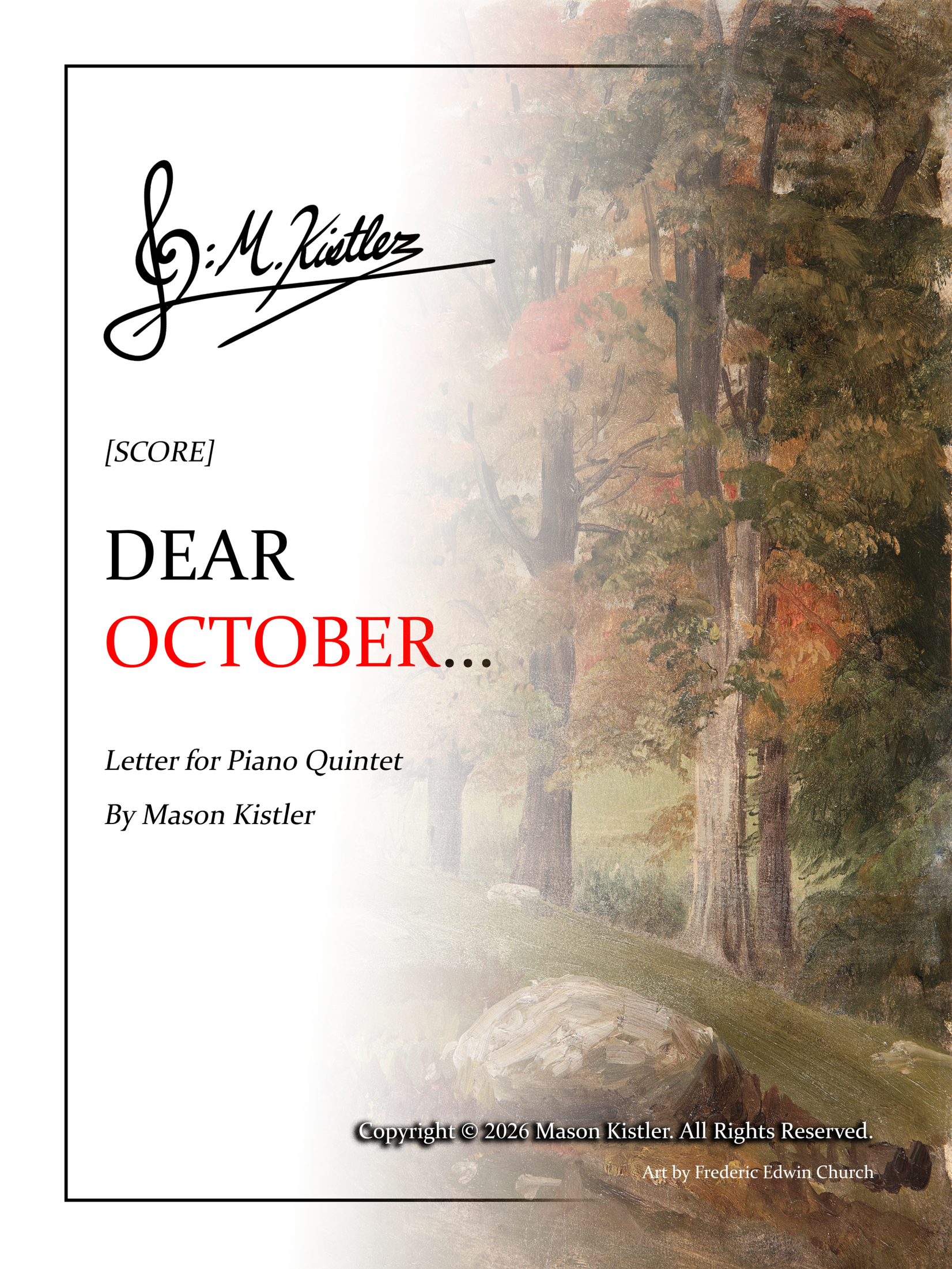

[SCORE]

DEAR OCTOBER...

