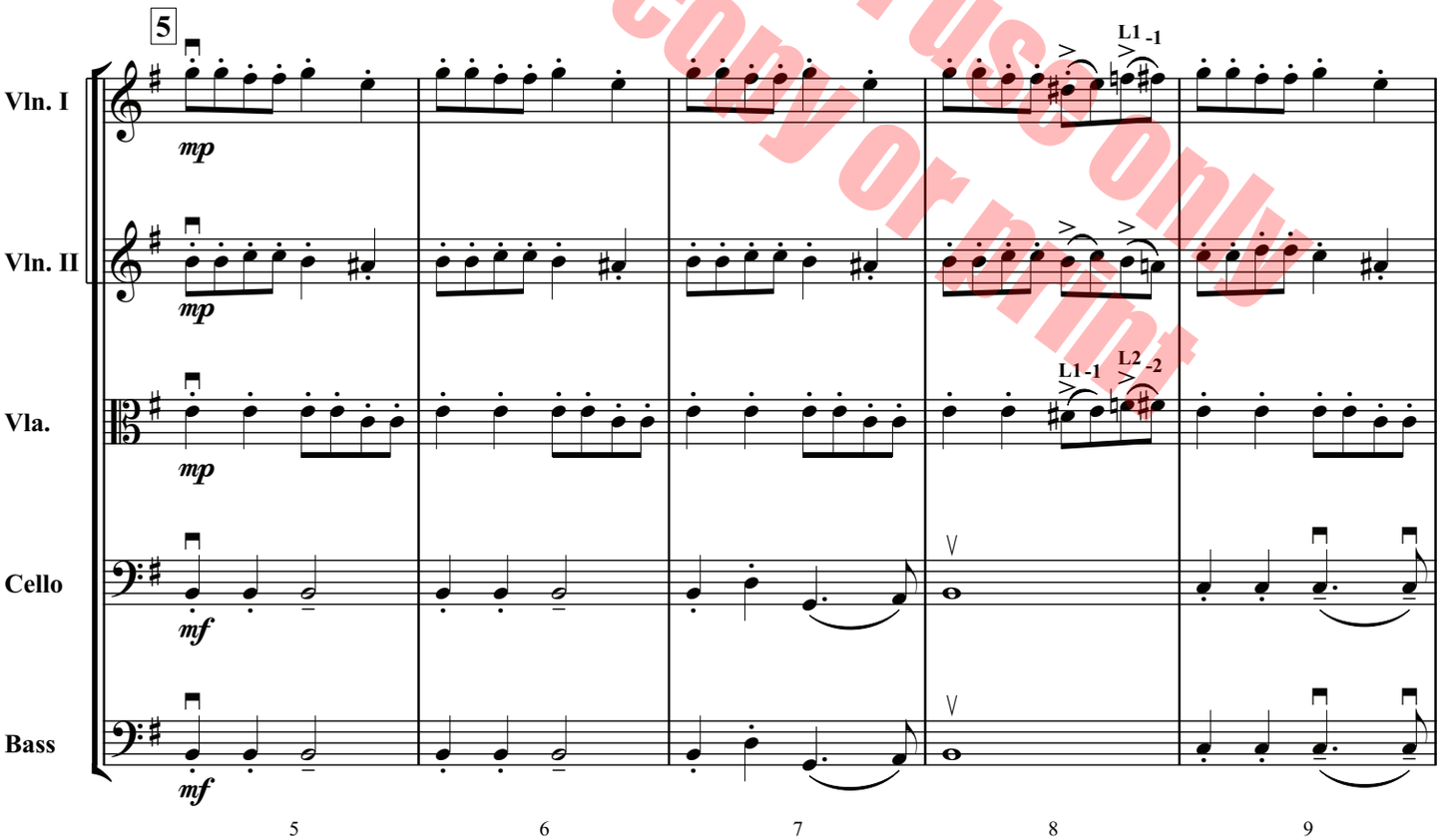
Ghoultide Bells

STEVE PARSONS

