

Abstract

Title of Dissertation: THE FLUGELHORN: A VERSATILE
INSTRUMENT FOR INTERCHANGEABLE
REPERTOIRE

Aunna V. Marzen, Doctor of Musical Arts, 2025

Dissertation directed by: Distinguished University Professor, Chris
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The concept of interchangeable repertoire is not a new idea to the music industry. Musicians from all backgrounds have chosen to perform repertoire from instruments that are not their own and often find success in doing so. The primary objective to this recording and dissertation project was to highlight the abilities of an instrument that deserves to be used in other diverse contexts beyond the standard jazz band and brass band settings. The flugelhorn not only possesses a special ability to be diverse in what it can accomplish musically but also has a unique historic relationship to the euphonium and the saxhorn family. Taking advantage of the flugelhorn's versatility, this project celebrates its ability to execute intricate euphonium repertoire and therefore adding additional repertoire the instrument's classical perspective. Works include *Sonata for Flugelhorn and Piano* by Carson Cooman, "Psalm" from *Two Portraits* by Joseph Turrin, *Sonata no. 1 for Trumpet and Piano*, "Sonata for Heroes," *Movement II. With Integrity*, by Marcus S. Grant, *Fantasia*, by Gordon Jacob, *Suite for Horn and Piano*, by Alec Wilder, and *Concertino for Euphonium and Concert Band* by Rolf Wilhelm.

THE FLUGELHORN: A VERSATILE INSTRUMENT FOR INTERCHANGEABLE
REPERTOIRE

By

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Chapter 1: Flugelhorn and Euphonium, Interchangeable Instruments and Interchangeable Music

Doubling instruments and borrowing repertoire from other instruments is not a new concept to the musical world. Doubling is most found in the woodwind family between clarinet and saxophone, or saxophone and flute. There are two forms of doubling, primary to auxiliary and primary to secondary. The main use of doubling is primary to auxiliary. Primary to auxiliary doubling is when a musician plays their standard instrument such as Bb clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, trombone, and tuba, then doubles on instruments such as Eb clarinet and soprano saxophone, or piccolo trumpet. The base of this project was exploring the similarities between trumpet, flugelhorn, and euphonium creating a primary to secondary form of doubling, or when a musician can double on more than one primary instrument such as clarinet and flute, and trumpet and euphonium.

Trumpet, flugelhorn, and euphonium are all similar due to many common characteristics and qualities, but most importantly, flugelhorn and euphonium are descendants of the saxhorn family. It is said that Adolph Sax created the idea of a layering of keys, for example the saxophone family is Bb Soprano Saxophone, Eb Alto Saxophone, Bb Tenor Saxophone, and Eb Baritone Saxophone. Sax's main goal was to mimic the homogenous string quartet layering structure. This method is also used in the clarinet family but switched, utilizing Bb as the first keyed clarinet instead of Eb.

Flugelhorn is an instrument of German descent and a member of the saxhorn family created by Adolph Sax. Flugelhorn can be translated to "wing-horn," a signaling instrument placed on the "wings" of a military or hunting formation. The French translation of flugelhorn is

simply, “bugle.” Sax had many ties to the flugelhorn refining its bore size and valve systems.¹

In 1847 Adolph Sax produced the modern version of the bugle (flugelhorn), which featured newly designed Berlin pistons, and featured a modern French and English format: short cylindrical mouth pipe, telescopic for tuning, leading straight to the 1st valve, the following a wide loop expanding throughout to a wide bell. The mouthpiece to be used is like that of a cornet width but much greater in depth.² The saxhorn family can include flugelhorn, tenor horn, baritone, euphonium, and tuba. In the layering of keys these would be set up as such; Bb soprano saxhorn (flugelhorn), Eb alto or tenor saxhorn (alto/tenor horn), Bb baritone saxhorn (baritone), and the Bb or Eb contrabass saxhorns (Bb treble clef euphonium and Eb and Bb tubas).³ Having these instruments in these specific keys also contribute to the ease of moving through this repertoire. The focus of the repertoire I chose for my recording project centers itself around the flugelhorn but also takes repertoire from other brass instruments, specifically horn and euphonium.

I chose the following pieces due to their contemporary style of writing, diversity in genre, diversity in style, and accessibility to the college aged musician. The pieces I chose to record as part of this project are Carson Cooman’s *Sonata for Flugelhorn and Piano*, Marcus S. Grant’s *Sonata for Heroes Movement II. With Integrity*, Joseph Turrin’s “*Psalm*” from *Two Portraits*, Gordon Jacob’s *Fantasia*, Alex Wilder’s *Suite for Horn and Piano*, and Rolf Wilhelms, *Concertino for Euphonium and Concert Band*. These pieces are all unique not just because they

¹ Tony Darrin Roebuck, “A Study of the Flugelhorn in Solo Settings.” (D.M.A. diss., The University of South Carolina, Columbia, 2009), 5, ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global.

² Anthony Baines, *Brass Instruments, Their History and Development* (New York: Dover Publications, INC. 1993), 230-231.

