ALCOTT SONGS

for soprano and chamber winds octet

STEVE DANYEW

PERUSAL SCORE
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Alcott Songs (2014)

Commissioned by the following musicians and institutions:

Dr. Brenton F. Alston – Florida International University

Dr. Daniel Belongia – Illinois State University

Dr. Justin Davis – Greatbatch School of Music, Houghton College

Mr. Duane Hill – Texas Tech University

Dr. John Oelrich – University of Tennessee at Martin

Dr. David Ragsdale – University of Alabama Huntsville

Dr. Catherine Rand – University of Southern Mississippi

Dr. Jason Rinehart & Dr. Claire Vangelisti - University of Louisiana at Monroe

Dr. Mark Scatterday – Eastman School of Music

Mr. Timothy Shade – University of Miami

Dr. Mark Walker – Troy University

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Alcott Songs

I. Awake! Awake!
II. Hello! Hello!
III. Dear Grif
IV. Here's a Nut
V. Don't Drive Me Away
VI. Lullaby

DURATION: 12 minutes

INSTRUMENTATION:

Soprano
Flute
Oboe
2 Bassoons
2 Clarinets in Bb
Bass Clarinet in Bb
Contrabass Clarinet in Bb*

* A string bass may be substituted for the contrabass clarinet

NOTES

I really enjoy the poetry of Louisa May Alcott, and I decided to create a song cycle comprised of six of her relatively short poems. I tried to pull together poems that are particularly fun, witty, and whimsical. As I began choosing these texts, I realized that it would be fun to organize them in a way that could depict a summer day: the first poem opens with "Awake! Awake!" The second talks about jumping among lily pads, the third describes spring flowers, and the fourth portrays a squirrel and his acorn adventures. The fifth seems to be about bees or another animal in a sort of dream-like story – I picture this as the point at which we dose off to sleep. The sixth and final poem is a lovely lullaby which brings the day to an end. Musically, I tried to create melodies and textures that mirror the fun and wit of the poetry. There is a variety of music, from very light spring-like dancing in the opening song, to the quiet and delicate lullaby at the end.

-SD

<u>Note</u>: If you are planning a performance of this piece, please let me know so that I can post information on my website and social media! You can contact me through my website, www.stevedanyew.com or by email at steve@stevedanyew.com. Thank you!

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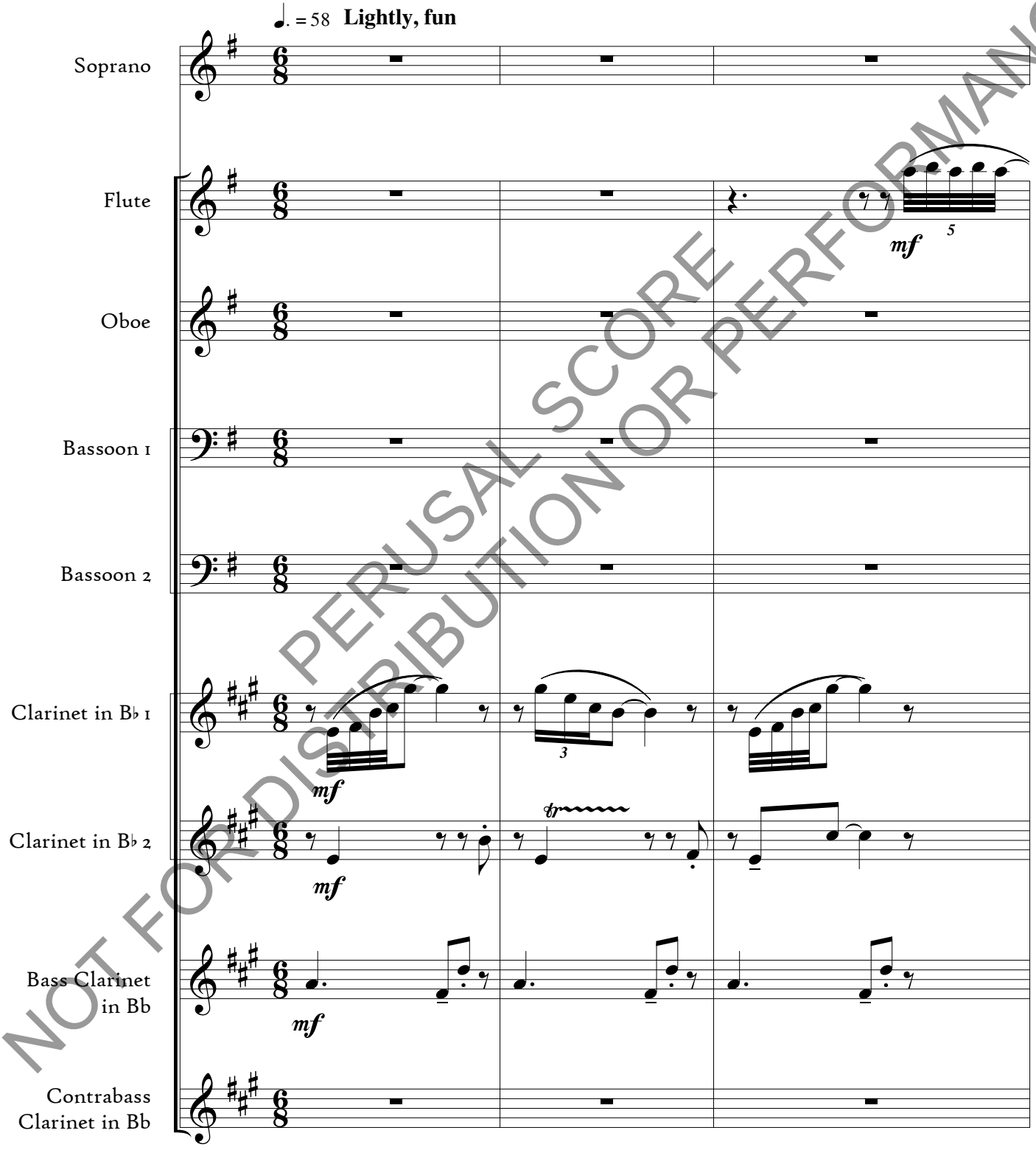
Transposed Score
Duration: 12 minutes

Alcott Songs

Louisa May Alcott

Steve Danyew

I. Awake! Awake!



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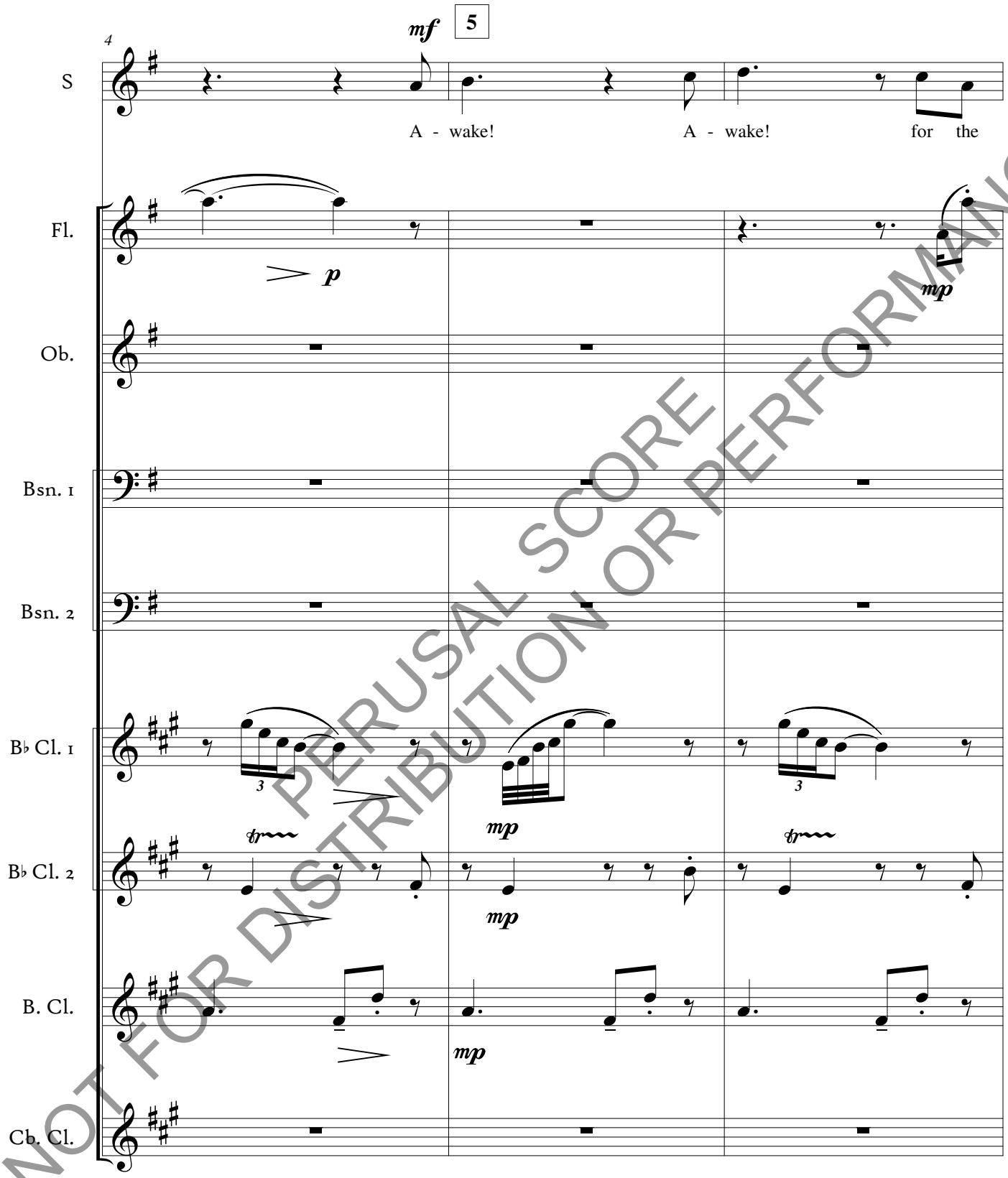

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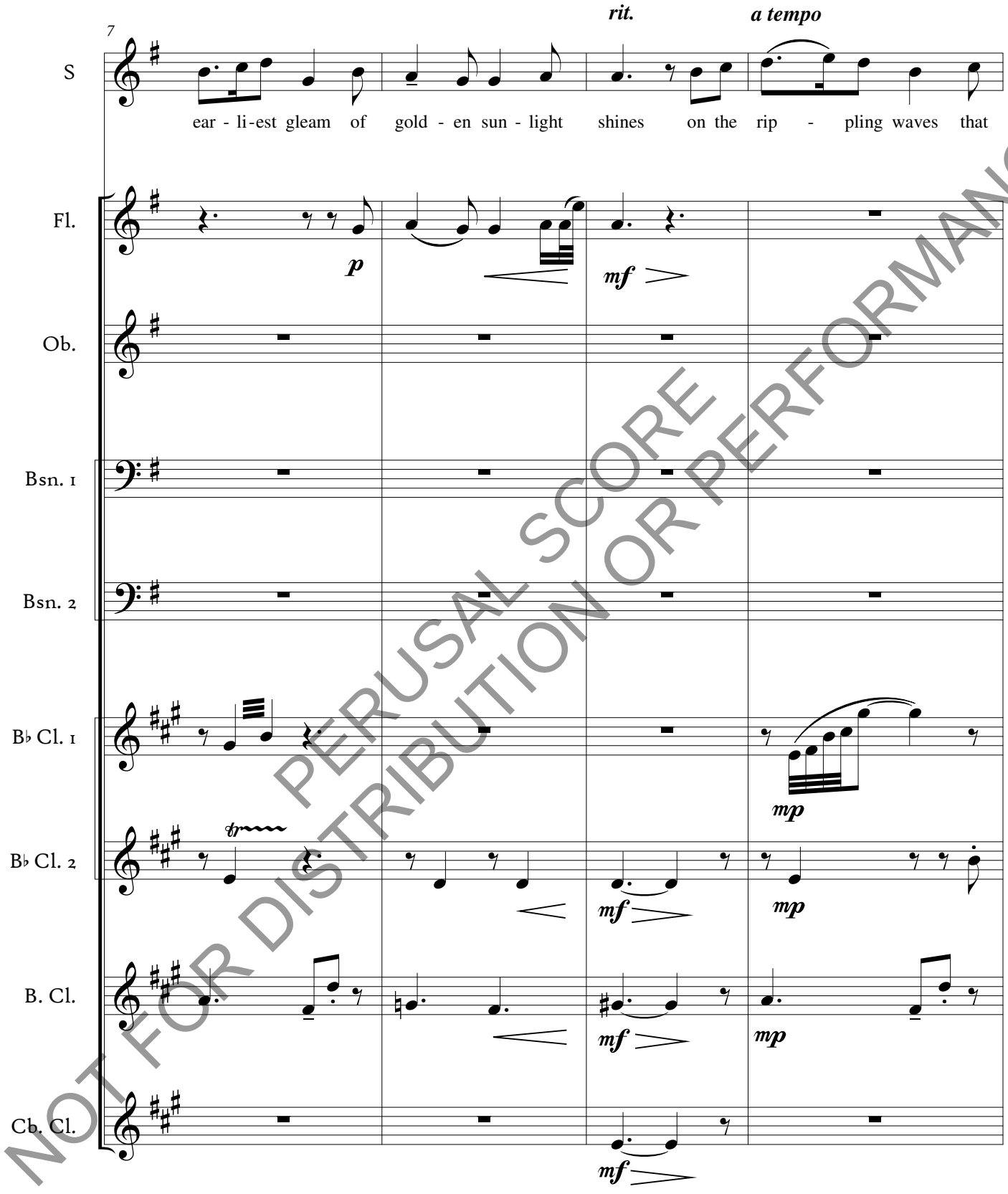

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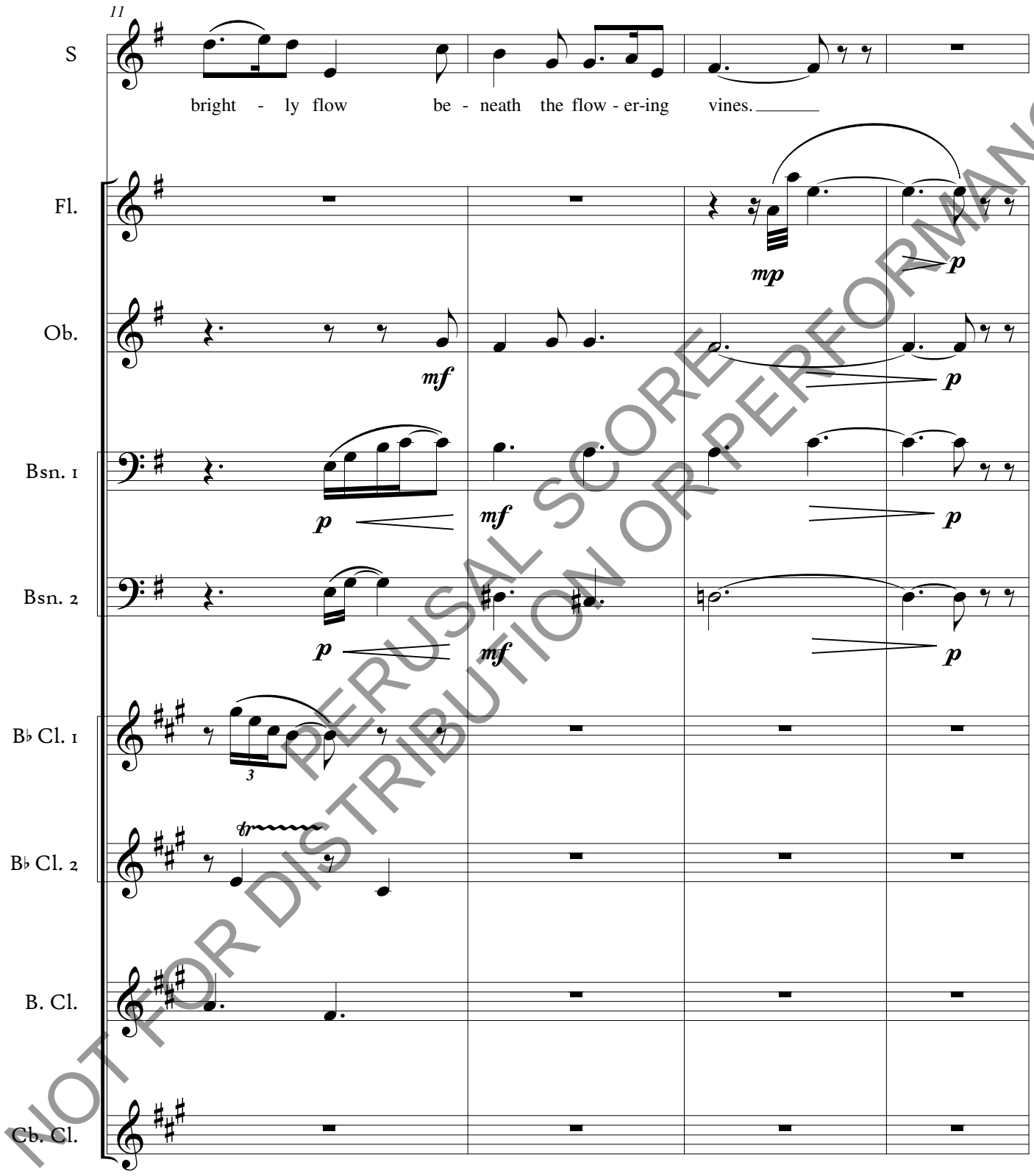

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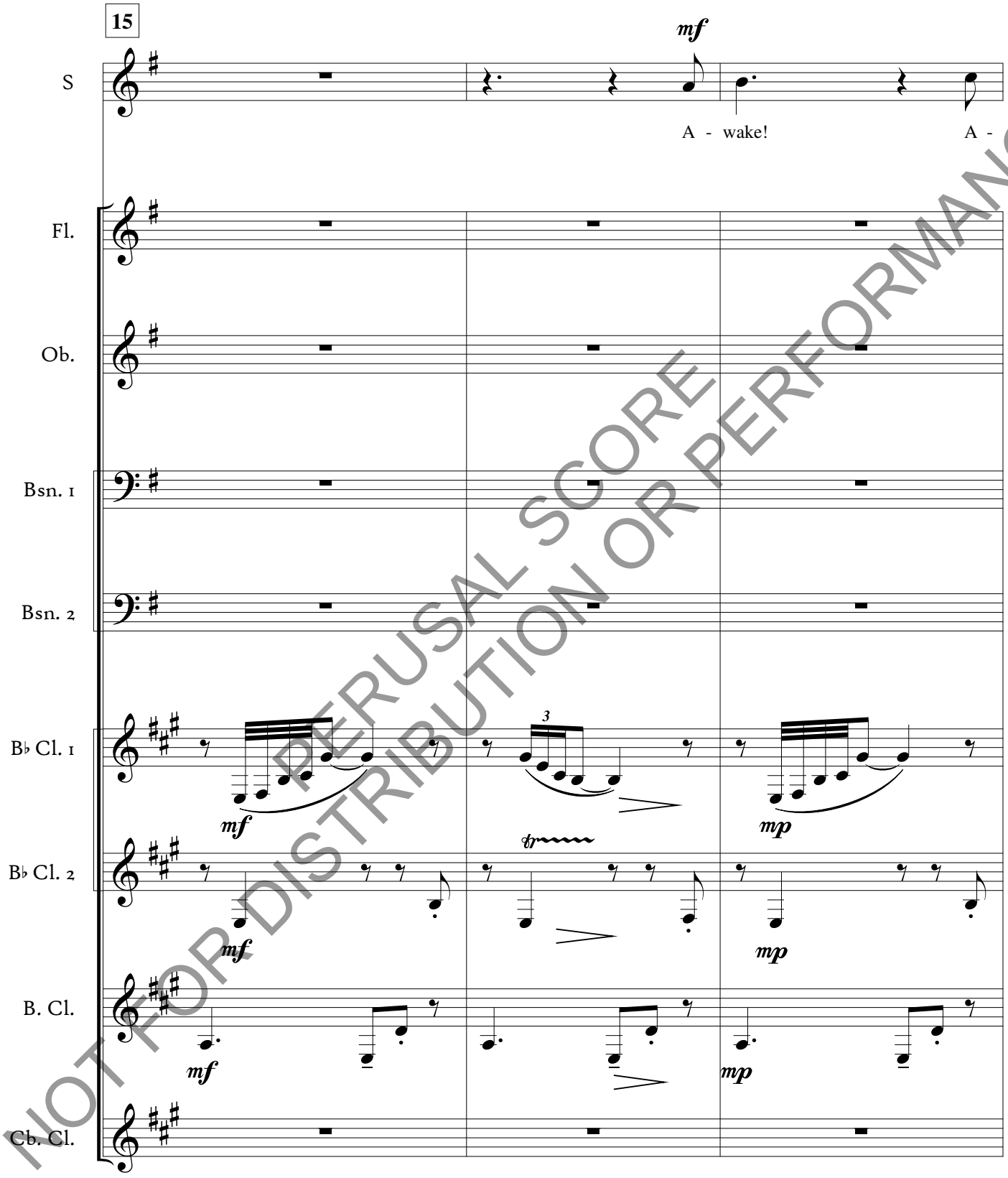

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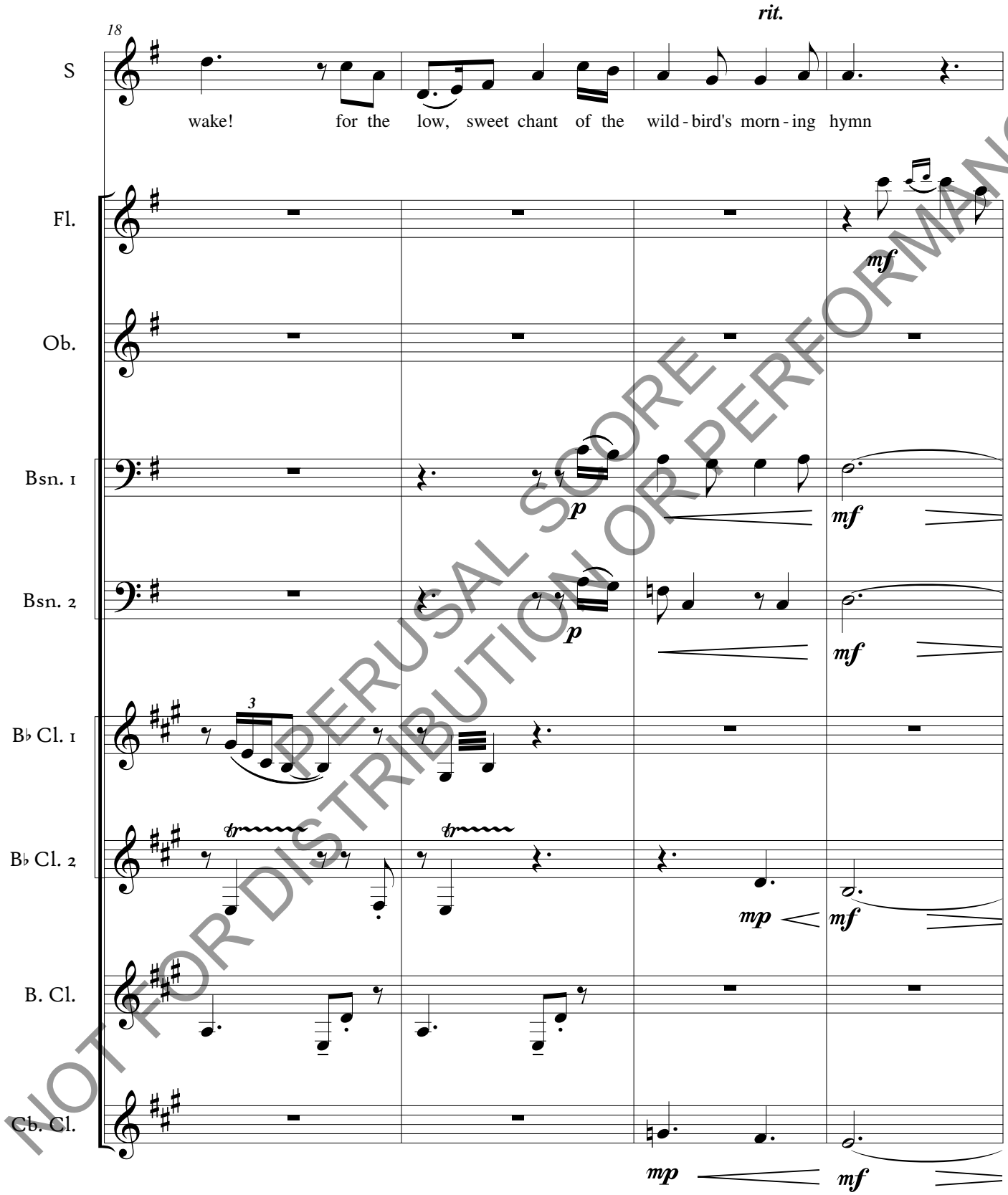

