Edie Hill

Windhover

for solo organ

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

THE WINDHOVER

I caught this morning morning's minion, king-
dom of daylight's dauphin, dapple-dawn-drawn Falcon, in his riding
Of the rolling level underneath him steady air, and striding
High there, how he rung upon the rein of a wimpling wing
In his ecstasy! then off, off forth on swing,
As a skate's heel sweeps smooth on a bow-bend: the hurl and gliding
Rebuffed the big wind. My heart in hiding
Stirred for a bird, – the achieve of, the mastery of the thing!

Brute beauty and valour and act, oh, air, pride, plume, here
Buckle! And the fire that breaks from thee then, a billion
Times told lovelier, more dangerous, O my chevalier!

No wonder of it: shéer plód makes plough down sillion
Shine, and blue-bleak embers, ah my dear,
Fall, gall themselves, and gash gold-vermilion.

– *Gerard Manley Hopkins*

from The Poems of Gerard Manley Hopkins, Fourth Edition, Edited by W. H. Garsner and N.H. MacKenzie; OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 1967.

PROGRAM NOTE

I am often drawn to extra-musical things to generate motivic and structural ideas for a piece. I have loved this poem for many years and when the opportunity arose to compose a piece for solo organ, it immediately came to mind. The motion - "hurl and gliding," the structure, and the idea of a masterful, majestic beast, vulnerable to falling, were all central ideas in the process of composing.

Edie Hill

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

for Dean Billmeyer

WINDHOVER

commissioned by the Twin Cities Chapter
of the American Guild of Organists

EDIE HILL

Free, rubato

♩=c.40 *molto accel.* ♩=c.88

(use flute stops)

Sw *p*

(16' Bourdon)

4

p

a bit slower ♩=c.80
more muscular and vigorous

slow ♩=c.88
molto cresc.
again, more
muscular and vigorous

9

Gr *mp*

Sw

* all trills are half-step unless otherwise indicated.

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Music Preparation by
Music Advantage
(952) 448-7544
Music Services by Paul Gerike

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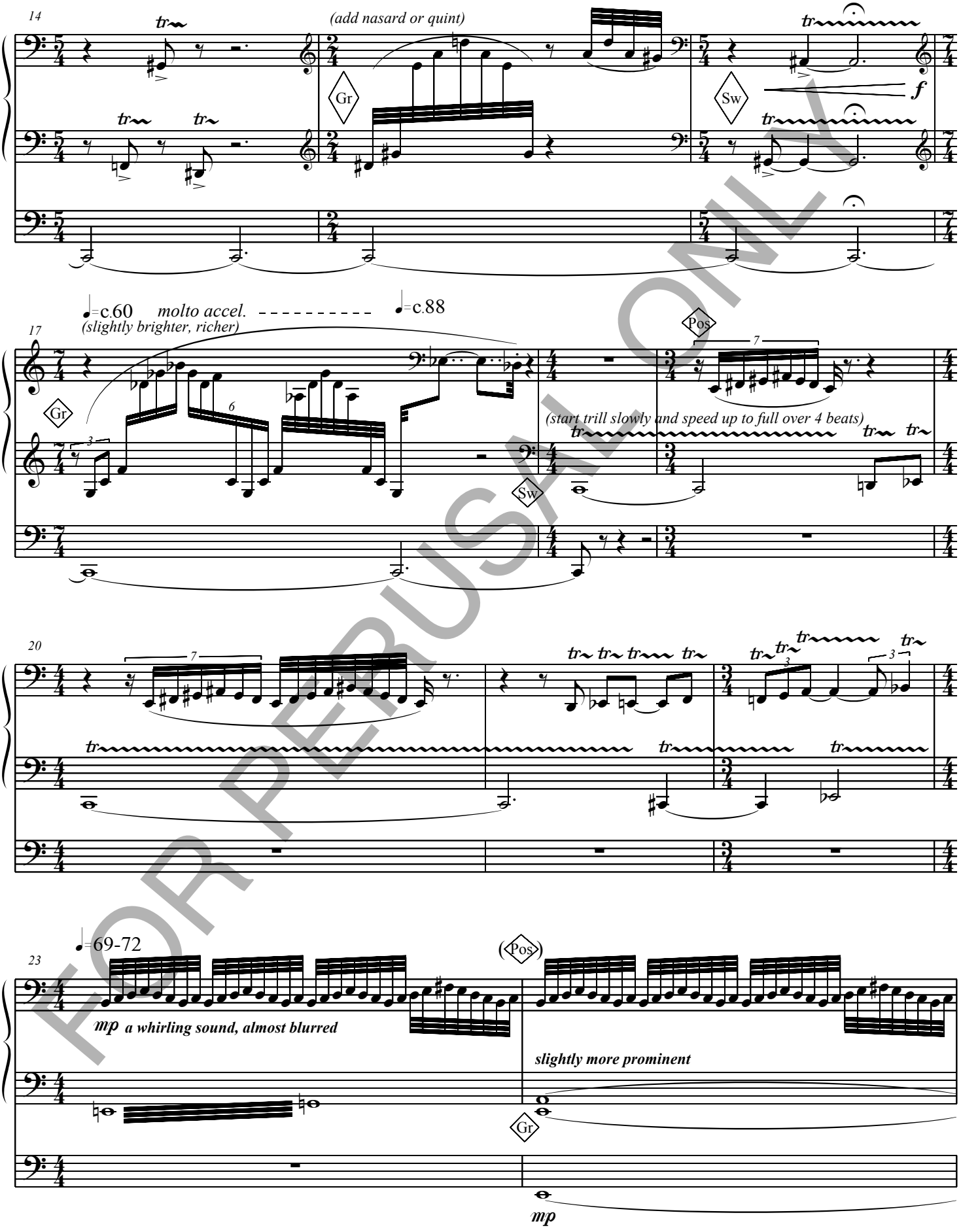

