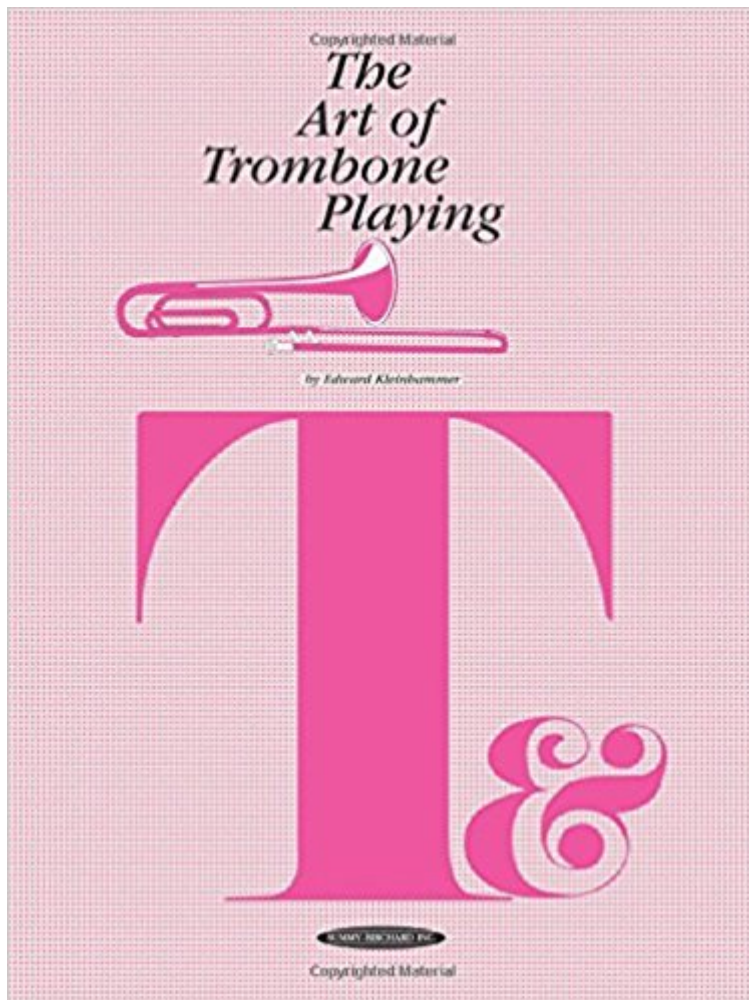


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The Art Of Trombone Playing



Synopsis

Edward Kleinhammer, author of *The Art of Trombone Playing*, joined the Civic Orchestra, the training orchestra for the Chicago Symphony, in 1940. After two years he was accepted by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, where he remained for his entire career until he retired in 1985. He has played under every Chicago Symphony Orchestra conductor, covering from Frederick Stock to Sir Georg Solti. In 1986 he received the Distinguished Service Award from the International Trombone Association. While Kleinhammer states that his book "is written for the student who has no teacher available or for the teacher seeking more fundamental knowledge of the field of trombone playing," he emphasizes that it is also "for the trombonist (in any stage of proficiency) who is always a student."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It is not by accident that Mr. Edwin Kleinhammer's name appears on many, many symphony musicians' bios. There are plenty of outstanding players, but "teaching" world class artists is another thing. CSO artists Mr. Kleinhammer and the late Mr. Arnold Jacobs and the late Mr. Frank Crisafulli have trained innumerable (global) lower brass artists for well over thirty years each. I have had the pleasure of receiving a group lesson from Mr. Kleinhammer with two others and individual instruction from the late gentleman's gentleman Mr. Frank Crisafulli. What about the book? Mr. Kleinhammer states in his book that he strongly encourages lessons, but at the "worst" the book can self-teach the reader...this is NOT an exaggeration. His highly detailed diagrammed/photo-filled

pages on embouchure alone can not be replicated in any other text, they are worth the price of the book by themselves. The (paperback) text includes HIGHLY practical sections on breathing, tone, range, slide technique/legatto (when to use "loo" vs. "doo", etc), intonation control, daily exercises and the crucial tongue-ing and concurrent air flow (emphasize the "air" get the flappy thing out of the way) mistakes of even advanced amateur players. If you "see" the pros calmly whip through a passage of a rapid Rimsky-Korsakov, for example, without jerking the slide or doing face contortions, etc. you're seeing all of Mr. Kleinhammer's book suggestions put into motion..this level of 1st flight pro does "make it" look easy. Go see a Joe Alessi, an outstanding jazz trombonist as well as the NY Philly first chair, and you'll see what I mean. The book contains also contains a concise section on trombone prep. literature including Clarke, Arban, Blazhevich, Carl Fischer, Rochut (Melodious Etudes Book III--a masterpiece of symph. prep. in my opinion), and all the significant classic solos and ensemble pieces. Again, Mr. Kleinhammer correctly mentions throughout the book that the student needs models to listen to, pattern after..simply put he's talking about "recordings" (not necessarily concert halls as you will not be able to sufficiently pick out the passage) Get the Ralph Sauer (Audition excerpt) or Christian Lindberg CDs and listen, and listen some more.. The student who gets on this early in the game combined with this book and a decent brass teacher will be far ahead of the game. Another suggestion is to tune into the current Boston Symphony bass trombonist's website, Doug Yeo, he provides some fabulous suggestions and advice. (Mr. George Krem, Mr. Yeo's first college played with me in Wheaton, IL. He has served as the Chicago Civic Orchestra, Winnipeg & Victoria Canada and now Cedar Rapids, IA principal. He also has a CD out, taught at the U of Iowa for 12 years after being taught himself by Mr. Keith Brown a legendary Philly Orch. trombonist. Mr. Krem is a very fine teacher and artist). This book, with some good CDs to model after and a decent brass teacher (doesn't have to be "lower" brass teacher frankly) will provide some distinct advantages in accelerating your progress. ...

A good reference for all Trombonists. A little too much for the beginner. Clearly written long ago (1963) based on the writing style and particularly when referencing the strobotuner! A little strange when referring to himself in the third person (i.e. "the writer"), but a highly recommended text for intermediate and above.

not a lot of music in here. more of an instructional book.

This has been enormously helpful. Having played trombone for many years, the focus of my

practice time normally has been on more 'advanced' content. The idea of buying a book with a title that focused on 'basics' seemed unnecessary. But, based on a recommendation from a friend, I bought this book, and am so grateful. Thanks to the insights from this book, I have totally changed my warm-up procedures, and focused on an entirely different side of playing. The results have been consistently satisfying. Strongly recommended.

Mr. Kleinhammer knows what he's talking about and it shows in this read. If you're a trombonist or even a brass player period, you'll learn quite a bit about technique that you should be doing, and even the stuff you probably shouldn't be.

This is THE gold standard book on learning how to play the trombone. The author is very clear in his narrative when discussing the methodology used in the book. Although many of the playing examples require quite a bit of skill, they are master examples. The exercises could be performed on a less difficult scale until skill is attained. I believe a trombone player could spend a lifetime perfecting his skills from this book.

Very thorough text. This is not another exercise book. Instead it is more of a reference source including all of the technical data one might need to solve problems or answer questions. There are a few basic exercises here, but mostly it is very dry reading. Very much to the point. I found it very helpful as all the books in this series tend to be.

This book is the single greatest book for trombone players, or brass players in general. It goes through exactly what needs to happen inside and outside the mouth, as well as in the body as a whole. Also, it got here in a timely fashion and was undamaged. I would not hesitate to buy from these people again.

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