



SPRING 2012

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CARRYING ON THE TRADITION

As A Place for Jazz enters its next 25 years, we have lined up a 2012 season that reflects our continuing effort to present the many and diverse faces of jazz, from its early styles through present-day variations. See page three for details of what will be an exciting and engaging series of concerts.

From the beginning, our founder, Butch Conn, sought to recognize and support the younger musicians who were coming along to keep the jazz flame burning.

We continue that effort with an annual scholarship donation to a deserving music student at Schenectady County Community College, whose music department has sent a number of excellent players out into the professional world.

We also arrange for professional musicians to provide clinics at our local schools, as well as supporting the Summer Jazz Camp conducted by saxophonist/teacher Keith Pray at Proctors Theatre.

We also contribute to the worthy organization called Musical Tools for Schenectady Schools, which collects and refurbishes instruments for student musicians in city schools that don't have enough instruments for students who want to learn to play.

And for the past few concert seasons, we have been pleased to have students from our local middle schools performing during the intermissions of some of our fall concerts. They have made such a great impression on our audiences, and had such a great time playing, that we intend to keep doing it again this year.

Through our newsletters and website, www.aplaceforjazz.org, we keep the jazz community posted on concerts and club dates in the area, as well as telling you where you can hear jazz on the radio.

In all these ways, we carry on the tradition established by Butch, and we plan to keep bringing quality jazz performances to the Capital Region for many years to come.

- Norm Ainslie
- Al Brooks
- Beverly Elander
- Al Haugen
- Anita Haugen
- Leslie Hyland
- Mike Lategano
- Bill McCann
- Leesa Perazzo
- Alice Rudnick
- Joe Slomka

MUSICIANS UNIONS CELEBRATE JAZZ

April is Jazz Appreciation Month, and the musicians unions of Schenectady and Albany are planning to celebrate with stellar events. The music is free. Food and beverage may be purchased on a cash basis.

Sunday, April 15, the Schenectady Musical Union will present A Saxophone Tribute from 3 to 7 p.m. Robb Alley at Proctors Theatre, 432 State Street, Schenectady.

Union President Mark Anthony suggests that people use the free parking garage on Broadway rather than the \$5 parking lot behind Proctors .

Enjoy the music of: The Adirondack Saxophone Quartet Plus Two; Keith Pray's new and unusual group Songs from Home; Brian Patneau's Quartet; Lee Russo's Tribute to Hank Mobley.

The afternoon will conclude with a saxophone ensemble in which Lee Russo, Keith Pray and Brian Patneau will be joined by Lee's father, the great Leo Russo.

Sunday, April 29, the Albany Musicians Union will host an event from 3 until 7 pm at the Colonie Elks Club on Rt. 155 (East of Latham), near North Colonie Schools.

Neil Brown, President of Local 14, the Albany Musicians' Association, has announced a special presentation to honor Tim Coakley, President of A Place for Jazz, for his tireless efforts and strong leadership for many years.

Featuring: The Charlie Smith/Rob Aronstein Trio - Guitar and Organ-fueled Blues; The Steve Lambert Sextet; Gals Who Play Jazz - Patti Melita, Linda Brown with special guest Lee Shaw; Nat Phipps with jazz vocalists: featuring Rena Graf and Mo Rancourt; The Leo Russo Quintet.

APFJ IS MORE THAN JUST GREAT JAZZ!

Dear Mr. Coakley,

I'd like to thank you for the "A Place for Jazz" Scholarship this semester. Yesterday I received the financial award in the mail, and it will be a huge help towards my new bass that I'm having built! I thoroughly enjoyed every performance this fall at A Place for Jazz, and I'm so excited to be stepping into the capital area jazz scene. Doctor (William) Meckley and I discussed how impressive this scholarship will look on my resume, and I am very grateful to have won this award especially as I look to transfer to a four year college. I've applied and auditioned at SUNY Potsdam, Ithaca College, and William Paterson where I'll be focusing in Jazz/Music Education. I hope to see you at other jazz shows in the area!

Thanks again,
Jarod Grieco
SCCC music student and 2011 APFJ scholarship recipient



SEPTEMBER 14

Our series opens with **Tom Harrell**, one of the most acclaimed trumpeters since the early 1980s. Woody Herman, Horace Silver and Phil Woods have employed him and he's led his own outstanding quintets since the 1990s. Displaying the improvising power of Clifford Brown, the lyricism of Chet Baker, and his own creative composing, he's received multiple industry awards and released over 20 well-regarded CDs as a leader.



