



The Swinger

Publication of Hartford Jazz Society

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CONSIDER THIS AN "EXTRA." It is issued on the eve of the Jazz Cruise down the Connecticut, and thus can give no news of that joyous event. It does, however, contain enough news -- and an announcement -- to justify its publication.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT: The Hartford Jazz Society will meet Sunday evening, September 17 for (1) music and fun, (2) discussion of plans relative to the forthcoming Eastern Conference of Jazz Societies. Musicians have not yet been chosen, though possibilities include Willie "The Lion" Smith, Tony Scott and Joa Newman. The meeting place will be, as usual, Jonathan Hall, 700 Blue Hills Avenue. The time: 8 o'clock.

THE EASTERN CONFERENCE of Jazz Societies is scheduled for the weekend of September 29 through October 1. Participating groups are HJS, Jazz Interactions of New York City and the Jazz at Home Club of Philadelphia. Jam sessions, lectures, movies, workshops and a Jazz Vespers are on the program. Several HJS members intend to spend the entire weekend in Manhattan to attend all events. Others will join a bus excursion to attend the Saturday events -- a trip similar to the memorable party at the Five Spot in March on the occasion of the second birthday of Jazz Interactions. Plan to join the invasion of Gotham. It will be a genuine ball.

NOTES accumulated in the "in" box during the summer: The Clark Terry concert in mid-July can be termed truly "an unqualified success." Old Mr. Mumbles and his stellar group drew a mid-summer crowd which was thoroughly pleased and satisfied...Unhappy news is that another valuable HJS member is leaving Hartford. Doug Hill of "The Times," long the HJS chairman of publicity, departs September 25 for Washington, where he will join the Office of Economic Opportunity...More of unhappy same: Joe Jewell and Mrs. J left in July for the West Coast, where Joe will resume his studies at the California Institute of the Arts at Los Angeles...Bob Harrington of Bristol, Bix authority, is collaborating with Chummy MacGregor of the old Glenn Miller band in the authorship of a biography of Glenn Miller to be published next spring.

MORE: Through arrangements with HJS, Tony Scott and fellow jazzmen appeared at the Sharon Playhouse in August in a most successful concert...Also through HJS, Emery Smith and his group will present a concert at the Institute of the Living in October. And again: HJS will arrange for a group of Hartford jazzmen to appear at Connecticut State Prison in Enfield in November.

FROM HERE AND THERE: Dick Morgan, friend of HJS, played all summer at the Concord of the Upstate New York Borscht Circuit, where he told Harry Lichtenbaum that he'd be delighted to come to an HJS meeting any time. He appears Friday night, September 8, on the Johnny Carson "Tonight" show...The Ballentine Jazzmobile brought to Hartford this summer Horace Parlan, Charlie McPherson, Louis Hayes and Rick Morrison, no strangers to HJS members...For your listening: the Johnny Birchard jazz show, WTIC, Saturday nights at 11; the Jay Fleming jazz show, WBML-FM, Wednesday and Saturday evenings, 7 to 9...For looking and listening: on Channel 24 TV, Wed., Sept. 13, "New Orleans Jazz," with old-timers of the French Quarter; Sun., Sept. 17 and Wed., Sept. 20, "Mr. Jelly Lord"; Morton stories; Wed., Sept. 20 and Fri., Sept. 22, "Jazz at Newport, 1966." (For times, see schedules in the newspapers.)

MANY THANKS are owed a number of people for their work on the jazz cruise. They include George and Annette Cohen (what would HJS do without them?), Walter Vaught, Doug Hill, Curtis Gamble, Harry Lichtenbaum, Barbara Guiffre, Jack and Marion Haynes, Sharon Clark, Lucy Marsters, Arthur and Janet Fine, Barbara Hurwit, Carol Pfunder, Joe Jewell and -- of course -- that ebullient chairman, Sammy Johnson.

BEST DISCS of the summer, according to David Waid, HJS member who lives, strangely enough, in Milwaukee: "Spanish Rice" (Impulse) with Clark Terry and Chico O'Farrell ("delightful"),... "Lonesome Traveler" (Cadet) with "warm, rich, full-bodied" Ray Bryant... "The Panassie Sessions" (Victor Vintage), with "too much Milt Mezzrow, but other great talent of the 'thirties."

SOME OF THESE WOMEN sure do make me tired. Got a hand full of "gimme" and a mouth full of "much obliged." (Old Refrain)