Ode to Mourning Doves

for orchestra

GABRIELLA CANZANI

(2025)

PERUSAL SCORE

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Full Score in C

Duration: ca. 5'

INSTRUMENTATION

Summary: 2.2.2.2 / 4.2.2.1 / timp.+2 perc. / hp. / strings

2 Flutes
2 Oboes
2 Clarinets in B♭
2 Bassoons

4 Horns in F
2 Trumpets in C (Trumpet 1: harmon mute)
2 Trombones
1 Tuba

Timpani (5)

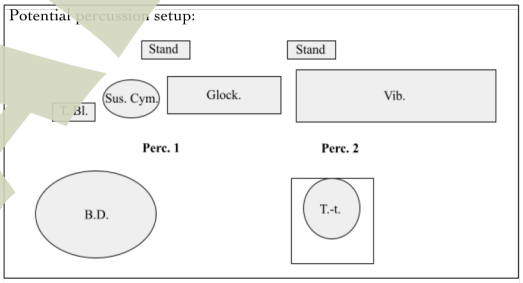
Percussion 1:
Glockenspiel (shared with Perc. 2)
Suspended Cymbal: dark, thin (17-18")
Temple Block (1)
Bass Drum (concert, large)

Percussion 2:
Glockenspiel (shared with Perc. 1)
Vibraphone
Tam-tam (large)

Harp

Strings:
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Contrabass (+ C-extension)

Potential percussion setup:



PERFORMANCE NOTES

All trills shall begin on the written note, then alternate with the note a step above (with the indicated accidental). Glissandi should be performed near the end of the note (late).

PROGRAM NOTES

When I was in the initial stages of writing *Ode to Mourning Doves*, it became clear that the melodic lines I was creating evoked birdcall. Once this idea of birds had gotten into my head, it began to overtake the project; I couldn't help but conceptualize this piece as a plethora of birds, singing and flying around together. Throughout the piece, you might catch the moments when the birds emerge at sunrise, sing from the treetops, fly by the oceanside, and engage in several other escapades until the sunset quiets them.

All of the birdcalls in *Ode to Mourning Doves* are fictional, with the exception of one: the mourning dove's. This bird's beautiful song, which I used to imitate with my sister when we were kids, first appears in its entirety after the first complete silence of the piece (mm. 24-25). The flutter-tongue and pitch-bending used on the flute to imitate the mourning dove's call create a beautiful, but lonely sound. As the piece progresses, certain aspects of this call, such as the subtle downward slide (pitch-bending) at the end of notes, are transferred from the flute to the strings, who eventually play the full melody at the climax of the piece (mm. 64-65).

With this work, I hope to have captured the beauty of a spring morning, and the tranquility that washes over us as we let nature become our escape.

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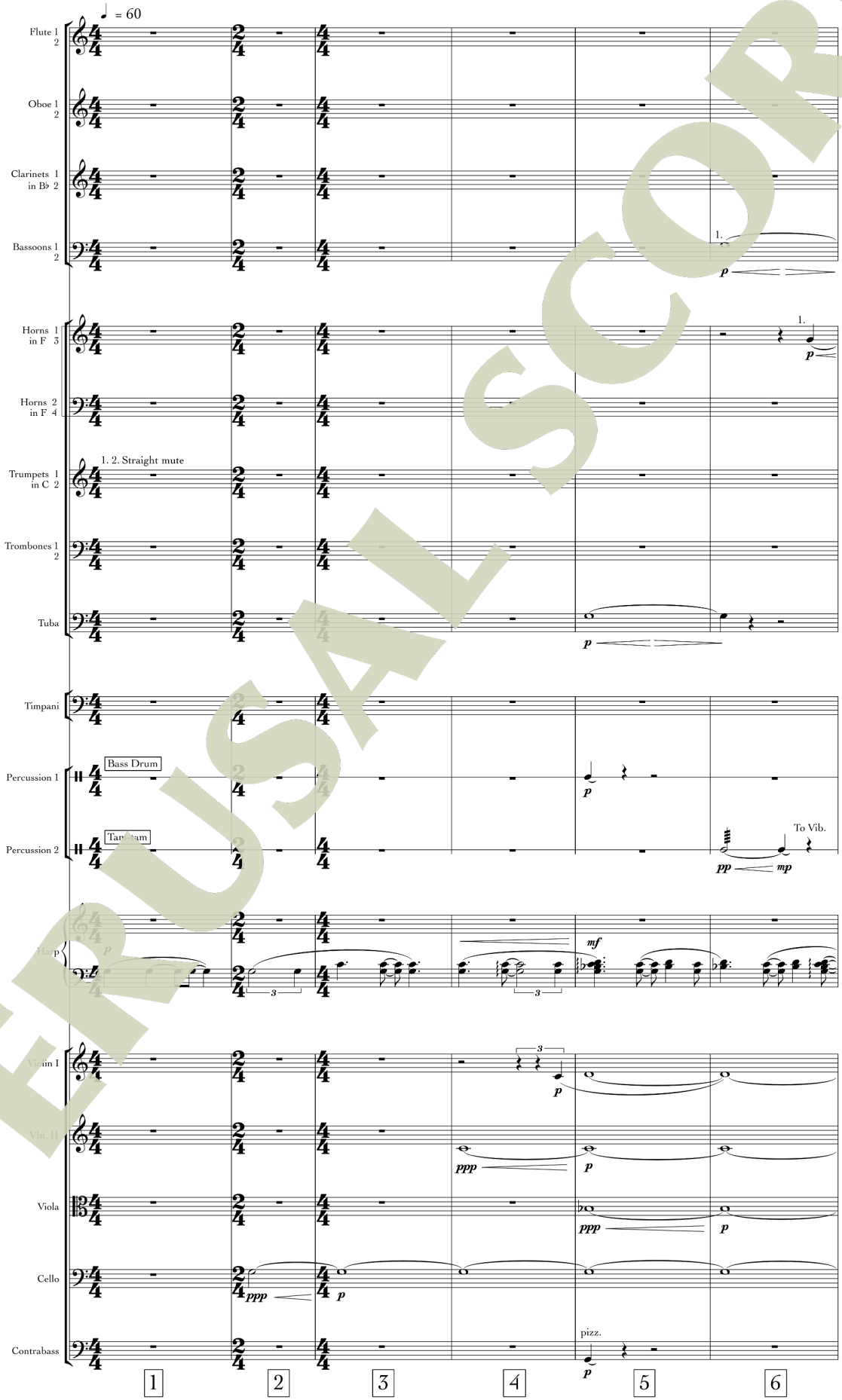
Ode to Mourning Doves for orchestra

Full Score in C

Gabriella Canzani (b. 2001)



