

Clarinet 2

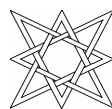
Suite of Music by William Byrd

*for Three B-flat Clarinets
and Bass Clarinet*

by

Sean Osborn

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Suite of Music by William Byrd, for Clarinet Quartet by Sean Osborn - 22 minutes

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Program Notes:

All of these pieces, except the second, are from The Fitzwilliam Virginal Book, a collection of 297 pieces written between 1562 and 1612 by such composers as John Bull, Orlando Gibbons, Giles Farnaby, Peter Philips and William Byrd. It is unlikely that the collection was put together during the composers' lives, and many of the same works appear in other folio collections of the day.

The virginal is a keyboard instrument similar to the harpsichord, and is named after England's Elizabeth I, the virgin queen. The pieces in the FVB were never meant to be exclusively performed on the virginal, and sound wonderful on any keyboard instrument.

The FVB compositions all employ an early variation technique known as a chaconne: variations are written over a recurring chord progression that starts with the theme. *Pavana* is in binary form (AB).

I. *O Mistriss Myne* (FVB LXVI)- Lyrics by William Shakespeare, written for Feste in *Twelfth Night*. A young lover entreats his lady to stay and give him kisses "good and twenty." The tune is by Thomas Morley, a student of William Byrd's, who died shortly after the play premiered in 1602.

II. *Pavana. The Earle of Salisbury* - The pavane is a 16th-century Italian dance for procession. It was composed in memory of Robert Cecil, 1st Earl of Salisbury (sixth creation), a close advisor to both Elizabeth I and James I, who had died on 24 May 1612, with two accompanying galliards.

III. *Galiarda* (FVB XCIV)- A popular dance all over Europe in the Renaissance, the galliard was one of Elizabeth I's favorite dances. It is a dance in 3 (or 6), usually involving five steps (short, short, short, long, short). Though it is a fast dance, the two galliards in this suite are instrumental works with many ornaments, so the tempo is slower. In this galliard, Byrd uses a lot of close canons and imitative counterpoint, obscuring the 3-beat. In fact, the opening sounds like it's in 5!

IV. *Galiardas Passamezzo* (FVB LVII)- A galliard with the popular passamezzo-antico chord progression. This piece uses the rhythmic device of a hemiola (augmentation of 3) that occurs in the third pair of bars every 8 bars. This piece is also in the Byrd-collected *My Ladye Nevelles Booke* from 1591, as *The Galliarde to the Nynthe Pavian*. Instrumental galliards were often written as "after dances" to instrumental pavaues.

V. *The Carmans Whistle* (FVB LVIII) - Also collected in MLNB, the title refers to a "carman" or what we would know as a carter or delivery person today, and their habit of whistling, which they say helped them control their horses. The song dates from the Tudor era, and risqué lyrics have survived, including a version entitled *The Courteous Carman and the Amorous Maid*.

VI. *Tregian's Ground* (FVB LX) - This ground has an unusual chord progression, involving F, C, and G major chords, all in the key of A minor. The title likely refers to Francis Tregian, Jr., amateur musician, copyist, and fellow Catholic to Byrd. Many people feel that it was he who copied the entire FVB while in Fleet Prison for debt and recusancy (refusing to attend Anglican services).

Performance suggestions:

Modern notation has been used for Ornaments. Mordents should begin on the main note (not above or below). Feel free to add additional ornaments, take some away, or change the ones marked. Commas have been marked at sections that should be separated. Ritardandos preceding the commas are customary. Dynamics are not original, and should be supplemented by bringing out the important line.

Clarinet 2

Suite of music by William Byrd

for three B-flat clarinets and bass clarinet

I. O Mistris Myne

arr. Sean Osborn

Moderate

1 *p* *mp* *p*

9 *p* 2

17

24 *mp* *p*

29 3 *mp* *mf*

35 *mp* III

41 4 *mf*

44 *f*

48 6

53 5 *p*

57 *p mp mf*

65 *mp*

70 6 *mf*

76 *> < f*

82 *rit. piu f*

II. Pavana. The Earle of Salisbury

Slowly

Musical score for measures 1-6. The score consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a first ending bracket over measures 1-6. Dynamics include *mf*, *p*, and *poco cresc.*. The second staff begins with a first ending bracket over measures 1-6. Dynamics include *mf*, *p*, and *poco cresc.*. The third staff begins with a first ending bracket over measures 1-6. Dynamics include *mf*, *p*, and *poco cresc.*. The fourth staff begins with a first ending bracket over measures 1-6. Dynamics include *mf* and *p*.

