

Holiday Shop with The Band!

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Hugh Smith & The Compton Heights Band CD, Tape and Video! World's First!

We are pleased to announce that tonight's performance is being audio and video recorded *live* for future release! This is the first recording available of Hugh Smith in the world!

If you would like to order a CD or tape or video tonight, please fill out the form in the program and turn it in at the band's promotional table in the lobby! The recording is set to be released in March.

CD's \$20 (includes shipping and handling)
Tapes \$15 (includes shipping and handling)
Video \$25 (includes shipping and handling)
Gift Certificates are available.

Your cooperation in turning off all pagers and electronic devices, and remaining quiet during the performance is greatly appreciated. Applause is welcome!

The Compton Heights Concert Band Holiday Pops

Featuring
Hugh Smith, Tenor



The Sheldon Concert Hall
Thursday & Friday, December 18 & 19, 1997
8:00 PM

The Compton Heights Concert Band

Whether it's an antique clock or a stately old house, perhaps you have felt the sense of satisfaction that comes from restoring and breathing life into some relic of a bygone day. That same preservationist philosophy is the driving force behind the Compton Heights Concert Band of St. Louis and our efforts to promote and perform the fine concert band literature of yesteryear.

The band was organized in 1976 by band President, Harry Swanger, who formed the band to provide music for Compton Heights neighborhood events. The band started in his livingroom with just a handful of musicians. Today, the band numbers over 50 volunteer, student and professional musicians who annually present 30 concerts in St. Louis and outstate Missouri.

The band began an eight week summer concert series in 1980 in Tower Grove Park and added a sister series in Francis Park in 1986. These concerts, dubbed *Sunday Serenades* and *Musical Mondays*, attract 50,000 listeners annually. Under the auspices of the Missouri Arts Council Touring Program the band annually tours in outstate Missouri and has been acclaimed by audiences in Hermann, Joplin, Farmington, St. Peters, Cape Girardeau, and Ste. Genevieve.

Featuring John Philip Sousa-style programs, each concert includes outstanding soloists. Some of the nation's most talented musicians have appeared, including Arturo Sandoval, Sukay-music of the Andes, Ricardo Morales, Robert Ellison, William Warfield, Debbye Turner, Buckwheat Zydeco, the Nuclear Whales Saxophone Orchestra, The BNFL British Brass Band, Jan Gippo, Beverly Stewart Anderson, Gail Lennon & the Lennon Brothers, and tenor, Hugh Smith.

Gregory C. Fox was appointed Conductor in September 1992. He finds the audiences "the greatest" and the opportunity to conduct the band "unique". He holds a Doctor of Education in Music Education from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, studying conducting under the noted Harry Begian. The announcer is Lucy Schroeder, wife of band vice-president and tubist Jon Schroeder. Lucy injects a lively sense of humor and energy into concerts and helps the audience gain a deeper appreciation of the music the band is presenting.

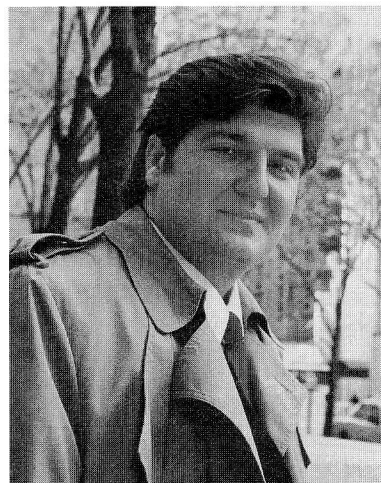
Volunteers in the band contribute over 20,000 hours annually to make our concerts possible. In addition to weekly rehearsals and the busy concert schedule, many band members have devoted thousands of volunteer hours at our Friday and Saturday charity bingos at Bandwagon Hall, 6245 Lemay Ferry Road. The band is also supported by the Regional Arts Commission, St. Louis Parks & Recreation Department, Southwest Bank, Clifford Willard Gaylord Foundation, Whitaker Foundation, Missouri Arts Council, Arts & Education Council, Commerce Bank, and NationsBank. Individual contributions from "Bandwagon" members also help the band. To make a tax-deductible donation, fill out and send the form within to Compton Heights Band, 2335 So. Grand, St Louis, Mo. 63104 or call 776-2227.

