Sirenland

for violin and pianoforte

Preview File Only

JONATHAN POWELL
(2000)

The composition of *Sirenland* was begun in Siracusa, Sicily, in April 2000 and was finished in London a month later. The work's title was suggested by the name of a book by Norman Douglas. His *Sirenland* was first published in 1911; it concerns the myths, history, geography, folklore, art and literature related to sirens, and especially those of the area around Sorrento, Naples and Capri – an environ he designates Sirenland. Although much of this work was conceived much further south than this – and, as a result, may possess the temperament of the *mezzogiorno* to a more aggravated degree – that confluence of the Classical and pagan which the sirens to a certain extent exemplify was more than apparent in Siracusa. That this particular city should have also provided the impetus for one of Szymanowski's *Mythes* is no coincidence.

Markings of tempo, expression and technique (bowing and pedalling) have been kept to a minimum; it is expected that the dramatic and expressive exigencies of the music will suggest these to the performers.

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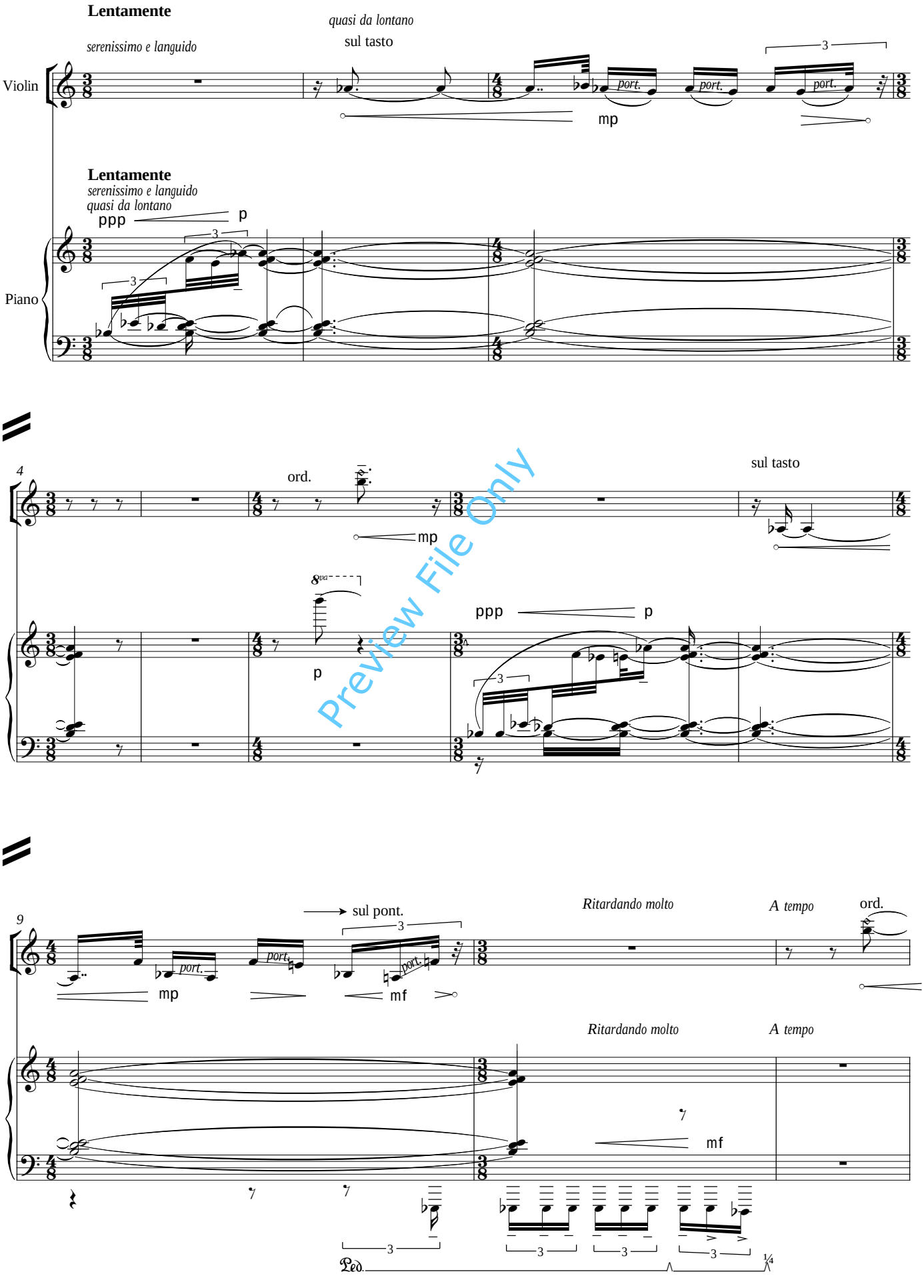
Sirenland

Jonathan Powell



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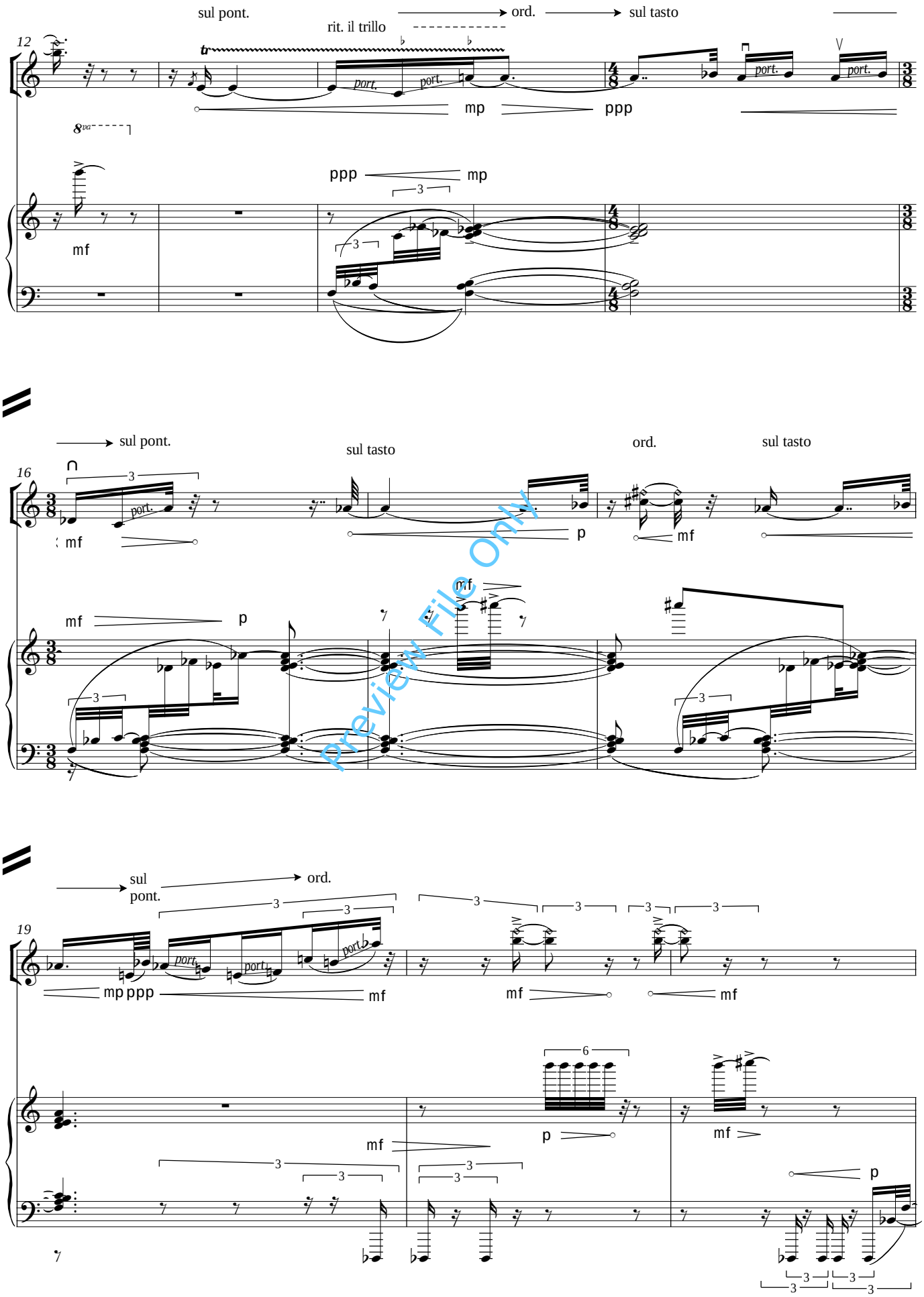

