

Carolina Philharmonic presents

Pinehurst Jazz Festival

PRESS RELEASE June 21, 2013

For immediate release



Event Title: Pinehurst Jazz Festival
Event subtitle: In Memory of Joshua Wolff

Presenter: Carolina Philharmonic – carolinaphil.org

Festival dates: July 14/ 15, 2013

Concert times/descriptions: Concert I – Sunday, July 14, 3pm
Featuring vocalist Michelle Walker, saxophonist Jon Gordon
and trumpeter Thomas Marriot.
Concert II – Sunday, July 14, 8pm
Featuring vocalist Whitney James and The Three Jazz Divas (Hilary Gardner,
Michelle Walker and Whitney James).
Concert III – Monday, July 15, 8pm
Featuring vocalist Hilary Gardner with saxophonist Jon Gordon,
and a grand finale jam session.

Venue: The Cardinal Ballroom of the Carolina Hotel, 80 Carolina Vista Dr., Pinehurst, NC 28374

Tickets: \$20 general admission. Save with a Festival Pass – \$50 – good for all three
performances. Seating is cabaret-style and is limited (cash bar provided)

How to get tickets: carolinaphil.org
Carolina Philharmonic Community Arts Center & Box Office (5 Market Square, Pinehurst)
910.687.0287 or 910.687.4746
Given Book Shop at Olmsted Village, Pinehurst
Heavenly Pines Fine Jewelry, 5 Dowd Circle, Pinehurst
Arts League of the Sandhills, Aberdeen
Arts Council of Moore County, Campbell House, Southern Pines
Nature's Own, 195 Bell Avenue, Southern Pines
At the door on the day of the performance, as available.

Festival description: In remembrance of a jazz artist whose life was cut tragically short by pancreatic cancer,
colleagues of pianist Joshua Wolff (1973-2013) convene in idyllic Pinehurst, NC for the
inaugural Pinehurst Jazz Festival. A dozen artists of national/international renown
gather to present three diverse concerts of exceptional jazz in the historic luxury of the
Cardinal Ballroom of the Carolina Hotel. Full of old-world southern charm, this was one
of Joshua's favorite venues.

Each performance has two sets, with intermission, and is followed by a reception with
the artists and David Michael Wolff, Joshua's brother and Principal Conductor of the
Carolina Philharmonic. The reception will feature videos from Joshua's final



performance, The Duel. CD's of Joshua Wolff, as well as of the performing artists, will be available for purchase for \$20.

Performing Artists: See full bios and contact info below

Festival Art Exhibit: Jazz on the Cover – works by renowned painter and illustrator Rafal Olbinski (see below). Recently (April 2013) exhibited during the Ballard Jazz Festival in Seattle, Washington

Festival Page on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PinehurstJazzFestival>

Festival Sponsors: Art Swanson (private donor), The Carolina Hotel (corporate sponsorship)

Sponsorship opportunities: VIP Tables: Become a Festival Sponsor (\$2,500) and get a table for eight reserved for all three performances, inclusive of eight drink vouchers for each show. Become a Concert Sponsor (and of the three performances - \$1,000) and get a table for eight, inclusive of eight drink vouchers.

Donations: Carolina Philharmonic has established the Joshua Wolff Memorial Music Education Fund to provide music educational opportunities and scholarships to children in Moore and Cumberland Counties, NC. Donations can be sent to Carolina Philharmonic, earmarked "Joshua Wolff" and mailed to Carolina Philharmonic, 460 Midland Dr., Pinehurst, NC, 28374. Carolina Philharmonic is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and all donations are tax-deductible.

Business Contact: Joan Meyer, Business Manager: carolinaphilharmonic@gmail.com, (910) 687-4746

Press Contact: Kathy Wilford, NC Press Liason: carolinaphilpress@gmail.com, (910) 603-0444
Izabela Gabrielson, National/International Press Liason: izag@mac.com

About Joshua Wolff:



NYC-based jazz pianist/singer Joshua Wolff (1973-2013) was beloved by colleagues and fans around the country for his lyrical, colorful jazz stylings. He was cherished in particular for his work with vocalists -- he had a special gift for surrounding each voice in a unique wash of sound. But he was most beloved for his humor and his fierce friendship.

