Please note that not all pages are included. This is purposely done in order to protect our property and the work of our esteemed composers.

If you would like to see this work in its entirety, please order online or call us at 800-647-2117.

PROGRAM NOTE

The SERENADE FOR MALLARMÉ was commissioned by the Mallarmé Chamber Players with partial funding by the North Carolina Arts Council and the Durham Arts Council. Anna Wilson, flute; Jonathan Bagg, viola; Fred Raimi, cello; and Jane Hawkins, piano, gave the world premiere of the SERENADE on October 15, 1991 in the Nelson Music Room of Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.

Having considered the potential of many musical ideas for several weeks, suddenly at a very early hour one morning five of them emerged as the themes that together would become my SERENADE. Two of them would be the themes for the contrapuntal opening Allegro. A melancholy tune sung by the viola and cello with a playful obbligato in the flute and some unlikely interruptions in the piano would be the second movement. The Finale would combine a kittenish Scherzo and a broad lyric tune to conclude the piece.

In trying to write idiomatically for the four disparate instruments I found myself attaching human traits to the individual parts. As the work grew I began to envision a kind of scenario, for a quartet of modern dancers perhaps, inspired by the moods and structure of the various movements. I shall not divulge my scenario, but I would encourage the listener to let the imagination run free and create whatever scenario hearing the music might stimulate.

R .W.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Robert Ward, Pulitzer Prize winner for his opera THE CRUCIBLE, studied at the Eastman School of Music, the Juilliard School, and the Berkshire Music Center. He has taught at Queens College, Columbia University, Juilliard and Duke University where he held the Mary Duke Biddle Chair in Music. He was the Director of the Third Street Music School Settlement, Assistant to the President of Juilliard, and Executive Vice-President and Managing Editor of Galaxy Music Corporation and Highgate Press before becoming President of the North Carolina School of the Arts in 1967. He has lectured and conducted widely in this country, Europe, the Far East and Latin America. His operas, symphonies and chamber works as well as his choral works, concerti, shorter orchestral works and songs have been heard frequently through performances and recordings here and abroad.

DURATION: 15 minutes

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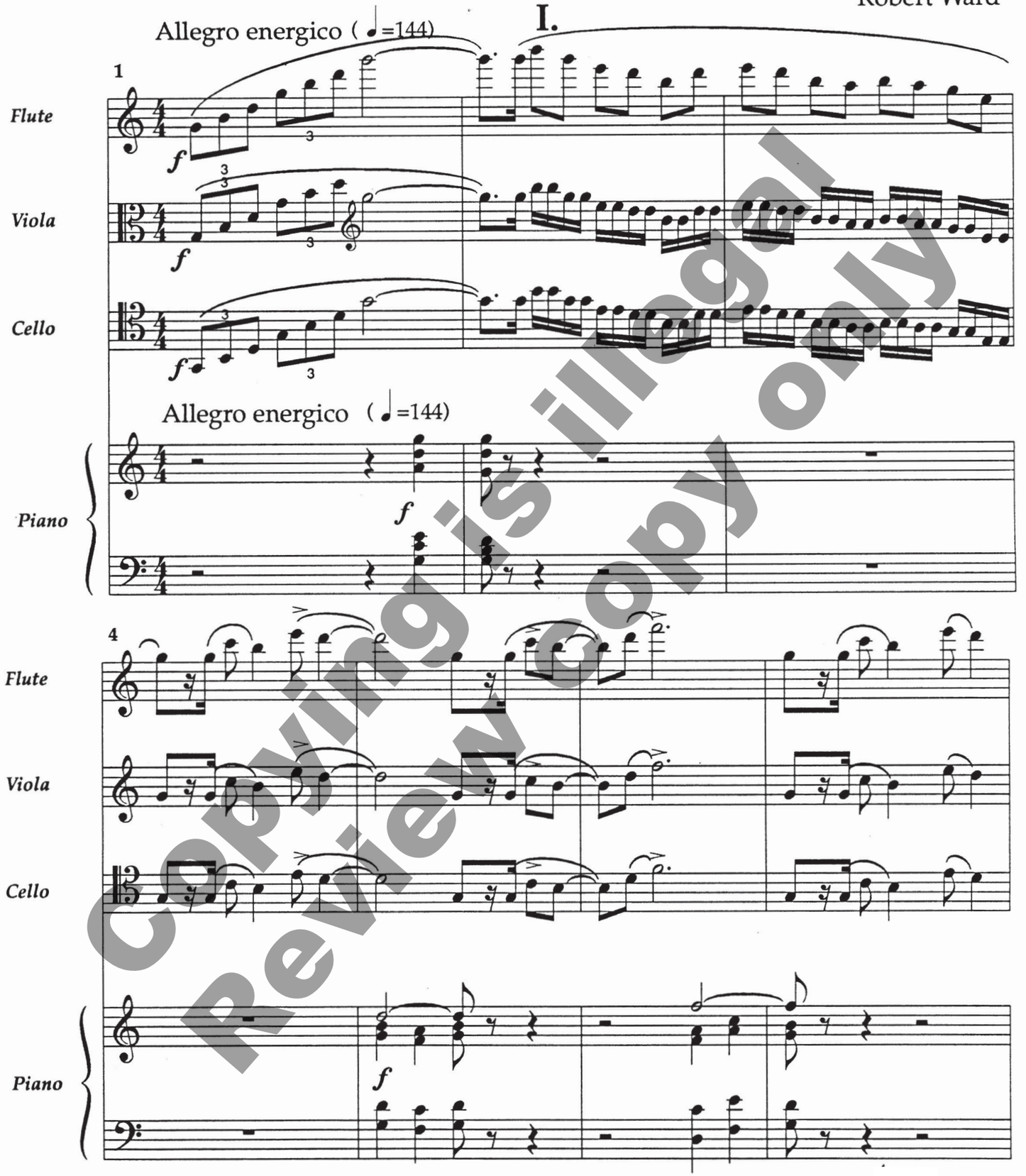
SERENADE for MALLARMÉ

for Flute, Viola, Cello, and Piano

Commissioned by Mallarmé under a grant from the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources

Robert Ward

I.



