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Concert Band Series

Conductor Score
CB-SMB-GG

Key: D Minor
Grade: 2
Duration: 2:32

The Groovy Goblin

Spencer M. Brooks

Instrumentation

Flute	Trumpet 1
Oboe	Trumpet 2
Bassoon	Horn in F
Clarinet 1	Trombone
Clarinet 2	Baritone B.C.
Bass Clarinet	Baritone T.C.
Alto Saxophone	Tuba
Tenor Saxophone	Bells
Baritone Saxophone	Percussion 1*
	Percussion 2*

*Any 2 or more percussion instruments

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Robot Quill Revolution Fulfishing

www.robotquill.com
Sacramento, CA
Los Angeles, CA

ABOUT THE COMPOSER



Spencer M. Brooks is a music educator in Central New Jersey whose work is rooted in a passion for building community, fostering a sense of self-worth, and developing student leadership through music.

With 13 years of teaching experience, Brooks has learned as much from his ensembles as they have learned from him. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education in 2011 and a Master's degree in Music Education in 2025 from the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University.

As a developing composer, Brooks draws inspiration from the classroom and the belief that music should provide opportunities for students to grow not only as musicians, but also as individuals. Through composition, he hopes to create engaging musical experiences that encourage collaboration, celebrate individual contributions, and bring ensembles together.

PROGRAM NOTES

Meet Your Goblin!

Imagine a small, mischievous creature who lives deep in the woods, hidden from the outside world. He spends his days collecting unusual objects, playing tricks on unsuspecting travelers, and finding new ways to entertain himself.

But when the sun goes down, something changes. The goblin comes alive!

With a peculiar sense of rhythm and an unmistakable personality, he begins to dance, stomp, and groove through the forest. His movements are unpredictable, his antics are endless, and his music is impossible to ignore.

But what does your goblin actually look like? Is he friendly or frightening? Silly or sneaky? Does he dance gracefully or stumble around with oversized feet?

Our performers will show you! What do you hear from their goblin?

NOTES FOR THE DIRECTOR

The Groovy Goblin explores the musical colors and character of D harmonic minor, creating an atmosphere that is mysterious, playful, and mischievous.

One of the defining features of the piece is its orchestration. The low brass and low woodwinds take center stage, carrying the melody throughout the majority of the piece. These voices help establish the goblin's personality, bringing a sense of character, weight, and humor to the music. Directors should encourage these sections to play confidently and bring out the melodic lines while the rest of the ensemble provides energy, color, and support.

Measures 21-29 and 47-53 can be soli or solos, based on your sensemble.

The percussion parts may be performed on any available instruments. Directors are encouraged to adapt the instrumentation to the resources they have available, including instruments that

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students create themselves. Creativity and experimentation are welcome! The only instruments I recommend to avoid are snare drum, bass drum, and timpani.

There is no single right way to imagine the Groovy Goblin. Encourage students to create their own image and personality for the Groovy Goblin. Let that imagination influence their performance, from the playful melodic lines to the energetic rhythms and contrasting musical moments. Tell your ensemble to have fun, embrace the character of the music, and make the piece their own!

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CONCERT BAND WORK: The Groovy Goblin by Spencer M. Brooks

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_____
Director

_____
Administrator

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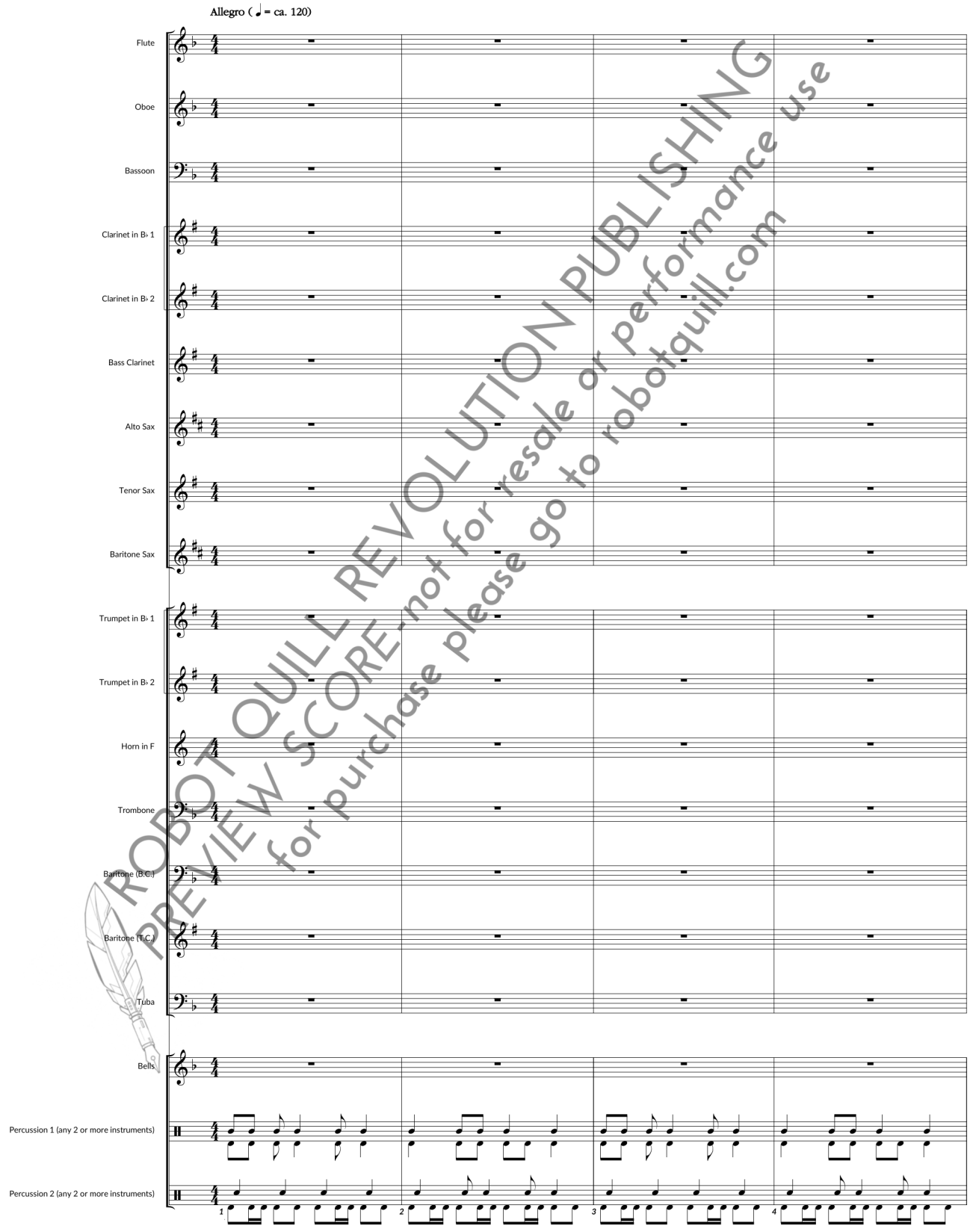
The Groovy Goblin