Just this past March he was at the peak of his art when he performed with his brother David on two pianos for full houses in Pinehurst and Fayetteville, NC. Shortly after, he started experiencing pain. On Mother's Day, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, stage 4, and was battling for his life. Friends, family and colleagues from around the country gathered at his bedside at St. Luke's in Manhattan. He passed away on Sunday, May 19, surrounded by family and a dozen close friends.

Carolina Philharmonic, led by Joshua Wolff's brother, David Michael Wolff, has launched the Pinehurst Jazz Festival in celebration of Joshua's memory. Joshua was a frequent and popular guest artist in NC.

At the Wolff family's request, the Philharmonic has also established the Joshua Wolff Memorial Music Education Fund. Tax-deductible donations to this fund will help present the Joshua Wolff Memorial Jazz Festival and provide free music education opportunities and scholarships to children in Moore and Cumberland Counties, NC. You may donate by check payable to "Carolina Philharmonic," a 501(c)(3) non-profit,

earmarked "Joshua Wolff" and mail to 460 Midland Dr., Pinehurst, NC, 28374. You may also call the Philharmonic at 910-687-4746 for additional information.

The Performing Artists (in alphabetical order):



John Bishop, drums: One of the primary voices in Northwest Jazz for over 30 years, drummer John Bishop has performed in concerts and clubs with Bobby McFerrin, Lee Konitz, Slide Hampton, Benny Golson, George Cables, Kenny Werner, Sonny Fortune, Bobby Hutcherson, Dr. Lonnie Smith, Tom Harrell, Herb Ellis, Buddy DeFranco, Larry Coryell, Joanne Brackeen, Jon Faddis, Charles McPherson, Carla Bley, Steve Swallow, Kenny Rankin, Joe Locke, Hal Galper, Jessica Williams, and countless others. Along with numerous jingle, film-score, demo & multi-media recording sessions, he's appeared on more than 100 albums including sessions involving Rudy Van Gelder & Teo Macero, and a Grammy-nominated recording on RCA with singer Mark Murphy. Bishop was inducted into the Seattle Jazz Hall of Fame in 2008.

Presently, Bishop records and tours with the Hal Galper Trio, the Chad McCullough/Bram Weijters Group, and the cooperative bands – "Scenes" with John Stowell & Jeff Johnson, and "Wellstone Conspiracy" with Brent Jensen, Bill Anschell, & Jeff Johnson.

Besides his jazz work, Bishop has toured nationally and internationally with Buddy Greco, the McGuire Sisters, and the Harry James Orchestra, and has performed with Bob Hope, Red Skelton, Bob Newhart, Rich Little, The Hi-Los, Frankie Avalon, the Drifters, the Coasters, the Platters, Pete Barbutti, the Seattle Symphony and many others.

In 1997, Bishop started Origin Records (named Jazzweek's 2009 "Label Of The Year") and OriginArts, a graphic design & CD production company, to help further the exposure of creative artists and their music. In partnership with his ex-drum student, Matt Jorgensen, they have released over 400 recordings by 260 artists. In 2002 they added another jazz label, OA2 Records, a classical imprint, Origin Classical in 2008, and in 2003 began Seattle's annual Ballard Jazz Festival. He has designed 450 CD packages and multiple book covers, banners, posters, and other graphics for clients around the globe.

Website: <http://johnbishop.net>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/john.bishop.1



Toru Dodo, piano: Toru Dodo, born in Tokyo, started playing classical piano at age 4. Shortly after entering the prestigious Meiji University in Tokyo where he majored in Economics, Dodo discovered Jazz and soon after began gigging in the Tokyo area. After graduating from Meiji University, he went on to study the Berkeley College of Music in Boston (1995), where he graduated summa cum laude in 1998. Dodo then moved to NY, where his musical career progressed both as a leader and a sideman with tours taking him throughout the U.S., Japan, Canada, Italy, Africa and South America.

