music from NAGAMO

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ANDREW BALFOUR

Ambe Anishinaabeg

musica printima

music from
NAGAMO

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Andrew Balfour | 2022

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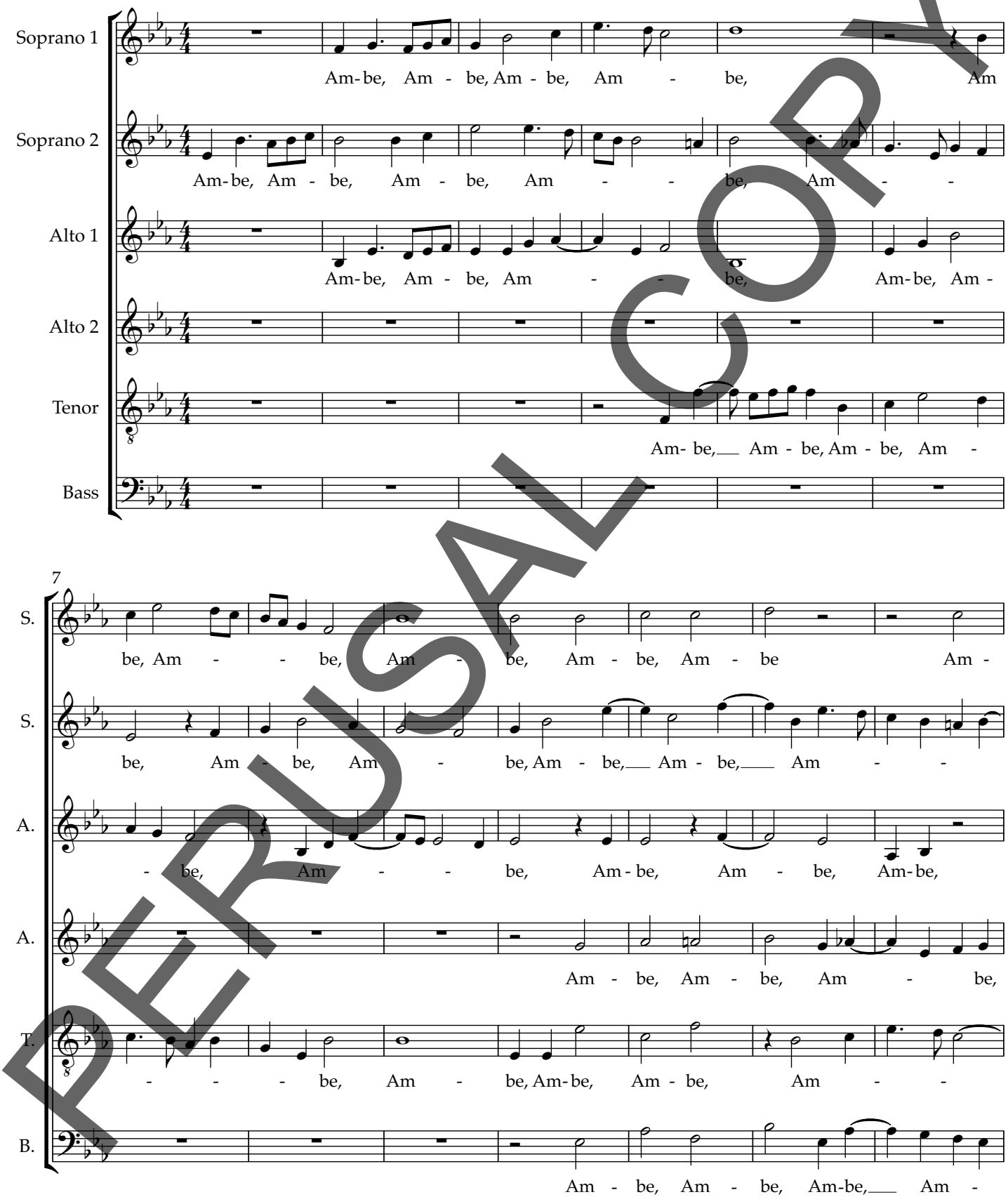
Ambe Anishinaabeg

Music by William Byrd (1540-1623)
"Sing Joyfully"

Arr. Andrew Balfour
Ojibway text by Cory Campbell



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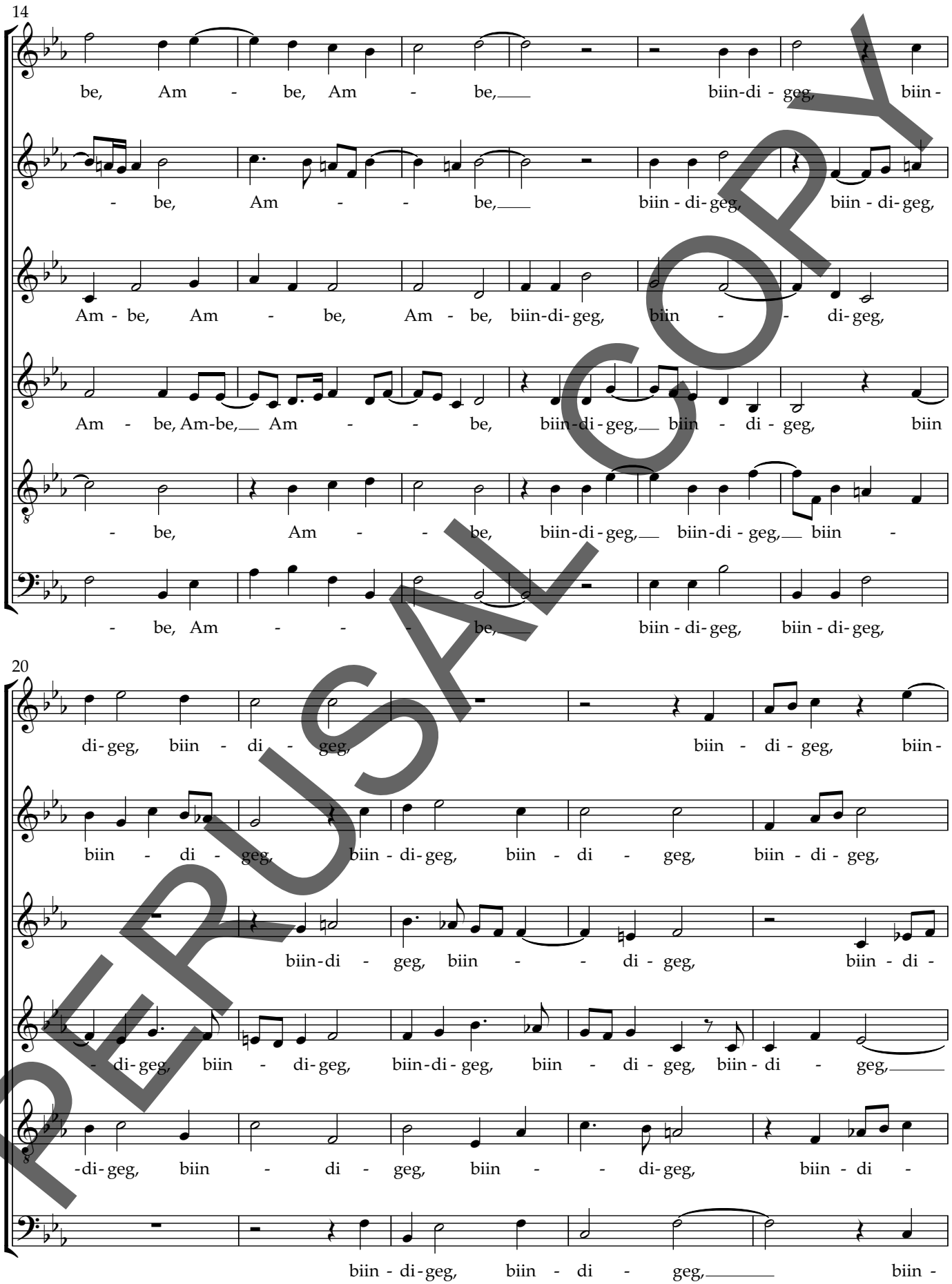
musica printima | mp-N009



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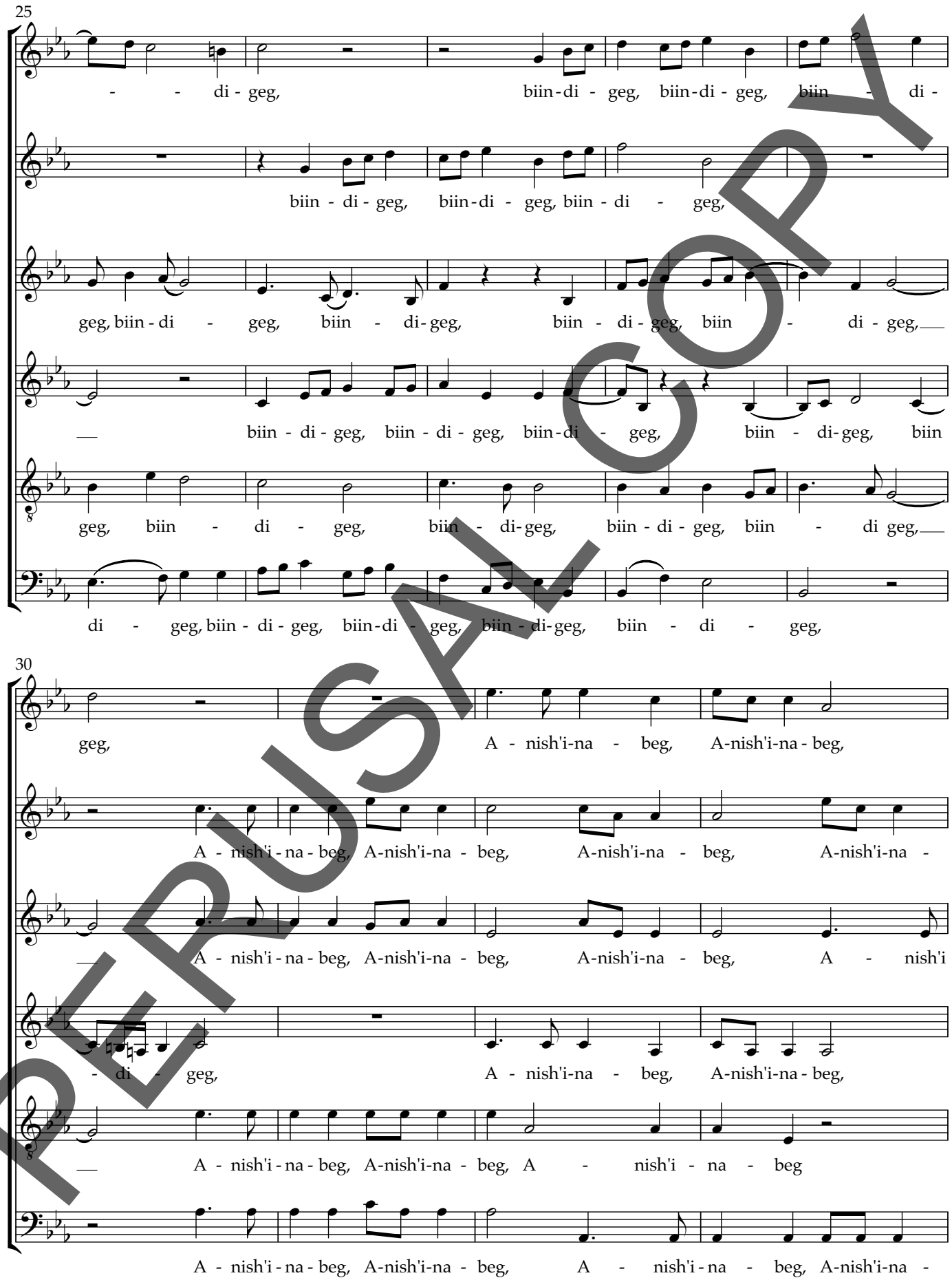

