

A PLACE FOR JAZZ

May 2006

Editor: Tim Coakley

WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.APLACEFORJAZZ.ORG](http://www.aplaceforjazz.org)—UPDATED DAILY

VOLUNTEER HELP WANTED

We need help:

Labeling newsletters (1 hour every 3 months...can be done at home)

Writing music reviews

Working on a young people's project at the Hamilton Hill Art Center

If you can help, please call Tim Coakley at

518-393-4011

or e-mail him at

coakjazz@aol.com

Web Site News

There's a new way to reach our web site! The old URL (www.timesunion.com/communities/jazz) will still work, so if you've already got it in your Favorites, you don't have to do anything. But otherwise, you can now get to our web site

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Looking Ahead to Another Great Season

By Tim Coakley

As summer approaches, A Place for Jazz is in the process of readying the fall 2006 series of concerts. We have an outstanding lineup of performers in mind, with several already definite.

Among the artists we will present this fall are the outstanding guitarist Chris Flory and the great pianist John Bunch, a veteran of both big bands and small. Both have appeared at major jazz festivals around the world for many years.

Their quartet will be sure to offer a blend of swing, modern jazz and great popular standards.

We have had a series of captivating vocalists on our stage in recent years, and this year we will be presenting Giacomo Gates and his trio. Gates is an authentic jazz singer in the tradition of Jon Hendricks and Eddie Jefferson. He has appeared all over the world, including the Freihofers Jazz Festival at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center. He and his trio will bring us an evening of swinging sounds (See Tom Pierce's review on page 2).

Each year, APFJ tries to present a performer with

a local connection. This year, we will have not one, but four of our finest musicians. Our own great pianist Lee Shaw and her trio of Jeff Siegel, drums, and Rich Syracuse, bass, will be joined by the outstanding guitarist Jack Fragomeni for what we are sure will be a memorable evening.

We will also be presenting the great tenor saxophonist David Fathead Newman with a quartet.

The remainder of the concert series will be announced in our next newsletter.

Help us on our way.

Most important, as we move toward becoming an independent nonprofit organization, we need, more than ever, the support of the generous and loyal patrons who have sustained us over the years.

We have already had several members renew their memberships for 2006, as well as some folks who are joining us for the first time. If you are one of those,

we greatly appreciate it. If you haven't yet sent in your membership, please take a look at the inside back page at the various membership levels, and find one that fits your budget.



The Jazz Voices rhythm section (Bob Halek, Otto Gardner and Peg Delaney) performs. (see more on pages 6 and 10)

Check out our updated-monthly calendar on our website at www.aplaceforjazz.org or www.timesunion.com/communities/jazz

The calendar is updated daily and includes links to Jazz Festivals, clubs and concert series



RECENT ACQUISITIONS

By Tom Pierce

Songbirds, a group of music lovers devoted to vocalists, occasionally posts a list of "Recent Acquisitions" listing some of the CDs they have especially enjoyed.

I post them because I appreciate the fact that many of these CD's (and many others I've obtained in the 5 & 1/2 years I've been on Songbirds), have come directly or indirectly from comments of other Songbirders.

Unlike the last time I did this in August 2005, where I listed ALL of those I could recommend, I'm limiting this post to my DOZEN favorite vocal recent acquisitions. I've included the following brief comments:

- Year recorded
- Aspects I particularly enjoyed
- Songs I found most appealing

For more information, the sites I've found most helpful are Amazon.com, Half.com (by ebay), Allmusic.com and iTunes music store; as well as the artists' own sites, of course.

1. DENA DEROSE - "LOVE'S HOLIDAY" (2002)

- The sense of real LONGING she projects; her well-defined, easily identifiable style the impressive horns & rhythm section (including her piano)

- "Close Your Eyes"; "Lamp is Low"; "I Thought About You"

2. GLORIA LYNNE - "GOLDEN CLASSICS" (1959 – 1963, approx)

- The gradual building of songs' drama, without some of the excesses I recall from some of her 60's live performances. Her striking voice superbly meshing the best elements of Jazz, R&B and Pop

- "I Wish You Love"; "Folks Who Live on the Hill"; "I'm Glad There is You"

3. JO STAFFORD - "YES IN-DEED!" (1940 – 1950) 4 CD Box set I received as a gift

- Her understated, seemingly distant delivery still conveying emotional involvement; The almost flawless vocal craft that more than justifies her enormous popularity

- "It Could happen to You"; "I Didn't Know About You"; "Fools Rush In"

4. JOYCE BREACH - "LIVE IN LONDON" (2004)

- Superior ability to project melancholy without being maudlin. An intense but gentle intimacy that consistently hushes the audience

- "I Hadn't Anyone Till You"; "Heart and Soul"; "How About You"

