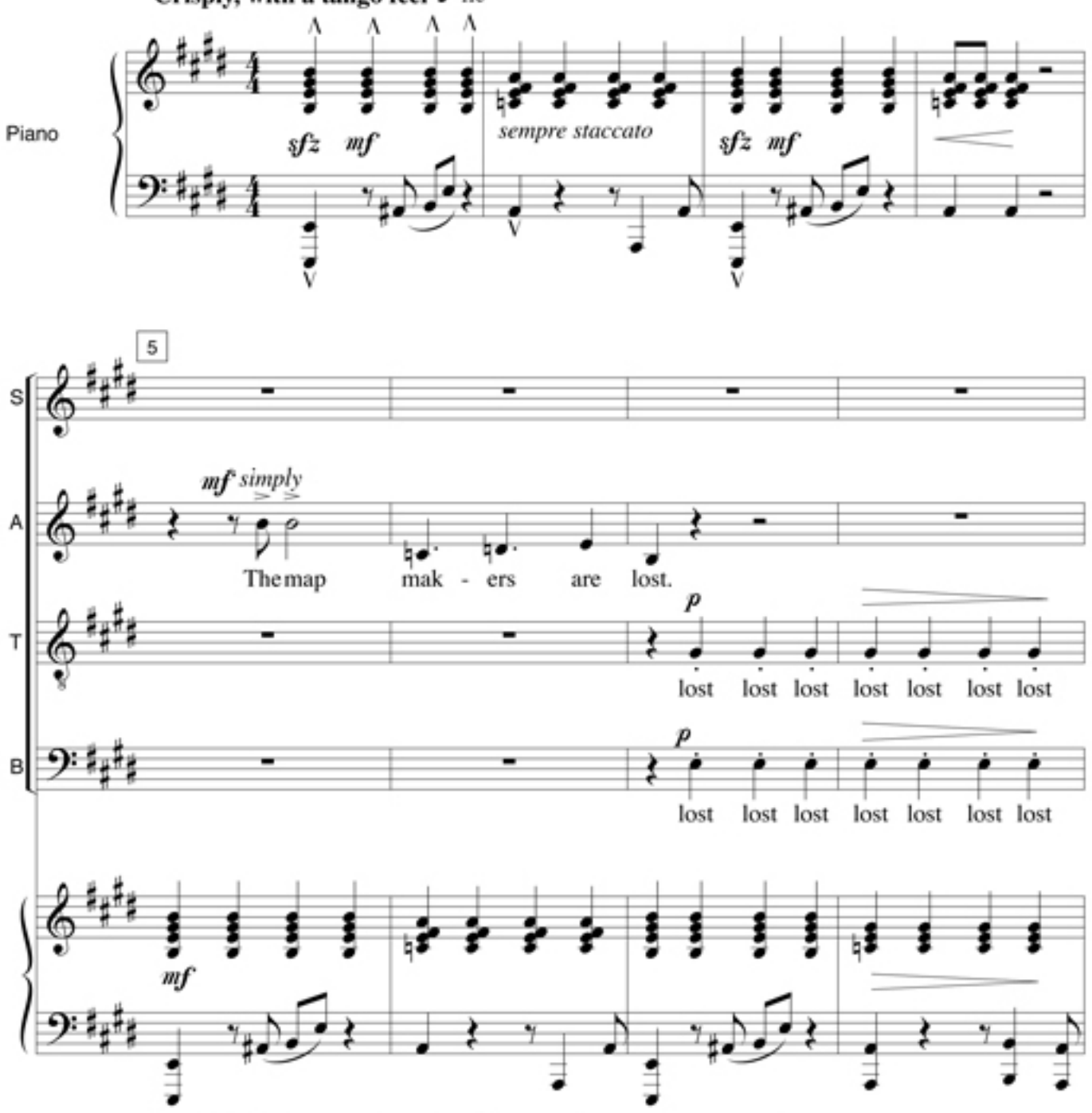
The Heart is the Compass

Linda Marcus

Neil Ginsberg

Crisply, with a tango feel ♩=110



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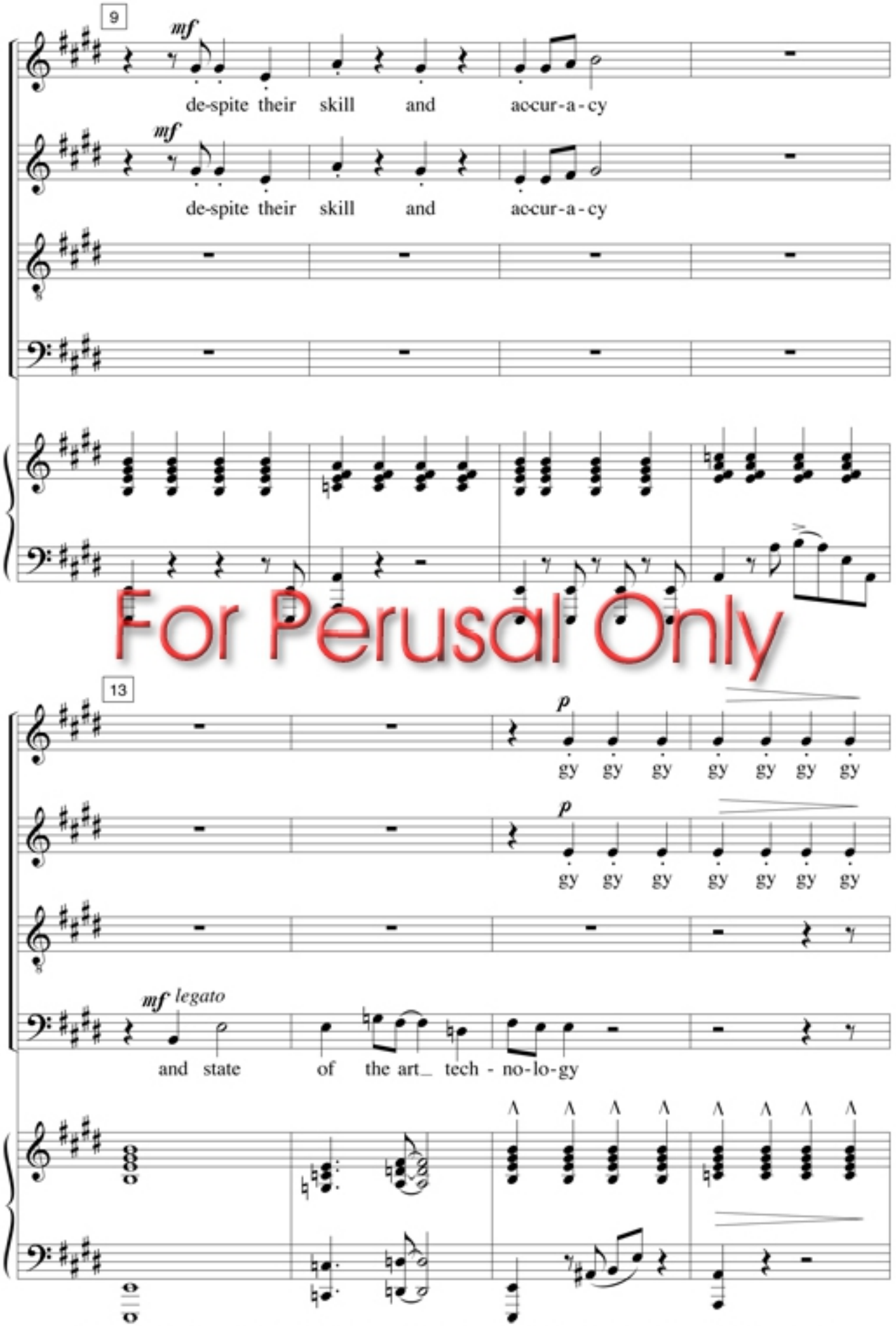

