



NEWS RELEASE

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- WHAT:** MILES DAVIS AND THE BLUE FLAME INCIDENT FEATURING THE METTA QUINTET
- WHEN:** Tuesday, March 5, at 7:30 p.m.
- WHERE:** Bowker Auditorium
University of Massachusetts Amherst
- TICKETS:** \$15; Five College, GCC, STCC students and youth 17 and under are \$7. 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 **IMAGES:** To download images relating to this press release please go online to <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/PressRoom>

THE METTA QUINTET OFFER INFORMANCE ON MILES DAVIS AND THE BLUE FLAME INCIDENT

What's an informance? It's a performance that is also a bit more informative. On Tuesday, March 5th at 7:30 p.m., JazzReach, a jazz education organization out of NYC, will bring the Metta Quintet to Bowker Auditorium to further educate our ears. And what better subject than Miles Davis? This exciting, live multi-media "informance" celebrates the groundbreaking achievements of the iconic trumpeter, bandleader, and cultural provocateur that includes live narration, demonstration, integrated video projections, live music and a post-show Q&A with the artists. The Metta Quintet features H. Benjamin Schuman, drums and founder of JazzReach, Inc.; David Bryant, piano; Marcus Strickland, tenor saxophone; Greg Ward, alto saxophone; Joshua Ginsburg, bass

Using both, jazz history, and 20th-century American history as a backdrop, Miles Davis and the Blue Flame Incident (which alludes to one of Davis' earliest childhood memories) will engage, inform, and enlighten audiences about one of the most compelling, infinitely creative, and trailblazing artists the world has ever known. The program traverses Davis' extensive career and features music from some of his most

creatively fertile periods, including his controversial divergence into electric music in the late 1960s.

The Metta Quintet is the official resident ensemble of JazzReach Performing Arts & Education Association, Inc. In addition to fulfilling the organization's endeavors in arts education, it's dedicated exclusively to commissioning, recording, and performing all-new works. The Metta Quintet is in the vanguard of contemporary music ensembles as a unique, dynamic voice committed to exploring exciting new artistic territory and the infinite boundaries of the live jazz experience.

Established in 1994, JazzReach is a nationally recognized New York City-based not-for-profit organization dedicated to the promotion, performance, creation and teaching of jazz music. Through the presentation of innovative, widely acclaimed live multi-media educational programs for young audiences, captivating main-stage concerts for general audiences and informative clinics and master-classes for student musicians and ensembles, JazzReach is steadfastly dedicated to fostering a greater appreciation, awareness and understanding of this rich, vital, ever-evolving American art form. It has developed a unique and diverse repertoire of substantive, high quality live educational programs for young and adult audiences. All of JazzReach's educational programs are highly immersive and interactive and are as entertaining as they are informative and actively engage audiences in an analysis of the cultural factors that have come together to make jazz such a compelling art form, the social conditions that shaped the music's development and the immense impact jazz has had on the sound and evolution of indigenous American music.

Tickets for the Miles Davis and the Blue Flame Incident featuring the Metta Quintet at Bowker Auditorium are \$15; Five College, GCC, STCC students and youth 17 and under are \$7. For tickets call the Box Office at 545-2511, toll-free at 800-999-UMAS, or purchase online at fineartscenter.com. This event is sponsored by New England Public Radio, Amherst Cinema, UMass Hotel and The Davis Financial Group, LLC.

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.

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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