

# The Strutter

"Best of South Jersey" 2008 - 2011!

**VOLUME 24 NUMBER 4** 

Traditional Jazz in the Philadelphia Tri-State Area

**OCTOBER 2013** 

#### **OUR NEXT CONCERT**

Martin Spitznagel Ragtime and Stride Pianist



Sunday, October 20, 2013 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. Haddonfield Methodist Church 29 Warwick Road Haddonfield, NJ 08033 Directions on Page 7

Spitznagel will present a program of ragtime and stride piano that promises to display the virtuosic technique, sophisticated touch, and sparkling repertoire which earned him the title of "World Champion of Old-Time Piano Playing."

Martin Spitznagel, hailed as "a remarkable, astonishing... 'face-melting' musical talent" (Amazon.com/editorial review), achieved musical success at age 14, winning a Yamaha Disklavier piano at the "Crazy For Ragtime" competition in front of judge Itzhak Perlman. His flair and ebullience soon caught the eye of the Eastman School of Music's Dr. Tony Caramia, under whose tutelage Martin developed his ear, improvisational skills, and compositional acumen, eventually blooming into a world-class artist.

Spitznagel, who lives in Alexandria, VA, has performed across the country at venues large and small including featured performances at the Scott Joplin International Ragtime Festival in Sedalia, MO and the West Coast Ragtime Festival in Sacramento, CA. He's won numerous awards for his original compositions, among them first place in the 2011 Scott Joplin Foundation's New Rag contest for "Train Town Rag." That same year he was selected as the Scott Joplin Foundation's Artist-In-Residence.

Spitznagel's newest CD on the Rosemont label, "Handful of Keys: Face-Melting Ragtime," features traditional rags and some of Spitznagel's own compositions, including award-winning "The Train Town Rag."

To hear Martin Spitznagel in action, please visit: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wt\_vzgs92BE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wt\_vzgs92BE</a> - "Handful of Keys"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GKeC46kQcyo - "Maple Leaf Rag"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5HJpbvaf54 &list=PL33E3BA4D5Bo9DDCD - "Hobson Street Blues"

Visit his website at: www.spitzfire.com.

#### **Concert Admissions**

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

Pay at the door

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# LOOKING AHEAD TO OUR NOVEMBER 2013 CONCERT

The Atlantic City Jazz Band will play a Tri-State Jazz Society concert on Sunday, November 24 from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. This concert will be at the Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Road, Wallingford, PA 19086.



The seven-piece ACJB is an authentic "tuba and banjo" ensemble and specializes in playing the music that swept the nation when the first jazz recordings were issued in 1917. The members are seasoned players who love the traditional style and deliver it in an energetic fashion. But their repertoire goes well beyond that, featuring the prime output of the skilled Tin Pan Alley composers who dominated music through the 1930s and beyond, and their zesty, spirited instrumentals are punctuated by an occasional vocal to capitalize upon the catchy lyrics of the period. This repertoire is always growing and includes pieces as old as Scott Joplin and Jelly Roll Morton rags as well as pop tunes of the jazz era by George Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Harold Arlen and Johnny Mercer.

In 2004, band leader and since-retired trombonist Herb Roselle organized a touring band for a 10-day excursion to Italy and selected some of the finest musicians in the area. The band was well-received and decided to tour again the following year. Then, after a few more years of being a one-time/one-tour band, Roselle and co-founder Bob Rawlins decided to morph the band into a permanent group - and thus, in the fall of 2008, the Atlantic City Jazz Band was born.

## BEN MAUGER'S VINTAGE JAZZ BAND & ROARING '20s ORCHESTRA CONCERT REVIEW

This Tri-State Jazz concert on September 15 at the Wallingford, PA Community Arts Center featured these musicians: Ben Mauger, leader and cornet; Todd Fulginiti, trumpet; Dave Sager, trombone; Howard Boots, alto sax and clarinet; Jason Roach, alto and bass saxes; Dave Wilson, tenor and C-melody sax; Bob Kreitz, piano; Chuck Oettel, amplified guitar and banjo; Mike Shank, string bass and tuba; Doug Kulp, drums.