Ominously ♩ = 124
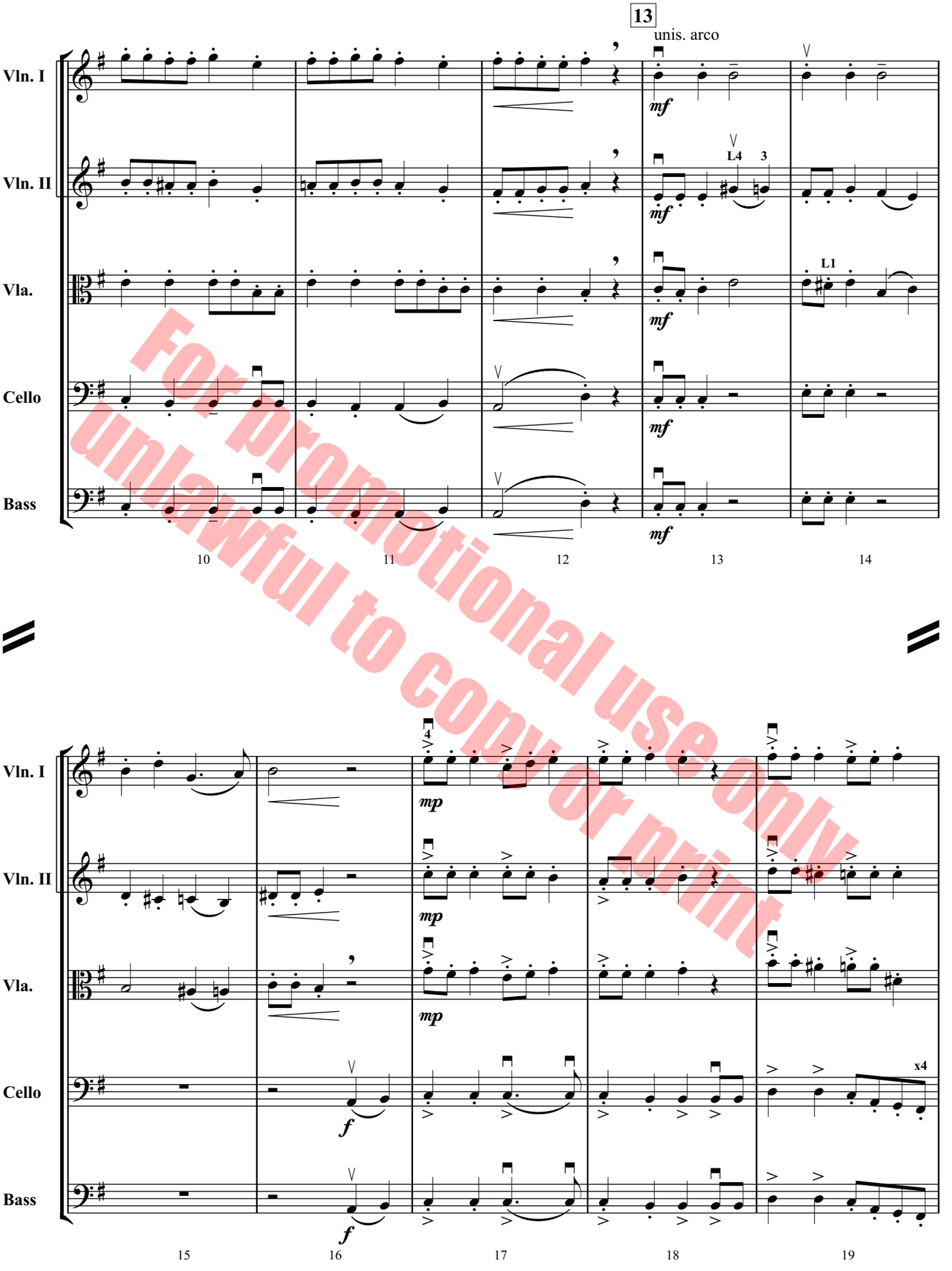
½ arco, ½ pizz.