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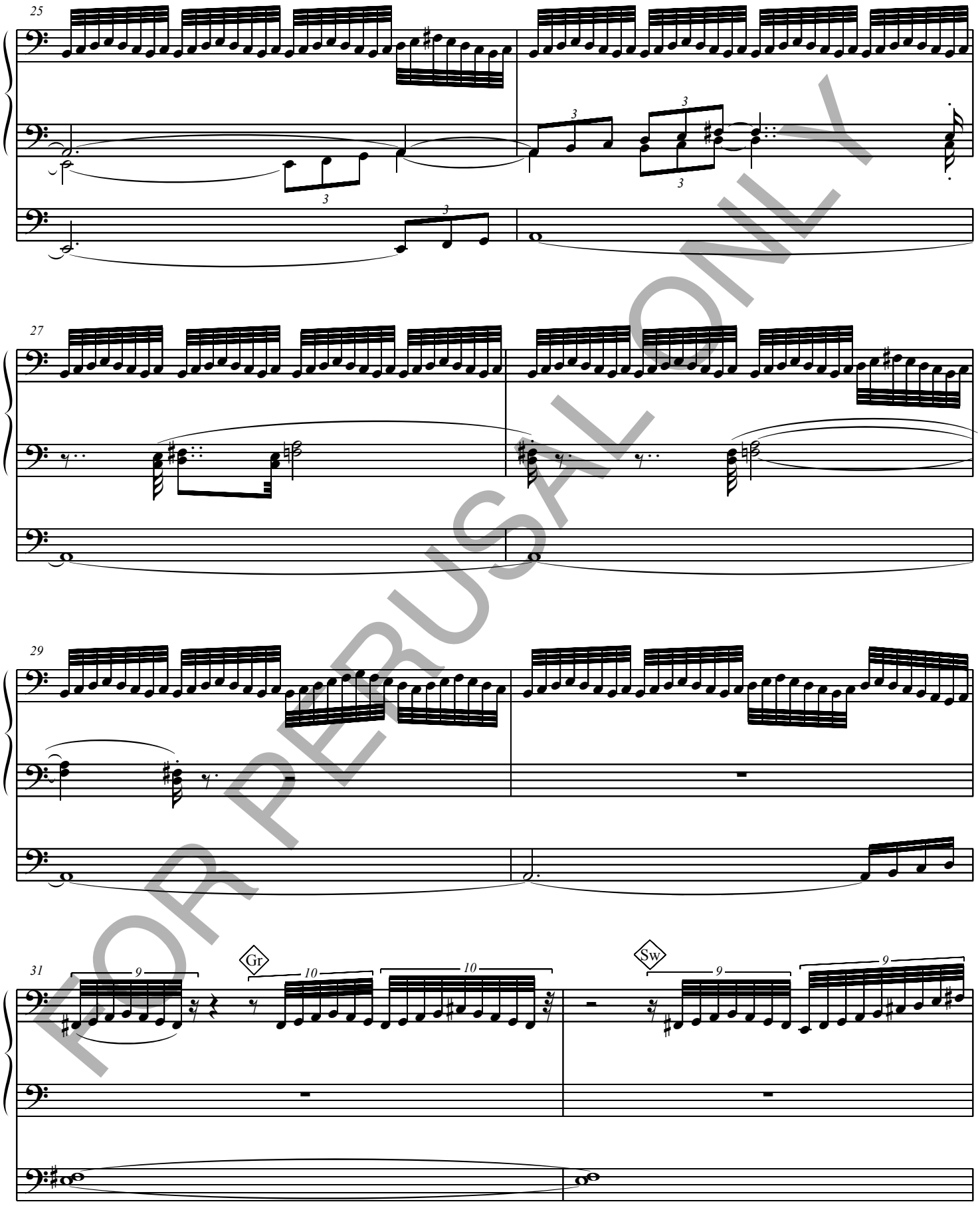

