Semper Fidelis (March) John Philip Sousa/arr. Carol Lynn Mizell CGB663
Handbell Score 5, 6 or 7 octaves handbells
L5 with optional 3 octaves handchimes, timpani, snare drum, bass drum and cymbal

choristersguild

Master Ringer
SERIES

Semper Fidelis

March

Always Faithful

John Philip Sousa

Handbell Score

PREVIEW

Semper Fidelis

March

John Philip Sousa (1854-1932), "The March King" wrote some 136 marches, several operettas, and three novels. His father enlisted him at the age of thirteen in the U.S. Marine Corps as an apprentice to keep him from joining a circus band. Sousa became the conductor of the U.S. Marine Band – "The President's Own" – from 1880 until 1892. From 1892 until 1931, Sousa toured all over the world with his own band, performing 15,623 concerts.

This march, written in 1888, takes its title from the motto of the U.S. Marine Corps: *Semper Fidelis* – "Always Faithful". The march was dedicated to the officers and men of the U.S. Marine Corps, and is the official march of that branch of our armed services.

The first performance of this march was in the Inaugural Parade for President Benjamin Harrison. Sousa timed the playing of this particular piece so that the "trumpet" theme (beginning in m. 50 on handchimes) would be heard for the first time just as the band marched in front of the reviewing stand where the President, a large part of the House and Senate, members of the diplomatic corps, and many invited guests were seated. Ten extra trumpets joined this theme in unison. It was a very exciting moment followed by a standing ovation from those on the reviewing stand led by President Harrison himself.

It is suggested that the handchimes be featured in the performance of this arrangement to "recreate" this historical event.

Suggested Handbell/Handchime Assignments:

HANDCHIMES: mm. 50-66
P5: F5 & A5 (also mm. 67-98)
P8: C7
P9: F6
P10: A6
P11: C5 & C6 (also mm. 67-98)

HANDBELLS: mm. 83-98
P6: ring E5/F5 (excluding F5 in m. 88); ring D#5/E5 in m. 89
P7: ring G#5/A5; ring F5 in m. 88; ring F#5/G5 in mm. 89-90
P8: ring B5/C6 & B6/C7
P9: ring D#6/E6 in m. 89
P10: ring F#6/G6 in mm. 89-90

P11: In m. 43, pass B6/C7 to P8.
P8: In m. 98, pass C7 back to P11.
P8: ring B7 in m. 110

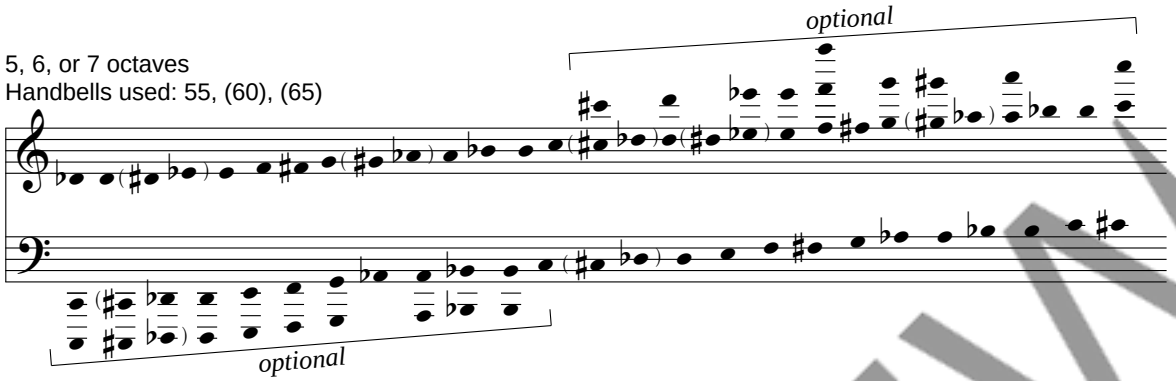
PREVIEW

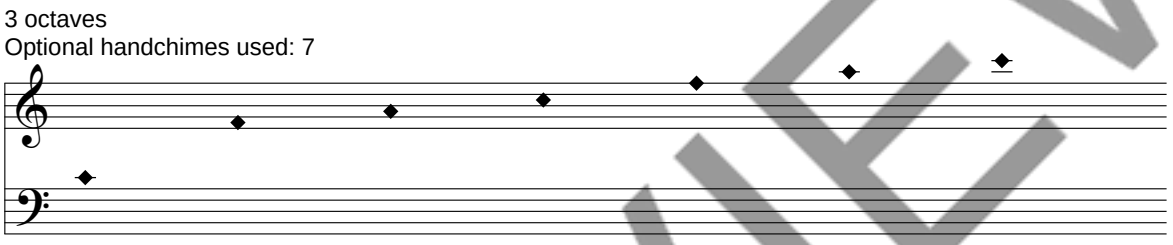
Dedicated to my father, Lt. Cmdr. Dr. Marvin Carroll McGowen (1910-1991),
who served with Carlson's Raiders in the Marines in the South Pacific during World War II

