

“One of the gems of Philadelphia’s cultural life...”

– Martin Goldsmith, NPR’s *Performance Today*



Photo: Hub Willson, Allentown, PA

*“The most artistic brass quintet before
the public today”*

– composer Daniel Pinkham

“Dazzling!”

– *The Capital* (Annapolis, MD)

*“Incredibly effortless... stylistically
impeccable... consummate technical ability”*

– International Trumpet Guild

*“You played my music with such wonderful
attention to detail...the performance was
simply riveting!”*

– composer Eric Ewazen

Philadelphia Brass

Brian Kuszyk & Lawrence Wright, Trumpets
Anthony Cecere, Horn • **Robert Gale**, Trombone
Scott Mendoker, Tuba

Bookings and Events

Please contact Scott Mendoker

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From the stage of the Royal Albert Hall to the heights of the Bolivian Andes, **Philadelphia Brass** has delighted audiences with virtuosity, artistry, and *“cohesiveness seldom heard in live chamber music”* *The Morning Call* (Allentown, PA). Formed in 1988, the ensemble performs the finest brass literature of all styles and periods. A top prizewinner in the prestigious Raphael Mendez Competition, **Philadelphia Brass** continues to promote the enjoyment of chamber music among audiences of all ages and interests.

Critics and the public alike have enthusiastically praised the appealing diversity of repertoire, technical brilliance, and superb musicality of the ensemble.

Philadelphia Brass is dedicated to educating the public to the pleasures and subtleties of brass chamber music through clinics and residencies at conservatories, universities, and in communities across America. The ensemble is on the roster of Pennsylvania Performing Artists on Tour and was sponsored by the U.S. State Department in a recent tour to Bolivia.

Repertoire is chosen from an array of classical and popular music including exciting new works commissioned by **Philadelphia Brass** from composers such as Daniel Pinkham, David Diamond, J.A.C. Redford, Larry Lipkis, and Dick Hyman.

*The palpable sense of musical enjoyment,
respect, and affection among the members
of Philadelphia Brass enhances the
quintet’s appeal to listeners
of all ages.*

Recordings:

Christmas

*Joan Lippincott and Philadelphia Brass
Renaissance and Baroque*

*“This quintet brings a verve and spirit to
brass ensemble playing that invariably turns
the audience into a cheering section.”*
– *The Sullivan Review* (Dushore, PA)



Philadelphia Brass



Philadelphia Brass

“RESPLENDENT”

– Fanfare Magazine

Philadelphia Brass Individual Bios

Anthony Cecere, French horn, graduated from the University of Michigan.

He has been principal horn and soloist with the New Orleans Philharmonic, a member of the American Chamber Players of Washington, DC, and has performed with the Metropolitan Opera, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the New Jersey and Boston Symphony Orchestras, and the New York Philharmonic.

His recording credits include concerti by Mozart and Haydn, Twilight Music for violin, horn and piano by John Harbison, and the Bach Mass in b minor and Christmas Oratorio with the Bach Choir of Bethlehem. He has toured throughout Germany and France, and conducted master classes at numerous schools of music including Yale, Juilliard, the University of Missouri, the University of Arkansas, Idaho State University and the University of Seoul, South Korea.

Tony is currently a member of the Beauty and the Beast orchestra on Broadway and resides in Bernardsville, New Jersey with his wife, cellist Gerall Hieser.

He loves railroads and a nice Zinfandel.

Robert Gale is principal trombone with the Opera Company of Philadelphia, the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia and a member of the pit orchestra of the Walnut Street Theater. He has been a member of the music faculties of Swarthmore College and Valley Forge Military Academy and is currently on the faculty of The College of New Jersey. He has performed with the St. Louis and Richmond Symphonies and has recorded extensively for many vocal artists, television and major motion pictures. After graduating from the University of Illinois Bob began fifteen years of touring with the swing bands of Glenn Miller, Les Elgart, Jimmy Dorsey, and Bob Crosby, and the back-up bands for Bob Hope, Johnny Mathis, Donna Summer, Vic Damone, the Temptations, Manhattan Transfer, Natalie Cole and numerous others.

His love for music is closely followed by his love for the movies, which he sees, in his estimation, many more than he should.

Brian Kuszyk is principal trumpet of the Opera Company of Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania Ballet and the Delaware Symphony, a member of the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, the Bethlehem Bach Festival Orchestra, and a frequent substitute with the Philadelphia Orchestra. After completing his musical education at Temple University as a student of Seymour Rosenfeld, he served for sixteen years as principal trumpet with the Opera Festival of New Jersey. Among his numerous national TV, radio and film credits is the Emmy Award winning documentary "Johnny Unitas".

He has collaborated with artists Luciano Pavarotti, Denyce Graves, Tony Randall and Barry Manilow and recorded for the Telarc, RCA, Dorian, Albany, Gothic and Argo/London Labels. Recent tours have taken him to Bolivia, England, Germany and Portugal.