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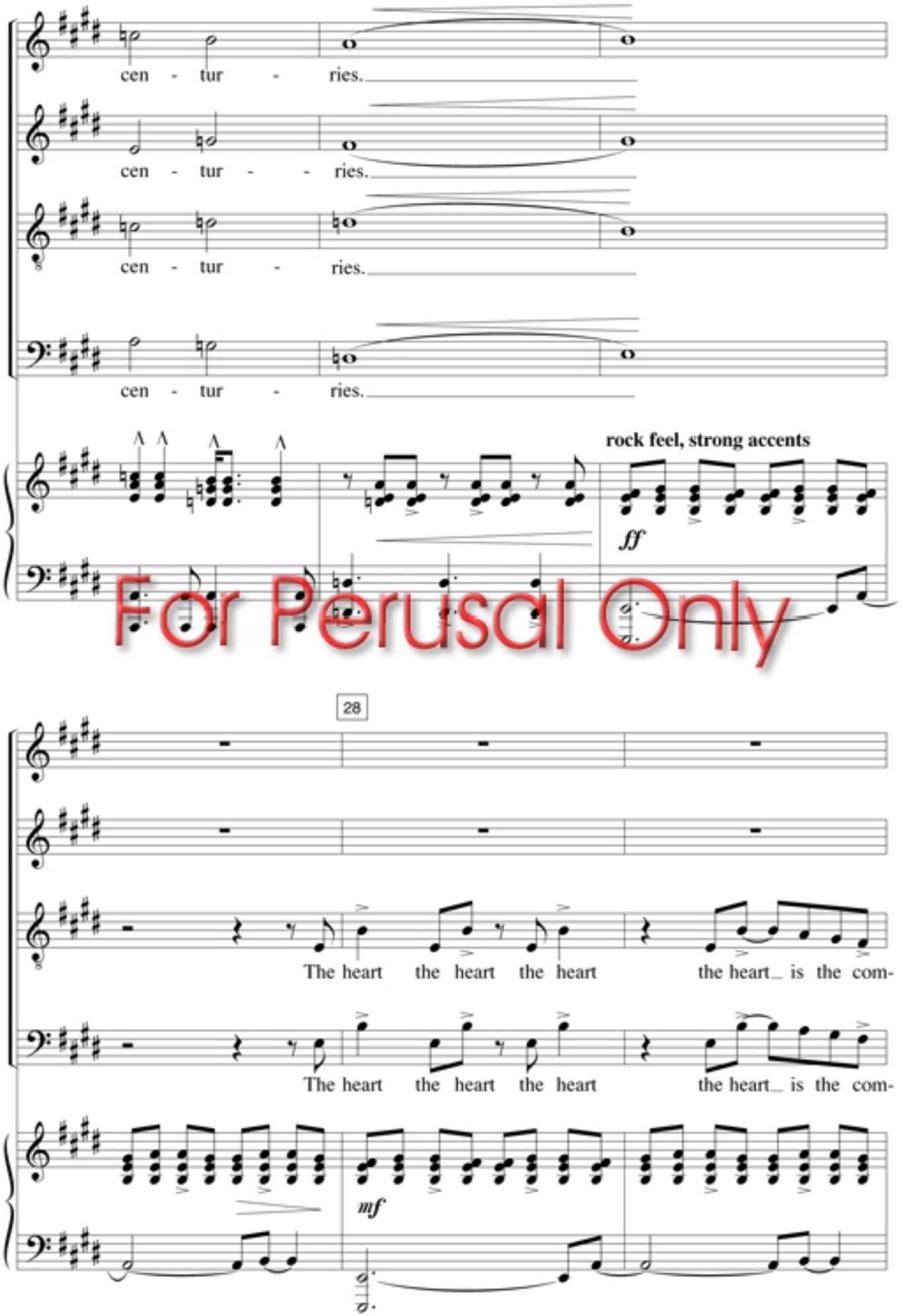