Photo by Jim McGan

Few concerts ever approach the free-spirited, winner-take-all atmosphere of a jam session. On Sunday, Ben Mauger's Vintage Jazz Band (VJB) did just that. Instead of the smaller band playing the whole second set, musicians from the larger orchestra came and went, giving the appearance of a free-flowing jam session. At one point, the VJB consisted of cornet, trombone, piano and drums. However, the opening attacks were from Mauger's larger unit, a musical militia known as the Roaring '20s Orchestra.

The Roaring '20s Orchestra made its TSJS debut back in 2011, and the cast remains much the same, with alto-bass saxist Jason Roach the only newcomer. Compared with their appearance in 2011, this was a band on fire. The charts had clever voicings, and had a sense of adventure about them. The growling cornet matched with a clarinet choir on "Maple Leaf Rag" and the exotic muted brass chorus on "Dardanella" were telling examples. Most important, Mauger's orchestra made the '20s charts swing and the "hot-cha" sound that characterizes many a big band arrangement at that time was limited.

The standout performance was the Fletcher Henderson 1927 chart, "Variety Stomp." Taken at a slightly slower tempo than the original recording, the band was in combat mode. Propelled by Mike Shank's tuba, the band attacked from all directions. Dave Sager's trombone barked its way out of the arrangement, while Mauger traded fours with the reeds. The slower tempo allowed the band to swing, yet still had enough pep to ignite the horns.



Photo by Jim McGant

The Orchestra was not done. The set closed with two Jean Goldkette numbers and a Jelly Roll Morton number, "Breakin' the Iceberg." The Goldkette numbers, "Clementine" and the stomping "My Pretty Girl," featured solos from Mauger (on the former) and Howard Boots (on clarinet, on the latter). On "Iceberg," Jason Roach soloed on clarinet. That was a finish that would leave anyone gasping.





Photos by Jim McGann

As stated earlier, the Vintage Jazz Band set was more a jam session than a small scale version of the Roaring '20s orchestra. No complaints here. Beginning with the swinging "I Found A New Baby" right through Mauger's closing theme, "Bye Bye Blues," there wasn't a lull throughout the set. Chuck Oettel helmed "Basin Street Blues" on amplified guitar and treated the Spencer Williams tune as an actual raw blues. Dave Sager was featured on "Whispering" with the rhythm section, but Ben Mauger joined in to hold a casual "conversation" with the trombonist. Bob Kreitz' bright quasi-rag-stride piano was flawless

throughout. Todd Fulginiti ignited "Doctor Jazz" and "Aint She Sweet" aided by Howard Boots' clarinet. Dave Wilson soloed on tenor and C-melody sax on "Weary Way Blues." Doug Kulp had opportunities to thump the tubs on the aforementioned "I Found A New Baby" and Jason Roach's bass sax led a charge on a New Orleans romp, allowing solos from Boots, Wilson, Sager, Oettel, Kreitz and Kulp. In between were two Armstrong numbers: "Struttin' with Some Barbeque" performed by a sextet of Mauger, Wilson (on tenor) and the rhythm section, and the beautiful "Sleepytime Down South" by a quartet of Mauger, Dave Sager, Kreitz and Kulp.

Ben Mauger's Roaring '20s orchestra swung the 1920s, and his Vintage Jazz Band became a Vintage Jam Session. If only one ensemble had performed on Sunday, it is safe to say that audiences would have left satisfied. However, with both ensembles, audiences left not only getting more, but left not wanting it to end.

Jim McGann

## **QUIZ TIME**

#### By Rabbi Lou Kaplan

Certain songs are particularly associated with the recordings made by a specific band. Can you name the bandleader most famous for their band's recording of the following selections?

- 1. "Sing, Sing, Sing"
- 2. "Take the 'A' Train"
- 3. "Cherokee"
- 4. "Flying Home"
- 5. "Begin the Beguine"
- 6. "Opus One"
- 7. "Pennsylvania 6-5000"

Answers are elsewhere in this issue.

