Eighth Note Publications

Enigma Variation #9
Nimrod

Edward Elgar
Arranged by David Marlatt

Enigma Variations is a set of variations on an original theme, of which Elgar said represented "the loneliness of the creative artist". Each variation has a title which contained initials or nicknames of his friends. The music was to describe "friends pictured within". The ninth variation, Nimrod, refers to A.J. Jaeger, a member of the staff at Novello Publishing Company who had several of Elgar's works published. This variation refers to a discussion the two friends had one summer evening concerning Beethoven's slow movements. Elgar makes no arguments about the opening of Nimrod alluding to the slow movement of the Pathetique Sonata.

The solo line is passed around the ensemble from the horn to the flugel/trombone to the trumpet. The arranger recommends the use of flugel horn to allow for a greater variety of colours. The Eb trumpet part captures many of the oboe lines and therefore adds extra brightness to contrast the blending of the horn, flugel and low brass.

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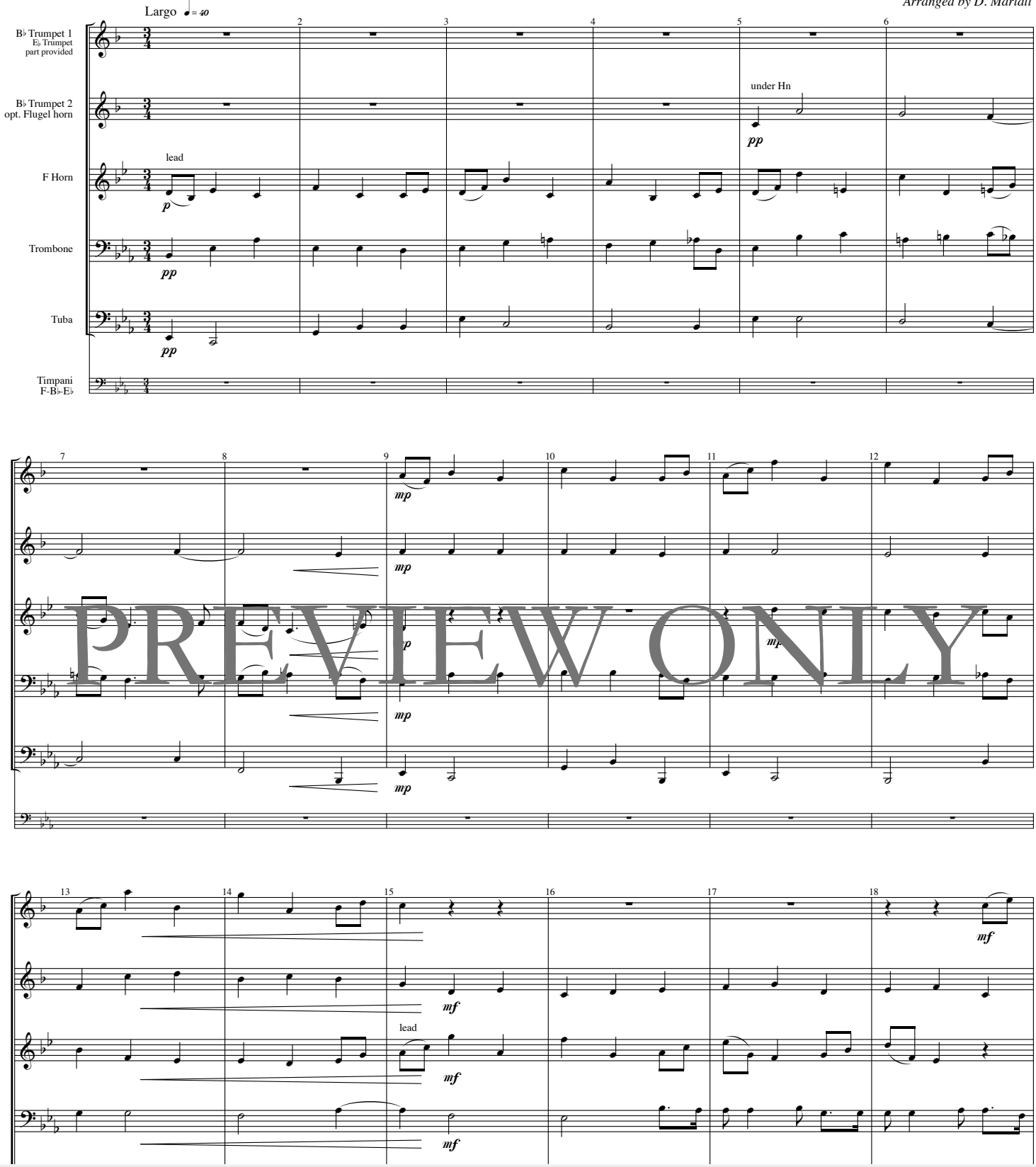
for Ken Lewis

