Featuring

EIJIRO NAKAGAWA • JIM PUGH • DONN SCHAEFER

WITH CORK PROCTOR, M.C.

Sunday, November 4, 2007 • 2:00 pm

Artemus Ham Concert Hall
University of Nevada Las Vegas
Program

Ralph Pressler, Conductor

TOWER MUSIC
Donn Schaefer, Guest Conductor

MY BUDDY
Walter Donaldson/Connie Atkinson, arr.
Curt Miller, Soloist
Connie Atkinson, Guest Conductor

CONCERTINO FOR BASS TROMBONE & TROMBONE CHOIR
Donn Schaefer, Guest Soloist

KILLER JOE
Benny Golson/Abe Nole, arr.
Dick McGee, Soloist

I'M OLD FASHIONED
Jerome Kern/Connie Atkinson, arr.
Mike Smukal, Soloist
Connie Atkinson, Guest Conductor

INTERMISSION

SEA SONG
Eijiro Nakagawa & Jim Pugh, Guest Soloists

SPECIAL SELECTION
Eijiro Nakagawa, Guest Soloist

SPECIAL SELECTION
Jim Pugh, Guest Soloist

INTO THE SKY
Eijiro Nakagawa & Jim Pugh, Guest Soloists

76 TROMBONES
Kevin Stout, Soloist

RHYTHM SECTION
Bob Rozario, Piano  Brace Phillips, Bass  Jim Belk, Drums
Haley Etchison  Elyssia Gonzales  Tyler Lozier  Melaney Scarberry, Drums
ALBERT "ABE" NOLE

Albert "Abe" Nole was one of Las Vegas' favorite trombonists. His career as a professional trombonist included such road bands as Red Norvo, Mildred Bailey, Ina Rae Hutton and Spike Jones. In the 1960s, Abe formed a trombone sextet with rhythm section for which he wrote many arrangements. Over the years, many trombonists participated in the "Bonehead" group, including: Bill Harris, Tommy Turk, Archie Le Coque, Charlie Loper, Bill Booth, Dick "Stretch" McQuary, Ralph Pressler and Carl Fontana. During Abe's twenty years in Las Vegas, he set a fine example for other trombonists both in his playing and his encouragement of others.

After Abe's passing in 1985, several local trombonists led by Ralph Pressler decided to remember him with a mass trombone concert and use the proceeds for a trombone scholarship at UNLV. Since then, musicians have traveled from all regions of the country and abroad to participate in the annual 76 Trombones + 4 concerts. This 23rd annual concert includes many special arrangements written for this occasion. All performers are donating their services so that the proceeds may go to the Abe Nole Scholarship Fund. The first Abe Nole Scholarship recipient enrolled at UNLV in 1990; this year there are four trombone students receiving Abe Nole Scholarships.

Guest Artists

EIJIRO NAKAGAWA

Eijiro Nakagawa is one of Japan’s busiest trombonists. He can be found anywhere from Tokyo’s recording studios to leading his quartet in one of Tokyo’s jazz clubs to being the featured soloist in front of a large symphony orchestra or being across the world with his co-led jazz quintet, E'n'J' in New York. Eijiro has also recorded and produced his own albums, which have included artists such as Nicholas Payton and the Brecker Brothers. Eijiro is also a busy composer, having been recently commissioned to write himself a trombone concerto.

Being raised in a very musical family, Eijiro started playing trumpet at the age of 3 and trombone at the age of 5. By the time he was 6, he was performing I'm Getting Sentimental Over You in his father's jazz band. At age 15, he recorded his first album, The Down Unders with Rikya Masuda. Shortly after, he produced his first solo CD in New York entitled Eijiro Nakagawa & Funk 55. Other CDs include, Babe, Peace, From the Cradle to the Grave, For Musicians Only, ASAP, Sing Sing Sing and Voice. These CDs feature the talents of Nicholas Payton, Abraham Burton, Daniel Faulk and the Brecker Brothers. Eijiro has also had the pleasure of playing with Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, Steve Lukather, Makoto Ozone and Dave Holland.

