

5 Duos in 3 Clefs for Trombones

Gioachino Rossini was an Italian composer, born in 1792 and died in 1868. He was known primarily for his thirty-nine operas, although he did compose some chamber pieces and a few orchestral works. His *5 Duos for 2 Horns in Eb* were probably written in 1806 when Rossini was fourteen and living in Bologna, although they weren't published until 1861. While it may seem unusual for a fourteen-year-old to be composing, by then Rossini had already written his *String Sonatas* at the age of twelve, and those works are still performed today. An explanation for why Rossini would write a set of duets for horn may be that his father was a professional trumpet player, and taught his son Gioachino to play the horn at a very young age.

These five pieces were written for the natural (valveless) horns of the time, and like the horn writing of Mozart some very technical passages can be found in the lower part, especially in duets four and five. We can also hear the future opera composer's arias in number three. The duos will work quite well on recitals and also for casual duet playing. Because trombonists can never have enough practice in clefs, I have transcribed the duets into three versions each using bass, tenor and alto clefs.

David Mathie

September 2023

Five Duos in 3 Clefs

for Two Trombones

Gioachino Rossini

arr. David Mathie

No. 1

(Bass)

Marcia $\text{♩} = 100$

The musical score is written for two trombones in bass clef, 3/4 time, with a tempo of Marcia (♩ = 100). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score is divided into three systems, each with two staves. The first system begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The second system features a piano (*pp*) dynamic in the first half and a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic in the second half. The third system is marked with a first ending bracket labeled 'A' and contains dynamics of fortissimo (*ff*) and piano (*p*).

No. 1
(Tenor)**Gioachino Rossini**
arr. David MathieMarcia $\text{♩} = 100$

f

pp *ff*

pp *ff*

ff *p*

ff *p*

A

No. 1

(Alto)

Gioachino Rossini
arr. David Mathie

Marcia ♩ = 100

The first system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 2/4 time. The music begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The upper staff features a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the lower staff provides a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.

The second system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. The key signature and time signature remain the same. The dynamics are marked *pp* (pianissimo) in the first half and *ff* (fortissimo) in the second half. The melody in the upper staff continues with eighth and quarter notes, and the lower staff continues with eighth notes.

A

The third system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. The key signature and time signature remain the same. The dynamics are marked *ff* (fortissimo) in the first half and *p* (piano) in the second half. The melody in the upper staff continues with eighth and quarter notes, and the lower staff continues with eighth notes.

No. 2
(Bass)**Gioachino Rossini**
arr. David Mathie

Menuett ♩ = 120

f

f

2x p

2x p

*Rossini - Five Duos***No. 3**
(Tenor)**Gioachino Rossini**
arr. David Mathie*Adagio non troppo* ♩ = 60

The musical score is written for piano and features a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. It is in 3/4 time and B-flat major. The tempo is marked *Adagio non troppo* with a quarter note equal to 60 beats per minute. The score consists of two staves. The upper staff contains the piano accompaniment, which includes several triplet figures. The lower staff contains the vocal line for the Tenor, which begins with a whole note and is followed by a series of quarter and eighth notes, including a triplet at the end of the phrase. The piece concludes with a final triplet in the piano part.

No. 4
(Alto)**Gioachino Rossini**
arr. David MathieMinuetto (in 1) $\text{♩} = 52$

The musical score is written for Alto and consists of two staves. The time signature is 3/4 and the key signature has one flat (B-flat major). The tempo is marked *poco f*. The piece concludes with a repeat sign and the instruction *2x p*.

No. 5

(Bass)

Gioachino Rossini
arr. David Mathie

Allegro molto ♩ = 96

ff

ff

A

1. *2x p*

2. *f*

2x p

f