Letter for Piano Quintet

By Mason Kistler

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Art by Frederic Edwin Church

- Dear October... -

Letter for Piano Quintet

By Mason Kistler

INSTRUMENTATION

Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Violoncello
Pianoforte

ABOUT THE WORK

Dear October... is a personal work in my collection. It was commissioned by my sister, Madison, for use in her wedding later in 2026. Although brief, this work serves as a character piece, capturing the sensation of love and what her marriage will become. Beyond its use in the ceremony, it is deeply personal to me, as I found myself reminiscing and experiencing the passion of love and complete adoration.

The musical content is rather simple. The work is in ternary form (A–B–A′) with a coda at the end. It was intended to be brief because of its purpose in the wedding, where there is a certain time constraint within the ceremony and the reception that follows. The harmonic language is mostly diatonic, with the principal themes moving between A major and F-sharp minor. However, take note of the moments when non-diatonic pitches appear, as each serves a specific expressive purpose and should be clearly brought out. The most significant example occurs in Measure 15 with the appearance of A-sharp.

There is no single inspiration for this work. Instead, it emerged from a moment of improvisation at the piano. I fell in love with the sounds I heard and decided to put those thoughts into this letter: Dear October...

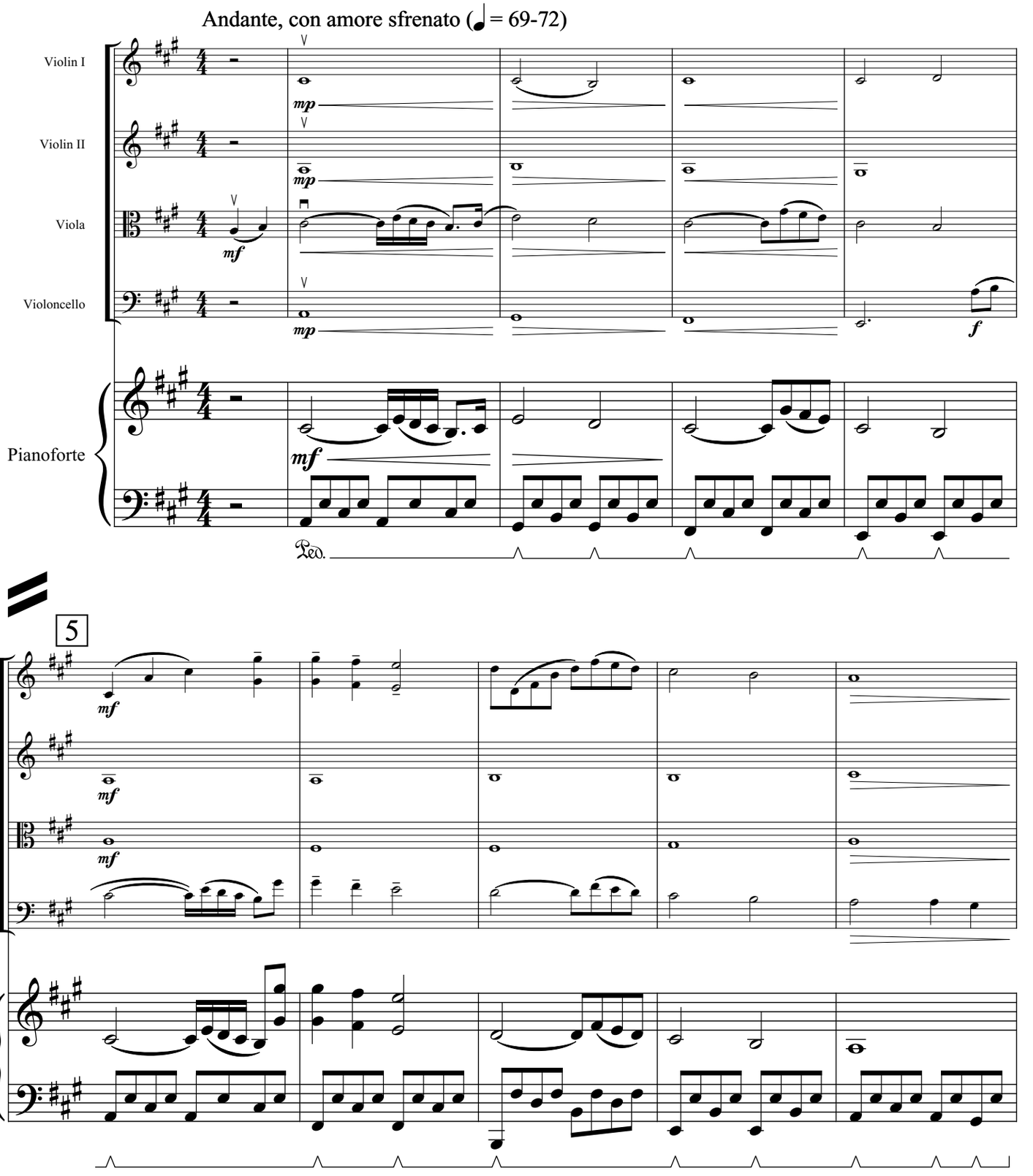
Dedicated to my Sister

Dear October...

SCORE

Letter for Piano Quintet

Mason Kistler
(b.2002)



