Jack Kleinsinger Presents
Highlights in Jazz!

Wed., Sept. 22, 8:00 P.M.

Jelly Roll, Joplin,
James P. & others

Performed by

Dick Hyman

with

Pee Wee Erwin, Bob Wilber,
Milt Hinton, Bob Rosengarden,
and Carrie Smith

NYU Loeb Student Center  Eisner and Lubin Auditorium
566 La Guardia Place at Washington Sq. South
Telephone: 598-3757

Tickets: $5.00  Students: $4.00  Student Balcony: $2.50
Tickets at box office or by mail order
Make checks payable to: New York University
include stamped self-addressed envelope
Old Jazz Stars Brought to Mind
By Dick Hyman

Scott Joplin, Jelly Roll Morton and even James P. Johnson have become such standard sources for contemporary jazz traditionalists that a program called "Jelly Roll, Joplin and James P." which starred the fifth year of Jack Kleininger's "Highlight in Jazz" series on Wednesday evening at New York University's Loeb Center Auditorium, seems to suggest a pleasant but unadventurous concert.

But with Dick Hyman in charge and at the piano, with a band consisting of Pee Wee Erwin, trumpet; Vic Dickinson, trombone; Johnny Mince, clarinet; Milt Hinton, bass, and Bobby Rosengarden, drums, it was a stimulating and often revealing experience.

Some of the revelations came from Mr. Hyman's exploration of Joplin pieces that have not been taken up by the jazz or pop worlds. "Aunt Dinah Done Blow De Horn" from "Treemonishia" combined the warmth of a New Orleans blues in Mr. Mince's low-register clarinet with a bright, swinging ensemble, while Mr. Hyman's adaptation of "Holotrope Bouquet" for an ensemble featuring Mr. Mince on alto saxophone was an interesting idea that missed only because it needed more rehearsal.

Mr. Hyman's versatility was constantly in evidence, sometimes in unexpected ways, when he played Mr. Johnson's "Old Fashioned Love" as though he had Art Tatum in mind, at other times capturing the stylistic essence of both Mr. Johnson and Mr. Morton. But the most consistently entertaining member of the group was Mr. Mince, whose clarinet added a bubbling sense of joy to all the ensembles.

Carrie Smith joined the band to sing several numbers that were enhanced by the appropriately colorful backing of Vic Dickinson's gently growing trombone.

John S. Wilson

Jazz

Jack Kleininger's "Highlight in Jazz" is by now a venerable institution, in New York jazz terms of fast living. Mr. Kleininger's concerts are back for a fourth season at New York University's Loeb Student Center, starting tonight at 8. The show, in the Eisner and Lubin Auditorium, 566 La Guardia Place and Washington Place, will consist of a special tribute to such as Jelly Roll Morton, Scott Joplin, James P. Johnson and others who are gone but are remembered.

Conducting the jazzy tributes will be Dick Hyman on piano, Pee Wee Erwin on trumpet, Milt Hinton on bass, Bob Rosengarden on drums, Vic Dickinson on trombone, Johnny Mince on clarinet and Carrie Smith in full voice. Admission: $5; students, $4 ($2.50 in balcony).

Richard F. Shepard

In and Around Town
A Critical Guide to Entertainment in the New York Area

Concerts
CONCERTS, OPERA, DANCE, MUSEUMS EDITED BY GERARD KAVANAGH

Wednesday, September 22

HIGHLIGHTS IN JAZZ
Richard Hyman, pianist extraordinaire, performs the music of Scott Joplin, Jelly Roll Morton, James P. Johnson, and other contributors to the American jazz scene September 21 at 8 in the NYU Loeb Center (566 La Guardia Pl.). Also appearing at the tribute will be Pee Wee Erwin, Bob Rosengarden and Milt Hinton (566-3757).

DAILY NEWS, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1976

J, as in jazz
Music/By A.H. TANNENBAUM

IN THE alphabet of jazz, J is a heavy letter. For openers, there are Scott Joplin, Jelly Roll Morton and James P. Johnson—giants all and assuredly fit subjects for a pocket-sized tribute, which is what they were accorded at the inaugural concert of Jack Kleininger's 5th season of "Highlights in Jazz" at the NYU Loeb Student Center, Wednesday night.

