

The Surfing, Dancing Fleas

for woodwind quartet

Robbie McCarthy

2013

Instrumentation:

Flute

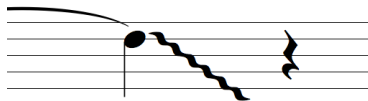
Oboe

Clarinet

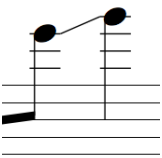
Bassoon

Composers notes:

While vagabonding my way along the shores of Oceanside, California, I taught myself to surf. Now that I think about it, surfing would be an exaggeration. I had fun in the ocean while trying to surf. Taking a break from a typical unsuccessful surf session, I set my board in the sand and cooked dinner while rocking out to The Grateful Dead. Returning to the beach after a hefty meal and a bit of dancing, I found several hundred fleas jumping around on my surfboard, almost perfectly in time to the music in the background. As the larger waves would wash up, they would all run away, and as the tide carried the water out, the fleas would return to boogie again.



Chromatic-sounding glissando, full duration



Portmanteau/slide glissando



Pitch bend up enough to sound sharp



Growl or flutter tongue (whichever sounds dirtier)

The Surfing, Dancing Fleas

Score

Robbie McCarthy

$\text{♩} = 104$

This block contains the first four measures of the score. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 104. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The instruments are Flute, Oboe, Clarinet in Bb, and Bassoon. The Flute part starts with a half note F#4 (p), followed by a whole note G4, and then eighth-note pairs of A4-B4 and C5-B4 (mf). The Oboe part has whole notes F#4 (p) and G4. The Clarinet in Bb part has eighth-note pairs of F#3-G3 (mf), A3-B3, and C4-B3. The Bassoon part has whole notes F#2 and G2.

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in B $\flat$

Bassoon

5

This block contains measures 5-7 of the score. The Flute part continues with eighth-note pairs of A4-B4 and C5-B4. The Oboe part has a half note F#4, a whole note G4, and then eighth-note pairs of A4-B4 and C5-B4 (mf). The Clarinet in Bb part has eighth-note pairs of F#3-G3, A3-B3, and C4-B3. The Bassoon part has eighth-note pairs of F#2-G2, A2-B2, and C3-B2 (mf). The Clarinet in Bb part has a dynamic change to mp in measure 7.

Fl.

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

The Surfing, Dancing Fleas - Score - 2

8

Fl. *mp* *f* *mf*

Ob. *mp* *f* *mf*

B $\flat$ Cl. *mf* *mp*

Bsn. *mp* *f* *mf*

11

Fl. *mp* *f* *mf* *mp* *f* *mp*

Ob. *mp* *f* *mf* *mp* *f* *mp*

B $\flat$ Cl. *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Bsn. *mp* *f* *mf* *mp* *f* *mp*

15

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *f* *p* *mf*

B $\flat$ Cl. *f* *p* *mf*

Bsn. *f* *p* *mf*

f *p* *mf*

$\text{♩} = 86$

The Surfing, Dancing Fleas - Score - 3

♩ = 104

21

Fl. *mf* *cresc.* *f* *mp*

Ob. *mf* *cresc.* *f* *mp*

B $\flat$ Cl. *f* *3* *f* *mf*

Bsn. *mf* *cresc.* *f*

25

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

B $\flat$ Cl. *mf* *mp*

Bsn. *mp*

27

Fl. *f* *ff* *fp*

Ob. *f* *mf*

B $\flat$ Cl. *f* *mf*

Bsn. *f*

The Surfing, Dancing Fleas - Score - 4

30

Fl.

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

f

32

Fl.

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

mp

34

Fl.

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

f

The Surfing, Dancing Fleas - Score - 5

37 *rit.* *a tempo*

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

B $\flat$ Cl. *mf*

Bsn.

Measures 37-40. The Flute, Oboe, and Bassoon parts have long notes with fermatas. The Clarinet part has a melodic line. Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*. A *rit.* and *a tempo* change are indicated.

41

Fl. *f* *mf*

Ob. *f* *mf*

B $\flat$ Cl. *f* *ff*

Bsn. *f*

Measures 41-43. The Flute, Oboe, and Bassoon parts have fast sixteenth-note passages. The Clarinet part has a melodic line. Dynamics include *f*, *mf*, and *ff*.

44

Fl. *mp* *mf*

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

Measures 44-46. The Flute and Clarinet parts have melodic lines. The Bassoon part has a fast sixteenth-note passage. Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*.

The Surfing, Dancing Fleas - Score - 6

47

Fl.

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

mf

50

Fl.

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

mf

3

53

Fl.

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

cresc.

f

mp

mf

mf

The Surfing, Dancing Fleas - Score - 7

56

Fl.

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

mp

f

mf

59

Fl.

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

f

61

Fl.

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

The Surfing, Dancing Fleas - Score - 8

♩ = 86

bassoon cadenza

63

Fl.

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

circular breathe, slurring
all until tempo change

p

f

67

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

fp

f

3

71

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

piu mosso

3

74

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

The Surfing, Dancing Fleas - Score - 9

♩ = 104

76

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl.

Bsn.

meno mosso

f

f

f

80

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl.

Bsn.

mf

f

84

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl.

Bsn.

mp *f* *mf* *mp* *f*

mp *f* *mf* *mp* *f*

mf *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *f*

mp *f* *mf* *mp* *f*

The Surfing, Dancing Fleas - Score - 10

87

Fl.

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

89

Fl.

Ob.

B $\flat$ Cl.

Bsn.

f

This musical score is for a woodwind ensemble, featuring four parts: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), B-flat Clarinet (B $\flat$ Cl.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The score is divided into two systems, starting at measures 87 and 89. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The first system (measures 87-88) shows the Flute and Bassoon playing a melodic line with eighth notes, while the Oboe and B-flat Clarinet play a supporting line with quarter notes. The second system (measures 89-90) features a more complex melodic line for the Flute and Bassoon, with the Oboe and B-flat Clarinet providing harmonic support. A forte (*f*) dynamic marking is present in the Bassoon part at measure 89. The score concludes with a double bar line at the end of measure 90.