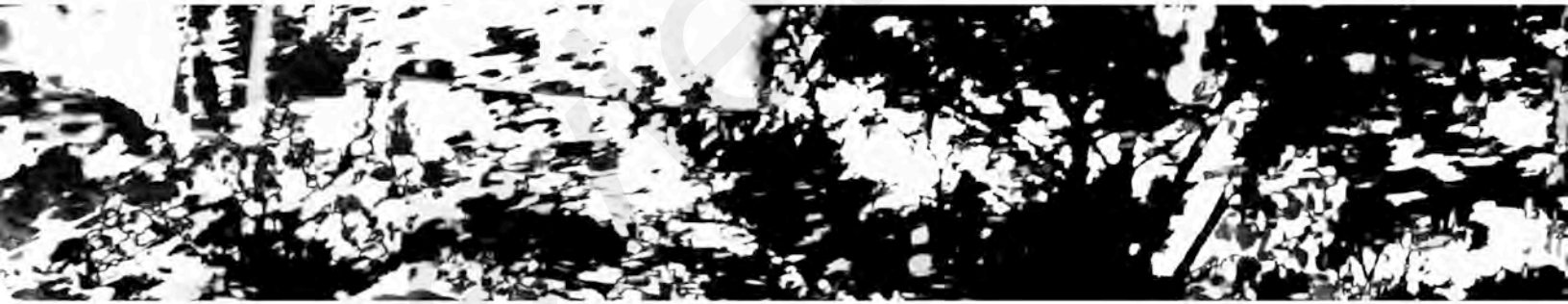
LANDSCAPE:

Trombone Quartet



Chaz Underriner

preview only

Conceptual Notes

Landscape: Trombone Quartet is a part of the Landscape series, a collection of works that explore the notion of landscape through various combinations of field recordings, abstract video, and music written for chamber groups. In particular, the Trombone Quartet uses antiphonial, shifting microtonal harmonies to evoke the sensation of driving through a vast, empty landscape, such as the Texas desert.

Performance Notes

- The score is in C.

- Accidentals are given for every note (even when repeated within a measure) for maximum clarity in reading microtonal changes in performance.

- It is possible that Trombones 1 and 2 be separated from Trombone 3 and the Bass Trombone in the performance space to form separate small choirs at opposite ends of the space. While making coordination for the quartet more difficult, this would create a spatial sensation for the audience that is quite appealing.

- It will take some preparation to play the very small tuning deviations specified in the piece. It may be useful to practice with a tuner that has cent deviations until the performer is used to hearing the resultant beating patterns of given intervals. If you have questions about this sort of microtonal ear training, please email cfunderriner@gmail.com for more tools.

- The tunings specified include quarter-tones as well as the division of a half-step into 6 equal parts. This may be achieved by physically splitting a change of slide position on the trombone into 6 small changes. In most cases, rather than using a quarter-tone accidental, the tuning deviation out of 6 (such as 3/6) is given. This is to aid the performer in figuring out how far away from the previous note a given microtone may be, rather than simply an indication of abstract pitch space.

preview only

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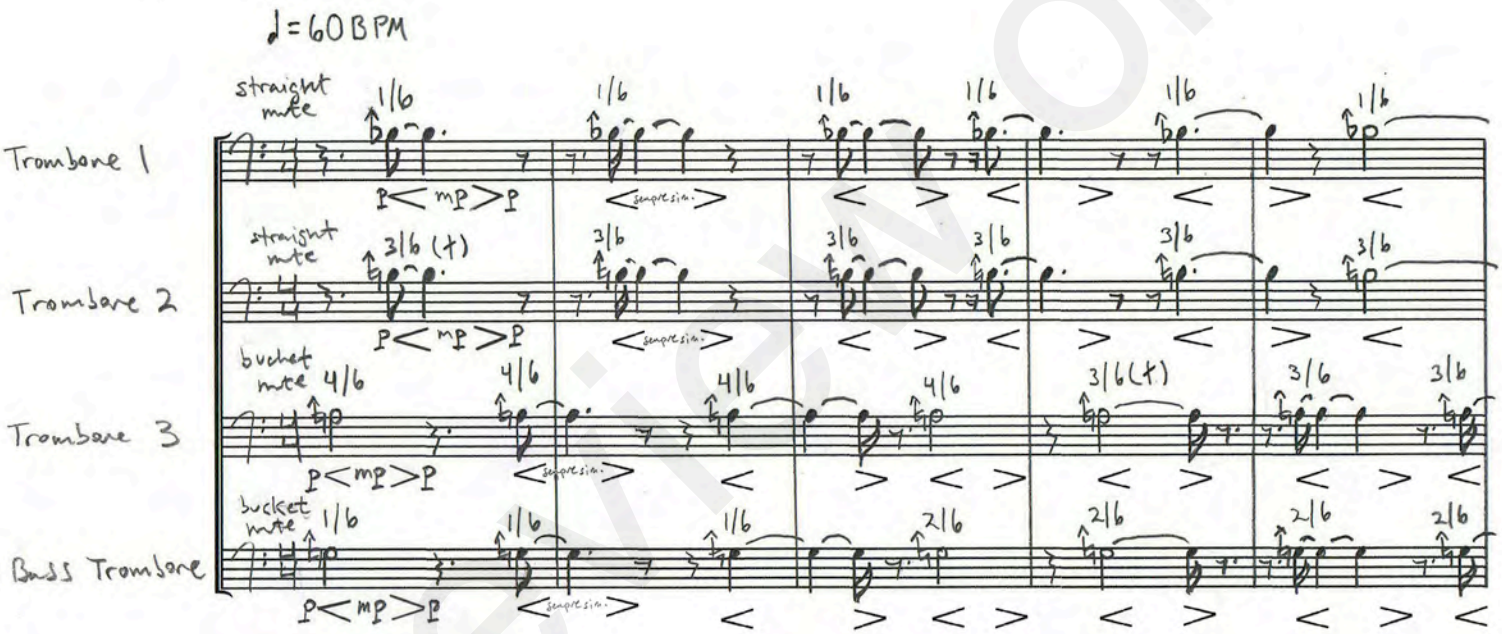
by Chaz Underriner

