

SUSAN BERLOWITZ, EDITOR

FEBRUARY 1996

FROM THE PRESIDENT...Happy February, my dear fans and supporters...Eureka! We at the Foundation, as well as all of us jazz fans in Lincoln, may have discovered our new savior. I'm speaking of Amy Lamphere with the Wagon Train Project, which is located on the second floor at 512 South 7 Street.

Only a few days after Susan Berlowitz left to cover the I.A.J.E. (International Association of Jazz Educators) conference in Atlanta, Georgia, our spectacular February 16 and 17 "jazz fest", featuring Greg Abate and Claudio Roditi, was homeless. But, thank God, not for long. In remembering Susan's suggestion to contact Amy for a possible future, the venue became a reality. The Wagon Train welcomed the collaboration with the Berman Music Foundation with open loving arms. This should be real cool. Thanks to Dietze Music House for the piano, Midwest Sound and Lighting for just that, and now adding a fully stocked cash bar provided by Meier's Cork N Bottle Shop, this will no doubt become the "jazz party of the year"! Mark your calendars now! Tell all of your friends, families, and neighbors to please be there. It'll be a gasser. Hopefully, this will be a true beginning for many exciting jazz adventures to come out of this timely cultural merge. Jazz should never be just another entertainment du jour to be trendy, and or to make a buck. Anyway, the past is history. No time to be mad, just to be busy.

Greg and Claudio will be backed by Karrin Allyson's superb rhythm section from Kansas City, Missouri, consisting of Bob Bowman on bass and Todd Strait on drums. The piano chair will be held down by Phil De Greg from Cincinnati, Ohio. Phil was one of the fabulous instructors from the Jamie Aebersold Jazz Camp/ Workshop that I attended last June near Chicago, Illinois. A weekend truly not to be missed.

Another night for all of you young and not so young lovers to jot down is February 14, Valentine's Day with my jazz combo, the Hobnobs (featuring Andy Hall on bass and Andrew Vogt on reeds), will be at Taylor's Steakhouse in Hastings, Nebraska. The first set starts at 8:00 P.M. Call our office at 476-3112 for more info.

Jazzically yours,
Butch Berman

GREG ABATE & CLAUDIO RODITI...will perform at the **Wagon Train Project**, which is located at **512 South 7 Street** on the second floor. Mark your calendar now so that you don't miss the **Friday, February 16** and **Saturday, February 17** performances. Both performances will begin at **9:00 P.M.** Don't miss it. There will be a \$15 cover charge. There is ample parking at the Wagon Train.



Claudio Roditi

Greg Abate and Claudio Roditi will bring the world of bebop alive when they take the stage here in Lincoln, Nebraska. Greg Abate is considered to be one of the best post bebop alto players on the scene today. Greg also plays soprano, tenor, and baritone saxophones, as well as being an accomplished flute player. Claudio will bring the worlds of bebop and the Brazilian samba together. Claudio is a very versatile trumpet/flugelhorn player, whose talents are in high demand around the world.

The Berman Music Foundation is very pleased to bring this show to Lincoln, Nebraska. If you would like more information about the shows, call the offices of "...And All That Jazz". That number is 476-3112.

Thanks for supporting "live jazz" in Lincoln.

VICTOR LEWIS...will be in Lincoln, and will take part in the Nebraska Jazz Festival at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln on February 10, 1996. The performance will take place at Kimball Hall on the University campus on February 10 at 8:00 P.M. Victor will perform with the Nebraska Jazz Orchestra. Tickets are \$10, and \$6 for students. Again, mark your calendars today.

Victor was born and grew up in Omaha, Nebraska. Both of Victor's parents were musicians. He began playing cello at the tender age of five, took piano lessons for four years, and then switched to drums when he was eleven. Even though his parents wanted a more traditional career for him, he attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln to study music. Seeing and hearing the Miles Davis Band in 1969, with Jack De Johnette on drums was in his own words, "like a religious experience."

In 1971, Victor's combo opened up for Herbie Hancock here in Lincoln. This performance was a high point in Victor's life. Not only did the crowd respond enthusiastically to his playing, but he received praise from Buster Williams and Billy Hart, who were part of Herbie Hancock's band.

In 1974, with encouragement from the saxophonist Bennie Maupin, Victor made the move to "The Big Apple". Apprehensive, but excited, Victor went with the attitude that he was going to learn. He worked hard, and succeeded. He has performed with Woody Shaw, Stan Getz, Carla Bley, and Abdullah Ibrahim...just to name a few.

Victor is known for his impeccable timing, cymbal work, and is as able to support players, as he is to take the lead. He is highly sought after as a studio musician. Victor is also a fine composer, and works his compositions out at the piano. In fact, occasionally you will see him credited as the pianist. His compositions have been recorded by Woody Shaw, David Sanborn, and Bobby Watson. Many of you are probably familiar with Bobby Watson's group, "Horizon", which Victor co-lead with Bobby. Don't miss **Victor Lewis** with the Nebraska Jazz Orchestra on **February 10, 1996 at 8:00 P.M. at Kimball Hall.**

Victor Lewis has recorded with many fine jazz musicians, and as a leader. You can find his work at all Lincoln music outlets.

Victor Lewis...Family Portrait...1992...AudioQuest
Dave Panichi...Blues For Mc Coy...1995...Spirit

Song

Abbey Lincoln...A Turtle's Dream...1995...Gitanes
Bobby Watson...Urban Renewal...1995...Kokopelli
Kevin Mahogany...You Got What It Takes...1995...

Enja

Bobby Watson and Horizon...Present Tense...
1992...Columbia... Bobby and Victor have been together for more than ten years, and according to both of them, they share a vision of where their music is going.

Remember February 10, 1996 at Kimball Hall.

