

The Strutter

"Best of South Jersey" 2008 - 2011!

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 11 Traditional Jazz in the Philadelphia Tri-State Area

JUNE 2013

OUR NEXT CONCERT Neville Dickie & Midiri Brothers



Sunday, June 9, 2013 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Community Arts Center 414 Plush Mill Road Wallingford, PA 19086 Directions on Page 7

World-class stride pianist and Tri-State Jazz Society favorite Neville Dickie, from England, will join the multi-talented Midiri brothers for an afternoon of traditional jazz, stride and swing featuring Paul on vibes, drums and trombone, and Joe on clarinet, soprano sax, alto sax, and - he says - "possibly bass clarinet."

Neville Dickie, with a cameo appearance by jazz phenom Geoff Gallante, sold out the Community Arts Center in 2011 and received standing ovations. A dynamic performer, he's also an exceptional leader with British charm and a quick dry wit.

Joe and Paul Midiri have made both jazz and classical music the focus of their lives since they graduated from Glassboro State College 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 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.

OUR SECOND JUNE CONCERT - JAM SESSION & ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, June 23, 2013 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Haddonfield Methodist Church 29 Warwick Road Haddonfield, NJ 08033

This year Bob Rawlins, clarinet, will lead our annual jam session. The jam band will be anchored by seasoned jazz professionals including Randy Reinhardt on trumpet, Pat Mercuri on banjo/guitar, and Brian Nalepka on tuba/bass. Bob will call song titles and invite other musicians to sit in as the session progresses.

This concert will also be the celebration of the 25^{th} anniversary of the Tri-State Jazz Society.

The jam session is open to all jazz musicians. Admission is free if you come to sit in with our core band. A keyboard and a drum set will be available; otherwise, bring your own instrument.

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Concert Admissions

\$10 First-time attendees and members\$20 General AdmissionHigh school/college students with ID andchildren with paying adult admitted free

Pay at the door

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LOOKING AHEAD TO OUR JULY 2013 CONCERT

The world renowned Boston-based New Black Eagles Jazz Band will give a late afternoon concert at the Haddonfield Methodist Church on July 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. **Please note the later than usual time for the concert.**



The New Black Eagles Jazz Band is "in many people's view, the premier traditional jazz band in the world." ~ Jazz Times.

The New Black Eagles have been together for 40 years and play the traditional music of New Orleans. According to trombonist Stan Vincent, "we present our interpretation of early black jazz as it was played from, say, 1900-1938." Indeed, they take their name from the Black Eagle Social Club, which was a black organization in New Orleans at the turn of the century.

Renowned for their seamless ensemble work, they have appeared just about everywhere great jazz is played, including the Newport Jazz Festival. The NBEJB has an uncommonly large repertoire and will feature material by Armstrong, Oliver, Bechet, Morton and Ellington, as well as other early masters of the form.

Tony Pringle plays cornet and is the founding member of the NBEJB. Other musicians include: Bob Pilsbury - Piano and Vocals Stan Vincent - Trombone Billy Novick - Clarinet & Reeds Peter Bullis - Banjo Barry Bockus - Bass C.H. "Pam" Pameijer - Drums

JAM SESSION Continued from Page 1



Bob Rawlins Jam Session Leader, Clarinet

Although walk-ons will be permitted as time allows, we strongly encourage you to guarantee your place on the program by pre-registering via email at <u>jam@tristatejazz.org</u> or by leaving a message on our hotline: (856) 720-0232. In either case, be sure to include your name, email address if available, phone number and instrument(s).

