Duration: 1:50

**GRADE 3**

CB9819
$57.00

# A Ceremonial Occasion

Kenneth Bray (1919 - 1999)

ISBN 978-1-55472-168-9

Instrumentation:

Piccolo - 1
Flute - 8
Oboe - 1
Bb Clarinet 1 - 4
Bb Clarinet 2 - 4
Bb Clarinet 3 - 4
Eb Alto Clarinet - 1
Bb Bass Clarinet - 1
Bassoon - 1
Eb Alto Saxophone 1 - 2
Eb Alto Saxophone 2 - 2
Bb Tenor Saxophone - 1
Eb Baritone Saxophone - 1
Bb Trumpet 1 - 3
Bb Trumpet 2 - 3
Bb Trumpet 3 - 3
F Horn 1 - 2
F Horn 2 - 2
Trombone 1 - 2
Trombone 2 - 2
Trombone 3 - 2
Baritone Bass Clef - 1
Baritone Treble Clef - 1
Tuba - 2
String Bass - 1
Mallet Percussion - 2
Timpani - 1

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Eighth Note Publications

# A Ceremonial Occasion

Kenneth Bray

**THE WORK:**

The creation of A Ceremonial Occasion began with a mental image of music to accompany a slowly-moving procession headed by a faculty garbed in colourful academic caps, hoods and gowns followed by a group of happy, graduating students. Such an occasion honours historical academic traditions, and as well, combines feelings of the joy of past achievements, the pomp of this ceremonial graduation along with the hopeful considerations of unknown responsibilities soon to be faced by the graduands in the days to come. School is over; real life is about to begin!

The opening theme appropriate for such an occasion gradually took shape. It begins in triple metre (definitely not a military march) but soon becomes more suited to a two-in-a-bar flow, though still somewhat solemn and contemplative in style, before returning to its original metre.

Regard was also given to the fact that estimating the amount of music required for such a procession is a very difficult task. Consequently, there are some built-in options. In a regular concert situation where timing is not so critical, this piece is also successful particularly as a presentation featuring the brass and percussion sections of the band.

**NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR:**

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The physical notation of this piece may lead you astray as to the actual difficulty of performance. There are a lot of "black notes", yes, but the tempo is relatively slow and leisurely. Choose your tempo carefully (ie. not too fast).

The introduction and the opening section should be played in a detached style. The contrasting section, beginning in bar 14, is lighter in texture, legato and more lyrical; try to maintain your tempo. A gradual return to the playing style of opening occurs as the first climax is encountered in preparation for a short return to the opening theme, bar 36.

If you wish, you can continue on through to bar 48 and the conclusion of the piece as written. In fact, you may have already noted that bar 48 really represents a Da Capo. However, if you wish to bring things to an earlier conclusion, you may also choose to cut directly to bar 73 immediately after performing bar 47.

A graduate of the University of Toronto (Mus Bac) and the Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester (M M), Kenneth Bray began piano lessons at age 5, and later studied tuba in high school and bassoon at university level. Before war service in WWII with the RCAF, he was an itinerant music supervisor in several Muskoka District (Ontario) schools. After university studies, he taught high school, later serving on faculties at the universities of Toronto and Western Ontario. He has been active in teaching, performing, arranging and composing music most of his life. He has many choral and instrumental publications to his credit and has co-authored the following series: For Young Musicians, Solos for Schools and Reflections of Canada. Currently he is Professor Emeritus at the University of Western Ontario.

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# A CEREMONIAL OCCASION

Kenneth Bray

Maestoso ♩= 69-72

2 3 4

Piccolo
Flute
Oboe
Bb Clarinet 1
Bb Clarinet 2
Bb Clarinet 3
Bb Bass Clarinet
Bassoon
Eb Alto Saxophone 1
Eb Alto Saxophone 2
Bb Tenor Saxophone
Eb Baritone Saxophone
Bb Trumpet 1
Bb Trumpet 2
Bb Trumpet 3
F Horn 1
F Horn 2
Trombone 1
Trombone 2
Trombone 3
Baritone
Tuba

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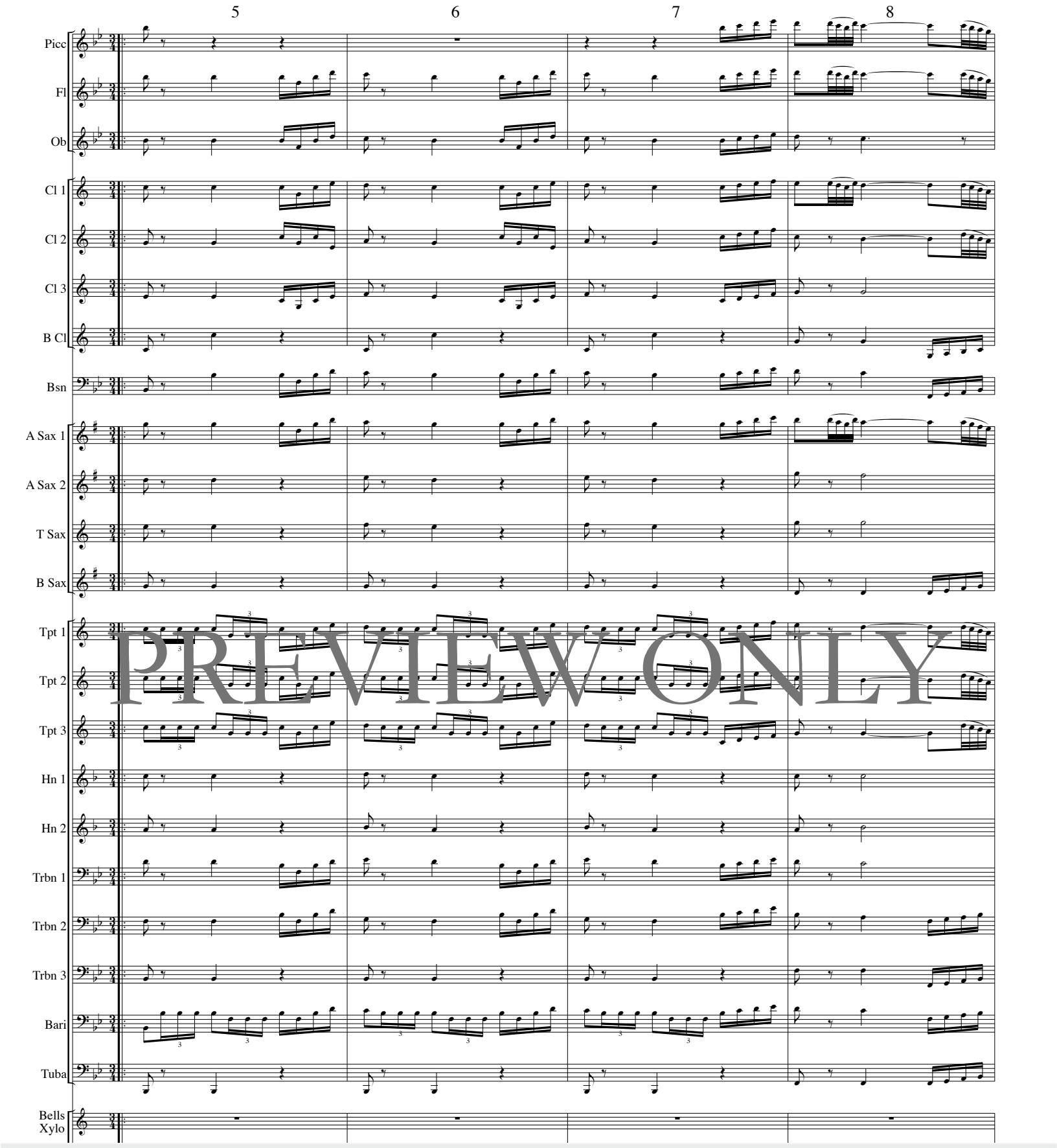


