

Triton Brass Quintet concludes summer series

By **MARY LANCASTER**
INDEPENDENT WRITER

The seven-week summer concert series presented by the Nantucket Musical Arts Society will conclude with the Triton Brass Quintet on Tuesday, August 19 at 8 p.m. at the First Congregational Church.

Shelagh Abate, who plays horn, said the quintet formed in 2001. Three were students at the New England Conservatory and two at the Boston Conservatory. They met and formed their group after graduation. She describes their music style as varied.

"It runs the gamut," she said. "We play everything from old, old music to brand new music written for us, and we specialize in live performances."

The quintet has never been to Nantucket.

"We're really looking forward to being there," she said.

The Nantucket performance will consist of "Fanfare" by Paul Dukas, "Adagietto from Symphony Number Five" by Gustav Mahler, "Symphony Number Eight" by Antonin Dvorak with four movements, "Maestoso" from Symphony Number Three (The Organ Symphony) by Camille Saint-Saens, "Fancies, Toyes and Dreames" by Giles Farnaby and various jazz selections.

Triton is depicted in Greek mythology as a mer-man, with the body of a man and the tail of a dolphin. Triton, credited with the invention of the trumpet, blew his conch shell to announce the arrival of Poseidon, God of the Sea. He blew

his shell in response to Poseidon's commands. He blew softly to soothe the waters and ease the passage of sailors, and he blew stridently to bring on storms to smite anyone who offended Poseidon.

The Triton Brass Quintet is comprised of Shelagh Abate, who was a freelance musician in the Boston area performing with The Boston Pops, Boston Ballet, Boston Lyric Orchestra, Boston Modern Orchestra Project, The John Allmark Jazz Orchestra, Greg Hopkins Nonet and regional orchestras. She has been principal horn for the Vermont Symphony Orchestra since 1999 and is with the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra and City Music Cleveland. A Long Island native, she returned to New York in 2005 and has been working in Broadway shows and on television as well as in live performances with well-known artists such as Linda Ronstadt and Barry Manilow.

Stephen Banzaert plays trumpet. He has a master's of music degree and is principal trumpet with the New Bedford Symphony and acting principal trumpet with the Singapore Symphony. He is also a regular performer at Tanglewood and plays with various symphonies in New England.

Andrew Sorg plays trumpet and is often at Tanglewood and with several symphonies including The Berkshire Symphony and New Hampshire Symphony.

Wesley Hopper plays trombone. He has vast experience with many Boston area ensembles and has performed with several fine chamber musicians including



PHOTO BY STEVE EMERY

From left to right, Wes Hopper, Shelagh Abate, Jobey Wilson, Andrew Sorg, Stephen Banzaert.

David Ohanian and James Jenkins.

Jobey Wilson is on tuba and has entertained across the country and in Canada, France and Japan. He was with the Oklahoma City Philharmonic for four years and is principal tuba with a number of symphonies including the Hingham and Lexington symphonies.

Nantucket's own Timothy Smith will be a guest performer at the concert. Smith, who plays the organ, performed last year with the Poulenc Trio. He has been organist for St. Paul's Church as well as in churches in Illinois, New York, areas of Massachusetts, Tennessee and Ohio. Currently, he is organist and choirmaster at Saint James Episcopal Church in Columbus, Ohio. He is an organ builder and consultant and founded Portageville Chapel, a retreat for organists in New


York's Letchworth State Park.

Craig Garner is the group's music arranger and has more than 30 years of experience. He holds degrees from the Boston Conservatory and New England Conservatory.

In April 2005, the Triton Brass Quintet was given the Spedidam Prize at the Lyon International Chamber Music Competition, the only American group invited there and the only non-French group to win an award.


Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$7 for students, and may be purchased at Antiques Depot on Easy Street, the Lochtefeld Gallery on Fair Street, at the door or by calling 228-1287.

Free, Meet the Artist events are on Mondays at 8 p.m. at the Unitarian Church. ■



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