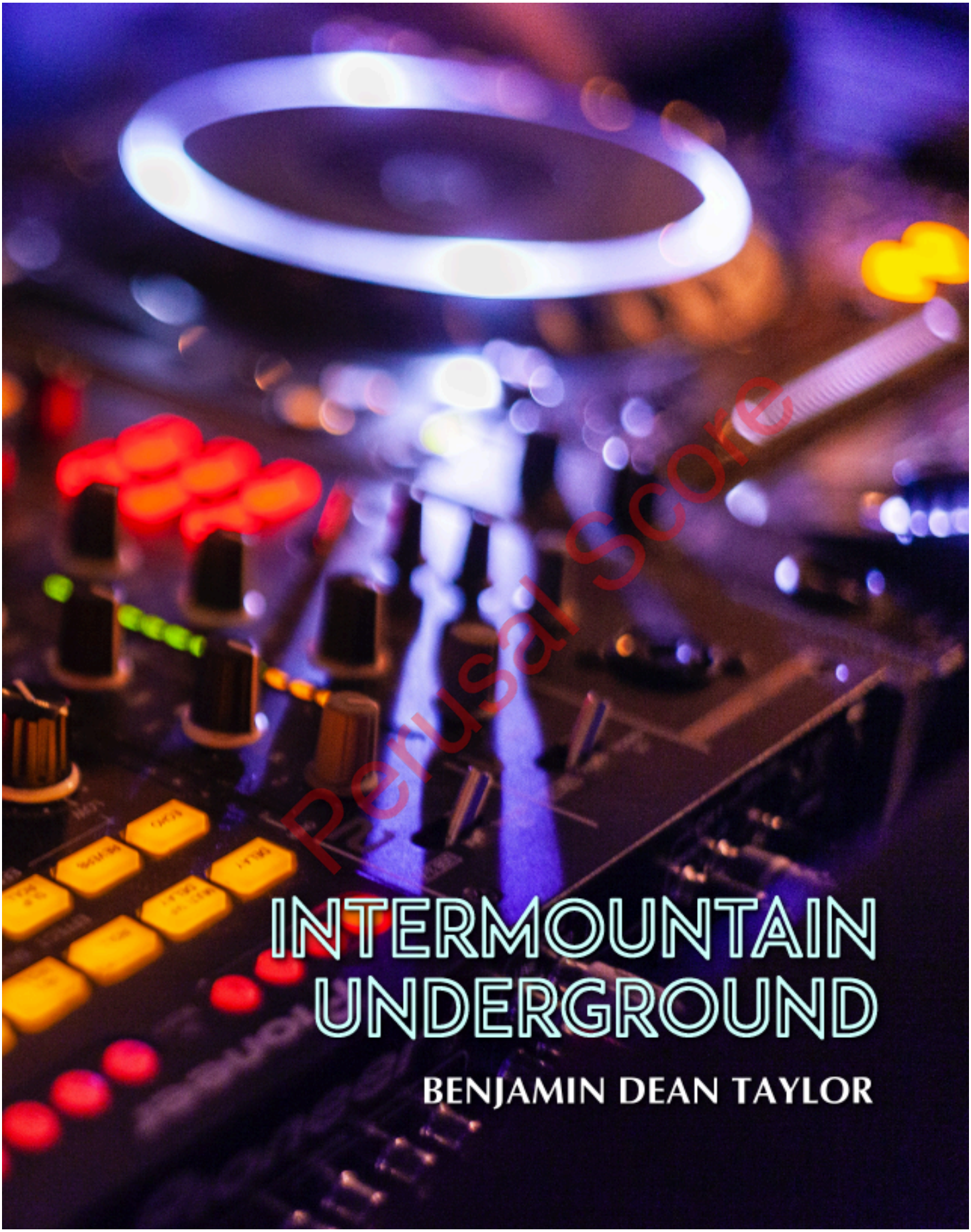

Perusal Score

# INTERMOUNTAIN UNDERGROUND

## BENJAMIN DEAN TAYLOR

*for concert band and electronic audio track*

Perusal Score

*Commissioned by*

INTERMOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SYMPHONIC BAND
NATHAN HOPE, DIRECTOR

2020

Perusal Score

Duration: 3:30

Music typeset by the composer

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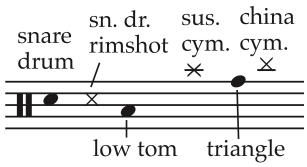
Taylor, Benjamin Dean
- *INTERMOUNTAIN UNDERGROUND*, concert band and electronic audio track

www.benjamintaylormusic.com

## Grade 3
(designed for small high school band programs with limited instrumentation)

## Instrumentation
Flute
Oboe/Flute 2 (optional)
Bassoon (optional)
Clarinet 1,2
Bass Clarinet
Alto Sax 1,2
Tenor Sax
Baritone Sax
Trumpet 1,2
Horn in F (optional)
Trombone
Euphonium/Baritone
Tuba
Timpani
Percussion (2 players minimum)

- Percussion: snare drum, triangle, china cymbal, low tom, suspended cymbal




- Mallets: glockenspiel, xylophone (additional players may double this part on marimba)

Electronic audio track (digital file playable on any device)

(Please email **benjamintaylormusic@gmail.com** for the download link)

Perusal Score

## Duration 3:30

## Program Note
There you are sitting in band rehearsal and suddenly the ground starts shaking violently. With a thunderous explosion, a large underground transport vehicle the size of a cargo van with a huge drill on the front emerges through the floor. Everyone in the band watches in frozen astonishment as the vehicle hisses and opens up a side panel door. A hunched human-like creature with abnormally large eyes stands in front of a DJ table and begins to spin a track as a way of introducing himself and his underground civilization. At first the music of his race sounds unfamiliar since it has evolved separate from music of the surface humans for the last several hundred years. But slowly the off-kilter groove in 13/4 time gets your foot tapping, and the melodies from the superlocrian scale sound fresh and interesting, and before you know it, you are not only playing along, but stepping into the underground RV and heading down the tunnel to a subterranean dance club! You and all your band friends quickly meld your music into the pulsating rhythms to celebrate with your newfound underground friends!

## Additional Note from the Composer

This work was a true collaboration with the students of Intermountain Christian School (Salt Lake City, Utah). The seed for the idea of the piece came from the picture below. It was sent from band director Nathan Hope, with the text, "I drove over to the school this afternoon… turns out something catastrophic happened and there's no power or water. This is the main hallway in the school."

(It turns out workers had to cut into the floor and dig down to repair a broken pipe.)

Looking at that hole, it is easy to imagine it leading into some vast underground cave system. The students and I thought about what it would be like to find out that an entire civilization had been living underneath the city for hundreds of years, completely cut off and separate from the "surface" society. What would their music sound like? How might it be different than our western classical music tradition? I am truly grateful to Nathan Hope and his students for their inspiring musical ideas as well as the creative story they helped me shape behind *Intermountain Underground*.

## Technical Note - electronic audio track

The electronic audio track is not optional. This work is intended to be as easy and straight-forward as possible for the band director. It can be performed without any special equipment such as microphones, interfaces, mixing board, earbuds, click track, etc. Simply download the electronic track onto a laptop or any portable device that will play back audio and connect that device to speakers. The piece is as simple as hitting play on the downbeat of measure 8 and then following the tempo of the electronic track.

Perusal Score

## Technical Note (cont.)

The ideal setup for performance will have a stereo pair of speakers facing the audience (placed on the right and left side of the lip of the stage), and monitor(s) onstage for the conductor and band. During performance, it will be helpful to have an assistant to start the track at measure 8 (and also ride the faders at a mixing board, if available). The track must be able to be heard by the audience at an equal dynamic level to the band so that they are heard as one mega-instrument. If monitors for the band are not available, the speakers should be placed behind the percussion section so that the band and audience can hear the track.

It will be helpful for the band director to give all of the band members their own personal copy of the track so that they can get familiar with it and practice it individually. Distribution of the track in this way is authorized with purchase of this work. The band rehearsal room will need to have the ability to play the electronic track on stereo speakers so that the conductor (and ideally the band) can hear the electronics even during the loudest sections (such as letter L). For convenience in rehearsal, the score has track timings indicated so that the band can begin at any rehearsal letter.

**Email benjamintaylormusic@gmail.com to request a copy of the performance track.**

Perusal Score

## About the Composer

**Benjamin Dean Taylor** *is a composer of contemporary art music. His energetic, adventurous music provides a uniquely refreshing sonic experience for performers and audiences alike. Trained as a trumpet player and pianist, he performs with and writes music for a variety of chamber ensembles, jazz combos and big bands, wind bands, orchestras, choirs, and experimental ensembles. He received degrees in music composition from Indiana University, Brigham Young University and Bowling Green State University. Dr. Taylor's prizes and honors include winner in the Frank Ticheli Composition Competition, a BMI Student Composers Award, four Barlow Endowment Commissions, and an ASCAP Young Jazz Composer Award. His music is frequently performed in the United States and abroad. Dr. Taylor resides in Bloomington, Indiana, with his wife and five sons.*