The pianist Dick Hyman, a man of many parts but not always a whole, directed the music machine that boosted Pee Wee Erwin, trumpet; Johnny Mince, clarinet; Vic Dickinson, trombone; Milt Hinton, bass; Bob Rosengarden, drums. Hyman's arrangement of Joplin's "Aunt Dinah," the hit tune from "Treemonisha," was a fresh delight with Mince cutting the ensemble like a liquid laser. They missed on "Jelly Roll Blues" because it was taken too fast and the subtle melodies evaporated. But two James P. piano gems, "Carolina Shout" and "Carolina Balamor," deftly scored by Hyman made it big.

Carrie Smith, an unaccountably unappreciated singer, belted out a bundle of blues and golden-oldie pop tunes.

Hyman opened the second half with a short recital of Jelly Roll, James P. and Joplin classics. He has virtuoso technique, a consummate concept and marvelous musicianship, but alas, he does not swing. This is a Best Buy series.
Dick Hyman: Homo Ludens

By Gary Giddins

The other night I attended a pretty good concert at which six musicians played the music of Jelly Roll Morton, James P. Johnson, and Scott Joplin. Enough between-numbers information was disseminated to keep you comfortably knowledgeable about the material, but there were no hand-wringing testimonials to the hardships of transcribing distant notes on worn 78s, no declarations of purity. Of course, a good deal of scholarship was explicit in the arrangements and performances, but for once, instead of feeling like an undergraduate observing white mice learning how to push levers, I felt as if I was hearing engaging, unpretentious interpretations of three valuable composers. It was Dick Hyman's show and he was less intent on recreating the past than playing with it. Homo ludens and all that jazz.

Transcription has so dominated the present rediscovery of early jazz and pop styles that the true sense of discovery vital to any successful jazz performance is frequently lost beneath the layers of archaeological excavations. I think Hyman is attempting a more useful synthesis, one which achieves authenticity without rejecting the spirit of a musical tradition based on improvisation. His performance this week, in the Highlights of Jazz series, was considerably looser than his recordings (with the exception of Joplin, where his playing was a little stiffer than on the RCA set), but even his albums demonstrate a wit and freshness that avoid academicism.

The biggest problem with his Jelly Roll Morton album is the packaging. The pretentiousness of the Columbia Masterworks seal and the language of the credits suggest that it is a counterfeit of old records by a faceless transcriber named Dick Hyman, presumably for the benefit of those who can't listen to recorded music unless it is stereophonic. By that standard, it must be accounted a failure. But Hyman was not cowed by Masterworks, and chose instead an interpretive path very much within Morton's tradition. He has pored through Morton recordings, piano rolls, and sheet music with an agile perspective on American music and has come up with an entirely unique Morton record. Similarly, his performance of "Snowy Morning Blues" on Columbia's James P. Johnson disc bears the same relation to the original as, say, Miles Davis's "Round Midnight" does to Thelonious Monk's. Hyman's role as an interpreter of styles carries a stigma in jazz—the tradition tends to measure artistry purely in terms of innovation; if a jazz Horowitz who could sightread Tatum scores came along, he would be greeted as warmly as Jose Iturbi—but he brings a sprightly, deferential eye to the music of Morton and Johnson. He doesn't attempt to forge masterpieces, but to bring them back into the living repertoire.

Dick Hyman: interpreting some great composers, that's all.
Must Be Jelly Roll, Jam Don't Shake Like That

BY ED WATKINS

Duke Ellington once said Jelly Roll Morton had talent—for talking about himself. That he also had talent plus in music was demonstrated in the opening concert recently at the “Highlights in Jazz” concert at NYU.

The show was billed as "Jelly Roll, Joplin, James P. & Others" and if there was more Jelly Roll than the others it was understandable. Dick Hyman, the terrific pianist, arranger and MC, has done marvelous work transcribing and performing the works of Ferdinand "Jelly Roll" Morton at Carnegie Hall and on records. He also recently made a five-record set of The Complete Works for Piano of Scott Joplin (and what a wonder that is). So Joplin really didn't get short shrift; instead we were spared the more familiar numbers and given some less know beauties of his, including one from "Treemonisha."

James P. Johnson, that great gentleman who composed and played piano so well, has also had his music arranged, conducted and performed by Dick Hyman and some superlative musicians on a recent album called "Charleston." If you rush out and buy all three recordings of the Three J's, you'll be doing yourself a favor and you'll also be sorry if you missed this all star NYU concert.

