Thunder Chase

LARRY CLARK

Instrumentation

Part A
C Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Flute, Violin, Guitar)
C Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Oboe, Violin, Guitar)
B♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: B♭ Clarinet, B♭ Trumpet)
E♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Alto Saxophone)

Part B
C Instruments 3
*(Suggested use: *Oboe, Violin, Guitar)*
B♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: B♭ Clarinet, B♭ Trumpet)
E♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Alto Saxophone)

Part C
C Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Violin, Guitar)
C Instruments (Alto Clef) 2
(Suggested use: Viola)
B♭ Instruments 3
*(Suggested use: B♭ Clarinet, B♭ Trumpet, *Tenor Saxophone)*
E♭ Instruments 3
*(Suggested use: Alto Saxophone, *Baritone Saxophone)*
F Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Horn in F)

Part D
C Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Trombone, Euphonium, Bassoon, Cello, String Bass)
B♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Bass Clarinet, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone T.C.)
E♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Baritone Saxophone, E♭ Contra Alto Clarinet)
F Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Horn in F)

Part E
C Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Trombone, Euphonium, Bassoon, Cello, String Bass)
B♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Bass Clarinet, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone T.C.)
E♭ Instruments 3
(Suggested use: Baritone Saxophone, E♭ Contra Alto Clarinet)
C Instruments (Low) 3
(Suggested use: Tuba)

Percussion
Timpani 2
Mallets 2
(Bells)
Percussion 1 2
(Snare Drum, Bass Drum)
Percussion 2 6
(Crash Cymbals, Tom-tom, Tambourine, Traingle, Suspended Cymbal, Cabasa)
Piano 1

* *This part can be used with this instrument but is not ideal*

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About the Composer

Music by Larry Clark (b. 1963) is some of the most popular and most performed by concert bands and string orchestras of all ability levels. Larry is equally adept at writing music for beginners as he is for high school and college ensembles. His music is tuneful, contains a fresh harmonic perspective, is well scored and stretches the musicianship of the performers. He prides himself on producing music that is not only intriguing to performers and audiences alike but that contains a playability that comes from a keen understanding of the technical difficulties inherent in all instruments. His pieces have been performed internationally and appear on numerous contest/festival performance required music lists. He is an ASCAP award-winning composer, has over 300 publications in print and is in demand to write commissions for bands and orchestras across the country.

In addition to his abilities as a composer, Larry is the founder and President of Excelcia Music Publishing. His new company will focus on educational music for band, choral and orchestra along with related methods and books. Prior to Larry starting his own publishing company, he served for over eighteen years as Vice President, Editor-in-Chief for Carl Fischer Music, and before that, as Instrumental Music Editor for Warner Bros. Publications. Larry travels the world presenting clinics/workshops and guest conducting appearances. His background as a former middle school director and Director of Bands at Syracuse University, combined with his composing and editing, have placed Larry at the forefront of music for school ensembles. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Music Education from Florida State University and Masters Degrees in Conducting and Composition from James Madison University in Virginia. For more information about the music of Larry Clark, visit his website www.larryclarkmusic.com.

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Thunder Chase

Since *Thunder Chase* was written specifically for an honor band, it was my goal to write a piece that gives an opportunity to every section of the band to play a key role in the piece. I also wanted to write a piece that has a constant energy, an always forward momentum, that would be exciting for students to play.

One of my favorite movies in the 1990s was "*Twister*." It was very intriguing to me that people spend their careers chasing storms. *Thunder Chase* is my attempt to depict through music the high energy chase these sciences minded individuals go through when trying to better understand these storms.

The piece begins with a dramatic maestoso opening with hints of the harmonic and melodic material used throughout the work. The main theme then proceeds at a brisk tempo in the Flutes with incessant accompaniment staccato eighth notes in the reeds and woodwinds as the motor that drives the piece throughout. After a tutti version of the main theme, there is a more lyrical bridge theme led by the lower voices, but the constant eighth notes continue to provide the rhythmic drive.

After a return of the main theme, the piece proceeds through a development of the themes, with rhythmic fragments and interplay between the brass, percussion and woodwinds, along with the third theme that is slower, more lyrical, and in a major key, but the eighth notes continue. The piece returns to the earlier material with more orchestrational alterations for variety that leads to a dramatic conclusion.

It has been my pleasure to have the opportunity to write this piece. I hope you and your students enjoy it and find it useful for your program.

–Larry Clark
Lakeland, FL 2024

larryclarkmusic.com larryclarkmusic larryclarkmusic excelciamusicpublishing

Recordings are available on all major streaming services.

Thunder Chase

LARRY CLARK
(ASCAP)

Part A

Maestoso ♩ = 68

C Instruments (High)
C Instruments
B♭ Instruments
E♭ Instruments

Part B

C Instruments
B♭ Instruments
E♭ Instruments

Part C

C Instruments (Violin, Guitar)
C Instruments (Viola)
B♭ Instruments
E♭ Instruments
F Instruments

Part D

Maestoso ♩ = 68

C Instruments/ E♭ Instruments
B♭ Instruments
F Instruments

Part E

C Instruments/ E♭ Instruments
B♭ Instruments
C Instruments (Low)
Timpani (F: G: C)
Mallets (Bells)
Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum)
Snare Drum
Bass Drum
Crash Cymbals
Percussion 2 (Crash Cymbals, Tom-tom, Tambourine, Triangle, Suspended Cymbal, Cabasa)
Tom-tom
Piano

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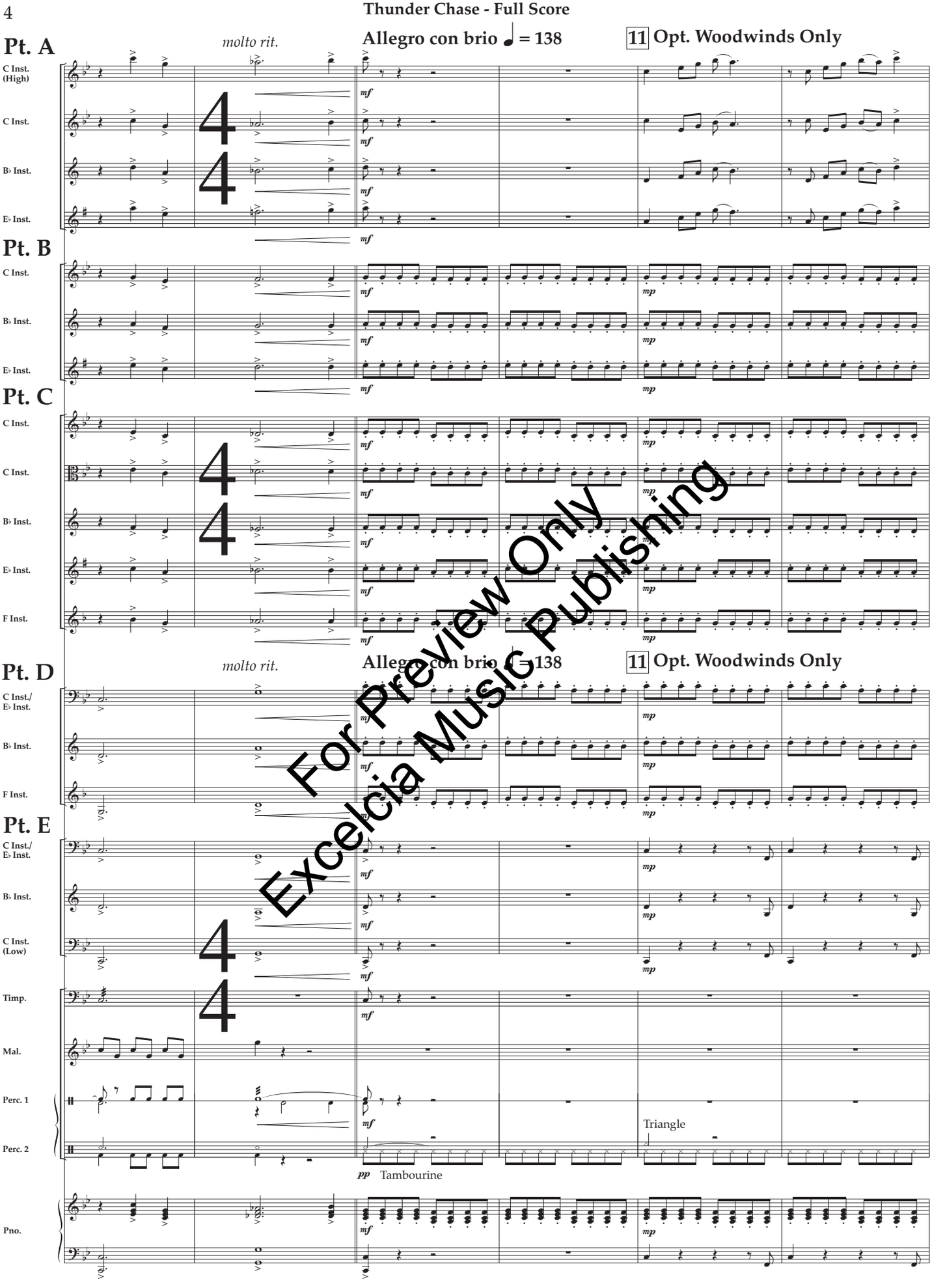
Thunder Chase - Full Score



