



UAPRESENTS STUDENT CRITIC PROGRAM

T.S. Monk: “Monk on Monk”

Review by Gabriela Lugo

Considering that this was the first time in my life to witness a jazz concert, the performance “Monk on Monk” was a little difficult to understand. However, I can confidently say that improvisation is one of its key elements.

The performance really nailed Thelonious Monk’s legacy of composing captivating jazz music. My overall experience with “Monk on Monk” was amazing. I never thought I would be a great fan of jazz. But as soon as the band stepped onstage, I was on the edge of my seat. The experience felt out of this world! It was as if his father’s presence was still alive and standing by his side as he performed.

The performance portrayed T.S. Monk’s feelings towards his father, in a very passionate way. When he was done with each song he would look up at the light and thank his father for the wonderful talent he gave him. It was amazing to see the strong relationship they had fostered. Throughout the performance he would randomly knock out a couple of jokes, making the audience giggle. However, there were a couple of times the audience couldn’t hear what was said, so while half of the audience laughed, the other half was left puzzled.

Although there were points in which the audience seemed out of balance, “Monk on Monk” was great performance overall. The audience was able to understand the strong relationship between father and son and see a reputable style interpreted in a very unique way.