³ Alicja Zelazko, “Saxhorn,” Britannica, accessed March 22, 2025, <https://www.britannica.com/art/saxhorn>.

were written by different composers, but because those composers had diverse backgrounds and composed in a variety of styles. I mentioned earlier there is a relationship between flugelhorn and euphonium, but you might notice I included a piece for French horn. While the base of my research is borrowing accessible repertoire but also finding repertoire from instruments we may not expect as usable on the flugelhorn.

Cooman's *Sonata* is straight forward, classic contemporary music, Grant's music tells a story of heroes, Turrin's piece creates an almost dance-like melodic movement, Jacob's work compliments the dexterity needed to play the euphonium, Wilder's piece includes movements written with a unique prospective on jazz, and Wilhelm's *Concertino* quickly became my favorite piece due to its beautiful and uplifting melodic lines, and the challenges it brought putting it on flugelhorn.

To perform this repertoire on flugelhorn was practical, even if the music was not written for flugelhorn. Much of the work to translate bass clef to treble was accessible through treble clef parts for euphonium and using a concert pitch score on the Wilder to translate the pitches and octave displacements to flugelhorn. I also chose to not use a mute if the part called for one. If I were to have used a mute while performing the music, I would have used a trombone straight mute. Using a trombone straight mute is the most accessible choice to a musician because it fits into the bell of the flugelhorn, unlike a normal sized trumpet mute. I opted out of using a mute in this project because I did not believe it fit the timbre I was looking for in those specific passages.

Chapter 2: Sonata for Flugelhorn and Piano (2015)

Performance Instructions:

Title: Sonata for Flugelhorn and Piano (2015)

Composer: Carson Cooman (b. 1982)

Performance Duration: circa 12.5 minutes

Definitions and Abbreviations:

cantabile – Singingly

molto espressivo – With much expression

non cres. – Do not gradually grow in volume

non dim – Do not gradually lessen in volume

non rit. al fine – Do not gradually slow down to the end

sim. – Play the same articulation and markings as the phrase before

sub. – (abbreviation for Subito) Sudden change

Program notes:

Sonata for Flugelhorn and Piano (2015) was written as part of a commission featuring artists and organizations from all around the United States. This two-movement work is dedicated to Dr. Anne McNamara, a graduate from the University of Maryland, and depicts the flugelhorn in not only the rich and beautiful sound the flugelhorn has to offer, but also its very virtuosic and technical capabilities.

The two movements, Cantus and Ludus, are used in many of Cooman's other sonatas and explore the small line between song and play. Throughout the work, the lyrical lines turn into technical passages portraying angst and wonder, while maintaining a harmonious flow of song-like energy.

Program Note by
Aunna V. Marzen

Sonata for Flugelhorn and Piano (2015) was written for and dedicated for Anne McNamara. The work was commissioned with support from the University of Utah and Campbellsville University and a trumpeter consortium. The stated intent behind the commission was to develop a work of serious content for flugelhorn that explored the range of possibilities of the instrument: not only its characteristic warm lyricism, but also its technical and virtuosic possibilities.

The work employs the "Cantus/Ludus" form that I have used in several of my instrumental sonatas over the years. The two movements are balanced in their emotional affects and together thus explore a very fundamental musical and cultural dichotomy. In general, the "Cantus" movement concerns itself with song and the "Ludus" movement with play, but these boundaries begin to blur. Thus, while the "Cantus" movement develops largely lyrical material, it does so with distinctly nervous energy. Finally, at the end of the movement, we get the song-like material

presented unhindered. The “Ludus” movement becomes a game of rhythm and harmony – it is a series of little journeys to and away from triadic material.

Program Note by
Carson Cooman, 2015

Performance practices:

On page 14 of the score, Cooman notates the following for mm. 43-53 in I. Cantus.

“ * The unusual dynamic balance in this passage is very intentional. The RH chords work as resonances of the harmonics/spectra of the LH.”

Personal Performance Practices:

Carson Cooman has written hundreds of works ranging from solos to hymns sung in church. His music has been performed across six continents and has been featured on 25 CDs. Cooman’s main specialty is organ, and his performances can be heard on numerous recordings. He also actively writes for many international publications and consults on music business practices to fellow composers and performing organizations.⁴ The success of Cooman can be felt throughout *Sonata for Flugelhorn and Piano*. I programed this work because I felt it complimented my other works that were written for euphonium and horn, while still being exclusive to the flugelhorn repertoire. The interesting melodic lines and harmonic structures with the piano creates an atmosphere that is joyful while also creating a challenging yet energetic piece for musicians willing to perform this work. This piece is approachable for upperclassmen high school students or anyone at the college or professional level.

While preparing this work, I found it was best to practice with a metronome. I started at half tempo and gradually worked up to the written tempos. This allowed me to learn the piece but to also engage with the music mindfully and develop a muscle memory around the melodic

⁴ Carson Cooman, “Biography,” Carson Cooman Composer, Accessed March 16, 2025, <https://carsoncooman.com/biography/>.

structures. There are three specific sections of this two-movement sonata I'd like to highlight and offer performance suggestions on how to navigate these passages.

