

# Liminal

(2016)

John Mackey

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Commissioned by  
The United States Air Force Band

Larry H. Lang, Col., Commander and Conductor

In celebration of their 75th Anniversary

## Instrumentation

Piccolo  
4 Flutes  
2 Oboes  
2 Bassoons  
Contrabassoon

Eb Clarinet  
4 Bb Clarinets  
2 Bass Clarinets  
Contrabass Clarinet (Bb)

Soprano Saxophone  
Alto Saxophone  
Tenor Saxophone  
Baritone Saxophone

4 Trumpets in C  
4 French Horns  
3 Tenor Trombones  
Bass Trombone  
Euphonium  
Tuba

Piano

6 Percussionists (see key below)

Player 1: Xylophone  
Player 2: Marimba  
Player 3: 5 tom-toms and a small bongo  
Player 4: Hi-hat & 4 suspended cymbals (sus. crash, splash, Efx, and China)  
Player 5: Djembe, small bass drum, and whip  
Player 6: Large bass drum

The musical score consists of two staves. Player 3's staff has four measures. The first measure shows a single note on the first line, followed by three notes on the second line. A bracket below these three notes is labeled "5 tom-toms". The second measure shows a single note on the first line. A bracket below it is labeled "small bongo". Player 4's staff has five measures. The first two measures show "sus. crash" and "China" cymbals respectively, indicated by an "X" on each staff. The third measure shows an "EfX" cymbal, indicated by an "X". The fourth measure shows a "splash" cymbal, indicated by an "X". The fifth measure shows a "hi-hat" cymbal, indicated by an "X". Brackets below the first two measures are labeled "sus. crash" and "China". Brackets below the third and fourth measures are labeled "EfX" and "splash". Brackets below the fifth measure are labeled "sticks" and "foot".

*for the United States Air Force Band in celebration of their 75th Anniversary*

## Liminal

John Mackey

**♩ = 124**

58

58

58

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$\text{♩} = 124$

$\text{♩} = 124$

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*p*

**A**

(3+3+3+2)

Picc. Fl. 1-2 Fl. 3-4 Ob. Bsn. C. Bn.

5 8 2 4 11 16 5 11 16

E. Cl. Clar. 1-2 Clar. 3-4 Bs. Cl. Cb. Cl.

5 8 2 4 11 16 5 11 16

S. Sx. A. Sx. T. Sx. B. Sx.

5 8 2 4 11 16 5 11 16

Tpt. 1-2 Tpt. 3-4 Horn 1-2 Horn 3-4 Tbn. 1 Tbn. 2 Eup. Tuba

con sord. : stopped mute

a 2

5 8 2 4 11 16 5 11 16

con sord. : harmon. with stem

ff

DB Pno.

5 8 2 4 11 16 5 11 16

Xylo. Mba. Cymb. 6 Toms Djembe Large BD

5 8 2 4 11 16 5 11 16

p mp p mf p mp

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**A**

(3+3+3+2)







A detailed musical score page for orchestra and piano, spanning measures 11 through 16. The score is organized into multiple staves, each representing a different instrument or group of instruments. Key dynamics include frequent fortissimos (ff), ffz (stingers), and ffps. Performance instructions like 'staccatos extremely short!', 'poco a poco cresc.', and 'con sord.: straight' are scattered throughout. The instrumentation includes Picc., Flutes 1-2, Flutes 3-4, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon/C. Bass, Saxophones, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Bass Saxophone, Trombones 1-2, Trombones 3-4, Horns 1-2, Horns 3-4, Trombones 1, Trombones 2, Trombones 3-4, Euphonium, Tuba, Double Bass, Piano, Xylophone, Mbira, Cymbals, Six Tom Drums, Small Bass Drum, and Large Bass Drum. An orange watermark reading 'for personal use only' is diagonally overlaid across the page.

**E**

Picc.

Fl. 1-2

Fl. 3-4

Ob.

Bsn.

C. Bn.

El. Cl.

Clar. 1-2

Clar. 3-4

Bs. Cl.

Cb. Cl.

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

**E**

Tpt. 1-2

Tpt. 3-4

Horn 1-2

Horn 3-4

Tbn. I

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3-4

Euph.

Tuba

DB

Pno.

**E**

Xylo.

Mba.

Cymb.

6 Toms

Sml. B. Dr.