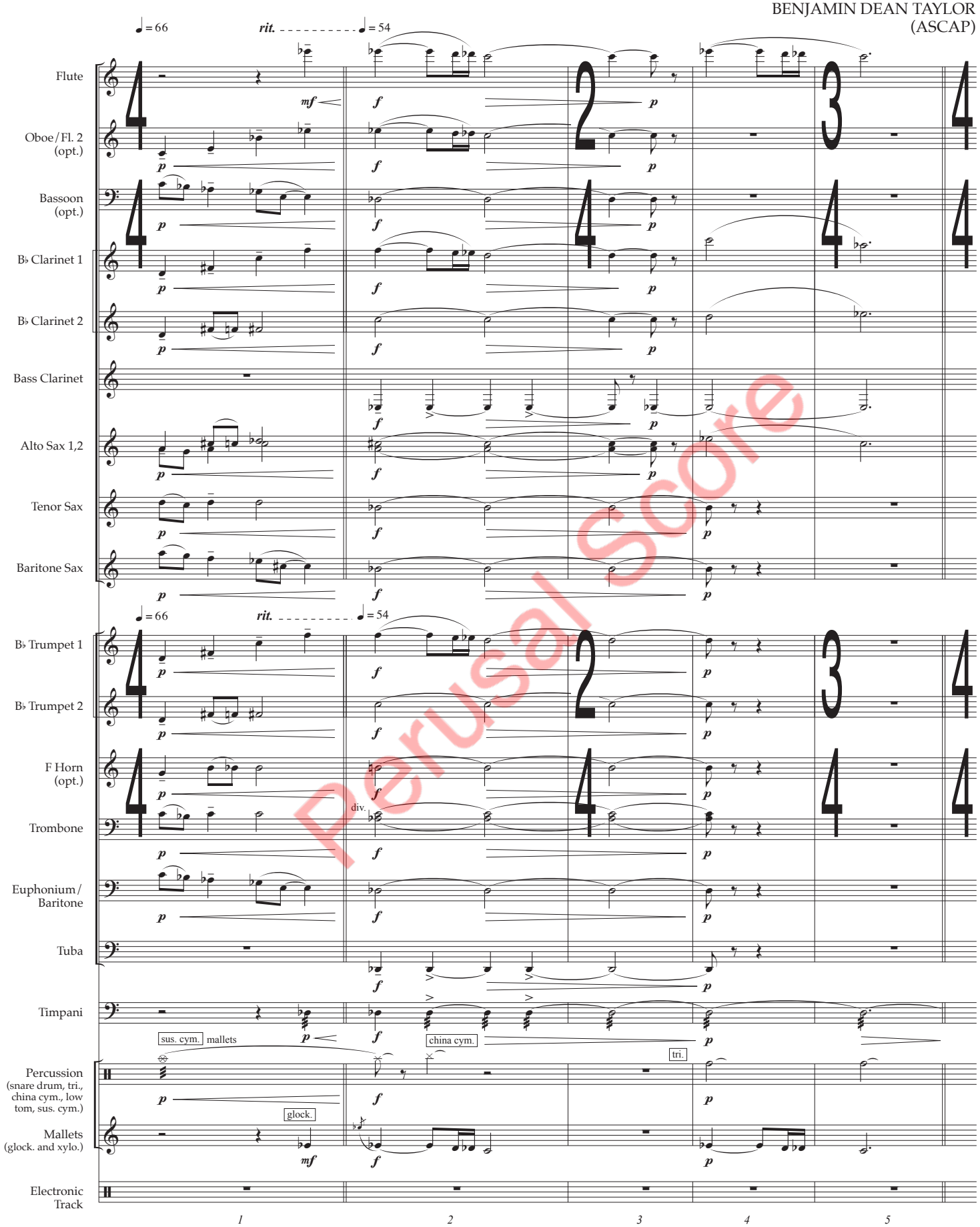
**BENJAMINTAYLORMUSIC.COM**

**Transposed Score**
Duration: 3:30

*Commissioned by the Intermountain Christian School Symphonic Band, Nathan Hope, director*

# INTERMOUNTAIN UNDERGROUND

BENJAMIN DEAN TAYLOR
(ASCAP)

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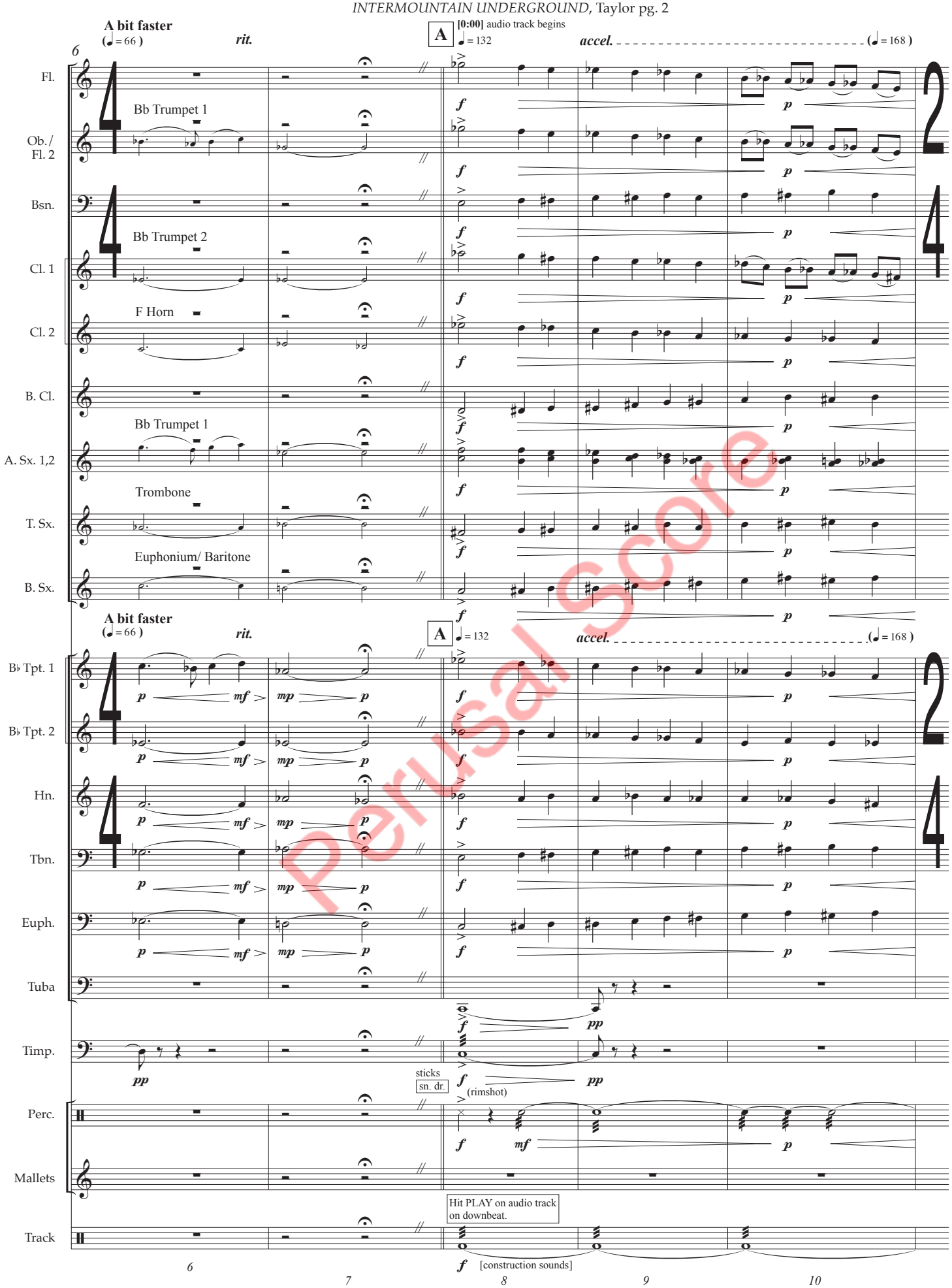


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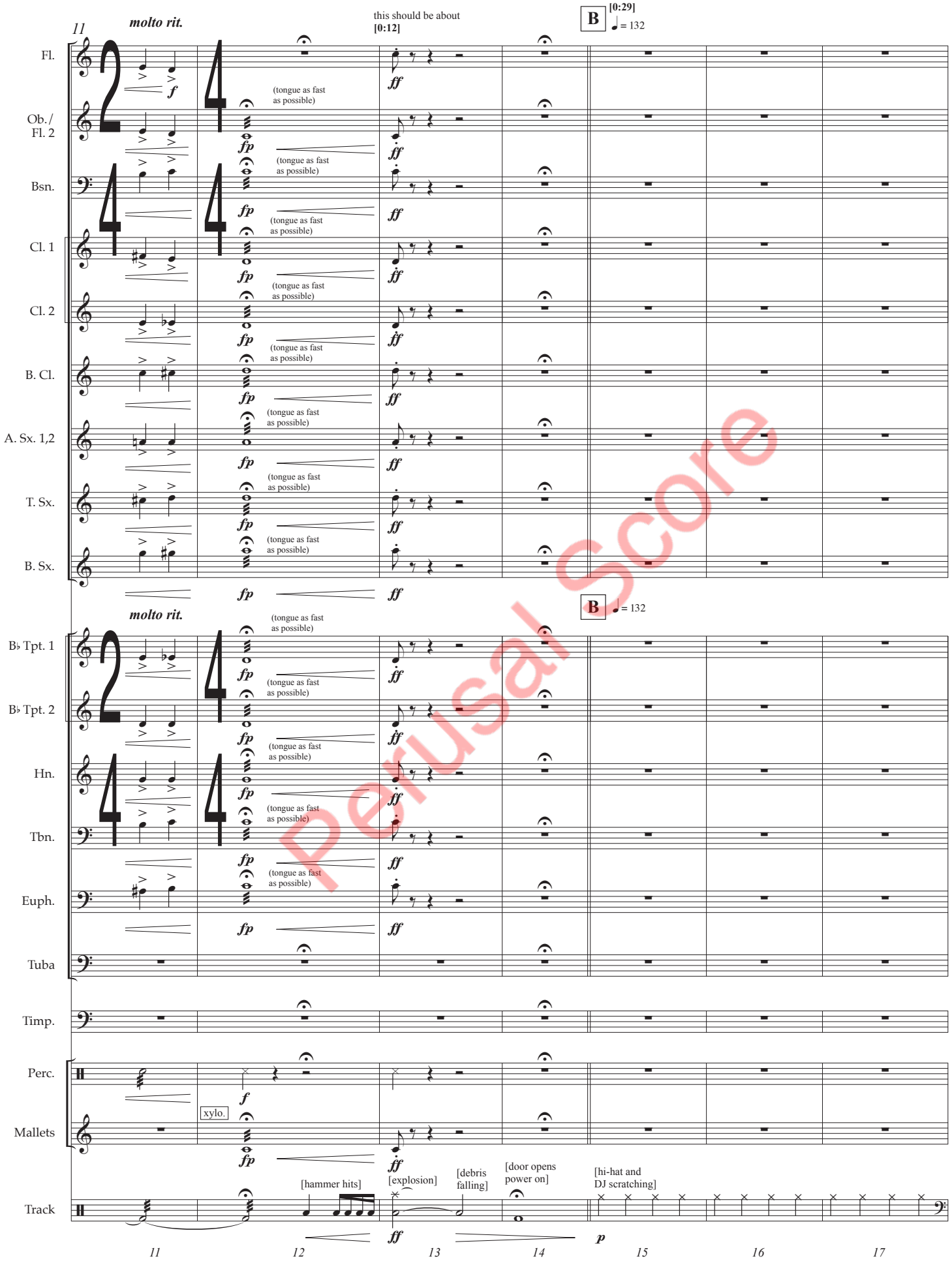


