***New York Moments***

Program Notes

When I learned that the premiere of this piece was going to be at Bargemusic in Brooklyn, the good times that I had spent over the years in New York City immediately came to mind. As I started writing, locations and memories of  certain events became the inspiration for the three individual movements. “East River Funk” is a tribute to the waterway on which the venue of the premiere, Bargemusic, is located. Its musical backbone is a slow funk rhythm which forms the base for a virtuosic oboe solo. The movement proceeds through a more quiet funk groove into a contemplative, contrapuntal section featuring the winds and the cello. Nearing its conclusion, the original theme reappears. “After Hours” reminds of the wee hours of the morning in Manhattan, when most businesses and restaurants are closed, when traffic is light and the city is not quite awake yet. The clarinet paints the picture of a relaxed late-night-feel in this jazzy ballad. “Avenue A & 2nd” is the location where I have stayed during most of my visits to New York. The apartment at this address was bustling with life at all times - 3 jazz musicians were living there, one of them in the living room - and the movement reflects on the energy and sometimes insanity (in the good sense of the word) of things going on there.  The piano is clearly the solo instrument in this movement, romping through a quasi-swing groove and accompanied  - or disrupted - by percussive woodwind accents. ***New York Moments*** will be published by Doblinger Music Publishers of Vienna, date tba.