

Dinos Constantinides

THE DANCING
TURTLE

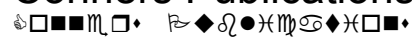
for reader, flute and string quintet

LRC 183

CP



Conners Publications



#241

Duration: *circa* 13'00"+

The Dancing Turtle

Text: Adaptation of a Cajun folk tale

INSTRUMENTATION

| | |
|-----------|-------------|
| Reader | Flute |
| 2 Violins | Viola |
| Cello | String Bass |

Accidentals are valid for the entire measure, in the indicated octave only.
Many additional accidentals have been added for clarity.

The Dancing Turtle (1999) was written to celebrate the multicultural heritage of Louisiana. Cajun tunes, harmonic and melodic elements derived from New Orleans blues, and musical ideas from other world cultures comprise the basic body of the work.

The piece employs an adaptation of a Cajun folk tale by the composer's wife and professional librarian, Judy Constantinides. Composed for reader, flute and string quintet, the work received its premiere and numerous repeat performances at the East Baton Rouge Parish Library System branches in June 1999 as part of a series of programs entitled "Let the Good Music Roll!" Judy Constantinides was the reader and the musical part was performed by members of the Louisiana Sinfonietta under the direction of the composer.

The music of Dinos Constantinides has been performed throughout the world. He is the recipient of many grants, commissions and awards, including first prize in the Brooklyn College International Chamber Opera Competition, the First Midwest Chamber Opera Conference, and the Delius Composition Contest. He also received the American New Music Consortium Distinguished Service Award, the Glen Award of l'Ensemble of New York, several Meet the Composer grants, numerous ASCAP Standard Awards, and he was honored with a Distinguished Teacher White House Commission on Presidential Scholars.

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**Additional selected works by
Dinos Constantinides**

The Oracle at Delphi (1999) for violin, flute or oboe, and piano
Family Triptych (1999) for flute or oboe and autoharp™
Family Triptych (1999) for violin and autoharp™
Family Triptych (1999) for flute or oboe and strings
Family Triptych (1999) for violin and strings
Trio No. 3 (1998) for violin, alto saxophone and piano
Rhapsody II (rev. 1998) for flute or oboe and piano
Rhapsody II (rev. 1998) for flute or oboe and harp
Trio No. 3 (1994-95) for violin, clarinet and piano
The Oracle at Delphi (1994) for violin, clarinet, and piano
To the Three Graces (1991) for three flutes
Four Interludes (1991) for violin alone
Inaugural Images (1984) for flute and strings
Fantasia for Solo Flute (1979)

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THE DANCING TURTLE
Adaptation from a Cajun folk tale
by Judy Constantinides

Long time ago near Bayou Lafourche lived Brother Rabbit and Brother Bear who were best friends. Now, Brother Rabbit was clever and quick and mostly he did the talking and the thinking for the two. Brother Bear was rather slow and clumsy and mostly he followed along after his friend and did what he was told.

One morning, Brother Rabbit was out taking the air when he heard sweet beautiful music floating across the Bayou. Following the music, he drew closer, peeked through the palmetto leaves and saw Turtle dancing and playing her flute. She played her flute loud and soft, fast and slow, high and low, and as she played, she danced back and forth, forward and backwards, round and round. Turtle was having a grand time and she danced and played so sweetly all the creatures of the Bayou stopped to listen. Except for Brother Rabbit, who was thinking how woouoonderful it would be to have TURTLE STEW for dinner!

Well, by and by, Turtle finished her dance and stopped playing her flute and settled down to sleep, and all the creatures of the Bayou went on about their business. But Brother Rabbit sneaked up on Turtle as she was snoozing in the sun, grabbed her tail, flipped her over onto her back and dragged her all the way back to his house, where he locked her in a cage, flute and all.

“Brother Bear! Brother Bear! Come see what I caught us for dinner!” shouted Brother Rabbit. Brother Bear came lumbering along and peered into the cage.