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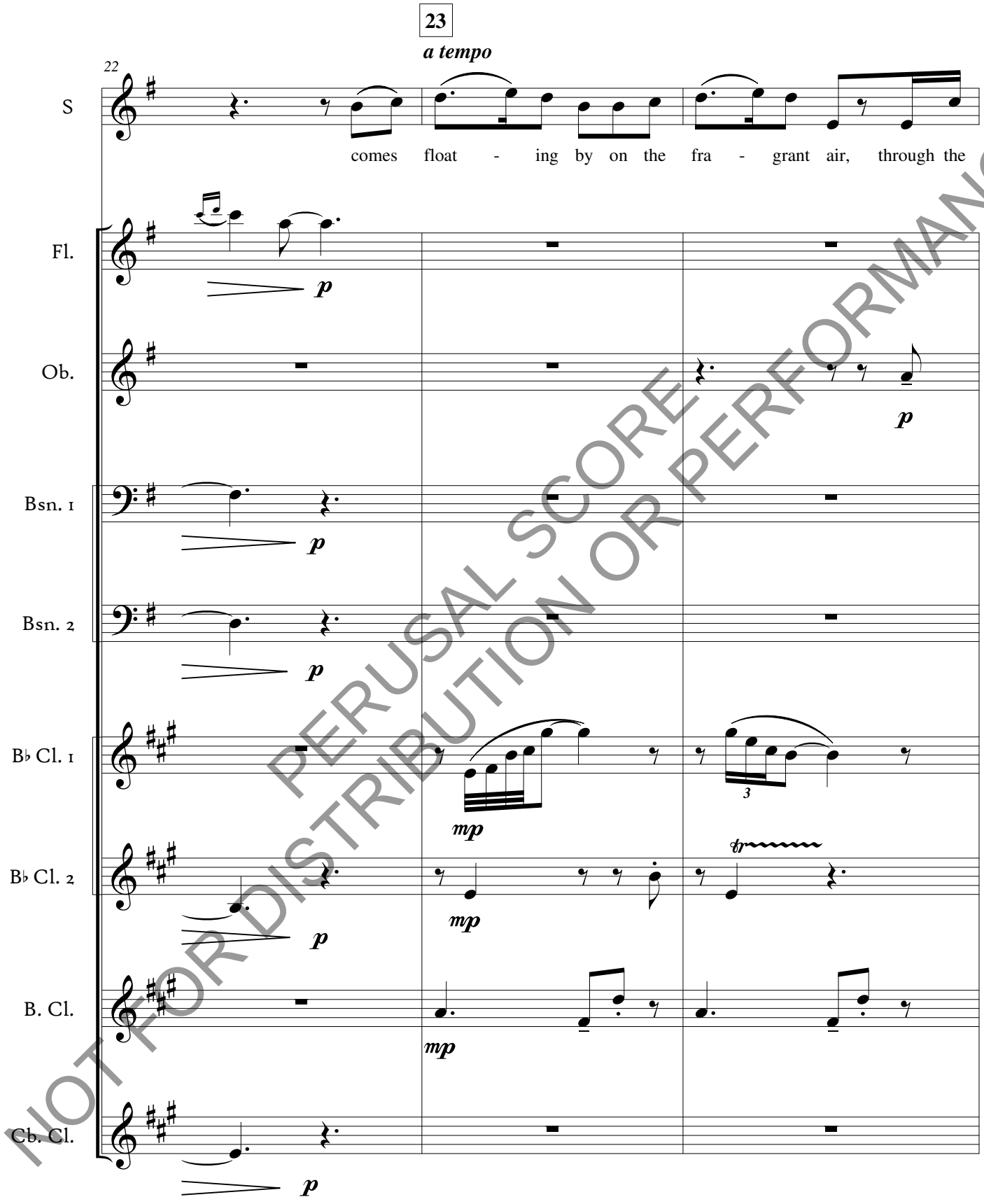

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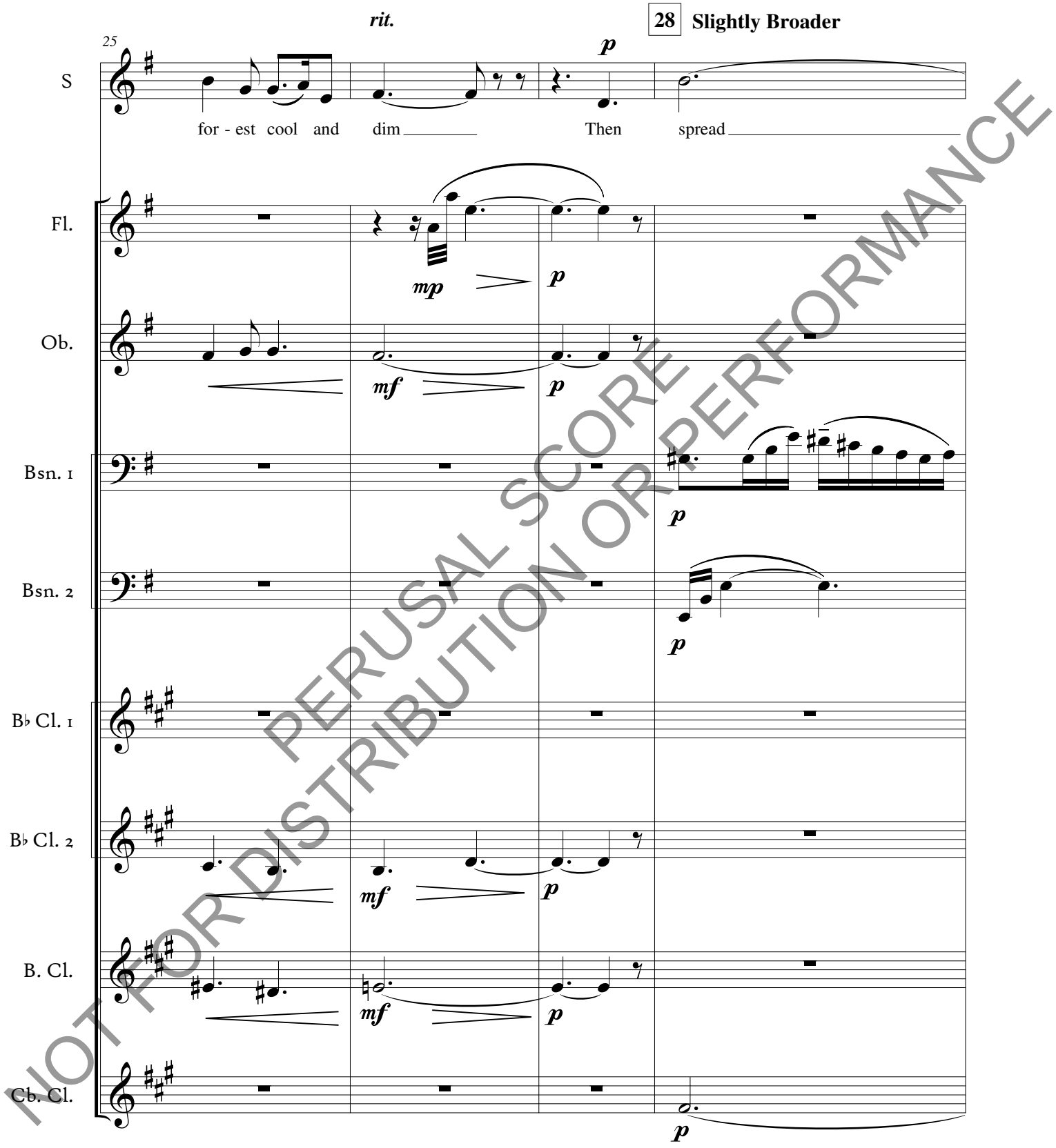

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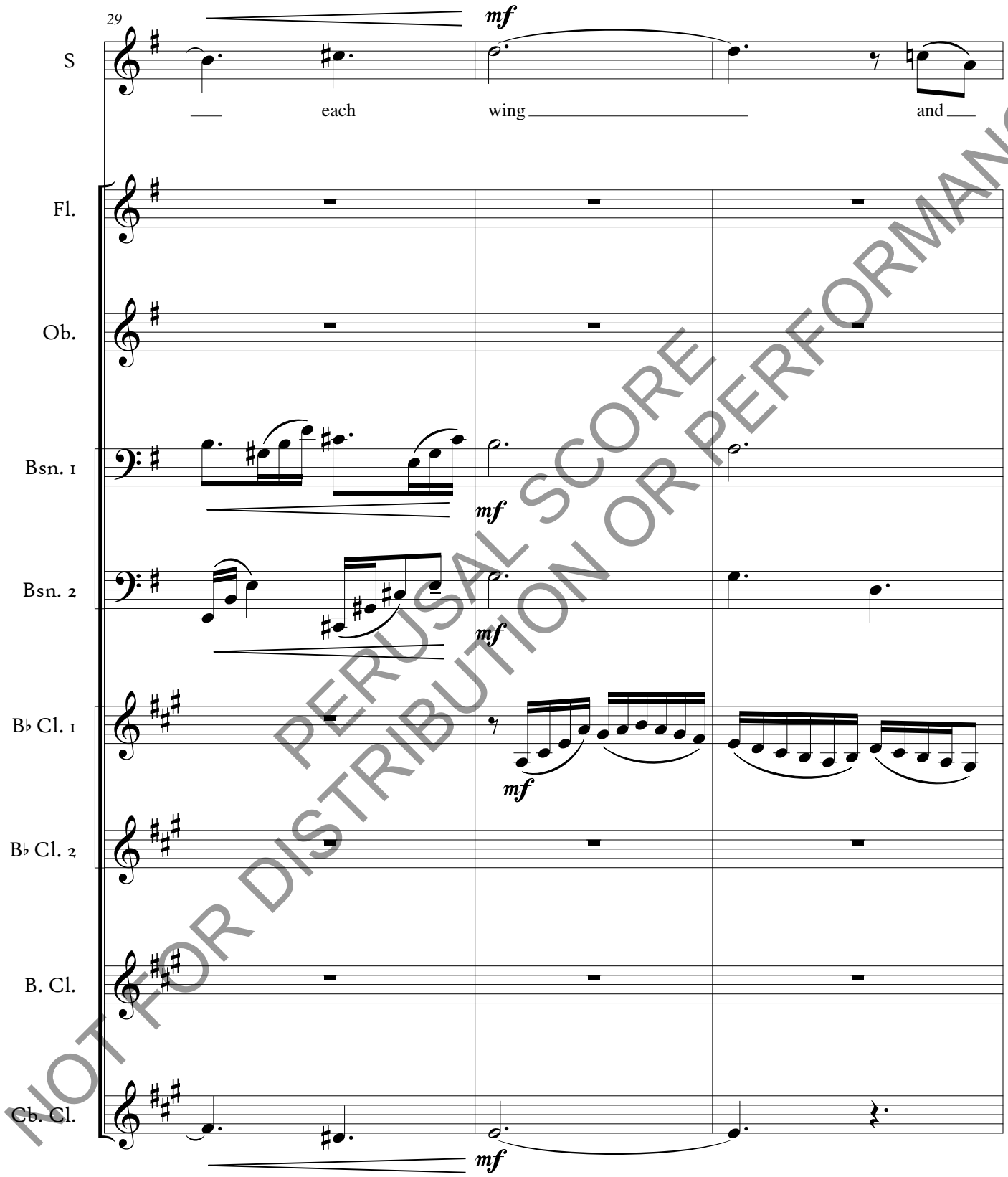

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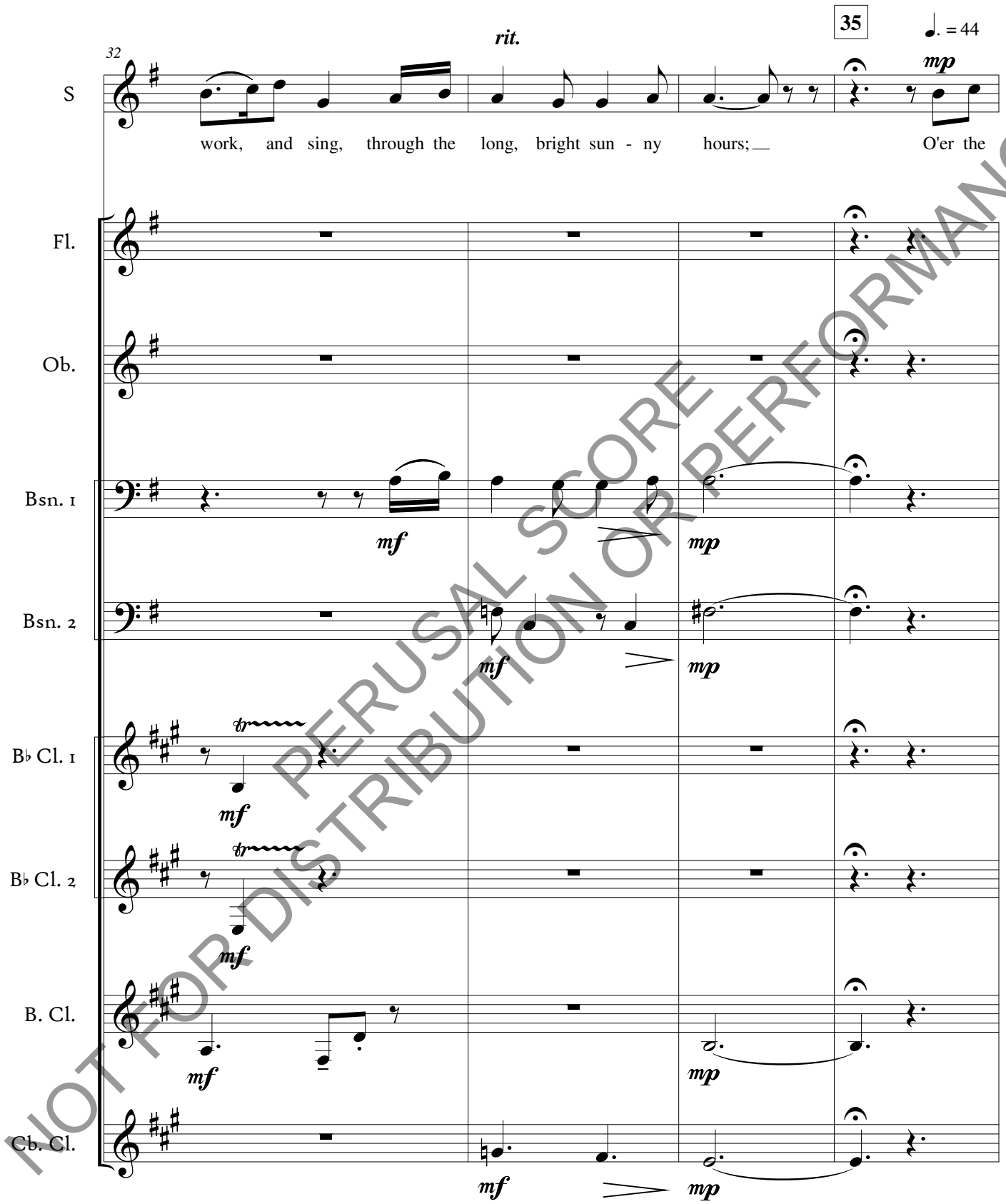

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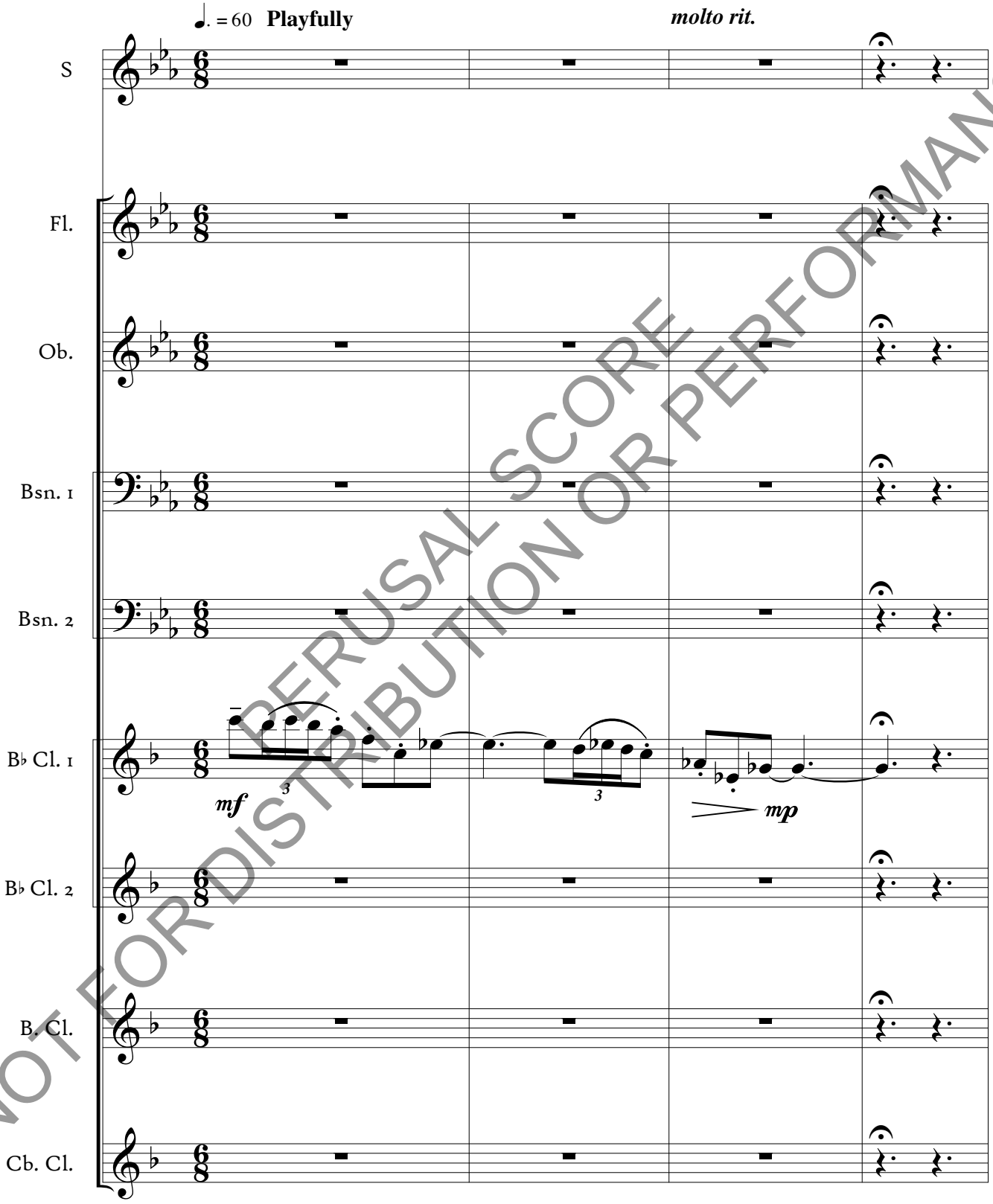

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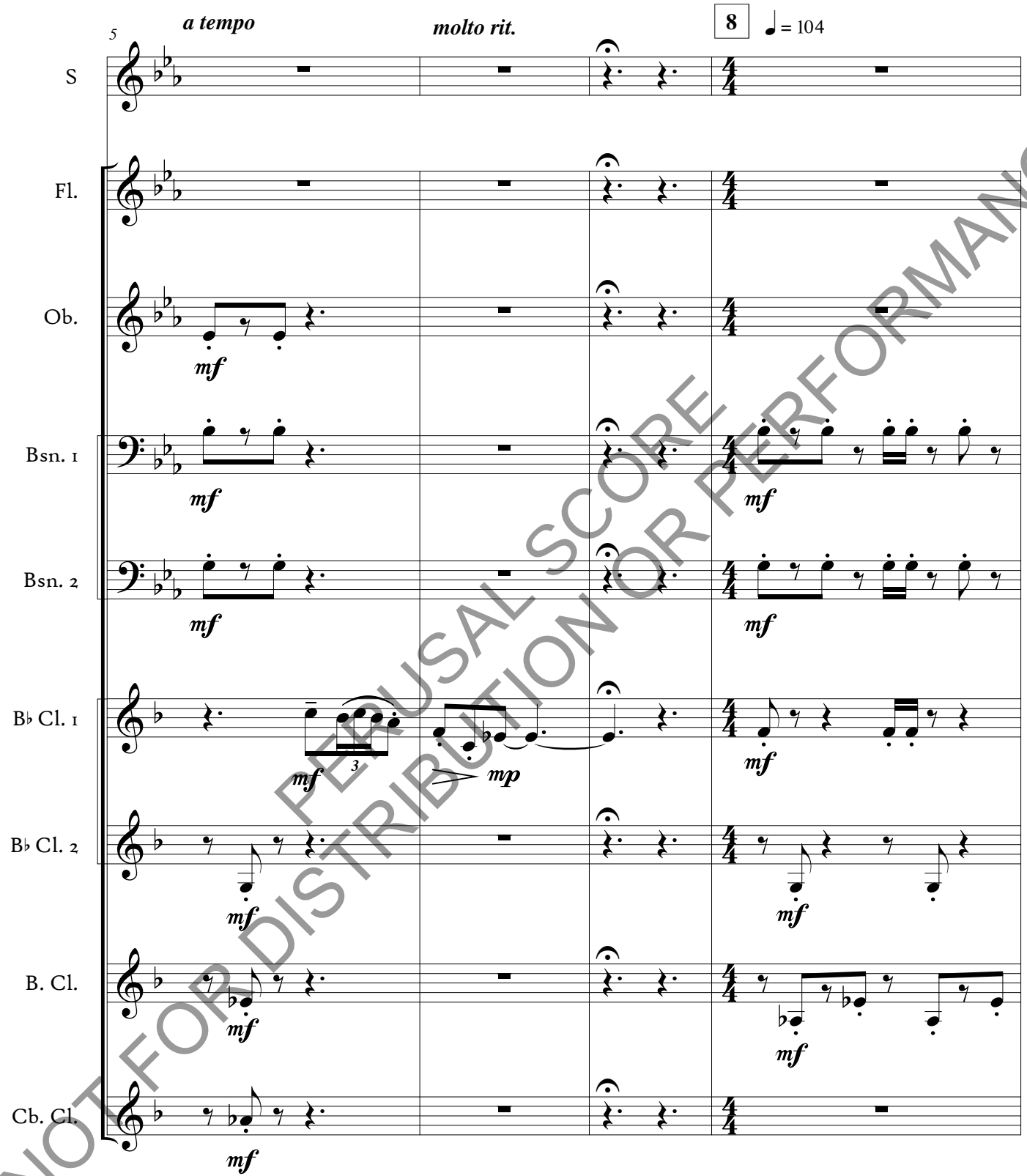

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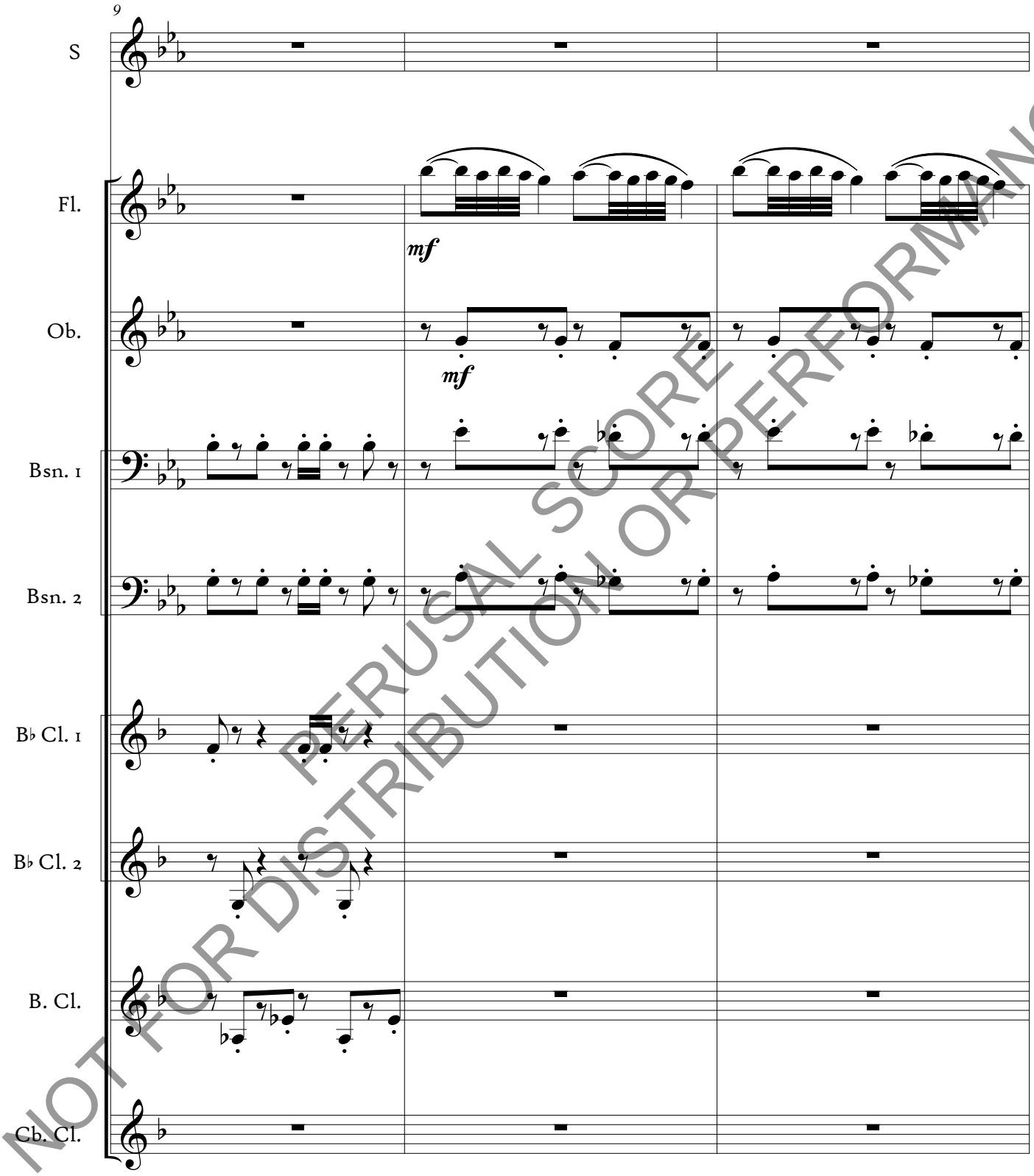

