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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 15, 2008**

Tickets & Information: 212/854-7799; www.millertheatre.com

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“Columbia’s Miller Theatre has singlehandedly made contemporary classical music sexy in New York City.” — *Time Out New York*

**MILLER THEATRE AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**

introduces its 20th Anniversary Season *Jazz* series with the first of four formidable jazz artists:

**Lewis Nash Quintet**

**Saturday, October 18, 8:00PM**

Single Tickets: \$25 • Students \$15 with valid ID

**Jazz**

New York’s jazz heart wasn’t always located downtown. Once upon a time it was found on 52<sup>nd</sup> Street and before that on 125<sup>th</sup>, and for many decades its most powerful radio voice has been WKCR-FM on the campus of Columbia University. Just a few yards away, Columbia’s Miller Theatre continues its focus on great jazz artists, collaborating closely with them on concerts the same way it does with Steve Reich or George Crumb. This season Miller’s *Jazz* series welcomes four luminaries and their groups to the stage—**Lewis Nash, Robert Glasper, James Carter, and Wycliffe Gordon.**

**Saturday, October 18, 8:00PM**

**LEWIS NASH QUINTET**

Renowned as a master stylist, **Lewis Nash** has been described as “perhaps the most talented drummer of his generation” by the *Biographical Encyclopedia of Jazz*. He can be heard on over 300 recordings (*Rhythm is My Business* is the title of his debut album as a leader), interjecting his own individual voice and energy into straightforward jazz with a jackrabbit-like technique. Ben Ratliff of *The New York Times* describes Nash as “a remarkably subtle, swinging drummer.” He continues to be the drummer of choice for an incredible array of artists, yet this concert spotlights him as bandleader.

**ARTISTS: Lewis Nash Quintet**

**Jeremy Pelt**, trumpet  
**Jimmy Greene**, saxophone  
**Renee Rosnes**, piano  
**Dezron Douglas**, bass  
**Lewis Nash**, drums

**BIOS:** Born in Arizona, **LEWIS NASH** developed an early interest in music and began playing drums at age 10. In 1981, Nash moved to New York City and joined the trio of Betty Carter. He is featured on three of her recordings, including the Grammy-winning *Look What I Got*. Bassist Ron Carter hired Nash in 1984. In 1986, saxophonist Branford Marsalis asked Lewis to join his quartet. That association spanned two years and several continents, and is documented on Marsalis’s Grammy-nominated recording *Random Abstract*. In 1988, Nash joined the Don Pullen/George Adams quartet, and in 1989 he toured with saxophonist Sonny Rollins. He also performed with Stan Getz, Art Farmer, Clark Terry, and Milt Jackson. From 1990 to 2000, Lewis was a member of the Tommy Flanagan Trio. During this period, Nash also toured and recorded with the Carnegie Hall Jazz Band

and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. His impressive discography (over 300 recordings) includes projects with jazz legends Dizzy Gillespie, Oscar Peterson, Benny Carter, Hank Jones, John Lewis, Diana Krall, Joe Lovano, and Roy Hargrove. Demonstrating his stylistic diversity, Nash is also featured on recordings by Natalie Cole, Bette Midler, Nancy Wilson, Kenny Rankin, Melissa Manchester, and George Michael. Currently, while he continues to collaborate with a wide variety of artists, Nash leads several of his own exciting groups.

## ***Upcoming 2008-2009 Jazz Concerts at Miller***

Single Tickets: \$25 • Subscription: \$80

### **Saturday, November 22, 8:00PM**

#### **ROBERT GLASPER TRIO**

The young progressive jazz pianist **Robert Glasper**'s music is filled with flowing harmonies, emotional reverence, and hip-hop intensity. His variety of musical energy is exemplified in a diverse list of collaborators—he has worked with such stars as Bruce Hornsby, Stevie Wonder, and Mos Def. He made his major label debut in 2005 with *Canvas* on Blue Note Records. This “Rising Star of Acoustic Piano” (2007 *Downbeat* magazine’s critics’s poll) and his trio make their Miller Theatre debut.

### **Saturday, February 7, 8:00PM**

#### **JAMES CARTER ORGAN TRIO**

The *Los Angeles Times* called him “the Jimi Hendrix of the saxophone,” and *JazzTimes* described him as “one of the most exciting young virtuosos in contemporary music.” With such accolades, numerous recordings, and stellar collaborations, **James Carter** has made a name for himself. He made his New York debut with Lester Bowie’s Organ Ensemble, and fittingly comes to Miller with his organ trio, featuring drummer Leonard King and Gerard Gibbs on the Hammond B3, and special guest vocalist Miché Braden.

### **Saturday, February 21, 8:00PM**

#### **WYCLIFFE GORDON: IN THE CROSS**

Trombonist **Wycliffe Gordon** is back by popular demand to recreate one of his most popular albums, *In the Cross*, a collection of soul-stirring arrangements of beloved hymns and spirituals. The son of a piano teacher and church organist, Gordon’s childhood in Georgia was steeped in religion and music. His aunt was an avid jazz fan who passed her large record collection on to young Wycliffe, instilling in him a passion for such early jazz masters as Louis Armstrong. Today his jazz gospel interpretations draw on these deep roots.

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*Columbia University’s Miller Theatre is located north of the Main Campus Gate  
at 116th St. & Broadway on the ground floor of Dodge Hall.*

For tickets, the public should call the Miller Theatre Box Office at 212/854-7799, M–F, 12–6PM.  
Tickets can also be purchased online at [www.millertheatre.com](http://www.millertheatre.com).

For further information, press tickets, and to arrange interviews,  
please contact Aleba Gartner Associates at 212/206-1450 or [a@alebagartner.com](mailto:a@alebagartner.com).

For photos, please contact Lauren Bailey at 212/854-2382 or [lrb2113@columbia.edu](mailto:lrb2113@columbia.edu).

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Major support for Miller Theatre’s 20th Anniversary Season is provided by  
The Reed Foundation, Inc., the Peter Jay Sharp Foundation, and the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust.

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