

VOL. II, NUMBER 4

SUMMER 1991

BUTCH CONN, EDITOR

New Orleans Jazz Fest 91

APFJ Member makes the ultimate sacrifice!

By Bob Watts

In the 22 years of its existence, the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival or "Jazz Fest" has delighted both music lovers and epicureans. It is now the world's largest music festival. This year it was held from April 26th through May 5th at its usual site on the New Orleans Fair Grounds. The event was a kaleidoscope of over 3,000 individual performers, 100 food booths and over 200 craft booths. In New Orleans, Jazz Fest is second only to the Mardi Gras in size and economic impact on the city.

Companion and I found it to be a thoroughly delightful experience for all five senses. For a Jazz buff, being in the city that is the very cradle of Jazz, is a heart-warming experience. Add the prospect of hearing Miles Davis, BB King, Wynton Marsalis, the Neville Brothers and too many others to mention. Then, top it

off with great food and real southern hospitality and you will understand why companion and I found this to be a truly celestial experience.

It is impossible to capture the real flavor of Jazz Fest on paper, film or any other media. It is an experience! You have to be there to fully appreciate it. However, a few highlights may give the reader some idea of the giant Chinese menu of entertainment that was available.

The ageless Arthur Prysock sounded as good as ever, as the Ellington ballads flowed easily from his velvet voice. The Wynton Marsalis Quintet gave a stirring tribute to Louis Armstrong. Featured in this set were Doc Cheatham, Ruby Braff and Ellis Marsalis. On a different note Reuben Blades had a full house at the Municipal Auditorium rocking with his pulsating salsa rhythms.

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Smash Fall Line-up!

APFJ, now in its 4th season, announces its new fall concert series, presenting Jazz stars Rufus Reid, Peter Leitch, Jimmy Owens and the exciting Brazilian singer Kenia. They'll be accompanied by such well-known musicians as Akira Tana, Ray Drummond, Marvin "Smitty" Smith, John Hicks, Ralph Moore. Rob Schneiderman and the Brazilian percussionist Portinho.

The season opens September 20th at the First Unitarian Society in Schenectady. All concerts take place on Fridays at 8pm at the First Unitarian Society's Whisperdome at 1221 Wendell Avenue in Schenectady. For details, check the centerfold inside.

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2 0 0 W o r d s

by Glyn Evans

The saddening news of the death of Stan Getz took many of us into memories of past glories, usually starting with his 'Early Autumn' solo. A beat later I was savoring a little-known masterpiece, "No Figs."

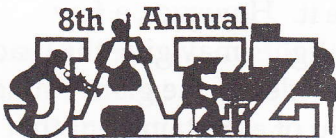
The now-defunct Jazzmag 'Metronome' used annually to poll its readers and gather poll-winners for a record date (back then 1 '78' disc!). Based on the record made on 1/10/50, the 1949 voters showed astonishing taste, with Diz (trumpet); J.J. Johnson (trombone); Buddy DeFranco (clarinet); the very young Lee Konitz (alto sax) and Stan Getz (tenor sax); Serge Chaloff (baritone sax); Billy Bauer (guitar); Eddie Safranski (bass); Max Roach (drums). Lennie Tristano played piano and composed one piece, "No Figs."

It is a beautifully written and scored piece, particularly for the reeds, with long rippling lines that demand and get virtuoso playing; astonishingly so given the minimal rehearsal time and the players complex travel schedules. Miraculously, the solos flow from the theme, and from each other, as cream from a jug, coherent, consistent, rich, compressed statements within the 3-minute playing time.

Getz and Konitz each solo twice with startling originality.

My long cherished 78 was grey with overuse and did not make it. Years of pining were resolved when I found a remaindered French anthology LP (1972 CBS) for \$2.99.

Minimal odds for CD-Survival, I fear.