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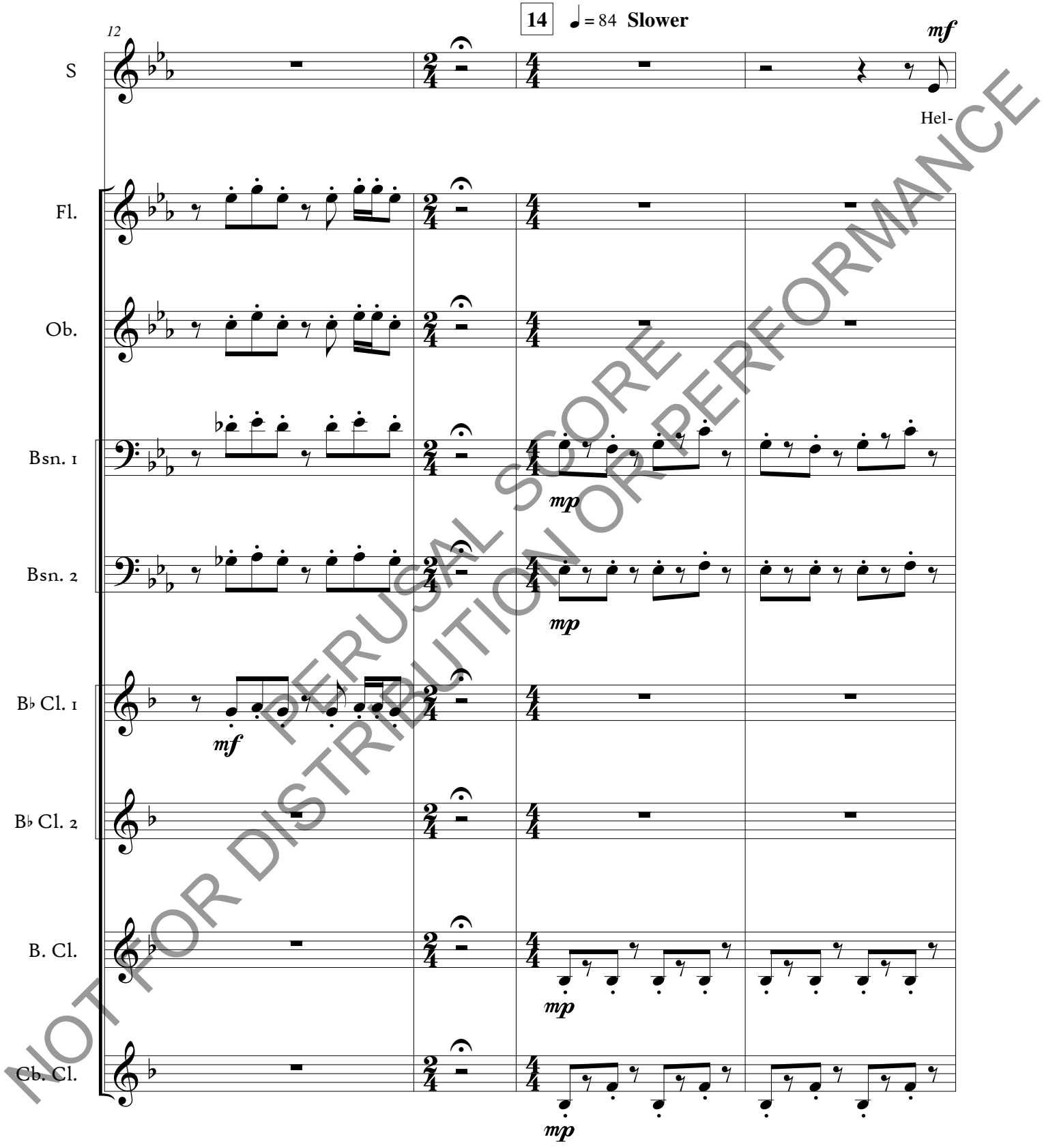

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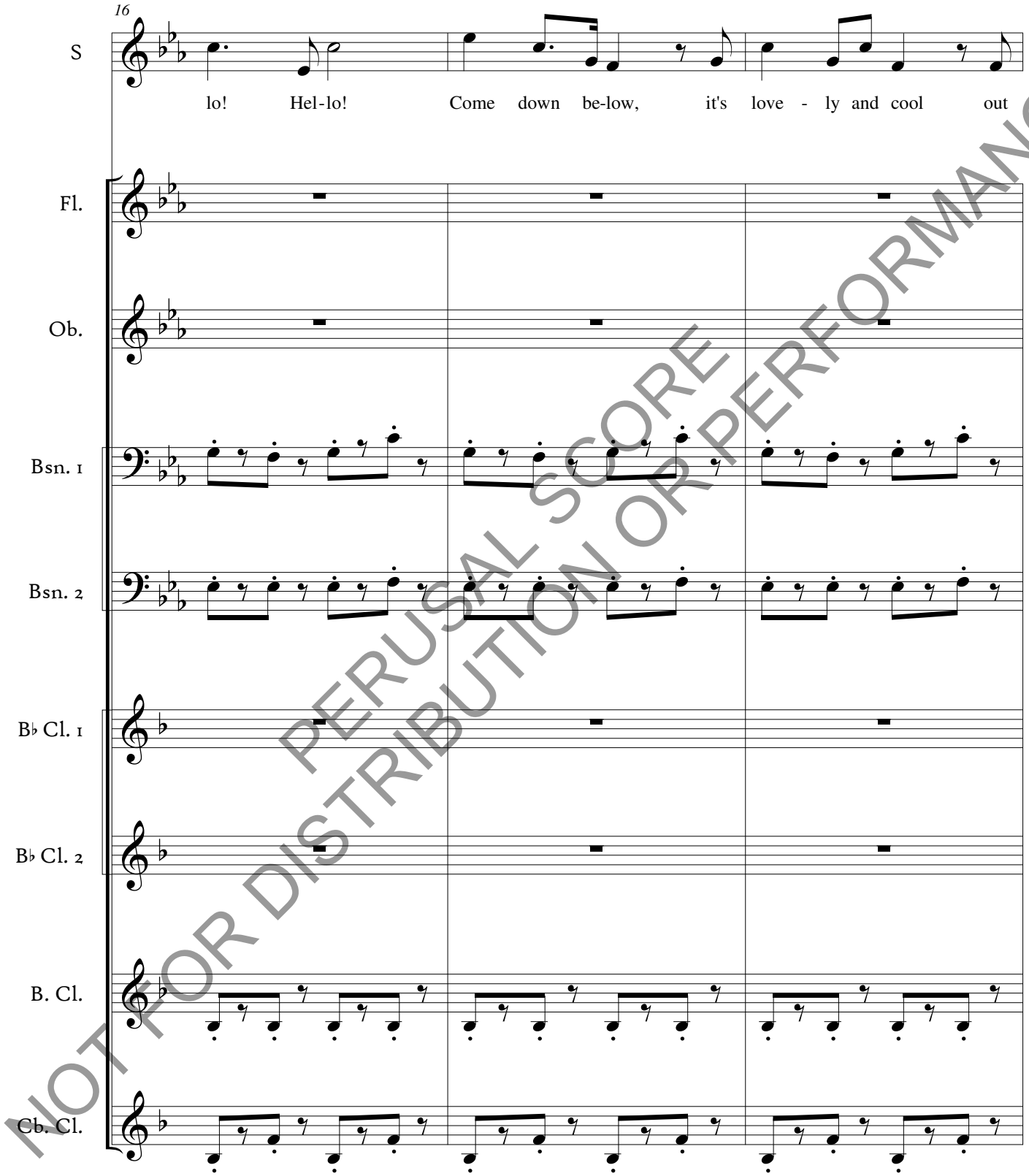

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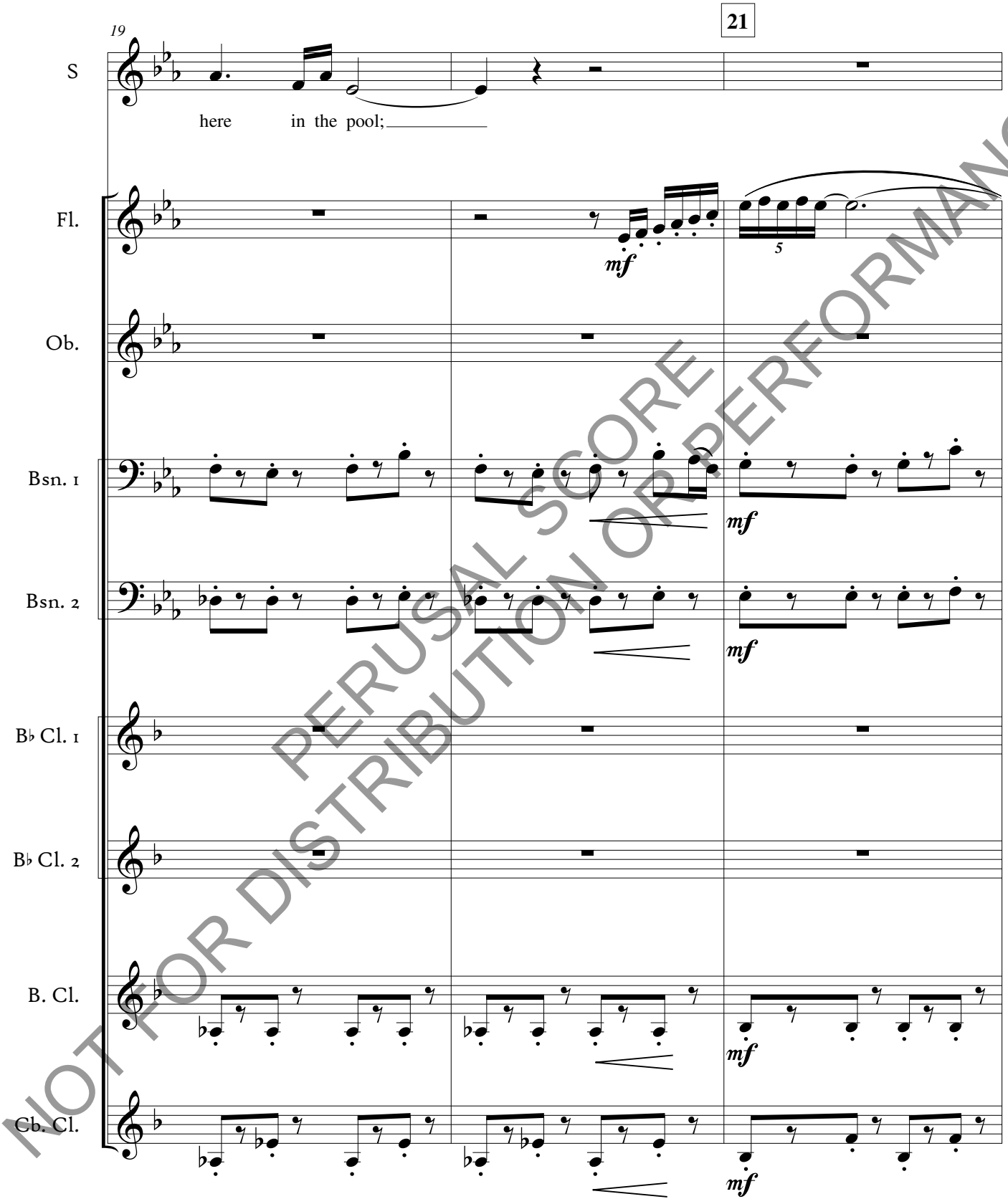

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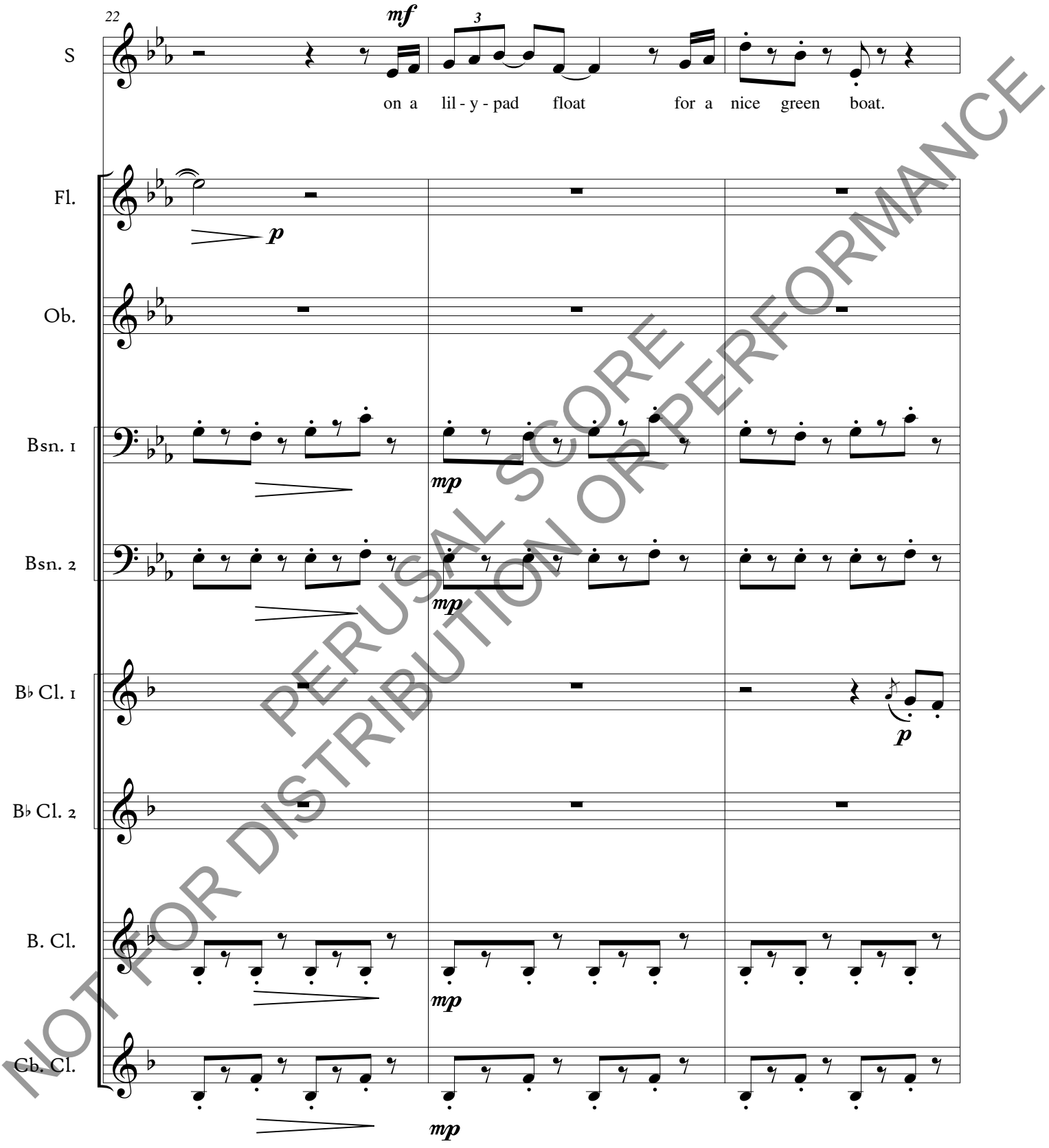

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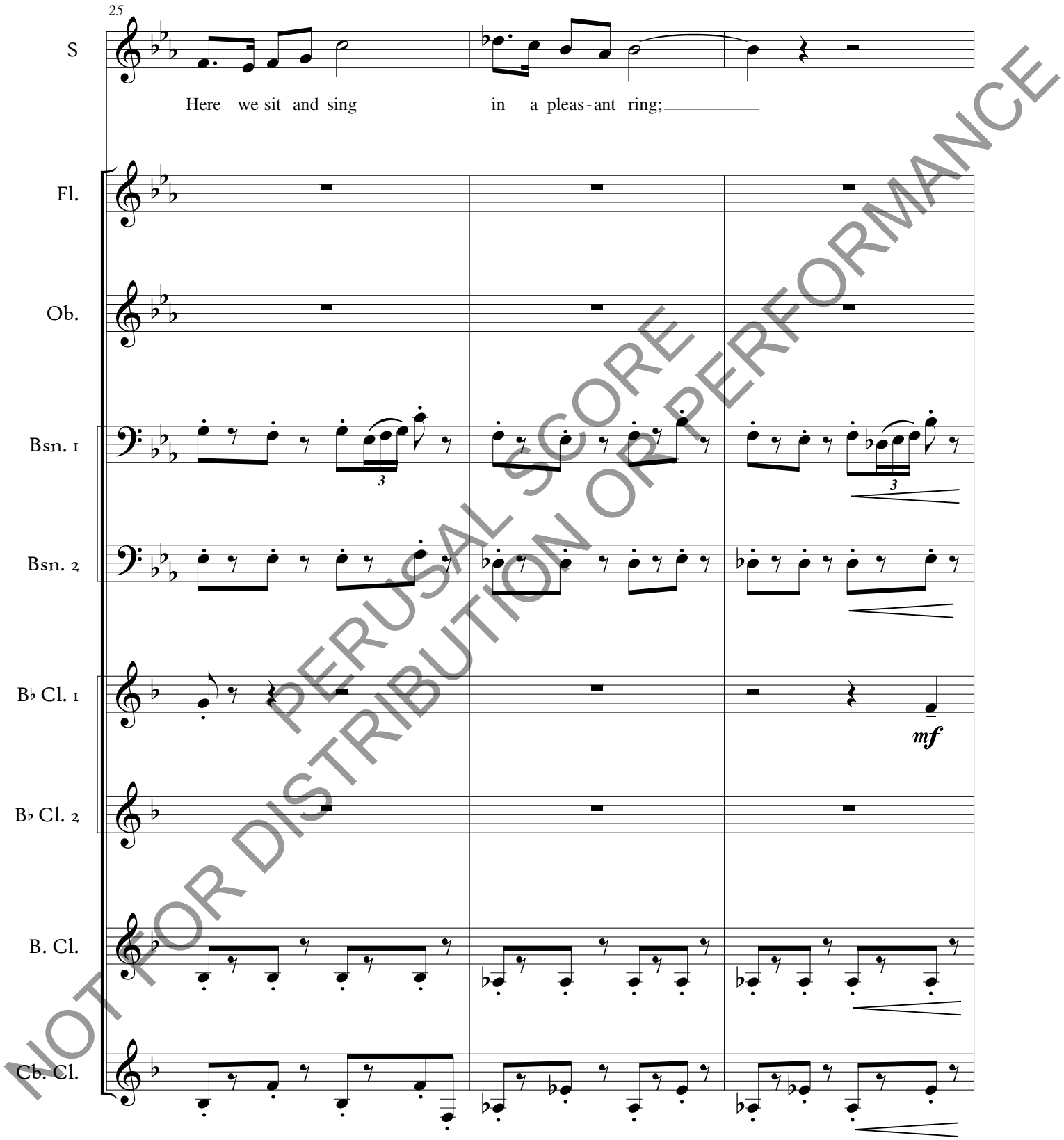

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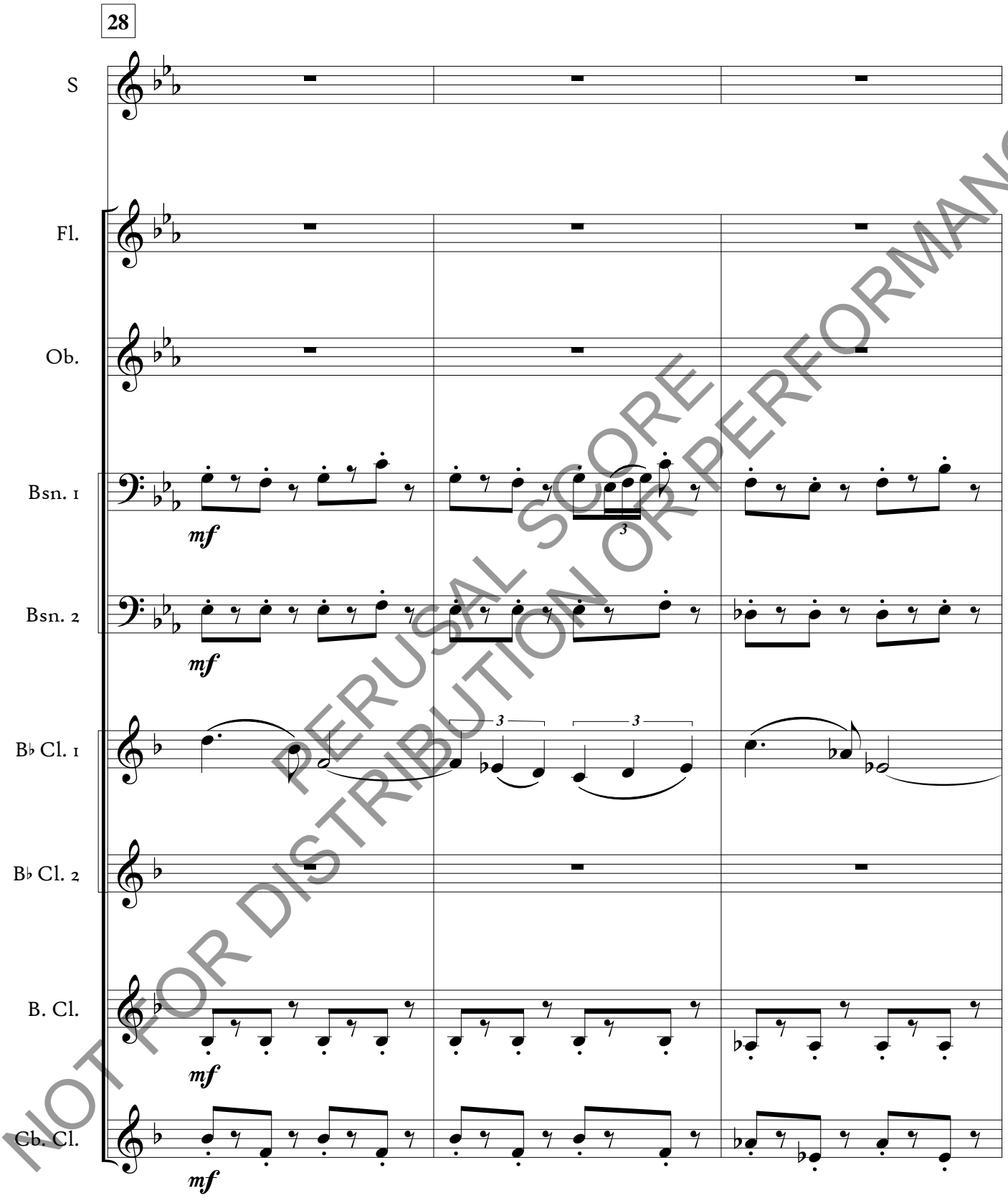