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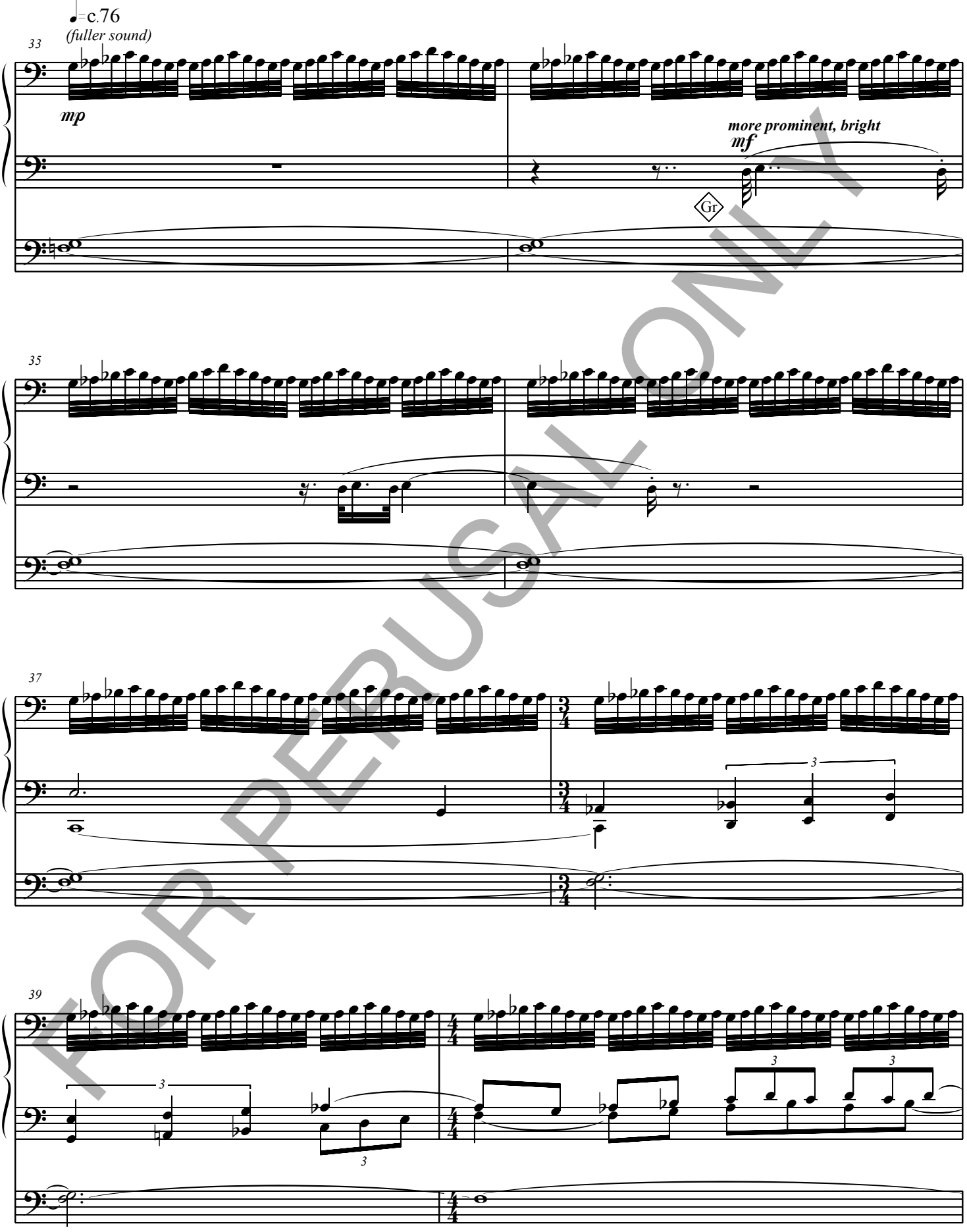

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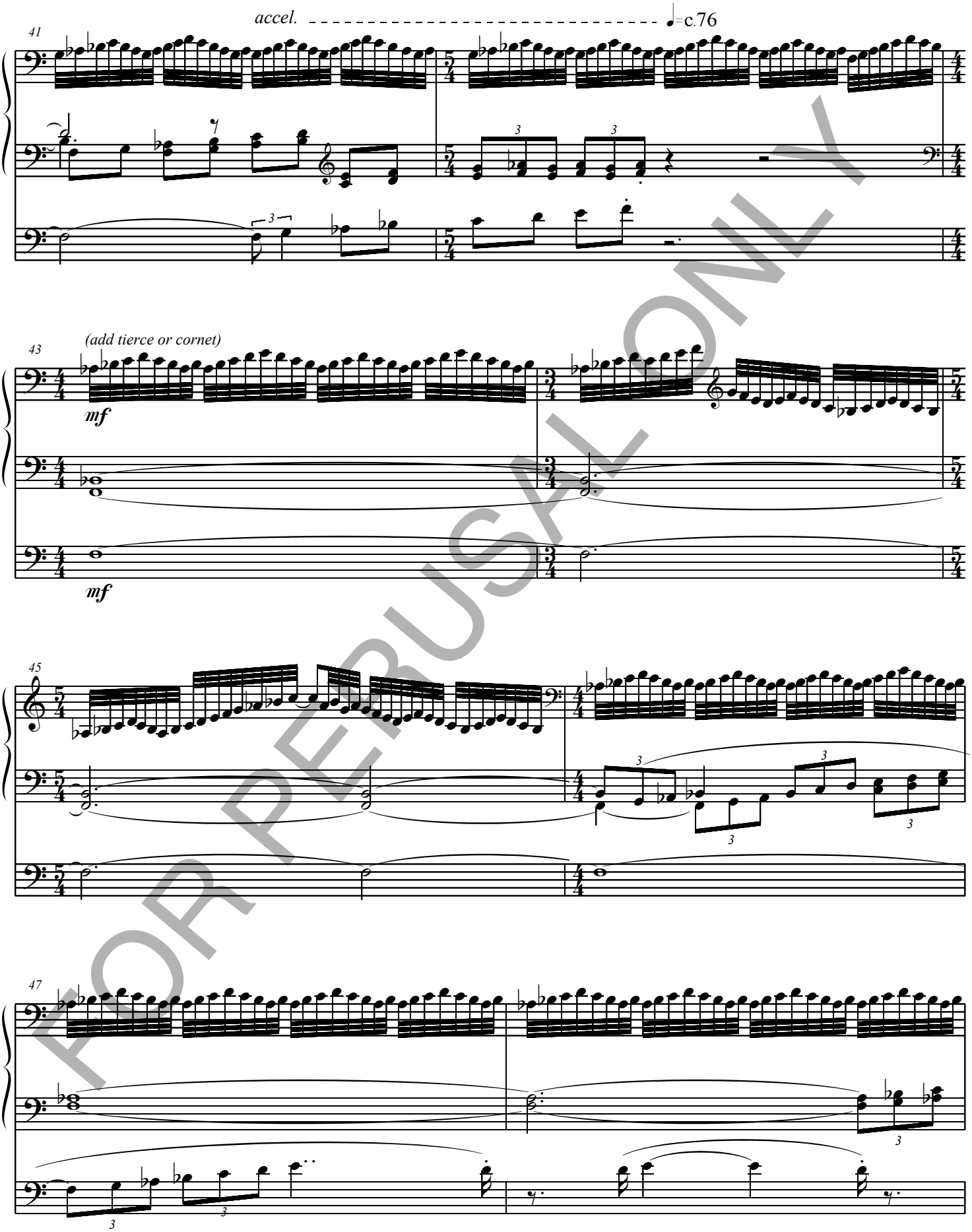

