ABSTRACT

Title of Dissertation:  THE INTERLOPING BEGUILER: FOR BASS CLARINET AND ORCHESTRA

John K. Leupold II, Doctor of Musical Arts, 2009

Dissertation directed by:  Professor James Fry, School of Music

The Interloping Beguiler is an nineteen-minute concerto in four movements for bass clarinet solo and orchestra. The title refers to the role of the solo instrument, which continually thrusts itself into the affairs of the orchestra, deceiving and diverting the members of the orchestra away from their task of performing a “serious” orchestral composition. The bass clarinet portrays a comical, cartoon-like character whose awkward, and sometimes goofy, interjections cause chaos. Attempts are made by various members of the orchestra, especially the horns, to regain control of the work, but the bass clarinet always succeeds in its distracting antics. By the final movement of the composition, the bass clarinet has propelled the work into a cartoon-like landscape of quickly changing textures, dissonant intervals, and overlapping themes.

The first movement, Introduction, sets the serious tone of the music to follow, or so it would seem. The entrance of the bass clarinet immediately changes this texture with its out-of-rhythm alternations between high and low pitches. This gesture provides a
glimpse into the personality of the bass clarinet, an instrument here to mislead the
members of the orchestra.

Deception truly begins in the second movement, *The Interloping Initiates*. The
bass clarinet starts the movement with a driving theme and is immediately supported by
the orchestra. As the movement progresses, the bass clarinet quickly begins altering the
theme, making it more playful and cartoonish. A struggle ensues between the horns and
the bass clarinet, with the bass clarinet catapulting the piece into a latin-inspired section.
The struggle continues through to the end of the movement.

The third movement, *Calm*, is exactly what the title suggests. A sectional form
distinguishes this movement from the second movement. Throughout *Calm*, the bass
clarinet behaves with decorum, except for very large melodic leaps.

The seed of anarchy planted by the bass clarinet in the second movement comes
to fruition in the final movement, *The Beguiling Builds*. Here, the bass clarinet sends the
work into chaos with sections recalling Looney Tunes cartoons, Hollywood western
music, and children’s folk songs.
THE INTERLOPING BEGUILER:
for Bass Clarinet and Orchestra

By

John K. Leupold II

Dissertation submitted to the Faculty of the Graduate School of the University of Maryland, College Park, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts 2009

Advisory Committee:
Professor James Fry, Chair
Professor Peter Beicken
Professor Thomas DeLio
Professor Robert Provine
Professor Mark Wilson
© Copyright by

John K. Leupold II (ASCAP)

2009
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Table of Contents</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>The Interloping Beguiler</em></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instrumentation</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
John K. Leupold II

The Interloping Beguiler: 
for Bass Clarinet and Orchestra

Transposed Score

Duration ~ 19 minutes
## Instrumentation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2 Flutes</th>
<th>Percussion: Pedal Bass Drum, Snare Drum, Triangle (with bucket of water), Tam tam, Suspended Cymbal (with bow), Cowbell, 4 Woodblocks (or temple blocks)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Oboes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Clarinets in Bb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Bassoons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Horns in F</td>
<td>Violin I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Trumpets in Bb</td>
<td>Violin II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trombone</td>
<td>Viola</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>Violoncello</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contrabass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Percussion Notation:**

- **Snare Drum**: Rimshot, Cross stick, On Rim
- **Triangle**: 18° - 20°
- **Suspended Cymbal**: Cowbell
- **Woodblocks (Temple blocks)**
- **Bass Drum with foot pedal**
- **With bucket of water**
- **Tam-tam**
I. Introduction
II. The Interloping Initiates
III. Calm
IV. The Beguiling Builds