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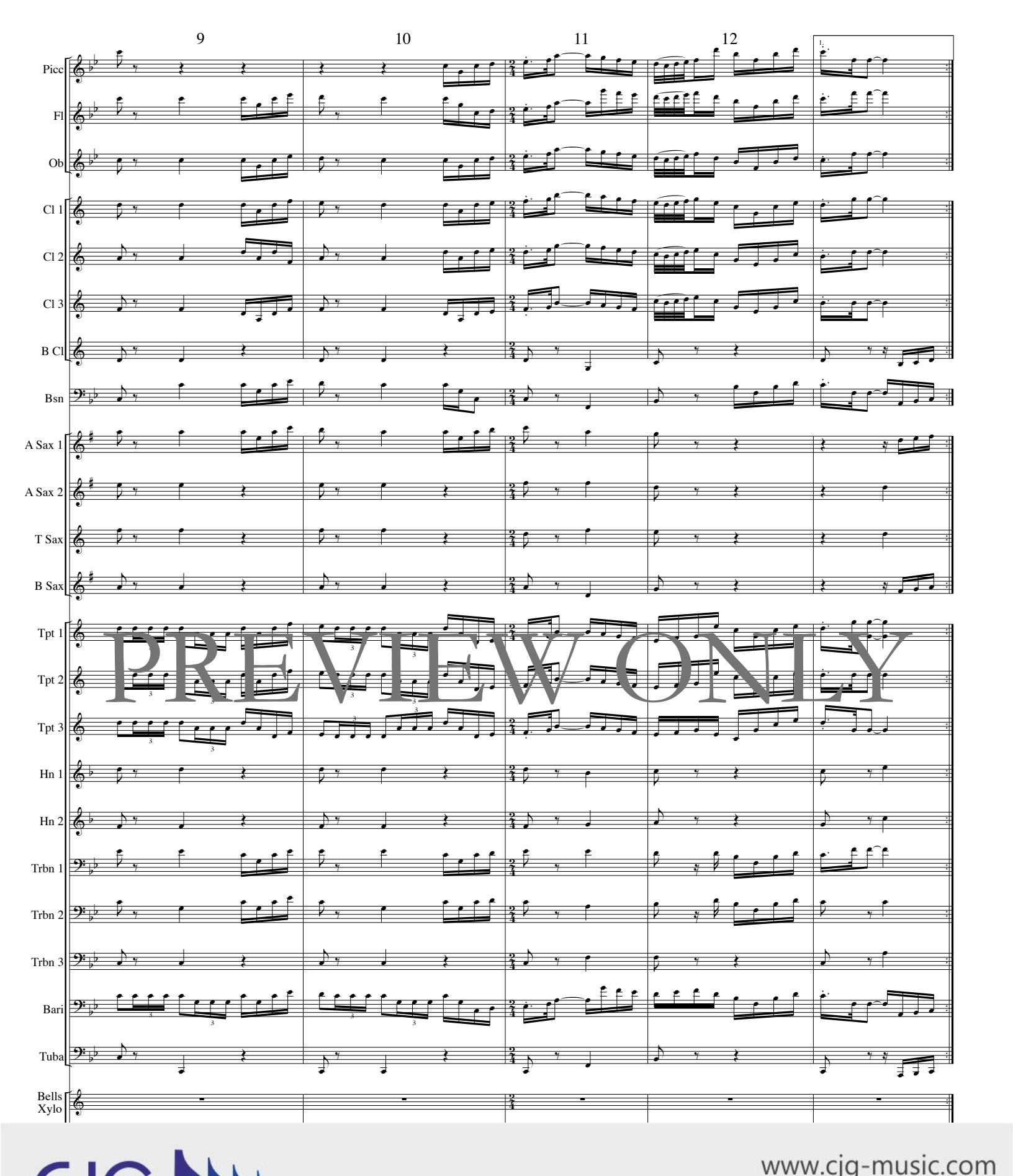


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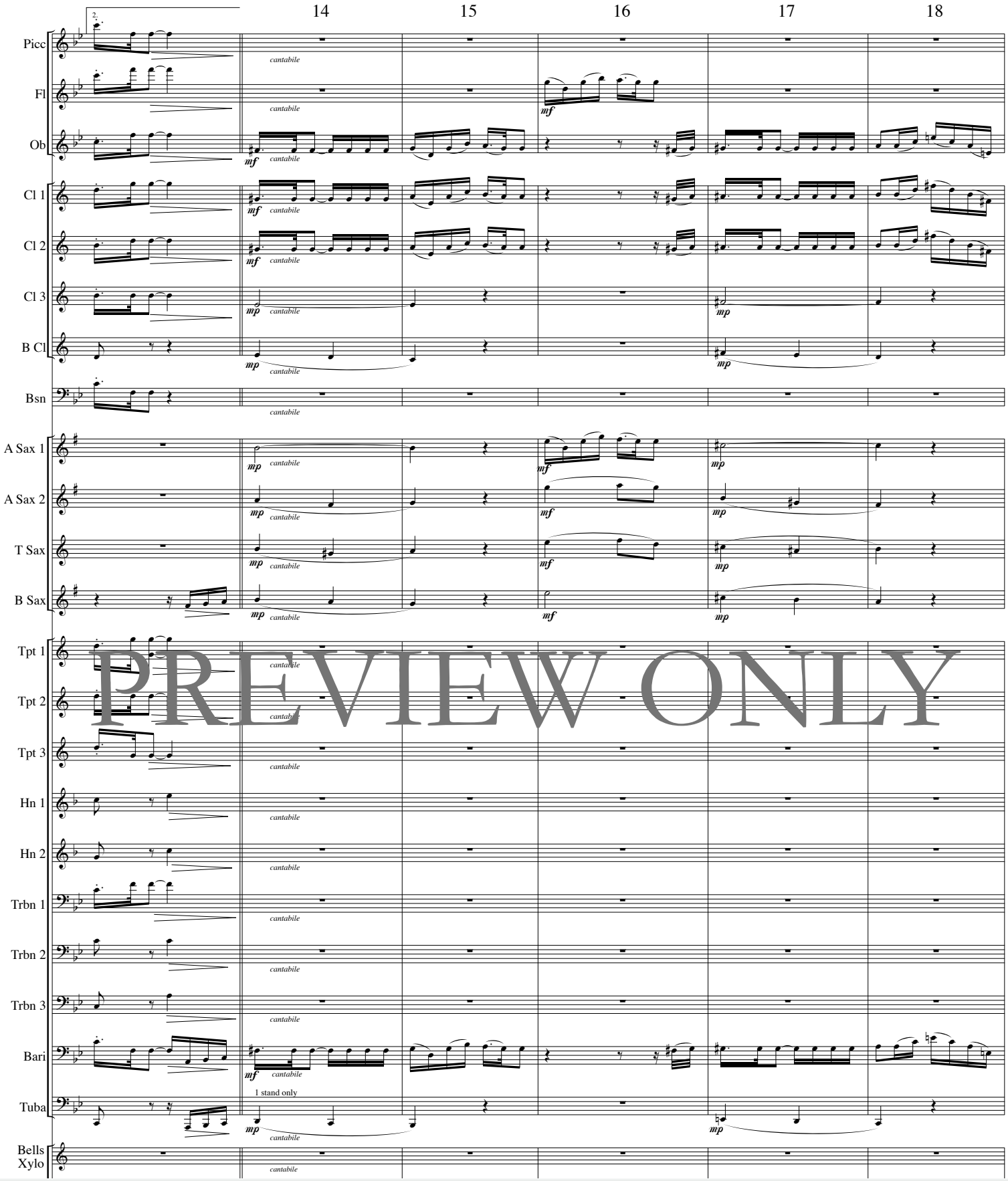