5. LURLEAN HUNTER - "NIGHT LIFE" (1956)

- The fresh, exquisite timbre of her voice; the quiet, but undeniable excitement she engenders; the superb orchestral arrangements of Manny Albam, Al Cohn & Ernie Wilkins

- "It Could happen to You"; "This Time the Dreams on Me"; "It's the talk of the Town"

6. PATRICIA BARBER - "A FORT-NIGHT IN FRANCE" (2004)

- The darkly captivating mood she establishes with her highly personal approach; the sharply swinging band, with fine solos from her piano & guitarist, Neal Alger

- "Gotcha"; "Laura"; "Call Me"

7. THE RITZ - "ALMOST BLUE" (1991)

- Excellent close harmony ENSEMBLE passages whether singing lead or background; beautifully melodic solos of Melissa Hamilton, Daryl Bos-teels & Val Hawk

- "Almost Blue"; "Heart's Desire";

"Last Night When We Were Young"

8. BOB DOROUGH - "JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING" (1966)

- A delightfully real "Hipness" coming across as sweet & witty, not affected or smug; the effective way his engrossing piano skills complement his original lyrics & delivery

- "Baby You Should Know it"; "But For Now"; "Just About Everything"

9. EDDIE JEFFERSON - "THE JAZZ SINGER" (1959 – 1965)

- Relentlessly enthralling swing; Charming tenderness; superb Jazz lyric writing, rivaled only by Jon Hendricks

- "Baby Girl (These Foolish Things)"; "Moody's Mood for Love"; "Now's the Time"

10. ERNIE ANDREWS - "GIRL TALK" (2000)

- His unhurried sense of time; Strong baritone with gentleness & clarity

- "A Cottage for Sale"; "It Might as Well be Spring"; "I want to be Loved"

11. GIACOMO GATES - "CENTERPIECE" (2004)

- Rich, clear, commanding tone; solid Jazz phrasing & rhythmic ease

- "All of Me"; "Milestones"; "Summertime"

12. KURT ELLING - "LIVE IN CHICAGO"

-Virtuosity in almost every respect: Resonance, dynamics, range, lyricism, breath control, imagination; drive; humorously engaging stage manner

- "My Foolish Heart"; "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes"; "For Sentimental Reasons"

JAZZ CALENDAR

Visit our website at www.aplaceforjazz.org



Jazz Venues

Listed Alphabetically

Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY, 845-758-6822 (50 miles south)

Blue Plate Restaurant, 1 Kinderhook St, Chatham, NY, 518-392-7711 (30 miles southeast)

Café Capriccio, 49 Grand St, Albany, 465-0439

Caffe Lena, 47 Phila Street, Saratoga Springs, 583-0022

Century House, 997 New Loudon Rd (Rt 9), Latham, 785-0834

Danceland/Boomers, 1892 Central Ave, Albany, 456-2888

The Egg, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 473-1845

The Fountain Restaurant, 283 New Scotland Ave, Albany, 482-9898

Four Corners Luncheonette, 2 Grove St, Delmar, 439-0172

Justin's, 301 Lark St, Albany, 436-7008

Lark Tavern, 453 Madison Ave, Albany, 463-9779

Mo' Jazz Café, 7 South Main St (beneath the Wilmington Village Pub), Wilmington, VT 802-464-2280 (45 miles northeast)

Moon & River Café, 115 S. Ferry St., Schenectady, 382-1938

9 Maple Avenue Jazz Club, Saratoga Springs, 583-2582

One Caroline Street Bistro, Saratoga Springs, 587-2026

Panza's Restaurant, Route 9P on Saratoga Lake, Saratoga Springs, 584-6882

Parker Inn, 434 State St, Schenectady, 688-1001

Red Onion Restaurant, Route 212, Woodstock, NY 845-679-1223 (55 miles south)

Roadhouse 29, 1023 Route 29 East, Saratoga Springs, 695-6995

Saratoga Hotel, 534 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, 885-4430

Sargo's, Saratoga National Golf Club, 458 Union Ave, Saratoga Springs, 583-4653 (Open to General Public)

Scrimshaw Tavern, Desmond Hotel, Colonie, 869-8100

Stockade Inn, 1 N. Church St, Schenectady, 346-3800

The Van Dyck, 337 Union St, Schenectady, 381-1111

Vermont Jazz Center, 72 Cotton Mill Hill, Studio 222, Brattleboro, VT, 802-254-9088 (80 miles east by northeast)

WAMC Performing Arts Studio - Linda Norris Auditorium, 318 Central Ave, Albany, 800-323-9262 ext 4



HAVE YOU MAILED BACK YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL?

If so, we thank you for your continued support.

