JEFFREY RYAN

MIRARI

FOR PIANO SOLO

COMMISSIONED BY THE
ECKHARDT-GRAMATTÉ
NATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION

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Performance notes:

The seven movements of ***Mirari*** are not in a prescribed order. The performer chooses the order of the movements, keeping in mind issues such as character, pacing and dramatic flow, in order to create a kind of miniature concert programme. Each movement is played once only. There are 5040 possible permutations.

Total performance time is ca. 10 minutes. Approximate timings for the individual movements (in alphabetical order) are:

Acromion	1:00
Gegenschein	2:30
Gondwana (Bunda Cliffs)	1:15
The Invention Of Zero	1:00
Platypus	1:25
Spring Tide	1:00
(This Is A) Work Of Fiction	1:40

Each movement is two facing pages long, so that there are no page turns required within a movement. Movements are performed *attacca* unless otherwise noted.

Pedal markings must be carefully observed. Most movements do not have a blunt ending, but sustain with pedal; in these cases the sustain pedal should be held to elide with the following movement. The beginning and end of each movement have alternate pedal markings in parentheses to show these elisions.

Though courtesy accidentals are frequently used, accidentals apply only to their specific staff and octave, and in metred music are cancelled by the barline.

Programme note:

"We should always endeavour to wonder at the permanent thing, not at the mere exception. We should be startled by the sun, and not by the eclipse. We should wonder less at the earthquake, and wonder more at the earth." (G.K. Chesterton)

"Mirari" is a Latin word meaning "to marvel at". The seven wonders that comprise this collection of miniatures for solo piano are inspired by things that amaze me: the complex interconnected systems of the body (*Acromion*); the unknowable vastness of the universe (*Gegenschein*); the slow but constant movement of the continents under our feet (*Gondwana (Bunda Cliffs)*); the elegance of mathematics (*The Invention of Zero*); the diversity of lifeforms, each as evolutionally advanced as it has ever been (*Platypus*); the visible power and effect of the Sun and Moon (*Spring Tide*); and the infinite ability of human imagination to create entire new worlds (*(This Is A) Work of Fiction*).

Mirari was commissioned by the Eckhardt-Gramatté National Music Competition as the imposed work for the 2016 competition.

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ACROMION

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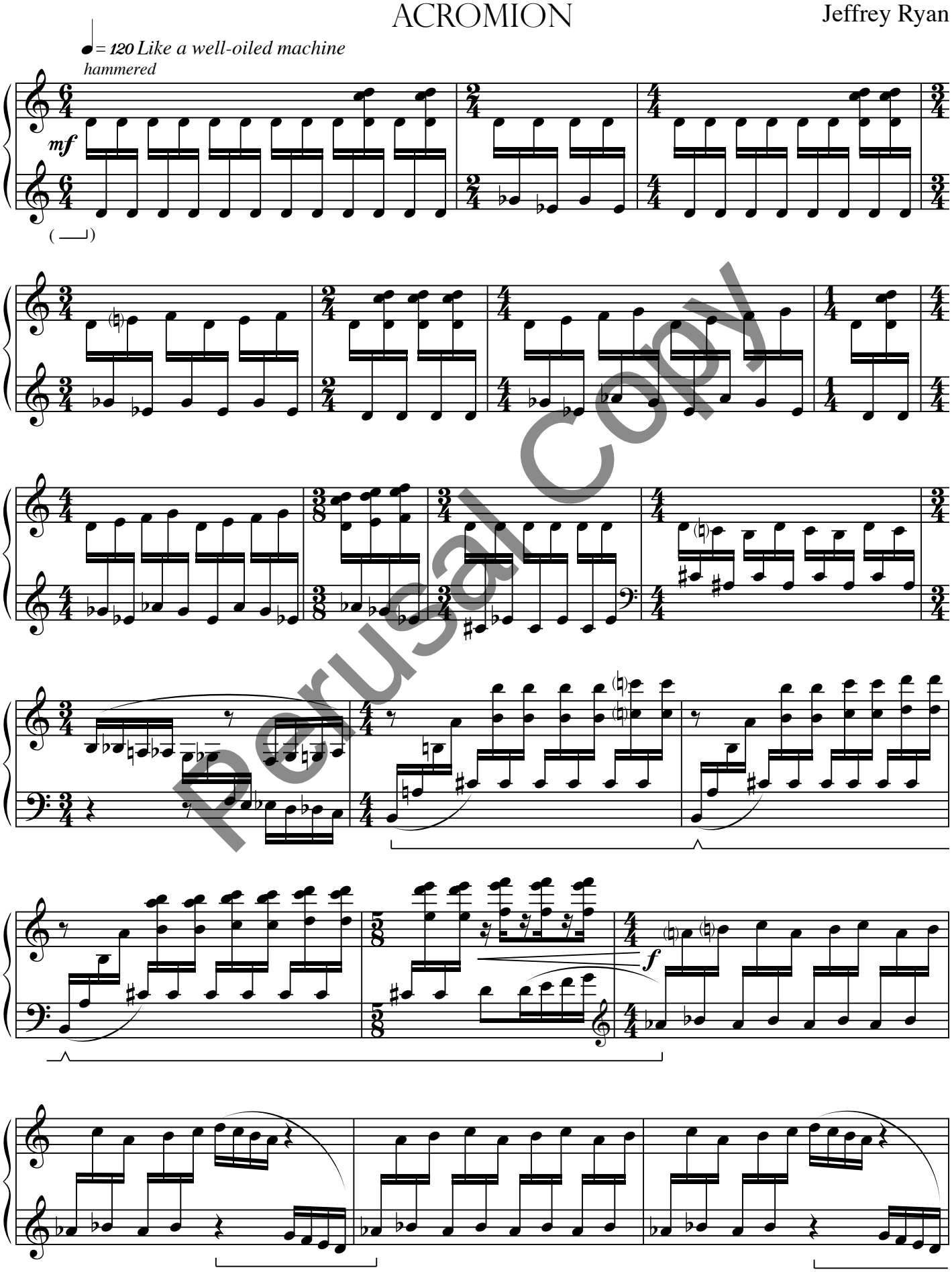