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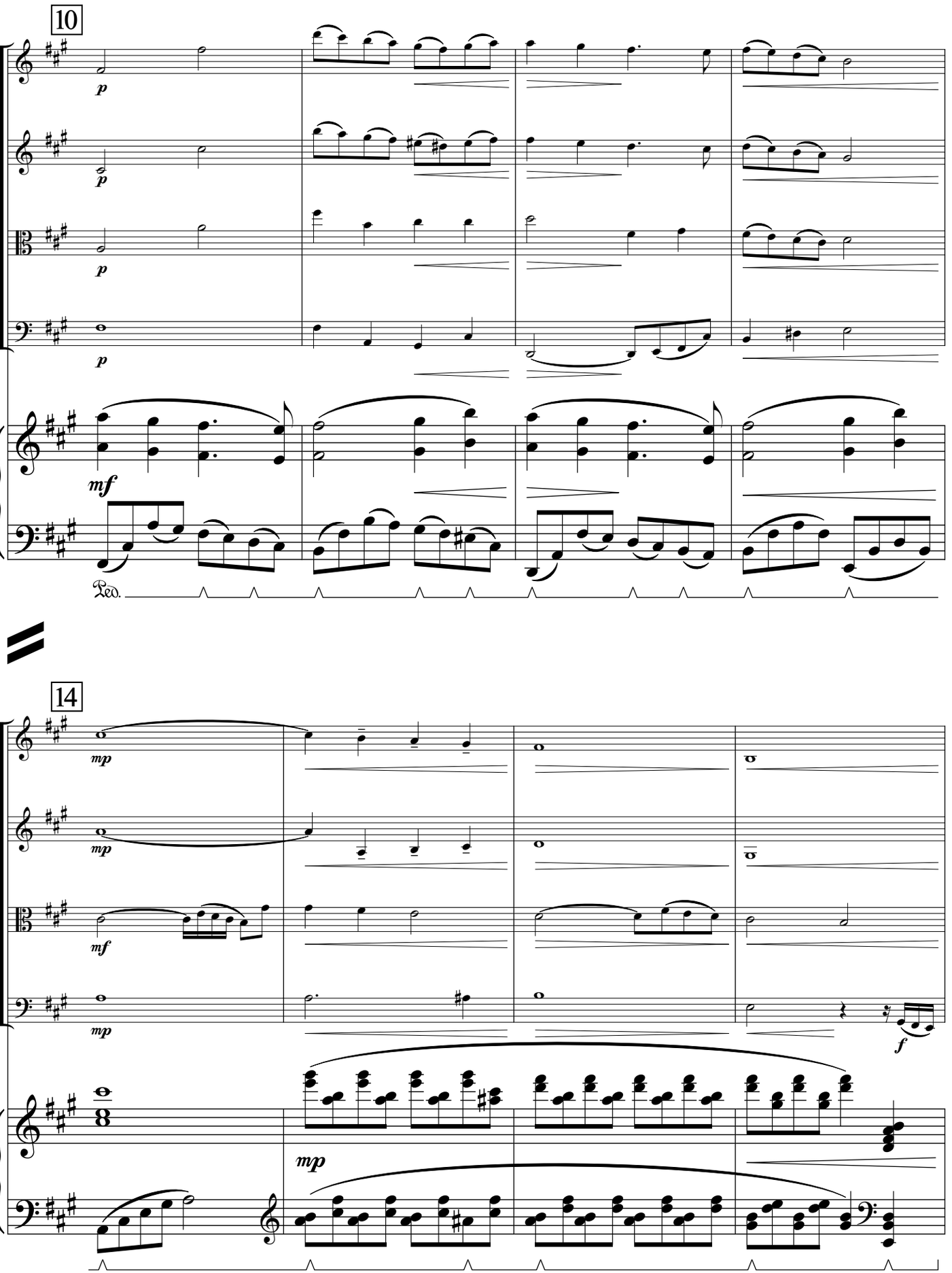
