Conductor's Score

Clouds of the Cosmos

Written for the celebration of the 48th International Trombone Festival,
hosted by Chris Van Hof, Assistant Professor of Trombone at Ball State University.
Dr. Van Hof was the lead commissioner along with the members of a consortium as follows:
Mark Babbitt, Illinois State University; Indiana University Jacobs School of Music Trombone Faculty;
Jim Bertucci, Indianapolis Trombone Choir; Justin Cook, University of Central Arkansas; Stephen Ivany,
East Carolina University; Robert Lindahl, Central Michigan University; Jeremy Marks, University of North Carolina-Charlotte;
James Nova, Duquesne University; Bradley Palmer, Columbus State University; Sarah Paradis, Boise State University;
Austin Richardson; Jeff and Susan Smithburn; Zsolt Szabo, Western Carolina University, Steven Zugelder, Nazareth College

by

James A. Beckel Jr.

Jim Beckel Music

©2019 James A. Beckel Jr.
All Rights Reserved

About the Work

"Clouds of the Cosmos" *was written in 2019 to celebrate the 48th International Trombone Conference at Ball State University, hosted by Chris Van Hof. This work was commissioned by Dr. Chris van Hof, Professor of Trombone at Ball State University along with consortium members Mark Babbitt of Illinois State University; Jim Bertucci from the Indianapolis Trombone Choir; Justin Cook, at the University of Central Arkansas; Stephen Ivany of East Carolina University; Indiana University Jacobs School of Music Trombone Faculty; Robert Lindahl, from Central Michigan University; Jeremy Marks at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte; James Nova from Duquesne University; Bradley Palmer at Columbus State University; Sarah Paradis from Boise State University; Austin Richardson, Jeff and Susan Smithburn; Zsolt Szabo, at Western Carolina University; and Steven Zugelder from Nazarath College.*

This work is written for 12 trombones and is a programmatic work depicting some of the more famous Nebulae in the Universe. The composition has an accompanying video which is optional showing stunning pictures of the various Nebula depicted in this piece. The optional video is written in Power Point by Brannon Fells and is intended to be displayed above the trombone choir during a performance. This work comes with it's own film cue score to synchronize this optional video to the music.

The first movement, entitled "The Pillars of Creation," opens quietly reflecting the wonder and awe of this cosmic cloud in the loneliness of space. This most famous Nebula is part of the larger Eagle Nebula in the Serpens Constellation, which is approximately 7,000 light years from Earth. All Nebulae are clouds of hydrogen and other elements that eventually condense into new stars under the force of gravity. They are, in fact, stellar nurseries. The beginning of this movement refers to the vagueness of these clouds and emotes the wonder of what they will become in time and their incredible visual beauty as seen by the Hubble telescope. As the movement continues, there is a musical reference to the forming of new stars the 'Pillars of Creation', heard as clusters of sound. The new stars are created in Nebulae, exist, and then die usually in a supernova, creating yet another nebula cloud where the process begins again. Hence, the music returns to the mystical music heard at the beginning of this work to end this movement.

The second movement is entitled "The Eagle Nebula" which, as earlier mentioned, is the nebula that surrounds "The Pillars of Creation." This larger Nebula is aptly named since its form looks like an eagle in the Cosmos from Earth. The music in this movement is bold and fast, representing the traits of this bird on Earth now flying through the Cosmos. It is written in a basic rondo form.

The third movement is entitled "The Helix Nebula, Eye of God." This Nebula was so named because it looks like a big eye in the sky. The opening of this movement features loud chordal music portraying the magnitude of the Nebula and its assigned nickname. The middle section is hymn like in nature, and the composer borrowed this melody from the second movement of his Trombone Concerto published by Hal Leonard Music. It is religious in nature. The movement is a basic ABA form.

The final movement to this work is entitled "Crab Nebula, Supernova Remnant." This nebula is also a very famous Cosmic Cloud in the Universe. It is approximately 6.5 light years from Earth and is the result of star exploding in a supernova, hence the chaotic opening. This opening bombast transitions into a more serene musical setting that is meant to represent the aftermath of such an event, which is the clouds of cosmic dust that we call Nebulae. As the universe recycles itself in its rebirth, so does the music morph into earlier stated music from this work. The listener will hear the earlier religious hymn of the 3rd movement going into the rhythmic music of a star forming from the first movement which climaxes in a coda section that includes many parts of this piece coming together in an exciting ending and rebirth.

Jim Becker Music

About James Beckel, Composer

James Beckel graduated from the Indiana University School of Music and was the Principal Trombonist with the Indianapolis Symphony from 1969 to 2018. He now retired. He is on the music faculty at DePauw University. In addition to this responsibilitiy, he is a very active composer and arranger. Hal Leonard Music publishes several of his works. He was born in Marion, Ohio in 1948.

Many original works have been performed by several professional orchestras such as Minneapolis, Boston, St. Louis, Atlanta, Houston, Cincinnati, Baltimore, Detroit, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, Rochester, Charlotte, Fort Wayne, Springfield, Evansville, Tampa, Arkansas, Oklahoma City, Phoenix, New Mexico, Chautauqua, Terre Haute, South Bend, Omaha, Knoxville, Delaware, West Virginia, Jacksonville, etc. His works have been broadcast nationwide via television and radio by groups including the Cincinnati Symphony, the Rochester Philharmonic, the Nashville Symphony, and the U.S. Coast Guard Band.

Beckel's works have been recorded by the Indianapolis Brass Ensemble, the Houston Symphony, and the Indianapolis Symphony. In addition, some of his works for band have been recorded by the Coast Guard Band, the Marine Band, and the DePauw University Band. Greg Hustis and members of the Dallas Symphony recorded The Glass Bead Game horn concerto for a CD released in November of 2004 and Velvet Brown recorded Concerto for Tuba and Percussion, which was released early in 2007. The Texas Horns recorded a work, Portraits of the American West, which was specially commissioned for a CD released in 2008.

Mr. Beckel has received many composition grants. He has been an Individual Arts Fellow through the Indiana Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, and was one of 50 composers chosen nationwide to be part of the Continental Harmony Project. Liberty for All was written for that commission from Composers Forum in 2000 and has been broadcast multiple times on national television with the Nashville Symphony performing. The Glass Bead Game: Concerto for Horn and Orchestra was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. The Glass Bead Game was premiered by the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra on November 10, 1997. Kent Leslie was the horn soloist. The Glass Bead Game is now available with orchestra, wind ensemble, piano, and chamber ensemble. The wind ensemble version of this concerto, written in 1999 was nominated for the Grawemeyer Award in that same year and was recorded by the DePauw University Band in 2000.

Liberty for All and another patriotic work entitled The American Dream were featured works on a national A&E TV broadcast in the summer of 2003 with the Nashville Symphony Orchestra. Over 27 million people watched that program. The band version of this work was completed in 2002 and the United States Coast Guard Band has released 10,000 copies of this work on one of their CD's. Mr. Beckel's Concerto for Tuba and Percussion was composed in 2003. One of many performances of this Tuba/Percussion Concerto occurred at the 2004 Indiana MENC Convention in Indianapolis. Another recent work by Mr. Beckel, Fantasy after Schubert, was premiered in September of 2004 by the Indianapolis Symphony with Mario Venzago conducting. It was commissioned for the ISO's 75th anniversary season.

Another work, a three-movement sonata for Trumpet and Organ was completed in 2005. Mr. Beckel has also written several works for brass choir and brass quintet. In June of 2006, James completed a commission by the Air Force Band of Flight for a narrated patriotic work entitled Gardens of Stone. Later that year, the Indianapolis Chamber Winds performed the world premiere of his work, Music for Winds, Percussion, and Piano. And in March of 2007 two more world premieres took place. The Indianapolis Symphony premiered Toccata for Orchestra and the Peaceful Valley Chamber players premiered a work for string quartet, percussion, and trombone entitled Musical Masque (for the Seasons). In 2014 Joe Alessi, principal trombonist with the New York Philharmonic, premiered the composer's "Concerto for Trombone and Orchestra" with the Gulf Coast Symphony. The piano reduction of this "Trombone Concerto " is published by Hal Leonard Music.

Visit the composer's website at www.jimbeckelmusic.com.

Jim Beckel Music

Clouds of the Cosmos

Conductor's Score

James A. Beckel Jr.

Written for the celebration of the 48th International Trombone Festival,
hosted by Chris Van Hof, Assistant Professor of Trombone at Ball State University.
Dr. Van Hof was the lead commissioner along with the members of a consortium as follows:
Mark Babbitt, Illinois State University; Indiana University Jacobs School of Music Trombone Faculty;
Jim Bertucci, Indianapolis Trombone Choir; Justin Cook, University of Central Arkansas; Stephen Ivany,
East Carolina University; Robert Lindahl, Central Michigan University; Jeremy Marks, University of North Carolina-Charlotte;
James Nova, Duquesne University; Bradley Palmer, Columbus State University; Sarah Paradis, Boise State University;
Austin Richardson; Jeff and Susan Smithburn; Zsolt Szabo, Western Carolina University, Steven Zugelder, Nazareth College

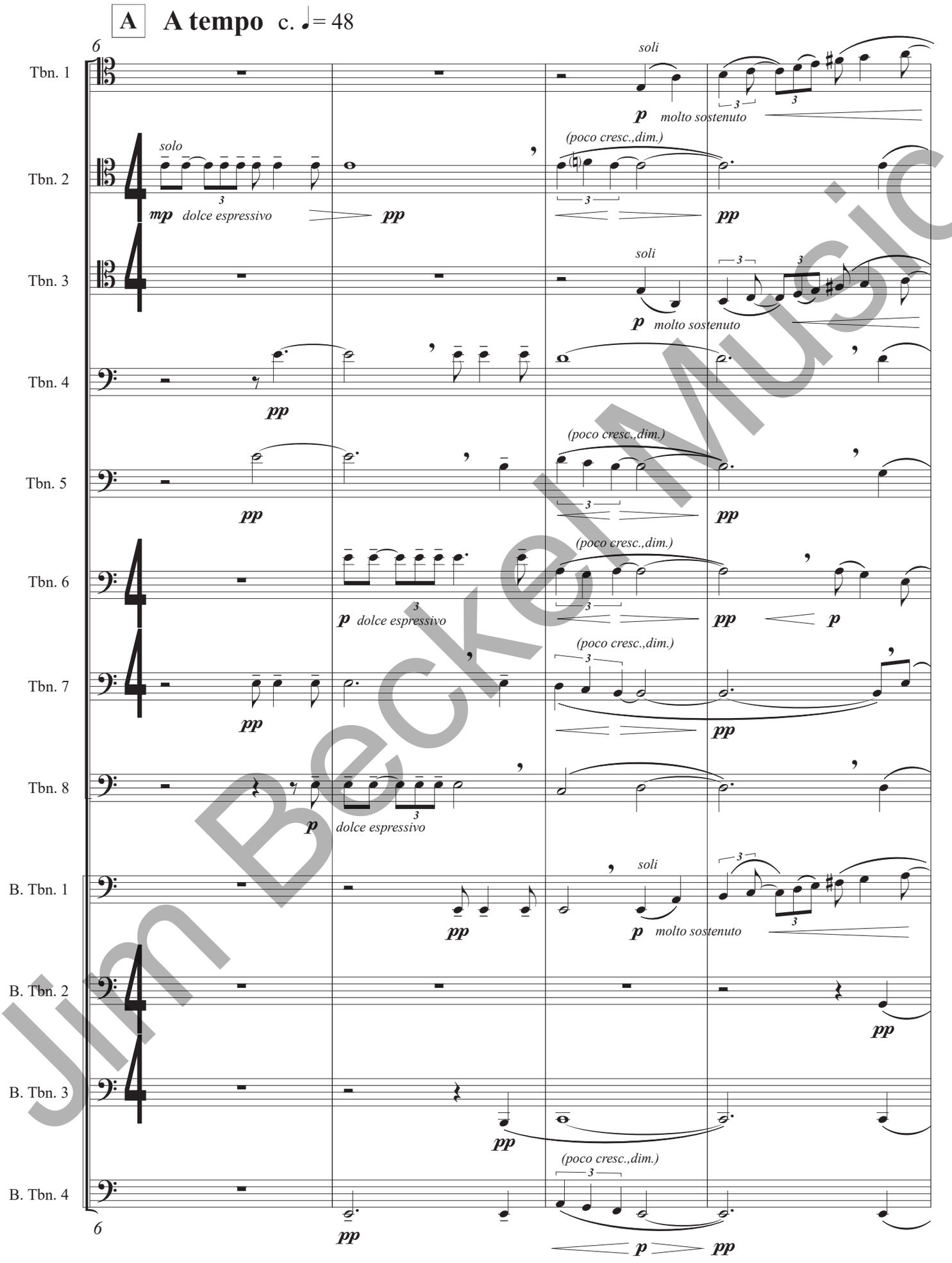
The Pillars of Creation

Adagio calmato misterioso c. ♩= 48

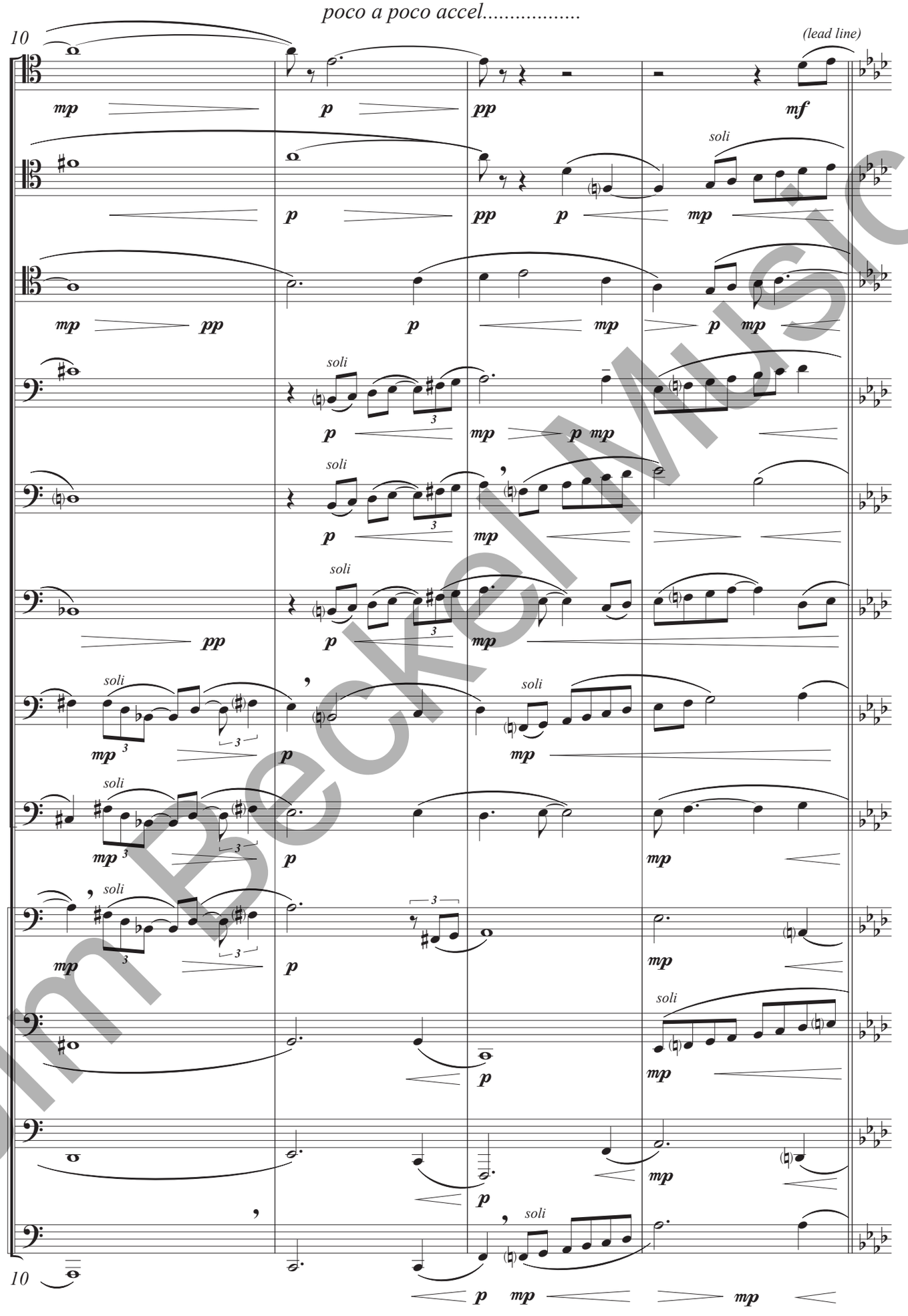
poco accel. *poco rit.*

Trombone 1
Trombone 2
Trombone 3
Trombone 4
Trombone 5
Trombone 6
Trombone 7
Trombone 8
Bass Trombone 1
Bass Trombone 2
Bass Trombone 3
Bass Trombone 4

