



The Brassroots INSIDER

Vol. 9, Issue 3 • Spring 2014

www.brassroots.ca
bramgregson@rogers.com
519.471.3428

"South Western Ontario's Favourite Brass Ensemble"



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO

From our music director Bram Gregson

AS I WRITE, I am reasonably certain about two things!

1) On April 26 it will be warmer than the chilling -7°C currently it is outside.

2) On that same day there will be a great concert at Church of the Ascension. Please note the change in venue from our home at St. James Westminster. Some of our faithful attendees may have to drive a few extra kilometers but we promise, it will be worth it!

Our guests will be the enthusiastic, entertaining voices of **Vocal Fusion** with Mark Payne, their dynamic leader and pianist.

Mark has penned two special arrangements for brass and choir for this concert:

Firstly a medley of **Billy Joel's hits** featuring: "Prelude to an Angry Man," "New York State of Mind" and "Piano Man"; and **Gershwin Medley** showcasing some of George Gershwin's wonderful songs including "Fascinating Rhythm," "A Foggy Day in London Town," "Lady be Good," "I've Got a Crush on You," "Embraceable You" and "Someone to Watch Over Me." What a treat it will be to hear these, some of the best-loved songs of all time!

Brassroots will perform four songs from the ever popular musical *Chicago* ("Roxie," "All that Jazz," "When you're Good to Your Mama" and "We Both Reached for the Gun"), *Harlem Nocturne*, *Malaguena*, and two super arrangements of Spirituals – a cool jazz styling of "Deep River" and "The Battle of Jericho" featuring Paul Stevenson on trumpet. And yes, you should hear the walls come tumbling down!

Get your tickets at Tuckey Home Hardware (136 Wortley Rd), online at www.onstagedirect.com/brassroots, at the church or by calling 519.471.3428. We anticipate a sellout!

Bram

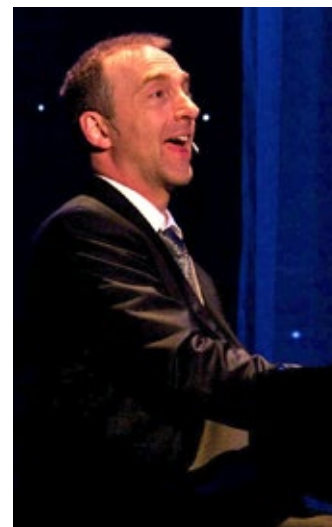
PLEASE NOTE

Fusion of Brass and Voices
Saturday April 26, 2014, 7:30 pm
is at **CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION**
2056 Dundas Street East
not St. James Westminster Anglican Church.

Mark Payne

Mark is thrilled to be performing with Brassroots and Vocal Fusion. He is the resident Music Director for Victoria Playhouse in Petrolia, where he prepares and directs all the musical productions. He has starred in and / or directed twenty productions with D2 Entertainment and Victoria Playhouse over the past seven years. Mark has performed virtually every conceivable role with orchestras and opera companies across Canada - conductor, singer, repetiteur and chorus master.

He has recorded many CDs. His latest solo CD, *Simply Grand*, features selections from his one-man show of the same name. Also, he has just released a dual CD with Irena Welhasch Baerg featuring some of the most beloved art song from the repertory, entitled *Songs My Mother Taught Me*.



Exciting news!

Brassroots will be in the recording studio later this year after hearing that we will receive a \$6500.00 grant from Good Foundation Inc. We really appreciate this very significant financial assistance and will be seeking other avenues for funds toward the project.

Brassroots' musicians are busy people!

This June, **Susan Follows** is retiring from teaching music at Eastwood C.I. in Kitchener. Susan has enjoyed her many years of teaching and will miss the energy and inspiration of working with young musicians. She is looking forward to spending more time with family, performing and traveling.

Our four trombonists, known as **Slide by Slide**, are doing their third concert tour of Germany in July. Some of the highlights are performing for Town Bremen Musicians, leading a workshop in Neumarkt and playing their second concert in Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church in Berlin. They will also perform in Munich and Weimar. There's a rumor doing the rounds that it may be Germany next for Brassroots!



Tony Snyder is not available for the April 26 concert. We are pleased to have an excellent sub in Katie Toksoy. Tony performed Paul Dukas' Villanelle with Guelph Symphony Orchestra on March 30.

