John McGuire

PLAYGROUND

for Two String Trios

Sample

(2021)

Introduction

Ensemble

TRIO I	TRIO II
Cello	Cello
Viola	Viola
Violin	Violin

The distance between the trios should be greater than the distance between the instruments within the trios. In some cases the trios may be placed on opposite sides of the audience.

Score

PLAYGROUND is comprised of four cycles, labeled I – IV in the score. Each cycle consists of six sections, making a total of 24 sections: 1-6, 7-12, 13-18, 19-24. Each of the 24 sections contains one iteration of the ground. The ground has six harmonic stages, marked A,B,C,D,E and F.

CYCLES I-IV	SECTIONS 1-24*					
I pages 1-20	1	2	3	4	5	6
II pages 21-34	7	8	9	10	11	12
III pages 34-47	13	14	15	16	17	18
IV pages 48-67	19	20	21	22	23	24
Ground, stages A-F:	ABCDEF	ABCDEF	ABCDEF	ABCDEF	ABCDEF	ABCDEF

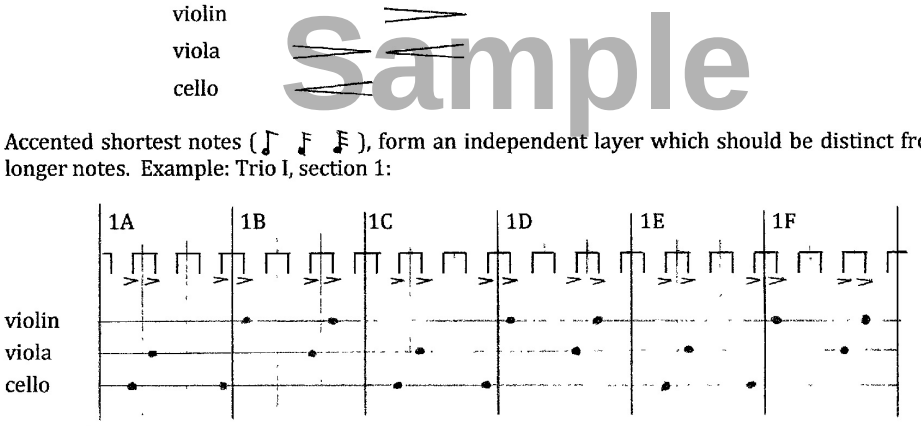
Meter and Tempo

The meter is a constant 3/4. The tempo is indicated in ♩s with changes per subsection:

SECTION	1	2	3	4	5	6	etc.
tempo	♩=162	♩=108	♩=72	♩=72	♩=108	♩=162	
shortest note	𝅘𝅥𝅯	𝅘𝅥𝅰	𝅘𝅥𝅰	𝅘𝅥𝅰	𝅘𝅥𝅰	𝅘𝅥𝅯	

Dynamics and Accents

The range of crescendi and decrescendi has a default setting of ***p*** ≺ ***f***. If desired this range can be altered, e.g. ***pp*** ≺ ***ff***, ***mp*** ≺ ***mf***, etc., as long as the three-level dynamic structures remain audible.



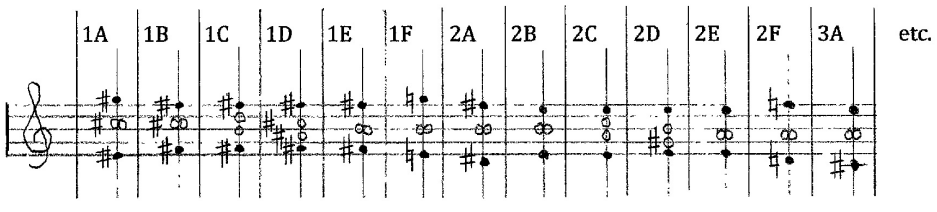
Sample

Accented shortest notes (𝅘𝅥𝅯 𝅘𝅥𝅰 𝅘𝅥𝅰), form an independent layer which should be distinct from the longer notes. Example: Trio I, section 1:

Ground

The six-stage ground ABCDEF occurs 24 times, once in each section. It is cycled through six transpositions, one transposition per section:

● =TRIO I, ○ =TRIO II



Sharps, flats and naturals are valid for one section unless replaced by a new alteration. In that case the new alteration continues until the next alteration.

---

* 𝄞 Violin I is one octave higher than written in sections 4,5,6 / 10,11,12 / 16,17,18 / 19,20,21.

** The three tempi may be transposed, e.g. ♩=153, 102, 68 ♩=144, 96, 64 ♩=135, 90, 60.

Duration, where tempi are ♩=162, 108, 72 = 15'50"

Engraving of Score and Parts (2022): JAN KOHL.COM • NOTENLAYOUT

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PLAYGROUND

for Two String Trios

John McGuire (2021)

I

1A ♩ = 162

1B

1C

1D

1E

1F

♩. = ♩

2A ♩. = ♩ ♩ = 108

7

Sample

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11

Sample

2B

15

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19

Sample

2C

23

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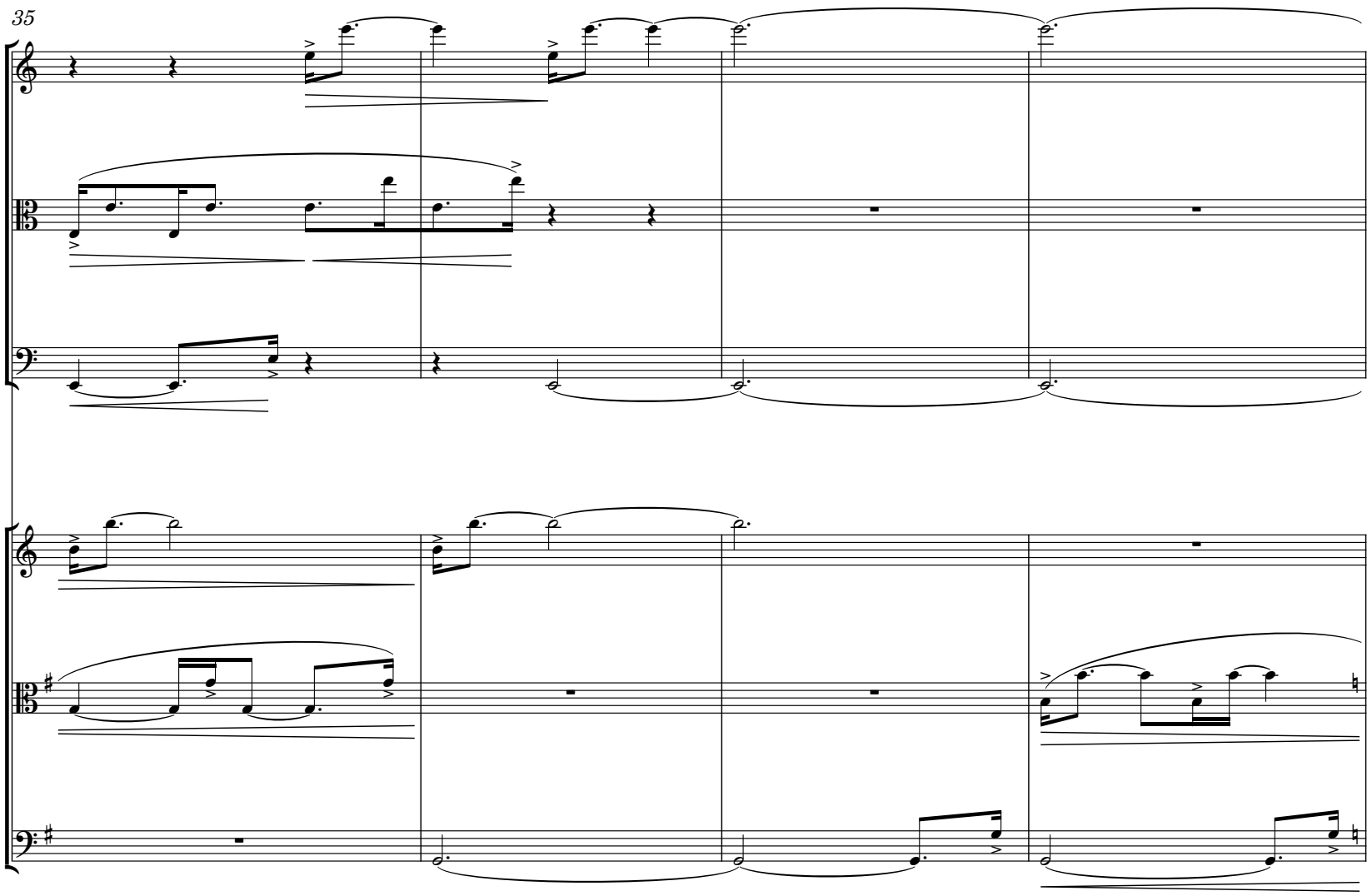
27

31 2D

Sample

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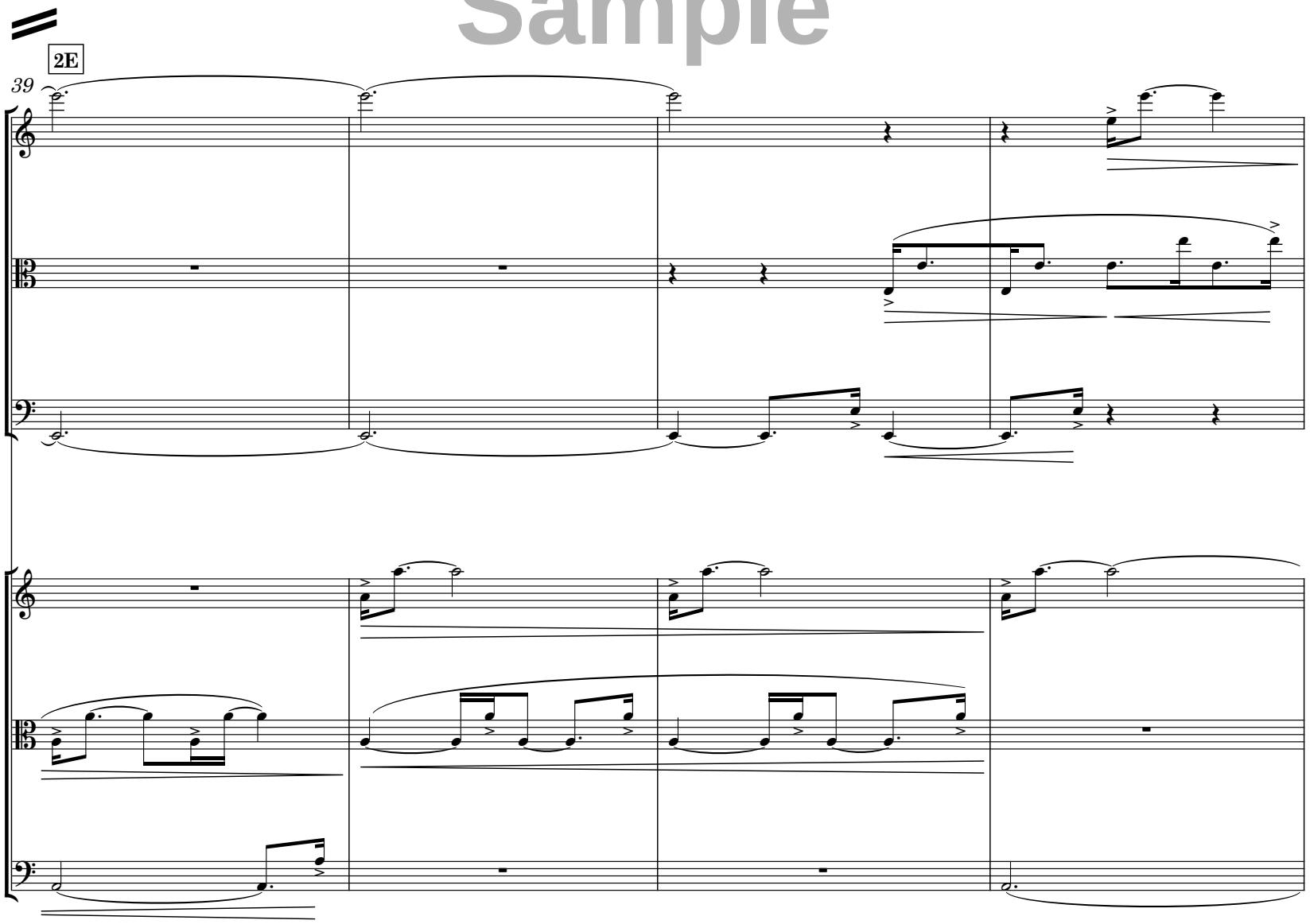
35



