

Gwyneth Walker

*Duets*

*For Clarinet and Piano*

1. Lively, with Energy
2. Quietly, Reflectively
3. Wanderer – A Rhythmic Song
4. Rolling River

# Duets

duration: 11:40

These are short pieces composed in the spirit of joy for Clarinetist and Pianist to *dialogue* in music.

“Lively, with Energy” opens with a brief introduction followed by a rhythmic theme. This movement is a rondo in form, with theme alternating with *side excursions*.

“Quietly, Reflectively” is based on two elements: theme marked *gently*, and a counter-motive of descending seconds, marked *mournfully, as a sigh*. Although the Clarinet writing explores the full range of the instrument, special attention is given to the sonorous lower range.

The third movement, “Wanderer,” truly is a “Rhythmic Song.” Starting in the low range where the previous movement ended, the Clarinet pattern is more rhythmic than melodic. The rests outnumber the notes, as if hinting at travels yet to come. When the theme arrives, it ascends stepwise – setting forth on a journey. The voyage rises into the high range, and then descends into the depths of the opening. Since rhythm is a main characteristic of this movement, the Clarinet discards pitch, and ends with vocal effects.

The “Wanderer” character of the third movement suggests a natural transition to a “Rolling River.” In this case, after a *flowing* piano introduction, the Clarinet enters with the well-known “Shenandoah” theme. While the melody is presented true to the song, it is the piano which portrays the river in *rippling arpeggios*. Near to the end, the Clarinet takes over the flowing pattern. The music ends much as it began, with the river motion in the piano, and the song melody in Clarinet.



Widely performed throughout the country, the music of American composer **Gwyneth Walker** is beloved by performers and audiences alike for its energy, beauty, reverence, drama, and humor. Dr. Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947) is a graduate of Brown University and the Hartt School of Music. She holds B.A., M.M. and D.M.A. degrees in Music Composition. A former faculty member of the Oberlin College Conservatory, she resigned from academic employment in 1982 in order to pursue a career as a full-time composer. For nearly 30 years, she lived on a dairy farm in Braintree, Vermont. She now divides her time between her childhood hometown of New Canaan, Connecticut and the musical communities of Sarasota, Florida and Randolph, Vermont.

Gwyneth Walker has been a proud resident of Vermont for many years. She is the recipient of the Year 2000 “Lifetime Achievement Award” from the Vermont Arts Council as well as the 2008 “Athenaeum Award for Achievement in the Arts and Humanities” from the St. Johnsbury (VT) Athenaeum. In 2012, she was elected as a Fellow of the Vermont Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Walker’s catalog includes over 300 commissioned works for orchestra, chamber ensembles, chorus, and solo voice. A special interest has been dramatic works that combine music with readings, acting, and movement. The music of Gwyneth Walker is published by E. C. Schirmer (choral and vocal music) and Lauren Keiser Music (orchestral and instrumental music).

*Further information concerning Gwyneth Walker and her works is available at*  
**[www.gwynethwalker.com](http://www.gwynethwalker.com)**

# Duets

for Clarinet and Piano

Gwyneth Walker

## 1. Lively, with Energy

*Slowly, freely, as an introduction*

Bb Clarinet

Piano

5

Cl.

Piano

8

Cl.

Piano

*rit.*

**A** Lively ♩ = 108 (constant tempo throughout)

*rit.*

*cresc.*

**A** Lively ♩ = 108 (constant tempo throughout)

11  
Cl. *p*

14  
Cl. *mp*

17  
Cl. *mf* **B** *(mf)*

20  
Cl.

23

Cl. *p playfully* *mf*

*p* *mf*

26

Cl. *p* *mf* C

*p* *mf* C

Ped.

29

*mf*

32

Cl.

Ped.

35

Cl.

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

37

Cl.

**D** *Delicately, with anticipation*

*p*

**D** *Delicately, with anticipation*

*p*

*with pedal*

40

Cl.

43

Cl.

*mp*

*mp*

46

Cl. *mf*

*mf*

49

Cl. *f*

*f*

52

Cl. *p sub.*

*p sub.*

54

Cl. *cresc.* *f*

*cresc.* *f*

*f abruptly*

E

(Ped.)

56

Cl.

Musical score for measures 56-58. The clarinet part (Cl.) features a melodic line with slurs and accents. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and slurs in both hands.

59

Cl.

