Antonio Vivaldi  
Concerto for Two Trumpets

Concerto for Two Trumpet by Antonio Vivaldi is a one of the famous master piece of Vivaldi in the Baroque music. And this piece is a one of the famous trumpet work in the baroque period including J.S. Bach, Alessando Scarlatti, Georg Philipp Telemann, Michael Haydn, Leopold Mozart, Johann Molter. Almost baroque piece has to use a trumpet solo somepiece have trumpet and soprano solo but this piece has to show two trumpets solo, sometime two trumpets play in same melodic and interval sometime play a counter point.

The Concerto for Two Trumpets by Antonio Vivaldi has to use Natural Trumpet or Baroque trumpet for this piece. The natural trumpet was used as a military instrument to facilitate communication. The natural trumpet is the instrument in brass like a Horn. The sounds begin from air of trumpet player blow to the instrument producing mount buzzing. The natural trumpet has no valve but nowadays, almost trumpet player is not to use the natural trumpet they are used the piccolo trumpet in the baroque music. The piccolo trumpet has 4 valves and range of the sound is higher than Bb or C trumpet one octave. The trumpets develop from 1500 BC ago has to use in the wars or hunting. “19th century, the trumpet was now known as an orchestral instrument. The trumpet of this era was in the key of F and had crooks for the lower keys. The trumpet continued to undergo improvements such as the slide mechanism which has been attempted since the 1006s. Later on, the crooks of the orchestral trumpet were replaced by valves. Changes in the size of the trumpet also occurred. Trumpets were now louder and easier to play due to the improvements it underwent” (Estralla M. Unknown)
The Natural trumpet has no valve and this instrument has to use keys of C and D. The harmonic series is in tune but there are a few notes which are off center. It is normal for natural trumpet players to lip notes into tune.

![Harmonic Series in C](composition.com)

Natural Trumpet Harmonic Series in C (*picture from composition.com*)

The natural trumpet continued its traditional military role and became closely involved with courts across the European continent. “Since the nobility prized trumpets for their exciting and triumphal sounds, the number and talent of the trumpeters of a court served as a yardstick for its power and prestige”. (Tarr E. 1988)

![Antonio Lucio Vivaldi](thehistoryblog.com)

Antonio Lucio Vivaldi (*picture from thehistoryblog.com*)
Antonio Lucio Vivaldi was an Italian baroque composer, violinist and the important he is a catholic priest, and he has nicknamed is il Prete Rosso (The Red Priest) because he were a red robe and red hair. He was born in Venice in 4 March 1678 and he died in Vienna in 27 July 1741. Nowadays, Vivaldi still famous composer in the world, have a lot of people has play Vivaldi works. The popular work of Vivaldi is The Four Seasons Opus 3, this is a Violin Concerto with the string orchestra, the four seasons is a popular music in the world almost people has listen this piece, the four seasons have four part and three movement per part, La Primavera (spring), La estate (Summer), La autunno (Autumn), La inverno (Winter). “Vivaldi was maestro di violino (master of violin) at an orphanage called the Pio Ospedale della Pietà (Devout Hospital of Mercy) in Venice. While Vivaldi is most famous as a composer, he was regarded as an exceptional technical violinist as well”. (Unknown, 2013)

In the beginning of classical music history is in Italy and publishes to outside of Italy, France, Germany and the other. In this period the Italian composer for trumpet has a two composer is Antonio Vivaldi and Alessando Scarlatti. “The reputation of baroque Venice as a musical centre was one of the highest in Europe, due largely to its four conservatories of music. Beginning as charitable foundations they developed gradually as seats of musical learning, and by the early 1700s their excellence was unrivalled”. (Unknown, 2010)

“A composition by Vivaldi is identified by RV number, which refers to its place in the "Ryom-Verzeichnis" or "Répertoire des oeuvres d'Antonio Vivaldi", a catalog created in the 20th century by the musicologist Peter Ryom”. (Heller, K. 2007)

In the childhood, Giovanni Battista Vivaldi’s father, were a barber and part-time musician. Italian barbershops often had musical instruments that the clients could enjoy while they were waiting. Vivaldi’s musical training was supported by his father who taught him to play violin, and they travel throughout Venice. In 1685, his father devoted himself to the
musical profession and founded a musical brother, Sovvegno dei musicisti di Santa Cecilia (the musicians of St. Cecilia) which was a kind of trade union for musicians and composers.

In 1704, as a violin instructor, his duty was added, and this new position was required for him to compose many works. For feast days, he had to compose an oratorio or concerto, and he taught these orphans music theory and how to play scores. In 1705, the first collection of his works was published for two violins and basso continuo. In 1709, his second collection for violin and basso continuo was published.

