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Monday  
**MAR 3**  
7:30 pm

# MNOZIL BRASS

Captivating audiences for 30 years



This event is made possible through the generous support of the Clyde & Marty Nichols Performing Arts Fund.

## ***Jubilee – 30 Years of Mnozil Brass***

**There will be no intermission during this performance.**

It's been 30 years since a few cheeky music students with philharmonic ambitions gave in to the temptations of tavern music at Vienna's Mnozil Inn and, quite unplanned, embarked on a path into the entertainment business. They left the noble world of classical music behind and, from then on, traveled the globe on behalf of applied brass music. Success came quickly. The decades flew by, and the students eventually became professors themselves. Teachers who, to the best of their knowledge and belief, only sought to pass on what they had experienced in word and sound to their inquisitive students. But the fire of the blown music never goes out! It still burns brightly in their hearts in 2025, just like at the beginning in the small Viennese restaurant.

Mnozil Brass has established itself as one of the world's premier brass ensembles. With more than 130 performances a year, the group has sold out houses from the farthest reaches of the European continent to Israel, China, Taiwan, Japan, Australia, Canada and the United States, and they have captivated audiences with their blend of immense virtuosity and theatrical wit. No wonder their videos have garnered millions of YouTube views, and their fans have travelled countless miles to hear them play. Since 2000, Mnozil Brass has staged a new production almost every year: *Zimt* (2000), *Smoke* (2001), *Ragazzi* (2002), *Seven* (2004), *Das Gelbe vom Egg* (2007), *Magic Moments* (2009), *Mnozil plays Mnozil* (2010), *Blofeld* (2012), *Happy Birthday* (2013), *Hojotoho* (2013), *Yes Yes Yes* (2015), *Cirque* (2017) (director: Philippe Arlaud; choreography: Virginie Roy), *Gold* (2019), and *Phoenix* (2020).

Their latest program, *Jubilee*, celebrates their 30 years together with new works and Mnozil Brass favorites. As always, the repertoire is presented with the group's iconic humor and wit in scenes so clever that they would be worthy of Monty Python.

## The Musicians



### Thomas Gansch

Born in Melk an der Donau, Thomas is one of the band's founding members. By the time he turned the tender age of 17, he was already playing at the Vienna State Opera. However, his love of jazz was stronger and led him to become one of the most versatile trumpeters in Austria; one who can play jazz, classical, crossover and

everything in between. He is a whirlwind on stage and can tell a good joke or two as well. When he has time off, he composes for Mnozil Brass.

### Robert Rother

Like Thomas, Robert also hails from Melk an der Donau. As children, the two of them played in a brass band conducted by Thomas's very strict father. Polkas, waltzes and marches were always on the program—a good learning experience it seems! Now, Robert can engender a tone with so much longing and feeling that it is guaranteed to bring anyone to tears. Unlike Thomas, Robert hardly moves on stage at all and lets the music speak for itself.



### Roman Rindberger

Roman was born into a musical family and played folk music as a youngster with his father and two brothers. His father Hans, in turn, would meet up with Gerhard Füßl's father, Franz, because the families lived nearby. Roman loves technical passages and renders them with the precision of a Swiss clock-maker. And he even knows

how the instruments work! If anyone wants to know more about brass music, Roman is the man for you. On stage, his character is the "Latin Lover."



### Leonhard Paul

Leonhard was born in Mödling near Vienna and is the first musician his family has ever produced (though there was a grandfather who earned his money as a painter, and whose pictures hang in every other house in the better parts of Vienna!). Recently, the other members of the band have started to get a little concerned

about him, because he seems to have taken a liking to shady characters on stage. Everyone wants to play the hero, but Leonhard likes roles that show the darker side of man. No one knows exactly what's going on in his head!

**Gerhard Füßl**

Gerhard grew up near where Roman lived, and he also had a father who taught him a lot about brass music. He is the most well-liked in the group. Probably because he looks after the financial matters. Everyone tries to keep on his good side, and no one wants to incur his wrath. For the most part, he is usually friendly to all.

**Zoltan Kiss**

Austrian folk music was certainly not part of Zoltan's upbringing. He was born in Budapest, spent some time in Poland and finally settled in Vienna, where he plays trombone in four languages. One of the group's favorite games is to put some really difficult music in front of him and see if he can play it. He usually can! His technical skills take your breath away. Bets have been placed as to when and how something will be written that he cannot master, but, so far—high, low, slow, fast—he can play it all!

**Wilfried Brandstötter**

He started his stellar career playing the recorder, subsequently joining the boys' choir. After that it was playing the violin, followed by the trumpet, before finally feeling comfortably at ease with the tuba. So, speed is actually not quite his business. To him, life is a slow and wide river. Hence, his ambition consists of making all

concert halls, including the audience seated herein, being caressed by pleasant vibrations he's producing with the help of low tones from his tuba. He does not understand at all why people get thrilled by fast, high-pitched melodies.