

## John Wasson

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Accomplished, awarded and high-productivity creator and producer of music for a variety of venues including live performance, recordings, educational settings, and publication. Broad variety of competencies in teaching and mentoring, and an ability to work with others from a multitude of fields, backgrounds and areas of expertise.

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|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| • Concert Composer | • Music Director       | • Orchestra        | • Curriculum Design |
| • Film/TV Composer | • Conductor            | • Big Band         | • Music Theory      |
| • Jingle Composer  | • Personnel Director   | • Broadway         | • Arranging         |
| • Arranger         | • Symphony Conductor   | • Chamber Music    | • Songwriting       |
| • Orchestrator     | • Record Producer      | • Solo Recital     | • Applied Low Brass |
| • Vocal Arranger   | • Program Notes Writer | • Studio Recording | • Jazz Ensemble     |

### EDUCATION

Post-Graduate Certificate in Parish Music, May 2015, Concordia University-Texas

Master of Music in Trombone Performance, May 1983, University of North Texas

Bachelor of Music in Theory, May 1980, University of North Texas

### CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Texas A&M University – Commerce (2016-present) Adjunct Theory, Composition and Jazz Faculty

John Wasson Music, McKinney TX (1992-present) Owner/Creative Director

Free-lance Low Brass Performer in the Dallas-Ft. Worth metroplex (1983-present)

### PERFORMING EXPERIENCE

Dallas Brass (2022-) Trombone

Ayn Inserto Jazz Orchestra (2020) Bass Trombone

Bill Cunliff Big Band (2018) Bass Trombone

CoolBrass Jazztet (2010-present) Tuba/Director/Arranger

Strata Big Band (1996-present) Bass Trombone/Tuba/Director/Arranger

Michael Waldrop Big Band (2014 – present) Bass Trombone

Charles Lazarus Brass Ensemble (2015) Bass Trombone

The Forever Fabulous Chickenhawks Blues Band (2012-present) Bass Trombone

Richardson Symphony (1994-1997, 2003-2007) Bass Trombone

Dallas Brass (charter member 1982-1984, 1993-1994, 2005, 2007) Bass Trombone/Tuba

Woody Herman Orchestra (1984-1985) Bass Trombone

Ft Worth Opera Orchestra (1980-1983) Bass Trombone

Them Bones (charter member 1980 – present) Bass Trombone

Stan Kenton Orchestra (1977) Bass Trombone/Tuba

Guest Conductor with the Milwaukee Symphony, the Oregon Symphony, The Erie Philharmonic, The Quincy (IL) Symphony Orchestra, The Richardson (TX) Symphony Orchestra, and the U. S. Air Force Orchestra, Washington, D.C.

Performer with such artists as Tony Bennett, Michael Bolton, Ray Charles, Cab Calloway,

Harry Connick, Jr., Bill Conti, Buddy DeFranco, The Dukes of Dixieland, The Gatlin Brothers, Joel Gray, Bob Hope, Reba McIntyre, Liza Minelli, Mark O'Connor, Patti Page, Nelson Riddle, Richard Stolzman, Frank Sinatra, Jr., Mel Torme, Joe Williams and Bobby Vinton

## SELECTED LIVE ARTIST ORCHESTRAL SHOW ARRANGEMENTS

U. S. Naval Academy Glee Club  
Charles Lazarus, Solo Trumpet Artist  
The Okee-Dokee Brothers, Grammy Award-Winning Children's Music Artists  
"Salute to Jerome Kern," the Minnesota Orchestra  
Dave Alexander Big Texas Swing Band, Country Artist  
Danny White, Solo Piano Artist  
The Dallas Brass, Artist Ensemble

## SELECTED FILM AND MULTIMEDIA PRODUCTIONS

### Film And Television Soundtracks

*Whiplash*, arrangement of *Caravan* featured in the Academy Award-winning film, 2014  
*Tell It on the Mountains*, television series soundtrack, Zola Levitt Ministries, 1993  
*My Favorite Christmas*, television special, The Salvation Army, 1993  
*Camp Hoblitzelle*, corporate video, The Salvation Army, 1993  
*Israel by Divine Right*, television series soundtrack, Zola Levitt Ministries, 1992  
*Cultural Diversity, Information Technology Plaza, Concerto Technologico, Visions, Values and Directions, The Vision Reflected*, corporate video and multimedia post-scores, Electronic Data Systems, 1989-1992  
*A Texas Portrait*, soundtrack for audio-visual production for the Texas Sesquicentennial Celebration, 1986  
*Images of SMU*, soundtrack for Student Orientation/Public Relations video presentation, Southern Methodist University, 1985

