

# MARITIME BRASS QUINTET

## LES CUIVRES DES MARITIMES

[maritimebrass@gmail.com](mailto:maritimebrass@gmail.com)

902-483-9792

[www.maritimebrassquintet.ca](http://www.maritimebrassquintet.ca)

The Maritime Brass Quintet, recently chosen as a Debut Atlantic 2015/2016 Artists in Residence, brings the highest caliber chamber music to concert halls, churches, festivals and schools across the Maritimes. Since forming in the spring of 2011, the Maritime Brass Quintet embarked on a busy concert schedule and have been featured guests at many of the regions' well-known concert series and performance venues: including the Scotia Festival of Music, Musique Royale, the Music Room, Acadia University, St. Francis Xavier University, University of Prince Edward Island, Universite de Moncton, and First Baptist Church, Halifax. They frequently collaborate with some of the regions finest musicians including Paul Halley and the King's College Choir, Nick Halley and Capella Regalis, Jeff Joudrey and the Halifax Camerata, in recital with Mark Duggan at the Scotia Festival of Music and with Juno winning Canadian Jazz Pianist David Braid.



*"They know each other musically and get as fine a blend as you can get with instruments from different makers. The sound of this quintet was sunny and glorious..."*

**Stephen Pederson, The Chronicle Herald**

Quintet members have studied throughout North America and performed or held positions with many of the world's leading ensembles, including the Chicago Symphony, Toronto Symphony, l'Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal, National Arts Centre Orchestra, Honolulu Symphony and the Canadian Opera Company Orchestra. They also have experience playing in numerous smaller groups and ensembles, including Foothills Brass, Northumberland Brass, Honolulu Brass Quintet, the Jive Kings and the Canadian Brass.

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Curtis Dietz (trumpet)

Richard Simoneau (trumpet)

Gina Patterson (horn)

Eric Mathis (trombone)

Bob Nicholson (tuba & bass trombone)

### **Curtis Dietz, trumpet**

Now in his sixteenth season with Symphony Nova Scotia, trumpeter Curtis Dietz is a native of Hanover, Ontario. He is a graduate of the University of Montreal and also studied at the University of Toronto, the Royal Conservatory of Music, and the Banff Centre. Before coming to Symphony Nova Scotia, Curtis was a freelance musician in Montreal performing with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, I Musici de Montreal and L'Orchestre Metropolitain.

In the summer of 2002, Curtis joined the Canadian Opera Company orchestra for their performances at the Edinburgh Festival in Scotland. In 2005 he was featured as lead trumpet in Neptune Theatre's production of Chicago. He is currently on the faculty of the Acadia University School of Music. His mother also thinks he is very good.

Last but not least, Curtis is the proud father of two wonderful daughters, Greta and Kate, son Peter with wife Gina Patterson.

### **Richard Simoneau, trumpet**

Richard was born in 1970 in Quebec City, and began playing trumpet at age thirteen in high school. He pursued his studies at the Quebec and then Montreal Conservatories, graduating in May 1994. That summer, he auditioned with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra and won a one-year contract to play third and assistant principal trumpet. The next year he played principal trumpet with the Hamilton Philharmonic and the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, before moving to his current position of principal trumpet with Symphony Nova Scotia in September 1996.

Since moving to Halifax, Richard has been heard in many occasions as soloist with Symphony Nova Scotia. Many of those performances have been recorded and broadcasted nationally by the CBC. His other musical activities include performing brass concerts with the Maritime Brass quintet, which is a newly formed professional brass ensemble. Richard has been on faculties of such Universities as Acadia University in Wolfville and Universite de Moncton. He also acts as artist in residence at the Scotia Festival of Music held in Halifax.

When Richard is not performing on the trumpet, he enjoys spending time outdoors, mostly hiking and camping.

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### **Gina Patterson, horn**

Gina returned to Nova Scotia after seven years with Canada's renowned Canadian Opera Company Orchestra. During her tenure there she performed with the orchestra in its award-winning production of Oedipus Rex and Bluebeard's Castle at the Edinburgh Festival in Scotland, recorded for Rhombus Films, Bravo Television, CBC Records, and CBC's Saturday Afternoon at the Opera as well as performing on the many acclaimed COC recordings with Richard Bradshaw.

An experienced chamber musician, Gina has rehearsed with the Canadian Brass and performed on the live national broadcast of the Schubertian Celebration at the Glenn Gould Studio in Toronto. She has played with I Musici de Montreal, performed at the New Brunswick and Indian River Chamber Music Festivals, and was a finalist at the CIBC National Music Festival.

Gina has performed with orchestras across Canada, including Symphony Nova Scotia, Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra, Newfoundland Symphony, and the Charlottetown Festival Orchestra.

