

Press Release

JVC JAZZ Festival NEWPORT, R.I.

August 11, 12, 13, 2006

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BOTTI IS BACK!!!
JVC JAZZ FESTIVAL-NEWPORT ADDS
MCCOY TYNER SEPTET, SARAH MORROW QUARTET,
EDDIE PALMIERI/BRIAN LYNCH DUO,
JENNY SCHEINMAN and RON AFFIF TRIO
TO FESTIVAL LINEUP
and
CHRIS BOTTI RETURNS!

Newport, RI--Festival Producers have proudly just announced the addition of the **McCoy Tyner Septet: *The Story of Impulse Records*** with alto saxophonist **Donald Harrison**, trombonist **Steve Turre**, trumpeter **Wallace Roney**, bassist **Charnett Moffett**, drummer **Eric Gravatt** and a saxophonist to be announced; trombonist **Sarah Morrow** and her quartet featuring pianist **Robert Glasper**, bassist **Derrick Hodge** and drummer **Chris Dave**; pianist **Eddie Palmieri** and trumpeter **Brian Lynch Duo**, violinist **Jenny Scheinman** with pianist **Jason Moran**, bassist **Matt Penman** and drummer **Jim Black**, and the **Ron Affif Trio** to this summer's jazz festival lineup.

In addition, trumpet titan **Chris Botti**, who in June dropped out of the Sunday, August 13 lineup announced in May to make an Earth, Wind & Fire tour, is back on the roster NOW, due to a last minute EWF schedule change! Botti's band will feature an all-star musical staff with pianist **Billy Childs**, guitarist **Mark Whitfield**, drummer **Billy Kilson**, bassist **James Genus** and vocalist **Jeanne Jolly**.

The McCoy Tyner Septet will appear on Saturday, August 12 on the JVC Jazz Stage.

To say that modern jazz has been shaped and swayed by the music of **McCoy Tyner** is neither overstatement nor invention. His easily identifiable blues-based piano style, replete with sophisticated chords, fleet, lyrical gestures and an explosively percussive left hand, first filtered then transcended bebop and other conventional styles to become one of the most ubiquitous in improvised music today. His harmonic contributions include relying on fourths and pentatonic scales--and dramatic, rhythmic devices form the *lingua franca* of a wide majority of contemporary jazz pianists.

Over forty years have passed since Tyner's nascent sound was first heard beyond his native Philadelphia: in now historic groups led by trumpeter Cal Massey, saxophonist Benny Golson, and most famously, John Coltrane. Still juggling a non-stop schedule of touring and recording, the 68-year old pianist can look back on a career that elevated him from noted sideman, to respected bandleader . . . to celebrated legend.

Sarah Morrow Quartet and Jenny Scheinman and her band will both appear on Waterside Stage, Saturday, August 12.

Trombonist **Sarah Morrow** has taken Europe by storm. With the release of her first album in 1999, *Greenlight*, featuring Antoine Roney (tenor sax), Jaz Sawyer (drums), Ugonna Ukegwu (bass), Kazi Oliver (percussion) and James Hurt (piano) - won critical acclaim and launched her career as a prominent soloist, bandleader, and composer/arranger. Ms. Morrow's quintet has received rave reviews for their performances at numerous jazz festivals, including the Nice Jazz Festival, JVC Jazz Festival-Paris, the Newport Jazz Festival in Madarao Japan, Marciac Jazz Festival, the Strasbourg Music Festival, Nancy Jazz Pulsations in France, Italy for the Brass Group, and the illustrious Caja Espana Otono Jazz in 7 cities in Spain, to name a few. Special guests Jacky Terrasson (piano), Scott Amendola (drums), Ricky Ford (tenor sax), Pierre Boussaguet (bass), Denys Baptiste (saxophone) and John Betsch (drums) have been among the artists to perform in Sarah's band. In addition, the Sarah Morrow Quintet has opened for jazz luminaries Chick Corea, Ray Barretto, Kenny Garrett and Dee Dee Bridgewater. Her band at Newport is yet another star studded jazz group: pianist **Robert Glasper**, bassist **Derrick Hodge** and drummer **Chris Dave**.

Violinist and composer **Jenny Scheinman** was voted the #1 Rising Star Violinist in the 2005, 2004 and 2003 Downbeat Critics' Polls, has performed and recorded extensively with Bill Frisell as well as Norah Jones, Madeleine Peyroux, Nels Cline, Vinicius

Cantuaria, Marc Ribot and Myra Melford. She grew up playing folk music with her family in northern California, studied at Oberlin Conservatory, and has been performing as a jazz violinist since she was a teenager. In the last several years she has released four recordings of original music: *Live at Yoshi's* (Avant, 1999), *The Rabbi's Lover* (Tzadik, 2001), *Shalagaster* (Tzadik, 2003), and most recently, *12 Songs* (Cryptogramophone, 2005) which features Bill Frisell, Ron Miles, Doug Wieselman, Rachelle Garniez, Tim Luntzel and Dan Rieser. At her appearance at Newport, she will perform with pianist **Jason Moran**, bassist **Matt Penman** and drummer **Jim Black**.

