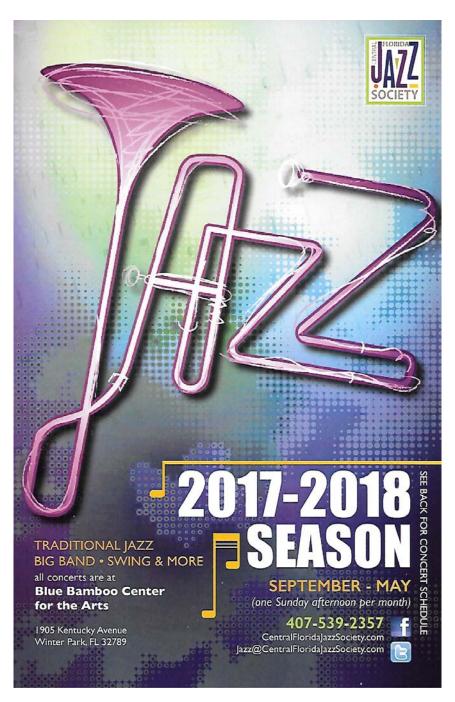


BLUE NOTES

Bimonthly Publication of the

Central Florida Jazz Society

JAN/FEB 2018 VOLUME 21, ISSUE 6





Singer and orator Mahalia Jackson, wearing corsage at lower right, looks over at Martin Luther King, Jr. speaking at the March on Washington 1963.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ON THE HUMANITY OF JAZZ

In the speech he gave before the Lincoln Memorial at the March on Washington in August 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr. employed the refrain "Now is the time." Was he inspired by Charlie Parker's "Now's the Time," the original blues that Bird recorded on his debut in 1945? As evidenced by his introductory remarks for the Berlin Jazz Festival the following year, King had a profound appreciation of jazz.

In September 1964, as the guest of Mayor Willy Brandt, King spent two days in (West) Berlin. During the whirlwind visit, he gave a sermon to a crowd of 20,000, visited the Berlin Wall, and attended a memorial concert for President Kennedy. It's also long been reported that he gave the keynote address to the inaugural Berlin Jazz Festival, but in recent years that's been disputed by Bruce Jackson

CFJS

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President's Improv

By Carla Page



We've had two outstanding concerts since our last Blue Notes. In November we presented Johny Carlsson and The Megabones. Johny was on the piano, Charlie Silva on Bass, Barry Smith on drums and 5 fabulous trombonists, Pat Gullotta, Corey Paul, Will Nestler, Rick Abbott and Harold Johnson. We were 100% sold out and what a concert! They brought the house down. December was equally remarkable with Terry Myers and Friends. Terry on sax, Pat Gullotta on trombone, Charlie Silva on bass, Michael Kramer on piano and Greg Parnell on drums. Terry said "we're just going to wing it" -- and boy did they! Not a sheet of music on the stage and some of the best music we've ever heard! So far this year, we're batting 3 for 3. And, I want to mention again that our new venue, Blue Bamboo Center for the Arts, is the perfect place for us at this time.

We're very sad to report that Dolores Neville, our board Treasurer and longtime board member has had to resign. Due to relocation issues it's become impossible for her to get to meetings. De has done a wonderful job and we will miss her tremendously. Maureen DeStefano, our Recording Secretary, will take over as Treasurer in January 2018, leaving a vacancy for her current position. We would welcome some new board members. New members bring in new ideas and new energy. If you love the Central Florida Jazz Society and would like to be more involved, we'd love to hear from you. The board meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00. The meetings usually last about an hour and we always offer a glass of wine, if you're so inclined.

On January 14th we're presenting the H. Johnson Jazztet. I'm sure that many of you remember the Rosie O'Grady's Goodtime Jazz Band. H was the leader of that band as well as the Entertainment Director at Church Street Station. He's also been with Walt Disney World as a band leader and performer for 37 years. I know you're familiar with the other fabulous musicians who make up the Jazztet: Davy Jones, Rex Wertz, John Katalenic, Doug Matthews and Paul Parker. They will be performing everything from Dixie to swing to modern jazz and jazz standards. Hope to see you all there!

And in February the UCF Flying Horse Big Band will perform. It's always so exciting to see and hear these talented and dedicated kids along with Jeff Rupert. They are recognized as one of the top college jazz bands in the United States. They seem to somehow get better every time we hear them.

We're trying to get this issue out to you prior to Christmas and want to wish you the happiest holiday season filled with love and laughter! We look forward to a wonderful 2018 and many more fabulous concerts spent with you all.

Take care and be safe!

Cheers!

Carla

carlampage@yahoo.com ● 407-415-4345

JazzWeekTop of the Charts!





JAZZ ON THE BEACH

JOTB archived programs are broadcast on WUCF-FM Orlando (89.9) on Saturdays from 12-3pm.

Jack Simpson

Does everybody have an uncle? I used to think so! With one exception, my uncles were mysterious characters who showed up occasionally in a motor car that had strange colored windows made of red plastiframe, as we called it. Uncle Bob drove that car, from where to whence I never found out.

