CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS Directions in Music: Our Times FEATURING JAZZ PHENOMS <u>HERBIE HANCOCK, MICHAEL BRECKER & ROY HARGROVE</u> TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8 IN ZELLERBACH HALL AT 8 P.M.

BERKELEY, January 3, 2005 — Contemporary jazz greats **Herbie Hancock, Michael Brecker and Roy Hargrove** join bassist Scott Colley and drummer Terri Lyne Carrington at Cal Performances **Tuesday, February 8** at **8 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall for a program focusing on the contemporary composers who have helped shape the jazz vernacular. Utilizing the ideology of a diverse range of contemporary composers such as Wayne Shorter, Hancock, McCoy Tyner, Chick Corea, Jaco Pastorius, Stevie Wonder and the late Ray Charles, *Directions in Music: Our Times* is the next great step in the natural evolution of jazz from three of the genre's greatest living musicians. In the spirit of spontaneity, all pieces will be announced from the stage.

DIRECTIONS IN MUSIC

In 2002 the Hancock, Brecker, Hargrove trio won the Grammy Award for Best Jazz Instrumental Album for *Directions in Music*, a tribute to Miles Davis and John Coltrane on the 75th anniversary of their births. Their Cal Performances program by the same name included music inspired by the recordings made by Coltrane and Davis in the 1950s and '60s. *The Chicago Tribune* wrote of that collaboration, "The masterstroke of this project occurred long before anyone played a note, for the artists decided from the outset not to offer a numbing traversal of greatest hits. On the contrary, they regarded the enormous body of music by Davis and Coltrane as a starting point for new ideas, textures, voicings and instrumental colors. When the musicians occasionally dipped into familiar repertoire, their versions were so far removed from the originals as to render the music almost new."

Hancock, Brecker and Hargrove promise to bring the same innovation and masterful interpretation to the compositions of the great contemporary jazz masters.

HERBIE HANCOCK

Pianist and keyboardist Herbie Hancock's 40-year career as a recording artist is graced with a series of musical landmarks. Few other musicians of the 20th century have exhibited the wide range of interests and mastery of various genres that he has. At the age of 64 Hancock still expresses the kind of irrepressible curiosity and restless creativity that keep pushing at the boundaries of modern music.

Born in Chicago, Hancock was a child piano prodigy who performed Mozart with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at 11 years old. In 1960, at age 20, Herbie was discovered by trumpeter Donald Byrd, who asked him to join his group. Byrd also introduced Hancock to Alfred Lion of Blue Note Records, and after two years of session work with the likes of Phil Woods and Oliver Nelson, he signed to the legendary label as a solo artist. His 1963 debut album, *Takin' Off*, was an immediate success, producing "Watermelon Man," an instant hit at jazz and R&B radio. Also in 1963, Hancock received the call that was to change his life and fix his place in jazz history. He was invited to join the Miles Davis Quintet. During his five years, with Davis, Hancock and his colleagues thrilled audiences and recorded classic after classic. Most jazz critics and fans regard this group, which included Wayne Shorter (tenor sax), Ron Carter (bass), and Tony Williams (drums) as the greatest small jazz group of the 1960s. Even after he left Miles' group, Herbie continued to appear on Davis' groundbreaking recordings *In A Silent Way* and *Bitches Brew*, which heralded the birth of jazz-fusion.

After leaving Miles Davis in 1968, Hancock stepped full-time into the new electronic jazz-funk that was sweeping the world. In 1973, *Headhunters*, the second LP in his new deal with Columbia Records, became jazz's first platinum album. In 1980, Hancock introduced the young Wynton Marsalis to the world as a solo artist, producing the trumpeter's debut album. In 1983, a new pull to the alternative side led Hancock to a series of collaborations with Bill Laswell. The first, *Future Shock*, again struck platinum, with the single "Rockit" winning a Grammy for Best R&B Instrumental. The video of the track, created by Kevin Godley and Lol Crème, won five MTV awards. Hancock once again scaled the charts in 1994, when the British hip hop group US3 sampled a classic Hancock Blue Note side, "Cantaloupe Island" for a track called "Cantaloop" which became a huge international hit. Hancock's masterwork *Gershwin's World*, recorded and released in 1998, brought artists from all over the musical spectrum together in a celebration of George Gershwin and his entire artistic milieu. Hancock's collaborators

included Joni Mitchell, Stevie Wonder, Kathleen Battle, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Wayne Shorter and Chick Corea. *Gershwin's World* won three Grammy Awards including Best Traditional Jazz Album and Best R&B Vocal Performance for Stevie Wonder's "St. Louis Blues." The entire music world celebrated this album as one of the very finest in Herbie Hancock's incomparable career.

