

SONATA FOR CLARINET AND PIANO

- I. Fantasia
- II. Introduzione e Adagio Cantabile
- III. Prestissimo

Sonata for Clarinet and Piano

Commissioned by David Shea, the Clarinet Sonata received a brilliant premiere performance by David and Regina Shea at the International Clarinet Association's Annual Conference in Kansas City in 2008. The work is in three movements. The first movement, a *Fantasia*, is filled with melodic arpeggiated piano figures and integrated clarinet melodies and flourishes. The first part has the clarinet opening in its colorfully rich *chalumeau* register. The piano has rhythmic quintuplet figures and moves to septuplet arpeggiations against which a simpler melodic framework is heard, then returning to the quintuplet material. A rhapsodic middle section follows before returning to the original opening material, now with the clarinet in its higher *clarino* register. The second movement opens with a cadenza-like piano introduction and moves into a lyrical movement with some fiery dramatic interludes. There are clear passages for both the piano to solo and for the clarinet to perform *espressivo cantabile* melodies. The last movement is a short *prestissimo* finale highlighted with dramatic ositnato sections.