ANTONÍN TUČAPSKÝ

KOHELET

CANTATA FOR MIXED VOICE CHOIR,
SOPRANO SOLO AND ORGAN

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To the memory of those who died in exile and of Henry Vaňha
a citizen from Prague, who shared their fate.

KOHELET

I.

Vanitas vanitatum
et omnia vanitas.

Vanity of vanities!
All is vanity.

CHOIR

Quid habet amplius homo de universo
labore suo quo laborat sub sole?

What does man gain by all the toil
at which he toils under the sun?

Generatio praeterit, et
generatio advenit;
terra autem in aeternum stat.

A generation goes, and a generation
comes, but the earth
remains for ever.

Vanitas vanitatum
et omnia vanitas.

Vanity of vanities!
All is vanity.

(Ecclesiastes - I, 1 - 4)

II.

SOLO

In my beginning is my end. In succession
houses rise and fall, crumble, are extended,
are removed, destroyed, restored, or in their place
is an open field, or a factory, or a by-pass.
Old stone to new building, old timber to new fires,
old fires to ashes, and ashes to the earth
which is already flesh, fur and faeces,
bone of man and beast, cornstalk and leaf.
Houses live and die: there is a time for building
and a time for living and for generation
and a time for the wind to break the loosened pane...
and to shake the tattered arras woven with a silent motto.

(T. S. Eliot: from 'East Coker')

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III.

Omnia tempus habent et suis spatiis
transuent universa sub coelo

For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven.

CHOIR

Tempus nascendi et tempus moriendi,
Tempus plantandi, et tempus evelendi
quod plantatum est.
Tempus occidendi et tempus sanandi;
Tempus destruendi et tempus aedificandi,
Tempus flendi et tempus ridendi.
Tempus plangendi et tempus saltandi, et
Tempus spargendi lapides et
Tempus colligendi
Tempus amplexandi et tempus longe fieri
ab amplexibus
Tempus acquirendi, tempus perdendi
Tempus custodiendi et tempus abjiciendi,
Tempus scidendi et tempus consuendi, et
Tempus tacendi et tempus loquendi.
Tempus dilectionis et tempus odii
Tempus belli et tempus pacis.

a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck
up what is planted;
a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
a time to cast away stones, and a time
to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain
from embracing;
a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to cast away;
a time to rend, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
a time to love and a time to hate;
a time for war, and a time for peace.

(Ecclesiastes - III, 1 - 8)

IV. SOLO

On a summer midnight, you can hear the music
of the weak pipe and the little drum
and see them dancing around the bonfire
the association of man and woman
in daunsing, signifying matrimonie...
Two and two, necessary coniunction,
holding eche other by hand or the arm
whiche betokeneth concorde...

Keeping time, keeping the rhythm in their dancing
as in their living in the living seasons
the time of the seasons and the constellations
the time of milking and the time of harvest
the time of the coupling of man and woman
and that of beasts. Feet rising and falling...

Dawn points, and another day
prepares for heat and silence.
Out at sea the dawn wind
wrinkles and slides. I am here
or there, or elsewhere. In my beginning.

(T. S. Eliot: from 'East Coker')

V. CHOIR

Oritur sol et occidit et ad
locum suum revertitur; Omnia flumina
intrant in mare, ad locum unde exeunt
flumina reverruntur ut iterum fluant.
Cunctae res difficiles; non potest
eas homo explicare sermone
Non, non saturatur oculus visu
et nec auris auditur impletur
Quid est quod fuit?
Ipsum quod futurum est.
Quid est quod factum est?
Ipsum quod faciendum est.
Nihil sub sole novum.

The sun rises and the sun goes down
and hastens to the place where it rises.
All streams run to the sea, but the sea
is not full; to the place where the
streams flow, there they flow again.
All things are full of weariness;
a man cannot utter it;
the eye is not satisfied with seeing,
nor the ear filled with hearing.
What has been is what will be,
and what has been done is what
will be done;
and there is nothing new under the sun.