Semper Fidelis

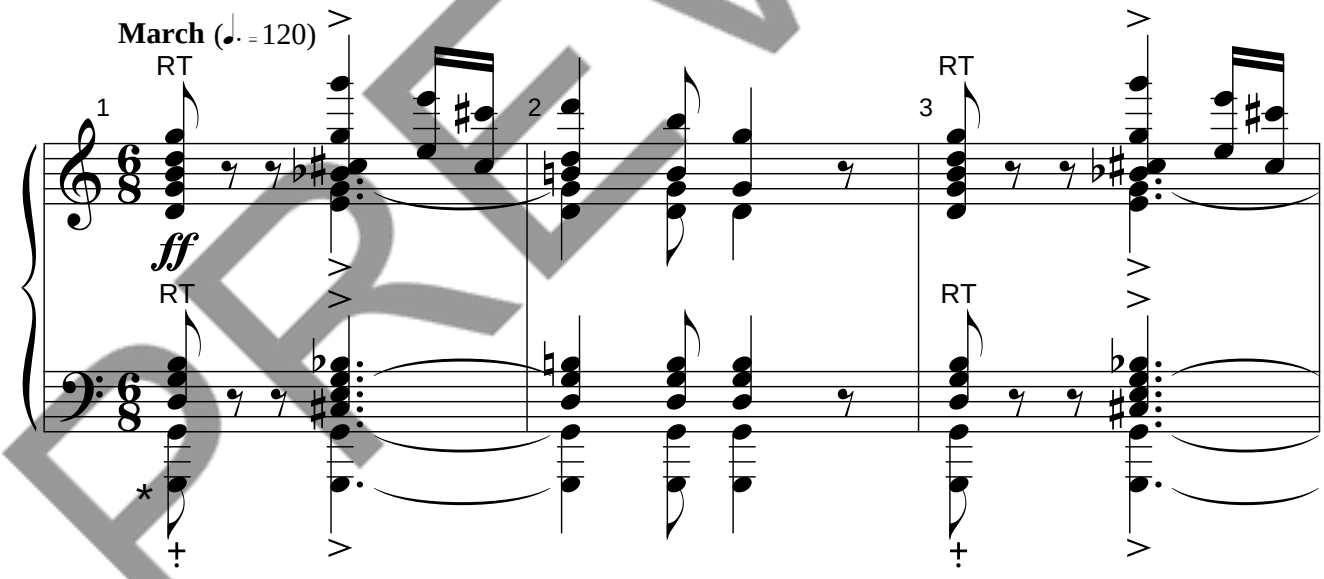
March

Handbell Score





John Philip Sousa, 1854-1932
arr. Carol Lynn Mizell



* All downstemmed bass notes shorter in duration than a dotted quarter note may be malleted if desired.
A full score is also available, code CGB662.
Instrumental parts for optional percussion (timpani, snare drum, bass drum and cymbals) are included in the full score.