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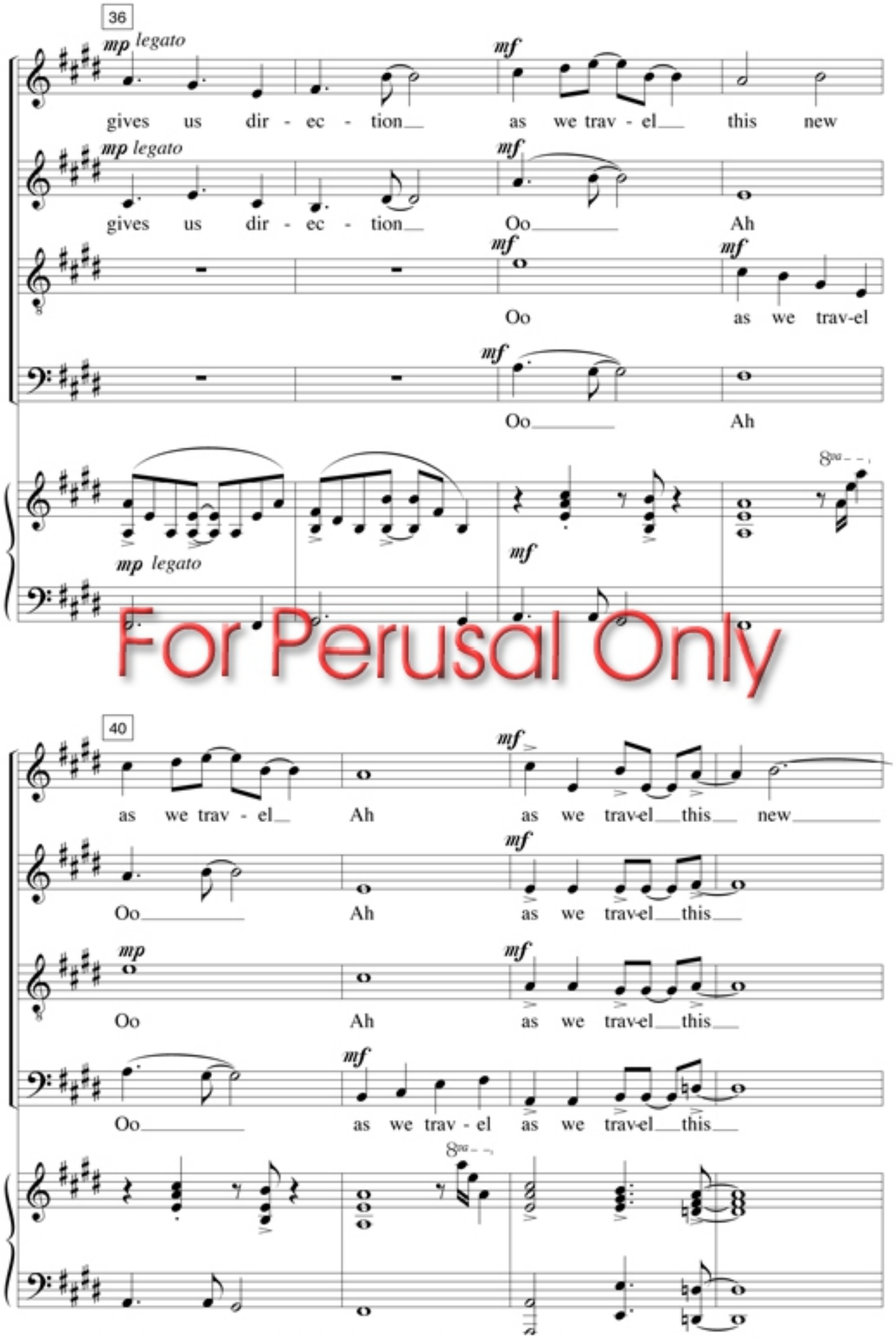

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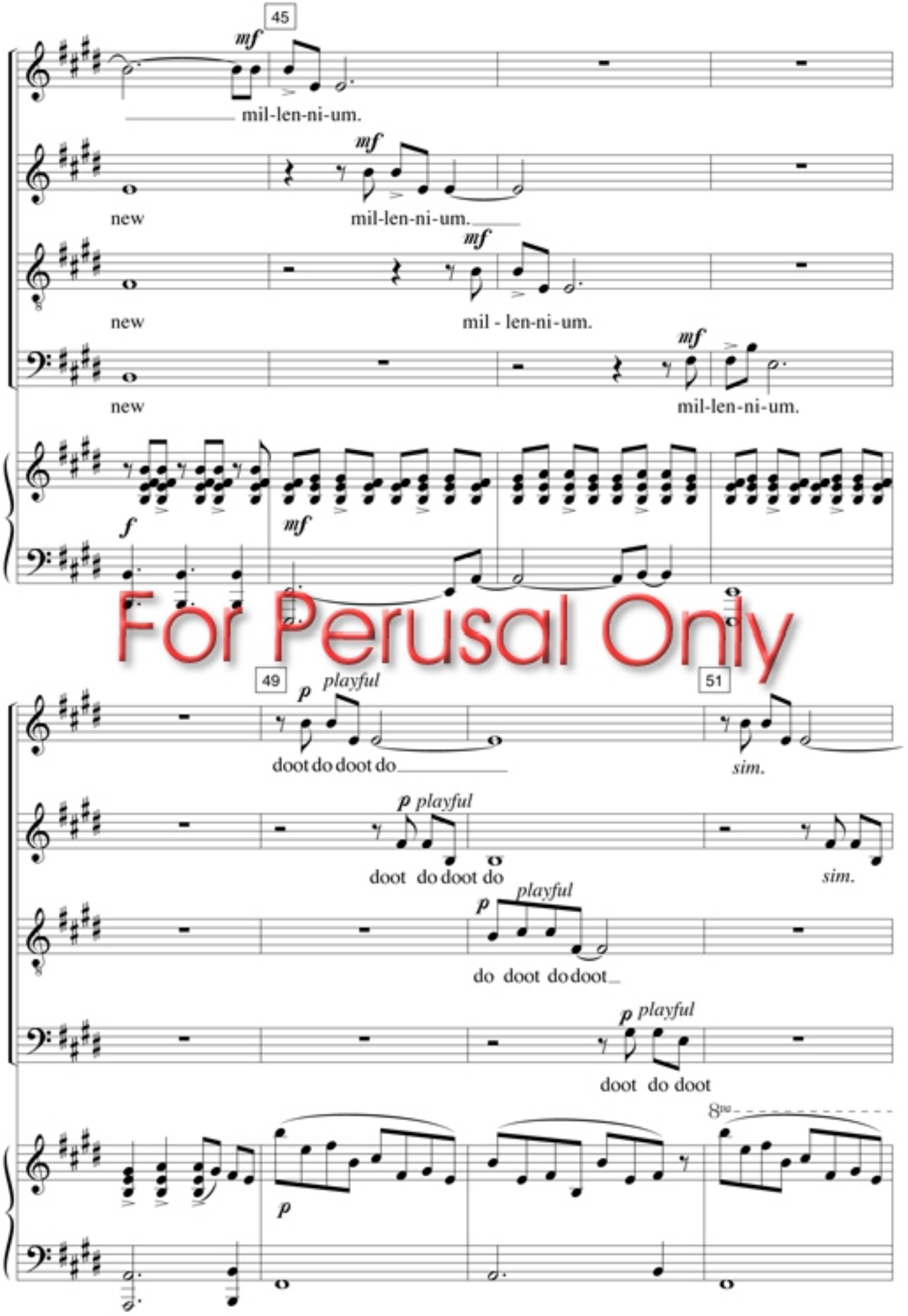

