

Unhinged Carnival Fanfare Machine

Unhinged Carnival Fanfare Machine is a fun, brash, concert-opener sort of a piece. It is built out of repeating bits of twisted fanfares, odd arpeggios, and off-kilter grooves that are layered, juxtaposed, and re-arranged in different ways, an ever-shifting kaleidoscope of colors and motives. After a climactic build-up, the clarinets introduce a more lyrical, contemplative mood, with soaring violin melodies and steady percussion grooves (but also sinister trombone glissandi lurking in the background). Bassoons in low thirds interrupt and the music is swept back into the mad carnival of the opening.