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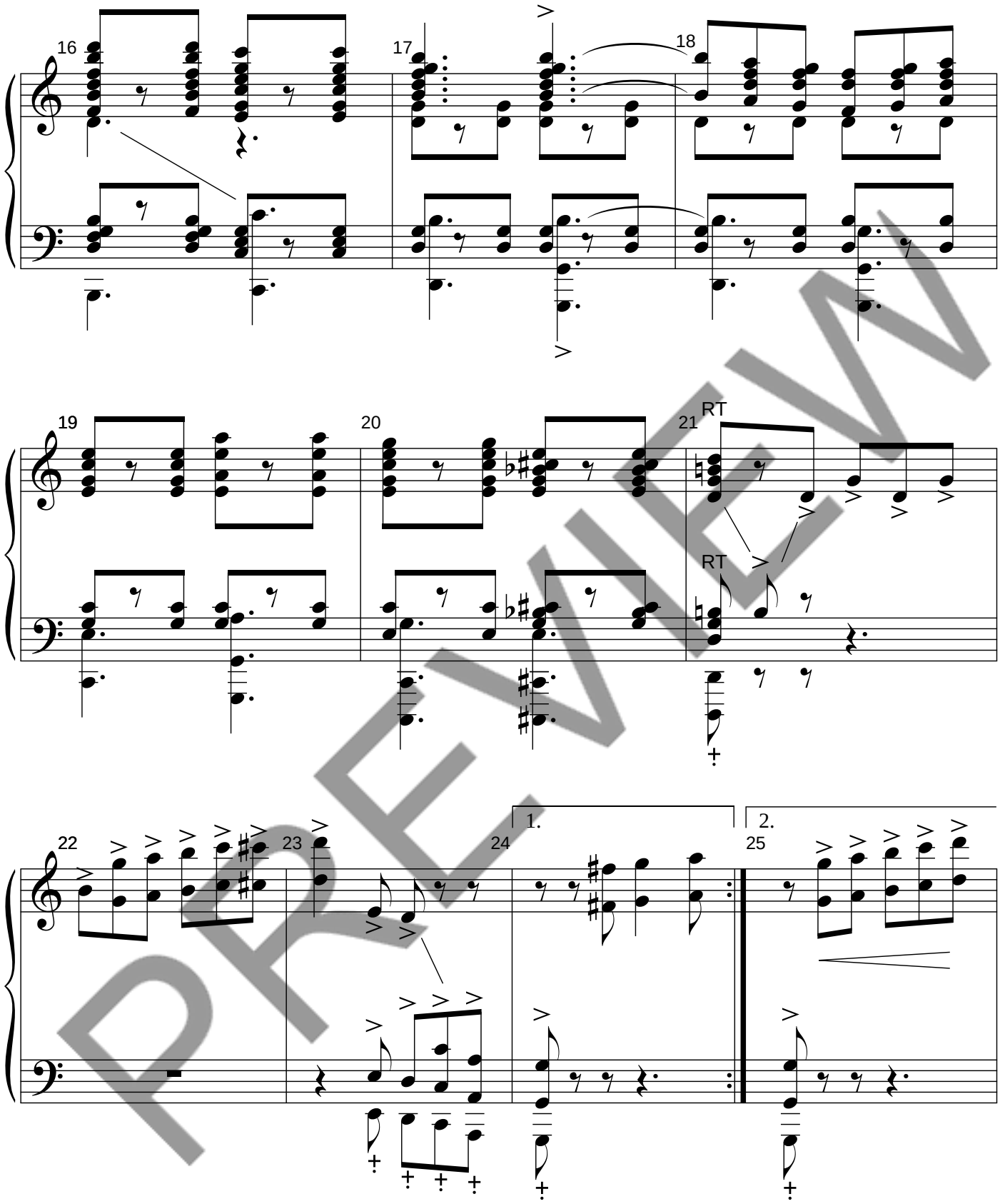
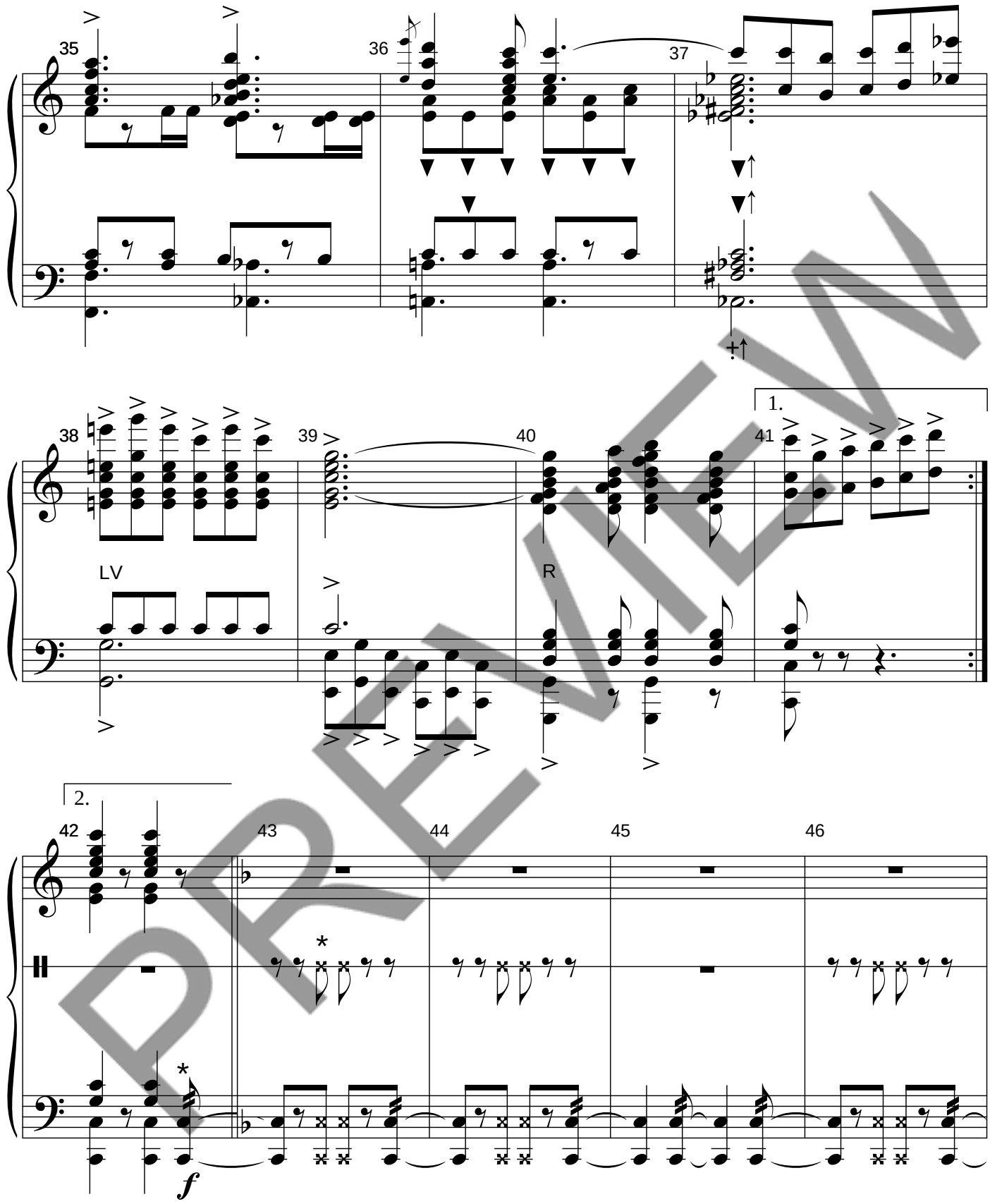
PREVIEW

