

The Strutter

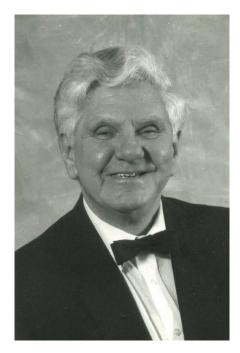
"Best of South Jersey" 2008 - 2011!

VOLUME 22 NUMBER 5

Traditional Jazz in the Philadelphia Tri-State Area

January 2012

TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY Presents John Breslin's Philly Waterfront Dixieland Jazz Band



John Breslin, Drums, Leader Paul Grant, Trumpet Pat Kennedy, Clarinet Steve Moise, Trombone Tom Sommers, Banjo Ed Harris, Bass

Sunday, January 15, 2012 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Brooklawn American Legion Post 11 Railroad Ave Brooklawn, NJ 08030 Directions on Page 7

OUR NEXT CONCERT

John Breslin has been leading hardcharging Philadelphia-based traditional jazz groups for thirty years. His ensembles have wowed audiences at just about any metropolitan-area venue imaginable from the Pennsylvania Convention Center to Children's Hospital to the Cape May Jazz Festival and have performed for luminaries including Mayor Michael Nutter and, at Mardi Gras, the French Ambassador to the United States. Breslin bands are known for their old-time high-energy approach to jazz. This will be a riproaring foot-stomping hot dixieland event.

This will be Breslin's first concert for TSJS since 2004.

<u>CONCERT ADMISSION</u> \$20 ADMISSION \$10 FIRST TIME ATTENDEES & MEMBERS HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE STUDENTS WITH ID AND CHILDREN WITH PAYING ADULT ADMITTED FREE Pay At the Door - No Advance Sales

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L®®KING AHEAD TO FEBRUARY, 2012

Coming up on Sunday, February 19th, 2012 at 2:00 p.m., the Blackbird Society Orchestra led by Richard Barnes will perform at Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Road, Wallingford, PA

AMERICAN RAG WINNERS

At one concert each month, TSJS picks a winner of a free four-month subscription to the American Rag as a door prize. The winner for December, 2011 is Sally Cannon. New members of Tri-State Jazz Society automatically receive a two-month trial subscription to American Rag, the country's largest traditional jazz and ragtime newspaper.



REVIEW - ORTNER-ROBERTS DUO

The Time: 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sunday, October 16, 2011

The Place: St Matthew Lutheran Church, 318 Chester Ave., Moorestown, NJ

Susanne Ortner-Roberts, clarinet; Tom Roberts, piano, occasional percussion

Tom Roberts has appeared for TSJS in the past, leading his Jelly Roll Morton tribute band – with an all star cast of Vince Giordano, Charlie Caranicas, Orange Kellin et al - back in 2003. Eight years later, he returns with a new concept – the Ortner-Roberts Duo – with clarinetist Suzanne Ortner-Roberts. The Pittsburgh-based couple have toured Canada, Germany and parts of the United States, performing not only "Hot" jazz, but classical, Klezmer, Calypso, and contemporary works.

For the December 11th concert, we were treated to a mostly "hot" program – with occasional excursions into the avant garde.

To this reviewer, you cannot describe the performances of the Ortner-Robert duo in a single paragraph. In addition to letter-perfect tributes to Jelly Roll Morton, Sidney Bechet, and Benny Goodman small groups, the couple combined popular songs with a similar theme or connection with traditional spirituals. For example, the opening number, a slow version of Creamer-Layton's "Dear Old Southland" detoured into a livelier "Blue River," then "Sometimes I Feel Like A Motherless Child" before returning to "...Southland." Unlikely tunes were married in a single performance, and somehow the merging was successful. It was, as Tom Roberts described, "adventurous."

For me, the show stopper was the duo's interpretation of Artie Shaw's "Concerto For Clarinet" with Suzanne Ortner-Roberts taking on the entire Shaw solo (even the concluding high B flat), while Tom Roberts took on Johnny Guarneri, Nick Fatool (with the aid of a tom-tom drum, used throughout for some performances) and the orchestra parts.

Other highlights were the "slightly, un-Jelly Roll" version of Morton's "Sweet Substitute," with the results a slow, melodic, familiar pop tune. Ortner-Roberts kept the New Orleans qualities intact with a Dodds-like fat sound and growling; Tom Roberts' piano reminded one of a more modern barrelhouse player, like a Pete Johnson or a Jimmy Yancey. Another tune associated with New Orleans and Sidney Bechet, "Egyptian Fantasy" – was a précis of growling, wailing clarinet, vamping, and "Spanish Tinge" characteristics. Roberts own composition, "Allegheny Rag," took different detours, the first half almost like a classical sonata, while the second half is definitive Ragtime.

