

BRETT BAKER *RATHAMATAZ* **TROMBONE**

1. Tango ©Faber Music	Gavin Higgins	9.24
2. I loves you Porgy M/s	George Gershwin arr. Geldard	3.21
3. Annie Laurie ©Black Squirrel Music	Arthur Pryor arr. Wilkinson	5.23
4. Berceuse de Jocelyn ©Obrasso Verlag AG	Benjamin Godard arr. Howarth	5.16
5. DL Blues M/s	Don Lusher	3.32
6. Rathamataz ©Lewis Music Press	Andrew Duncan	10.45
7. Alfie M/s	Hal David & Burt Bacharach arr. Morris	3.15
8. White Knuckle Ride ©Novello	Philip Wilby	5.47
9. A Time for Peace ©Gramercy Music	Peter Graham	3.41
10. Fantastic Polka M/s	Arthur Pryor arr. Wilkinson	5.05
11. By the time I get to Phoenix M/s	Jim Webb arr. Golland/Routley	4.20
12. Concertino for Trombone (Nightmare) ©Hafabra Music	Derek Bourgeois	8.10
13. Arriva Derci Roma ©Obrasso Verlag AG	Renato Rascel arr. Smith	3.47

Total CD Playing Time 71.46

BLACK DYKE BAND
MUSIC DIRECTOR DR NICHOLAS J. CHILDS

DOY CD261

BRETT BAKER - TROMBONE

RATHAMATAZ

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Black Dyke Band

In 1816 Peter Wharton founded a brass and reed band in the Yorkshire village of Queenshead, later to become Queensbury. John Foster, apart from being the founder of Black Dyke Mills, played French Horn in this band. It has been said on many occasions that Black Dyke was formed from it; however this is not strictly true, as Peter Wharton's band went out of existence through loss of members. In 1833 a new band was formed named 'Queenshead Band', which may well have contained players from the former band.

Black Dyke Band is the most recorded band in the world with over 300 recordings and growing every year. It is also the most successful contesting band in the world having won the European Brass Band Championships eleven times, most recently in 2005, the British Open Brass Band Championship no fewer than 29 times (most recently 2006) and the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain 22 times (most recently 2008 and 2009).

In June 2009 the band became Champion Band at the English National Brass Band Championships and thus qualified once again to compete at the European Brass Band Championships to be held in Austria in 2010.

In December 2005 a unique partnership was formed when Black Dyke Band and Leeds Metropolitan University joined together, building upon the success of the university's cultural links with Opera North, Northern Ballet Theatre, Harrogate International Festival and the West Yorkshire Playhouse. This partnership will form a strategy for long-term support.

During 2006 as part of its initiative to sponsor the work of young people, Black Dyke Band, under the guidance of Dr Nicholas Childs assisted by qualified members, formed the Yorkshire Youth Brass Band. The purpose is to inspire and motivate young people aged 11 to 18 years to achieve their full potential as musicians, composers and citizens.

In August 2007 the band was invited to take part in the BBC Promenade Concerts at the Royal Albert Hall, London

The band logo of the stags head and Latin quotation 'Justum Perficito nihil timeto' are taken from the armorial bearings granted in 1857 to John Foster, founder of the band. The quotation translates to;

ACT JUSTLY AND FEAR
NOTHING

Dr Nicholas J. Childs

Music Director



of the world's famous concert halls with the most prestigious bands and orchestras.

Taking up the baton as a conductor, Nicholas has had phenomenal success with many bands, including highly acclaimed national championships. His current tenure as Principal Conductor and Director of Music of the famous Black Dyke Band has been marked not only with continued contest success, but with a series of innovative concerts and world premieres of major works for brass band with a variety of soloists and musical combinations.

He serves as Senior Tutor in Brass Band Studies at the Royal Northern College of Music, where he has taught for over twelve years. Further honours have come with his appointment as Associate Conductor of the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain and as Trustee of the Brass Band Heritage Trust.

