

MICHAEL MARKOWSKI

FINDING THE WORDS

FOR CLARINET QUARTET

SAMPLE SCORE / NOT A PURCHASED SCORE / FOR PERUSAL ONLY

MICHAEL MARKOWSKI

FINDING THE WORDS

INSTRUMENTATION

This arrangement is flexible based on your quartet's unique instrumentation.
Parts 1 and 3 may be played on either of the instruments listed below.

Part 1: E♭ Clarinet, B♭ Clarinet

Part 2: B♭ Clarinet

Part 3: Bass Horn, E♭ Alto Clarinet, B♭ Bass Clarinet

Part 4: B♭ Bass Clarinet

Duration: ca. 10:00

Copyright © 2019 Michael Markowski / Markowski Creative (ASCAP). All rights reserved.

For more information, please visit <http://www.michaelmarkowski.com>

ORIGINALLY COMMISSIONED BY

The University of Arizona Saxophone Studio

Dr. Edward Goodman, Professor

Wright State University Saxophone Studio

Dr. Shelley Jagow, Professor

McLean High School Chamber Ensemble

Deidra Denson, Director

Bull City Saxophone Quartet

Ellen Horner

Jennifer Potts

Mary Huntimer

Walter Martin

Eurus Saxophone Quartet

Hayden Anderson

Reese Burgan

Kaylee Christensen

Andrew Twiss

The Shredtet

Woody Chenoweth

Jonathan Brink

Samuel Lana

Austin Atkinson

Sursum Quartet

Robby Ávila

George Rosas

Ashley Krogstad

AJ Pratt

Individual Contributors

Myles Boothroyd

Kenneth A. Carter II

Marcia Doerr

Dr. Andrew Harrison

Trevor C. McMillan

Cameron Merrill

PROGRAM NOTE

Sometimes, a piece of music is about... *nothing*. And that's okay! But in deciding what to title that piece about 'nothing,' the music itself can lend clues. The style, harmony, and overall visceral feeling can often suggest a particular character or musical personality that the composer perhaps never initially intended.

For instance, the first movement from *Finding The Words* is full of flashy, technical phrases designed to dazzle and impress. Its personality, though, seems to me to sound a bit pretentious, highfalutin, and rhythmically stiff. Because of this, I found myself lured into naming this movement *Five-Dollar Diction* as an echo of Mark Twain's warning to aspiring writers: "don't use a five-dollar word when a fifty-cent word will do."

If movement one is trying too hard to show off how much it knows, then in contrast, movement two is offering humility. To me, this heartbreaking song seems to express some kind of emptiness — perhaps a longing to find meaning, purpose, or importance. Even as the music searches for this fulfillment, though, in the end, it will remain tragically unfulfilled and *Undefined*.

A short pause cleanses our palette for a change of scenery. Here in movement three, the musical character seems to venture somewhere across the border. The saxophones sing passionately in their *Foreign Tongues*, and we're quickly seduced by their charming accents and exotic vernacular. Although this isn't our own native language, the music seems to invite us to join in and sing along, even if we have to mouth the words. But who needs words anyway?

Finding The Words premiered on April 28, 2019 in Tucson, Arizona with the Sursum Saxophone Quartet: Robby Ávila (soprano), George Rosas (alto), Ashley Krogstad (tenor), and AJ Pratt (baritone).

For AJ Pratt

FINDING THE WORDS

MICHAEL MARKOWSKI

♩ = 148+

1. Five-Dollar Diction

The musical score is arranged in two systems. The first system includes parts for Eb Clarinet (Part 1), Bb Clarinet (Part 1), Bb Clarinet (Part 2), Bassett Horn (Part 3), Eb Alto Clarinet (Part 3), Bb Bass Clarinet (Part 3), and Bb Bass Clarinet (Part 4). The second system includes parts for Eb Cl., Cl. 1, Cl. 2, B. Hn., Alto Cl., B. Cl., and B. Cl. The score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 148+ BPM. Dynamics include *pp* (pianissimo) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The key signature has one sharp (F#).

Transposed Score

Musical score for measures 8-11. The score is for a Clarinet Quartet and includes parts for Eb Clarinet (Cl. 1), Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, B. Horn, Alto Clarinet, B. Clarinet, and B. Clarinet. The music features complex rhythmic patterns with slurs and accents. Dynamics include *p sub.*, *f*, and *p*.