Large BD



A page from a musical score featuring a dense arrangement of 27 instrument parts. The instrumentation includes Picc., Flutes 1-2, Flutes 3-4, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet 1-2, Clarinet 3-4, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon Clarinet, Bassoon, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Bass Saxophone, Trumpet 1-2, Trumpet 3-4, Horn 1-2, Horn 3-4, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Trombone 3-4, Euphonium, Tuba, Double Bass, Piano, Xylophone, Mbira, Cymbals, Six Tom Drums, Small Bass Drum, and Large Bass Drum. The score is filled with musical notation, including measures with 7/8, 4/4, and 6/8 time signatures. Various dynamics like ff (fortissimo) and mf (mezzo-forte) are indicated throughout. A prominent orange watermark reading "for sale only" is diagonally overlaid across the page.

Sheet music for orchestra and piano, page 10. The score includes parts for Picc., Fl. 1-2, Fl. 3-4, Ob., Bsn., C. Bn., E♭ Cl., Clar. 1-2, Clar. 3-4, Bs. Cl., Cb. Cl., S. Sx., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. 1-2, Tpt. 3-4, Horn 1-2, Horn 3-4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3-4, Euph., Tuba, DB, Pno., Xylo., Mba., Cymb., 6 Toms, Sml. B. Dr., and Large BD.

The music features a complex rhythmic pattern with changing time signatures: **6/8**, **2/4**, **4/4**, **7/8**, and **4/4**. Measure 1 starts with **6/8** and **mf**. Measures 2-3 transition to **2/4** and **4/4**. Measures 4-5 show **4/4** with dynamic **ff**. Measures 6-7 feature **7/8** and **4/4**. Measures 8-9 return to **4/4**.

A prominent **G** clef is placed above the first staff in measure 1. Another **G** clef is placed above the piano staff in measure 8. The piano part begins in measure 8 with a dynamic of **ff**.

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A page from a complex musical score for orchestra and piano. The score is organized into multiple staves, each representing a different instrument or group of instruments. The instruments listed include Picc., Fl. I-2, Fl. 3-4, Ob., Bsn., C. Bn., E♭ Cl., Clar. I-2, Clar. 3-4, Bs. Cl., Cb. Cl., S. Sx., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. I-2, Tpt. 3-4, Horn I-2, Horn 3-4, Tbn. I, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3-4, Euph., Tuba, DB, Pno., Xylo., Mba., Cymb., 6 Toms, Sm. B. Dr., and Large BD. The music is divided into measures, with measure numbers 4, 7, and 8 clearly marked. The time signature varies between these measures, indicated by '4' and '7'. Measure 7 is particularly prominent, featuring a 7/8 time signature. The score includes various performance instructions such as dynamics (e.g., f, ff, ffz), articulations (e.g., pizz.), and tempo markings (e.g., 8va). A large, semi-transparent orange watermark reading 'For personal use only' is diagonally overlaid across the entire page.



A page from a musical score for orchestra and percussion. The score is arranged in multiple staves, each with a different instrument's name above it. The instruments include Picc., Fl. 1-2, Fl. 3-4, Ob., Bsn., C. Bn., Eb Cl., Clar. 1-2, Clar. 3-4, Bs. Cl., Cb. Cl., S. Sx., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. 1-2, Tpt. 3-4, Horn 1-2, Horn 3-4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3-4, Euph., Tuba, DB, Pno., Xylo., Mba., Cymb., 6 Toms, Sml. B. Dr., and Large BD. The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. In some measures, specific instruments are highlighted with large black numbers: '4' in the first measure, '7' and '8' in the second, '4' in the third, '4' in the fourth, '7' and '8' in the fifth, '4' in the sixth, '4' in the seventh, '7' and '8' in the eighth, '4' in the ninth, and '4' in the tenth. Dynamic markings such as 'mf', 'ff', 'f', 'ffz', 'ffp', and 'slab' are scattered throughout the score. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'for personal use only' is overlaid across the entire page.



Picc.

Fl. I-2

Fl. 3-4

Ob.

Bsn.

C. Bn.

E♭ Cl.

Clar. I-2

Clar. 3-4

B♭ Cl.

Cb. Cl.

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. I-2

Tpt. 3-4

Horn I-2

Horn 3-4

Tbn. I

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3-4

Euph.

Tuba

DB

Pno.

Xylo.

Mba.