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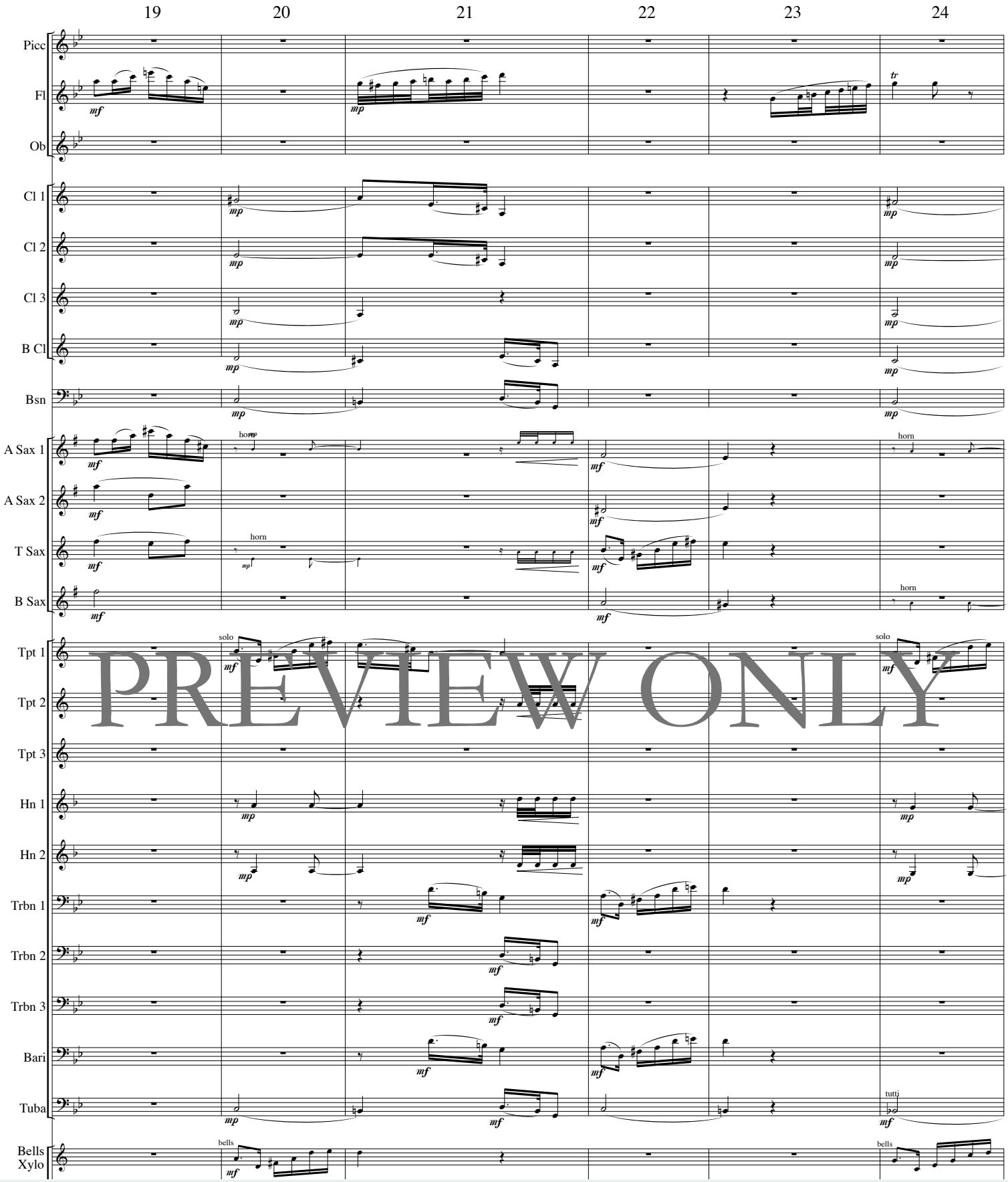


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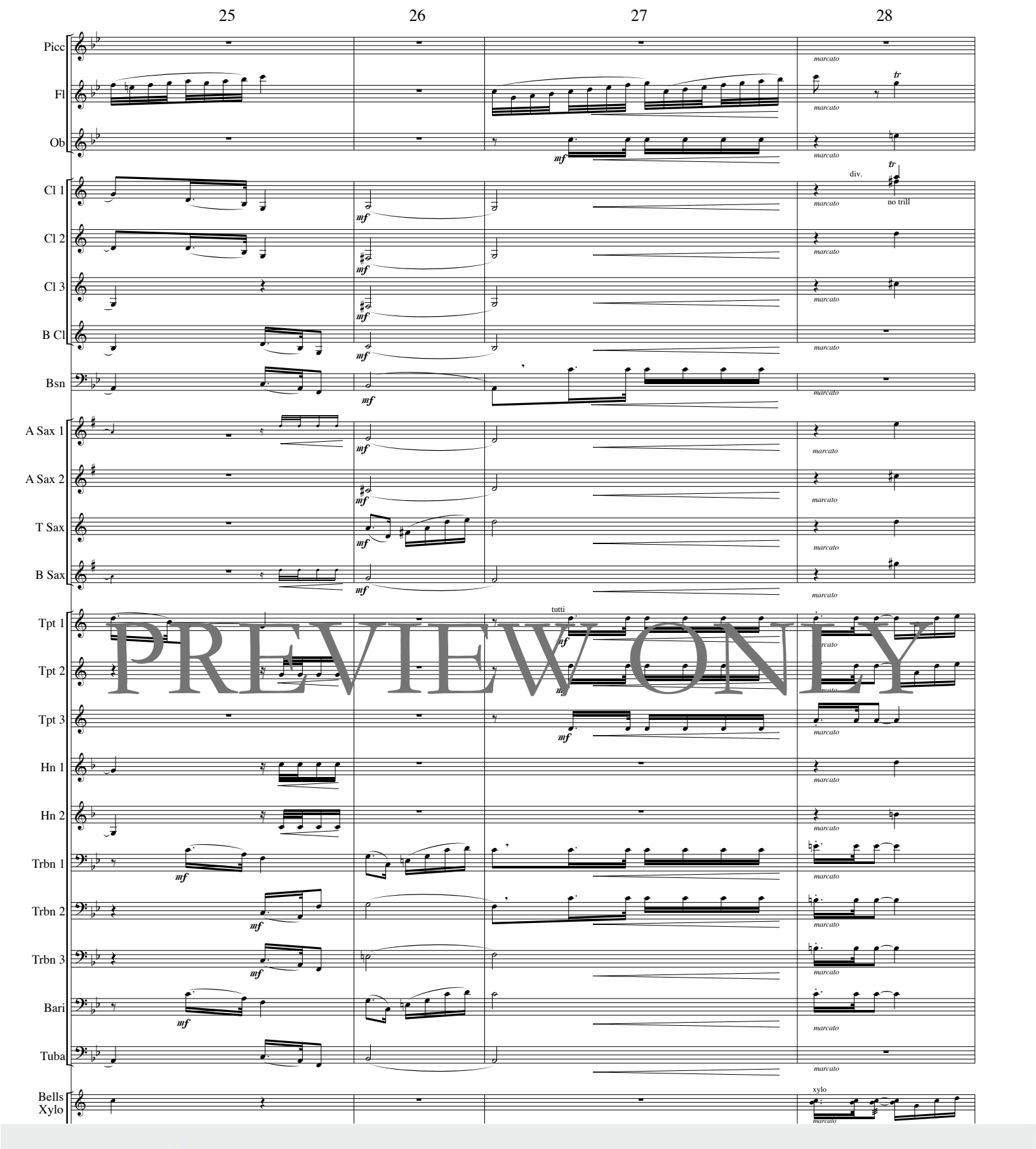