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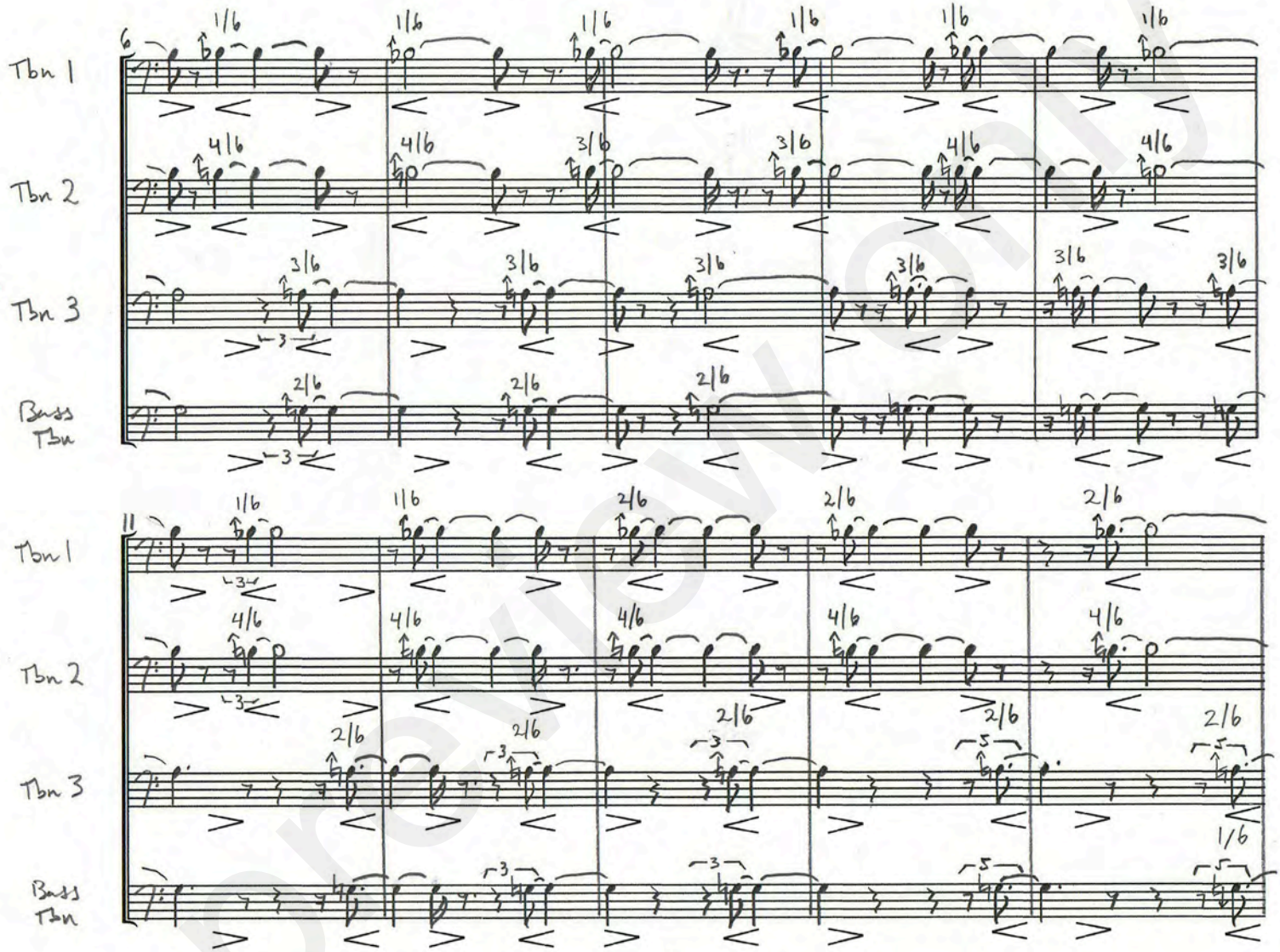
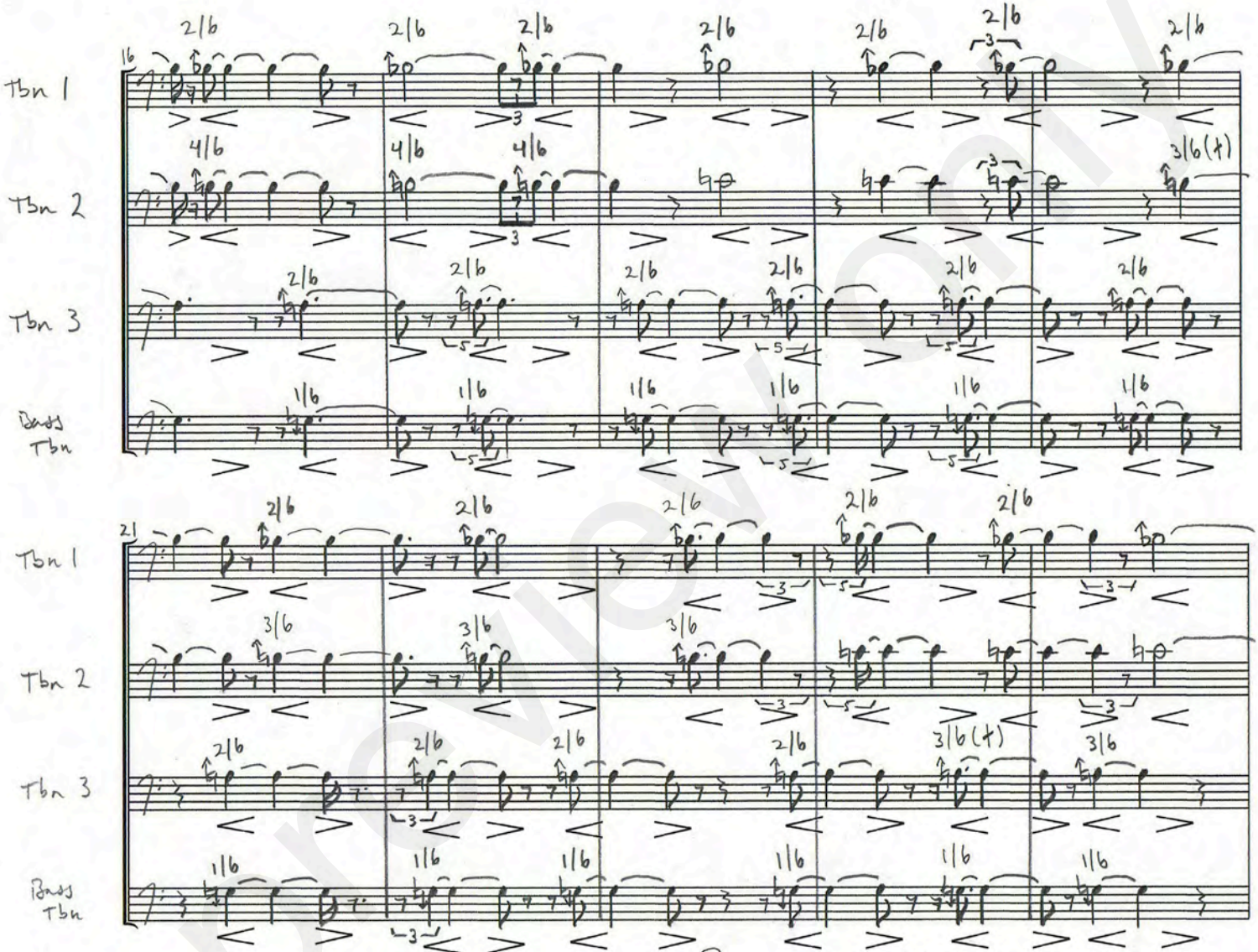