### NEW ORLEANS REPORT From Ed Wise

(As many of you already know, Ed Wise, our former Tri-State board member, bassist, and bandleader recently relocated back to New Orleans. He files this article to be shared with the Tri-State Jazz Society.)

Greetings from The Big Easy - The Crescent City - The City That Care Forgot - New Orleans! It has been about two months since I began my steady performing engagement at Houston's Restaurant on St. Charles Avenue with David Hansen's Garden District Trio. I'm happy to report that New Orleans is growing and thriving and has become the fastest-growing city in the United States, according to a Forbes magazine article from just this past July. You can read more about this at http://www.wwltv.com/news/Forbes-New-Orleans-Is-Americas-Fastest-Growing-City--212824771.html.

Generally, the live jazz business has been decimated over the past 25-30 years by a number of factors and today it's difficult to find live jazz in even the largest cities in America, including Philadelphia. Live traditional jazz (vintage jazz styles like those promoted and presented by the Tri-State Jazz Society) is even harder to scrounge up.

Not so in New Orleans. There are still a number of venues in the Crescent City where one can go to enjoy vintage traditional jazz. Here is a list:

Houston's Restaurant at 1755 St Charles Ave at Felicity St. Phone # 504-524-1578. Yes, this is MY gig at the top of the list and I freely admit to shameless self promotion! I play bass in a piano/bass/drums trio playing standards from "The Great American Songbook" in an elegant setting. It's on the famous St Charles trolley car line, so you might consider riding that to get there.

Palm Court Jazz Cafe - 1204 Decatur Street, 504-525-0200, www.palmcourtjazzcafe.com. This is my personal favorite place to hear and perform traditional jazz. The decor and ambience are nice, acoustics are superb and there's always a full 6-piece band there, complete with the traditional front line of trumpet, clarinet and trombone. And if you come on a Saturday evening, you can enjoy the music of the legendary trumpet man Lionel Ferbos, who turned 102 this past July! The food is good and

the whole package makes for a very nice evening. In my opinion, it is the best place to enjoy the good old stuff, or, as Louis Armstrong would say, "the good ol' good ones."

**Preservation Hall** - 726 St. Peter, 504-522-2841, www.preservationhall.com. The granddaddy of 'em all. Since 1961, the Jaffe family has been presenting live, 6-piece New Orleans-style jazz bands in this legendary venue. Music 7 nights a week, from 8 'til 11 p.m.

**Court of Two Sisters** - 613 Royal St, 504-522-7261, www.courtoftwosisters.com. 7 days a week jazz brunch. 3 different trios perform on a rotating schedule through the week. One of these trios is led by banjoist Amy Sharpe and one is led by cornetist Charlie Fardella. The brunch is a beautiful buffet of New Orleans cuisine.

**The Spotted Cat** - 623 Frenchmen St, 504-943-3887, www.spottedcatmusicclub.com. This is a fun little place where you can hear young folks carrying on the traditions of New Orleans. Music starts at 4 in the afternoon and the last band STARTS at 2 a.m.!

**Fritzel's** - 733 Bourbon St., 504-586-4800, www.fritzelsjazz.net. Usually a 4-piece group here. Charming place. I believe there's no cover charge, but there is a drink minimum.

**Maison Bourbon** - 641 Bourbon St, 504-598-4583, www.maisonbourbon.com. Always a 5-piece band. One band is led by my old friend, trumpet player Jamil Sharif.

**Little Gem Saloon** - 445 S. Rampart St., 504-267-4863, www.littlegemsaloon.com. This is a new club in the Central Business District (across Canal Street from the French Quarter) near the site of Louis Armstrong's childhood neighborhood. They have a variety of live music, not all traditional jazz.

For a comprehensive list of music venues (all styles) in New Orleans, go to

http://www.neworleansonline.com/neworleans/m usic/musicclubs.html.

So, folks, I want to conclude by assuring you that New Orleans is back in a big way. It's been just over 8 years since Katrina and the city is thriving, growing and full of live music. If it is your desire to experience New Orleans first-hand, do not hesitate, because the city is ready and waiting for you! We're having a party here!