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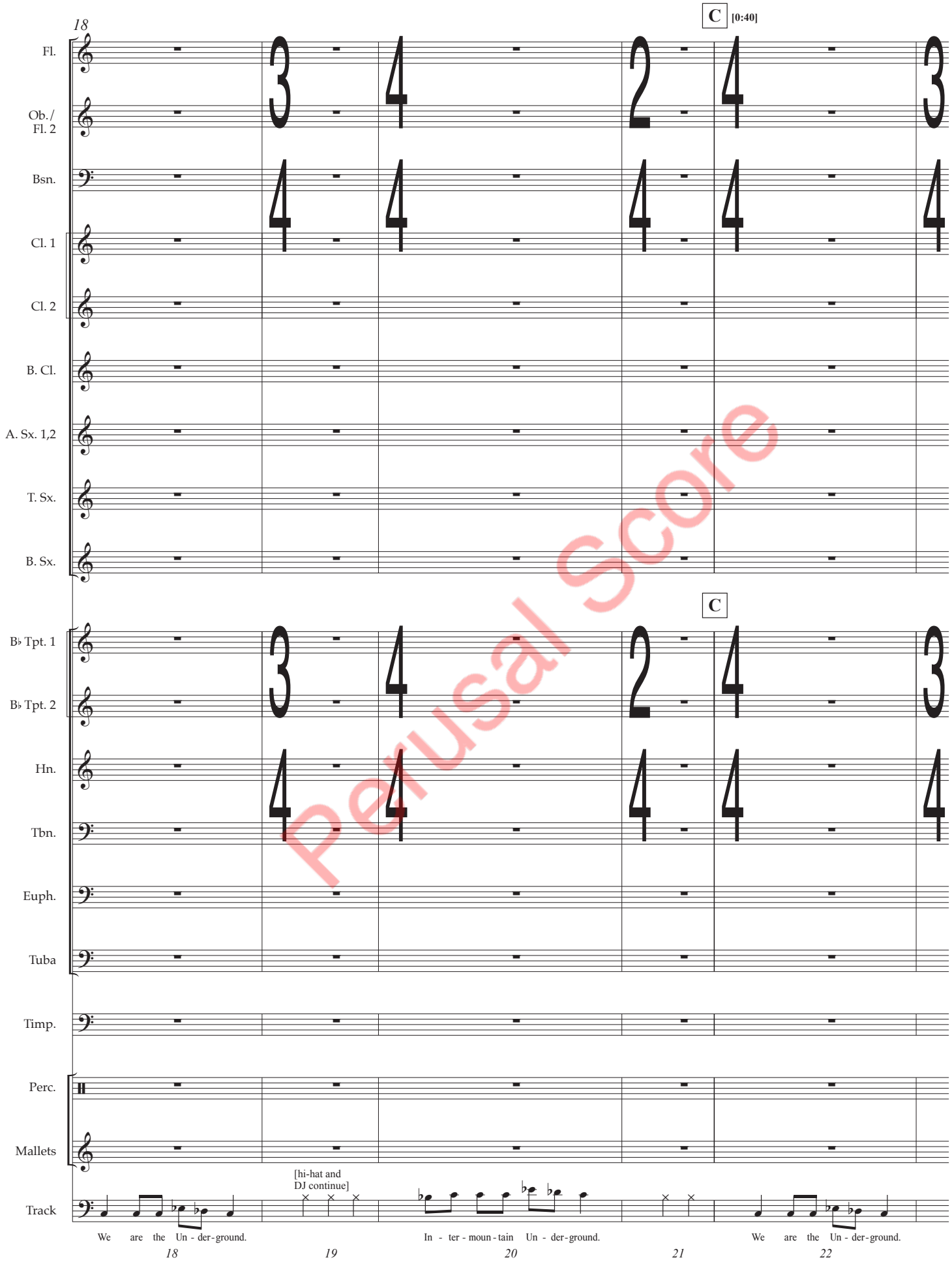


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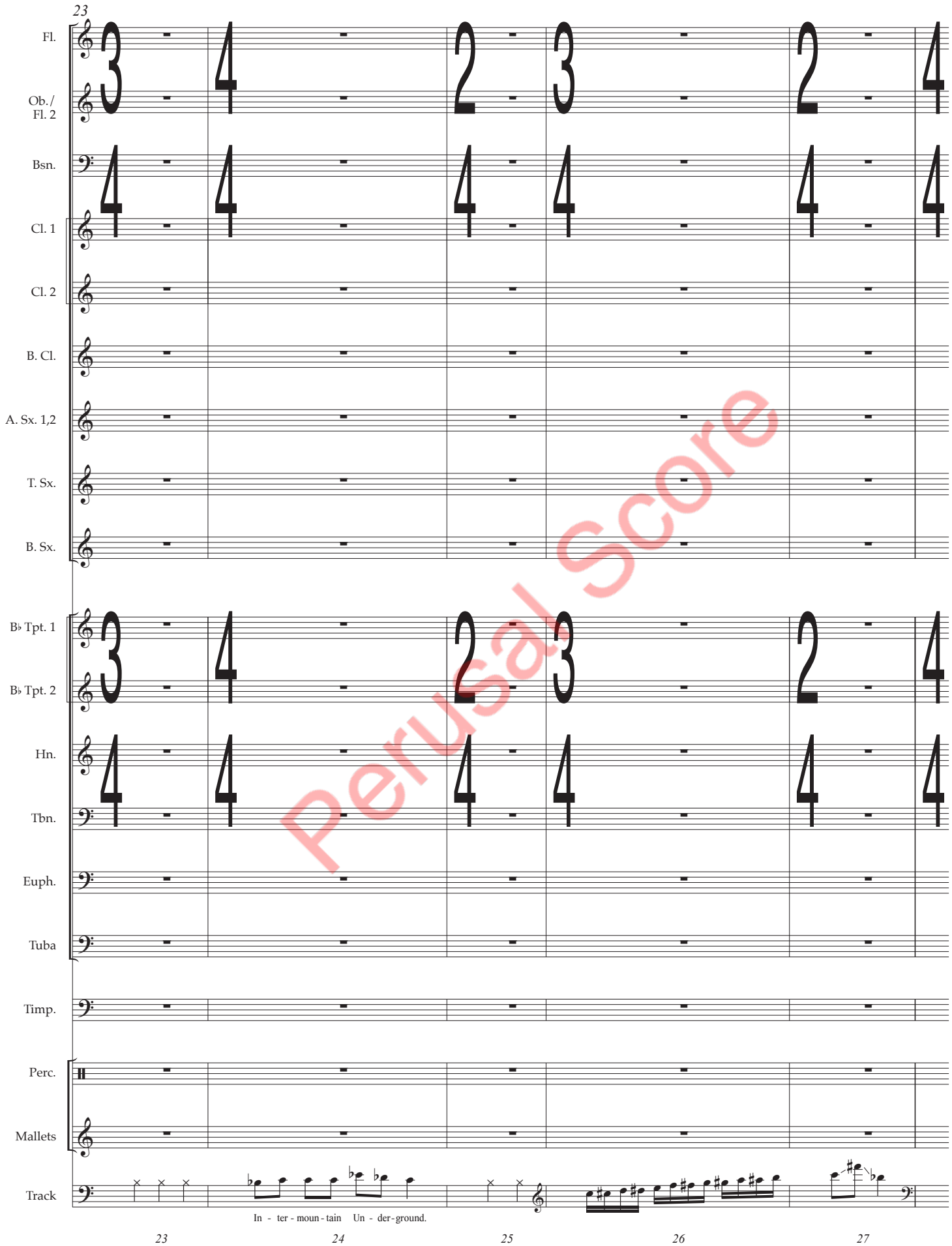


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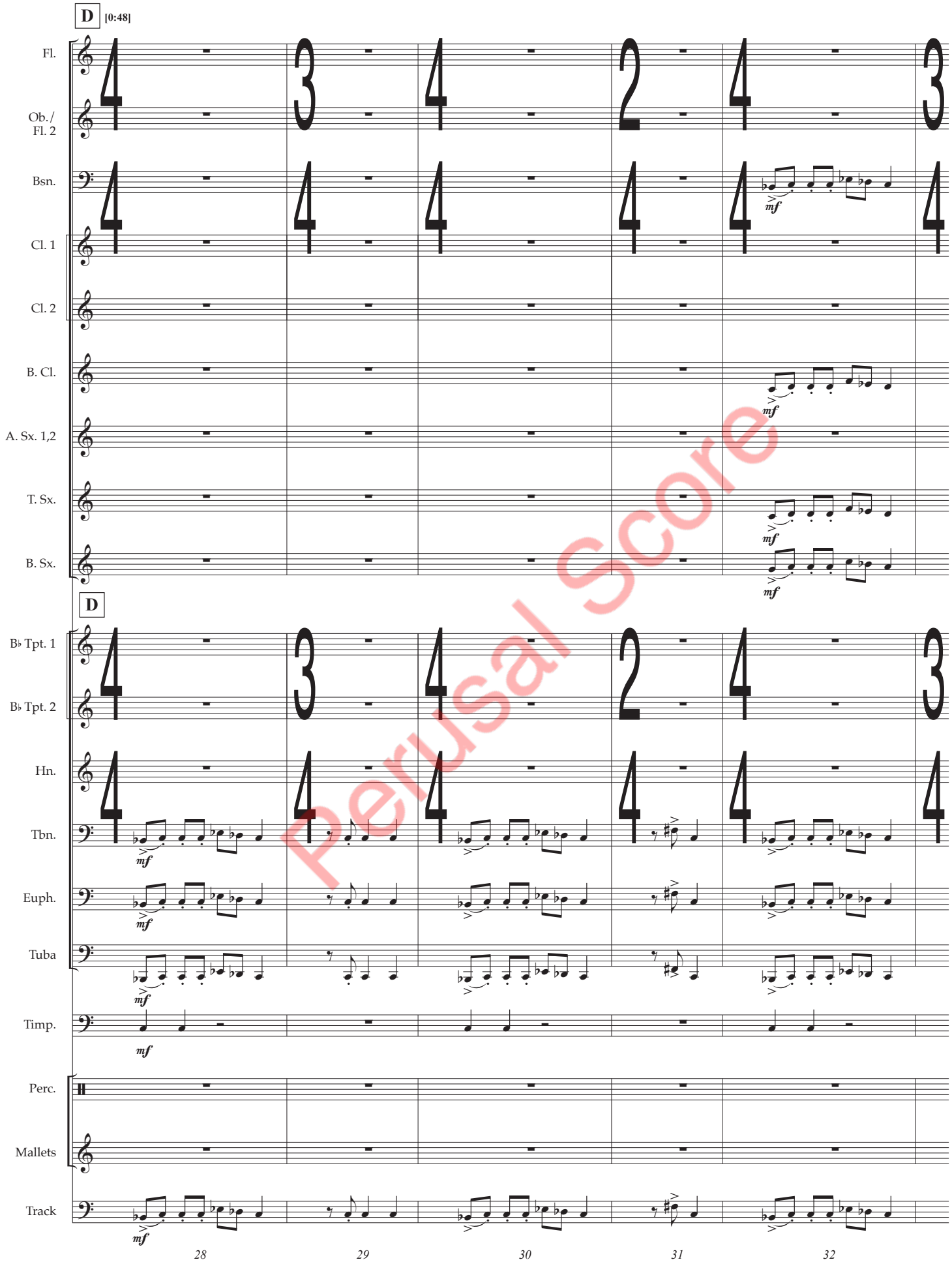