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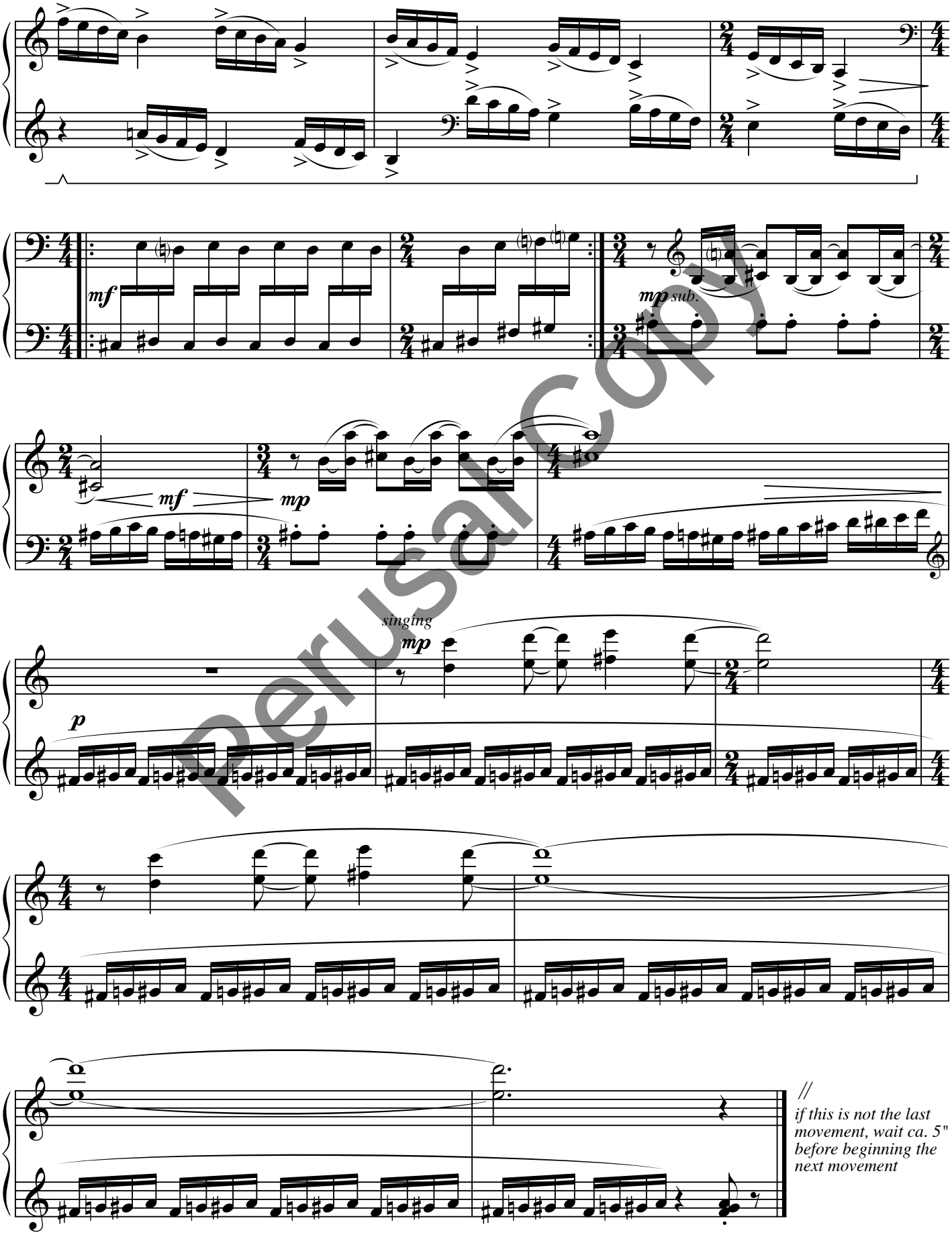

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(THIS IS A) WORK OF FICTION

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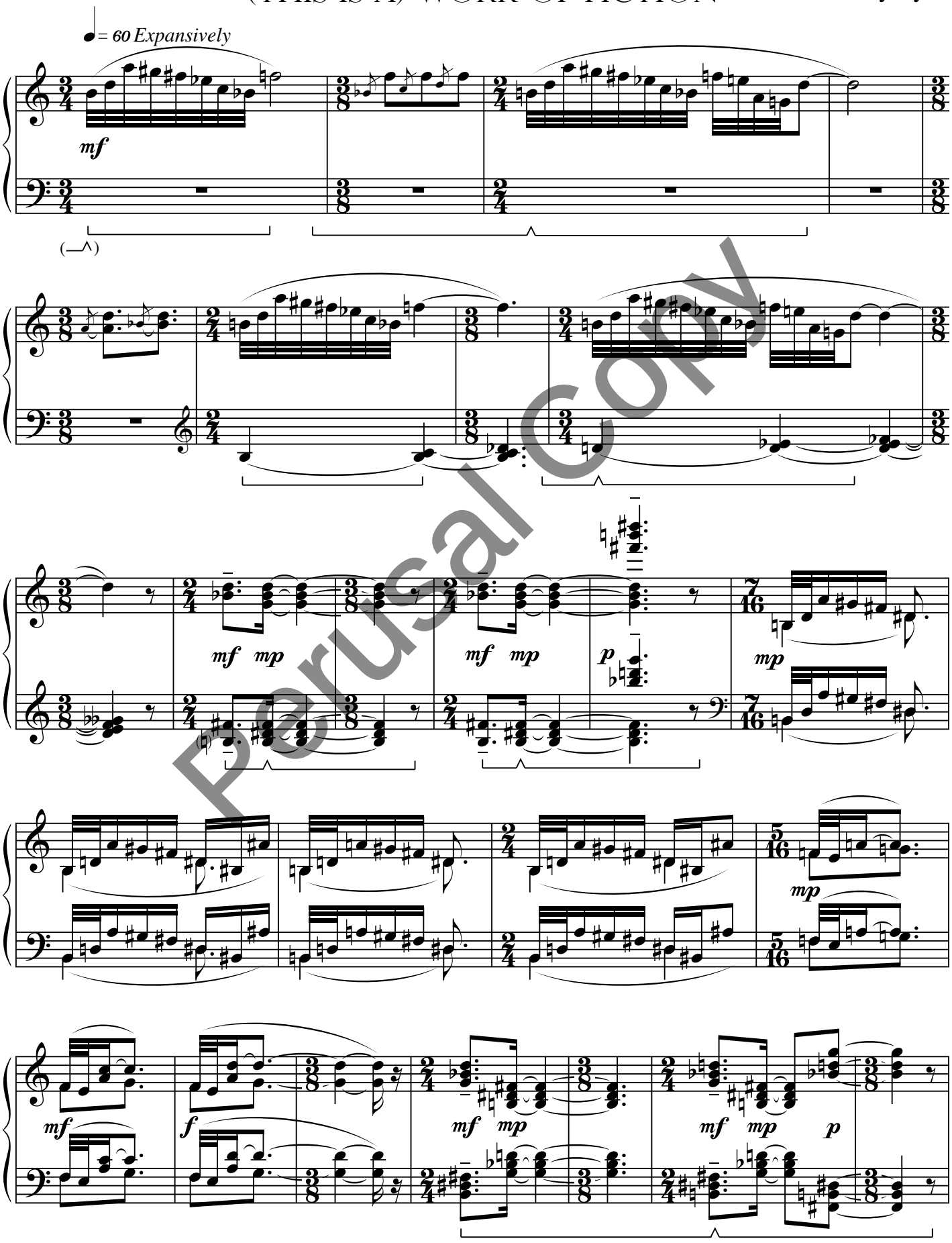

