Eighth Note Publications

Hodie Christus Natus Est

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

Arranged by David Marlatt

THE WORK: Hodie Christus natus est is no. 13 of Cantiones sacrae cum basso continuo ad organum which was first published in 1619. This short work was originally scored for five voices and continuo. This was a piece that was written for Christmas time and combines very traditional compositional ideas with new features. Sweelinck's use of a "call and response" is a brilliant method of unifying the work.

THE ARRANGEMENT: Sweelinck's call and response concept between the soloist and the tutti ensemble has been taken one step further. The sextet is separated into two antiphonal choirs and the "call" has been divided between two players. The scoring of the parts makes the best possible use of this spatial difference allowing for dynamic "echoes" between the two choirs. For the effect to be most successful, all dynamics and articulations must be closely adhered to. The contrast must be apparent between marcato figures at the beginning and end and the lyrical (and soft!) section that begins at measure 79.

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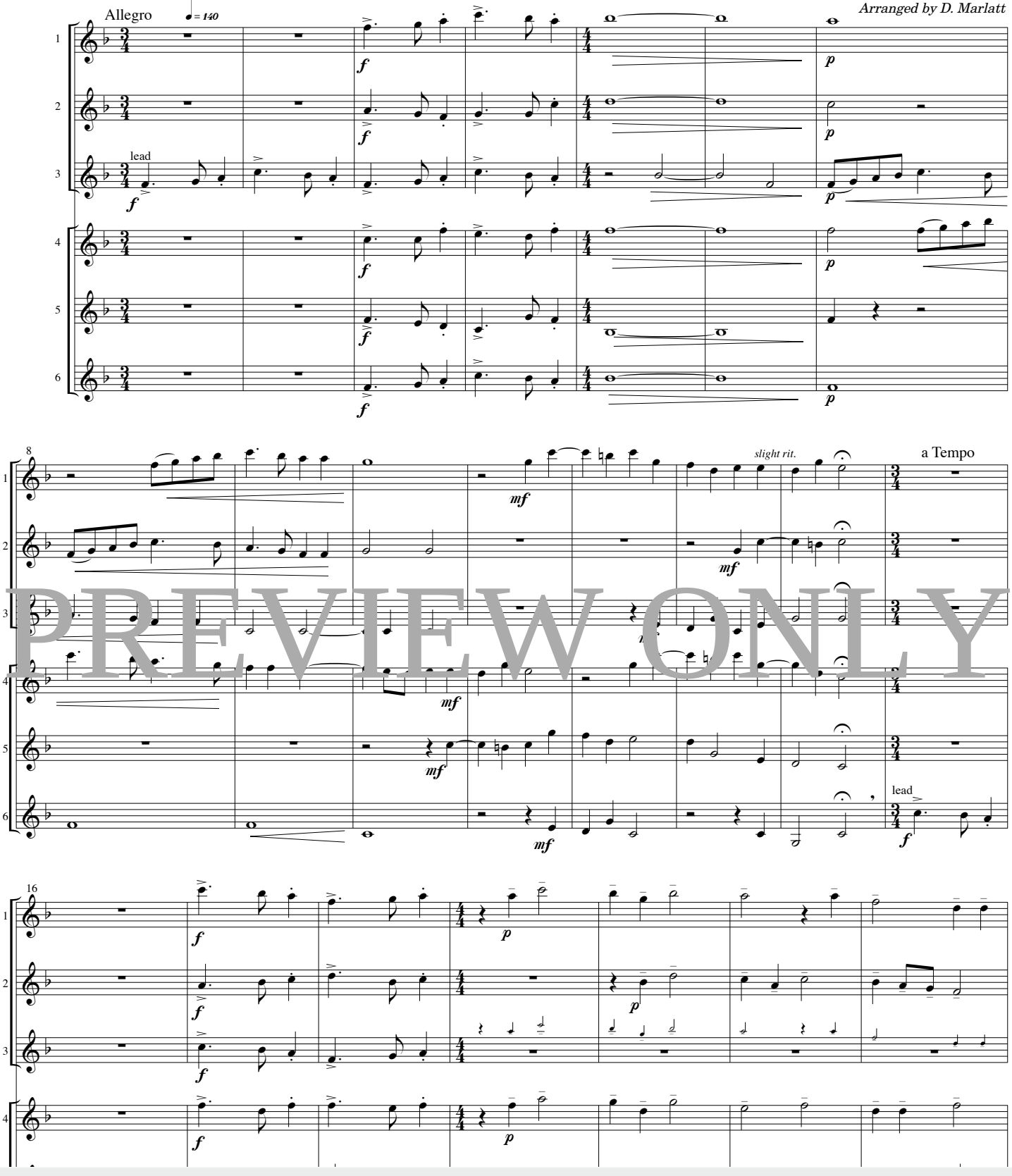
Hodie Christus Natus Est