*mf* < *f*

*p*

*mf*

*ped.*

Musical score for measures 59-61. The clarinet part (Cl.) includes dynamics *mf*, *f*, *p*, and *mf*. The piano accompaniment features dynamics *p* and *mf*, along with a *ped.* marking.

62

Cl.

*f*

*f*

*ped.*

Musical score for measures 62-65. The clarinet part (Cl.) has a dynamic of *f*. The piano accompaniment features a dynamic of *f* and four *ped.* markings.

64

Cl.

*sfp*

*tr*

*ff*

*ff*

*ped.*

Musical score for measures 64-65. The clarinet part (Cl.) includes dynamics *sfp*, *tr*, and *ff*. The piano accompaniment features dynamics *ff* and a *ped.* marking.



## 2. Quietly, Reflectively

♩ = 116

Introduction for piano. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 116. The piece begins with a piano (*p*) and gently dynamic. The right hand (RH) features a melodic line with grace notes and slurs, while the left hand (LH) provides a harmonic accompaniment with sustained chords. The introduction concludes with a fermata over the final chord.

First system of the duet. The Clarinet (Cl.) part begins at measure 5 with a rest, followed by a melodic line marked *p gently*. A first ending bracket labeled 'A' spans measures 5 through 10. The piano accompaniment (RH and LH) consists of chords, with the right hand marked *p gently*. A first ending bracket labeled 'A' spans measures 5 through 10. The system ends with a fermata over the final chord.

Second system of the duet. The Clarinet (Cl.) part begins at measure 11 with a melodic line marked with a fermata. The piano accompaniment (RH and LH) continues with chords. The system ends with a fermata over the final chord.

Third system of the duet. The Clarinet (Cl.) part begins at measure 16 with a melodic line marked with a fermata and a triplet of eighth notes. The piano accompaniment (RH and LH) continues with chords. The system ends with a fermata over the final chord.

23

Cl. *tr*

*cresc.*

*with pedal*

29

Cl. *mf* *mf > p* *mournfully, as a sigh*

*(cresc.)* *mf*

**B**

*(with pedal)*

34

Cl. *mf > p* *mf > p*

39

Cl. *mf > p* *mf > p* *mf > p*

45

Cl. *mf*

51

56

Cl. *mf*  $\rightarrow$  *p*

C

60

Cl. *mf*  $\rightarrow$  *p* *mf*

3

*And.* *simile*

64 Cl. *mf*

Musical score for measures 64-67. The Clarinet part (Cl.) has a whole note rest in measure 64, followed by a half note in measure 65, and a half note in measure 66. The piano accompaniment features triplet eighth notes in both hands across all four measures. The dynamic marking is *mf*.

68 Cl. *p*

Musical score for measures 68-71. The Clarinet part (Cl.) has a half note in measure 68, followed by a whole note in measure 69, and a half note in measure 70. The piano accompaniment features triplet eighth notes in both hands across all four measures. The dynamic marking is *p*.

72 Cl. *f* **D**

Musical score for measures 72-75. The Clarinet part (Cl.) has a half note in measure 72, followed by a quarter note, eighth notes, and quarter notes in measures 73-75. The piano accompaniment features triplet eighth notes in both hands in measure 72, followed by chords in measures 73-75. The dynamic marking is *f*. There are two boxed 'D' markings above the piano part in measures 73 and 74. The word 'Ped.' is written below the piano part in measures 73 and 74.

76 Cl.

Musical score for measures 76-79. The Clarinet part (Cl.) has a quarter note in measure 76, followed by eighth notes and a half note in measures 77-79. The piano accompaniment features chords in measures 76-77 and eighth notes in measures 78-79. The word 'Ped.' is written below the piano part in measures 76 and 78.

80

Cl.

85

Cl.

90

Cl.

96 [E]

Cl.

*Ped. simile*

12

100

Cl. *mf*

104

Cl. *mf*  $\rightarrow$  *p* *mf*  $\rightarrow$  *p* *mf* *rit.*

108 (rit.)

*free run, as a cadenza*

*a tempo*

*p* *mf* *a tempo*

(rit.)

113

Cl. *rit.* *p*

*rit.* *p* *8va*

## 3. Wanderer – A Rhythmic Song

$\text{♩} = 92$  *playfully, hinting at travels yet to come*

Cl. 

