



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 26, 2008

**CORNISH COLLEGE OF THE ARTS PRESENTS  
BUILDING BRIDGES WITH THE JIM KNAPP ORCHESTRA**

SEATTLE, WA – This March the Cornish Music Series will present Building Bridges with the Jim Knapp Orchestra, featuring the premiere of *Movements for Flute and Jazz Orchestra*. *Movements for Flute and Jazz Orchestra* was commissioned by Cornish College of the Arts to honor Knapp's role in the founding of Cornish's jazz program 35 years ago.

**Building Bridges with the Jim Knapp Orchestra  
presented by the Cornish Music Series**

Saturday, March 22, 8 pm

PONCHO Concert Hall

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

Tickets can be purchased through Ticket Window at 206.325.6500, [www.ticketwindowonline.com](http://www.ticketwindowonline.com), or in person at Ticket Window's box offices located at Pacific Place, Pike Place Market, Broadway Market and Bellevue's Meydenbauer Center.

**Additional Information**

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When Jim Knapp joined the Cornish faculty in the early seventies the music department had a curriculum that included some jazz classes, but only as a supplement to the basic conservator-type curriculum. With talk of neighboring schools offering newly established jazz degrees, Knapp spearheaded an effort to enhance the presence of jazz music at Cornish in an effort to engage students. New faculty such as Gary Peacock, Chuck Deardorf, Don Mock, Dave Peterson, Denney Goodhew, and Phil Snyder, were brought on board and a jazz curriculum was established which remains essentially intact to this day. When Cornish College became accredited in the late seventies the music department took progressive action and the department formally split into two programs, jazz and classical, with degree focuses offered in both. At this time, offering a degree in jazz was a new idea coming to fruition at the college level and Cornish's efforts brought forth new faculty members such as Julian Priester, Art Lande, Jerry Granelli, Jay Clayton, and many others, with collaborators including artists such as Gil Evans, Anthony Braxton, Ralph Towner, Carla Bley, Dave Holland and Cedar Walton.

In honor of his efforts to propagate the Cornish College jazz program, composer Jim Knapp was commissioned to write a piece celebrating his rich history with the college. The piece, *Movements for Flute and Jazz Orchestra*, will be performed by faculty member Paul Taub and the Jim Knapp Orchestra.

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Taub, founding member of the widely acclaimed Seattle Chamber Players, is no stranger to *Building Bridges* himself. He offers these thoughts on the upcoming collaboration:

Almost all my life, and almost in spite my "classical" roots, I've been in a musical environment that has multiple musical layers. From my days of playing in a coffeehouse duo with a blues singer, to my graduate days at CalArts playing Javanese gamelan, my long-time employment at Cornish, and the numerous Seattle Chamber Players projects over the years involving jazz and improvised music making..., I've enjoyed the camaraderie, controversies, and challenges of being involved in a multi-genre musical environment. What better way to honor the trials and pleasures of such stimulation than with the challenge of a concerto "for classical flutist" and jazz orchestra, by one of my favorite Cornish composers. - Paul Taub

*Movements for Flute and Jazz Orchestra* will be premiered on March 22, 2008 in PONCHO Concert Hall.

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To request images or receive additional information on the Cornish College of the Arts Spring Events Calendar, please contact Meike Kaan or Beth Fleenor (see info above) or visit [www.cornish.edu](http://www.cornish.edu).

### **About Cornish College of the Arts**

Cornish College of the Arts, founded by Nellie Cornish in 1914, 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 Commission on Colleges and Universities, and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

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