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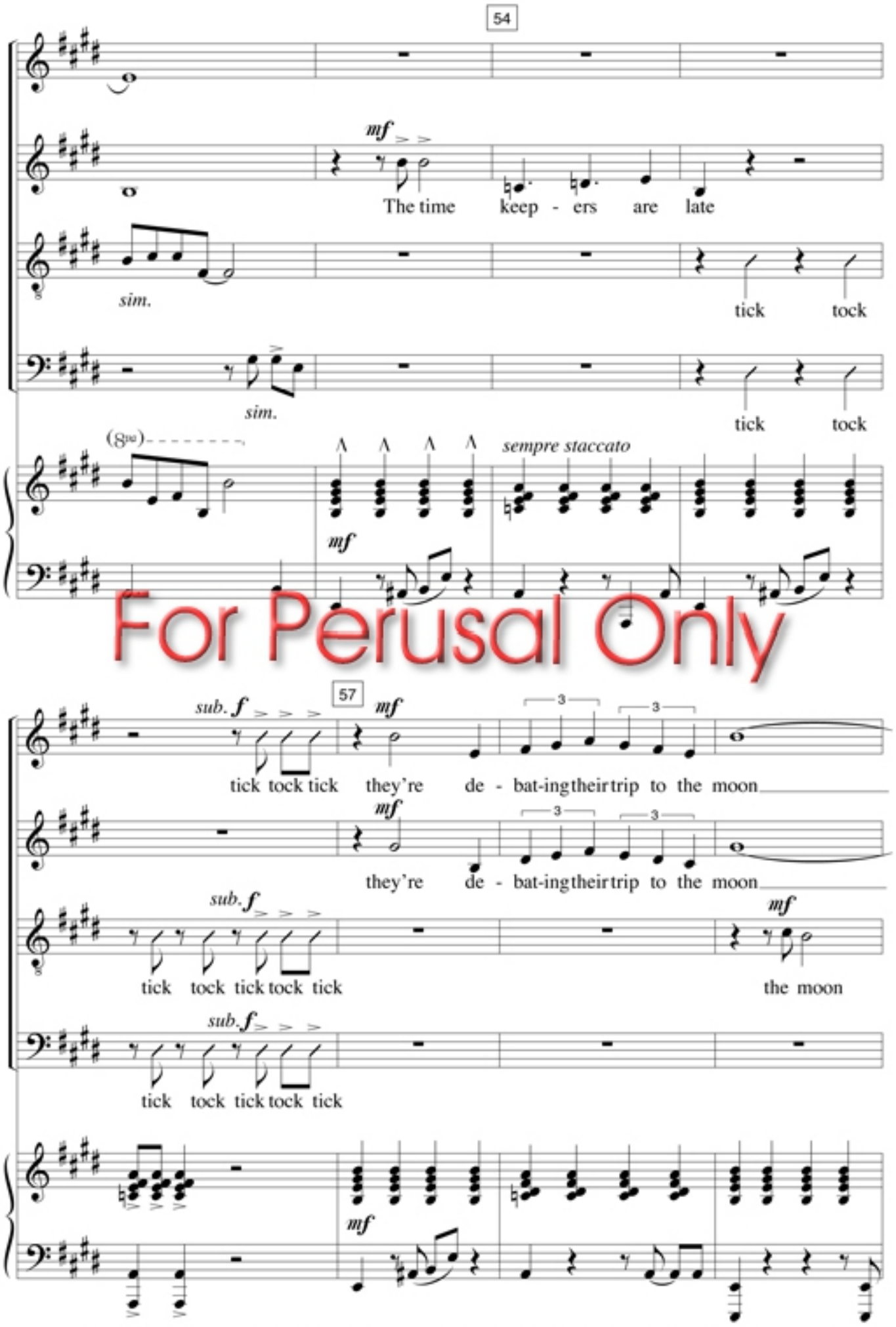

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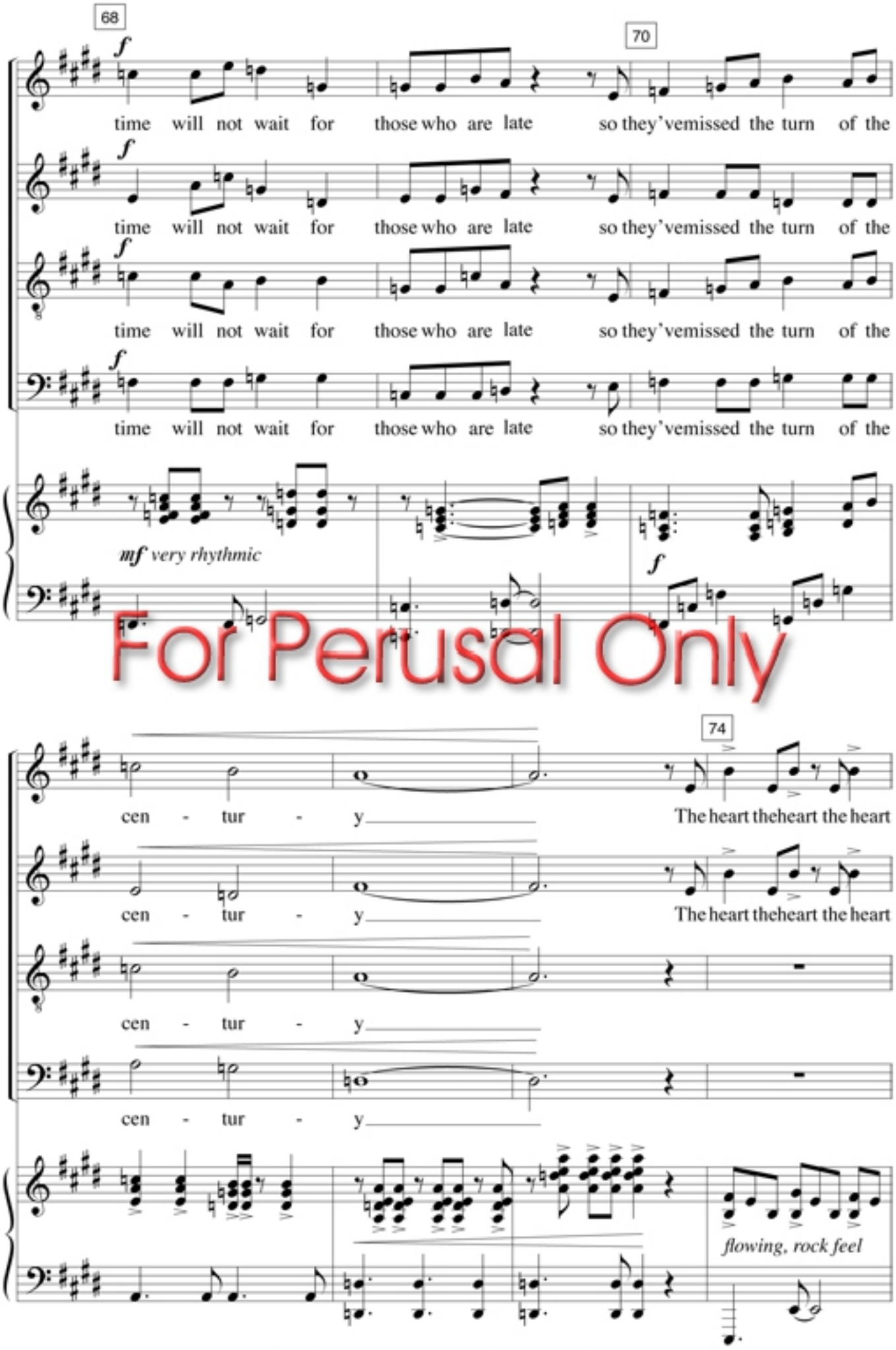