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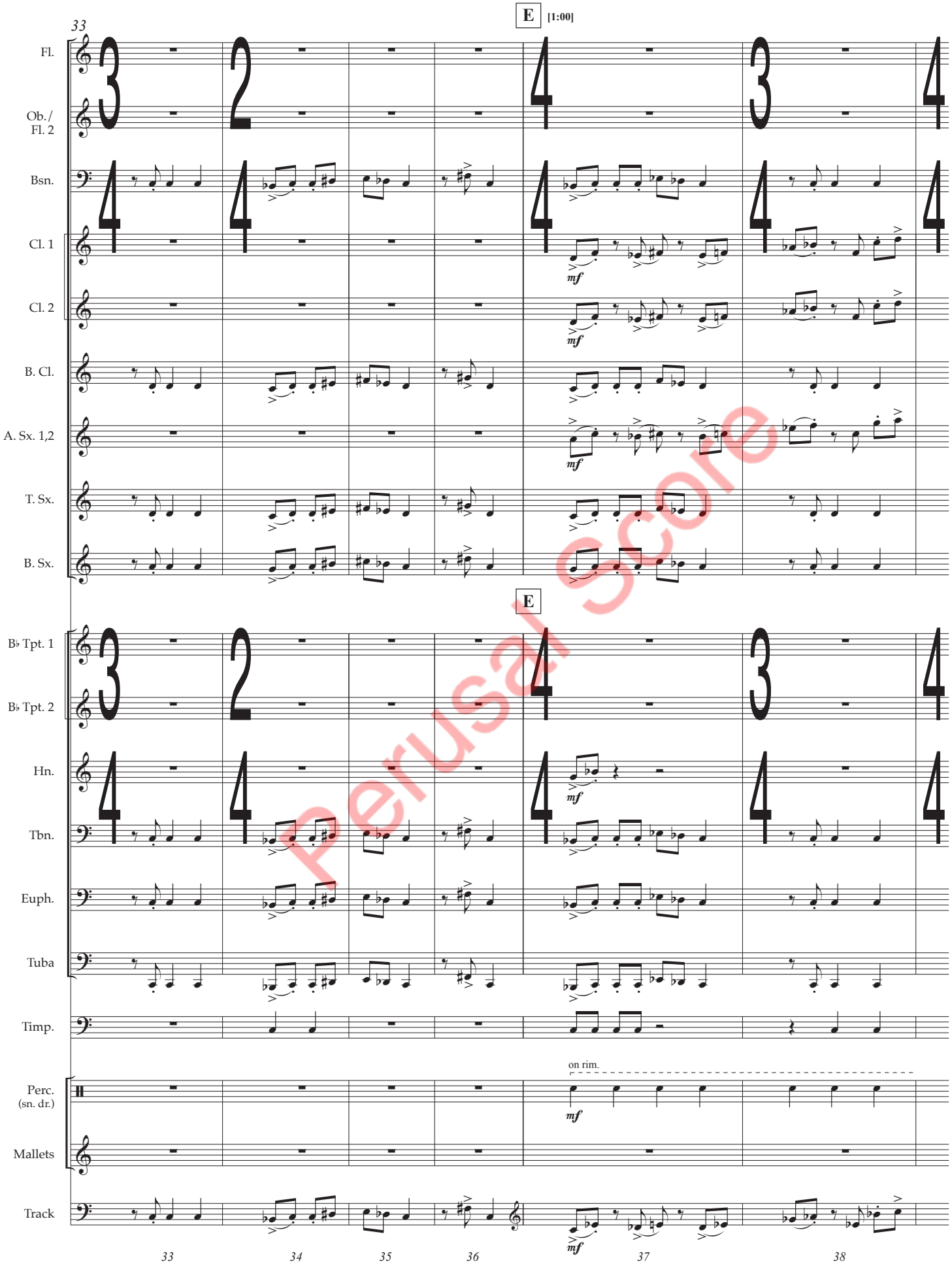


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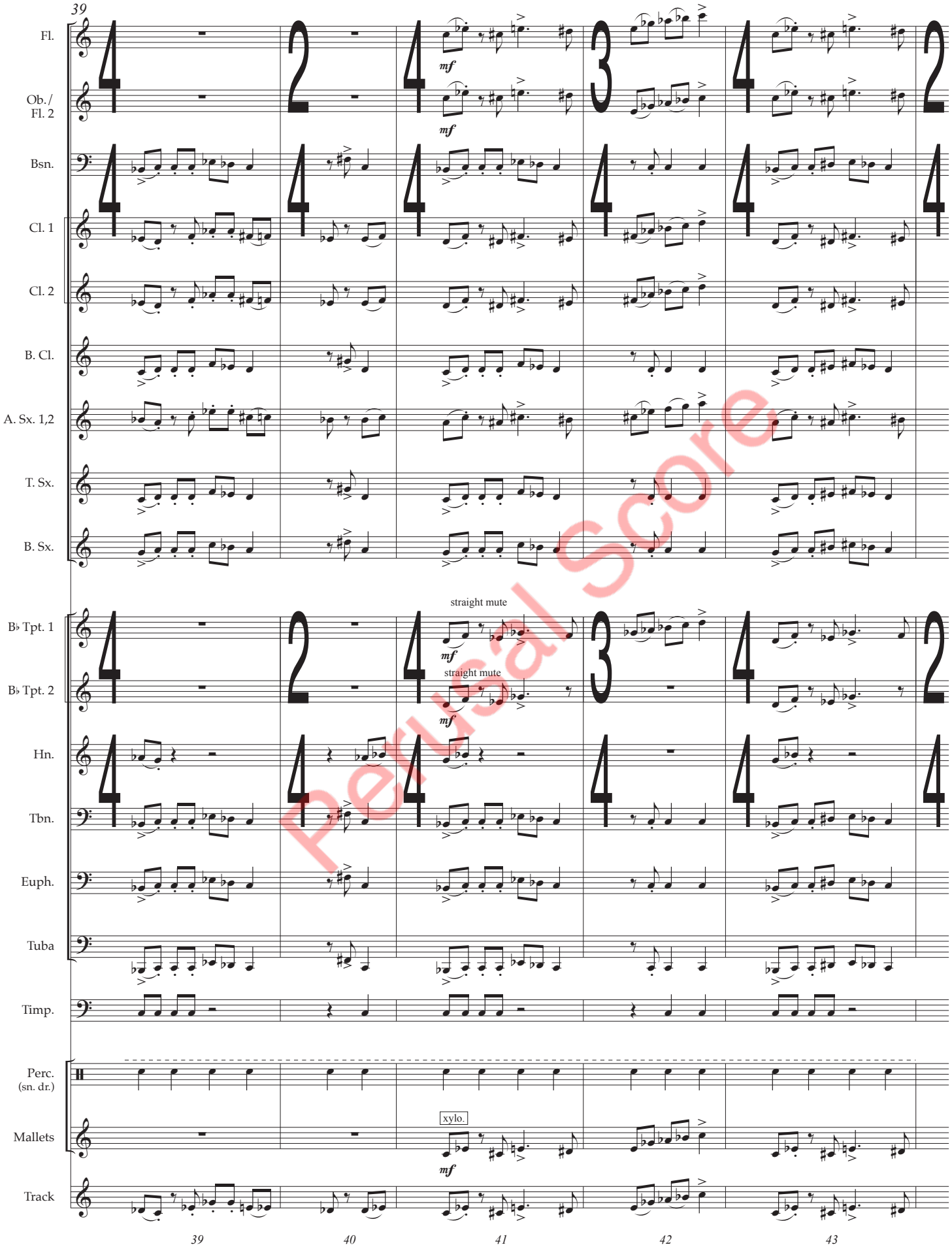


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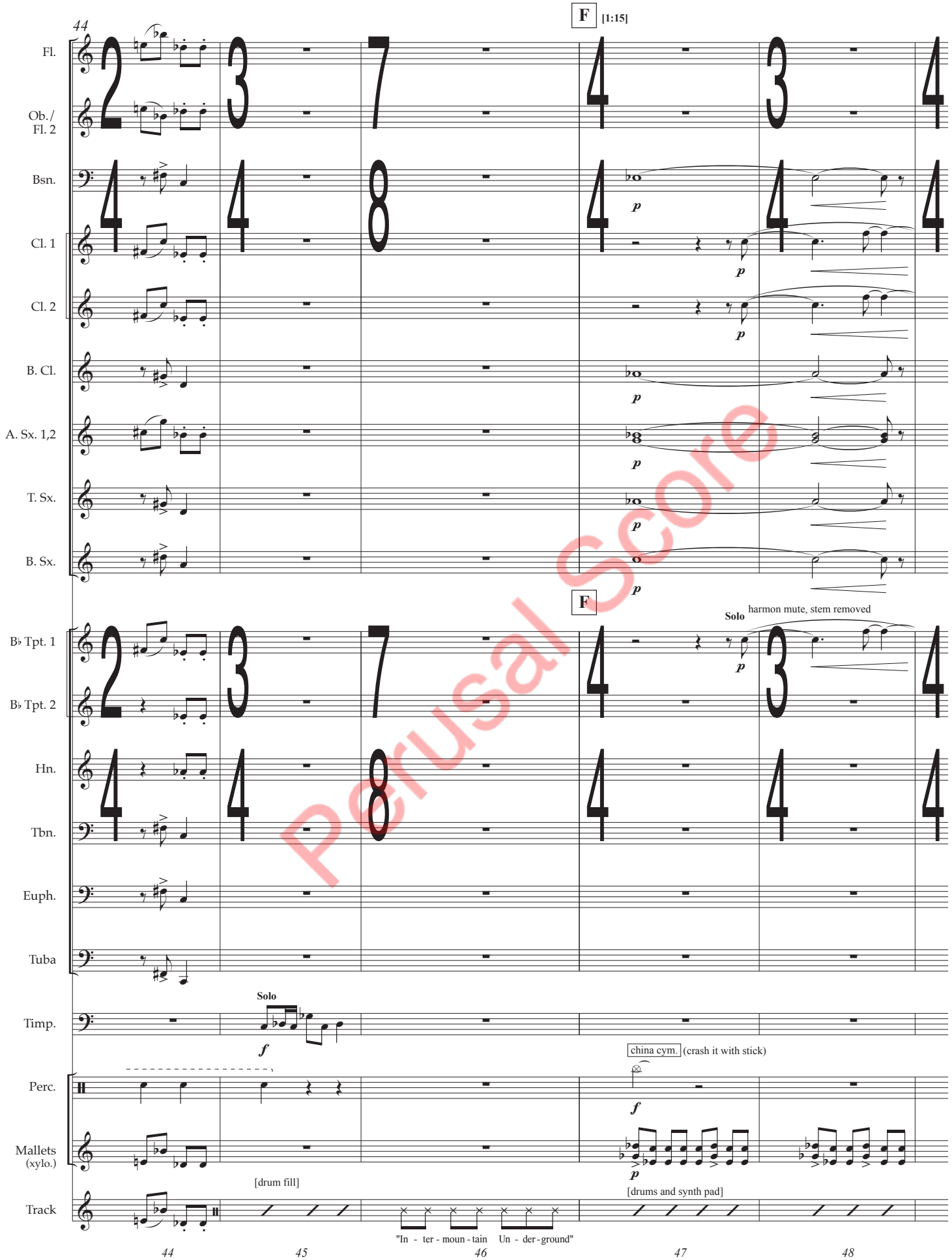


