

ROWDY RED
(THE STRUTTING FERRET)

for clarinet quartet

(2022)

JONATHAN RUSSELL

Rowdy Red (The Strutting Ferret) (2022)
by Jonathan Russell

Commissioned by Radford University, with thanks to d'Art Richard for organizing the commission

Scored for three B \flat clarinets and one B \flat bass clarinet

Duration c. 6:30

PROGRAM NOTE:

After a string of Very Serious Compositions on topics like sorrow, the year 2020, and the war in Ukraine, I needed to let loose with something a bit more fun and whimsical. "Rowdy Red (The Strutting Ferret)" is the result. The title comes from the character of the music: there is something very confident, even cocky about it (the "strut"), yet also something a bit absurd about it (the "ferret"), and it made the commissioner think of the (in their words) "horrendous" former mascot of Radford University, called "Rowdy Red." It should be performed with a lot of style, character, and panache. Dixieland and/or klezmer inflections are welcome. Have fun!

* SCORE IS TRANSPOSED *

Rowdy Red (The Strutting Ferret)

Commissioned by Radford University

Jonathan Russell

Confident and cheeky ♩ = 126

Clarinet in B \flat 1

Clarinet in B \flat 2 *mf*

Clarinet in B \flat 3 *mf*

Bass Clarinet *mf*

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A

B \flat Cl. 1 *f*

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

12

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

15

B

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

18

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

21

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

C

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

mp

29

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

mf

cresc.

D

33

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

6

f

f

f

f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 33, 34, and 35. Measure 33 features a sixteenth-note triplet in the first and fourth staves. Measure 34 is marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic and contains rhythmic patterns in all staves. Measure 35 continues the rhythmic accompaniment.

36

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 36, 37, and 38. Measure 36 continues the melodic line in the first staff and the rhythmic accompaniment in the others. Measure 37 shows a change in the rhythmic accompaniment. Measure 38 concludes the system with a final melodic phrase in the first staff.

39

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 39, 40, and 41. Measure 39 features a melodic phrase in the first staff. Measure 40 continues the melodic and rhythmic development. Measure 41 concludes the system with a melodic phrase in the first staff and a final rhythmic pattern in the others.

E

B \flat Cl. 1 *mf*

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3 *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

46

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

50

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

54 F

Musical score for measures 54-56. The score is for four parts: B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B♭ Cl. 3, and B. Cl. The key signature has one flat (B♭). Measure 54 starts with a treble clef and a key signature change to one flat. A box containing the letter 'F' is positioned above the first staff. Dynamics include *f* (forte) in measures 55 and 56. The notation includes eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and slurs.

57

Musical score for measures 57-59. The score is for four parts: B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B♭ Cl. 3, and B. Cl. The key signature has one flat (B♭). The notation includes eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and slurs.

60

Musical score for measures 60-62. The score is for four parts: B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B♭ Cl. 3, and B. Cl. The key signature has one flat (B♭). The notation includes eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and slurs.

G

Musical score for measures 61-66. The score is for four parts: B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B♭ Cl. 3, and B. Cl. The key signature has one flat (B♭). The first measure (61) is marked with a box containing the letter 'G'. The dynamic marking *mf* is present at the beginning of each staff. The B♭ Cl. 1 part features a melodic line with slurs and ties. The B♭ Cl. 2 part has a similar melodic line. The B♭ Cl. 3 part has a more rhythmic line. The B. Cl. part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

67

Musical score for measures 67-70. The score is for four parts: B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B♭ Cl. 3, and B. Cl. The key signature has one flat (B♭). The dynamic marking *mf* is present at the beginning of each staff. The B♭ Cl. 1 part features a melodic line with slurs and ties. The B♭ Cl. 2 part has a similar melodic line. The B♭ Cl. 3 part has a more rhythmic line. The B. Cl. part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

71

Musical score for measures 71-74. The score is for four parts: B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B♭ Cl. 3, and B. Cl. The key signature has one flat (B♭). The dynamic marking *mf* is present at the beginning of each staff. The B♭ Cl. 1 part features a melodic line with slurs and ties. The B♭ Cl. 2 part has a similar melodic line. The B♭ Cl. 3 part has a more rhythmic line. The B. Cl. part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

74

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

H

77

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

mf

mf

mf

3

81

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

85

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

mp

mp

Detailed description: This system contains measures 85 through 88. The B \flat Cl. 1 part is silent. The B \flat Cl. 2 part plays a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes. The B \flat Cl. 3 part plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth and quarter notes. The B. Cl. part plays a similar rhythmic accompaniment. Dynamics include *mp* in measures 87 and 88.

