

PREFACE

Ever since playing Eb Clarinet in the U. S. Air Force Band (1965-67) I have appreciated its light, bright sound and its value as an orchestral instrument. However, I hadn't thought of it as an excellent beginning instrument for very young players until I had students who were too small to play the Bb clarinet but had the desire to begin lessons.

One of the challenges for me was to find solo literature. There is almost no music suitable for students who haven't learned the clarion register, or who need music carefully designed to facilitate cross-register playing. Fortunately I enjoy arranging music, and it is a particular joy to make arrangements for musicians we know.

This collection is a compilation of pieces which were arranged for performance at teachers' recitals, Christmas concerts and music festivals. I have put them in order of difficulty, from the popular Schumann "Melody" from *Album for the Young* to the rousing Newfoundland folk song *I's the B'y*. Many Thanks to Stephen Chatman for allowing me to include an arrangement of *Rose-Cheek'd Tara* in this collection.

I hope these arrangements will be useful to other teachers who have young students. Often young people are captivated and inspired by hearing talented older students play the clarinet, and it is essential that they can act on this enthusiasm rather than be told they have to wait until they are "bigger".

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