

The instruments of the wind ensemble

An introduction for a young audience

Arie van Hoek

aan Angela Colbers

The clarinets

The clarinet is a single-reed woodwind instrument (**show clarinet**). Like with the saxophone a piece of reed is fixed on a mouthpiece and when blowing a slight flow of air along the reed that will vibrate (**clarinet blows the mouthpiece**). When the mouthpiece is mounted onto the resonance tube of the clarinet distinct tones can be played. The tube of the clarinet is equipped with a lot of holes and keys allowing the clarinet to play very advanced and virtuoso performances (**clarinet plays a series of scales**).

Like the flutes and oboes, the clarinets are members of a family of instruments and the clarinet family has the largest pitch range of all wind instrument families. There is a piccolo clarinet, the “normal” clarinet, the alto clarinet, the bass clarinet, the contralto clarinet, contrabass clarinet, together forming the clarinet choir (**show the different sizes of clarinets**).

The clarinet not only plays important parts in the orchestra, it has distinct roles in jazz music, gipsy and klezmer music and military bands. The clarinet sound has a wide dynamic range, it can play loud and aggressive as well as soft and smooth. The sound color of the clarinet ranges from a sentimental slobbering in the lower pitch range to a brutal yapping in the high range; a broad range of sounds, very attractive to every composer. (**Now the clarinets will play a duet and/or a trio, depending on the availability**).

Andante ♩. = 80

Clarinet in B \flat 1

Clarinet in B \flat 2

Bass Clarinet

First system of music (measures 1-7) for Clarinet in B \flat 1, Clarinet in B \flat 2, and Bass Clarinet. The time signature is 6/8. The tempo is Andante, 80 beats per minute. The first two staves (Clarinet in B \flat 1 and 2) are marked *mp* and play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and rests. The Bass Clarinet staff is marked *f* and plays a more complex line with accents and a key signature change to one sharp (F#) in measure 5.

Second system of music (measures 8-14). Measures 8 and 9 are marked with a '8' and *mp*. The Clarinet in B \flat 1 and 2 staves continue their rhythmic pattern. The Bass Clarinet staff continues its line with accents and a key signature change to one flat (B \flat) in measure 10.

Third system of music (measures 15-21). Measures 15 and 16 are marked with a '15'. The Clarinet in B \flat 1 and 2 staves play a more complex line with triplets in measures 15 and 16. The Bass Clarinet staff continues its line with accents and a key signature change to one flat (B \flat) in measure 17.

Finale

Bass Clarinet

Allegro maestoso, ♩ = 112

3 min.

Arie van Hoek

9

23

36

47

57

65

73

83

92

98

Slow blues, ♩ = 72

Allegro maestoso, ♩ = 112