



PROGRESSIVE ETUDES VOL. 1

for Bass Trombone

By Andy Derrick

Whether you are a new bass trombonist, a tenor player looking to develop low range or some bass bone chops or a tuba player looking for a good double, this book is intended for you.

Starting from basic principles of tone and breathing, to learning how the low range can really work well for you, these studies are your key to making improvements that will reflect on your complete playing.

Tips on some pieces are included to give you a way in to each piece. Whilst it is useful to know lots of alternative positions using the valves to aid speed and smoothness, it is recommended that you play with the open side of the trombone as much as possible as this has potentially the best tone. Some of the best bass trombone sounds of the last 70 years were achieved on single trigger instruments.

One final tip on achieving a great sound, try to listen to the sound you make and don't focus on your mouth and hands. It is easy to get caught up in the technical playing of something and not truly listen to what sounds you make.

Good luck and happy playing.

Andy Derrick, 2020

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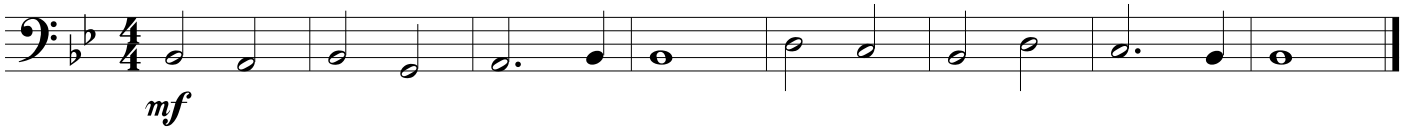
for bass trombone

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Allegro

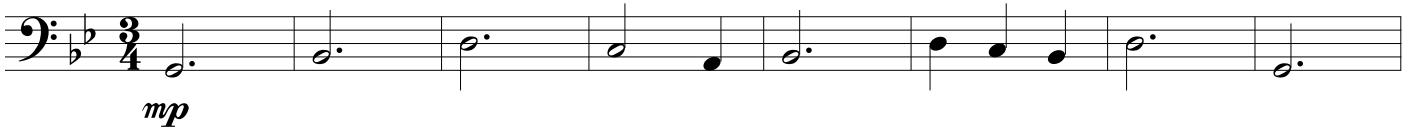
1. SINISTER MARCH

Tip: Keep the embouchure still & breath under control



Allegretto

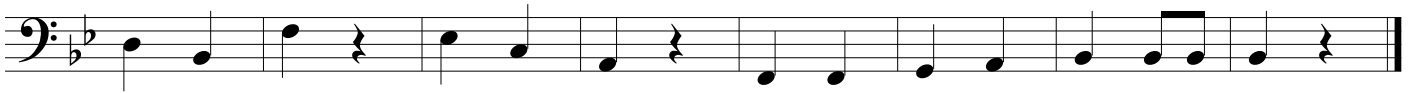
2. WALTZ MINORE



Maestoso

3. STOMPERINI

Tip: Aim to get the notes as equal as possible in tone and attack



Moderato

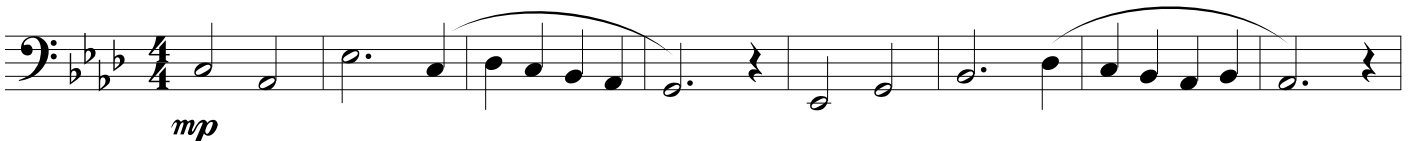
4. MARCH



Moderato

5. LYRICOSA

Tip: Focus on diaphragm control in the lower register here



Vivace

6 .SOMERSET SONG

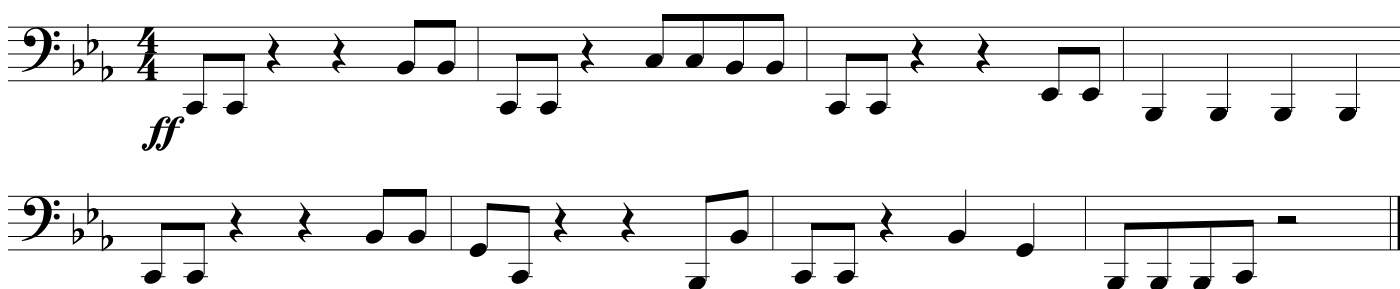
Tip: Aim for a sound that doesn't burst.
Go for a big sound that isn't too loud.



Andante

7 .FUNKY LOW LINE

Tip: Plenty of air is required for
clean articulation when playing low



Moderato

8. PASSACAGLIA

Tip: This has a great focus on
low note intonation



Andante

9. CHACONNE

Tip: This type of mobile bass line requires a sound between that of tenor trombones and tubas, broad but not ponderous



10. BREAK TIME BOUNCE

Medium Swing

Tip: Stay right on the pulse here.