### Live Shows And Productions

*Forever Jubilee* Musical Theatre Production, orchestrated by John Wasson, 2021  
American Prairie Reserve Ken Burns Prize Award Ceremony, New York, May 2017, 2018 and 2019  
United Way Dallas 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, Dallas, 2015  
Texas Cultural Trust Medal of Arts Awards Ceremony, Austin, TX 2015  
National Geographic 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala, Washington D.C., 2013  
Mallon Awards Ceremony, Dallas, 2013, 2014  
Dallas Center for the Performing Arts Foundation Gala, Dallas, 2002  
George H. W. Bush Medal of Freedom Award Celebration, Dallas, 2001  
Southern Methodist University Capital Campaign, Dallas, 1997  
Doak Walker Award Ceremony, Dallas, 1992-1996  
University of North Texas Centennial Celebration, Denton TX, 1986

## SELECTED DISCOGRAPHY

*Chronicles* – John Wasson's Strata Big Band (released May 2022)  
*The Origin Suite* – Michael Waldrop Big Band (Grammy submission)  
*Time Within Itself* – Michael Waldrop Big Band (Grammy submission)  
*Whiplash* – Motion Picture Soundtrack ("Caravan" arrangement)  
*Dallas Christmas Gala* – The Dallas Symphony Orchestra and Chorus  
*The New Cool* – John Wasson's CoolBrass Jazztet  
*American Musical Journey* – Dallas Brass  
*Heroes and Legends* – Boston Brass  
*Legacy* – The U. S. Air Force Airmen of Note  
*Windborne* – Dallas Brass and Friends  
*You Asked For It!* – Them Bones  
*Historias* – Ricardo Arjona (RIAA certified 4x Platinum)  
*Christmas Brass* (aka *A Merry Christmas With Brass*) – Dallas Brass (RIAA certified Gold)  
*Woodchopper's Ball* – *Live in Houston 1985* (DVD) – Woody Herman Orchestra  
*Debut, II, Windborne* – Dallas Brass

## SELECTED COMMISSIONED WORKS

*The Bluebonnet Revue*, Keller (TX) Middle School Band, 2018  
*Deliberation*, Dr. Rich McDonald and the Jazz MN Orchestra, 2018  
*Overture for Solo Trumpet and Piano*, Joe Montelione, 2018  
*Swords of Valor*, The Four Hornsmen of the Apocalypse, 2016  
*Clash of the Centurions*, The Infinity Brass, 2016  
*Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven*, processional setting for Choir, Brass, Organ and World Percussion Ensemble, Christ Church Plano, 2009  
*Silver Celebration Overture*, The Richardson Community Band, 2008  
*Brass Grooves Intermediate*, 4 original works in published collection, the Dallas Brass, 2008  
*Brass Grooves, Vol. 1*, published collection of 12 original works, the Dallas Brass, 2007  
*Sea Song Fantasy*, Synchronicity (The Symphony of Virginia Beach), 2007  
*Radiance Suite*, Lakepointe Church, Rockwall, TX, 2006  
*Sleuth*, Euphonium with Concert Band, the Evans Middle School Band (McKinney, TX), 2006  
*Cabo Rojo Blues*, Creekside (CO) Middle School Jazz Ensemble at the Colorado Music Educators Association Conference, January 2004  
*Fanfare Cinematique*, commissioned by the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts Foundation and premiered by the Dallas Opera Orchestra, 2004  
*Song of the Angels*, the Dallas Symphony Orchestra for concert broadcast, 2002  
*Festival Fanfare for Christmas and Bellsong Fantasy*, commissioned by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, 2000  
*Double-Take*, the Carroll County (MD) All-County Jazz Ensemble, March 1999  
*Jingle Bells Fantasy*, The Dallas Wind Symphony, 1998  
*Elegy*, Alto Saxophone and Concert Band, The Richardson Community Band, 1996  
*Suite for Jazz Piano and Wind Ensemble*, commissioned and premiered by Matthew Nicholl, piano and the Western Carolina University Wind Ensemble, 1995  
*The Conquest: Suite for Brass Quintet and Percussion*. Recorded by the U. S. Air Force Band of Flight's Wright Brass on the CD *Blue Skies*, 1995  
*The Gilded Skies*, recorded by The Air Force Band of Flight on the CD *Golden Anniversary Celebration*, 1992  
*Tangents for Brass Quintet, Percussion and Concert Band*, commissioned by the Dallas Brass, 1987  
*American Fanfare*, commissioned and recorded by the Dallas Brass on the CD *Debut*, 1987  
*A Texas Portrait*, multimedia soundtrack commissioned for the Texas Sesquicentennial by The Dallas Brass, 1986

