

SFJAZZ COLLECTIVE

March/April 07 Availability

The SFJAZZ Collective is an all-star jazz ensemble comprising eight of the finest performer/composers at work in jazz today. Launched in 2004 by SFJAZZ—the West Coast's largest non-profit jazz institution and the presenter of the annual San Francisco Jazz Festival—the Collective has quickly become one of the most exciting and acclaimed groups on the American and international jazz scenes. As *The New York Times* hailed the Collective upon its debut: "A serious jazz band rises in San Francisco."

In addition to its stellar line-up (see below), the SFJAZZ Collective has been praised for its innovative approach to repertoire. Each year, the ensemble performs an entirely new list of works, consisting of compositions by a modern jazz master (in new octet arrangements by Grammy-winner Gil Goldstein) and one new piece by each of the eight Collective members (commissioned by SFJAZZ). Through this pioneering approach, simultaneously honoring jazz's recent history while championing the music's up-to-the-minute directions, the Collective embodies SFJAZZ's organizational commitment to jazz as a living, ever-changing, and ever-relevant art form.

The Collective also stands out among all-star ensembles for the cohesion among its members, including renowned saxophonist and Artistic Director Joshua Redman and vibes legend Bobby

Hutcherson. As Redman explains: "This is why we chose the name 'Collective.' Beyond each member's individual credentials as a world-class instrumentalist, composer, and band leader, I believe everyone shares the essential values of spontaneity, flexibility, and empathy, along with a firm commitment to an integrated group sound."

To cultivate its distinctive sound, the SFJAZZ Collective convenes in **San Francisco** each spring for a three-week **residency**. Throughout this extended rehearsal period—a rarity in today's jazz—the octet workshops the season's new repertoire and interacts with the Bay Area community through SFJAZZ's education programs. The Collective then takes to the performance stage, including **home season concerts under the auspices of the SFJAZZ Spring Season** and a **national and international tour**, with stops in a number of the world's most prominent concert halls. Following each year's season, SFJAZZ Records releases a deluxe, limited-edition CD set (available only from SFJAZZ) representing the Collective's full annual repertoire in concert. The Collective's music is available in wide distribution on the prestigious **Nonesuch** label, which releases a single-disc edition of each year's concert highlights.

"These musicians are among the most in-demand out there."

— *The New York Times*

BAND MEMBERS

"An international jazz dream team convenes in SF to compose original works and remix classics." — 7x7 (San Francisco)

"An extraordinarily high level of musicianship throughout." — Boston Globe

Led by Artistic Director **Joshua Redman**.

Bobby Hutcherson
vibraphones, marimba

Andre Hayward
trombone

Joshua Redman
tenor & soprano saxophones

Renee Rosnes
piano

Dave Douglas
trumpet

Matt Penman
bass

Miguel Zenón
alto saxophone, flute

Eric Harland
drums

REPERTOIRE

"We know they can play—that's a given. What's special is the progressive repertoire they have chosen to champion." — Variety

"The SFJAZZ Collective has quickly established itself as a viable new model for exploring jazz composition." — Boston Globe

- In addition to performing the band members' own new compositions, the Collective has focused each year on works by one of jazz's "modern master" composers: Ornette Coleman (2004), John Coltrane (2005), and Herbie Hancock (2006).
- **The Music of Monk:** In 2007, in addition to eight new original compositions, the Collective will perform works by legendary jazz pianist and bebop pioneer Thelonious Monk. "Monk's going to be a lot of fun for us, because Monk's music is so fun, with such an infectious sense of humor," Redman notes. "He's also going to be a tremendous challenge, partly because his music has been done so well by so many musicians who've come after him. We'll try to capture the essence of his music, but to do it in our own way."

TOURS

"Sheer, out-of-the-box musicality... revealed the joys and complexities of free improvising." — The Los Angeles Times

"The group was roaring with the kind of chemistry that could truly be deemed collective." — San Francisco Chronicle

- Touring is a key component of each season for the SFJAZZ Collective. In 2005, the ensemble made its first national tour, with performances in some of the U.S.'s most prestigious concert venues, including Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall, Chicago Symphony Hall, and Los Angeles' Walt Disney Concert Hall.
- In 2006, the Collective will undertake its first international tour, featuring a rare three-night run at Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall plus European dates in major cities such as London, Madrid, and Basel.
- For 2007, the Collective is booking its second annual international tour.

RECORDINGS

"As impressive a debut as we've heard in recent years, by a band who not only play like one, but who respect the jazz tradition enough to actually extend it with creativity, vision, and sensitivity in the current millennium." — All Music Guide (on 2005 Nonesuch Records release)

"A remarkable three-CD documentation." — Billboard/Reuters

- Each season, SFJAZZ produces a deluxe, limited-edition CD set of live performance recordings of the Collective's entire repertoire (eight originals and six works by a modern master) for that year; available only from SFJAZZ. In fall 2004, SFJAZZ released *Inaugural Season: Live 2004*, which the *San Jose Mercury News* listed as one of the year's "Top Ten," and *Variety* called **"sophisticated and unpredictable."** *Live 2005: 2nd Annual Concert Tour* was released in fall 2005 and in fall 2006, SFJAZZ will release a third CD set documenting live performances from the Collective's first international tour.
- In **March 2005**, the prestigious **Nonesuch** label released and distributed internationally a single CD, **SFJAZZ Collective**, comprised of highlights of the above-mentioned *Inaugural Season* CD set. "[A] **smashing disc**," wrote the *San Francisco Chronicle*. **"This music has bite and beauty."** In **March 2006** and **March 2007** Nonesuch is scheduled to release single CDs drawn from the Collective's 2005 and 2006 live recordings.



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