

MB Bios 2007

### **Manhattan Brass bios**

Hailed as a Critic's Pick in Time Out New York magazine, the award winning Manhattan Brass is best known for its innovative programming, dynamic performances, varied, eye-opening repertoire, and commitment to educating audiences of all ages about live music and the brass idiom. Currently in its 15th season, the ensemble is an amalgam of individual virtuoso musicians, each bringing to the table their unique experience and vision. Comfortable in every genre from Gesualdo to jazz, the quintet is intent on taking brass ensemble playing to another level and bringing their audience with them.

In addition to its standard repertoire, the quintet places an emphasis on dynamic programming and on the commissioning and performance of new works, especially those which integrate new or unique styles into the repertoire. Throughout its history the quintet has commissioned and premiered the works of a wide range of composers, including jazz greats Wynton Marsalis and Paquito D' Rivera.

[manhattanbrass.org](http://manhattanbrass.org)

A native of St. Louis, **Wayne J. du Maine** currently performs with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Brooklyn and Long Island Philharmonics, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, American Composers Orchestra, New York City Opera, New York Big Brass, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and with contemporary music ensembles such as Speculum Musicae, Sospeso, and ST-X Xenakis. Mr. du Maine is a member of the Manhattan Brass and with Mercury, Pennsylvania Academy of the Arts, and the Brooklyn Philharmonic Brass Quintets, he is dedicated to performing and introducing live music to thousands of school children in the NYC area, NJ and PA. Wayne has worked with a broad spectrum of artists ranging from Leonard Bernstein and Leonard Slatkin to Hank Jones, Wynton and Branford Marsalis, Patti Lupone and Audra MacDonald. He can be heard on recordings with the New York Philharmonic, Met Opera Orchestra, numerous commercials, motion pictures and with Prince on his New Power Soul recording.

Mr. du Maine is on the faculty of Columbia and Princeton Universities. At the Juilliard School, Wayne teaches trumpet in the Music Advancement Program, serves as a teaching assistant in the Instrumental Music Program and the Academy, a joint program including Carnegie Hall, The Weill Music Institute and Juilliard. He is also on the conducting faculty of the Elisabeth Murrow String Camp.

Mr. du Maine has performed at music festivals in Aspen, Spoleto, Tanglewood, Vermont Mozart, Bowdoin, Marlboro, Berkshire Choral, and the Manchester (VT) Music Festival. He has been a member of the pit orchestras for Titanic, Music Man and Man of La Mancha. Wayne just completed a two year run of Fiddler on the Roof where he was associate conductor. He is currently a member of the new show How The Grinch Stole Christmas. Highlights of recent performances include the Boys Choir of Harlem, Take 6, Martha's Vineyard Chamber Music Society, the Pittsburgh Collective, American Ballet Theater, Bernadette Peters and the rock band, Jesus H. Christ, where he plays keyboards.

A member of two softball leagues in Central Park, Wayne resides in Manhattan with his wife, Sharon.

A fixture on the New York music scene for some 30 years, **Lew Soloff's** first jobs were with latin artists Machito, Tito Puente, and The Radio City Music Hall Orchestra. At this early point in his

career he played with Maynard Ferguson, the Thad Jones-Mel Lewis Band, Clark Terry, the Joe Henderson-Kenny Dorham Big Band and sat in often with drummer Elvin Jones. In the spring of 1966 Lew started working with Gil Evans, a relationship that continued until Gil's death in 1988, and continues with his son, Miles.

From 1968 through 1973 Lew joined rock band Blood, Sweat & Tears. During this period, Lew toured and recorded numerous albums with the band, including one of the most popular trumpet solos in rock music; on their mega-hit 'Spinning Wheel'. After the BST years, Lew remained in New York, recording in the busy studio scene while maintaining his gig with Gil.

Soloff played lead trumpet with the Carnegie Hall Jazz Band and Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. He has also done so for Frank Sinatra, Thad Jones and Barbra Streisand. He has been featured with Carla Bley since 1987, and is a charter member along with David Matthews, of the Manhattan Jazz Quintet; which has recorded 29 albums for Japan since 1984. Lew has also worked with Ornette Coleman and toured often with trombonist Ray Anderson.

Lew Soloff has nine solo albums to his credit. He presently works with Manhattan Brass, Manhattan Jazz Quintet and Orchestra, is a recurring soloist with both Absolute Ensemble and The Fab Faux, is on the board of Lyric Chamber Society, tours with Marianne Faithfull, Steve Tyrell, and also his own trio, quartet and quintet. He has just formed a new group with string quartet and trumpet.

Lew had a DVD released in Japan in April '05 on the "Spice Of Life" label of the Miles Davis-Gil Evans version of "Porgy And Bess", recorded with the Bohuslan Big Band of Sweden. He is a Bach/Selmer clinician and has been on the faculty of the Manhattan School Of Music for over 20 years. He is a graduate of the Eastman School Of Music.

**Ann Ellsworth** is the solo horn player with Kristjan Järvi's Absolute Ensemble, Manhattan Brass, Graham Ashton Brass Ensemble and the alternative horn group Confluence. The New York Times has called her playing, "...outrageous...splendidly projected." She performs with such pop artists as Aretha Franklin, Diana Ross, Shakira, Tony Bennett, and can be heard on Chaka Khan's album, "Classikhan" among others.

