The Clarinet Concerto has been written on the

The late great Clarinet virtuoso Yona Efringer
invited me to write for him a Concerto. Sitting together
in a plane flying from London to Tel Aviv we
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content. The composer should not be afraid of demanding unusual techniques in order to
enlarge the possibilities of clarinet sound production. The orchestra’s function should not be just an
accompaniment for the soloist, but opposite
to he should fulfill the task of a partner in chamber
music in which the soloist and the orchestra develop a dyad about the thematic material. These were the main points we agreed to. One still could see the finished score of the work and even a date for the first performed was fixed. But nature
took his course. In remembrance to Jon's feed
musicanship and to Jon the noble human being
we shall listen this evening to one of his last
artistic initiatives.
JOSEF TAL
Clarinet Concerto

The great clarinet virtuoso, the late Jona Ettlinger (died June 1981) invited Josef Tal to compose for him a Concerto. Sitting together in a plane flying from London to Tel-Aviv they discussed the project in detail:

"The composition should give ample opportunity to the clarinet player to show his craftsmanship as a virtuoso, but never at the expense of the musical content", says Josef Tal. "The composer should not be afraid of demanding unusual techniques in order to enrich possibilities of clarinet sound-production. The orchestra should not be just an accompaniment to the solo part, but, on the contrary, should fulfill the task of a partner in chamber music, in which the soloist and the orchestra develop a dialogue about the thematic material. Those were the main points we agreed upon. Jona was still able to see the finished score of the work and a date for the première performance had been set. But nature took its course. In remembrance of Jona's great musicianship and for Jona, the noble human being, we shall listen to one of his last artistic initiatives."