Eijiro also co-leads a two-trombone quintet with New York trombonist, Jim Pugh. The group has recorded three CDs with a rhythm section made up of John Patitucci, John Riley and Andy Ezrin. Their first two CDs, Legend and Lion and E^2 hi^2 are available on the TNC label. Their third album, Just Us is currently available on the SupercrKids label in Japan.
Eijiro is also a highly sought-after classical trombone soloist. Since his solo debut in 1996, Eijiro has appeared as soloist with the Yomiuri Nippon Symphony, the Kosei Wind Orchestra, and Pershing’s Own of the US Army Band. Eijiro is a founding member of the brass octet, Samurai Brass. They recently released their first album, Hagakure available on the Superkids label. Eijiro was recently commissioned to write a trombone concerto, which he calls, Empyrean Convergence.

Being fluent in both jazz and classical idioms, Eijiro is in constant demand in the recording studios. He can be heard on countless records backing up some of the hottest artists in Japan, as well as being on many jingles, soundtracks and television shows.

With the support of Yamaha-Japan, Eijiro has designed his own models of both tenor and bass trombones. Eijiro plays and endorses Monette mouthpieces.

**JIM PUGH**

Jim Pugh is a distinguished trombonist, composer, and educator. The inspiring virtuosity and wonderful versatility he has demonstrated during the course of his career has caused Jim to be often honored as the “musician’s musician”. Whether he is performing as a concerto soloist in a symphonic setting, recording and touring with legendary artists in the fields of classical, jazz, & rock, or bringing forth his own exciting new compositions that expand the role of brass in contemporary music, his creativity knows no boundaries.

Jim began studying piano at age five and trombone at age ten. After attending Duquesne University and graduating from the Eastman School of Music, Jim toured extensively with the Woody Herman Band and with Chick Corea before deciding to settle down and make New York City his home.

Jim became New York’s top-call freelance trombonist for film scores, records, and music for television and radio advertising: over the past thirty-years he has lent his special talent to more than four thousand recording sessions. His trombone can be heard in collaboration with leading classical and popular artists and orchestras such as Yo-Yo Ma, Steely Dan, Eos, Concordia, St. Luke’s Orchestra, André Previn, Paul Simon, Barbara Streisand, Tony Bennett, Michael Jackson, Madonna, Pink Floyd, and Frank Sinatra.

Jim has been called on to add his sound to feature film soundtracks including A League of Their Own, When Harry Met Sally, and Meet Joe Black; and on hit Broadway cast recordings City of Angels, Fosse and Victor/Victoria.

In 2003, Jim “re-premiered” the Nathaniel Shilkret: Trombone Concerto to a sold-out audience at Carnegie Hall with Skitch Henderson and the New York Pops Orchestra. This mid-twentieth century masterpiece, originally written for Tommy Dorsey, will be heard in its first totally accurate recording, along with Jim’s own Concerto for Trombone and Orchestra, on his up-coming new CD.

Jim Pugh is the only recipient of the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences Virtuoso Award for Tenor trombone, awarded after being voted Tenor Trombone MVP by the New York recording community for five years.

Jim’s original music and arrangements can be heard on National Public Radio, in film scores, on “jingles”, and on record. His composition, Lunch with Schrödinger’s Cat, received a Lincoln Center premier in 1989 by Marin Alsop and the Concordia Chamber Orchestra. Jim premiered his Concerto for Trombone and Orchestra in May 1992 with the Williamsport Symphony. It received its New York premier in March 2000 with Joseph Alessi as soloist and Leonard Slatkin conducting the New York Philharmonic. A founding member of the Graham Ashton Brass Ensemble, several of Jim’s compositions can be heard on their recent CD entitled The Graham Ashton Brass Ensemble Plays The Music of James Pugh and Daniel Schryder, available on the Signum label.
Jim is currently on faculty at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In the past he has taught at SUNY-Purchase College, the University of the Arts (Philadelphia) and at New York University. During the summer, Jim is on faculty at the Skidmore Institute of Jazz. He appears frequently at schools throughout the country as a guest artist/clinician. Many of these clinics/concerts are made possible through the help of the Edwards Instrument Co.

