

JUSTIN BLAND

GROUND FOR ePB

2 NATURAL (Baroque) TRUMPETS
& STRING QUARTET

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Justin Bland

Applauded for his “gleaming, dancing trumpet” and “immaculate intonation” (*The Boston Globe*) as well as for his “dazzling virtuosity” (*Grunion Gazette*), the American trumpeter **Justin Bland** is a highly sought-after solo/principal Baroque trumpeter. As a highly sought-after solo/principal Baroque trumpeter deemed “most likely to win a gold medal, if music had Olympics” (*Boston Globe*), Dr. Bland has performed with several leading North American ensembles including American Bach Soloists, Apollo’s Fire, Bach Collegium San Diego, Boston Baroque, Handel and Haydn Society, Washington Bach Consort, and many others. He has also played in South America with Ensamble Barroco de Bogotá.

Now living in Denmark, Justin continues performing as both a soloist and ensemble musician, combining ongoing North American engagements with new collaborations with leading Baroque ensembles in Scandinavia and the rest of Europe. In Europe he has played Baroque trumpet with Arte dei Suonatori, Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin, Croatian Baroque Ensemble, Händelfestspielorchester Halle, Göteborg Baroque, Les Arts Florissants, Wrocław Baroque Ensemble, and many more. He has also played Baroque trumpet with modern instrument ensembles including Camerata Lyckensis, Camerata Nordica, Esbjerg Ensemble, Kammerakademie Potsdam, and Karlskrona Kammarorkester.

Justin also plays recorder, and has performed on that instrument with ensembles including Croatian Baroque Ensemble, Enghave Barok, Finnish Baroque Orchestra, Göttinger Barockorchester, Nivalis Barock, and Orkester Nord. Furthermore, Justin is also a countertenor and has sung with Apollo’s Fire and Opera Cleveland, among others.

Justin specializes in early music, most notably in difficult high-register music for Baroque trumpet; for example, he has played Bach’s Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 with groups in Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Germany, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, and the USA (in 2021 he played it twelve times in five countries).

<https://justinblandtrumpet.com>



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GROUND FOR ePB

Composed by Baroque trumpeter Justin Bland, *Ground for ePB* was written for ensemble Paulus Barokk (now Nivalis Barokk), a Norwegian period instrument ensemble known for its juxtaposition of early music with modern compositions performed on early instruments. The work received its première on 23 January 2020 in Ramberg, Norway by Justin Bland and Ole Thomas Gjærum on Baroque trumpets, Siv Thomassen and Annelies van der Vegt on Baroque violins, Daniela Braun on Baroque viola, and Mime Brinkmann on Baroque cello. Subsequent performances in that period were given on 24 and 25 January 2020 in Svolvær, Narvik, and Harstad, Norway.

Ground for ePB was written for a ground-bass-themed program that otherwise presented pieces by English and Austro-Bohemian Baroque composers. While compositions based on grounds (repeating melodies played several times in succession) typically present them in the bass line, such grounds do not have to be relegated to the bass. In the present work, the following ground is played primarily in the upper voices:



One compositional challenge of writing for natural/Baroque trumpets, and perhaps the main reason for such a lack of contemporary material written for these instruments, is that they are limited to the notes of the harmonic series. To help overcome this, *Ground for ePB* is written for two different pitched trumpets (C and D flat), allowing for a greater number of harmonic possibilities than if the trumpets were crooked in the same key. The advantages of using different pitched trumpets are immediately evident from the first statement of the ground by the two trumpets. It is impossible for either trumpet to play the above melody in its entirety, but with hocket technique, the trumpeters are able to divide the line, with the C trumpet playing all of the odd notes and the D-flat trumpet playing the even ones.

Although *Ground for ePB* was conceived for instruments pitched at $A_4=415$ Hz, it can be performed at a variety of pitch levels, including $A_4=440$ Hz and $A_4=466$ Hz, depending on the musical situation and desire of the performers. As is the case with historical compositions for natural trumpets and strings, the present work can be performed on modern instruments if necessary. Furthermore, the piece can also be played with two trumpets and a larger string ensemble with more than one string player per part.

Justin Bland
Copenhagen, Denmark
July 2025

for ensemble Paulus Barokk



Ground for ePB

for Two Natural Trumpets (Baroque) and String Quartet (2020)

Justin Bland

I Andante (♩ = ca. 100)

Natural Trumpet 1 in D♭ *mp*

Natural Trumpet 2 in C *mp*

Baroque Violin 1 *p*

Baroque Violin 2 *p*

Baroque Viola *p*

Baroque Violoncello



6

Tpt.1 (D♭)

Tpt.2 (C)

Vln.1 *cresc.* *f*

Vln.2 *cresc.* *f*

Vla. *cresc.* *f*

Vc. *f*

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10

Tpt.1 (D \flat)

Tpt.2 (C)

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

ff

ff

ff

mf

mf

Double bar line

14

Tpt.1 (D \flat)

Tpt.2 (C)

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

mf

mf

Double bar line

18

Tpt.1 (D \flat)

Tpt.2 (C)

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

ff

ff

mf

22

Tpt.1 (D \flat)

Tpt.2 (C)

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

mf

mf

ff

ff

ff

ff

f pizz.

f pizz.

f pizz.

f pizz.

f

27

Tpt.1 (D \flat)

Tpt.2 (C)

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.



