

MYTHOLOJAZZ

Press Release

November 18, 2002

'MYTHOLOJAZZ' BRINGS CLASSIC TALES TO DOBBS FERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Fifth and sixth graders at Dobbs Ferry Middle School are in for a treat when *MytholoJazz* comes to the school auditorium on Monday, November 25 at 1:30 p.m. The production, written and performed by acclaimed storyteller David Gonzalez, adds a musical twist to the Greek myth of *Orpheus* and the Chilean legend, *Delgadina*. Renowned jazz pianist D.D. Jackson also performs his original compositions, complementing Gonzalez's vibrant comedic skills.

The presentation begins with a journey into Hades to the notes of *Jazz Orpheus*. In his search for his lost wife Eurydice, Orpheus swings and serenades his way through the ordeals of the underworld. In the second story, *Delgadina*, a kind-hearted girl, befriends a magical red snake that gives her a "Midas" touch. Generous with her golden gift and courted by a king, Delgadina is nearly destroyed by a jealous witch.

A *New York Times* review of *MytholoJazz* reports, "With speech, sound, mime, dance and above all, inspired imagination, David Gonzalez has the gift of creating magical worlds and drawing his audience into them. This altogether enchanting performance, at times eerie, at times funny, at times heart-wrenching, always riveting, rides not only on Mr. Gonzalez's expressive face, nimble feet and hands that sculpture air, but also on the sophisticated propulsive jazz of D.D. Jackson. A palpable delight."

David Gonzalez is a renowned performer who has appeared at Lincoln Center, The Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Smithsonian Institute, London's Royal National Theater, and schools across the United States. He received his doctorate from New York University's School of Education, where he is also an adjunct professor. For eight seasons, he was the host of the award-winning radio program *New York Kids* on the National Public Radio affiliate station, WNYC. He lives in Rockland County with his wife, jazz vocalist Lisa Sokolov, and their two children.

Hailed by the *Village Voice* as "one of the most innovative musicians of his generation," **D.D. Jackson** is a Canadian-born, New York-based pianist/composer who has recorded three critically-acclaimed CDs on RCA since 2000. He has performed throughout the U.S., Europe, Africa, and Asia, at the Newport, Bell Atlantic and JVC jazz festivals, and in New York City's Jazz at Lincoln Center Festival and the Village Vanguard. Jackson holds a Bachelor of Music with High Distinction in Classical Piano from Indiana University and a Master of Music in Jazz from Manhattan School of Music.

Mytholojazz at Dobbs Ferry Middle School is made possible by the Cultural Arts Committee of the PTSA, which works with teachers and administrators to bring cultural experiences to the children of Dobbs Ferry. For information, please contact Kathryn Slocum at 914/674-0476 or kslocum@aol.com.