He lives with his wife Laure and his children Matthieu and Isabelle and has a passion for motorcycles and the French language.

Scott Mendoker has performed with the New York Philharmonic, Montreal Symphony, New York and Boston Pops, the New Jersey Symphony, the Broadway hit musical Ragtime, the Bavarian Radio, and recorded with the Metropolitan Opera and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. His recordings of David Sampson's Three Portraits for Tuba and Chamber Orchestra with members of the Czech Philharmonic for Summit Records and David Holsinger's Kansas City Dances for Tuba and Wind Ensemble for Mark Records have received high praise and critical acclaim.

Scott is an Artist/Teacher at the Hartt School at the University of Hartford. Scott is principal tuba with the Westfield Symphony, the Vermont Mozart Festival and is a member of the New York Chamber Soloists. He plays Miraphone tubas exclusively and has recently collaborated with trumpet and mouthpiece maker extraordinaire, Dave Monette, on two new tuba mouthpieces.

Scott lives in Amherst, Massachusetts with his wife, Annie, their daughter, Emma and their dog, Lucy.

Lawrence Wright is principal trumpet of the Allentown Symphony, Bethlehem Bach Festival Orchestra, Pennsylvania Sinfonia Orchestra, and Artist Lecturer at Moravian College. He received his bachelor's degree from Denison University, where he was a member of the scholastic honorary Phi Beta Kappa, and earned his Master's Degree from Juilliard, where he was a student of Mel Broiles and William Vacchiano. Larry has performed with the Metropolitan Opera, the New Jersey Symphony, the Spoleto Festival, the Opera Company of Philadelphia, the Symphony Orchestra of the State of Mexico and numerous others. For twenty-five years he was principal trumpet of the Lehigh Valley Chamber Orchestra. He has appeared as soloist with artists Arleen Auger, Emanuel Ax, Sylvia McNair, and Menahem Pressler, was featured in the PBS broadcast of Stravinsky's *L'histoire du Soldat*, recorded *The Sacred Trumpet Soloist* for Alfred Publishing, and is heard as soloist in many recordings by the Bach Choir of Bethlehem. The Allentown Arts Commission awarded the Performer Ovation Award for "outstanding achievement in the performing arts" to Larry and his wife, flutist Robin Kani. A dedicated teacher, he has served on the faculties of Lafayette College, Lehigh University, the Kinhaven Music School and Muhlenberg College. Larry loves to read, listen to his daughter Liz play the violin, and run along the hills of Saucon Valley.

Philadelphia Brass Residencies

Philadelphia Brass has designed and performed educational and residency programs for audiences of virtually every age, education level, and breadth of interest.

Public school instrumentalists as well as the elite musicians of the Juilliard School have benefited from Philadelphia Brass' master classes on specific techniques such as proper breathing and the Alexander technique. Audiences of broader musical interest have shared in the subtleties of chamber music through lecture demonstrations on the music of Bach, on the construction of a musical masterpiece, and on the interplay of performers in a chamber ensemble.

General audiences have enjoyed recitals highlighting a particular nation, musical period or style, and watched choreographed performances illustrating the long historical connection between music and dance. Philadelphia Brass has conducted formal residencies lasting from a few days to several years at Villanova University, Lehigh University, Adams County (PA), Bethlehem's Musikfest and Old Dominion University.

On "Brass Day" at Elizabethtown College, Philadelphia Brass addressed a Marketing class on the economics of the music business, gave a lecture demonstration on emotions in music for a course on Death and Dying, and explored stylistic similarities between music and the visual arts with an Art History class. Philadelphia Brass's most recent educational programs took place at the 3,000 student El Alto Music School in La Paz, Bolivia under the sponsorship of the US State Department.

Philadelphia Brass Reviews

"One of the gems of Philadelphia's cultural life."

Martin Goldsmith, NPR's Performance Today

"The stars of the show were the members of the Philadelphia Brass. This group has to be the most artistic brass quintet before the public today and they are the most style-conscious brass ensemble I have yet worked with."

Daniel Pinkham

"...beautifully played throughout. The arrangements on your CD are a long cut above what I've been hearing in recent Christmases!"

John Harbison

"...this quintet brings a verve and spirit to brass ensemble playing that invariably turns the audience into something resembling a cheering section, while at the same time leaving them breathless.

The Sullivan Review, Dushore, PA

"The performance is full, stylistically impeccable, and well-balanced, showing off consummate technical ability yet never to the detriment of musical statement. Sounding incredible effortless, each melodic line is highly polished; the accompanimental material is always musical."

International Trumpet Guild Journal (from a review of PB's "Renaissance and Baroque" CD)

"A resplendent new recording"

Fanfare (from a review of PB's Brass and Organ CD)

"An overflow audience in Moravian College's Foy Concert Hall discovered what other audiences and CD-buyers already know: The Philadelphia Brass offers some of the brightest, mellowest music around."

The Express Times, Easton, PA