

FROM THE CHAIR

Summer offers so many opportunities for doing fun things, and, as the old Gershwin song says, the living can be easy. Unfortunately, the summer of 2012 has not been so much fun for many people. Take the East Coast, with record-breaking high temperatures and that everlasting humidity. Or the Midwest, with the worst drought since the 1930's—even the mighty Mississippi isn't rolling along too well. Tough going for those folks. All this while here on the Midpeninsula we've had one day after another of lovely sun and moderate temperatures. Makes one wonder why every jazz friend one might have from those areas didn't come to visit—not only for the weather but also because we had so many great gigs on offer. I couldn't get to all the options, but I did make it to a number of Stanford Jazz Workshop concerts, plus events at Stanford Shopping Center, Town & Country in Palo Alto, as well as some in Redwood City. I couldn't make it to the San Jose Festival, but from all accounts they offered an attractive broad program of jazz talent. Were we ever fortunate to have cool weather and Hot Jazz.

You may recall that PAJA provided support for student scholarships attending SJW. In appreciation, Jimmy Nadel and Development Director Maggie Andrews arranged for the Board to have another backstage visit to the SJW day program, ably conducted by Maggie. It was most impressive, to say the least. I also went to one of the evenings where the campers performed. It was exciting and great fun to see the enthusiasm—and talent—coming from these kids. Our investments in SJW are well spent. We also contributed to the San Jose Jazz Summer Camp, and I'm sorry I couldn't get to that camp as well, but I know that it too generated great excitement among the next generation of lovers of jazz.

Another summer joy was being there when Herb Wong made a presentation to the Community School of Music and Arts of what I like to call The PAJA Drum Set. It was broken in by a drum student named Kevin Murray who is about 12 years old. He got right into it, along with some adults

who came by for a Sunday afternoon jam. This was a different kind of investment for PAJA, and it is certain to be beneficial to the CSMA jazz program. Thanks to Ben Deovlet, John Neves, Carmen Cansino and Marty Honda for setting all this up for PAJA.

Speaking of the Community School, we hope to see you at the Free Member Party there on Sunday, September 9 (details below). Do come by and hear some live music, meet old friends, find new fellow lovers of jazz, enjoy some libations and toast the end of a beautiful summer. We are dedicating this party to the memory of Phil Sorenson, longtime PAJA board member who, for many years, provided invaluable support to our operation. He maintained membership information on his somewhat antiquated computer and played a key role in the editing and production of this newsletter. He will be missed, yet he'll be with us in spirit since he loved jazz (especially when a party was included).

In continued appreciation of your support,

C. Stuart Brewster, Chair



Andy Nozicka

Stars in Alignment: When three jazz heavyweights get together at a venue as small as Saratoga's Studio Pink House, it's news. It's Christian Tamburr on vibes and Dominick Farinacci on trumpet, and the fellow at the piano in the hat is... "special guest" Taylor Eigsti. Bassist John Shifflett and drummer Greg Wyser-Pratte completed the group at this August 6 gig. Don't you wish you'd been there?

COME TO THE FREE MEMBER PARTY

Sunday afternoon, 3-5pm, September 9, at the Community School of Music and Arts in Mountain View (CSMA)—those are the important details. It's PAJA's annual free member party, and all members are invited. In fact, if you'd like to bring a jazz friend or friends—we'll be happy to accommodate them.

The music will be supplied by a great local foursome: **Wendy McCain** on vocals, her husband **Seward McCain** on bass, the peerless **Rick Vandivier** on guitar, and **Jim Zimmerman** on drums.

Both Wendy and Seward have been long-time Stanford Jazz Workshop faculty members. Wendy's own vocal students have won prizes at the annual Downbeat Competition for the last seven years running. She made her professional singing debut at age 12. Seward has played with Vince Guaraldi, Mark Murphy, Cleo Laine, Dianne Schuur, Mose Allison and many others. He is also on the faculty of the Jazz School in Berkeley and Jazz Camp West in LaHonda.

Rick Vandivier is well known to PAJA members, having recently performed at PAJA's Richie Cole's Alto Madness concert in May. His current project is Primary Colors (with singer Nate Pruitt) and they have done several gigs locally in recent months. Rick teaches guitar at his alma mater, San Jose State. Drummer Jim Zimmerman is a local veteran who has played with Vince Guaraldi, Cleo Laine, Toots Thielmans, Joe Williams, Gerry Mulligan, Art Pepper, and many more. For some years he was staff percussionist at the Circle Star Theater, where he backed the likes of Frank Sinatra and Tony Bennett.

So, come and enjoy the music, meet like-minded jazz fans, and join us for complimentary snacks and beverages. A great opportunity to see old friends and make new ones—all folks with a common interest in the music we love.

CSMA (Finn Center) is located at 230 San Antonio Circle, near the intersection of California Avenue and San Antonio Road in Mountain View. Remember—Sunday afternoon, 3-5pm, September 9. See you there. (While there you can see the spanking new drum set PAJA just donated to the CSMA jazz program.)

