Preface

Marinus Komst (1908 – 1997) composed his variations on Carnaval de Venise when he was 20 years old. At that time he played trumpet in the Orchestra of the Tuschinski theatre in Amsterdam. Next to playing music with the orchestra during the movies, he regularly performed solo pieces. He probably wrote and performed these variations on Carnaval de Venise for the first time at the Tuschinski theatre. Although he must have performed this piece more often, there can only be found a review from a concert in 1935 in the Casino in Hilversum during which Komst performed Carnaval de Venise.

The manuscript of this composition was found in the heritage of Marinus Komst by Ralph Henssen, who wrote a biography on Komst. It has never been published before nor has it until now ever been performed by someone else than Komst.

Although most variations are based on the ones by Jean-Baptist Arban, Komst composed an exciting and very demanding piece. The cadenza in the introduction as well as the final variation show Komst virtuosity. Other than the version by Arban, Komst's version is written for C trumpet and piano. Komst almost exclusively played C trumpet.

In the 1950's two compositions for trumpet and piano by Komst were published, "Flying Notes" and "Hurry Hurry". Komst also wrote four volumes of etudes for trumpet. Three volumes ("12 Etudes characteristiques", "Dix études brillantes" and "15 études pour Trompette") were published during his lifetime. The fourth volume, "12 Exercises" composed in 1930 were recently discovered and also published by Golden River Music.

Biography

Marinus Johannes Komst (1908 - 1997) was born in Amsterdam. At the age of four he received his first cornet lessons from his father, who was conductor of various wind orchestras in and around Amsterdam. From 1922 to 1925 Komst studied with Emil Kresse (1856 - 1935) - solo trumpet player of the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra - at the orchestra school of the Amsterdam Conservatory. Immediately after graduation he began his career as trumpet player at the Tuschinski Theatre in Amsterdam, after which he switched to the orchestra of the VARA radio in 1930. In 1934 Komst was asked by conductor Eduard van Beinum to succeed Dirk Speets as principal trumpet of the Concertgebouw Orchestra. In the same year he was also appointed professor at the Amsterdam Conservatory.

Komst enjoyed worldwide fame for his characteristic sound and style of playing. He finished his career as principal trumpet in 1972. Due to the large number of students, who later held important positions in the Dutch orchestras, he left his mark on the Dutch trumpet school. Marinus Komst passed away in Amsterdam in 1997.