Sample

2E

39



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43
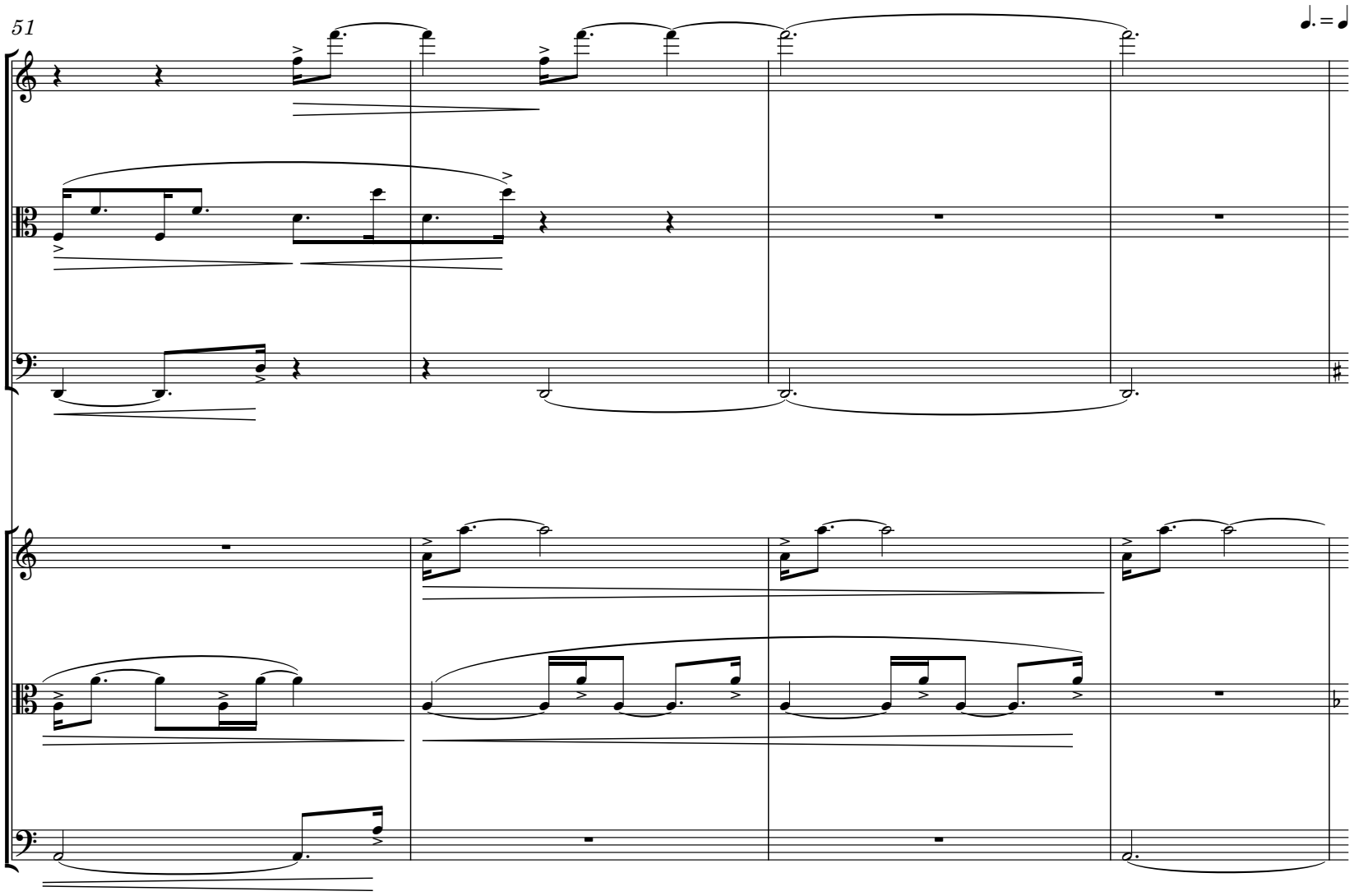
47

