

University of Arkansas Department of Music

presents

An Evening with



ZEN BRASS

August 31, 2026, 7:30 PM
Stella Boyle Smith Concert Hall

Zen Brass

Benjamin Hay, Richard Rulli, Mary Thornton – trumpets
Dan Hinman, Brian Scarborough – tenor trombones
Andy Newbegin – bass trombone
David Swanson – tuba

American Overture	Joseph Wilcox Jenkins (1928-2014)
Dolce Nemica Mia	Andrea Gabrieli (1532-1585)
O Salutaris Hostia	Ēriks Ešenvalds (b. 1977)
Estampas Nocturnas IV. Scherzo de Puck	Manuel Ponce (1883-1948)
The Spheres	Ola Gjielo (b.1978)
Trilogy for Brass Septet	Peter F. Strohm (b. 1953)

Intermission

Wie Will Ich Mich Freuen	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
Two Traditional Spirituals	Moses Hogan (1957-2003)
Pavane	Gabriel Fauré (1825-1924)
Tales of Brynmor I. Hymn of the Iron Core II. Galehaven III. Floodhaunt	Casey Martin (b. 1989)

Zen Brass Members

Benjamin Hay Ben is a native Oklahoman, and a trumpeter and educator in Oklahoma. He holds degrees from Oklahoma State University, the University of New Mexico, and the University of Oklahoma. Dr. Hay is an active musician in the Tulsa area and is Assistant Professor of Music and Music Department Chair at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah. Ben is a Conn-Selmer/Vincent Bach Endorsing Artist.

Richard Rulli Dr. Rulli is Associate Professor of Trumpet at the University of Arkansas. Rich grew up in Wyoming and studied music at the University of Northern Colorado, Ithaca College, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He served seven years as a bandsman in the US Air Force. He is an active performer as well as being a renowned educator. Rich is an S.E. Shires Performing Artist.

Mary Thornton Dr. Thornton grew up in Wisconsin, now resides in Corpus Christi, TX, and is Professor of Trumpet and Music Department Chair at Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi. Despite hurricane season, she enjoys the Gulf Coast life and is a member of numerous orchestras and chamber ensembles. She studied music at Rice University, the Cleveland Institute of Music, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Mary is a Yamaha Performing Artist and Clinician.

Dan Himman Dan comes from North Dakota and now lives in Manhattan, KS. Dr. Hinman is Assistant Professor at Kansas State University and holds degrees from North Dakota State University, the University of Minnesota, and the University of North Texas. While Dan solos regularly, he avidly freelances throughout central Kansas and Kansas City. He's performed with multiple ensembles, including the Kansas City Symphony.

Brian Scarborough Brian is a trombonist, improviser, composer, and educator in Kansas City. A top-call performer, he leads his own jazz ensembles and performs with various ensembles. He is an author of seven pedagogy and transcription books, and has recorded two albums of his own jazz compositions. He is veteran musical theatre and touring Broadway productions, including the first North American tour of *Hadestown*. Brian is a Buffet Crampon Artist and plays Antoine Courtois Trombones.

Andy Newbegin Coming from Wisconsin, Andy holds music degrees from the University of Minnesota and the University of Kansas. While he freelances as a musician in the Kansas City area, he also is an accomplished audio engineer, professional photographer and videographer, covering everything from portraits and wedding photos to sporting and other live events.

David Swanson Dave is Zen Brass' music director and main music arranger. He grew up in Northwestern Pennsylvania and studied music education and tuba performance at Clarion University of PA and the Cleveland Institute of Music. He joined the United States Air Force as a tuba player, and spent a 21 year career traveling and performing throughout the world. He followed that with freelancing in the Kansas City area and a second career building pipe organs. He's now based in Nice, France.

Special Thanks

University of Arkansas Department of Music for hosting us in an outstanding place to perform.

As there are no tickets required, if you wish to present a financial contribution to Zen Brass to help us continue our work of bringing uplifting audience experiences through beautiful and entertaining music, you may place your contribution in the baskets on either side of the entrance. Or use one of the QR Codes below to make a direct deposit to our account.



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