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JAG: Jessica Fagan  
614.294.5200, x 110  
[jfagan@jazzartsgroup.org](mailto:jfagan@jazzartsgroup.org)

*Electronic images available upon request.*

## **SAXOPHONE LEGEND DAVID 'FATHEAD' NEWMAN JOINS LOCAL TRIO FOR SECOND INSTALLMENT IN *JAZZ ON THE AVENUE* SERIES**

Columbus, Ohio – *Jazz on the Avenue*, co-presented by the Jazz Arts Group and the King Arts Complex, continues its season of small group jazz concerts with “Fathead & Fatback!” featuring David “Fathead” Newman and The Tony Monaco Trio on Saturday, November 11 at 8:00pm at the King Arts Complex Theatre, 867 Mount Vernon Avenue.

*Jazz on the Avenue* presents a night of gritty soul, straight-ahead jazz and fiery blues with soul jazz legend David “Fathead” Newman and the explosive Tony Monaco Trio. Newman was a star saxophonist in the Ray Charles Band for twelve years and has 39 recordings as a leader to his credit, while Tony Monaco’s fierce playing on the Hammond B3 organ has put him on a meteoric rise into the national jazz scene.

*Jazz on the Avenue*, formerly known as the *Firehouse Jazz* series, is co-presented by the Jazz Arts Group and the King Arts Complex, and presents a mixture of the finest local and national jazz musicians in small ensembles, offering an intimate experience for concertgoers. The new name ties the series to its location at the King Arts Complex Theatre on Mount Vernon Avenue – once called “The Avenue” – and to the history of jazz in Columbus, when jazz clubs dotted the city’s Near Eastside from the 1920s through the ‘60s.

Single tickets (\$25/\$15 for KAC members) are available for purchase from the Jazz Arts Group online at [www.jazzartsgroup.org](http://www.jazzartsgroup.org) or by phone at 614.294.5200. Single tickets are also available through the King Arts Complex (614.645.0642) or online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). Student Rush \$10 tickets (valid college ID required) and Be-Bop Balcony \$5 tickets (ages 6-18) are available at the door.

The *Jazz on the Avenue* series continues January 27, 2007 with Byron Stripling and the Columbus Jazz All-Stars. A complete schedule can be found online at [www.jazzartsgroup.org](http://www.jazzartsgroup.org).

### **More about David “Fathead” Newman**

*“His tone is warm and resonant, his phrasing unfussy and his harmonic finesse allows him to effortlessly bridge R&B and jazz traditions.”* – The Washington Post

Perhaps most well-known because of his twelve years spent in the Ray Charles Band, David “Fathead” Newman’s success as a sideman and leader comes thanks in part to his deep, wide-open tone, his versatility as a player and his identifiable sound. Though brought up as a bebopper,

Newman notes it wasn't so acceptable in his home state of Texas to play straight-ahead jazz, so he learned to play rhythm and blues, which was much more prevalent. Newman played as a young man with fellow Texans Ornette Coleman (a childhood friend) and Buster Smith (Charlie Parker's mentor), then joined bluesman Lowell Fulson's band. Newman met Ray Charles on a gig and the two bonded musically and as friends. When Charles started his own band in 1954, he called on Newman to be part of the group, beginning a twelve year association with the Ray Charles Band as the star tenor soloist. Newman also established a solid reputation for himself outside Charles' long shadow, throughout his career recording as a leader and a sideman with Jimmy McGriff, Herbie Mann, Aretha Franklin, Aaron Neville, B.B. King, Joe Cocker, Eric Clapton and Natalie Cole, among many others. Newman and Charles remained close friends, and just a few weeks after Charles' death, Newman recorded *I Remember Brother Ray*, which reached #1 on the JazzWeek airplay charts and was named JazzWeek's 2005 Record of the Year. His most recent release is *Cityscape* on HighNote Records.

#### More about Tony Monaco

*"Monaco explodes in a climactic style.... Exuberance, skillful dynamics and galvanic solo construction are this organ trio's assets...."* – JazzTimes

Tony Monaco's incredible talent and unbridled energy at the keyboard have made him one of the country's biggest stars on the Hammond B3 organ. Monaco has made *DownBeat* magazine's Critics' Polls and Readers' Polls every year since 2003, and has also been voted into the *JazzTimes* Readers' Poll since 2003. Monaco has six critically-acclaimed releases to his credit and upcoming tours in the U.S., Europe and Indonesia. Mentored by jazz organ legends Jimmy Smith, Hank Marr and Don Patterson, Monaco has performed and recorded with fellow jazz organist Joey DeFrancesco, and has performed with Ron Carter, Lewis Nash, John Faddis, Red Holloway and Sonny Fortune, among others. Monaco is in-demand as a clinician and private instructor, and has given jazz organ clinics locally and across North America, including at the 2003 International Association of Jazz Educators conference in Toronto, Canada. Monaco's latest release is *East to West* on Chicken Coup Records.

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The Jazz Arts Group advances America's musical art form through performance, education, support of professional musicians and by commissioning new works. The Jazz Arts Group receives ongoing support from the Ohio Arts Council, the Greater Columbus Arts Council, and The Columbus Foundation.

The mission of The King Arts Complex is to enrich and improve the quality of life in our community and society, creating enhanced understanding and harmony by preserving, presenting and fostering the contributions of African Americans through creative expression and education.