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29 30 31 32

Picc
Fl
Ob
Cl 1
Cl 2
Cl 3
B Cl
Bsn
A Sax 1
A Sax 2
T Sax
B Sax
Tpt 1
Tpt 2
Tpt 3
Hn 1
Hn 2
Trbn 1
Trbn 2
Trbn 3
Bari
Tuba
Bells
Xylo

tr
no trill
tutti
div.
f

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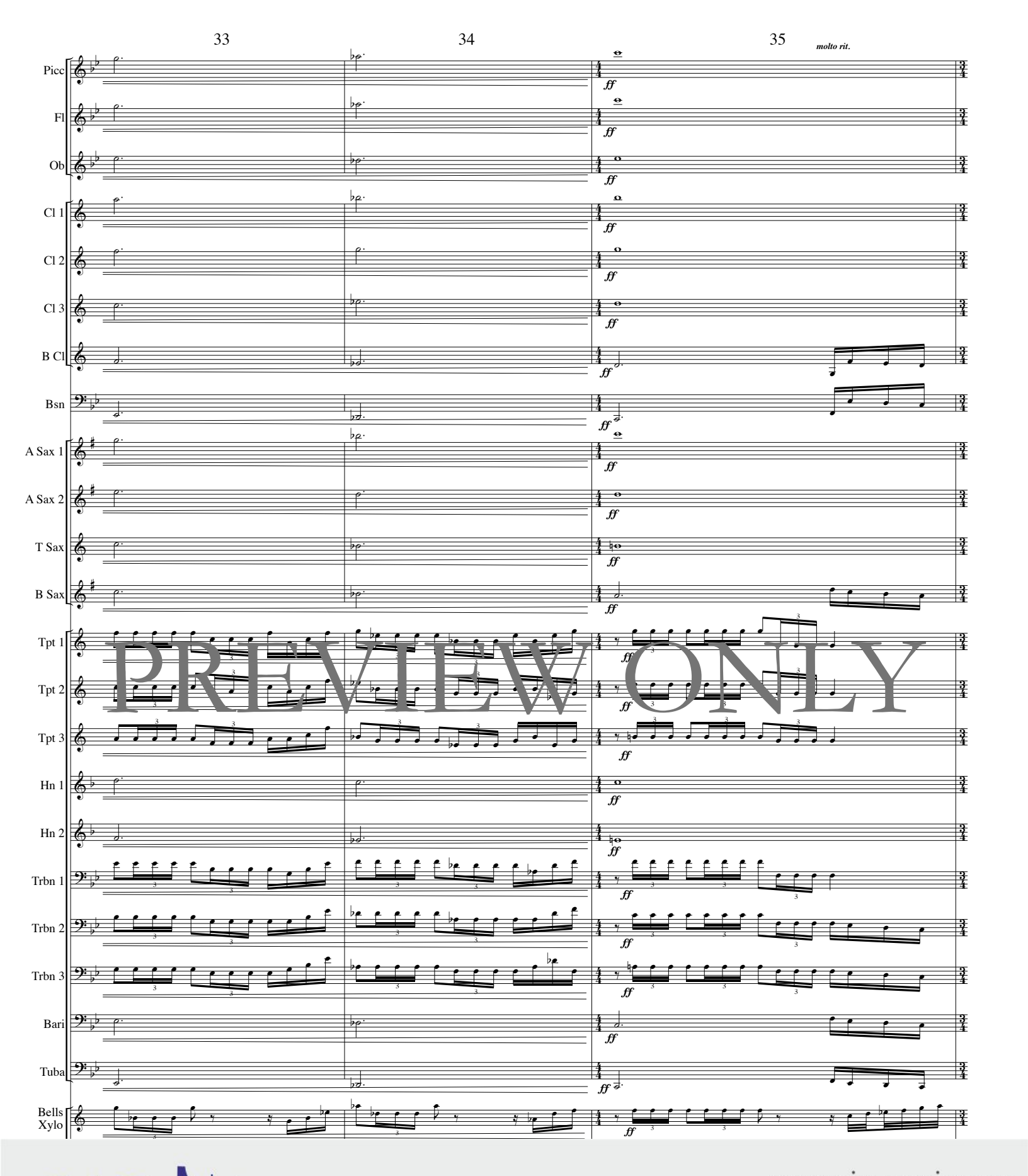


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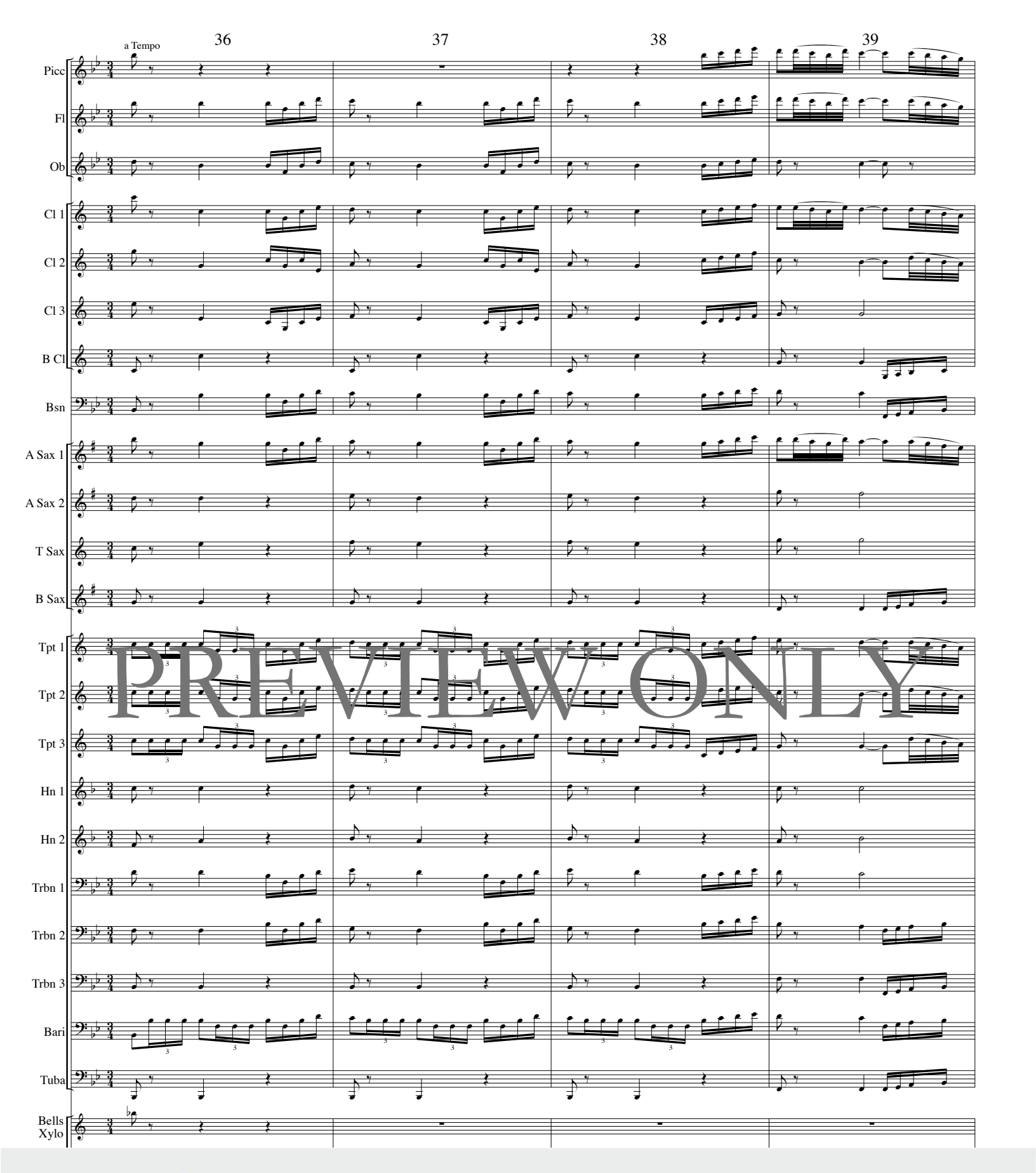


