

EXTENDED-RANGE OBOE: THE IMPACT OF TECHNICAL AND MUSICAL ADVANCEMENTS IN 19th- CENTURY AND CONTEMPORARY OBOE REPERTOIRE



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Abstract

I believe that the purpose of expanding the oboe's repertoire is to not only create original compositions, but to also utilize technical advancements in order to achieve access to a wider range of repertoire through the art of transcription. This paper examines the various paths to achieving such expansion, including utilizing unique performer skills, use of auxiliary instruments, advancements in the instrument itself and musical developments that challenge the perception of the oboe's solo role in a particular era of music history. The oboe need not be relegated to the confines of a compositionally limited stereotype. The goal of my "extended-range" dissertation project is to expand the "range" of programmable repertoire, with a focus on music in both the 19th and 21st-centuries, while simultaneously expanding the technical capabilities and expectations of the modern oboe—in part by exploiting the new possibilities of the recently invented low-A extension key.

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composers expanded the oboe repertoire to its highest form in the nineteenth century, experimenting with structure, and using the oboe to the height of its expressive powers. In addition to discussion on the Concertino in general, performance guides have been provided for two concertinos, Concertino for Oboe and Winds, by Carl Maria von. 4 Janet Page, Geoffrey Burgess, Bruce Haynes, and Michael Finkelman, "Oboe" in *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, 2nd ed., ed. Stanley Sadie, vol. 18 (London, MacMillan, 2001), 269. 3. The oboe was developed further in the 19th century by the Triebert family of Paris. Using the Boehm flute as a source of ideas for key work, Guillaume Triebert and his sons, Charles and Frederic, devised a series of increasingly complex yet functional key systems. The commonly accepted range for the oboe extends from $b\flat_3$ to about g_6 , over two and a half octaves, though its common tessitura lies from c_4 to $e\flat_6$. Some student oboes only extend to b_3 ; the key for $b\flat$ is not present, however this variant is becoming less common. While the oboe is rarely used in musical genres other than Western classical, there have been a few notable exceptions. The Twentieth-Century Trombone: Expansion of Technique. 1. Introduction. This work is a study of trombone technique and how it has developed throughout the course of the twentieth century. Despite these factors the valve trombone however found favour amongst jazz musicians in the early twentieth century and became the instrument of choice for some of the most accomplished jazz musicians in the 1920s such as Duke Ellington's trombonist Juan Tizol. Although the valve trombone is still in existence, it is mainly used in jazz, swing and marching bands, often for practical reasons for example lack of performing space, and its popularity still does not match that of the slide trombone (Herbert, 2006; Online; A Baines et al.