2F

Sample

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51



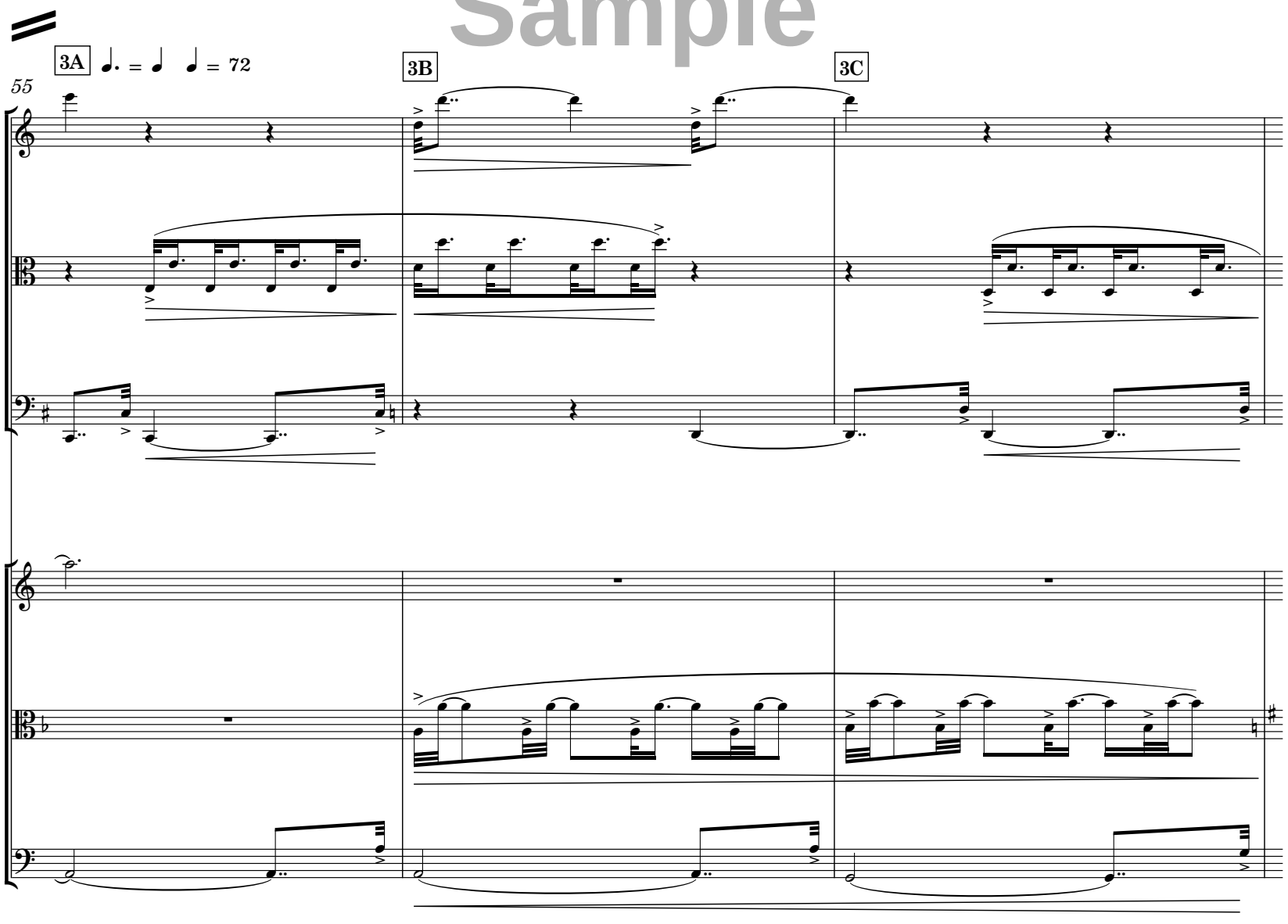
Sample

3A ♩. = ♩ ♩ = 72
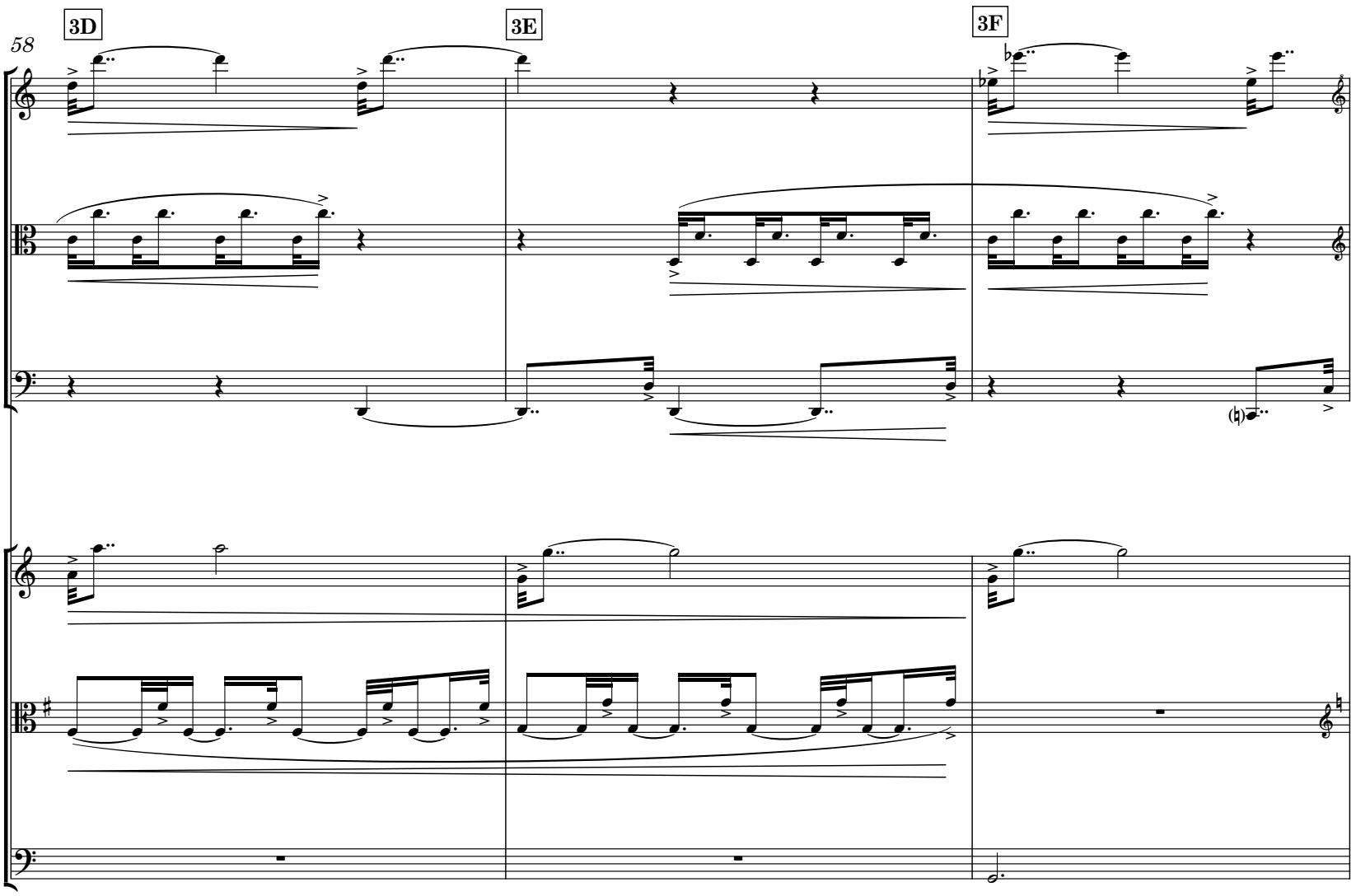
3B

3C

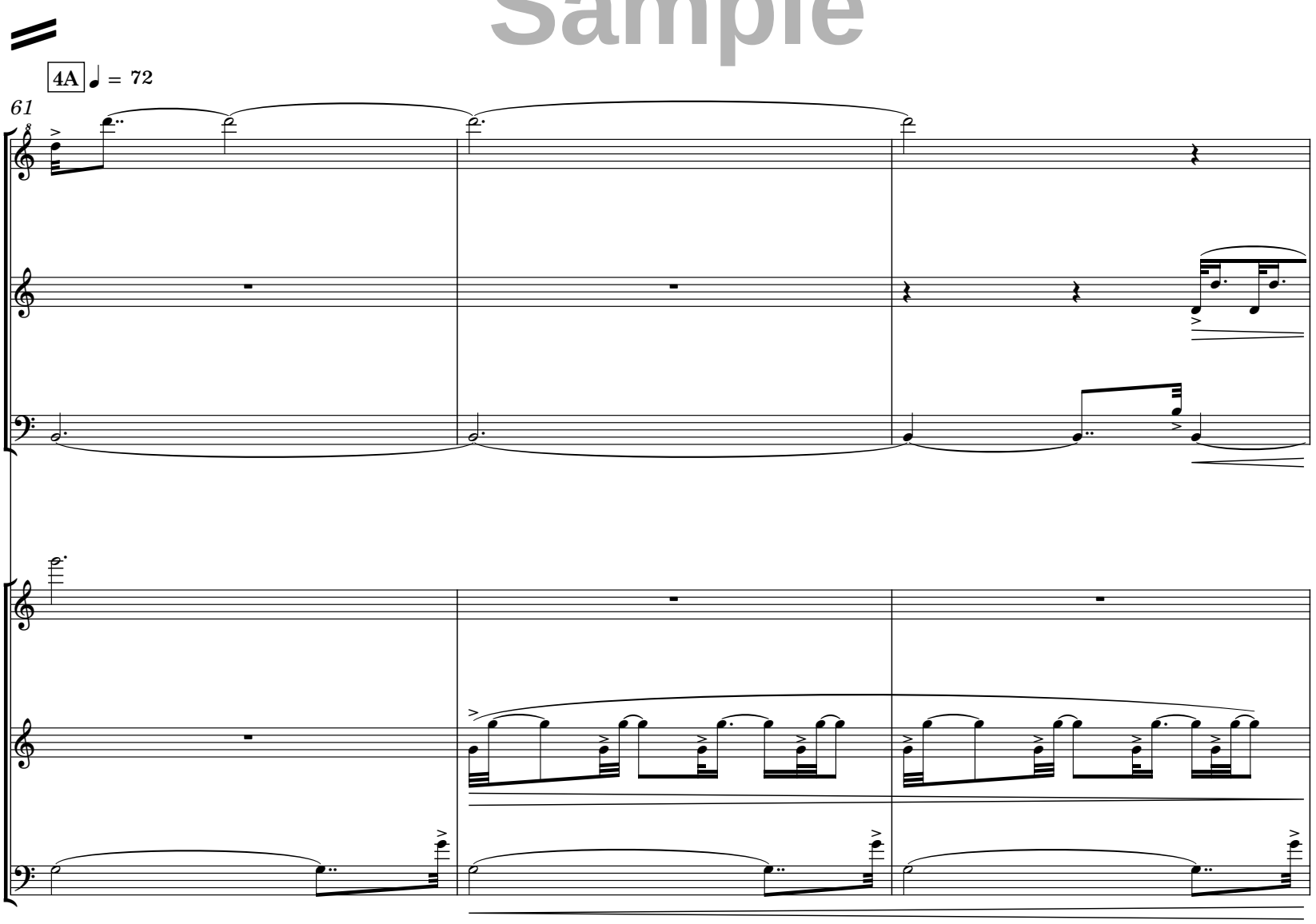
55



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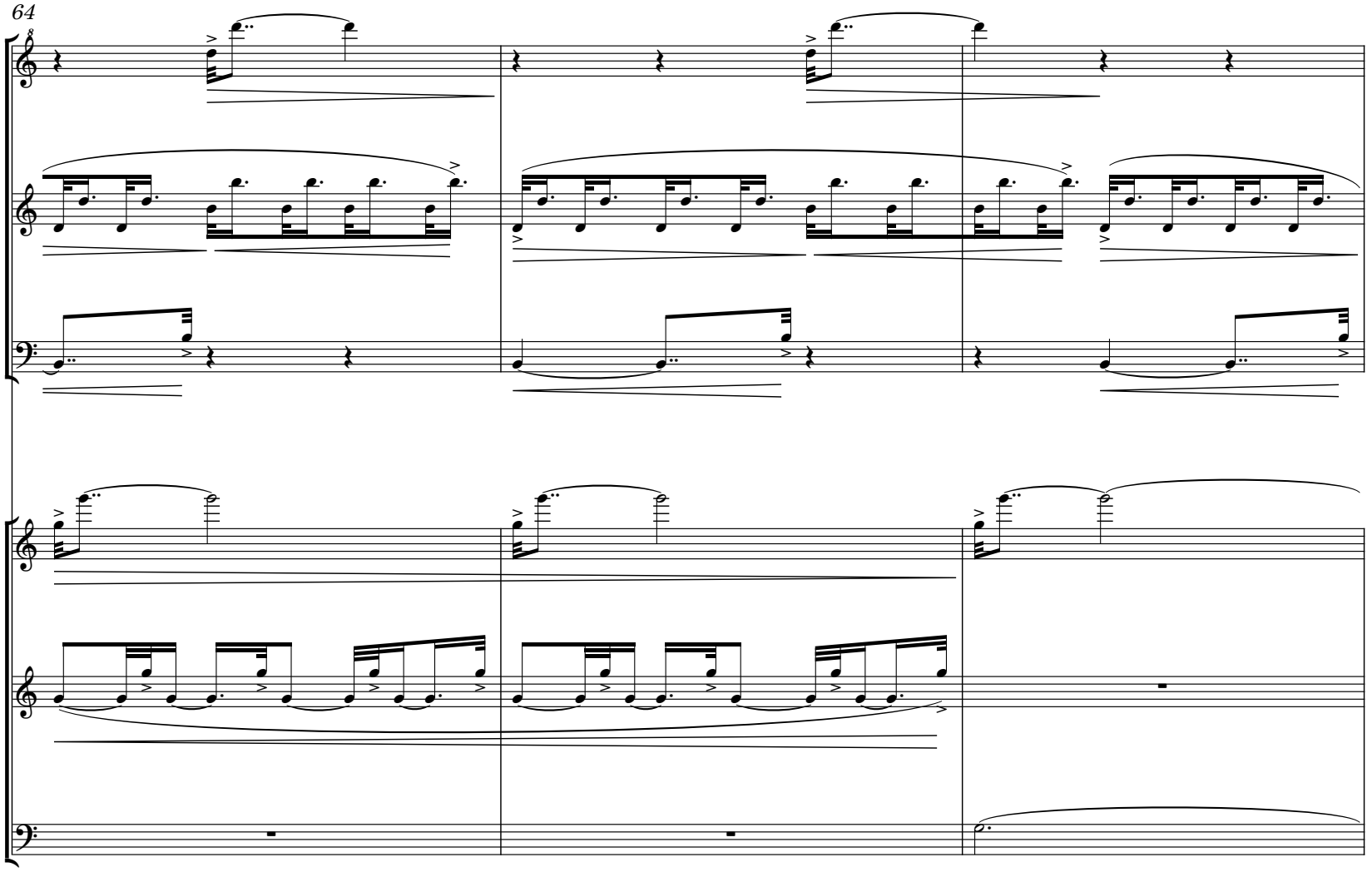


