

The Swinger

Publication of Hartford Jazz Society

April 1, 1968 - No. 52

THE JIM HALL TRIO will be guests of the Society on Sunday evening, April 7, and those who enjoy the guitar will be delighted by the news. With Jim will be drummer Jake Hanna, renowned for his years with woody Herman and who, like Jim, is featured in the daily "Merv Griffin Show" on TV, and bassist Eddie Gomez, fresh from a tour with Bill Evans. Of Jim Hall, "The Encyclopedia of Jazz" says: "His influence has probably been felt more since 1960 than that of any guitarist since Django Reinhardt and Charlie Christian." He first came into prominence with Chico Hamilton and has been featured in groups headed by Jimmy Guiffre, Sonny Rollins, Bill Evans, Red Mitchell and Art Farmer. So be there: Treferes Hall, 159 Blue Hills Avenue.

THE MARCH MEETING, with Jaki Byard, Jimmy Owens, Dick Berk and Reggie Johnson on the Treferes stage, presented Jaki in one of his merrier moods and demonstrated that Jimmy Owens deserves all the praise he's been getting as one of the most promising of the young trumpeters (also flugelhornists). A carload of guests from Manhattan's Jazz Interactions joined the Hartfordites: "Jazzline" Gaitha Martinez, Jerry Feld, Jack Grealish and Ed Wilkins.

JAZZ INTERACTION'S 3RD BIRTHDAY was observed in festive fashion by 47 celebrants who bussed from Hartford to Greenwich Village on Sunday, March 24. The Red Garter's walls bulged with the music of Zoot Sims, Joe Newman, Illinois Jacquet, Buddy Tate, Billy Watrous, Jimmy Heath, Reggie Johnson, Sir Charles Thompson, Jimmy Owens, Roy Haynes, Kai Winding, Benny Powell and others. Unhappily, the bus left (at 10 PM) just as Herbie Mann, Booker Irwin, Junior Mance and Cliff Jordan mounted the stage. It was a genuine bash. If you missed it, sorry, Clyde.

COMING EVENTS that will cast no shadows: Jimmy Owens, EcCoy Tyner, Phil Bowles and Lenny White, under the leadership of Hartford's Elliott Dixon, will be heard Monday evening, April 29, at the Hartford Stage Company playhouse in a benefit for "The People's Times," a North End newspaper which deserves support..."Jazz Vespers," highly praised for its premiere at Town Hall in Manhattan, will be presented at the University of Hartford on Saturday evening, May 18. HJS is cooperating with U of H in the concert, which will feature good friends of the Society: Rev. John Gensel ("Broadway's Jazz Pastor") and Howard McGhee with his 16-piece band. (More about this later.)...The Trinity College Jazz Band, which has been touring colleges and has qualified for the Stan Kenton Competition may be heard Thursday evening, April 25 at the Austin Art Center on the campus.

MEANWHILE: Good jazz is being heard at Manero's (Berlin Turn-pike at Berlin), Wednesday through Saturday. The band is Spider Martin's, with Drummer Johnny Vine featured. Sunday afternoons the band may be heard in a weekly "rehearsal."...Roberta Peck and her band are to be heard Thursday through Saturday at Tina's Diner (Berlin Turnpike at Wethersfield...Rial Ogden's Fiercely Enthusiastic Jazz Band is playing Sunday afternoons and evenings at Carville's on Windsor Avenue in Wilson...Hotel America is planning a series of Dixieland sessions. (More on this anon, also.)

MARCH witnessed a great deal of jazz activity in Hartford. Count Basie was at the Bushnell. Also Lou Rawls. The University of Denver Jazz Band played in several local spots. The Hartt College of Music presented a concert by its students, with compositions by Gunther Schuller, Jimmy Guiffre, Kenneth Gaburo and others.

NEWS OF YOUSE: Three Hartford boys, well known to HJS, have been reunited in Ios Angeles in a trio playing night spots. They are Dave MacKay, Skinny Porcaro and Emile Richards...HJS members Jerry and Phyllis Gordon have departed Ios Angeles for Columbus, where Jerry is attached to Station WCOL. ("We still miss you," they write.) ...Barbara Guiffre is beautiful. But then, so is Sofia French. Also, Mabel Macklin.

THE NOWINATING COMMITTEE which will suggest officers for the Year 1968-69 consists of Arthur Fine, Sammy Johnson, Lucy Marsters and Jean Mounds. Election will be held late this month. Watch for announcement of date and place. Nominations will, of course, be welcomed from the floor.

WELCOME these new members: Mrs. Betty Cersosimo...Harold V. Cunningham...Wallace A. Curtis...Edward and Elinor Goodwin...George H. Marshall...Paul W. Miller...Mrs. Peggy Mills...Lawrence Murria...Mrs. and Mrs. Tolbert Smothers.

"Nobody ain't never done nothing for me nohow, and I ain't gonna do nothing for nobody no time." (Old Refrain)