

The Strutter

**VOLUME 27 NUMBER 1** 

Traditional Jazz in the Philadelphia Tri-State Area

JULY 2016

# OUR NEXT CONCERT Atlantic City Jazz Band



Sunday, July 24, 2016 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. Haddonfield United Methodist Church 29 Warwick Road Haddonfield, NJ 08033 Directions at <u>http://www.tristatejazz.org/directions-</u> haddonfield.html

The seven-piece ACJB, which previously performed for TSJS in November, 2013, is an authentic "tuba and banjo" ensemble specializing in 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. Their 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. Since their founding in 2008, ACJB has released a CD (Making Waves), toured in Italy, and has become a fixture on the traditional jazz scene in the tri-state area.

Band Personnel: Bob Rawlins – clarinet, saxophones, Leader Franny Smith – banjo, vocals Bob Ferguson – trumpet Larry Toft – trombone Nancy Rawlins – piano John McClernan – tuba Chuck Harms – drums

To hear the ACJB in action go to: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SncLw8larQg

or visit them on Facebook:

### **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 AUGUST 2016 CONCERT

Rossano Sportiello will play a Tri-State Jazz piano concert on August 21, 2016 at the Community Arts Center, Wallingford, PA.



Award-winning jazz pianist Rossano Sportiello makes his TSJS debut, bringing his eclectic style of pianism that blends classical training with jazz and stride. Born in Italy, Sportiello graduated from the Conservatory in classical piano in 1996. At age 16 he was performing professionally at jazz venues in the Milan area, and in 1992, he joined Europe's historic jazz band, the "Milan Jazz Group," touring with them throughout Italy and Western Europe until the end of 2000. Described by mentor/friend Barry Harris as "the best stride player" he has ever heard, Rossano has been enthusiastically received at the jazz festivals, and in 2009 received the Ascona Jazz Festival (Switzerland) Award for jazz piano, particularly for his stride playing. Following his marriage to American writer Lala Moore in 2007, Sportiello established himself in NYC. He 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. Rossano has recorded 4 solo piano, 3 small group, and 3 classical CDs.

For more information, visit his website: <u>http://www.rossanosportiello.com</u>.

### To hear samples go to:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nehm-Tjxwwk or https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ve41vYaNPBc

# NEVILLE DICKIE & MIDIRI BROS. JUNE 5 CONCERT REVIEW

The Time: Sunday, June 05, 2016, 2:00pm to 4:30pm

The Place: Haddonfield United Methodist Church

Neville Dickie, piano; Joe Midiri, clarinet, soprano, alto and tenor saxes; Paul Midiri, drums

Guest musician: Bob Rawlins, clarinet and alto sax



Neville Dickie and Midiri Brothers Photo by Jim McGann

Every June for the past few years renowned stride pianist Neville Dickie has joined forces with the Midiri Brothers in a trio setting for the TSJS faithful. Without question, the trio has never failed to produce a quality concert. This Sunday's concert was no exception.

For this concert, there was a concentrated effort to try new material. There were the Waller and Goodman tributes as expected, but there were equally appealing new pieces that made this concert memorable. The opening number (I Would Do) Anything for You," a Claude Hopkins composition, was played in a duo setting with Neville Dickie and Paul Midiri on drums. highlighted by a trading of fours between the two. Joe Midiri was added on the next number, "At Sundown," providing three fine choruses on clarinet, and Dickie playing in a manner removed from pianist Teddy Wilson, attacking the keys that would make Earl Hines proud. The trio followed with "You Can Depend On Me" which presented Joe Midiri's soprano sax in all its wailing glory.

More duo stuff followed. "Carmen Boogie" which takes Bizet's piece and turns it into a boogie romp. A new piece, Mary Lou Williams' arrangement of "If I Had You" with the pianist emulating the earthy blues of the Kansas City pianist. Another new piece, "Taking A Chance on Love" was noteworthy for the late piano chorus which combined boogie woogie and stride.

"I Can't Believe That You're In Love With Me" featured Joe Midiri on a rare performance on tenor sax. His playing shows the influence of Lester Young with shades of the raucous tenors of Don Byas and Ben Webster. It was enjoyable listening to Joe on this, playing in a loose abandon, freewheeling way, very relaxed.