8th Annual
1991
**LAKE GEORGE
JAZZ WEEKEND**
SHEPARD PARK, LAKE GEORGE, NEW YORK

Saturday, September 7, 2-6 PM

- Cecilia Englehart & Tanaora
- Nestor Torres
- Oliver Lake & Jump Up

Sunday, September 8, 2-6 PM

- Tony Vacca & Tim Moran
with guest
Foday Mousa Suso
- Bobby Sanabria & Ascension

FREE ADMISSION BOTH DAYS

A Presentation By The
Lake George Arts Project

(518) 668-2616

New Orleans Jazz Fest (continued from front)

The Gospel Tent provided a great deal of pleasure and inspiration to capacity crowds. Renown gospel singers and groups from all over the country gave hand-clapping, soul stirring concerts throughout the day.

A midnight jam session with young Delfeayo Marsalis delighted an enthusiastic crowd.

Congo square featured traditional African music and dances and many African and African-American crafts, food and displays. And of course there was plenty of Zydeco and Cajun music.

We were astounded by the abundance of high quality food at very down to earth prices. We savored barbecued alligator, spirited gumbos, red beans and rice, crawfish tails and fiery jambalayas.

Needless to say, we intend to revisit the Jazz "Feast" on the not too distant future. If you love good food and good Jazz, go to the Jazz Fest before you get much older. It's too good to miss. A word of caution. Make your arrangements before February. Accommodations fill up fast!

WANTED! APFJ is looking for access to a Macintosh and a compatible Laser Printer in Schenectady for printing out the newsletter. If you can help us out, call 374-6912, evenings.

Take 6 to help A Place for Jazz



If you act quickly, you can get a ticket to see **Take 6**, a great after-show reception and help **A Place for Jazz** all at the same time!

You won't want to miss this exciting a capella gospel group that uses modern Jazz harmony

and their truly thrilling voices to tell stories that will have you laughing and crying. They've won three Grammys, sung with Quincy Jones, Al Jarreau and on the sound track of Spike Lee's film Do the Right Thing. You won't believe the dynamic

quality of their voices until you hear them in person.

Mona Golub of Second Wind Productions has made us an offer we can't refuse. For \$25 you'll be seated in a row of the best seats in the house for the **Take 6** concert at Proctors on the night of September 24th. Afterwards you'll get to partake of a wonderful dessert table at Peggy's and help us raise money for our efforts to build Jazz audiences in the area. We've invited **Take 6** to join us at Peggy's right after the show.

Make your check out to **A Place for Jazz** for \$25 and mail it to 1221 Wendell Ave., before September 15th to insure you get a seat down front. It's a performance with the kind of excitement we rarely get in this area.

My Solo

In a recent column in the Times Union, Steve Bornfeld, their media critic, started a cheering section for a Jazz Radio station in the area. He asked the plaintive question, "Is it too much for one — just one — full-time jazz station — in this market of more than 40 stations?"

Mr. Borfeld voiced the frustration that many of us have. The frustration of having to hop from station to station (see our radio listings in the Jazz Calendar) trying to pick up weak and distant stations (you can get Vermont Public Radio on a good night) all for our Jazz.

Of course there are some really interesting programs around like those of Bill McCann, Gail Mattison, Laurence Boylan, Tim Coakley, Doc Perryman et al. Then there are the special programs from National Public and American Public Radio that are piped into WAMC-FM (Their fund drive is coming up. Don't forget to call in and tell them you love their Jazz programs!)

But nothing can compare to what I get when I drive south to visit my mom in Washington, D. C. It is an absolute joy to tune in to WBGO in Newark (you can get it as far north as Nyack), there's a great station in Philadelphia, another one in Baltimore and three great sta-

tions in Washington, D.C. These stations are either all Jazz or mostly Jazz. I'm gently passed from hand to hand for the last 300 miles of my journey.

Drop Steve Bornfeld a letter at the TU. Tell him you agree with him. Maybe we can start a ground swell that will make some station that is falling on its face trying to compete in the faltering rock market to make the switch! P.S. In a follow-up column, he mentioned that he got some mail and phone calls on the subject. Let him hear it.