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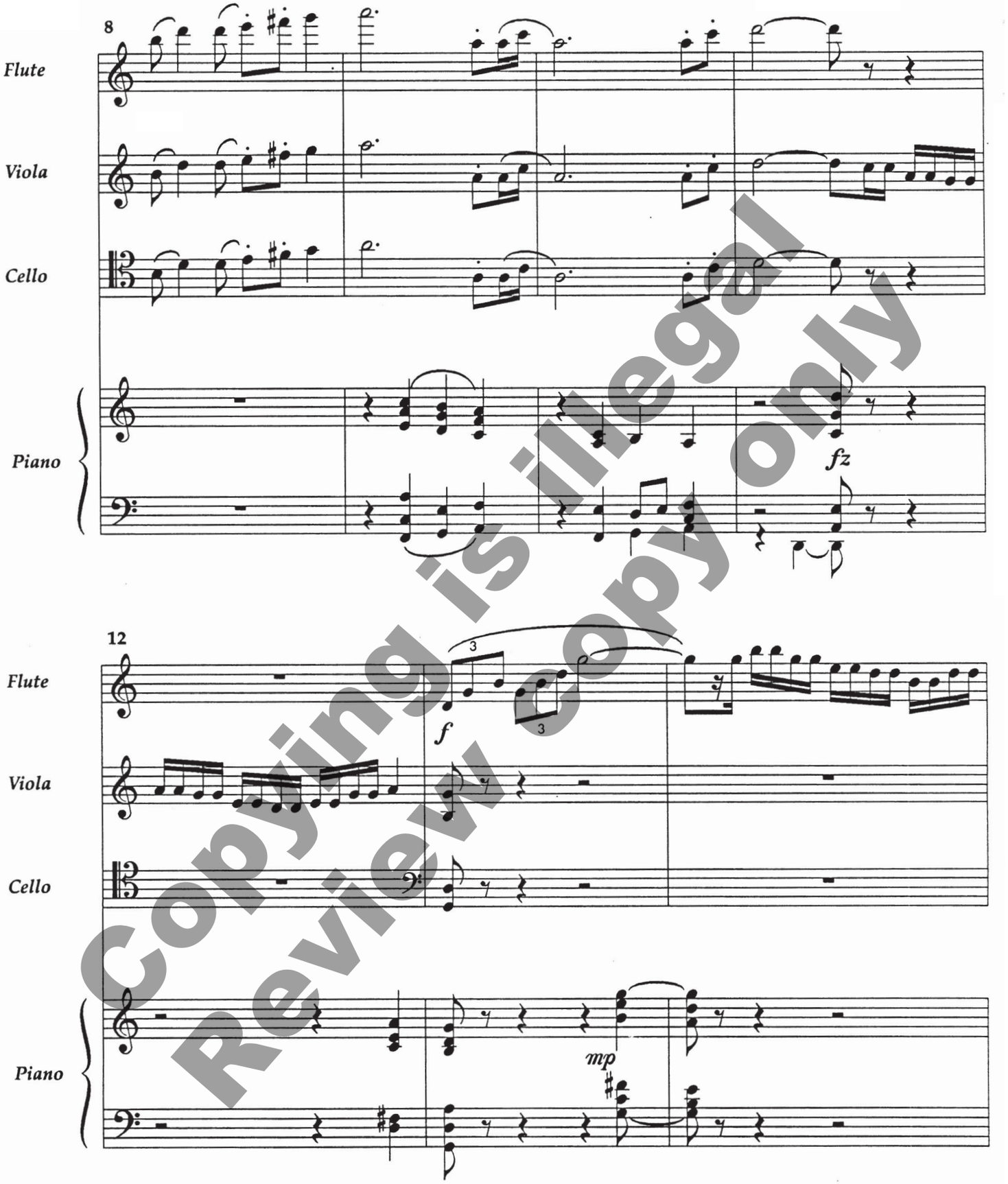

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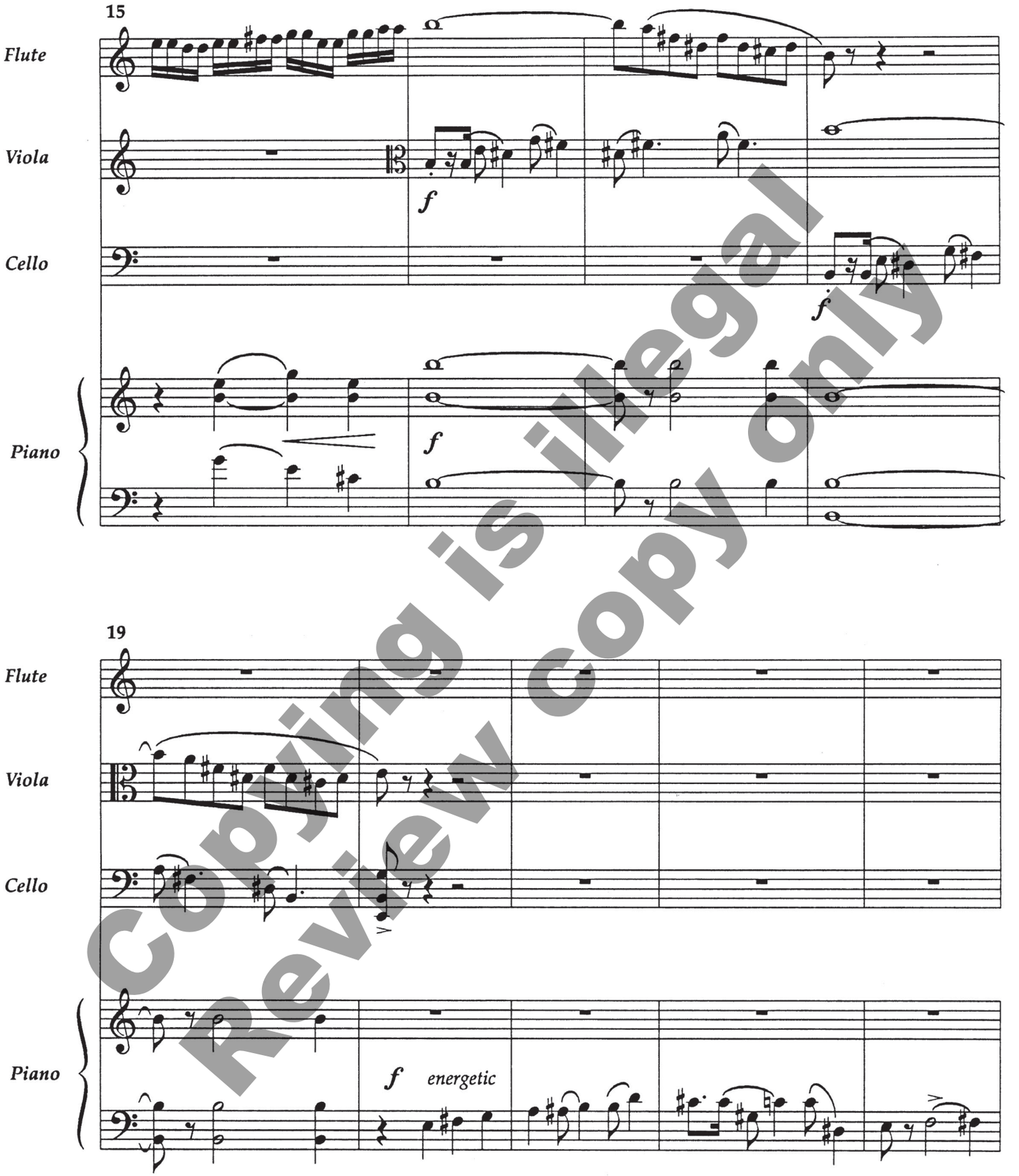