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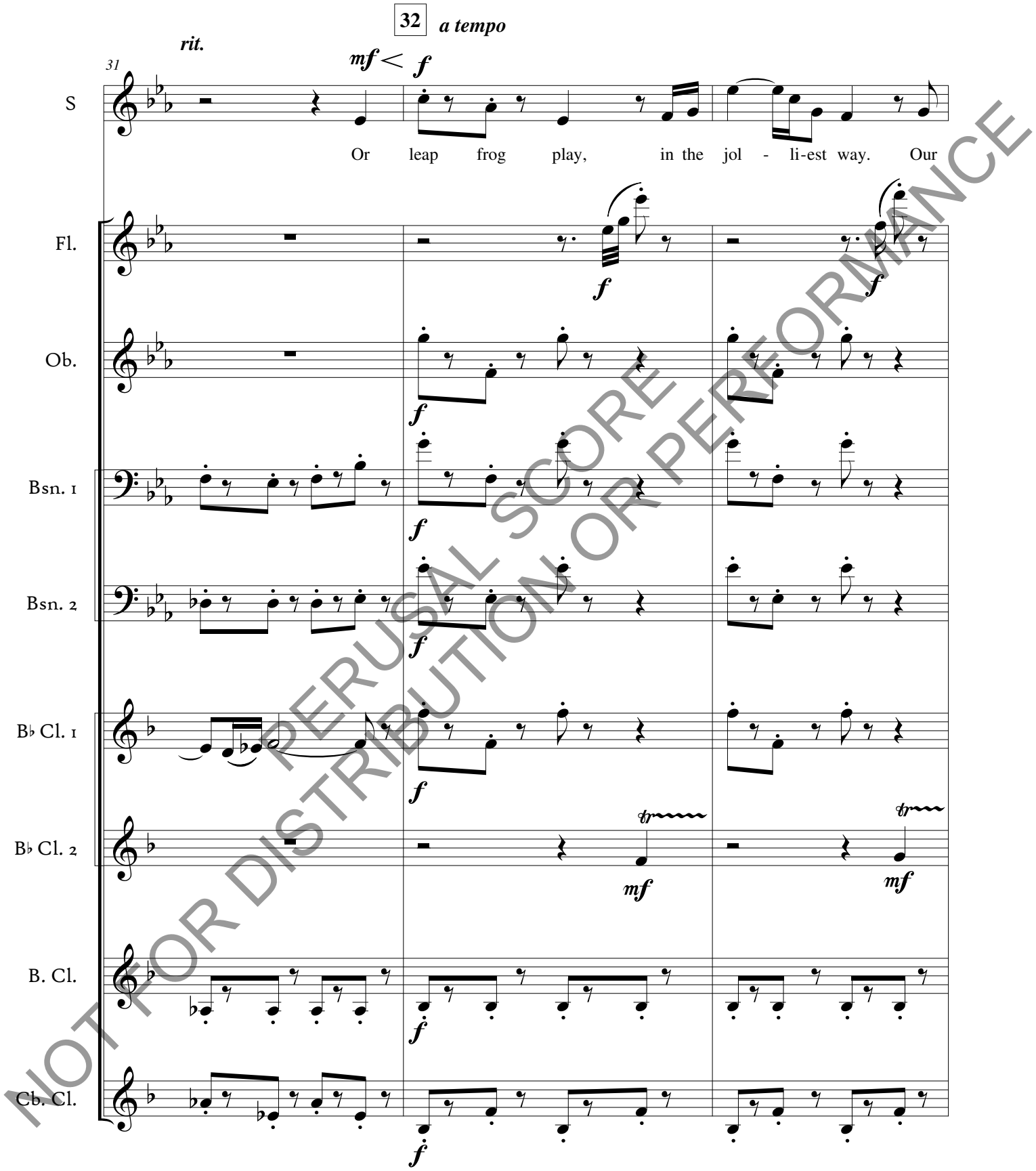

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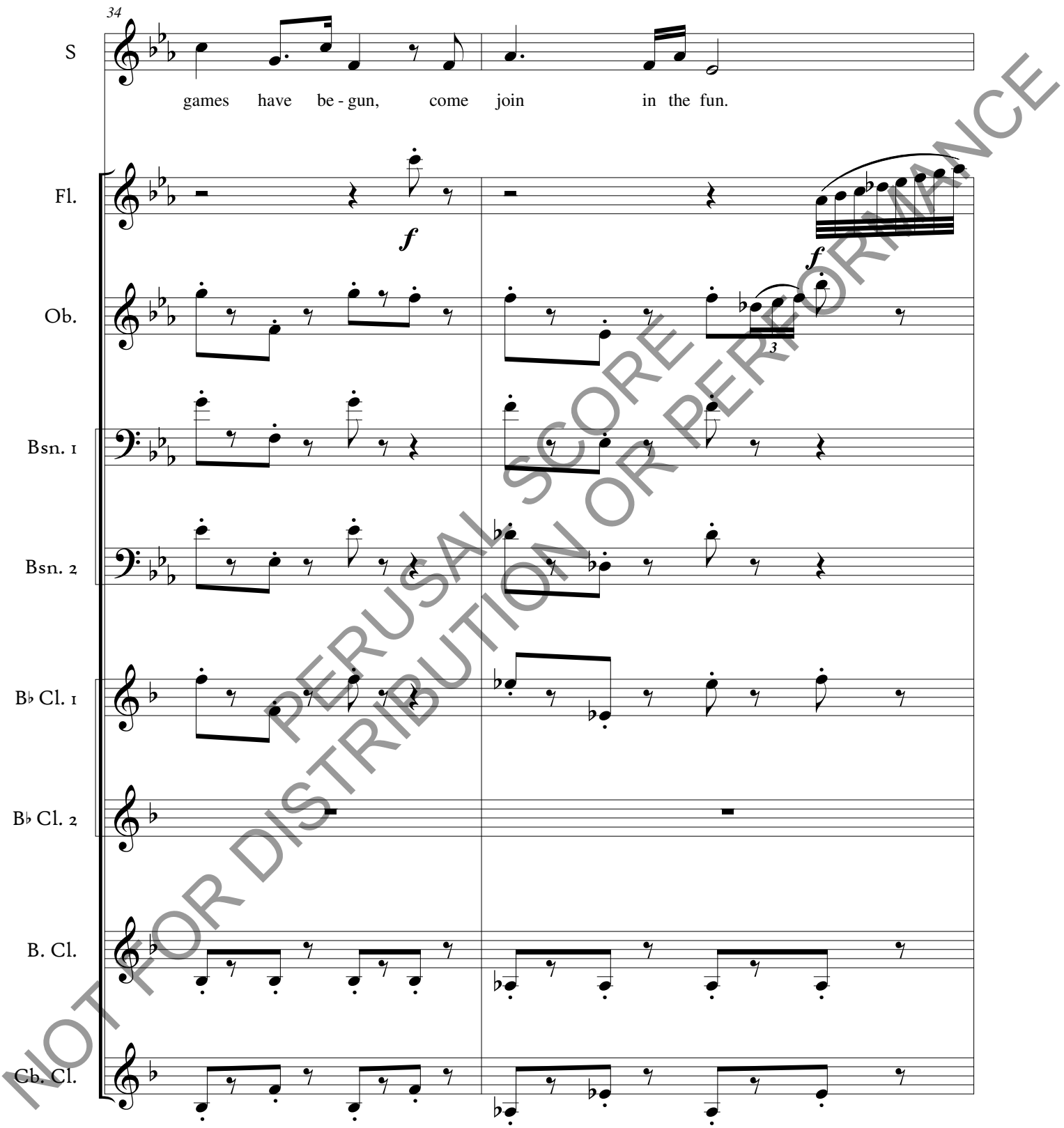

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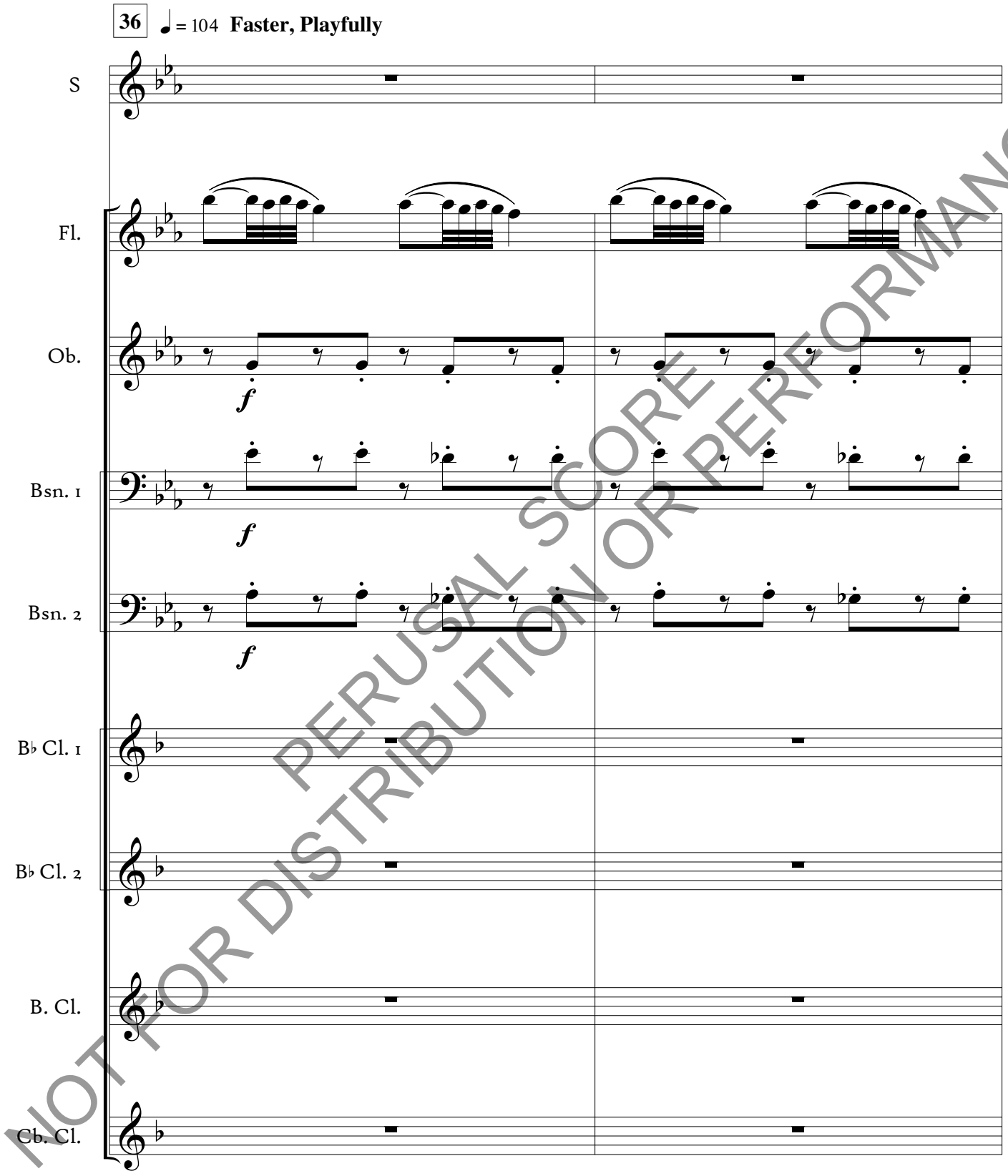

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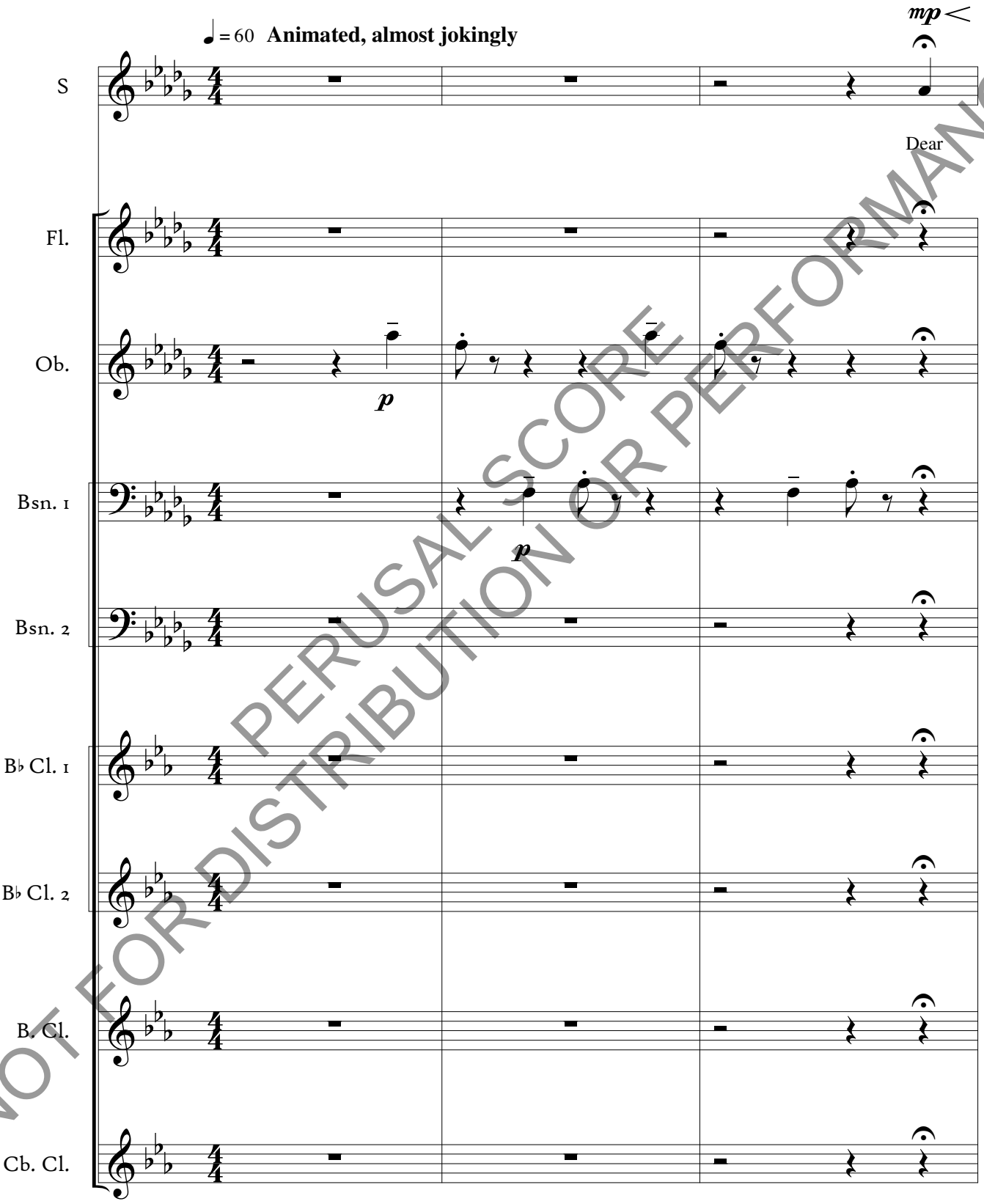

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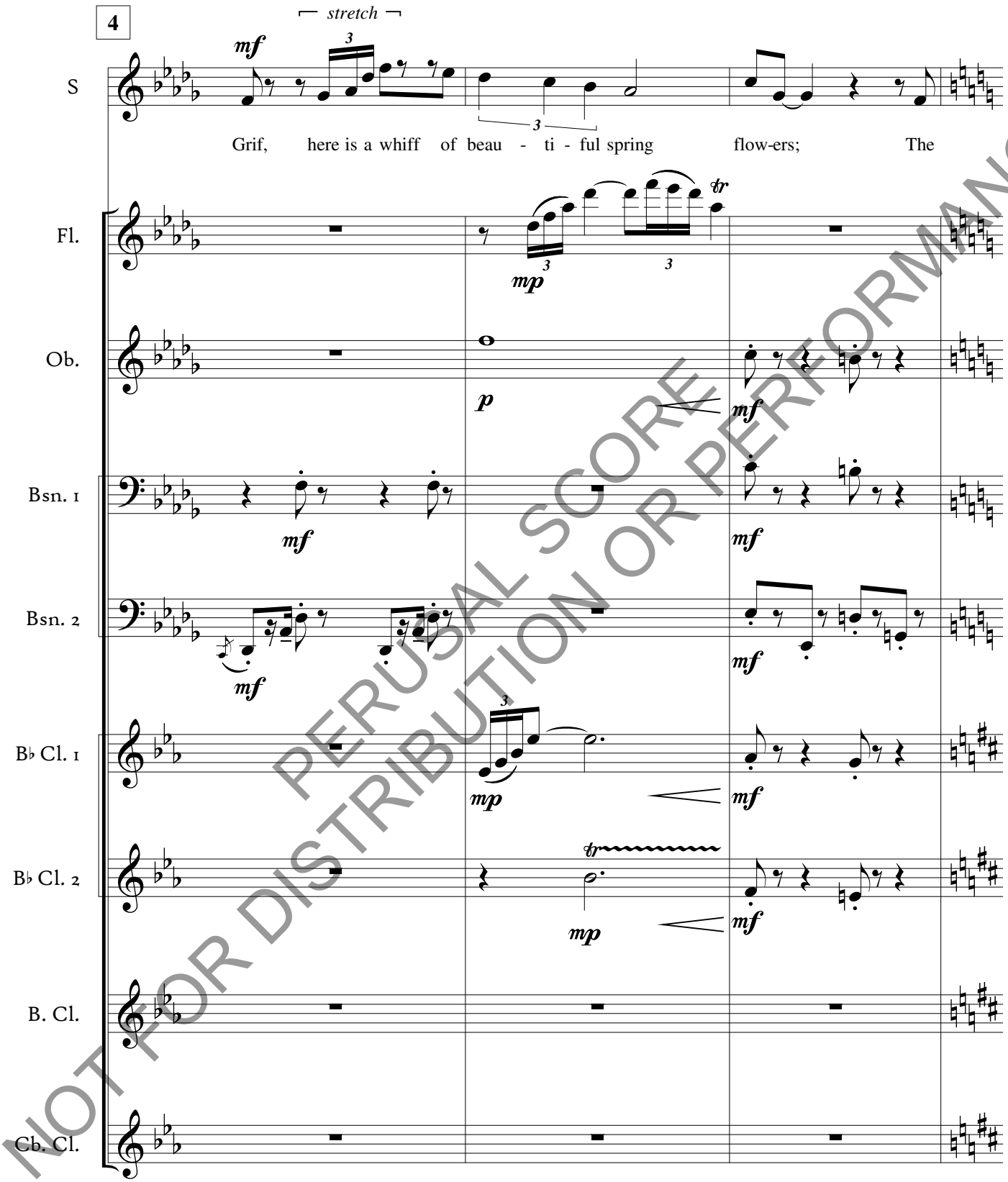

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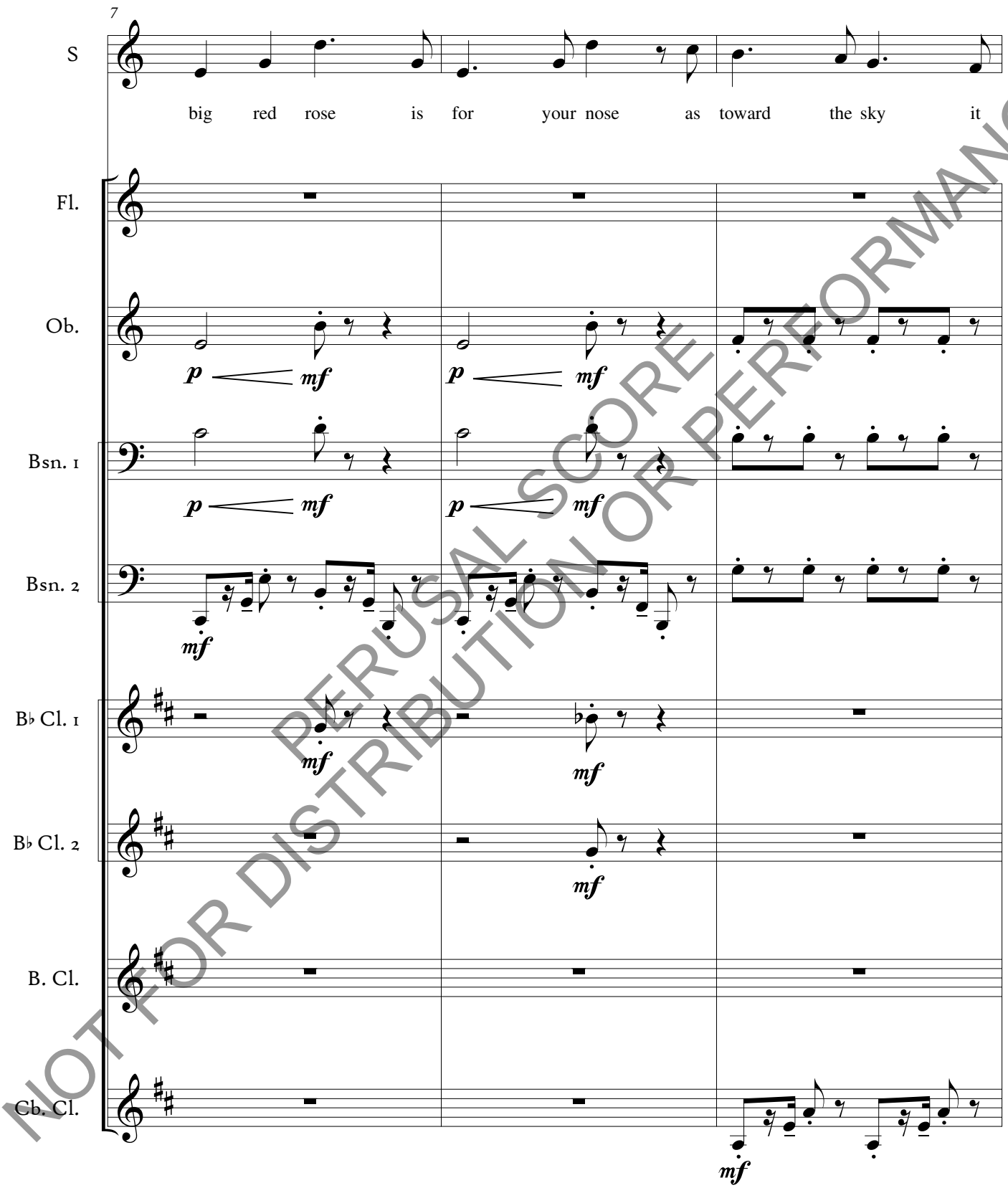

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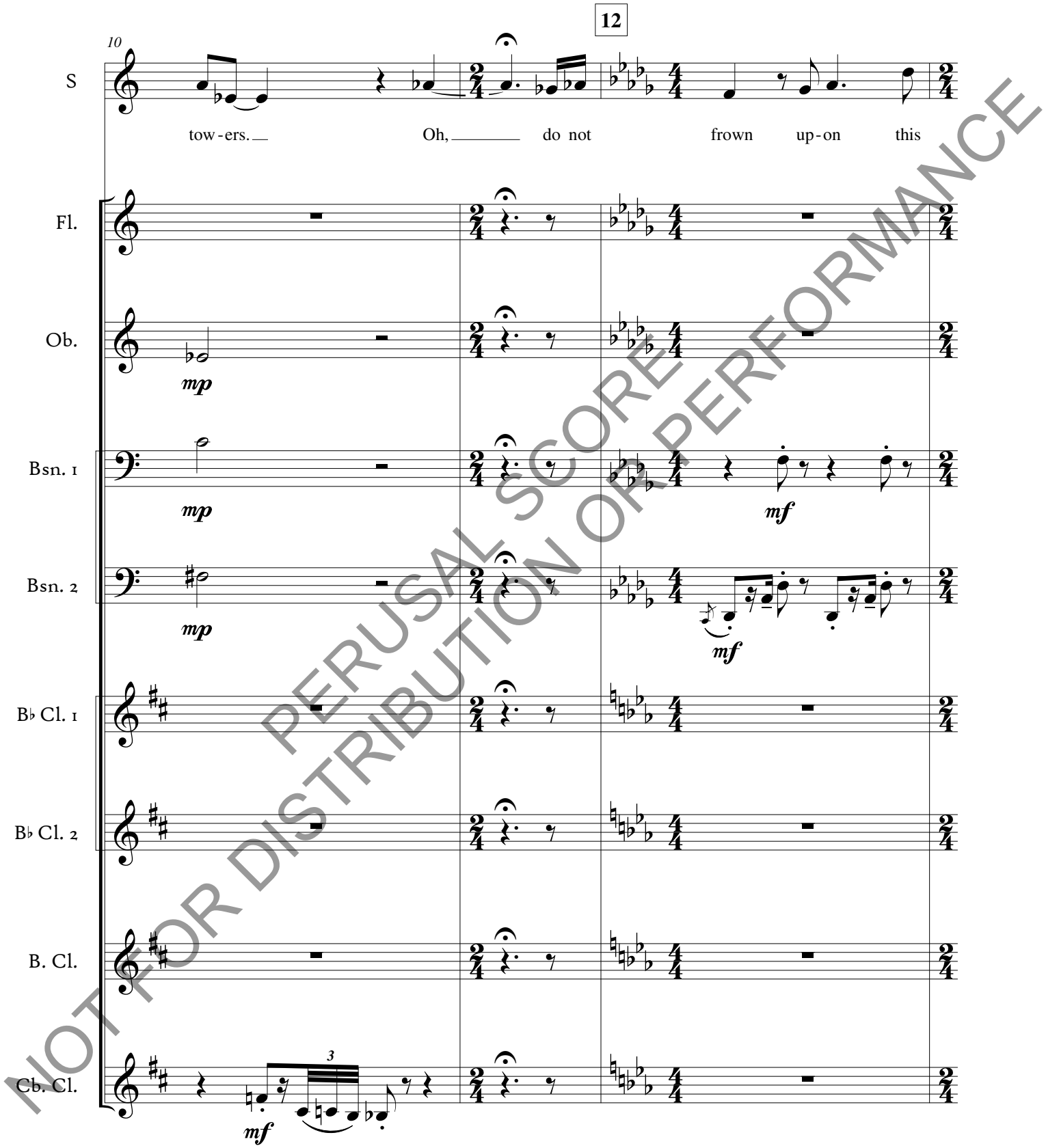