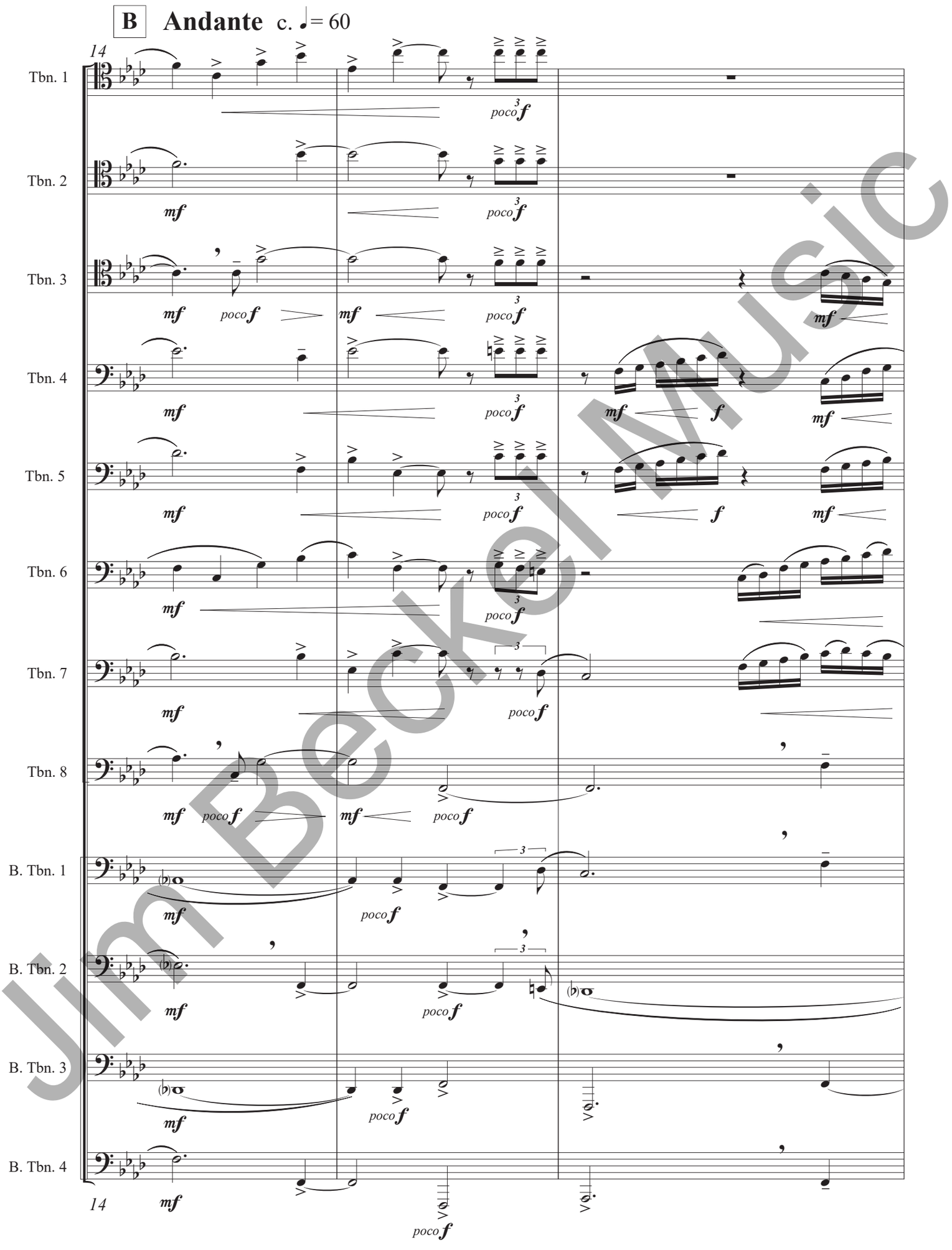
Jim Beckel Music



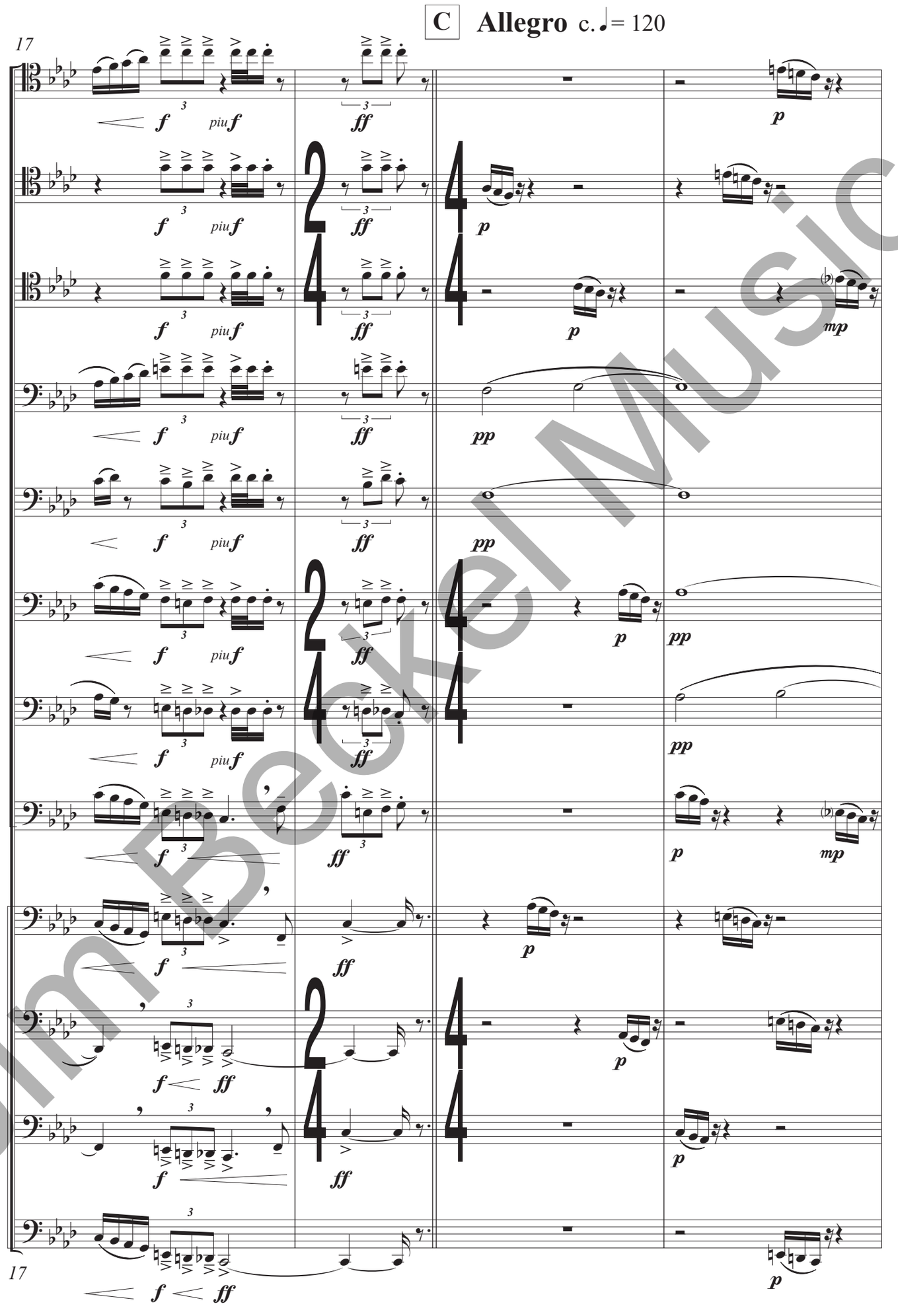
Jim Becker Music



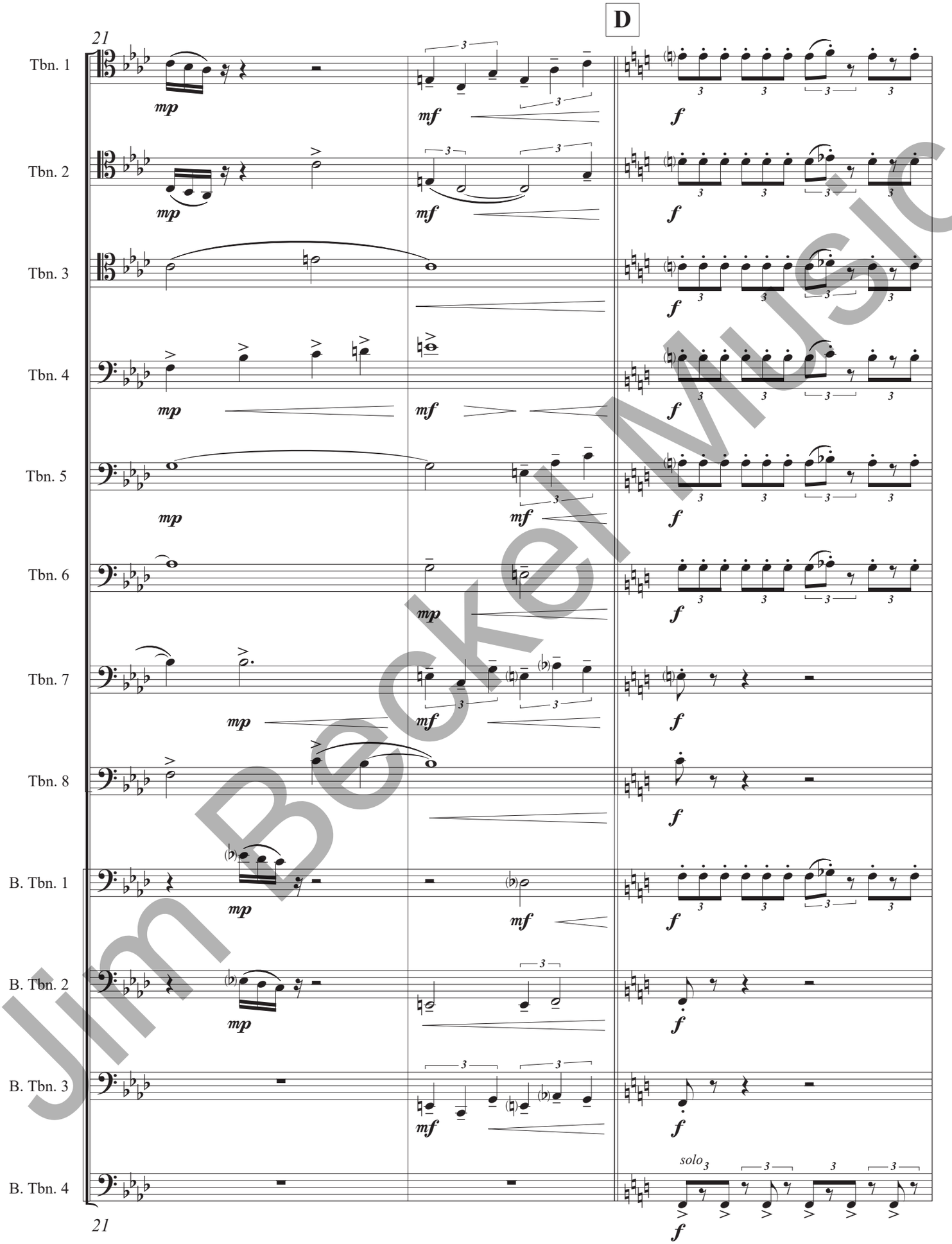
Jim Beckel Music



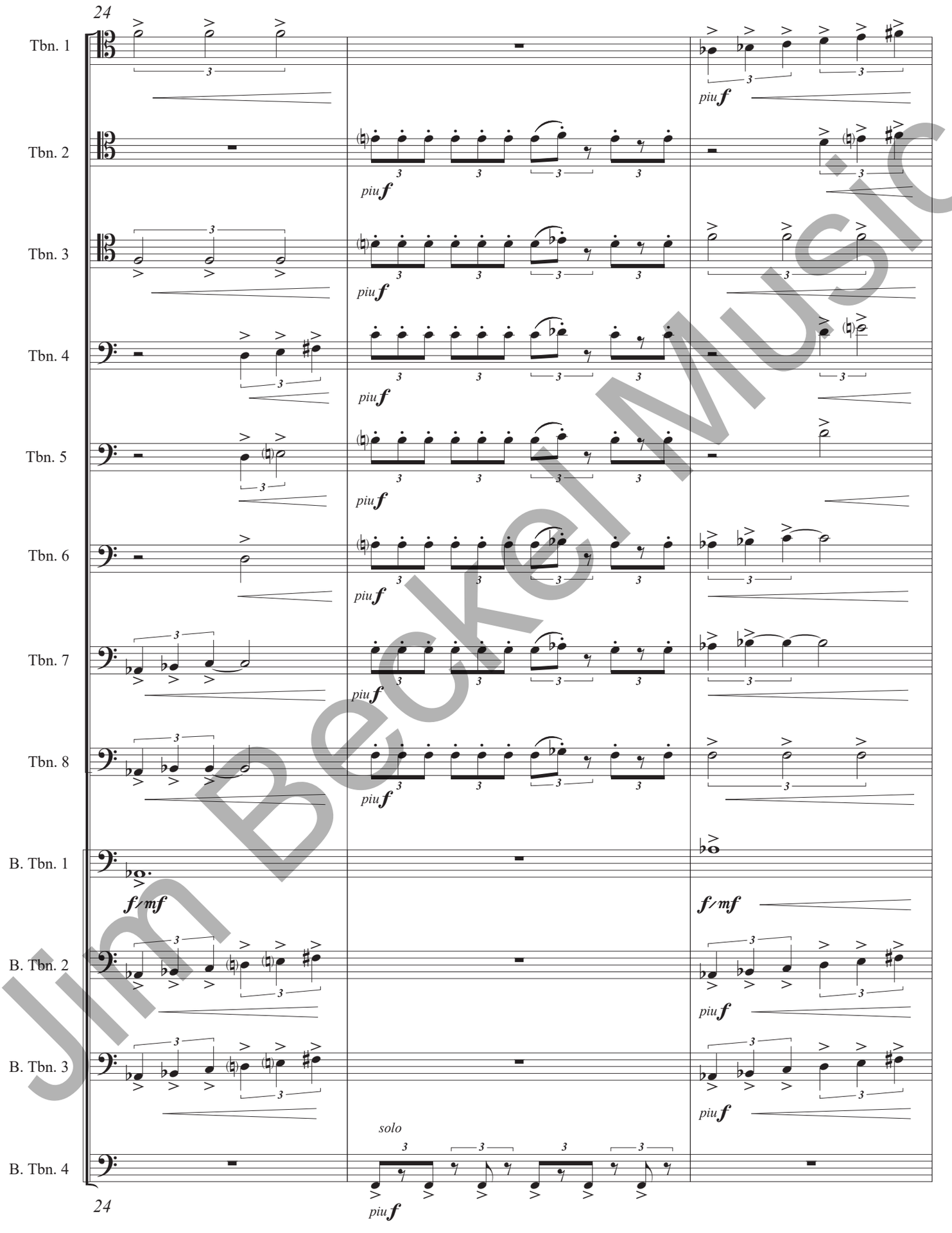
Jim Beckel Music



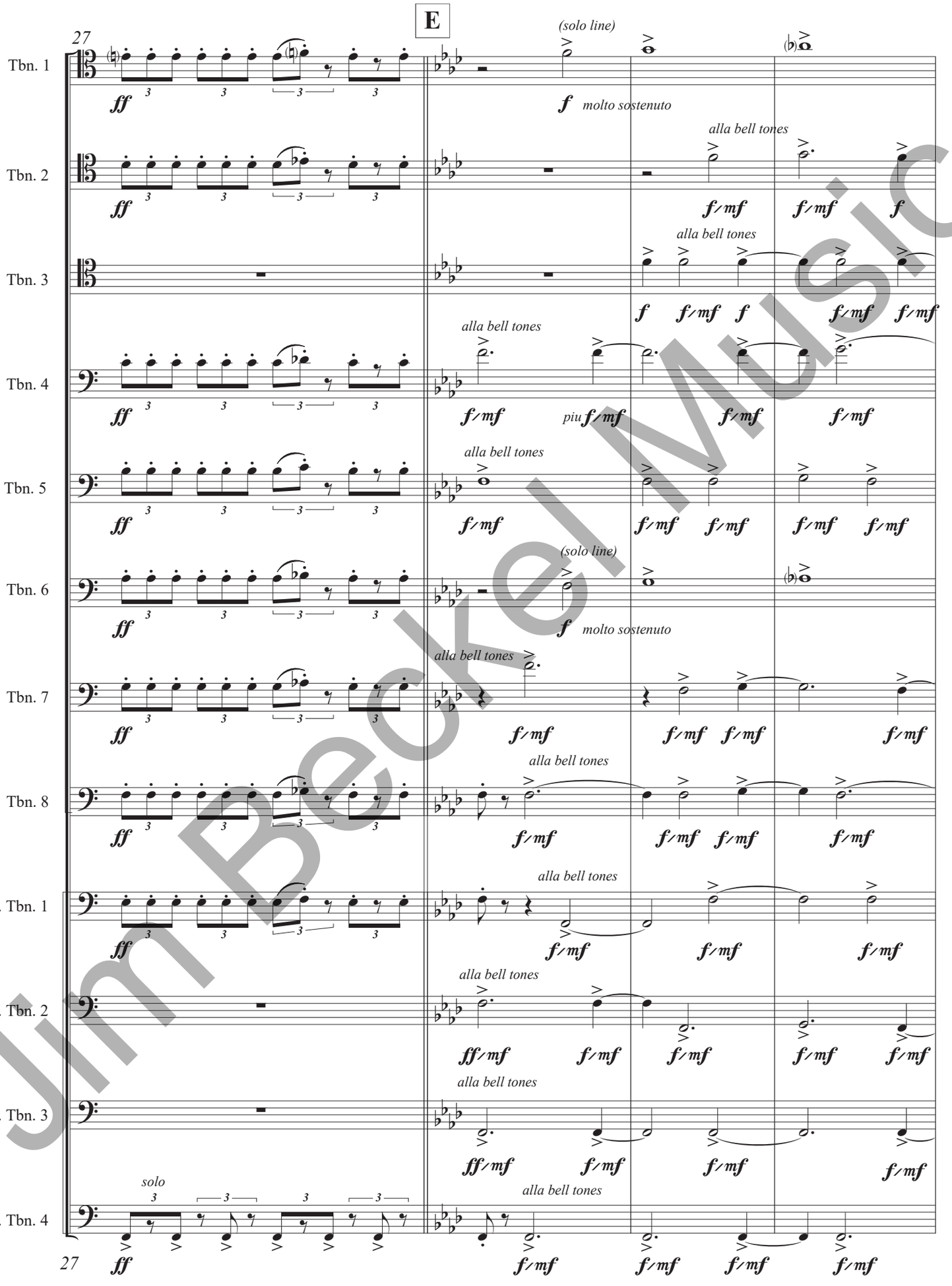
Jim Beckel Music



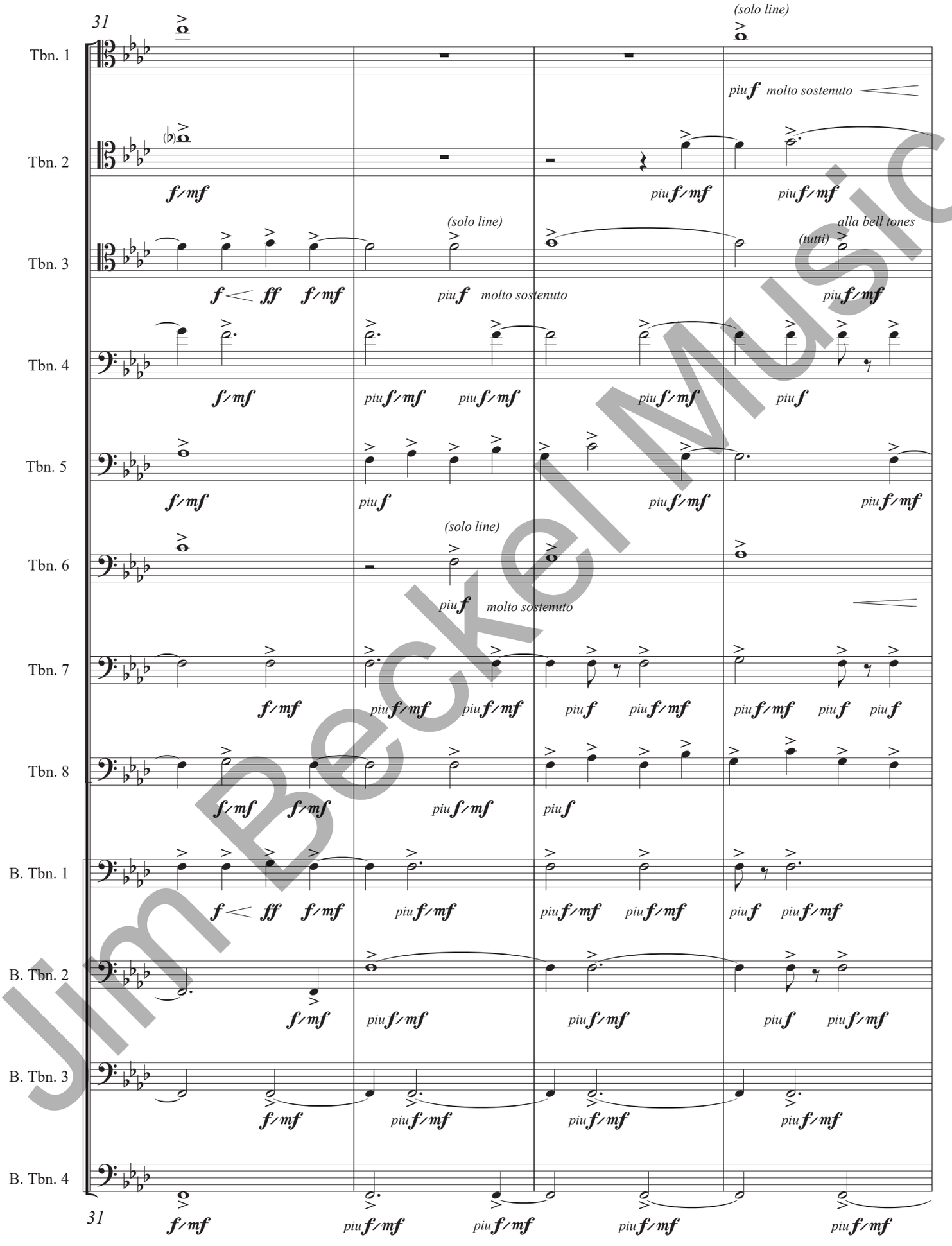
Jim Becker Music



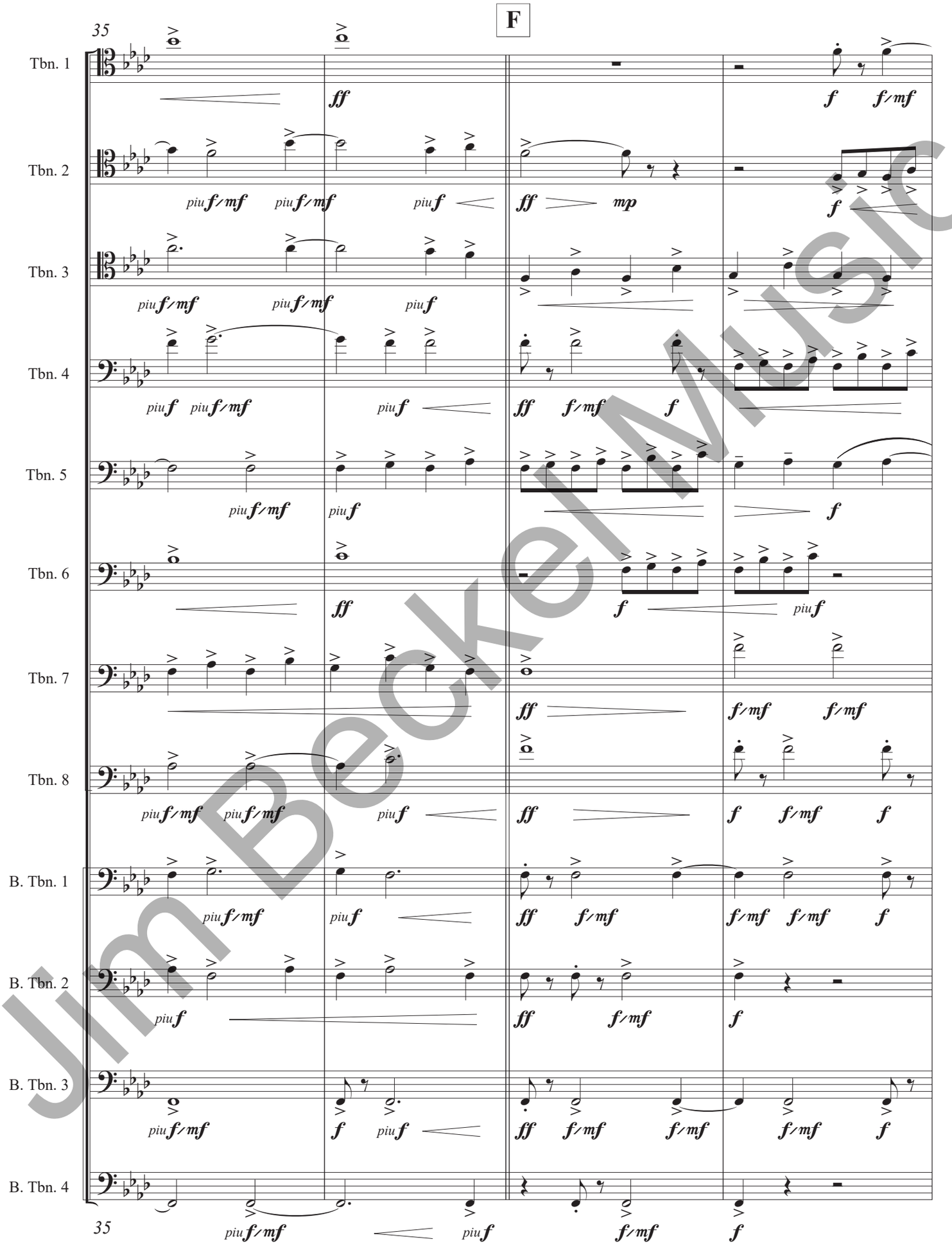
Jim Beckel Music



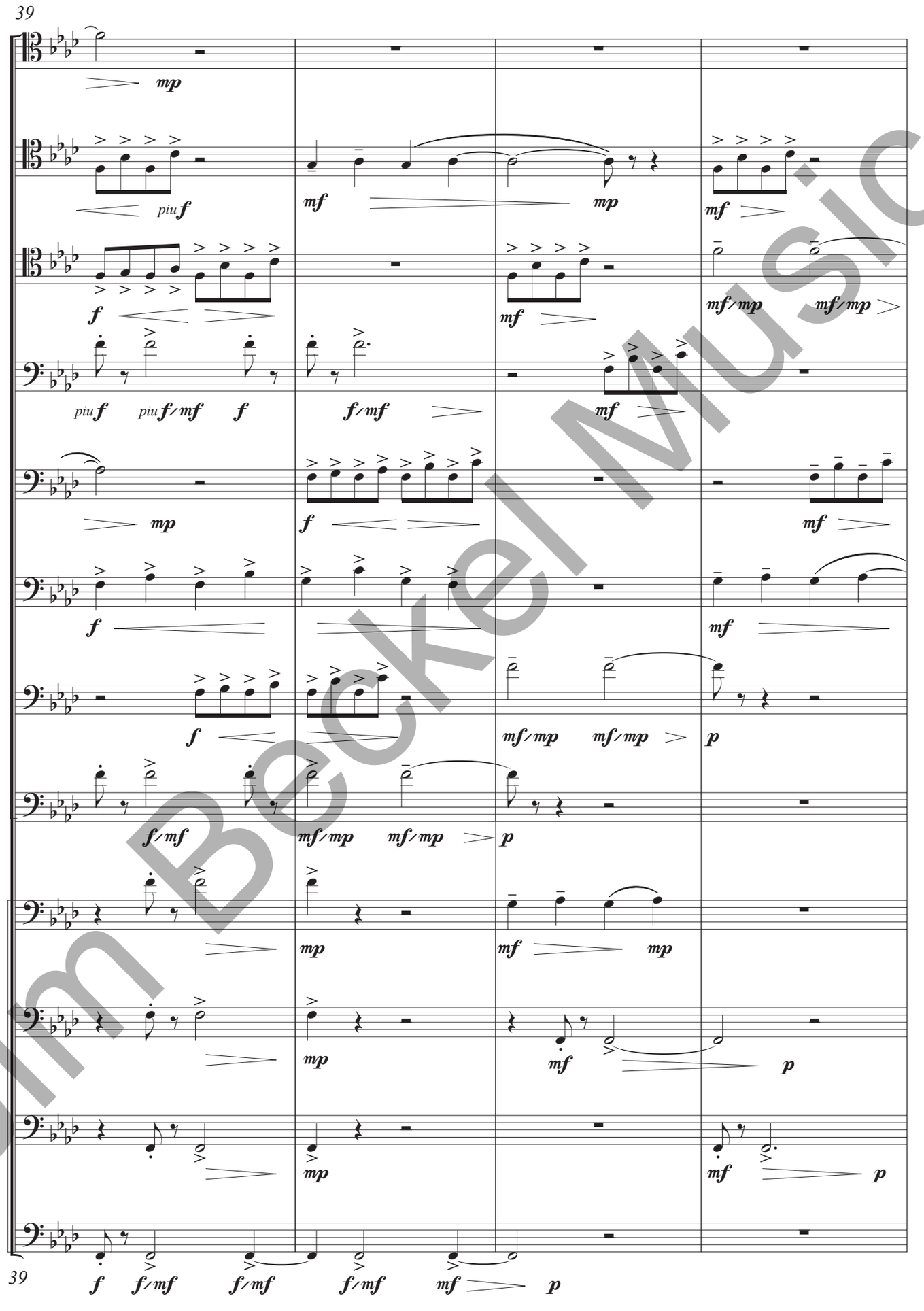
Jim Beckel Music



Jim Beckel Music



Jim Becker Music



Jim Beckel Music

molto rit.

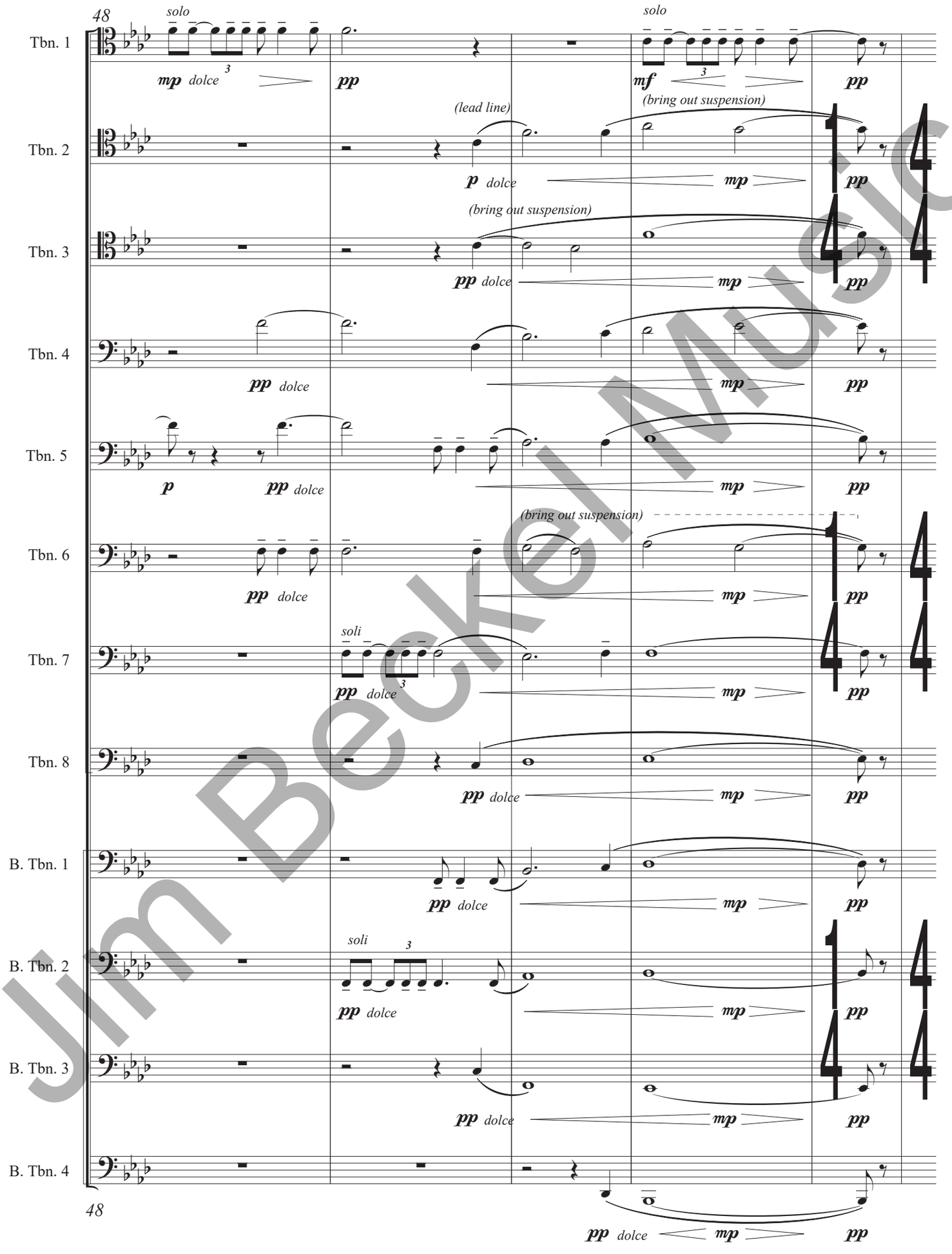
43

Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tbn. 4
Tbn. 5
Tbn. 6
Tbn. 7
Tbn. 8
B. Tbn. 1
B. Tbn. 2
B. Tbn. 3
B. Tbn. 4

