Richard Emsley

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for guitar 1

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Gtr. solo

Performance Notes

The piece consists entirely of harmonics, which should always be allowed to ring on through succeeding events for as long as possible.

Three strings are detuned:

string I (E)	-	up a quartertone
string II (B)	-	up an eighthtone
string V (A)	-	down an eighthtone

The two-stave notation functions as follows: the lower stave indicates the string and nodal position of the harmonics *as if* the instrument was normally tuned; the upper stave indicates the actual pitches produced to the nearest eighthtone, using the following accidentals:

- natural note raised by an eighthtone
- sharp note lowered by an eighthtone
- sharp note raised by a quartertone (three-quartertone sharp)
- natural note raised by a quartertone (quartertone sharp)
- sharp note raised by an eighthtone
- natural note lowered by an eighthtone

Harmonics are of three types:

1. Natural harmonics, e.g.

where the fundamental (lower note) is always an open string (in this case the D string), and the node (upper, diamond-headed note) is always touched by the left hand (in this case slightly above the third fret).

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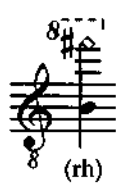
2. Artificial harmonics, e.g.

where the fundamental (lower note) is always a fretted note on a given string (in this case 5th fret on the G string), and the node (upper note) is always touched by the right hand one octave above the fundamental.

3. Right hand alone harmonics, e.g.



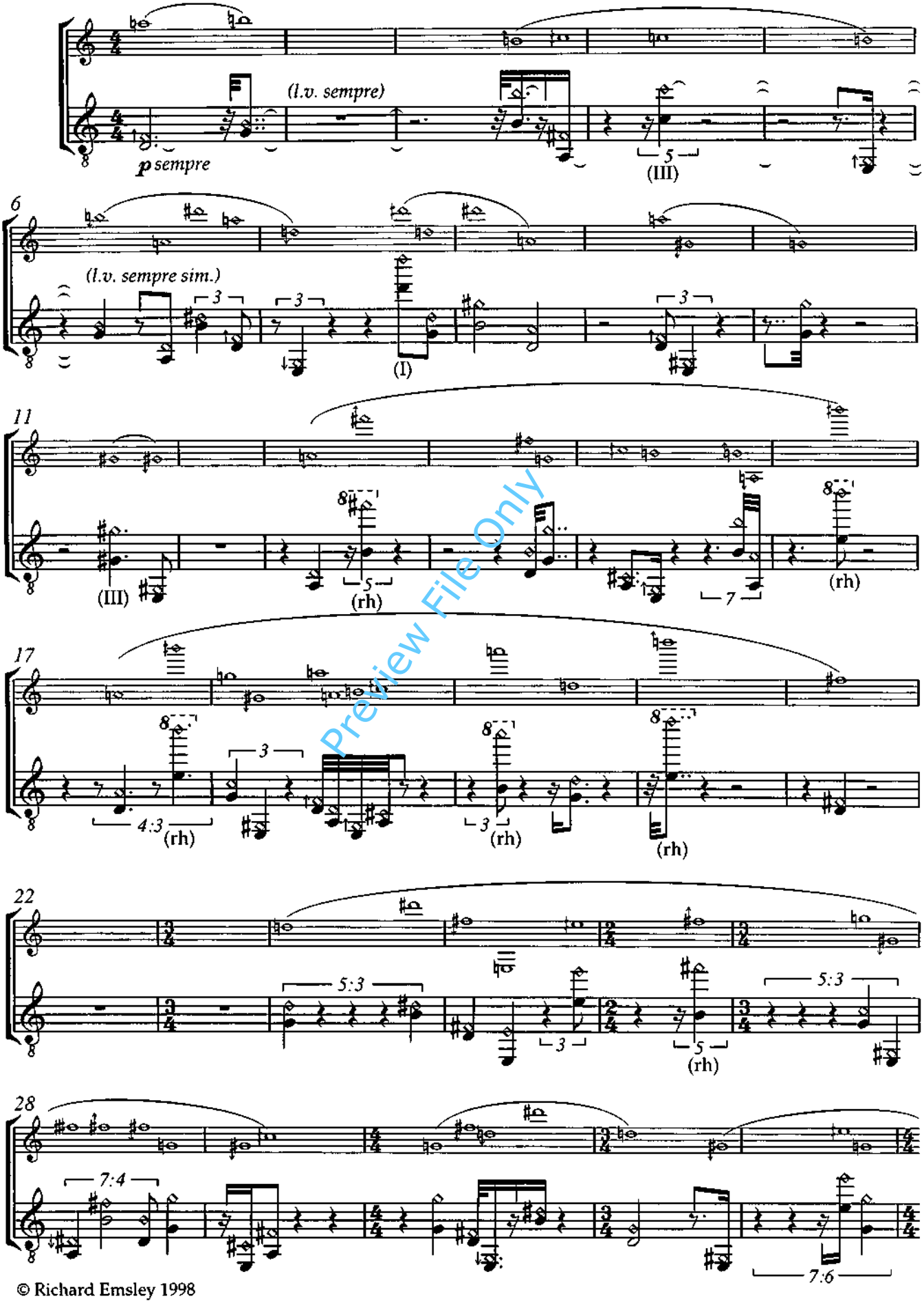
are natural harmonics where the fundamental is always an open string (in this case the B string) but which employ the node nearest the bridge rather than that nearest the nut, this being touched by the right hand (in this case one octave above the 19th fret).