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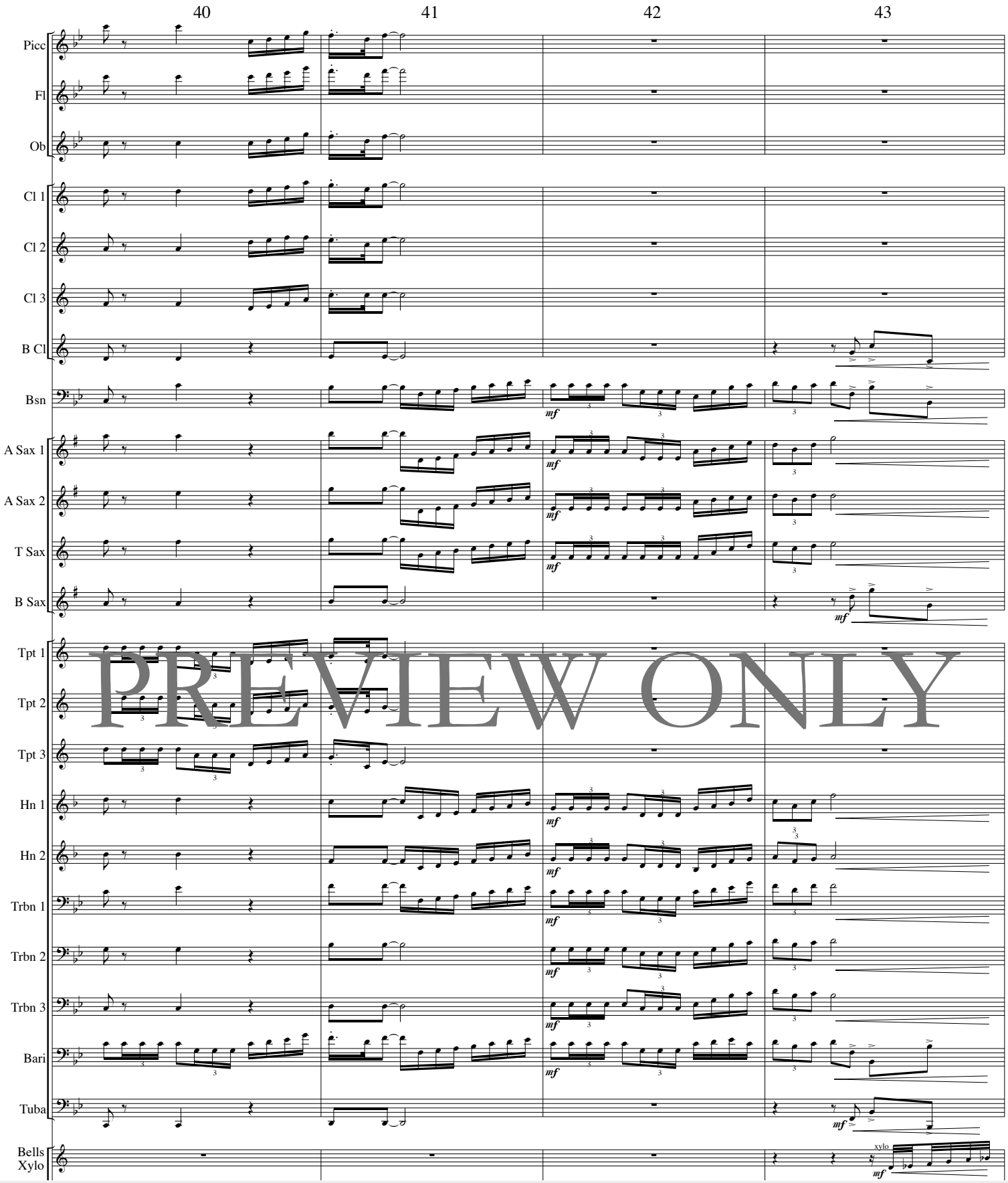


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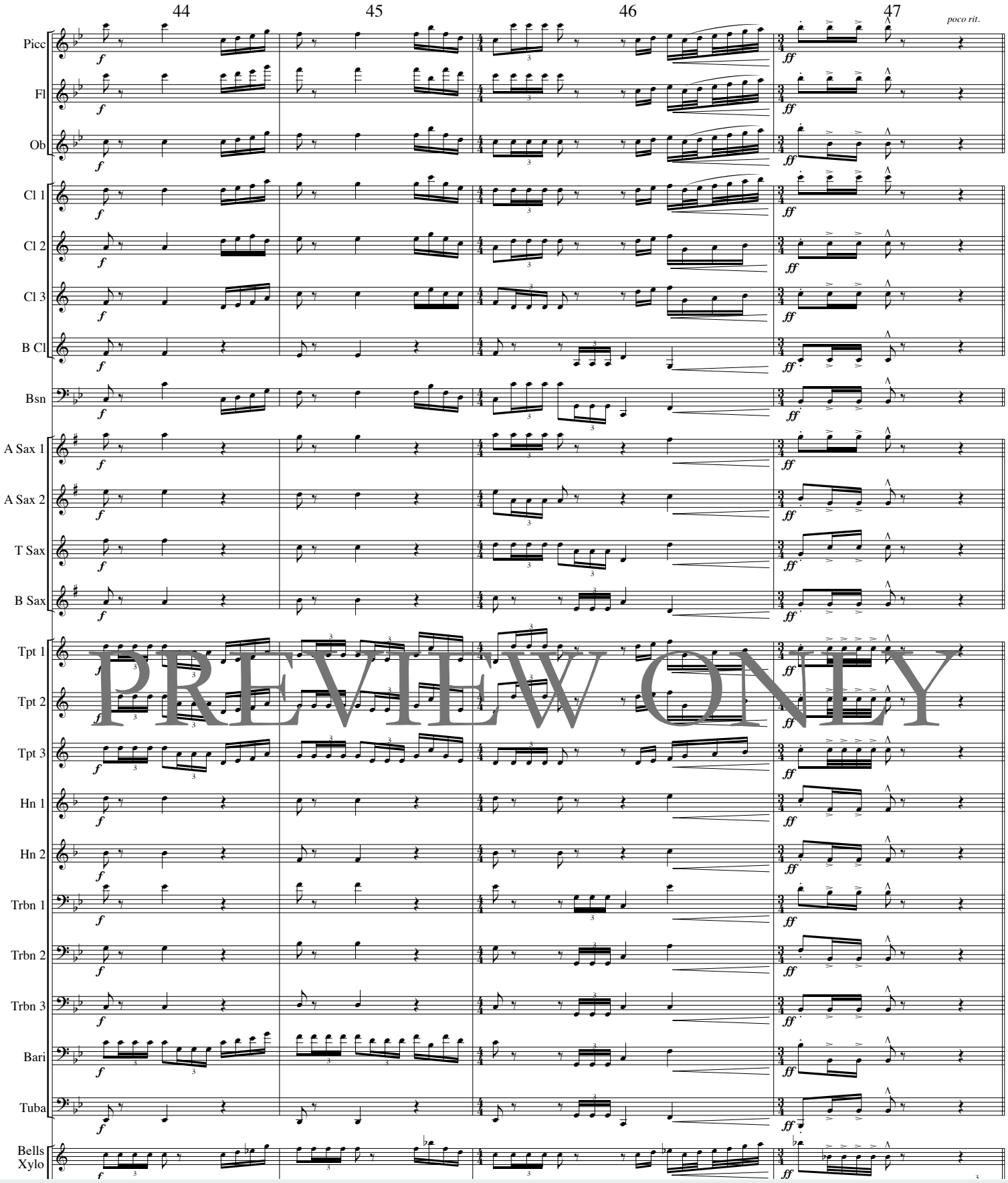