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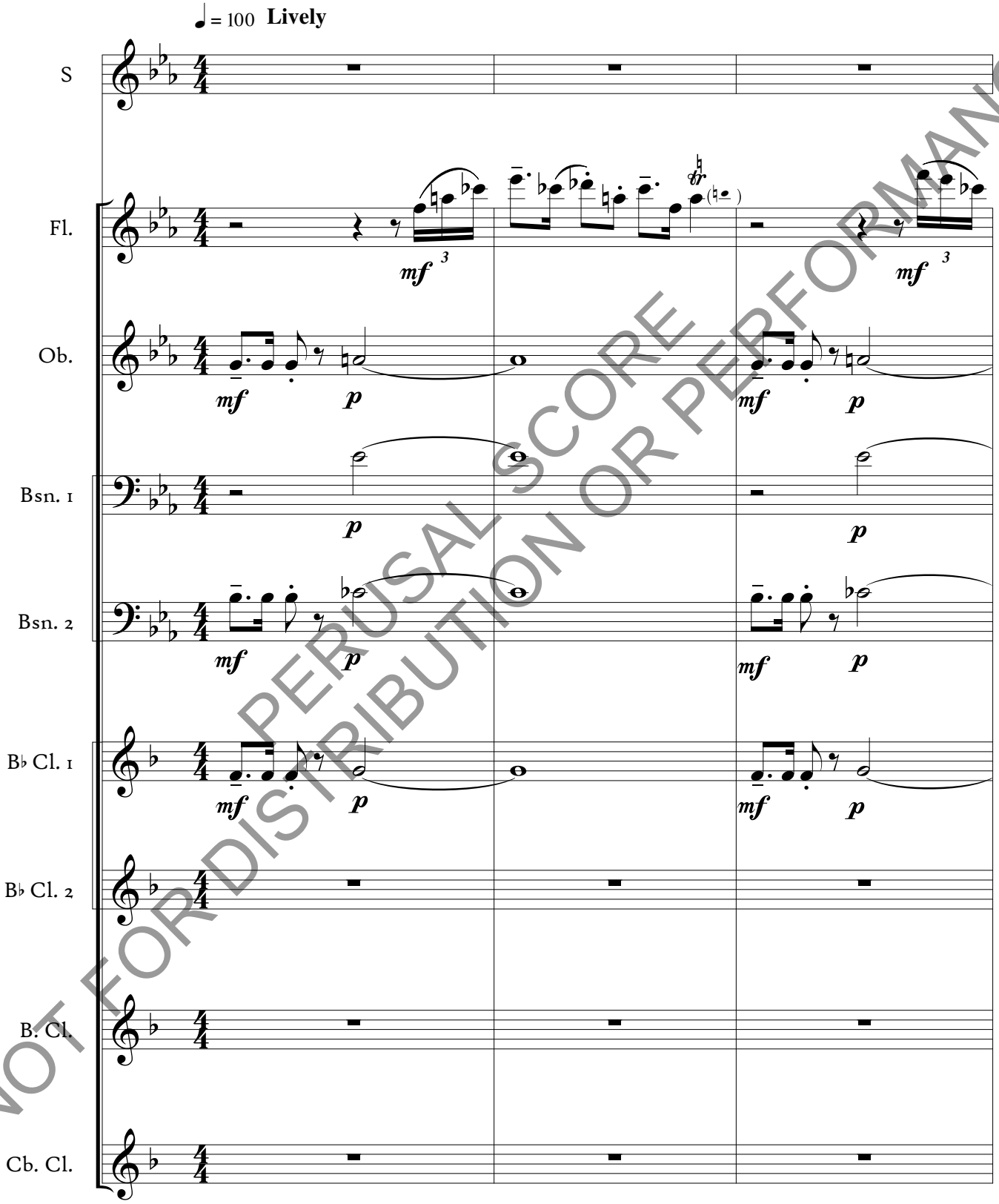
IV. Here's a Nut



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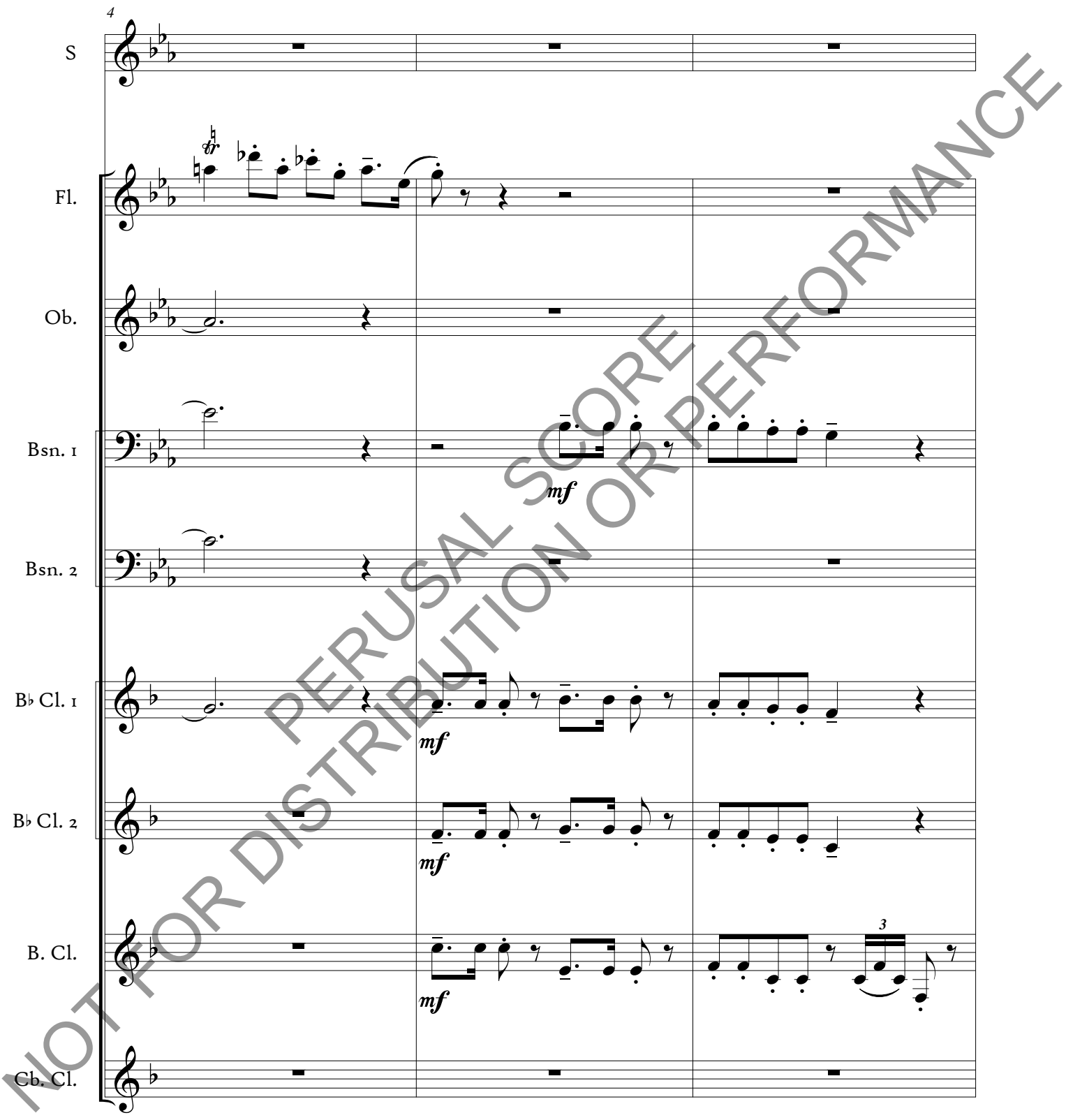

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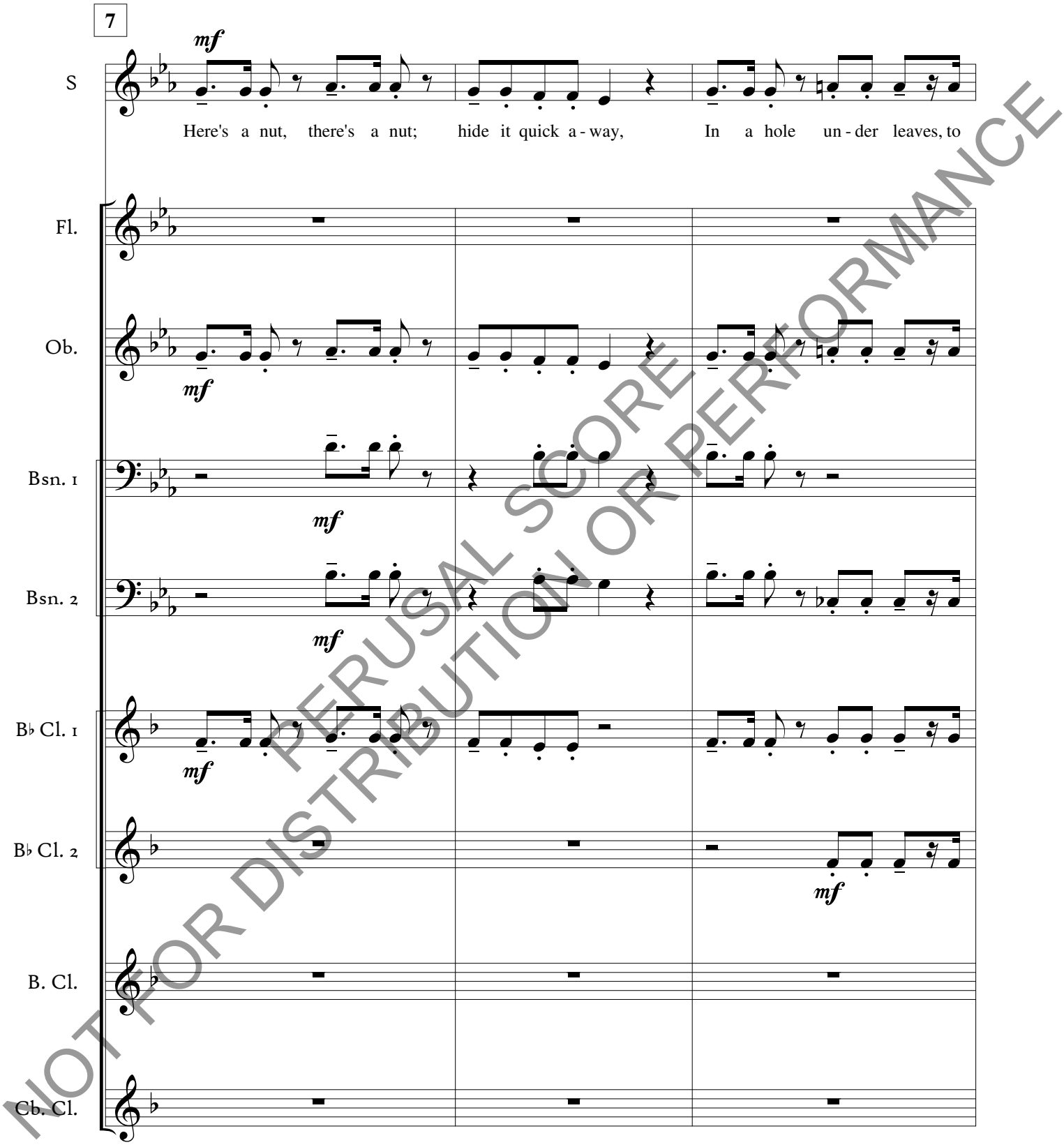

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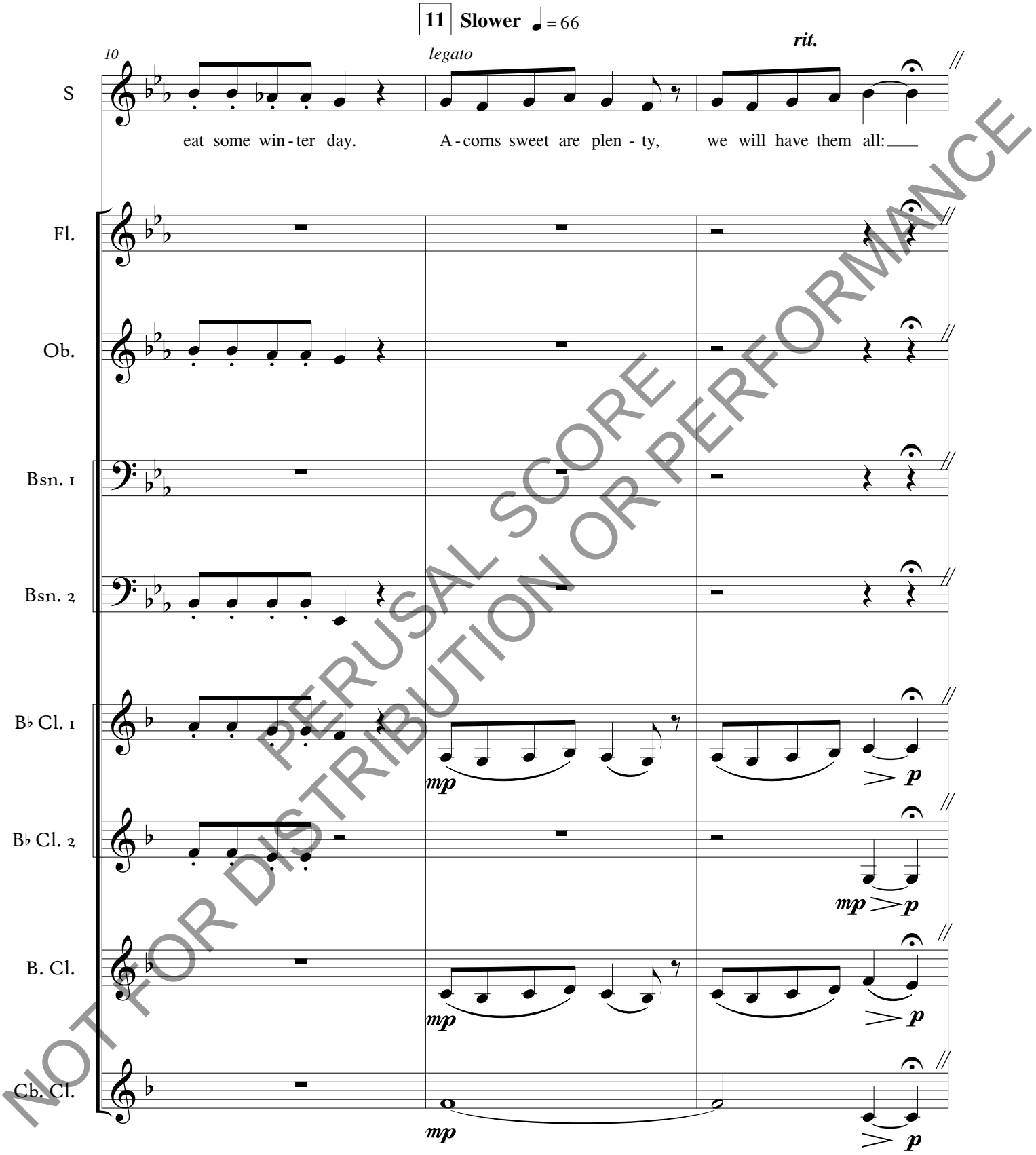

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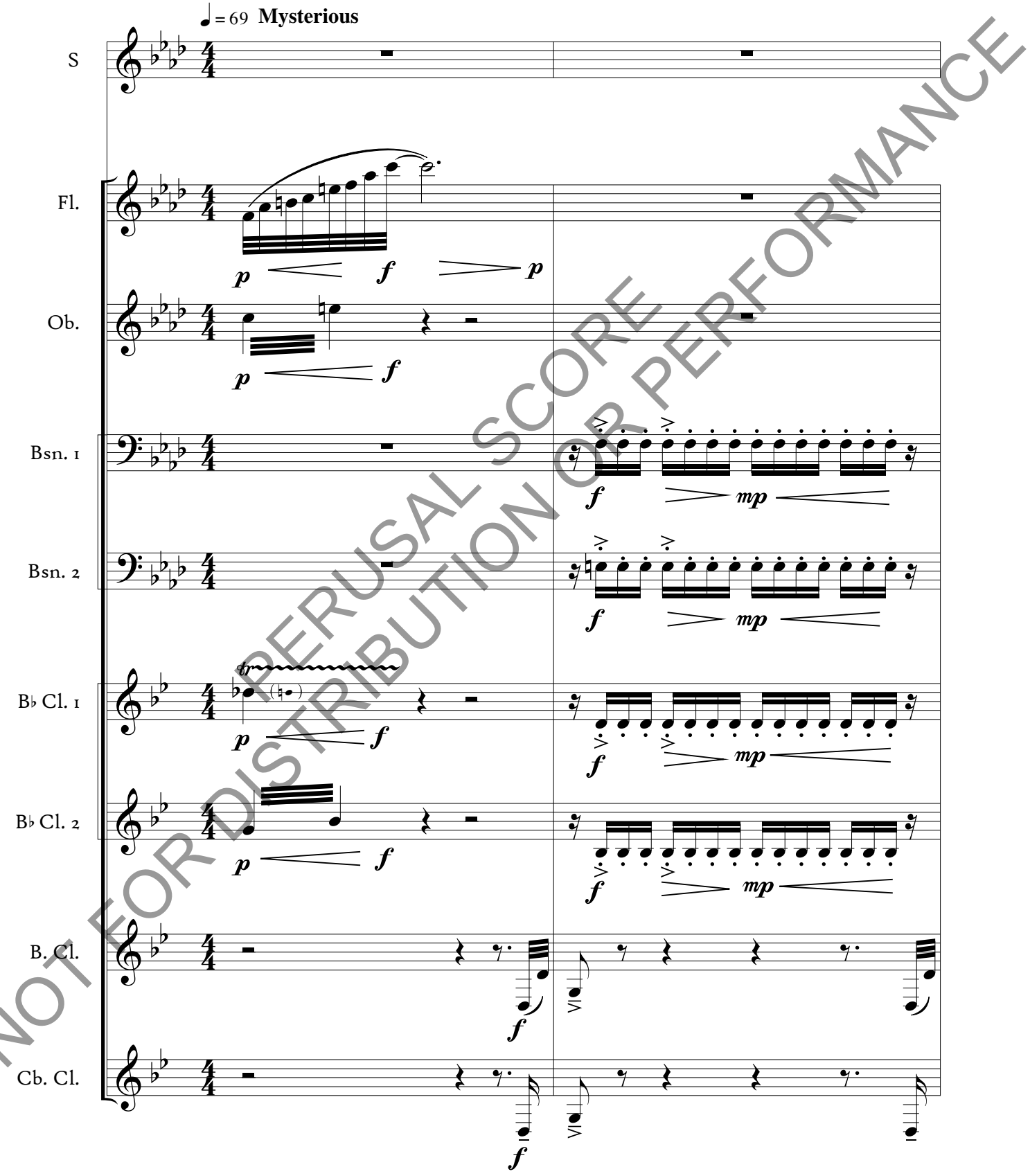
V. Don't Drive Me Away



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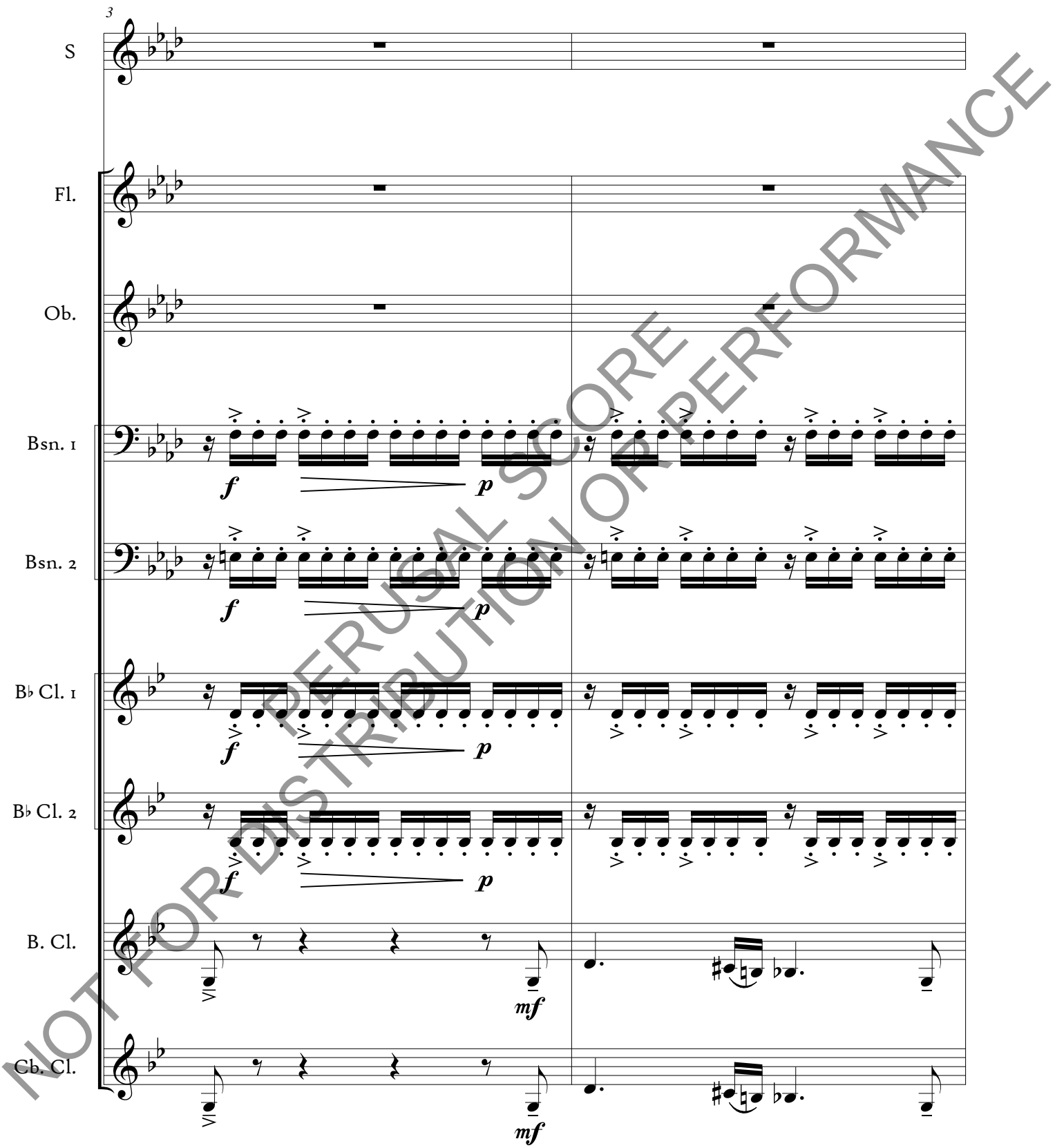

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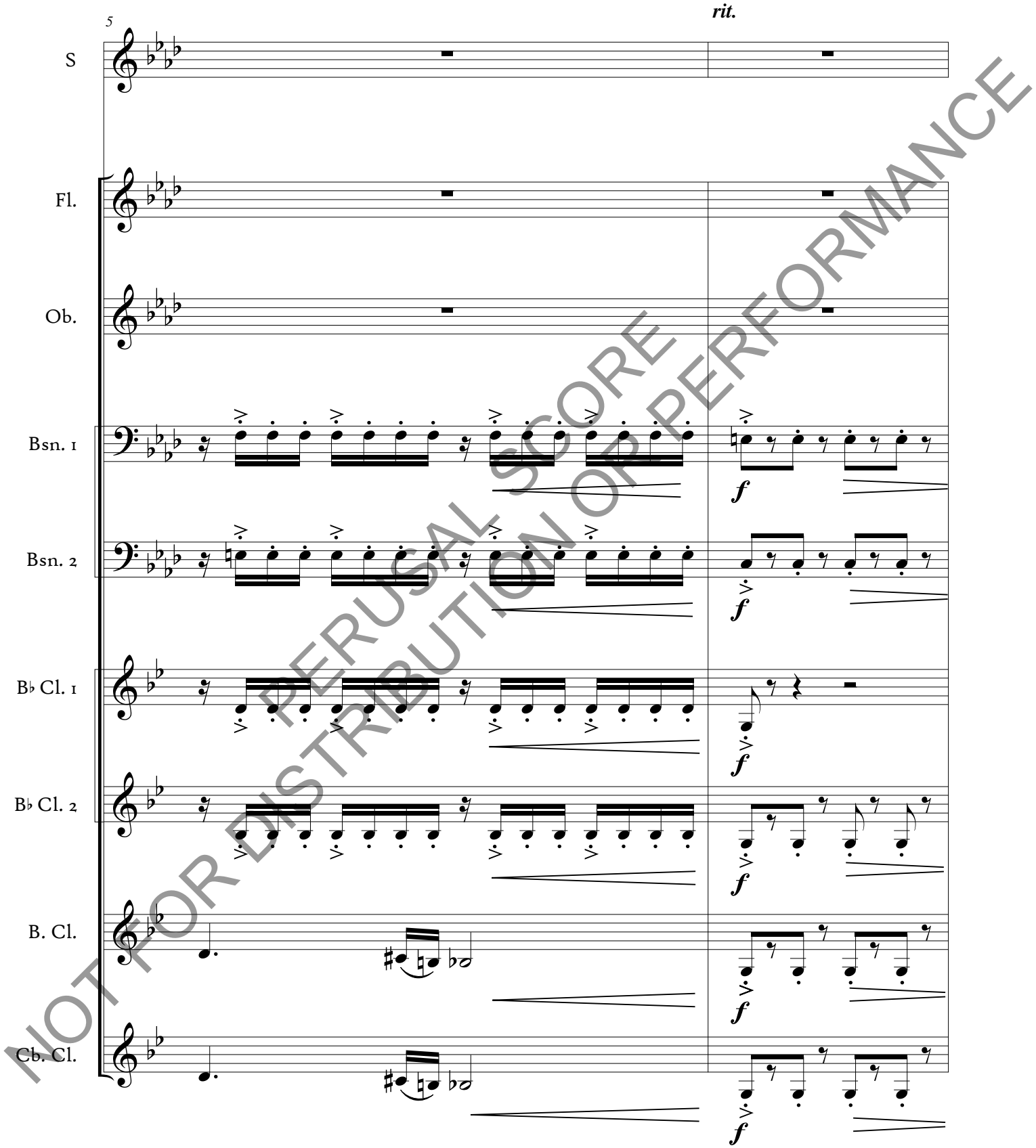