6
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Tbn 3
Bass Tbn
11
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Tbn 3
Bass Tbn

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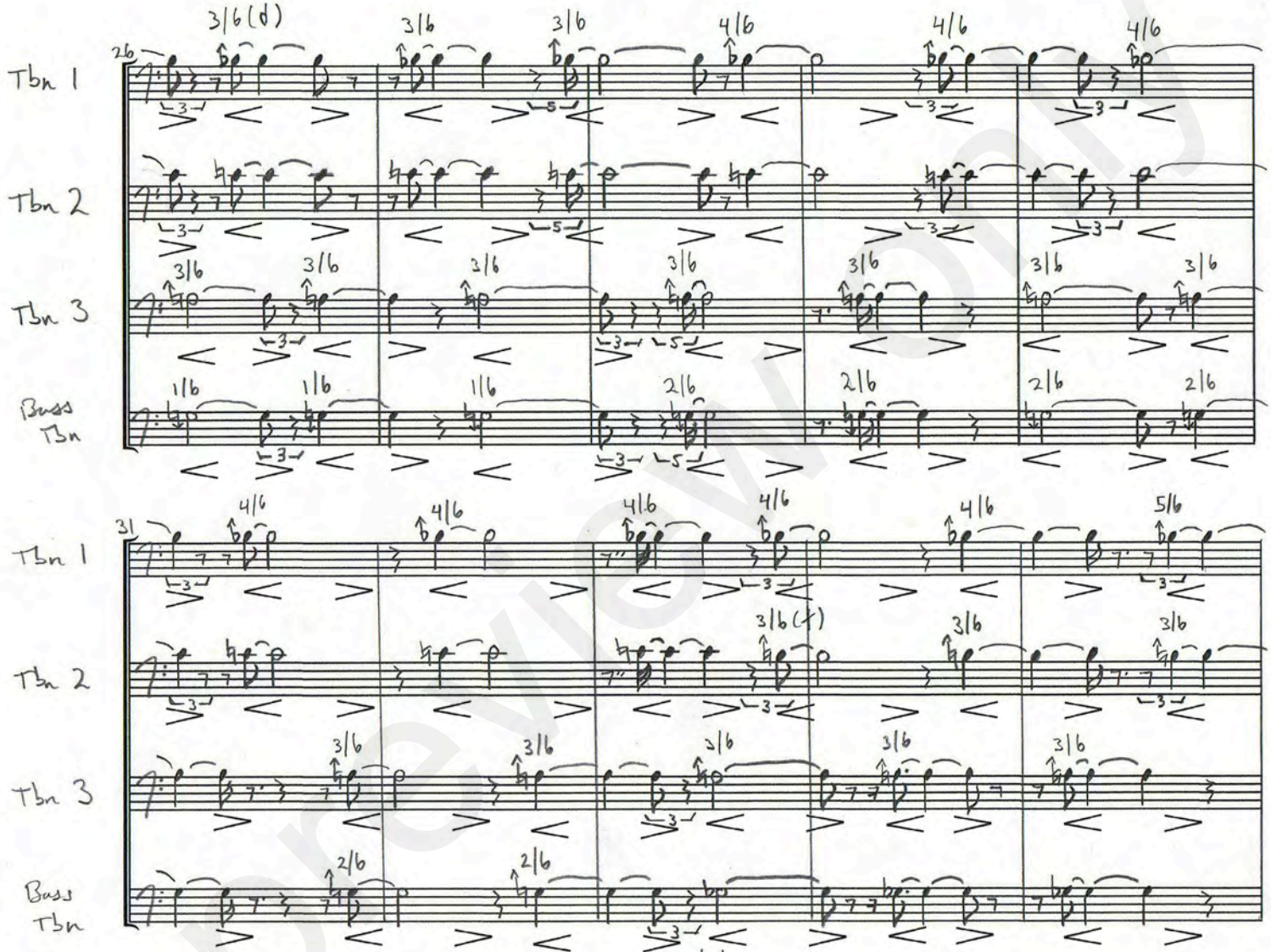
