The instruments of the wind ensemble

An introduction for a young audience

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aan Angela Colbers

The clarinets

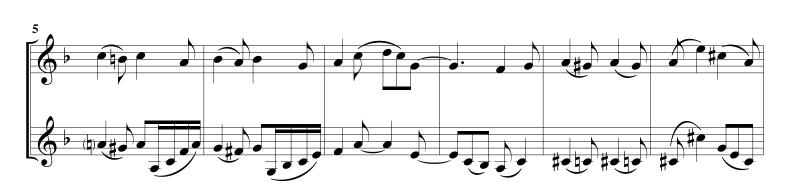
The clarinet is a single-reed woodwind instrument (**show clarinet**). Like with the saxophone a piece of reed is fixed on a mouthpiece and when blowing a slight flow of air along the reed that will vibrate (**clarinet blows the mouthpiece**). When the mouthpiece is mounted onto the resonance tube of the clarinet distinct tones can be played. The tube of the clarinet is equipped with a lot of holes and keys allowing the clarinet to play very advanced and virtuoso performances (**clarinet plays a series of scales**).

Like the flutes and oboes, the clarinets are members of a family of instruments and the clarinet family has the largest pitch range of all wind instrument families. There is a piccolo clarinet, the "normal" clarinet, the alto clarinet, the bass clarinet, the contralto clarinet, contrabass clarinet, together forming the clarinet choir (show the different sizes of clarinets).

The clarinet not only plays important parts in the orchestra, it has distinct roles in jazz music, gipsy and klezmer music and military bands. The clarinet sound has a wide dynamic range, it can play loud and aggressive as well as soft and smooth. The sound color of the clarinet ranges from a sentimental slobbering in the lower pitch range to a brutal yapping in the high range; a broad range of sounds, very attractive to every composer.

(Now the clarinets will play a duet and/or a trio, depending on the availability).













Finale

Clarinet in B₂ Arie van Hoek 3 min. Allegro maestoso, = 112