Dodo has released to-date five solo albums: "DODO" (2002); "116 West 238 St." (2004), featuring Reuben Rogers on bass and John Lamkin on drums; "DODO 3" (2006), featuring Joseph Lepore on bass and Rodney Green on drums - all produced by legendary guitarist, Yoshiaki Masuo for the Japanese label, Jazz City Spirits/ Muzak. His fourth album, entitled "Do You Like Cappuccino?" (2009) and his latest album, "JAfro" (2012/2013) from Dodo's "do & do" label.

Dodo also published his own book, "Excellent Jazz Solo Piano" for Rittor Music in Japan in 2008. That same year, after performing with his trio at the International Association for Jazz Education (IAJE) in Toronto, he was presented an award by the IAJE for his outstanding service to jazz education. He also received the BRIO (Bronx Recognizes Its Own) Award for his performance, again in 2008.

Dodo has contributed his playing as a sideman for noted musicians such as Kenny Garrett, Benny Golson, Curtis Fuller, Louis Hayes, Ruth Brown, Terumasa Hino just to name a few. Currently, aside from his trio, he works with SOMI, Pete

Zimmer's group, Wayne Escoffery & Carolyn Leonhart's group and Satoshi Inoue's group. Dodo hosted the Sunday Jam Session at Cleopatra's Needle, a jazz club on 92nd and Broadway in NYC from 2001 to 2010. Currently Dodo is one of the regular pianists for the off-Broadway show "Sleep No More" in NYC.

Website: <http://torudodo.com>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/torudodo



Jason Foureman, bass: Jason Foureman was born in Durham, NC. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 2000. In 2005 he was awarded a teaching assistantship at the University of Louisville where he taught and received his Masters degree in Jazz Studies. While at the University of Louisville, Foureman had the unique opportunity to travel throughout Russia, Finland, Estonia, and Sweden performing and teaching jazz clinics. In 2006, Foureman was awarded a position in the Betty Carter Jazz Ahead program and had performances in Washington, DC at the Kennedy Center.

Jason has performed with Cedar Walton, Eric Alexander, Corky Hale, Harry Pickens, Jim Snidero, Jamey Aebersold, Kenny Werner, Terri Lyne Carrington, Joel Frahm, and Slide Hampton among others.

Website: <http://music.unc.edu/facstaff/foureman>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/jason.foureman



Paul Gabrielson, bass & Pinehurst Jazz Festival Artistic Director: Paul Gabrielson is one of the most active jazz bassists playing in New York City and Seattle for over three decades. In New York he worked with such luminaries as drummers Jeff Watts, Jeff Herschfield, Eric Harland and Kobe Watkins. Pianists Benny Green, Bob Florence, Bill Mays, Geoff Keezer, Dave Kikowski, David Budway, Jon Davis, Joshua Wolff, Larry Fuller. Guitarists Ron Affif, Paul Bollenbach, Corey Christianson, Randy Johnston, Don Mock, and great horn players such as Ingrid Jensen, Eddie Henderson, Terrell Stafford, Jon Gordon. He also worked with the Mingus Big Band, Diane Shure, Ernestine Anderson, Jay Clayton and Mark Murphy. Paul is a native of Seattle, Washington and has worked with the best jazz musicians in that area, such as Julian Priester, Jay Thomas, Rick Mandyck, Marc Seales, John Bishop, Dawn Clement, Marc Taylor, Jim Knapp, and Randy Porter. "I owe a great debt to the musicians I worked with in the Northwest who provided me with the opportunity to learn this great art".

Paul earned his Bachelors in music at Central Washington University and a Masters of Arts in Music at City College in NYC studying with jazz bassist John Patitucci. He has also spent time studying with jazz greats Ray Brown, Cecil McBee and John Clayton.