JAZZ AT THE LIED...

Don't miss Arturo Sandoval on Friday, February 9, 1996. Get your tickets now. Call (402) 472-4747 or toll free in Nebraska (800) 432-3231 for information and tickets.

Arturo Sandoval
& The Latin Train
GRP GRD-9818

Arturo Sandoval & The Latin Train is full of the energy and true Cuban rhythms reminiscent of the Cuban music of the '40s and 50's. Beginning with Dizzy Gillespie's "Be-Bop", Arturo shows that his heart lies in the music. He, and his trumpet, take the music to great heights, with a crystal clear tone. Celia Cruz and Oscar D'Leon join the band, and add their own festive moods to "La Guarapachanga". The music will make you want to dance. Joe Williams joins the band for a beautiful rendition of "You Can't Get Started." The CD contains 6 original compositions written by Arturo Sandoval, including one entitled "The Latin Trane", in tribute to John Coltrane's "Giant Steps." A great CD to add to any collection.

JAZZ IN THE FIVE REASONS...

The Five Reasons is located on the second floor of the Cornhusker Hotel, which is located at 333 S. 13 Street. You can stop by on Friday nights, beginning at 7:00 P.M., for a fine taste of jazz. The music continues until 11:00 P.M. Jim Cidlik and Tom Larson lead trios on alternating Friday nights.

Jim Cidlik plays solo piano every Saturday night. The music begins at 6:00 P.M., and continues until closing...which is usually around 11:00 P.M. For more information, call the Cornhusker at 474-7474...ask for The Five Reasons.



Jim Cidlik, Dave Morris, & Steve Hanson

I made a point of visiting The Five Reasons on Friday, January 5, 1996. Jim Cidlik was leading his trio that evening. What a treat! His trio consisted of Steve Hanson

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on guitar and Dave Morris on bass. From swinging "How High The Moon", to the beautiful ballad "All the Things You Are", you can feel the heart and soul of this group. Steve Hanson winds his way around each note that Cyd plays, and Cyd makes use of the entire keyboard. Reynold Peterson, of "Lightning Bug" fame sat in and did a couple of tunes with the trio. Steve and Reynold make up two parts of "The Lightning Bugs", and joined in harmonies for "Ain't Misbehavin'" and "Mood Indigo", with a nice and easy swinging feel. And then Cyd took over with his renditions of "Please Don't Talk About Me" and "Georgia." Cyd's gravelly voice fits these songs perfectly...nobody does it better!

Make a point of stopping into The Five Reasons for jazz on Friday and Saturday evenings.

JAZZ AT THE OVEN...

The music begins at 6:00 P.M. every Sunday night. Wonderful music...wonderful food!!!

February 4...Nancy Marshall & Steve Hanson

February 11...Andy Hall & Dave Sharp

February 18...Peter Bouffard & John Carlini

February 25...Dave Novok & Dennis Taylor

The Oven is located in the "historic" Haymarket at 201 N. 8 Street. For more information call 475-6118.

December 31, 1995 I stopped into the Oven to hear Nancy Marshall and Steve Hanson, and discovered that Cory Biggerstaff was playing with Nancy. If you haven't had the pleasure of hearing Cory, he is a 16 year old bass player here in Lincoln. Cory just earned himself a chair with the symphony...a very talented young man. Cory has come a long ways from the jazz jams we were doing last summer. He is stronger and much more confident, and with more swing to his playing, as I heard in "All Of Me." Cory played an extremely sensitive solo on "God Bless The Child." It is easy to tell that he has been working very hard.



Jason Varga, Nancy, Cory, and Nick Steinke at the Huey's Jazz Jam...Summer 1995

JAZZ AT THE OVEN...CONTINUED

Nancy seems more at ease and more able to build on a song. This girl's been working it out. Nancy is stronger and playing with her heart and soul. She plays with a complete knowledge of Monk's harmonics and scales...very angular. Catch her sometime when she's singing and playing "Rhythm-a-ning." She also does a very tender rendition of the Johnny Burke/Jimmy Van Heusen song "But Beautiful."

Check out the jazz at the Oven on Sunday evenings...6:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.

COMING SOON...

"LISTEN TO THIS"...a show performed by and produced by Nancy Marshall. This show will take place at The Wagon Train Project, which is located on the second floor at 512 South 7 Street on March 30, 1995. Tom Hennig will travel from Omaha to join Nancy for the show. Tom is a terrific piano player with some tasty licks. Andy Hall will join the show on bass...a rare treat to hear Tom and Andy together. Steve Hanson, Nancy's regular musical partner, will also be there. Put this event on your calendar now. I will keep you posted on the details.

BLUES AT THE ZOO BAR...

If you weren't at the Zoo bar for the Tablerockers and Not All There CD release party on December 29, 1995, you missed the party of 1995. The Fabulous Fabtones set the tone for the evening, when they opened the evening at 5:00 P.M. that fine Friday afternoon. The air was already charged with energy. People were dancing from the front to the back of the room, and there was already no room to move around. The Fabulous Fabtones are Pam Barger on keyboard and vocals, Steve Hanson on guitar, Jon Hischke on saxophone, Jim Pipher on bass, and Reynold Peterson on drums. You can hear the Fabtones again at F.A.C. at the Zoo Bar on February 23, 1996. F.A.C. begins at 5:00 P.M. every Friday afternoon. The cover charge is \$1.

If you haven't already purchased your CDs, they are available at most Lincoln music outlets, and at the Zoo Bar. The CDs were recorded and issued as a division of the Berman Music Foundation.

