

Black Bear Dance

clarinet quintet or choir

transcribed from the original version for horns and drums with thanks to Charles Learoyd and the Indian Hill clarinet choir conducted by Paul Surapine

Spindrift Music Company

www.spindrift.com Publishing contemporary classical music and promoting its performance and appreciation

Black Bear Dance

music by Pamela J. Marshall

Black Bear Dance was originally written for the annual concert of the Esprit de Cor ensemble of Lexington, MA. Ms. Marshall plays horn in their annual concert. When clarinetist Charles Learoyd became a Spindrift Commissioning Guild sponsor of the original Black Bear Dance, she thought the piece would also be very good with clarinet choir. It took a while for her to get to the transcription, but the result is a jazzy, lighthearted piece that is a lot of fun to play. The original drums in the horn version became an insistent rhythm that is passed around the clarinet ensemble.

After writing the music there was the problem of a name. The composer writes: "The rehearsals for my choral piece *Weaving the World* in March with the Assabet Valley Mastersingers gave me the name for the horn piece. There's a line in Janisse Ray's text that reads 'and black bears roam the woods unseen'. The choral director rehearsed it a lot, looking for a natural declamation and in-tune intervals. As I thought about a name for the emphatic, dance-like music, I couldn't get the image of black bears out of my mind, so I decided it must be the right title. I worried that the name might imply an American Indian musical style, which the music is not. Then on the Internet I found the Bear Dance painting of William Holbrook Beard. Aside from the fact that he was mocking stock-market bears, the image was just right."

Spindrift Commissioning Guild

Black Bear Dance for horns was one of the projects for 2006 of the Spindrift Commissioning Guild. The composer thanks heartily the Guild members sponsoring Black Bear Dance:

- Green Mountain Horn Club, Alan Parshley, Director
- Charles Learoyd, who inspired this clarinet choir version of Black Bear Dance
- Anonymous

For information about the Guild, visit http://www.spindrift.com.







Copyright © 2009 Pamela J. Marshall



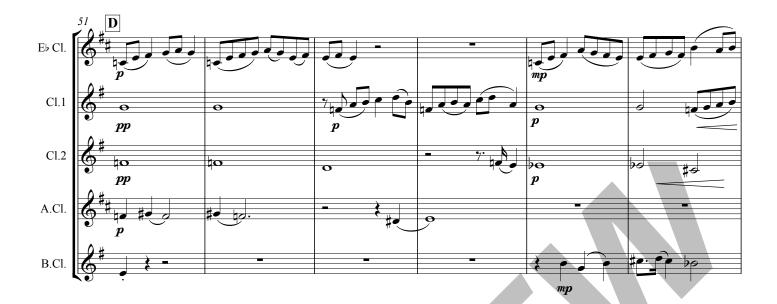




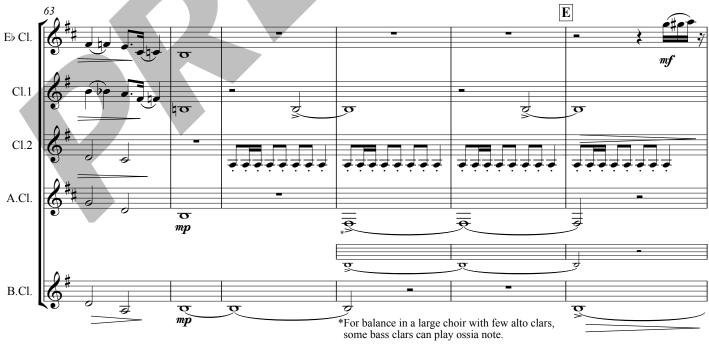








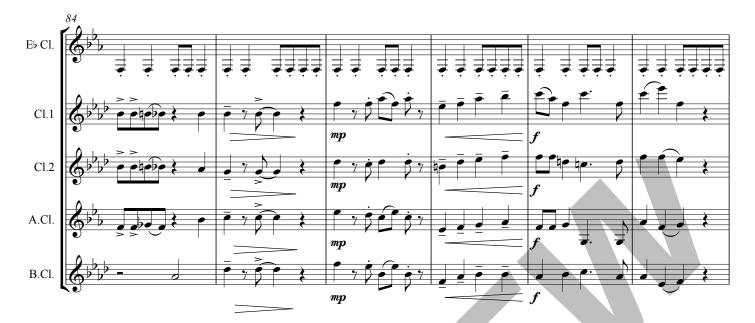






























Publishing contemporary classical music and promoting its performance and appreciation

38 Dexter Road Lexington MA 02420-3304 USA 781-862-0884 info@spindrift.com www.spindrift.com

Selected Music by Pamela J. Marshall

Orchestra

Through the Mist (2222-2220, harp, 3pc, timp, strings) in 3 mvts A chill wind in autumn (solo voice, 2222-4221-3pc, strings) Traditional Christmas (treble chorus or soloist, 2222-4221, harp, 3pc, timp, strings) Three Appalachian Carols (2222-4231, harp, 2pc, timp, strings)

Keyboard

Suite for harpsichord or piano Daydream for piano Wordless Prayer for piano organ or SATB acapella Imagine That Time Stops for piano Stomp for piano

Strings

Arcanum for solo violin Soliloquy for solo cello Elusive Sleep for cello and piano Pascal's Theorems for cello and doublebass Triptoe Suite for intermediate violinist and piano Truth Becoming for string quartet

Woodwinds

Weaving the World for SATB chorus, oboe, piano Enchanted for oboe and chamber orchestra or piano Communing with Birds for flute Through the Mist for flute, violin, guitar Elements for woodwind quintet Poetry-Inspired Solos for flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn

Brass

Waves and Fountains for oboe, horn, piano Never Say Nevermore for horn and piano Colored Leaves for solo horn Black Bear Dance for horn quartet or choir and drums "wild horn whose voice the woodland fills" for 8 horns Star in the East (traditional carol) for 8 horns The Future of Life for SATB chorus, trombone, piano Wanderer for brass quintet Among Friends for trumpet, 2 horns, euphonium or trombone

Recordings

Noises, Sounds & Strange Airs (Clique Track): Soliloquy and Sky's Mirror Mandolin X 4 (Plucked String Inc.): Mandolin Night for mandolin performed by Neil Gladd Enigmatica (Uncommon Strings): Blue-Gold Variations from Loosely Blue for mandolin ens. Holidays of the New Era (ERMMedia): Windshine for SATB and cello Just In Time Now and Then (Living Artists): Elusive Sleep for cello and piano