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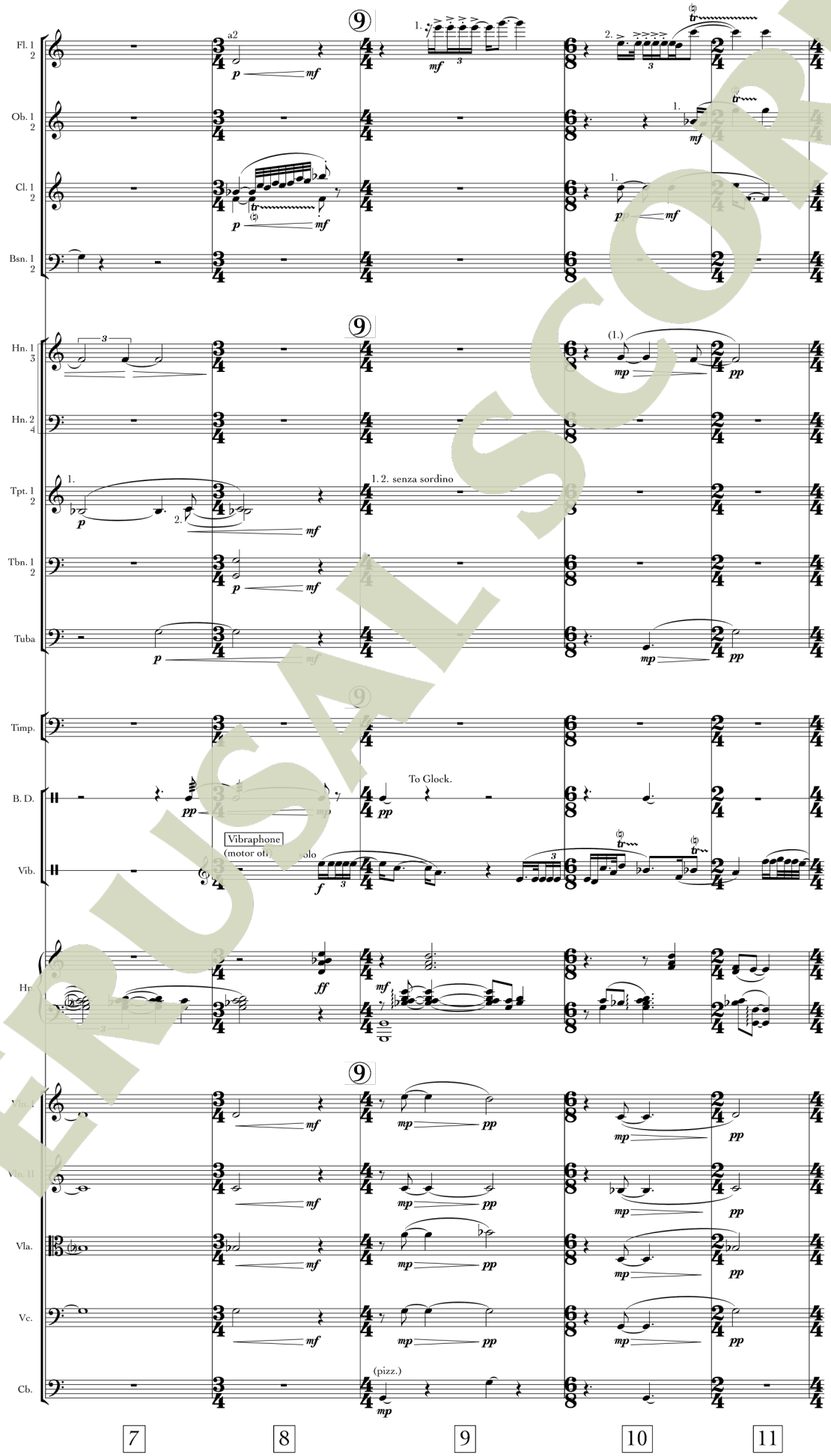

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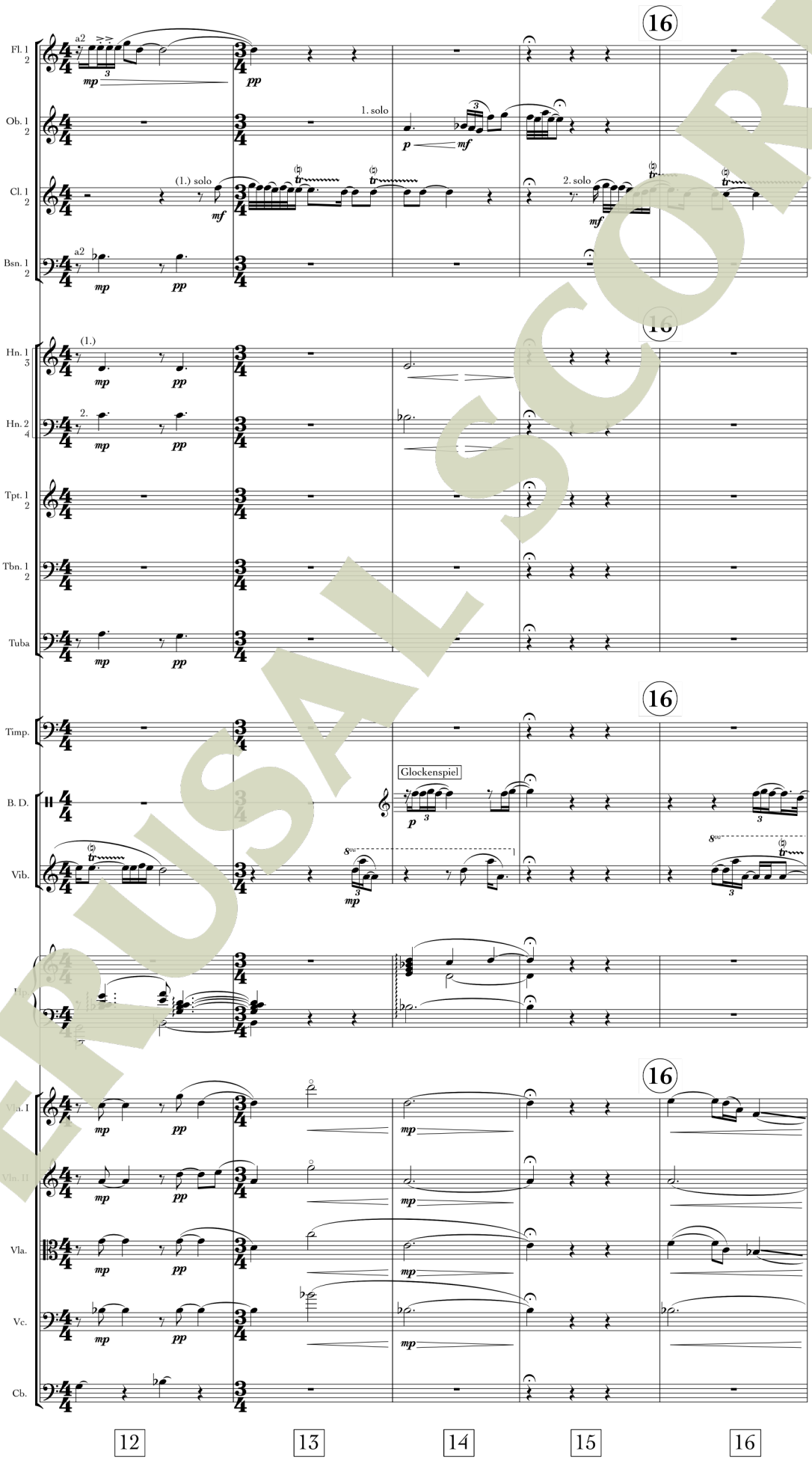