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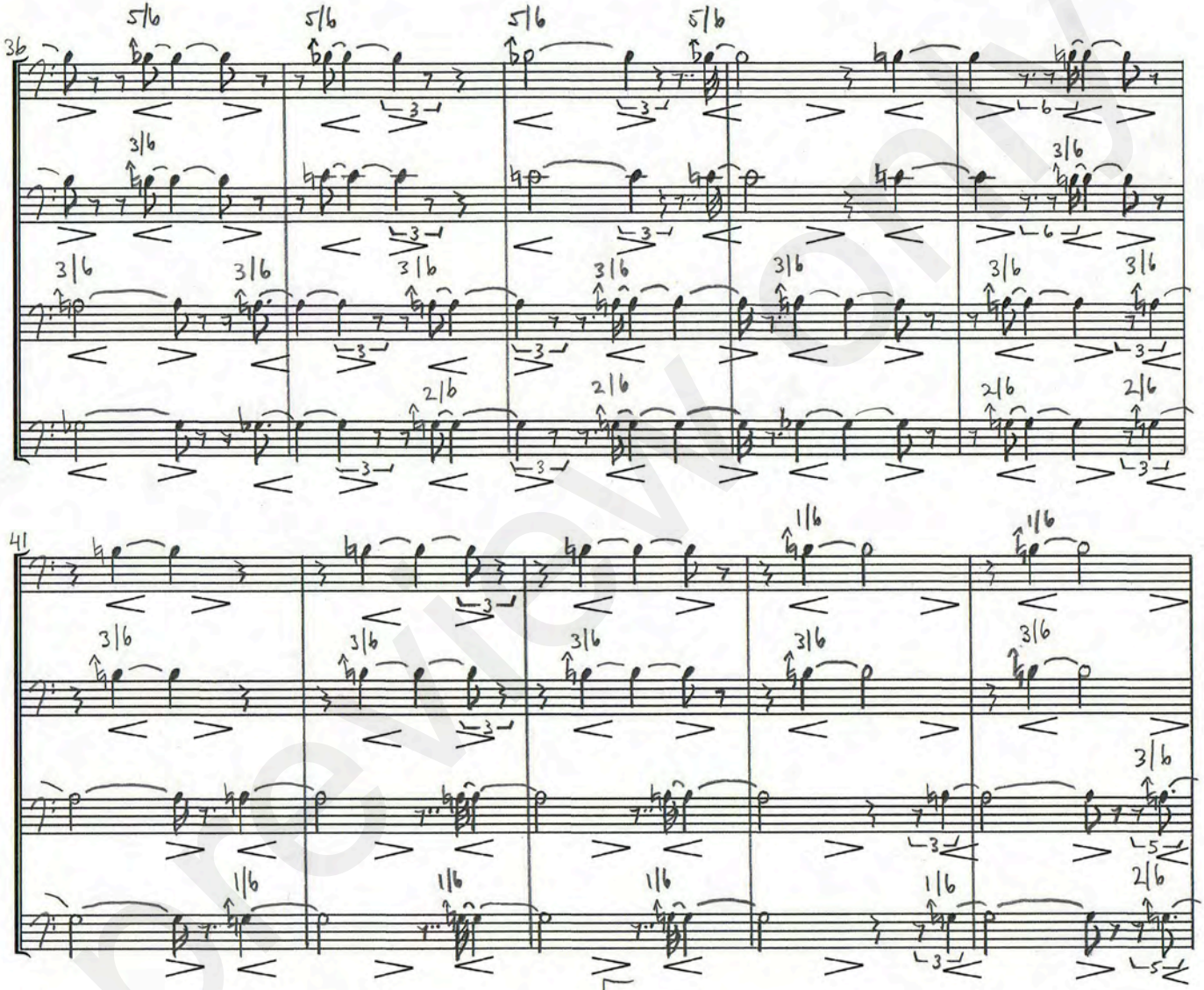
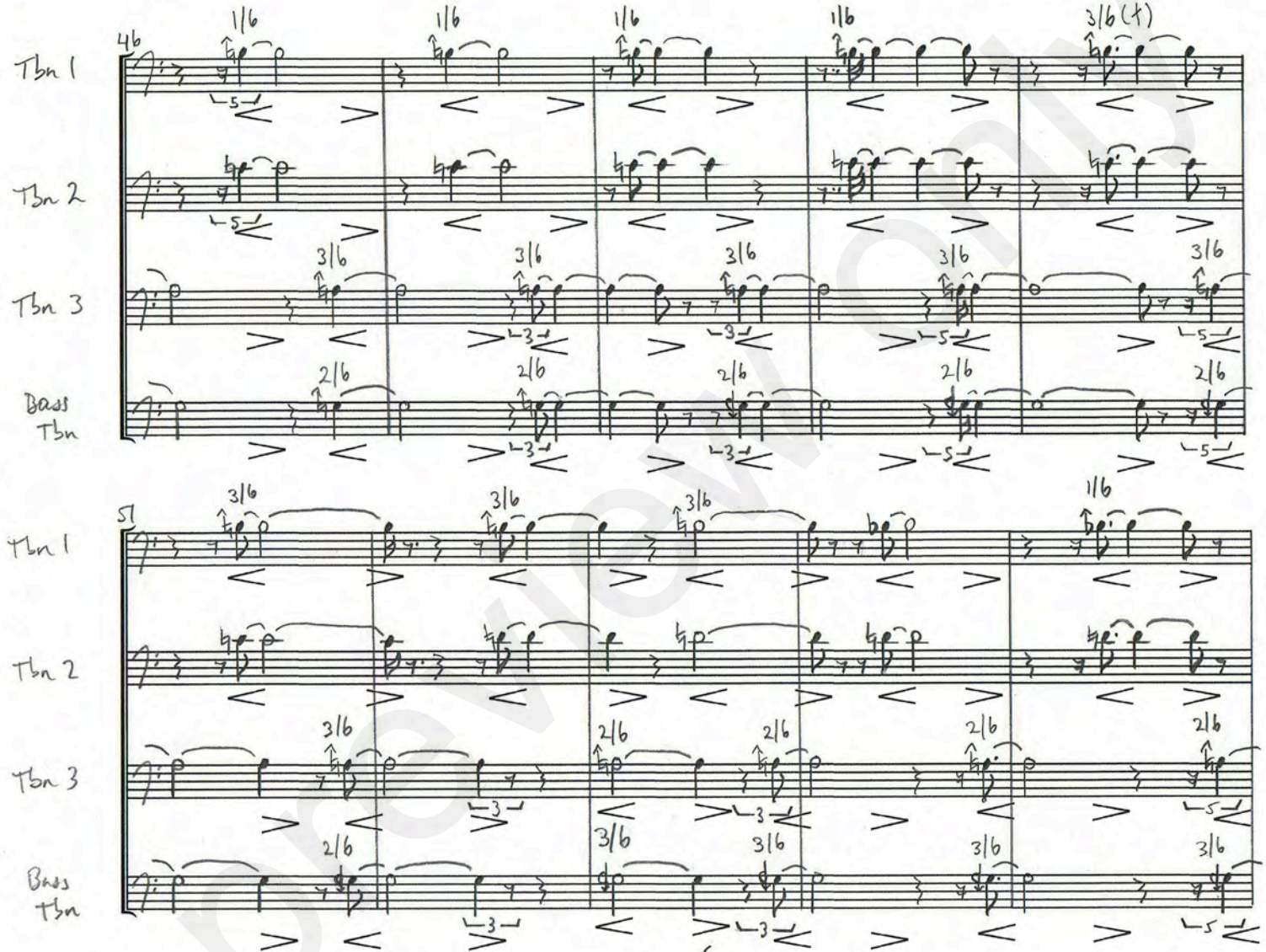
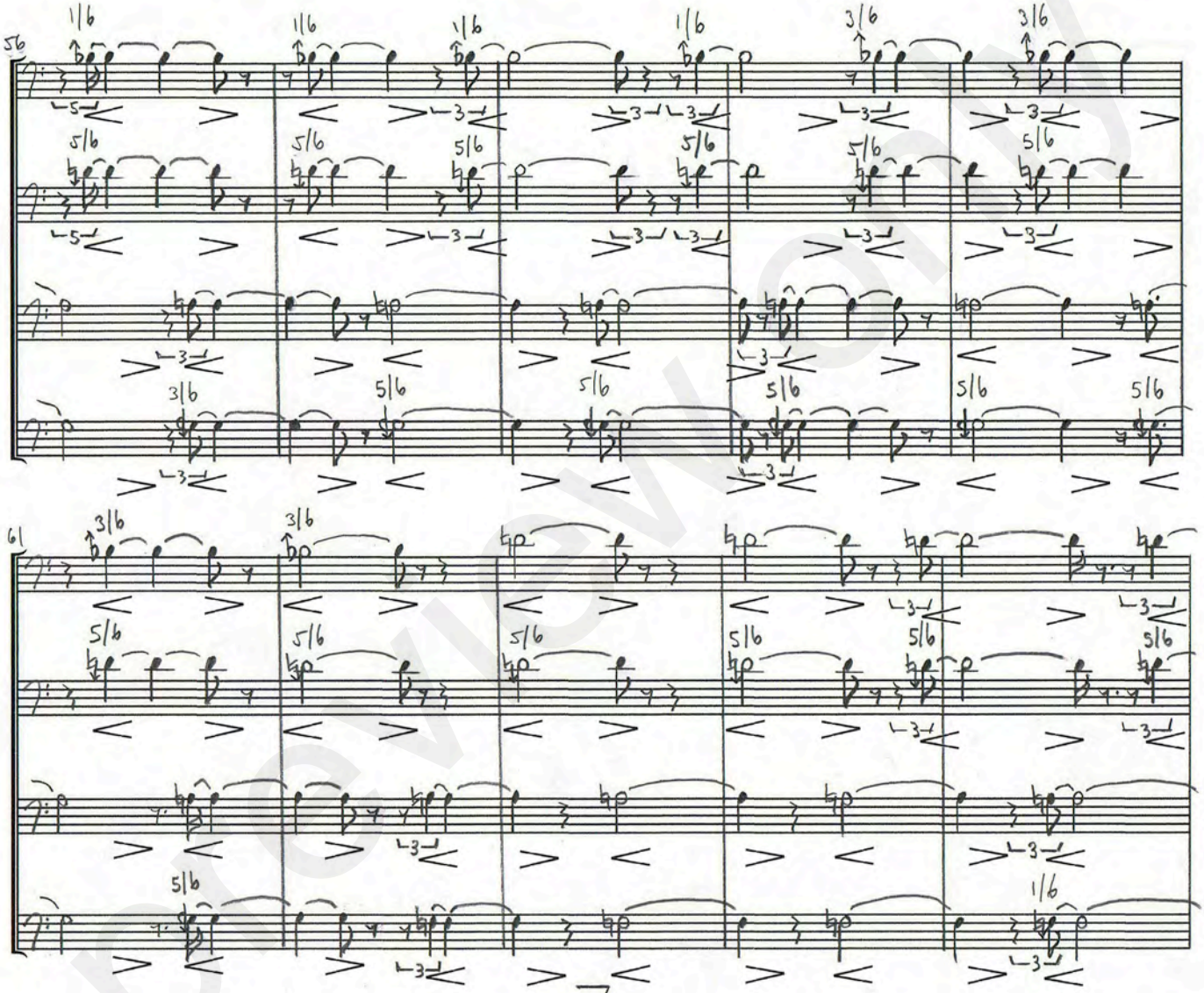