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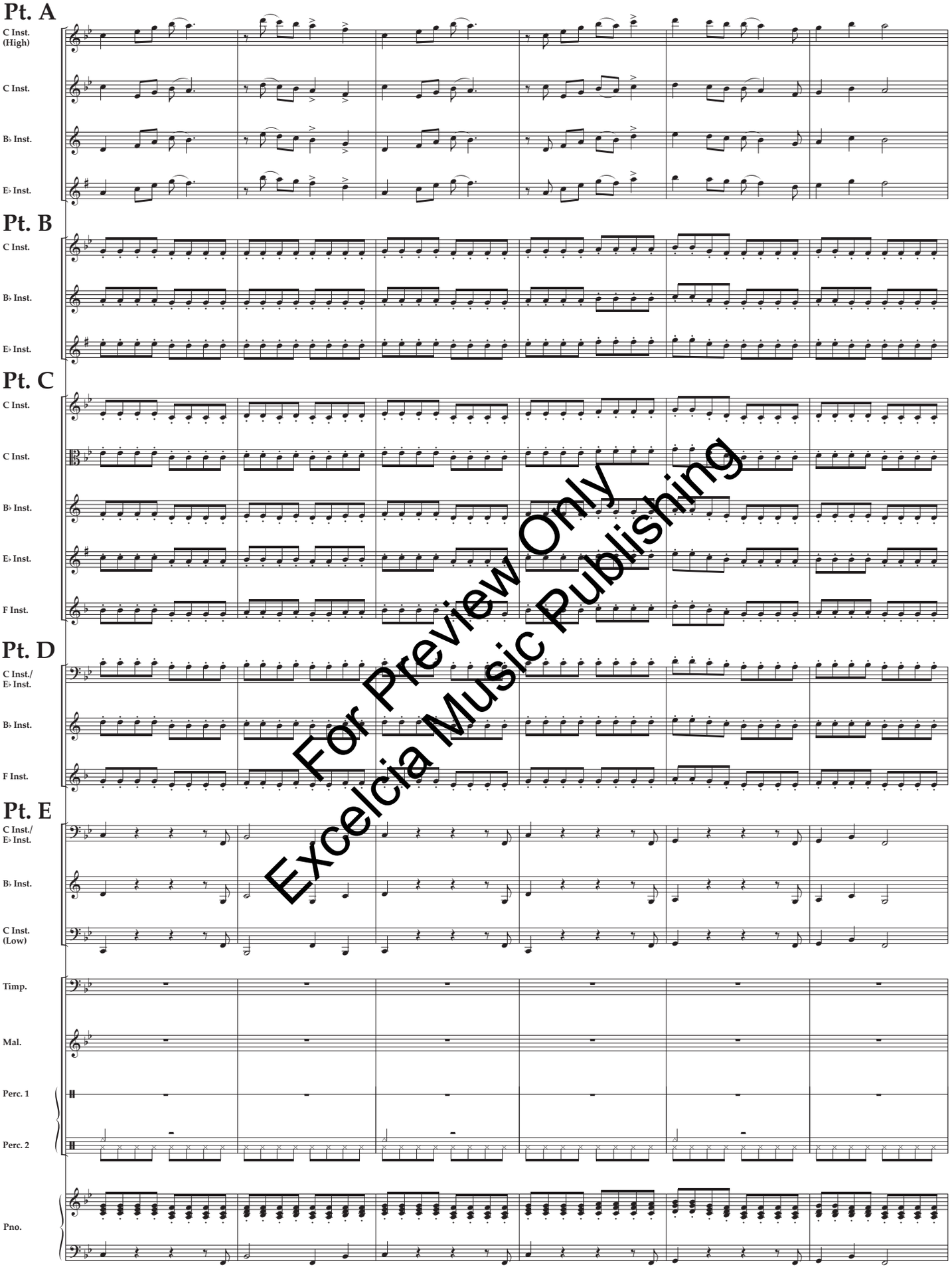

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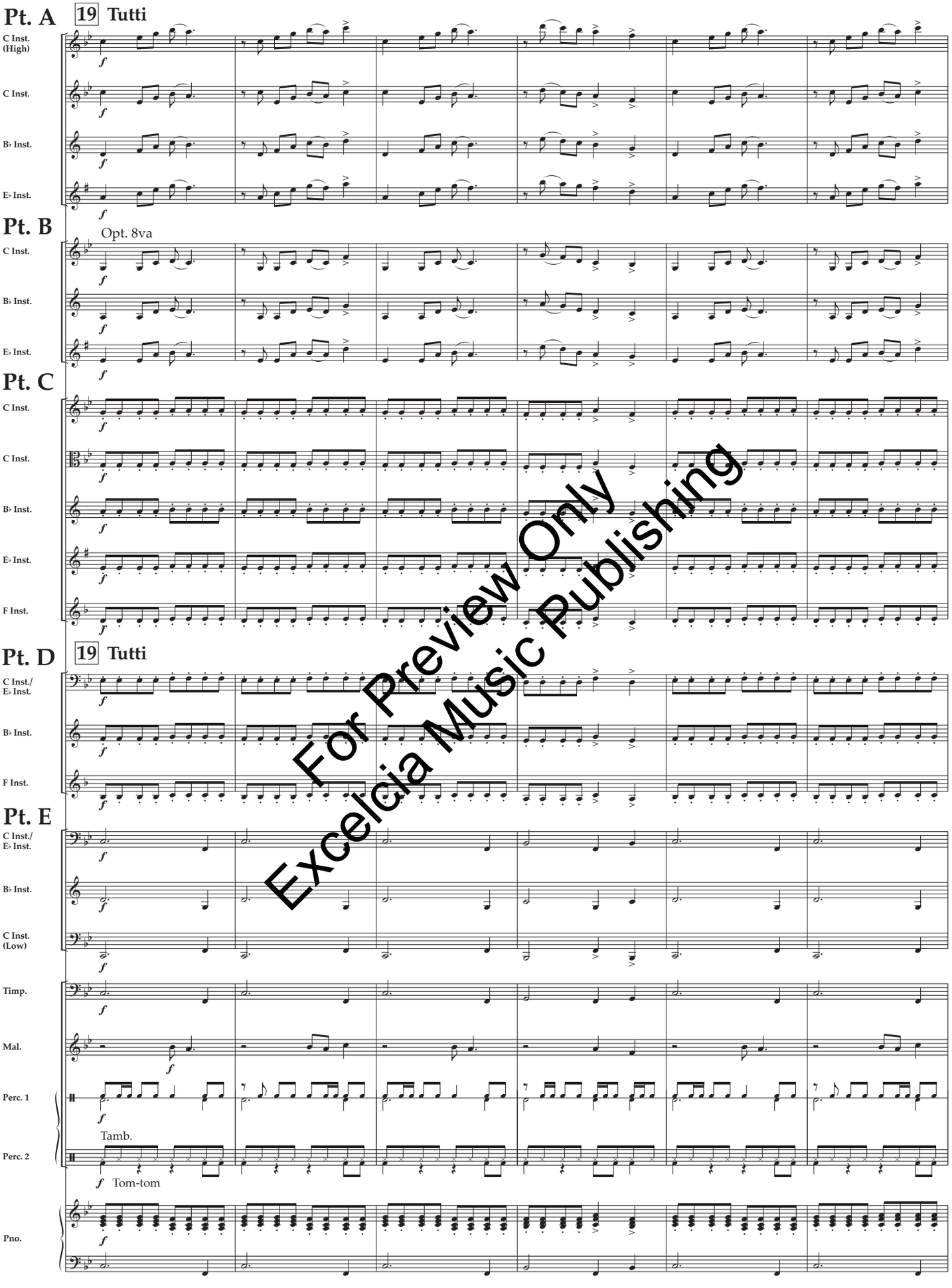

