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The United States Air Force Band’s premier jazz ensemble, “The Airmen of Note,” heads out for southern tour of Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana, beginning April 23

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The United States Air Force Band’s premier jazz ensemble, “The Airmen of Note,” from Washington, D.C., is heading out on a 9-day community relations tour through Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana. The tour honors the service of Airmen both past and present and highlights the excellence of military members working across the globe. All concerts are free and open to the public, though tickets are required. Ticket information for these concerts is available at: <https://www.music.af.mil/USAF-Band/Events/National-Tours/Airmen-of-Note/>

University of Central Arkansas
Reynolds Performance Hall
Beatrice Powell St.
Conway, AR 72035
Friday, April 24 at 7:00 p.m.

Little Rock Central High School
1500 S Little Rock Nine Way
Little Rock, AR 72202
Saturday, April 25 at 7:00 p.m.

Memphis Central High School

Heindl Center for the Performing Arts
315 Northwest Dr.
Senatobia, MS 38668
Monday, April 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Tupelo Civic Auditorium
Tupelo School District
1109 Varsity Dr.
Tupelo, MS 38801
Tuesday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m.

Charlotte Harness Seals Performing Arts Center
Germantown High School
409 Calhoun Station Pkwy.
Madison, MS 39110
Wednesday, April 29 at 7:30 p.m.

Mannoni Performing Arts Center
University of Southern Missis-

issippi
3057 Hardy St.
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
Thursday, April 30 at 7:30 p.m.

Biloxi Civic Center
578 Howard Ave.
Biloxi, MS 39530
Friday, May 1 at 7:00 p.m.

Tulane University Dixon Hall
Newcomb Cir.
New Orleans, LA 70118

The Airmen of Note is one of the six performing ensembles within The United States Air Force Band, the premier musical organization of the U.S. Air Force. Stationed at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling in Washington, D.C., The United States Air Force Band honors those who have served, inspires American citizens to heightened patriotism and service, and connects with the global community on behalf of the U.S. Air Force and the United States of America.

For more information, visit
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/USAFBand>
Instagram: @usafband
YouTube: TheUSAFBand

... for more music in the jazz universe

Acclaimed pianist Emmet Cohen releases new album “ Universal Truth” on May 29 via Mack Avenue with centennial tributes to legends Miles Davis and John Coltrane



Emmet Cohen delivers “Universal Truth” to jazz lovers. (Photo Credit: Kevin Alexander)

“Well You Needn’t” single from upcoming album now available.
International Jazz Day is April 30!

April 2, 2026: Acclaimed pianist, composer, and bandleader **Emmet Cohen** released his rendition of “Well You Needn’t,” the lead single from his upcoming album *Universal Truth* (out May 29 via Mack Avenue Records). Emmet brings a swinging take on the Thelonious Monk composition alongside jazz royalty Ron Carter (bass), Jeremy Pelt (trumpet) and Joe Farnsworth (drums). Recorded in celebration of the 2026 centennial year of Miles Davis and John Coltrane, *Universal Truth* honors the pianist’s forebears by carrying forward their spirit of personal and spiritual discovery in his own distinctive style. Solidifying his reputation as the hardest working man in jazz, Cohen kicks off his 10 month international tour including the April 30 International Jazz Day celebration in Chicago with Herbie Hancock.

Widely regarded as one of the leading pianists of his generation, Emmet Cohen has built his reputation on bridging jazz’s storied lineage with a deeply communal, modern approach. From his collection of Masters Legacy Series recordings—featuring icons including Jimmy Cobb’

“In all my research and study into John Coltrane, one phrase always stuck out,” Cohen explains. “‘*Universal Truth*.’ When Trane talked about his artistry and his calling, his intention was always to seek that universal truth. I interpret that to mean his higher power, his version of God, his connection to the source that connects and calls to every living thing on Earth.”

Benny Golson, Albert “Tootie” Heath, and Houston Person—to his widely popular livestream series *Live From Emmet’s Place*, Cohen has consistently emphasized connection across generations and audiences. *Universal Truth* features classic tunes associated with the album’s twin inspirations of Miles Davis and John Coltrane, carefully curated through Cohen’s personal connection with the repertoire. For the album’s rendition of “My Funny Valentine,” Cohen brought together bassist Ron Carter and tenor saxophonist George Coleman for a poignant reunion, more than sixty years after they performed on the

Miles Davis album of the same name at Lincoln Center’s Philharmonic Hall. The rhythm section for the album is Cohen’s trio with bassist **Yasushi Nakamura** and drummer **Joe Farnsworth**, who kick off the proceedings with a taut reduction of Davis and Bud Powell’s “Budo” from *The Birth of the Cool*. Carter takes over the bass duties for a brisk dash through Monk’s “Well You Needn’t,” with Jeremy Pelt contributing a blistering trumpet solo. Pelt and Carter are also featured on “Gingerbread Boy,” the classic composition by Jimmy Heath - who also would have celebrated his 100th this year. The album concludes with Coltrane’s “Blue Trane,” with the twin tenors of Coleman and Tivon Pennicott joining Pelt and the trio for a rollicking excursion through the landmark tune. The centerpiece of *Universal Truth* is Cohen’s titular suite, an ambitious three-part composition that is as deeply personal and revelatory as anything that he has conjured to date.

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