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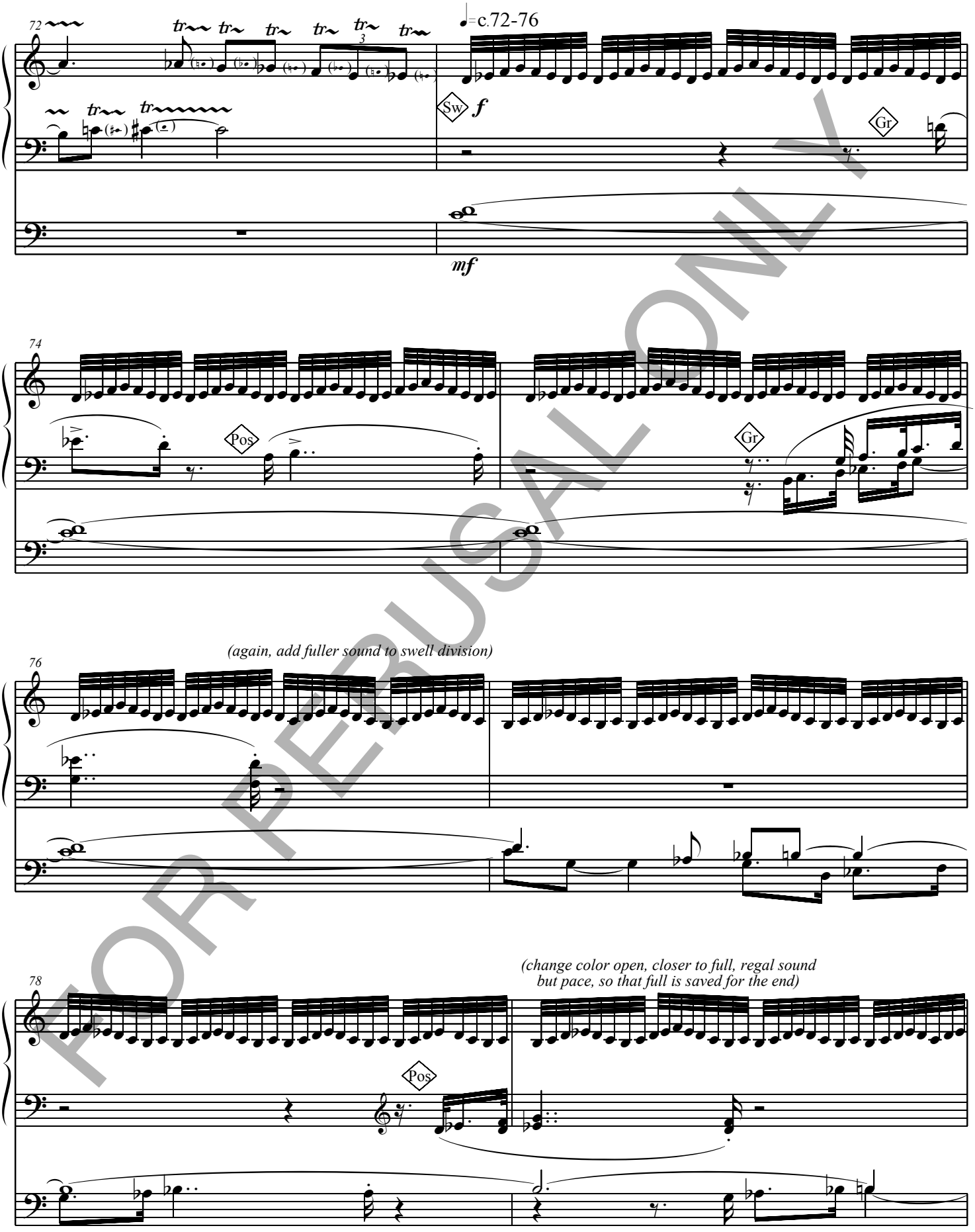

