

Midiri Brothers Sextet Sunday, August 21, 2022 2:00 to 4:30 pm Haddonfield United Methodist Church

Fresh from last June's trio appearance with Joe Holt, TSJS veterans Joe and Paul Midiri rejoin Joe Holt on piano, in addition to guitarist Pat Mercuri, bassist Jack Hegyi, and drummer Jim Lawlor for an afternoon of mostly swing. The Midiri Brothers draw largely on the music of Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw, and the Dorsey Brothers, while Holt is inspired by such Swing Era keyboard legends as Teddy Wilson, Thomas "Fats" Waller, Art Tatum, and Jess Stacy.

Band Personnel

Joe Midiri – Reeds

Paul Midiri – Vibes

Joe Holt – Piano

Pat Mercuri – Guitar

Jack Hegyi – Bass

Jim Lawlor – Drums

The Midiri Brothers play "[China Boy](#)" and "[Don't Be That Way](#)" with Danny Tobias and Jeff Barnhart
Visit the Midiri Brothers' [website](#), and [Facebook page](#)



Photo by Jim McGann

Joe and Paul Midiri have made both jazz and classical music the focus of their lives since they graduated from Glassboro State College (now Rowan University) in the mid-1980s. With Joe on clarinet and saxophone, and Paul on vibraphone, xylophone, marimba, drums and trombone, they have recorded with everything from

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Made possible by funds from the Camden County Cultural & Heritage Commission at Camden County College, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts

Concert Covid Policy

Tri-State Jazz Society recommends that guests wear masks, based on personal preference, to attend this full-capacity indoor concert. You may also enjoy watching the concert remotely on our [YouTube channel](#) or [Facebook page](#).

CALL OUR HOTLINE for up-to-the-minute updates (856) 720-0232

Member admission is \$10; general admission is \$20. Introductory offer - start a new, first-time TSJS annual membership (\$20) at the door and receive free admission to this concert. Full-time students with ID, or children accompanied by a paying adult, are free.

trios to big bands featuring the arrangements of Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw and the Dorsey Brothers, as well as Paul's original arrangements and compositions. For nearly seven years, the Midiris accompanied the celebrated British pianist Neville Dickie in his annual TSJS concerts. After nearly a decade of Philadelphia, New York, and Atlantic City gigs, the Midiris made their west coast debut in 2002 and have since been featured at many California festivals including the Mammoth Lakes Jazz Festival, the Monterey Jazz Festival, the Pismo Jubilee By The Sea Jazz Fest, the Redwood Coast Music Fest, and the Sun Valley Swing-n-Dixie Jazz Jubilee. They have also performed at the Great Connecticut Jazz Festival and the North Carolina Jazz Festival, as well as at countless jazz clubs coast-to-coast. They are crowd favorites at the Bickford Theatre in Morristown, at Ocean County College and at TSJS venues throughout the Philadelphia area. In March of 2016, Paul appeared at TSJS in a triple-threat mode (vibes, trombone, and drums) with trumpeter Danny Tobias, who returned as a member of the Midiris' own sextet the following November. Just recently, Paul was the drummer in the core band for the annual Tri-State Jazz All Stars concert.

Best known for his imaginative improvisations and a joy of performing, pianist **Joe Holt** is another TSJS favorite, employing his artistry for the connections that music makes and a shared experience with his audiences. Joe's performances reflect the influences of both the classical and jazz worlds and the joy in the moment. He performs extensively in the Mid-Atlantic region of the U.S. as a soloist, as well as with established vocalists and jazz groups, and his own trio.

Banjoist/guitarist **Pat Mercuri** is one of the area's most active freelance jazz musicians. As a member of Jerry Rife's Rhythm Kings, the Midiri Brothers' and Ed Wise's bands, he plays for TSJS frequently, including the recent TSJS All-Stars Concert. Pat has also performed with local big bands, including the ensemble of reed man/composer/arranger Andrew Neu.

Jack Hegyi's career on both electric and upright acoustic bass has taken him throughout the globe and included three decades on the Atlantic City scene. He has also been a member of pianist Eric Mintel's quartet for the last decade.