Dedicated to the Colonia Middle School 2026-27 Band, Colonia, New Jersey

Spencer M. Brooks



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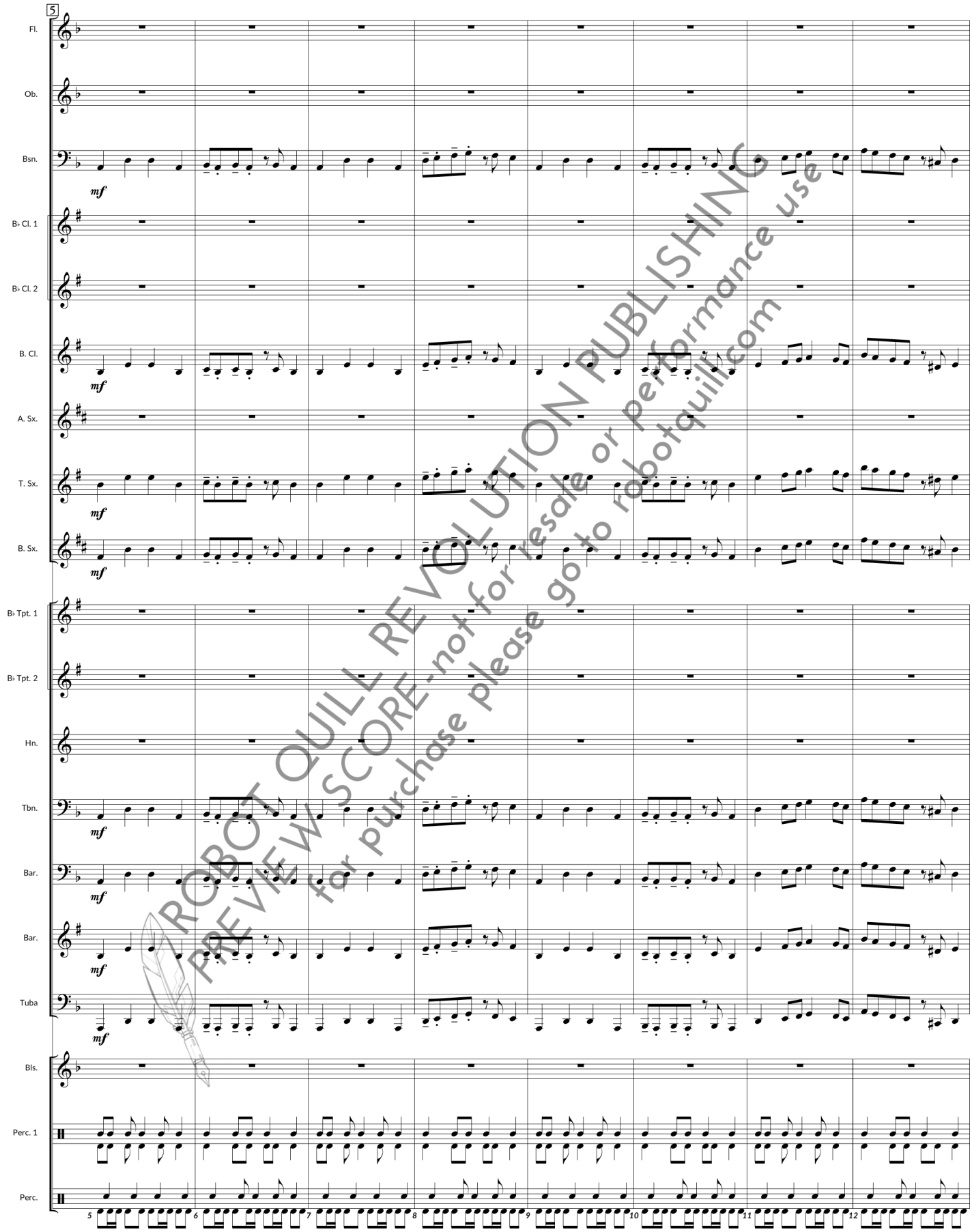