If not, please take a moment to pick a membership category from the form at the back of this newsletter and mail it, together with your check made payable to "Jazz/FUSS", to the address listed below. Membership is critical to allow us to continue our tradition of providing great Jazz at affordable prices. We would greatly appreciate it if you would renew your membership in A Place For Jazz now. Thank You.

A Place For Jazz
1221 Wendell Avenue
Schenectady, NY 12308



Photo by Andrzej Pilarczyk

Mo Rancourt wails at the Marriot (See story on page 10)

WE WELCOME YOUR INPUT

Have you been to a good concert; heard a new Jazz CD, or want to tell us just a bit of news? Why not share it with us? Write a review and send it to coakjazz@aol.com. And be sure to check out our website at www.aplaceforjazz.org. Let us know what you like, or don't like, and keep the Capital Region updated as to why it is *A Place for Jazz*. Deadline for the next newsletter: July 15, 2006.



MAY JAZZ CALENDAR

Visit Our Website at www.aplaceforjazz.org

Tuesday, May 16

7pm, Cole Broderick, [Chez Sophie bistro](#)

5pm, Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

Wednesday, May 17

6-9pm, Lincoln Mayorga (piano) and Otto Gardner (bass), [Blue Plate](#)

8pm, Sonny & Perley Quartet in concert, The Chapel and Cultural Ctr at RPI, Burdett Ave, Troy, NY. 274-7793

5pm, Rena Graf & Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm-midnight, Mystery Piano Trio, [Justin's](#)

6:30-9:30pm, Arvid Allen, [Provence Restaurant](#)

Thursday, May 18

6pm, Birdland Duo, [Cabernet Café](#)

7:30-10:30pm, Sensemaya, [Chameleon on the Lake](#)

7-11pm, Swing night, [Danceland/Boomers](#)

9pm-12am, Los Mofos (Jason Ennis, Jon Suters, Nick Halley), [Dué Enoteca](#)

5pm, Shirley Nasner, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm-midnight, Justin's Jazz Trio, [Justin's](#)

6-8pm, Ed Wool, [Parker Inn](#)

6:30-9:30pm, Tom Cheles, [Provence Restaurant](#)

7-10pm, Steve Lambert Trio, [Stockade Inn](#)

Friday, May 19

7pm, Randy Loren, [Brandon's](#)

6pm, Birdland Duo, [Cabernet Café](#)

9-12pm, Walter Donnaruma Trio, [Cafe Capriccio](#)

8-11pm, Alan Simon Trio, [Castle Street Café](#)

7:30-11:30pm, Lovin' Life, [Chameleon on the Lake](#)

Skip Parsons' Riverboat Jazz Band in concert with the Medelsshon Club, [The Egg](#)

5pm, Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9:30pm, Jeff Siegel Group, [Justin's](#)

8pm, Schoharie Jazz Band, [Moon & River Café](#)

9pm-1am, Mulligan Stew, [9 Maple Ave](#)

7pm, George Muscatello, [One Caroline Street](#)

8-11pm, Doc Scanlon, outdoor deck at [Park 54](#)

7-10pm, Judd Staley/Bill Alston, [Provence Restaurant](#)

9pm, Vic Bell Combo, [Roadhouse 29](#)

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

7-10pm, Sal Maida Trio, [Stockade Inn](#)

8pm-midnight, Tony Jenkins Jazz Trip, [Wallabee's Jazz Bar](#)

Saturday, May 20

7pm, Randy Loren, [Brandon's](#)

8-11pm, Teresa Broadwell Trio, [Castle Street Café](#)

5pm, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9:30pm, Lee Shaw Trio, [Justin's](#)

9pm-1am, Joe Barna Group, [9 Maple Ave](#)

7pm, Joe Gitto Duo, [One Caroline Street](#)

6:30-9:30pm, Noreen Pratt, [Panza's Restaurant](#)

8-11pm, Ernie Williams, outdoor deck at [Park 54](#)

7-10pm, George Giroux, [Provence](#)

Restaurant

8-11:30pm, Skip Parsons' Swing Thing Quintet, [Saratoga Music Hall](#)

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

8pm, Mecca Bodega, [Vermont Jazz Center](#)

8pm-midnight, Deja Blue, [Wallabee's Jazz Bar](#)

Sunday, May 21

Live Jazz Jam hosted by Pamela Pentony and John Esposito, [Chow Hound](#)

Noon-2:30pm, Skip Parsons' Riverboat Dixieland Quartet, [Dutch Apple Cruises](#)

11am, Rich Donnelly, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

11:30am-2:30pm, Jazz Brunch with Maria Zamantauski, [Justin's](#)

9pm-midnight, Brian Patneaude Quartet, [Justin's](#)

6-9pm, Peter Einhorn, Malcolm Cecil & George Deleon, [Red Onion Restaurant](#)

