The 2012 season of A Place for Jazz started off with the dynamic quintet of trumpeter Tom Harrell. There had been a lot of anticipation for this group, and saxophonist Wayne Escoffery, pianist Danny Grissett, bassist Ugonna Okegwo and drummer Johnathan Blake didn’t disappoint the nearly full house.

The Harrell contingent arrived by train, but vocalist Mary Stallings came in by plane from her home in San Francisco. She was backed by pianist David Udolf, bassist Harvie S and drummer Steve Williams. Mary’s concert was a revelation to several listeners, who had not heard of her before. A couple of them remarked that they were glad they had come because they wouldn’t have wanted to miss her.

Veteran pianist Dick Hyman and his wife drove up from a concert in Ithaca, saying they had enjoyed the scenic Route 88. Dick took the unusual step of building his concert around audience requests. He managed to cover most of the spectrum of jazz, undaunted by requests for music by Scott Joplin, Jelly Roll Morton and Thelonious Monk. Dick also gave a workshop that afternoon at Union College for some of our local pianists, who are still talking about it.

Our local group Bopitude, led by drummer Mike Benedict, was joined by baritone saxophonist Gary Smulyan for an outstanding concert. Pianist Bruce Barth, trumpeter Chris Pasin, tenor saxophonist Brian Patneaude and bassist Mike Lawerence played tunes from their recent CD, “Five and One,” along with some others prepared just for

con’t on page 2
A Season to Remember
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the concert, which for many listeners was the highlight of the season.

We wrapped it all up on November 9 with the Latin jazz of Pedrito Martinez and his quartet. Pedrito’s hands moved so fast that they were a blur, and he literally lifted his conga drums off the floor at times. Pianist Ariacne Trujillo played some stunning solos, managing to quote “American in Paris” along the way. Bassist John Benitez and trumpeter Mike Rodriguez joined Pedrito and Ariacne in some spirited vocals.

Equally as memorable as our all-star line up, are our local heros, our kids. Once again the Central Park Middle School Jazz Band delighted our audiences during intermission. Music education and nurturing the love for Jazz in our youth are major focuses of our mission. Your membership dollars are essential to this goal.

APFJ sends best wishes for the new year as we look forward to the 2013 season. Meanwhile, keep reading for some jazz events in our area to keep you warm over the winter months.
Proudly Presents

The Lee Shaw Trio
with Rich Syracuse and Jeff “Siege” Siegel

4-6 p.m. Sunday, January 13, 2013
Followed by open jam session from 6 to 7 p.m.

Stockade Inn, 1 N Church St,
Schenectady, NY

Pub menu and beverages available for purchase

$15/person ($5 for students)

Due to limited seating, reservations are required.

Call Doc Salvatore at (518) 584-3548
Local Jazz Venues

A FULL PERFORMANCE AND VENUE CALENDAR CAN BE FOUND AT APLACEFORJAZZ.ORG

9 MAPLE AVE Saratoga Springs, 518.587.7759

APERITIVO 426 State Street Schenectady, 518.579.3371

ATHOS RESTAURANT 1814 Western Avenue, Albany, 518.608.6400

THE BAR AT 74 STATE 74 State Street, Albany, 518.434.7410

BLU STONE BISTRO 661 Albany-Shaker Road, Colonie, 518.869.9976

BREAD ALONE, 45 East Market Street, Rhinebeck, NY, 845.876.3108

BULL AND BUDDHA, 319 Main Street, Poughkeepsie, 845.337.4848

CAFÉ CAPRICCIO 49 Grand Street, Albany, 518.465.0439

CARMEN’S CAFÉ 198 First Street (corner of Adams), Troy, 518.326.2064

CASTLE STREET CAFÉ 10 Castle Street, Great Barrington, MA, 413.528.5244

CENTURY HOUSE 997 New Loudon Road (Rt 9), Latham, 518.785.0834

THE DESMOND Albany Shaker Road, Colonie, 518.869.8100

DRUTHERS BREWING COMPANY 381 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, 518.306.5275