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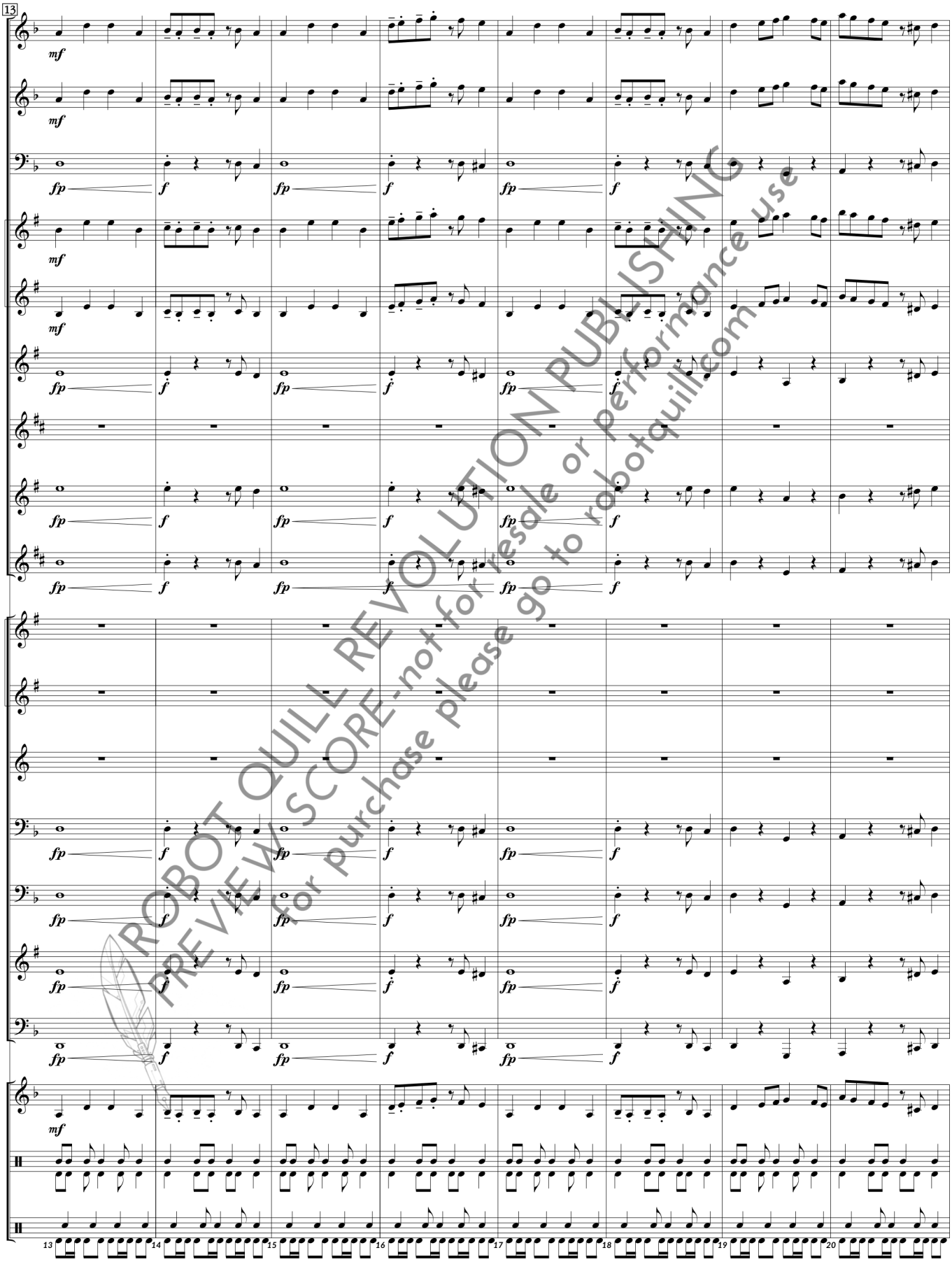

