

M E D I A R e l e a s e

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**The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center
presents two great jazz performances in
Recreating the Music of
Milt Jackson, the MJQ and Sarah Vaughan
with vibraphonist Bryan Carrott
and vocalist Halley Hiatt**

August 11, 2010, Dix Hills, New York – The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center will present a tribute to two great jazz legends, Sept. 11 at 7:30 p.m., when noted contemporary vibraphonist and Five Towns College Percussion teacher Bryan Carrott performs the music of Milt Jackson and the Modern Jazz Quartet and up-and-coming vocalist Halley Hiatt pays tribute to the music of legendary vocalist Sarah Vaughan.

Discovered by jazz great Dizzy Gillespie in 1946, vibraphonist Milt Jackson became a featured member of Gillespie's quartet which eventually broke off from his big band as a separate entity. Best known for his bebop work, Jackson crossed over several jazz idioms as a featured musician, and was known for his slow 12-bar blues, his rhythmic work and his unique sound. He died in 1999.

Legend has it that "Sassy" Sarah Vaughan walked overnight from total obscurity to intense stardom by winning Amateur Night at Harlem's famed Apollo Theater at the age of 18 in 1942. By the time she died at age 66 in 1990, she had amassed Grammy awards, an international following and the coveted National Endowment of the Arts Jazz Master status. After cutting her teeth by joining legends Earl "Father" Hines and Billy Eckstein, she soon went out as a solo

performer amassing numerous hits such as “If You Could See Me Now,” “Tenderly,” and “Beautiful Changes.”

Bryan Carrott is a renowned vibraphonist/mallet percussionist who performs records and tours extensively in the jazz idiom. A prolific composer and improviser as well, Prof. Carrott was also an accomplished pianist before undertaking studies in percussion at New York’s High School of Music and Art and Manhattan School of Music. He continued his percussion studies at Brooklyn College under New York Philharmonic’s Morris Lang, and went on to study vibraphone with Dave Samuels at William Paterson College in Wayne New Jersey, where Carrott received his B.A. in Jazz Studies & Performance.

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A two-time recipient of New York’s “Meet the Composer Foundation” Award, Bryan Carrott has been cited by Down Beat Magazine’s International Critics’ Poll seven of the last nine years for “Talent Deserving Wider Recognition” in the vibes category. Prof. Carrott, sideman of the late David “Fathead” Newman, has performed in over 20 countries and on more than 70 recordings. Recently, Prof. Carrott was featured in concert performance at Yale University with clarinetist Don Byron’s Quartet, in a tribute commemorating Benny Goodman’s 100th birthday.

Serving as coordinator of percussion at Five Towns College, Prof. Carrott was also a guest instructor at the Taipei International Percussion Summer Camp. The latest recordings to feature Prof. Carrott’s musical stylings include Steven Kroon’s “El Mas Alla(aya)”, Roy Campbell’s “Akhenaten Suite” and Anthony Branker’s “Blessings”. He also performed as a featured mallet/multi-percussionist for Disney’s Broadway production of “The Lion King” and the recent Apollo Theatre engagement of the hit show, “Dreamgirls.”

Halley Hiatt is a budding singer-songwriter born and raised in the Catskill Mountains just northwest of New York City. After searching and finding her inner rhythm, she found her stride as a jazz songstress. While she loves and sings everything from swing to standards, Halley is all about jazz. In this special performance, Halley will pay tribute to Vaughn with such classics as “Mean to Me,” “It’s Magic,” “Interlude,” “Mist,” and “Send in the Clowns” among others.

An eclectic, she has been heavily influenced by such varied music as blues, rock, funk, soul and the hip-hop she grew up with. Halley has been performing in the greater New York area and is currently writing and recording her first album, entirely of originals, due out later this fall.

The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center

The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center is located at Five Towns College, 305 North Service Road, Dix Hills, New York, 11746-5857. For more information and ticket

sales, please contact the Dix Hills Performing Arts Center box office at (631) 656-2148 or visit online at www.DHPAC.org. Become a fan on Facebook! (Dix Hills Performing Arts Center).

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