Sample



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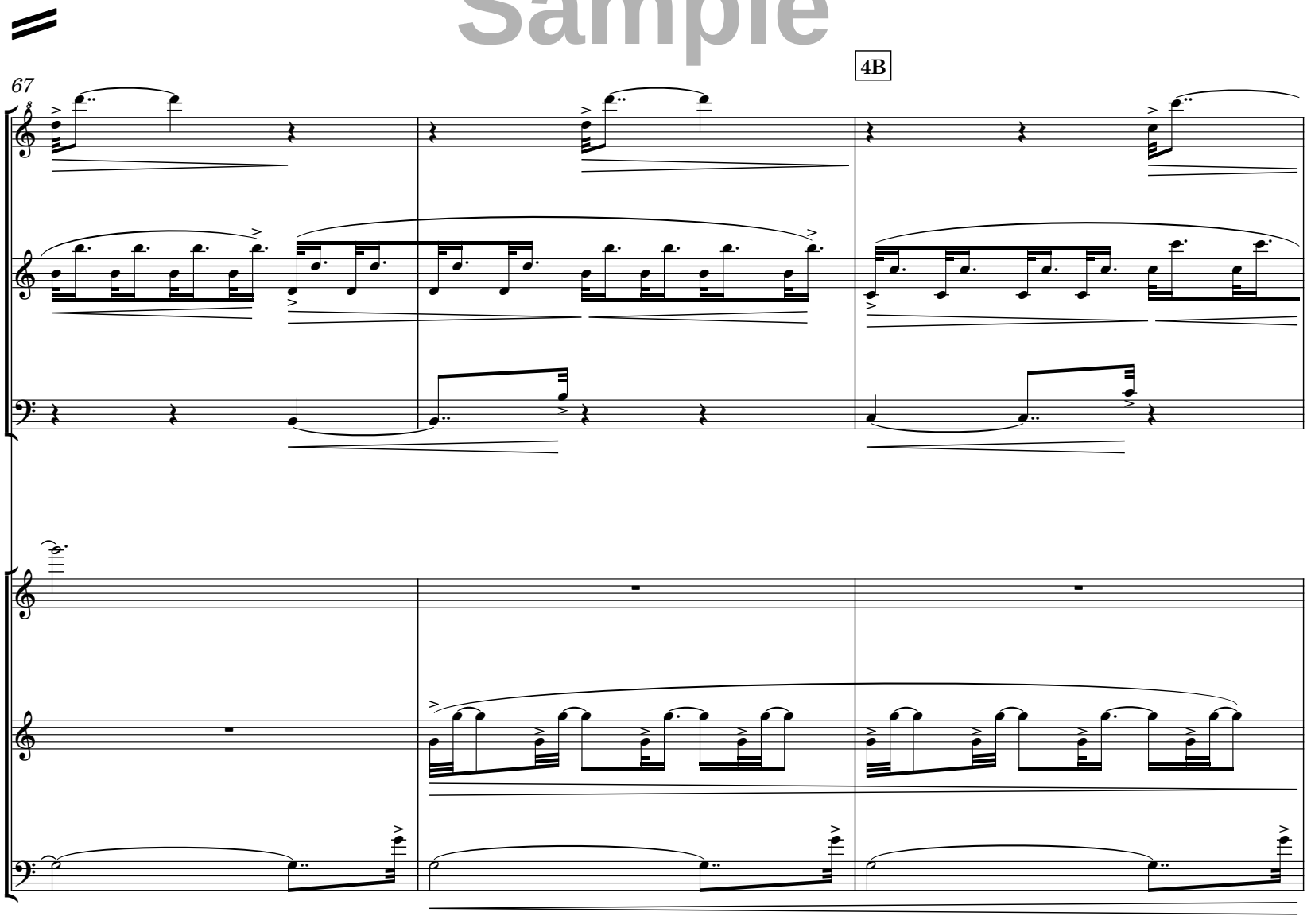
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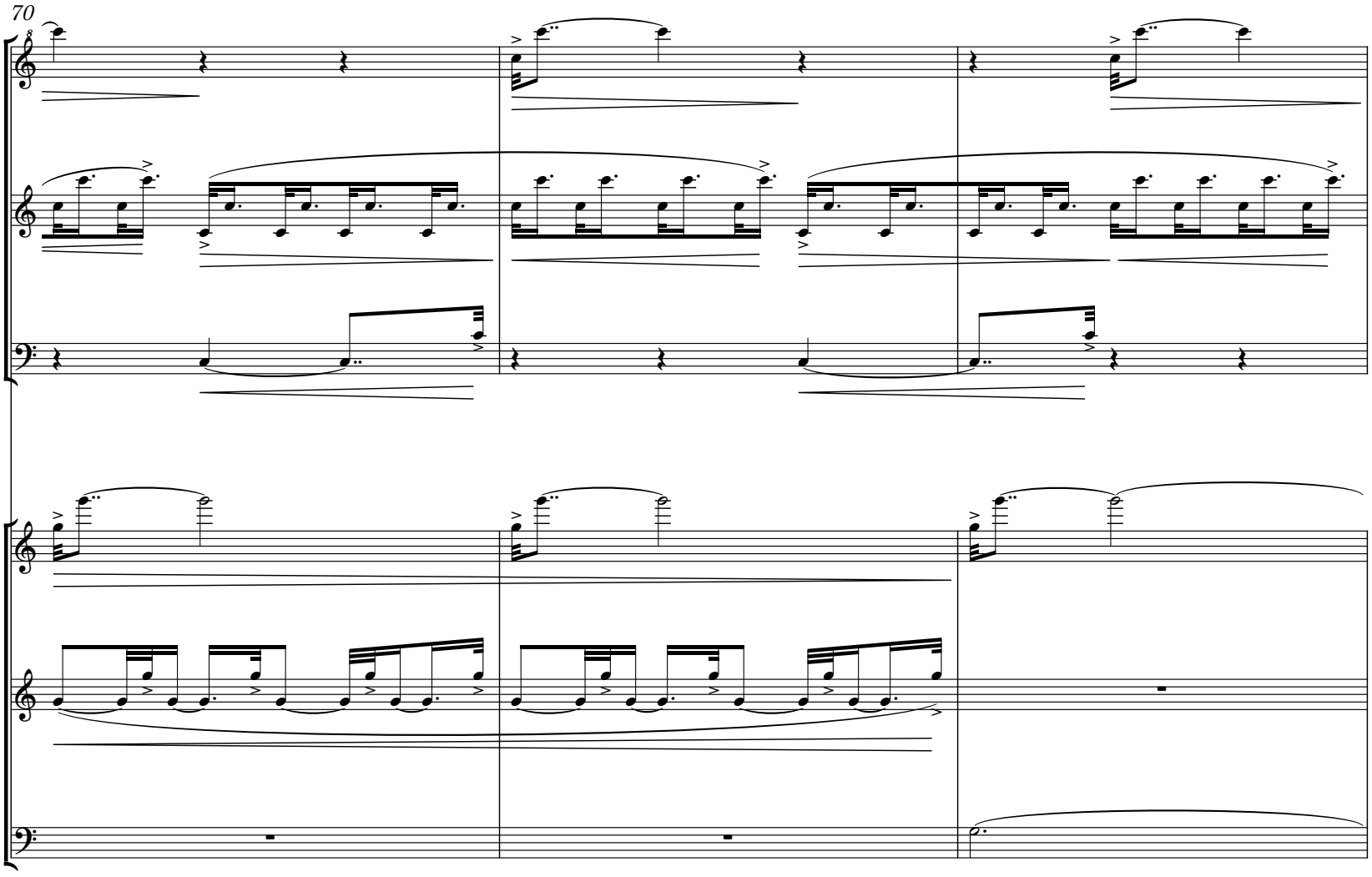