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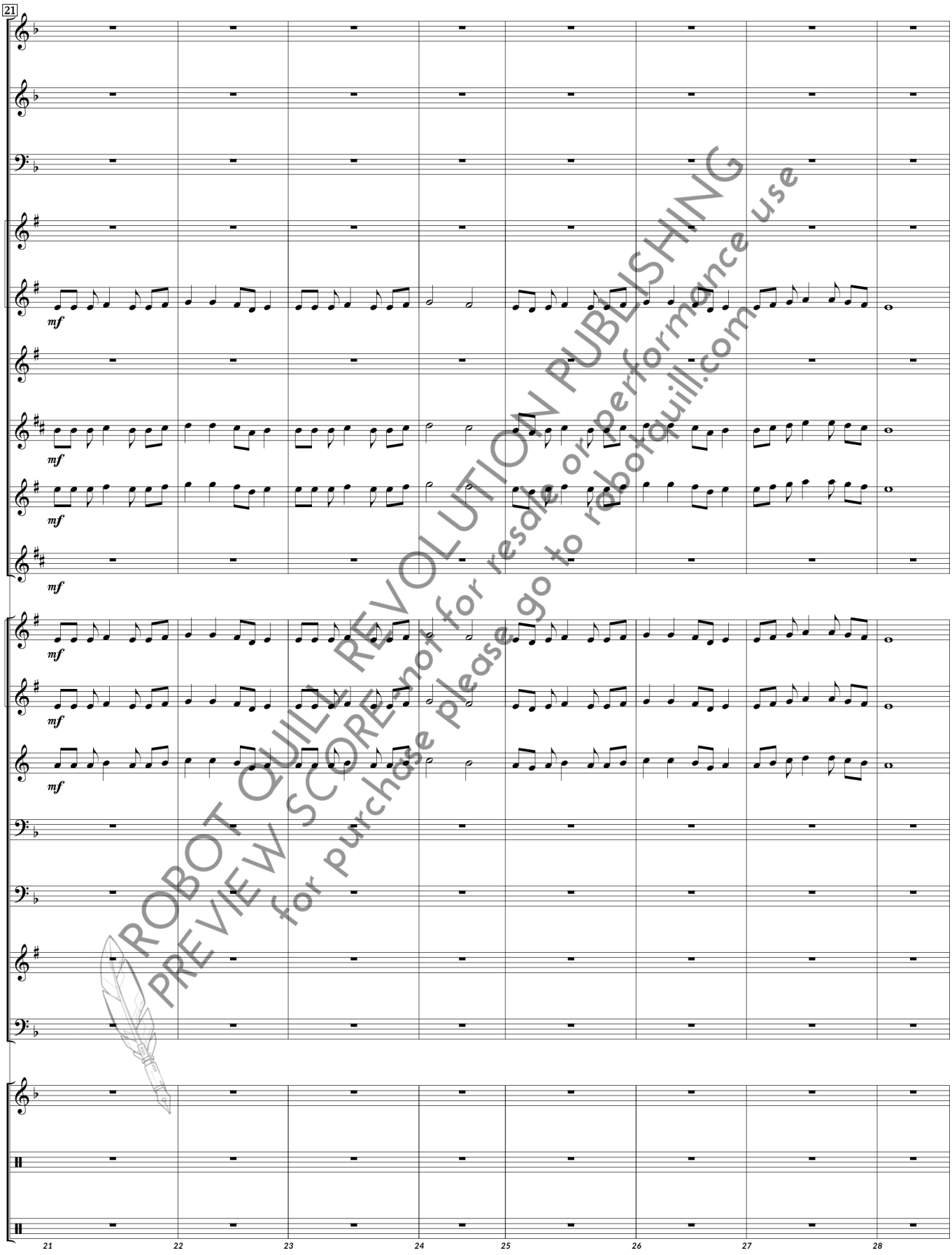

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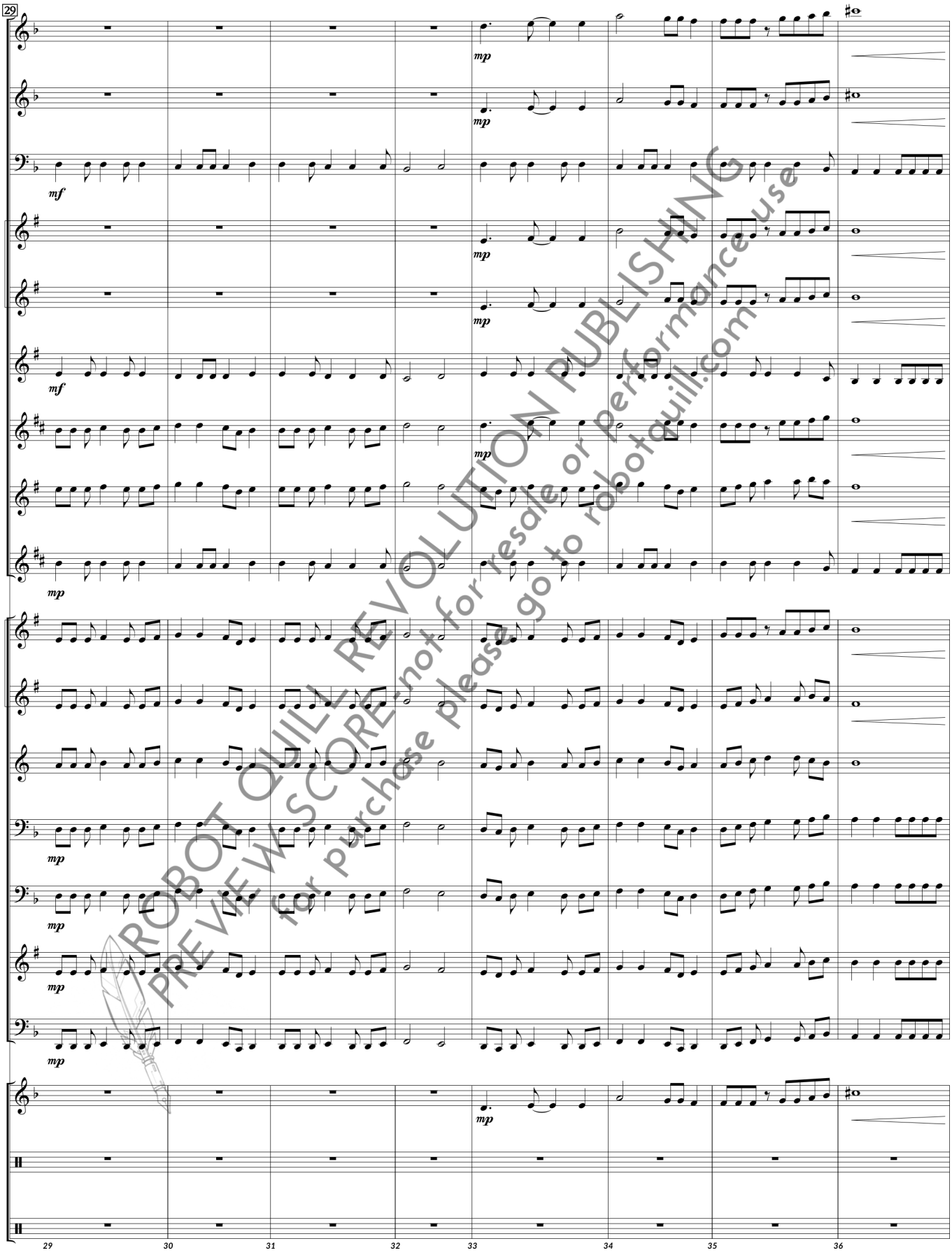

