**Orlande de Lassus**

**trans./ed. Patrick J. Burns**

# Oh Cross, Brighter Than All the Stars

for 6-part brass ensemble

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Bandworks PUBLICATIONS
Artistry without compromise

Franco-Flemish composer **Orlande de Lassus** (c. 1532-1594) is considered to be one of the great masters of the polyphonic vocal style of the late Renaissance period. ***Oh Cross, Brighter Than All the Stars***, a six-voice motet composed in 1568, is emblematic of his sophisticated compositional style. Although quite complex from a linear standpoint, the music is retains a lyric simplicity which allows it to be easily grasped by the listener.

This instrumental setting is a one-to-one correspondence with the six-part vocal original, and was transcribed and edited from the Breitkopf & Hartel publication of 1927. Slurs in the brass ensemble setting correspond to melismas in the motet's text, and dynamics are static (mezzo piano to mezzo forte, throughout) - in keeping with Renaissance performance practice.

This setting can be performed by one player - or multiple players - per part, each with great success. Feel free to experiment with combinations that best suit your needs.

Patrick J. Burns
May 16, 2019

**PATRICK J. BURNS** (b. 1969) has served as Adjunct Professor of Music at Montclair State University in New Jersey since 1994, where he teaches courses in music theory, orchestration, and composition, and has also been Director of the New Jersey City University Symphony of Winds and Percussion since September 2011. As a clarinetist, Mr. Burns has performed with many professional ensembles in the New York metro area including the Metropolitan Opera Summer Ballet Orchestra, the pit orchestra for the Broadway revival production of *Camelot* starring Robert Goulet, and with the New Jersey Chamber Music Society in broadcasts for National Public Radio and New Jersey Network Television. After teaching for 15 years in the Caldwell-West Caldwell Public Schools, Mr Burns is currently employed by Ackk Studios as orchestrator/composer/conductor for the company's video game and film projects being produced for the Nintendo and Sony Corporations.

In 1986, at the age of seventeen, Mr. Burns founded the Bloomfield Youth Band, a community wind ensemble of some 55 secondary school and collegiate musicians which he continues to direct today. The Youth Band has been recognized for its outstanding artistic achievements and service to the community by the United States Congress, the New Jersey Legislature and the Mayor and Town Council of Bloomfield. His compositions for symphonic band are performed by bands of every level throughout the country. The United States Army Band, "Pershing's Own", has performed his music in Washington, D.C. and at Carnegie Hall. His music has also been performed by conservatory and military bands in Sweden, Russia, Japan and China. Mr.Burns is former director of the Montclair State University Youth Orchestra and the Imperial Brass. He has been featured as guest conductor and clinician with public school, community, university, region and all-state bands and orchestras in New Jersey, New York, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia and Ohio and has recorded albums and concertized with world-renowned brass artists Philip Smith, Billy Hunter, Warren Vaché, Roger Webster and Chris Jaudes.

Patrick Burns' music for symphonic band is published by Bandworks Publications, G. Schirmer, Daehn Publications, Grand Mesa Music Publishers, FJH Music, Wingert-Jones Music, and TRN Music Publisher. His music has appeared on *Bandworld* magazine's Top 100 list of band compositions five times. *The Instrumentalist* and *School Music News* have printed numerous favorable reviews of Mr.Burns' band music and *The Classical New Jersey Society Journal* has praised his chamber music. His music for symphonic band has been performed at The Midwest Clinic in Chicago and has been recorded for the educational series *Distinguished Music for the Developing Band.* He has received commissions from many organizations including the Goldman Band/Harvey Phillips Foundation, The Ohio Northern University chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi, the Bel Air (Maryland) Community Band, the SoundTree Corporation and Westlake Village High School Wind Ensemble (California) for the band's performance at Carnegie Hall.

From 2003-2010 and since 2013, Mr. Burns served as president of the Bloomfield Federation of Music. In March 2010, he founded his own publishing company, Bandworks Publications, which he continues to operate today. His music can be heard at his websites, www.bandworkspublications.com, and www.youtube.com/patrickburnsmusic.