Like Rio Clemente's concert back in October, the Ortner-Roberts duo gave material we've heard before new life with their vibrant and unique presentation. – Jim McGann

CD REVIEW - SIDNEY BECHET

CD: Petite Fleur - The Legendary Sidney Bechet Label: Phoenix Records Sidney Bechet, soprano sax and clarinet, with Tommy Ladnier, Sidney DeParis, Rex Stewart, Henry "Red" Allen, Charlie Shavers, trumpet; Mezz Mezzrow, Albert Nicholas, clarinet; Vic Dickenson, trombone; Willie "the Lion" Smith, Earl Hines, Jelly Roll Morton, piano; Everett Barksdale, guitar; Wellman Braud, bass; Zutty Singleton, Kenny Clarke, Sid Catlett, drums and others. Rating: M (out of four notes)

Bechet had performed with the likes of Bunk Johnson, Freddie Keppard, Clarence Williams and toured Europe with Louis Mitchell's Jazz Kings by the early 1920s.

However, by the time of the first selections on this CD, Bechet's fortunes had fallen considerably. Performing with the Noble Sissle orchestra, he had supplemented his income by operating a tailor shop with trumpeter Tommy Ladnier. A return to glory, in Paris, was in a distant future.

"Petite Fleur – the Legendary Sidney Bechet" covers Bechet recordings for RCA-Victor from 1932-1941, with a live performance of the title track (in Paris, 1952) thrown in for good measure.

The results are mixed. The reason could be with Bechet himself. Known for a volatile temperament, Bechet was combative, sometimes feared, on and off the bandstand. While equally strong personalities could keep Bechet the man controlled, the recorded results were the equivalent of musical swordfights. Trumpet players, in particular, seem to be out for blood. The 1940 recording of "Twelfth Street Rag," for example, is a musical shootout between Bechet and trumpeter Charlie Shavers. Other sides are similar exercises in competition.

On occasion, the tension works to advantage. The Stephen Smith (Hot Record Society) produced, "High Society" with Jelly Roll Morton, casts Bechet (on soprano) with clarinetist Albert Nicholas, each putting their own spin on the classic Alphonse Picou clarinet solo. The Ellington standards ("The Mooche," "Mood Indigo," "Stompy Jones") are given new life with Bechet's presence.

Not all sessions appear to be unsettled. Surprisingly, the gregarious Red Allen provides sympathetic support on a moving "Sleepytime Down South." Vic Dickenson comes off as an Ellington on "The Mooche" opposite Bechet's soprano. Rex Stewart is a better section mate on the Earl Hines date, and on "Wild Man Blues" trumpeter Sidney DeParis plays Louis Armstrong to Bechet's Johnny Dodds, recreating the 1927 original. With Sid Catlett's driving beat behind them, the two seemed to have a ball, spouting off breaks.

Yet Bechet through it all is outstanding. There is no style where he is less than comfortable. He clearly gives everything he has into every solo. He is at his best when he is the designated soloist, without a rival horn jockeying for position. The slow pieces like "Indian Summer" or the dramatic Billie Holiday hit, "Strange Fruit," he has no equal.

During this period, Bechet recorded his famous recording of "Summertime" with the Port of Harlem Jazzmen on Alfred Lion's Blue Note label. With time, Bechet would be brought back into prominence. Ten years later, Paris, France, would welcome the saxophonist, where he would spend his last days in revered glory.

Bechet was in transition during the period of time covered in this CD. Yet even at this point in his career, he is an aggressive voice on soprano sax. In writing this review, I was going to rate this CD \mathcal{N} $\frac{1}{2}$ notes, due to the uneven recording sessions and mismatched personnel, but it was Bechet's virtuosity that pushed the envelope for three notes. – Jim McGann

TRUMPETS NO END

Six masters of the trumpet were born during the month of January. Here they are with a small "Editor's picks" list of suggested recordings:

Henry "Red" Allen (January 7, 1908- April 17, 1967), performed with King Oliver, Luis Russell, Fletcher Henderson, Mills Blue Rhythm Band and Louis Armstrong's Big Band. Led a sextet with trombonist J. C. Higginbotham for many years.