In 18th century Venice, opera was the main entertainment that everyone enjoyed, and Vivaldi’s work was very popular. Theaters in the cities were competing for the public's attention. “Vivaldi’s first opera, “Ottone in villa” (RV 729) was premiered at the Garzerie Theater in Vicenza in 1713 the following year; Vivaldi became the impresario of the Teatro Sant'Angelo in Venice, where his opera Orlando finto pazzo (RV 727) was performed”. (Hwang J. Y. 2008). In the late season, Vivaldi focused on composing all of his operas including Arsilda regina di Ponto. The main character, Arsilda, falls in love with another woman, Lisea, who is pretending to be a man. Vivaldi convinced the censor to accept the opera the following year, and it was a resounding success. Vivaldi died in Vienna in 1741.

The concerto for two trumpets or double concerto written for two trumpets and organ opus 537 but in the Vivaldi work they are called RV537 (Ryom Verzeichnis). Have three movements Allegro, Largo and Allegro.

The material is appropriately flashy and fanfare-like in the outer movements, both of which are marked Allegro and propelled by vigorous rhythmic support from the strings. The trumpets usually play together in the solo passages and add some interesting color to the strings when playing along in the tutti. In the first movement the strings take a turn toward the minor mode, which the trumpets turn back to the major. The central Largo is basically
serves as a short bridge between the two outer movements; the soloists are not heard, and the strings tread through a series of nonmelodic repeated chords. The third movement dashes forward vigorously and emphatically in triple meter. When the strings turn to the minor mode this time the trumpets respond in kind.

This is Vivaldi’s only concerto featuring trumpets; the Double Concerto in D major, RV 781 (formerly RV 563), was believed at one time to be a second Vivaldi two trumpet concerto, but more recent scholarly investigation has revealed that it is a double oboe concerto.

The concerto for two trumpets has three movements first movement is allegro in C major, second movement is Largo in A minor and last movement is allegro in time signature $\frac{3}{4}$ and comeback to a C major.

The first movement mean theme is a first three notes first trumpet is G E C the second trumpet is E C G and play in the same time is in C major chord, and all movement some part has to open like a first three note of the movement and develop melodic from the first note.

The beginning is open from C major and the third bar is half cadence
And the bar number 18 the trumpet line has to use the canon technique like a first three bars. Almost the melodic have to use this technique.

In the bar number 34 – 37 has to use the counter point technique in the two melodic lines between two trumpets.

Almost the accompany when the trumpet rest, the chords is I, IV, V, I all the time like a fourth beat of bar number 27.
In the bar number 38 is develop to the dominant key and comeback to the tonic key to the end of the movement.

The second movement “largo”, this movement the two trumpets is Tacet. This movement is not too long. The first chord is A major7, D minor, G# diminished7, E diminished7, C dominance7, F major, G dominance7, E major and A minor.

The third movement “Allegro”, this movement has to use the time signature ¾. In the opening is in C major and the melodic line is play arpeggio C E G and play canon by the second trumpet.

The second theme has to play the counter point between two trumpets.

Almost the accompany when the trumpet rest, the chords is I, IV, V, vi, I6, IV, V, I all the time like a bar number 38.
The third theme is come in the bar number 46.

In the bar number 52 have only first trumpet solo. And then, accompany have long solo from bar number 58 – 78. In the bar number 71 has to develop in the minor key in A minor.

Comeback to tonic key in the bar number 88 to the end. And in the bar number 96 has to use the third interval in the melodic line, A F G E F D E.

Comeback to the first theme again in bar number 109 to the end.
The performance practice should be known about the history of the music, what is this period, what is the style you should be play, the instrumental and the other.

Should be listen a recording in this piece, because when you listen you have to know about the style of this piece, and don’t listen a one recording you should be listen more than three recording, because you have to hear in a difference style and choose the best style you want to play.

Nowadays almost has to use the piccolo trumpet to play in this piece. The first thing you should be the piccolo trumpet every day until familiar. Example, play a scale and long tone in the piccolo trumpet. In this piece the trumpet score is in C and almost the piccolo trumpet is not in C but they are have in A and Bb, if you have to transpose you should be play in the Bb piccolo trumpet because the Bb trumpet is easily to transpose than A piccolo trumpet.

When you practice, you should be practice with the score including the piano part or something, because you should be known when you are solo and when your partner solo or your accompany solo. When you solo you can show and explain what are you play ad when your partner solo you can drop for him, and when you have to play together with your partner you should be listen each other.

The last thing, you should be respect and trust in your partner, because this piece is written for two trumpets.
Bibliography


Music Reference

- Concerto for Two Trumpets by Antonio Vivaldi Score by International Music Score Library Project.

Picture Reference

- music.ed.ac.uk

- pro-music-news.com

- composition.com

- thehistoryblog.com