Sample

67
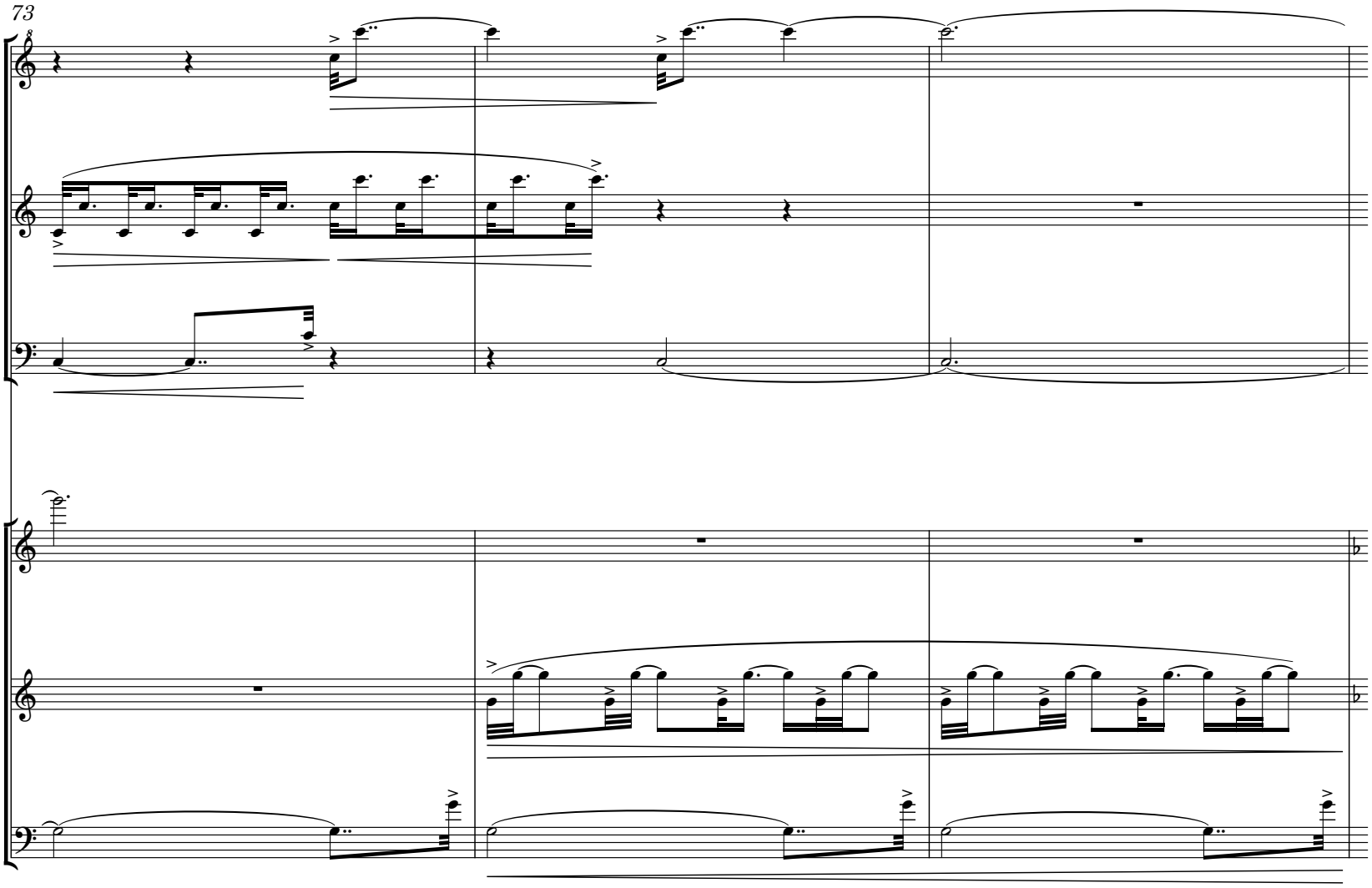
4B
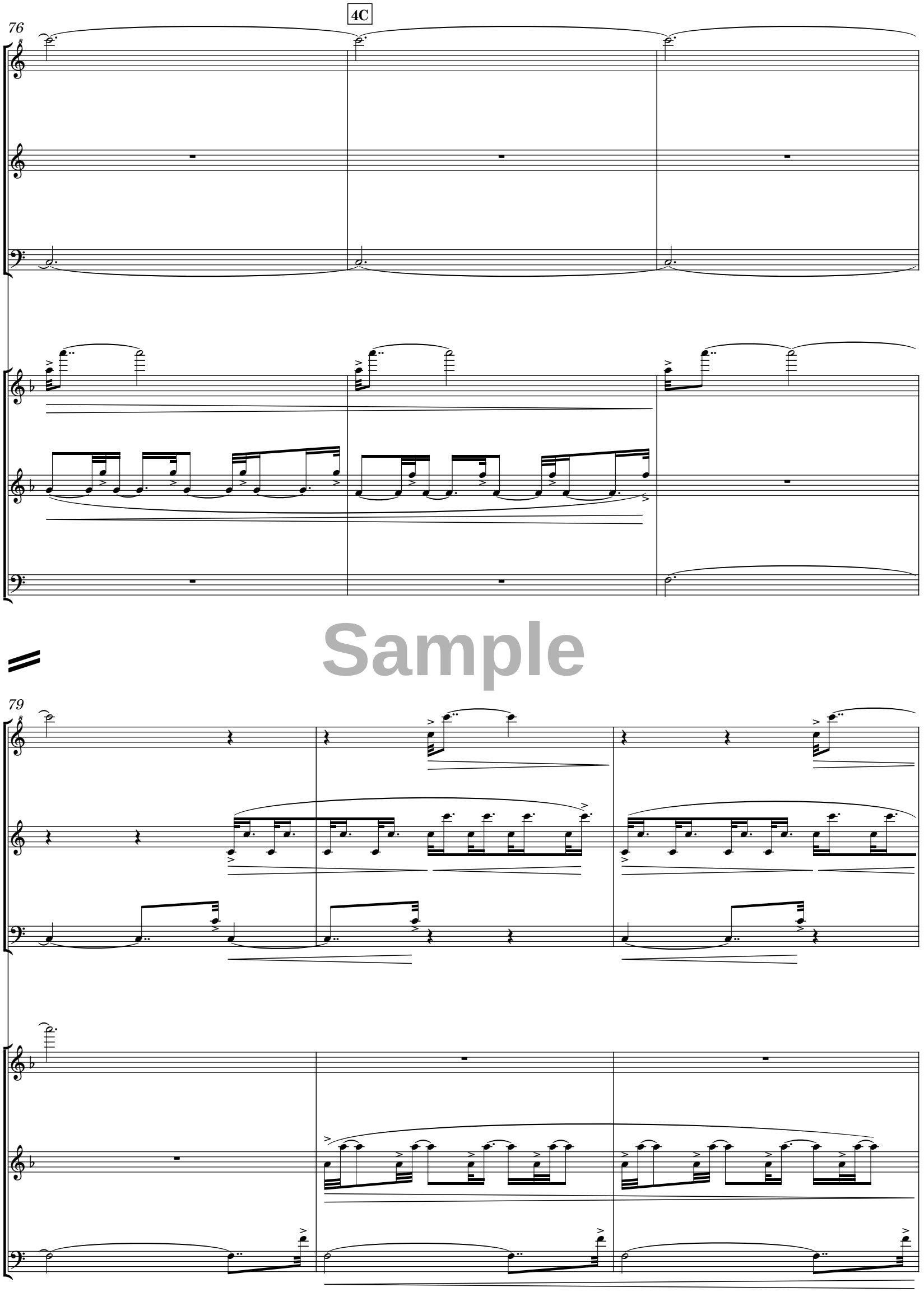


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Sample



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Sample

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82

Sample

4D

85

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88

91

4E

Sample

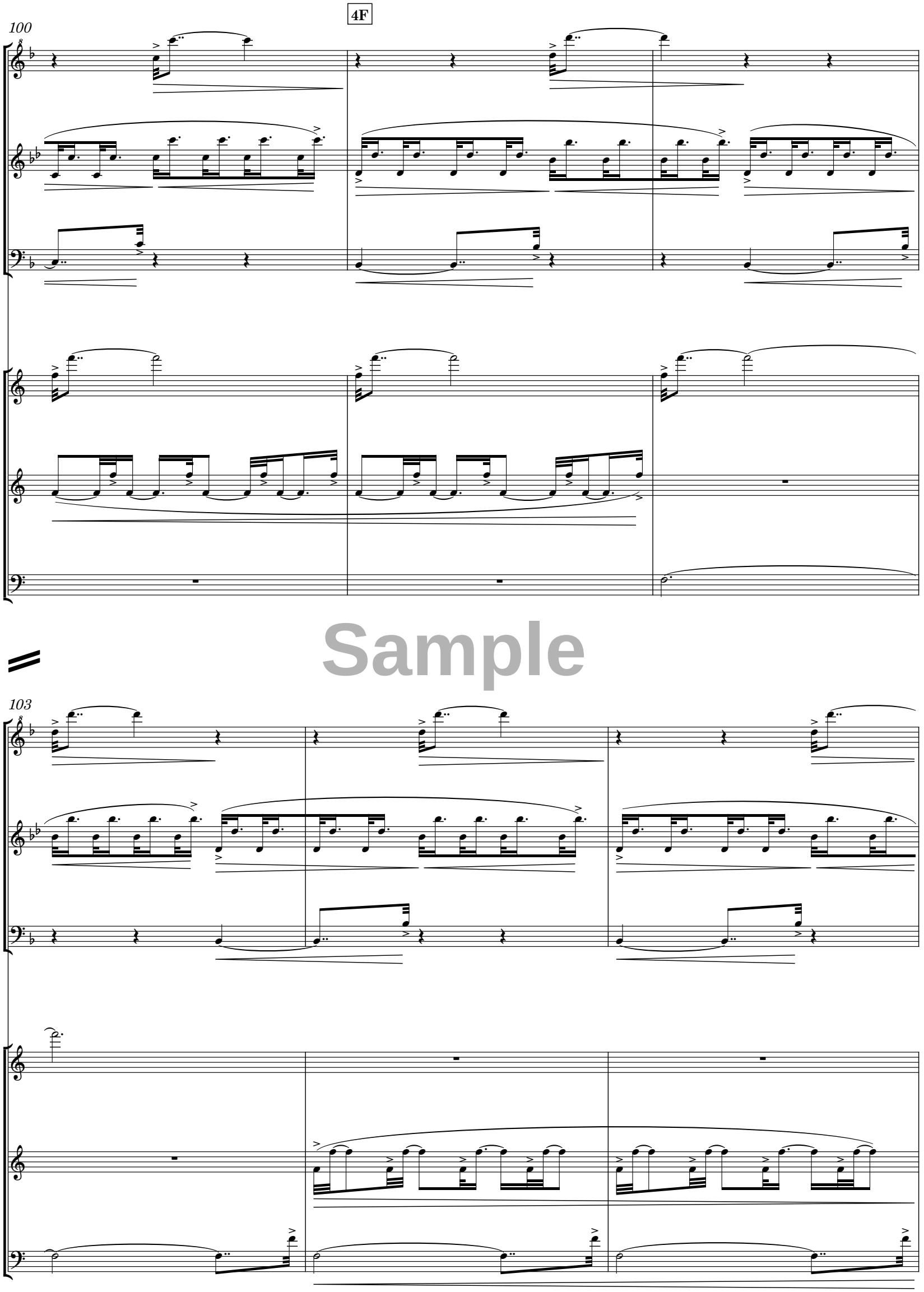
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94