With his roots in the British brass band tradition, having first been trained in the Tredegar (Wales) Youth Band, Nicholas continues to give important emphasis to the development of the brass band movement. This comes via his commitment of the training of outstanding young musicians both at the collegiate level and within the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain.

He reached the pinnacle of success with five National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain, with Black Dyke in 2001, 2004, 2008 and 2009. In April 2005 he guided them to first place at the European Brass Band Championships in Holland and in September 2005 was victorious winning the British Open Brass Band Championship and again in 2006. He won his first English National Brass Band Championships with Black Dyke in June 2009.

Dr Nicholas Childs has achieved the highest international reputation as a performer, teacher/clinician, conductor, interpreter and advocate of new music, and producer of pacesetting recordings. Initial success came as a euphonium soloist and partner with his talented brother Dr Robert Childs, who together have toured the world as 'The Childs Brothers', performing in many

Brett Baker

Brett Baker is well established as one of the finest trombonists in Europe and has been described as being at the pinnacle of his glittering career. As principal trombone of Black Dyke Band, one of the most famous brass bands in the world, and as a guest soloist who has appeared with many other bands in Europe, America, Canada, Japan, Australia and New Zealand, together with his many solo recordings, technical accomplishments and warm personality, Brett's fame and popularity is truly world-wide. Add to this his commissioning of new works for trombone, teaching, conducting and adjudicating skills (he is a clinician for Michael Rath Trombones) and his reputation as an exceptional all-round musician is assured.

Brett hails from the Forest of Dean in Gloucestershire and was introduced to playing the trombone at the age of ten by his father. His first bands were Bream and Lydbrook, where his teachers were Bryan Nelmes, Robert Morgan and Ken Harmon before, in 1989, he moved to Flowers Band and the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain, in which he was principal trombone for two years. Under the guidance of his teachers at that time, Danny Hannaby, Steve Walkley and Lyndon Baglin, his solo career was also showing early promise with wins at the Cheltenham and Bath Festivals. He became Junior Slow Melody Trombonist of Great Britain in 1988 and 1989 and a finalist

at the British Open Solo Championships in 1990, 1992 and 1993. In 1992 he was a Brass Finalist in the BBC's Young Musician of the Year, the year in which he also entered Salford University (reading economics) and joined Fairey Band. Further solo success came when he was British Open Trombone Solo Champion in 1993 and 1994. From 1993 to 1996 he was the trombone tutor at Salford University, also studying conducting and performance skills under Professor David King.

Whilst with Fairey Band, Brett's reputation as one of the brass band movement's leading trombonists was firmly established and, with them, he won every major brass band contest, including the fabulous 'triple' of National, British Open and European Brass Band Championships in 1993/4, as well as the All England Masters at Cambridge in 1996 and 1997 and the 1996 Brass in Concert Championship. His first solo CD *Bone Idyll*, was completed with Faireys in 1996 when his adviser was the renowned symphonic trombonist, Denis Wick. Returning to Gloucester and Flowers Band in 1996, Brett recorded two further CDs before, in 2000, he began post-graduate studies in performance under Chris Houlding, John Iveson and John Miller at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. He is also an Associate of the Royal College of Music, London.

Brett joined Black Dyke Band in 2000 and with them, has to date won four National Championships (2001 and 2004, 2008 and

2009), two British Open Championships (2005 and 2006) European Championship in 2005 and the English National Brass Band Championships in 2009. In addition to numerous concerts, broadcasts, recordings and TV appearances, he has been featured as a soloist on over 40 CDs, including 10 solo CDs and is today, the most recorded trombone soloist in the brass band movement.

As a soloist and brass clinician, Brett has played and conducted workshops around the world and regularly performs in some of the best concert halls in the United Kingdom, including the Royal Albert Hall and the Royal Festival Hall, London, Symphony Hall, Birmingham and Manchester's Bridgewater Hall.

