Gregory J. Hutter

Three Pieces in D

for Piano Solo

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Program Note

The three short piano pieces contained herein were composed sporadically over a two-year period to commemorate various events (the first two being short commissions). Coincidently, not only do all three retain the same tonal center, but all three are linked to sundry classical traditions.

The *Ricercare* was inspired by some of Bach's later contrapuntal works (found in the *Art of Fugue* and the *Musical Offering)* where Bach often reverted back to an earlier style of polyphony employing subjects with long note values. This work—in which its subject is based on a 12-tone series—is not a serial composition, but it rather explores various permutations of the first four notes of the subject in particular. The *Bagatelle* is a predominately diatonic movement that makes use of a well-known Beethoven tune as a *cantus firmus*. The *Waltz Melancholia* obviously references, if not embraces the romantic concept of a waltz, but the music of Erik Satie also guides its inspiration with its initial repetitive harmonic progression and cantabile melody.

—Gregory Hutter
Chicago, IL (2013)

Ricercare *was commissioned by the DePaul University School of Music, Donald E. Casey, Dean, to commemorate the School of Music's Centennial. The premier performance was given by Ann Yi at New Music DePaul on May 3, 2013.*

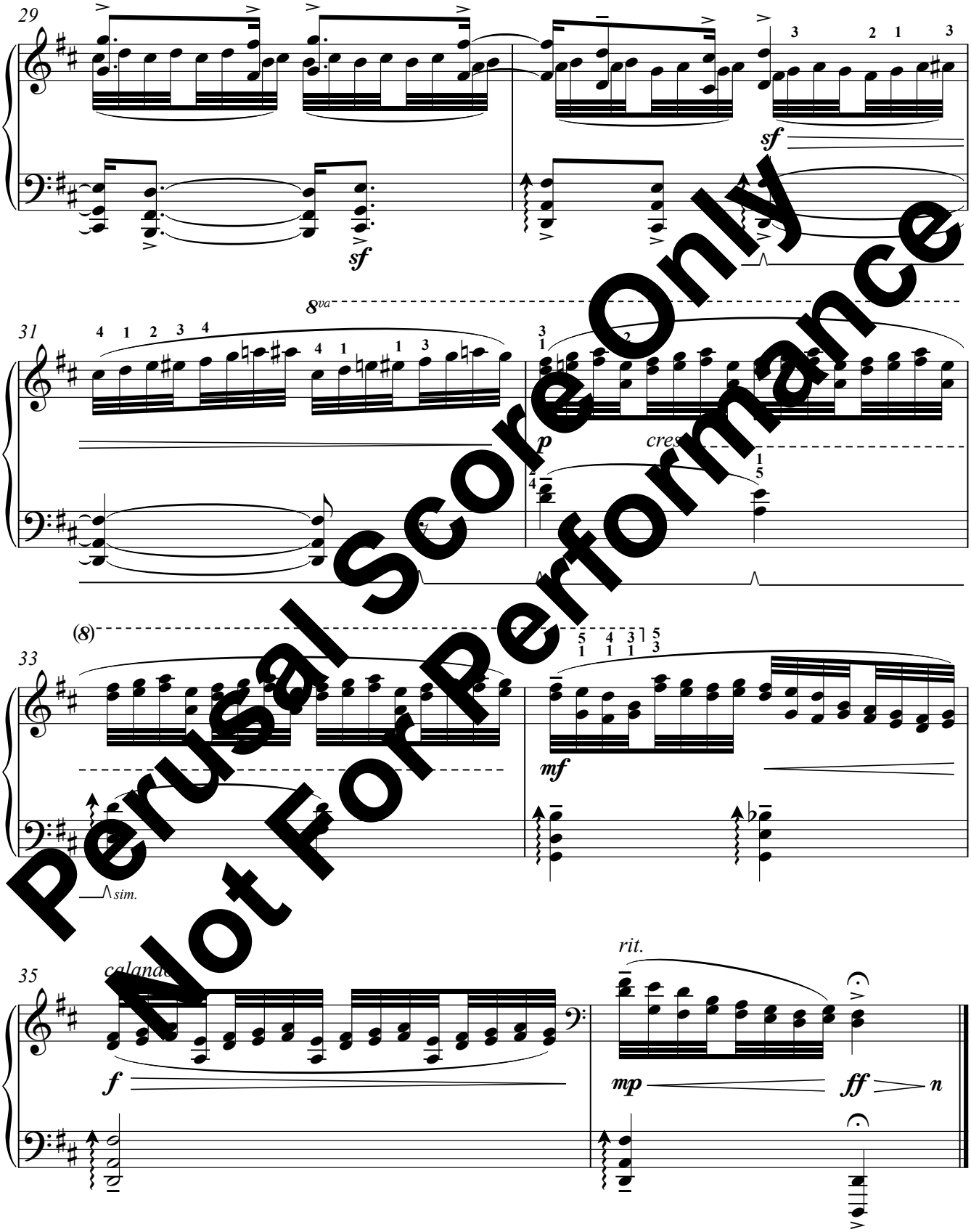
Bagatelle *was commissioned by the International Beethoven Project "The Bagatelle Project," Mischa Zupko, curator. The premier performance was given by George LePauw at the Chicago Urban Art Society on September 18, 2011.*

