



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 8, 2005

JAZZ GIANT JULIAN PRIESTER

Friday, April 22, 8 pm

Legendary trombonist Julian Priester presents all new original compositions with his quartet: Dawn Clement, piano; Geoff Harper, bass; Byron Vannoy, drums.

PONCHO Concert Hall, 710 East Roy Street, Seattle

Tickets: \$15, \$7.50 students, seniors and Cornish College alumni.

Tickets can be purchased through Ticket Window at 206.325.6500, www.ticketwindowonline.com or in person at Ticket Window's box offices located in the Pike Place Market, Harvard Market, and Bellevue's Meydenbauer Center.

SEATTLE, WA – Cornish College of the Arts is pleased to present **Julian Priester**, one of the most distinctive solo voices on the trombone today. On Friday, April 22nd Priester will perform all original compositions with his quartet: **Dawn Clement, piano; Geoff Harper, bass; and Byron Vannoy, drums**, a group of enormously talented musicians on the Seattle scene.

Enhancing the colors and textures of his instrument with varied timbre, **Julian Priester** has a definitive style, playing music his way. Julian's career spans 5 decades, during which he's been involved in some of the most groundbreaking and important contemporary music to date. Beginning with Chicago's thriving blues and R&B scene, Julian played with artists like Bo Diddley, Muddy Waters, Lionel Hampton and Dinah Washington, as well as with Sun Ra's early groups in the mid 50's. Priester continued to build a name with his work in New York as a sideman on many Blue Note recordings, as well as playing with such notables such as Max Roach, Ray Charles, Joe Henderson, Freddie Hubbard, McCoy Tyner and Art Blakey. Always involved with adventurous, boundary pushing music, Julian has also worked with Sam Rivers and played in John Coltrane's Africa/Brass ensemble as well as with Duke Ellington's Big Band and with Herbie Hancock's Sextet. He has played with Dave Holland, toured with Charlie Haden's Liberation Music Orchestra, worked and recorded with Wayne Horvitz's 4+1 ensemble, Jane Ira Bloom, Jerry Granelli, and Reggie Workman. As the leader of a new quartet filled with overwhelming young talent, Julian continues to push forward with his newest release *In Deep End Dance* (Conduit Records), voted Record of the Year by Earshot Jazz in 2002.

Dawn Clement is an active composer/pianist in the Seattle area. A Kreielsheimer Scholar at Cornish College of the Arts, she graduated in 2000 and is now a member of the faculty. In 1998, Dawn won the piano chair for the International Association for Jazz Education Sisters In Jazz Collegiate Quintet, and in both 2000 and 2003 Earshot Jazz awarded her the "Best Emerging Artist." She 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. In addition to performing with Julian Priester as part of his quartet, Dawn has appeared with Nancy King, Pharoah Sanders, John Clayton, Ingrid Jensen and most recently with acclaimed saxophonist Jane Ira Bloom. She competed in the third International "Martial Solal Jazz Piano Competition" in Paris, France and won a King County Arts Commission Grant for the Rubin/Clement Piano Dialogues (2002). Dawn's first record, *Hush* (Conduit), including mostly original compositions and featuring great Seattle musicians Geoff Cooke, Jose Martinez, and Hans Teuber, was nominated for the Northwest Record of the Year by Earshot Jazz in 2003. Last spring 2004, Dawn released *Winter Duo*, a CD of jazz standards with Beth Winter.

Byron Vannoy has worked steadily as a performer and educator on both the East and West coasts, playing, recording and composing a wide variety of music. Byron has performed and recorded with many internationally known musicians such as: Charlie Haden, Dave Peck, Wadada Leo Smith, Vinnie Golia, Billy Childs, Jeff Johnson, Darek Oles, Larry Koonse, Hadley Caliman, and Julian Priester. Byron has studied privately with Ian Froman, Mark Ivester, Bob Moses, and Joe LaBarbera. He holds an Associate Certificate in Professional Music from Berklee College of Music, a Bachelor of Music degree in Jazz Performance from Cornish College of the Arts, and a Master of Fine Arts degree in Jazz and African American Music Performance from California Institute of the Arts.

One of the Northwest's premier bassists for more than 10 years, **Geoff Harper** has been performing with musicians such as Jessica Williams, Ingrid Jensen, Kenny Kirkland, Jeff Hamilton, Phil Woods, Jay Clayton, Bill Frisell, and Wayne Horvitz. Geoff studied bass at both The Berklee College of Music and at Cornish College of the Arts. He has recorded extensively, including 3 records with Bebop and Destruction, 3 records with The Marriot Jazz Quintet, and recordings with The Real Harper Bros. and Stackpole. For the past few years, Geoff has been the bassist and coordinator of The Owl and Thistle Jam Session. He is also a member of Bebop and Destruction, the Jay Roulston Quartet, as well as Stackpole, voted the "Best Outside Jazz Group of 2001" by Earshot Jazz.

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, Mark Tobey, Martha Graham, Morris Graves, Imogen Cunningham, Laurie Anderson, Philip Glass, Jacob Lawrence, Mark Morris, Meredith Monk, Bobbie McFerrin, Obo Addy, Rinde Eckert, Bebe Miller, Ruth St. Denis, Ted Shawn, Bill Frisell, Robin Holcomb, Jeff Koons, Michael Spafford, Lynda Barry, Chet Huntley, Syvilla Fort, Ping Chong, Kenny Werner, Ralph Towner, Mary Frank, Thornton Wilder, Lou Harrison, 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.

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