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PRESS RELEASE

Celebrate the holidays with Harry Connick, Jr.'s "The Happy Elf" and start a new tradition!

CAMBRIDGE, MA: From Grammy award winner Harry Connick, Jr. comes a new instrumental jazz holiday album, *Music From The Happy Elf*. Offered as a companion disc to *The Happy Elf*, Connick's first picture book for children available this holiday season from Harper Collins, *Music From The Happy Elf* is the fourth edition of Marsalis Music's ongoing *Connick on Piano* series. Accompanied by two mainstays of his big band, Neal Caine on bass and Arthur Latin on drums, Connick revisits songs he originally penned for *The Happy Elf* stage musical, delivering spirited new interpretations and a fresh perspective. This assortment of upbeat and playful instrumental songs performed by the Harry Connick, Jr. Trio is sure to make you and your family smile, and maybe even dance a little, as you bake cookies, write cards, and wrap presents this holiday season.

Written with charm and wit, Connick's children's story, *The Happy Elf*, follows Eubie, the happiest elf in the North Pole. More than anything else, Eubie longs to be a part of Santa's sleigh team. Instead, he's stuck checking the naughty-or-nice lists. Then one Christmas Eve he sees something strange: in the whole town of Bluesville, not a single person has been nice. With a pinch of elfish magic and a magical whoosh, Eubie's off to Bluesville. But can he turn a whole town of naughty children nice in just one day? Hoping to introduce a new generation of children to the joys of jazz, Connick has crafted a musical landscape against which Eubie's story unfolds.

Originally a joyful tune recorded for Connick's 2003 best-selling holiday album, *Harry for the Holidays*, "The Happy Elf" has been the inspiration for an animated Christmas television special, a full-length stage musical, and now a children's picture book and this full-length music release. Comprised of thirteen tracks, *Music From The Happy Elf* includes jazz renditions of songs from *The Happy Elf* stage musical, as well as a read-along of *The Happy Elf* picture book narrated by Harry himself.

Collected together for the first time in one recording, *Music From The Happy Elf* offers a new holiday tradition for the entire family.

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For more information, please visit www.harryconnickjr.com or www.marsalismusic.com

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