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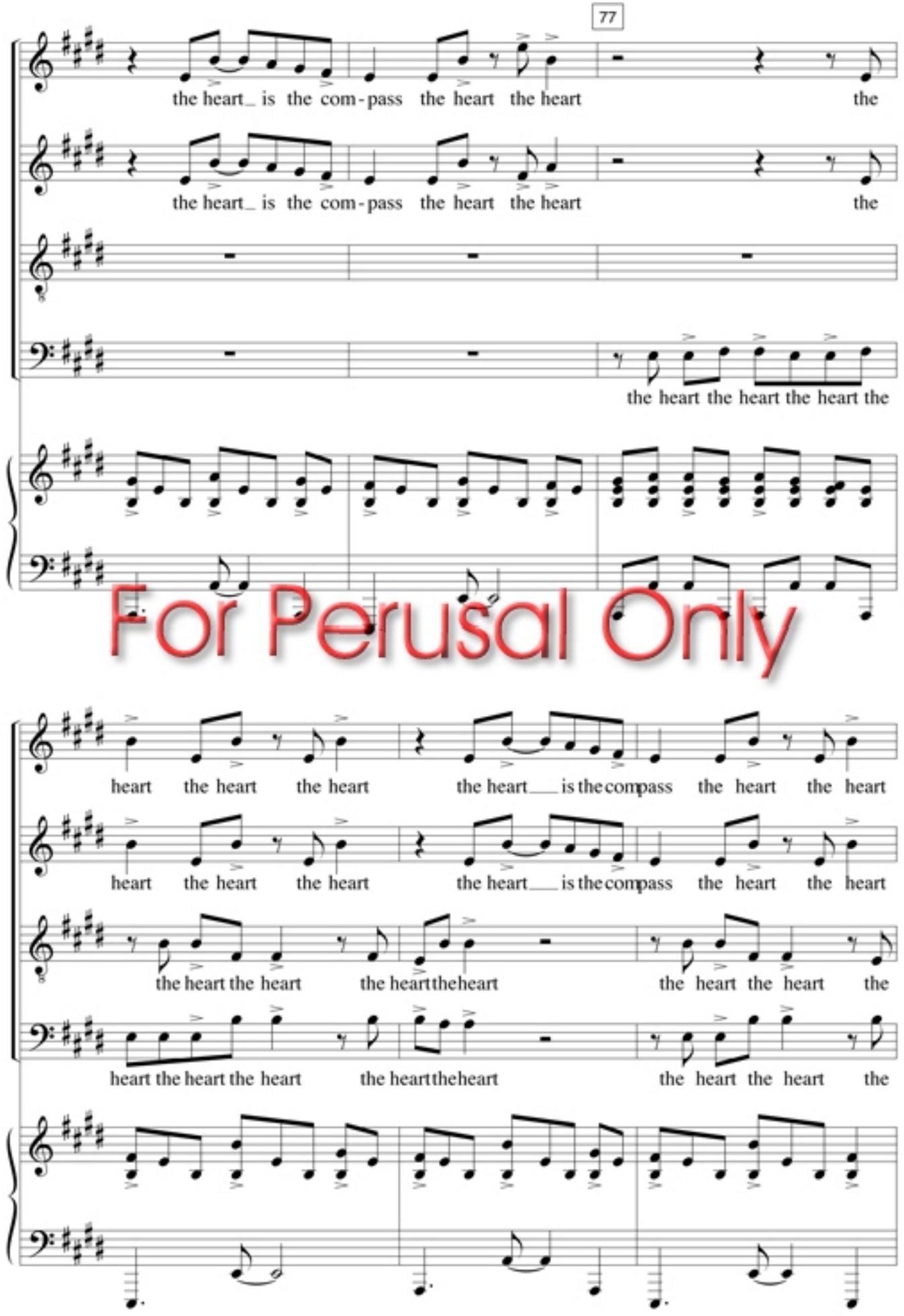