THE FOUNTAIN RESTAURANT 283 New Scotland Avenue, Albany, 518.482.9898

THE FALCON 1348 Rte 9W, Marlboro, NY (85 miles south)

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF SCENECTADY 8 N. Church Street, Schenectady, 518.377.2201

GRAPPA ‘72 RISTORANTE 818 Central Ave, Albany, 518.482.7200

JUSTIN’S 301 Lark Street, Albany, 518.436.7008

MAX LONDON’S 466 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, 518.587.3535

MORE BREAD AND JAM CAFÉ 130 Remsen St, Cohoes, 518.874.4272

ONE CAROLINE STREET BISTRO Saratoga Springs, 518.587.2026

PANZA’S RESTAURANT Route 9P Saratoga Lake, Saratoga Springs, 518.584.6882

PORTOFINO’S ITALIAN RISTORANTE 831 New Loudon Rd (in the Travelodge at Latham Circle), Latham, 518.608.4675

PRIME 677 677 Broadway Albany, 518.427.7463

PROVENCE RESTAURANT Stuyvesant Plaza- Western Avenue at Fuller Road, Albany, 518.689.7777

PRIME AT SARATOGA NATIONAL GOLF CLUB 458 Union Avenue, Saratoga Springs, 518.583.4653

PUB AT COOPER’S CAVE 2 Sagamore Street, Glens Falls, 518.792.0007

STOCKADE INN 1 No. Church Street, Schenectady, 518.346.3400

VAN DYCK 237 Union Street, Schenectady, 518.346.7999

VERMONT JAZZ CENTER 72 Cotton Mill Hill, Studio 222, Brattleboro, VT, 802.254.9088

WISHING WELL RESTAURANT 745 Saratoga Road, Wilton, 518.584.7640

Radio Jazz Shows

WVCR 88.3 FM “The Crossroads of Jazz,” Darrin Scott and Ted Moi-sides, Saturday 12-2 pm. A mix of the essentials and the contemporary.

WAMC 90.3 FM Tim Coakley, Saturday 11 pm - 12 am

WAMC 90.3 FM Jim Wilke, “Jazz After Hours,” Friday and Saturday 1-5 am; Afro-Pop Worldwide 4 pm Sunday; John Pizzarelli and Jessica Molaskey’s “Radio Deluxe”, Saturday 2-4 pm & Tuesday 8-10 pm

WCDB 90.9 FM Bill McCann, Saturday 8 am-12 pm; Bill Goss, “TGIF Jazz Party,” Friday 4-6 pm; DJ MJ’s “Beat Street Jazz”, “Jazz South of the Border,” Monday 10 am - 12 pm

WRPI 91.5 FM Rich Berkley’s “Dusty Corners” heavy with, but not exclusively jazz, Tuesday 8-10 pm; Kevin Roberts, Thursday 8-10 pm, varied theme show

WVPR 94.3 FM (Vermont Public Radio) George Thomas, Tuesday-Thursday, 8-10 pm, Friday til 12 am

WQAR 101.3 FM Smooth jazz and jazzy vocals with Walt Adams, Sunday 10 am-1 pm

WABY 1160 AM Chris Martin’s “Radio Archives” Sat 10 am-4 pm “Make Believe Ballroom” Sunday 11 am- 3 pm; Dick Wood’s Jazz Tracks Sun 4-5 pm; Sid Mark’s Sounds of Sinatra Sun 5-7 pm
Winter/Spring Jazz Preview

For other festivals within about a day's drive, see aplaceforjazz.org/festivals.htm

College of Saint Rose, Albany
337.4871, concerts @strose.edu
Feb 9: Dirty Dozen Brass Band

The Egg, Albany
Jan 20: Saxophonist Joe Lovano
Mar 10: The SF Jazz Collective
Mar 24: Vocalist Kurt Elling

Schenectady County Community College, Schenectady
78 Washington Avenue  381.1231  8 pm
Apr 16: Empire Jazz Orchestra with guest artist trumpeter Claudio Roditi

Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs
Mar 22: 8: The Fellowship Band with Brian Blade

