

Nigel Keay

Divertimento
pour quintette à vents

Full Score

The composition of my Divertimento for Wind Quintet was begun mid-November 2022. It is comprised of four short movements each with its own unique character, the longest of which is only two minutes duration.

Throughout the work the five instruments participate in a dialogue between soloists, through a contrapuntal texture, where each individual line is expressed through a distinctive timbre. I wanted a music where each voice was an indispensable part of the harmonic construction, evident to the players, and that a minimum of two parts would give a feeling of support to the players.

Harmonically, the composition was approached with much freedom, juxtaposing consonance with dissonance and employing blue-notes which creates lines that are frequently chromatic. This is perhaps the most advanced aspect of the writing.

On the musical nature of a divertimento, sometimes implying a lighter inspiration, the third movement, Malinconico, is perhaps a nod to Bartók's Divertimento, with its dark and intense ambiance. Another nod goes to Rachmaninov in using the term non-allegro (from his Symphonic Dances) for the tempo of the fourth movement, with its constrained exuberance.

La composition de ce Divertimento pour quintette à vents a commencé mi-novembre 2022. Il est composé de quatre courts mouvements de deux minutes maximum, chacun caractérisé par une humeur différente. L'intégralité des quatre mouvements n'excède pas 7 minutes.

Tout au long de l'œuvre, les cinq instruments solistes dialoguent entre eux à travers une texture contrapuntique, où chaque ligne individuelle s'exprime à travers un timbre distinctif. J'ai imaginé une musique dans laquelle chaque voix fasse partie de l'architecture harmonique et la construise en quelque sorte. Mais le travail individuel, parfois héroïque, de construction harmonique est aussi soutenu par les autres voix, de telle sorte que se crée une entraide entre musiciens.

Harmoniquement, la composition a été abordée avec beaucoup de liberté, juxtaposant la consonance à la dissonance et employant des notes bleues qui créent des lignes souvent chromatiques. C'est peut-être l'aspect le plus avancé de l'écriture.

Le troisième mouvement, Malinconico, avec son ambiance sombre et intense est une allusion au deuxième mouvement angoissé du Divertimento de Bartók, qui a définitivement transformé le style traditionnellement léger et joyeux du divertimento. Dans un registre différent, le tempo du quatrième mouvement, non-allegro, exubérant mais contraint est un clin d'œil aux Danses symphoniques de Rachmaninov, d'où provient cette indication atypique du tempo.

Divertimento

pour quintette à vents

Full Score

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1. Introduction

Affettuoso ♩ = 70

Flute
mf *fen dehors* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Oboe
mf *p doux*

Clarinet in Bb
mf *mp* *mp*

French Horn in F
mf *mp doux et expressif*

Bassoon
mf *mp* *mp* *mf*

6

Fl.
mf *rfz* *p* *f* *mf*

Ob.
mp expressif *rfz p* *mf* *pp*

Cl. in Bb
mp *mf*

Hn in F
mp *mp* *mf*

Bsn
mp *mf* *mp* *mf*

11

Fl. *mf* *f* *più f*

Ob. *mf* *f* *f*

Cl. in Bb *mf* *f* *mf*

Hn in F *mf* *f* *f* *mf* *mp*

Bsn *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

f *bien chanté*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 11 through 15. The Flute part starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and features a crescendo leading to a forte (*f*) dynamic, with a further increase to *più f* in measure 15. The Oboe part begins at *mf* and reaches *f* by measure 14. The Clarinet in Bb part starts at *mf* and reaches *f* in measure 14. The Horn in F part starts at *mf* and reaches *f* in measure 14. The Bassoon part starts at *mf* and reaches *f* in measure 14. A dynamic marking of *f* is also present in measure 12. The instruction *f* *bien chanté* is written above the Oboe staff in measure 12.

