



The Brassroots INSIDER

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London Arts Council

www.brassroots.ca

"South Western Ontario's Favourite Brass Ensemble"

FAMILY OF MILTON & VERNA
GOOD FOUNDATION INC.
SINCE 1974

From our music director Bram Gregson

IT'S TIME TO CONFESS! Who 'googled' the answers to the movie quiz at our February 20 concert? Not for one moment did I imagine that owners of smart phones would be so smart!

How naïve am I? I admire initiative but that wasn't exactly the idea!

Nineteen people submitted correct answers. Of course, we have no way of knowing if any of these 'googled' the answers but our diligent volunteers assure me that they witnessed frantic reaching for purses and pockets for those very smart phones!

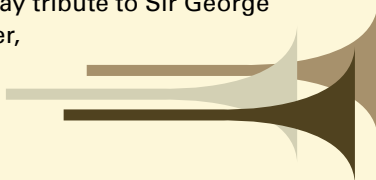
As promised, we have two prizes (each two admissions for Cineplex), so here's what we will do. In our April 23 concert—to ensure that all is 'above board'—we will ask a volunteer from the audience to draw the two winners. If you are a winner, we hope you are there to claim your prize!

It is reassuring to hear rave reports about the movie concert. We are glad that the large audience was able to savor the variety of music offered by some of the best movies of the past seventy years.

Final concert of season April 23, 7:30 pm

This concert is aptly titled **Celebrate** because it will give a nod to our Thirtieth Anniversary. The first half of the show will feature some tracks from the new CD. In the second half, with a glance to the future, we will present first performances of exciting new charts. In particular we are looking forward to "The Enormous Pink Jellyfish," a really funky jazz chart, and works by two prominent Canadian composers: Ron Royer's trumpet solo "Divertissement" and Vince Gassi's suite, *Splash*.

Paul Stevenson is the featured soloist in the Royer concerto. He will also perform "Fletcher Lake," a beautiful solo written by Jeff Christmas in memory of Paul's father. And we have decided to pay tribute to Sir George Martin (like a second father, said Paul McCartney) by including Beatles' top of the charts "Yesterday" and "Penny Lane."



"Gonna Fly Now" (from *Rocky*) and "Gabriel's Oboe" (from *The Mission*) were particularly popular. The latter is a beautiful melody with obvious emotional impact. Apparently there were a few tears shed! Composed by Ennio Morricone, it was so gratifying to see him win the Oscar for best original score at the recent Academy Awards. He received an Honorary Award nine years ago in recognition of his career work and had prior nominations for best music scores in *The Mission*, *Bugsy*, *The Untouchables*, *Days of Heaven* and *Malena*. But this Oscar for his music in *The Hateful Eight*, at age eighty-eight, was richly deserved. Readers will be interested to know that "Gonna Fly Now" (featuring the inimitable Paul Stevenson) is included in our new CD, *Passion for Brass*.

Our Board of Directors, musicians and volunteers appreciate our loyal supporters. We are now planning our 2016-17 season. Preliminary details of what we have in store can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. There is evidence that we will continue to present diverse and entertaining musical experiences. Please help in passing along the good news and expand our audiences.

Bram

PS There is no way I could have prepared the quiz without Google!

PASSION FOR BRASS

We are hoping for bumper sales of PASSION FOR BRASS. In keeping with the unanimous wishes of our audiences, the program is eclectic. With a variety of charts, from classical to original music for brass and from beautiful melodies to some hot jazz, we hope you will agree that the CD provides the variety of music that you appreciate.



For this concert only, the CD will be on sale for \$15. Season ticket holders may purchase the CD for \$10.

We draw your attention to the extensive details and program notes that will be posted at www.brassroots.ca in mid April.

The CD was made possible by the generous support of

FAMILY OF MILTON & VERNA
GOOD FOUNDATION INC.
SINCE 1974



BRASSROOTS

BRAM GREGSON, MUSIC DIRECTOR

2016-17
Season

Book these dates in your calendar!

All concerts at St. James Westminster Anglican Church, starting at 7.30 pm

Concert No. 1

SATURDAY OCTOBER 15, 2016

Autumn Rhapsody

Brass timbres to match the colours of Fall. The main work will be *Animal Ditties*. Some animals are preparing for hibernation but the Dog, Mule, Duck, Rhinoceros have no such plans. A narrator will tell the story while brass and percussion mimic the antics. Lots of fun!

