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James River Brass

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC



JAMES RIVER BRASS

Mike Davison, *trumpet*
Jonathan Mela, *trumpet*
Amy Roberts, *French horn*
Mark La Fratta, *trombone and euphonium*
David Townsend, *tuba*



FEBRUARY 4, 1998, 8 PM
CAMP CONCERT HALL
BOOKER HALL OF MUSIC
GEORGE M. MODLIN CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The *James River Brass Quintet*, Richmond's premier brass ensemble comprised of local musicians, has given concerts for the past 15 years. Members of the JRB have appeared as soloists with the Richmond Symphony and have performed for Pope John Paul II and for the Most Reverend and Right Honorable George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury. Their concerts present works ranging from baroque to the contemporary genre.

Michael Davison received degrees from the Eastman School of Music, the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has given recitals (both jazz and classical) throughout the United States (including both St. Thomas Church and St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City), France, The Netherlands, Spain, and South Africa. He has performed with many orchestras and chamber groups including the Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, the Brass Band of Battle Creek, and the Whitewater and Wisconsin Brass Quintets. Also active in the jazz and commercial fields, he has performed with Michael Brecker, Curtis Fuller, Aretha Franklin, the Temptations, and the Four Tops. He has recorded four jazz CDs and one classical CD entitled *Fenster* which received a rave review from the International Trumpet Guild Journal. He is on the faculty of the University of Richmond, where he began the jazz program in 1986. He is also on the faculty of the Interlochen Arts Camp and is in great demand as a teacher and clinician throughout the country.

Jonathan Mela, a native of Alexandria, Virginia, has been performing in the Richmond area since 1980. Currently a free lance musician, he has performed with the Richmond Symphony Orchestra, the James River Brass, and with various shows at the Carpenter Center, the Landmark Theatre, the John F. Kennedy Center, Classic Amphitheatre, and the Richmond Coliseum. He can also be heard as a soloist at many churches and in recitals in the Central Virginia area. He has recorded extensively, having appeared on several CDs as well as in soundtracks and commercials for film, television, and radio. He attended VCU, where he was principal trumpet in the orchestra and the nationally acclaimed VCU Jazz Orchestra. Other appearances include concerts or shows with Ray Charles, the Four Tops, Lou Rawls, Yanni, John Denver, Leontyne Price, Joe Kennedy, the Duke Ellington Orchestra, the New American Ragtime Ensemble, Morgan Fairchild, Anthony Quinn, John Davidson, Robert

Goulet, Shari Lewis, Maureen McGovern, Ben Vereen, Jim Nabors, and many other artists.

Amy Roberts currently holds the position of second horn in the Maryland Symphony under the baton of Maestro Barry Tuckwell. She has recorded and toured with the Monumental Brass Quintet of Washington, DC. Now living in the Richmond area with her husband and two sons, she appears regularly with the Richmond Symphony.

Mark J. La Fratta is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and the Marshall Wythe School of Law of the College of William and Mary. He was named the Outstanding Bandsman his senior year at Notre Dame and was featured soloist with the ND Band on two national tours. While at Notre Dame, he also played in the ND Faculty Brass Quintet, the ND Symphony, the ND Jazz Band, and the South Bend Symphony. He has played for a Papal Mass for Pope John II, for the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Presidents Carter and Reagan. In addition to playing trombone, euphonium and occasionally tuba with the James River Brass, he is a regular member of Die Dorfmusikanten (a German Oompah Band), the Richmond Symphonic Winds, and the Continentals. He has also played for the Richmond Symphony and the Richmond Symphony Brass Ensemble. He is a partner in the Richmond-based law firm of McGuire, Woods, Battle, and Boothe.

David Burke Townsend is a graduate of the New England Conservatory in Boston. He served as principal tuba with the Richmond Symphony from 1969-1991, and taught tuba and euphonium at Longwood College, the University of Richmond, and Virginia Commonwealth University. Currently he is a member of the Richmond Concert Band, Richard Bland Community Wind Ensemble, Richmond Philharmonic Orchestra, Richmond Symphonic Winds, and Die Dorfmusikanten (the Village Musicians), as well as the James River Brass.

• PROGRAM •

Dance

Wilke Renwick
(b. 1921)

Fancies, Toyes and Dreames

The Old Spagnoletta

His Rest

Tell mee Daphne

A Toye

His Dreame

The New Sa-hoo

Giles Farnaby
(c. 1563-1640)
(arr. Elgar Howarth)

Brass Quintet, opus 65

Andante con moto

Andantino

Molto vivace

Jan Koetsier
(b. 1911)

• INTERMISSION •

Quintet no. 3

Allegro moderato

Intermezzo

Andante

Vivo

Victor Ewald
(1860-1935)

Sounding for Brass Quintet

Carl Della Peruti
(b. 1947)

Handful of Keys

Fats Waller
(1904-1943)
(arr. Luther Henderson)