

### The Strutter

**VOLUME 31 NUMBER 8** 

Traditional Jazz in the Philadelphia Tri-State Area

**April 2021** 

# OUR NEXT CONCERT Domingo Mancuello - Piano Sunday, April 18, 2021 at 2:00 pm A Live Stream Event



Pianist Domingo Mancuello brings ragtime melodies (and more!) to Tri-State Jazz in April. Mancuello has played piano since age 4 and discovered ragtime when his grandfather sang with a barbershop quartet. He has apprenticed at Philadelphia's Walnut Theatre, graduated from the University of the Arts, and worked as production assistant at the Fulton Theatre in Lancaster, while also pursuing his passion for ragtime. He tries to preserve an old tradition while refreshing it for the 21st century. In addition to performing the repertoire, Mancuello is a composer in his own right - his "The Bomba Walk - A Syncopated Frenzy" was included in a 'new piano rag' compilation on Rivermont Records, released in 2019. Watch this streaming concert to hear ragtime, plus obscure (and not so obscure) '20s pop tunes.

Domingo played at the Central PA Ragtime festival:

"Calico Rag"

"Crazy Bones Rag"

You can view the concert on the <u>Tri-State Jazz Society Facebook page</u>, our <u>YouTube channel</u>, or with a Zoom link sent to you in a concert reminder as a subscriber to our newsletter.

Streaming is free, though donations will be gratefully accepted.

- <u>Click here</u> to donate via the Tri-State Jazz Society website.
- You can also <u>upgrade your membership</u> to the premium level (Sponsor, Patron, or Sustainer) to show your support for Tri-State Jazz.
- Consider becoming a <u>new member</u> of the Tri-State Jazz Society with <u>your application here.</u>

## Jon-Erik Kellso and the EarRegulars Live-streamed from Studio 111, Brooklyn, NY Sunday, March 7, 2021 REVIEW by Jim McGann



Jon-Erik Kellso - Puje Trumpet and leader Scott Robinson - Tenor and Bass Saxophones, Tárogató, Eb Cornet Matt Munisteri - Guitar Pat O'Leary - String Bass

The EarRegulars have been one of several bands I, along with many others, wanted to see perform for Tri-State. Since their inception, I have watched several YouTube videos recorded at their home base, The Ear Inn. Its casual atmosphere, along with the ebb and flow of musicians sitting in, made it a pleasant and enjoyable listening experience. This Sunday, Tri-State got its wish, when Jon-Erik Kellso and company performed via live stream from Studio 111 in Brooklyn. Was it worth the wait? The casual atmosphere was there, and Robinson's eccentric collection of instruments on hand is an added bonus, but I left the concert wanting more. The band only played 10 tunes in a little over an hour and a half. That is probably a good thing - some bands I have heard in the past played more than 10 tunes in less time - and I wanted less!! A psychological strategy for music reviewers. Ok, EarRegulars, you win.

The concert began with a light swinging version of "Do You Ever Think Of Me." A unique approach in the first couple of choruses had Kellso, then Robinson on tenor swapping lead roles, before

taking their respective solos. Munisteri's guitar has the feel of Tiny Grimes and other blues players. Kellso's Puje (pronounced "Pudgy") hybrid cornet-trumpet (or trumpet-cornet... whatever) stays mostly in the middle register, and that is enough to make this group swing. Robinson's tenor is a perfect complement to Kellso's trumpet - which can swing with a minimum of range, but can climb outside of the box, and go to town on the horn. Anchoring the whole affair

is bassist
Pat O'Leary,
keeping a
steady
pulse, and
along with
Munisteri,
producing a
rhythmic
swing to



push and drive the horns.

Since Beiderbecke's birthday (March 10th) was around the corner, the EarRegulars performed two tunes associated with the Iowa native. The first, "I'm Coming Virginia," utilized Robinson's tárogató, a Hungarian instrument which looks in appearance like a clarinet but sounds closer to a soprano sax. Its sound was appropriate for the

Trumbauer lead. Kellso demonstrated a Bobby Hackett subtlety - not always similar to Bix but it made the listener realize you do not have to shoot for the fences with high notes or flashy technique to pull out a great solo. The second set's "Singin' The Blues" broke from tradition with Robinson's bass sax taking the lead. Kellso mixed Bix, Berigan and Hackett in his solo, and in the closing choruses, the horns split them, the first with Robinson on bass sax, the second with Robinson switching to Eb cornet, then blending as the Robinson-Conrad-Lewis-Young tune concluded.