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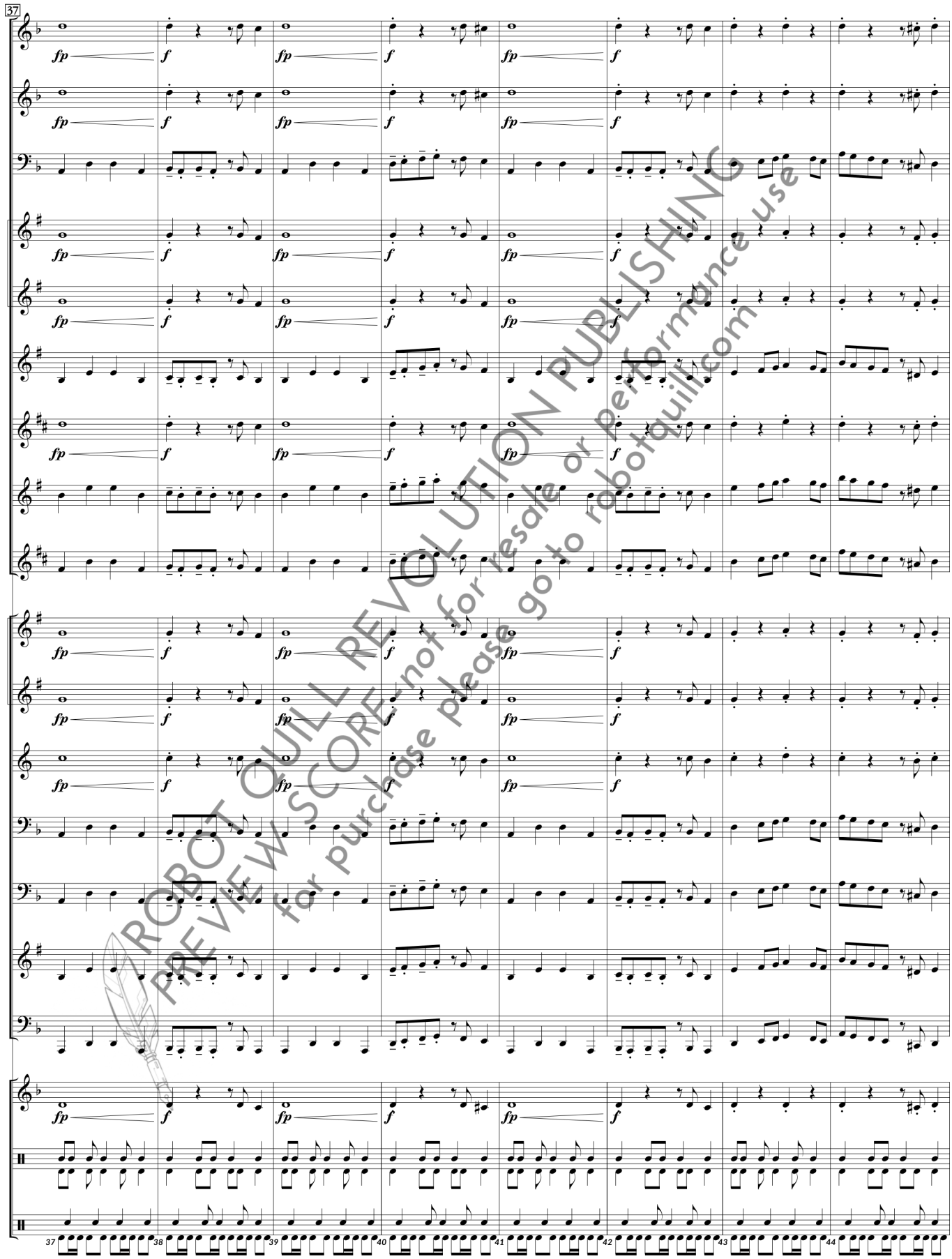