Musical score for measures 12-15. The score is for a Clarinet Quartet and includes parts for Eb Clarinet (Cl. 1), Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, B. Horn, Alto Clarinet, B. Clarinet, and B. Clarinet. A section labeled 'A' begins at measure 12. The music features sustained notes with slurs and accents. Dynamics include *f*, *legato*, *p*, and *sfz*.

Transposed Score

16

E♭ Cl. *(lip up from B)*
p

Cl. 1 *(lip up from E)*
p

Cl. 2 *p* *f*

B. Hn. *p* *f*

Alto Cl. *p* *f*

B. Cl. *p* *f*

B. Cl. *sfz* *sfz* *p* *f*

20 **B**

E♭ Cl.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2 *p* *pp*

B. Hn. *pp*

Alto Cl. *pp*

B. Cl. *pp*

B. Cl. *p* *pp*

Transposed Score

24 **C**

E♭ Cl. *pp* *f*

Cl. 1 *pp* *f*

Cl. 2 *f*

B. Hn. *f*

Alto Cl. *f*

B. Cl. *f*

B. Cl. *f*

27

E♭ Cl. *p sub.* *f* *p*

Cl. 1 *p sub.* *f* *p*

Cl. 2 *p sub.* *f* *p*

B. Hn. *p sub.* *f* *p*

Alto Cl. *p sub.* *f* *p*

B. Cl. *p sub.* *f* *p*

B. Cl. *p sub.* *f* *f*

Transposed Score

30

Musical score for measures 30-32. The score is for a Clarinet Quartet and includes parts for Eb Clarinet, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, B. Horn, Alto Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, and another Bass Clarinet. The music features a complex rhythmic pattern with many eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. There are dynamic markings such as *p* (piano) and accents throughout the passage.

33

D

Musical score for measures 33-35. This section is marked with a 'D' in a box. It features a more intense and rhythmic passage. Dynamic markings include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *ff* (fortissimo). The instruction 'aggressive accents' is written above several notes in measures 34 and 35. The notation includes many beamed eighth and sixteenth notes, and some notes have accents (>) above them.

Transposed Score

37

E♭ Cl. *fp* *p* *ff*

Cl. 1 *fp* *p* *ff*

Cl. 2 *fp* *p* *ff*

B. Hn. *fp* *p* *ff*

Alto Cl. *fp* *p* *ff*

B. Cl. *fp* *p* *ff*

B. Cl. *fp* *p* *ff*

41

E

E♭ Cl. *mp* *f* *p* *legato*

Cl. 1 *mp* *f* *p* *legato*

Cl. 2 *mp* *f* *p* *legato*

B. Hn. *mp* *f* *p* *legato*

Alto Cl. *mp* *f* *p* *legato*

B. Cl. *mp* *f* *p* *legato*

B. Cl. *mp* *f* *p*

Transposed Score

46

E♭ Cl.
Cl. 1
Cl. 2
B. Hn.
Alto Cl.
B. Cl.
B. Cl.

F

50

E♭ Cl.
Cl. 1
Cl. 2
B. Hn.
Alto Cl.
B. Cl.
B. Cl.

Transposed Score

54

Eb Cl. *mp* *pp* *mf*

Cl. 1 *mp* *pp* *mf*

Cl. 2 *mp* *pp* *mf*

B. Hn. *mp* *pp* *f*

Alto Cl. *mp* *pp* *f*

B. Cl. *mp* *pp* *f*

B. Cl. *mf* *fp* *mf*

58

G

Eb Cl. *mf* *p*

Cl. 1 *mf* *p*

Cl. 2 *mf*

B. Hn. *p* *p*

Alto Cl. *p* *p*

B. Cl. *p* *p*

B. Cl. *p*

Transposed Score

62

Musical score for measures 62-64. The score is for a Clarinet Quartet and includes parts for Eb Clarinet, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, B. Horn, Alto Clarinet, and Bass Clarinet. The music is in 4/4 time and features a melodic line in the Eb Clarinet and Clarinet 1 parts, with supporting parts in the other instruments. The dynamic marking is *mf* (mezzo-forte).

65

Musical score for measures 65-68. The score continues from the previous system. The dynamic marking changes to *ff* (fortissimo) starting in measure 65. The music features a more active and intense melodic line in the Eb Clarinet and Clarinet 1 parts.