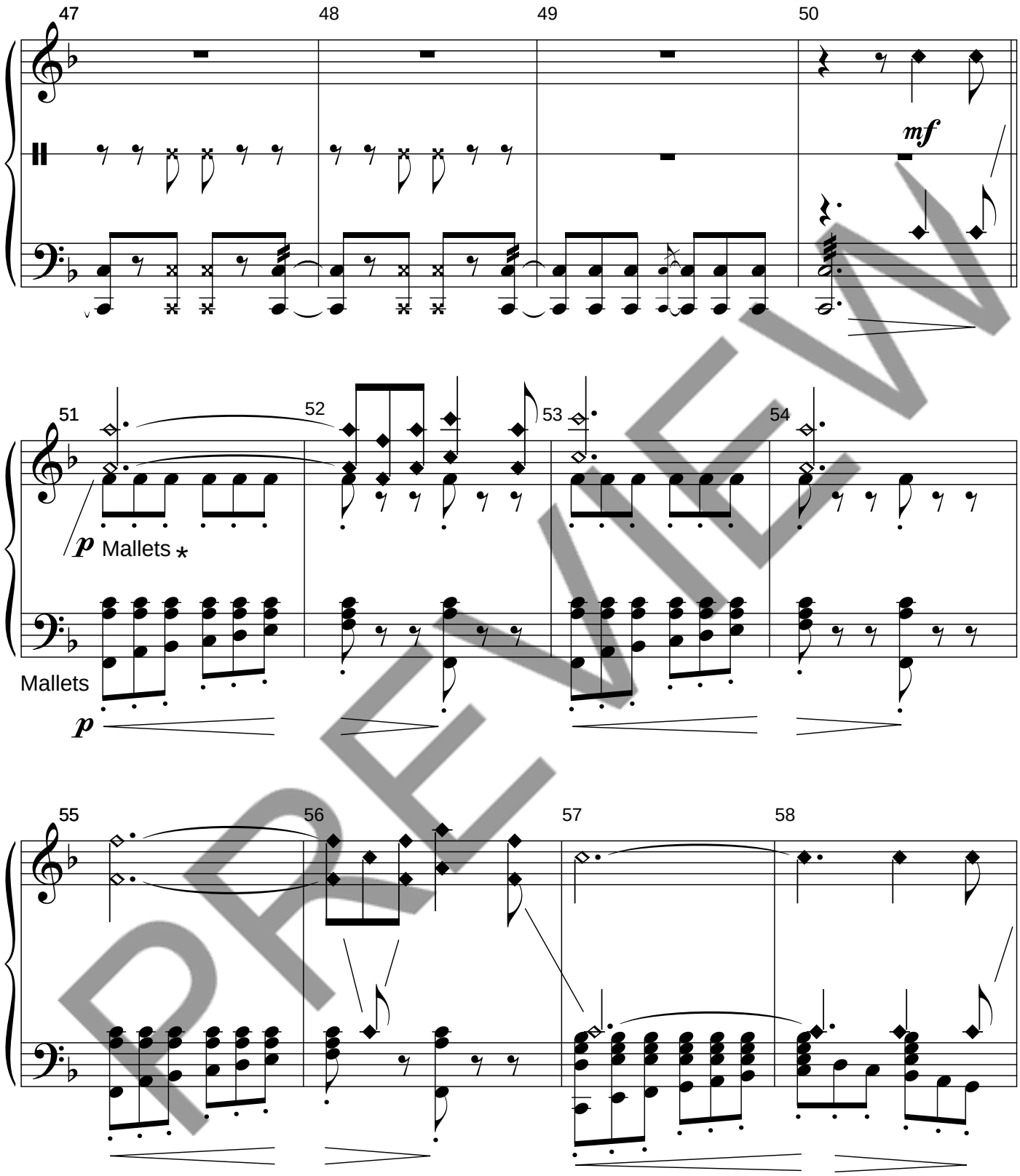


PREVIEW



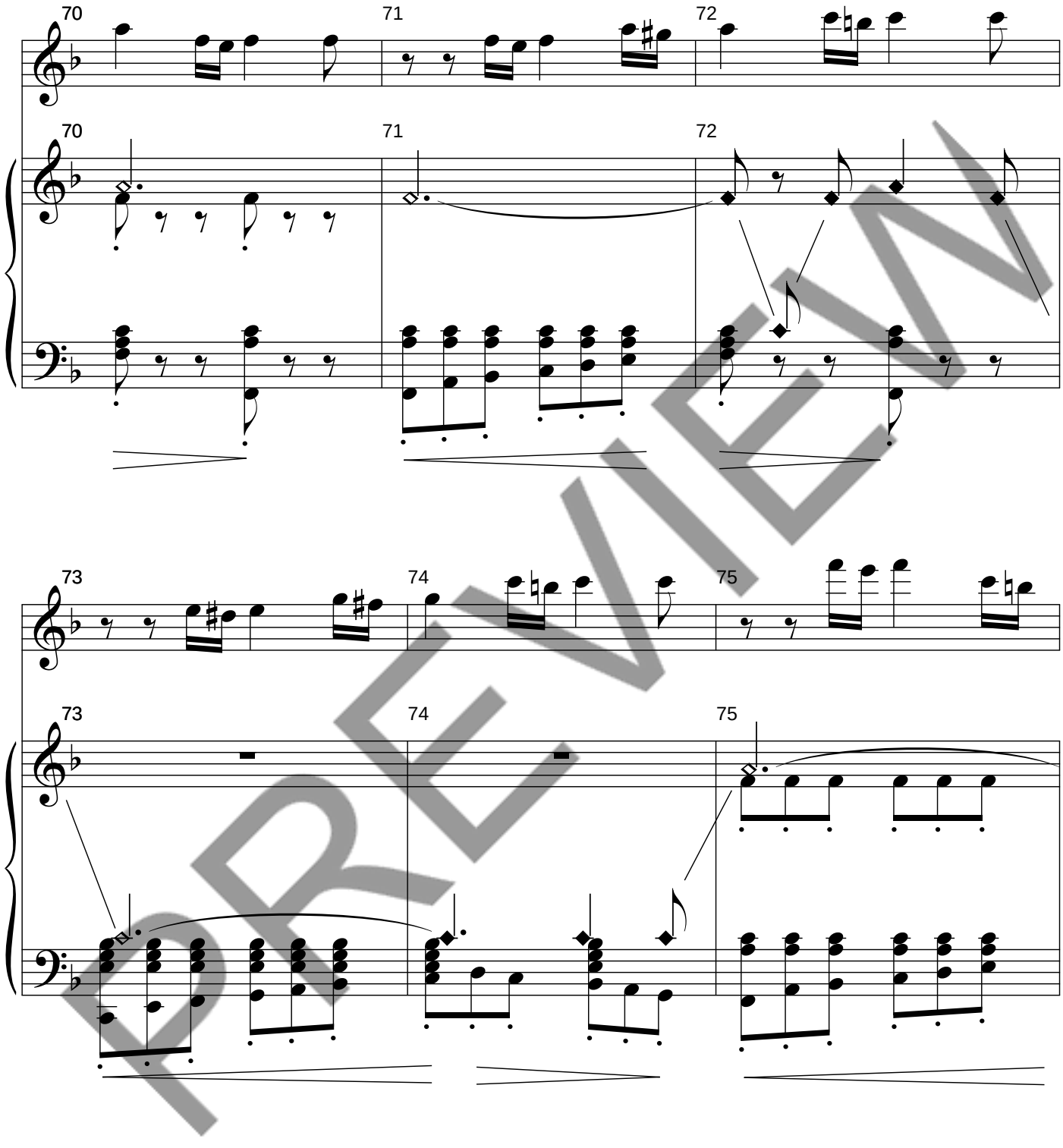
PREVIEW

* In lieu of (or in addition to) the snare drum, all ringers may click their mallets handles together (high in the air) as notated by the **x** noteheads in mm. 43-50.