Van Dyck, Schenectady
237 Union Street
Feb 1: Hot Club of Detroit
Mar 9: Stephane Wrembel Band

Williams College, Williamstown MA
Apr 26: Williams Jazz Ensemble with guest artist Lionel Loueke

Windham Civic Center, Windham
5379 State Route 23 (Main Street)
Jan 19: Mulgrew Miller Trio

Swingtime Jazz Society swingtimejazz.org
Stockade Inn, Union Street Schenectady
Jan 13: Lee Shaw Trio

Jazz Lovers are Generous

At our final APFJ concert of 2012, we took up a collection to help the nonprofit Jazz Foundation of America aid jazz musicians who were affected by Hurricane Sandy. The audience contributed a very generous total of $689.74, to which A Place for Jazz added $250.

We received the following response:

Jazz Foundation of America
322 West 348th St.  6th Floor
New York NY 10036

We cannot thank you enough for your generous donation to the Jazz Foundation of America. During the past year we have been busier than ever and contributions such as yours are a vital part of providing assistance to musicians in need. As you requested, your gift has been designated for Hurricane Sandy relief.

We support nearly 6,000 cases a year nationwide, including hundreds of musicians and their children affected by Hurricane Sandy in the New York region as well as those still recovering from Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans.

Our programs include preventing homelessness and evictions by paying rents and mortgages; creating dignified work through our Agnes Varis Jazz in the Schools Program; providing free medical care and operations through our partners at Englewood Hospital; and keeping the heat turned on and food on the table through our Musicians’ Emergency Fund.

The artists we assist have dedicated their lives to creating the music that has enriched our culture and our souls, and whatever their need is, we don’t just fix the problem -- we heal it with love. Our ability to help these deserving people is because of you, and for that we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Yours in Service,
Wendy Oxenhorn
Executive Director
“THE LAST BALLADEER,” AN OUTSTANDING LOOK AT JOHNNY HARTMAN

by Tom Pierce

I’ve been a passionate lover for well over 50 years of Jazz, the Great American Songbook & Johnny Hartman, whom I greatly enjoyed seeing live several times in New York City in the 1960s to early 1980s and I have purchased over a dozen of his recordings. On a personal level, "The Last Balladeer” (Dr. Gregg Akkerman, Scarecrow Press) that I just completed reading, was enormously valuable & meaningful.

This well-annotated 320-page book (including comprehensive bibliography & multiple appendices) effectively covers all significant aspects of Hartman’s life from birth to death, with dozens of in-depth contributions from experienced artists (e.g. Billy Taylor, Tony Bennett, Kurt Elling, etc) who either performed with or were very familiar with him, as well as family & close friends.

The value of this extremely well-researched biography stems from its thoroughness & balanced approach, despite the author (a professional pianist & vocalist himself, in addition to being a music professor) clearly being an admirer of Hartman. Akkerman’s telling of Hartman’s story also has a broader meaning in that it logically & clearly delves into a number of related cultural, musical & commercial aspects that are important to understanding the context in which his career existed, with the high points, challenges & frustrations he experienced.

These considerations provide valuable background for those who raise the often voiced question of “why wasn’t Hartman, with all his obvious talent, better known”. But it should be emphasized that this biography, despite its seriousness, awesome documentation and lack of salacious incidents (as Hartman’s very pleasant, laid-back, well-grounded personality and life-style was essentially scandal-free) is still done in a very interesting, well-written style. This is definitely not some boring, dry, academic exercise, but an engrossing, almost conversational rendering of Hartman’s life and times.

Besides being delivered in an easy to read style, it does not hesitate to be critical or questioning of Hartman in those situations the author feels are appropriate. And devotees of vocals by Jazz & Great American Songbook artists will also appreciate the extremely knowledgeable details that Akkerman is able provide regarding phrasing, styling, arrangements, lyrics & approaches to many songs. The author draws on his own considerable personal resources & taste as a performer and experienced music educator, as well as that of those who contributed to this highly recommended book.

CURL UP & LEARN!