ENIGMA VARIATION No. 9
Nimrod

E. Elgar
(1857-1934)
Arranged by D. Marlatt



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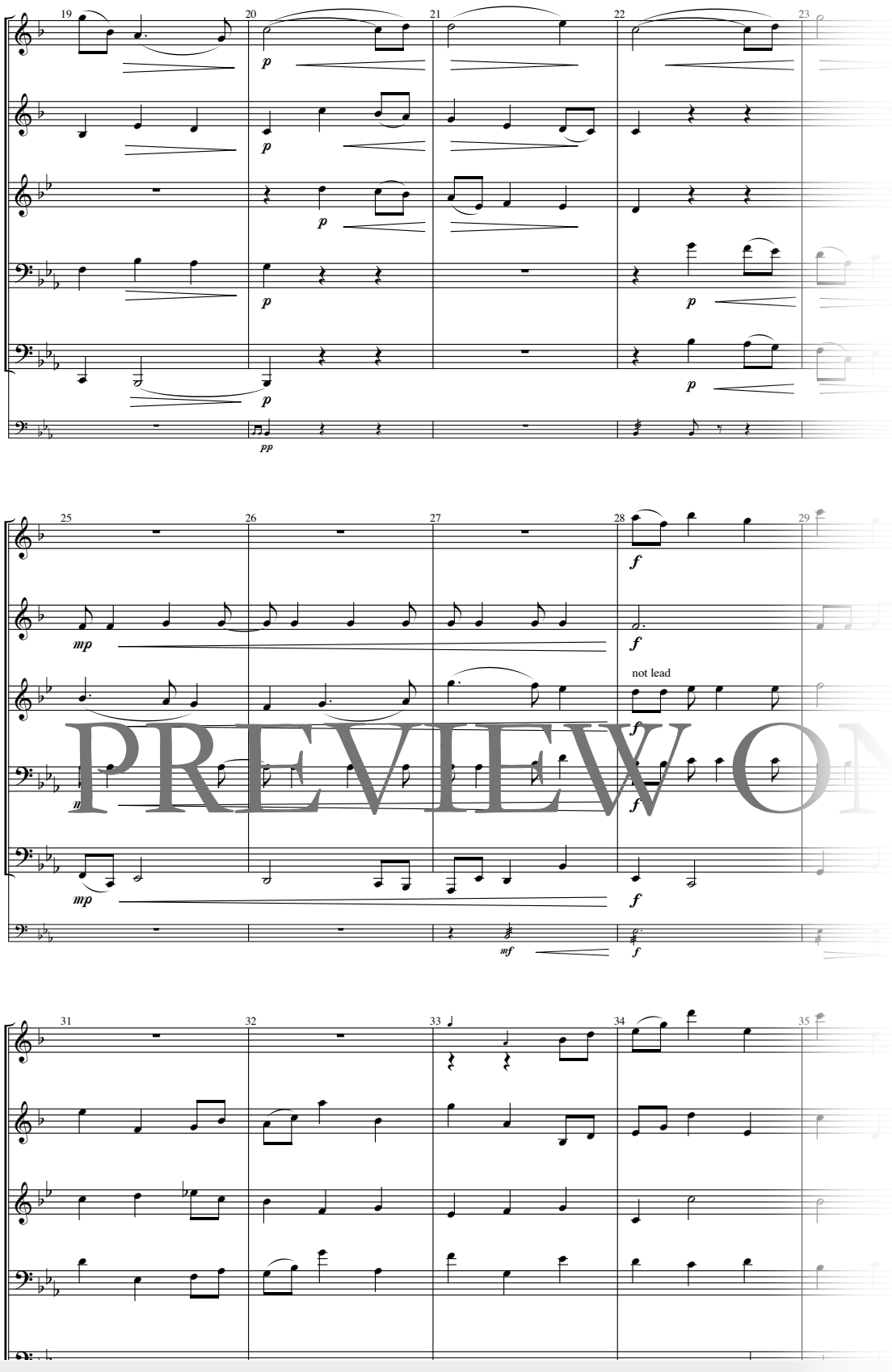

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