Jack Kleinsinger Presents
Highlights in Jazz!
In cooperation with NYU program board

Wednesday, Oct. 1 - 8PM

The Return of
The Jam Session

Phil    Thad    Bill
Woods   Jones  Watrous

Hank    Ron    Connie
Jones   Carter  Kay

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
OCTOBER 1st: Two concerts:
The first, given last night at Carnegie Hall by Oscar Peterson and the guitarist Joe Pass, had nothing to hang on to. Peterson and Pass are virtuosos, and everything they played—separately and together—was fleet, slippery, expert, and cool. There was no content, no heat, no surprises. It was musical shadow play. Peterson's and Pass's idols are Art Tatum and Django Reinhardt. They, too, were occasionally glib, but they never came empty-handed.

The second concert, held tonight in the Loeb Student Center, was billed as a jam session, and on hand were Thad Jones, Red Rodney, Bill Watrous, Frank Wess, Phil Woods, Hank Jones, Ron Carter, and Connie Kay. Woods played with his customary buttonholing passion, and Wess was industrious. Hank Jones was pure, collected, and crystalline. Watrous performed his incredible trombonic feats, and Carter did his relentless, labyrinthine set piece in "Willow Weep for Me." But Thad Jones gave the impression that he had taken his solos out before they were done, and Rodney's work was equally bleu. Connie Kay was puzzling. His playing was plodding, but he looked more animated than he has in twenty years.
Jamming with giants

By A. H. TANNENBAUM

Isn't it about time for jazz promoters to stop using gimmicks to attract listeners? When you have Phil Woods, Thad Jones, Bill Watrous, Frank Wess, Hank Jones, Ron Carter, Connie Kay and Red Rodney—all major talents and all with an accrued coterie—why bill your show as "The Return of the Jam Session?" Where had it gone?

Jack Kleinsinger opened a series of Highlights in Jazz at NYU's Loeb Student Center Wednesday night before a full house of more than 700 aficionados who needed no hype to get them on the edges of their seats with ears finely tuned. The music matched—indeed, it often exceeded—all expectations, with Watrous' trombone, Woods' alto, Carter's bass and Rodney's trumpet setting an exciting and stimulating pace.

The ensembles, led by Jones' flugelhorn, were a bit ragged, but the solo work throughout was intense and impassioned, with everyone getting a chance to stretch out on the up-tempo blues, standards and bop-based exercises. Rodney has regained his old power and facility so that his full-of-fresh-ideas playing stirred the musicians as well as the crowd. Watrous' command of his horn is awesome, and his long, lush exploration of "Thats All"—much of it in daringly high-registered—was an extended ovation.

Woods was hot and sinuous in a wonderfully developed "Here's That Rainy Day." Wess contributed some full-bodied and swinging tenor solos—especially in the blues. Thad Jones spent too much time and effort on an exaggerated and gawky "Deep Purple" but showed fine tone and control. And Hank Jones played a semicocktail-piano version of "The Very Thought of You" in painfully slow time. Connie Kay, after decades of time-keeping for the Modern Jazz Quartet, seemed delighted to be liberated and provided a pulsing, pushy impetus to the ensembles and subtle support to the soloists.

The whole gang went all out on a closing "Cottontail" that was notable for hot, pulsant breaks by Rodney, Watrous and Wess. The sounds were sufficient.

The piffery was superfluous.
"Highlights in Jazz" Presents Jam Session

BY RON AKBAR

For three years Jack Kleinsinger's Highlights in Jazz concerts have been a fixture of the New York jazz scene. To celebrate the third anniversary, eight outstanding jazz musicians were gathered for a monster Jam Session at NYU's Loeb Student Center last Wednesday, October 1.

The stars of the sold-out concert were pianist Hank Jones, a veteran of Count Basie's band who now leads his own trio, Hank's brother Thad, co-leader of the renowned Thad Jones-Mel Lewis Big Band; Ron Carter, the versatile bassist whose record credits read like a Who's-Who in jazz; Red Rodney, who played trumpet with Charlie Parker three decades ago and is now making a comeback after a bout with heroin and years of obscurity in a Vegas pit band; Connie Kay, the former drummer of the Modern Jazz Quartet; trombonist Bill Watrous who heads his 17-piece Manhattan Wildlife Refuge Band; and, last but not least, Phil Woods on alto sax and Frank Wess on tenor sax and flute.