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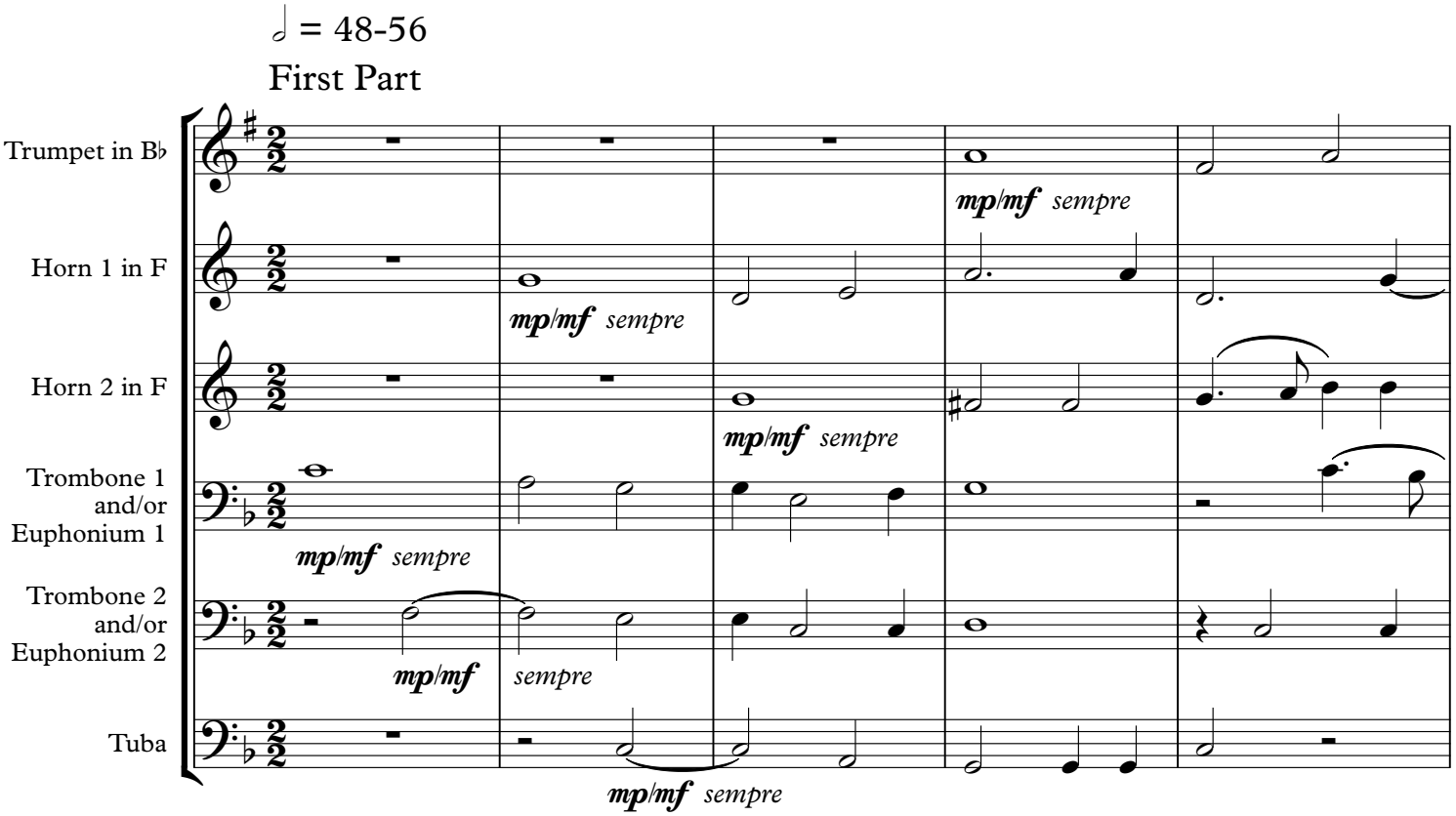
