## Redefining Technical Assessment in Classical Trumpet Literature:

A Study on the Evaluation of Technical Difficulty in Trumpet Solo Repertoire

A Presentation by Flint Angeroth Franks

## Lied by Eugene <br> Bozza



- Hickey's Music- Grade 3 / Early Intermediate
- UIL- Class 2 Solo
- J.W. Pepper- Medium


## Music Evaluations in Classical Music

| Hickey's Music |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Center |$\quad$ J.W. Pepper $\quad$ Hal Leonard $\quad$ Carl Fischer

## State Solo Repertoire Lists

| UIL (Texas) | Florida | Iova | Arkansas |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - Numerical rating: $1-3$ <br> - Selected by committee <br> - Provides list of works | - Numerical rating: 1-7 <br> - Selected by a committee <br> - Provides list of works | - No recommended lists or grade levels | - Only Grade III and IV pieces are listed on recommended list |

## Difficulty

## Assessment

 Rubric forTrumpet Solos

- 1-Beginner
- 2-Developing
- 3-Moderate
- 4-Intermediate
- 5-Advanced
- 6-Virtuosic


## DARTS Elements

- Meter
- Note Values and Rhythm
- Equipment
- Key Signature
- Dynamics
- Piano Scoring
- Tempo
- Length
- Endurance
- Range
- Flexibility
- Melodic Contour
- Ornaments
- Articulation

Difficulty Assessment Rubric For Trumpet Solo Repertoire v.9a

## Page 1

| Title/Composer: |  |  |  | Style: |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Grade | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Meter | - $2 / 4,3 / 4,4 / 4$ | - Cut Time, 6/8, 5/4, 6/4 <br> - Changing meter for section | - $3 / 8,9 / 8,4 / 2,12 / 8$ <br> - Meters pulsed in 1 (ie: fast $3 / 4$ ) | - Asymmetrical (5/8, 7/8), <br> - Occasional changing meter within each section | - Any meter combination with frequent meter changes throughout section | - Any meter combination with constant meter changes throughout section <br> - Unmetered throughout |
| Note Values and Rhythm | - Quarter notes, Half notes, Dotted Half notes, Whole notes | - 8ths Notes, Dotted rhythms <br> - Limited Syncopation <br> - Limited us of Triplet | - 16th notes <br> - Occasional Syncopation throughout piece <br> - Occasional Triplets, duple against triple feel <br> - Limited use of Sextuplet | - Frequent Triplets, duple against triple feel <br> - Occasional sextuplet, syncopation throughout sections, 16th note runs/ Sequences <br> - Limited use of 32 nd notes, pentuplet | - Occasional pentuplets and 32 nd notes, Occasional use larger tuplets $(7,9,10)$ <br> - Frequent 16th note runs/sequences in passage <br> - Frequent Syncopation throughout sections <br> - Frequent duple against triple feel | - Frequent 16th note sequences throughout piece, 32nd notes throughout passages <br> - Constant use of syncopation throughout piece <br> - Any subdivision beyond 32nd notes |
| Equipment | - Bb/C Trumpet | - Use of mute with minimum of 20 seconds for in/out | - Flugelhorn, <br> - Use of mute with minimum of 15 seconds for in/out <br> - Transition of stem in and out on Wa-Wa Mute | - Picc, Eb, or Bb/C+Flugel <br> - Use of mute with minimum of 10 sec for in/out <br> - Use of open/close for plunger | - Bb/C+Picc <br> - Minimum of 5 seconds for adding/removing mutes | - Any combination of 3 or more intrs. <br> - Removal of Slides for performance <br> - Mute Stand needed |
| Key Signature | - C, F, G | - D,Bb, A, Eb <br> - Sectional Key Change | - E, Ab <br> - Frequent Accidentals | - B, Db <br> - Occasional use of accidentals for key change | - F\# <br> - Transposition for passage | - Any Key + Dedicated Accidentals |
| Dynamics | - Piano - Forte throughout piece <br> - Cresc. Or Decresc. Lasting a measure or less | - Cresc. and decresc. lasting at most 2 measures <br> - Use of either FF or pp | - Fortepiano, FF-pp throughout piece, <br> - Cresc. and decresc. for phrase | - Fp, sfz, FFF-ppp throughout piece <br> - Cresc/decresc over passage | - Changing dynamic extremes within every measure frequently | - Changing dynamic extremes with every note frequently |
| Piano Scoring | - Unaccompanied | - Block chords while accompanying <br> - Simple rhythms and chords | - Busy/subdivided writing in the right hand <br> - Similar themes to trumpet | - More melodic accompaniment, less call and response <br> - Independent part writing in hands | - Contrasting Underscoring <br> - Atonal harmonies | - Close to or complete independent rhythm, melody and harmony |
| Tempo | - Andante- Moderato (72-120 bpm) | - Andante- Allegro (72-132 bpm) <br> - Ritard or accel. over 1 measure | - Largo-Allegro (56-144 bpm) <br> - Ritard or accel. over 2-3 measure | - Largo-Vivace (44-156 bpm) <br> - Ritard or accel.over a phrase | - Largo- Presto (44-168bpm) <br> - Ritard or accel.over a passage | - Largo- Prestissimo (44-208 bpm) <br> - Ritard and accel constantly throughout a passage (cadenza) |
| Length | - Less than 2 min. | - 2-3 min. | - 4-5 min. | - 6-8 min. | - 9-11 min. | - 12 min+ |