Cymb.

6 Toms

Sml. B. Dr.

Large BD

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Measure 1 (Measures 1-2):

- Measure 1: Picc., Fl. I-2, Fl. 3-4, Ob., Bsn., C. Bn., E♭ Cl., Clar. I-2, Clar. 3-4, B♭ Cl., Cb. Cl., S. Sx., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. I-2, Tpt. 3-4, Horn I-2, Horn 3-4, Tbn. I, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3-4, Euph., Tuba, DB, Pno., Xylo., Mba., Cymb., 6 Toms, Sml. B. Dr., Large BD.
- Measure 2: Picc., Fl. I-2, Fl. 3-4, Ob., Bsn., C. Bn., E♭ Cl., Clar. I-2, Clar. 3-4, B♭ Cl., Cb. Cl., S. Sx., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. I-2, Tpt. 3-4, Horn I-2, Horn 3-4, Tbn. I, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3-4, Euph., Tuba, DB, Pno., Xylo., Mba., Cymb., 6 Toms, Sml. B. Dr., Large BD.

Measure 3 (Measures 3-4):

- Measure 3: Picc., Fl. I-2, Fl. 3-4, Ob., Bsn., C. Bn., E♭ Cl., Clar. I-2, Clar. 3-4, B♭ Cl., Cb. Cl., S. Sx., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. I-2, Tpt. 3-4, Horn I-2, Horn 3-4, Tbn. I, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3-4, Euph., Tuba, DB, Pno., Xylo., Mba., Cymb., 6 Toms, Sml. B. Dr., Large BD.
- Measure 4: Picc., Fl. I-2, Fl. 3-4, Ob., Bsn., C. Bn., E♭ Cl., Clar. I-2, Clar. 3-4, B♭ Cl., Cb. Cl., S. Sx., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. I-2, Tpt. 3-4, Horn I-2, Horn 3-4, Tbn. I, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3-4, Euph., Tuba, DB, Pno., Xylo., Mba., Cymb., 6 Toms, Sml. B. Dr., Large BD.



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Picc.

Fl. I-2

Fl. 3-4

Ob.

Bsn.

C. Bn.

E. Cl.

Clar. I-2

Clar. 3-4

Bs. Cl.

Cb. Cl.

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. I-2

Tpt. 3-4

Horn I-2

Horn 3-4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3-4

Euph.

Tuba

DB

Pno.

Xylo.

Mba.

Cymb.

6 Toms

Djembe

Large BD

*f*

*f mf*

*f*

*mp*





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Picc.

Fl. 1-2

Fl. 3-4

Ob.

Bsn.

C. Bn.

E♭ Cl.

Clar. 1-2

Clar. 3-4

Bs. Cl.

Cb. Cl.

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1-2

Tpt. 3-4

Horn 1-2

Horn 3-4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3-4

Euph.

Tuba

DB

Pno.

Xylo.

Mba.

Cymb.

6 Toms

Djembe

Large BD

118

M

This page contains musical notation for a full orchestra. It includes staves for Picc., Fl. 1-2, Fl. 3-4, Ob., Bsn., C. Bn., E. Cl., Clar. 1-2, Clar. 3-4, Bs. Cl., Cb. Cl., S. Sx., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. 1-2, Tpt. 3-4, Horn 1-2, Horn 3-4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3-4, Euph., Tuba, DB, Pno., Xylo., Mba., Cymb., 6 Toms, Djembe, and Large BD. The page features several measures of music with various dynamics and performance instructions. Large numbers 4, 7, 8, and 4/4 are placed above specific measures. A large, diagonal watermark reading "for personal use only" is overlaid across the page.

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N

7 8 300

a 2

N

7 8 300

N

7 8 300

130

Picc.

Fl. 1-2

Fl. 3-4

Ob.

Bsn.

C. Bn.

E♭ Cl.

Clar. 1-2

Clar. 3-4

Bs. Cl.

Cb. Cl.

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1-2

Tpt. 3-4

Horn 1-2

Horn 3-4

Tbn. I

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3-4

Euph.

Tuba

DB

Pno.

Xylo.

Mba.

Cymb.