We've chosen Bob Rawlins' new traditional jazz fake book, *The Real Dixieland Book* (Hal Leonard), as a primary source for both tunes and keys. If you'd like to suggest any tunes from the book you'd particularly like to do, please leave word on our hotline above and we will try to honor your requests.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Tri-State Jazz Society will be held on June 23 at the Haddonfield Methodist Church during the first intermission of the jam session. The meeting will last 20 minutes. The agenda will include brief financial and membership reports and election of Directors to serve on the Board. The nominating committee has recommended the following nominees for Director to serve three-year terms:

Sanford Catz, current Tri-State Jazz Society President

Mike Mudry, current Tri-State Jazz Society Treasurer

Nominations from the floor will also be accepted.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

It's time to remind our members to renew their membership which expires each year on June 30, except for new members who joined after March 1, 2013. Basic yearly membership dues are \$20 per person and members are admitted to regular concerts at half price (\$10) for the rest of their membership year.

We have a new approach to membership for firsttime members only. Starting July 1, 2013 new firsttime members' dues are \$20 for joining in our first quarter (July, August, September), \$15 for joining in our second quarter (October, November, December), \$10 for our third quarter (January, February, March 2014), and \$5 for the remainder of our membership year which ends on June 30, 2014. Concert attendees attending a first TSJS concert will continue to get a 50% concert admission fee. This first-time concert admission fee will be in addition to any membership fee detailed above.

We also need to remind our members that currently receive our Strutter newsletter by US mail that there will now be an annual charge of \$10, in addition to your annual membership fee, for receiving the Strutter by US Mail. There is no charge for members to receive the Strutter by email and we encourage all members to use that version. Send an email to Jay Schultz (email address below) to tell us if you want to be on our email lists for these communications. Except for the Strutter and membership notices, all TSJS communications are sent by email only.

We also rely on the generous contributions of members to balance our yearly budget (July 1 to June 30) and continue to offer top-notch concerts. Please consider renewing your membership at the Sponsor level of \$50, \$70 for couples; or the Patron level of \$100 or more, \$120 for couples. **Please mail the renewal form on page 8 of this newsletter with your check.** We are a 501(c)(3) educational non-profit corporation, so your contributions and dues may be tax deductible, but check with your tax advisor. If you have membership questions, contact Jay Schultz. Leave a message for him on our hot line (856)-720-0232 or send Jay an email at membership@tristatejazz.org.

LA POMPE ATTACK MAY CONCERT REVIEW

On Sunday, May 19, 2013, at Haddonfield Methodist Church in Haddonfield, NJ, Tri-State Jazz presented a Doug Munro & La Pompe Attack concert. Doug plays guitar and is the leader; Bill Nixon, violin; Ernie Pugliese, guitar; Michael Goetz, string bass; and Michael Nikolidakis, guest guitarist made up the band.



Django Reinhardt's music has been resurrected through the efforts of many of his contemporaries. For example, Dan Levinson's group Fête Manouche follows the gypsy jazz tradition. For many who perform gypsy jazz, Reinhardt, Dorado Schmitt and others are usually the centerpiece at concerts. But also each of those groups has a character of their own; an individual trademark, a signature which sets them apart.

La Pompe Attack is one of those groups. Led by guitarist Doug Munro, the group adheres to gypsy jazz traditions, but also exemplifies other traditions as well. Munro's guitar reflects more than a hint of the great Reinhardt, but throws in raw blues and early rock and roll riffs. Nixon, by contrast, approaches the violin the way Joe Venuti did back in the 1920s - in an almost classic style, almost avoiding the blues and swinging in an effortless, subtle way. Completing the quartet were rhythm guitarist Ernie Pugliese and string bassist Michael Goetz. To say that these two men provided sufficient rhythm would be understatement; La Pompe Attack did indeed attack!

Tributes to Django and other practitioners of the gypsy jazz art were the bulk of the selections performed at the concert. "Deux Ambience," taken at a medium swing, showcased Munro's heavy attack with fingers dancing along the fret board while Nixon sailed smoothly on violin. Munro's solo on Ellington's "In A Sentimental Mood" was anything but sentimental, alternating accelerating rushed figures with calm ones. "Bossa Dorado" had Nixon enticing one to cut a rug, whether it be a rhumba or tango, while Munro challenged dancers to be creative in their dancing. "Sweet Georgia Brown," taken at a fast clip, had Goetz taking a solid, hornlike solo on bass while Munro took some Armstronglike breaks. Guest guitarist Michael Nikolidakis sat in and remained from the 2nd set onward, providing contrasting solos on "Sheik of Araby," "Hungaria," and "Days of Wine and Roses." And the list goes on.



