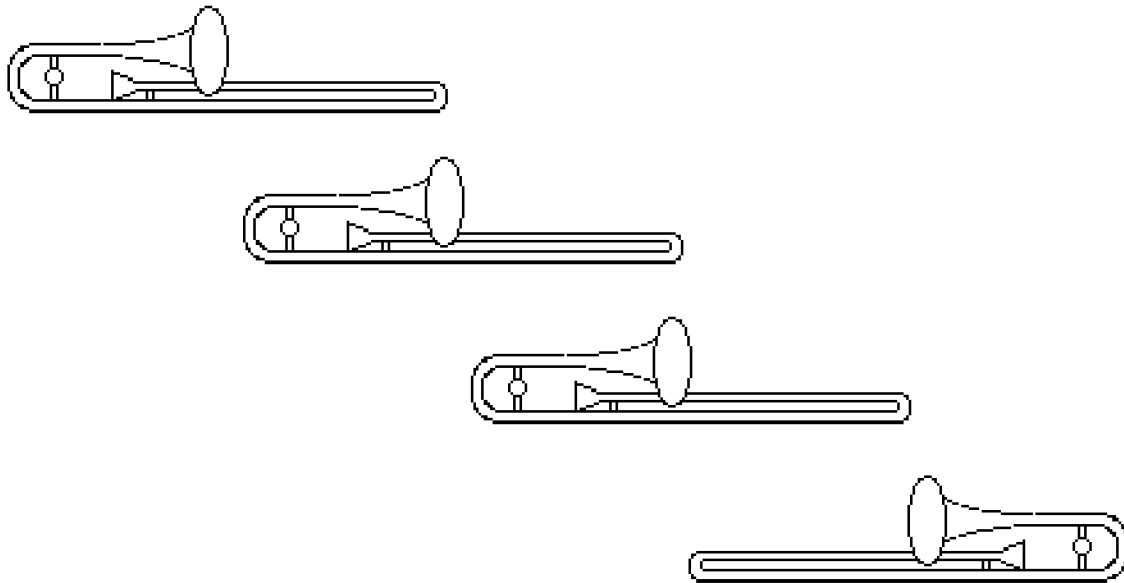


# Ken Davies

## *Milton's Trombones*

for 4-part trombone choir



KD 104

kenvad kusic

[www.kendavies.net](http://www.kendavies.net)

**Milton's Trombones** - 4-part trombone quartet or choir - duration c. 2:34

### **Program Notes**

Not long after I relocated to Mississippi, a trombone colleague invited me to play in a rehearsal of the New Orleans Trombone Choir directed by New Orleans retired legendary trombone professional, Milton Bush. It seems I played well enough to be invited back. So, being inspired, I decided to write this short piece to introduce my composing interests to the group and named it after Mr. Bush. The first performance in concert was in July 2003 in Metairie, Louisiana. Fellow trombonist, Eric Nye, wrote a review of the piece for the International Trombone Association Journal who published it. The piece was later picked up and performed by participants at the Big XII Area Trombone Conference at Texas Tech University in Lubbock in January 2004.

### **Composer Bio**

Wisconsin native Ken Davies ([www.kendavies.net](http://www.kendavies.net)) has had acoustic and electronic works performed at numerous new music festivals such as the Society of Composers, Electroacoustic Barn Dance, Southeastern Composers League (he is a past president), Electronic Music Midwest, International Trombone Festival, National Association of Composers USA, Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers, Parma Music Festival, London New Wind Festival (UK), and Sonic Coast (UK). Since 2002, he resides in coastal south Mississippi. Awards include the Mississippi Arts Commission's Performing Arts Fellowship for Composition (twice), the Mississippi Music Teachers' Association's Commissioned Composer Of The Year, and winner of the American Trombone Workshop National Composition Competition. His music studies were at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Yale School of Music, Middle Tennessee State University at Murfreesboro (MA trombone), and the University of Colorado at Boulder (MM composition). A writer and publisher member of ASCAP, his music is published by Kenvad Music.

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 musical score is written for four trombone parts: Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Trombone 3, and Bass Trombone. The time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Moderately' with a quarter note equal to 76 beats per minute. The score begins with a *mf* dynamic. At measure 6, the time signature changes to 2/4 and then back to 4/4. At measure 11, the dynamic changes to *mp*. The score concludes with a section marked 'incomplete excerpt' in red text.

incomplete excerpt

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

## **BRASS WORKS by KEN DAVIES**

from **kenvad music**

[www.kendavies.net](http://www.kendavies.net) / **kenvad**

### **TRUMPET**

City of God - tot & organ  
Antiphonal Music - 2 tpts  
Brush Strokes - tots 4 parts  
Around 3 AM - tpt, pno, alto sax, cl  
Cityscapes - tpt, fl, pno, vln, vc

### **HORN**

Brain Fantasies - hn & fixed audio  
Sensuous Images - hn & fixed audio  
Waterscape - hn & fixed audio

### **TROMBONE - BASS TROMBONE**

Soliloquy 2 - tbn alone  
Soliloquy 1 - tbn alone  
Nocturnes - tbn alone  
Sensuous Images - tbn & fixed audio  
Notasonata - tbn & fixed audio  
20 Pieces in Changing Meters - tbn alone  
Read Tenor Clef Now  
Read Alto Clef Now  
Alpine Pastorale - b. tbn alone  
Three Pieces - b. tbn & piano  
Crossroads - 2 tbns & piano  
Milton's Trombones - tbn quartet  
Quatandre - tbn quartet  
Divertimento for Five - 5 tbns  
Wisconsin Uprising - 7 tbns

### **EUPHONIUM - TUBA**

Euphonic Soundscape - euph & fixed audio  
Escape from the Matrix - euph & piano  
Amazing Grace - tuba & piano  
Excursions - tuba & piano  
Compare and Contrast - euph & tuba

### **BRASS ENSEMBLES**

Colloquium - trb & tuba  
Collage 2013 - tpt, tbn, piano  
Three Roads Diverged - tot, hn, tbn  
Amplitudes - 2 tpts, tbn, b. tbn  
Concert Piece - brass quintet & organ