36
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Tbn 3
Bass Tbn
5/6
3/6
2/6
41
1/6


46
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Tbn 3
Bass Tbn
1/6
3/6 (+)
2/6
51



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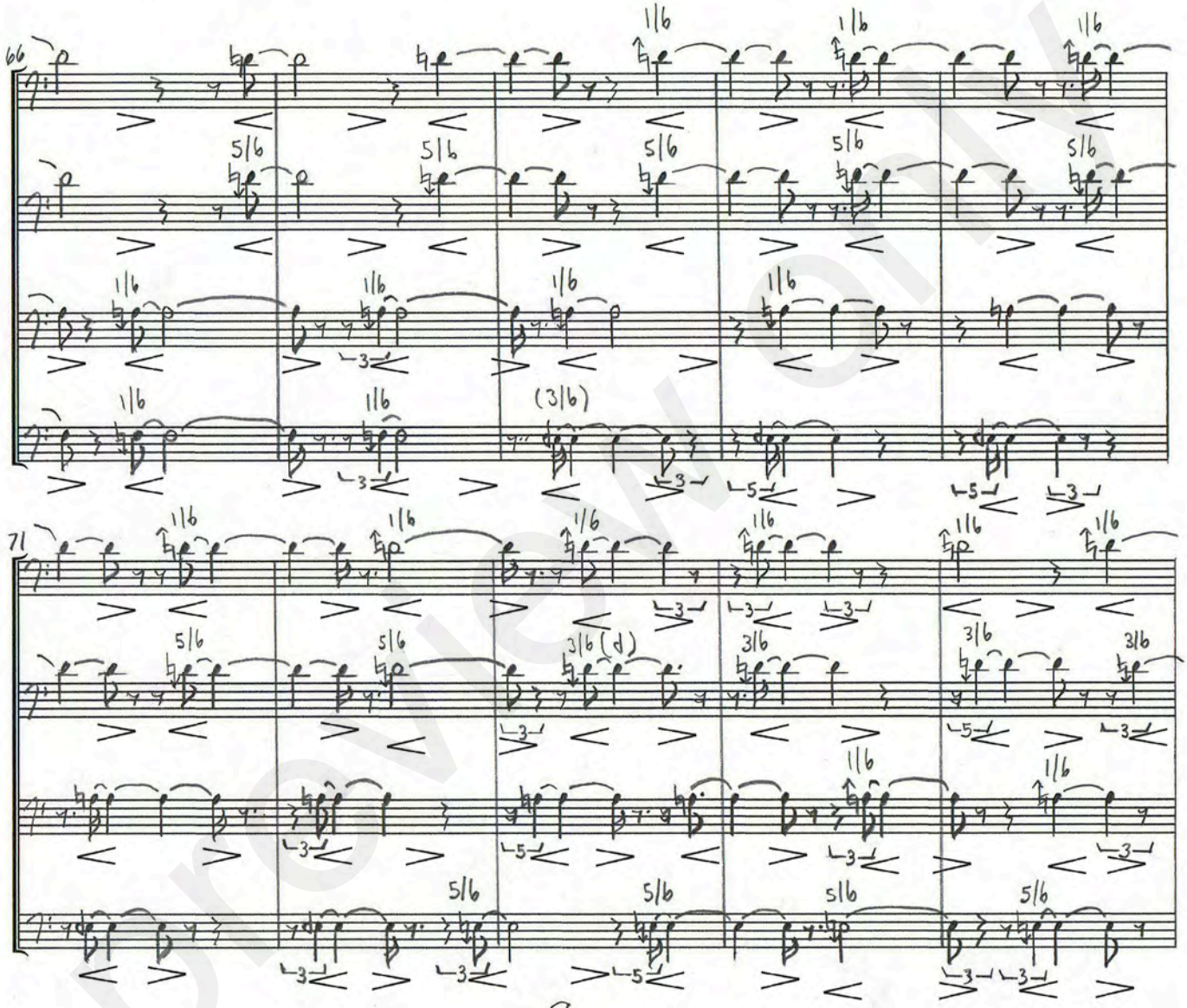

