Merry and Bright
Charles Lazarus, trumpet
Tonia Hughes, vocals | Bruce A. Henry, vocals | Tommy Barbarella, piano
Jeff Bailey, bass | David Schmalenberger, drums | Daryl Boudreaux, percussion

The Lazarus Brass
Douglas C. Carlsen, trumpet | Martin Hodel, trumpet | Brad Shermock, trumpet
Michael Gast, horn | Michael Petruconis, horn | Dean Sorenson, trombone
R. Douglas Wright, trombone | John Wasson, bass trombone | Steven Campbell, tuba

Holiday Concert
Saturday, December 15, 2018, 8 pm | Orchestra Hall

The program for tonight’s concert will be announced from the stage.
There will be one intermission.

Charles Lazarus, a member of the Minnesota Orchestra’s trumpet section since 2000, has masterminded several original productions with the Orchestra, serving as soloist, composer and bandleader. In addition to Merry and Bright, which has been performed annually at Orchestra Hall since 2015, he has created and starred in three original orchestral shows featuring his jazz ensemble: A Night in the Tropics, American Riffs, and Fly Me to the Moon. In April 2018 he was featured in a new Minnesota Orchestra program, Our Love Is Here to Stay, in collaboration with The Steeles. In 2015 he and the Orchestra performed the world premiere of American Nomad, a trumpet concerto composed for him by Steve Heitzeg; Lazarus and the Orchestra will reprise this work as part of next month’s American Expressions festival. Lazarus’ composition A Perfect Square, paired with Michael Hall’s book of the same name, was recently made into a children’s animated short film. His four solo recordings, Solo Settings, Zabava, Merry & Bright and Lovejoy, showcase his wide-ranging talent and feature collaborations with diverse composers, arrangers and performers, including Orchestra musicians. More: minnesotaorchestra.org and charleslazarus.com.

Tonia Hughes’ vocal style combines elements of gospel, blues, jazz, R&B and worship music. She is a singer, songwriter, recording and theater artist, and was the recipient of a 2017-18 McKnight Fellowship. Bruce A. Henry has been influenced by legends such as John Coltrane, Leon Thomas, Nina Simone and Marvin Gaye. He has recorded for Disney, HBO and national ad campaigns. Tommy Barbarella worked extensively with Prince, among many other artists, and arranged Purple Rain for the Minnesota Orchestra’s September 2016 performance at the Minnesota Vikings home opener. Jeff Bailey is active as a performer, composer, producer and educator. He has performed with many renowned jazz artists, in numerous Minnesota Orchestra concerts and as part of the Jazz in the Target Atrium series. David Schmalenberger performs with nationally renowned artists and is active as a clinician. He is currently teaching at Anoka Ramsey Community College, Augsburg University and Minnesota State University in Mankato. Daryl Boudreaux is a member of the three-time Grammy Award-winning Sounds of Blackness. Through Share the Rhythm, an Ordway Foundation program, he has taught African drumming and rhythm throughout the Twin Cities and the greater metro area.