97
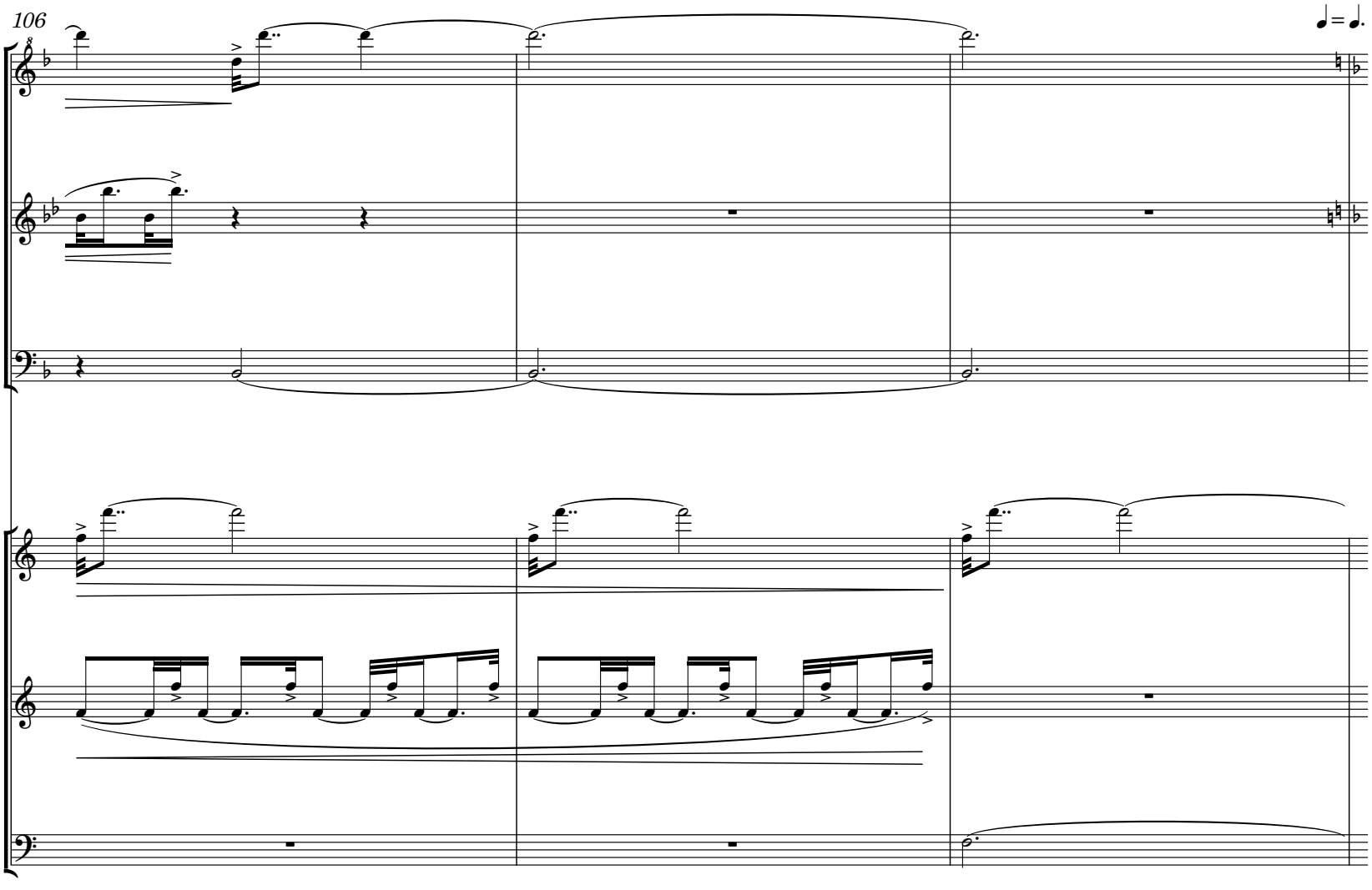
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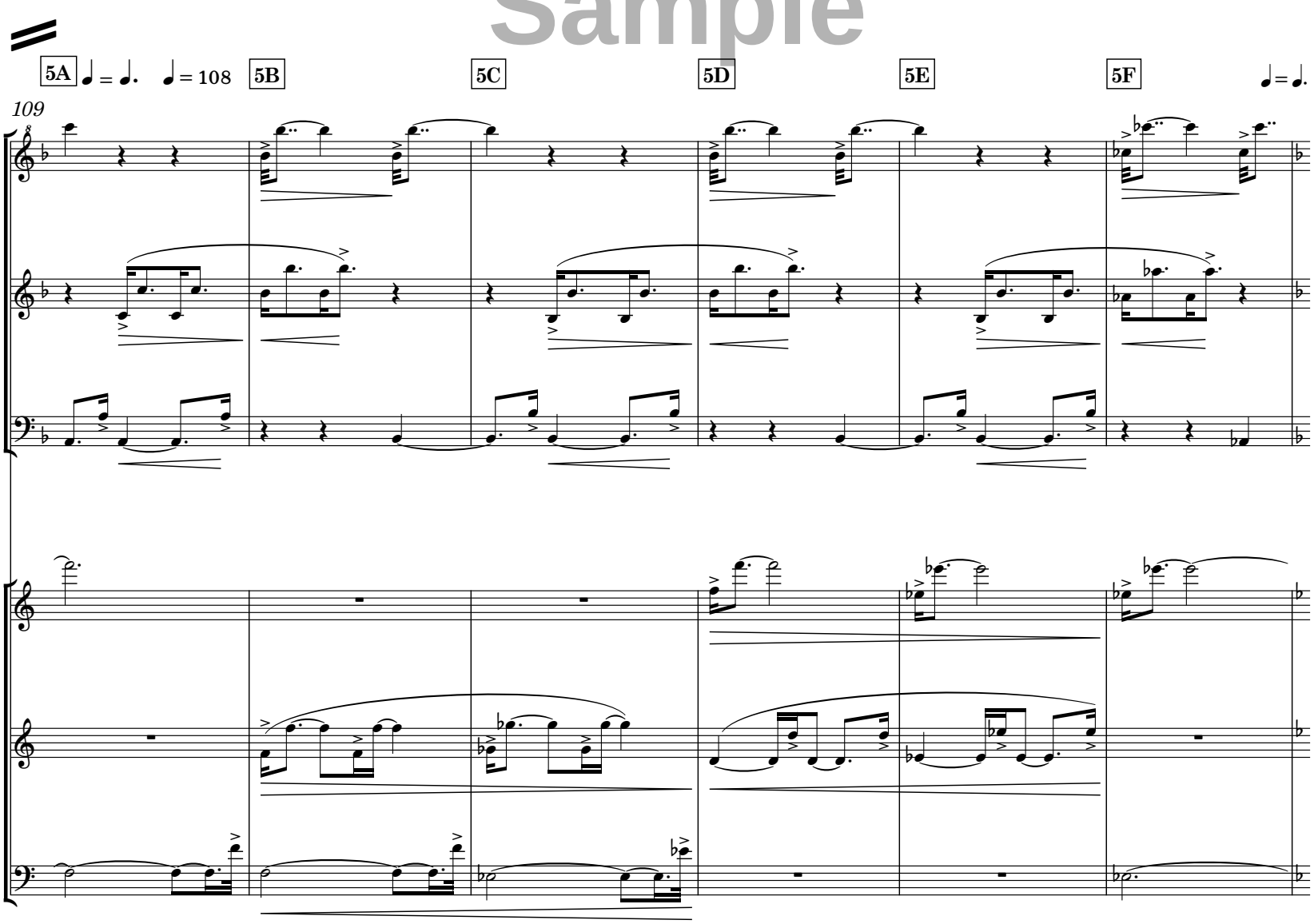


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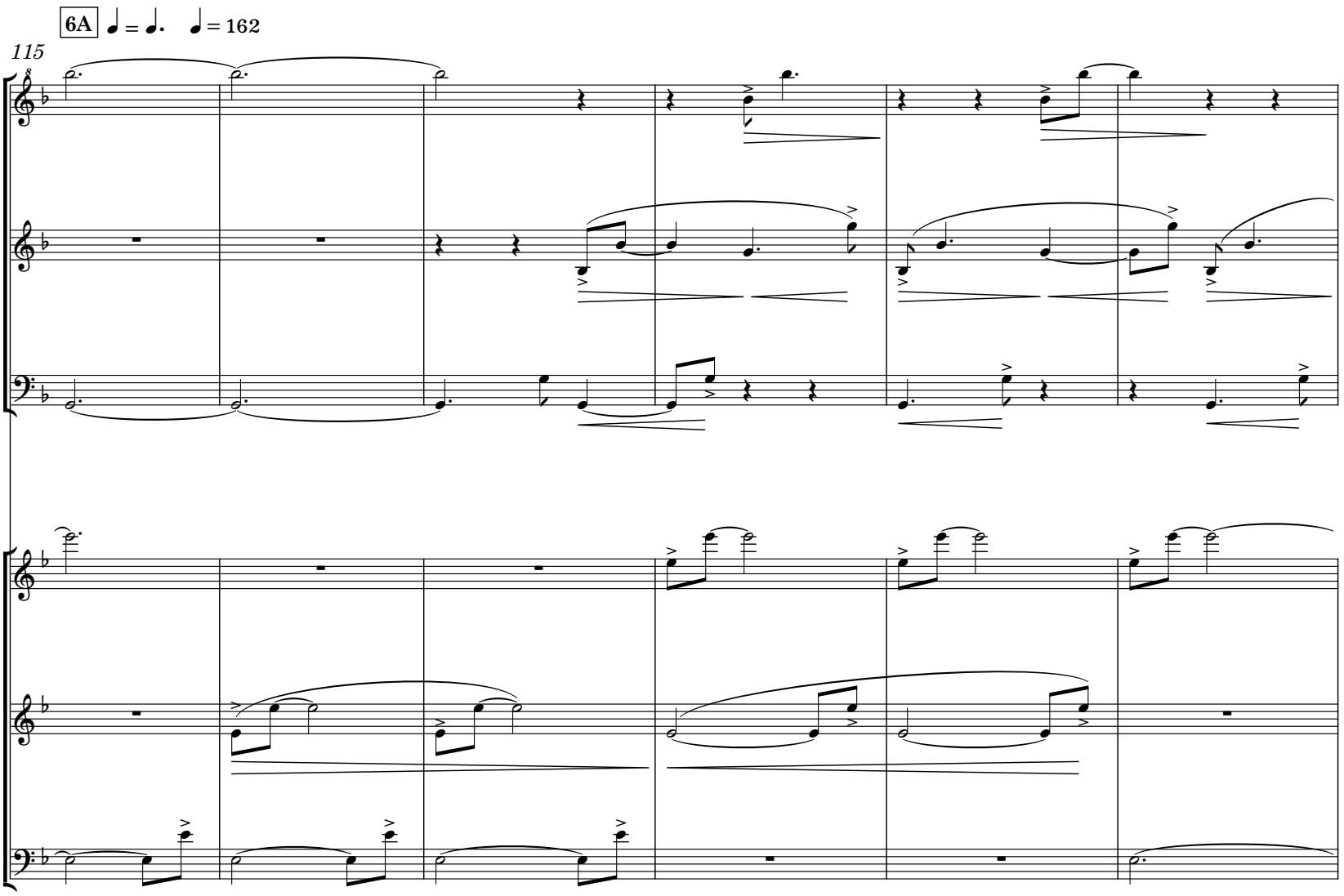
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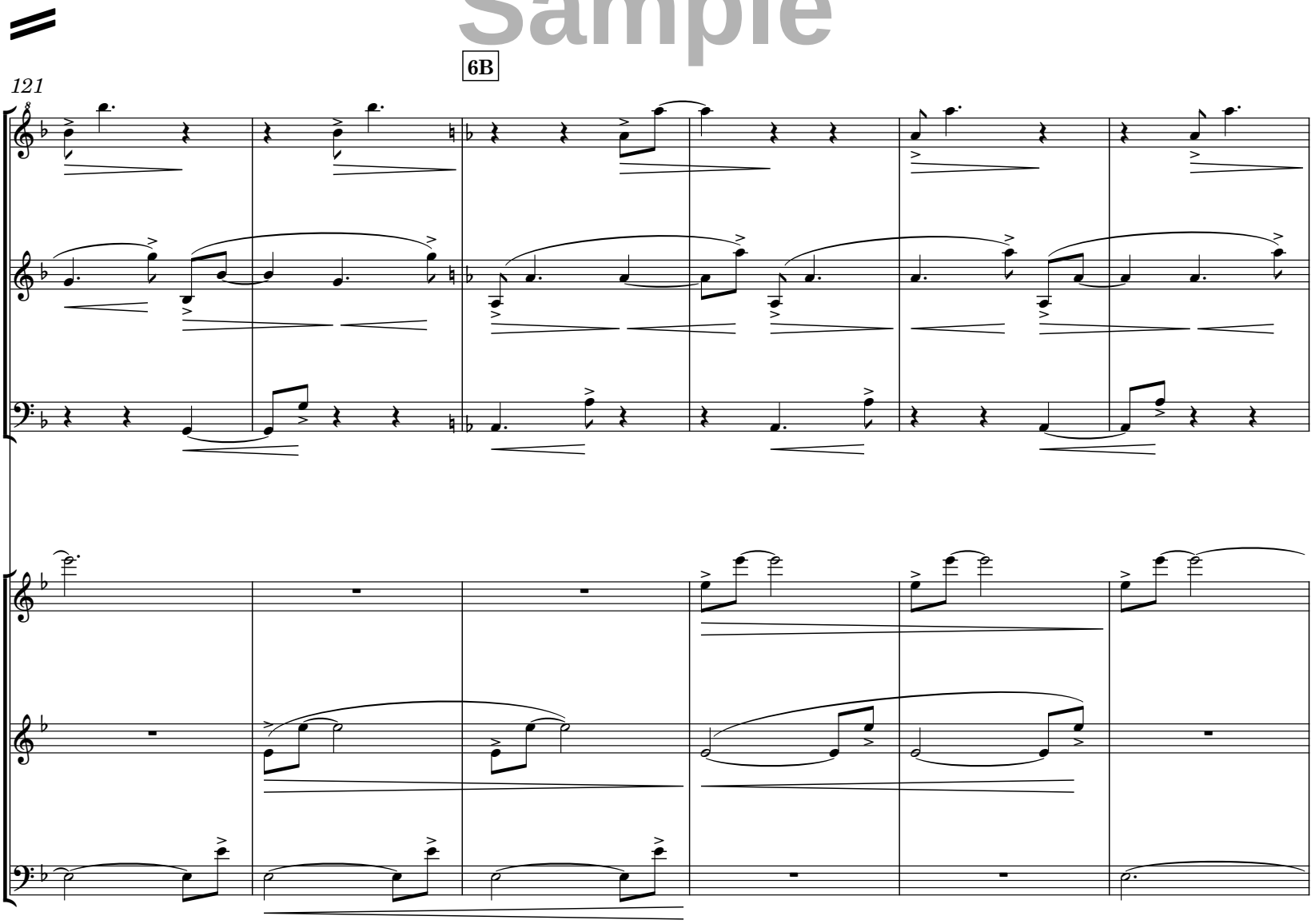