10am-2pm, Jazz Brunch with Joe Sorrentino Band, [Sargo's](#)

10:30am-1:30pm, Sonny Daye-piano, [Turf House Grill](#)

Monday, May 22

8pm, Bob Barker's open mic & jam, [Moon & River Café](#)

Tuesday, May 23

7pm, Sonny & Perley in concert, I'll Take Romance, Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave, Delmar, 439-9314

7pm, Cole Broderick, [Chez Sophie bistro](#)

5pm, Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)



MAY JAZZ CALENDAR

Visit Our Website at www.aplaceforjazz.org

Wednesday, May 24

6-9pm, Lincoln Mayorga (piano) and Otto Gardner (bass), [Blue Plate](#)

5pm, Chris Dunn, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm-midnight, Mystery Piano Trio, [Justin's](#)

8pm, Jazzmin, [Moon & River Café](#)

6:30-9:30pm, Sonny Daye, [Provence Restaurant](#)

Thursday, May 25

6pm, Birdland Duo, [Cabernet Café](#)

7:30-10:30pm, Sensemaya, [Chameleon on the Lake](#)

7-11pm, Swing night, [Danceland/Boomers](#)

9pm-12am, Los Mofos (Jason Ennis, Jon Suters, Nick Halley), [Dué Enoteca](#)

5pm, Shirley Nasner, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm-midnight, Adrian Cohen Trio, [Justin's](#)

6-8pm, Ed Wool, [Parker Inn](#)

6:30-9:30pm, Peg Delaney, [Provence Restaurant](#)

7-10pm, Jody Shayne Trio, [Stockade Inn](#)

Friday, May 26

7pm, Randy Loren, [Brandon's](#)

6pm, Birdland Duo, [Cabernet Café](#)

9-12pm, Walter Donnaruma Trio, [Cafe Capriccio](#)

8-11pm, The BTU's R&B Guitar, [Castle Street Café](#)

7:30-11:30pm, Lovin' Life, [Chameleon on the Lake](#)

5pm, Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9:30pm, John Menegon Group, [Justin's](#)

9pm-1am, Nitro Jive, [9 Maple Ave](#)

7pm, Peg Delaney, [One Caroline Street](#)

8-11pm, Franklin Micare Duo, outdoor deck at [Park 54](#)

7-10pm, Michael Lamkin, [Provence Restaurant](#)

9pm, Vic Bell Combo, [Roadhouse 29](#)

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

7-10pm, Sonny & Perley Trio, [Stockade Inn](#)

8pm-midnight, Tony Jenkins Jazz Trip, [Wallabee's Jazz Bar](#)

Saturday, May 27

7pm, Randy Loren, [Brandon's](#)

8-11pm, Bone Vivant, Michael Krawitz, Trombone, [Castle Street Café](#)

5pm, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

6:30-10:30pm, Sonny & Perley Trio, Fratello's, 1113 State St, Schenectady, NY 346-8706

9:30pm, Joe Barna Experience, [Justin's](#)

9pm-1am, Sensemaya, [9 Maple Ave](#)

7pm, Chuck D'Aloia Duo, [One Caroline Street](#)

6:30-9:30pm, Peg Delaney, [Panza's Restaurant](#)

7-10pm, Rennie Crain, [Provence Restaurant](#)

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

8pm-midnight, Joe Gitto, [Wallabee's Jazz Bar](#)

Sunday, May 28

Noon-3pm, Jason Ennis, [Café Latino](#)

Live Jazz Jam hosted by Pamela Pentony and John Esposito, [Chow Hound](#)

Noon-2:30pm, Skip Parsons' Riverboat Dixieland Quartet, [Dutch Apple Cruises](#)

11am, Rich Donnelly, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

11:30am-2:30pm, Jazz Brunch with Lee Shaw, [Justin's](#)

9pm-midnight, Brian Patneaude Quintet, [Justin's](#)

6-9pm, Peter Einhorn, Malcolm Cecil & George Deleon, [Red Onion Restaurant](#)

10am-2pm, Jazz Brunch with Joe Sorrentino Band, [Sargo's](#)

Monday, May 29

Tuesday, May 30

7pm, Cole Broderick, [Chez Sophie bistro](#)

5pm, Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

Wednesday, May 31

6-9pm, Lincoln Mayorga (piano) and Otto Gardner (bass), [Blue Plate](#)

5pm, Chris Dunn, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

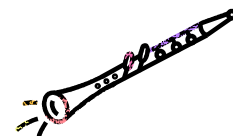
9pm-midnight, [Justin's](#)

6:30-9:30pm, Sonny Daye, [Provence Restaurant](#)



Sing! Sing! Sing!" - Truly a Night to Remember

By Walter Cicha, Ph.D.



