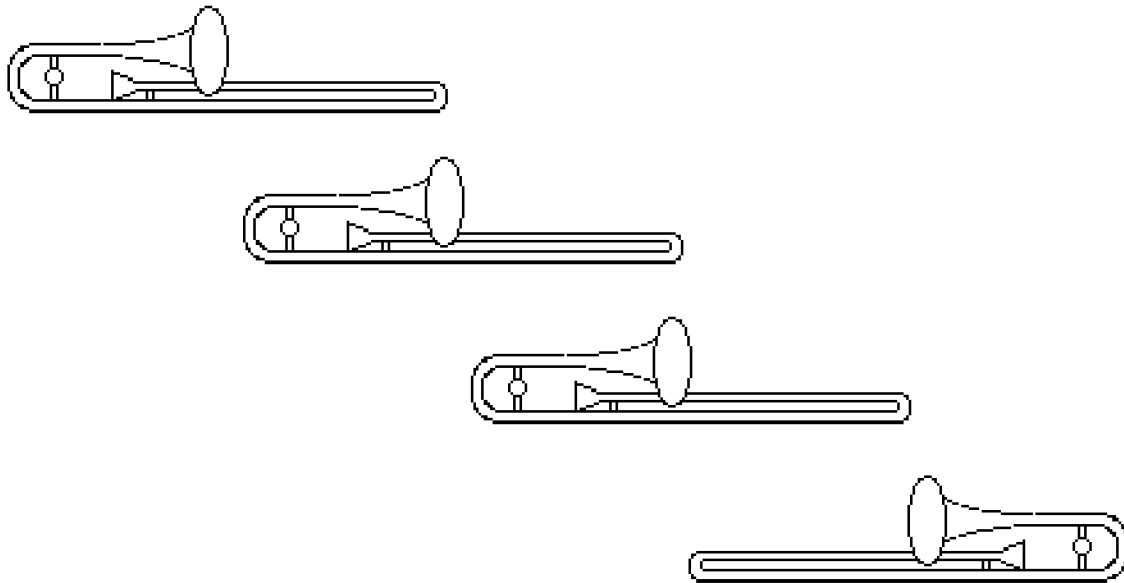


Ken Davies

Milton's Trombones

for 4-part trombone choir



KD 104

kenvad kusic

www.kendavies.net

Score

Duration 2:34

For the New Orleans Trombone Choir directed by Milton Bush

Milton's Trombones

for trombone quartet or 4-part trombone choir

KEN DAVIES

Moderately ♩=76

The score consists of four staves. The first system (measures 1-5) shows the initial entry of the trombones. Trombone 1, 2, and 3 play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, while the Bass Trombone plays a more melodic line. The second system (measures 6-10) continues the rhythmic pattern with some harmonic changes. The third system (measures 11-15) shows a key signature change to one sharp (F#) and a change in dynamics to *mp* and *p*.

incomplete excerpt - score is 4 pages

Review for International Trombone Journal
by Eric Nye

TROMBONE ENSEMBLES

Ken Davies. *Milton's Trombones* for 4-part trombone quartet or trombone choir. Gautier, MS: Kenvad Music, 2003. Score and parts.

This lyric, contemporary piece honors longtime ITA member and retired University of New Orleans band director Milton Bush. *Milton's Trombones* was premiered on July 13, 2003, by the New Orleans Trombone Choir in a concert conducted by Bush with composer Ken Davies playing tenor trombone in the ensemble.

The composition opens in the key of C with a statement from the bass trombone answered by the three tenor parts. A shift in key creates mystery; then the middle two trombones begin a rising and falling obligato as background for a soaring melody beginning in the first trombone and filtering down to the bass. The piece concludes by returning to its opening statement and ending with a gentle, sonorous cascade.

Milton's Trombones never rises above mezzo-forte in volume, and the obligato figure further challenges performers to play softly and stay out of the way of the melody as it passes from part to part. Davies' tight harmonies demand that performers play in tune, and his legato markings call for a smooth, flowing style.

Audiences will enjoy *Milton's Trombones* for its intriguing tonalities and thoughtful mood, particularly if programmed between louder, more boisterous compositions.

--Eric Nye
Diamondhead, Mississippi