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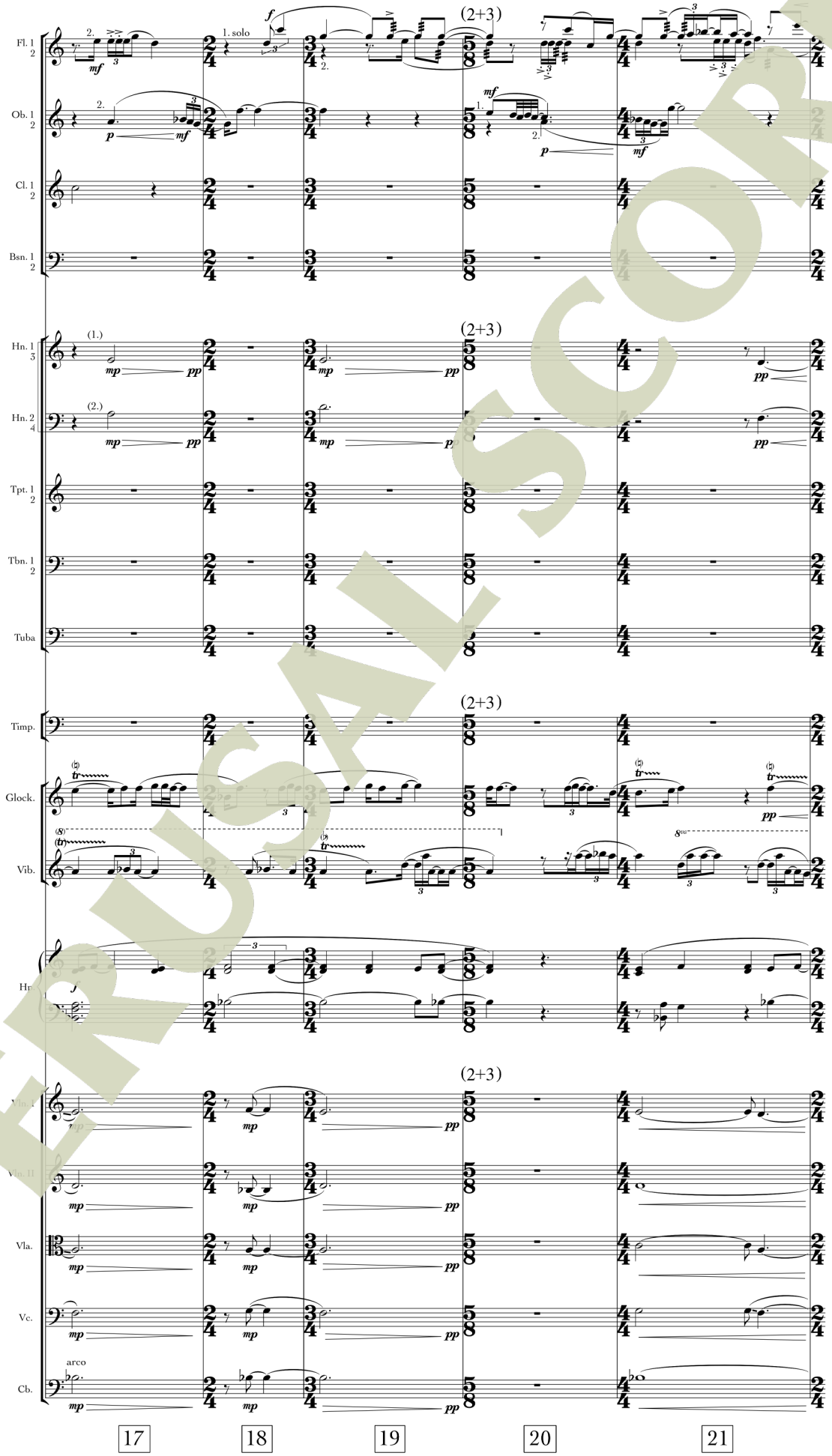

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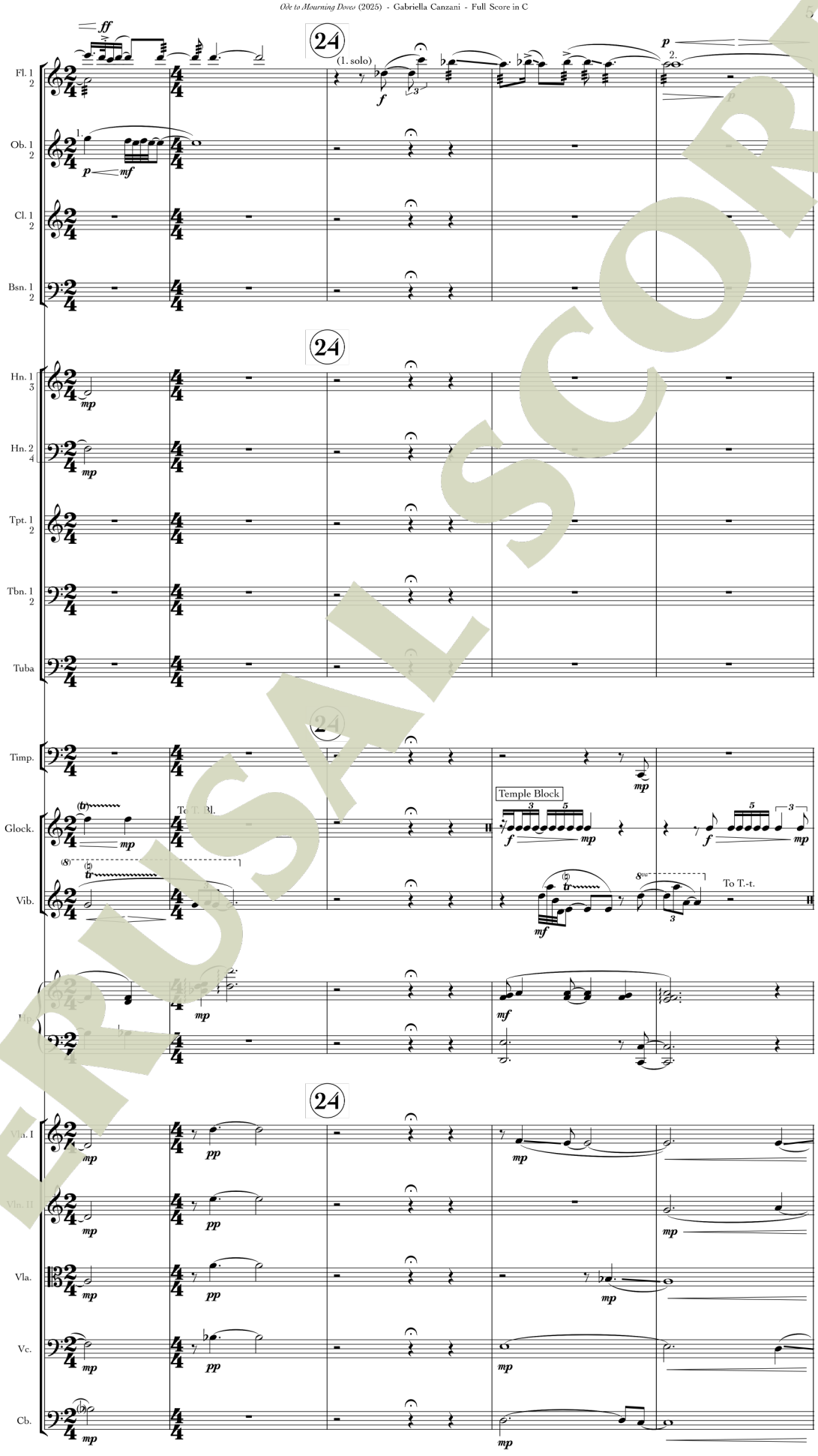