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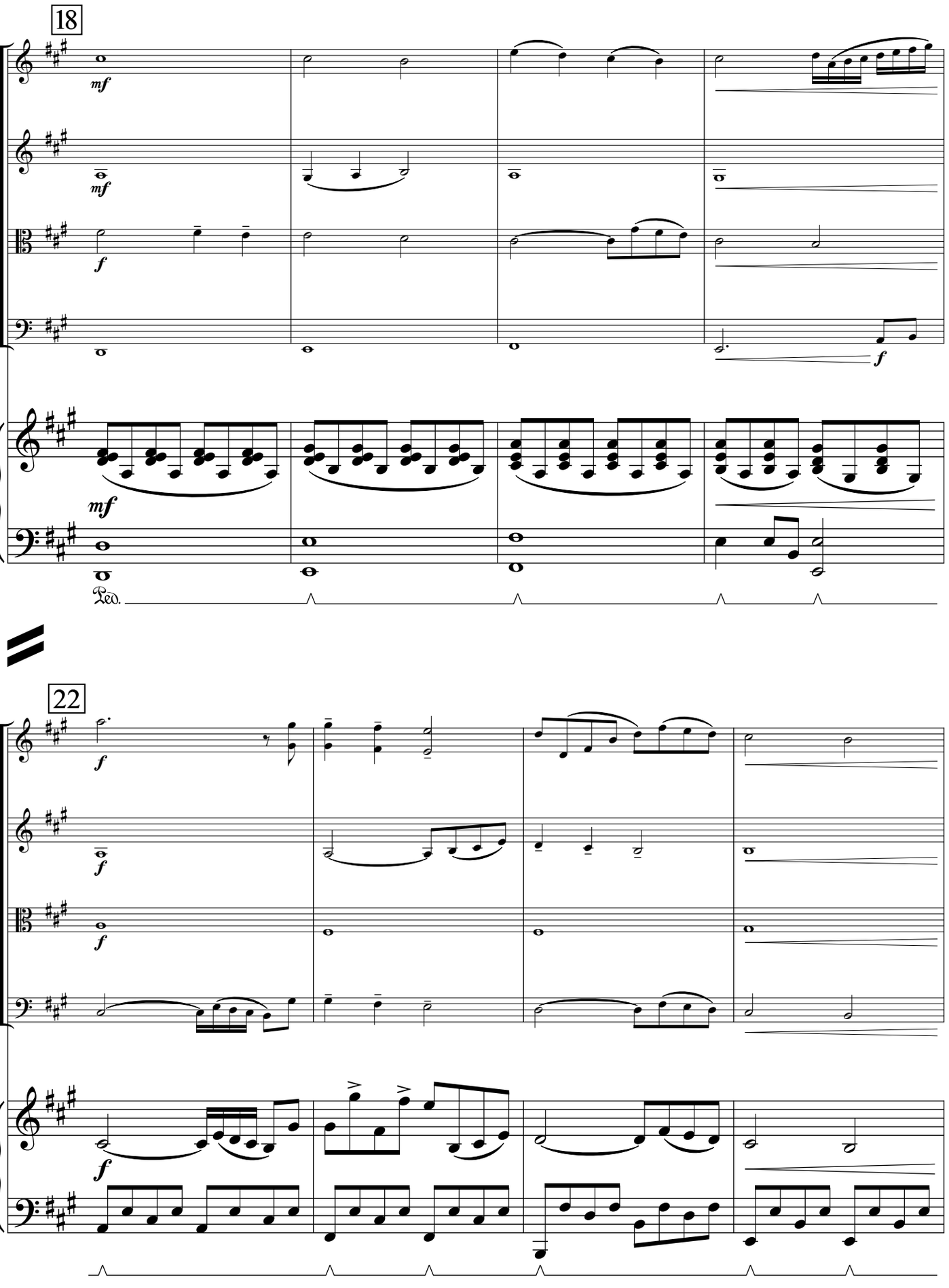
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