No. 13 of *Cantiones Sacrae Cum Basso Continuo ad Organum*

J.P. Sweelinck
(1562-1621)
Arranged by D. Marlatt



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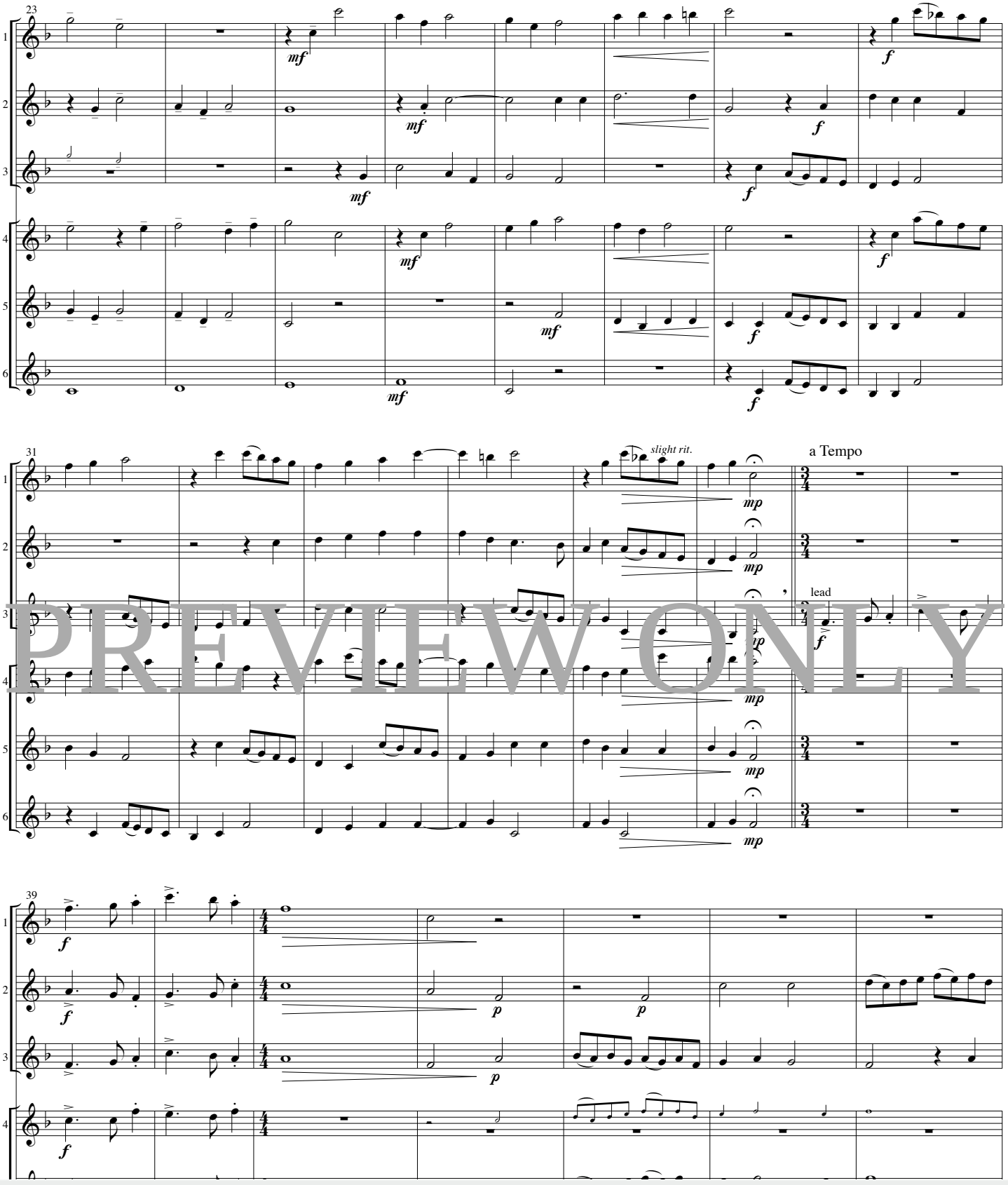

