PROKHOR PROTASOFF

Four Poems *of* Emily Dickinson

For Mezzo-Soprano and Piano

PREVIEW

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Duration: ca. 20 min.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Certain bars are notated in unconventional time signatures, such as $\frac{2}{12}$.
The denominators of these time signatures represent equal divisions of a whole note; thus, $\frac{2}{12}$ is a bar with 2 beats, each of which is 1/12 of a whole note, or one triplet-eighth note.

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For more information about this piece, visit
https://protasoff.link/four-poems-of-emily-dickinson/

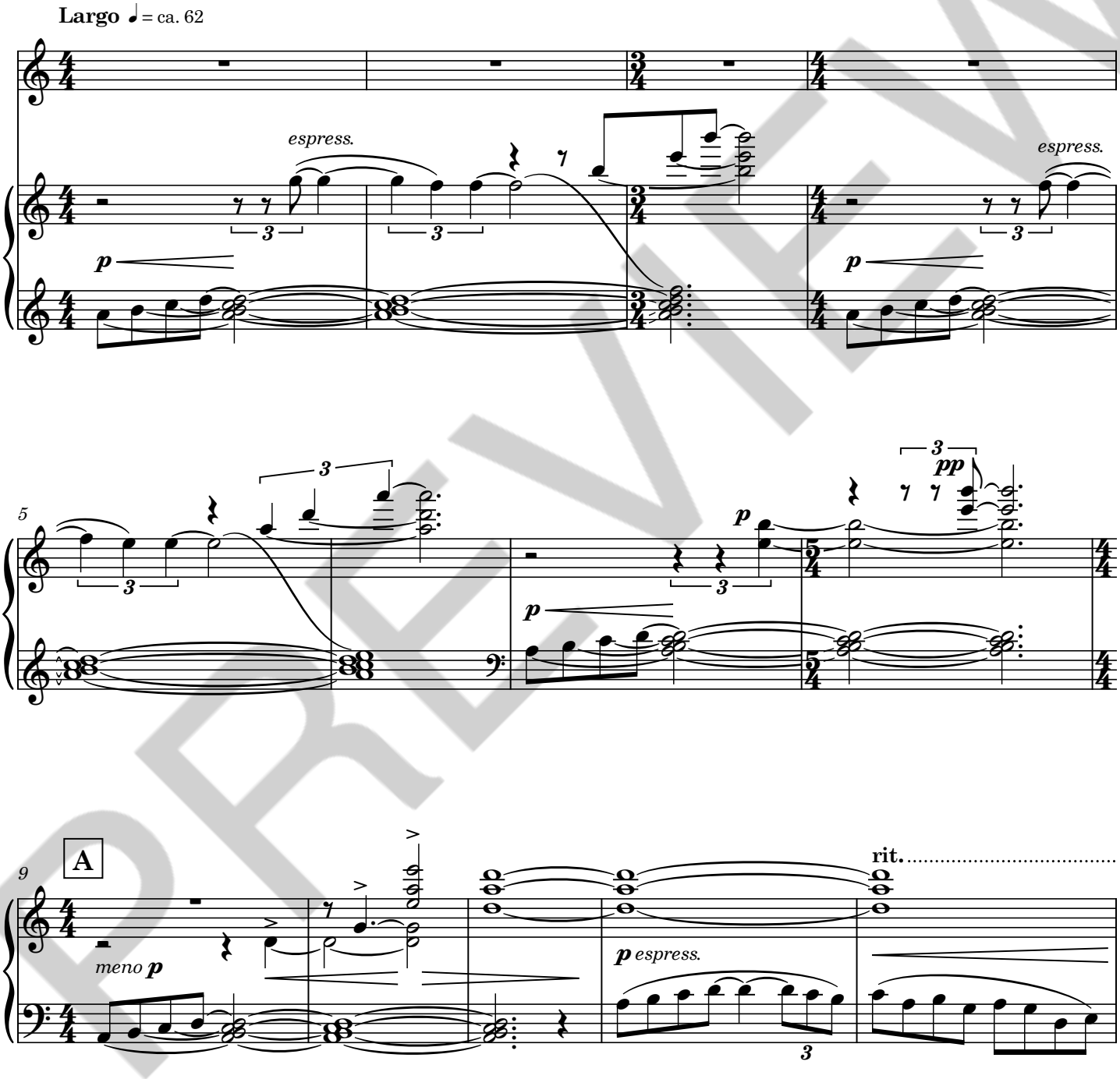
PREVIEW

Four Poems of Emily Dickinson

Emily Dickinson
(1830–1886)

Prokhor Protasoff
(b. 1988)

1. If I Can Stop One Heart from Breaking



PREVIEW

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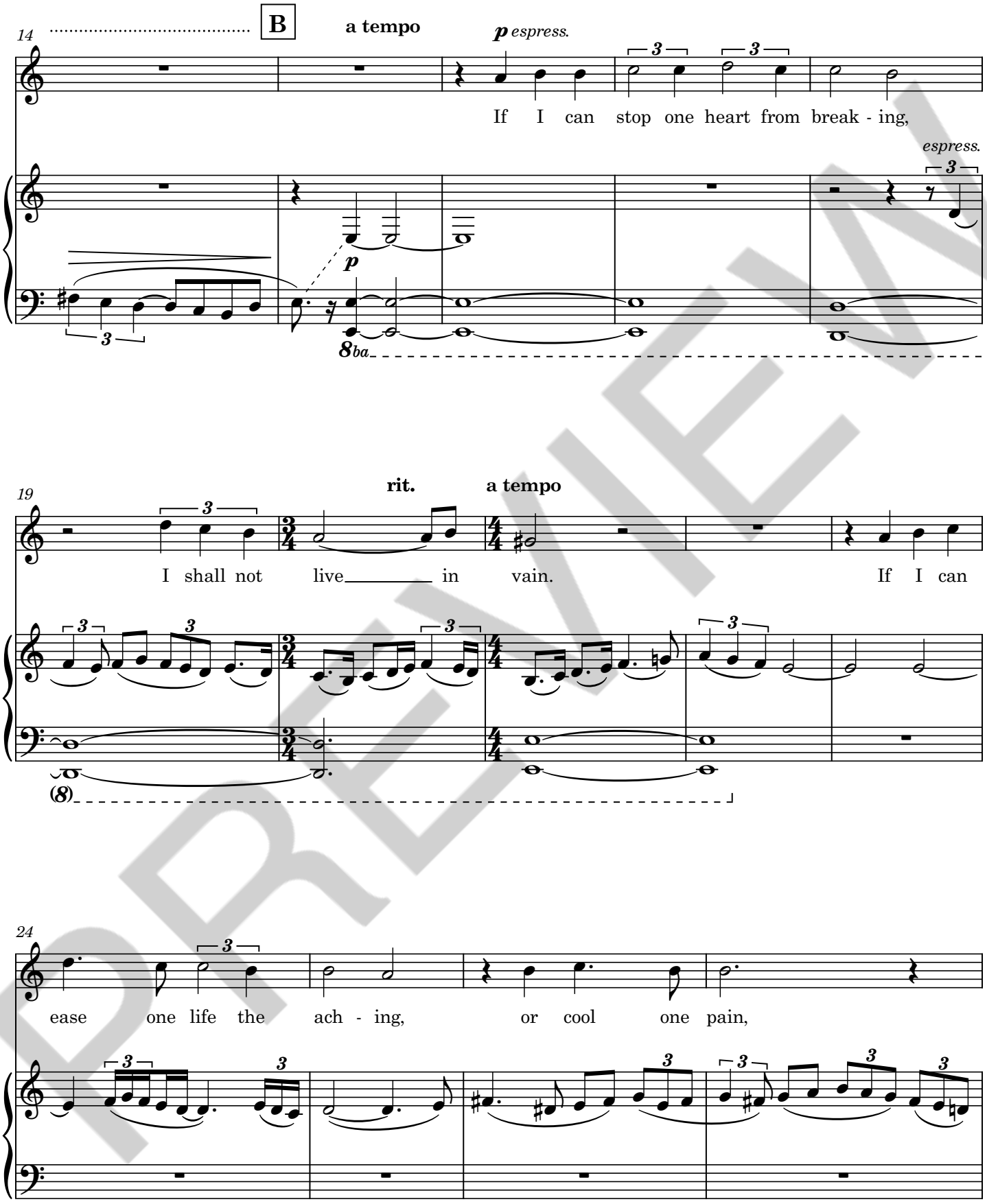
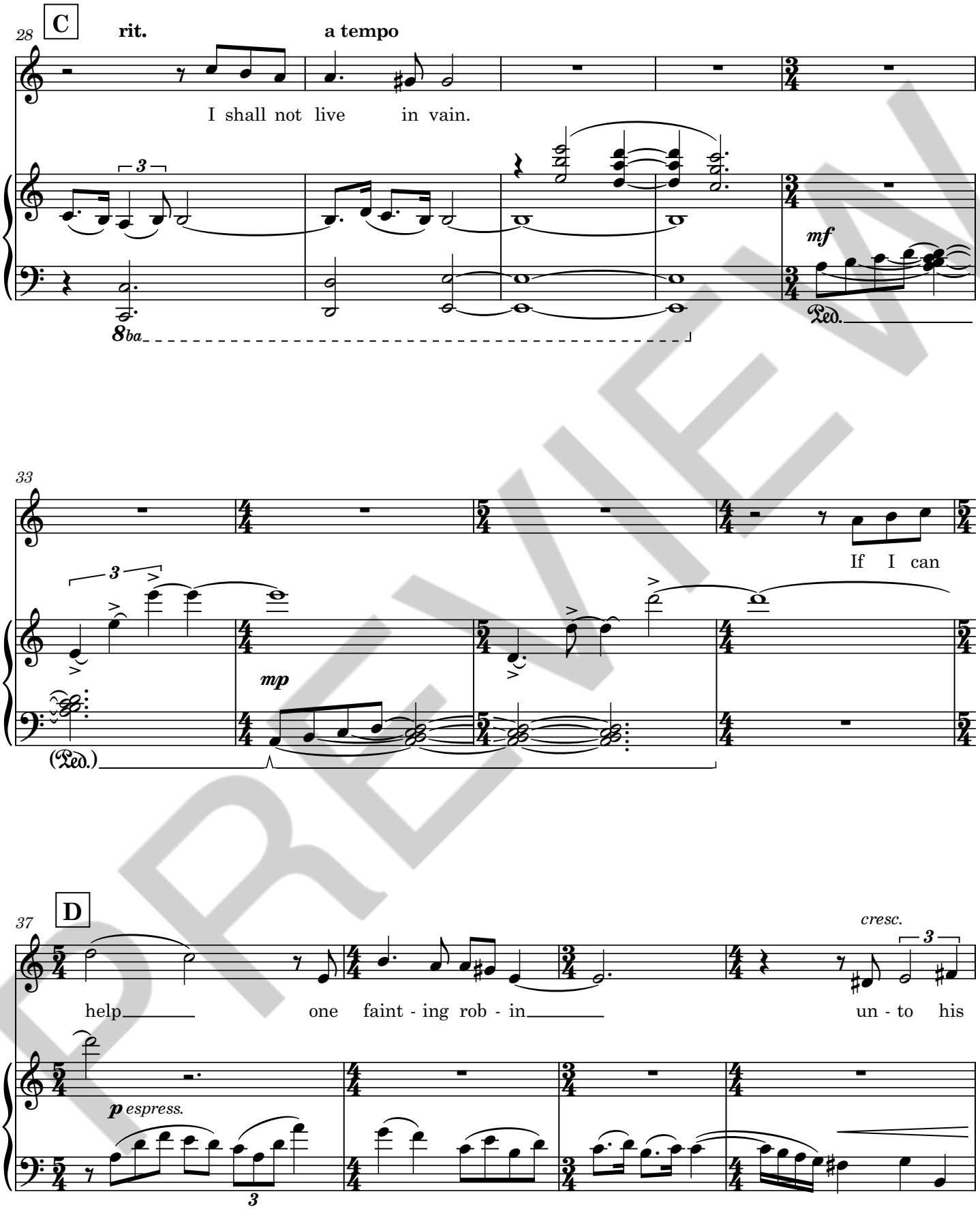
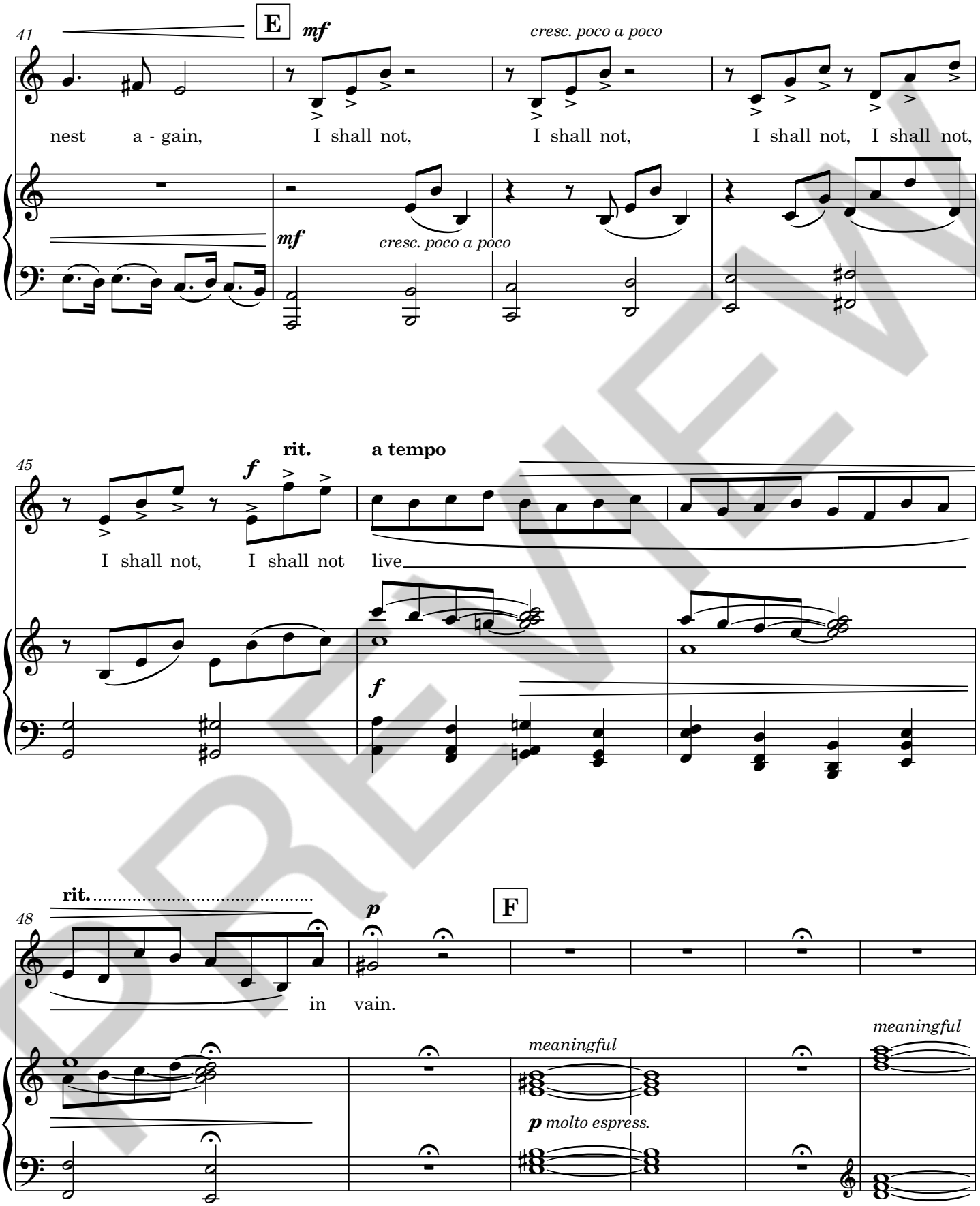

14
B
a tempo
p espress.
If I can stop one heart from break - ing,
espress.
p
8ba
19
rit.
a tempo
I shall not live in vain.
If I can
(8)
24
ease one life the ach - ing,
or cool one pain,

