



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 17, 2007

Cornish Music Series Welcomes the Wayne Horvitz Gravitass Quartet

SEATTLE, WA – Cornish College of the Arts welcomes Wayne Horvitz Gravitass Quartet to campus for a residency that includes two public events:

Wayne Horvitz Gravitass Quartet Performance and Discussion

Thursday, February 1, 2007 Noon – 1 pm

PONCHO Concert Hall at Kerry Hall, 710 East Roy Street, Seattle

Free and open to the public

Wayne Horvitz Gravitass Quartet Concert

Friday, February 2, 2007 at 8 pm

PONCHO Concert Hall at Kerry Hall, 710 East Roy Street, Seattle

Tickets: \$15 general; \$7.50 students, alumni and seniors

For tickets contact Ticket Window at (206) 325.6500, www.ticketwindowonline.com or at Ticket Window box offices located at Pacific Place, Broadway Market, Pike Place Market, Bellevue's Meydenbauer Center

About Wayne Horvitz Gravitass Quartet and *Way Out East*

A chamber ensemble creating an intersection between composed and improvised material, the Gravitass Quartet features Ron Miles-trumpet; Sara Schoenbeck-Bassoon; Peggy Lee-cello and Wayne Horvitz piano. The group's first CD, *Way Out East*, was released in the spring of 2006 on the Songlines Label to wide critical acclaim. The performances at Cornish College of the Arts will include material from the CD, improvisations, and new works.

Picked Album of the Year 2006, All About Jazz

Listed in Best Music of 2006, Pop Matters

Top 10 Jazz picks of 2006, Village Voice

"Way out East is a beautiful and quietly moving and poetic recording; one that will sound fresh and new decades from now. Horvitz and his players have shown that "improvised" or "new" music can be utterly lovely to listen to."

Thom Jurek, AllMusic.com

"Whether drawing upon the blues or a waltz, Horvitz is not simply manipulating a template, but creating a time-warped ambience, in which the listener feels a stillness that is languid and foreboding. The idiom-free improvisations provide ballast, preventing the album from sinking into sentimentality. Peggy Lee, Ron Miles and Sara Schoenbeck are exquisitely balanced, their every detail precisely etched. For the most part, they are slightly understated in the improvisations; when they move to the foreground, they are persuasive, as is Horvitz."

Bill Shoemaker, Downbeat

"The Gravitass Quartet occupies a conceptual no man's land somewhere between nostalgia and the future, where pensive, minor-key piano excursions are joined by stately cello, regal bassoon, ghostly trumpet and burbling electronics. Way Out East perfectly assimilates Horvitz's bittersweet melodies and sci-fi futurism into a synchronous sound world all his own."

Troy Collins, All About Jazz

Artist Wayne Horvitz

Wayne Horvitz is a composer, pianist and electronic musician who has performed extensively throughout Europe, Asia, Australia, and North America. He is the leader of Zony Mash, Pigpen, The Four plus One Ensemble and co-founder of the New York Composers Orchestra. He has performed and collaborated with Bill Frisell, Butch Morris, John Zorn, Robin Holcomb, Fred Frith, Julian Priester, Philip Wilson, Michael Shrieve and Carla Bley among others. He has been commissioned by the NEA, Meet The Composer, Kronos String Quartet, Seattle Chamber Players, Mary Flagler, BAM, Earshot Jazz and others. Collaborations with choreographers include work with Paul Taylor with the White Oak Dance Project, Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, and Crispin Spaeth. Film work includes music and sound design for 3 PBS specials and Gus Van Sandt's Psycho. He is the year 2001 recipient of the Artist Trust Fellowship (Seattle) and the 2002 recipient of the Rockefeller Foundation MAP Grant.

Gravitas Quartet artist bios for Ron Miles-trumpet; Sara Schoenbeck-Bassoon; Peggy Lee-cello are available at www.waynehorvitz.com.

About Cornish College of the Arts

Cornish College of the Arts provides aspiring artists with the educational opportunities to become professionals in their fields. The College offers Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in Art, Dance, Design, Performance Production and Theater, and a Bachelor of Music degree. It is one of three private colleges in the United States focusing on both the performing and visual arts, and the only college of its kind in the Northwest. The College is accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design and has a national reputation for its faculty, curriculum, and student performance and exhibition opportunities.

Since its founding by Nellie Cornish in 1914, Cornish College of the Arts has contributed to the nation's cultural and intellectual heritage through its alumni and faculty. Historically, these figures include choreographers and dancers Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham, Syvilla Fort and Bonnie Bird; composer John Cage; painters Mark Tobey, William Cumming, and William Ivey; photographer Imogen Cunningham; educator Calvin B. Cady and broadcaster Chet Huntley, to name just a few. More recently these figures are joined by Brendan Fraser (film actor), Patrick Haskett (painter), Steve Jenson (sculptor), Paul Owen Lewis (illustrator), Lois Rathvon McCarter (dancer/choreographer), Evyind Kang (violinist), Jarrad Powell and Joshua Kohl (composers). And, the College continues to represent the Northwest's largest concentration of professional artists dedicated to instruction.

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