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## STYLE 1 MEDIA >>> THE JAZZ FOUNDATION 22ND ANNUAL JAZZ LOFT PARTY

## The Joint Was Jumpin' at the Jazz Foundation's Annual Jazz Loft Party

Jack Studios, 601 West 26th Street, NY, NY | 10.19.2013 | by Merry Esparza and Alan Horowitz



On October 19th, the Jazz Foundation of America (JFA) held its 22nd annual Jazz Loft Party at New York's Jack Studios. The annual benefit, sponsored by Parmigiani Fleurier in partnership with the Montreux Jazz Festival, featured spectacular performances by more than 75 jazz, blues, and gospel musicians including Shuggie Otis (left), Blackbyrd McKnight, Bettye LaVette, James Carter, Kenny Barron, Sharón Clark, Manu Lanvin, Ladell McLin, Charnett Moffett, Julio Botti, Marco Lo Russo, and Davell Crawford. Event hosts included Chad Smith of the Red Hot Chili Peppers; JFA Chairman, Dick Parsons; JFA President, Jarrett Lilien; JFA Executive Director, Wendy Oxenhorn; Montreux Jazz Festival Director, Mathieu Jaton; and Parmigiani Fleurier CEO, Jean-Marc Jacot.

The event began with a warm welcome from the hosts, a performance by gospel singer, Essie Mae Brooks, and a tribute to the late Claude Nobs, who founded the Montreux Jazz Festival in 1967 and passed away in January 2013. Jazz musician, Terence Conley—formerly a member of the Count Basie Orchestra—took the stage with his wife and children to acknowledge the JFA for its support during his recovery from a 2008 traffic accident that nearly took his life.

Performances took place simultaneously in three separate loft spaces: The Jazz Loft, Funky Claude's Lounge, and The Parmigiani Lounge. Guests wandered at their own pace through these lofts and enjoyed their favorite performers. The event featured a delicious dinner buffet and The Parmigiani Talking Lounge & Bar, which served cocktails throughout the evening. In addition to the musicians mentioned earlier, the benefit included performances by Leon Dorsey and Eli Fountain, Lakecia Benjamin, Bastian Baker, Sweet Georgia Brown, RL Boyce, Thais Clark, Thaddeus Richard, Leandro Pellegrino, Matthew Whitaker, Lizzie & The Makers, David Weiss & The Point of Departure Quintet, Joseph Monroe Webb, and more.

For 23 years, the Jazz Foundation of America has kept jazz and blues alive. It is the only national organization dedicated to saving the lives and homes of elder jazz and blues musicians in crisis, supporting more than 6,000 cases a year with emergency assistance and work opportunities. JFA programs assist with rent, food, utilities, counseling, referrals, and performance opportunities. Some of the cases include New Orleans musicians and their children still recovering from Katrina. JFA's Agnes Varis Jazz in the Schools program brings music to schools, nursing homes, hospitals, and other venues throughout the country. JFA partners with Englewood Hospital and Medical Center and the Musicians' Emergency Fund, and JFA social workers provide crucial services that keep these accomplished music veterans alive and productive.

For more information please visit: The Jazz Foundation of America.

Photos...

Parsons



Parmigiani Fleurier CEO, Jean-Marc Jacot; JFA Executive Director, Wendy Oxenhorn; and JFA Board Chairman, Dick



Chad Smith of the Red Hot Chili Peppers



JFA President, Jarrett Lilien, and Maritess Lilien



Charnett Moffett



Montreux Jazz Festival Director, Mathieu Jaton, and Wendy Oxenhorn



Terence Conley and wife, Judith



Sharón Clark