Friday night, December 29, 1995 was a very festive evening at the Zoo Bar. Magic Slim was in town, and Earlene Owens flew in from Beaumont, Texas for the celebration. Magic Slim took part in both CD projects, and Earlene is featured with the Tablerockers...both projects were released in November. The evening began with Not All There taking the stage. Sean Benjamin is as good a lead blues guitar player as any in the country. As the song states, he was "Born With the Blues"...a song that Sean and Larry Boehmer collaborated on. Sean can sing the blues as well as he can play them. He is pure soul. Larry Boehmer was that steady bass behind Sean, and Joe Gourley was the drummer. When Magic Slim took the stage, the energy crackled throughout the crowd.

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I hadn't heard Magic Slim play with that kind of vitality for quite some time...and the night was young.

The second set found the Tablerockers on stage, with Butch Berman on piano, adding more fullness to the band.



Earlene Owens and Butch Berman at the CD release party at the Zoo Bar...December 29, 1995

Earlene joined the Tablerockers, and the crowd went wild. Earlene didn't let them down, as she belted out "Little Red Rooster", "Going Fishing", and the very beautiful "Taxi". As powerful as Earlene can be, she's still able to be as smooth and soft as velvet, when the song demands. The room was filled with her friends, and she sang to every one of us. And of course, Magic Slim rejoined the band so that he and Earlene could do some "Shufflin' ". The night was like magic. If we are able to put this together again, don't miss it.



Earlene Wailin' at the Zoo...December 29, 1995

ZOO BAR BLUES CONTINUES...

Don't miss the **Little Big Band** when they return to the Zoo Bar on **February 1, 1996**. The Little Big Band plays hot jazz, and is coming in from Minneapolis. February 9 and 10...Little Ed & The Imperial Flames
February 15, 16, & 17...The BEL-AIRS

February and F.A.C. at the Zoo

February 2...Justice League of the Blues

February 9...Not All There

February 16...Not All There

February 23...The Fabulous Fabtones

For more information, call 435-8754. The Zoo Bar is located at 136 N. 14 Street in Lincoln, Nebraska.

KID QUARKSTAR...

These young men have a lot of drive and ambition. They are also quite talented, and love the music. They are still playing **every Thursday night at Club 1427** ...next to Ya Yas. Kid Quarkstar includes Nate Walcott on trumpet, Jess Becker on saxophone, John Shulters on bass, and Carson Young on drums. These young men are working hard, and well deserve a listen.

MO JAVA OFFERS LIVE MUSIC...

Mo Java is located at 2713 N. 48 Street...in Uni Place. Mo Java serves a variety of hot espresso drinks, specialty mochas, and toasted bagel sandwich specialties. Eat in house, or order to go. Live music has resumed.

February 3...Kusi Taki

February 10...Tom Martin

February 17...Dog Pipes

February 24...Terri Dahlquist

The music begins at 8:00 P.M. For more information, call 464-4130.

THE NEBRASKA BRASS...

The Nebraska Brass will perform with Annette Murrell, Jim Williamson, and John Scofield on **February 19, 1995**...that's "Brass and Blues". For more information, call 477-8222.

JAZZ CHURCH...

Dave Sharp and The Plymouth Jazz Quintet perform on the first Thursday of each month at The First Plymouth Congregational Church. First Plymouth is located at 2000 D Street. The service begins at 7:30 P.M. on February 1, 1996. For more information, call 476-7565.

DUGGAN'S PUB OFFERS BLUES...

Duggan's is located at 440 S. 11 Street. They sponsor an open stage every Monday night, and is led by "The Retreads", specifically by drummer, Dan Caulkins. You can hear the blues every Wednesday night with "New News". Call 477-3513 for more information.

SUPPORT LIVE MUSIC!

THE PLA MOR BALLROOM...

The Pla Mor Ballroom consistantly presents the sounds of the big bands, and dancing. There are few ballrooms left in this country. The Pla Mor is located at 6600 West "O" Street.

February 3...The Reflections Big Band
February 7...The Leo Lonnie Band
February 14...Greg Spevak...Valentine's Day
February 21...
February 28...

February 14, 1996 marks the 25th anniversary for the Greg Spevak Band. His band had its' first gig on February 14, 1971.

If you would like more information about The Pla Mor, call 475-4030.

FLYING-V-BALLROOM...

The Flying-V-Ballroom will be closed through the month of February.

THE STARLITE BALLROOM...

The Starlite Ballroom is located 3 1/2 miles west of Wahoo, Nebraska, and also presents the sounds of the big bands.

February 4...Leo Lonnie

The dance is a matinee dance...from 2:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M. If you would like more information, call (402) 443-3533.

THE SOKOL AUDITORIUM...

The Sokol Auditorium is located at 13 & Martha Streets in Omaha, Nebraska.

February 1...Dennis Wesely
February 8...Jimmy "B" Orchestra
February 15...Greg Spevak
February 22...Lou Arnold
February 29...Tommy Bishop...Leap Year, there won't be another for four years...Don't miss the festivities!

If you have questions about the Sokol Auditorium, call Elaine Heath...(402) 345-2425.

THE MILLARD LEGION CLUB...

The Midwest Ballroom Dancers' Association meets every Tuesday night at the Millard Legion Club.

February 6...Lou Arnold
February 13...NO DANCE
February 14...Lonny Lynn...dinner dance
February 20...Tommy Bishop
February 27...Jimmy "B" Orchestra

HOWELLS BALLROOM...

The Howells Ballroom is located 20 miles north of Schuyler, Nebraska.

February 18...Lonny Lynn

A BIG THANKS GOES OUT TO MR. CON GOOD...for all his help in rounding up the ballroom information. Con Good is a programmer at KZUM, the community's radio station, which is located at 89.3 on your FM dial. Tune in every Monday morning at 8:00 A.M. for Con Good's show, "Dance Bands: When Melody Was King."

JAZZ AT BUENA VIDA...