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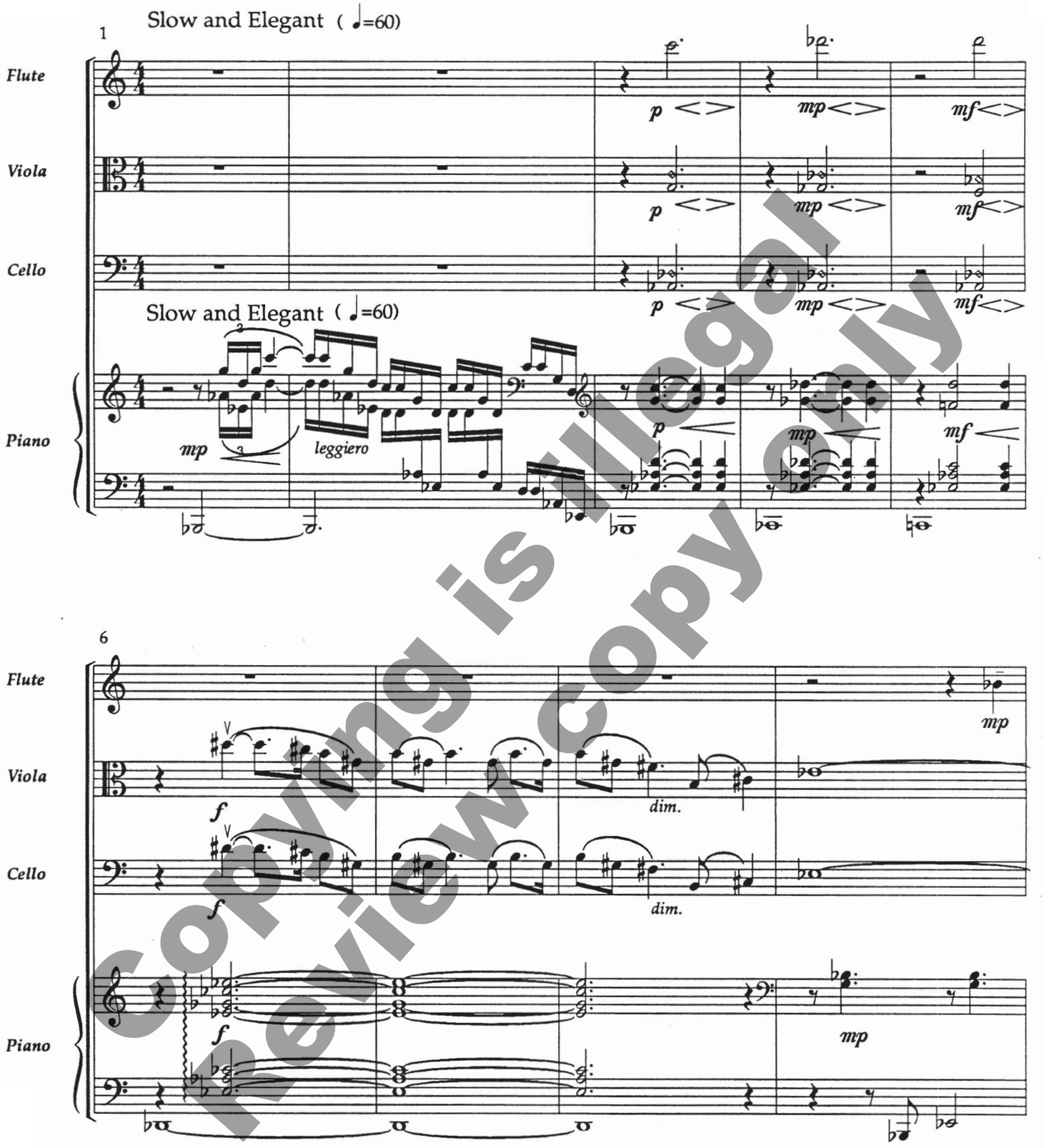

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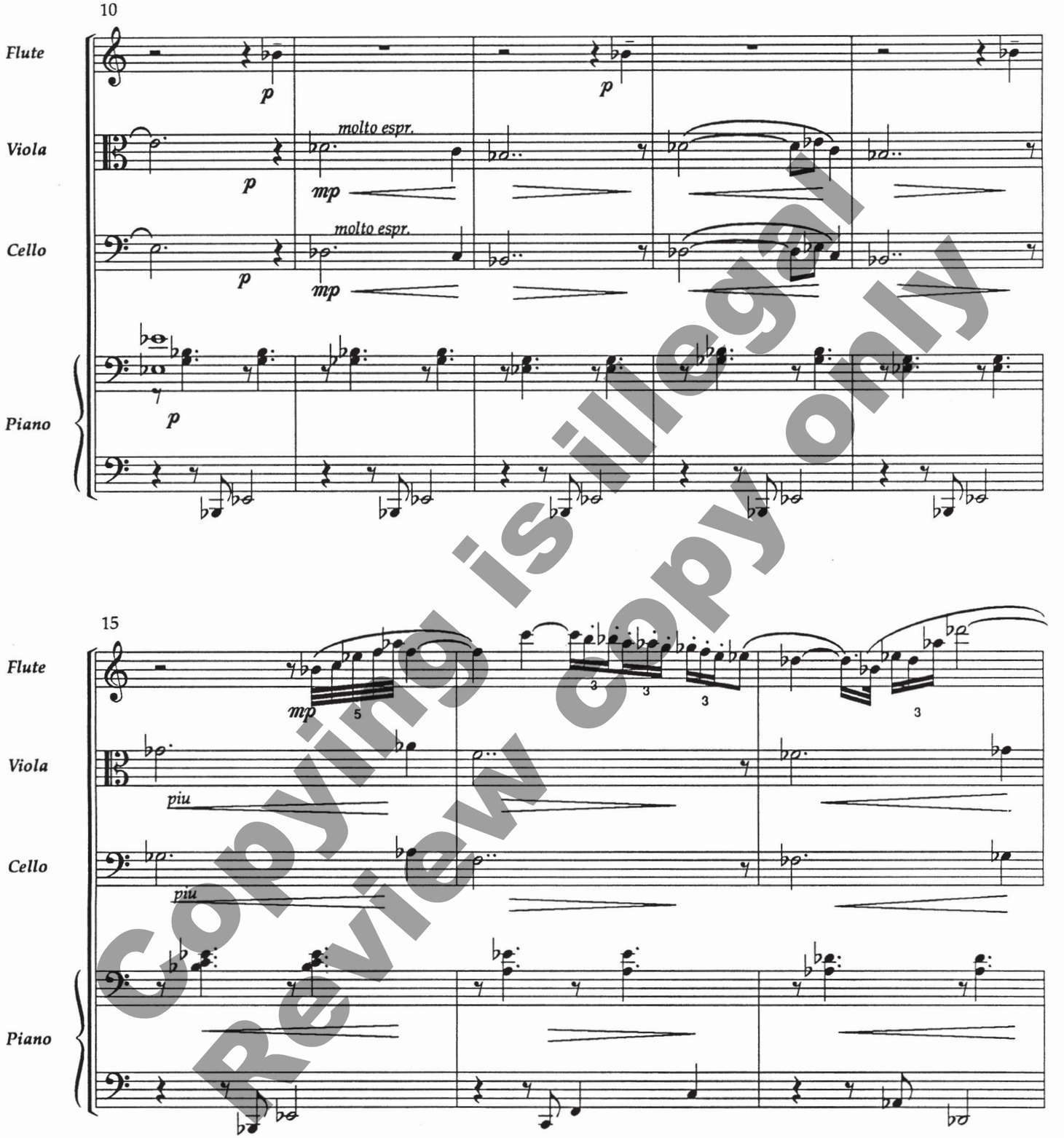

