

# donkerstraat

J. Simon van der Walt

CD, horn, tenor sax, guitar, bass clarinet

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## Composer's note

Donkerstraat (aka Rue Sombre) is in Brussels, funnily enough just around the corner from Rue Gay; yet another reasonably optimistic piece conceived in the midst of deep personal gloom.

Duration ~05:30

## Performance notes

- The opening is undoubtedly a tongue twister; it doesn't have to be entirely accurate, just match the CD voices roughly.
- The CD may feel a couple of cents sharp; the players may want to push their pitching up slightly, probably not necessary to retune, though.
- Clarinet and guitar should feel free to interpret b17-19 as musically as their imagination allows.
- At b20, the conductor should wait a good five seconds before initiating the chorale at b21. Keep the tempo very steady here and there is a good chance of hitting b39 about right.

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♩ = 122

CD cue

vi vi vi vi vif ya vif wif ya vif - oo vuf ya vuf wuf ya vuf - oo vif ya vif wif ya vif - oo

Horn

*Spoken*

vif ya vif wif ya vif - oo vuf ya vuf wuf ya vuf - oo vif ya vif wif ya vif - oo

Tenor sax

*Spoken*

vif ya vif wif ya vif - oo vuf ya vuf wuf ya vuf - oo vif ya vif wif ya vif - oo

Guitar

*Spoken*

vif ya vif wif ya vif - oo vuf ya vuf wuf ya vuf - oo vif ya vif wif ya vif - oo

Bass clarinet

*Spoken*

vif ya vif wif ya vif - oo vuf ya vuf wuf ya vuf - oo vif ya vif wif ya vif - oo

5

CD *Delay with feedback*  $\text{♩} = 92$  *Voices fade in underneath*

Horn

Tenor

Gtr

B clar

vuf ya vuf wuf ya vuf - oo

va - foo va - foo va - foo

vuf ya vuf wuf ya vuf - oo

vuf ya vuf wuf ya vuf - oo

vuf ya vuf wuf ya vuf - oo

vuf ya vuf wuf ya vuf - oo

11

CD

Horn

Tenor

Gtr

B clar

The image shows a musical score for five instruments: CD, Horn, Tenor, Gtr, and B clar. The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The CD part has a melodic line consisting of six measures, each containing a quarter note followed by a dotted quarter note. The other four instruments (Horn, Tenor, Gtr, and B clar) have rests in all six measures. The CD part starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The other instruments have their respective clefs and key signatures: Horn (treble clef, two flats), Tenor (treble clef, two flats), Gtr (treble clef, one sharp), and B clar (treble clef, two flats).

17

CD *1'10*

Horn

Tenor

Gtr *Freely and meditatively, different each time.  
Vary phrases, linger on notes ad lib.  
Intense, but not necessarily loud*

*continue sim*

B clar *Somewhat hesitantly; always in this order,  
but vary length of notes & gaps greatly.  
Intense, but not necessarily loud*

*continue sim*

19

*Feedback delay fades in*

*0'20*

*0'05*

*'gobenafhyatchxumetriboosh?  
zemenemedolobadjiteihh,  
hihwneiuplaqrtflaxszszszsz' etc*

$\text{♩} = 60$

CD

Horn

*Quasi chorale; just loud enough to balance with voices*

Tenor

*Quasi chorale; just loud enough to balance with voices*

Gtr

*Ready to stop*

*Stop immediately, wherever you are in the phrase*

B clar

*Ready to stop*

*Stop immediately, wherever you are in the phrase*

*Quasi chorale; just loud enough to balance with voices*

25

CD

Horn

Tenor

Gtr

B clar

*(A tempo)* *Softer this time*

*(A tempo)* *Softer this time*

*(A tempo)* *Softer this time*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 25-32. The CD part is a continuous tremolo. The Horn part has a melodic line starting with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, with slurs and ties. Dynamics markings are *(A tempo)* and *Softer this time*. The Tenor part has a melodic line starting with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, with slurs and ties. Dynamics markings are *(A tempo)* and *Softer this time*. The Gtr part consists of a steady eighth-note rhythm. The B clar part has a melodic line starting with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, with slurs and ties. Dynamics markings are *(A tempo)* and *Softer this time*.



34

CD

Horn

Tenor

Gtr

B clar

*First voice;  
'tshaeioutshaeioutshaeioutshaeiou...'*

*No tempo - wait for vocal cue*

*No tempo - wait for vocal cue*

*No tempo - wait for vocal cue*

♩ = 105

40

CD

Second voice;

Third voice;

Highest voice  
(other voices in canon)

tshaei - ou tshaei - ou tshaei - ou tshaei - ou tshaei - ou tshaei - ou tshaei - ou tshaei - ou

vif ya vif wif ya vif - oo

Horn

Tenor

Gtr

B clar

*(Tacet al fine)*

*(Tacet al fine)*

*Wait for vocal cue*

*(Tacet al fine)*

1'10

Detailed description: The score is for a piece in 3/4 time with a tempo of 105. The CD part starts at measure 40 and consists of three voices in canon. The first voice (Second voice) has lyrics 'tshaei - ou tshaei - ou tshaei - ou tshaei - ou'. The second voice (Third voice) has the same lyrics. The third voice (Highest voice) has lyrics 'vif ya vif wif ya vif - oo'. The other instruments (Horn, Tenor, Gtr, B clar) are mostly silent, with instructions like '(Tacet al fine)' and 'Wait for vocal cue'. There is a 1'10 (one minute ten seconds) mark on the CD staff.

44

CD

vuf ya vuf wuf ya vuf -oo vif ya vif wif ya vif-oo vuf ya vuf wuf ya vuf -oo va foo va foo va-foo

Horn

Tenor

Gtr

B clar

50

CD

va - foo va - foo va - foo oo oo oo oo

Horn

Tenor

*Come sopra; don't rush, but aim to finish before repeated 'oo's run out. Only play twice.*

Gtr

3 3

B clar

52

*Dim al fine*

Musical score for five instruments: CD, Horn, Tenor, Gtr, and B clar. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature. The CD part consists of a single melodic line of quarter notes: F#4, C#5, G#4, F#4, C#5, G#4, F#4, C#5, G#4, F#4, C#5, G#4. The other four instruments (Horn, Tenor, Gtr, B clar) are marked with a whole rest in every measure, indicating they are silent during this passage. The score concludes with a double bar line.