The first section I'd like to highlight are measures 79 through 89. This is the most rhythmically and technically advanced section in movement one. This passage is well written to fit under the fingers, but between measures 80 and 82, accuracy becomes difficult with the major second movement between C and D. This is a natural "hitch" or "break" in the trumpet and requires some manipulation in the air support and embouchure by the player, especially at faster tempos. In mm. 85, the sextuplets are written in our lower octaves, creating a challenge with the third finger and the accuracy of lining up the passage with our air. As a reminder this section isn't as challenging as some parts of this work but could be difficult for a player who is not prepared in finger dexterity and with ample flexibility around the horn.

Fig. 2.1 – Cooman, *Sonata for Flugelhorn and Piano*. (Verona: Zimbel Press, 2015), movement one, measures 79-89.



The following two sections come from movement II. Ludus. Both sections have similar challenges. In measures 38 through 51 the focus point is on multiple tonguing and range.

Multiple tonguing refers to the players' ability to articulate using two or more syllables. These

syllables could be Tu-Ku, Ta- Ka, Du-Gu, or Da-Ga. In my own practice I use Da-Ga for slower more lyrical passages, and Ta-Ka for more staccato-like articulations. This creates a difference in articulation length therefore better fitting the style of the passage. The main challenge in this passage is an ascending line with a double (two) tongue being used. There should be careful consideration to articulation markings and dynamic phrasing as well. In measure 25 there are natural slurs (slurs that are part of the main harmonic series on trumpet) that could also create a tension point or cause the player to experience a response issue if there isn't sufficient support or lack of flexibility on the musician. I recommend slowing this passage down until it can be played at 50% speed cleanly and consistently, then gradually increase the tempo. This passage is complimented well by the harmony in the piano accompaniment.

Fig. 2.2 – Cooman, *Sonata for Flugelhorn and Piano*. (Verona: Zimbel Press, 2025), movement two, measures 38-51.



COOMAN: Sonata for Flugelhorn and Piano

Flugelhorn

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The final section covered is from measures 153 through 172. This was the most technically complex section of the sonata for me. This passage is filled with major and minor 2^{nds}, which creates a difficult articulation of each group of four while still ascending and keeping tempo. After the sixteenth notes there is a short break before a small cadenza-like phrase. This phrase can be played however the performer envisions it, but it is crucial to keep in mind the decrescendo on the ascending line to the “B” in measure 172. Immediately following this passage is an interlude creating a break for the performer. I recommend not having the accompanist wait incredibly long before reentering due to the higher range and ascending line.

Fig. 2.3 – Cooman, *Sonata for Flugelhorn and Piano*. (Verona: Zimbel Press, 2025), movement two, measures 153-172.

The image displays a musical score for measures 151 through 172 of a piece by Cooman. The score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into five systems, each starting with a measure number: 151, 158, 163, 166, and 169. Measure 151 begins with a half note G4, followed by a whole rest, then a half note A4, and a whole rest. A bracket above measures 152 and 153 indicates a second ending. Measure 154 starts with a half note B4, followed by a half note C5, and a whole rest. A bracket above measures 155 and 156 indicates a first ending. Measure 157 starts with a half note D5, followed by a half note E5, and a whole rest. A bracket above measures 158 and 159 indicates a second ending. Measure 160 starts with a half note F5, followed by a half note G5, and a whole rest. A bracket above measures 161 and 162 indicates a first ending. Measure 163 starts with a half note A5, followed by a half note B5, and a whole rest. A bracket above measures 164 and 165 indicates a second ending. Measure 166 starts with a half note C6, followed by a half note D6, and a whole rest. A bracket above measures 167 and 168 indicates a first ending. Measure 169 starts with a half note E6, followed by a half note F6, and a whole rest. A bracket above measures 170 and 171 indicates a second ending. Measure 172 starts with a half note G6, followed by a half note A6, and a whole rest. A bracket above measures 173 and 174 indicates a first ending. The score includes various dynamic markings: *mf* (measures 154-156), *f* (measures 157-159), *ff* (measures 160-162), *fff* (measures 163-165), *freely* (measures 166-168), and *p* (measures 169-171). There are also articulation marks such as accents and slurs.

Chapter 3: Sonata No. 1 for Trumpet and Piano “Sonata for Heroes,” II. With Integrity (2022)

Performance Instructions:

Title: Sonata No. 1 for Trumpet and Piano “Sonata for Heroes,” II. With Integrity (2022)

Composer: Marcus S. Grant (b. 1992)

Performance Duration: circa 6.5 minutes

Definitions and Abbreviations:

a tempo – Return to the original tempo

cresc. poco a poco – To increase the loudness by degrees (little by little)

molto rit. – Much holding back

no decrescendo – Do not gradually get softer

rit. – Holding back, to hold back gradually

rubato – Robbed time. A feature of performance in which strict time is for a while disregarded – what is ‘robbed’ from some notes being ‘paid back’ later

rubato y molto cantabile – Robbing time with a singing melody in a lyrical style

Program Notes:

Highlighting Black Composer Marcus S. Grant’s “Sonata for Heroes” was a joy to include on my recording project. It made me ask questions such as: What’s it like to envision a hero from your childhood? What did they look like? Did they wear a cape? Did they have a superpower? What did they mean to you? How does it make you feel thinking about this hero? I have my hero in mind. I couldn’t name just one superpower, or costume, or fancy cape. My hero is ever-changing with every experience we encounter. I imagine my hero to look something like a blend of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. A level-headed leader like Leonardo, a humorous Michelangelo, an educated and knowledgeable Donatello, and some bombastic energy such as Raphael. Movement two titled With Integrity, allows the listener to reflect, imagine, and tell a story together. Powerful music like “Sonata for Heroes” creates that image of my hero, are you ready to imagine yours?

Program note by
Aunna V. Marzen

It’s you! Our Hero! You’re finally here! We’ve been waiting for you. Through the ages, someone has always stepped up to the plate to lead us, inspire us, and to save us. The trumpet world would be a dark and dreary place without the guiding lights of our fearless comrades, who step out of the woodworks and lead us into the new ages. Every time we ascend, we bring with us the truest and finest parts of our identity as trumpet players that have always made us who we are, and we use it to step forth and conquer the world in a way that we have never done before. It would not be possible without the visionary minds and tireless triumphs of our heroes. But the reality is... with every generation of trumpet players comes a new generation of heroes, and without them, we would be left chasing the dreams of our pasts forever. We may not always realize it, but every generation awaits its fearless new leaders to guide us until they, too, shall joining the Hall of

Fame with the leaders of old, who paved the way for us from the beginning.... That's why we're glad that you are here. The journeys of tomorrow lie ahead of us, and we will never leave your side because we know that you will lead us safely there. Now that you're here, we cannot fail! We've seen it already. You are capable of great things. You have the power to create an energy and vibrancy in our world that no one else can. So... are you ready?

Program note by
Marcus S. Grant

Personal Performance Practices:

In this movement, there is only one troublesome section that could be considered challenging. While this movement can be played on either cornet or flugelhorn (performers' preference), range and accuracy of articulation in the higher register are challenges on both. The section provided below creates a unique challenge due to range and its cadenza-like line. A good technique while practicing this section is to practice doing it in time, at half-tempo, and slurred and tongued until it is comfortable slow. After this has been completed, gradually increase the tempo and experiment with rubato, different phrasings, and articulations to create a line that is uniquely yours.

Fig. 3.1 – Grant, *Sonata for Heroes*. (MSGGrant Music, 2022), movement two, measures 54-58.

The image displays a musical score for measures 54 through 58 of the second movement of 'Sonata for Heroes' by Marcus S. Grant. The score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 54 begins with a triplet of eighth notes, followed by a half note, and then a series of eighth notes with accents, leading to a crescendo marked 'f'. Measure 55 continues with a half note, a quarter note, and a half note. Measure 56 features a quintuplet of eighth notes marked '(no decrescendo)' and a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 57 starts with a half note, a quarter note, and a half note, followed by a crescendo marked 'mf'. Measure 58 concludes with a half note, a quarter note, and a half note. The tempo marking 'Con Moto (♩ = 73)' is placed above measure 61, which is the first measure of the following section.

Chapter 4: Fantasia (1973)

Performance Instructions:

Title: Fantasia (1973)

Composer: Gordon Jacob (1895-1984)

Performance Duration: circa 10:30 minutes

Definitions and Abbreviations:

Cadenza ad lib. – Rhythmic with liberty (at one's pleasure)

Colla parte – With the part

con sord. – With mute

cresc. – Increase volume

dim. – Decrease in volume

espr. - Expressively

leggiero – Played light and delicate

marc. - (Abbreviation for marcato), Marked

molto marc. - Very marked

ossia – An alternative version of a music passage

senza sord. - Without (remove) mute

sub. – Suddenly

Piú vivo – More lively

Poco accel. – Gradually increase tempo

poco cres. – Gradually louden in volume

poco espr. – A little more expressively

Poco lento – Gradually a little slower

trem – Tremolo, rapid reiteration of a note, or rapid repeated slight variation in the pitch of a note

Vivo - Lively

Program Notes:

Fantasia for Euphonium and Concert Band is an excellent work to showcase a musician's musicality, technique, and proficiency over the horn. While written for euphonium, the piece is a fantastic option for any high brass player on flugelhorn to tackle this staple in the brass repertoire library. This piece is sure to keep the audience engaged with its flowing melodic lines, exciting rhythmic sections, and short interludes to glue everything together. A piece of this nature would be a wonderful choice as both an opener or closer on a recital or add variety to any wind band concert.

Program note by
Aunna V. Marzen

Performance practices:

This work is dedicated to Michael Mamminga, a graduate student in Euphonium at the time in England. This piece was originally scored for Wind Band and then later scored for orchestra in 1982. The piece can be performed with solo piano, wind band or full orchestra.

