



PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

FRONT ROW

THE PSO VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE



EPISODE FOUR  TAPESTRY OF LIGHT: A HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

We welcome you to Heinz Hall to enjoy the music and traditions of the holiday season with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. While we can't gather together at Heinz Hall this year, we are excited to offer *Front Row: Tapestry of Light, A Holiday Celebration* to offer some comfort and joy during these uncertain times.



This year's program has old favorites – and new delights. Principal Pops Conductor Byron Stripling welcomes special guest vocalist Vanessa Campagna, a global star and a Beaver County native, who was discovered by Marvin Hamlisch, the PSO's first Principal Pops Conductor. Byron also showcases his amazing trumpet playing in special performances of “Joy to the World” and an improvisation on the theme from “Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy.” The glorious brass section of the PSO is featured in three pieces, and the PSO is joined by members of the Pittsburgh Youth Chorus and a dancer from Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School for special performances. Valerie Coleman's Umoja (Swahili for “unity” or “togetherness”) is played by the PSO's flute section. And, the celebration wouldn't be complete without the annual tradition of a sing-along!

We're also very proud to present our first ever virtual Sensory Friendly Holiday Concert. This will be the Pittsburgh Symphony's sixth season offering sensory friendly concerts, and our second Sensory Friendly Holiday Concert. Open to all, our sensory friendly performances are customized especially for those with autism spectrum disorders or who have other disabilities that create sensory sensitivities. Sensory Friendly concerts have adaptations that include a shortened length of time for the concert; supportive materials and resources created in conjunction with community partners; and closed caption and ASL interpretation will be shown during speaking. This concert will be streamed on the PSO website, for free, and for 30 days after its premiere on December 18.

Especially this holiday season, I am filled with gratitude—for everyone at the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra who works tirelessly to create and present great music; for our donors and sponsors who have supported us during this deeply challenging time; and for you, our beloved community, who shares our love for unforgettable musical moments.

With warmest best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melia Tourangeau". The script is elegant and fluid, with a large, sweeping 'M' and a long, trailing flourish at the end.

Melia Tourangeau
President and CEO, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra



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FRONT ROW EPISODE 4 TAPESTRY OF LIGHT: A HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

RECORDED LIVE AT HEINZ HALL AND MANCHESTER CRAFTSMEN'S GUILD — OCTOBER 2020

PREMIERE: DECEMBER 18, 2020 7:30 P.M. EST

Byron Stripling, Principal Pops Conductor/Soloist

Vanessa Campagna, Vocalist

Christopher Sanders, Vocalist

Bobby Floyd, Organ

Pittsburgh Youth Chorus; Shawn Funk, Director

Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School

Janet Popeleski, Principal;

Isabella Seo, Dancer

Mark Huggins, Concertmaster & Leader

Peter Sullivan, Trombone & Conductor

Rebecca Cherian, Trombone

James Nova, Trombone

Jeffrey Dee, Bass Trombone

Craig Knox, Tuba

Marylène Gingras-Roy, Viola

Rodrigo Ojeda, Keyboard

Lorna McGhee, Flute

Jennifer Steele, Flute

Rhian Kenny, Piccolo

Shantanique Moore, Bass Flute

Charles Lirette, Trumpet

Chad Winkler, Trumpet

Stephen Kostyniak, Horn

Andrew Reamer, Percussion

Jeremy Branson, Percussion

Christopher Allen, Percussion

Traditional

(arr. Weitekamp)

"O Come all Ye Faithful"

Traditional

"Dona nobis pacem" (Grant Us Peace)

Members of the Pittsburgh Youth Chorus

Various

(arr. Richman)

Christmas Sing-Along

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

"The First Noel"

"Deck the Hall"

Adolphe Adam
(arr. Elkjer/Nova)

"O Holy Night"
Mr. Sullivan
Ms. Cherian
Mr. Nova
Mr. Dee
Mr. Knox

Arvo Pärt

Spiegel im Spiegel for Viola and Piano
Ms. Gingras-Roy
Mr. Ojeda

Valerie Coleman

Umoja
Ms. McGhee
Ms. Steele
Ms. Kenny
Ms. Moore

Marvin Hamlisch

"Chanukah Lights"
Ms. Campagna
Mr. Ojeda

Traditional/Isaac Watts

"Joy to the World"
Mr. Stripling
Mr. Floyd

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
(arr. Gillespie)

"Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" from *The Nutcracker*
Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Improvisation on the theme from "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" from *The Nutcracker*
Mr. Stripling
Mr. Floyd

Traditional
(arr. Elkjer/Nova)

"Up on the Housetop"
Mr. Sullivan
Ms. Cherian
Mr. Nova
Mr. Dee
Mr. Knox

Traditional
(arr. Elkjer/Nova)

"Jingle Bells"
Mr. Sullivan
Ms. Cherian
Mr. Nova
Mr. Dee
Mr. Knox

Leroy Anderson
(arr. Cardo)

“Sleigh Ride”
Mr. Lirette
Mr. Winkler
Mr. Kostyniak
Ms. Cherian
Mr. Knox
Mr. Reamer
Mr. Branson
Mr. Allen

Traditional
(arr. Cumming)

“12 Days of Christmas”
Santa Claus
Ms. Campagna

Traditional
(arr. Gillespie)

“We Wish You a Merry Christmas”
Santa Claus
Ms. Campagna

HEARD IN THE CREDITS

Traditional

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”
Mr. Stripling
Mr. Floyd

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ARVO PÄRT

Spiegel im Spiegel (Mirror in the Mirror) for Viola and Piano

Arvo Pärt (b. 1935) is an Estonian composer known for his original, minimalistic compositional style—tintinnabuli (tintinnabulum – Latin for ‘little bell’). Tintinnabuli was a byproduct of his immense study of medieval music such as Gregorian chant, as well as his personal struggle to find his compositional voice after renouncing the modernist techniques of his Soviet peers. Characterized by two single lines of music—melody and triad—working in tandem to create an inseparable and distinct ensemble, this extremely distilled musical style has close ties Pärt’s Christian values, religious practice and a quest for truth, beauty and purity.

Pärt’s compositional output is rich and varied, including many large-scale compositions for choir and orchestra, four symphonies and works for soloists and orchestra, as well as numerous choral pieces and chamber music. Often his works are published in multiple versions with varied instrumentation because he believed that “the highest value of music is outside its color. Special instrumental timbre is part of the music, yet it’s not a primary quality.”