(Ecclesiastes I, 5 - 10)

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KOHELET

ANTONÍN TUČAPSKÝ

DURATION 30 min.

I.

ANDANTE MESTO (♩=63)

S
A
T
B

ORG.

ANDANTE MESTO (♩=63)

Vanitas vani-ta-tum, et omnia

Vanitas vani-ta-tum, — vanitas vani-ta-tum, et

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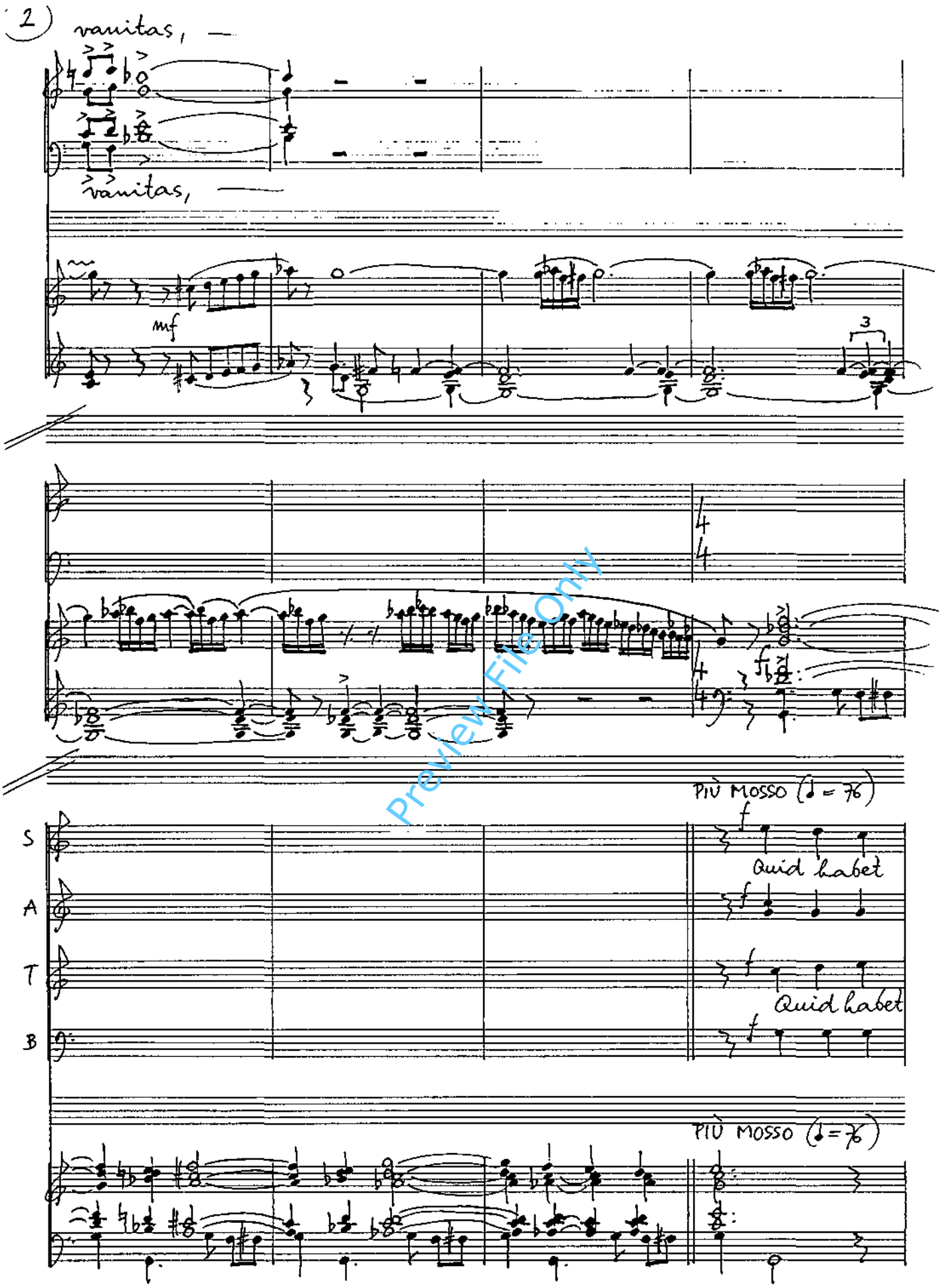