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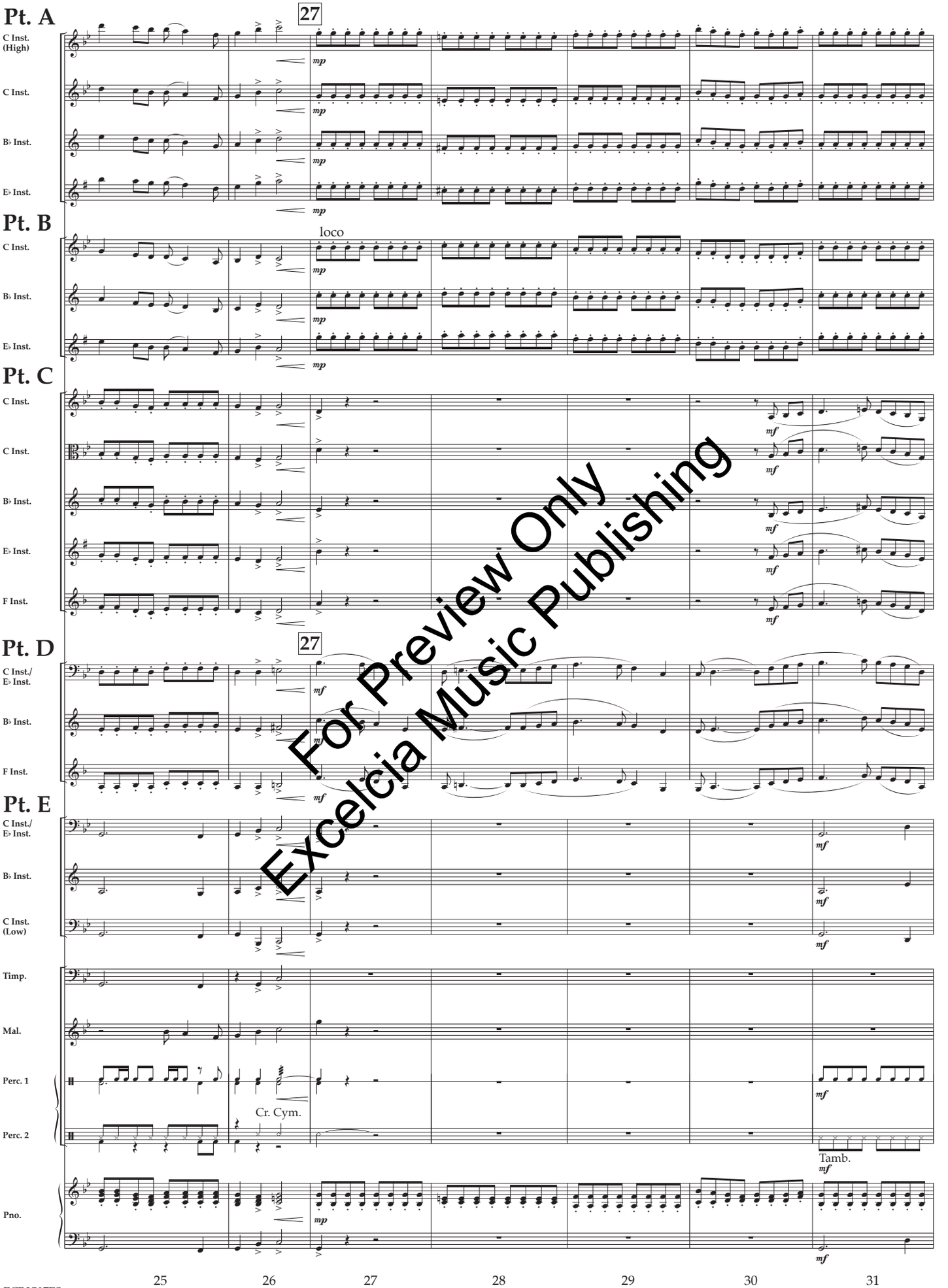

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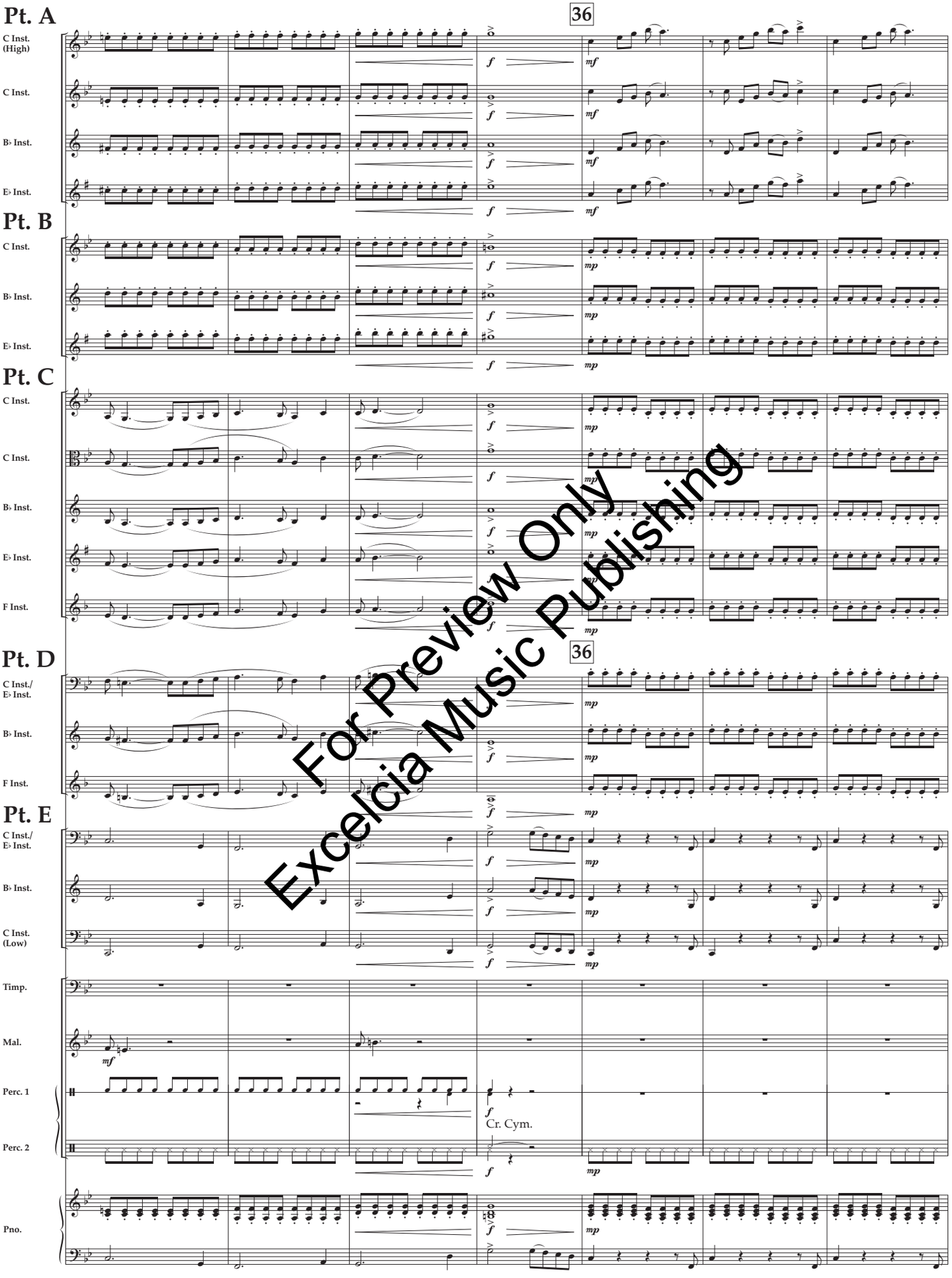

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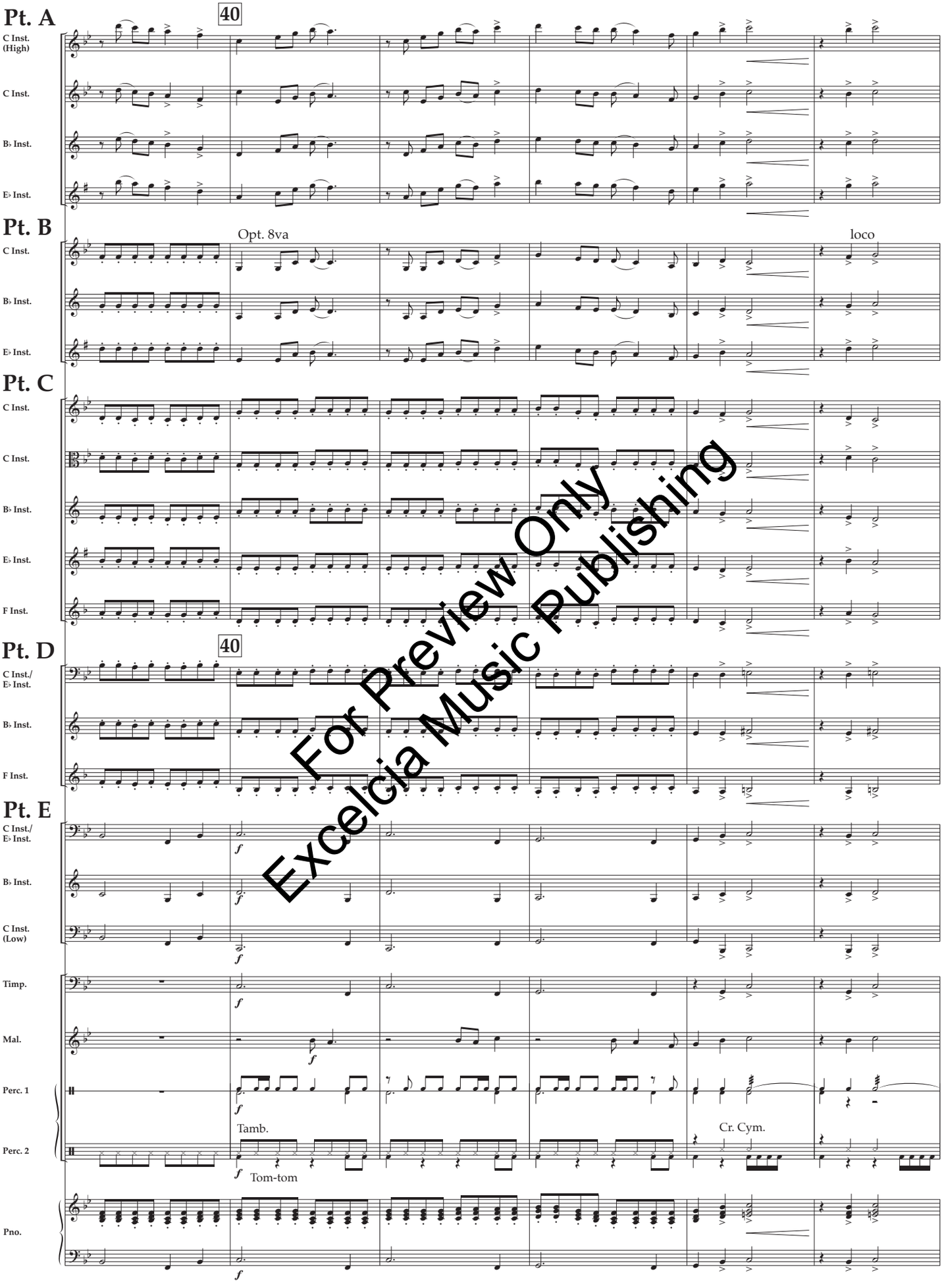