One of my pet peeves about some Jazz radio programs is the way they identify (or don't identify) the music being

Continued on page 7

Jazz '91

KENIA

Friday, September 20
8:00 pm

Kenia brings you a fusion of Brazilian samba with the roots of jazz that will excite you. Choosing from the works of artists like Billie Holiday and Nascimento, Kenia has created a performance style uniquely her own. Kenia sings (in English, Portuguese and Spanish) with a mellow, sultry delivery. Her voice combines with the trombone of Jay Ashby, percussion by Portinho, Leo Traversa on bass, Romero Lobrito guitar and Bill O'Connell's keyboard in a performance that will have you thrilled to be at the opening concert of the '91 season. Kenia and her band have completed their second album on the Denon label.

JIMMY OWENS QUARTET

Friday, October 4
8:00 pm

Jimmy Owens and his quartet will return from their European tour to perform in the Whisperdome. Mr. Owen's music is influenced by Dizzy Gillespie, Lionel Hampton and Count Basie and has also shared in the growth of modern Jazz with Archie Shepp, Charlie Mingus and Booker Ervin. His original compositions include: Complicity, Nasty Notes, Dreamin' My Life Away and Funk-a-de Mama. In addition he has composed scores for the Off-Broadway play "Split Second" and for the Rod Rodgers Dance Company. He sees his performance set firmly in the African-American tradition. We are guaranteed an exciting night with this wonderful musician/composer!

TANAREID

Friday, October 18
8:00 pm

TanaReid-- a quintet that stars **Rufus Reid** and **Akira Tana**. Mr. Reid, known as the "bass player's bass player" has recorded with Jazz notables Stan Getz, Dexter Gordon, Nancy Wilson, Freddy Hubbard and J.J. Johnson. He is currently Director of Jazz Studies and Performance at William Patterson College. Mr. Tana, a nationally reknowned drummer, has recorded with Milt Jackson, Al Cohn, Zoot Sims, Sonny Rollins, Pacquito D'Rivera and the Paul Winter Consort. They will bring Ralph Moore, Rob Schneiderman and Jesse Davis for an evening of performance and composition of the highest level. **Tana Reid** has recently recorded the record album "Yours and Mine" for Concord Records.

PETER LEITCH QUARTET

Friday, November 8
8:00 pm

We close our season with **Peter Leitch**, a marvelous guitarist who has been lauded by the New York Times, Downbeat Magazine and Jazz Times. Mr. Leitch gives us Jazz with a wonderful feeling of the blues. John Wilson of the New York Times has praised his "warm, singing lines... (that) have both a melodic grace and a rhythmic strength." Leitch, who has performed and recorded with Oscar Peterson, Al Grey, Jimmy Forrest and Bobby Watson, will be backed up by a trio of some of the most outstanding musicians in the U S today -- **John Hicks** on piano, **Ray Drummond** on bass and **Marvin "Smitty" Smith** on Drums. Don't miss this swinging closing of a swinging season!

Kenia
September 20



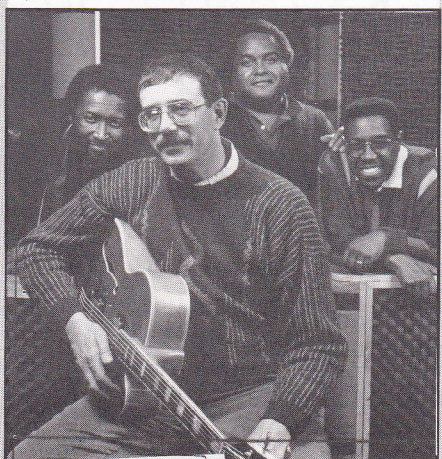
Jimmy Owens
Quartet
October 4



TanaReid
October 18



Peter Leitch
Quartet
November 4



CONCERTS are on Friday nights at 8:00 pm at the First Unitarian Society in Schenectady. Tickets are \$12.00 each. Series tickets are \$42.00.

MASTERCLASSES -- 2 1/2 hour sessions with leading Jazz artists will be held at the College of St. Rose on Thursday nights from 6:30 to 9pm. Classes are limited to 6 musicians at the professional or near-professional level. Masterclasses cost \$50. There will be a 10% discount for members. A limited number of auditors (members only) will be permitted. Audit fee \$10.

