Flight of the Eagles March

by David Scott

Complete String Orchestra Instrumentation

1 - Full Score
10 - Violin I
10 - Violin II
8 - Viola
8 - Cello
6 - Contrabass

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ABOUT THE MUSIC:

The title of this march, *Flying Eagle*, refers to both an actual eagle soaring over the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, and the brave men and women of the US Air Force Academy. The music begins with military precision, invoking the life of an Air Force cadet, but in the main theme I tried to capture the image of an eagle taking wing high in the peaks. As the music gets calmer and the cellos begin a new theme, I envision the eagle catching an updraft and circling lazily with its wings spread wide. Of course, this being music, the performers and listeners can and should picture whatever they like!

Performance notes:

The term *col legno* literally means "with the wood," and these notes should be played by dropping the bow stick (hair side up!) gently on the string, hopefully bouncing three times. It should be a single wrist motion to get all three notes, not three separate hits. With a little experimentation the musicians will find the right part of the bow to get the desired effect – usually about 6-9 inches from the tip.

Sul tasto indicates that the bow should contact the string slightly over the fingerboard, further from the bridge than one would normally play. This gives a hazy, indistinct quality to the sound. *Naturale (nat.)* means to go back to the normal contact point for more clarity.

Espressivo (espress.) is just what it sounds like – play expressively.

Subito means suddenly, so there should be no diminuendo to the *subito* piano in bar 22.

Dynamics are sometimes very different for each instrument. When the violas (m. 17) and cellos (m. 36) have the theme, play out! - but the violins should follow the dynamics in their parts to let the lower instruments through.

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ABOUT THE COMPOSER:

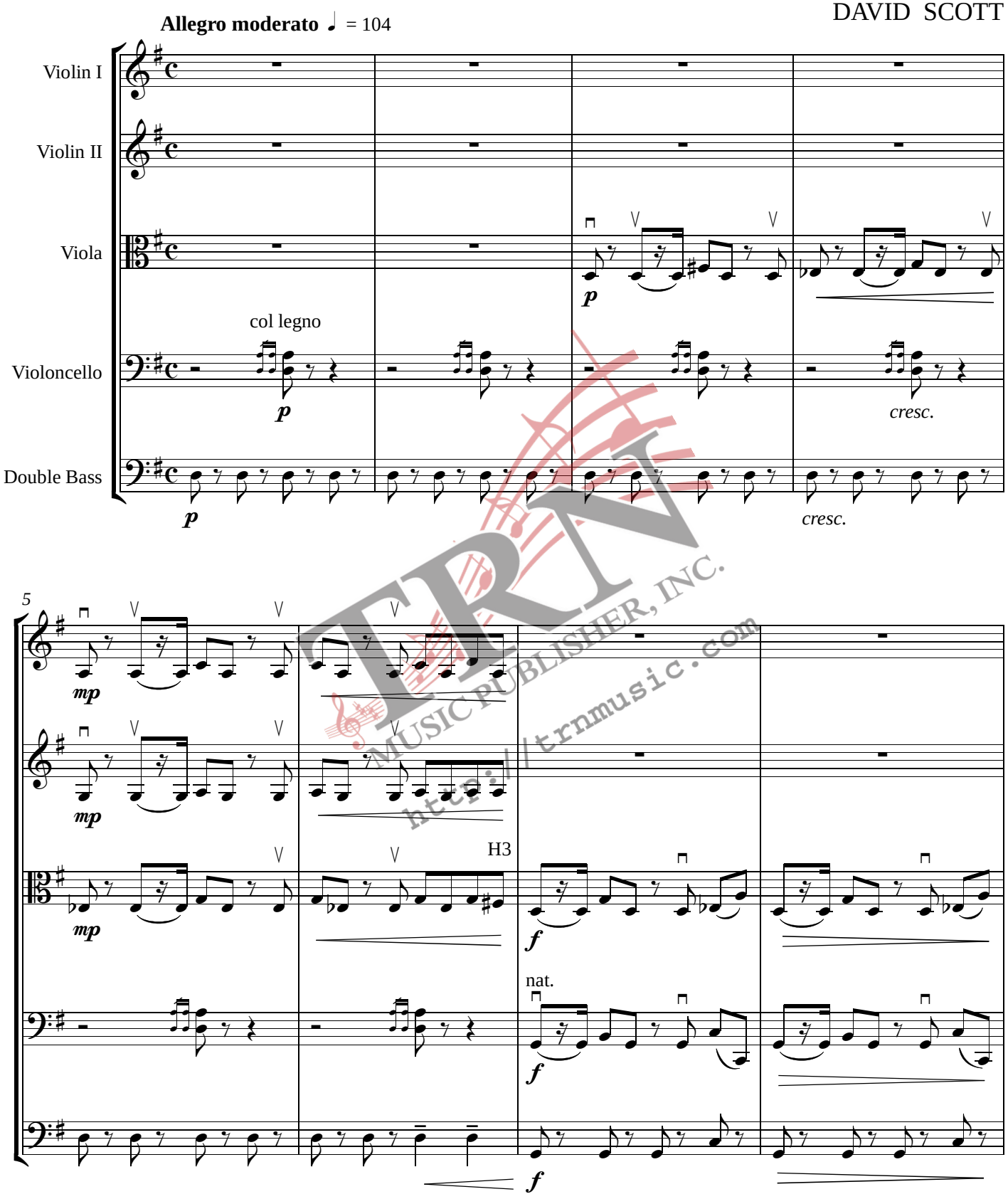
David Scott has been composing and playing the violin since before he can remember. As a four-year-old he began violin studies in the Suzuki method, a tradition which his own children have continued.

He attended Indiana University and Northwestern University, where in addition to his studies on violin, he composed "classical" music, a musical, and countless pop songs with his friends.

Now a professional violinist in the Denver area, his compositions have been played by the Colorado Symphony, the Colorado Chamber Players, and in nearly one hundred schools around the area by the Up Close and Musical ensemble.

