



The Swinger

Publication of Hartford Jazz Society

November 26, 1969 - No. 68

ILLINOIS JACQUET returns Sunday evening, December 7 -- and happier news would be hard to come by. It's a return engagement truly by "popular demand," for the last time he was a guest of HJS this veteran of the Calloway, Basie and Lionel Hampton bands was accorded one of the Society's most enthusiastic ovations. The man who made "Flying Home" a classic, the perennial star of "Jazz at the Philharmonic" and the world's only jazz bassoonist -- to miss him would be to miss a giant of jazz.

WYNTON KELLY will be on stage, too. Miles Davis' favorite pianist is cited in "The Encyclopedia of Jazz" thus: "His intense drive and ability to create excitement have provided some of the most impressive moments at various jazz festivals in recent years." On drums will be OLIVER JACKSON, HJS favorite and friend of the Society, most recently of the JPJ Quartet and the choice of such pianists as Earl "Fatha" Hines, Junior Mance and Teddy Wilson. The bassist will be BUSTER WILLIAMS, who is climbing fast as a jazz poll winner.

HJS IS MOVING. Note in the enclosed flyer that the next meeting will be in a new spot -- VFW Hall in East Hartford -- a newer, larger, better equipped meeting place, easily accessible from anywhere in Greater Hartford. Clip the map and tuck in your wallet, handbag, glove compartment or booze satchel.

SONNY BROWN'S OCTET, guests at the November meeting, was reviewed by Ron Georgeff of "The Hartford Times" as having presented "quite exciting avant garde music, full of sound and fury signifying everything." His word for the performance is "cerebral," and those who were present would probably agree. The band, besides Drummer Sonny Brown, consisted of Joe Henderson, sax; Curtis Fuller, trombone; Woody Shaw, trumpet; Kiane Zwadie, euphonium; Larry Willis, piano; and Bill Lee, bass.

WELCOME these new members: Jantine J. Bom...Joseph Cormier...Norine and Arthur F. Gilmore...Abraham Kovler...Alton Smith, Junior.

LOCAL RADIO is not neglecting jazz. Peter Lee Anderson's "Jazztime" may be heard Monday and Saturday evenings at 10 through WTIC (AM 1080). Trinity College's WRTC (FM 89.3) features jazz on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings 11 till 1. A new show, "Jazz Focus," may be heard every Sunday evening 8 to 1 from WHCN (FM 105.9).

OUR LOCAL PRESS, Dave MacKay, was given the write-up of write-ups in a recent "New York Times." A review of "Dave MacKay and Vicky Hamilton" (Impulse AS 9184) by Rex Reed begins, "Every few light years, when the moon is green and the wind seems to be blowing just the right number of knots from the west, some one comes along and makes magic happen. Dave MacKay and Vicky Hamilton are two such people. They have knocked me on my ear...Their debut album...is far and away the best jazz thing I've heard in a long time." Dave has been several years on the West Coast, where two years ago he discovered Vicky Hamilton as a perfect musical partner. Their first record, again quoting the "Times" reviewer, "hasn't one band that could be considered less than perfect."

ATTENDANCE of members at the first two meetings of the new season has been somewhat less than 30 percent, most of those present having been non-members. Attendance at meetings and payment of dues are the major source of HJS income. The music at meetings is played by some of the biggest names in jazz, the company is always enjoyable, and by attending meetings you help to keep live jazz going in Hartford.

"ROCKS have been my pillow. The ground has been my bed. The sky has been my blanket and the moon has been my spread. But I'm not ashamed. I've been living with the blues." (Old Refrain)

To join the Hartford Jazz Society, to pay your dues or to obtain any information concerning the Society and its activities, write to The Hartford Jazz Society, 73 Lebanon Street, Hartford (06112) or phone Hartford, 242-6886.