Paul is also fluent in many other styles of music and has worked with the popular folk group The Kingston Trio, folk songwriter Tom Paxton, and rock icons Steve Miller, The Tubes and Maria Muldaur.

Website: <http://paulgabrielson.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sonofgabriel?ref=pb>



Hilary Gardner, vocalist: Acclaimed singer Hilary Gardner grew up in Wasilla, Alaska infatuated with New York City. She made her Broadway debut in 2010 in two-time Tony-award winner Twyla Tharp's hit musical, Come Fly Away. Backed by a 19-piece big band, Hilary sang solos and duets with Frank Sinatra in a performance hailed by critics as "wonderful" (Huffington Post), "elegant" (USA Today), and "terrific" (New York Observer). Tharp, herself, said: "Hilary Gardner, like the great 'girl singers' of decades past, brings elegance and wit to every song she sings. She lends a touch of vintage cool

to new material and makes the old songs sound fresh again."

Hilary's stunning recording debut, *The Great City*, is a classic vocal pop album, graceful and intimate with nuanced band interplay enriched by lyrical instrumental solos. It's sophisticatedly accessible, featuring songs both urban and urbane by composers like Leonard Cohen, Vernon Duke, Joni Mitchell, Tom Waits, and Nellie McKay, among others.

Hilary is a frequent soloist with symphonies throughout the United States and has appeared with Connecticut's Ridgefield Symphony, the Minnesota Orchestra, and New York's Rochester Philharmonic. She performs regularly as a featured vocalist with the George Gee Swing Orchestra, and she's a founding member of Shotgun Wedding, a Brooklyn-based country music band. Multi-platinum recording artist Moby featured Hilary prominently on his well-received 2009 release, *Wait For Me* (Mute Records/EMI).

Website: www.hilarygardner.com/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/misshilarygardner



Jon Gordon, saxophone: Jon Gordon is a world-renowned artist and one of the most successful, accomplished and in-demand alto and soprano saxophonists of his generation. Gordon, a Thelonious Monk award winner, was recently described by Jazz Improv Magazine journalist Brandon Bernstein: "Jon Gordon is a master. His compositions, improvisation, tone, and technical virtuosity set him apart as an elite musician of our time." December 2009 - *Evolution* selected as one of the "Top 10 Best Jazz CDs of 2009" by jazz journalist Gene Seymour, as well as the Best of 2009 lists of jazz journalist Neil Tesser, *The Jazz Journal* and *The Penguin Guide to Jazz*.

Additional accolades from prominent Jazz voices include:

"Gordon has embraced the history of his instrument, carrying with it the ability to extend music as a universal language." - Wayne Shorter

"Jon is one of the greatest alto players ever." - Phil Woods

"Jon is a masterful young altoist with a brilliant future ahead of him." - Joe Lovano

"Jon is someone who is always mindful, discriminating, relentlessly self-critical, and attentive to detail. When playing next to him you can feel and hear his focus, energy, and presence...the years of an intimate connection between himself, his instrument and music." - Mark Turner

Down Beat magazine selected *Within Worlds* (2008) as one of the "Best Jazz CD's of 2008" and of the decade. July 2010 & 2011 - Recognized again as a Rising Star in the annual Down Beat magazine's Critic's Poll on saxophone, and also recognized as a Rising Star in the Composition category.

Jon has performed and/or recorded with Kenny Barron, Ray Barretto, Tony Bennett, Dave Brubeck, Benny Carter, Ron Carter, Bill Charlap, Harry Connick Jr., Roy Eldridge, Aretha Franklin, Al Grey, Chico Hamilton, Lionel Hampton, Slide Hampton, Kevin Hays, Dennis Irwin, Barney Kessel, Mike LeDonne, Mel Lewis, Eddie Locke, Ronnie Mathews, Bill Mays, Christian McBride, Ron McClure, Mulgrew Miller, Ben Monder, Lewis Nash, Joshua Redman, Red Rodney, Maria Schneider, John Scofield, Don Sickler, Bruce Springsteen, Bill Stewart, Clark Terry, Mark Turner, Kenny Washington, Peter Washington, Joe Williams, as well as the New York Pops Orchestra and The Vanguard Jazz Orchestra.

