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**(EXTENDED BIO - 589 words)**

**“This is not your grandfather's brass quintet!”**

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 celebrating its 20th 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.

Recent reviews have praised the ensemble as “truly exceptional musicians who are also enjoying themselves, the listening experience is profound.”; describing it as “virtuosity, precision, and a stylistic mastery that could be matched by few, surpassed by none.”; and stating “they play with impressive rhythmic energy, excellent balance, and a style that should be seen as an ideal to achieve.”

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. The MB places an emphasis on breaking down barriers between performers and audiences -- the group has been featured on National Public Radio's "Performance Today", has appeared as featured artists in recital on Japanese network NHK-TV, as well as under the auspices of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall.

MB's recordings and performances have received international praise. Fanfare Magazine stated: “this group sounds as though they can do *anything*” (sic) and “Speaking of dazzling, MB is off the chart”. Their latest CD release; “New York Now” (2010) is now available on ENJA Records, iTunes, etc., or from the group's website. The landmark recording features original and MB signature works by Marsalis, D'Rivera, Bernstein, and Daniel Schnyder's EUPHORIA -- an over-the-top jazz/world/classical tone poem, written for the group with Schnyder on soprano sax. Schnyder's music has been described by the LA Times as “never less than compelling... an intriguing interface of jazz and classical elements.”. Other recent releases include “The Music of David Dzubay” and “BRASS” featuring music written by, as well as performed with, Daniel Schnyder.

In 2004 legendary trumpeter Lew Soloff and virtuoso bass trombonist David Taylor joined the ensemble (then called the Manhattan Brass Quintet), providing a new and vital drive and sense of direction. Soloff and Taylor brought a wealth of experience making music with a number of influential musicians ranging from Duke Ellington to Stokowski and back to Gil Evans and Blood, Sweat & Tears. In recognition of this boost in versatility and fresh thinking, the ensemble modified its name to the Manhattan Brass and broadened its repertoire. *Time Out NY* proclaimed:

“The Manhattan Brass has long brought a spontaneous flash to contemporary classical music; now, with new trumpeter Lew Soloff, the group's sound has never been jazzier.”

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Manhattan Brass is Wayne du Maine & Lew Soloff, trumpets -- RJ Kelley, horn -- Michael Seltzer, trombone & David Taylor, bass trombone.

manhattanbrass.org

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

**(INDIVIDUAL BIOGRAPHIES)**

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, Rodney Mack Philadelphia 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 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 has been a soloist with the orchestras of St. Louis, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh. 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 as well as Bar Harbor Brass Week. At the Juilliard School, Wayne teaches trumpet in the Music Advancement Program and serves as a teaching assistant in the Instrumental Music Program. He is also on the conducting faculty of the Elisabeth Morrow Summer Strings and now is Music Director of the Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble at the Elisabeth Morrow School. Recently, Wayne made his Brooklyn Philharmonic conducting debut to critical acclaim and will make his Westchester Philharmonic debut in Spring, 2011.

Mr. du Maine has performed at music festivals in Aspen, Spoleto, Tanglewood, Vermont Mozart, Bowdoin, Marlboro, Berkshire Choral, and the Manchester (VT) Music Festival. Wayne just completed a two year run of Fiddler on the Roof where he was associate conductor. He is currently a member of the show How The Grinch Stole Christmas and has served as associate conductor at the hit revival of South Pacific at Lincoln Center. Highlights of recent performances include the Boys Choir of Harlem, Take 6, Martha's Vineyard Chamber Music Society, Absolute Ensemble, soloist with the Cincinnati Symphony, Peter, Paul and Mary, and the rock band Jesus H. Christ, where he plays keyboards.

A member of two softball leagues in Central Park, Wayne resides in New Jersey with his wife, Sharon and daughter Sequoia.

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.

Resident in the New York area since 1990, **R.J. Kelley** has been heard with such distinguished ensembles as the New York Philharmonic, NY City Opera, NY City Ballet, Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra, Orchestra of St. Luke's, Orpheus, Aspen Wind Quintet, and many others.

