

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:
Ellie Falaris Ganelin
Marketing Assistant
734-769-2999
kch@kerrytown.com

Israeli Jazz Pianist Stays Close to His Roots

September 2, 2010 — Ann Arbor, Mich. — The music of Los Angeles-based pianist Tamir Hendelman draws from a number of influences — straight-ahead jazz, blues, classical and Brazilian music — but he stays true to his Israeli roots too. **He performs at the Kerrytown Concert House on Friday, October 15 at 8 p.m.** Michigan jazz all-stars Paul Keller and Sean Dobbins join him in this concert, which celebrates the release of his newest CD “Destinations” on Resonance Records.

Hendelman had an eclectic music upbringing in Tel Aviv: starting on electric organ at age 6, he was drawn equally to classical music, jazz and the melodious popular Israeli folk songs he heard at home and on the radio. The spark for his love of jazz ignited after hearing concerts of US artists that came to town such as Bobby McFerrin and Chick Corea. At age 12, Hendelman continued his training in Los Angeles, winning national competitions and travelling to Japan by the age of 15. Piano and composition studies at Tanglewood Institute and Eastman School of Music followed.

Since then, he has enjoyed a kaleidoscopic music career, having toured the United States, Europe and Asia. He has performed with the Jeff Hamilton Trio, as well as the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra, with which he recorded for Diana Krall, Gladys Knight and John Pizzarelli. He is also featured on Natalie Cole’s Grammy-winning “Still Unforgettable” and Barbara Streisand’s “Love Is The Answer” and “One Night Only.” His two CDs, “Playground” (2008) and “Destinations” (2010) have both been critically acclaimed, reaching #3 and #1 on the US Jazzweek charts.

Throughout his musical journey, Hendelman has reached to his Israeli heritage. He has arranged and played in Diaspora, a jazz ensemble that draws from Jewish music from around the world. He has also collaborated with Israeli violinist Nimrod Nol on a tribute to Jewish and Irish music reflecting their heritage and musical loves. This time around, his roots have led to two original compositions off his newest release “Destinations.” The lyrical “Babushka,” is a tribute to his grandmothers, both originally from Poland and both named Zipora (bird). Memories of growing up with his grandmother singing opera and Jewish songs inspired this composition.

Hendelman’s “Israeli Waltz” is a tribute to his homeland, the beauty of its landscape and warmth of the people. The song was inspired by a visit he took with his wife to the north of the country. After getting lost on an evening hike, they encountered the hospitality of strangers who welcomed them to their Sukkot feast and made them feel as family. It was this culture of warmth and generosity that served as inspiration for the lyrical and whimsical

“Israeli Waltz.” “You hear many things in the news about Israel, but you have to visit to know the warmth and generosity of spirit of the people.” Hendelman said.

He says of his latest CD, “Destinations’ is an exploration of my love for jazz, of the many musical and geographical places I’ve traveled to, and of my Jewish and Israeli heritage.”

Tickets are \$30 for seats in rows 1-2, \$20 for rows 3-5, and \$15 for general. To reserve tickets, visit www.kerrytownconcerthouse.com or call 734-769-2999. Kerrytown Concert House is located at 415 N. 4th Ave. in Ann Arbor, Mich.

About Kerrytown Concert House

The Kerrytown Concert House is an arts organization focused on community engagement and bringing fine artists and their audiences together. An intimate 110-seat venue, the Concert House has diverse offerings in a wide range of musical styles, while rotating art exhibits are displayed on the walls of the house. Located in the Kerrytown district of Ann Arbor, Mich., KCH is available to the community, including educators, students and organizations for recitals, meetings and events. In addition, it is home to the internationally acclaimed festival Edgefest, and is a presenter of artists of the highest artistic excellence. Kerrytown Concert House is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

###