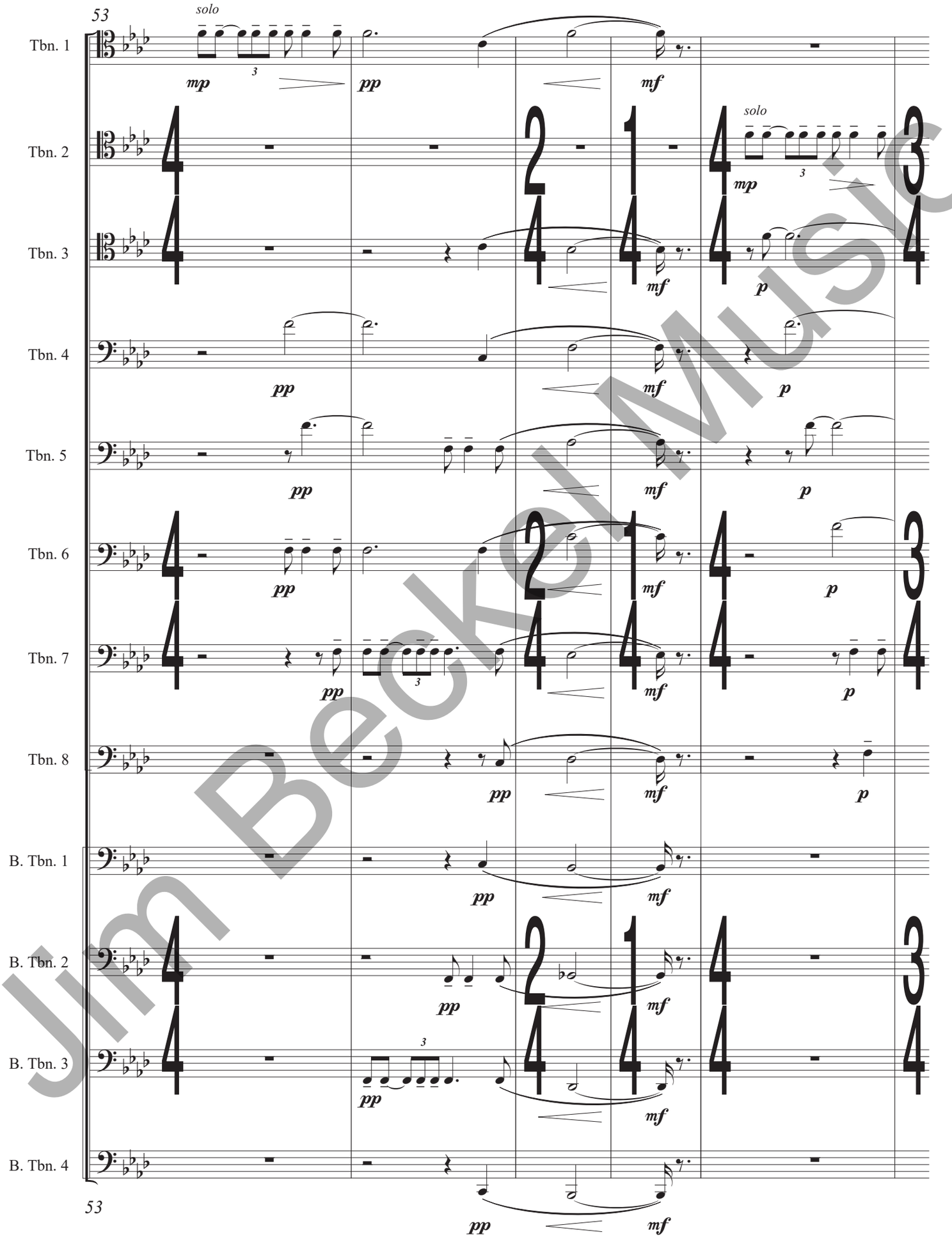
43

Jim Beckel Music

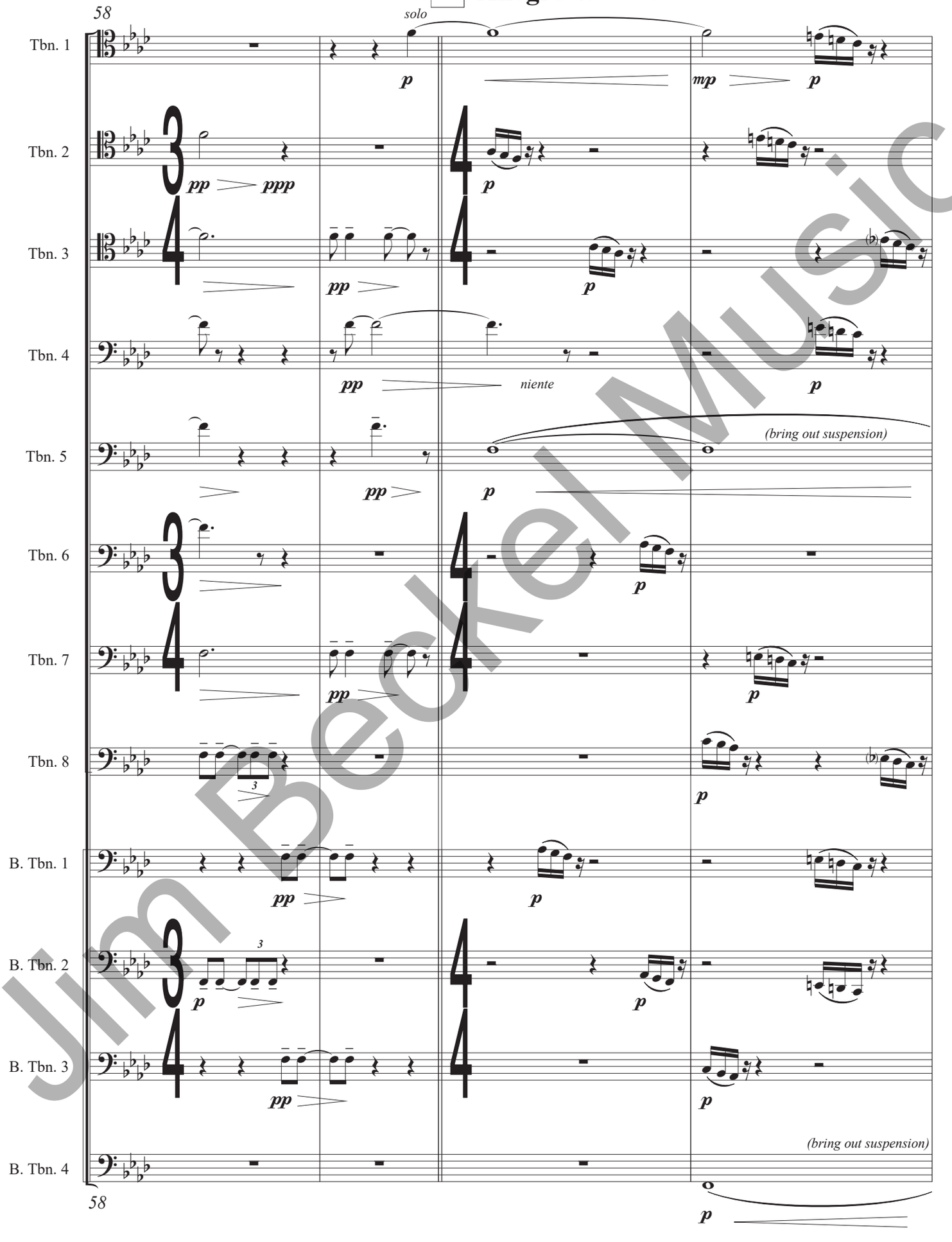
G Adagio calmato misterioso c. ♩= 48



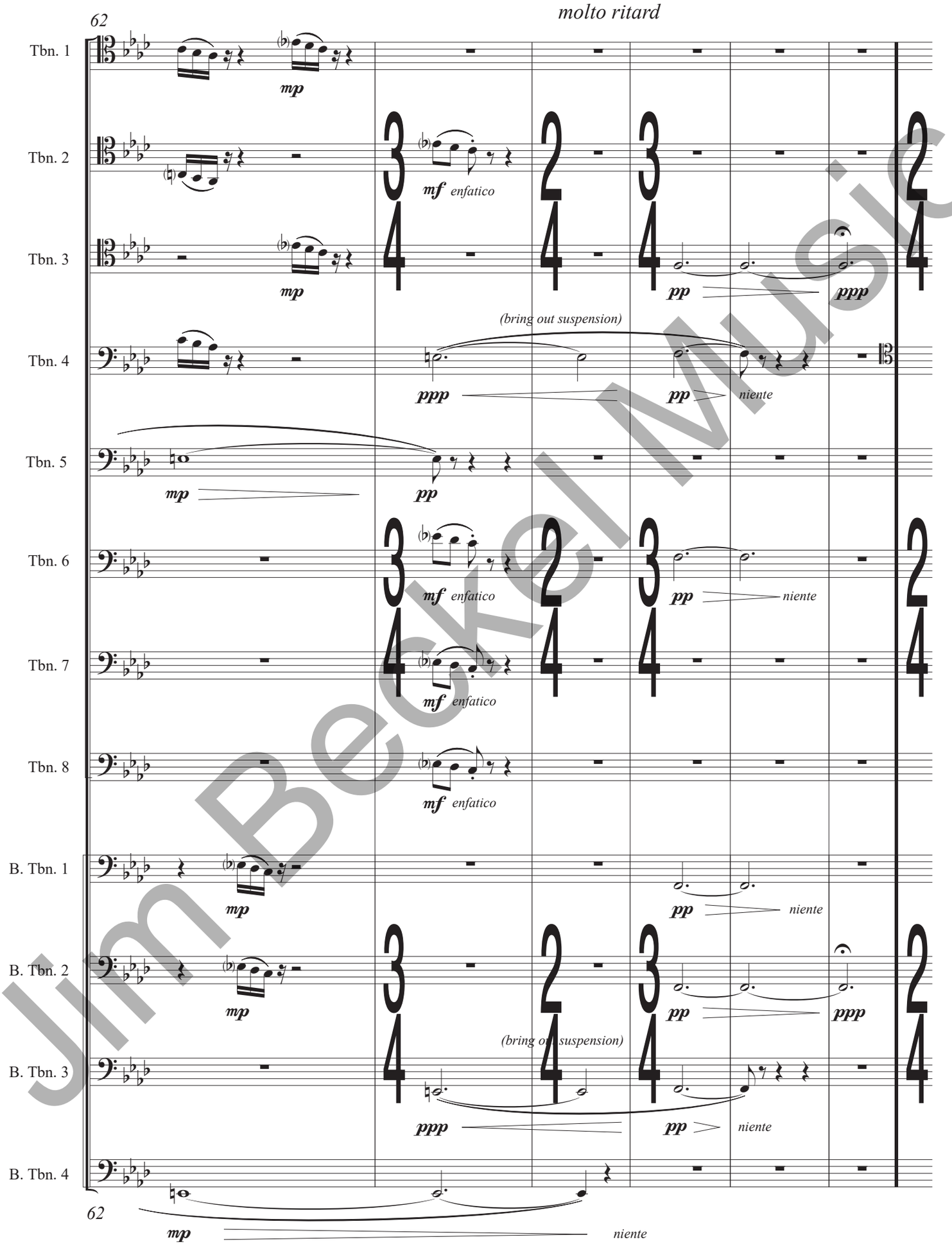
Jim Beckel Music



Jim Beckel Music



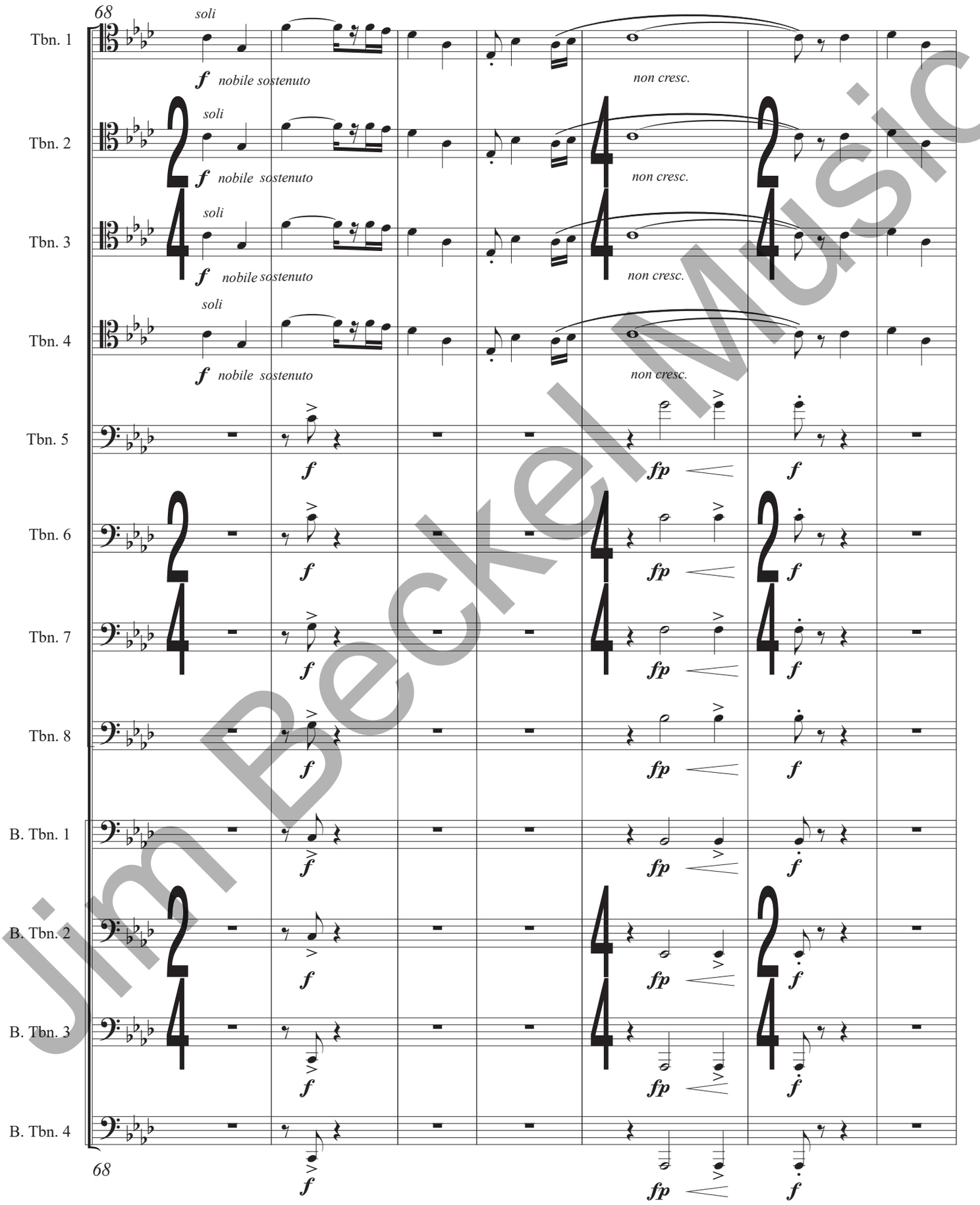
Jim Beckel Music



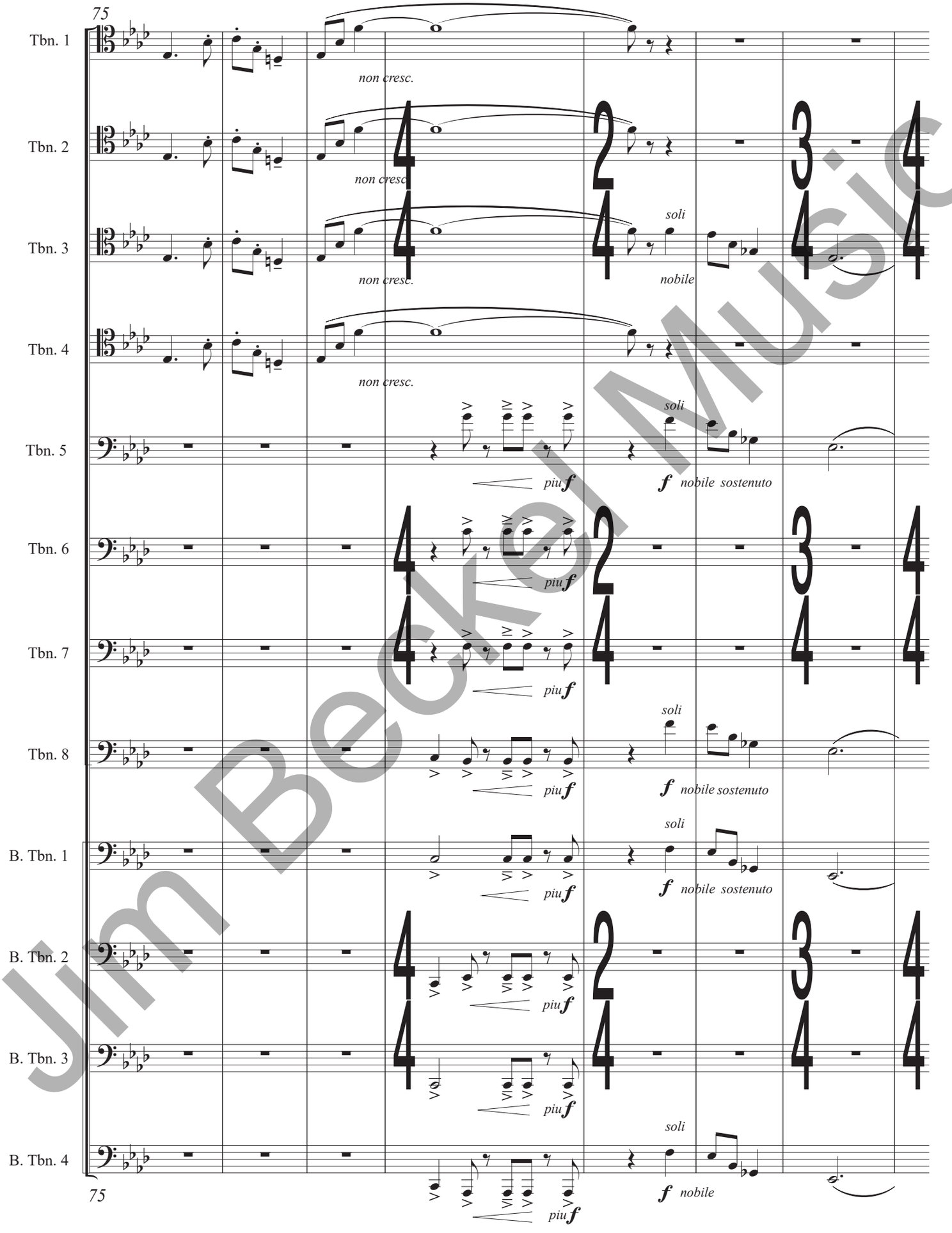
Jim Beckel Music

Eagle Nebula

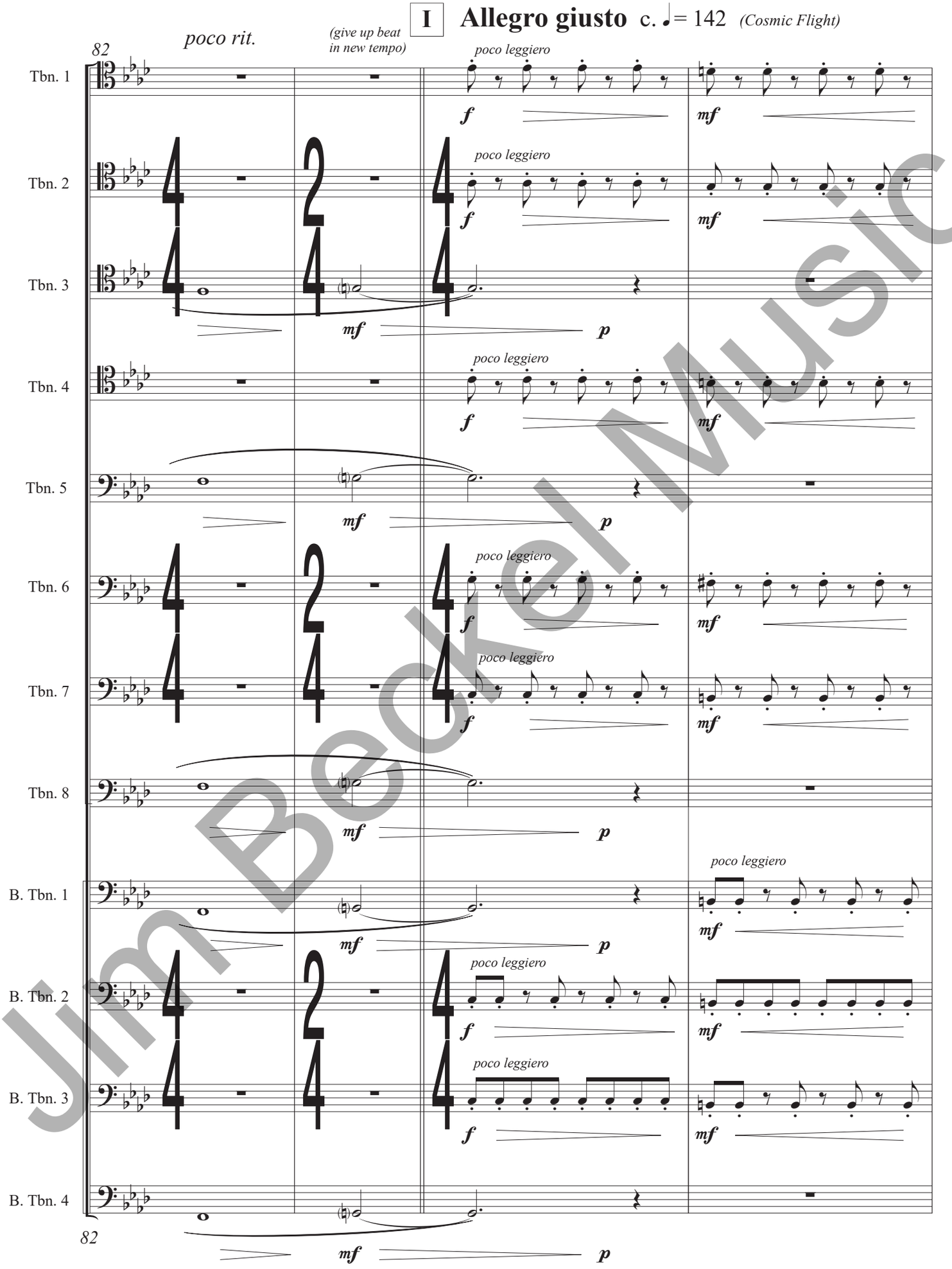
Moderato maestoso c. ♩= 104



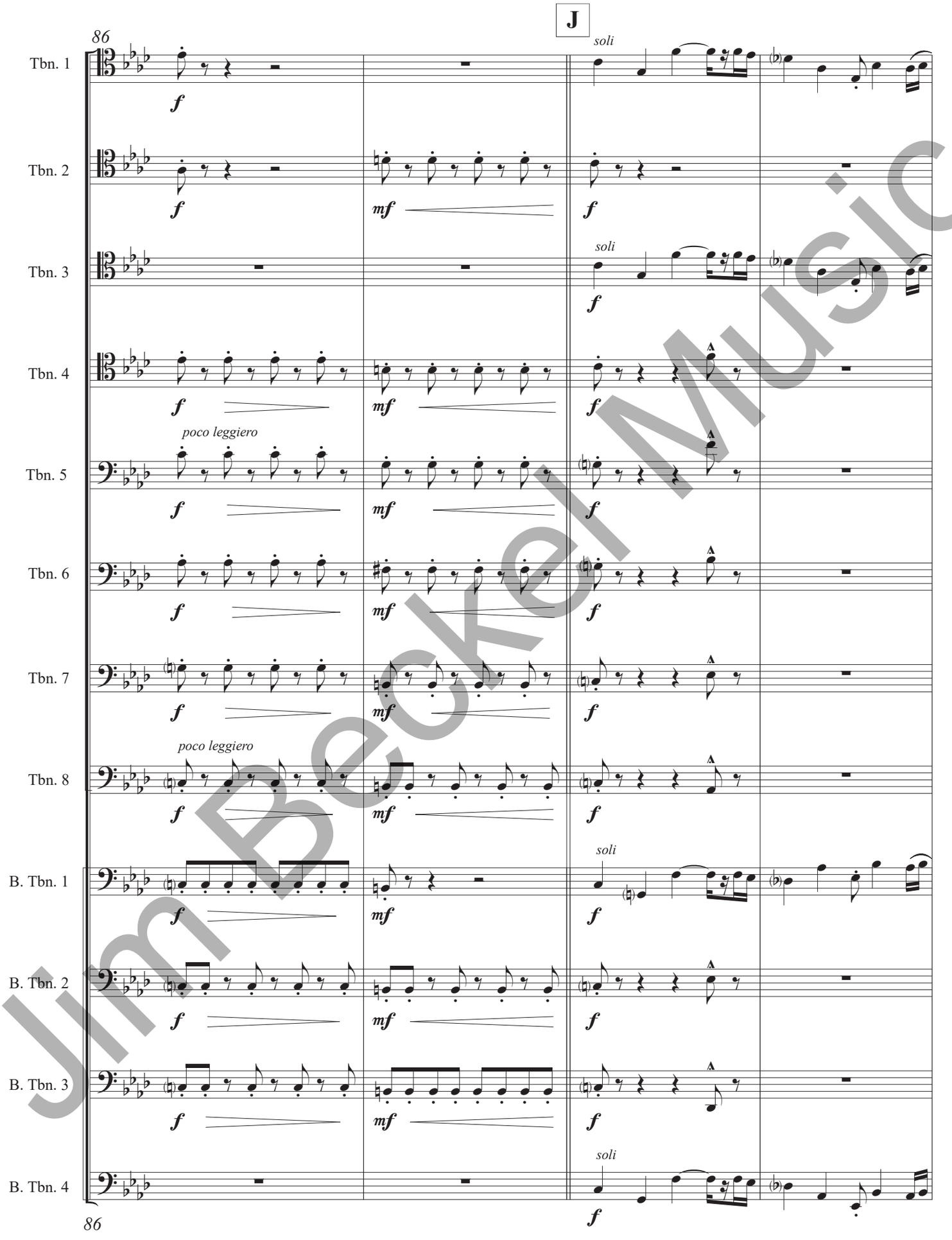
Jim Beckel Music



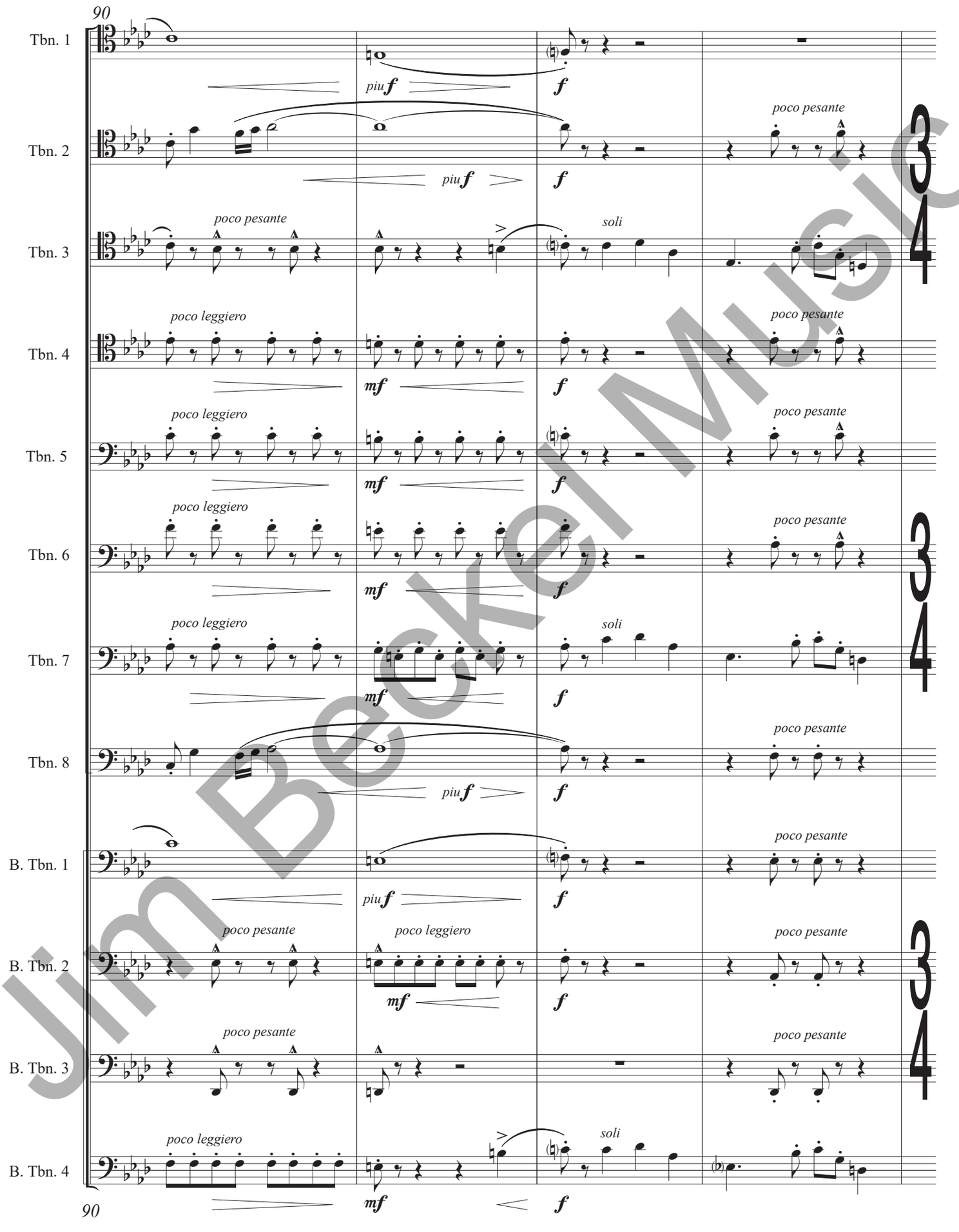
Jim Becker Music



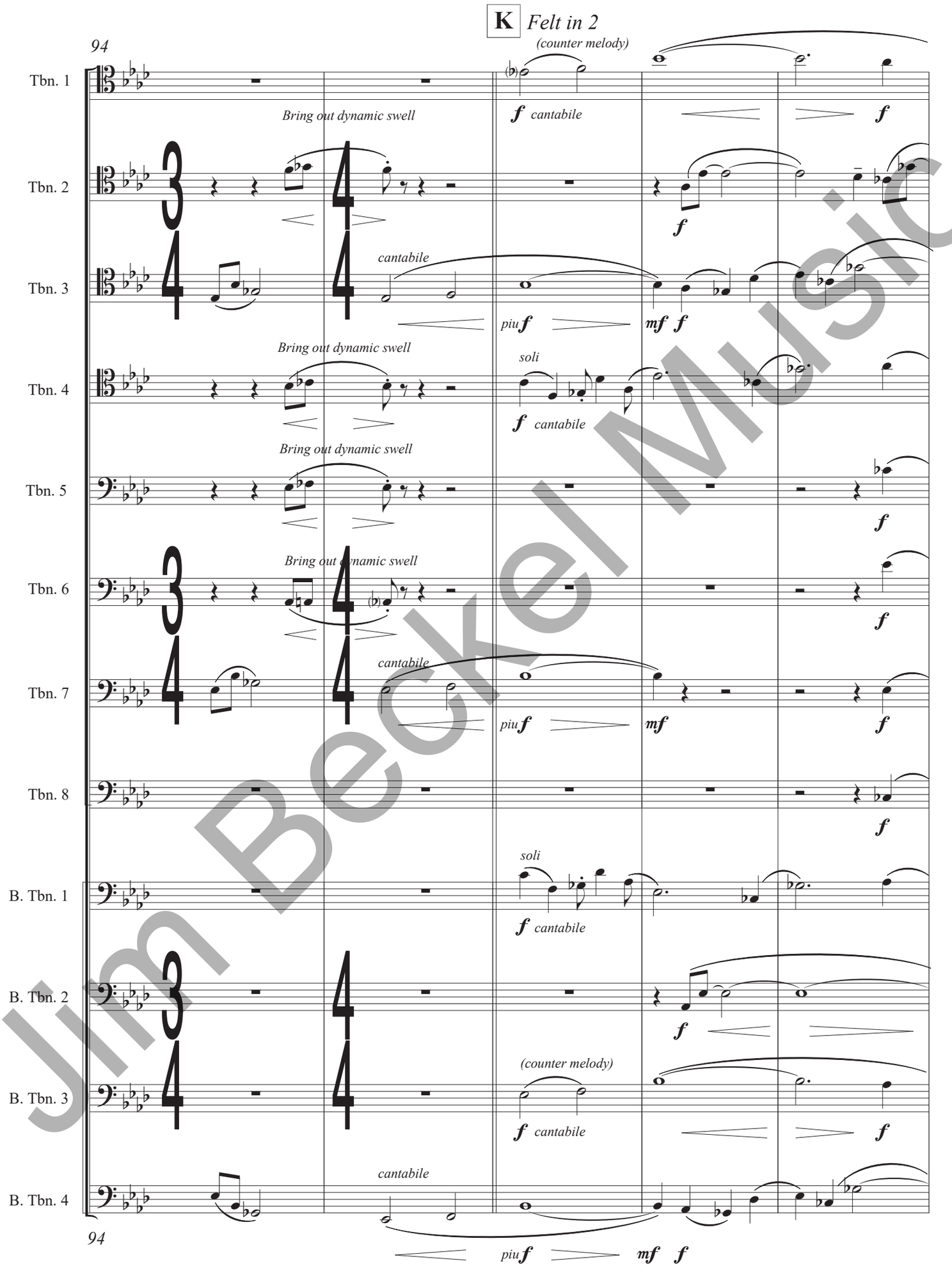
Jim Beckel Music



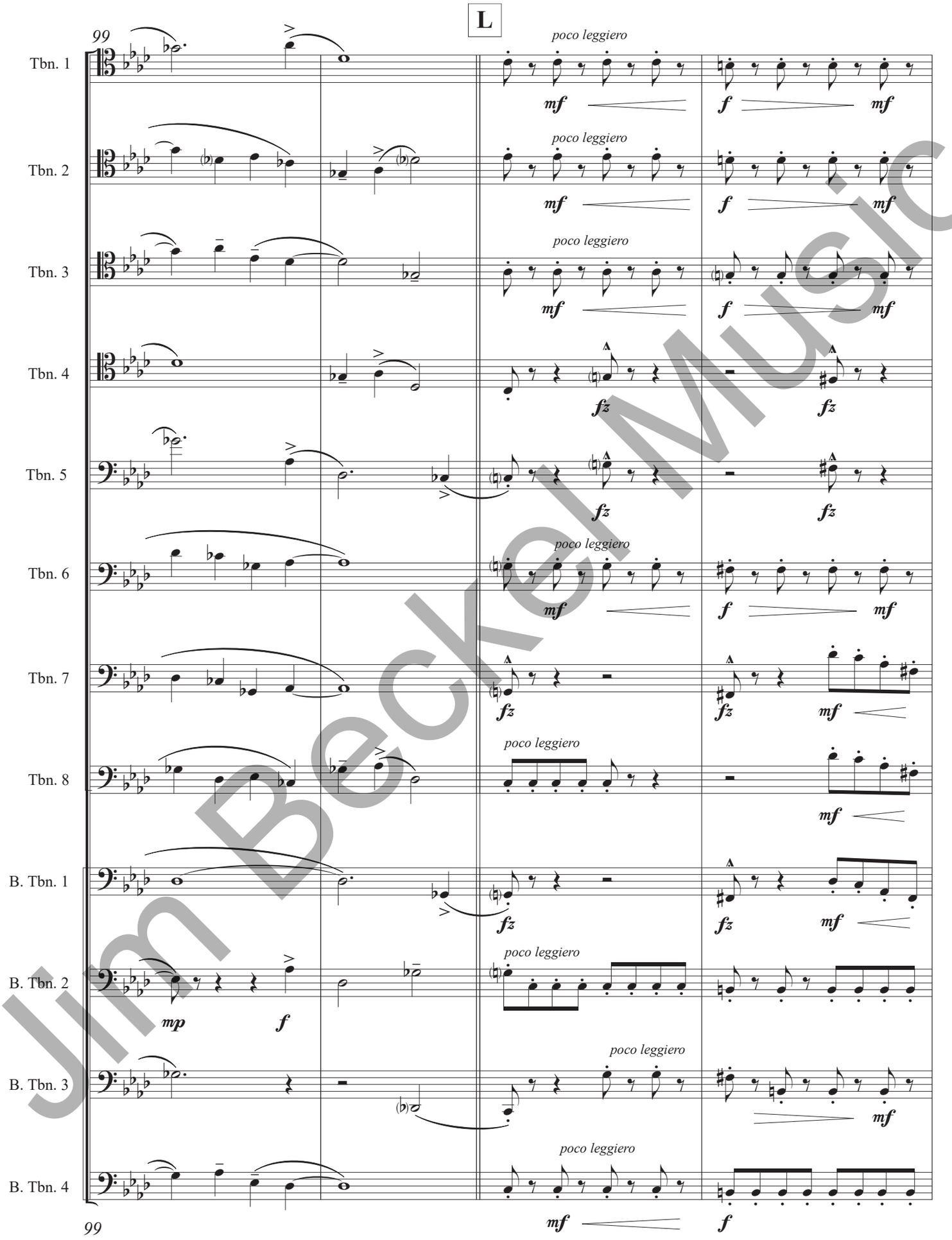
Jim Becker Music



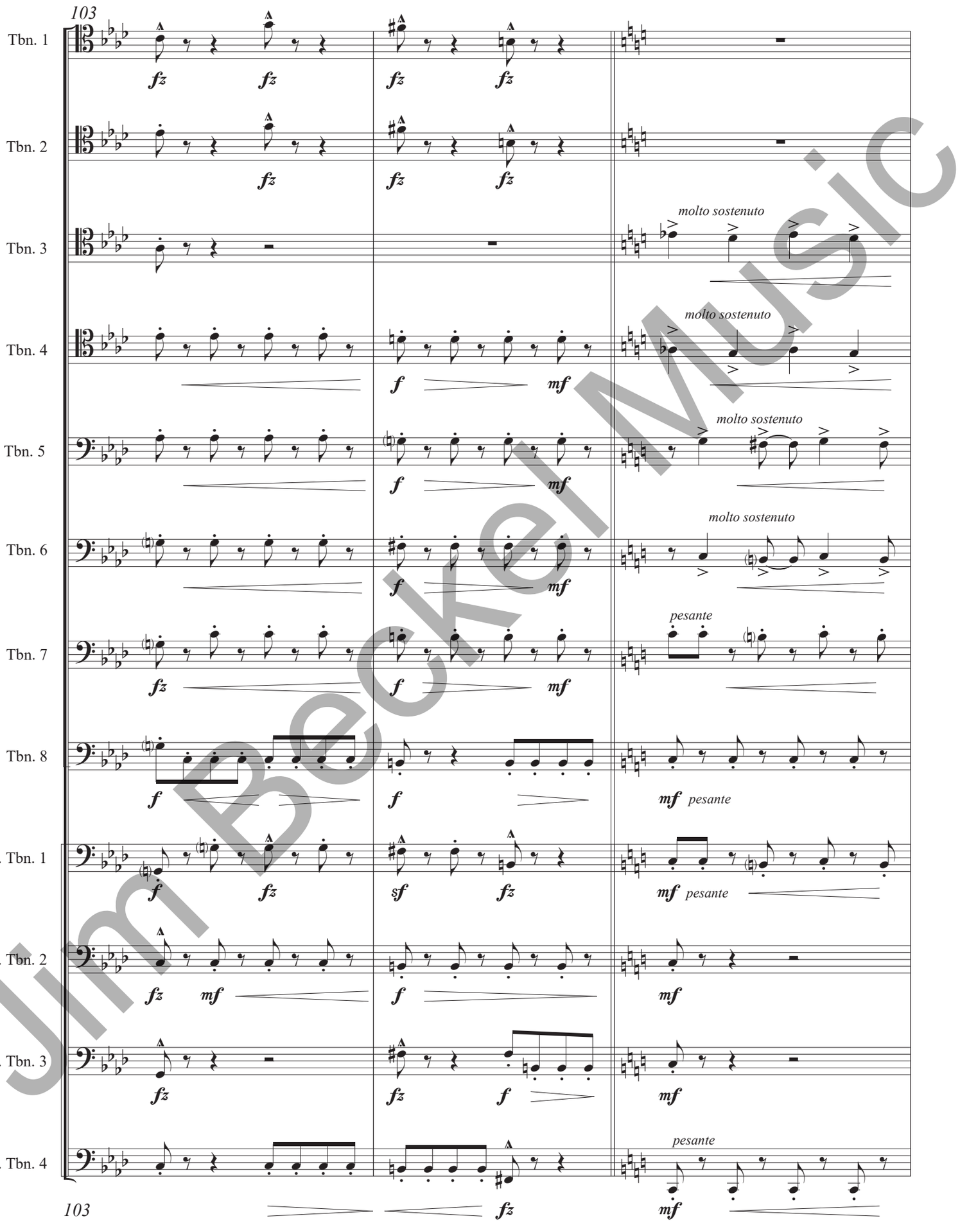
Jim Becker Music



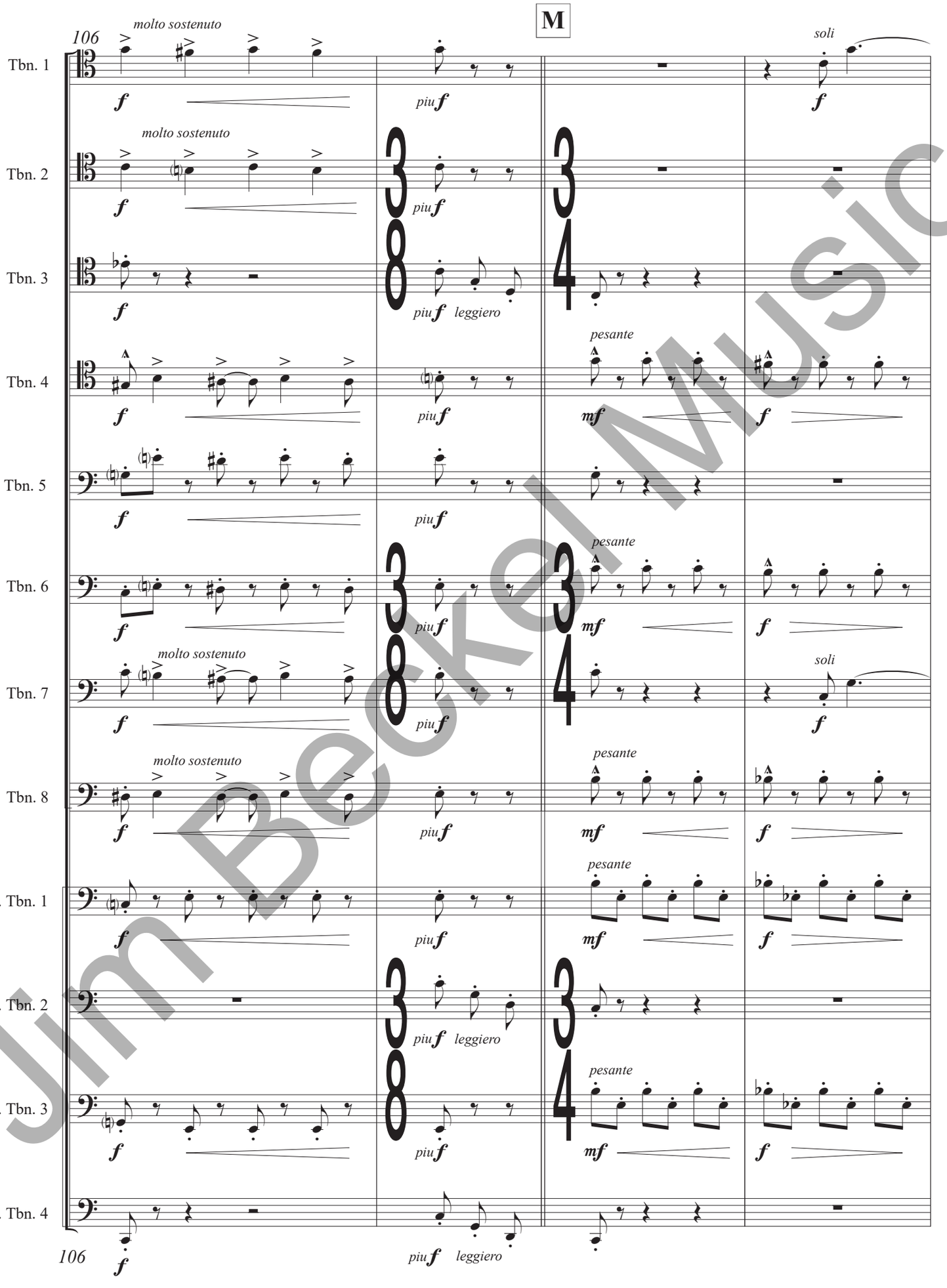
Jim Beckel Music



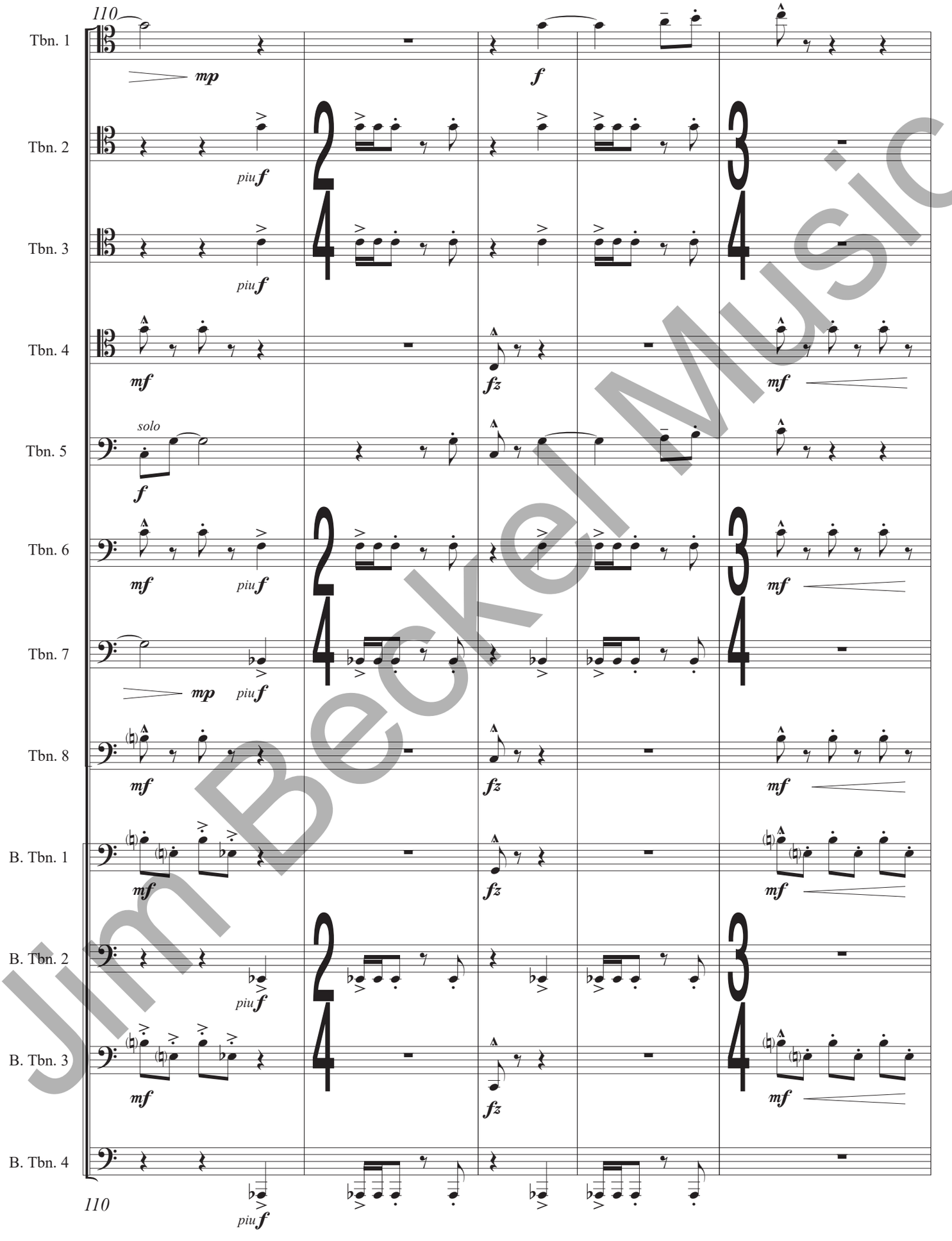
Jim Becker Music



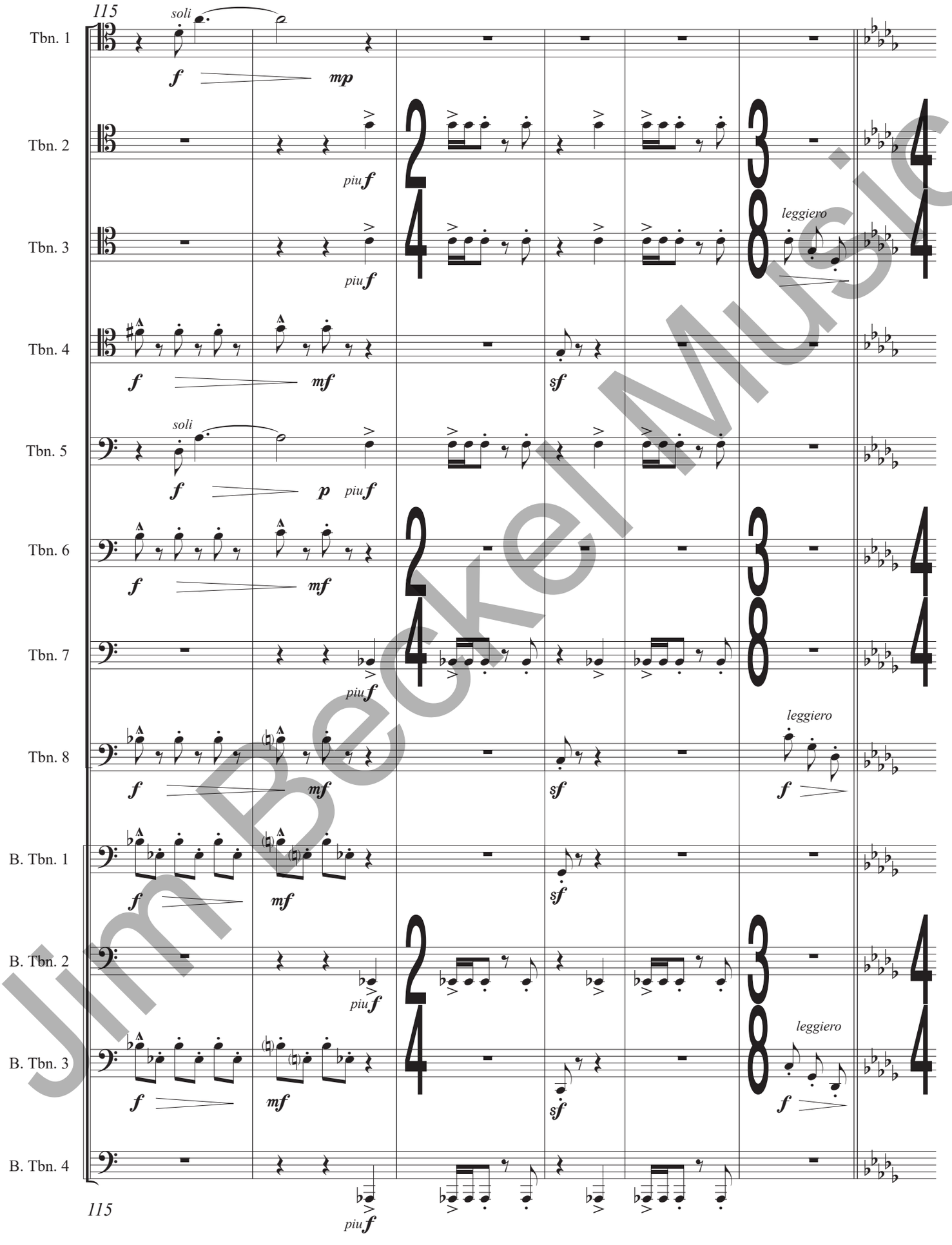
Jim Becker Music



