About Contemporary Voices
Contemporary Voices is a promotion and distribution scheme run by the British Music Information Centre, which aims to provide access to the works of young, unpublished composers. Contact Bmic (address & telephone number on the front of the score) for more information, or see our website: www.bmic.co.uk

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Preview File Only

Richard Baker

Huiusmodi sunt omnia

(2003)

Lucilla Verum extulit; mox et Lucilla ipsa elata est. Secunda Maximum; mox et Secunda. Epitynchanus Diotimum; mox et Epitynchanus. Antoninus Faustinam; mox et Antoninus. Celer Hadrianum; mox et Celer. Huiusmodi sunt omnia. Quin et solertes illi, aut futurorum praescii, aut fastu inflati, ubinam iam sunt? Solertes, inquam, quales Charax, Demetrius Platonicus, Eudaemon, et si quis alius eius modi. Omnia caduca sunt, et iam olim morte sepulta sunt. Alii nec brevem sui memoriam sunt consecuti; alii in fabulas abierunt; alii etiam ex fabulis evanuerunt. Horum ergo memineris, aut compagem tui dissipatum iri, aut extinctum spiritum, aut migraturum, atque alibi iri dispositum.

Lucilla buried Verus[1]; soon she herself was also buried. Secunda buried Maximus; soon Secunda was buried too. Epitynchanus buried Diotimus; soon was Epitynchanus buried too. Antoninus buried Faustina; soon he too was buried. Celer buried Hadrian; soon Celer was buried as well. So is it ever. And the experts, the prophets, those puffed up with pride: where are they now? I mean experts such as Charax, Demetrius the Platonist, Eudaemon and others like them. All things are transitory, dead in an instant[2]. And some do not achieve even a brief span in the memory of the living; others pass into myth; some have even vanished from myth. So remember these things: either the construct of your body will be deconstructed, or at least your spirit will be snuffed out, or it will move on and be stationed elsewhere.

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Marcus Aurelius – Meditations
Book VIII, 25
Latin translation: Thomas Gataker, Cambridge 1652
English translation by Joseph Spooner

Commissioned by BBC Radio 3 for Arvids Platpers and the Choir of the Latvian Music Academy, Riga (winners of *Let the Peoples Sing*, 2001) and first performed by them at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on October 12, 2003 as part of *Let the Peoples Sing,* 2003

