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ABOUT MUSIC

The University of Arkansas is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music and the Department of Music is housed within the Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences.

Home to over 300 music students and fifty faculty members, we offer a variety of degree programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Department faculty and students perform over 400 concerts per year, on and off campus. Large concerts are performed at the 600-seat Faulkner Performing Arts Center that opened in 2015. Chamber and solo recitals are primarily presented at the 200-seat Stella Boyle Smith Concert Hall, which began a full renovation December 2022 and should reopen in spring 2025.

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GUEST ARTIST CONCERT

Featuring the music of

Jim Self, tuba/composer

7:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 23, 2025

Faulkner Performing Arts Center

University of Arkansas

PROGRAM

Contra-Dictions

Jim Self (b. 1943)

- I. Oom Pas de Deux
- II. Vis à Vis
- III. Au Contraire

Jim Self, tuba

Benjamin Pierce, tuba

Andrew Cox, conductor

Trumpet: Dr. Richard Rulli, Joseph McGee, Nathan Steinmuller, Jack Lockhart

Horn: Dr. Katey Jahnke, Drew Schulz, Landon Geitzenauer, Austin Rushing

Trombone: Dr. Cory Mixdorf, Mac Dishman, Parker McCollum, Kizer Brown

Percussion: Miles Wheeler, Thomas Baker

HoopLA

Jim Self

Arkansas Brassworks:

Richard Rulli

Joseph McGee

Katey Jahnke

Cory Mixdorf

Benjamin Pierce

Just A Closer Walk

Trad. arr. Jim Self

Euphonium: Benjamin Pierce, Jacob Giesbrecht

Tuba: Jim Self, Henry Sargent, Robert Anderson

INTERMISSION

Selections to be announced from the stage

Jim Self, tuba

Jake Hertzog, guitar

Michael Hanna, saxophone

Garrett Jones, bass

Darren Novotny, drums

PROGRAM NOTES

Jim Self is a Los Angeles-based freelance musician. Since 1974 he has worked for all the major Hollywood studios performing for over 1500 motion pictures and hundreds of television shows and records. His solos in major films include John Williams's scores to Jurassic Park, Home Alone and Home Alone 2: Lost in New York, Hook, and was the "Voice of the Mothership" from Close Encounters of the Third Kind. Other solos can be heard in James Horner's Casper and Batteries Not Included, Marc Shaiman's Sleepless in Seattle and Jerry Goldsmith's score to Dennis the Menace. Later films include Wall-E, Troy, Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events, The Legend of Zorro, War of the Worlds, King Kong, Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull, The Princess and the Frog, Valentines Day, Avatar, Tintin, Toy Story 3, and recently Bridges of Spies and Star Wars 7, The Force Awakens.

Josh Grobin, Cassandra Wilson, Claus Ogerman, Mel Torme, Leon Redbone, Weird Al Yankovich, Maynard Ferguson, Randy Newman, Bette Midler, Barbara Streisand, Frank Sinatra, Don Ellis, the L.A. Philharmonic, LA Opera, Pasadena and Pacific symphonies, and the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra are among the many artists and groups with whom he has recorded. Self was the string bass and tuba player with Jon Hendricks in his long running L.A. production of "Evolution of the Blues". He holds principal tuba positions with the Pacific Symphony, Pasadena Symphony and the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra and principal tuba/cimbasso in the Los Angeles Opera Orchestra, which recently did a two-year run of the Wagner Ring Cycle and won a Grammy for Kurt Weill's Mahagonney.

In 1983, Self-produced his first album, Children at Play. It features jazz tuba and harmonica and has received world-wide acclaim. It was chosen by High Fidelity magazine as one of the top ten jazz albums of that year. A second recording, New Stuff (fusion jazz), was released in 1988 on compact disc. Both are on the Discovery-Trend label. His third recording, Tricky Lix, was released in 1990 on the Concord Jazz label featuring jazz greats Gary Foster and Warren Luening. In 1992, an all "classical" CD Changing Colors came out on the Summit label. A jazz CD, The Basset Hound Blues, with Pete Christlieb was released on d'Note Records in 1997. In 1999, a second "classical" recording, The Big Stretch, came out on Basset Hound Records. It features original compositions by Self and others. That was followed by an eclectic CD entitled My America with arrangements of American songs by Kim Scharnberg. Self is assisted by a great band of L.A. studio musicians and plays his new horn, the FLUBA. Next Self recorded a quintet CD of jazz standards and originals called Size Matters, with late/great Tennessee tenor man, Bill Scarlett. Then came InnerPlay, a jazz and strings CD featuring Gary Foster, Pete Christlieb and Dan Higgins with arrangements by Brad Dechter. InnerPlay was chosen by Jazz Times magazine as one of the top 50 jazz albums of 2006 and that same year Self was nominated for the prestigious Downbeat Critics Poll. Returning to his roots, Self and harmonica virtuoso, Ron Kalina next released a new be-bop CD called The Odd Couple. Jim's latest CD is called 'Tis the Season TUBA Jolly" on the Basset Hound label. It features the Hollywood Tuba 12 on 20 great Christmas arrangements featuring 29 of the top L.A. Area Tuba and Euphonium players. In 2015 he produced ¡YO!, a Latin Jazz band with great L.A. musicians—featuring the music of Franciso Torres. In 2017 Jim produced a jazz duo Cd with Guitar great

John Chiodini titled *Floating in Winter*. All of Self's recordings and compositions are available from: www.bassethoundmusic.com.

