

Clarice Assad

Brazilian American composer Clarice Assad will be this year's feature composer for CONNECT and will join us in person at the concert in St. Paul in March. Check out one of her pieces on the free [SPCO Concert Library](#).



Inspired by a jazz club in Denmark, Assad wrote [Jazz Montmartre](#) early in the pandemic. Check out this [clarinet](#) and [bass](#) duet and respond below.

Composer Clarice Assad had a place in mind when she wrote *Jazz Montmartre*. **Do certain sounds or music remind you of places?**



Share with a friend about music or songs that takes your mind to a different place.

Because she was trying to write music that sounded like music at a jazz club, Assad used techniques in the music to make it sound like musicians were improvising. **Improvising** is creating music on the spot without preparing ahead of time. With this piece of music, the players have music they are reading and prepared ahead of time, but the effect was created to make the music feel like an improvised musical conversation between the clarinet and the bass.



Listening to the [clarinet](#) from **1:04-3:09**, how does the composer create the feeling of “improvising” even though the musician is reading from music?



Listen to some other traditional jazz clarinet:

Doreen Ketchens is a jazz clarinet player from New Orleans with the nickname “The Clarinet Queen”. Watch her perform [When the Saints Go Marching In](#) .

Does it seem like Doreen Ketchens is **improvising**? How did you know?

Do you know the song she’s performing (*When the Saints Go Marching In*)? Where have you heard it before? What does it make you think of?

Compare and Contrast these two pieces featuring jazz style clarinet.



In the boxes below, write out things that make each piece of music unique and DIFFERENT from each other. In the middle box, write what parts of the music examples are the SAME.

[When the Saints Go Marching In](#)

(traditional)



Similarities
between
these
pieces of
music:

[Jazz Montmartre](#)

by Clarice Assad