

# Chicago Brass Quintet

September 7, 2018

Ross Beacraft, trumpet • Matthew Lee, trumpet • Gregory Flint, horn  
James Mattern, trombone • Dan Anderson, tuba

As Chicago's original brass quintet, these five virtuosi possess the technical and musical mastery needed to perform music of all periods and styles with equal aplomb. The Chicago Brass Quintet brings style, grace, dazzling technique and humor to every performance.

Members of the ensemble are very active in the musical establishment of Chicago, performing frequently with many of the symphonic and chamber organizations throughout the region in addition to their work with the Chicago Brass Quintet.

The CBQ has offered master classes and clinics throughout the world for many years. With a wealth of experience as professors, ensemble coaches, chamber and orchestral musicians, they bring a seasoned perspective to their work with students of all ages and backgrounds.



# Russian Renaissance

October 5, 2018

After emerging with the \$100,000 Grand Prize at the 2017 M-Prize Competition, the largest prize for chamber music in the world, Russian Renaissance has firmly established itself as one of the most electrifying and exhilarating ensembles of today. Through stunning performances of everything from tango to folk to jazz, Russian Renaissance is redefining the possibilities of their traditional Russian folk instruments (balalaika, domra/domra alto, button accordion, and balalaika contrabasso) and capturing the attention of audiences worldwide.

What makes Russian Renaissance truly special is their ability both to dazzle with breathtaking style and to touch the hearts of listeners of all ages and backgrounds. In addition to their success at the M-Prize Competition, Russian Renaissance also received 1st prize at the 69th Coupe Mondiale in Russia in 2016 and was named Musical America's *New Artist of the Month* (March 2018).

In the 2018-19 season, Russian Renaissance will release their debut recording on Azica Records, featuring the works that catapulted them to international fame at the M-Prize competition and that highlight their self-proclaimed slogan of "World music with a Russian soul."



# Marguerite Krull, soprano

November 9, 2018



Possessed of keen musical intelligence and a vocal range from high lyric mezzo-soprano to soprano, Marguerite Krull is at home performing music from the Baroque to the brand new.

With her probing musical curiosity she has embraced an unusually varied list of roles from Emilia in Handel's *Flavio*, with New York City Opera, to Belle in Philip Glass's *La belle et la bête* with the Oakland Opera, and the title role of Martín y Soler's *La capricciosa corretta*, performed in Lausanne, Bordeaux, and Madrid and recorded for the Naïve/Naxos label. She has enjoyed a special relationship with the Caramoor International Music Festival where she has performed four Rossini heroines: Rosina in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, Ninetta in *La gazza ladra*, the title role of *La donna del lago*, and Desdemona in Rossini's *Otello*.

On the concert stage she has sung varied repertoire, several highlights of which include Harbison's *Mirabai Songs* with the New York Philharmonic, Mozart's *Mass in C Minor* with the Buffalo Philharmonic, and Carissimi's *Jephte* with the American Bach Soloists.

Ms. Krull is a recipient of the prestigious Marian Anderson Foundation Award, an honor given in alternate years to "an American singer of great promise who has already achieved some success in opera, in recital, and in the orchestra/oratorio repertory."

# Behzod Abduraimov, piano

January 18, 2019

Described by The Times as the "master of all he surveys," and with The Washington Post noting to "keep your ear on this one," Behzod's captivating performances continue to receive international praise.

Recent seasons have seen Behzod work with leading orchestras worldwide such as the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Boston Symphony, Münchner Philharmoniker, NHK Symphony and Leipzig Gewandhaus orchestras, and prestigious conductors including Valery Gergiev, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Manfred Honeck, Vasily Petrenko, James Gaffigan, Jakub Hrůša and Vladimir Jurowski.

Upcoming European highlights include the Lucerne Festival, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Münchner Philharmoniker, hr-Sinfonieorchester, Philharmonia, Czech Philharmonic, and BBC Symphony orchestras. In North America Behzod appears at the Hollywood Bowl, Carnegie Hall, Blossom and Ravinia Festivals. He made his debut with the San Francisco Symphony and returned to both the Dallas and Atlanta Symphony Orchestras.

Behzod is an alumnus of Park University's International Center for Music where he studied with Stanislav Ioudenitch, and now serves as the ICM's artist-in-residence.



# Les Délices

February 1, 2019

Founded by baroque oboist Debra Nagy in 2009, Les Délices has established a reputation for their unique programs that are "thematically concise, richly expressive, and featuring composers few people have heard of." The New York Times added, "Concerts and recordings by Les

Délices are journeys of discovery." The group's debut CD was named one of the "Top Ten Early Music Discoveries of 2009" (NPR's Harmonia), and their performances have been called "a beguiling experience" (Cleveland Plain Dealer), "astonishing" (ClevelandClassical.com), and "first class" (Early Music America Magazine).

Highlights from recent seasons included performances for Music Before 1800, Boston's Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, San Francisco Early Music Society, the Yale Collection of Musical Instruments, and at Columbia University's Miller Theater. The ensemble's third CD, "Age of Indulgence," was released on the Navona label in June 2017.

For their Pittsburg performance, Les Délices will present a program titled Mozart in Paris. Accompanied by readings from Mozart's humorous letters, the ensemble will create a context for Mozart's time in the City of Light by setting his beloved Quartet for oboe and strings alongside works by composers whose music was all the rage: Boccherini, Gluck, and others.



# NEXUS

March 29, 2019



"...the high priests of the percussion world..."

– New York Times

"...probably the most acclaimed percussion group on earth..."

– Steve Reich

The award-winning ensemble NEXUS is in the Percussion Hall of Fame (along with

Ringo Starr) and tours extensively. The group has participated in 60 international festivals, and in multiple appearances at the Kennedy Center, the BBC Proms (Royal Albert Hall), and Carnegie Hall.

The group is made up of four master percussionists internationally revered for virtuosity, innovation and extraordinary music out of the broadest array of percussion instruments imaginable. Their original compositions and arrangements, high-end commissions from Pulitzer prize-winners Steve Reich and Ellen Taaffe Zwillich, Grammy-winner Libby Larsen, and Japanese master Toru Takemitsu, and famed collaborations with the likes of Canadian Brass, Kronos Quartet, and Richard Stoltzman, have created repertoire ranging from novelty ragtime and haunting African rhythms through award-winning improvised film music and groundbreaking compositions. NEXUS delivers a stunningly virtuosic spectacle of sound and rhythm.

NEXUS wishes to acknowledge the generous support of Pearl/Adams and the Canada Council for the Arts.

All performances will be at 7:30 p.m., in the Sharon Kay Dean Recital Hall on the PSU campus.  
Tickets are available at no charge to full-time PSU students with valid student ID.