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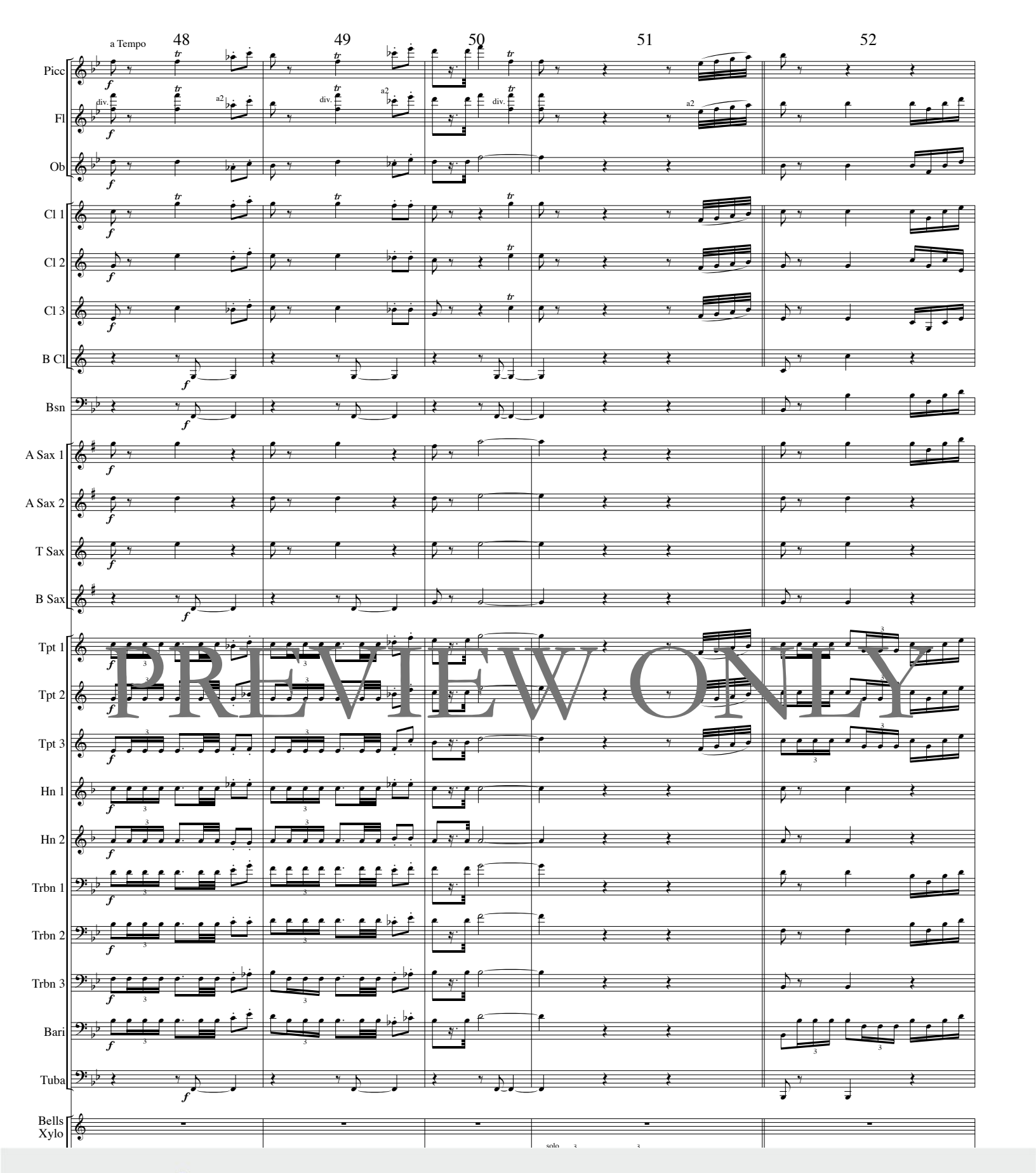


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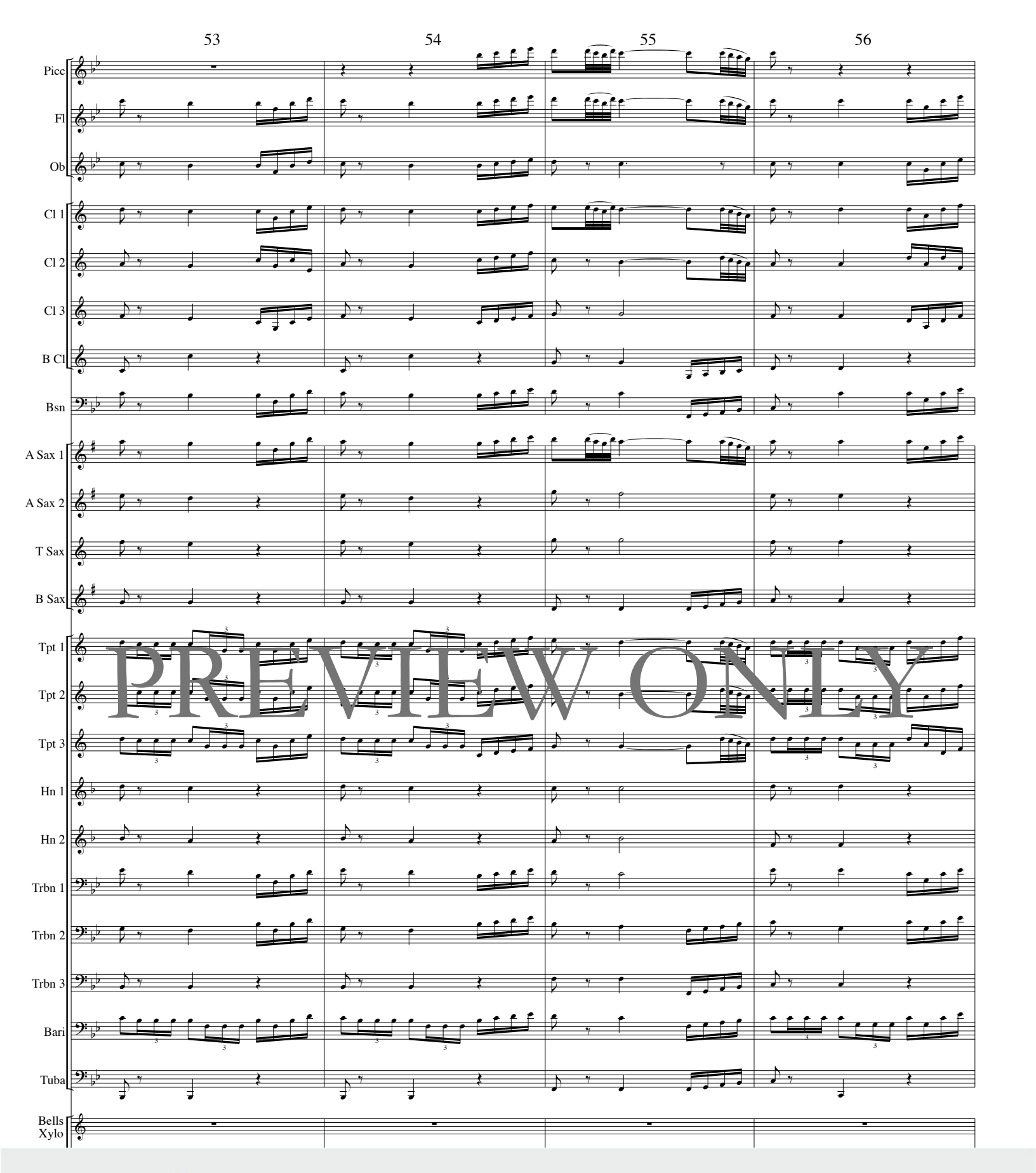


