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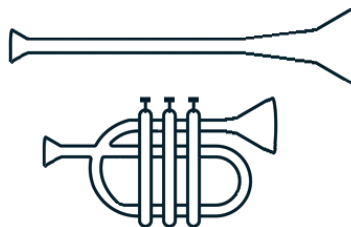
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*** Trumpet history ***

This is neither a short, nor a simple matter! Outlining all the “pre-trumpets” from in the world, means to present lots of quasi-trumpets, i.e., **trumpet** precursors. The main label is “**horn**”, because first many were made from animal horns.



Also used: bones, wood, bamboo, clay, ivory, metal. The “**horns**” are almost all longer than a **trumpet** - but they have neither holes nor valves, for creating different sounds. This is what the trumpet can, because it has three valves to steering the created sound.

Now follows a wide series of examples. My focus will be pictures, plus some instruments remarks about the involved technology.

<0> *Examples of horns*

It seems that the first ‘pre-trumpet’ instrument, a **horn**, was created about 4000 years ago in Assyria.



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Old Egypt had quite early horns as well. Here are two high-quality ones which were detected in the large grave of the pharao Tut-Enk-Amun, who died in 1323 BC.



In Australia the Didjeridu created by the traditional residents has a very long history. They are still made, and often carefully decorated.



It was the Roman Empire where all sorts of horns soon became essential, especially for its many armies. Two examples:



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In many Asian countries all sorts of horns have been made for a long time, using not metal but bamboo.



In Tibet and other Buddhist countries the RwaDun is regularly used for religious procedures.



In South America the Incas created all sorts of horns from clay, like this one, 400 AD, named moche.



A very old instrument in Europe is the lur. Here is a set of two.



The shofar has been made for 2000 years in Hebrew, based on animal horns.

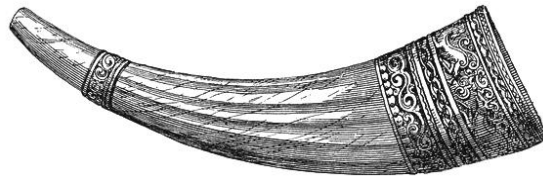


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The **shringa** is a widely common horn in India, made with metal and shaped as a large circle.



In medieval Europe, a simple yet heavily decorated **horn** became standard. It is made from ivory.



At that time horns became a more elaborated shape, and their ends were highly decorated, like the **carnyx** type.



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In medieval formal events, very long horns, called **buisine**, were used, they were precursors of today's fanfare trumpet.



Finally the **alphorn**, common in the European alps for a long time, and very popular until today. It is tradition that groups perform alphorn music, just a few or very many performers.

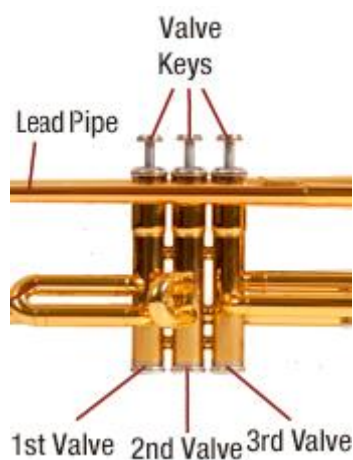


This is the end of my galleries of **"horns"** and many further precursors of the trumpet.

** The birth of the modern trumpet **

When was the modern “real” trumpet invented? Most authors say this is based on the invention of **valves**.

An info by the Yamaha music company states: “It was around 1810 that the valve was invented as a means for easily changing the length of the tube. A chromatic scale is a scale in which one octave is divided into 12 semitones. The valve is a device that changes the path taken by the trumpeter's breath. A second tube was added in the middle of the instrument's tube and a valve was attached at the point where they joined. The valve controlled which tube the trumpeter's breath would pass through. It was now possible to change the length of the tube, enabling chromatic scales to be played on the trumpet.



It seems that in 1818 the German horn players Heinrich David Stolzel and Friedrich Bluehmel created the first working brass instrument **valve** - - the modern valve trumpet was born!

** Cornet versus trumpet **

The **cornet** is a slightly older version of the trumpet. It has a stronger conical bore, more compact shape, and mellower tone quality. The cornet was derived from the “post-horn” by applying valves to it around 1810.