Buena Vida is located at **7635 Cass** in **Omaha**, Nebraska. You can hear live jazz every Sunday night from **8:00 P.M.-12:00 midnight**. The players will be Andy Hall, Joey Gulizia, Ron Kooley, Mike Gurciullo, and Matt Wallace.

So far, Buena Vida has committed to jazz through the months of February and March. It is very important to support this establishment.

If you would like more information, call (402) 392-1021.

NETV'S BROADCAST SCHEDULE...

NETV is Nebraska Educational TV, and is channel 13. These performances were filmed at the Brownville Concert Hall in Brownville, Nebraska. Because of cutbacks in federal funding, this series is in danger of being cut. It's very important that we watch these performances, and phone in our support. We are fortunate to have this series on NETV.

Tuesday, February 6...Kevin Mahogany
Tuesday, February 13...Chip Zein
Tuesday, February 20...Manhattan Rhythm Kings
Tuesday, February 27...Angela Hagenbach

Please call the number displayed at the end of the program, or contact Mike Farrell at (402) 472-3611, and voice your endorsement of this series. This is very important.

KUCV...is Nebraska Public Radio, and is located at **90.9 FM**. Again, I'd like to thank Dave Hughes for helping me to put this information together. Dave is a DJ at both KUCV and at KZUM. If you're looking for fine jazz programming, KUCV has several nationally syndicated shows.

Wynton Marsalis presents a series on **Friday** evenings called "**Making The Music**." This program airs at **7:00 P.M.**

February 2...TBA
February 9...What Is An Arrangement?
February 16...Miles Davis
February 23...What Is Fusion?
March 1...No America, No Jazz

Following "Making The Music", stay tuned to KUCV for "**Prime Time Jazz**" at **8:00 P.M.** Bill Watts is your host, and also hosts jazz shows on KVNO in Omaha.

Don't forget to tune into **Don Gill** and "**Big Band Spotlight**" every **Saturday** night at **8:00 P.M.**

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JAZZ PROGRAMMING ON KUCV CONTINUED...

Jazz Set with Branford Marsalis is brought to you every **Saturday** night at **9:00 P.M.**

February 3...Great Vibes: A Salute To Lionel Hampton

February 10...Jon Faddis and The Carnegie Hall Jazz Band present "New Orleans To Now"

February 17...Highlights from the 1995 Telluride Jazz Festival

February 24...more Highlights from Telluride

Marian Mc Partland's Piano Jazz is presented every **Saturday** night at **10:00 P.M.**

February 3...Cecelia Powell...Bud Powell's daughter

February 10...Don Friedman

February 17...Liz Story

February 24...Claudio Roditi

March 2...Carla Bley & Steve Swallow

MORE JAZZ ON THE RADIO...

KZUM is located at **89.3** on your FM dial, and can be heard on cable channel 10. KZUM is an important part of the Lincoln community. KZUM is our voice. Again, because of federal cutbacks, it is very important to become an active listener and voice...help support community radio. If you would like to become a member of KZUM, or have questions, please call the KZUM office at 474-5086. We need your help.

KZUM offers a variety of programs...something for everyone. KZUM's mission statement is "to increase ethnic and cultural awareness." KZUM represents all people and all music. KZUM also publishes "Sound Alternatives", a monthly program guide. If you are not a member, and would like a sample copy of "Sound Alternatives" sent to your home, please call the KZUM office at 474-5086. If you were unaware, KZUM is the only community radio station in the state of Nebraska. We should all be very proud of KZUM.

Caroline Tetschner, who has been the program director for four years, is leaving KZUM. She has accepted a job in another city. The Berman Music Foundation wishes her much happiness and success.

KZUM continues to expand under the leadership of Dick Noble. Dick will soon hire a public affairs director, who will bring you more local news coverage. KZUM also has plans to get more involved in the community. KZUM is truly an important part of this community.

For all of you KZUM jazz and blues lovers, here are a few shows you might want to tune into...

Mondays at 2:00 P.M...Tune into Amy Mc Andrew's Kitchen Sink Jazz

Tuesdays at 12:30 P.M...Tune into Dan Kobza and Women In Jazz...vocals and instrumentals

Wednesdays at 8:30 P.M...Tune into Bill Dimon

MORE PROGRAMMING FROM KZUM...

and Salt Creek Jazz...straight ahead jazz

Thursdays at 4:00 P.M...Tune into Tammy Lee and The Bare Bottom Blues



Tammy Lee and Bill Wagner at the Zoo Bar...December 29, 1995...enjoying the CD release party

Fridays at 4:30 P.M...Tune into Bill Wagner and Jim Anderson and Confessin' The Blues

For more Jazz On The Radio, tune into "...And All That Jazz" again next month.

Jazz Centralairs Monday -Friday at 10:30 P.M. on the **BET** channel. The BET channel is **channel 40**. They air some wonderful concerts, as well as doing interviews with many jazz greats.

The new **Bravo** channel is cable **channel 47**. They have shown many great jazz documentaries, including Illinois Jacquet. Check your cable guide.

I regretfully inform you that Huey's and Julios no longer present live jazz.

I keep hearing rumors about Tom Ineck and a jazz club...we'll all keep our fingers crossed.

If anyone would like to write an article for the newsletter, or if you have news, please call me at my office... I would love to continue to add to this project. The phone number is 476-3112.

KEEP SUPPORTING LIVE MUSIC!

FROM THE KC JAZZ WORKSHOP SERIES...

The faces of the Jazz Illuminaries that abounded the ceiling of the 12th Street Rag Lounge at the KC Marriott Downtown seemed to be smiling at what was going on...on the previously oft-vacated stage. Tonight, January 14, there was jazz, and I mean Jazz, as the 4th concert of the Kansas City Jazz Workshop presented two great New York talents.

