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

Wednesday,
April 21, 8P.M.
VOICES OF JAZZ

Oscar Brown, Jr.

Blossom Dearie

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
Oscar Brown Jr.

OSCAR BROWN JR.
A GREAT ENTERTAINER

BY ED WATKINS

Oscar Brown Jr. sang some soul-stirring lyrics to the music of Scott Joplin’s “The Entertainer” the other night at an NYU “Highlights in Jazz” concert, and by the time he had sung, acted and danced it, the song was his for all time. Oscar is indeed an entertainer for all seasons and has come a long way from his early days in Chicago.

Alongside him during the first part of his 90-minute show was his talented wife, Jean Paff. She was particularly moving singing “If I Only Had” from their own off-Broadway musical “Joy” of some years back. She also gave her all to “Afro Blue” and “Beat Me, Daddy” before literally flipping her wig in the finale number!

Frank Owens participated on piano—a distinct musical asset. Oscar then introduced David Langston-Smirl, a young man with whom he’s collaborating on a new musical called “Silly Celebration.” The two of them delivered the title song with great verve, and David was very funny in a number about “The Zipper.”

When you get right down to the nitty-gritty, though, it was Oscar who carried the day with his show-stopping, virtuoso pieces like “But I Was Cool,” “Rags and Old Irons,” and “Signifyin’ Monkey.” (Kids in the audience, including one named Joshua sitting beside me, really dug that one!)

I also admired Oscar’s putting to music “No Place to be Somebody,” the title of that Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Charles Gordon. It made NYU the place to be somebody, and Jack Kleinsinger, who produces these concerts certainly filled the shoes of Night Club Impresario that night!

And how do you follow an act like Oscar Brown? Well, Blossom Dearie did it, coming fresh from her gig over at Reno Sweeney. Jazz pianist, composer and “Chantoosie,” she’s a cool cat who can really chantoosie. She laid ‘em in the aisles with her delicately sexy “Pro Musica Antiqua” and “Peel Me a Grape,” climaxing a show which had Kleinsinger and everyone around him smiling happily.

Although both Oscar Brown Jr. and Blossom Dearie have been close to jazz throughout their careers, they have built performing styles that use jazz as a coloration rather than a foundation—Mr. Brown as a witty, rhythmic, outgoing, soul-oriented commentator, Miss Dearie with stylish wit and sophisticated reserve. They were together Wednesday evening in a Voices of Jazz program presented by Jack Kleinsinger at New York University’s Loeb Auditorium.

Mr. Brown, with his finger-snapping, shoulder-swinging projection, ranged from his personalization of Scott Joplin, in his lyrics to Joplin’s “The Entertainer,” through the street cries of “rags and old iron” to the jittery caricature of “But I Was Cool.”

Miss Dearie’s light, high voice and neat presence seemed especially decorous after the exuberance of Mr. Brown and his friends David Langston-Smirl and Jean Paff. But she established her own personality immediately with a light, lilting version of “There Ought to Be a Moonlight Saving Time,” before going into such familiar elements of her repertory as “Sweet Georgia Brown” and “I’m Hip.”

—John S. Wilson
Voices of Jazz,
"Absolutely Wonderful"
Jack Kleinsinger and the NYU Program Board did their thing again at NYU Loeb Student Center Wed., April 21. It was really as they said, "Voices of Jazz" echoing from the sensational Oscar Brown, Jr. (actor-singer) and Company, which included his very talented wife Jean Pace, and Blossom Dearie, vocalist-pianist.
Oscar Brown, Jr., and his wonderful supporting cast really did entertain us, and so did Blossom. She projects. Oscar Brown, Jr., never performed better.

Blossom Dearie is very petite and gets her songs over beautifully. She's very warm and makes a great stage presentation. I'm very much in love with Blossom's style of phrasing on the piano. I hope to hear Miss Dearie one day with her own rhythm section swinging like crazy.

We wish Oscar Brown, Jr., and Company—Blossom Dearie, many happy returns to the stage in Fun City. The house was packed with a very receptive and appreciative audience. We loved every minute of the concert.
Jazznews

Blossom Dearie and Oscar Brown Jr. are tonight's featured singers in a 'Highlights in Jazz' concert at 8 o'clock in New York University's Loeb Student Center, 566 LaGuardia Place at Washington Square South. Tickets are $2.50 to $5.

“Cantersbury Tales” is tonight’s screening at 7 and 9 o’clock in the Pier Paolo Pasolini festival at Columbia University’s International Affairs Auditorium, 420 West 118th Street. Admission is $2.50, and $1.25 for students.

Hungarian conductor Imre Palko will conduct the revival performances of “Lizzie Borden” at the New York City Opera. Also April 24. At 8 p.m.

Ballet will present a concert at Carnegie Hall. Violinist Itzhak Perlman will be the soloist. At 8 p.m.

The Houston Symphony, under the direction of Lawrence Foster, will perform at Carnegie Hall. Violinist Itzhak Perlman will be the soloist. At 8 p.m.

Joey Heatherton, “Miss Perpetual Motion,” brings her musical melange to the Empire Room of the Waldorf Astoria, 301 Park Avenue at 53rd Street.

April 17. The American Country Dance Ensemble will present a program of social dances, songs and music of the 18th century at the Spring Festival of the Country Dance and Song Society. At Barnard College, 8 p.m.

April 19. The Manhattan String Quartet and soprano Joanna Simon will appear in concert at Town Hall. Program will include works by Haydn, Respighi and Beethoven. At 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

COSTUMES

Monday night’s concert of the Israel Philharmonic will be presented at Carnegie Hall. Violinist Itzhak Perlman will be the soloist. At 8 p.m.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 1976

GOING OUT

Guide

POTPOURRI

W.S. Merwin, the Pulitzer Prize winner for poetry in 1972, will read from his works at 8 P.M. in the auditorium of the New School, 66 West 12th Street. Admission is $2.

Blessing Dearie and Oscar Brown Jr. are tonight’s featured singers in the “Highlights in Jazz” concert at 8 o’clock at New York University’s Loeb Student Center, 566 LaGuardia Place at Washington Square South. Tickets are $2.50 to $5.
Dear [Name],

Thanks for a great house and a great time.

[Signature]

Oscar Brown Jr.