"A night to remember" also was the headline on the front page of the *Daily Gazette's* Life & Arts section on Feb. 28th, which I discovered while checking up on Carl Strock's preview of the evening's debate on evolution. However, this title was referring to a different night many years ago, one that was to be beautifully recreated just 48 hours later at Proctor's Theater in Schenectady by the unusually gifted and charismatic clarinetist Ken Peplowski and his 13-piece Kingdom of Swing Big Band.

On the evening of January 16, 1938, the 29-year old jazz clarinetist Benny Goodman brought his highly popular swing big band to Manhattan's Carnegie Hall, the bastion of classical music, thus irreversibly raising jazz to the ranks of "serious music," especially following the concert's legendary success. Forty-six years later, a 25-year-old electrifying clarinetist from Cleveland, OH named Ken Peplowski was asked by Benny Goodman to join his band and stayed on with the original "King of Swing" until Mr. Goodman's death two years later, in 1986.

For an almost embarrassingly reasonable price of \$19.95, I was treated to one of the most enjoyable and inspirational 2.5 musical hours of my 4.5 decade old and musically active life: "Sing! Sing! Sing! (A Tribute to Benny Goodman's Famous 1938 Carnegie Hall Concert)."

While awaiting the musicians to take their place amongst the inviting swing band instruments on the Proctor's stage, which even included a not often seen vibraphone, it dawned on me that the theater was only about a quarter full. How is it possible that an evolution debate could draw many more people than what was about to unfold here, I wondered? It also struck

me that except for a few teenaged music students, I was probably the youngest patron!

What followed was nothing short of heavenly. Not long after band director/clarinet soloist/master of ceremonies Ken Peplowski first addressed the appreciative audience following the band's opening number, it was obvious that his lofty musicianship - he is considered one of America's top clarinetists - was matched by his charm and wit. One humorous anecdote after another, often teasing members of the band, preceded each of the nearly 30 swing era classics that were expertly performed, including "One O'Clock Jump," "Bugle Call Rag," "King Porter Stomp," "Swingtime in the Rockies," "Stompin' at the Savoy," and of course "Sing Sing Sing," which directly preceded the double encore.

I'd like to share what for me were some special highlights. The piano playing of Johnny Varro, who for many years has appeared on stage with Mr. Peplowski, was the epitome of measured jazz mastery. Possessing a strikingly light touch, he provided flawless and creative accompaniment to the band's frontline woodwind and brass, not to mention beautifully timed and inspired solos.

Drummer and vibraphonist Chuck Redd not only offered a significant fraction of the ammunition for Mr. Peplowski's rapid-fire wit, but also displayed musical versatility on par with his exceptional finesse. I'm not one to focus on drummers, as I believe the best drummers are those not noticed, but Mr. Redd's playing was outright hypnotizing. He had me attempting to tap out rhythm after rhythm with both hands and feet all evening, and then completely outdid himself (and probably every drum-

mer that I haven't noticed) by the solo he played in tribute to the great Gene Krupa, during the grand finale "Sing Sing Sing."

When in the second set Mr. Redd switched over to vibraphone for three pieces (one of the trumpet players filled in for him on drums), it seemed that Lionel Hampton himself had just made a cameo appearance. The smooth, moody yet devilishly intricate tones of Mr. Redd and his seemingly underrated and underutilized instrument took The Kingdom of Swing Big Band to new highs.

A lady whose attractiveness was only equaled by her sultry voice joined the band for a couple numbers during each set. Mr. Peplowski quickly and cutely informed us that the sexy guest vocalist was his wife. Kim Liggett's rendition of "Humpty Dumpty Heart" was the most endearing of the numbers she shared with the audience, and best showcased her impressive range and dynamics control.

Last but definitely not least, the clarinet virtuosity of the band leader was absolutely breathtaking at times. I think that the dexterity, ease and feel with which Mr. Peplowski improvised on nearly every number would have made his famous mentor very proud.

Smooth, controlled and yet brilliantly accented by improvisational and dynamic energy is how I would summarize The Kingdom of Swing Big Band's performance, which I had the great fortune of attending. Numerous times during the evening I reflected on how lucky I was to be living within a couple hundred miles of Manhattan (Mr. Peplowski's adopted home) and within a few blocks of Proctor's Theater. I most definitely made the right judgment call in breaking away from an exciting televised New York

Jazz Voices Reunion

Photos by Bill Delaney

A recent reunion of the vibrant Jazz Voices sponsored by the Swingtime Jazz Society, featuring Teresa Broadwell, Jody Shayne and Colleen Pratt, and organized by Peg Delaney, stirred up a capacity crowd at the Stockade Inn in Schenectady. Below are some photos of the swinging event.



