

Three Yield Eight of Seven Used

for horn

Stephen F. Lilly

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Program Notes

The results of googling “French horn” include lists of fun facts and even a simple four-step approach to playing the horn. My curation of these finds resulted in the graphic score and four instruction-poems that constitute *Three Yield Eight of Seven Used*.

Performance Notes

While the numbers in the title and embedded in the graphic score refer to the single horn, this piece can be performed on a double or triple horn without loss of integrity.

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Read aloud instruction-poem; then, use to interpret diagram.
Repeat for each of the four steps.

1. Sit straight with or without a seat;
Breathe through the obstructions.
Angle the mouthpiece along your face—
It's all thumb, valves, keys, and fingers.

Circuits

2. Press with a relaxed sadness
until you see
a lemon in the mirror.
Then, hum.

Valves

*Common
Valve Combinations*

3. Blow fast—or is it quick?
Deaden your chest
As your teeth don't hurt,
But we need more air.

4. So, soft or
loud—control is in
the width of a pinkie.