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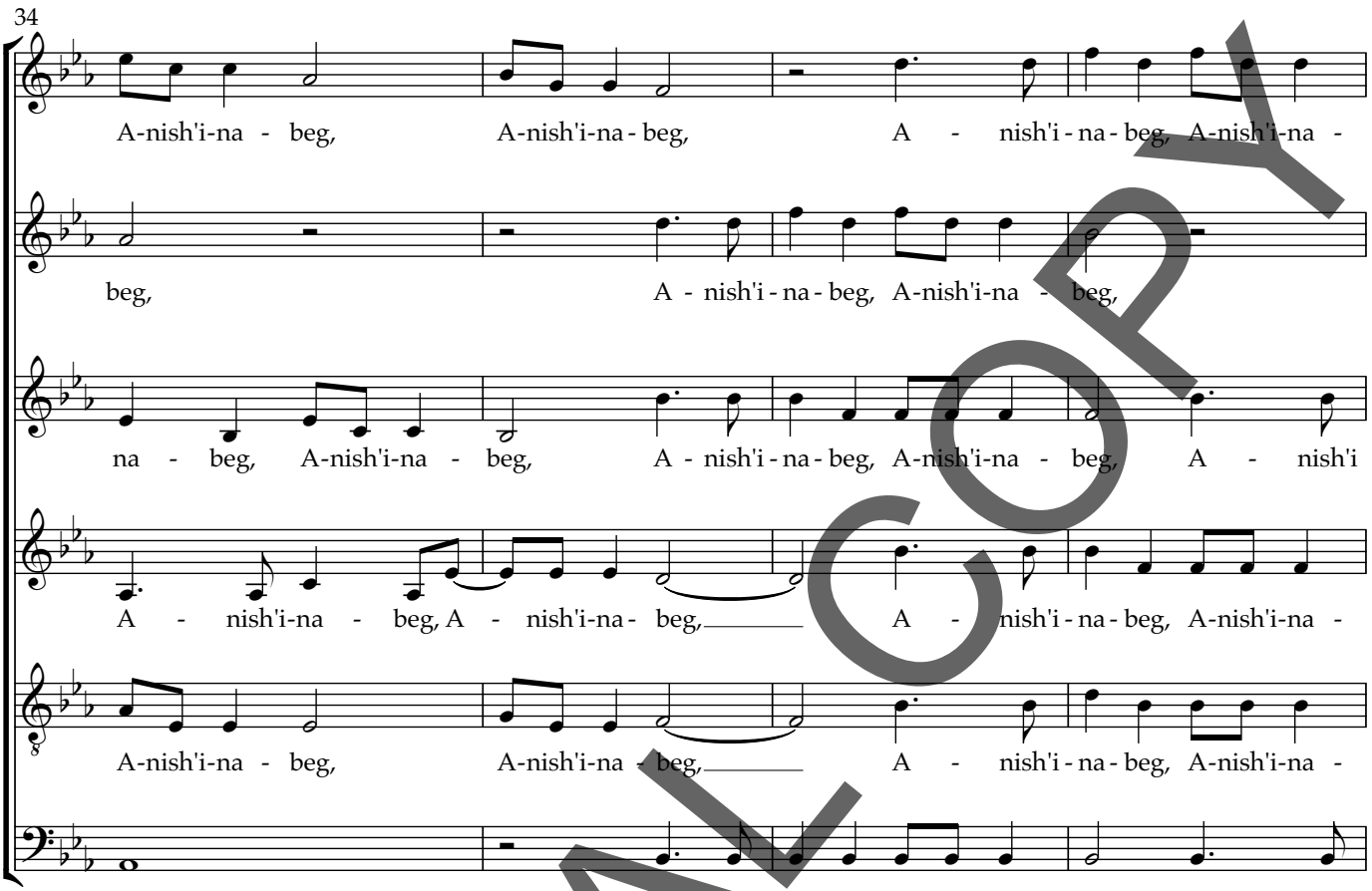

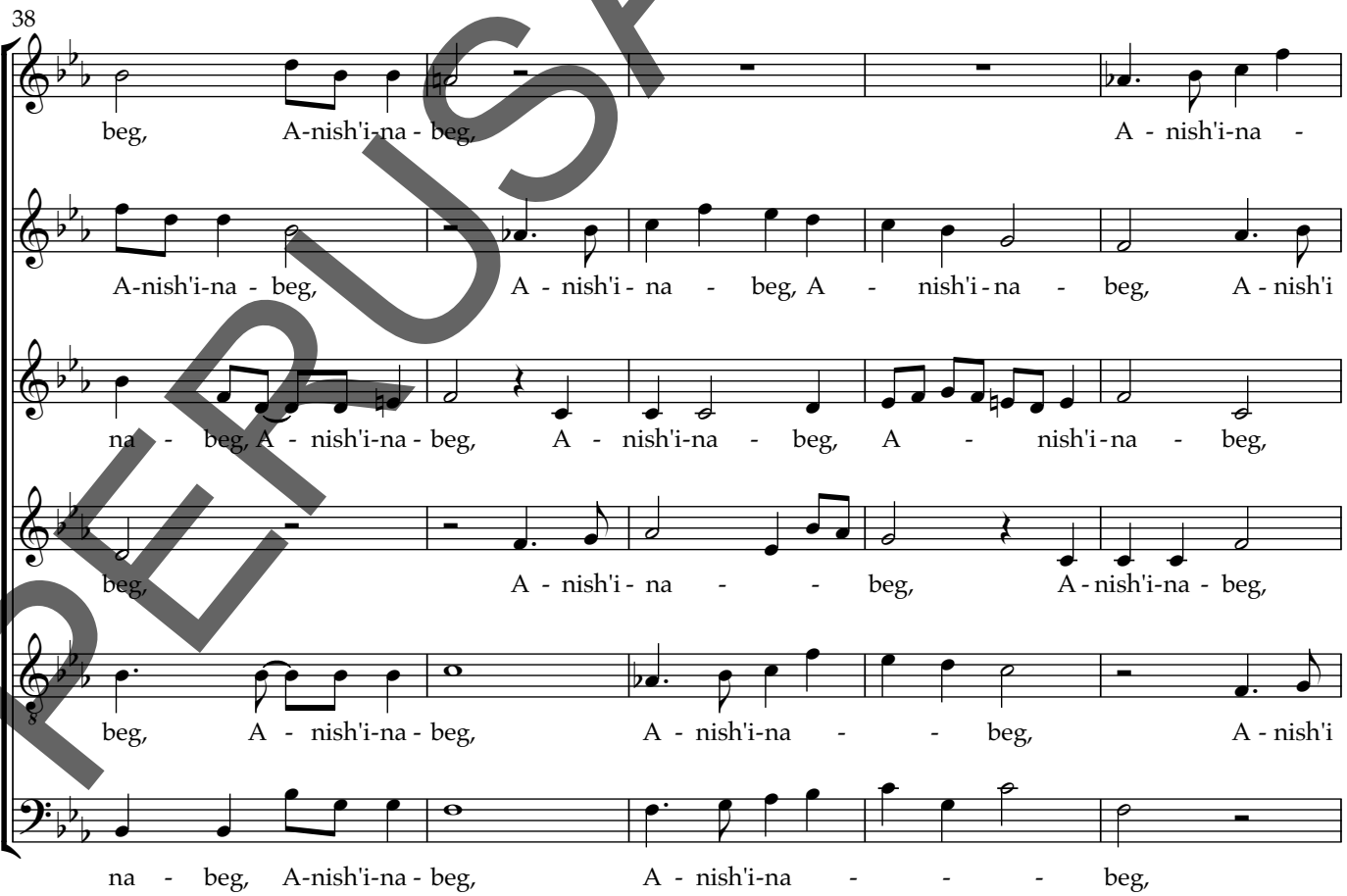

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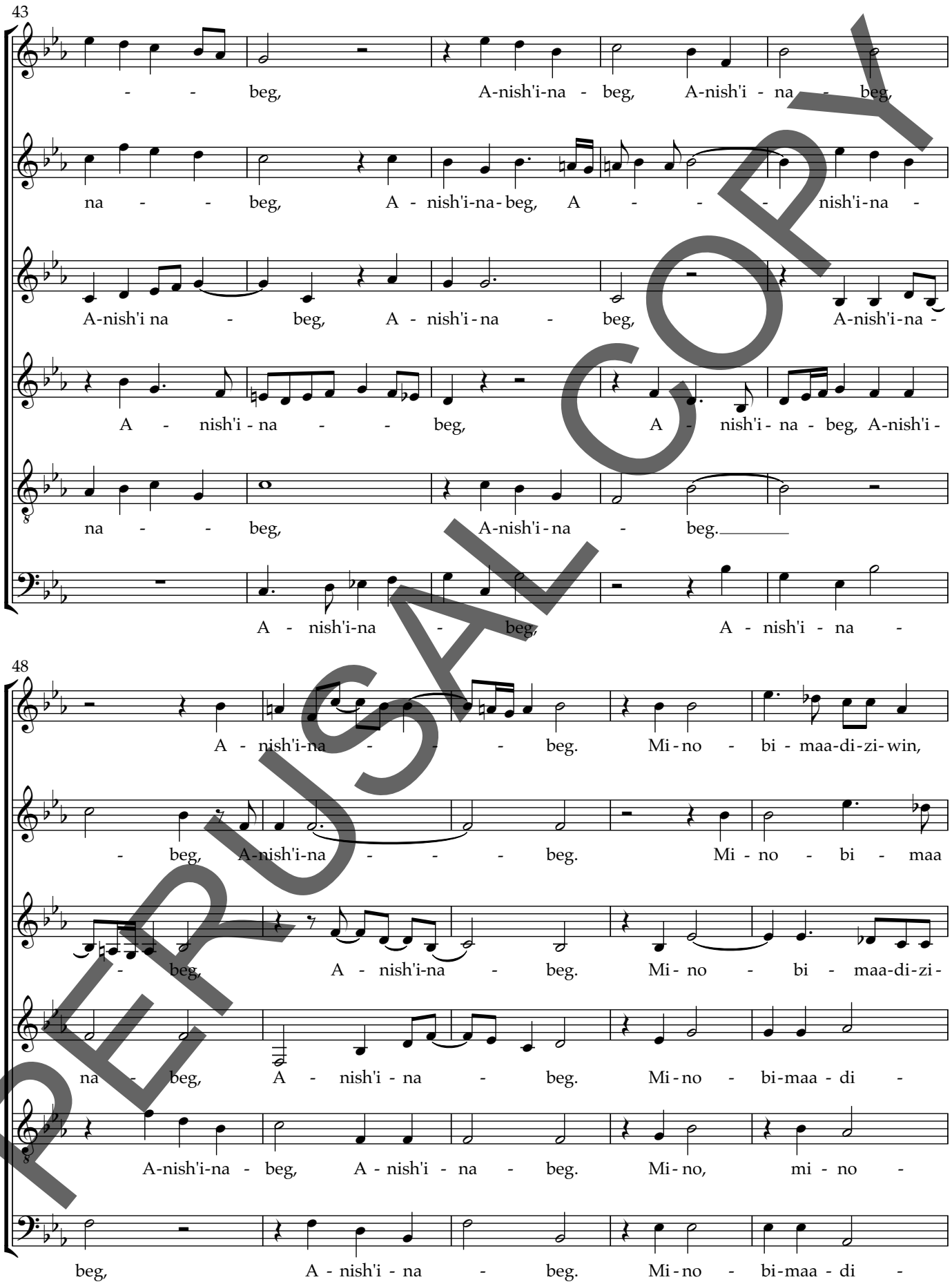