For more information call (518) 374-6912

ORDER FORM

CONCERT	QTY	FEE	TOTAL
Kenia (9/20)		\$12	
J. Owens (10/4)		\$12	
TanaReid (10/18)		\$12	
Leitch (11/8)		\$12	
Complete Series		\$42	

MASTERCLASSES	QTY	FEE	TOTAL
Ashby/Portinho (9/19)		\$50	
Owens (10/3)		\$50	
Reid (10/17)		\$50	
Tana (10/17)		\$50	
Moore (10/17)		\$50	
Leitch (11/7)		\$50	
Hicks (11/7)		\$50	
Drummond(11/7)		\$50	
Smith (11/7)		\$50	

MEMBERSHIP	QTY	FEE	TOTAL
Student (no bread)		\$15	
Member		\$30	
Supporter		\$50	
Patron		\$100	
Underwriter		\$250	
Jazz Fanatic		\$500	

GRAND TOTAL.....

Make checks to Jazz/Fuss and mail to 1221 Wendell Ave. Schenectady, NY 12308

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (____) _____

Member: Yes No

Calendar

The listings below were sent to us by the clubs. It's best to check by telephone before going because there may be last minute changes. The clubs have a cover (or music charge) or a minimum purchase (food or drink). Frequently they have both. Reservations are advisable (especially for the better-known groups) as many of the clubs seat less than 100.

The Van Dyck 237 Union St. Schenectady. 374-2406 Music begins at 9pm, 3 sets.
August 2-3 Dave McKenna (call for other bookings)

On The Shelf, in the DeWitt Clinton Building, 39 Eagle St., Albany. Live Jazz on Sundays. Music starts at 7pm. 3 sets. No Listings.

Peggy's Restaurant 426 State St., Schenectady (entrance in back of the restaurant) Music starts at 9pm. 3 sets. No Jazz during the Summer. Check them out in the Fall

Fountain Restaurant
283 New Scotland Ave., Albany
Skip Parsons and his Riverboat Jazz Band 2nd Weekend every month 10pm-2am. Call for details.

Justin McNeill's 301 Lark St., Albany. 346- 7008. Music has been pushed up to 10:30pm, but still 3 sets. Very small. Excellent food. Reservations a must!

Cover and minimum. The Jazz Brunch on Sundays will continue. (call to confirm)
They open at 11am. Music begins at 12noon

Aug 2 Plus 24

3 Blues Wing

9-10 Nick Brignola Qt

16-17 Hal Miller w/
Erica Lindsay

23 Gene Bertoncini

24 Critical Theory

30-31 Chuck Loeb Qt
w/ Cliff Lyons

Sept 6-7 Nick Brignola Qt

13-14 Dolphins w/
Dan Brubeck, Vince
Martucci

20-21 Hal Miller with
surprise guest

27-28 Jazz Caucus with
Calarco and guests

Lake George Arts Project
Shepard Park, Lake George
September 7, 2-6pm
Cecelia Englehart & Tanaora,
Nestor Torres, Oliver Lake &
Jump Up.

September 8, 2-6pm
Tony Vacca & Tim Moran w/
guest Foday Mousa Suso,
Bobby Sanabria & Ascension

Tiger's Clifton Park Mall,
371-9867

Aug. 2 Pinetop Perkins w/
Zora Young. (Blues) 10:30pm
\$10

Iron Horse Cafe

20 Centre St., Northampton,
Mass. 413-584-0610

There's a music charge and
most concerts are ticketed
(about \$10) 1-800-THE-TICK
for advanced ticket sales.

Seats about 170

Aug 1 John Abercrobie

2 Marc Allen

Sept 23 - Allen Holdsworth
(unconfirmed)

Half Moon Cafe

154 Madison Ave.,
436-0329 7-11pm. No cover
"donation"

Aug 2 Cygnus(Naiomi and
Randi Peterkin)

8 Jazz Factor

9 Cygnus

11 Upside, Downside
(Featuring Stefan)

16 Cygnus

22 Jazz Factor

23 Cygnus

29 7 Rabbit Stew

30 Cygnus

Sept 5 Jazz Factor

6 Cygnus

13 Cygnus

19 Jazz Factor

20 Cygnus

27 Cygnus

R A D I O J A Z Z

Radio is one of our primary methods of enjoying Jazz. Because it's "free", we often overlook their need for our support. It's simple. Let them know you like it. Call when they ask for requests, send them money when they ask for it and write letters about what you like and what you don't. They love to hear from you!