Equally comfortable touring with Branford Marsalis and Orpheus, appearing on "Saturday Night Live" with Puff Daddy and Jimmy Page, or giving Bach's Quoniam under direction of Christopher Hogwood, Andrew Parrott, or Joshua Rifkin; playing the Carnivale di Venezia with the Duke Ellington orchestra, recording Mozart's complete Concerti for horn (MusicMasters/Orchestra of the Old Fairfield Academy/Thomas Crawford), R.J. has garnered critical praise ranging from "Dazzling!" (San Francisco Chronicle) to "...resident magician of the Orchestra of the Old Fairfield Academy..." (Hartford Courant).

RJ currently serves as principal horn of Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra under Nicolas McGegan; Santa Fe Pro Musica & Smithsonian Chamber Orchestra/Kenneth Slowik (NM,DC); American Classical Orchestra/Thomas Crawford (CT); Portland Baroque Orchestra/Monica Huggett (OR); Washington Bach Consort/Reilly Lewis; he has been featured as concerto soloist with the above-named ensembles, as well as the Philadelphia Classical Symphony, Connecticut Early Music Festival, Connecticut Orchestra, The Governor's Musicke (Williamsburg, VA), Tafelmusik (Toronto), Capella Nuova (Stockholm, Sweden), and others.

Festival appearances include the Edinburgh Festival, the BBC Proms-London, Mostly Mozart/Lincoln Center, Berkeley (CA) and Boston Early Music Festivals, Ravinia, Tanglewood, Blossom Festival, Gottingen Handel Festival, Brighton Festival (UK), and the Montreux-Detroit Jazz Festival. R.J. has been a guest artist of the Royal Court Theater Orchestra at Drottningholm (Sweden), Freiburg Baroque Orchestra, Musica Antiqua St. Petersburg, Moscow Chamber Orchestra, CBC Vancouver, Korean Chamber Ensemble, Mexico City Philharmonic, and others.

R.J. has served as artist faculty at Colorado College and Hartwick College (NY); presented lecture-recitals and/or master classes at Florida State University, San Jose State University, Rutgers University, University of Montana, and University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Of some 50+ CD's to his credit, a partial list includes: Beethoven's Sextet (horns and strings) and Septet/OoOFA/ MusicMasters, piano Quintets of Mozart and Beethoven/Helicon Winds/Helicon, Vivaldi's Concerti for Diverse Instruments/PBO/McGegan/Reference, and Rameau's Le Temple de la Gloire/PBO/McGegan/ Harmonia Mundi USA. Recent releases include Hoagy Carmichael's Stardust (with Hora Decima brass ensemble/David Chamberlain); Bach's Mass in F, BWV 233 (Washington Bach Consort/Reilly Lewis; and Schoenberg's reduction of Mahler's monumental Das Lied von der Erde (Santa Fe Pro Musica/Smithsonian Chamber Players/Slowik), which was nominated for a 2008 Grammy.

R.J. performs on an 1850 M.A. Raoux, an 1875 Besson (with three-piston sauterelle), and Seraphinoff/Haas Baroque horn. He also plays (exclusively) Alexander modern horns: 303, 307, 103, 90, and custom descant with a 103 belly.

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 ensembles, often in Carnegie Hall or at Lincoln Center. Recent appearances have also been in projects accompanying icons such as Sting, 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.

Michael Seltzer is solo trombonist for the cross-genre chamber orchestra-cum-rock band, Absolute Ensemble and has recorded and toured extensively with the group. In addition to Manhattan Brass, he is also featured/solo trombonist of the Philadelphia Big Brass. Orchestral performances include the Orchestra of St Luke's, American Composer's Orchestra, NY City Opera, NY City Ballet, NY Pops, American Symphony, Metropolitan Opera (banda), Sarajevo Symphony, Adelaide (Australia) Symphony, and many others. Recent tours have included New Zealand, Europe and China.

Mr. Seltzer is also a producer of recordings and has performed on and produced chamber music recordings which have received international critical acclaim. He 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'.

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 Princeton University, The Juilliard School, the Curtis Institute, UCLA, Indiana University at Bloomington, Temple University, and the Hochschulen für Music in Bremen and Stuttgart, Germany among others. He is currently on the faculty of Columbia University. He did doctoral work at New York University and received degrees from California State University, Northridge and Manhattan School of Music. 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.