



January 25, 2018

## **Christian Sands joins The Erroll Garner Jazz Project as Creative Ambassador & Co-Producer**

Octave Music Licensing, LLC is excited and proud to announce a new collaboration between The Erroll Garner Jazz Project and Mack Avenue recording artist Christian Sands. As Creative Ambassador and Co-Producer, Sands will help to illuminate Erroll Garner's cultural legacy and bring his music to a new generation of fans through performance programs, recording projects and educational initiatives.

With a level of musicianship and mastery already known to many, Christian's soulful, innovative piano playing, and sophisticated style make him a natural fit to reinvigorate and re-imagine the works of Erroll Garner.

"We first heard Christian Sands perform Garner's music at the Monterey Jazz Festival in 2015 at the Three Pianos Tribute to *Concert By The Sea* led by Geri Allen. Geri said to us then, that Christian interpreted Garner with an energy and wit like no other, and we agreed. Since that time we have listened and watched as Christian has continued to carve out his sound and release his own music to critical acclaim. With the passing of the brilliant musician, innovator, and educator Geri Allen, The Erroll Garner Jazz Project and Octave Music lost our great friend and musical compass. As Geri Allen's former student and dear friend, Christian could not be a better choice to continue that work." Says President of Octave Music and Director of The Erroll Garner Jazz project, Susan Rosenberg.

Like Geri Allen, who honored so many great Jazz pianists through playing and teaching their music, Christian says, "my music is about teaching the way of jazz and keeping it alive." Together Octave and Christian Sands will bring new audiences to the music of Erroll Garner. Sands has co-produced an upcoming Garner release to be announced in spring 2018. He will be performing in support of the project, with dates to be announced soon.

Next month on Thursday February 8, at 7:30pm and 9:30pm, Sands will perform at Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola at Jazz at Lincoln Center. This will be his first official performance in his new role with the Garner project. The two sets will feature many of Garner's favorite standards as well as original material from Garner's posthumous 2016 album release *Ready Take One*. Sands' performance of these previously unreleased Garner compositions will be the first time they have ever been heard on-stage. Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola is located in Frederick P. Rose Hall, home of Jazz at Lincoln Center, located at 60th Street and Broadway in New York City. For additional information, visit [jazz.org/dizzys](http://jazz.org/dizzys).

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