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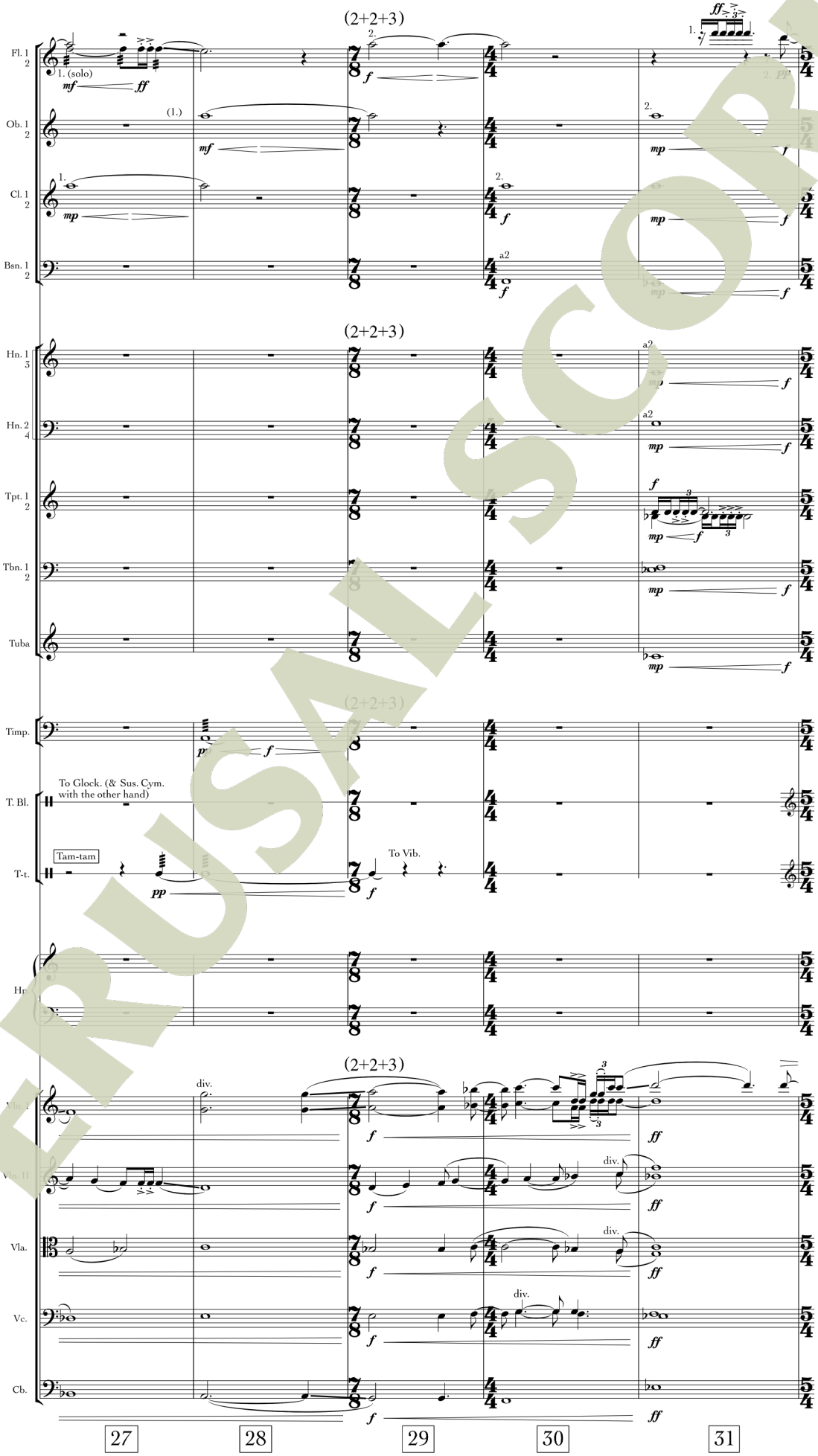

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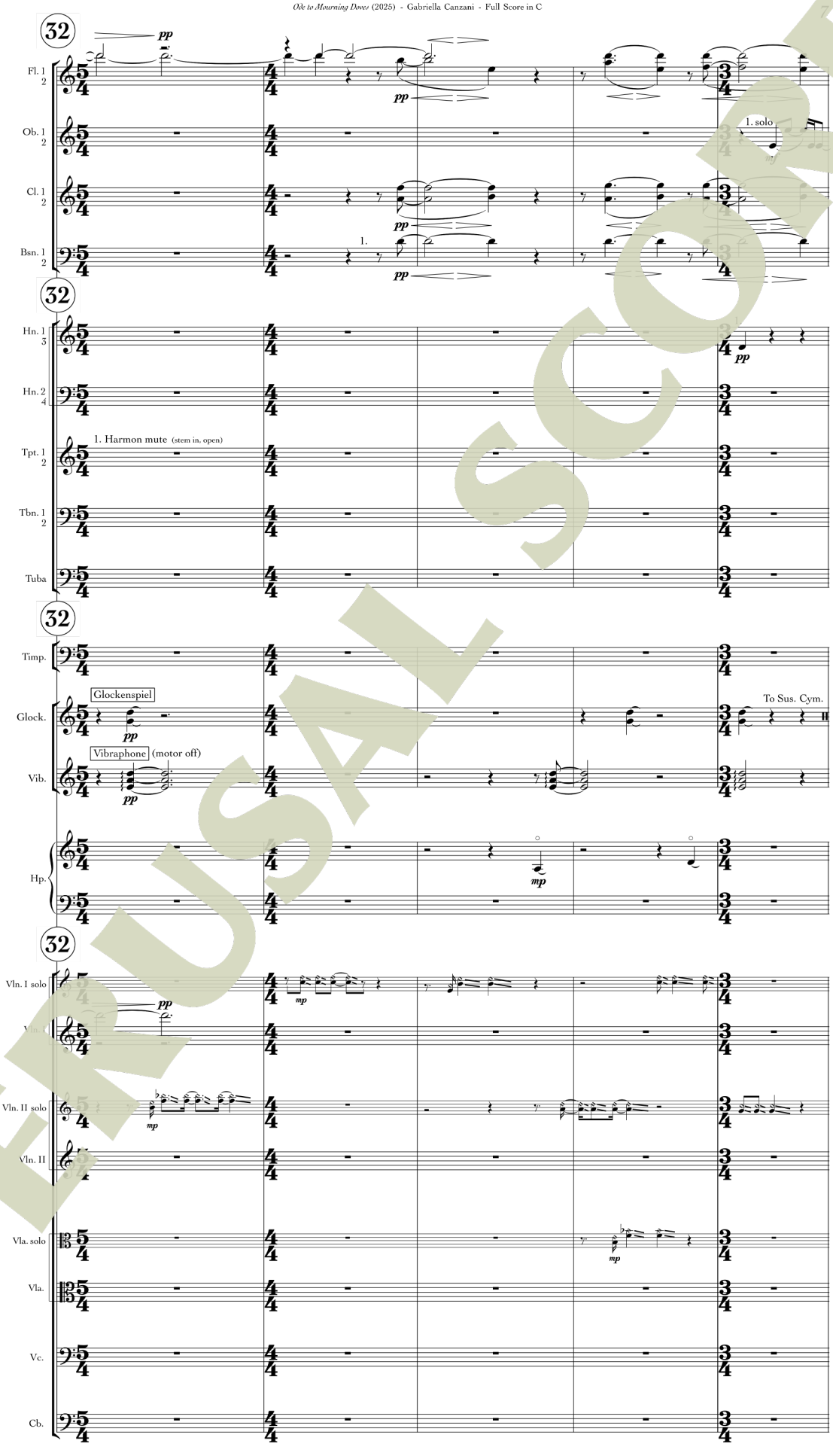