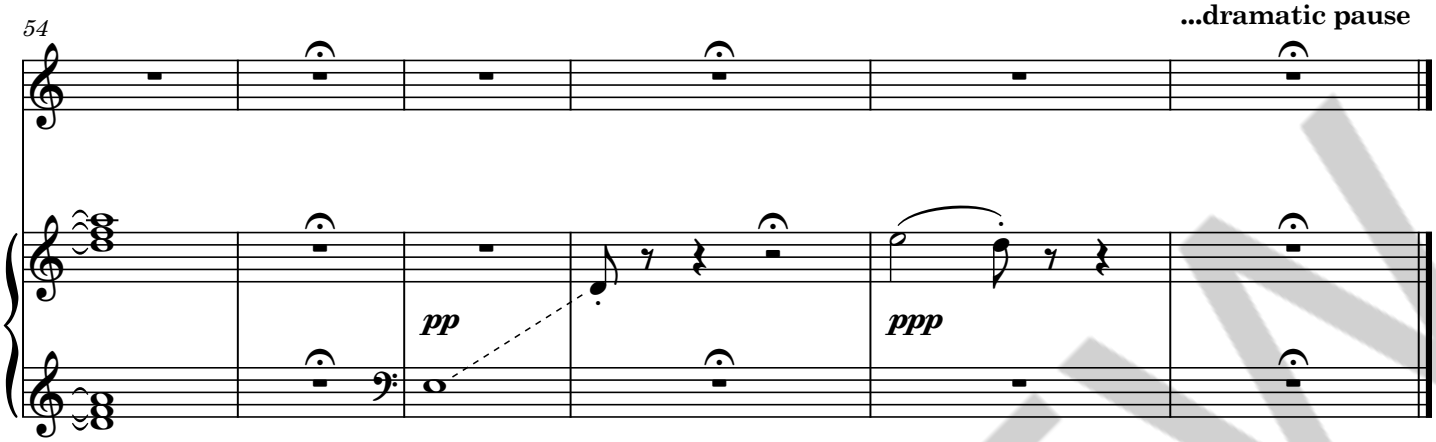
PREVIEW


28
C
rit.
a tempo
I shall not live in vain.
3
8ba
mf
Ped.
33
If I can
3
mp
(Ped.)
37
D
cresc.
help one faint - ing rob - in un - to his
p espress.
3

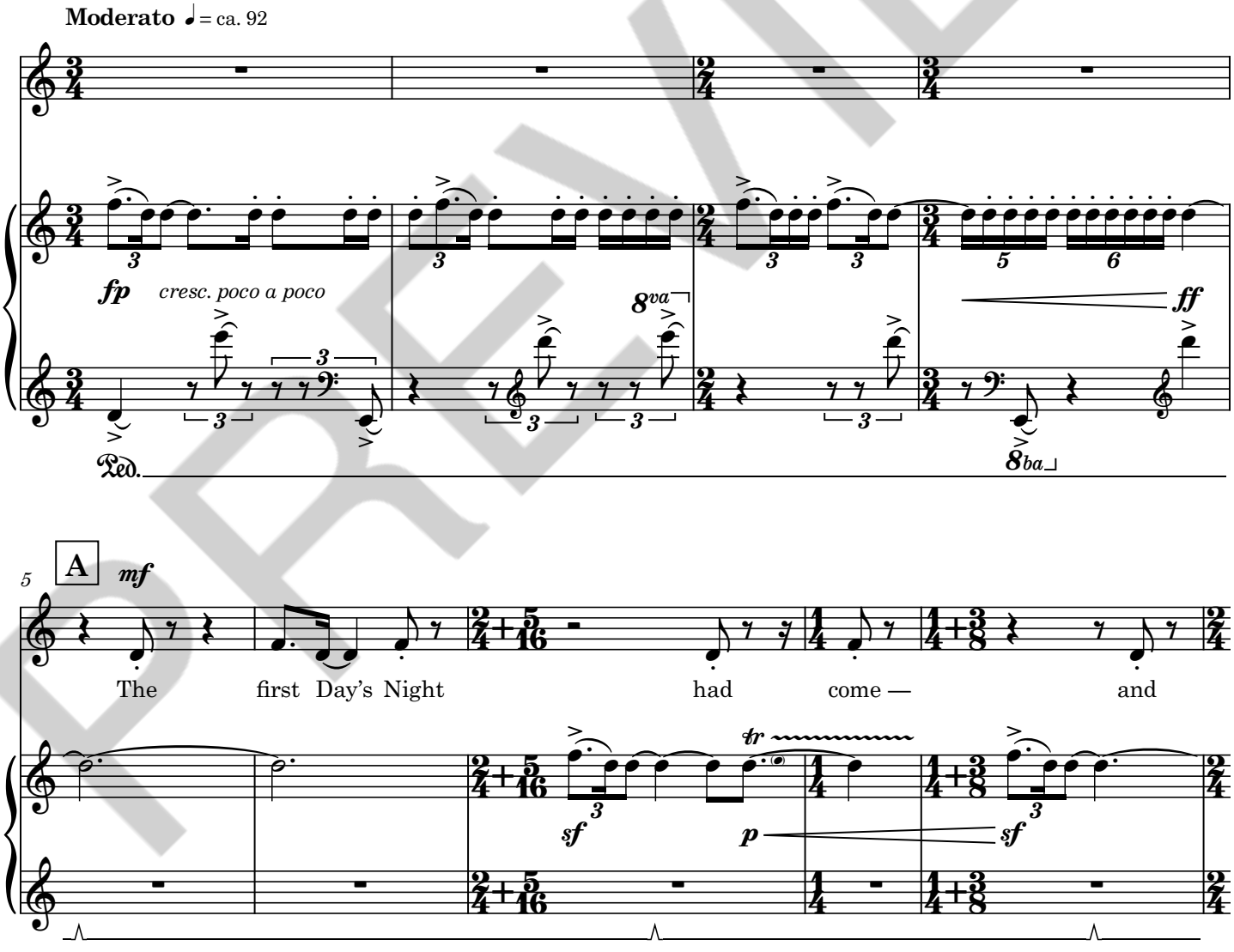
PREVIEW


41
E
mf
cresc. poco a poco
nest a - gain, I shall not, I shall not, I shall not, I shall not,
mf
cresc. poco a poco
45
rit.
a tempo
f
I shall not, I shall not live
f
48
rit.
p
F
in vain.
meaningful
meaningful
p molto espress.

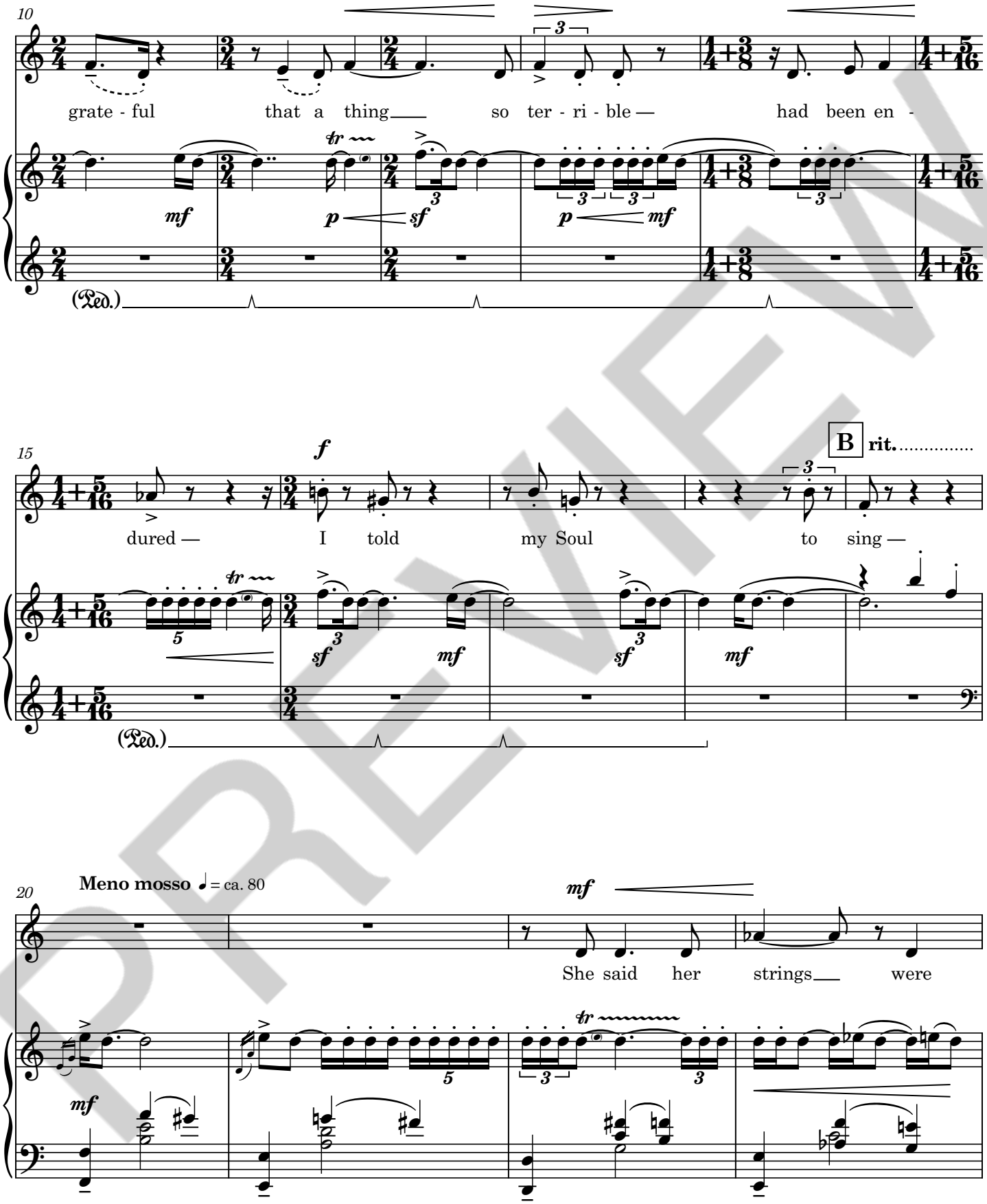
PREVIEW



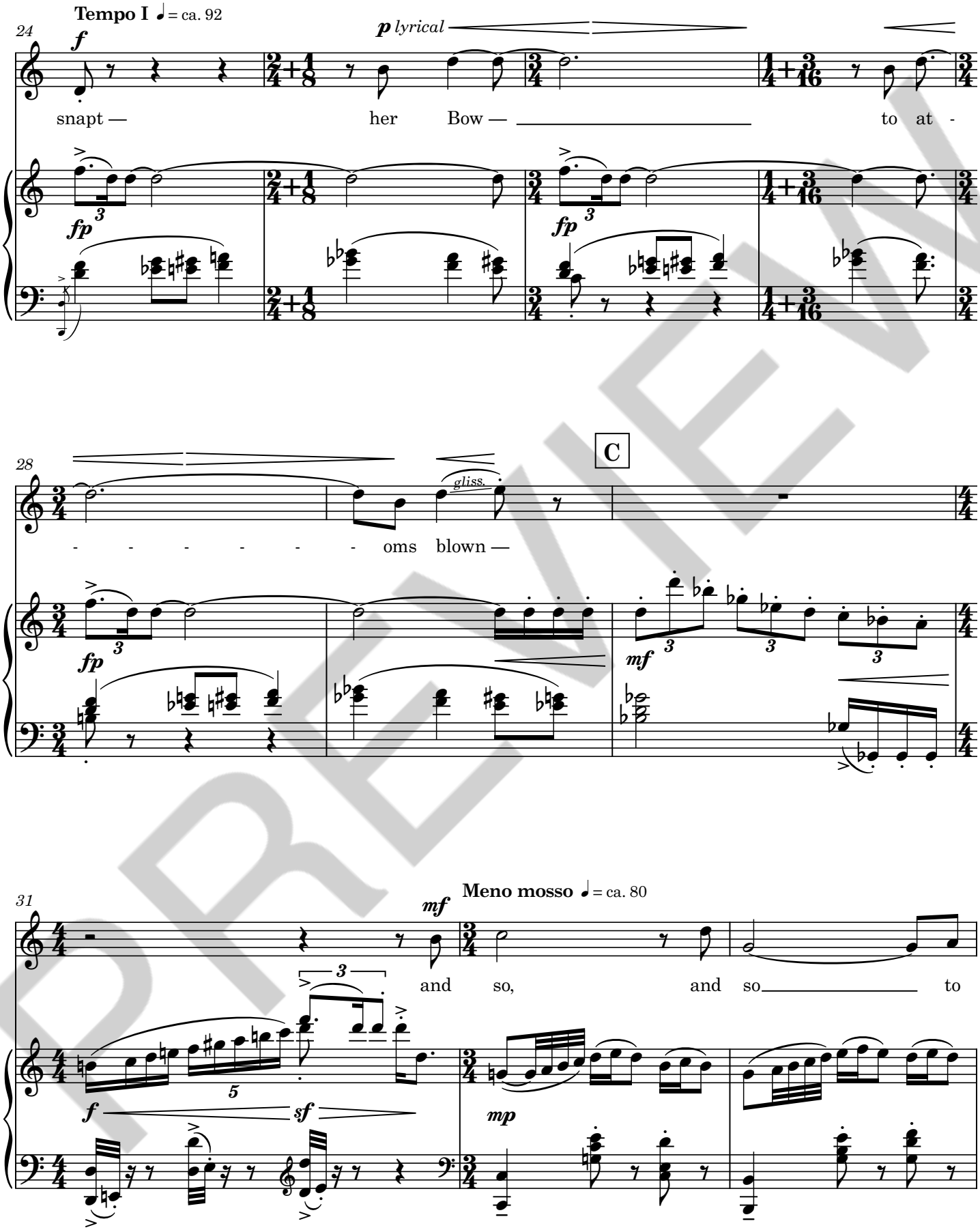
2. Could It Be Madness?