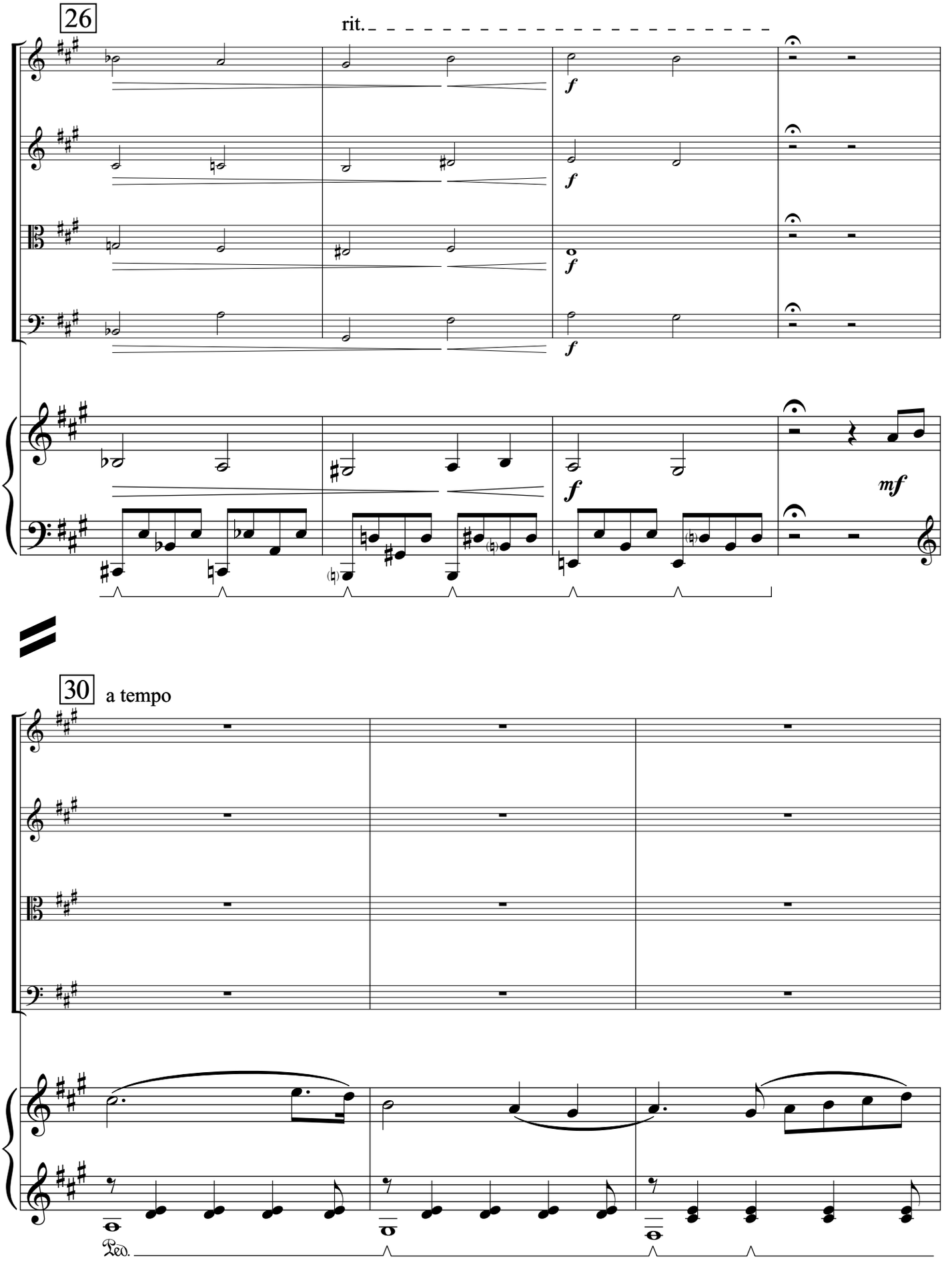
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