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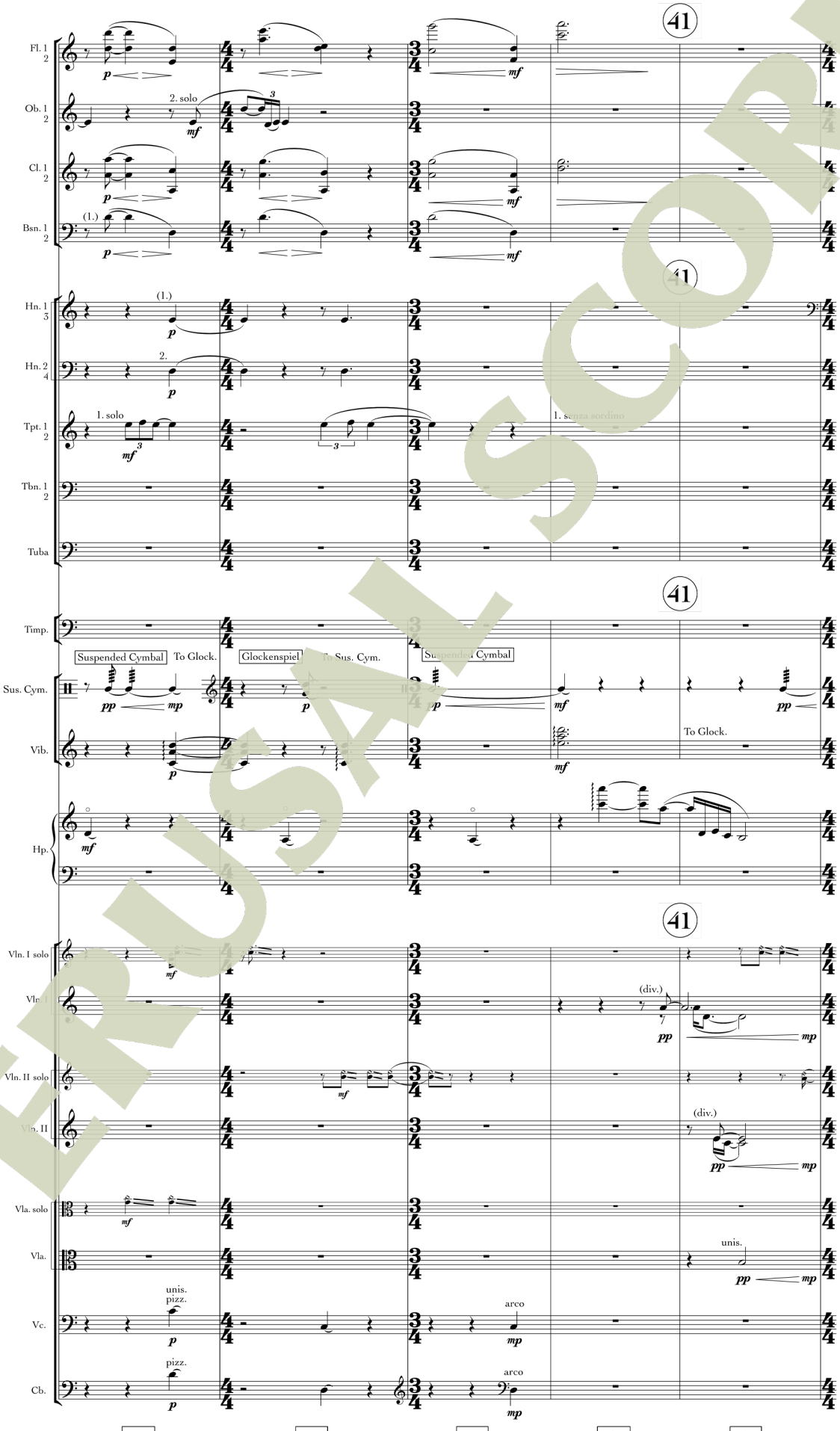

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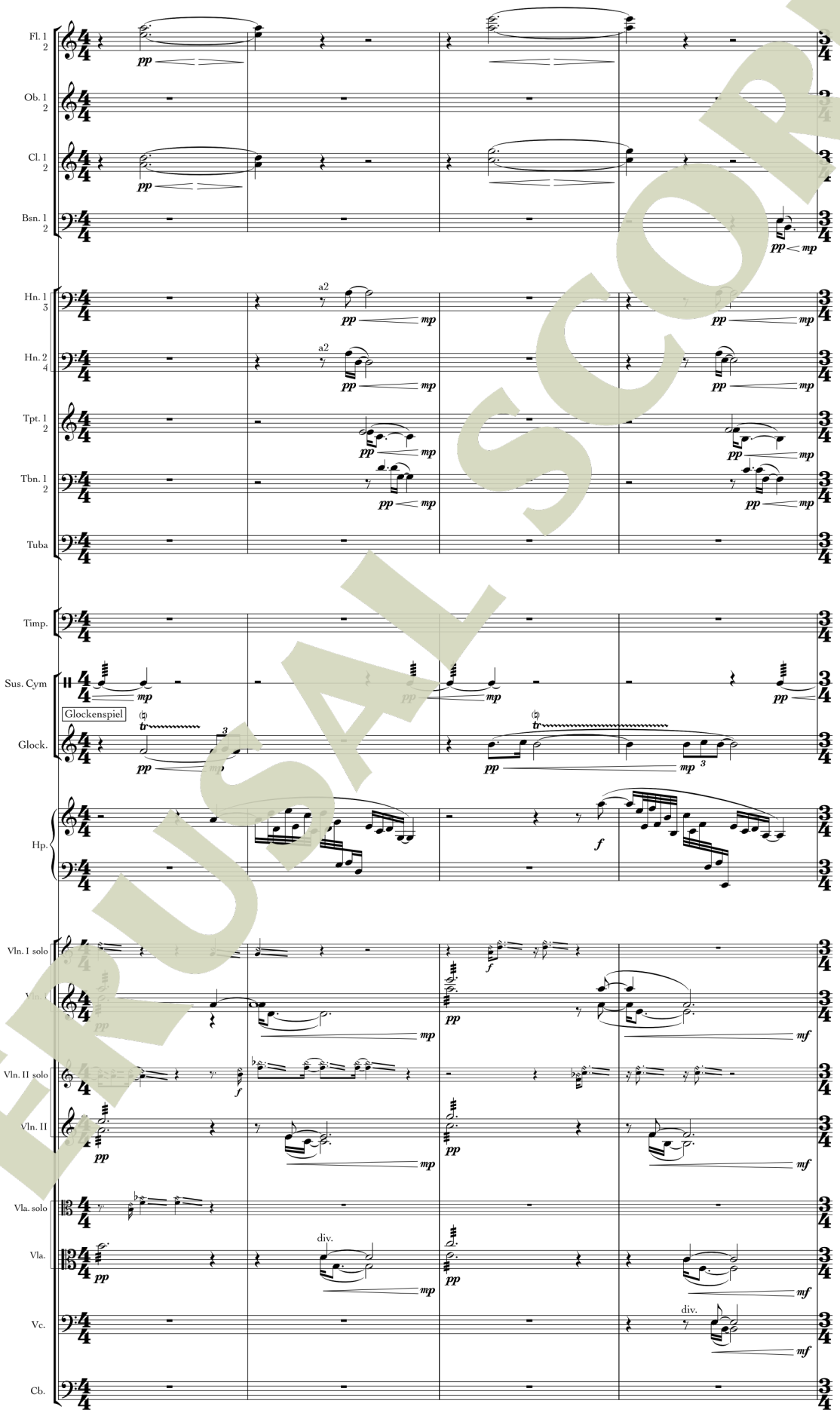