Flight of the Eagles March

DAVID SCOTT



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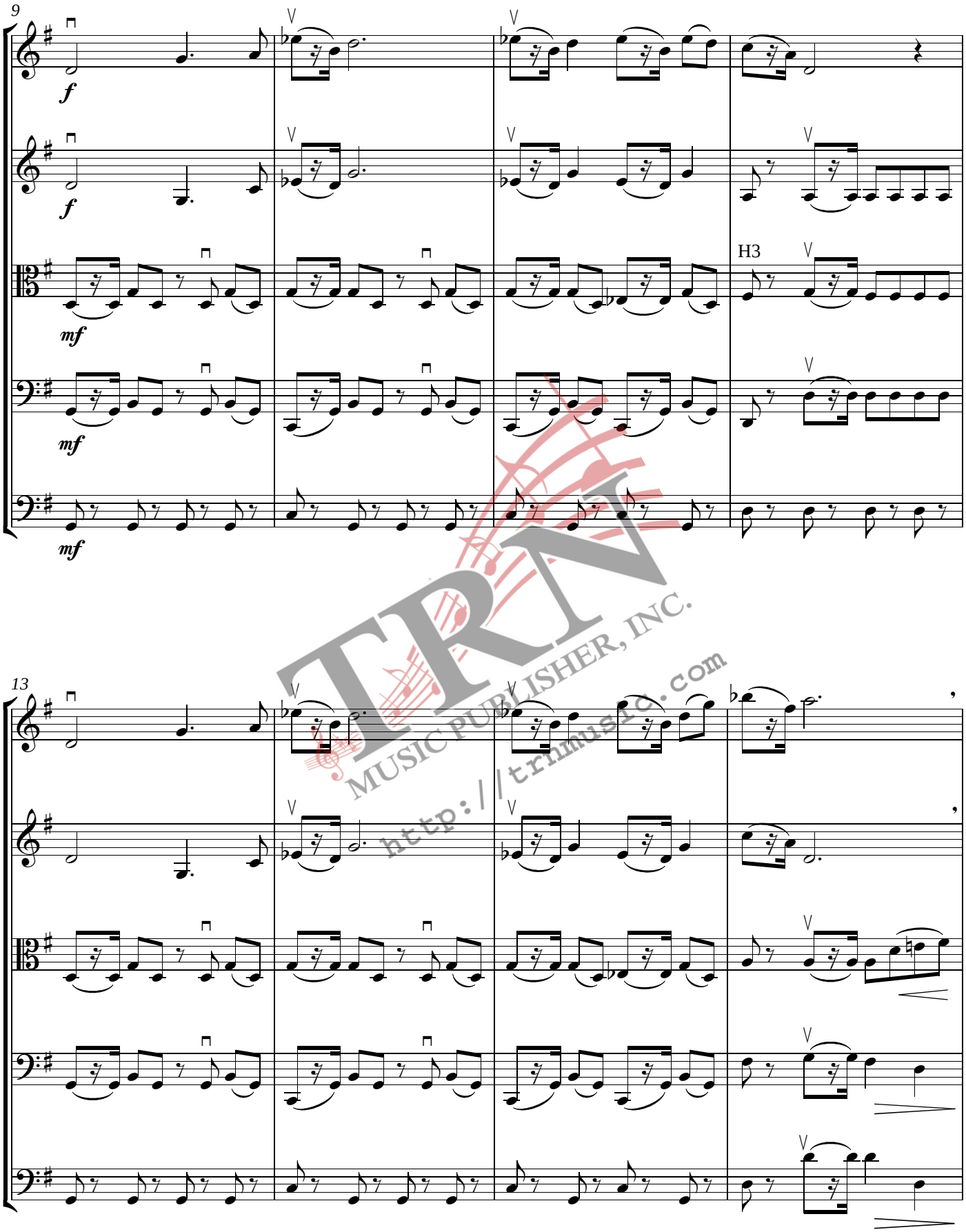

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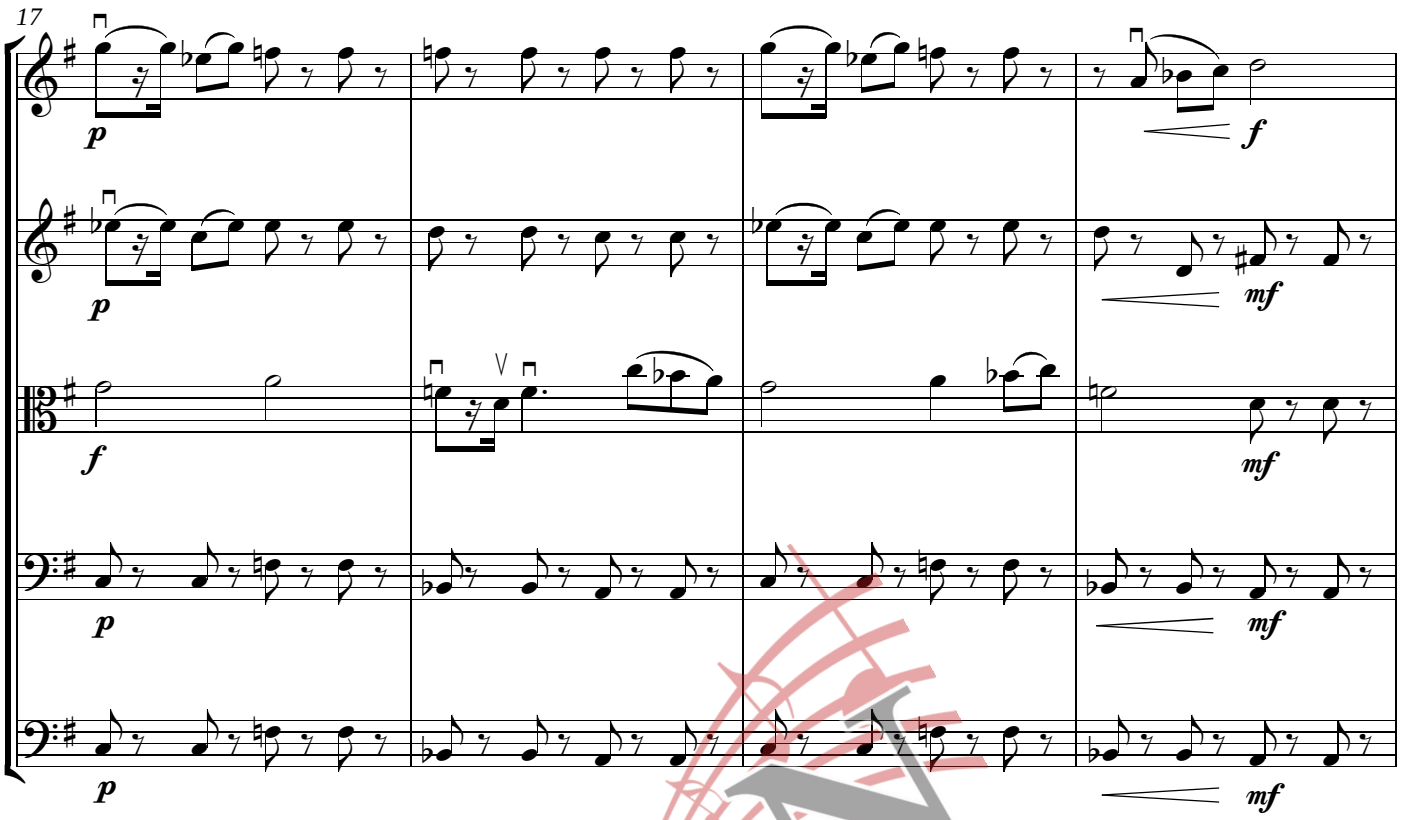

