Brand New Series...
Grammy Award-Winners Dianne Reeves and Gregory Porter Headline San Diego Symphony’s New “Jazz @ The Jacobs;” San Diego Jazz Musician Gilbert Castellanos to Perform and Curate New Series; Begins Saturday, November 21

Among the musicians to be featured: saxophonist Tom Scott; drummer Roy McCurdy; pianists Joshua White, Helen Sung and Eric Reed; and the next generation of great San Diego jazz musicians—The Young Lions

Trumpeting and curating San Diego Symphony’s brand new jazz series is coincidentally none other than trumpeter Gilbert Castellanos, well-known San Diego jazz musician who will open three of the four Jazz @ The Jacobs concerts. Castellanos, a native of Los Angeles, has lived in San Diego for the past 20 years.

The first concert of the series which takes place at the Jacobs Music Center on Saturday, November 21 is Living Legends of Jazz + The Young Lions. This kickoff concert features many of the most experienced jazz musicians working across the country today including Mike Wofford, local pianist and music director for Sarah Vaughn and Ella Fitzgerald and the great Barbra Morrison, a favorite vocalist for Count Basie and Doc Severinsen. The kickoff also features Castellanos’ protégés, The Young Lions, the very best high school jazz musicians in San Diego County.

The star-studded second concert is Jazz Piano Masters: A Tribute to Thelonious Monk, Art Tatum and Bud Powell. It features Joshua White, second-place winner of the prestigious 2011 Thelonious Monk International competition, Downbeat Magazine “Rising Star” Helen Sung and frequent Wynton Marsalis collaborator Eric Reed. This tribute concert also includes Jazz at Lincoln Center drummer Willie Jones III and Terrence Blanchard Quintet bassist Rodney Whitaker. The evening culminates as four master pianists perform four hands per piano for the grand finale.
For the final two concerts in February and May, Jazz @ The Jacobs welcomes Grammy Award-winning vocalists Dianne Reeves and Gregory Porter, respectively. Reeves, who has won the Grammy Award for Best Jazz Vocal Performance for an unprecedented three years in a row, is the pre-eminent jazz vocalist in the world. Opening for Reeves is Gilbert Castellanos and the New Latin Jazz Quintet. Former San Diego State University student Gregory Porter closes the four-concert series in May. Porter is today’s top-selling Blue Note Records artist. The New York Times reported that Porter is “strong and sometimes experimental yet serenely unacademic, and mightily good.”

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Brand New Series—
Jazz @ The Jacobs
Presented by the San Diego Symphony*
Jacobs Music Center
750 B Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Tickets: $20-$65
Box Office: 619.235.0804
Website: www.sandiegosymphony.com
*San Diego Symphony does not perform on Jazz @ The Jacobs.

KICKOFF CONCERT: LIVING JAZZ LEGENDS + THE YOUNG LIONS
Saturday, November 21, 2015; 8pm
trumpet GILBERT CASTELLANOS alto saxophone CHARLES MCPHERSON vocals BARBARA MORRISON piano MIKE WOFFORD tenor saxophone / alto saxophone TOM SCOTT drums ROY MCCURDY bass HENRY “THE SKIPPER” FRANKLIN

San Diego Symphony’s brand new “Jazz @ The Jacobs” series gets off to an auspicious start with a concert featuring some of the most experienced and beloved working jazz musicians in America today. Appearing onstage together for the first time anywhere will be: alto saxophonist and Jazz Suite for Orchestra composer Charles McPherson, tenor saxophonist and film and TV music legend Tom Scott (in a very rare San Diego appearance), local pianist and music director (for Sarah Vaughn and Ella Fitzgerald) Mike Wofford, studio veteran bassist Henry “The Skipper” Franklin, Cannonball Adderley drummer Roy McCurdy and – straight from LA – the great Barbara Morrison, a favorite vocalist for Count Basie, Doc Severinsen and many others. The concert will open with a set from The Young Lions, a long-standing group of San Diego County’s very best high school jazz musicians. These kids, many of whom have earned scholarships to study jazz, will knock your socks off!
JAZZ PIANO MASTERS: A TRIBUTE TO THELONIOUS MONK, ART TATUM AND BUD POWELL
Saturday, January 23, 2016; 8pm
piano JOSHUA WHITE piano HELEN SUNG piano ERIC REED bass RODNEY WHITAKER drums WILLIE JONES III

Jazz piano takes center stage during the San Diego Symphony Orchestra’s Piano Festival as four of the brightest keyboard talents around come together for this unique tribute to the masters of piano jazz. Joining us will be San Diego superstar (and second place winner of the prestigious 2011 Thelonious Monk International Competition) Joshua White, Downbeat Magazine “Rising Star” Helen Sung and frequent Wynton Marsalis collaborator Eric Reed. Each of these fascinating artists will play a short set with our rhythm section for the evening, Jazz at Lincoln Center drummer Willie Jones III and Terence Blanchard Quintet bassist Rodney Whitaker, and then will come together with a special guest to perform on both of our Steinways, four hands per piano, for the grand finale!

DIANNE REEVES
Friday, February 19, 2016; 8pm
vocalist DIANNE REEVES trumpet GILBERT CASTELLANOS

Winner of the Grammy® Award for Best Jazz Vocal Performance for an unprecedented three years in a row, Dianne Reeves is the pre-eminent jazz vocalist in the world. Between world tours and recording with everyone from Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Berlin Philharmonic, she is one of the most visible jazz musicians around, and she’s coming to the Jacobs Music Center for one night only! The concert will open with a set from Gilbert Castellanos and the New Latin Jazz Quintet.

GREGORY PORTER
Saturday, May 7, 2016; 8pm
vocalist GREGORY PORTER trumpet GILBERT CASTELLANOS

Today’s top-selling Blue Note Records artist, jazz sensation Gregory Porter has gathered accolades from NPR (“The next great male jazz singer”), The New York Times (“strong and sometimes experimental yet serenely unacademic, and mightily good”) and Mojo (“Possessed of massive vocal power offset by a rich tone and delicate control”), among others. The charismatic California is about to go BIG, and you can see him LIVE on the Jazz @ The Jacobs season finale! The concert will open with a set from Gilbert Castellanos with an all-star quartet, paying tribute to Jimmy Smith and masters of the Hammond B3 Organ. # # #