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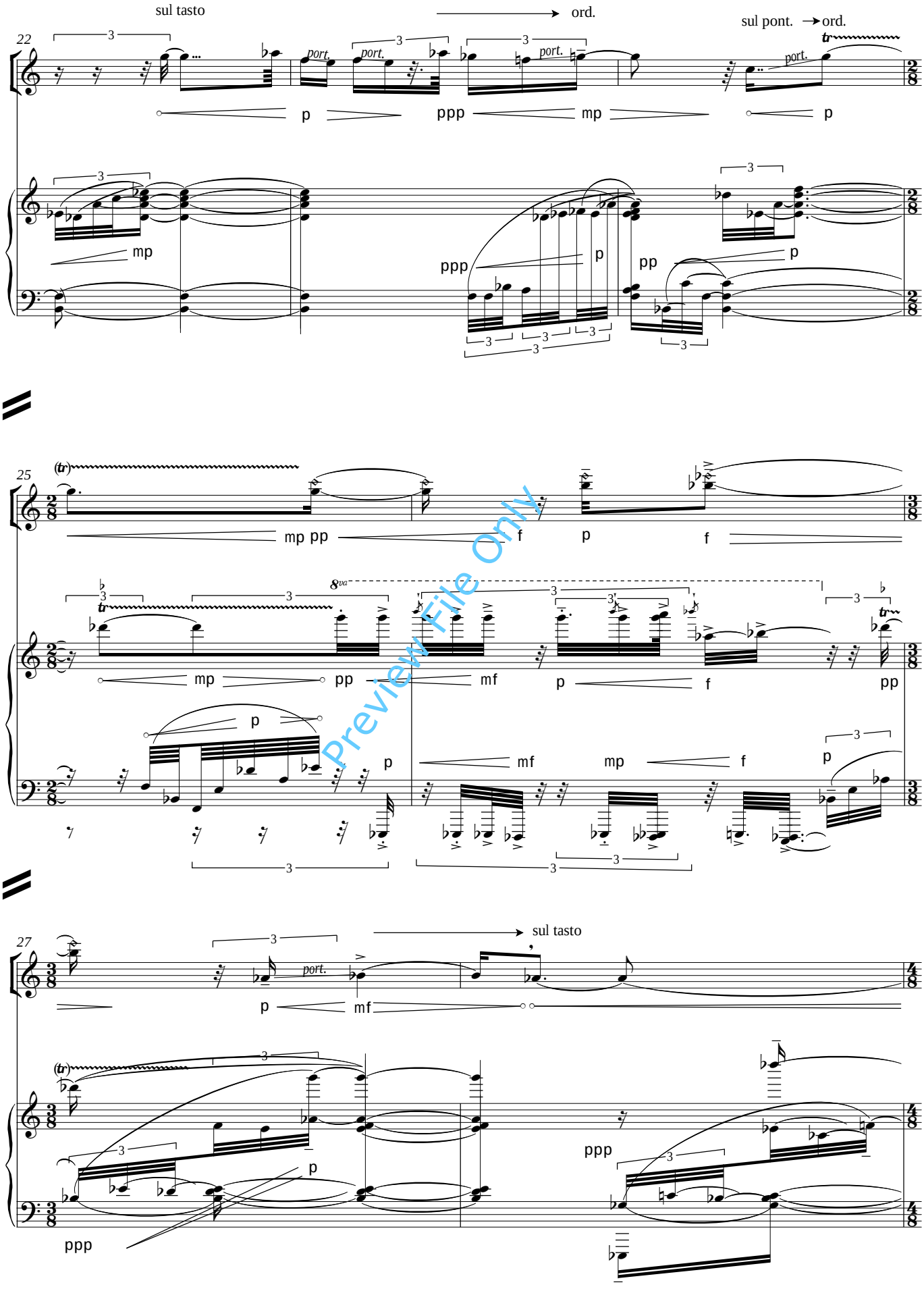

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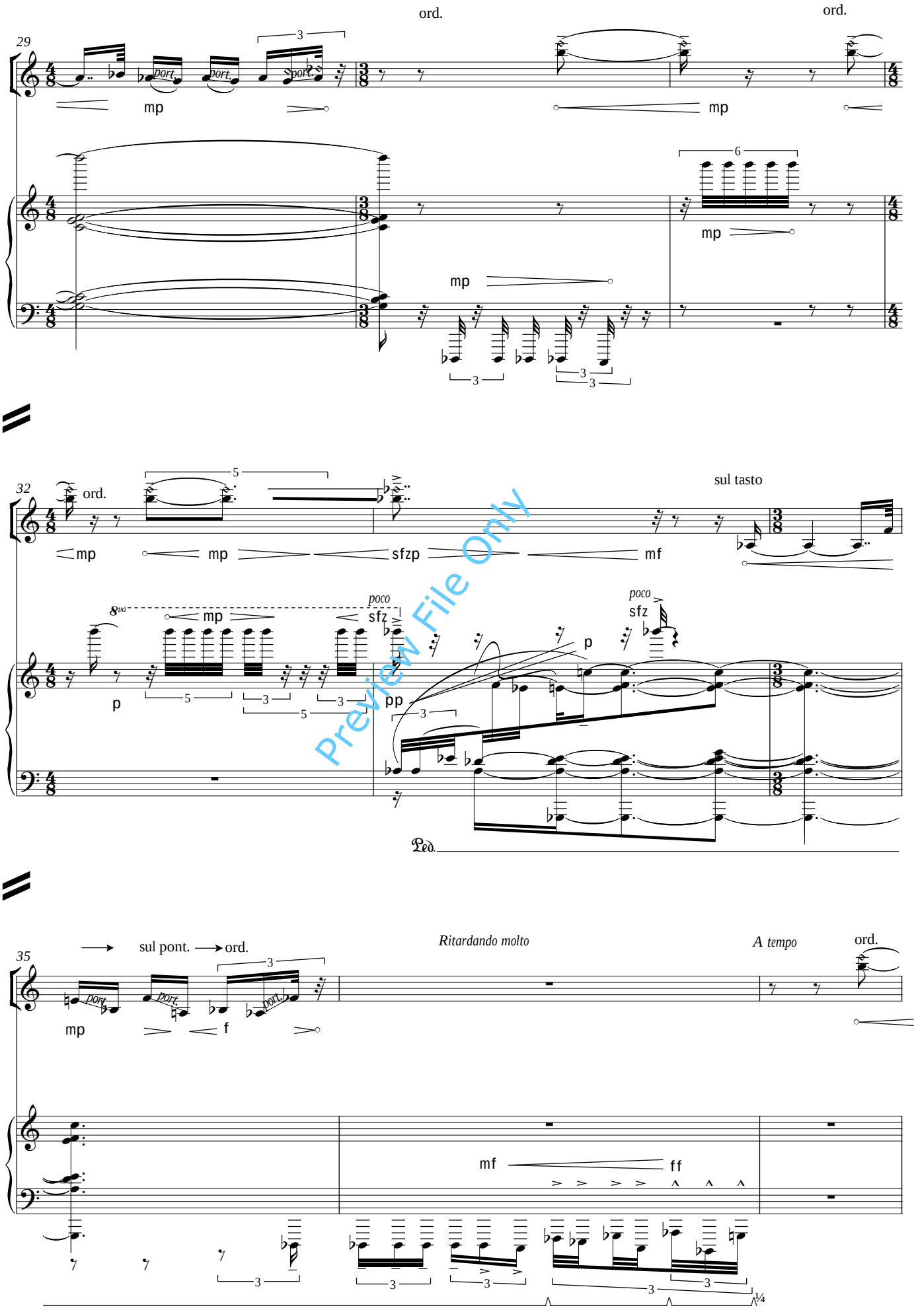

