

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Alissa Latner

Phone: 201 784-0988

Email: ajlatner@verizon.net

TEMPLE BETH EL OF NORTHERN VALLEY ANNOUNCES NEW CONCERT SERIES, “MUSIC-LAB” (LIVE AT BETH EL); FEATURING THE JAZZ PASSENGERS ON JANUARY 14, 2017 AND BUCKY PIZZARELLI AND FRIENDS ON MARCH 4, 2017

Temple Beth El of Northern Valley of Closter, New Jersey is proud to announce a new concert series, **MusicLAB**, (Live At Beth El), with the generous support of Whole Foods Market. The entire Northern New Jersey community is invited to enjoy the excellent acoustics and comfortable facilities at Temple Beth El for the **MusicLAB** series. Whole Foods Market has generously underwritten the initial two concerts of the series: **THE JAZZ PASSENGERS** on Saturday, January 14, 2017 and **BUCKY PIZZARELLI** on Saturday, March 4, 2017.

The premier **MusicLAB** concert will feature **THE JAZZ PASSENGERS** on Saturday, January 14, 2017 with doors opening at 7:30pm and performance beginning at 8pm.

Concessions will be available for sale before the show and during intermission. Plan now and receive the early bird discount, with general admission tickets on sale online for just \$10 now through December 15, 2016. After December 15, advance tickets will be \$15 through 2 pm on Saturday, January 14. Advance tickets are also available in

person at Temple Beth El during regular office hours. Any remaining tickets will sold at the door for \$20. Buy your **MusicLAB: THE JAZZ PASSENGERS** tickets today at www.tbenv.brownpapertickets.com or www.tbenv.bpt.me.

THE JAZZ PASSENGERS are a fantastical fusion of post-bop and musical comedy, once called a perverse mainstream hard-bop group as imagined by Frank Zappa. (Bob Blumenthal, Boston Globe, 1989). Their name, a take-off on Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers, reveals the musicians wild ride along the eccentric currents in modern American music. Saxophonist Roy Nathanson and trombonist Curtis Fowlkes founded the band in 1987 after realizing a strong affinity in their Brooklyn roots while together in the band of the Big Apple Circus and John Luries seminal band, The Lounge Lizards. **THE JAZZ PASSENGERS** first broke out on the New York City avant-garde scene centering around the Knitting Factory with a hybrid of Mingus-influenced dance rhythms and original tunes complete with lyrics and/or entertaining stories. Since their early days on the downtown jazz scene, **THE JAZZ PASSENGERS** have travelled on a journey around the world, touring with Deborah Harry for seven years, recording and performing with Elvis Costello, Mavis Staples, Jimmy Scott and many more. **THE JAZZ PASSENGERS** will be releasing their 13th album, *'Still Life With Trouble'* in March 2017. The band members are Roy Nathanson on saxophones, Curtis Fowlkes on trombone, Bill Ware on vibraphone, Sam Bardfeld on violin, Brad Jones on bass, E.J. Rodriguez on percussion, and Ben Perowsky on drums.

BUCKY PIZZARELLI has been a fixture in jazz and the studios since the early 1950s, and is a self-taught master of the seven-string guitar. He toured with Vaughn Monroe before and after a stint in the military. In 1952, Pizzarelli joined the staff of NBC and 12 years later he switched to ABC; in addition, he worked with the Three Sounds (1956-1957) and had several tours with Benny Goodman. In the 1970s he was more active in jazz, co-leading a duo with George Barnes and working with Frank Sinatra, Zoot Sims, Bud Freeman, and Stéphane Grappelli, among many others. **BUCKY PIZZARELLI and FRIENDS** will appear in concert at **MusicLAB** on March 4, 2017 with long time performance partner Ed Laub, a locally renowned guitarist and vocalist whose style has been compared to a blend of Kenny Rankin, Chet Baker and James Taylor. Born in northern Bergen County, New Jersey in 1952, Ed Laub has in recent years been the steady partner to his childhood teacher, idol and close friend, **BUCKY PIZZARELLI**. They now travel all over the metropolitan area and major cities in the US, playing in clubs, concert venues and jazz festivals. All About Jazz Magazine said, "Pizzarelli is the complete jazz musician and Laub complements him perfectly!" Bucky and Ed will be joined by Bucky's son Martin Pizzarelli, a great bassist and brilliant the young violinist Aaron Weinstein.

Temple co-President David Fischer said, "Our congregation is thrilled to share its love of music with the community. Music is what sets us apart. All are invited to come and appreciate these two fantastic musical events at an amazingly low price, thanks to our partnership with Whole Foods Market."

The entire community is invited to enjoy both these **MusicLAB** performances. Temple Beth El of Northern Valley is located at 221 Schraalenburgh Road in Closter. For further information please visit Temple Beth El at www.tbenv.org/musiclab, or call 201-768-5112.



Bucky Pizzarelli



The Jazz Passengers

Back row (left to right): Curtis Fowlkes, Roy Nathanson, Sam Bardfeld

Front row (left to right): Bill Ware, E.J. Rodriguez, Brad Jones

Not pictured: Ben Perowsky