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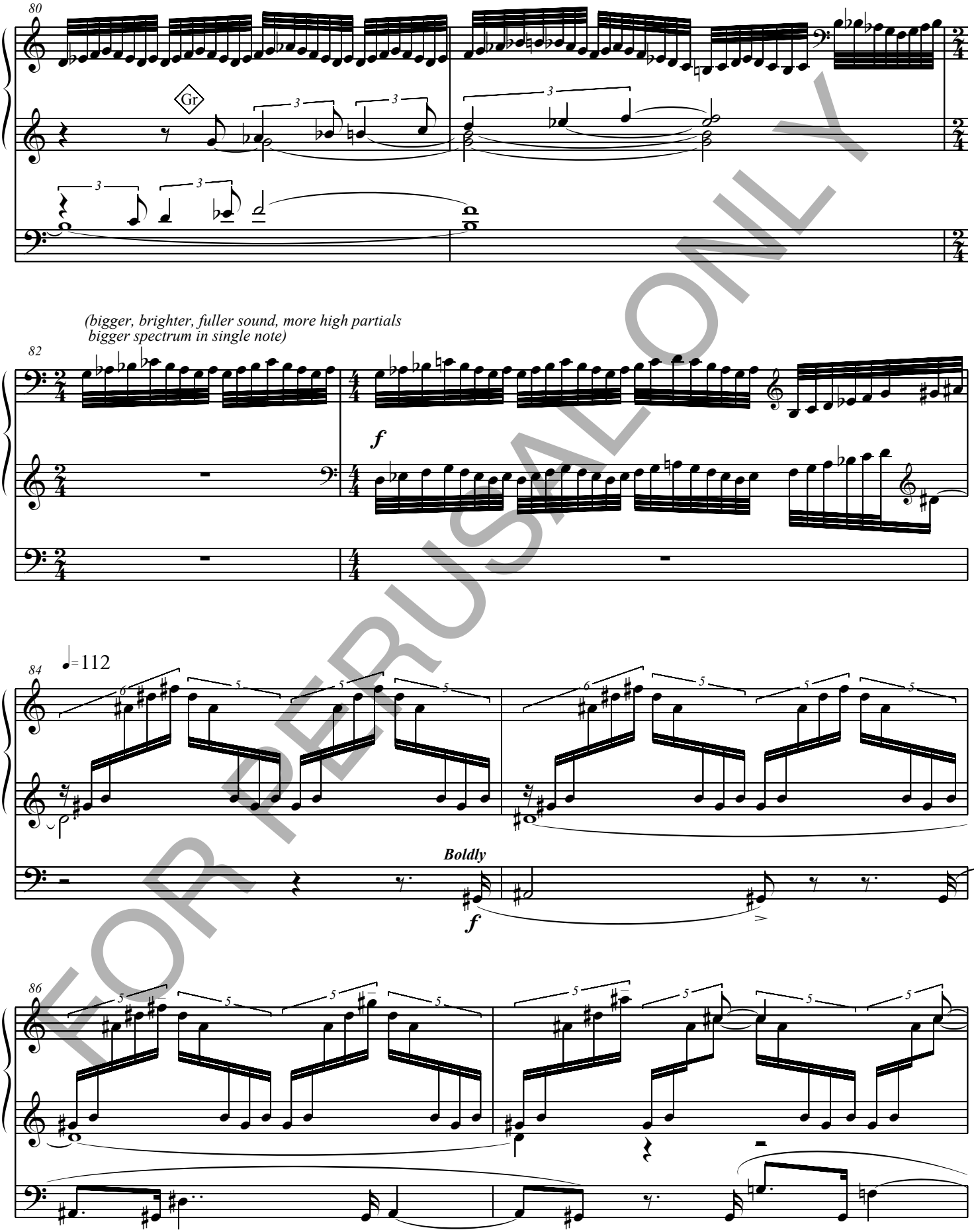