Pärt’s *Spiegel im Spiegel (Mirror in the Mirror)* was originally composed for violin and piano, but is performed here with viola in place of the violin. Alluding to the infinite image created by two mirrors facing one another, Pärt methodically begins with a rising two-note melody in the viola answered by its mirror—two descending notes. He continues in an almost sterile and procedural manner, adding one more note to each call and response, while always returning to the central pitch of A, which, according to the composer, is like “returning home after being away.” Throughout the composition, the piano accompanies the viola like a “guardian angel,” says Pärt, with arpeggiated triads and intermittent bell-like tolls from the extreme ranges of the piano.

“I would compare my music with white light which contains all the colors. Only a prism can extract the colors and make them visible to us. The prism could be the consciousness of the listener.” -Arvo Pärt



VALERIE COLEMAN

Umoja

Performance Today's 2020 Classical Woman of the Year, and described as one of the "Top 35 Female Composers in Classical Music" by critic Anne Midgette of the *Washington Post*, Valerie Coleman is among the world's most played composers living today. With works that range from flute sonatas that recount the stories of trafficked humans during Middle Passage and orchestral and chamber works based on nomadic Roma tribes, to scherzos about moonshine in the Mississippi Delta region and motifs based from Morse Code, her body of works have been highly regarded as a deeply relevant contribution to modern music.

Umoja (Swahili for "unity") was originally a composition for women's voices (SSAA) to celebrate the first day of Kwanzaa. It later became a signature anthem for the woodwind quintet ensemble Imani Winds and was listed as one of the "Top 100 American Works" by Chamber Music America.

Umoja features a simple, elegant melody repeated throughout, accompanied by infectious layers of rhythms and harmonies from the African diaspora. The meter dances between the written 3/4 and implied 6/8 time, always lilting joyfully under one large beat. The result is a charming and uplifting divertissement that can be performed at any time of the year, regardless of season.

SING-ALONG LYRICS

"ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH"

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains;
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

"THE FIRST NOEL"

The first Noel, the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.

"DECK THE HALL"

Deck the hall with boughs of holly,
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.
'Tis the season to be jolly,
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

Don we now out gay apparel,
Fa-la-la-la-la-la, la-la-la.
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol,
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

See the blazing Yule before us,
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.
Strike the harp and join the chorus,
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

Follow me in merry measure,
Fa-la-la-la-la-la, la-la-la.
While I tell of Yuletide treasure,
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

Fast away the old year passes,
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses,
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

Sing we joyous, all together,
Fa-la-la-la-la-la, La-la-la.
Heedless of the wind and weather...
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la!

BYRON STRIPLING

With a contagious smile and captivating charm, conductor, trumpet virtuoso, singer, and actor Byron Stripling, has ignited audiences across the globe. Recently named Principal Pops Conductor of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, his baton has led orchestras throughout the United States and Canada. As soloist with the Boston Pops Orchestra, Stripling has performed frequently under the baton of Keith Lockhart, as well as being featured soloist on the PBS television special, “Evening at Pops,” with conductors John Williams and Mr. Lockhart. Currently, Stripling serves as artistic director and conductor of the highly acclaimed Columbus Jazz Orchestra.

Since his Carnegie Hall debut with Skitch Henderson and the New York Pops, Stripling has become a pops orchestra favorite throughout the country, soloing with over 100 orchestras around the world including the Boston Pops, National Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Dallas Symphony, Cincinnati Pops, Seattle Symphony, Baltimore Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony, Vancouver Symphony, Toronto Symphony, and orchestras throughout Europe and Asia. He has been a featured soloist at the Hollywood Bowl and performs at festivals around the world.

An accomplished actor and singer, Stripling was chosen, following a worldwide search, to star in the lead role of the Broadway bound musical, “Satchmo.” Many will remember his featured cameo performance in the television movie, “The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles,” and his critically acclaimed virtuoso trumpet and riotous comedic performance in the 42nd Street production of “From Second Avenue to Broadway.”

Television viewers have enjoyed his work as soloist on the worldwide telecast of the Grammy Awards. Millions have heard his trumpet and voice on television commercials, TV theme songs including “20/20,” CNN, and soundtracks of favorite movies. In addition to multiple recordings with his quintet, work with artists from Tony Bennett to Whitney Houston, his prolific recording career includes hundreds of albums with the greatest pop, Broadway, soul and jazz artists of all time.



Photo credit: John Abbott

Stripling earned his stripes as lead trumpeter and soloist with the Count Basie Orchestra under the direction of Thad Jones and Frank Foster. He has also played and recorded extensively with the bands of Dizzy Gillespie, Woody Herman, Dave Brubeck, Lionel Hampton, Clark Terry, Louis Bellson, and Buck Clayton in addition to The Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, The Carnegie Hall Jazz Band, and The GRP All Star Big Band.

Stripling is devoted to giving back and supports several philanthropic organizations including The United Way and Homelessness advocate and The Community Shelter Board. He also enjoys sharing the power of music through Seminars and Master Classes at colleges, universities, conservatories, and high schools. His informative talks, combined with his incomparable wit and charm, make him a favorite guest speaker to groups of all ages.

Stripling was educated at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York and the Interlochen Arts Academy in Interlochen, Michigan. One of his greatest joys is to return, periodically, to Eastman and Interlochen as a special guest lecturer.

A resident of Ohio, Stripling lives in the country with his wife, Alexis, a former dancer, writer and poet and their beautiful daughters.

VANESSA CAMPAGNA

It is her commanding presence and explosive stage personality along with her dynamic and versatile voice that makes Vanessa a fan favorite. These traits along with her passion to perform have earned her the opportunity to work with some of the best music entertainment people in the business as well as perform at some of the biggest music venues across the country. It is her diversity, yet vocal purity that earned her the respect of world-renowned multi-award winning director/composer, Marvin Hamlisch. Marvin took Vanessa under his wing and developed her, taking her along with him to the National Symphony Orchestra, Buffalo Philharmonic, and Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra for a variety of shows. To this day, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra still features Vanessa as a headliner in their Holiday Pops series.

Vanessa was also a featured artist at the Latin Songwriters Hall Of Fame Awards, accompanied by Eduardo Marturet and the Miami Symphony Orchestra, where she paid tribute to Latin songwriting great, César Portillo de la Luz, singing one of his hit songs, "Contigo En La Distancia."

In 2013 she was a part of the 2013 OSCAR winning team who collaborated on the music and lyrics for the Academy Award-winning documentary/short, "Inocente," which aired on MTV.

When Vanessa isn't out on tour, she spends her time in Nashville producing and writing



music with A-listers such as mega-hit maker Desmond Child, multi #1 hit songwriter and producer Derek George, Chuck Jones, Bryan Todd and many more. She has written multiple top 10 hits on the UK Pop, Dance Charts & Billboard International charts for other major label artists as well.