## HIGHLIGHTS OF PUBLISHED COMPOSITIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS

### Concert Band Compositions with Alfred Music

*American Fanfare*  
*Flight of the Eagle*  
*Of Hopes and Dreams*  
*Pearl Harbor: A Remembrance*

*Potomac Overture*  
*Rio Grande (Concert Overture)*  
*Washington Monument (Concert March)*  
*Windjammer Overture*

### Concert Band Compositions with Hal Leonard

*Bluebonnet Review*  
*Festival Fanfare for Christmas (Wind Band)*  
*Relentless Warrior*

*Elegy, for Alto Saxophone and Concert Band*  
*Land of Liberty*  
*Silver Celebration (Overture)*

### Concert Band Arrangements with Alfred Music

*Brahms Finale (from Symphony No.1)*  
*Haydn Variations*

*In the Hall of the Mountain King*

**Concert Band Arrangements with Hal Leonard Corporation**

<i>A String of Pearls</i>	<i>Music from Gladiator</i>
<i>Big Bad Voodoo Daddy in Concert</i>	<i>Pirates of the Caribbean</i>
<i>Big Band Tribute</i>	<i>Pop &amp; Rock Legends: Stevie Wonder</i>
<i>Hitsville, U.S.A. (40 Years of Motown)</i>	<i>Pop &amp; Rock Legends: Chicago</i>
<i>Hot Latin!</i>	<i>Pop &amp; Rock Legends: John Mellencamp</i>
<i>In the Christmas Mood</i>	<i>Sounds of Christmas</i>
<i>Jingle Bells Fantasy</i>	<i>That's A Plenty (Canadian Brass Series)</i>
<i>Jump Swing Fever</i>	<i>The Legends of Soul</i>
<i>Keep the Candle Burning</i>	<i>United We Stand</i>

**Orchestra/String Orchestra Arrangements with Hal Leonard Corporation**

<i>I'm A Believer (from Shrek)</i>	<i>Music from Gladiator</i>	<i>Scarborough Fair</i>
<i>Latin Gold</i>	<i>Music from Spider-Man</i>	<i>The Music Man</i>
<i>Music from Grease</i>	<i>My Funny Valentine</i>	<i>The Sound of Music Highlights</i>

**Jazz Ensemble Arrangements with Hal Leonard Corporation**

<i>As We Speak</i>	<i>George of the Jungle</i>	<i>Mannix</i>
<i>Backatown</i>	<i>Hard to Handle</i>	<i>Nothing From Nothing</i>
<i>Beauty School Dropout</i>	<i>Hurricane Season</i>	<i>Singed, Sealed, Delivered! The Music of Stevie Wonder</i>
<i>Born This Way</i>	<i>I Want You Back</i>	<i>Suit &amp; Tie</i>
<i>Bye Bye Love</i>	<i>I Wan'na Be Like You</i>	<i>Take Me With You</i>
<i>Buckjump</i>	<i>Just the Two of Us</i>	<i>The Bare Necessities</i>
<i>Clocks</i>	<i>Knock on Wood</i>	<i>The Best of Sly &amp; The Family Stone</i>
<i>Dancing in the Street</i>	<i>Lean on Me</i>	<i>You're the Boss</i>
<i>Day Tripper</i>	<i>Livin' La Vida Loca</i>	<i>Virtual Insanity</i>
<i>Feelin' Alright</i>	<i>Living For the City</i>	<i>Walk the Dinosaur</i>
<i>Free</i>	<i>Lullaby of Birdland</i>	
<i>Garden of Babylon</i>	<i>Make Me Smile</i>	