Photo by Jim McGann

Outside the Django canon were the aforementioned "Days of Wine and Roses" theme from the 1963 motion picture. In addition to Nikolidakis' efforts, the performance offered a glimpse of Ernie Pugliese's solo work. "There'll Never Be Another You" was given the gypsy treatment. Munro seemed to go all out on this one with ascending arpeggios, bits of Django and Christian, raw blues, even rock and roll riffs. Nixon lamented and then took off in his solo while Goetz played "running" bass with double-time figures. Finally, the haunting "Black Orpheus" hinted as a waltz, but segued into a comical "Bonanza" extended vamp at its conclusion.

La Pompe Attack proved that gypsy jazz can be approached outside of tradition, with new elements to make it sound fresh and new.

Jim McGann

THE STRUTTER IS ON THE WEB

The current and back issues of The Strutter are on the Tri-State Jazz Society Web. The Strutter archives cover over three years of back issues and all the bands and soloists who performed during that period are listed there.

Read the current issue at www.tristatejazz.org/Strutter.pdf.

TREAT IT GENTLE

"I have never forgotten the power and imagination with which he played....to me [he] was the very epitome of jazz...everything he played in his whole life was completely original. I honestly think he was the most unique man ever to be in this music."

No, Duke Ellington wasn't referring to Louis Armstrong; he was extolling Sidney Bechet (1897-1959).

The best book I've read about Bechet is Sidney Bechet: The Wizard of Jazz, published in 1987, a carefully researched volume of 331 pages by the English trumpeter and writer John Chilton, which also analyzes many specific recordings. But Bechet himself had narrated some of his life-story into a tape recorder. Those tapes were edited and the eventual result was Treat It Gentle, published in 1960. I read the book earlier this year.

The longest chapter in the 245 pages is a very dramatic but surely somewhat fictitious account centering on Omar, Bechet's slave grandfather. Omar engaged in a furtive but consensual single sexual relation with Marie, a teenage maid to the daughter of a white couple in the New Orleans area. Falsely accused of raping Marie, Omar flees into a bayou to escape the pursuing posse. The sleeping Omar is killed by a fellow black who, unsuccessfully as it turns out, hopes to receive a reward. When the child is born he too is named Omar. Marie accepts the suggestion of her slaveowner and his wife that mother and son take their last name, Bechet.

In a number of respects image-conscious Sidney Bechet reshaped his ancestry. As Chilton's research revealed, "Bechet" was actually derived from "Becher," part of the given name of Sidney's grandfather, Jean (not Omar) Becher. ("Jean" here is male.) But readers of Treat It Gentle are more interested in Bechet the musician than familial details two generations back.

From the book we learn that little Sidney followed parades in New Orleans. At age six he unlocked the dresser in which brother Leonard kept a clarinet and started playing it. Some time afterwards, heard by members of Freddie Keppard's Band who had come to the Bechet house to play at Leonard's surprise birthday party, Sidney was invited to sit in since clarinetist George Baquet hadn't arrived yet.

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FUTURE CONCERTS



www.tristatejazz.org

July 7 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. The New Black Eagles Jazz Band, Haddonfield Methodist Church, Haddonfield, NJ. World renowned Boston-based Dixieland band. Not to be missed!

August 18 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Tex Wyndham and his Red Lion Jazz Band, Haddonfield Methodist Church, Haddonfield, NJ. In their 49th year, this local band was featured for 7 years at the Hotel Dupont's Green Room.

September 15 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Ben Mauger's Vintage Jazz Band and Roaring 20's Orchestra, Community Arts Center, Wallingford, PA. Dixieland plus hot dance songs of the 20's and 30's

October 20 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Martin Spitznagel, Solo Pianist, Haddonfield Methodist Church, Haddonfield, NJ. Selected in 2011 as Scott Joplin Artist in Residence and World Champion of Old Time Piano playing

AMERICAN RAG

At each concert, TSJS picks a winner of a free fourmonth subscription to the American Rag as a door prize. The winner for May, 2013 is Barbara McDonnell of Moorestown, NJ.