16

Fl. *mf* *f* *mf*

Ob. *mf* *f* *mf*

Cl. in Bb *mf* *f* *mf*

Hn in F *mf* *p* *mf*

Bsn *mf* *p* *mf*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 16 through 20. The Flute part starts at *mf*, reaches *f* in measure 18, and returns to *mf* in measure 20. The Oboe part starts at *mf*, reaches *f* in measure 18, and returns to *mf* in measure 20. The Clarinet in Bb part starts at *mf*, reaches *f* in measure 18, and returns to *mf* in measure 20. The Horn in F part starts at *mf*, reaches *p* in measure 18, and returns to *mf* in measure 20. The Bassoon part starts at *mf*, reaches *p* in measure 18, and returns to *mf* in measure 20. A dynamic marking of *p* is present in measure 16. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' in measures 17 and 18.

21

poco rall. a tempo

Poco più lento

Fl. *mp* *mf* *f* *mp*

Ob. *mp* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Cl. in Bb *mp* *mf* *f* *mp*

Hn in F *mp* *mf* *f* *mp*

Bsn *mp* *mf* *f* *mp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 21 through 25. The Flute part starts at *mp*, reaches *mf* in measure 22, *f* in measure 23, and returns to *mp* in measure 25. The Oboe part starts at *mp*, reaches *mf* in measure 23, and returns to *mp* in measure 25. The Clarinet in Bb part starts at *mp*, reaches *mf* in measure 23, *f* in measure 24, and returns to *mp* in measure 25. The Horn in F part starts at *mp*, reaches *mf* in measure 23, *f* in measure 24, and returns to *mp* in measure 25. The Bassoon part starts at *mp*, reaches *mf* in measure 23, *f* in measure 24, and returns to *mp* in measure 25. The tempo marking *poco rall. a tempo* is above measures 21-22, and *Poco più lento* is above measures 23-25.

Divertimento

2. Eroico

Eroico, tempo giusto ♩ = 94

Musical score for measures 1-5. The score is in 4/4 time and features five instruments: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet in Bb, French Horn in F, and Bassoon. The Flute part begins with a *mf* dynamic. The Oboe part enters in measure 5 with a *mp* dynamic. The Clarinet in Bb, French Horn in F, and Bassoon parts all begin with a *mf* dynamic. The key signature has one flat (Bb).

Musical score for measures 6-11. The Flute part has a *mp* dynamic and includes the instruction *f bien chanté*. The Oboe part has a *f* dynamic. The Clarinet in Bb part has a *f* dynamic. The French Horn in F part has a *f* dynamic. The Bassoon part has a *f* dynamic. Dynamics change throughout the measures, including *mf* and *mp*.

Musical score for measures 12-16. The Flute part has a *mf* dynamic and includes the instruction *cantabile*. The Oboe part has a *mp* dynamic and includes the instruction *dolce*. The Clarinet in Bb part has a *mf* dynamic and includes the instruction *dolce*. The French Horn in F part has a *mf* dynamic. The Bassoon part has a *f* dynamic. Dynamics change throughout the measures, including *mf*, *mp*, and *p*.

18

Fl. *p* *f* *mf* *f*

Ob. *f* *mf* *mp*

Cl. in Bb *mp* *p* *f* *mf* *mp*

Hn in F *p* *f*

Bsn *p* *f* *mf*

23

Fl. *f* *ff* *f* *f* *mp*

Ob. *f* *f* *f* *mp*

Cl. in Bb *f* *ff* *f* *f* *p*

Hn in F *f* *mf* *f* *mp*

Bsn *f* *f* *f* *mp* *mf*

f *ff* *f* *mp* *mf*

29

Fl. *mf* *f* *mp* *mf*

Ob. *mf* *f* *più f* *mf* *mp*

Cl. in Bb *mf* *f* *mf* *mf*

Hn in F *mf* *f* *mf*

Bsn *f* *f*

mf *f* *mf* *mf*

Divertimento
3. Malinconico

Malinconico ♩ = 56
expressif

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in B♭
French Horn in F
Bassoon

Fl.
Ob.
Cl. in B♭
Hn in F
Bsn

Fl.
Ob.
Cl. in B♭
Hn in F
Bsn

16 **rall.**.....