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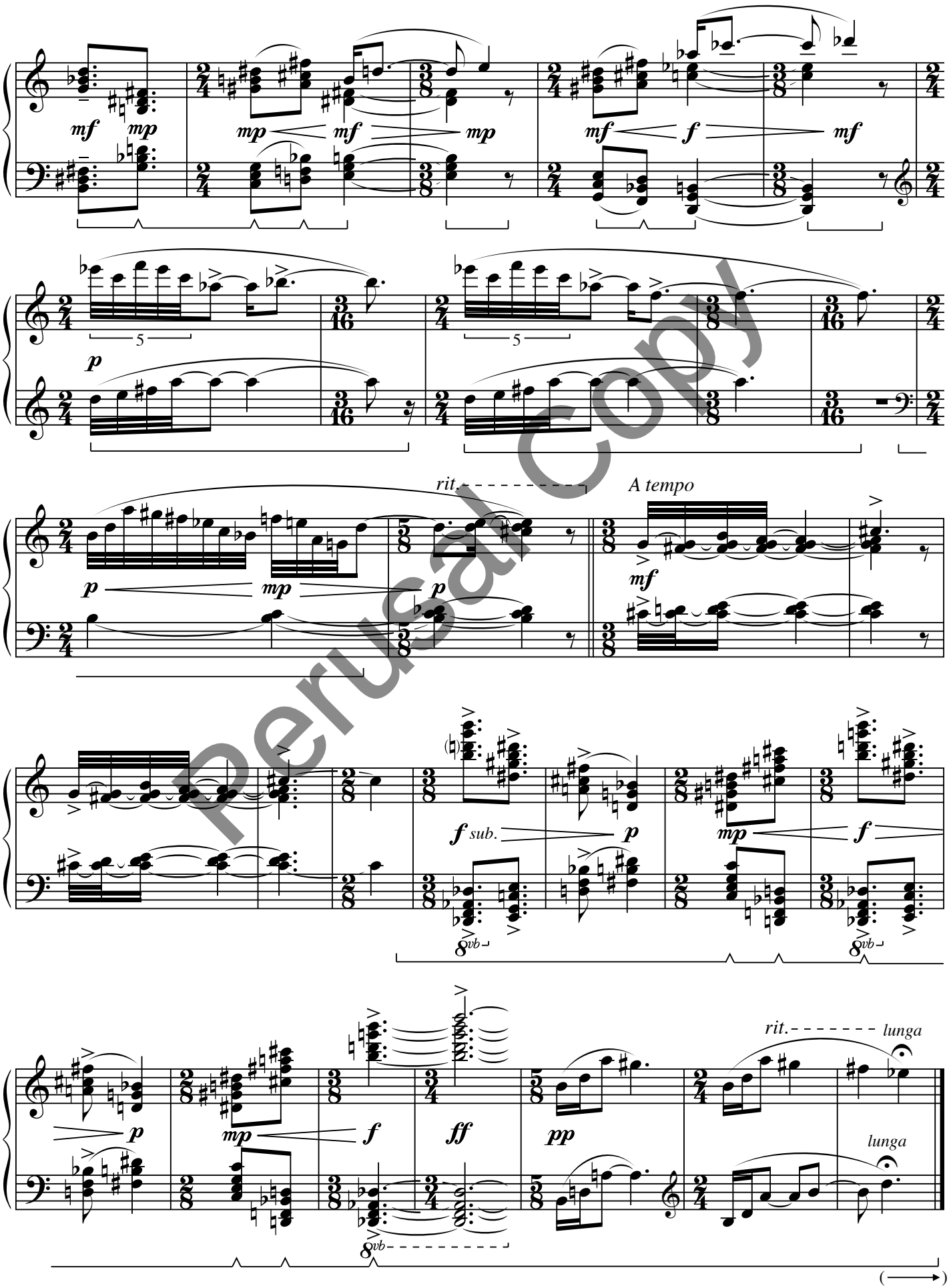

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GEGENSCHEIN

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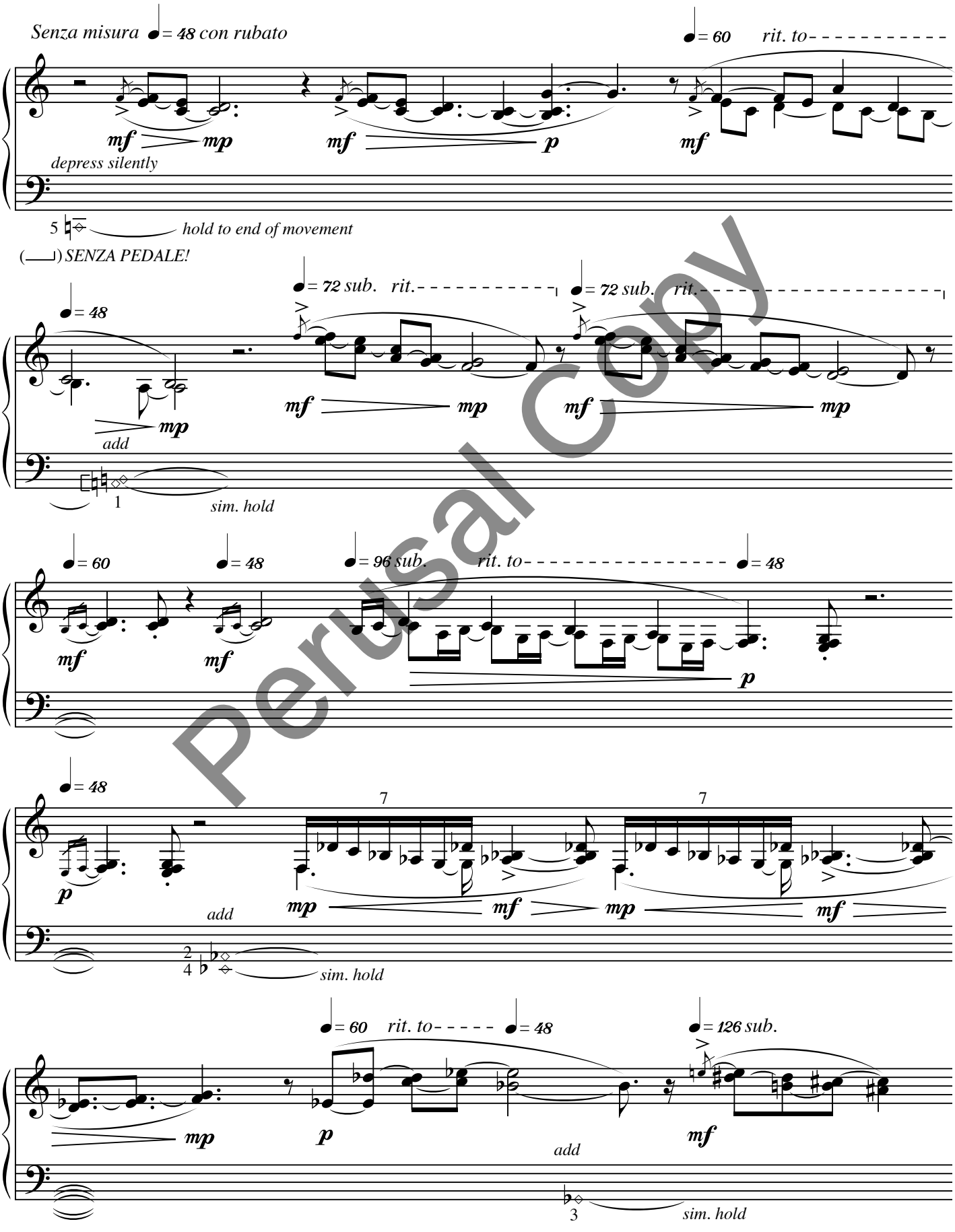