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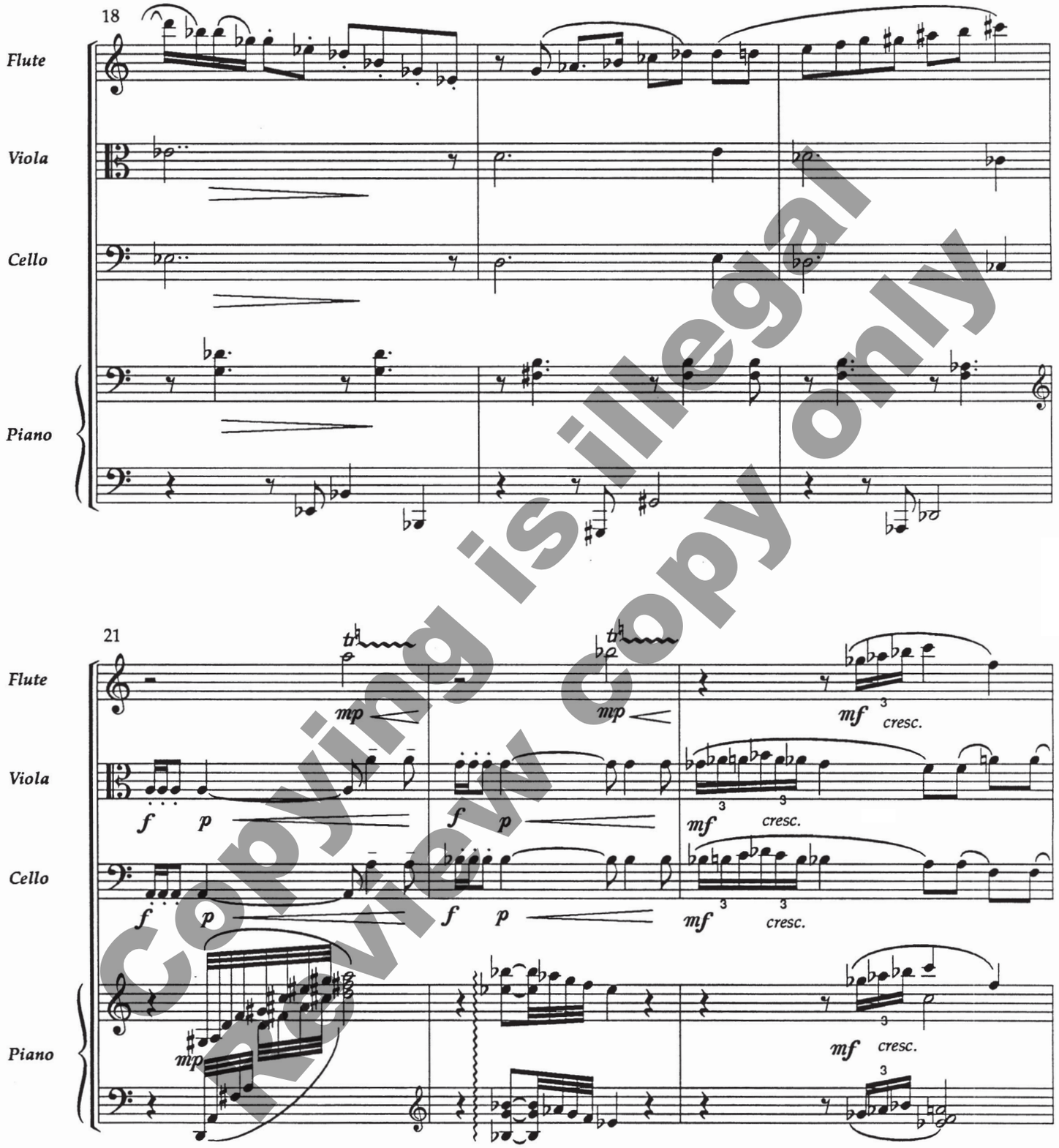

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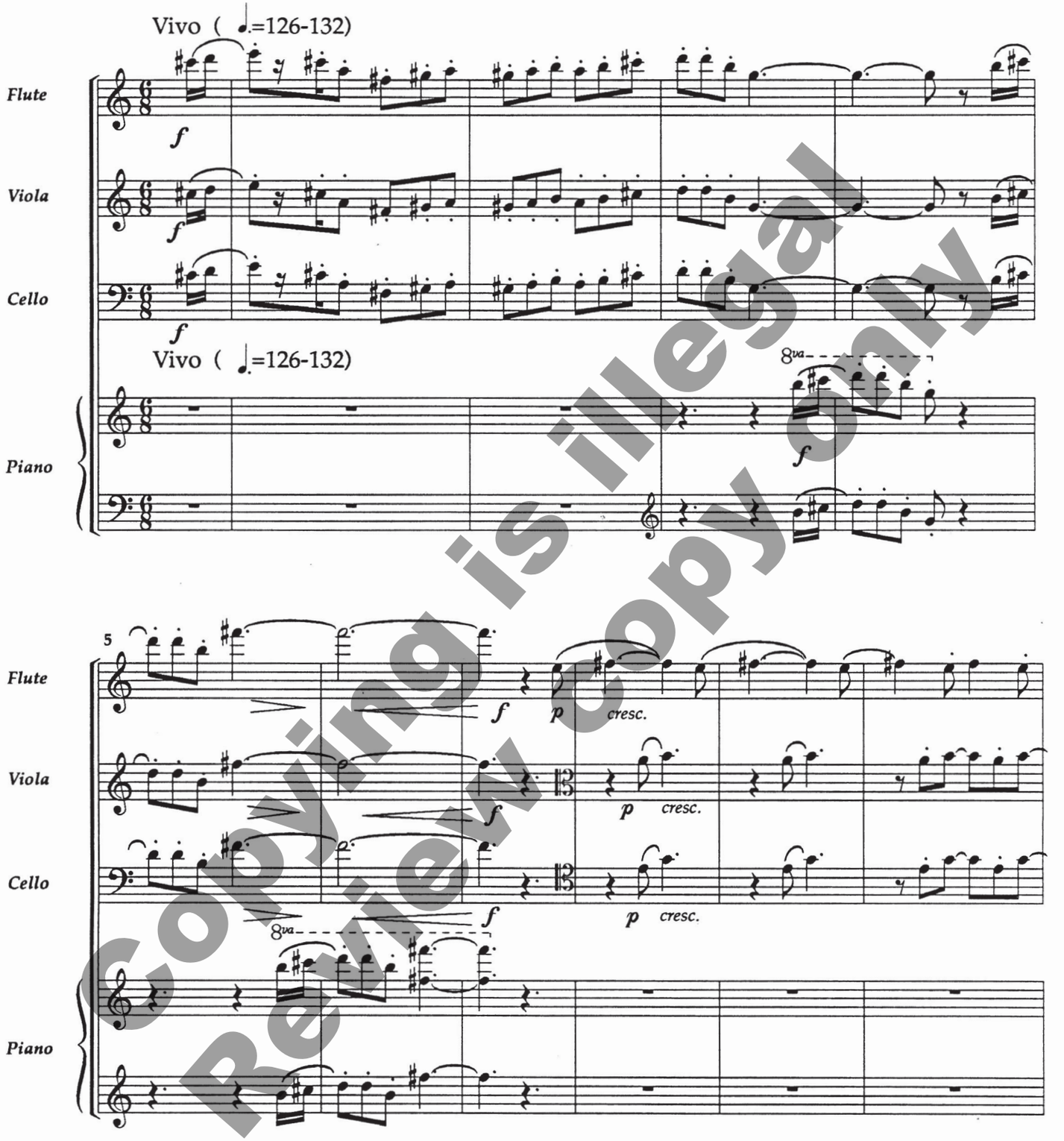