Fl. *mf* *mp* *p*

Ob. *mf* *mp* *p* *pp* *sotto voce*

Cl. in Bb *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *p* *misterioso*

Hn in F *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

Bsn *mp* *mp* *p*

4. Non allegro

Non allegro ♩ = 80

Flute *mf* *mp* *tr*

Oboe *mf* *mp*

Clarinet in Bb *mf* *joyeusement, sans presser*

French Horn in F *mp*

Bassoon *mf*

6

Fl. *mf* *f* *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Cl. in Bb *mp* *mf*

Hn in F *mf*

Bsn *mp* *f*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 6 through 11. The Flute part begins with a melodic line, marked *mf*, then *f*, and *mf*. The Oboe part has a rhythmic pattern, marked *mf*. The Clarinet in Bb part has a melodic line, marked *mp* and *mf*. The Horn in F part has a melodic line, marked *mf*. The Bassoon part has a rhythmic pattern, marked *mp* and *f*.

12

Fl. *mf* *mp* *mf* *rfz*

Ob. *mf* *mp* *mf*

Cl. in Bb *f* *mp* *mf* *f*

Hn in F *f* *mf*

Bsn *f* *mp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 12 through 17. The Flute part has a melodic line, marked *mf*, *mp*, *mf*, and *rfz*. The Oboe part has a rhythmic pattern, marked *mf* and *mp*. The Clarinet in Bb part has a melodic line, marked *f*, *mp*, *mf*, and *f*. The Horn in F part has a melodic line, marked *f* and *mf*. The Bassoon part has a rhythmic pattern, marked *f* and *mp*.

18

Fl. *f* *mf*

Ob. *f*

Cl. in Bb *f* *mf*

Hn in F *mf* *f*

Bsn *mf* *f*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 18 through 23. The Flute part has a melodic line, marked *f* and *mf*. The Oboe part has a rhythmic pattern, marked *f*. The Clarinet in Bb part has a melodic line, marked *f* and *mf*. The Horn in F part has a melodic line, marked *mf* and *f*. The Bassoon part has a rhythmic pattern, marked *mf* and *f*.

24

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. in Bb

Hn in F

Bsn

Musical score for measures 24-29. The score is for five instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet in Bb (Cl. in Bb), Horn in F (Hn in F), and Bassoon (Bsn). The key signature has one flat (Bb). The time signature is 4/4. The music features various dynamics: *f*, *mp*, *ff*, and *f*. There are also accents and slurs. The Flute part starts with a whole note rest, then has a half note G4, and a half note F4. The Oboe part has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4. The Clarinet in Bb part has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4. The Horn in F part has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4. The Bassoon part has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4.

30

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. in Bb

Hn in F

Bsn

Musical score for measures 30-33. The score is for five instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet in Bb (Cl. in Bb), Horn in F (Hn in F), and Bassoon (Bsn). The key signature has one flat (Bb). The time signature is 4/4. The music features various dynamics: *più f*, *f*, and *f*. There are also accents and slurs. The Flute part has a half note G4, a half note F4, and a half note E4. The Oboe part has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4. The Clarinet in Bb part has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4. The Horn in F part has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4. The Bassoon part has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4.

34

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. in Bb

Hn in F

Bsn

brillant et soutenu

rall......

Musical score for measures 34-38. The score is for five instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet in Bb (Cl. in Bb), Horn in F (Hn in F), and Bassoon (Bsn). The key signature has one flat (Bb). The time signature is 4/4. The music features various dynamics: *f*, *mf*, and *mf*. There are also accents and slurs. The Flute part has a half note G4, a half note F4, and a half note E4. The Oboe part has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4. The Clarinet in Bb part has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4. The Horn in F part has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4. The Bassoon part has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4.