



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 6, 2009

Bring on the Brass!

Bay Chamber presents the Empire Brass Quintet in "Brass from Baroque to Broadway" and "Classical Brass"

Bay Chamber Concerts will present the Empire Brass Quintet in two exceptional concerts this week. "Brass from Baroque to Broadway" on Wednesday, July 15, at 8:00 p.m. at the Strand Theatre in Rockland, will feature music ranging from the audience-friendly works of Prokofiev and Dvorák to the show-stopping tunes of Gershwin and Ellington. In addition, at the Rockport Opera House on Thursday, July 16, at 8:00 p.m., the Empire Brass Quintet will perform "Classical Brass" – a fascinating and unusual program of small classical pieces for brass instruments.

"Quite simply, they are the best brass quintet in the world," said Bay Chamber's artistic director Tom Wolf. He added, "I have wanted them to perform for Bay Chamber Concerts for many years and I am so glad we are finally are getting them to the Midcoast."

Audience members may recognize the Empire Brass Quintet from their appearances on such network television shows as CBS's "Good Morning America," NBC's "Today Show" and "Sunday Today," and PBS's "Mr. Roger's Neighborhood." The ensemble has also appeared on several public radio networks nationwide including NPR's "Performance Today."

The ensemble has performed with such major symphony orchestras as the Chicago Symphony, the Boston Symphony, the Philadelphia Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Toronto Symphony, New York Philharmonic, Detroit Symphony, Cincinnati Symphony and Zurich's Tönhalle Orchester. Empire Brass members include Rolf Smedvig and Marc Reese, trumpets; Gregory Miller, French horn; Alexei Doohovskoy, trombone; and Kenneth Amis, tuba.

The Tokyo Japan Times is described Empire Brass as "exciting, no thrilling, the silver-haired Brass buffs just as much as they did the droves of young teeny-boppers who packed Casals Hall." On Wednesday at the Strand and Thursday at the Rockport Opera House the ensemble will perform from its remarkably diverse repertoire some delightful pieces for brass instruments including music from such audience favorites as Stravinsky, Mozart, Gershwin, Copland and more.

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Bay Chamber Concerts
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Bay Chamber Concerts will present a concert every Wednesday and Thursday throughout July and August. Wednesday night events will be at the Strand Theatre in Rockland and Thursday night events will be held at the Rockport Opera House. Before all Thursday night concerts there will be a pre-concert talk with Thomas Wolf, co-founder and artistic director of Bay Chamber, and visiting musicians. After all concerts there will be a free post-concert reception with the artists and complimentary refreshments.

Tickets to “Brass from Baroque to Broadway” and “Classical Brass” are \$25 to \$35 for adults, \$8 for youth ages 18 and under. Discounts are available for subscribers and groups of 8 or more. Bay Chamber Concerts is a 501(c)(3) registered non-profit organization. The media sponsor is VillageSoup.com. For more information, or to purchase tickets, contact Bay Chamber Concerts at (207) 236-2823, toll free at (888) 707-2770 or online at www.baychamberconcerts.org.

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Calendar Listings:

Date: Wednesday, July 15, 8:00 p.m.

Location: The Strand Theatre, 345 Main Street, Rockland, ME 04841

Title: Brass from Baroque to Broadway

Performers: The Empire Brass Quintet – Rolf Smedvig and Marc Reese, trumpets; Gregory Miller, French horn; Alexei Doohovskoy, trombone, and Kenneth Amis, tuba.

Program: A night of Broadway tunes and classical numbers.

Description: One of the world’s best brass quintets offers a range of audience-friendly works from Prokofiev and Dvořák to the show-stopping tunes of Gerswin and Ellington. Hear them all in one jam-packed concert!

Price: \$25-\$35 for adults, \$8 for ages 25 and under. Discounts available for subscribers and groups of 8 or more.

Date: Thursday, July 16, 8:00 p.m.

Location: Rockport Opera House, 6 Central Street, Rockport, ME 04856

Title: Classical Brass

Sponsors: Sponsor: Rockport Marine.

Performers: Empire Brass Quintet – Rolf Smedvig and Marc Reese, trumpets; Gregory Miller, French horn; Alexi Doohovsky, trombone; and Kenneth Amis, tuba with Deborah DeWolf Emery, piano.

Program: An evening of brief classical pieces for brass instruments.

Description: Come hear this fascinating and unusual program of small classical pieces for brass instruments in singles, pairs and up to six players. You’ll hear Stravinsky, Berio, Vivaldi, Strauss and more, surrounded by the dynamic acoustics of the Rockport Opera House.

Price: \$25-\$35 for adults, \$8 for ages 25 and under. Discounts available for subscribers and groups of 8 or more.

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