

A not-for-profit that is dedicated to presenting the very best in Jazz in a beautiful listening space

A PLACE FOR JAZZ

Spring 2015

**Celebrating the music, the musicians
and their audience in New York's
Capital District and beyond.**

The Many Faces of Jazz

**From
the
President**



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The past few months have seen an amazing variety of jazz concerts and club dates in the Capital Region, all of which revealed both the breadth and depth of the music.

The recent Bridge Festival at the Troy Savings Bank Music Hall and the Massry Center at the College of Saint Rose is just one example. At Troy we heard the World Music approach of the local band Heard, the individualist clarinet playing of Anat Cohen, and the relatively straight-ahead playing of pianist Marcus Roberts and his trio.



Gretchen Parlato & Alan Hampton
Photo by Jeff Nania

The next night vocalist Gretchen Parlato gave a delicate, almost folk-music-like opening at Saint Rose, followed by some expansive (some might say wandering) piano work by Fred Hersch and his trio. That evening wound up with the startling vocal virtuosity of Cecile McLorin-Salvant, which had the audience on its feet.

The same week we heard drummer Joe Barna's group, Sketches of Influence, at the Sanctuary for Independent Media play some hard-hitting post bop, and on March 3, Keith Pray's big band continued to keep that tradition alive at the Van Dyck in Schenectady.

More big-band jazz is ahead in April, which is Jazz Appreciation Month, when the Empire Jazz Orchestra performs at Schenectady County Community College, with trumpeter Ray Vega playing some classic arrangements from the Dizzy Gillespie band of the 1940s and '50s. And the local Musicians Unions of Albany and Schenectady will showcase a number of the top bands in the area as they also celebrate Jazz Appreciation Month (see inside for details).



April is Jazz Appreciation Month!

The Schenectady Musicians Union's celebration will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 12, at Robb Alley in Proctors; it will feature several local artists, including Michael Benedict & Bopitude and Keith Pray's Quartet. This year's Jazz Journalists Association's Jazz Hero Award will be presented to Lee Shaw at the event. A documentary about Lee Shaw's life and music, entitled *Lee's 88 Keys*, will be shown in the GE Theater at 3 p.m.

The Albany Musicians Union will hold its event the following Sunday, April 19, at the Colonie Elks Club in Latham from 1:00 to 7:30 p.m. The UAlbany Jazz Ensemble, Pearl River Dixie Trio, Elizabeth Woodbury Kasius & Heard, String of Pearls and Teresa Broadwell Quintet will perform. The event will also serve as the celebration of Bill McCann's 30th year on the radio. His weekly show, *The Saturday Morning Edition of Jazz*, is heard from 8 a.m. to noon on WCDB-FM 90.9, Albany. To help celebrate his anniversary, Bill is presenting the final group of the day, a dynamic quartet led by the fiery Hammond organist Akiko, along with trumpeter Joe Magnarelli, Myron Walden on saxophone, and Rudy Petschauer on drums.

Nippertown writer/editor Greg Haymes, Tom Pierce, writer/reviewer on albanyjazz.com, and writer Jay Hunter will be honorees at the JAM gala on Sunday April 19 at the Colonie Elks.

Both events are FREE and open to the public!

RADIO JAZZ SHOWS

WVCR 88.3 FM

The Crossroads of Jazz, Darrin Scott and Ted Moisesides,
Saturday 12-2 pm

A mix of the essentials and the contemporary

Jazz2K—the ever evolving state of jazz in the 21st Century, Jay Hunter, midnight Saturday to 2 am Sunday

WAMC 90.3 FM

Tim Coakley, Saturday 11 pm-12 am

Jazz After Hours, Jim Wilke, Saturday and Sunday 1-5 am;

Afro-Pop Worldwide, Sunday 4 pm;

Radio Deluxe, John Pizzarelli and Jessica Molaskey
Saturday 2-4 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)

Friday Night Jazz 8-11 pm

WQAR 101.3 FM

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

WABY1160 AM

Chris Martin's

Radio Archives, Saturday 10 am-4 pm;

Make Believe Ballroom, Sunday 11 am- 3 pm;

Dick Wood's *Jazz Tracks*, Sunday 4-5 pm;

Sid Mark's *Sounds of Sinatra*, Sunday 5-7 pm

Ahora, Latin/Jazz! 2015 - Nine Years of *Realismo Mágico*

By Dr. José E. Cruz

When filmmaker Georges Franju was told he was the father of French *cinema fantastique*, he winced. “I am not,” he said. “The fantastic is created while the bizarre is revealed. I like images that make me dream but I don’t like others dreaming for me.” Dreaming, for him, was the unexpected result of reality and this definition has also been said to describe surrealism or magical realism.

