

Winnipeg Free Press

Veteran Faddis, prodigy Eigsti signed for Asper jazz series

Winnipeg Free Press
Monday, April 16, 2007
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Section: Music - Articles
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THE new Izzy **Asper Jazz** Performances series has signed up another sellout lineup ranging from trumpet great Jon Faddis to rising star pianist Taylor Eigsti.

The 2007-2008 season starts in late October with James Carter and Cyrus Chestnut and ends in May with Christian McBride leading his quartet.

The shows, which run Saturday nights and Sunday afternoons at the Berney Theatre, will sell out very quickly so order tickets soon.

Every year seems to get better and better, and if you don't believe me, check out this lineup.

Kicking things off on Oct. 27 and 28 is the dynamic pairing of virtuoso saxophonist and all-around showman James Carter with the phenomenal Cyrus Chestnut on piano. Both musicians have been through town in the last few years, but the opportunity to catch them together should not be missed. They will be joined by bassist Steve Kirby and a yet-to-be-named drummer from New York.

Next up, on Nov. 17 and 18 is piano prodigy and one of the brightest young stars on the **jazz** scene, 23-year-old Taylor Eigsti. A two-time Grammy nominee and winner of the Downbeat critics poll in the rising piano star category, Eigsti is an amazing talent who is riding high as a result of his latest recording, the critically acclaimed *Lucky To Be Me*.

He will also be bringing his great band with him: Reuben Rogers (bass), Eric Harland (drums), and another young phenom, Julian Lage (guitar), who has to his credit performances with Carlos Santana, Pat Metheny and David Grisman.

After a winter break, the series gets swinging again on March 1 and 2 with the Clayton Brothers Quintet, with brothers John (bass), Jeff (saxophone) and Gerald (piano), along with Terrell Stafford on trumpet and drummer Obed Calvaire.

April 12 and 13 brings us trumpet legend Jon Faddis. Described by his mentor Dizzy Gillespie as "the best ever, including me," Faddis has played with many of the greats, including Oscar Peterson, Duke Ellington, Count Basie and Charles Mingus, and is currently the musical director of the Carnegie Hall **Jazz** Orchestra.

The final event of the season will be May 25, when Grammy award-winning bass player Christian McBride brings his quartet to town. The other members of the band are Geoff Keezer (piano), Terreon Gully (drums) and Ron Blake (saxophone).

Tickets are available by calling the subscription hotline at 477-7510.

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Idnumber: 200704160006
Length: 392 words