He is constantly seeking to expand the solo repertoire for trombone and has been involved in a joint project for this with Leeds University and the commissioning of over 40 new works from composers such as Rodney Newton, Robin Dewhurst, Philip Sparke, Philip Harper, Darrol Barry, Martin Ellerby, Derek Bourgeois, William Broughton, Barry Forgie and Paul Lovatt-Cooper.

He has performed as a guest player with many bands, including famous names such as Grimethorpe, Foden's, Yorkshire Building Society (YBS) and Leyland.

Brett enjoys teaching players (especially younger players) in performance techniques and in 2001, created the White River Brass

ensemble. He is trombone tutor of the National Children's Brass Band of Great Britain, the International Brass Band Summer School, Swiss Youth Band and the Northern Brass Band Trust in Durham and has been a guest tutor at the Salvation Army's famous Star Lake Music Camp near New York, USA. In 2006 he became Chairman of the British Trombone Society and Secretary of the International Trombone Association.

Brett lives with his wife, Sarah, in Barnton, Northwich, Cheshire. Typical of the welcome and response to Brett around the world is this from Mark Ford, Musical Director of Kew Band in Australia:

'It was great to see Brett Baker in Melbourne again as he won over many brass band enthusiasts with his wonderful playing skills and his kind friendly nature.'

©Anthony Leggett



He has written 43 symphonies so far and the numbers are increasing dramatically as the years go by, 14 concerti, 7 major works for chorus and orchestra, 2 operas, a musical, and music for television. Bourgeois is also well-known for his compositions for brass band and wind band, many of which serve as test-pieces in the highest level of band competition and include two Concerti for Brass Band, *Concerto Grosso, Blitz, Diversions, The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea* and *Apocalypse*.

Concertino for Trombone (Nightmare) was commissioned by Brett Baker in 2007 and was premiered at the Royal Northern College of Music Festival of Brass 2008. The piece takes its influences and structure from the well known test-piece *Blitz* and is a tour-de-force for any trombone player.

**Arriva Derci Roma
Dedicated to Joseph Alessi**

Joseph has been Brett's inspiration in recent years due to his impeccable playing and awe-inspiring sound. Through Mark Freeh, Joseph has been involved in several recording projects and Mark has produced many new arrangements for trombone and band. This trombone trio was commissioned by Brett Baker in 2008 as a response to the lack of trombone trios in existence and was inspired by a recording of a trombone ensemble arranged for and featuring Joseph Alessi.

Fantastic Polka
Dedicated to Ian Bousfield

Arthur Pryor was born in 1870 in St. Joseph, Missouri, and died in 1942 in Long Beach, California. In 1892, John Philip Sousa hired Pryor as his solo trombonist, and thereafter promoted him to assistant conductor (1894-1903). Pryor formed his own band in 1903, and toured extensively until 1909. Taking advantage of the new technology, Pryor made numerous recordings (over 1000!) and engaged upon a series of commercial radio broadcasts. He was a charter member of ASCAP and the American Bandmasters Association. Of his more than 300 compositions, his output includes ragtime, novelty tunes, and operettas.

By the time I get to Phoenix
Dedicated to Derek Southcott

This well-known American pop song was originally recorded by Johnny Rivers in 1965 but it was made famous by Glen Campbell and appeared on the album of the same name released in 1967. Campbell's version reached number 3 in the United States pop charts in 1967 and won two Grammy awards for Best Vocal Performance (male) and Best Contemporary Male Solo Vocal Performance. Derek Southcott of the Syd Lawrence Orchestra made this song famous in the brass band community when he played it with James Shepherd Versatile Brass in the 1990s. The brass band version, in a different key uses

many of the ideas from the JSVB arrangement by John Golland, this solo is dedicated to Derek and his melodic playing.

Concertino for Trombone (Nightmare)
Dedicated to Nicholas Childs and
Black Dyke Band

Derek Bourgeois has been an admirer of Black Dyke Band for many years and was delighted to compose a piece for the band and Brett Baker in the style of his well-known test-piece *Blitz*. The piece is dedicated to the band for their wonderful contest performances over the years including their win on *Blitz* in the 1981 National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain under the baton of Major Peter Parkes.