New members of the Tri-State Jazz Society automatically receive a two-month subscription to American Rag, the country's largest traditional jazz



TREAT IT GENTLE Continued from Page 4

It was Baquet who became Sidney's first teacher, but only for a few lessons. Bechet ended up almost wholly self-taught. Moreover, as he said, "I ain't never learned to read one note after the other." At age 12 he began playing regularly in bands. (Incidentally, Bechet introduced Baquet at a Philadelphia jazz concert I attended about 1948, not in 1940 as stated on page 178.)

Bechet recounts much regarding the music scene and "musicianers" (as he called professional performers) in New Orleans: the social clubs, usually each with a Grand Marshal strutting in front of its band at funeral marches; "bucking contests," when two bands publicly confronted one another and the winner's members were rewarded with food and drinks by listeners; the dance halls and the saloons, like Tom Anderson's saloon, which "wasn't a whorehouse but you'd hear whorehouse music there"; famed bandleader and the city's first cornet "king," Buddy Bolden, downgraded somewhat as "a hell of a showman...but there were others who played much better"; Bunk Johnson, "a great blues player....the quietest man, even with all his drinking....and Bunk would give him [young Louis Armstrong] lessons too" (which Armstrong unqualifiedly denied later).

New to me was the wine contest. Sidney's father, Omar, a shoemaker with a passion for music and dancing, occasionally gathered musicians and some other people in a home for an all-night, all-male musical party. A jug of wine was placed in the center of the floor and those who wanted to do so would dance around it while the musicians played. Whoever came closest to the jug without touching it, was declared the winner-and Omar Bechet won his share of prizes. But if any part of a dancer's body or clothing grazed the jug, that man had to leave, buy a gallon of wine, and bring it back for everyone to enjoy.

Rabbi Lou Kaplan

Continued in July Issue of Strutter

OTHER JAZZ CONCERTS

PENNSYLVANIA JAZZ SOCIETY

www.pajazzsociety.org (610)-625-4640 **June 2** Danny Tobias & His Orchestra, Dewey Fire Co. Hall, 502 Durham St, Hellertown, PA

NEW JERSEY JAZZ SOCIETY

www.njjs.org (800)-303-NJJS NJJS also co-sponsors events at the Bickford Theatre and Ocean County College. THE BICKFORD THEATRE 6 Normandy Heights Road Morristown, NJ www.njjs.org/p/services/bickford.html

All concerts 8:00 p.m. (973)-971-3706. June 3 Carrie Jackson with her jazz group June 10 Neville Dickie & Midiri Brothers June 12 Mona's Hot Four Plus 2, with Dennis Lichtman, Emily Asher and Bria Skonberg

OCEAN COUNTY COLLEGE

www.njjs.org/p/services/ocean.html

(732)-255-0500 All concerts start at 8:00 p.m. Ocean County College campus, Community and Arts Center, College Drive, Toms River, NJ 08753 **June 5** Baby Soda, 6 piece jazz group with Emily Asher

June 19 Fête Manouche with Dan Levinson

CAPE MAY TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY VFW Post 386, 419 Congress St., Cape May, NJ

www.capemaytraditionaljazzsociety.com June 9 Blackbird Society Jazz Band

JAZZ AT JACK'S

Jack's Deli Restaurant, 8500 Bustleton Ave., NE Philly, (215)-528-0582

Third Thursday of each month/concerts 6:30-8:30p.m., dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. and is included in ticket price.

