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**THE RHYTHM ROAD: AMERICAN MUSIC ABROAD PROGRAM
ANNOUNCES
KATE MCGARRY TOUR DATES
JAZZ ENSEMBLE TO TRAVEL TO ASIA
TO PROMOTE CULTURAL EXCHANGE**

Who/What:

Jazz at Lincoln Center and the **U.S. State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs** announced today Kate McGarry Quartet will tour China and Mongolia with *The Rhythm Road: American Music Abroad* program. The jazz group from Durham, North Carolina, was selected from applications by more than 100 ensembles to travel abroad and encourage mutual respect and understanding. International tour activities will include public concerts, master classes, lecture-demonstrations, workshops, jam sessions, collaborations with local musicians, and media outreach. Since 2005, 159 musicians from 41 ensembles have toured with the program, visiting over 100 countries on five continents.

As part of *The Rhythm Road: American Music Abroad* program, Kate McGarry Quartet performed two concerts in the United States, one in Washington, D.C., presented by National Geographic Live! and the other in New York City presented by Jazz at Lincoln Center.

Where/When:

Kate McGarry Quartet will tour China (November 26-December 14), and Mongolia

(December 15-21).

**Dates and locations subject to change*

How:

For more information visit *The Rhythm Road: American Music Abroad* at jalc.org/TheRoad, and exchanges.state.gov/cultural/rhythm.html, which include featured countries, bands, stories from the road, and more.

For more information:

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Kate McGarry Quartet (Durham, North Carolina) is a bold and cohesive jazz group that embraces the freedom of the jazz tradition while pointing the genre towards a future as fresh and thrilling as its past. Having worked together for years in New York City jazz clubs, the Kate McGarry Quartet's sound is inspired by great jazz singers and instrumentalists, delta blues artists, and Brazilian music, as well as Kate McGarry's original compositions.

Kate McGarry (Vocals) has four critically acclaimed albums and a 2009 GRAMMY® nomination for Best Jazz Vocal to her credit. She is recognized as a jazz artist who brings authenticity and vitality to a wide range of material. McGarry earned her bachelor's degree in Afro-American music and jazz at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Her musical collaborations include projects with jazz luminaries including Fred Hersch, Kurt Elling, and Maria Schneider. McGarry performs in many of the most venerated jazz clubs and festivals throughout the United States and abroad. She has also served on the faculty of Manhattan School of Music.

Keith Ganz (Guitar) is a guitarist, composer, and arranger who has worked with a range of jazz notables including Fred Hersch, Kurt Elling, and Harry Connick, Jr. Ganz is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) where he was recognized for his solo performances with the UNC Jazz Ensemble. Since then, Ganz has worked with several GRAMMY® nominated artists as producer, arranger, and performer. Ganz has been featured on NPR's Jazz Set, most recently in a concert at the Kennedy Center with GRAMMY® nominee Luciana Souza.

Jordan Perlson (Percussion) moved to New York City after graduating from the Berklee College of Music in 2004. Since then, he has collaborated with a wide range of musicians including Kaki King, Gary Burton, Phil Woods, Hiromi, and more. Perlson has been an adjunct professor at New York University's Steinhardt School and has taught master classes in Japan, Korea, Costa Rica, Mexico, and throughout Europe and North America. He has performed on over 40 recordings and is in the process of finishing his first CD release as a leader.

Gary Versace (Organ) is one of the busiest and most versatile musicians on the scene, often featured in bands led by John Scofield, Regina Carter, Maria Schneider, and others. Versace has partnered on a duo recording with the legendary saxophonist Lee Konitz, and won the "Rising Star" category on the Hammond organ in Downbeat's Critic's Poll in 2009 and 2010. He has a master's degree from the Eastman School of Music and was an Associate Professor in the Jazz Studies Department at University of Oregon. Versace remains active as a clinician and guest soloist both nationally and around the world.

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Jazz at Lincoln Center is dedicated to inspiring and growing audiences for jazz. With the world-renowned Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and a comprehensive array of guest artists, Jazz at Lincoln Center advances a unique vision for the continued development of the art of jazz by producing a year-round schedule of performance, education and broadcast events for audiences of all ages. These productions include concerts, national and international tours, residencies, a jazz hall of fame, weekly national radio programs, recordings, publications, an annual high school jazz band competition and festival, a band director academy, jazz appreciation curriculum for students, music publishing, children's concerts, lectures, adult education courses, student and educator workshops and interactive websites. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Wynton Marsalis, Chairman Lisa Schiff, and Executive Director Adrian Ellis, Jazz at Lincoln Center produces thousands of events each season in its home in New York City, Frederick P. Rose Hall, and around the world. For more information, visit jalc.org

U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs promotes mutual understanding between the United States and other countries through a wide range of academic, cultural, private sector, professional, and sports exchange programs. The Bureau's cultural exchanges support U.S. foreign policy, foster America's artistic excellence, and demonstrate America's respect and appreciation for other cultures and traditions. The Rhythm Road: American Music Abroad program presents selected professional American performers on concert tours in countries with limited exposure to live American culture. For more information, visit exchanges.state.gov/cultural/rhythm.html.

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