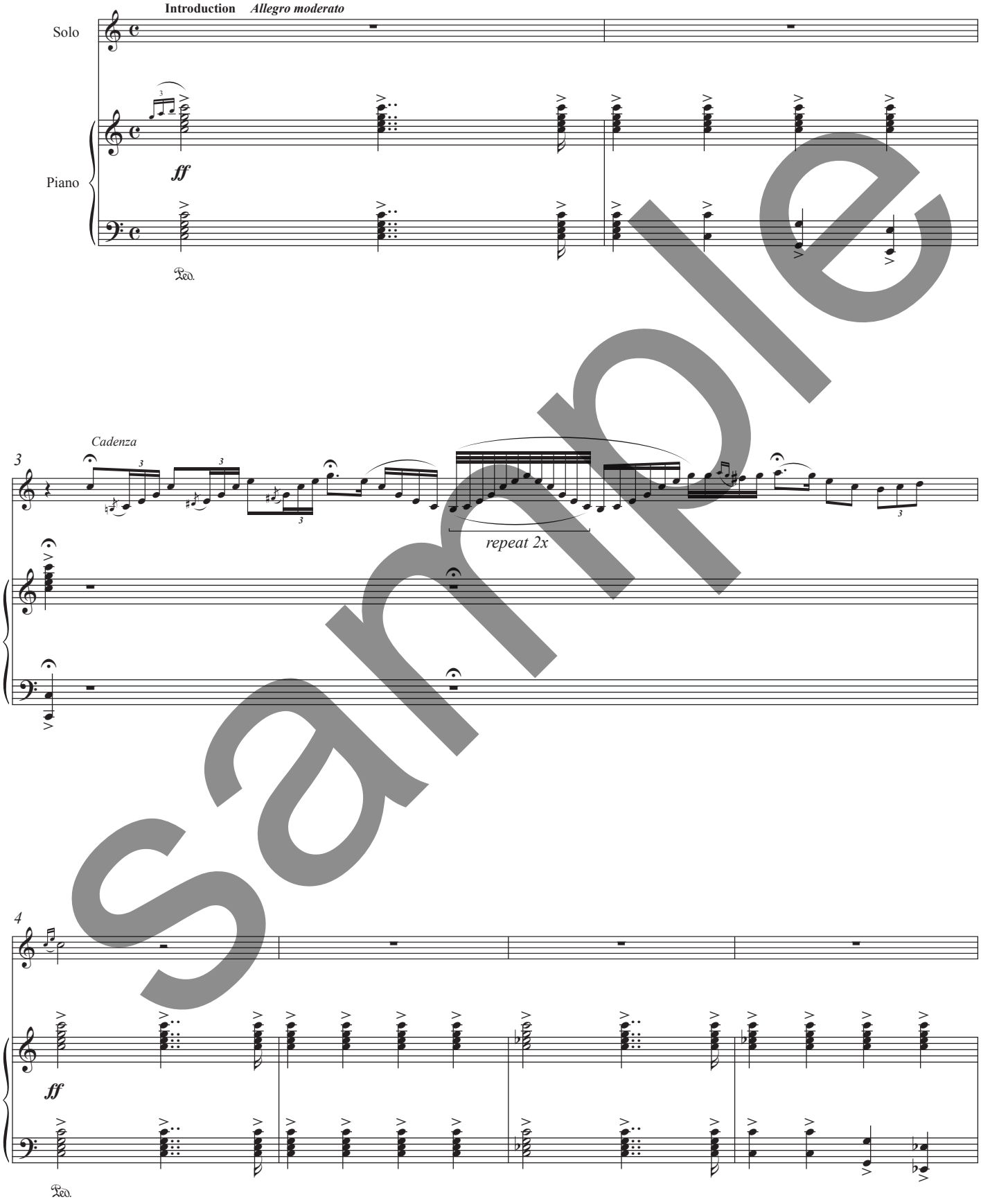
Ralph Henssen

sample

Carnaval de Venise

for C Trumpet & Piano

Italian Traditional
arr. M. Komst (1928)



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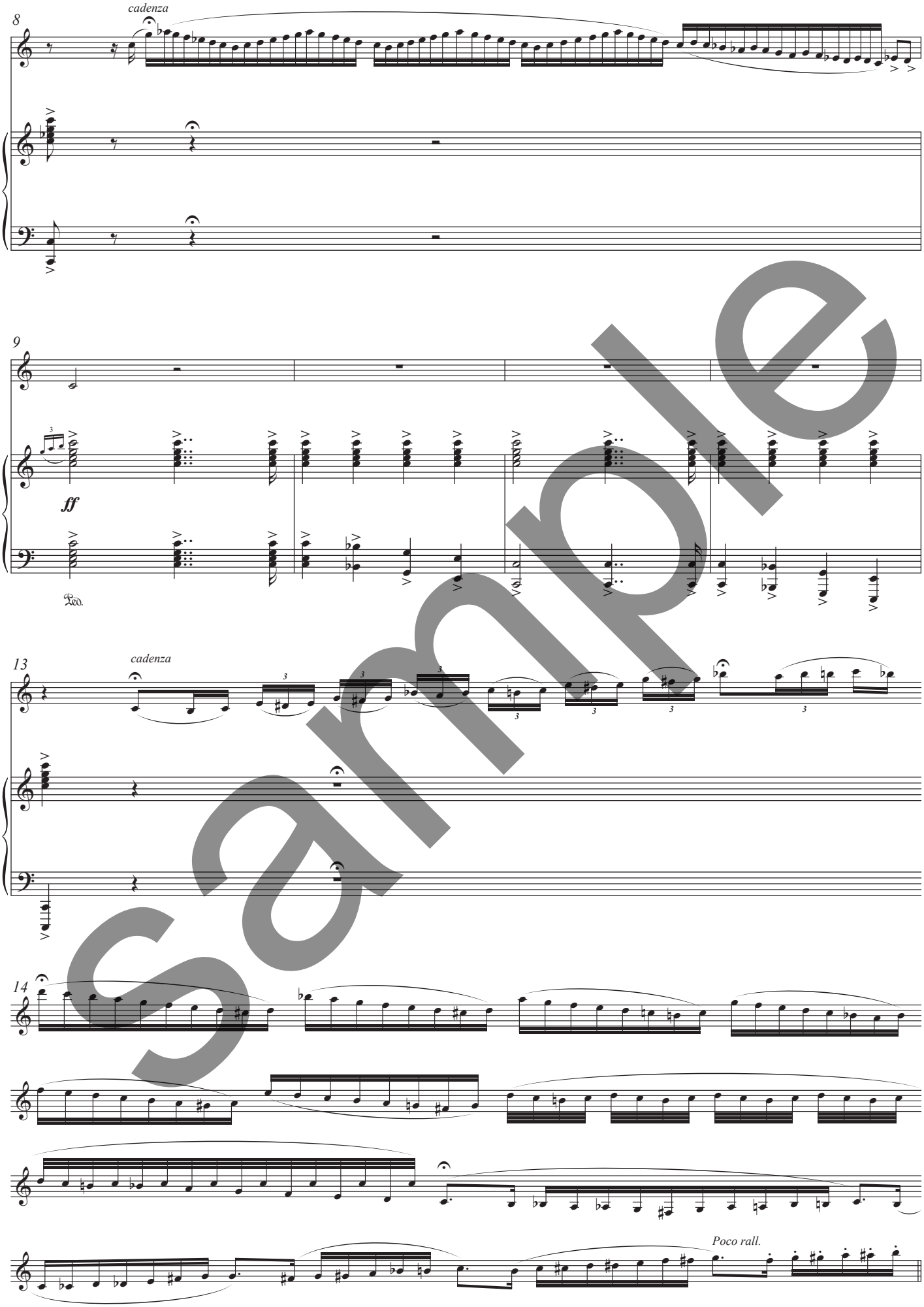