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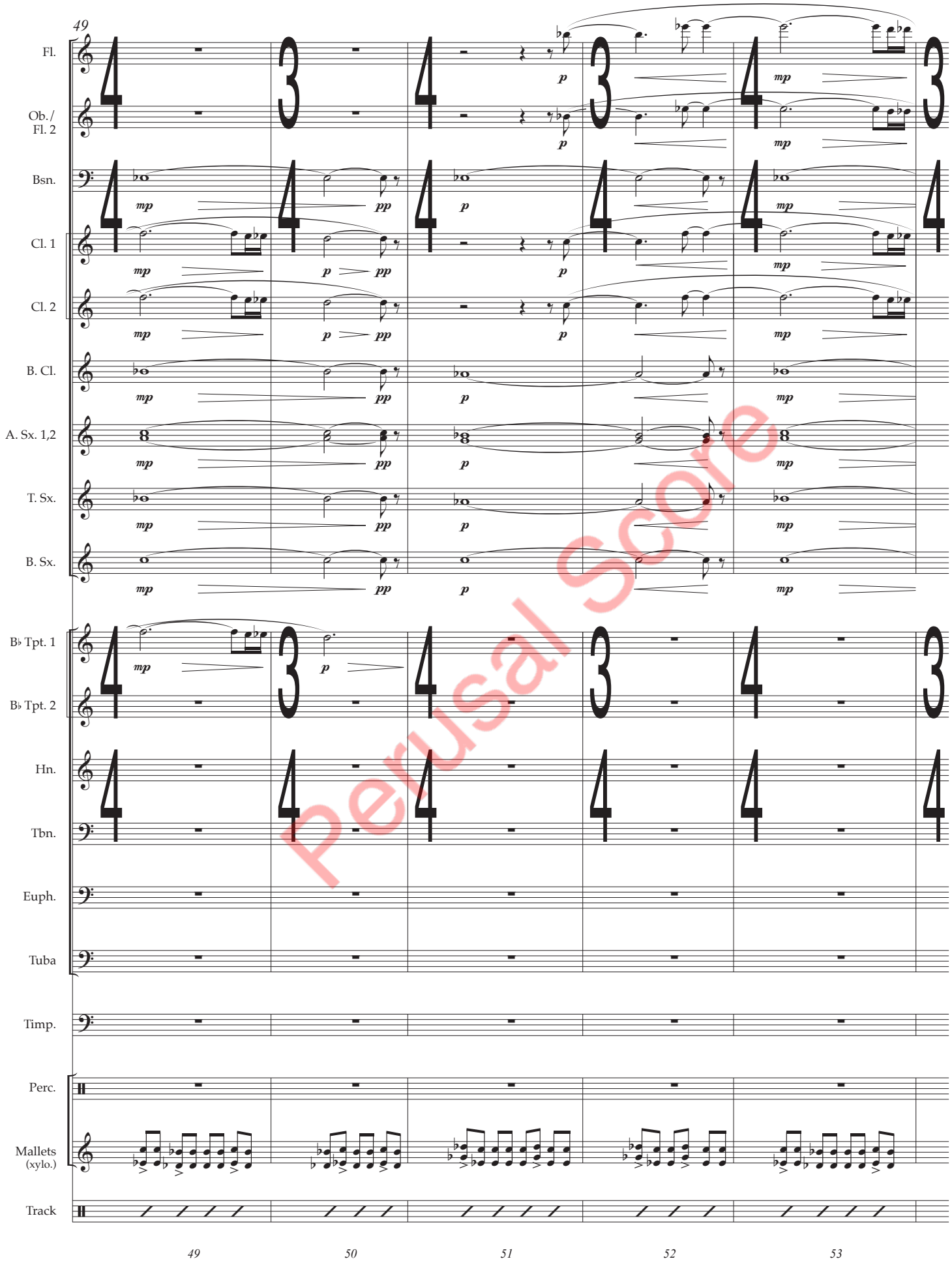


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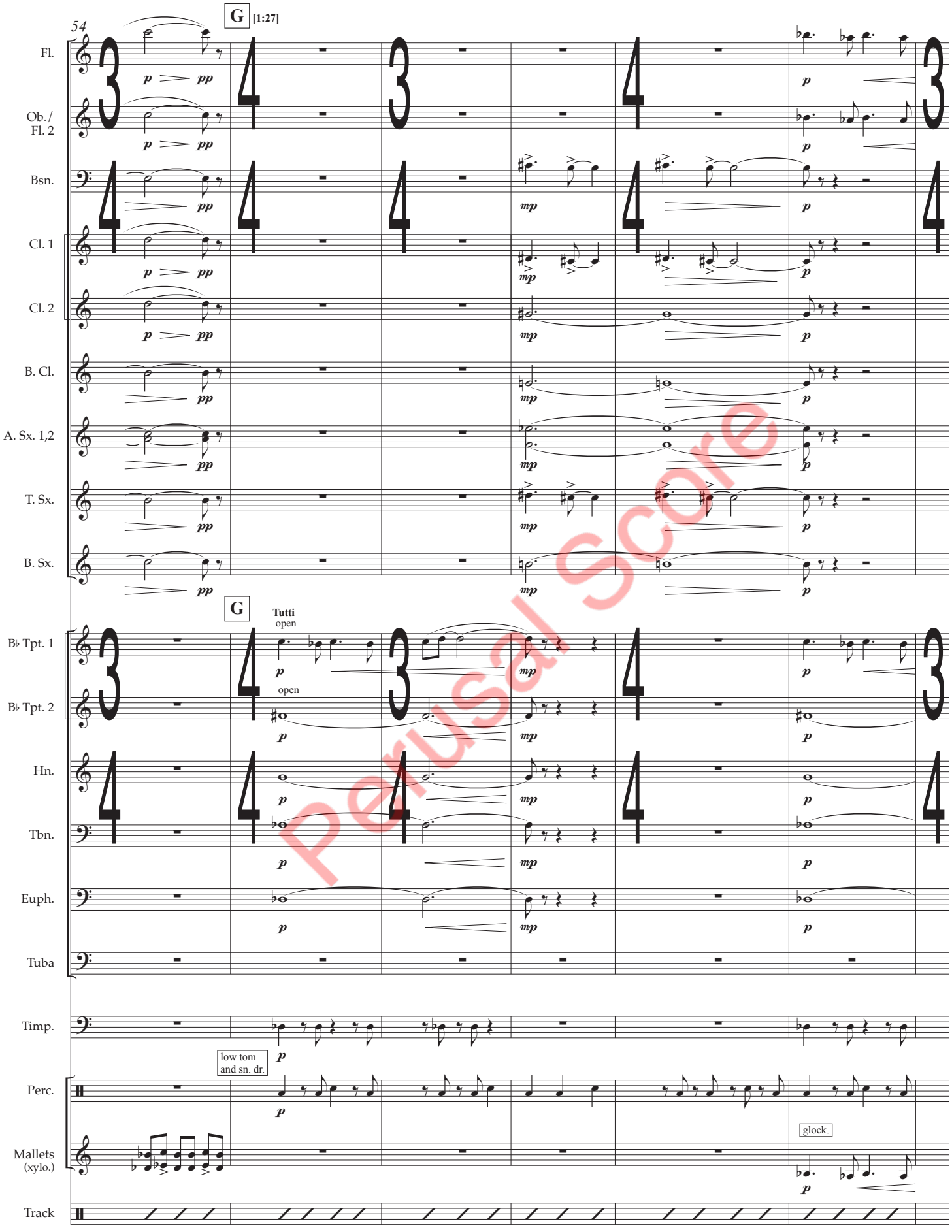


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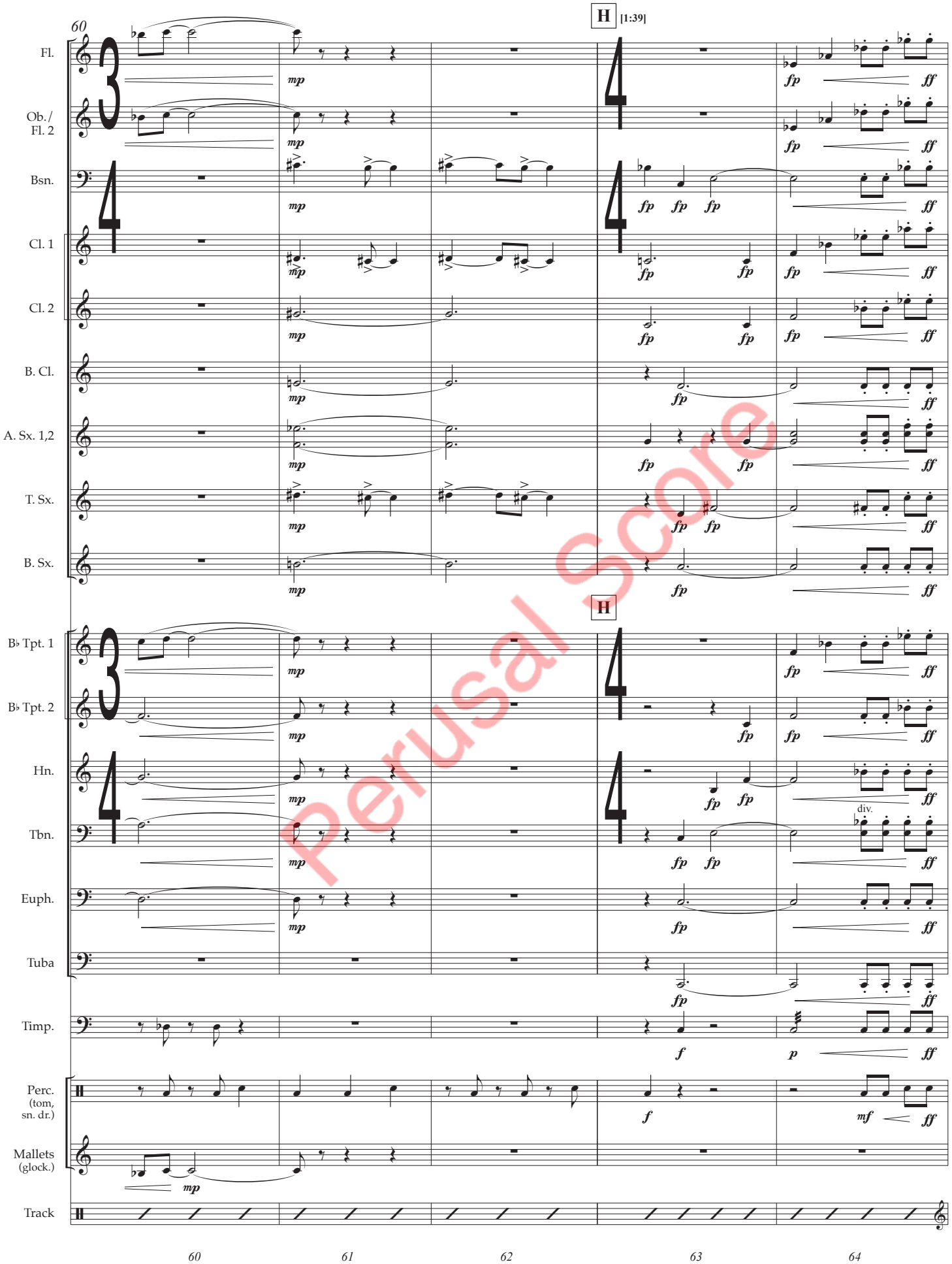


