### Concert Band

# The Prairie

## (Solo Tuba and Concert Band)

## Stephen Hill



Yellowstone Photo by Stephen Hill





### Concert Band (Grade 4+)

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#### **Instrumentation**

Piccolo

Flute 1-2

Oboe 1-2

English Horn

Bb Clarinet 1-3

Bb Bass Clarinet

Bassoon

Eb Alto Saxophone 1-2

Bb Tenor Saxophone

Eb Baritone Saxophone

Bb Trumpet 1-3

Horn in F 1-4

Trombone 1-3

Euphonium

Tuba

String Bass

Timpani

Percussion

(S.D., B.D., Triangle, 2 Wood Blocks)

Mallets

(Vibraphone, Glockenspiel)

Piano

Harp

ca. 6:00



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(562) 412-0906

#### About the Work...

The Prairie, composed in 2007, was originally written for Solo Tuba and Piano. It was written at the request of Peter Alexander (Alexander Publishing) and is part of a larger project of Solo Compositions written for each major instrument of the Orchestra: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Horn in F, Trumpet, Trombone, Tuba, Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass. The project consisted of composing music for specific poems chosen by Peter that he felt reflected the character of each instrument. For the Solo Tuba, the poem assigned was Rudyard Kipling's, **The Prairie**.

#### The Prairie by Rudyard Kipling

I see the grass shake in the sun for leagues on either hand, I see a river loop and run about a treeless land —
An empty plain, a steely pond, a distance diamond-clear, And low blue naked hills beyond. And what is that to
fear?""Go softly by that river-side or, when you would depart, You'll find its every winding tied and knotted round
your heart. Be wary as the seasons pass, or you may ne'er outrun
The wind that sets that yellowed grass a-shiver 'neath the Sun."

I hear the summer storm outblown -- the drip of the grateful wheat. I hear the hard trail telephone a far-off horse's feet.

I hear the horns of Autumn blow to the wild-fowl overhead; And I hear the hush before the snow. And what is that to dread?"

"Take heed what spell the lightning weaves -- what charm the echoes shape -- Or, bound among a million sheaves, your soul shall not escape. Bar home the door of summer nights lest those high planets drown

The memory of near delights in all the longed-for town."

"What need have I to long or fear? Now, friendly, I behold
My faithful seasons robe the year in silver and in gold.
Now I possess and am possessed of the land where I would be,
And the curve of half Earth's generous breast shall soothe and ravish me!"

The Prairie received a premiere recital performance at Azusa Pacific University with Eric Villalobos on Tuba and Edward Sywulka on Piano. Eric, also played the solo part during a recording session with the Symphonic Winds of the Pacific with Dr. Anthony Mazzaferro, conducting.

#### **About the Composer...** (Notes by Dr. John Burdett, Azusa Pacific University)

Stephen Hill (b.1958) was born and raised in Southern California. His compositional lineage includes the likes of Roy Harris, Ingolf Dahl, Clifton Williams, Bernard Rogers, and Howard Hanson through study with Philip Westin (Cerritos College, 1976-1978) and most notably with W. Francis McBeth at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas (1978-1980). Stephen continued with graduate work at California State University, Los Angeles (1980-83) with composers Dr. Byong Kon Kim and William Hill. He composes for the simple joy of it.

For over 40 years, Stephen taught K-12 instrumental music concurrently in both the Private Christian School (Whittier Christian) and Public School (California High School) settings. Though semi-retired, Stephen still works with students by continuing to teach part-time at California High School and maintaining his private music studio, where he plays and teaches Woodwinds, Brass, Strings, and Piano. Stephen also plays with the church orchestra at Calvary Chapel, La Habra, CA. where he attends. When teaching full-time, he was primarily a "summer" composer. No longer teaching full-time, Stephen has the privilege to compose beyond just the summer months and publishes through his company, SARAHTIM—a title which comes from simply combining the name of his daughter Sarah and son Timothy.