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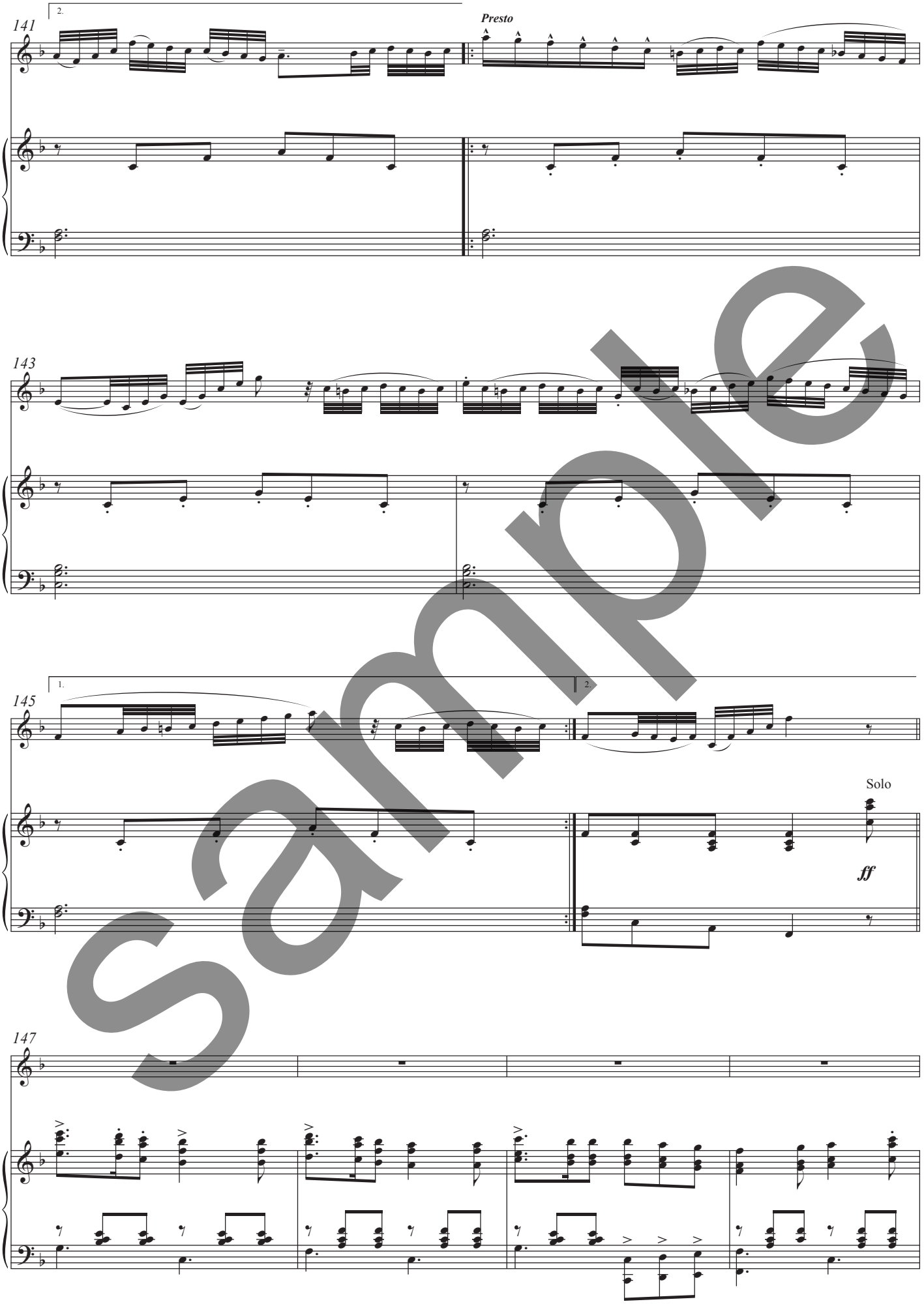

