Hudson Jazz Works offers classes, improv

HUDSON—A master class with Grammy-nominated trumpeter Claudio Roditi is Sunday, August 9 at 10:30 a.m. at Hudson Jazzworks Studio. Later that day, Roditi performs at the Hudson Opera House with pianist Armen Donelian and saxophonist Marc Mommaas, artistic directors of the 9th annual Hudson Jazz Workshop (HJW), and the HJW Participants.

The Jazzworks Studio is at 338 Kipp Road. Admission is $10, or free for students. Seating is limited, and reservations required. Call 518 822-1640 to reserve a seat and visit hudsonjazzworks.org for more information about HJW.

Sunday, August 9 at 3 p.m., the three musicians give a free pre-concert Meet the Artists talk and perform several original pieces at the Hudson Opera House, 327 Warren Street. At 3:30 p.m., the three artists and workshop participants jam and play works in progress. Concert admission is $10 for adults and free for students. For reservations, call 518 822-1438.

The Hudson Jazz Workshop, held this year from Thursday through Sunday, August 6 through 9, is an annual weekend immersion in improvisation and composition. Teaching this year are Donelian, a Hudson resident, and Mommaas, a Dutch native living in New York City. Workshop participants, many of them professional musicians, are coming from as far away as Japan, Argentina, Macedonia, Spain, Holland and Denmark, as well as Clifton Park and the New York City area.

Donelian's compositions draw from classical, jazz and Middle Eastern music. "Sayat-Nova: Songs of My Ancestors," his CD with David Clark and George Schuller, presents solo piano and trio arrangements of 18th-century Armenian folk-songs.

Mommaas leads two bands (Global Motion and Landmark) and composes. He tours internationally with Amina Figarova and Donelian and has appeared in venues including the Newport Jazz Festival and Carnegie Hall.

Roditi integrates post-bop elements and his native Brazilian rhythmic concepts. He is a composer, arranger, studio musician and sideman who has recorded 13 albums and currently leads his own band.