

May 2013

PO BOX 60397, PALO ALTO, CA 94306

Ed Fox, Editor

FROM THE CHAIR

So, another fiscal year draws to a close for PAJA on June 30. Where does the time go? A few comments seem in order.

We're happy to report that we continue to be financially solvent and we were still able to make donations and grants in support of jazz education as well as present outstanding concerts for your enjoyment.

For more than ten years we have provided support for the In Concert program created by the Foundation for the Fine and Performing Arts in association with the San Mateo Union High School District. Our donation covers the cost for the leader of the jazz ensemble, an all-star group drawn from the six high schools



Doug Leibinger

in the district with music programs. The guest director for this year's 18-member ensemble was Professor Doug Leibinger from Sonoma State University. PAJA was recognized by district superintendant Scott Laurence, and a reproduction of our color poster was on the back cover of the program.

We have made contributions once again to the Stanford Jazz Workshop that will help underwrite a number of student scholarships this summer. And we expect to aid San Jose Jazz in their summer education program efforts.

PAJA isn't exactly a major player in the grant/donation game. But thanks to our members and their support and generosity, we are able to do our bit. Further, we get to see the impact since the recipients are in our local communities.

Those of you who attended the Taylor Eigsti concert in February will recall saxophonist Dayna Stephens. You might also recall that in the November 2011 *Buff* we mentioned Dayna's serious kidney illness. His condition now requires daily dialysis. The PAJA Board concluded it was appropriate to help this accomplished artist and educator pay his mounting bills.

FLASH: Mark your calendar for Sunday afternoon, October 6, when we'll hold our annual free member party.

We'll be back at the newly renovated Palo Alto Art Center on Newell. We hope to see you there.

All the best for a joyful summer. The Stanford Festival schedule has just been announced. Between that wonderful festival and the many other local jazz series and events, you'll have lots of opportunity to experience the music we love.

In appreciation, C. Stuart Brewster, Chair

JAZZ ON THE HILL RETURNS JUNE 1

After a nine-year hiatus, KCSM's Jazz On The Hill returns with a bang on Saturday, June 1. Among the participating musicians will be Charlie Musselwhite, Taylor Eigsti, the Hot Club of San Francisco, and the Jazz Mafia. The event is free to the public and the venue is the lower mezzanine in front of the library steps on the College of San Mateo campus. There will be seating on the mezzanine, plus plenty of lawn seating (bring blankets, picnic lunch, etc. and come early to get a spot!). There will be several food vendors on hand to feed the hungry. More than 5000 fans are expected. For more information, directions, etc., check out www.jazzonthehill.org.

VUCKOVICH, KOSTOPOULOS AND STRAYHORN

We urge you to log on to http://youtu.be/yykOtTOUyYg and be transported by a lovely collaboration between vocalist Kay Kostopoulos and pianist Larry Vuckovich on Strayhorn's "A Flower is a Lovesome Thing." It showed up in my e-mail one morning, and it made my day. I played it over and over—just exquisite work from both Larry and Kay on one of Billy Strayhorn's most haunting inventions. The music video shows them in the studio, and has lots of beautiful floral images from Filoli Gardens. As Herb Wong would say: "Dig it!" /Ed Fox

LOCAL JAZZ SERIES THIS SUMMER

Jazz On The Plazz in Los Gatos has an interesting lineup this year, vocalists Kenny Washington (July 17) and Stacy Kent (August 14) looking to be the standout events. The



Kay Kostopoulos

Monterey Jazz Festival County HS All-Stars play on August 21. The series takes place at the Los Gatos Town Plaza (Main and Santa Cruz) and runs Wednesday evenings, June 26 to August 28. The performances are free, but if you really want to hear the artists, buying a seat is recommended. Otherwise you'll be awash in suburban chitchat. www.jazzontheplazz.com

Jazz At Filoli has an intriguing list this year, starting with singer Gregory Porter on June 16. Clairdee and Ken Peplowski appear together on June 30. On July 14, it's the Judy Carmichael Trio, with Harry Allen and Chris Flory. Le Jazz Hot follows on July 28, Marcos Silva on August 11, and the Brubeck Brothers Quartet on August 25. These are Sunday afternoon outdoor concerts (under umbrellas). Bring your own picnic goodies. www.filoli.org/special-events-and-exhibits/jazz-at-filoli.html.

No information yet at this writing on SF Jazz Summerfest at Stanford Shopping Center, Redwood City's Jazz on Main, or Sunnyvale Downtown: Jazz and Beyond.

MONTEREY LINEUP ANNOUNCED

This year's Monterey Festival, September 20-22, as usual has wall-to-wall jazz headliners, including Diana Krall, Wayne Shorter, Bobby McFerrin, the Clayton-Hamilton Orchestra, George Benson, Joe Lovano and Dave Douglas, and many more. Arena and Grounds packages go on sale May 21. Single day tickets on sale July 8. Lovano serves a this year's artist-in-residence; Douglas is the showcase



Wayne Shorter at Stanford Festival

artist. Five hundred musicians will perform during the weekend in 90 performances on eight stages. For full information: www.montereyjazzfestival.org.

STANFORD FESTIVAL

Herbie Hancock opens the 2013 Stanford Jazz Festival on June 22 (and Chucho Valdez closes it on August 10). But before the Hancock kickoff, there are a couple of preliminary events: Kitty Margolis at the Oshman JCC at 7:30pm on June 17 (\$22 for non-SJW members) and the SJW Faculty All-Stars play at Stanford Shopping Center on June 21 (free). Tickets go on sale this month for the month-anda-half-long festival. www.stanfordjazz.org

BAKER PLAQUE

If you're ever in Amsterdam, you'll find this plaque on the wall outside the Prince Hendrik Hotel (directly across the square from the main train station). The plaque reads: "Trumpet player and singer CHET BAKER died here on May 13th, 1988. He will live on in his music for anyone willing to listen and feel."



