

Dancing on Air

Jon Bubbett (b. 1959)

Flute 1,2 - 8
Oboe - 2
Bb Clarinet 1 - 4
Bb Clarinet 2,3 - 8
Bb Bass Clarinet - 2
Bassoon - 2
Eb Alto Saxophone 1,2 - 4
Bb Tenor Saxophone - 2
Eb Baritone Saxophone - 1
Bb Trumpet 1 - 2
Bb Trumpet 2,3 - 4
F Horn - 4
Trombone 1,2 - 4
Baritone - 2
Baritone Treble Clef - 1
Tuba - 2
String Bass - 1
Timpani - 1
Xylophone, Bells, Marimba - 3
Snare Drum, High Hat, Bass Drum - 1
Triangle, China Cymbal, Brake Drum,
Suspended Cymbal, Crash Cymbals - 4

EIGHTH NOTE PUBLICATIONS

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Dancing On Air was inspired by watching eagles flying at the Circle B Bar Reserve in central Florida. Flocks of bald eagles flying over Lake Hancock twisting and turning in the breeze as graceful as ballet dancers in a perfectly synchronized choreography. But then on occasion, they go on the hunt. Diving straight down from their “dancing height” into the water below in search of dinner! Central Florida has one of the largest populations of nesting bald eagles in the United States. To watch these magnificent birds soar through the sky and “dance” in the air is a truly beautiful sight.

Performance Suggestions:

The opening tempo should be brisk but not too fast. Eagles are majestically soaring through the sky...not racing.

Notice how the melody in m9 and m17 starts in the upper woodwinds but then hands off to the trumpets. These first 4 notes represent these magnificent creatures as they flap their wings to gain altitude and then glide. Take care that both parts have equal prominence and should have equal standing.

M25 finds the eagles simply gliding on the summer breeze over the lake as they search the water below with their “eagle eyes” looking for prey. Take care to keep this section very simple and yet elegant.

Now the horns and baritones, along with the clarinets, are the ones seeking altitude and the flutes along with are the ones gliding on the summer breezes over the lake.

The eagles spot their prey beginning at m57 and the hunt is on. Make certain the timpani solo is nice and aggressive with good firm accents answered by the winds. Take care to properly feature the phrase shapes at m64 as the eagles contemplate the perfect time to dive into the water. This will perfectly off set the “dive” at m80.

M98 is the climax of the piece with dozens of eagles flying and “dancing” on air as they continue to seek altitude and then dive into the water from dizzying heights!

Jon Bubbett, a native of Dothan, AL., graduated from Dothan High School (1977). He received his BMed from Troy State University, Troy, AL in 1981 and his MMed in 1989 from VanderCook College of Music, Chicago, IL. His career spanned thirty eight years with the last twenty six at Thompson High School in Alabaster, AL. His previous schools were Washington-Wilkes Comprehensive High School in Washington, GA., Demopolis High School in Demopolis, AL. and Erwin High School in Birmingham, AL.

Numerous times Mr. Bubbett has served as a guest clinician and adjudicator in Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi. He has served as a clinician participant for both the Alabama Music Educators Association In-Service Conference, Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic and has served as the rehearsal assistant for the Music for All Honor Band of America since 2016.

Now and before his retirement from public education Mr. Bubbett has had concert band and ensemble music published through Excelcia Music Publishing, RWS Music, Eighth Note Publications and through his website: www.jonbubbettmusic.com.

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DANCING ON AIR

Jon Bubbett

6 ASCAP

Allegro ♩ = 136

2

3

4

5

Flute 1,2

Oboe

B \flat Clarinet 1

B \flat Clarinet 2,3

B \flat Bass Clarinet

Bassoon

E \flat Alto Saxophone 1,2

B \flat Tenor Saxophone

E \flat Baritone Saxophone

B \flat Trumpet 1

B \flat Trumpet 2,3

F Horn

Trombone 1,2

Baritone

Tuba

Timpani

F-B ℓ -C-E \flat

Xylophone

Bells

Marimba

Snare Drum

High Hat

Bass Drum

Triangle

China Cymbal

Brake Drum

Suspended Cymbal

Crash Cymbals

Susp Cym

p *mf* *f* *fp*

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

Fl *ff* *mf*

Ob *ff* *mf*

Cl 1 *ff* *mf* div.

Cl 2,3 *ff* *mf*

B Cl *ff* *mf*

Bsn *ff* *mf*

A Sax *ff* *mf*

T Sax *ff* *mf*

B Sax *ff* *mf*

Tpt 1 *ff* *mf*

Tpt 2,3 *ff* *mf*

Hn *ff* *mf*

Trbn *ff* *mf*

Bari *ff* *mf*

Tuba *ff* *mf*

Timp *ff* *mf*

Xylo *ff* *mf* Bells

Bells *mf*

Mari *ff* *mf*

S.D. *ff* *mf*

H.H. *ff* *mf*

B.D. *ff* *mf*

Tri. *ff* *mf*

C.C. *ff* *mf* Crash Cym

Brake *ff* *mf*

S.C. *ff* *mf*

C.C. *ff* *mf*

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn

Trbn

Bari

Tuba

Timp

Xylo
Bells
Mari

S.D.
H.H.
B.D.

