Set No. 1

Saad Haddad

TASAALSUL IV

for solo viola

(2022)

FOR PERUSAL USE ONLY

NEW YORK

www.saadnhaddad.com

INSTRUMENTATION

Viola

DURATION

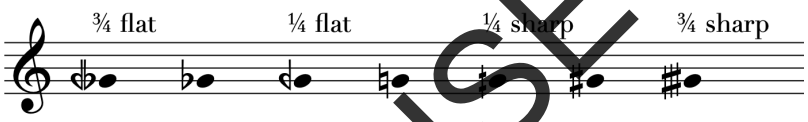
ca. 6 minutes

PERFORMANCE NOTES*

Accidentals: Accidentals, including quarter tones, carry through each measure. Accidentals do not carry through different octaves in any given bar unless otherwise notated.

Grace notes: Grace notes should be played before the beat.

Quarter tones:



Do not bend into quarter tone; only use embouchure if fingering not possible.

*Additional performance instructions appear throughout the score.

PROGRAM NOTE

Tasalsul IV, or "sequence" in Arabic, takes its name from Luciano Berio's *Sequenze*. This work explores the viola's vast lyrical capability from its opening high *tessitura* to its low musings on the C string during the piece's central section. This *tasalsul* begins with a descending melodic fragment in the key of G-sharp *bayati*, a microtonally inflected mode borrowed from Arab music. By the time the violist descends into the pitches of its lowest string, the music modulates to C *bayati*, a "distantly"-related key from the opening. The end of the work harkens back to the beginning, with its return to the "home" key of G-sharp *bayati* and high, yet *cantabile* harmonics reaching into the stratosphere.

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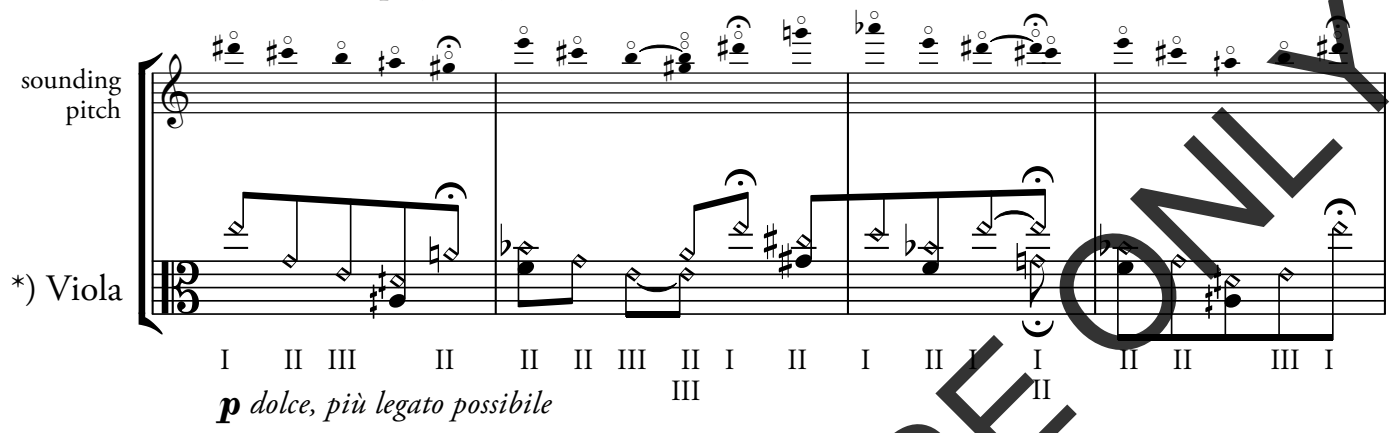
Molto rubato, play freely within ♪ = 58–72



There should be as little break as possible in between notes, including after fermate, unless otherwise indicated.

*) Scordatura: I and II tuned down to A♭ and D♭, respectively.

