

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

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

Wunitzian Dances

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

48

3

3

3

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

51

*mp*

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

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

54

3

3

3

3

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

57

*mf* *legato*

*mf* *legato*

*start slowly and accel.*

*rit.*

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

59

*dim.*

*dim.*

*p*

*p*

*attaca movement 3*

### III. WUNITZIAN HOEDOWN

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

*emphasize 16th note groupings throughout*

61

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

*p*

64

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

*p*

*emphasize 16th note groupings throughout*

67

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

*f*

70

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

*f*

73

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

*f*

76

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

*p*

79  
B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2  
*cresc.*

82  
B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2  
*cresc.*

85  
B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2  
*f*

88  
B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2

91  
B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2

93  
B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2



96

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

This system contains measures 96, 97, and 98. It features two staves: B $\flat$  Clarinet 1 (top) and B $\flat$  Clarinet 2 (bottom). Measure 96 is in 16/8 time. Measure 97 is in 14/8 time. Measure 98 is in 7/8 time. The piece concludes in 16/8 time. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals and slurs.

99

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

This system contains measures 99, 100, and 101. It features two staves: B $\flat$  Clarinet 1 (top) and B $\flat$  Clarinet 2 (bottom). Measure 99 is in 16/8 time. Measure 100 is in 6/8 time. Measure 101 is in 8/8 time. The piece concludes in 12/8 time. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals and slurs.

102

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

This system contains measures 102, 103, and 104. It features two staves: B $\flat$  Clarinet 1 (top) and B $\flat$  Clarinet 2 (bottom). Measure 102 is in 12/8 time. Measure 103 is in 5/8 time. Measure 104 is in 16/8 time. The piece concludes in 13/8 time. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals and slurs.

105

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

This system contains measures 105, 106, and 107. It features two staves: B $\flat$  Clarinet 1 (top) and B $\flat$  Clarinet 2 (bottom). Measure 105 is in 13/8 time. Measure 106 is in 6/8 time. Measure 107 is in 16/8 time. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals and slurs.

108

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

This system contains measures 108, 109, 110, and 111. It features two staves: B $\flat$  Clarinet 1 (top) and B $\flat$  Clarinet 2 (bottom). Measure 108 is in 5/8 time. Measure 109 is in 4/8 time. Measure 110 is in 3/8 time. Measure 111 is in 16/8 time. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals and slurs.

112

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

This system contains measures 112, 113, 114, and 115. It features two staves: B $\flat$  Clarinet 1 (top) and B $\flat$  Clarinet 2 (bottom). Measure 112 is in 16/8 time. Measure 113 is in 8/8 time. Measure 114 is in 11/8 time. Measure 115 is in 16/8 time. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals and slurs.

Wunitzian Dances

10

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*

19/16

Wunitzian Dances

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

Musical score for measures 196-201. The score is for two B-flat Clarinets (Cl. 1 and Cl. 2). Measures 196-201 are in 10/16 time. Measures 197-200 are in 8/16 time. Measure 201 is in 12/16 time. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, with dynamic markings of *f* and accents.

199

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Musical score for measures 199-202. The score is for two B-flat Clarinets (Cl. 1 and Cl. 2). Measures 199-202 are in 12/16 time. Measures 200-201 are in 8/16 time. Measure 202 is in 14/16 time. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, with dynamic markings of *f* and accents.

202

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Musical score for measures 202-205. The score is for two B-flat Clarinets (Cl. 1 and Cl. 2). Measures 202-205 are in 20/16 time. Measures 203-204 are in 8/16 time. Measure 205 is in 6/16 time. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, with dynamic markings of *f* and accents.

205

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Musical score for measures 205-210. The score is for two B-flat Clarinets (Cl. 1 and Cl. 2). Measures 205-210 are in 16/16 time. Measures 206-207 are in 4/16 time. Measure 208 is in 3/16 time. Measure 209 is in 10/16 time. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, with dynamic markings of *f* and accents.

211

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Musical score for measures 211-214. The score is for two B-flat Clarinets (Cl. 1 and Cl. 2). Measures 211-214 are in 10/16 time. Measures 212-213 are in 8/16 time. Measure 214 is in 6/16 time. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, with dynamic markings of *f* and accents.

214

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Musical score for measures 214-217. The score is for two B-flat Clarinets (Cl. 1 and Cl. 2). Measures 214-217 are in 14/16 time. Measures 215-216 are in 4/16 time. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, with dynamic markings of *f* and accents.

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14

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*