11. DISCO SQUID

Moderato



Lento

12. LAKE SIDE

Tip: Breathing, intonation & articulation all come together on this type of piece

5-staff musical score for '12. LAKE SIDE' in bass clef, 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score includes dynamic markings *mf*, *dim.*, *p*, *cresc.*, and *mp*. It features a triplet of eighth notes in the first staff and various phrasing slurs throughout.

Maestoso

13. BOMBARDINO

Tip: Work on achieving effective contrast in articulation and dynamics

6-staff musical score for '13. BOMBARDINO' in bass clef, 4/4 time, key of D major. The score includes dynamic markings *f*, *mp*, and *mf*. It features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and phrasing slurs.

Andante

14. COULISSE

Tip: the melodic potential of the Bass Trombone is key to developing great tone

Four staves of music in bass clef, key of D major (three sharps), and 7/4 time. The first staff begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The second staff features a forte (*f*) dynamic. The third staff includes a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The fourth staff concludes the piece.

Andante con moto

15. A VELA

Tip: relaxed but deep breathing is very useful here to

Five staves of music in bass clef, key of D major (three sharps), and 5/4 time. The first staff begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The second staff includes a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The third staff includes a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The fourth staff includes a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The fifth staff concludes with a *rit.* (ritardando) marking.

16. APRESURADO

Tip: Treat the pedal register as an extension and not as a separate part of your playing

Presto

f

mf

ff

17. ZART

Tip: Although in semiquavers, this is really a very slow piece.

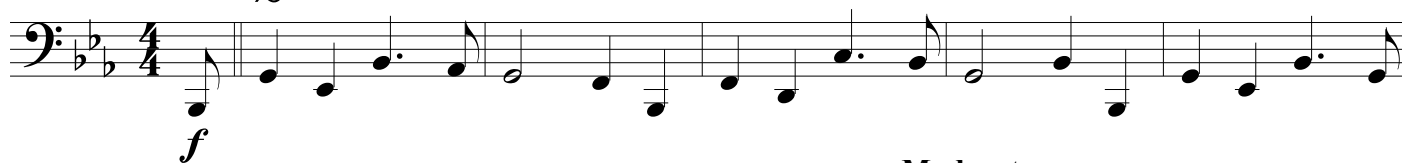
Grave

p

18. THEME AND VARIATIONS

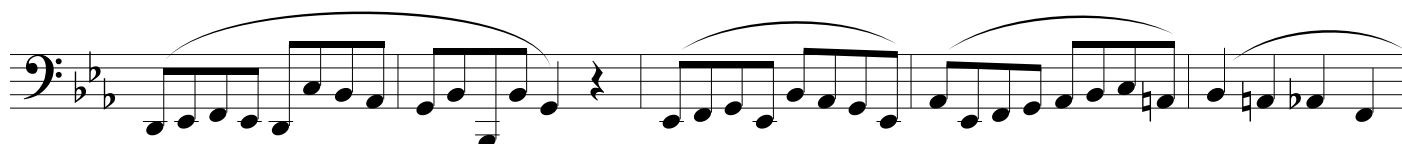
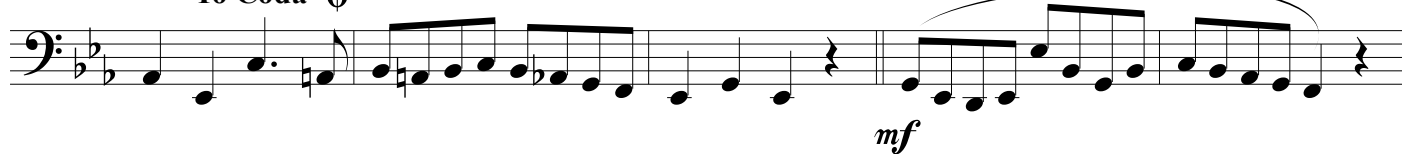
Tip: These last two pieces give one the opportunity to combine the whole Bass Trombone technique

Maestoso



To Coda Φ

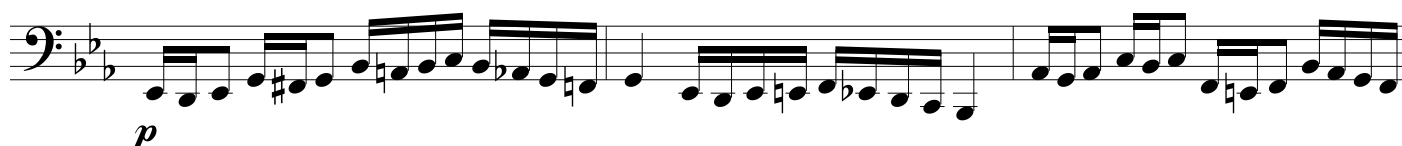
Moderato



Andante con moto



Andante leggiero



D.S. al Coda



Coda



Moderato

19. NEW MARCH

f

mp

ff pesante

f

p

ff

allargando

Detailed description: The musical score is written for a single melodic line in bass clef, 2/4 time, and the key of B-flat major (two flats). It consists of ten staves. The first staff begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The second staff ends with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The third staff ends with a fortissimo (*ff*) and 'pesante' (heavy) marking. The fourth staff has a natural sign over the first note. The fifth staff has an accent mark over the eighth note. The sixth staff has an accent mark over the third note. The seventh staff ends with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The eighth staff ends with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The ninth staff is marked fortissimo (*ff*) and features a double bar line followed by a repeat of the eighth measure. The tenth staff is marked 'allargando' (ritardando) and ends with a double bar line. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, half notes, and rests, as well as slurs and ties.