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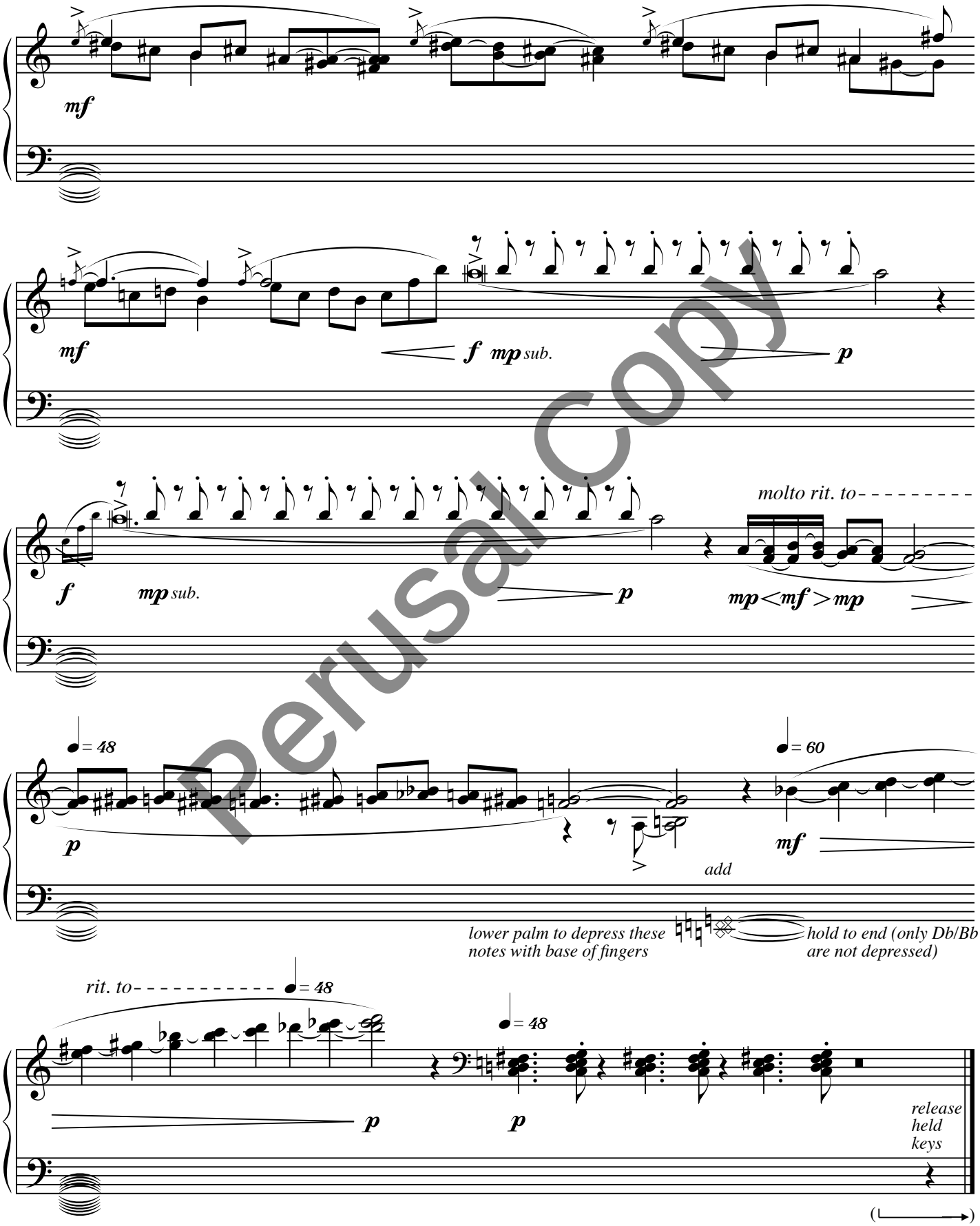

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GONDWANA (BUNDA CLIFFS)

