

# Art of the Flute

For Piccolo  
2 Flutes  
Alto Flute

Third Edition

Bill Robinson

# Art of the Flute

## for Piccolo, 2 Flutes, and Alto Flute (arranged from Art of the Recorder)

First composed in three movements, 1975;  
first and last movements recomposed June 19-24, 2004;  
middle movement replaced February 2013

Duration: about 10 minutes

In 1975 I wrote a recorder quartet for my father, Heber Robinson, who was an enthusiastic recorder player with a group at the local Unitarian-Universalist Church in Peabody, Massachusetts. However, the work was too contemporary for the other performers, and the piece was never played.

In hopes of finding other performance opportunities, I wrote a large number of arrangements for other instruments; Art of the Violin, Art of the Flute, Art of the Double Reed, and Art of the Saxophone. However, none found a happy home. (Part of the gag—forgive me for explaining a joke—was that this was an experiment in music that could be played by any instruments that fit the range, after suitable transposition and modification of phrasing or bowing. So it really isn't the Art of any specific Instrument.)

In 2004 I decided that the piece must be at fault, and I rewrote the first and last movements from scratch, keeping nothing from the originals. I made new arrangements for four flutes and four violins as before. Performers continued to shy away; the middle movement was one of the most atonal I had ever written, slow and very short (only one minute) and titled "So You Think I'm Too Old-Fashioned". However even with this kind of title, and the fact that it represented the usual reaction to my music by my fellow composers, no one liked it.

Thus I was motivated by 38 years of rejection to throw out the troublesome middle movement and write a new one. On February 4, 2013, a fine local violinist, Izabela Spiewak, who had played on the memorial concert for my sister in 2010, died of leukemia. This new middle movement is an elegy in her memory.

I made other arrangements for four bassoons, and for viola and three cellos. Only the recorder, violin, and flute versions survive.

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# Art of the Flute

[arranged from "Art of the Recorder"]

Root'n toot'n

## I. Just for Fun

Bill Robinson

**Piccolo**

**Flute 1**

**Flute 2**

**Alto Flute**

**mf**

4

**6**

6

**11**

**mf**

11

**15**

15

Musical score for flute and piano, measures 19-22. The score consists of four staves. The top two staves are for the flute, showing rapid sixteenth-note patterns. The bottom two staves are for the piano, featuring sustained notes and chords. Measure 19 starts with eighth-note pairs in the flute parts. Measure 20 continues the sixteenth-note patterns with some eighth-note pairs. Measure 21 shows more complex sixteenth-note figures. Measure 22 concludes the section with sustained notes and chords.

Musical score for flute and piano, measures 23-26. The flute parts continue their sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 23 includes a dynamic change to *p*. Measures 24 and 25 show more intricate sixteenth-note figures. Measure 26 concludes the section with sustained notes and chords.

Musical score for flute and piano, measures 27-30. The flute parts feature sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 27 includes a dynamic change to *f*. Measures 28 and 29 show more intricate sixteenth-note figures. Measure 30 concludes the section with sustained notes and chords.

Musical score for flute and piano, measures 31-34. The flute parts continue their sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 31 includes a dynamic change to *f*. Measures 32 and 33 show more intricate sixteenth-note figures. Measure 34 concludes the section with sustained notes and chords.

Musical score for flute, page 3, measures 35-36. The score consists of four staves of music. Measure 35 starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. It features various note heads, stems, and slurs. Measure 36 begins with a bass clef, a key signature of one flat, and a common time signature. The music continues with a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes.

Musical score for flute, page 3, measures 38-39. The score continues with four staves of music. Measure 38 starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. Measure 39 begins with a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The music includes a variety of note types and rests.

Musical score for flute, page 3, measures 41-42. The score continues with four staves of music. Measure 41 starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. Measure 42 begins with a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The music includes a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes.

Musical score for flute, page 3, measures 44-45. The score continues with four staves of music. Measure 44 starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. Measure 45 begins with a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The music includes a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes.