**Jazz Ensemble Compositions and Arrangements with John Wasson Music**

<i>Bodge</i>	<i>Funk City</i>	<i>New Life</i>
<i>Heat-Seeker</i>	<i>Song For Kate</i>	

**Brass Ensemble Arrangements with Hal Leonard Corporation**

<i>Bohemian Rhapsody</i>	<i>Mission: Impossible (Theme)</i>	<i>The Best of Henry Mancini</i>
<i>Christmas Time is Here</i>	<i>Pirates of the Caribbean</i>	<i>The Christmas Song</i>
<i>Jump Swing Fever</i>	<i>Selections from "Frozen"</i>	<i>The Incredibles (the Incredits)</i>
<i>Linus and Lucy</i>	<i>Soul Bossa Nova</i>	

**Brass Ensemble Arrangements with Virgo Music Publishers**

<i>Alexander's Ragtime Band</i>	<i>Russlan and Ludmilla Overture</i>	<i>Tiger Rag</i>
<i>Hungarian Dance No. 5</i>	<i>St. Louis Blues</i>	<i>Tin Roof Blues</i>
<i>Overture to The Magic Flute</i>	<i>Theme From Dallas</i>	<i>Twelfth-Street Rag</i>

**Brass Ensemble Compositions and Arrangements with John Wasson Music**

<i>American Fanfare</i>	<i>Festival Fanfare for Christmas</i>	<i>Sleigh Ride</i>
<i>Celebration Fanfare</i>	<i>The National Anthem</i>	

**ARRANGEMENT LIBRARIES**

*Dallas Brass*, over 400 compositions and arrangements  
*Dallas Cowboys Stadium Band*, over 150 arrangements for Dallas Cowboys home games  
*McKinney Fellowship Bible Church*, over 500 selections transcribed, arranged, and/or orchestrated for solo vocal, vocal team, SATB choir with rhythm section, horn section, solo instruments, and orchestra  
*Purdue University Boiler Brass*, over 60 arrangements for use at home basketball games  
*Purdue University All-American Marching Band* 90 arrangements for 27 halftime shows

## **SELECTED CLINICS AND RESIDENCIES**

Tromboot Camp, Camp Oro Quay, New Mexico, July 2016, 2019  
Texas Region 21 Jazz Clinician, January 2019  
University of Minnesota Jazz Ensemble II, December 2018  
TCU Trombone Day, April 2017  
TCU Jazz Festival, March 2017  
Jazz Education Network National Convention, January 2017  
UNT Jazz Winds Summer Workshop, Denton, TX, Summer 2009-2012  
Texas All-Star Jazz Camp, Collin College, Plano TX, 2009  
Western Carolina University Composer-in-Residence, 1995  
The Stan Kenton Orchestra, the Woody Herman Orchestra, and the Dallas Brass, Various Clinics and Seminars, 1977 – present

## **SPECIALIZED MUSIC TECHNOLOGIES COMPETENCIES**

Apple *Logic Pro X* recording and sequencing software  
MakeMusic *Finale* music engraving software  
Various Sample Libraries by various manufacturers including *East-West*, *Native Instruments*, *Spectrasonics*, *Loop Loft*, *Output*, *Twisted Tools*, *Wave Factory*, and *Wide Blue Sound*

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Federation of Musicians  
American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP)  
International Trombone Association  
Jazz Educators Network

## **ACADEMIC AWARDS**

*Yaxley Bass Trombone Competition* Winner, International Trombone Workshop, Nashville, TN, 1982  
*Wind Symphony Scholarship*, University of North Texas School of Music, 1979-1981  
*Outstanding Undergraduate Man in Music Award*, University of North Texas School of Music, 1980  
*Stan Kenton Jazz Workshop Scholarship*, Drury College, Springfield, MO, 1977  
*St. Paul Chamber Orchestra Music Camp Scholarship*, St. Paul, MN, 1973  
*Twin City Institute For Talented Youth Orchestra Scholarship*, St. Paul, MN, 1973