"September Song" with Joe Midiri's outstanding soprano sax was deserving of a standing ovation. Equally ovation worthy was a highly swinging version of Harry Ruby's "Three Little Words" managing to avoid the "Rachel's Dream"-Goodman sextet-technical riffs and just swing hard. The set closed with a witty performance of Hoagy Carmichael's "Deed I Do" with Joe Midiri quoting the theme of the Andy Griffith show in his solo while Dickie playing ascending figures culminating with a slap on the side of the piano.

The second set featured a version of Wolverine Blues with a new approach. While the instrumentation was the same as the 192? recording, the solos - even the breaks - were excitingly fresh and new. Joe Midiri recalled Johnny Dodds chalumeau solo but managed to avoid the earlier clarinetist concept while playing in the same register! The only connection to the original was the Jelly Roll Morton 8 bar introduction played by Dickie.



Bob Rawlins and Midiri Brothers Pho

Photo by Jim McGann

Clarinetist and alto saxophonist Bob Rawlins joined the trio for two numbers; the lightly swinging "Indiana" and the slower ballad, "Sugar." On the former, Rawlins creamy alto sax sound contrasted nicely with Midiri's clarinet. Paul Midiri performed excellently throughout on drums, and had an opportunity to solo here. The latter was a slight disappointment, both horn players began the piece on clarinet, anticipating a clarinet duet. However, Joe Midiri switched to tenor for his solo, never returning to the licorice stick. Paul Midiri made up for the loss in providing some Dave Tough drum breaks.

The concert concluded with two pieces associated with Benny Goodman: "The World Is Waiting For the Sunrise" and "Runnin' Wild." Either one or the other would suffice in bringing the house down. They played both; the house was down for the count, KOed by optimum swing, concluding another excellent concert from Neville Dickie and the Midiri Brothers.

Review by Jim McGann

### POST CONCERT RECEPTION For PATRONS & SPONSORS

After the Neville Dickie & Midiri Brothers concert, TSJS hosted a reception at the home of Dewaine and Clare Osman in Haddonfield, NJ. In addition to an extensive buffet catered by Clare Osman including wine, beer, and soft drinks, Neville Dickie and the Midiri Brothers came and had a fabulous jam session in the Osman's living room. Bob Rawlins joined the jam session as well - as he did as a guest during the concert.



Sponsor & Patron Reception

Photo by Jim McGann

The Osman's thoroughly enjoy hosting these donor events and are looking forward to Neville and the Midiri's again next year at this time. If any members would also like to participate next year, they should become either a Sponsor or a Patron for the 2016-2017 year starting on July 1, 2016.

# ANNUAL JAM SESSION JUNE 26 CONCERT REVIEW

The Place: Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Road, Wallingford, PA TSJS Core Band: Bob Rawlins, leader, clarinet, soprano and alto sax Dan Tobias, trumpet and vocals Franny Smith, banjo and vocals Brian Nalepka, string bass and tuba Paul Midiri, drums and vibraphone



It's the end of June and time once again for the TSJS Annual Jam Session.

You could call this jam session the Quiet One, for out of the 11 guest musicians sitting in, only two were horn players - vocals and strings seemed to have the edge on this concert. It seemed to have an effect on the performances - "Struttin' With Some Barbecue" never sounded so relaxed. The core band consisted of familiar faces with Bob Rawlins returning as leader, and Franny Smith and Brian Nalepka were veterans of past TSJS jam sessions. New to the band this year were trumpeter Dan Tobias and Paul Midiri.

There were some familiar guests and some new faces.





Clarinetist Skip Livingston performed a nice duet with Bob Rawlins on "A Closer Walk."





Selina Higgins, Vocals

Bill Nixon's violin gave Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies" a melancholy feeling, and accompanied guest vocalist Selina Higgins on "Sweet Georgia Brown."

Livingston, Nixon, Higgins and Janney Murtha (who appeared later in the second set) had appeared at TSJS Jam sessions in the past. As for the new, a clarinetist by the name of Mac Given, performed on a relaxed version of "Struttin' With Some Barbecue," and "Aint Misbehavin."





Guitarist and leader of the Blackbird Society

Orchestra, Rich Barnes was a newcomer to the jam session, vocalizing on "Avalon" and soloing on "Everybody Loves My Baby."

Vocalists Steve Faha and Jean Lenke made their first appearance at the jam session; the former featured on "I'm Comin' Virginia" and "I Aint Gonna Give Nobody None of My Jelly Roll," the latter on "Mean to Me" and "Let's Do It."





