

Sample pages from...

Brad Edwards

*The
Melodious Trombone*

"Besides Bordogni"



60 original pieces with duet parts

With a foreword by

Michael Mulcahy

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

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Foreword

Not since André Lafosse and Vladislav Blazhevich, have we had an outstanding performer, a recognised pedagogue, who is also a very gifted composer. Brad Edwards has already produced a plethora of creative teaching materials addressing various aspects of trombone performance in novel and effective ways. He joins these esteemed artists, who have an enduring impact on the development of our instrument, giving universal access to our community with the breadth and depth of their work.

In *The Melodious Trombone*, Dr. Edwards revisits a long established approach to lyricism, composing an impressive number of new études that explore a wide variety of keys, ranges, and styles. I particularly appreciate the spectrum of tempo indications that not only impart speed, but also style and conception. By utilising German and French terminology, in addition to the traditional Italian, he reveals, particularly to the young musician, the lexicon of indications in our vast orchestral repertoire, that are usually overlooked and misunderstood. The studies are progressive in complexity making it safe for players to advance in a logical and healthful fashion. As our instrument develops, the études that pursue more extreme range are very welcome indeed. I am grateful that low playing is given as much emphasis and enthusiasm as the high register, which tends to preoccupy younger players prematurely to their detriment.

It has always been a challenge for players to progress from the practice room to the stage, and present as artists and performers, rather than mere instrumentalists or executors. We do not frequently enjoy the luxury of a fine pianist or piano, so here is a wonderful solution to conceptualise artistically, sooner and better. From a practical standpoint, we now not only enjoy these fresh studies, but enjoy the very available opportunity to start making music in a more complete sense, perfect for teachers and students, colleagues and indeed for everyone who wishes to make music together spontaneously and affordably, instead of even more sterile practice in a vacuum.

Let the singing start now. Thank you Brad Edwards!

Michael Mulcahy
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Northwestern University
Director, Chicago Symphony Orchestra Brass

Introduction

Most trombonists know and love the Bordogni vocalises, also known by some as the Rochut études. The purpose of this book is to provide some variety and possibly “fill in the gaps” in the Bordogni collection.

- Range development builds progressively. Part One of the book (#’s 1-30) extends up only to G₄ (with middle C being C₄). Part Two (#’s 31-60) extends up to D₅ and down as far as an optional E₁.
- 20 additional pages present selected études in higher and lower keys.
- Harmonic variety increases throughout the book even touching briefly on whole tone and diminished scales.
- Rhythmic complexity increases as the book progresses; odd meters and meter changes begin to appear sparingly.
- Each étude has a duet part.

These études are conceived in groups of two. Most often, this pairing takes the form of a major key and its relative minor. In each pair, meters are usually the same. Similar rhythmic and melodic elements appear in both.

Some other details to note:

- Tenor clef is introduced in the second half of the book (starting with #31). Alto clef appears in the highest études in the back of the book.
- Grace notes are introduced starting with #45.
- Starting with #20, études may have tempo changes.
- Starting with #31, études may have key signature changes (although mode changes and implied keys begin earlier).
- At times I use a tenuto mark to indicate a bit more musical weight.
- Some of the non-english musical terms are defined at the bottom of the page.
- Tempo markings need not be rigidly followed. On trickier passages, be sure to start practicing at slower tempos.

We all should be striving for greater beauty and nuance in our playing. My hope is that you will find these études to be satisfying additions to your musical journey.