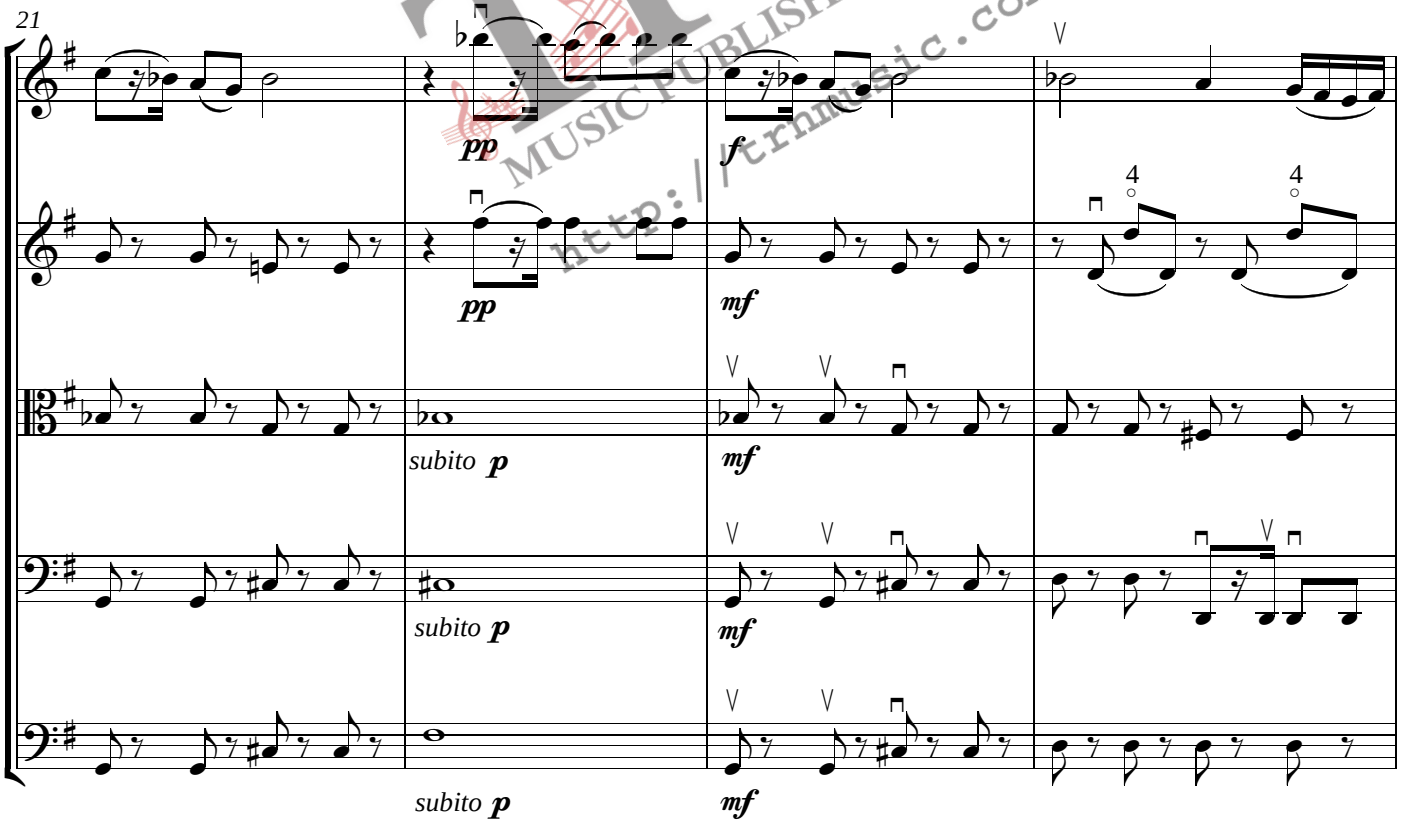

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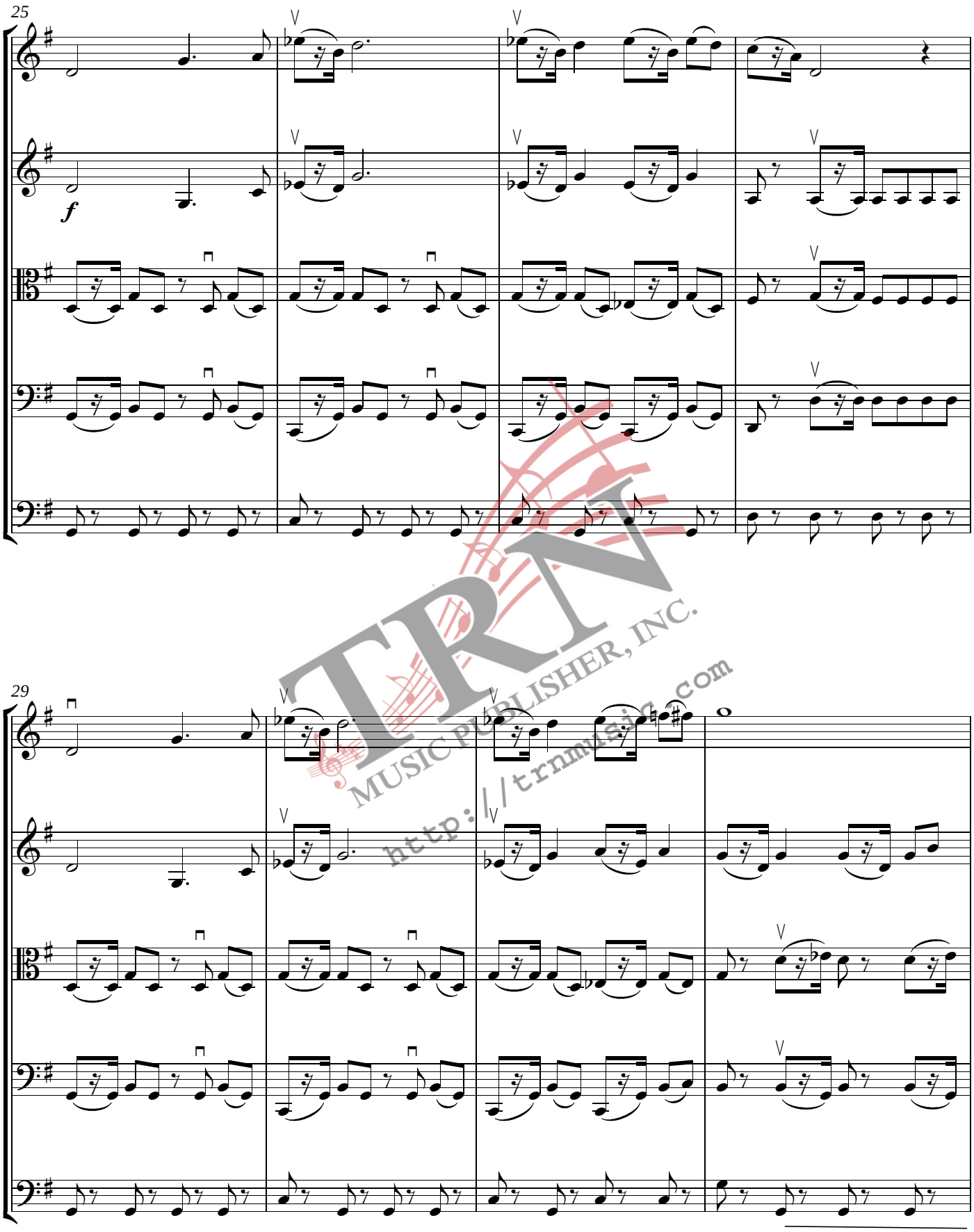