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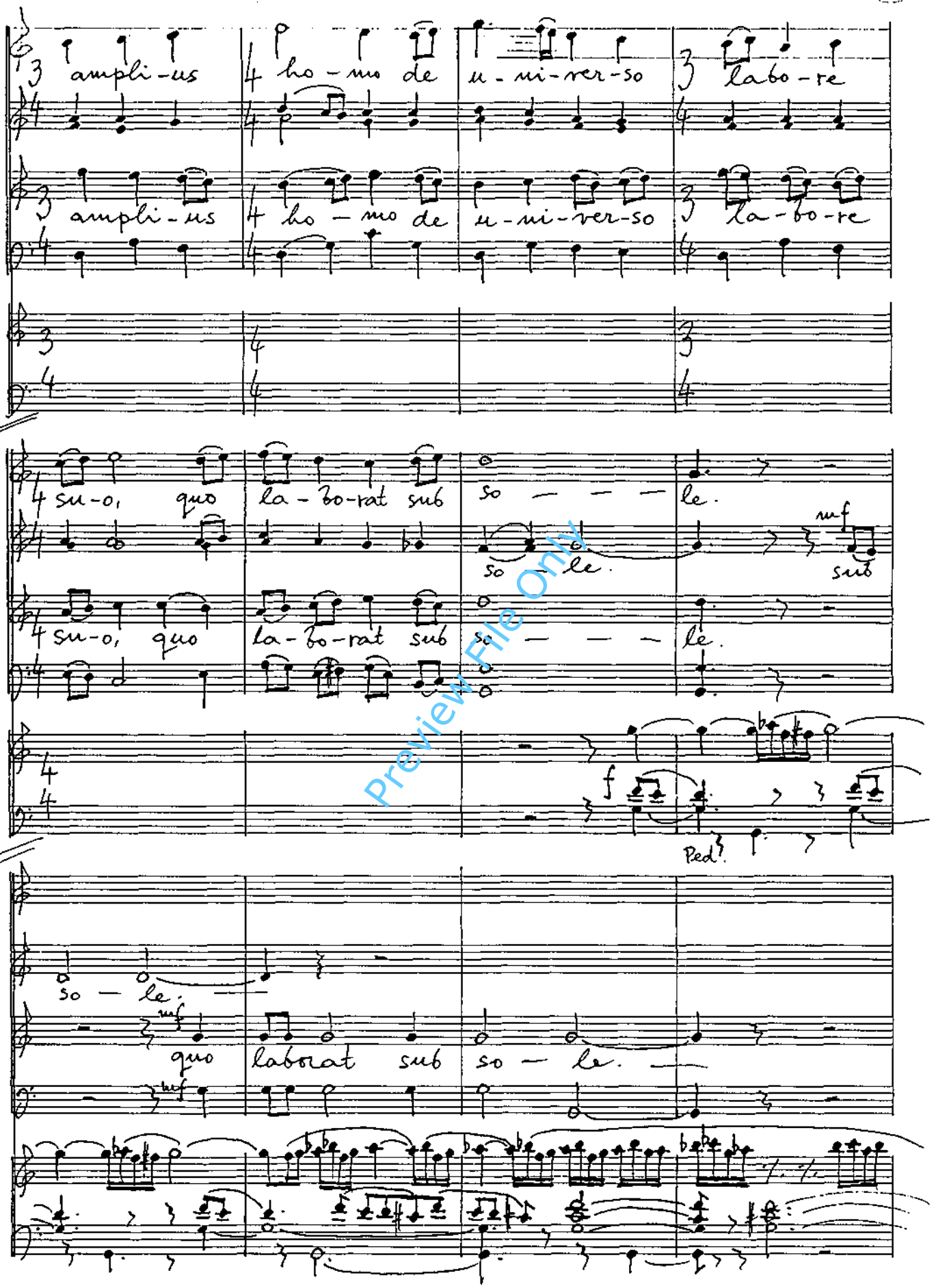