Jim Lawlor began playing drums after moving from Philadelphia to Atlantic City in 1979, just as the town was beginning its rise as the East Coast gambling mecca. His primary teacher was Chris Columbo, former drummer with Louis Jordan's Tympani Five and father of Count Basie drumming legend Sonny Payne. Jim spent eight years in the Chris Sooy Swing Band, a very popular group that pre-dated the Neo-Swing movement by a decade. He was then hired by Joe and Paul Midiri to play and sing in their small groups and big band. In 2000, the Midiri ensemble landed on the festival circuit and gave Jim a chance to travel and perform around the USA. Recently, Jim has played both with the Midiris and independently for Jazzdagen Cruises, enjoying trans-Atlantic crossings, the Sea of Cortez, as well as a river cruise in the Netherlands.

TWO MORE REASONS to become a PREMIUM MEMBER!

The end of an era! DeWitt Peterson, founder of the Tri-State Jazz Society, is selling his house and the tradition of the Friendly Jazz Picnic will come to a close with two final concerts

Salads, Entrees, Desserts, and Donations Accepted

ALL Drinks Supplied

Dress is informal and comfortable. We will be outdoors with fine music on a beautifully shaded lawn. Chairs provided.

Invitations will be sent to Tri-State Jazz Society Premium Members, Volunteers, and Board Members

August 20 **Ben Mauer's Irregulars**
September 17 **Barbara Montgomery Trio**

Photos from the first picnic of 2022 on July 16th by Jim McGann. Videos by Chris Jones.

Jerry Rife's Rhythm Kings

Jerry Rife - clarinet

Al Harrison - trumpet, cornet, flugelhorn

Steve Moise - tuba

Pete Reichlin - trombone

Pat Mercuri - guitar, banjo

Jim Lawlor - drums, vocals



VIDEOS on YouTube

Set ONE

Set TWO

Set Three



Tri-State Jazz All-Stars!

Sunday, July 10, 2022

REVIEW by Jim McGann



Photo by Marian Konop

Core Band

Dave Robinson – cornet, trumpet
Bob Rawlins – clarinet, soprano and alto sax
Brian Preibe – trombone
Chic Bach – piano
Mike Kuehn – banjo
Dan Nosheny – sousaphone
Paul Midiri – drums

Guest Musicians

Joel Albert – washboard, drums
Rod Anderson – tenor sax
Steve DiBonaventura – banjo
Lou DiPietro – guitar, vocals
Les Elkins – cornet
Peter Jensen – trombone
Skip Livingston – clarinet
Janney Murtha – vocals
Bill Nixon – violin
Drew Nugent – cornet, piano

It was an end of a season.

It was time for a relaxing event where musicians, both professional and amateur alike, congregate in a musical forum known as a jam session. For this 2022 edition, trumpeter Dave Robinson, leader of the Capitol Focus Jazz Band and the Conservatory Classic Jazz Band, helmed an ensemble which consisted of

Brian Priebe, trombonist with Robinson's group, clarinetist-saxist Bob Rawlins, leader of the Atlantic City Jazz pBand, our own Chic Bach on Piano, banjoist Mike Kuehn, formerly of Ben Mauger's Vintage Jazz Band, Sousaphonist Dan Nosheny of the Red Hot Ramblers, and Paul Midiri of the Midiri Brothers Sextet. This unit, under Robinson's guidance, helped propel the many guests invited to sit in with the band.

As with all jam sessions in the past, the first number in the concert featured the core band. A medium tempo version of "Smiles" allowed full choruses from Priebe, Kuehn and Nosheny, while the leader and Bob Rawlins split their chorus. Peter Jensen was the first of the guest musicians to perform, providing subtle soli on "Hindustan," and "Just A Closer Walk..." while the piano chair revolved with Drew Nugent taking charge of the keyboard on the former, and Nancy Rawlins on the latter. Lou DiPietro, provided vocals and guitar on "Keepin' Out Of Mischief Now," and Nugent returned to the stage, this time on trumpet, for "Love is Just Around the Corner." Joel Albert performed on washboard on "Cakewalking Babies," delivering his solo while the band played in stop time. Albert moved to the drum chair for the following "Weary Blues." Closing out the first set, clarinetist Skip Livingston, performed on "When You're Smiling."