“What’s this, Brother Rabbit, what’s this?” he asked, scratching his head in perplexity. “Looks like a rock to me.”

“Oh, no, it’s not a rock, Brother Bear, not a rock *at all*--this is a fine turtle and she’s going to make a woouooooonderful turtle stew!”

Turtle heard Brother Rabbit and drew her head and her tail farther into her shell, trembling with fright.

“Brother Bear, you stay and watch Turtle now while I go find us a cooking pot and invite our friends and relations to dinner tonite,” and Brother Rabbit went off to do his errands, rubbing his hands with glee.

Brother Bear sat down on a rock and watched Turtle carefully, but she didn’t move, so finally he started to snooze a little. Turtle stuck her head out of her shell cautiously and looked around. Then she began to think how she was going to get out of her fix, and she came up with a plan. Picking up her flute she began to play. The sweet notes floated out of her cage and tickled the ears of Brother Bear, who rubbed his eyes and started to listen.

“Oh, Turtle,” he said, “play some more--it is soooo beautiful!”

Turtle played loud and soft notes, high and low notes, fast and slow notes, and Brother Bear listened.

“Brother Bear,” Turtle coaxed, “I can dance beautifully too, but this cage is too small to do it well.”

“Well, Turtle,” said Brother Bear, “I will let you out of your cage for just a moment so you can show me your dance.”

Brother Bear unlocked the cage and let Turtle out. “Now play and dance Turtle,” he said, “play and dance!”

Turtle played her flute and she danced her dance, backwards and forwards, side to side, round and round....backwards and backwards, backwards and backwards until she reached the edge of the Bayou and plop! splash! Turtle dove down under the water and swam away as fast as she could and she didn't stop until she was back in her home.

Brother Bear stood on the bank and scratched his head in confusion. “Turtle, come back!” he called, but Turtle did not come back.

“Oh, oh, what's Brother Rabbit going to say? He's going to be mighty angry with me for letting Turtle go.”

Brother Bear thought as fast as he could. He grabbed the rock he had been sitting on and painted it to look like Turtle and put it into the cage. Just in time! Along came Brother Rabbit with a big black pot, skipping through the trees, and behind him came all their friends and relations all ready to eat some wooodoo wonderful turtle stew. Brother Rabbit got the water boiling in the pot, went and got the rock that he thought was Turtle and dropped it in the pot to cook. When some time had passed, he called everyone to the table and proudly poured the stew into a giant bowl. Clunk! the rock fell out of the pot and broke the bowl.

“Brother Bear!” yelled Brother Rabbit. “Where is Turtle? This is just an old rock!”

“Oh 'scuse me Brother Rabbit! 'scuse me!” Brother Bear said. “Turtle played her flute for me and it was so beautiful I let her out of her cage so she could play and dance for me just for a minute. And she played high and low notes, and loud and soft notes and she danced forwards and backwards and backwards and backwards 'til she reached the Bayou and she jumped in and swam away!”

“Oh well,” said Brother Rabbit shaking his head, “I guess since we aren't going to have turtle stew tonite, we'd better do the same as Turtle--let's dance and play music and let the good times roll!” So Brother Rabbit and Brother Bear and all their friends and relations gathered 'round and played music and danced and sang all night long down by the Bayou, but they never did get to eat turtle stew. And Turtle made sure every time after, that when she danced and played it was in the middle of the largest pond in the swamp!



The Dancing Turtle

for reader, flute and string quintet

Dinos Constantinides

Reader □ This is the story of The Dancing Turtle.

The musical score is divided into two systems. The first system includes a Reader part with the text "This is the story of The Dancing Turtle." and a Flute part starting at measure 5. The Flute part has a tempo marking of quarter note = 84-88 and a dynamic of *mf*. The string quintet (Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and String Bass) begins at measure 1 with a dynamic of *mp*. The Cello and String Bass parts are marked *pizz.* (pizzicato). The second system starts at measure 5 and features a Reader part with a square symbol, a Flute part with a dynamic of *f* and a trill, and the string quintet continuing with the same dynamics as the first system.