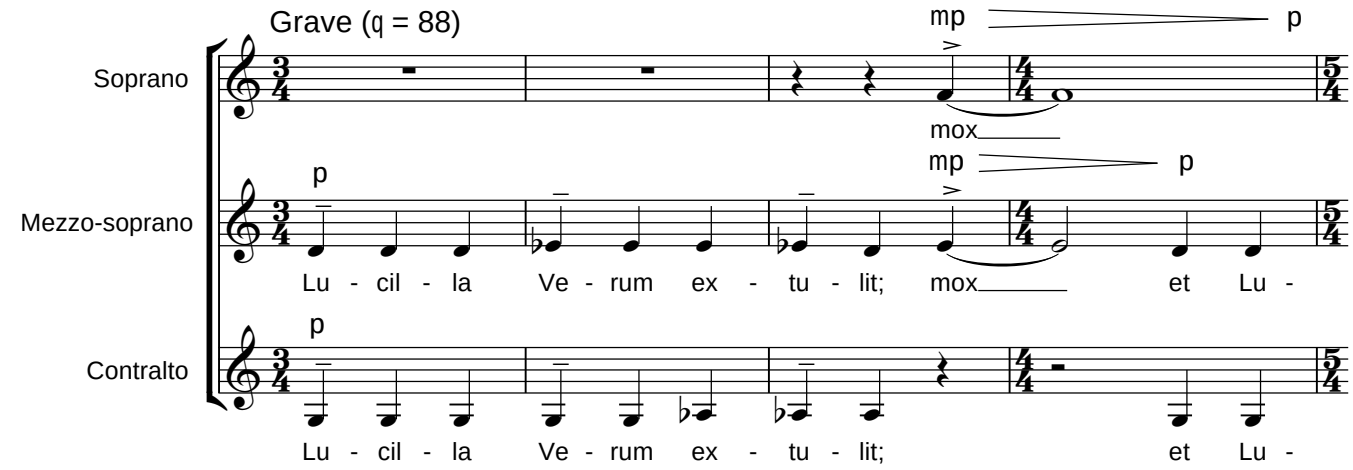
Duration: c.4 minutes

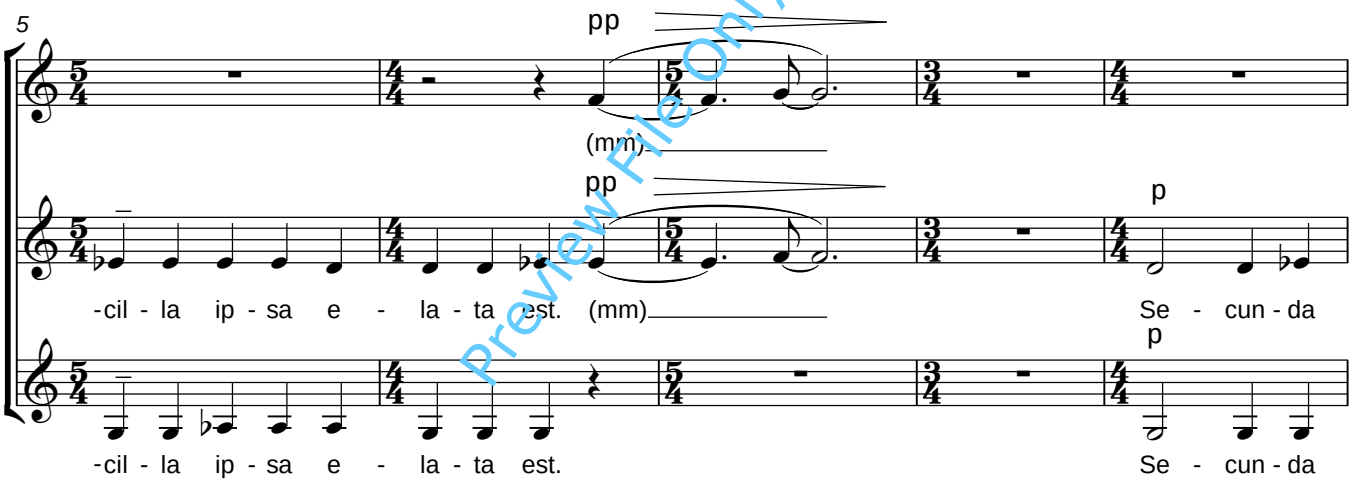
[1] Lucilla and Verus were Marcus's parents.
[2] This sentence translates the original Greek, not Gataker's Latin version.

Huiusmodi sunt omnia

Marcus Aurelius

Richard Baker





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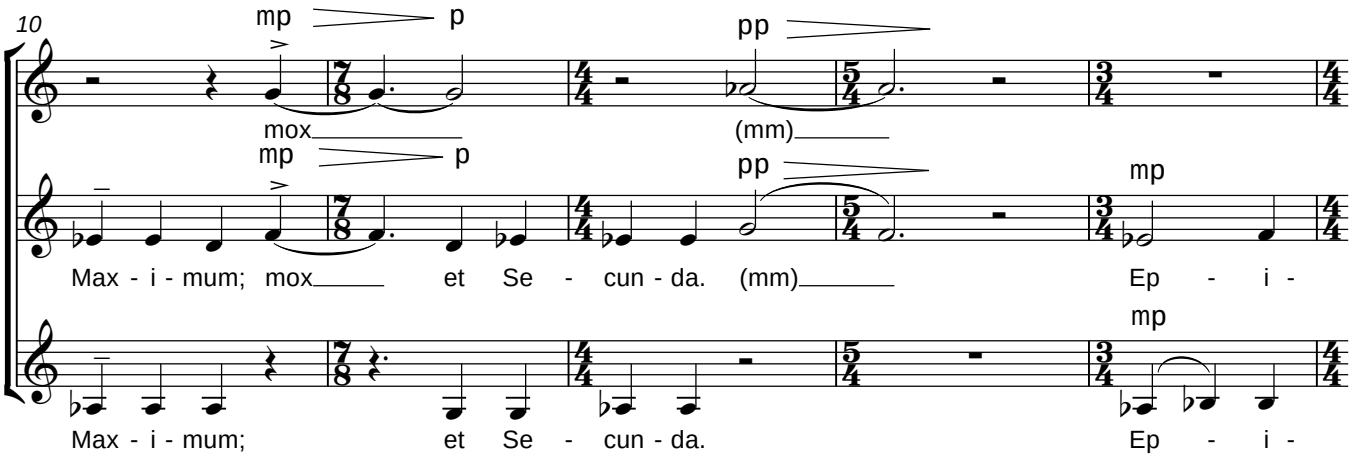

