

BASSOON

Avian Soirée

for Woodwind Quintet

Music by
Vanessa McClintock

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Avian Soirée

for Woodwind Quintet

NOTES

Avian Soirée is a "character" piece.

It is neither programmatic nor abstract. It could be thought of as a blend of the two, an eponymic imaginary study, if you will.

One could say—for better or worse—that the piece is "for the birds." In fact, while composing it, those were the guiding thoughts, hence the titles and sub-titles for each movement.

Perhaps as a performer and listener, one can image a gathering of flocks of birds, different birds, birds not all of the same feather, and many that are. Imagine any group or combinations of these perhaps chatting away with or at each other. Some of them take flight and entertain in mysterious patterns with leadership and direction frequently changing; some in predatory pursuit, some in preservational retreat, and some in comic relief.

Musically, the work is more concerned with lateral conversational relationships than vertical harmony, though it is very tonal.

Tempi are relative to the music hall, and the skill and interpretation of the musicians. However, tempi markings are indicated and should be taken into account in performance.

Dynamics, again, are relative, but should be taken into account. The music must *BREATHE*.

Throughout the performance, perhaps the governing concept is that of *conversations* and interaction amongst the performers.

At all times, play from the heart, guided by the spirit of the music, and your experience.

Performance time is approximately twenty minutes.

Vanessa McClintock
February 21, 2020
Roseville, California, U.S.A.

Avian Soirée

for Woodwind Quintet

I - The Flocks

(... introduction and gathering)

II - Taking to Flights

(... of fantasies)

III - Wafting

(... on a peaceful breeze)

IV - Jocular Wags

(... in frolicking flight)

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Bassoon

Avian Soirée I: The Flocks (... introduction and gathering)

Vanessa McClintock

Allegro (M.M. ♩ = c. 120)

1 2

mf

8

15

22 *rit.* *a tempo*

27 2 6

39

45

50

55 2

61



67



72



77



89



97



103



108



113

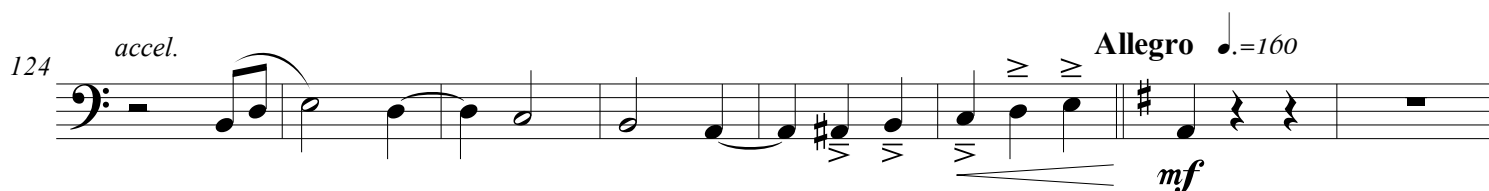
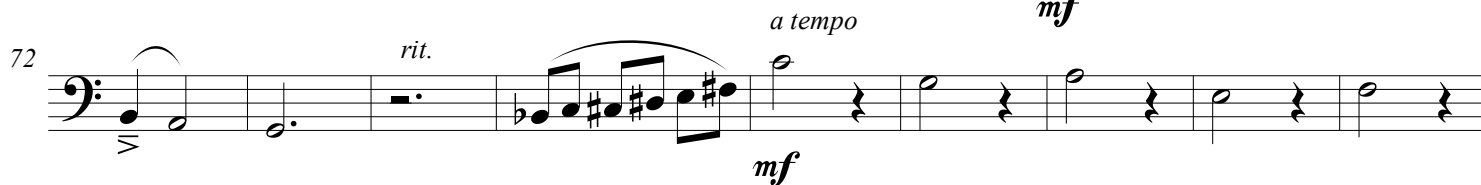
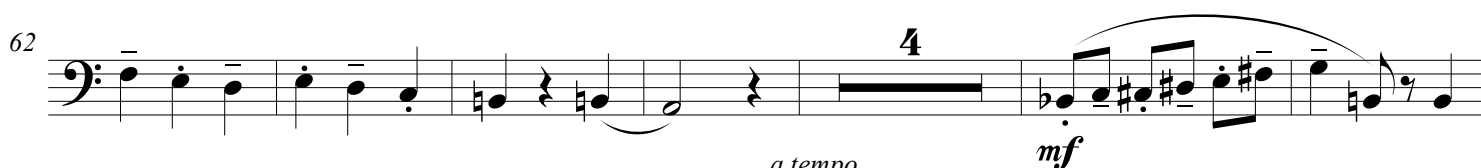
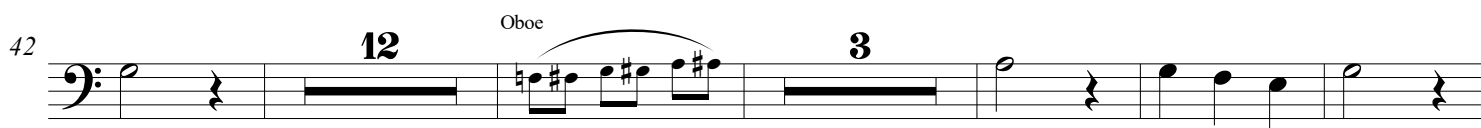


