

Ludwig van Beethoven

Duet for clarinet & bassoon #1 in C major

Settings for several permutations of orchestral, band, and chamber music instruments by

Klaus Smedegaard Bjerre (2010 - 2017)

Finding the original setting for C clarinet and bassoon was a by-product of searching for the score for Beethoven's 3 Equali for 4 trombones. It stirred my curiosity and I copied this 1st duet into Finale mostly to learn about Beethoven's way of setting for two woodwinds. I liked the music, which is more on the entertaining than on the very profound side without lacking true musical qualities.

In the original setting the two voices rarely are less than an octave apart, which allows for bringing the parts an octave closer together without changing the chord inversions too much. You will find places where the parts cross past each other, but I have considered this less of a compromise than changing the relative octaves within each part. For range reasons (with a few instruments only) it has been necessary to move passages or single notes an octave. In most cases this has been done by means of cue notes an octave above or below the original notes, which have been kept in full size. This is not a scientific edition, yet it has been considered fair to indicate Beethoven's original intentions.

There are chromatic passages pointing towards Romanticism, yet the overall style rather points towards Vienna Classicism. The embellishments have been written out in modern notation, notably the appoggiaturas originally written as grace notes. Some long notes have been turned into trills in this edition, as this would be well within old performance practices. Trills in general shall start on the main note, but Beethoven in some situations indicates otherwise by means of grace notes.

This edition provides versions including the often less used instruments like alto and bass flutes, English horn, Wagner tuba in F, or viola. You even will find versions for bass and contrabass tubas written as well in bass clef concert as in treble clef brass band style.

This piece may be tough on brass player's stamina. One obvious relief would be the omission of the repeats in the first movement. To avoid odd page turns the Da Capo in the Rondo has been written out in full at the end of the playing score.

The playing scores have been organized in folders according to their key, either the original C major or one of the four transposed majors of G, Bb, Eb, or Ab. The scores within each key are compatible as long as the second part is kept the lowest aside from the few strays into the high range.

Addendum of 2014:

Since the first editions several more versions have been added on request, so there now also are versions in F major. Several of the first editions were intended for various instrument types of instruments like bassoons, contrabassoons, euphoniums, celli, or string basses (all reading tenor and bass clefs), like clarinets and brass band style low brasses (all reading transposed treble clef and having quite similar ranges), or like flutes, oboes, and violins (all reading treble clef

concert and with wide overlaps of ranges). Not all players are used to that way of thinking, and some players want their instrument type specified in black in the top corner of the music. Hence several very specific versions have been added. It still goes that versions within each key are fully compatible if the opening interval sounds as 2 octaves plus a fifth (the original opening interval) or as 1 octave plus a fifth.

Working at the recent additions of several new versions made me find a very few formal errors in the notation, so all versions now have been corrected and now are adjusted to the same graphical parameters, especially considering margins.

If at all possible requests for scores for instrument constellations not covered by the current versions will be followed. Main considerations will be about the compatibility of ranges.

There has been an inquiry for an edition with separate parts. The original edition has double systems showing both parts. And the whole point of this edition is about training musicianship including basic score reading. Issuing single part versions together with the score versions would triple the workload, also in the constant revisions that you will see. Creating single part editions is not just a matter of copying and pasting. It takes a whole new graphic formatting. Adding more versions for new constellations as requests come in or as I see new potentials is much more important.

You may solve the problems around page turns by putting the music on the stand in several layers where each layer has 1, 2, or 3 pages, as the music tells. The pages then are taken down, when rests allow to do so. Duos playing from the same score may split the taking down of pages between them. Another approach may be about attaching all pages from one movement to a piece of cardboard, so that the first repetition sits in a row above the second repetition.

Korsør – August 18^a – 2014

Klaus Smedegaard Bjerre Bassbone Music yorkmasterbbb@yahoo.com

As of September 14^a also versions for 2 basset horns (F major) and for 2 ophicleides (in C, Bb, and Ab).

