

mill creek  
colliery band  
A BRITISH BRASS BAND

# GATEWAY TO THE FUTURE

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

SATURDAY MAY 7, 2022 AT 7:30 PM

ROBERTSON WESLEY UNITED CHURCH  
10209 123 ST NW - EDMONTON

*Conducted by David Hoyt*  
*Featuring New Music by Marcus Venables*  
*and Guest Soloist Ashley Hall*  
*Compère: Aaron Au*



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# 20 YEARS OF MILL CREEK

The Mill Creek Colliery Band (MCCB) seeks to promote the brass band tradition in Western Canada. The name of the band pays homage to the historical connection between 19th century working class northern England, and the brass bands which flourished during that time. The name also refers to a prominent ravine area in Edmonton, which was the site of important coal mining activity in the early days.

The MCCB had its beginnings as a small brass ensemble in 1995, with the first performance broadcast on CBC, June 21, 1996. After this experience, the band remained for several years as an 11- to 15-member group. In 2001, the band expanded to a full 25-member group consisting of a mixture of professional and amateur players, who all share a similar enthusiasm for brass band music and fellowship. The other significant change in 2001 was the instigation and promotion of their own season of subscription concerts. This popular format includes audience favorites at Christmas, as well as a seasons finale, 'The Last Night of the Proms'. During each subsequent season, the MCCBS has continued to broaden its audience base with invitational appearances at festivals and other community events.

Most concerts are held in Edmonton and surrounding areas, such as St. Albert, Spruce Grove, Sherwood Park, Fort Saskatchewan, Bonnyville, Leduc, Cold Lake, and Rocky Mountain House. In 2004, and later in 2012, the MCCB hosted the Prairie Brass Band Festival, and later travelled to Saskatoon, SK for this festival in 2005 and 2010. The band also regularly performs at festivals, schools, and community events. The MCCB was invited to perform before Her Majesty the Queen during the Alberta Centennial Celebrations in 2005. In 2010, the band was the featured musical guest for the 40th Anniversary Gala of the Cheremosh Ukrainian Dance Company (Edmonton).

There are a number of fine conductors associated with MCCB. Malcolm Forsyth was the principal conductor of the band from 2002-2004. Aaron Au conducted the band from 2004-2006. Forsyth returned from 2006 until his death in 2011. Since 2012 the principal conductor of the band has been David Hoyt. The MCCB has been fortunate to work with several well-known brass band conductors: distinguished British conductor and composer Derek Broadbent, Canadian conductor and band trainer, Bram Gregson, and Canadian brass band composer and conductor Kevin Norbury. The band has sought out two commissions from well-known composers and has premiered seventeen works over time.

In 2007, the band released its first CD, 'Introducing the Mill Creek Colliery Band', followed by 'Celebrate Christmas' (2009), 'Blaze Away' (2014), and 'Spiritual Brass' (2014).





# DID YOU KNOW?

**The first public performance was at the Cantando Music Festival in Edmonton on April 29, 2002.**

Over the band's 20 year history, there have been over 500 rehearsals and 138 public performances that have been enjoyed by over 36,000 people!

**The band was invited to perform for Queen Elizabeth II during her visit to Edmonton in 2005.**

The band has produced 4 commercially available albums with 1400 copies sold to date.

**During the COVID-19 pandemic the band produced three virtual performances - all of which are available to view on our Facebook page.**

The band has welcomed Derek Broadbent, Petar Dundjerski, Bramwell Gregson, Claude LaPalme, Kevin Norbury, Fordyce Pier, Angela Schroeder, and more as guest conductors!

**Jens Lindemann, Curtis Metcalf, Andrew Poirier, Robert Venables, and Ashley Hall have all performed solos with the band.**

The band has performed over 600 different pieces of music and has over 700 pieces in our library.

**The band has donated over \$6000 in proceeds from two concerts to the Red Cross and international missions.**



## ALUMNI



Mill Creek Colliery Band Society has been honoured to have had almost 200 members of the band. To see the full list, scan the QR code or visit [www.millcreekbrass.ca/alumni/](http://www.millcreekbrass.ca/alumni/)





# MUSICIANS

Soprano Cornet	Mike Rowe	First Baritone	Troy Turner
Principal Cornet	David Langor	Second Baritone	Travis Kutz
Solo Cornet	Daniel Skepple	Solo Euphonium	Chris Diaper
	Michael Ross	Second Euphonium	Timur Kalyuzhnyy
	Jessica Granata	Solo Trombone	Nancy Thornhill
Repiano Cornet	Marianne Benjamin	Second Trombone	Joanna MacDonald
Second Cornet	Rachel Ross	Bass Trombone	Julien Simard
	Matthew Langor	E-Flat Bass	David Wiley
Third Cornet	Erin Morel-Rowe		Michael Eastep
	Sophie Barwick	B-Flat Bass	David Salmon
Flugel Horn	Alastair Chaplin		Jesse Brook
Solo Horn	Suzanne Langor	Percussion	Jayden Beaudoin
First Horn	Jane de Caen		Jason Guy
Second Horn	Carol Thurgood		Keith Erb



## WORLD PREMIERE: GATEWAY

To honour the 20th Anniversary celebration, Mill Creek Colliery Band is delighted and proud to present the world premiere of 'Gateway', a piece commissioned for this occasion by Marcus Venables. With hints of the popular hymn tune, 'Old 100th', this festive piece honours Edmonton's history as the "Gateway to the North" and celebrates the band's bold strides into a bright and exciting future.

