

SFJAZZ HONORS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

(San Francisco, CA, January 21, 2014) – SFJAZZ is proud to present an exciting array of programs in February highlighting the legacy of African spiritual traditions in our nation’s music. From the sounds of the civil rights era to John Coltrane’s *A Love Supreme*, SFJAZZ will honor the profound impact of African culture in the western musical landscape.

The SFJAZZ Koret Discover Jazz Course, *The Promised Land: Spiritual Traditions in African American Music*, with Instructor Linda Tillery is a 4-class series running Tuesday, February 4 until Tuesday, February 25, at the Jazz Heritage Center of San Francisco at 1320 Fillmore Street. From the Negro Spiritual to modern-day Gospel music, Field Hollers and Ring Shouts to Coltrane’s *A Love Supreme*, African American music has explored and embraced myriad forms of spirituality. In this special series in honor of Black History Month, the series will uncover centuries of history and musical innovation that highlight the spiritual traditions in our nation’s music. Taught by acclaimed vocalist and percussionist Linda Tillery and featuring live performances by several Bay Area musical treasures including saxophonist John Handy, this series takes place in the beautiful Lush Life Gallery at the Jazz Heritage Center of San Francisco, and celebrates incredible richness and diversity of the African American musical experience.

The SFJAZZ Family Matinee *Harriet Tubman & The Blues* featuring Marcus Shelby Quintet featuring Faye Carol will take place on Saturday, February 8 at 11:00am at the SFJAZZ Center at 201 Franklin Street in San Francisco. SFJAZZ Family Matinees are an engaging, entertaining and interactive musical experience. Bay Area bassist, bandleader and composer Marcus Shelby presents a musical tribute to freedom fighter, Civil War hero, and Women’s Suffrage champion Harriet Tubman. Marcus Shelby has extensively researched and developed music that pays homage to Harriet Tubman, inspired in part by her profound use of music to free herself and countless other slaves. Her musical tools included field cries, work songs, and spirituals. Shelby has created original compositions, rearranged and re-orchestrated spirituals, freedom songs and blues songs that illuminate the history and story of Ms. Tubman. Joining the Shelby Quintet is legendary soulful vocalist Faye Carol.

Following this SFJAZZ Family Matinee, Shelby will host “*Sounds of Freedom*” a Family Workshop at 12:15pm in the SFJAZZ Center’s Joe Henderson Lab. This interactive workshop is free to Matinee ticket holders and is limited to 65 participants. Sign-ups will take place in the SFJAZZ lobby prior to the matinee performance.

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