(left to right) Pianist/arranger/director Peg Delaney, Jazz Voicer Teresa Broadwell, bassist Otto Gardner



(left to right) Jazz Voicers Teresa Broadwell, Jody Shayne, Colleen Pratt belting out a song



Big band singer (and proud mother of Colleen) Helen Pratt smiling with Peg Delaney



Jody and Colleen groovin' with bassist Gardner



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R A D I O J A Z Z

WVCR 88.3 FM Cutting edge Afro-Am Pop w/occasional Jazz/Latin flavor

WCDB 90.9 FM Bill McCann on Saturday mornings from 8 am to 12 noon

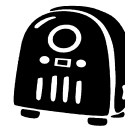
WAMC 90.3 FM Great mix. Jazz or jazz related music every evening including: **Tim Coakley**, Saturday 10:30 pm-12 midnight; **Jim Wilke**- Jazz After Hours 1 am to 5 am Friday and Saturday; **Marian McPartland**, Sunday 9pm, Jazz Profiles Tuesday 10 pm; Afro-Pop Worldwide, 8 pm Sunday

WSPN 91.1 FM Dave Casner's show, Wednesday. 12 to 3 pm; **Howie Kaplan** on Fridays 12 to 3 pm

WRPI 91.5 Barbara Kaiser 10 am to noon on Tuesday. with a wonderfully eclectic mixture of Jazz and; **Keven Roberts**, Thursday. 8-10 pm with his exciting and varied theme shows

WVPR 94.3 (Vermont Public Radio) **George Thomas** is the daily Jazz host (Tuesday-Thursday from 8-10 pm, Friday until midnight)

WKLI 100.9 Sundays on Magic 100.9 FM, Albany 8 am. -10.am.: Legends of Jazz with **Ramsey Lewis** 12 noon -2 pm.: Swingin' with Sinatra 7 pm. -10 pm.: Big Bands, Ballads and Blues 10 pm -midnight: Big Band Jump





Summer Jazz Events



Jazz on Jay.

Noon to 1:30 p.m. on front of Center City (across from Proctor's Theatre, Schenectady). Free.

June 1 -Union College jazz Ensemble
 June 8 -Pianist John Dworkin
 June 15 -Vocalist Jody Shayne
 June 22- Skip Parsons' Riverboat Jazz Band
 June 29 -Tim Olsen Quartet
 July 6- 10/27
 July 13 -Vocalist John McIntosh
 July 20 -Eric Walentowicz
 July 27 -Sonny & Perley
 August 3 -Terry Gordon
 August 10 -Brian Patneade Quartet
 August 17- John Menegon
 August 24 -Jack Fragomeni
 August 31- Paul Mastriani
 September 7 -Mulligan Stew

Skidmore Jazz Institute Skidmore College

Saratoga Springs
 June 24 to July 8

Two faculty concerts. Concerts by additional guest artists to be announced. All concerts at 8 p.m. free.

June 27, 8 pm
 Pianist Robert Glasper and his Trio (Bernhard Theater)
 June 29, 8 pm
 Skidmore Faculty Sextet
 Featuring Bill Cunliffe, Todd Coolman, Ed Shaughnessy, Pat LaBarbera, Bobby Shew, and Curtis Fuller (Bernard Theater)

July 1, 8 pm
 Pianist Arturo O'Farrill and trumpeter Jim Seeley Quintet (Bernhard Theater)
 July 4, 8 pm
 Drummer Joe LaBarbera's Quintet

Joe LaBarbera leads an all star group featuring Bill Cunliffe, Tom Warrington, Bob Sheppard and Clay Jenkins
 Bernhard Theater
 July 6, 8 pm
 Skidmore Faculty Sextet
 Bernhard Theater
 Featuring Bill Cunliffe, Todd Coolman, Ed Shaughnessy, Pat LaBarbera, Bobby Shew, and Eijiro Nakagawa
 June 30 and July 7, 1 pm
 Jazz Student Concerts
 Filene Recital Hall
 featuring Institute participants

Freihofer's Jazz Festival Saratoga Performing Arts Center

June 24-25

Saturday, June 24. Noon Amphitheater stage:
 Smokey Robinson; Herbie Hancock; Jamie Cullum, British-born pianist/vocalist; trumpeter Arturo Sandoval; Groovin' for Grover -Gerald Albright, Kirk Whalum and Jeff Lorber celebrate Grover Washington; Clarion Call - A New Orleans Trumpet Celebration with Kermit Ruffins, James Andrews, Marlon Jordan and Christian Scott; Jazz diva Tierney Sutton; Jeremy Lyons & The Deltabilly Boys.

Gazebo:
 Harpist Edmar Castaneda; Sarah Pedinotti, Saratoga Springs-bred vocalist/pianist; Catherine Russell - R&B, jazz, pop and gospel vocalist; clarinetist Marty Ehrlich.