Jean Lenke Vocal

The highlight for me was a couple of drumless items. Steve DiBonaventura on banjo joined the band throughout most of the second set. On "Avalon" and "After You've Gone," DiBonaventura, along with Barnes on guitar, Franny Smith on banjo and the propulsive Nalepka bass, the rhythm had such a sailing swing to it that the drums were not missed.



Steve DiBonaventura, Banjo







Thanks to all of the guest musicians who participated in making the 2016 TSJS jam session a great one.

Review by Jim McGann

Photos by Jim McGann and Paul Macatee

## ANNUAL TSJS MEETING

A brief Tri-State Jazz Society annual meeting was held during intermission at the June 26 jam session. President Sandy Catz presented the following members recommended by the nominating committee to be Directors for threeyear terms on the TSJS Board of Directors:

Sanford Catz - Currently President

Mike Mudry - Currently Treasurer

Chic Bach - Currently Sound Coordinator

The above nominees were elected unanimously.

## TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Tri-State Jazz Society memberships expire on June 30th each year. If you are a new member who joined after March 1, 2016, your membership won't expire until June 30, 2017, but all other memberships are due for renewal now for the 2016-2017 year. We can accept cash or a personal check, but not credit cards. If you don't plan to attend the next concert please mail a check with a membership renewal form from page 8 of this newsletter.

Basic membership dues are \$20 for individuals; \$40 for couples. As a member, you will be able to attend all concerts at half price until June 30, 2017. Members also receive the monthly Strutter newsletter by email.

Members pay half the General Admission price (\$10 when the full price is \$20) for all regular concerts throughout the membership year. It pays to be a member even if you attend just two concerts a year, but after the second concert, members continue saving \$10 per concert, compared to nonmember rates.

### PATRON AND SPONSOR MEMBERSHIPS

We hope you will consider renewing your membership - or becoming a member - at the Patron or Sponsor level. Your donations enable us to bring you top bands from this region and beyond without raising our admission prices.

Yearly dues for Patrons are \$100 or more (\$120 for couples). Sponsors dues are \$50 (\$70 for couples).

Printed copies of the Strutter are mailed to Patrons and Sponsors on request.

We are pleased to report that 90% of the 2015-2016 Patrons and 50% of the 2015-2016 Sponsors have already renewed their donations for the 2016-2017 year beginning July 1, 2016.

# **FUTURE CONCERTS**



#### All Concerts from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

September 18, 2016 Dan Levinson and his Tiger Tulip Jazz Band. Long-time TSJS favorite leader/clarinetist returns to TSJS, Haddonfield, NJ

**October 16, 2016 Ben Mauger's Vintage Jazz Band.** They will play Dixieland and other early jazz, Wallingford, PA

#### November 13, 2016 Midiri Brothers Sextet.

Joe and Paul have most recently been seen at TSJS with Neville Dickie, but the twins return to lead their own band. With Paul on vibes, expect mostly swing, Haddonfield, NJ

### January 15, 2017 Barbone Street Jazz Band.

Clarinetist Steve Barbone leads one of the area's best and most experienced Dixieland bands. It has become the busiest trad jazz group in the Delaware Valley, Wallingford, PA

**February 12, 2017 Marty Grosz and the Hot Winds.** Guitarist and raconteur Marty Grosz is a legend of the jazz world. He returns with another edition of his quartet to perform old tunes you may not remember, Haddonfield, NJ

### March 12, 2017 Richard Barnes & the

**Midnight Society Orchestra.** Led by guitarist Richard Barnes, this Philadelphia dance orchestra is dedicated to the preservation of 1920s red-hot jazz from the era of the flappers, Wallingford, PA

**Wallingford:** Concerts are held at the Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Rd; just west of exit 3 of I-495 ("The Blue Route").

**Haddonfield:** Concerts are held at the Haddonfield United Methodist Church, 29 Warwick Rd., just south of Kings Highway; about a ten minute walk from the PATCO train station.

