GENEVA CONCERTS

presents

RIVER CITY BRASS

Friday, March 28, 2014 • 7:30 p.m.
Smith Opera House
GENEVA CONCERTS, INC.
2013-2014 SEASON

Saturday, 19 October 2013, 7:30 p.m.
**BalletX**
*Still@Life / Silt / The Last Glass*

Friday, 8 November 2013, 7:30 p.m.
**Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra**
Christoph Campestrini, conductor
Barry Snyder, piano (1966 Van Cliburn Silver Medalist)
Stravinsky: *The Fairy’s Kiss*: Divertimento
Mozart: Piano Concerto No.23 in A Major, K.488
Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 5 in E Minor, Op. 64

Friday, 31 January 2014, 7:30 p.m.
**Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra**
Fabien Gabel, conductor
Philippe Quint, violin (four-time Grammy Award nominee)
Debussy: *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*
Saint-Saëns: Violin Concerto No. 3
Ravel: *Une barque sur l’océan* (A Boat on the Ocean)
Ravel: *Tzigane*
Stravinsky: *Firebird Suite* (1919)

Saturday, 1 March 2014, 7:30 p.m.
**Michael Hashim’s New York All-Stars!**
An elegant quintet of piano, bass, guitar, drums, and Geneva’s own Michael Hashim on saxophone.

Friday, 28 March 2014, 7:30 p.m.
**River City Brass**
The 17-piece ensemble has delighted audiences with its signature style, building upon the tradition of brass bands popularized in Great Britain and the U.S.

*Programs subject to change.*

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

These concerts are made possible by generous underwriting from the Williams Family Foundation and by a continuing subscription from Hobart and William Smith Colleges.
GENEVA CONCERTS, INC.
Friday, March 28, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

River City Brass Band

Marching with Sousa ............... J.P. Sousa, arr. Gordon Langford
Strike Up the Band ............ George Gershwin, arr. Goff Richards
Malagueña ......................... Frank Keating, arr. Mark Freeh
Carrickfergus ..................... Traditional, arr. Stephen Roberts
Koichiro Suzuki, baritone soloist
The Big Mancini ................. Henry Mancini, arr. Darrol Barry
The Armed Forces Salute .......... arr. Stephen Bulla
A Carmen Fantasy .............. Georges Bizet, arr. Gordon Langford

* * * Intermission * * *

Gaelforce ............................................................. Peter Graham
When the Saints Go Marching In ... Traditional, arr. Mark Freeh
Glenn Miller Suite ...................... Glenn Miller, arr. Mark Freeh
Pantomime ...................... Philip Sparke, arr. Stephen Roberts
Matthew Murchison, euphonium soloist
Rock Around the Clock .......... Bill Haley, arr. Joseph Green
Jordan Winkler, cornet soloist
Toccata and Fugue in D Minor ............. J.S. Bach, arr. Ray Farr
Outreach Events

Since the 1940s, Geneva Concerts has brought live music and dance to the community, especially encouraging young people to attend through the Sponsor-A-Student program and educational outreach programs brought to the schools.

Thursday, March 27
• 7:30-9:00pm: James Gourlay rehearsed the HWS College-Community Brass Ensemble on their repertoire and critiqued their playing.

Friday, March 28
• 8:30am-9:15am: RCB performed an assembly for all Geneva Middle School students.
• 9:45am-10:30am: RCB performed an assembly for North Street Elementary School students in grades 3, 4, and 5.
James Gourlay

After much success as a solo champion, James Gourlay entered the Royal College of Music but left after a short time to become, at 18, principal tuba of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Four years later, he took up the same position with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, with which he worked for ten years. He then performed for an additional ten years with the Orchestra of the Zürich Opera.

His career as a chamber musician and soloist continues to flourish. Gourlay has been a member of the Philip Jones and English Brass Ensembles with which he has toured the world and as a soloist, continues to perform extensively. He has recorded five solo CDs; the latest, *British Tuba Concertos*, recorded for the Naxos label with the Royal Ballet Sinfonia, received international critical acclaim.

Gourlay’s work within the Brass Band movement forms a vital component of his creative output. After early success with the Brass Band Berneroberland, he became music director of the Williams Fairey Band with which he won the English Masters and British Open Contests. James has also been the professional conductor of the Grimethorpe Colliery and the Brighouse and Rastrick bands and is currently guest conductor of the Brass Band Treize Etoiles, with which he has won the Swiss National Championships, the Swiss Open Championships and second place at the European, as well as the World Brass Band Championships.

His 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, former Director of Music of the world-famous Grimethorpe Colliery Band and now Artistic Director of the River City Brass.
**RIVER CITY BRASS**

**MORE THAN 25 YEARS OF MUSIC AND FUN!**

Twenty-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 grass-roots 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 1000 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 U.S.

That determination has paid off. Today, the River City Brass performs a 49-concert series in eight different venues in Western Pennsylvania. In addition, the 28-piece ensemble tours extensively throughout the U.S. 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 (as well as everywhere in between), River City Brass Band 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 been responsible for nearly 200 compositions and arrangements by American and British composers which have premiered at RCBB concerts. Many of these works have since been published and are performed by brass bands throughout the world. In October 2002, the Band released its 15th CD – *Polished Brass*, a collection of more classical pieces, on the Summit Records label.

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 Post-Dispatch*. “RCBB delivers the rare kind of show that truly manages to combine lighthearted fun with serious musicianship,” notes an audience member in Myrtle Beach, and, most tellingly, “River City Brass puts the fun back into music,” explains *The Tribune Review* of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
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