Sunday, June 25. Noon Amphitheater
 Etta James; Dave Brubeck Quartet; Stanley Clarke/George Duke Project; Preservation Hall Jazz Band - 45th Anniversary Tour; guitarist-vocalist Susan Tedeschi; sax master James Carter; Robin Eubanks -Jazz trombonist and his band, EB3 (also appearing on the Gazebo Stage).

Gazebo:
 Pianist John Stetch; trumpeter Christian Scott; guitarist Kaki King;Vocalist Sonya Kitchell.

Amphitheater seating is \$57 for Saturday and \$51.50 for Sunday.
 Children under 12 are \$48.50 for Saturday and \$45 for Sunday.
 Advance adult lawn tickets are \$36 for Saturday, \$35 for Sunday and \$65 for both days; add \$3 if purchased at the gate.
 Children's lawn tickets, meanwhile, are \$5 each day.
 For information, call 584-9330 or visit www.spac.org, where ticket order forms are available. SPAC's box office opens Sunday, May 14, for counter and phone sales (587-3330).

Beginning May 14, tickets may also be purchased online at www.spac.org, or www.ticketmaster.com.

Kingston Jazz Festival Kingston

June 23-24-25
 All events free

Lineup includes the Count Basie Orchestra; Barry Harris Quintet; Russell Malone Quartet; Ben Allison Quartet; Diane Deline Quartet; Joe Locke Trio with Lewis Nash and George Mraz; Brian Patneade Quintet; Rufus Reid plus Four; Teri Roiger Quartet; String Trio of New York; John Menegon Quintet.

For information, call (518) 945-2669 or (917) 599-5339 or go online at www.PlanetArts.org.

Tanglewood Jazz Festival Lenox, Mass.

Sept. 1-2-3
 Friday, Sept. 1. Spanish Harlem Orchestra. Also, Big Three Palladium Orchestra, with Latin jazz led by the sons of bandleaders Machito and Tito Rodriguez.
 Saturday, Sept. 2. Afternoon: Marian McPartland's Piano Jazz with guest Elvis Costello. Evening: Wynton Marsalis, Dr. John.
 Sunday, Sept. 3. Afternoon: Dizzy Gillespie All Star Big Band led by trombonist Slide Hampton. Evening: Dave Brubeck Quartet.
 Tickets and information: 1-888-266-1200.

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For reservations, call 346-3400 or e-mail questions@stockadeinn.com**On the Road Again- With Mohonasen Music Students**

By Peg Miller



I spoke recently with Keith Bushey, Performance Facilitator at Mohonasen High School, and heard about an exciting event, that took

place between April 25th and April 30th. Before he went into details, Mr. Bushey outlined their performance schedule up to this time. The High School Jazz Band performed on March 29th, at the Glen Sanders Mansion before a group from KAPL. The performance lasted for one hour, and at the conclusion they were enthusiastically rewarded with a standing ovation. On April 12th all of the high school select groups, both vocal and instrumental, presented a concert at the school. I would like to mention here that Mohonasen has an outstanding marching band, as well.

Now, I'll get to what all the excite-

ment is about- on April 25th, the band members and their director boarded a bus for Nashville Tennessee for two recording sessions at Belmont University's Studio B. One of the groups favorite numbers that they recorded was Duke Ellington's "Cottontail". The soloists were: Michael Cara on alto sax; Michael Rapp on trombone; Josiah Greklek on guitar; Ben Mattice on French horn; Mary Mattice on piano; and Robert Schraber on tenor sax. The second session allowed the group to show their versatility in gospel, rock swing and Dixieland. Soloists were Lauren Dwyer on clarinet and Anthony Sutton on trumpet. When the group finished with the two recording sessions, others within the band recorded individual solos, including those done for NYSSMA.

The band moved on to Gatlinburg, TN after leaving Nashville, where they competed with schools from North Carolina, Georgia and Pennsylvania.

The event is called "Festival". They made an impressive showing in last year's competition at Myrtle Beach, where they placed first in jazz, parade and indoor color guard. On the lighter side, their itinerary included Dollywood, before they returned home on April 30th.

Keith Bushey is a professional musician with his own band, whose love of the big band style apparently carries over to his students. More than one student plans to continue with music studies after high school. David Carkner, a trumpet player, is one such student. Mr. Bushey's main focus is on having students learn different jazz styles, as well as trying to keep their level of improvisation as high as possible by utilizing many soloists with the ensemble. He explained that their present level is at Grade 4 based on a possible Grade 6. Keith's enthusiasm and pride in his students was very evident throughout our conversation.

2nd ANNUAL JAZZ APPRECIATION MONTH GALA CELEBRATION

by J Hunter

Looking forward while looking back.