### **Eric Mathis, trombone**

Eric Mathis brings a variety of performance experience to the Maritime Brass Quintet. Associate Principal Trombonist of the Honolulu Symphony, Eric has performed with a number of orchestras including the Royal Winnipeg Ballet Orchestra, the Charlottetown Festival Orchestra, the Chicago Civic Orchestra and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. He has also held positions in the Northumberland Brass, the Millar Brass Ensemble and the Honolulu Brass Quintet. He now performs regularly with Symphony Nova Scotia and the PEI Trombone Mafia. Eric is also an active soloist and chamber musician, giving regular recitals in Canada and the United States. He has also been featured with Richard Simoneau and Symphony Nova Scotia in performances of Leopold Mozart's *Serenade in D*.

A dedicated educator, Eric teaches trombone at Dalhousie University and is a coach with the Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra. While in Honolulu, he taught at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. Eric has given private lessons, clinics and masterclasses to students of all ages.

Eric received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Prince Edward Island and his Master of Music degree from Northwestern University, where he was a student of Frank Crisafulli.

### **Bob Nicholson, tuba & bass trombone**

Winner of 2 East Coast music awards with the Jive Kings, Bob Nicholson is enjoying a varied and successful career. Bob recently completed three years as tubaist with the Calgary based Foothills Brass Quintet and is now pleased to be playing tuba and bass trombone with Maritime Brass Quintet.

Bob performed for 5 years with 'The Phantom of the Opera' in Toronto and for 14 summers in the pit orchestra of 'Anne of Green Gables' at the Charlottetown Festival. As an orchestral musician he has performed with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Canadian Opera Company Orchestra, Calgary Philharmonic, CBC Toronto Jazz Orchestra and the National Ballet Orchestra among others. Theatre work 'in the pit' includes Toronto productions of Beauty and the Beast, Showboat, Crazy for You, Miss Saigon, Les Miserables and numerous productions at the Charlottetown Festival.

Bob studied at the University of PEI, the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, the University of Toronto and at the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, California. In addition to performing with MBQ, Bob currently frequently plays bass trombone with Symphony Nova Scotia and teaches at Acadia University, Shannon Park School and Nova Scotia Community College.

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## Reviews

"Braid's technical skill at the piano especially shone in Rhapsody in Blue as Gershwin's 1924 masterpiece was executed magnificently by the sextet of musicians."

**The Guardian, September 19, 2014, Todd MacLean about "Braid and Brass" with jazz pianist David Braid**

"In October of 2012, the music students of the Université de Moncton were delighted to hear a concert of astonishingly high quality performed by the Maritime Brass quintet. The choice of repertoire was both adventurous and accessible, while the interpretation was flawless. Perfect intonation and beautiful tone colour were sustained over the entire dynamic spectrum, from the finest pianissimo gradations through to the majestic forte finale of the Ewald quintet. This group is, to my mind, the best possible medium to stimulate and enhance the level of brass playing in our region."

**Dr Richard Gibson, professor of theory and composition, Université de Moncton**

"The first half of the concert was all brass and woodwind. Brass quintets — two trumpets, trombone, french horn and tuba — feed on the music of composers like Tielman Susato, John Iverson, Anthony Holborne and Willam Byrd. It was bright and rhythmic, full of associations of pageantry and celebration, court music from the time of Shakespeare and Queen Elizabeth I. It plays today as brilliantly on modern instruments as on period ones.

The Maritime Brass Quintet are either contracted or extra players in Symphony Nova Scotia's brass section: Richard Simoneau and Curtis Dietz on trumpets, Eric Mathis on trombone, Gina Patterson on horn and Bob Nicholson on tuba, though usually he plays trombone in the symphony.

They know each other musically and get as fine a blend as you can get with instruments from different makers. The sound of this quintet was sunny and glorious, with their sets of dances from The Danserye, the court of Elizabeth and William Byrd's The Earle of Oxford's March."

**The Chronicle Herald, June 6, 2012 - By Stephen Pedersen Concert Review**

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### Education Programming

**school concerts \* band clinics \* brass workshops \* sectionals  
breathing workshops for band \* group coaching \* private lessons**

The Maritime Brass Quintet is committed to delivering excellent educational programming to schools throughout the Maritime region. All MBQ members are dedicated educators who enjoy working with brass players of all ages. Development of the Maritimes as “brass central” is high among our goals. Members of MBQ are currently on the faculties at Acadia University, Nova Scotia Community College, and Dalhousie University and have previously taught at the University of Hawai`i at Manoa, the Universite de Moncton and the University of Prince Edward Island.

We have concerts specifically tailored for elementary, junior and senior high schools, college or university and will adapt to suit your needs. Concert programs can be delivered in French and/or English. School concerts include music featuring each of the quintet’s brass instruments with selections chosen to show a wide variety of styles spanning 400 years.

Our objective is to deliver polished and fun concerts providing live, high-quality chamber music brought to students in an engaging way. We hope excite them about learning and appreciating music along with the rewards that come from commitment: to be the best you can be.



