MUSI 2000-011 Orchestral Excerpts James T. Decker, Associate Professor

## **Berlioz – Hungarian March from the Damnation of Faust**

- Background
  - Hector Berlioz (1803-1869)
    - French Composer
    - Initially studied Flute, Guitar, and Singing
    - Entered Medical School for a while
    - Wrote Dramatic works inspired by fine literature
    - Wrote for an expanded orchestra Symphony Fantastique
  - o Damnation of Faust
    - Dramatic work for Orchestra, voices and Chorus
    - Text Goethe's "Faust"
    - Opera/Oratorio
    - Berlioz calls this a "legende dramatique"
    - He wanted to see this piece staged difficult because of its complexity
  - Written to end the first act of "Damnation of Faust"
  - The piece was composed in 1846
  - The theme was based on a Hungarian National Theme, thereby getting its nickname of "Rakoczy March"
- Trombonists' major flaws exposed
  - Dragging tempo when playing loud
  - o Intonation
  - Sound Quality
  - o Blatty Articulation
- Skills evaluated
  - Quality of Sound/Volume
  - Ability to move through middle register
  - o Rhythm
  - Relaxed, accurate slide technic

## • Tenuto Practice

- Improves sound quality
  Improves Intonation
  Improves articulation helps make more centered