KSB

As of July 1st - 2015:

A few more versions have been added and all versions have been placed in folders according to their key and according to the octave of the upper part (the equivalent of the original clarinet part). Here a full list of the available versions. Each key/octave corresponds to a folder. The above guides for compatibility still stand. The very easy guide is that all versions in the same folder are compatible. There will however be a few more options across folders like combining the upper line flute part in a Soprano octave folder with the lower line guitar part from the corresponding Tenor octave folder.

As of December 10^a 2017:

5 more versions in Eb Major allowing for Eb Flute or Eb Clarinet on the top part with Bb Clarinet, Alto Clarinet, or Bass Clarinet on the bottom part.

C Major	<i>Original octave</i>	Clarinet in C & Bassoon
	<i>(Soprano octave)</i>	Flute & Alto Flute
		Flute & Bb Clarinet

		Flute & Horn in F
		Flute & Trumpet in C
		Flute & Bb Trumpet
		Flute & Bass Tuba
		Flute & Violin
		Oboe & English Horn
		Oboe & Bassoon
		Oboe & Horn in F
		Oboe & Eb Tuba
		2 Bb Clarinets
		Bb Clarinet & Bass Clarinet
		Violin & Horn in F
		Violin & Viola
		Violin & Cello
	<i>Tenor octave</i>	English Horn & Bassoon
		English Horn & Horn in F
		2 Bass Clarinets
		Bass Clarinet & Contrabass Clarinet
		2 Bassoons
		Bassoon & Contrabassoon
		2 Ophicleides
		2 Horns in F
		2 Bb Euphoniums treble clef
		2 Euphoniums
		Bb Euphonium & BBb Tuba - all treble clef
		Euphonium & Contrabass Tuba
		Viola & Cello
		2 Celli
		Cello & Double Bass
		2 Guitars
	<i>Bass octave</i>	2 BBb Tubas - all treble clef
Eb Major	<i>Soprano octave</i>	Alto Recorder & Cello
		Alto Recorder & Guitar
		Eb Flute & Bb Clarinet
		Eb Flute & Alto Clarinet
		Eb Clarinet & Bb Clarinet
		Eb Clarinet & Alto Clarinet
		Eb Clarinet & Bass Clarinet
	<i>Alto octave</i>	Bass Recorder & Cello
		Bass Recorder & Guitar
		Alto Saxophone & Tenor Saxophone
	<i>Bass octave</i>	2 Tubas
		2 Eb Tubas - all treble clef
		Eb Tuba & BBb Tuba - all treble clef
F Major	<i>Alto octave</i>	2 Basset Horns
		Soprano Saxophone & Tenor Saxophone
		Viola & Bass Tuba

G Major	<i>Mezzo octave</i>	Alto Flute & Bass Flute	
		Alto Flute & Clarinet in A	
		Violin & Bass Tuba	
Ab Major	<i>Baritone octave</i>	2 Ophicleides	
		Euphonium & Bass Tuba	
Bb Major	<i>Super octave</i>	Euphonium & Eb Tuba - all treble clef	
		Soprano Recorder & Alto Recorder	
		Soprano Recorder & Bass Recorder	
	<i>Soprano octave</i>	Tenor Recorder & Bass Recorder	
		Tenor Recorder & Guitar	
		Eb Clarinet & Bb Clarinet	
		Eb Clarinet & Bass Clarinet	
		2 Bb Clarinets	
		Bb Clarinet & Bass Clarinet	
		Soprano Saxophone & Alto Saxophone	
		Soprano Saxophone & Baritone Saxophone	
		<i>Tenor octave</i>	Eb Alto Clarinet & Bass Clarinet
			Eb Alto Clarinet & Contrabass Clarinet
			2 Bass Clarinets
		Bass Clarinet & Contrabass Clarinet	
		Alto Saxophone & Baritone Saxophone	
		Tenor Saxophone & Baritone Saxophone	
		Horn in F & Wagner Tuba	
Horn in F & Tuba			
Horn in F & Contrabass Tuba			
Eb Horn & Bb Euphonium - all treble clef			
Eb Horn & BBb Tuba - all treble clef			
2 Ophicleides			
2 Bb Euphoniums treble clef			
Euphonium & Contrabass Tuba			
Bb Euphonium & BBb Tuba - all treble clef			