Personal Performance Practices:

Fantasia was the most formidable piece on my program. Due to many of the octave jumps, energetic tempos, and staying consistent and calm as a performer throughout all the different sections while still maintaining focus and clarity. There are four sections in this piece I'd like to highlight as tricky areas for a potential player.

The first section is seven measures after rehearsal letter "C" (m. 40). The section is problematic due to its use of intervals and higher octaves. If playing this piece on flugelhorn, I would recommend making the optional octave jump in eight measures after "C" (m. 41) and four bars in front of "D" (m. 43) due to range restrictions not only in the higher register but lower as well. If a player were to play on a 4-valved flugelhorn, there could be an option to utilize the fourth valve and play it as written. While recording this passage, I opted to play this passage as written, except I chose to use the modification of playing the written "D" to "D" octave interval down the octave and the measures before rehearsal "D" (m. 43) up the octave in my flugelhorn's usable range. It's important to note the low Ds and C sharps at the end of the passage can be extremely sharp in pitch and should be lowered by using the third valve slide.

Fig. 4.1 – Jacob, *Fantasia*. (London: Boosey & Hawkes, 1978), measures 32-48.



The second and third sections I’m highlighting are similar to many of the challenges listed above. Arguably the most difficult section in the piece is rehearsal “M” through rehearsal “P.” In this section the melodic lines flow at a faster pace, and the use of half steps, sixths, and accidentals make it easy to miss notes or complicate articulation and phrasing. In the section at rehearsal “O,” the intervallic sixteenth notes at a piano (light and soft) dynamic creates an environment of potential miscalculation in terms of articulation or accuracy. Depending on the tempo of this passage a player would either choose to single tongue or multiple tongue if needed. It is also important to mention a brief character change between the triplets and sixteenths to highlight the bounciness and change of articulation of the rhythmic phrase. I’ve included a diagram of the section from rehearsal “M” through “P” below.

Fig. 4.2 – Jacob, *Fantasia*. (London: Boosey & Hawkes, 1978), measures M-P.

The fourth section highlighted in this work is the entire cadenza. In this cadenza there are aspects from every previous section of the work and different techniques are introduced such as tremolos and trills. This section requires consistent flow, the ability to have soft flexibility, and attention to rests, fermatas, and pauses. These breaks create tension for the listener and are crucial to the flow of the cadenza. While performing this on flugelhorn, there is a need for some octave displacement. Examples include the second line, sixth line, seventh line, and eighth line. There is a *poco accel* during the trill section, but these trills can be a “finger fumble” if you take them too fast too soon. As with all trills, it is good practice to end the trills on the starting note before continuing through the grace notes. The entire cadenza is below for reference.

Fig. 4.3 – Jacob, *Fantasia*. (London: Boosey & Hawkes, 1978), full cadenza.

[illegible]

Fantasia is a work worthy of performance. It creates a space that is unique to euphonium but also fits quite well on flugelhorn and creates another accessible work to add to our flugelhorn repertoire. I would recommend this piece on a recital for college aged students or professionals. It is demanding in terms of technicality, but it is not as demanding on the face as one might expect.

Chapter 5: “Psalm” from Two Portraits (1995)

Performance Instructions:

Title: “Psalm” from Two Portraits (1995)

Composer: Joseph Turrin (b. 1947)

Performance Duration: circa 9:00 minutes

Definitions and Abbreviations:

rit. – Holding back, to hold back gradually

poco a poco dim. – Gradually lower volume

cresc. – Gradually increase volume

expressively – Expressive

rall. – Gradually slow down the tempo

poco a poco cresc. – Little by little increase volume

poco a poco rit. – Little by little decrease tempo

molto rit. – Gradually decrease tempo

Cadenza – Rhythmic

poco a poco accel. – Little by little increase tempo

accel – Increase tempo

Program Notes:

“Psalm” by Joseph Turrin is a work composed for the 20th Anniversary of the International Trumpet Guild (ITG). As a stand-alone or multi-movement work, either can be performed separately or as a pair. Psalm specifically has a much more lyrical and cadenza-like feel. A listener can expect to hear soaring melodic lines and intense dynamic contrast between the flugelhorn and piano. This piece is sure to complement any recital or performance.

Program note by
Aunna V. Marzen

Performance practices:

In the summer of 1995, I composed *Two Portraits* for the 20th Anniversary of the International Trumpet Guild. It consists of two movements: “Psalm” and “Incantation.” Both movements are in a romantic contemporary style and may be played as a set or individually. Although conceived as a flugelhorn work, I’ve noted that the cornet or trumpet would work equally well. I would encourage players to try both flugelhorn and trumpet and make their own decision. The first portrait, Psalm, is published for the first time here, as a supplement to the International Trumpet Guild Journal. The soloist in this movement plays a quiet soulful chant over a ostinato figure in the piano. There are some cadenzas for the soloist and the piece develops into several contrasting sections before returning to the ostinato figures. This ostinato figure although in $\frac{3}{4}$ feels more in

6/8 at times and this $\frac{3}{4}$, 6/8 alternation runs throughout the first movement. This is quiet introspective work which explores the warm and solemn qualities of the flugelhorn.⁵

