# HORN in F

# 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 frolickling flight)

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## Avian Soirée I: The Flocks

(... introduction and gathering)





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



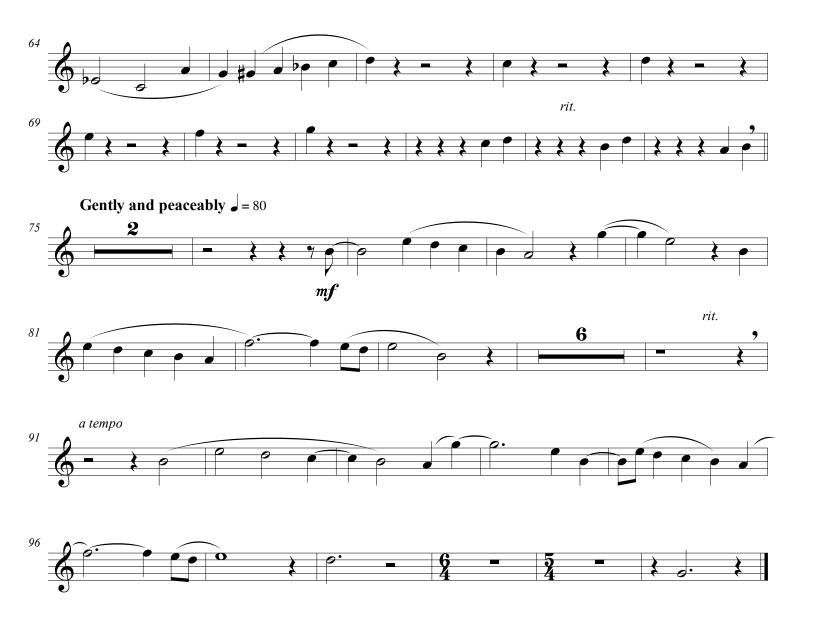




# Avian Soirée III: Wafting

(... on a peaceful breeze)





## Avian Soirée IV: Jocular Wags

(... in frolickling flight)





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