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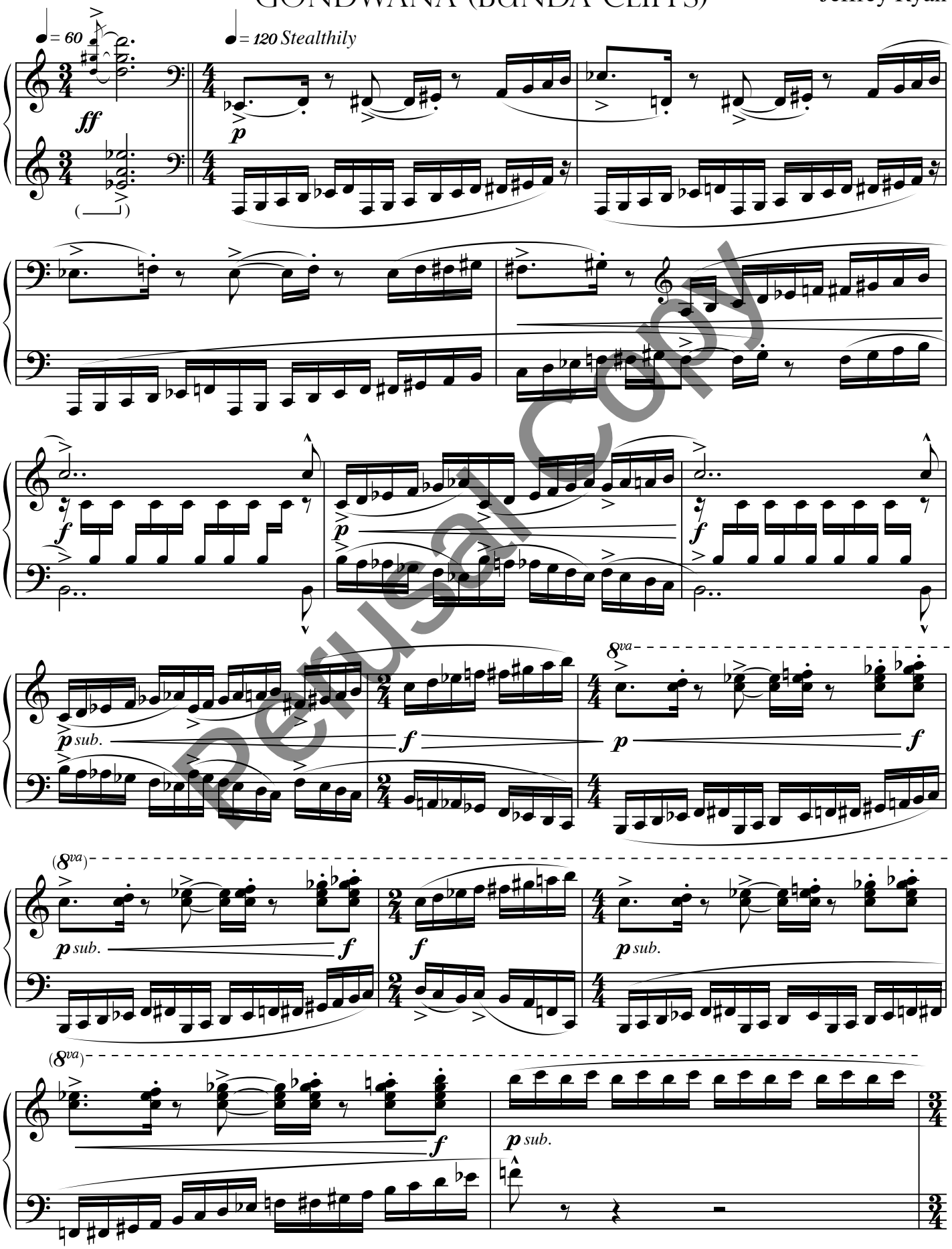

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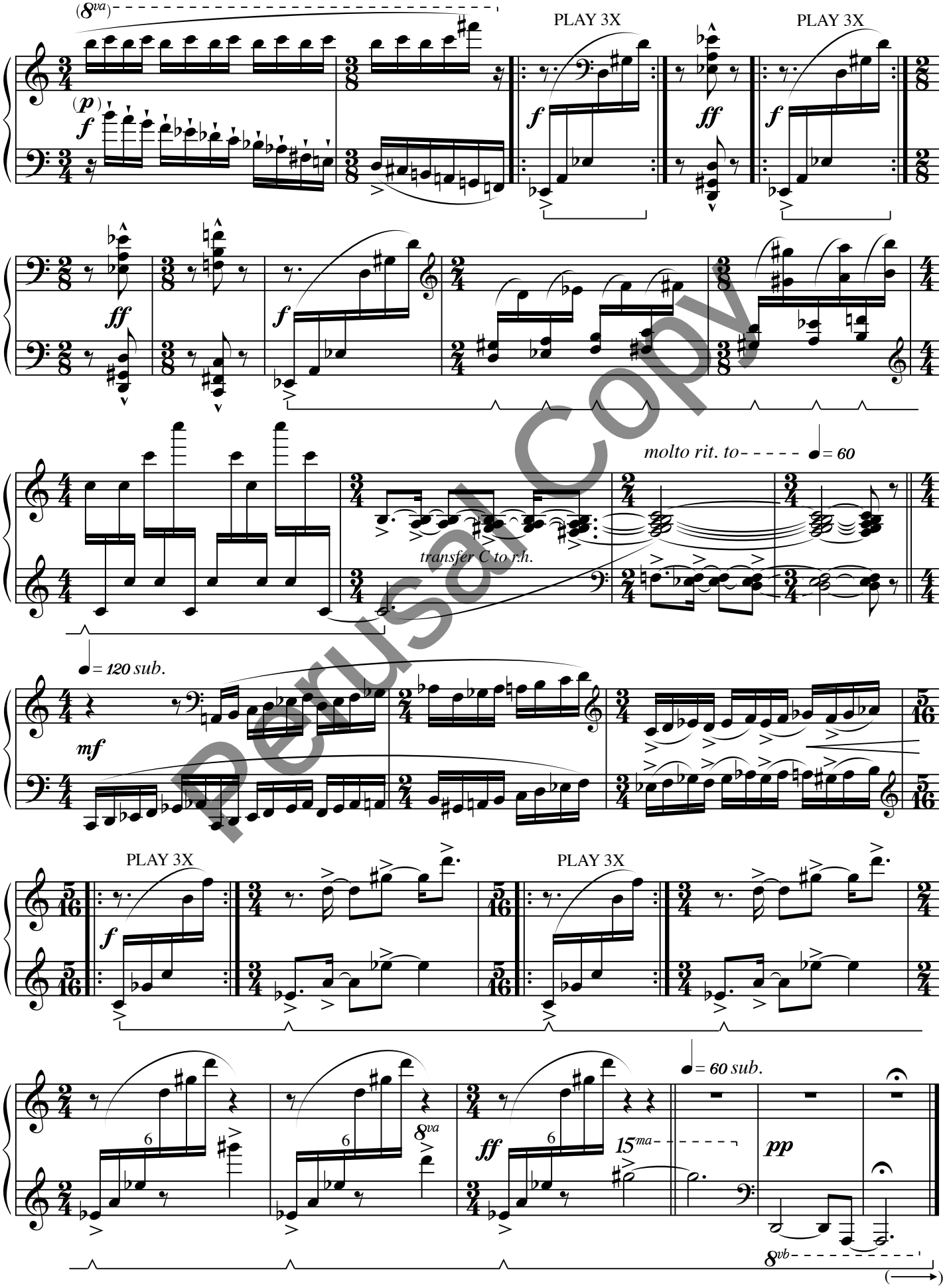