Note by
Joseph Turrin

Personal Performance Practices:

As stated above in Turrin's performance note, there is a written $\frac{3}{4}$ figure throughout this movement that has flow in 6/8. This creates a direct contrast to the piano accompaniment and was one of the more difficult aspects to feel musically while collaborating with my pianist. It's important to be able to count in eighth notes while still feeling strong downbeats. This section first appears in the movement right after the beginning cadenza where it is marked "Cantabile." I have included the piano part (score) in the example below to demonstrate the visible contrast between the solo and piano parts. I found putting a metronome on eighth notes with accents on 1 and the & of 2 helps to feel the left-hand movement of the piano, which helped cue the performer's part. This may seem like an overly complicated way to feel this part, but it assisted me in what to listen for in the piano part and ultimately made me feel more comfortable with the entrance.

⁵ Joseph Turrin, "Psalm from Two Portraits for Flugelhorn (Cornet or Trumpet) and Piano," *International Trumpet Guild* #20, no. 3 (February 1996), <https://trumpetguild.org/files/MusicSupplements/TurrinPsalm.pdf>.

Fig. 5.1 – Turrin, “*Psalm.*” (Sion: Editions Bim, 2003), opening statement.

The musical score is for the opening statement of "Psalm." by Turrin. It is written for piano and voice. The tempo is marked "Cantabile (in 6) ca ♩ = 132". The piano part consists of a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand. The vocal line is melodic and expressive, with various dynamics and articulations. The score is divided into four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The first system includes a key signature change to one sharp (F#) and a time signature change to 6/8. The second system includes a measure number "10" in a box. The third and fourth systems continue the melodic and accompanimental lines.

The flow of this section was personally the most difficult passage in the piece for me, but it's also important to know how essential it is to keep a consistent flow throughout the phrases and not to be too urgent or overdo it with your musicality. This will help when playing through

the ascending lines and not bottoming out at the end of the longer higher ranged phrases.

Specifically in section m. 87 through m. 105, and at the recapitulation of the section at rehearsal number 116.

Chapter 6: Suite for Horn and Piano no. 102 (1963)

Performance Instructions:

Title: Suite for Horn and Piano no. 102 (1963)

Composer: Alec Wilder (1907-1980)

Performance Duration: circa 12.5 minutes

Definitions and Abbreviations:

allarg.- Gradually slowing and more forward sound

a tempo – Return to original tempo

cresc.- Gradually increase in volume

dim. – Gradually decrease in volume

gliss. – Gliding from note to note

muted – With mute

piu - More

ritard – Gradually decrease the tempo

stacc. - Played short and separated

stopped – With horn, where the player partially or fully closes the bell with their hand

subito – Suddenly

ten. – (Tenuto), Music played at full value or slightly longer

Program Notes:

Alec Wilder's compositional style is one that does not fit in any normal style, such as contemporary or jazz. It includes a unique style just to Wilder. It's said that many of Wilder's compositions are "too jazzy" for classical musicians or "too formally structured" for jazz musicians. In this case, I think Wilder's style is perfect for the flugelhorn. With the conical shape of the instrument and its rich history in jazz, the music written for horn is well worth the performance on the flugelhorn and lays quite well in terms of range, stylistic melodies, and collaboration with a well-versed pianist. This piece was a joy to program as part of my project, and I hope this can open the door for more flugelhorn/trumpet players and their audiences to enjoy it too.

Program note by
Aunna V. Marzen

Performance practices:

Suite for Horn and Piano is uniquely interesting due to its modal structures such as wide ranges, stylistic approaches, perfect 5th leaps in movement IV, bends, and extended techniques such as flares and use of glissandos.

Personal Performance Practices:

Alec Wilder's *Suite for Horn and Piano* is one of the most approachable pieces on this program for a recitalist. None of the five movements include a range that is out of touch for a semi-advanced musician and the extended techniques are accessible on flugelhorn. Truly playing this work correctly, requires embracing the “not really jazz” and “not quite contemporary style” to find the perfect medium between the two. This will create a performance well worth the excitement of the audience and a work that would easily fit into a recital program without being too demanding on the players' endurance. Below I've included examples of some of the extended techniques used throughout this work below. Each of the following examples are for Bb Flugelhorn and not horn, and are copies made from my personal efforts to write out the horn part for flugelhorn in Sibelius music notation software. All markings could be different from how they are notated in the original score.

Fig. 6.1 – Wilder, “*Sonata for Horn and Piano.*” (Nashville: CFG Publishing, 1964), movement one, measures 40-43.



Fig. 6.2 – Wilder, “*Sonata for Horn and Piano.*” (Nashville: CFG Publishing, 1964), movement one, measures 49-52.



Fig. 6.3 – Wilder, “Sonata for Horn and Piano.” (Nashville: CFG Publishing, 1964), movement five, measures 1-4.