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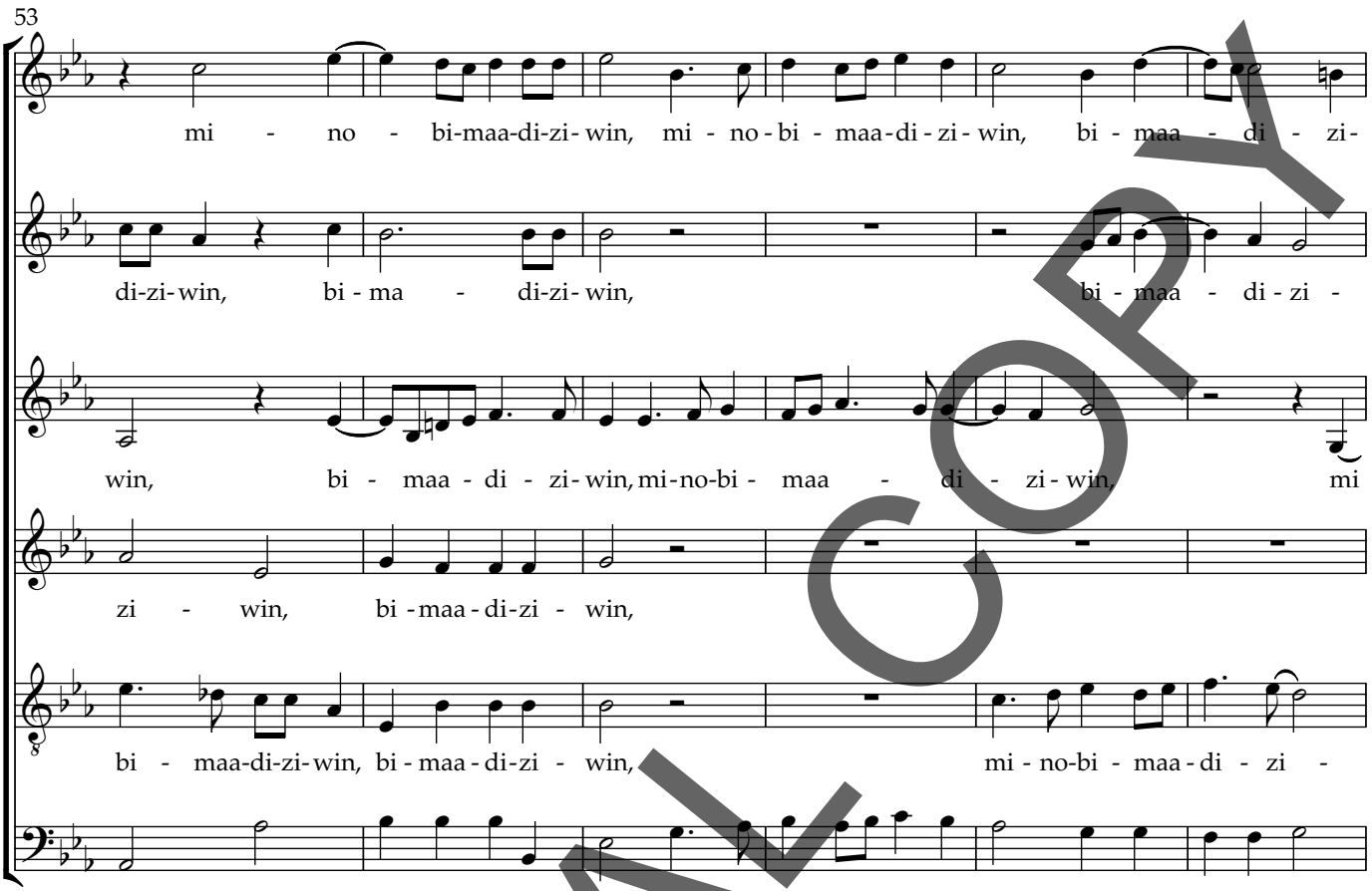

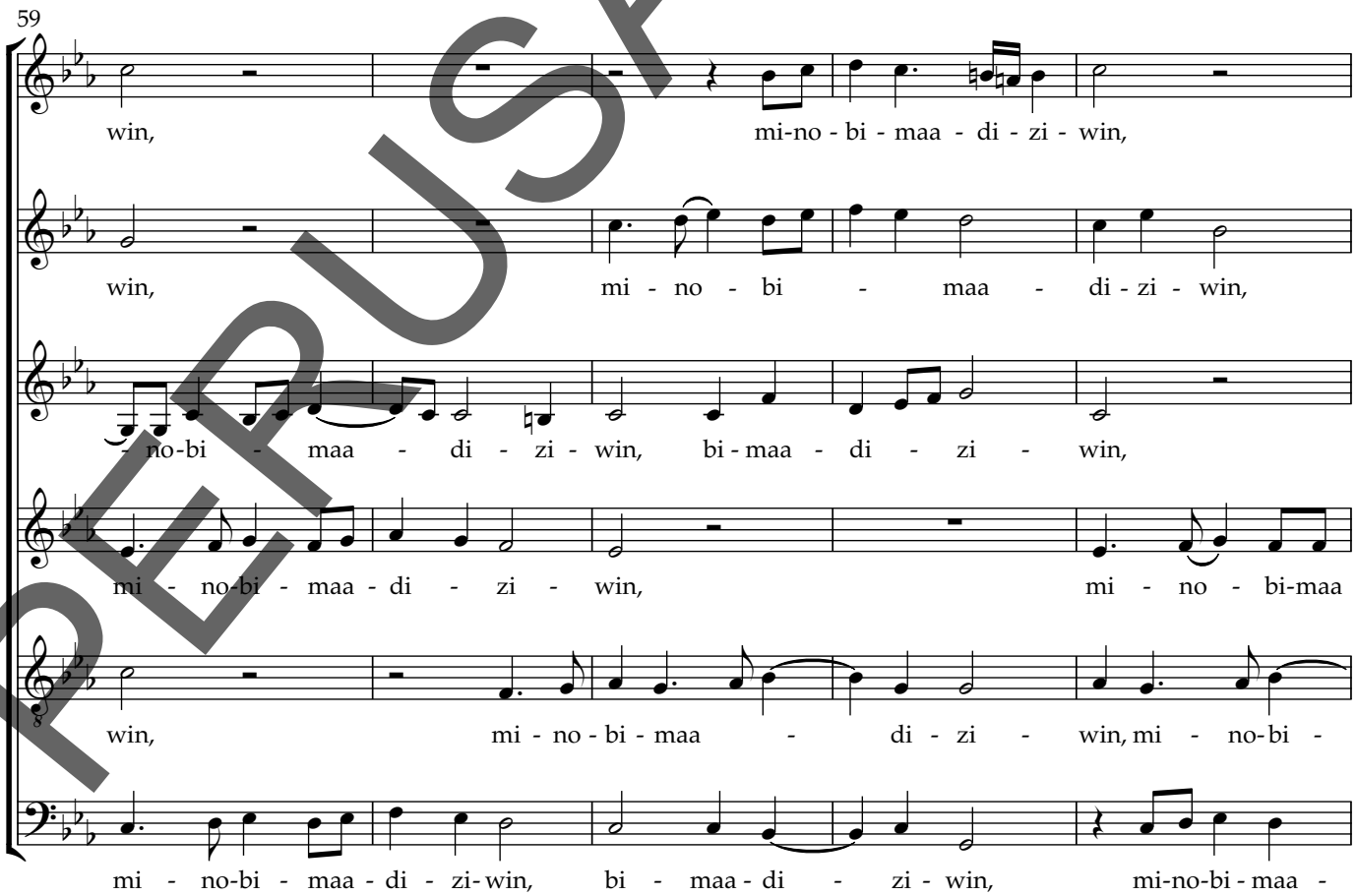

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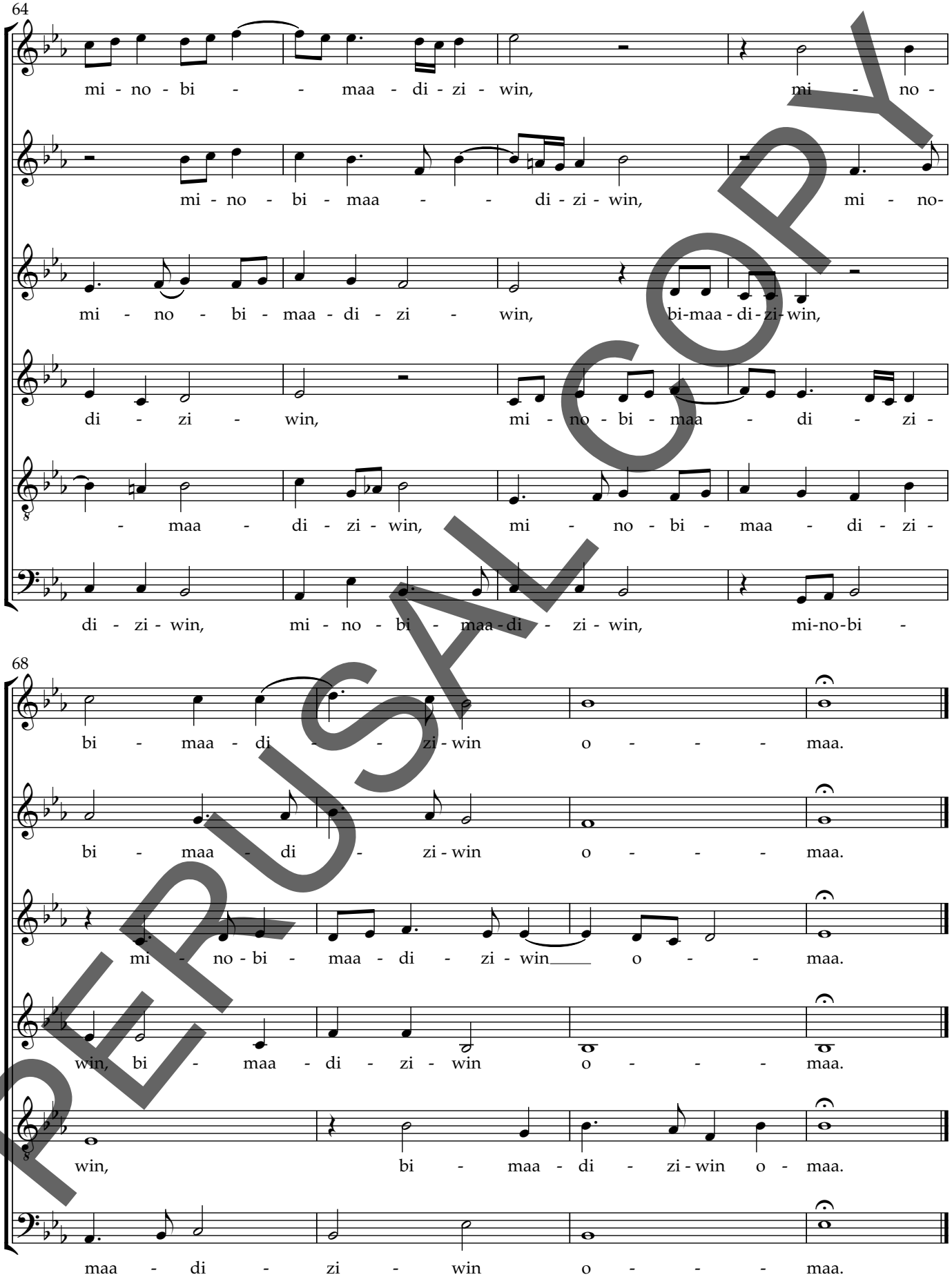