# PROGRAM

**Through the Flames**

**Paul Lovatt-Cooper**

**Love Changes Everything**

**Andrew Lloyd Webber**

*arr. Stephen Bulla*

**Concerto for Cornet**

I. Allegro Moderato

II. Lento Assai

III. Allegro con Brio

*featuring Ashley Hall - Cornet*



**13th Regiment March**

**Ernest Lavigne**

*arr. Carol Thurgood*

**Hallelujah**

**Leonard Cohen**

*arr. Frank Bernaerts*

**Musical Priest**



**Trad. Irish**

*arr. Malcolm Forsyth*

## ***Intermission***

**Academic Festival Overture**

**Johannes Brahms**

*arr. Denis Wright*

**Share My Yoke**

**Joy Webb**

*featuring Ashley Hall - Cornet*

*arr. Ivor Bosanko*

**Gateway**

**Marcus Venables**

**H.M.S. Pinafore**

**Arthur Sullivan**

*arr. Gavin Somerset*

**Blaze Away**

**Abe Holzmam**

*conducted by Aaron Au*



This performance is dedicated to the memory of Malcolm Forsyth (1936-2011).

## DAVID HOYT



David Hoyt has studied piano, French horn and worked with several renowned mentors. He joined the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (ESO) while a student at the University of Alberta, becoming principal horn in 1975. David became assistant conductor of the ESO in 1985 and of the Canadian Opera Company in 1991. He has been a guest conductor with many orchestras and ensembles in Canada and the USA. David has a long association with The Banff Centre as a visiting artist and faculty member and, from 2004-2005, as Artistic Director/Executive Director of "Music and Sound". He spent 10 years teaching horn at the University of Alberta and has taught across the country at many festivals and music camps. As the head of Education and Outreach at the ESO, David expanded and founded several popular concert series. David has been principal conductor of the Mill Creek Colliery Band since 2012.



## ASHLEY HALL



Ashley Hall is an internationally renowned trumpet soloist, music educator, and certified life coach. Whether she is engaging audiences as a soloist and ensemble musician, making music with her family at home, facilitating coaching courses, or working with individuals in her private coaching practice, Ashley strives to create opportunities for authentic human connection. Ashley was the founding director of the Longy School of Music's Career Coaching Program, which helps students develop careers that align with their values. She has held trumpet faculty positions at several universities around the United States and serves as Principal Trumpet of the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra. As a soloist, she frequently performs both as a recitalist and with ensembles nationally and internationally. She has a coaching practice that offers coaching workshops and individual coaching sessions that empower artists to unlock their potential and align their values with their creative lives.



For more information, please visit [www.coachingthewholemusician.com](http://www.coachingthewholemusician.com) and [www.ashleyhalltrumpet.com](http://www.ashleyhalltrumpet.com).



## MARCUS VENABLES

Marcus Venables is a musician and composer based in Toronto. Marcus holds a degree in trumpet performance from the University of Toronto and is now a highly sought-after composer, conductor, and performer. As a soloist, Marcus has travelled throughout Canada, the US, and Europe with notable performances at Birmingham Symphony Hall in the UK with the International Staff Band of the Salvation Army, in which he plays principal cornet. As a composer, Marcus has penned over 100 works for brass band.



## MALCOLM FORSYTH



Born in 1936 in South Africa, Malcolm Forsyth majored in trombone and conducting at the University of Capetown and performed with the Cape Town Symphony Orchestra for 8 years while completing his masters and doctorate. In 1968, Malcolm emigrated to Canada and settled in Edmonton where he played with the ESO for 11 years. Malcolm also taught conducting, composition, and music theory at the U of A from 1968 until his retirement in 2002. From 2002-2004, Malcolm worked as the principal conductor of MCCB and reprised this role in 2006 until his death in 2011.

## AARON AU

Born in Lethbridge, Aaron Au was a first violinist for many years with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra and a sessional lecturer of viola at the University of Alberta. He appeared as a soloist and chamber musician on both violin and viola in concerts across Canada, the U.S., Cuba, and Europe and was honoured to conduct the Mill Creek Colliery Band from 2004-2006. In addition to his musical activities, Aaron is a pastor at Avenue Church and a part time classical music radio host with CKUA.





# THANK YOU



Dr. Donald Jolly  
Graham Nasby  
Sheila White  
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## Keep in Touch!

Website ✨ [www.millcreekbrass.ca](http://www.millcreekbrass.ca)

Email ✨ [mccb.ab@gmail.com](mailto:mccb.ab@gmail.com)

Mail ✨ 10403 - 18 Ave NW, Edmonton, T6J 5J3

Phone ✨ 780-905-0470



@Millcreekbrassband



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Program Design by: Jessica Granata, David Salmon, Jane de Caen, and Stephanie Mudryk