

The instruments of the wind ensemble

An introduction for a young audience

Arie van Hoek

aan Angela Colbers

Oboe and English horn

The oboe is a double reed woodwind instrument (**show oboe**). For producing sound, two pieces of reed are bound together and air is blown through the tiny space that is left between these two reeds. The result is a very penetrating sound (**oboe blows mouthpiece**). The reed is made from cane and is very vulnerable; the smallest disruptions may result in a useless reed.

The resonator tube of the oboe is made of a tropical hardwood and like with the flutes; equipped with a series of holes and keys, allowing the fast performance of many different notes (**oboe plays some scales**). The sound of the oboe is very special and can range from a steady and cutting forte to a nasal and melancholic sound in the lower range of the instrument. Because of that solid sound of the oboe it is used to tune the whole orchestra at the beginning of a concert. The melancholic sound of the oboe is the proud characteristic of the bigger brother in the oboe family in particular; the English horn (**show and play English horn**). When a sad or pitiful melody has to be performed, the English horn is the favorite. He is quite a bit longer than the oboe and the mouthpiece has a slight bent for a more practical playing position.

(Now the oboes will play a short piece).

Andante ♩ = 80

Oboe 1

Oboe 2

mf

mp

6

mp

mf

tr

rubato

change to Cor Anglais

10

molto rall.

Adagio ♩ = 60

p

mp

14

19

p

mp

Finale

3 min.

Arie van Hoek

Allegro maestoso, $\text{♩} = 112$