Website: <http://www.jongordonmusic.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/jon.gordon.35>



Whitney James, vocalist: Whitney James studied musical theater and opera before falling in love with jazz, and her theatrical background has served her well.

She doesn't just sing a tune—she creatively engages it. Every time she approaches a melody and a lyric, she finds a new way to phrase them, shape them, highlight a word or a few notes that shade the meaning and make the music richer. Her sense of time and phrasing make her a consummate musician's singer—she knows how to work with a band, instead of asking it to merely back her.

Her supple alto voice wraps itself around a song like no other. She sings with a bright clarity of tone, yet she colors her sound with earthy inflections, subtle squeezed notes, dark growls, and notes of soaring purity. Her polished musicianship helps her interpret the best of American popular music as well as challenging originals of jazz composers rarely attempted by singers. You'll have to hear her in person, to understand why audiences and jazz critics alike are raving about her performances.

Her debut CD *The Nature of Love* spent 16 weeks on the National Jazz Charts and received critical acclaim from US and International Jazz Press. In 2012, Whitney was one of thirteen jazz musicians heralded as "Legends in the Making" and was featured on Marian McPartland's *Piano Jazz: Rising Stars* on NPR radio hosted by Jon Weber.

Website: <http://www.whitneyjames.com>
Facebook: www.facebook.com/whitneyjamesjazz



Thomas Marriott, trumpet & flugelhorn: Trumpeter Thomas Marriott is one of the most exciting musicians to emerge on the national jazz scene in more than a decade. The seven-time Golden Ear award winner is a skilled instrumentalist, composer and producer, always seeking to expand the boundaries of jazz music in all its forms.

After winning the prestigious Carmine Caruso Jazz Trumpet Competition in 1999, Marriott headed east from Seattle to New York where he gained initial acclaim through his work with Maynard Ferguson's Big Bop Nouveau band. Marriott completed 3 world tours as the jazz soloist with Ferguson, then continued to work in New York and on the road with the likes of Rosemary Clooney, Joe Locke, The Tito Puente Orchestra, Brian Lynch, The Chico O'Farrill Orchestra, Michael Feinstein, Eric Reed, Les Brown and the Band of Renown, Kenny Kirkland, Charlie Hunter, Spanish Harlem Orchestra, Ritchie "Alto Madness" Cole, Carl Allan, George Colligan, Orrin Evans and scores of others.

Marriott's diverse interests and skills are reflected in the range and success of his albums. Since 2004, Thomas has produced eight albums as a leader for Origin Records. Three of his albums have made the top-ten on national jazz radio airplay charts, including the 2009 release "East-West Trumpet Summit," which made it all the way to number one. His albums have been featured on NPR's "Morning Edition" and have gained critical acclaim world-wide, including the 2010 release "Constraints and Liberations" which garnered 4 ½ stars in *Downbeat Magazine*.

Known for his innovative spirit and broad musical scope, Thomas continues to perform on the stages of the world's greatest jazz clubs and concert halls, as a leader and alongside the top names in jazz. The Seattle native is featured on more than 100 recordings with musicians of all genres and styles. Thomas has produced albums for a number of artists including saxophonist Hadley Caliman and trumpeter Ray Vega. He has served on the Board of Governors of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences and the Board of Directors of Earshot Jazz. Since his return to Seattle in 2004 he has been the featured trumpet soloist with the Seattle Repertory Jazz Orchestra and has been a catalyst on the Seattle jazz scene.