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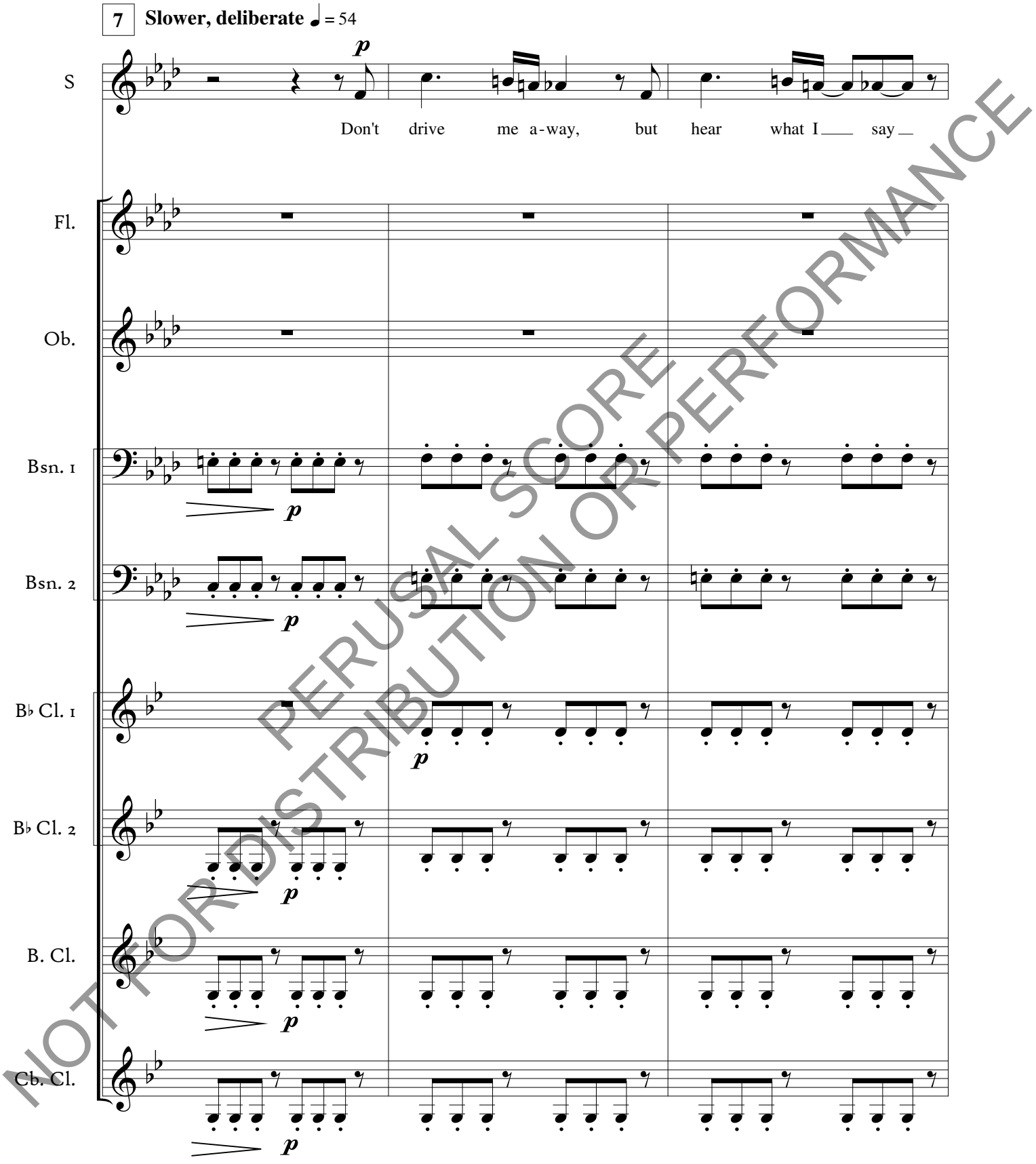

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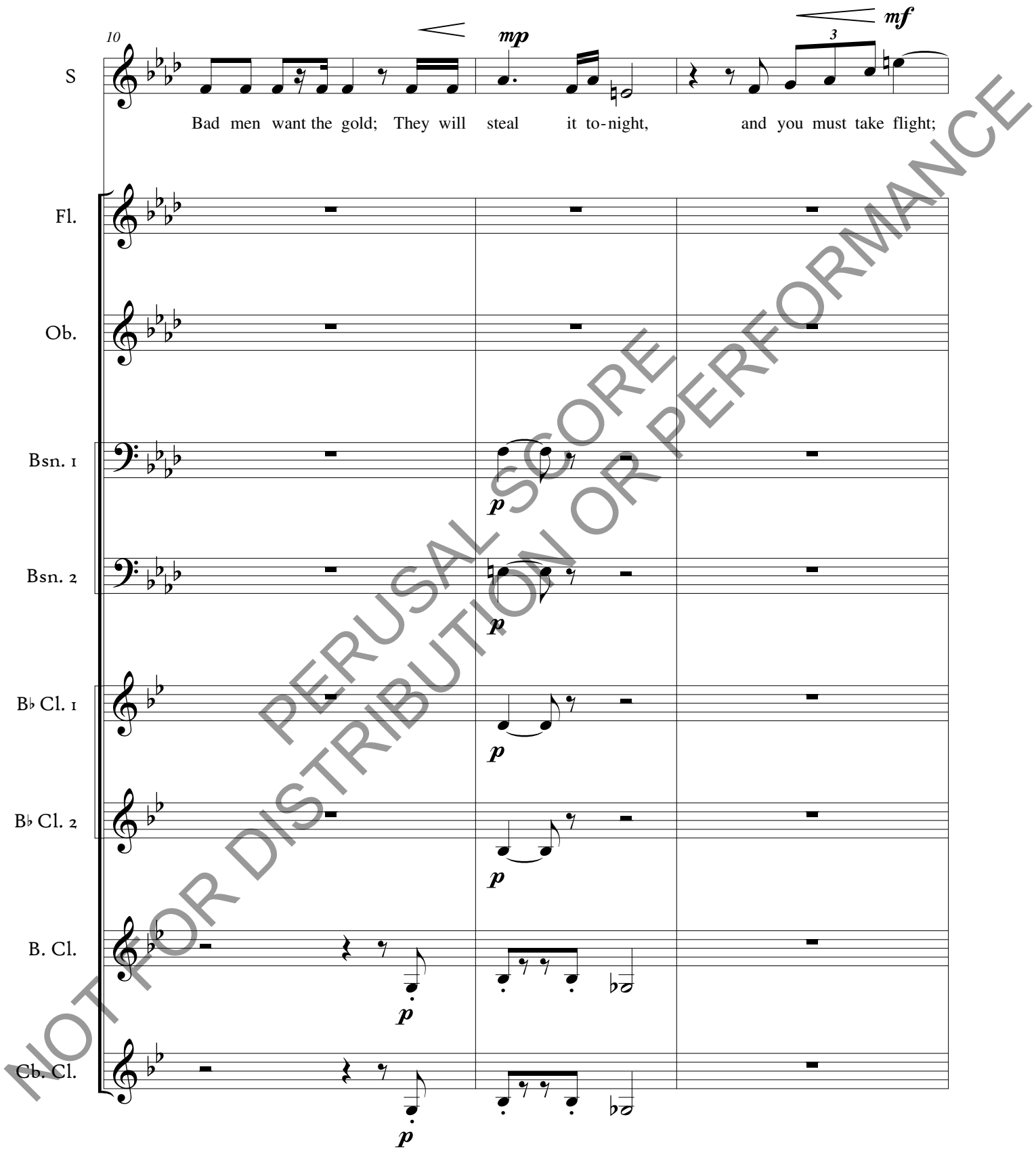

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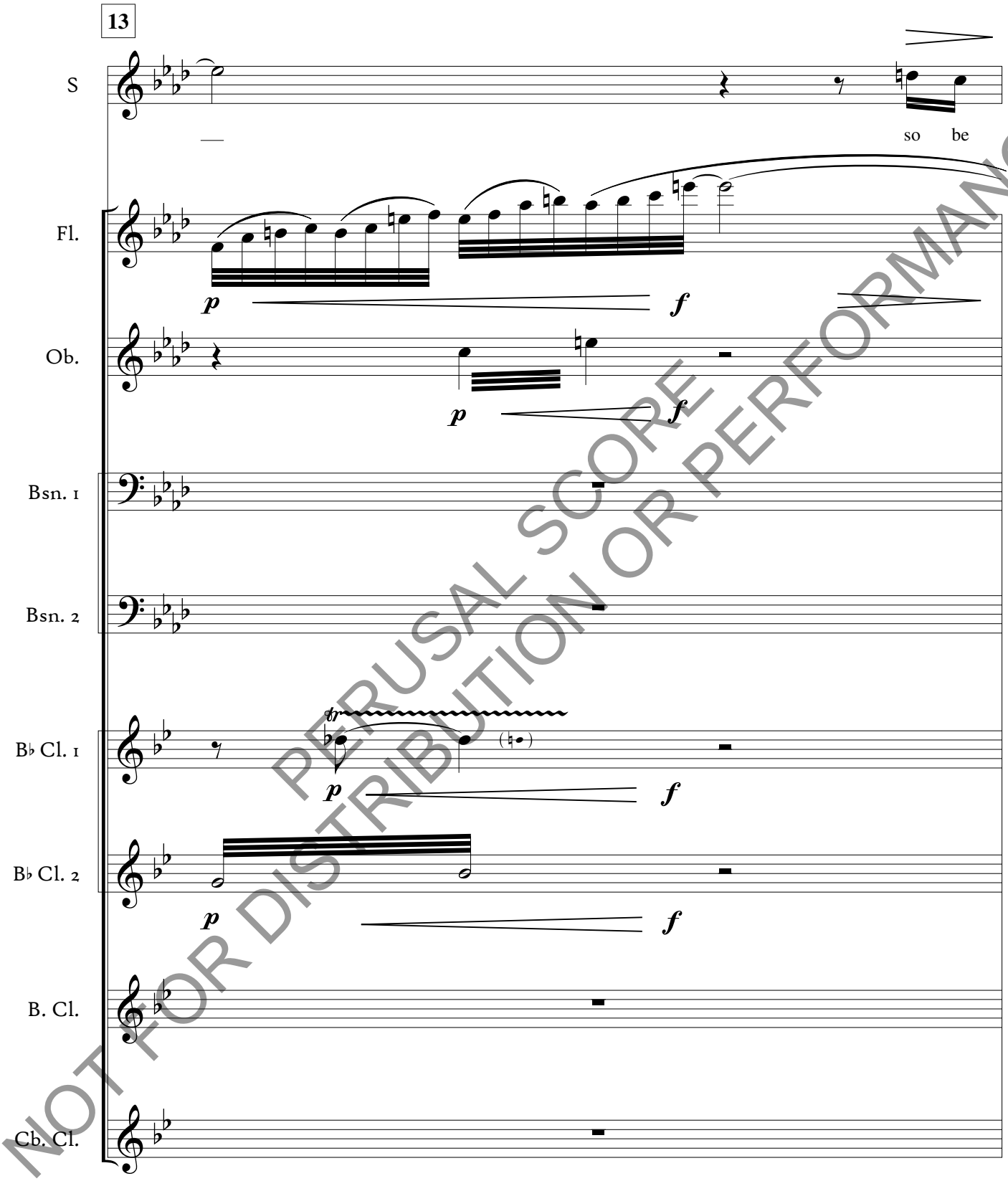

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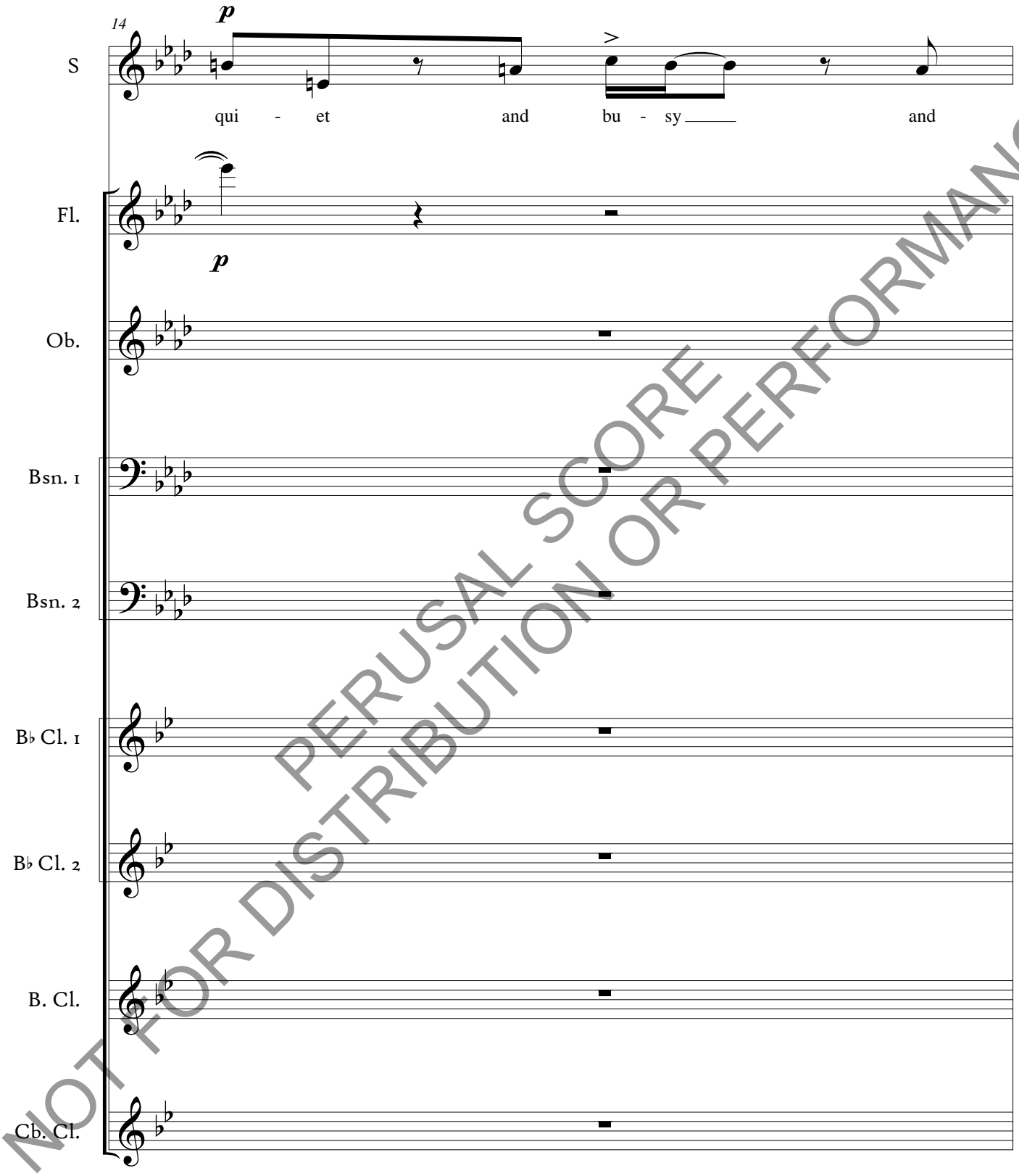

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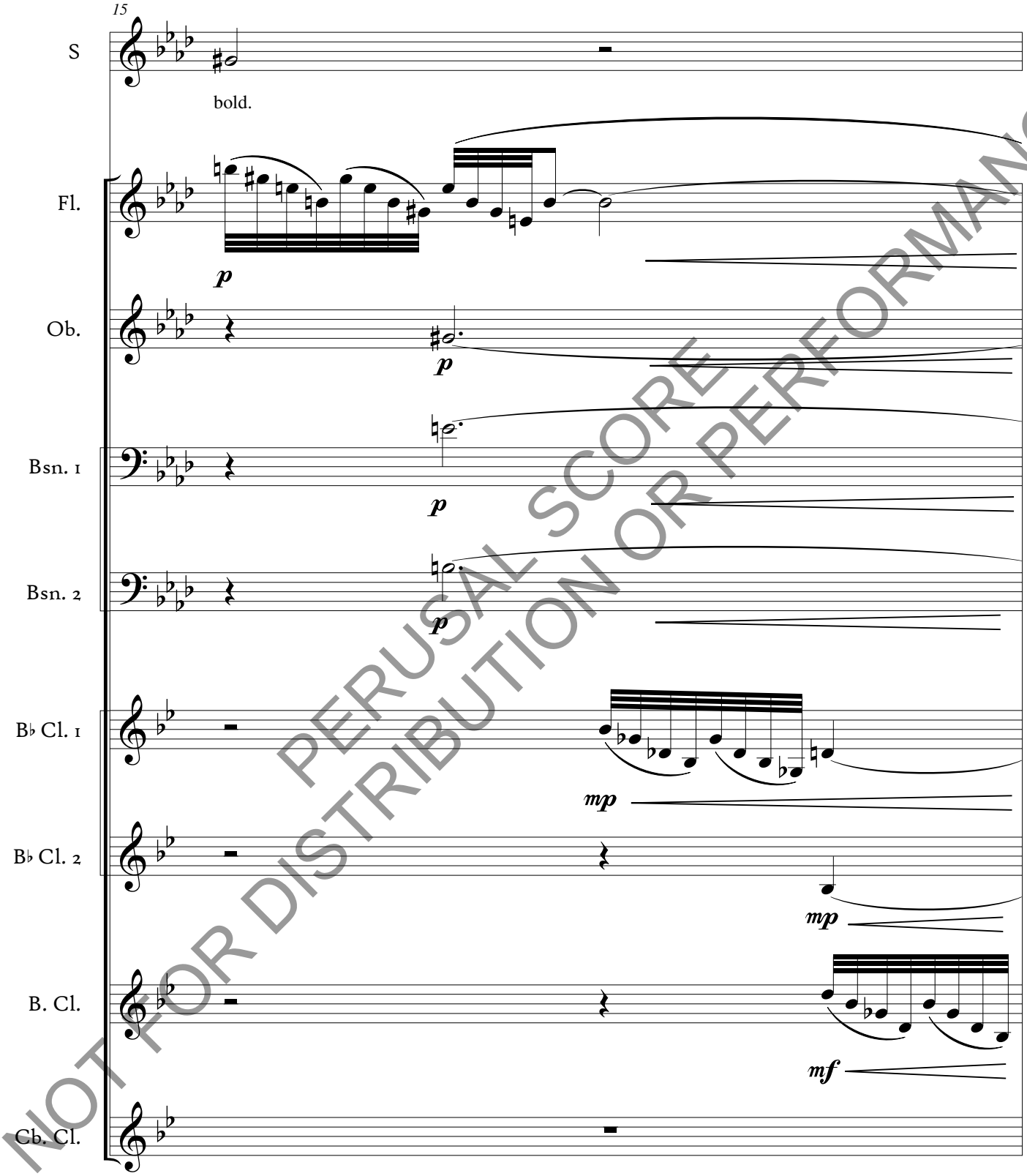

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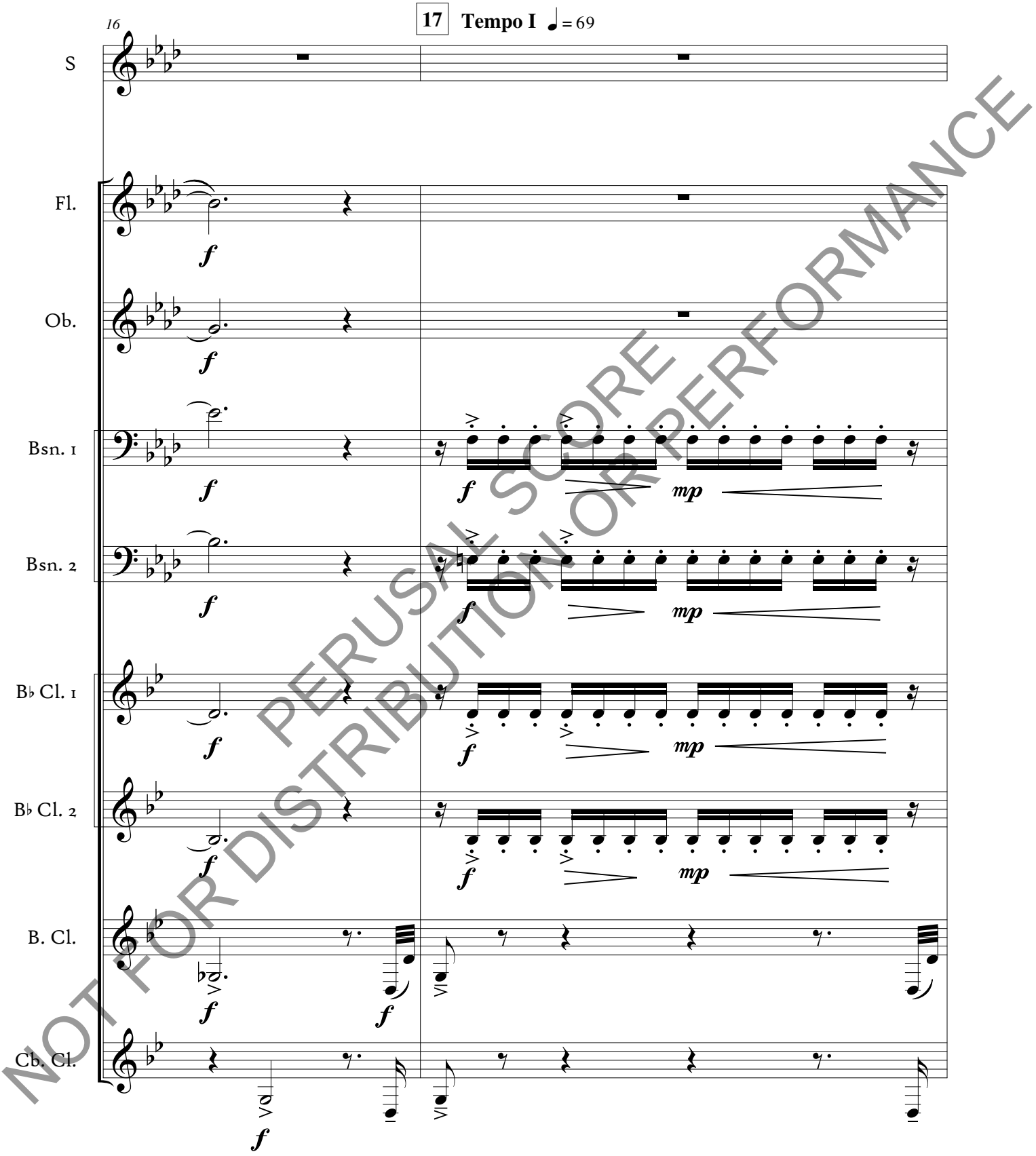

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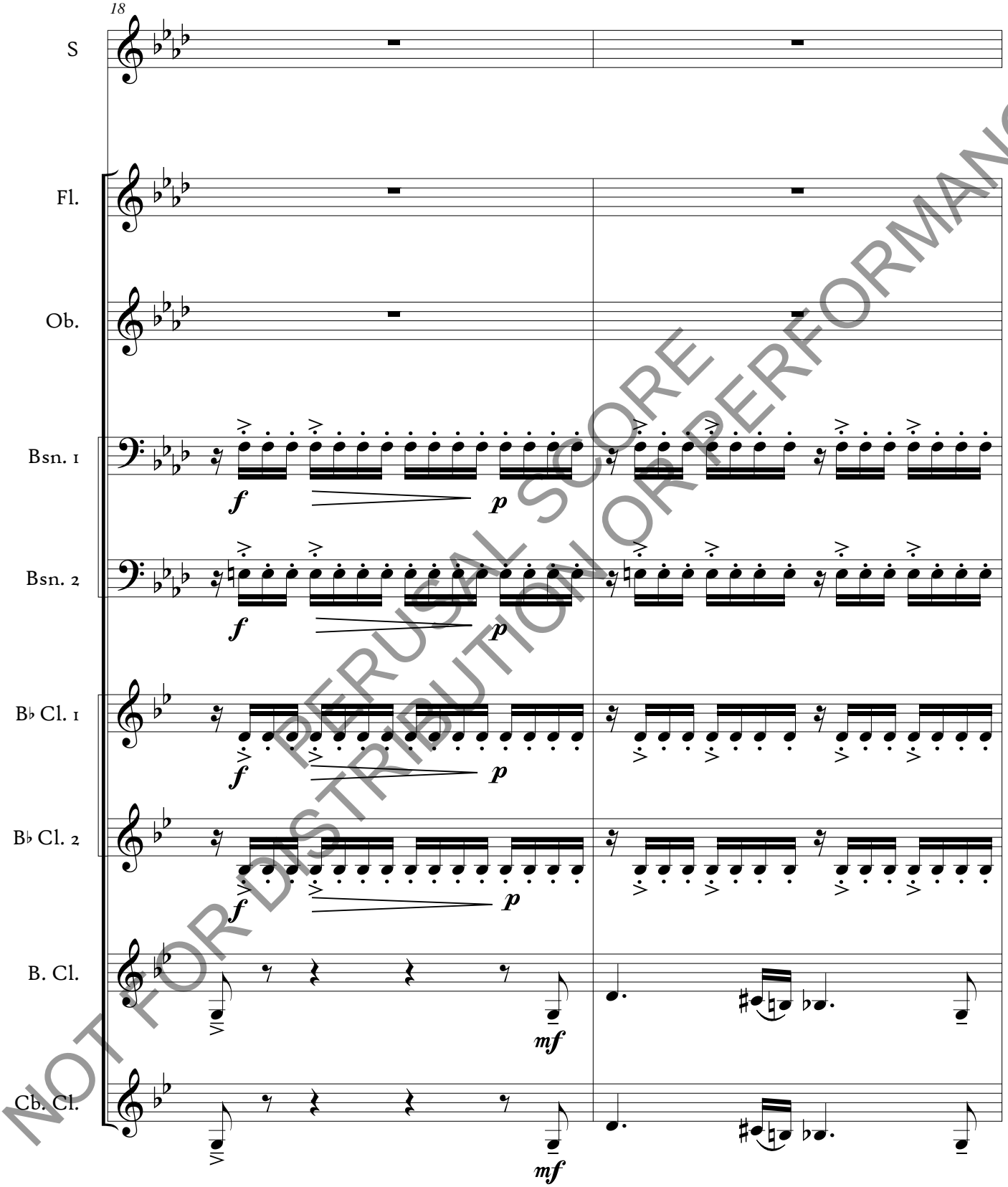