The first number was a swinging piece featuring solos by all musicians, and was followed by Phil Woods' fiery rendition of "Just Friends." Red Rodney made his horn "whine" in "I Can't Get Started," superbly backed by the rhythm section consisting of Kay, Carter, and Jones. One of the highlights of the first set was Ron Carter's collosal solo variations of "Willow Weep For Me," which transfixed the audience for several minutes. To wrap up the first set all musicians joined in for a sparkling version of "All Blues."

Hank Jones began the second set with a sensitive and intelligent treatment of the ballad "The Very Thought Of You," and was then joined by his brother Thad in "Deep Purple." Bill Watrous, the youngest member of the group, demonstrated his awesome ability on the trombone on "That's All," again receiving exquisite support from the rhythm section.

The evening, billed quite appropriately as "The Return of the Jam Session," gave all musicians ample room to interact as well as display their individual styles in a spontaneous, unrehearsed setting.

The next Highlights in Jazz concert, "Birdland Revisited," is scheduled for November 5 and will feature Buddy DeFranco, Billy Taylor, Eddie Jefferson, Cecil Payne, and Howard McGhee.
Jazz

In Concert

EUGENIE BLAD—The 92-year-old wonder of the keyboards, off-white as ever. With the Brooklyn Boys Choir. Benefit for BAM. Fulton Ferry Park, foot of DeKalb Avenue. 8 p.m. Sun., 7:30.

HASKAN DAVIS-QUAINTET—Focuss. 2, 134 W. 74th St. Mon., 8:30.

HIGHLIGHTS IN JAZZ—First concert this season of a well-established series with Phil Woods, alto saxophone; Thad Jones, trumpet; Bill Watrous, trombone; Ron Carter, bass; Connie Kay, drums. NYU Loeb Student Center. 566 La Guardia Pl. Wed., 8.


MELODIC ARTIST—With Barry Blank, percussionist. Lakeside Fest. 1 Band St. Today, 4.

OSCAR PETERSON and JOE PASS—First concert in New York for several years by Peterson, whose virtuoso piano work is joined by the equally virtuosic guitar of Pass. Carnegie Hall. Tues., 8.

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The Return of the Jam Session

Wednesday, October 1st is a date you must keep when Jack Kleinsinger will present Highlights in Jazz. In cooperation with the NYU Program Board. The return of the Jam Session will feature such giants as Thad Jones, Phil Woods, Bill Watrous, Hank Jones, Ron Carter, and Connie Kay at NYU. 566 La Guardia Place at Washington Square South. The time is 8 p.m. sharp. Information: 598-3757

Luv, Peace and Keep Smiling...

Jack Kleinsinger Presents
Highlights in Jazz!

Wednesday, Oct. 1
8:00 P.M.

Return of the Jam Session
Phil Thad Bill Hank Ron Connie
Woods Jones Watrous Carter Kay
NYU Loeb Student Center

Essex and Lubin Auditorium
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Telephone 98-1737

Tickets $5.00 Students $3.00 Student Balcony $2.50
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September 25 thru October 1, 1975

The Long Island Entertainer

Jam Session

It will be something out of the ordinary, something out of the past. A jam session, the first in a series of fall concerts, will take place at the NYC Loeb Student Center on Wednesday, October 1 at 8 p.m. What makes this concert deserving of special recognition is the talent that will be showcased that night. Starring will be a group of all-star jazz players including alto saxist Mel Lewis, trumpet Thad Jones and bassist Ron conducted by Down Beat magazine. Added to the line-up are trombonist Bill Watrous, trumpeter Red Rodney and drummer Connie Kay.

What makes this show that much more extraordinary is the rare appearance of Thad Jones, who usually works exclusively with the Mel Lewis-Thad Jones orchestra.

Tickets are available at the NYU Loeb Student Center (Essex & Lubin Auditorium), 566 LaGuardia Place, at Washington Square South, or by mail order. Tickets are $5 ($4 for students and $2.50 for student balcony). For further information, call 598-3757.

The Village Voice September 29, 1975
To Sassy
Good things always
Keep going, As you
Keep doing for jazz
Don't change, you're great!

Bill Watrous
Manhattan Wildlife Refuge