

## INTERNATIONAL TRUMPET GUILD JOURNAL; OCTOBER 2012

Gabrieli, Giovanni. *Fuggi Pur Se Sai*. Transcribed by David Mathie. Two Brass Choirs. Balquhadder Music, 2010.

David Mathie is professor of music at Boise State University, where he teaches trombone, euphonium, and instrumental music education. He has written many transcriptions of early music for trombone choir, trombone quartet, tuba/euphonium ensemble, and large brass ensemble. His new transcription of *Fuggi Pur Se Sai* was taken from Giovanni Gabrieli's *Opera Omnia*, Volume VI: *Madrigalia*, edited by Denis Arnold. This 1590 piece was a typical antiphonal work calling for two vocal four-part choirs. His editing is light, and "the slurs were taken from the text, while the dynamics are suggested by both the text and texture of the music."

Brass players, of course, are very familiar with the works of Giovanni Gabrieli through the many available transcriptions that are appropriate for almost any occasion and venue. The quartet and quintet versions of these works are obviously performed much more often than the multi-choir works. The key to more frequent performances of these multi-choir compositions lies in the flexibility of instrumentation of the transcription. With this version of *Fuggi Pur Se Sai*, Mathie achieves this flexibility as the piece could be performed by four trumpets and four trombones, two quartets of two trumpets, horn and trombone or with brass quartet with organ. Standing brass quintets could also perform the piece with organ with the tuba doubling second trombone as in the Robert King versions of the *Canzonae per Sonare*.

Ranges are moderate as the first trumpet part reaches concert g", and the second trumpet is no higher than concert d". As in most choral pieces, endurance may be a concern, as there are limited rests in the second half of the piece. The flexibility, versatility, and accessibility of this transcription will make it an attractive addition to brass ensemble libraries.

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