A big band hit for Louis Armstrong, "I Double Dare You," featured two solid choruses of Robinson's bass sax, and Kellso, recalled Satchmo's solo on the 1938 recording, while adding some ideas of his



own. "I Surrender,
Dear" was mostly a
feature for Robinson's
tenor, aided by some
reflective Kellso horn.
The set's closer,
"Happy Feet" had
Kellso, rolling and
punching his way
through the middle

register, Munisteri with arguably his best solo of the afternoon, and Robinson taking a chorus on his Eb cornet, then switching to bass sax for the second chorus.

The second set opened with "I'm Sorry I Made You Cry" with none of the participants appearing



apologetic. In fact, it was a party. Robinson began his solo soft, roller smooth; by its conclusion he was shrieking wildly a la Illinois

Jacquet. Kellso, too, was aggressive with short, exclamatory stabbing notes. Munisteri swung mightily, injecting some Christian riffs. With this number opening the set in this fashion, you knew there was more of it coming.

In "Tishomingo Blues," Robinson's soft tenor - the story of a victim being cast out in exile - showed economy in choice of notes and ended with a wail, reminding us that this is the blues. Kellso's plunger mute horn - the authoritative figure showing Robinson the door - reminded this reviewer of King Oliver and the great Ducal "pep" section - Tricky Sam, Cootie, Rex et al - growling all the way. Munisteri is no help at all - his double timing suggests speeding up the process of Robinson's ouster. He is helping getting Robinson's bags packed. By the time Kellso takes the lead in the band's out chorus, the neighbors have gotten involved and make sure they send the tenor out on

the long, lonesome road. End of blues and end of story.

Probably the most avant-garde number of the afternoon was Irving Berlin's "Russian Lullaby." The horns are loud and shrieking, with



Munisteri and O'Leary keeping the chaos under control. Kellso, in particular, not only shrieking but applying half valve effects a la Rex Stewart. Even the trading of fours between Robinson and Kellso was bizarre - interrupted by a trilling frenzy between the two.

And that concluded the concert. It went by all too fast. Hopefully when we are back to a new and better normal, The EarRegulars will return with a longer program. And that will be a good thing.



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

View a recording of this concert, as well as a collection of previous concerts, on the <a href="Tri-State Jazz Society YouTube channel">Tri-State Jazz Society YouTube channel</a>

View the concert and Like Us on our Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/tristateiazz

### This Month in Recorded Jazz History By Jim McGann

**April 5 (1923)** *King Oliver and His Creole Jazz Band* recorded in Richmond, Indiana's **Gennett Studio**. This session is noteworthy for Louis Armstrong's recording debut, as well as his first solo on record.

Joe "King" Oliver - cornet and bandleader, Louis Armstrong - cornets, Honore Dutrey - trombone, Johnny Dodds - clarinet, Lil Hardin - piano, Bill Johnson - banjo, and Warren "Baby" Dodds - drums.

"Just Gone", "Canal Street Blues", "Mandy Lee Blues", "I'm Going Away To Wear You Off My Mind", "Chimes Blues"

April 6 (1940) The second of two Bechet-Spanier Big Four Sessions was recorded for the Hot Record Society.

Sidney Bechet - clarinet and soprano sax, Muggsy Spanier - cornet, Carmen Mastren - guitar, Wellman Braud - string bass.

"If I Could Be With You One Hour Tonight", "That's A Plenty", "Squeeze Me", "Sweet Sue"

**April 18 (1941)** Sidney Bechet recorded one more historical session in April, arguably one of the earliest experimentations in overdubbing, for the Victor label.

Sidney Bechet's One Man Band - clarinet, soprano sax, tenor sax, piano, bass, drums

"The Sheik Of Araby"

**April 21 (1927)** Louis Armstrong and Johnny Dodds performed in a marathon recording session for Brunswick and Vocalion.

Johnny Dodd's Black Bottom Stompers: Dodds - clarinet, Louis Armstrong - cornet, Roy Palmer - trombone, Barney Bigard - tenor sax, Earl Hines - piano, Bud Scott - banjo, Baby Dodds - drums

"Weary Blues", "New Orleans Stomp", "Wild Man Blues", "Melancholy"

April 21 (1927) Johnny Dodds Trio: Dodds - clarinet, Lil Hardin - piano, Bud Scott - banjo

"San", "Oh! Lizzie", "The New St. Louis Blues", "Clarinet Wobble"

**April 21 (1927)** Jimmy Bertrand's Washboard Wizards: Johnny Dodds - clarinet, Louis Armstrong - cornet, Jimmy Blithe - piano, Jimmy Bertrand - washboard

"Easy Come, Easy Go Blues", "The Blues Stampede", "I'm Goin' Huntin'", "If You Want To Be My Sugar Papa (You Gotta Be Sweet To Me)"



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

### Profile: Our Board Members and Volunteers

### Robert J. Robbins Board of Directors - Publicity

I have been a resident of the Philadelphia area for my entire 68 years, having lived in Broomall, Delaware County for all but four of those years. Just over a year ago, I moved into the Springton Lake Village active senior community, which is located off of PA Rt. 252 near the intersection of Newtown Square, Broomall, and Media (my postal address is now Media).