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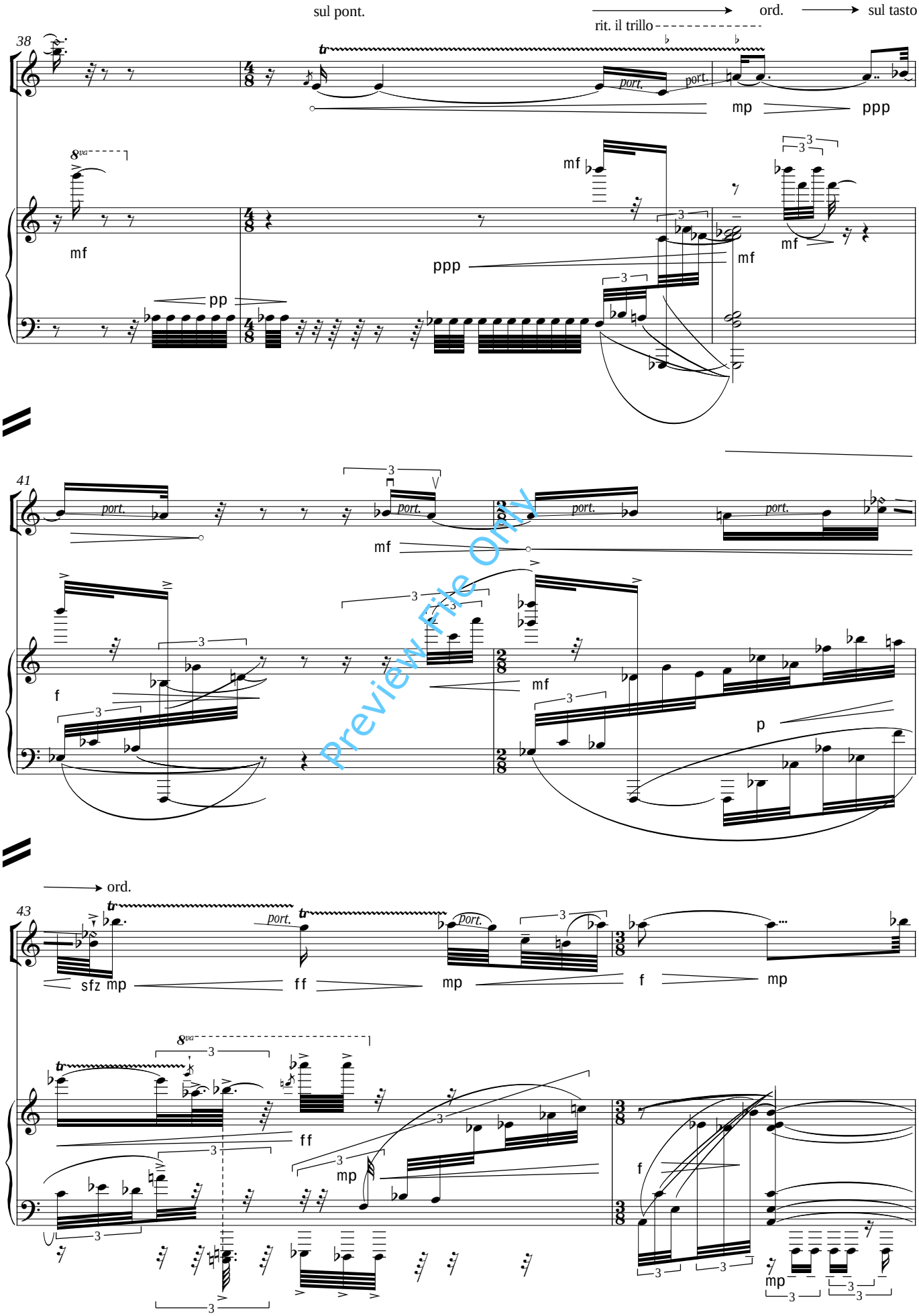

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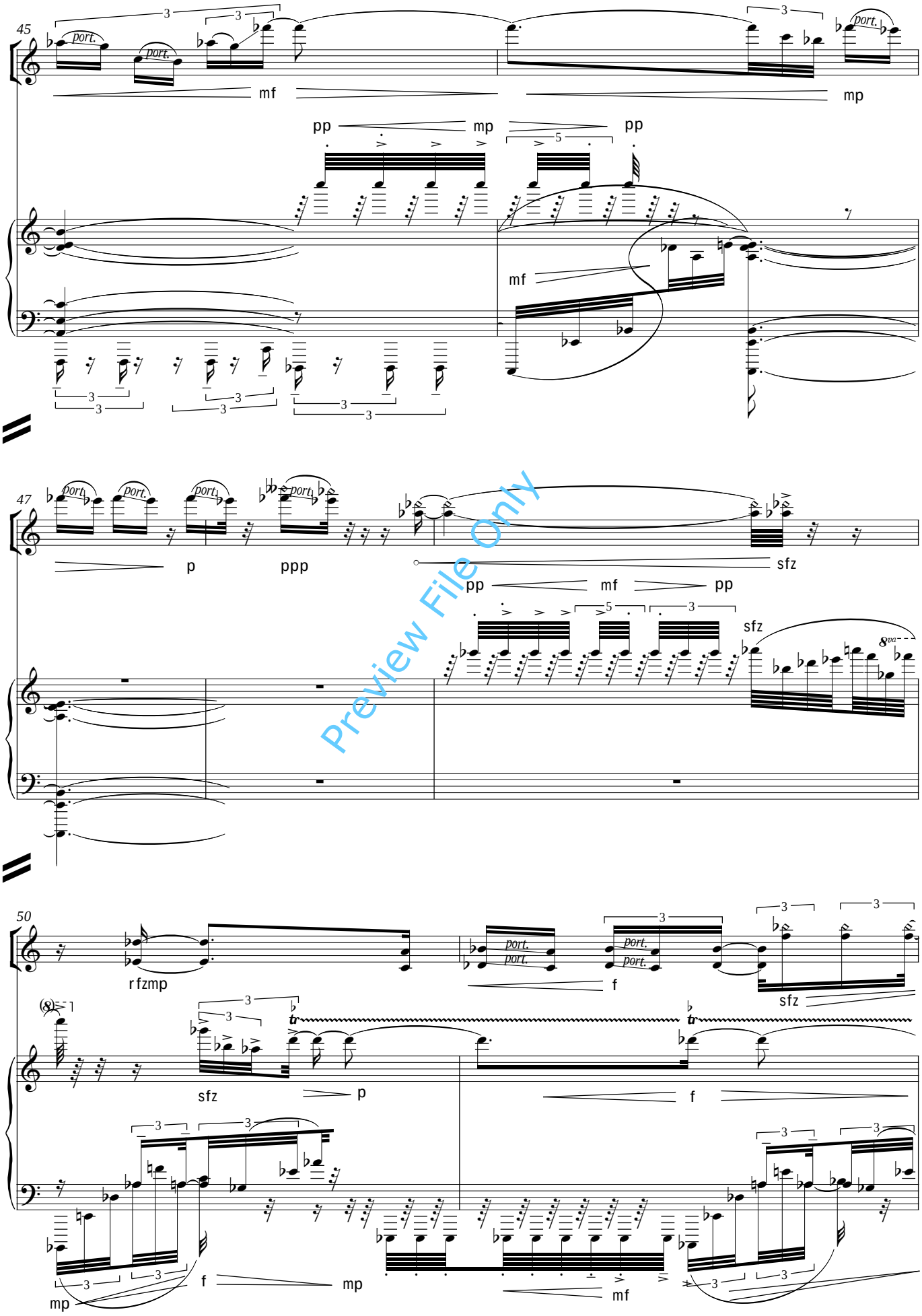

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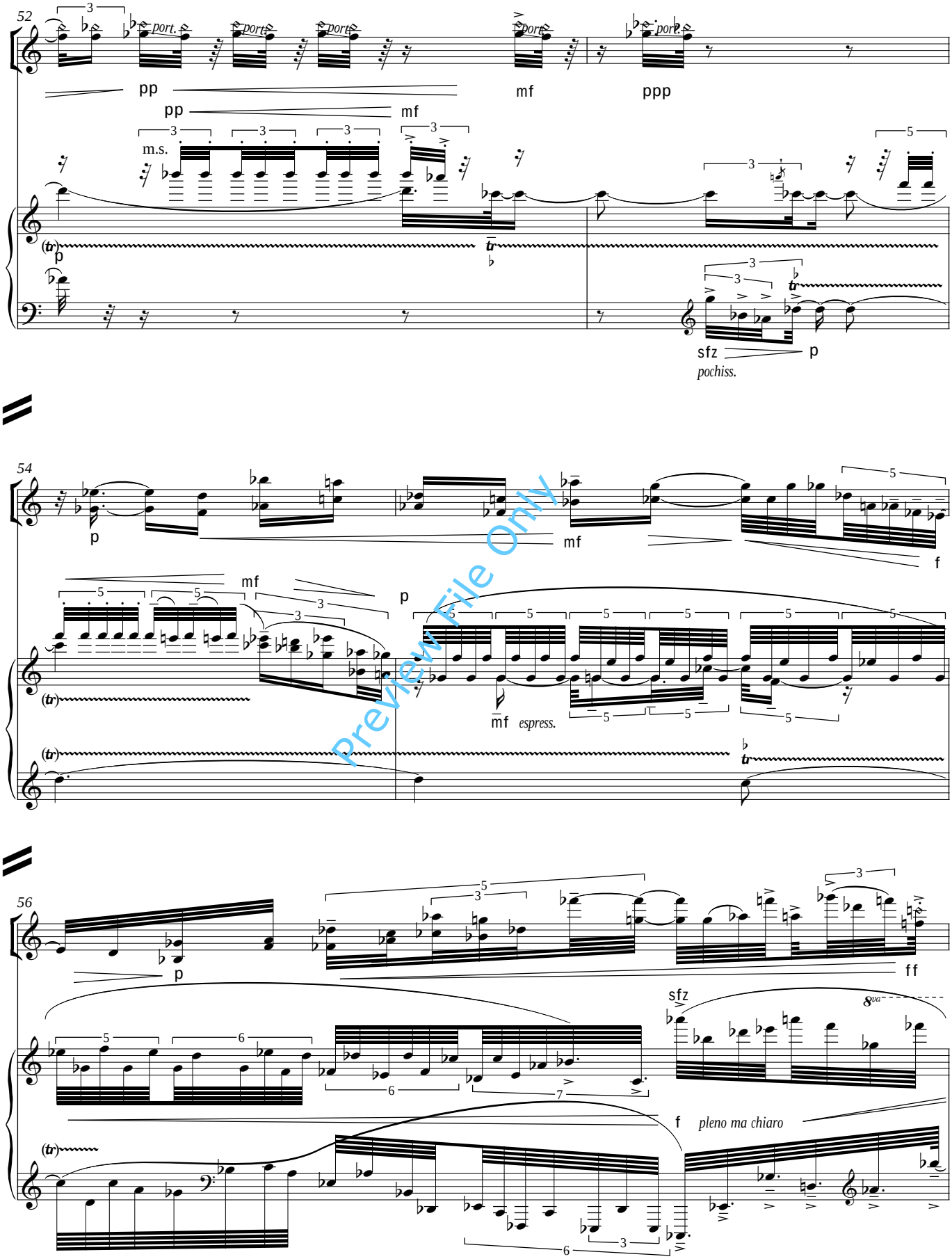