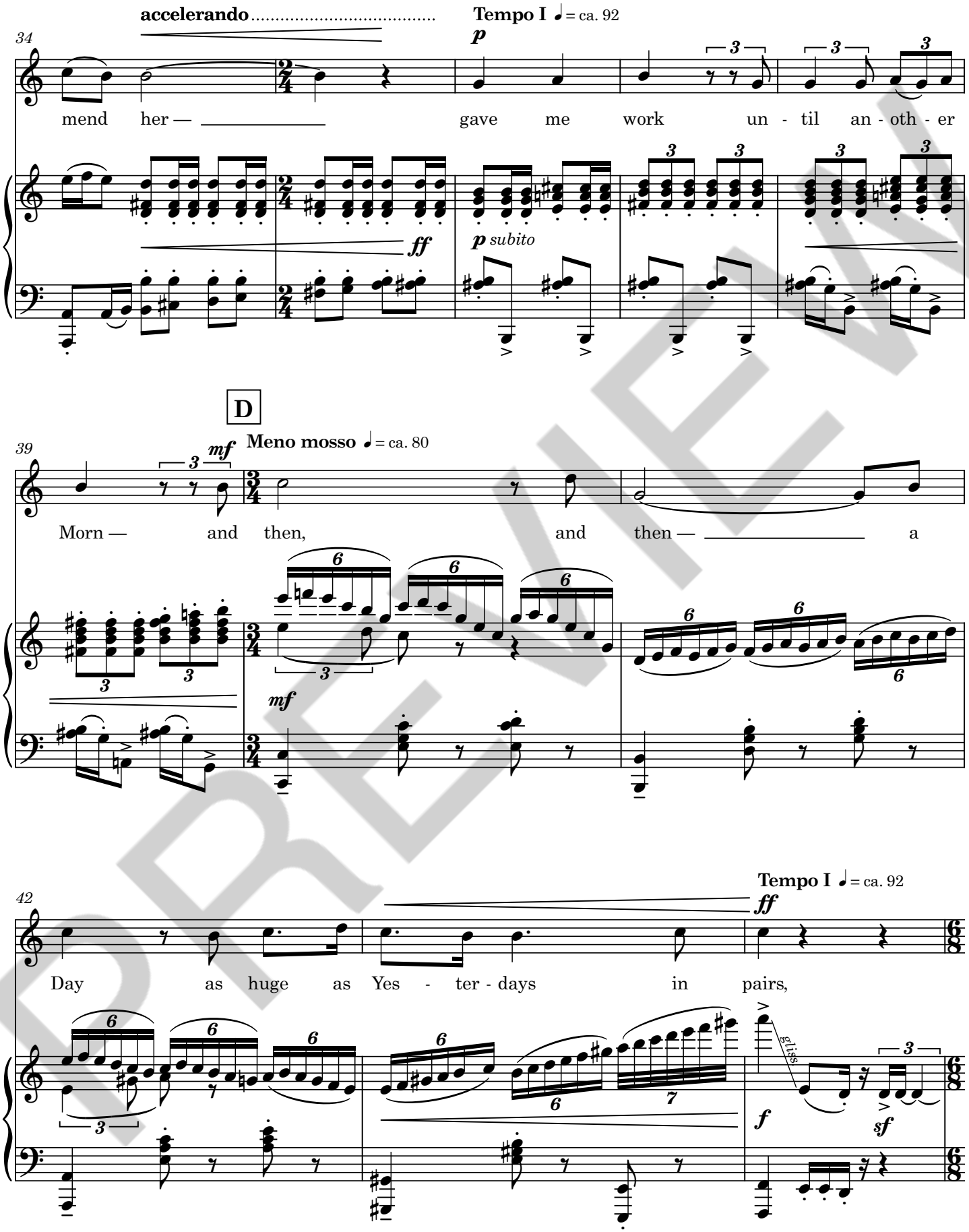
PREVIEW


10
grate - ful that a thing so ter - ri - ble — had been en -
mf
p sf
p mf
(Ped.)
15
dured — I told my Soul to sing —
f
B rit.
sf mf sf mf
(Ped.)
20
Meno mosso ♩ = ca. 80
mf
She said her strings were
mf

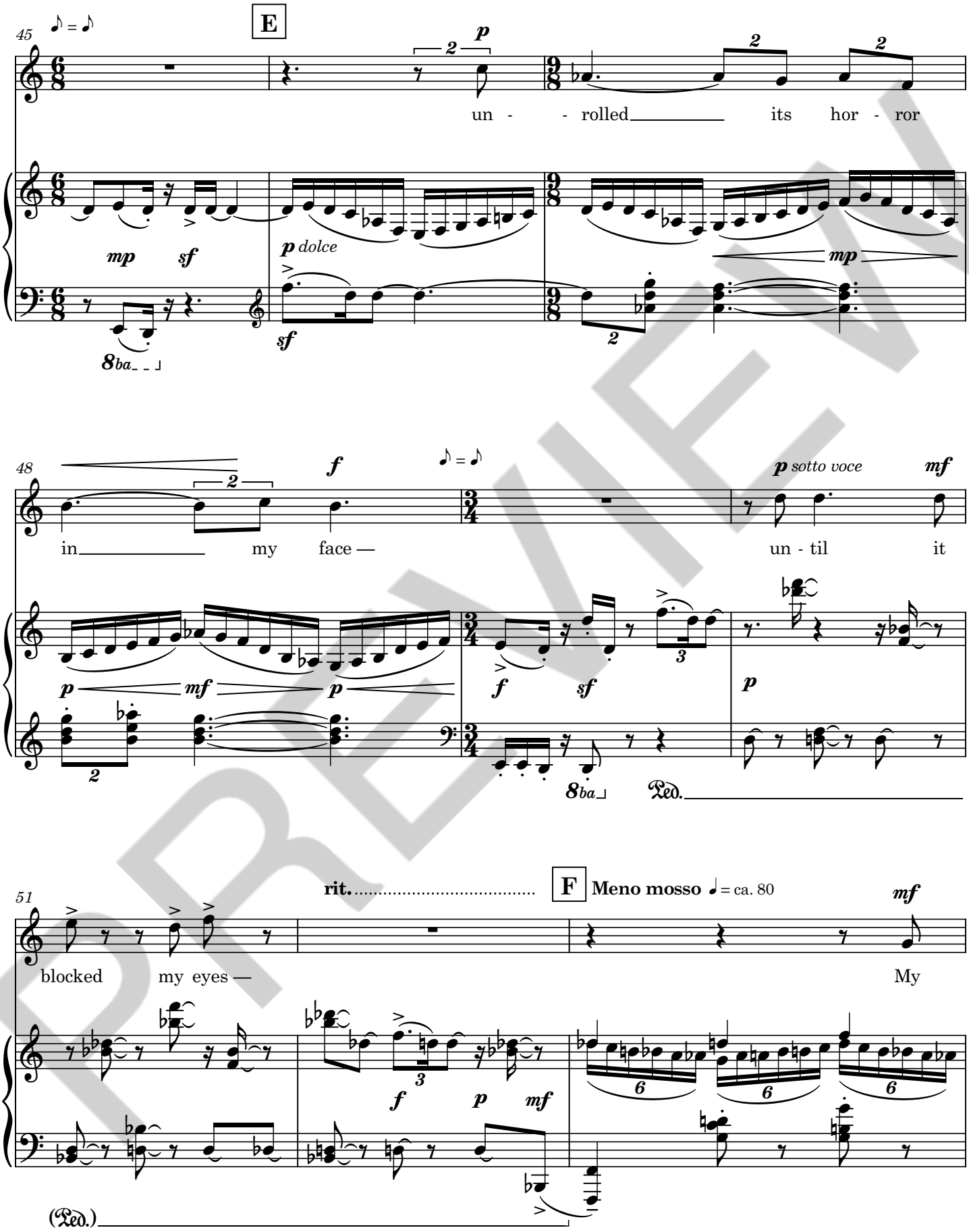
PREVIEW


Tempo I ♩ = ca. 92
24
f
p lyrical
snapt — her Bow — to at -
fp
fp
28
C
gliss.
- - - - - - - oms blown —
fp
mf
31
mf
Meno mosso ♩ = ca. 80
and so, and so to
f
sf
mp

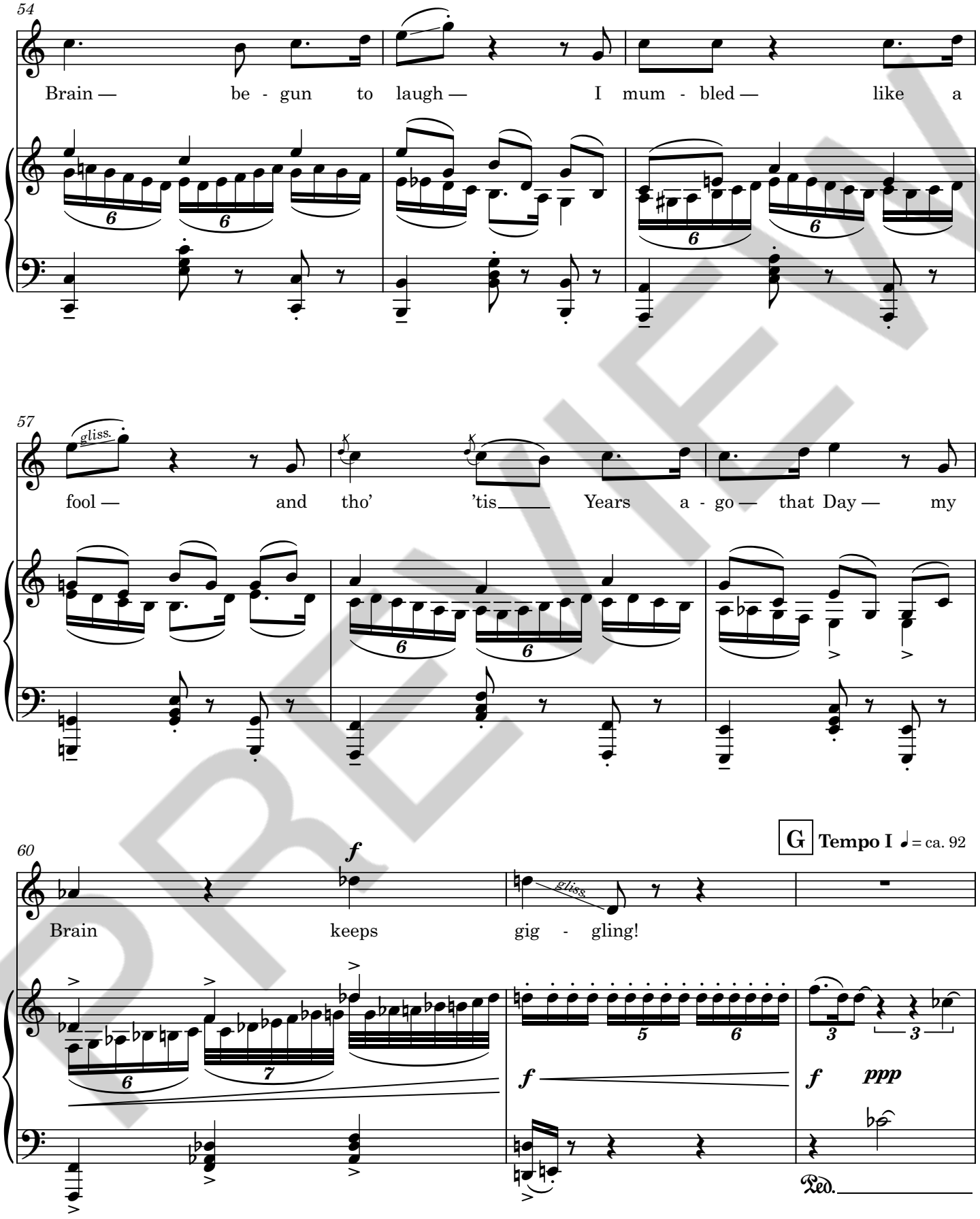
PREVIEW


accelerando
Tempo I ♩ = ca. 92
34
p
mend her — gave me work un - til an - oth - er
ff
p subito
D
39
mf
Meno mosso ♩ = ca. 80
Morn — and then, and then — a
mf
42
Tempo I ♩ = ca. 92
ff
Day as huge as Yes - ter - days in pairs,
gliss.
f
sf

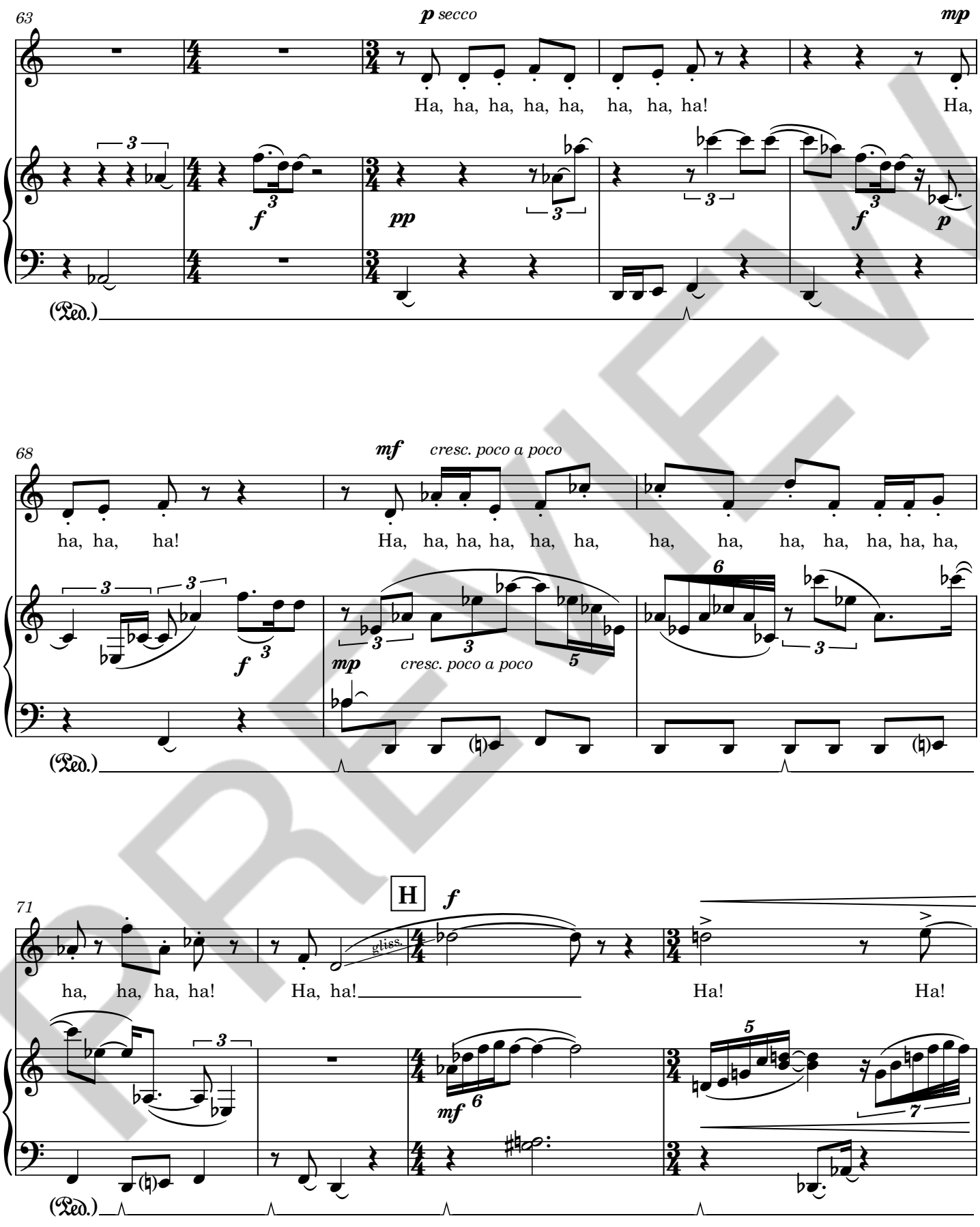
PREVIEW


45
E
un - - rolled its hor - ror
48
in my face — un - til it
51
rit.
F
Meno mosso ♩= ca. 80
blocked my eyes — My

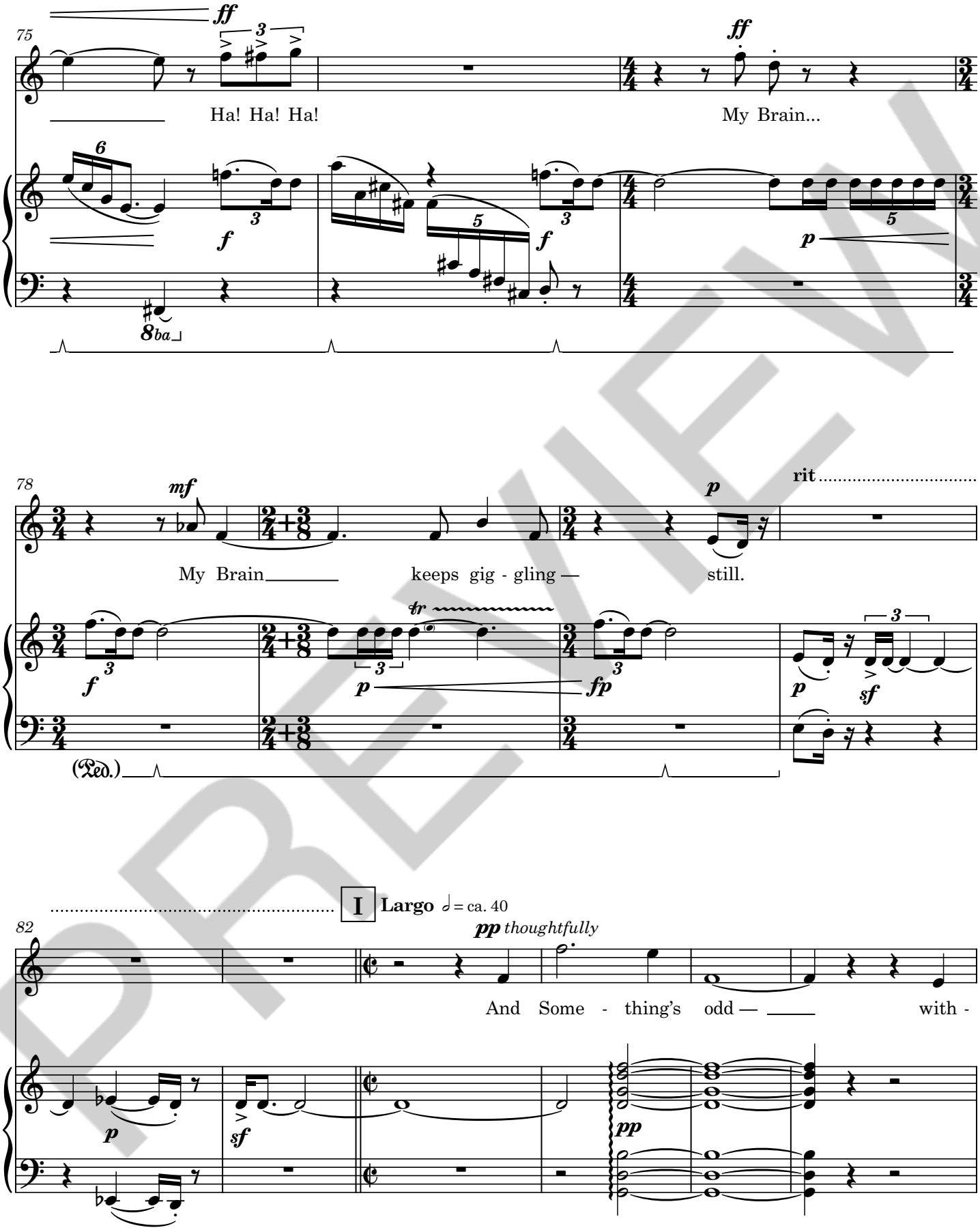
PREVIEW


54
Brain — be - gun to laugh — I mum - bled — like a
57
gliss.
fool — and tho' 'tis Years a - go — that Day — my
60
f
Brain keeps gig - gling!
gliss.
G
Tempo I ♩= ca. 92
f
f ppp
Ped.

