DePaul University
SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Wednesday, October 7, 2026 • 7:00 PM

Matt Hightower,
TUBA

Presented in part by the Chris and Don Casey Endowed Fellowship

Murray and Michele Allen Recital Hall
2330 North Halsted Street • Chicago

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Allen Recital Hall

Matt Hightower, tuba

Presented in part by the Chris and Don Casey Endowed Fellowship

Eun Jin Bang, piano

Program

Yorke & Co. Arr. Matt Hightower

Alec Wilder (1907–1980)
Suite No. 1 for Tuba and Piano "Effie"

1. Effie Chases a Monkey
2. Effie Falls in Love
3. Effie Takes a Dancing Lesson
4. Effie Joins the Carnival
5. Effie Goes Folk Dancing
6. Effie Sings a Lullaby

James DeMars (b. 1952)
Tapestry III

Mike D'Ambrosio (b. 1974)
Follow the Leader

David Baker (1931–2016); piano reduction by Piotr Wisniewski
Concerto for Tuba and Orchestra

1. B's
2. Berceuse
3. Blues

As a courtesy to those around you, please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices. Flash photography is not permitted.

Biographies

An award-winning teacher, performer, and composer, **Matt Hightower** is the Associate Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at the Indiana University Jacob's School of Music. Prior to his appointment at Indiana, Hightower held similar positions at Florida State University, University of Kentucky and Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

An avid chamber musician, Hightower is a member of the Emerald Brass Quintet and has previously been a member of the Corpus Christi, Kingsville, and University of Kentucky Brass Quintets. He has also performed with the Lexington Philharmonic Brass Quintet, the Mirari Brass Quintet, the Atlas Tuba Quartet, Backburner Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble, and Concert:Nova

Some of his credits as a large ensemble performer include appearances with The Iceland Symphony Orchestra, The Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, The Louisville Ballet, the Lexington Philharmonic, the Sarasota Symphony Orchestra, former principal tubist with the Tallahassee Symphony, the Victoria Symphony Orchestra, the Victoria Bach Festival, the WCIT World Orchestra in Yerevan, Armenia, and David Baker's 20th Century Bebop Band.

A strong advocate for the entrepreneurial 21st-century musician, Hightower has built a career that spans the full spectrum of music making—from composing and arranging to recording and performance. His debut album, *Re(in)spiration* (2019), was a finalist for the 2021 International Tuba Euphonium Association Roger Bobo Award for Excellence in Recording. The *International Tuba Euphonium Association Journal* praised the album for illustrating Hightower's "outstanding skills as a performer and artist" and for showcasing his "total control of the horn, concrete fundamentals, and musical sincerity." His second album, *Rapid Run,* a multitracked tuba–euphonium recording of his own compositions and arrangements, won the 2025 ITEA Roger Bobo Award for Excellence in Recording (Chamber Music). His third album, *Renewal* (2026), features new works for solo tuba. Hightower can also be heard on recordings including the University of Texas Wind Ensemble's *Wine-Dark Sea*, Society of Composers, Inc.'s *Flare: Vol. 32*, the University of Kentucky Faculty Brass Quintet's *New Music for Brass Quintet*, and the University of Kentucky Tuba–Euphonium Ensemble's *Blue Thunder*, among others.

Hightower himself has been the recipient of several awards, including the 2021 and 2025 ITEA Winston Morris Award for Tuba Ensemble Composition, and the 2023 ITEA Harvey Philips Award for Excellence in Composition for tuba in a solo role.

Hightower is also a dedicated educator whose students have won prizes at the Leonard Falcone Competition, Macauley Chamber Music Competition, and various regional and International Tuba-Euphonium Conferences including the inaugural ITEA Collegiate Ensembles Competitive Showcase Competition in 2023.

Dr. Hightower earned a BM in music education from Murray State University, an MM in tuba performance from Indiana University, and a DMA from the University of Texas at Austin. His primary instructors were Ray Conklin, Daniel Perantoni, and Charles Villarrubia, with additional instruction in the field of composition from Mike D'Ambrosio, John Fannin, and P.Q. Phan.

Matt Hightower is a B&S performing artist.

Tickets and Patron Services

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2330 North Halsted Street | Tuesday–Saturday | 10 AM–3 PM*
773-325-5200 | musicboxoffice@depaul.edu
*Seasonal hours apply, but we are always open 90 minutes prior to all ticketed events.

Accessibility: HPC is dedicated to providing access for all patrons. We ask that you please contact the HPC Box Office at least two weeks prior to your performance date to request accessibility services.

Cameras and Recorders: The taking of photographs or the recording of concerts held at HPC is strictly prohibited. By attending this concert, you consent to be photographed, filmed and/or otherwise recorded. Your entry constitutes your consent to such and to any use, in any and all media throughout the universe in perpetuity, of your appearance, voice and name for any purpose whatsoever in connection with HPC and DePaul University School of Music.

Concert Dress: At any given concert, you will observe some concertgoers dressed up and others dressed more casually. Many patrons wear business attire or casual business attire. We encourage you to wear whatever makes you feel most comfortable.

Food and Beverage: While drinks, with lids, are allowed in performance spaces, food is never allowed.

Fire Notice: The exits indicated by a red light nearest your seat is the shortest route to the lobby and then outside to the street. In the event of fire or any emergency, please do not run. Walk to that exit.

Late Seating: Late seating breaks usually occur after the first piece on the program or at intermission in order to minimize disturbances to other audience members and those performing on stage. Late patrons will be seated at appropriate breaks at the discretion of the house management staff.

No Smoking: All public spaces in HPC are smoke-free.

Phones and Paging Devices: All electronic devices—including cellular phones, pagers and wristwatch alarms—should be on silent while in any concert or recital hall.

Website: For information about HPC, the DePaul University School of Music, and its upcoming concerts or events, please visit go.depaul.edu/musicevents.

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July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

Upcoming Events
DePaul University School of Music

School of Music

October 8 • 7:30 p.m.
Gannon Concert Hall
DePaul Ensemble 20+

October 9 • 7:30 p.m.
Gannon Concert Hall
DePaul Concert Orchestra

October 12 • 7:00 p.m.
Dempsey Corboy Jazz Hall
DePaul Jazz Workshop

October 14 • 7:00 p.m.
Dempsey Corboy Jazz Hall
DePaul Jazz Ensemble

October 16 • 7:30 p.m.
Gannon Concert Hall
DePaul Wind Symphony

October 24 • 7:30 p.m.
Gannon Concert Hall
DePaul Concert and Chamber Choirs

Faculty Artist Series

October 15 • 7:00 p.m.
Allen Recital Hall
Jeremy Ruthrauff, saxophone

HPC Presents Series

October 23 • 7:00 p.m.
Allen Recital Hall
Randall Scarlata, baritone

Master Classes

October 24 • 11:00 a.m.
Allen Recital Hall
Randall Scarlata, baritone

For ticketing information and a complete list of concerts visit: go.depaul.edu/musicevents.

Holtschneider Performance Center

2330 North Halsted Street • Chicago

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800 West Belden Avenue • Chicago

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