# MUSIC COMMITTEE CREATES OUR CONCERTS

For several years Bill Wallace has handled all the details of booking the bands and arranging each of the Tri-State Jazz concert details. When he retired from that job this year, we created a music committee of five people to fill Bill's shoes. The members are Bob Rawlins, Bill Hoffman, Chic Bach, Ray Whearty, and Steve Peitzman. Bob Rawlins is coordinating the selection process which includes all of the committee members. If you would like to suggest a band or pianist for a future concert, you should contact him at email "rawlinsr@rowan.edu". In addition you should also send a copy of that email to Bill Hoffman who does the scheduling and booking at "billhoffman47@gmail.com". Bill is the primary contact with the bands and piano soloists.

#### **VOLUNTEERS WANTED**

The work of Tri-State Jazz is done by its board and interested volunteers. We continue to need new volunteers to help us bring these traditional jazz concerts to you:

PUBLICITY: To make telephone calls to news media and magazines so that we have an updated and correct person to contact for our press releases.

ASSISTANT WEBMASTER - Update our website. No programming or Web design experience needed. If you have computer experience, browse the Web and send e-mail you can do the job. Takes just two to three hours a month.

If you have interest in helping as a volunteer, please contact Dewaine Osman at email: "dlosman@comcast.net."

#### 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.

### **FUTURE CONCERTS**



www.tristatejazz.org

## No Concerts Planned for December due to the Holidays

**January 12, 2014** 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Barbone Street Jazz Band, a Tri-State Jazz favorite, Haddonfield Methodist Church, Haddonfield, NJ.

**February 23, 2014** 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Bryan Wright, Solo Ragtime Piano, Community Arts Center, Wallingford, PA. Artist in Residence, 2013, Scott Joplin International Foundation.

March 16, 2014 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Classic Conservatory Jazz Band led by Dave Robinson; New Orleans, Chicago style and swing. Haddonfield Methodist Church, Haddonfield, NJ.

#### 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 September, 2013 is Tom Neary, Wilmington, DE.

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



#### OTHER JAZZ CONCERTS

#### PENNSYLVANIA JAZZ SOCIETY

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

October 6 The Banjo Rascals, Dewey Fire Co. Hall, 502 Durham St, Hellertown, PA

November 3 Jam Session Dewey Fire Co. Hall

**November 3** Jam Session, Dewey Fire Co. Hall, 502 Durham St, Hellertown, PA

#### NEW JERSEY JAZZ SOCIETY

www.njjs.org

(800)-303-NJJS

NJJS 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.

October 9 Dan Levinson

October 30 Full Count Big Band

**November 4** Chuck Anderson Trio

#### 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 **October 9** Mona's Hot Four with Tamar Korn

October 30 Parisian Hot Jazz with Dan Levinson

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

www.capemaytraditionaljazzsociety.com

October 13 Jack Melton Jazz Band November 10 Hot Taters

#### 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. Performances by the Al Harrison Dixieland Band.

# ABOUT TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sanford Catz, **President**, 2016, president@tristatejazz.org, webmaster@tristatejazz.org

Dewaine Osman, Vice President, Strutter Editor, 2015, editor@tristatejazz.org

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Bob Rawlins, Music Committee Band Selection Leader, 2014, <u>bands@tristatejazz.org</u>

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Sally Cannon, PA Publicity Manager, 2014, publicity@tristatejazz.org

Nancy Rawlins, **Publicity Assistant**, 2014 Bill Wallace, **Music Committee Advisor**, 2014 Louis Kaplan, **Writer** 2015

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Lou Schultz, **Contributions Mgr.** and Jay Schultz, **Membership Mgr.** 

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Steven Peitzman, Publicity Assistant
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Paola Meimaris, Signs

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 2013-2014**

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

- Jack & Joan Adams
- Mike Mudry
- DeWitt Peterson
- Joe & Anita Pew
- Bob & Nancy Rawlins
- Scott Ricketts
- Jay & Orinda Lou Schultz
- Anne Uniman

