Pianist Roger Bethard is a frequent accompanist for University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire music students and is a proud supporter of the arts in the Chippewa Valley. He received his Bachelor of Music degree in Piano performance as a student of Dr. Robert Larsen at Simpson College, Indianola Iowa. He has worked 29 years in the supercomputing industry for Cray Research, SGI, and is currently employed at Intel Corporation.

A Tradition to Celebrate
During 2016 and 2017, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire will mark its centennial year. Throughout the university’s rich history, the performing arts have played a vibrant role in the life of the campus. The Department of Music and Theatre Arts is celebrating our long history as one of UW-Eau Claire’s hallmarks of distinction. We are known for excellence in performing arts education—and especially for the opportunities we provide our students to perform and shine.

Two ways you can join the celebration:
Participate in our campaign for the Global Performing Arts Endowment—helping us make the world our stage and bring the performing arts world to UW-Eau Claire. You can make your pledge online at connect.uwec.edu/music-theatre-arts.

Plan to attend our Centennial Gala on October 8, 2016, including a special concert you wouldn’t want to miss. Hear students perform the world premiere of works specially commissioned by the UW-Eau Claire Foundation in honor of the university’s centennial along with music from UW-Eau Claire’s founding year of 1916.

Micky Wrobleski, tuba
accompanied by
Roger Bethard, piano
Paul Kosower, cello

Sunday, May 1, 2016
7:30 p.m.
Gantner Concert Hall
Haas Fine Arts Center
Program

Fantasia Suite
  Georg Philip Telemann
  Arr. Micky Wrobleski
  Fantasia I in A Major
  Fantasia VI in d minor
  Fantasia IV in Bb Major
  Fantasia XII in g minor
  Fantasia V in C Major

cCONCERTO FOR tUBA and oRCHESTRA
  jORGE sALGUEIRO
  (exclusive author’s edition for tuba and tape to Micky Wrobleski)
  1. dEPTHS
  2. bEATS
  3. cADENZA
  4. fANTASY
  5. fIREWORKS

  – Intermission –

Sweet River Suite
  Jerome Kern
  Ol’ Man River
  Deep River
  Moon River
  Ode To the Yellow River
  Roger Bethard, Piano
  Micky Wrobleski, Tuba

Mariettas Lied zur Laute
  aus der Oper “Die tote Stadt”
  Erich Wolfgang Korngold

Bipartition for Cello and Tuba
  Bruce Broughton
  Paul Kosower, Cello
  Micky Wrobleski, Tuba

A native of Virginia, Minnesota, Micky Wrobleski began his college career studying with Dr. Jerry Young at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. While at UWEC, Micky continued gathering experience in all areas as a soloist, chamber musician, composer, orchestral and wind band musician, and educator. Before leaving UWEC, Micky was appointed a member of the 451st Army Reserve Band in Minnesota, and, in 1997, Micky won the audition for Principal Tuba of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the training orchestra of the World-Renowned Chicago Symphony Orchestra. While in Chicago, in addition to his duties with the Civic Orchestra, Micky appeared numerous times as an extra and musician substitute with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and also performed with numerous orchestras and bands in the Chicagoland region. In addition to his performance activities, he was Instructor of Low Brass and Chamber Music Coach at the Merrit School of Music.

Micky’s life was forever changed when he was invited to join the Shanghai Broadcasting Symphony Orchestra in 2002, by then Music Director, Hu Yong Yan. Time in Shanghai was short, as Maestro Tan Li Hua, of the Beijing Symphony Orchestra, in 2003 invited him to Beijing and that was to be the beginning of a long relationship of musical cooperation. Since arriving in Beijing, with the help and support of Maestro Tan Li Hua, Micky has become a staple member of the classical music and brass community by constantly breaking down barriers, dispelling stereotypes, and opening people’s eyes to the expressive and sonic capabilities of the tuba. Micky has performed with the Beijing Symphony on stages around the world, and as a soloist with the orchestra, performing the China premiere of the Concerto for Tuba and Orchestra by American composer, John Williams in The Great Hall of the People on a nationally televised concert.

In addition to his work in Beijing, Micky has performed with orchestras as a substitute or extra musician with orchestras throughout China, Korea, and appeared a Soloist with the Taiwan Wind Symphony. Preparations are currently underway for Micky to give the premier of a new Concerto for Tuba by the Chinese composer Wang Xi Ling. He also maintains a vigorous schedule as an educator, teaching private students and students as Professor of Tuba at the China Conservatory of Music, and he is the First-Call Tubist for every major recording studio in Beijing. He can be heard on hundreds of recordings for television, radio, education, dance, pop, and movies.

A founding member and president of the China Chapter of the International Tuba Euphonium Association, Micky was featured on the cover of the Fall 2014 International Tuba Euphonium Association’s quarterly Journal and was interviewed for their special segment “From the Back Row,” an article devoted to insights, history, and advice from professional tuba and euphonium players from around the world.

Micky has commissioned and has had numerous works written for the tuba as a soloist and in many different chamber settings. As a composer and arranger, Micky’s works have been performed and recorded from Asia to Europe to the United States by the world’s best musicians, with numerous projects under development.

Thanks to Christian Niedermaier, Roger Lewis and the Miraphone Corporation of Waldkraiburg, Germany for their sponsorship of this recital and provision of the Firebird F Tuba for Mr. Wrobleski’s performance this evening.