That pretty much sums up both the Smithsonian's Jazz Appreciation Month (JAM) and the local chapter of the American Federation of Musicians' 2nd annual celebration at the Marriott. I remember the trepidation in AMA President **Neil Brown's** voice when he called last year's event the "first annual Jazz Appreciation Month celebration." Local 14 hadn't been involved in JAM before 2005, so there was no track record to show whether people would be back, or would be involved in any future activities. Brown needn't have worried. Once again, people filled the Marriott ballroom to see pieces of the jazz community's history, as well as a possible glimpse of the future.

The present wasn't bad either, by the way. Both the ballroom and the hallway were filled with sounds ranging from the Dixie Sweet Hots' old-time rag to the classical approach of the Adirondack Saxophone Quartet. There was plenty of trad to be had, too, courtesy of the **Rennie Crain Quartet**, the **Linda Brown Jazz** project, Vortex (featuring Brown and fellow JAM committee members **Jim DeForge** and **John Shipley**) and two other groups I'll talk about in a moment.

This was the culmination of a month-long series of events around the Capital Region, ranging from afternoon concerts at various locations not associated with jazz, to a video presentation by Albany's leading jazz educator/archivist, **Hal Miller**. According to JAM Committee chairman **Peg Delaney**, events were being booked right up until last week, which featured education sessions at both Albany High School and Giffen Middle School. Brown wanted everyone to know that 190 students attended the Albany High session and "Everyone was very respectful. You need to know that."

This year's honorees featured legendary radio personality **Bill Edwardsen**. AMA President Emeritus **Tommy Ippolito** fought back tears as he talked about the late deejay's commitment to playing big band jazz in the face of a radio industry that demanded he play more popular music. "When the music changed," Ippolito declared, "he *refused* to change!"

"This was *his* music," Edwardsen's wife Jean agreed in accepting the



Photo by Andrzej Pilarczyk

Honorees Bill Fuller, Bill Meckley, Nat Phipps and Leo Russo.

award. "This was why he was on the radio."

Other honorees included musicians **Skip Parsons**, **Bill Fuller**, **Helen Pratt** and **Dale Foster** (He gave Delaney her first job), and educators **Bill Meckley**, **Leo Russo** and **Nat Phipps**; Phipps was also involved in the Albany High session. Earlier in the afternoon, Brown presented a Certificate of Tribute to **Joe Finn's** son, **Tom Finn**, as an Outstanding Jazz Musician of Tomorrow. "I stand corrected," Brown added. "He's not a jazz musician of tomorrow. He's a jazz musician of *today*." He said that because Tom had amply demonstrated his skills as part of the outstanding-as-usual Joe Finn Quintet.

The longer hair and the un-tucked button-down shirt may have given Tom the air of a busboy on a break (We kid because we love, Tom...), but the chops he showed at last year's Hudson Valley FOJ tribute to **Nick Brignola** have increased exponen-

tially; his ripping solos on Monk's "Rhythm-A-Ning" and Sonny Rollins' "Solid" impressed both musicians and civilians alike. ("I'm getting older," Tom's father joked. "He's getting better.") Tom rides a scholarship to the New School in Manhattan this fall, and we wish him the best.

One group I wished I could have seen more of was Jazz Voices. They're back together after a prolonged break, but you couldn't tell by their performance. The chemistry **Teresa Broadwell**, **Colleen Pratt** and **Jody Shayne** have is rock-solid, and their vocalese on standards like "Fascinatin' Rhythm" and "Seven Steps to Heaven" was downright breathtaking, even in the face of continuing sound problems. The **Peg Delaney Trio** did a stellar job backing them up, and Broadwell added some tasty violin to a slinky version of "Straighten Up & Fly Right".

JAM is a worthy effort, and I applaud the AMA's ongoing involvement. I would like to see more emphasis on education sessions, though; "drive-by" concerts are not as effective - or as welcome - as an established concert series (i.e. Jazz On Jay), and jazz festivals nationwide are using education as a way of growing their audience while integrating with the community. With no consistent presence on any mainstream media, the only way to expand jazz' reach in the Capital Region is by developing the grassroots. If we can learn anything from the example of Tom Finn, it's that there are young minds out there that are waiting for this music. They just don't know it yet.

J HUNTER is a former announcer/producer for radio stations in the Capital Region and the Bay Area, including KSJS/San Jose (where he was Assistant Music Director/Jazz programming), Q104 WQBK/Albany, and WSSV/Saratoga. He has also written music and theatre reviews for the Glens Falls Chronicle. He currently resides in Clifton Park.

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Help Us Remember!

We are trying to put together a list of all the concerts at A Place for Jazz since we started in the late 1980s. This could help us attract new members, as well as letting potential performers know the caliber of music we present. If you have any old programs or posters that would help us compile our list, please call 393-4011 or email coakjazz@aol.com.

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

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