

# Czech Trumpet Repertoire and Style

An Investigation of Essential Czech Musical Elements and Music from Communist Czechoslovakia

**PRESENTER/AUTHOR: DR. SPENCER BRAND**

## PURPOSE

This research project seeks to build a wider awareness of the extensive work by Czech composers and trumpeters during the Communist period of Czechoslovakia. This investigation includes historical discussion of the development of Czech trumpet music, profiles of selected Czech trumpet soloists, and an exploration of what makes this music "Czech".

## CZECH TRUMPET STYLE

“The old trumpeters played with a beautiful style, very lyrically and melodically. Even in the greatest fortissimos they did not play very hard or aggressively. They played lyrically and beautifully. I am talking about the trumpeters from the Czech Philharmonic. In this genre, there is an inherent special Czech MELODIOUSNESS, which has been abandoned in recent years. ”

- Miroslav Kejmar discussing Czech style and the impact of Rudolf Lisý

## COMMUNIST CONTROL OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

1948

The Communist  
Coup d'état'

1968

The Prague  
Spring

1989

The Velvet  
Revolution

The Communist Coup of 1948 and the Warsaw Pact Countries' invasion during the Prague Spring of 1968 created long periods of despair and duress for Czech artists and musicians.

## EARLY SOCIALIST REALIST COMPOSERS

- Sláva Vorlová (1894-1973) - *Concerto for Trumpet and Orchestra* (1953) - Premiered by Ivo Preis
- Zdenek Křižek (b. 1927) - *Trumpet Concerto* (1957) - Premiered by Václav Junek

## COMPOSERS WHO WERE INDEFINITELY PROHIBITED

- Miloslav Kabeláč (1908-1979) - *Fated Dramas of Man* (1975-76)
- Jan Kapr (1914-1988) - *Ommaggio Alla Tromba* (1968)
- Marek Kopelent (1932-2023) - *Concerto for Trumpet and String Orchestra* (2000)

## NUMBER OF PIECES REPRESENTED

- 12 pieces for Unaccompanied Trumpet or with Electronics
- 60 pieces for Trumpet and Piano
- 29 pieces for Trumpet and Organ
- 68 concerto works for Trumpet and ensemble
- 18 concerto grosso works that include solo Trumpet

**FOR FURTHER READING, PLEASE REFER TO MY WEBSITE TO DISCOVER MORE ABOUT CZECH TRUMPETING:**

## CZECH TRUMPET PLAYER PROFILES

- Václav Junek (b. 1928)
- Miroslav Kejmar (b. 1941)
- Vladislav Kozderka (1947-2015)
- Ladislav Kozderka Jr. (b. 1974)
- Vladimír Rejlek (b. 1953)
- Zdeněk Šedivý and Jiří Šedivý (b. 1957)
- Stanislav Sejpal (b. 1948)
- Jan Hasenöhrl (b. 1961)
- Jan Broda (b. 1958)