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TEXT, TRANSLATION, AND PRONUNCIATION

Ojibway	IPA	*English Translation*
Ambe, ambe Anishinaabeg	ʌm bɛ a niʃ hın ɑ bɛg	*Come in, two-legged beings*
biindigeg Anishinaabeg	bin dɪ gɛg a niʃ hın ɑ bɛg	*come in all people*
Mino-bimaadiziwin omaa.	mi no bi ma di zi wın o ma	*There is good life here.*
Ambe!	ʌm bɛ	*Come in!*

The consonants [k] [p] and [t] are pronounced softly in both Cree and Ojibway, not quite voiced or unvoiced, but similar to an unvoiced [g] [b] and [d].

ABOUT ANDREW BALFOUR

Of Cree descent, Andrew Balfour is an innovative composer/conductor/singer/sound designer with a large body of choral, instrumental, electro-acoustic and orchestral works.

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mp-N009 | Ambe Anishinaabeg (Byrd) | Andrew Balfour | SSAATB

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music from NAGAMO

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ANDREW BALFOUR

Four Directions

musica printima

music from

NAGAMO

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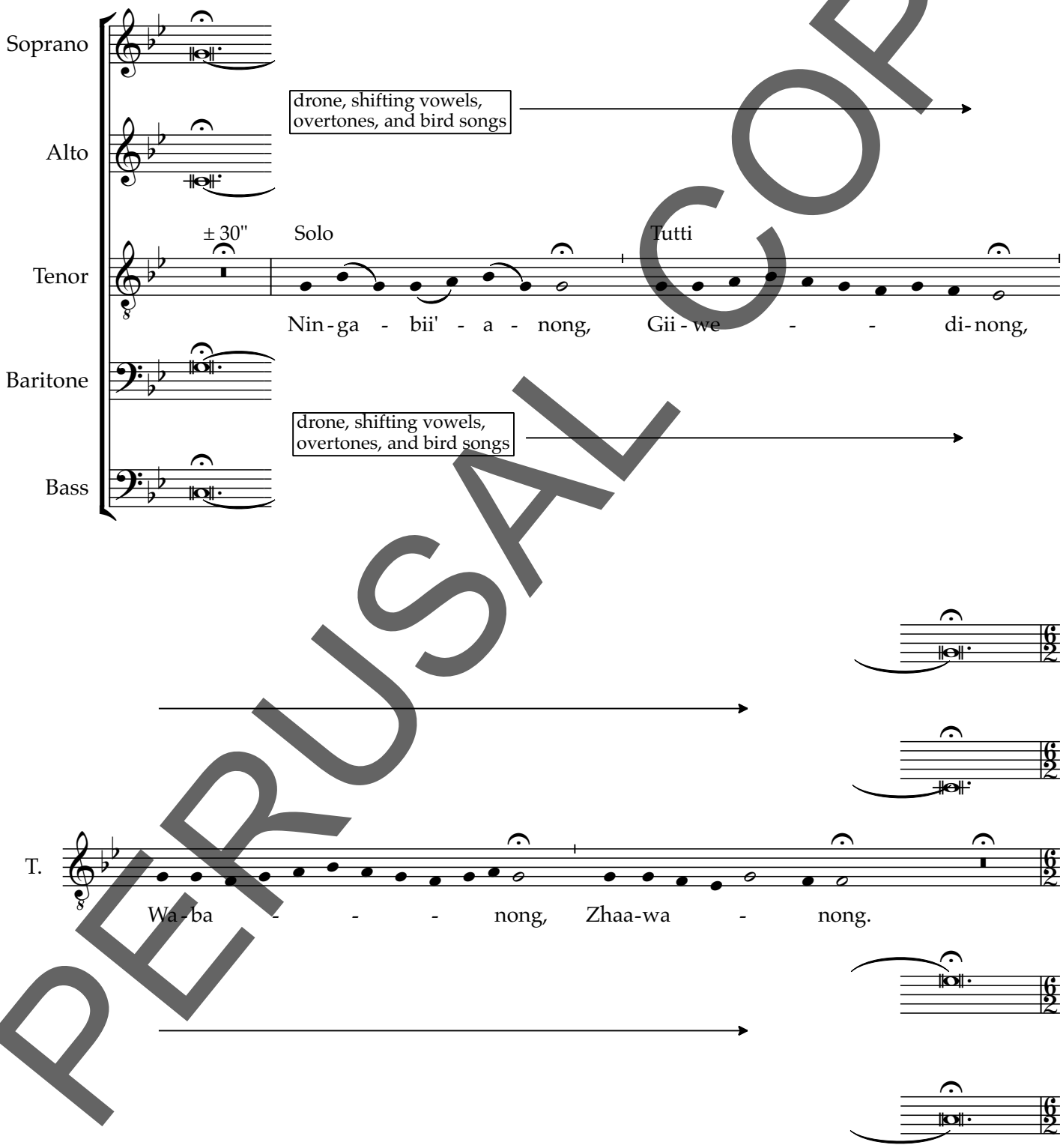
Four Directions

Music by Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)
"Te lucis ante terminum"

Arr. Andrew Balfour
Ojibway text by Andrew Balfour



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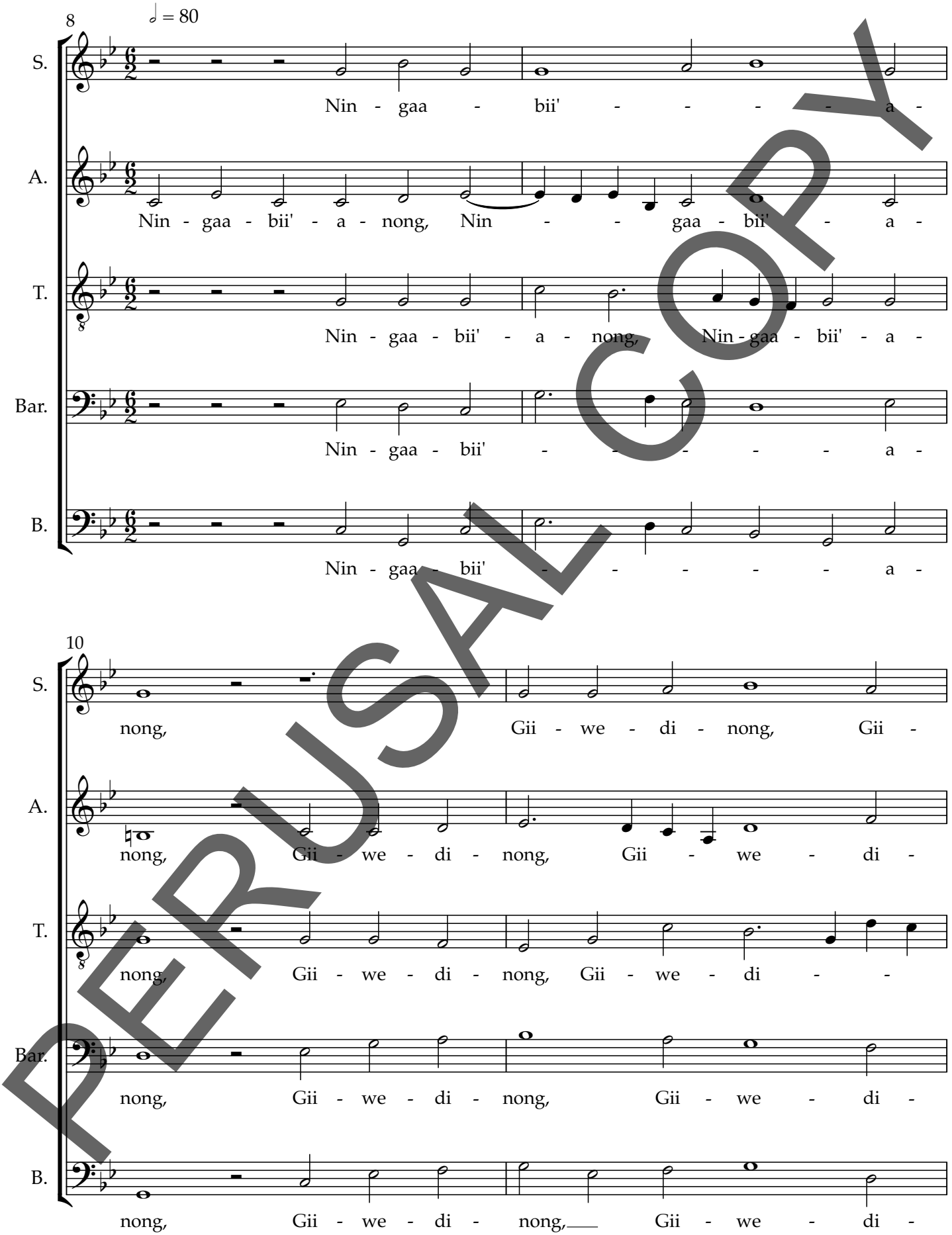

