



Contraforte!

The new Contrabassoon
by Guntram Wolf,
in cooperation with Benedikt Eppelsheim.





The Contraforte ...

... the contrabassoon that players have long dreamed for!

- ▶ with a previously **unattainable dynamic** range – from the quietest pianissimo to a very powerful fortissimo, using simple fingerings
- ▶ with a **range of 4½ octaves** and stable tuning over the whole register
- ▶ with a **clear and warm tone** that blends well with bassoons and other instruments (comparisons by the Technische Universität, Dresden)
- ▶ with a precise, well-balanced and silent* mechanical action built on a full wooden body
- ▶ can be played with both traditional contrabassoon reeds and our own special design

* original non-wear bearing system, protected by patent

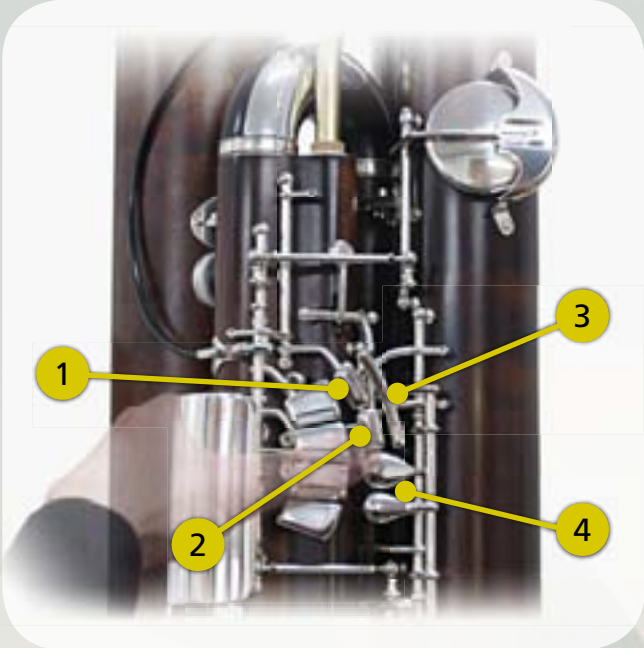
The extra-ordinary...

Reeds

Players can use traditional contrabassoon reeds as well as the large design of reed developed specially for this instrument. We can supply either an adaptor for the crook or a special crook to fit traditional reeds. **This enhancement offers a new breadth of expressive possibilities for the Contraforte.**



Left thumb



with ergonomically designed touchpieces for the highest and lowest notes:
1 Harmonic key 2
2 Harmonic key 1
3 alternative C# key for the higher register
4 Automatic octave key mechanism

left hand



5 low A touch placed below the C# key

Right hand



6 New Eb touch within easy reach of the right hand first finger (similar to the mechanism on clarinet and saxophone).

Right thumb



7 Optional harmonic key 3 is placed above the Bb key touch.

Special Features ...

Automatic water key

Condensation from playing is drawn away automatically – additionally a standard waterkey is included on all instruments.



Crook

With harmonic keys 2 and 3 (optional) are operated by a flexible steel cable.



Innovative method of connecting joints

The tapered tenons and O-ring seals between the joints ensure the whole instrument remains stable and airtight.

