NEWS RELEASE

UMass Amherst Fine Arts Center
Magic Triangle Jazz Series
www.fineartscenter.com/magictriangle

CONTACT: Glenn Siegel, Ken Irwin, (413) 545-2876 gsiegel@stuaf.umass.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 27, 2007

WHAT: **The Roswell Rudd/Mark Dresser Duo**

WHEN: **Wednesday, October 17, 2007 at 8:15pm**

WHERE: **Bezanson Recital Hall**

IMAGES: To download images relating to this press release please go online to http://www.umass.edu/fac/centerwide/pressRoom

(**Roswell Rudd, trombonist of choice for avant-garde jazz legends and world musician performs at UMass.)**

Best known as trombonist of choice for avant-garde luminaries like Cecil Taylor, Archie Shepp, Charlie Haden's Liberation Music Orchestra, and his own New York Art Quartet, Rudd's musical résumé also features a fascinating mix of Dixieland, straight ahead jazz and, more recently, world music. His lifelong friendship with Steve Lacy has resulted in numerous recordings and performances of the music of Thelonious Monk and Herbie Nichols. His recent recorded cross-cultural collaborations include, *MALIcool*, (with Toumani Diabaté), *Blue Mongol*, (with a traditional Buryat group from Mongolia) and *El Espiritu Jibaro* (with Yomo Toro). The New York Times calls Rudd, "...a trombonist of such sweeping power and majesty that he transcends all styles."

Roswell Rudd was born in Sharon, Connecticut in 1935 and graduated from Yale University. He taught music-ethnology at Bard College and the University of Maine and, assisted Alan Lomax with his world song style project on and off for a period of three decades. He is a three time (2003-2005) Jazz Journalists Association "Trombonist of the Year" and recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship in composition.

"Rudd gets more trombone out of his instrument than any colleague, past or present," writes Whitney Balliet.

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Mark Dresser (b. 1952) has been composing and performing solo contrabass and ensemble music professionally since 1972 throughout North America, Europe and the Far East. Emerging from the L.A. "free" jazz scene of the early 70's, Dresser performed with the "Black Music Infinity", led by Stanley Crouch, and included Bobby Bradford, Arthur Blythe, David Murray, and James Newton. Concurrently he was performing with the San Diego Symphony. After completing B.A. and M.A. degrees at UC, San Diego where he studied with contrabass virtuoso Bertram Turetzky and a 1983 Fulbright Fellowship in Italy with maestro Franco Petracchi, Dresser relocated to New York in 1986 after being invited to join the quartet of composer/saxophonist, Anthony Braxton. Dresser played with Braxton's longest performing quartet for nine years.

Once in NY, Dresser began working with a wide variety of musicians including Ray Anderson, Tim Berne, Jane Ira Bloom, Anthony Davis, Fred Frith, Dave Douglas, John Zorn, and others. He is a professor at UCSD.

"Mark Dresser is an inventor," says Harvey Pekar. "He also may be the most important bassist to emerge since 1980 in jazz or classical music."

The Solos & Duos Series concludes with a performance by the **Fred Anderson/Chad Taylor Duo** (Dec. 5). Tickets are $10 and $5 (students), and are available through the Fine Arts Center box office, 545-2511 or 1-800-999-UMAS.

The Solos & Duos Series is produced by the UMass Fine Arts Center and made possible by the: Student Affairs Cultural Enrichment Fund and UMass Alumni Association. Thanks to the Campus Center Hotel and WMUA, 91.1FM

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