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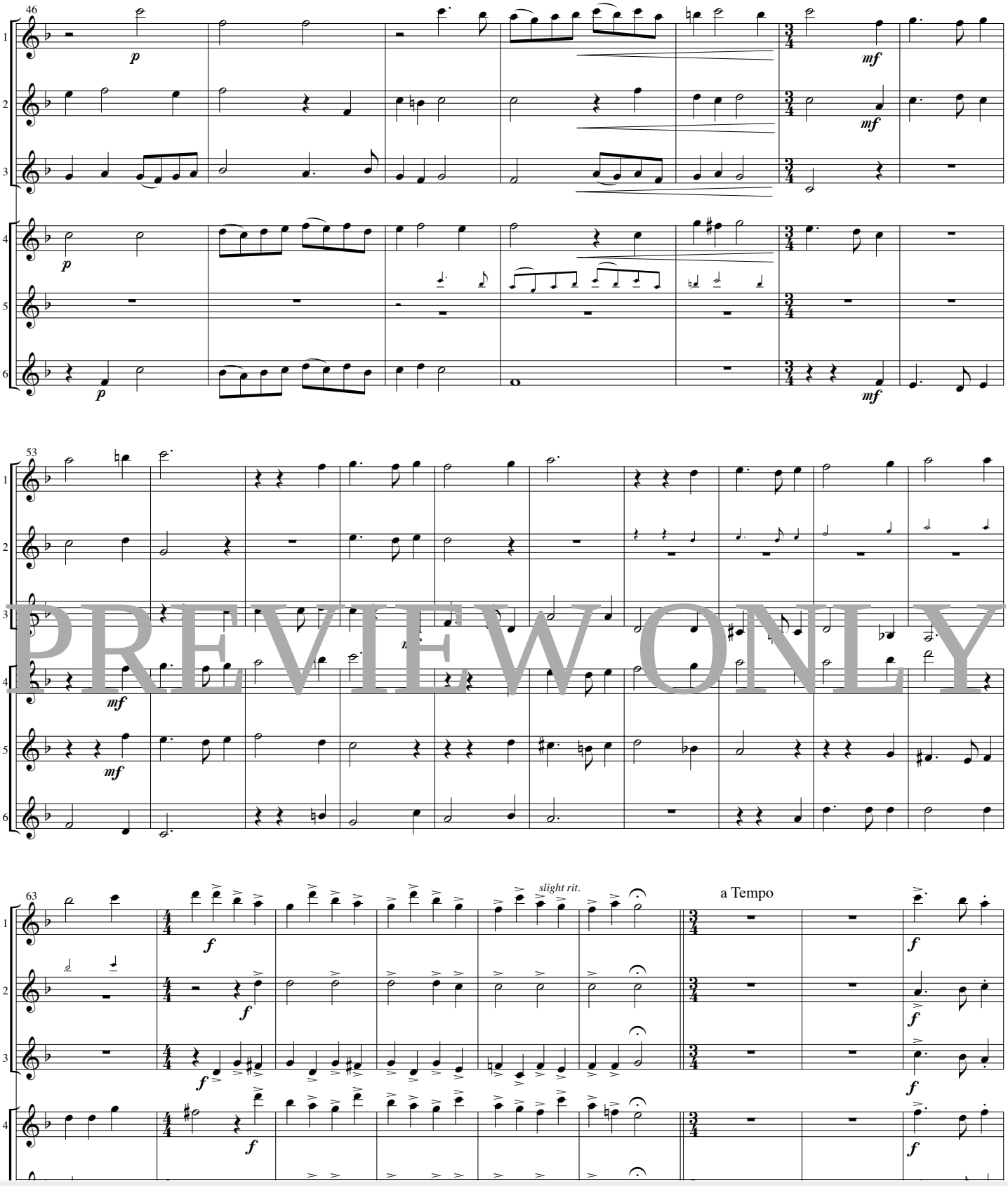

