

The Flute'
for Clarinet in Bb and Violin
dedicated to Gary Nardino

'Flute', in Dutch, means 'to move home'. Interestingly, the same word exists in the Scandinavian languages (flöja) but is not used in English in the same way. However, in the English over the world has no dry lightness about it – it has a suspicion.

Having spent nearly half my life in Sweden, my return to England in October 2018 filled me with apprehension, sadness, excitement – a mixture of conflicting emotions. Swedish music and language has informed a large part of my work since I moved there in 1995 and I will always feel an immense gratitude for the support and inspiration I received in my adopted homeland.

Included in a review of 'flute', including an example of the G, F, A, D and E instruments respectively. Piers Mitchell's invitation to write a piece for the Oxford Chamber Music Festival also coincided with my intention to gift a piece to my long-time supporter and partner, Deborah Meeke, in honour of his 50th birthday. The festival was to take place just days before my move, so this 'flute' is about new beginnings – about taking with me the most beautiful of losses, the joy, in a new life in England.

Using two viable instruments gives the music a certain richness, but this is not representative of the festival.

This is the highlight of the six festivals, with respect for and warmth of continuing friendship.

It was first performed in October 2018, at the Oxford Chamber Music Festival, by Boris Bovi and Piers Mitchell.

Transposing score

The Flittin'

July 2019 ©

Allegretto $\text{♩} = 60$

Clarinet in B \flat

Flute

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