Musical score for measures 7-13. The score consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a first ending bracket over measures 7-13. Dynamics include *mp*, *mf*, and *pp*. The second staff begins with a first ending bracket over measures 7-13. Dynamics include *mp*, *mf*, and *pp*. The third staff begins with a first ending bracket over measures 7-13. Dynamics include *mp*, *mf*, and *pp*. The fourth staff begins with a first ending bracket over measures 7-13. Dynamics include *poco cresc.*, *mp*, *mf*, and *pp*.

Musical score for measures 14-19. The score consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a first ending bracket over measures 14-19. Dynamics include *poco cresc.*, *p*, and *p*. The second staff begins with a first ending bracket over measures 14-19. Dynamics include *poco cresc.*, *p*, *mf*, and *p*. The third staff begins with a first ending bracket over measures 14-19. Dynamics include *pp*, *poco cresc.*, *p*, *mf*, and *p*. The fourth staff begins with a first ending bracket over measures 14-19. Dynamics include *poco cresc.*, *p*, *mf*, and *p*.

Musical score for measures 21-26, consisting of four staves. Each staff begins with the number 21 and the instruction *poco cresc.*. The first staff has dynamics *mf* and *p*. The second staff has dynamics *mf* and *f*. The third staff has dynamics *mf* and *f*. The fourth staff has dynamics *mf* and *f*. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and slurs.

Musical score for measures 28-33, consisting of four staves. Each staff begins with the number 28. The first staff has the instruction *poco rit.*. The second staff has the dynamic *p*. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and slurs.

III. Galiarda

Moderate and bouncy

1 *f*

2

3 *poco rit.* *a tempo* *p*

4 *mp*

5 *poco rit.* *a tempo.* *f* *p* *pp* *p* *mp*

6

44 *cresc.* *f*

IV. Galiardas Passamezzo

Andante

mf *sempre simile*

10 *p*

19

28 *cresc.*

36 *mf*

43 *mf* *mp* *pp*

52 *mf* *dim.*

58 *mp* *mf* *f* *dim.*

5

poco rit, *a tempo*

63 *p* *f*

Detailed description: This staff contains measures 63 to 70. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music features a complex rhythmic pattern with many sixteenth notes. A box with the number '5' is positioned above the staff. Performance markings include 'poco rit' and 'a tempo' above the staff, and dynamic markings 'p' and 'f' below the staff.

6

70 *p* *f* *mp* *f* *p*

Detailed description: This staff contains measures 70 to 83. It continues the melodic line with various rhythmic values. A box with the number '6' is positioned above the staff. Dynamic markings 'p', 'f', 'mp', 'f', and 'p' are placed below the staff.

83 *rf* *mf*

Detailed description: This staff contains measures 83 to 94. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes. Dynamic markings 'rf' and 'mf' are placed below the staff.

7

94 *mp*

Detailed description: This staff contains measures 94 to 101. The music is characterized by a series of eighth notes. A box with the number '7' is positioned above the staff. The dynamic marking 'mp' is placed below the staff.

101 *piu f* *mf* *f*

Detailed description: This staff contains measures 101 to 108. The music includes some rests and eighth notes. Dynamic markings 'piu f', 'mf', and 'f' are placed below the staff.

8

108 *f*

Detailed description: This staff contains measures 108 to 114. The music features a steady eighth-note pattern. A box with the number '8' is positioned above the staff. The dynamic marking 'f' is placed below the staff.

114 *mp* *cresc.*

Detailed description: This staff contains measures 114 to 125. The music consists of quarter and eighth notes. Dynamic markings 'mp' and 'cresc.' are placed below the staff.

125 *rit.* *f*

Detailed description: This staff contains measure 125. It ends with a double bar line. Dynamic markings 'rit.' and 'f' are placed below the staff.

V. The Carmans Whistle

Jaunty

1 *p* *mf*

2

7 *mp*

13 *f*

3

19 *mp*

4

24 *p*

5

28 *mf* *p* *mf*

6

32 *p* *mp* *mp*

7

36 *f* *p* *pp* *mp*

8

40 *f* *p*

46 *cresc.* *f* *dim.*

9

50 *mf* *f*

55 *rit.*

Andante moderato VI. Tregian's Ground

1 *mf* >

6 *mp*

11 *dim.* *p*

17 *mp* *esp.* *cresc.*

24 *mf* > > *sempre simile*

29 *dim.* *p* *mp* <

34 *cresc.*

39 *f* *mf* *sempre simile* *poco piu mosso*

45 *cresc.* *f* *mf* *a tempo*

51 *f* 31 31 31 9

8

58

62

67 *sempre simile*

73

9

76 *mf* *rf*

80 *dim.*

10

84 *pp*

86 *cresc.*

88 *mp*

11 *poco piu mosso*
95 *mf* *poco marc.*

98 *piu p* *cresc.*

12 *piu maestoso*
101 *f*

104

108 *rit.*