



Brass Instruments

Brass Instrument Development

Trevor

Murray, who drives change? Is it composers or inventors or are performers there as mediators some where?

Murray

There are times when change is in the air - for example in the 19th century - and inventors like Sax are present and they are the driving force behind the invention of new instruments, which composers and players then take up. But of course there are also forceful composers like Wagner - the classic example - who decides that the musical world hasn't provided him with the instrument he needs and proceeds to invent them.

Arnold

An instrument which was produced to meet a particular demand and not a very large commercial demand was the Wagner tuba, designed to be played with a French horn mouthpiece, yet have the bore profile approaching that of a euphonium - and that has its own distinct sound.

Murray

There are other players who have developed techniques, which have resulted in the modification of instruments to suit them. The keyed trumpet was an interesting development and Weidinger the inventor of that, was himself a player and so he invented the instrument that he wanted to play.