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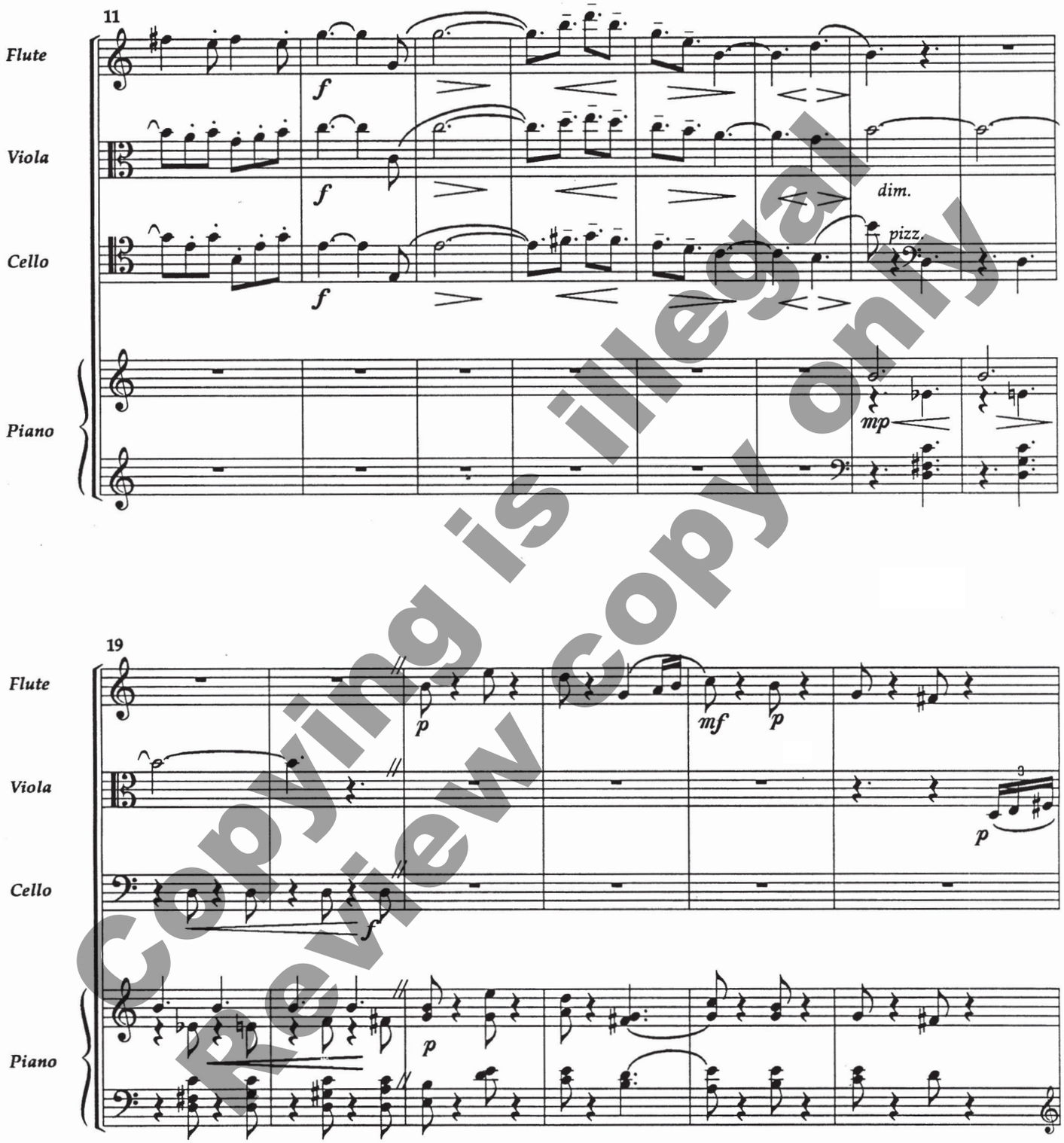

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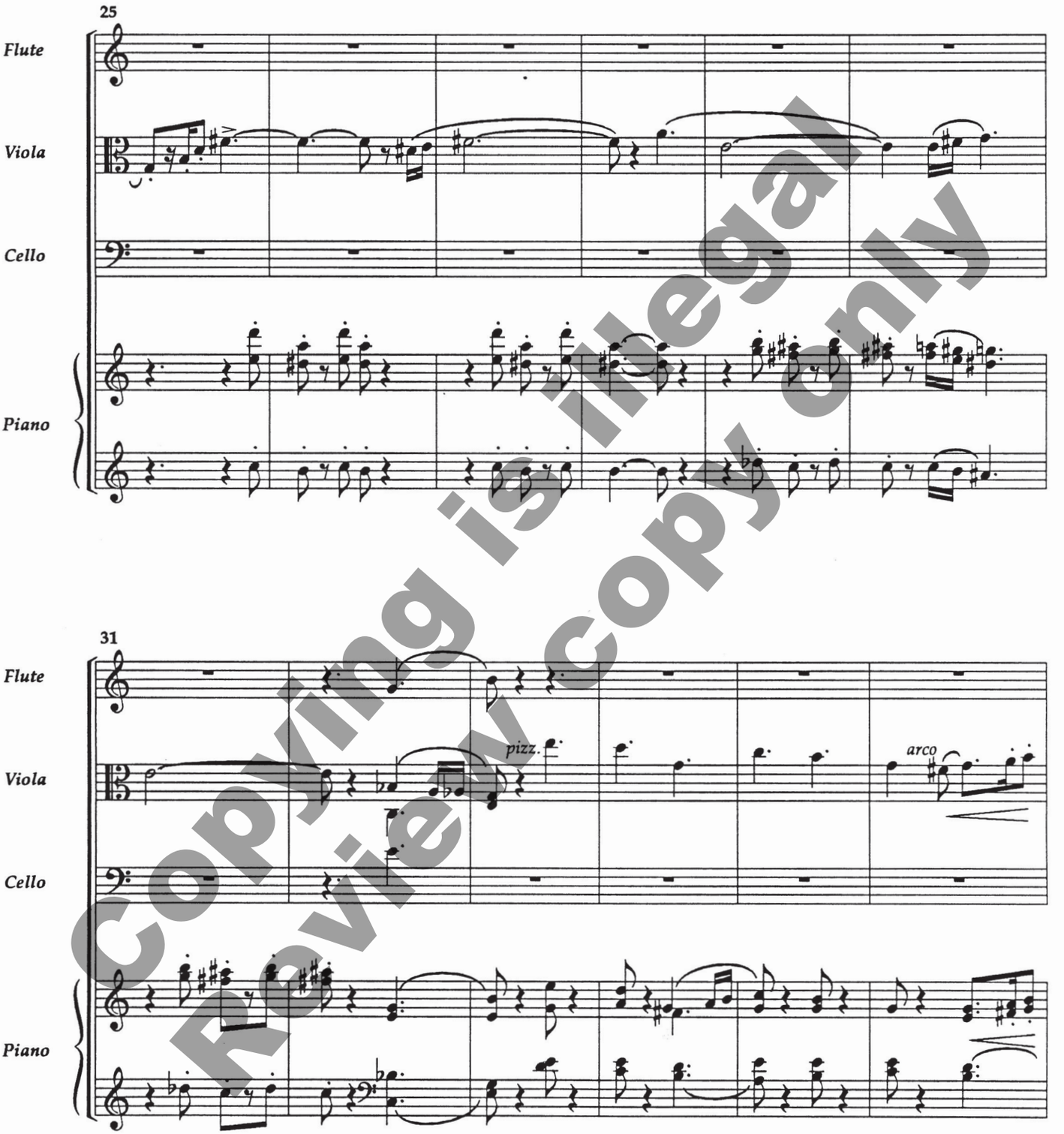