Transposed Score

69 **H**

E♭ Cl. *ff* aggressive accents *fp* *ff*

Cl. 1 *ff* aggressive accents *fp* *ff*

Cl. 2 *ff* aggressive accents *fp* *ff*

B. Hn. *ff* aggressive accents *fp* *ff*

Alto Cl. *ff* aggressive accents *fp* *ff*

B. Cl. *ff* aggressive accents *fp* *ff*

B. Cl. *ff* aggressive accents *fp* *ff*

73

E♭ Cl.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Hn.

Alto Cl.

B. Cl.

B. Cl.

Like what you see?

Your support makes music like this possible. Celebrate by ordering a copy for yourself.

2. Undefined

Molto Rubato ♩ = ca. 80

The image shows a musical score for a Clarinet Quartet, measures 1 through 5. The score is arranged in two systems. The first system (measures 1-4) is marked 'Molto Rubato' with a tempo of approximately 80 beats per minute. It features seven staves: Eb Clarinet, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bass Horn, Alto Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, and another Bass Clarinet. The music is in 4/4 time and consists of a melodic line with dynamic markings from *pp* to *mp*. The second system (measures 5-8) is marked 'molto espressivo' and includes performance instructions such as 'linger...', 'hushed...', and '3' (triplets). The time signature changes to 5/4, then 4/4, and back to 5/4. Dynamic markings include *p*, *mp*, and *pp*. The score concludes with a final measure in 4/4 time.

9 **A**

9 **A**

E♭ Cl. *pp* *p* *mp* *pp*

Cl. 1 *pp* *p* *mp* *pp*

Cl. 2 *pp* *p* *mp* *pp*

B. Hn. *pp* *p* *mp* *pp*

Alto Cl. *pp* *p* *mp* *pp*

B. Cl. *pp* *p* *mp* *pp*

B. Cl. *pp* *p* *mp* *pp*

13 pushing forward ...

13 pushing forward ...

E♭ Cl. *pp* *mp* *pp*

Cl. 1 *pp* *mp* *pp*

Cl. 2 *legato* *pp* *mp* *pp*

B. Hn. *(sing out)* *mp* *pp*

Alto Cl. *(sing out)* *mp* *pp*

B. Cl. *(sing out)* *mp* *pp*

B. Cl. *mp*

B A Tempo

17

E♭ Cl. *mp*

Cl. 1 *mp*

Cl. 2 *mp*

B. Hn. *mp*

Alto Cl. *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

mf *p*

C

21

E♭ Cl. *mp* *pp* *mf* *pp*

Cl. 1 *mp* *pp* *mf* *pp*

Cl. 2 *mp* *pp* *mf* *p* *mp*

B. Hn. *mp* *pp* *mf* *p* *molto espressivo*

Alto Cl. *mp* *pp* *mf* *p* *molto espressivo*

B. Cl. *mp* *pp* *mf* *p* *molto espressivo*

B. Cl. *p* *mp* *pp* *mf* *pp*

bring out...

molto espressivo

molto espressivo

molto espressivo

Transposed Score

25 *linger...* *hushed...* *growing...*

mp *pp* *mp* *mp* *p* *pp*

mp *pp* *mp* *mp* *p* *pp*

mp *p* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *p* *pp*

mp *pp* *mp* *mp* *p* *pp*

mp *pp* *mp* *mp* *p* *pp*

mp *pp* *pp* *mp* *mp* *p* *pp*

29 **D** pushing forward ...

(sing out) *mp*

(sing out) *mp*

legato *pp* *mp*

legato *pp* *mf*

legato *pp* *mf*

legato *pp* *mf*

(sing out) *mp*

Transposed Score

33

E♭ Cl. *p*

Cl. 1 *p*

Cl. 2 *p legato*

B. Hn. *p legato*

Alto Cl. *p legato*

B. Cl. *p legato*

B. Cl. *mp (sing out)*

mf (N.B.)