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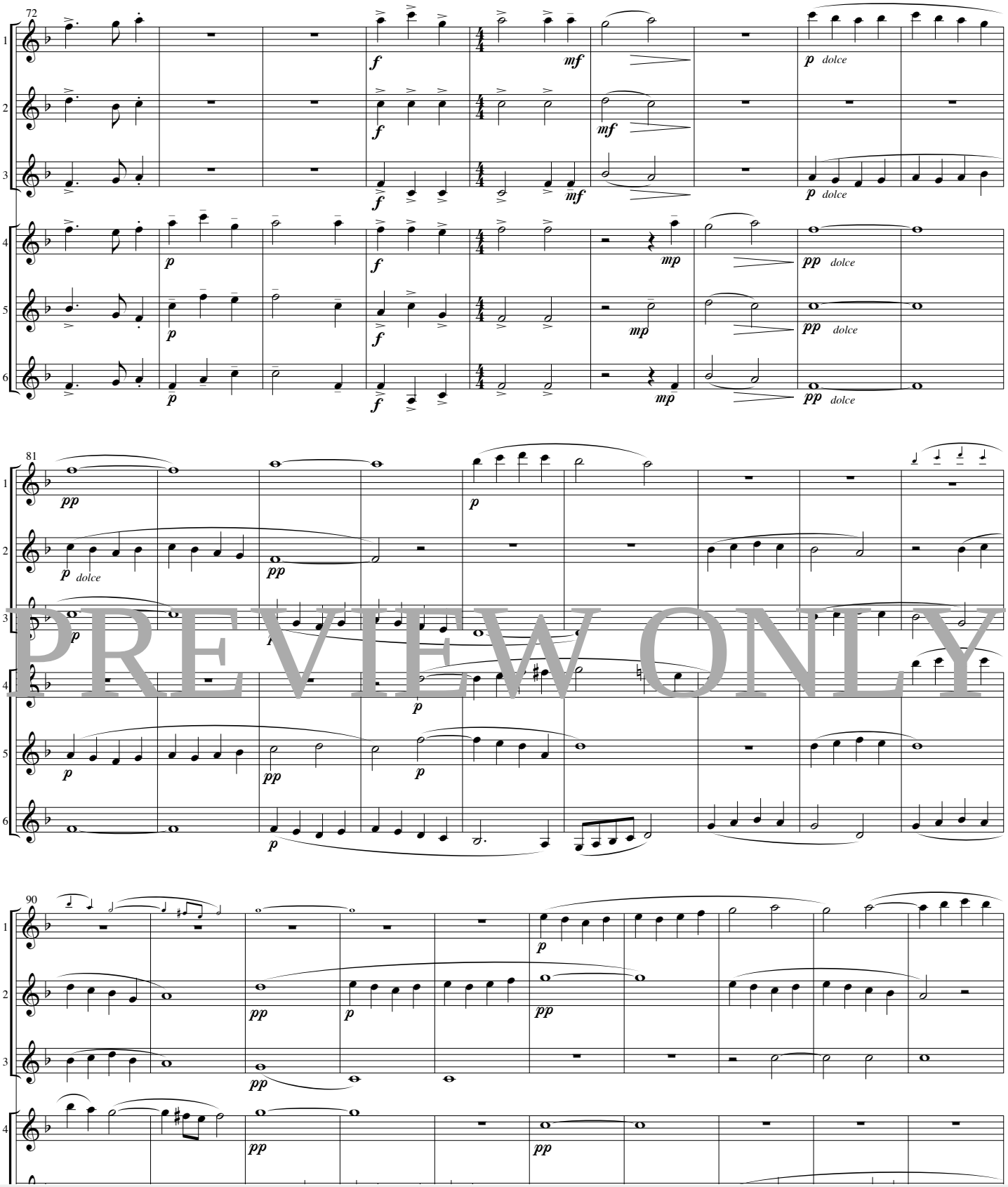