Johnny Mince was a standout on clarinet, Pee Wee Erwin on trumpet, Milt Hinton on bass, Bob Rosengarden on drums, Dick Hyman (of course) on piano, and Vic Dickenson, not only growling on a hot trombone but rapping away lyrically with the vocal artists of the evening, Carrie Smith. And an artist she truly is, with that beautiful deep voice, great phrasing and sense of humor, plus the way she moves—well, it must be Jelly 'cause jam don't shake like that.

Actually Carrie concentrated mostly on the "Others" mentioned in the program—Fats Waller's lively rhymin' "Honey Suckle Rose," the recently departed and deeply mourned Johnny Mercer and his "Blues in the Night," Hoagy Carmichael's "Rockin' Chair" which she could momentarily dispassionate those fond memories of Mildred Bailey, and last but not least "Some Day You'll Be Sorry" written by the one and only Satchmo himself—a beaming Mrs. Louis Armstrong rode in the audience and graciously waved to the happy crowd.

No wonder the concert was sold out—impresario Jack Kleinsinger had again brought together, as he does every month, some great jazz artists to make the kind of music that'll never die as long as there are feet to tap, fingers to snap, and ears to hear.

The image VOICE, September 27, 1965

VOICE CHOICES
OUR MUSIC CRITICS GIVE US THE WORD

HIGHLIGHTS IN JAZZ
That irresistible Doctor Jazz, Jack Kleinsinger, is back with another season of music and high jinks, beginning with the multifaceted Dick Hyman, who will lead an impressive cast of characters in the music of Jelly Roll Morton, James P. Johnson, Scott Joplin and others.

Should be mighty sweet. Today, September 27, 8 p.m., 300 La Guardia Place, (Gates Halls), Lunch Student Center 208-3222
On September 22, the ubiquitous "Dr. Jazz", Jack Kleinsinger opened the fifth season of his "Highlights in Jazz" series at Loeb Student Center at New York University. The first concert was a tribute to great jazz immortals and titled "Jelly Roll, Joplin, James P. and Others".

The band was headed up by the most underestimated pianist around, Dick Hyman. His virtuoso rendering of Scott Joplin's "Aunt Dinah's" from "Treemonisha" was simply perfection.

Other members of the band included Pee Wee Erwin, Vic Dickenson, Milt Hinton, Bob Rosengarden and clarinetist Johnny Mince. Handling the vocal chores was the unaccountably unappreciated Carrie Smith. Why some records company hasn't snapped up Ms. Smith is a mystery.

The night was one of consummate concept and musicianship. Among the highlights were renditions of James P. Johnson's "Carolina Shout" and "Carolina Balmarol". An unforgettable night of jazz roots.

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Joe Haymes, Ray Noble and Tommy Dorsey orchestras. The concert began with "Wolverine Blues" and ended with "Milneberg Joy". Pieces by Jelly Roll Morton were given performances that combined excellent solo work with exciting ensemble spirit that brought the audience to a fever pitch. An important part of these ensembles was the driving drumwork of Bobby Rosengarden who all but propelled the band into supersonic flight.

Also impressive was vocalist Carrie Smith whose repertoire ranged from Bebbie Smith's "Empty Bed Blues" to the Arlen-Mercer "Blues In the Night" and Fats Waller's "Honeysuckle Rose". All in all, a fine evening of jazz, with six great instrumentalists paying tribute to three great composers. The next concert in the series is "Masters of Modern Jazz" with Art Farmer, Rolland Hanna Trio and Paul Jeffrey Octet, 8 p.m. Oct. 20.

—Joe H. Klee

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Jack Kleinsinger's "Highlights in Jazz" will present its first concert of the new season on Wednesday at NYU's Loeb Student Center at 8 p.m.

The concert will be a tribute to jazz immortals such as Jelly Roll Morton, Scott Joplin, James P. Johnson and others who have similarly contributed to the American jazz scene. The evening will be headed up by "Jelly Roll, Joplin, James P. and Others." Pianist Dick Hyman, will be performing the music. Also appearing at concert will be Pee Wee Erwin on trumpet, Milt Hinton on bass, Bob Rosengarden on drums, Vic Dickenson on trombone, Johnny Mince on clarinet, and singer Carrie Smith.

The concert will be at NYU's Loeb Student Center, Eisner and Lubin Auditorium, 566 LaGuardia Place at Washington Square South. Tickets are $5; $4 for students, $2.50 student balcony. For information call 986-3757.

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To Jack with my best to you and love,

Carrie Smith
To my dear friend,

Jack Kleinsinger,

With best wishes,

Pee Wee Erwin.