Suggested Recordings:

Body And Soul (1935) Vocalion 2965 You (1936) Vocalion 3244

With the Mills Blue Rhythm Band: Ride, Red, Ride (1935) Columbia 3087-D

With Spike Hughes Firebird (1933) Sweet Sorrow Blues (1933)

With Fletcher Henderson: Nagasaki (1933) Columbia 2825D Wrappin' It Up (1934) Decca 157

With Teddy Wilson: Sentimental And Melancholy (1937) Brunswick 7844

William "Wild Bill" Davison (January 5, 1906 – November 14, 1989), performed with Frank Teschmacher, Eddie Condon led-groups.

Suggested Recordings:

Panama (1943) Commodore 1511 Little Girl (1945) Commodore 635 I'm Confessin' (That I Love You) (1945) Commodore 563

With George Wettling: Collier's Clambake (1950) Columbia 45153 Collier's Climb (Key Change Blues) (1950) Columbia 45154

Roy "Little Jazz" Eldridge (January 30, 1911 – February 26, 1989) performed with Fletcher Henderson, Gene Krupa and Artie Shaw.

Suggested Recordings:

Heckler's Hop (1936) Vocalion 3577 The Gasser (1943) Brunswick 80117

With Teddy Hill: Lookie, Lookie, Lookie (Here Comes Cookie) (1935) Perfect 16093

With Gene Krupa: After You've Gone (1941) Okeh 6278 Let Me Off Uptown (1941) Okeh 6210 With Billie Holiday: If You Were Mine (1935) Brunswick 7554 What Shall I Say? (1938) Brunswick 8314

With Artie Shaw: The Sad Sack (1945) Victor 20-1647 Scuttlebutt (1945) Victor 20-1929 Little Jazz (1945) Victor 20-1668

Bobby Hackett (January 31, 1915 – June 7, 1976), featured performer at the Benny Goodman Carnegie Hall concert, also performed with Eddie Condon led-groups, led big band in 1939, featured on mood music recordings produced by Jackie Gleason and others in the 1950s. Led unique sextet at the Henry Hudson hotel in 1957.

Suggested Recordings:

Poor Butterfly (1938) That Da Da Strain (1938) Embraceable You (1939) A Room With A View (1950) Columbia 39019 At The Jazz Band Ball (1957) Capitol T-857 Tin Roof Blues (1957) Capitol T-857

With Glenn Miller A String of Pearls (1941)

With Lee Wiley (all from 1950): A Woman's Intuition - Columbia 39204 Anytime, Anyplace, Anywhere - Columbia 39204 Manhattan – Columbia 39202 I've Got A Crush On You - Columbia 39203

William Frank "Frankie" Newton (January 4, 1906 – March 11, 1954) performed with Bessie Smith, Maxine Sullivan, Billie Holiday, John Kirby, and Sidney Bechet (on the "Port of Harlem Jazzmen" recordings)

Suggested Recordings:

Please Don't Talk About Me When I'm Gone (1937) Variety 518 Who's Sorry Now? (1937) Variety 647

Oran "Hot Lips" Page (January 27, 1908 – November 5, 1954), led groups of various size, performed with Walter Page's Blue Devils, Bennie Moten, Count Basie, and Artie Shaw

Suggested Recordings:

Lafayette (1940) Decca 18124 Harlem Rhumbain' the Blues (1940) Decca 8531

With Bennie Moten: Milenburg Joys (1932) Bluebird B-5585-B

With Artie Shaw: Blues In the Night (1941) Victor 27609 St. James Infirmary (1941) Victor 27685

With Billie Holiday: Long Gone Blues (1939) Vocalion

For more information on the recordings, go to the TSJS **Blog** or this link: http://tsjsphotogallery.blogspot.com/2011/12/tru mpets-no-end.html

HELP WANTED

STRUTTER EDITOR: gather the articles, and information from members, the web, jazz society clubs, received mail, musicians; layout the pages to 8 maximum, have proofread, forward to be emailed to members. Most work is done by email.

UPCOMING EVENTS



www.tristatejazz.org

SPRING 2012 CONCERT SCHEDULE (All concerts start at 2:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted) Feb 19 Blackbird Society Orchestra, Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Road, Wallingford, PA. Mar 18 Emily Asher's Garden Party, Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Road, Wallingford, PA. Apr 22 Terry Waldo, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 318 Chester Ave, Moorestown, NJ May 10 Ed Wise and His New Orleans Jazz Band, Silverside Church, 2300 Silverside Road, Wilmington, DE 19810

OTHER VENUES

PENNSYLVANIA JAZZ SOCIETY

www.pajazzsociety.org, 1-(610)-625-4640

Concerts are at 2:00 p.m. (except July) at Easton Moose: 3320 Fox Hill Road, Easton, PA. 18045 OR at American Legion Hall, 217 North Broadway, Wind Gap, PA. 18091. \$20, \$18 members, student admission is free Feb 12 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. The President's Men Jazz Band

NEW JERSEY JAZZ SOCIETY

www.njjs.org , 1-(800)-303-NJJS For events co-sponsored by NJJS, check the Bickford Theatre and Ocean County College listings.