#### TSJS SPONSORS 2013-2014

Headliners - \$50 or more, \$70 couples

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- Nancy Weaver

## QUIZ TIME ANSWERS

- 1. Benny Goodman
- 2. Duke Ellington
- 3. Charlie Barnet
- 4. Lionel Hampton
- 5. Artie Shaw
- 6. Tommy Dorsey
- 7. Glenn Miller

# DIRECTIONS TO HADDONFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FROM PHILADELPHIA: Cross the Ben Franklin bridge into NJ. Keep left at the end of the bridge, following signs for US-30 East. Continue on Admiral Wilson Blvd. for 2.2 miles, keeping to the left and following the signs to Cherry Hill, NJ-70. The overpass leads to NJ-38 and NJ-70. Move to the right lane for NJ-70 east. Go 2.3 miles to Grove Street and turn right at the traffic light. Go 1.5 miles to Kings Highway (NJ-41). Turn right and drive a half mile through Haddonfield, passing over the PATCO tracks just before you get to Warwick Rd. Turn left at Warwick Rd. The church is on your left. Pass the church and turn left into the parking lot. Use the rear entrance for Fellowship Hall.

#### FROM THE SOUTH OR WEST VIA I-295:

From PA or DE take I-95 to the Commodore Barry Bridge (US-322 east) and cross into NJ. Take the second exit, I-295 and US-130 north. In 2.1 miles US-130 merges with I-295. Follow I-295 north for 16 miles to Exit 32, Haddonfield Berlin Rd. (NJ-561). Turn left toward Haddonfield and go past Kresson Rd., as it bends to the left and continue on Ellis Ave. At the "Welcome to Haddonfield" circle, keep to the right for S. Haddon Ave. Continue to the traffic light at Kings Highway (NJ-41) and turn left. Go 0.4 mile, passing over the PATCO tracks just before you get to Warwick Rd. Turn left at Warwick Rd. The church is on your left. Pass the church and turn left into the parking lot. Use the rear entrance for the Fellowship Hall.

FROM THE NORTH VIA I-95: Take I-95 south to the Betsy Ross Bridge exit (NJ-90). Cross into NJ and continue 2.1 miles on NJ-90. Exit at Haddonfield Rd. south. Go 4.2 miles. When you cross NJ-70, Haddonfield Rd. becomes Grove St. Go another 1.4 miles to Kings Highway (NJ-41). Turn right and drive a half mile through Haddonfield, passing over the PATCO tracks just before you get to Warwick Rd. Turn left at Warwick Rd. The church is on your left. Pass the church and turn left into the parking lot. Use the rear entrance for Fellowship Hall.

**FROM THE NORTH VIA I-295:** Go south on I-295 to Exit 30, Warwick Rd. From the exit ramp, turn left (north) onto Warwick toward Haddonfield. Go 1.4 miles. Turn right into the church parking lot. Use the rear entrance for the Fellowship Hall.



## **Membership Renewal Form**

All memberships will expire June 30, 2014.

| THIS TOTTLE TO TELLEW                                     | ing members and forme                                           | er members only. New members must use a different form.*     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Individual Dues:                                          | ☐ Basic Member \$20                                             | ☐ Sponsor** \$50 ☐ Patron** \$100 or more                    |
| Couple Dues:                                              | ☐ Basic Members \$40                                            | Sponsors** \$70 Patrons** \$120 or more                      |
| Mail Delivery Fee:                                        |                                                                 | Newsletter by U.S. Mail (Add \$10)                           |
| Free Email and News                                       | sletter Options:                                                | TSJS concert announcements and membership notices            |
| (Check all boxes that                                     | apply.)                                                         | The Strutter newsletter by Email                             |
|                                                           |                                                                 | Other traditional jazz event notices (not sponsored by TSJS) |
| First and Last I                                          | Name(s)                                                         |                                                              |
| Street                                                    |                                                                 |                                                              |
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| Phone () Date  Mail with check paya  * To obtain a New-Me | E-m Check No.  ble to Tri-State Jazz S ember Application, which | ail  TOTAL PAYMENT \$                                        |

TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY, INC. P.O. BOX 896
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