It was at the Prince Hendrik Hotel that Baker suffered his fatal defenestration.

FROM DRUMMER LEWIS NASH

(Who ran track and played football in high school)

"Often as an athlete you might be tired, but you may have to explode through this one play that requires speed and precision or power. The same thing happens when playing the drums; it's a physical thing. Often I will have this mindset of urgency, like I have to make sure that the rhythmic propulsion that I'm providing for the group remains constant and intense. Even if it's not loud, even if I'm not playing a lot of notes, it has to have intensity. I keep that sense of intensity even when I play a ballad." From "Lewis Nash: Connecting To The Source," by Ken Micallef in *DownBeat*, March 2013.

For anyone who finds himself in Phoenix, Arizona, make sure to drop by the country's newest stand-alone jazz venue, The Nash (named for Phoenix-born Lewis Nash), which opened this March. It's an education and perfor-

THE JAZZ PERISCOPE

There's nothing like actually being there...seeing and hearing jazz live and on the spot. Here are some upcoming Bay Area gigs that you might consider:

YOSHI'S, OAKLAND

June 27-28 Benny Green Trio (with David Wong & Kenny Washington)

YOSHI'S, SAN FRANCISCO

105HI 5, SAN FRANCISCO				
May 7	Kenny Garrett Quartet			
May 15	Hot Club of Detroit, with Cyrille Aimee			
May 21	Mads Tolling Quartet (CD release show/Ponty tribute)			
June 23	Pat Martino organ trio			
June 25-26	Jimmy Cobb's So What Band (Davis's Kind of Blue tribute)			
June 28	Chuchito Valdes Latin Jazz Band			

BACH'S DANCING & DYNAMITE SOCIETY, EL GRANADA (Pete Douglas Beach House)

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May 12	Kathy Kosins—Mothers	Day tribute to O'Day (Phristip Conno	r London) \$35
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Aug. 18 Advance notice: Eliane Elias and Her Cool Band \$40

KUUMBWA JAZZ CENTER, SANTA CRUZ

Jason Moran & the Bandwagon
The Seasons Guitar Quartet (Anthony Wilson, Julian Lage, Chico Pinheiro, Larry Koonse)
Vocalist Gregory Porter 7pm
Benny Green Trio 7pm
Madeleine Peyroux 7:30pm

SAN FRANCISCO JAZZ CENTER

Regina Carter: Southern Comfort 7:30pm
Bela Fleck 7:30pm
Dianne Reeves 7:30pm
Ahmad Jamal 8:30pm (Davies)
Bob James & David Sanborn 8pm
Gregory Porter 8pm
Anton Schwartz 5pm (Church of the Advent)
Gerald Clayton Trio, etc. 8pm

STANFORD JAZZ FESTIVAL

June 17	Kitty Margolis (Oshman JCC) 7:30pm \$22
June 21	SJW Faculty All-Stars (Stanford Shopping Center) Free
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June 22 Herbie Hancock—Festival opening



Kitty Margolis at Oshman JCC on June 17

SAN JOSE JAZZ (All events free)

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May 8	Kristen Strom Quartet (Lou's Village) 9-11pm
May 17	San Jose Jazz HS All-Stars (San Pedro Sq. Mkt.) 7-9pm
June 5, 19	Jazz Jam at the Hedly (De Anza Hotel)
June 12	Joshua Breakstone Trio (Lou's Village) 9-11pm
June 14	Ugetsu Project, with Anton Schwartz, Mike Olmos, et al. (San Pedro Sq. Mkt.) 7pm

KCSM'S JAZZ ON THE HILL, College of San Mateo

June 1 A free all-day jazz event, featuring such artists as Taylor Eigsti and Charlie Musselwhite. www.jazzonthehill.org

OSHMAN FAMILY JCC, Palo Alto (3921 Fabian Way)

May 21 Vocalist Deborah Rosengaus, with Jeff Sanford Jazz Quartet. Broadway hits. Noon. Includes lunch for \$15. mance center for jazz, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, located in the downtown arts district. www.TheNash. com.

BASSIST BILL CROW ON BENNY GOODMAN

Crow traveled with the Goodman band during a State Deptsponsored tour of Russia in 1962. The complete article, "To Russia, Without Love," is available on Crow's website: www.billcrowbass.com

He [Goodman] once fired a bass player in New York after their plane had just made a stop in Washington, where the guy lived. And when Helen Ward, rehearsing at his house in Connecticut, complained that the room was cold, Benny said, "You're right," left the room for a minute, and returned wearing a heavy sweater, ready to continue the rehearsal. I have heard people attribute this sort of thing to his "absent-mindedness," but I think the truth is, he just didn't give a damn about anybody but himself." From The Note, Winter/Spring 2012.

TEDDY WILSON ON GOODMAN

On the same Russian tour, as reported by Bill Crow

"The man is the same today as he was in 1936... You just have to learn to ask for enough money to make it worth your while." I laughed. "Man, your price must really be up there by this time! Why do you keep taking jobs with him?" Teddy smiled. "I have a lot of alimony to pay," he said. "Also, these jobs allow me to play with a class of musician I can't afford to hire myself."

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