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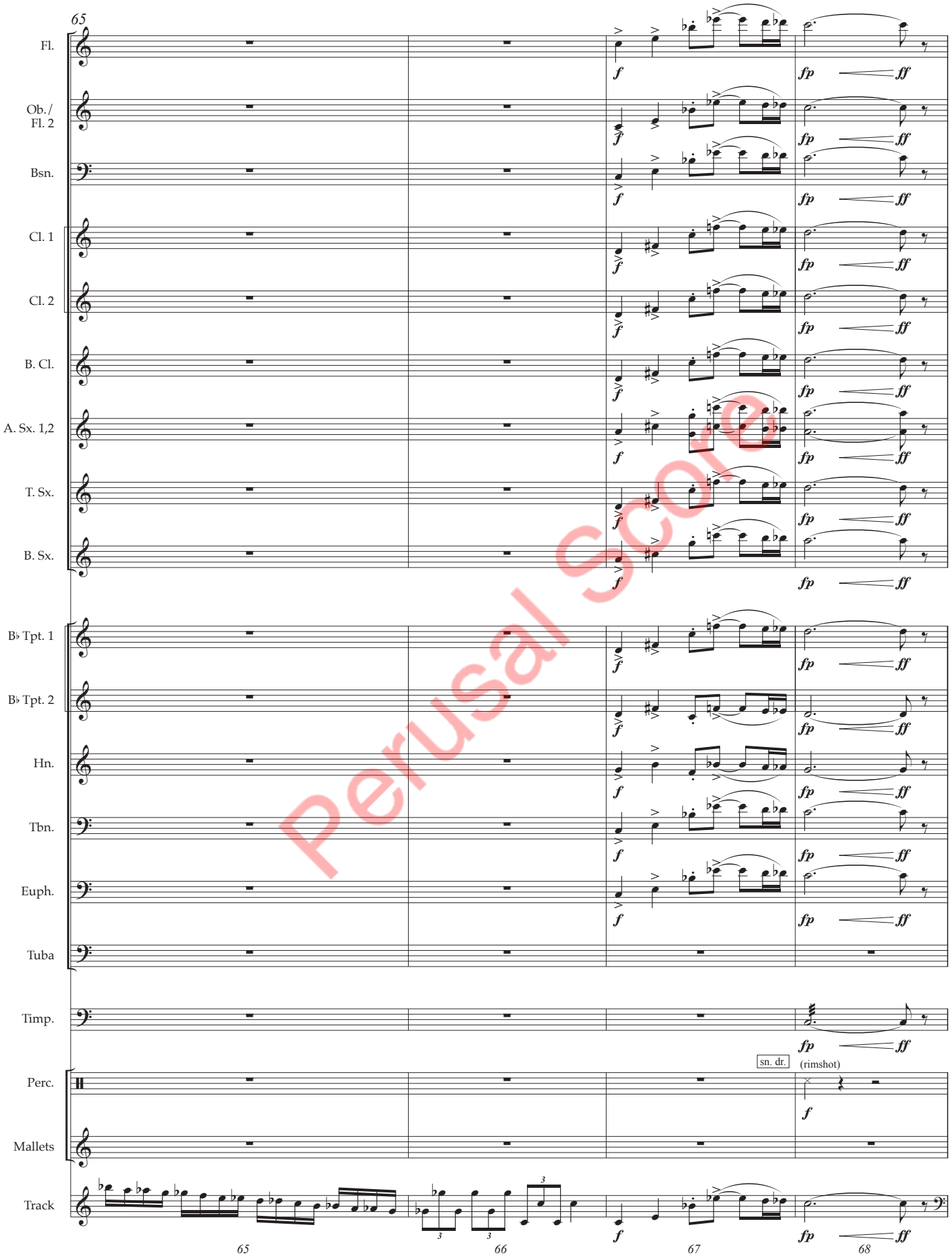


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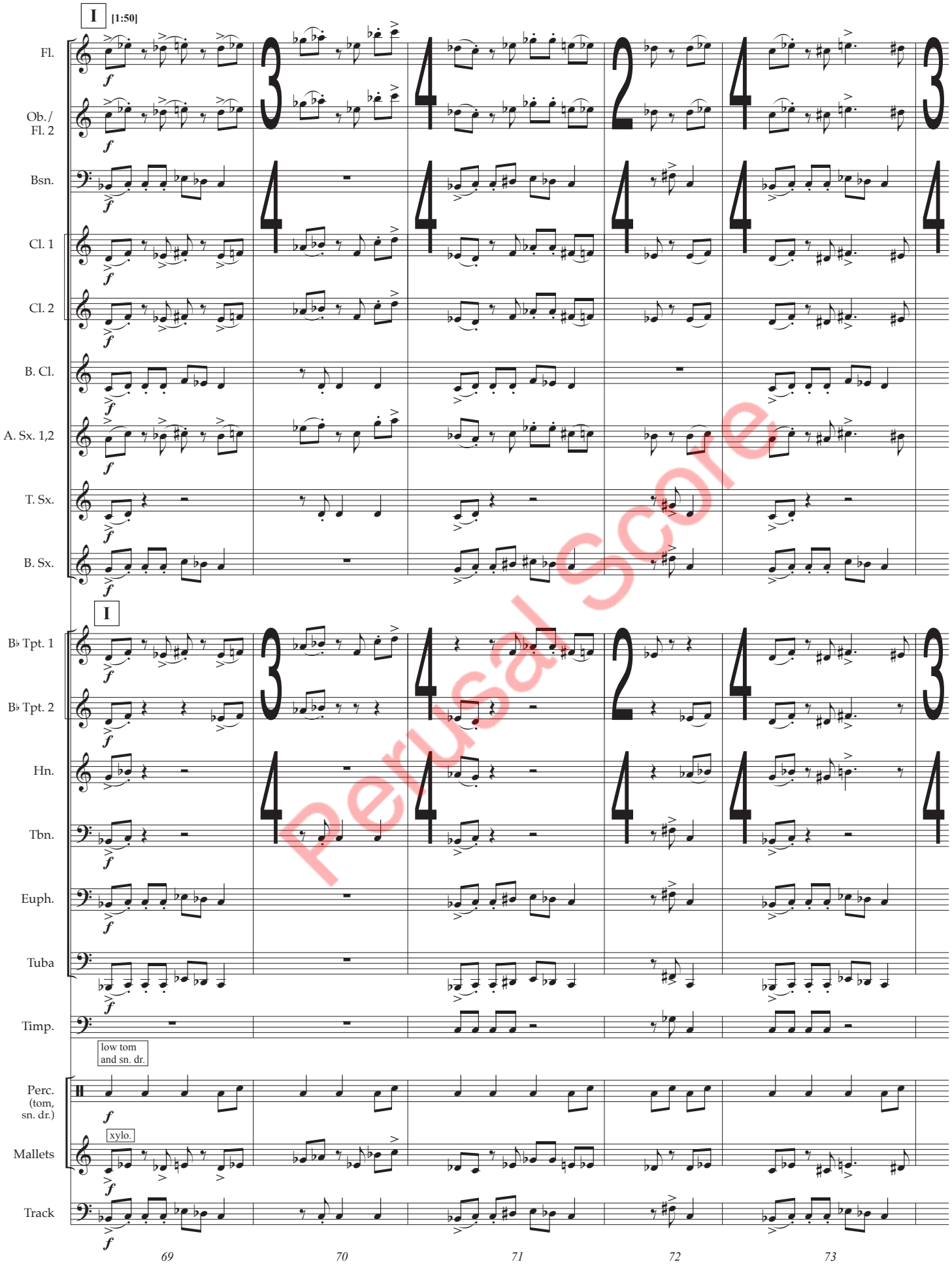


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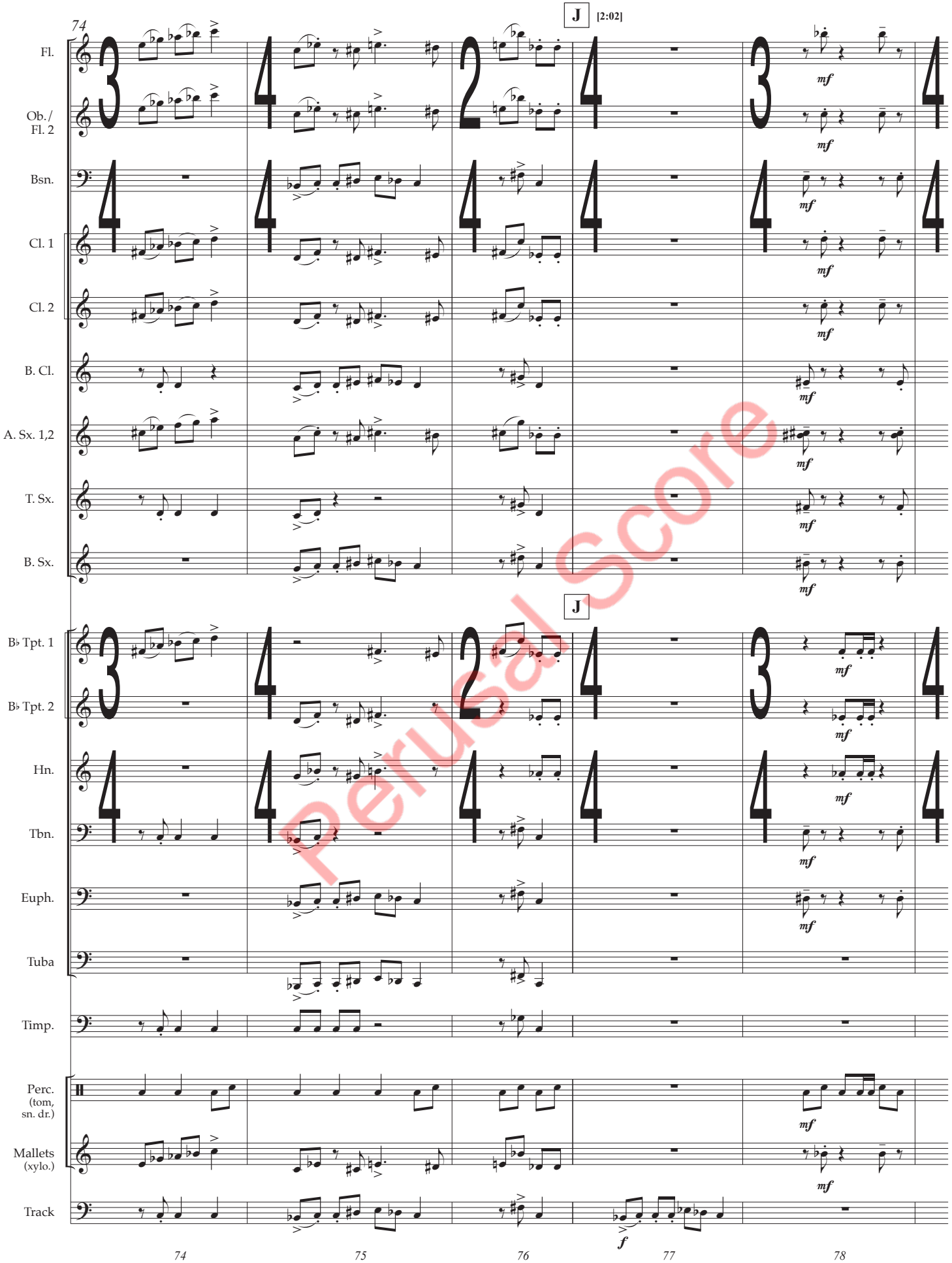


