THE 2004 MAGIC TRIANGLE JAZZ SERIES PRESENTS:

Sun Ra Arkestra under the direction of Marshall Allen

The Magic Triangle Jazz Series, produced by WMUA, 91.1FM and the Residential Arts Program of the Fine Arts Center at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, continues its 15th season with a performance by Sun Ra Arkestra under the direction of Marshall Allen, featuring Michael Ray, Fred Adams, David Gordon—trumpets; Tyrone Hill, Dave Davis, Dick Griffin—trombones; Marshall Allen, Noël Scott, Ya Ya Abdul Majid, Charles Davis—reeds; Bruce Edwards—electric guitar; John Ore—bass; Luqman Ali, Elson Nascimento, Jimmi Esspirit—percussion on **Thursday, March 25, 2004** at *Bezanson Recital Hall*, University of Massachusetts, Amherst at 8:00 pm.

Saturn is both the name of Sun Ra's record label and the place that he claimed as home, even though a more earthly account would have his birthplace (22 May 1914) and resting place (30 May 1993) as Birmingham, Alabama. Composer, arranger, keyboard master and philosophical guru (and Trickster), Le Sony'Ra became an internationally acclaimed exponent of free jazz, a leader in *retro-swing* and a continuing source of breath-taking originality in the music that we call jazz.

Born May 25, 1924 in Louisville, Kentucky, Marshall Allen was stationed in Paris during WW II, and played in Europe with Don Byas and James Moody during the late 40's. Upon his discharge, Mr. Allen enrolled in the Paris Conservatory of Music studying clarinet. Returning to the States in 1951 Marshall settled in Chicago where he met Sun Ra. Marshall joined the Sun Ra Arkestra in 1958 and led Sun Ra's formidable reed section for over 40 years (a role akin the position of Johnny Hodges in the Duke Ellington Orchestra). Marshall lived, rehearsed, toured and recorded with Sun Ra almost exclusively for much of his musical career.

Marshall is featured on over 200 Sun Ra releases as well as appearances with such diverse groups as NRBQ, Phish, Sonic Youth. Diggable Planets, Terry Adams and Medeski, Martin and Wood.

Marshall Allen assumed the helm of the Sun Ra Arkestra in 1995, after the ascension of Sun Ra and John Gilmore (1995). Marshall resides at the Sun Ra residence in Philadelphia, composing, writing and arranging for the Arkestra, committed to the study, research, and further development of Sun Ra's musical precepts. Marshall maintains the Sun Ra residence as a living museum dedicated to the compilation, restoration and preservation of Sun Ra's music, memorabilia and artifacts. Marshall has launched the Sun Ra Arkestra into a dimension beyond that of mere 'ghost' band by writing fresh arrangements of Sun Ra's music as well as composing new music for the Arkestra.

**Tickets are $7/students and $12/general public and are available through the Fine Arts Center Box Office, 545-2511 or 1-800-999-UMAS.**