

**Reconsidering the theory that trumpet playing had declined during the classical period:  
From views of extinction and development  
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In the traditional explanation about trumpet history, *clarino* (upper register of the trumpet) playing had declined during the classical period, and musical function and position of trumpeters would have even been expressed negatively. This is a viewpoint that perceives the *clarino* playing of the baroque period and the middle and lower ranges playing of the classical period as one of historical events. However, the classical instrumentation of trumpet had inherited from the baroque *principale* (lower register of the *clarino*) that worked with timpani. Also, that *principale* player's technique is not inferior but advanced and seems to have developed comprehensively with orchestra during the classical period. Therefore, we can see that the *clarino* had not declined in the classical period but had been extinguished.

Meanwhile, many opinions are provided in the "decline theory" regarding cause of extinction of the *clarino*. However, the writer believes the direct reason is that the policy which did not give important post to trumpeters anymore as part of modernization policy had been adopted simultaneously in Austria and Prussia. Many of what was considered as the cause will be a group of phenomena resulted from changing times to the modern era. Due to the fact that there existed political leadership, what was used by kings privately and politically seems to have died out rapidly, and so does the trumpet because it was promoted with protection by crowned heads. On the other hand, *Harmoniemusik* and so on seem to have entered into kings' private affairs causing a change of music kind. Moreover, in view of the fact that playing technique of the *clarino* seems to have kept constant technique until its extinction, it would be right to say that the *clarino* had been extinguished.