



JB
MASTERCLASS
SERIES

ESSENTIAL LISTENING

90 ALBUMS & ARTISTS
TO DISCOVER BEFORE
GRADUATION

JOSH BYNUM



90 ESSENTIAL ARTISTS/ALBUMS TO EXPLORE BEFORE GRADUATION:

More than any aspect of your education, listening is without a doubt the most important cornerstone. Regular exposure to amazing musicianship (regardless of genre) can have a lasting impact on you, almost daring you to reach higher for yourself.

What follows is my “Essential 10” recordings/artists in nine different categories of music. These recordings (in my opinion) represent the highest level of musicianship in their respective genres and are the framework for my musical DNA. Also included for each genre are suggestions of where to look if you want to go further. Of course, trombone & brass recordings are included in order to establish for you exactly what is possible on our instrument...and what you should strive for in yourselves. Other genres (such as Rock/Pop) can help develop greater stamina in Active Listening. These are amazing examples of amazing performances combined with creative song-writing...and should be heard in one setting.

There’s an ocean of music here, and you just need to dive in. Make it a part of your day and embrace the idea that this is where your real education starts and ends. Enjoy yourself --- and make notes of what you’d add to your own lists!

TENOR & BASS TROMBONE:

- Alessi, Joseph: Slide Area
- Bollinger, Blair: Fancy Free
- Bousfield, Ian: Memories & Dreams
- Haroz, Nitzan: Towards the Light
- Liarmakopolous, Achilles: Tango Distinto
- Lindberg, Christian: The Virtuoso Trombone
- Markey, James: Off-Road (tenor) & Psychedelia (bass)
- Pollard, Paul: Point in Time
- Van Rijen, Jorgen: Sackbut
- Vernon, Charles: American Music for Bass Trombone

Suggestions for Further Exploration:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Barron, Ron: Le Trombone Francais, vol. 1-2 | Booth, Bill: Balancing Act |
| • Bynum, Josh: Catalyst | Conant, Abbie: Music for Trombone & Organ |
| • Curran, George: Vital Signs | Davis, JoDee: In the Moment |
| • Ellefson, Peter: Pura Vida | Hawes, Randall: Melodrama |
| • Hetzler, Mark: Blues, Ballads, & Beyond | Higgins, Tim: Stage Left |
| • Lawrence, Mark: Trombonology | McCain, Martin: Shades |
| • Mannix, Natalie: Breaking Ground | Miller, James: Coast to Coast |
| • Moore, Peter: Life Force | Ordman, Ava: It’s About Time |
| • Pagano, Gerry: Departure | Rojak, John: Rojak Rocks |
| • Schultz, Stefan: Copenhagen Recital | Swallow, John: A Little Trombone Music |
| • Thompkins, Ken: Sonatas, Songs, & Spirituals | Williams, Colin: Ash |
| • Wilson, Jeremy: Perspective | Witser, Steve: Among Friends |
| • Yamamoto, Ko-ichiro: Ballade | Zalkind, Larry: Encore! |

- Educational Series --- Young Repertoire & Orchestral Study:
 - Everett, Micah: Stepping Stones – Bass Trombone
 - Lenthe, Carl: The Audition Window
 - Markey, James: Orchestral Excerpts for Bass Trombone
 - Pollard, Paul: Opera Excerpts for Bass Trombone
 - Phillips, Brent: Stepping Stones, v. 1-2 – Tenor Trombone
 - Sauer, Ralph: Orchestral Excerpts, vol. 1-2
 - Smith, Henry Charles: Remastered Recordings

JAZZ ARTISTS & BANDS:

- Coltrane, John: Blue Train
- Davis, Miles: Kind of Blue
- Fitzgerald, Ella: The Best of the Song Books
- Fuller, Curtis: Blues-ette
- Gilkes, Marshall: Köln
- Gordon, Wycliffe: The Search
- Johnson, J.J.: The Eminent JJ (1 & 2) & Proof Positive
- Kenton, Stan: Cuban Fire
- Rich, Buddy: Swingin' New Big Band
- Sinatra, Frank: Live at The Sands (with Basie Band)

- Suggestions for Further Exploration:
 - Corea, Chick: Light as a Feather
 - Fontana, Carl: The Great Fontana
 - Herman, Woody: Giant Steps (Also – Thundering Herd)
 - Holman, Bill: Big Band – A View from the Side
 - Goodwin, Gordon: Big Phat Band – Act Your Age
 - Green, Urbie: All About Urbie Green & His Big Band
 - Logan, Aubrey: Where the Sunshine is Expensive
 - Machito: Kenya
 - Parker, Charlie: The Complete Savoy & Dial Master Takes
 - Rosolino, Frank: Turn Me Loose!
 - Teagarden, Jack: Jazz Ultimate (with Bobby Hackett)
 - Watrous, Bill: Manhattan Wildlife Refuge

BRASS CHAMBER:

- American Brass Quintet: New American Brass
- Canadian Brass: Essential Canadian Brass
- Center City Brass Quintet: Self-Titled
- Empire Brass Quintet: Class Brass
- Four of a Kind: Self-Titled
- German Brass: Bach 2000
- International Trombone Ensemble: 6.35
- Meridian Art Ensemble: Winning Artists Series
- New Trombone Collective: NEW
- Summit Brass: Spirits of Fire

- Suggestions for Further Exploration:
 - Aries Trombone Quartet
 - Antiphonal Music of Gabrieli (Chicago, Philadelphia, Cleveland)
 - Atlantic Brass Quintet: 5 Chairs
 - London Brass: Gabrieli – Music for Brass (3 vols.)
 - Philip Jones Brass Ensemble: Festive Brass
 - Slide Monsters
 - Trombones de Costa Rica: Contrastes
 - Trombone Unit Hannover: Full Power
 - Vienna Trombone Quartet: Vienna Masters Play Chamber Music

WIND ENSEMBLE:

- Cincinnati Wind Symphony | Eugene Corporan: Paradigm
- Cleveland Symphonic Winds | Frederick Fennell: Stars & Stripes
- Dallas Wind Symphony | Jerry Junkin: Garden of Dreams
- Eastman Wind Ensemble | Frederick Fennell: Grainger, Persichetti, & Khachaturian
- Eastman Wind Ensemble | Donald Hunsberger: Husa, Copland, & Hindemith
- Northwestern University Wind Ensemble | Mallory Thompson: Winds of Nagual
- Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra | Frederick Fennell: Fucik, Nelhybel, Chance, & Bennett
- University of North Texas Wind Symphony | Eugene Corporan: Recollections
- University of Texas Wind Ensemble | Jerry Junkin: Bells for Stokowski
- U.S. Marine Band “The President’s Own” | Col. Timothy Foley: Emblems

- Educational Series --- Repertoire & Legacy Projects
 - Frederick Fennell: Wind Ensemble Series
 - University of North Texas: Teaching Music Through Performance in Band Series
 - U.S. Marine Band “The President’s Own: Legacy Series
 - U.S. Air Force Band: Heritage Series

ORCHESTRAL:

- Berlioz, Hector: Symphony Fantastique | Chicago Symphony Orchestra – Barenboim
- Brahms, Johannes: Symphony No. 2 | Chicago Symphony Orchestra – Solti
- Hindemith, Paul: Mathis der Maler | San Francisco Symphony – Blomstedt
- Mahler, Gustav: Symphony No. 2 “Resurrection” | New York Philharmonic – Bernstein
- Mozart, W.A.: Requiem in D minor | Academy of St. Martin’s in the Field – Marriner
- Prokofiev, Sergei: Romeo & Juliet (Complete) | San Francisco Symphony – Tilson Thomas
- Saint Saëns, Camille: Symphony No. 3 “Organ” | Chicago Symphony Orchestra – Barenboim
- Shostakovich, Dmitri: Symphonies No. 4 & 11 | Boston Symphony Orchestra – Nelsons
- Strauss, Richard: Alpine Symphony & Ein Heldenleben | Royal Scottish National – Järvi
- Stravinsky, Igor: The Rite of Spring | Philadelphia Orchestra – Nezet Seguí

- Suggestions for Further Exploration:
 - Adams, John: Grand Pianola Music | London Sinfonietta – Adams
 - Barber, Samuel: Essays for Orchestra & Symphony No. 1 | Saint Louis Symphony – Slatkin
 - Bates, Mason: Works for Orchestra | San Francisco Symphony – Tilson Thomas
 - Bruckner, Anton: Symphony No. 8 | Munich Philharmonic – Celibidache
 - Copland, Aaron: Symphony No. 3 | New York Philharmonic – Bernstein
 - Górecki, Henri: Symphony No. 3 | London Sinfonietta – Zinman
 - Higdon, Jennifer: Concerto for Orchestra | Philadelphia Orchestra – Sawallisch
 - Mahler, Gustav: Symphony No. 1 | Chicago Symphony Orchestra – Solti
 - Mahler, Gustav: Symphony No. 5 | New York Philharmonic – Mehta
 - Mussorgsky, Modest: Pictures at an Exhibition | Chicago Symphony Orchestra - Reiner
 - Nielsen, Carl: Symphony No. 3 | New York Philharmonic – Gilbert
 - Ravel, Maurice: Daphnis & Chloe (Suites 1 & 2) | London Symphony Orchestra – Abbado
 - Respighi, Ottorino: Feste Romana | Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra – Maazel
 - Schubert, Franz: Symphony No. 9 | Academy of St. Martin’s in the Field – Marriner
 - Sibelius, Jean: Symphony No. 7 | Atlanta Symphony Orchestra – Spano
 - Wagner, Richard: Overtures & Preludes, vol. 1-2 | Chicago Symphony – Barenboim

SOLO/CHAMBER ARTISTS & COMPOSERS:

- Dieskau, Dietrich Fischer: Schumann – Dichterliebe
- du Pre, Jacqueline: Brahms, Chopin, & Franck – Cello Sonatas
- Gould, Glenn: J.S. Bach – Goldberg Variations
- Hadelich, Augustin: Sibelius & Adés – Violin Concertos
- Horowitz, Vladimir: Liszt – Piano Works
- Hampson, Thomas: Mahler – Lieder eines Fahrenden Gesellen
- Ma, Yo-Yo: Bach – Six Cello Suites (1997 Sony Classical)
- Perlman, Itzhak: J.S. Bach – Complete Sonatas & Partitas
- Thibaudet, Jean Yves: Debussy – Complete Piano Preludes, vol. 1-2
- Upshaw, Dawn: Copland – 12 Emily Dickinson Songs

- Suggestions for Further Exploration:
 - Ashkenazy, Vladimir: Shostakovich – 24 Preludes & Fugues, op. 87
 - Cliburn, Van: My Favorite Chopin
 - Takács Quartet: Beethoven – Late String Quartets
 - Emerson String Quartet: Shostakovich – String Quartets
 - Fleming, Renee: Strauss – Four Last Songs
 - Heifetz, Jascha: Brahms & Tchaikovsky – Violin Concertos
 - Kanawa, Kiri Te: The Classic Albums
 - Lang Lang: Bartok & Prokofiev – Piano Concertos No. 3
 - Maisky, Mischa: Rachmaninov – Elégie
 - Mutter, Anne-Sophie: Tchaikovsky & Korngold – Violin Concertos
 - Quasthoff, Thomas: Schubert & Schumann Lieder
 - Richter, Max: Recomposed – Vivaldi's The Four Seasons
 - Rubinstein, Arthur: Chopin – The Nocturnes
 - Shaham, Gil: Sarasate – Virtuoso Violin Works

OPERA & MUSICALS:

- Bernstein, Leonard: West Side Story
- Bizet, Georges: Carmen
- Kander, John: Chicago
- Mitchell, Anais: Hadestown
- Mozart, W.A.: The Marriage of Figaro
- Puccini, Giacomo: Tosca
- Schönberg, Claude-Michel: Les Misérables
- Webber, Andrew Lloyd: Phantom of the Opera
- Wagner, Richard: Der Ring des Nibelungen (Das Rheingold)
- Verdi, Giuseppe: Otello

- Suggestions for Further Exploration:
 - Arlen, Harold: The Wizard of Oz (also Herbert Stothart)
 - Donizetti, Gaetano: L'elisir d'amore
 - Miranda, Lin-Manuel: Hamilton
 - Mozart, W.A.: Don Giovanni
 - Puccini, Giacomo: La Bohème
 - Rodgers & Hammerstein: The Sound of Music
 - Rossini, Gioachino: The Barber of Seville
 - Schönberg, Claude-Michel: Miss Saigon
 - Schwartz, Stephen: Wicked
 - Wagner, Richard: Parsifal

FILM SOUNDTRACKS:

- Bernstein, Elmer: To Kill a Mockingbird
- Bernstein, Leonard: On the Waterfront
- Broughton, Bruce: Silverado
- Herrmann, Bernard: Vertigo
- Grusin, Dave: The Firm
- Morricone, Ennio: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly
- Rota, Nino: The Godfather
- Tan Dun: Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
- Williams, John: Superman – The Movie
- Zimmer, Hans: The Dark Knight (also James Newton Howard)

- Suggestions for Further Exploration:
 - Barry, John: Goldfinger
 - Hayes, Isaac: Shaft
 - Mayfield, Curtis: Superfly
 - Newman, Thomas: Meet Joe Black
 - Reznor, Trent: The Social Network
 - Shore, Howard: The Lord of the Rings – Fellowship of the Ring
 - Steiner, Max: Casablanca
 - Vangelis: Chariots of Fire
 - Williams: Schindler’s List

ROCK | POP | HIP-HOP – FULL ALBUMS:

- The Beatles: Abbey Road
- Billie Joel: Live at Shea Stadium
- Jay-Z: Unplugged (with The Roots, Mary J. Blige, and Pharrell)
- Led Zeppelin: Led Zeppelin IV
- Michael Jackson: Thriller
- Paul Simon: Graceland
- Queen: Live at Wembley Stadium
- Stevie Wonder: Songs in the Key of Life
- Sting: All this Time – Live Acoustic 9/11/01
- Weezer: Blue Album

- Suggestions for Further Exploration:
 - Adele: 19
 - Beach Boys: Pet Sounds
 - Blood, Sweat, & Tears: BST 3
 - Bowie, David: The Rise & Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars
 - Chicago: Chicago Transit Authority
 - Dave Matthews & Tim Reynolds: Live at Luther College
 - Earth, Wind, & Fire: That’s the Way of the World
 - Guns n Roses: Appetite for Destruction
 - Hozier: Self-titled
 - INXS: Kick
 - The Killers: Hot Fuss
 - Outkast: Aquemini
 - Pink Floyd: Dark Side of the Moon
 - Smashing Pumpkins: Mellon Collie & The Infinite Sadness
 - Tower of Power: The Oakland Zone
 - U2: The Joshua Tree