In addition to recording for film and television, Ann also enjoys performing on early instruments and has performed a lecture recital at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, performing on the original instruments in their collection. She is also interested in interdisciplinary performance and as a visiting artist at the Lang College of the New School, led many ground-breaking events involving improvisation, dance, videography and landscape architecture. Ann is an active soloist and chamber musician, touring regularly in Europe and the United States with broadcasts on NPR and Public Radio International. She has recently recorded Eric Ewazen's Horn Concerto with the Manhattan Chamber Orchestra and is currently working on a recording of all new works for alphorn solo and small ensembles. Ann is a former member of the Phoenix Symphony and Danish Esbjerg Ensemble, studied at the Eastman and Juilliard Schools and is now on faculty at the Juilliard Pre-College and New York University.

A native of Los Angeles, **Michael Seltzer** has performed internationally in many of the world's major concert halls and festivals. As a freelancer, Mr. Seltzer enjoys the variety of music he encounters in New York, and has performed with many of that region's finer orchestras and ensembles, often in Carnegie Hall or at Lincoln Center. Ensembles include the Orchestra of St Luke's, Metropolitan Opera, NY City Opera, American Symphony, and many others. Recent appearances have been accompanying icons such as Joe Zawinul, Marcel Khalifé, Branford

Marsalis, members of Frank Zappa's band and the stars of Monty Python. He has also performed extensively on Broadway; currently on the hit revival of "A Chorus Line".

Mr. Seltzer is a multiple-time Grammy award nominee with numerous ensembles in which he has been a performer, including 2004's winning Broadway Cast Album for Bernadette Peters' revival of 'Gypsy'. Recent tours have included Australia, Europe and Japan. Much of the recent international traveling and recording has been with Absolute Ensemble, the cutting-edge chamber orchestra, as their solo trombonist. Additionally, he has recorded for television and film, and has performed and recorded contemporary music with groups such as Bang-on-a-Can Marathon, and the ST-X Ensemble Xenakis. He has performed with the New York Collegium, New York's acclaimed baroque orchestra and also enjoys solo performance, appearing in recital at the Caramoor Festival's winter 'Artist Spotlight' series and for Lincoln Center's 'Meet-the-Artist' series.

Mr. Seltzer has been a panelist for Chamber Music America's National Conferences and has been a guest clinician/lecturer at many esteemed institutions including UCLA, The Juilliard School, Indiana University at Bloomington and the Hochschulen für Music in Bremen and Stuttgart, Germany. He did doctoral work at New York University and received degrees from California State University, Northridge and Manhattan School of Music where he was a member of the inaugural class of their orchestral study and performance program. He has designed educational programs for Midori & Friends, the Fischhoff Chamber Music Society, and the Manhattan Brass, of which he is a founding member.

Receiving B.S. and M.S. degrees from the Juilliard School of Music, **David Taylor** started his playing career as a member of Leopold Stowkowski's American Symphony Orchestra, and by appearing with the New York Philharmonic under Pierre Boulez. Almost simultaneously, he was a member of the Thad Jones Mel Lewis jazz band, and recorded with Duke Ellington (The New Orleans Suite), The Rolling Stones, and Blood, Sweat, and Tears. Mr. Taylor has recorded four solo albums (Koch, New World, and DMP) and has presented numerous recitals throughout the world).

He has appeared as a soloist with the St. Lukes Chamber Orchestra, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Caramoor Festival Orchestra, NY Chamber Symphony, Basil Sinfonietta, Adelaide Philharmonic, and the Group for Contemporary Music. He has been involved in dozens of commissioning projects for the Bass Trombone in solo and chamber idioms; collaborating with composers including Alan Hovhaness, Charles Wuorinen, George Perle, Frederic Rzewski, Lucia Dlugoszchewski, Eric Ewazen, David Liebman, and Daniel Schnyder. He has appeared and recorded chamber music with Yo Yo Ma, Itzhak Perlman, and Wynton Marsalis. Throughout his career, David Taylor has appeared and recorded with many major jazz and popular artists including Barbara Streisand, Miles Davis, Quincy Jones, Frank Sinatra, and Aretha Franklin. Mr. Taylor has won the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences Most Valuable Player Award for five consecutive years, the most it could be awarded and has been awarded the NARAS Most Valuable Player Virtuoso Award, an honor accorded no other bass trombonist. He has been a member of the Gil Evans Band, Thad Jones-Mel Lewis Band, George Russell's Band, the George Gruntz Concert Jazz Band, and the Chuck Israel Band to name a few. Although he has performed on numerous Grammy Award winning recordings, 1998 was special. In 1998 Taylor performed on four Grammy nominated CD's: The J.J. Johnson Big Band, Dave Grusin's West Side Story, the Joe Henderson Big Band, and the Randy Brecker Band. The latter two CD's were chosen for Grammys.

David Taylor currently performs with The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Charles Mingus Big Band, NY Chamber Symphony, Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra, Michelle Camillo Band, Bob Mintzer Band, and the Daniel Schnyder, David Taylor, and the Kenny Drew Jr Trio. He

appears frequently with Orpheus, and the St. Lukes Chamber Orchestra, and is on the faculties of the Manhattan School of Music and Mannes College.

Upcoming events include the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Chamber Music Northwest, and master classes and recitals in the U.S., Europe, and Japan. David has appeared with the Absolute Ensemble under the direction of Kristian Jarvi (this project was broadcast on European TV and recorded for Enja Records), the Niederoesterreichische Tonkuenstlerochester, and Tiroler Symphonie Orchester Innsbruck.