Duration: 6 minutes

for guitar 1

Richard Emsley
1998

With rapt concentration, as if telling a strange tale (♩ = 60)



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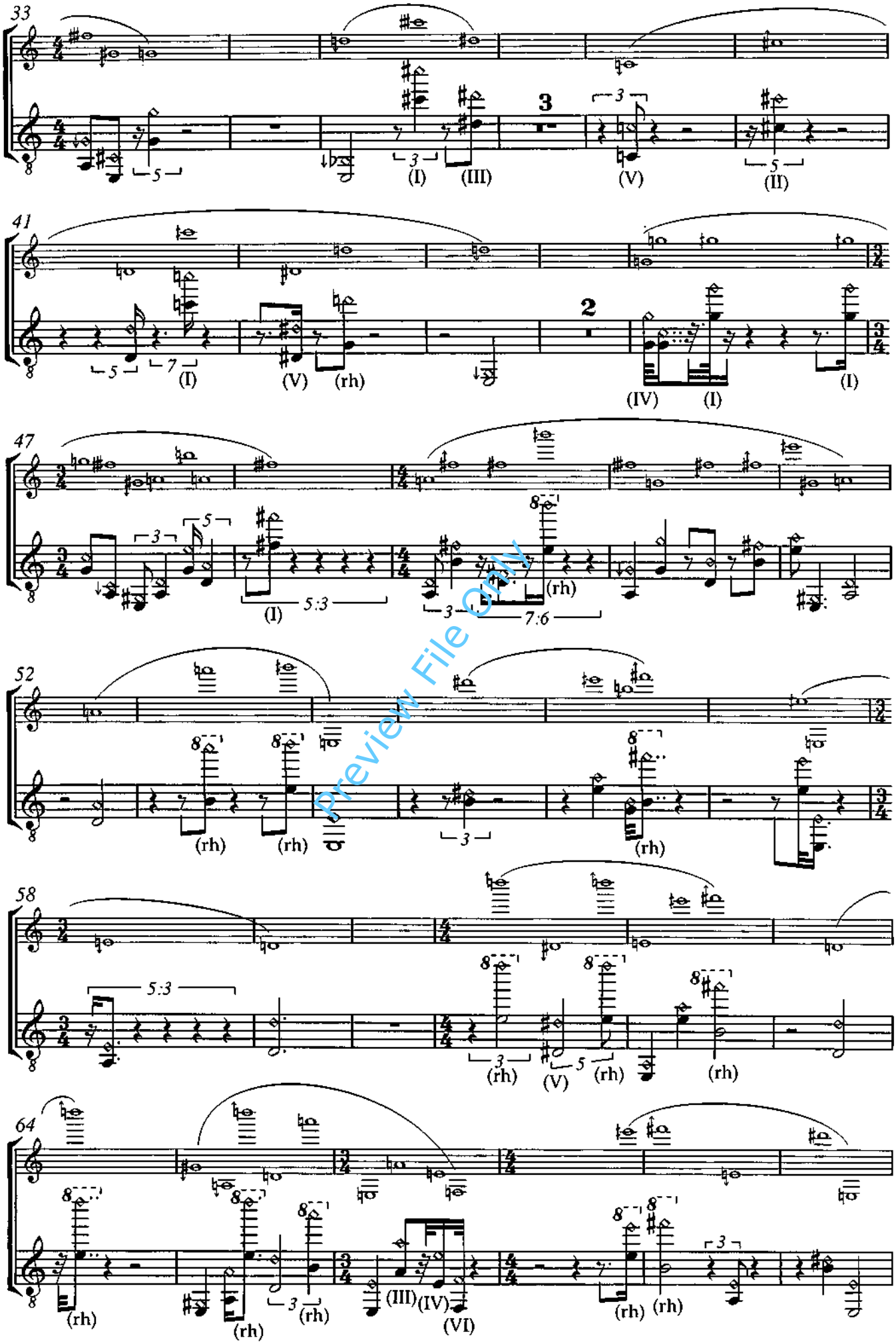
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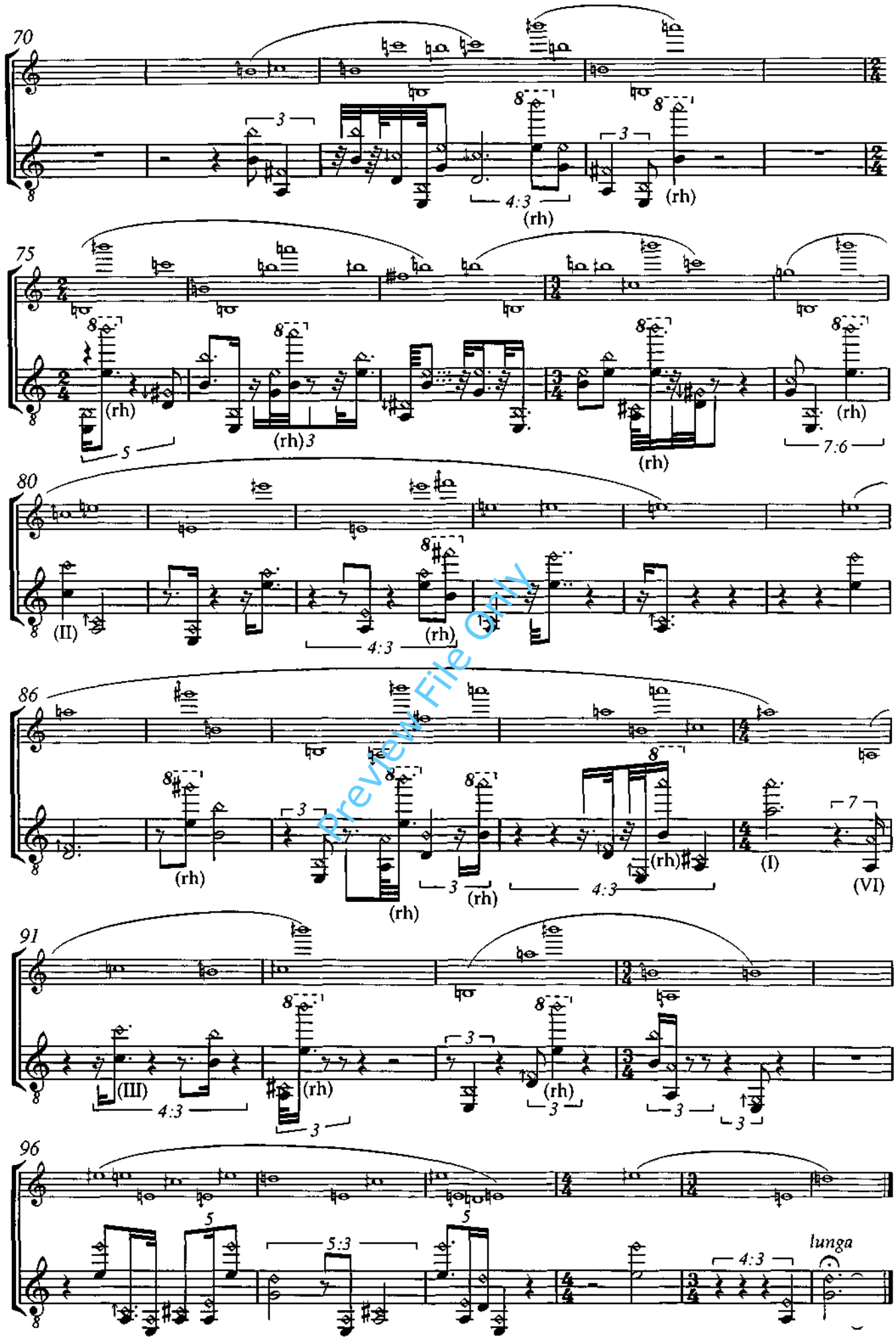

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