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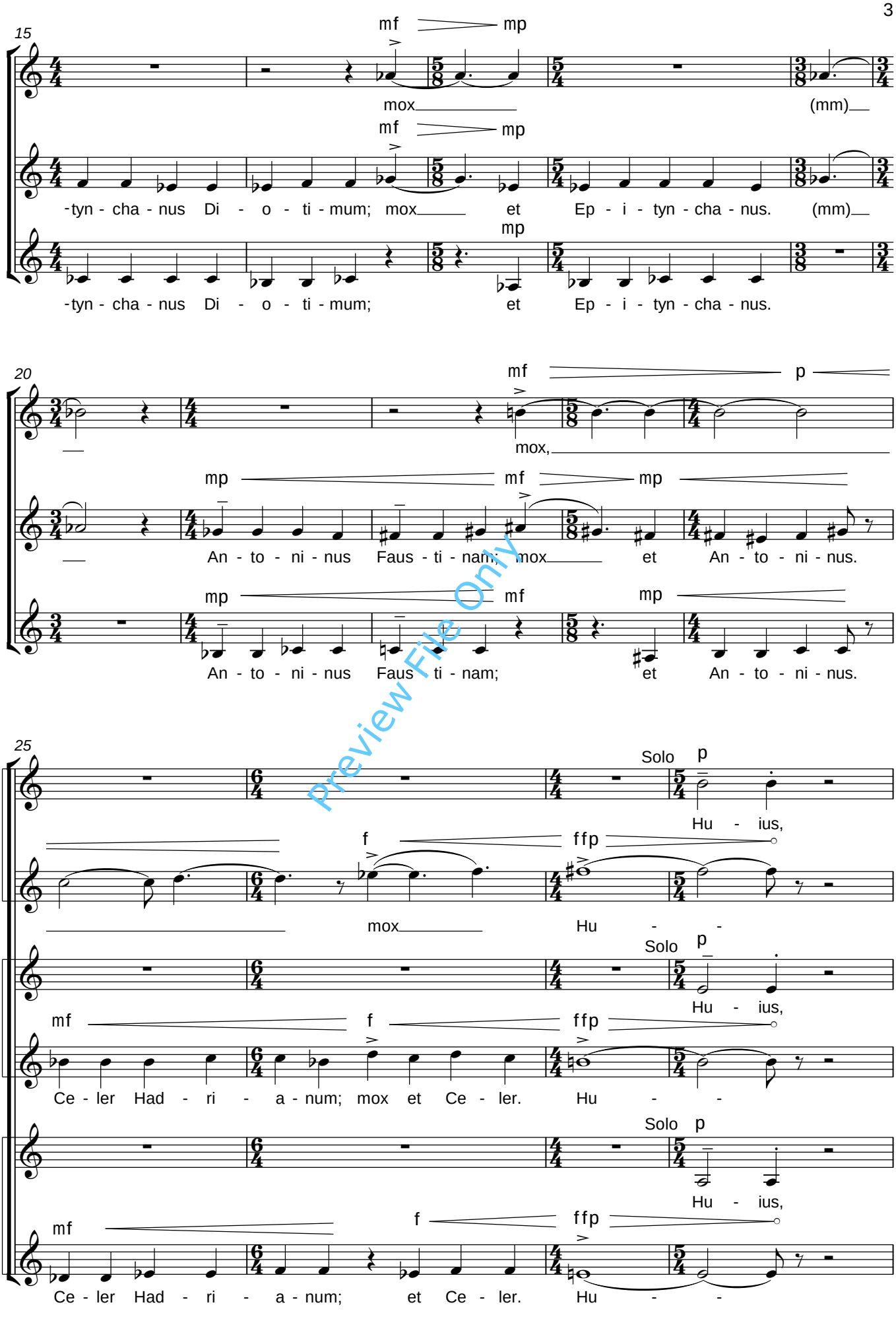

