

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 shows a musical score for a Trombone part, titled "The Melodious Trombone". The tempo is "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 major). The score consists of six staves of music, numbered 1 through 24. The first staff (measures 1-4) starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and features a melodic line with a long slur. The second staff (measures 4-8) has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and includes some rests. The third staff (measures 8-12) begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The fourth staff (measures 12-16) shows dynamics of mezzo-piano (*mp*), crescendo (*cresc.*), and mezzo-forte (*mf*). The fifth staff (measures 16-20) starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The sixth staff (measures 20-24) is marked mezzo-forte (*mf*). The music is characterized by smooth, flowing lines with frequent slurs and ties.

Sample pages from...

The Melodious Trombone

Andante (♩ = c. 92)

7. *mp*

5 *mf*

9 *p*

13 *cresc.*

17 *f* *dim.*

21 *mp* *mf*

Sample pages from...

The Melodious Trombone

Con moto (♩ = c. 144)

14. *mp*

6 *cresc.*

12 *mf*

17 *mp* *ff*

23 *mp*

29 *cresc.*

The musical score is written for a trombone in bass clef, 3/4 time, and B-flat major. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff (measures 14-20) begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and features a melodic line with a slur over measures 14-16 and a crescendo hairpin. The second staff (measures 21-22) continues the melodic line with a crescendo hairpin. The third staff (measures 23-26) starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and includes a slur over measures 23-25. The fourth staff (measures 27-28) begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and ends with a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic. The fifth staff (measures 29-30) starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and includes a slur over measures 29-30. The sixth staff (measures 31-32) continues the melodic line with a crescendo hairpin.

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 a Trombone part, 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 line with a crescendo leading to a forte (*f*) dynamic. The second system (measures 7-13) starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic, includes a piano (*pp*) dynamic, 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 forte (*f*) dynamic and includes a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The fifth system (measures 26-31) continues the melodic line. The sixth system (measures 32-38) starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and includes a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The score uses various musical notations including slurs, accents, and dynamic markings to guide the performer.

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 five staves of musical notation for a trombone. The first staff (measures 31-35) is in 3/4 time, marked *mf* and *cresc.*, featuring a melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes. The second staff (measures 5-9) is in 3/4 time, marked *p* and *cresc.*, with a triplet of eighth notes. The third staff (measures 8-12) is in 3/4 time, marked *mf* and *mp*. The fourth staff (measures 13-16) is in 3/4 time, marked *mp* and *mf*. The fifth staff (measures 17-20) is in 3/4 time. The sixth staff (measures 21-23) is in 3/4 time, marked *p*, with a triplet of eighth notes. The seventh staff (measures 24-26) is in 3/4 time, marked *rit.* and *cresc.*, with a triplet of eighth notes.

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*

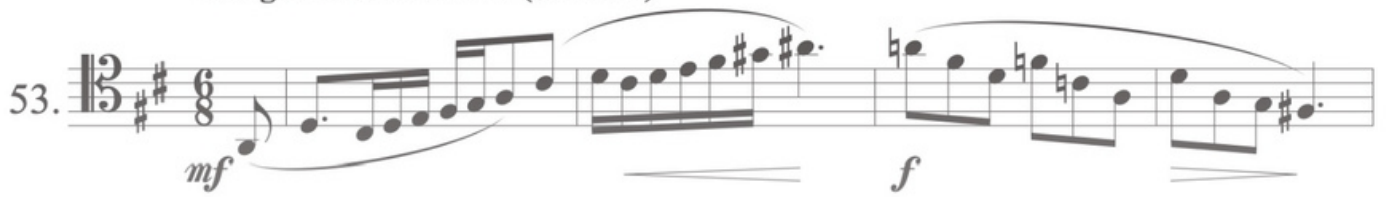
30 *plus lentement* (♩ = c. 84) *p*

The image shows 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 staves of music. The first staff starts at measure 48 with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The second staff starts at measure 7. The third staff starts at measure 13 with a forte (*f*) dynamic, includes a "Fine" marking, and ends with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The fourth staff starts at measure 19 with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The fifth staff starts at measure 24 with a crescendo (*cresc.*) leading to a forte (*f*) dynamic. The sixth staff starts at measure 30 with a "plus lentement" (slower) tempo of approximately 84 beats per minute and a piano (*p*) dynamic. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.

Sample pages from...

The Melodious Trombone

Allegretto scherzando (♩. = c. 60)

53. 

5 

10 

15 

20 

24 

30 

Books by Brad Edwards

The Melodious Trombone: Besides Bordogni (142 pages)

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- 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.