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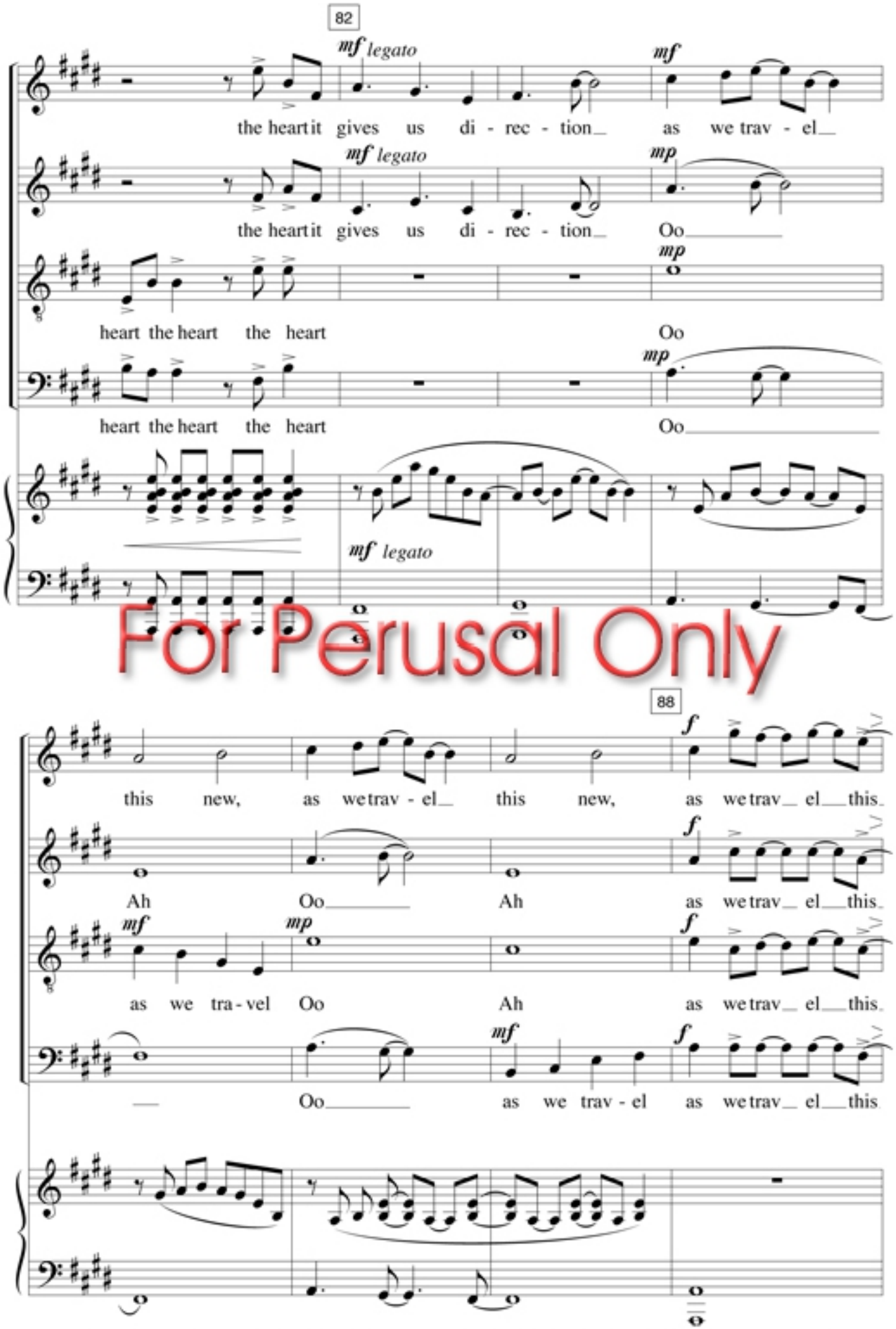

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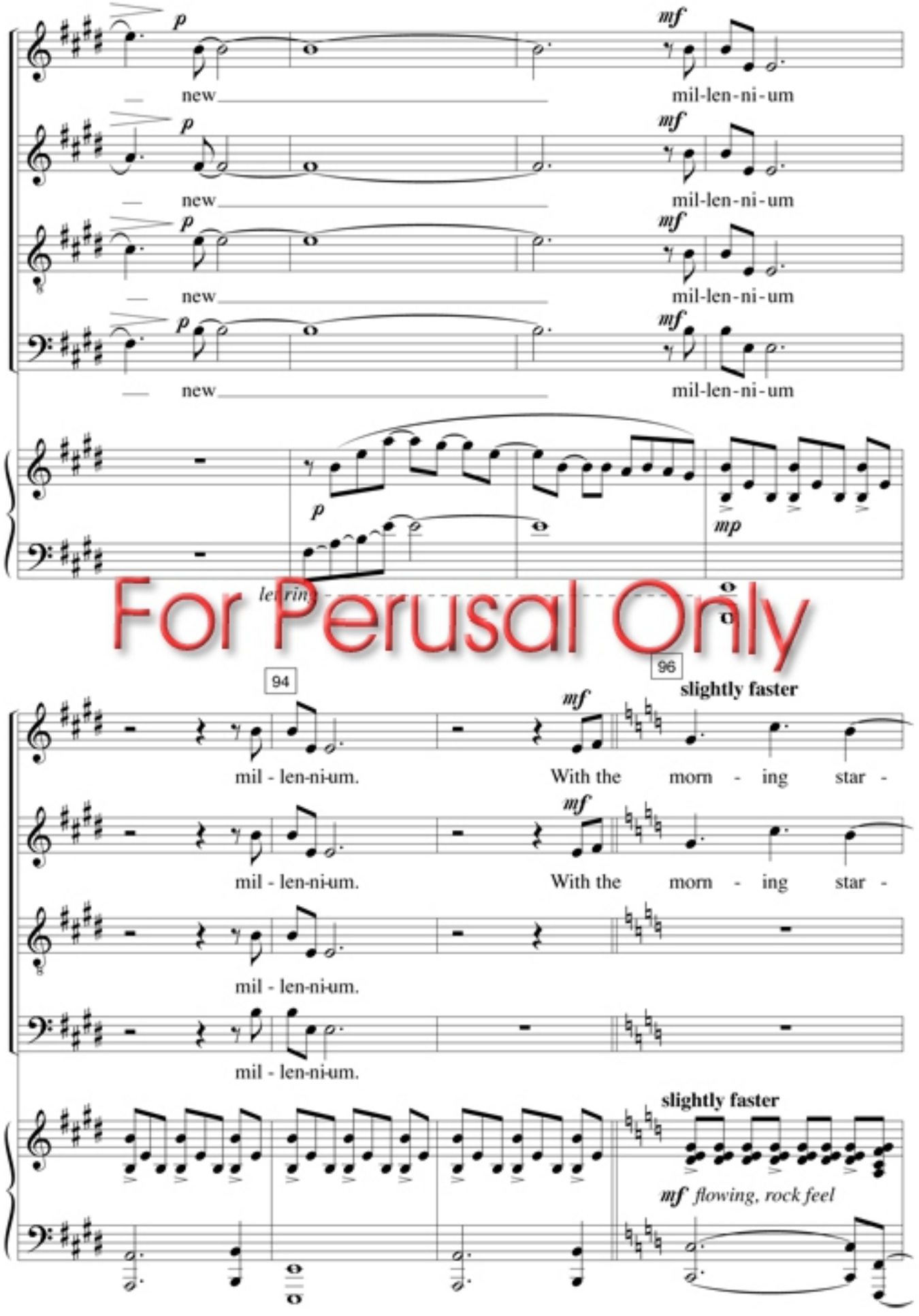