At the risk of sounding pretentious, I would say that magical realism is what *Ahora, Latin/Jazz!* is about: firmly grounded in reality, the series brings about unexpected results, making you turn reality into a dream; it is music that you don’t experience in necessarily familiar ways. Unusual combinations that elicit unexpected aesthetic experiences is what *Ahora, Latin/Jazz!* has offered since 2007.

This year will be no different. On March 21, enjoy the encounter of Afro-Cuba and North America at the Egg, listening to piano player Michele Rosewoman’s *New Yor-Uba*—a mix of avant-garde urban jazz with the ancestral musical tradition of West Nigeria, filtered by the *Lucumí* musico-religious traditions of Cuba. On April 24, listen to Afro-Cuban piano and Greek classical guitar traditions, enveloped as jazz by Elio Villafranca and Spiros Exaras. Villafranca and Exaras will perform at the Emerson Auditorium, Union College. All performances begin at 8 pm.

If Jazz/Latino did not exist, would the Capital Region be exposed to these unusual encounters? Maybe. But that is ultimately irrelevant: **Jazz/Latino is making these concerts happen**—with a little help from our friends. You should be there to dream the whole thing for yourself. If you buy your tickets now, you can get a discount. Simply e-mail info@jazzlatino.org with your request.



Trumpeter-vocalist Bria Skonberg welcomes Rob Aronstein's student musicians as they join her on stage for a rousing version of "The Saints" at our November concert.

Photos by Al Brooks



Empire Jazz Orchestra

Trumpeter **Ray Vega** will be the guest soloist with the Empire Jazz Orchestra on April 14 at 8 p.m. at Schenectady County Community College in the Carl B. Taylor Auditorium.

A native of the South Bronx, Vega is a veteran of the bands of Tito Puente, Ray Barretto, Mongo Santamaria and Mario Bauza, to name a few. He has performed and/or recorded with Joe Henderson, Paquito D'Rivera, Arturo Sandoval, and The Chico O'Farrill Afro-Cuban Jazz Orchestra. He appeared in concert for A Place for Jazz in 2004.



Photo by Andrzej "Andre"
Pilarczyk (2013)

His two recordings on the Concord Picante label, his self-titled debut, "Ray Vega," and "Boperation," along with his 1st release on the Palmetto label "Pa'lante" have been well received by critics, audiences and musicians alike. His most recent CD is "East-West Trumpet Summit," a collaboration with Seattle trumpeter Thomas Marriott on Origin Records.

Vega grew up in the heart of two vibrant New York City music scenes: Jazz and Salsa. He attended The Long Island University Brooklyn Center and is a graduate of the legendary High School of Music and Art. For his appearance with the EJO, Vega will be playing some of the classic arrangements from the Dizzy Gillespie Big Band.

The EJO is planning the first recording in its new on-campus studio, and will be playing some of the pieces for that recording at this concert. These include compositions by band members Keith Pray and Jim Corigliano, two classics from the Claude Thornhill band, and a new arrangement by Corigliano of "That Old Devil Moon" for vocalist Colleen Pratt.

Tickets are \$20 for general admission and \$6 for non-SCCC students. Call (518) 381-1231 to purchase tickets.

APFJ Scholarship Fund

Each year APFJ sends a scholarship donation to a music student at Schenectady County Community College. The money comes from the sale of refreshments and CDs at the fall concerts.

