
Arnold Jacobs - A Bibliography


Artner, Alan G., "CSO Shows Talent of Numbers with a Trio of Unusual Works", CHICAGO TRIBUNE, October 27, 1978, Sec 4, p 5


Personnel recollections about Jacobs' influence on the tubist of the famous Cleveland Orchestra.


An interview between two heavyweights of the tuba world, Jacobs and a former student, Roger Bobo. They discuss the career and teachings of Jacobs. This fine interview is published in three languages in two editions of the BRASS BULLETIN.

Brubeck, David, "The Pedagogy of Arnold Jacobs", TUBA JOURNAL, Fall, 1991

David Brubeck wrote this excellent article about Jacobs' pedagogy after attending master classes in Florida and Northwestern University.

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PROGRAM, January, 15, 1948, p 3 and January 14, 1988, p. 44

At various times, the Chicago Symphony placed brief biographies in the program about various members of the orchestra.


On these occasions, Jacobs and the CSO performed the Vaughan Williams Tuba Concerto and biographical notes about Jacobs and program notes about the Concerto are included in the programs.

Clevenger, Dale, "Mentors", CHICAGO TRIBUNE MAGAZINE, January 27,1985

For a feature in the Sunday Chicago Tribune Magazine section, many prominent Chicaagoans told about their mentors. The cover includes a picture of Dale Clevenger and his mentors, Arnold Jacobs and Adolph Herseth. An accompanying article is included.

Didrickson, Luther, Driving Mr Jacobs, ITA JOURNAL, Volume 28, Number 3, Summer, 2000

Ebbers, Paul, "Master Class Tuba: Arnold Jacobs", ACCENT, Spring 1978

This is an article geared to young students and tells of some of Jacobs teachings. This magazine was published for only a few years (from Evanston, Il) and might be difficult to find.
An excerpt printed prior to the release of Dee Stewart’s book, Richard Erb’s recollections are printed in their entirety.


Written by Jacobs’ assistant, Brian Frederiksen, and edited by John Taylor. With a length of 296 pages, material comes from masterclasses, private interviews, previously published writings and contributions from his students and colleagues.

Subjects include:

The Performer: Early Years, Curtis Institute, Indianapolis Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Chicago Symphony, Conductors, Other Performances, York Tuba

The Teacher: Physical Elements, Mental Elements, Performance, Instruments, The Jacobs Studio

Discography, Full Documentation


This bibliography is an updated version!

Funderburk, Jeff, "The Man and his Horn", TUBA JOURNAL May, 1988 p 43

Next to Jacobs himself, the next most famous aspect of him is his horn. Here is a story of this famous instrument.

Funderburk, Jeff, "Proper Breath", TUBA JOURNAL, Nov 1986

Funderburk, a student of Jacobs, writes about breathing influenced by Jacobs' teachings.

Furloug, William Barry, SEASON WITH SOLTI, MacMillan, NY, NY, Pages 297-307

A book about a season with the Chicago Symphony and a profile of several of its prominent members. These 10 pages about Jacobs explain about his career and teachings and is one of the better writings about Jacobs.


An excerpt printed prior to the release of Dee Stewart's book, Ron Hasslemann's recollections are printed in their entirety.


A fine article written by another former student which contains a biography of Jacobs as well as an interview in which they discuss his career and teachings.
Peter Hirsbrunner copied Jacobs' famous York tuba and writes about the process to create the horn.

Jacobs, Arnold, "Arnold Jacobs Masterclass", INSTRUMENTALIST, June 90


Jacobs, Arnold, "Mind over Metal", INSTRUMENTALIST, October, 1992, p. 14-17

These three articles deal with Jacobs' pedagogy and are based on tapes from masterclasses at Northwestern University transcribed and written by the staff of the INSTRUMENTALIST. Although Jacobs was given author's status, he had no part in the actual writing of these articles. Of the three articles, the October, 1992 article is the best and it also includes recollections from JJ Johnson about his lesson with Jacobs.

Kagarice, Jan, A Tribute to the Legacy of Arnold Jacobs, ITA JOURNAL, Volume 27, Number 1, Winter, 1999

Kelly, Kevin, "The Dynamics of Breathing with Arnold Jacobs and David Cugell M.D.", INSTRUMENTALIST, December, 1983

Reprinted in Dee Stewart’s book, this discusses breathing from two perspectives, from a doctor of medicine and a doctor of music.


This discusses several philosophies based on the teachings of Jacobs.


A book dedicated to Jacobs, the three sections are: Perceptual-Motor Learning Theory, Principals and Methods of Teaching, and Principals, Methods and Theories of Tone Production. A scholarly book with references and bibliography, this is a fine source of material. However, this book contains material from others as well as from Jacobs.

