

2018 POKORNY LOW BRASS SEMINAR FACULTY RECITAL

Gene Pokorny, tuba

Assisted by Kimberly Russ, piano

Wednesday, June 20, 2018 - 1:00 p.m. Frederick Loewe Performance Hall

Sonata No. 3 for Viola da Gamba (MWV 1029)

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685-1750)

Transcribed from a version by Ralph Sauer

In a Quiet Way (2016)

John Stevens

(b. 1951)

Café Velocio Timothy Higgins

(b. 1982)

Fantasy Pieces for Oboe, Op. 2 (1889) Carl Nielsen

1. Romance (1865-1931)

2. Humoresque

Intermezzo from *Manon Lescaut* (1890-1893) Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)

Transcribed from a version by Yuriy Leonovich

Concerto for Tuba and Orchestra (2015)

Lalo Schifrin

(b. 1932)

- 1. Allegro Assai
- 2. Andante ma non troppo
- 3. Allegro molto

BIOGRAPHIES

Gene Pokorny, tuba

Gene Pokorny has been the tuba player in the Chicago Symphony since 1989. He has previously also been the tuba player in the Israel Philharmonic, the Utah Symphony, the St. Louis Symphony and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. In addition to playing film scores in Hollywood (*Jurassic Park*, *The Fugitive*, etc.), he has played in chamber music, opera orchestras and orchestra festivals worldwide.

He grew up in a trailer park in Downey, California, about a mile from where the Apollo command modules that first took man to the moon were built. He studied tuba in Southern California with Jeffrey Reynolds, Larry Johansen, Tommy Johnson and Roger Bobo.

When he isn't counting rests in the back row of the stage of Orchestra Hall, he teaches worldwide. Pokorny has several solo and educational CDs of his own and assisted Rolling Stones' trombonist, Michael Davis, in recording several educational workbook/CDs. He received an Outstanding Alumnus Award and an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Southern California and the University of Redlands, respectively.

Gene is a member of the Union Pacific (Railroad) Historical Society and spends time as a "foamer" (watching and chasing trains). He is a card-carrying member of The Three Stooges Fan Club (a "victim of soicumstances!") and is an avid enthusiast of his good friend David "Red" Lehr, the greatest Dixieland sousaphonist in the known universe. Gene, his wife Beth Lodal (who despite being a tuba player has a 3-digit I.Q.) and their basset hounds, (non-musicians who

happen to have real lives), regularly forage from their refrigerator, which is located in the Edgewater neighborhood of Chicago.

Kimberly Russ, piano

Pianist Kimberly Russ celebrates a diverse musical career. Before moving to Cincinnati in 2016, she spent fourteen years as the Resident Pianist for the Seattle Symphony at the invitation of Maestro Gerard Schwarz. Additionally, Ms. Russ has appeared as Principal Keyboard for the nationally televised PBS series, *All Star Orchestra*. She is continually in demand as soloist and orchestral pianist, performing with Seattle Symphony, Cincinnati Symphony, Israel Philharmonic, Mariinsky Orchestra, Pacific Northwest Ballet Orchestra, Seattle Philharmonic, Cascade, Sammamish, Port Angeles, and Central Florida Symphonies. An active recording artist, Kimberly can be heard on recent recordings, *Pokemon Reorchestrated: Double Team!* (YouTube, iTunes and Loudr), *Pura Vida*, with Peter Ellefson, trombone (iTunes), and *Short Stories*, with Melia Watras, viola (iTunes), and a soon to be released recording with her husband, Christopher Olka, Principal Tuba, Cincinnati Symphony.

Ms. Russ is the Founder and Director of Harmony for Heroes, a non-profit chamber music outreach program for our veterans, military and their families. Harmony for Heroes is inspired by her son, a former active duty Marine who served as a Combat Engineer in Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan).