

Coral Gables Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



Community Arts Program

2010 Summer Concert Series
25th Anniversary Season!

NICHOLAS PAYTON

Thursday, July 29, 2010, at 8:00 p.m.
Coral Gables Congregational Church



“Abundantly gifted ... stunning, clear, inventive [and] dramatic.” - *The New York Times*

NICHOLAS PAYTON made his recording debut in 1994 as a leader with *From This Moment*. Since then, the trumpeter has been lauded as a significant, top-tier voice in jazz. Even though he started out as a "young lion of jazz," heralded as one of the new-generation guardians of the hard bop flame, Payton consistently committed himself to discovering his voice outside of the strict confines of that rearview mirror approach to the music.

Born into a musical family (he remembers sitting under the piano while his father rehearsed with his band) and mentored by two Crescent City jazz masters (Clyde Kerr Jr. at the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts and Ellis Marsalis at the University of New Orleans), Payton was well-prepared to leap into the jazz fray when he emerged on the New York scene in the early 1990s. He impressed fellow New Orleans native and Jazz at Lincoln Center Artistic Director Wynton Marsalis, and Payton was a regular in the early years of programming at the institution. Payton went on to put his own spin on Louis Armstrong-associated music on his sophomore CD, the appropriately-titled 1995 disc, *Gumbo Nouveau*. While over the next several years, Payton continued to hone his craft working with such jazz legends as Doc Cheatham (on their Grammy Award-winning 1997 eponymous duo), Hank Jones, Elvin Jones, and Ray Brown, in 2003 he boldly moved beyond the straight-ahead. He shocked the jazz world with his adventurous CD *Sonic Trance*, an exhilarating plugged-in outing infused with elements of hip-hop, electronica, and effects-driven trumpeting.

While his jazz journey has taken him down many roads - from heritage artist to electric experimenter - the 34-year-old trumpeter arrives at a new plateau of jazz maturity with *Into the Blue*, his ninth album and his first for Nonesuch.

Press Only - Contact Person, Phone, & Email:

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