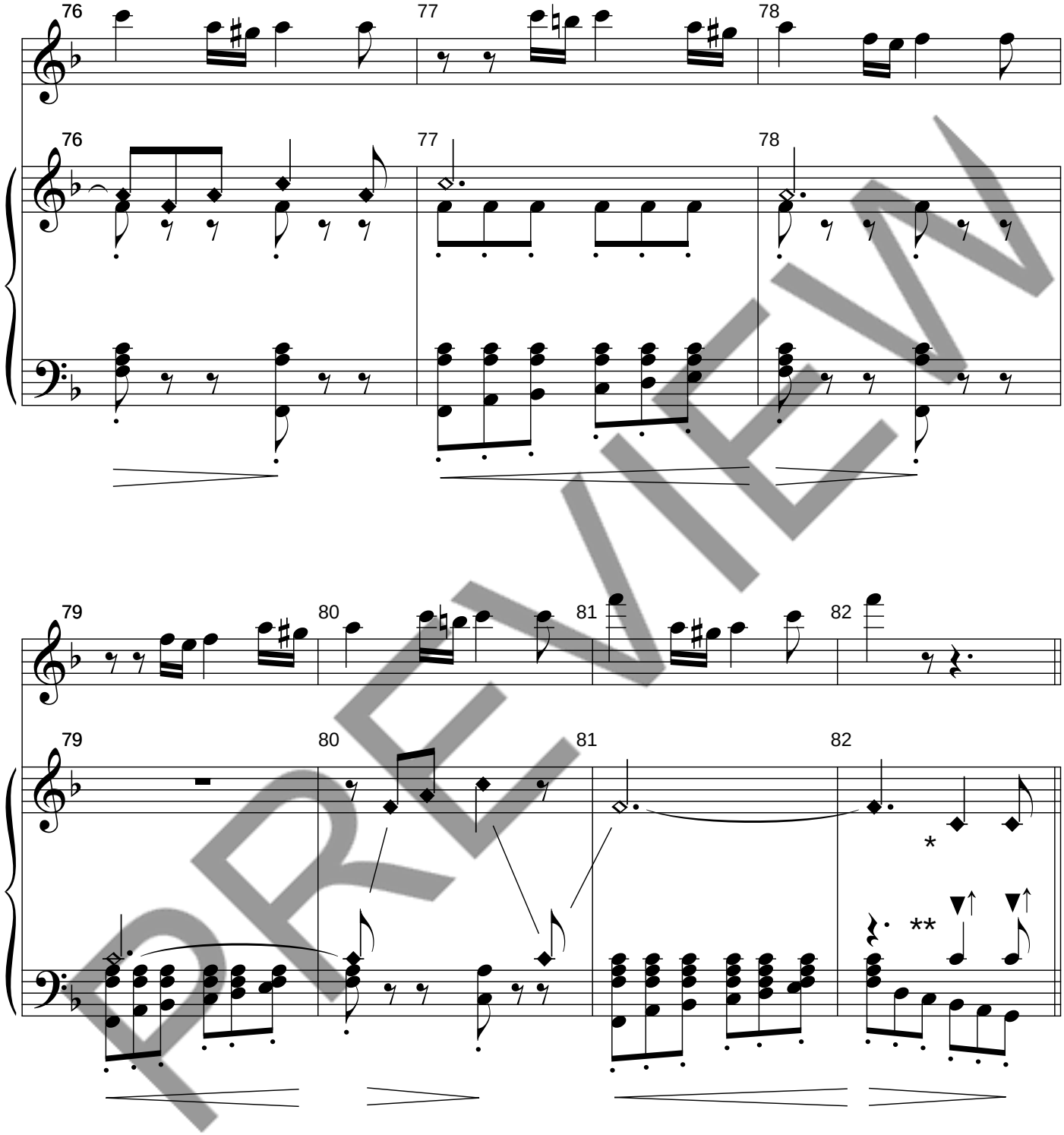


PREVIEW

* In mm. 51-98, malleted notes in the treble clef follow the dynamics of the bass line.



