



# The Swinger

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A VALENTINE DINNER DANCE, with music by Houston Person, is scheduled for Sunday evening, February 17 -- and don't miss it or you'll loathe yourself afterward. Reservations must be made before the 15th. The place is Les Gourmets Restaurant at 464 Hartford Avenue in Newington. The time is 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. (Directions: Go to the Bachelor School at the intersection of Newington and New Britain Avenues, then proceed about a half-mile on Newington Avenue.) There will be door prizes, favors and free setups. (BYOB) The contributions: \$10 per diner-dancer. (Co-chairwomen of the party are Mrs. Tolbert Smothers and Mrs. George S. Cohen.) For info, call 247-7189 or 242-6886.

HOUSTON PERSON, popular with HJS members because of the hit he made on a cruise down the Connecticut and a recent HJS concert, is winning nationwide renown through records and night club tours. He's more or less a Hartford product, for he's a graduate of the Hartt School of Music at the University of Hartford. The personnel of his group: Person, tenor; Jimmy Watson, organ; Hank Brown, drums; and Buddy Caldwell, conga.

A "MIXED REVIEW", as they call it, was accorded the January HJS concert which presented the Emery Smith Quartet and Les Strangers in a sort of battle of music. Victor Sasson of "The Courant" enjoyed Emery and his group ("a delight"), but thought the music of Les Strangers, in comparison, "was coloring by the numbers." Compliments went to Tenor Eddie Davis, Bassist Fred Tinsley and Drummer Howard Shelton, as well as to Emery. A jam session, combining both groups, would have pleased the reviewer, who saw "the potential of a great session in the presence of Altoist Harold Holt and Trombonist Sonny Castanza."

INMATES of Somers State Prison were presented something of a Christmas gift in December when HJS sent them a concert by Emery Smith's Quartet, accompanied by vocalist Renee Scott. Six hundred prisoners enjoyed it as only they can. The HJS committee which accompanied the musicians consisted of Lucy Marsters, Mabel Macklin, Sammy Johnson and Tom Harris.

"JUST DIZZY", featuring (naturally) John Birks Gillespie, will be transmitted by Channel 24 (Educational TV) at 9:30 p.m., Friday, February 16. Among Dizzy's fellow jazzmen will be James Moody, Milt Jackson, Hank Jones, Mickey Roker and Sam Jones.



RANDY WESTON, HJS favorite recently returned from Morocco, performed Sunday evening, February 4 at Lincoln Center with the Symphony of the New World (100 strong) his "Uhruru! Africa" suite. Two HJS favorites featured as soloists were Jerome Richardson and Melba Liston.

CLARK TERRY, one of the most popular of HJS guests of the past, was unable to interest commercial record manufacturers in issuing the recording of his "Big Bad Band" concert of two years ago. So he is merchandising it himself. The label is Etoile. "Down Beat", awarding it five stars, says it's "a pretty damned good record." Besides Clark, other HJS guests of the past who are heard on the record are Frank Wess, Ernie Wilkins, Don Friedman, Lou Soloff, Ray Copeland, Victor Sproles and Mousey Alexander.

THE HEART FUND of Newington, Rocky Hill and Wethersfield is presenting a jazz concert for the fund's benefit to be performed by Tom Sarubbi and His All Stars on Wednesday evening, February 14. The time: 7:30. The place: Wethersfield High School on Wolcott Hill Road. Donation: \$3.00.

"DUKE ELLINGTON, WE LOVE YOU MADLY" a 90-minute "Special", will be televised over the CBS network Sunday evening, February 11. Quincy Jones, famed jazzman who scores many of the top TV programs and movies, is producing the show, which will contain such jazzmakers as Count Basie, Ray Charles, Dizzy Gillespie, Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughn.

NEW HAVEN is jumping. Its Midtown Inn is presenting jazz sessions each Sunday evening. The one on February 4 featured Sonny Stitt (with Don Friedman, Victor Sproles and Mousey Alexander). Booked for future Sundays: the Thad Jones - Mel Lewis band, Gerry Mulligan, Dizzy Gillespie, Zoot Sims and Billy Watrous' new 20-piece ensemble.

"I'M GONNA DANCE off both of my shoes when they play those Jellyroll Blues."  
(Old Refrain)