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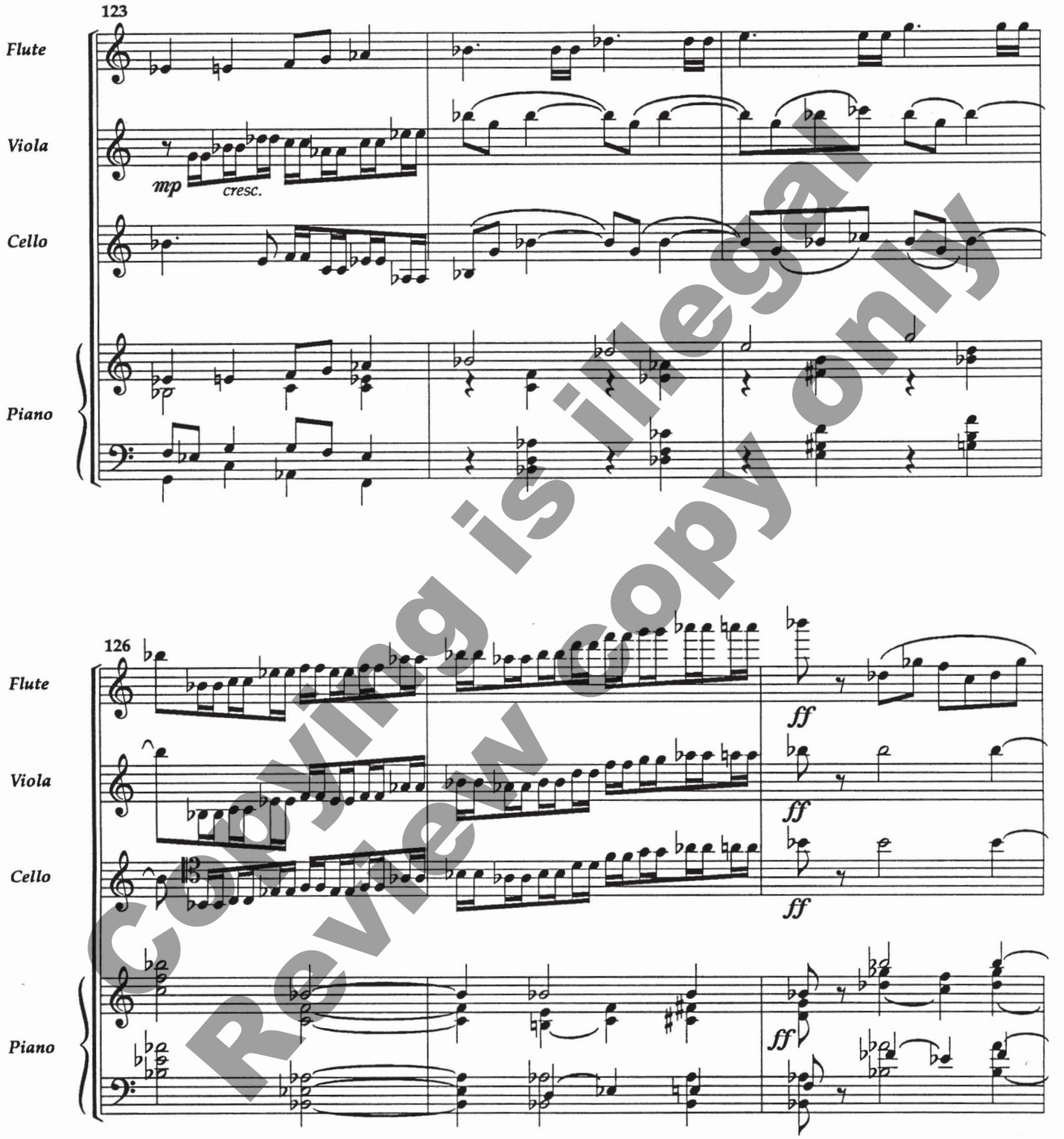

