

Contact:
Vanessa Butler, 213.446-0774
Vanessa.Butler@sbcglobal.net



PRESS RELEASE

**The Broad Stage Presents Acclaimed New Jazz Quartet
James Farm featuring Joshua Redman
Saturday, October 1, 2011**

**Taking the Music World by Storm, James Farm Invites
Listeners on an Improvisational Journey
into the Future of Jazz**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, LOS ANGELES, Calif., September 9, 2011 –

When they debuted at the 2009 Montreal Jazz Festival, James Farm Band took the die-hard festival crowd and critics by storm. Now the improvisational jazz quartet, featuring saxophonist Joshua Redman, pianist Aaron Parks, bassist Matt Penman and drummer Eric Harland, showcases their harmonically rich, melodically sophisticated sound as part of the Westside Jazz Experience. With the *New York Times* calling them “a model of dazzling proficiency,” the band has fused their incandescent individual careers into an open ended communal journey.

These four free-thinking musicians all individually hold a stake in the future of jazz, and together form a group with a new take on song-based improvisation, a group that invites you to share in the navigation of their own musical future. They strive, in their own words “to make new musical connections for the times we live in, and new beats for what now surrounds us.” This band wants to move you, and only asks for an open mind.

The Eli and Edythe Broad Stage
The Edge Second Space

Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center
Location Address: 1310 11th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90403
Mailing Address: 1900 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90405-1628
Phone: 310. 434. 3412 www.thebroadstage.com

Redman, whose most recent solo disc “Compass” was lauded for its brooding, ruminative quality, and his band mates fuse a perfect storm of rock, soul, folk, classical and electronica influences, yet share “a love of jazz, a fascination with song and structure, an obsession with groove, and a receptivity to contemporary influences.” James Farm’s eponymous debut album, “not only confirms the group’s egalitarian nature, but positions this über-quartet of established and rising stars as a clear force with which to be reckoned.” (*All About Jazz*)

These four virtuoso instrumentalists are committed to finding new ways to balance their work as composers with the vitality of improvisation, melding the two into a brand of storytelling uniquely their own. They are also committed to the concept of the Band, where the whole is truly greater than the sum of its parts. Penman explains, “There’s an artistic strength in being four equal members of a group that we’re enjoying exploring. Put our four heads together and you get a lot of ideas ... some of them cosmic, some of them nuts, but it’s all part of the process.”

Part of the musical rapport you can put down to history. Redman, Penman, and Harland all worked extensively together in the SFJazz Collective 2005–2007, while Parks and Penman traded duties on each other’s latest records, both with Eric Harland on drums. But there is obvious chemistry at work here. Parks explains: “James Farm makes me play in a different way, sometimes taking more chances than I would otherwise. It forces me to step up. One of the things I love in this band is the balance of different energies...it’s sometimes messy, and it feels like a living thing.”

Said NPR, “It’s a bit like four of the best in the business just called a ‘session’ one day, but instead of standards, they each brought in their own music...this band’s labor has clearly proven fruitful.” The members of James Farm have established an astonishing level of trust and creativity even in their relatively short tenure as a group. Redman says, “I think we were willing to take some chances and try some things that go beyond what you would typically hear or do in an acoustic jazz quartet...this is just the beginning.” Come take part in their journey and see what all the buzz is about.

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About The Broad Stage:

Under the leadership of Director Dale Franzen and Artistic Chair Dustin Hoffman, The Eli and Edythe Broad Stage at the Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center opened its doors in Santa Monica in October 2008. Inspired by Italian “horseshoe” theaters, yet conceived in an absolutely contemporary vernacular, The Broad Stage is an artist’s dream and an audience’s delight. Unlike any performance space in the country, it is sublimely intimate with 499-seats and strikingly grand at the same time – allowing eye contact with artists from the boxes to the back row –forging a new kind of artist and audience experience in Los Angeles. Theater, dance, film, operas, musicals, symphony and chamber orchestras will be presented on one of the city’s largest proscenium stages. Designed without compromise to embrace the artistic process from inspiration to opening night, and conceived as a global theater and community hub. In addition to The Broad Stage, The Edye Second Space, a smaller black box theater, presents new, developing and innovative work in theater, music and dance as part of the Under the Radar Series. Programming at The Edye is intentionally spontaneous, reflecting the dynamic nature of the space and allowing the latest, most exciting artists to be booked on short notice.

Visit The Broad Stage online at www.TheBroadStage.com.

Tickets: Range from \$59 - \$110*, available online at www.theBroadStage.com, 310.434.3200. Parking is free.

*Price includes a post-concert reception in the lobby with the Artists.

EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

The Broad Stage is located at 1310 11th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401

Performance Dates and Times:

Saturday 10-01-2011 7:30 PM

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