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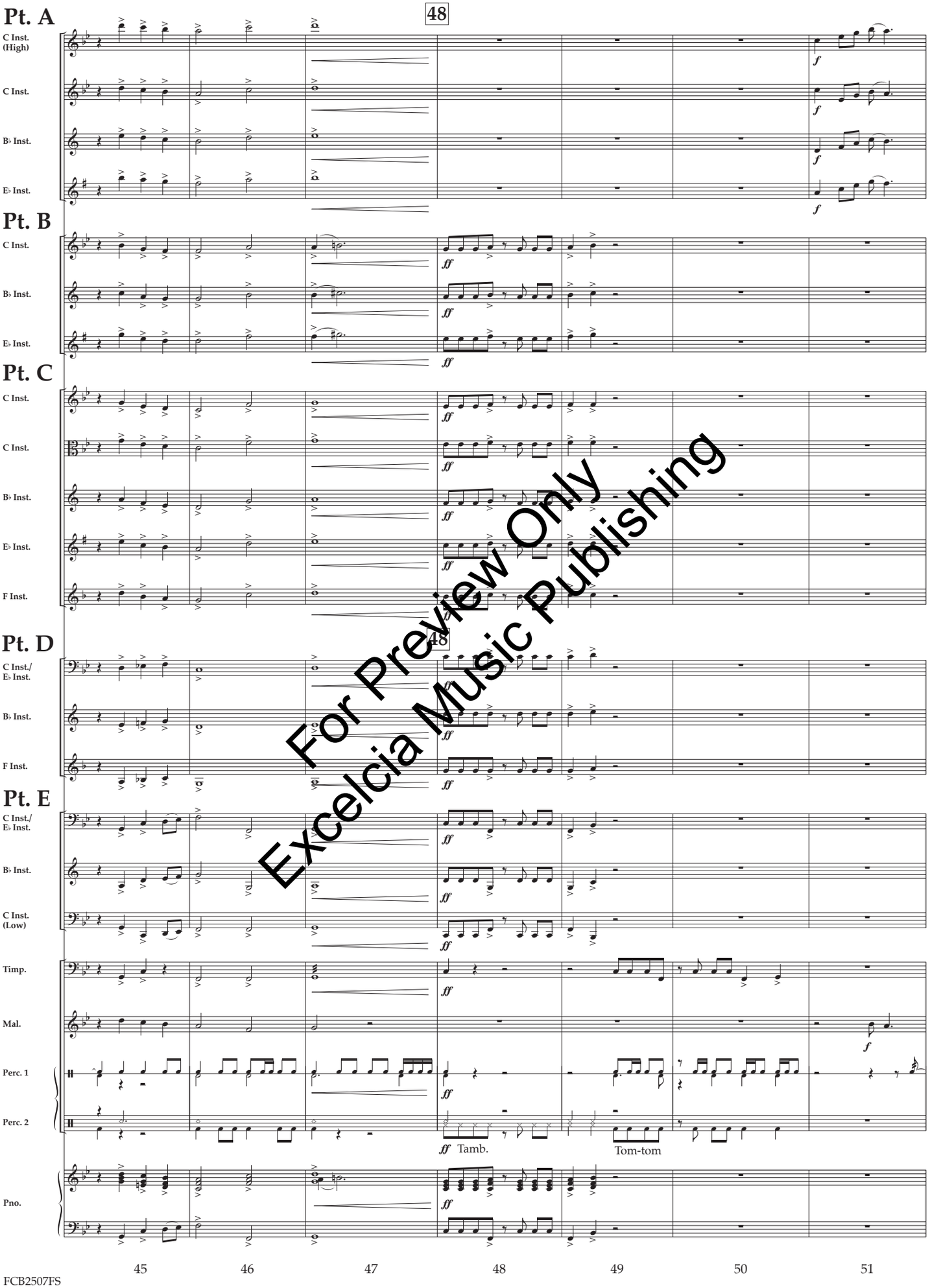
Thunder Chase - Full Score



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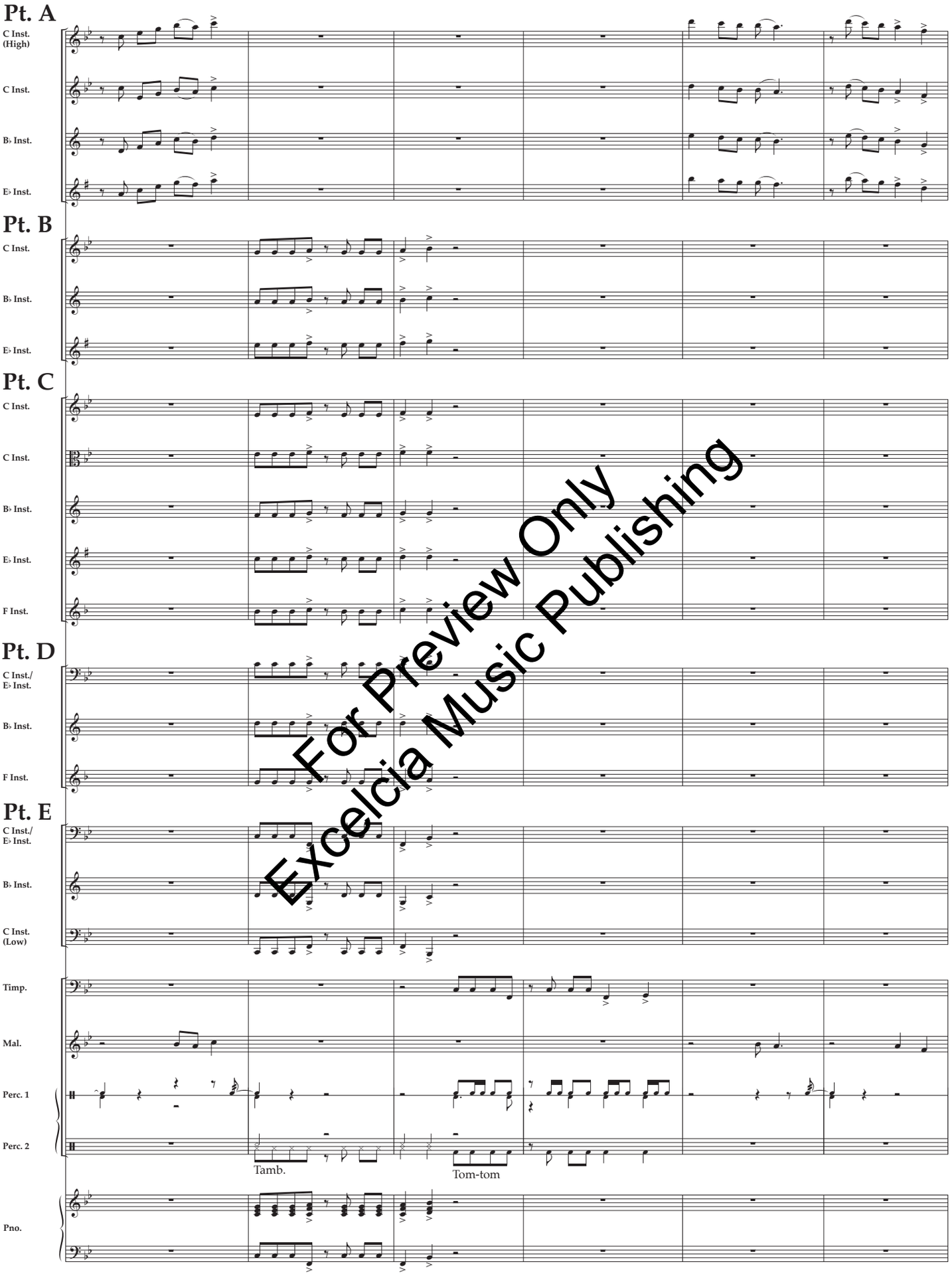