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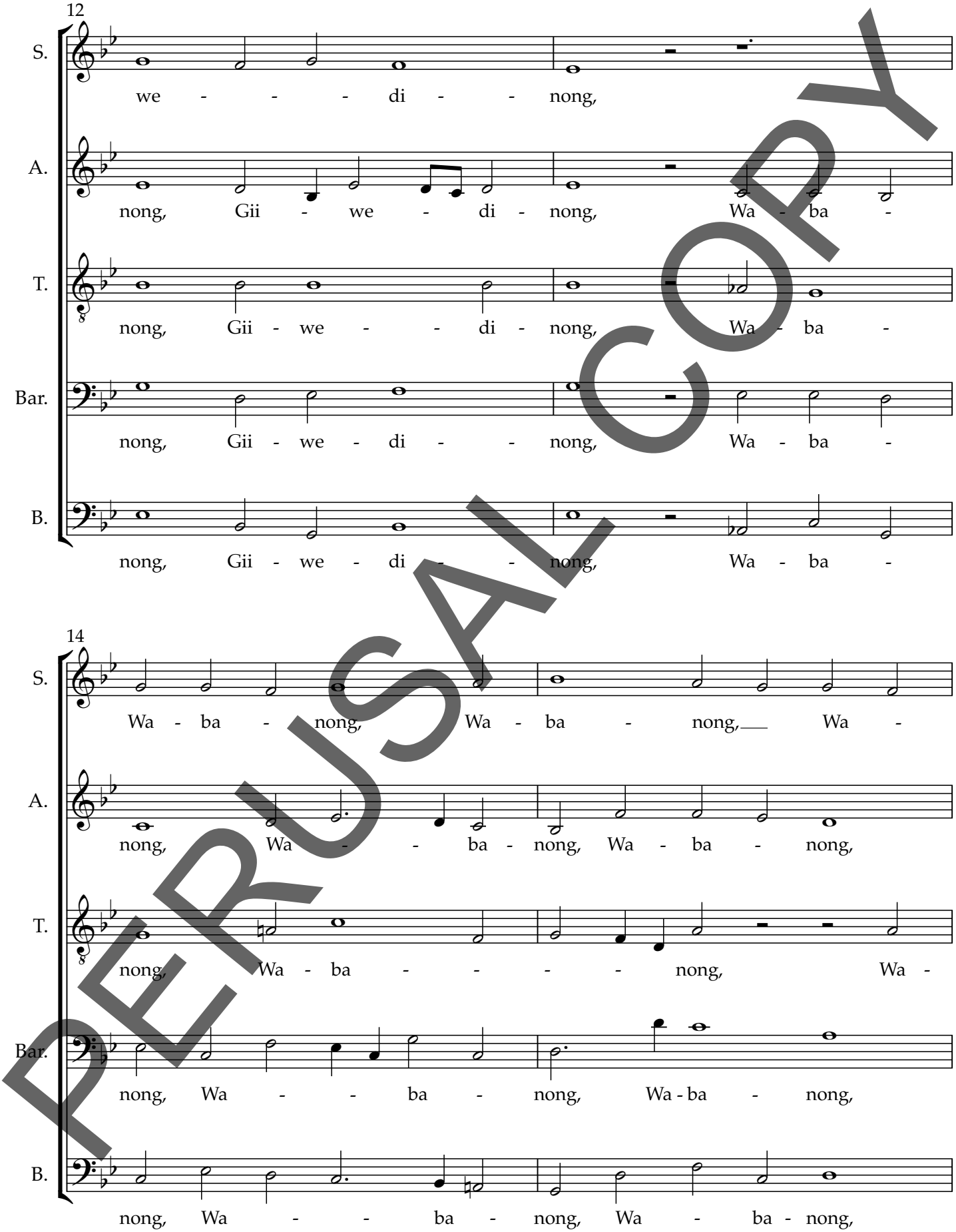

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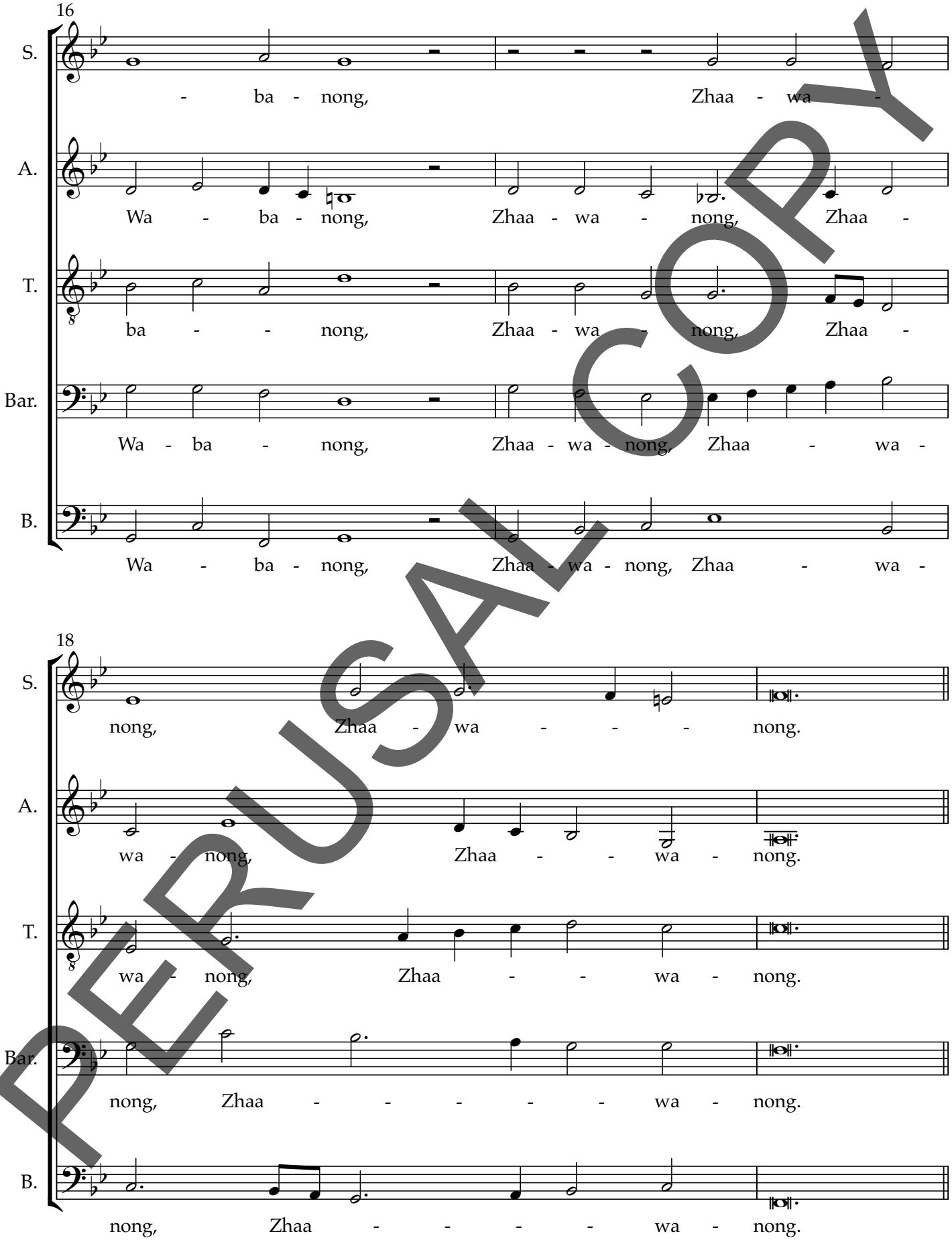

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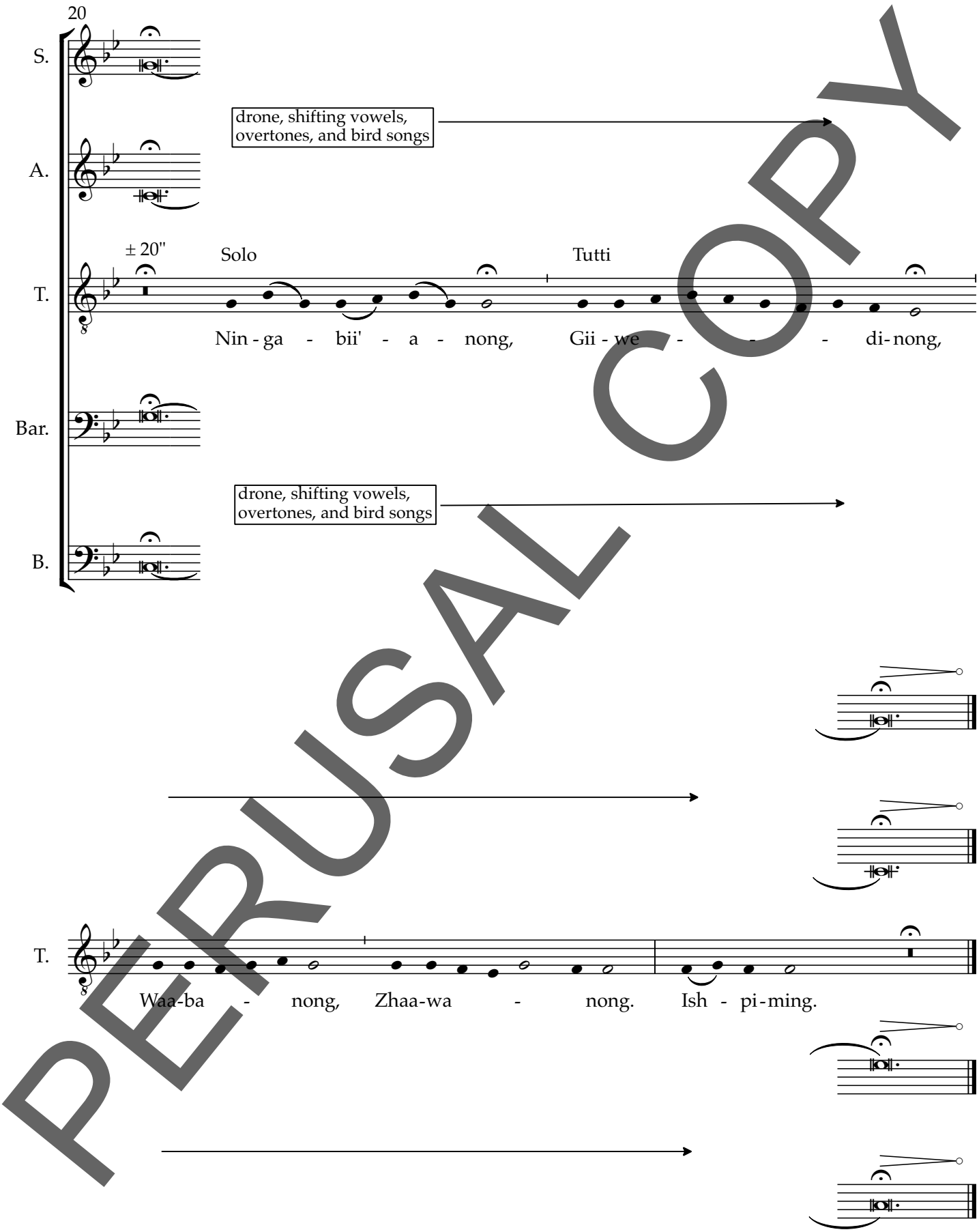

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TEXT, TRANSLATION, AND PRONUNCIATION

Ojibway Text	IPA	*English Translation*
Ningaabii'anong	nɪn ga bi ʔa nʌŋ	*West*
Giiwedinong	gi wɛ dɪ nʌŋ	*North*
Waabanong	wa ba nʌŋ	*East*
Zhaawanong	za wa nʌŋ	*South*
Ishpiming	iʃ pi mɪŋ	*Sky*

