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**Pitzen Brass Ensemble Announces Return Concert
Northwestern University — Galvin Recital Hall
April 7, 2024**

Evanston, IL – March 6, 2024 — The Pitzen Brass Ensemble announced today that it is returning to its roots to present a full concert in the Bienen School of Music’s Mary B. Galvin Recital Hall on the Evanston campus of Northwestern University, at **7:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 7**. Having held leadership positions in the finest performing ensembles and educational institutions over the past four decades, 20 of Northwestern’s top music alumni are reuniting to perform an exciting and challenging program of works by Renaissance, Baroque, Romantic, 20th century and contemporary composers.

During its most active years, the Pitzen Ensemble was highly sought after in the Chicago area, not only for audiences, but also for the most talented and promising musicians in the country. Pitzen alumnus James Smelser, who has played second horn in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra since 2000, credits the Pitzen Brass Ensemble in helping him achieve success as a symphony musician. *“When first invited to join the Pitzen Brass Ensemble, I had already been aware of its high level of leadership and artistry,”* said Smelser recently. *“This Ensemble played a significant role in my professional development and my pursuit of music-making at the highest level. The skills and enjoyment that came from this have lasted throughout my career.”*

A constant force in the growth of the Ensemble and its musicians has been its conductor, Dr. Mitchell Arnold. *“We came together as purposeful young musicians, blending our technical gifts with artistic purpose and stylistic integrity,”* recalls Arnold. *“That experience remains etched in my memory, as it laid the foundation for my orchestral conducting career. Performing again on April 7, we now add years of musical experience to that exuberantly youthful blend of talent and artistry.”*

The Pitzen Brass Ensemble presented an annual subscription series of three concerts every year in Evanston, which continued uninterrupted through the 1980s. It also performed throughout the Chicago metropolitan area in prestigious productions such as the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series, which was broadcast on classical radio station WFMT. In 1983, the Pitzen Brass Ensemble made its Orchestra Hall debut in “An Evening of Music and Conversation with Witold Lutoslawski.”

The April 7 concert at the Galvin Recital Hall will feature a wide array of works by Jolivet, Brahms, Wagner, Satie, Grainger, and Tomasi. [Complete program details will be released soon.](#)

Comprehensive information about the Pitzen Brass Ensemble, its history, its musicians and their experience, and the April 7 concert is all available at pitzenbrass.com.

Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$5 for students with valid ID, and free for wheelchair seating.

Tickets available NOW at <https://www.music.northwestern.edu/events/pitzen-brass-ensemble>.

Website pitzenbrass.com Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PitzenBrass>

GoFundMe <https://www.gofundme.com/f/concert-expenses-for-the-pitzen-brass-ensemble>

To book interviews with the artists, email comms@pitzenbrass.com or call (613) 314-5001.

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