

The instruments of the wind ensemble

An introduction for a young audience

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aan Angela Colbers

The tuba

The tuba is the largest brass instrument and has the lowest pitch of all **(show tuba)**.

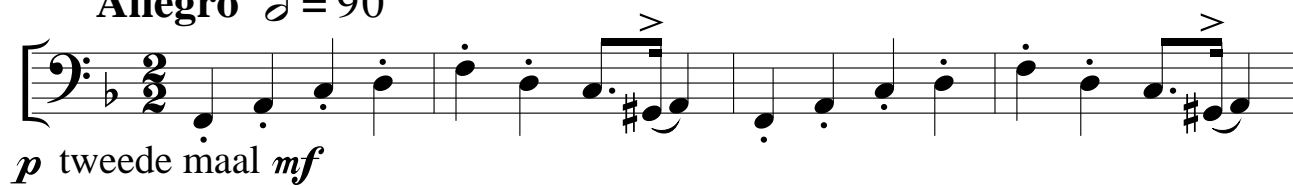
The length of the tube may stretch to up to 5.5 m and handling of the tuba calls for a robust player. Not only because of the enormous weight of the instrument but also for controlling the amount of air that is needed to play the instrument. With a deep breath the tuba player can make a lot of noise but after all; for a smooth performance of soft tones a very well skilled mastering of the instrument is crucial.

In the orchestra the tuba is the base of all produced sound and the reference for intonation for the other instruments. Concerning the rhythm in music the tuba often serves as the stable companion for the timing of the other instruments. From this it becomes clear that the tuba player has a key role in the orchestra.

(Now the tuba plays the piece below).

Allegro ♩ = 90

Bass Tuba



Finale

Allegro maestoso, ♩ = 112

3 min.

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9

17

25

35

44

54

63 Slow blues, ♩ = 72

71

80

88

96