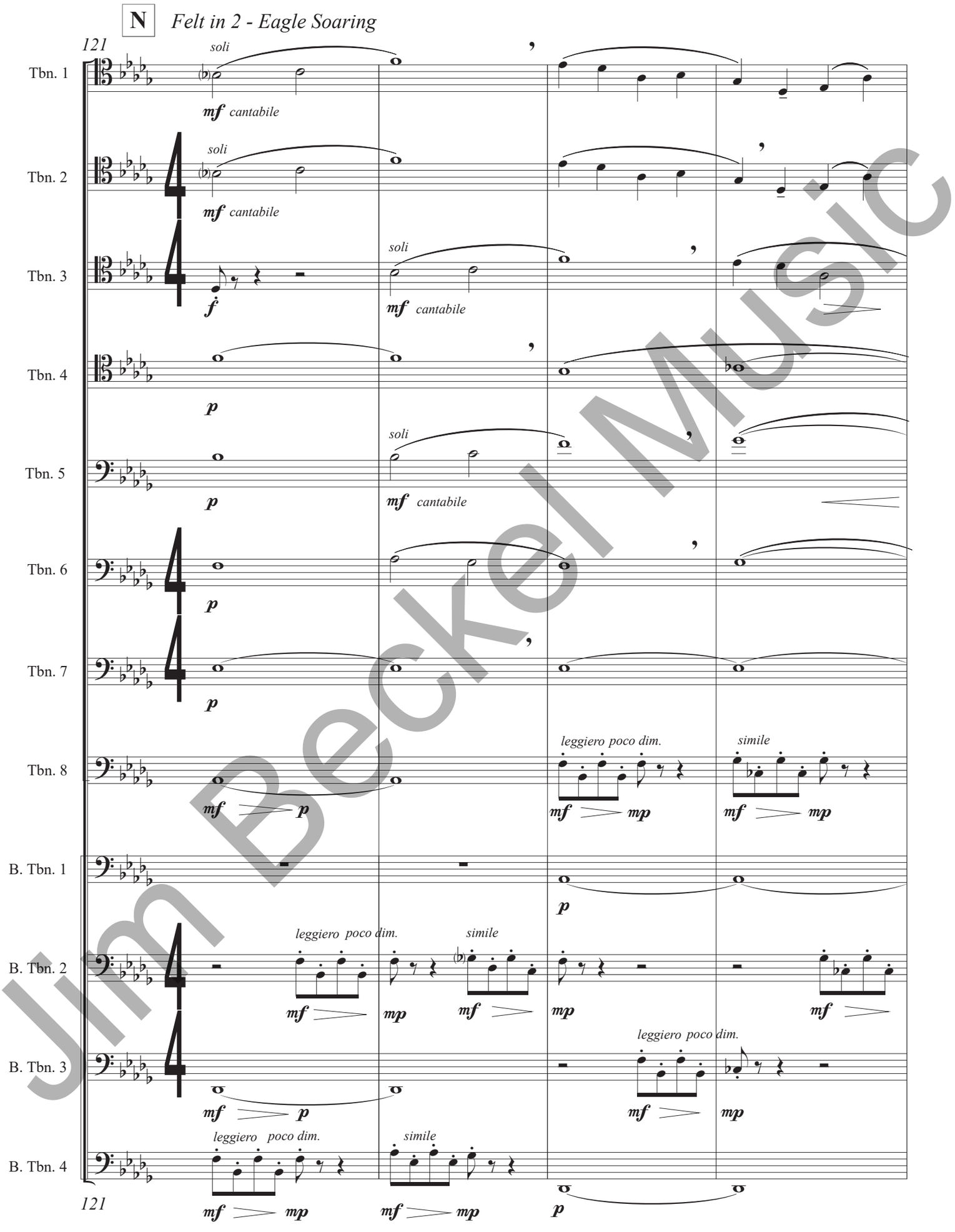
Jim Beckel Music



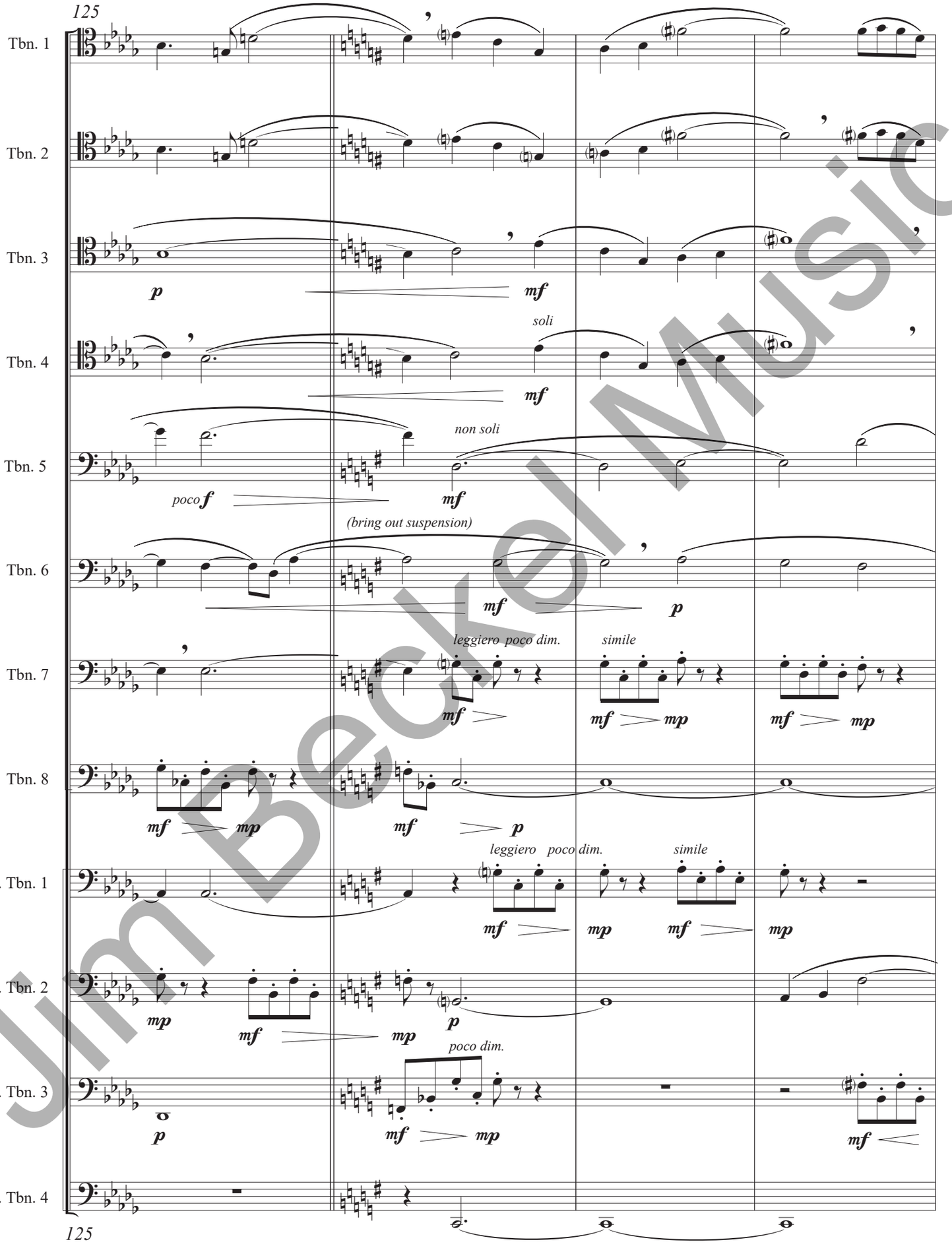
Jim Beckel Music



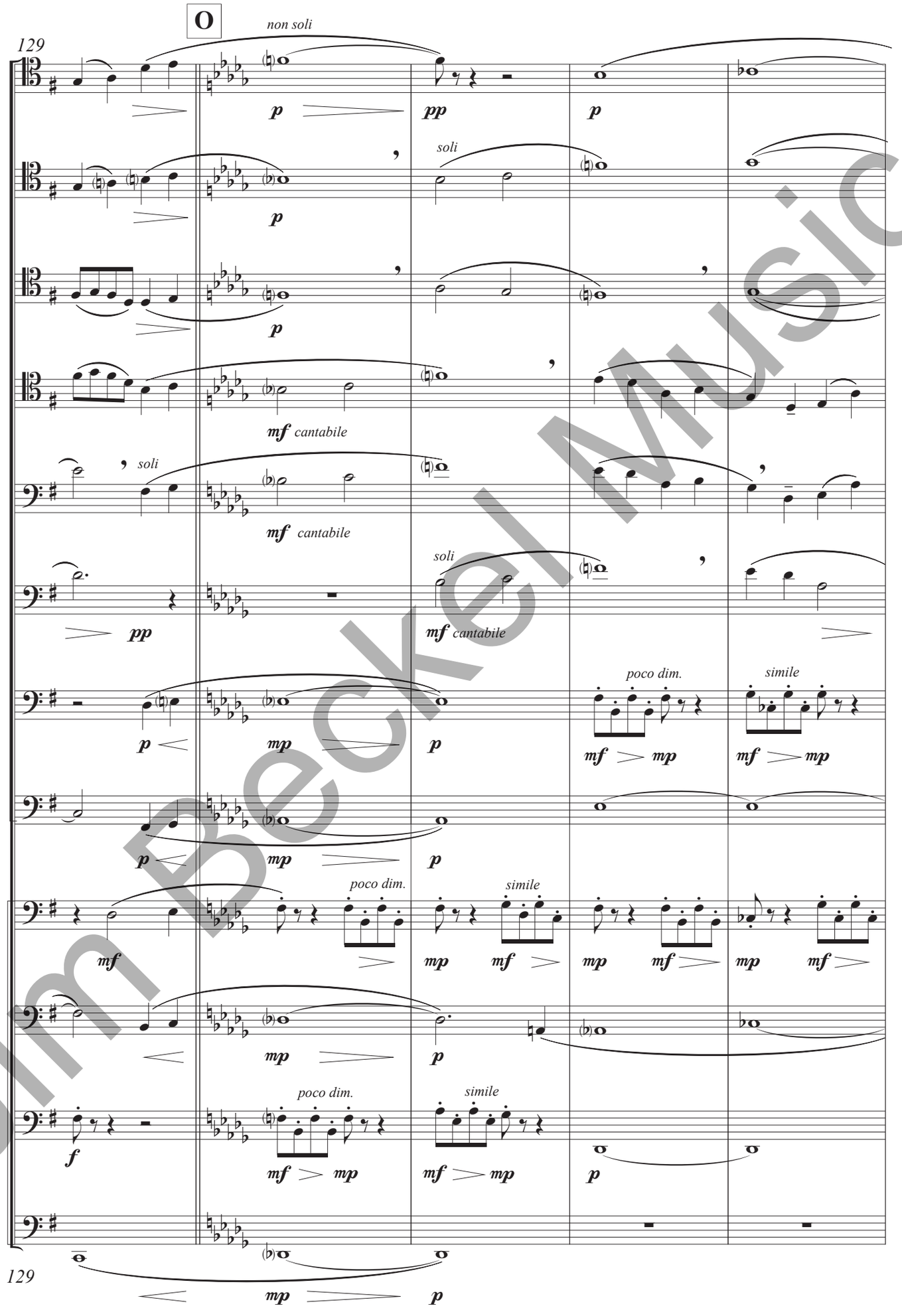
Jim Beckel Music



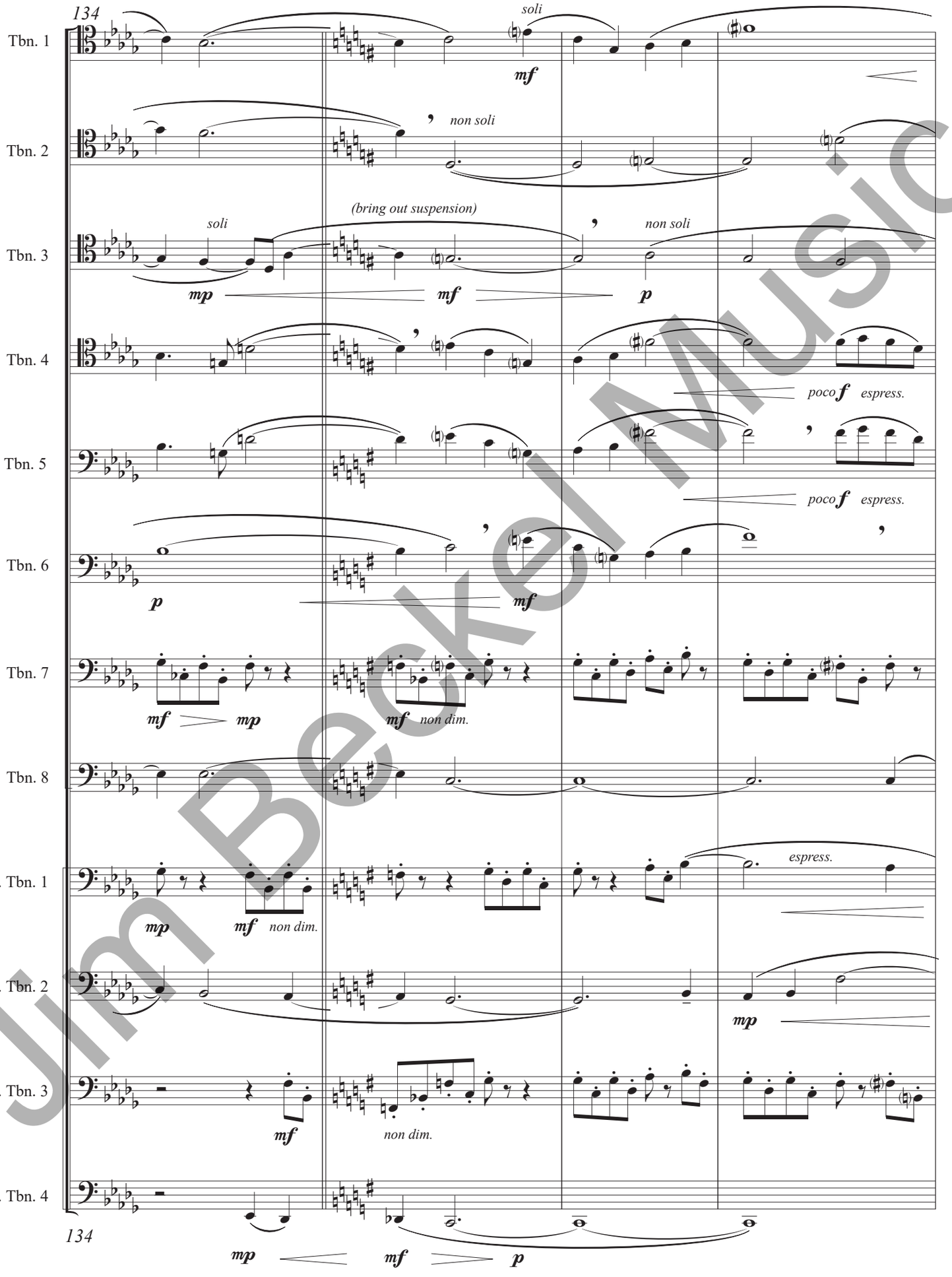
Jim Beckel Music



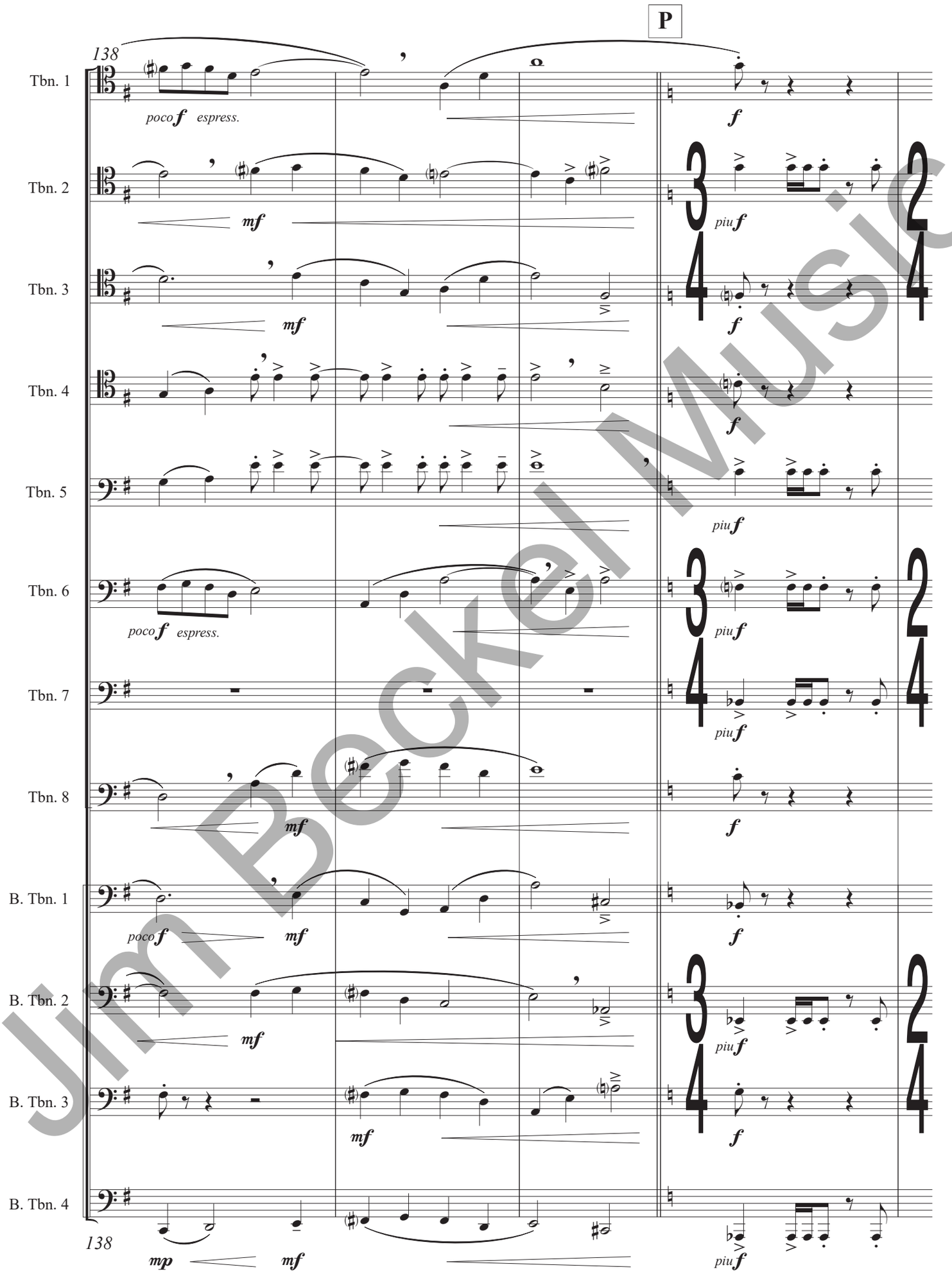
Jim Beckel Music



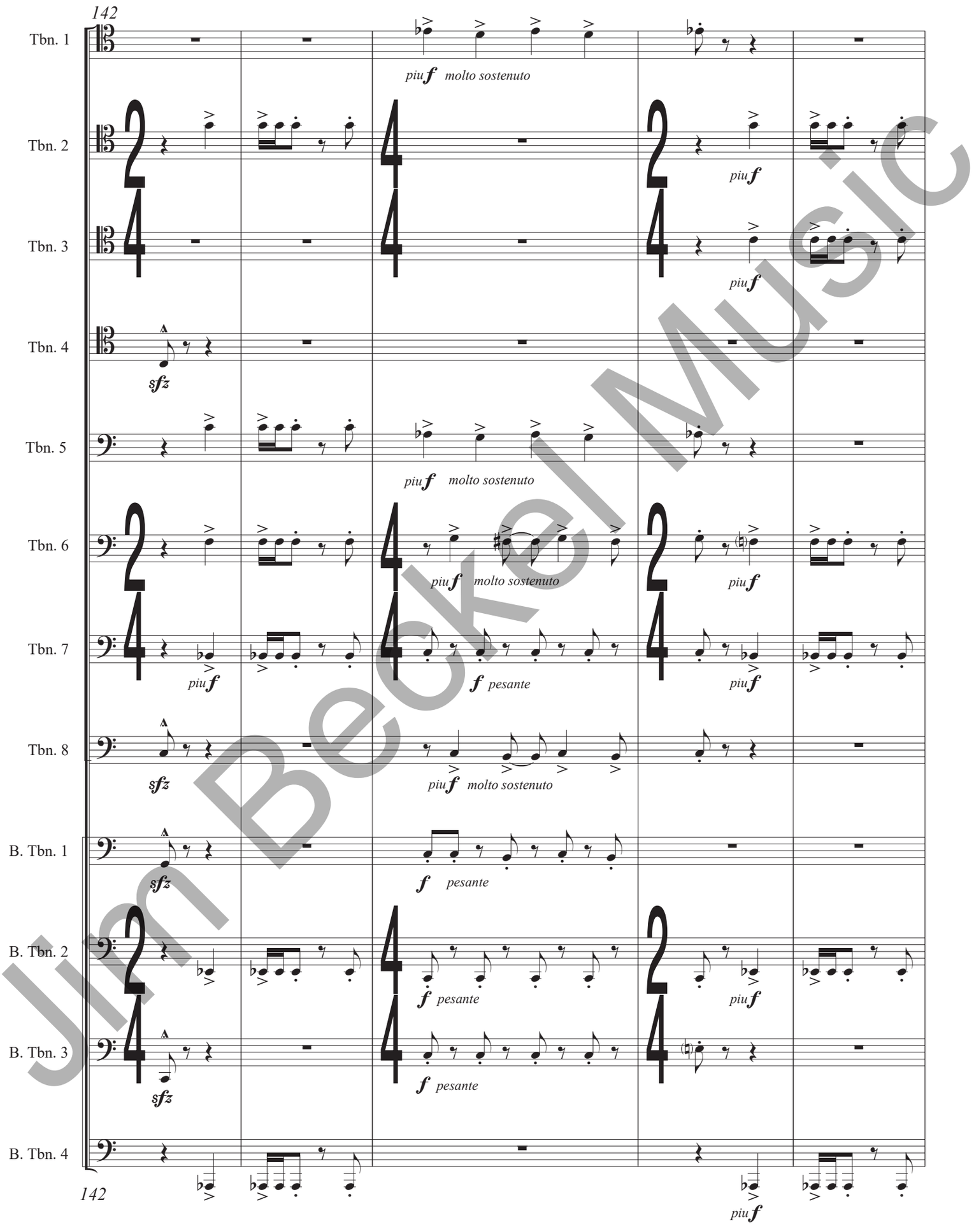
Jim Beckel Music



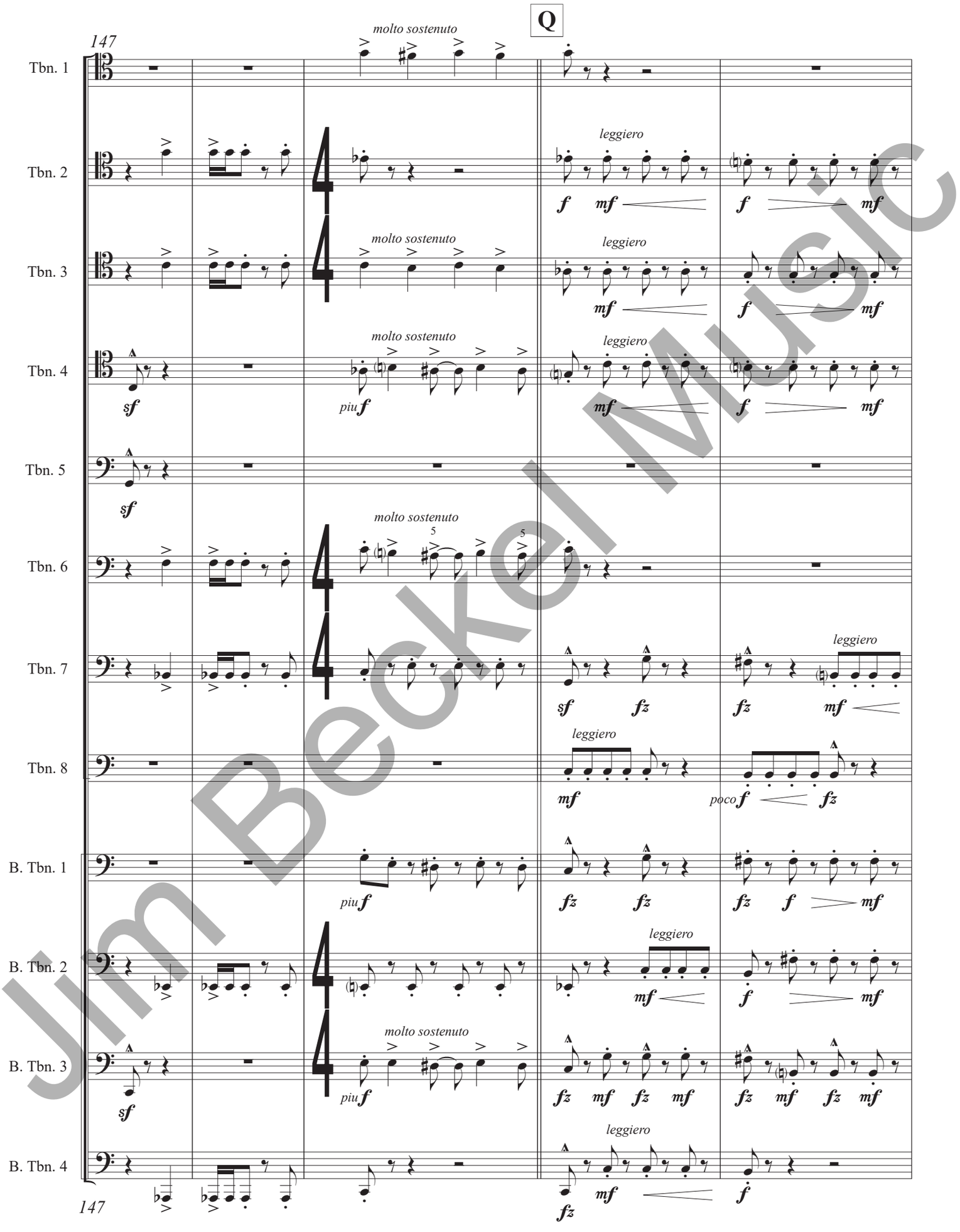
Jim Beckel Music



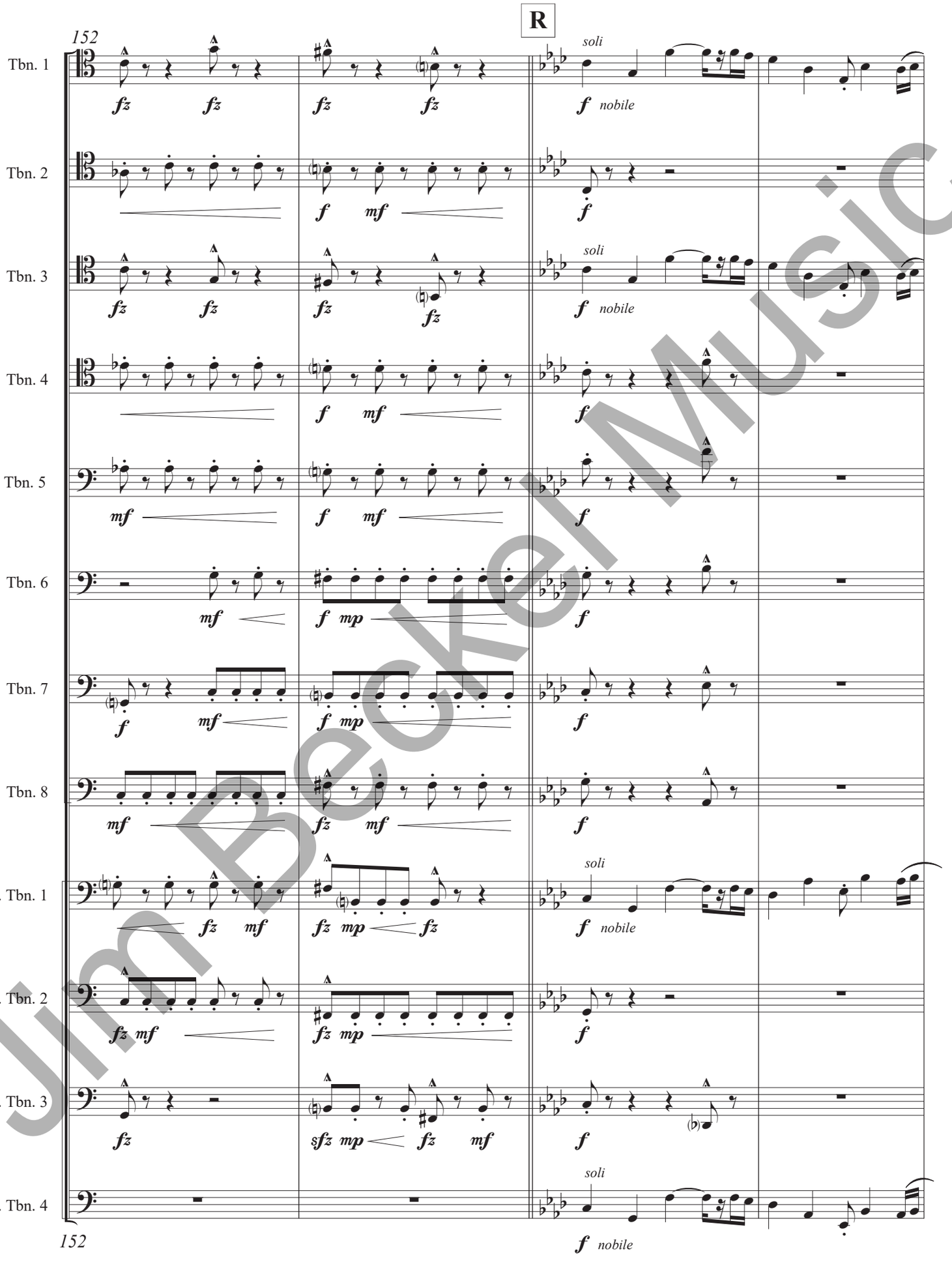
Jim Beckel Music



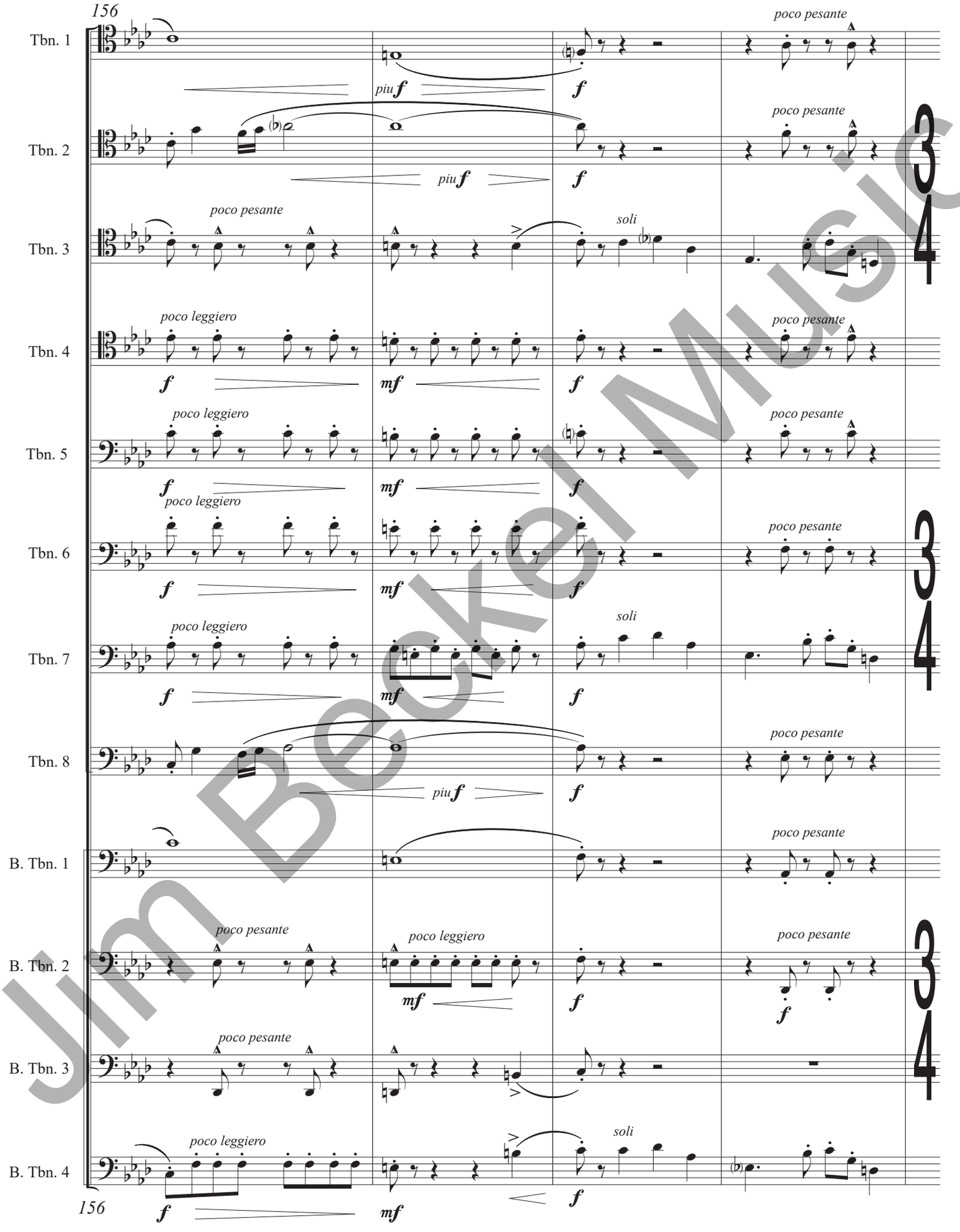
Jim Beckel Music



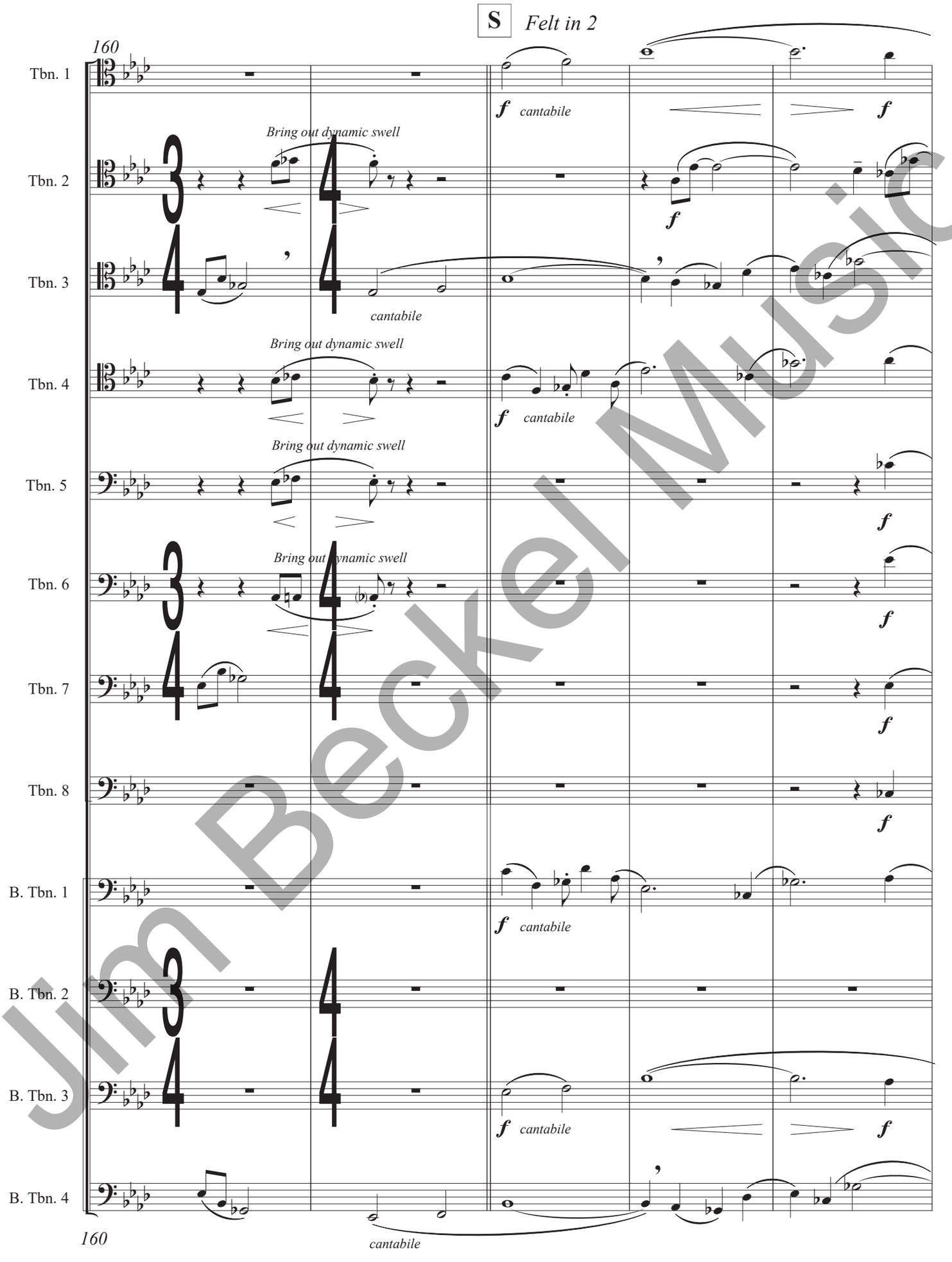
Jim Beckel Music



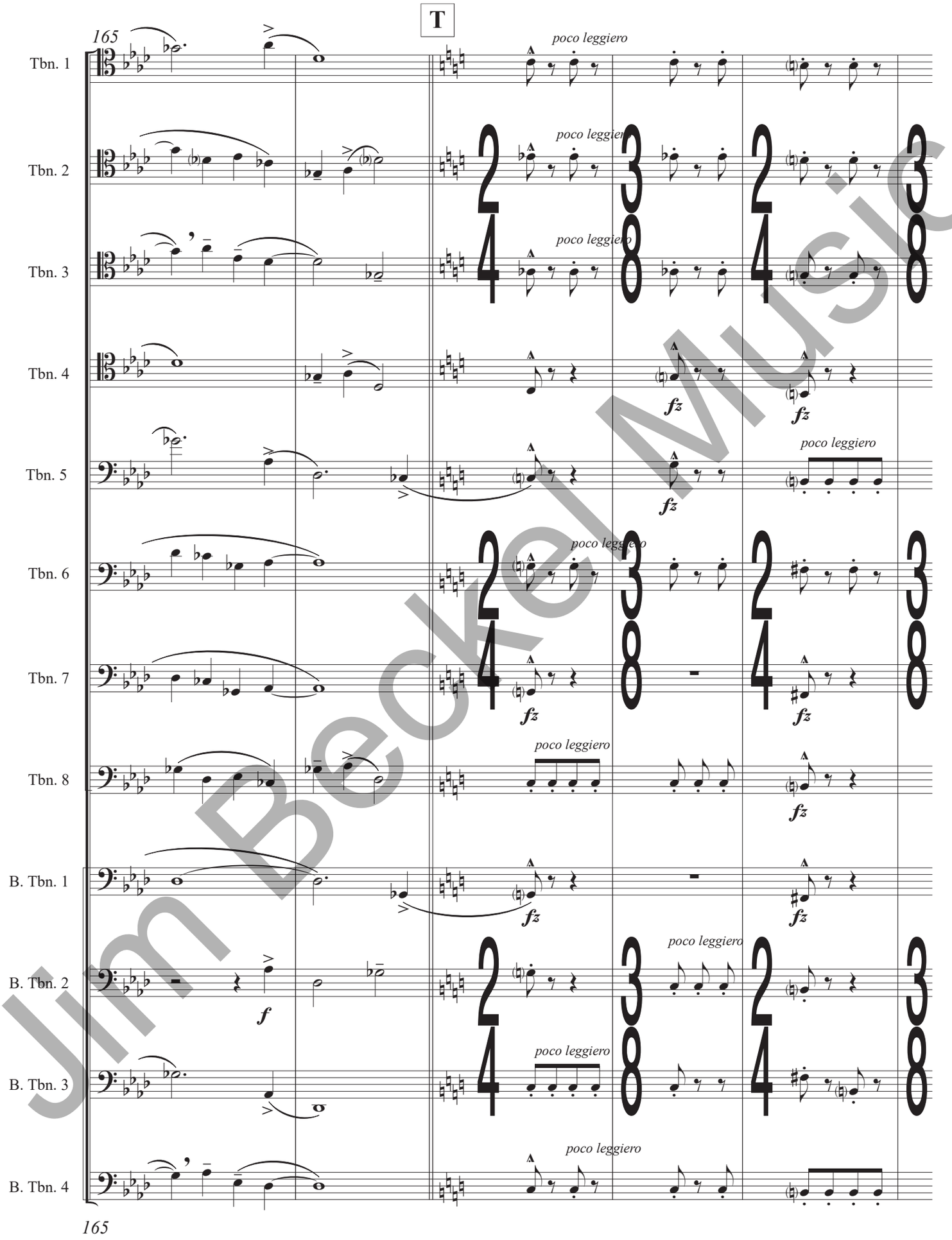
Jim Becker Music



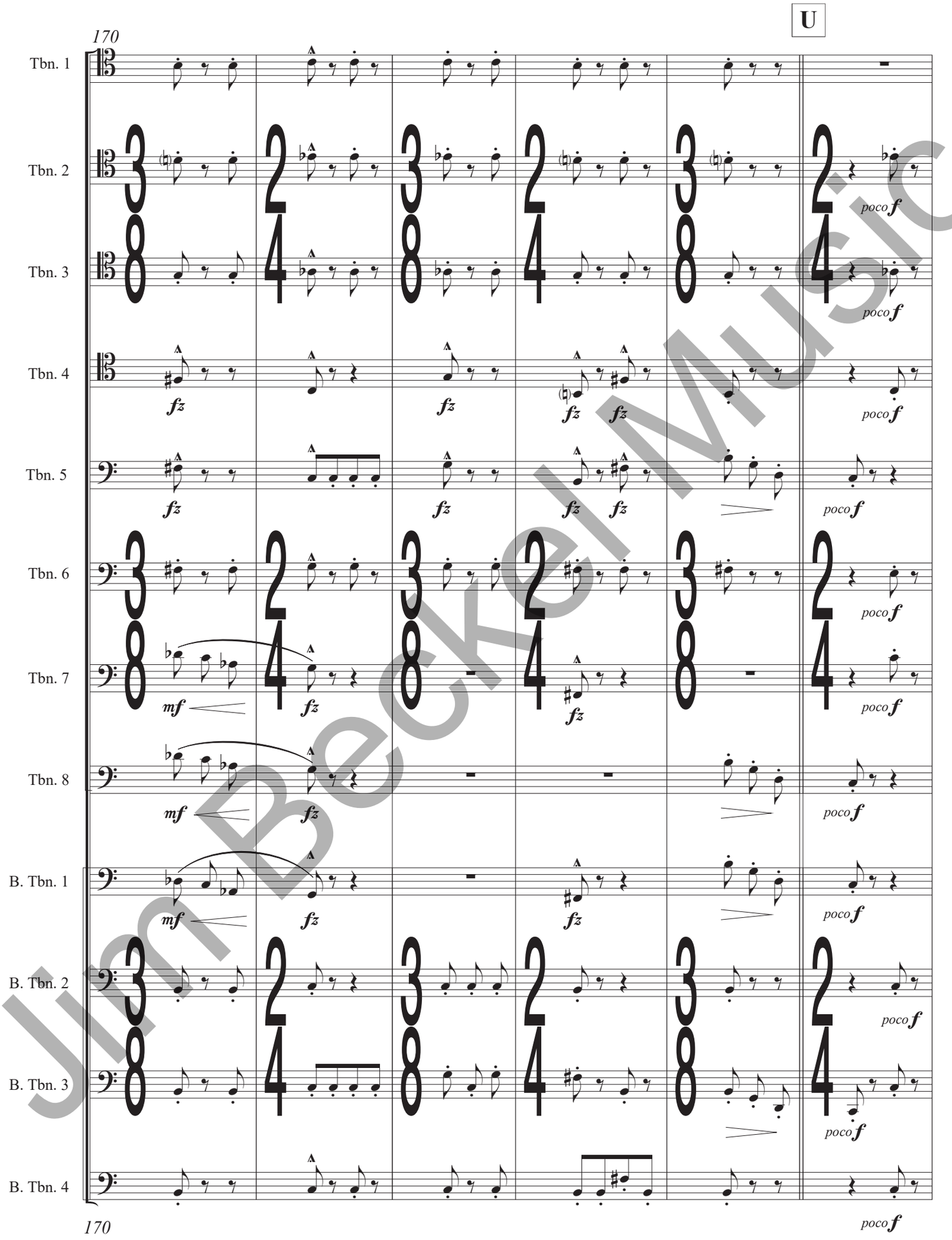
Jim Becker Music



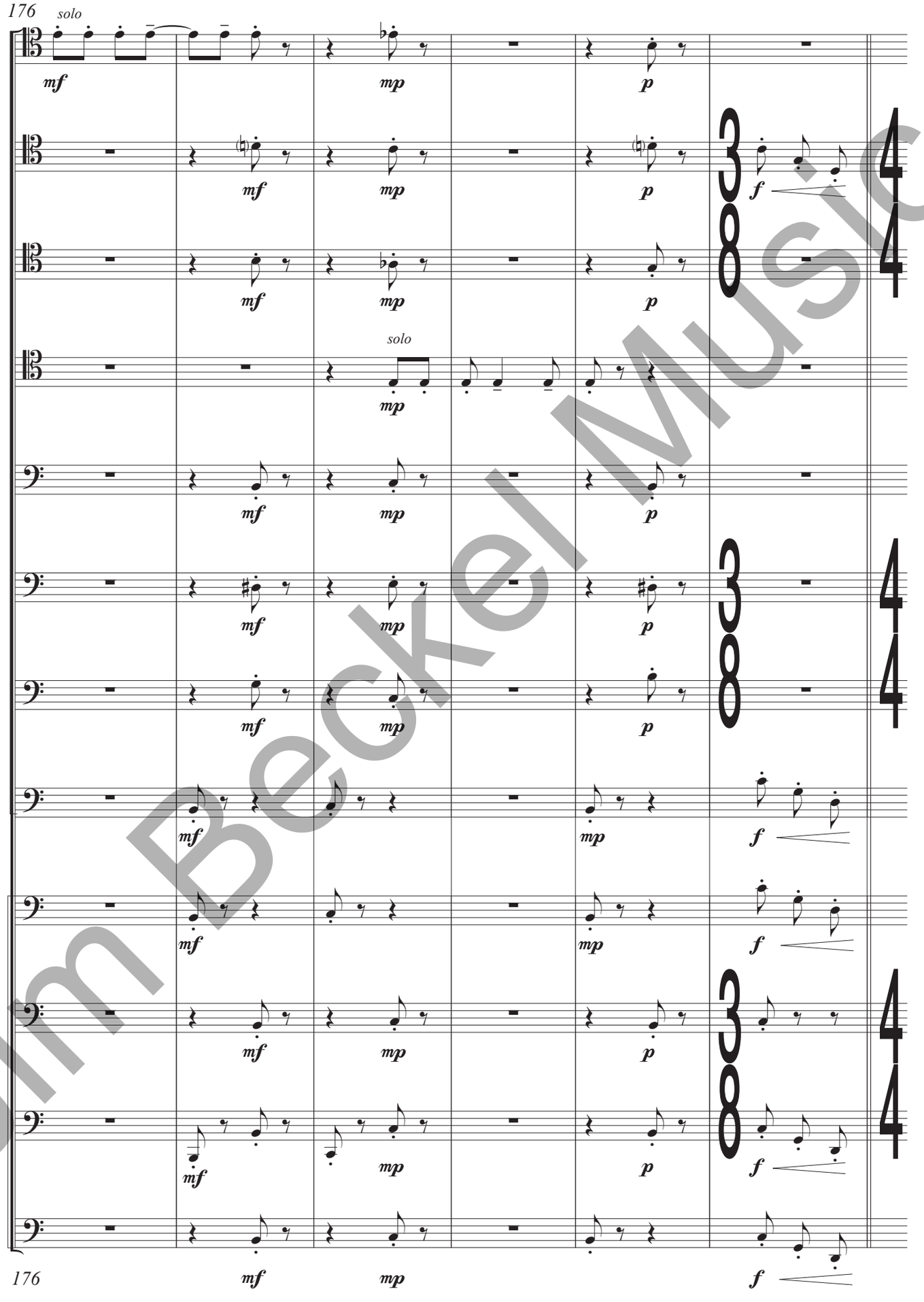
Jim Beckel Music



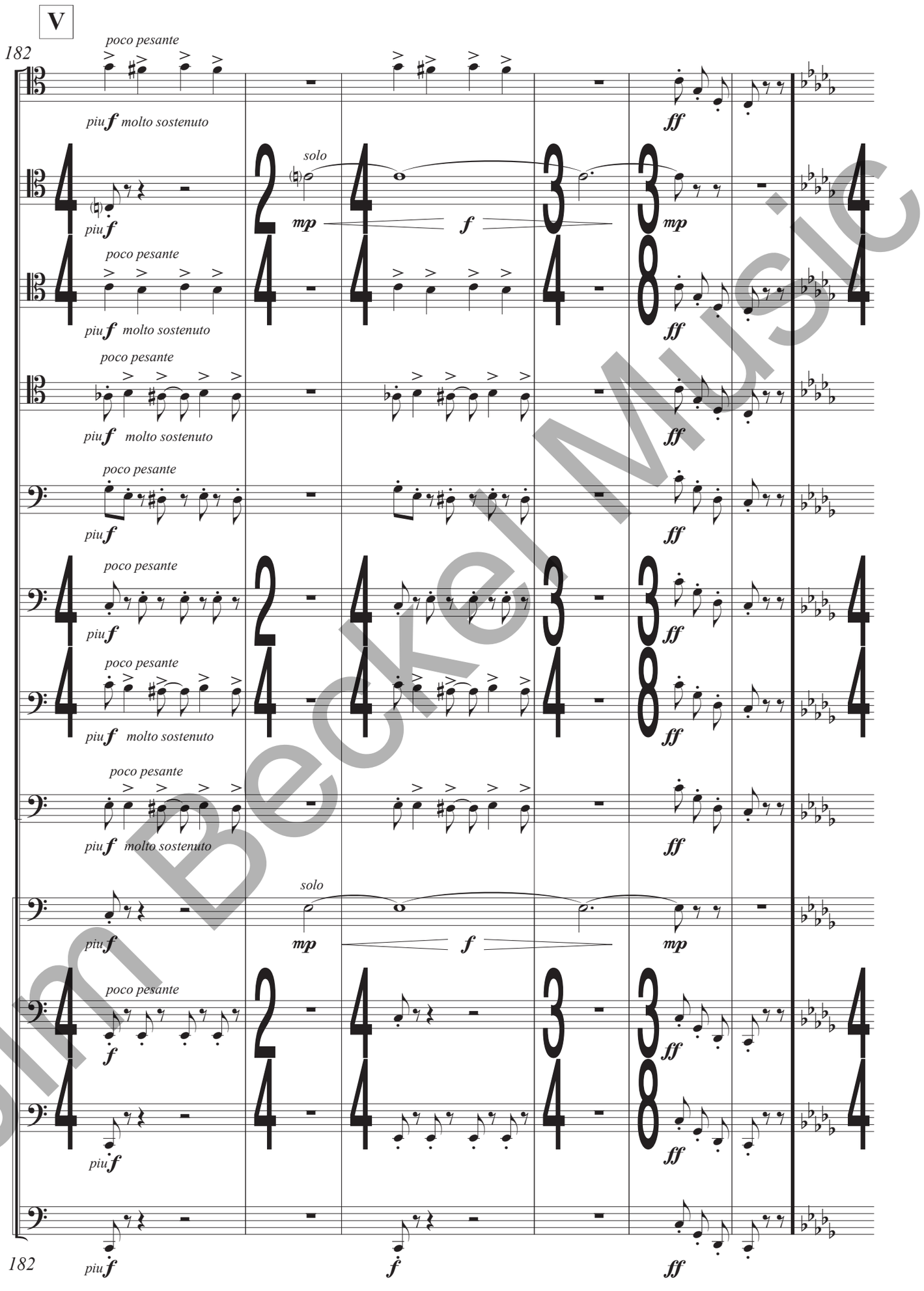
Jim Beckel Music



Jim Becker Music



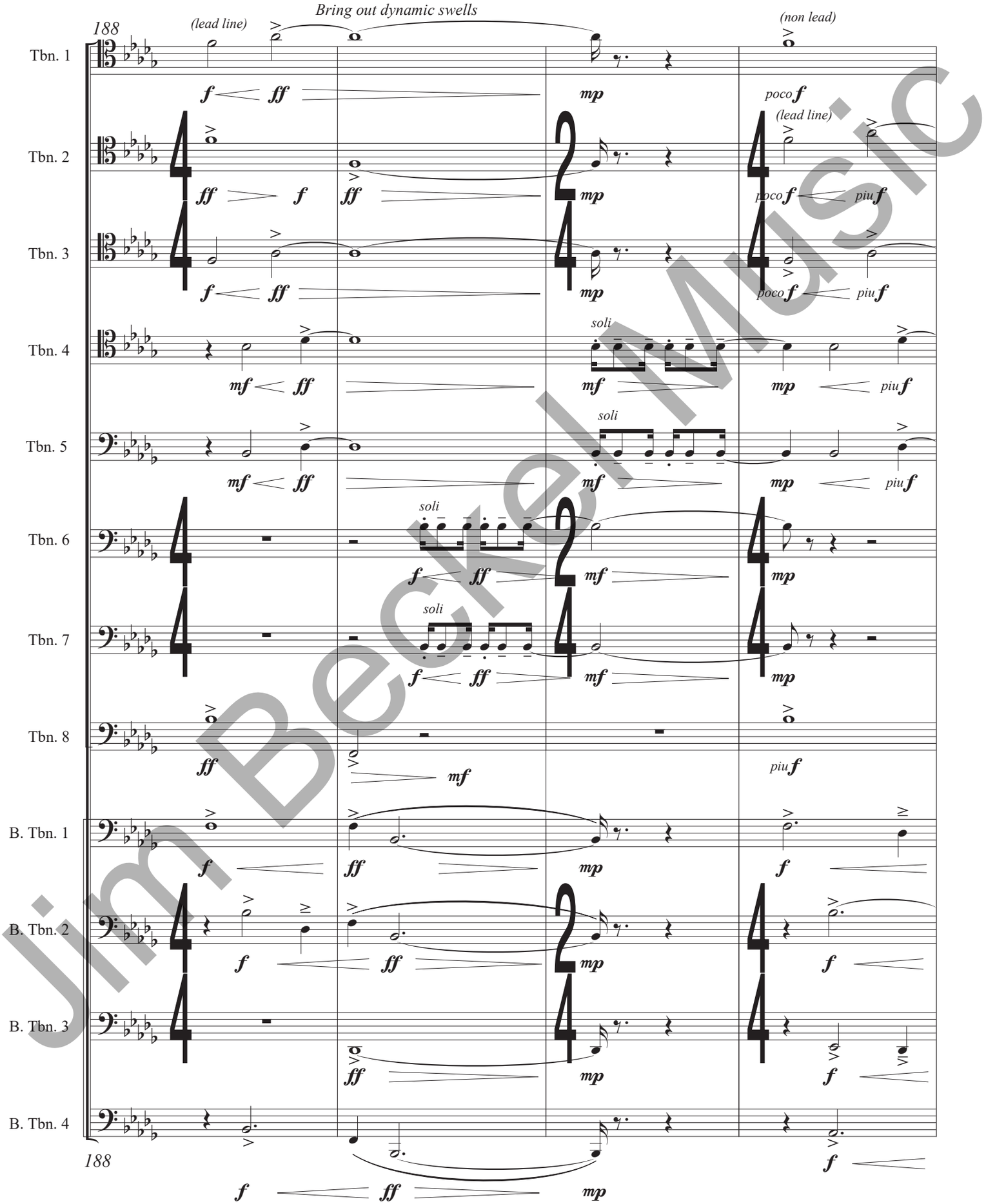
Jim Beckel Music