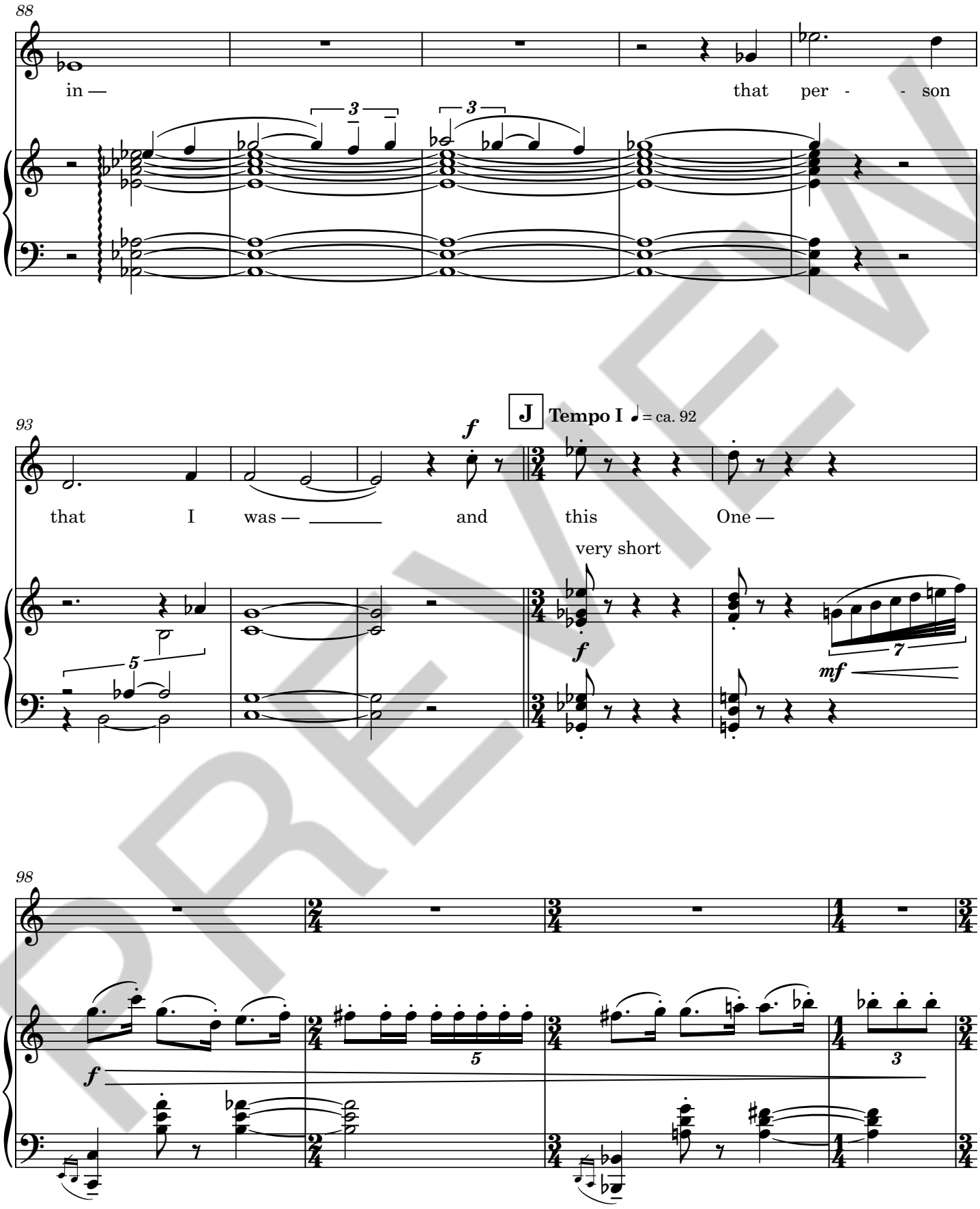
PREVIEW


63
p secco
mp
Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!
Ha,
f
pp
f
p
(Ped.)
68
mf
cresc. poco a poco
ha, ha, ha!
Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha,
ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha,
f
mp
cresc. poco a poco
(Ped.)
71
H
f
ha, ha, ha, ha!
Ha, ha!
gliss.
Ha!
Ha!
mf
(Ped.)

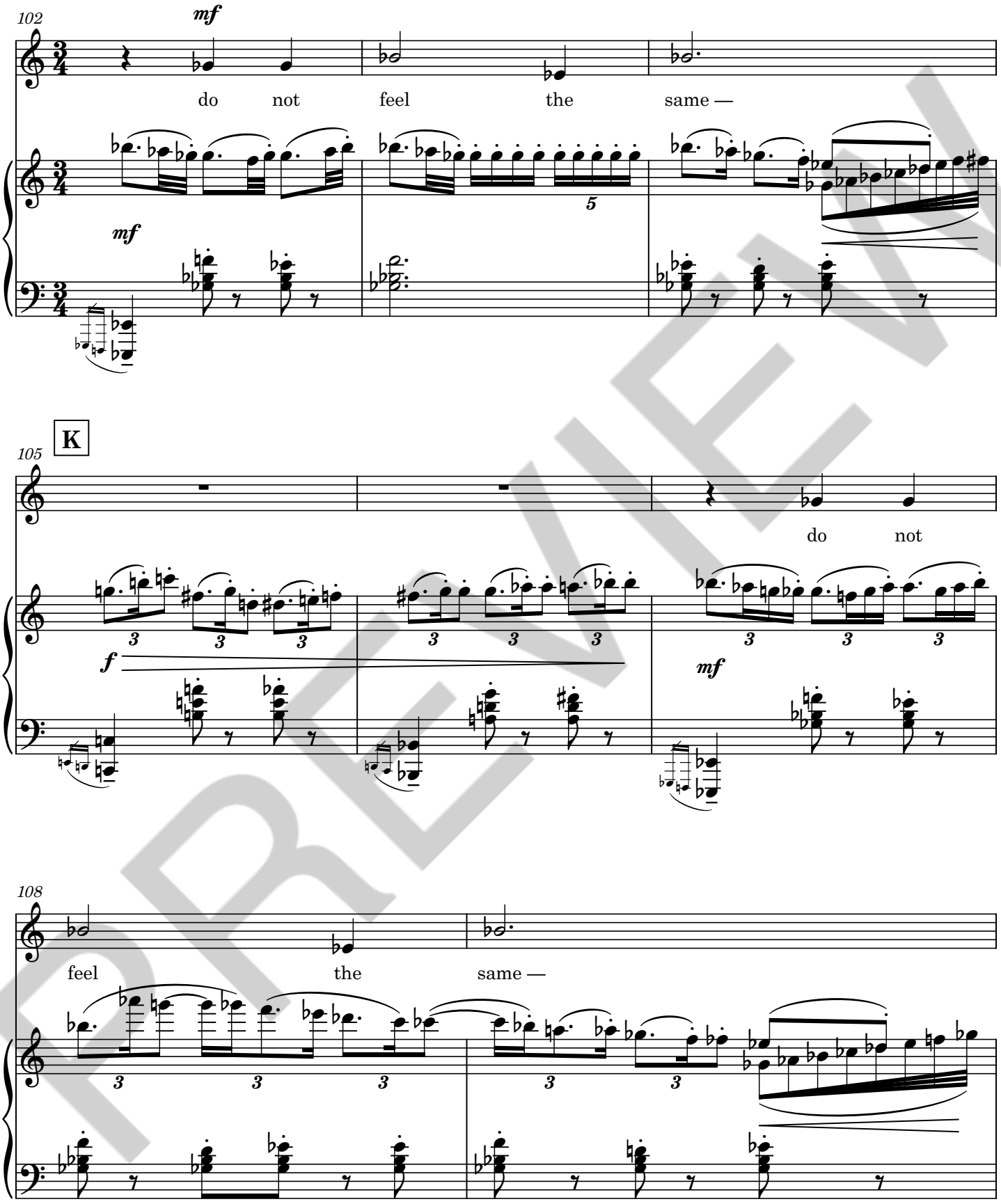
PREVIEW


75
ff
Ha! Ha! Ha!
My Brain...
8ba
78
mf
My Brain
keeps gig - gling —
still.
rit
(Ped.)
I
Largo ♩ = ca. 40
82
pp thoughtfully
And Some - thing's odd —
with -

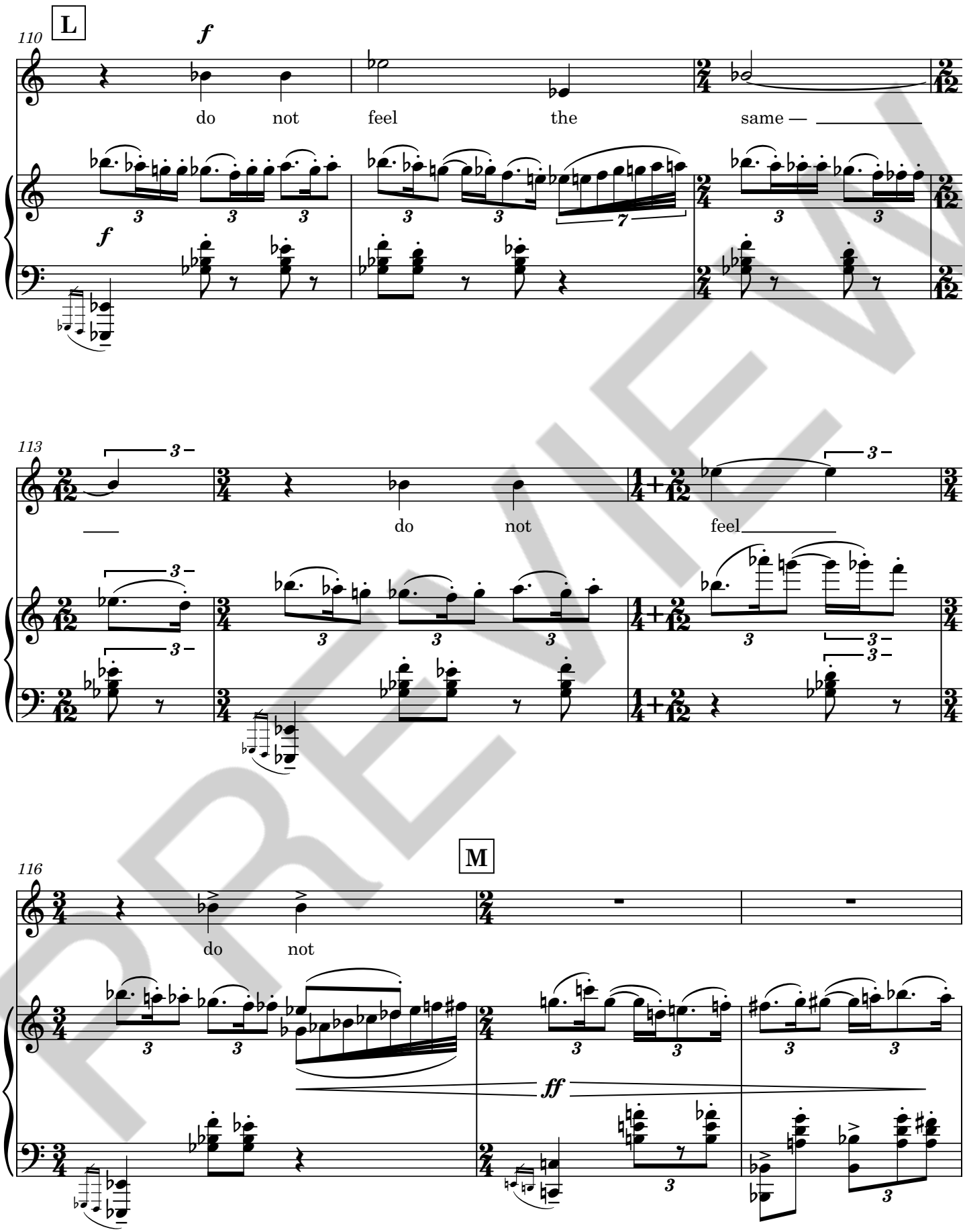
PREVIEW


88
in —
that per - - son
93
that I was — and this One —
J
Tempo I ♩ = ca. 92
very short
98

