

Bass Trombone Audition Materials – Fall 2021

- Bernstein: West Side Story (Cool) | [NY Philharmonic - Gilbert](#)
 - Brahms: Symphony No. 4, m. 4 | [Berlin Philharmonic - Rattle](#)
 - Ives: Variations on America | [Los Angeles Philharmonic - Mehta](#)
 - Revueltas: Sensemaya | [Los Angeles Philharmonic - Salonen](#)
 - Shostakovich: Symphony No. 5, m. 1 | [Boston Symphony - Nelsons](#)
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Ensemble Placement auditions for tenor and bass trombone will be on Sunday, August 15th at 1:00pm in the Choral Suite (355). Auditions will be blind, with Dr. Shipes and I as the only adjudicators. Signup sheet will be posted 30 minutes before we begin.

This list includes works that showcase your range, as well as lyrical ideas and technical facility. As with any other audition material, knowing the score and listening to recordings will be your best guide. I've provided reference recording links above.

Suggested Preparation:

- Listen to suggested recordings – focus on tempo and style
- 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, and I look forward to hearing you!

Bernstein: West Side Story (Cool)

Cool
[Fugue - Swing - Allegretto ♩ = 88]

664 open
flutter
3
ff
ff

669

676

681

684 shake *~~~~~*
f **ff** **pp subito**

690 **ff** **subito pp** **ff**

695

Detailed description: This image shows a page of musical notation for the piece 'Cool' from West Side Story. The score is written for a bass clef instrument in 2/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music, numbered 664 to 695. The tempo is marked as 'Allegretto' with a quarter note equal to 88 beats per minute. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score includes various performance instructions such as 'open', 'flutter', 'shake', and dynamic markings like 'ff', 'pp subito', and 'subito pp'. There are also triplets and slurs throughout the piece.

Brahms: Symphony No. 4, mvt. 4

113 **E** [♩ = ♩] Solo

Trombone 1 *pp* *espress.*

Trombone 2 *pp* *espress.*

Bass Trombone *pp* *espress.*

118 *ppp* *pp*

124 *p* *dim.* *pp*

128 *rit.* *pp* *f* *ff* *f*

The image shows a page of a musical score for the Trombone section of Brahms' Symphony No. 4, fourth movement. It features three staves: Trombone 1, Trombone 2, and Bass Trombone. The music is in E major and 3/4 time. The first system (measures 113-117) is marked 'Solo' and 'espress.' with a dynamic of 'pp'. The second system (measures 118-123) features a 'ppp' dynamic in the first two staves and 'pp' in the third. The third system (measures 124-127) is marked 'p' and 'dim.', ending with 'pp'. The fourth system (measures 128-132) begins with a 'rit.' (ritardando) and features a dynamic range from 'pp' to 'ff'.

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)
fff

poco rit.
2
*fff*³ *p sub* — *fff*

The image shows a page of musical notation for 'Variations on America' by Charles Ives. It consists of three main sections labeled Q, R, and S. Section Q is 'Meno mosso' with a tempo of approximately 108 beats per minute. Section R is 'Più mosso' with a tempo of approximately 126 beats per minute. Section S is 'Maestoso' with a tempo of approximately 100 beats per minute. The notation includes various dynamics such as *ff*, *fff*, and *p sub*, and includes performance instructions like 'Trb. III and Tuba breathe at different places to produce unbroken, continuous line.' and 'poco rit.'. There is a greyed-out area in the middle of the page.

Revueltas: Sensemaya

32 [♩ = 100]
f marcatis.

33

34
ff fff fff fff

35
ff fff

36
fff

Detailed description: This image shows a page of musical notation for the piece 'Sensemaya' by Manuel de Falla. The score consists of five staves, numbered 32 through 36. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a 3/8 time signature. Staff 32 includes a tempo marking of quarter note = 100 and a dynamic of *f marcatis.*. The notation features complex rhythmic patterns with many beamed notes and accents. Staff 33 continues the rhythmic complexity. Staff 34 shows a change in dynamics to *ff* and *fff*. Staff 35 features *ff* and *fff* dynamics with triplets. Staff 36 begins with a *fff* dynamic and a triplet. The page is otherwise blank.

Shostakovich: Symphony No. 5, mvt. 1

29 [Poco sostenuto (♩ = 126)]
2

30

31 *ff*

32 2 *ff espress.*

33

34

35 1

poco stringendo

Detailed description: This image shows a page of musical notation for the first movement of Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5. The score is written in bass clef with a common time signature (C). It consists of five staves of music, each beginning with a measure number in a box: 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35. Above measure 29, the tempo is marked '[Poco sostenuto (♩ = 126)]' and a '2' indicates a second ending. Above measure 30, the number '30' is boxed. Above measure 31, the dynamic marking '*ff*' is present. Above measure 32, the number '32' is boxed, followed by a '2' and the dynamic marking '*ff espress.*'. Above measure 33, the number '33' is boxed. Above measure 34, the number '34' is boxed. Above measure 35, the number '35' is boxed, followed by a '1'. The notation includes various note values, rests, and articulation marks such as accents and slurs. The overall mood is somber and dramatic, characteristic of the first movement.