



The Swinger

Publication of Hartford Jazz Society

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NOTE THE DATE: SATURDAY, Jan. 8, 1966 (no Sunday meeting in January). The evening's events will include drawing the winning raffle tickets; dancing to the music of Bobby Johnson's quartet; punch, peanuts, pretzels and popcorn; and, oh, just loads of merriment.

JAKY BYARD is all they've said he is, and lavishly more. His playing at the December 5 meeting made it one of the most enjoyable in months. Thanks also to versatile Joe Farrell (tenor, soprano and flute), Joe Porcaro, Fred Tinsley, Bud Larsen, Bobby Johnson and Springfield Nick, who laid it where it belongs. (Incidentally, if you're having trouble getting Jaky's "Out Front" Prestige issue or "Freedom Book," in which he pairs with another HJS friend, Booker Ervin, also Prestige label, try the LaSalle Music Store in West Hartford.)

A DOWNTOWN ARTS CENTER is under discussion. Led by the Mark Twain Mascuers, representatives of 25 arts and crafts groups -- Hartford Choral Club, Simsbury Light Opera, Connecticut Academy of Fine Arts, et al -- met early this month to confer on the project. Harry Lichtenbaum, a Mascuer himself, represented the Hartford Jazz Society.

JOTTED on the back of a bill from Fox's: Dave Kidd, HJS member and jazz commentator of WGY, Schenectady, is in St. Luke's Hospital, Pittsfield, Mass., and a letter from you would help cheer him... Thanks to Mel Dorfman, whose Dixieland band is a favorite in Boston, for his Christmas greetings to HJS. Also for his long interest in the Society, indicated by his membership, even though he cannot attend meetings... While the gratitude lasts, here's some for John Birchard, whose "Golden Sound of Jazz" on WCCC-FM, and for Danny Blume, whose "Danny Blume Show" on WBMI-FM, both of whom keep the audience apprised of HJS events... If you haven't paid your dues for the Year '65-66, you'll be considered a guest at future meetings, and will be asked for a guest's donation.

JAZZ PASTOR John G. Gensel, honorary HJS member, was staggered by the success of the Duke Ellington Sacred Concert at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church on Sunday. Tickets were sold out for the 8 PM concert by December 10, requiring an encore performance by the Ellington band at midnight. This one was sold out December 17. (Incidentally, Toshiko participated in Rev. Gensel's Jazz Vespers on December 12. Also incidentally, "Mademoiselle" magazine has awarded the Japanese sweetheart of HJS its Woman of the Year Award.)

WELCOME TO HJS these new members: Pat Richmond, James Legeyt, Connie Hauk, Joseph Fernandez, II, Lloyd Mayfield, Mr. and Mrs. George Gande (he, the band leader and she, Donna Wilde, the singer), Austin Gamble, Jacqueline Williams.

COMPETITOR? No, rather, call the new Greater Hartford Jazz Association a sister organization. It is being formed by Ray Casarino, by Local 400 President Lou Zebedeo and by a group of lay jazz-fanciers. It will present a series of concerts by local jazzmen, the first of which will be held April 27 or May 4 at the Avery Auditorium. Watch "The Swinger" for further details. The new Association deserves support.

JAZZ is on the program of the Fine Arts Foundation being presented at Gray Hall, South Congregational Church, 277 Main Street. On Tuesday evening, January 11 -- Mel Powell (of the great Goodman, Christian, Slam and Krupa quintet) presenting "Electronic Music." On Tuesday, January 25 -- Jimmy Giuffre offering "Serious Jazz." And, if you care for this sort of thing, Tuesday evening, March 22 -- John Cage presenting "Experimental Music." (Admission fee, \$2.00)

P.S. Please dispose of all your raffle tickets. The proceeds will put HJS comfortably in the black, thus making possible more numerous and more ambitious concerts and meetings. HJS was in debt a long time. It is now out of debt. Every dollar derived from a raffle ticket is a dollar that will be devoted to the furtherance of the Society, of jazz, and of the prestige of both.

DON'T THE MOON look lonesome shining through the trees? (Old Song)