



**Schulich School of Music of McGill University
Concerts and Publicity**

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

**Gene Pokorny, Chicago Symphony Orchestra Principal Tubist
Masterclasses and Recital, March 12-14**

For immediate release

Montreal, February 26, 2009 – As part of McGill’s Year of the Brass, Gene Pokorny, Principal Tuba of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and a Catherine Thornhill Steele Visiting Artist Chair 2008-2009 at the Schulich School of Music, will be in residence at the Schulich School of Music March 12 to 14, 2009.

Masterclasses:

Thursday, March 12, 2009	6:00 p.m.	Pollack Hall
Friday, March 13, 2009	4:30 p.m.	Multimedia Room (MMR)

Recital:

Saturday, March 14, 2009 8:30 p.m. Pollack Hall

M. Pokorny holds the Chicago Symphony Orchestra’s Arnold Jacobs Principal Tuba Chair position, endowed by Christine Querfeld, for which he was appointed by Sir Georg Solti in 1988. He has also played in the Israel Philharmonic, the Utah Symphony, the Saint Louis Symphony and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Former Chicago Symphony Orchestra Music Director Daniel Barenboim invited Gene to play in the *Deutsche Staatsoper Berlin* production of Wagner's *Ring* cycle in 1997. In September 2000, he participated in a reunion of the World Orchestra for Peace, which played a concert for charity in memory of Sir Georg Solti at the London Proms and for a young musicians' scholarship fund in St. Petersburg and Moscow in May 2003. In June 2000, he premiered John Stevens' *Journey, Concerto for Contrabass Tuba and Orchestra* with the Chicago Symphony. He gave repeat performances of that piece with the CSO and other orchestras.

Gene is an "Advocate for Change" member of the Symphony Orchestra Institute, an organization wishing to serve and help bring about positive changes in North American symphony orchestra organizations, and he was a consultant in Mim Harrison's book, *Spoken Like a Pro*, published by Levenger. He is on the Honorary Board of Directors of the International Women's Brass Conference.

He performs solo recitals internationally and, in addition to his solo recordings, he has a recording of orchestral tuba parts played alone for the benefit of young tuba players readying themselves for professional auditions. In the summer of 2006, a play-along CD/workbook on the Hip-Bone Music Publications label was released as a collaborative effort between Gene and the Rolling Stones' trombonist Michael Davis.

These events are free and open to the general public. The Multimedia Room is located at 527 Sherbrooke St. West. Pollack Hall is located at 555 Sherbrooke St. West.

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Source: Kate Herzberg, Concerts and Publicity, 514-398-8101
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