The cornet dominated for almost a century, but then the **trumpet** went in front, especially within jazz, because of its sharper and more cutting sound.



In spite of the brilliance of the trumpet, which nowadays has the same 'top rank' as the violin, the softer-sounding cornet is still widely used.

*** Trumpet in jazz ***

Within jazz, either the piano or the trumpet are the leading instrument. The critical step was done by Louis Armstrong when he, in 1924, switched from the cornet to the trumpet.

When trying to create a list of the most important trumpet players within jazz the list soon became big and bigger. I then cut it down and downer, ending with four crucial musicians, all Americans. Here they are!



<!> **Louis Armstrong** (1901-1971)

He was crucial - he made, in Chicago, when leading member of the Fletcher

Henderson Orchestra, the trumpet the essential instrument. His bands "Hot Five" and "Hot Seven" are seen as the 'cream' of traditional jazz. He was also an excellent singer, and was rated for decades as the 'number one' trumpet player.

<!-- Roy Eldrige (1911-1989)

The first musician to 'de-throne' Louis Armstrong, and strongly so, was Roy Eldridge. During his long career he played with many bands, and had several own ones. "He was very versatile on his horn, not only quick and articulate with the low to middle registers, but the high registers as well". A reviewer stated "he has flashy, passionate, many-noted style that rampaged freely through three octaves, with harmonic ideas impervious to the fastest tempos."

<!-- Dizzy Gillespie (1917-1993)

For many music experts he is "the" trumpet player of jazz. It's hard to cover all the countless praises he received. Main points:

- \$ could play very fast, very high notes, and always surprising
- \$ adding new layers of harmonic and rhythmic complexity
- \$ a major figure in the development of bebop and modern jazz
- \$ invented a trumpet bell which bent upward at a 45-degree angle

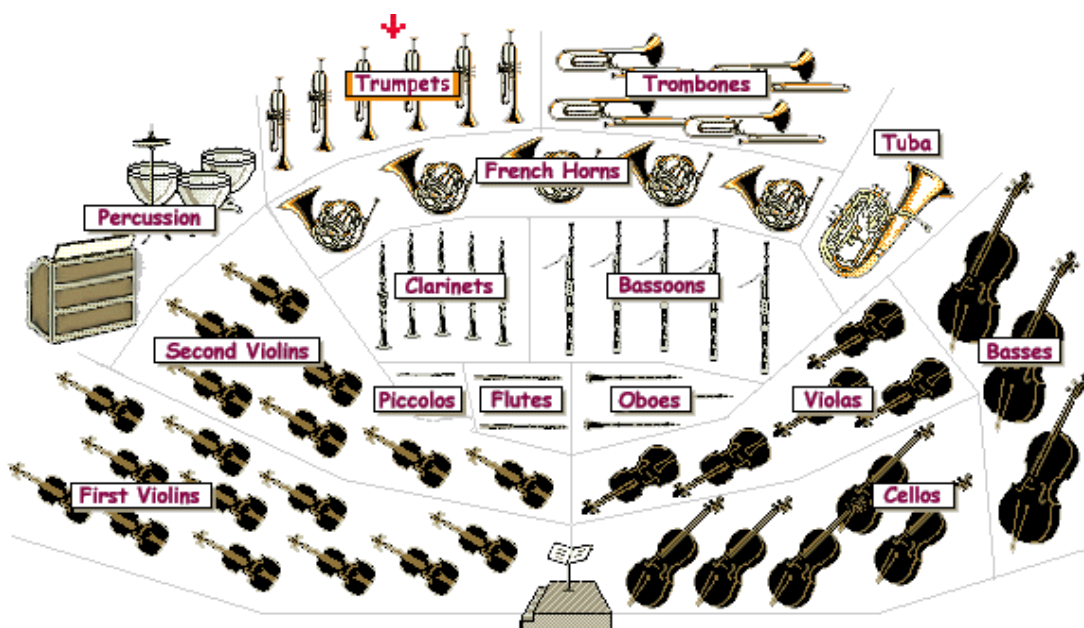
<!-- Clifford Brown (1930-1956)

He was a highly gifted American jazz trumpeter, pianist and composer. Performing in many leading bebop bands, his exceptional abilities became soon obvious. He could easily play with very 'modern' artists, such as Sonny Stitt, Eric Dolphy, Sonny Rollins.