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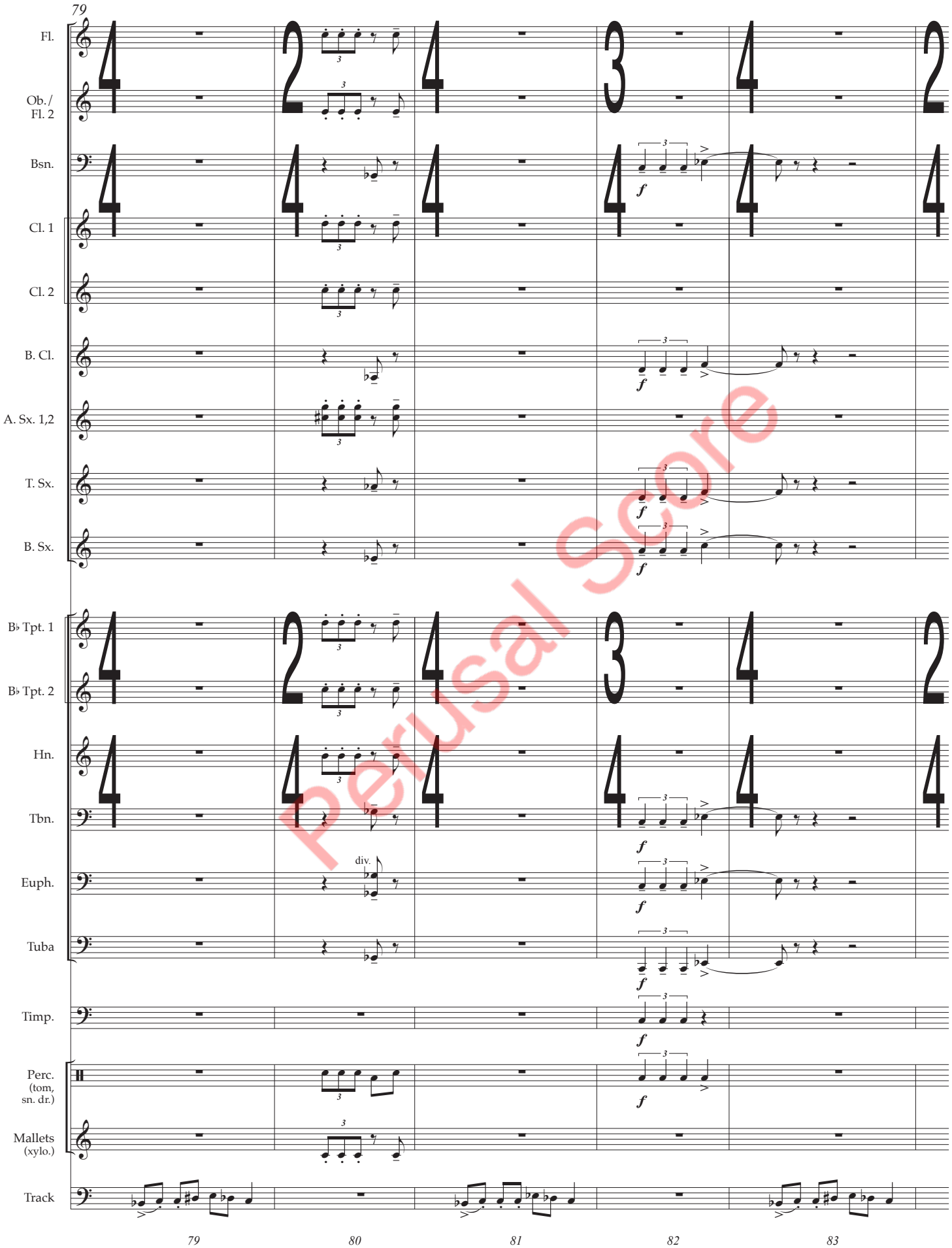


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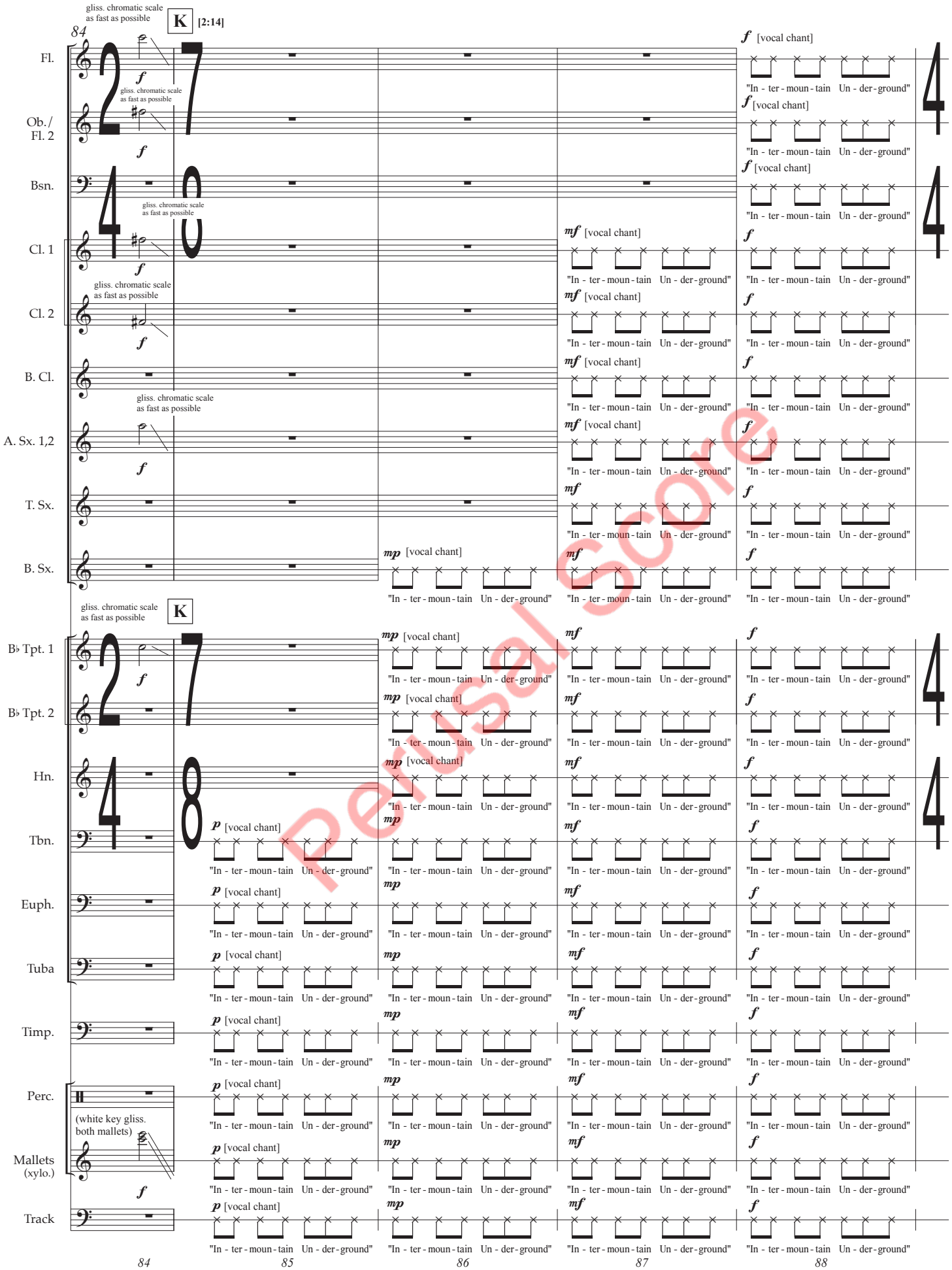


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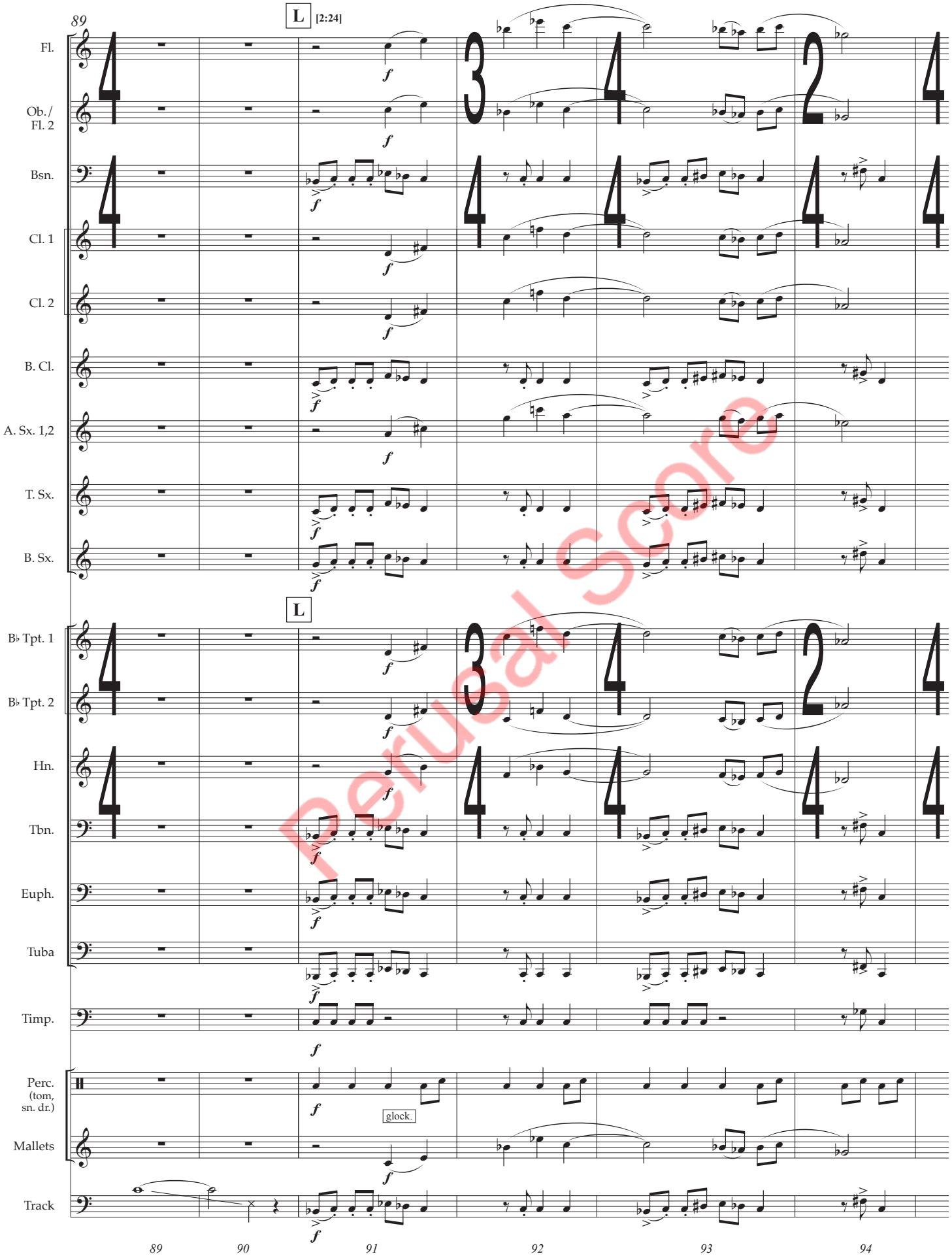