Derek Bourgeois was born in Kingston upon Thames in 1941 and was educated at Cambridge University (honours degree and doctorate), he spent two years at the Royal College of Music studying composition with Herbert Howells and conducting with Sir Adrian Boult.

From 1970 to 1984 he was a lecturer in music at Bristol University and was Director of the National Youth Orchestra. He was appointed Director of Music at St Paul's Girls School, London in 1994 and conducted various orchestras. He retired to Majorca in 2002 and moved to New York in 2008 and now focuses exclusively on composing.

Programme

Tango
Dedicated to Christian Lindberg

Born in Gloucestershire in 1983, Gavin Higgins grew up in the Forest of Dean. As Gavin was surrounded by a family of banders and it was not long before he began to play in the local brass band. In 1999, he was awarded a place to study at the prestigious Chethams School of Music in Manchester where he began lessons on French Horn and in composition.

In 2001 he was awarded a scholarship to study at the Royal Northern College of Music with Gary Carpenter, Frank Lloyd and Pete Francombe. Gavin has had music performed by various ensembles and soloists across the United Kingdom in numerous venues including Wigmore Hall, Regent Hall, Royal Festival Hall and Royal Albert Hall and is regularly commissioned to write new works. His *Alarms* for solo trumpet and *Road Works* for percussion have proven very popular with BBC Young Musician of the Year finalists; both are regularly played in the competition.

Among his commissions, Gavin has written a fanfare for part of the Commonwealth Games in Manchester, *A Forest Symphony* as part of the Voices in the Forest Festival, performed by the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain and *Three Broken Love Songs* for Mark

Simpson. His virtuoso work *Freaks* for solo trombone has recently been recorded by Brett Baker and the Flowers Band and *Rage Dances* was performed by members of the London Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall and Liverpool Philharmonic 10:10 ensemble. *A Forest Symphony* has recently been selected for the wind and brass section of the British Composer Awards. *Urban Fairy Tales* has been performed at Cadogan Hall, London and *Disco Pig* will be performed at the Royal College of Music. Gavin is currently working on a large orchestral work for the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Gavin is a RCM scholar supported by the AHRC and Douglas and Hilda Simmonds Awards studying with Ken Hesketh.

Tango, for solo trombone and brass band, was commissioned by Brett Baker in September 2008 and was completed in Sydney, Australia. The work opens with a rather 'traditional' sounding tango before moving into a slower, expressive dance with free style cadenzas. Several smaller interludes follow until one final build up introduces the return of the opening material. Getting faster, the piece finally ends with a wild and breathless climax. This work was premiered at the Black Dyke Brass Festival 2009.

**I loves you Porgy
Dedicated to Don Lusher**

At the age of 15 Bill Geldard became a professional musician and became 1st trombone in the Central Band of the Royal Air Force during his National Service. He was a founder member of the George Evans Orchestra as 1st trombone and featured soloist. Bill featured in most 'big bands' such as Ted Heath, Johnny Dankworth amongst others and freelanced with Geraldo, Mantovani and many more.

In the 1970s he formed 'The Bill Geldard Tentette' and 'The Bill Geldard Big Band' and was guest conductor of the BBC Radio Orchestra. Recognised as one of the country's top arrangers he recorded many albums of background music, composed and arranged by him for TV and films.

One of Don Lusher's most popular ballads, this effective arrangement has been played rarely since Don's death in 2007.

**Annie Laurie
Dedicated to Arthur Pryor**

Arthur Willard Pryor has been one of the most celebrated trombone soloists throughout the last 100 years. He was a trombone virtuoso, bandleader, and most well known as a soloist with the Sousa Band.