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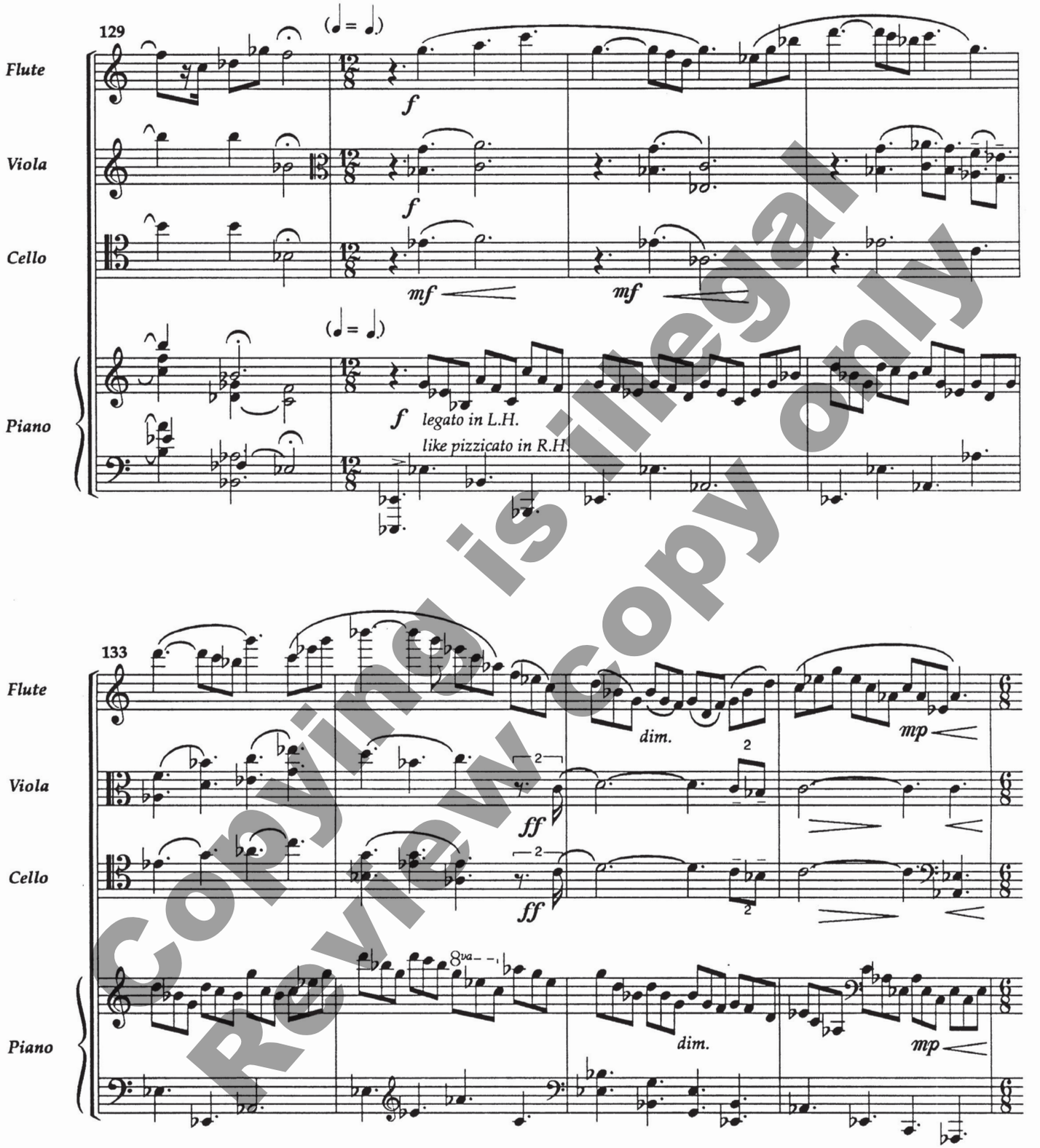

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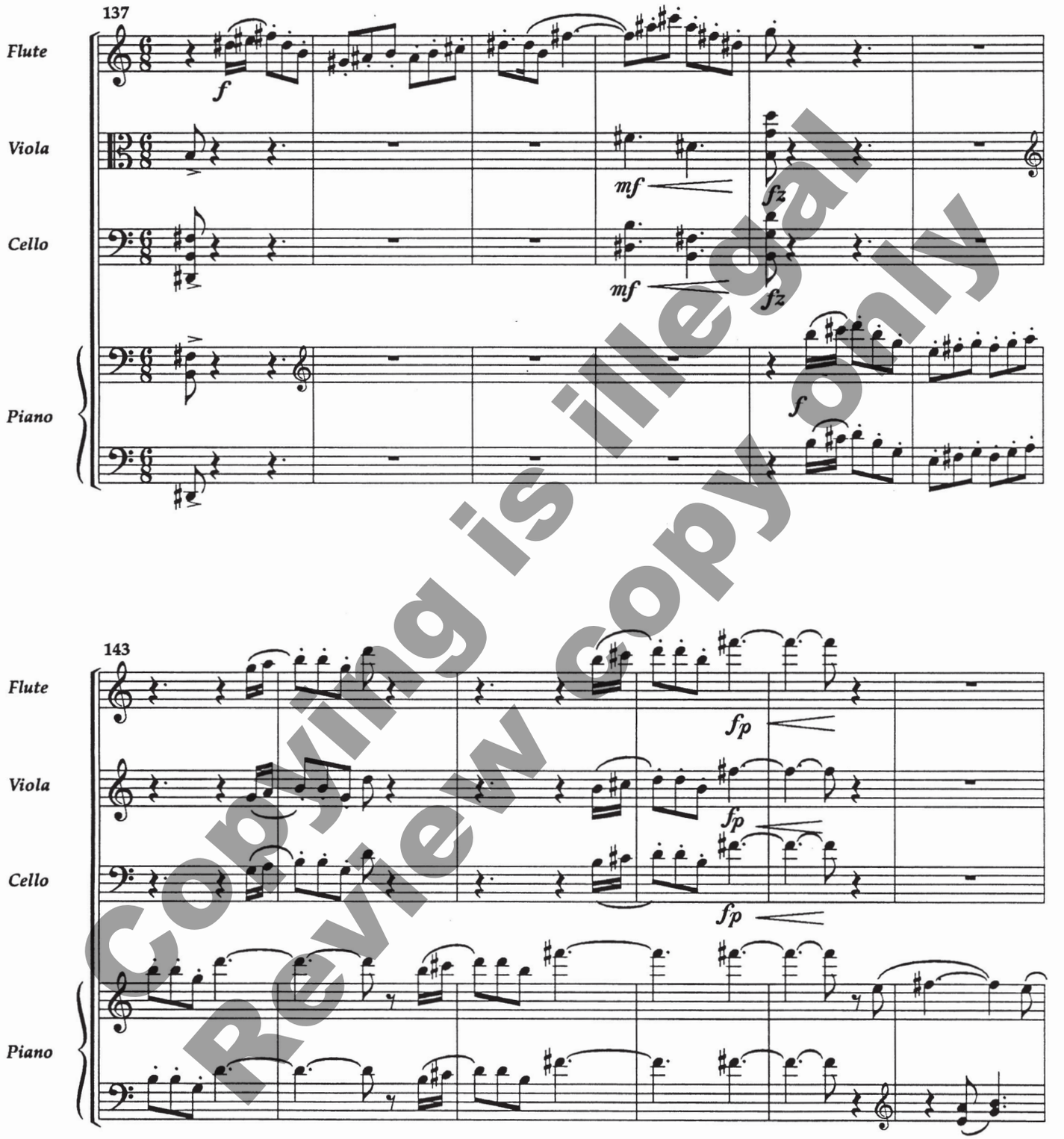