Jim has been involved with the development of the Edwards small bore tenor trombone and has worked closely with Dave Monette in the development of the Monette TS11 and TS6 small shank tenor trombone mouthpieces. He endorses both of these products and plays Edwards trombones and Monette mouthpieces exclusively.

**DONN SCHAEFER**

Donn Schaefer is originally from Vancouver, Canada. Before joining the music faculty at the University of Utah, Schaefer taught low brass and jazz studies at the University of Mississippi. Schaefer holds degrees from Bemidji State University; the University of Massachusetts, Amherst; and the University of Iowa.

While still a high school student, Schaefer toured with several bands of the Canadian Military, including the Royal Air Command Band. Other performing credits include the Utah Symphony, Lake Placid Sinfonietta (a chamber orchestra in New York), San Francisco Ballet, Memphis Symphony Orchestra, Cedar Rapids Symphony Orchestra, Tennessee Philharmonic, along with freelance playing and recording in the Nashville/Memphis areas. Schaefer held an associate position with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago in 1997-1998.

In 2008, Schaefer will serve as host for the International Trombone Festival, on the University of Utah Campus. This event is expected to bring approximately 900 trombonists to Salt Lake City. For the past several years Donn Schaefer has toured and performed with the Cramer Trombone Choir, an international group of college trombone-professors. Recent performances include Russia, Sweden, Finland, Texas, New York, and New Orleans. Schaefer is a regular guest artist and adjudicator at the Greeley Jazz Festival, the largest jazz festival in the United States.

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**CORK PROCTOR**

Cork Proctor has been a Las Vegas favorite for many years, serving as an opening act for such headliners as Roberta Flack, the Supremes, Eddie Raven and the Limelighters. Proctor turned to comedy after a successful career as a musician. His comedy is unique and he quotes the Fatburger slogan “I am the fatburger of comedy, I am not for everybody.” After leaving his position as entertainment director for the Coast Resorts, Cork and his wife spent a year as Peace Corps volunteers in Paramaribo, Suriname, formerly Dutch Guyana. Besides his nightclub appearances, Proctor has several movie credits, including episodes of *Vegas, Macmillan and Wife, Switch* and a Clint Eastwood movie *The Gauntlet*. Cork has graciously volunteered his services for *76 Trombones + 4* over its 23-year existence as emcee and the voice over for the concert’s public service announcements, which he produces.
Many of the performers on stage today have extensive experience as professional musicians. Listed below are some of the performers and the groups with which they have performed.

David Anson: West Virginia Symphony 1959-60; USMF Band, Virginia 1960-70; Virginia Symphony 1972-84; Virginia Opera Orchestra 1970-78


Chuck Baldwin: Bones West 1985-present; San Diego Bay Bones 1991-present; Monavian Trombone Choir 1985-1990

Jerry Blomberg: Bones West 2002-present; SGV Concert Band 2001-present; Lake Avenue Brass Ensemble-Pasadena 2000-present; Walt Boening Si Zentner Orchestra off & on; Glenn Miller Orchestra 1973-75; Harry James Orchestra 1975; Desert Inn 1973-83; Stardust 1980-91; Mandalay Bay 1990; Leader of Walt Boening Big Band

James Brush: Retired music teacher, Bremerton, Washington


David Christensen: Director, Lake Havasu Community Orchestra 1995-present; Lenny Heros Big Band 1989-present; Havasu Brass 1990-present; School Band of America 1990

G. Norman Christensen, M.D.: Kool Els Knights 2000-present; Come Backers' Home Town Band 2000-present

Brian Crowley: Beach Cities Swing Band 2001-present; El Segundo Concert Band 2000-present; Vintage Brass 2002-present

Robert Dashiell: 101st Armored Division Band 1961-67; Sierra Symphony 1983-96; Lake Havasu Regional Orchestra 1997-present; Lake Havasu Brass Quintet 1998-present; Lenny Heros Big Band 1996-present; Lake Havasu Symphonic Winds 1998-present; Clarence Ellingham: Wayne King with Art Sares 1945-46; freelance work in Chicago 1946-72; New Horizons Concert & Jazz Bands, Gainesville, GA

Erick Dief: Jazz Unlimited Big Band 14 yrs.; The Disciples of Jazz 11 yrs.; Kaicen Jazz 3 yrs.