Bio

Backstage

Young American tenor **Hugh Smith** made his San Francisco Opera debut in June 1997 as Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly*. He has just sung a gala opera concert in Belgrade, as a result of winning the Luciano Pavarotti International Competition. He also recently made his debut in Lisbon's *Traviata*. Just prior he debuted with the Puerto Rican Symphony in the Beethoven *Ninth*. Last December saw his St. Louis Symphony debut in a series of holiday concerts followed by a New Year's Eve concert with the Dayton Philharmonic. His Italian debut occurred last spring scoring a triumph as Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* with the Teatro San Carlo, Napoli. He is a winner of the 1995 Luciano Pavarotti International Competition. Other awards granted this young tenor include those from the 1994 Metropolitan Opera National Auditions, the 1994 Mario Lanza Competition, and the 1993 International Friedrich Schorr Competition. He received a Masters Degree in Music from Bowling Green State University in Ohio and currently studies voice with Maestro Bill Schuman.

Hugh Smith has performed with the Opera Company of Philadelphia and the Academy of Vocal Arts and has sung the roles of Riccardo in Verdi's *Un Ballo in Maschera*, Rodolfo in Puccini's *La Boheme*, and Lenski in Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*. He has also sung as a soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra. 1996-97 began with Mr. Smith as Dayton's Rodolfo in *La Boheme* and returns to Dayton for the title role in *Faust* in 1998. After his Lisbon performances, Mr. Smith had a series of recitals in Florida and a gala concert in Toronto. He then appeared in a gala Verdi and Puccini concert with the Ft. Wayne Symphony followed by the *Verdi Requiem* for Croatian Radio in Zagreb. Spring 1997 had Hugh back in Philadelphia for a Chekhov trilogy with the Academy of Vocal Arts. He also appeared in Belgrade for a gala opera concert. June, 1997 had Mr. Smith at London's Covent Garden covering Oberto followed by the San Francisco debut. 1997-98 has his debut with the Orchestre de Paris singing the *Verdi Requiem* under M. Giulini. He also debuts as Cincinnati Opera's Cavaradossi. He returns to Toledo later in 1998 performing his first Don Jose in Carmen - as well as returning to Puerto Rico for the *Verdi Requiem*. 1998-99 sees his debut with the Opera de Paris, Bastille in the title role of *Don Carlo* and a debut is scheduled for the teatro comunale Bologna in *Attila*. A Torino *Traviata* is also in the offing. His Houston Grand Opera debut is slated for a latter season as *Don Carlo*. Other roles in preparation include: Edgardo in *Lucia* and Manrico in *Trovatore*.



Hugh Smith first appeared with the Compton Heights Concert Band during its "Sunday Serenades" and "Musical Mondays" concert series this past summer. We are privileged to have Hugh Smith grace our stage, once again.

If you haven't heard him until tonight, you'll now know why we have dubbed him "The Fourth Tenor"!

The Compton Heights Concert Band

The Sheldon Concert Hall -- December 18 & 19, 1997 -- 8:00 PM
Gregory C. Fox, Conductor -- Lucy Schroeder, Announcer
St. Louis Metro Singers, Special Guests

