



**Barrie Concert – Saturday
October 14, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. -
Hannaford Street Silver Band -
Ontario Reflections**

Hannaford Street Silver Band Captivates Barrie Concertgoers

Submitted by Julia Jacklein

On Saturday evening, Barrie concertgoers had the opportunity to hear the award-winning Hannaford Street Silver Band, featured in the Barrie Concerts season opener at Hiway Pentecostal Church. The band was in excellent form, beginning the show with a rousing rendition of *O Canada*, and continuing the program with a diverse selection of repertoire from around the world. Highlights included the *Canadian Folksong Suite* by Barrie's own Morley Calvert – a work employing numerous expressive effects and sudden rhythmic changes; *Eternal Life* by University of Toronto graduate Marcus Venables, featuring his father Robert Venables on trumpet; and Vaughan Williams' *English Folksong Suite*.

The band demonstrated remarkable versatility, delighting the audience with its clear mastery of seemingly endless rhythms and textures. The music ranged from march-like to quietly expressive, from vibrant to subtle. One particularly beautiful moment came when the whole band played softly, using their mutes; the effect was captivating. Another great moment came when some of the band members left the stage to play behind the audience during *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*, and the whole church was filled with J. S. Bach's wonderfully expressive melody.

Conductor Raymond Tizzard provided interesting, sometimes humorous anecdotes to introduce each piece, occasionally pointing out individual band members' accomplishments, at one time commenting on Barrie's location as a former place of gathering for the First Nations, or otherwise engaging his listeners. In a memorable moment towards the end of the program, he handed the baton to one of the youngest members of the audience, while the other audience members clapped rhythmically in time to the music.

Other noteworthy pieces on the program included the *Great North Overture* by Kevin Lau; Leroy Anderson's unique *Sandpaper Ballet*, featuring a percussion double solo performed by Kris Maddigan and Jacob Mannion with much expressive humour; and George Doughty's *Theme and Variations*, this time featuring a stunning solo for euphonium by band member Curtis Metcalf.

It was an evening filled with great rhythms, and an atmosphere of togetherness between performers and listeners pervaded. The musicians' obvious enjoyment and appreciation of performing together was infectious, as was proven by the double encore at the end of the show.