(These pieces are also recorded by the composer and can be heard at gregoryhutter.com)

Performance Note

This edition, including all fingerings, was created from composer-supplied materials.

Duration: ca. 10 minutes



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In Memoriam: Sam LoMonaco

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III. Waltz Melancholia

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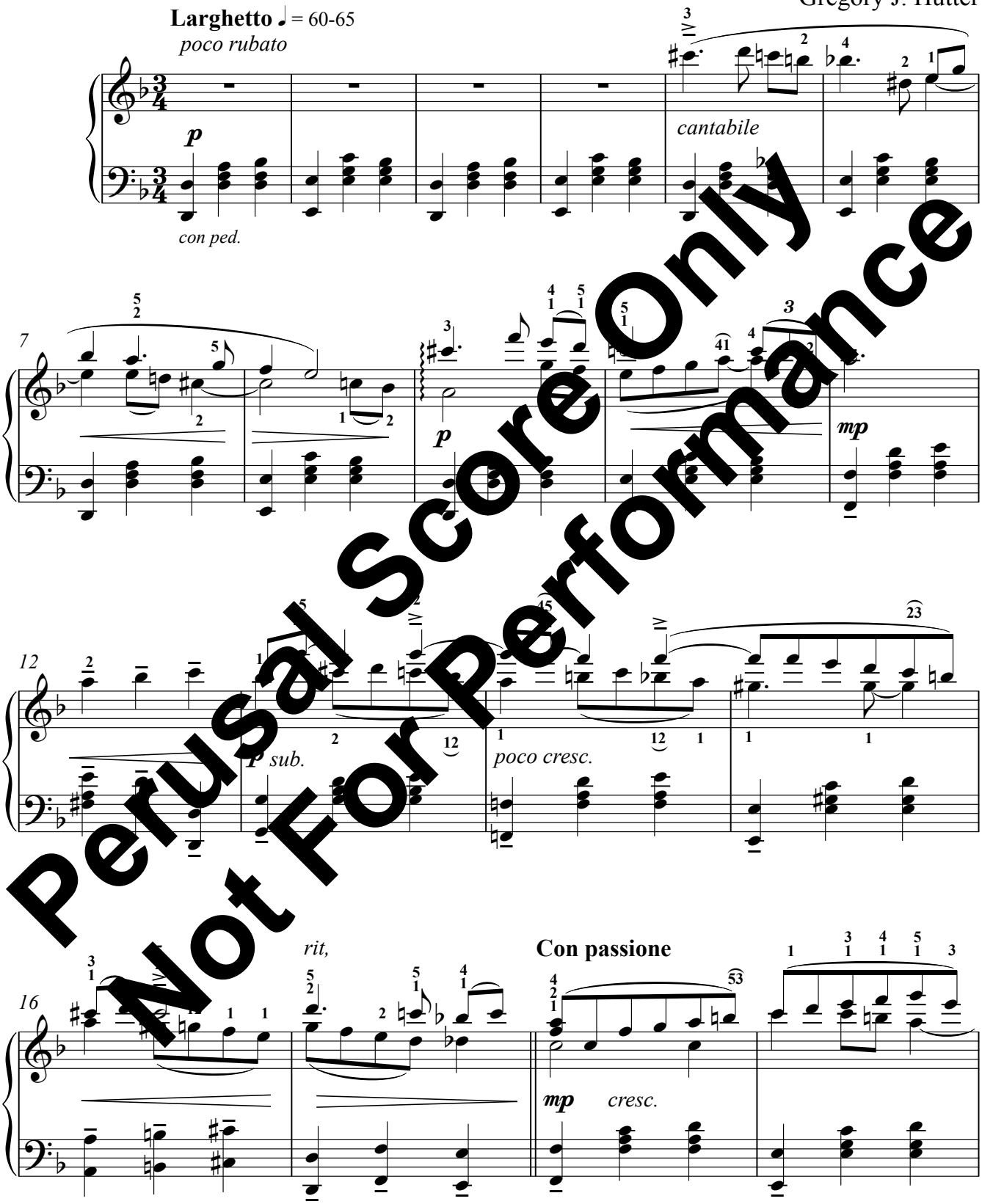