# OTHER JAZZ CONCERTS

PENNSYLVANIA JAZZ SOCIETY www.pajazzsociety.org

(610)-625-4640 Dewey Banquet Hall, 502 Durham Street, Hellertown, PA. Concerts 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. **July 17** Metropolitan Club Orchestra **October 23** Big Band Swing with Bill Warfield

### NEW JERSEY JAZZ SOCIETY

<u>www.njjs.org</u> (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. July 11 Full Count Big Band July 25 Dan Levinson's Midsommer Nights Jazz Party

1867 SANCTUARY AT EWING Scotch Road (Route 611), Ewing Township, NJ August 5 Tribute to Dave Brubeck, 8:00 p.m.

### OCEAN COUNTY COLLEGE

Toms River, NJ 08753

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.

**July 26** David Ostwald's Louis Armstrong Eternity Band

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

www.capemaytraditionaljazzsociety.com

July 10 Al Harrison Dixieland Band

August 14 Atlantic City Jazz Band

#### **TSJS PATRONS 2015-2016**

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

- Jack & Joan Adams
- **Elaine Berkowitz** •
- Walt Brenner •
- Sanford Catz
- Mary Ann & Dr. Charles H. Emely
- Stephen Faha
- Chuck Haggerty & Sarah Burke
  William N. Hoffman
- Richard & Peggy Hughlett
- Chris Jones
- Sheila Larson
- Bob Mackie
- James & Lorraine Maitland
- Mike Mudry
- Janney & Bill Murtha
- Dewaine & Clare Osman
- John Otterson
- DeWitt Peterson
- Bob & Nancy Rawlins
- Dr. Myron É. & Phoebe R. Resnick
- Svlvia Rosenberg
- Jolvne Dalzell & Richard Scarlett
- Jay & Orinda Lou Schultz
- Robert Carr & Barbara Steele
- Anne Uniman
- Jerry & Josephine Yocum

### TSJS SPONSORS 2015-2016

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

- Joan Bauer
- David J. Bender
- John & Susan Bingley
- Jack Boesch
- Louis DePietro
- J. Mervyn & Peg HarrisBill Nixon & Selina Higgins
- Steven Peitzman & Nancy Pontone
- Peggy de Prophetis & Louis Kaplan
- R. Adam Rogers III
- Lynn Ryan
- Bob and Kay Troxell
- Fred Weber

### ABOUT TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sanford Catz, President, 2019, president@tristatejazz.org, webmaster@tristatejazz.org

#### Chris Jones, Vice President, Publications Editor, 2018

Mike Mudry, Treasurer, 2019, treasurer@tristatejazz.org

Bill Hoffman, Music Committee Chairman, Bands Contact, 2017, booking@tristatejazz.org

#### Dewaine Osman, Strutter Editor, 2018

Chic Bach, Sound Coordinator, 2019, sound@tristatejazz.org

Sally Cannon, PA Publicity, Refreshments Manager, 2017

Bob Rawlins, Music Committee, 2017

Nancy Rawlins, Secretary, Publicity Assistant, 2017

Louis Kaplan, Writer, 2018

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Jay Schultz, Membership Chairman

membership@tristatejazz.org

# More Volunteers are listed on our website at:

www.tristatejazz.org/officers.html

### TSJS CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address: PO Box 896, Mount Laurel, NJ. 08054 E-mail: info@tristatejazz.org

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



# Membership Renewal Form For 7/1/2016 to 6/30/2017

#### This form is for renewing members and former members only. New members must use a different form.\* Sponsor\*\* \$50 Patron\*\* \$100 or more Basic Member \$20 Individual Dues: Basic Members \$40 Sponsors\*\* \$70 Patrons\*\* \$120 or more Couple Dues: Email and Newsletter Options: TSJS concert announcements and membership notices Strutter Newsletter by Email (Check all boxes that apply.) Other traditional jazz event notices (not sponsored by TSJS) *Strutter* Newsletter by U.S. Mail (Patrons & Sponsors Only) Mail Delivery: First and Last Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Street City\_\_\_\_\_State\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) E-mail Date Check No. TOTAL PAYMENT <u>\$</u>

### Mail with check payable to Tri-State Jazz Society, Inc., P.O. Box 896, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

\* To obtain a New-Member Application, call the hotline at 856-720-0232 or visit the TSJS website: <u>www.tristatejazz.org/application-to-mail.html</u>.

\*\* If you are a Patron or Sponsor and do **NOT** want your name included in the *Strutter* or our website, check this box:

TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY, INC. P.O. BOX 896 MOUNT LAUREL, NJ 08054

