

Clarinet in B \flat 1 & 2

Charlie Barber

Taqsim

a fantasia for orchestra

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Taqsim a fantasia for orchestra

Duration: c. 4 minutes

Notes:

Throughout the score, double barlines are used to articulate the 10/8 or 10/4 rhythmic structure.

String 'divisi' sections are divided between the two players reading from the same desk

Programme note:

Taqsim – a fantasia for orchestra

A *taqsim* is a traditional form of improvised solo music that typically precedes a classical Arabic, Kurdish, Greek, or Turkish composition. Usually performed by a single instrumentalist - sometimes accompanied by a percussionist or another supporting player - it serves as a free, expressive exploration of a mode or *maqam*.

While this work draws inspiration from this centuries-old practice and retains a sense of improvisatory freedom, it is a fully composed work conceived for a modern symphony orchestra. The main melodic theme is rooted in an instrumental form of Ottoman classical music, characterized by its rhythmic structure, using a specific 10/8 rhythmic pattern.

By expanding the intimate, spontaneous character of a solo *taqsim* into the rich palette of the orchestra, the piece transforms a personal act of ornamentation and discovery into a collective sonic journey - where individual instrumental voices intertwine, echo, and respond within a tapestry of rhythm and melody.

Charlie Barber, September 2025

Taqsim

a fantasia for orchestra

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A $\text{♩} = 104$

10

p *mf*

20

B 1. *p*

29

2. *p*

40

C a 2 *p*

46

mp

52

57

D 1. *mp*

65

2

Clarinet in B♭

73 **E** a 2
f

77 2

83 3 *f* 3 *dim.* a 2 *mp*

89 **F** 2

98 2

108 **G** 1. *p*

117

125 **H** 2

134 2

140 2

Charlie Barber - Taqsim

145 **I**

1.

p

153

161 **J**

1.

2.

mp

165

2

1.

2.

mp

173

2

1.

2.

mp

181 **K**

2

2

Charlie Barber - Taqsim

189

p *mf*

197

L

1.

p

2.

p

202

a 2

f

f

207

f

213

M

mp

mp

219

ff

ff

224

f

Charlie Barber - Taqsım

229 N

pp *p*

238

p

246

p

254 Rit.

pp