You can hear Vanessa vocally accompany multi-platinum Christian/Pop recording artist, Michael W. Smith on his latest Worship album, "Awaken." You can also hear her alongside Smith, featuring on the globally known, BILLBOARD Number 1 hit song, "Waymaker," streamed over a billion times.

Vanessa is actively spending the rest of her time in the studio getting ready to release brand new music, due out in early 2021.

CHRISTOPHER SANDERS

An award-winning actor and singer, Christopher Sanders has performed in venues around the world. Throughout this career, he has had the pleasure of performing with George Hearn, Roddy McDowell, Carol Lawrence, John Raitt, Debbie Boone and Rosemary Clooney. Most recently, he received critical acclaim for his portrayal of Sweeney Todd. Additional theatrical credits include Javert (*Les Miserables*), Emile (*South Pacific*), Sky Masterson (*Guys and Dolls*), Fred/Petruchio (*Kiss Me Kate*), Jekyll/Hyde (*Jekyll and Hyde*), Beast (*Disney's Beauty and the Beast*), Don Quixote (*Man of La Mancha*), Chauvelin (*The Scarlet Pimpernel*), Juan Peron (*Evita*), Phantom (*Phantom of the Opera*), Adam (*Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*) and Cinderella's Prince/Wolf (*Into the Woods*). His concert work includes engagements with the Pittsburgh Symphony, Knoxville Symphony, Bangor Symphony, Pasadena Pops and *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Weber* at the National Theatre and Concert Hall Taiwan. Sanders tours the country as the



baritone for the legendary 1940s singing group The Pied Pipers. In 2001, they were inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame along with the Bee Gees and The Lettermen. Sanders has been a proud member of AEA for 20 years. Sander's solo CD, "Curtain Call," is available on iTunes and CDBaby.com.

BOBBY FLOYD

GRAMMY nominee and Emmy Award winner Bobby Floyd has had a very successful and rewarding career, his talent putting him in demand and making him one of the first-call pianists/organists for many well-known artists. He started his career traveling the world accompanying Ray Charles on piano and organ. He has also toured nationally and internationally as organist for the Grammy Award-winning Dr. John. He was the feature pianist occupying the chair of the great late Count Basie accompanying his world-famous orchestra for six years.

Floyd currently makes guest appearances with Maceo and is also featured with Byron Stripling, collaborating with some of the most distinguished orchestras, including the Boston Pops, Rochester Philharmonic, and Detroit Symphony.

The prestige associated with Floyd's worldwide appearances has also been witnessed at home where Floyd has been recognized as central Ohio's number one "Favorite Musician" for the past 10 years (2010-20) according to *Columbus Monthly* "Best of Columbus." In his hometown, Bobby has been feature pianist & organist with the Columbus Jazz Orchestra where he has performed with a large number of major artist for many years. He is occasionally featured with



Photo credit: Stephen Pariser

The Columbus Symphony Orchestra, and other arts organizations and venues throughout Ohio.

Floyd has taught at The Ohio State University, Otterbein University and at the world-famous Jamey Aebersold Jazz Workshops and in his own private studio. His critically acclaimed CD's, demonstrate his ability to electrify audiences and have received the highest praise from critics and musicians alike.

Purchase Bobby's music at [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), [iTunes](https://www.apple.com/itunes), and [cdbaby](https://www.cdbaby.com).

PITTSBURGH YOUTH CHORUS



Pittsburgh Youth Chorus is a collective of young people who have been empowered and inspired by the joy of singing. Led by a dedicated staff of choral professionals who specialize in the young voice, Pittsburgh Youth Chorus (PYC) serves the region through exceptional choral music education and artistry. With opportunities for singers ages 6-18 – and with a focus on personal development, community engagement, travel, and cultural exchange – PYC’s multi-faceted programming is celebrated for its ability to nurture the potential of its participants while fostering confidence, dedication, and a sense of belonging.

PYC made its debut in 1983, joining the forces of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra for a performance of Mahler’s Third Symphony. As the fledgling chorus grew, as did its list of collaborators – Pittsburgh Opera, the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh, and Pittsburgh Public Theater have all shared the stage with the group’s young musicians. PYC has also hosted artists of international acclaim, such as Kim Nazarian of New York Voices, Joe Negri (best known for his work on *Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood*), the Harlem Spiritual Ensemble, and Elisabeth von Trapp. Beyond its home in

western PA, Pittsburgh Youth Chorus has taken young singers to Philadelphia, Washington D.C., Oregon, and the United Kingdom.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, PYC continues to offer valuable programming in an online format while producing virtual performances. Post-pandemic projects include a collaboration with Hill Dance Academy Theatre; hosting Dr. Raymond Wise, gospel music specialist from Indiana University Bloomington, in October 2021; and a trip to Lübeck, Germany to sing and travel with the *Vocalino Kinderchor*.

The magic of PYC is in the relationships – bonds between the young singers that rise from making music together, and then transforms the music-making into a powerful and meaningful experience. Countless families have attested to how their lives have been touched as a result of being a part of the PYC family. Pittsburgh Youth Chorus is proud of its singers – past and present – and eager to continue serving our communities with programs that invest in the region’s cultural landscape and future leaders.

PITTSBURGH BALLET THEATRE SCHOOL

As the official training institution of Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School is recognized as one of the nation's finest schools for dance education and training. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Susan Jaffe and School Co-directors Marjorie Grundvig and Dennis Marshall, PBT School offers classical ballet training and a diverse dance curriculum to more than 1200 students of all ages, levels and degrees of interest taught by faculty and guest teachers of international acclaim. Strengthened by daily exposure to PBT's professional company of dancers, PBT School students experience training that extends from the studio to the main stage.

PBT School provides classical ballet training through four divisions: Children's, Student, Pre-Professional, and Community. The Children's Division introduces very young children to dance through Pre-Ballet and Ballet Foundations classes. As students move into the Student Division, six progressive levels strengthen classical ballet technique. Many students in this division have the opportunity to audition for and perform in PBT's annual presentation of *The Nutcracker* and other repertoire productions.

PBT School embarks on an audition tour each year, traveling across the United States auditioning students for its summer programs. Approximately 275 students attend the summer programs. From this group, select students are invited to attend the school-year Pre-Professional Program.

The dancer appearing on the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra's 2020 *Tapestry of Light* program is a member of PBT's Pre-Professional Program. The Pre-Professional Program is the keystone of the School, cultivating the next generation of professional dancers, including more than 50 percent of PBT's current company roster. These dancers, from ages 18 to 22, hail



from places across the Americas, Canada, Europe, and Asia.

Pre-Professional dancers perform regularly in PBT's main-stage company productions – including PBT's 2018/19 season productions of *The Nutcracker*, *The Great Gatsby*, and *Sleeping Beauty*.