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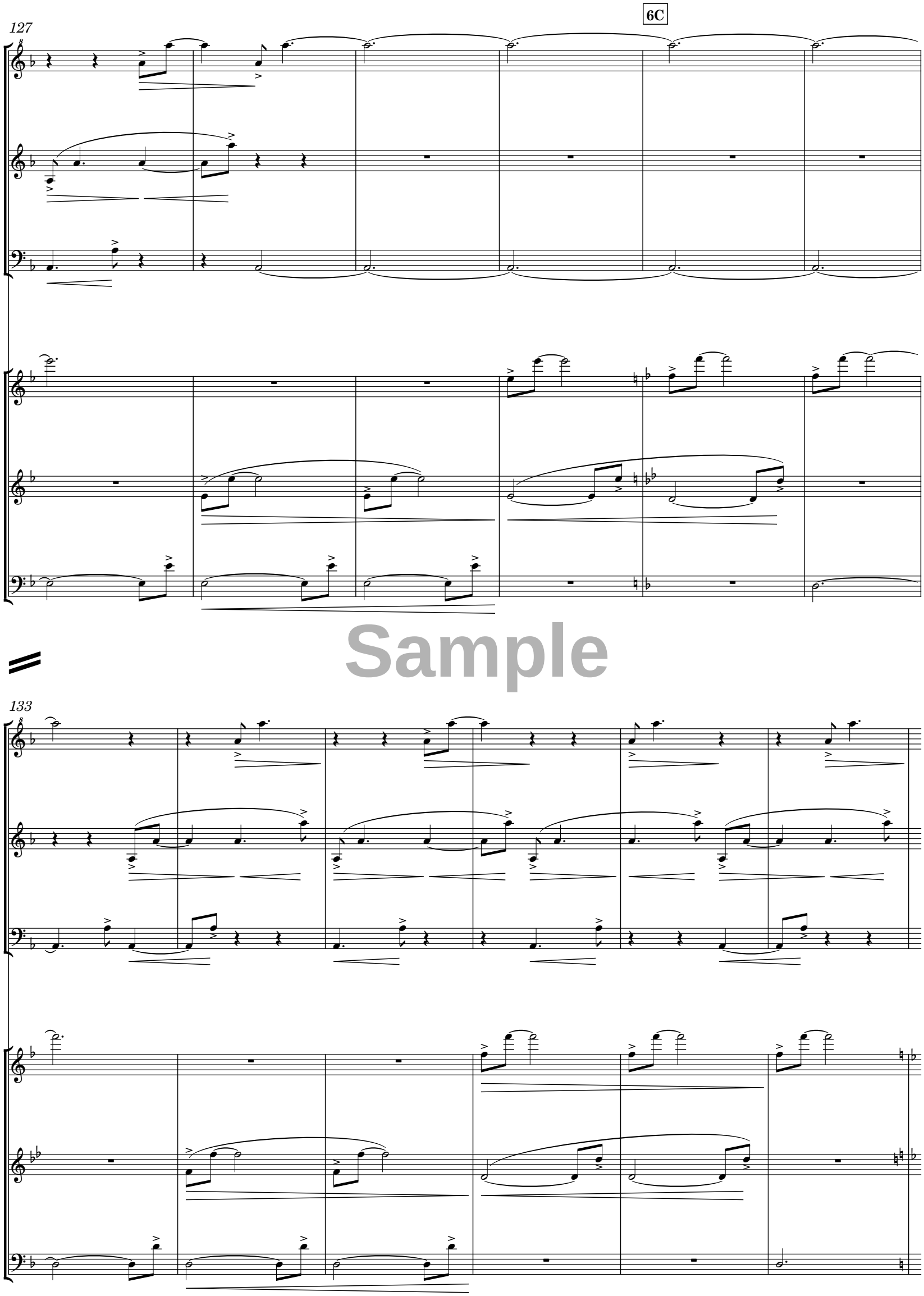


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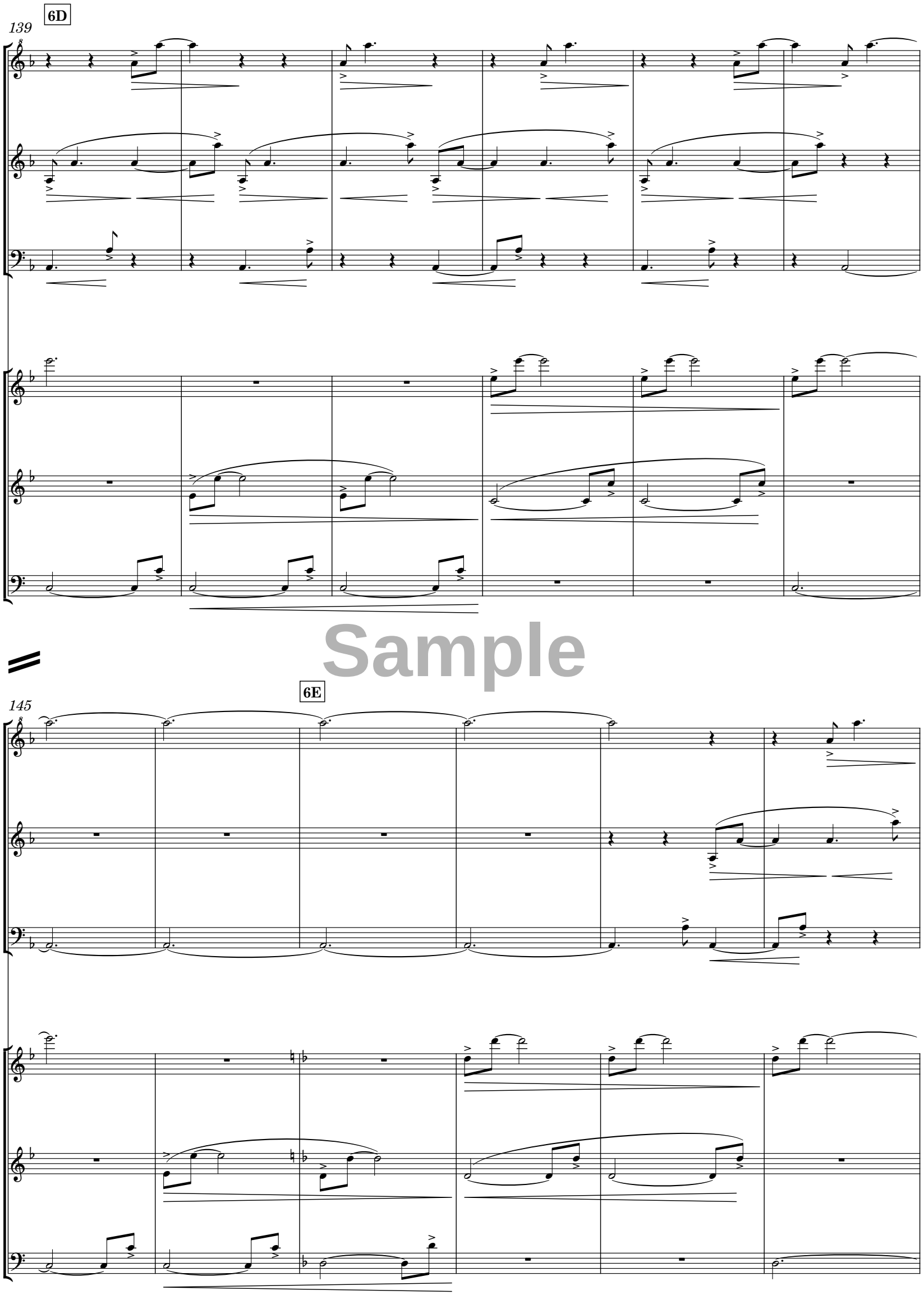


