

CLARINET in Bb

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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Clarinet in B $\flat$

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

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1 **Allegro** (M.M. ♩ = c. 120)

7

12

18

24 *a tempo*

28

34

41

48

53

mf *mp* *mf* *rit.*

2 3 3 2 3 5

61 3

69

74 2

79

82 *mf* *rit.* *a tempo*

87

94

100 3

106

111

114

Clarinet in B $\flat$

II: Taking to Flights

(... of fantasies)

Vanessa McClintock

Leisurely ♩ = 120

6

$$mf$$

11

3

17

9

rit.

p

 mf

31

Piu Mosso  = 180

30

mp

37

2

6

 mf

49

55

17

rit.

a tempo

mp

78

2

85

2

 mf

92 **8**

105

110 **2**

117

123 *accel.* **2**

130 **Allegro** $\text{♩} = 160$
mf

137 **8** *mf*

150

155 *rit.* **Poco meno** $\text{♩} = 140$ **4**

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a Clarinet in B-flat, spanning measures 92 to 155. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The score is written on a single staff in treble clef. It begins with a measure rest of 8 measures at measure 92. The melody features various note values, including eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. There are several slurs and ties. At measure 123, the tempo is marked 'accel.' and the time signature changes to 2/4. At measure 130, the tempo is marked 'Allegro' with a quarter note equal to 160 beats per minute, and the dynamic is 'mf'. At measure 137, there is another measure rest of 8 measures, followed by a 'mf' dynamic. At measure 150, the tempo is marked 'Poco meno' with a quarter note equal to 140 beats per minute. The score ends at measure 155 with a measure rest of 4 measures. The key signature changes to two sharps (F#, C#) at the very end.

165 *mf*

170 *Tempo Primo* $\text{♩} = 120$
6

181 *mf* 3 *mf*

187 7 2

199 *rit.* *mp* *Piu Mosso* $\text{♩} = 160$ *mp*

205 *mf*

211 13 *mp* *mf*

228 4

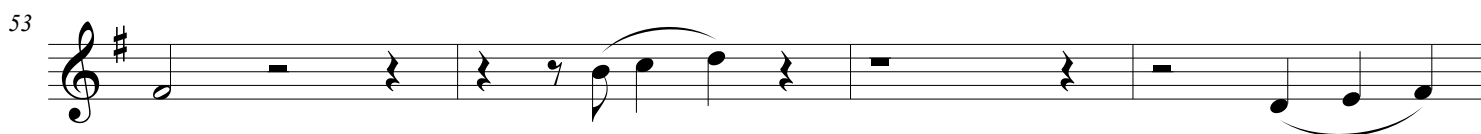
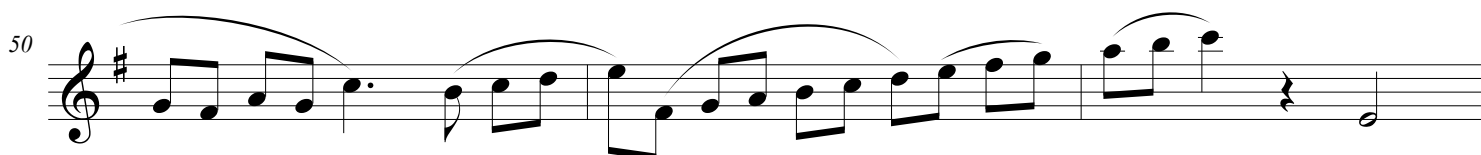
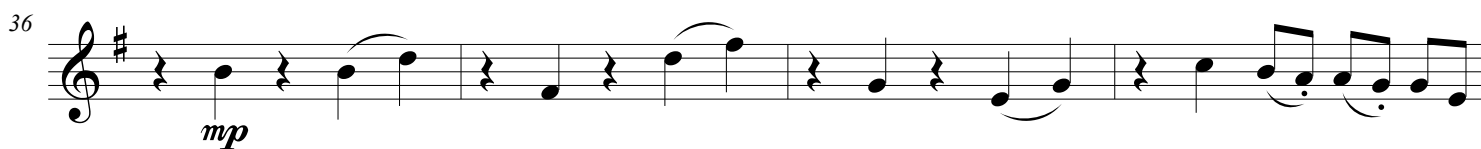
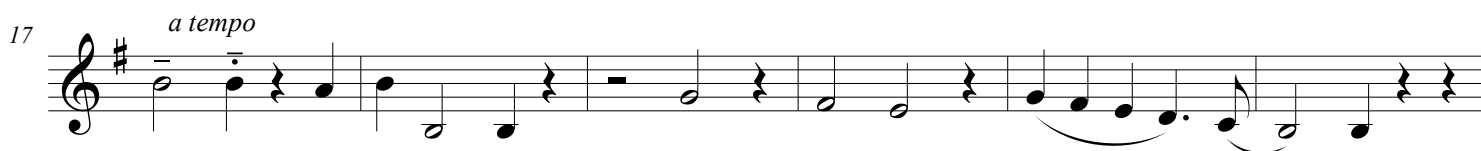
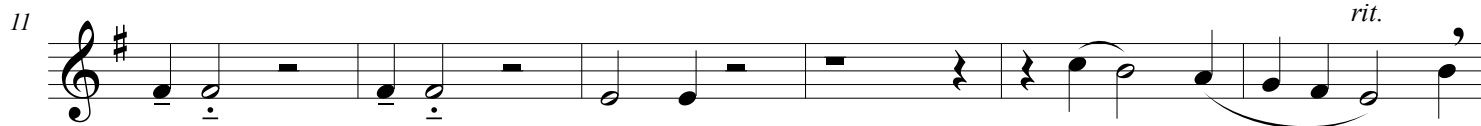
237 2

Clarinet in B $\flat$

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

Vanessa McClintock

Gently and peaceably ♩ = 92



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Clarinet in B $\flat$

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

Vanessa McClintock

Frolickingly $\text{♩} = 80$

The musical score is written for Clarinet in B $\flat$ and is in 3/4 time. It begins with a tempo marking of $\text{♩} = 80$ and the instruction "Frolickingly". The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 5, 12, 26, 32, 47, 66, 79, and 88 indicated at the start of their respective staves. The music features various musical notations, including triplets (marked with a '3' and a bracket), slurs, and dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *p* (piano). A section starting at measure 12 is marked "a tempo". The score concludes with a double bar line at the end of the final staff.

97 **2** *mf*

103

110

117

123

129

136 **2**

144 **5**

154 **11**

170 **3**

180 **2**

188 **7** **3**

203 **2**

211 **2** **4** *rit.*

222 *Reflectively* $\text{♩} = 92$ **3** *p* *mp* *mf*

229 **2** *accel.* *Piu mosso* $\text{♩} = 120$

236 **4** **2**

248

Avian Soirée / IV: Jocular Wags / Clarinet in B $\flat$

[illegible]