

Douglas Yeo

Serpent ~ Ophicleide ~ Buccin ~ Bass Sackbut

Historical Instruments Vitae

Primary Positions

- Professor of Trombone, Arizona State University (2012 –)
- Bass Trombonist, Boston Symphony Orchestra (1985 – 2012)
- Faculty, New England Conservatory of Music (1985 – 2012)

Historical Instruments Used

- Church serpent in C by Baudouin, Paris (c. 1812). Pearwood, 2 keys.
- Church serpent in C by Keith Rogers, Christopher Monk Instruments, Greenwich (1996). Walnut, 1 key.
- Church serpent in C by Keith Rogers, Christopher Monk Instruments, Forest Hills (1998). Plum wood, python skin, 2 keys.
- Church serpent in D by Christopher Monk. Sycamore.
- English military serpent in C by Keith Rogers, Christopher Monk Instruments, Yaxham (2007). Sycamore, 3 keys.
- Ophicleide in C by Roehn, Paris (c. 1855). 9 keys.
- Buccin in B flat by Sautermeister, Lyon (c. 1830); modern hand slide after historical models by James Becker (2005)
- Bass sackbut in F by Frank Tomes, London (2000).

Performances with Early Instrument Orchestras

- 2001 Bass sackbut. Monteverdi: “L’Orfeo” (Boston Baroque)
- 2001 Serpent. Handel: “Music for the Royal Fireworks” (Boston Baroque)
- 2002 Ophicleide. Berlioz: “Symphonie Fantastique” (Handel & Haydn Society)
- 2002 Bass sackbut. Monteverdi: “Vespers of 1610” (Handel & Haydn Society)
- 2005 Ophicleide. Berlioz: “Romeo et Juliette” (Chorus Pro Musica)
- 2005 Serpent. Purcell: “Dido and Aeneas” (Handel & Haydn Society)
- 2006 Bass sackbut. Monteverdi: “L’Orfeo” (Handel & Haydn Society)
- 2006 Serpent and Ophicleide: Berlioz: “Symphonie Fantastique” (Handel & Haydn Society)
- 2008 Serpent. Handel: “Music for the Royal Fireworks” (Handel & Haydn Society)
- 2009 Ophicleide. Mendelssohn: Incidental music to “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” (Philharmonia Baroque, San Francisco, CA)

Performances with Modern Instrument Orchestras

- 1994 Serpent. Berlioz: “Messe solennelle” (Boston Symphony Orchestra – Ozawa)
1998 Serpent. Mendelssohn: “Calm Seas and Prosperous Voyage” Overture (Connecticut Valley Chamber Orchestra)
2001 Serpent. Wagner: Overture to “Rienzi” (Boston Symphony Orchestra – Conlon)
2001 Ophicleide. Mendelssohn: Overture and Complete Incidental Music to “A Midsummer Nights Dream” (Boston Symphony Orchestra – Ozawa)
2001 Ophicleide. Wagner: Overture to “Das Liebesverbot” (Boston Symphony Orchestra – Rozhdestvensky)
2003 Ophicleide. Mendelssohn: Overture and Complete Incidental Music to “A Midsummer Nights Dream” (Boston Symphony Orchestra – Marriner)
2004 Serpent. Mendelssohn: “Symphony 5 ~ Reformation” (Boston Symphony Orchestra - Koopman)
2007 Ophicleide. Berlioz: “Damnation of Faust” (Boston Symphony Orchestra – Levine)
2010 Serpent. Mendelssohn: “Calm Seas and Prosperous Voyage” Overture (Boston Symphony Orchestra – Dohnanyi)
2010 Ophicleide. Mendelssohn: “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” Overture (Boston Symphony Orchestra – Mälkki)
2012 Ophicleide. Mendelssohn: “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” Overture and Complete Incidental Music (Boston Symphony Orchestra – Haitink)
2012 Ophicleide. Berlioz: “Damnation of Faust” (Boston Symphony Orchestra – Dutoit)

Solo Performances

- 1997 Serpent. Simon Proctor: “Serpent Concerto” (Boston Pops Orchestra - Williams)
1997 Serpent. Simon Proctor: “Serpent Concerto” (Boston Classical Orchestra - Dickson)
1998 Serpent. Simon Proctor: “Serpent Concerto” (Connecticut Valley Chamber Orchestra - Pusztai)
1999 Serpent. Simon Proctor: “Serpent Concerto” (Wheaton College Symphony Orchestra - Somerville)
2003 Serpent. Simon Proctor: “Serpent Concerto” (South Dakota Symphony)
2005 Ophicleide. Handel/arr. Yeo: “O Ruddier Than The Cherry” from “Acis and Galatea” (Athena Brass Band – Hunt)
2008 Serpent. World premiere: Bowie: “Old Dances in New Shoes” (Boston Classical Orchestra – Lipsitt)
2008 Ophicleide: Handel: “O Ruddier Than the Cherry” (Boston Classical Orchestra)
2009 Serpent. World premiere: *Le bronze et de lumiere* (Thérèse Brenet) for serpent and piano, 2009 Historic Brass Festival, New London, CT
2010 Serpent. Serpent. Simon Proctor: “Serpent Concerto” (Terre Haute Symphony – Bowden)

Chamber Music Performances

- 1998 Serpent/Contrabass Serpent. Music of Haydn, Beethoven, Hummel, Krommer. (Boston Symphony Orchestra members at Tanglewood)