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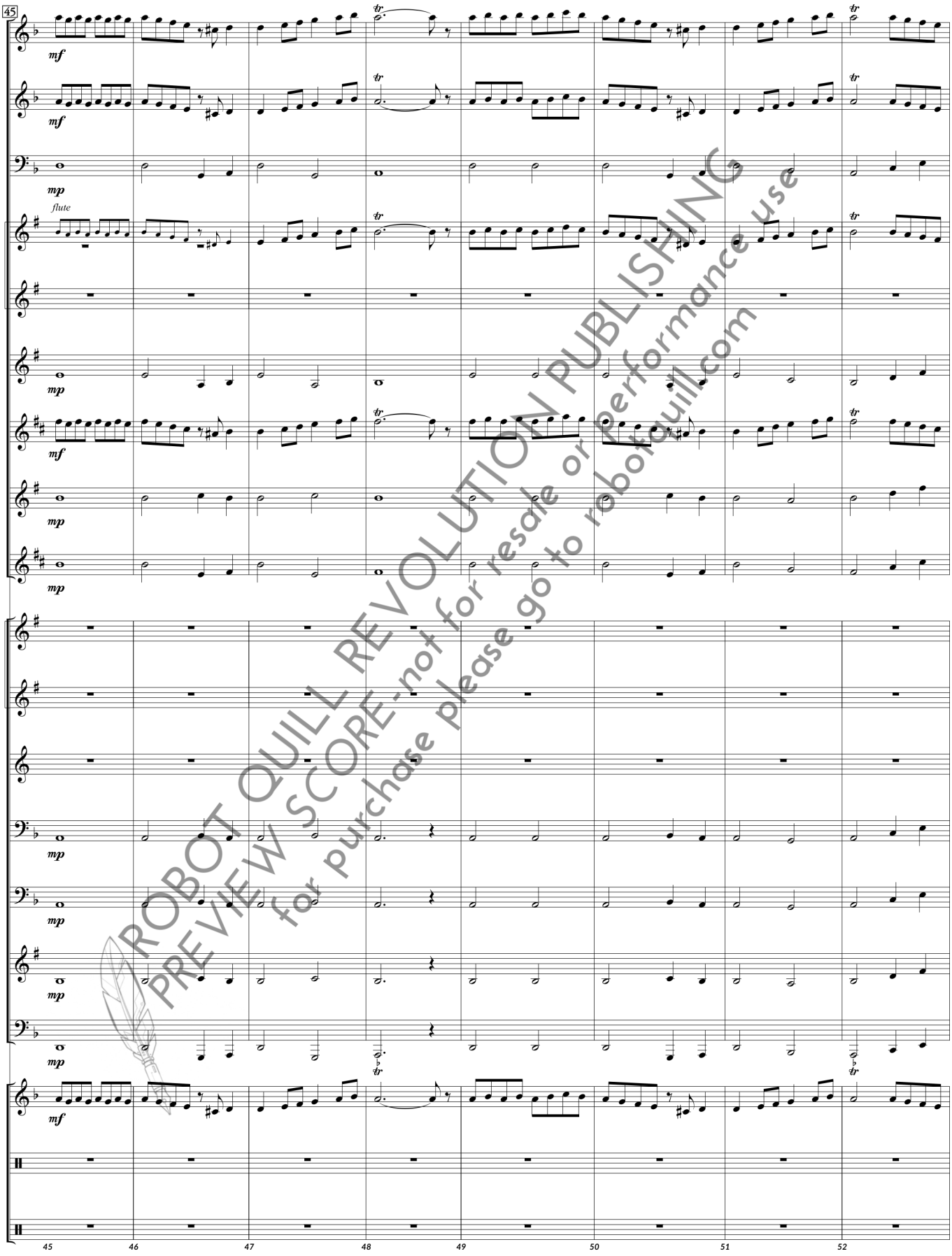