Each year, many of PBT's Pre-Professional dancers go on to join PBT's company, and others receive contracts and apprenticeships with other prestigious companies around the country and world.

The School's bright and air-conditioned facility is conveniently located in Pittsburgh's famed Strip District, just 1.5 miles from the heart of downtown Pittsburgh, and features seven spacious studios.

For more information, call 412-281-6727, email PBTSchool@pittsburghballet.org, or visit www.pbt.org/school.

PSO SOLOISTS



**MARK
HUGGINS**

Mark Huggins is associate concertmaster of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra having been named to that position in the 1987-88 season. He is a frequent soloist in the Orchestra's classical, pops and education concerts. In the fall of 1997 he performed Piazzola's *Buenos Aires* in "That Latin Rhythm" pops concerts. In addition, he is actively involved in the Orchestra's Community Outreach program, performing chamber music concerts in outlying communities.

Before coming to Pittsburgh in 1987, he was a member of the Cologne Radio Symphony Orchestra from 1981 to 1987, and was active as a soloist and in chamber music throughout Europe and in Japan. He frequently toured Europe with the Chamber Music group Ensemble Klassik. From 1979-1981 he taught violin at the Conservatoire de Musique de Genève and performed with the Trio de Genève in Switzerland and France. In 1981 he made his recital debut in London's Wigmore Hall.

In the United States, he has participated in the Aspen Music Festival, Music Academy of the West, Cleveland Chamber Music Seminar and the Marlboro Music Festival. A native of Palo Alto, California, Mr. Huggins began his violin studies at age seven with Jenny Rudin, and made his first public performance there at age 10. He studied further with Zvi Zeitlin, Dorothy Delay and Donald Weilerstein. He graduated from the Eastman School of Music with a performer's certificate. While a student at Eastman, he won the Concerto Competition.

Mark Huggins has made four recordings for Harmonia Mundi and EMI as soloist and member of Le Nouveau Salon ensemble in Cologne.

In Pittsburgh, he has been a member of the Carnegie Mellon Trio with Harry Franklin and

Anne Martindale Williams, and has taught violin as a member of the Duquesne University faculty. Currently, he teaches privately. He is an avid language enthusiast and speaks fluent German and French.



**PETER
SULLIVAN**

In the fall of 1999, Peter Sullivan was appointed principal trombone of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra by Mariss Jansons. Canadian-born Sullivan came to Pittsburgh following a long and fruitful tenure as solo trombone including the symphonies in Pittsburgh and Montreal.

Sullivan has performed as a soloist on many occasions with several orchestras including the Pittsburgh and Montreal Symphonies. In 2006, he performed the world premiere performance of Jennifer Higdon's Trombone Concerto with Sir Andrew Davis and the PSO.

Apart from his activities in Pittsburgh, Sullivan performs regularly across North America, Europe and Asia as soloist and chamber musician alongside the world's leading brass players. He is a regular visitor to Japan, playing and teaching at the Pacific Music Festival in Sapporo, the Suntory recital hall in Tokyo, the Hamamatsu Summer Academy, as well as performing solo recitals in Osaka. In China, Peter is involved with the Canton International Summer Music Academy and performed and gave master classes at the Tian Jin and Beijing Conservatories in April of 2006.

Aside from countless orchestral performances in the great concert halls of Europe, Sullivan has performed at the Ascoli Piceno Brass Festival in Italy, and was featured in Christian Lindberg's Trombone Concerto in Bunol, Spain with the composer on the podium. Sullivan was also the first prize winner in the 1990 Umea International Solo Competition in Sweden.

Here at home, Peter Sullivan has given concerts and clinics from coast to coast, including

master classes at the Juilliard and Manhattan schools in New York City, The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, the Glenn Gould Academy in Toronto, coaching at the New World Symphony and the Banff School and tours with the Summit Brass and the Music of the Baroque in Chicago. He has been heard across Canada in recital on CBC radio and NPR with his colleagues in the Pittsburgh Symphony Brass.

Presently, Sullivan serves on the faculties of Duquesne and Carnegie Mellon universities in Pittsburgh, following 15 years as adjunct professor at McGill University in Montreal. For the past few years, he has been working with the Yamaha Corporation on the development of their new line of orchestral trombones, the prototype of which he plays every week with the PSO.



**REBECCA
CHERIAN**

Rebecca Cherian was awarded the position of co-principal trombone of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra by Lorin Maazel in 1989. She has been trombone instructor at Carnegie Mellon University since 1993. Cherian was a founding member of the International Women's Brass Conference in 1994 and served as the IWBC Newsletter Editor for five years.

A California native, Cherian began her professional career at the age of 16 as trombonist with the San Jose Symphony under the direction of George Cleve. At the age of 17, she appeared as a soloist with the San Francisco Symphony as a result of winning First Prize in their Young Musicians' Awards. Cherian earned her Bachelor of Music Degree from the California Institute of the Arts, and her Master of Music Degree from the Yale School of Music. While in school she was awarded First Place in the Atwater Kent Brass Competition and Outstanding Chamber Music Performer at Yale. She studied with Miles Anderson, Robert Szabo and John Swallow.

Before becoming a member of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Cherian held positions

of principal trombone with the Springfield Symphony in Massachusetts and the Rhode Island Philharmonic. She was trombone instructor at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, the Hartt School of Music and Wesleyan University. As a freelance artist, she toured with the Israel Philharmonic under the direction of Leonard Bernstein, and performed with the Boston Opera, New York City Ballet, Hartford, New Haven and Vermont Symphonies and Goodspeed Opera House.

In September 1993, Cherian enjoyed the honor of performing at the White House in Washington, D.C., as part of a 15-woman ensemble of brass and percussion players for the opening reception of the Annual International Women's Forum. The group performed the world premiere of Joan Tower's fanfare, "Celebration," which was dedicated to Hillary Clinton. Cherian appears regularly as a soloist and master class Clinician at the IWBC.

Cherian released her second solo CD, *L'Invitation au Voyage*, in 2015. Both her first CD, *Water Awakening*, and *L'Invitation au Voyage* are available through cdbaby.com, amazon.com or rebeccabowercherian.com. She can also be heard on *From the Back Row*, a recording on Albany Records of the Low Brass Section of the Pittsburgh Symphony, and numerous recordings of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Lorin Maazel, Mariss Jansons and Manfred Honeck.



**JAMES
NOVA**

In the Fall of 2009, James Nova joined the GRAMMY award-winning Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra as its second/utility Trombone. Before joining the PSO, Jim served eight seasons as the assistant principal/second Trombonist of the Utah Symphony Orchestra.