THE BICKFORD THEATRE

6 Normandy Heights Road Morristown, NJ.

http://www.njjs.org/p/services/bickford.html

All concerts 8:00-9:30 p.m. \$15(advance), \$18 (at the door), 1-(973)-971-3706. Jan 30 Bucky Pizzarelli birthday celebration Feb 13 "St. Valentine Day's Massacre" with Herb Gardner, Dan Levinson, and others

CAPE MAY TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY

www.capemaytraditionaljazzsociety.com PO Box 113, Stone Harbor, NJ. 08247 ashbc@comcast.net, Dues \$10

Jan 29 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Atlantic City Jazz Band **Feb 12** 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Percy Fear Ants Jazz Band

OCEAN COUNTY COLLEGE (At Ocean County Library)

http://www.njjs.org/p/services/ocean.html 1-(732)-255-0500 \$13 advance/ \$15 at the door. All concerts start at 8:00 p.m. Concerts at Ocean County College campus, Community and Arts Center, College Drive, Toms River, NJ. 08753 Jan 11 Midiri Brothers Feb 8 11 year old trumpet sensation Geoff Gallante

POTOMAC RIVER JAZZ CLUB

www.prjc.org

Feb 18 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Hal's Bayou Jazz Band, Rosensteel K of C, 9707 Rosensteel Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20910-1157

BAND SCHEDULES

VINCE GIORDANO AND HIS NIGHTHAWKS www.myspace.com/vincegiordanothenighthawks

Every Monday and Tuesday, 8:00-11:00 p.m. Sofia's Restaurant, 221 W 46th St, Edison Hotel, NYC. 1-(212)-719-5799. \$15 cover plus \$15 food/drink minimum

Jan 7-9 (Jan 7-8:00 p.m., Jan 8 and 9-2:00 p.m.) "Makin' Whoopie: Walter Donaldson, Gus Kahn and the Jazz Age" 92nd St. Y, 1395 Lexington Avenue, NYC. Tickets (212) Y-Charge or <u>http://www.92y.org/Uptown/Event/L-L-Makin-Whoopee.aspx</u>

DAN LEVINSON

http://www.danlevinson.com/

(see also Bickford Theatre listings) **Jan 21** 8:00 p.m. "Clarinet A La King: THE tribute to Benny Goodman" with James Langton's New York All Star Band. Theatre of the Somerset County Vo-Tech Schools, 14 Vogt Dr., Bridgewater, NJ. Tickets: (908) 237-1238 or partnership2000@embargmail.com

WATCHUNG ARTS CENTER

18 Stirling Road, Watchung, NJ 07069 908-753-0190 <u>http://www.watchungarts.org/</u>

ABOUT TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Sanford Catz, President, 2013, president@tristatejazz.org, webmaster@tristatejazz.org Bill Wallace, First Vice President, Band Liaison, Asst. Editor TSJS Strutter, 2014, bands@tristatejazz.org George Hunt, Second Vice President, 2012, george@tristatejazz.org Mike Mudry, Treasurer, 2013, treasurer@tristatejazz.org Ed Wise, Secretary, Education, 2014, education@tristatejazz.org Jim McGann, Strutter Editor, 2012, editor@tristatejazz.org Chic Bach, Sound Coordinator, 2013, advant@voicenet.com Ray Whearty, Publicity Coordinator, 2012, rabundo88@gmail.com

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Adam Rogers, **Administration**, **miscellaneous assignments**

Jack Adams, Video Coordinator

TSJS CONTACT INFORMATION

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TSJS SPONSORS 2011-2012

Janet Graehling & Chic Bach, Theodore Barthold, Flora Becker, Jack Boesch, Marge Wroblewski & Porter Carlson, Stephen Faha, Rita H. Fulton, Bruce Gast, Robert & Nancy Haynes, Louis & Peggy Kaplan, Doris & Martin Klaver, Richard & Cecily Morris, Linwood & Joyce O'Neal, Peter Parisi, Nancy Pontone & Steven Peitzman, Joe & Anita Pew, George Poletti, Adam Rogers, Peggy & Joe Tremitiere, Nancy McKinney & Robert Vettese, Bill & Sally Wallace, Claire Walters

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PLEASE SEND TSJS YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS!

