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THE 2006 MAGIC TRIANGLE JAZZ SERIES PRESENTS:

Instant Composers Pool Orchestra

The Magic Triangle Jazz Series, produced by WMUA, 91.1FM and the Fine Arts Center at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, continues its 17th season on Thursday, March 30, 2006, in Bezanson Recital Hall at 8:00pm with the **Instant Composers Pool Orchestra**, co-led by **Misha Mengleberg**, piano, and **Han Bennick**, drums. Together since 1967, ICP features some of the best Dutch and European improvisers on the planet: **Ab Baars**, **Michael Moore** and **Tobias Delius**, reeds, **Thomas Heberer**, trumpet, **Wolter Wierbos**, trombone, **Mary Oliver**, violin, **Tristan Honsinger**, cello, and **Ernst Glerum**, bass.

The Instant Composers Pool Orchestra encompasses a full range of modern music: Ellington and Monk, Kurt Weill and European dance band music, Webern-like chamber music, South African kwela, free improvisation, conducted improvisation, interactive games, counterpoint and simultaneity, catchy melodies, pastel harmonies, order and built - in chaos.

"ICP's mix is perplexing in the best sense: the music doesn't give up its secrets on first hearing, or second, or third", writes Kevin Whitehead in his book, New Dutch Swing. "It keeps you coming back. This is jazz /improvised music at its most deft and sophisticated."

Misha Mengelberg co-founded the Instant Composers Pool - a nonprofit collective of Dutch composers/improvisers/instrumentalists - with Han Bennick and Willem Breuker in 1967. He has performed in duo with Han Bennick for more than 30 years and led the ICP Orchestra for more than 20. His other credits include performing and recording with Eric Dolphy, John Tchicai, Derek Bailey, Steve Lacy, Peter Brötzmann, and many others.

Han Bennick is one of the most in-demand drummers in Europe. He has performed and recorded with jazz musicians such as Dexter Gordon and Sonny Rollins, as well as European improvisers such as Peter Brötzmann, Derek Bailey, and Willem Breuker. He trained as a graphic artist and has exhibited work in several media, including sculptures from found objects that can include broken drum heads and drumsticks; he also designs many of his own LP and CD sleeves.

"This band continues to show that cutting-edge music-making is not necessarily dour and humorless," wrote Howard Reich recently in *The Chicago Tribune*, "that innovative ideas need not be severed from generations of jazz tradition and that composition and improvisation can coexist effectively when a group of like-minded tinkerers knows what it's doing."

Tickets are \$12/general public and \$7/students and are available through the Fine Arts Center Box Office, 1-800-999-UMAS. Magic Triangle continues with Ernest Dawkins' New Horizon Ensemble (April 27).

The Magic Triangle Jazz Concert Series is produced by WMUA-FM and the Fine Arts Center, and funded by the: UMass Arts Council, Student Affairs Cultural Enrichment Fund, Alumni Association and Commuter Area Government. Additional support from: Campus Center Hotel and 88.5 WFCR, Public Radio for Western New England.