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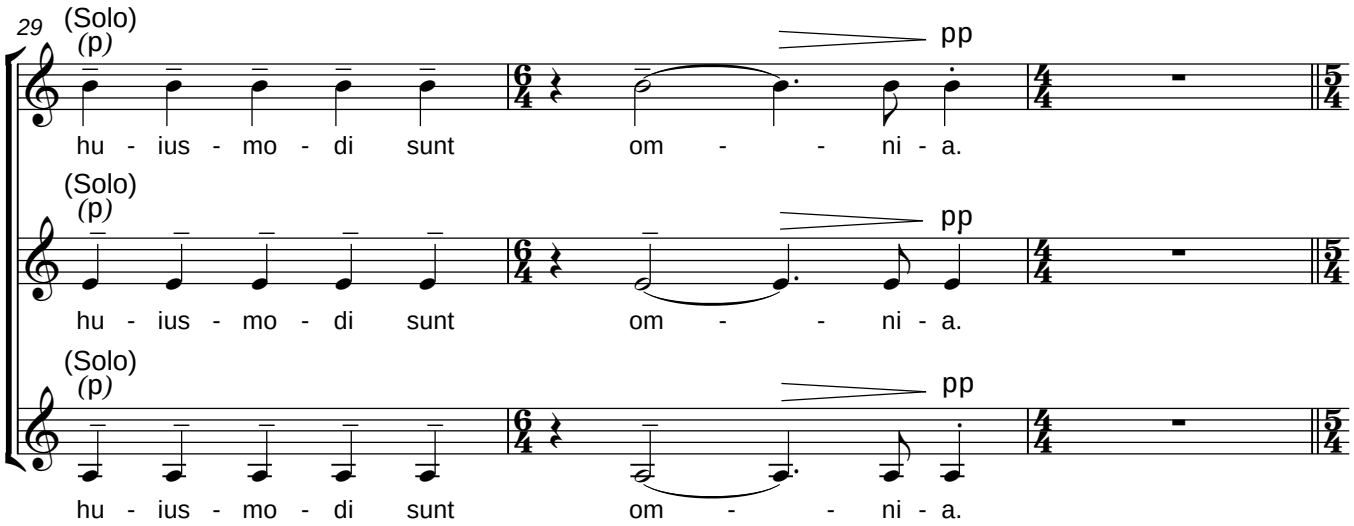