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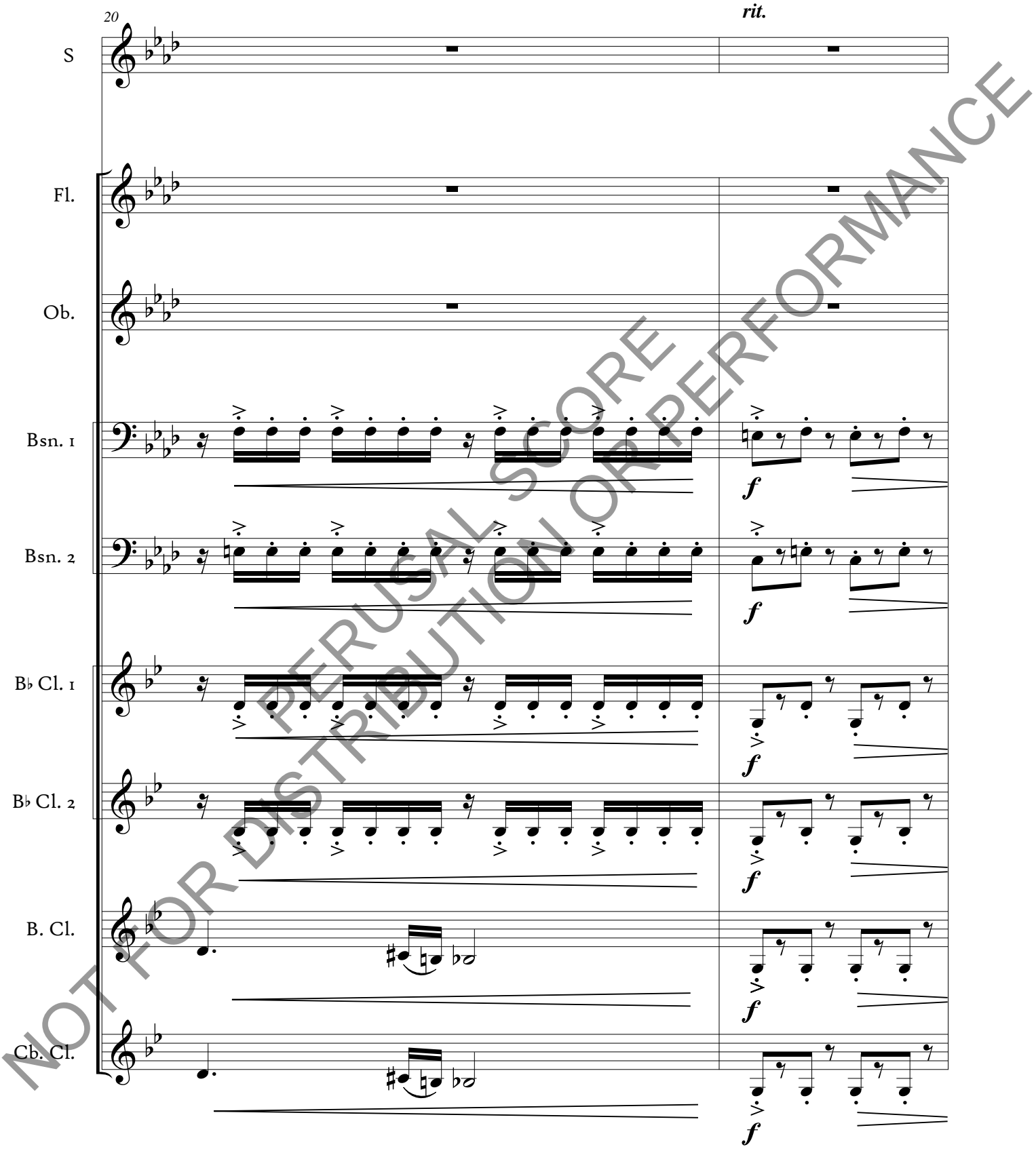

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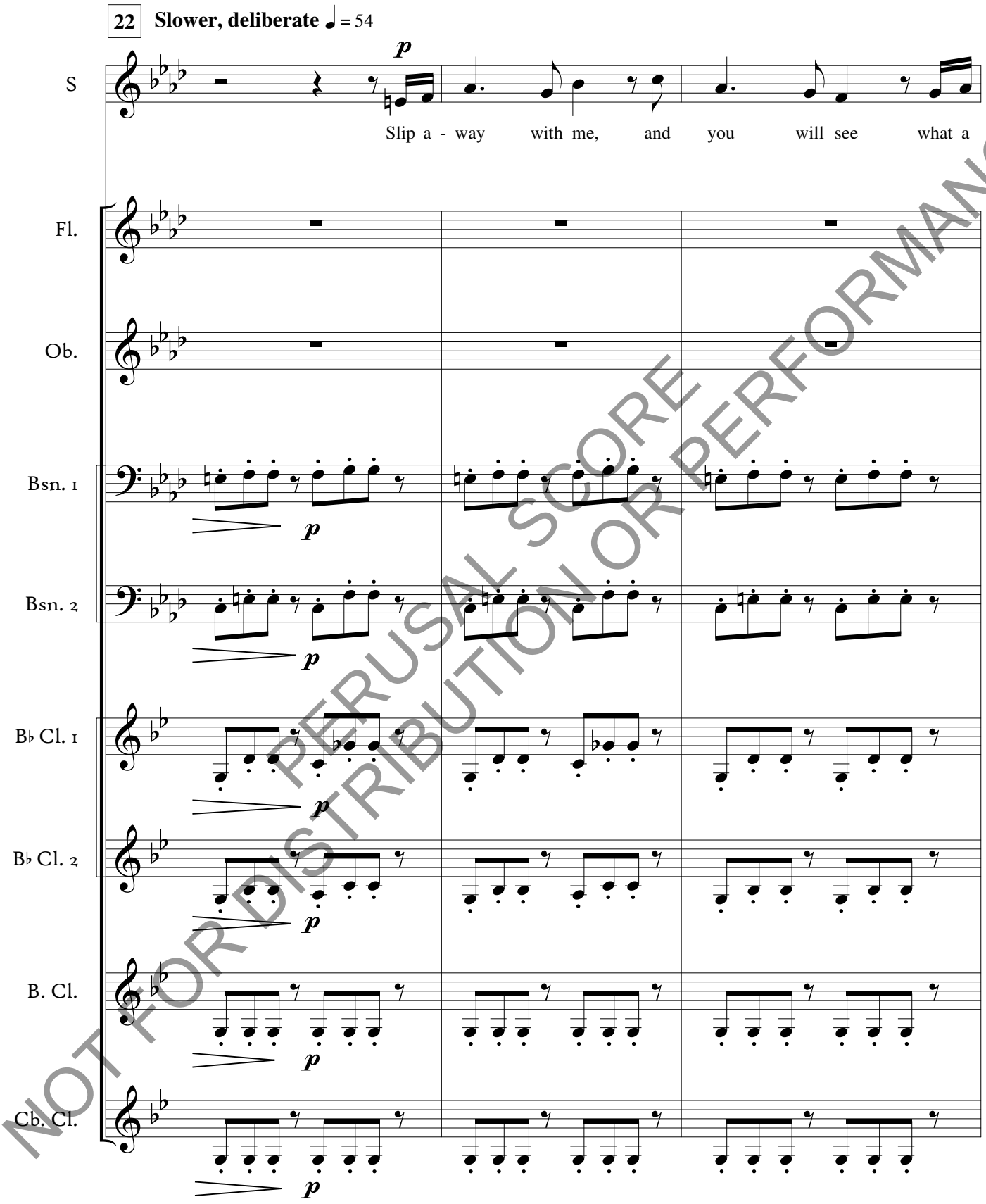

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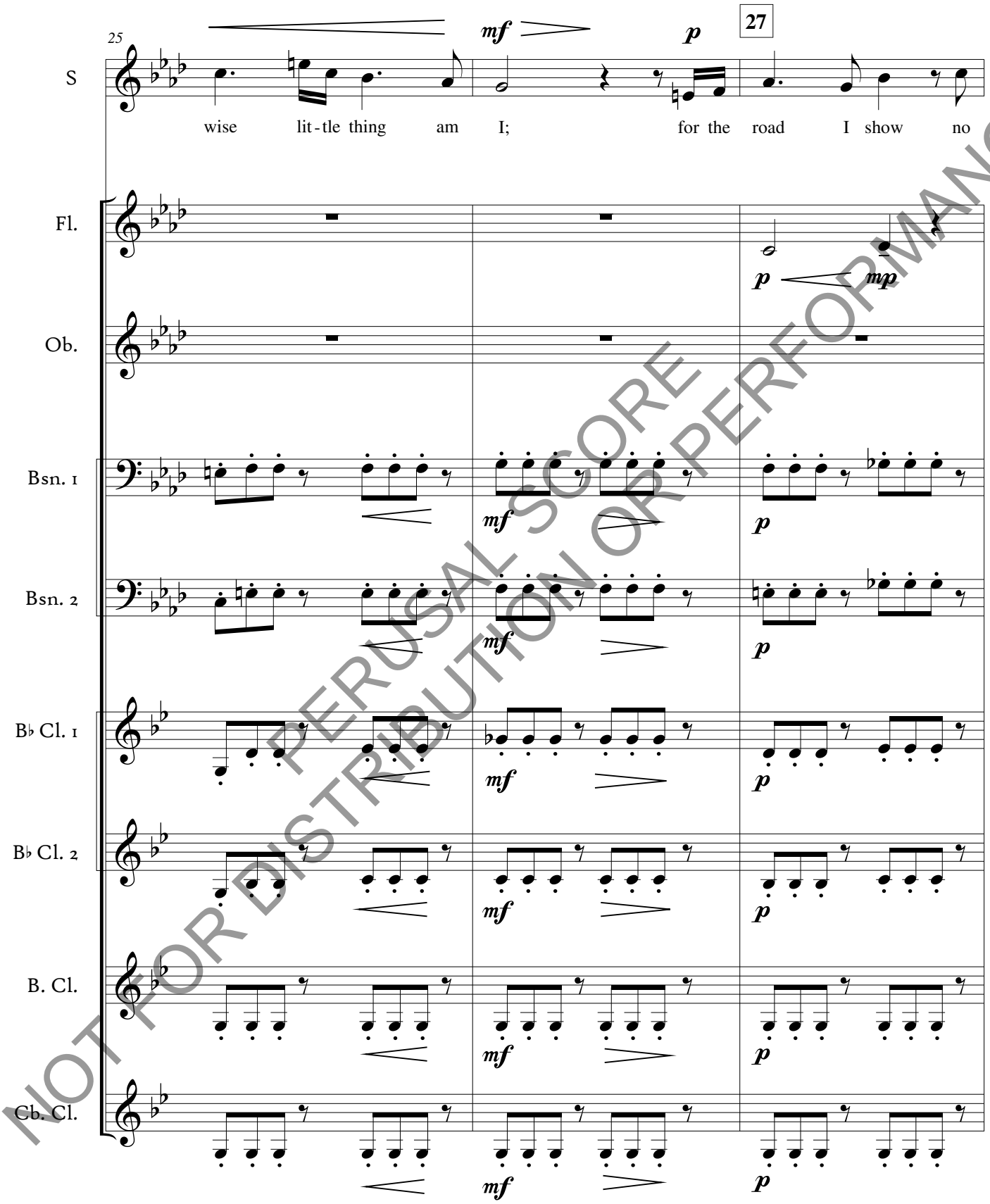

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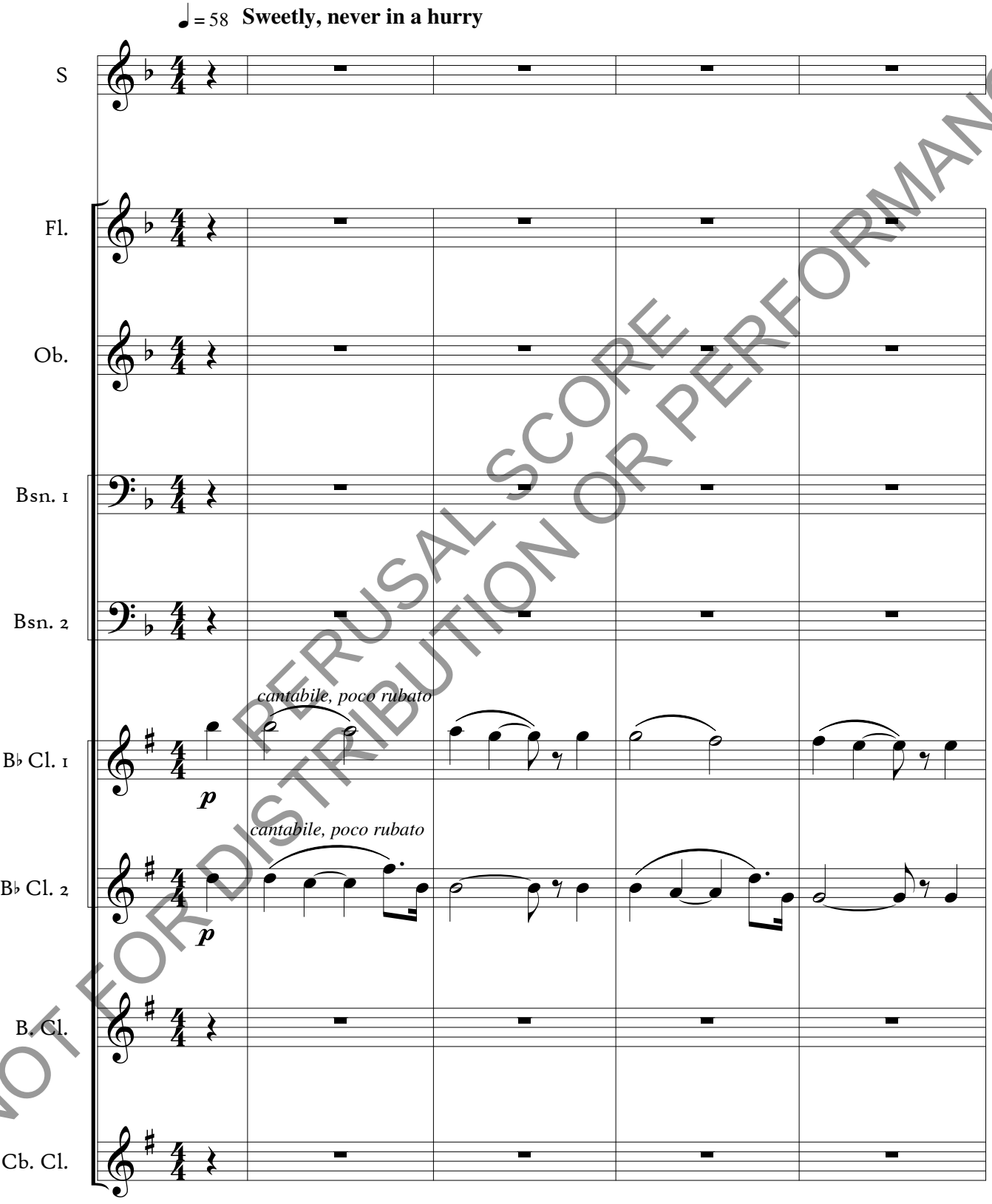
VI. Lullaby



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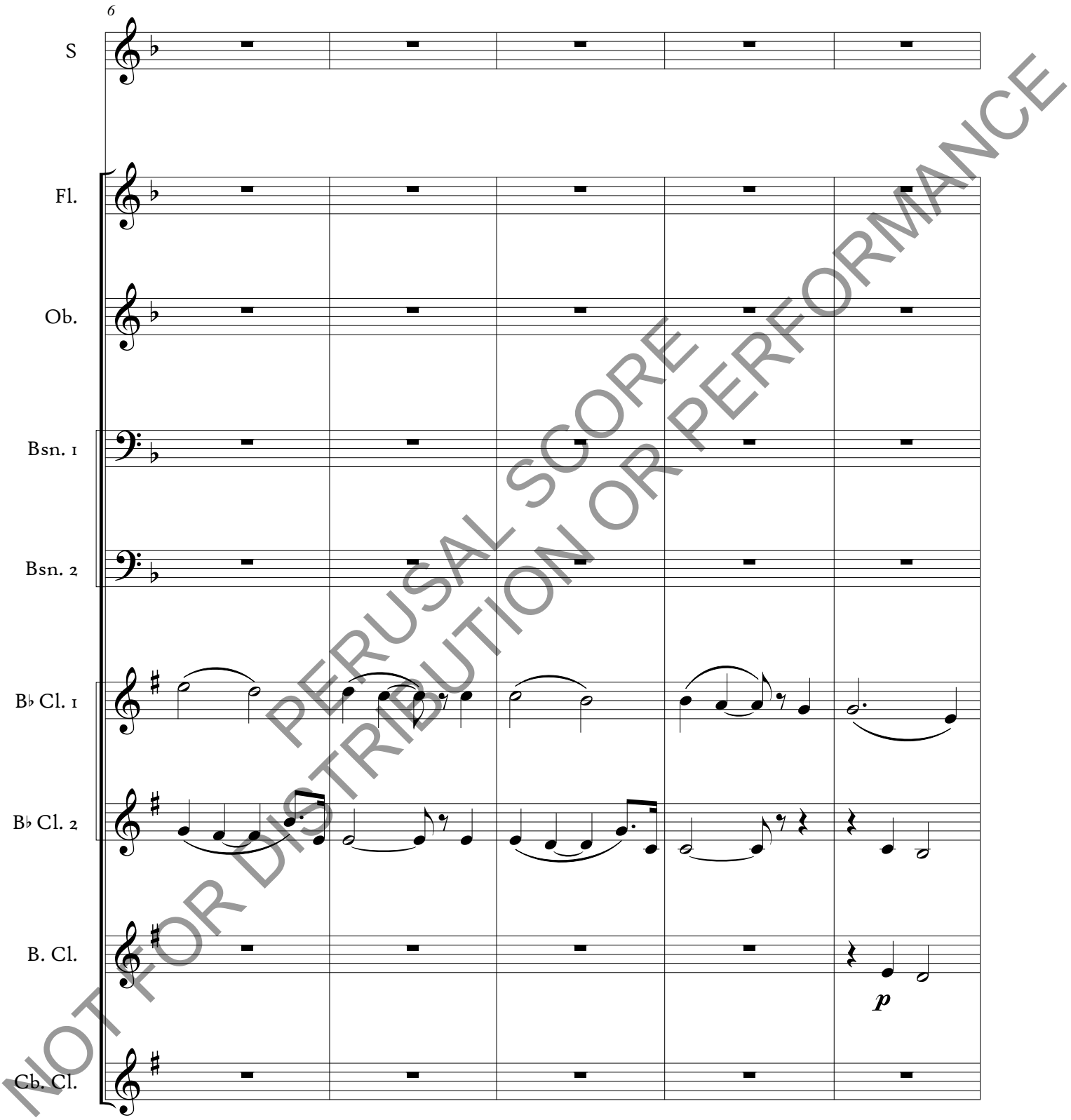

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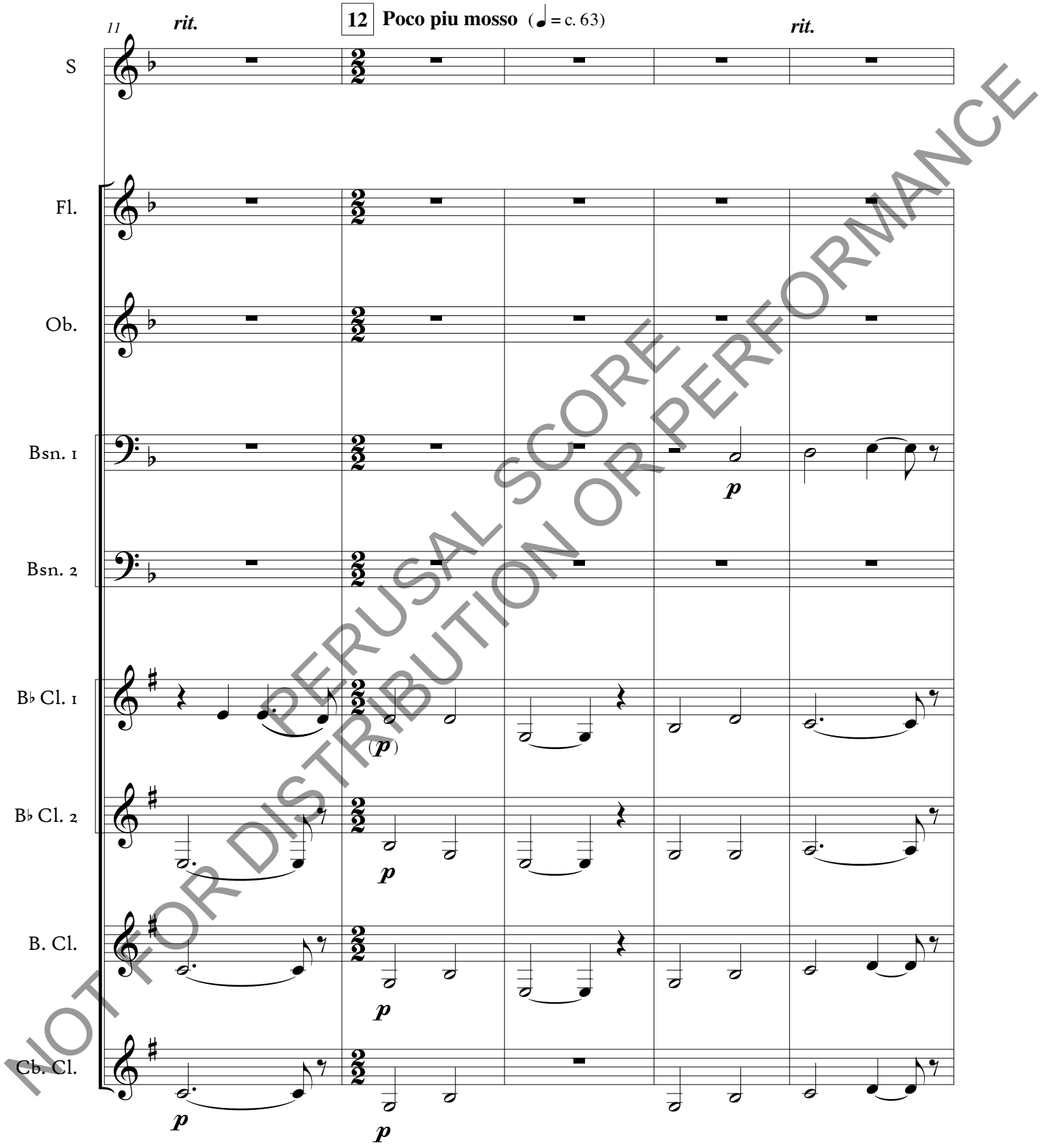

