Jack Kleinsinger presents Highlights in JAZZ

In Cooperation With N.Y.U. Program Board

Thursday, October 30, 1986 - 8:00 PM

A Concert For Pepper Adams

- Clark Terry
- Joe Morello
- Ray Barretto
- Junior Mance
- Rufus Reid
- Joey Cavaseno

Battle of The Big Horns

- Cecil Payne
- Nick Brignola
- Ronnie Cuber

Pepper Adams

This concert is made possible through funds provided by American Family Publishers

at N.Y.U. Loeb Student Center
566 LaGuardia Pl. at Washington Sq. South Tel. 598-2027

Tickets: $8.50
students $6.50

Tickets At Box Office Or Mail Order To: Highlights In Jazz,
7 Peter Cooper Rd., New York, N.Y. 10010 Make Checks Payable To:
Highlights In Jazz Enclose Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope

Coming Thursday December 11th - 8:00PM Voices of Jazz with Roy Eldridge,
Marlene VerPlanck, John Pizzarelli Jr., Jay Leonhart & others

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This event is made possible with public funds from the
New York State Council on the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts.
Tenor sax sounds floating around town

By CHIP DEFFAA

TENORS, anyone? Tenor saxman Stanley Turrentine's quintet is at the Whippoorwill (18 E. 18th St., 212-673-7100) through Sunday, producing the kind of big, wide groove you can just flop into. If you want a more aggressive, rompin' stompin' kind of tenor sax, Big Nick Nicholas holds forth through Sunday at the West End (2911 Broadway, near 114th Street, 212-666-9100). When the spirit moves him, Big Nick sings, too.


In the history of jazz, only two soloists have gained prominence playing the harmonica, and they're now both in town. Toots Thielemans stars through Sunday at Fat Tuesday's (190 Third Av. at 17th Street, 212-533-7902). Larry Adler plays tonight and tomorrow at the Ballroom (353 W. 29th St., 212-244-3005). Adler doesn't always get proper recognition as a jazz musician, since his repertoire mixes pop and classical, but he's worked with — and been accepted as a colleague by — Duke Ellington and Dizzy Gillespie.

The Jazz Center of New York (380 Lafayette St. at Great Jones Street, third floor, 212-509-5660) is presenting the Asian-American Jazz and Cultural Festival this week. Featured attractions include tonight, violinst Jason Hwang and the group, Skyways; tomorrow, pianist Makoto Ozone's trio on Sunday, Kuni Mikami.

East of the Sun, 16-piece big band, plus singers and dancers! Jazz blooms in Brooklyn! The recently opened Brown's Cafe (5601 Second Av., Bay Ridge, 718-839-5355) is billed as "New York's newest entry in the massive resurgence of jazz." With a no cover charge, $5 minimum policy, it appears to be a real bargain. Vibrations at Ray Alexander's Quartet entertains tonight and tomorrow.

Pianist Derek Smith jams with the businessmen/musicians at Cafe 43's "Jazz at Noon" today (147 W. 43d St., just east of Broadway, 212-669-4200). Dave Valentin is back at Mikell's (760 Columbus Av. at 97th Street, 212-684-8832) tonight and tomorrow.

The Howard Alden-Dan Barrett Quintet, which gets a distinctive, light, spongy ensemble sound, will be giving a free concert in the Olympic Tower building (51st Street just east of Fifth Avenue) from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, at which they'll preview numbers from their next album on Statikas Records.

Also on Thursday: It was originally planned to be a salute to Pepper Adams, one of the great baritone sax players, but with his recent death, the concert has been transformed into a memorial. Baritones Cecil Payne, Ronnie Cuber, and Nick Brignola, plus assorted stars including Clark Terry (trumpet), Joe Morello (drums), are scheduled to take part in the tribute, to be held 8 p.m., at NYU-Loeb Student Center (566 LaGuardia Pl. at Washington Square South, 212-395-2027).

New York Post, Friday, 10/24/86

Tribute to Pepper Adams

The Highlights in Jazz series at New York University will present a tribute to the saxophonist and clarinetist Peck (Pepper) Adams, who died last month, tomorrow at 8 p.m.

The tribute concert will feature Clark Terry, Joe Morello, Ray Barretto, Junior Mance, Rufus Reid, Joey Cavasano, Cecil Payne, Nick Brignola and Ronnie Cuber. The performance will be in the student center, 566 La Guardia Place. Tickets are $8.50 ($6.50 for students). Information: 598-2027.
Pepper Adams Tribute
To Go on Without Him

FOR AT LEAST a year and a half, lung cancer relentlessly drained the life from Pepper Adams, but not his pride or pragmatism. When friends tried to organize a benefit a year ago for the extraordinary baritone saxophonist, he opposed it on the grounds that the treatment he was undergoing was "so expensive that no benefit will come close to covering the cost and ... in the long run I'll be much better off trying to earn the money myself, without the worry of a publicly admitted illness."

Pianist Barry Harris finally declared to Adams, "We're doing one for you whether you want it or not."

"Fighting cancer was one thing; fighting Harris, another. "Thirty - eight years of arguing with Barry," Adams noted at the time, "have taught me the futility of this exercise. So I merely asked that he not call it a benefit." They settled on the word "tribute."

Adams remained nonetheless determined to pay his way and, while the tribute was unfolding at the Universal Jazz Coalition in Manhattan, he was playing a concert in Memphis. He expressed his gratitude via a note, which was read from the Manhattan stage that evening by singer Lodi Carr. It said, in part:

"I don't wish to intrude upon your time, which would certainly be better spent in enjoying the marvelous artists assembled here, but I feel that I should explain why you are faced with the anomaly of a tribute without a reasonably fresh corpse."

With typical eloquence and humor, Adams went on to explain his illness, the treatment and consequent debilitation. He joked that, when he took a brain scan, "I fully expected the people to say, 'Mr. Adams, we've done a complete scan of your brain and we couldn't find a thing.'"

Adams was a pillar of inventive musicianship, a player whose thoughtful, imaginative composition was reflected in his owl-like countenance. As musicologist Irab Gitter once noted, Adams was a wise owl, wise and otherwise. Jack Kleinsinger, as part of his Highlights in Jazz series, planned a salute to Adams that would have included Adams in performance. The saxophonist didn't have a chance to protest this one; he died Sept. 11 at the age of 65.

The concert for Pepper Adams, however, will go on tomorrow evening, beginning at 8, at the NYU-Loeb Student Center, 566 LaGuardia Pl. ($5.50, $5.50 for students). Among the performers will be trumpeter Clark Terry, drummer Joe Morello, pianist Junior Mance, bassist Rufus Reid, alto saxophonist Joey Deppenes and conga player Ray Barretto. Joining them in a battle of the big horns will be baritone saxmen Cecil Payne, Nick Brignola and Ronnie Cuber.