

Trumpet Solo Class Lecture #10

“How to Prepare Your Recital”

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Selection of Literature

- Select pieces for your juries and convocation performances that could develop into a recital program.
- Keep all of the recital programs that you attend and identify pieces that you enjoyed.
- List interesting pieces from recordings that you have studied.
- Explore works for other instruments that would work well on the trumpet.

Setting the Program

- Pick pieces that you really enjoy playing.
- Start by selecting/setting your major works.
- Begin the recital with something that will help you to establish a solid start.
- Consider the variety of the pieces, instruments and genres that you will present.
- Try to avoid pieces that are frequently performed.
- Does the program include something special that you (yourself) have created?

Special Considerations

- Do you have the strength and endurance to play through the program comfortably?
- Is the program “Listen-able”?
- How will you develop as a musician by performing this program?
- Will your program represent you and your instrument?

Special Preparations

- Practice playing through your recital (each day) at the same time that it is scheduled.
- Try to avoid any major distractions before you have to play.
- Wear comfortable and professional apparel.
- Prepare a professional looking program and poster.
- Will you have the opportunity to perform the program in a few settings before the recital?
- Will you have a reception and who (beside yourself) will be responsible for it?
- Are there any special staging issues to prepare?
- Do you have someone that you trust to serve as your assistant (to handle logistics)?
- Detail (on paper) the placement of stands and chairs for each piece on the program.
- Does your accompanist need a page-turner?
- Are you planning on having the recital recorded?

General Recital Rules

- The first half should be longer than the second.
- 35 - 40 minutes of music will fill an hour recital.
- Keep logistical changes to a minimum.
- The “pause” should be 8 - 10 minutes maximum.
- “Less is More” when performed well.