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to promote communications among trumpet players around the world and to improve the artistic level of performance, teaching, and literature associated with the trumpet

**Edward H. Tarr, Historical Instruments Editor – “Tristan” Trumpet
in a by Gebr. Alexander (Jun 02/64)**

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Historical Instrument Window

Edward H. Tarr, Editor

If you would like to submit a photo and historical data, contact: Edward H. Tarr, ITG Historical Instruments Editor, Trompetenmuseum, Postfach 1143, 79701 Bad Säckingen, Germany; historicinstruments@trumpetguild.org



“Tristan” trumpet in (a'=435Hz) by **Gebr. Alexander**, Mainz, Germany, c. 1925. Wood (ebony) with an internal brass tube and one Périnet valve, which lowers the pitch a whole tone. Plaque in case, embossed: “GEBR ALEXANDER / MAINZ”. Mouthpiece: Brass with small pear-shaped cup. Pictured assembled, and disassembled in its case.

In search for an adequate instrument to play the happy shepherd's melody in the third act of Richard Wagner's "Tristan und Isolde," the composer had commissioned "a special instrument (of wood) after the model of a Swiss Alphorn." This melody is usually played on an English horn, but some opera houses, like the National Operas in Munich, Dresden, and Prague, used a wooden trumpet. The "Tristan" trumpet shown here formerly belonged to the National Opera in Prague.

Joe and Joella Utley Collection, America's Shrine to Music Museum, cat. No. 9966. Submitted by Dr. Sabine K. Klaus, Joe and Joella Utley Curator of Brass Instruments. (Photos: Mark Olencki, Spartanburg, SC)

