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## CORNET CHOP SUEY OPENS 2014-15 COFFEE CONCERT SERIES AT THE SHELDON

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon presents Cornet Chop Suey, Tuesday & Wednesday, October 7 & 8 at 10 a.m. in the perfect acoustics of the Sheldon Concert Hall. Coffee and pastries are served, starting at 9 a.m., in the beautiful Louis Spiering room. Cornet Chop Suey wows St. Louis audiences with their exciting style of traditional jazz, swing and blues music.

**Brian Casserly** plays trumpet and trombone, and provides vocals. A professional musician since the age of 14, Casserly has played for many greats in the music business, including Tony Bennett, Tex Beneke, Stan Kenton, Chuck Berry and even Tiny Tim. **Thomas Tucker** began playing trumpet at age 11 under a retired Marine bandmaster who Tucker says, “still thought he was in the Marines.” He started a band called “All That Jazz” and progressed from there, becoming a fixture in the St. Louis traditional jazz scene. Pianist **Paul Reid** is an all-around entertainer who’s done just about everything in the business. His experience runs the gamut from playing solo piano in bars to performing with big bands, composing, recording and producing. **Jerry Epperson’s** professional career began in 1959 performing in local dance bands, and continued at Truman State University playing in Dixieland and jazz bands. Epperson makes frequent appearances at jazz festivals, and performs regularly in the St. Louis area. **John Gillick** started playing drums professionally at the age of 14. Most recently, he has been playing the jazz circuit with Cornet Chop Suey and is featured in renditions of “Caravan,” “Found A New Baby/Sing Sing Sing,” “Bugle Call Rag” and Buddy Rich’s “West Side Story Medley.” **Brett Stamps** served as the Director of Jazz Activities at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville since he initiated the Jazz Performance Degree program in 1979. He recently retired as Director of Jazz Studies at SIUE after 33 years. The newest member of Cornet Chop Suey, **Jay Hungerford** has taught at numerous St. Louis universities and has been a member of the Webster University Jazz Faculty for over two decades. He is a member of the St. Louis Fabulous Fox Orchestra and was acknowledged as “Best Local Bassist” by the *Riverfront Times*.

Tickets are \$15 orchestra/\$12 balcony, and are on sale now through MetroTix at 314-534-1111, through The Sheldon’s website at [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org), or in person at The Fox Theatre Box Office, 534 N. Grand Blvd. For more information, call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org).

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