



The Swinger

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THAT "GROOVE MERCHANT," Jerome Richardson, multi-reed virtuoso just returned from a European tour with the great Thad Jones-Mel Lewis band, will be guest of HJS with his quintet Sunday, January 11. The meeting will be held again at VFW Hall, Bidwell and Tolland Streets in East Hartford, and will start (now hear this) at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. (See note below.) Jerome Richardson, veteran of the bands of such classical jazzmen as Lucky Millinder, Earl Hines, Lionel Hampton and Dizzy Gillespie, is the only man thus far to have made musical use or sense of rock -- and that's achievement enough. His partners in the quintet constitute a truly all-star group: Richard Davis, the nation's Number One bassist according to all 1969 polls; Roland Hanna, Goodman's favorite pianist and much sought-after recording performer; Jarnett Brown, no stranger to Society members nor to others who appreciate his trombone; and Billy Cobhan, Junior, Horace Silver's drummer. Now, can you afford to miss all that?

NOTA BENE (Note well, Attention, Achtung): As an experiment, the January meeting will begin at 5 PM instead of 8 PM. Music will last from 5 PM until 9 PM. This time change has been suggested by a number of Society members, who explain that it's easier to greet Monday morning with a gladsome shout if one has hit the sack before 12 M or 1 AM, as has been the case heretofore. HJS council members, always happy to please, are giving the new hours a try. If satisfactory to the majority, the late-afternoon-to-early-evening schedule will be continued.

ILLINOIS JACQUET did it again at the December meeting: he and his quartet won the hearts, ears and appreciation of their entire audience. With his tenor and bassoon (no less) he demonstrated why he has been so long a top jazzman. He shared enthusiastic applause with Pianist Wynton Kelly, Bassist Buster Williams and that perennial HJS favorite, Drummer Oliver Jackson. Those attending were pleased, too, by the new meeting place -- VFW in East Hartford -- where they found better accommodations, better acoustics and an agreeable environment. (Consult map enclosed.)

THINGS TO COME: A green room punchbowl party and concert is slated for HJS members and guests Saturday evening, January 24 at the handsome Jewish Community Center in Bloomfield. A Valentine's Day dance for HJS members and guests is scheduled for February 14 (when else?) at East Hartford's VFW Hall. Details on both events will be delivered to Society members by US Postal Authority.

"DAVE MACKAY and Vicky Hamilton," the five-star album (Impulse AS 9184) so favorably reviewed, features another Hartfordite and HJS friend besides Dave. The drummer is Joe ("Skinny") Porcaro, who has been with Dave several years on the west Coast. HJS Prexy, Harry Lichtenbaum, is moved to say, "These boys played many times for us in the early days of the Society. Along with such Hartford musicians as Cliff Gunn, Ron McClure, Norm Macklin, Bobby Johnson, Lenzy Wallace, Fred Tinsley, Bruce Martin, Ray Cassarino and Don Mast, they helped the Society to its long success. We are indebted to them, for without them we wouldn't exist today."

AS A MEASURE OF ECONOMY (the treasury is depleted at each concert-meeting), there will be a charge henceforth for setups: \$.00 for a quart of soda or ginger ale, plus a bucket of ice and cups. (Jeanne Mounds, as chairman of the hospitality committee, will be assisted at the setup counter by committee members and volunteers.) And by the way, those who have not paid their 1969-70 membership fee, which was due October 15, must expect to pay full price for admission to musical meetings.

THE "DOWN BEAT" 1969 POLL was a reminder of the superiority of the music enjoyed at HJS meetings. Each of the following -- all of whom have been guest performers of the Society -- was rated Number One on his instrument: Jimmy Harrison (clarinet), Joe Farrell (soprano sax), Kenny Burrell (guitar), Richard Davis (bass), Elvin Jones (drums) and Roland Kirk (miscellaneous instruments). Incidentally, Jerome Richardson, versatile guest of the forthcoming HJS meeting, rated thus: soprano sax, No. 8; flute, No. 12; baritone sax, No. 12.

WELCOME these new members: Carl A. Brown...Mrs. Connie Collins... Harold V. Cunningham...George E. King...Anna Montagno...Emma Pierce...Edward R. Rozie...Mrs. Joe (Robbie) Stevenson...Janice A. Comeau.

"I picked a lemon in the garden of love, where they said only peaches grow." (Old Refrain)