PERUSAL SCORE
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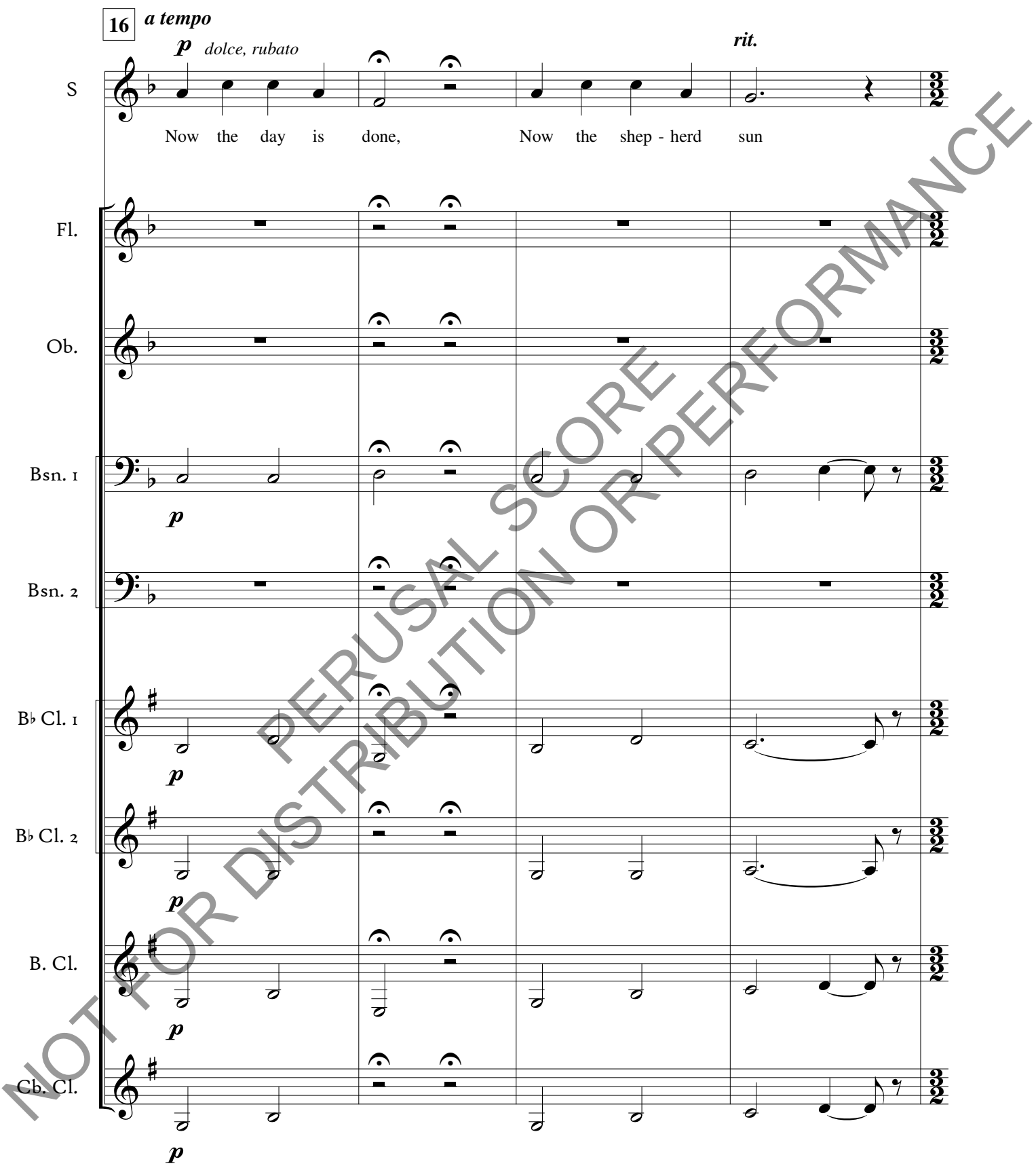

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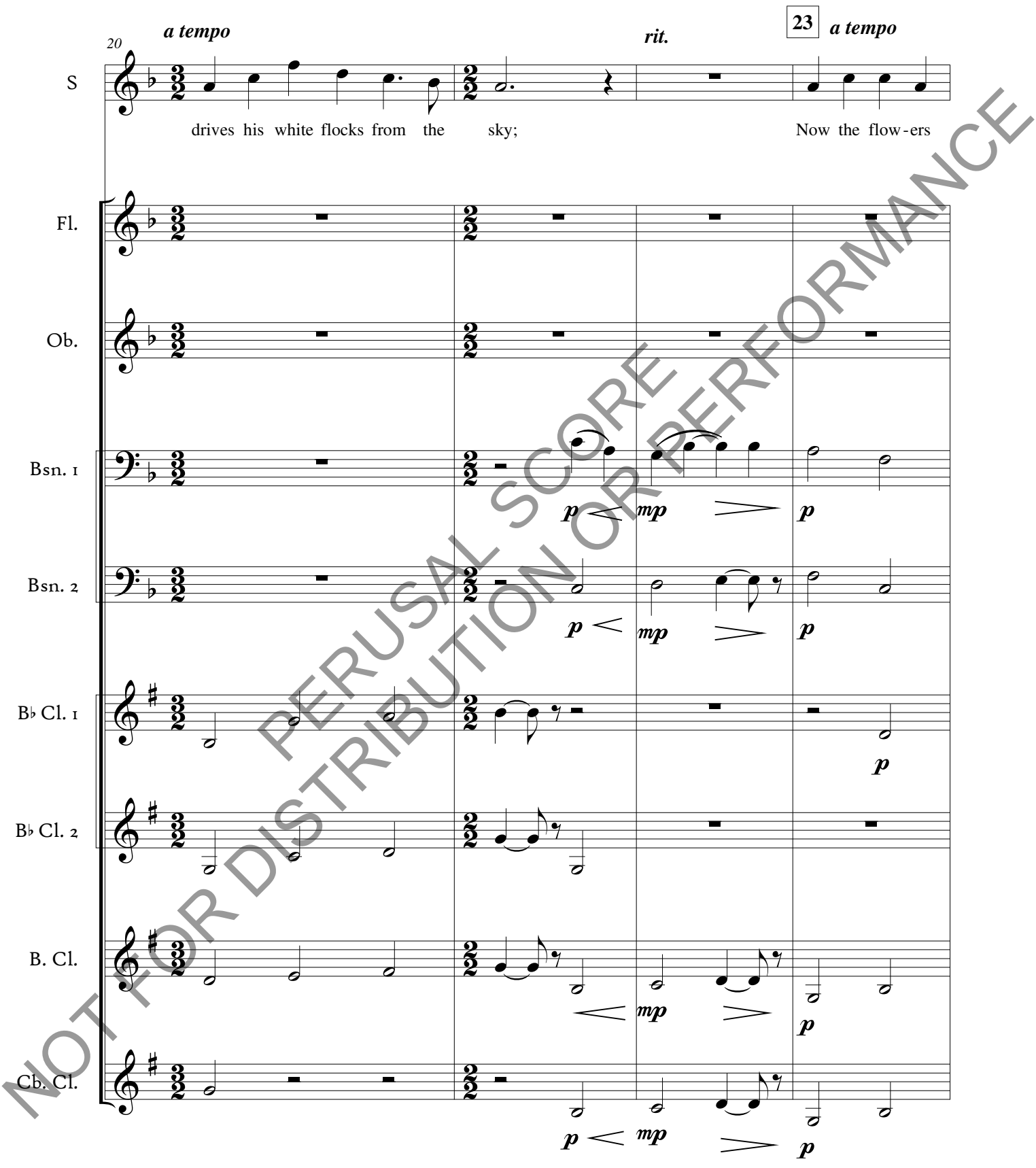

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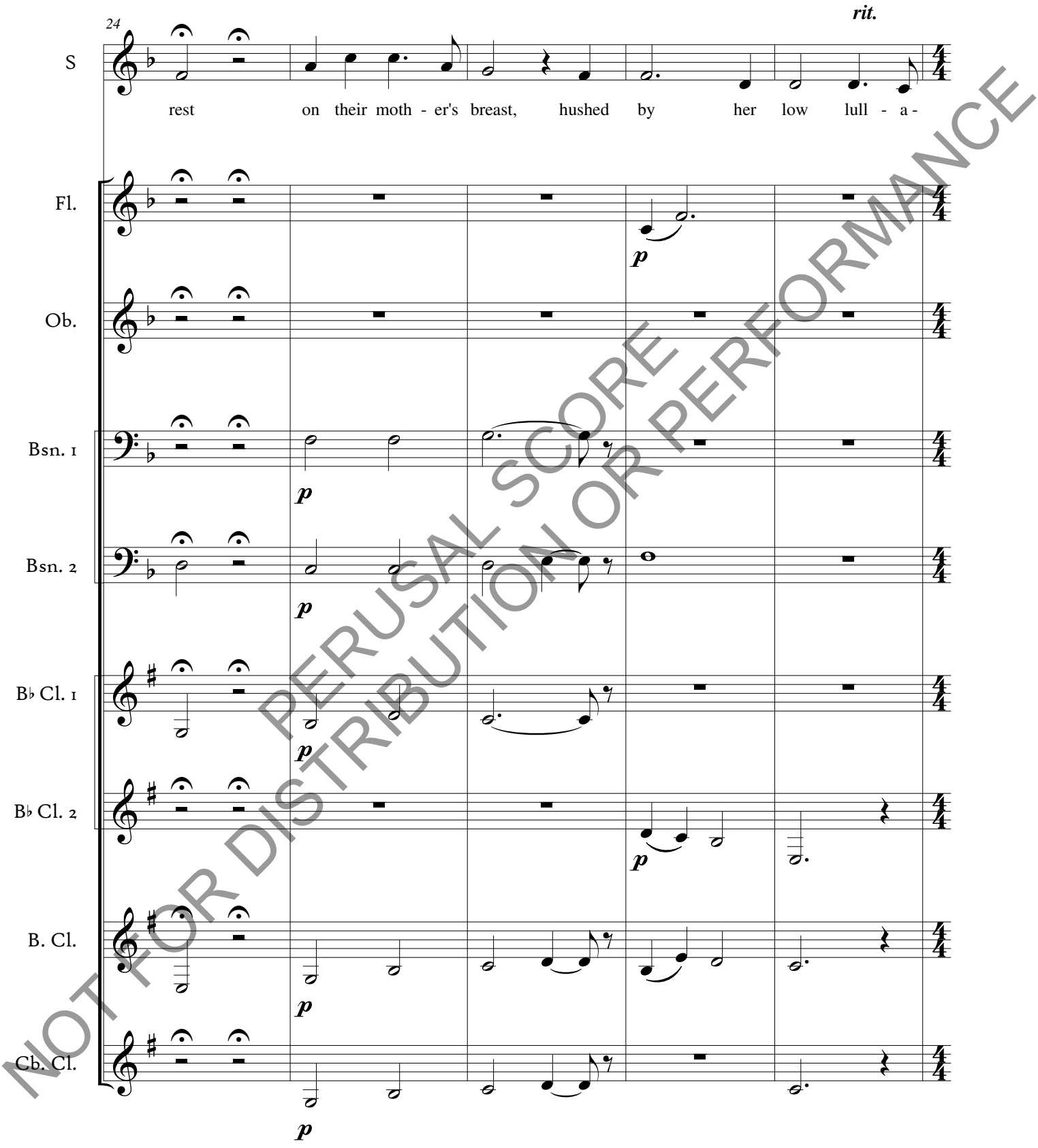

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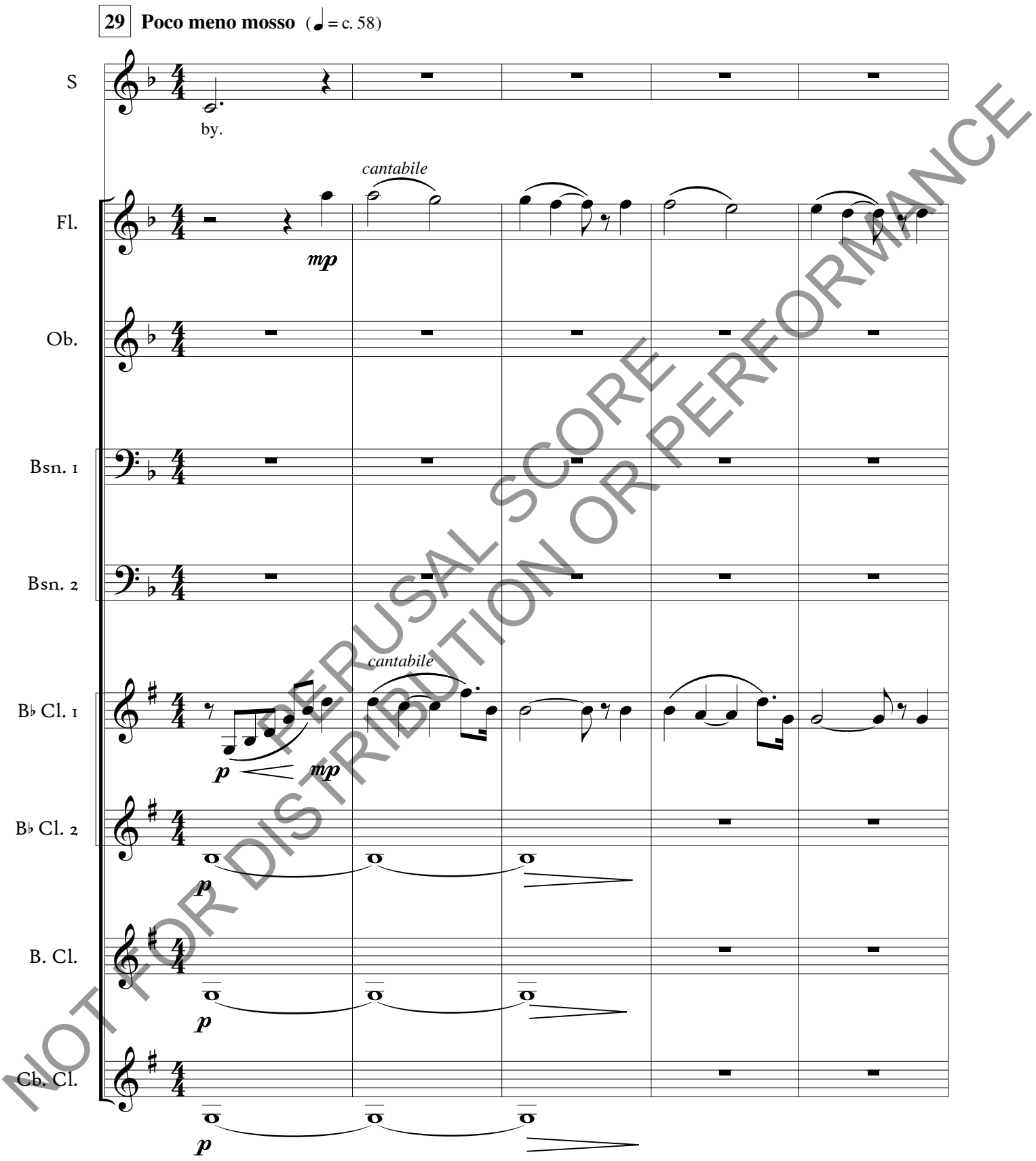

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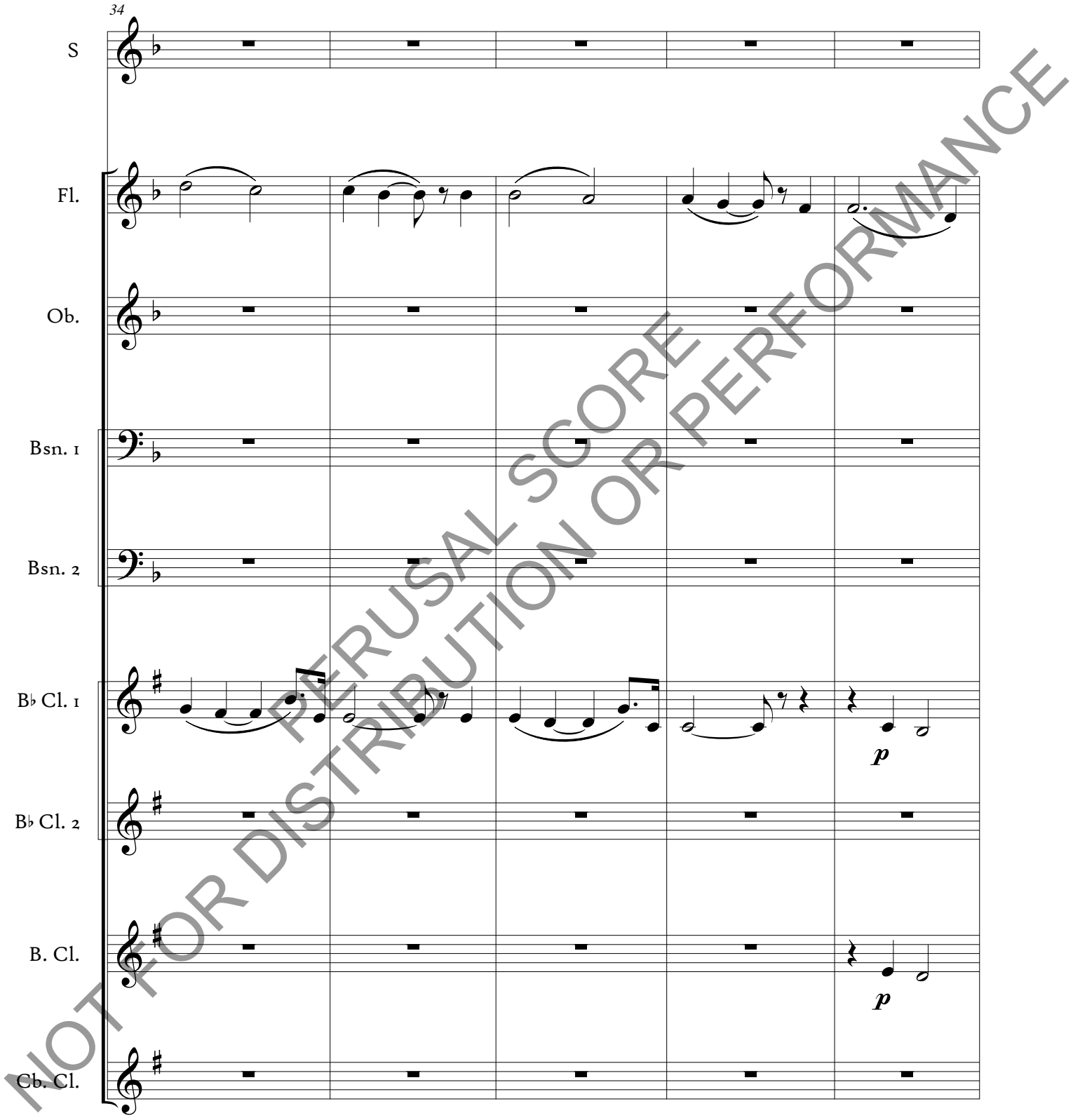
PERUSAL SCORE



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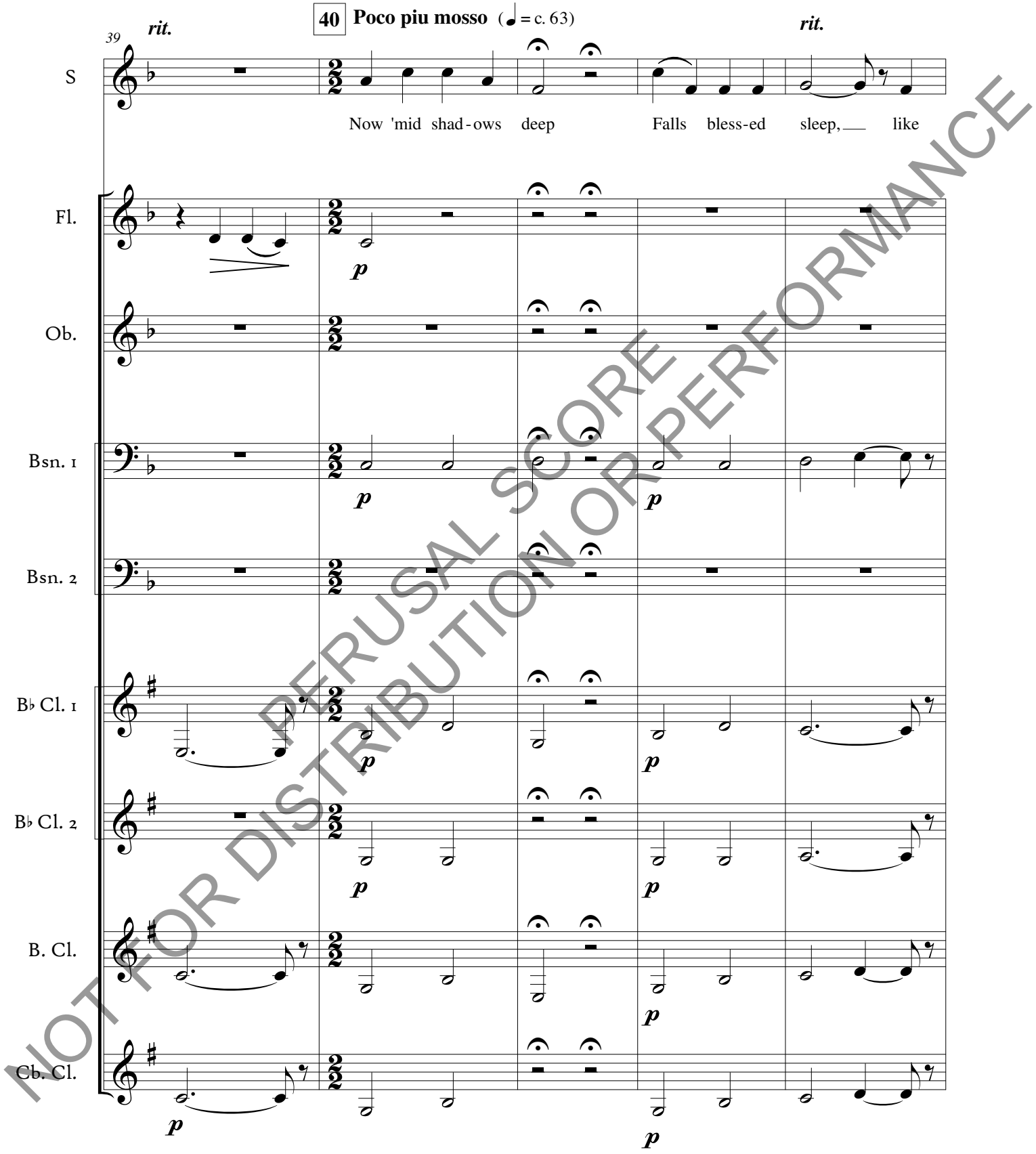

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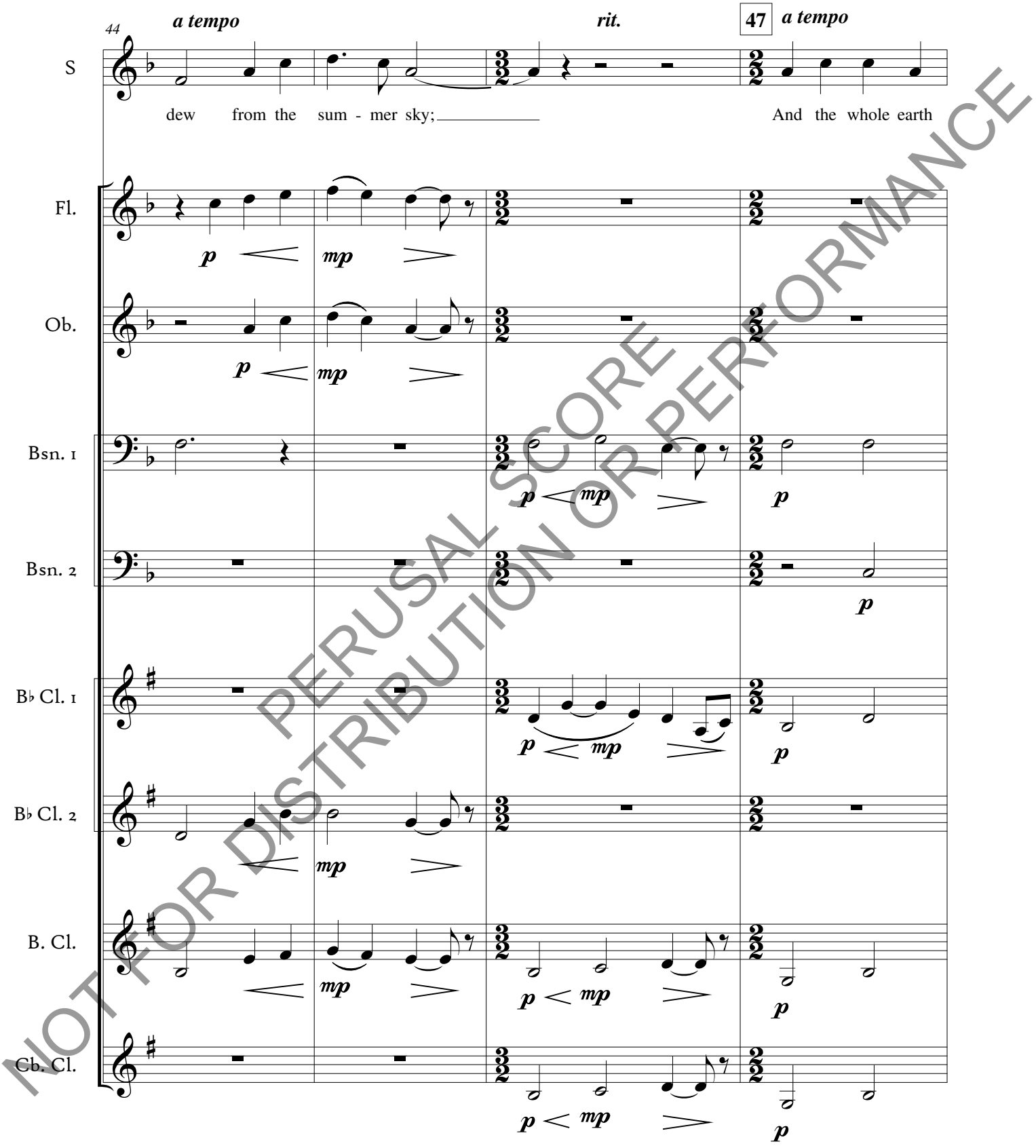

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