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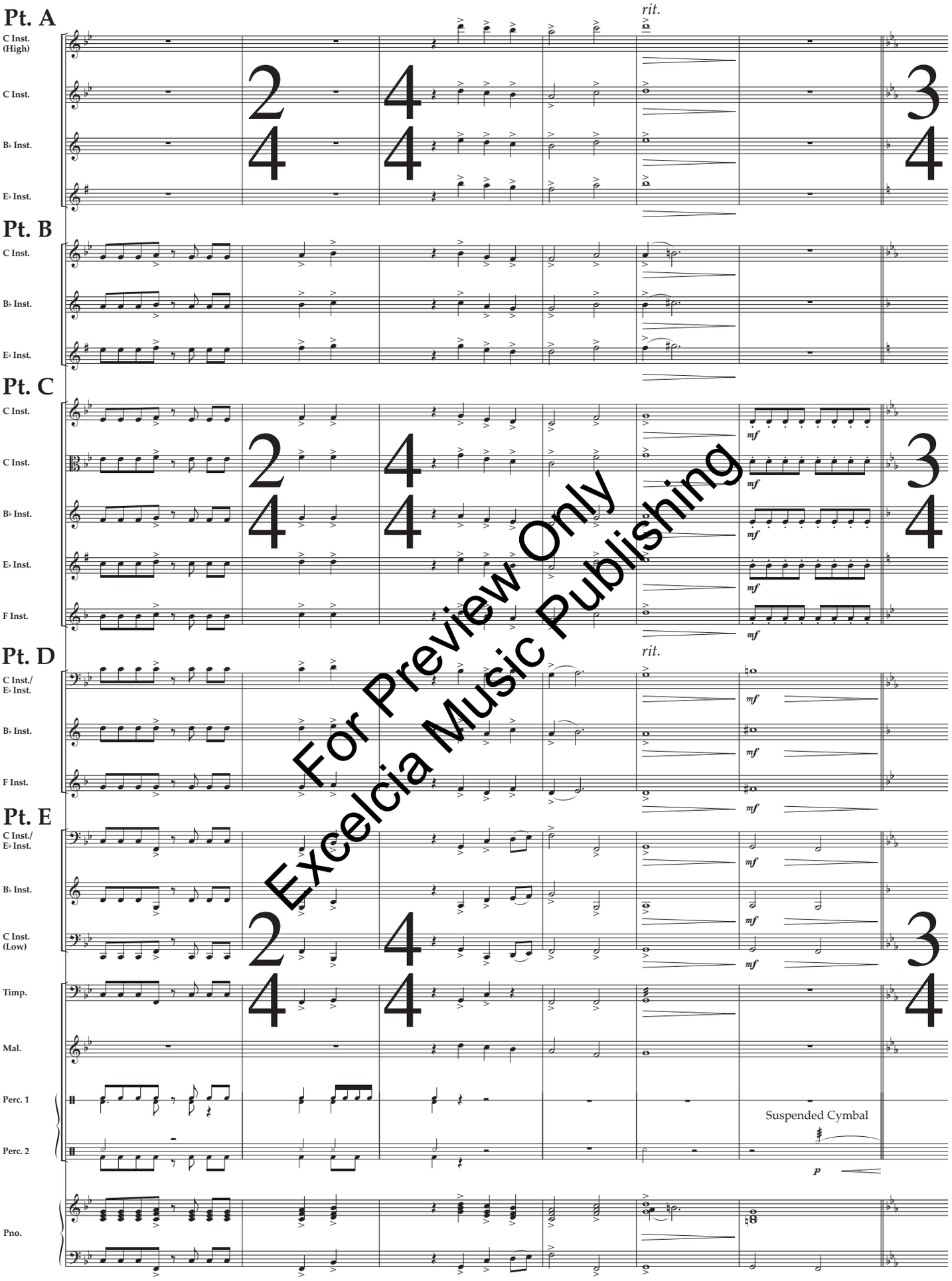

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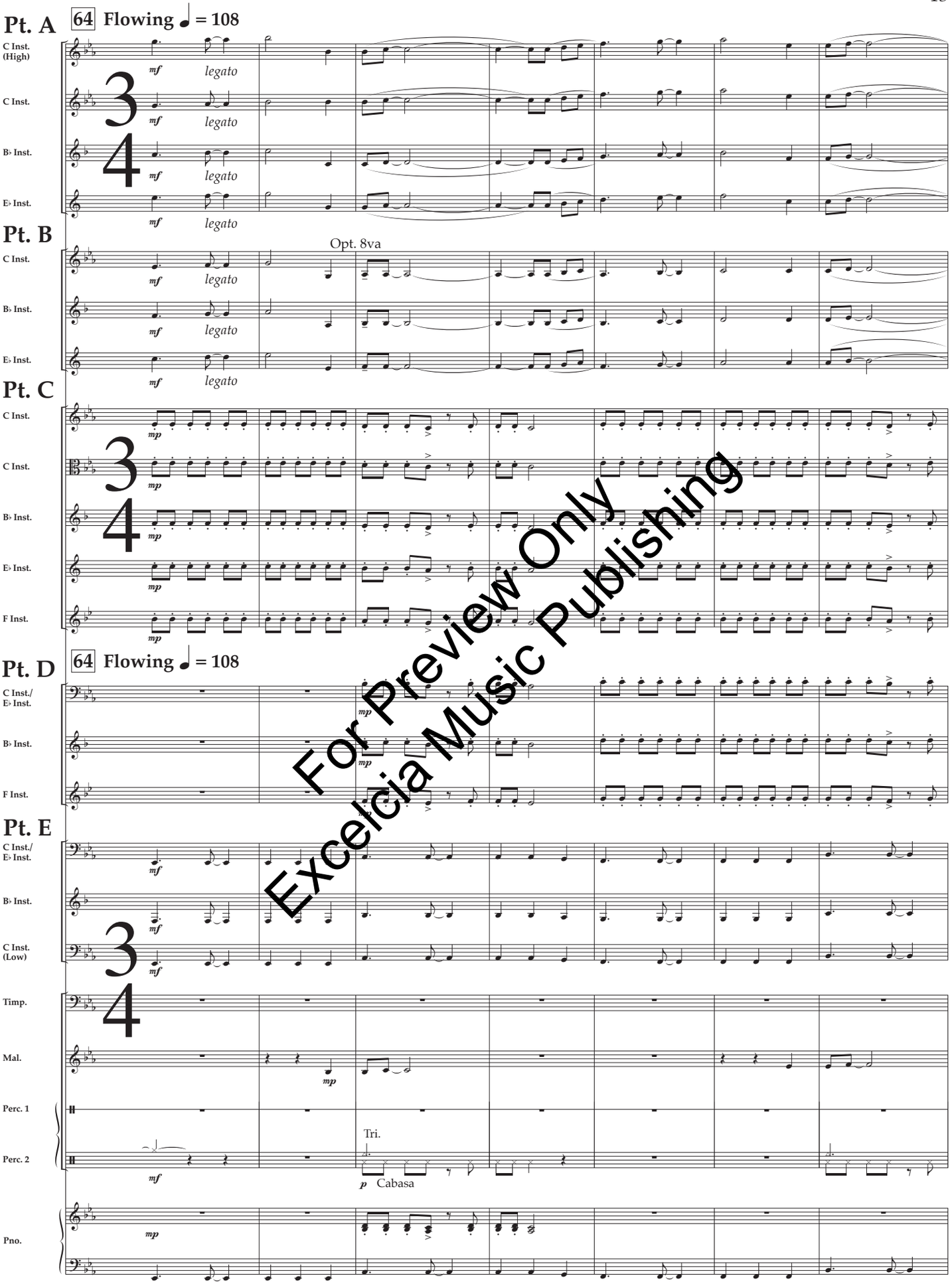