Pryor took up music at a very young age and was playing the valve trombone by age 11. By age 15 he had mastered the slide trombone and

was awarded a spot in his father's band. Pryor went on to direct the Stanley Opera Company in Denver, Colorado until joining the John Philip Sousa Band in 1892. He played his first solo with the Sousa Band at age 22 during the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. During his 12 years with the Sousa Band, Pryor estimated that he played 10,000 solos.

From 1895 to 1903 Pryor was also assistant conductor of the Sousa Band. On leaving the Sousa Band, he formed his own band which made its debut at the Majestic Theatre in New York City on 15 November 1903. The Pryor Band toured until 1909 when he decided to settle down and make Asbury Park, New Jersey the home of the band. Also at this time he became a staff conductor and arranger for the Victor Talking Machine Company in Camden, New Jersey.

He retired from full-time conducting in 1933. During his career, Pryor wrote some of the today's most famous trombone literature, including the heralded *Bluebells of Scotland*, as well as band novelty works such as *The Whistler and His Dog*, with its piccolo solo.

The original published version omitted Pryor's final variation, whilst Keith Wilkinson has reintroduced this variation of the well-known Scottish melody into this Air Varie. The minor variation has been omitted and undoubtedly this has become a very popular solo with audiences.

Much of this literature has been recorded by Ian Bousfield on his CD *Pryor Engagement* (DOY CD212).

compositional studies with Edward Gregson at Goldsmiths' College, University of London and holds a PhD in Composition.

From 1983 until 1986 he was resident in New York City, USA, where he worked as a freelance composer /arranger and as a publications editor with The Salvation Army Music Bureau. Since his return to the United Kingdom he has worked regularly as an arranger for BBC Television and Radio and has specialised in composition for the British style brass band. Since the publication of *Dimensions* (1983), he has carved out a niche as an outstanding arranger for brass bands and a leading figure amongst contemporary band composers.

His original compositions, which include *The Essence of Time*, *Montage* and *On Alderley Edge*, are performed world-wide and have been selected as test-pieces for National Brass Band Championships in Australia, New Zealand, North America and across Europe.

His music for wind and concert band has been recorded and performed by many of the world's leading ensembles, including the Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra and the Royal Norwegian Navy Band. *Harrison's Dream* was commissioned by the United States Air Force Band, Washington DC and won the 2002 ABA/Ostwald Award for composition. Commissioned by BMG/RCA Red Label to arrange and compose an album of xylophone music for virtuoso Evelyn Glennie, the resulting

recording was nominated as Best Classical Crossover Album at the 1999 Grammy Awards.

His music is published by Rosehill Music and Boosey & Hawkes and since 1994 by his own Gramercy Music, a company he formed together with Janey, his wife, which specialises in the publication of brass, wind and vocal music. Peter Graham is Professor of Composition at the University of Salford, Greater Manchester, and has held various posts with some of the United Kingdom's finest bands including Music Associate/Conductor of the famous Black Dyke Band (1997-2004) and the first civilian composer-in-residence with the Band of Her Majesty's Coldstream Guards (2003-2005).

Peter Graham lives in Cheshire, England with his wife Janey, son Ryan and daughter Megan.

A Time for Peace is the main theme from *The Essence of Time* which was the European Brass Band Championships set test-piece in 1990. It is a set of variations which refer to various bible verses from the book of Ecclesiastes 3 (**A Time for Peace** is part of verse 8). This beautiful melody is written for solo horn and has been adapted for trombone by Brett Baker.

to New York where, encouraged by his oldest brother, noted country and Disney songwriter Mack David he set about earning a living as a professional lyricist.

Alfie was originally written for wind band and this solo was played exclusively by Stephen Walkley when he played as a soloist with various bands around the country. He was well known for playing with Sun Life Band winning the British Open Brass band Championships in 1990 and previous to that playing with Williams Fairey Band in the 1980s and this performance is therefore dedicated to him.

White Knuckle Ride
Dedicated to Nicholas Hudson

Born in Pontefract in 1949, Philip Wilby was educated at Leeds Grammar School and Keble College, Oxford. Wilby attributes the awakening of his interest in composition to Herbert Howells, whose extra-curricular composition classes he attended while a violinist in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain.