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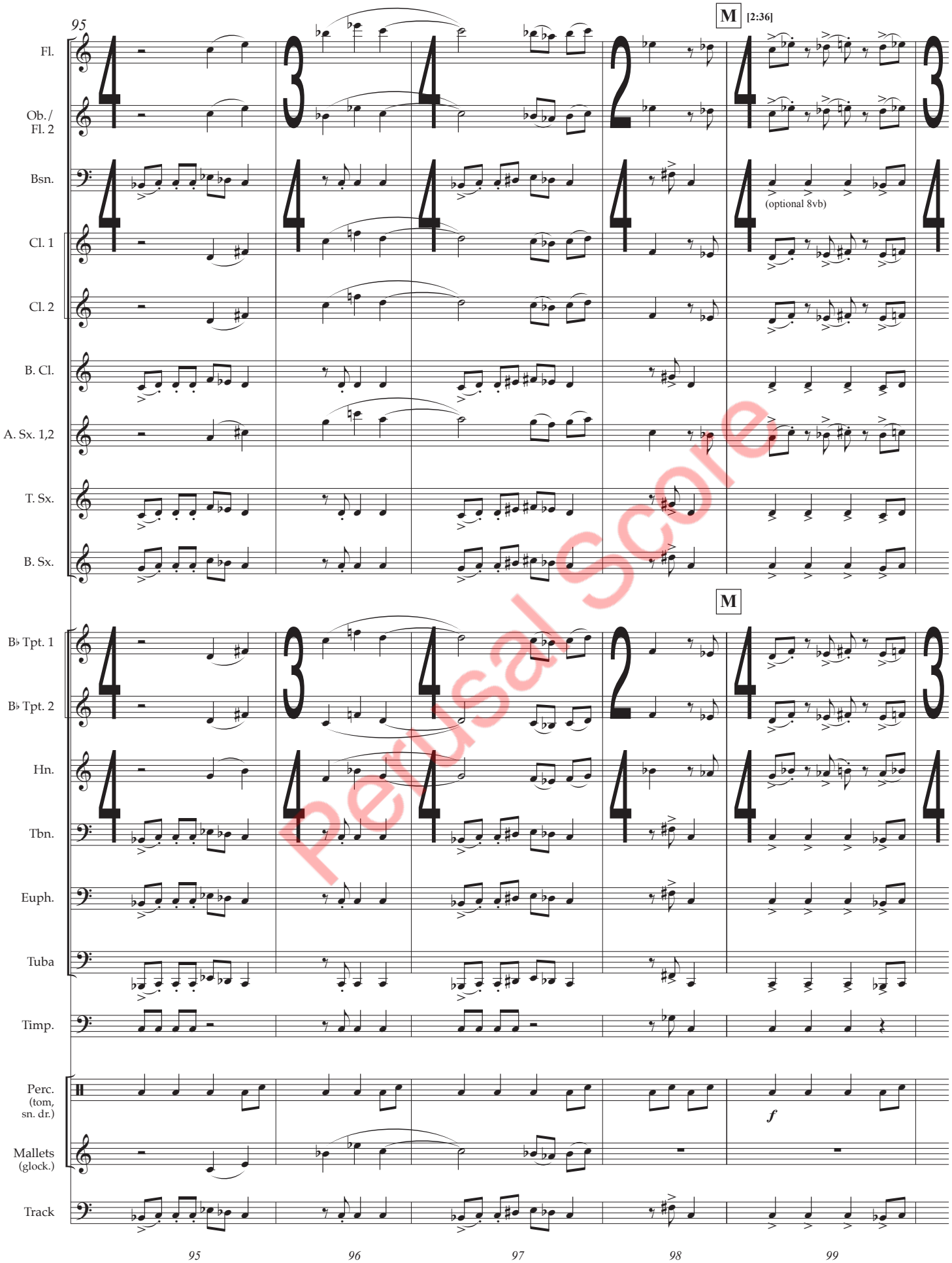


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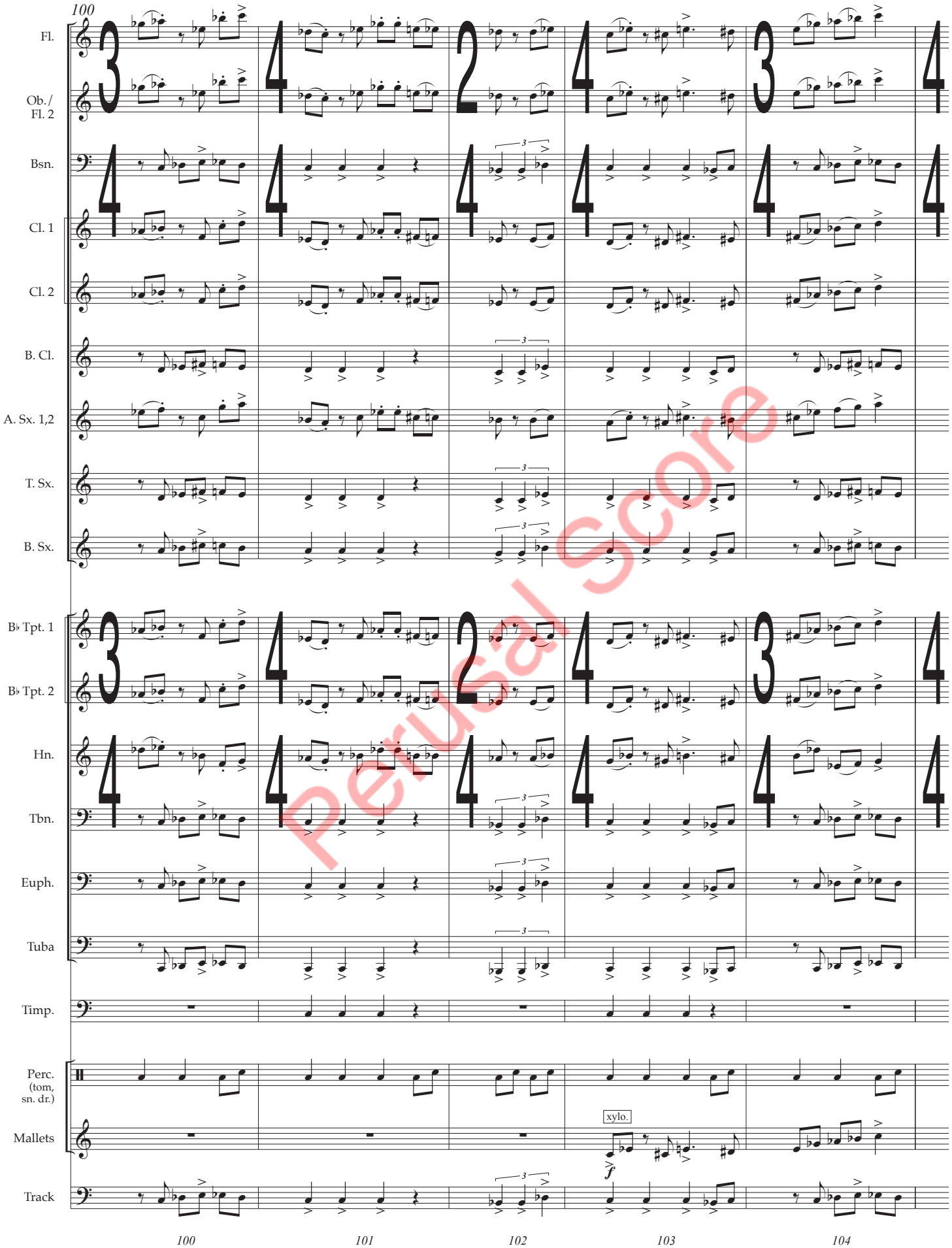


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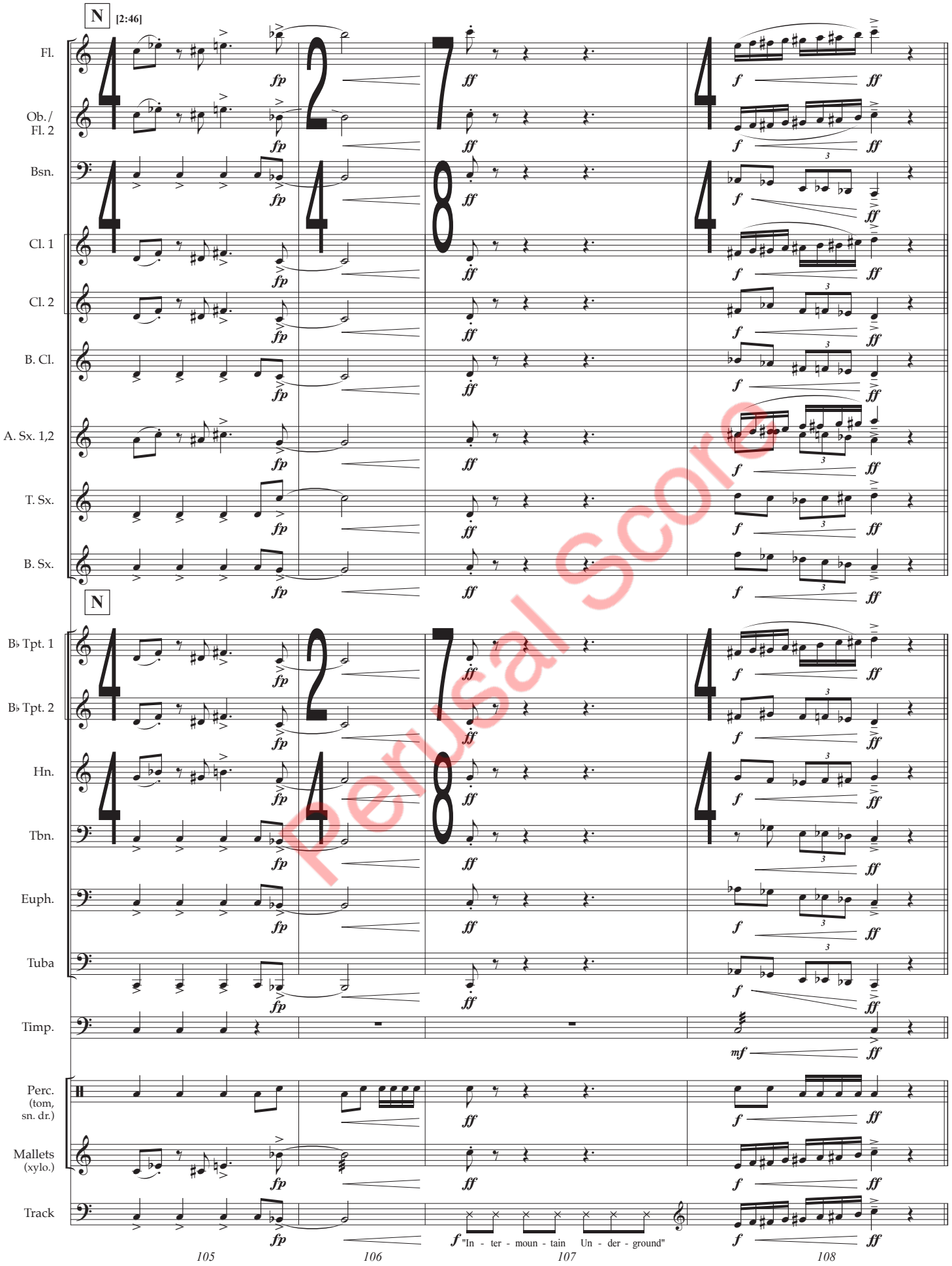


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