Concert No. 2

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 26, 2016

It's Beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

A prelude to the wonders of Christmas

The first half will feature another new work, "The Toymaker." The second half will showcase seasonal music — "A Prelude and Fugue for Christmas" and "Christmas Carousel." Ted Follows, one of Canadians' favourite actors, will be the narrator and Stephen Holowitz will be at the organ for "Twas the Night Before Christmas". It may seem early to sing carols but why not? Festive fanfares will greet two of the most popular.

Concert No. 3

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2017

Camino a Espana

A journey to Spain

Our journey will start with Saint-Saens' "March Militaire Francaise," pause for Fauré's beautiful "Pavanne," then visit Versailles for "Music for the Sun King." Passing over the Pyrenees into Spain we will revel in the rhythmic joys of this great country, ending with Chick Corea's ever popular "Spain"

Concert No. 4

SATURDAY APRIL 22, 2017

From Time to Time

A brief history of music from five centuries

Baroque to Jazz and Pop. From Gabrielli and Haydn to Shostakovich, Gershwin, Ellington, Brubeck and The Beatles.

We recommend these concerts:

Amabile

Choirs of London, Canada

Salut Printemps

amabile.ca

With special guest, El Sistema

Amabile Junior Singers & De Capo Choir

SATURDAY, MAY 28 | 6:00 PM

NEW ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LONDON

Celtic Celebration

Amabile Boys & Men's Choir

Special guest, Leahy

SATURDAY, MAY 28 | 8:00 PM

BANTING SECONDARY SCHOOL, LONDON

Bon Voyage

Amabile Youth Singers & Prima: Amabile Women's Choir

SUNDAY, MAY 29 | 2:30 PM

FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH, LONDON

For tickets call 519.641.6795 or email info@amabile.com

Supposedly, they said it...



ELVIS:

The truth is like the sun. You can shut it out for a time but it ain't goin' away

STING:

If you play music with passion and honesty, it will nourish your soul, heal your wounds and make your life worth living. Music is our reward.

JOHN LENNON:

If everyone demanded peace instead of another TV, then there would be peace. Music is everyone's passion. Life is what happens to you when you're making other plans

DAVID BOWIE:

I don't know where I'm going from here, but I promise it won't be boring!



Good News?

Charities could benefit from proposed changes

IT IS KNOWN THAT FEDERAL TAX CREDITS for political contributions far exceed those made to registered charities in Canada. Why is this? It seems to undervalue the importance of charitable organizations and their great works across our country.

Ted Falks, Member of Parliament for Provencher is one who recognizes this frailty in the tax system. He proposes to introduce Bill C-239 — The Fairness of Charitable Gifts Act.

BRASSROOTS is a charitable organization and we are just one of many that would benefit if such legislation were passed.

MP Falks is proposing that the federal tax donation credit be substantially raised to level the playing field between charitable organizations and political parties.

For example: a donation under \$400 would benefit from a 75% federal tax credit.

The net result would be that a donation of \$400 would

An excellent way of donating to Brassroots is through CanadaHelp!



Charitable giving is vital to making our communities, country and world a better place. The Canadian government recognizes this, and as a result offers significant tax credits encouraging all Canadian to give generously.

At CanadaHelps, we make it easy to calculate your savings using our tax calculator. Reduce your tax bill by:

- Up to 35% of your donations totalling \$200 or less
- Up to 53% of your donations totalling more than \$200
- New to claiming charitable donations? Get an extra 25% back!

NOTE THE DIFFERENCE IN TAX CREDITS BY COMPARING WITH MP FALKS' PROPOSAL TO BE INTRODUCED BY BILL C-239.

cost the donor only \$100. Donations from \$400–\$750 would reap a 50% federal tax credit and donations over \$750 a 33.3% federal tax credit.

We urge our readers to support this exciting initiative. If passed, we hope that it will encourage more donors to support Brassroots and our entertaining programs.

How do you support this initiative?

Simply contact your Member of Parliament? It's easy! Click on the link below, type in your postal code and the contact information will pop up. A 30 second call or very brief email of support will suffice. Please include your name and the city in which you live.

<http://www.lop.parl.gc.ca/ParlInfo/Compilations/HouseOfCommons/MemberByPostalCode.aspx?Menu=HOC>

In his message, MP Falks says: As a Member of

Parliament I know how much of an impact every letter, call and email from one of my constituents makes. Thank you for helping. Together we can make a huge difference in your fundraising efforts!