Sadly so, he died at just the age of 25 in a car crash.

*** Trumpet in classical music ***

For quite some time orchestras for classical music include trumpets, 6 of them in this example.



Famous classical composers who included trumpet solos in their compositions were: Beethoven, Haydn, Hindemith, Telemann, Vivaldi.



*** Very weird trumpet player painted in art ***

So, which 'top' painters should I look up when searching images of trumpets: Dali? DaVinci? Durer? Gogh? Hunderwasser? Picasso?

Actually for me one artist was first choice: Hieronimus Bosch (1450-1516). His works are very unique, highest class, **weird**, and no-one will reach it.



Here are four of his "trumpets" – all indeed very very very very **weird**!

*** Trumpet in armies ***

Armies have musicians as part of it for thousands of years. One typical task is to make an announcement, called "fanfare", together with a single player of a horn or bugle or long quasi-trumpet.



Here is an impressive example of an army band, with lots of trumpets, from NZ.



*** Woman playing trumpet ***

The, almost depressing, dominance of men over women, well-known for about everything - - is this also true for **trumpet musicians**?

My first response to this question is of course YES. Urghhh. But as you certainly know, I do NOT like this sad reality.

So I started a heavy search for **female** trumpet players. And I was indeed impressed very many there are.

Here are four great examples!



These four high-class performers are:

- <|> Balsom Alison (England)
- <|> Rogers Angeleisha (USA)
- <|> Kirkwood Ellen (Australia)
- <|> TineThing Helseth (Norway)

All play modern trumpets, not cornets, and all are very professional.

***** Australian trumpet player *****

Not surprisingly, I dare to say, there are lots! And not surprisingly, I also dare to say, lots from Melbourne.

Presented below are four outstanding **Australian** trumpet musicians:

- <|> James Morrison (mainly Sydney)

He is a wide-ranging jazz musician & composer. Has also played trombone, tuba, flugelhorn, saxophone, clarinet, guitar, bass, piano. Certainly the '#1'.

- <|> Tristram Williams (Melbourne)

Mainly performing in classical orchestras.



<|> Louisa Trewartha (Melbourne)

Mostly playing classical music, also composing and educating.

<|> Geoffrey Payne (Melbourne, Sydney)

Is "Principal Trumpet" of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra.

By the way, it is well-known that Melbourne always was and still is Australia's "culture capital".

*** Trumpet's future ***

Is there a bold **future**? The viewpoint is, with ease, YES. Because the trumpet is essential for two crucial lines of music – classical music and jazz music.



And in many traditional music styles, all over the world, the trumpet is a core instrument, e.g. Brazil, Cuba, Germany, Kongo, Poland, Turkey - and Australia!

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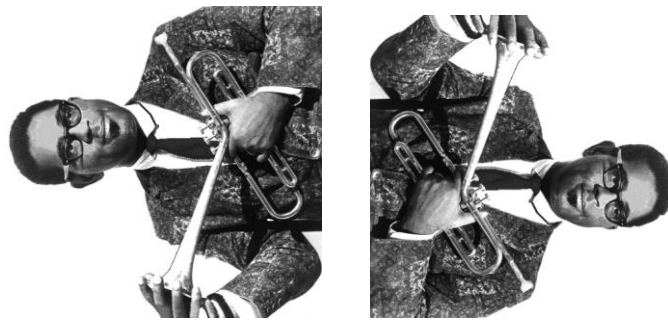
For me, the obviously both brave Bernd & biased Bernd, the pronounced perspective is a courageous conjecture - - namely, the great instrument trumpet DOES have a bold future!

P.S-1:

Did I ever had a link with trumpets? Yes & No. I actually played a clarinet, verry long ago. And I was made a member of the Oeynhausen Fire-Brigade Band. But: I was not at all competent, urghhh. So the conductor then decided that I do not play the clarinet scores, rather: Trumpet-2. True!

P.S-2:

Which of all the musicians presented in this essay impressed me most, both music-wise and personality-wise? It was - yes indeed - Dizzy Gillespie!



And herewith, after lots of pages with lots of pictures & texts, I say bye-bye!!!

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