INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES AUDITIONS

Bass Trombone Packet

There are four (4) components to the bass trombone audition. All four components are required of all bass trombonists.

- Etude #1 by Bordogni/Rochut [page 2]
- Etude No. 16 by Gregoriev/Rochut [page 3]
- Excerpts from Das Rheingold by Wagner (play all excerpts on page) [page 4]
- Jazz Etude by Richard Birk [page 5]

Please note that the jazz etude is not optional. It is required of all players.

For more detailed information on the bass trombone audition process, including scheduling, policies and procedures, please visit: fineartscomm.lamar.edu/bands/auditions/bass-trombone
Since the triplet predominates, be careful that ♪ does not become ♪. Where notes are repeated in a legato line, tongue the second one, for example, the first note of measure 10. This does not apply where the tie is printed, as in measures 48 and 49. The desired effect here is one of syncopation.

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Scene II – Spear motif

This spear motif—the symbol of Wotan’s power as chief god—is played here by the four trombones in octaves. It should be played loudly without accents, with full-length notes and in a character of great strength.

The suggested breath marks will allow you to have enough air to play the pedal E-natural in one breath. Strive to play all of your quarter-notes with equal length so those occurring before a breath do not sound shorter.

Schnittler ($\delta = 120$)

Contrabass trombone

Scene IV – Valhalla motif

The Valhalla theme returns just before the end of the opera, as the gods see their castle through the clouds and prepare to enter it.

Mäßig bewegt ($\delta = 52$)

Contrabass trombone

Scene IV – Entrance of the gods into Valhalla

Das Rheingold concludes with this expansive theme, accompanied by fanfares in the trumpets and trombones 1, 2, and 3. It does not need to be played loudly; many other instruments are also playing this theme. Strive for a good blend of sound with the contrabass tuba.

Wagner wrote a beat of rest for the contrabass trombone in measure 8, but trombonists often play the notes shown in parentheses.

The suggested breath marks may seem abundant but if taken quickly, the result will be a broader, more connected melody. If you wait too long to breathe, you may create big gaps while taking breaths.

Mäßig bewegt ($\delta = 52$)

Contrabass trombone
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