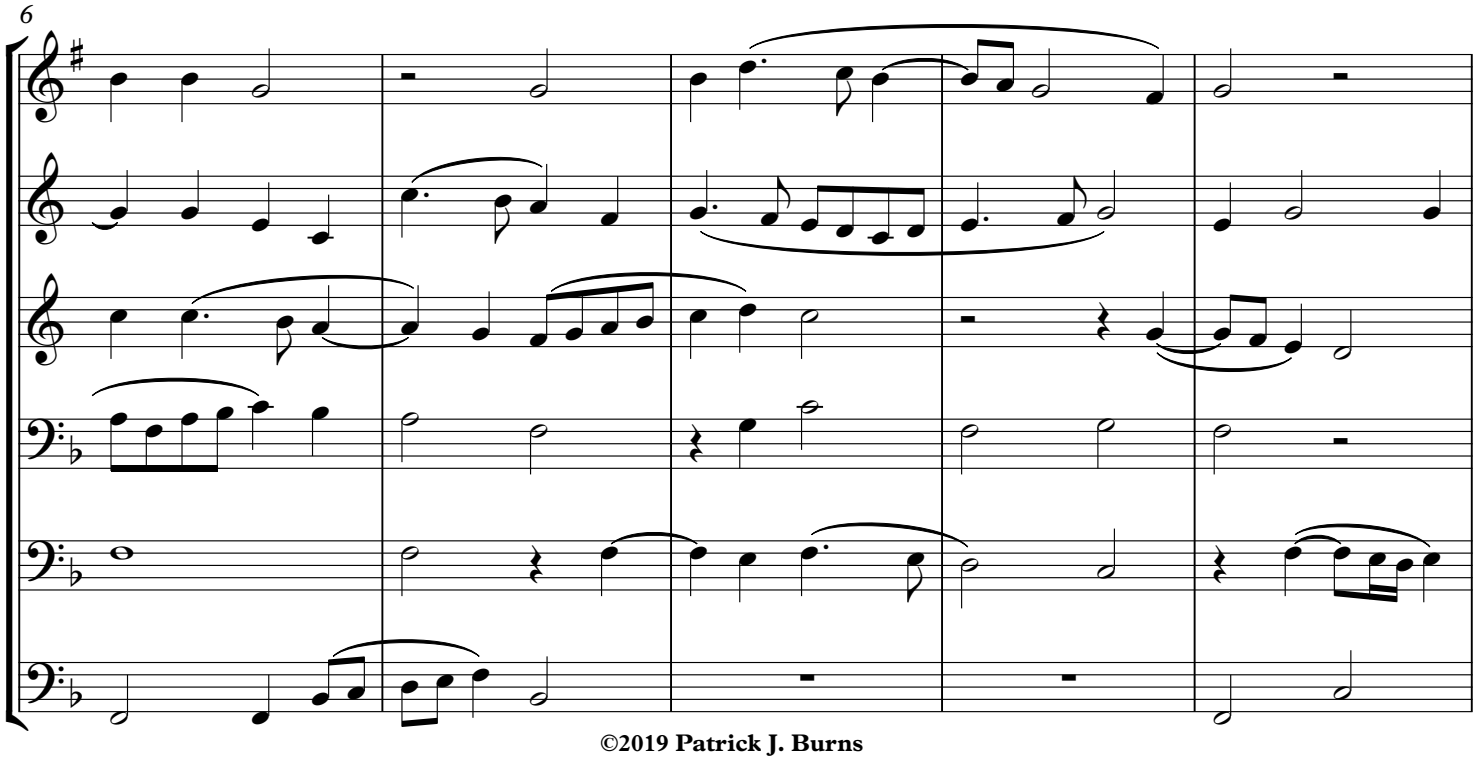
# O Cross, Brighter Than All the Stars