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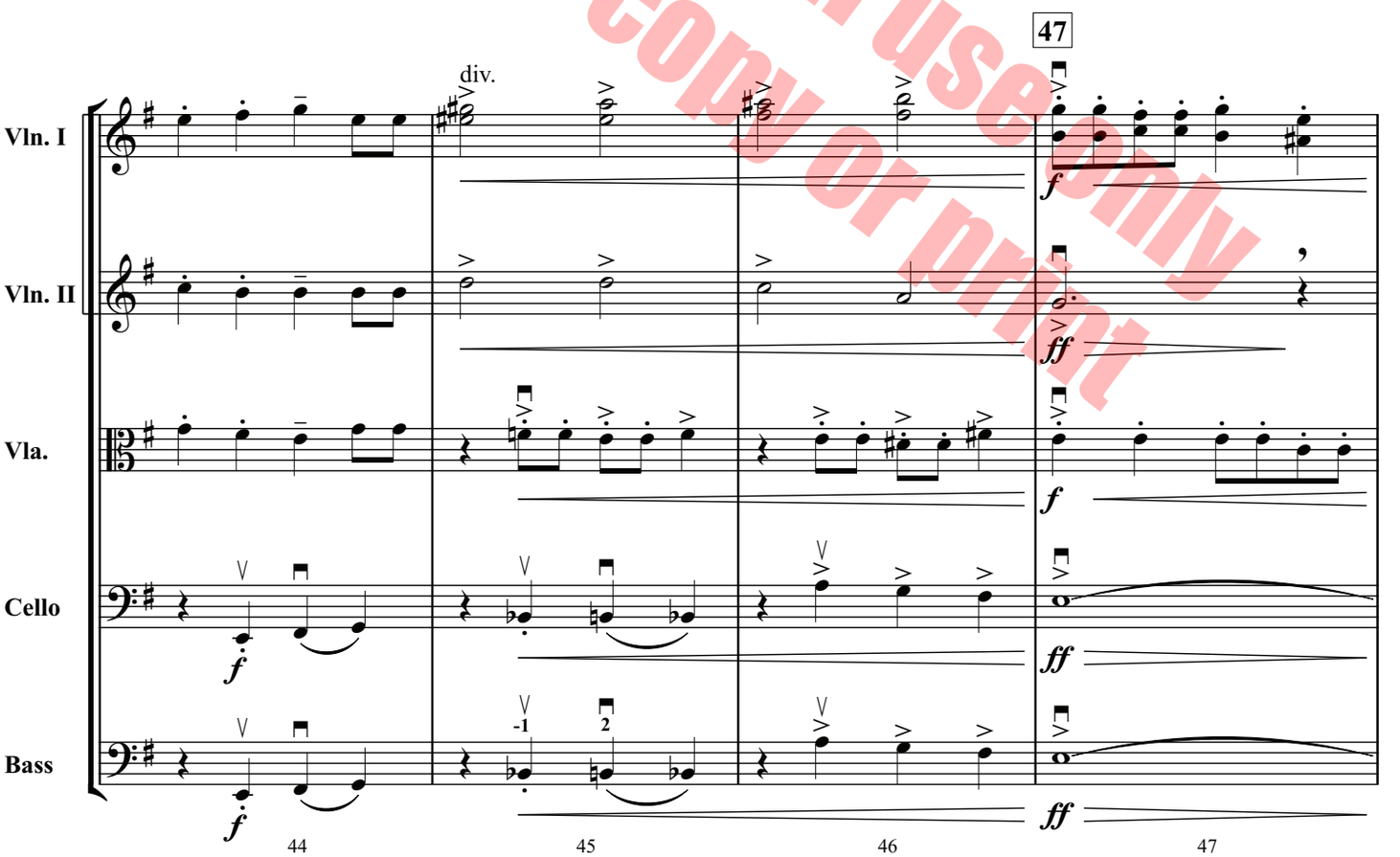