NEW!!
CONCERTS START
AT 7:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 28

This year's exciting vocal performer, **Mary Stallings**, is a celebrated veteran of 50 years. She distinctively merges the complementary influences of jazz, gospel, blues and the Great American Songbook. Her career has included stints with Cal Tjader, Billy Eckstine and Dizzy Gillespie. Her thrilling performance at the Village Vanguard led the NY Times to write "Perhaps the best jazz singer alive today is a woman almost everybody seems to have missed."



OCTOBER 12

Legendary **Dick Hyman**, who will perform solo, is one of those very few pianists who can capture & express the entire history of Jazz, from early New Orleans, Ragtime, Swing, Be-Bop up through modern innovations. His 65-year career as composer, songwriter, conductor, pianist, organist and arranger has encompassed a "Who's Who" of Jazz & other music, with unmatched versatility, energy and talent.



OCTOBER 26

This year's "local" group, **Bopitude**, is a stirring sextet headed by drummer-vibist Michael Benedict. They were a big hit at the 2011 Albany Jazz Festival, performing their nationally ranked "Bopitude" CD. Fans of vibrant post-bop are eagerly anticipating their Whisperdome debut, following their just-released second CD, "Five and One." Both of these feature the world's #1 ranked baritonist Gary Smulyan, the extraordinary pianist Bruce Barth, electrifying trumpeter Chris Pasin, as well as Capital District heroes Brian Patneau & Mike Lawrence.



NOVEMBER 9

World-class Cuban Conga player & singer **Pedrito Martinez** has been chosen by many of the biggest names in music to appear on over 100 CD's. He brings an especially uplifting and infectious Latin Jazz quartet to close out our season. Their joyously applauded appearances last year at SPAC and other national venues guarantee this will be a memorable and fun concert.



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

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
 SCHENECTADY 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

ONE CAROLINE STREET BISTRO
 Saratoga Springs, 518.587.2026

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

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,
 Shenectady, 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

WAMC 90.3 FM Jim Wilke, "Jazz
 After Hours," Friday and Saturday
 1-5 am; Afro-Pop Worldwide 8 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", Mon-
 day 12-2 pm; Adam, "So Live Jazz
 Show", Monday 2-4 pm; "Maiden
 Voyage" Thursday 6-8 pm

WSPN 91.1 FM Howie Kaplan,
 Friday 12-3 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 shows.

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

96.7FM WPTR Mix of old pop with
 big band and "jazzy" vocalists, 24/7

WKLI MAGIC 100.9 FM "Legends
 of Jazz" with Ramsey Lewis, Sunday
 8-10 am; "Swingin' with Sinatra"
 with Steve Jackson Vicario, Sunday
 12-2 pm; "Big Band Jump" with Don
 Kennedy, Sunday 10 pm-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 "Ra-
 dio 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

RADIO JAZZ SHOWS

WVCR 88.3 FM "The Crossroads of
 Jazz," Darrin Scott and Ted Moiseses,
 Saturday 12-2 pm. A mix of the
 essentials and the contemporary.

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

EJO PAYS TRIBUTE TO CLARE FISCHER

The Empire Jazz Orchestra, resident big band at Schenectady County Community College, will pay tribute to the late pianist and composer Clare Fischer at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17 in the Carl B. Taylor Auditorium at the college, 78 Washington Ave., Schenectady.

Fischer passed away earlier this year. He was a Grammy-winning composer and arranger, as well as recording more than 50 albums as a pianist and bandleader. His compositions include "Pensativa" and "Morning."

Fischer's son Brent, a composer, arranger and performer in his own right, will be on hand to conduct the EJO in his father's compositions and arrangements.

The other half of the concert will feature music by Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Carter, Pete Rugolo, Jim Corigliano, Oliver Nelson and others.

Tickets are \$20, \$6 for non-SCCC students. Reservations can be made by calling 381-1232.

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• DON'T FORGET...CONCERTS AT APFJ WILL BEGIN AT 7:30 PM THIS FALL!!!
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NEW CDS FROM LOCAL MUSICIANS

Three Capital Region musicians have produced new CDs.

