



The Swinger

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MAY 8th is the date (not the customary first Sunday of the month) and the feature of the evening will be worth the postponement: Jaki Byard will return to repeat, in all probability, the success of a previous appearance. With him will be Joe Farrell, tenor and flautist; and a rhythm section consisting of Bassist Fred Tinsley and Drummer Nick Vasouez. The place, as usual: Jonathan Temple, 700 Blue Hills Avenue. (Business meeting promptly at 8:15 -- an important one inasmuch as the nominating committee will present its slate of new officers. Other nominations will be accepted and the officers for the Year '66-67 will be elected.)

THE Oliver Jackson Trio drew a record total of 112 HJS members and guests to the April meeting, which developed into a veritable ball. The trio became a quartet with the addition of Guitarist Van Avalon, who had come up from The Great City with the trio just for the ride. (Others of the "trio": Pianist Ross Tompkins and Bassist Tommy Bryant.) A jam session broke loose at 11:30 when Trumpeter Al Forte joined the group, and Kitty Katherine, with Bessye Proffitt, teamed for a blues-shouting duet.

WHILE on the subject of Oliver Jackson, note on your calendar that he'll be at Romano's the weekend of May 6-7-8 with Kenny Burrell, Martin Ravera and Mitchell Wylands. (Suggestion: Hear the group at Romano's from 5 to 8 o'clock, then fly to the HJS meeting for the rest of the evening.) Oliver is now at the Prelude in Greenwich Village, and is contracted to go to Russia with a ten-man band to be lead by Earl Hines.

"AN American Jazz Odyssey," a program involving 40 local musicians in groups representing music from Dixieland to Modern, will be presented by the Greater Hartford Jazz Association at Avery Memorial Auditorium Wednesday evening, May 4, with John Birchard as master of ceremonies.

NEWS OF YOUSE: George Malcolm-Smith will discuss HJS, among other topics, in "Point of View," Channel 24, ETV, at 9 PM Tuesday, May 3 (repeated 3 PM, Sunday, May 8)... Jerry Gordon, already a favorite at Station KXOA at Sacramento, is the subject of an article in "The Hit Liner," local news sheet. (Phyllis Gordon joins him on the Coast in June. Both will be sadly missed by HJS friends)... Welcome back Lucy Marsters and Dotty Murray, who missed, and were missed at, recent HJS meetings... There are rumors that Danny Blume's excellent jazz show may be removed from BMI-FM schedules. Write to BMI-FM,

Meriden and tell the management you want Danny's program retained. ...At last, the final \$250 has been paid by the Society to the bookers responsible for the \$2,800 loss suffered because of the over-ambitious Bushnell Auditorium show of two years ago. HJS is now out of the red...Art Hurwit, who is division manager of Motorola, is at this moment in Miami with Wife Barbara. He won the trip as a leader among Motorola salesmen...Will the person who (presumably by mistake) removed Art Fine's topcoat during a recent meeting return it? Just brush the dandruff off the collar and quietly hang the thing where you found it. No questions will be asked.

NOTE THAT Gene Rodgers has returned to this area. He's at the Corner House in Farmington for an extended engagement beginning April 25...Also that Randy Weston is at Slug's in Greenwich Village... and that Romano's has booked Count Basie for a weekend this spring ...and furthermore that Ron McClure, local bassist, has departed the Maynard Ferguson band and is now with the Wes. Montgomery-Wynton Kelley group.

EVER STOP and think of the number of nationally prominent jazzmen who came from Hartford? It's rather an imposing list: Horace Silver, Bruce Martin, Ron McClure, Johnny Mehegan, Dave MacKay, Jack O'Brien, Dick Cary, Gigi Gryce, Lenny and Tiny Berman, King Pleasure, Charlie Prysock, Emil Richards, Lester (Crosby) Ludke, Walter Lee Bolden, Davis Allen and Harry Goldfield.

NEW MEMBERS: Robert Brett, Jack and Marion Hayes, Dorothy Lind, Mildred Mercier, Gary Morris, Earl Long and Henry Walker. Draw up a chair and make yourselves at home.

"Left me nothing but a fine-tooth comb." (Old Refrain)

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