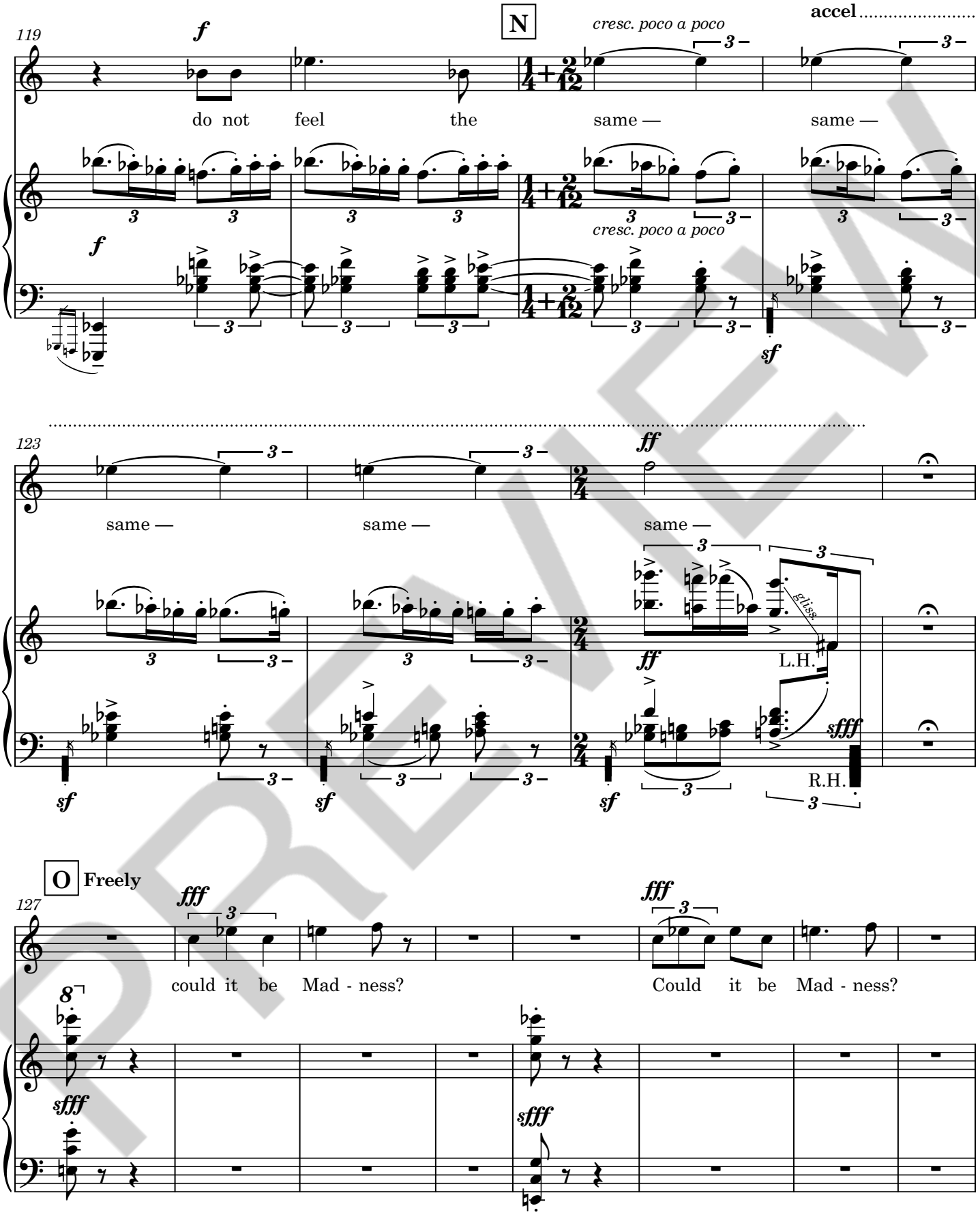
PREVIEW


102
mf
do not feel the same —
mf
5
105
K
do not
f
mf
108
feel the same —

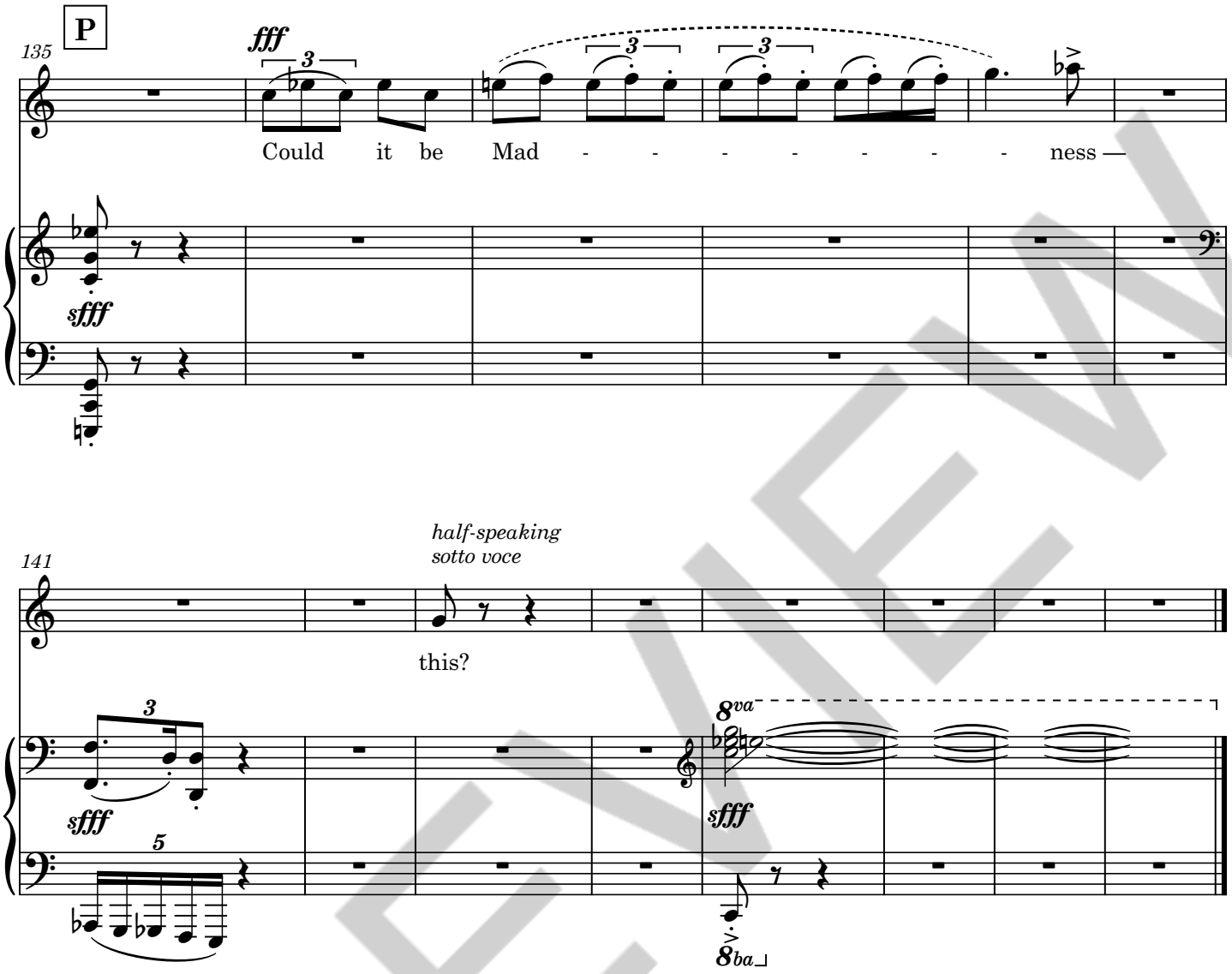
PREVIEW



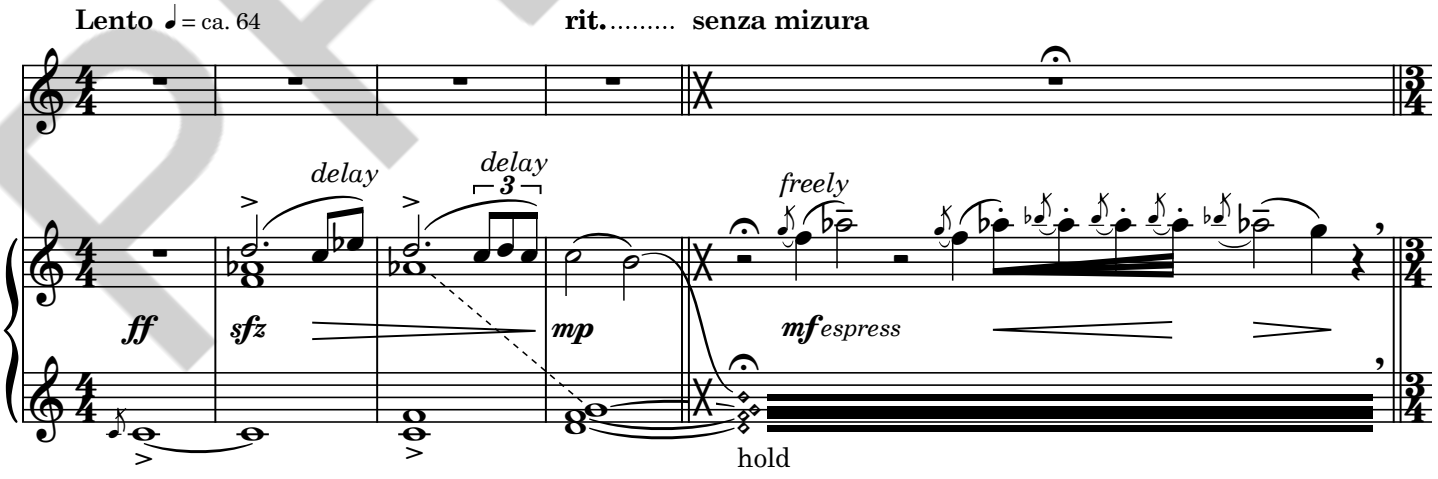
PREVIEW


119
f
N
cresc. poco a poco
accel
do not feel the same — same —
cresc. poco a poco
sf
123
ff
same — same — same —
gliss.
L.H.
R.H.
sf
sfff
O
Freely
127
fff
could it be Mad - ness?
Could it be Mad - ness?
8
sfff

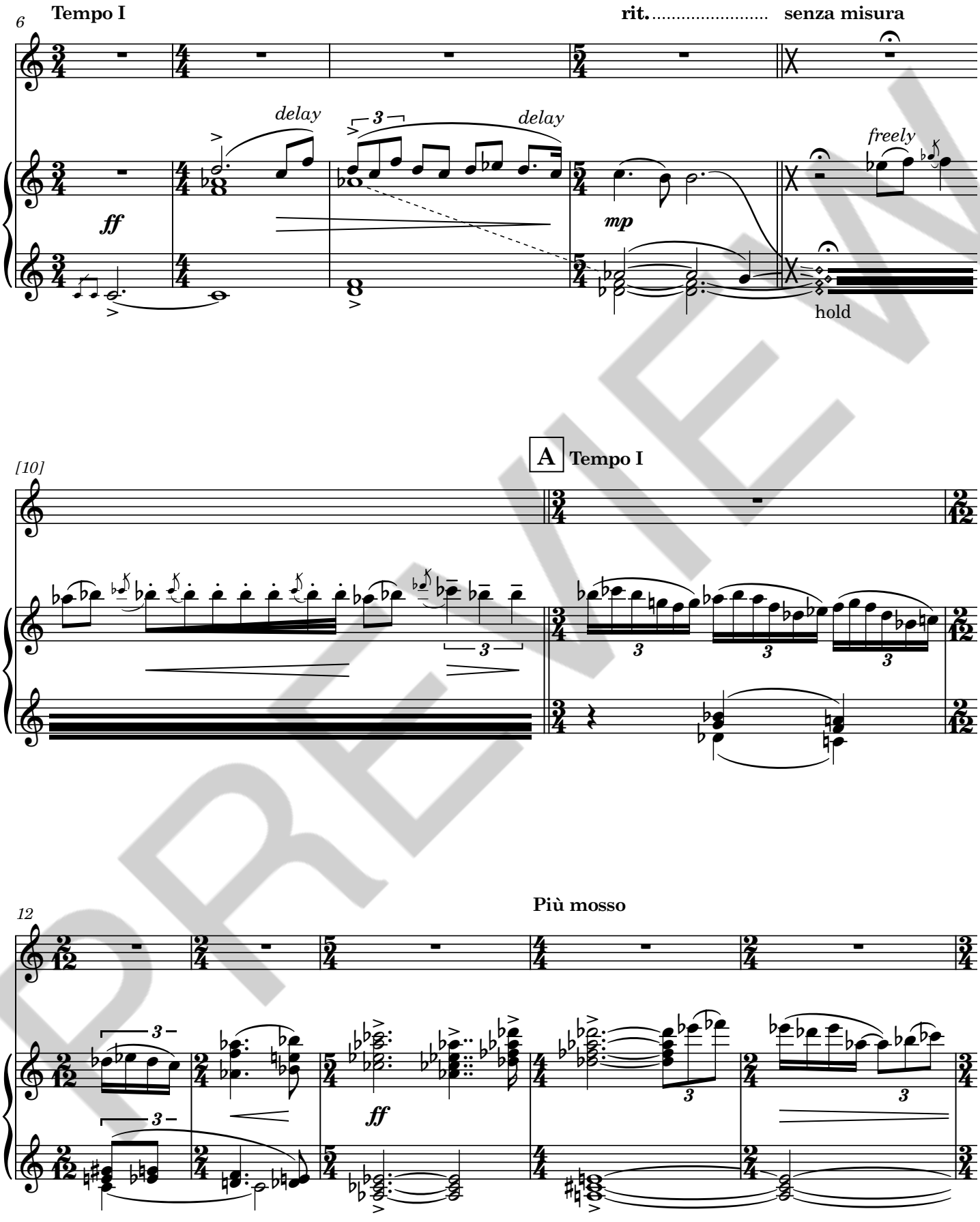
PREVIEW



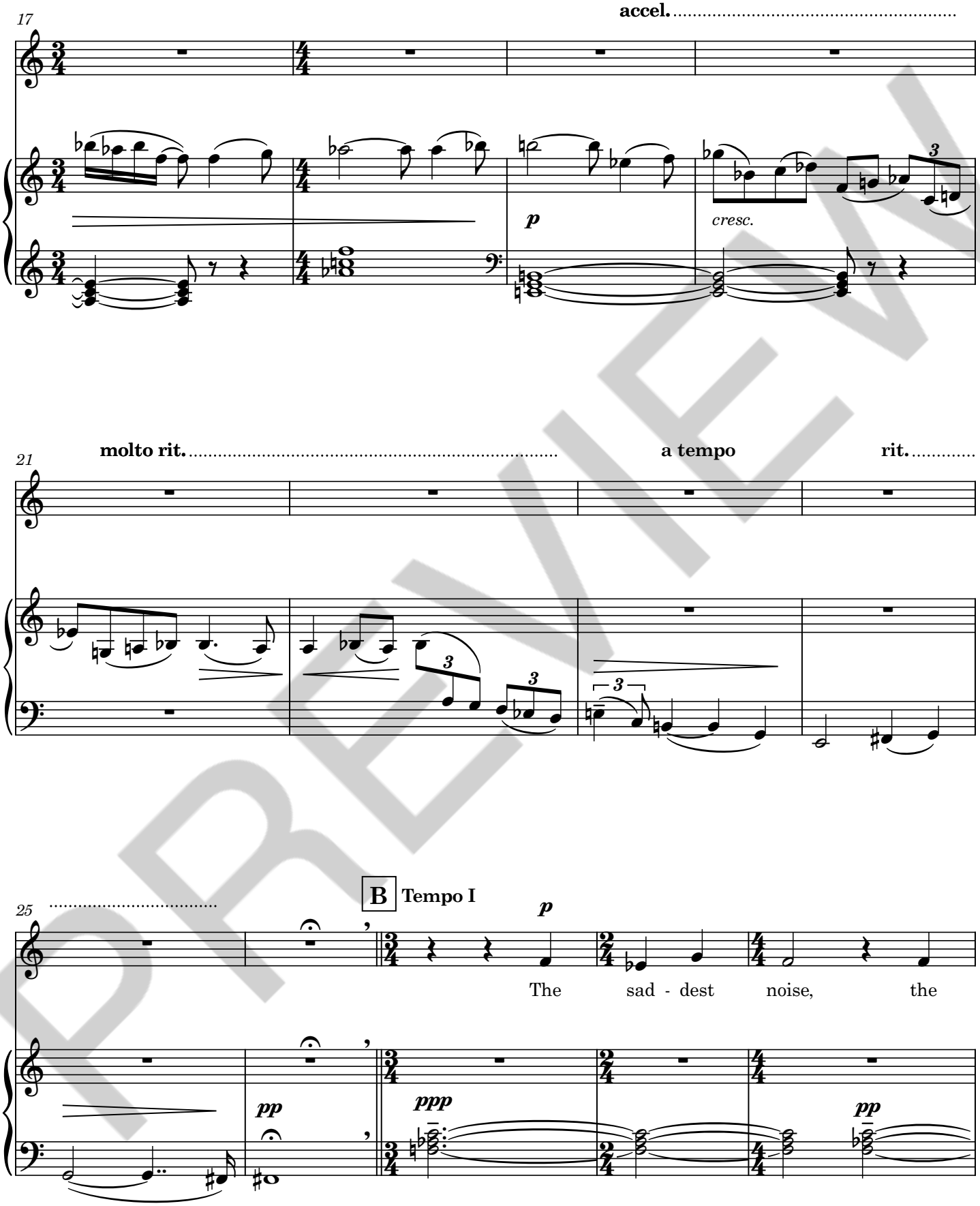
3. The Saddest Noise, the Sweetest Noise