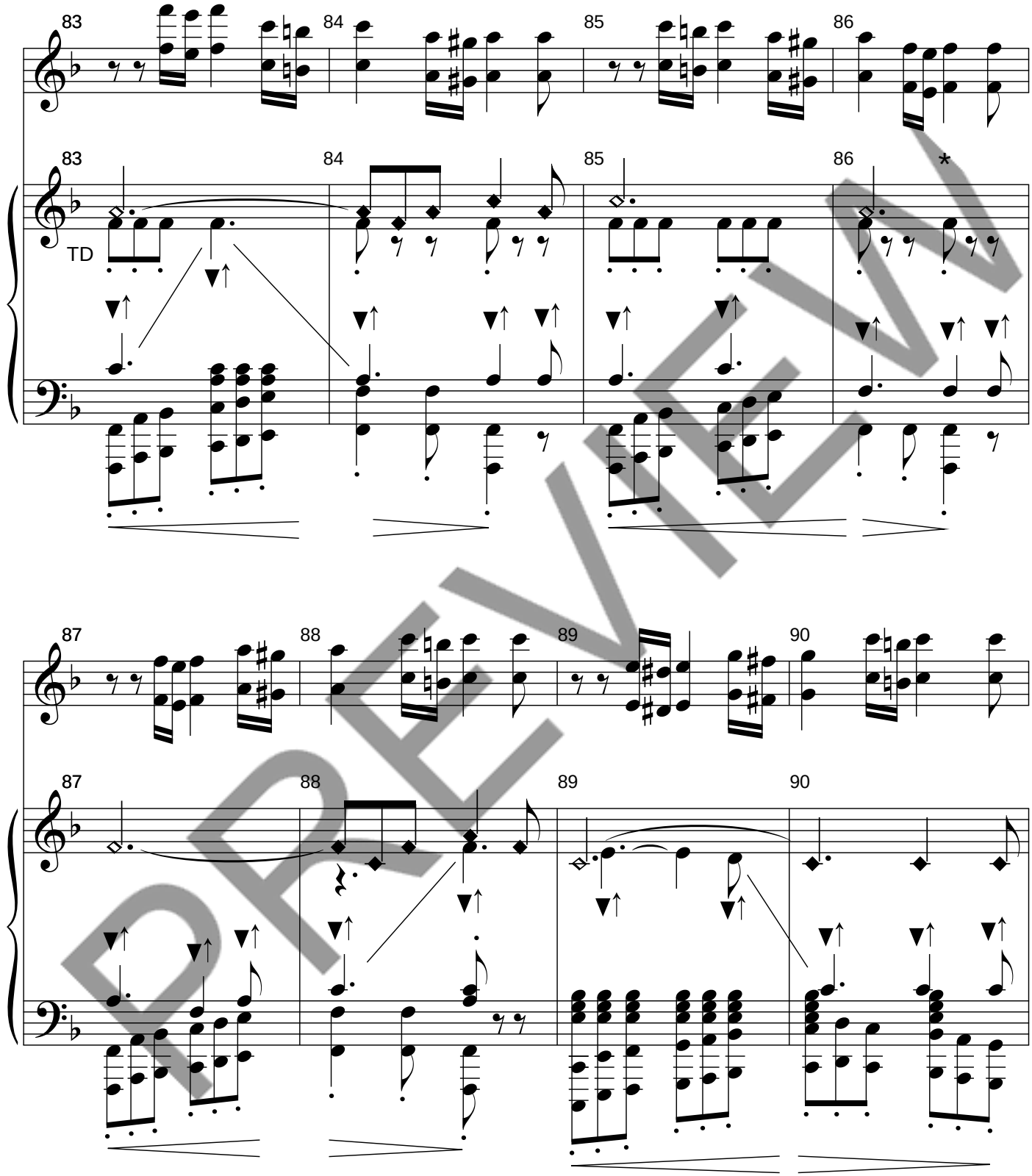
PREVIEW



PREVIEW

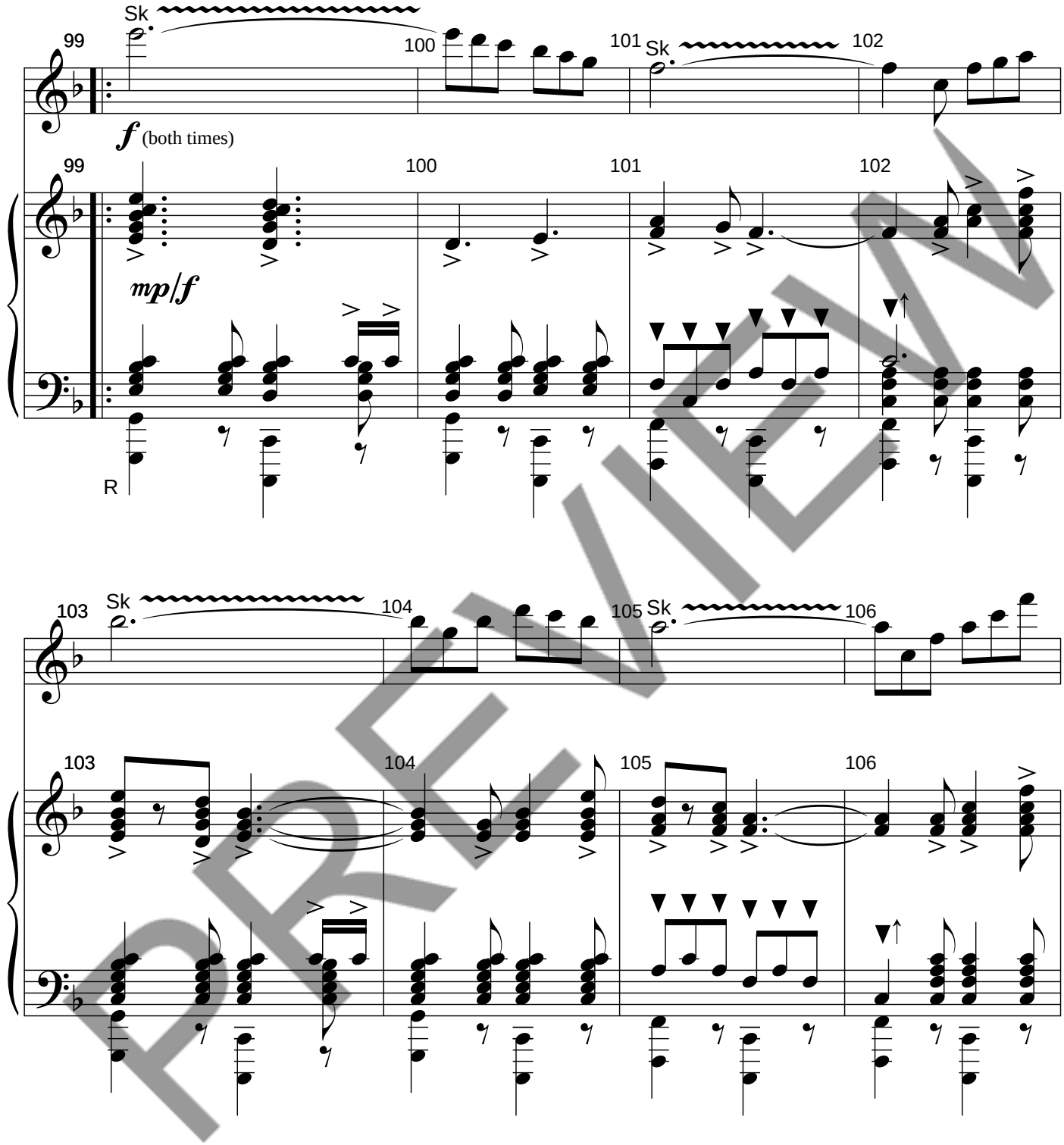
* C5 chime is notated in the treble clef in mm. 82, 88-90, 95-96.