Brad Edwards

Contents:

Part One

1. Moderato
2. Andante cantabile
3. Waltz
4. Allegretto
5. Sempre dolce
6. Allegro
7. Andante
8. Larghetto
9. Adagio
10. Moderato
11. Adagio
12. Larghetto
13. Allegretto grazioso
14. Con moto
15. Gemächlich
16. Klagend
17. Vif
18. Largement
19. Bewegt
20. Drängend (etwas langsamer)
21. Andante con moto
22. Larghetto
23. Adagietto (piu mosso)
24. Moderato appassionato
25. Lebhaft
26. Geschwind
27. Allegretto
28. Moderato grazioso
29. Allegro scherzando
30. Allegro con fuoco

Selected Etudes in Higher Keys:

(p. 62)

(H2 - even higher)

- 5 H1. Sempre dolce
- 5 H2. Sempre dolce
- 12 H1. Larghetto
- 12 H2. Larghetto
- 15 H1. Gemächlich
- 15 H2. Gemächlich
- 16 H1. Klagend
- 16 H2. Klagend
- 21 H1. Andante con moto
- 21 H2. Andante con moto

Part Two

31. Adagietto con amore (piu mosso)
32. Moderato (meno mosso)
33. Allegro gioioso / Andante
34. Allegro agitato / Andantino
35. Etwas langsam
36. Entschieden / Lebhaft
37. Larghetto / Presto
38. Adagio con dolore
39. Con gioia
40. Moderato ritmico
41. Allegro scherzando
42. Vivace tarantella
43. Waltz allegretto
44. Waltz misterioso
45. Ruhig
46. Maßig / Rasch
47. Rapide
48. Emporté (plus lentement)
49. Allegro vivace / Adagio
50. Allegro agitato/Andante cantabile
51. Lilting
52. Driving / Dancing
53. Allegretto scherzando
54. Allegro con anima
55. Gemächlich / Schnell
56. Langsam / Bewegt
57. Andante piacevole / Con spirito
58. Largo con affetto (piu mosso)
59. Andante cantabile
60. Misterioso / Allegro ritmico

Selected Etudes in Lower Keys:

(p. 73)

(L2 - even lower)

- 2 L1. Andante cantabile
- 2 L2. Andante cantabile
- 5 L1. Sempre dolce
- 5 L2. Sempre dolce
- 8 L1. Larghetto
- 8 L2. Larghetto
- 11 L1. Adagio
- 11 L2. Adagio
- 23 L1. Adagietto (piu mosso)
- 23 L2. Adagietto (piu mosso)

Sample pages from...

The Melodious Trombone

Moderato (♩ = c. 104)

1. *mp*

4 *mf*

8 *f*

12 *mp* *cresc.* *mf*

16 *p*

20 *mf*

24

The image displays a musical score for a Trombone part, titled "The Melodious Trombone". The tempo is marked "Moderato" with a quarter note equal to approximately 104 beats per minute. The music is in 4/4 time and the key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score is divided into six systems, each starting with a measure number (1, 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24). The first system (measures 1-3) begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and features a long melodic line with a slur. The second system (measures 4-7) starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and includes a triplet of eighth notes. The third system (measures 8-11) begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic and contains several chords with accents. The fourth system (measures 12-15) starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic, includes a crescendo (*cresc.*) marking, and ends with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The fifth system (measures 16-19) begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and features a melodic line with a slur. The sixth system (measures 20-23) starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and continues the melodic line. The seventh system (measures 24-27) is partially visible and shows a continuation of the melodic line.

Sample pages from...

The Melodious Trombone

Andante (♩ = c. 92)

7. *mp*

5 *mf*

9 *p*

13 *cresc.*

17 *f* *dim.*

21 *mp* *mf*

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a Trombone, consisting of six staves of music. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Andante' with a quarter note equal to approximately 92 beats per minute. The score begins at measure 7. The first staff (measures 7-8) starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The second staff (measures 9-10) features a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The third staff (measures 11-12) is marked piano (*p*). The fourth staff (measures 13-14) includes a crescendo (*cresc.*) marking. The fifth staff (measures 15-16) starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and ends with a decrescendo (*dim.*). The sixth staff (measures 17-18) begins with mezzo-piano (*mp*) and ends with mezzo-forte (*mf*). The music is characterized by long, sweeping melodic lines with many slurs and ties, creating a smooth and lyrical texture.

Sample pages from...