Chapter 7: Concertino for Euphonium and Wind Band (1998)

Performance Instructions:

Title: Concertino for Euphonium and Wind Band (1998)

Composer: Rolf Wilhelm (1927-2013)

Performance Duration: circa 11:00 minutes

Definitions and Abbreviations:

poco marc. – a little marked

grazioso – To play gracefully and delicate

ritard. – To gradually slow down

Colla parte - With the part

Quasi a tempo – Almost original tempo

espr. – Expressively

rallentando – To slow down gradually

calando – To decrease in tempo and volume

allargando – Gradually slowing and more forward sound

dolce - Sweetly

poco a poco rianimando – Little by little reviving the tempo

crescendo – Gradually increasing in volume

stringendo – Increasing in tempo

sub. – Subito, suddenly

Ausklngen lassen! – German for “to let something die away”

Un pú pesante – Always heavy

accel. – Gradually increasing in tempo

tranquillo – Sadly

leggiero – Played light and delicate

marc. - (Abbreviation for marcato), Marked

stretta – Changing tempo, usually quicker

dim. - Decrease in volume

Deutlich – German definition for clearly

Morendo – Dying away

Un poco meno mosso

Lirico – Lyrically

Accelerando subito - Sudden tempo increase

Pesante – Heavily, with weight

Poss. - Positively
Secco – Dry

Program Notes:

Concertino for Euphonium and Concert Band has quickly risen the ranks of my favorite works. I believe this work has a little bit of everything for not only an audience member to listen to, but for the performer as well. There are flourishes, intense beginnings, storytelling, and joyful music embedded in this work. Even though this work is written for euphonium, it fits well on flugelhorn and doesn't create many challenges outside of octave displacements. This piece was exciting to learn and perform, and I would recommend it on any recital or performance for my students or anyone who would like to continue to explore the art of doubling.

Program note by
Aunna V. Marzen

Performance practices:

In Juli 1997 fand in Riva del Garda die „International Tuba & Euphonium Conference“ unter dem Motto „Verso il Millenio“ statt. Ich traf während der Tage am sonnigen Gardassee so viele internationale, hervorragende Instrumentalisten und hörte so viel wundervoll interpretierte, interessante Musik, daß ich spontan beschloß, meinem 1983 entstandenen, dort ebenfalls aufgeführten „Concertino for Tuba and Wind Instruments“ ein neues Stück, dismal für Euphonium, folgen zu lassen.

Es liegt nun hier vor und ich hoffe, daß es von den ausübenden Musikern und dem Publikum ebenfalls so Freundlich aufgenommen wird und Vergnügen bereitet. Es ist, ebenso wie sein Vorläufer, ein kurzes, unkompliziertes Stück, das nichts anderes ausdrücken möchte als Freude am Leben und Liebe zur Musik.

In July 1997 the “International Tuba & Euphonium Conference” was held under the motto *Verso il Millenio* (“Towards the Millenium”) at Riva del Garda. During those days that I spent at Lake Garda under sunny Italian skies, I met so many outstanding international instrumentalists and heard so much fascinating and wonderfully interpreted music, that I spontaneously resolved to compose a new piece for euphonium. It would be a companion piece to my 1983 “Concertino for Tuba and Wind Instruments,” which we also performed there.

The present work is herewith made available to performing artists, and I hope that they, the musicians, as well as the public, receive it as well and enjoy it as much as they did its predecessor. This new work is also a short, uncomplicated piece, striving solely to express the love of music and *joie de vivre*.

Rolf Wilhelm (Translation by Louis Bloom)⁶

Grünwald, Juni / June 1998

⁶ Rolf Wilhelm, *Concertino for Euphonium and Concert Band*, (Trio Bläsermusik Edition, 1998), 2.

Personal Performance Practices:

Concertino for Euphonium and Concert Band quickly became one of my favorite pieces to play. The work itself doesn't allow for a lot of rest in-between phrases, but with small modifications with octave displacements in the solo part allows the treble clef part to be available to an advanced student playing a euphonium or in this case a flugelhorn. This piece is straight forward with a friendly melodic feeling that is clearly expressed through direction, phrasing, and harmonic structures that flow nicely with the accompaniment. In my examples below, highlight places that could require difficult techniques, octave displacements, and other spots that could be difficult to a player who may want to take a phrase too fast in the learning stages, which could end up causing problem spots later in the preparation and performance.

Fig. 7.1 – Wilhelm, *Concertino for Euphonium and Wind Band*. (Mettenheim: Trio Bläsermusik Edition, 1998), movement one, measures 52-78.

The musical score for measures 52-78 is written for Euphonium in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The score includes the following markings and features:

- Measure 52:** *Cadenza. Allegro (a piacere)*, *sub.*, *sffz*, *f*. Features a triplet of eighth notes.
- Measure 56:** *presto un pó pesante*, *a tempo*, *f*, *mf leggiero*. Features a triplet of eighth notes.
- Measure 59:** *free*, *ff pesante*. Features a triplet of eighth notes.
- Measure 62:** *accel.*, *ritard.*, *tranquillo*, *calando*, *mp*, *p dolce*. Features a triplet of eighth notes.
- Measure 66:** *Tranquillo* (♩ = 108), *poco a poco accelerando*, *mp leggiero*, *al*. Features a triplet of eighth notes.
- Measure 70:** *Tempo primo* (♩ = 120), *accel. (Stretta)*, *marc.*, *p cresc.*. Features a triplet of eighth notes.
- Measure 75:** (♩ = 132), *ff*, *ffz*. Features a triplet of eighth notes.