Website: www.thomasmariott.net
Facebook: www.facebook.com/thomas.marriott.90



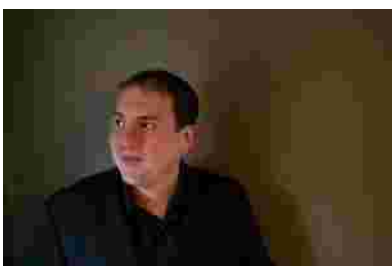
Abdullah Rahman, drums: A dynamic and versatile artist with tempered and seasoned roots in both Jazz and Classical performance, percussionist Abdullah B. Rahman has performed professionally for over 25 years. Born in Belleville, NJ and raised in Newark until his teenage years when his family moved to eastern North Carolina. He began his classical music training at East Carolina University where he studied Timpani and Keyboard percussions with Dr. Harold Jones.

He has performed with the Winston Salem Symphony, The Little Symphony of Winston Salem, The University of North Carolina School of the Arts Wind Ensemble, Orchestra, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble as well as several University Chamber Music Ensembles. Abdullah was personally selected to perform as principal drumset artist for the Phillip Hanes Memorial concert, conducted by University of North Carolina School of the Arts former Chancellor John Mauceri, founding Director of the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra. Abdullah has worked for the UNCSA dance department as an accompanist for modern, contemporary and jazz dance classes. He has also performed on orchestral recording sessions for the UNCSA School of Filmmaking. Abdullah regularly represents UNCSA as Band Leader/Musical Director when requests are made of the school to provide music for off campus private functions requiring the highest level of professionalism and artistry. He has performed at various Jazz Festivals including the Brevard Jazz Festival in Brevard, North Carolina, The Embassy Rowe Jazz Festival in Washington DC, The Southeast Jazz Festival in Atlanta Georgia, The Rowan Jazz and Blues Festival and The Charlotte Uptown Jazz Festival.

He has performed as the on stage percussionist for world renowned magician Harry Blackstone and regional guest drummer for the Ebony Fashion Fair National Tour. Among numerous performances for the National Black Theater Festival, Abdullah was the principal drummer for the plays "Ain't Misbehavin'," "Jelly's Last Jam" and "Stepping into Tomorrow" produced by Yolanda King, daughter of the late Dr. Martin Luther King. Most recently he embraced the role of Assistant Musical Director for the production of "Lillias White, On Black Theater Holy Ground" produced and performed for the 2011 National Black Theater Festival. In August of 2013 Abdullah makes his debut performance as an Actor and Singer in the stage production of "Big Maybelle, The Soul of the Blues" starring Tony and Emmy award winning Actress Lillias White. He also conducts jazz master classes with noted jazz musicians and vocalists. Abdullah has recorded several CD's with local and regional artists including The Matt Kendrick Unit and Trumpeter Joe Robinson. Abdullah has performed with Jazz greats William 'Billy' Bright, Garry Bartz, Bro. Yusuf Salim, Lou Donaldson, as well as Smokey Robinson, Johnny Mathis and Roy Clark. He also performs regularly with former Count Basie Orchestra vocalist Chris Murrelle. He composed and performed the original percussion score for "Still I Rise", a play written and directed by Dr. Maya Angelou.

He has most recently toured North Carolina Public Schools with the Carolina Music Ways musical production (funded by a grant from the Winston-Salem Arts Council) that celebrates musical greats from North Carolina. Abdullah regularly performed with New York based pianist Joshua Wolff as part of the Carolina Philharmonic Jazz Concert Series. He is the recipient of several prestigious Scholarships based on academic and artistic merit: The Kent Foundation Scholarship and the Seawell Scholarship. Abdullah earned a Master's degree in Percussion Performance from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts where he held the position of Graduate Assistant for John R. Beck, UNCSA Faculty member and President of the Percussive Arts Society. Abdullah obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Business from Winston-Salem State University.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/abradrum



Eric Verlinde, piano: Eric Verlinde has excited audiences worldwide with his energetic and passionate performances. His music touches the very soul of the listener. He has played with Arturo Sandoval, Randy Brecker, Eric Alexander, Terrell Stafford, Mark Murphy, Luis Conte, Thelma Huston, Don Lamphere, Jay Thomas, Buddy Cattlet, Greta Matassa, and Luis Peralta. He is in high demand and is

constantly performing, refining the sound and creating new music. His different groups create music that is pure, creative, spontaneous, superbly structured and melodic.