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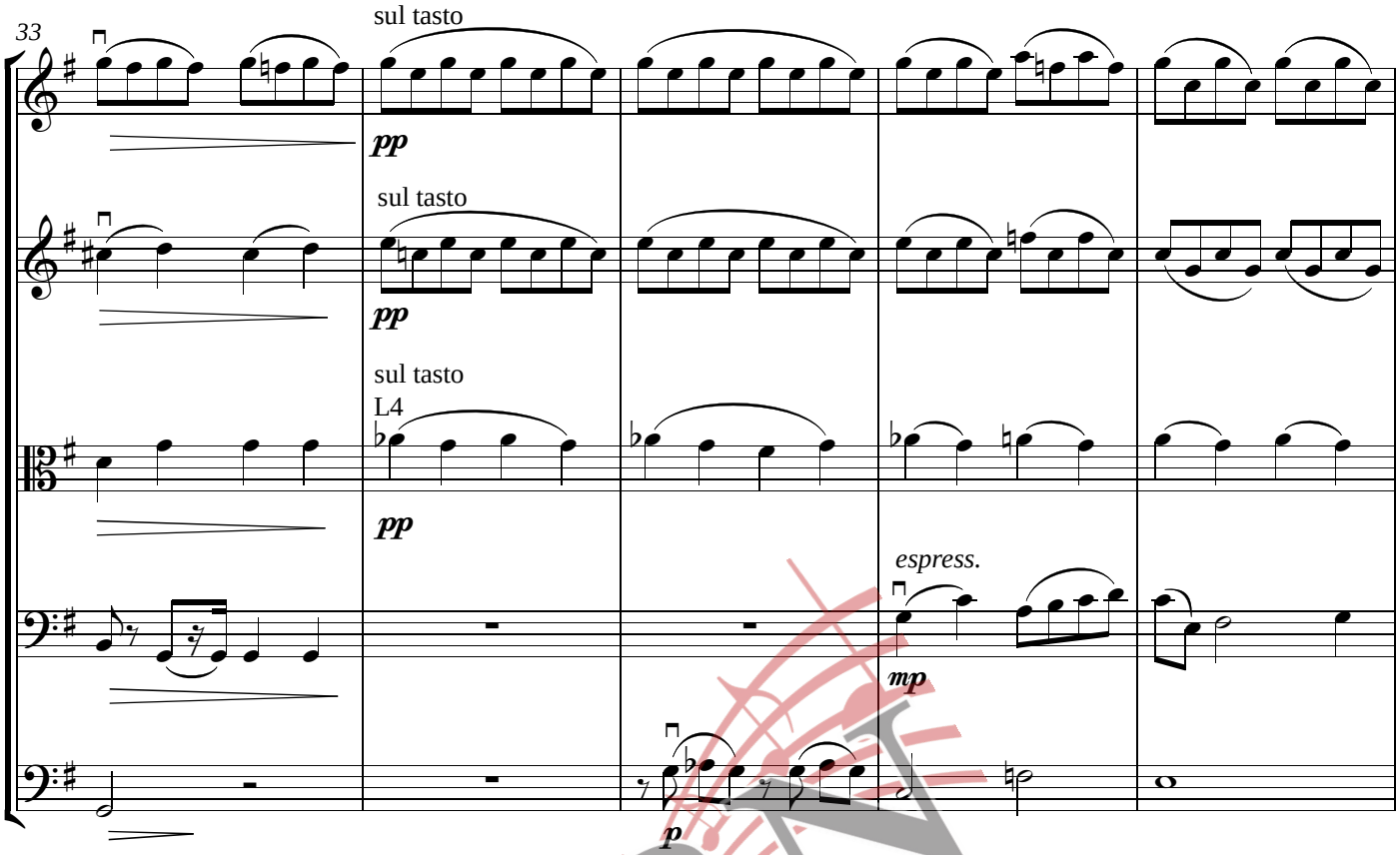