89

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 89 through 92. The B \flat Cl. 1 part is silent. The B \flat Cl. 2 part continues its melodic line. The B \flat Cl. 3 part continues its rhythmic accompaniment. The B. Cl. part continues its rhythmic accompaniment. There are horizontal lines under the B \flat Cl. 3 and B. Cl. parts in measures 91 and 92.

I

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

mp

mp

Detailed description: This system contains measures 93 through 96. The B \flat Cl. 1 part is silent. The B \flat Cl. 2 part continues its melodic line. The B \flat Cl. 3 part continues its rhythmic accompaniment. The B. Cl. part continues its rhythmic accompaniment. Dynamics include *mp* in measures 93 and 94.

95

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

f

mf

f *mf*

99

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

mf

f *mf*

102

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

J

ff Solo: wild and improvisatory

116

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

mf

mf

mf

4

4

5

Detailed description: This system contains measures 116, 117, and 118. It features four staves: B♭ Clarinet 1, B♭ Clarinet 2, B♭ Clarinet 3, and Bass Clarinet. Measures 116 and 117 show rhythmic patterns with quarter and eighth notes. Measure 118 features a complex melodic line in the Bass Clarinet with a five-measure rest (marked '5') and a four-measure rest (marked '4'). Dynamics include *mf* and *mf* with accents. A box with the letter 'K' is in the top right.

119

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 119, 120, 121, and 122. The B♭ Clarinet 1 part has a four-measure rest followed by a melodic phrase starting in measure 122, marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The other parts continue with rhythmic accompaniment. Accents are used throughout.

123

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 123, 124, 125, and 126. All parts are active with melodic and rhythmic lines. The B♭ Clarinet 1 part has a melodic line with a slur. The Bass Clarinet part has a melodic line with a slur. Dynamics are not explicitly marked in this system.

126

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

L

129

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

132

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

M

Musical score for measures 135-138. The score is for four parts: B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B♭ Cl. 3, and B. Cl. The key signature has one flat (B♭). Measure 135 is marked with a box containing the letter 'M'. Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano) for B♭ Cl. 2 and B. Cl. in measure 138.

Musical score for measures 139-142. The score is for four parts: B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B♭ Cl. 3, and B. Cl. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte) for B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B♭ Cl. 3, and B. Cl. in measure 142.

Musical score for measures 143-146. The score is for four parts: B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B♭ Cl. 3, and B. Cl. Dynamics include *cresc.* (crescendo) for B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B♭ Cl. 3, and B. Cl. in measure 146.

146 N

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

8

4

4

8

f

f

f

f

149

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

152 O

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

155

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

molto rit.

159

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

P Broadly, like a kickline ♩. = 84

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

ff

ff

ff

ff

165

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Q

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

172

rit.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

R Very broadly, noble ♩ = 50

Musical score for measures 178-181. The score is for four parts: B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B♭ Cl. 3, and B. Cl. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music is marked *f* (forte). The first part (B♭ Cl. 1) features a melodic line with eighth-note patterns and slurs. The second part (B♭ Cl. 2) has a similar melodic line. The third part (B♭ Cl. 3) plays a sustained note with some movement. The fourth part (B. Cl.) plays a low, sustained line with some movement.

rit.

Musical score for measures 182-185. The score is for four parts: B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B♭ Cl. 3, and B. Cl. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music is marked *ff* (fortissimo) and *molto espressivo*. The first three parts (B♭ Cl. 1, 2, 3) play sustained notes with slurs. The fourth part (B. Cl.) has a melodic line with eighth-note patterns and slurs. The tempo is marked *rit.* (ritardando).