In addition to his artistic and commercial triumphs, which include the 1987 Oscar Award for his soundtrack to the film *Round Midnight*, eight Grammy Awards, and countless other awards, Hancock has devoted himself to numerous educational and philanthropic endeavors. He founded the Rhythm of Life Foundation dedicated to finding ways to help technology improve humanity. He is the Distinguished Artist in Residence at Jazz Aspen Snowmass in Aspen, Colorado, and the Artistic Director of the Thelonius Monk Institute of Jazz at the Music Center of Los Angeles.

MICHAEL BRECKER

A major figure in contemporary music, tenor saxophonist and composer Michael Brecker is an eleven-time Grammy Award-winner and the first artist to win both "Best Jazz Instrumental Performance" and "Best Jazz Instrumental Solo" two years in a row.

Mr. Brecker was born in Philadelphia in 1949. His father was an attorney and accomplished jazz pianist who exposed him to musical greats like Miles Davis, Thelonius Monk and Duke Ellington at an early age. But it was the music of John Coltrane that made Brecker switch from playing clarinet to the tenor saxophone. He says "It was the John Coltrane Quartet that propelled me into wanting to choose music as a livelihood, a life endeavor."

He was a founding member of the ground-breaking jazz rock band Dreams in the late '60s. In 1973 he and his brother, Randy, ventured into more traditional jazz with Horace Silver's quintet and then formed the now-renowned jazz funk band the Brecker Brothers.

Brecker has recorded with most of the big names in jazz and pop including Chet Baker, George Benson, Chick Corea, Dave Brubeck, Herbie Hancock, Pat Metheny, Bruce Springsteen, Frank Zappa, the Rolling Stones and Paul Simon and has recorded eight solo albums. As a result of his stylistic and harmonic innovations, Brecker is among the most studied instrumentalists in music schools throughout the world. The *Los Angeles Times* called his most recent album, a collaboration with Joe Lovano and Dave Liebman entitled *Saxophone Summit*, "contemporary jazz saxophone playing at its finest," and *Jazziz Magazine* calls Michael Brecker "inarguably the most influential tenor stylist in the last 25 years."

ROY HARGROVE

Trumpeter/composer Roy Hargrove may be only 35 years old, but in his 16 years as a professional, he's established a reputation as one of the most versatile and hardest working players in jazz. His resume includes nine albums as a leader and two more as a co-leader. He's led quartets, quintets, nonets and a big band. In 1996, he went to Cuba, recruited some of the island's finest players (including piano legend Chucho Valdes) and recorded the Afro-Cuban jazz landmark and Grammy Award-winning album, *Habana*.

Over the last five years, the trumpeter has ventured into the black pop mainstream as a collaborator, first with neo-soul artist D'Angelo for his 2000 Grammy Award-winning album and tour, *Voodoo*, then via guest shots on records by Erykah Badu, Common and the *Red Hot+Riot* album. In 2002 Roy Hargrove released *The RH Factor: Hard Groove*.

Roy Hargrove was born in Waco, TX in 1969. Inspired by the gospel music he heard in church on Sundays and the R&B and funk music that played on the radio, Roy began learning the trumpet in the fourth grade. By the time he reached junior high he was playing at an advanced level. During that time, jazz saxophone legend David "Fathead" Newman performed at his school. After that, all Roy wanted to do was improvise.