Jay Leonhardt is a brilliant bass player, singer/songwriter, and master accompanist to many of the world's finest jazz singers...for example, Judy Garland, Lena Horne, Mel Torme, and Sarah Vaughn. Susan and I were both thrilled to see him back up Margaret Whiting and Rosemary Clooney, when we were in New York last year. Jay's partner, who shared the stage with him this magical evening, was sax and clarinetist extraordinaire...Ken Peplowski.

Reminding you of Benny Goodman, but with his own special style and tone, Ken has recorded with the likes of Peggy Lee, George Shearing, Warren Vache, and Hank Jones...just to name a few. He is one of Concord's major artists. One of KC's tightest rhythm sections, the Tommy Ruskin Trio, joined Jay and Ken. Tommy Ruskin, as usual, played very stylishly on drums. Russ Long, a KC jazz tradition, and Danny Embrey, whom we've enjoyed in Lincoln with both Karrin Allyson and Musa Nova, joined Tommy Ruskin and the New York jazz greats. Danny Embrey had one of his best nights ever on guitar. They all simply dazzled us with two full one hour sets of standards and originals.

Ginny Coleman, KCUR FM jazz DJ of "Just Jazz", introduced the band, along with representatives of the press, and honored guests/musicians including Karrin Allyson, KC's Symphony director Bill Mc Glaughlin, and the ever popular bassist Gerald Spaits. *

From the opener, "Move" by Denzel Best, to the night's closer, "Limehouse Blues", the audience was stunned. Everyone's solos were as fine as I've ever heard. Karrin Allyson joined Jay for a super fab scat duet on "Spring Is A Joy." The standing O. was richly deserved.

Watch for a great performance from Susannah Mc Corkle on March 11, 1996. Three of next year's seven concerts have already been signed. I can't wait to see and hear Marilyn Maye, Monty Alexander, and Warren Vache.

For more info, call (816) 436-0318, or (816) 737-3627. Concerts normally take place at UMKC's Pierson Hall.

...Review by Butch Berman

The Ray Brown Trio, featuring Benny Green, will perform at The Folly on Saturday, February 10, 1996 at 8:00 P.M. The Folly Theater is located at 12th & Central in Kansas City, Missouri. For information, call the box office at (816) 474-4444.

Subscribe to Jam, KC's Jazz Ambassador Magazine to learn more about the KC scene. For information, call the Jazz Ambassadors at (816) 967-6767.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR...

Dear Susan,

Thank you for having me on the mailing list to receive "...And All That Jazz".

The January 1996 issue with the article, "Who Is Mary Lou Williams?" is a reading must for every jazz fan. I knew Mary Lou Williams and heard her play many times. Mary Lou's playing, arranging, and composing will not be forgotten by true jazz fans.

Gus Statiras
Mail Order Jazz
Tifton, Georgia

Dearest Susan,

Thanks for the newsletter. Great job!! Have a wonderful holiday season, and a great 1996.

Amy London
New York City

Dear Susan,

Thanks for your newsletter. I enjoy it a lot. The Mary Lou piece was So Good. That piece is something to be proud of.

Love,
Rosetta Reitz
New York City

Rosetta is a noted historian and teacher of women in the world of blues and jazz. She has her own record company called Rosetta Records. She has gained recognition for many women artists who otherwise would have remained unknown. If you would like more information about Rosetta and her record company, please call me at my office... (402) 476-3112.

We at "...And All That Jazz" welcome your comments, suggestions, and letters. Keep them coming. Send to "...And All That Jazz", 719 P Street Studio G, Lincoln, Ne., 68508.

A SINGERS' WORKSHOP...

A "**Creative Jazz Camp**" for singers is being planned for **August of 1996**...dates and times will be announced. Janet Lawson, Janiece Jaffe, and Patty Coker will come together to tailor the program to your individual styles, interests, and studies. They will teach ear training, vocal improvisation, basic piano for singers, and self accompaniment. Theory, repertoire, and presentation will also be taught.

For further information, call Janiece Jaffe at (812) 334-0300, Patty Coker at (423) 397-9777, or Janet Lawson at (717) 676-5143. * I understand that Mr. Bob Dorough has committed to teaching at this camp. Clear your calendar for August...I will keep you informed.

JAZZ IN THE POCONOS...

I left Lincoln on Saturday, January 6, 1996 to go out to the Pocono Mountains in Pennsylvania to visit my very good friend, Janet Lawson. Janet is a very highly acclaimed and also a grammy nominated jazz singer. Janet studied with Warne Marsh. She has performed all over the world, with many of the jazz greats, including Art Farmer, Ron Carter, Milt Hinton, and Duke Ellington. I originally met Janet through another very dear friend...Nancy Marshall. Nancy Marshall is a teacher, performer, and producer here in Lincoln, Nebraska. She is a pianist and a singer. Both Nancy and I have studied voice with Janet.

The original plan was that I was going to interview some of the singers that live in the Poconos. Janet had set it up so that I would be able to interview Nancy Reed and Kim Parker (Charlie Parker's daughter) at the Dearhead Inn, which is a very famous and historical jazz house. However, all plans came to a halt, when the "Blizzard of '96" set in. We were snowed in for three days, but I did gain celebrity status with my 13 year old son, Andrew. When Andrew discovered that I was in the "Blizzard of '96", he became so excited, and couldn't wait to tell his friends. You just never know what's going to impress kids. I'm planning to make the trip again, but I'll wait for spring.