**ORLANDE de LASSUS**
**transcribed and edited by Patrick J. Burns**

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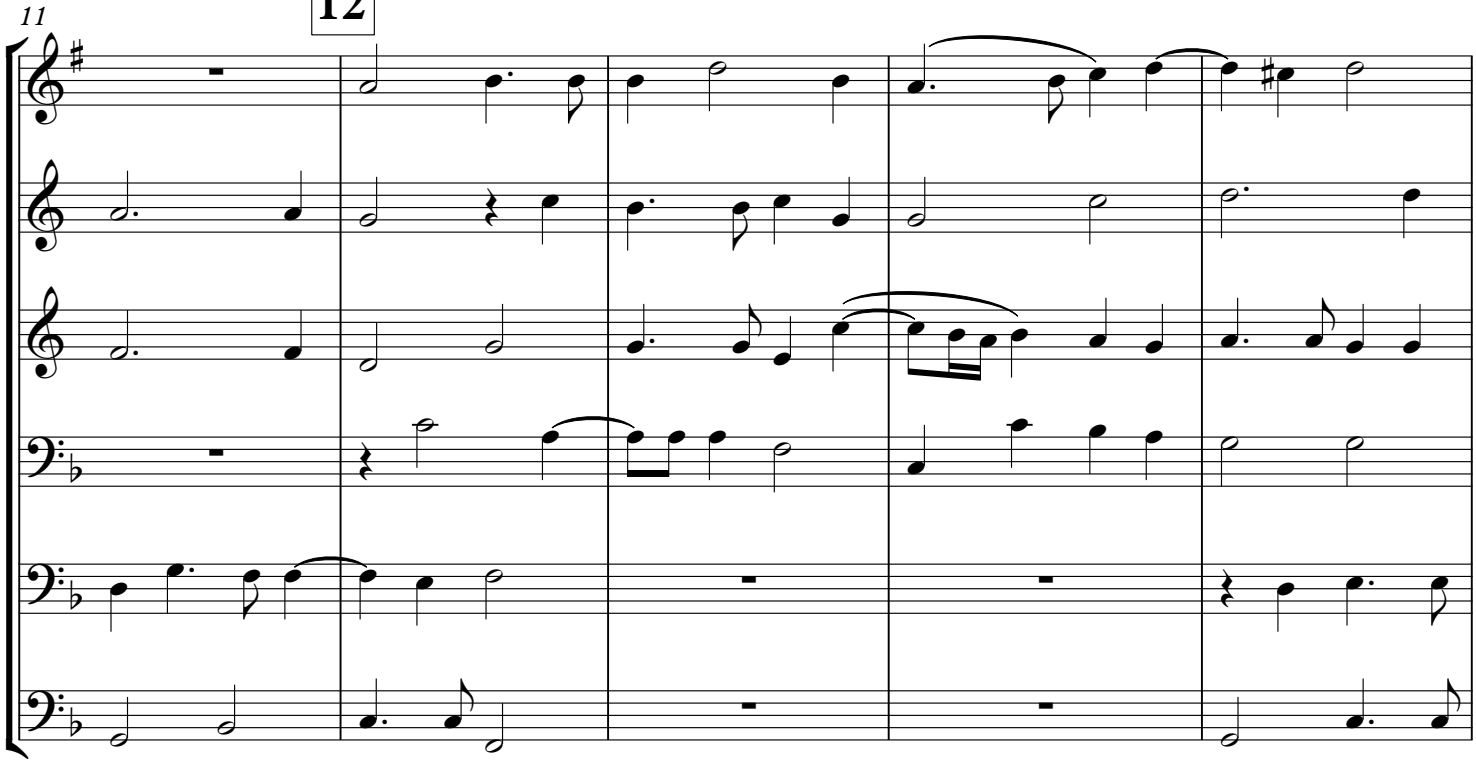

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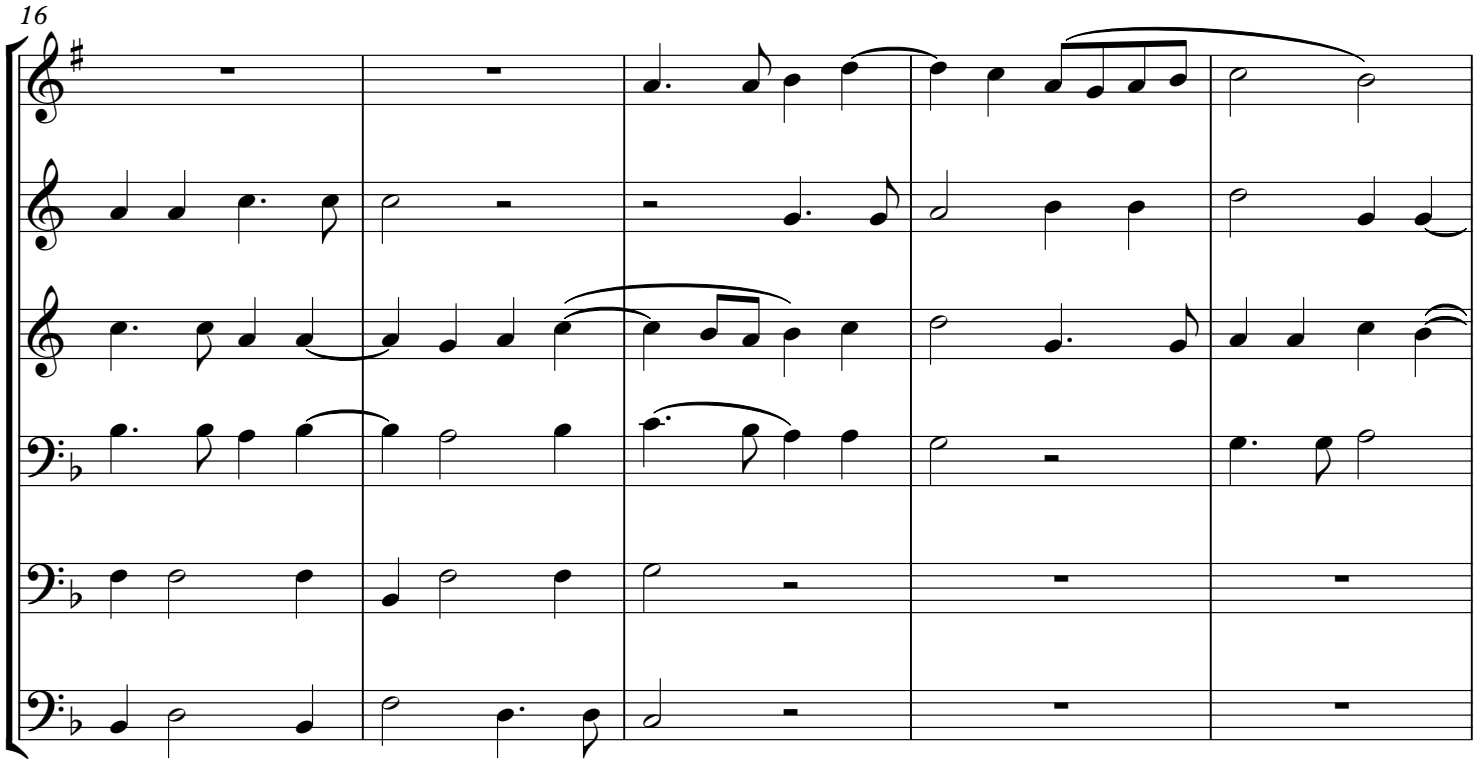