Hugh Smith, Tenor Soloist

Program

Fanfare Prelude on Joy To The World	James Curnow
Symphonic Gershwin	arr. Warren Barker
La Danza Una furtiva lagrima (L'Elisir d'amore) Hugh Smith, soloist	G. Rossini/Lang Donizetti/Smith
This Is My Beloved (The St. Louis Metro Singers) Hugh Smith, tenor soloist	Borodin/Werle
El Capitan	John Philip Sousa
Salut! demeure chaste et pure (Faust) La Donna e Mobile (Rigoletto) Hugh Smith, soloist	Gounod/Barrow Verdi/Smith
Coventry Carol/Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring	arr. Custer
Intermission	
Sleigh Ride	Leroy Anderson
White Christmas (The St. Louis Metro Singers) Hugh Smith, soloist	Berlin/Leidzen
Gesu Bambino Che gelida manina (La Boheme) Hugh Smith, soloist	Yon/Ployhar Puccini/Smith
Christmas Sing-along(The St. Louis Metro Singers)	arr. Ployhar
Ave Maria Adeste Fideles (The St. Louis Metro Singers) O Holy Night (The St. Louis Metro Singers) Hugh Smith, soloist	Schubert/Weiss arr. Martino Adam/Custer
Russian Christmas Music	Alfred Reed

Program Notes

By Dr. Ronald F. Swanger

Gaetano Donizetti: L'Elisir d'amore: *Una furtiva lagrima* (A furtive tear)

The elixir of love is all about the hapless Nemorino and his willingness to do anything to win the love of his adored Adina. The wily Doctor Dulcamara offers a love potion (for a price, of course), and, in desperation, Nemorino enlists in the army to pay for a vial of the potion. Although Adina is anything but enthusiastic (at least outwardly) over Nemorino's attentions, Nemorino finds encouragement in what he perceives to be a furtive tear in her eye, and of course, being an operatic tenor, he feels compelled to sing about it.

Alexandre Borodin: Kismet (1953)

Kismet was adapted by Robert Wright and George Forrest from various themes by Alexandre Borodin. His *Symphony No. 2 in B-minor, Polovtsian Dances*, and *String Quartet in D*, among others, were vital sources. *This is My Beloved* was adapted from Borodin's String Quartet in D.

Kismet is a popular story of a king a beggars who pretends to be a visiting nobleman to the court of the Caliph of ancient Bagdad. Typical productions of this Arabian Nights fantasy fill the stage with colorful sets, costumes and dancing girls. It has been produced as a play and film, and then in a musical version which was filmed in 1955 with Howard Keel.

Charles Gounod: Faust: *Salut! demeure chaste et pure* (Hail, chaste and pure dwelling)

The legend of Faust cries out for operatic treatment, and Gounod (among others) was delighted to respond, producing one of the most popular and most frequently performed operas. Faust, his youth restored by the machinations of Mephistopheles, is pursuing Marguerite. He finds himself in the garden outside her cottage, and proceeds to serenade the dwelling and the maiden who lives there.

Giacomo Puccini: La Boheme: *Che gelida manina* (How cold is your little hand)

Rodolfo, a Bohemian poet living in a Paris attic, unexpectedly meets the fragile Mimi as he is about to leave his garret to meet his friends at the Cafe Momus. Love at first sight is an understatement! He grasps her tiny hand, and seizes the opportunity to sing one of the loveliest and most popular arias in all of opera.

Special Thanks to:

Mrs. Betty S. Larson for her generous donation

In memory of Dr. Paul U. Larson, M.D.

and to:

Commerce Bank, Tower Grove Banking Center

Christmas Sing-A-Long

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing,
Glo-ry to the new-born King!
Peace on earth, and mer-cy mild,
God and sin-ners rec-on-ciled.
Joy-ful, all ye na-tions rise
Join the tri-umph of the skies;
With th'an-gel-ic host pro-claim,
Christ is born in Beth-le-hem.
Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing,
Glo-ry to the new-born King!

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

O come, all ye faith-ful,
Joy-ful and tri-um-phant,
O come ye, O come ye to
Beth-le-hem.

Come and be-hold Him,
Born the King of an-gels;
O come, let us a-dore Him,
O come, let us a-dore Him,
O come, let us a-dore Him,
Christ, the Lord.

"Deck The Halls"

Deck the halls with boughs of
hol-ly,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
'Tis the sea-son to be jol-ly,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Don we now our gay ap-par-el,
Fa -- la, la-- la, la la la,
Troll the an-cient Yule-tide ca-rol,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

"Silent Night"

Si-lent night!
Ho-ly night!