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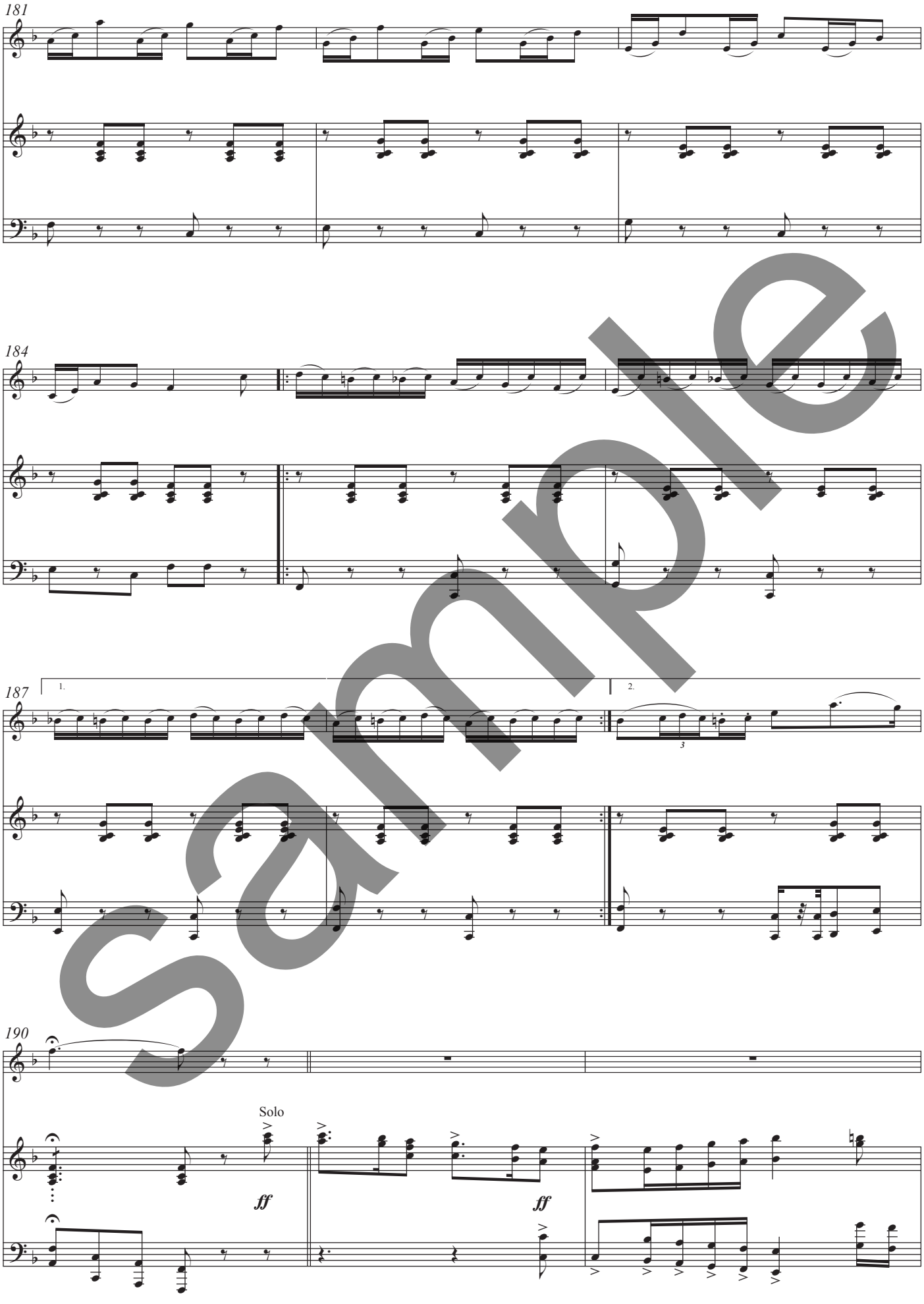