The Melodious Trombone

Moderato appassionato (♩ = c. 100)

24. *mf* *f*

7 *mp* *pp* *mf*

14 *mp*

20 *f* *mp*

26

32 *mf* *mp*

The image displays a musical score for Trombone, titled "The Melodious Trombone". The tempo is "Moderato appassionato" with a quarter note equal to approximately 100 beats per minute. The music is in 3/4 time and the key signature has two sharps (D major). The score is presented in six systems, each starting with a measure number. The first system (measures 24-31) begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and features a long melodic phrase that concludes with a fortissimo (*f*) dynamic. The second system (measures 7-13) starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic, includes a piano-piano (*pp*) dynamic marking, and ends with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The third system (measures 14-19) begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The fourth system (measures 20-25) starts with a fortissimo (*f*) dynamic and continues with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The fifth system (measures 26-31) is marked with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The sixth system (measures 32-38) begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and includes a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking. The score is written in bass clef and includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.

Sample pages from...

The Melodious Trombone

Adagietto con amore (♩ = c. 63)

31. *mf* *cresc.* 3

5 *p* *cresc.* 3

8 *mf* *mp*

13 *mp* *mf*

17

21 *p* 3

24 *rit.* *cresc.* 3

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 31 through 35 of a piece titled 'Adagietto con amore' for Trombone. The music is written in bass clef with a common time signature (C). Measure 31 starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and features a triplet of eighth notes. The piece is marked 'Adagietto con amore' with a tempo of approximately 63 beats per minute. The score includes various dynamics such as piano (*p*), mezzo-forte (*mf*), mezzo-piano (*mp*), and piano (*p*), along with performance instructions like 'cresc.' (crescendo) and 'rit.' (ritardando). The notation includes slurs, ties, and triplet markings. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

Adagietto con amore (♩ = c. 63)

35

Sample pages from...

The Melodious Trombone

Allegro scherzando (♩ = c. 104)

41.  *mf*

Musical notation for measures 41-46. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature is 6/8. The music features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. A dynamic marking of *mf* is present below the staff.

6  *mp*

Musical notation for measures 6-10. The key signature is three sharps. The time signature is 6/8. The music features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. A dynamic marking of *mp* is present below the staff.

11  *mp*

Musical notation for measures 11-15. The key signature is three sharps. The time signature is 6/8. The music features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. A dynamic marking of *mp* is present below the staff.

16  *p* *cresc.*

Musical notation for measures 16-20. The key signature is three sharps. The time signature is 6/8. The music features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. Dynamic markings of *p* and *cresc.* are present below the staff.

21  *f*

Musical notation for measures 21-25. The key signature is three sharps. The time signature is 6/8. The music features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present below the staff.

26  *f*

Musical notation for measures 26-30. The key signature is three sharps. The time signature is 6/8. The music features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present below the staff.

31  *mp* *cresc.*

Musical notation for measures 31-35. The key signature is three sharps. The time signature is 6/8. The music features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. Dynamic markings of *mp* and *cresc.* are present below the staff.

Sample pages from...

The Melodious Trombone

Emporté (♩ = c. 92)

48. *mp*

7

13 *f* *Fine* *p*

19 *p*

24 *cresc.* *f*

30 *plus lentement* (♩ = c. 84) *p*

The image displays a musical score for Trombone, titled "The Melodious Trombone". The piece is "Emporté" with a tempo of approximately 92 beats per minute. The score is written in 3/4 time and B-flat major. It consists of six systems of music. The first system (measures 48-54) begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and features a melodic line with slurs and accents. The second system (measures 55-61) continues the melodic development. The third system (measures 62-68) reaches a fortissimo (*f*) dynamic and concludes with a "Fine" marking and a piano (*p*) dynamic. The fourth system (measures 69-75) maintains the piano dynamic. The fifth system (measures 76-82) includes a crescendo (*cresc.*) leading to a fortissimo (*f*) dynamic. The sixth system (measures 83-89) is marked "plus lentement" (slower) at approximately 84 beats per minute and begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic.

Sample pages from...

