



Maryland Early Brass Consort

St John's Episcopal Church
Ellicott City, Md
May 18th, 2003

Elisa Koehler & Frank Owens, Cornetts & Natural Trumpets
Kendall Davis & Dennis Mercer, Sackbuts
Dave Baum, Chris Campbell, & Paul De Luca, Natural Trumpets
Vicki Willman, Baroque Tympani
with
Nancy Stavely, Organ

Tielman Susato (1500? - 1561?) - Moresca

Tielman Susato, a Low Lands trumpeter, composer, and publisher, is best known today for a single extraordinary collection of dance music published in Antwerp in 1551. *Het Derde Musyck Boeckken* ('The Little Music Box') contained all the popular dance forms of the day: rounds, basse dances, allemaignes, pavanes, galliards, and branles. As was the custom, the collection did not specify instrumentation; the pieces were to be played by whatever melody and percussion instruments were available. The MEBC's Suite from *Het Derde Musyck Boeckken* was arranged from a facsimile of the original engravings from 1551.

Joseph Arnold Groß (1760s) - 3 Aufzüge

The term '*aufzug*' can be translated loosely as 'processional.' In trumpet ensemble music, the highly structured *sonata* of the 16th century, performed with five trumpets without tympani, gave way in the 17th century to the more musically diverse and less structured *aufzug* (usually 3 or 4 trumpets with tympani), which is generally military in nature. Although this style of composition is usually associated with the baroque period, it persisted well into the 20th century. These particular pieces are atypical in that they each end in a *coda*. Because they appeared on one of the earliest LP recordings of natural trumpet music, these three particular *Aufzüge* may well be the best known of modern times.

Giovanni Gabrieli - Sonata pian e forte

Gabrieli's compositions for brass constitute some of the most glorious and virtuosic music of the Venetian high Renaissance. The *Sonata pian e forte* was written during Gabrieli's tenure as organist at San Marco in Venice and was published in 1597 as part of a large collection entitled *Sacrae Symphonie*. This particular sonata was revolutionary in two respects: it was one of the earliest works to have its instrumentation specified by the composer, and the dynamics (expression marks indicating changes in volume) were included in the

score. The piece, essentially an instrumental motet, was conceived as a work for two antiphonal ensembles, probably in order to take full advantage of the brass-friendly acoustical properties of San Marco.

Anonymous - Aufzug (late 1700s)

A short processional from Vienna illustrates the classical era's attempt to alternate the stark military sound of the trumpet ensemble with more lyrical sections.

Max Keller (1770-1885) - Sechs kurze und leichte Aufzüge (1834)

By the middle of the nineteenth century, the *aufzug* had lost much of its original military bombast and joined the ranks of 'art music.' These six 'short and easy' processions were probably intended for use in a church service, in that there is an organ accompaniment. In their variety, these short masterpieces evoke alpine sentiments by quoting folk songs, Ländler dance styles, and by imitating yodeling. These were discovered in the Nonnburg Abbey in Salzburg (which is better known to us today as the abbey from which Maria von Trapp set forth).

Tielman Susato - Suite

from *Het Derde Musijk Boecoken* (1551): Les Quatre Branles; Basse Danse "Bergerette"; Pavane "La Bataille"; Ronde.

Carli Zoeller (1840-1889) - Two Marches

As the nineteenth century passed and the valved trumpet became the horn of choice for orchestral use, trumpet ensemble music came more and more to be restricted to the cavalry. This tradition survives today in France (the *Batterie fanfare*) and Germany (the *Fanfare*). Carli Zoeller, bandmaster of the 7th Queen's Own Hussars, transcribed these marches, which were originally composed by Johann Baptiste Schiedermayr (1779-1840).

Daniel Speer (1636-1707) - Two Aufzüge (1665)

Composer, novelist, and political activist, Speer was among those very few who were able to publish their music. Speer also prepared a handbook for composers who may have wanted to include trumpets in their works, in essence, a guide to orchestration. These two processions are included in his *Neugebackene Taffel-Schnitz* ("Freshly-baked Morsels").