$\text{♩} = 92$  *playfully, hinting at travels yet to come*

4 

6 

*mf*

*slight pedal*

14

8 A *With warmth and joy (for the travel)*

Cl. *(mf)* A *With warmth and joy (for the travel)*

*(mf)*

*with more pedal*

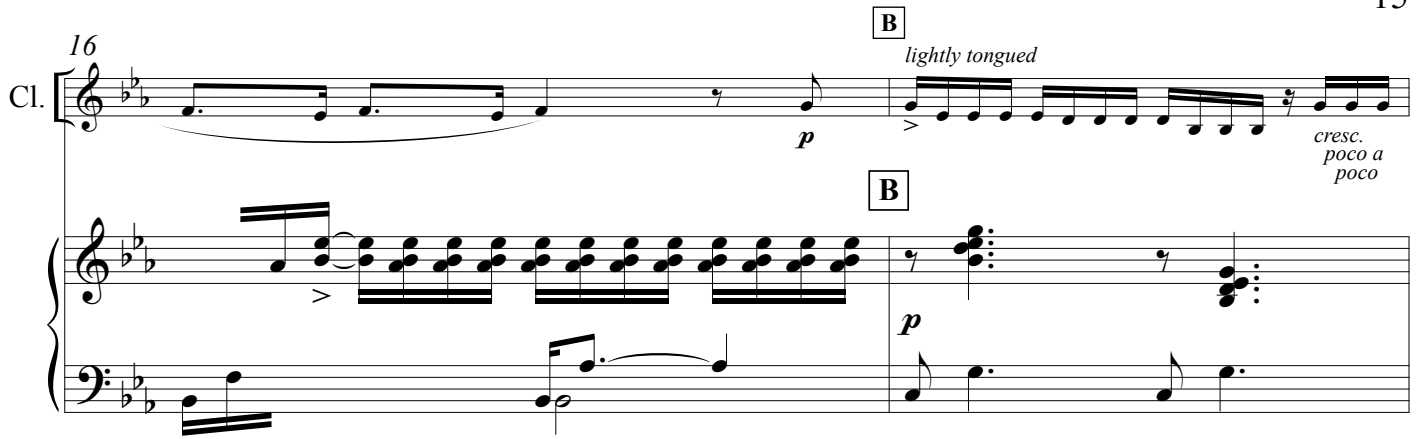
10

12

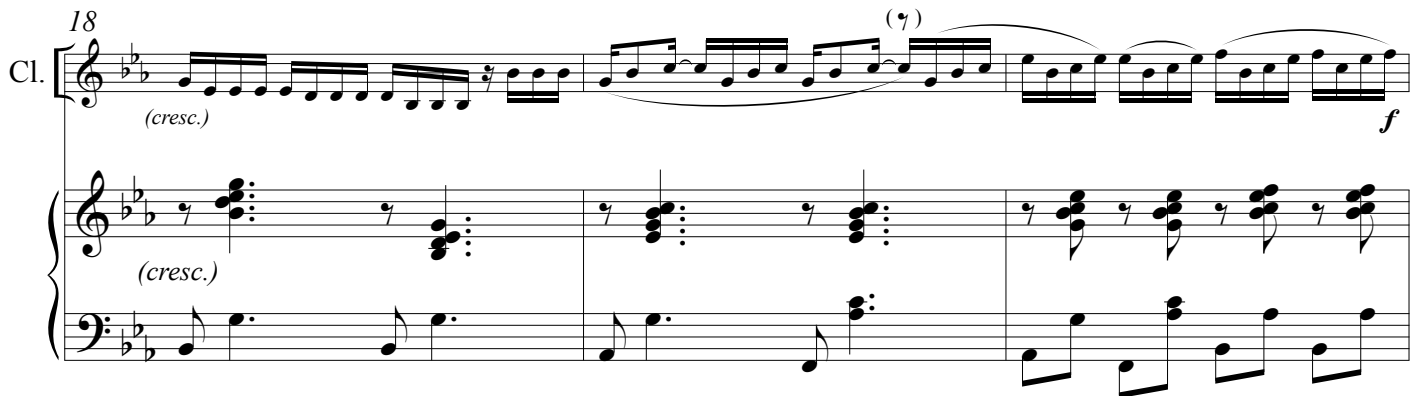
14



16 **B** *lightly tongued*  
Cl. *p* *cresc. poco a poco*



18 *(cresc.)* *(7)* *f*



21 **C** *with joy and energy*  
Cl. *(f)*



*f*  
*with pedal*

23



25 **D**

Cl. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Musical score for measures 25-26. The clarinet part (Cl.) has two measures. The first measure has a whole note chord with dynamics *p* and *mf*. The second measure has a whole note chord with dynamics *p* and *mf*. The piano accompaniment (piano) has two measures. The first measure has a melody in the right hand starting with an accent (>) and a chord in the left hand. The second measure has a similar melody and chord.