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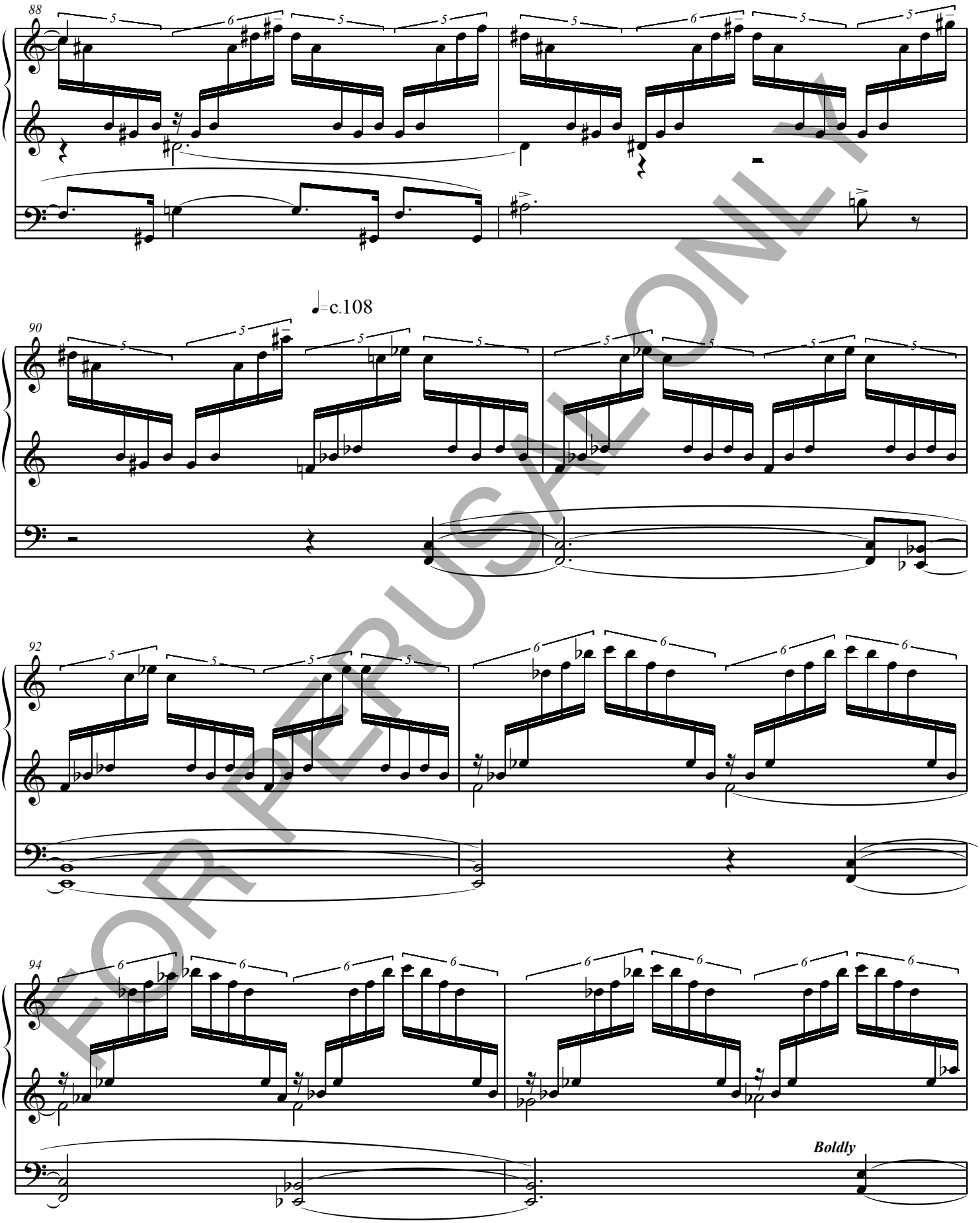

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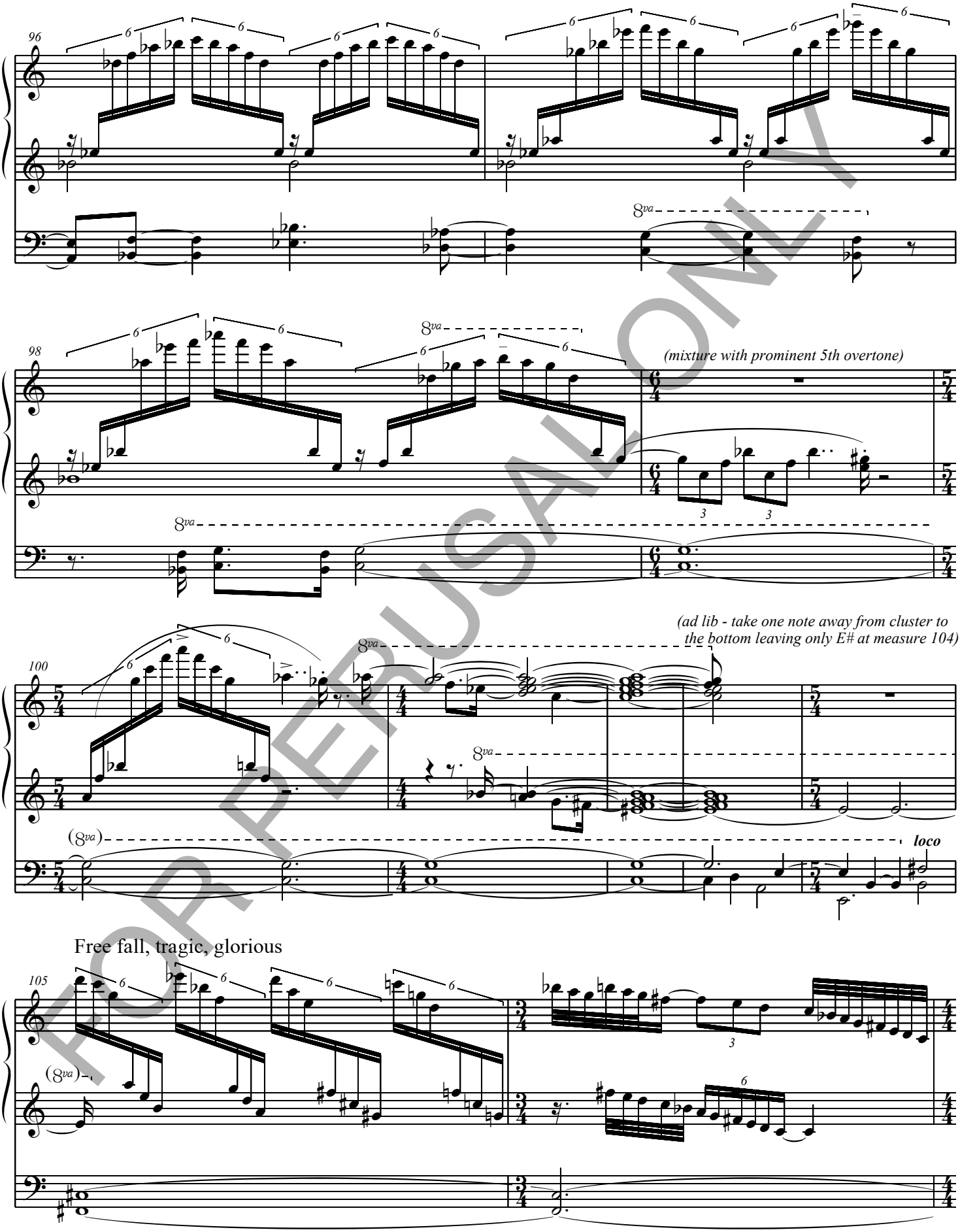