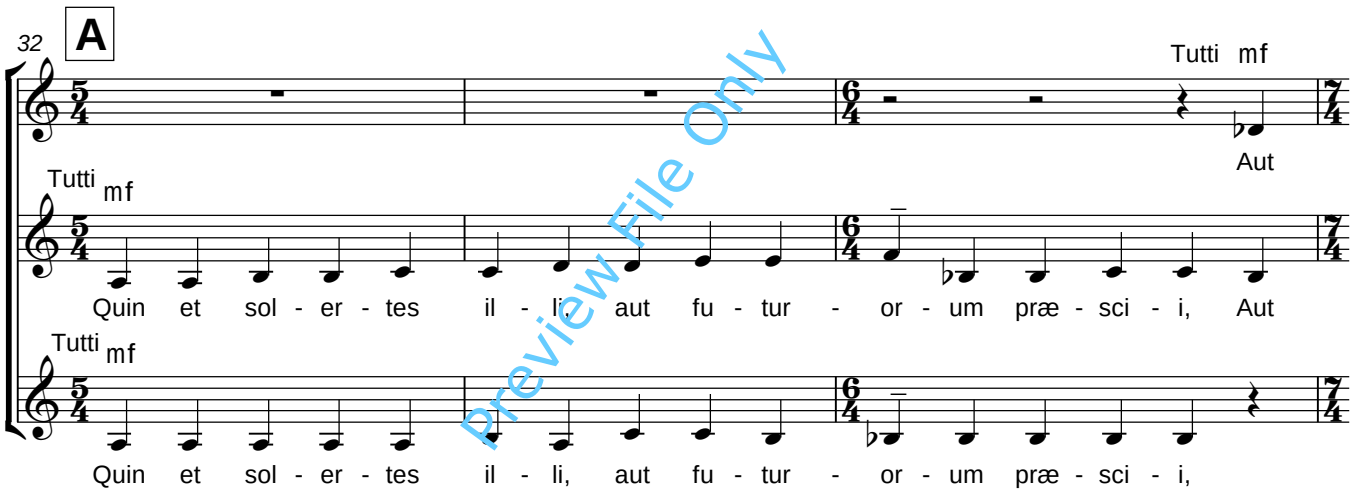

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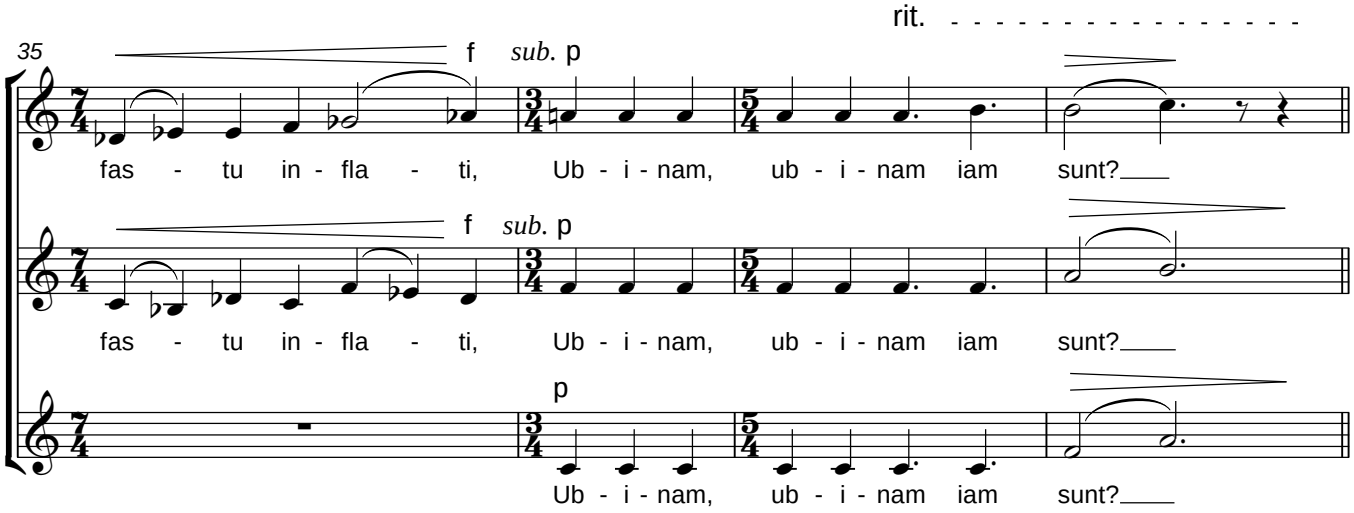