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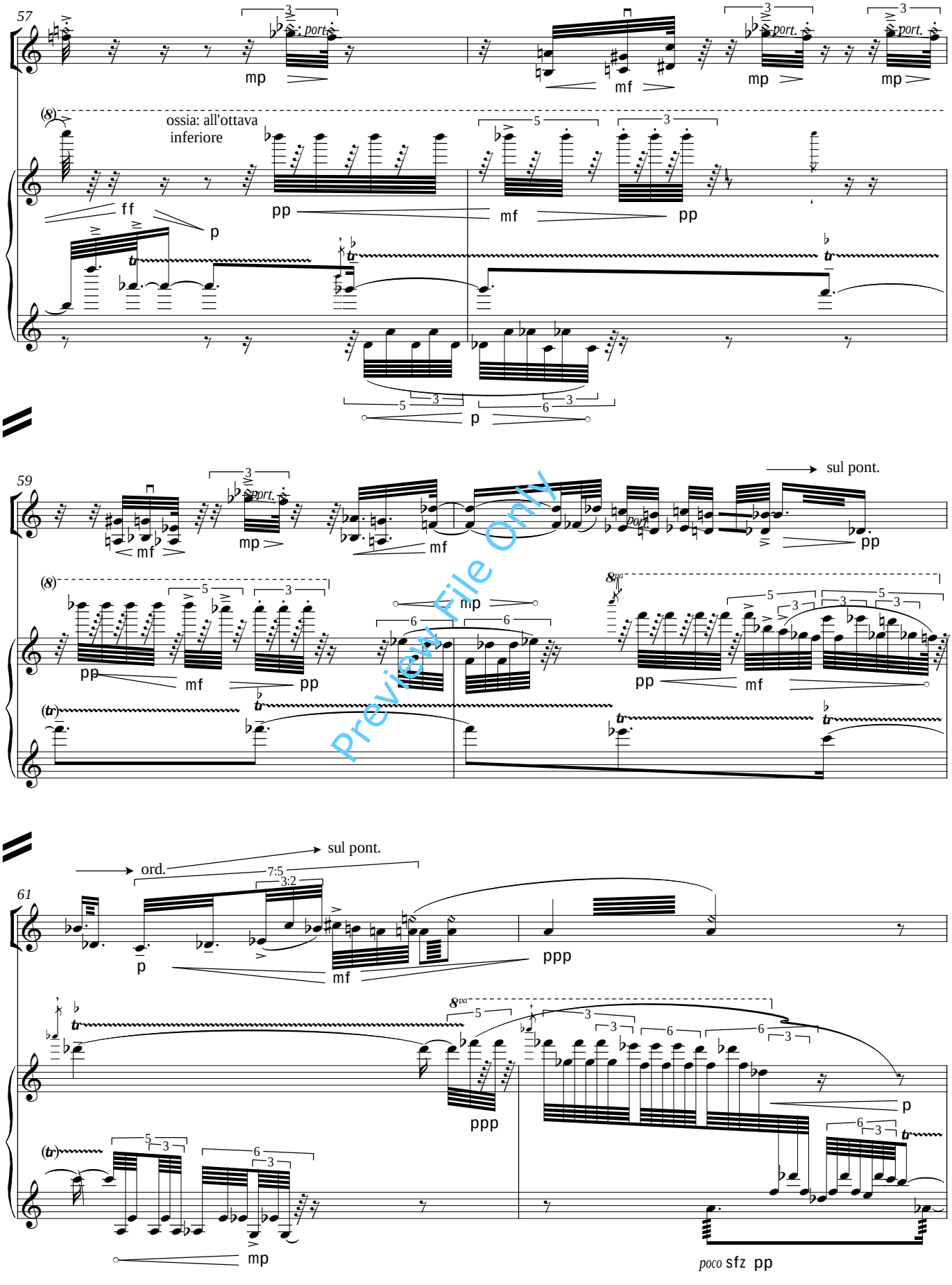

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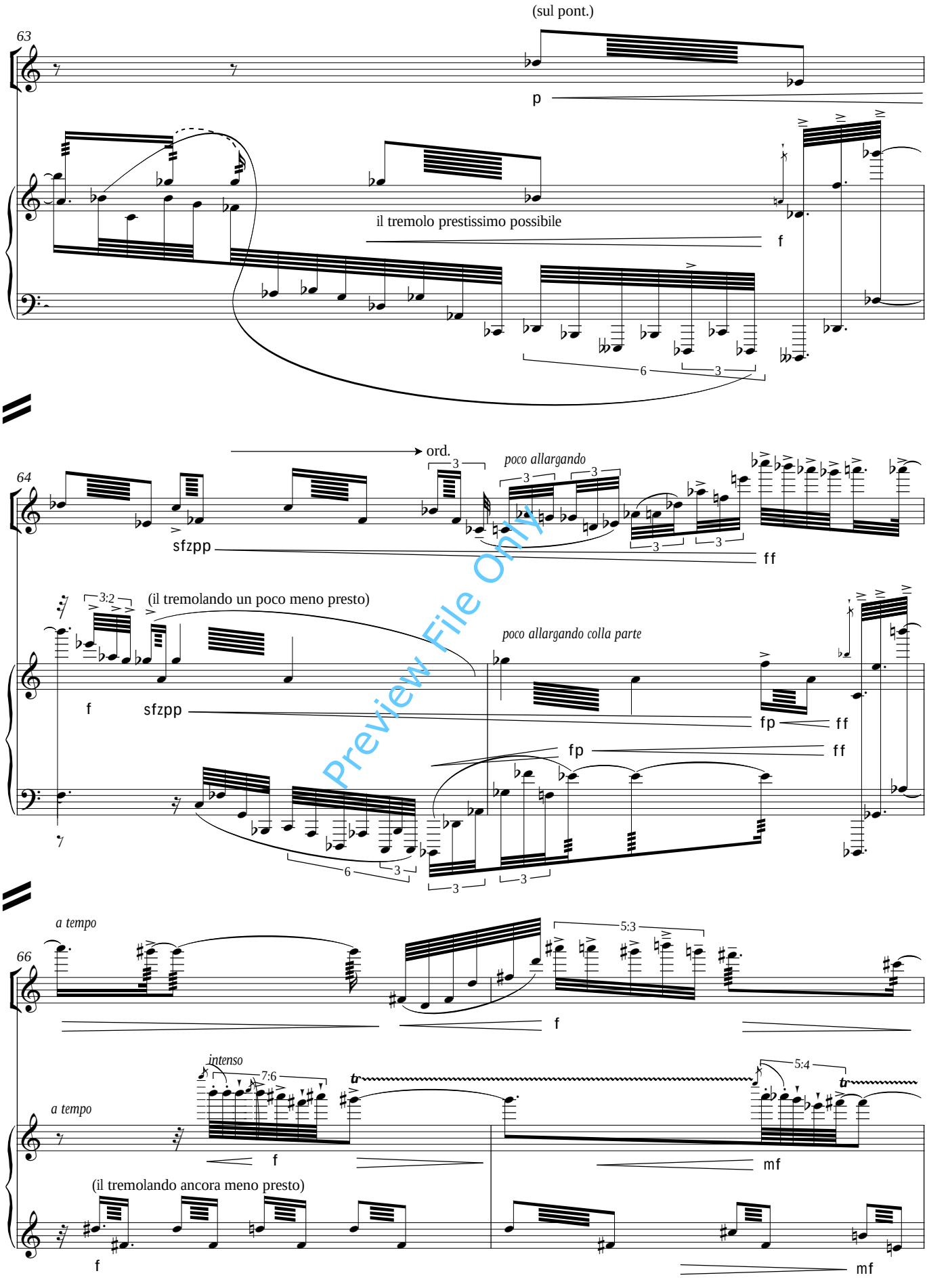