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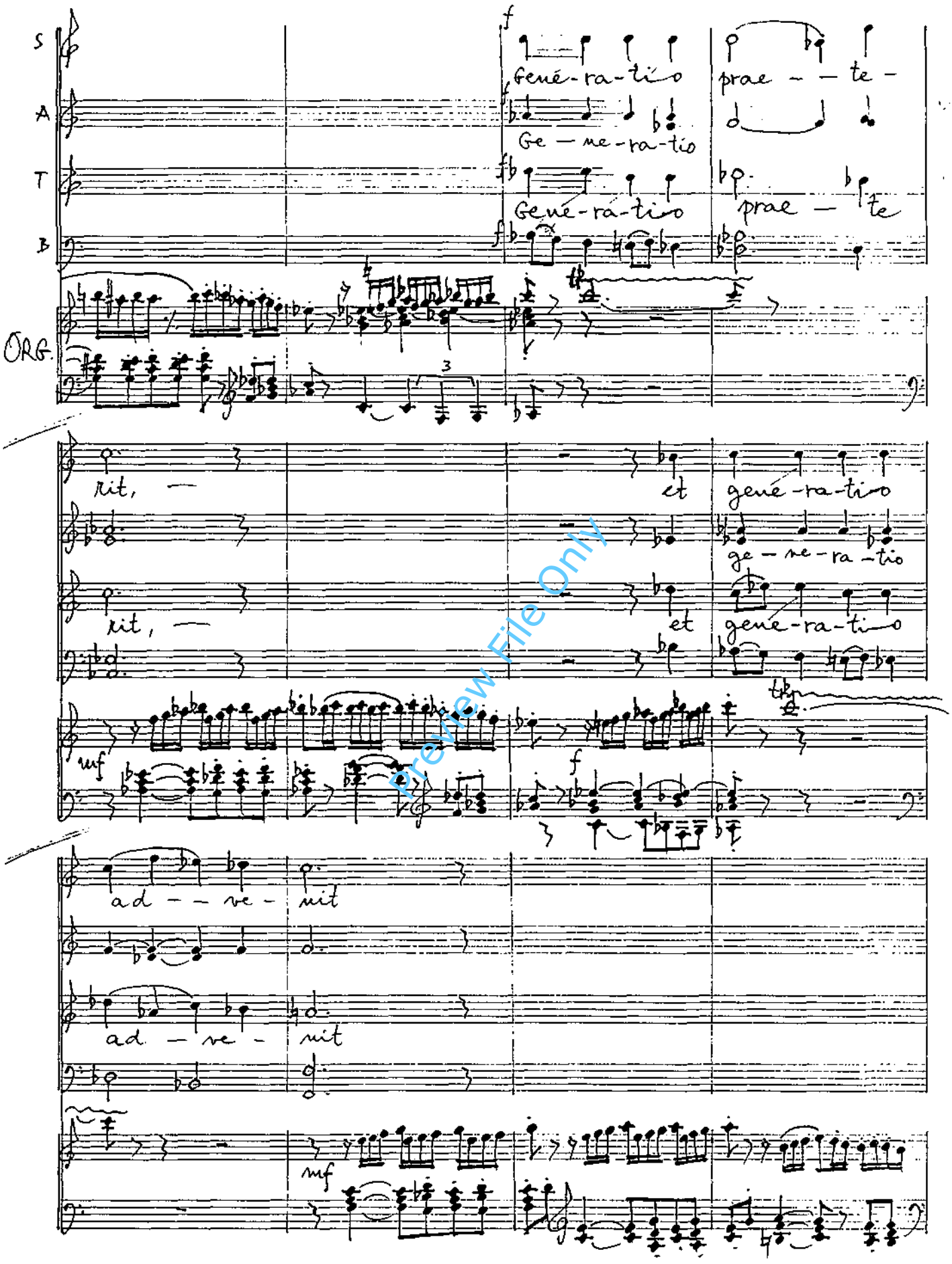

