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

Wed., Sept. 22, 8:00 P.M.

Jelly Roll, Joplin, James P. & others

Performed by

Dick Hyman

with

Pee Wee Erwin, Bob Wilber,
Milt Hinton, Bob Rosengarden,
and Carrie Smith

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
Old Jazz Stars Brought to Mind
By Dick Hyman

Scott Joplin, Jelly Roll Morton and even James P. Johnson have become such standard sources for contemporary jazz traditionalists that a program called "Jelly Roll, Scott and James P." which starred the fifth year of Jack Kleininger's "Highlight in Jazz!" series on Wednesday evening at New York University's Loeb Center Auditorium, seems to suggest a pleasant but unadventurous concert.

But with Dick Hyman in charge and at the piano, with a band consisting of Pee Wee Erwin, trumpet; Vic Dickenson, trombone; Johnny Mince, clarinet; Milt Hinton, bass, and Bobby Rosengarden, drums, it was a stimulating and often revealing experience. Some of the revelations came from Mr. Hyman's exploration of Joplin pieces that have not been taken up by the jazz or pop worlds. "Aunt Dinah Done Blow De Horn" from "Treemonisha" combined the warmth of a New Orleans blues in Mr. Mince's low-register clarinet with a bright, swinging ensemble, while Mr. Hyman's adaptation of "Heliotrope Bouquet" for an ensemble featuring Mr. Mince on alto saxophone was an interesting idea that missed only because it needed more rehearsal.

Mr. Hyman's versatility was constantly in evidence, sometimes in unexpected ways, when he played Mr. Johnson's "Old Fashioned Love" as though he had Art Tatum in mind, at other times capturing the stylistic essence of both Mr. Johnson and Mr. Morton. But the most consistently enervating member of the group was Mr. Mince, whose clarinet added a buzzing sense of joy to all the ensembles.

Carrie Smith joined the band to sing several numbers that were enhanced by the appropriately colorful backing of Vic Dickenson's gently growing trombone.

John S. Wilson

Jazz

Jack Kleininger's "Highlights in Jazz" is by now a venerable institution, in New York jazz terms of fast living. Mr. Kleininger's concerts are back for a fourth season at New York University's Loeb Student Center, starting tonight at 8. The show, in the Eisner and Lubin Auditorium, 566 La Guardia Place and Washington Pl. South (598-3757) will consist of a special tribute to such as Jelly Roll Morton, Scott Joplin, James P. Johnson and others who are gone but are remembered.

Conducting the jazzy tributes will be Dick Hyman on piano, Pee Wee Erwin on trumpet, Milt Hinton on bass, Bob Rosengarden on drums, Vic Dickenson on trombone, Johnny Mince on clarinet and Carrie Smith in full voice. Admission: $5; students, $4 (25% in balcony).

Richard F. Shepard

Guide

IN THE alphabet of jazz, J is a heavy letter. For openers, there are Scott Joplin, Jelly Roll Morton and James P. Johnson—giants all and assuredly fit subjects for a pocket-festival tribute, which is what they were accorded at the inaugural concert of Jack Kleininger's 5th season of "Highlights in Jazz" at the NYU Loeb Student Center, Wednesday night.

The pianist Dick Hyman, a man of many parts but not always a whole, directed the music machine that boasted Pee Wee Erwin, trumpet, Johnny Mince, clarinet, Vic Dickenson, trombone, Milt Hinton, bass, Bob Rosengarden, drums. Hyman's arrangement of Joplin's "Aunt Dinah," the hit tune from "Treemonisha," was a fresh delight with Mince cutting through the ensemble like a liquid laser. They missed on "Jelly Roll Blues" because it was taken too fast and the subtle melodies evaporated. But two James P. piano gems, "Carolina Shout" and "Carolina Balmoral," deftly scored by Hyman made it big.

Carrie Smith, an uncountably unappreciated singer, belted out a bundle of blues and golden-oldie pop tunes.

Hyman opened the second half with a short recital of Jelly Roll, James P. and Joplin classics. He has virtuoso technique, a consummate concept and marvelous musicianship, but alas, he does not swing. This is a Best Buy series.
Music and Dance

Hyman, pianist; Peet Wee Erwin, trumpeter; Mitt Hinton, bassist; Bob Rosengarden, drummer; Vic Dickenson, trombonist; Johnny Minse, clarinetist; Carrie Smith, singer; Leobs Student Center, New York University.

"Jerry Roll Joplin, James F. and Others," as Dick Hyman's show and he was less intent on recreating the past than playing with it. Homo ludens and all that jazz.

Transcription has so dominated the present rediscovery of early jazz and pop styles that the true sense of discovery vital to any successful jazz performance is frequently lost beneath the layers of archaeological excavations. I think Hyman is attempting a more useful synthesis, one which achieves authenticity without rejecting the spirit of a musical tradition based on improvisation. His performance this week, in the Highlights of Jazz series, was considerably looser than his recordings (with the exception of Joplin, where his playing was a little stiffer than on the RCA set), but even his albums demonstrate a wit and freshness that avoid academicism.