My favorite and closest uncle was Uncle Len. He was a real one, too, being my mother's brother. He was very small – about 5 feet tall – and was very knowledgeable about wireless sets (known in the U.S. as radios). He didn't just know about them, he built them, repaired them, sold them and, I assume, listened to them. Of course, I did that, too, and was aware of the names of the stars of various radio programs.

As I entered my teens, I became a fan of some of the dance bands that were heard on the wireless with nightly broadcasts from hotel ballrooms or from the BBC studios. Some of them were swingers. Uncle Len knew all about this, of course, and was particularly interested in the quality of the sound being received by the equipment he had created. He became, to use a later term, a hi-fi nut! He would also explain to me how those wireless sets worked; such as what a super heterodyne does.

Unfortunately, 1939 arrived and so did war to Europe and the U.K. My Uncle Len was called up and became a radio man in the British infantry. He was soon involved in the major battles of the desert war in North Africa. The Brits were up against the Italian and German armies, with the aim of preventing them from reaching Allied headquarters in Cairo, Egypt. We attempted to keep up with Uncle Len's locations during battles in Tobruk and Benghazi. Some of those names may have become familiar to you because of recent politics.

My voluntary entry into the British Royal Air Force was not met with cheers. I was color blind and of no value to anybody, it seemed. I did, however, convince one warrant officer that I already knew something about wireless, so why not continue the process. They did, with excellent training.

Uncle Len survived Africa, and ultimately came home to England to build more radios. A few years later, when I applied for a job with RCA in New York, one of the employment test questions was "What does a super heterodyne do?" I spent the next 39 years working for RCA!

I wish I could say that my uncle was a great jazz fan – he wasn't! He was, though, a very good uncle! Maybe you have one?

Happy New Year! - Jack Simpson



Did you recently open an email account or change the address we have on file? Please contact Mary Uithoven at 407-699-1871 or rmejc@yahoo.com or. We want to get the latest CFJS news to you as quickly as possible!



A partnership in preserving JAZZ



JOHNY CARLSON & THE MEGABONES



















TERRY MYERS & FRIENDS



Marc Monteson, who brings us the annual New Smyrna Beach Jazz Festival, sends out a weekly notification of all kinds of upcoming music events. To get on his list, send an email to Marcmonte5@aol.com.

January 8, 9	Brandon Marsalis	Lyric Theatre, Stuart	
January 10 January 12 April 26 April 28	Johnny Mathis	Kravis, West Palm Ruth Eckerd Hall, Clearwater Florida Theatre, Jacksonville King Center, Melbourne	
January 30	Michael Feinstein Plays Cole Porter	Kravis, West Palm	
January 30 February 1	Paul Anka	Kravis, West Palm RP Funding Center, Lakeland	
February 4 February 7	Diana Krall	King Center, Melbourne Florida Theatre, Jacksonville	
February 11	Tony Bennett	Kravis, West Palm	
February 17	George Benson	Kravis, West Palm	
February 28 March 2	Tower of Power 50 th Anniversary Tour	King Center, Melbourne, Ponte Vedre Concert Hall	
April 13 April 18 April 19	Chris Botti	Florida Theatre, Jacksonville Kravis, West Palm Sunrise in Fort Pierce	

and Professor David Demsey of William Patterson University. Whether spoken or merely written for the festival's program, King offers genuine insight about the role that jazz musicians played as they "championed" the search for identity among African Americans. "Long before the modern essayists and scholars wrote of 'racial identity' as a problem for a multi-racial world, musicians were returning to their roots to affirm that which was stirring within their souls," King wrote.

One senses that Dr. King would have understood what Stanley Crouch meant in a 2009 *Daily News* column lamenting the absence of jazz in the public rituals of the Obama administration. "Jazz predicted the civil rights movement more than any other art in America...Jazz was always an art, but because of the race of its creators, it was always more than music. Once the whites who played it and the listeners who loved it began to balk at the limitations imposed by segregation, jazz became a futuristic social force in which one was finally judged purely on the basis of one's individual ability." Or, as King famously put it, "judged not by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." The same applies to the music today; here's the text of what King wrote about it [more than] 40 years ago. -- By Tom Reney, January 20, 2014 (http://nodepression.com/article/martin-luther-king-jr-humanity-jazz)

Humanity and the Importance of Jazz

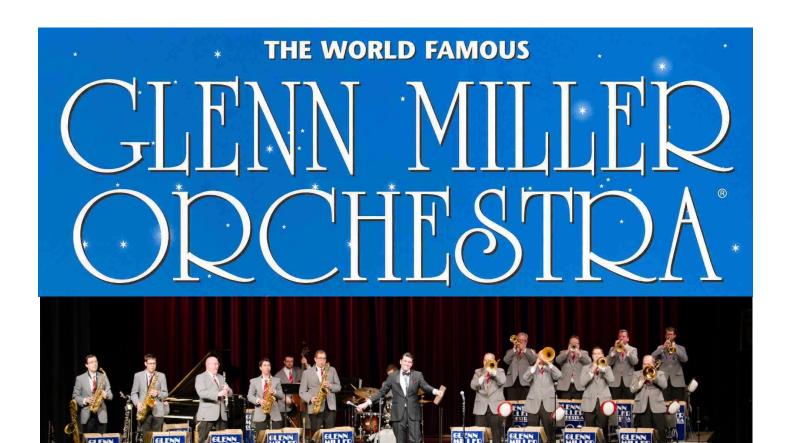
"God has brought many things out of oppression. He has endowed His creatures with the capacity to create - and from this capacity has flowed the sweet songs of sorrow and joy that have allowed man to cope with his environment and many different situations.