We have now set up a scholarship account to which people can contribute, in hopes of increasing the amount of the scholarship each year.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the scholarship fund can send a check made out to *A Place for Jazz* to us at PO Box 1059, Schenectady NY 12301. We will deposit it in the account and acknowledge your contribution, which is tax-deductible.



Celebrating the music, the musicians and their audience

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 (one series ticket or 5 general tickets are 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
- Plus the benefits described below for each membership level

The membership year runs from September 1 to August 31.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____ Email _____

Today's date _____ ☐ Yes, you may include my name in your member-recognition materials.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 🎵 | Under \$50 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 🎵 | \$50-99 | Two free concert tickets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 🎵🎵 | \$100-199 | Five free tickets (one series ticket or five admissions to one concert) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 🎵🎵🎵 | \$200-499 | Ten free tickets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 🎵🎵🎵🎵 | \$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 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 🎵🎵🎵🎵🎵 | \$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

Swinging into Spring

Upcoming jazz events

March 20: The Levin Brothers
The Van Dyck, Schenectady

March 21: Michele Rosewoman's
New Yor-Uba
The Egg, Albany

March 25: SCCC Jazz Combos and
SCCC Jazz Ensemble
The Van Dyck, Schenectady

March 28: Bruce Barth and Sean Smith
Beattie Powers House, Catskill

April 12: Schenectady Musical Union
Jazz Appreciation Month Jam
Robb Alley, Proctors

April 14: The Empire Jazz Orchestra,
With guest soloist Ray Vega
SCCC

April 19: Albany Musicians Union Jazz
Appreciation Month session
Colonie Elks Club

April 25: Joe Locke, Jaimeo Brown and
Ricky Rodriguez plus Chuck
Stewart's Masters of Jazz
Photo Exhibition
Central House Hotel,
Germantown

May 15: Sax Summit featuring Keith Pray,
Adam Siegel, Lee Russo, Brian
Patneaude, Jeff Nania, David
Gleason, Otto Gardner and
Jeff "Siege" Siegel
The Van Dyck, Schenectady

May 23: The Rhys Tivey Trio
Beattie Powers House, Catskill



Sax Summit
Photo by Michael P. Farrell

For details on
events, visit
[aplaceforjazz.org/
calendar.htm](http://aplaceforjazz.org/calendar.htm)



LOCAL JAZZ VENUES

Check out our website for a full up-to-date performance and venue calendar!

9 Maple Ave
Saratoga Springs
518.587.7759

Athos Restaurant
1814 Western Avenue
Albany, 518.608.6400

Blu Stone Bistro
661 Albany-Shaker Road
Colonie, 518.869.9976

Blue Plate Restaurant
1 Kinderhook Street
Chatham, 518.392.7711

Bread Alone
45 East Market Street
Rhinebeck, 845.876.3108

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

**Crown Grill at Circus
Cafe**
390 Broadway
Saratoga Springs, 518.583.1105

Druthers Brewing Co.
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 Schenectady**
8 N. Church Street Schenectady,
518.377.2201

Grappa '72 Ristorante
Central Ave
Albany, 518.482.7200

Lark Tavern
453 Madison Avenue
Albany, 518.694.8490

Marotta's Bar-risto
611 Union Street,
Schenectady, 518.377.5100

Mouzon House
1 York Street
Saratoga Springs, 518.226.0014

**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

**Scrimshaw Restaurant
The Desmond**
660 Albany Shaker Road
Albany, 518.869.8100

Speakeasy 518
42 Howard St
Albany, 518.449.2332

Spindles
241 Remsen St
Cohoes, 518.237.3816

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

Wallabee's Jazz Bar
190 Glen Street,
Glens Falls, 518.792.8282

Wishing Well Restaurant
745 Saratoga Road,
Wilton, 518.584.7640

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William Gundry Broughton
Charitable Private Foundation Inc.

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 website and general support of Jazz and its musicians. We welcome announcements and comments.

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Schenectady, NY 12301
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J.M. McDonald Foundation

Don't Forget...Concerts at APFJ will begin at 7:30 pm
this fall!!!



PO Box 1059, Schenectady NY 12301
Membership is Where It's At!

Check us out at www.aplaceforjazz.org for Jazz in our community.
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