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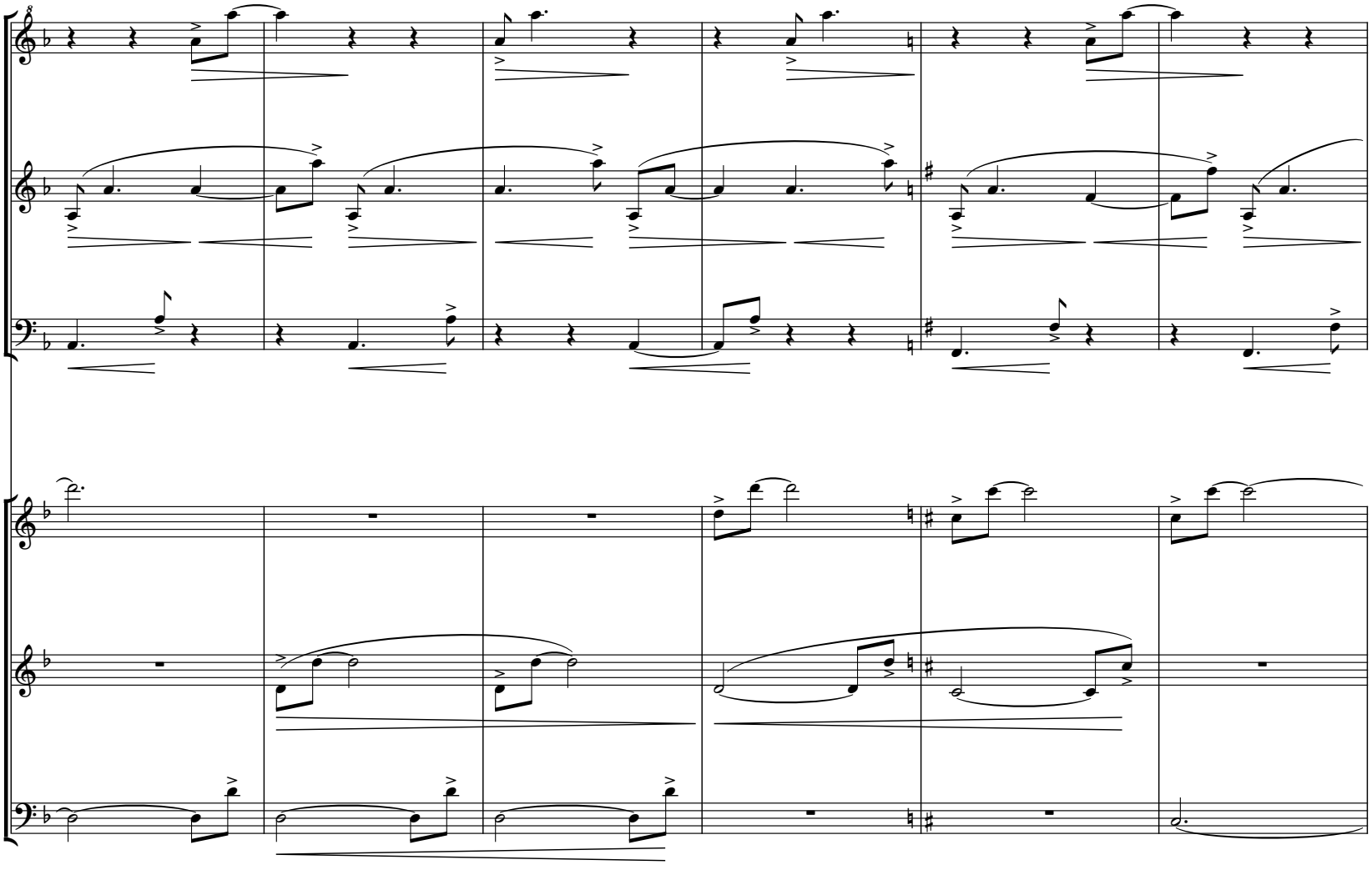


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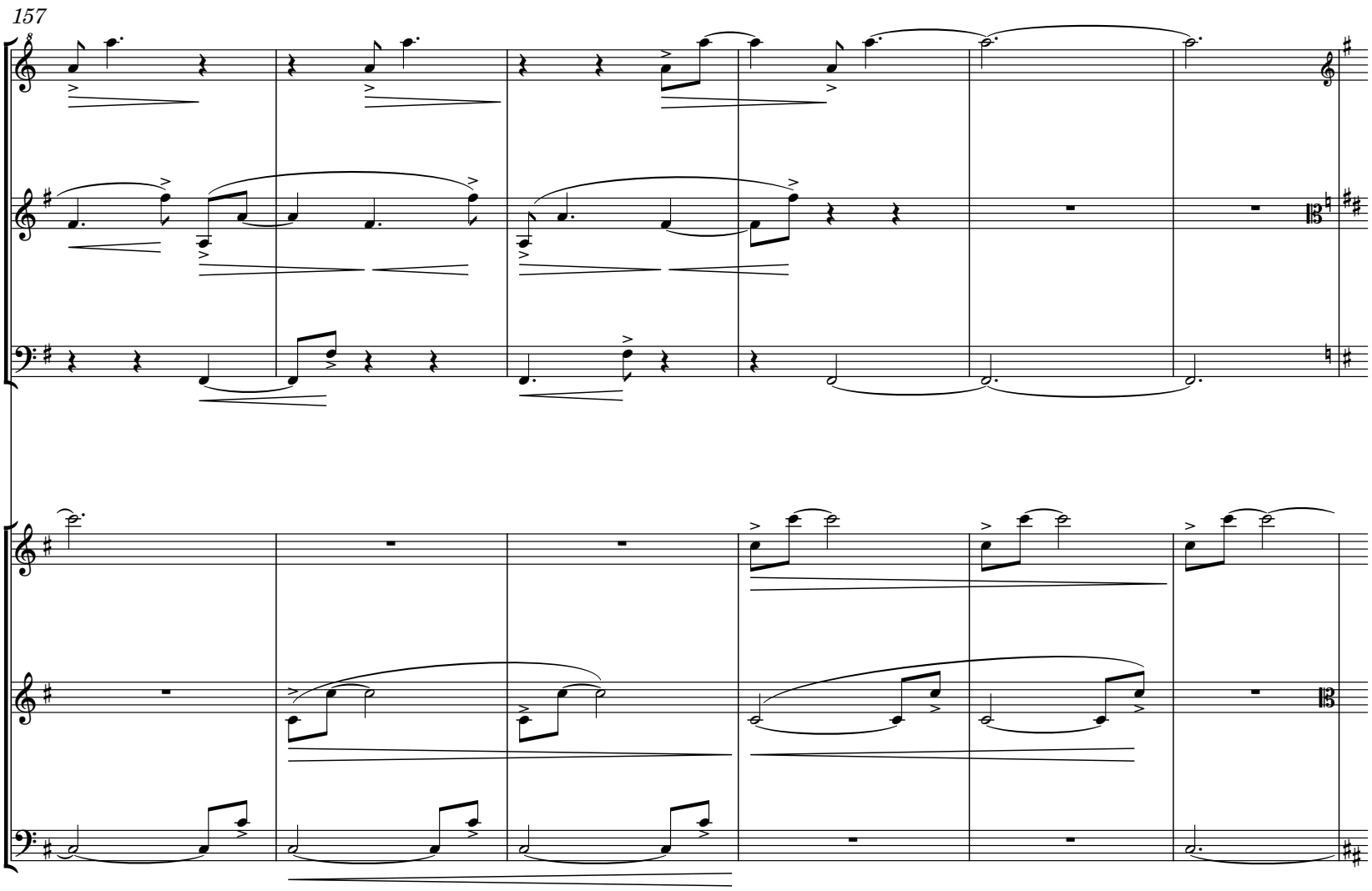
151

6F



Sample

157



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II 7A ♩ = 162

163

7B

7C

7D

169

7E

7F

♩. = ♩

Sample

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8A ♩. = ♩ ♩ = 108

175

Sample

8B

179

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183
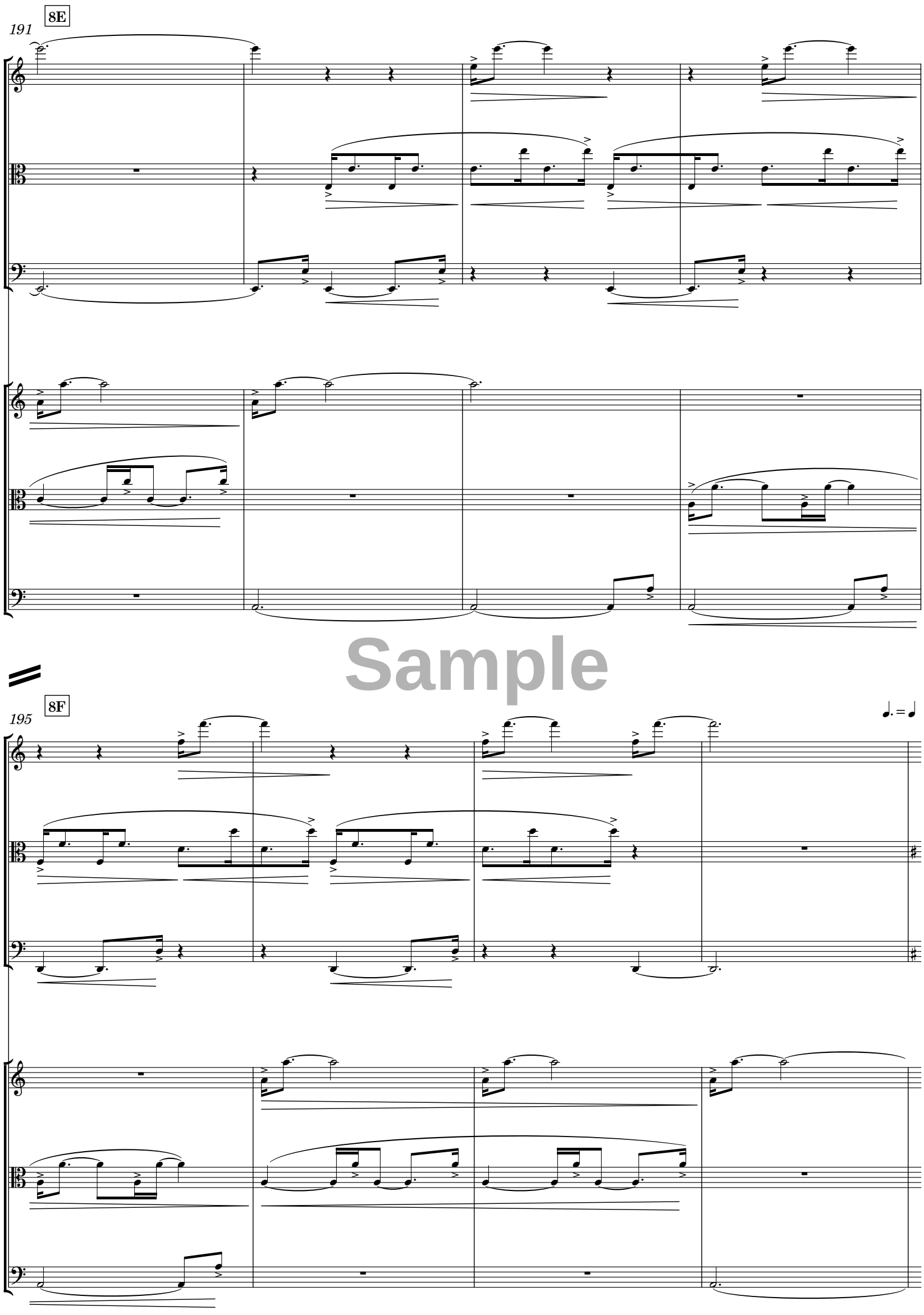
8C

187

8D

Sample

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Sample

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