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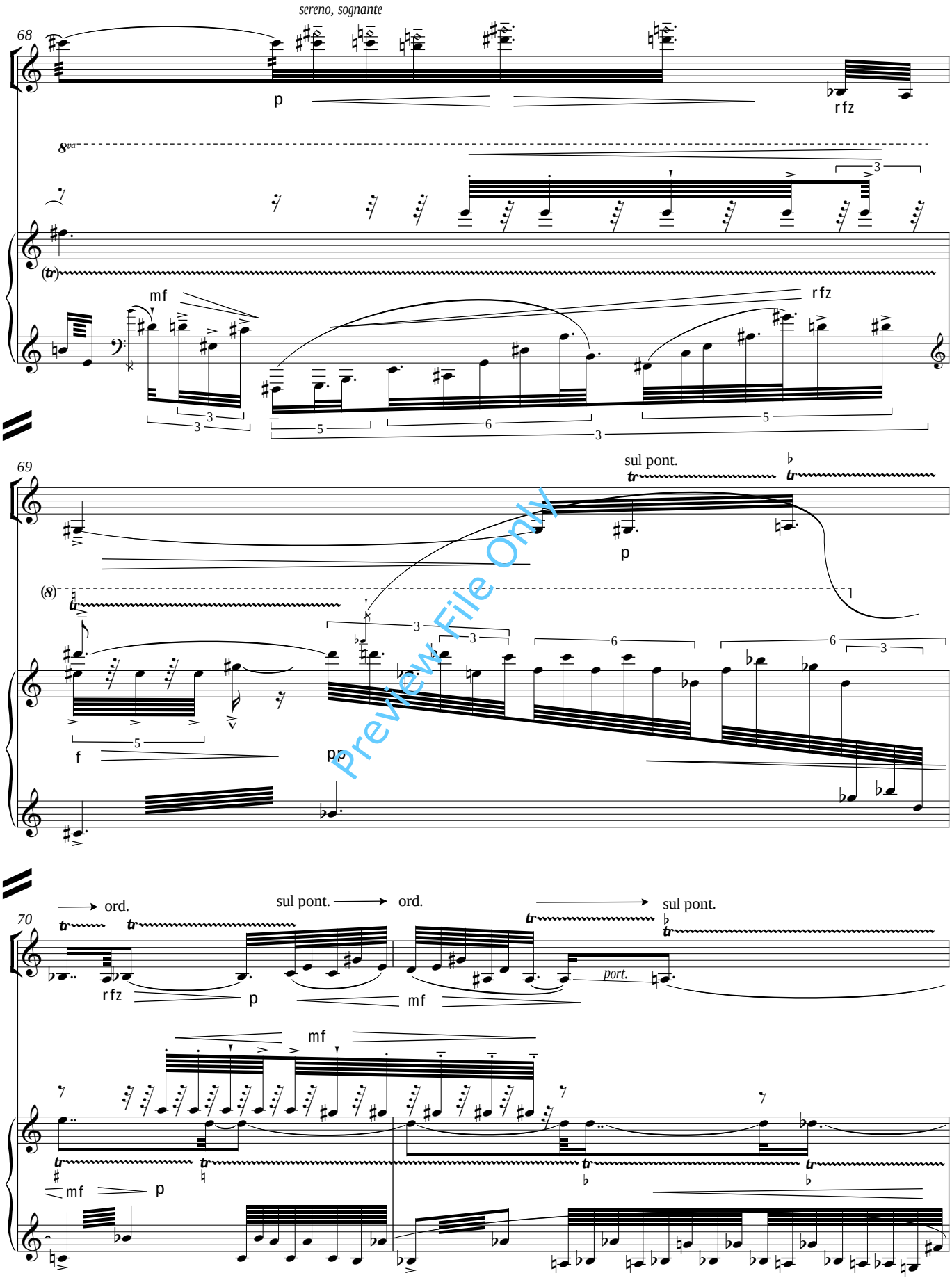

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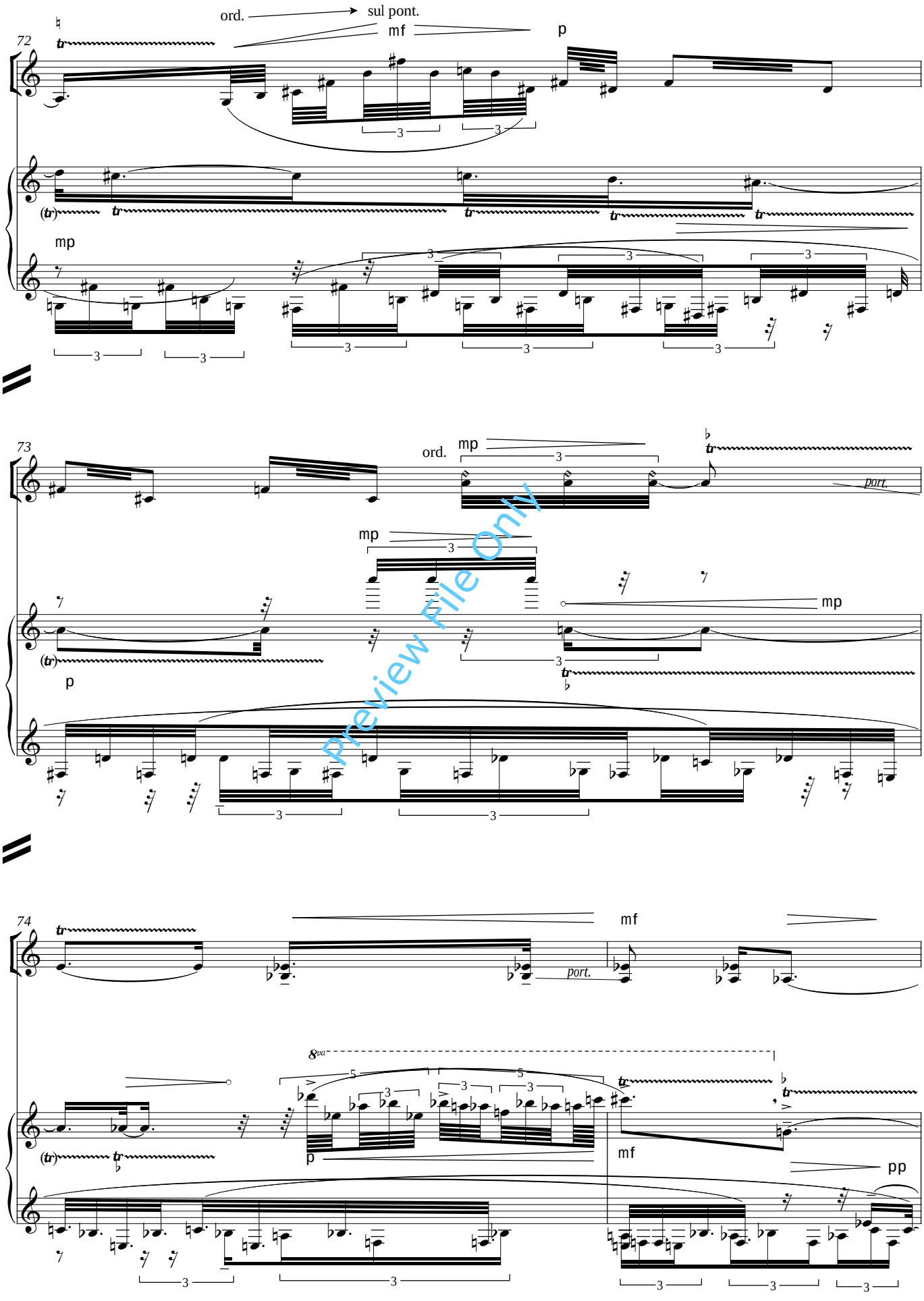