ON THE SITE

Check out PAJA's website. You'll find photos by ace photographer Andy Nozaka from the San Jose Jazz Festival (See "Photo Gallery"). There's also a terrific article by Eric Felten ("Listen to Your Listeners") from the *Wall Street Journal* in "Reviews," admonishing jazz artists that they should pay more attention to their audiences.

VINYL NOSTALGIA

Man For All Seasons Andy Nozaka pointed out this piece from Dwight Gardner in the *New York Times*, quoting a record shop owner on today's iPod generation: "They will never know the joy of flicking through a rack of records, being captivated by cover artwork and reading the sleeve notes. Of getting the record home, sliding it reverentially out of its cover and then out of its inner sleeve, marveling at the luster of the grooves. The sacrificial offering onto the altar of the turntable, the gentle penetration of the spindle, the lowering of the arm and the total bliss of being part of an actual performance that you have helped to complete. This baptismal immersion into sonic joy will never leave you. The day you bought the record, where you were, what you were wearing and who was in your heart, will be etched into your soul, as well defined as the grooves that are pressed into your record."

NOVEMBER 11 JAZZ PARTY IN THE WORKS

A wonderful afternoon of sizzling gypsy jazz is planned for PAJA members and other fans at the Palo Alto Elks Club. The featured group is the Quartet of the Hot Club of San Francisco, leading practitioners of the Parisian jazz of the 30s and 40s a la Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli. The quartet includes violin, lead guitar, bass, and vocalist/rhythm guitar—sounds that will have you toe-tapping from beginning to end. This PAJA event—a Bruce Powell Jazz Party—will all come off on Sunday afternoon, November 11, at the Palo Alto Elks Club on El Camino Real. So mark your calendar now. A special post-concert dinner and program is also being planned. Stay tuned for full details—on the PAJA web site, and via the mail.



The Quartet of the Hot Club of San Francisco

WISDOM FROM KEN PELOWSKI FOR YOUNG JAZZ MUSICIANS

Ken, one of our music's great reedmen, had this to say in a recent *Jazz Insider* interview with Eric Nemeyer: "I always tell students that the idea is to take what you like from whoever you like, but eventually you've got to forge your own style. Think about it—the reason you like an

artist is because they have their own persona, so it would be a great disservice to both of you to adopt that persona. The greatest gift one could pay an inspiration would be to effectively say, 'Thanks for giving me the spark—now here is what I've done with it.'...The main pitfall to avoid is not to let life get you down, to draw on anything positive you can to keep you going, to keep you creating. . . You're doing this not only because you want to, but be-

cause you have to, and your rewards may not come for a while, or they may come in unexpected ways somewhere down the line. Remember, you've got to please yourself first and foremost as an artist, and be as true to yourself as you can. Somebody, somewhere, will eventually 'get it,' and if they don't, is a flower any less beautiful because one hasn't noticed it? No."

COMING TO THE CLUBS...AND MONTEREY

Summer's over and we return to the normal club schedule. Some exciting music is on the docket.

55th Annual Monterey Jazz Festival. Monterey Fairgrounds.

9/21-23 Headliners include Tony Bennett, Esperanza Spalding, Jack DeJohnette, Gordon Goodwin Big Phat Band, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Ambrose Akinmusire, Benny Green, many more.

Bach's Dancing & Dynamite Society. The fabulous Pete Douglas Beach House in El Granada has great gigs Sunday afternoons at 4:30. No better venue for jazz.

9/23 Cal Tjader tribute, directed by Michael Wolff, with Pete Escovedo, John Santos, Vince Lateano, et al.

9/30 Larry Vuckovich International Quintet, with Rob Roth, Jeff Chambers, Chuck McPherson, Ilya Lushtak.

Kuumbwa Jazz Center, Cedar St., Santa Cruz. It's a trek from the Bay Area, but well worth the trip.

9/14	Larry Carlton Quartet	7pm
9/17	John Scofield Trio	7pm
9/27	Erik Jekabson Plays Chet Baker	7pm
10/8	Kurt Elling	7 and 9 pm
10/22	Eliane Elias	7 and 9 pm
10/25	Bill Charlap Trio	7pm

Yoshi's, San Francisco. 1330 Fillmore

9/18	Turtle Island Quartet, with Tierney Sutton
9/25	Cal Tjader tribute, dir. by Michael Wolff
9/26-27	Paula West
10/10	Kurt Elling

Yoshi's, Oakland. Jack London Square

9/14-15	John Schofield Trio
10/11-12	Archie Shepp
10/25-26	Ron Carter Quartet, w/ Renee Rosnes

Montalvo Arts Center, Los Gatos

10/4	Joe Jackson and the Bigger Band, featuring Regina Carter 7pm
10/13	Delfeayo Marsalis Octet (music of Duke Ellington) 8pm

San Jose Jazz

9/19, 10/3, 10/17	Jazz jam at the Hedley Club, DeAnza Hotel 7:30pm
9/19	US Air Force Commanders Jazz Combo, Lobby Lounge, Fairmont Hotel
10/10	Mimi Fox at the Hedley Club, DeAnza Hotel 7:30pm