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PLATYPUS

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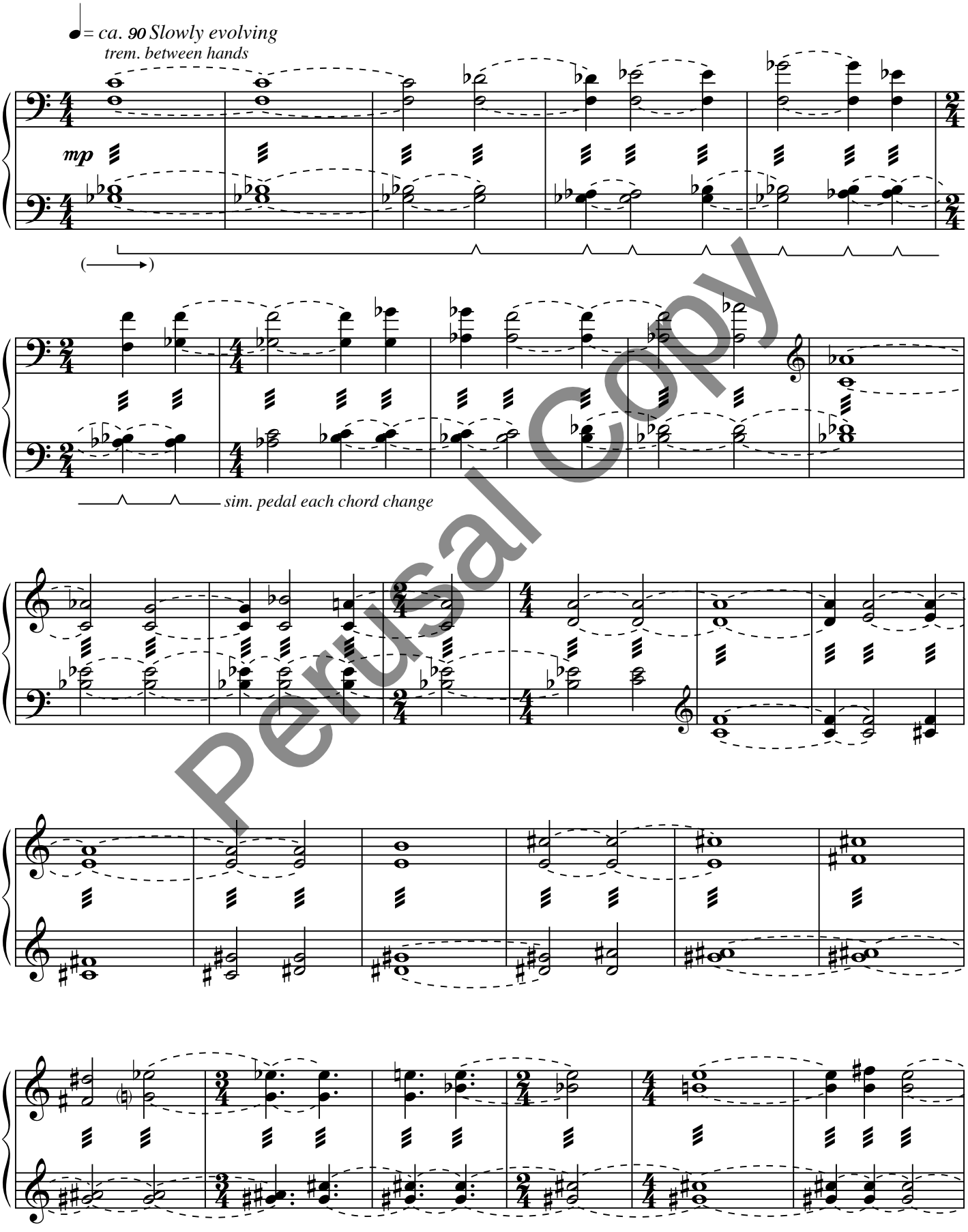

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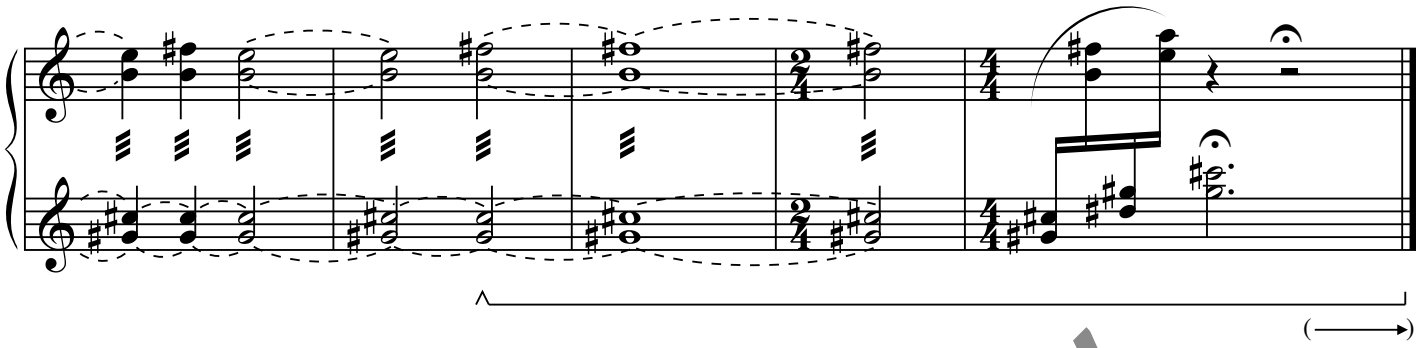