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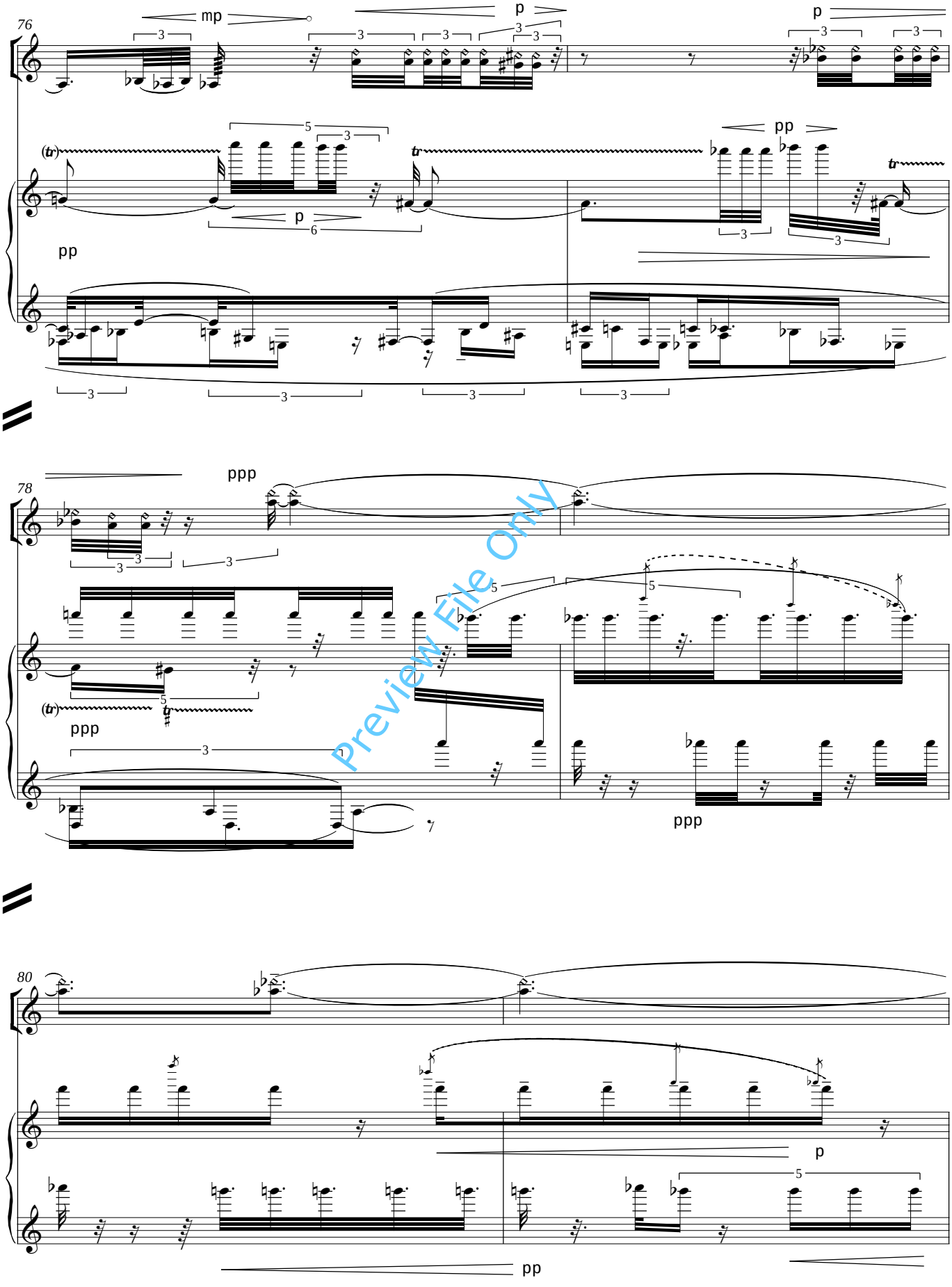

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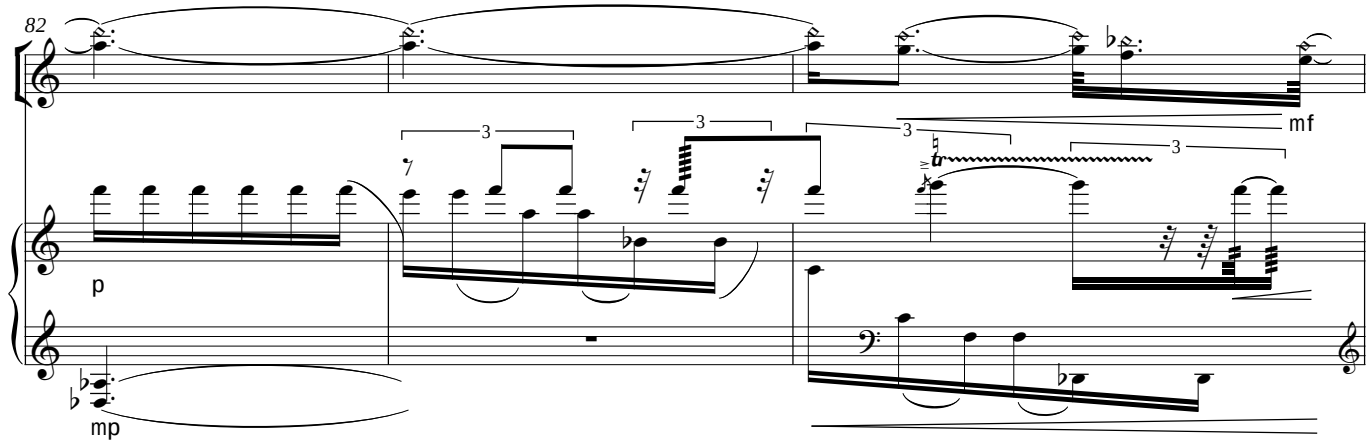