Jim began playing the trombone at age nine in his home state of Connecticut. As a child, he received his early musical exposure and training from his father, Anesti Nova. During high school, Jim studied with his first private trombone teacher,

Assistant Principal/Second Trombonist of the Hartford Symphony, George Sanders.

After graduating high school, Jim attended the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia where he received his Bachelor's Degree studying with the Philadelphia Orchestra's then Principal Trombonist Glenn Dodson. Jim then moved to Boston to pursue a Master's Degree on a full scholarship at the New England Conservatory of Music, studying with then Boston Symphony Orchestra trombonist, Norman Bolter. In addition to his college education, James attended the Pacific Music Festival in Sapporo, Japan, and was also a member of the Tanglewood Music Center Fellowship Orchestra for three summers. After finishing his Master's Degree, he freelanced in Boston for several years, substituting regularly with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Pops Orchestra, making several recordings and television broadcasts with both groups as both principal and second trombone. In 2001, Jim moved to Salt Lake City to join the Utah Symphony Orchestra.

From 2003 to 2007 he enjoyed playing at the Grand Teton Music Festival, and played and taught at the Brevard Music Center in the summer of 2013. He is also the former second trombonist of the Pacific Symphony Orchestra in Orange County, California, former principal of the Rhode Island Philharmonic, former principal of the Vermont Symphony, and former assistant principal of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra.

Jim's debut solo recording, *Albanian Rhapsody*, is a debut in both performance and composition for the father and son team, composer Anesti Nova and trombonist James Nova. All but one piece in this world premiere collection of compositions is for solo trombone and either string or chamber orchestra. The music is ethnically charged, deriving much influence and flavor from Jim and Anesti's strong Albanian background. It is at times tragic, languid and yet uplifting as it chronicles (with the trombone as storyteller) the journey of the Nova family through hardships and eventual triumph over adversity.

In March of 2012, Jim made his solo debut with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra,

performing the Henri Tomasi Trombone concerto as well as his own arrangement of the famous Tommy Dorsey jazz ballad, "I'm Getting Sentimental Over You" which is the material on which Tomasi based his trombone concerto.

Since 2012, Jim has found a new passion using recording technology to explore multitrack recording, also known as "overdubbing" (or, as he calls it, "Novadubbing"), and created numerous stunning recordings of challenging new transcriptions and arrangements he's done of a variety of exciting repertoire for trombone choir. These employ a number of trombones: contrabass, bass, tenor, small tenor, alto and even soprano trombones! To hear these, go to <https://soundcloud.com/jimnova> where his recordings have enjoyed over 600,000 listens!

In 2017, Jim performed world premiere orchestrations by Anthony DiLorenzo of the "Theme from the Green Hornet" and "I'm Gettin' Sentimental Over You." These performances were with the Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestras and later that year, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra with Jim as soloist.

Most recently, in December 2017, Jim has released a new overdub album for trombone choir, *A Fall from Light to Dark*. Through the chosen moments of John Williams' masterful scores, this album musically chronicles the rise and descent of Anakin Skywalker as he transforms into Darth Vader. Truly a one-man show, this album's transcriptions, playing, recording, editing, mixing and mastering were all done by Jim Nova!

Jim has had a lifelong love of John Williams' film scores since his Dad took him and his brother to see *The Empire Strikes Back* in the theater. Throughout his career, he has performed and recorded with John Williams on several occasions, with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Symphony, the Boston Pops as well as the Utah Symphony.

When Jim is not on stage at Heinz Hall with the Pittsburgh Symphony, he can be found at Duquesne University where he's Brass Coordinator and Adjunct Trombone Faculty,

and also the Brass Coach of the Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestras.

Visit Jim's newly revamped website, jimnova.com, for more info.

Jim is an S.E. Shires Artist and performs on Greg Black Mouthpieces.



**JEFFREY
DEE**

Jeff Dee joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra as principal bass trombone in September 2016. Prior to this appointment, he held positions with the Buffalo Philharmonic, Jacksonville Symphony, and Shanghai Broadcasting Symphony Orchestras. Jeff has also performed with the major orchestras of Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Naples, New York, Rochester, and San Francisco. In addition to performing, Jeff currently serves on faculty for both Carnegie Mellon and Duquesne Universities.

A native of Plano, Texas, Jeff attributes his love of music to his public school music education and his inspiring teachers. He received a bachelor's degree from Southern Methodist University and a master's degree from The Juilliard School. His principal teachers include Joseph Alessi, Bob Burnham, Donald Harwood, and John Kitzman.



**CRAIG
KNOX**

Craig Knox has been principal tuba of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra since 2005, having previously held positions of Acting principal tuba of the San Francisco Symphony, and principal tuba of the Sacramento Symphony and the New World Symphony (Miami). He has also performed as a guest artist with many other major American orchestras, including those of Philadelphia, Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit, Minnesota, and Seattle, and with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande of Geneva,

Switzerland. Since 1995, he has spent part of each summer as co-principal tuba of the Grand Teton Music Festival in Jackson, Wyoming.

Since joining the Pittsburgh Symphony, Knox also performs with the Pittsburgh Symphony Brass. He has been an active chamber musician for many years, having co-founded the Center City Brass Quintet, which has performed in recital throughout the United States and Japan, and has been heard numerous times on *Performance Today*. Its six recordings on the Chandos and Octavia labels have met with critical acclaim, the first being described by *American Record Guide* as "one of the all-time great brass quintet recordings." In addition, he played for several seasons with the Chicago Chamber Musicians Brass Quintet — with which he recorded for the Naxos label — and has toured with the Empire Brass. In 2008, the Albany label released a CD recording featuring Knox and his colleagues in the Pittsburgh Symphony low-brass section. Featuring chamber music, orchestral collections and original compositions for three trombones and tuba, the album — titled *From the Back Row* — was called "hauntingly beautiful" and "hair-raising" by the *American Record Guide*.

In March 2018, Mr. Knox played the world-premiere of the Jennifer Higdon Tuba Concerto (a PSO co-commission) with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and Robert Spano conducting, performances of which the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* said, "Mr. Knox played with assurance and complete command of his instrument, providing a convincing case for the solo potential of the tuba." In 2019 he performed the work again, this time in Philadelphia's Verizon Hall, with the Curtis Symphony Orchestra and Mark Russell Smith conducting. In March 2012 Knox performed the world-premiere performances of Andre Previn's Triple Concerto for Trumpet, Horn and Tuba with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and the composer on the podium; he performed a reprise of that work as part of the PSO's 120th Anniversary Celebration Concert, with Music Director Manfred Honeck conducting. Mr. Knox has also performed as a soloist with the U.S. Army Band (Pershing's Own) in Washington D.C., the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, the New

World Symphony, and the Carnegie Mellon University Wind Ensemble, in addition to recital performances at universities and music festivals around the world. His solo recording, *A Road Less Traveled*, of music for tuba and piano with Rodrigo Ojeda, was released in 2012.

