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# Tonguing

Not all brass players are fortunate enough to begin their brass playing by taking competent instruction from a qualified private teacher, with the result, most of these players begin and develop a completely wrong way of tonguing as well as an incorrect embouchure coupled with poor phrasing techniques.

Band directors, (God bless them for their efforts and their patience), simply do not have the time to show each and every brass player in their band how to play the instrument exactly. Part of their demanding job, especially with beginner bands is to have the young musicians play and read music together somewhat sensibly in order to play their first concert usually around Christmas Time.

A beginners band or orchestra may be as little as twenty would-be players or in some areas as many as forty or fifty even more. The Band Director sees these ones only an hour or one hour per day excluding extra practice sessions. How can he possibly instruct each brass player privately?

The Band Director might not even be a brass player. He might be a reed, string or keyboard player. This reduces the chances of the young beginner getting started on the brass instrument correctly.

Directors must then resort to other instructions in order to have the student produce the first notes.

The most common mistake is to have the student blow a hair off your back. The student vibrates and naturally



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## Notes on Good Tonguing

### 1.) The Air Drives the Tongue

This expression means exactly what it says. The tongue only releases the air and it is the air which causes the lips to vibrate and thus produce the notes.

The faster the tongue closes and releases the air the more numerous the notes (faster tonguing). In order to have an even, clean flow of sparkling notes there must be a continual flow of air coming from the lungs supported by the diaphragm.

Therefore, when tonguing the exercises in this book:

- 1.) Think of the correct tonguing procedure.
- 2.) Think of the result (sound) you want.
- 3.) Think of a continual flow of air coming directly from the diaphragm.

REMEMBER: A tongued phrase is simply a long tone +  
ated into many parts. To increase the speed of  
simply think of the speed and sound you want  
speed of the air.

### 2.) Quality

All notes must be clean, of  
quality, perfectly started



The less pressure  
rations you will  
tones will be.



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# Speed - Control - Finesse

$\text{♩} = 88 \text{ to } 120 \text{ or ?}$



Perform the same on:



Perform the



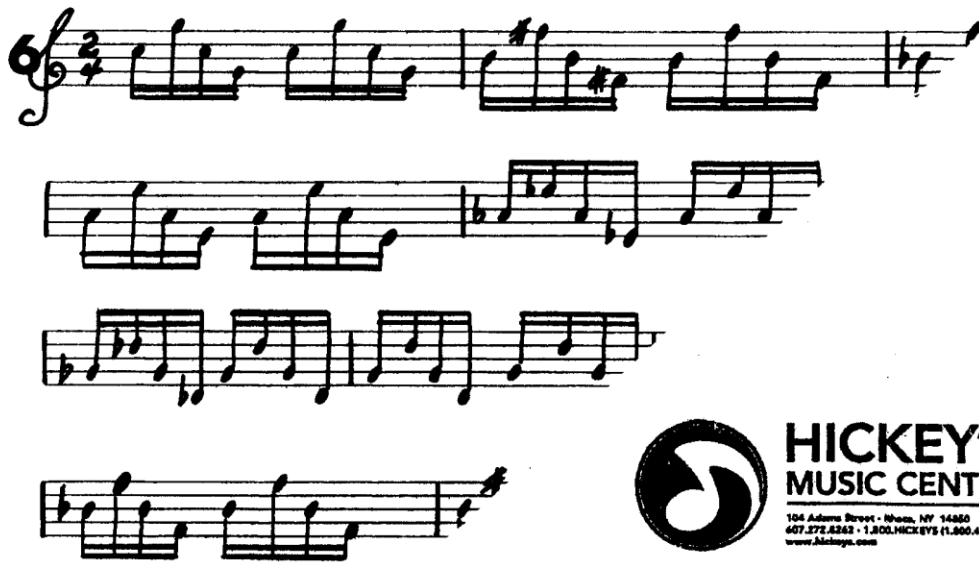
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Play above exercise in the keys of:  $B^b$ ,  $A$ ,  $A^b$ ,  $G$  &  $G^b$



Play above exercise in th



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# Fanfares

Majestically

1 *f*

2 *ff*

3 *p* *mp* *mf* *f* *arr.*

4 *mp*

5 *mf* *mp* *mf* *f*

6 *f* *mf*

7 *f*

8 *f*

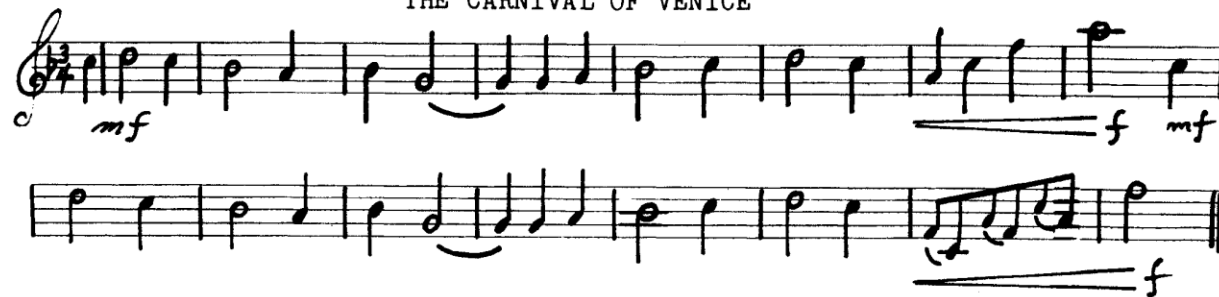


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## THE CARNIVAL OF VENICE



## Variation I - Triple Tonguing



## Variation II - Double Tonguing



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