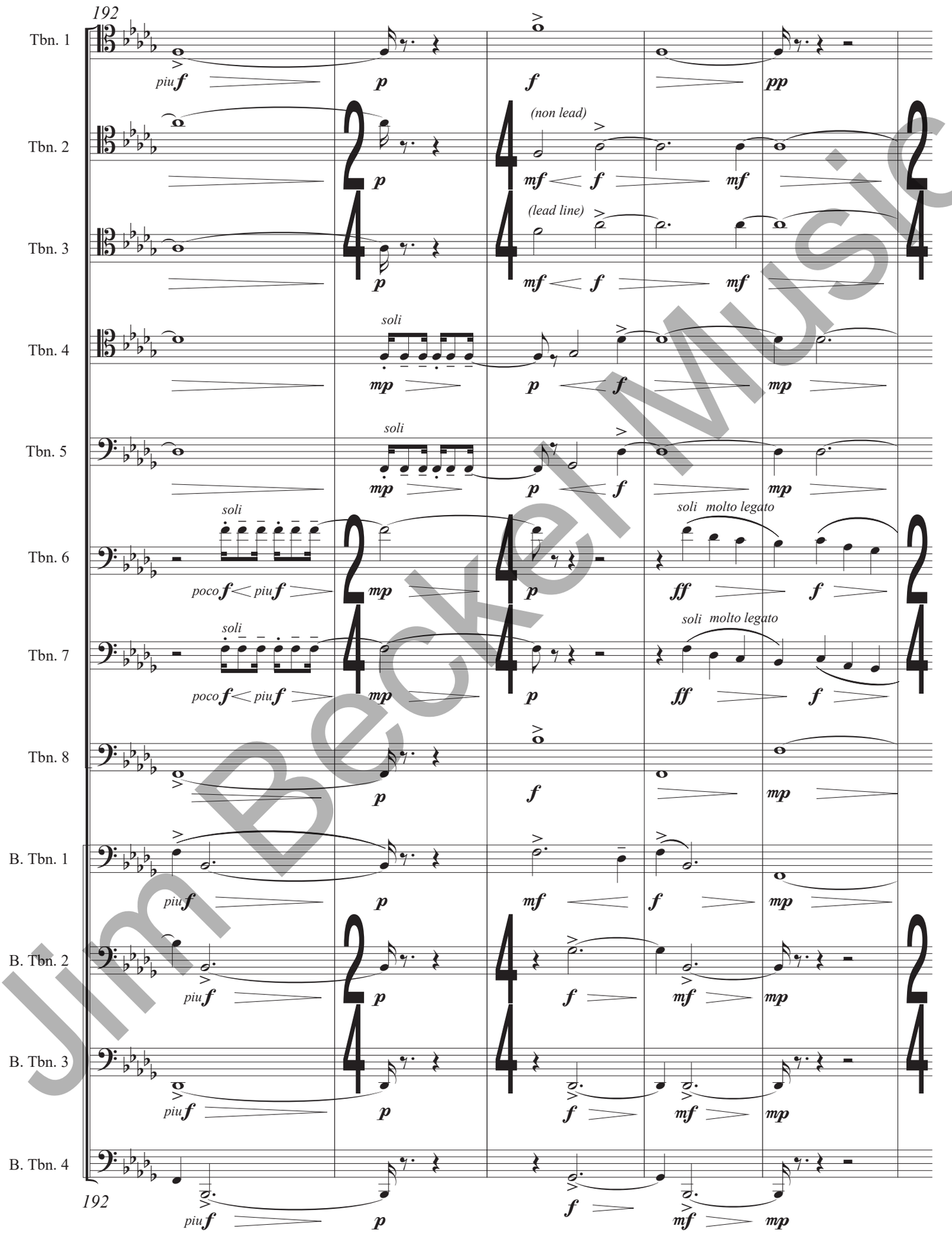
Jim Becker Music

Helix Nebula - Eye of God

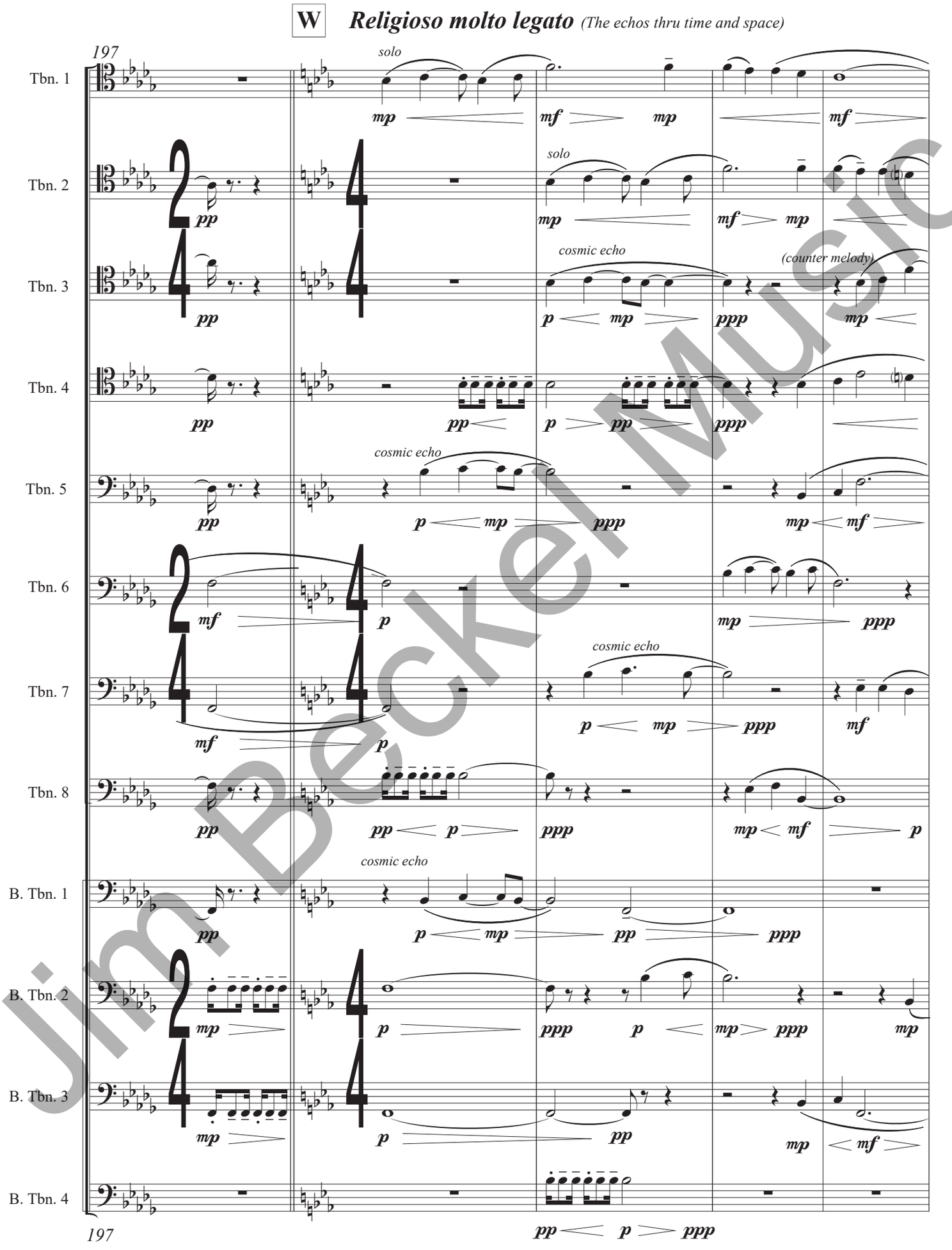
Adagio misterioso sostenuto c. ♩= 48



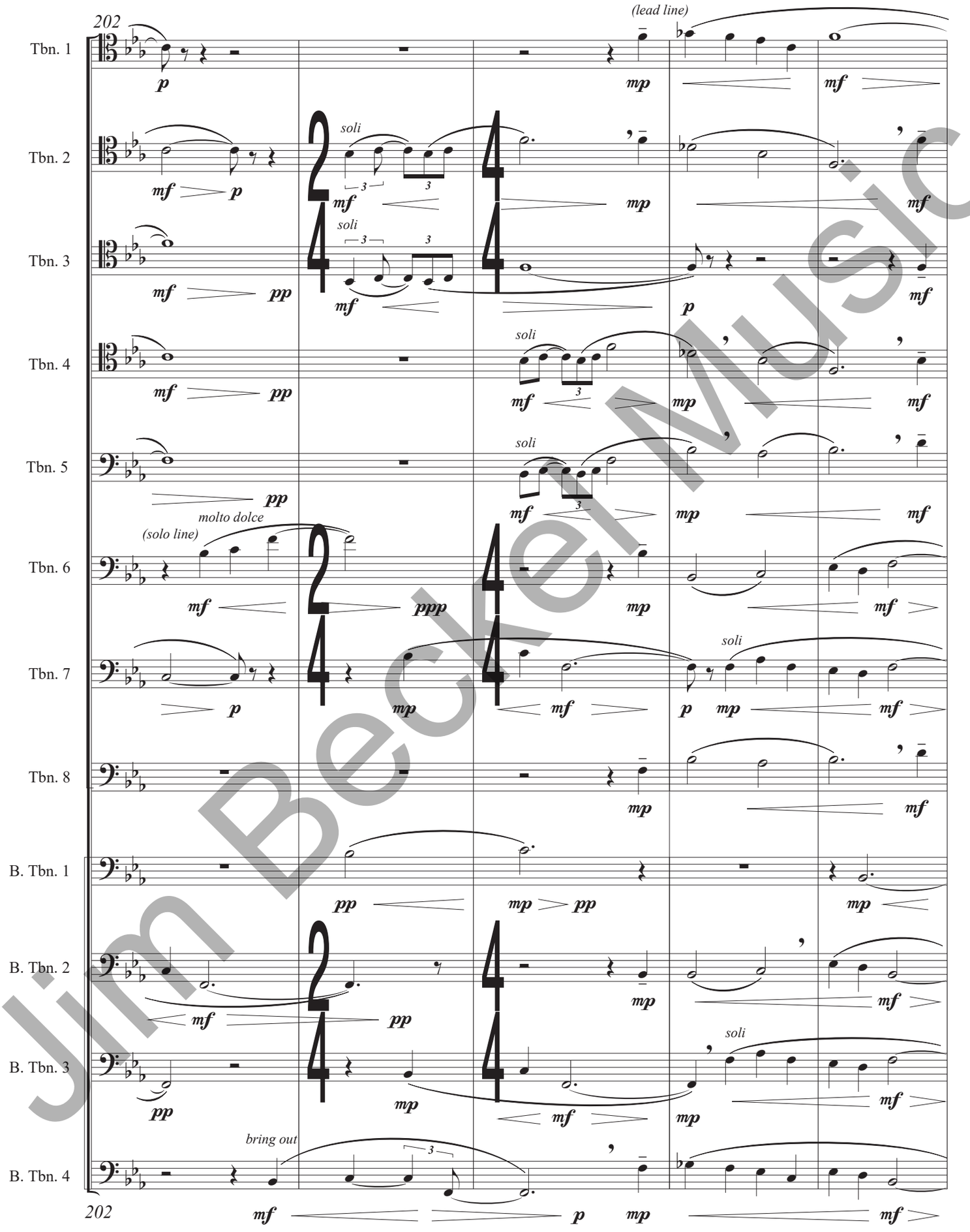
Jim Beckel Music



Jim Becker Music

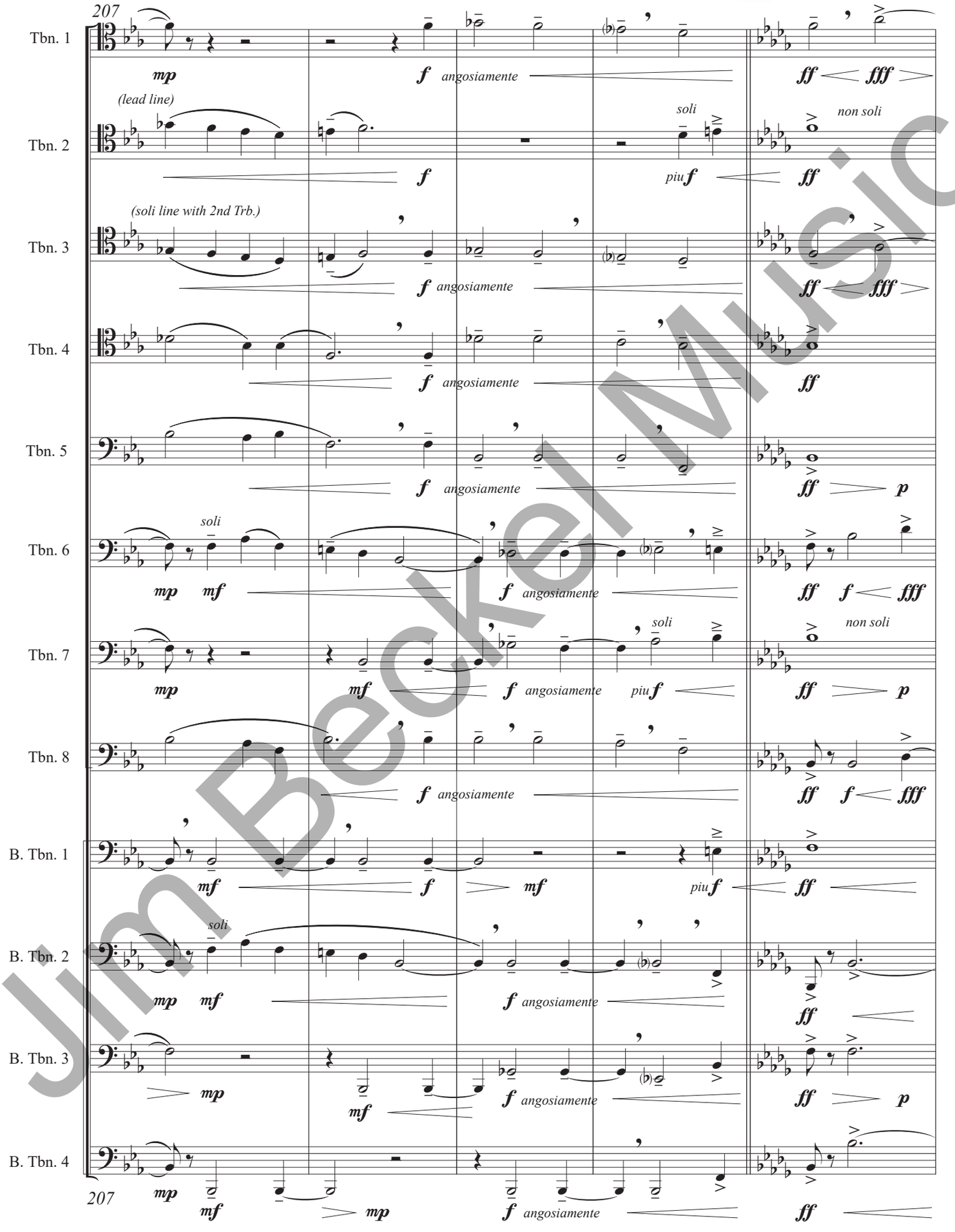


Jim Beckel Music

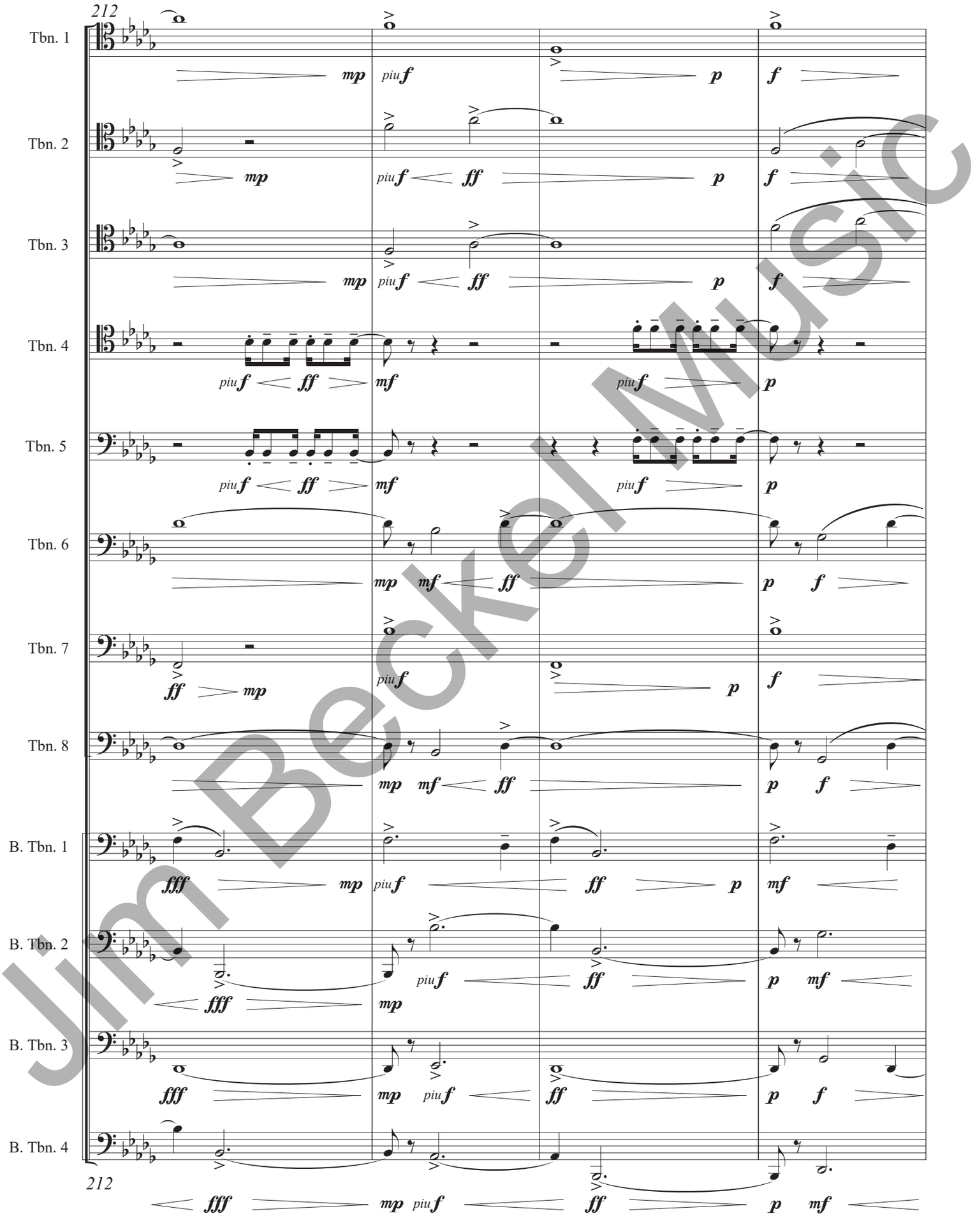


Jim Becker Music

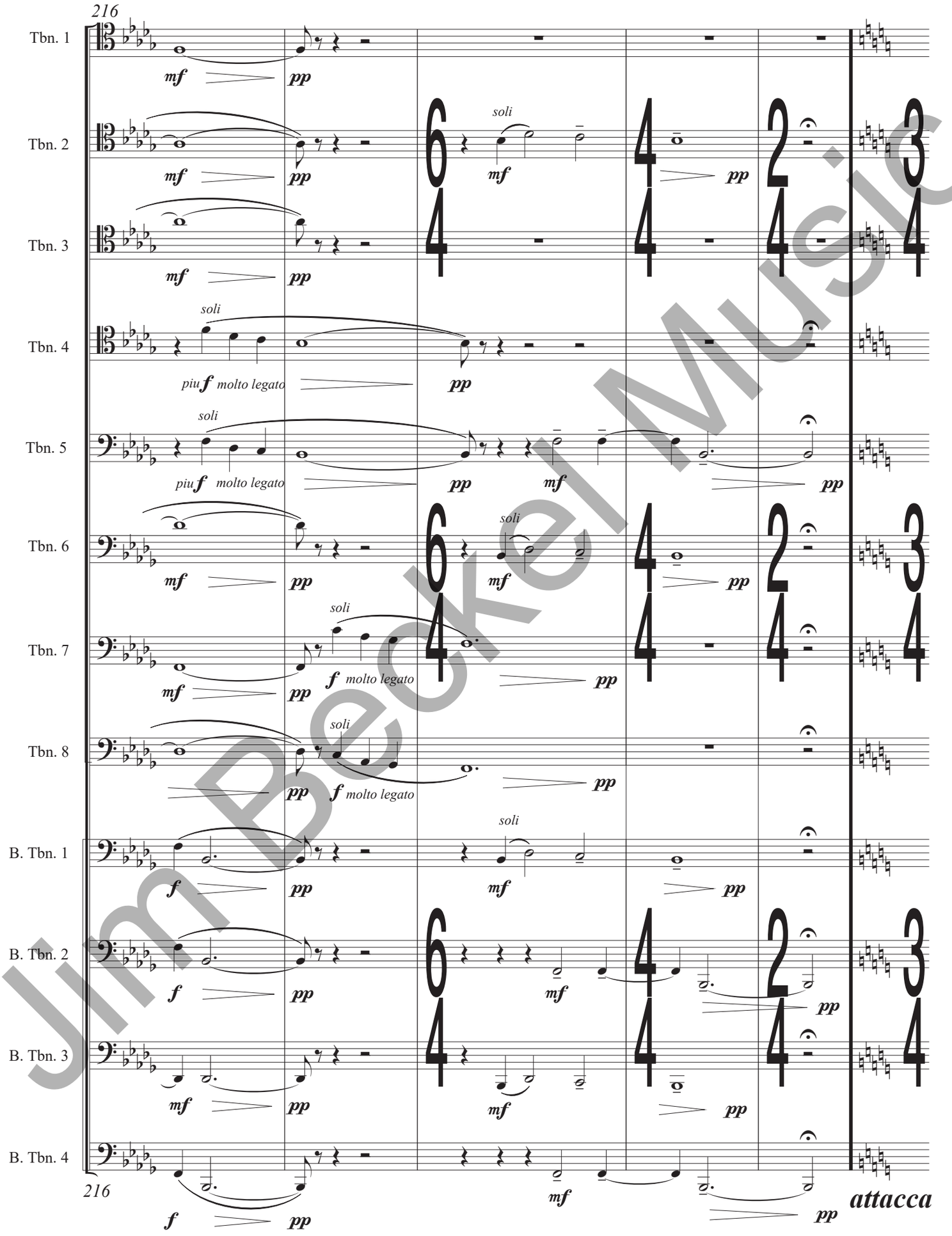
X *Bring out dynamic swells*



Jim Beckel Music



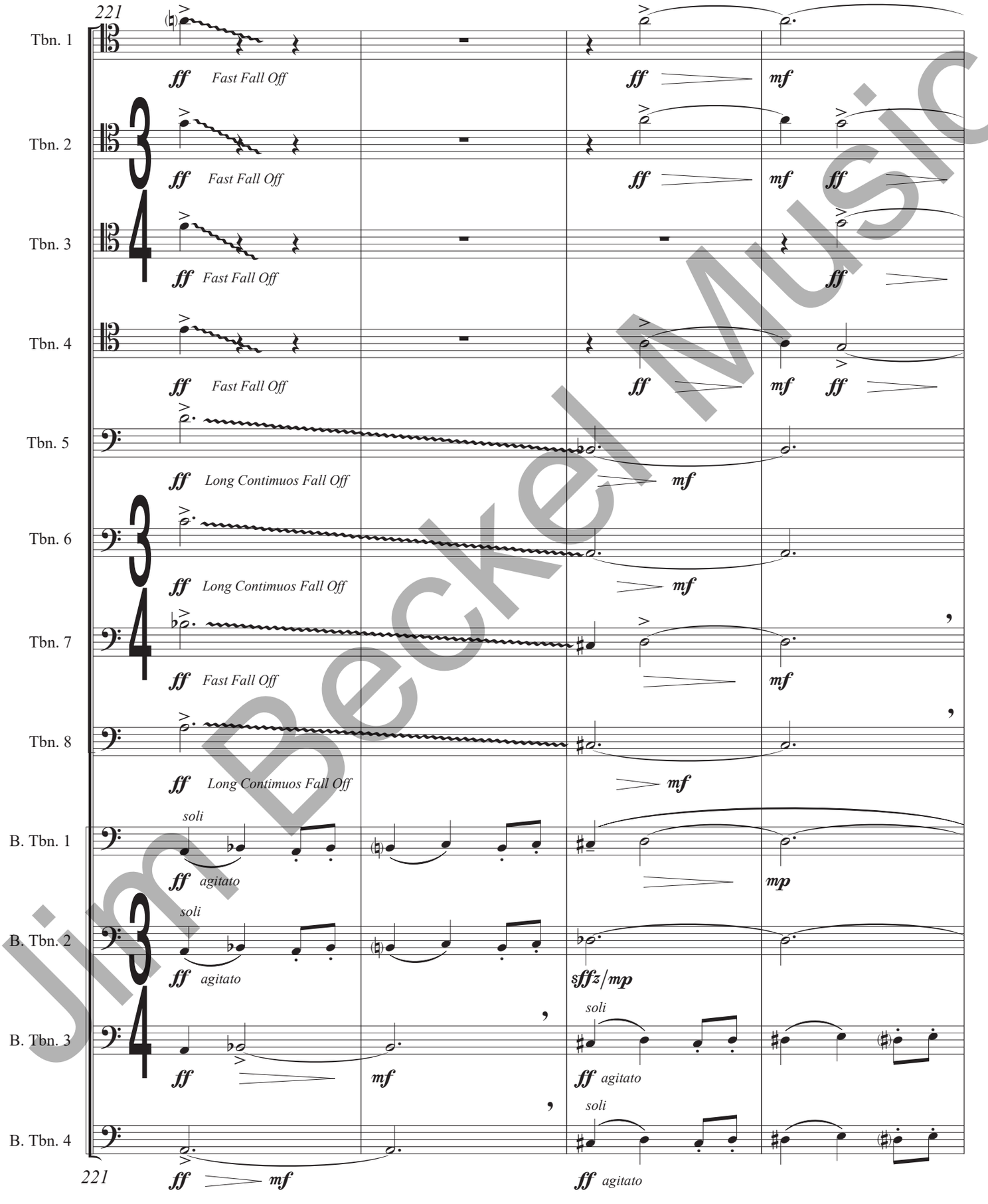
Jim Beckel Music



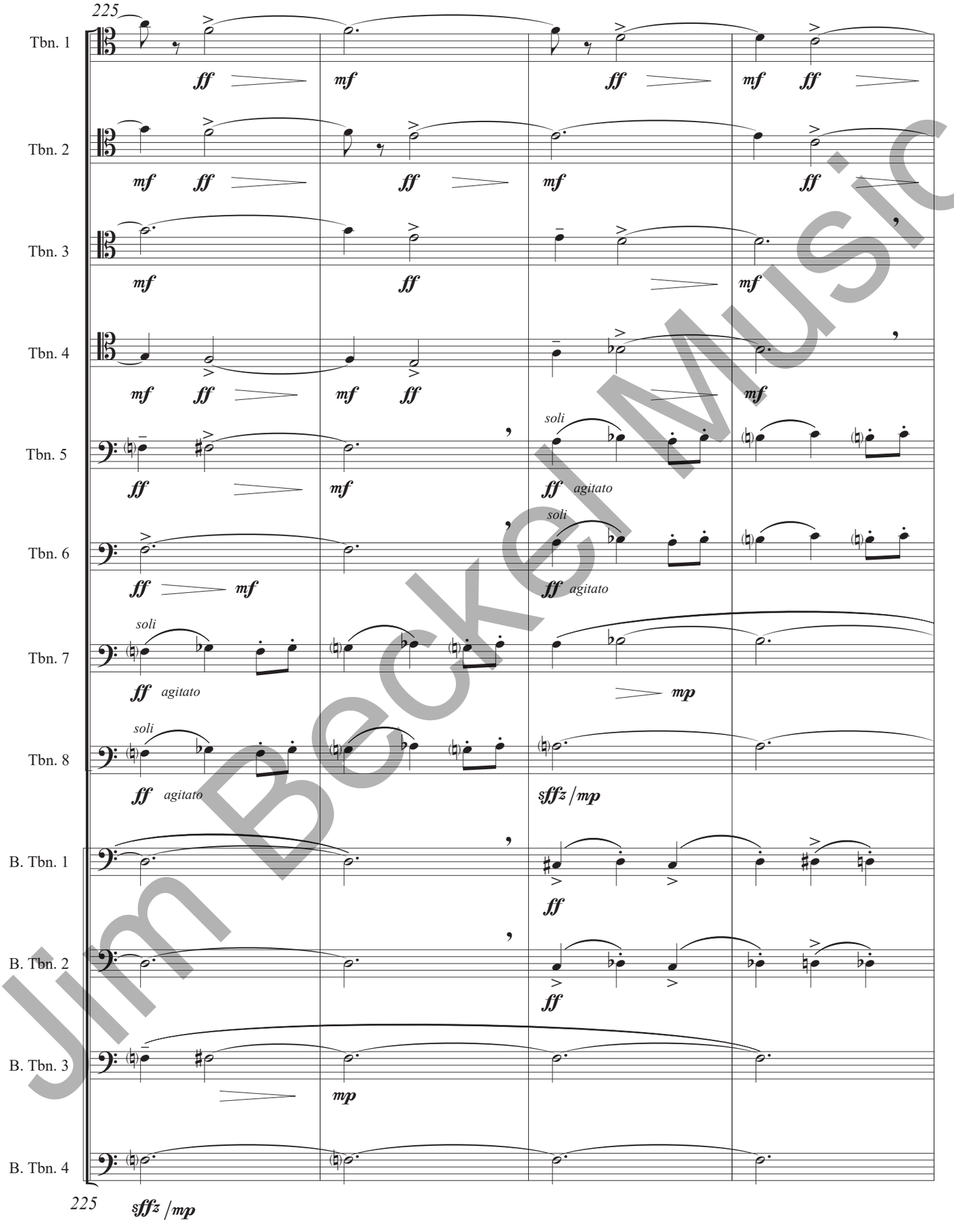
Jim Beckel Music

Crab Nebula
Supernova Remnant

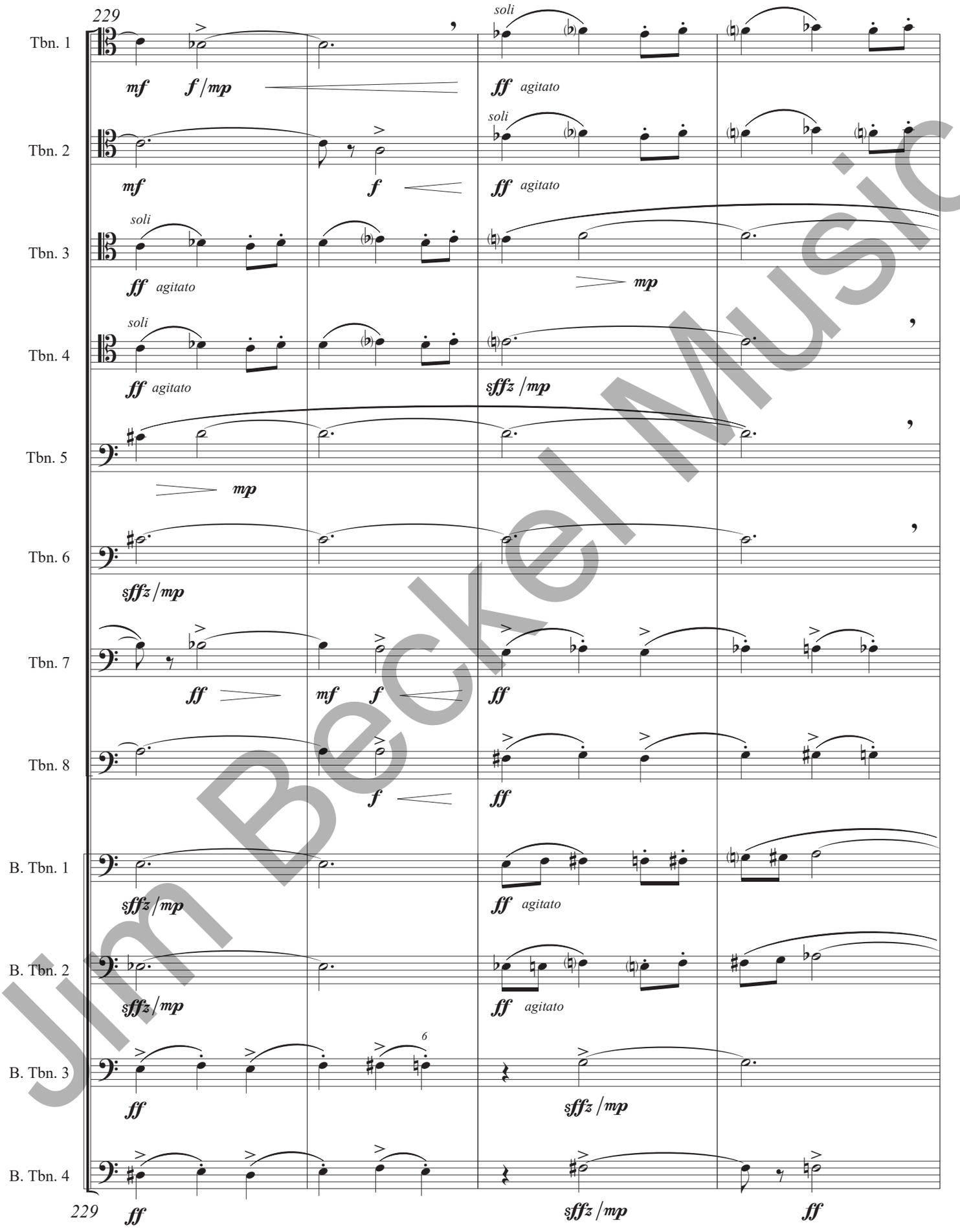
Presto c. ♩. = 74 *Conducted in 1*



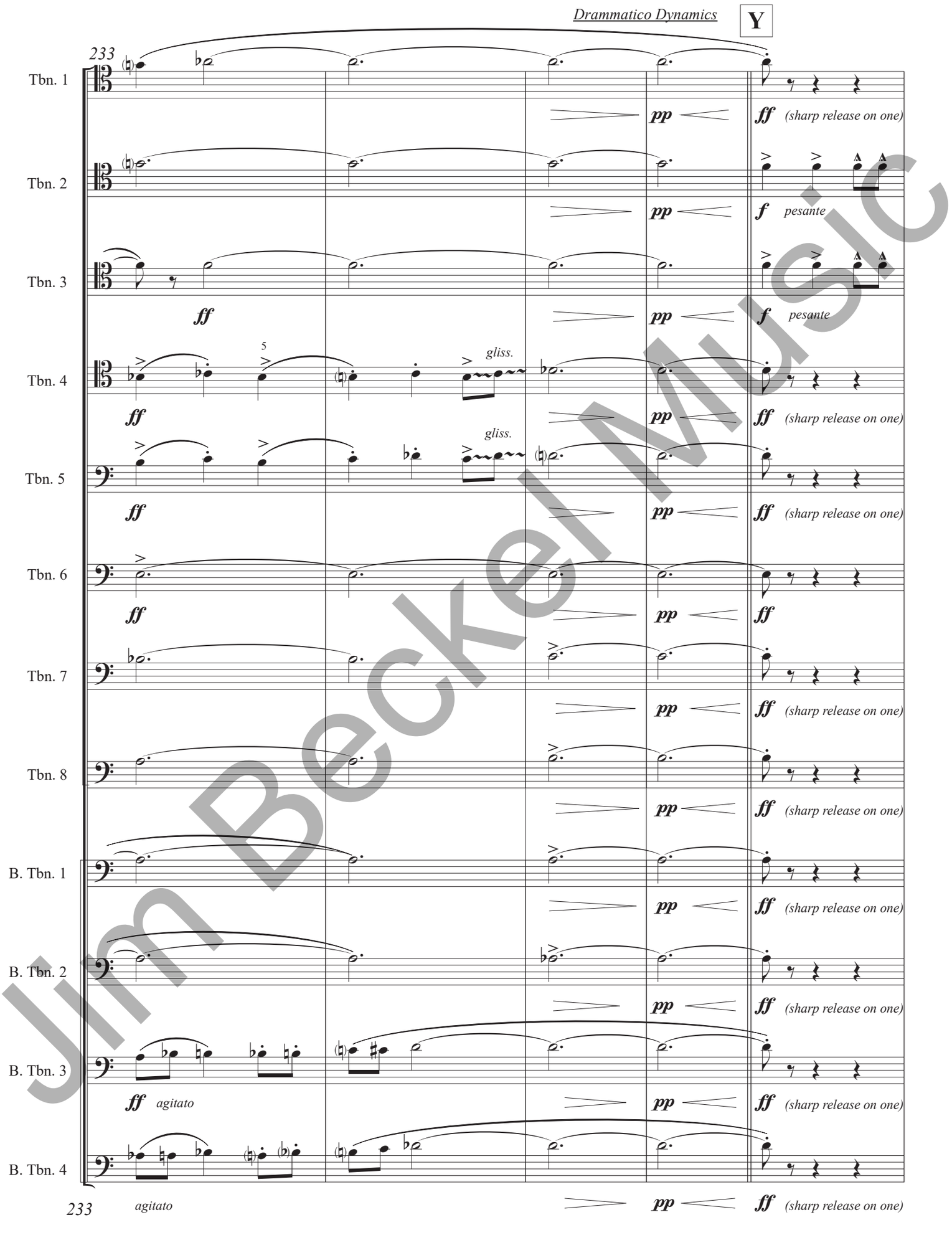
Jim Beckel Music



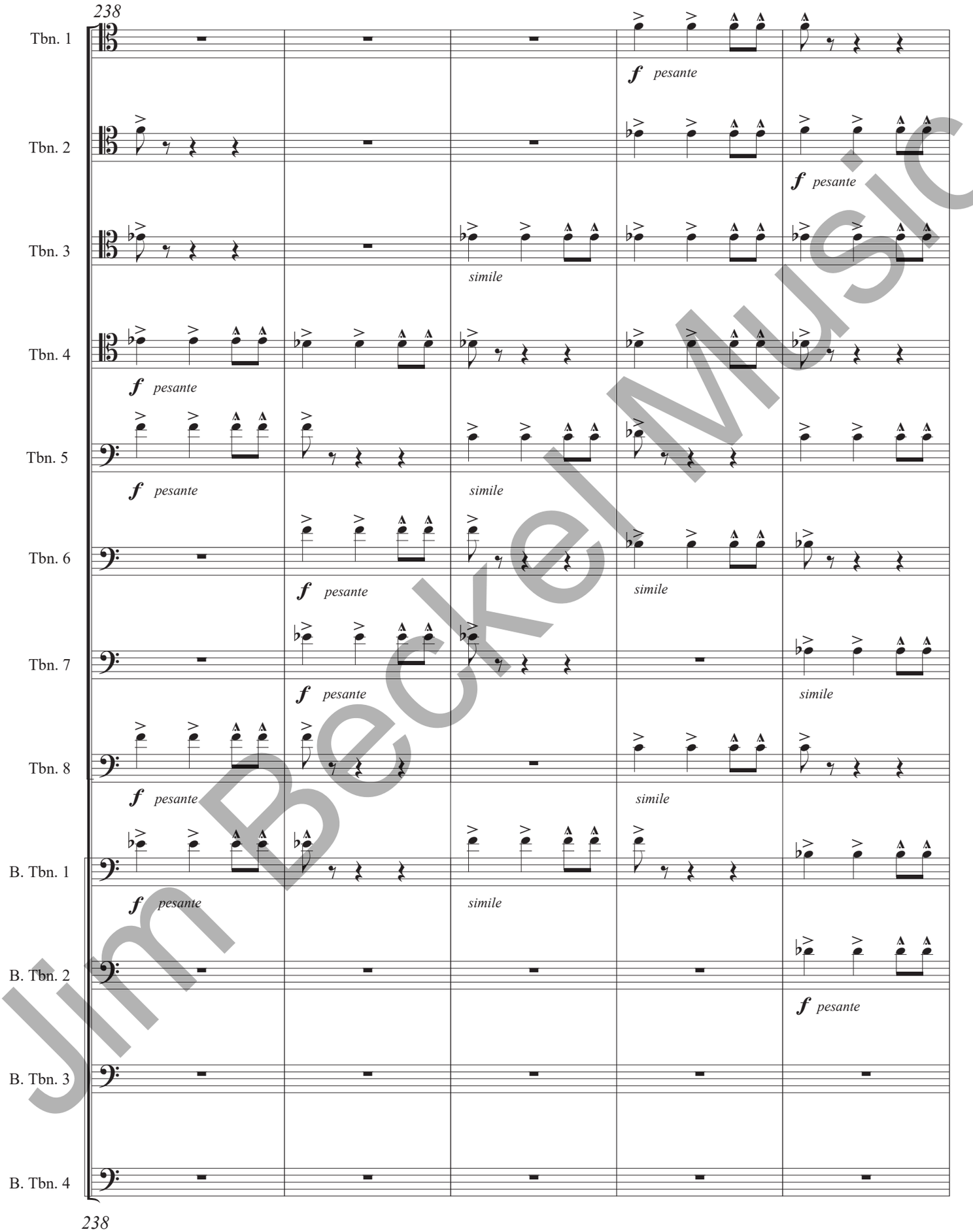
Jim Becker Music



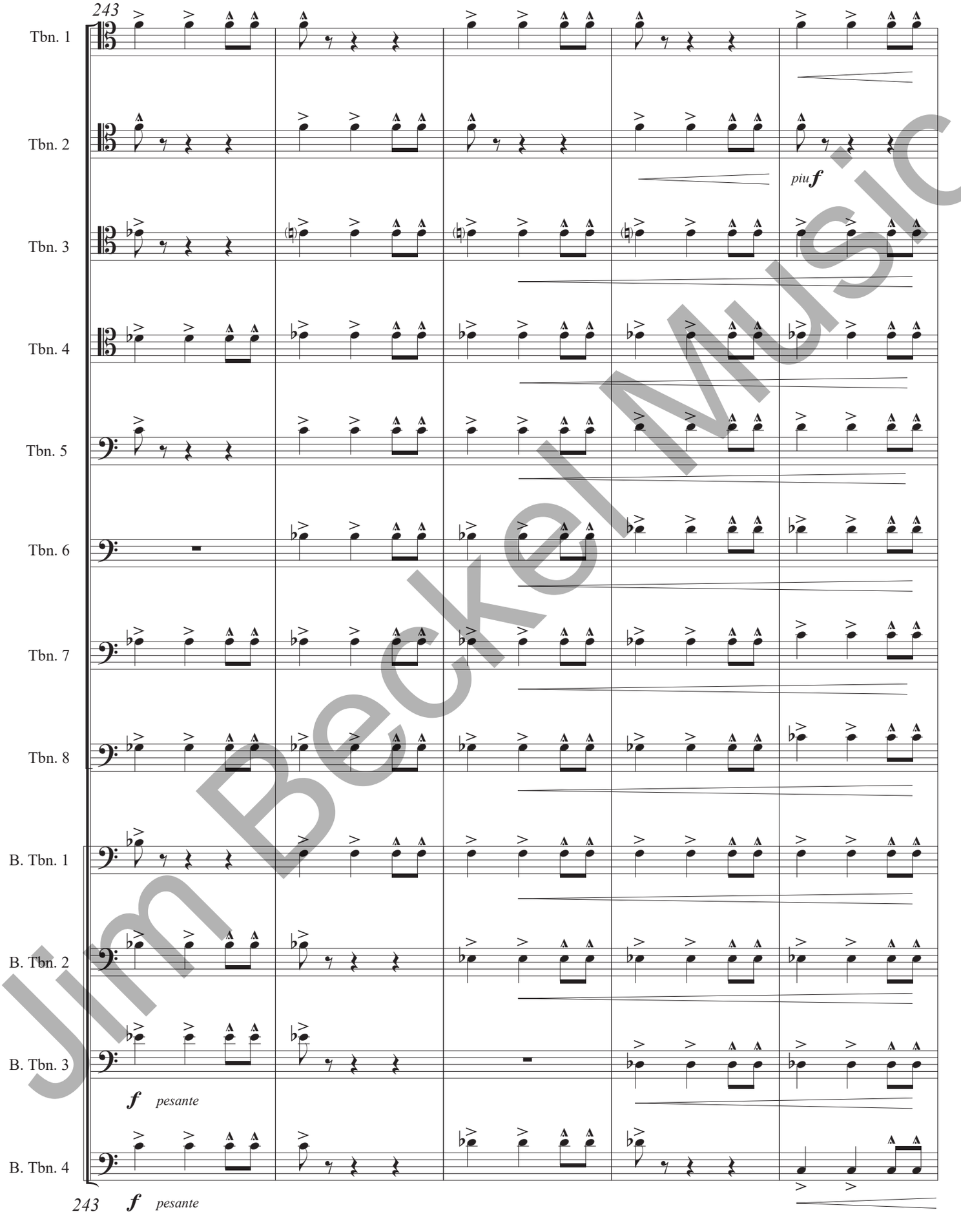
Jim Beckel Music



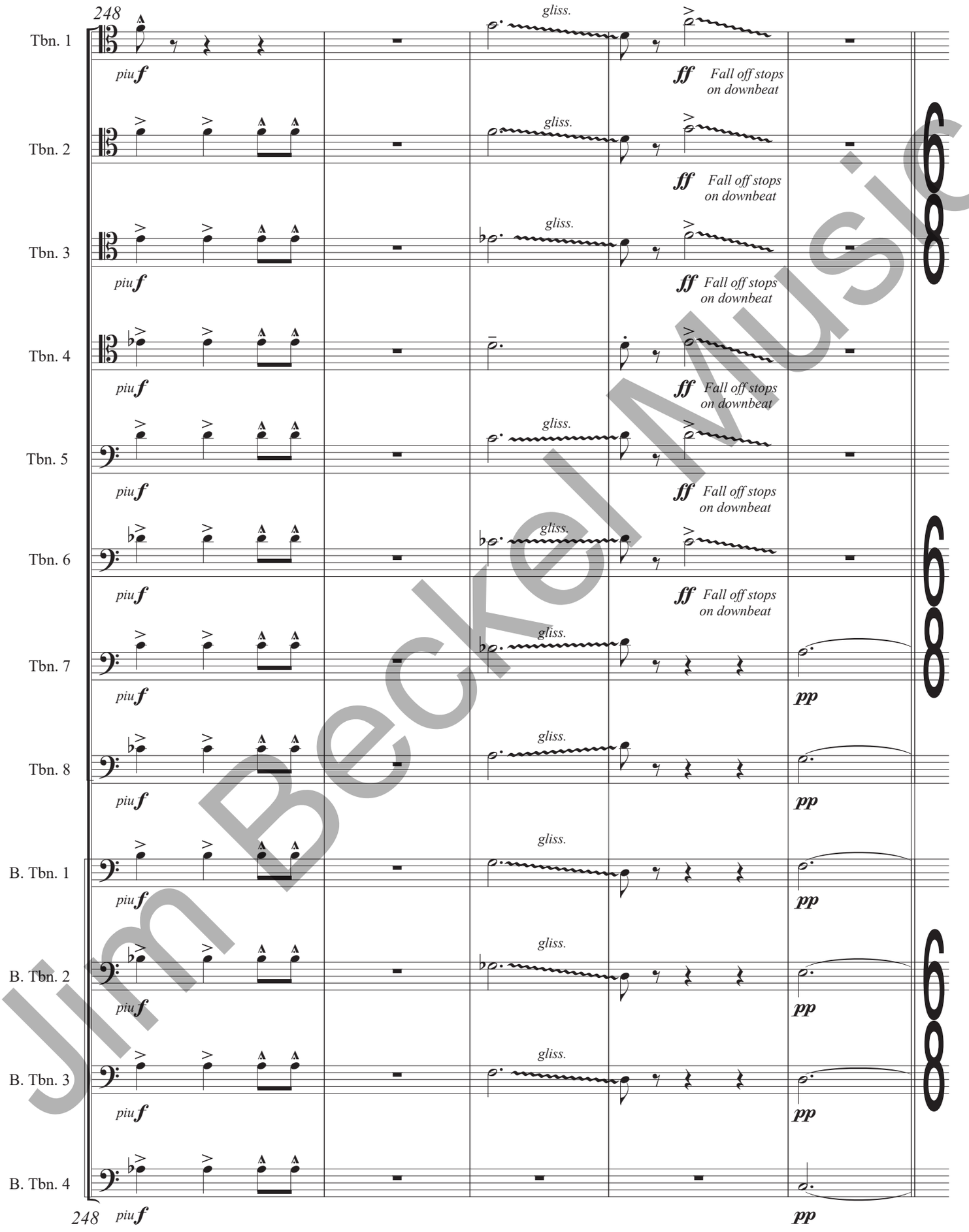