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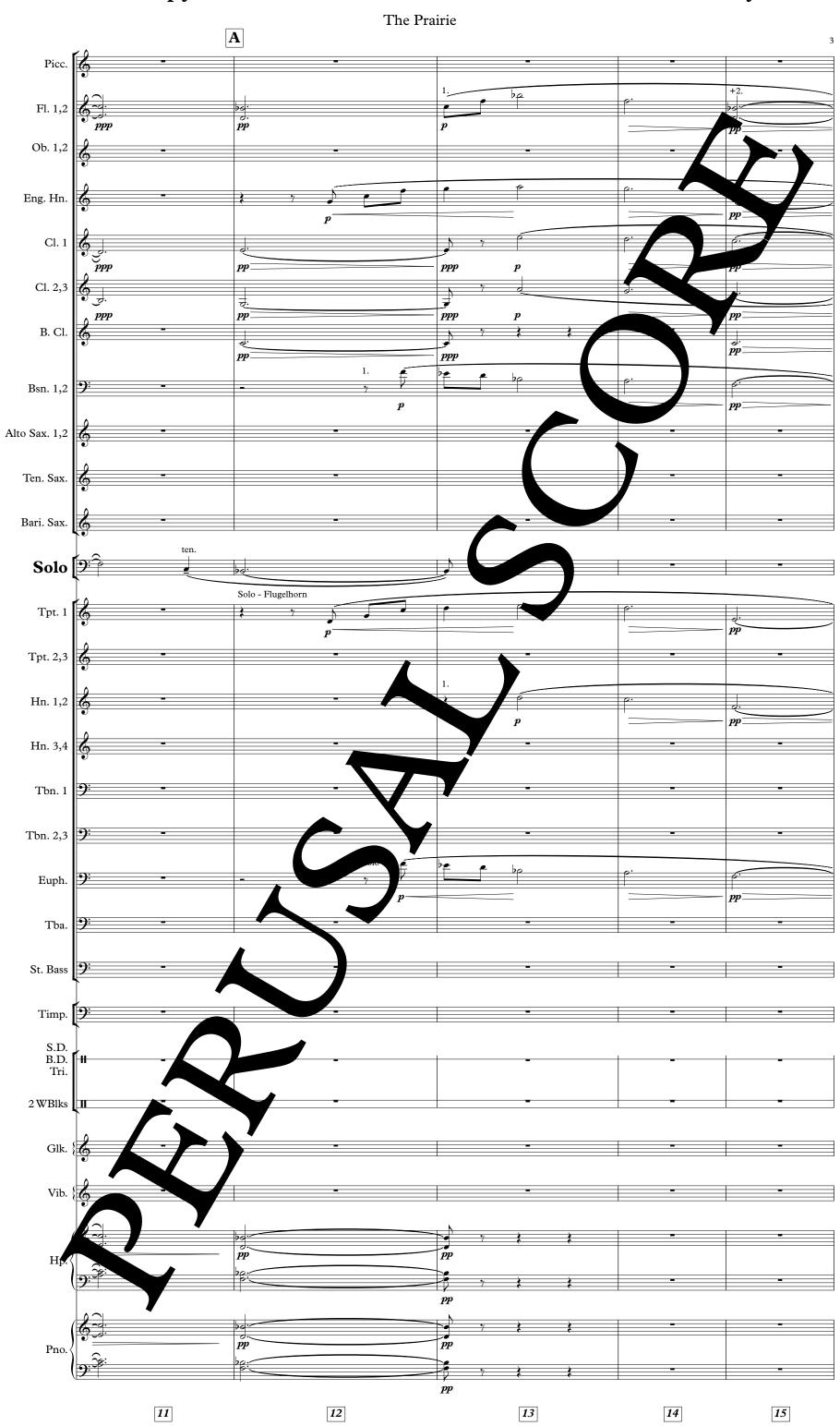
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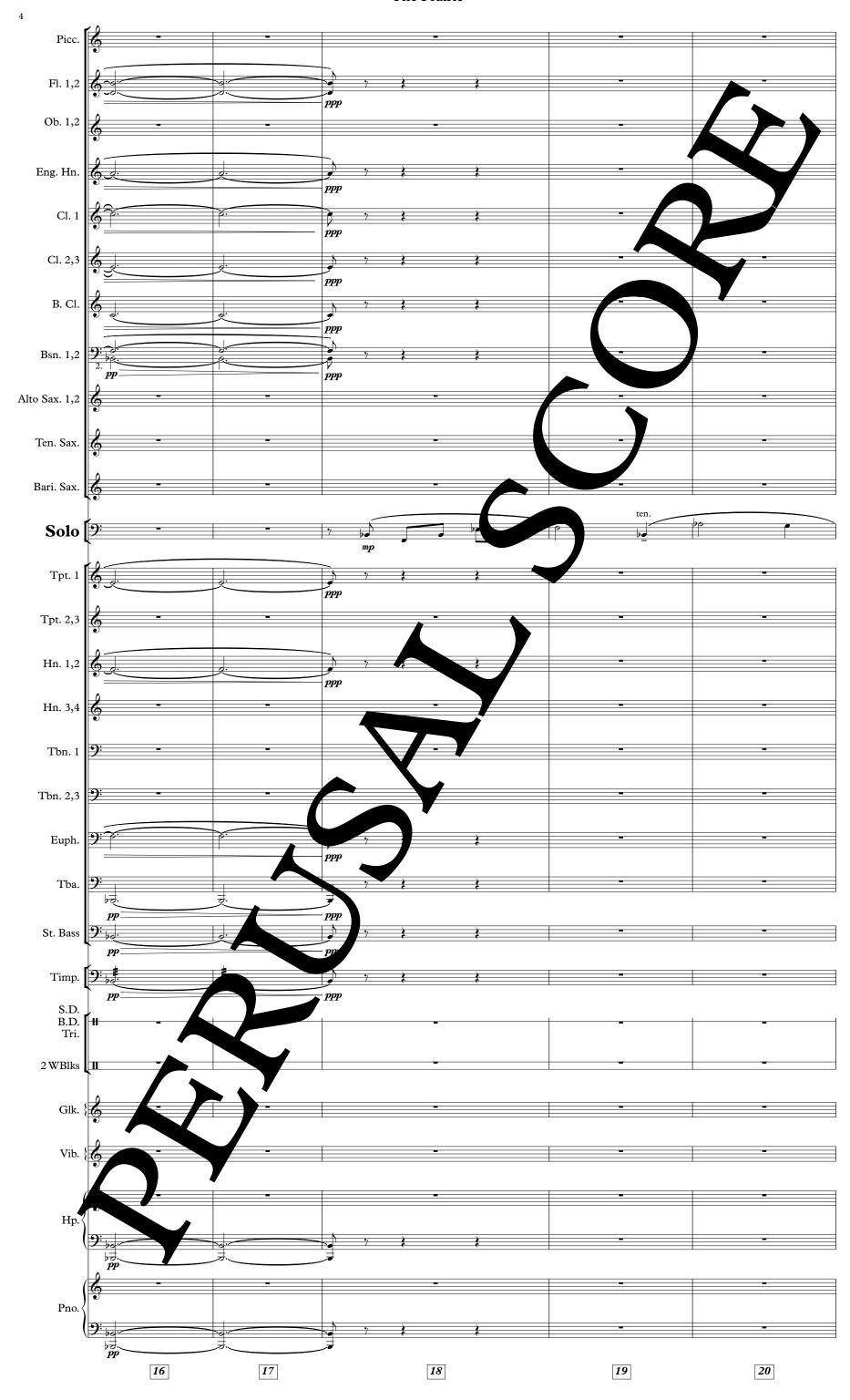
The Prairie Picc. Fl. 1,2 Ob. 1,2 Eng. Hn. Cl. 1 Cl. 2,3 pp B. Cl. Bsn. 1,2 Alto Sax. 1,2 Ten. Sax. Bari. Sax. Solo 2 Tpt. 1 Tpt. 2,3 Hn. 1,2 Hn. 3,4 Tbn. 1 Tbn. 2,3 Euph. Tba. St. Bass Timp. 2 WBlks 10 6 7 8