"Jazz speaks for life. The Blues tell the story of life's difficulties, and if you think for a moment, you will realize that they take the hardest realities of life and put them into music, only to come out with some new hope or sense of triumph. This is triumphant music.

"Modern Jazz has continued in this tradition, singing the songs of a more complicated urban existence. When life itself offers no order and meaning, the musician creates an order and meaning from the sounds of the earth which flow through his instrument.

"It is no wonder that so much of the search for identity among American Negroes was championed by Jazz musicians. Long before the modern essayists and scholars wrote of "racial identity" as a problem for a multi-racial world, musicians were returning to their roots to affirm that which was stirring within their souls.

"Much of the power of our Freedom Movement in the United States has come from this music. It has strengthened us with its sweet rhythms when courage began to fail. It has calmed us with its rich harmonies when spirits were down. And now, Jazz is exported to the world. For in the particular struggle of the Negro in America there is something akin to the universal struggle of modern man. Everybody has the Blues. Everybody longs for meaning. Everybody needs to love and be loved. Everybody needs to clap hands and be happy. Everybody longs for faith. In music, especially this broad category called Jazz, there is a stepping stone towards all of these."



Reserve the night and your tickets now!

Monday, January 22, 2018 – 7:00 PM

Lake Mary High School Auditorium 655 Longwood Lake Mary Road – Lake Mary, FL

Ticket Prices: \$25.00 - \$33.00
All Seats Reserved

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MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP TABLE

Have you lost your membership card? Is something misspelled or incorrect? Are you not receiving your bimonthly Blue Notes newsletter or monthly phone message from Carla Page? (Carla sends a message at least once a month before each concert.)

Mary Uithoven can help: 407-699-1871.



Welcome New Members!

Raija Carlsson LaVerne & Jordan Carroll Judy Christie Luis Gandia

Anne Jones

Bryan & Mikki Kriekard

Dave Macauley David Simpkins Edward Wimp

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Tom Davis

Bill Gaver

Nancy Hall

Charlene Kuhn

Dr. Leslie Sue Lieberman

Bonnie Liston

Jose Marrero

Marc Monteson

Margie Samsonoff

Douglas & Genevieve Scarboro

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Greta Pope Wimp

Lynette Woitko

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Malcolm Marsh, Jr. Lynne and Jerry Rickman Loyd and Jeanie Warren

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Alyce Francis

Barbara and Howard Gold

Michael and Sheila Kramer

Moe Lowe

Sonja Marchesano

Dolores Neville

Roxanne Faye Noles

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Louis Shader

Jack and Lorraine Simpson

Dr. George & Sue Ryerson Starks

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ADDRESSEE

ENJOY LIVE JAZZ

2017-2018 SEASON CONCERT SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER

0 DI

DR. BILL PRINCE

Multi-instrumentalist and former member of the Buddy Rich Big Band

OCTOBER

PHILIPPE LEMM TRIO

NOVEMBER 12

From New York City

JOHNY CARLSSON & THE MEGABONES

DECEMBER 10

Five Trombones and Rhythm Section

IANUARY 14

TERRY MYERS & FRIENDS

JANUARY 14

Leader of the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra

...........

H. JOHNSON JAZZTET
All-star group performing everything from Dixie to swing to modern jazz

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UCF BIG BAND

MARCH III

Hear the jazz greats of tomorrow right here!

MARCH

MICHAEL KRAMER FUNDRAISER CONCERT A special gift to our scholarship fund

APRIL 8

GREG PARNELL QUINTET

An exciting tribute to the great quintets!

MAY 20

KATE REID

One of the best Jazz Vocalists and recording artists from Los Angeles

ALL CONCERTS START AT 3:00PM



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College Students with ID: \$3 | High School & Younger: FREE
Tickets Available at the Door
or www.CentralFloridaJazzSociety.com

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500



H. Johnson Jazztet

H Johnson, trombone/vocals
Davy Jones, trumpet, flugelhorn
Rex Wertz, reeds
John Katalenic, piano
Doug Mathews, bass
Paul Parker, drums

Familiar faces, one and all, on the local jazz scene. They'll have you swingin' into the New Year in style!



Release Date: May 15, 2017

Under the direction of Grammywinning saxophonist Jeff Rupert, the pros got nothin' on these students. If you haven't heard them before, come out and see if you don't agree.