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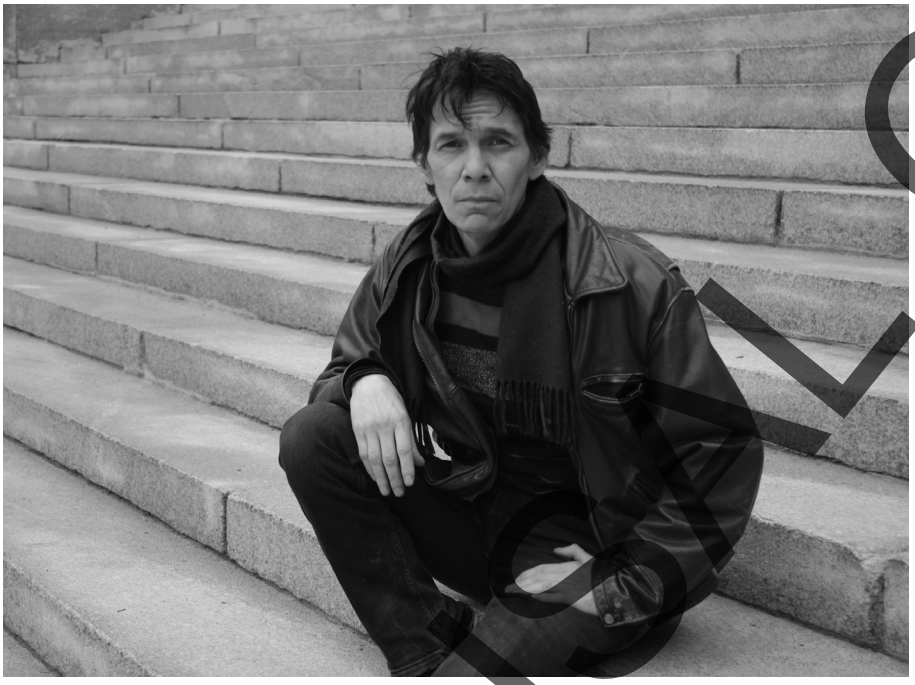

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mp-N002 | Four Directions | Andrew Balfour | SATBarB

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ANDREW BALFOUR

Ispiciwin

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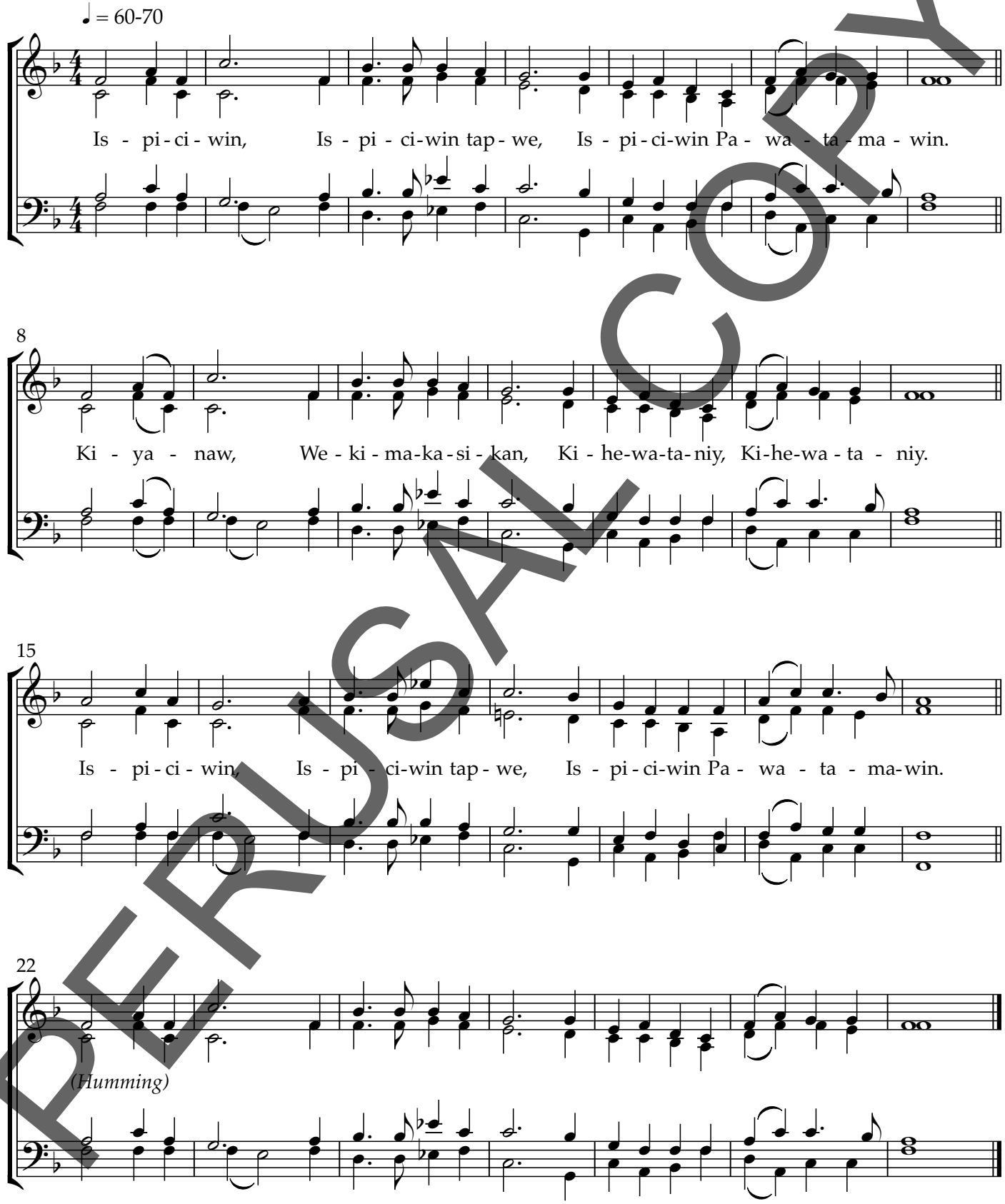
Ispiciwin (Journey)

Music: Orlando Gibbons (1582-1625)
"Drop, Drop Slow Tears"

Arr. Andrew Balfour
Cree text by Andrew Balfour



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TEXT, TRANSLATION, AND PRONUNCIATION

Ispiciwin	ɪs pi tʃi wɪn	*Journey*
Ispiciwin Tapwe	ɪs pi tʃi wɪn tap wɛ	*Journey of truth*
Ispiciwin Pawatawawin	ɪs pi tʃi wɪn pa wa ta ma wɪn	*Journey of dreams*
Kiyanaw	ki ja na	*Us*
Wekimakasikan	wɛ ki ma ka si kan	*Smudge*
Kihewataniy	ki hɛ wa ta ni	*Eagle Feather*

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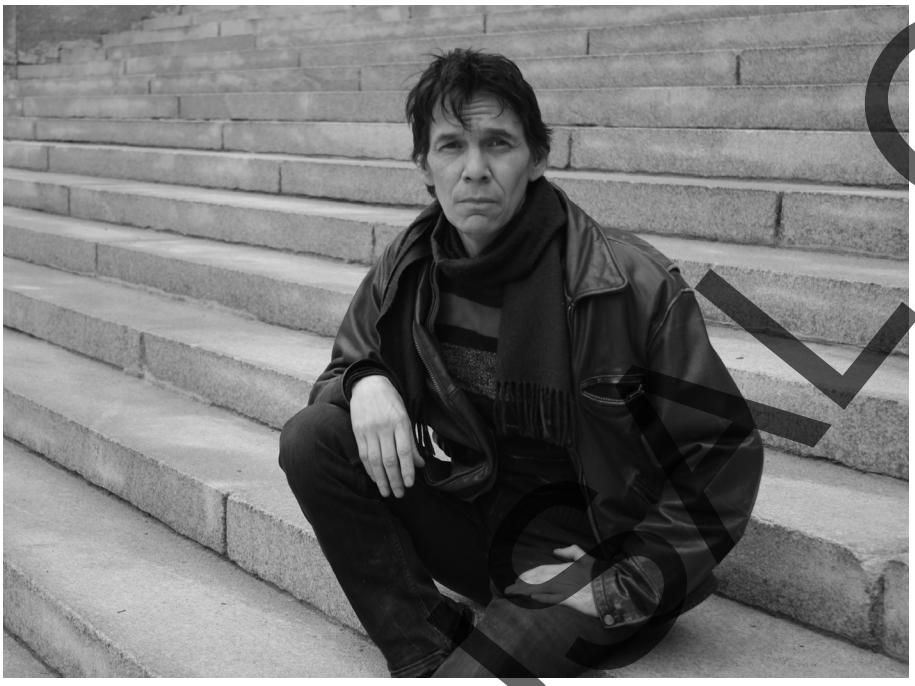

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mp-N003 | Ispiciwin | Andrew Balfour | SATB

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mp-N006 | Omaa Biindig | Andrew Balfour | SAATTB

