

GENEVA
CONCERTS



presents



Saturday, 25 March 2017 • 7:30 p.m.
Smith Opera House

GENEVA CONCERTS, INC.

2016–2017 SEASON

Saturday, 24 September 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Garth Fagan Dance

Tony Award-winner Garth Fagan, described by *The New York Times* as “unfailing original,” choreographed Disney’s musical *The Lion King*, the highest grossing Broadway musical in history.

Friday, 14 October 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra

Christopher Seaman, Conductor Laureate

Andrew von Oeyen, piano

Tobias Picker: *Old and Lost Rivers*

Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 2 in B-flat Major, Op. 19

Elgar: Symphony No. 2 in E-flat Major, Op. 63

Saturday, 12 November 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra

Stefan Sanders, conductor

Julian Schwarz, cello

Prokofiev: Symphony No. 1, Op. 25, “Classical”

Haydn: Concerto in D Major for Cello and Orchestra

Mozart: Symphony No. 40 in G Minor, K. 550

Saturday, 25 March 2017, 7:30 p.m.

River City Brass

Celtic Concert

This brass band is famous for its varied and entertaining programming. They’ll have you tapping your toes and dancing in your seat. “It’s not a reach to say that this may be the most fun with music you’re going to have all year,” touts the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.

Friday, 21 April 2017, 7:30 p.m.

Symphoria

Lawrence Loh, Music Director

Jon Kimura Parker, piano

Berlioz: *Beatrice and Benedict* Overture

Grieg: Piano Concerto

Prokofiev: Symphony No. 5

Programs subject to change.

Performed at the Smith Opera House, 82 Seneca Street, Geneva



This concert is made possible by generous underwriting from the Williams Family Foundation, by a continuing subscription from Hobart and William Smith Colleges, and with public funds from NYS’s Decentralization Program, administered locally by Finger Lakes Community Arts Grants (FLCAG).

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Saturday, 25 March 2017 • 7:30 p.m.

River City Brass

A Welsh Medley (Men of Harlech)..... Traditional, arr. Gareth Wood

Skirl.....Traditional, arr. Allan Street

Highland Cathedral..... Ulrich Roever and Michael Korb, arr. Simon Kerwin

How are Things in Glocca Morra?.....E.Y. Harburg and Burton Lane, arr. Drew Fennell
David Piecka, soloist

Neath the Dublin Skies..... Paul Lovatt Cooper, arr. Algirdas Matonis

Irish Tune from County Derry (Danny Boy)Traditional, arr. Percy Grainger

The Devil Went Down to Georgia Charlie Daniels, arr. Drew Fennell
Drew Fennell, Adam Leasure, and Rick Manning, soloists

The Emerald Isle.....Seamus Malone

Amazing GraceJohn Newton, arr. Joseph Green
Rick Manning, soloist

Intermission

Gaelforce Peter Graham

For the Love of a Princess (Braveheart).....James Horner, arr. Andrew Duncan

500 Miles.....Charles and Craig Reid, arr. Rick Manning

Dance Above the Rainbow.....Ronan Hardiman, arr. Joseph Green

Riverdance..... Bill Whelan, arr. Ray Farr

Thank God I'm a Country BoyJohn Martin Sommers, arr. Drew Fennell
Drew Fennell, Adam Leasure, and Rick Manning, soloists

Ol' Time Country Cookin' Drew Fennell
Drew Fennell, Adam Leasure, and Rick Manning, soloists

