



COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS  
**School of Music**

*Faculty Artist Series*

Dr. David Porter, Tuba and  
Dr. Eunae Ko, Piano  
Featuring NOVATEQ and Guests

Saturday, February 9, 2019  
8:00 pm  
Harris Theater



## **P R O G R A M**

Concerto for Tuba and Orchestra

Oystein Baadsvik

I. (1966 - )  
II.  
III.

Brumous Fantasies

Benjamin McMillan  
(1984 - )

Three Romances for Susie

Barbara York  
(1949 - )

I. Adagio  
II. Joyfully  
III. Tenderly

Convent Window

Joanna Ross Hersey  
(20<sup>th</sup> Century - )

David & Goliath

Michael Forbes  
(1973 - )

NOVATEQ:

Euphoniums-Chris Troiano, Bryan Miles;  
Tubas-Dr. David Lopez, Jisang Lee

Guests:

Euphonium-Stephen Cannistraci; Tuba-Dr. Michael Nickens  
Conductor: Mark Thiele

## PROGRAM NOTES

**Concerto for Tuba and Orchestra.** Commissioned by the Nordic Chamber Orchestra in 2009, the Concerto is a major work in the tuba repertoire. From the composer, this concerto contains a variety of musical styles. The first movement has the piano imitating ostinatos often played on an amadinda, an African xylophone. The ostinatos create a non-existent downbeat so the flow is unique and different to the regular mapped out beat pattern. The rhythms are complimented by soaring and lyrical melodies in both the tuba and piano part and occasional calls that might bring into imagination a fanfare in the mountains. Starting with a slow, distinct and forlorn C minor melody from the tuba, the second movement develops around this melody in various octaves and dynamics and spinning a beautiful ending change into C major. The third movement is inspired by up tempo jazz. It features a walking bass line and an eight bar melody that is passed between tuba and piano and featured in a short fugue. After a mid-movement heavy metal resemblance episode, there is a short recap of the themes from the first and second movements and the movement finishes with the same rhythmic motives as in the beginning. This music is formidable for the extended high range that lasts throughout the whole piece, but provides a brilliant pallet of colors and exhilaration of the tuba at its most dazzling display.

**Oystein Baadsvik** is the only tuba player in the world to make his living entirely as a tuba soloist. Hailing from Trondheim, Norway, he began playing the tuba at the age of 15, won first prize at 18 in a Norwegian national competition for soloists, and is one of their foremost international musicians. He studied with Harvey Phillips at Indiana University and Arnold Jacobs, legendary brass pedagogue and former Principal Tuba with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. His international career began in 1991 when he was awarded two prizes at the Concours International d'Execution Musicale in Geneva and has continued with over 12 different major orchestra appearances. Baadsvik has premiered more than fifty solo works and developed new tuba playing techniques. He has released several CDs in the last two years, and his recordings ranked second in sales for all wind instruments in Japan. Oystein continues to lead a busy life with global clinics and masterclasses, composing, and conducting.

**Brumous Fantasies.** Written in 2015 and commissioned by Tracy Luna, this work is inspired by a particular bad winter in 2015. McMillan described it as particularly brutal for him in several ways which led to a prolonged state of depression. The piece is built on the idea of escaping that depression through fantasies. Tending to come and go spontaneously and unconnected to itself, the fantasy of the music has abrupt shifts in style and color. Three fantasies are represented by the three chords in the upper octaves of the piano. At the end of the piece, these chords return and added to with a major chord coming to “rest in some hopefulness.”

**Ben McMillan** is active as composer and producer. His music has been performed by international artists such as Steven Mead, Sergio Carolina, Timothy Northcut, Gail Robertson and Adam Frey and many others. He has received numerous commissions, and has had performances at some of the most well-known music venues. Ben studied composition with Dr. Greg Danner at Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, TN where he was born and with James Barnes, University of Kansas and credits his influences to “film scores and post-minimalism.”

**Three Romances for Susie.** Copyrighted in 2006, this piece is a consortium of beautiful melodies presented in three different speeds and styles. The first movement makes use of a quintuple motive and centered in the key of C major with methodic piano quarter note chords throughout the movement. Next, the second movement has treble triplets and bass duplets in the piano part underneath a much lower and warm tuba melody. This melody is repeated four times and interspersed with a secondary more melodic attribute and all centered around the key of F major. Jumping down a major third from C major in a Beethoven like gesture, the third movement is centered in Ab major. The melodic material is spun true to the title—most tenderly and subtle with sublime lilting. Interrupted by a brighter sequential song in the middle, York finishes the movement with the same lilting tenderness that it began.

**Barbara York** has become a varied and ambitious composer. From some notes by Cimarron Music, she is a concert accompanist, choral and theatrical music director and composer. She has received commissions from two Canadian symphony orchestras, the Boise State University Symphonic Winds and many other private groups and soloists in both the US and Canada.