Jim Becker Music



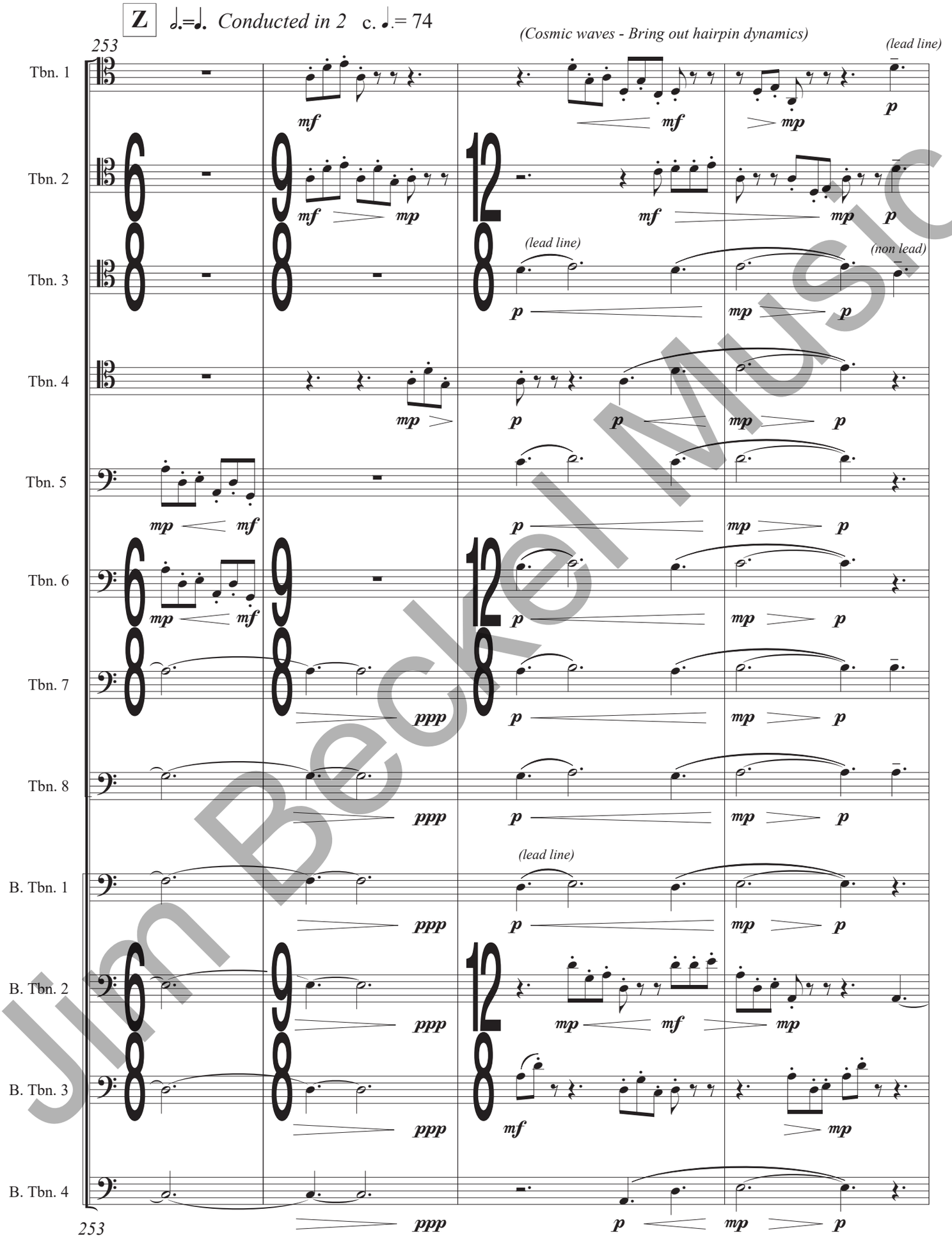
Jim Beckel Music



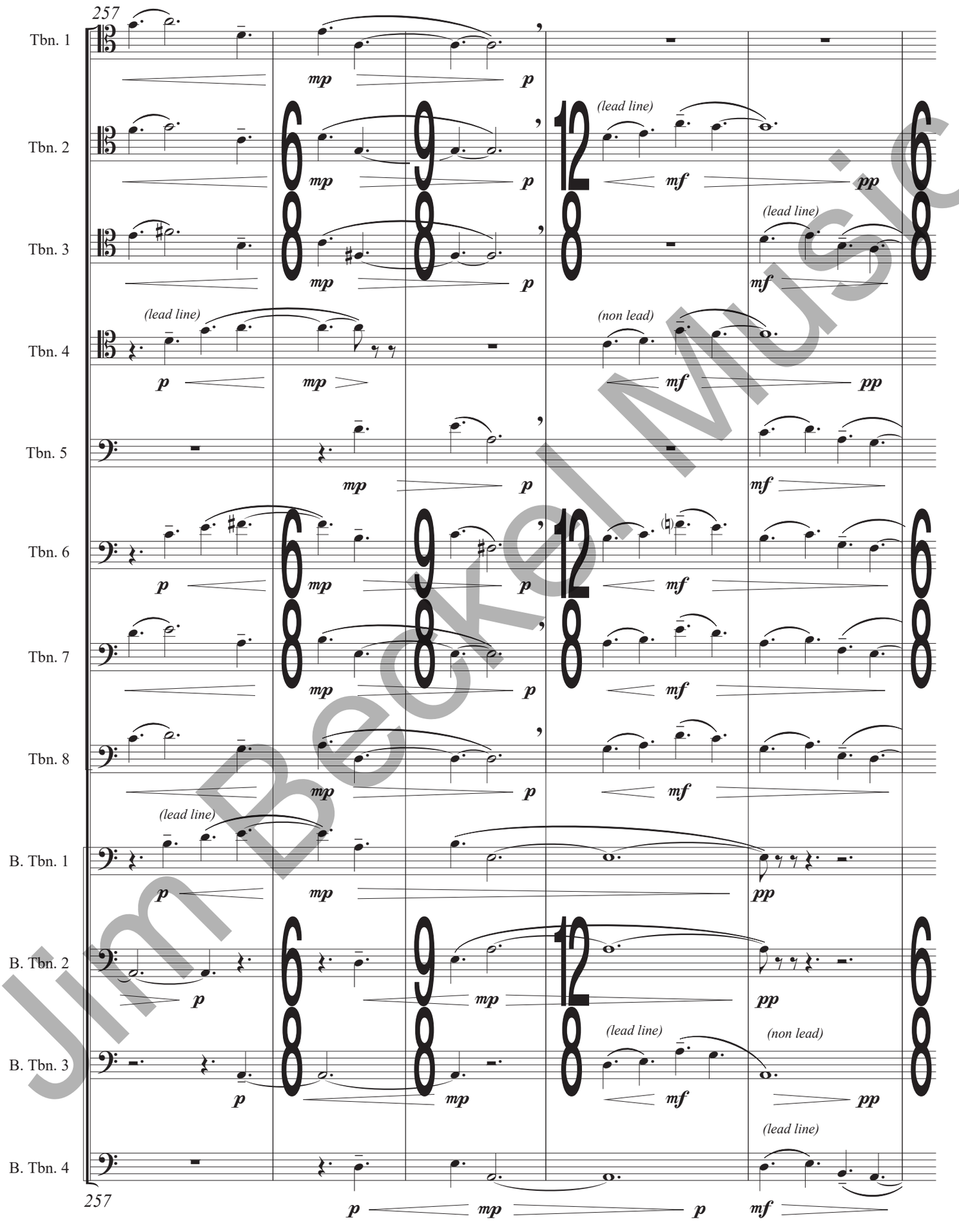
Jim Becker Music



Jim Beckel Music



Jim Beckel Music



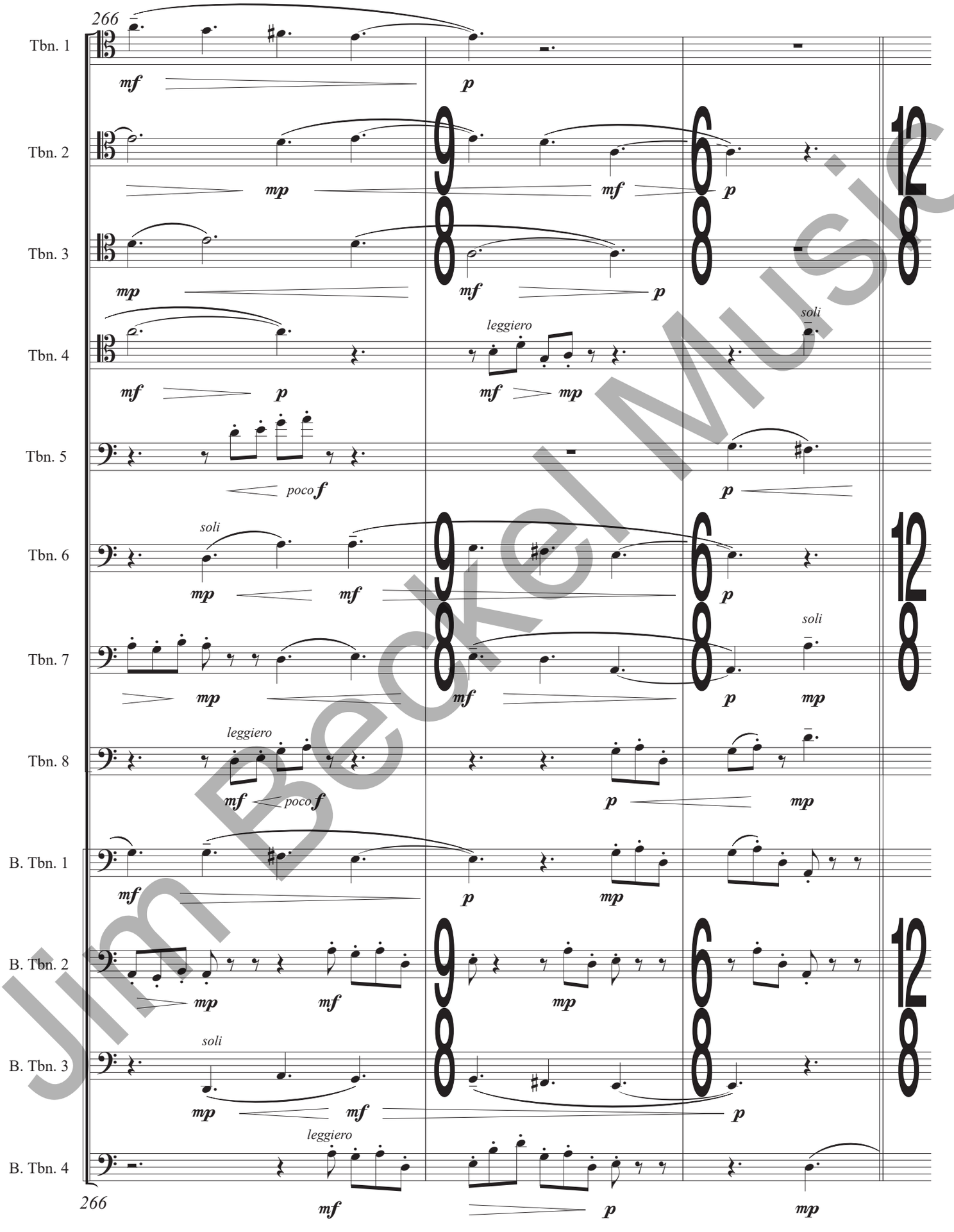
Jim Beckel Music

AA *Molto Cantabile - The Eternity of the Cosmos*

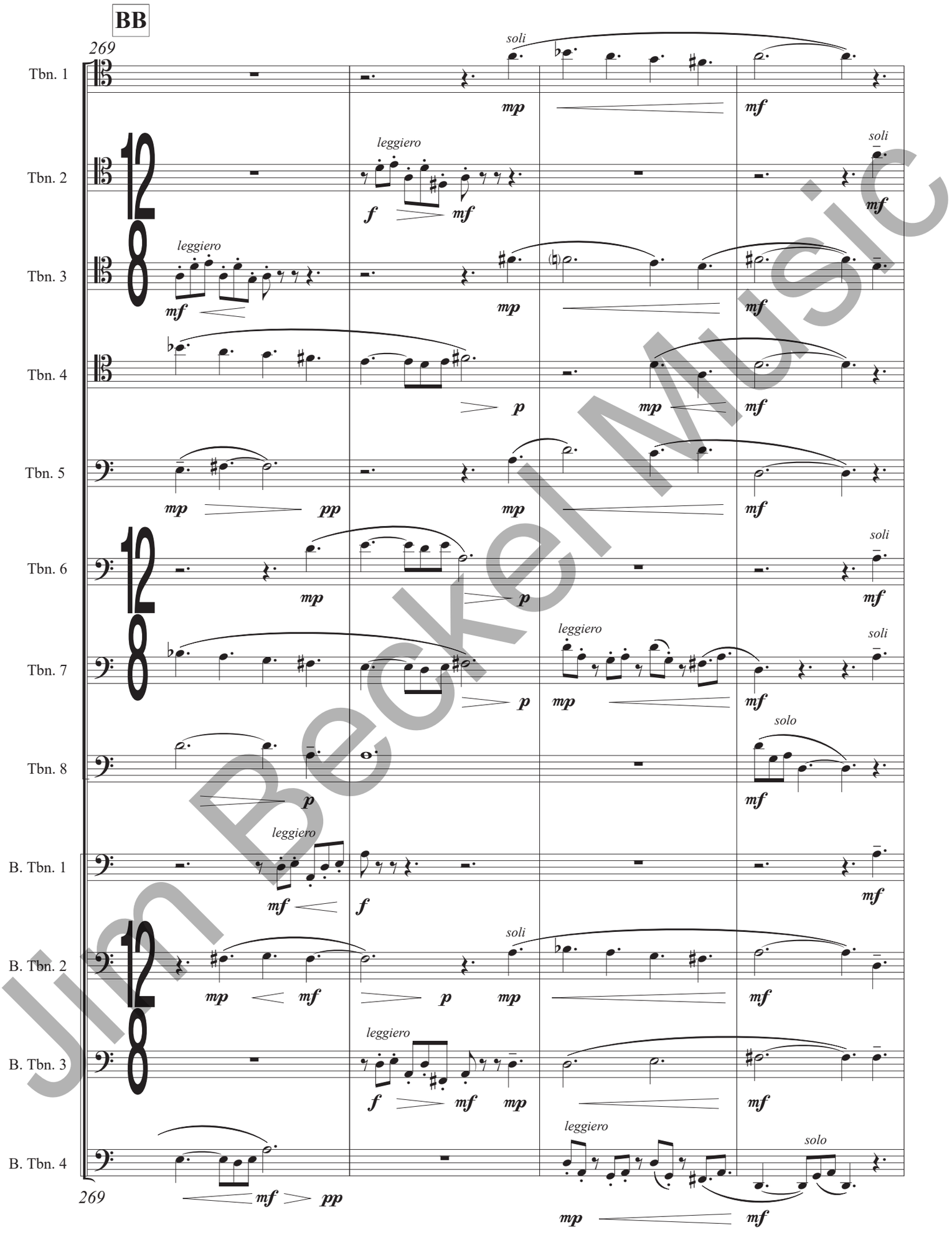
262

Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tbn. 4
Tbn. 5
Tbn. 6
Tbn. 7
Tbn. 8
B. Tbn. 1
B. Tbn. 2
B. Tbn. 3
B. Tbn. 4

Jim Beckel Music



Jim Beckel Music



Jim Becker Music

CC **Poco meno mosso** c. ♩. = 70

gradual poco a poco ritard

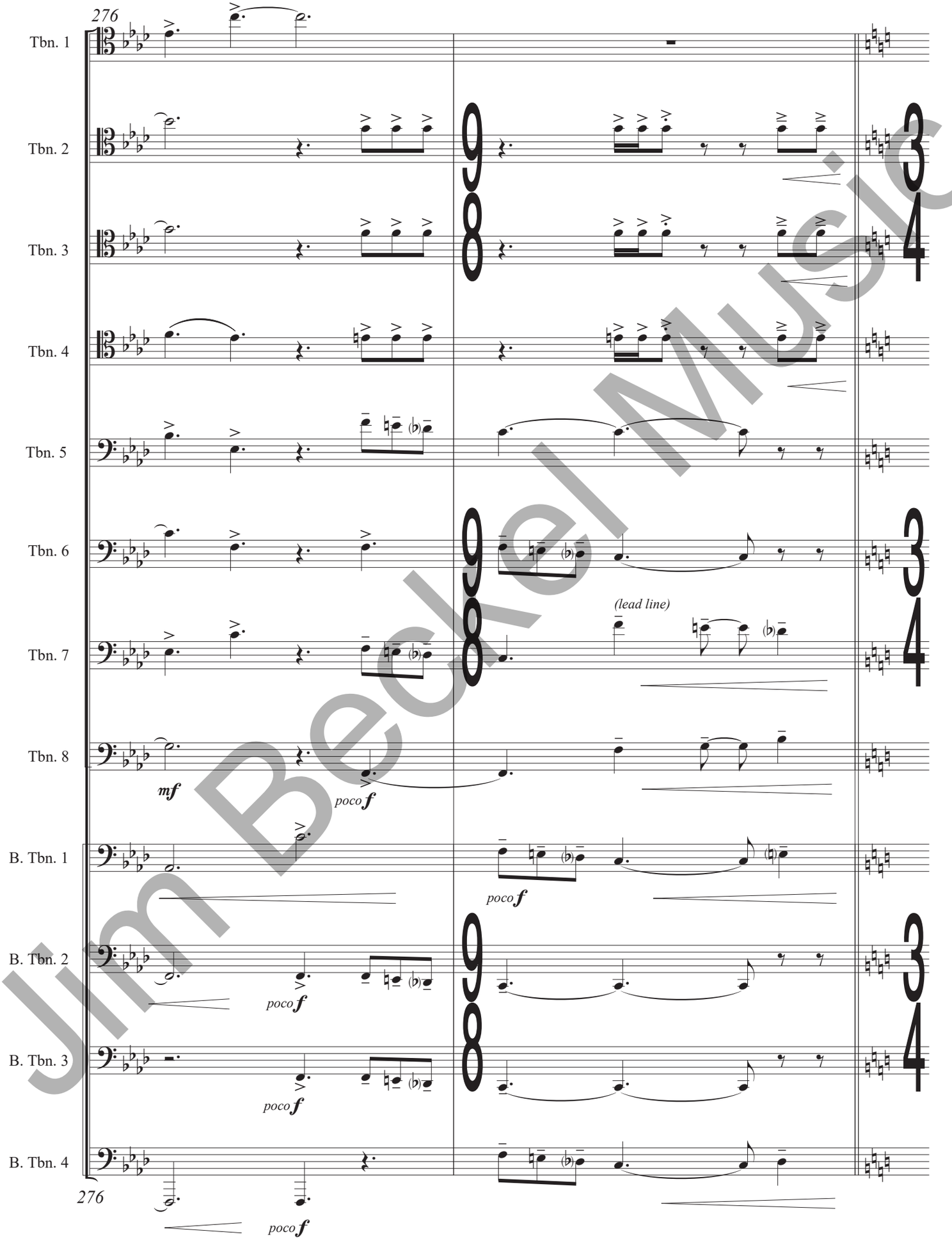
273

Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tbn. 4
Tbn. 5
Tbn. 6
Tbn. 7
Tbn. 8
B. Tbn. 1
B. Tbn. 2
B. Tbn. 3
B. Tbn. 4

soli *poco* ***f***
poco ***f***
poco ***f***
mf *poco* ***f***
mf *poco* ***f***
poco ***f***
(soli) *poco* ***f***
mf *poco* ***f***
poco ***f*** ***mf***
poco ***f*** ***mf***