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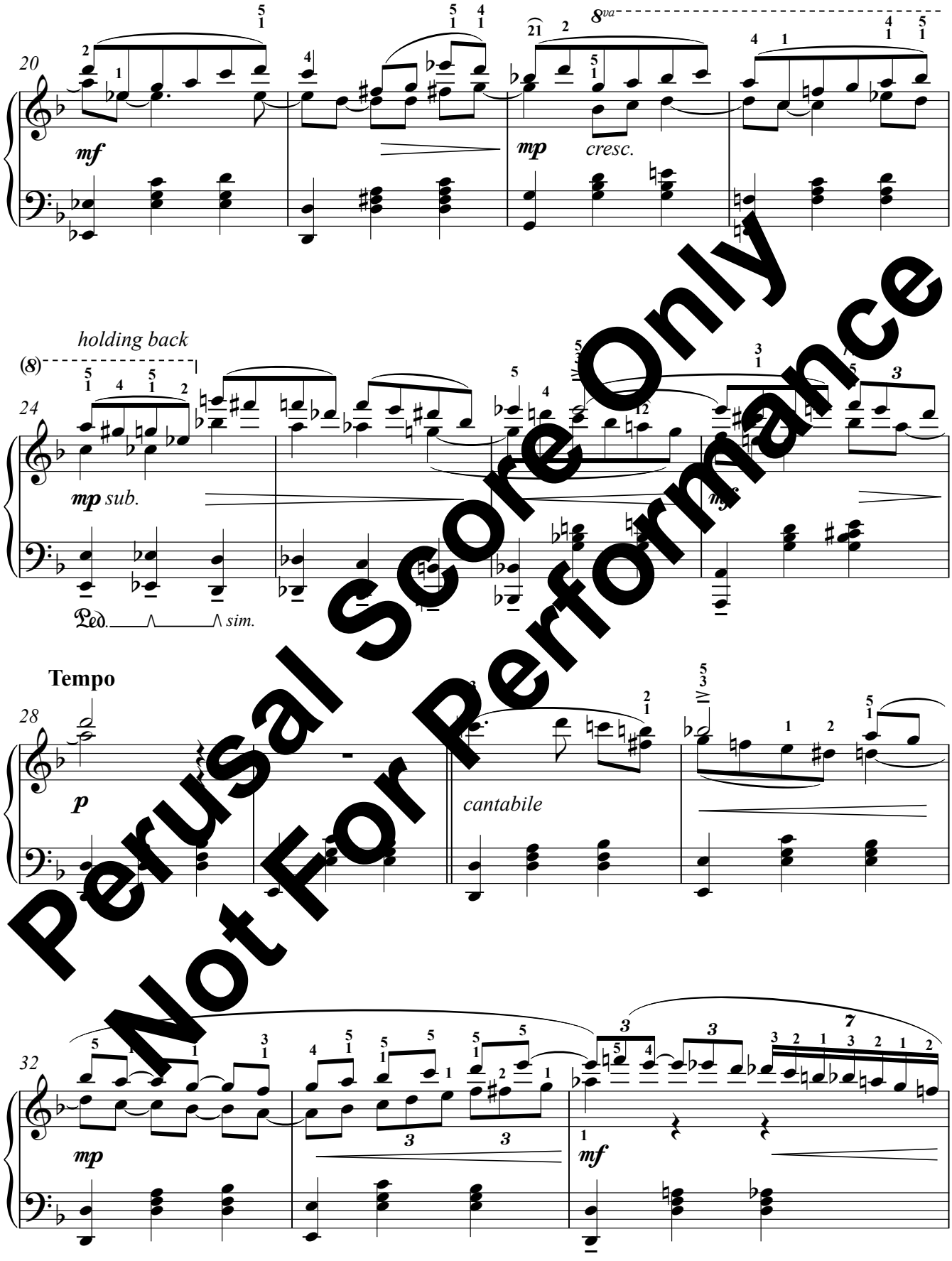