“Shall We Play That One Together? The Life and Art of Jazz Piano Legend Marian McPartland”
by Paul de Barros, St. Martin’s Press

The story of Marian McPartland traces her life from her beginnings in England, where she met her husband, trumpeter Jimmy McPartland, during World War II, to her long stand at the Hickory House in New York City. There are also insights into her efforts to gain more respect for women musicians, and her “Piano Jazz” radio series on National Public Radio, which has given us many important recorded comments by jazz giants of the past.

“Norman Granz: The Man Who Used Jazz for Justice” by Ted Hershorn, University of CA Press

As the title implies, record producer Norman Granz, besides giving us one of the great legacies of jazz records, was also a fighter for civil rights. The book tells how he fought racism in concert halls and restaurants, seeing to it that his touring Jazz at the Philharmonic musicians got proper hotel accommodations, ate in the best restaurants, and played to nonsegregated audiences. There are also lots of stories about recording sessions and Granz’s clashes with critics who put down his concert format.

We’re looking for brief items from our readers. If you have a jazz item, a CD you have enjoyed, a jazz book you’ve read, a concert or performance you heard, an upcoming musical engagement, anything, tell us about it. We reserve the right to edit contributions and cannot guarantee their inclusion, but will welcome them all.

Send to A Place for Jazz, PO Box 1059, Schenectady NY 12301 or coakjazz@aol.com
Being a Member is Where It’s At!

Love Jazz? Here’s how you can help make it happen: Join a wonderful, positive group of people working to make our community A Place for Jazz!

Here’s what you get for your annual membership dues:

» A tax deduction for donations in excess of ticket value (1 series or 5 general tickets valued at $60) as we are a 501(c)(3) organization

» Your name listed in programs, on our website and on an entry “Thank You” poster

» An invitation to “members only” events

» The opportunity (for members with a ticket) to bring two children under 12-years old for free to any concert where seats are available. Please call to check on reservations

» Good vibes from knowing you are a part of an organization that:
  • brings great music to our community at an affordable price
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  • helps support other musicians and presenters in our area
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Today’s date _______________

☐ Yes, you may include my name in your member-recognition materials.

♫ ☐ <$50
♫ ♫ ☐ $50-99 Two free concert tickets
♫ ♫ ♫ ☐ $100-199 Five free tickets (one series ticket or five admissions to one concert)
♫ ♫ ♫ ♫ ☐ $200-499 Ten free tickets
♫ ♫ ♫ ♫ ♫ ☐ $500-999 Fifteen free tickets + Meet & Greet at concert of your choice + Free autographed CD + Designation as “Concert Underwriter” for one concert or educational program
♫ ♫ ♫ ♫ ♫ ♫ ☐ $1000+ Twenty free tickets + Meet & Greet at concert of your choice + Free autographed CD + Designation as “Concert Underwriter” for one concert or educational program + Lifetime membership

Please check with your employer for possible matching grant programs.
Please enclose a check or money order payable to A Place for Jazz, and mail it with this form to:
A Place for Jazz, P.O. Box 1059, Schenectady, NY 12301
A Place for Jazz is made possible with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, celebrating 50 years of building strong, creative communities in New York State’s 62 counties.

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A Place for Jazz is a nonprofit organization dedicated to presenting the best in jazz. In addition to grant funding, revenue is generated through ticket sales and membership contributions.

Programs include concerts, student scholarships, public workshops, school-based clinics, a web site and general support of Jazz and its musicians. We welcome announcements and comments.

Editor: Tim Coakley
Contributors: Tim Coakley, Tom Pierce, Al Brooks, Leslie Hyland, Leesa Perazzo
Web Master: Jerry Gordon
Newsletter: Leesa Perazzo

A FULL UP-TO-DATE PERFORMANCE AND VENUE CALENDAR CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.APPLACEFORJAZZ.ORG

DON’T FORGET...CONCERTS AT APFJ WILL BEGIN AT 7:30 PM THIS FALL!!!

Check us out at www.aplaceforjazz.org for Jazz in our community. Printed by Nott Street Office