Tri.
C.C.
Brake
S.C.
C.C.

p

p

p

p

p

p

pp

mp

pp

mp

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

Fl *mf*

Ob *mf*

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn *sub. p*

A Sax *sub. p*

T Sax *sub. p*

B Sax *sub. p*

Tpt 1 *mf*

Tpt 2,3 *mf*

Hn

Trbn *sub. p*

Bari *sub. p*

Tuba *sub. p*

Timp *p*

Xylo

Bells

Mari

S.D. *sub. p*

H.H.

B.D.

Tri.

C.C.

Brake

S.C.

C.C.

49

50

51

52

53

54

55

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn

Trbn

Bari

Tuba

Timp

Xylo

Bells

Mari

S.D.

H.H.

B.D.

Tri.

C.C.

Brake

S.C.

C.C.

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn

Trbn

Bari

Tuba

Timp

Xylo

Bells

Mari

S.D.

H.H.

B.D.

Tri.

C.C.

Brake

S.C.

C.C.

Marimba

H.H. closed

China Cym

Brake Drum

f

ff

p

solo

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn

Trbn

Bari

Tuba

Timp

Xylo

Bells

Mari

S.D.

H.H.

B.D.

Tri.

C.C.

Brake

S.C.

C.C.

p *f* *sub.mp* *mp* *mf* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

Fl *mp* *mf*

Ob *mf*

Cl 1 *mf*

Cl 2,3 *mf*

B Cl *mf*

Bsn *mf*

A Sax *mf*

T Sax *mf*

B Sax *mp* *mf*

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn *mf*

Trbn

Bari *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Timp *mp* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Xylo
Bells
Mari *mf*

S.D.
H.H.
B.D. *mp* *mf*

Tri.
C.C.
Brake
S.C.
C.C. *pp* *mp* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Susp Cym

77 78 79 80 81 82 83

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn

Trbn

Bari

Tuba

Timp

Xylo

Bells

Mari

S.D.

H.H.

B.D.

Tri.

C.C.

Brake Drum

S.C.

C.C.

f

mf

p

f

f

pp

Susp Cym

choke

China Cym

84

85

86

87

88

89

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn

Trbn

Bari

Tuba

Timp

Xylo
Bells
Mari

S.D.
H.H.
B.D.

Tri.
C.C.
S.C.
C.C.

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

Musical score for "Dancing on Air" (pg. 14), measures 90-96. The score is in 4/4 time and features a variety of instruments. A large "PREVIEW" watermark is overlaid across the center of the page.

- Flute (Fl):** Measures 90-91 feature a rapid sixteenth-note pattern, followed by a melodic line in measures 92-96.
- Oboe (Ob):** Enters in measure 91 with a melodic line.
- Clarinets 1 and 2,3 (Cl 1, Cl 2,3):** Similar to the Oboe, they enter in measure 91.
- Bass Clarinet (B Cl):** Provides a steady bass line.
- Bassoon (Bsn):** Provides a steady bass line.
- Alto Saxophone (A Sax):** Features a melodic line.
- Tenor Saxophone (T Sax):** Features a melodic line.
- Bass Saxophone (B Sax):** Features a melodic line.
- Trumpets 1 and 2,3 (Tpt 1, Tpt 2,3):** Play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Horn (Hn):** Features a melodic line.
- Trumpets (Trbn):** Provide harmonic support.
- Bariophone (Bari):** Provides a steady bass line.
- Tuba (Tuba):** Provides a steady bass line.
- Timpani (Timp):** Features a rhythmic pattern.
- Xylophone (Xylo):** Features a rhythmic pattern.
- Bells (Bells):** Features a rhythmic pattern.
- Maracas (Mari):** Features a rhythmic pattern.
- Shamisen (S.D., H.H., B.D.):** Features a rhythmic pattern.
- Triangle (Tri.), Congas (C.C.), and Snare Drum (S.C.):** Features a rhythmic pattern.

104

105

106

107

108

109

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn

Trbn

Bari

Tuba

Timp

Xylo

Bells

Mari

S.D.

H.H.

B.D.

Tri.

C.C.

Brake

S.C.

C.C.

Susp Cym

+ C.C.

p

f

f

116

117

118

119

120

Fl *mf* *ff*

Ob *mf* *ff*

Cl 1 *mf* *ff* *div.*

Cl 2,3 *mf* *ff*

B Cl *fp* *ff*

Bsn *fp* *ff*

A Sax *ff*

T Sax *ff*

B Sax *fp* *ff*

Tpt 1 *f* *fp* *ff* *div.*

Tpt 2,3 *f* *fp* *ff*

Hn *fp* *ff*

Trbn *fp* *ff*

Bari *fp* *ff*

Tuba *fp* *ff*

Timp *fp* *ff*

Xylo *fp* *ff*

Bells *fp* *ff*

Mari *fp* *ff*

S.D. *fp* *ff*

H.H. *fp* *ff*

B.D. *fp* *ff*

Tri. *f* *ff*

C.C. *f* *ff*

Brake *f* *ff*

S.C.C. *f* *ff*

Susp Cym *ff*

choke