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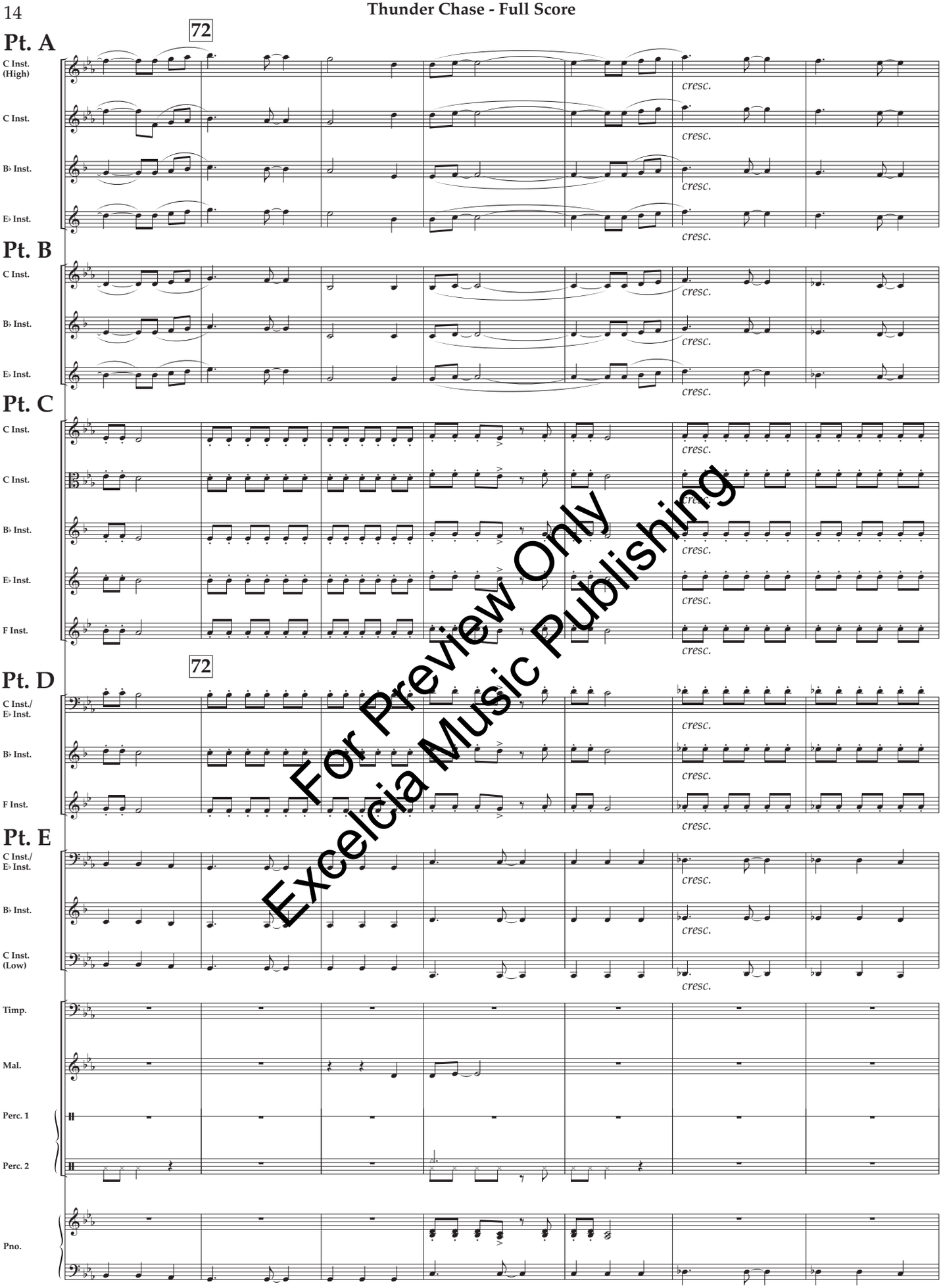

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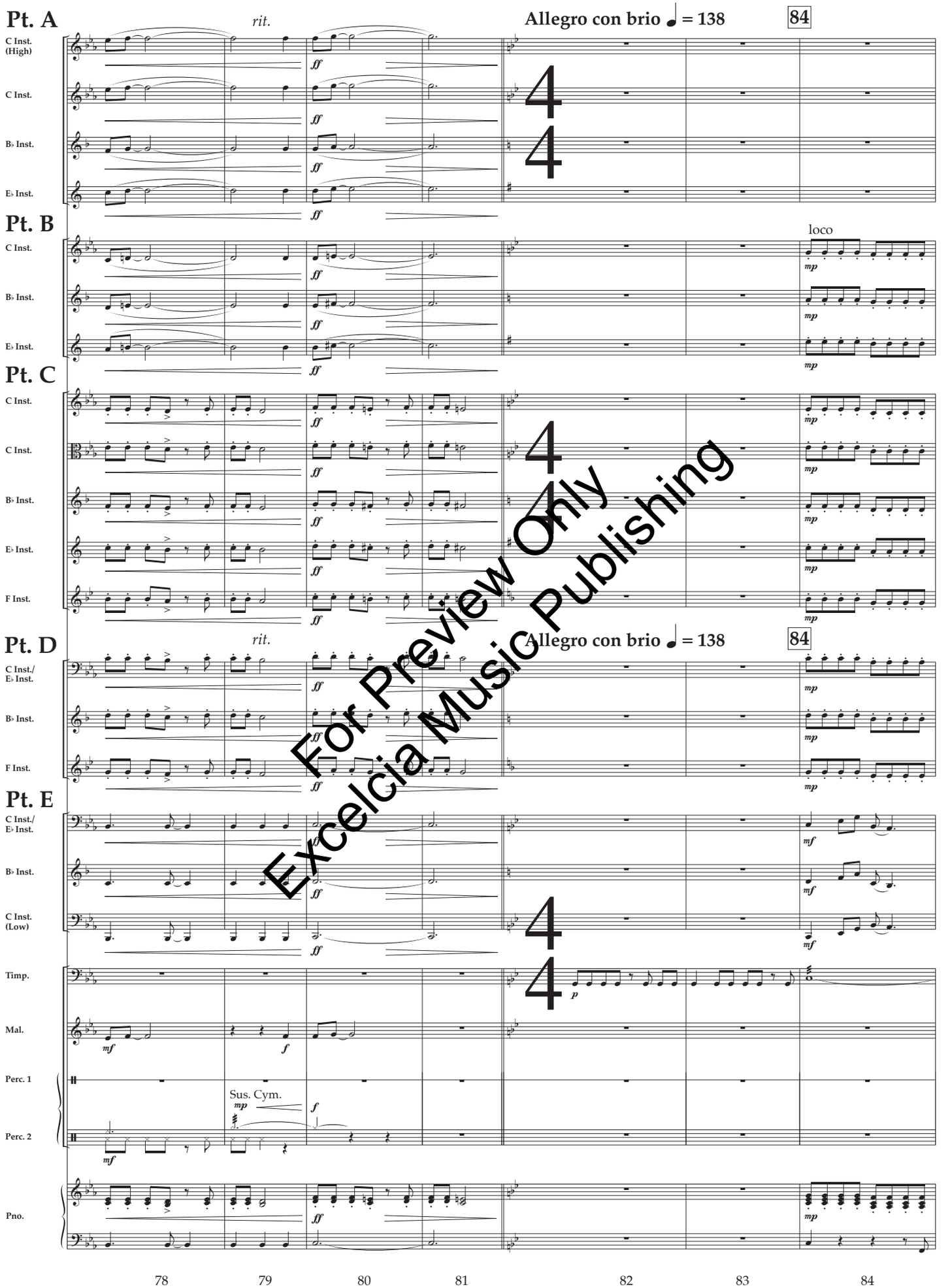