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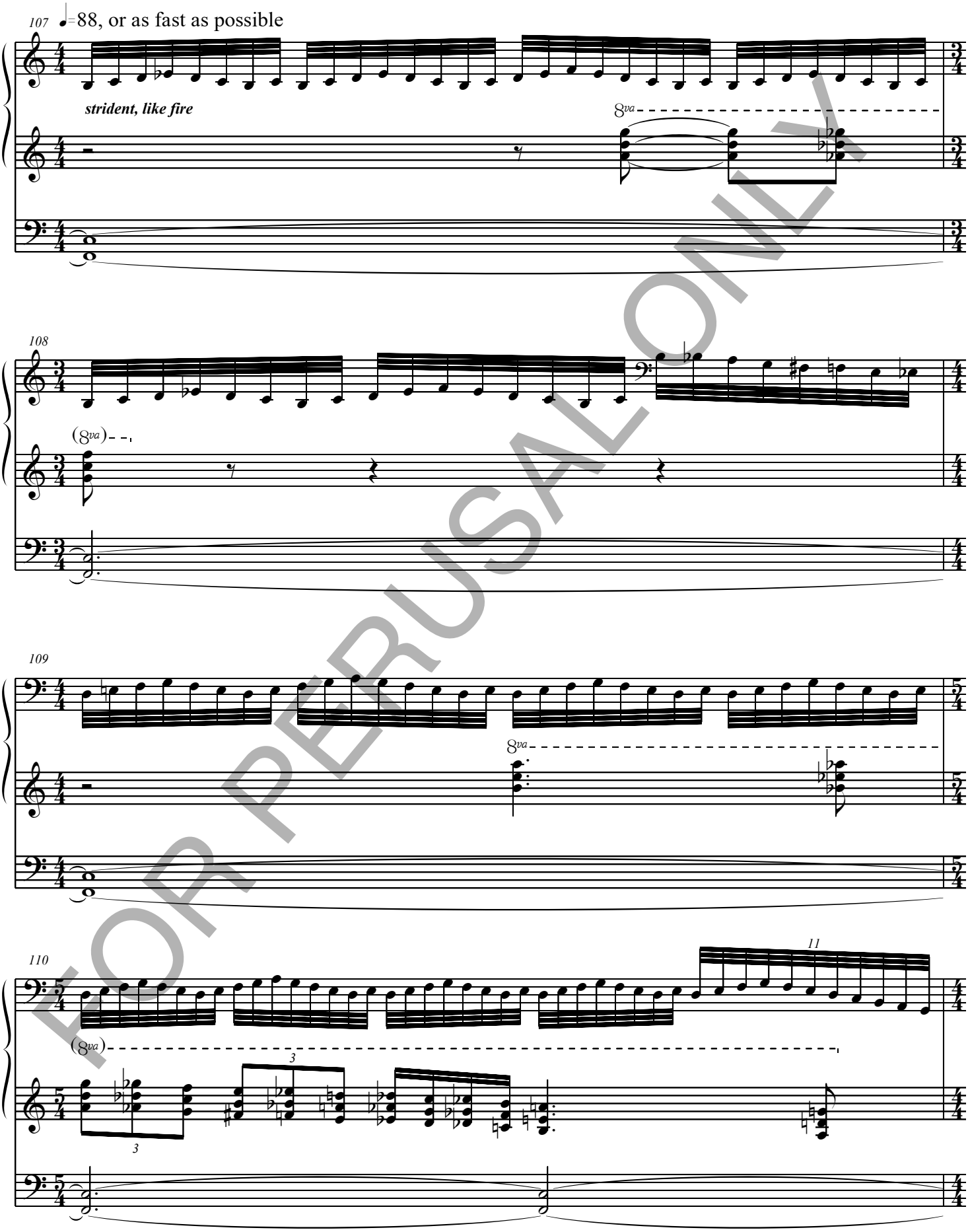

