

## **ABSTRACT**

**DISSERTATION:** Seven Solo Works for the E-flat Clarinet: A Performance Guide and Recording that Explores the Outside Influences of Opera and Folk Dances

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This project provides recordings and analyses of seven solo pieces for the E-flat clarinet influenced by operas and folk dances. The recording and document serve as resources for those who wish to listen to, perform, or teach these pieces. Six pieces were recorded with piano and one piece was for E-flat clarinet alone. The analyses explored influences of opera and folk dances in this music. To help the listener gain a more in-depth understanding, the music found in these pieces was compared to the original material from which it was taken: operas and folk dances. Differences discussed included change of keys and registers, added ornamentations, and the use of dance rhythms. Performance suggestions were made for those who wish to perform these pieces in the future.