



Karen Hutchinson/Beth Bhatnagar, Co-Presidents

February 10, 2020

### Guest Artists - A Program of Classical Music

**Mark Almond**, French Horn, **Zachariah Spellman**, Tuba, **Karen Hutchinson**, piano

<i>Concerto for French Horn</i> in E flat Major, K. 417, Allegro Maestoso	W. A. Mozart (1756-1791)
<i>En Foret</i> , Allegro	Eugene Bozza (1905-1991)
<i>Concerto for French Horn</i> in E flat Major, Op. 11, Allegro	Richard Strauss (1864-1949)
<i>Suite No. 1 for Horn, Tuba and Piano</i>	Alec Wilder (1907-1980)

**Mark Almond** joined the San Francisco Opera Orchestra as Co-Principal French Horn in 2016. Mark grew up in Bolton, England and was taught primarily by Christopher Wormald, his local high school music teacher. After becoming principal horn of the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain and the European Union Youth Orchestra he studied medicine at Cambridge and Oxford Universities. During this time he performed in the televised finals of the BBC Young Musician of the Year competition and the Shell London Symphony Orchestra Scholarship, winning the Silver medal. He has also been a finalist in the Paxman International Horn and Philip Jones International Brass competitions. Whilst at medical school he made his professional debut with the London Symphony Orchestra (aged 19) and was later appointed 3rd Horn with the Philharmonia Orchestra of London. He has since played guest principal with the Philharmonia, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, London Chamber Orchestra, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and BBC National Orchestra of Wales. Highlights have included playing guest principal horn with the Philharmonia in Bruckner's Fourth Symphony at Carnegie Hall under Christoph von Dohnanyi. Mark is active as a soloist and chamber musician and has performed the Franz Strauss Concerto with the London Symphony Orchestra, Mozart's Horn Concerto No. 4 with the Hallé Orchestra and Richard Strauss' Concerto No.2 with Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. He can be heard on numerous movie soundtracks, including 'Avengers: Age of Ultron', 'Antman', 'Chicago', 'The Da Vinci Code' and 'Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince' amongst others. In addition to playing the horn Mark is an experienced pulmonologist and general internal medicine physician and has recently been awarded a PhD in immunology and virology from Imperial College, London.

**Zachariah Spellman** has been principal tubist with San Francisco Opera since 1977 and with Marin Symphony since 1980. He is also a member of the Aurio Trio and of the Green Street Mortuary Band. A frequent recitalist with pianist Karen Hutchinson, Mr. Spellman has performed with the San Francisco Symphony, the San Francisco Ballet, the Manhattan Philharmonic, and the Oregon, Oakland, and Houston Symphonies. Zachariah has also performed at the Tanglewood, Mendocino, and Grand Teton Music Festivals, and has been featured soloist with the San Francisco Symphony, the Marin Symphony, the Portland Youth Philharmonic, as well as several other Bay Area orchestras. Through his work with the San Francisco Symphony's Education Department, Zachariah and his tuba enlighten many students in the San Francisco Unified School District through various Adventures in Music ensembles and coaching through the Instrumental Training and Support program. In addition to his San Francisco Opera releases, Mr. Spellman is featured on the recently released CD, *24 Preludes for Tuba and Piano* composed by Julius Jacobsen along with pianist, Karen Hutchinson. Additional recordings include *Songs of our Fathers* with Andy Statman and David Grisman, the Bay Area's Circus Bella, Thoth, "Those Darned Accordions" and Big Lou's Polka Casserole, as well as many TV and radio commercials that are produced in the Bay Area. Zachariah can occasionally be seen and heard marching through the streets of Chinatown in the Green Street Mortuary Band.

**Karen Hutchinson, pianist**, is a Steinway artist who studied at the Paris Conservatory with Jeanne-Marie Darre. She also studied with Adolph Baller and has her MA in French literature. Karen is one of the founding members of the Aurio Trio with Rufus Olivier and Zachariah Spellman, and she helped found Shabbes Zingt, a Yiddish group which plays at synagogues with Heather Klein, Ken Mowry, and Beri Moalem. In addition, Karen plays in many other groups with members of the San Francisco Opera Orchestra. Karen is now the organist at Church of the Holy Cross in Belmont. She is taking jazz improvisation, and recording Mr. Masters' 80 piano pieces, while taking accordion and organ lessons. Karen is also the much respected President of The Burlingame Music Club.