

# Crashes

I. The Great Recession

II. 1929, 1987

III. The Bull Market

for two clarinets

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## Notes to the Performers:

Crashes was composed by compiling the daily closing data from the Dow Jones Industrial Average as reported from MeasuringWorth.com. Taking the highest and lowest closing values as the extents of the comfortable clarinet written range (E3-G6), I then divided the range into equal segments, plotting daily closing values with a specific pitch. For the first two movements dates are given in the score to correspond with the beginning of each new system or significant points within the music.

The first movement, *The Great Recession*, uses data from June 1, 2007- May 2, 2009. The movement is in 5/8 with one measure corresponding to one workweek. One clarinet plays the data from that week. The other clarinet either rests or mimics the other clarinet. Short musical quotes or rests with fermatas depict holidays in which the stock market was closed. These tunes include Auld Lang Syne (New Year's Day), Hail to the Chief (Washington's Birthday), EASTER HYMN (Good Friday), The Star Spangled Banner (Independence Day), KREMSEER (Thanksgiving Day), and STILLE NACHT (Christmas Day).

The second movement, *1929, 1987*, compares the stock market data from January 1st to December 31st between two notoriously bad years in the stock market. One clarinet is designated 1929 as he/she will play only that year's data adjusted so that the highest/lowest closing in that year would equal the highest/lowest note in an approximately 40-note range for the clarinet. Likewise, the clarinet designated 1987, will only play that year's data with a similar adjustment. Each day in the year is represented by one eighth-note beat with the exception of a few days late in the year when the stock market was closed. Articulations combine with the closing data to show the similarities between the years. In both years a high point occurs in August with a crash in late October.

The final movement, *The Bull Market*, is freer in its form and design but uses the data from the opening movement in retrograde. Unlike the first movement, most of the data is seen in imitation between the two clarinets at various pitch intervals. Throughout the movement the "crash" motive (October 25-29, 1929) appears.

Doug Harbin

# Crashes

Doug Harbin (2014)

## I. The Great Recession (June 2007-April 2009)

Frantic! (♩ = 140, ♪ = 280)

The Opening Bell

B♭ Cl. 1  
ff

B♭ Cl. 2  
ff

June 1, 2007

7

(senza rit.) (short)

(senza rit.) (short) ff energetic

June 11, 2007

13

ff energetic

July 23, 2007

19

slight rit.

Sept. 3, 07  
(Labor Day)

**a tempo**

25

Musical score for Sept. 3, 07 (Labor Day), measures 25-30. The score is in 2/4 time and consists of two staves. The melody features eighth and quarter notes with various accidentals (sharps, flats, naturals) and slurs. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment with eighth notes.

Oct. 8, 2007

31

Musical score for Oct. 8, 2007, measures 31-36. The score continues in 2/4 time with two staves. The melodic line shows a progression of eighth and quarter notes with slurs and dynamic markings.

Nov. 19, 2007

37

Musical score for Nov. 19, 2007, measures 37-41. The score continues in 2/4 time with two staves. The melodic line features eighth and quarter notes with slurs and dynamic markings.

Dec. 31, 2007

**slight rit.**

Jan. 21, 08  
(MLK Jr. Day)

**accel.**

42

Musical score for Dec. 31, 2007 and Jan. 21, 08 (MLK Jr. Day), measures 42-46. The score continues in 2/4 time with two staves. The melodic line features eighth and quarter notes with slurs and dynamic markings. A **f** dynamic marking is present at the start of measure 45. The tempo changes from **slight rit.** to **accel.** between measures 44 and 45.

Jan. 28, 2008

**A little slower** (♩ = 120, ♪ = 240)

47

Musical score for Jan. 28, 2008, measures 47-51. The score continues in 2/4 time with two staves. The tempo is marked as **A little slower** with a metronome marking of ♩ = 120 and ♪ = 240. The melodic line features eighth and quarter notes with slurs and dynamic markings.