27

Cl.

Musical score for measures 27-28. The clarinet part (Cl.) has two measures of eighth notes. The piano accompaniment (piano) has two measures. The first measure has a melody in the right hand and a chord in the left hand. The second measure has a similar melody and chord.

29 **E**

Cl. *(mf)*

**E**

Musical score for measures 29-30. The clarinet part (Cl.) has two measures of eighth notes with dynamic *(mf)*. The piano accompaniment (piano) has two measures. The first measure has a melody in the right hand and a chord in the left hand. The second measure has a similar melody and chord.

31

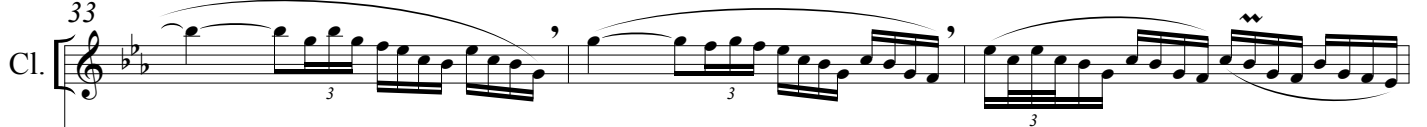
Cl. *rit.* *f*

*rit.*

Musical score for measures 31-32. The clarinet part (Cl.) has two measures of eighth notes with dynamics *rit.* and *f*. The piano accompaniment (piano) has two measures. The first measure has a melody in the right hand and a chord in the left hand. The second measure has a similar melody and chord.


**F** Slowly, freely

33

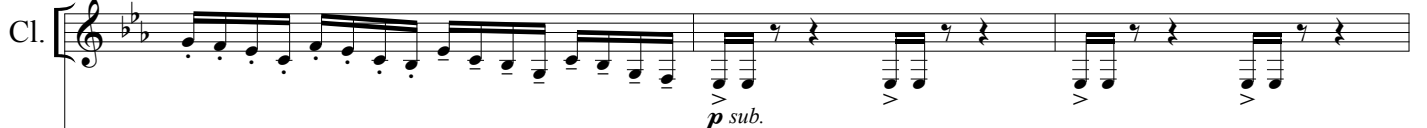
Cl. 

**F** Slowly, freely

*f*



36 *rit.* **G** Start slowly and accel. to end

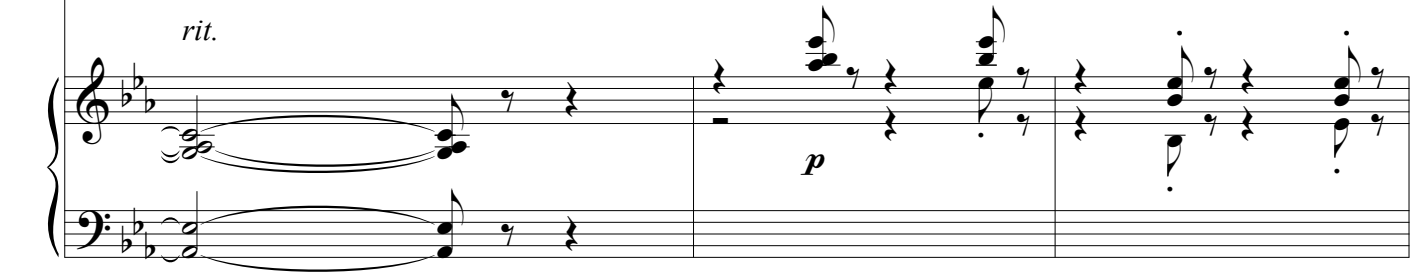
Cl. 

*p sub.*

**G** Start slowly and accel. to end

*rit.*

*p*



39 *(accel.)*

Cl. 

*mp*

*(accel.)*

*mp*



41 *(accel.)*

Cl.

43 **Very quickly** *rhythmic vocal effects (not into instrument)* **[abrupt ending]**

Cl.

