



Bard College Conservatory of Music

Celebrating 20 Years of Music, Vision, and Excellence

Non-Required Recital

Hudson River Brass

Angel Ruiz Araujo, Eric Evans, *trumpet*
Felix Johnson, *horn*
Riley Lyons, *trombone*
Yu-Tien James Chou, *bass trombone*

Friday, May 15, 3:00 PM
Olin Hall

Concerto

Allegretto - Adagio molto
Allegro

Antonio Vivaldi
(1678-1741)
J.S. Bach
arr. David Baldwin

String Quartet No. 1, op. 12

I. Adagio non troppo – Allegro non tardante
II. Canzonetta. Allegretto
III. Andante espressivo
IV. Molto allegro e vivace

Felix Mendelssohn

— INTERMISSION —

Blackbird Variations

Robert Dennis

Andante Moderato from Symphony No. 4, op. 98

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)
arr. Yu-Tien James Chou

Antonio Fiorenza, *trumpet*
Dominik Kovács, *horn*

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Born in Philadelphia, PA, **Eric Evans** started his musical journey at the age of seven when he started taking piano lessons. His family moved to South Florida when he was in sixth grade, which is where he first picked up the trumpet. Throughout middle and high school, Eric began to flourish on trumpet, being selected to multiple All-State ensembles. Eric did his undergraduate at the University of Miami Frost School of Music, where he studied with Craig Morris. Around this time, Eric began to become very interested in the worlds of chamber and contemporary music. Following his undergraduate, Eric pursued his Master's in Music at Yale University under the tutelage of Kevin Cobb. He is currently attending Bard College Conservatory of Music for Advanced Performance Studies where he studies with Edward Carroll. Eric has participated in multiple festivals. In 2021, he attended the Eastern Music Festival, where he studied with Chris Gekker. In 2024, he attended the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival with his brass quintet at the time, working with faculty such as Scott Hartman, Mary Elizabeth Bowden, Kevin Cobb, and Willaim Purvis. Eric is also a three attendee of The Center for Advanced Music Studies at Chosen Vale, working with world renowned trumpet players such as Marco Blaauw, Mireia Farrés, Stephen Burnes, Pasi Pirinen, and Clement Saunier. He has also participated in multiple competitions, including the National Trumpet Competition in 2022, and International Competition "Cittá di Porcia" in 2024. Outside of music, Eric enjoys cooking, spending time with his dogs, and is an avid Philadelphia sports fan.

Angel Eduardo Ruiz Araujo began his trumpet studies in Venezuela at the age of eight. After joining the National System of Youth and Children's Orchestras and Choirs of Venezuela, better known as "El Sistema," he won an audition for the National Children's Symphony of Venezuela, and performed in Salzburg, Austria. He returned to Caracas and joined the Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Youth Band of the Simón Bolívar Conservatory, standing out as first trumpet of both groups. He then served as a second trumpet in the Municipal Symphony Orchestra of Caracas, performing at festivals and concerts in the city. He is a third-year student at the Bard Conservatory majoring in music and economics.

Felix Johnson is a horn player in the APS Program at the Bard Conservatory studying under Barbara Jöstlein Currie and Hugo Valverde of the Metropolitan Opera. At Bard College as an undergrad, he was a philosophy major with a particular interest in 20th-century political theory. His senior project, titled Decentralized Perfectionism: a Critique of Contractarianism and Bureaucracy through the Inspiration of Nietzsche, received the William E. Lensing Prize and was nominated for the Irma Brandeis Award. He's also worked for the Bard Prison Initiative at the Fishkill and Eastern Correctional Facilities and as a research assistant with members of Bard's faculty. As a horn player, Felix was a member of the Empire State Youth Orchestra, graduated from the Interlochen Arts Academy in 2018, and has participated in various summer festivals including Domaine Forget in Saint-Irénée, Quebec, and the Curtis Summerfest in Philadelphia, PA. He will be joining The Orchestra Now for their upcoming 2026 season.

Hailing originally from Vancouver, WA, **Riley Lyons** is a trombonist in his first year pursuing his master's degree in Bard Conservatory's Instrumental Arts Program, studying under Demian Austin and Sasha Romero of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. Prior to his graduate studies, Riley received his Associate of Arts degree in Music at Clark College, studying with Dr. Donald Appert. He then finished his undergraduate studies at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music where he graduated with high distinction, earning a Bachelor of Music in Trombone Performance, studying primarily with Peter Ellefson, formerly of the Seattle Symphony. During his time at IU, he performed in numerous chamber groups, including brass quintet, trombone quartets, trombone choir, and brass choir, and has also performed with the IU Symphony Orchestra. During his summers, he has attended the Southwest Trombone Conference, (formerly the Santa Fe Trombone Summit), where the faculty includes the low brass of the Santa Fe Opera, and the Southeast Trombone Symposium, with faculty spanning major orchestras and soloists around the world.

Originally from Taoyuan, Taiwan, **Yu-Tien James Chou** is a bass trombonist pursuing his Doctorate of Musical Arts degree at Northwestern University. Yu-Tien has been named winner of the American Trombone Workshop Trombone Quartet competition with the Untitled Trombone Quartet, and substitute for Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra and River City Brass Band. Currently a student of Michael Mulcahy, Randall Hawes, Douglas Wright, Reed Capshaw, he has earned his Master's degree from Carnegie Mellon University, and Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Arts in Physics from Bard College.