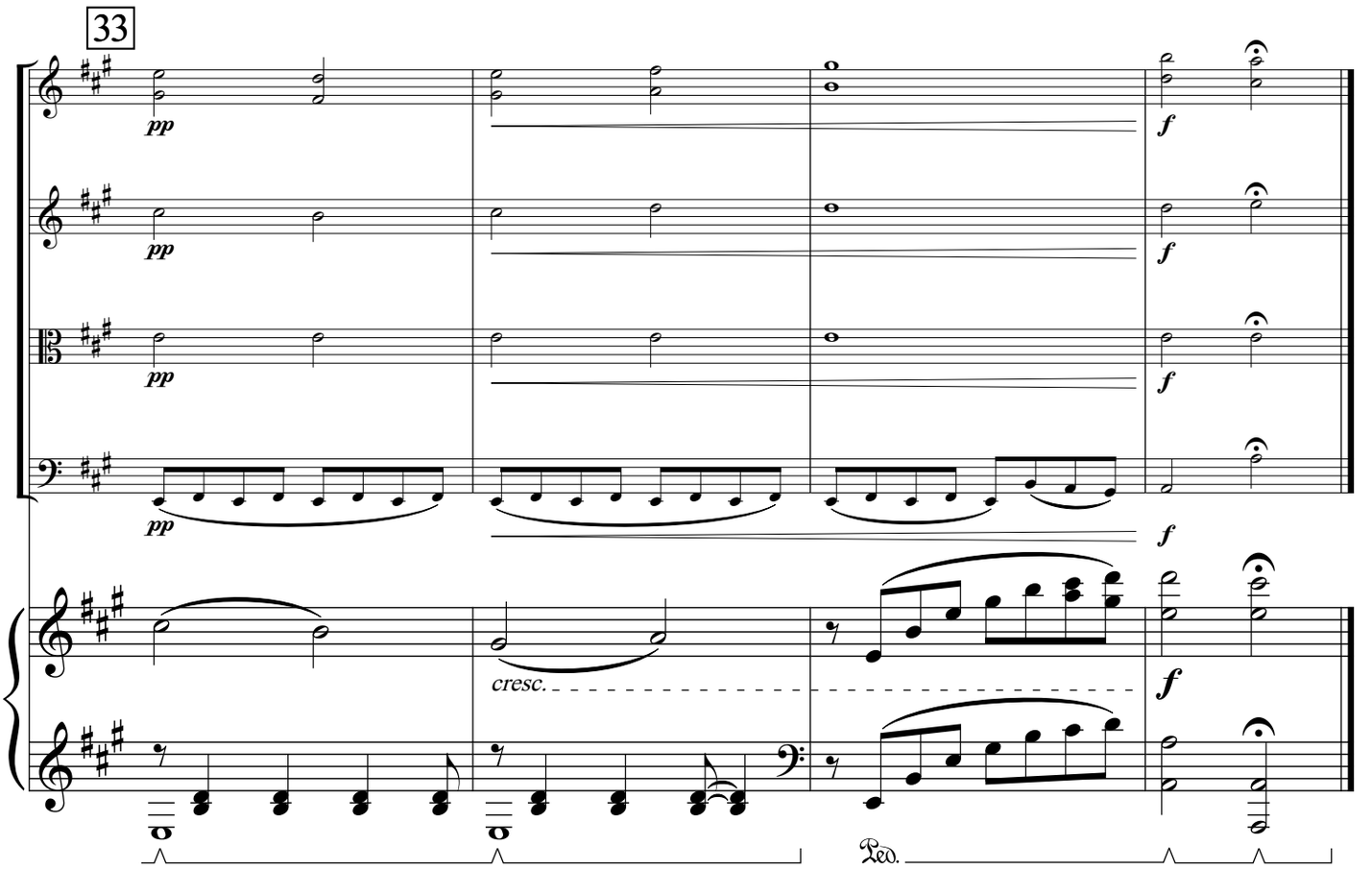

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