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**JAZZ GREATS CHICK COREA & JOHN MCLAUGHLIN BRING THEIR
FIVE PEACE BAND TO ZELLERBACH HALL
SATURDAY, MARCH 21 AT 8:00 P.M.**

BERKELEY, February 10, 2009—Jazz icons pianist **Chick Corea** and guitarist **John McLaughlin** are the driving two-fifths of the **Five Peace Band** coming to Zellerbach Hall **Saturday, March 21 at 8:00 p.m.** Kindred spirits, Corea and McLaughlin are intrepid musical explorers and virtuoso instrumentalists with dozens of Grammy and other awards between them. They have added **Christian McBride** (double bass), **Kenny Garrett** (sax) and **Vinnie Colaiuta** (drums) to the band whose name is a reference to the final track on McLaughlin's 2008 *Floating Point* album. Corea and McLaughlin are collaborating for the first time since the legendary sessions for Miles Davis in August 1969, which led them, respectively, to found the Mahavishnu Orchestra and Return to Forever, both touchstones in the history of jazz-rock. The program will range from intricate acoustic jazz to burning jazz/rock/funk and will include Corea and McLaughlin classics.

CHICK COREA

Chick Corea returns to Cal Performances after having capped off a remarkably prolific year, being including named artist of the year in *JazzTimes* magazine's annual readers' poll. With nearly 50 Grammy Award nominations and 14 wins—plus a brand new one for *The New Crystal Silence*—Corea has been making music all his life. Born Armando Anthony Corea, he got his start accompanying his dad, one of Boston's hottest jazz band leaders. After high school, Corea moved to New York to study at The Juilliard School, but immediately got caught up playing in the New York jazz scene. Early stints with Sarah Vaughan, Willie Bobo and Mongo Santamaria gave Corea plenty of exposure to Latin music and Afro-Cuban rhythms. Before long, he was a sought-after sideman. In 1968, he replaced Herbie Hancock in Miles Davis's band. At the time, Davis was conceiving a new electric sound and insisted Corea plug in and use an electric keyboard. At first reluctant to play what he thought was an inferior instrument, Corea soon discovered it had wonderful possibilities. After playing on such seminal albums as *In a Silent Way* and *Bitches Brew*, Corea became one of the electric keyboard's most visible

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proponents and a pioneer on other keyboard instruments of the 1970s. He formed a new group, Return to Forever, and turned up the volume with compositions that were electric mini-symphonies, thrilling audiences worldwide. A short time later, he began incorporating strings, horns and even vocals into Return to Forever and subsequent groups.

Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, Corea easily shifted back and forth from acoustic to electric settings, always surprising his fans with something new, including an original piano concerto. Corea, now in his mid-60s, seems more productive than ever with the release of *The Enchantment* (2007) and *The New Crystal Silence* (2008), with longtime collaborator Gary Burton, that just received the Grammy Award for Best Jazz Instrumentalist Album.

JOHN MCLAUGHLIN

Veteran guitarist **John McLaughlin**'s virtuosity has been on display in a number of divergent settings throughout his celebrated career, beginning in the early 1960s as the electric guitarist for Georgie Fame's rocking Blue Flames. From there, he covered a wide swath of musical territory. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, he explored electric guitar jazz-rock fusion with Tony Williams's *Lifetime* and Miles Davis's *Bitches Brew*, *On the Corner* and *Live at the Cellar Door* bands.

While a fusion champion, McLaughlin was not content to dwell in predictable territory for long. He delved into acoustic guitar playing, working with Indian percussionist Trilok Gurtu as well as recording an acoustic homage to Bill Evans, *Time Remembered*. McLaughlin also toured with Spanish flamenco guitarist Paco de Lucia, composed two critically acclaimed concertos for classical guitar and orchestra, and played jazz-infused Indian classical music with his band Shakti.

In 2005, McLaughlin recorded *Thieves and Poets*, a three-part suite for acoustic guitar and orchestra performed by him and the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie conducted by Renalto Rivolta. In recent years, McLaughlin's recording output has increased. Of his 2006 plugged-in *Industrial Zen* CD, he said, "I'm a Western musician and my discipline is jazz. I want to give testimony to my [jazz-rock] roots." His most recent album, *Floating Point*, another venture with

a band of Indian musicians, was praised “a landmark recording, marked by detail, subtlety and extraordinary moving performances” (*Down Beat*).

