



Theo Wanne Durga: Large-Chamber Mouthpiece Power

Master mouthpiece creator Theo Wanne has developed the Durga saxophone mouthpiece, a high-powered version of his True Large Chamber design.

The Durga features a long, high baffle and a very large chamber that transitions into a smaller chamber. This complex design allows for a fat, full sound with a powerful edge that's bright without being too thin.

I tried the Durga on my vintage King Zephyr baritone sax, using a medium-soft reed, and it brought out the instrument's natural brassy timbre while allowing for a huge, round sound that you just don't get with other bari mouthpieces. It took some extra effort at first, as the Durga will take pretty much whatever air you put into it, but once I got a feel for this piece I was thrilled with the response and the way it suited my emboucher. Despite its modern design and overtone-rich sound, the Durga was versatile enough to work in vastly different playing conditions. I was able to cut through the mix in a loud r&b group and blended perfectly with the sax section in a mellow, swinging big band.

If you're having trouble getting a good contemporary sound on bari, tenor or alto, give the Durga a try. It could change your game for the better.

—Ed Enright

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