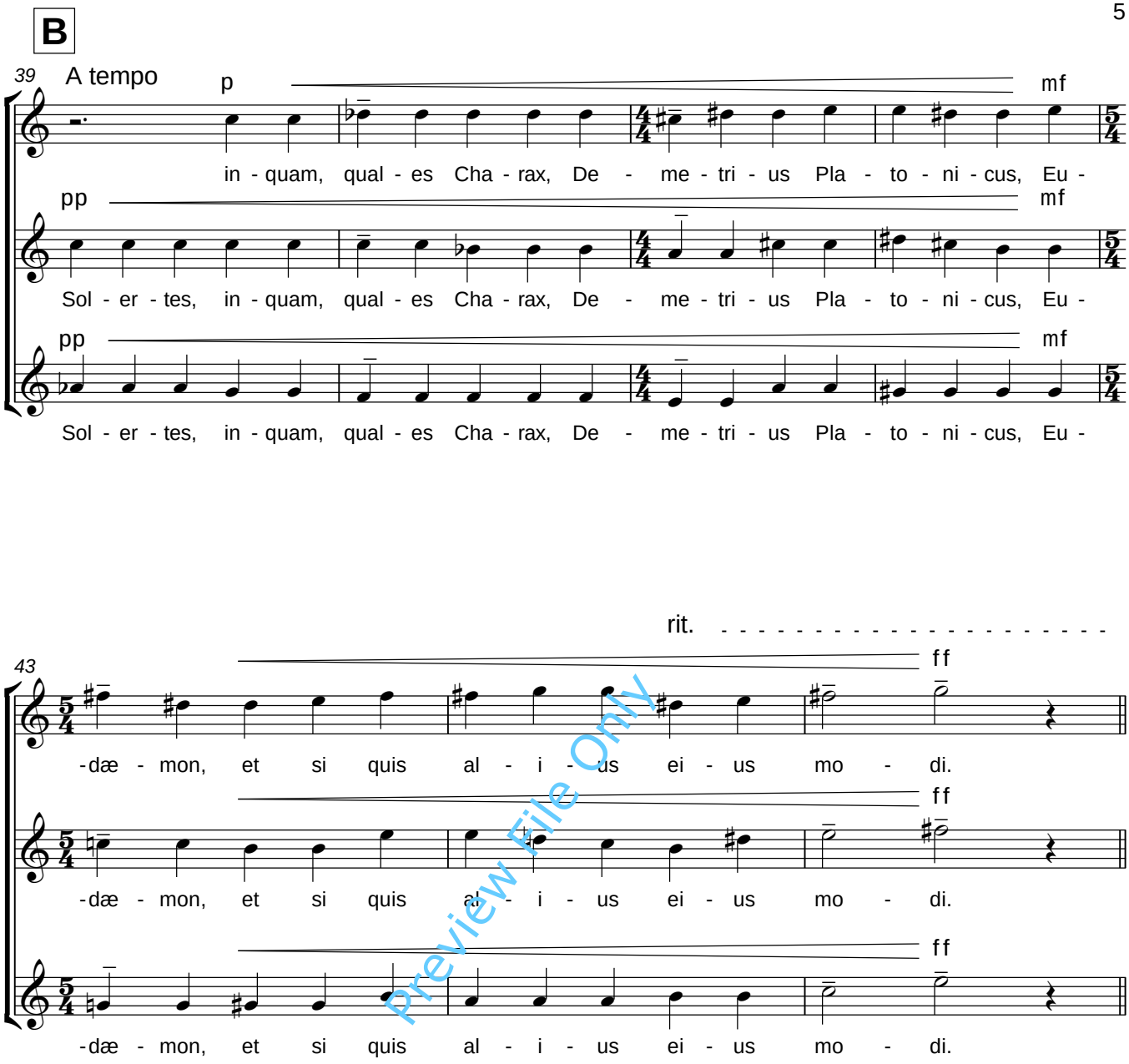

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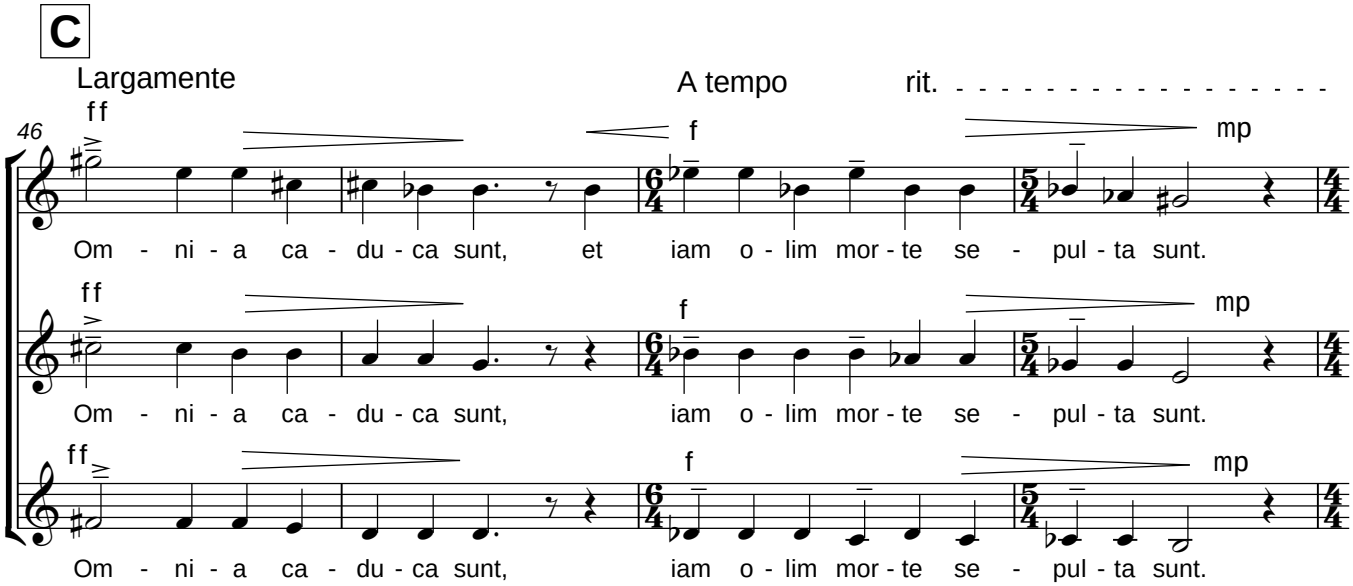

