

Contact: Greg Langel
Media and Marketing Manager
412-371-0600 ext 524
GLangel@TheFrickPittsburgh.org

For Immediate Release

FIRST FRIDAYS AT THE FRICK PRESENTS

WHITE TIE GROUP

Ensemble composed of PSO musicians ends summer concert series on a jazzy note



Date/time: Friday, September 3, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Admission: A donation of \$5 per adult is suggested.

PITTSBURGH, PA, August 19, 2010—The final concert of the 2010 season of *First Fridays at the Frick* summer concerts series features **White Tie Group**, a jazz ensemble composed of Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra musicians **Harold Smoliar** (English horn), piano; **Don Evans**, bass; and **Andy Reamer** (percussion), drums. The Friday, September 3 performance at the Frick takes place on the Great Lawn beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Guests are invited to come early and create a gourmet picnic with selections from the award-winning Café at the Frick, which begins serving at 5:30 p.m. The Frick Art Museum, Car and Carriage Museum and Museum Shop will remain open until 10:00 p.m. Admission to museums is always free. Free parking is available in the Frick's off-street lot, or along adjacent neighborhood streets.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

White Tie Group, formerly known as Symphony Jazz Trio, has evolved into its present form over the last 20 years. Always comprising members of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the single constant has been Harold Smoliar, the English hornist of the PSO and the pianist of White Tie Group.

Formed originally as a diversion, the trio has become an ongoing concern in Pittsburgh jazz spots such as The Rhythm House, the Reservoir Jazz series in Highland Park, The Balcony in Shadyside (before its closing), and Citiparks Courtyard Jazz series at the City-County Courthouse in downtown Pittsburgh. White Tie Group has been featured with and has also accompanied acclaimed jazz trumpeter Arturo Sandoval on the Pittsburgh Pops series. In addition, WTG has performed with clarinetist Richard Stolzman on Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Subscription concerts. In August 1999, the group opened for Ray Charles at Heinz Hall and performed at the Mayernik Center in Avonworth Park in the summers of 1999 and 2000, as well as the Neville Island summer park series. In July 2002, they performed at the Frick Art & Historical Center as part of the *Music for Exhibitions* series. White Tie Group has also performed as part of the chamber music series at Rodef Shalom in Pittsburgh and at Waynesburg College.

White Tie Group has produced two CDs—*Somewhere Over Neverland* and *Plays Well With Others*. Additional information regarding White Tie Group is available at www.whitetiegrou.com.

Harold Smoliar (piano) was born in Philadelphia and lived the first 20 years of his life there, studying the piano from age six and the oboe from age 12. He attended the Curtis Institute of Music where he received his Bachelor of Music degree in 1978. From there, he went to Rio de Janeiro to play Principal Oboe in the Symphony Orchestra of Brazil for one season before joining the Pittsburgh Symphony as English hornist in September 1979. He is co-founder of the Pittsburgh Chamber Music Project as well as White Tie Group.

Bassist **Donald H. Evans, Jr.**, joined the PSO in September 1990 as Associate Principal Bass. He had been assistant principal bass of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra since 1981. Prior to that he played in the bass section of the New Jersey Symphony and the Birmingham Symphony. A graduate of Duquesne University School of Music, his principal teachers include Joseph Wallace, Robert Leininger and Sam Hollingsworth. A Pittsburgh native, Evans has also performed locally with the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony and the Three Rivers Training Orchestra.

Andrew Reamer (drums) joined the PSO percussion section in 1989. He was appointed Associate Principal Percussion in 2003 and Principal Percussion in 2008. He earned Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from Temple University. Reamer is Chair of Percussion at Duquesne University and has composed a popular collection of etudes for marimba entitled “Reamer’s Elixirs Two-Mallet Fixers.”

This concert is presented with the generous support of **BNY Mellon**.

The media sponsor for this concert is **DUQ 90.5 FM**.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Frick Art & Historical Center is located at 7227 Reynolds Street in Pittsburgh’s Point Breeze neighborhood. Free parking is available in the Frick’s off-street lot or along adjacent streets. The Frick is open 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Tuesday–Sunday and closed Mondays and major holidays. Admission to The Frick Art Museum, Car and Carriage Museum, Greenhouse, and Playhouse is free. The public should call 412-371-0600 for information, or visit the Frick online at TheFrickPittsburgh.org.

For additional information or images, please contact Greg Langel, Media and Marketing Manager, at 412-371-0600 ext. 524 or GLangel@TheFrickPittsburgh.org.

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The Frick Art & Historical Center, a museum, historic site and cultural center serves the public through preservation, presentation, and interpretation of the fine and decorative arts and historically significant artifacts for all residents of and visitors to Western Pennsylvania.