6 Toms

Djembe

Large BD

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A page from a musical score featuring a complex arrangement of instruments. The score is organized into several staves, each with a specific instrument name. The instruments include Picc., Fl. 1-2, Fl. 3-4, Ob., Bsn., C. Bn., E♭ Cl., Clar. 1-2, Clar. 3-4, Bs. Cl., Cb. Cl., S. Sx., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. 1-2, Tpt. 3-4, Horn 1-2, Horn 3-4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3-4, Euph., Tuba, DB, Pno., Xylo., Mba., Cymb., 6 Toms, Sm. B. Dr., and Large BD. The page is marked with large, bold numerals: '38' at the top left, '4' in the center, and '10' at the top right, with fractions '8', '4', and '16' positioned above them. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'for personal use only' is overlaid across the page.

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Picc.

Fl. 1-2

Fl. 3-4

Ob. 10 16 4 7 8

Bsn.

C. Bn.

E♭ Cl.

Clar. 1-2

Clar. 3-4 10 16 4 7 8

Bs. Cl.

Cb. Cl.

S. Sx.

A. Sx. 10 16 4 7 8 staccatos extremely short! mf

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1-2 con sord. : straight

Tpt. 3-4

Horn 1-2

Horn 3-4

Tbn. 1 10 16 4 7 8 ff (a smooth, 3-bar gliss. from VII to I)

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3-4

Euph.

Tuba

DB 10 16 4 7 8

Pno.

Xylo.

Mba.

Cymb. 10 16 4 7 8 choke ff

6 Toms

Sml. B. Dr.

Large BD

(approx. pitches)

P

choke

Whip ff

choke

148



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This page contains measures 18 through 26 of a musical score. The instrumentation includes Picc., Fl. 1-2, Fl. 3-4, Ob., Bsn., C. Bn., E. Cl., Clar. 1-2, Clar. 3-4, Bs. Cl., Cb. Cl., S. Sx., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. 1-2, Tpt. 3-4, Horn 1-2, Horn 3-4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3-4, Euph., Tuba, DB, Pno., Xylo., Mba., Cymb., 6 Toms, and Large BD. The score features dynamic markings like cresc., ff, ffp, and ff, and performance instructions like pseudo-gliss. to next note. Measures 24-26 are highlighted with a large orange watermark reading "for rehearsal only". Measure 27 starts with a dynamic ff.

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A page from a musical score for orchestra and piano. The page is numbered 78. The score is divided into two systems by vertical bar lines. The instrumentation includes Picc., Fl. 1-2, Fl. 3-4, Ob., Bsn., C. Bn., E♭ Cl., Clar. 1-2, Clar. 3-4, Bs. Cl., Cb. Cl., S. Sx., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. 1-2, Tpt. 3-4, Horn 1-2, Horn 3-4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3-4, Euph., Tuba, DB, Pno., Xylo., Mba., Cymb., 6 Toms, Sml. B. Dr., and Large BD. The music features various dynamics like ff, f, mf, and mp, as well as performance instructions such as cresc. and decresc. A large, diagonal watermark reading "For Perusal Only" is overlaid across the page.



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A page from a musical score for orchestra and piano. The score includes parts for Picc., Fl. 1-2, Fl. 3-4, Ob., Bsn., C. Bn., Eb Cl., Clar. 1-2, Clar. 3-4, Bs. Cl., Cb. Cl., S. Sx., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. 1-2, Tpt. 3-4, Horn 1-2, Horn 3-4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3-4, Euph., Tuba, DB, Pno., Xylo., Mba., Cymb., 6 Toms, Sml. B. Dr., and Large BD. The score features various dynamics like f, ff, mf, and sff, and performance instructions like 'solo' and 'tutti'. A large orange watermark 'for personal use only' is diagonally across the page.

A detailed musical score for a full orchestra and various percussion instruments. The score is organized into two systems separated by a vertical bar. The top system includes parts for Picc., Flutes 1-2, Flutes 3-4, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet 1-2, Clarinet 3-4, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon Clarinet, Bass Saxophone, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Bass Saxophone, Trumpet 1-2, Trumpet 3-4, Horn 1-2, Horn 3-4, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Trombone 3-4, Euphonium, Tuba, Double Bass, and Piano. The bottom system continues with the same instruments. The score features dynamic markings such as ff (fortissimo), ffp (fortississimo), ffz (fortissississimo), and pizz. Measure numbers 7 and 8 are marked above the staves. A large orange watermark 'Topperusals Only' is diagonally across the page.



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W

Picc.