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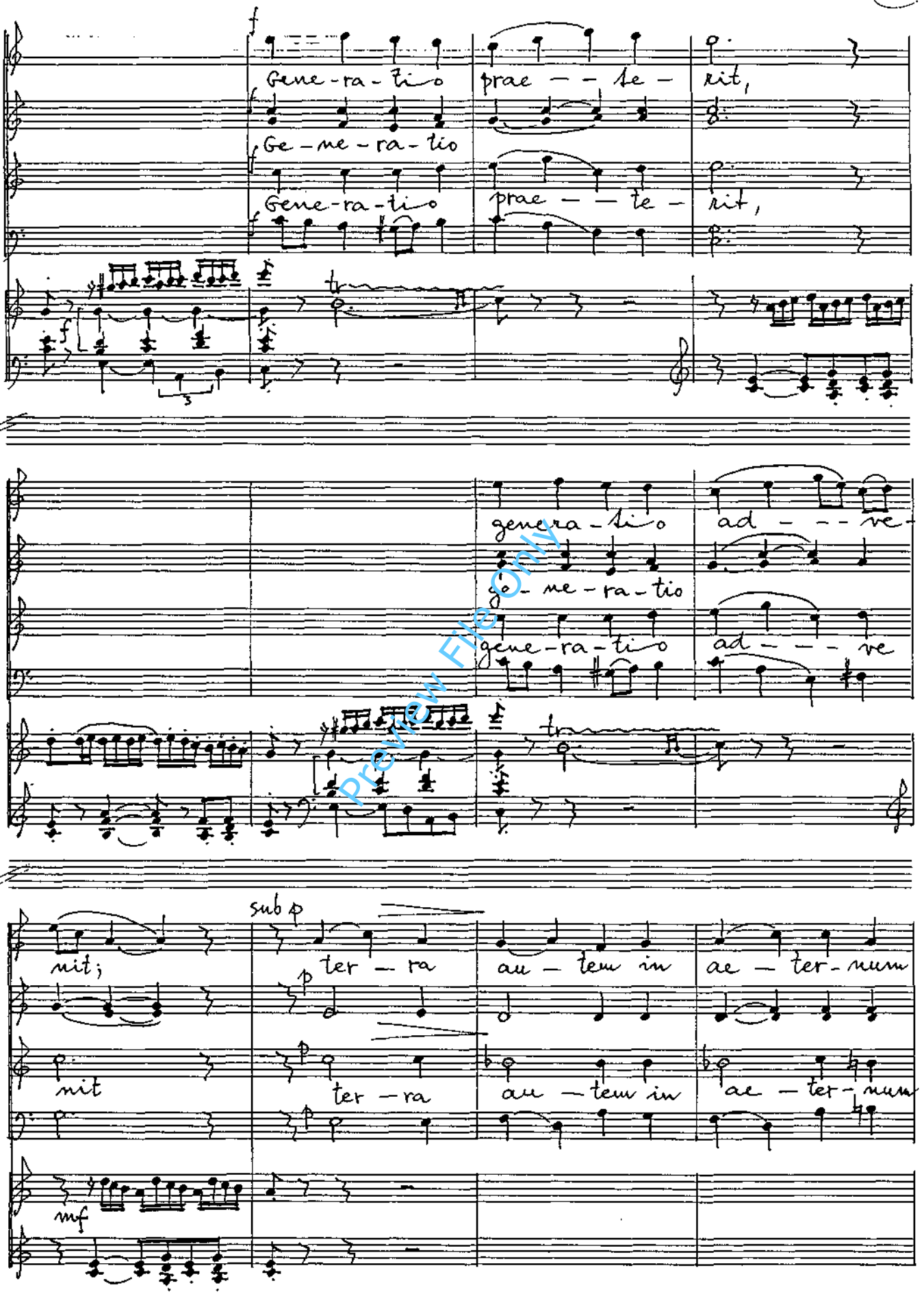