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SPRING TIDE

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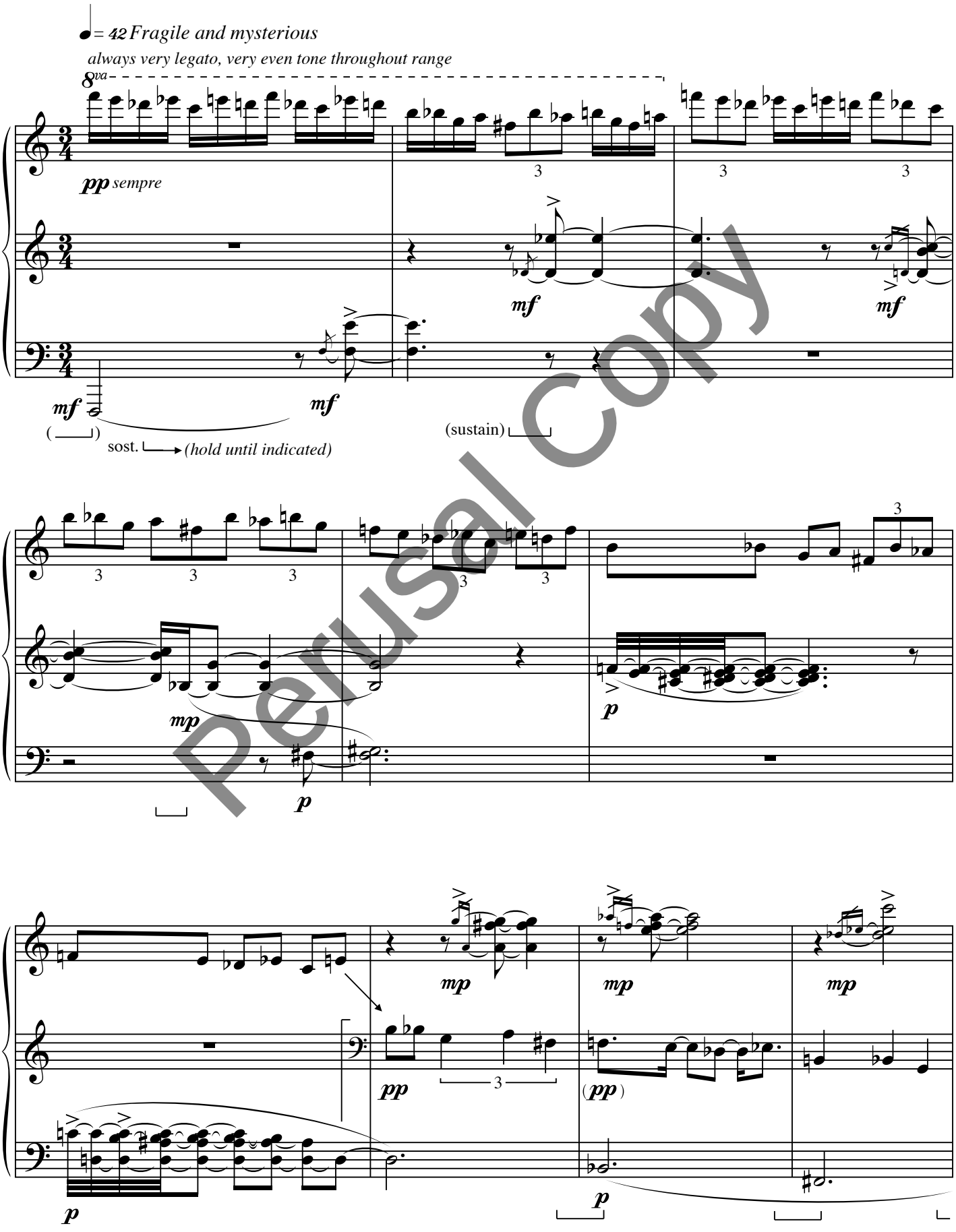

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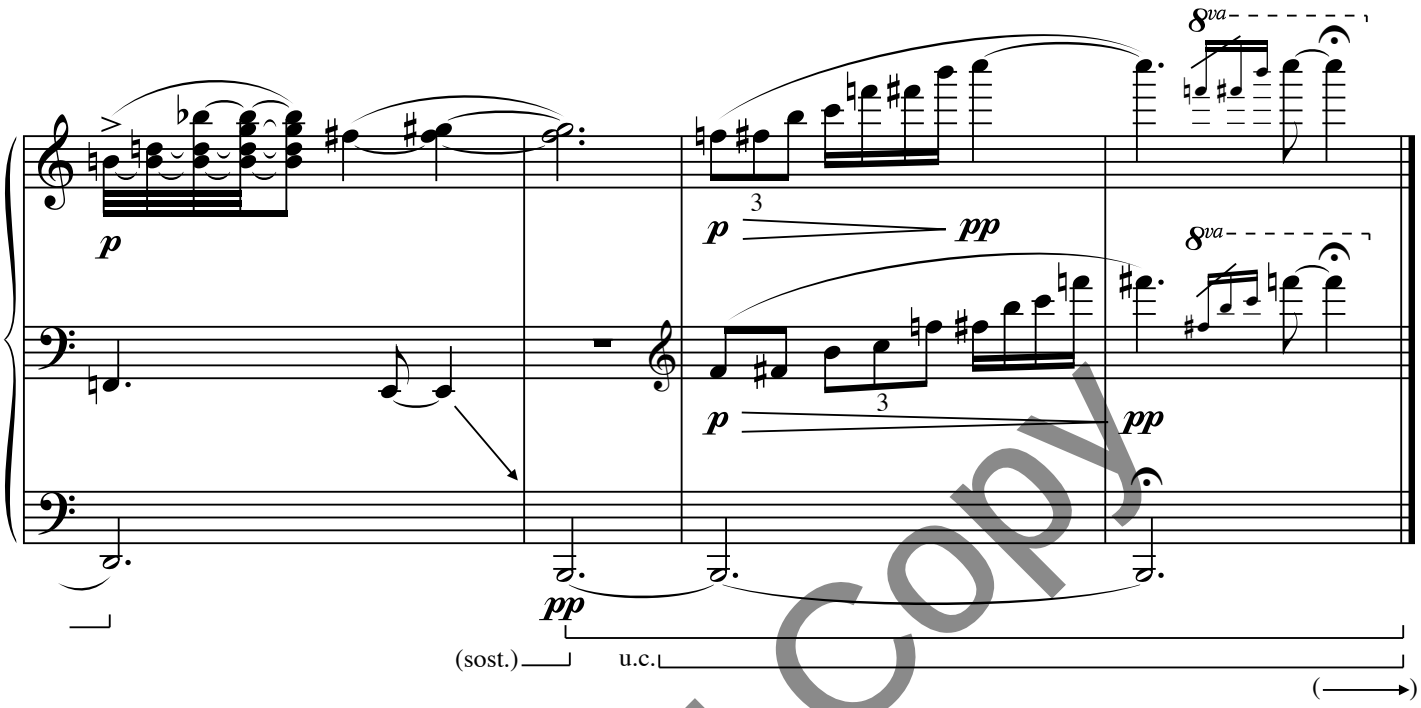