*f t t t t t... etc.*

**Very quickly** **[abrupt ending]**

2:10

[When connecting to the next movement  
allow for a break of approximately 4 sec.]

# 4. Rolling River

Peaceful, moderate tempo ♩ = 108

*flowing, as a rolling river*

The first system of music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The right hand features a melodic line with several triplet markings. The left hand has a bass line with a 'pedal' marking. A large slur covers the right hand's melody across the first two measures.

The second system continues the piece. It features a large slur over the right hand's melody, which includes triplet markings. The left hand has a bass line with a 'pedal' marking. The music concludes with a final chord in the right hand.

The third system continues the piece. It features a large slur over the right hand's melody, which includes triplet markings. The left hand has a bass line with a 'pedal' marking. The music concludes with a final chord in the right hand.

The Clarinet part (Cl.) begins at measure 10. It is marked 'Clarinet in A' and 'peacefully'. The dynamic is piano (*p*). The right hand has a melodic line with a 'dim.' (diminuendo) marking. The left hand has a bass line with a 'pedal' marking. A large slur covers the right hand's melody across the first two measures.

13 **A**

Cl.

**A** *as rippling water*

*pp* barely audible

(*Seq.*)

16

Cl.

(*Seq.*)

19 **B**

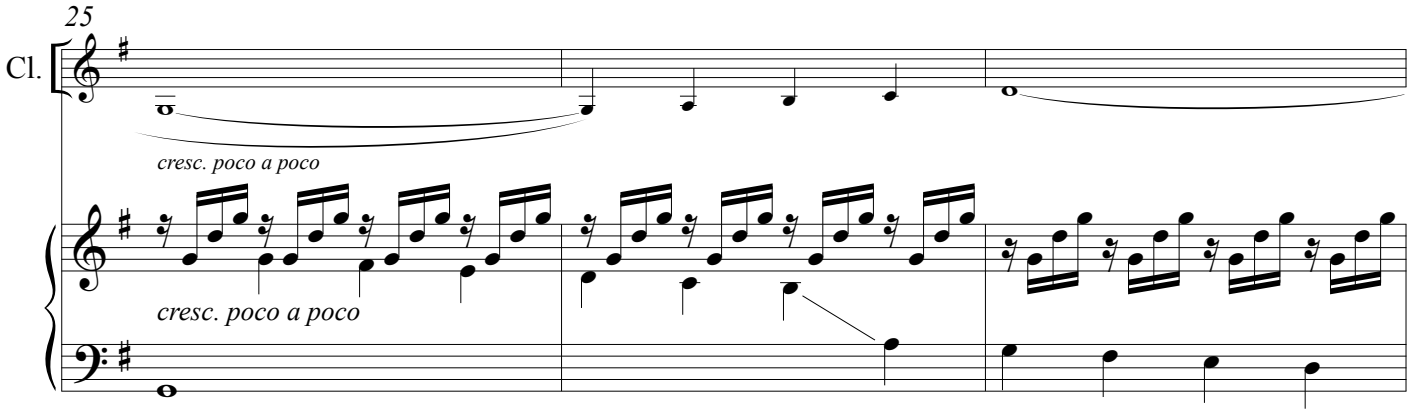
Cl.

