**Nonesuch Releases Two New Recordings from Pat Metheny on May 6:**

***The Unity Sessions* and *Cuong Vu Trio Meets Pat Metheny***

***The Unity Sessions* features Grammy Award-winning Unity Group—Metheny with saxophonist Chris Potter, drummer Antonio Sanchez, bassist Ben Williams, and multi-instrumentalist Giulio Carmassi**

***Cuong Vu Trio Meets Pat Metheny* joins longtime Pat Metheny Group trumpeter’s trio with his mentor**

Nonesuch Records releases a pair of new albums from guitarist, composer, and bandleader Pat Metheny on May 6, 2016. Metheny is well-known as a musical collaborator, and both records feature friends and colleagues with whom he has worked for years. *The Unity Sessions* is taken from a filmed performance with Pat Metheny Unity Group that was recently released on DVD; the set comprises 13 songs by Metheny, one he co-wrote with Ornette Coleman, and one well known standard by Ray Noble. And *Cuong Vu Trio Meets Pat Metheny* joins the guitarist with a trio led by longtime Pat Metheny Group trumpeter Cuong Vu. It comprises five tunes written by Vu plus one by Metheny and one by Andrew D’Angelo. Pre-orders of [*The Unity Sessions*](http://www.nonesuch.com/albums/the-unity-sessions)and [*Cuong Vu Trio Meets Pat Metheny*](http://www.nonesuch.com/albums/cuong-vu-trio-meets-pat-metheny)are available now at iTunes and nonesuch.com, each with an instant download of a track from its album (“[This Belongs to You](https://youtu.be/BEIG6BiG4qg)” and “[Let’s Get Back](https://youtu.be/dHhKo_gA_Ho),” respectively).

In 2013, for the first time since 1980, Metheny recorded with a band that highlighted tenor saxophone. The resulting *Unity Band*, which went on to win him his 20th Grammy Award, featured Chris Potter on sax and bass clarinet, longtime collaborator Antonio Sanchez on drums, and Ben Williams on bass. Metheny then took that same ensemble into new territory with the addition of his Orchestrion and a focus on more through-composed material and christened the ensemble Pat Metheny Unity Group. The Group’s first record, *Kin* *(←→)*, was released by Nonesuch in 2014 and was named the best jazz album of the year in the *DownBeat* Readers Poll Awards. The Group went on a world tour of more than 150 cities; at the end, they hunkered down in a small Manhattan theater to film new performances of music from the original Unity Band, the expansive *Kin(←→)*, and touchstones from the entirety of Metheny’s music catalog. The results were released on DVD last year as *The Unity Sessions*, and now Nonesuch releases the album of the same name.

The Cuong Vu Trio includes Stomu Takeishi on bass and Ted Poor on drums. Metheny says of his record with the Trio, “This project is something that Cuong and I have talked about doing for years. For as much as I loved what Cuong has brought to my bands along the way, I always wondered what it would be like to join his group for a project, to see what I might be able to offer those guys. Cuong came up with a great set of tunes for the project, and we all met in NYC for a few days and recorded this music quite quickly and spontaneously.”

Vu, who first heard a cassette of Metheny’s *Travels* as a teenager and credits it for leading him into a career in music, adds: “Pat came to the session and killed it, taking us to different territories. We (the Trio) assimilated his sound into ours and made music that still felt uniquely ours.” The trumpeter has played with a wide range of artists, including Laurie Anderson, David Bowie, Dave Douglas, Myra Melford, Cibo Matto, and Mitchell Froom. Vu, a graduate of New England Conservatory, began his career leading various groups while touring extensively throughout the world. As a leader, he has released eight recordings, each making critics’ lists of the 10 best recordings of their respective years. His awards and honors include two Grammys (with Pat Metheny Group). He is currently an associate professor in jazz studies at the University of Washington.

Over the course of more than three decades, guitarist Pat Metheny has set himself apart from the jazz mainstream, expanding and blurring boundaries and musical styles. His record-setting body of work includes 20 Grammy Awards in 12 separate categories; a series of influential trio recordings; award-winning solo albums; scores for hit Hollywood motion pictures; and collaborations and duets with major artists like Ornette Coleman, Steve Reich, Charlie Haden, Brad Mehldau, and many others. His band the Pat Metheny Group, founded in 1977, is the only ensemble in history to win Grammys for seven consecutive releases.

**For more information, please visit publicity.nonesuch.com or contact:**

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**For information about Cuong Vu, please contact:**

Ann Braithwaite, Braithwaite & Katz, [ann@bkmusicpr.com](mailto:ann@bkmusicpr.com) or 781.259.9600.

**PAT METHENY**

***The Unity Sessions***

Disc 1

1. Adagia 2:08

2. Sign of the Season 10:42

3. This Belongs to You 5:39

4. Roofdogs 7:50

5. Cherokee 5:02

6. Genealogy 2:04

7. On Day One 15:18

8. Medley 10:52

Disc 2

1. Come and See 12:55

2. Police People 2:52

3. Two Folk Songs (#1) 4:58

4. Born 7:51

5. Kin 11:06

6. Rise Up 12:28

7. Go Get It 4:18

All music composed and arranged by Pat Metheny (Pat Meth Music Corp. [BMI]), except “Police People,” composed by Ornette Coleman and Pat Metheny (Phrase Text Music), and “Cherokee,” composed by Ray Noble (Shapiro Bernstein & Co. Inc.)

Pat Metheny: Electric and Acoustic Guitars, Guitar Synth, Electronics, Orchestrionics

Chris Potter: Tenor Sax, Soprano Sax, Bass Clarinet, Flute, Guitar

Antonio Sanchez: Drums and Cajon

Ben Williams: Acoustic and Electric Basses

*with*

Giulio Carmassi: Piano, Flugelhorn, Whistling, Synth, Vocals

***CUONG VU TRIO Meets Pat Metheny***

1. Acid Kiss

2. Not Crazy (Just Giddy Upping)

3. Seeds of Doubt

4. Tiny Little Pieces

5. Telescope

6. Let’s Get Back

7. Tune Blues

All music composed by Cuong Vu (Publisher TK) except “Telescope,” by Pat Metheny (Pat Meth Music Corp [BMI]), and “Tune Blues,” by Andrew D’Angelo (Publisher TK)

Cuong Vu: Trumpet

Stomu Takeishi: Bass

Ted Poor: Drums

*with* Pat Metheny: Guitar

**Pat Metheny U.S. Tour Dates**

Wednesday & Thursday, April 20 & 21: Infinity Hall, Norfolk, CT

Friday, April 22: Musikfest Café, Bethlehem, PA

Saturday, April 23: Exit Zero Jazz Festival, Cape May, NJ

Sunday, April 24: The Newton Theatre, Newton, NJ

*\*All dates with Ron Carter*

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