Knox is Artist Lecturer of Tuba at Carnegie Mellon University, and a faculty member at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. He previously served on the faculty at Kent State University and California State University-Hayward, as well as the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, where he was director of the Brass Chamber Music program. He has presented master classes, seminars and recitals at universities, conservatories and festivals around the world, including the *Music Masters Course in Kazusa* (Japan), the *International Brass Symposium* (Italy), Tainan National University (Taiwan), the Bruckner University of Music (Linz, Austria), Stuttgart Conservatory (Germany), the *National Orchestral Institute* (University of Maryland), the National Youth Orchestra of the U.S.A. (Carnegie Hall) and the New World Symphony, as well as the University of Michigan, Indiana University, Yale University and the Glenn Gould School in Toronto, among many others.

A native of Storrs, Connecticut, Knox began formal musical studies on the classical guitar at age six and took up the baritone horn in the fifth grade. At age 11, while attending a summer music camp, he was so enamored of the student orchestra that he switched to tuba so he could pursue a life in music as an orchestral performer. His first teachers included Gary Ofenloch, Samuel Pilafian and Chester Schmitz, and he attended the Curtis Institute of Music, where he studied with Paul Krzywicki of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and earned a Bachelor of Music degree.

Mr. Knox holds the Dr. Mary Ann Craig Principal Tuba Chair. For more information about Craig Knox and his activities, visit www.CraigKnoxTuba.com, or Craig Knox Tubist on Facebook.



MARYLÈNE GINGRAS-ROY

A native of Québec City, Canada, Marylène Gingras-Roy joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra viola section in the 1997 season, and in 2004 was promoted to fourth chair. She studied at the Conservatoire de Musique de Québec with Douglas McNabney and François Paradis and graduated in 1993 with unanimous First Prizes in both in viola and chamber music. She was then the recipient of Canada and Québec Arts Councils' Scholarship Grants, enabling her to attend the Harid Conservatory with Victoria Chiang and the renowned Curtis Institute of Music with Karen Tuttle and Joseph DePasquale, where she earned an Artist Diploma in 1997.

Marylène has participated in many festivals, including the Festival Dei Due Mondi in Spoleto, Italy, the Solti Project at Carnegie Hall, the Jerusalem Music Festival, the Jeunesses Musicales World Orchestra, where she served as Principal violist, and since 2000 she is a member of the Sun Valley Summer Symphony in Idaho. She is heard regularly in chamber music concerts and maintains a full teaching schedule at Duquesne University, privately and is the viola coach for the Three Rivers Young People Orchestra. Marylène has also taught at summer music festivals such as Domaine Forget, Québec, Interharmony Festival in Germany and Advanced Chamber Music Seminar in Pittsburgh.



RODRIGO OJEDA

Venezuelan-born pianist Rodrigo Ojeda discovered his passion for music at the very early age of two when his parents made him listen to Carl Orff's *Trionfo di Afrodite* and *Carmina Burana*, but it was not until the age of ten that Mr. Ojeda began to take his first piano lessons. By the age of fifteen, Mr. Ojeda was invited to perform Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto with the Gran Mariscal de Ayacucho Orchestra which was broadcast live on radio and television in Caracas, Venezuela.

A versatile pianist, Mr. Ojeda has frequently performed as a soloist, recitalist and chamber musician. He has performed in every prominent concert hall in his native Venezuela as well as in Ecuador, Spain, USA and Mexico with an expansive repertoire of Tchaikovsky, Brahms, Gershwin, Grieg, Schumann, Mozart, Liszt (Totentanz), Cesar Frank, Prokofiev, Rachmaninov, Saint Saëns and Stravinsky. Mr. Ojeda has participated in master classes with numerous concert pianists like Kasimierz Giesrod (former rector of the Frederic Chopin Academy in Warsaw), Marek Jablonsky, Georgy Sandor, Marta Gulyas, and Earl Wild.

Possessing a wide-ranging knowledge of chamber music repertoire, he has collaborated with countless instrumentalists and vocalists worldwide. He has played and recorded several CD's with various principal members of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra as well as former Concertmasters Andrés Cárdenes and Noah Bendix-Balgley. Recently, Mr. Ojeda recorded Stravinsky Piano Concerto with Carnegie Mellon's Wind Ensemble.

Mr. Ojeda received a Bachelor's Degree in Piano Performance at IUDEM, Venezuela (Institute of Musical Studies) in 1997 with his mentor and pianist Arnaldo Pizzolante, then moved in 1999 to the United States where he received a Master's Degree and an Artist Diploma at Carnegie Mellon University under Mr. Enrique Graf in 2003.

Currently Mr. Ojeda is an Assistant Professor of Collaborative Piano and Assistant Teaching Professor of Coaching and Accompanying at Carnegie Mellon University as well as a piano faculty member in its Music Preparatory School. He has also been playing with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra since August 2006.



**LORNA
McGHEE**

Scottish-born Lorna McGhee was appointed principal flute of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in 2012. Known for her "exceptionally rich and vibrant tone"

(*Washington Post*) Lorna has performed as guest principal with Chicago Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, London Symphony, London Philharmonic, Academy of St-Martin-in-the-Fields, Chamber Orchestra of Europe and has worked with conductors such as Haitink, Gergiev, Rattle, Solti, Harnoncourt, Muti and Honeck. Before immigrating to North America in 1998, Lorna was co-principal flute of the BBC Symphony Orchestra, England. As a soloist, she has given concerto performances with the London Symphony Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra in the UK and Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, Toronto Philharmonia, and Victoria Symphony in Canada, Kyushu Symphony in Japan, Evergreen Symphony in Taipei, and the Nashville Chamber Orchestra, Oregon Bach Festival Orchestra, San Luis Obispo Symphony and Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in the USA. Career highlights include a performance of Penderecki's flute concerto with the Oregon Bach Festival Orchestra under the baton of the composer in 2004 and more recently, performances of the Mozart G major, Nielsen and Ibert flute concertos with the Pittsburgh Symphony. As a chamber musician and recitalist, she has performed in Europe, North America, Japan, Taiwan, Singapore and Australia, in venues such as the Wigmore Hall, Edinburgh International Festival, the Louvre, Paris, the Schubertsaal of Vienna's Konzerthaus, Ottawa International Chamber Music Festival and the Australian Festival of Chamber Music. Lorna is a member of Trio Verlaine (with Heidi Krutzen, harp and David Harding, viola) with whom she has recorded two CDs, *Fin de Siècle* and *Six Departures* and commissioned two new works by R Murray Schafer and Jeffery Cotton. She has also recorded a recital disc *The Hour of Dreaming* with pianist Piers Lane. Her forthcoming solo CD, *Pieces I Love!* will be released in 2020. McGhee has taught at the University of Michigan and the University of British Columbia, and has given masterclasses in the UK, United States, Canada, Europe and Japan, including The Julliard School, Banff International Centre for the Arts, Galway Flute Festival, William Bennett International Summer School and the Japanese Flute Convention. Lorna is an honorary "Fellow of

the Royal Academy of Music,” and is an Altus artist. She joined the flute faculty of Carnegie Mellon University in 2015.
www.lornamcgee.com