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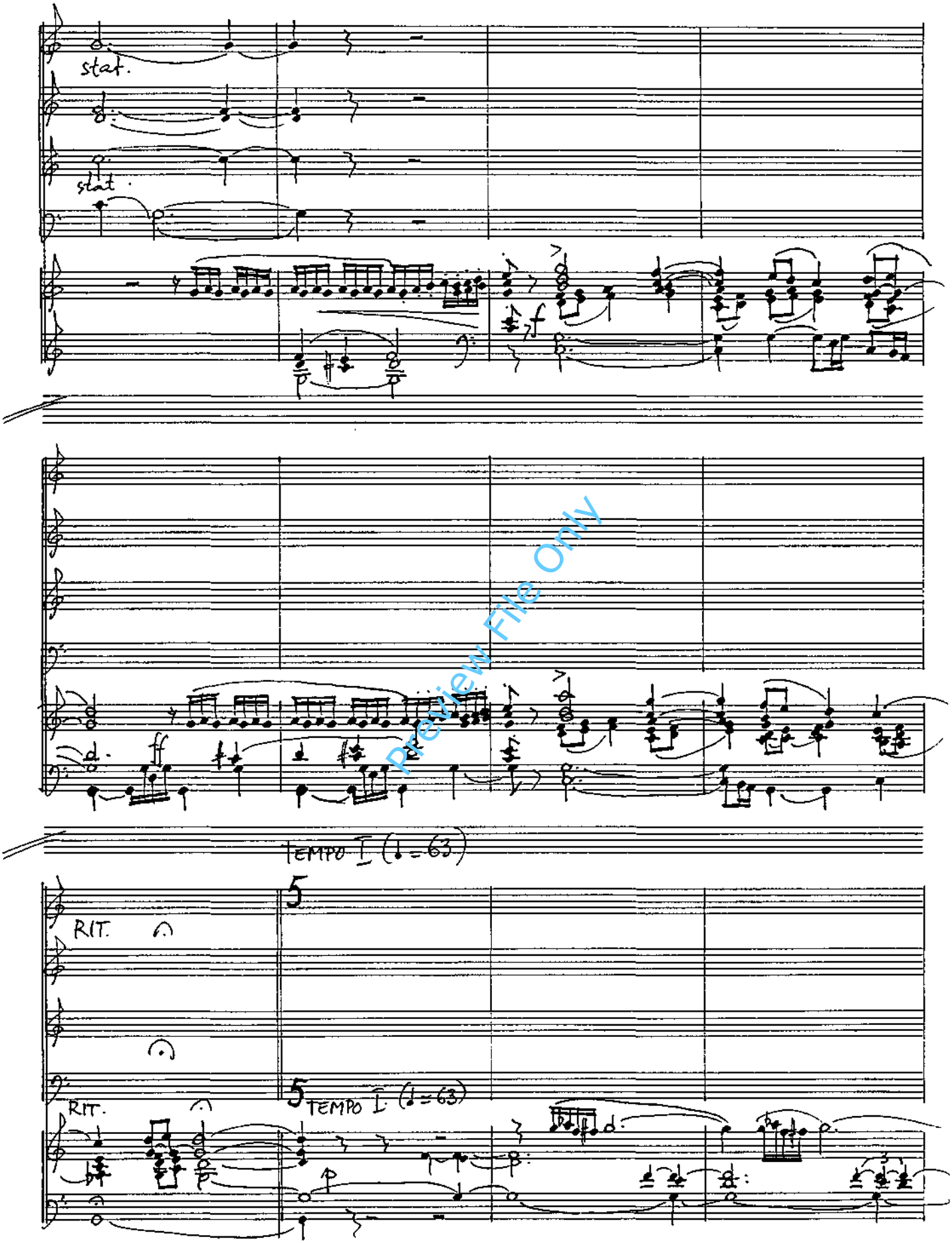