I was also supposed to sit in on some of Janet's piano and voice lessons, but again the blizzard stopped us. This is when a phone becomes very important. I was able to listen over the phone, while two of Janet's students performed. 11 year old Kate performed "Song of India" on the piano for us. Even over the phone, I was able to feel the soul of the song. Kate was so sweet and so proud of herself. Janet is a teacher with extraordinary insight, and has a very special gift...she is so open that her students also open their hearts and souls. Janet is a light that is. A student of Janet's, will find not only their music evolving, but they will also find themselves evolving as a person...becoming more real and honest all the time.

I talked with Maria Guida, a voice student of Janet Lawson's, who lives in New York City. Maria performed the song "Someone In Love"...again, over the phone. By the way, she sang beautifully. Maria talked to me about the deeper changes that have occurred in her, since Janet became her teacher. Maria said that Janet has given her invaluable nurturing, and has allowed her to flourish. When Maria told me that she feels a great debt to Janet, Janet simply said, "The debt is to the music, go out and teach...spread the word",...which is what Warne Marsh had once told her. Maria teaches theater and also accent correction to foreign born people at New York University.

We can look forward to having Janet Lawson in Lincoln, Nebraska for a series of workshops and performances. The performance will take place at The Wagon Train Project. I will keep you posted as to when she will be here. The workshops will be open to singers and to instrumentalists, and to anyone with a love for the music. Janet will be in Lincoln for five days. The Berman Music Foundation is very excited about presenting Janet Lawson in Lincoln.

FROM THE I.A.J.E. CONFERENCE IN ATLANTA..

The snow in Pennsylvania ended, and Janet and I were able to leave on schedule from the Bethlehem Airport. We arrived in Atlanta on Wednesday evening, January 10. Nancy Marshall had already arrived from Lincoln to join us. The conference began Thursday morning.

The International Jazz Educators Conference is a jazz extravaganza. They present clinics, performances, computer technology sessions, panel sessions, and exhibits. The conference is for anyone involved in the world of jazz, and gives a person a great opportunity to learn about all aspects of the music, and to connect with other people who share the same interests. I would recommend the conference to anyone with a love for the music. The energy level is extremely high. We met terrific people throughout the conference.

For me, some of the highlights were...Paul Berliner's lecture on the story behind his book, "Thinking In Jazz". He also wrote "The Soul of Mbirá", which is considered a landmark piece of literature.

We saw a top-notch performance by Deborah Brown, as she demonstrated what makes a singer swing. Monty Alexander was her pianist and Ed Thigpen her drummer. I'm envious!

The New World School of The Arts Jazz Septet knocked everyone out. These young men could swing with feeling. It was easy to tell that they have spent a lot of time listening to the masters. Seneca Black wrote an original composition called "New World Infirmary", which was written in the true New Orleans tradition.



Seneca Black performing at I.A.J.E....Thursday, January 11

Jamie Aebersold, one of jazz's most important educators, sat in as a guest soloist. J.B. Dyas directed.

Willie Thomas, a gifted trumpet player, was a special treat to meet. He presented a clinic called "Making
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Music...Jazz That Is". Willie is such a warm individual, who loves to teach and wants to share his knowledge.



Janet Lawson and Willie Thomas in Atlanta...1996

Fred Hersch is an amazing pianist. He is so sensitive, and he is able to convey that sensitivity to the audience. Fred's performance dazzled everyone. He also worked with Roseanna Vitro during her clinic. Roseanna is a great singer. Her clinic..."Musicians Are From Mars/Vocalists Are From Venus"...was excellent. Roseanna and Fred talked to us about the communication skills that are necessary so that musicians and vocalists are able to work more successfully together.

The Indiana School For The Blind jazz combo performed at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday morning, January 14. The combo is in their third year. 95% of the children at the school are involved in the music programs. They perform at many of the jazz festivals in the midwest. Greg Erbeck directs the combo, and told us that when he presents music to the group, he records several versions of the same song. And then the individuals get their own slant on the music. The group included Mark Hale on keyboard bass, who is in 12th grade, Steven Jones on piano, who is in 11th grade, Rebecca Hodson on clarinet and saxophone, who is in 8th grade, and Robert Richard on drums, and who is in the 6th grade. These young people exhibited great musicianship...impeccable timing and rich tones. Rebecca first picked up the saxophone at Thanksgiving of 1995. She is already playing Bobby Timmon's "Moanin' ", note for note with great understanding and feeling. I stayed for the entire performance. The I.A.J.E. presented them with an award for excellence. Well Deserved!!

Antonio Adolfo presented a clinic explaining the rhythms, melody, and harmonies of Brazilian music. He even brought a Brazilian singer to explain the difference

between the sounds of Brazilian scatting and jazz scatting. Hal Galper and his trio were brilliant!

The Manhattan School of Jazz from New York City performed with confidence and rose to the occasion, when Jon Faddis joined them as a guest soloist, pushing them to the edge. Great performance! Dick Lowenthal directed.

But, where was the "Schwepp's Bottle Quartet?" You'll have to ask Dick.

Jamie Aebersold's clinic about improvising was filled with insight. He's a good teacher, who makes his students think for themselves.

The Clifford Brown Jazz Foundation sponsored "Jazz For Kids". These workshops started around 9:30 A.M., and continued until mid afternoon on both January 11 and January 12. The kids got really involved, and learned about computers, chatted with jazz musicians, and learned about the history of jazz in America. Kim McCord, Ann Patterson, Robin Connell, and Anita Valdez were wonderful with the kids.

The Clifford Brown/Stan Getz young talent winners performed on Saturday evening at 8:00 P.M. These young men were very focused with their music. All of their songs were well formed, and they communicated well amongst themselves. They were in the groove.

One afternoon when we were in the lobby, we noticed that we could barely see the musicians over their music stands. The music was great...first we heard them play "String of Pearls", and then "Watermelon Man". These kids were groovin'. Even when they stood up to take solos, they were still hidden by their music stands. It's always heartwarming to see so many young people that know and love the music. I believe we were listening to The Pennbrook Middle School Jazz Ensemble from North Wales, Pennsylvania.