Bassoon

Avian Soirée II: Taking to Flights (... of fantasies)

Vanessa McClintock

Leisurely ♩ = 120



132

140 8 4 *rit.* Flute

157 *Poco meno* ♩ = 140 *mf*

163 2

171 *Tempo Primo* ♩ = 120 6 *mf*

183 5 10 *rit.* *mp* *mf* *Piu Mosso* ♩ = 160

204 *mf*

212 5

224 *mf* 5

236 2

Bassoon

Avian Soirée III: Wafting (... on a peaceful breeze)

Vanessa McClintock

Gently and peaceably ♩ = 92

8

14

20

25

31

38

43

48

mp

rit.

a tempo

mp

3

54 **3**
mp

62

67

72 *rit.* Gently and peaceably ♩ = 80
mp

77 **3**

83

88 *rit.* , *a tempo*

93

98

Bassoon

Avian Soirée IV: Jocular Wags (... in frolicking flight)

Vanessa McClintock

Frolickingly $\text{♩} = 80$

(hom)

5 15 rit. (flute)

24 *a tempo*

mf

37 7

48 3 2

57

63 3

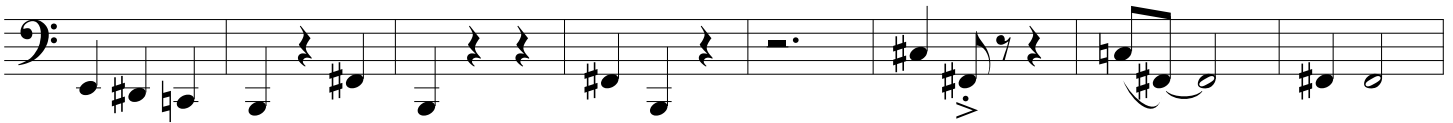
72 2 3

80 10

95 9 *mf*

112

121



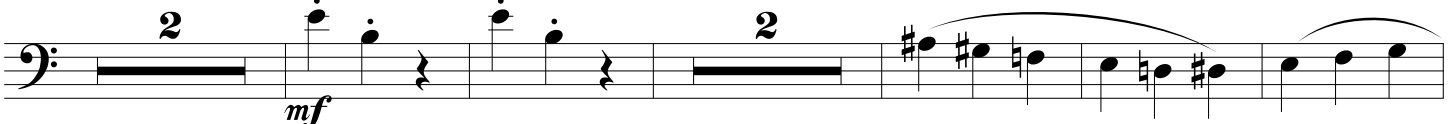
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135



144



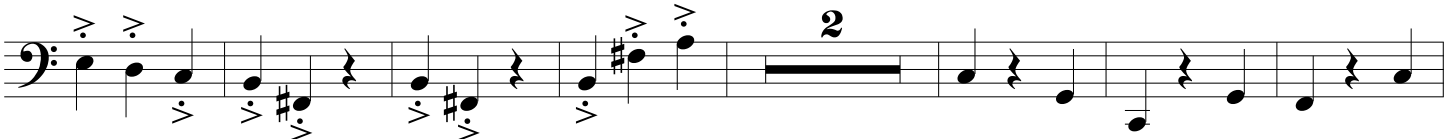
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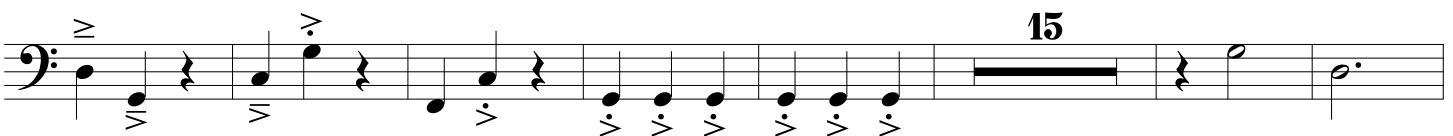
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191



199



221



230



239 **2**

245

250

256 **8** **2** *mp* *mf*

269 **2**

278

283

287

292 *mf*