

Bass Trombone Audition Materials – Fall 2025

- Bach: Sarabande from Cello Suite No. 5 (no repeats) | [Pierre Fournier](#)
 - Hindemith: Symphony in B-flat, m. 1 | [U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own"](#)
 - Ives: Variations on America | [Los Angeles Philharmonic – Mehta, cond.](#)
 - Verdi: Otello (Pace, Signor) | [Orchestre de l'Opéra Bastille – Leiferkus, cond.](#)
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Fall 2025 Placement Auditions: TUESDAY – AUGUST 12TH @ 12:30PM | CHORAL SUITE

Please prepare entire list, though we will only use a portion at the audition

Suggested Preparation:

- Listen to various recordings – focus on tempo and style (suggestions provided)
- Work slowly – remember that practice makes permanent
- Prepare the entire list – you will play a substantial portion
- RECORD – LISTEN – ADJUST – REPEAT

As always, the pillars of a winning performance are:

- Beautiful and Consistent Tone
- Excellent Pitch
- Impeccable Time
- Musicality and Versatility

Remember, we want you to play your very best and with the confidence that only comes through solid preparation. Good luck!

Helpful Resources:

- Orchestral Excerpt Advice & Practice Strategies:
 - Alessi Music Studios (annual subscription)
 - Slide School (monthly subscription)
 - Tenor Trombone – Ralph Sauer (LA Philharmonic, retired)
 - Bass Trombone – Jim Markey (Boston Symphony Orchestra)
 - Bass Trombone (Opera) – Paul Pollard (Metropolitan Opera Orch.)
- Section Demo Recordings:
 - Chicago Symphony Section Recordings vol. 1 & 2
 - Pittsburgh Symphony Section Recordings
 - Iceland Symphony Section Recordings
 - Berlin Philharmonic – Digital Concert Hall
 - STS Videos – Members of ASO, NY Phil, and guests (youtube)
- Trombone Excerpts Website: www.tromboneexcerpts.org
 - Multiple clips of prominent excerpt repertoire

Bach: Cello Suite No. 5 (Sarabande - no repeats):

Sarabande

First system of the Sarabande, measures 1-15. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The music is written in bass clef. Measure numbers 8 and 15 are indicated at the start of their respective lines.

Sarabande ♩ = 44

Second system of the Sarabande, measures 1-15. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The music is written in bass clef. Measure numbers 8 and 15 are indicated at the start of their respective lines. Performance instructions include: *p* (piano) at measure 1, *poco cresc...* (poco crescendo) at measure 8, *dim...* (diminuendo) at measure 11, *(Climax!)* with an asterisk at measure 13, *pull back* at measure 14, *poco a poco dim to end* (poco a poco diminuendo to the end) at measure 15, and *rit.* (ritardando) at the final measure.

Hindemith: Symphony in B-flat, m. 1:

4

96 (G) Sax. Bar. *mf* *f* *p* *cresc.*

100 *mf* *cresc.*

103 3 (H) *ff* *f*

109 *mf* *cresc.*

113 *f* Brief Pause

123 (I) *f*

127 Brief Pause

139 (J) *mf* *cresc.*

143

147 *ff*

151

155 (K)

Ives: Variations on America:

Q **Meno mosso** (♩ = ca. 108)



ff Trb. III and Tuba breathe at different places to produce unbroken, continuous line.



R **Più mosso**
(Tempo I ♩ = ca. 126)



S

Maestoso ♩ = (ca. 100)



poco rit.

*fff*³

p sub — *fff*

Verdi: Otello (Pace, Signor - trombone 3):

[Allegro sostenuto (♩ = ca. 108)]

Trombone 3

Bass Trombone

F

stacc.

stacc.

ff

This musical score is for Trombone 3 and Bass Trombone. The tempo is marked [Allegro sostenuto] with a quarter note equal to approximately 108 beats per minute. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The Trombone 3 part is written on a single staff, while the Bass Trombone part is written on a double staff. The score begins with a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, some marked with 'x' for mutes. A dynamic marking of **F** (Forzando) is placed above the Trombone 3 staff. The Bass Trombone part features triplet figures marked with '3' and 'stacc.' (staccato). The piece concludes with a final note in the Bass Trombone part marked with *ff* (fortissimo).