After a core band offering of "Yellow Dog Blues," the guests in the second set began with vocalist Janney Murtha in the first of her two appearances with the band, "I'm Gonna Sit Right Down And Write Myself A Letter." Bill Nixon and his violin made his only appearance of the day on Eddie Delange's "Do You Know What It Means To Miss New Orleans?" On "Everybody Loves My Baby," banjoist Steve DiBonaventura replaced core band participant Mike Kuehn for the balance of the concert. Livingston, Nugent (piano) and cornetist Les Elkins breathed life into Earl Hines' celebrated composition of "Rosetta." Elkins would remain on the following number, "Struttin' With Some Barbecue," with guest Harry Salotti on tuba. The last guest for the jam session, tenor saxophonist Rod Anderson, performed on Louis Armstrong's "Someday, You'll Be Sorry," and "Big Butter And Egg Man." The concert concluded with a version of "Back Home Again In Indiana" with Salotti returning to the tuba chair one more time.

After a two-year hiatus, it was nice to see the jam session back in full swing (no pun intended). Also encouraging was seeing many of the participants of past jam sessions sharing their talents once again for Tri-State. The tradition, prior to Covid, would have been for all of the guest musicians participating that day to return to the stage for a rousing finale. With the current restrictions in place, its understandable why a multitude of musicians on a cramped stage would not be practicable at this time. When the restrictions relax, I hope the tradition will return some day. As it were, the 2022 Tri-State All Stars made for an enjoyable afternoon.

[Click here to listen to the Tri-State Jazz All-Stars on YouTube!](#)



Photo by Jim McGann

Tri-State Jazz All-Stars!



Coming September 18, 2022
Rossano Sportiello, Piano
2:00 to 4:30 pm
Community Arts Center, Wallingford, PA



Award-winning jazz pianist Rossano Sportiello returns to Tri-State! He last appeared in August 2016. He brings his eclectic style of pianism that blends classical training with jazz and stride. Rossano has performed with many of the world's finest jazz luminaries, including Clark Terry, Kenny Davern, Bucky Pizzarelli, Harry Allen, Bill Charlap, Dick Hyman, and many others, in venues such as Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Town Hall, the Blue Note, Birdland, and Feinsteins, to name a few.

We can also recommend his ongoing live webcast series and his archive of concerts, "Live at the Flat in Greenwich Village". The photo above is from concert #60 (yes, that's sixty - and not the latest, either) – on [YouTube](#).

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2022 (2 – 4:30 P.M.)

FIRST TIMERS: \$15.00 PJS MEMBERS \$15.00
STUDENTS ARE ALWAYS FREE! CASH OR CHECK ONLY, PLEASE

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Pajazzsociety.org

For information, phone 610-625-4640

**Central Pennsylvania Ragtime &
 American Music Festival**

September 22-25 2022

Four fun-filled days of music, silent movies, lectures, open houses, and more. Hear Ragtime favorites, Jazz, Boogie-Woogie, Stride, Blues, and hits from the Great American Songbook, all performed by Grammy Award winning musicians. Plus, enjoy rides on the town's two signature attractions, the historic East Broad Top Railroad, and the neighboring Rockhill Trolley Museum! Visit the festival website at www.rockhillragtime.com

Featured Musicians Include: Frederick Hodges, Adam Swanson, Martin Spitznagel, Bryan Wright, Brian Holland, Danny Coots, Richard Dowling, and Andrew Greene's Peacherine Ragtime Society Orchestra.

This Month in Recorded Jazz History

By Jim McGann

August 7 (1925) Coon-Sanders Original Nighthawk Orchestra recorded in Camden, NJ, on the Victor label. Personnel: Joe Sanders – piano, vocals, and Carleton Coon – drums, vocals, co-leaders; Joe Richolson – trumpet; Nick Mussolini – trombone; Harold Thiell, John Thiell, Orville Knapp– saxes; Bill Haid – banjo; Pop Estep - bass

"Hong Kong Dream Girl," "Who Wouldn't Love You," "That's All There Is (There Ain't No More)," "Everything Is Hotsy-Totsy Now"

August 8 (1935) Joe Sullivan recorded in Los Angeles on the Brunswick label.
Sullivan, solo piano

"My Little Pride and Joy," "Little Rock Getaway," "Just Strolling," "Minor Mood"