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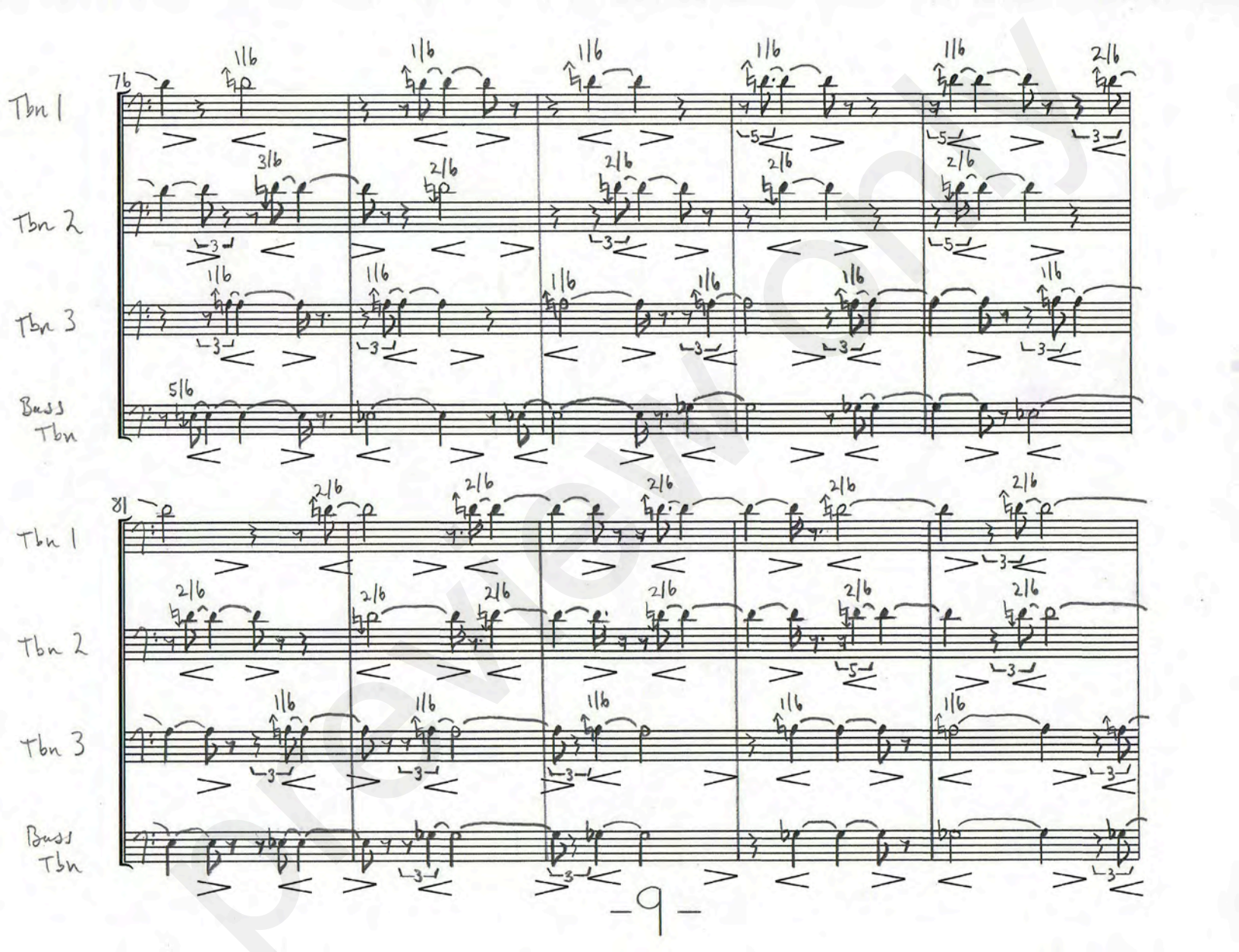