I am a 1970 graduate of Marple-Newtown High School, where my classmate was ragtime pianist and singer Sue Keller, who performed for TSJS at Haddonfield in February, 2018. I then progressed to a B.A. at Villanova University in 1974, and an M.A. in Music History from West Chester University in 1978. Following that, I worked in my family's electronics business, Hi Fi House, Inc., for over three decades, while also publishing a quarterly news magazine, Big Bands International.

My love for music dates back to my early childhood, when my father introduced me to European classical music and Broadway show tunes, in addition to bandleaders such as Benny Goodman, Harry James, and Glenn Miller. I also spent many hours over a dozen years viewing Leonard Bernstein's New York Philharmonic Young People's Concerts on TV. During the same time frame, I also became acquainted with traditional jazz, which ultimately led me to TSJS, whose concerts I have attended for nearly two decades. I have worked on publicity for TSJS since 2014, and this draws on my vast experience writing musical criticism since my college years, I still have a 1938 Steinway S-series baby grand which my grandfather had purchased for my mother's ninth birthday (this is the same vintage that was owned by George Gershwin and Richard Rodgers).

Besides music, I enjoy travel, and I have been to France, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, The Netherlands, Mexico, the Caribbean, and the United Kingdom (England and Scotland) numerous times. Within the USA, I have been to New York City, Boston, Baltimore, Washington, D.C., Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Orlando, Chicago, New Orleans, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

I also enjoy theater, both musical and non-musical.

#### **AREA JAZZ**

#### Pennsylvania Jazz Society

Sunday, June 13, 2021 Danny Tobias and Band

Sunday, July 25, 2021

Drew Nugent - The Midnight Society

Sunday, September 12, 2021
Glenn Crytzer Quartet

Sunday, October 10, 2021

The Jazz Lobsters Big Band

Sunday, November 21, 2021

Jam Session

Events will be held from 2 to 4:30pm

#### **Dewey Hall**

502 Durham Street, Hellertown, PA 18055

First timers \$15
PJS members admission fee \$15
Non-PJS members \$20
Children always free
Cash or check – no credit cards

Questions? Phone (610) 625-4640 pajazzsociety.org

### The Potomac River Jazz Club PRJC Discussion: The Piano Music & Professors of Storyville

Featuring New Orleans based pianist Kris Tokarski

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 7pm on Zoom

Free! Advanced registration required by 5pm on day of event. Register here Pric.org

### CONCERT SCHEDULE Sundays from 2:00 to 4:30 pm

Visit our <u>Tri-State Jazz Society website</u> for up-tothe-minute news about schedule and concert changes, or call our Hotline at (856) 720-0232.

5/16/21 Online Event (Maybe LIVE in Wallingford)	Midnight Society Orchestra  Drew Nugent and his Midnight Society return, after being cancelled in June, 2020. Maybe LIVE – OUT-DOORS! at Wallingford CAC, In addition to the web – check the TSJS website for updates.	
6/20/21 Online Event (Maybe LIVE in Wallingford)	Ben Mauger's Vintage Jazz Band Ben and the band return with more of those good ole tunes from the 1920s and '30s, as well as the Swing- NYC-style revival jazz. We hope LIVE – OUTDOORS – at Wallingford CAC, in addition to the web – check the TSJS website for updates.	
7/11/21	TBD - watch this space!! Check the TSJS website for updates.	
8/22/21	The Red Hot Ramblers Larry Toft and the Red Hot Ramblers return! Bumped from their November 2020 slot, they are roaring back now. We hope for a live outdoor concert, and there's still the web alternative.	
9/19/21	Adam Swanson - Ragtime and Early Jazz Pianist Adam, who first performed for Tri-State in 2015 while a student at the Peabody Conservatory, returns as a seasoned veteran of ragtime festivals and winner of many competitions. Adam was originally on our March 2020 schedule.	
10/31/21	TBD - watch this space!! Check the TSJS website for updates.	
11/21/2021	TBD - watch this space!! Check the TSJS website for updates.	
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**Streaming concerts** can be viewed on the <u>Tri-State Jazz Society</u>
<u>Facebook page</u>, our <u>YouTube channel</u>, or with a Zoom link sent to you in a concert reminder.

