

Media Release

For Immediate Release: July 14th, 2008

The Markham Jazz Festival 2008 *"Up Close and Personal"* with NIMMONS 'N' BRAID

Presented by: Mercedes-Benz

Thursday, August 14th, 2008

7:00 – Drinks & Hors D'oeuvres - 7:30 Concert

Frederick H. Varley Art Gallery

Markham, ON - The Markham Jazz Festival, now in its 11th year, presents a unique *"Up Close and Personal"* showcase combining the talents of **NIMMONS 'N' BRAID** with delicious wine and hors d'oeuvres and great prizes.

Taking place in the intimate atmosphere of the Frederick Horsman Varley Art Gallery located in Unionville this performance promises to be an intimate showcase with **NIMMONS 'N' BRAID**, who are capping their national summer tour with a finale at this exclusive event. Jazz lovers will not only be able to see and hear this spectacular duo perform, but also have the opportunity to meet the artists before and after the performance.



If any two people represent the past, present and future of Canadian jazz, it has to be the inspired duo of clarinetist and "Canada's Dean of Jazz", Phil Nimmons and the gifted young pianist and recent Juno winner, David Braid. Together, the experienced master and young gifted player perform vibrant, instantaneous creations, underscored by fierce talent and an unspoken, intuitive rapport.

With a career spanning over six decades as a jazz clarinetist, composer and educator, **PHIL NIMMONS** is a major figure in Canadian jazz. The internationally recognized jazz master had his own radio show on CBC during the 50s, and as leader of his legendary group Nimmons 'N' Nine (later expanded to Nimmons

'N' Nine plus Six), received the first JUNO award ever given in the jazz category for the group's The Atlantic Suite recording. He was also made an Officer of the Order of Canada, and is the recipient of a Governor General's Award, the highest civilian award, for his contributions to Canadian music! To top things off, Phil celebrated his eighty-fifth birthday this year! While many his age would be long into retirement, Nimmons is working as hard as ever. "I'm not fussy about retiring. It's a word I have trouble spelling, let alone accepting!"

DAVID BRAID has accomplished an incredible amount in his 33 years. Acclaimed as one of Canada's most gifted young jazz pianists and composers (CBC), and as a "jazz genius to call our own" (Macleans), Braid is a Juno Award winner, National Jazz Award recipient, and has performed extensively across Canada, Europe, Australia, Korea, Japan, China and other parts of Asia. "Braid has accomplished much for someone still in the early stages of a career. He has been evolving so quickly that he doesn't just need to be watched--he needs to be watched closely." (allaboutjazz.com).

The Markham Jazz Festival 2008

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Frederick H. Varley Art Gallery - UNIONVILLE

INFO: contactus@markhamjazzfestival.com
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TICKETS: \$65
Email: contactus@markhamjazzfestival.com
Paypal: <http://markhamjazzfestival.com/upclose.php>
Call: 905-471-5299 to order directly

FESTIVAL <http://www.markhamjazzfestival.com>
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