

FLUTE

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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Flute

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

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1 **Allegro** (M.M. ♩ = c. 120)

mf

rit.

a tempo

6

3

3

2

3

2

4

66

70

75

80

84

88 *rit.* *a tempo*

96

102

106

110

114

Flute

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

Vanessa McClintock

Leisurely ♩ = 120

mf

5

7

11

22

3

rit.

Piu Mosso ♩ = 180

29

mf

37

15

Oboe

3

60

8

rit.

a tempo

75

mf

83

91

105

113

122

130

152

165

169

175

179

8

2

accel.

Allegro ♩.=160

16

Clarinet

mf

Poco meno ♩.=140

6

3

mf

5

Tempo Primo ♩.=120

mf

182 **10**

198 *rit.* **2** **Piu Mosso** ♩=160 *mf*

206 **8**

219 *mp*

225 *mp* *mf* *mf*

232

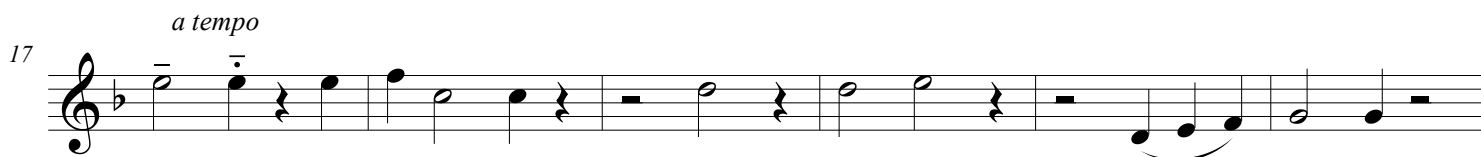
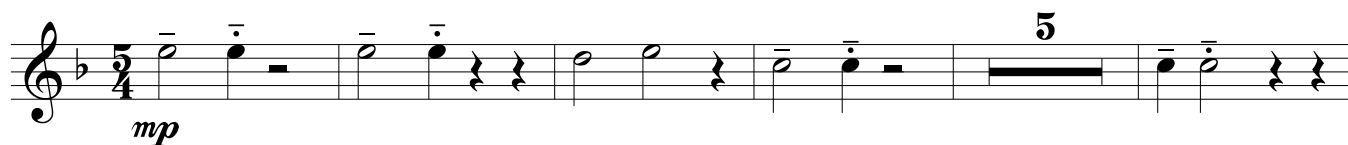
238 **2**

Flute

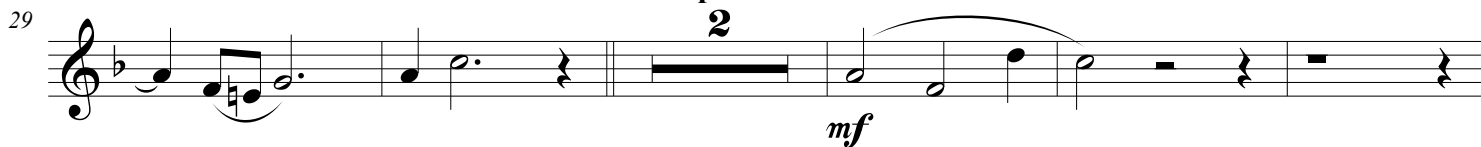
Avian Soirée III: Wafting (... on a peaceful breeze)

Vanessa McClintock

Gently and peaceably ♩ = 92



Poco piu animato ♩ = 120



59 *mf*

65

70 *rit.*

75 Gently and peaceably ♩ = 80 *mp*

80

86 *rit.*

91 *a tempo*

96

Flute

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

Vanessa McClintock

Frolickingly $\text{♩} = 80$

The musical score is written for a single flute part in 3/4 time. It begins with a tempo marking of 80 beats per minute and a dynamic of *mf*. The piece is characterized by frequent triplets and slurs, creating a playful, 'frolicking' feel. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 5, 10, 14, 18, 21, 25, 32, and 54 indicated. The piece concludes with a final measure marked with a double bar line and a fermata.

5

10

14

18

21

25

32

54

mf

rit.

a tempo

mf

71

78

93

100

105

110

115

120

124

130

136

mf

mf

2

2

2

8

2

5

146

154

170

178

185

197

212

222

231

237

p

mf

Piu mosso ♩ = 120

accel.

(Clarinet)

241 **2** **8**

255 *p*

260 *Reprise* ♩=120 **3** **2** *p*

269 *mf* **2**

276

280

284

288

292 *mf*

The musical score is written for a flute in treble clef. It consists of nine staves of music. The first staff (measures 241-254) features a sequence of notes with a '2' above the first measure and an '8' above the fourth measure. The second staff (measures 255-259) includes a long slur over measures 255-258 and a 'p' dynamic marking at the end. The third staff (measures 260-268) begins with a 'Reprise' section at a tempo of ♩=120, followed by a '3' above a measure and a '2' above another measure, with a 'p' dynamic marking. The fourth staff (measures 269-275) starts with an 'mf' dynamic and a '2' above a measure. The fifth staff (measures 276-279) continues the melodic line. The sixth staff (measures 280-283) shows a continuation of the melody. The seventh staff (measures 284-287) features a long slur over measures 284-286. The eighth staff (measures 288-291) includes a 'p' dynamic marking and a '2' above a measure. The ninth staff (measures 292-295) ends with an 'mf' dynamic marking and a '2' above a measure.