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### Repertoire Sampling from MBQ School Concerts

Baadsvik: Fnugg  
Bizet: Habanera from Carmen  
Calvert: March from Monterey Hills  
Claman/Cable: Hockey Night In Canada Theme  
Cable: A Newfoundland Sketch  
Cohen: Hallelujah  
Elfman: Theme from The Simpsons  
Fillmore: Lassus Trombone  
Goldman: Children's March  
Goldsmith: Star Trek  
Iveson: Frère Jacques  
Lourde: Royals Tango  
Mancini: The Pink Panther  
McPeck: Paul Bunyan Overture  
McPeck: Paul Bunyan Suite II. The Mighty Logger  
Nagel: This Old Man March  
Piazzolla: Oblivion  
Scheidt: Canzona Bergamesca  
Susato: Ronde  
Traditional: Farewell to Nova Scotia  
Traditional: Frere Jacques  
Traditional: Just A Closer Walk With Thee  
Traditional: This Old Man March  
Williams: Star Wars

"This group is, to my mind, the best possible medium to stimulate and enhance the level of brass playing in our region."

**Dr. Richard Gibson, professor of theory and composition, Université de Moncton**

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## Braid and Brass



David Braid and the Maritime Brass Quintet performing Braid's works for jazz piano and brass quintet and Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue."

Jazz pianist David Braid, a two-time Juno award winner, is among a new generation of Canadian artists making his mark on international stages. Braid has performed across Western Europe, Scandinavia, Asia, Australia, Brazil, the United States and Canada.

**"Braid's technical skill at the piano especially shone in Rhapsody in Blue as Gershwin's 1924 masterpiece was executed magnificently by the sextet of musicians."**

The Guardian, September 19, 2014, Todd MacLean about "Braid and Brass"

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### Maritime Brass Quintet Concert Itinerary:

September 2015- May 2016

Debut Atlantic Ensemble in Residence  
Numerous performances around Atlantic  
Canada

Friday, Sept 26, 2014, 9pm  
de Coste Centre,  
Pictou NS

Saturday, April 4, 2015

Trinity-St. Stephen's United Church  
Amherst, NS

Sunday, July, 27, 2014, 2pm  
Halifax Public Gardens, Halifax, NS

Sunday, December 21, 2014

Carols by Candlelight  
First Baptist Church  
Halifax, NS

December 22, 2013  
St. Andrews United Church  
Halifax, NS

Sunday, December 21, 2014

Capella Regalis Men and Boys Choir  
St Mary's Basilica, Halifax

Sunday, December 15, 2013  
First Baptist Church  
Halifax, NS  
Christmas by Candlelight

Monday, December 1, 2014

Acadia Chorus  
Convocation Hall, Acadia University

Sunday, November 3, 2013  
Halifax, NS  
with Kings Chapel Choir  
All Saints Cathedral

Thursday, Sept 11, 2014

Acadia University, Wolfville, NS  
with jazz pianist David Braid

Saturday, October 5, 2013  
Halifax, NS  
Gazebo @ Halifax Public Gardens

Friday, Sept 12, 2014

Steele Recital Hall, UPEI, Charlottetown,  
with jazz pianist David Braid

Saturday, September 7, 2013  
Lake Charlotte, NS  
Musique Royale

Saturday, Sept 13, 2014

Antigonish, NS,  
with jazz pianist David Braid

Friday, July 5, 2013  
Mahone Bay, NS  
Music at the Three Churches



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Monday, July 1, 2013  
Indian Harbour, NS  
Canada Day Concert

Friday, October 26, 2012, 9am  
Brookfield, NS  
NS Music Educators Conference

Thursday, May 17, 2012, 2pm  
Halifax, NS  
King's College  
Guest Artists with Paul Halley  
King's College Encaenia

Sunday, October 21, 2012, 3pm  
Universite de Moncton

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2012, 7:30pm  
University of Prince Edward Island

Sunday, April 14, 2013  
St. John's Anglican Church, Lunenburg  
Kings Chorus with Nick Halley

Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012, 12 pm  
Wolfville, NS  
Acadia University

Friday, April 12, 2013  
St. Andrew's Church, Halifax, NS  
Kings Chorus with Nick Halley

Friday, June 22, 2012, 7pm  
Classics by the Bay  
Parrsboro, NS

Sunday, December 23, 2012, 7pm  
Halifax, NS  
Guest Artists with  
Capella Regalis Men and Boys Choir

Monday, June 4, 2012, 6pm and 9pm  
Sir James Dunn Theatre, Halifax, NS  
Scotia Festival of Music

Sunday, December 16, 2012  
First Baptist Church  
Halifax, NS  
Christmas by Candlelight

Thursday, May 17, 2012, 2pm  
Halifax, NS  
King's College Encaenia

Sunday, December 9, 2012  
Halifax Camerata Singers  
First Baptist Church  
Halifax, NS

Sunday, May 6, 2012  
First Baptist Church  
Halifax, NS

Sunday, November 4, 2012  
Halifax, NS  
Kings College Choir,  
Schnittke Requiem

Saturday, May 5, 2012  
Berwick United  
Church Berwick, NS

Friday, May 4, 2012  
St. Andrews United Church  
Truro, NS