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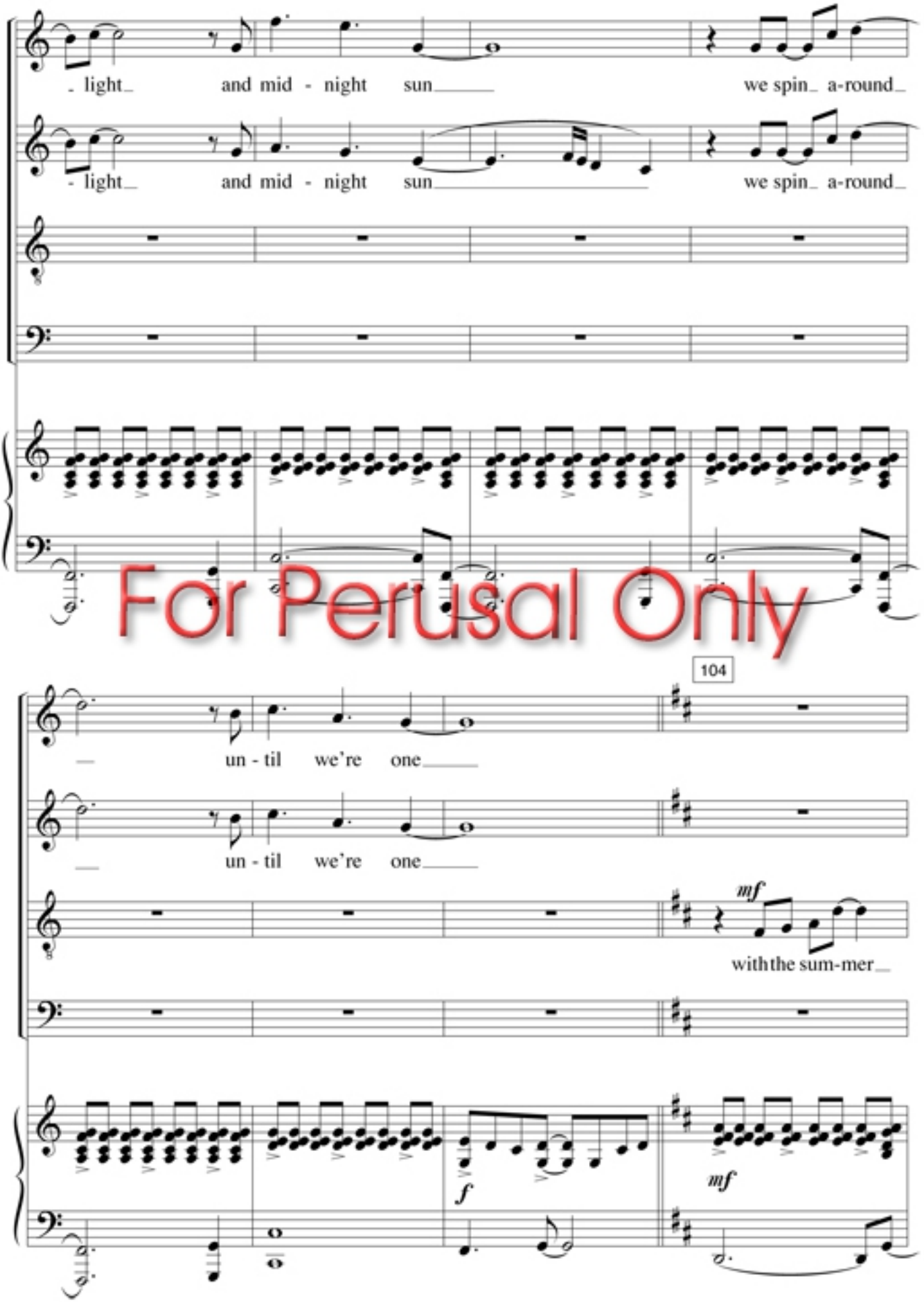

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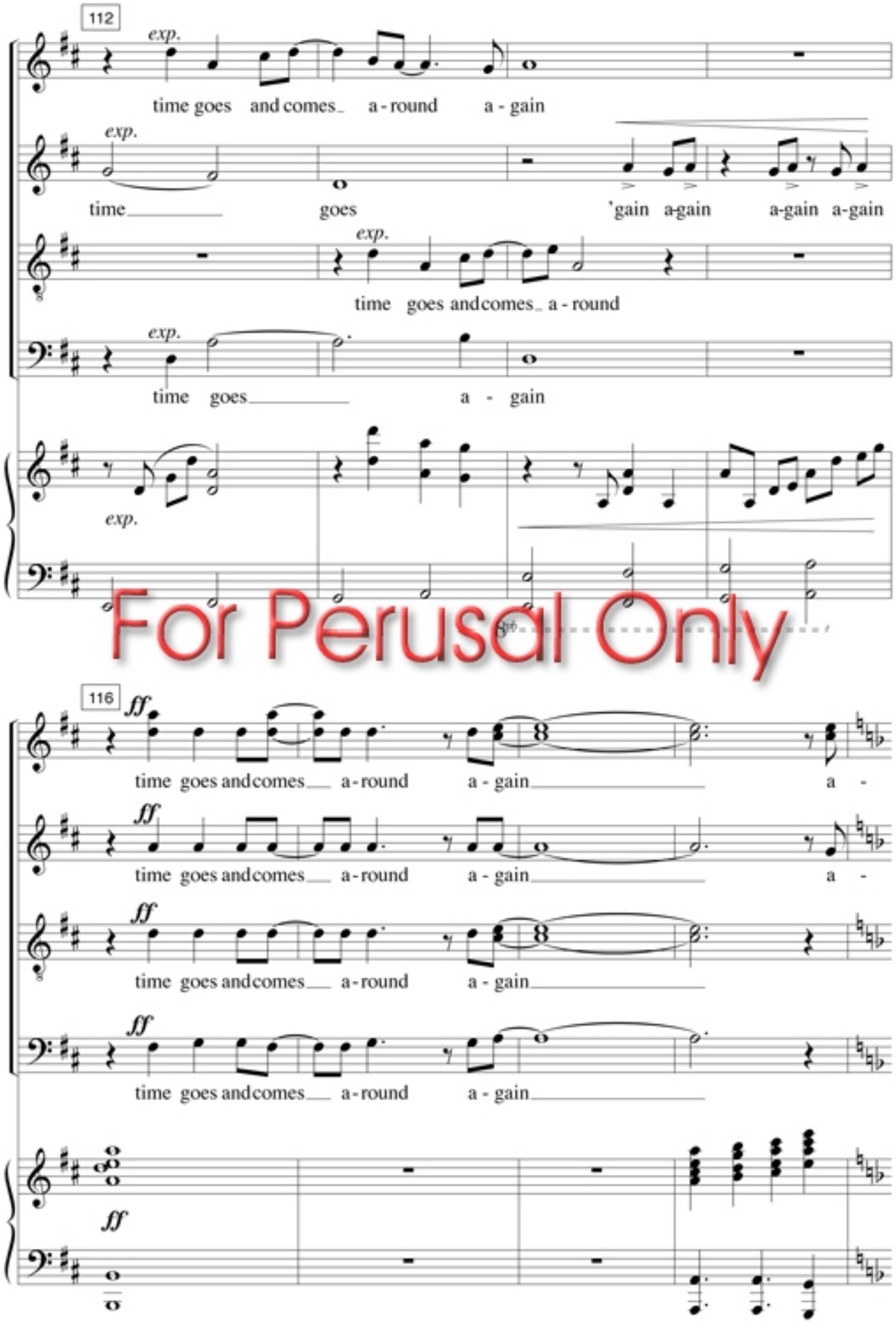