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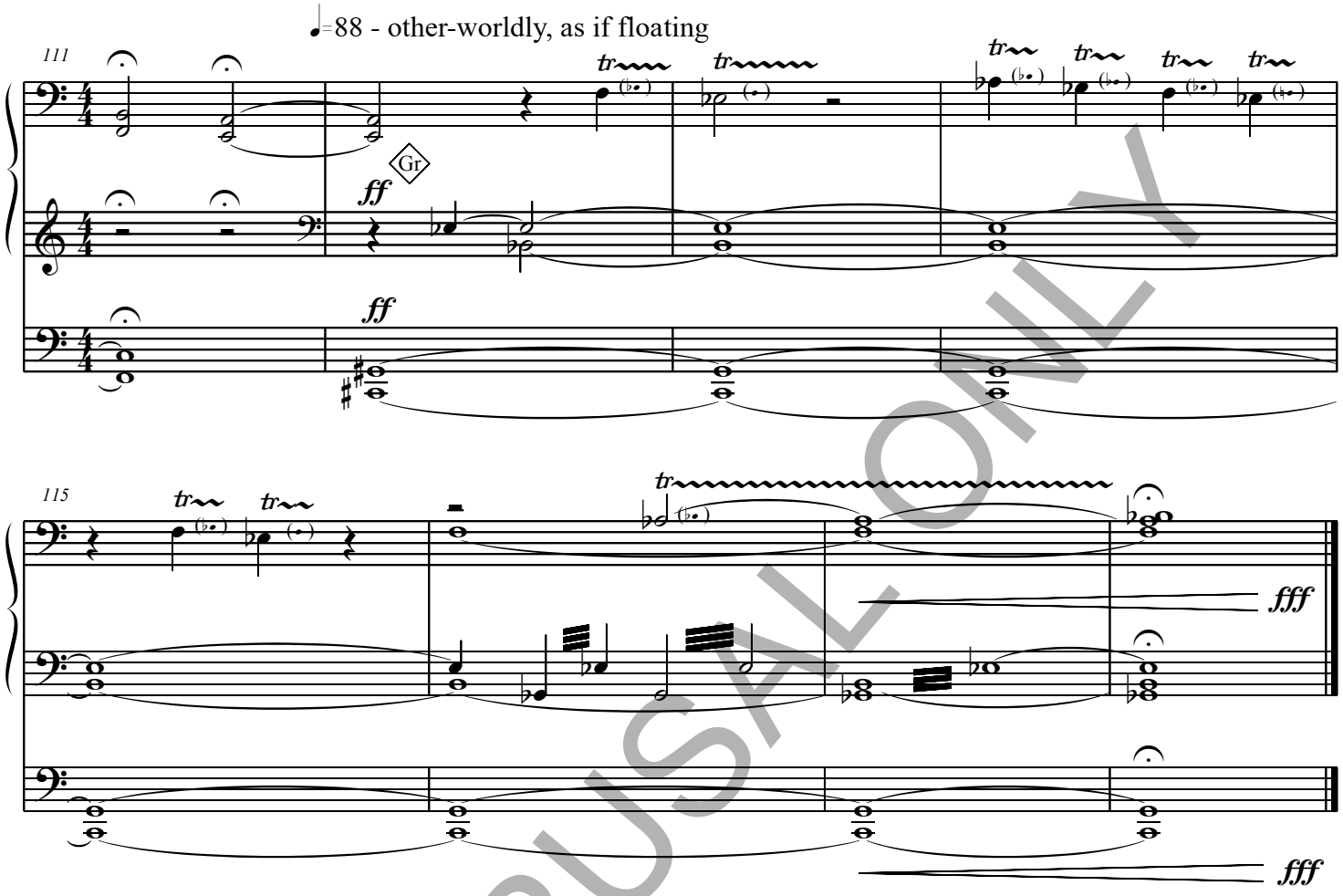

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Described as "...bold...radiant, deftly crafted..." (Musical America), Edie Hill's music is performed all over the world. Venues have included Lincoln Center, Met Cloisters (NYC), Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall (NYC), Musis Sacrum in Arnhem, Holland, LA County Museum of Art, Library of Congress, Minneapolis' Walker Arts Center, St. Paul's Schubert Club, Berwald Hall (Stockholm Sweden), Liviu Cultural Center (Romania), Feszek Müvészklub (Budapest), St. Peter's Basilica (Vatican City).

A three-time McKnight Artist Fellow and a two-time Bush Artist Fellow, Hill has received grants from the Jerome Foundation, ASCAP, New Music USA, Meet The Composer, Minnesota State Arts Board, Chamber Music America, and was awarded a Doctor of Humane Letters from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. The album, *Born: music of Edie Hill and Michael Gilbertson* won the 2023 GRAMMY® for "Best Choral Performance" for The Crossing (Donald Nally, conductor). She has a B.A. from Bennington College and earned her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Minnesota.

Composer in Residence at Schubert Club from 2005-2017, she ran and grew the Mentorship Program for high school composers. She was Composer Mentor for MN Varsity for composers 14-18 years of age co-sponsored by The American Composers Forum and Classical Minnesota Public Radio. She has lectured at colleges, universities and various institutions in the States and abroad.

For Hill, writing music is an opportunity to research, learn, muse, reach down deep, and allow inspiration to come from the stuff of life. Her compositions are fueled by her experiences, passions and curiosities.

for complete biography as well as works for perusal and sale, visit ediehill.com

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