He will also appear on May 4 with Waterloo Chamber Players to play Mozart's *Horn Concerto No. 2*. In July he will be performing the European premier of Howard Cable's *Point Pelee* for Horn and Strings in Holland and Belgium

Trombones **John Monkhouse** and **Bob Phillips** also are unavailable for the April 26 concert. We have two excellent subs in Keith Bilinsky and Seth McNall. John will be at a convention in Germany. We suspect he will imbibe quite a few German brews!

Bob recently returned from a Caribbean cruise where he was runner up for a karaoke 'star of the cruise'. We hear that both John and Bob are pretty good singers. We hear also that both have ambitions about singing with a Brassroots' accompaniment. We think we had better try them at the local pub's karaoke first!

Gwyn Beynon conducts Encore The Concert Band with guest Denise Pelley in *Encore and Denise, Together Again*. Sunday June 1, 2014, 2 pm at Central Secondary School

Bram Gregson is adjudicating at The North American Brass Band Championships in Grand Rapids, Michigan from April 10 to 13. He will be joined (from England) by his brother Edward whose compositions are the set test pieces for all five sections of the Championships.



JOHN MONKHOUSE & DAVE DAVIDSON
SEEN DURING THEIR LAST
CONCERT TOUR IN GERMANY.
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT
GERMAN BREWS?



THERE COULD BE A PRIZE
FOR THE BEST CAPTION!

BRASSROOTS 2014-15 SEASON

Mark your calendar!

ALL CONCERTS AT ST. JAMES WESTMINSTER ANGLICAN CHURCH

What an exciting season we have for our fans. We are breaking new ground with our wonderfully talented guests. Rarely would one be able to hear a brass ensemble coupled with flute, keyboards in such a variety of great music.

Saturday October 25

7:30 pm

Let it Shine

featuring our stars in solos, duets and trios in Jazz to classics.

Sunday December 14

2:30 pm (Admission free)

Christmas at Westminster

Annual Festive Concert with **Stephen Holowitz** at the organ and the St. James Westminster choir.

Saturday February 21, 2015

7:30 pm

Brass & Ivory

featuring **3Keyboards** – **Peter Clements, Angus Sinclair, Stephen Holowitz**, organ, piano, harmonica, accordion and the sonority of ten brass players and the beat of the rhythm section. Lots of pizzazz in this one; pop, jazz and a couple of classics.

Saturday April 18, 2015

7:30 pm

Dizzy Fingers

with **Laurel Swinden** – Flute virtuoso in Sonata Latino and the dextrous digits of our trumpet and tuba players in some really cool charts.

Upcoming Concerts by

Amabile
Choirs of London, Canada

Viaggio Sicuro, Verno Pot, Bon Voyage

Amabile Boys & Men's Choirs
St. John The Divine parish Church, London
Tuesday May 13 at 7:30 pm

Full Circle

Junior Amabile Singers & Amabile Da Capo Choir
Saturday May 31, 7:30 pm

With Heart & Soul

Amabile Youth Singers & Prima: Amabile Women's Choir
Sunday June 1, 2:30 pm

Visit www.amabile.ca for more details about these concerts.



For the tenth season in a row, tickets will be \$20; \$15 seniors and students. Despite increasing expenses, we aim to make our concerts affordable!

Please note that next season our newsletter will be sent by regular mail only once—before the first concert. We will continue to send newsletters and notifications by e mail. If you have not signed up for e mail delivery please do so as soon as possible by e mailing bramgregson@rogers.com.



Your financial help is always appreciated.



We have a faithful group of supporters who assist Brassroots. The easiest method for donating to Brassroots is on-line at www.CanadaHelps.org.

Alternatively you may send a donation to:
Brassroots, c/o Julia Vaughan
713 Rowntree Avenue, London ON N6C 2L9.
Tax receipts are issued for donations of \$20 or more.
Brassroots' Charitable Registration Number is 130746993RR0001.

BRASSROOTS

Vocal Fusion

Mark Payne

MUSIC DIRECTOR & PIANIST

In a sensational collaboration of brass and voices

**Billy Joel Medley
Gershwin Medley
Great hits from Chicago
Harlem Nocturne**

And more cool jazz arrangements



Saturday, April 26, 2014 | 7:30 pm

Church of the Ascension | 2060 Dundas St E, London

Adults \$20 | Students/Seniors \$15 | Children under 12 free with an adult

FROM Tuckey Home Hardware (136 Wortley Rd) | Church of the Ascension | online www.onstagedirect.com/brassroots | 519.471.3428

BRASSROOTS

BRAM GREGSON, MUSIC DIRECTOR

TUCKEY Home Hardware ONSTAGE