- 1999 Serpent. Norman Bolter: “Temptation for Serpent and String Quartet.”
(International Trombone Festival, Potsdam, NY)
- 2001 Serpent. Haydn: “Oxford Symphony” (Tanglewood Music Center)
- 2002 Serpent/Contrabass Serpent. Music of Haydn, Beethoven, Krommer (Boston
Symphony Orchestra Players at Symphony Hall)
- 2003 Serpent. Music of Berlioz, Bevan, DuMont, Roze, Cherubini (Berlioz Historical
Brass, Boston, MA)
- 2005 Serpent. “Divertimento in B flat” attributed to Haydn (Handel & Haydn Society)
- 2005 Serpent. Beethoven/Crusell: “Grand Serenade after the Septet” (Tanglewood
Music Center)
- 2005 Serpent. P.D.Q. Bach (aka Peter Schikele): “O, Serpent” (American Serpent
Players, Symphony Space, New York City)
- 2008 Serpent. “Christmas Revels” with the Mellstock Band (Sanders Theater,
Cambridge, MA)
- 2009 Serpent. Beethoven (arr. Crusell): “Grand Serenade after the Septet, Op. 20”
(New England Conservatory of Music Jordan Winds)
- 2009 Ophicleide. World premiere: *Mendelssohn’s Seasons* (Clifford Bevan), 2009
Early Brass Festival, New London, CT
- 2011 Serpent. Recital at Colloque *Le Serpent Sans Sornettes, Itinéraires passés et
présents d’un instrument de musique méconnu* (Rouen and Paris, France)
- 2013 Ophicleide. Mendelssohn: “Nocturno” op. 24 (Arizona State University Winds),
Tempe AZ

Solo Recitals

- 1997 Serpent. Jordan Hall, Boston, MA.
- 2000 Serpent. Early Brass Festival, Stoors, CT
- 2001 Serpent. Boston, MA
- 2004 Serpent. Tanglewood, Lenox, MA
- 2012 Serpent, ophicleide, bass sackbut. Tempe, AZ

Museum Lectures/Demonstrations

- 1998 Serpent. Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
- 2002 Serpent and Ophicleide. Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
- 2003 Serpent and Ophicleide. National Music Museum, Vermillion, SD
- 2004 Serpent. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, NY
- 2005 Sackbuts and Early Trombones. Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
- 2006 Serpent. Yale Museum of British Art, New Haven, CT
- 2009 Serpent. Teaching at the biennial “Serpentarium”, Cape Cornwall, England
- 2010 Serpent. Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
- 2011 Serpent. Hardy at Yale II Conference, New Haven, CT
- 2012 Ophicleide. Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

Recordings

- 2002 Serpent. Handel: “Music for the Royal Fireworks” (Boston Baroque – Telarc)
- 2003 Serpent and Contrabass Serpent. “Le Monde du Serpent” (Berlioz Historical Brass)
- 2005 Ophicleide. Music of Francis Johnson for the exhibit “Slavery in New York” (New York Historical Society)
- 2007 Serpent. Audio Guide (Museum of Army and Military History, Brussels, Belgium)
- 2007 Serpent. Audio and DVD playing on metal serpents owned by the Joe and Joella Utley Collection (National Music Museum)
- 2007 Serpent. Audio guide (Museum of Fine Arts, Boston)
- 2007 Serpent. French Founding Father: Lafayette’s Return to Washington’s America (New York Historical Society)
- 2009 Serpent. Audio Guide (Bate Collection, Oxford, England)
- 2010 Serpent. Instructional DVD, “Approaching the Serpent: An Historical and Pedagogical Overview.”
- 2013 Serpent, buccin. Videos in eBook version of, “Musical Instruments” by Darcy Kuronen (Museum of Fine Arts, Boston)

Books, Articles and Papers

- 2001 Article: “Serpent Players in Charles Wild’s ‘Choir of the Cathedral of Amiens’ (ca. 1826).” *Historic Brass Society Journal* Vol 13, 2001.
- 2002 Paper/Demonstration: “Playing Characteristics of Serpents of Baudouin.” American Musical Instruments Society annual meeting, Boston, MA
- 2005 Article: “Exploring the Serpent and Ophicleide.” *The Brass Herald*, February 2005.
- 2005 Paper: “Virtuoso Players in Early Brass Bands: Serpent and Ophicleide.” The Great American Brass Band Festival History Conference, Danville, KY.
- 2005 Article: “The Buccin: A Trombone With a Serious Bite.” *The Brass Herald*, May 2005.
- 2005 Article: “Some Clarity About the Cimbasso.” *The Brass Herald*, December 2005.
- 2009 Paper: “Marches and Divertimenti: Haydn and the Serpent”. Monastery Michaelstein Foundation Conference, Germany.
- 2011 Article: “A Good Old Note: The Serpent in the World and Works of Thomas Hardy.” *The Hardy Review*.
- 2011 Paper: “The Serpent in England: Evolution and Design.” Colloque *Le Serpent Sans Sornettes, Itinéraires passés et présents d’un instrument de musique méconnu*
- 2011 Paper: “The Serpent in England: Context, Decline and Revival.” Colloque *Le Serpent Sans Sornettes, Itinéraires passés et présents d’un instrument de musique méconnu*
- 2012 Article: “Serpents in Boston: The Museum of Fine Arts and Boston Symphony Orchestra Collections.” *Galpin Society Journal*, Vol. 65 (2012).
- 2013 Book chapters: “The Serpent in England: Evolution and Design” and “The Serpent in England: Context, Decline and Revival” in *Le Serpent: Itinéraires passés et présents* published by Institut de recherché sur le patrimoine musical en France (Paris)