

3-2-2009

## Faculty Recital: Jeffrey Gray, bass trombone

Jeffrey Gray

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ITHACA COLLEGE

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SCHOOL OF MUSIC

FACULTY RECITAL

Jeffrey Gray, bass trombone  
Josh Oxford '07, piano

Guest Artists:

Jonathan Lombardo, trombone  
Kyle Covington, trombone  
Jeff Dee, Bass trombone  
Ed Diefes, tuba

Hockett Family Recital Hall  
Monday, March 2, 2009  
7:00 p.m.

ITHACA

## PROGRAM

Allegro Concertante (1949)

Alexei Lebedev  
(1924-1993)

New Orleans

Eugene Bozza  
(1905-1991)

To Be Or Not To Be

Henri Tomasi  
(1901-1971)

Jonathan Lombardo, trombone  
Kyle Covington, trombone  
Jeff Dee, bass trombone

### INTERMISSION

Chorale Variations on Bach's Jesu Meine Freude

Joseph Kreines  
(b. 1936)

Jonathan Lombardo, trombone  
Kyle Covington, trombone  
Jeff Dee, bass trombone  
Ed Diefes, tuba

Quartet

Derek Bourgeois  
(b. 1941)

*Allegro vivace*  
*Adagio molto*  
*Presto*

Jonathan Lombardo, trombone  
Kyle Covington, trombone  
Jeff Dee, bass trombone

Overture to The Barber of Seville

Giachinno Rossini  
(1792-1868)  
arr. David Rahbee

Jonathan Lombardo, trombone  
Kyle Covington, trombone  
Jeff Dee, bass trombone

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**Jeffrey Gray** began teaching at Ithaca College in 2005. He teaches trombone, bass trombone, brass chamber music, and brass orchestral repertoire. He is the bass trombonist with the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra and the bass trombonist with the Grant Park Music Festival Orchestra of Chicago. Mr. Gray joined the Syracuse Symphony in 2000 and the Grant Park Music Festival in 2003.

Mr. Gray received his formal music training at Bowling Green State University and The Juilliard School. His teachers include Paul Hunt at Bowling Green State University, Dennis Smith of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and Donald Harwood and Joseph Alessi of the New York Philharmonic.

Mr. Gray has performed with the Toledo Symphony Orchestra, the Toledo Ballet Orchestra, the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, and was a member of the National Repertory Orchestra. He can be heard on recordings with the Juilliard Wind Ensemble and the Grant Park Music Festival Orchestra.

In 2000, Mr. Gray was the winner of two international competitions; the Lewis Van Haney Philharmonic Prize-Competition and the Donald Yaxley Solo Competition, both sponsored by the International Trombone Association. He is one of the few trombonists to win both competitions for bass trombone in the same year. As a result of these competitions, he was a featured performer at the International Trombone Festival in Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Mr. Gray is also a faculty member at Le Moyne College in Syracuse where he is director of the Le Moyne Brass Ensemble.

**Josh Oxford '07** is a staff accompanist at the Ithaca College School of Music. He is a busy performer, composer, and arranger in many different styles of music, playing piano, percussion, and synthesizer. Oxford graduated with a B.M. in percussion performance from the Ithaca College School of Music in 2007, having played in a wide variety of ensembles.

He has recorded with award winning folk rock musician Michael Mazochi and with Klezmer clarinetist Joel Rubin. He has toured on percussion with Frank Zappa cover band "Project/Object" and is an avid transcriber and arranger of Zappa's music. Oxford has also performed in and done synthesizer programming for over a dozen musicals in the Central New York area as well as making his music directorial debut in "Bat Boy: The Musical" in LA at the Hudson Theater. Oxford composes and arranges primarily for his ensemble "The OXtet," and also writes 12-tone pop music. He is also a collector of vintage keyboards and synthesizers.

Ed Diefes has spent a significant portion of his career in the back of an orchestra. As Principal Tubist with the *Syracuse Symphony Orchestra* he has been participating in the entertainment and education of Central New York since 1995. As an orchestral musician he has performed with several of the top American orchestras in performance, on tour, and on recordings. In addition to his commitment to orchestral music, Ed also performs as a soloist chamber musician, and educator. In 2003 he was asked by Meyer Kupferman to premiere his Concerto for Tuba and Orchestra with the Czech National Symphony, the subsequent recording of which has been released by Soundspell Productions. He has also performed as soloist with the Syracuse Symphony, on the New World Symphony chamber series, and at the Museum of Modern Art's Summergarden Music Series. He is the co-founder of the *Low Brass Project*, an ensemble dedicated to the performance of music involving the low brass instruments (trombone and tuba) both together and in combination with other instruments. He has taught at Syracuse University, Festival Internacional de Inverno de Campos do Jordao (Brazil), New York State Summer School of the Arts, and as a sabbatical replacement at Ithaca College. He currently resides in Syracuse, NY with his wife, two children, Oscar the dog and Nola the cat.

Jeff Dee currently holds the bass trombone position with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. Prior to this, Jeff held similar positions with the Jacksonville Symphony and Shanghai Broadcasting Symphony Orchestras. Career highlights include performances with Yo-Yo Ma, Luciano Pavarotti, Itzhak Perlman, and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra under James Levine. He received a B.M. in Trombone Performance from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. While at SMU, Jeff was engaged on numerous occasions by the Dallas Wind Symphony and the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. With the Dallas Symphony, he recorded Shostakovich's *Festive Overture* and accompanied the DSO on their 1999 Carnegie Hall Tour. After SMU, Jeff moved to New York City where he completed his M.M. in Trombone Performance from The Juilliard School of Music. His teachers were Donald Harwood and Joseph Alessi of the New York Philharmonic. In addition to his recording with the Dallas Symphony, Jeff can be heard on numerous recordings with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra under Maestro JoAnn Falletta.

Kyle Covington is a native of Santa Rosa, California. He began his orchestral training with the San Francisco Youth Orchestra at the age of fifteen where he studied with Mark Lawrence (principal trombone San Francisco Symphony) and John Engelkes (bass trombone San Francisco Symphony). He was accepted to The Juilliard School where he studied with Joseph Alessi (principal

trombone New York Philharmonic) and Per Brevig (former principal trombone Metropolitan Opera Orchestra). During his four years at The Juilliard School he attended summer festivals which include: The Music Academy of the West, National Repertory Orchestra, Pacific Music Festival, and was substitute principal trombone for The Syracuse Symphony Orchestra and the San Diego Symphony. After earning his BM at The Juilliard School he went back to San Francisco to earn a masters degree at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. During this time he was the tenor trombone Fellow at the Aspen Music Festival, and substitute with the San Francisco Symphony. After a year in San Francisco he won the second trombone position in the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra where he resides today and continues to be a substitute with the San Diego Symphony and the New York Philharmonic.

**Jonathan Lombardo** is principal trombone of the Buffalo Philharmonic, a position he has held since 2005. Prior to being appointed Principal he also played one season as second trombone from 2004-2005. He has also performed with the Boston Symphony, Baltimore Symphony, Syracuse Symphony and San Antonio Symphony. As a soloist he has performed recitals in New York, Texas, Michigan, Brazil and Poland.

Jonathan is on faculty as professor of low brass at The University at Buffalo. He has also given several master classes in Europe and the United States and in 2007 was on faculty at the Festival International De Inverno De Campos Do Jordao in Brazil.