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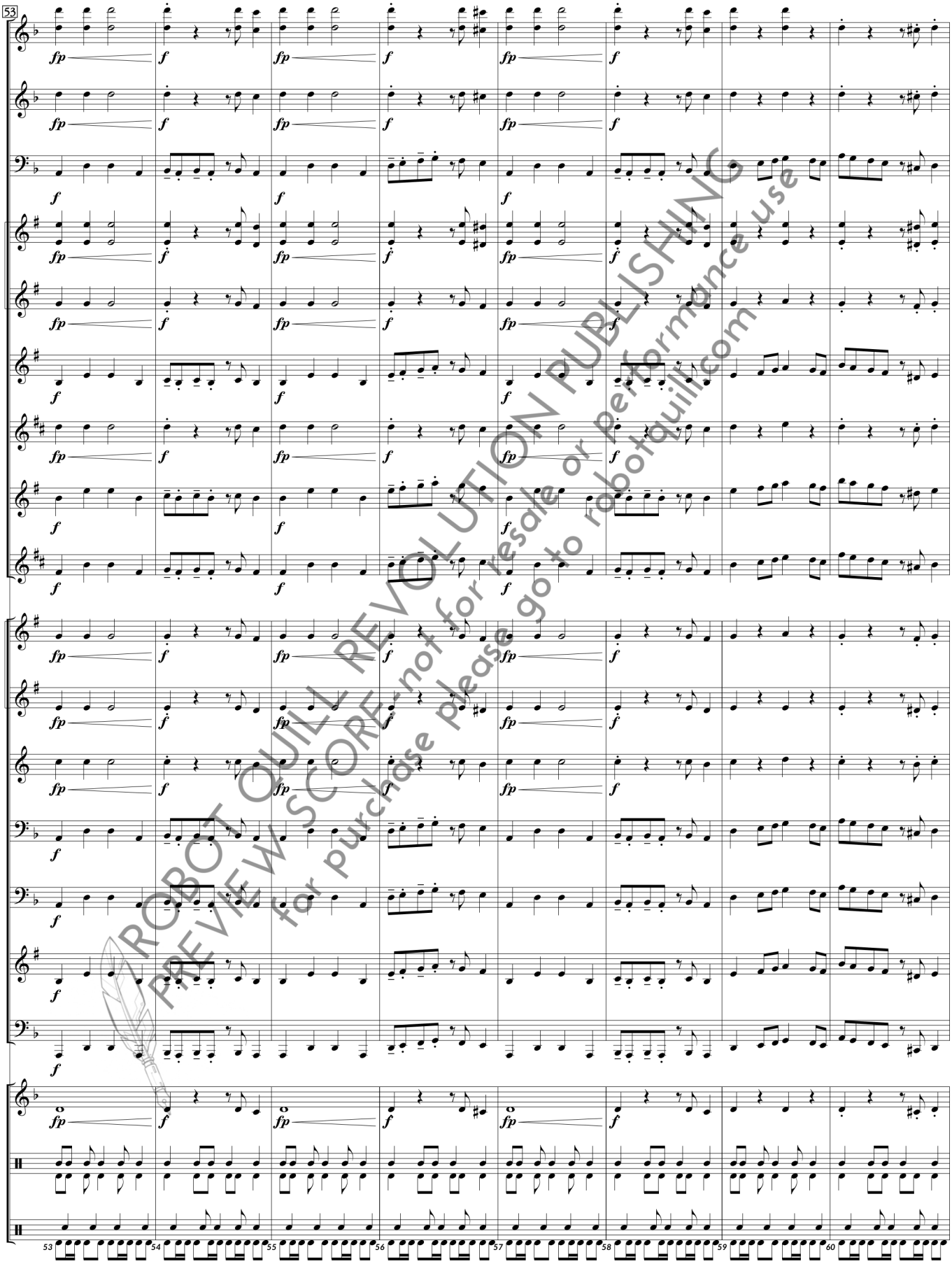

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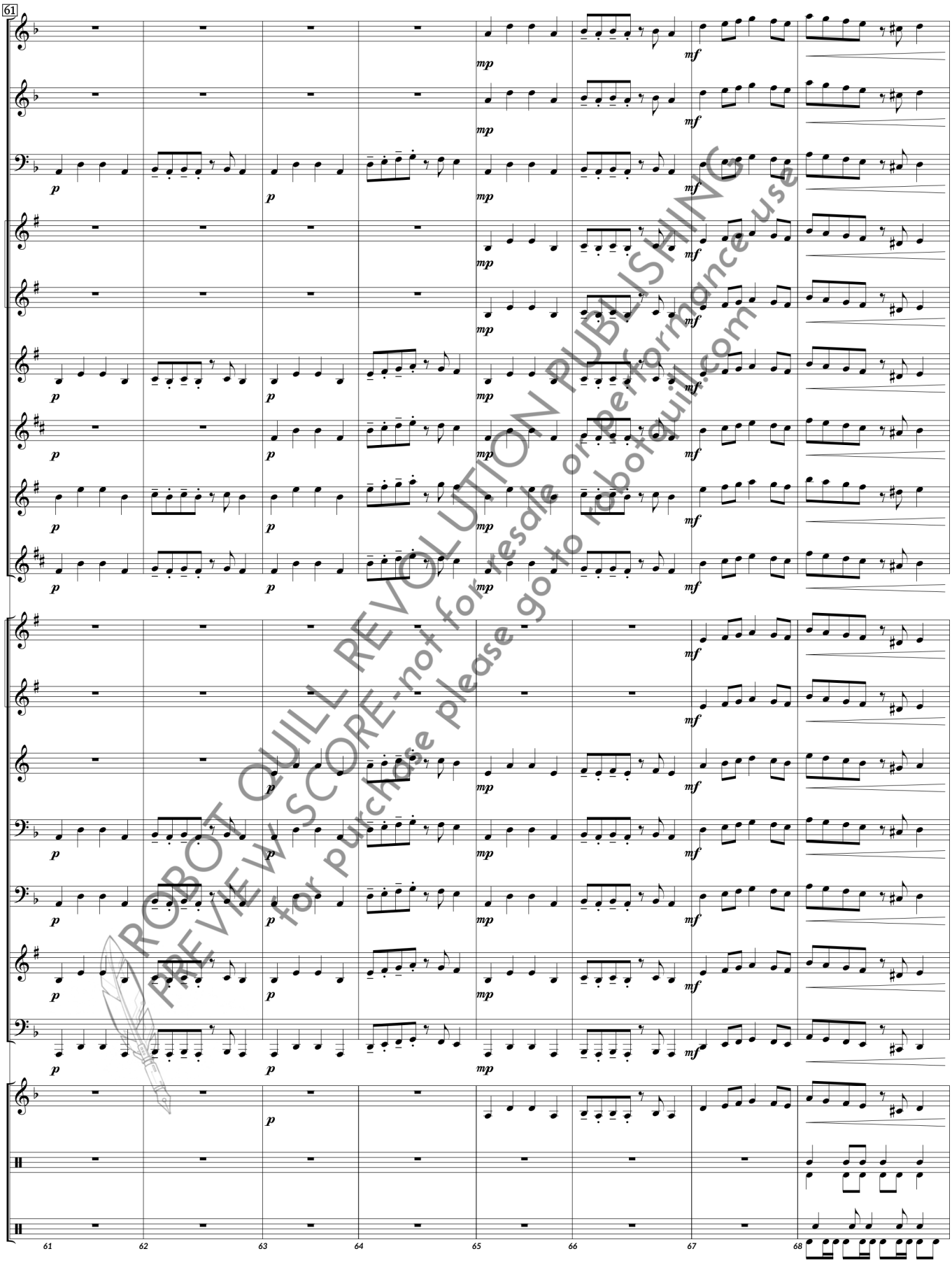