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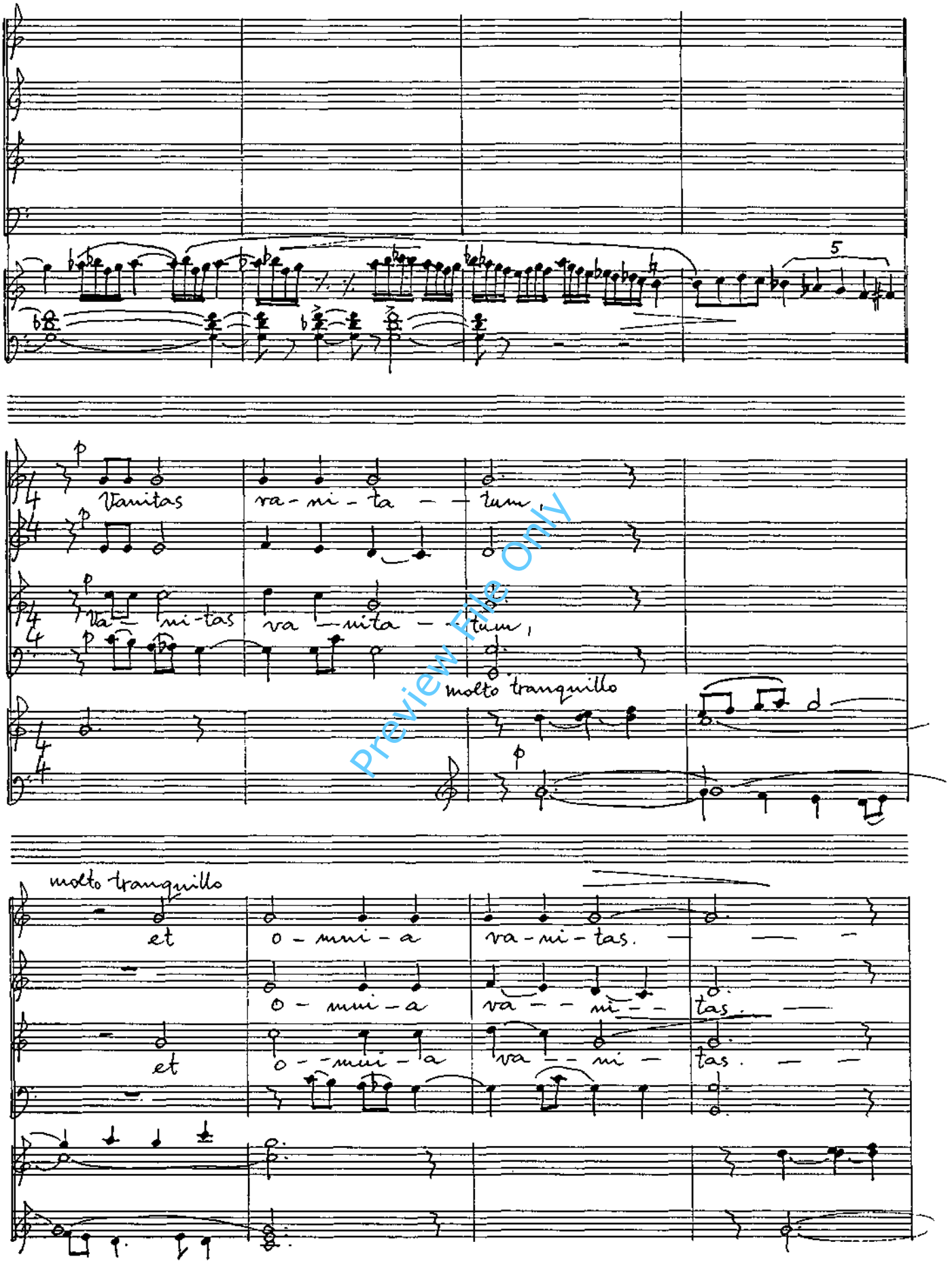

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