A serious commitment to composition developed during the years at Oxford and, having gained his BMus in composition in 1971, Wilby continued to write music even while working as a professional violinist (first at Covent Garden and later with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra). He returned to Yorkshire in 1972 and is Principal Lecturer in Composition at the University of Leeds.

White Knuckle Ride was written for Nicholas Hudson for the 1992 Festival of Brass at the BBC. Nicholas Hudson was a massive influence on Brett in his early years, particularly during his long association with Foden's Band and his performances of important works such as Gareth Wood's Dance Sequence and Wilfred Heaton's Trombone Concerto. **White Knuckle Ride** was previously recorded in 1997 by Brett Baker and Williams Fairey Band.

A Time for Peace
Dedicated to Professor David King
In memory of Mike Moor of Polyphonic Reproductions. He will be sorely missed and a huge loss to the recording industry.

David King has worked with Peter Graham for many years on various post-graduate and under-graduate courses at Salford University. David was a massive influence on Brett whilst he studied Business Economics at the University but became involved in many of the music-making activities that took place in the faculty.

Peter Graham was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, where his introduction to music came through brass and piano lessons from his parents. He read music at Edinburgh University, graduating in 1980. During this period he came into contact with Ray Steadman-Allen and Edward Gregson, both of whom encouraged his early efforts at composition. He later undertook postgraduate

Berceuse de Jocelyn
Dedicated to John Maines

Born in Paris, Benjamin Godard was a student of Henri Vieuxtemps. He entered the Conservatoire de Paris in 1863 where he studied under Vieuxtemps (violin) and Henri Reber (harmony) and accompanied Vieuxtemps twice to Germany. He composed music with great facility.

In 1876, his *Concerto Romantique* was performed at the Concerts Populaires, as were many other of his large works. In 1878, Godard was the co-winner of the 'Prix de la Ville de Paris'. His winning composition, a dramatic symphony entitled *Le Tasso*, remains among his most admired works.

From that time until his death Godard wrote a surprisingly large number of compositions. These include 8 operas, among them Jocelyn - the **Berceuse de Jocelyn** from which remains Godard's most well-known composition - was given in Paris in 1888. The version written for trombone and brass band has taken many forms and this performance is dedicated to John Maines who often played this solo whilst at Sun Life Stanshawe Band in Bristol.

DL Blues
Dedicated to Chris Jeans

Don Lusher was born in Peterborough in November 1923 and started to learn the trombone when he was just six. He followed the family tradition and joined Peterborough Salvation Army Band playing alongside his father and grandfather. He remained a figure in the brass band field for the rest of his life. During World War II he served in the Royal Artillery where he took part in the D-Day landings.

He began his professional career as a sidesman with Joe Daniels and his Hot Shots followed by 18 months spent on lead trombone with Lou Praeger at Hammersmith Palais. A move into high society with Maurice Winnick's Orchestra at Ciro's Club lasted a mere four weeks but the big break was just around the corner, to a chance to join the Squadronaires, sitting in the trombone section alongside George Chisholm, and the experience gained over the next three years was to prove invaluable.

In 1953 he joined Ted Heath to lead the trombone section of his band and he became one of its most heavily featured soloists. He was a virtuoso performer and could play anything. In the nine years spent with the Ted Heath Band, Don Lusher learnt the art of leading a successful band.

Lusher's international fame was fortified by the Heath band's five tours of the USA he became one of the most sought after session players in

the country, working with such stars as Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby, Barbra Streisand, Julie Andrews, Henry Mancini, Michele Legrand and Nelson Riddle who said, 'Don Lusher is a consummate craftsman. He approaches the trombone with the same thoughtful attention to detail I remember in Tommy Dorsey'.