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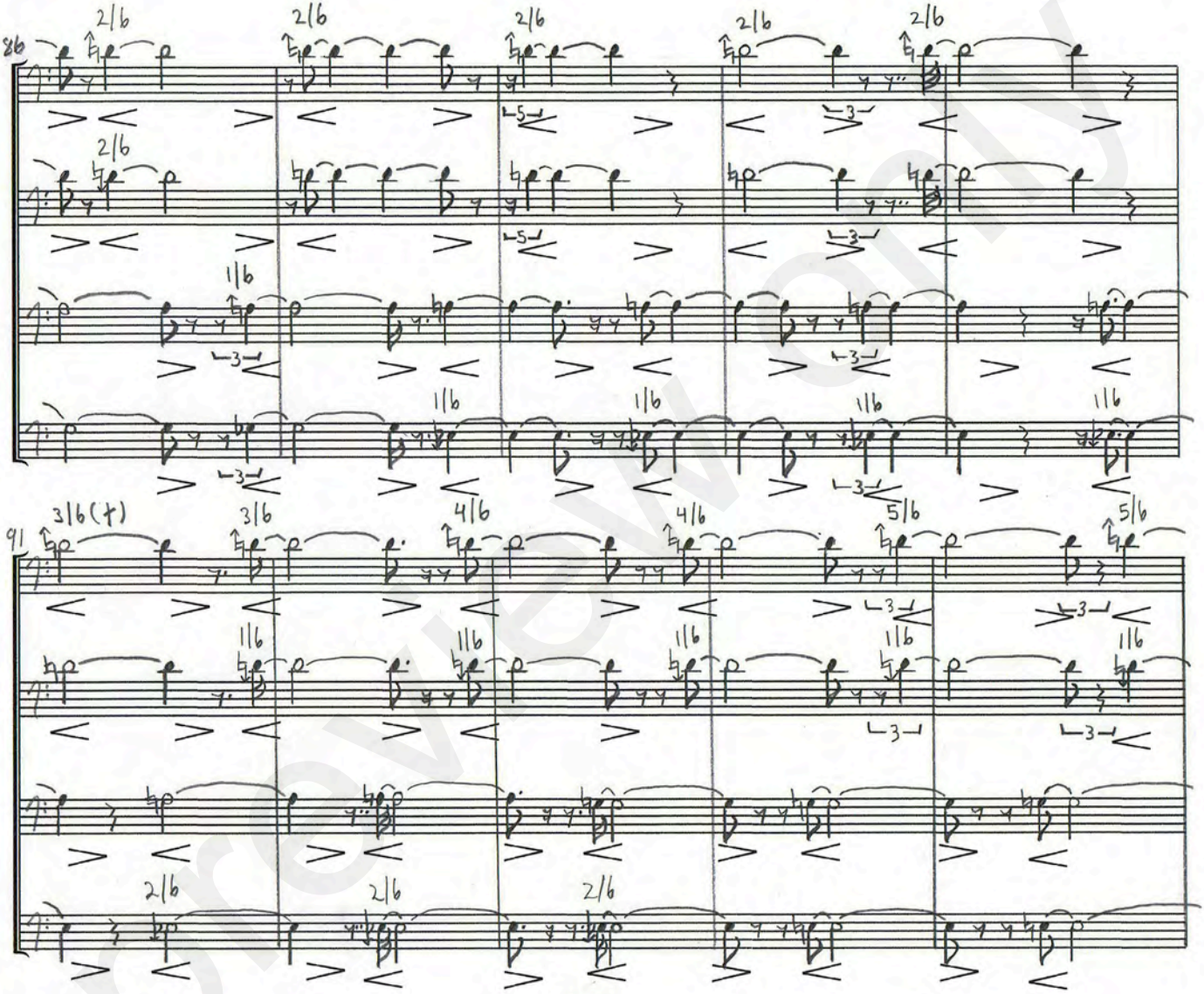
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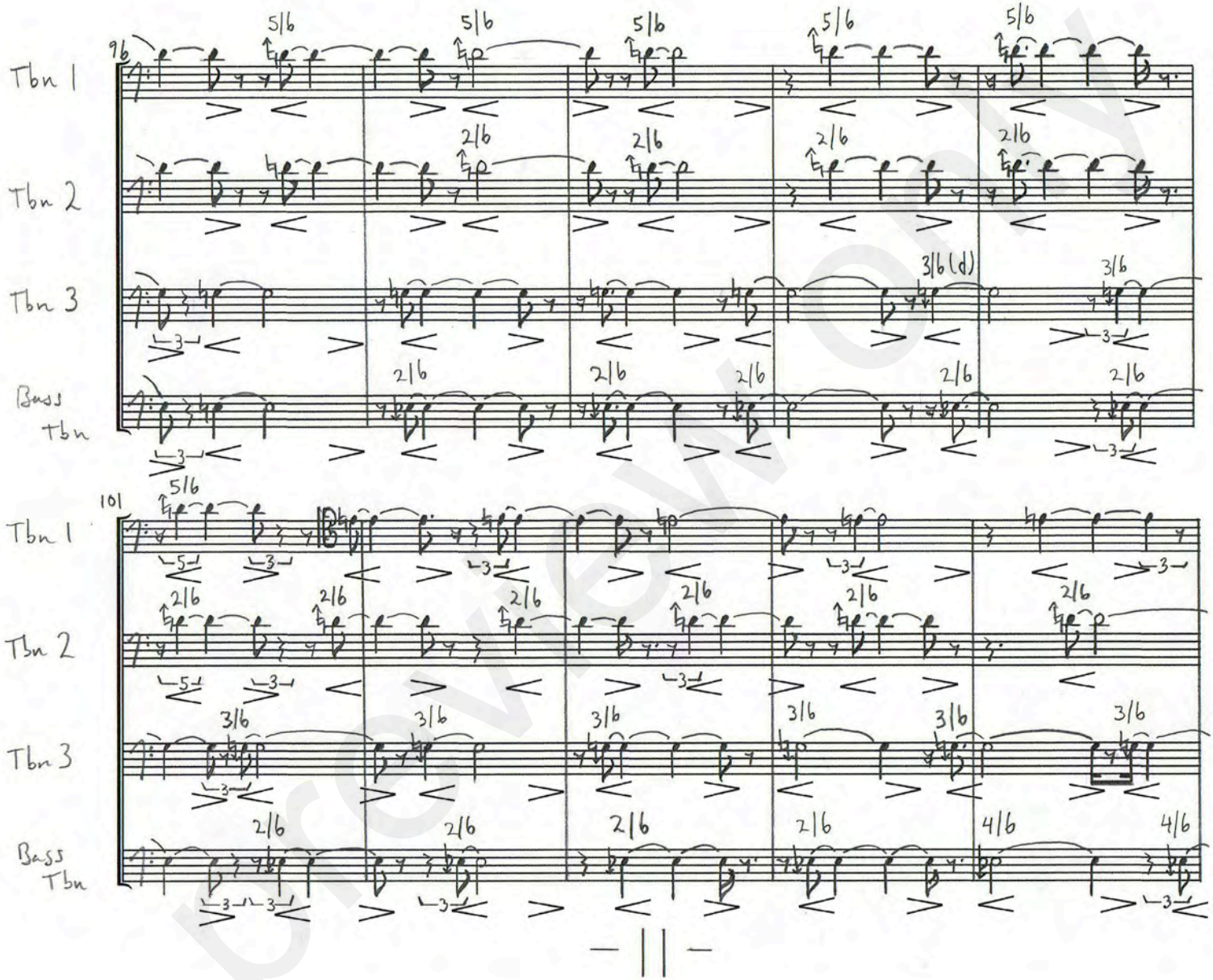
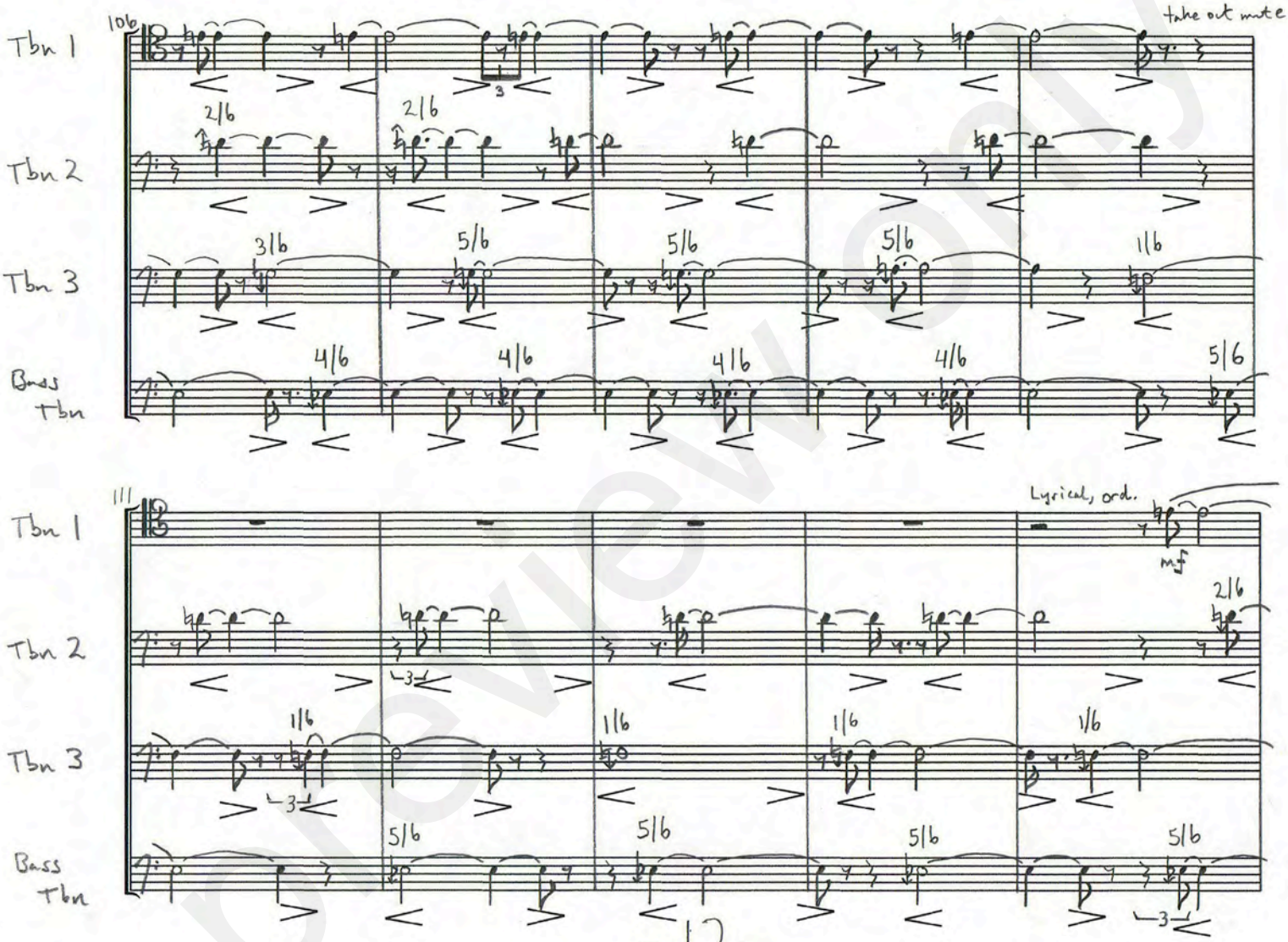