Self is a past president of I.T.E.A., is a former faculty member of the University of Tennessee, Principal Tuba in the Knoxville Symphony and is a former member of The United States Army Band, Washington, D.C. Born in 1943 in Franklin, Pennsylvania, (raised in nearby Oil City), he holds degrees from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Catholic University and a Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, where he is adjunct professor of tuba and chamber music. At USC he organized the USC Bass Tuba Quartet that won 1st prize for chamber ensembles at the 2014 ITEC at Indiana University. For many summers he taught students at the Music Academy of the West, the Henry Mancini Institute and the Hamamatsu Wind Festival and Academy in Japan. In 2014 he was an adjudicator at the prestigious Jeju Festival Brass Competition in Korea. His primary tuba teachers were William Becker, Harvey Phillips, and Tommy Johnson.

For 35 years Self was the leader of Tuba Christmas in Los Angeles – since its beginning in 1976 to 2011. In 1974 he organized and hosted the First Regional Tuba Euphonium Conference, during his last year at the University of Tennessee. In 1978 he organized and hosted the 3rd International Tuba Euphonium Conference at the University of Southern California. In 1976 he founded The Los Angeles Tuba Quartet with Tommy Johnson, Roger Bobo and Don Waldrop, and later, Los Tubas, a group of “loose” L.A. tuba players. For several years he sponsored Creative Tuba Scholarships at various American universities. In 2011 he formally endowed the biannual Jim and Jamie Self Creative Award through ITEA. In December 2008, Self was invited by Gene Pokorny to play a week of *Symphonie Fantastique* with the Chicago Symphony.

Self was voted the Most Valuable Player Award for Tuba three times by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS) and named Emeritus winner in 1987. In March 2003, He was given a Distinguished Alumni Award by Indiana University of Pennsylvania – a university wide honor only given to 290 of the more than 120,000 graduates. In June 2008, Self was given the Lifetime Achievement Award by the International Tuba-Euphonium Association at the Cincinnati Conservatory. At that same conference, he was also awarded the 1st Roger Bobo Award for Excellence in Recording (Jazz) for his CD *InnerPlay*. At the next ITEC in Linz Austria in 2010 he was awarded The Harvey Philips Award for Excellence in Composition for his piece for 8 tubas and drums, *Woojoo*.

Besides his work as a tubist, Self maintains an active doubling career performing on bass trombone, cimbasso, contra-bass trombone, and (rarely now) string and electric basses and the Steiner EVI (electronic valve instrument). His latest new instrument is the FLUBA – an original design (picture a tuba-sized flugel horn). It is very unique and is a great solo instrument. Self is the author of the chapter “Doubling for Tubists” in *The Tuba Source Book*. His hobby is flying his 1973 Piper Arrow for fun, and sometimes to gigs.

Self is also a published composer and arranger. He has about 60 titles for brass, string and woodwind chamber music, works for band, orchestra, solo tuba and trombone. The Pacific Symphony commissioned him to write a feature work for the orchestra called *Tour de Force: Episodes for Orchestra*. The

13-minute piece was premiered at the Renee and Henry Segerstrom Hall in Orange County on April 17-20, 2008, to great acclaim. He has since scored *Tour de Force* for Wind Ensemble. The east co-premier was at Indiana University of Pennsylvania in September 2009 with Jack Stamp, and the west premier was at USC in March 2010, H. Robert Reynolds, conducting. A Brass Band version was premiered on 6 concerts by the River City Brass Band in 2013, James Gourlay conducting. Portuguese tuba virtuoso, Sergio Carolino, is a champion of Self's music and has commissioned, performed, and recorded several of his works.

Jim and Jamie Self have endowed Instrumental Scholarships at Oil City High School in Pennsylvania, tuba scholarships at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and The University of Tennessee and have endowed five scholarships for the Legacy Brass Quintet at IUP. And five scholarships for the Volunteer Brass Quintet at UT. In 2012 they endowed a Creative Tuba Award through ITEA and offered the seed money for ITEA to establish a general endowment. Jim is also active commissioning new works, especially for the USC Bass Tuba Quartet.

As a solo artist, Self performs regularly worldwide. His concerts and clinics present an interesting blend of classical and jazz music and represent a wide spectrum of his many experiences as a performer, composer, and teacher. Jim Self is a Yamaha Performing Artist.