

2013
CONCERT
SEASON



BoB – Best of Brass

present:

Four Seasons

19 April 2013 6.30pm
Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University
Ian Hanger Recital Hall

Program:

John Stevens (*1951)

Seasons (1984) (Symphony for Brass Quintet)

- I. Spring
- II. Summer
- III. Autumn
- IV. Winter

The seasons have inspired a number of composers to create miniature settings of mood and character for a diverse range of solo instruments and chamber ensembles. Amongst the more well-known interpretations are Vivaldi's version for solo violin and string orchestra,

Ástor Piazzolla (1921-1992)
(arr. Armin Terzer)

Las Cuatro Estaciones Porteñas

- I. Primavera Porteña (1970)
- II. Verano Porteño (1965)
- III. Otoño Porteño (1969)
- IV. Invierno Porteño (1970)

Tchaikovsky's op.37a for solo piano, Haydn's large-scale oratorio as well as Glazunov and Cage's ballet scores. This concert features two equally renowned works, John Steven's *Seasons* and Astor Piazzolla's *Las Cuatro Estaciones Porteñas*.



Program notes:

John Stevens was born in 1951 in Buffalo, New York, graduated from the Eastman School of Music and Yale University and joined the faculty of the University of Wisconsin/Madison in 1985 after previous employment as professor of tuba and euphonium at the University of Miami School of Music. ***Seasons*** was composed during the summer of 1986 and written specifically for the Wisconsin Brass Quintet. In the composer's own words:

"The title and the musical flavor of the movements were inspired by the changes of seasons in the northern climes of the United States. The music is programmatic in that the most important compositional aspect of the work is the creation of the seasonal mood in each movement.

Spring is a time of new beginnings; of growth and warmth returning. Each instrument has a chance to "blossom" in this opening

movement. Summer is a joyous dance of great speed and agility - the music is, except for a short section in the middle reminding us of the stifling summer heat, a celebration of the activity and "outdoor" nature of the season.

Autumn is the most beautiful of the seasons, with its cool days and gorgeous colors. There is also a melancholy atmosphere to the music, forewarning the coming of winter. Winter can be many things, but in this work portrays the violent, cold, cracking, stark nature of the

Wisconsin winters. This finale movement returns at the end to the music of Spring, completing the year's cycle to conclude the piece.

Ástor Pantaleón Piazzolla was born in 1921 in Mar del Plata, Argentina, and went on to become one of the major tango composers and bandoneón players. He revolutionized the traditional tango through the incorporation of compositional elements from classical and jazz music to form a new style, *nuevo tango*. ***Las Cuatro Estaciones Porteñas***, or *The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*, is a collection of four compositions written over six years. They were originally conceived as individual works, but are now frequently performed and recorded as a set. The version best known in the classical world today is the arrangement for solo violin and string orchestra by Russian composer Leonid Desyatnikov, who changed the format of the individual movements and integrated several quotes from Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*. The arrangement for brass quintet featured in today's concert on the other hand is modelled on the original instrumentation for tango quintet (bandoneón, violin, electric guitar, piano and double bass), including the use of percussion as heard on live recordings featuring the composer.

Bob Schultz – trumpet, flugelhorn
Nathan Schilling – trumpet, flugelhorn
Armin Terzer – horn
Greg Aitken – trombone
Samuel Nolan – bass trombone



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Sep 13	QCGU3: The Chinese Connection (IHRH)
Sep 15	QCGU3: The Chinese Connection (St Andrew's South Brisbane)

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