Gary L. Donnell: Jazz for Jesus 1998-present; Bones West 1985-present; Praise Bones 1986-present; High Desert Duet 1998-present

Robert van Eerde: Principal Trombone: LA Debut Orchestra 4 yrs., Cape Town Symphony Orchestra, South Africa 15 yrs., San Luis Symphony Orchestra; OC Brass Quintet; Trombone Action

Clarence Ellingham: Wayne King 1943-46; Freelance work in Chicago 1946-72

Craig Erwin: Sonoran Swing 1997-present


Gary Gray: Orange County Doctor's Dance Bands 1964-present; Bones West 1986-present; Jazz for Jesus 2000; Eastside Christian Dance Band 2000; Praise Bones 2001; San Jacinto College Big Band; San Jacinto Golden Eagles 2005-present

Kristofer Halvorson: Mecit Cini Band 2003-present; Sentimental Swing Jazz Band 2001-present; Sliders Trombone Quartet 2001-present

Shu Hayashi: Bones West, Bill Davis Band, Robert Harey, Square Band, LAPD Concert Band

Dick Helms: U.S. Army Air Force Band 1943; Elliott Lawrence, Ralph Marteric, tvv Benecke, Dick Kress, Vaughn Monroe, Lawrence Welk, Les Elgart, Norm Ladd, Jay Burkhart, Buddy Laime, Dan Bello, Griff Williams, the Commanders and John Palmer orchestras

Rod Henley: Four Freshmen, Wayne Cochran and the C.C. Riders

Eddie Herbst: Cool Els Knight 1999-present; Come Backers' Hometown Band 2004-present


Llew Hsu: Pasadena City College Concert Band 2004; USC Community Orchestra; Yu-Yun Chamber Orchestra, Taiwan; Ministry of National Defense Symphony Orchestra, Taiwan

Al Javorczyk: Buddy Morrow 1959-60; freelance in Cleveland and Nashville 1994-present; Bo Thorpe Orchestra 1994-present; Tommy Dorsey Orchestra 2000-01

Jim Jessen: Bones West; LAPD Band; Shrine Band; Elks Band; various dance bands in the LA and San Fernando Valley area 75-present

Chuck Kelley: Tony Mordelli, Carlton Hayes, Torris Brand and Benny Short Relief Bands, Las Vegas 1953-60; tvv Benecke, Sammy Kaye, Ralph Marteric, Ralph Flanagan 1953-68 connected by Bill Porter; Paddlwheelers Jazz Band 1981-88
Conduct or: Civic Orchestra of Tucson; Tucson Concert Band; Old Pueblo Brass Band; Simon Peter Orchestra 1999-2003; Music Samplers Theatre Orchestra

Greg Lee: Bones West


John Linker: CNS Jazz Ensemble


Max Millsaps: Navy School of Music: Ball State University: University of Iowa: Conductor of South Pasadena Community Band: retired educator: performed with several bands and orchestras


Gene Olsen: Mellotones Swing Band: Legacy Swing Band: Keith Hall’s Swing Band


Frank Perez: Los Angeles Symphony: Camerata: Los Angeles Guild Opera: Bones West


David Strandgren: LA City College Jazz Band: New Sounds Big Band: Roswell New Horizons Band: Cumming Community Orchestra


Brant Webster: 92-year-old Lifetime member of Local 17: A.F. of L

Ray Webster: Bones West 1965-99


Bill Wilson: Elko Knights 2003-present
2007-08 Abe Nole Scholarship Students

Special Thanks

Cork Proctor, Master of Ceremonies
Connie Atkinson, Arranger
Chuck Foley, Sound Engineer
Lou Campbell, Videographer
Don Novy, AAIIRR/Power & AcoustiCoils
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You Can Help Too!

You can make a tax-deductible donation to the Abe Nole Scholarship Fund. Simply make a check payable to UNLV Foundation and send it to: Abe Nole Fund, UNLV Music Department Box 455025, Las Vegas, NV 89154-5025
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