E as before, but a bit faster now

37

E♭ Cl. *f*

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2 *f*

B. Hn. *f*

Alto Cl. *f*

B. Cl. *f*

B. Cl. *f*

mf

f

mp

Transposed Score

41

Eb Cl. *mf* *p sub.* *molto* *f* *pp* *fragile...*

Cl. 1 *mf* *p sub.* *molto* *f* *pp* *fragile...*

Cl. 2 *mf* *p sub.* *molto* *f* *mf* *pp* *bring out...*

B. Hn. *mf* *p sub.* *molto* *f* *pp*

Alto Cl. *mf* *p sub.* *molto* *f* *pp*

B. Cl. *mf* *p sub.* *molto* *f* *pp*

B. Cl. *mp* *mf* *p sub.* *molto* *f* *pp*

F 44

Eb Cl. *linger... hushed...* *p* *pp* *mp* *mp* *pp*

Cl. 1 *linger... hushed...* *p* *pp* *mp* *mp* *pp*

Cl. 2 *molto espressivo* *linger... hushed...* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

B. Hn. *molto espressivo* *linger...* *hushed...* *mp* *pp* *mp* *mp* *pp*

Alto Cl. *molto espressivo* *linger...* *hushed...* *mp* *pp* *mp* *mp* *pp*

B. Cl. *mp* *linger...* *hushed...* *mp* *pp* *mp* *mp* *pp*

B. Cl. *mp* *linger...* *hushed...* *mp* *pp* *mp* *mp* *pp*

3. Foreign Tongues

Fast Latin Feel ♩ = ca. 140

1

Musical score for measures 1-4. The score is for a Clarinet Quartet with parts for Eb Clarinet, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bass Horn, Alto Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, and another Bass Clarinet. The music is in 4/4 time and features a fast Latin feel. Dynamics include *ff*, *mf*, and *p*. The Eb Clarinet, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bass Horn, and Alto Clarinet parts have a melodic line with slurs and accents. The Bass Clarinet parts have a rhythmic accompaniment. The second Bass Clarinet part has a melodic line with slurs and accents.

5

(lip down) **A**

Musical score for measures 5-8. The score continues from the previous page. Dynamics include *p*, *mf*, *pp*, and *f*. The Eb Clarinet, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bass Horn, Alto Clarinet, and Bass Clarinet parts have melodic lines with slurs and accents. The Bass Clarinet parts have a rhythmic accompaniment. The second Bass Clarinet part has a melodic line with slurs and accents. The score includes a section marked **A** with the instruction "(lip down)".

Transposed Score

9

Musical score for measures 9-12. The score is for a Clarinet Quartet and includes parts for Eb Clarinet, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bass Horn, Alto Clarinet, and Bass Clarinet. The music is in 4/4 time. Measures 9-12 show a dynamic progression from *mf* to *pp* and back to *f*. Performance instructions include "(a little dirty)" and "...clean again".

Instrument parts: Eb Cl., Cl. 1, Cl. 2, B. Hn., Alto Cl., B. Cl., B. Cl.

Dynamic markings: *mf*, *pp*, *ff*, *p sub.*, *f*.

Performance instructions: "(a little dirty)", "...clean again".

13

Musical score for measures 13-16. The score continues for the same instruments as above. Measures 13-16 show a dynamic progression from *mf* to *f* and *ff*. Performance instructions include accents (^) and dynamic markings.

Instrument parts: Eb Cl., Cl. 1, Cl. 2, B. Hn., Alto Cl., B. Cl., B. Cl.

Dynamic markings: *mf*, *f*, *ff*.

Transposed Score

17 **B**

Measures 17-20. Eb Cl. and Cl. 1: *p* → *f* *sing out* (triplets). Cl. 2, B. Hn., Alto Cl., B. Cl.: *p* → *mf* → *p* → *mf*. Bottom B. Cl.: *p* → *mf*.

21

Measures 21-24. Eb Cl. and Cl. 1: *p* → *f* → *ff* (triplets and sextuplets). Cl. 2, B. Hn., Alto Cl., B. Cl.: *p* → *mf* → *f*. Bottom B. Cl.: *p* → *mf* → *f*.

Transposed Score

C

Musical score for measures 25-28. The score is for a Clarinet Quartet and includes parts for Eb Clarinet, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bass Horn, Alto Clarinet, Bass Clarinet 1, and Bass Clarinet 2. The music features complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and slurs. Dynamics include *mp*, *lightly*, *ff*, *p*, *f*, and *psub. sing out*. A box labeled 'C' is positioned above the staff for Clarinet 1.

Musical score for measures 29-32. The score continues for the same instruments as the previous page. The music features complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and slurs. Dynamics include *fp*, *p*, *f*, and *ff*. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 2/4 and back to 4/4.