9  Long time ago near Bayou Lafourche lived Brother Rabbit and Brother Bear who were best friends. 
 Now, Brother Rabbit was clever and quick and mostly he did the talking and the thinking for the two.

A

9

Fl

1

Vln

2

Vla

Vcl

SB



13 

Rd

13

Fl

f

1

Vln

mp

2

Vla

mp

Vcl

arco
mp

SB

arco
mp

15

Rd □

Fl *f*

1 Vln

2 Vln

Vla

Vcl

SB

17

Rd □ *ffff* Brother Bear was rather slow and clumsy and mostly he followed along after his friend and did what he was told. :

Fl **B**

1 Vln *p* *gliss.*

2 Vln *f* *sul pont.*

Vla *f* *sul pont.*

Vcl *pizz.* *p*

SB

19

Rd □

Fl 19 *flutter*
mf *f*

Vln 1 *mp* *mf* *mp*

Vln 2 *pizz.* *mp* *arco* *mf* *mp* *pizz.* *arco*

Vla *mp* *mf* *mp*

Vcl *mp*

SB *pizz.* *mp*

24

Rd □

Fl 24 *p* *1st time only*

Vln 1 *p*

Vln 2 *p*

Vla *p* *harm.*

Vcl *arco* *harm.* *p* *harm.* *harm.*

SB *(pizz.)* *p*

||: One morning, Brother Rabbit was out taking the air when he heard sweet beautiful music floating across the Bayou. ||:

C

29

Rd

Fl $\text{♩} = 112$
mp

1 *p*
harm.

2 *p*
harm.

Vla *p*

Vcl *p*
harm.

SB *p*

38

Rd

Fl **D**
p

1 *p*

2 *p*

Vla *p*

Vcl *p*

SB *p*

46

Rd □

Fl *f*

1 *f*

2 *f*

Vla *f*

Vcl *f*

SB

50

Rd □

Fl

1

2


Vla

Vcl

SB

Following the music, he drew closer, peeked through the palmetto leaves and saw Turtle dancing and playing her flute. She played her flute loud and soft, fast and slow, high and low, and as she played, she danced back and forth, forward and backwards, round and round. Turtle was having a grand time and she danced and played so sweetly all the creatures of the Bayou stopped to listen. Except for Brother Rabbit, who was thinking how wooodooonderful it would be to have TURTLE STEW for dinner!

54

Rd 

Fl

1

Vln


2

Vla

Vcl

SB

58

Rd 

Fl

1

Vln

2

Vla

Vcl

SB

61

Rd □

Fl *ritard*

1

2

Vln

Vla

Vcl

SB

p *dim.* *p*

p *dim.* *p*

p *dim.* *p*

p *dim.* *p*

p *dim.* *p*

Well, by and by, Turtle finished her dance and stopped playing her flute and settled down to sleep, and all the creatures of the Bayou went on about their business. But Brother Rabbit sneaked up on Turtle as she was snoozing in the sun, grabbed her tail, flipped her over onto her back and dragged her all the way back to his house, where he locked her in a cage, flute and all.

65

Rd □

Fl **F** ♩ = 84-88

on cue

ff

1

2

Vln

Vla

Vcl

SB

69

Rd □

Fl 69

1 *mp*

Vln 2 *mp*

Vla *mp*

Vcl *arco mp*

SB *(pizz.) mp*

"Brother Bear! Brother Bear! Come see what I caught us for dinner!" shouted Brother Rabbit. Brother Bear came lumbering along and peered in to cage.

"What's this, Brother Rabbit, what's this?" he asked, scratching his head in perplexity. "Looks like a rock to me."

"On, no, it's not a rock, Brother Bear, not a rock *at all*--this is a fine turtle and she's going to make a woouooooonderful turtle stew!"