River City Brass

James Gourlay, Artistic Director

Principal Eb Soprano Trumpet

Jeffrey Nicodemus

Principal Cornet

Bernard Black

Solo Cornet

Josh Boudreau

Repiano Cornet

William Hughes

First Cornets

Adam Leasure, Stephen McGough

Second Cornets

Mark Custer, Samantha Rappolt

Principal Flugelhorn

Drew Fennell

Principal Horn

David Piecka

Horns

Joe Hughes, Jason Allison

Solo Baritone

Ross Cohen

Principal Trombone

Gabriel Colby

Second Trombone

Bob Riddle

Bass Trombone

Taylor Fong

Principal Euphonium

Algirdas Matonis

Principal Tuba

Sam Buccigrossi

Tubas

David Knapp, John Urling, Brian Kiser

Principal Percussion

Colin Pinto-Martin

Bag Piper

Richard Manning

Outreach Events

On Monday, 27 March, as part of Geneva Concerts' commitment to education, the River City Brass Quintet will engage students from North Street and West Street elementary schools, and St. Francis - St. Stephen School in concerts that are as fun as they are educational. Students will learn how sound is produced and how brass instruments work, through demonstrations of the instruments, hosepipes, and the mighty Alpine Horn. For more information about the school outreach events, contact Tom McClure, Geneva Concerts Vice-President for Education and Community Engagement, at (315) 789-6283.

Dr. James Gourlay

James Gourlay was born in Scotland, where, at the age of 10, he was “volunteered” to play in his school brass band. Being the tallest in class, he was serendipitously given the tuba, an instrument he loves and continues to promote all over the world.

After much success as a solo champion, Gourlay entered the Royal College of Music but left after a short time to become principal tuba of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra at the age of 18. He continued working at the BSO for 10 years, then performed for an additional 10 years with the Orchestra of the Zurich Opera. Gourlay’s career as a chamber musician and soloist continues to flourish. He has been a member of the Philip Jones and English Brass Ensembles with which he has toured the world, and also continues to perform as a soloist extensively. He has recorded five solo CDs, the latest being British Tuba Concertos recorded for the Naxos label with the Royal Ballet Sinfonia, which has since received international critical acclaim.

Gourlay’s early work within the Brass Band Movement forms a vital component of his creative output. After early success with the Brass Band Berner Oberland, he became music director of the Williams Fairey Band, with which he won the English Masters and British Open contests. Gourlay has also been the professional conductor of the Grimethorpe Colliery and the Etoiles, with which he has won the Swiss National Championships, the Swiss Open Championships, and second place at the European as well as at the World Brass Band Championships.

Gourlay’s commitment to music education is a continuing passion. He has been head of Wind and Percussion at the Royal Northern College of Music and deputy principal and music director at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Salford University, a Master’s degree from Leeds University, a Fellowship of the Royal Northern College of Music, a Fellowship of the London College of Music, and is also a recipient of the Henry Iles Medal, presented by the Worshipful Company of Musicians for services to the Brass Band Movement. Gourlay is international vice president of the International Tuba and Euphonium Association and artistic director of the River City Brass.

River City Brass — 35 Years of Music and Fun!

Thirty-five years ago, something special happened — a musical renaissance took place in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Under the baton of conductor Robert Bernat, the River City Brass took to the Carnegie Music Hall stage for its inaugural concert on November 21, 1981. It was an evening of musical excellence and determination — determination to bring about the revival of the grassroots tradition of the American brass band.

At one point, there were more than 20,000 such performance groups throughout the United States. In 1981, it was a bleak picture: fewer than a thousand bands were still in existence in America. Throughout the rest of the world the genre was flourishing and the River City Brass was determined to foster a similar appreciation here in the United States.

That determination has paid off. Today, the River City Brass performs a 35-concert series in five different venues in Western Pennsylvania. In addition, the 28-piece ensemble tours extensively throughout the United States with more than 40 performances each year as part of community concert series, major symphony pops series, and arts festivals. From California to New York (and everywhere in between), River City Brass has delighted audiences with its signature style. Every performance features superb soloists and powerful repertoire from classical to pops and from jazz to marches. A River City Brass performance, whether in Pittsburgh or Poughkeepsie or Pensacola, is a memorable event!

In addition to its unique performance style, RCB is renowned for its recordings and original compositions. To date, RCB has released 15 recordings and premiered nearly 200 compositions and arrangements by American and British composers. Many of these works have since been published and are performed by brass bands throughout the world.

River City Brass receives praise from audiences and critics alike: “It’s not a reach to say that this may be the most fun with music you’re going to have all year,” touts the *St. Louis Dispatch*. “RCB delivers the rare kind of show that truly manages to combine lighthearted fun with serious musicianship,” notes an audience member in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. And, most tellingly, “River City Brass puts the fun back into music,” explains *The Tribune Review* of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

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