CHRISTIAN MCBRIDE

Upon his arrival in New York in 1989 from his native Philadelphia at the age of 17, **Christian McBride** turned heads as a young musician who was equally adept at acoustic and electric bass. Nearly twenty years later, he is considered one of the marquee jazz artists of his generation. In addition to commanding the stage with such peers as Diana Krall, Joshua Redman, Roy Hargrove, Brad Mehldau and Brian Blade, McBride has toured and recorded with McCoy Tyner, Pat Metheny and Sting.

Mentored by such jazz giants as Ray Brown and Betty Carter, McBride has enjoyed a critically acclaimed recording career as a leader (his most recent album, 2006’s *Live at Tonic*, was a vibrant three-CD collection with an all-star support team). He has also served as the creative chair of the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the co-director of the Jazz Museum of Harlem. In addition, McBride is committed to furthering jazz education with a new generation of performers. In 2008 alone he performed duties as artist in residence at both the Detroit International and the Monterey jazz festivals. A few years ago at a concert where they both performed, bass legend Ron Carter told McBride, steeped in the jazz tradition, “It’s good to see you respecting the music so much.”

KENNY GARRETT

Another alum of Miles Davis’s support team (he was prominently featured in the trumpeter’s band until his death in 1991), alto saxophonist Kenny Garrett has grown into a potent and thoughtful artists. Hailing from Detroit, Garrett launched his career in 1978 with the Duke Ellington Orchestra, led by Duke’s son Mercer. Then he gigged with the Mel Lewis Orchestra (which was spotlighting the compositions of Lewis’s former musical partner, Thad Jones) and the Dannie Richmond Quartet (which in homage to Richmond’s longtime tenure as Charles Mingus’s drummer re-explored his ex-boss’ works). In later years, he played in pop settings with Sting, Peter Gabriel and Bruce Springsteen.

Garrett's career as a leader took off with the release of *African Exchange Student* (1990 while employed by Davis). "Whether it be the modal tribute piece 'Shaw,' the rarely played John Coltrane song 'Straight Street' or the minor blues 'Nostradamus,' Kenny Garrett justifies the praise that he received from Miles" (*All Music Guide to Jazz*). In 2006, he recorded *Beyond the Wall*, an adventurous project that infused his jazz expression with Asian music influences. Garrett's latest effort is the 2008 *Sketches of MD: Live at the Iridium*.

VINNIE COLAIUTA

The winner of 18 "drummer of the year" awards from *Modern Drummer* as well as the 1996 inductee into the magazine's Hall of Fame, **Vinnie Colaiuta** ranks as one of today's top studio musicians. In the last two years alone, he has rhythmically supported a who's who of popular musicians, including Herbie Hancock (on his 2007 Grammy award-winning album *River: The Joni Letters*), LeAnn Rimes, Randy Jackson, Andrea Bocelli, the Backstreet Boys, George Duke, Chris Botti, Michael Bublé, Jill Scott and Billy Ray Cyrus. Colaiuta first drew international attention during his stint with Frank Zappa (appearing on such albums as *Tinsel Town Rebellion*, *Joe's Garage* and *Shut Up 'n Play Yer Guitar*), where he effortlessly navigated through the leader's complex rhythmic compositions. He toured with Sting for seven years and had an even longer association with him in the studio (on session dates ranging from 1993's *Ten Summoner's Tales* to 2003's *Sacred Love*).

Colaiuta's work in the Five Peace Band is a perfect fit: He has a history of performing with Chick Corea, including his 2000 *Akoustic Band Live from the Blue Note Tokyo* CD, as well as with John McLaughlin, who sought his drumming support for his 2006 jazz-rock fusion outing, *Industrial Zen*.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Chick Corea and John McLaughlin's Five Peace Band** Saturday, **March 21 at 8:00 p.m.** at Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$34.00, \$48.00 and \$64.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC

Alumni Association members receive a \$5 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988 or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperformances.org.

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced two hours prior to a performance and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; quantities may be limited. Rush ticket sales are limited to one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. Rush ticket prices are \$10.00 for UCB students; \$15.00 for UCB faculty and staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20 for all other community members. Information is available at (510) 642-9988, press 2 for the rush hotline, two hours prior to a performance only.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Saturday, March 21 at 8:00 p.m.

**Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley**

Jazz

Chick Corea, piano

John McLaughlin, guitar

Christian McBride, bass

Kenny Garrett, sax

Vinnie Colaiuta, drums

Program: Jazz pianist Chick Corea and guitarist John McLaughlin bring their Five Peace Band featuring bassist Christian McBride, saxophonist Kenny Garrett and drummer Vinnie Colaiuta to Zellerbach Hall.

Tickets: \$30.00, \$40.00 and \$52.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.net; and at the door.

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