**B**

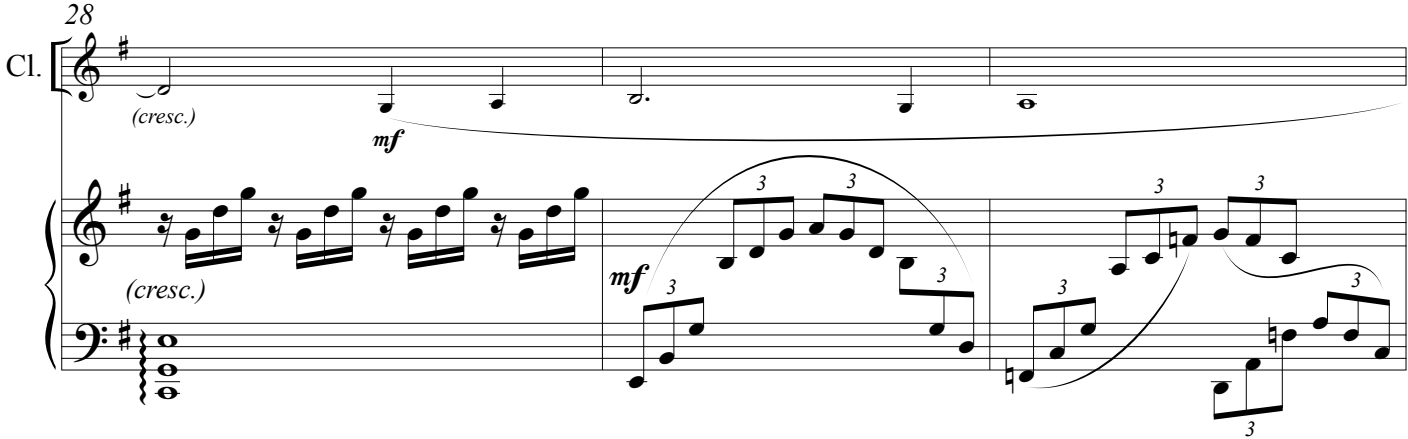
22

Cl.

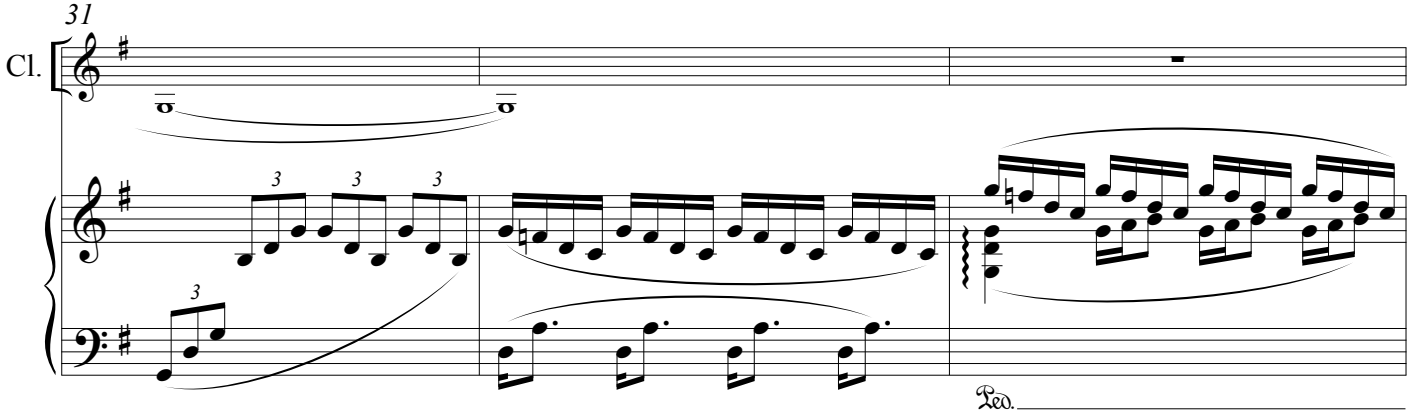
25

Cl. 

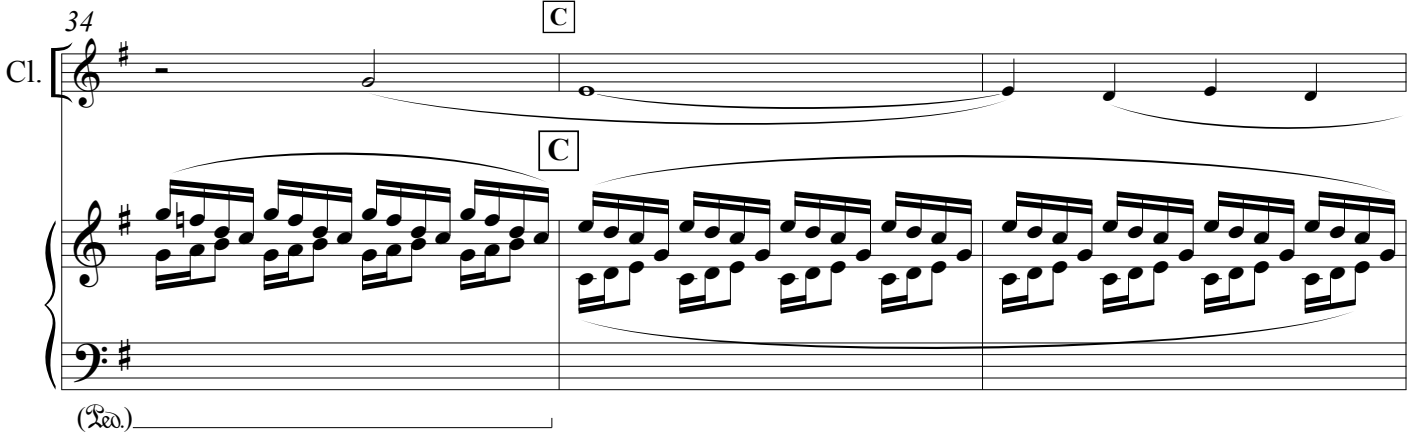
28

Cl. 