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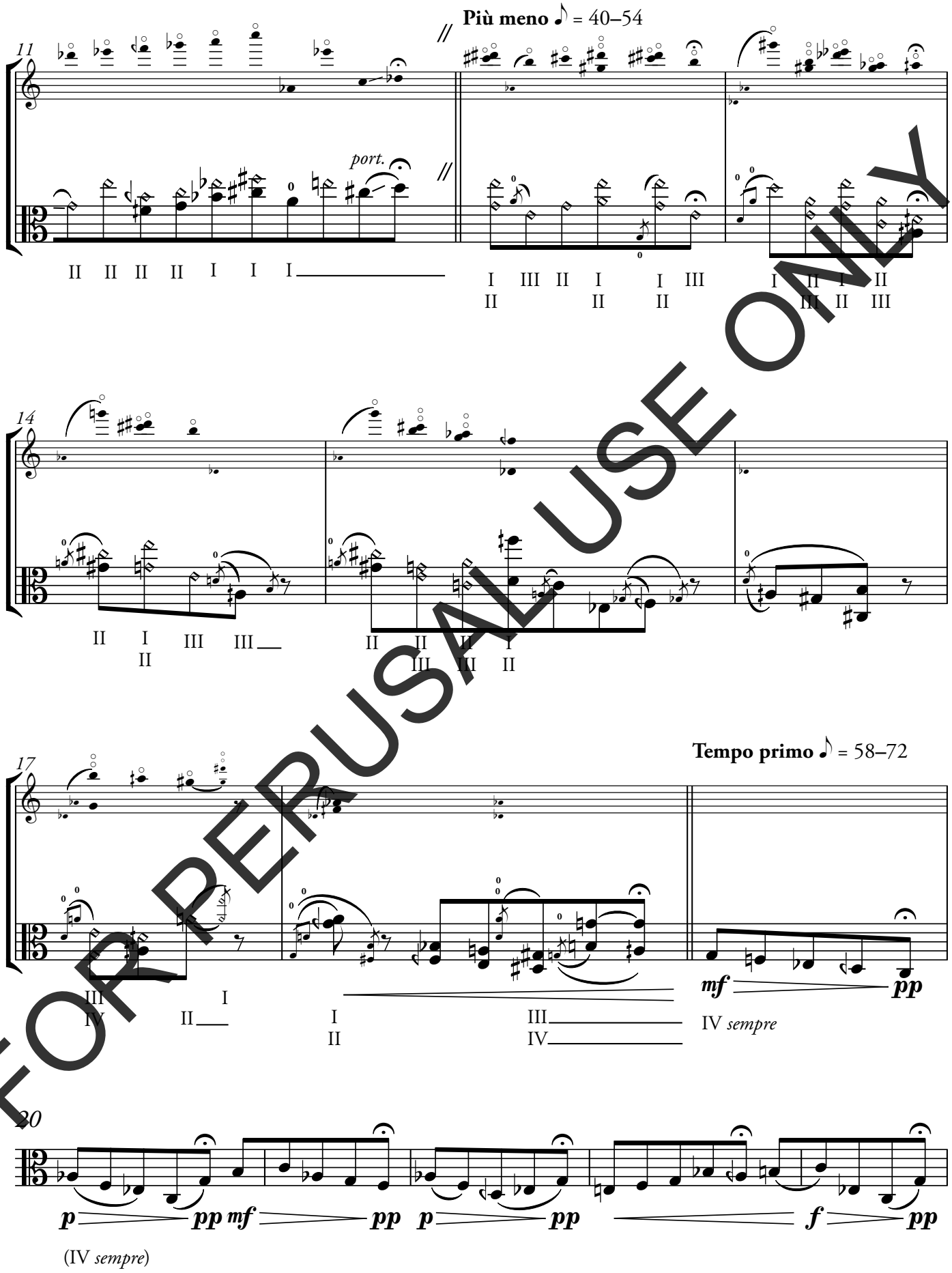

