

Mark Wolf

Praxis

for clarinet and piano

(2010)

dur: 9'30"

Praxis was commissioned by clarinetist Ona Cardona to be premiered by herself, accompanied by Kumi Matsuo on piano at St. Martin-In-The-Fields as part of the inaugural 'New Music Series' concert on January 26th 2010.

In Ancient Greek the word praxis referred to activity engaged in by free men. It is the process by which a theory, lesson, or skill is enacted or practiced. It is a practical and applied knowledge to one's actions.

The clash of frustration and creativity is the subject of this work. *Praxis* embodies both elements, frustration and creativity as roles assumed individually by both the clarinet and piano. The clarinet is the sensitive and creative ideas generator while the piano emulates a constant stream of irritation and annoyance at points almost trying to sabotage the clarinet's expressive gestures. At times both parts come together, borrowing elements from one another only fuelling the struggle.

"Doing something, and then only afterwards, finding out why you did it". Journalist and TV presenter, Tony Wilson described praxis. It wasn't until I read this quote that I decided to title this work *Praxis*. This piece was composed relatively quickly. The ideas flowed without interruption and I at no point stopped to reflect. It wasn't until after its completion that I discovered what this piece truly meant for me.

Praxis

Commissioned by Clarinetist: Ona Cardona
for Ona Cardona and Kumi Matsuo

Mark Wolf

$\text{♩} = 66$ Delicate - molto espressivo

Clarinet in B $\flat$

Piano

ppp — *p* *pp*

pp *p*

Ped.

10 **A**

Cl.

ppp — *p*

Pno.

pp *p* *pp*

18 **B**

Cl.

p — *ppp* *p*

Pno.

p

8 $\cdot$

27

Cl.

ppp — *p* *p*

Pno.

pp *p* *pp*

8 $\cdot$

36

Cl.

Ppp

p

Pno.

pp

p

44 **C**

Cl.

pp

mp

p

mf

Pno.

p

ff

p

Ped.

51 **D** ♩=72 Agitated

Cl.

p

f

f

f

p

f

p

Pno.

f

mp

f

Ped.

58

66 tongued

Cl.

f

p

mf

mf

p

f

pp

mp

pp

mp

Pno.

mp

p

p

E Espressivo

65 flutter tongue

Cl. *pp* *mf* *p* *p* *mf*

Pno. *p* *f*

72

Cl. *p* *mf* *f*

Pno. *p* *f* *p*

79

Cl. *f*

Pno. *f*

F

85

Cl. *fff* *fff* *fff*

Pno. *ff* *fff*

Red.

91 **G** $\text{♩}=72$ Agitated

Cl. *p* *p*

Pno. *p* *p* *p*

100 $\text{♩}=66$ tongued

Cl. *f* *pp* *mp* *pp*

Pno. *p* *f* *p*

106 $\text{♩}=72$ Agitated

Cl. *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *ff*

Pno. *f*

112 $\text{♩}=66$ flutter tongue **H**

Cl. *p* *mf* *f* *p*

Pno. *f* *p*

126 flutter tongue

Cl. *p* *f* *p* *f*

Pno. *p* *f*

A musical score for Clarinet (Cl.) and Piano (Pno.). The Clarinet part starts at measure 131 with a treble clef and key signature of one flat. It features a melodic line with slurs and a dynamic marking of *p*. A first ending bracket labeled "I" spans measures 136-137. The Piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass). The right hand has triplets and slurs, while the left hand plays chords and single notes. Dynamic markings include *p* and accents are present throughout. A rehearsal mark "8" is located above the piano staff at the end of the page.

Example 139 is a musical score for a Clarinet (Cl.) and Piano (Pno.). The score is written in 2/4 time and consists of 139 measures. The Clarinet part begins with a rest, followed by a series of notes and rests, including a half note G4, a quarter note F#4, and a quarter note E4. The Piano part begins with a rest, followed by a series of notes and rests, including a half note G4, a quarter note F#4, and a quarter note E4. The score includes dynamic markings such as *pp* (pianissimo) and *p* (piano). The score is marked with a measure number of 139 at the beginning.

148 **J**

Cl.

p

Pno.

pp

153

Cl.

pp

Pno.

p *pp* *p*