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Omaa Biindig

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Omaa Biindig

Written for ECHO: Memories of the World (2021)
Gryphon Trio & Nordic Voices

Ojibway text by
Andrew Balfour

Andrew Balfour

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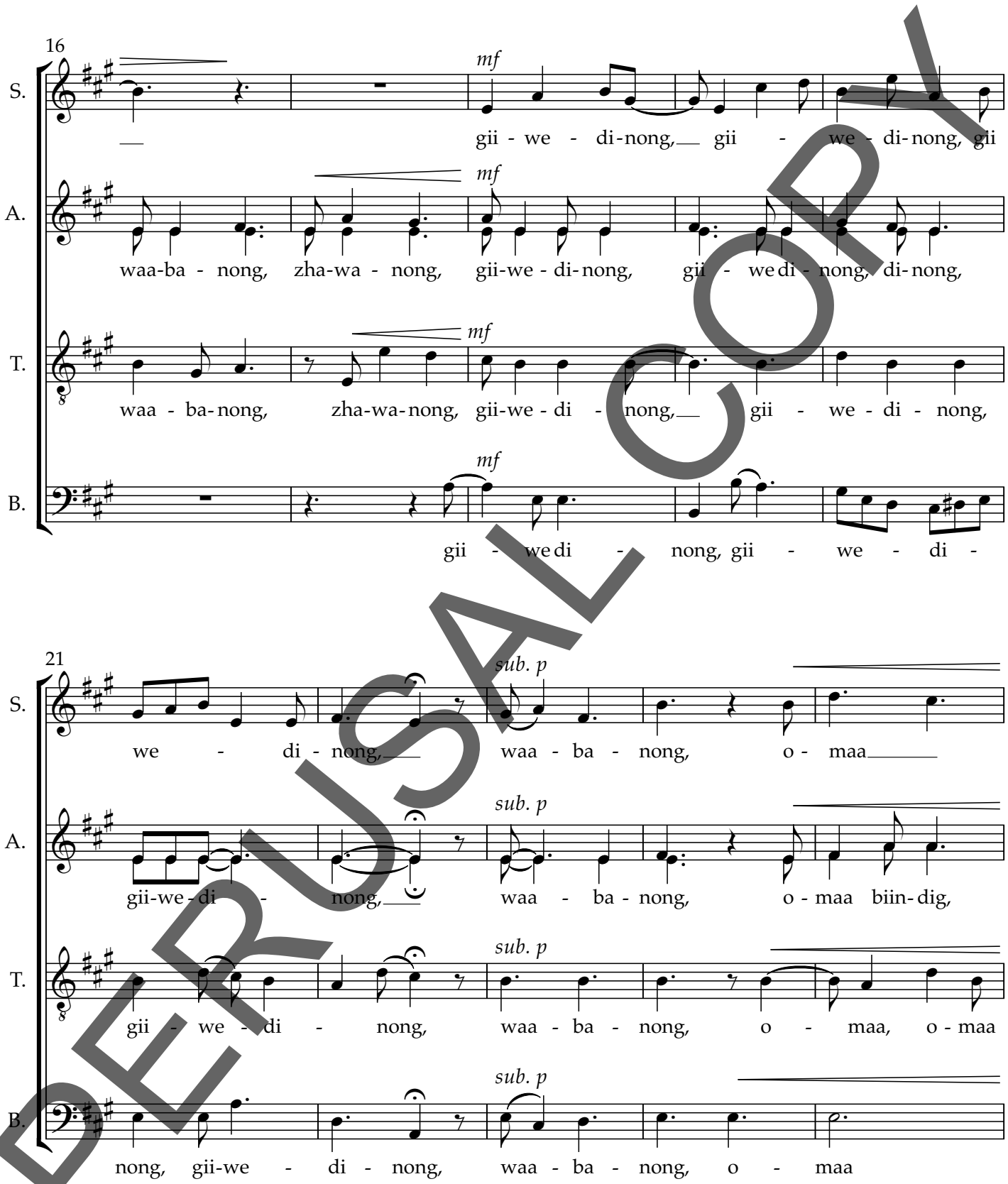
revised with Ojibway Text 2021
musica printima | mp-N006



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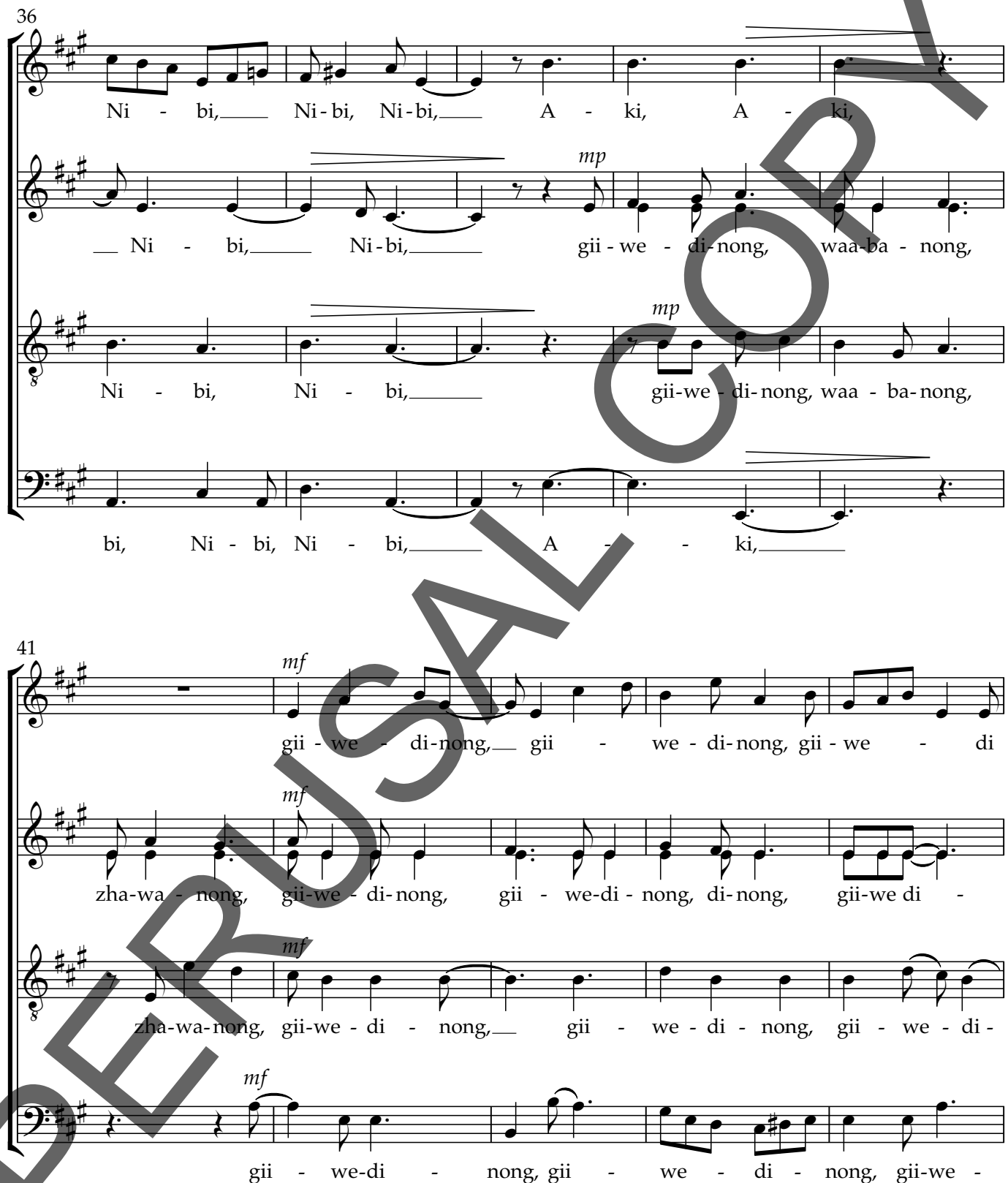

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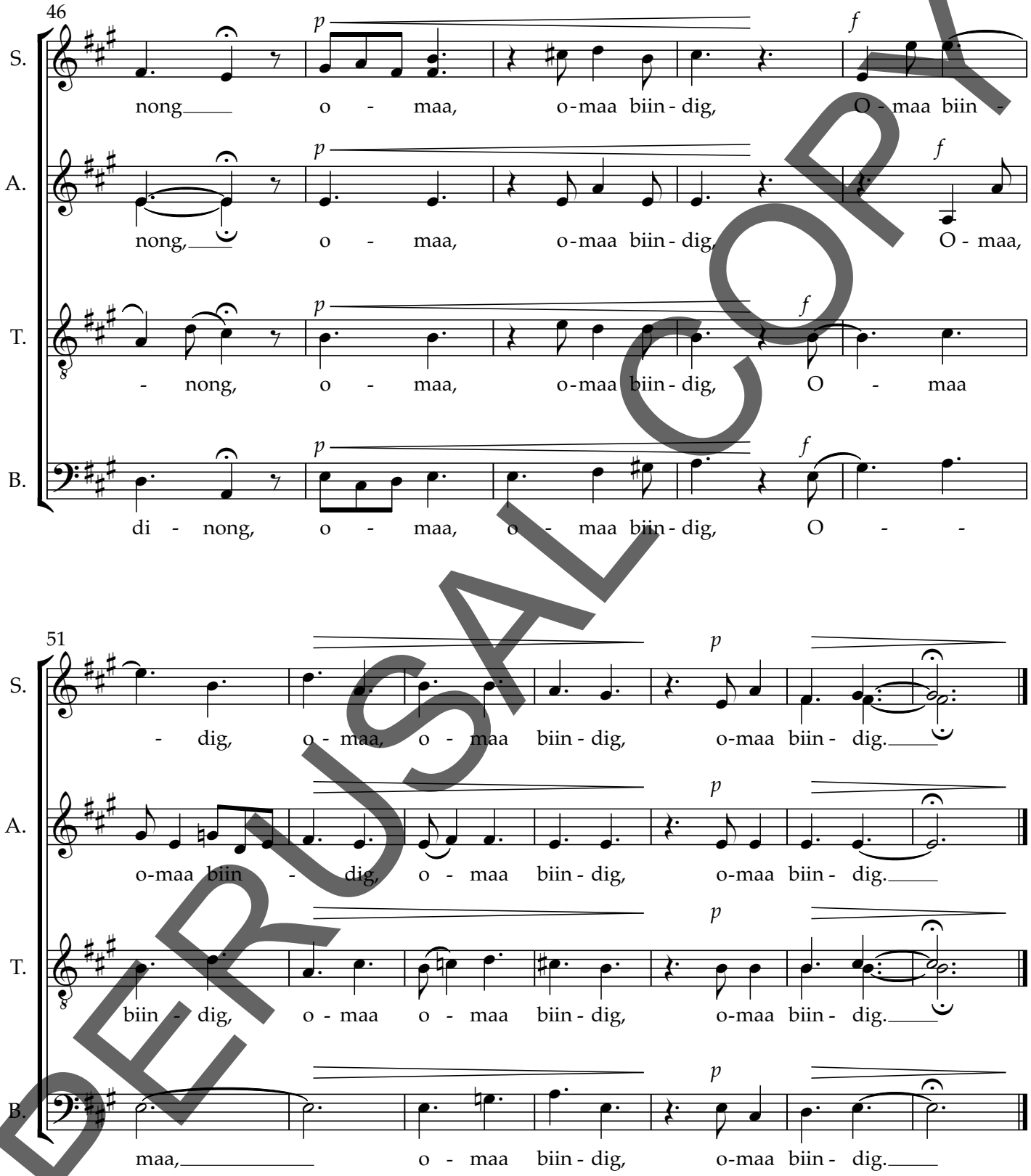

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Ojibway Text	IPA	*English Translation*
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Waabanong	wa ba nʌŋ	*East*
Zhawanong	za wa nʌŋ	*South*
Aki	a ki	*Earth*
Omaa biindig	o ma bin dɪg	*Here inside*

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Andrew's works have been performed and/or broadcast locally, nationally and internationally. He has been commissioned by the Winnipeg, Regina and Toronto Symphony Orchestras, Ensemble Caprice, Groundswell, the Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra, the Winnipeg Singers, the Kingston Chamber Choir, Roomful of Teeth, Tafelmusik and Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, among others. Andrew is also the founder and Artistic Director of the innovative vocal group Dead of Winter (formerly Camerata Nova), now in its 25th year of offering a concert series in Winnipeg. With Dead of Winter, Andrew specializes in creating "concept concerts," many with Indigenous subject matter (Wa Wa Tey Wak [Northern Lights], Medieval Inuit, Fallen). These innovative offerings explore a theme through an eclectic array of music, including new works, arrangements and inter-genre and interdisciplinary collaborations.

Andrew has become increasingly passionate about music education and outreach, particularly on northern reserves and inner-city Winnipeg schools where he has worked on behalf of the National Arts Centre, Dead of Winter, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and various Winnipeg school divisions. Andrew was Curator and Composer-in-Residence of the WSO's inaugural Indigenous Festival, and in 2017, he was awarded a Gold Medal by the Senate of Canada for his contribution to Canada's Indigenous and music communities.