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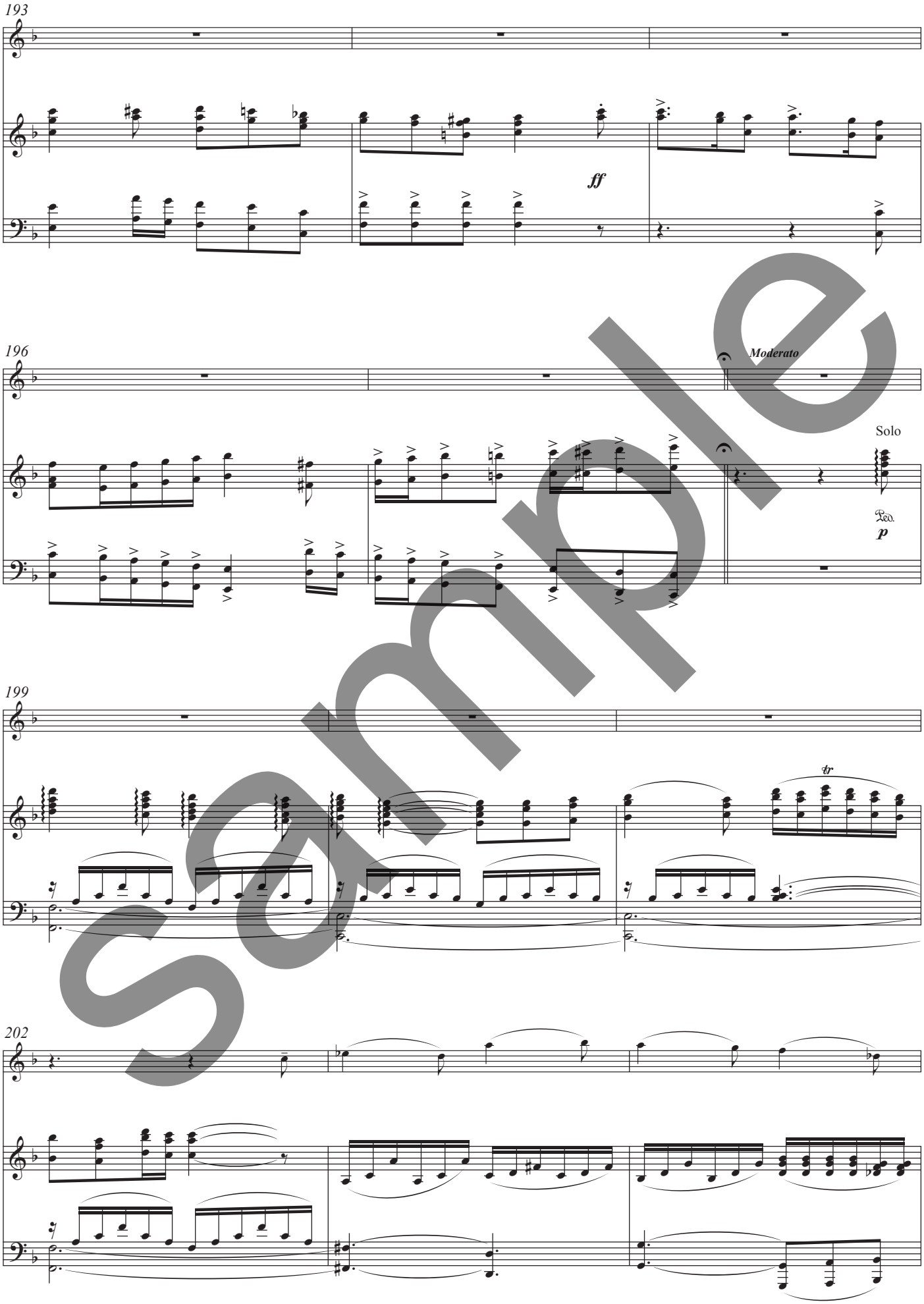