August 11 (1927) Paul Whiteman and his Orchestra recorded in Camden, NJ on the Victor label
Personnel: Whiteman - bandleader; Henry Busse, Vic d'Ippolito, either Charlie Margulies or Bob Mayhew – trumpets; Wilbur Hall, Jack Fulton – trombones; Tommy Dorsey – trumpet and trombone; Max Farley, Chester Hazlett, Hal McLean, Jimmy Dorsey – clarinet, alto sax; Charlie Strickfaden – alto and baritone sax; Kurt Dieterle, Mischa Russell, Mario Perry – violins; Matt Malneck – violin and viola; Harry Parella – piano; Mike Pingitore – banjo; Al Armer - bass and Harold McDonald - drums. Don Redman - arranger

"Whiteman Stomp," "Sensation Stomp"

August 18 (1933) Fletcher Henderson and his Orchestra recorded in New York City on the Brunswick label. Personnel: Henderson – piano, arranger, and bandleader; Russell Smith, Bobby Stark, Henry "Red" Allen – trumpets; Dicky Wells, Sandy Williams – trombones; Russell Procopé, Hilton Jefferson – clarinet, alto sax; Coleman Hawkins – tenor sax; Bernard Addison – guitar; John Kirby – bass; Walter Johnson - drums. Horace Henderson, arranger, where noted *

"Yeah, Man!,"* "King Porter Stomp," "Queer Notions,"* "Can You Take It?"

August 22 (1933) Joseph Robichaux and his New Orleans Rhythm Boys recorded in New York City, on the Vocalion label. Veteran leader of the early New Orleans brass bands, Robichaux travelled to NYC, to record a full week's worth of music in August 1933, concluding with a session with recording artist Chick Bullock. Aside from a later recording session in 1936, this would constitute Robichaux's entire recording output. Here is the first session.

Personnel: Robichaux – piano and bandleader; Eugene Ware – trumpet; Alfred Guishard – clarinet, alto sax, and vocals; Gene Porter – tenor sax; possibly Rene Hall – banjo; Walter Williams – guitar and vocals; and Ward Crosby – drums and xylophone.

"Ring Dem Bells," "St Louis Blues," "Zola," "Foot Scuffle," "King Kong Stomp," "Stormy Weather," "Saturday Night Fish Fry Drag"

August 29 and 30 (1922) The New Orleans Rhythm Kings recorded in Richmond, IN on the Gennett label. The first recording sessions by this band.

Personnel: Elmer Schoebel – piano, arranger, and bandleader; Paul Mares – cornet; George Brunies – trombone; Leon Rappolo – clarinet; Jack Pettis – C-melody and tenor sax; Lou Black – banjo; Arnold Loyocano – string bass; and Frank Snyder - drums.

8/29/22: "Eccentric," "Farewell Blues," "Discontented Blues," "Bugle Call Blues"

8/30/22: "Panama," "Tiger Rag," "Livery Stable Blues," "Oriental"

August 31 (1938) Pee Wee Russell's Rhythmakers recorded in New York City, on the Hot Record Society label

Personnel: Russell – clarinet and leader; Max Kaminsky – trumpet; Dicky Wells – trombone; Al Gold – tenor sax; James P. Johnson – piano; Freddie Green – guitar; Wellman Braud – string bass and Zutty Singleton – drums and vocals.

"Baby, Won't You Please Come Home," "There'll Be Some Changes Made," "Horn of Plenty Blues (Zutty's Hootie Blues)," "Dinah," "I Found A New Baby," "Everybody Loves My Baby"



With a passion for traditional jazz, Jim McGann has reviewed and photographed Tri-State Jazz concerts since the early 2000s.



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CONCERT SCHEDULE

Sundays from 2:00 to 4:30 pm

Visit our [Tri-State Jazz Society website](#) for up-to-the-minute news about schedule and concert changes, or call our Hotline at (856) 720-0232.

Tri-State Jazz Society, formed in 1988, is dedicated to the preservation and live performance of traditional jazz. Concerts featuring leading professional soloists and bands are presented throughout the year. Events are open to the public and all who enjoy traditional jazz are invited to join. The society is a non-profit educational corporation supported by its members.

Membership

Basic dues are \$20 per person. New and renewal memberships can be started in any month and run for one year. In addition to half-price concert admissions, members receive The Strutter newsletter by email.

Premium memberships help sustain and expand the work of Tri-State Jazz Society. Individual Sponsors contribute at the \$50 level (\$70 for couples); Patrons, \$100 (\$120 for couples); Sustainers \$200 or more (\$220 or more for couples). Premium-level members are eligible to attend an annual reception for Sponsors, Patrons and Sustainers.

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