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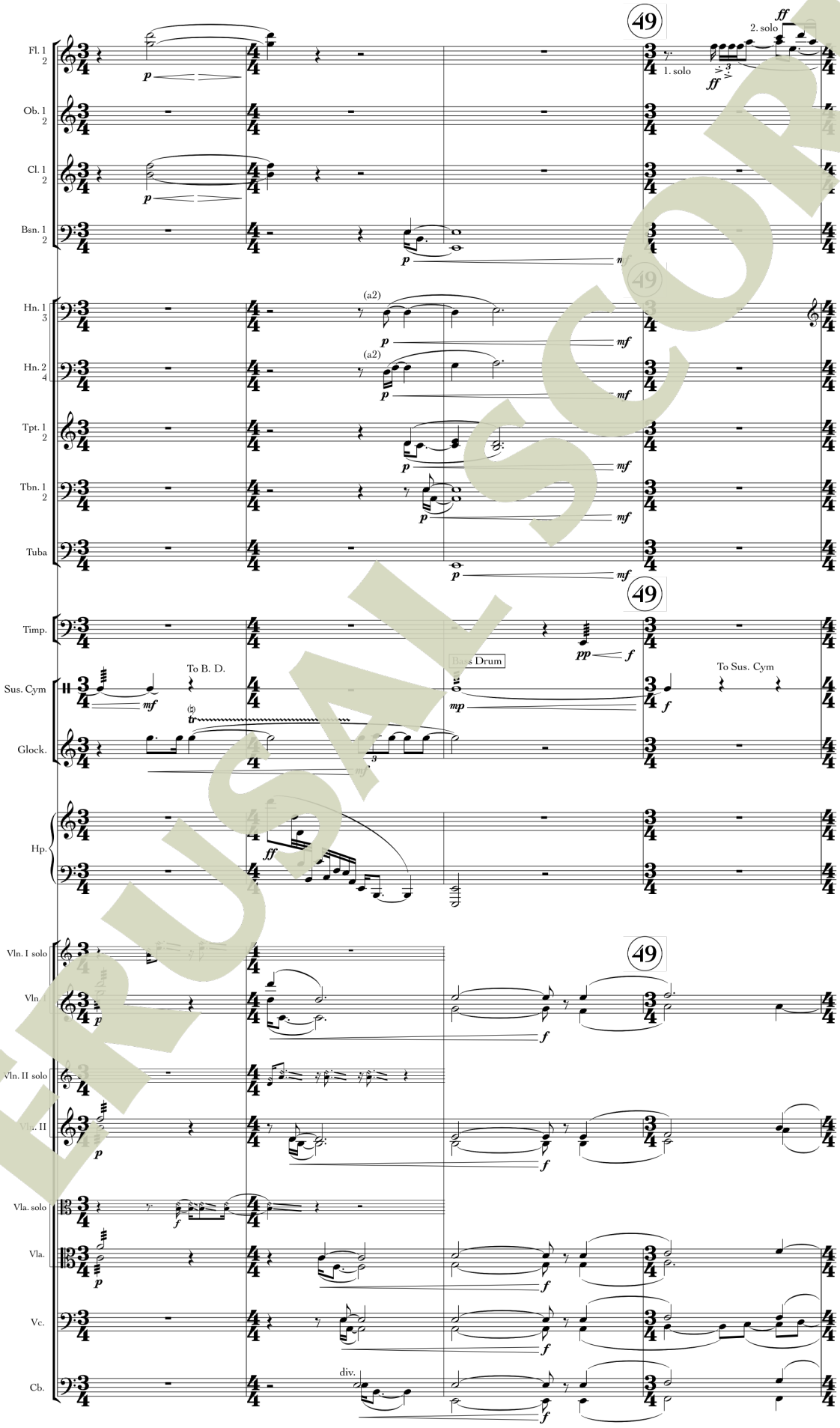

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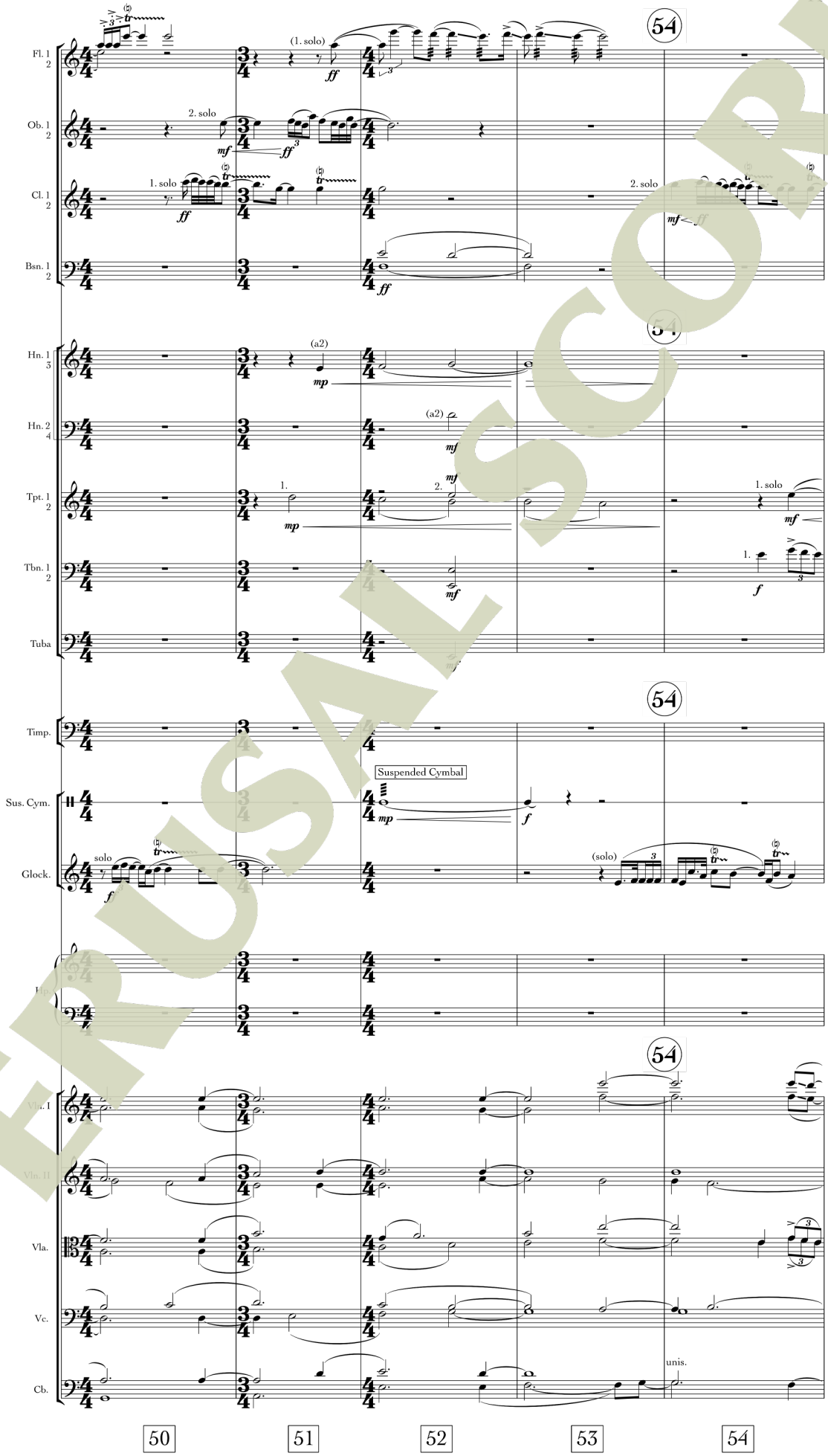