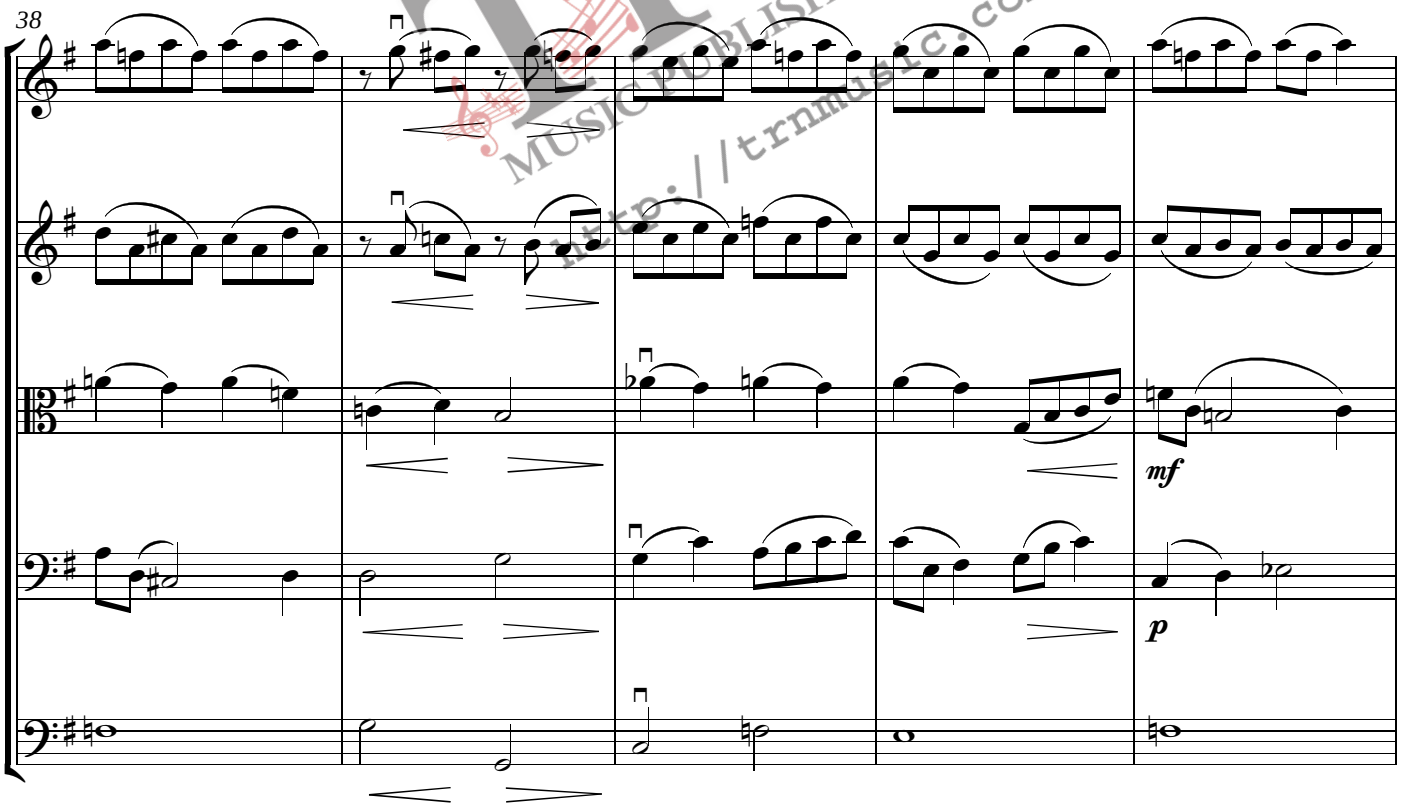

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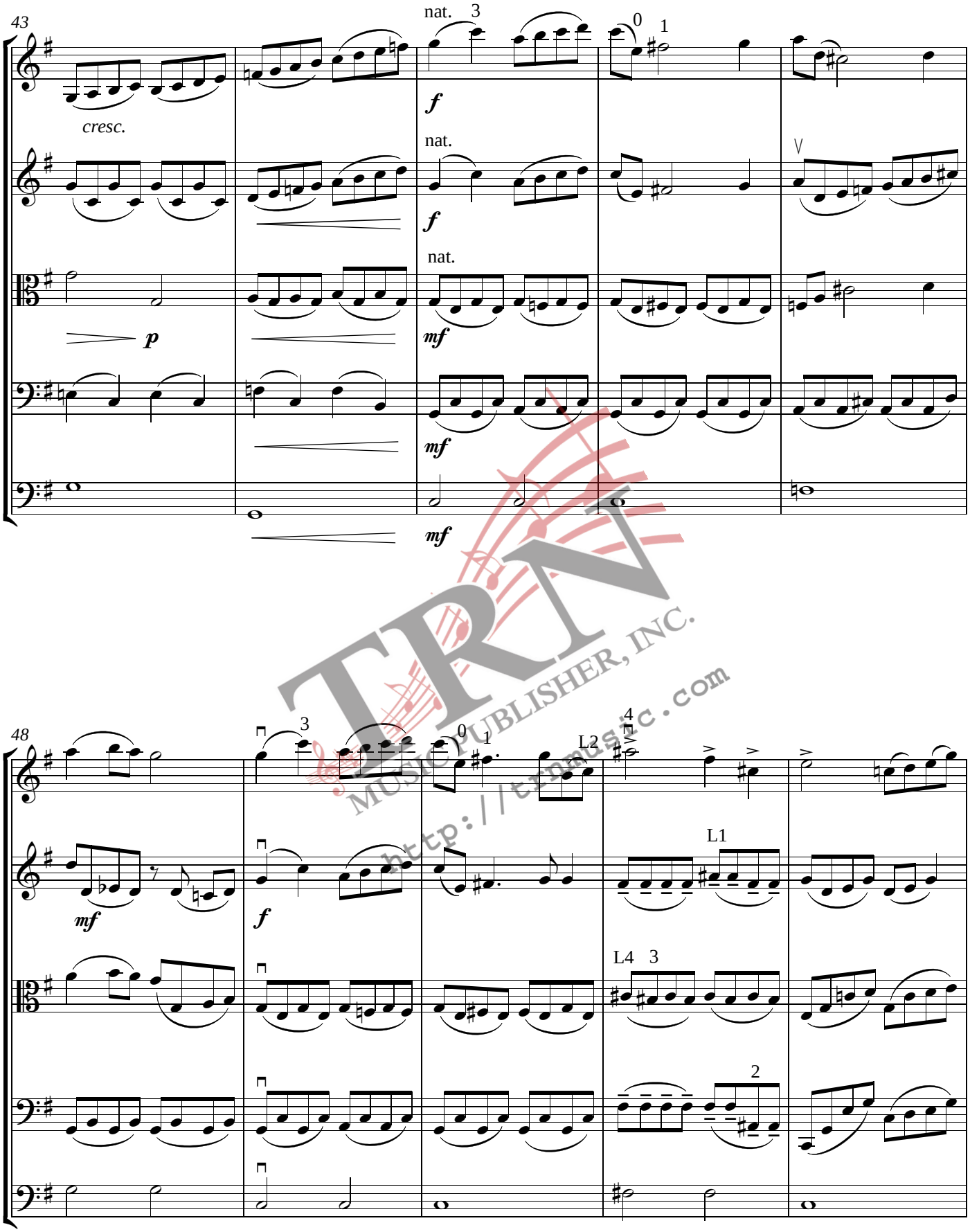

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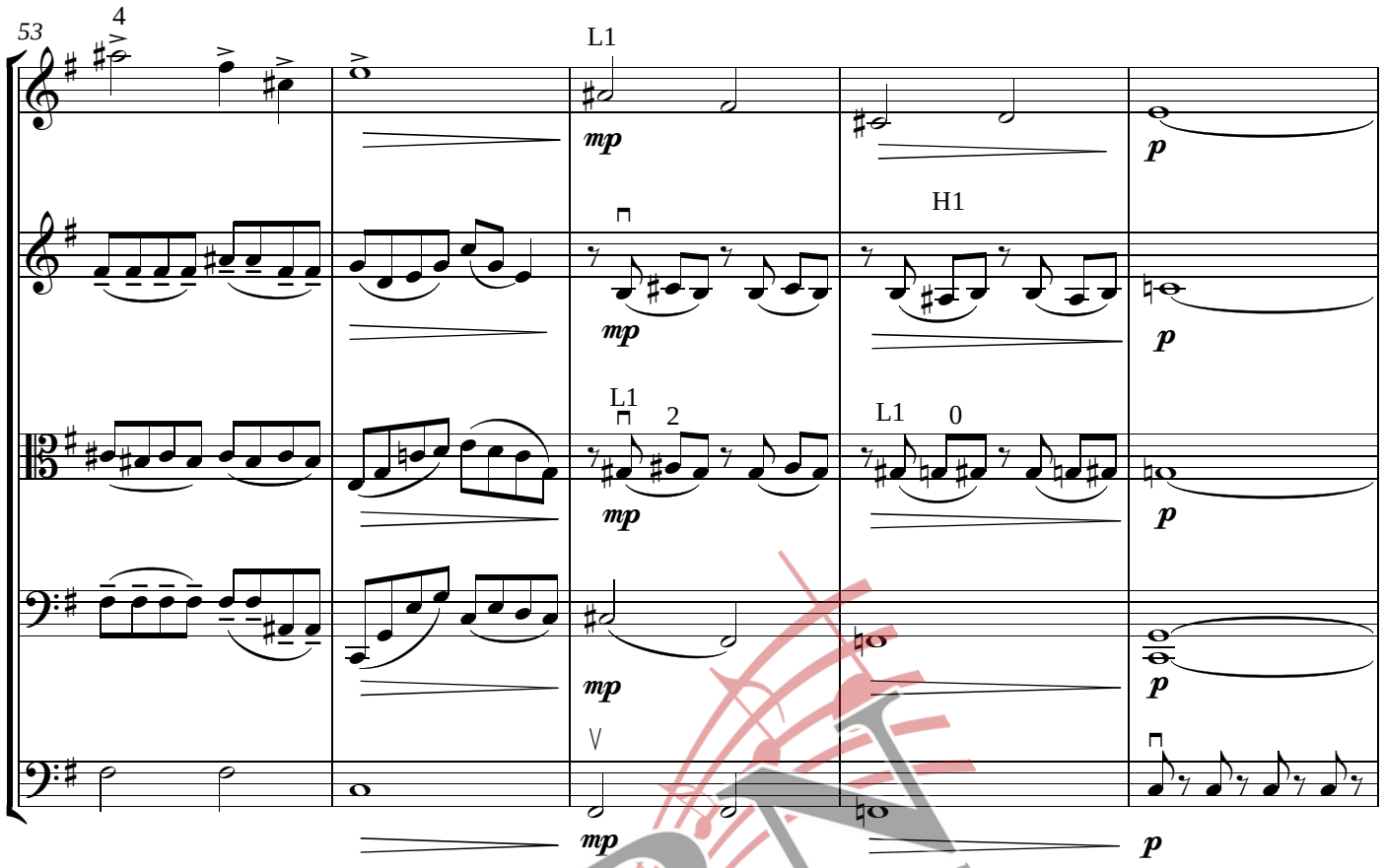