With donations in mind...

Brassroots urgently needs new compositions and arrangements!

Question How can you help?

Answer By donating new music for our 2016–17 season.

Here are examples of charts we need to purchase:

CONCERT NO. 1

Animal Ditties \$90

Entertaining depiction of animal antics with narrator to describe the action.

Three Moods of Blue \$50

A short, light-hearted suite in three movements.

CONCERT NO. 2

"Twas the Night Before Christmas" \$114

This popular story told by narrator Ted Follows.

Christmas Carousel \$45

A pot-pourri of seasonal favourites.

CONCERT NO.3

Como Poden Per Sas Culpas \$50

An anonymous 13th century Spanish work, arranged for two piccolo trumpets – with rhythmic drums and tubular bells.

Dulcinea \$60

Inspired by the story of Don Quixote, this original work includes extensive solo improvised sections for trumpet and trombone. Again, our percussionists will have a real work out!

CONCERT NO.4

Surprise Variations (Joseph Haydn) \$62

Transcribed for brass ensemble, a work by one of the great masters. Learn about the surprise!

"Norwegian Wood" \$55

One of The Beatles' greatest hits.

BRASSROOTS on facebook

Search Facebook for "Brassroots London Ontario" to find our page, and "Like" us get our postings on your newsfeed.

Take a peek at our entries and listen to Julia Vaughan play "Autumn Leaves" — someone had his or her iPhone on!



BRASSROOTS
BRAM GREGSON, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Celebration!
Brassroots at 30
featuring **Paul Stevenson, Trumpet**

Official release of our seventh CD!

Saturday, April 23, 2016
7:30 pm
St. James Westminster
Anglican Church
115 Askin Street, London

Adults \$25 Seniors \$20 Students \$5 (with ID)
Children under 12 FREE (with an adult)
available at:
Tuckey Home Hardware
136 Worley Road
online: onstagedirect.com/brassroots
or at the door, subject to availability

brassroots.ca



PHOTO CREDIT: PAUL BAKER

CURIOUS? Here's the playlist for the new CD

PASSION FOR BRASS *brassroots at 30*

- His Majesty's Sackbuts and Cornetts** . . . Matthew Locke, arr. Roger Harvey
Air
Courante
Allemande
Sarabande
- Canzon Primi Toni (à 10)** Giovanni Gabrieli, arr. J. Scott Irvine
- Susato Suite** Tylman Susato, arr. John Iveson
La Mourisque
Basse Danse Bergeret
Pavanne Bataille
- Tientos y Danzas (Movement IV)** Gareth Wood
- Point Pelee** Howard Cable, arr. Tony Snyder
Tony Snyder, horn
- Fletcher Lake** Jeff Christmas
Paul Stevenson, trumpet
- The Cat** Jimmy Smith, arr. Peter Clements
Stephen Holowitz, Hammond B-3 organ
- Someone to Watch Over Me** George Gershwin
arr. Joseph Turrin, adapted for Brassroots by Jeff Christmas
Julia Vaughan, flugelhorn
- Solving the Riddle** Billy May, arr. Jock McKenzie
- Gonna Fly Now (Theme from "Rocky")** Bill Conti, arr. Jock McKenzie
- Malagueña** Ernesto Lecuona, arr. Stuart Malcolm
- Somewhere Over the Rainbow** Harold Arlen, arr. Jeff Christmas
John Monkhouse, trombone
- Czardas** Vittorio Monti, arr. Ty Watson
Michael Medeiros, tuba
- Jealousy** Jacob Gade, arr. John Iveson
Paul Stevenson and Julia Vaughan, trumpet
- Echoes of Harlem** Jim Parker

Acknowledgements The Board of Directors, our music director and musicians thank:

- ◆ Our dedicated volunteers.
- ◆ St. James Westminster Anglican Church; in particular Stephen Holowitz, Sarah Mills and Rebekah Reid.
- ◆ Fanshawe Chorus London for the loan of large percussion equipment.
- ◆ London Arts Council for operating funds without which our London concert series would not be possible.



Thank You

IF YOU HAVE A FEW MOMENTS WHY NOT JOIN THE
EVER GROWING NUMBER OF VISITORS TO OUR WEB SITE

WWW.BRASSROOTS.CA