



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, February 20, 2007

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### **Library to Screen Part of Ken Burns Documentary on the Birth of Jazz**

**SAN DIEGO** – The City of San Diego Public Library will present a partial screening of the Ken Burns film *Jazz, Episode 1: Gumbo, Beginnings to 1917* on Sunday, March 18, at 2:00 p.m. This free event will be held in the third floor auditorium at the Central Library, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego. The viewing and discussion will be moderated by Professor Jerry Fenwick, who teaches jazz at San Diego City College. Essays written by eminent scholars and an extensive resource guide for additional reading, Web sites, videos and DVDs will be available to participants.

This program, entitled “New Orleans and the Origins of Jazz,” will kick off the library’s six-part documentary film viewing and discussion series “Looking At: Jazz, America’s Art Form.” Jazz emerged in the late 1800s in the cosmopolitan port city of New Orleans. A former colony of both France and Spain, the coastal city was home to an astounding variety of cultures and people, making it fertile ground for the birth of an art form. Despite the recent devastation of Hurricane Katrina, the legacy of New Orleans and jazz survives and continues to thrive.

“Looking At: Jazz” explores the history of jazz, an art form that evolved in the 20<sup>th</sup> century to occupy a unique place in American cultural history. The six events will be held from March through May 2007. The series is a project of Re:New Media in partnership with the American Library Association and Jazz at Lincoln Center, with major funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and support from San Diego State University and KSDS. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily reflect those of the National Endowment for the Humanities. More information about the program is available at <http://www.nvr.org/lookingatjazz>.

Additional jazz-related events will be held by the San Diego Public Library and its local partnering institutions in this venture, San Diego State University’s School of Music and Dance, which has the largest jazz studies program in California, and KSDS Jazz 88.3, San Diego’s premier jazz radio station, affiliated with San Diego City College.

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[www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org)

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## Other “Looking At: Jazz” Programs

Each program will last about two hours, including a 15-to-20 minute introductory presentation, one hour of viewing, and a 45-minute discussion. Programs will be moderated by local jazz scholars. These free events will be held in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego.

- April 1 at 2 p.m.: The Jazz Age and Harlem as a Center for Jazz

Films: *Harlem Renaissance: The Music & Rhythms That Started a Cultural Revolution* (Marino Amoruso, 2003)

Excerpts from *Ken Burns Jazz, Episode 2: The Gift, 1917-1924* (Ken Burns, 2000)

- April 22 at 2 p.m.: The Jazz Swing Era

Film: *Benny Goodman: Adventures in the Kingdom of Swing* (Oren Jacoby, 1993)

- April 29 at 2 p.m.: Jazz Vocalists

Film: *Lady Day: The Many Faces of Billie Holiday* (Matthew Seig, 1991)

- May 6 at 2 p.m.: Jazz Innovators: From Bebop, to Hard Bop, to Cool and More

Film: *Celebrating Bird: The Triumph of Charlie Parker* (Gary Giddens, 1987)

- May 20 at 2 p.m.: Latin Jazz and Jazz as an International Music

Film: Excerpts from *A Night in Havana: Dizzy Gillespie in Cuba* (John Holland, 1988)

### Affiliated Events

(All events are free and open to the public unless indicated otherwise)

#### San Diego Public Library

Sun., Mar. 25, 2:30 p.m., Central Library, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor auditorium

Concert: Richard Thompson, jazz piano

Wed., May 9, 7:00 p.m., Pacific Beach Branch Library

Concert: Featuring Lori Bell, jazz flute

Sat., June 9, 12:00 p.m., Beckwourth Branch Library

Film: *A Night in Havana: Dizzy Gillespie in Cuba*

#### Jazz Concerts at San Diego State University

Sat., Mar. 17, 2:00 p.m., SDSU Jazz Orchestra with guest artist Pete Christlieb, saxophone, Smith Recital Hall.

Admission: \$12.00, general; \$8.00, all students

Tues., Mar. 20, 6:00 p.m., SDSU Jazz Combo I, Smith Recital Hall

Mon., Apr. 23, 12:00 p.m., SDSU Jazz Combo II, Smith Recital Hall

Mon., Apr. 23, 6:00 p.m., SDSU Jazz Orchestra, Smith Recital Hall. Admission: \$10.00

Mon., Apr. 23, 7:30 p.m., SDSU Jazz Orchestra, Smith Recital Hall. Admission: \$10.00

Tues., Apr. 24, 7:00 p.m., SDSU Jazz Ensemble, Smith Recital Hall

Wed., Apr. 25, 12:00 p.m., SDSU Jazz Combo III, Smith Recital Hall

Wed., Apr. 25, 7:00 p.m., SDSU Jazz Combo I, Smith Recital Hall

Thurs., Apr. 26, 7:00 p.m., SDSU Jazz Combos IV and V, Smith Recital Hall

#### KSDS, Jazz 88.3

Sat., Mar. 17, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., California Music Educators Jazz Festival, featuring middle schools & high schools, Saville Theater, City College

Tues., Apr. 10, 8:00 p.m.: David "Fathead" Newman, Jazz Live, Saville Theater, City College. \$10 general admission; free to Jazz 88.3 members.

Thurs., Apr. 19, 5:00-8:00 p.m.: KSDS Listener Happy Hour, Park Manor Suites Hotel, 525 Spruce St., Hillcrest

Tues., May 8, 8:00 p.m.: Jazz Live, Saville Theater, City College. Artists to be announced. \$10 general admission; free to Jazz 88.3 members.

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