

WARREN GREF, HORN



Warren Gref has been a member of the San Diego Symphony horn section since 1979. His principal teachers were Wendell Hoss at the University of Southern California and Myron Bloom at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Prior to coming to San Diego, Mr. Gref served on the faculties at the University of Georgia, and then at the University of New Mexico. For seven summers, he was Principal Horn and faculty member at the Brevard Music Center in North Carolina. Other performing engagements include Principal Horn with the National Opera Orchestra in Mexico City and free-lance work in Los Angeles.

Having a life-long interest in conducting, Mr. Gref was awarded a Fellowship at Aspen's American Academy of Conducting for the summer of 2003. In 2004, he was one of the musicians who performed on the Grammy-winning CD *Complete Chamber Music of Carlos Chavez, Volume 2*. Mr. Gref is currently an adjunct faculty member at the University of California, San Diego. He began his professional career at the age of 21 with the San Antonio Symphony.

Getting to know Warren Gref...

Q: What are your favorite three tunes or pieces on your iPod/Mp3 or CD collection?

A: Beethoven - Symphony No. 7; Bruckner - Symphony No. 8

Q: How did you choose your instrument?

A: I wanted to play the trombone when I was in 4th grade, but they said I wasn't big enough to reach 6th and 7th positions, so they dropped a French horn in my lap and suggested I start on that...I thought I would just play it until I was big enough to switch to the trombone - guess I'm still not big enough yet.

Q: What are three of your favorite movies?

A: *Dead Poets Society*, *Field of Dreams*, *E.T. the Extraterrestrial*

Q: What is your favorite travel destination?

A: At the moment - Yosemite

Q: What are some favorite composers and/or musical periods?

A: J.C. Bach, Stravinsky, Honegger, Handel, Boyce, Corelli - and Mozart, Beethoven, of course

Q: What do you love most about San Diego (other than the weather)?

A: It's an exciting city with a wide array of activities - something for everyone, and not so crowded.

Q: What is your choice for dining in San Diego?

A: Ra Sushi on Broadway, Sammy's Woodfired Pizza, Lotus Thai

Q: Where might you find me on a Saturday night if I'm not performing with the Symphony?

A: Home with my family, or at the movies, or attending someone else's performance.

Q: The San Diego Symphony is essential to San Diego because...?

A: The San Diego Symphony keeps alive the great legacy of some of the greatest geniuses who have ever lived - Mozart, Beethoven, etc. It has been said that classical music is the crowning achievement of western civilization, and it is important to provide the opportunity for everyone to have access to the experience of live classical music performances...it nourishes people's souls.