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music from NAGAMO

ANDREW BALFOUR

Awasis

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"Awasis" will be available August 1!

musica printima

music from
NAGAMO

Nagamo ("Sings" in Ojibway), is a project that has been on my mind for several years.

As a former choir boy brought up in the high Anglican choral tradition, growing up singing the glorious choral music of Tallis, Byrd, Gibbons, and Purcell, and traveling to England several times singing in English Cathedrals made lasting impressions on me. As a 60's scooper, I was taken away from my Indigenous family when I was a baby, but luckily was raised in a loving and very musical family. I have spent most of my life trying to identify my Indigenous blood, culture and language. Through my composing and collaboration with Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists it has been a beautiful *Ispiciwin* (journey).

Nagamo is a reimagining of history. By taking choral music of the Elizabethan masters and other later choral music, I have reshaped the thoughts behind the texts, by changing the Latin to Ojibway or Cree perspectives. These are not direct translations of the sacred texts, rather a more Indigenous perspective of spirituality, but keeping the beauty of the polyphony intact.

In this fragile time in history, in the relationship between settler Canada and the Indigenous people of Turtle Island, I feel ***Nagamo*** was a powerful and important step in reconciliation and healing. As well, I'd like to think this is only the first step of many more towards a deeper understanding of Indigenous healing and artistic perspectives on Mother Earth now, and in the future. Chi Miigwetch.

"Awasis" (Child) was written in 2022 and was commissioned by musica intima, University of Manitoba, Western University and Shallaway Youth Choir, for the NAGAMO national tour of March 2022. I consider this composition a sound prayer dedicated to the memory of the little ones that were taken away from their family, community, and blood, never to return. It's in memory of them being free in the spirit world, being loved, and being protected by our ancestors. Our love will always be with them. Kakike (Always, forever).

Andrew Balfour | 2022

MORE MUSIC FROM NAGAMO:

mp-N001	AMBE ANISHINAABEG (BALFOUR, AFTER WEELKES)
mp-N002	FOUR DIRECTIONS (BALFOUR, AFTER TALLIS)
mp-N003a	ISPICIWIN - SSAA (BALFOUR, AFTER GIBBONS)
mp-N005	WHAT POW'R ART THOU? (BALFOUR, AFTER PURCELL)
mp-N006	OMAA BIINDIG (BALFOUR)

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Many years in the dreams of ensemble singers, musica printima was formally established in 2022, as a composer-centric, exclusively digital publisher. With a small but spectacular catalogue of music commissioned by, written for, or performed by musica intima, the imprint exists to ensure that composers intentions are honoured in the publishing of their works, and that the profits find their way back to the composer, without the publisher interfering. 80% of earnings from musica printima sales go to the composer - without whom, these works would never have come to life. Please support their art by not photocopying this music.

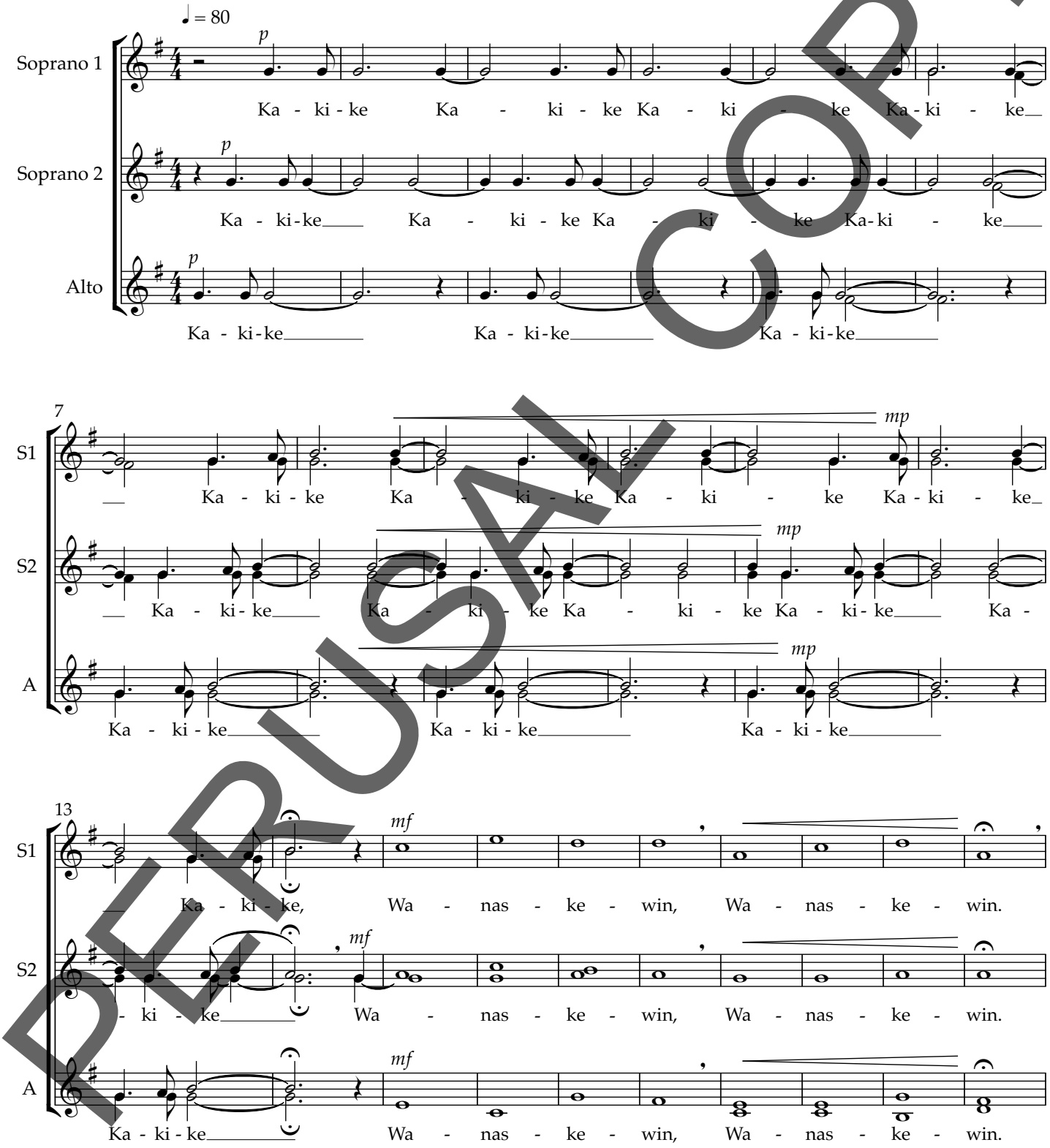
Awasis

Written for the NAGAMO Tour (2023)

co-commissioned by musica intima, University of Manitoba and Elroy Friesen, Western University and Tracy Wong, and Shallaway Youth Choir and Kellie Walsh

Cree text by Andrew Balfour

Andrew Balfour



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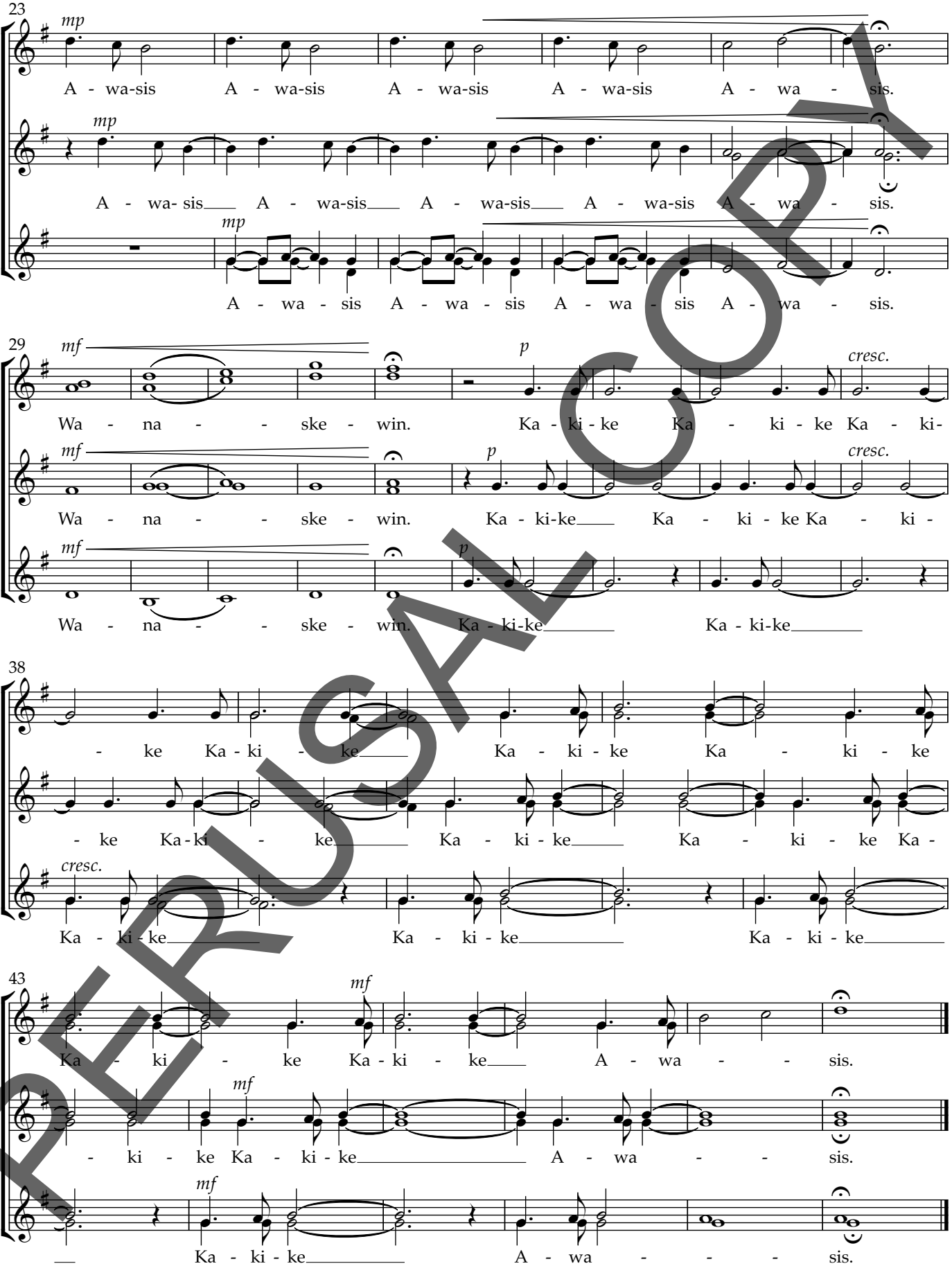
musica printima | mp-N008



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TEXT, TRANSLATION, AND PRONUNCIATION

Cree	IPA	*English Translation*
Kakike	ka ki kɛ	*Always, forever and ever*
Wanaskewin	wa na skɛ win	*Being at peace with oneself*
Awasis	a wa sis	*Child*

The consonants [k] [p] and [t] are pronounced softly in both Cree and Ojibway, not quite voiced or unvoiced, but similar to an unvoiced [g] [b] and [d].

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