



Smithsonian Craft Show

Celebrating JAM ... Jazz Appreciation Month

LINKING JAZZ AND CRAFTS TO TELL THE AMERICAN STORY

April is Jazz Appreciation Month (JAM) and Smithsonian Craft Show month. Together with the National Museum of American History, the Smithsonian Craft Show presents a toe-tapping exhibition of the synergy between American Craft and American Jazz, two traditions deeply rooted in the life of the nation and celebrated around the world.



At Preview Night, the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Trio presents 30 years of American jazz history, highlighting artists represented in the Smithsonian jazz collections, and in the forthcoming Smithsonian Jazz Anthology. Preview Night patrons dine and shop to the thrilling sounds of Ellington, Carter, Basie, Davis and Monk.

The full Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra (SJMO) was founded in 1990 to bring jazz history to life for audiences around the world, using the museum's vast archival collection. SMJO has been hailed for its "vitality and skill" (Jazz Times), "crisp ensemble work," and "many gifted soloists". (Washington Post).

In a special JAM event, young performers from The Music Teaching Project (TMTP) perform on Friday evening and Saturday morning, engaging Craft Show visitors with a variety of tunes from Latin Jazz to straight ahead jazz. TMTP offers underserved DC students the chance to learn how to play musical instruments to to perform before an audience. Michael Anthony Bowie, TMTP's founder and executive director, is a composer, an internationally known bassist, a DC public school music teacher and a member of SMJO.

Proceeds from previous Craft Shows have supported the Museum's jazz programs and collections. The Smithsonian Women's Committee welcomes this collaboration and is delighted to present these performances.

For more information about Smithsonian Jazz, go to www.smithsonianjazz.org.