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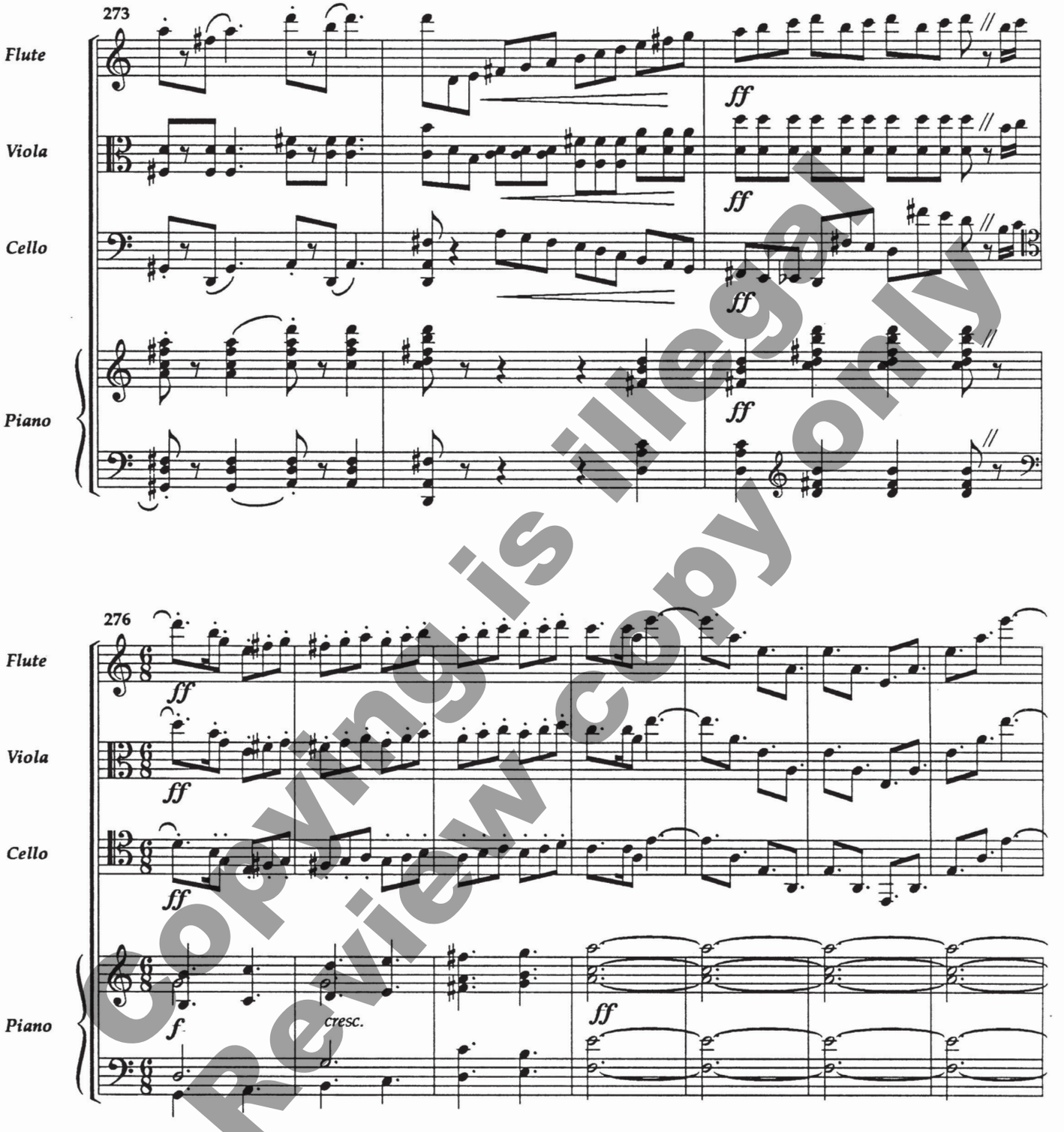

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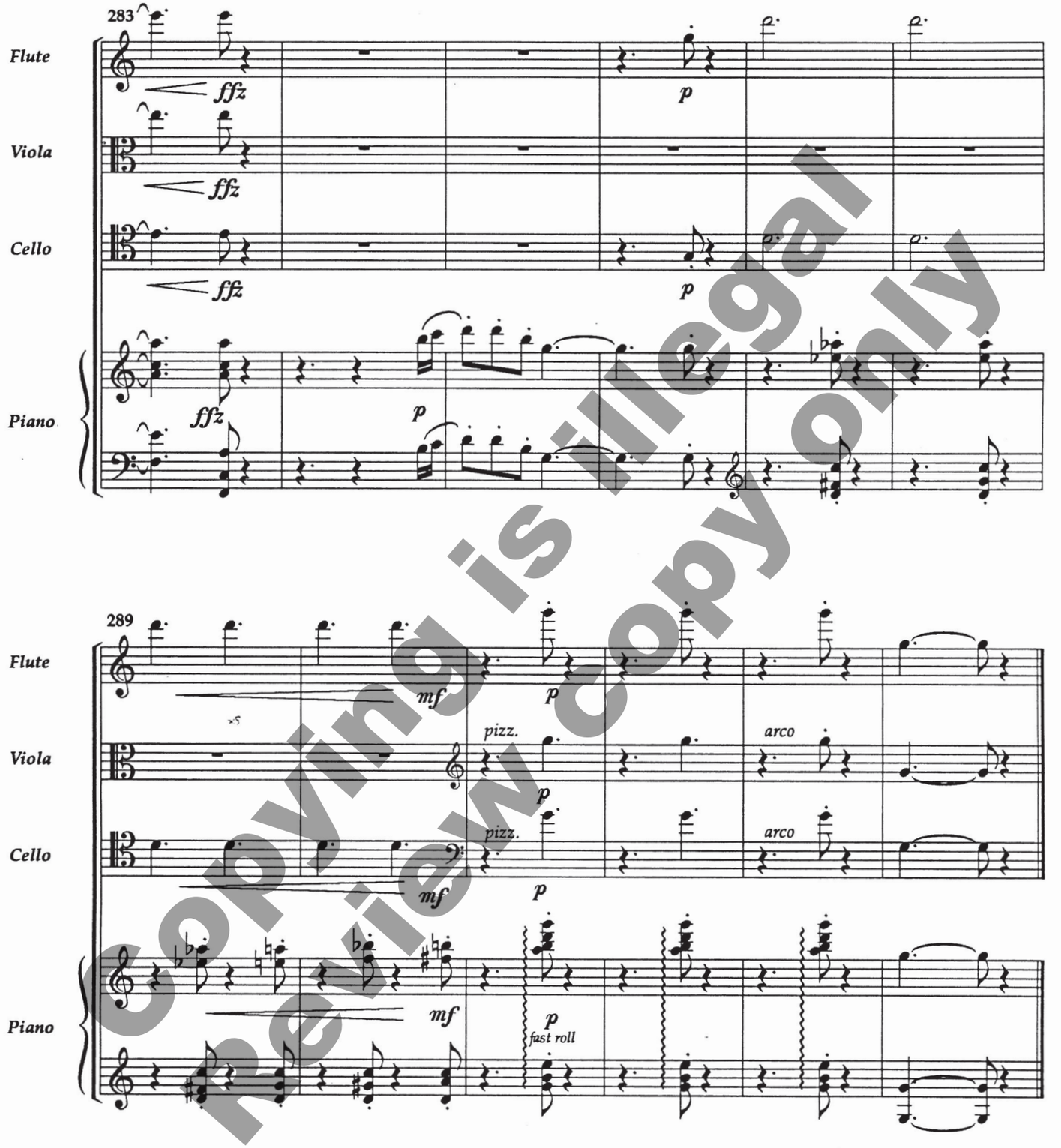

Durham, N.C. October 1991

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