33 **D**

33 **D**

E♭ Cl. *p* *ff* *deliberately* *p sub.*

Cl. 1 *p* *ff* *deliberately* *p sub.*

Cl. 2 *fp* *ff* *deliberately* *p sub.*

B. Hn. *f* *p* *ff* *deliberately* *p sub.*

Alto Cl. *f* *p* *ff* *deliberately* *p sub.*

B. Cl. *f* *p* *ff* *deliberately* *p sub.*

B. Cl. *ff* *deliberately*

37

37

E♭ Cl. *p* *sfz* *fp* *mf*

Cl. 1 *sfz* *fp* *mf*

Cl. 2 *sfz* *fp* *mf*

B. Hn. *sfz* *fp* *mf*

Alto Cl. *sfz* *fp* *mf*

B. Cl. *sfz* *fp* *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

Transposed Score

E

Musical score for measures 41-44. The score is for a Clarinet Quartet and includes parts for Eb Clarinet, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bass Horn, Alto Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, and a second Bass Clarinet. The music features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth notes. Dynamics range from *fp* (fortissimo piano) to *ff* (fortissimo) and *p* (piano). A performance instruction "(a little dirty)" is present in the second Bass Clarinet part.

Musical score for measures 45-48. The score continues for the same instruments as the previous system. It includes a key signature change to two flats and a time signature change to 3/4. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *ff* (fortissimo). The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some triplet markings.

Transposed Score

49 **F**

Score for measures 49-52. The score is for a Clarinet Quartet with parts for Eb Clarinet, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bass Horn, Alto Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, and another Bass Clarinet. The music is in 3/4 time and features a key signature of one flat. Dynamics include *p*, *lightly*, *mf*, and *f*.

53

Score for measures 53-56. The score continues with the same instruments as the previous system. It includes triplets in measures 53 and 54. Dynamics include *p*, *mf*, and *f*.

Transposed Score

57

Score for measures 57-60. The score is for a Clarinet Quartet with parts for Eb Clarinet, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bass Horn, Alto Clarinet, and Bass Clarinet. The music is in 2/4 time and features a key signature of one flat. Measures 57-60 show a melodic line in the Eb Clarinet and Clarinet 1 parts, with other instruments providing harmonic support. Dynamics include *p* and *f*. There are triplets in measures 59 and 60.

61

Score for measures 61-64. The score continues with the same instrumentation. Measures 61-64 show a more complex texture with multiple melodic lines and dynamic contrasts. Dynamics include *f*, *p*, and *sfz*. There are triplets in measures 62 and 64.

Transposed Score

65 rit.

E♭ Cl. *p* *ff* *p*

Cl. 1 *p* *ff* *p*

Cl. 2 *p* *ff* *p*

B. Hn. *p* *ff*

Alto Cl. *p* *ff*

B. Cl. *p* *ff*

B. Cl. *p* *ff*

69 **G** A Tempo (♩ = ca. 140)

E♭ Cl. *f* *p*

Cl. 1 *f* *p*

Cl. 2 *p lightly* *mf*

B. Hn. *p lightly* *mf*

Alto Cl. *p lightly* *mf*

B. Cl. *p lightly* *mf*

B. Cl. *p lightly* *mf*

Transposed Score

73

Musical score for measures 73-76. The score is for a Clarinet Quartet and includes parts for Eb Clarinet, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bass Horn, Alto Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, and another Bass Clarinet. The music is in 2/4 time and features various dynamics such as *f*, *p*, and *mf*. There are triplets and slurs throughout the passage.

77

H

Musical score for measures 77-80. The score is for a Clarinet Quartet and includes parts for Eb Clarinet, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bass Horn, Alto Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, and another Bass Clarinet. The music is in 2/4 time and features various dynamics such as *f* and *p*. There are slurs and accents throughout the passage.

Transposed Score

82

E♭ Cl.
Cl. 1
Cl. 2
B. Hn.
Alto Cl.
B. Cl.
B. Cl.

87

I

E♭ Cl.
Cl. 1
Cl. 2
B. Hn.
Alto Cl.
B. Cl.
B. Cl.

Transposed Score

92

Musical score for measures 92-95. The score is for a Clarinet Quartet and includes parts for Eb Clarinet, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, B. Horn, Alto Clarinet, B. Clarinet, and B. Clarinet. The music is in 2/4 time and features complex rhythmic patterns with many rests and slurs. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

96

Musical score for measures 96-99. The score continues from the previous system. Measures 96-98 are in 3/4 time, and measure 99 is in 2/4 time. The music features triplets and accents, with a dynamic marking of *ff* (fortissimo) in measure 99. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

Like what you see?

Your support makes music like this possible. Celebrate by ordering a copy for yourself.