The Don Lusher Big Band was formed in 1980 and toured internationally with various musical directors including Robert Farnon, Nelson Riddle and Henry Mancini. Following the death of Ted Heath various people took over the direction of the band but eventually came under Lusher's direction and The Ted Heath Tribute Orchestra continued under his leadership throughout the 80s and 90s, playing its final concert in December 2000. He ran his own big band at the same time and he used a lot of ex-Heath sidemen including Roy Willox, Kenny Baker, Tommy Whittle, Henry Mackenzie and others.

Don was awarded the OBE in 2003 and died in July 2006 and the Don Lusher Big Band played its final concert in 2007.

DL Blues was played at every concert performance by the Don Lusher Big Band as a signature tune. Chris Jeans who was originally from the West Country playing with Sun Life and Desford Colliery bands in his early playing career before joining Black Dyke, performed the piece at the Brass in Concert Championships at The Sage, Gateshead where he won the soloist prize whilst playing with GUS Band.

Rathamataz Dedicated to Andrew Berryman

Rathamataz was written for Brett Baker in 2009. It is a virtuosic piece for trombone soloist and brass band requiring great agility and stamina from both the soloist and the band. The piece is a rhapsody, meaning that there are several contrasting episodes and themes occurring throughout the work, some romantic and some more jazzy and rhythmical. These are often connected by several cadenzas from the soloist.

Andrews idea behind the piece was to write a musical journey with the way ahead being sometimes solid, steady and predictable, sometimes more reflective and romantic, sometimes downright unpredictable but ultimately one which was a journey worth making!

The piece is in three main sections which run continuously. The opening bars serve as an introduction immediately testing the range of the soloist leading directly into the first main section which is determined and resolute in character. The motif used in the first section is repeated and developed throughout the work. A short, fast scherzo featuring short solos from the band together with the solo trombonist leads directly into the second section, a slow reflective passage demonstrating the soloists 'cantabile' qualities.

In this section the more romantic and rhapsodic

nature of the piece is demonstrated by several changes of character as the themes are developed. A short cadenza then leads into the final section which is jazzy and rhythmical using several time signature changes. A contrasting theme in '7' time has the soloist playing in the special 'Tommy Dorsey' upper register which is unique to the trombone. After a return to the opening theme first heard at the opening of the final section, a final cadenza brings the piece to a short coda which is fast and emphatic and brings the piece to a triumphant and full close.

I would like to personally thank Brett for commissioning this work and giving me great freedom to write a piece for him to play and record with the wonderful Black Dyke Band.

Andrew Duncan 2009

Alfie Dedicated to Steven Walkley

Burt Bacharach was born in Kansas City, Missouri, on May 12th, 1928 into a Jewish/Austro-German household as only son of the late nationally syndicated columnist and radio host Bert Bacharach and his wife Irma Freeman, a portrait painter. Father Bert (with an e) had been a star football player at Virginia Military Institute and Burt wanted to be an athlete. Too small for team sports, he turned to music.

He grew up in New York where he learned to

play cello, drums and piano. By his teenage years he had become a jazz fan and was sneaking out at night to hear Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker play. This inspired him to form his own pickup band with a group of friends and began playing at hotels and Army bases and he soon abandoned his early dream of becoming a professional sportsman in favour of a career in music.

His musical education took place at McGill University in Montreal, Mannes School of Music in New York City, Berkshire Music Centre, Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara and most significantly the New School for Social Research where he studied music theory and composition under composers Bohuslav Martinu, Henry Cowell and Darius Milhaud.

Hal David was born in Brooklyn, New York on 25 May 1921 into a Jewish-Austrian household as youngest son of Gedalier David, a deli owner, and Lina Goldberg. As a child he studied violin and played in neighbourhood bands. A natural wordsmith David wrote for the Thomas Jefferson High School newspaper, becoming editor in his senior year. He studied at the New York University School of Journalism before joining the New York Post as a copywriter while playing violin for various ensembles on the borscht circuit at weekends.

While serving in the Army he was posted to the Central Pacific Entertainment Section in Hawaii. When World War II ended he returned