

Bass Clarinet in B $\flat$

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

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**A**  $\text{♩} = 104$

9

17

25 **B**

*p*

33

*p*

41 **C**

*mp* *mf* *p*

45

*mp*

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Charlie Barber - Taksim, a fantasia for orchestra

53 D

*mp*

61

*mp*

69 E

*mp*

77

*cresc.* *f*

83

*f* *dim.* *mp*

89 F

*mp*

97

*p*

105

*p*

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5

## Charlie Barber - Taksim, a fantasia for orchestra

113 **G**

*p*

121

**2**

129 **H** Solo *cantabile*

*mf*

136

**2**

141

**2**

145 **I**

*p*

153

**2**

161 **J**

**2**

169

**2**

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177

**K**

*mp*

185

*mp*

192

*mp*

197

**L**

*f* *p* *mf*

205

*mf*

209

*mf*

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7

213 **M**

*mf*

221

*f* *p* *mp* *f* *mf* *ff*

229 **N**

*2*

237

*2*

245

*p*

253 **Rit.**

*pp*