Eric has just released his new CD, "Firewalker." It marks the second collection of his compositions which range in styles from latin jazz to swinging hard-bop. It has some trio tunes with Chuck Kistler on bass and Andre Thomas on drums. They are joined by Tony Grasso on trumpet, Brian Kent on saxophone and percussionist Arturo Rodriguez. It is available on CD Baby and iTunes.

Website: <http://www.ericverlinde.com>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ericverlindemusic



Michelle Walker, vocalist: It is easy to see why this is looking to become a breakout year for New York City based jazz vocalist Michelle Walker. Coming off the heels of an extraordinary touring season, Walker impressed critics with her performances in Russia, Israel and most recently at Blues Alley and The Black Rock Performing Arts Center outside Washington, DC where she helped kick off the jazz concert season which has featured Russell Malone, Rene Marie, Cyrus Chestnut and Ravi Coltrane. Walker also joined the ranks of jazz veterans Kenny Werner, Eric Alexander, Peter Bernstein, David Hazeltine and Jimmy Greene to perform at the "Hot Jazz" Concert

Series where she was one of the first vocalists be asked to perform. Each of the five concerts throughout Israel was to sold-out, standing room only crowds of 800+ attendees and the featured show at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art was broadcast live on Israel National Radio. Michelle closed out last year with an incredible 5 city tour of Russia.

Her arrangements of straight-ahead standards and contemporary pop tunes blend genres effortlessly and with a fresh level of originality that is solidifying her own distinctive sound. Dave Nathan at AllAboutJazz.com says, "Walker demonstrates an extraordinary degree of musicality." Michelle is often compared to Cassandra Wilson, Nina Simone and Betty Carter in style and tone.

Website: <http://www.michellewalkerjazz.com>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/michellewalkerjazz

Festival Art Exhibit: "Jazz on the Cover"
Artist: Rafal Olbinski
Dates: July 14 - 15, 2013
Exhibit location: Carolina Philharmonic Community Arts Center & Box Office
5 Market Square, Pinehurst, NC, 28374
Tel: (910) 687-4746
Hours: Mon/Tues/Weds/Fri/Sat 10am – 2pm
Exhibit Curator: Izabela Gabrielson
Curator Contact: izag@mac.com

About Rafal Olbinski: Rafal Olbinski is a renowned painter and illustrator. Born in Kielce, Poland, in 1945, he studied architecture before dedicating himself to painting and design. In the fall of 1981, he traveled from Poland to New York for an exhibit of his posters. On December 13, 1981, martial law was declared in Poland and Olbinski decided to stay in New York, where he soon established himself as a prominent illustrator and painter. In March of 1982, "Psychology Today" published his first American cover. Soon after this publication, covers for other magazines followed, among them "Time", "Newsweek", "Business Week", and "Playboy". For many years, his painterly illustrations appeared regularly in the "The New York Times", where he worked with the legendary art directors Jerelle Kraus and Steven Heller. In the 1990's, he created a series of critically acclaimed posters for New York City Opera. Although best known for his illustrations and posters, he also continues working as a painter, creating beautiful works in his signature style of poetic surrealism.

About Jazz on the Cover Exhibit:



Before his international career in New York began, Rafal Olbinski spent 10 years in Warsaw working as an art director for the iconic Polish jazz magazine "Jazz Forum", designing its covers and layouts. During this time, he created cover illustrations using various techniques, which gave the unique look to the magazine. Working with "Jazz Forum" helped prepare Olbinski for the world of graphic design and illustration in New York and served as a solid foundation upon which he mastered his amazing technique. The exhibit contains selected "Jazz Forum" covers created between 1970 - 1981, which not only represent Olbinski's remarkable illustrations, but also capture a part of history of jazz behind the Iron Curtain. The covers presented at the exhibition were printed as limited edition posters in cooperation with the Zbigniew Seifert Foundation.