**Convent Window.** This is Ms. Hersey's first composition and, as she puts it, meant to call to mind a moment of quiet contemplation. Hersey patterns the piece after her admiration for Hildegard von Gingin, a German Benedictine abbess, writer, composer, philosopher, Christian mystic, visionary, and polymath from the late 11<sup>th</sup> to middle 12<sup>th</sup> centuries. Hersey's music describes Gingin pausing during her busy days "to look out of her office window, in a moment of calm reflection." Hersey writes the piece for the lowest register of the tuba which contains slow flowing melodic material alternating with quicker moving notes above the staff.

**Dr. Joanna Ross Hersey** is from Vermont and studied with Dan Perantoni at Arizona State University, Chester Schmitz at New England Conservatory of Music and earned her Doctor of Musical Arts in Tuba Performance from the Hartt School. She was formerly Principal Tuba with the U.S. Coast Guard Band, and has since branched into a demanding freelance life. This includes performing throughout North America and Europe and is a member of the Alchemy Tuba-Euphonium Quartet. She is currently President of the International Women's Brass Conference and Associate Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

**David & Goliath.** Pertinent to the title, this work is about the Biblical story of David defeating the Philistine Goliath in the book of Samuel. Composer Michael Forbes used research of various texts and stories regarding the legend and put together a somewhat pictorial musical presentation. Each section is not related to specific scripture, but in the beginning, the disjunct calling of the melody can easily be related to David being called by God to go and fight Goliath. The middle faster material could represent the clash of David and Goliath, starting with the approach to the meeting, then the short confrontation where David hits Goliath with a rock from his shepherd's sling, Goliath falling and then an energetic section of joy and jubilation. The work finishes with the return

to the original calling theme and finales into a coda of the allegro thematic material, but this time more joyful than combative. Composed in 2010 for Sergio Carolino and his ensemble “How Low Can You Go?”, this work is challenging for the soloist and the six member ensemble with its extended range, leaps and jumps and rhythmic passages.

**Dr. Michael Forbes** is an artist of widely diverse musical talents. Superb tubist and composer, he has two solo albums one of which features all works by Dutch composer, Jan Koetsier and the second all of Forbes own works. He began his career with the U.S. Army Band, “Pershing’s Own” and has since served on the faculties at universities along the East Coast and in the Midwest. More recently, his teaching has led him to international schools in Spain, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Mexico City, and Italy. He studied at the University of Maryland and the University of Wisconsin-Madison and at the University of Manchester and the Royal Northern College of Music. His teachers have included John Stevens, Toby Hanks, Gene Pokorny, Marty Erickson, and Mark Lusk.

## MEET THE ARTISTS



**Dr. William Davidson (David) Porter** is a retired CMSgt from The United States Air Force Band, Washington D.C. During his 24 year career there, he played tuba with The Concert Band, The Ceremonial Brass and The Symphony Orchestra. He also made appearances with The Airmen of Note, The Singing Sergeants and various chamber groups such as The Dixieland Band and several brass quintets.

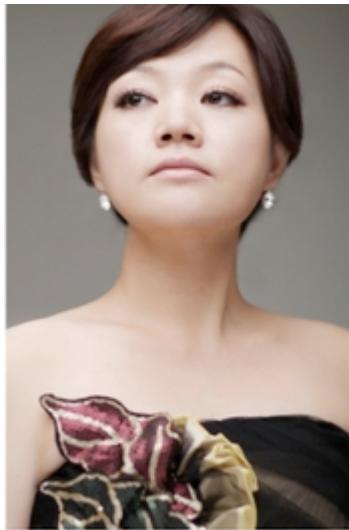
Having grown up in Tennessee, David graduated from Alcoa High School in 1976 under the tutelage of Roy Holder. His education includes a Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Tennessee Tech University (TTU), a Masters in Music in Tuba Performance from the University of New Mexico (UNM), and a Doctor of Musical Arts in Tuba Performance from George Mason University (GMU). David's main teachers have been Professor R. Winston Morris (TTU), Dr. Karl Hinterbichler (UNM) and Dr. Michael Nickens (GMU). His other teachers have been Mr. David Fedderly, Retired Principal Tuba, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, the late

Dr. Milton Stevens, Principal Trombone, National Symphony Orchestra, and is currently studying with Mr. Gene Pokorny, Principal Tuba, Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Besides the USAF Band, David has performed as Principal Tuba with The New Mexico Brass Quintet and The New Mexico Symphony Orchestra and substituted with The Maryland Symphony Orchestra. He is currently Principal Tuba with Tysons McLean Orchestra. His other performing experiences include many solo appearances with the USAF Concert Band and Chamber Series, touring with Tim Zimmerman and The King's Brass (2010-2014), with Eurobrass (2013-2019), and regular performances with King Street Brass Quintet, Camerata Brass Quintet, National Brass Quintet and Tysons McLean Orchestra Brass Quintet and many other chamber and orchestra ensembles throughout the Washington DC Metropolitan area.