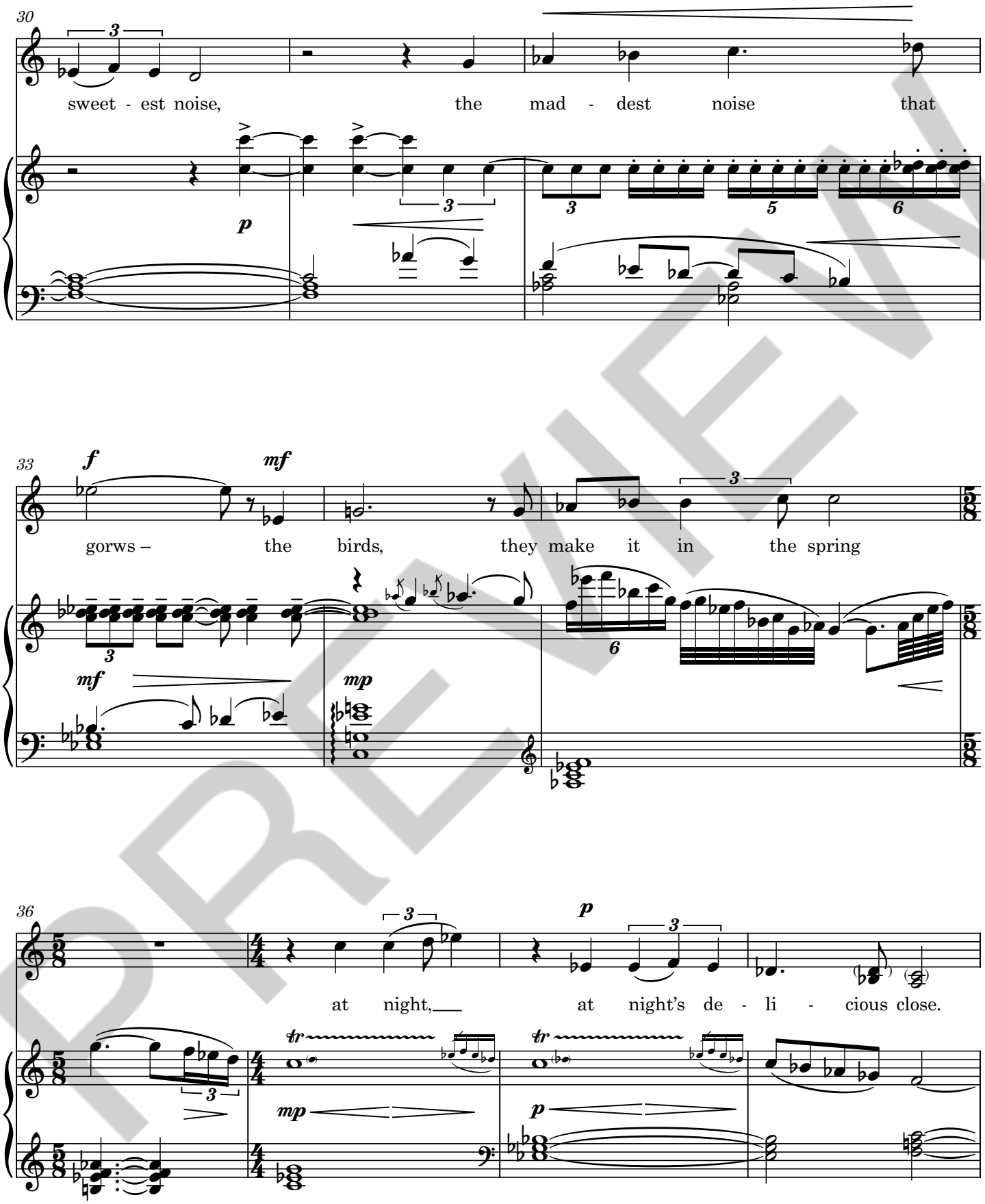
PREVIEW


6
Tempo I
rit. ..... senza misura
delay
delay
freely
ff
mp
hold
[10]
A Tempo I
12
Più mosso
ff

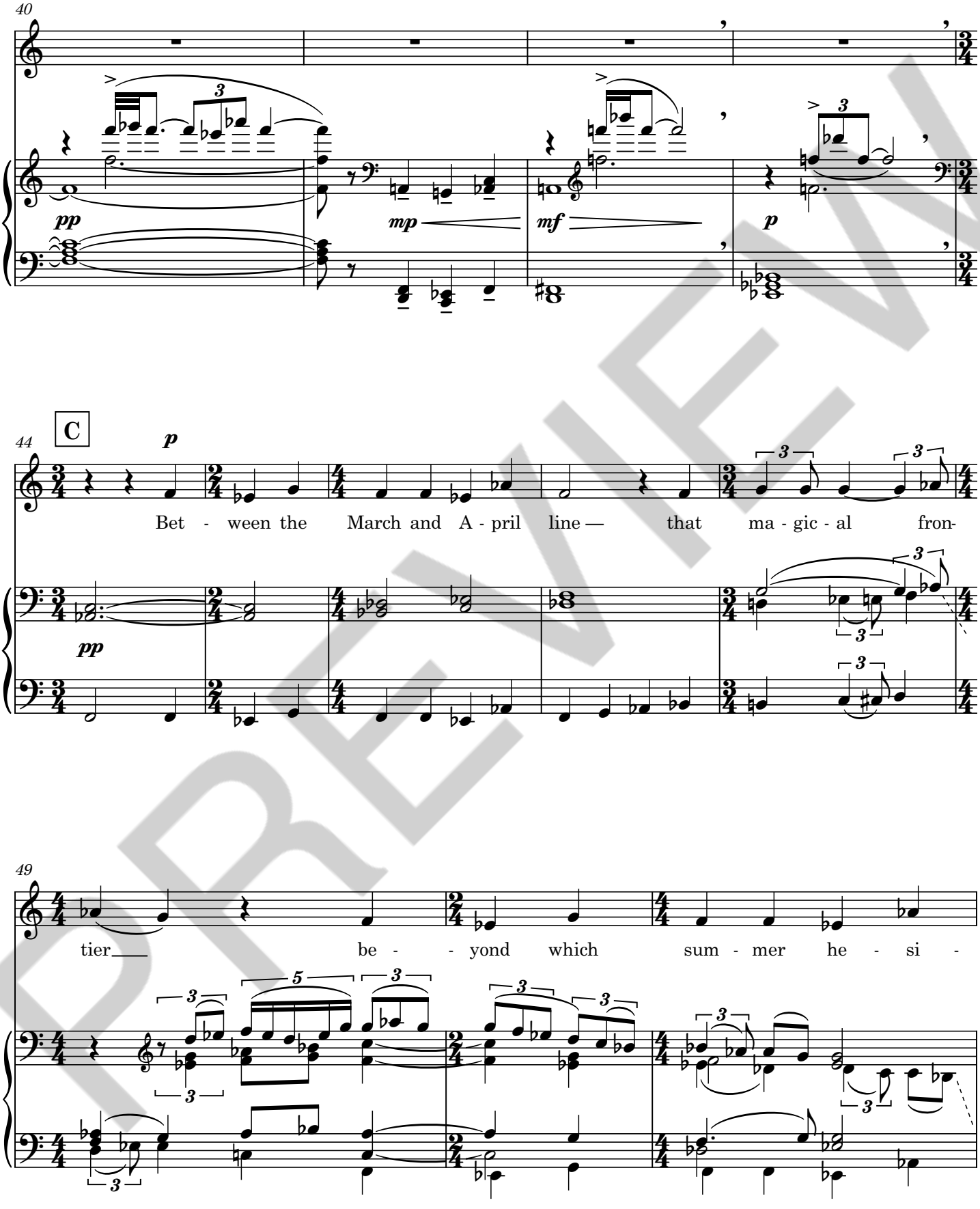
PREVIEW


17
accel.
p
cresc.
3
21
molto rit.
a tempo
rit.
3
25
B
Tempo I
p
The sad - dest noise, the
pp
ppp
pp

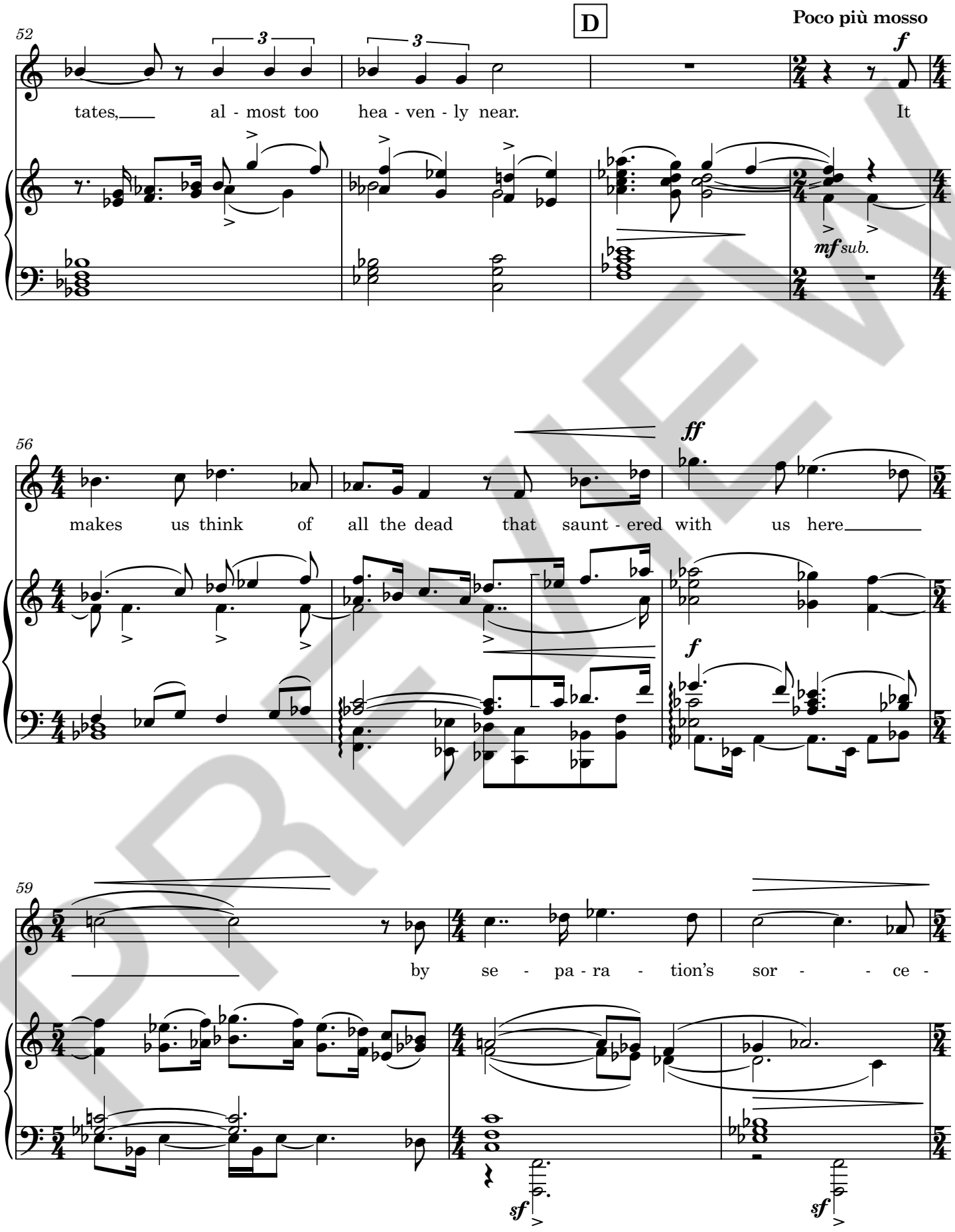
PREVIEW


30
sweet - est noise, the mad - dest noise that
p
33
f
mf
gorws – the birds, they make it in the spring
mf
mp
36
at night, at night's de - li - cious close.
tr
tr
mp
p

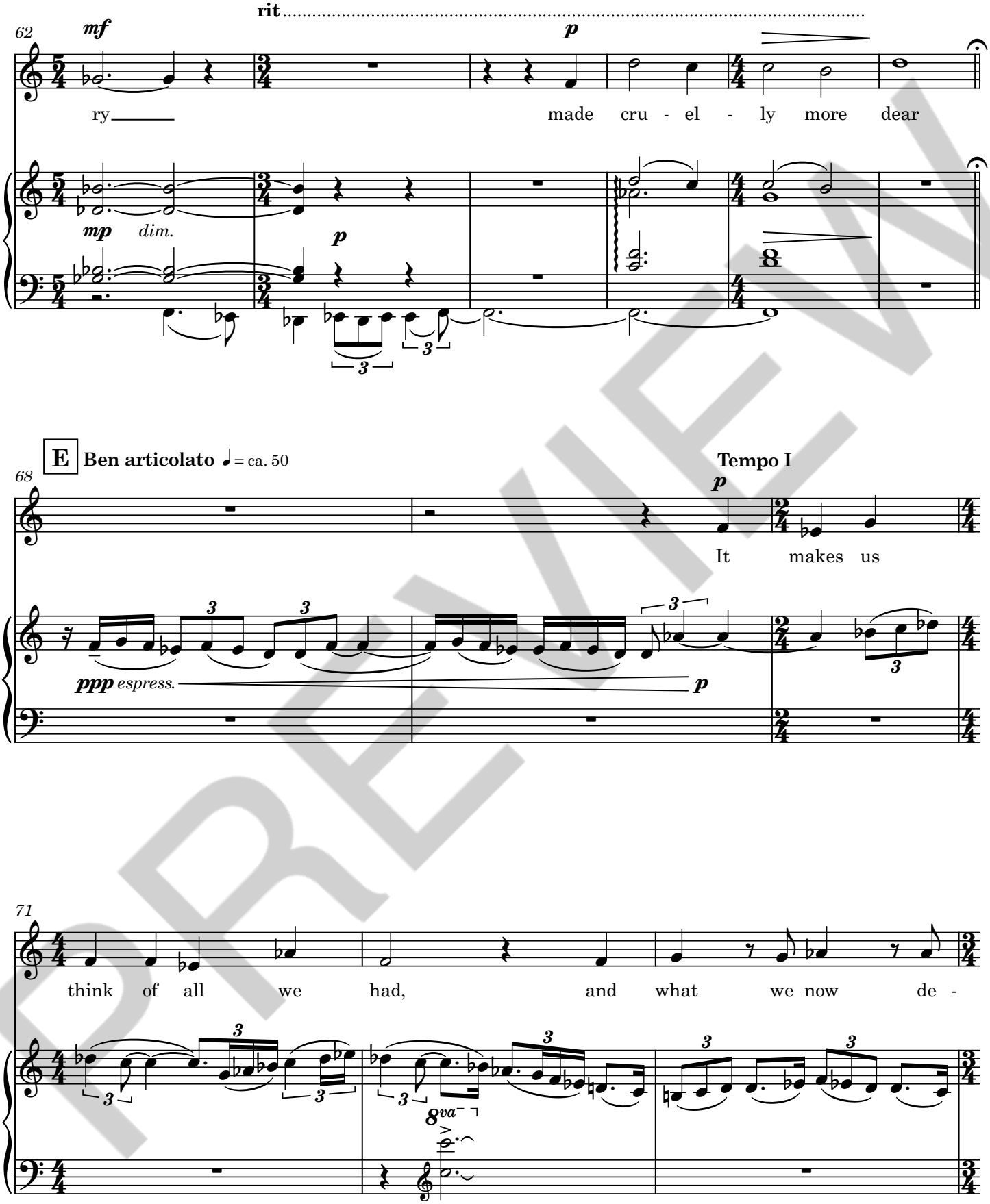
PREVIEW


40
pp
mp
mf
p
44
C
p
pp
Bet - ween the March and A - pril line — that ma - gic - al fron-
49
tier be - - yond which sum - mer he - si -