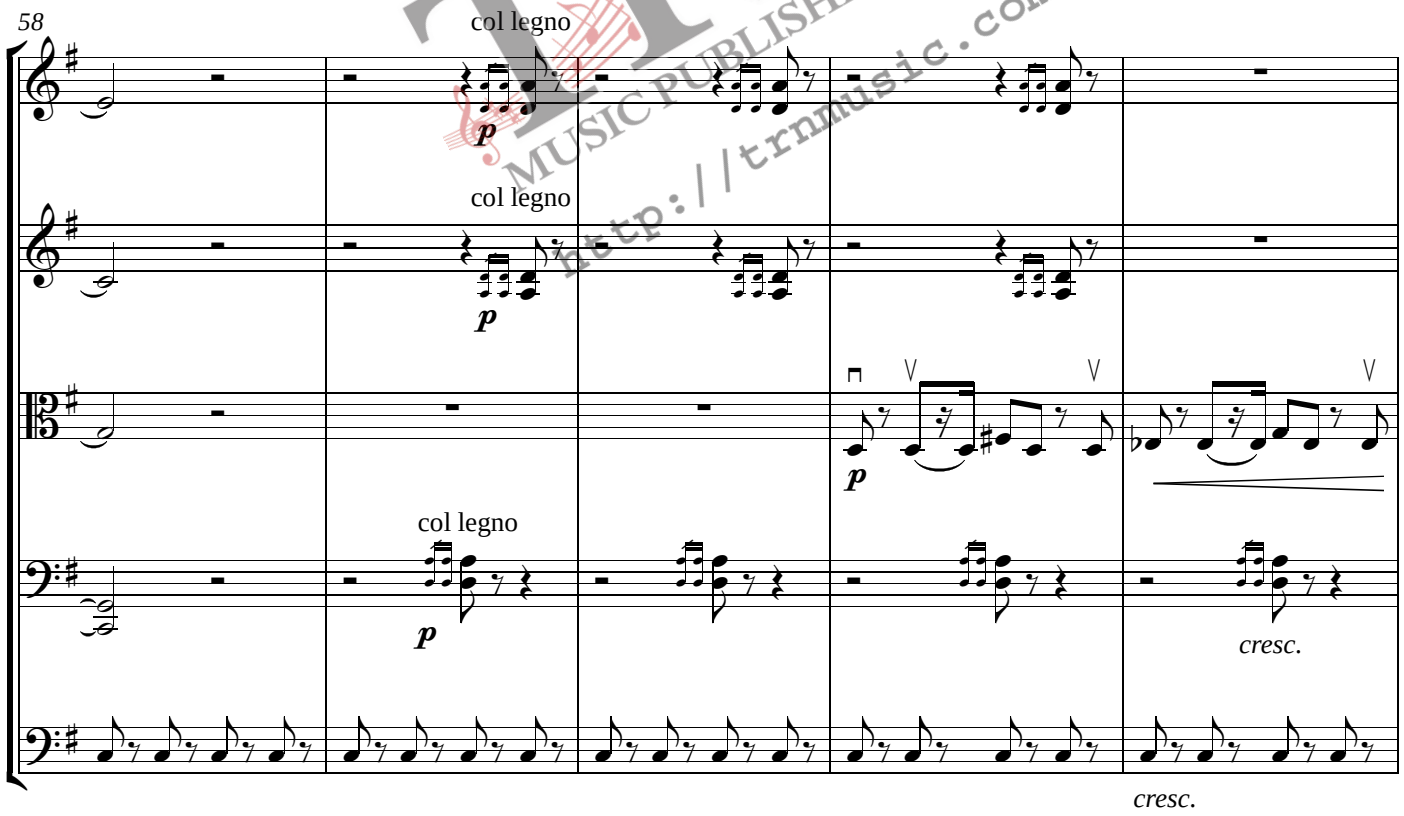

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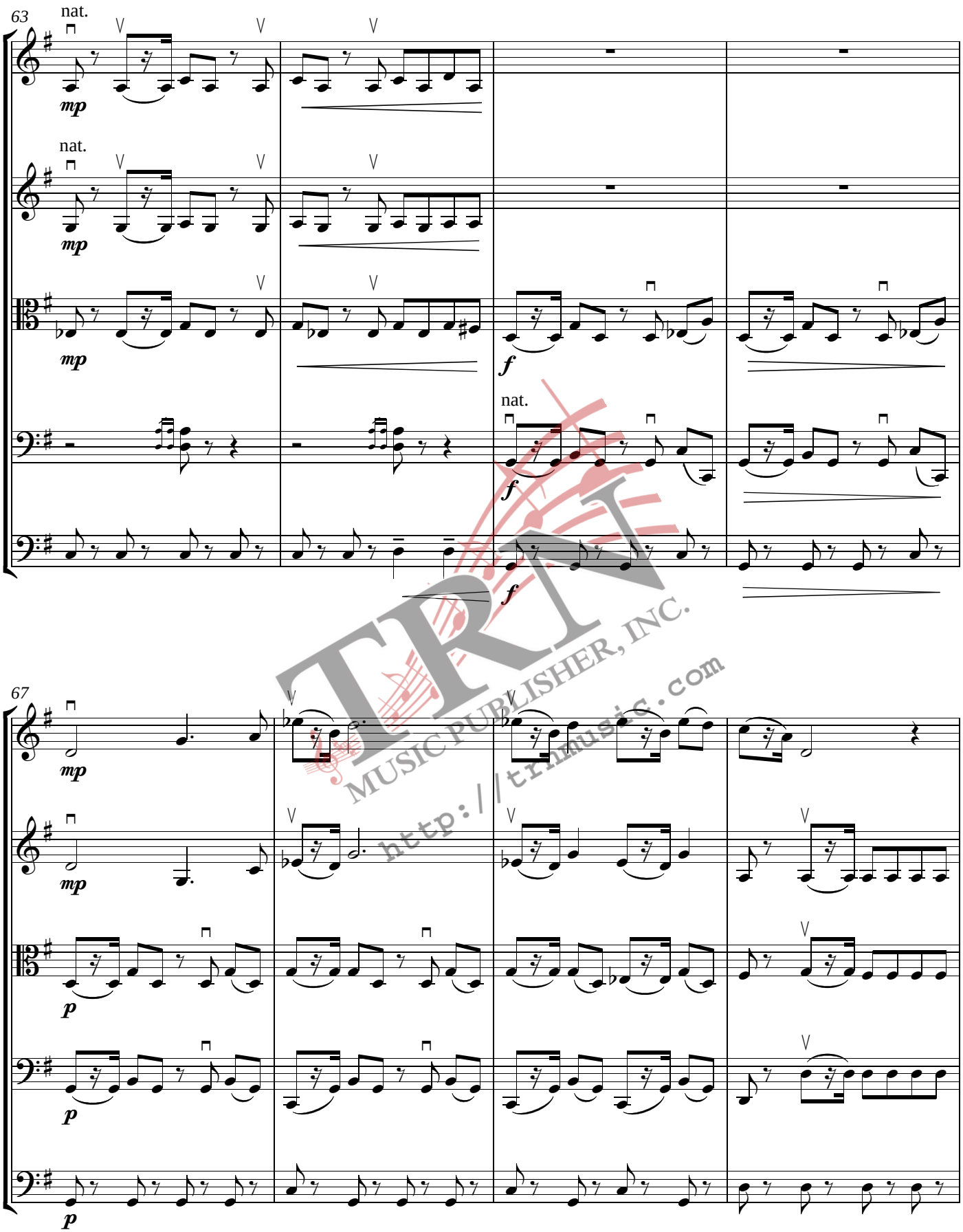

