

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 29, 2003



MARSALIS MUSIC/ROUNDER RECORDS TO RELEASE NEW ALBUM
BY ACCLAIMED JAZZ MUSICIAN, MIGUEL ZENÓN,
ENTITLED *CEREMONIAL*, JANUARY 13, 2004

Cambridge, MA – Marsalis Music/Rounder Records is pleased to announce the January 13th release of *Ceremonial* - a new studio album by acclaimed alto saxophonist and composer Miguel Zenón. Produced by Branford Marsalis, *Ceremonial* is a passionate display of jazz infused with Latin influences from one of today's most promising young musicians. Showcased on the album are seven original compositions as well as Zenón's soulful interpretation of the hymn "Great is Thy Faithfulness."

Born and raised in Puerto Rico, Miguel Zenón began playing music at the age of 10. Over the years, he studied saxophone with Angel Marrero, and at Boston's famed Berklee College of Music, where he played with Danilo Pérez, Bob Moses, and the Either/Orchestra. In 1998, Zenón moved to New York City, started attending the Manhattan School of Music and became immersed in the jazz scene, working with the David Sánchez Sextet, the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, and others. His 2002 debut, *Looking Forward* (Fresh Sound New Talent) ranked #1 on *The New York Times*' "alternative" list of the 10 best albums of 2002. Said *Times* critic Ben Ratliff, Miguel Zenón is "one of the strongest saxophonists in New York."

On *Ceremonial*, Zenón is joined by what he calls his "dream band" – Luis Perdomo on acoustic piano and Fender Rhodes, Hans Glawischnig on bass and Antonio Sánchez on drums. Guest musicians include vocalist Luciana Souza on "Transfiguration" and percussionist Hector "Tito" Matos on "Mega" and "440."

Following the release of *Ceremonial*, Zenón will participate in the inaugural season of the SF Modern Jazz Collective, an all-star octet led by Joshua Redman that will debut in San Francisco and tour throughout California in March of 2004. More dates for the Miguel Zenón Quartet will also be announced in the coming months.

MARSALIS MUSIC is the creation of Branford Marsalis, one of the most celebrated jazz musicians of the past 20 years. Based upon his extensive experience as a saxophonist, composer and bandleader, Marsalis recognized the need to form a label dedicated to

allowing a diverse array of musicians to document their best efforts. The label's focus is primarily but not exclusively on jazz, with a roster featuring promising new artists as well as Marsalis himself and established stylists. The label receives marketing and distribution support through its partnership with Rounder Records. In addition, Marsalis Music sponsors educational and cultural initiatives including Marsalis Jams, a program that presents jazz ensembles in performance/jam session settings on college campuses.

Since 1970, Rounder Records has become America's premier independent label, with over 3000 albums in its catalogue to date and five additional imprints, together representing a broad array of folk, roots, rock, blues and reggae music.

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Marsalis Music in partnership with



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