| Endurance | - Melody below C4, <br> - shorter phrases with frequent breaks, <br> - occasional extended breaks <br> - majority of melody between mf -mp | - Melody below F4, <br> - Full phrases with frequent breaks <br> - occasional extended breaks <br> - majority of melody between p-f | - Melody below A4, <br> - Full phrases paired together with frequent break <br> - occasional extended breaks <br> - majority of melody between pp-ff, | - Melody below C5, Melody utilizes upper range (above G4) <br> - Full phrases paired together with infrequent breaks <br> - majority of melody between ppp-fff <br> - use of Mute in occasional passages | - Melody below D5 <br> - Majority of Melody is above G4 <br> - Extended passages with infrequent breaks <br> - Upper register playing is preceded by less taxing playing <br> - extreme dynamics used <br> - use of mute in entire sections | - No full measures of rest <br> - Extended passages above C5 <br> - extreme dynamics used for extended passages <br> - use of mute for majority of piece <br> - Cadenza over 45 sec. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Range | - Bb3-E5 | - A3-F5 | - G3-A5 | - F\#3-C6 | - F3-D6 | - < F3-E6< |
| Flexibility | - Slurs are only a step away from each other <br> - Slurs are in groupings of 4 or less notes | - Slurred groups have more than 4 notes <br> - Slurred notes are a third apart | - Slurred phrase goes above E4 <br> - Slurred notes are a P5 apart. | - Slurred notes are a M6 apart. | - Slurred notes are an octave apart <br> - Melodic sequence uses slurs a P5 apart | - Slurred notes are over an octave, <br> - Melodic sequence uses slurs over a P5 apart |
| Melodic Contour | - Melody constantly moves at the time signature pulse or slower <br> - Melody is frequently moving in a stepwise motion <br> - No leaps larger than a P5 occur at the time signature pulse within a phrase | - Melody frequently moves at the time signature pulse or slower <br> - Limited use of leaps greater than a P5 occur within a phrase <br> - Limited movement between high, middle and low ranges in a single melody | - Melody frequently moves faster than the time signature pulse throughout piece in a scalar motion <br> - Occasional movement between high and middle, or middle and low ranges in a single melody <br> - Frequent use of leaps between a P5-P8 occur within a phrase | - Melody frequently leaps at the rhythmic division of the beat throughout a passage <br> - Melody occasionally leaps to non-tonal intervals <br> - Frequent movement between high, middle, and low ranges in a single melody | - Melody frequently leaps at the rhythmic division of the beat throughout multiple phrases <br> - Frequent movement between high, middle and low ranges in a singular measure <br> - Melody frequently leaps to non-tonal intervals | - Melody frequently leaps at the rhythmic subdivision of the beat <br> - Melody constantly leaps to non-tonal intervals <br> - Frequent movement between high, middle and low ranges in a singular beat <br> - Phrases frequently cover over 2 octaves |
| Ornaments | - None | - Simple trills <br> - Single grace notes. | - Trills with entry or exit grace notes <br> - Double or triple grace note figures | - Turns <br> - Mordents <br> - Occasional Flutter Tongued note <br> - Glissando <br> - Tremolo | - Any combination of ornament repeated continuously throughout phrase <br> - Flutter Tongue used for 1-2 phrases <br> - Lip Trills | - Pitch Bends <br> - Extended Flutter Tongue passages |
| Articulation | - Staccato, accent, fermata | - Tenuto, Marcato, staccatissimo <br> - Legato | - Compound Articulation <br> - Multiple tonguing can be used for occasional phrase | - Multiple tonguing must be used in phrase due to tempo <br> - Multiple tonguing contains limited skips in the melody | - Multiple tonguing must be used for multiple phrases due to tempo <br> - Multiple tonguing contains occasional skips in the melody | - Multiple tonguing must be used for entirety of passage, or section due to tempo <br> - Multiple tonguing contains frequent skips in the melody |
| Grade: | x1 | x2 | x3 | x4 | x5 | x6 |


| Rubric Terminology Key: |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Limited | Occurs once or twice throughout the piece |
| Occasional | Occurs 3 to 4 times Total |
| Frequent | Appears throughout the entirety of the piece, and <br> is fundamental to creating the musical line |
| Constant | Intentional writing in a exclusive style |
| Dedicated | Musical thought ending with a musical <br> punctuation |
| Phrase | A short section of a musical composition |
| Passage | A complete, but not independent musical idea. <br> i.e. introduction, exposition, coda, verse, etc. |
| Section |  |


| Grade Level | Composite Score Range |
| :---: | :---: |
| I-Beginner | $14-19$ |
| II- Developing | $20-29$ |
| III-Moderate | $30-39$ |
| IV-Intermediate | $40-49$ |
| V-Advanced | $50-64$ |
| VI-Virtuosic | $65+$ |

## Establishing the Ratings

| $\mathbf{1}$ Ratings | $\mathbf{6}$ Ratings |
| :--- | :--- |
| - Based on skills taught in | • Based on compositional |
| Beginning band and | trends contained in <br> trumpet method books <br> widely agreed "difficult" <br> pieces |
| Books included Essential | • Trends include angular |
| Succens, and more of | writing, multiple <br> tonguing, and <br> unaccompanied playing |
|  |  |


| Rubric Terminology Key: |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Limited | Occurs once or twice throughout the piece |
| Occasional | Occurs 3 to 4 times Total |
| Frequent | Occurs in most sections |
| Constant | Appears throughout the entirety of the piece, and <br> is fundamental to creating the musical line |
| Dedicated | Intentional writing in a exclusive style |
| Phrase | Musical thought ending with a musical <br> punctuation |
| Passage | A short section of a musical composition |
| Section | A complete, but not independent musical idea. <br> i.e. introduction, exposition, coda, verse, etc. |

Defining the Bell Curve

- Grades 2-5 are hardest to distinguish
- Frequency of skill is major factor in score
- Length, Articulation, Melodic Contour, and equipment have steep rating curves


## Composite Score Ranges

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## Impact of DARTS



## Questions?