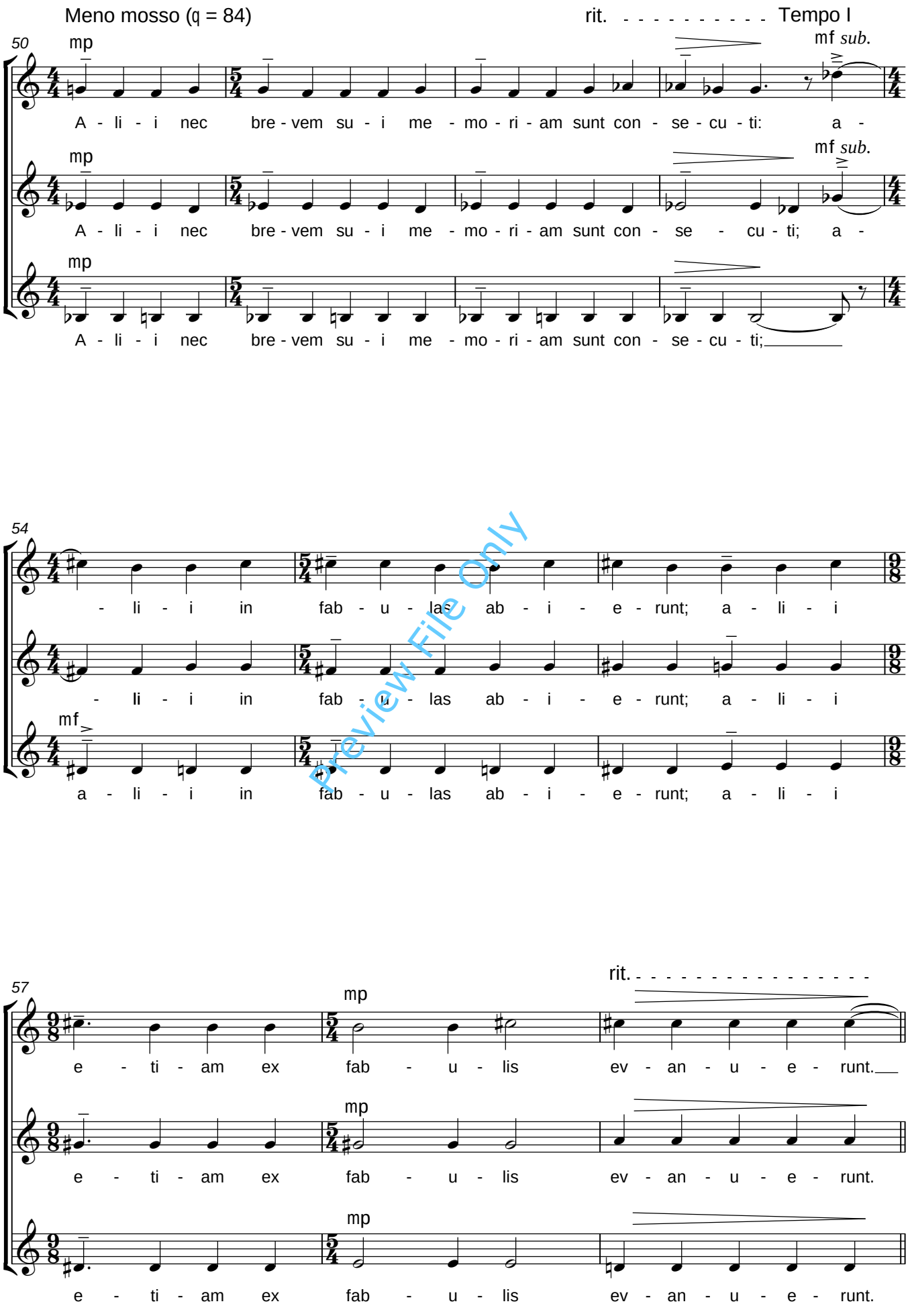

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