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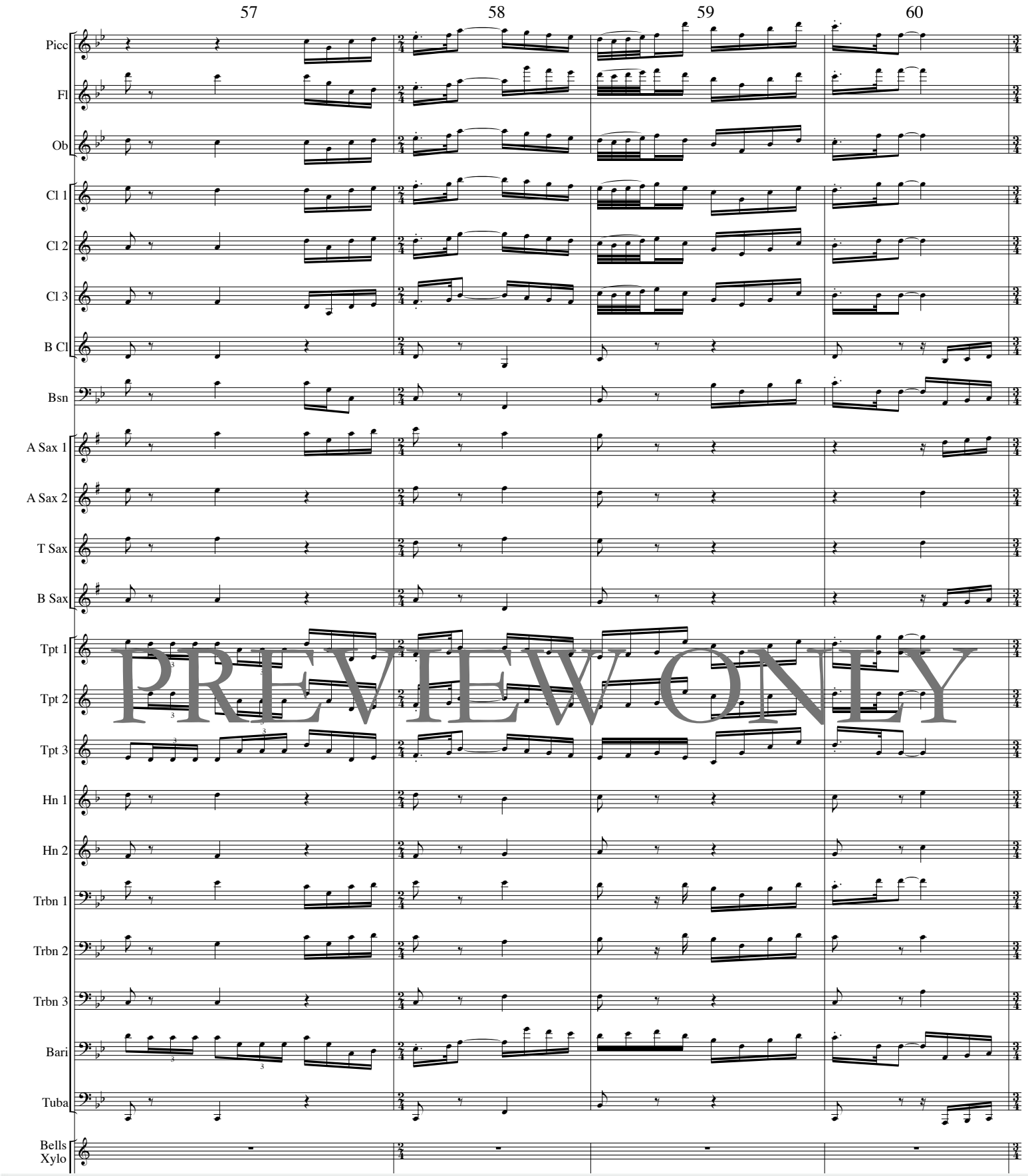


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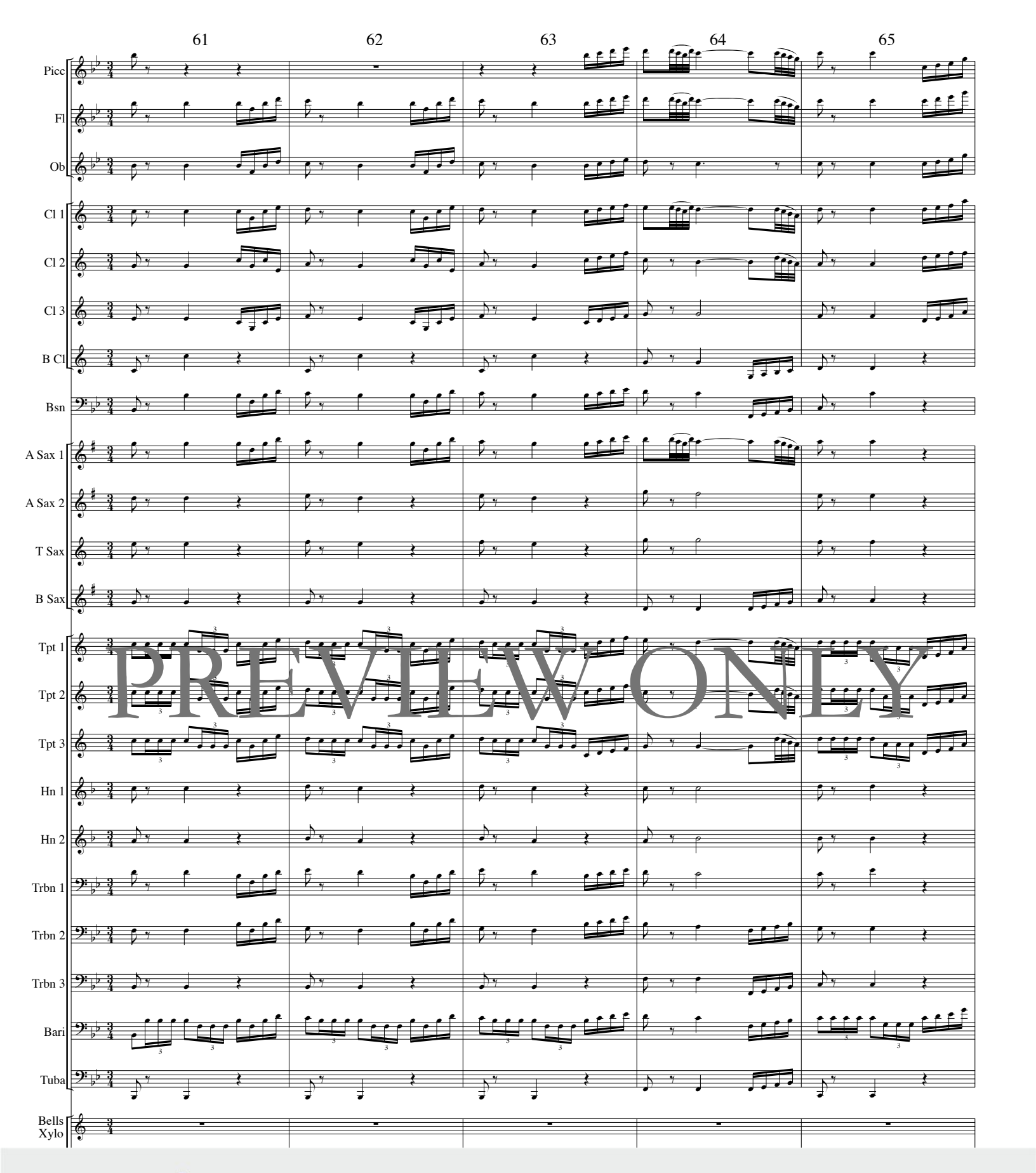


