

## ENDORSEMENTS

A well laid out, thoughtful progression of studies! Inspired by favourite method books we all know and love, this book also provides new helpful resources to help strengthen your technical foundation. A great addition to any horn player's library!

### **Jennifer Montone**

Principal Horn, The Philadelphia Orchestra  
Faculty, The Juilliard School and Curtis Institute of Music

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Bob Ashworth's new book is a fabulous addition to the library of any horn player, anywhere. Fully grounded in the basics of sound/ breath/ musical line/ voice, he gives cohesive and inspired insight into how to efficiently and intelligently use warm-up and technical exercises to musically prepare for everything we want and need to do, whether at home, in our own orchestras and ensembles, or in auditions (with both operatic and orchestral repertoire).

Assimilating the wealth of experience and understanding from players and teachers of past and current generations, coupled with a deep understanding of how closely connected to the human voice our wonderful instrument is, everything here has both relevance and context. For students and enthusiasts anywhere, I cannot recommend this book highly enough.

### **Sue Baxendale**

Sectional Principal Horn – Scottish Opera  
Horn Tutor – Royal Conservatoire of Scotland  
Music School of Douglas Academy & St Mary's Music School  
Course Co-Director – Malvern Winds

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Bob Ashworth's **Kaleidoscope** is a delightful collection of exercises and musings, built on a lifetime of experience and passion for the horn. Drawing from the symphonic and operatic repertoire, as well as many trusted voice and horn method books, it covers a broad range of technical and musical aspects of horn playing. This book will prove indispensable whenever you seek inspiration in your practice sessions.

### **Stephen Nicholls**

Associate Principal Horn – Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra  
Principal Horn – Irish Chamber Orchestra  
Creator of Farkas 2.0 iOS Practice App

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As a former pupil of Bob's from the RNCM, I derived great pleasure from reading this book. It is testament to his lifelong love affair with our instrument and his never ending quest for knowledge and the desire to help others. It is well-organised and each section contains a concept to consider, exercises to build skill, followed by a selection of excerpts to put these skills into practice.

I particularly enjoyed the fact he used many of the "pre-Farkas" books for the exercises and it struck me that there really is nothing new under the sun. Horn players have always needed to master the same problems and I have no doubt that this book will help many of us.

**Ed Lockwood**

Fifth Horn, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra  
Professor of Horn, Royal Marines School of Music, Portsmouth

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Bob Ashworth's book explains the processes required to achieve high levels of technical knowledge a professional horn player needs to successfully perform the changing and challenging repertoire consistently at the highest level.

Born of long experience this book is the culmination of a lifetime's endeavor to give one's best at all times whatever the repertoire. As a fellow student I was close up to the talent and dedication which formed the basis of Bob's long and successful professional career.

There is valuable advice for every horn player contained in this book which distills what can be done practically to improve the chances of overcoming the problems players face into positive practice geared to helping us play better.

We both studied with Sydney Coulston whose advice to me in the horn section with a difficult player who wouldn't follow was simply 'play better'.

**Jonathan Williams**

Ex Co-Principal Horn, BBC Symphony Orchestra.  
Ex Principal Horn, Chamber Orchestra of Europe

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**Acknowledgements**

This book has been developed over several years and would not have happened were it not for the endless patience of my wife Debbie in hearing these exercises played time and time again. I'm also indebted to several friends and colleagues for advice, seemingly endless proof-reading and some wonderful endorsements.

Bob Ashworth