JENNIFER STEELE

Jennifer Steele joined the flute section of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in 1994 under the baton of Lorin Maazel. Previously, she served as principal flute of the Charleston Symphony in South Carolina. As a native of San Francisco, Jennifer earned her bachelor's degree from The Juilliard School where she studied with world-renowned flutists Jeanne Baxtresser and Julius Baker. She has performed numerous recitals in both the US and Asia and has made several appearances as soloist with the PSO. As a devoted chamber musician, she appears frequently in concerts in Pittsburgh and around the US.

Outside of performing, Jennifer is a dedicated teacher committed to training the next generation of flutists through her past and present associations with Carnegie Mellon University, Duquesne University and Indiana University. She has also been a volunteer for the Pittsburgh Symphony's Early Childhood Pilot Project, as an adjudicator and lecturer for the National Flute Association, and as a contributing author for Flute Talk Magazine.

Jennifer has spent recent summers teaching and performing at Brevard Music Center in North Carolina and the Strings Music Festival in Steamboat Springs, CO. In her spare time, Jennifer enjoys travel, baking and listening to live jazz.



SHANTANIQUE MOORE

Shantanique Moore, flutist, is an accomplished musician and flute instructor. She has performed with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the Toledo Symphony and the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, among others. Ms. Moore is the winner of First Prize in the Ervin Monore Young

Artist Competition (2016), the Southern Great Lakes Concerto Competition (2013), and the Wayne State Concerto Competition (2012). She is a graduate of Wayne State University (Master of Music, Flute Performance; Bachelor of Music, Flute Performance). Ms. Moore is the eighth recipient of a fellowship from the Pittsburgh Symphony's EQT Orchestra Training Program for African American Musicians (OTPAAM).



RHIAN KENNY

Rhian Kenny joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in 1990 as principal piccolo. She is active in the PSO's education and outreach programs speaking often to groups throughout the Pittsburgh region.

Kenny was born in Benghazi, Libya and grew up in Calgary, Canada which is where she began her flute studies at the age of nine. She continued her studies with Timothy Hutchins at McGill University in Montréal where she received a Bachelor's Degree in Music. Throughout her studies, she won many competitions, including the Concours de l'Orchestre symphonique de Trois-Rivières (1989), Concours de l'Orchestre symphonique de Montréal (1988), and the Concours de l'Orchestre symphonique de Québec (1987).

Rhian has no spare time because outside of the PSO, she enjoys running and a little yoga to keep her sanity. After that, she coaches softball, is president of her daughter's school PTG, and chauffeur to her three daughters.

She also teaches at Duquesne University, and privately.



CHARLES LIRETTE

Charles E. Lirette graduated from Oberlin College Conservatory of Music having studied with Gene Young. He also studied with Don Tison of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and

Bernard Adelstein of the Cleveland Orchestra. He has been a member of the Buffalo Philharmonic and was principal trumpet for the Jerusalem Symphony. Mr. Lirette joined the Pittsburgh Symphony as co-principal trumpet in 1981 and has appeared as soloist with the Pittsburgh Symphony both in subscription concerts and on the Pittsburgh Pops Series. He has performed with the Symphony's Chamber Music at Heinz Hall Series and at Hartwood Acres.



CHAD WINKLER

Chad Winkler joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra as fourth/utility trumpet in November 2008, and has been featured as soloist with the Pittsburgh Symphony. Prior to winning the Pittsburgh Symphony position, Winkler held positions with the Wheeling (WV) Symphony, the West Virginia Symphony and the Erie Philharmonic. He also performed with the orchestras of Honolulu, Louisville and Jacksonville, as well as acting principal trumpet with the orchestras of the Pittsburgh Ballet and Pittsburgh Opera.

Beginning in August 2014, Winkler will be professor of trumpet at Slippery Rock University. Winkler also is professor of trumpet at California University of Pennsylvania. Originally from Morgantown, West Virginia, Winkler earned his Bachelor of Music degree from West Virginia University, where he studied with his father, Dr. John Winkler. Winkler earned his Master of Music degree from Duquesne University, where he studied with Pittsburgh Symphony Principal Trumpet George Vosburger.

Winkler began his trumpet studies at age 12. In 1996, Winkler attended the Interlochen Arts Camp, where he was a winner of the concerto competition. Winkler also performed with Interlochen's World Youth Symphony Orchestra at the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia. Winkler attended the Brevard Music Center from 1998 to 2000, where he was twice the winner of the concerto competition. Winkler spent the summers

of 2001 to 2008 as a member of the music staff orchestra at Camp-of-the-Woods in Speculator, New York, where he performed as soloist and principal trumpet.

Winkler won the National Trumpet Competition in 1995, 1998 and 2000. In 2013, he was invited to perform as guest soloist at the National Trumpet Competition.

Chad and his wife, Elissa, owner of Bethel Park Music Studio, live in Bethel Park, Pennsylvania, with their son, Hudson, and daughter, Selah.



STEPHEN KOSTYNIK

Stephen Kostyniak joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra as associate principal horn in 2006. Prior to taking this position, he was associate principal horn in the Utah Symphony.

Born in Schenectady, New York, Kostyniak began French horn lessons at age eight. By the time he had graduated from high school, he had performed in major music centers in the U.S. and Europe, including the Mozarteum in Salzburg, the Musikverein in Vienna, the Tanglewood Music Center, the Kennedy Center and Tchaikovsky Hall in Leningrad. He also performed in Moscow, Prague, Budapest, Copenhagen, Stockholm and throughout Austria and Norway.

At age 17, Kostyniak entered The Juilliard School in New York City where he studied with New York Philharmonic Associate Principal Horn, Jerome Ashby. While there he performed with the Philharmonic, the New Jersey and New Haven, Connecticut Symphonies, recorded with the Orchestra of St. Luke's, and toured with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. On tour with the Pacific Music Festival Orchestra in 1995 he had the privilege of performing in the International Peace Concert broadcast worldwide from Hiroshima, Japan as part of the ceremony in memoriam of the 50th anniversary of the atomic bombing of that city.