Fl. 1-2

Fl. 3-4

Ob.

Bsn.

C. Bn.

E♭ Cl.

Clar. 1-2

Clar. 3-4

Bs. Cl.

Cb. Cl.

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1-2

Tpt. 3-4

Horn 1-2

Horn 3-4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3-4

Euph.

Tuba

DB

Pno.

Xylo.

Mba.

Cymb.

6 Toms

Djembe

Large BD

X poco accel.

♩ = 132

Picc.  
Fl. 1-2  
Fl. 3-4  
Ob.  
Bsn.  
C. Bn.

**2** <sup>a2</sup> **5** <sup>8</sup> **2** <sup>a2</sup> **5** <sup>8</sup>

E♭ Cl.  
Clar. 1-2  
Clar. 3-4  
Bs. Cl.  
Cb. Cl.  
S. Sx.  
A. Sx.  
T. Sx.  
B. Sx.

**2** <sup>f</sup> **5** <sup>8</sup> **2** <sup>f</sup> **5** <sup>8</sup>

X poco accel.

Tpt. 1-2  
Tpt. 3-4  
Horn 1-2  
Horn 3-4  
Tbn. 1  
Tbn. 2  
Tbn. 3-4  
Euph.  
Tuba  
DB  
Pno.

**2** <sup>5</sup> **8** **2** <sup>b2</sup> **5** <sup>8</sup>

Xylo.  
Mba.  
Cymb.  
6 Toms  
Djembe  
Large BD

**2** <sup>f</sup> **5** <sup>8</sup> **2** <sup>ff</sup> **5** <sup>f</sup>

Small Bass Drum

A page from a musical score for a full orchestra. The score is arranged in multiple staves, each representing a different instrument or group of instruments. The instruments listed on the left include Picc., Fl. 1-2, Fl. 3-4, Ob., Bsn., C. Bn., E♭ Cl., Clar. 1-2, Clar. 3-4, Bs. Cl., Cb. Cl., S. Sx., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. 1-2, Tpt. 3-4, Horn 1-2, Horn 3-4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3-4, Euph., Tuba, DB, Pno., Xylo., Mba., Cymb., 6 Toms, Sml. B. Dr., and Large BD. The music consists of several measures of music with various dynamics like f (fortissimo), ff (fortississimo), and ff (fortissississimo). Large numbers 2, 4, 3, 8, 5, and 8 are placed in the center of the page, likely marking a section of the score. A large, diagonal watermark reading "for private use only" is overlaid across the page.

Y

Fl. 1-2

Fl. 3-4

Ob.

Bsn.

C. Bn.

E♭ Cl.

Clar. 1-2

Clar. 3-4

Bs. Cl.

Cb. Cl.

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1-2

Tpt. 3-4

Horn 1-2

Horn 3-4

Tbn. I

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3-4

Euph.

Tuba

DB

Pno.

Xylo.

Mba.

Cymb.

6 Toms

Sml. B. Dr.

Large BD

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Z

Picc.

Fl. 1-2

Fl. 3-4

Ob.

Bsn.

C. Bn.

E. Cl.

Clar. 1-2

Clar. 3-4

Bs. Cl.

Cb. Cl.

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Z

Tpt. 1-2

Tpt. 3-4

Horn 1-2

Horn 3-4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3-4

Eup.

Tuba

DB

Pno.

Z

Xylo.

Mba.

Cymb.

6 Toms

Sml. B. Dr.

Large BD

A page from a musical score for orchestra and percussion. The score is arranged in multiple staves, each representing a different instrument or group of instruments. The instruments listed on the left include Picc., Fl. 1-2, Fl. 3-4, Ob., Bsn., C. Bn., Eb Cl., Clar. 1-2, Clar. 3-4, Bs. Cl., Cb. Cl., S. Sx., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. 1-2, Tpt. 3-4, Horn 1-2, Horn 3-4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3-4, Euph., Tuba, DB, Pno., Xylo., Mba., Cymb., 6 Toms, Sml. B. Dr., and Large BD. The music consists of several measures, with time signatures changing frequently. Measures 1-3 are in 2/4, Measure 4 is in 4/4, Measures 5-6 are in 2/4, and Measures 7-8 are in 3/4. The score features a complex rhythmic pattern with many eighth and sixteenth note patterns. A large orange diagonal watermark 'For Review Only' is overlaid across the page.