47

*ff*

*ff*

*p* *cresc. p. a p.*

*ff*

*p* *cresc. p. a p.*

*ff*

*p* *cresc. p. a p.*

50

*mf*

(*mp*)

(*mp*)

(*mp*)

54

*cresc. p. a p.*

*ff*

(*mf*)

*ff*

(*mf*)

*ff*

(*mf*)

*ff*

54

*ff*

58

*rit.*

*mf*

*f* > *mf*

*mp*

*p*

*pp*

*f* > *mf*

*mp*

*p*

*pp*

*f* > *mf*

*mp*

*p*

*pp*

58

## II. Elegy for Izabela

[2:40]

5

**Adagio** (♩ = 80)

Piccolo 

7 

13 

19 

## Art of the Flute

6

25

p      mp      mf

p      mp      mf

p      mp      mf

p      mp      mf

32

pp      p

p

p

39

mp

mp

mp

mp

46

p      mp      mf      f

p      mp      mf      f

p      mp      mf      f

p      mp      mf      f

p      pp

## Allegro piccolo jigolo

Piccolo

Flute 1

Flute 2

Alto Flute

5

12

mf

5

12

mf

5

12

5

12

mf

mp

9

13

mp

13

mp

The musical score consists of five staves, each representing a different woodwind instrument: Piccolo, Flute 1, Flute 2, Alto Flute, and a fifth staff that appears to be a continuation of the Alto Flute. The score spans from measure 1 to measure 13. Measure 1 starts with a rest for the Piccolo and Flute 1, followed by a rhythmic pattern for Flute 2 and Alto Flute. Measures 2-4 show a continuous pattern for Flute 1 and Flute 2, with the Alto Flute providing harmonic support. Measure 5 begins with a rest for all instruments, followed by a rhythmic pattern. Measures 6-8 continue the established pattern. Measure 9 introduces a new section with a dynamic change to *mp*. Measures 10-12 show a continuation of the rhythmic patterns. Measure 13 concludes the section with a final dynamic marking of *mp*.

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8

Musical score for flute, measures 17-19. The score consists of four staves of music. Measure 17 starts with a dynamic of *mf*. Measures 18 and 19 start with *f*. Measure 19 ends with a repeat sign.

21

Musical score for flute, measures 21-24. The score consists of four staves of music. Measure 21 starts with a dynamic of *mf*. Measures 22 and 23 start with *f*. Measure 24 ends with a repeat sign.

25

Musical score for flute, measures 25-28. The score consists of four staves of music. Measure 25 starts with a dynamic of *f*. Measures 26 and 27 start with *f*. Measure 28 ends with a repeat sign.

29

Musical score for flute, measures 29-32. The score consists of four staves of music. Measures 29 and 30 start with *ff*. Measures 31 and 32 start with *ff*.

33

ff

ff

33

37

ff

ff

37

41

p

p

41

46

cresc. p. a p.

(mp)

cresc. p. a p.

(mp)

46

p cresc. p. a p.

(mp)

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10 50

50

54

54

58

58

62

62

Musical score for flute, page 11. The score consists of four staves. Measures 67 and 68 are shown. Measure 67 starts with a rest followed by a series of eighth notes. Measure 68 continues with eighth notes and includes a dynamic marking of  $\text{f}$  (fortissimo).

Musical score for flute, page 11. The score consists of four staves. Measures 71 and 72 are shown. Both measures feature eighth-note patterns with various slurs and grace notes.

Musical score for flute, page 11. The score consists of four staves. Measures 75 and 76 are shown. These measures continue the eighth-note patterns established in the previous measures.

Musical score for flute, page 11. The score consists of four staves. Measures 79 and 80 are shown. Measure 79 features a melodic line with eighth-note patterns. Measure 80 begins with a measure of common time (indicated by '8') before transitioning to 12/8 time. The key signature changes to one flat.

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12 83 > 

A musical score for orchestra, page 10, featuring three staves of music. The top staff uses a treble clef, the middle staff an alto clef, and the bottom staff a bass clef. Measure 91 begins with a rest followed by a eighth note. Measures 92-93 show various melodic patterns with eighth and sixteenth notes, including grace notes and slurs. Measure 94 starts with a rest. Measure 95 continues the melodic line. Measure 96 begins with a rest. Measure 97 concludes the section.

A musical score for orchestra, page 10, featuring four staves of music. The top three staves begin with a treble clef, while the bottom staff begins with a bass clef. Measure 95 consists of six measures of music, primarily featuring eighth-note patterns. Measure 96 begins with a bass clef and continues the eighth-note patterns from measure 95. The score includes various dynamic markings such as crescendos, decrescendos, and accents.