96
Tbn 1
Tbn 2
Tbn 3
Bass Tbn
5/6
2/6
3/6 (d)
3/6
101
4/6



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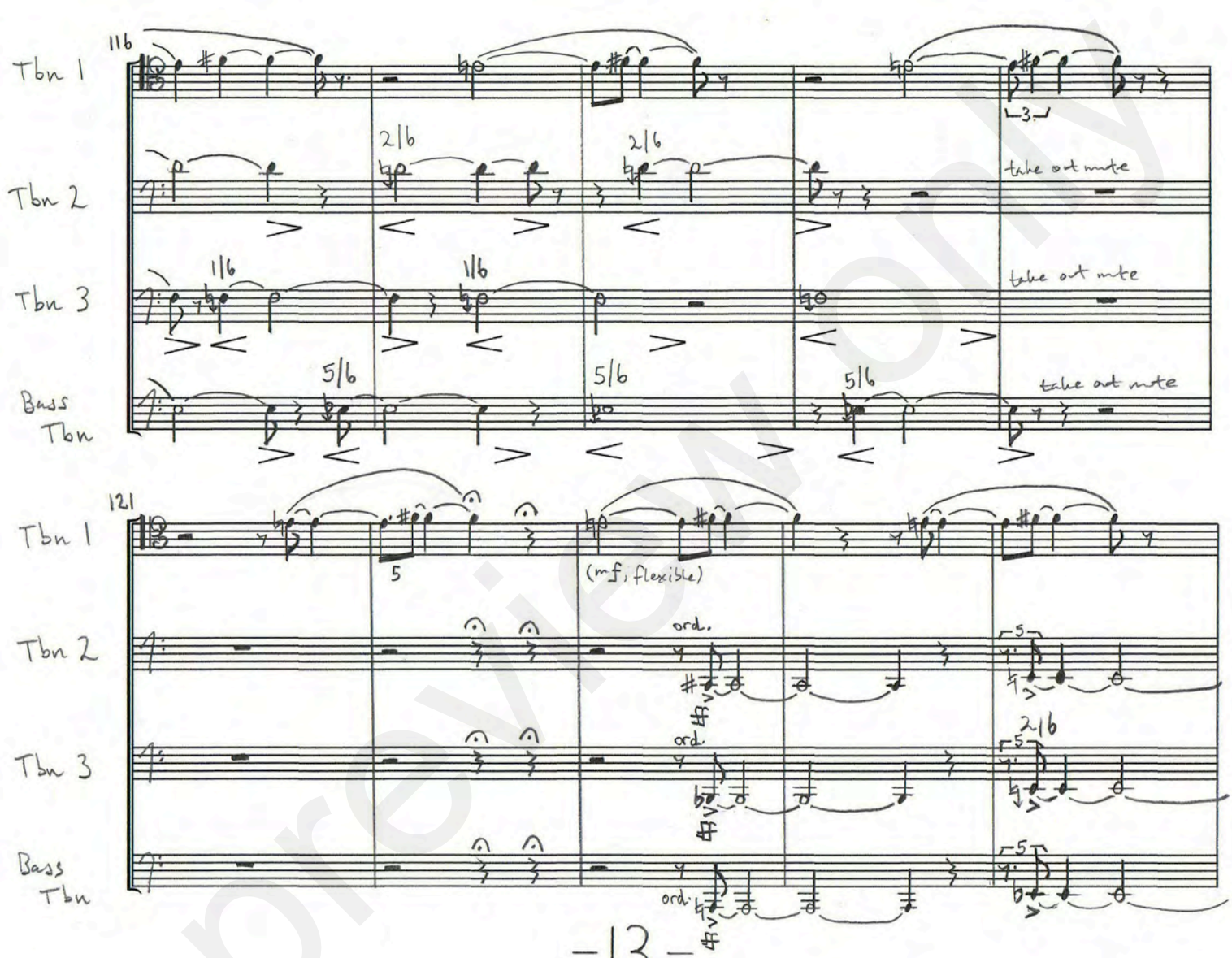
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