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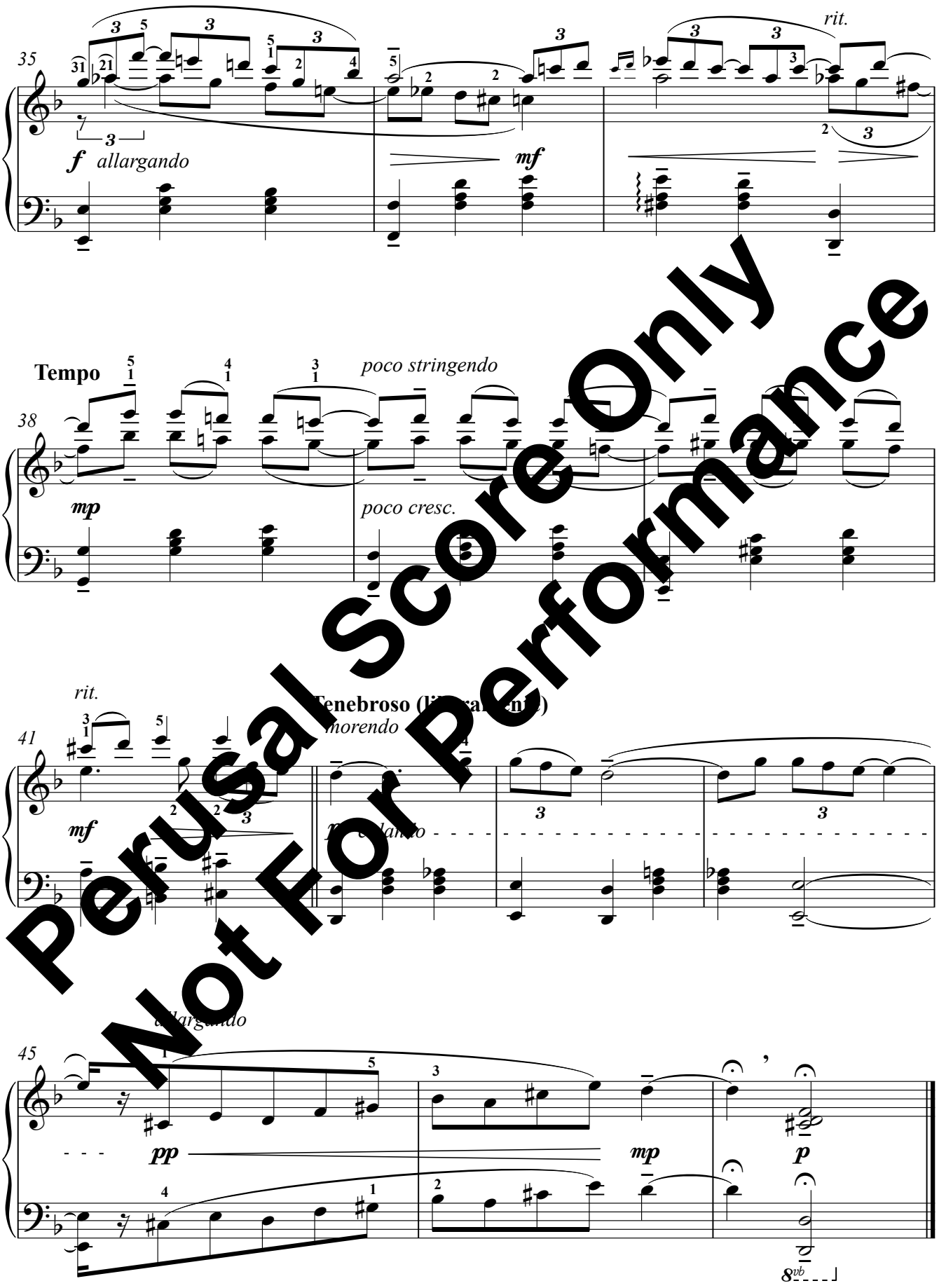

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