

# The instruments of the wind ensemble

An introduction for a young audience

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# 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  $\text{♩} = 70$

Clarinet in B $\flat$  1

*mf*

Clarinet in B $\flat$  2

*mf*

5

11

**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 melody of eighth notes with rests. The Bass Clarinet staff is marked *f* and plays a bass line with eighth notes and rests, including an accent (>) on the eighth note in measure 5.

Second system of music (measures 8-14). Measures 8 and 9 are marked with a rehearsal mark '8'. The first two staves (Clarinet in B $\flat$  1 and 2) are marked *mp* and continue the melody. The Bass Clarinet staff continues the bass line, with accents (>) on the eighth notes in measures 8 and 9.

Third system of music (measures 15-21). Measures 15 and 16 are marked with a rehearsal mark '15'. The first two staves (Clarinet in B $\flat$  1 and 2) feature triplets (3) in measures 15 and 16. The Bass Clarinet staff continues the bass line, with accents (>) on the eighth notes in measures 17 and 21.

# Finale

Clarinet in B $\flat$  2

Arie van Hoek

3 min.

**Allegro maestoso**,  $\text{♩} = 112$

11 **14** **3** *mf*

33 **3** *mf* 1. 2.

42 *f* *mf*

50

59 1. 2. **Slow blues**,  $\text{♩} = 72$  *mp* *pp*

69 *pp*

77 1. 2. **Allegro maestoso**,  $\text{♩} = 112$  *f*

86 *mf*

96