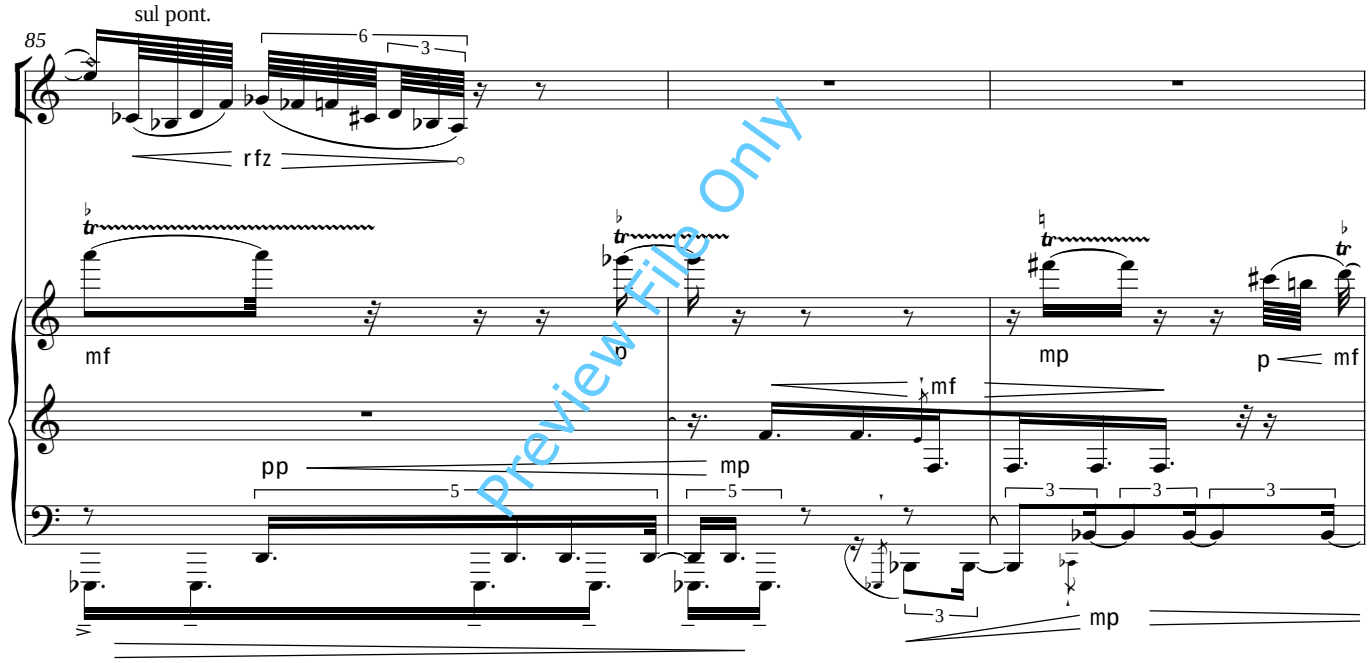

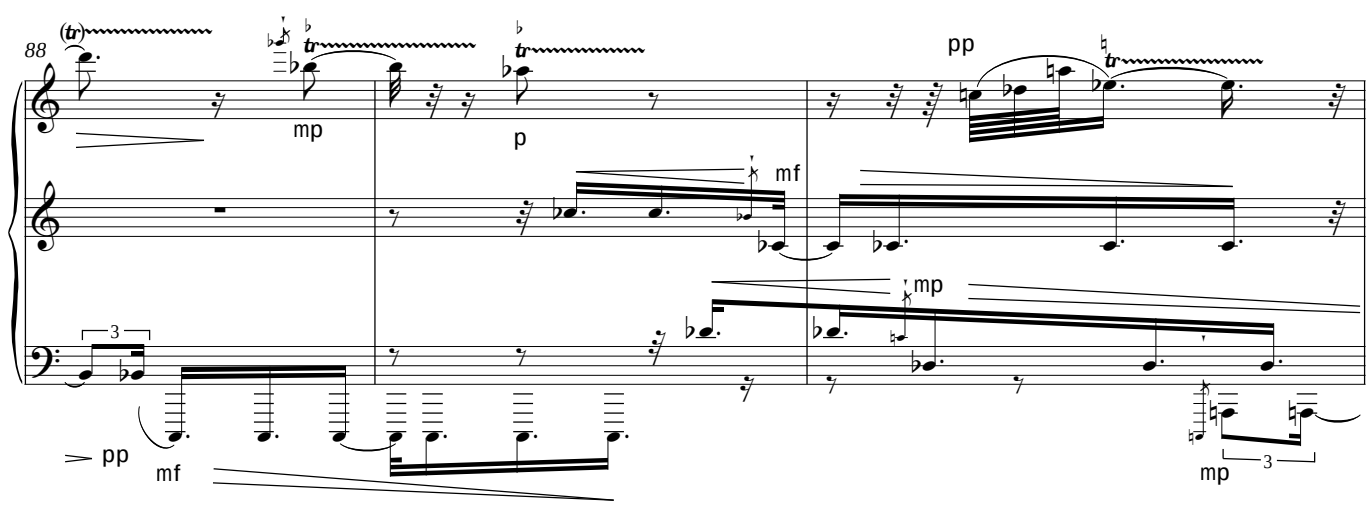

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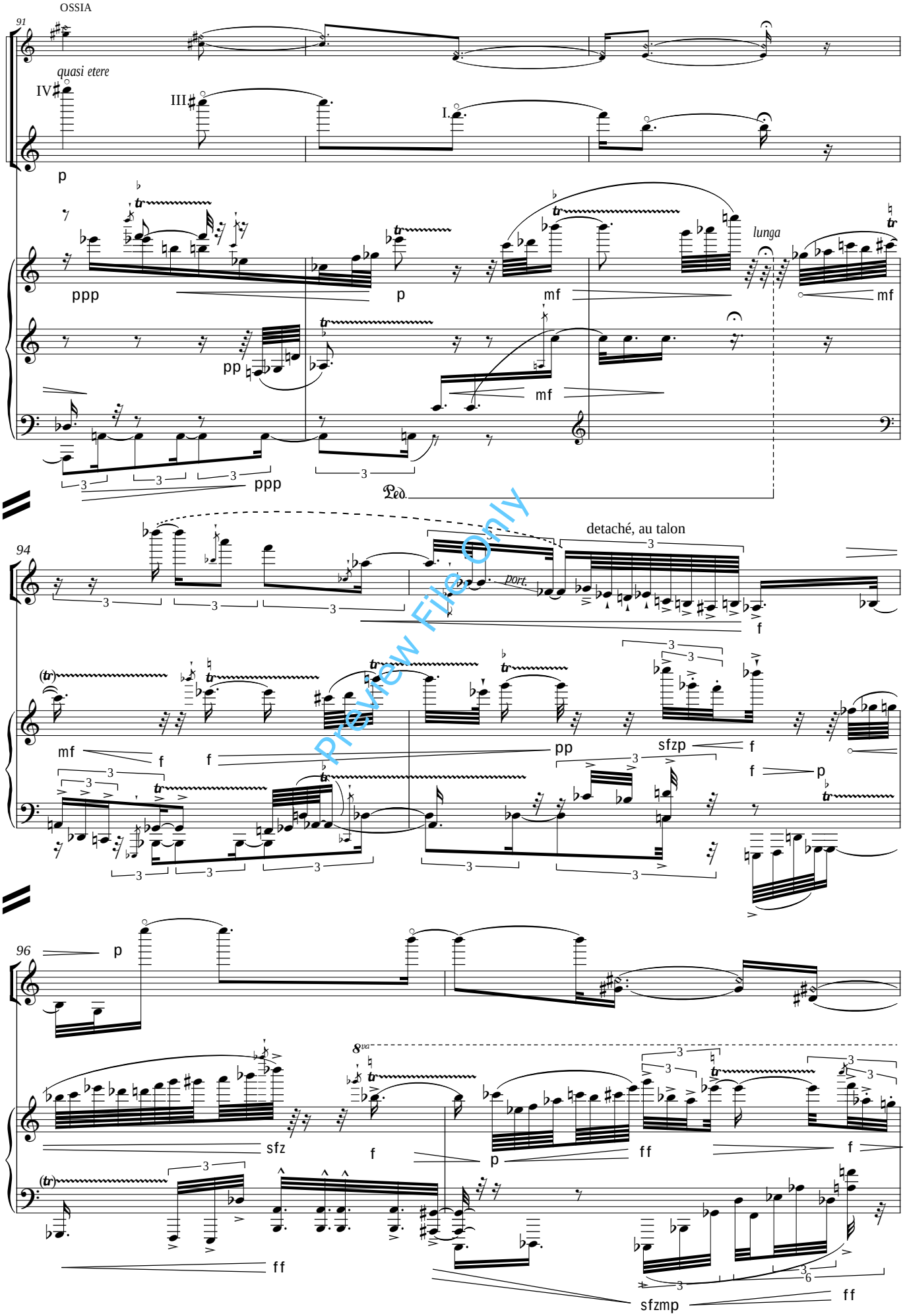

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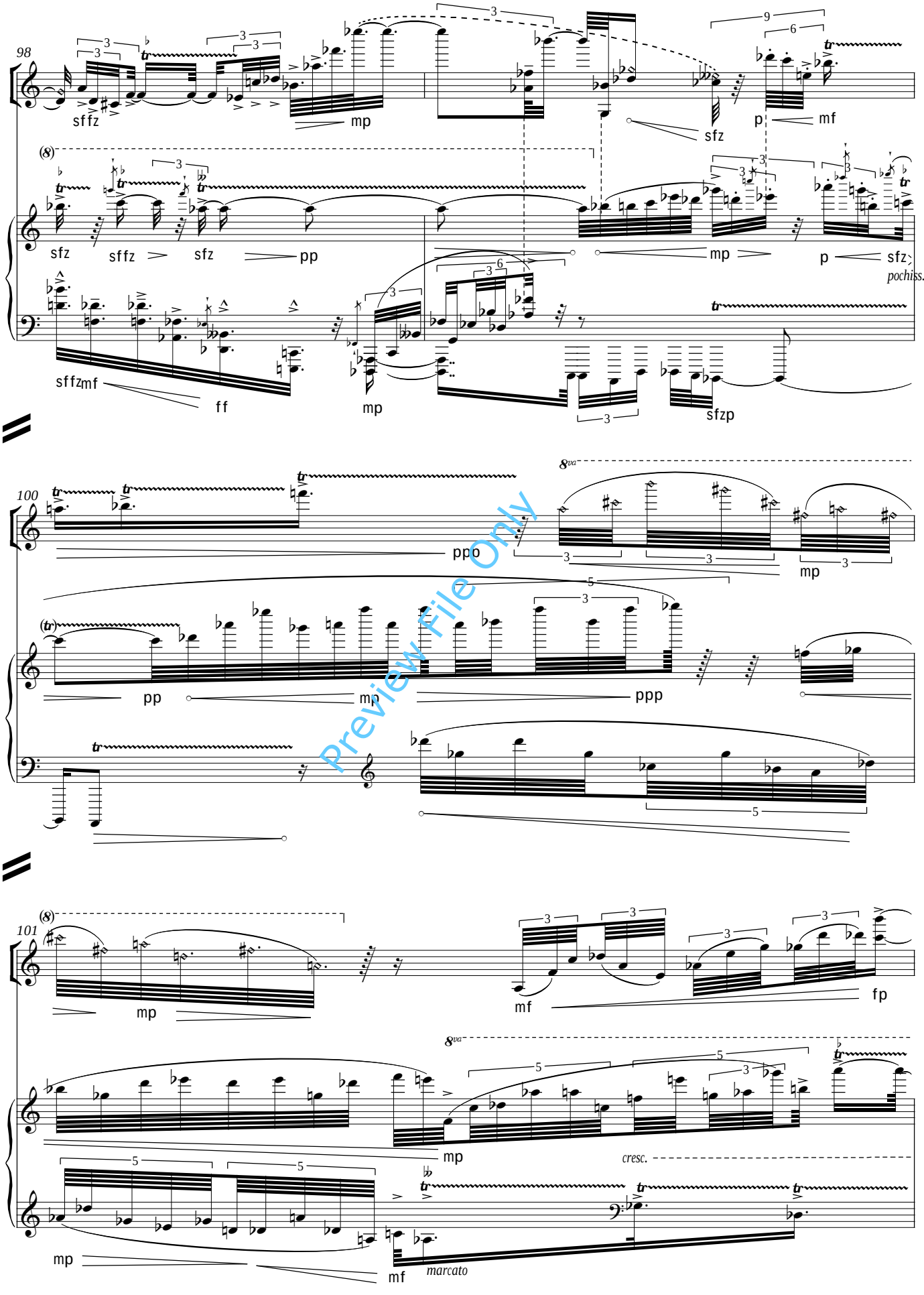

