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JAZZ AT VAIL SQUARE RETURNS WITH LATIN, SWING & CLASSIC ENSEMBLES

Talented artists, stunning venues promise jazz paradise in cool Rocky Mountains

June 23, 2010 – Vail, Colorado – The Vail Jazz Festival returns with over 29 live jazz concerts in and around Vail this summer. The Festival culminates with the annual Vail Jazz Party, a 24-hour celebration of jazz, which this Labor Day weekend returns to its former home at the Vail Marriott Mountain Resort in Lionshead.

“If you like traditional jazz, swing, Latin jazz, or the American Songbook, you won’t be disappointed,” said Howard Stone, chairman and artistic director for the Vail Jazz Foundation. “We’ve sought out a great variety of jazz musicians and styles, as we bring the magic of live jazz back to the Vail Jazz Tent at Vail Square.” continued Stone.

JAZZ AT THE MARKET, JUNE 27 – AUGUST 29

The first of ten Sunday concerts will open the summer of Jazz on June 27 at the Vail Jazz Festival stage. Concerts are free and are presented from noon to 3:00pm on Meadow Drive across from the Marketplace. The series launches on Sunday, June 27 with Gypsy Jazz band Impromptu, and talent in the series includes local favorites Tony Gulizia Trio, Justin Allison Trio, Kathy Morrow and many others.

JAZZ AT VAIL SQUARE IN LIONSHEAD, AUGUST 5 – SEPTEMBER 2

Thursday, August 5: MARCIA BALL

Her music is mixed with equal parts of simmering soul fervor and two-fisted piano pounding. Between her deeply emotive vocals and her incisive, often poignant songwriting, Ball is in a class by herself. Her groove-laden New Orleans R&B and driving Gulf Coast blues have made her a one-of-a-kind favorite of music fans all over the world. Four-time Grammy nominee Marcia Ball Singer/pianist Marcia Ball knows how to raise roofs and tear down walls with her infectious, intelligent and deeply emotional brand of southern boogie, rollicking, roadhouse blues and heartfelt ballads. Over the course of her three-decade

career, Ball has earned a huge and intensely loyal following all over the world. Her exquisite piano playing and passionate, playful vocals fuse New Orleans and Gulf Coast R&B with Austin's deep songwriting tradition into a sound *No Depression* described as "a little rock, a lot of roll, a pinch of rhythm and a handful of blues."

Thursday, August 12

HOT TOMAOTES SWING BAND WITH DANCERS TIFFINY & KENNY

The Hot Tomatoes Dance Orchestra delights fans with authentic re-creations of music by the greats of the swing era, including Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller and Harry James. Completing the big band experience are award-winning swing dancers Tiffiny Wine and Kenny Nelson, whose high energy, toe tapping swing performance will not be complete until they invite the 'not so shy' to join them for swing dance instruction. Swing Dance lessons will be offered for \$20/couple prior to the show, so bring your dancing' shoes and swing with the Hot Tomatoes!

Thursday, August 19

JACKY TERRASSON TRIO

When Jacky Terrasson won the prestigious Thelonious Monk piano competition in 1993, he proceeded to lead one of the defining jazz piano trios of that decade. By the mid-'90s, Terrasson was being hailed as one of the bright young lions on the traditional jazz scene. His self-titled 1995 debut for Blue Note Records drew high praise from all corners of the jazz world. His feathery keyboard touch is coupled with a lot of power and passion, a complete understanding of the blues and improvisation, and Terrasson is also a gifted arranger. Terrason is joined on stage by drummer Jamire Williams and bassist Ben Williams.

Thursday, August 26, 2010

Thursday, August 26: Curtis Stigers

For two decades, Curtis Stigers has demonstrated time and again that the lines between jazz, pop, soul, rock, blues and even country are not as clearly defined as they may seem. In a trajectory that began with pop/soul albums in the early '90s, the vocalist-saxophonist-songwriter has spent the past several years cementing his reputation as a formidable jazz singer – one who recognizes the value of the story within the song, and the countless ways in which that story can be told. Stiger's distinctive voice and storytelling style allow the poetry of the lyrics to come through. Not at all a stranger to Vail, Stigers opened the 2008

Jazz at Vail Square concert series. Stigers will appear on August 26 with with fellow musicians Matthew Fries (piano) and Cliff Schmitt (bass).

Thursday, September 2

CLAYTON BROTHERS QUINTET AND VJF ALL-STARS

Lead by Grammy winner and bassist John Clayton, this highly acclaimed jazz group includes saxophonist Jeff Clayton, pianist Bill Cunliffe, Terell Stafford on trumpet, and Lewis Nash on drums. The Quintet also serves as educators for the Vail Jazz Workshop, an intensive ten day clinic for 12 of the finest high school-aged jazz musicians in the country. Their unique learning experience culminates with their performance with the Clayton Brothers Quintet in Vail Square on September 3.

VAIL JAZZ PARTY: LABOR DAY WEEKEND SEPTEMBER 2 – 6

The Vail Jazz Festival culminates with a unique mix of the finest jazz musicians on the planet in a one of a kind format that has lived up to its title: The Labor Day Weekend Party. Whether group performances, multi-artist jam sessions, or the inspiring tributes to jazz legends, the Weekend has a unique party spirit that attracts musicians and jazz lover from all over the world.

Tickets, Lodging and More Information

Vail Jazz Party

Tickets to the Vail Jazz Party are \$45/afternoon session, \$55/evening session, or \$350 for a VIP event pass. Each session includes up to six different sets of musicians!

Tickets and passes are available for purchase through the Vail Jazz Foundation office at 970.479.6146, or 888-VAILJAM (824-5526) or online. Lodging is offered at host hotel Vail Marriott Mountain Resort with rooms starting at \$109/night: Call 800.648.0720 and mention 'Vail Jazz' to make your reservation. Early booking discounts are available for tickets and lodging, and both will be available for online purchase in mid June -- visit www.vailjazz.org.

About the Vail Jazz Foundation

The VJF is a 501 c 3 non-profit organization whose mission is to perpetuate jazz through live performances that showcase the artistry and talent of great jazz musicians, and through

jazz education, with a focus on young musicians and young audiences. By taking jazz into the schools, the VJF creates an awareness of this great art form to nurture audiences of the future and future jazz musicians.

Brought to you by:

Sponsors of the Vail Jazz Foundation include Alpine Bank, Alpine Party Rentals, The Arrabelle, Baker's Piano Center, BBE Sound, Colorado Council on the Arts, Colorado Mountain Express – Official Transportation Provider , Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, EverVail, Fly Vail, Hertz, Jack FM, KZYR – The Zephyr 97.7 FM, KUVU 89.3 & KVJZ 88.5 Jazz Public Radio, KVBA-TV8, Lionshead Merchants Association, National Endowment for the Arts, Notably Fine Audio, Plum TV, Ravenscroft Pianos, Ritz-Carlton Residences, Rocky Mountain Reprographics, The Jazz Cruise, Town of Vail, United Way Eagle River Valley, Vail Daily, Vail Resorts Echo, Vail Marriott Mountain Resort & Spa, and many other businesses and private donors for whose support we are very, very grateful.

For more information, contact:

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