Send an e-mail to <u>webmaster@tristatejazz.org</u> telling us to add you to our list for e-mail newsletter delivery, TSJS concert notices, area traditional jazz events (not TSJS), or all three lists. Send questions about membership and general

information to info@tristatejazz.org

VISIT OUR WEB SITE www.tristatejazz.org

ATTENTION STRUTTER CONTRIBUTORS!

Deadline to contribute reviews, literature, and schedule changes for the February, 2012 Strutter is: Tuesday, February 7th, 2012

THE STRUTTER IS NOW ON THE WEB

The Strutter is now on the Tri-State Jazz Society Web site, <u>www.tristatejazz.org/strutter.pdf</u> If you have trouble opening PDF files, download the free Adobe Reader software from <u>www.adobe.com/products/reader/</u>

DIRECTIONS TO BROOKLAWN AMERICAN LEGION HALL

The American Legion hall is located about 2 miles south of the Walt Whitman Bridge and only 10 minutes from Philadelphia. Also, it is about four miles from Exit 3 of the New Jersey Turnpike. *Note: Railroad Ave. in Brooklawn is also called "Railroad Lane, Gloucester City" on some maps and GPS devices.*

FROM PHILADELPHIA OR DELAWARE

Take the Walt Whitman Bridge. Stay to your right. Take the ramp following signs to Route 130 South. Proceed 1.5 miles to Browning Road (Days Inn). Bear right on ramp, then turn right onto Browning Road. Go to the end of Browning Road and turn right onto Railroad Ave. The American Legion parking lot is ahead on the right.

FROM NORTH JERSEY USING I-295

Take I-295 south. Keep to the left when you get to the ramp that takes you toward the Walt Whitman Bridge. The ramp merges with I-76. Take the first right ramp after the I-295 intersection. Make a left at the top of the ramp onto Market Street. At the second traffic light turn left on Route 130 South (Gloucester High School). Proceed 1.5 miles to Browning Road (Days Inn). Bear right on ramp and turn right onto Browning Road. Go to the end of Browning Road and turn right onto Railroad Ave. The American Legion parking lot is ahead on the right.

FROM NORTH JERSEY USING THE NJ TURNPIKE

Take NJ Turnpike Exit 3 and proceed west toward Camden and Philadelphia on Route 168 (Black Horse Pike). Turn left on Browning Road (second light). Go to the end of Browning Road and turn right onto Railroad Ave. The American Legion parking lot is ahead on the right.

FROM THE EAST

Take the Atlantic City Expressway and Route 42 north and west to I-76. Take the first right ramp after the I-295 intersection. Make a left at the top of the ramp onto Market Street. At the second traffic light turn left on Route 130 South (Gloucester High School). Proceed 1.5 miles to Browning Road (Days Inn). Bear right on ramp and turn right on Browning Road. Go to the end of Browning Road and turn right onto Railroad Ave. The American Legion is ahead on the right.

FROM THE SOUTH

Take I-295 north to Exit 23, continuing on Route 130 North. Go under a railroad trestle to a traffic circle with a Hess Station on your right. After rounding the circle, take the first right onto Spur Route 551 to the next traffic light. Turn left on Browning Road and cross over Route 130. Go to the end of Browning Road and turn right on Railroad Ave. The American Legion parking lot is ahead on the right.

FROM DELAWARE OR SOUTHERN CHESTER COUNTY

Take either the Delaware Memorial Bridge or the Commodore Barry Bridge to I-295/Route 130 North. Take Exit 23 from I-295 continuing on Route 130 North. Go under a railroad trestle to a traffic circle with a Hess station your right. After rounding the circle, take the first right onto Spur Route 551 to the next traffic light. Turn left on Browning Road and cross over Route 130. Go to the end of Browning Road and turn right on Railroad Ave. The American Legion parking lot is ahead on the right.

For an interactive map, schedule or concert details visit the Tri-State Jazz Society Web site, <u>www.tristatejazz.org</u>. For the latest concert status or for help with directions, call our hot line, (856) 720-0232.

TRI-STATI	¶ ¢	embership Application/R TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIE P.O. Box 896, Mount Laurel, N	ТҮ	
New	Renewal	Annual membership is valid through .	lune 30, 2012.	
Regular:	Individual \$20	Couple \$40		
Sponsor*:	Individual \$50	Couple \$70		
Patron*:	Individual \$100	0 or more \$ Couple \$	\$120 or more \$	
E-mail and Newsletter Options: (Check all boxes that apply)				
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		s are normally published in The Strutter our name included in the list, please ch		

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