

MANHATTAN BRASS – PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Programs are customizable to presenters needs. MB also collaborates with presenters to develop new & special projects.

American Voices: The Music of Gil Evans & Duke Ellington

MB explores the amazing voices of two of the most influential composer/arrangers in American music. Both Ellington and Evans' music transcended style stereotypes and borrowed from all that was around them. Manhattan Brass members bring personal experience working with these masters, and lends that to these interpretations. The program can be mixed or evening-length and features both composers' adaptations of original 'classic' works and original compositions as well, including Duke's rarely heard, yet strikingly vivid film score to 'Anatomy of a Murder' (1959). Also featured on the program is a token to Duke's Harlem by American composer and Pulitzer Prize winner, Arron Jay Kernis. Composers on the mixed program include JS Bach, Claudio Monteverdi, Wynton Marsalis, and up-and-comer Derek Bermel.

“Your Town” Meets Manhattan : Manhattan Brass + Daniel Schnyder

In 2007 the MB released the first of two new recordings on ENJA's new Marsyas record label, featuring the music of NYC based Swiss/American composer and virtuoso saxophonist Daniel Schnyder. To celebrate the first release, entitled 'BRASS', MB and Schnyder traveled to Stuttgart, Germany to team up with the Stuttgart Brass: faculty and students of the city's acclaimed music conservatory (Hochschule für Musik) and presented a program to a sold out house with works performed by both groups individually and combined. Schnyder's music is akin to a new Gershwin...classical influences amongst jazz and world music grooves; music that tells a story and stirs the soul. The program, entitled "Stuttgart Meets Manhattan", featured EUPHORIA; a dynamic a programmatic new work based on ancient religious texts, written for the MB as a brass sextet. This sublime, yet wildly virtuosic work takes advantage of the

unique sounds of 5 brass plus Daniel on soprano sax, in addition to numerous other compositions on the program for large and small ensembles. The title of this flexible program changes with the location and is now available in "your town" (ie "Denver Meets Manhattan", "Tokyo Meets Manhattan", etc.) – perfect for University faculty/student groups or collaborations with local classical, jazz, or freelance artists, and ideally includes clinics and coachings by the MB and Schnyder. This program is also available solely as the sextet with no additional guest artists.

Pastiche

In 2009, MB premiered a programming style which was inspired by both early and modern societies...the Pastiche opera was more of a "sampler" or iPod-style playlist on shuffle...a group of pieces by any range of composers all mixed together in a jukebox performance set -- multi-movement commissioned works collide with Bach, Brazilian dance music and any number of current MB programming favorites. Manhattan Brass performs a condensed version of the Pastiche program for Carnegie Hall's Neighborhood Concerts all through the boroughs of New York City.

20th Anniversary Special Programs

In season 2011-12, MB celebrates its 20th Anniversary. Two special programs in NYC will feature highlights of MB's programming history and will also delve into new offerings of inspired music of all styles from around the world. In addition; MB's next CD release will be a unique Christmas album in true MB eclectic style...holiday settings ranging from Carla Bley to Charles Mingus to master American composer John Harbison...as these premiere and launch, they will be available as touring programs as well.