

OBOE

# *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 Waggs

*(... in frolicking flight)*

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# Oboe

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

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**Allegro** (M.M.  $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 120$ )

1                                  4

*mf*

9                                  2

*mp* ————— *mf*

16

22                              rit.                                      a tempo

26

32                                  5

42    3

50

55    2

*Avian Soirée / I: The Flocks / Oboe*

2

62

69

74

78

82

87 rit. a tempo

94 2

101

107

112

Detailed description: The sheet music consists of ten staves of musical notation for oboe. Staff 1 (measures 62-68) features eighth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs. Staff 2 (measures 69-74) shows sixteenth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs. Staff 3 (measures 74-78) contains sixteenth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs. Staff 4 (measures 78-82) shows eighth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs, with dynamic markings *p* and *mf*. Staff 5 (measures 82-87) includes sixteenth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs, with performance instructions *rit.* and *a tempo*. Staff 6 (measures 87-94) shows eighth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs, ending with a fermata over the first note of measure 95. Staff 7 (measures 94-101) features eighth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs. Staff 8 (measures 101-107) shows sixteenth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs. Staff 9 (measures 107-112) concludes with eighth-note patterns and a final dynamic marking *f*.



Oboe

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

Vanessa McClintock

*Leisurely* ♩ = 120

6

13

19

30

Piu Mosso ♩ = 180

36

43

51

57

63

rit.

mf

mp

mf

rit.

*Avian Soirée II: Taking to Flights / Oboe*

2

*a tempo*

76 *mp*

82 2 *mf*

89 11 ≥

106

112 2

119 *accel.* Allegro  $\text{♩} = 160$

125 9

139 *mf*

145 5

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

*Avian Soirée II: Taking to Flights / Oboe*

164

*Tempo Primo*  $\text{♩} = 120$

170

185

190

Piu Mosso  $\text{♩} = 160$

202

214

221

230

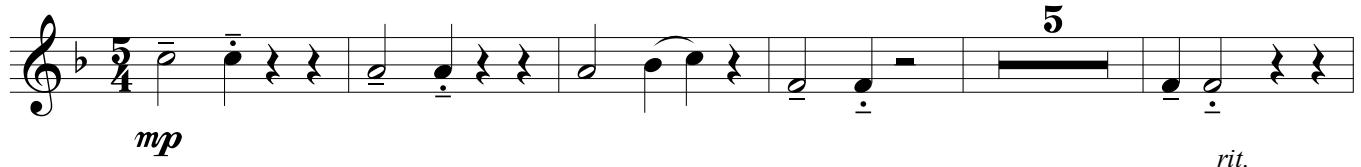
237

Oboe

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

Vanessa McClintock

Gently and peaceably  $\text{♩} = 92$



11

Staff 1, measures 11-12. The music continues in 5/4 time. Measures 11 and 12 consist of eighth-note patterns with various rests and grace notes.

*a tempo*

17

Staff 2, measures 17-18. The music changes to 4/4 time. Measures 17 and 18 show a more rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

23

Staff 3, measures 23-24. The music returns to 5/4 time. Measures 23 and 24 feature a steady eighth-note pattern.

29

Staff 4, measures 29-30. The music continues in 5/4 time. Measures 29 and 30 show a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes with some grace notes.

35

Staff 5, measures 35-36. The music changes to 3/4 time, indicated by a '3' above the staff. Measures 35 and 36 show a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

42

Staff 6, measures 42-43. The music changes back to 5/4 time, indicated by a '2' above the staff. Measures 42 and 43 show a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

48

Staff 7, measures 48-49. The music continues in 5/4 time. Measures 48 and 49 show a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

53

Staff 8, measures 53-54. The music continues in 5/4 time. Measures 53 and 54 show a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

*Avian Soirée / III: Wafting / Oboe*

2

57

*mp*

62 **2**

*mf*

*rit.*

69

Gently and peaceably  $\text{♩} = 80$

75

*mp*

81

86 rit. , a tempo

92

97

Oboe

*Avian Soirée*  
IV: Jocular Wag's  
(... in frolicking flight)

Vanessa McClintock

Frolickingly  $\text{d} = 80$

8

15

30

4

3

56

9

71

78

86

91

*Avian Soirée / IV: Jocular Wags / Oboe*

2

Sheet music for Oboe, featuring ten staves of musical notation. The music is in common time and includes dynamic markings such as *mf*, *p*, *f*, and *mf*. Measure numbers 97, 103, 108, 113, 118, 123, 128, 133, 138, and 145 are indicated at the beginning of each staff. Measure 138 includes a tempo change to 3. Measure 145 includes a tempo change to 2.

*Avian Soirée / IV: Jocular Wags / Oboe*

152

167

177

186

199

206

*Reflectively*  $\text{♩} = 92$

222

*accel.*

*Piu mosso*  $\text{♩} = 120$

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*Avian Soirée / IV: Jocular Wags / Oboe*

4

Musical score for Oboe, page 4, featuring nine staves of music. The score includes measure numbers 238, 246, 255, 268, 275, 281, 285, and 291. The music consists of various rhythmic patterns and dynamics, including *p*, *mf*, and *mf* markings. Measure 238 starts with a two-measure rest followed by eighth-note patterns. Measure 246 features a sixteenth-note pattern with a dynamic *mf*. Measure 255 includes a dynamic *p* and measure 268 includes a dynamic *mf*. Measure 275 shows eighth-note pairs. Measure 281 has eighth-note patterns with slurs. Measure 285 features sixteenth-note patterns with slurs. Measure 291 concludes with a dynamic *mf*.