



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 17, 2012

- WHAT:** Fall Fest @ The FAC  
**CHICK COREA & GARY BURTON**  
Hot House Tour  
with Harlem String Quartet
- WHEN:** Saturday, October 20 at 8 p.m.
- WHERE:** Fine Arts Center Concert Hall, Chamber Seating  
University of Massachusetts Amherst
- TICKETS:** Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or go online to  
<http://www.fineartscenter.com/>
- IMAGES:** To download images relating to this press release please go online  
to <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/article/Images>

**JAZZ LEGENDS CHICK COREA AND GARY BURTON  
BRING THEIR HOT HOUSE TOUR TO THE FINE ARTS CENTER CONCERT HALL**

*"One of jazz's most celebrated collaborations."*

- Los Angeles Times

On Saturday, October 20 at 8 p.m., in the intimate setting of chamber seating at the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall, the FAC presents the remarkable partnership between two of jazz's longest-standing musical pioneers: Chick Corea and Gary Burton, performing material from their new album *Hot House*, recently released on September 4. They'll offer their unique stew of "standards": pieces by composers from Kurt Weill and Antônio Carlos Jobim to Thelonious Monk and Lennon & McCartney. The celebrated duo also adds the Harlem String Quartet, expanding their legendary chamber-jazz repertoire with Chick's composition "Mozart Goes Dancing" and classic Chick & Gary tunes. The concert's ticket price includes a \$15 donation to support tickets for kids as part of the FAC's Global Performances program for K-12 student performances. And ticket holders will also enjoy a pre- and post-show party on the plaza with appetizers, live entertainment, and a cash bar. The tent opens at 6:30p.m.

The public is invited to a free listening party on Monday, October 1, at 7 p.m., at Esselon Café in Hadley where New England Public Radio's Jazz à la Mode host Tom Reney will discuss

Corea's and Burton's classic recording, *Crystal Silence*, and their subsequent collaborations. He'll also touch on earlier piano and vibraphone recordings by Lionel Hampton, Oscar Peterson, Bill Evans, and Eddie Costa.

Then, on Monday, October 8 at 7 p.m. in the Amherst Cinema, New England Public Radio presents the first installment of its Jazz à la Mode Film Series with the poignant documentary on the life of jazz trumpeter and vocalist Chet Baker, *Let's Get Lost*, a fascinating series of interviews with friends, family, associates and lovers, interspersed with film from Baker's earlier life and some of his final performances. The film will be augmented with live music by UMass jazz quartet Free-for-All and commentary by NEPR Jazz à la Mode host Tom Reney. Tickets for the showing are available online at [www.amherstcinema.org](http://www.amherstcinema.org) or at the Amherst Cinema box office. The film, discussion, and entertainment is presented in collaboration with New England Public Radio and the Amherst Cinema. The evening's music is sponsored by the Davis Financial Group.

An NEA Jazz Master, 18-time Grammy winner, prolific composer and undisputed keyboard virtuoso, Chick Corea has attained living legend status after four decades of unparalleled creativity and an artistic output that is simply staggering. From straight ahead to avant-garde, bebop to fusion, children's songs to chamber music, along with some far-reaching forays into symphonic works, Since embarking on a solo career in 1966, Chick has been at the forefront of jazz, both as a renowned pianist forging new ground with his acoustic jazz bands and as an innovative electric keyboardist with Return to Forever and the Elektric Band.

Self-taught on vibes, Gary Burton developed a remarkable four-mallet technique that brought the vibes into a new era following the swinging contributions of such two-mallet pioneers as Lionel Hampton, Red Norvo, and Milt Jackson. Burton broke in with country guitarist Hank Garland when he was 17, appearing alongside drummer Joe Morello and bassist Joe Benjamin on Garland's groundbreaking 1961 RCA recording *Jazz Winds from a New Direction*. He toured with pianist George Shearing's quintet in 1963 and later gained notoriety with tenor saxophonist Stan Getz's piano-less quartet from 1964 to 1966 (appearing on 1964's bossa nova outings *Getz Au Go Go with Astrud Gilberto* and *Getz/Gilberto #2*).

Speaking of his longstanding collaboration with Burton, Corea told *Digital Interviews* in 1999, "Me and Gary continue to just play. It's always been, 'Oh, let's do another gig.' There never was a point where ... we reformed. It's always been a sideline with us, in the sense that we've always had main groups that we do, and then we've always gotten together with the duet. It's kind of worked out very, very nicely. It's a special little place that's all its own."

Burton wrote about the longstanding duet on his web site: "No one understands the idiosyncrasies of my improvising the way Chick does. We discovered an immediate connection, like two people who speak the same obscure language. It could be because we both play keyboard instruments, or because we both came of age musically in Boston with many of the same local musicians as mentors. Whatever the reason, we discovered from the beginning that we could anticipate each other's ideas with surprising accuracy, and our duet repertoire has been an essential pillar in our careers."

For their FAC performance, the duo spices its revered melodious adventures by bringing in the Harlem String Quartet, expanding their legendary chamber-jazz repertoire on "Mozart

Goes Dancing” and other tunes. The Harlem String Quartet, praised for its “panache” by *The New York Times*, is currently the resident ensemble in the New England Conservatory of Music’s Professional String Quartet Program. Its mission is to advance diversity in classical music while engaging young and new audiences through the discovery and presentation of varied repertoire, highlighting works by minority composers.

Tickets for the Hot House Tour are \$55, \$50, and \$25; Five College, GCC, STCC students and youth 17 and under are \$15. The ticket price includes a \$15 donation to support tickets for kids as part of the FAC’s Global Performances program for K-12 student performances. For tickets call the Box Office at 545-2511, toll-free at 800-999-UMAS, or purchase online at [fineartscenter.com](http://fineartscenter.com). The performance is sponsored by United Personnel, Pioneer Valley Periodontics, Baystate Health, *The Daily Hampshire Gazette*, New England Public Radio, and the Amherst Cinema; special grant support has been provided by NEFA.

## **PHOTOS**

Hi-res photos available for download: <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/article/Images>.

## **PRESS PASSES**

Limited press passes are available. Please contact Shawn Farley at 413-545-4159 or [sfarley@admin.umass.edu](mailto:sfarley@admin.umass.edu).

## **ABOUT THE FAC**

The Fine Arts Center, located on the UMass Amherst campus, is a presenter of music, dance, theater and the visual arts, bringing hundreds of outstanding and provocative artists to the Pioneer Valley for over 35 years.

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