His very active teaching career of over 40 years includes college clinics, high school band camps, sectionals and clinics, middle school and elementary sectionals and clinics, and teaching Drum and Bugle Corps Brass. He currently teaches 30 tuba and euphonium students weekly from five different schools in Fairfax County, VA and has had students gain scholarships at over 16 different major universities. As well as Adjunct Instructor at GMU, he is also on staff teaching Brass Methods, Instrumental Pedagogy and Literature, Tuba Euphonium Ensemble and Brass Coach with "The Green Machine", the 250 member athletic music ensemble at GMU. During the summers, David is on faculty as the Tuba Instructor and Outreach and Chamber Music Coordinator at the MasterWorks Festival, a Christian performing artist camp at Converse College, Spartanburg, SC.

David's professional memberships include the International Tuba Euphonium Association, American Federation of Musicians, Phi Mu Alpha, National Honor Society, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Fraternity and Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity. His other interests include volunteering as a sound engineer and youth counselor at Fairlington UMC and exercising. David is married to wife, Judy, and they are parents to children Sandra (married to husband Greg with son Micah) and Bill (married to wife Emily with daughter Anna).



**Dr. Eunae Ko Han** (Adjunct Professor in Music, GMU) serves as an opera coach and collaborative pianist in the vocal area at George Mason University. She also held position as an opera coach at Seoul National University and UMCP, and has a wide repertoire of vocal works including operas, oratorios, choral, and song literatures. She received her D.M.A. in Collaborative Piano from the University of Maryland at College Park (UMCP), studying under Rita Sloan, who founded and directs the collaborative piano program at the Aspen Music Festival. Dr. Han also earned a Master of Music degree in Piano Performance from UMCP and earned her Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance from Mason. Dr. Han has extensive experience as an accompanist and a chamber musician, performing in numerous concerts and recitals throughout the United States, Korea, China, and Japan. She actively performs as a collaborative pianist for both vocal and instrumental recitals throughout the Greater Washington Metropolitan area, as well as in New York. In 2017, she founded Kalos Trio as performed in venues such as the benefits concert for the homeless at the historic New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC. Dr. Han received the McCoy Award for Collaborative Pianist, and First Place in the Ulrich Competition at UMCP. She also received a rave review from *The Washington Post* for her performance of Mozart's opera, *Impresario* at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Dr. Han also participated in "Songfest", where under the tutelage of Martin Katz, she premiered pieces by distinguished composers including Jake Heggie and John Harbison.

**NOVATEQ** is based out of Northern Virginia and is known as the Northern Virginia Tuba-Euphonium Quartet. They were established in September 2016 and can be heard performing in numerous venues and educational programs throughout the Washington DC Metropolitan area. With their various backgrounds, all members are connected through George Mason University, the University of North Texas, and the University of Maryland. NOVATEQ won the chamber music division of the 2017 Northeast Regional Tuba Euphonium Conference (NERTEC) and the 2018 Mid-Atlantic Tuba-Euphonium Conference (MARTEC).

NOVATEQ is joined by three special guests. Mr. Stephen Cannistraci from Pennsylvania, who is a DMA euphonium student at GMU under Dr. Mark Jenkins, Mr. Mark Thiele who is a DMA conducting student at GMU and a tubist with The President's Own U.S. Marine Band, and Dr. Michael Nickens, Associate Professor of Music, who instructs The Green Machine, and teaches Applied Tuba and Composition at GMU.

I wish to thank everyone who has helped make this recital possible. Particularly thanks to our Savior, Jesus, for strength and guidance. Also my fabulous wife, Judy, who is the best spouse I could ever have. And most grateful to Dr. Han and the tuba euphonium ensemble for their time in working out all the little details of the music. A wonderful journey and I am so glad to share it with you.

# Faculty Artist Series Spring 2019

**David Porter, Tuba**  
February 9 at 8:00pm

**Kathleen Mulcahy, Clarinet**  
**& June Huang, Violin**  
February 16 at 7:00pm

**Christopher Jewell, Bassoon**  
February 17 at 7:00pm

**Glenn Smith, Composition**  
February 22 at 8:00pm

**Jim Van Slyke, Musical Theater**  
March 24 at 3:00pm

**Anna Balakerskaia, Piano**  
**& Friends**  
March 24 at 7:00pm

**Julianne Nickel, Flute**  
**& James Nickel, Horn**  
March 30 at 4:00pm

**Dorotea Racz, Cello**  
March 31 at 3:00pm

*All events in the Faculty Artist Series are open to the public  
and admission is courtesy of the School of Music.*

**George Mason University School of Music**

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