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The Prairie



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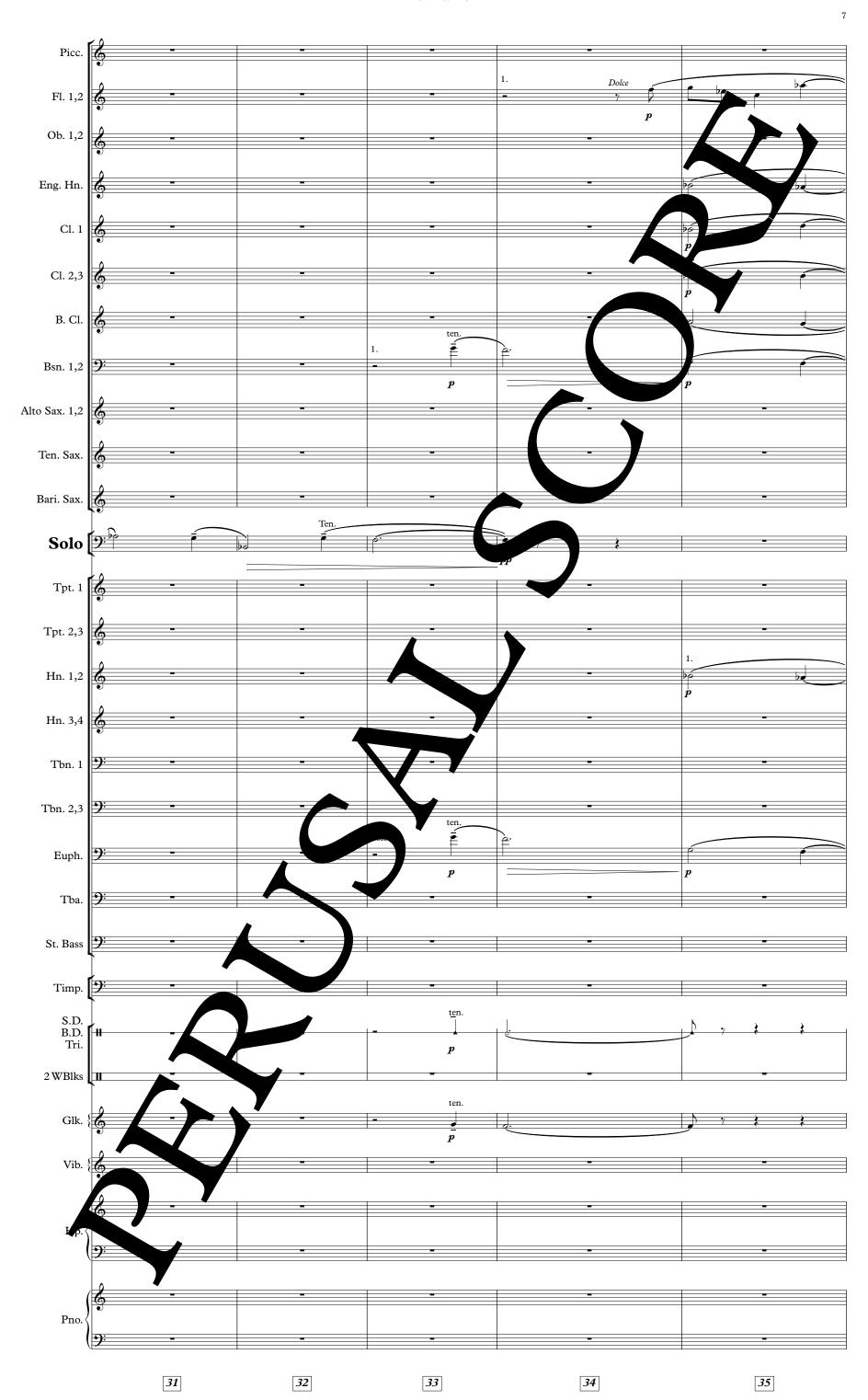
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The Prairie  $\mathbf{B}$ Picc. Fl. 1,2 Ob. 1,2 Eng. Hn. Cl. 1 Cl. 2,3 B. Cl. Bsn. 1,2 Alto Sax. 1,2 Ten. Sax. Bari. Sax. Solo Tpt. 1 Tpt. 2,3 Hn. 1,2 Hn. 3,4 Tbn. 1 Tbn. 2,3 Euph. Tba. St. Bass Timp. S.D. Tri. 2 WBlks Vib. { pp Pno. 26 **2**7 28 **29** *30* 