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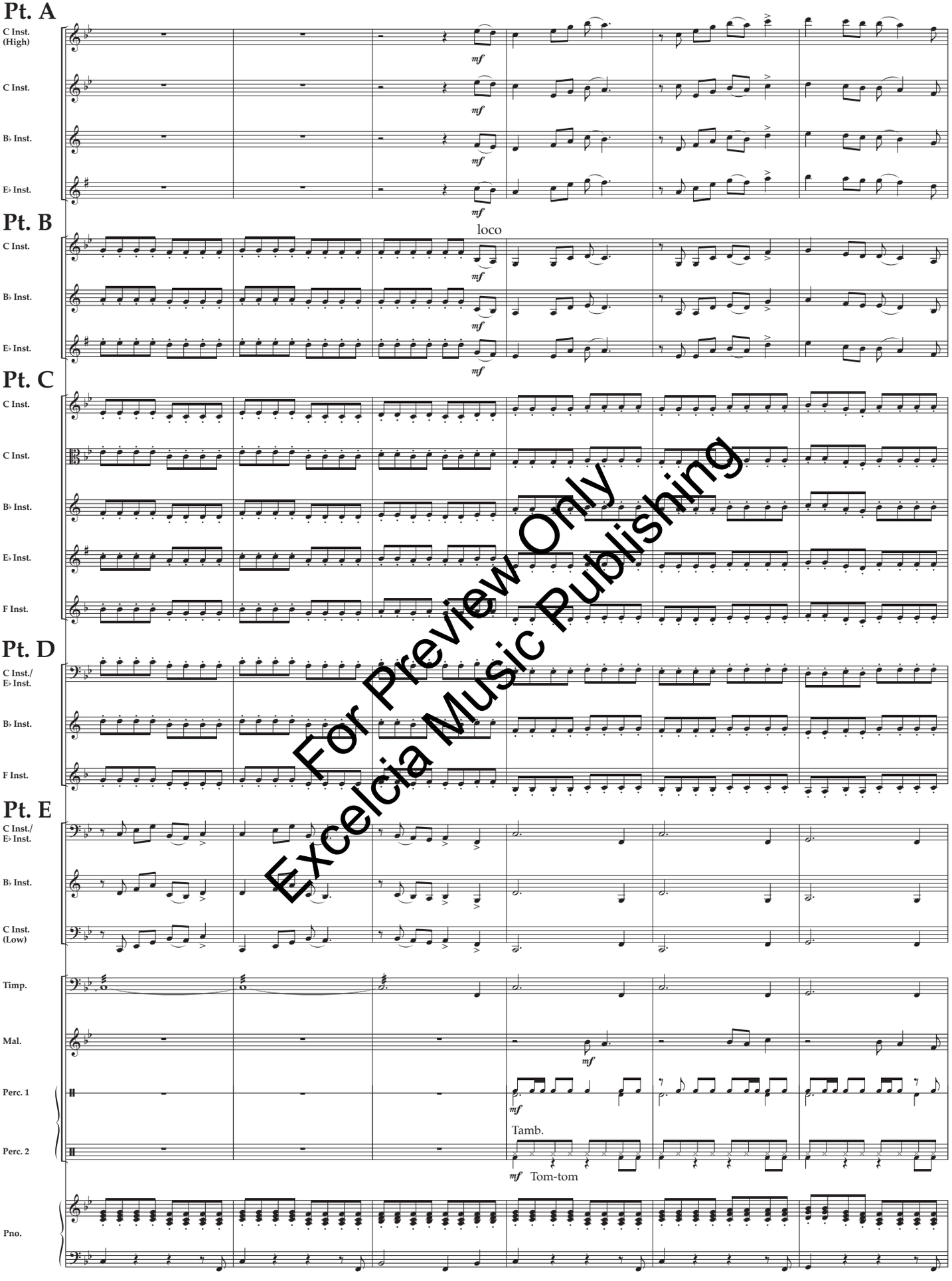

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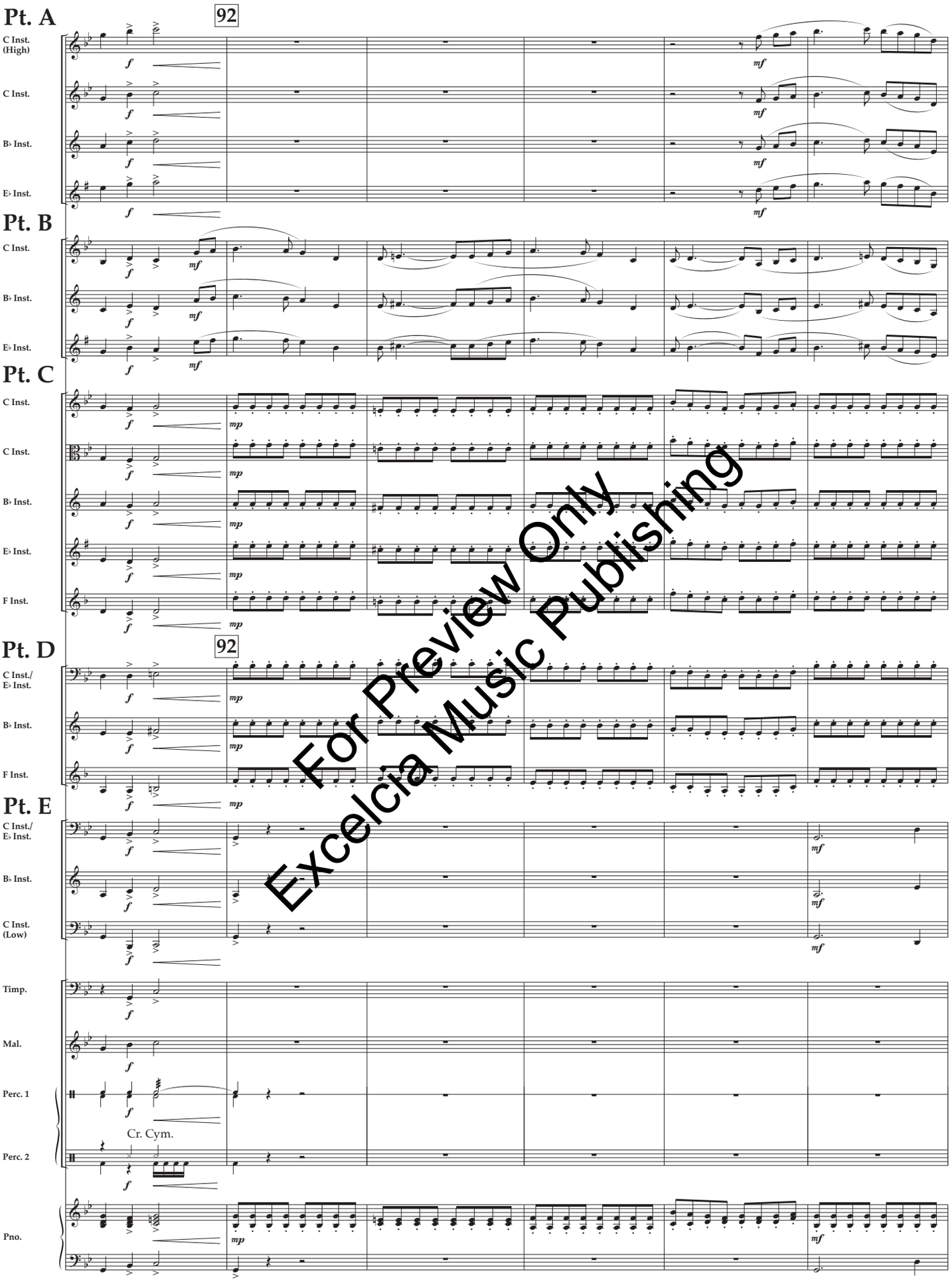

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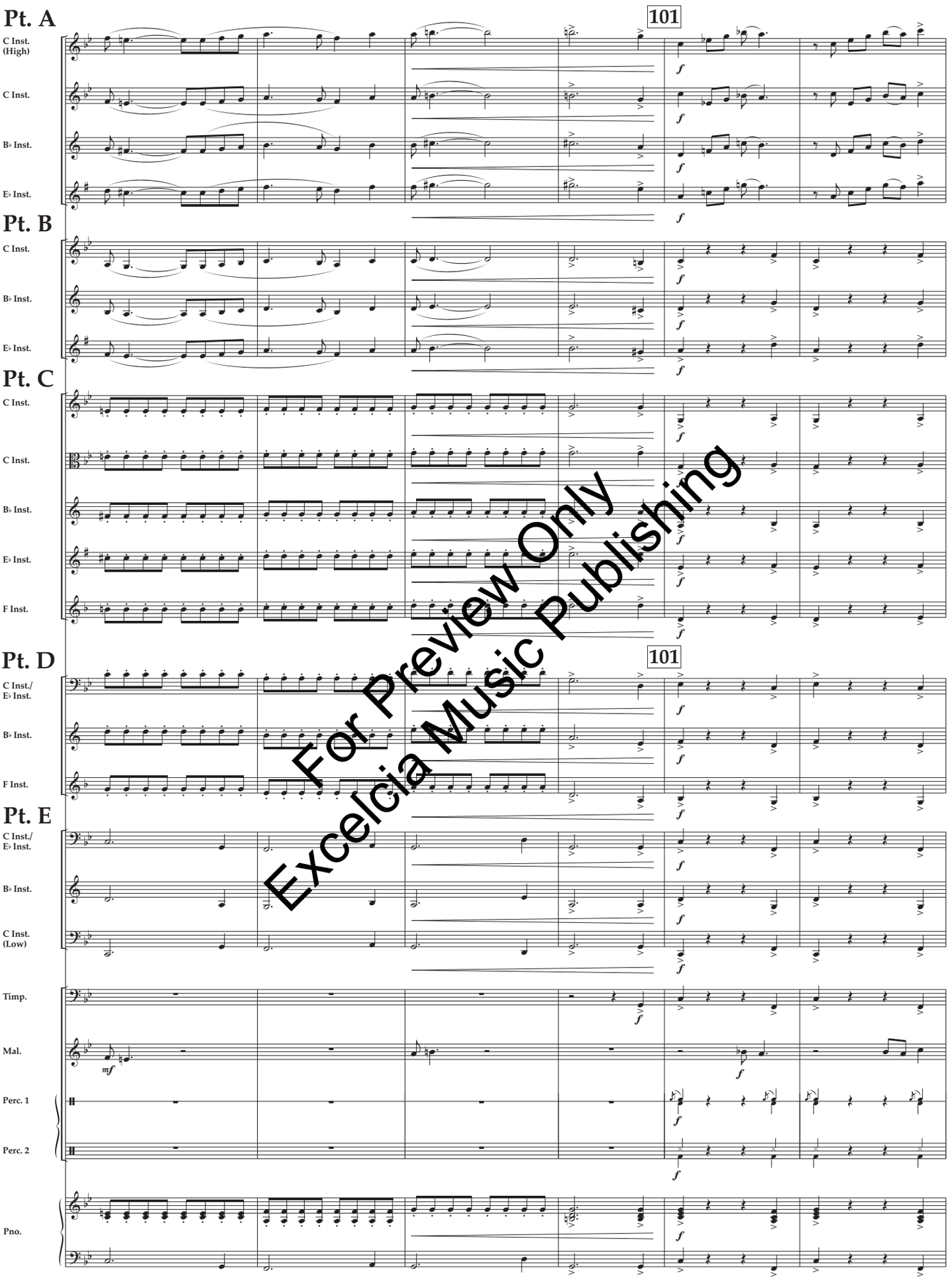