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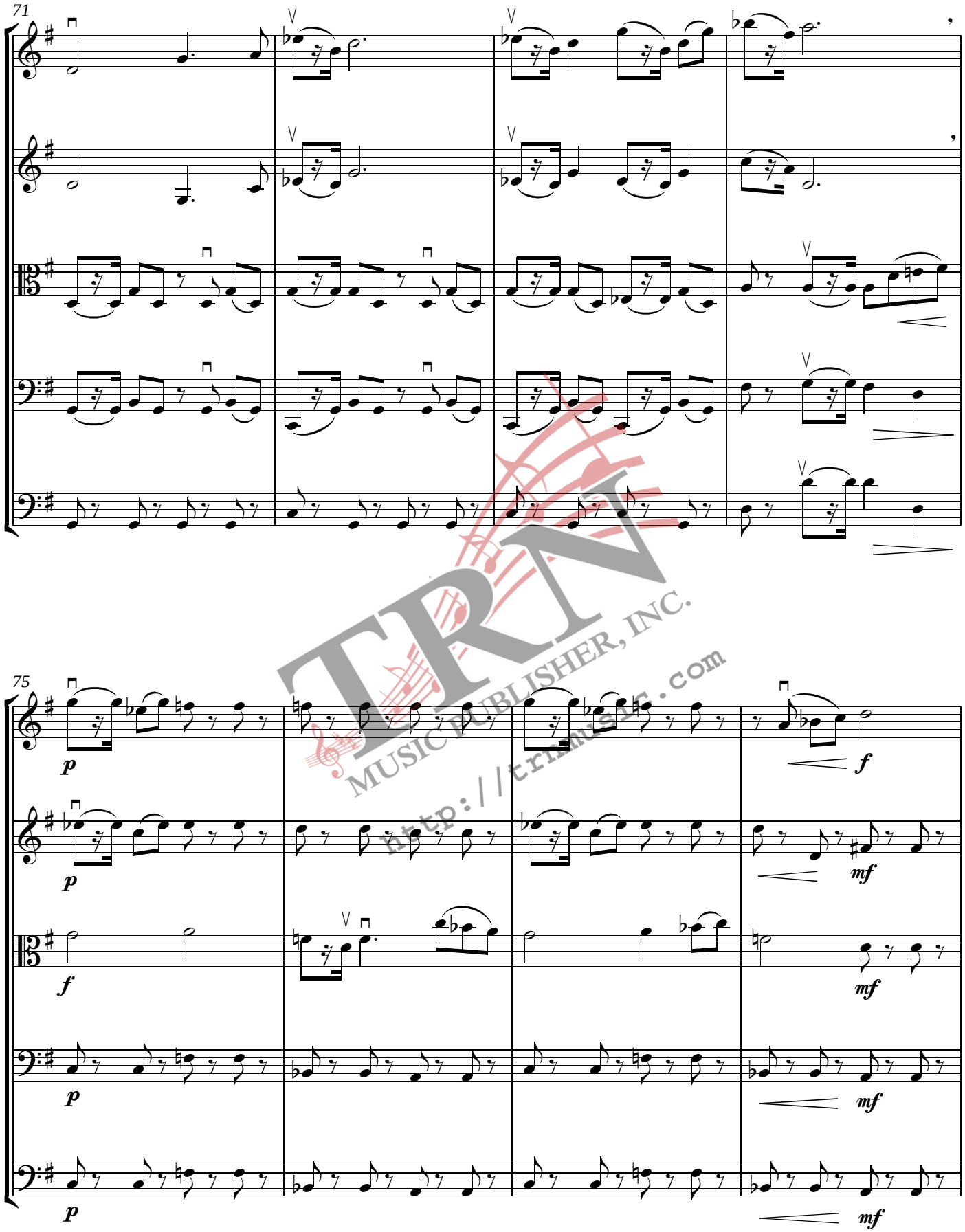

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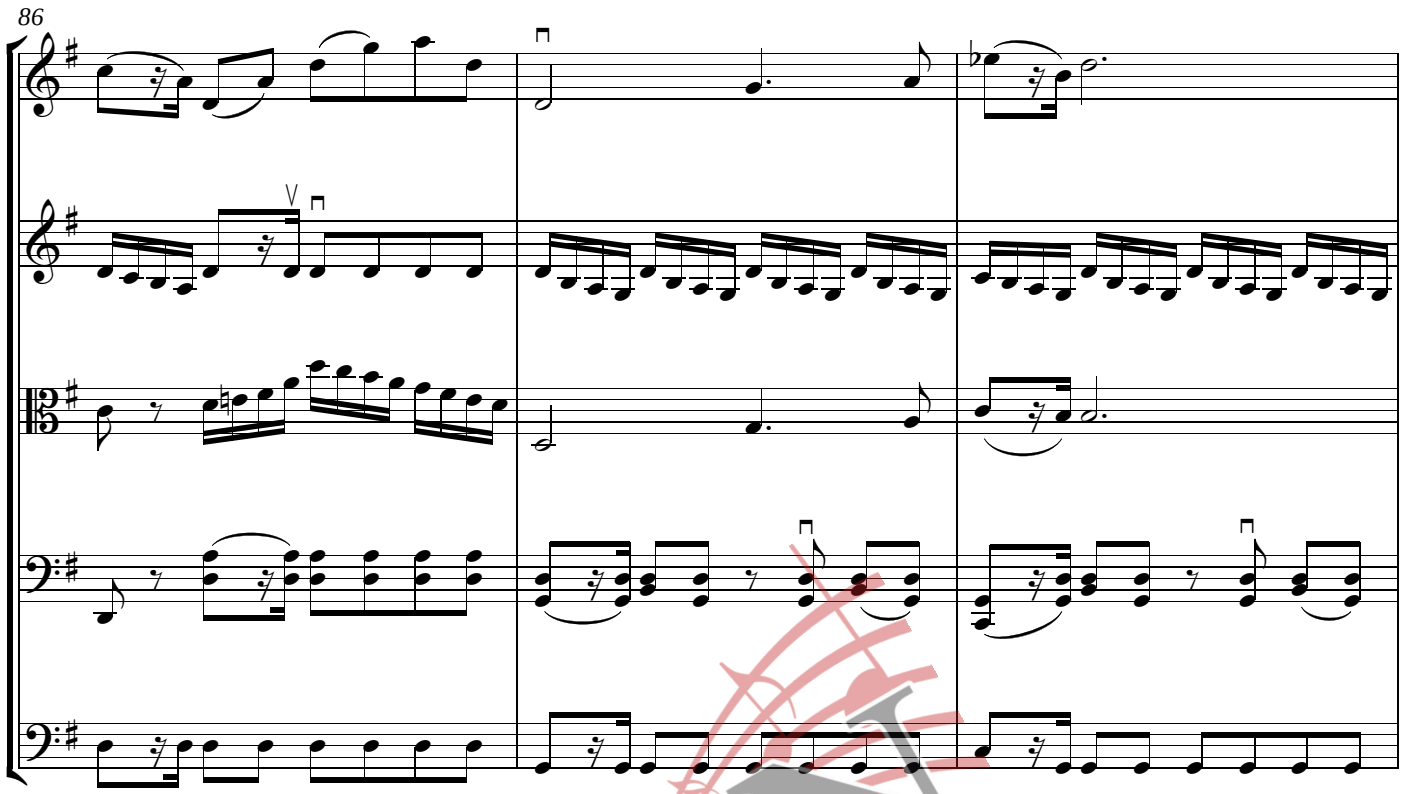

