

CLARINET SONATA

THOMPSON
NOAH JOHNKARL

No. 1, Op. 9
Composed 2023

Commissioned by Grady Newsum, clarinet

CLARINET IN B \flat WITH OPTIONAL
PIANO ACCOMPANIMENT

INSTRUMENTATION:

Written pitch, no key signatures

Clarinet in B ♭

(Piano)

Optional accompaniment

COMPOSER NOTES:

This clarinet sonata was commissioned by clarinetist *Grady Newsum*, a clarinet performance major at the Arizona State University School of Music, Dance, and Theatre. When prompted about the piece, Newsum responded “Make it weird.” Hence, this piece marks a deviation from Thompson's typical neo-romantic style and explores more progressive harmony.

The third section in the sonata, titled “Schöenberg,” is named not after of an imitation of Schöenberg’s music—albeit this section is Thompson’s introduction to atonal composition created using a very loose 12-tone technique—but rather of Newsum’s infatuation with progressive and interesting harmonies, of which Schöenberg’s name often came up in conversation.

When Newsum first commissioned this piece, he asked for it to be for solo clarinet alone. However, Thompson added the optional piano accompaniment to make the piece eligible for the 2024 NYCC Composium. This presented a unique challenge of in a sense creating two pieces, an accompanied sonata, and an acapella solo.

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SONATA

A short sonata in four sections for clarinet
with an optional piano accompaniment

Noah Thompson, Op. 9, No. 1

I. Introduction (♩ = 42)

Clarinet in B \flat

p *cresc.*

Piano

pp

7

fp *pp*

ppp

Red. * *Red.* *

13

p

Più mosso (♩ = 72)

p

pp

Red. *

18

ppp *p* *ppp*

23

p cresc. *mp dim.*

Red. * Red. *

27

f *dim.* *pp*

mf

31 II. Très rythmé (♩ = 102)

33

36

39

p *f* *p*

pp *f* *pp*

42

pp cresc. *cresc.* *8va-*

44

mp *mp* *p*

46

cresc.

cresc.

48

f

f

51

dim.

p dim.

III. Schönberg (♩ = 60)

54

pp ³ *p* *quasi burro*

III. Schönberg (♩ = 60)

pp *Red.*

57

mf

p *Red.* *

59

scoop *p*

Red. *

61

ad lib.

sf

ff

dim. smorz.

65 **Poco più mosso** (♩ = 70)

p staccatissimo

cresc.

sf

sf

mf

mp

Poco più mosso (♩ = 70)

p

mp

Red.

*

67

f

p

5

8va

p

3

70 **IV. Finale (♩ = 142)**

ad lib. *p* *f* *ff*

IV. Finale (♩ = 142)

f

74

p *ff* *mp* *ff*

77

f *p* *f* *p* *pp* *p* *pp*

80

80

81

82

83

84

84

85

86

cresc.

f

cresc.

f

87

87

88

89

90

molto rall.

p cresc.

molto rall.

accel.

f cresc.

ad lib.

molto rall.

accel.

91 L'istesso tempo (♩ = 142)

91 L'istesso tempo (♩ = 142)

sfp *pp*

L'istesso tempo (♩ = 142)

pp *mf*

This system contains measures 91 and 92. Measure 91 features a treble staff with a melodic line containing triplets and a piano accompaniment of dotted eighth notes. Measure 92 continues the piano accompaniment with a crescendo leading to a *mf* dynamic.

93

93

f *ff*

pp *f*

This system contains measures 93, 94, and 95. Measure 93 has a treble staff with triplets and a piano accompaniment of dotted eighth notes. Measure 94 features a treble staff with a melodic line and a piano accompaniment of dotted eighth notes. Measure 95 features a treble staff with a melodic line and a piano accompaniment of dotted eighth notes.

96

96

p *mp*

This system contains measures 96 and 97. Measure 96 features a treble staff with a melodic line and a piano accompaniment of dotted eighth notes. Measure 97 features a treble staff with a melodic line and a piano accompaniment of dotted eighth notes.

98

f *ff* *ff*

100

p

102

p

106

acc. poco a poco

sf

acc. poco a poco

sf

sf

109

3

dim.