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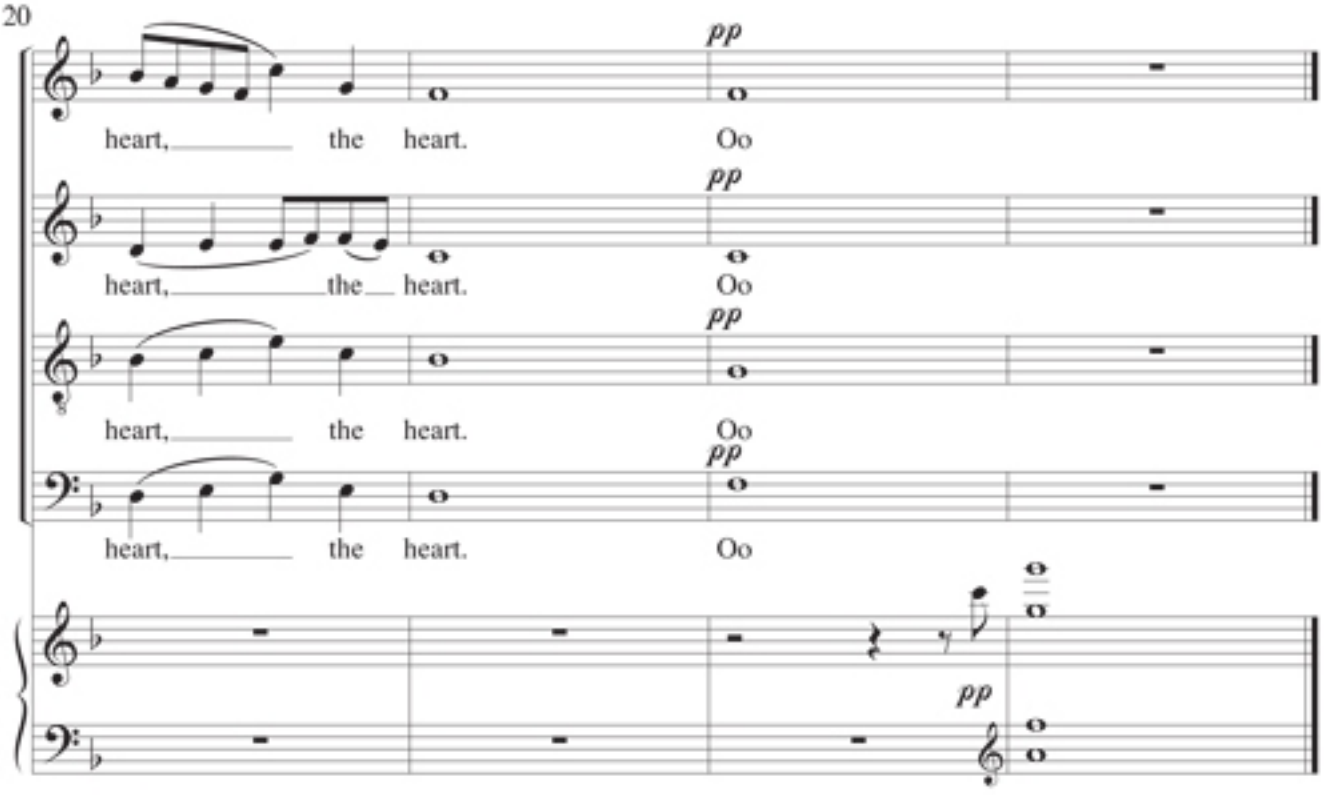

About the composer

Neil Ginsberg (b. 1969) is a graduate of the Hartt School of Music, University of Hartford. He received a graduate degree from the University of Southern California and is currently composing for film, television, and theater. He has written scores for theatrical productions at The Julliard School, Fordham University, Hartt Opera/Music Theater, Company One of Hartford Ct., American International School of Amsterdam, the Henry Street Settlement. Awards/Grants include: The Temple Guild of Young Composers Award (1993), MAP the Composer (1996), North Carolina Arts Council (1994), New York Foundation for Arts in Education (1994) and BMI.

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Performance notes from the composer

The Heart is the Compass is a "rock" piece. Choirs are encouraged to explore the possibilities of the accompaniment. Drums, and hand percussion, bass and guitar can be added throughout, and synthesizer or an additional pianist (8va) can be used to double the right hand during the choruses and bridge (ms. 26-36, 74-81, 96-108, 120-134).

About the poet

Linda Marcus (b.1937) has been an educator, writer, and speaker for more than thirty years. Presently her work focuses on lyric writing for the children's, inspirational, and choral markets. She taught composition, literature for children, and other humanities courses at the University of Pittsburgh.

The map makers are lost
despite their skill and accuracy
and state of the art technology
they have to concede
they cannot proceed
with the proper designs
for borderlines
between the old and new centuries.

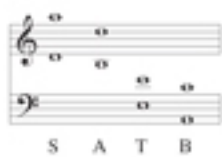
The heart is the compass
it gives us direction
as we travel
this new millennium.

(tick tock) The time keepers are late
they're debating their trip to the moon
when traveling in a space balloon
they will not succeed
they're not up to speed
time will not wait
for those who are late
so, they've missed the turn of the century.

The heart is the compass
it gives us direction
as we travel
this new millennium.

With the morning starlight
and midnight sun
we spin around until we're one
with the summer snowflake
and winter wren
we spin around and round and round again
time goes and comes around again.

Range



Recording available from the publisher: SBMP CD 4
Performed by the Stetson University Choir,
Duncan Couch, conductor

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