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THE INVENTION OF ZERO

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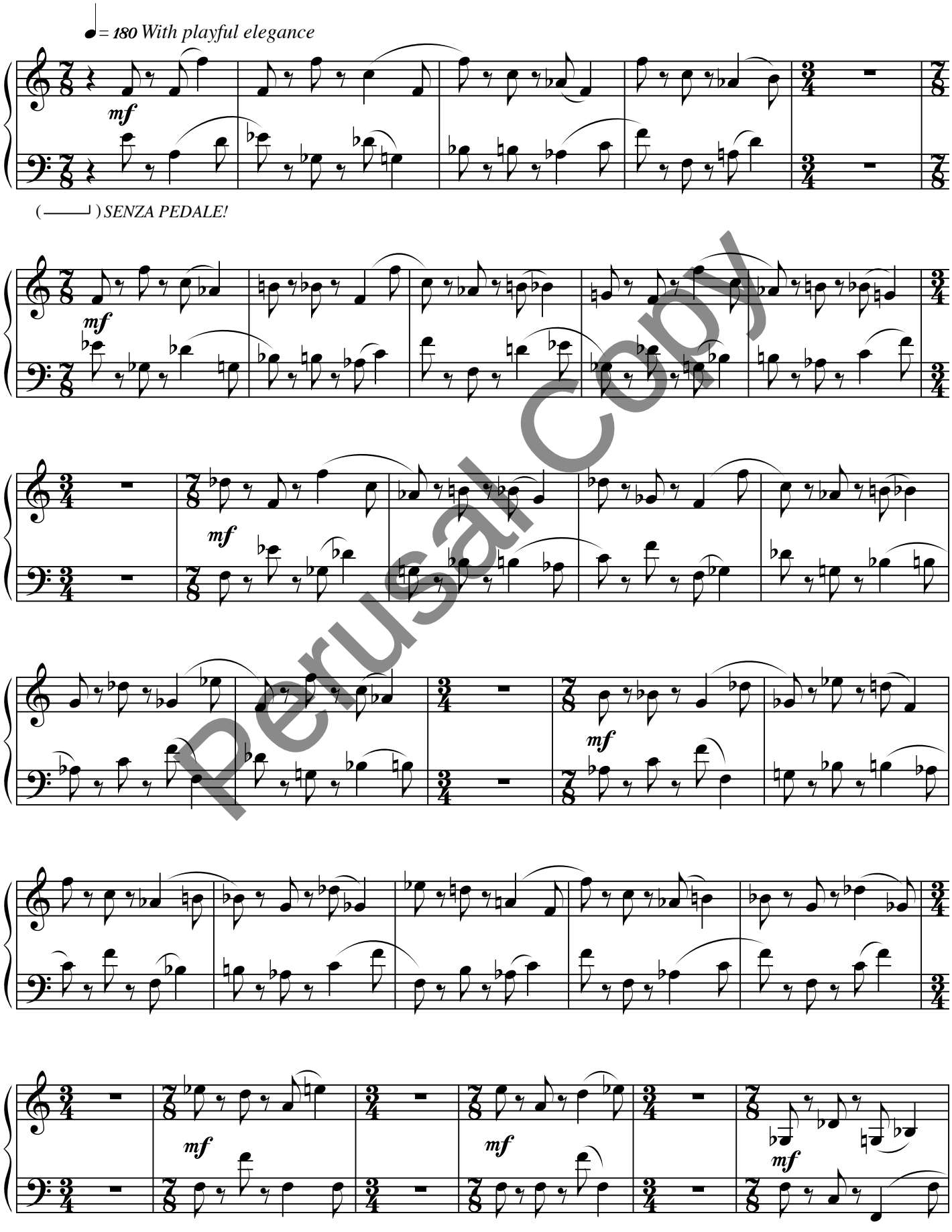

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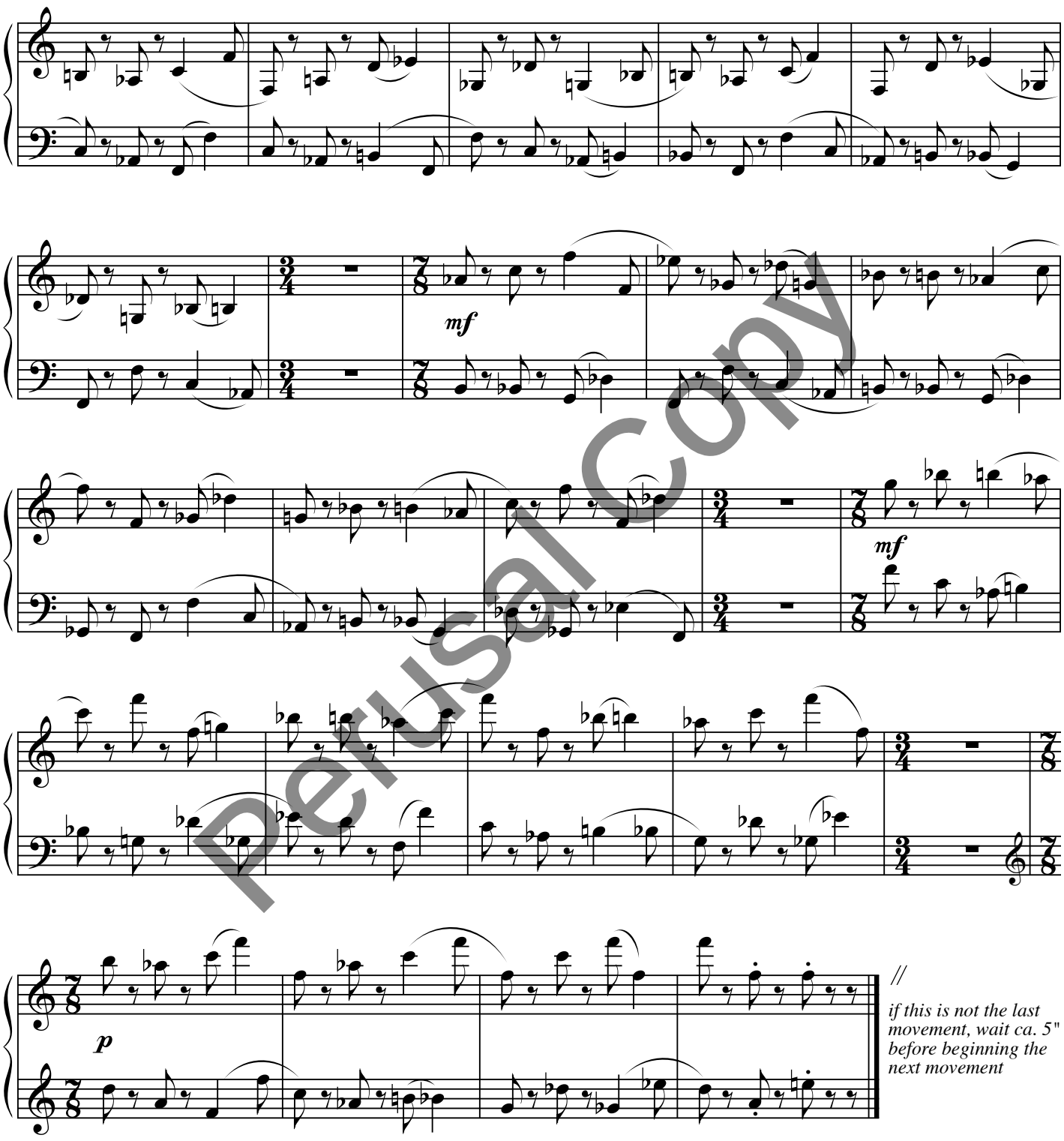

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