

**NORMAN COCKER**  
**1889-1953**

**Tuba Tune (1922)**

Huge, grand solo reed stops, sometimes mounted horizontally, are a favorite among listeners of the organs so equipped. Horizontal reed stops first appeared on Spanish organs during the late seventeenth century. During the twentieth century, British organ builders took that a step or two further when they designed more mellow “tuba” stops to be used in the tenor range, rather than exclusively in higher registers. The Cocker *Tuba Tune* is among the first to take that yet another step further by using that same solo stop in full chords. On the right organ (usually in England, upon which a piece like this was conceived), the effect is stunning. On other organs, the effect may be anywhere from thrilling to unnecessarily ear-splitting.