Turtle heard Brother Rabbit and drew her head and her tail farther into her shell, trembling with fright.

"Brother Bear, you stay and watch Turtle now while I go find us a cooking pot and invite our friends and relations to dinner tonite," and Brother Rabbit went off to do his errands, rubbing his hands with glee.

73

Rd □

Fl 73

1 73

Vln 2

Vla

Vcl *pizz. p*

SB *p*

G

77

Rd □

Fl *mf* *tr* *ritard* *dim.* *tr* *p* *tr*

1 *mp* *dim.* *p*

2 *mp* *dim.* *p*

Vla *mp* *dim.* *p* *f*

Vcl *arco* *mp* *dim.* *p*

SB *mp* *dim.* *p*

82

Rd □

Fl *accel.* **H** ♩ = 120 *f* *f*

1 *f*

2 *f*

Vla *f*

Vcl *f*

SB *f* *arco*

87

Rd □

Fl

1

Vln

2

Vla

Vcl

SB

ff

f

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

92

Rd □

Fl

1

Vln

2

Vla

Vcl

SB

I

f

ff

f

f

f

f

f

97

Rd □

Fl *f* *mf*

Vln 1 *mf* *f*

Vln 2 *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vcl *mf*

SB *mf* *pizz.*

101

Rd □

Fl *f*

Vln 1 *mf*

Vln 2 *mf*

Vla

Vcl

SB

105

Rd □

Fl 105 ritard

1 105 gliss.

2

Vln

Vla

Vcl

SB

Brother Bear sat down on a rock and watched Turtle carefully, but she didn't move, so finally he started to snooze a little. Turtle stuck her head out of her shell cautiously and looked around. Then she began to think how she was going to get out of her fix, and she came up with a plan. Picking up her flute she began to play. The sweet notes floated out of her cage and tickled the ears of Brother Bear, who rubbed his eyes and started to listen.

109

Rd □

Fl 109 ♩ = 72

1 109 p

2 109 p

Vln

Vla 109 p

Vcl 109 pizz. p

SB

113

Rd □

"Oh, Turtle," he said, "play some more--it is soooo beautiful!"

113 $\text{♩} = 120$ *p* *ritard* **K** $\text{♩} = 60$

Fl

1

Vln

2

Vla

Vcl

SB

116

Rd □

||: Turtle played loud and soft notes, high and low notes, fast and slow notes, and Brother Bear listened. ||:

116 *Vivo* *ff* *p* *ff* *Slow* *p*

Fl

1

Vln

2

Vla

Vcl

SB

col legno *arco* *ff* *p* *ff*

120

Rd □

120 **Cantabile** ♩ = 92

Fl *p*

1 *p*

2 *p*

Vln

Vla *p*

Vcl *p*

SB *p*

128

Rd □

"Brother Bear," Turtle coaxed, "I can dance beautifully too, but this cage is too small to do it well."
 "Well, Turtle," said Brother Bear, "I will let you out of your cage for just a moment so you can show me your dance."
 Brother Bear unlocked the cage and let Turtle out. "Now play and dance Turtle," he said, "play and dance!"

128 **L**

Fl

1 128

2

Vln

Vla *p*

Vcl *p*

SB

129

Rd □

Fl $\text{♩} = 84-88$

mf *f*

tr

1

Vln *mf*

2 *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vcl *mf*

SB *mf*

134

Rd □

Fl

f *ff*

col legno

1 *f*

Vln *f*

2 *f*

Vla *f*

Vcl *pizz.* *f*

SB *pizz.* *f*

137

Rd □

Fl *f* *ff*

1

Vln

2

Vla

Vcl *f*

SB

Turtle played her flute and she danced her dance, backwards and forwards, side to side, round and round....backwards and backwards, backwards and backwards until she reached the edge of the Bayou and plop! splash! Turtle dove down under the water and swam away as fast as she could and she didn't stop until she was back in her home.