Technique in ascending and descending scale patterns and higher range create the largest barrier of this movement. Being able to internalize all the different tempos will help with clarity at the end as it accelerates in tempo.

Fig. 7.2 – Wilhelm, *Concertino for Euphonium and Wind Band*. (Mettenheim: Trio Bläsermusik Edition, 1998), movement two.

II.

Andante ma non troppo, piacevole ♩ = 72
 4 espr. p < >
 13 dolce p < > p
 22 Più mosso, lirico ♩ = 58
 ppp espr. p < > cresc. - - - mf dim.
 30 calando a tempo p < > cresc. - - - f
 37 calando - - - Tempo primo ♩ = 72
 f dim. p < >
 44 ritard. Lento ♩ = 46
 p < > p morendo ppp

All of movement II is accessible as written. In my performance, I chose to lower the octave from the *Più mosso, Lirico* to the *a tempo* in measure 30, and again at the tempo primo to the end. I felt this allowed me to sound much more euphonium-like without the potential “squeakiness” of the flugelhorn in the upper registers. Lowering the octave also puts the music into the same sounding pitch as the euphonium therefore making a much more authentic sound profile.

Fig. 7.3 – Wilhelm, *Concertino for Euphonium and Wind Band*. (Mettenheim: Trio Bläsermusik Edition, 1998), movement three, measures 19-46.



Solo Euphonium (B $\flat$ $\frac{1}{4}$) 4

In addition to the octave displacements listed above, I also octave displaced at the *un poco meno mosso* in the third movement. I found lowering the octave here made the phrase easier to handle. Without the worry of range, I focused on how I wanted to phrase through this passage instead of being overwhelmed about accuracy. The piano part should be studied carefully here as there is an interesting harmonic phrase below all the solo parts moving lines.

This can help with the difficult counting structures that could occur at the *a tempo* to the *lento* immediately preceding the double bar.

Fig. 7.4 – Wilhelm, *Concertino for Euphonium and Wind Band*. (Mettenheim: Trio Bläsermusik Edition, 1998), movement three, measures 59-87.

55 *accelerando subito* **Allegro**

60 *ritard.* *pesante* *p molto crescendo* *ff marcato*

63 *lento (lunga)* **Cadenza (b. 63-77)**

65 *sfz* *p* *morendo* *mf*

69 *pesante* *Lento* *cresc.* *ff poss.* *p* *mf* *dim.* *p*

74 *espr.* *mf* *f* *dim.* *pp* *p* *cresc.* *al* *f* *poss.*

81 **Tempo primo** *♩ = 86* *accelerando* *ff* *ffz*

Once again, another octave displacement in measures 61 through 69 is appropriate here due to the range being inaccessible to the flugelhorn. In performance I also opted to take the 6/8 passage down the octave as well. I felt this passage cannot be well played as written and would encourage modifying these parts to fit the flugelhorn and the players' abilities. The last note tends to lay flat on the flugelhorn especially when descending to it. It is good practice to keep this note lifted and energized to end the work. The player should not drop pitch as they descend

through the octave, but rather think of it as ascending. This will assist in accurately ending the work in tune with a beautiful tone.

Conclusion

My goal in creating this recording project was to highlight the brass player's ability to take repertoire from other instruments in the brass family. While I chose to use the close relationship of euphonium and flugelhorn, adding a work for horn also created an opportunity to share another instruments' repertoire. This project allowed me to step out of the modest repertoire options for flugelhorn and highlight the instrument not just in a jazz or brass band centric space but as a classical solo instrument. While the concept of borrowing repertoire from other instruments is not uncommon, it's valuable to know the historic comparisons between flugelhorn and euphonium and their descentance from the saxhorn family and how uniquely similar they are. Adding these repertoires together can create hundreds of new pieces to the flugelhorn's sea of repertoire and make them easily accessible for each instrument.

Appendix A

CD Contents

Sonata for Flugelhorn and Piano

Carson Cooman (b. 1982)

- I. Ludus
- II. Cantus

“Psalm” from Two Portraits

Joseph Turrin (b. 1947)

Sonata no. 1 for Trumpet and Piano, “Sonata for Heroes”

Marcus S. Grant (b. 1992)

- II. With Integrity

Fantasia

Gordon Jacob (1895-1984)

Suite for Horn and Piano

Alec Wilder (1907-1980)

- I. Dans Quixotic
- II. Slow and Sweet
- III. Song
- IV. Epilogue
- V. Suitable for Dancing

Concertino for Euphonium and Concert Band

Rolf Wilhelm (1927-2013)

- I. Allegro ma non troppo
- II. Andante ma non troppo, piacevole
- III. Moderato con animo

Collaborative Pianist: Dr. Jessica McKee

Total Performance Time: Approx. 1 hour

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