



## SCHOOL OF MUSIC

### Faculty Recital

**Chris Combest**  
*Tuba*

**Gyuhee Kim**  
*Piano*

**Brian Mueller**  
*Percussion*

Tuesday, February 10, 2026  
8:00 p.m.

T. Earl Hinton Music Hall, Wright Music Building

## Chris Combest

Praised for his “wonderful sense of musicianship and virtuosic technique,” Dr. Chris Combest serves as associate professor of tuba and assistant director at the MTSU School of Music. He is a life member of the International Tuba Euphonium Association (ITEA) and president of the Leonard Falcone International Euphonium and Tuba Festival, one of the world’s premier low brass festivals and competitions.

Prior to joining MTSU, he held faculty appointments at the University of Texas at San Antonio, Southern Illinois University, and the University of Illinois. A former tubist with the Louisville Orchestra, Nashville Opera, Victoria Symphony, and the Ash Lawn Opera and Wintergreen Festivals, Combest maintains an active career as a solo, chamber, and orchestral musician. He has also appeared with the Nashville Symphony, Indianapolis Symphony, San Antonio Symphony, Chattanooga Symphony, and Dallas Winds, and has collaborated with artists including the Canadian Brass, Audra McDonald, and film composer John Williams.

His recording credits include projects for NPR, the BBC, Sony, Disney, and a range of film, television, video game, and commercial work. Over the last 20 years, he has commissioned more than 30 new works for the tuba, including music by composers such as Katahj Copley, Alvin Singleton, Maria Thompson Corley, Rodney Newton, and John Stevens. His solo albums *Mosaic* (2020) and *Under Tennessee Skies* (2023) received recognition from The American Prize and the Global Music Awards, along with nominations for the Roger Bobo Award for Excellence in Recording from the ITEA.

Within ITEA, he has served as associate editor of the *ITEA Journal* and as the longtime competitions chair. As an adjudicator and guest artist, he appears regularly at international events including the International Tuba Euphonium Conference (ITEC), the Leonard Falcone Festival, the Spanish Tuba Euphonium Conference (AETYB), and Euphonios y Tubas Brazil. His students have earned top honors in national and international competitions and have pursued careers in professional ensembles, military bands, education, and music industry roles with companies such as Sony Music Publishing and Universal Music Group.

He holds degrees from the University of Illinois, the University of Louisville, and Eastern Kentucky University, and studied with Roger Bobo, Mark Moore, John Jones, and James Willett. Combest is a Buffet Performing Artist for Melton Meinl Weston instruments.



Romeo and Juliet, Op. 64

Sergei Prokofiev  
(1891–1953)  
arr. Charlie Vernon

Act One and Introduction  
The City Awakens  
Public Merry-making  
The Montagues and Capulets  
The Death of Tybalt (Mercutio)  
Romeo and Juliet Parting  
Juliet's Death and Funeral

Homage

John Cheetham  
(1939–2024)

Sonata for Tuba and Piano

Robert Sibbing  
(1929–2017)

Allegro moderato  
Larghetto  
Allegro Giocoso

Capriccio for Solo Tuba

Krzysztof Penderecki  
(1933–2020)

E-Suite for Tuba and Percussion

Maria Thompson Corley  
(b. 1966)

Enchantment  
Estrangement  
Excitement

Brian Mueller, percussion

# Middle Tennessee State University

## School of Music

Dr. Leah Lyons, Dean, College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Jennifer Snodgrass, Director

Dr. Chris Combest, Assistant Director

Dr. Christopher Dye, Assistant Director

Dr. Jamila McWhirter, Graduate Studies Director

Mr. Mark Britt, Piano Technician

**All concerts are open to the public.**

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The School of Music has a proud history of providing an outstanding education to thousands of students who have gone on to successful careers. We are passionate about music and excited to be at the forefront of educating musicians for our state and beyond. We invite you to make a tax-deductible gift to support the School of Music. Your donation will have a significant impact on current and future MTSU students as they become the next generation of composers, conductors, educators, historians, industry specialists, performers, and music theorists. For more information, contact Meredith Kerr, College of Liberal Arts development officer, at 615-898-5223 or [meredith.kerr@mtsu.edu](mailto:meredith.kerr@mtsu.edu).

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