32

Tpt.1 (D \flat)

Tpt.2 (C)

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

arco

ff

35

Tpt.1 (D \flat)

Tpt.2 (C)

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

f

f arco

f arco

f arco

f



37

Tpt.1 (D \flat)

Tpt.2 (C)

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

Studies & Methods for trumpet

BACH J.S. TP284	The Bach Book (<i>Nick Norton</i>) 25 solos, 8 duets, 2 trios for trumpet & bass instrument	RESKIN Charles TP269	Advanced Trumpet Outings Book 1 (1998) 16 Studies and 13 Duets trumpet
TP125	12 Etudes (from Goldberg Variations) (<i>Sawyer John F.</i>) trumpet	RESKIN Charles TP311	Advanced Trumpet Outings Book 2 (2009) 14 Etudes and 14 Duets for trumpet
TP124	24 Studies (<i>Glover Stephen L.</i>) trumpet	RICHARDSON Rex TP360	100 Days of Trumpet Practice (2021) trumpet
BAHR Aaron TP369	Contemporary Trumpet Techniques trumpet	TP364	3 Etudes for Solo Trumpet (2005)
BENDINELLI Cesare TP301 TP302e TP302f TP302d	Tutta l'Arte della Trombetta (1614) facsimile 90.00 english translation, biography, comments traduction française, biographie, commentaire Deutsche Übersetzung, Biographie, Kommentar	ROY Eugène TP276	Méthode de trompette sans clef et avec clefs (1824) Facsimile 1824 (<i>Von Steiger Adrian</i>) trumpet
BENTERFA Maurice TP51a	Site des Vibrations trumpet or other treble clef instruments	SAMPSON David TP278	Morning Pages (2005-07) 21 Etudes for trumpet
CONCONE Giuseppe TP138	Lyrical Studies (+ MP3) (<i>Sawyer John F.</i>) trumpet	SANDOVAL Arturo TP42 TP42i	Brass Playing Concepts all instruments - French / German / English all instruments - italiano
DAVIDSON Louis TP7	Techniques de la Trompette Techniken des Trompetenspiels trumpet (français / Deutsch)	STAMP James TP277	Supplemental Studies To The Original Warm-Ups and Studies (+ MP3 acc.) (Edited by Stevens Thomas)
DION Jean-François TP348	La Trompette Française - 15 portraits musicaux 1925 - 2016 trumpet	TP2 TP2e TP2i TP2j	Warm-ups + Studies trumpet and other brass instruments + MP3 acc english - français - Deutsch <i>español</i> italiano <i>japanese</i>
FANTINI Girolamo TP140 TP187e TP187f TP187d	Modo per imparare a sonare (1638) facsimile - English translation, biography, comments (E.H.Tarr) - traduction française, biographie, commentaire - Deutsche Übersetzung, Biographie, Kommentar	STAMP / WIENER TP2wi	Come suonare i "Warm-ups" di J. Stamp Como tocar los Warm-ups de J. Stamp trumpet (italiano / espanol)
FAVRE Pascal TP12	Memento trumpet	TP2w	How to play J. Stamp's Warm-ups Wie spielt man die Warm-ups von J. Stamp? Comment jouer les Warm-ups de J. Stamp trumpet and other brass instruments
FRIEDMAN Stanley TP95	4 Etudes (1996 - 8') trumpet or horn or clarinet	STEVENS Thomas TP317	After Schlossberg Trumpet Studies as Taught By Leading Members of The Schlossberg School
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LEWARK Egbert TP266	Brass Circle trumpet	TP1	Changing Meter Studies trumpet (or other treble clef instruments)
MACALUSO Rosario TP83	7 Etudes de style trumpet	TP5	Contemporary Interval Studies trumpet or other treble clef instruments (3-4) 17.00
MASE Raymond TP327	Extended Flexibility trumpet	THOMPSON James TP216 TP216e TP216i TP216j	The Buzzing Book (2001) (Complete Method) trumpet + MP3 acc. - english - français - Deutsch - <i>español</i> - italiano - <i>japanese</i>
NAVARRO Fats TP26	Trumpet Chorus Book (<i>Shoemaker Charlie</i>) trumpet	TROGNÉE Emile Joseph TP13 TP15 TP14 TP46	15 Grandes Etudes (<i>Seliani Anatoly</i>) trumpet
PLOG Anthony TP53 TP363	Etudes and Duets Book I trumpet	VIZZUTTI Allen TP182	25 Etudes techniques 30 Etudes mélodiques Etudes finales
PRENTISS Henry H. TP189	3 Studies for Solo Trumpet (2021)	WEBSTER Gerald TP184	Advanced Etudes (1982 - 50') trumpet
QUINQUE Rolf TP10 TP11 TP3 TP6	Prentiss' Complete Preceptor, for the Cornoepan, Bugle Horn and Key's Bugle trumpet	TP185	Method for Piccolo Trumpet Vol. 1 piccolo trumpet
RESKIN Charles TP319	ASA-Jazz trumpet		Method for Piccolo Trumpet Vol. 2 piccolo trumpet
TP320	ASA-Know How		
	ASA-Methode		
	ASA-Technik		
	Easy Trumpet Outings (2009) 12 Studies and 11 Duets (+ MP3 acc.) trumpet		
	Intermediate Trumpet Outings (2009) 12 Studies and 12 Duets (+ MP3 acc.) trumpet		