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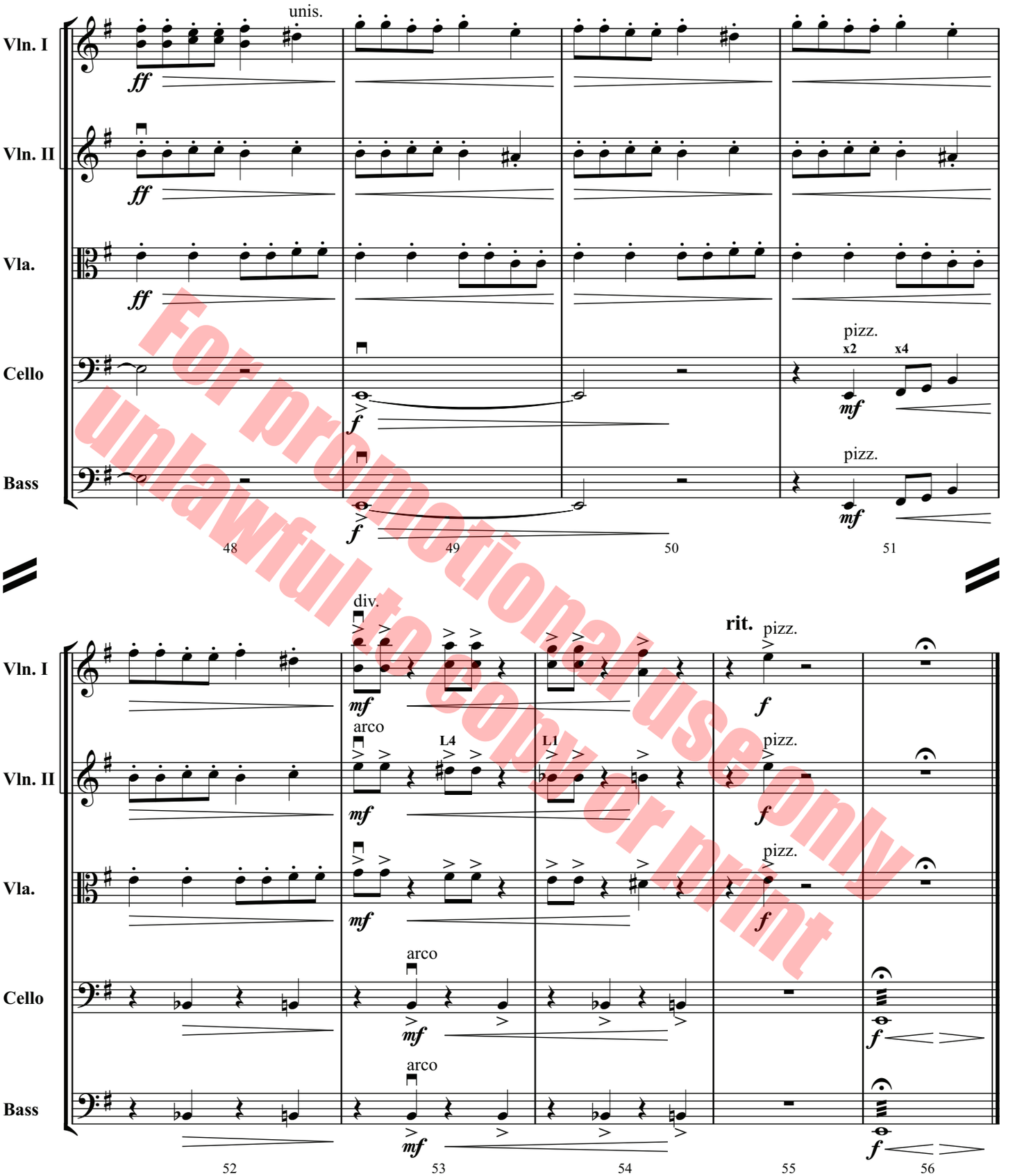




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