**Wallingford** concerts are held at the Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford, PA 19086; one mile from Exit 3 of I-476 ("The Blue Route"). Located between Media and Swarthmore. Directions at <a href="https://www.tristatejazz.org/directions-cac.pdf">www.tristatejazz.org/directions-cac.pdf</a>

**Haddonfield** concerts are held at the Haddonfield United Methodist Church, 29 Warwick Rd., Haddonfield, NJ 08033; just south of Kings Highway near the center of town; two blocks from the PATCO station. Directions at www.tristatejazz.org/directions-haddonfield.pdf



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 may request mail delivery of The Strutter at no extra charge. They are also eligible to attend an annual reception for Sponsors, Patrons and Sustainers. Dues and donations may be tax deductible under IRS Section 501(c)(3).

Would you like to do more to support the Society in its efforts to preserve and promote traditional jazz? Join at the **Sustainer, Patron**, or **Sponsor** level. These premier level memberships, specially recognized by the TSJS, are eligible for invitation to special events.

Visit our website for more details:

New Member application

Upgrade your membership to the

Sustainer, Patron, or Sponsor level with a donation.

#### **TSJS SUSTAINERS**

Very Special - \$200 or more, \$220 couples

- Walter Brenner
- Sanford Catz
- William N. Hoffman
- Richard & Peggy Hughlett
- Amy Galer & Chris Jones
- Bob Mackie
- DeWitt Peterson
- Sylvia Rosenberg
- Jay & Orinda Lou Schultz

#### **TSJS PATRONS**

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

- David Gray & Susanne Abplanalp
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- Mike Mudry
- Nancy Pontone & Steven Peitzman
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- R. Adam Rogers III
- Sam Sokolik
- Naomi & Harvey Spector
- Natalie Sturr
- Bill & Joan Vogel
- Susan Westover
- Jerry & Josephine Yocum

#### **TSJS SPONSORS**

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

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- Tim Bell
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- Michael Friedman
- Bruce M. Gast
- Gerald Carter & Janet S. Graehling
- Carl Meister Jr. & Linda Hickman
- John H. Hoover
- PJ Ingram
- Roger Jacobs
- Peggy de Prophetis & Louis Kaplan
- Joe Havasy & Marian Konop
- Patricia Madison
- Michael Olderman
- Michael Prince & Carol Otte
- Terence W. Rave
- Mark Raymond
- Rich Troyan
- Constance & Donald Windus

### TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sanford Catz. President. 2022

Bill Hoffman, Vice President, 2022, Music Advisory Committee

**Chairman, Bands Contact** 

Steven Peitzman, Secretary, Programs Editor, 2022

Robert Lowe, Treasurer, 2022

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Chris Jones, Photo Editor, Admissions, 2021

Chic Bach, Sound Coordinator, 2022

Sally Cannon, Refreshments Manager, 2021

Bob Rawlins, Music Advisory Committee, 2021

Robert Robbins, Publicity, 2021

Joe Bullock, 2021

Marian Konop, The Strutter Editor, 2022

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

Email: https://tristatejazz.org//email-the-staff.html

**Hotline Phone for updated concert information:** 

(856) 720-0232

### Online Membership Enrollment and Renewal Now Available!

Online enrollment and renewal now works with PayPal. Make credit card payments using PayPal's secure website, accessed directly from our Tri-State Jazz Society website.

New Members: <u>tristatejazz.org//new-member-application.html</u>

Renewal: tristatejazz.org//renewal-form.html

Complete the contact information entry, then click Submit Form to access the PayPal site and complete the payment transaction. You do not need to be a PayPal member to use this service.

#### THE STRUTTER IS ON THE WEB

Current and back issues of The Strutter are on the Tri-State Jazz Society website. The Strutter archives cover over ten years of back issues listing all the bands and soloists who performed during that period.

Read the back issues at:

www.tristatejazz.org/strutter-archives.html



#### **Membership Form**

Basic Dues:	☐ Individual \$20	Couple \$40
Sponsor Dues:	☐ Individual \$50	Couple \$70
Patron Dues:	☐ Individual \$100	Couple \$120
Sustainer Dues:	☐ Individual \$200 or more	Couple \$220 or more
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