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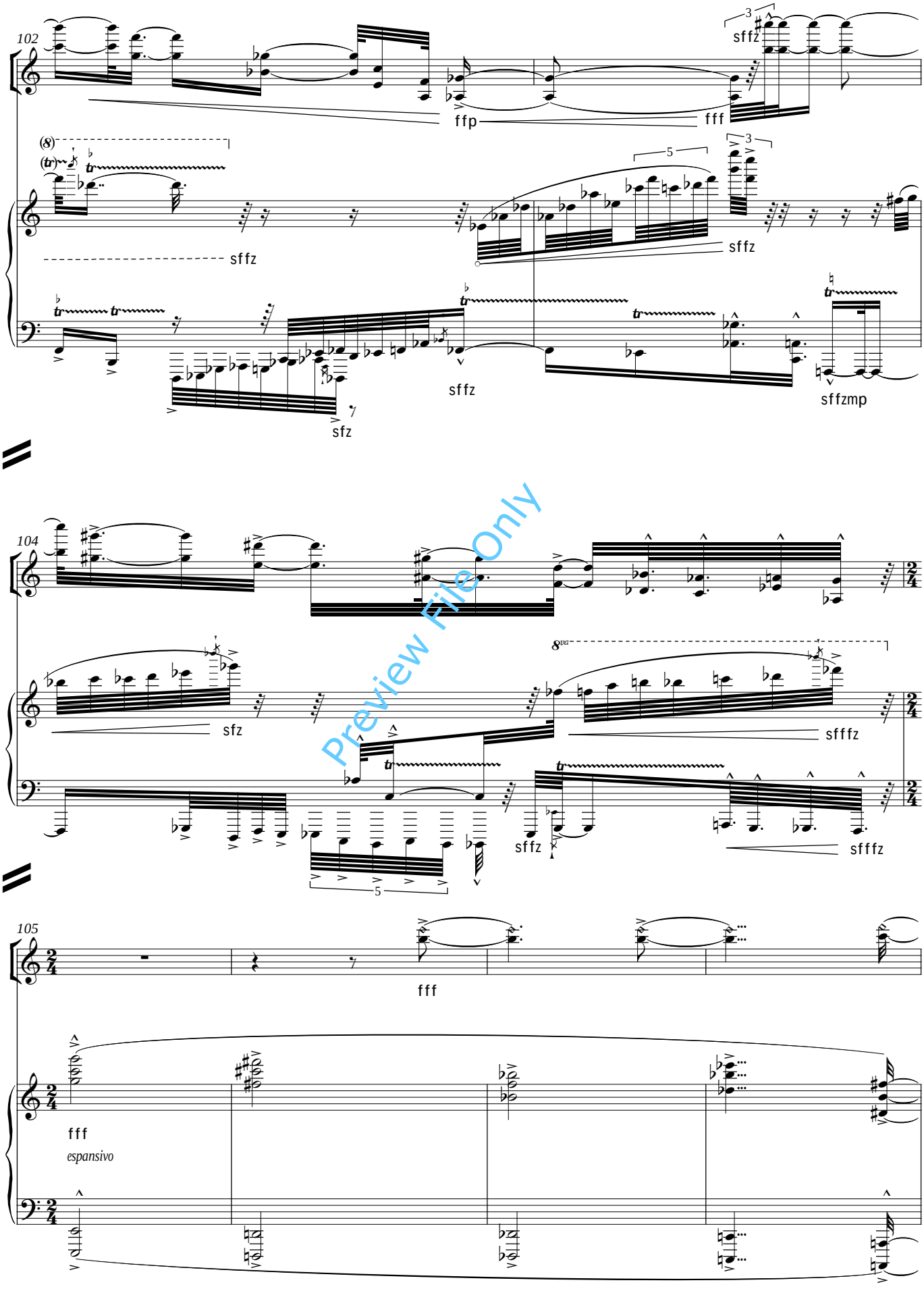

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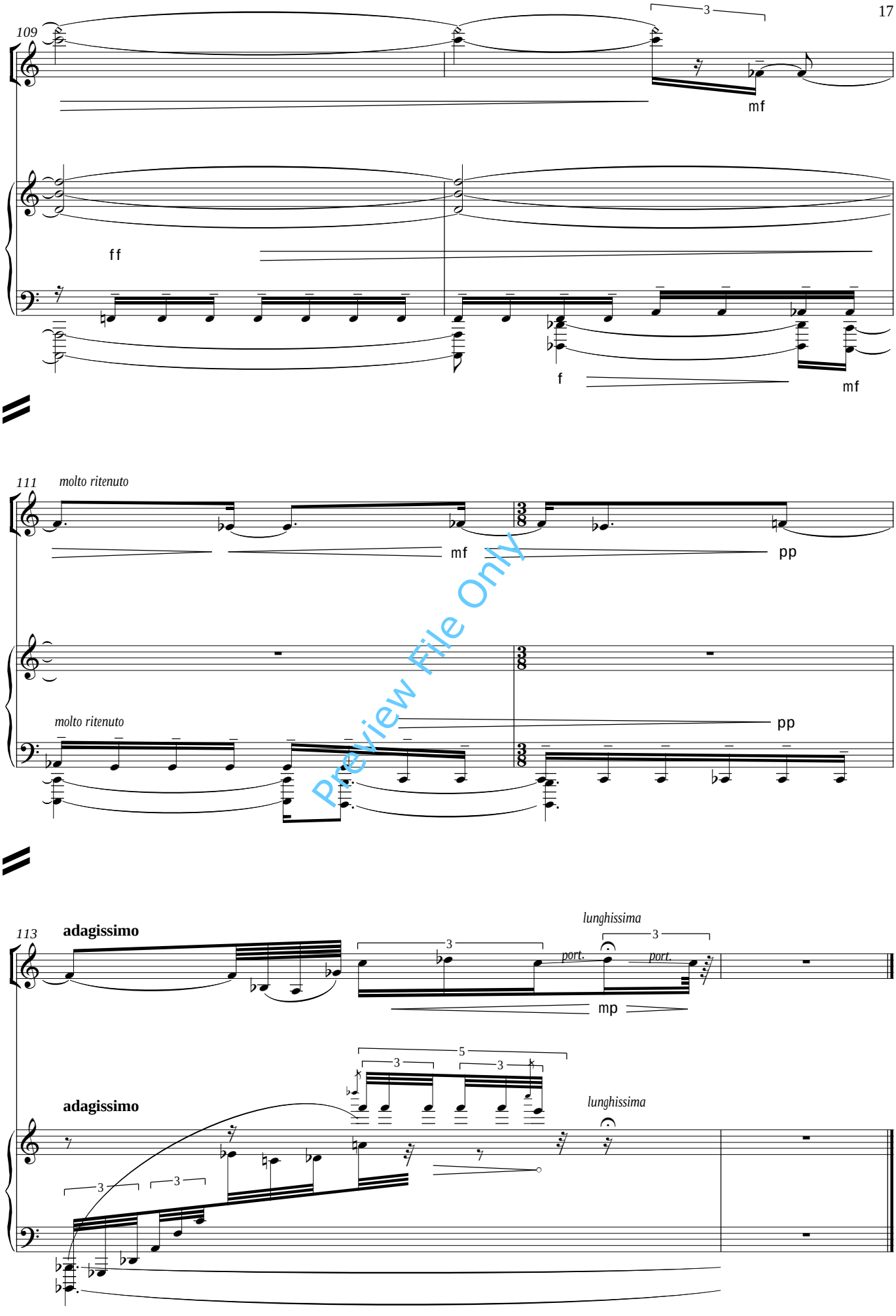

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