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Guitarists Shine at Summertime Jazz Concert

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New Recordings 

These two new CDs feature Bill Purse, chair of guitar and chair of music technology, and faculty colleagues.

Sonic Art

Bill Purse served as composer, arranger, producer and audio engineer on this recording, on which he can be heard playing a variety of instruments, including digital and acoustic six-, twelve- and seven-string guitars, fretless guitar, synthesizer, virtual guitar, Koscillator, Theremin, E-bow, digital and acoustic percussion, and electric bass.

Toot Suite Revisited

This new recording features trumpet virtuoso Sean Jones in a beautiful performance of this demanding jazz masterpiece with superb support from faculty members Bill Purse (bass) and David Cutler (piano), along with Bill Kuhn (drum set).

Release date: February 2010

For ordering information, contact Bill Purse at maestrobp@aol.com.



Guitarists Shine at Summertime Jazz Concert

Guitarists Diane Ponzio, Bucky Pizzarelli, Joe Negri, Jimmy Bruno and Howard Paul were among the featured performers at Duquesne's annual Summertime Jazz concert.

Organized by the Guitar Department, the concert, which took place July 7, 2009, showcased the guitarists, many of whom come to campus as clinicians during the annual Guitar and Bass Workshop. They joined other musicians, including Billy Kuhn, Brian Stahurski and the Dwayne Dolphin Piccolo Bass Band.

WDUQ-FM's Tony Mowod served as master of ceremonies at the concert, which included the presentation of a Lifetime Achievement Award to Christopher Martin, the CEO of Martin Guitar Company (see story, p.4).



Dwayne Dolphin leads his Piccolo Bass Band at the most recent Summertime Jazz concert.

Sean Jones Performs at White House

Trumpeter Sean Jones, assistant professor of jazz studies, was among a team of jazz greats invited to present music workshops at the White House on June 15, 2009.

First Lady Michelle Obama invited Jones, along with jazz experts Wynton, Branford and Ellis Marsalis, to kick off the White House Music Series, an initiative designed to demonstrate the importance of arts education and renew artistic creativity while showcasing artists performing, educating and interacting with young people.

About 150 youths, middle and high school instrumental students from sponsoring organizations, participated. The jazz studio workshop themes included American history and jazz, the syntax of jazz, the blues experience and jazz, and Duke Ellington and

swing. After the workshops, Mrs. Obama delivered remarks, and the event ended with a concert.

The White House is planning similar events focusing on country and classical music.



(Left to right) Sean Jones, First Lady Michelle Obama, Wynton Marsalis and Branford Marsalis at the White House Music Series.