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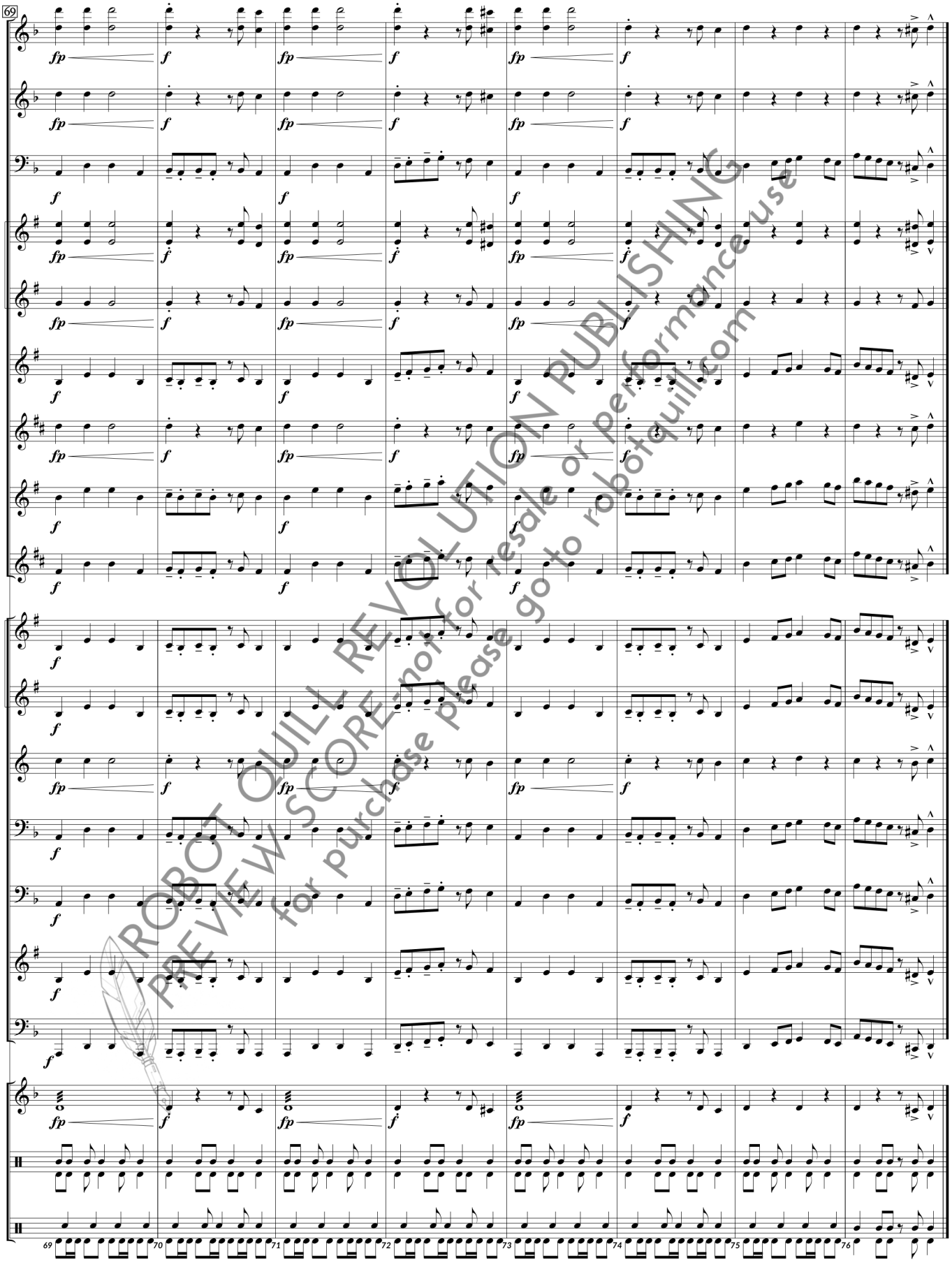

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