

WUNITZIAN  
DANCES

*for two B $\flat$  clarinets*

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Wunitzian Dances  
for two B $\flat$  clarinets

by Jonathan Russell

Commissioned by Shengwen Wu and Olivia (Moonitz) Meadows

Duration: c. 10-12 minutes

ABOUT THE WORK:

The tiny Queendom of Wunitzia was founded in 1546, when, after centuries of feuding, a peace treaty was signed between the powerful Wu and Moonitz clans. This treaty established the extraordinary “bi-queenal” governing structure – two equal co-rulers, one from each clan – that has fascinated scholars of government ever since. From its founding, Wunitzia was an open and forward-thinking place, welcoming dissidents, Gypsies, Jews, escaped slaves, and others who had been exiled or driven from all over the world. Bordered by Transylvania and Austria to the west, Macedonia and Romania to the east, Argentina and Brazil to the south, and Louisiana to the north, Wunitzia’s traditional art and music incorporates aspects of all of these surrounding cultures. The traditional Wunitzian court instrument is named after its founding queens, Queen Claire and Queen Annette, and is traditionally performed in pairs, with one representing the Wu clan and the other the Moonitz clan. A typical Wunitzian dance suite, like the one presented here, consists of three dances of increasing speed and intensity: a free, rhapsodic doina, followed by a mid-tempo “dance of passion,” closing with a vigorous, up-tempo hoedown.

PERFORMANCE NOTES:

1. A straight, diagonal line between pitches indicates a steady glissando
2. A curvy line before a pitch indicates a "bend" or "smear" into that pitch. A curvy line *after* a pitch indicates a klezmer-y bend/squeal down from that pitch.
3. When dynamics and other nuances are not indicated, they are at the discretion of the performers.
4. Performers are encouraged to bring lots of style, personality, and panache to the performance.

## Wunitzian Dances

for two clarinets

Jonathan Russell

**I. DIXIELAND DOINA**

Improvise in a soulful manner on the given pitches (in any octave)

Open notehead indicates the pitch center

Pitches in parentheses are passing or less prominent pitches

Clarinet in B $\flat$  1

Clarinet in B $\flat$  2

Circular breathe, or rearticulate as necessary  
Follow clarinet 1's lead for chord changes

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*attaca movement 2*

**II. HORO CHORO TANGO**

With passion, panache, and rubato ♩ = 50

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

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4

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

12

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

15

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

19

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*with greater intensity and passion!*

*grow!*

*with greater intensity and passion!*

22

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

26

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*more lyrical*

*more lyrical*

30

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

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B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*start slowly and accel.*

*mf* *legato* *rit.*

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*dim.* *p* *attaca movement 3*

### III. WUNITZIAN HOEDOWN

Fast and lively ♩ = 132 (♩ = ♪ always)

*emphasize 16th note groupings throughout*

61

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

64

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

67

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

70

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

73

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

76

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

79

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*cresc.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 79, 80, and 81. Both B-flat Clarinet 1 and 2 parts are shown. Measure 79 has a 16/8 time signature. Measure 80 has a 12/8 time signature. Measure 81 has an 11/8 time signature. A crescendo marking is present at the end of measure 81.

82

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*cresc.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 82, 83, and 84. Both B-flat Clarinet 1 and 2 parts are shown. Measure 82 has an 11/8 time signature. Measure 83 has a 12/8 time signature. Measure 84 has an 11/8 time signature. A crescendo marking is present at the beginning of measure 82.

85

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*f*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 85, 86, and 87. Both B-flat Clarinet 1 and 2 parts are shown. Measure 85 has an 11/8 time signature. Measure 86 has a 12/8 time signature. Measure 87 has an 11/8 time signature. A forte (f) marking is present at the beginning of measure 85.

88

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Detailed description: This system contains measures 88, 89, and 90. Both B-flat Clarinet 1 and 2 parts are shown. Measure 88 has a 12/8 time signature. Measure 89 has an 11/8 time signature. Measure 90 has a 12/8 time signature.

91

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

$\frac{25}{16}$

Detailed description: This system contains measures 91 and 92. Both B-flat Clarinet 1 and 2 parts are shown. Measure 91 has a 12/8 time signature. Measure 92 has a 25/16 time signature. A 19/8 time signature is indicated at the end of the system.

93

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

$\frac{8}{16}$

Detailed description: This system contains measures 93, 94, and 95. Both B-flat Clarinet 1 and 2 parts are shown. Measure 93 has a 19/8 time signature. Measure 94 has an 8/16 time signature. Measure 95 has a 12/8 time signature. An 8/16 time signature is indicated at the end of the system.



96

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

99

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

102

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

105

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

108

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

112

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

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118

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

123

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

126

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

129

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

133

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

136

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

**Take a solo!**

Solo ad lib. on given pitches (in any octave). Maintain the feel of the underlying groove.  
Pitch set continues until a new set is indicated

139

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Keep on groovin' along no matter what shenanigans Clarinet 1 is up to!

146

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

152

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

158

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

163

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

172

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*fff* (poco)

*pp*

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12

177

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

181

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*cresc.*

184

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*cresc.*

187

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

190

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

193

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

196

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Measures 196-201: This system contains six measures of music. Measures 196-198 are in 10/16 time, and measures 199-201 are in 12/16 time. The music is written for B $\flat$  Clarinet 1 and B $\flat$  Clarinet 2. Both parts feature a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is present at the beginning of measure 196. The notes are primarily in the lower register of the instrument.

199

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Measures 199-201: This system contains three measures of music, numbered 199, 200, and 201. The time signature is 12/16. The notation continues the melodic lines from the previous system, with similar rhythmic patterns and note values.

202

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Measures 202-204: This system contains three measures of music, numbered 202, 203, and 204. Measures 202 and 203 are in 20/16 time, while measure 204 is in 6/16 time. The melodic lines continue, with some notes appearing in the higher register in measure 204.

205

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Measures 205-210: This system contains six measures of music, numbered 205 through 210. Measures 205-207 are in 16/16 time, measure 208 is in 4/16 time, measure 209 is in 3/8 time, and measure 210 is in 10/16 time. The B $\flat$  Clarinet 2 part has a more rhythmic, dotted-note pattern compared to the melodic line of the B $\flat$  Clarinet 1.

211

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Measures 211-213: This system contains three measures of music, numbered 211, 212, and 213. Measures 211 and 212 are in 10/16 time, and measure 213 is in 6/8 time. The melodic lines continue with similar rhythmic patterns.

214

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Measures 214-216: This system contains three measures of music, numbered 214, 215, and 216. Measures 214 and 215 are in 14/16 time, and measure 216 is in 4/4 time. The B $\flat$  Clarinet 2 part continues with its rhythmic pattern.

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217

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

219

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*cresc.*

223

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*pp*

*cresc.*

227

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

231

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*fff*

*p*

*accel.*

234

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

*fff*

*a tempo*