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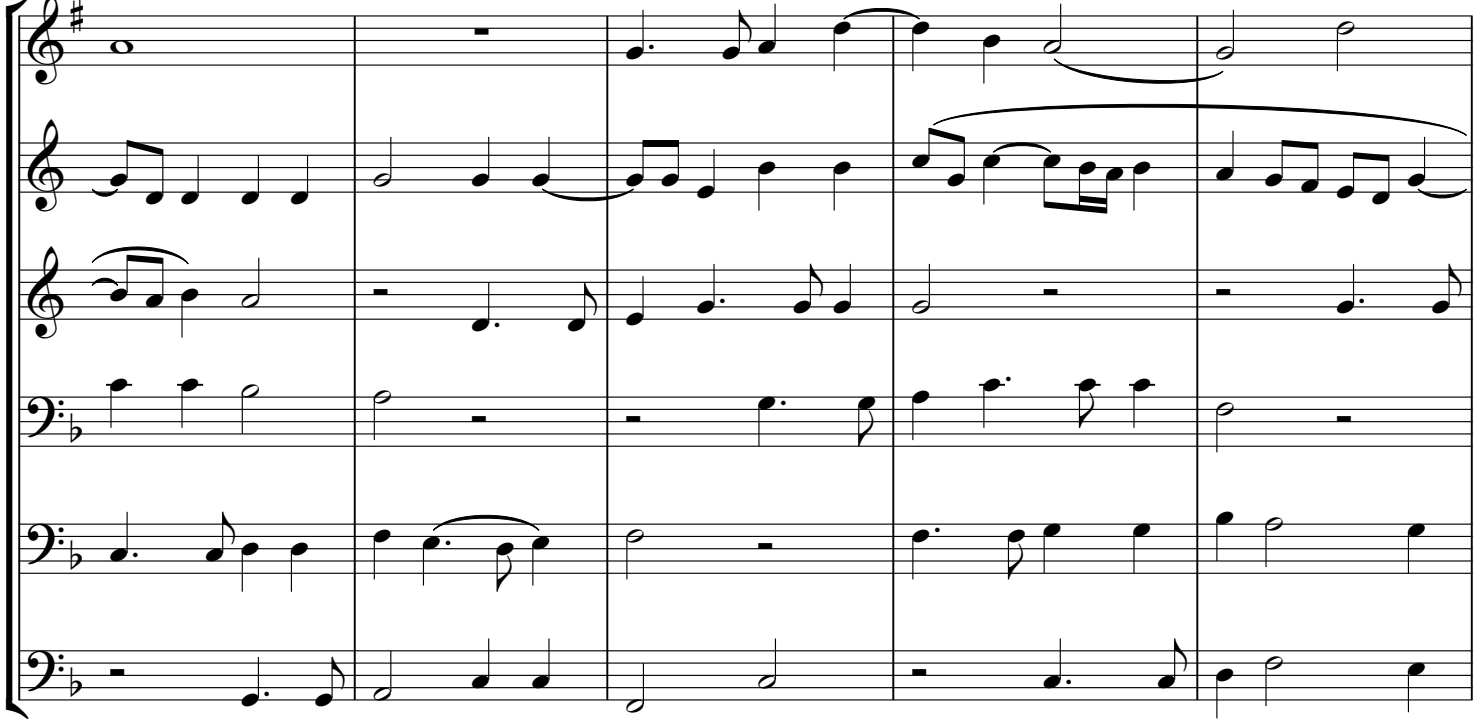
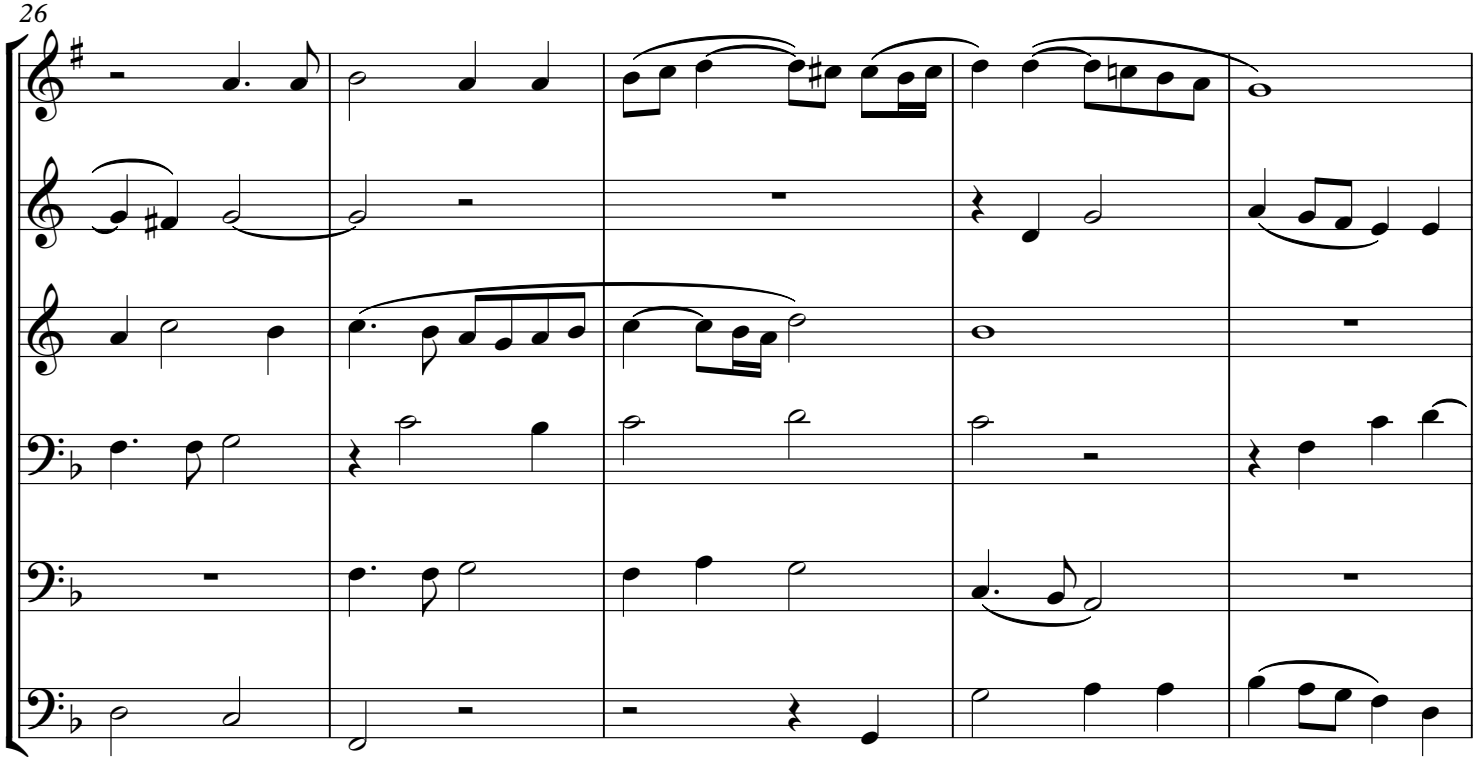
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