poco ***f*** ***mf***
mf *poco* ***f*** ***mf***

273

Jim Beckel Music



Jim Beckel Music

DD ♩.=♩. *Conducted in 1* c. 𝅗𝅥.= 74

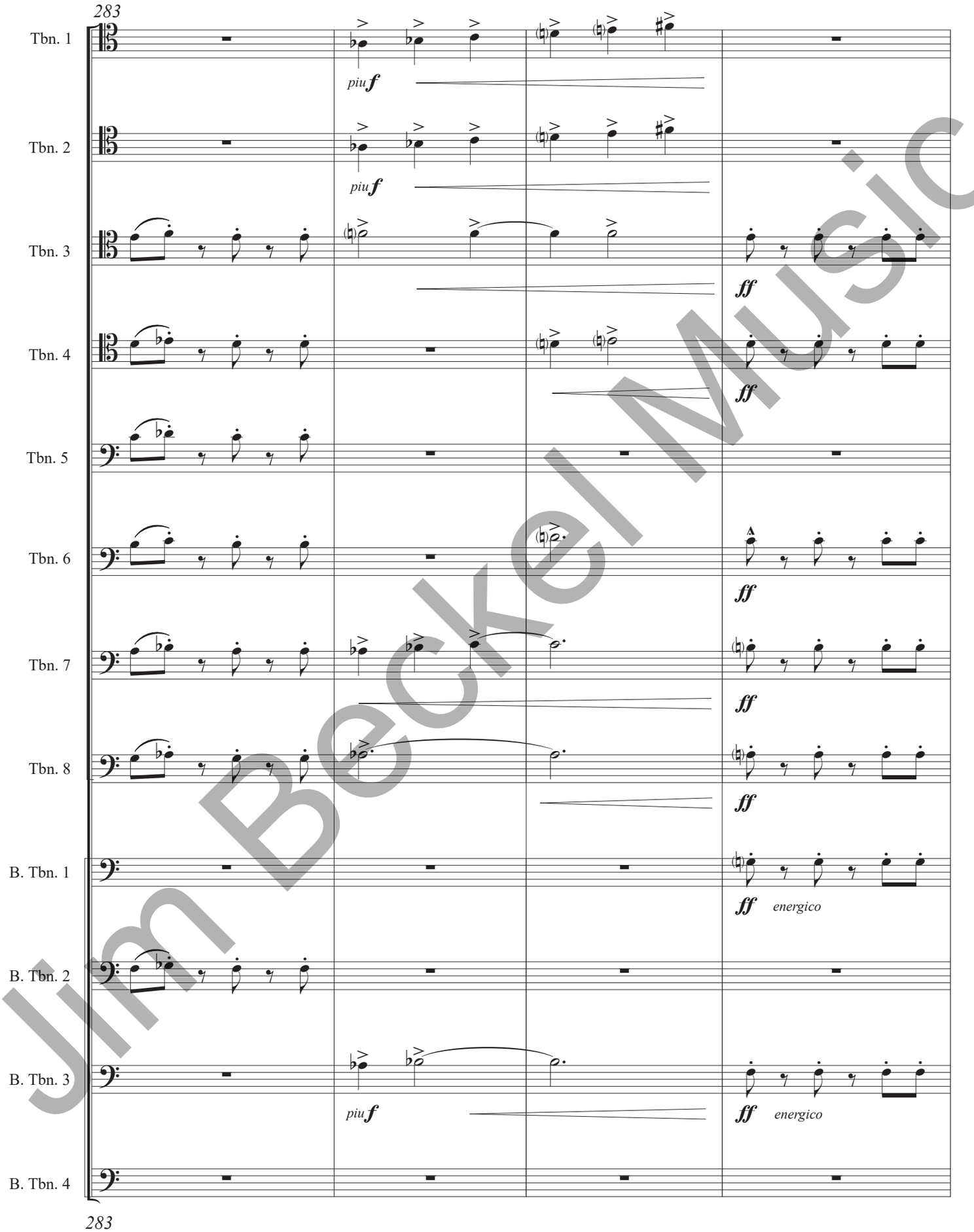
278

Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tbn. 4
Tbn. 5
Tbn. 6
Tbn. 7
Tbn. 8
B. Tbn. 1
B. Tbn. 2
B. Tbn. 3
B. Tbn. 4

f *piu f* *energico* *simile*

278

Jim Beckel Music



Jim Beckel Music

EE ♩.=♩. *Conducted in 2* c. ♩.= 148

287 (𝅗𝅥.=𝅗𝅥.)

Tbn. 1 — *(measure = measure)* — *alla bell tones* — *f/mf* *f/mf*

Tbn. 2 — *(solo line)* — *f molto sostenuto*

Tbn. 3 — *alla bell tones* — *fff* *f/mf* *f* *f/mf* *f* *f/mf*

Tbn. 4 — *alla bell tones* — *fff/mf* *f/mf* *f/mf*

Tbn. 5 — *alla bell tones* — *f/mf* *f/mf* *f/mf* *f/mf* *f/mf*

Tbn. 6 — *(solo line)* — *fff* *f molto sostenuto*

Tbn. 7 — *alla bell tones* — *fff* *f/mf*

Tbn. 8 — *alla bell tones* — *fff* *f/mf* *f/mf* *f/mf*

B. Tbn. 1 — *alla bell tones* — *fff* *f* *f/mf* *f/mf* *f/mf*