Saxophonist **Brian Patneau** held a CD release party at the College of Saint Rose on March 3, performing tunes from his latest recording, "All Around Us." Performing with him were David Caldwell-Mason, piano; Mike Del Prete, bass; and Danny Whelchel, drums. There is a review of the CD by APFJ Vice President Tom Pierce at www.albanyjazz.com

Saxophonist **Keith Pray** also has a new CD, titled "Confluence," on the ARC label. It features Chuck D'Aloia, guitar; Peter Tomlinson, piano; Lou Pappas, bass; and Jeff "Siege" Siegel, drums. Keith will hold a CD release party on Saturday, March 31 at the Van Dyck, 237 Union St., Schenectady. Doors open at 6 p.m., the concert starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and are available online at www.vandycklounge.com or by phone at 518-348-7999. In order to accommodate as many people as possible (seating is limited), purchase your tickets in advance. If the room is sold out in advance, another show will be added at 9 pm. If you would like to hear a preview of the cd, feel free to visit www.reverbnation.com/keithpray

Drummer and vibraphonist **Mike Benedict** and his group Bopitude have a new CD featuring baritone saxophonist Gary Smulyan and pianist Bruce Barth along with trumpeter Chris Pasin, tenor saxophonist Brian Patneau and bassist Mike Lawrence. They will hold a CD release party on Friday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m. at the Greenville High School auditorium. Tickets are \$10 for students, \$15 for adults. Call 518-966-5070 ext. 439 for tickets. And don't forget, Bopitude will be appearing for A Place for Jazz on Oct. 26 with the same stellar lineup.



For the last five years, Dr. Jose Cruz of the University at Albany has been promoting the pulsating grooves of Latin jazz in the Capital Region through his non-profit organization Jazz/Latino Inc. He has presented at least two concerts each year by such luminaries as Bobby Sanabria, Chris Washburne, Willie Martinez and others.

His 2012 series has already started with a couple of his "salons," which are informal music and talk sessions at his home in which he explores the music and careers of such Latin jazz exponents as Candido Camero and Francisco Aguabella. He uses videos, recordings and occasionally live performances at these salons. The next salon will be held at 7:30 p.m. on May 17 at the Arts Center of the Capital Region in Troy and will feature video highlights of the last five seasons.

While his series of concerts has been successful, he would like to see more people attending and getting into Latin jazz. "Attendance has fluctuated between 60 and a hundred people over the years," he said. "The fundamental problem is that this town really doesn't know about Latin jazz. It's almost a leap of faith for people to venture to a Latin jazz concert. It's very difficult for them to step outside their comfort zone."

Yet Latin music has had a powerful influence on jazz from the very beginning, as reflected in Jelly Roll Morton's "Spanish tinge," which he gave to several of his classic compositions. Duke Ellington composed a number of Latin-influenced pieces, and the Dizzy

THE BEAT AND SOUND OF LATIN JAZZ

Gillespie and Stan Kenton big bands were replete with such pieces and arrangements.

Dr. Cruz is at pains to point out the differences between salsa and Latin jazz: "In salsa, there is always singing. The beginning of the piece is always sung, whereas in Latin jazz it's more instrumental; the setup is more like a jazz combo. You find such instruments as timbales in salsa, but never in Latin jazz." And salsa bands are typically bigger, comprising seven or ten musicians, while Latin jazz groups "could be a duo or a trio."

The first concert in this year's series will feature percussionist Steven Kroon and his sextet at 8 p.m. on April 27 in the Emerson Auditorium at Union College in Schenectady. Kroon grew up in Spanish Harlem and studied with several master percussionists. He spent two decades performing with Luther Vandross.

The last concert, on May 26, will also be held at 8 p.m. in the Emerson Auditorium at Union College and feature pianists Nicki Denner and Rebecca Cline, who last year gave an inspired and inspiring two-piano exploration of the music of Mongo Santamaria. This year, the two will explore the music of Thelonious Monk. Dr. Cruz said, "When I decided to do this, I said let's do an encore, but with the work of a different pianist. They both wanted to do Monk, so I said OK but let's Caribbean-ize Monk."

Information and reservations for Jazz/latino events are available at (518) 466-9990 by emailing info@jazzlatino.org or by visiting www.jazzlatino.org

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

**SEND US
STUFF**

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
 - funds community education programs and scholarships
 - helps support other musicians and presenters in our area
 - educates the next generation of fans
- » The benefits described below for each membership level

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____ Email _____

Today's date _____


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


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 \$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



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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.

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

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