Jack Kleinsinger presents Highlights In JAZZ

Two Great Jazz Happenings

Wed. December 14th - 8pm

Harlem Memories

Panama Francis

and his

Savoy Sultans

The Harlem Blues and Jazz Band

Featuring: Eddie Durham, Al Casey, Geo. Kelly, Bobby Williams, Charlie Bateman, John Williams, Ronnie Cole

Fri. January 6th - 8pm

Salute To Hank Jones

Billy Taylor

Clark Terry

Al Cohn

George Duvivier

Bobby Durham

Guest of Honor: Hank Jones

at NYU Loeb Student Center 566 LaGuardia Pl. at Wash. Sq. So.
Tel. 598-3757 Tickets $7, Students $5.50 Tickets at Box Office
or Mail Order to: HIGHLIGHTS IN JAZZ,
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Make Checks Payable to Highlights in Jazz
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Specify Dec. 14th or Jan. 6th Concert When Ordering

Flyers Donated By Village Corner 142 Bleecker St. corner LaGuardia Place
This event is made possible with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts.
Hank Jones is key attraction at NYU’s Loeb

PIANIST Hank Jones, the recipient of a well-deserved tribute tonight at NYU’s Loeb Student Center, is one of those talented jazz musicians who are, if not exactly unsung, certainly understudied. Jones has proved his versatility as a sideman with everyone from Benny Goodman to Charlie Parker to Ella Fitzgerald. He has recorded a number of highly listenable albums as a leader. He was even a Broadway star of sorts a few years back, when he served as musical director and on-stage pianist for Ain’t Misbehavin’.

But the elegant musicianship of Jones, 65, remains something of a secret. He is admired by his fellow musicians and by jazz aficionados, but his fame is not widespread, even by jazz standards.

Jones himself shrugs off the suggestion that he has not received the recognition he deserves. “I don’t think about it that way,” he says. “I just hope I can live up to whatever recognition I get.”

One reason for his lack of fame may be the accomplishments of his younger brothers, trumpeter-bandleader Thad and drummer Elvin, who overshadowed his own. Another may be that a large chunk of his career was spent behind the scenes as a staff musician for CBS-TV in the 50s and 60s.

“I often wonder what would have happened in these years if I hadn’t been confined to New York City, if I’d been exposed to jazz audiences in the US and Europe,” Jones says. But, he adds, his CBS experience taught him a lot about discipline, adaptability and reading music.

At tonight’s concert, part of the long-running “Highlights in Jazz,” Al Cohn, Clark Terry, Billy Taylor, George David and Bobby Durham will perform in solo, trio and quintet settings.

“To be recognized by my peers is always an honor,” Jones says. “I would have been happy if any of two or three hundred musicians had been chosen to participate.”

ALSO of interest this weekend:

Art Blakey, the grand old man of modern jazz drumming, is leading his Jazz Messengers in a special engagement at the Village Gate. The club says that various alumni of the Messengers — including, perhaps, some very big names — will be dropping by to sit in.

Bassist Richard Davis, who largely ever performs in New York, leads an all-star ensemble at Sweet Basil.

The incomparable George Shearing has settled in for a long stint behind the keyboard at the Café Carlyle, with Don Thompson on bass. In the adjoining Bernelma Bar, jazz pianist and singer Barbara Carroll is a Monday-through-Saturday feature.

By PETER KEEPFNEWS

HANK JONES will be saluted in Jack Kleinsinger’s “Highlights in Jazz,” a special tribute at New York University Leob Student Center, 566 LaGuardia Place, 10012, at 8 p.m. on Jan. 6. Tickets are $7 and $5 for students. For more information, call 588-3757.

MUSIC & DANCE

Concerts

Friday, January 6

GUARNIERI STRING QUARTET—Beethoven’s Quartets in c, Op. 18, No. 4; f, Op. 18, No. 1; c-sharp, Op. 131. Metropolitan Museum at 8 Stage. $8

NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC—See 1/9.

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY—Alice Tully Hall at 8. $11.50. See 1/5 for program.