31

Cl. 

34

Cl. 

37

Cl.

Musical score for measures 37-39. The Clarinet part (Cl.) features a long slur across measures 37, 38, and 39. The Piano part includes triplets in measures 37 and 38, and sixteenth-note patterns in measure 39.

40

Cl.

Musical score for measures 40-42. The Clarinet part (Cl.) features a long slur across measures 40, 41, and 42. The Piano part includes sixteenth-note patterns in measure 40 and triplets in measures 41 and 42.

43

Cl.

D

Musical score for measures 43-45. The Clarinet part (Cl.) features triplets in measures 43, 44, and 45. The Piano part includes sixteenth-note patterns in measure 43 and chords in measures 44 and 45. A 'D' box is present above the first measure of the piano part.

46

Cl.

Musical score for measures 46-48. The Clarinet part (Cl.) features triplets in measures 46, 47, and 48. The Piano part includes sixteenth-note patterns in measure 46 and chords in measures 47 and 48.



49 **E**

Cl. *p*

**E**

*p trembling*

*Ped.* *with pedal*

53

Cl. *cresc.* *mf*

*cresc.* *mf*

*Ped.*

56

Cl. *cresc.* *f*

*cresc.*

*Ped.* *Ped.*

59 **F**

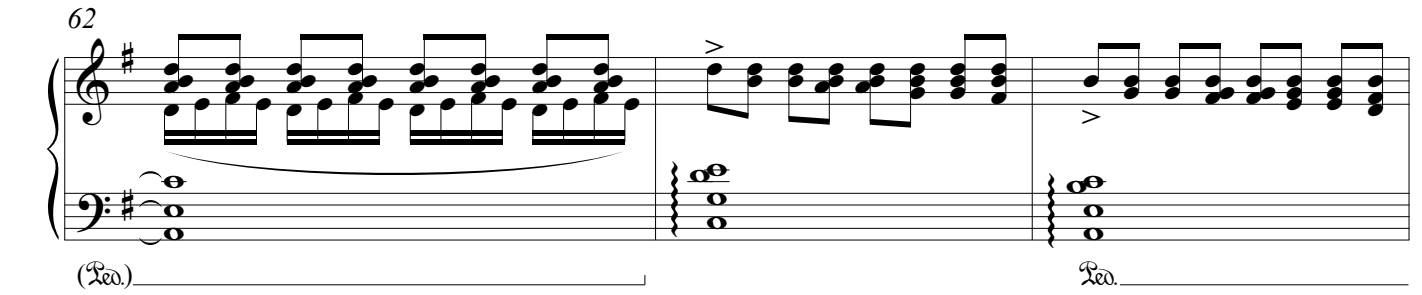
Cl. *f with intensity*

**F**

*f with intensity*

*Ped.* *Ped.*

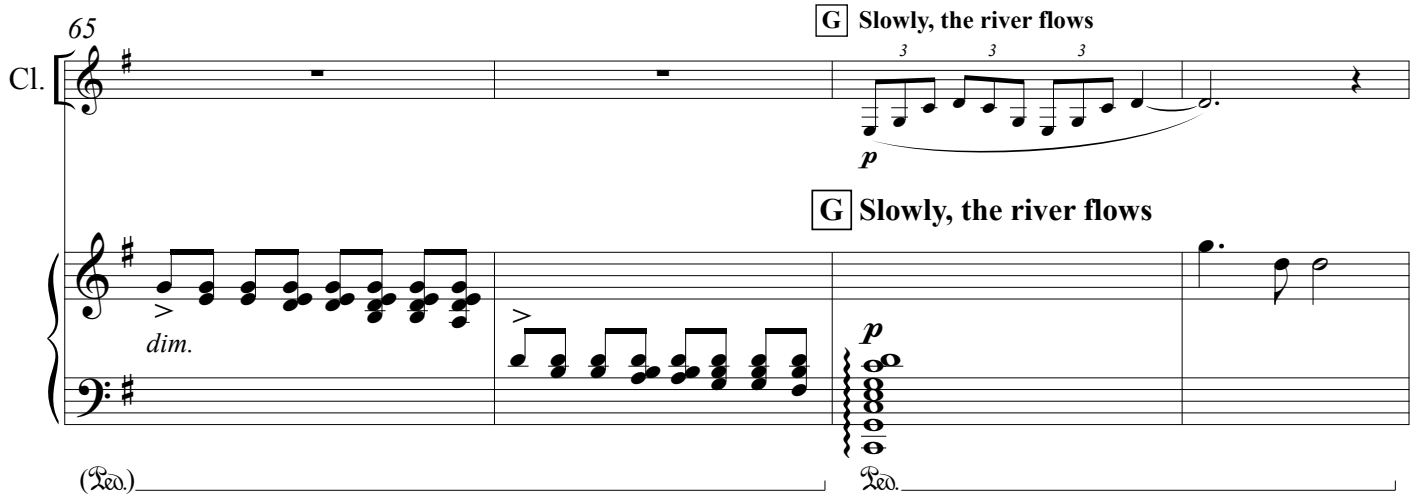
62



(And.)

65

Cl. **G** Slowly, the river flows



*p*

**G** Slowly, the river flows

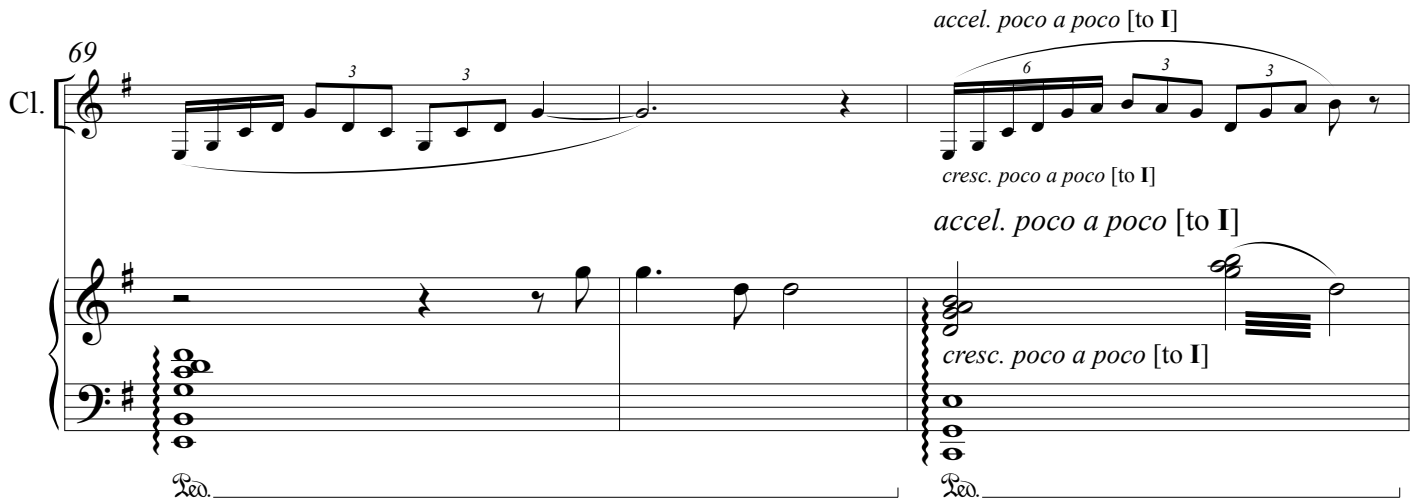
*dim.*

*p*

(And.)

69

Cl. *accel. poco a poco [to I]*



*cresc. poco a poco [to I]*

*accel. poco a poco [to I]*

*cresc. poco a poco [to I]*

(And.)

72 (accel.)

Cl. *(cresc.)*



*(accel.)*

*(cresc.)*

(And.)



83 **I** *Faster, a tempo*

Cl.

**I** *Faster, a tempo*

*f*

*with pedal*

86

Cl.

*f* *mf*

89

Cl.

*mp* *rit. to end*

*mf* *mp* *rit. to end*

92 *(rit.)*

Cl.

*p* *(rit.)*

*p*