# CONTENTS

**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**  
iv

**MONK AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT**  
v

**ORGANOLOGY AGAIN: THIS TIME, ETHNO-ORGANOLOGY**  
1  
Jeremy Montagu

**RUSSIAN SILVER TRUMPETS: MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS AND BATTLE DECORATIONS**  
7  
Edward H. Tarr

**BRASSWIND MANUFACTURING AT BOOSEY & HAWKES, 1930-59**  
55  
Arnold Myers

**THE “CATHOLIC” FINGERING—FIRST VALVE SEMITONE: REVERSED VALVE ORDER IN BRASS INSTRUMENTS AND RELATED VALVE CONSTRUCTIONS**  
73  
Joe R. Utley† and Sabine K. Klaus

**THE SHOUT BAND TRADITION IN THE SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES**  
163  
Matthew A. Hafar

**REVERSED CHIRALITY IN HORNS, OR IS LEFT RIGHT? THE HORN, ON THE OTHER HAND**  
173  
Richard J. Martz

**THE PARADIGM OF INDUSTRIAL THINKING IN BRASS INSTRUMENT MAKING DURING THE NINETEENTH CENTURY**  
233  
Ignace De Keyser
ASANTE IVORY TRUMPETS IN TIME, PLACE, AND CONTEXT: AN ANALYSIS OF A FIELD STUDY 259
Joseph Kaminski

WHAT HANDEL TAUGHT THE VIENNESE ABOUT THE TROMBONE 291
David M. Guion

THE EULOGIES OF FAME TO THE TRUMPET BY ANGELO TARACHIA AND GIOVANNI BATTISTA PIRAZZOLI 323
Don Smithers

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF WRITINGS ABOUT HISTORIC BRASS INSTRUMENTS, 2002-2003 347
Compiled by David Lasocki

BRIEF STUDIES and REPORTS
LOUIS ARMSTRONG’S FIRST CORNET? 355
Jeffrey Nussbaum, Niles Eldredge, and Robb Stewart

REVIEW 359
By Adam Gilbert

ERRATA FOR VOLUME 14 363
GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS 364
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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

The past year has seen some memorable HBS activities and we look forward to a number of upcoming events. We had to put the HBS Journal “on a diet” since the last one was so gargantuan it ate a hole in our budget. I am pleased, however, that in this issue the HBSJ continues to cover a wide and diverse range of brass topics. Upcoming events include the 20th Annual Early Brass Festival scheduled to be held at Oberlin College, the Declamation vs. Lyricism conference in Basel and Bad Säckingen (11-13 June 2004), and a conference on the intersection of early jazz and all forms of brass music to be held at the Rutgers University Institute for Jazz Studies in November 2005. Other events planned are a conference in Paris, a cornetto and sackbut conference, and plans for the 2006 EBF to be a joint event with the IGEB (International Gesellschaft zur Erforschung und Förderung der Blasmusik). Ideas are always coming in and I’m pleased that the HBS has continued to have such an active presence in the music community.

The pipeline for our Bucina book series seemed to be clogged, but we have been able to dig through and a number of exciting book projects will be forthcoming. I hope you will give this series the support it needs and deserves. As always, thanks must go to the individuals on the various HBS Boards, and I would like to express particular gratitude to a number of individuals who go the extra yard for us: Trevor Herbert, Keith Polk, John Benoit, Matt Hafar, Mike O’Connor, Howard Weiner, and Benny Sluchin all continue to devote boundless service to the HBS, and my greatest appreciation goes out to them. Of course, the person most responsible for maintaining the highest of scholarly standards for our publications is our Executive Editor, Stew Carter. It is due to his guidance and hard work that the HBS has become the main source of serious brass research today. Finally I would like to add a special thanks to Howard Weiner who has unhesitatingly stepped in to take care of the extra editorial tasks for this issue.

Jeffrey Nussbaum
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