



RODNEY NEWTON was born in Birmingham, England in 1945 and received his initial musical education at Birmingham School of Music (now Birmingham Conservatoire, of which he is an Honorary Member), studying composition with Dr. Cyril Christopher (a distinguished Midland composer and organist) and timpani and percussion with Ernest Parsons (a founder member of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra). He

received his postgraduate education some years later at London Film School and Salford University.

In 1967 he joined the BBC Training Orchestra in Bristol as a timpanist and percussionist, leaving at the end of 1969. After a short period of freelancing from the Midlands, he moved to London, working with the Royal Philharmonic, New Philharmonia and BBC Symphony orchestras. In 1974, he joined the orchestra of Sadlers Wells (now English National) Opera where he remained for eleven years, the last five as principal timpanist. During this period he began to compose prolifically in all genres and worked in music publishing in a part-time capacity. He left ENO in 1985 to work in films and television as a composer, arranger, musical director and music consultant while still active as a player with various London orchestras, and subsequently entered the world of higher education. He was a member of the composition department of London College of Music from 1995 to 2000, where he also taught arranging, conducting and aural studies, and was a visiting lecturer in the Commercial Music department at the Royal Academy of Music. In 1988 he joined the part-time teaching staff of London Film School (of which he is now an Honorary Associate) and, from 1989 until 2010, was Music Consultant to the college. He has also contributed to BBC radio programmes on film music and guest-lectured on the subject at City University, Trinity College of Music and the National Film Theatre. From the 'nineties he has been involved with brass and wind bands, notably the famous Williams Fairey Band and The Cory Band, the current World, European and Welsh Regional champion and ranked the world's No. 1 brass band. He was responsible for all the brass band arrangements for Jeremy Deller's *Acid Brass* project which helped to gain the artist the 2004 Turner Prize and, on 24th February this year, he appeared on the BBC TV programme, *The Culture Show*, conducting The Fairey Band in a programme about Jeremy Deller.

Rodney Newton is Composer in Association with the 2nd Rossendale Scout Group Band (the only brass band in the Scout movement), Vice President of Hemel Hempstead Band (which he occasionally conducts) and President and Chief Guest Conductor of CSD Brass (Cambridge).

He is also currently Arranger in Residence with the Band of Her Majesty's Coldstream Guards and General Editor of Prima Vista Musik publishing company. In 2008, he was elected to a Fellowship of the Royal Society of Arts and the same year enrolled at Salford University, where he gained an extra-mural Master of Arts degree with Distinction in musical composition in 2010. In 2009, the BBC devoted an entire edition of its Radio 2 *Listen to the Band* programme to him and his music and, the same year, he directed and presented a short film of interviews with veteran percussion players for the Percussive Arts Society. From 2001 until 2010, he was Features Editor of *British Bandsman* magazine, a post he relinquished in order to concentrate on his own scores and work towards a doctorate at Salford University.



Before settling in Los Angeles, **BETH CHOUNART-MITCHELL** was principal tubist with the Women's Philharmonic Orchestra in San Francisco, and the Orchestra Sinfonica de Monterrey in Nueva Leon, Mexico. She has played with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, the Pacific Symphony Orchestra, Opera Pacific, Germany's Eurobrass, has appeared as a guest with Washington's United States Navy Band, and has toured frequently throughout the

United States and Europe.

Beth Mitchell enjoys an active freelance career, and performs regularly across the Los Angeles area. She has worked with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and Orange County Philharmonic Societies, the Los Angeles Zipper Orchestra, and many other arts groups giving concerts, master classes and numerous solo and chamber recitals around southern California.

Beth received her Bachelor's Degree in Tuba Performance from the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore, where she studied with David Fedderly, and holds a Masters Degree in Tuba Performance from the University of Southern California where she studied with Tommy Johnson and Jim Self.

Mrs. Mitchell is currently on the brass faculties of Biola University, Pasadena City College, and Cypress College. She also has taught for the Idyllwild Arts Academy Festivals, and the Red Lodge Music Festival in Montana.

Beth Mitchell is a **Kanstul Performing Artist**.

**The Monthly Concert Series of
Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, Fullerton**
—□— presents —□—

THE GOLDEN STATE BRITISH BRASS BAND



**In A Concert Featuring the
Music of Rodney Newton
Conducted by the Composer**

—□— **California Concerto** —□—
—□— **Four Cities Symphony** —□—
—□— **Capriccio for Tuba and Brass Band** —□—
featuring
Beth Mitchell, Tuba

—□— —□— —□— —□— —□— —□— —□— —□— —□— —□— —□—
Sunday, 13 May 2012 at 4:30 PM

**Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church
1231 E. Chapman Avenue Fullerton, CA 92831**