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

WMHT 89.1FM Laurence Boylan's Show on Saturday Night.

WRUC 89.7FM Late night play is good.

WAMC 90.3FM Great mix. Something for almost every "flavor" of Jazz fan.

WSPN 91.1FM Listen to Gail

Mattison's show on Wed's 12 to 3pm; Mondays 3-6pm Dave Casner. **WCDB 90.9FM** Wonderful Show on Sat. & Sun Mornings plus 11am to 1pm daily.

WRPI 91.5FM Kevin Roberts on Thurs. nights from 7 to 10. Regularly presents important Jazz musicians in great depth.

WHRL 103.1FM A Mix of Jazz and "other" kinds of music. David Sanborn Show on Sunday is an interesting mix.

WPYX 106.7FM Jazz Brunch on Sunday.

WMVI 1160AM Robin Quinn Jazz Show from 3pm to 7pm on Sunday

WABY 1400AM Good on Big Band play; Edwardsen 6am to 10am. **WGY 810 AM** Doc Perryman's show, 12midnight Saturday to 6am Sunday. A good late night mix of blues and Jazz.

My Solo, Cont. from page 3
played. Some of them play continuous music occasionally identifying the name of a composition and one of its lead players. Then there are the ones who play 5 or 6 in a row and identify the music and the players afterward (that's certainly better than the first method). I'd like them to tell us what's going to be played and who the leader is. Then play the music and tell us what was played and who was playing it. I'd also like to know who recorded it and where I can buy it. This could be done unobtrusively, if there was a little organization beforehand. Hey, guys. I don't mind hearing your opinions or your stories about your favorite cuts. That can make things interesting. But please! Tell me what you're playing!

I am very lucky. I have two friends who will tape new things they've heard and drop them off for me to hear. They're very good about writing in titles and musicians in the cassette insert and I've learned an enormous amount from listening to things through their "ears". It's really a great way to communicate with someone else about Jazz.

A few years ago, one of those friends sent me almost a complete history of Louis Armstrong and Sarah Vaughn. Another friend did a retrospective on early Basie and a third sent me a compilation of the cross-currents that have gone on between contemporary African music and Salsa. Thanks!

Become a Member!

A Place for Jazz is a membership organization that has two basic goals: to enlarge the audiences in Northeastern New York for Jazz: the synthesis of African and European musical traditions that has become an American art. Secondly we want to support Jazz musicians who live in this area. We do this by sponsoring a concert series, publishing a newsletter, presenting clinics and workshops in schools and colleges and by publishing a Jazz Calendar for the area. We also host Master Classes for professional musicians.

When you become a member you provide support for these goals and activities. Many of you also volunteer for the many interesting tasks that make up the work of A Place for Jazz.

Membership brings you the newsletter, a special discount on many of our services, admission as an auditor for our Master Classes and discounts on Jazz products such as the Jazz Times. You also get a discount rate 32% on a first year annual subscription to Jazz Times of \$15.00

At the \$100 level you receive one free series ticket. At the \$250 level you receive 2 series tickets plus a listing as underwriter for the concert of your choice. At the \$500 level you receive 4 series tickets a listing as underwriter and a hand-made applique T-Shirt stating your exclusive pathology as a Jazz Fanatic.

**Support Live Jazz in
Northeastern New York.
Join APFJ and come enjoy
our concerts!**

APFJ and this Newsletter are supported in part, by the First Unitarian Society of Schenectady, SCIP, and membership contributions. Programs include concerts, public workshops, school-based clinics and general support of Jazz and its musicians. We are affiliated with the National Jazz Service Organization and the International Association of Jazz Educators. We welcome announcements and comments. Deadlines are the 10th of every odd month (9/10/91, 11/10/91)

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Schenectady, NY, 12308

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