



UMass Amherst
FINE ARTS CENTER
www.fineartscenter.com

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Shawn Farley AT 413-545-4159 or
Carolyn Kilmer at 545-3671

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 27, 2006

WHAT: Center Series presents: Sean Jones

WHEN: Thursday, October 19 at 7:30pm, 2006

**WHERE: Bowker Auditorium
University of Massachusetts Amherst
Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or
go online to www.fineartscenter.com/tickets**

Press release text and press-quality images are also available on our website at
www.fineartscenter.com/press

(TRUMPET SENSATION SEAN JONES BRINGS THE NEW GENERATION OF JAZZ TO BOWKER AUDITORIUM)

The Center Series presents Sean Jones, a shining star on today's jazz scene Thursday, October 19th at 7:30pm in Bowker Auditorium. Chosen by Wynton Marsalis as lead trumpet for the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Jones will perform with his band, Orrin Evans, piano, Luques Curtis, bas and Obed Cavalier, drums.

At a young age, Jones was introduced to music, singing and playing through his local church. He knew he wanted to play an instrument but which one. Everyone was playing the saxophone so that wasn't for him. In the fifth grade his teacher gave him a Miles Davis CD and that was it. Jones thought to himself, "This is where it's at!"

He started playing gigs in school and then went on to earn a degree in classical trumpet performance from Youngstown State University and has since gained his masters from Rutgers University. He teaches at Duquesne University and thus far in his career has worked with the Chico O'Farrill Orchestra, the Gerald Wilson Orchestra, the Illinois Jacquet big band, the Louis Armstrong Legacy Band, Charles Fambrough, Joe Lovano, Tom Harrell, Jon Faddis, Jimmy Heath, Frank Foster, altoist Brad Leali and the International Jazz Quintet and now the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra in addition to leading his own groups.

Sean Jones embodies the 21st century jazz musician, an experimental, supremely talented type whose vision and sensibility encourages inclusion rather than separation. "Jazz embraces everything," Jones says. "I'm not nearly arrogant enough to try and define it as one thing or one style. Jazz has always from its very beginning linked cultures, generations, and races. To pigeonhole it and say it can only do one thing to me does a disservice to it."

-more-



UMass Amherst
FINE ARTS CENTER
www.fineartscenter.com

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Shawn Farley AT 413-545-4159 or
Carolyn Kilmer at 545-3671

Jones' previous releases as well as his new Mack Avenue CD **Roots** exemplify that attitude of experimentation and diversity. He can swing or glide through an arrangement...play the blues or switch into a funk and soul mode. He's thoroughly versed in standards, but is also increasingly concentrating on writing his own work. He's comfortable in an acoustic or electric context, and enjoys working with vocalists as much as small combos or large orchestras. In short, Sean Jones simply loves music, yet prefers to consider himself a jazz player, albeit one without idiomatic restrictions.

Now in his late 20's, Jones has developed into one of the finest, most expressive and technically commanding players. When Wes Anderson, lead alto for the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra caught a late night gig of Jones', he called Wynton Marsalis at 2:30am on his cell so that he could hear him. When Marsalis called him the next week, Jones initially thought it was a joke and hung up the phone. Fortunately, Marsalis called back and eventually selected him to be lead trumpeter in the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. He's proven on gigs with the orchestra, plus appearances on a pair of new Mack Avenue anthologies that he's a formidable soloist, inspiring bandleader, reliable ensemble contributor and dynamic force on the bandstand.

When asked, "What do you play for?" Jones responded, "I just want everyone to feel the love. I'm not one of those [artists] who try to educate their audience and put themselves above their audience – I want the audience to feel good."

As part of the annual Billy Taylor Jazz Residency, Jones will spend time teaching theory and master classes to UMass music students. He will also do a lecture / demonstration at the college and Amherst High School.

Tickets are \$25, \$15; Youth 17 and under are \$12; and Five College Students are \$10, and \$7. For tickets and information, call the Fine Arts Center Box Office at 413-545-2511 or 1-800-999-UMAS, or tickets may be safely purchased online at www.fineartscenter.com. This performance is sponsored by Yale Genton, Fathers & Sons and WFCR 88.5FM.

-end-