

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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**Pitzen Brass Ensemble Announces  
Concert Program, Sponsors, and Fanfare to Honor Sculptor Richard Hunt  
Northwestern University — Galvin Recital Hall  
7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 7, 2024**

**Evanston, IL – March 26, 2024** — Today the Pitzen Brass Ensemble announced its full concert program, concert sponsors, and reprise performance of *Eagle Columns Fanfare*, which the Pitzen Ensemble premiered at the 1989 dedication of Richard Hunt's *Eagle Columns* sculpture in Jonquil Park. The concert will be presented 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.**

The April 7 program is available in its entirety at [pitzenbrass.com](http://pitzenbrass.com). This innovative and varied program features a motet by Johannes Brahms, funeral music by Richard Wagner (orchestrated for the Pitzen Brass Ensemble by the late Northwestern University composition professor Alan Stout), and original works for brass by the 20<sup>th</sup> century French composers Erik Satie, Andre Jolivet, and Henri Tomasi. One of the highlights will be the first performance since 1989 of the *Eagle Columns Fanfare*, which the Jonquil Park Sculpture Committee commissioned Pitzen Brass Ensemble conductor Mitchell Arnold to compose and the Pitzen Ensemble to perform for the dedication of Richard Hunt's monumental and inspiring sculpture, *Eagle Columns*. The Pitzen Ensemble had intended to program this stirring fanfare and invite Mr. Hunt to the concert, but Richard Hunt passed away on December 16, 2023. It is a privilege for the Ensemble to honor Richard Hunt's life and work at this concert.

The concert is sponsored by the established Chicago music store, Quinlan & Fabish, which is well known for its support for music education. A newly minted company, Ascenda Music Publishing, is the other major sponsor. Several works on the April 7 program are to be published by Ascenda. Timothy Myers, the founder of Ascenda, is also a founding member of the Pitzen Brass Ensemble and its predecessor, the Pitzen Brass Quintet. Recently retired from his position as Principal Trombone in the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Mr. Myers credits the Pitzen Ensemble for much of his artistic and personal development. *"My time with the Pitzen Brass Ensemble was one of the most important episodes of my musical life,"* recalls Myers. *"The excellence of our performances, the esprit de corps, and the thoughtfulness of the programming instilled in me the essential values that I carry to this day."*

The Pitzen Ensemble has been highly sought after in the Chicago area, not only by audiences, but also by the most talented musicians in the country. Pitzen alumnus James Smelser, second horn in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra since 2000, is grateful for the influence the Pitzen Brass Ensemble has had in his success as a 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."*

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

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

Website [pitzenbrass.com](http://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](mailto:comms@pitzenbrass.com) or call (613) 314-5001.**

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