EDWARD AUER, pianist; Bach, Beethoven, Ravel, Rachmaninoff, Franck; Carnegie Recital Hall, 8:30. $14


KENT TRITLLE, organist; Works of Bach and Widor; Church of the Covenant, 310 E. 42nd St., at 12:10. Free

YASHA KOFMAN, guitarist; American Institute of Music, 204 W. 56th St. (757-3258), at 8:30.

TRANSatlantic Winds—Lincoln Center Library, at 4. Free

JOEL HORIZWITZ, singer-songwriter-pianist; Centerfold, 203 W. 86th St. (866-4452). For more information call 535-5717.

MEL DAVIS, trumpeter; Grant’s Last Waltz at Noon, 7th Avenue. Free

DAVID FERRIS, Baroque flutist; John Abberger, Baroque oboe; Chamber music of the 17th century, Grace and St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, 123 W. 72nd St., at 8:15.

BROOKLYN PHILHARMONIC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, Lukas Foss conductor and pianist; Jean-Pierre Rampal flute; Los Angeles Symphony Choral Association, Rameau’s Les Fêtes d’Halicarnassus, ballet suite; Telemann’s Suite in D; Flute and Strings; Bach’s Brandenburg Concerto No. 5; Handel’s Chandos Anthem XIA, “Let God Arise.” BAM at 8. $5-$12.50.

LEROY LESSIGE—Folk music; Goodwill House, Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 83 Prospect Park West (768-2972), at 9. $3.
MUSIC

Highlights in Jazz: A “Salute to Hank Jones”—a strong candidate for the title of best all-around jazz pianist alive—has Clark Terry, Al Cohn, Billy Taylor, George Duvivier, and Bobby Durham lending their talents; I trust the guest of honor will play something unaccompanied. January 6 at 8, Loeb Student Center, 566 LaGuardia Place 598-3757. (Giddins)

THE NEW YORK TIMES, FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1964

'Salute to Hank Jones'

The pianist Hank Jones will perform tonight at 8 in “A Salute to Hank Jones,” a “Highlights in Jazz” program at New York University’s Loeb Student Center, 566 LaGuardia Place at Washington Square South. The concert will also feature Billy Taylor on piano, Clark Terry on trumpet, Al Cohn on tenor saxophone, George Duvivier on bass and Bobby Durham on drums. Tickets are $7. Information: 598-3757.
HIGHLIGHTS IN JAZZ - - SALUTE TO HANK JONES

1st Half of Concert

(1) BAND - CLARK, AL, BILLY, GEORGE, BOBBY
   1) Opener - Solos by Everyone
   2) AL COHN Feature - - AL & RHYTHM
   3) CLARK TERRY Feature ("MUMBLES") Vocal - CLARK & RHYTHM
   4) BILLY TAYLOR Feature (A HANK JONES Original)

(2) "SURPRISE GUEST" with BILLY, GEORGE, BOBBY
   3 Selections

(3) CLARK & AL - with BILLY, GEORGE, BOBBY
   Uptempo - - Closes 1st Half of Concert
   - INTERMISSION -

2nd HALF OF CONCERT

(1) HANK JONES - - with GEORGE, BOBBY
   3 Selections
   (Middle Selection - vocal Feature for BOBBY)

(2) PRESENTATION - - BRIEF SPEECHES BY BILLY, AL, GEORGE

(3) HANK WITH BAND (CLARK, AL, GEORGE, BOBBY)
   1 Selection
   Then everyone leaves Stage except HANK

(4) HANK JONES - - SOLO -
   1 Selection

(5) FINALE : CLARK, AL, HANK, GEORGE, BOBBY
To Jack
Peace & Love
Hank Jones

Hank Jones
To Jack
The best wishes
Sincerely,

Carmen McRae

CARMEN McRAE
HANK JONES
LUSH LIFE/FEB. 7-12
Ask 100 bonafide jazz pros, “Who is the best pianist we’ve got?,” and I bet the majority give the nod to Hank Jones. The eldest of the Jones boys shies clear of hype and hoopla, yet while flashier types bask in the limelight, Jones offers an understated and wholly distinctive touch that finds an appreciative audience. JL.