** Bring out the martellato lift notes in mm. 82-97.

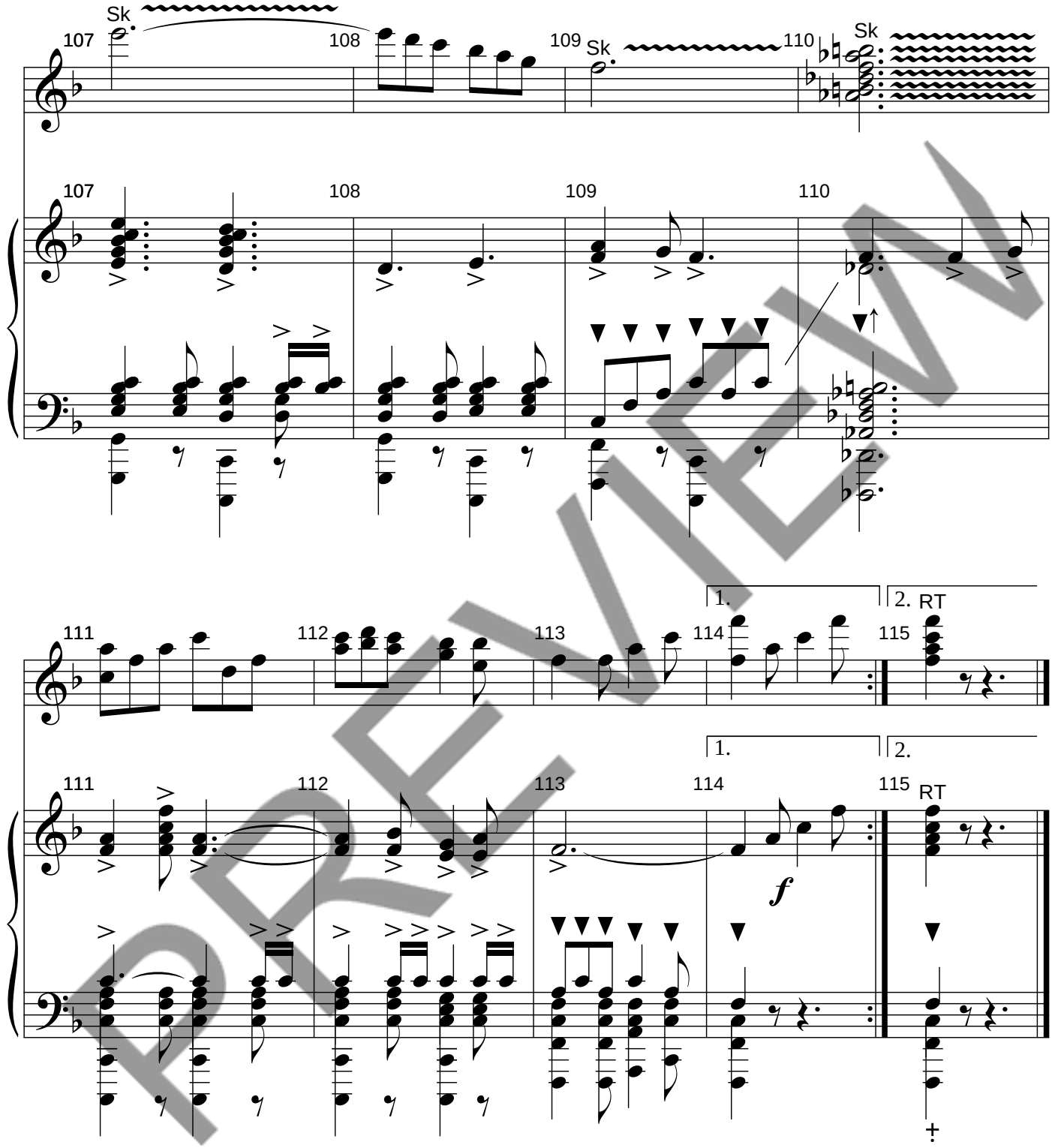


PREVIEW

* If performed by one handbell choir, play the rung F5 on beat 2 in mm. 86 and 94.


Sk
99
100
101
Sk
102
f (both times)
99
100
101
102
mp/f
R
103
Sk
104
105
Sk
106
103
104
105
106

PREVIEW


Sk
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1.
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RT
115
111
112
113
1.
114
2.
115
RT
f

PREVIEW

CGB663 HS4
7 49193 01744 9

Other Master Ringers Series titles from Choristers Guild:

Firefest Polka
3, 4 or 5 octaves handbells and anvil
Josef Strauss/arr. Martha Lynn Thompson
Level 4 • CGB671

Florentiner March (Italian Grand March)
5, 6 or 7 octaves handbells and 2, 3, 4, 5 or 5.5 octaves handchimes,
with optional 2 or 3 octaves auxiliary bells
and optional snare drum, triangle, cymbals, bass drum and timpani
Julius Fucik/arr. Carol Lynn Mizell
Level 5 • CGB635 Full Score • CGB636 Handbell Score

Hungarian Fast Polka (Eljen a Magyar)
4, 5 or 6 octaves handbells and opt. 3, 4, 5 or 5.5 octaves handchimes
with optional snare drum, bass drum, cymbals and timpani
Johann Strauss, Jr./arr. Carol Lynn Mizell
Level 5 • CGB541 Full Score • CGB542 Handbell Score

Nocturnal Fantasy
3, 4, 5 or 6 octaves handbells
with optional 3, 4, 5 or 6 octaves handchimes
Emily Li
Level 4+ • CGB731

Rock Around the Clock
3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 octaves handbells
with bass (guitar, string bass, euphonium or tuba) and optional drum set
Max Freeman & Jimmy DeKnight, arr. John Edmonson
handbell arr. Carol Lynn Mizell
Level 4 • CGB492 Full Score • CGB493 Handbell Score

Vision Quest
5 or 6 octaves handbells with 5 octaves handchimes and percussion
Cathy Moklebust
Level 5 • CGB494

PREVIEW

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