Sunny Wilkinson, who heads up the "Women In Jazz" committee, had asked me to sit in on their meeting. I am looking forward to getting more involved this year.

Seeing, hearing, and finally meeting Trudy Desmond was a treat. I was first introduced to her music through Susan Greenberg, a wonderful agent who lives in Boston.

Kurt Elling, Joe Lovano, Judi Silvano, James Williams, Dave Liebman, Chick Corea, Diana Krall, and Jane Ira Bloom all performed.

These were just a few of the moments that stood out during the conference. I hope that you enjoyed the highlights, and there were so many more! It is difficult to do everything, because so many things are happening at the same time. There was a lot to learn and absorb in those three days. I met so many people, and formed friendships that I know will last.

Next year the conference will be in Chicago. Same time next year. Clear your calendar. If you aren't already a member of I.A.J.E., it's time to join. The whole experience was beyond any of my expectations. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in Chicago next year...

FROM THE I.A.J.E. CONFERENCE IN ATLANTA...1996

BLUES CORNER...the Norwegian Cruise Lines first Blues Cruise...

Geez, how good does it have to be? Blues music, from three to six national touring acts every day for a week, in a lounge or theater venue, with warm weather, new people, and food everywhere. This is the framework for my first blues cruise which featured; Charles Brown, Roy Rogers, Magic Slim, Vic Frierson, Big Time Sarah, Dave Spector and the Lynwood Slim band, Jr. Wells, C. J. Chenier, Otis Clay, Gatemouth Brown, and Irma Thomas. The situation was excellent, with the cruise being the week before Christmas, when I still had some money, the flight going and coming through Lincoln, on what turned out to be one of the largest cruise liners in the world...originally christened as the S. S. France, and now the S. S. Norway.

Embarking was a smooth process of following the "yellow rubber line", getting settled in, and starting to get acquainted with the ship and the people. Then the cycle starts: socializing...drinking...eating...music...drink...music...eat...music...walk about...music...eat...drink...socialize...music...socialize...socialize...socialize. The blues bands were all ready for active entertainment, with four venues to work from and plenty of fans on board, it was all pretty easy for everyone to recreate. There were changes in the lineup due to Jr. Walker giving up the ghost, good man done gone, and a short term illness on Etta James. These stars and groups were successfully replaced by Charles Brown, a fine Texas vocalist/keyboardist, Irma Thomas, an inspiring blues/jazz vocalist, and "Big Time Sarah", Chicago's "Blues Belting Mama". It didn't seem to mess up anyone's good time, and the bands played on, and so did everyone else from my observations.

The cruise rounded out with a diversion to Turk Island for a medical rescue of a heart attack victim, and the final "pleasure island" stop was cancelled. It seemed that most every one had a moment of reflection, and the band played on. Finishing the cruise, and the return trip was systematic and uneventful enough to allow time for reflections on the previous week with, I'm sure, a slight smile on my face.

P.S. I see that someone has a Mediterranean blues cruise in May.

...a field report from "Roughcut" Rich

MORE FROM "ROUGH CUT" RICH...

Mem Shannon
A Cabdriver's Blues
Hannibal/Rykodisc

Mem Shannon, a solid new blues lyricist coming out of New Orleans, is well worth noting. Although the CD is laced with covert recordings of cab scenes, there are some fine songs such as...My Baby's Been Watching TV, Me and My Bed, and Taxicab Driver. The blues-funk rhythms behind fine blues licks, and the rich vocal style of Mem, makes for a great start for himself and the New Orleans R & B establishment...FROM "ROUGH CUT" RICH.

AND NOW FROM ALL THAT JAZZ...

Kyle Keener/Polly Harrison
Two For The Road
Scat Cat Records

Kyle and Polly have performed together for 25 years. This is their first recording, and is way overdue. This duo works out of San Antonio, Texas and is smooth. Kyle has a very natural and easy manner with the vocals, and Polly is the 6-string acoustic and the 7-string Benedetto guitar behind Kyle. Nice tunes! Great romantic music from two very fine musicians. Two of my favorites are "No Moon At All" and "Baby, Baby, All the Time". Tune in and listen to the wistful way Kyle sings "If You Love Me", and Polly winds her simple melodic lines around his with style. Don't get me wrong, what they're doing is not simple, they just do it so well that they make it sound easy.

GREAT LISTENING!!!!

Roni Ben-Hur/Barry Harris Trio
Backyard
TCB Records TCB 95902

For Roni Ben-Hur, this was a dream come true. Roni went through the Barry Harris School of music in New York City...in fact, he moved to New York so that he could study with Barry. Barry's school is legendary. The band includes Lisle Atkinson on bass and Leroy Williams on drums. If you want to relax, put this on. Roni is a very talented guitar player, who plays beautiful melodic lines. Roni has worked very hard, and certainly lives up to the task. Amy London joins the band for Billy Strayhorn's "Something To Live For". This was done in one take, and Amy puts everything she's got into this one. She sings with great feeling...when Amy sings a song, the song belongs to her. It's almost as if the song was written for her. The CD includes a couple of Barry Harris originals, including the title cut. His tunes are always a pleasure to hear.

GREAT LISTENING!!!!

Manhattan School of Music Jazz Orchestra
Salutes The Arrangers: Then and Now
Sea Breeze SB-4514

With Dick Lowenthal at the helm, this salute to the arrangers cooks! From the opening Rich De Rosa original "Long Way On A Blues", the groove is set. Of course, being a fan of the big band era, I was pleased to hear Fletcher Henderson's "The Stampede", Duke Ellington's "Fugue-a-ditty", and Jelly Roll Morton's "King Porter's Stomp" included on this CD. Holger Nell really sets the beat on the drums, but never overpowers, as some younger players might. Intelligent tunes, arrangements, and players...GREAT LISTENING!!!