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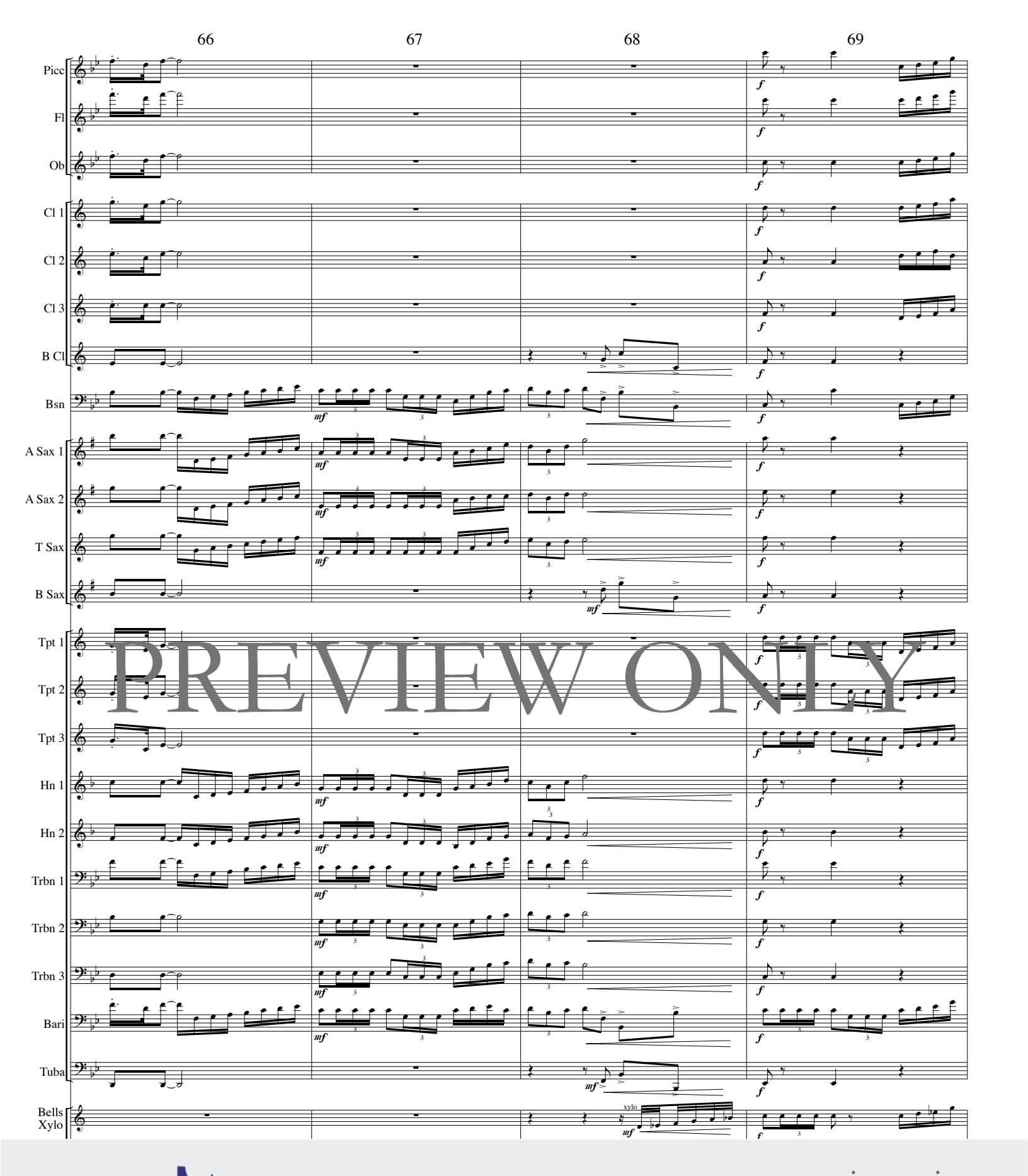


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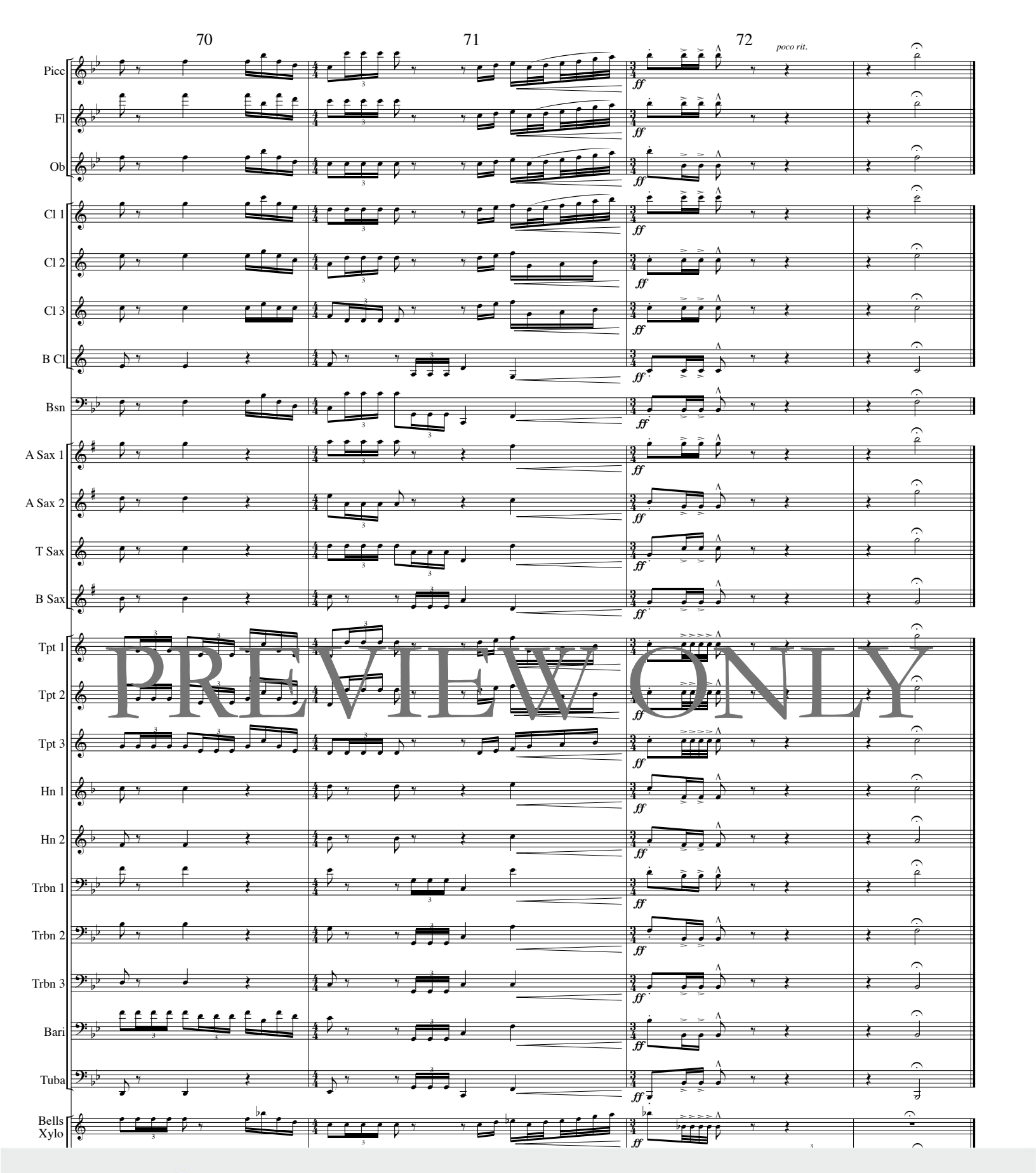


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