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OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF STATE MUSEUM

ANGÈLE DAVIS
SECRETARY

ROBERT E. WHEAT
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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CONTACT: Kacey M. Hill
The Louisiana State Museum
Office 504-568-6972
Cell 504-319-4595
khill@crt.state.la.us

***Music at the Mint* in March: Drumming legend Johnny Vidacovich
Tim Green and James Singleton join Vidacovich in concert series' finale**

Johnny Vidacovich has been called a lot of things by fans as well as fellow musicians: a genius, a drummer's drummer, a legend, and one of the best drummers in New Orleans and the rest of the world, too. But one thing he has never been called is boring! See for yourself as Johnny Vidacovich comes to the Old U.S. Mint on Saturday, March 5, at 2:00 p.m. as part of the annual *Music at the Mint* series. Admission is free and open to the public.

Vidacovich regularly appears with other musical legends in a variety of configurations. Bandmates often include bassist George Porter, guitarist June Yamagishi, keyboardist Rich Vogel and other equally talented musicians. For this special performance, Vidacovich teams up with saxophonist Tim Green and bassist James Singleton for what promises to be a worthy finale to the 2004-2005 *Music at the Mint* season.

Picking up the drums at an early age, Vidacovich has had a varied and impressive career playing everywhere from hospitals and political events as a kid to Bourbon St. burlesques as a teen to gigging with Professor Longhair, James Booker, Dr. John and Harry Connick Jr. for international audiences as an adult. He has also made a name for himself as a teacher of distinguished pupils like Stanton Moore of Galactic, also a regular collaborator. The Johnny Vidacovich Trio is particularly known for free form jam sessions ranging from jazz to funk to R&B.

Music at the Mint has long been one of the most popular events at the Louisiana State Museum and has even spawned a pint-sized version called *Music at the Mint for Kids*. The annual concert series for 2004-05 also featured The Stooges Brass Band, John Royen, The New Orleans Jazz Vipers and Big Chief Bo Dollis and the Wild Magnolias. The 2005-2006 season is already in the works.

The Louisiana State Museum Old U.S. Mint is located at 400 Esplanade Ave. This event is sponsored by the Arts Council of New Orleans, Louisiana Division of the Arts, Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, the Louisiana Museum Foundation, Friends of the Cabildo and Offbeat Magazine. For more information call 1-800-568-6968 or visit <http://lsm.crt.state.la.us>.

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