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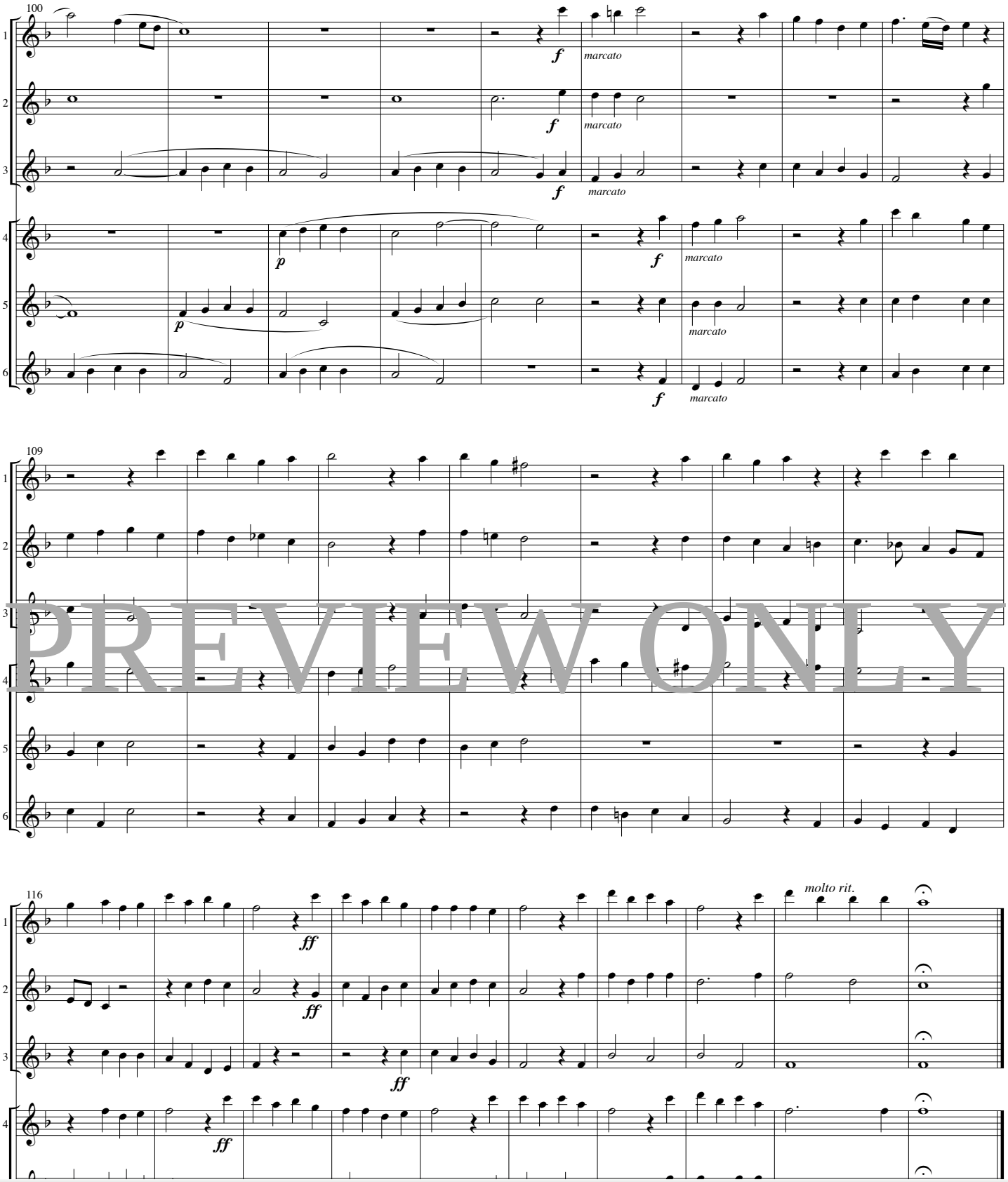

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