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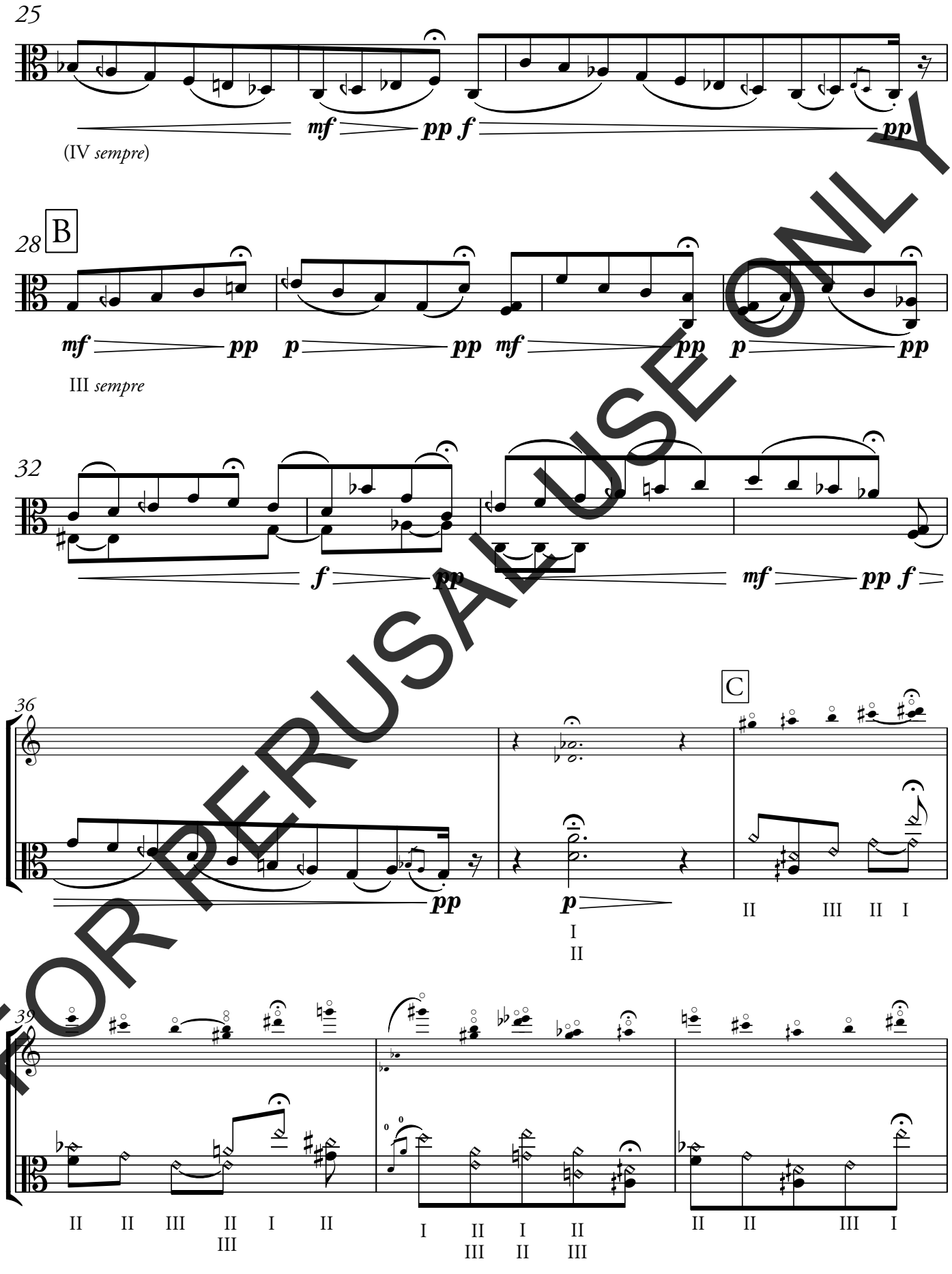

