

# New Studies For Trumpet

28 Contemporary Etudes

by Darren Fellows

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# Foreword

Playing etudes is an enjoyable way of improving technique, musicality and stamina for the trumpet player and should hold an important place in the practice routine.

These studies contain different styles, concentrating on technique in a challenging yet musical way. The studies should be practiced diligently and continued perseverance will be rewarding for the player.

Unlike most study books, these studies all have titles to give the player inspiration and a feel of how to approach the study. I think that this is an important starting point when practising a piece.

The following studies appear in order of difficulty and become more challenging as the book progresses.

Work carefully and patiently on challenging passages, but overall enjoy playing the studies, and play in the most musical and lyrical way. This will further develop technique and improve musical awareness and performance.

*Darren Fellows*

# Preface

These are more than studies - they are musical miniatures that will tickle your tongue, boost your breathing, and enliven your lip.

Trumpets tend to congregate in groups of 7, whether in Altenburg's *Concerto*, or as at the Last Day of Judgement. Arban grouped his celebrated studies in two groups of seven, making 14 in all. Darren Fellows gives us four times seven: 28 in total, a cornucopia of trumpeting delight. The studies run the gamut of trumpet idiom - from the strident hero (*The Hero*), and the subtle soldier (is there such a thing? - play *Fanfare* and *March* to find out!) - to the ardent trumpet of *Romance* and the seductive trumpet of *Spanish Moon*. These studies are good for your singing style (see *Vocalise*) and at all times, they are scrupulously marked with dynamics, which serves the dual purpose of preserving your musicality and your physical stamina.

Great players develop a *carrying sound* whether in pianissimo, mezzo piano or forte. They use fortissimo for special effect. These studies develop your use of colour in the middle range of dynamics and are designed to encourage your playing to go through the door marked *use your musical imagination*. The trumpet is an important dancing instrument - people have danced to the sound of the trumpet since time immemorial, and the Tchaikowsky and Stravinsky ballets captured that in classical music. Here, you have the chance to dance the *Tarantella*; *Waltz Grazioso*; *La Danza*; *Hungarian Dance*; and *Badinerie*. Technique is not eschewed. Studies would not be studies without technical challenge, and the player will find that aplenty throughout. *Octavoso* sets the trend, and *Firefly* and *Rush Hour* reach maximum velocity.

In short, there is something for every developing player in the pages of this study book - the metric complexity of contemporary music is threaded throughout - and after you have absorbed these studies, you will certainly be pulsing silently in your body and your brain with the tactus of the music - which makes it so much easier to play with other people once you get out of the safety of your own practice room. I played them right from the beginning to the end. It is a very satisfying progression, and when you land on the summit, you have the satisfaction of being quietly boisterous, enjoying the knockabout of the *Badinerie* and *Scherzo*.

These studies are a welcome new essential for the developing player.

*John Wallace*  
Trumpet Artist &  
Principal of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

# Darren Fellows



Darren Fellows is one of Britain's latest generation of composers whose output reveals a broad spectrum from music theatre through orchestral, ensemble and solo pieces to film music.

Born in North Yorkshire in 1975 Darren's music career developed rapidly, with his works having been broadcast on radio and published by the time he was 17.

His further education took him to Cardiff and London, where he trained at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and studied privately at the Royal Academy of Music.

Many internationally renowned artists have played Darren's work including trumpeters: Hakan Hardenberger, Alison Balsom, Allen Vizzutti, Bo Nilsson Jouko Harjanne and Norwegian trumpet sensation Tine Thing Helseth. Cellist Steven Isserlis has also played Darren's compositions. Darren enjoys working with internationally acclaimed artists and has written music for Guy Touvron, Tim Morrison, Dean Wright and the Female Trumpet Quartet Bella Tromba.

Darren plays an active role in music in Wales, and has been commissioned by local authorities to compose for a wide variety of music projects. With a CD of his fresh new arrangements of nursery rhymes reaching #2 in the Amazon children's album chart, Darren's music continues to be eclectic and exciting.

His music has been extensively performed in prestigious venues throughout the UK and featured in recitals by the principal trumpeter of the Welsh National Opera. Internationally, Darren's work has been performed in France, Japan, Finland and the United States. A selection of his work has also been featured in master classes in Italy.

Much of Darren's time is dedicated to music education and focuses his expertise mainly in working with young people, and disadvantaged groups. He has extensive experience and skills in running workshops for people with learning difficulties or physical disabilities, and is involved in training school teachers to run music workshops through Schott's education programme. Darren has also been a visiting speaker for the MA Arts Management course at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama.

Darren is now based in Cardiff having established firm roots in the Welsh music community, whilst running a sought after teaching practice and gaining international recognition for his well renowned compositions.

duration 2:35

# 1. The 'Minor'taur

by Darren Fellows

(Natural Minor Scale)

Melancholy  $\text{♩} = 84$   
*cantabile*

mp

mf

mp mf

f mp

mf mp 19

mf

mp

mf p 30

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