

BIO FOR ALASTAIR KAY

Alastair Kay, recently retired as Head of Brass at Humber College is busy as a clinician, arranger, composer, and a virtuosic jazz and classical soloist. He has recorded and/or performed with hundreds of the very best artists and entertainers such as True North Brass, Ella Fitzgerald, Rob McConnell and the Boss Brass, Barbra Streisand, Diana Krall, Tony Bennet, Guido Basso, Aretha Franklin, Maria Schneider, Frank Sinatra, Warren Vache, Slide Hampton, Lighthouse, Bill Watrous, Wayne Bergeron, and All Star Brass. Al performs regularly with the bands of John MacLeod, Roberto Occhipinti, Hilario Duran, Lighthouse, Kirk MacDonald, Brian Dickinson, and his own 5 and 10 trombone jazz ensembles. He has been a feature performer across Canada with the leading orchestras of Toronto, Calgary, Winnipeg, and Vancouver, toured seven seasons with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet Orchestra, and performed with dozens of brass bands, concert bands, big bands, and jazz ensembles. Al travels regularly to Calgary area to do brass and jazz workshops, concerts with Prime Time Bigband, the Yamaha Order of Canada Big Band, perform and teach at the Banff Centre, and adjudicate local music festivals. Al has played for most of the musicals in Toronto for the past 40 years including "Sousatzka", "Newsies", "Mary Poppins", "Come Fly Away", "Cats", "Dirty Dancing", "Lord Of The Rings", "The Producers", and "The Lion King". A busy studio musician, he has played on hundreds of T.V. and radio jingles, themes, movies, records, CD's and DVD's. Recent recordings include Juno-winning or nominated CD's by Phil Dwyer, Alex Dean, Brian Dickinson, John MacLeod, Kirk MacDonald, and soloing on the epic new game "Cuphead". Al's association with Yamaha has led him to Japan helping design the YSL 697Z/897Z trombones and the Al Kay Artist Model mouthpiece.