By age 16, he was studying music at Dallas's prestigious Booker T. Washington School for the Visual and Performing Arts (fellow alumni include Erykah Badu and Norah Jones). Midway through his freshman year, Roy was discovered by Wynton Marsalis, who was conducting a jazz clinic at the school. Greatly impressed by Hargrove's skills, Marsalis facilitated an audition at Ft. Worth's Caravan of Dreams Performing Arts Center where Hargrove eventually got to play with Dizzy Gillespie and Herbie Hancock During his senior year, Roy was hired by Frank Morgan for a European tour.

In 1988, the trumpet phenom moved east to study music at Boston's Berklee School of Music. He lasted only a year, spending more of his time hitting New York jam sessions than hitting the books. In 1990 he released his major label solo debut, *Diamond In The Rough*. Three of his following albums, *Family, Habana,* and *Moment to Moment* have been nominated for Grammy Awards.

SCOTT COLLEY

His forceful lines, graceful touch, assured sense of swing and sensitive support have made Scott Colley the bassist of choice for a variety of jazz greats. Guitarist Jim Hall and pianist Andrew Hill have regularly relied on Colley to supply a firm yet interactive foundation for their respective groups. Each has also engaged the bassist in intimate, highly conversational duos that have highlighted Colley's remarkably empathetic skills and strong melodic penchant on the bass.

Since arriving in New York in 1988, Colley has been one of the most in-demand bassists on the scene, supplying tone and momentum behind a variety of players from guitarists Mike Stern, Pat Metheny and John Scofield, to saxophonists Joe Lovano, Greg Osby, and Clifford Jordan, to pianists Herbie Hancock, Kenny Werner and Edward Simon. He has appeared on more than 70 albums to date and has shown considerable skills as a bandleader and composerarranger in trio, quartet and sextet settings. His 1996 debut, *Portable Universe*, garnered much critical acclaim and he has since released three more albums as band leader.

TERRI LYNE CARRINGTON

World-renowned drummer, composer, producer and clinician Terri Lyne Carrington has remained a person to watch over the last 20 years. Born in Massachusetts in 1965, Terri developed a reputation as a prodigy, jamming with jazz veterans Dizzy Gillespie, Rahsaan Roland Kirk, Oscar Peterson, Joe Williams and many more at a very early age. At 7 she was given her first pair of drums which had belonged to her grandfather, Matt Carrington, who had played with Fats Waller and Chu Berry. After studying for three years, she played her first major performance at the Wichita Jazz festival with Clark Terry. At 11 she received a full scholarship to the Berklee School of Music where she played with Kevin Eubanks, Mike Stern, Branford Marsalis and others. She made her first recording before turning 17.

In 1989 Terri moved to Los Angeles and became the drummer for the "Arsenio Hall Show." She has toured the globe with Mike Stern, Joe Sample, Al Jarreau, Herbie Hancock and her spiritual mentor, Wayne Shorter. Her debut release, *Real Life Story*, featured Carlos Santana, Patrice Rushen, Jon Scofield, Grover Washington Jr., and Gerald Albright and was nominated for a Grammy Award.

Recently, she has concentrated her efforts on writing and producing with various artists

including Gino Vannelli, Dianne Reeves, Siedah Garrett, and Marilyn Scott. Her production of Dianne Reeves' Grammy-nominated CD, *That Day*, hovered at the top of the charts for many months. Her latest solo CD, *Jazz is a Spirit*, has enjoyed considerable media attention and acclaim.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for *Directions in Music: Our Times* with Herbie Hancock, Michael Brecker and Roy Hargrove on Tuesday, February 8 at 8:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall are priced at \$30.00, \$42.00, and \$62.00. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens and other students receive a \$2 discount, and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$3 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Tuesday, February 8 at 8:00 p.m.

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

Jazz

Directions in Music: Our Times Herbie Hancock, piano, keyboard Michael Brecker, tenor saxophone Roy Hargrove, trumpet Scott Colley, bass Terri Lyne Carrington, drums

Program:

In *Directions in Music: Our Times* contemporary jazz greats **Herbie Hancock, Michael Brecker,** and **Roy Hargrove** explore the contemporary jazz idiom and the composers who have shaped it. In the spirit of spontaneity, all pieces will be announced from the stage.

Tickets: \$30.00, \$42.00, \$62.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; and at the door.

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