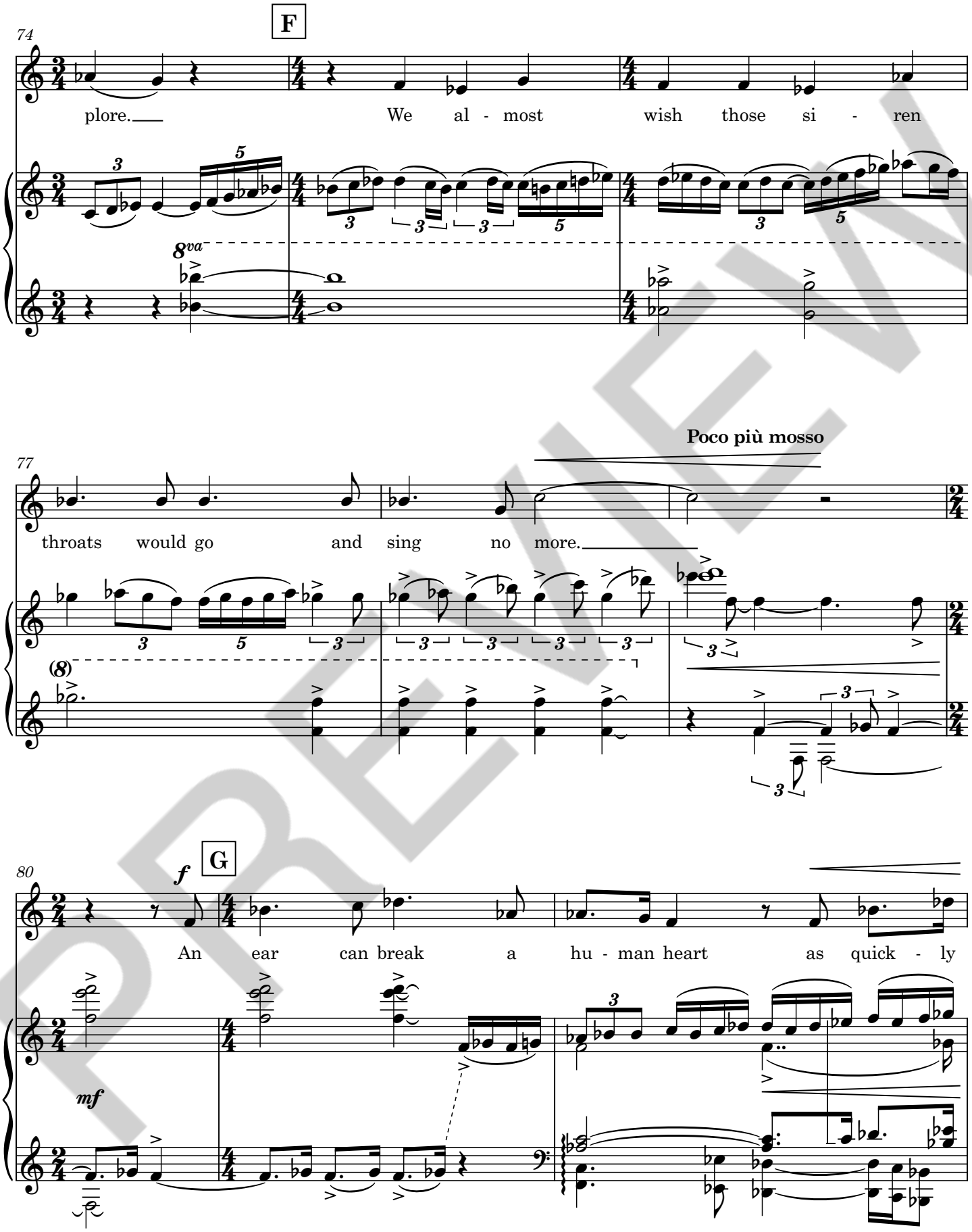
PREVIEW


52
D
Poco più mosso
f
tates, al - most too hea - ven - ly near. It
mf sub.
56
ff
makes us think of all the dead that saunt - ered with us here
f
59
by se - pa - ra - tion's sor - - ce -
sf
sf

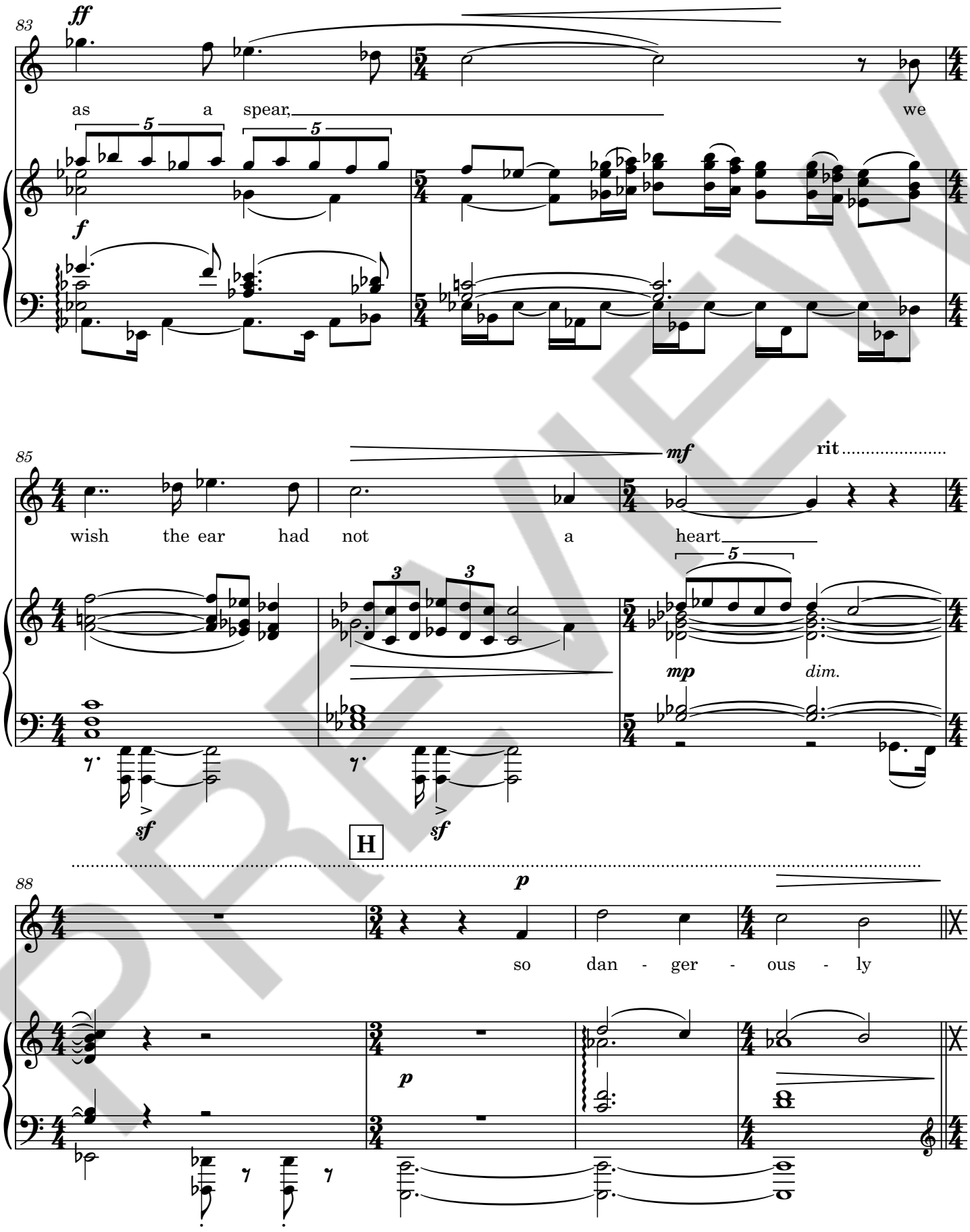
PREVIEW


rit
62
mf
p
ry
made cru - el - ly more dear
mp dim.
p
E
Ben articolato ♩ = ca. 50
68
Tempo I
p
It makes us
ppp espress.
p
71
think of all we had, and what we now de -
8va

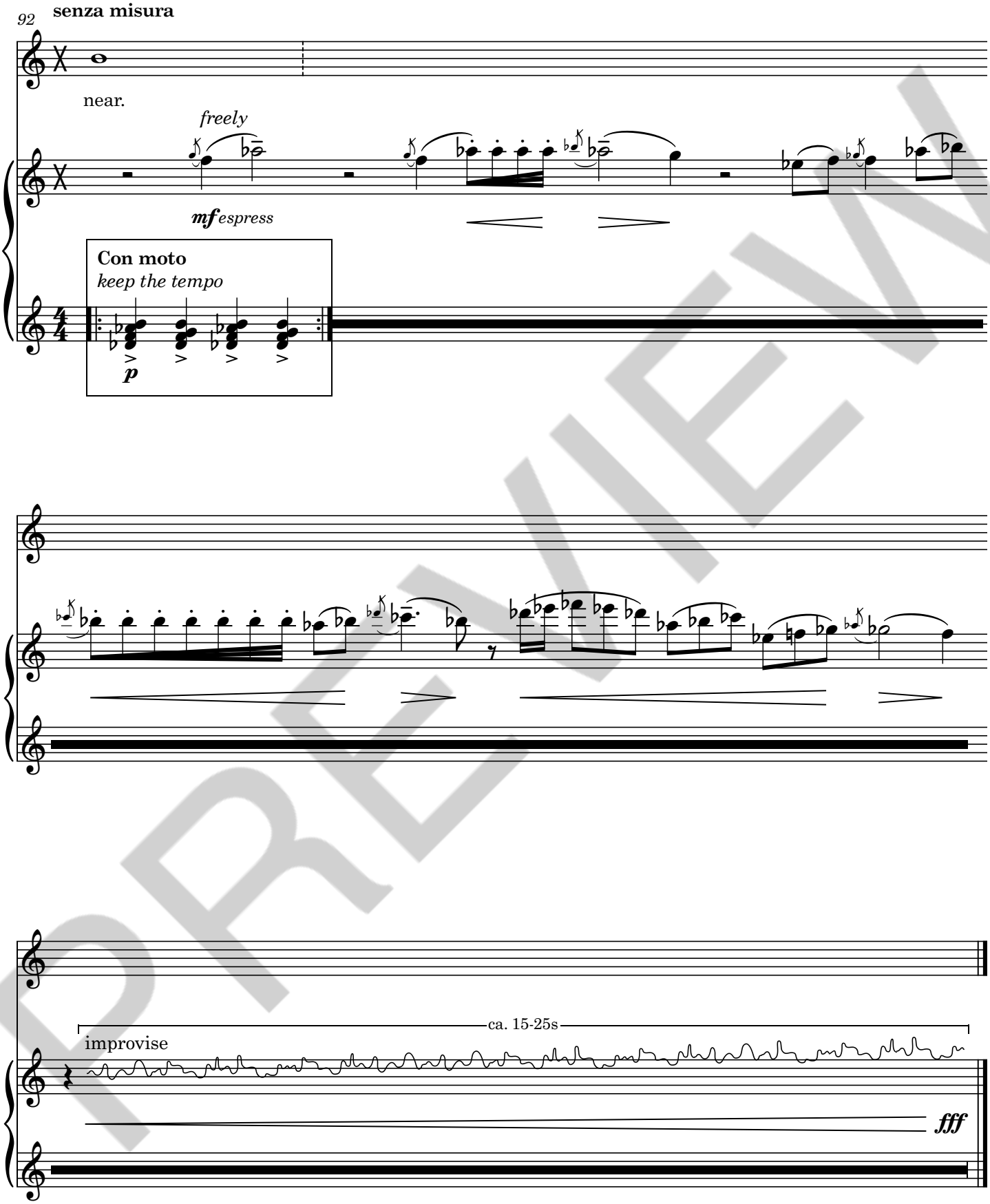
PREVIEW


74
F
plore.
We al - most wish those si - ren
8va
77
Poco più mosso
throats would go and sing no more.
(8)
80
f
G
An ear can break a hu - man heart as quick - ly
mf

PREVIEW

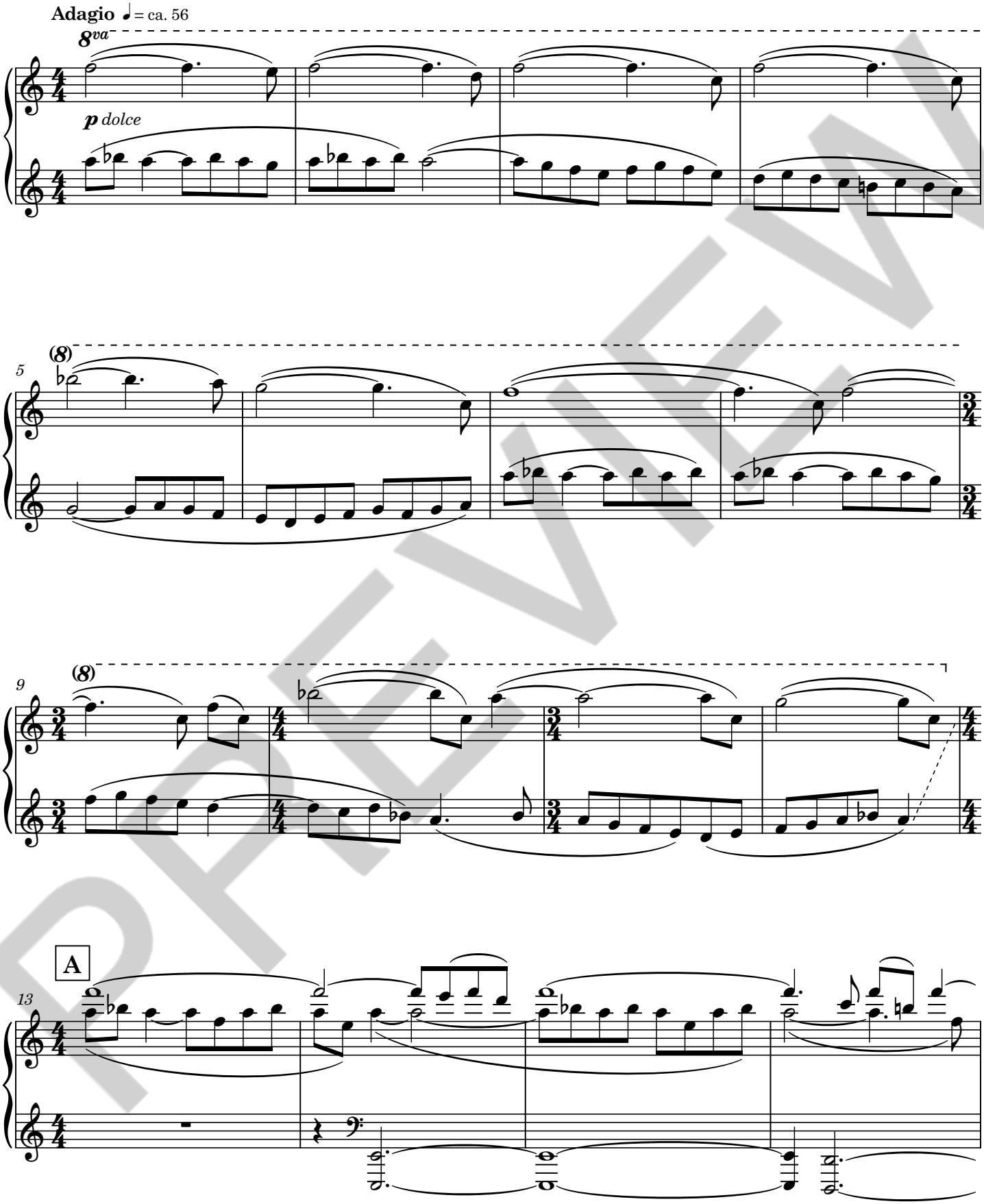

83
ff
as a spear, we
f
85
mf
rit
wish the ear had not a heart
mp
dim.
sf
sf
H
88
p
so dan - ger - ous - ly
p