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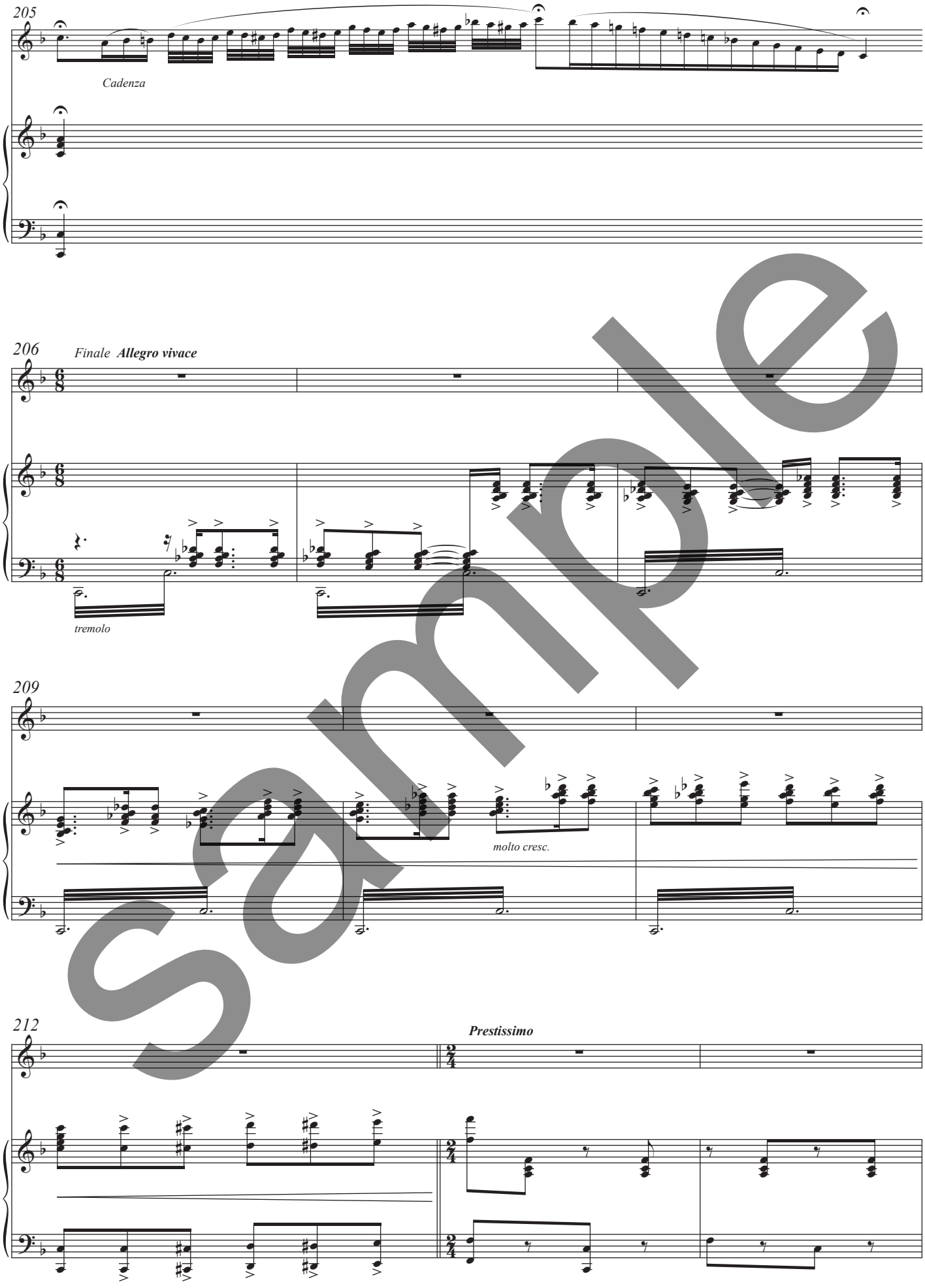
205
Cadenza
206
Finale Allegro vivace
tremolo
209
molto cresc.
212
Prestissimo

sample