



News Release

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FEB. 6 CONCERT TO FEATURE TRUMPETER AND PIANIST

St. Joseph, Mo. — Jan. 30, 2003 —Trumpeter Steve Molloy, assisted by pianist Ellen Sommer-Bottorff, will be presented in recital Feb. 6 for the First Thursday Downtown Noon Concert Series at First Presbyterian Church, 301 N. 7th. The series is presented by the church in cooperation with the Western department of music. The audience is invited to bring lunch to eat while listening to the performance in the sanctuary of the church from 12:10 until about 12:45. Beverages will be provided.

Molloy is currently an artist in residence at Western where he provides instruction in applied trumpet and coaches chamber brass ensembles. Previously he was the studio jazz ensemble director at Mid-America Nazarene University where he also taught applied trumpet. He received a bachelor of arts in music degree from St. Cloud State University and a master of music degree in trumpet performance from the University of Kansas (KU), Lawrence.

While attending KU, Molloy taught studio trumpet, directed the KU Jazz Ensemble II and was a member of the Kansas Brass Quintet, a resident faculty ensemble. He has been a musician for Walt Disney World and has toured with the Glenn Miller Orchestra as its lead trumpeter and soloist, an engagement which included a six-week tour of Japan and two recordings: "Here We Go Again" (Victor Records) and Barry Manilow's "Singin' with the Big Bands" (Arista Records). He can be heard on local recordings of the Kansas City Boulevard Big Band, Tim Whitmer, The Vince Bilardo Orchestra and the Kansas Brass Quintet.

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Sommer-Bottorff is a sought-after accompanist for numerous artists. She has toured extensively throughout the United States and Canada as a collaborative pianist. Her experience has resulted in two compact disc recordings: the 1999 release of “Arrows of Time” with trombonist David Vining of the College Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati, as well as the Kansas Brass Quintet's 2000 recording, “Rare Breeds and DogEared Classics.” Recently, Summer-Bottorff was a featured soloist, with the St. Joseph Symphony, performing Rachmaninoff's “Second Concerto.”

A graduate of the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Western, Summer-Bottorff has studied with Richard Cass and Jerry L. Anderson. Currently, she is completing a doctor of musical arts degree in piano performance and chamber music at the University of Kansas with Robert Koenig as her primary teacher. Since 1994, Ellen has taught piano and voice at Western.

Missouri Western State College is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The college offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.

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