Chris Botti will appear on Sunday, August 13 on the JVC Jazz Stage.

Trumpeter **Chris Botti** is a gifted instrumentalist, a talented composer, and a charismatic performer who--since the release of his first solo album in 1995--has created a series of recordings that have made him a virtual genre-of-one in the realm of contemporary jazz. Through his singular combination of lush atmospheres and thoughtful improvisations, Botti has earned both critical acclaim and mainstream appreciation.

Botti's latest album, *To Love Again*, a collection of pop jazz standards from the acclaimed trumpeter and nine superstar guest vocalists, is a worthy successor to Botti's last RIAA gold-certified album, *When I Fall In Love*.

Guitarist Ron Affif and his trio will appear on Sunday, August 13 on the Pavilion Stage.

"At its least compelling, bebop guitar is a mechanical exercise: finger-calisthenics on a fretted grid. The best practitioners of the idiom are those who manage to infuse the math with a vivid lyricism; their accomplishment is the negotiation between technical achievement and narrative depth. **Ron Affif** walks this line, which is to say that his playing sometimes tumbles into the canyon of rote virtuosity. By contrast, what elevates him most are those moments when he's telling a story. Affif, a product of Pittsburgh, knows great storytellers: His affinities include the logical extremes of Joe Pass, the taut melodic sense of Kenny Burrell and the soulful precision of fellow Iron City export George Benson. Since moving to New York (via Los Angeles) in the late-1980s, he has fused these and other influences into a winsome style. And his trio -- which often features drummer Jeff "Tain" Watts -- never fails to surprise," wrote *New York Times* journalist Nate Chinen.

Eddie Palmieri/Brian Lynch Duo will appear on Sunday, August 13 on the Waterside Stage.

Pianist **Eddie Palmieri**'s musical career spans 50 years as a bandleader of salsa and Latin jazz orchestras. His discography includes more than 32 titles. He has been awarded **EIGHT Grammys®**, including the **Best Latin Jazz Award this year for his latest release, Listen Here**. Palmieri also won the first presentation in the Best Latin Album category for his 1975 release *The Sun of Latin Music*, and the following year for *Unfinished Masterpiece*. *Palo Pa' Rumba* won in 1984, *Solito* in 1985 and *La Verdad* in 1987. He received two Grammys® for his 2000 release with Tito Puente *Obra Maestra/Masterpiece* one from the traditional Grammy® awards and one from the Latin Grammys®.

The full festival lineup is as follows: Friday, August 11, 8 pm: John Pizzarelli Big Band - *Dear Mr. Sinatra* and Jane Monheit at the Newport Casino, International Tennis Hall of Fame, 194 Bellevue Avenue; Saturday, August 12, 11:30 am - 7:00 pm: George Benson, Al Jarreau, Arturo Sandoval, McCoy Tyner Septet, Robert Glasper Trio, Preservation Hall Jazz Band, Luciana Souza, Raul Midon, Cyrus Chestnut Quartet, Gold Sounds Featuring Cyrus Chestnut, James Carter & Ali Jackson, Marc Ribot, Sarah Morrow Quartet, and Jenny Scheinman; Sunday, August 13, 11:30 am - 7:00 pm: Dr. John, Chris Botti, Dave Brubeck Quartet, Angelique Kidjo, Savion Glover, The Bad Plus, George Wein & the Newport All-Stars, James Carter Organ Trio, Avishai Cohen Trio, Hiromi, Marty Ehrlich Quartet, Andy Bey Quartet, Christian Scott and Ron Affif Trio.

Tickets:

Friday, August 11, 8 pm: John Pizzarelli Big Band - Dear Mr. Sinatra and Jane Monheit at the Newport Casino, International Tennis Hall of Fame, 194 Bellevue Avenue. All seats reserved: \$85.00, \$65.00, \$50.00 and \$30.00.

Saturday August 12 and Sunday, August 13 at Fort Adams State Park (11:30 am – 7:00 pm): General admission: \$65.00 in advance, \$70.00 on festival weekend, if available. Children under 12, \$5.00 at all times; under 2, free. On site festival parking, \$6.00 per vehicle. Reserved seating, JVC Jazz Stage: \$75.00.

TICKETS are on sale now via Ticketweb at <http://www.Ticketweb.com/>, by phone at **866-468-7619** and at the Newport Festival office located at 770 Aquidneck Avenue in Middletown, Rhode Island; cash, checks and major credit cards are accepted. Call 401-847-3700 for more information and office hours. Starting this year, tickets will also be available at the **Newport County Convention & Visitors Bureau** located at 23 America's Cup Avenue in Newport.

Tickets are also available by mail order. To order by mail, send a check or money order for the total ticket cost plus a \$4.00 handling charge per order to: Festival Productions, Inc., P.O. Box 605, Newport, RI 02840. Order forms are also available on the festival web site at: <http://www.festivalproductions.net/>.

- ❑ **JVC**, the jazz festival's sponsor, is celebrating its 23rd year of jazz festival sponsorship. JVC is one of the world's leading manufacturers of high quality audio and video equipment.
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