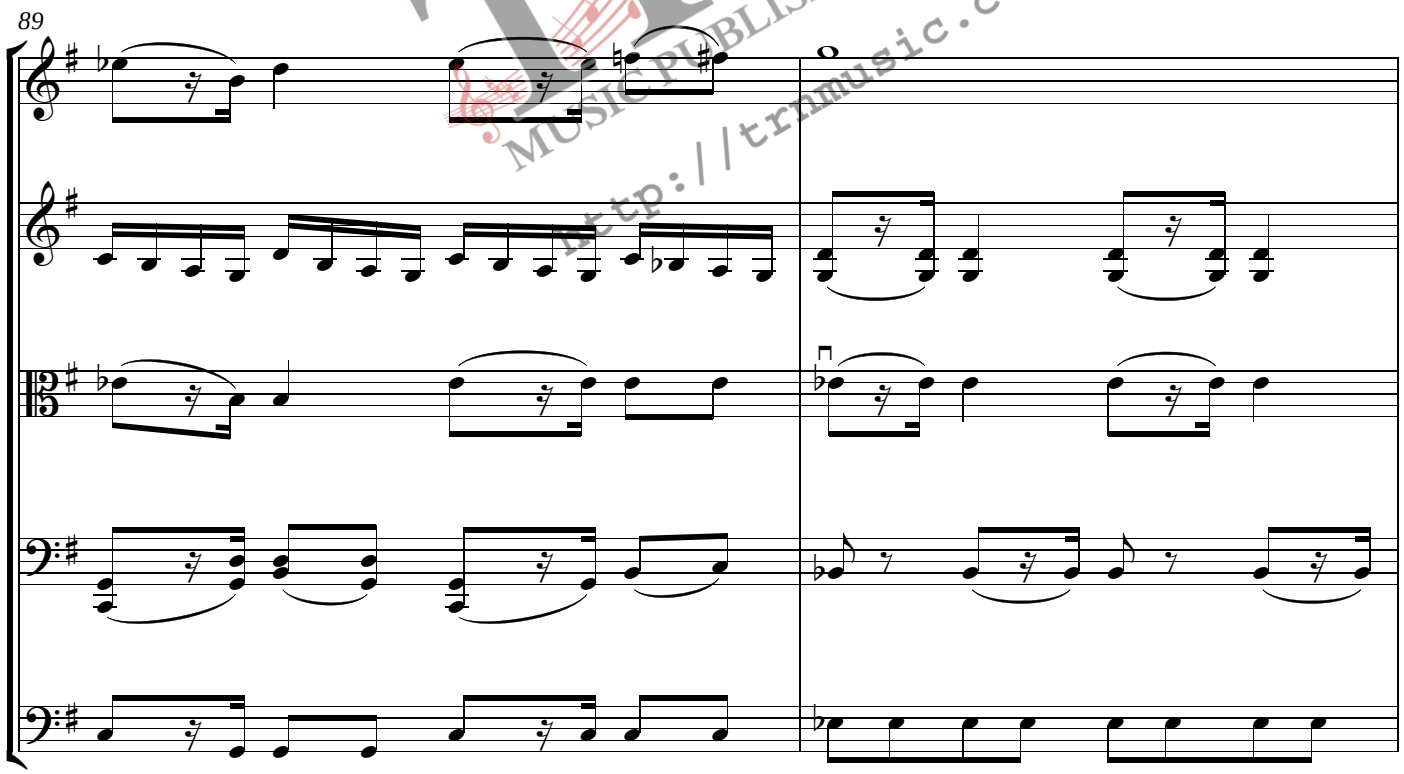

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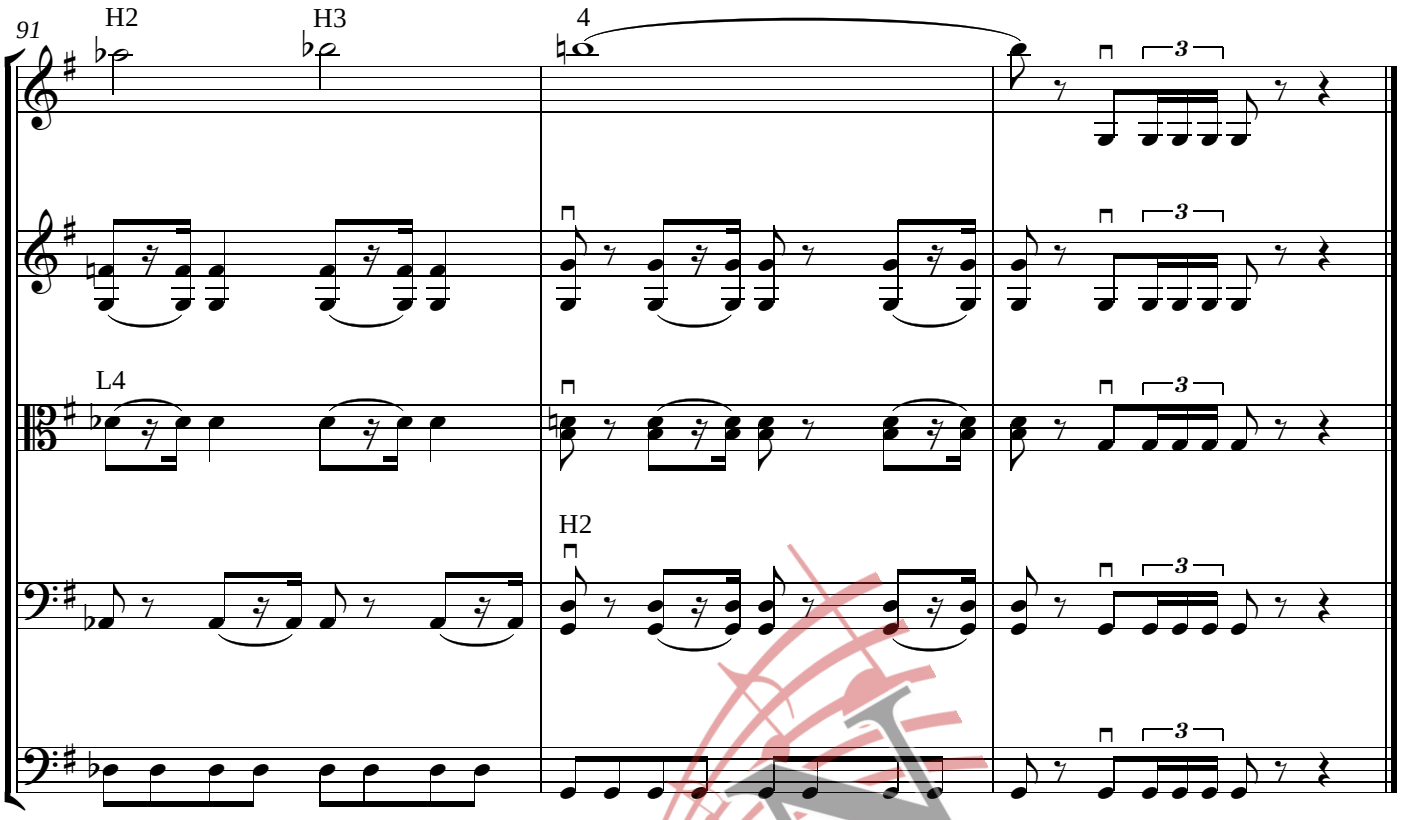

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