

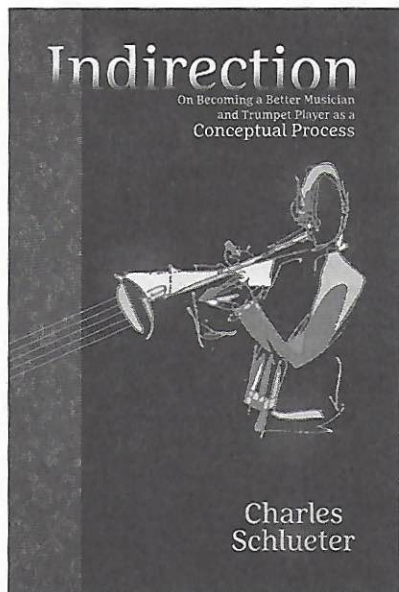
# BOOK REVIEWS

ERIC MILLARD, COLUMN EDITOR



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Schlueter, Charles. *Indirection: On Becoming a Better Musician and Trumpet Player as a Conceptual Process*. Amherst, MA: Combray House, 2021. Softcover, 242 pp.



In his new book, *Indirection*, Charles Schlueter provides an in-depth look into his thought process of becoming a musician and trumpet player and shares his journey to becoming one of the great principal players of the twentieth century. Schlueter presents his insights into musicianship and trumpet playing by using “three basic concepts: shape, articulation (or connection), and grouping.” He weaves these concepts throughout the

book by providing context and examples of how one might execute his theory. Charlier’s Etude No. 2 and Arban’s Characteristic Study No. 1 are both thoroughly broken down so that Schlueter can fully illustrate his approach and thought process.

What is equally interesting in this book is the additional material and resources for both beginner trumpet students and seasoned veterans. Schlueter offers a treasure trove of background information, tips, and anecdotes that provide insight into how this legendary orchestral trumpeter came to be. He speaks of his formative years, including his early teachers; his time studying trumpet at Juilliard; and his career with the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

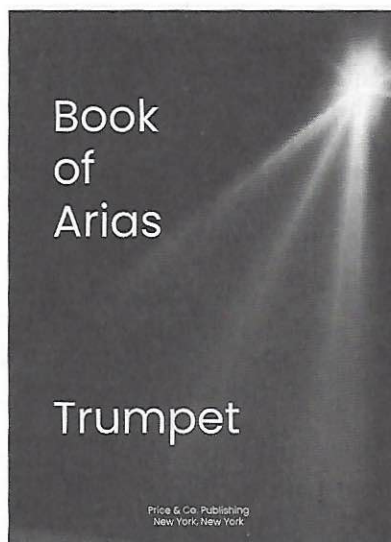
One of the most intriguing aspects of Schlueter’s book is how concisely, yet with such detail, he writes about developing as a musician. He covers many topics such as posture, warmups, auditions, and tonguing. Though brief, these sections can inform developing musicians and remind professionals of what they may have neglected over the years.

Also included are three “intermissions,” which are collections of photographs from throughout his career. These include personal photographs, images of various instruments he played, and a “who’s who” of his influences and contemporaries, including William Vacchiano, Doc Severinsen, and Wynton Marsalis. The appendices are also a helpful resource, including essays from students, colleagues, and friends; a

discography; a list of his former students; a look at just versus equal temperament; the Gustaf warmups; and, most amusingly, a recipe section!

Schlueter chose the title *Indirection* because his intention is “to use indirection to encourage induction (learning how to think), rather than deduction (learning what to think).” This book certainly inspires learning how to think as opposed to providing a how-to for trumpet playing. It is a refreshing read and a great reference book for any trumpet player. (Davy DeArmond, trumpet instrumentalist, United States Naval Academy Band, Annapolis, MD)

Wilkinson, Micah. *Book of Arias*. New York, NY: Price & Co. Publishing LLC, 2021. Softcover, 101 pp.



Micah Wilkinson’s latest publication as an editor is a welcome addition to anyone’s library, bringing a fresh, polished approach to vocally inspired trumpet playing. *Book of Arias* follows in the footsteps of his previous work, *Book of Solos*, and offers a similar efficiency in formatting, context, and editorial suggestions. It’s no wonder that one of the most supremely lyrical trumpet players working today has now adapted vocal

arias for our instrument in the tradition of the vocalises by Bordogni and Concone.

This collection of 33 famous arias presents each work with thoughtful descriptions of the respective operas and their plots before detailing the context of the aria itself. Such editorial insight into setting, character development, historical period, and expressive considerations provides the performer with a depth of appreciation for the music and allows even the opera novice to find inspiration in the musical gestures. Each libretto is provided in its vernacular language and English translation. The inclusion of a QR code with every aria makes accessing recommended recordings incredibly convenient. In addition to the recordings, links are provided to piano accompaniment scores for use in solo recitals.

With close inspection of the engraving and an ear toward phrasing, the player will appreciate that the lyrics are placed