139

Rd □

Fl **M** *p dim.* *p*

1

Vln

2

Vla

Vcl *p dim.* *p*

SB

Brother Bear stood on the bank and scratched his head in confusion. "Turtle, come back!" he called, but Turtle did not come back.

"Oh, oh, what's Brother Rabbit going to say? He's going to be mighty angry with me for letting Turtle go."

143

Rd □

Fl 143 *ff* *tr* *dim.* *mp*

Vln 1 *arco* *f* *dim.* *mp*

Vln 2 *arco* *mf* *dim.*

Vla *arco* *mf* *dim.*

Vcl *mf* *dim.* *p*

SB *(pizz.)* *mf* *dim.* *p*

147

Rd □

Fl 147

Vln 1 *p*

Vln 2 *p*

Vla *p*

Vcl


SB

Brother Bear thought as fast as he could. He grabbed the rock he had been sitting on and painted it to look like Turtle and put it into the cage. Just in time! Along came Brother Rabbit with a big black pot, skipping through the trees, and behind him came all their friends and relations all ready to eat some wooodooonderful turtle stew. Brother Rabbit got the water boiling in the pot, went and got the rock that he thought was Turtle and dropped it in the pot to cook. When some time had passed, he called everyone to the table and proudly poured the stew into a giant bowl. Clunk! the rock fell out of the pot and broke the bowl.

"Brother Bear!" yelled Brother Rabbit. "Where is Turtle? This is just an old rock!"

"Oh 'scuse me Brother Rabbit! 'scuse me!" Brother Bear said. "Turtle played her flute for me and it was so beautiful I let her out of her cage so she could play and dance for me just for a minute. And she played high and low notes, and loud and soft notes and she danced forwards and backwards and backwards and backwards 'til she reached the Bayou and she jumped in and swam away!"

151

Rd 

N

Fl 151 free

Vln 1 151 pizz. p

Vln 2 151 pizz. p

Vla 151 pizz. p

Vcl arco p

SB arco p

153

Rd 

Fl 153 = 84-88 p

Vln 1 153 arco p

Vln 2 153 arco p

Vla 153 arco p

Vcl p

SB pizz. p

"Oh well," said Brother Rabbit shaking his head, "I guess since we aren't going to have turtle stew tonite, we'd better do the same as Turtle--let's dance and play music and let the good times roll!" So Brother Rabbit and Brother Bear and all their friends and relations gathered 'round and played music and danced and sang all night long down by the Bayou, but they never did get to eat turtle stew. And Turtle made sure every time after, that when she danced and played it was in the middle of the largest pond in the swamp!

158

Rd □

Fl 158 **O** *p* *accel. (when cued)*

1 *dim.* *p*

2 *dim.* *p*

Vla *dim.* *p*

Vcl *dim.* *p* *cresc. (when cued)*

SB

163

Rd □

Fl 163 *f* *♩ = 120*

1 *f*

2 *f*

Vla *f*

Vcl *f*

SB *arco* *f*

167

Rd □

Fl 167 *ff* *f*

1 Vln

2 Vln

Vla

Vcl

SB

171

Rd □

Fl 171 **P** *mf*

1 Vln *mf* *f*

2 Vln *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vcl *mf*

SB *mf* pizz.

175

Rd □

Fl 175 *f*

Vln 1 175

Vln 2 *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vcl

SB

179

Rd □

Fl 179 *f*

Vln 1 179 *gliss.* *f*

Vln 2 *f*

Vla *f*

Vcl *f*

SB *f*

183

Rd □

Fl 183

1 183

Vln 2

Vla

Vcl

SB

186

Rd □

Fl 186

1 186

Vln 2

Vla

Vcl

SB

Q

p poco a poco cresc.

p

p

p

p

189

Rd □

Fl 189

1 Vln 189

2 Vln 189

Vla 189

Vcl 189

SB 189

192

Rd □

Fl 192

1 Vln 192

2 Vln 192

Vla 192

Vcl 192

SB 192

The End.

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

arco