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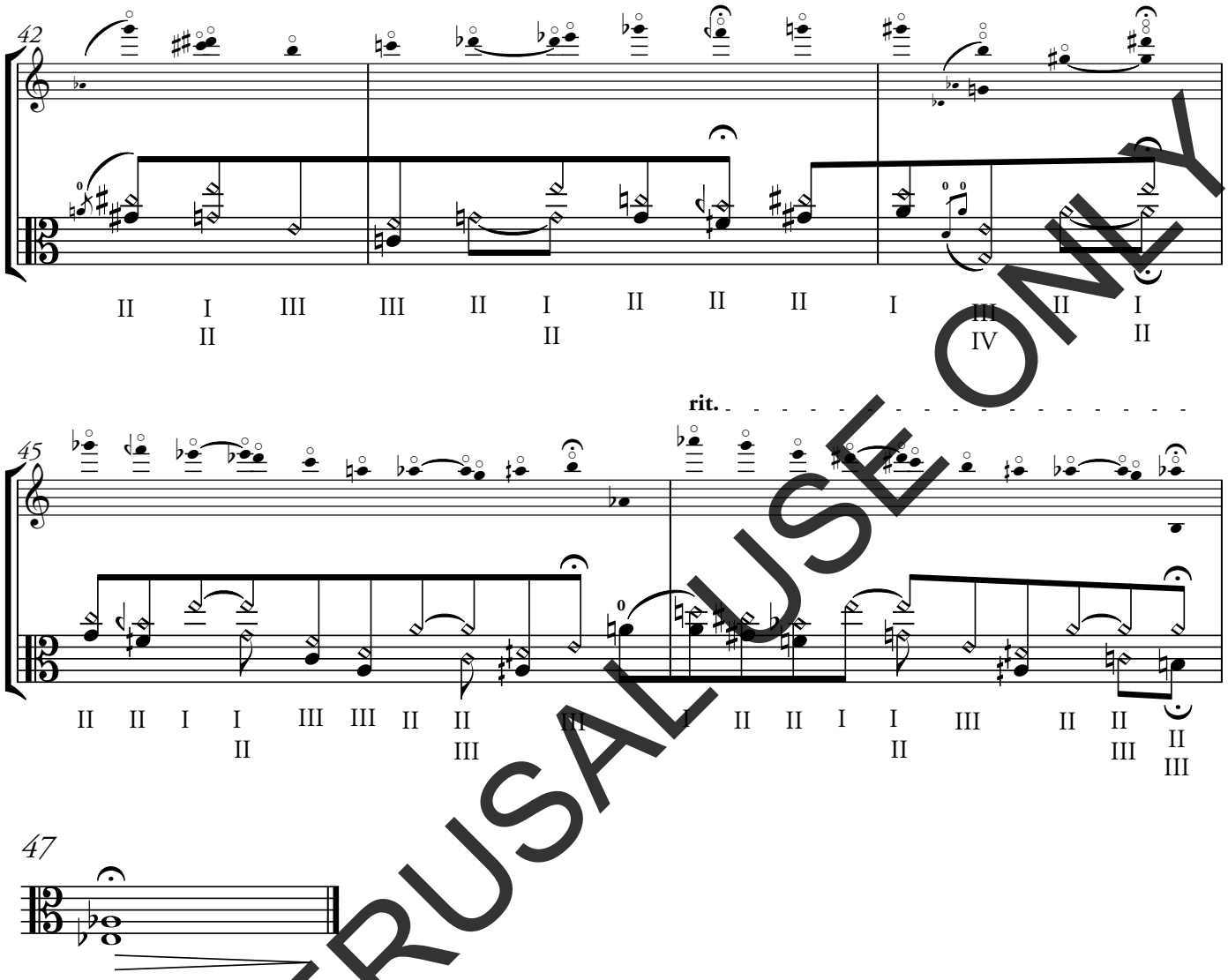

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