Continued on page 11

MORE FROM AND ALL THAT JAZZ...

Michael Moore/Bill Charlap
Concord Duo Series/Volume 9
Concord Jazz CCD- 4678

Michael Moore is the consummate bass player. I don't think you can find a more sensitive player. He and the bass are one, and his pizzicato work will leave you breathless. Bill Charlap and Michael are a perfect duo. The two of them often work together with Carol Sloane. It's easy to hear why The New Yorker chose this CD as one of the very best of 1995. From the sensitive ballads, "If I Loved You" and "Come Sunday" to the swinging "Limehouse Blues" and "Ain't She Sweet", these two never quit painting pictures. This CD should be in everyone's collection. ...GREAT LISTENING!!!!

Carol Sloane
The Songs Carmen Sang
Concord Jazz CCD-4663

Carol Sloane and Carmen Mc Rae were very close friends. Carmen, no doubt, would feel good about this work. There is a feeling to this tribute work that most tributes lack...true feeling, love, and respect. Carol Sloane is a marvelous singer, and each project tops the last, if that's possible. Once again, you can hear Bill Charlap on piano, Michael Moore on bass, and Ron Vincent on drums...it doesn't get any better. Well, but wait... Phil Woods joins the group on some of the tunes. Listen to the nice and easy swing feel to "What Can I Say (After I Say I'm Sorry)", and then the tender rendition of "If The Moon Turns Green". The CD ends with the voice of Carmen Mc Rae, and brings tears to your eyes. The CD is a very touching tribute. Another must for every CD collection. ...GREAT LISTENING!!!!

Laura Caviani
Dreamlife
IGMOD Records IG-49503-2

Laura Caviani's first CD is a fine piece of work. Laura is a sensitive and a powerful piano player. As you listen, you can feel her emotions in her music. She is a very lyrical player, as she tells her stories. Terry Burns joins on bass, and Jay Epstein on drums. Both are able players. Laura composed 5 of the tunes, including the title cut, "DreamLife". She conveys the same emotions in her own tunes, and I'd be curious to know if she has written lyrics for her songs. You can also hear Laura Caviani on Karrin Allyson's latest CD "Azure Te". Listen for more from Laura Caviani...she's here to stay. GREAT LISTENING!!!!

Andrea Dupree
Forever And A Day
An-Ri Productions ANRI0365

Andrea Dupree swings, and uses the wide range of her voice well. She seems to improvise with ease. She is very innovative with her scatting. She sounds like she's having fun. Her sensitive version of "I've Grown Accustomed To Your Face", leaves a person wanting more. She definitely sings with feeling. Listen to her swing on "Better Than Anything". She composed the title cut..."Forever And A Day". This woman is talented, and we will no doubt hear more from Miss Andrea Dupree. "Forever And A Day" is Andrea's first release, and one to be proud of. GREAT LISTENING!!!!

Jane Bunnett
Rendez-vous...Brazil/Cuba
Justin Time Just 74-2

Jane Bunnett has done it again. I first discovered Jane about a year ago, when she released "The Water Is Wide". She is simply amazing. After hearing "The Water Is Wide", I hunted until I found all of her recorded work. Her history is very interesting. She was born in Canada, and grew up wanting to be a concert pianist. She practiced 7 and 8 hours a day. She was dedicated. Then she developed tendonitis, and could no longer play. Later, when she was out in L.A., she experienced Charles Mingus, and changed direction. She put all her energy into jazz, and picked up the flute. She also studied with Steve Lacy, and is a very fine soprano saxophone player. Rendez-Vous brings the rhythms of Brazil and Cuba together. She performs, composes, and arranges with love and care. She is surrounded on this work with the best musicians from Cuba and Brazil. Listen to the rhythms on this work, and you'll be up out of your chair...dancing!!! GREAT LISTENING!!!!

Robin Connell
Travelin'
Zeno Music Con-1001

Robin Connell deserves wider recognition. She is a very innovative pianist. She starts off with a very unique arrangement of "Summertime". The harmonies are unusual, and very tasteful. Paul Brewer, Her husband and a fine trombone player, joins Robin on this work. As Robin says, "Paul burns on Love For Sale." These musicians are intelligent, and care about the music. Robin composed 4 of the tunes on this CD, and all are fine representations of herself. GREAT LISTENING!!!!

If anyone would like to listen to any of these recordings, please visit me at my studio in the Burkholder Project at 719 P Street. Tune in next month for more from "...And All That Jazz".

The Berman Music Foundation thanks you for your support. Donations to the Foundation are tax deductible. If you would like to help defray costs on the newsletter, or would like to help us with any of our many projects, please write "...And All That Jazz", which is located at 719 P Street Studio G, Lincoln, Ne., 68508...or phone, (402) 476-3112.

This newsletter is a product of The Berman Music Foundation, with Butch Berman as president.

Don't forget that **Greg Abate** and **Claudio Roditi** will be performing at the **Wagon Train Project**, which is located on the second level at **512 S. 7 Street** in Lincoln, Nebraska, on **Friday, February 16** and **Saturday February 17**. Performance time is **9:00 P.M.** The Foundation is very excited about presenting this show, and we appreciate your support.

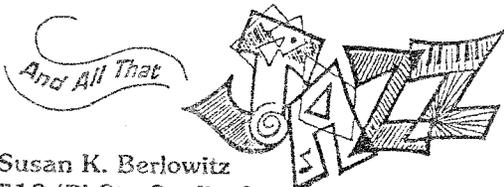
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