PREVIEW

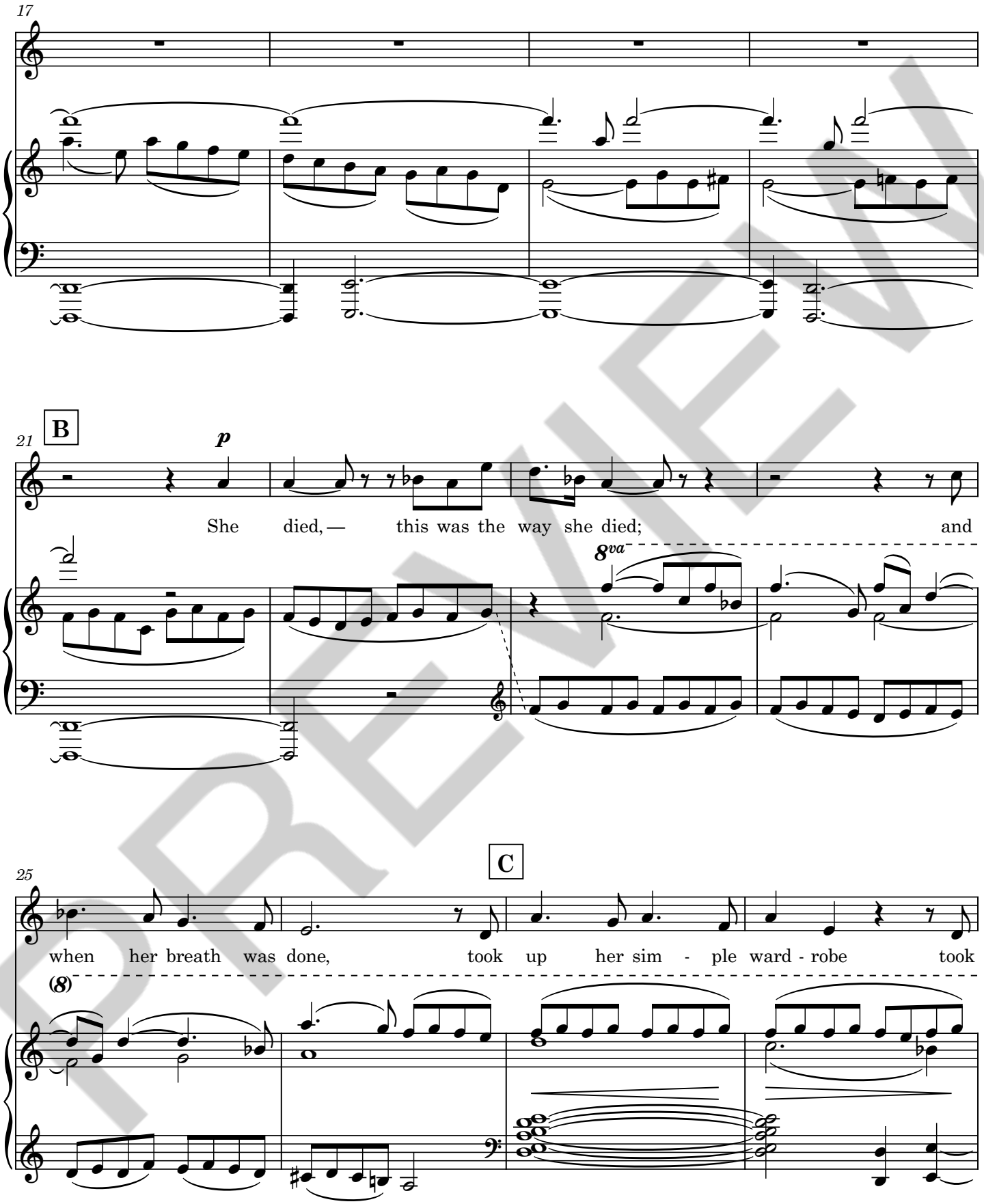

92
senza misura
near.
freely
mf espress
Con moto
keep the tempo
p
ca. 15-25s
improvise
fff

PREVIEW

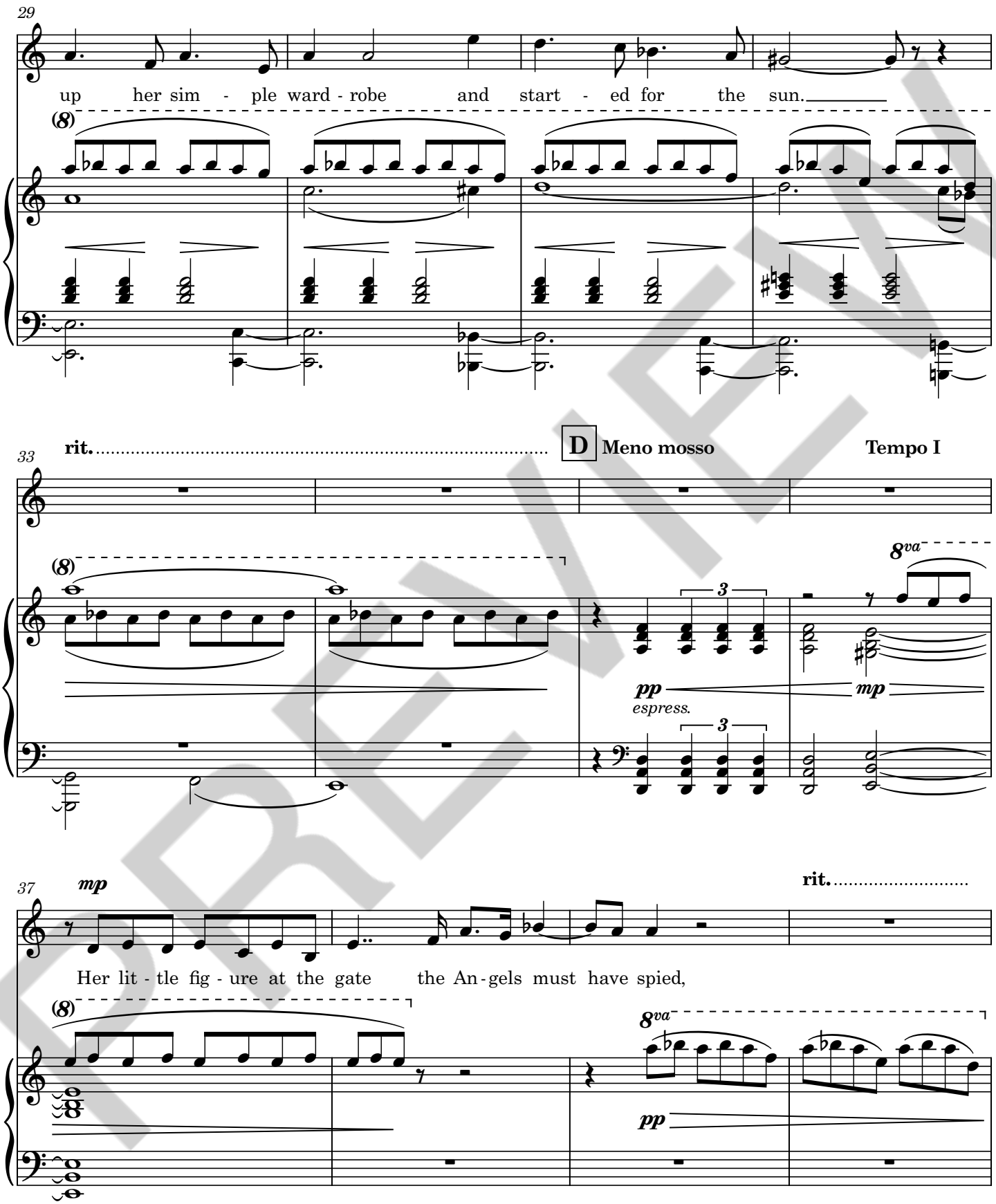
4. Vanished



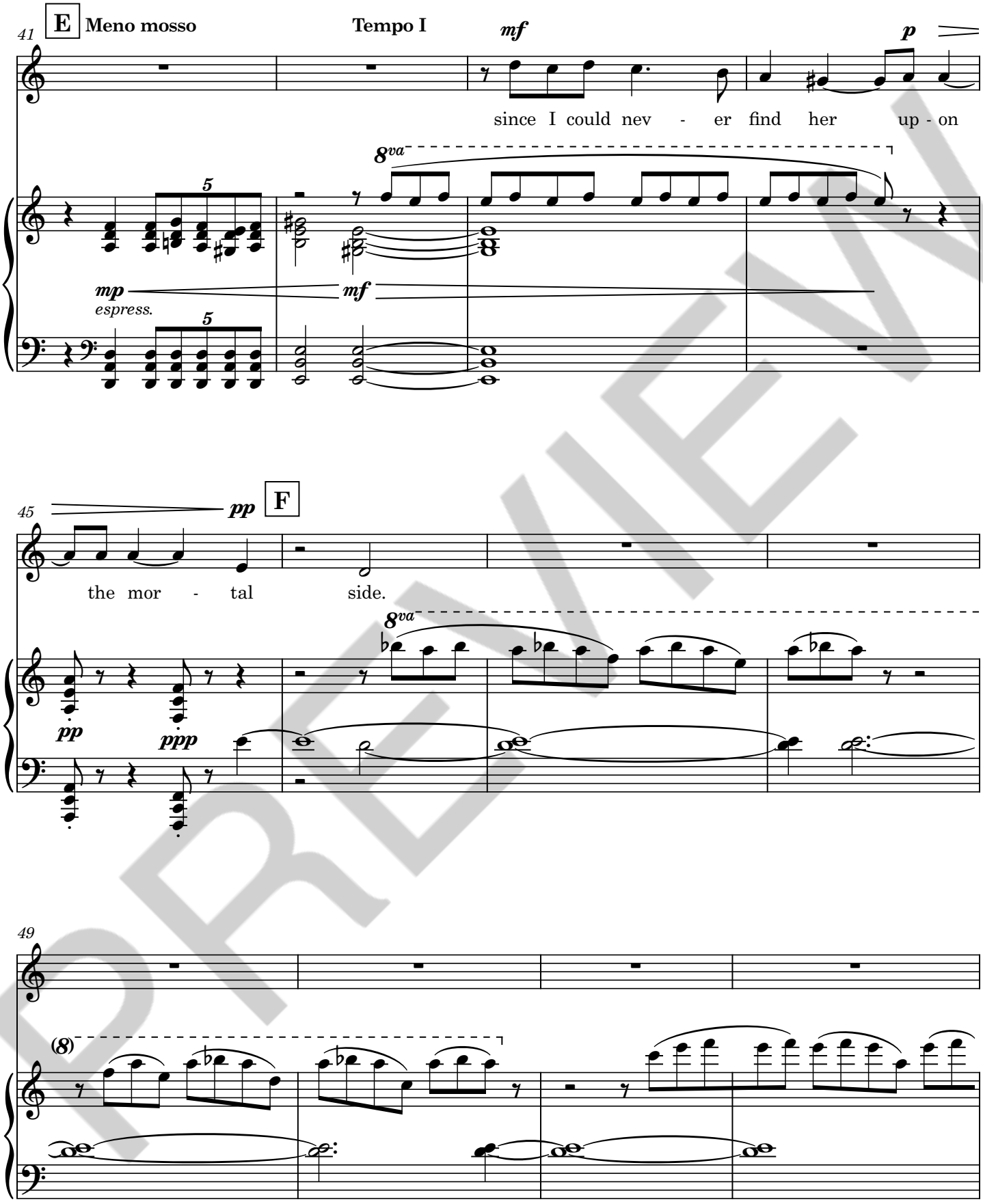
PREVIEW


17
B
21
p
She died, — this was the way she died; and
8va
C
25
when her breath was done, took up her sim - ple ward - robe took
(8)

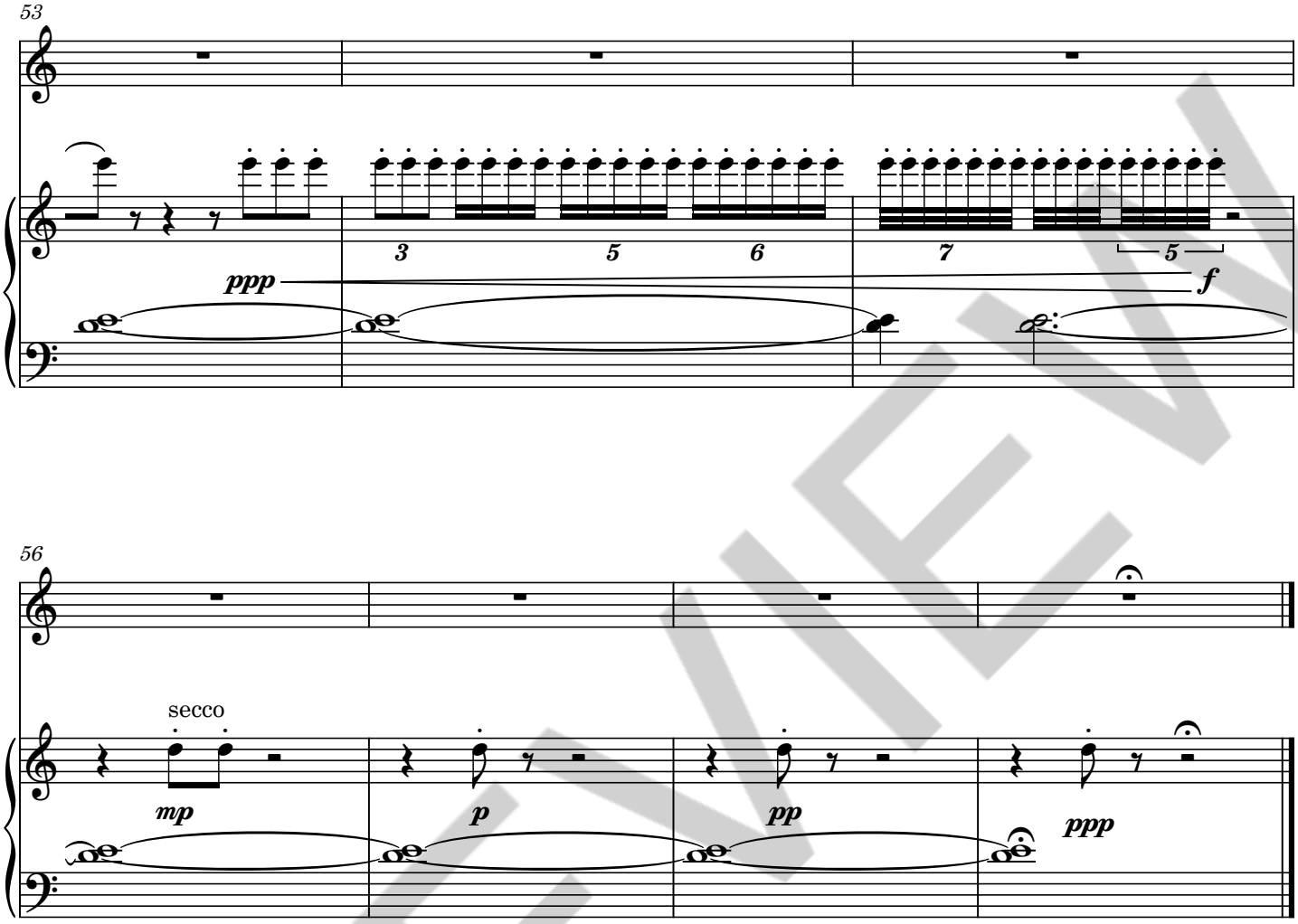
PREVIEW


29
up her sim - ple ward - robe and start - ed for the sun.
(8)
33
rit.
D
Meno mosso
Tempo I
(8)
8va
3
pp
espress.
mp
37
mp
rit.
Her lit - tle fig - ure at the gate the An - gels must have spied,
(8)
8va
pp

PREVIEW


41
E
Meno mosso
Tempo I
mf
p
since I could nev - er find her up - on
8va
5
mp
espress.
mf
5
45
pp
F
the mor - tal side.
8va
pp
ppp
49
(8)

PREVIEW



PREVIEW