The Melodious Trombone

Allegretto scherzando (♩. = c. 60)

53. *mf* *f*

5 *mf* *Fine*

10 *p* *cresc.* *mf*

15 *f*

20 *mp*

24 *mf*

30

Detailed description: This is a musical score for Trombone, consisting of seven staves of music. The piece is in 3/8 time and G major. The tempo is Allegretto scherzando, with a quarter note equal to approximately 60 beats per minute. The score begins at measure 53. The first staff (measures 53-58) starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and features a melodic line with eighth-note patterns and slurs. The dynamic increases to forte (*f*) in the second half of the staff. The second staff (measures 59-64) begins with *mf* and ends with a *Fine* marking. The third staff (measures 65-70) starts with piano (*p*) and includes a crescendo (*cresc.*) leading to mezzo-forte (*mf*). The fourth staff (measures 71-76) features a forte (*f*) dynamic. The fifth staff (measures 77-82) is marked mezzo-piano (*mp*). The sixth staff (measures 83-88) is marked mezzo-forte (*mf*). The seventh staff (measures 89-94) is also marked mezzo-forte (*mf*). The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

Books by Brad Edwards

The Melodious Trombone: Besides Bordogni (142 pages)
Provide some lyrical variety to your diet. Duet parts included.

First Habits (232 pages)
More than a warm-up.

60 Vignettes (98 pages)
Little character pieces in varied keys. Available for different instruments.

100 Sight-Reading Melodies in Tenor Clef / Alto Clef
Separate titles. Available as a pdf download only.

The Intermediate Trombonist (132 pages)
Building blocks for Tone and Technique

Simply Singing for Winds (114 pages)
A wellspring of simple melodies to sing, buzz, play.

Trombone Craft (169 pages) / ***Bass Trombone Craft*** (185 pages)
A musical approach to building tone and technique.

Lip Slurs (84 pages)
In three sections: slow slurs, fast slurs and lip slur melodies.

Lip Slur Melodies (132 pages)
Lyrical melodies and duets, using just natural slurs.

Patterns and Snippets (180 pages)
A musical approach to scales and arpeggios.

Tuning Drone Melodies (134 pages)
Music to be played over tuning drones; for one or more instruments.

Introductory Studies in Tenor and Alto Clef (56 pages)
A good first clef book to precede the Blazhevich Clef Studies.

All books are available through HornbonePress.com



24 Concert Pieces by Brad Edwards

- A collection of solos starting at the intermediate level and progressing in difficulty.
- Currently available for tenor trombone, bass trombone, tuba and horn (and maybe even trumpet someday)
- Each piece has a reasonable piano part.
- Audio of piano part is available for free from website
- Useful for solo and ensemble festivals.
- Free samples/recordings available on the TromboneZone.org and (eventually) HornbonePress.com websites.

Volume One

[approximate timings shown in brackets]

- #1 Andante con moto [3:30]
- #2 Allegretto - Andante - Allegro giocoso [3:40]
- #3 Noble - Lyrical [4:00]
- #4 March [3:20]
- #5 Alla Tango [3:40]
- #6 Singing - Driving – Dancing [4:10]
- #7 Scherzando – Tranquillo [3:30]
- #8 Misterioso – Giocoso [3:40]
- #9 Piacevole – Vigoroso [3:40]
- #10 With Confidence – With Yearning [4:20]
- #11 Expansive – Carefree [3:40]
- #12 Wistful – Playful – Joyful [3:30]

Volume Two

- #13 Scherzando - Cantabile [3:30]
- #14 Espressivo - Dramatico [4:10]
- #15 Floating – Dancing [4:15]
- #16 Relentless - Wistful – Impish [4:30]
- #17 Impetuoso – Serioso [3:50]
- #18 Grooving – Haunting [4:00]
- #19 Pesante - Scherzando – Waltz [4:00]
- #20 Dream Scene - Chase Scene [4:15]
- #21 Spirited gallop - Woeful lament (Ironic Waltz) [5:10]
- #22 Insistently – Tenderly [4:45]
- #23 Funebre – Imponente [4:45]
- #24 Driving – Dreaming [5:15]

Video recordings available on Youtube.

