

One of the many top draw entertainers coming to the Portland Jazz Festival this month is Pharoah Sanders, one of the most distinctive tenor saxophone sounds in jazz.



Dave Douglas and Brass Ecstasy give nod to the ever-evolving spirit of brass music with soul inflected composition. The group will perform Sunday, Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m. at the McMenamins Crystal Ballroom, downtown.

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

PDX Jazz Fills Calendar

75 programs, events mark annual festival

As a cultural, entertainment and educational event that celebrates Black History Month, the 2010 Alaska Airlines/Horizon Air Portland Jazz Festival presented by US Bank offers more than 75 programs and events throughout the Portland area during the last eight days in February.

With a Gospel Brunch on Sunday, Feb. 21; the Incredible Journey of Jazz in middle schools during the week, local performances at venues throughout Portland, the PDX Jazz Student Stage, and intimate artist Jazz Conversations, the festival brings jazz to new audiences and educates the next generation of jazz listeners, an integral part of the PDX Jazz mission.

The Gospel Brunch at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 21 kicks off the Portland Jazz Festival at Self Enhancement, Inc., 3920 N. Kerby Ave., and features the SEI Sounds of Soul Choir. Advanced reservations are strongly recommended.

Approximately 2,000 students will experience the Incredible Journey of Jazz, a 60-minute musical theater performance tracing African American history in tandem with the evolution of jazz. Presented by the Portland Trail Blazers and the American Federation of Musicians, these performances take place in celebration of Black History Month at area middle

schools.

Music from African rhythms through gospel, ragtime, blues and ultimately to jazz, the 60 minute musical and theater piece was originally developed by Portland State University professor and pianist Darrell Grant along with the Leroy Vinegar Jazz Institute.

Over the past year, PDX Jazz has presented nearly 200 free performances showcasing regional jazz artists at ongoing series including PDX Jazz@RiverPlace, PDX Jazz@the ArtBar, and PDX Jazz @RiverFest.

A number of free performances will be presented throughout the week and during the Portland Jazz Festival at both traditional and non-traditional venues. In the "free" category, Midnight Jam Sessions begin at 11:59 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 26 and 27.

This year's jam sessions take place at the Norse Hall Lounge. Hosted by Darrell Grant, they feature a one-time mix of Norwegian and Portland artists joined by nationally acclaimed artists.

Wednesday, Feb. 24 at 7:30 p.m. brings one of Portland's most exciting larger ensembles to the Old

Church. The Portland Jazz Composers' Ensemble, led by the eclectic pianist Andrew Oliver, supports some of Portland's finest

musicians and presents imaginative work by regional composers.

The main festival weekend, Feb. 25-28, offers a chance for audiences to experience a behind-the-scene view of each headline artist, hosted by local and regional journalists, at the PCPA ArtBar,

1111 S.W. Broadway.

For a full schedule of community events, visit pdxjazz.com. Ticket prices range from \$20-\$50 at all Ticketmaster locations or from the PDX Jazz box office. For more information go to pdxjazz.com or call 503-228-JAZZ (5299).

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Miles Davis - Kind of Blue: 50th Anniversary
ON SALE \$13.99 2CD

Jazz trumpeter Miles Davis is renowned as one of the most important musicians of the 20th Century. Davis was at the forefront of several major developments in post-war jazz: his 1957 album 'The Birth Of The Cool' started cool jazz and his 1959 album, 'Kind Of Blue' broke all the rules of the predominant bebop style by introducing modal jazz. In A Silent Way, Bitches Brew and A Tribute To Jack Johnson were instrumental in the development of jazz-fusion.

Taj Mahal - The Essential Taj Mahal
ON SALE \$13.99 2CD

One of the most prominent figures in late 20th century blues, singer/multi-instrumentalist Taj Mahal played an enormous role in revitalizing and preserving traditional acoustic blues. Not content to stay within that realm, Mahal soon broadened his approach, taking a musicologist's interest in a multitude of folk and roots music from around the world -- reggae and other Caribbean folk, jazz, gospel, R&B, zydeco, various West African styles, Latin, even Hawaiian.




Earth Wind & Fire - Greatest Hits
ON SALE \$8.99 CD

Earth, Wind & Fire were a 70's funk band from Chicago led by drummer and songwriter Maurice White. They released several albums of tight horn-led funk in the early 70s with limited commercial success. Their big breakthrough came in 1975 when 'That's the Way of the World' turned Earth Wind & Fire into superstars.

Robert Johnson - The Complete Recordings
ON SALE \$13.99 2CD

One of the greatest blues artists of all time, the legendary Robert Johnson recorded only enough music to fit onto two CDs. After his death at the age of 27 in 1938, Johnson had only 42 tracks in total, if you include alternate takes, under his belt. But those records would go on to influence the world of blues and rock & roll like no other recordings and become an essential influence to Eric Clapton, Bob Dylan, and Keith Richards (to name just three).

Happy B-Day
Quaywana Washington
from your family.
We love you.

OFFER GOOD THRU: 2/28/10

MUSIC MILLENNIUM

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