

The instruments of the wind ensemble

An introduction for a young audience

Arie van Hoek

aan Angela Colbers

The flutes

We start with the flutes. Flutes are members of the woodwind family and have been built in many different shapes and configurations. Normally, in a symphony orchestra the transverse flute is used and this flute is held perpendicular to the blowing direction (**show flute playing position**). Sound is generated here by directing an airflow from breathing-out towards an edge with the lips (**flute plays mouthpiece**). Then *resonance* occurs in the air column inside the tube that is next to the mouthpiece. Along that tube a range of holes is made, most of them fitted with keys. By opening or closing these holes the length of the resonating air column inside the tube can be varied so changing the resonance pitch (**flute plays a series of scales**).

These flutes are also a family of instruments of different sizes. The piccolo (**show**) is the smallest instrument of the orchestra and can play notes at a very high pitch (**piccolo plays some high scale**). The most common flute is the treble flute (**show**) and that is twice as long as the piccolo (**flute plays some scales as well**). The flute can perform very fast notes and in the lower range produce a very romantic sound. And because playing a trill is easy on the flute it can perform the bird whistle in the orchestra very well (**play trills on the flute**).

(Now the flutes will play some short piece).

Andante grazioso ♩ = 80

Piccolo 1

Piccolo 2

mf

mf

6

11

change to flute

change to flute

mf

16

Adagio ♩ = 60

rall.

mf

22

rall.

Finale

3 min.

Arie van Hoek

Allegro maestoso, ♩ = 112

Flute 1

7 14 4

31 4

39 1. 2. f

46

54

60 1. 2. Slow blues, ♩ = 72 3 mf

69 9 1. 2. Allegro maestoso, ♩ = 112 mf

84 f

94