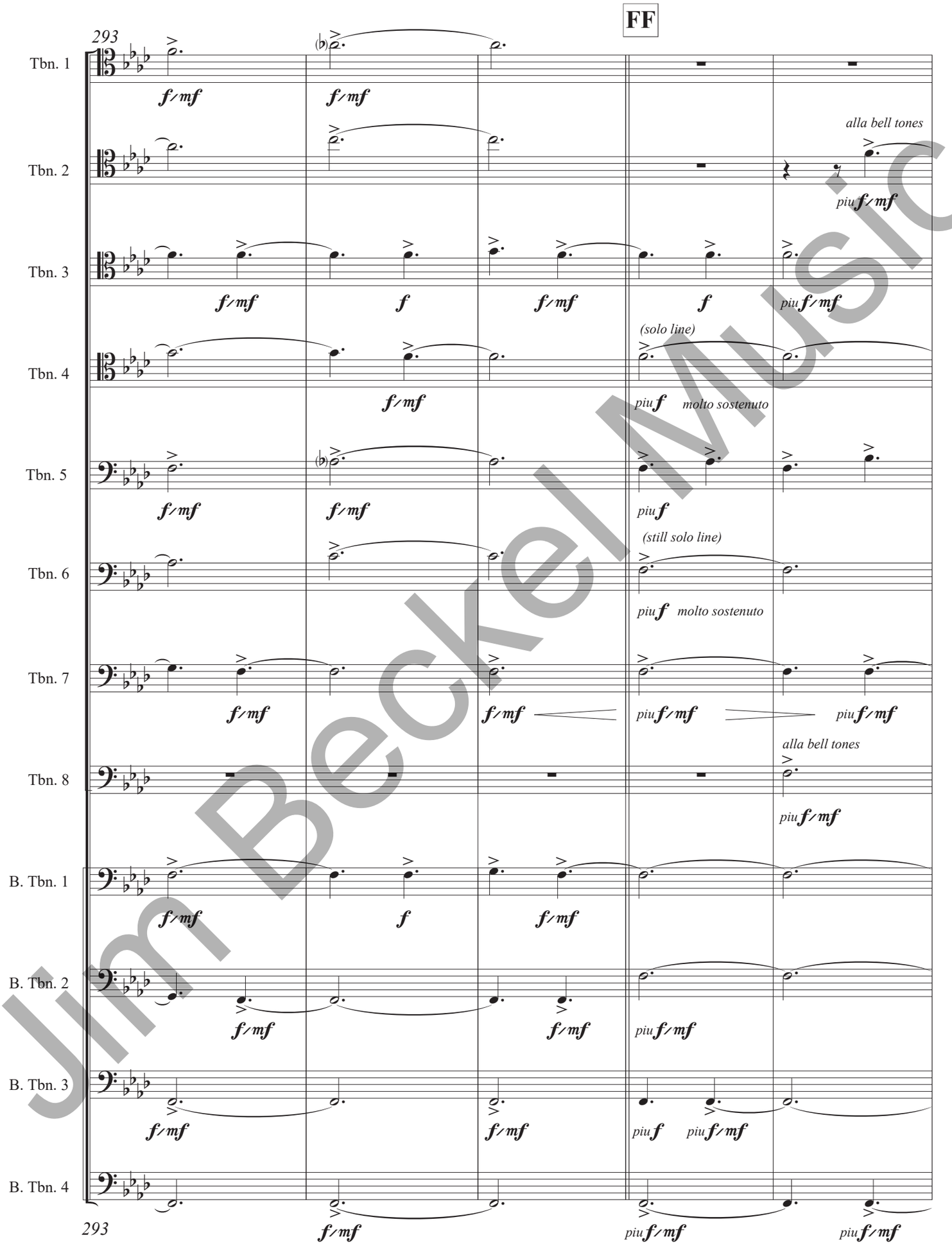
B. Tbn. 2 — *alla bell tones* — *ff/mf* *f/mf* *f/mf* *f/mf* *f/mf*

B. Tbn. 3

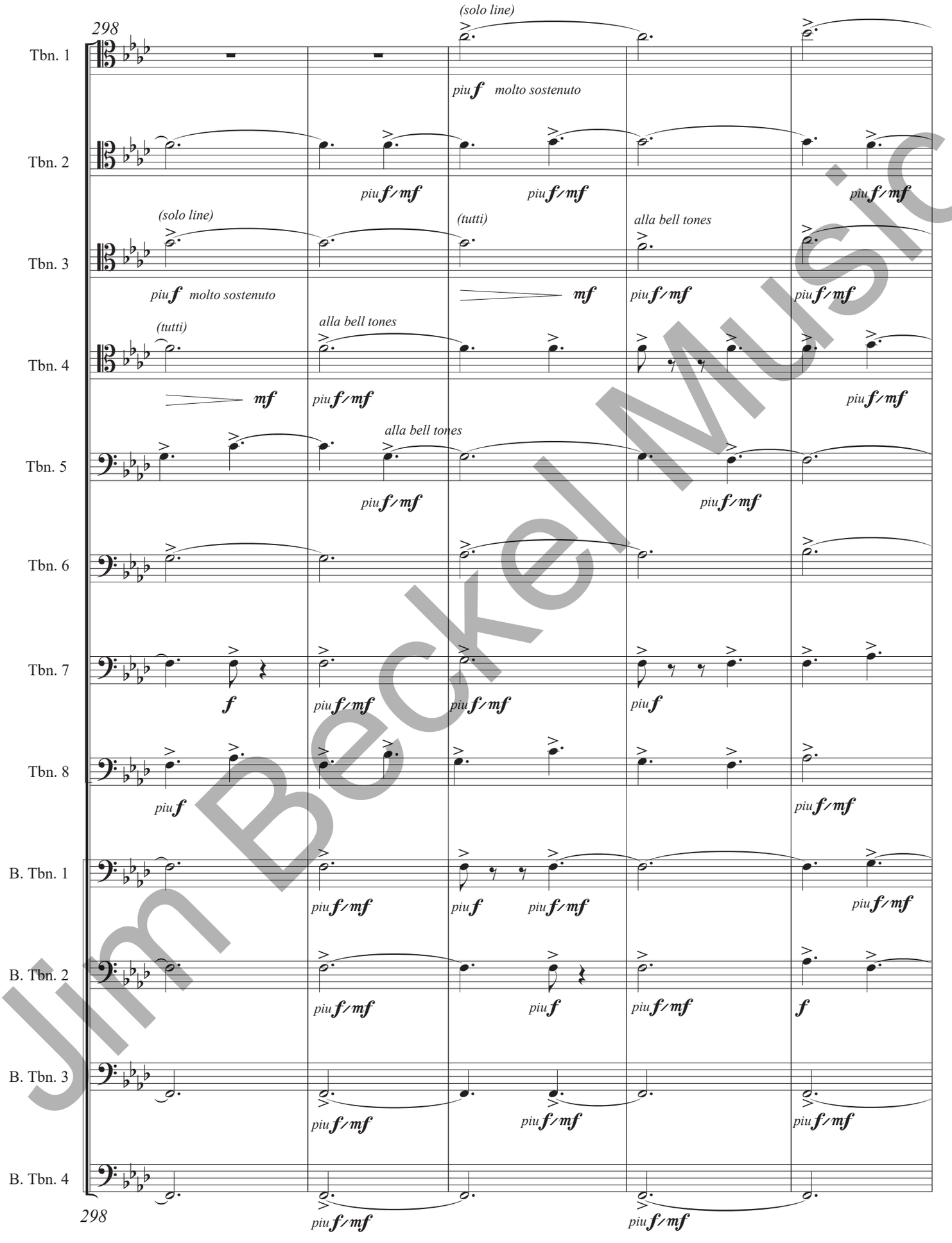
B. Tbn. 4 — *alla bell tones* — *ff* *f/mf* *f/mf* *f/mf* *f/mf*

287

Jim Becker Music



Jim Beckel Music



Jim Beckel Music

GG ♩.=♩. *Conducted in 3* c. ♩.= 148

303

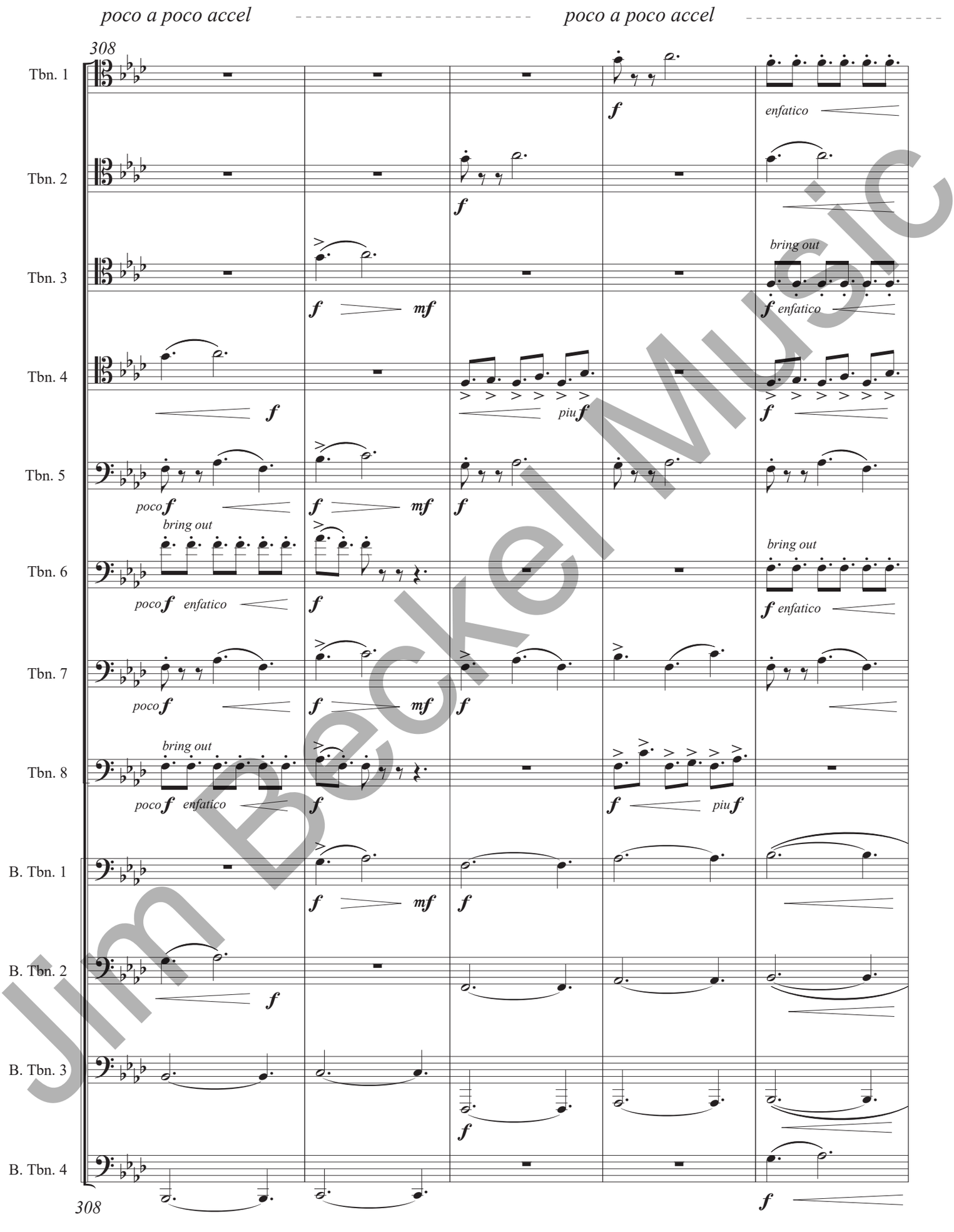
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tbn. 4
Tbn. 5
Tbn. 6
Tbn. 7
Tbn. 8
B. Tbn. 1
B. Tbn. 2
B. Tbn. 3
B. Tbn. 4

(♩.=♩.)

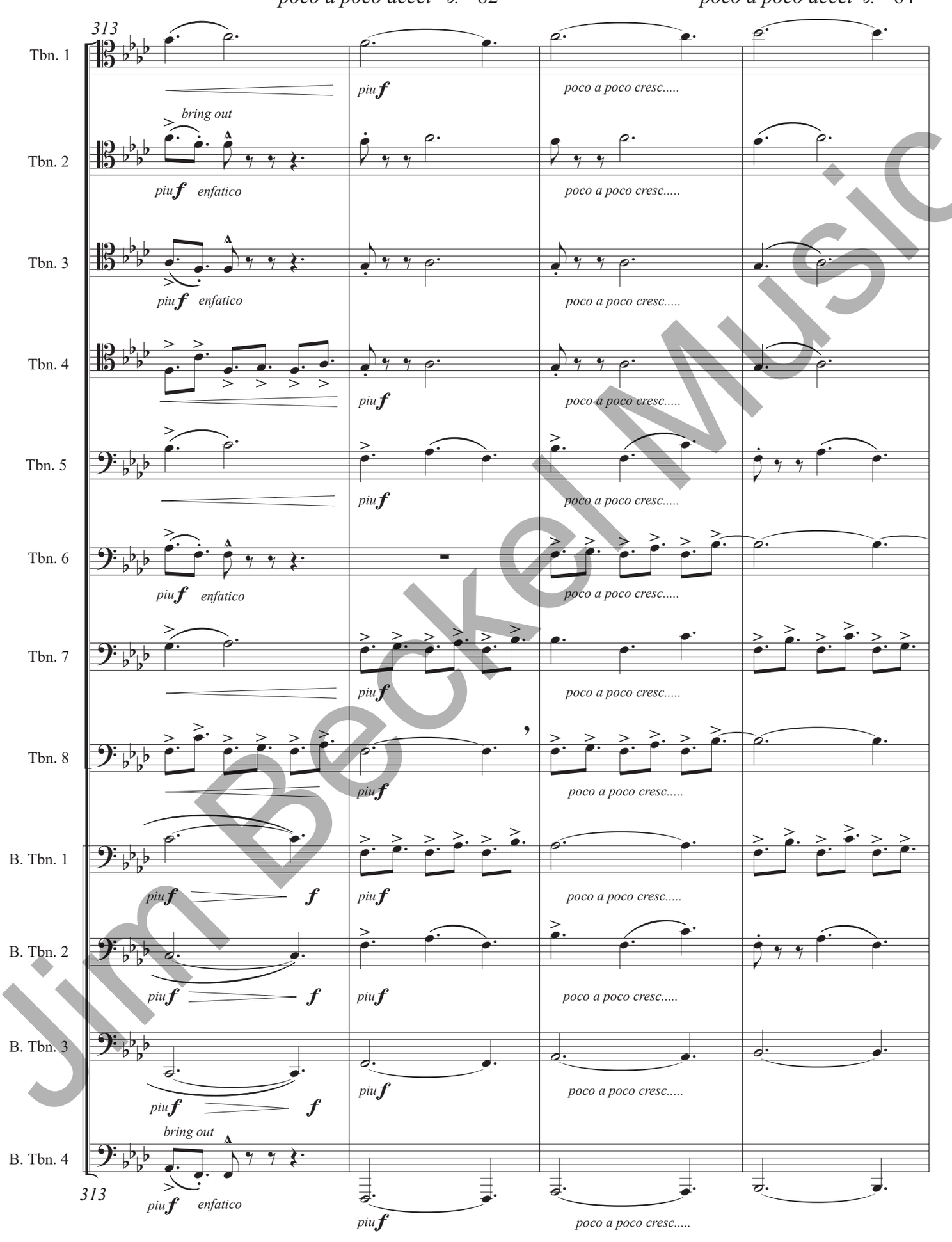
piu ***f/mf*** *piu* ***f*** ***mf***

303

Jim Becker Music



Jim Beckel Music



Jim Becker Music

poco a poco accel ♩. = 86

poco a poco accel ♩. = 88

317

Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tbn. 4
Tbn. 5
Tbn. 6
Tbn. 7
Tbn. 8
B. Tbn. 1
B. Tbn. 2
B. Tbn. 3
B. Tbn. 4

ff f ff

soli

(* Optional High F)

317

Jim Beckel Music