



Connaught Brass

Saturday 7th March 2026 at 4.30 pm
Cavendish Hall, Edensor

Overture <i>from</i> The Magic Flute	W.A. MOZART <i>arr.</i> WASSON (1756-1791)
Selections <i>from</i> Dardanus	J.-P. RAMEAU <i>arr.</i> VERHELST (1683-1764)
Largo <i>from</i> Xerxes	G.F. HANDEL <i>arr.</i> BARNES (1685-1759)
Quintet No. 2 in Eb Major, Op. 6	V.V. EWALD (1860-1935)

Interval of 20 minutes

Prelude and Reinlendere <i>from</i> Norwegian Dances	M. ANDRESEN (1945-)
Toccatà and Fugue in D minor, BWV 565	J.S. BACH (1685-1750)
Pavane in F# Minor, Op. 50	G.U. FAURÉ <i>arr.</i> FOSTER (1845-1924)
Selections <i>from</i> West Side Story	L. BERNSTEIN <i>arr.</i> GALE (1918-1990)

Connaught Brass

Aaron Akugbo (Trumpet)

Zoë Tweed (Horn)

Aled Meredith-Barrett (Tuba)

Harry Plant (Trumpet and Flugelhorn)

Chris Brewster (Trombone)

'Technically astonishing, eclectic in repertoire, and prepared to explode clichés of what brass chamber music should sound like' – The Arts Desk

Winners of the Inaugural Philip Jones International Brass Ensemble Competition and the Royal Overseas League Competition, Connaught Brass seek to redefine how brass chamber music is perceived. Blending a deep respect for the genre's rich heritage with a fresh, youthful perspective, their performances are not only marked by vibrance and boldness, but with warmth and approachability, reflecting the strong camaraderie at the heart of the ensemble. Through brand-new commissions, audience-favourite arrangements and a commitment to originality, they breathe new life into tradition, giving a unique and engaging concert experience with the ultimate goal of taking brass chamber music to the forefront of today's musical world.

The Connaughts have shared their music-making widely across the UK and Europe at venues including London's Wigmore Hall, the Lucerne Festival, De Doelen Rotterdam, Società Filarmonica Trento, Snape Maltings, Kings Place, St George's Bristol, Hidden Doors Arts Festival Edinburgh and Music for Wexford Ireland. 2024/25 saw the group make debut performances at the Barbican Centre in London and in Wales at Cowbridge Music Festival, return to Ferrandou Musique Festival in France and undertake an exciting collaboration project with pianist Zeynep Özsuca.

In previous years, the quintet have become artists of the Tillett Trust, City Music Foundation, Kirckman Concert Society and Britten Pears Chamber Music Residency. They also take great pride in undertaking masterclasses at conservatoires and education work in primary and secondary schools across the UK and Europe, including that supported by the Cavatina Chamber Music Trust and the Musicians Company.

Having been principal players and members of the European Union Youth Orchestra, Gustav Mahler Jugendorchester, and National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain, members of Connaught Brass perform regularly with prestigious orchestras and companies. In addition to their classical work, they are also in high demand commercially, collaborating with high-profile artists such as Stormzy, Jamie Cullum, Bruno Mars, Florence and the Machine, Alison Sudol, and Cody Fry.

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