After earning his Bachelor of Music degree, Kostyniak spent one season as acting second horn in the San Antonio Symphony. In 1996 he joined the Utah Symphony, with which he recorded and performed for 10 seasons, including at the Opening Ceremonies of the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics alongside such artists as Yo-Yo Ma, Sting, and the Dixie Chicks. He has also been an active studio musician, performing the music for ABC's *Wide World of Sports* and numerous theatrical and made-for-TV movies.

An enthusiastic performer of new music, Kostyniak is a featured performer on *Journey Pieces*, an album of solo works by the composer Carl Vollrath. In 2005 he recorded Morris Rosenzweig's *A Table of the Most Used Chords* for Horn Quartet with his colleagues in the Utah Symphony, for whom the work was commissioned. He also gave numerous Utah premieres, including the trios of Gyorgy Ligeti and Charles Wuorinen, 'Thea Musgraves' *The Golden Echo* for horn and electronic tape, and was the solo hornist with the Utah Symphony in the 2007 Utah premiere of Olivier Messiaen's *Des canyons aux étoiles*.

Since moving to Pittsburgh, in addition to his performances with the PSO, Kostyniak is a conductor of the Pittsburgh Horn Club.



**ANDREW
REAMER**

Andrew Reamer joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra percussion section in 1989. He was appointed associate principal percussion in 2003 and principal percussion in 2008. He earned Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from Temple University. Reamer has taught at Duquesne University for 25 years and plays jazz with Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra colleagues in The White Tie Group.

He has composed a popular collection of etudes for marimba entitled "Reamer's Elixirs Two-Mallet Fixers" and is an endorser for Zildjian Cymbals, Evans Drumheads and Innovative Mallets.

He carries on a drum- and stick-making tradition that can be traced to the mid-19th century, and his work and innovations can be viewed at drummersservice.com. His custom drums and sticks are used by the most prestigious orchestras and universities throughout the world.

Reamer gets around Pittsburgh on a bike, a motorcycle or in a kayak regardless of the weather.



**JEREMY
BRANSON**

Jeremy Branson is the associate principal percussionist of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. Prior to his appointment in the Pittsburgh Symphony, Branson was a member of the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, Florida, under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas. During that time, he also played regularly with the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Branson has performed under the batons of such conductors as James Conlon, Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, Charles Dutoit, Christoph Eschenbach, Manfred Honeck, Andris Nelsons, Leonard Slatkin, Gerard Schwartz, Robert Spano, Michael Tilson Thomas and David Zinman. He has performed with notable artists including Emanuel Ax, Sarah Chang, Renee Fleming, Hilary Hahn, Thomas Hampson, Lynn Harrell, Lang Lang, Yo Yo Ma, Jean-Yves Thibaudet and Andre Watts. Branson has premiered works by composers such as John Adams, Richard Danielpour, Michael Gandolfi, Philip Glass, Jennifer Higdon, Gyorgi Ligeti, Steven Mackey and Christopher Theofanidis.

Branson earned his Bachelor of Music degree from Texas State University. He then earned his Masters of Music degree from Temple University in Philadelphia under the tutelage of Alan Abel. During his education, Branson attended the Aspen Music Festival, National Repertory Orchestra, National Orchestral Institute, Roundtop Music Festival and the Texas Music Festival.

When not performing Branson enjoys high adrenaline sports. As of 2015, he holds two world records in wingsuit skydiving in addition to several national records. He also can be found on the ski slopes in the Rockies during the winter whenever he has a few free days. Branson is also an avid endurance runner.

Branson is the chair of the Percussion Department at Carnegie Mellon University. He endorses Zildjian Cymbals, Freer Percussion and Pearl/Adams Instruments.



**CHRISTOPHER
ALLEN**

Christopher Allen joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Percussion Section in September of 1997. Born and raised on Long Island, he began

his serious musical training at The Juilliard School Pre-College division where he studied for four years. After that, he attended the Curtis Institute of Music, and then graduate studies at Temple University.

During his final three seasons in Philadelphia he performed as a percussionist in the Philadelphia Orchestra. In 1983, he was appointed principal timpanist in the Columbus Symphony Orchestra where he remained until coming to Pittsburgh. During two of his seasons in Columbus, he took time off to return to performing as a percussionist in the Philadelphia Orchestra. Mr. Allen also spent eight summers playing in the Grand Teton Music Festival, four years in the percussion section and four years as timpanist. Mr. Allen teaches Percussion at Duquesne University.

FLYING SCOOTER

P R O D U C T I O N S

Flying Scooter Productions founded by Jennifer Schlieper and Courtney Gumpf is an award-winning agency and film production studio based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Driven by passion, we cultivate ideas. We produce them. We get results. From customizing cars and national conferences to film and fashion shows to brand development and launch, we tell

your story. We believe in treating people well. Being direct. Working hard. Giving back. We partner with incredibly talented people who love what they do. We believe that gasoline in the tank and an open road can change the course of everything. We are Flying Scooter Productions. Let's go.

THE PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The two-time 2018 GRAMMY Award-winning Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra is credited with a rich history of engaging the world's finest conductors and musicians, and demonstrates a genuine commitment to the Pittsburgh region and its citizens. Known for its artistic excellence for more than 120 years, past music directors have included Fritz Reiner (1938-1948), William Steinberg (1952-1976), André Previn (1976-1984), Lorin Maazel (1984-1996) and Mariss Jansons (1997-2004). This tradition of outstanding international music directors was continued in fall 2008, when Austrian conductor Manfred Honeck became Music Director of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

The Pittsburgh Symphony is continually at the forefront of championing new American works. They premiered Leonard Bernstein's *Symphony No. 1 "Jeremiah"* in 1944, John Adams' *Short Ride in a Fast Machine* in 1986, and Mason Bates' *Resurrexit* in 2018 to celebrate Manfred Honeck's 60th birthday.

The orchestra has a long and illustrious history in the areas of recordings and live radio broadcasts. Manfred Honeck and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra have received multiple GRAMMY nominations for Best Orchestral Performance, taking home the award in 2018 for their recording of Shostakovich: *Symphony No. 5; Barber: Adagio*.

As early as 1936, the Pittsburgh Symphony has been broadcasted on the radio. Since 1982, the orchestra has received increased attention through national network radio broadcasts on Public Radio International, produced by Classical WQED-FM 89.3, made possible by the musicians of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

Lauded as the Pittsburgh region's international cultural ambassador, in 2019 the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, under the leadership of Music Director Manfred Honeck, embarked on an extensive tour of Europe, the 25th in orchestra history.