All is calm, All is bright.
Round yon vir-gin
Moth-er and child!
Ho-ly in-fant, so ten-der and mild,
Sleep in heav-en-ly peace!
Sleep in heav-en-ly peace!

"The First Noel"

The first No-el the an-gels did say
Was to cer-tain poor shep-herds
in fields as they lay:
In fields where they
lay keep-ing their sheep,
On a cold win-ter's night
that was so deep.
No-el, No-el, No-el, No-el,
Born is the King of Is-ra-el.

"Joy To The World"

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
Let earth re-ceive her King;
Let ev-'ry heart
Pre-pare Him room
And heav'n and na-ture sing,
And heav'n and na-ture sing,
And heav'n and heav'n
and na-ture sing.

"We Wish You A Merry Christmas"

We wish you a mer-ry Christmas,
We wish you a mer-ry Christmas,
We wish you a mer-ry Christmas,
And a Hap-py New Year!
Good ti-dings we bring for you and
your kin.
We wish you a Mer-ry Christ-mas
And a Hap-py New Year!

The Compton Heights Concert Band

Flute
Laura Bergfeld
Jaci Lett
Kriste Marsh
Lea Naeger
Monica Smith
Renee Stocker

Flute/Piccolo
Carol Marsh

Oboe/English Horn
Diane Lieser

Bassoon
Harry Swanger

Clarinet
Lowell Fellinger
Jameela Jones
John Kennedy
Bryan Kirchoff
Sonya Lyles
Katie O'Connor
Elsie Parker

Clarinet
Clara Schroeder
Doug Sharp
Bob Shiflet
Susan Whinnery
Bass Clarinet
Steve Abraham

Alto Saxophone
Richard Claverie
Stephanie Wehrman

Tenor Saxophone
Kevin O'Connor
Bill Weindell

Bari Saxophone
Carl Lang

Trumpet
Lisa Blackmore
Mark Blackmore
Dallas Blair
Anthony Pelsue

Trumpet
Brian Schmitt
French Horn
Victor Baruzzini
Jenny Elphingstone
Paul Thomas
Bill Wamser

Baritone
Omer Creech
Emily Harpreit

Trombone
Arne Landers
Chris McKean
Charles Sincox
Rick Wallace

Tuba
Henry Emphrey
Jon Schroeder
Percussion
Kriste Ludwig

Ensemble from **The St. Louis Metro Singers** (including alternates)

Sopranos
Wanda Bellairs
Peg Duncan Chulick
Sandy Kettelkamp
Kate Lacey
Karen Robertson
Lynn Walker

Altos
Candy Eagle
Linda Finkes
Donna Kraatz
Mary Merkle
Maggie Norman
Betsy Stoff

Tenors
Eric Beste
James Burgess
Greg Krieg
Baron Phelps
Gary Stoff
Joe Wagner

Basses
Chuck Blanchard
Jerry Chulick
Mike Kavanaugh
Don Platt
Dave Sivcovich

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Expected ship date: March 1998. Gift Certificates are available at the gift shop in the lobby. All orders will be sent to the person ordering the item.

The microphones in the hall are being used to tape tonight's concert for use in the CD/Tape we are producing with Hugh Smith. Patrons are respectfully requested to silence signal watches and muffle coughing during the performance. Paging devices and cellular telephones should be turned off.

Win a free weekend in New York for two for Hugh Smith's Carnegie Hall debut in the concert

presentation of Verdi's "Nabucco" by the Collegiate Chorale on Saturday, Feb. 7, 1998.

Air fare for two, two box seats at Carnegie Hall for the performance on Saturday night, February 7, 1998, and hotel room. Departure Saturday, February 7th - 7:48 AM. Return Sunday, February 8th - 8:00 PM. Laguardia Airport. TWA. Drawing will be held Friday Dec. 19th after intermission. Need not be present to win. Limit one entry per person. Drawing box at band gift shop in lobby.

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Members of the Compton Heights Band, St. Louis Metro Singers, and The Sheldon Concert Hall, and their families are not eligible.

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