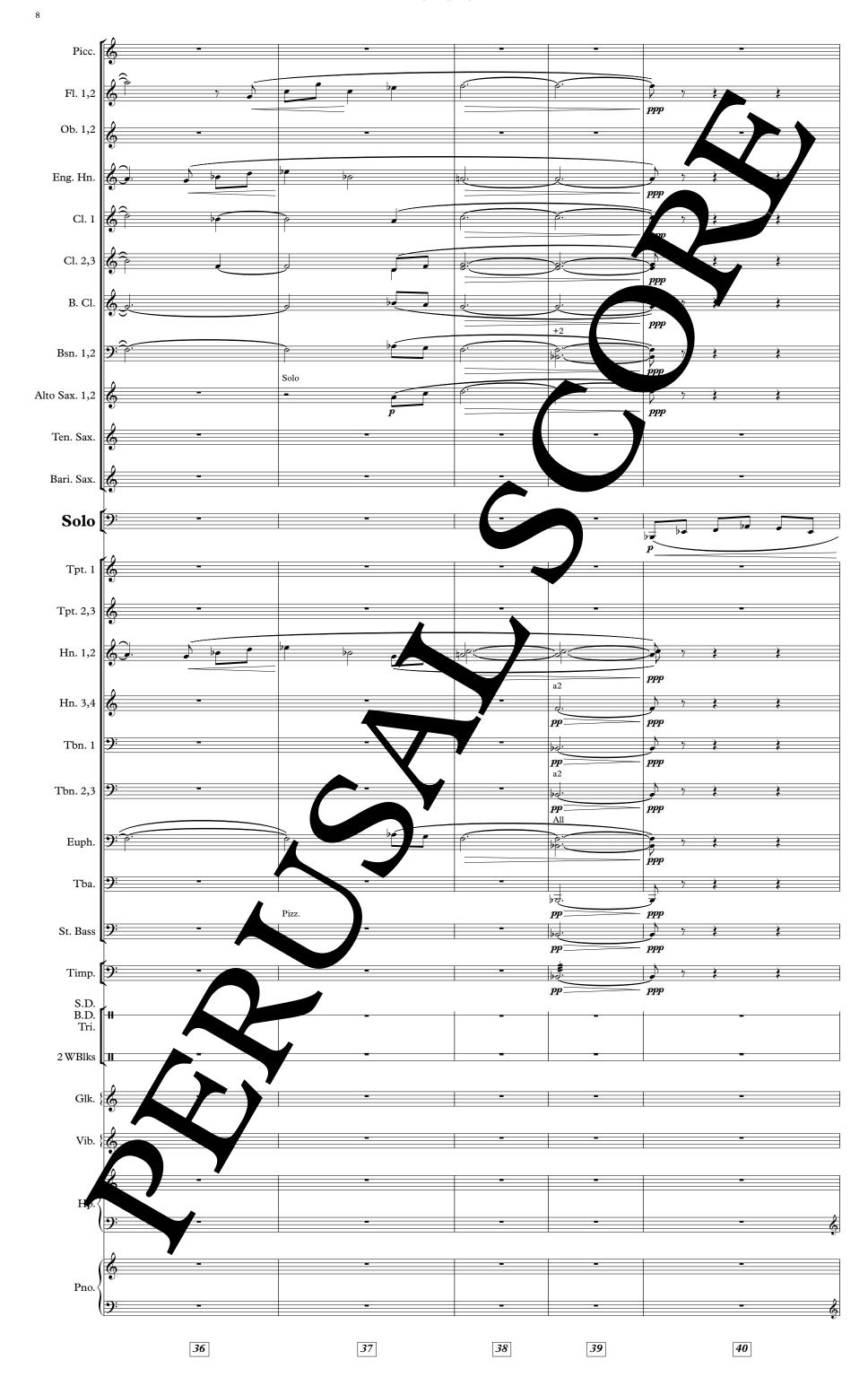
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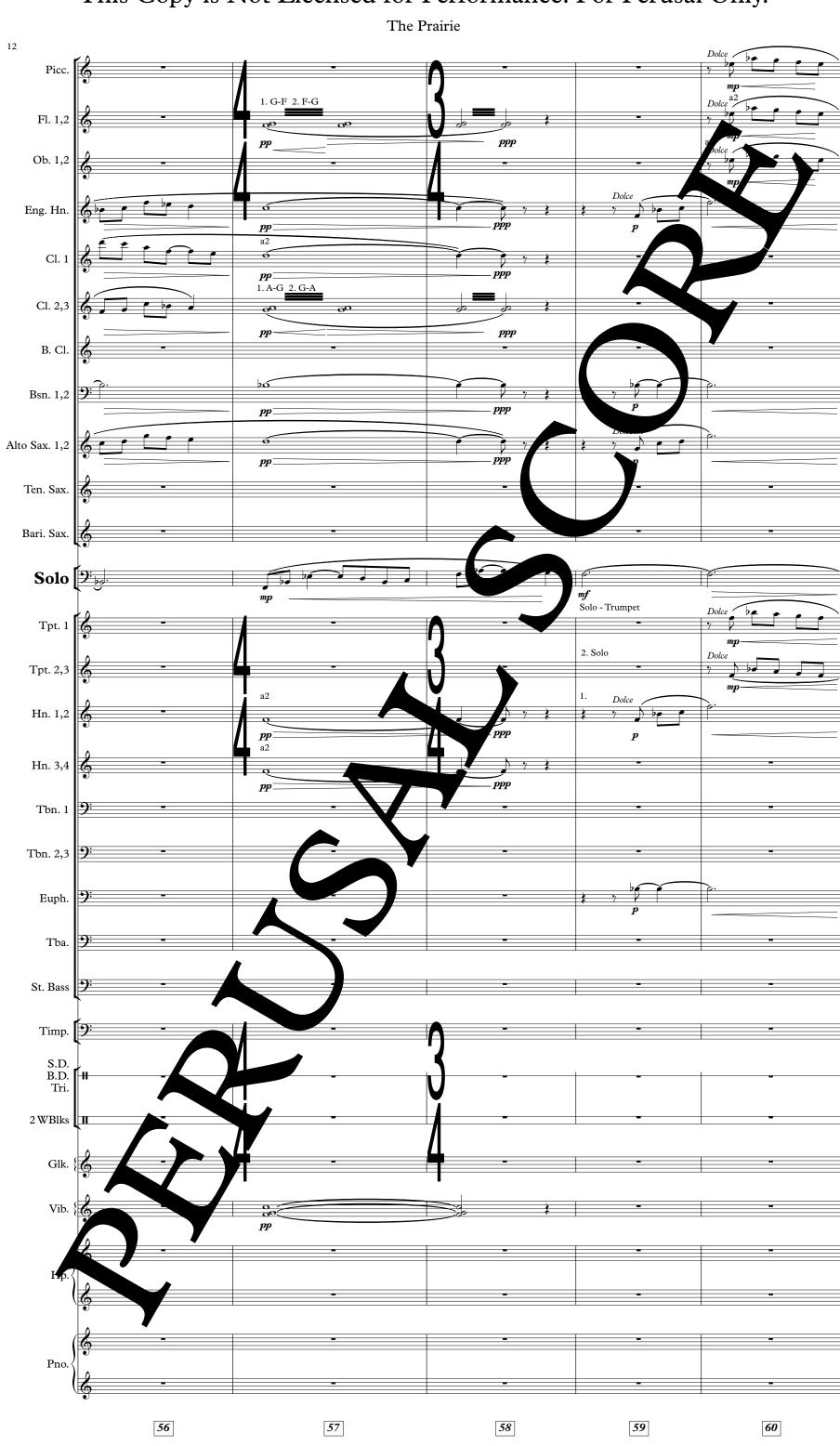
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The Prairie 10 C Picc. Fl. 1,2 Ob. 1,2 Eng. Hn. Cl. 1 Cl. 2,3 B. Cl. Bsn. 1,2 Alto Sax. 1,2 Ten. Sax. Bari. Sax. Solo 2 Tpt. 1 Tpt. 2,3 Hn. 1,2 Hn. 3,4 Tbn. 1 Tbn. 2,3 Euph. Tba. St. Bass Timp. S.D. B.D. Tri. 2 WBlks Glk. { **4**7 **48 50** 46 49

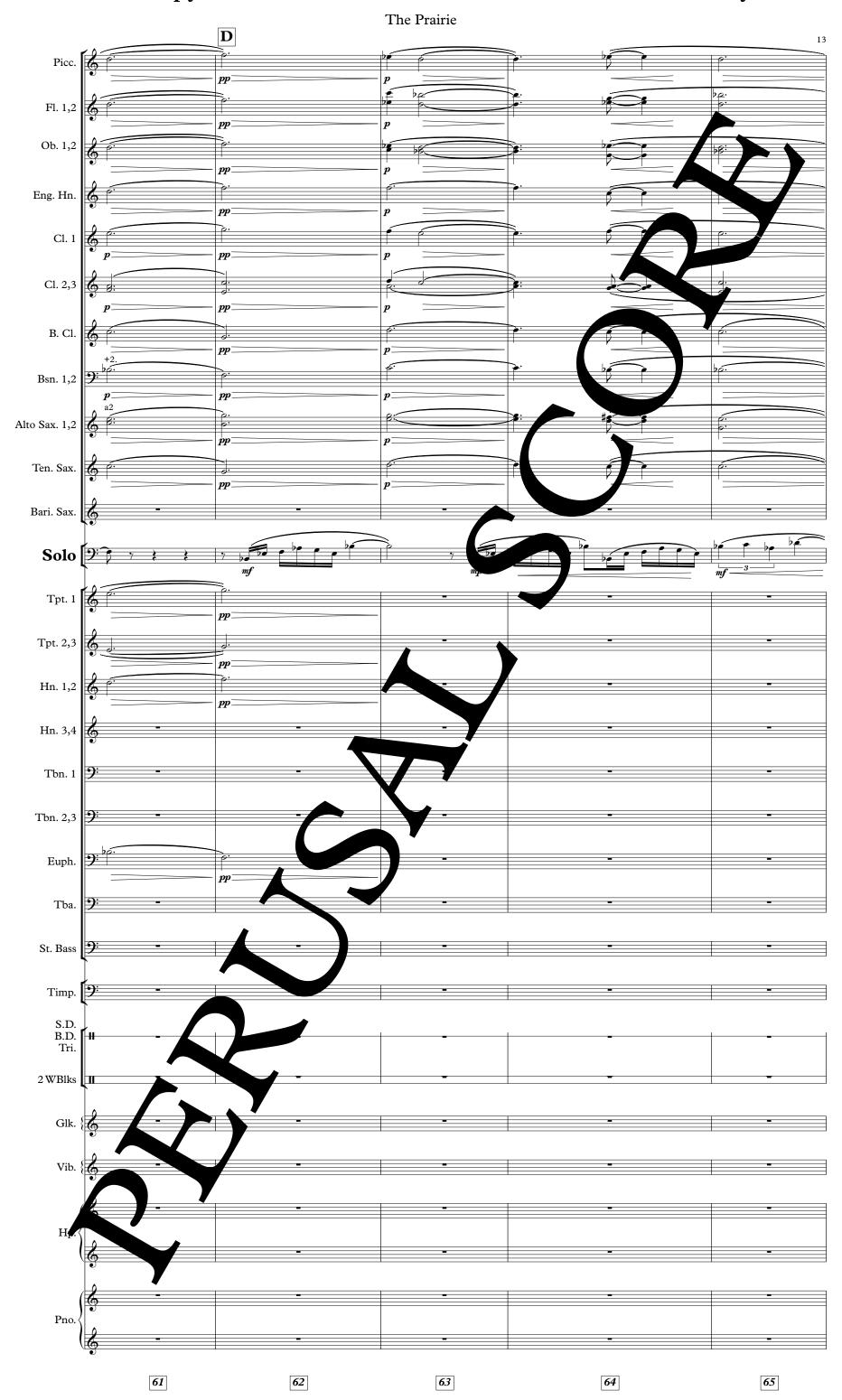
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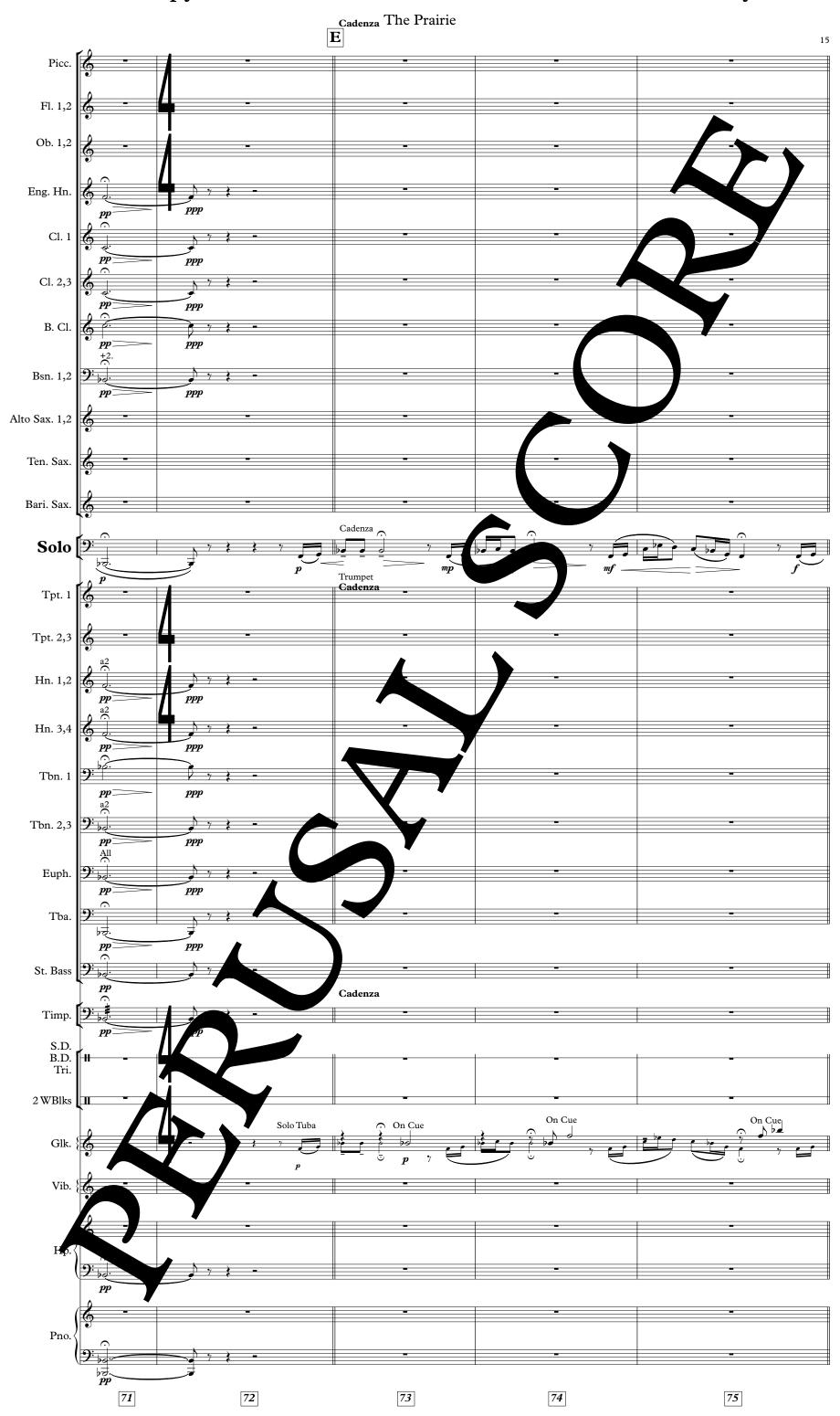
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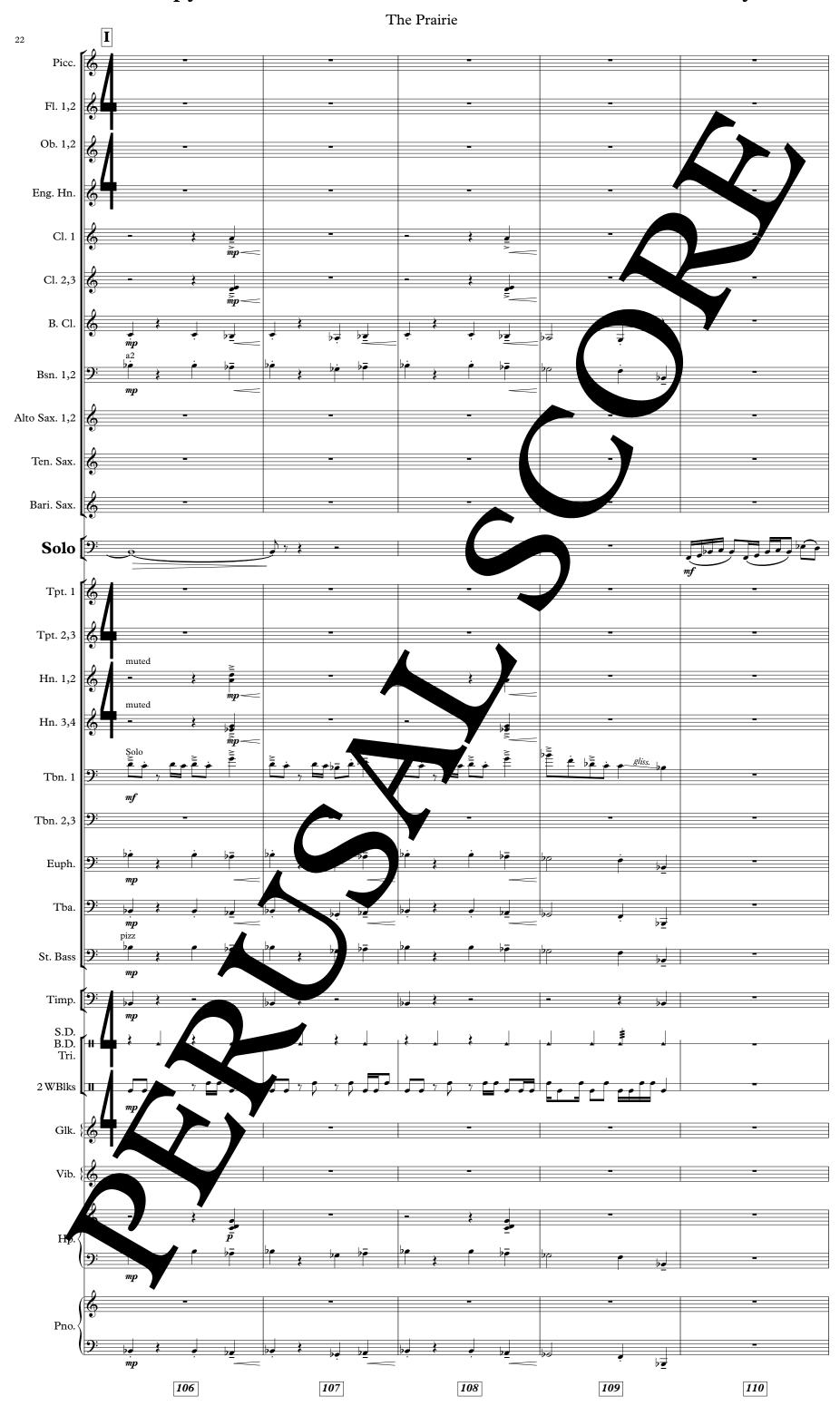
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The Prairie Picc. Fl. 1,2 Ob. 1,2 Eng. Hn. Cl. 1 Cl. 2,3 B. Cl. Bsn. 1,2 Alto Sax. 1,2 Ten. Sax. Bari. Sax. Solo Tpt. 2,3 Hn. 1,2 Hn. 3,4 Tbn. 1 Tbn. 2,3 Euph. Tba. St. Bass Timp. S.D. B.D. Tri. 2 WBlks Vib. Pno. 102 103 104 105 101

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