

HORN in F

Avian Soirée

for Woodwind Quintet

Music by
Vanessa McClintock

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Avian Soirée

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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
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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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Horn in F

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

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Allegro (M.M. ♩ = c. 120)

The musical score is written for Horn in F and consists of seven staves of music. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Allegro' with a metronome marking of approximately 120 beats per minute. The score begins with a first ending bracket over measures 1-6. Measure 7 starts a new phrase with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. Measures 16-22 are marked 'rit.' (ritardando). Measure 23 begins a section marked 'a tempo'. Measure 30 starts a phrase with a five-measure rest. Measures 40-44 feature a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. Measures 45-49 continue this pattern, and measure 50 concludes the section with a final cadence.

1 **Allegro** (M.M. ♩ = c. 120)

7 *mf*

16 *rit.*

23 *a tempo*

30 5

40

45

50

55 **4**

63

68

73 **8**

85 Bassoon *rit.*

92 *a tempo* **3**

100

105

110

Horn in F

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

Vanessa McClintock

Leisurely ♩ = 120

11 3

mf

19

rit. *Piu Mosso* ♩ = 180

26 8

mp *mf*

41

48 7 Oboe

61 4

mf

71 *rit.* *a tempo* 8

84 11

mp *mf*

102 10 8 3

accel.

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a Horn in F, spanning measures 11 to 102. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins with a tempo marking of 'Leisurely' and a metronome setting of 120. The first staff (measures 11-19) features a half rest for 11 measures, followed by a melodic line starting on G4, marked *mf*. The second staff (measures 19-26) continues the melody, marked *rit.* and *Piu Mosso* with a new tempo of 180. The third staff (measures 26-41) includes a half rest for 8 measures, then a melodic line marked *mp* and *mf*. The fourth staff (measures 41-48) continues the melody. The fifth staff (measures 48-61) features a half rest for 7 measures, with 'Oboe' written above the staff. The sixth staff (measures 61-71) includes a half rest for 4 measures, then a melodic line marked *mf*. The seventh staff (measures 71-84) includes a half rest for 8 measures, marked *rit.* and *a tempo*. The eighth staff (measures 84-102) includes a half rest for 11 measures, then a melodic line marked *mp* and *mf*. The final staff (measures 102-109) includes half rests for 10, 8, and 3 measures, marked *accel.*

Allegro ♩ = 160

128 **9** *mf*

145

Poco meno ♩ = 140

153 *rit.* **3** **10**

Tempo Primo ♩ = 120

172 **7** **3** *mf*

187 *rit.*

193 *mf*

Piu Mosso ♩ = 160

200 **2** *mp*

208 **2**
mp

215 *mf*

221

227

233

239

This musical score is for the Horn in F part of the piece 'Avian Soirée / II: Taking to Flights'. It consists of six staves of music, numbered 208 through 239. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 208 begins with a double bar line and a '2' above it, indicating a second ending. The dynamics are marked 'mp' (mezzo-piano) at measure 208 and 'mf' (mezzo-forte) at measure 215. The music features a variety of note values, including eighth, quarter, and half notes, as well as rests. Slurs and ties are used to connect notes across measures. The score ends with a double bar line at measure 239.

Horn in F

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

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Gently and peaceably ♩ = 92

2

pp *mf*

7

5

16

rit. *a tempo*

21

7

Poco piu animato ♩ = 120

mf

31

2

6

47

mp

51

4

mf

58

2

64

69

rit.

Gently and peaceably ♩ = 80

75

2

mf

81

rit.

6

a tempo

91

96

6

5

Horn in F

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

Vanessa McClintock

Frolickingly $\text{♩} = 80$

5 13 rit. (flute)

p *mf*

23 *a tempo* 3 (Clarinet)

31 *mf* 3

40

47 2

55 3

65 2

74

83

90

97 **9** *mf*

111 **2**

120

128

134 *mf*

141

150 **4**

161 **2** Stopped Modo ordinario

170

178 **2**

185

193

201 **14** *rit.*

Reflectively ♩=92

223 **2** **3** *p* **3**

232 *accel.* *Piu mosso* ♩=120

239

246

252 **3**

261 *p* *Stopped* *mf* *mp* *Modo ordinario* **3**

271 *mf*

277

282

286

291 *mf*