Jazz Great Dave Brubeck coming to Cal Poly Aug. 29

SAN LUIS OBISPO - Jazz piano icon Dave Brubeck is legendary for his joy in performing and daring improvisations.

On Friday, August 29 at 8 p.m. at the Christopher Cohan Center, Cal Poly Arts presents An Evening with Dave Brubeck featuring the Dave Brubeck Quartet performing classic and new cool jazz music, including their signature piece, "Take Five."

Cal Poly Arts presents Brubeck and his renowned group -- Bobby Militello (saxophone), Michael Moore (bass), and Randy Jones (drums) -- as part of the Cal Poly Arts popular celebrity Center Stage Summer series.

Released in March, their "Park Avenue South" CD was recorded in an intimate evening session in front of an exclusive audience in a Starbucks coffeehouse on Park Avenue in Manhattan.

"Throughout my years I have recorded in many different situations," says Brubeck in the liner notes. "Live in a night club, in a cathedral, in concert halls, and of course, in several different studios."

"This album of music," Brubeck continued, "performed so superbly by Bobby Militello, Michael Moore and Randy Jones, closely reflects the kind of program the quartet gives in concert - a mix of the familiar and the new, in what we hope you will find to be a stimulating brew (no pun intended) recorded live at Starbucks."

The release features new music and well-known standards, such as "Sunny Side of the Street," "Love for Sale," "Love Is Just Around the Corner," and "Slow Boat To China."

And according to reviewers, the compelling rendition of "Take Five" carries just as much of a syncopated jolt as the original recording of more than forty years ago, reminding listeners why Brubeck is still one of the most innovative jazz pianists of his generation.

Over his long career, Dave Brubeck has recorded with legendary jazz figures such as Louis Armstrong, Jimmy Rushing, and Carmen McRae, as well as current jazz "young lions" Roy Hargrove, Joshua Redman, and Christian McBride. An early experimenter in combining jazz with symphony orchestras, Brubeck continues to appear as composer-performer in concerts of his choral and symphonic compositions.
He celebrated is 80th birthday with the London Symphony Orchestra performing an all-Brubeck program.

For his musical contributions over the past half century as both pianist and composer, Brubeck was honored with a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.

A Jazz Masters Award was presented to Brubeck by the National Endowment for the Arts in recognition of his ongoing contribution to jazz, and he received the National Medal of the Arts from the NEA in a White House ceremony.

In 1996, Brubeck was inducted into the International Jazz Hall of Fame and he has received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Tickets for the Center Stage performance are $38 & $44 and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Center Ticket Office between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088.

Sponsoring Partners: Jim and Joan Sargen Program Partners: KCBX 90.1 FM; Charter Communications
Tickets are also on sale for the final Cal Poly Arts Center Stage Summer event at the Christopher Cohan Center: premier Broadway vocalist Audra McDonald on Friday, September 12.

For audio and video samples of all Cal Poly Arts events, including the new Cal Poly Arts 2003/04 performing arts series, please visit www.calpolyarts.org.

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