

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Anne Mannix
amannix@artbma.org

Kelly Linton
klinton@artbma.org

443-573-1870

THE BMA CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF JAZZ SERIES WITH PERFORMANCES BY NATIONALLY ACCLAIMED ARTISTS

BALTIMORE, MD (May 5, 2008)—Join the Baltimore Museum of Art to celebrate the 20th anniversary of its popular **Jazz in the Sculpture Garden** concert series. Sit back and listen to cool jazzy sounds on a warm summer evening in the BMA's scenic sculpture gardens. This one-of-a-kind summer experience features critically acclaimed national and regional jazz talent against a striking backdrop of modern art. These casual concerts take place on select **Saturdays in July and August at 7 p.m.** Tickets are \$25 (\$18 for BMA Members).

As part of the festivities this year, the BMA is offering pre-concert twilight tours at 5 p.m., exploring aspects of jazz appearing in works of art such as rhythm, pattern, and harmony. After the tour, gain early access to the sculpture gardens to reserve your seating, and enjoy a glass of wine. Pre-concert tour tickets are \$10; a concert ticket is required in order to purchase pre-concert tickets. Space is limited!

Enjoy the show from intimate concert seating, picnic with sandwiches and snacks purchased from the outdoor bar. For an extra-special evening, make reservations for Jazz+Dinner, an elegant three-course meal served on the terrace of celebrity chef, John Shields' restaurant Gertrude's. Jazz+Dinner tickets are \$70 (\$63 for BMA Members).

Tickets go on sale Sunday, June 15, and are available at the BMA Box Office in person or by phone at 443-573-1701, or at artbma.org. Concerts usually sell out; advance ticket purchase is recommended.

SPECIAL OFFER! Purchase the five-concert series by July 3 and save \$10! Tickets for the series are \$115 per person (\$80 per BMA Member).

This summer's line-up includes:

July 5: T. K. Blue

A former student of Dizzy Gillespie, this dynamic alto saxophonist is a local favorite. *Billboard Magazine* describes him best: "His saxophone talks in warm tones that speak of an intense love...with subtle tenderness."

July 19: Jackie Ryan

Spun like silk, Jackie Ryan's sultry voice is absolutely mesmerizing. This chart-topping vocalist is sure to delight in the majestic setting of the BMA's renowned sculpture garden.



July 26: Warren Wolf

Baltimore's own prodigious vibraphonist returns to the BMA for another explosive performance! This artist and his ensemble are known for mind-blowing performances that reach unmatched heights.

August 9: Vanessa Rubin featuring Don Braden

A perfect pairing of artists perform under the stars on a warm summer evening. Experience the soulful vocals of Vanessa Rubin, paired with the smooth notes of jazz saxophonist Don Braden.

August 16: Rolando Matias & the Afro-Rican Ensemble

A spontaneous fusion of Afro-Caribbean-Bebop led by multi-talented percussionist Rolando Matias. This accomplished group of musicians will deliver an explosion of funk, sure to have you out of your seats!

Media sponsors are *City Paper*, WEAA 88.9 FM, and WYPR 88.1 FM.

Concerts are hosted by the BMA's Joshua Johnson Council. The Joshua-Johnson Council is one of the oldest African-American support groups established by a major museum. Its mission is to forge meaningful connections between Baltimore's African-American communities and the Museum through events, programs, and workshops built around the BMA's collection of art by African-Americans and its distinguished African art collection.

In the event of rain, concerts are held in the BMA Meyerhoff Auditorium. Please call the BMA Box Office at 443-573-1701 after 3 p.m. for an update.

If the concert is held indoors, Jazz+Dinner ticket holders must call Gertrude's at 410-889-3399 to make reservations for indoor seating or to obtain a rain check. Please note: children do not receive Jazz+Dinner discounts.

ABOUT THE BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART

The Baltimore Museum of Art is home to an internationally renowned collection of 19th-century, modern, and contemporary art. Founded in 1914 with a single painting, the BMA today has 90,000 works of art—including the largest holding of works by Henri Matisse in the world. Throughout the Museum, visitors will find an outstanding selection of European and American fine and decorative arts, 15th- through 19th-century prints and drawings, works by established and emerging contemporary artists, and objects from Africa, Asia, the Ancient Americas, and Pacific Islands. Two beautifully landscaped gardens display an array of 20th-century sculpture that is an oasis in the city. As a major cultural destination for the greater Baltimore region, the BMA organizes and presents a variety of dynamic exhibitions and innovative programs throughout the year, and frequently hosts special events with cultural and educational partners. The Museum is located in a park-like setting in the heart of Charles Village and adjacent to the main campus of The Johns Hopkins University. It is distinguished by a grand historic building designed in the 1920s by renowned American architect John Russell Pope with an impressive wing for contemporary art added in 1994.

VISITOR INFORMATION

General admission to the BMA is free. Special events and exhibitions may be ticketed. The BMA is open Wednesday through Friday, 11 a.m.– 5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. The Museum is closed Monday, Tuesday, New Year's Day, July 4, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The BMA is located on Art Museum Drive at North Charles and 31st Streets, three miles north of Baltimore's Inner Harbor. For general Museum information, call 443-573-1700 or visit artbma.org.

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