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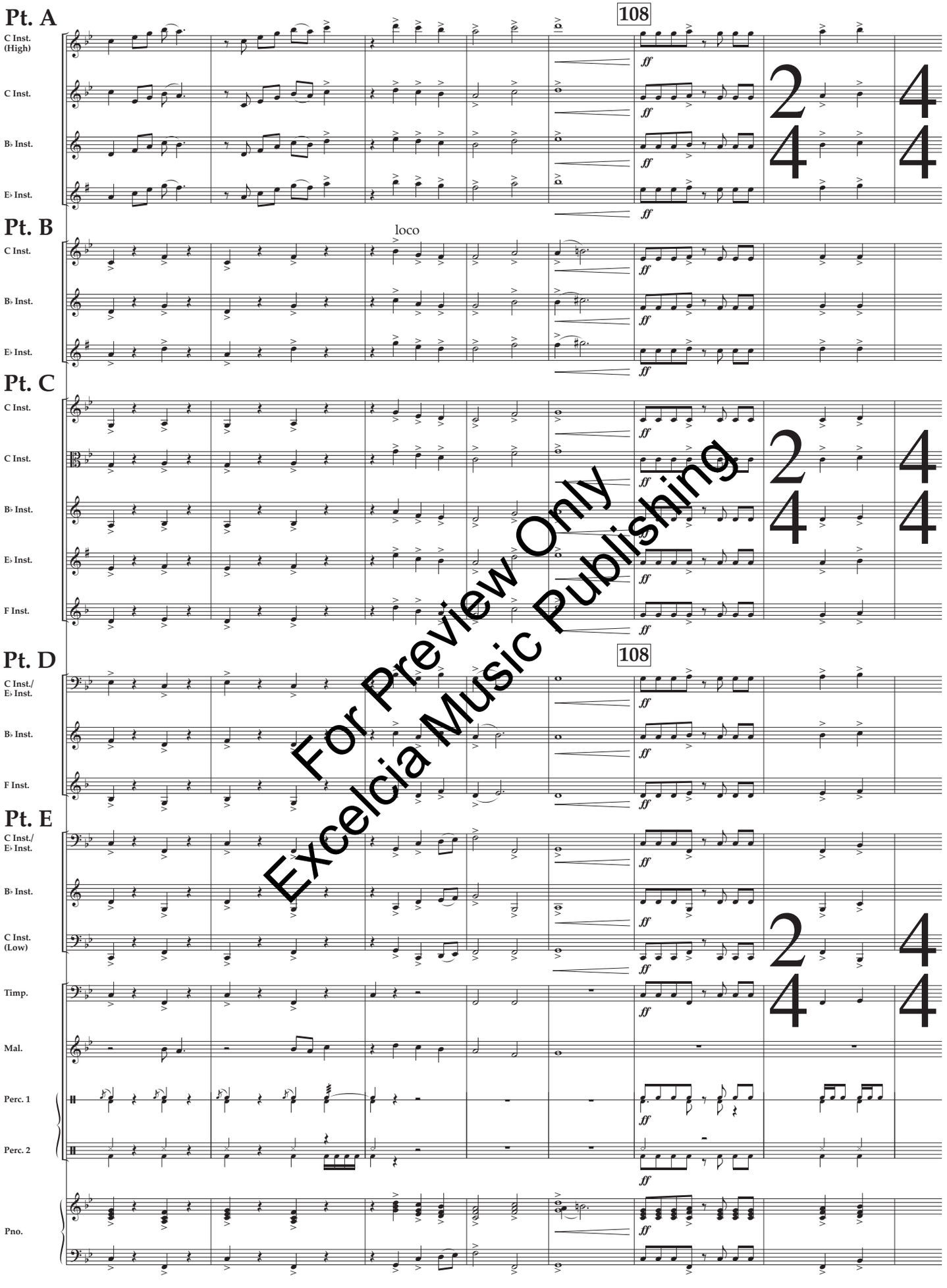

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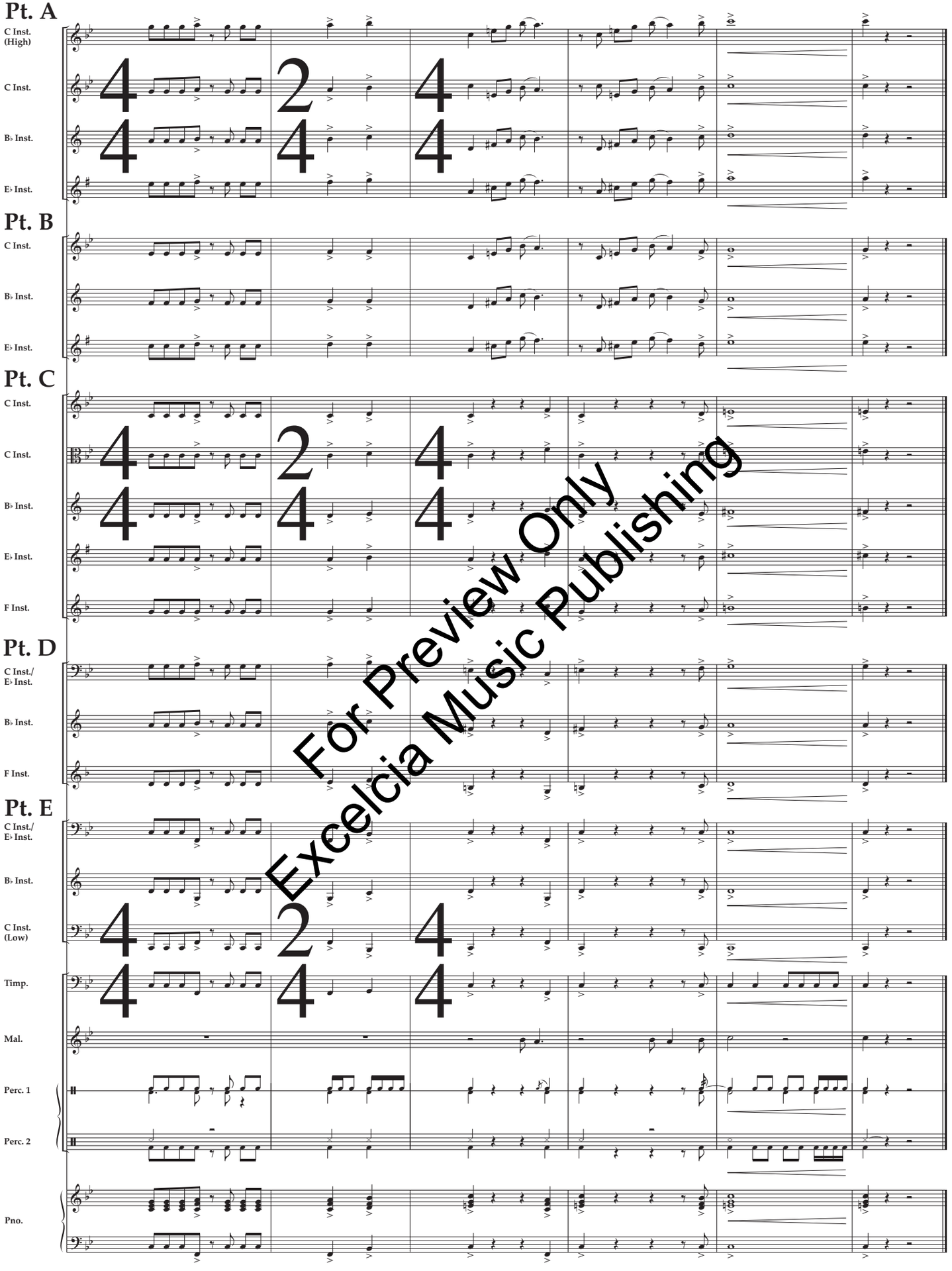

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