



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 25, 2003

CORNISH COLLEGE PRESENTS JAZZ ENSEMBLE III AT *SOUNDBRIDGE*

SEATTLE, WA – Cornish College of the Arts is pleased to present Jazz Ensemble III in concert at *Soundbridge* Seattle Symphony Music Discovery Center on Sunday, October 5th at 2 pm. Directed by Randy Halberstadt, with guest leader Dawn Clement, performers include current Cornish College music students: Jeff Huston, guitar; Jeff Minzel, piano; Will Holliday, drums; Nate Omdal, bass; and Catherine Munoz, vocals. The concert will feature a spirited program of six compositions, including blues, ballad, Latin, straight-ahead swing, and quasi-classical styles.

The annual *Soundbridge*/Cornish College of the Arts Recital Series was formed in cooperation between Cornish College Music Department Chair Laura Kaminsky and Symphony Education Director Patricia Costa Kim to showcase the broad range of music created out of Cornish College's invigorating arts environment, while creating deeper ties within the music community.

Jazz Ensemble III at *Soundbridge*

Sunday, October 5th at 2 pm

Directed by Randy Halberstadt, with guest leader Dawn Clement, and Jeff Huston, guitar; Jeff Minzel, piano; Will Holliday, drums; Nate Omdal, bass; and Catherine Munoz, vocals. *Soundbridge* is located on the corner of Second Avenue and Union Street in Benaroya Hall, in downtown Seattle.

Concerts are free with admission to *Soundbridge*; general audiences: \$7; children under 12; \$5; free for Cornish College students with ID. For tickets, contact *Soundbridge* at 206.336.6600.

These Sunday afternoon concerts will feature classical instrumental music, vocal jazz, experimental music, instrumental jazz, electronic music, music for film and video, and musical theater. Dates for the upcoming *Soundbridge*/Cornish College of the Arts Recital Series are:

Sunday, November 2 at 2 pm

Sunday, November 23 at 2 pm

Sunday, January 25 at 2 pm

Sunday, February 22 at 2 pm

Sunday, March 21 at 2 pm

Sunday, April 25 at 2 pm

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Pianist, arranger, composer and author, **Randy Halberstadt** performs throughout the Pacific Northwest and beyond. He has recorded several CDs, including: "Inner Voice" and "Clockwork" under his own name; "Circle Dancing" with Jay Clayton; "Joanna's Dance" and "Indigenous Groove" with Clarence Acox; "So Many Stars" with Janis Mann and "Live at Bake's Place" with Greta Matassa, for which he also arranged the music. In June 2003 Halberstadt recorded with Bay Area guitarist extraordinaire Mimi Fox and bassist Ray Drummond, and in December will record a duo album with vocalist and Sunnyside recording artist Meredith d'Ambrosio. Halberstadt has performed with such noted artists as Terry Gibbs, Buddy DeFranco, Herb Ellis, Mel Brown, Sheila Jordan, Bobby Shew, Marlena Shaw, Jiggs Wigham and John Stowell. In 2001, Randy authored an instructional text, Metaphors For The Musician: Perspectives From a Jazz Pianist. His composition "When Springtime Turns to Fall" appears in The All-Jazz Real Book.

Dawn Clement is an active composer/pianist in the Seattle area. In 1996, Clement won the four year Kreielsheimer Scholarship to Cornish College of the Arts; she graduated in 2000. In 1998, Clement won the piano chair for the International Association for Jazz Education Sisters in Jazz Collegiate Quintet, and in 2000 she won the Earshot Jazz Award for "Best Emerging Artist." Clement has toured all over the United States with the Sabella Consort; she taught and performed at the Port Townsend and Mount Hood Jazz Workshops and Festivals. She has played with the Jim Knapp Orchestra at Bumbershoot (2000), performed with Ingrid Jensen in New York, and competed in the third International "Martial Solal Jazz Piano Competition" in Paris, France. Recently, Clement won a 2002 King County Arts Commission Grant for the Rubin/Clement Piano Dialogues - a two piano collaboration with pianist/composer Amy Rubin - to perform at Benaroya Hall. Currently, Clement teaches at Cornish College of the Arts.

Will Holliday, born in Seattle, plays weekly throughout the city. He has recorded at Ironwood Studios with Rachelle Wilson, Jon Hamar, and Randy Halberstadt.

Catherine Joy Munoz, a recipient of the Jay Clayton Vocal Jazz Scholarship in 2002, emigrated from Tasmania, Australia to pursue a career as a jazz musician. She has performed with renowned musicians such as Julian Priester and Randy Halberstadt.

Jeff Huston, a senior at Cornish College, has studied with Dave Peterson, Chuck Deardorf, and Julian Priester. He has come to the rain from the sun of Colorado and is now performing indoor venues around Seattle.

Jeff Minzel was born and raised in Seattle. He owns a legal staffing company with offices in Seattle, Portland, and New York. He is pursuing a career as a jazz pianist and has a trio that plays regularly in the Seattle area.

Nate Omdal grew up in Sequim, Washington. Since moving to Seattle he has played in various local ensembles and in venues such as Consolidated Works, the Wasabi Bistro, and the En Noodle House.

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ABOUT CORNISH COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Cornish College of the Arts is the premier, accredited arts college in the Northwest, inspiring the highest standards of artistic and academic excellence. Founded in 1914 by Nellie Cornish, Cornish College is the only private, accredited college in the region offering baccalaureate degrees in visual and performing arts. Cornish College offers a Bachelor of Music and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in art, dance, design, theater and performance production. Uniquely, Cornish College provides a rigorous educational environment for the cultivation of technical mastery, artistic integrity and practical knowledge. The faculty at Cornish is comprised of practicing master artists and professional educators, renowned in their respective fields. The college maintains a low student to faculty ratio, allowing for individualized teaching and mentoring. Cornish College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

Over the years, Cornish has hosted a parade of important artists in the roles of students, teachers or as visiting artists-in-residence, including John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham, Ping Chong, Kenny Werner, Obo Addy, Mark Morris, Meredith Monk, Rinde Eckert, Bebe Miller, Ruth St. Denis, Ted Shawn, Robin Holcomb, Chet Huntley, Syvilla Fort, Ralph Towner, Thornton Wilder, Lou Harrison, Bill Frisell, Morris Graves, Jane Ira Bloom, Kraig Patterson, Musicians Accord, Bun Ching Lam, Brendan Fraser, Myra Melford, Sharon Isbin, Joanne Brackeen, Oliver Lake, California Ear Unit, Colorado Quartet, and Gary Peacock, among others.

ABOUT THE SEATTLE SYMPHONY AND *SOUNDBRIDGE*

The Seattle Symphony, under the direction of Music Director Gerard Schwarz, is the one of the oldest and largest cultural institutions in the Pacific Northwest. Recognized for its adventurous programming and tradition of performing music by contemporary composers, the Symphony, founded in 1903, is one of the world's most recorded orchestras, represented on more than 75 compact discs. From September through July, the Seattle Symphony is heard live by more than 300,000 people annually. During the 2002-2003 season, the Seattle Symphony will present over 220 performances in its downtown Seattle home, Benaroya Hall, and in community concerts throughout the Puget Sound region and the State of Washington.

The Seattle Symphony opened *Soundbridge* Seattle Symphony Music Discovery Center in Benaroya Hall in April 2001. This interactive learning center features hands-on exhibits, orchestral instruments, and a workshop/performance space. *Soundbridge* is part exhibit, utilizing educational resources and Microsoft® technology, and it is part classroom for people of all ages and levels of musical experience. Its mission is to inspire and nurture a love of symphonic music through active participation and exploration.

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