Press Release
For immediate release
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Note to Editors: High-resolution photos available at http://uniontheater.wisc.edu/press/index.html

A SOURCE OF CONNECTIONS: THE GERALD CLAYTON TRIO BRIDGES JAZZ HISTORY

The Wisconsin Union Theater presents the Gerald Clayton Trio as part of its Isthmus Jazz Series on Saturday, April 6th, 8PM at the Town Center in Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery. Call the Box Office at 608-265-ARTS (2787) for more information. Tickets are: $20 General Public, $16 Union Members, UW-Madison Faculty & Staff, and non UW-Madison Students, $10 UW-Madison Students, $14 youths age 6-18 (up to two youth tickets with purchase of an adult ticket). Buy online, call the Box Office at 608-265-ARTS (2787), or purchase in person at the Campus Arts Ticketing box office in Vilas Hall, 821 University Ave.

Multi-Grammy Award nominee Gerald Clayton is the inheritor of a family jazz tradition. Both his father, John Clayton, and uncle, Jeff Clayton are jazz musicians whose collaborative album, Brother to Brother, was nominated for a Grammy in 2009. Gerald Clayton began studying the classical piano at seven and moved to jazz piano and composition in college. His work has been frequently recognized, having been honored with a Level 1 award by the National Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts (NFAA), the title “Presidential Scholar in the Arts,” as well as winning second place in the Thelonious Monk Institute Jazz Piano Competition.

Mercurynews.com says that there is “a century of rhythmic information, from Teddy Wilson to D’Angelo, echoing through [Clayton’s] introduction to ‘If I Were a Bell,’ the old standard.” The New York Times believes that Clayton has “the kind of approval from [jazz] historians that sometimes heralds a major career.” Gerald Clayton hopes to be open-minded, absorbing musical influences and creating a “harmonic whole...[blending] the various styles and sounds...into a balanced, tasteful musical language.”

Read more about Clayton in this preview by Wayne Corey.

This performance is sponsored by the Wisconsin Union Directorate’s Performing Arts Committee and Isthmus weekly and is supported in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the
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