Jack Kleinsinger Presents
Highlights in Jazz

Monday, October 15th
8:00 P.M.
at the
Hunter College Playhouse
695 Park Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10021
Telephone: 535-5350

Clark Terry
Benny Carter
Charles McPherson
Grady Tate
George DuVivier
Richard Wyands

and Surprise Performers

Tickets: $5.00
Students: $4.00  Student Balcony: $2.50
Tickets at Box Office and Ticketron Outlets
Jazz at Hunter

The second in a monthly series of jazz concerts will be held on Monday, October 15, at 8 p.m. at Hunter College, 695 Park Avenue. Featured musicians are Clark Terry on trumpet and flugelhorn, Benny Carter on sax, Charles McPherson on alto sax, Richard Wyands on piano, George DuVivier on bass, and Grady Tate on drums. Tickets are $5. For information call 535-5359.

Hunter Jazz
Casual Thing

For all the professionalism of the musicians involved, the Highlights in Jazz concerts that Jack Kleinsinger is presenting once a month at Hunter College have a decidedly casual air about them that ought to remind old-timers of the jazz series Eddie Condon used to run at Town Hall back a few leaves on the calendar.

First of all, the audience is never completely certain that all the announced musicians will show up. But that really doesn’t matter, because there are always plenty of unannounced jazz heavies who do show up and who are ready, willing and able to get up on stage, sit in for a set or two and leave.

Monday night was typical. Advertised for the 8 p.m. performance were Clark Terry, Benny Carter, Charles McPherson, Grady Tate, George DuVivier and Richard Wyands, who were to come prepared to play—in order of listing—trumpet and flugelhorn, saxophone, alto sax, drums and piano.

Benny Carter was forced to cancel at the last minute, but Dizzy Gillespie showed up to play a few riffs before rushing over to his full-time job this week at Jimmy’s, and Ray Nance showed up just in time to play the tenor saxophone. We were obviously having fun, so we were listeners.

—Patricia O’Hare
The latest in Jack Kleininger's "Highlights in Jazz" concerts at Hunter was indeed an evening of highlights. Benny Carter was unable to make the gig, but in his place was a formidable group of "guest stars" to supplement the already-impressive ensemble gathered for the program.

The main groups consisted of Clark Terry, Charles McPherson, Richard Wyands, Grady Tate, and George Duvivier. For the first number they were joined by Dizzy Gillespie, who was opening at Jimmy's the same evening; he stayed for a bright opener that set the tone for the evening with upbeat, consistently sure-footed playing that never went astray.

Best surprise on tap was Ray Nance, the ebullient Ellington veteran who scat-sang "A Train" and filled in the instrumental choruses with some eccentric dancing. Nance later returned with this violin for a very impromptu "Autumn Leaves" that swung almost as much as Ray himself.

Final guest performer was Jimmy Owens, who took a pulsating solo on McPherson's feature "Cherokee." Another bulseye.

There was tremendous variety even within the announced quintet. Clark Terry reasserted himself as one of the very best horn men in the country, on ballads or uptempo pieces, alternating between muted trumpet and flugelhorn (even in the middle of a phrase) for maximum effect, and pulling out a trademark of his, a jazz variation of "On the Trail" from "The Grand Canyon Suite." A straight blues vocal was followed by his inimitable mumbles routine, which never grows tiresome, and if anything has become more elaborate over the years with his conversational double-talk asides.

Charles McPherson is one younger player who isn't afraid of old standards, and did as much with "The Nearness of You" as many of his contemporaries might with more avant-garde springboards. His Bird-tinged alto, is like Terry's horn, always crystal-clear.

Backing the whole concert, and periodically taking the spotlight, was Richard Wyand's piano, elegantly tasteful and inventive whether playing accompaniment for various soloists or taking a solo feature on a frantically paced "Straight, No Chaser."

Drummer Grady Tate did a vocal set that displayed his increasing finesse with jazz ballads; he brings a keen sense of musicianship, as well as an obvious respect for good lyrics, to songs like "I've Got Your under My Skin" and "Body and Soul." His drumming, of course, is expert.

Finally, there was the omnipresent George Duvivier on bass, whose superb musicianship enhances any group he plays with.

All in all, quite a concert, running the gamut from jazz vocals to blues to bebop to ballads to swing violin, with the enthusiastic Jack Keinsinger presiding over the affair like an Ed Sullivan with adrenalin. It's clear he's having as much (or more) fun as anyone in the house, and his concert series is providing a welcome forum for many fine New York jazzmen.

Next round at Hunter is November 19, with a salute to Eddie Condon.

—Leonard Maltin
GRADY TATE

Featured on NBC
Johnny Carson's "TONIGHT SHOW"
Jazz Greats Swing At Hunter

By Jeff Nussbaum

A new monthly Monday night jazz series has held its second of ten concerts last week at the Hunter Playhouse. This series, held last year at the Theatre deLys, looks like it will be one of the best sources of good jazz in town. These concerts are very much like an informal jam session. Promoter and jazz fan, Jack Kliensinger, has managed to get some of the greatest names in American music.

This past concert, trumpeters dominated the show. On hand were Clark Terry, Ray Nance, Jimmy Owens and the immortal master of chops; Dizzy Gillespie. Charles McPherson, Grady Tate, George DuVivier and Richard Wyands were the other musicians playing. Dizzy and Clark Terry played a beautiful duet. Listening to how sensitive these musicians are to sound is a true wonder. The subtly in their playing is incredible. Dizzy Gillespie is many things, but I'd say obvious is not one of them.

The spirit of the session was informal. Ray Nance got carried away with his enthusiasm and practically did an entire vaudeville act. Clark Terry displayed his great sense of humor as well as his superb musical abilities, by singing a crazy blues about his wife.

For a person who wants to get familiar with jazz, I would suggest this fine series. The musicians are top traditional jazz performers, the atmosphere is friendly and the price is low. The next concert is to be held in the Playhouse on November 19th.