LESTER BOWIE’S ROOT TO THE SOURCE/SWEET BASIL/FEB. 21-26
Lester Bowie’s basic vocabulary of trumpet growls, slurs and effects serves his efforts as a comic showman as surely as it proves how prodigious is his talent. One of the most expressive horn players around, Bowie brings to Basil his gospel-soul-blues-jazz revue Root to the Source. JL.

HIGHLIGHTS IN JAZZ 11TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT NYU LOEB STUDENT CENTER/FEB. 25
Jack Kleinsinger celebrates 11 years in the biz, presenting regular concert jazz shows that even students can afford. If that ain’t some kind of record, it ought to be. This anniversary program features Ray Barretto (pictured), Big Nick Nicholas, Lew Soloff, Frank Wess, Britt Woodman and others who should carry on the tradition. JL.

BIG NICK NICHOLAS
EL-C’s LOUNGE/FEB. 10-12
Tenorist Big Nick Nicholas has spent years promoting jazz rather than himself, a testimonial to his grandness as a human being. His tone is fatherly, though far from admonitory, and his book is voluminous. Give yourself a treat and catch his gigs. (Nicholas also plays the NYU Loeb Student Center Feb. 25.) GK.
Hank
Quick: name the greatest living jazz pianist!

According to noted critic Gary Giddins, when he and two friends recently played that game they all silently came up with the same answer: Hank Jones. It's a hard point to dispute.

Hank Jones is continuously inventive, continuously fresh, continuously a pleasure to hear. He is also one of the most adaptable — and thus busiest — cats in the piano biz: from the band of Ain't Misbehavin' to the studios to straight bebop gigs to piano bars, Hank Jones digs in and swings the pants off of whatever he does.

Recently, Jack Kleinsinger's Highlights In Jazz series presented their annual salute to a living musician and, wisely, it was the eldest of the musical Jones brothers who was tagged for the tribute. Assembled stage centre, for the first set, were Clark Terry, Al Cohn, George Duvivier, Bobby Durham, and Billy Taylor. They led off with a Jones original (Hank was seated with his family in the front row) and then just settled into a comfortable and swinging little set: Cohn billowed, Clark 'mumbled'. Taylor dazzled. (I've said this before, but Billy Taylor's various activities as all-around promoter of jazz — he is seemingly on dozens of committees and can more frequently be found behind a lectern than a Steinway — tend to obscure his marvellous talents as a pianist. His There'll Never Be Another You, if a bit showy, was a highlight here. He seems odd as a choice, though, since Hank is a major influence on the bevy of young pianists who followed him in Detroit — Tommy Flanagan, Barry Harris, Hugh Lawson, Roland Hanna, etc).

The first set was rounded out by a short set by 'surprise guest' Carmen McRae. Carmen — never a favourite of mine, I'll admit — did three selections from a tribute to Billie Holiday that she was performing up the street at the Blue Note and they were quite nice, really.

Set two was turned over to the honoree and he did himself proud, particularly on a melancholy solo rendition of The Very Thought Of You. A superlative show and, typically, when it was over Hank had to hurry over to Fat Tuesday's where he was tickling the ivories behind Dizzy Gillespie. Here's looking at you, Hank.

More 'Highlights'
The Jones fete was the third 'Highlights In Jazz' I attended this season and I thought I'd mention the other two. One was a typical jam session brouhaha with Zoot Sims, Jimmy Heath, Pepper Adams, and Jerry Dodgion tooting through some pieces, together and apart. Everyone played well, thank you, but it was especially good to hear Jerry Dodgion (I think he's been in the studios since the Thad Jones/Mel Lewis days) and recent returnee from Europe, pianist Walter Norris (another ex-Thad and Mel man, come to think of it).

The other show was a boring little affair which featured a perfunctory set each from Panama Francis and the Savoy Sultans and The Harlem Blues and Jazz Band. Panama's band never revved up, though George Kelly and Al Casey did cause a spark or two to fly from the latter group.