Leroux, Charles, "Beautiful Music is a Breeze for the Maestro of Breathing", CHICAGO TRIBUNE, June 22, 1982, Reprinted, GETZEN GAZETTE, September 1982

A newspaper article about the career and teachings of Jacobs.

Lightfoot, Robert (photos) & Willis, Thomas (text), THE CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, Chicago, Il, Rand McNally, 1974

Pictoral account of a season with the Chicago Symphony, includes some photos of Jacobs.

Another of Jacobs' many students, Don Little writes about breathing based on his studies with Jacobs but geared for the younger player.

Little, Don, "An Arnold Jacobs Clinic", TUBA JOURNAL, May, 1988

A pictorial account of one of Jacobs masterclasses in Texas with very little written other than descriptions of the pictures.

Maldonado, Luis, "A Conversation with Abe Torchinsky", TUBA Journal, Summer 1989, p 17-21

Abe Torchinsky was one of Jacobs first students and was the successor to Phillip Donetelli in the Philadelphia Orchestra. In this interview, he tells about the early days in Philadelphia when a lesson from Jacobs cost $1.00.

"Meet Your First Desk Players", INTERNATIONAL MUSICIAN, Nov 1957, p10

A biography of Jacobs from 1957


Interviews with Jacobs and his colleague, Frank Crisafulli. Both are asked identical questions and in addition to asking about student's careers, both are asked to state the most influential teachers.


An announcement about Jacobs' retirement from the Symphony. This is a difficult article to find and since he is retired, more work to find than of value.


Jacobs takes part in this discussion with several of his colleagues about the sound of the Chicago Symphony's famous brass section.

"Potpourri", INSTRUMENTALIST, March, 1968 p10

An announcement that Jacobs performed the Vaughan Williams Concerto.


Although the edited version does not mention Jacobs by name, Roger Rocco wrote this article entirely based on what he learned as a student of Jacobs (before he recommended him for a well-deserved honorary doctorate). This excellent article is geared towards the student.

Russo, Bill, "An Interview with Arnold Jacobs", INSTRUMENTALIST, February, 1973

Reprinted in Dee Stewart's Book, this is a transcript of an excellent interview conducted on Chicago radio station WFMT about the career and teachings of Jacobs.

SCARLETT, WILLIAM, Arnold Jacobs "Breathe Like a Baby, Play Like an Angel", ITG JOURNAL, Vol 23, No 4, May 1999
A fine article written by a student and colleague of over 40 years.

Schwendener, Peter, "The Best Tuba Player in the World", THE READER, June 1, 1984

A fine cover story about Jacobs giving information about his career and teachings. Finding this one is a problem since THE READER is a free weekly given out in Chicago and probably not available outside of Chicago.

"Seventieth Birthday Celebration Planned for Arnold Jacobs", TUBA JOURNAL, February, 1985, p. 17

Announcement of a birthday celebration.


Includes personal recollections by the following students and colleagues:


Reprinted from earlier publications of THE INSTRUMENTALIST are:

Kevin Kelly, "The Dynamics of Breathing with Arnold Jacobs and David Cugell, M.D.", and Bill Russo, "An Interview with Arnold Jacobs"

The most useful information in the book are transcripts of lectures by Jacobs at the International Brass Congress, on June 4, 1984 and June 6,1984.


Upon Jacobs' retirement, Dee Stewart wrote this excellent biography about Jacobs' life and career.

von Rhein, John, "Tuba or not Tuba, After 44 Years, Arnold Jacobs is leaving the CSO", CHICAGO TRIBUNE, Sept 25, 1988

Another article written at the time of Jacobs's retirement, this discusses his career in the Chicago Symphony as well as his recollections of several prominent conductors.

Taylor, John, "Reminiscences of the Man and His Horn", John M. Taylor, TUBA JOURNAL , Fall 1981

A story about the famous York Tuba.


In the tribute issue after Mr. Jacobs' passing, John Taylor wrote this tribute.

Tucci, Robert, "A Closer Look at the Hirshbrunner York Model CC-Tuba", TUBA JOURNAL, Fall 1989

A story of the development of the Hirshbrunner copy of Jacobs' York tuba.
Ed Whitfield has the distinction of being the first of the many students that Jacobs has taught in his career (at $1.00 a lesson). This tells of the very early days before Jacobs was in the Curtis Institute.

"Who is Arnold Jacobs?", TUBA JOURNAL, May, 1988 p 30-34


Young, Jerry, "A Lecture by Arnold Jacobs", TUBA JOURNAL, Aug 1984, p 20

Recollections of Jacobs lecture at the International Brass Congress in 1984. This does not get into specifics of the substance of the lecture.

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**Dissertations on Tuba Pedagogy**


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Anything we missed? Let us know!