

## Program Notes

### Concerto for Bass Tuba

**Ralph Vaughan Williams**  
(1872–1958)

Ralph Vaughan Williams was one of the most influential English composers of the twentieth century. His works include operas, ballets, chamber music, secular and religious vocal pieces and orchestral compositions, including nine symphonies, written during a period of over nearly fifty years. Strongly influenced by Tudor music and English folksong, his output marked a decisive break in British music from its German-dominated style of the nineteenth century. The tuba concerto dates from 1954. It was composed for Philip Catelinet, principal tubist of the London Symphony Orchestra, who was the soloist in the premiere on June 13, 1954, with Sir John Barbirolli conducting. While at first viewed as the eccentric idea of an aging composer, the concerto soon became one of Vaughan Williams' most popular works and an essential part of the tuba repertoire.

### Concerto for Tuba

**John Williams**  
(b. 1932)

John Towner Williams is an American composer, conductor, and pianist. In a career spanning more than six decades, Williams has composed some of the most popular and recognizable film scores in cinematic history, including *Jaws*, the *Star Wars* series, *Superman*, the *Indiana Jones* series, *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial*, *Jurassic Park*, and many more. In addition to the film music, for which he is so widely known, John Williams has written many concert pieces, including symphonies, fanfares and several concerti. In 1980 John Williams succeeded Arthur Fiedler as the Boston Pops Orchestra's Principal Conductor and the Concerto for Tuba, written in 1984-85, celebrated the hundredth anniversary of that orchestra. Chester Schmitz, principal tubist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Pops, premiered the work on May 8, 1985. The concerto is laid out in the normal three movements, but with no pause between them. The piece contains many melodic and rhythmic features that sound very typical of this well-known composer.

### Sweet Dances

**Elizabeth Raum**  
(b. 1945)

Elizabeth Raum is both principal oboist with the Regina Symphony Orchestra and a prolific composer. Her works include three operas, over sixty chamber pieces, seventeen vocal works, choral works including an oratorio, several ballets, concerti and major orchestral works. She enjoys a reputation of being one of Canada's most "accessible" composers, writing for varied media and in remarkably diverse styles. *Sweet Dances* was composed in 2002 and dedicated to John Griffiths. This piece is written for unaccompanied tuba and each movement takes on its own unique character while showing off some of the virtuosic qualities of the instrument.

### Sonata for Tuba and Piano

**Anthony DiLorenzo**  
(b. 1967)

Emmy Award-winning composer and trumpeter Anthony DiLorenzo, has established himself as one of the most exciting and eminent artists of today. For the past twelve years he has composed more than 80 film trailers, from *Toy Story*, *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*, *Red Dragon*, *The Lost World*, *Final Fantasy*, *Fools Gold*, *Bee Story* to *The Simpsons* movie in 3D. You can also hear his music weekly on ABC's college football, ice skating, horse racing and countless cues for ESPN, HBO, FOX and numerous campaigns for NBC. DiLorenzo is also known for his extensive compositions for winds and has written chamber music and solo pieces for several brass instruments. The Sonata for Tuba and Piano was commissioned by James and Jane Knox for Craig Knox, principal tuba of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and founding member of the Center City Brass Quintet. A dynamic and ambitious work, it is sure to earn a place in the standard tuba solo repertoire. Knox recently recorded this work for his solo CD *A Road Less Traveled*.