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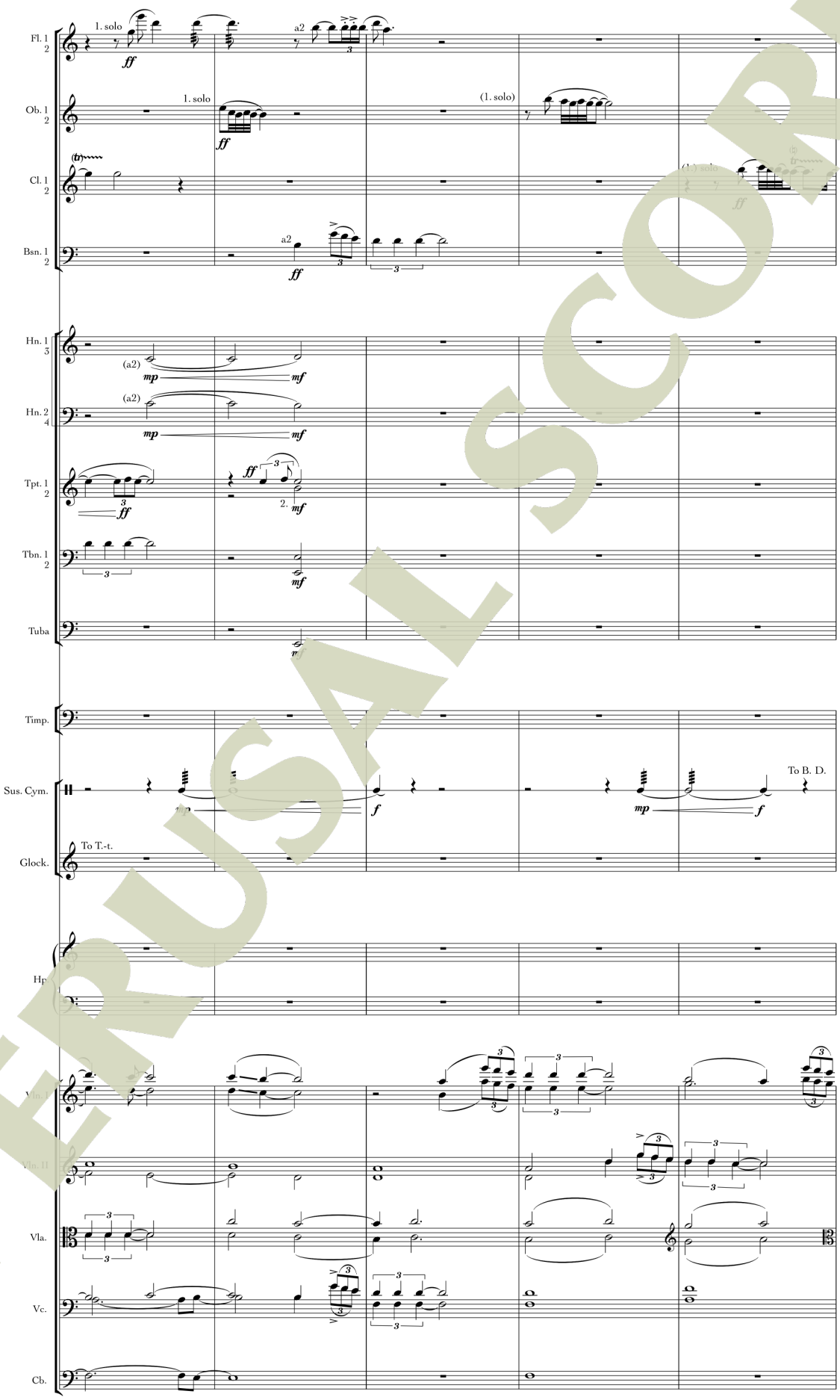

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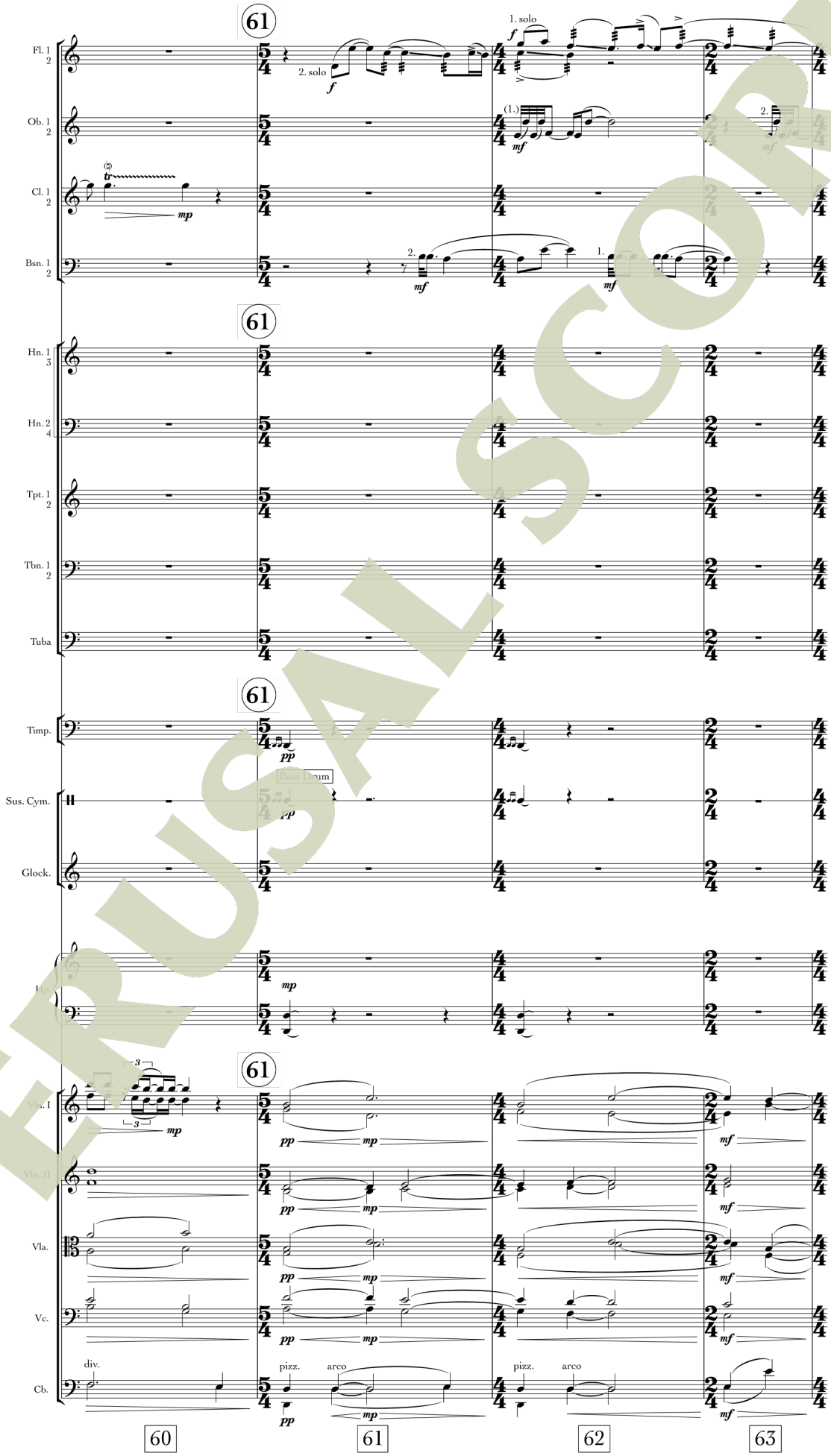

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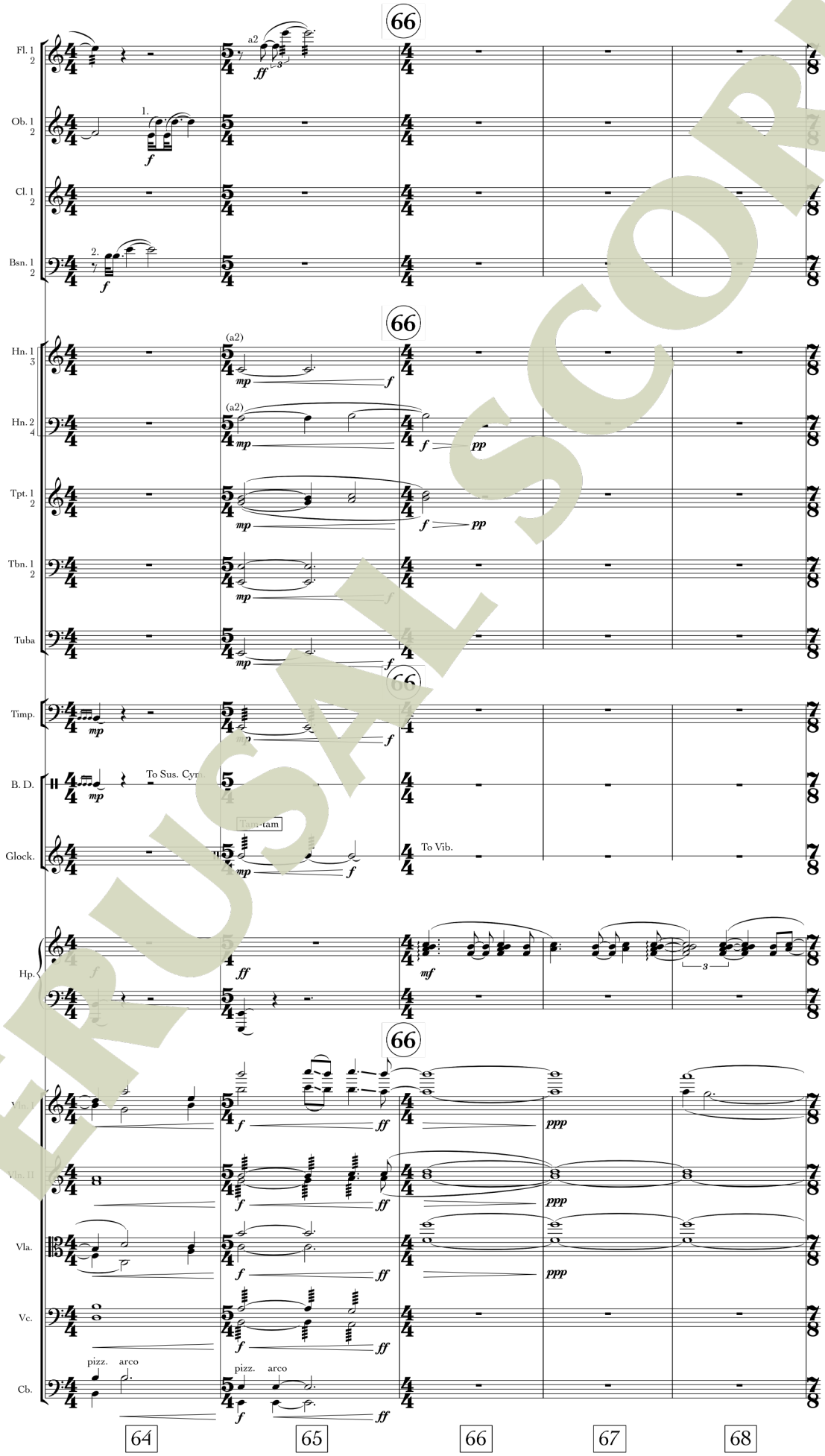

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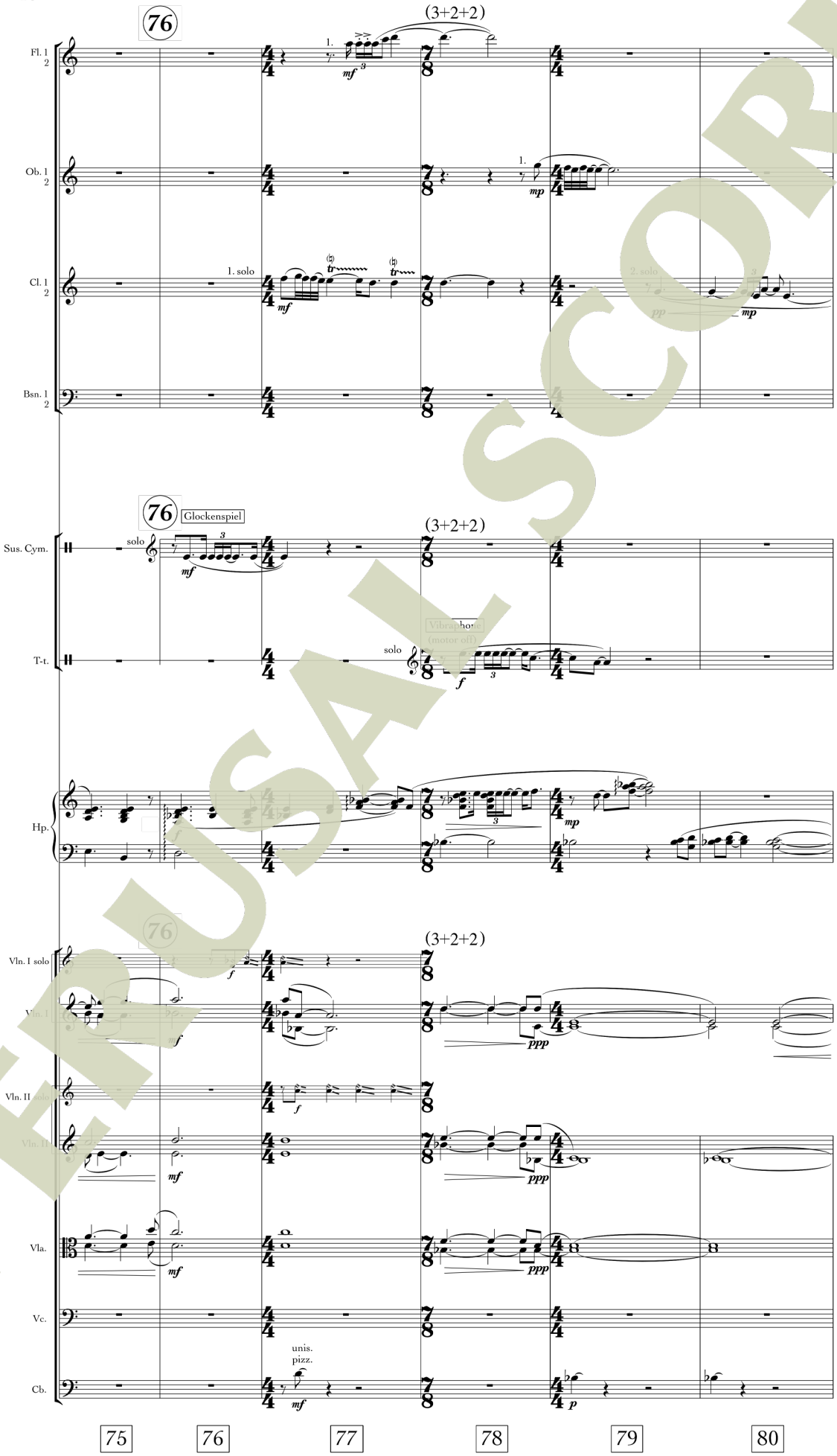

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