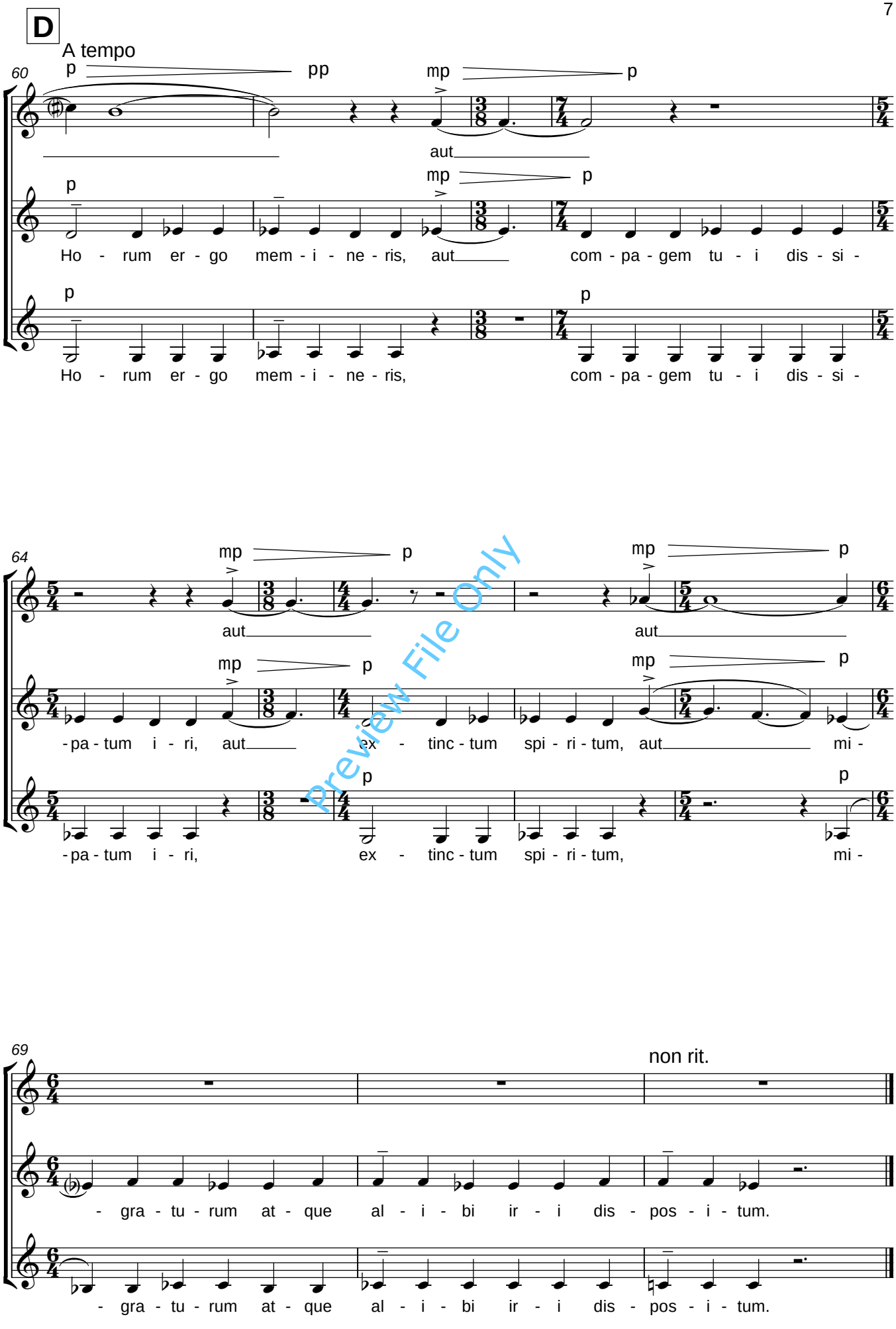

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