June 20 Al Harrison Dixieland Band with Paula Johns, vocalist

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, 2014, <u>bands@tristatejazz.org</u>

Mike Mudry, **Treasurer**, 2013, treasurer@tristatejazz.org

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Louis Kaplan & Peggy deProphetis, 2015

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TSJS CONTACT INFORMATION

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E-mail: info@tristatejazz.org

Hotline Phone for updated concert information: (856) 720-0232

SEE US ON FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/tristatejazz

Tri State Jazz Society is on Facebook! Our Facebook page is available for comments, questions, and suggestions.

TSJS PATRONS 2012-2013

The Big Time - \$100 or more, \$120 couples

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- Anne Uniman
- Martha Keyser & Raymond P. Whearty Jr.

TSJS SPONSORS 2012-2013 Headliners - \$50 or more, \$70 couples

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TRI-STATE JAZZ FOUNDER

Laura Mae Wilson Baskin died May 9, 2013 in Cherry Hill, NJ at 94. Wife of the late Daniel Baskin, mother of three sons, grandmother to 4 and great grandmother to 2. Tri-State Jazz Society began in Laura and Dan's home on Chestnut Terrace in Cherry Hill. They hosted a meeting of about 20 people that decided to organize the society and offer trad jazz concerts. The board consisted of those couples and a few others. A few did not become board members by choice but joined all in donating \$100 each to start. Laura and Dan hosted the board meetings in the Church Road Civic Assn. meeting room behind the fire house on the circle at Route 38 and Church Road for many years. Laura was very active in the society until Dan became ill. She managed to bring him to several concerts while his health deteriorated. Laura spent many hours and days babysitting her grand children. She was a friend to all the members of the society.

DIRECTIONS TO WALLINGFORD COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER

FROM I-476 SOUTHBOUND: Exit Route I-476 (the Blue Route) at EXIT 3 (Media-Swarthmore). Turn right on Baltimore Pike toward Media. Get in left lane immediately and turn left on Turner Road. Go 0.3 mile to the second street on the left. Turn left on Plush Mill Road. Go 0.3 mile to the Community Arts Center. It is on the right just beyond Pendle Hill conference center. (Don't cross over I-476.) Parking lot is on the right.

FROM I-476 NORTHBOUND: Exit Route I-476 at EXIT 3 (Media-Swarthmore). Turn left on Baltimore Pike toward Media. Go 0.3 mile. Turn left on Turner Road. Go 0.3 mile to the second street on the left. Turn left on Plush Mill Road. Go 0.3 mile to the Community Arts Center. It is on the right just beyond Pendle Hill conference center. (Don't cross over I-476.) Parking lot is on right.

FROM PHILADELPHIA OR NEW JERSEY:

From NJ, cross the Walt Whitman Bridge into Philadelphia. From Philadelphia, take I-95 South to EXIT 7, I-476 North. Go north 3.4 miles to EXIT 3, (Media-Swarthmore) then follow directions above FROM I-476 NORTHBOUND.

FROM CITY LINE: Take Route 1 South to exit for I-476 South (The Blue Route). Take ramp on right, then turn left onto I-476. Go south 1 mile to EXIT 3, (Media-Swarthmore). Follow the directions above FROM I-476 SOUTHBOUND.

FROM CHESTER COUNTY AND WESTERN **SUBURBS:** Follow Route 1 North, passing Riddle Memorial Hospital just outside Media. Bear right on Route 1 North (the Media Bypass). Follow Bypass to first exit at Route 252 South (Providence Road). Follow Providence Road south to Baltimore Pike, a distance of approximately 2.2 miles. Turn left onto Baltimore Pike to Turner Road on your right, a distance of 0.3 mile. Turn right onto Turner Road for 0.3 mile. Turn left onto Plush Mill Road. Go 0.3 mile to the Community Arts Center. It is on the right just beyond Pendle Hill conference center. (Don't cross over I-476.) Parking lot is on right. FROM WILMINGTON AND DELAWARE: Take I-95 North to EXIT 7, I-476 North. Take ramp on right. Go north 3.4 miles to EXIT 3, (Media-Swarthmore). Follow the directions above FROM

	Ž	Membership Application/Renewal Form TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY P.O. Box 896, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054				
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