The biggest problem with his Jelly Roll Morton album is the packaging. The pretentiousness of the Columbia Masterworks seal and the language of the credits suggest that it is a counterfeit of old records by a faceless transcriber named Dick Hyman, presumably for the benefit of those who can't listen to recorded music unless it is stereophonic. By that standard, it must be accounted a failure. But Hyman was not cowed by Masterworks, and chose instead an interpretive path very much within Morton's tradition. He has pored through Morton recordings, piano rolls, and sheet music with an agile perspective on American music and has come up with an entirely unique Morton record. Similarly, his performance of "Snowy Morning Blues" on Columbia's James P. Johnson disc bears the same relation to the original as, say, Miles Davis's "Round Midnight" does to Thelonious Monk's. Hyman's role as an interpreter of styles carries a stigma in jazz—the tradition tends to measure artistry purely in terms of innovation; if a jazz Horowitz who could sightread Tatum scores came along, he would be greeted as warmly as Joe Pass—but he brings a sprightly, deferential eye to the music of Morton and Johnson. He doesn't attempt to forge masterpieces, but to bring them back into the living repertoire.

Riffs

Ellison. The best Joplin performance was a rigorous workout on "Aunt Dinah," from Treemonisha. There were a number of fine Morton selections, including "Wolverine Blues" and Milenberg Joy for the ensemble, and the amazing "Fingerbasalt," with its levitating final strain, for solo piano. The best was Froogie Moore Rag, which Hyman laced with Tatumsque variations, rubato and in time.

Carrie Smith was also on the program, and while she can be an entertaining vocalist, she was out of place and on too long. The opening remarks by impresario Jack Kleinsinger, back for his fifth welcome season, were clocked at a modest nine minutes, 38 seconds.

Dick Hyman: interpreting some great composers, that's all.
Must Be Jelly Roll, Jam Don't Shake Like That

By Ed Watkins

Duke Ellington once said Jelly Roll Morton had talent—for talking about himself. That he also had talent plus in music was demonstrated in the opening fifth season, “Highlights in Jazz” concert recently at NYU.

The show was billed as “Jelly Roll, Joplin, James P. & Others” and if there was more Jelly Roll than the others it was understandable. Dick Hyman, the terrific pianist, arranger and MC, has done marvelous work transcribing and performing the works of Ferdinand “Jelly Roll” Morton at Carnegie Hall and on records. He also recently made a five-record set of The Complete Works for Piano of Scott Joplin (and what a wonder that is). So Joplin really didn’t get short shrift, instead we were spared the more familiar numbers and given some less know beauties of his, including one from “Treebound.”

James P. Johnson, that great gentleman who composed and played piano so well, has also had his music arranged, conducted and performed by Dick Hyman (and some superlatives musicians) on a recent album called “Charleston.” If you rush out and buy all three recordings of the Three J’s, you’ll be doing yourself a favor and you’ll also be sorry if you missed this all-star NYU concert.

Johnny Mince was a standout on clarinet, Pee Wee Erwin on trumpet, Milt Hinton on bass, Bob Rosengarden on drums, Dick Hyman (of course) on piano, and Vic Dickenson, not only growing on a hot trombone but rapping away lyrically with the vocal artists of the evening, Carrie Smith. And an artist she truly is, with that beautiful deep voice, great phrasing and sense of humor, plus the way she moves—well, it must be Jelly ‘cause jam don’t shake like that.

Actually Carrie concentrated mostly on the “Others” mentioned in the program—Fats Waller’s lively rhymin’ “Honey Suckle Rose,” the recently departed and deeply mourned Johnny Mercer and his “Blues in the Night,” Hoagy Carmichael’s “Rockin’ Chair” (only she could momentarily dispel those fond memories of Mildred Bailey), and last but not least “Some Day You’ll Be Sorry” written by the one and only Satchmo himself—a beaming Mrs. Louis Armstrong rose in the audience and graciously waved to the happy crowd.

No wonder the concert was sold out—impresario Jack Kleinsinger had again brought together, as he does every month, some great jazz artists to make the kind of music that’ll never die as long as there are feet to tap, fingers to snap, and ears to hear.
DICK MURPHY . . . .

AND ALL THAT JAZZ!

On September 22, the ubiquitous "Dr. Jazz" Jack Kleinsinger opened the fifth season of his "Highlights in Jazz" series at Loeb Student Center at New York University. The first concert was a tribute to great jazz immortals and titled "Jelly Roll, James P and Others".

The band was headed up by the most underestimated pianist around, Dick Hyman. His virtuosic rendering of Scott Joplin's "Aunt Dina" from "Treemonisha" was simply perfection.

Other members of the band included Pee Wee Erwin, Vic Dickenson, Milt Hinton, Bob Rosengarden and clarinetist Johnny Mince. Handling the vocal chores was the unaccountably unappreciated Carrie Smith. Why some record company hasn't snapped up Ms. Smith is a mystery.

The night was one of consummate concept and musicianship. Among the highlights were renditions of James P. Johnson's "Carolina Shout" and "Carolina Balmarol". An unforgettable night of jazz roots.

I'm jazz wild

about jelly roll

Highlights in Jazz Series
Loeb Student Center, N.Y.U.
566 LaGuardia Place
$5.00, 598-3757

Jack Kleinsinger's Highlights in Jazz concerts moved into its fifth season before a sold-out audience at the Loeb Student Center of N.Y.U. Dick Hyman and a band of all-stars played music by Scott Joplin, Ferdinand "Jelly Roll" Morton and James P. Johnson.

The band included such noteworthies as Pee Wee Erwin on trumpet, Vic Dickenson on trombone, Milt Hinton on bass, Bobby Rosengarden on drums, Dick Hyman on piano and the marvelous Johnny Mince on clarinet. Mince, a player of rare distinction who combines the better elements of New Orleans and Chicago jazz, has been much neglected since the halcyon swing band days when he worked with the Joe Haymes, Ray Noble and Tommy Dorsey orchestras.

The concert began with "Wolverine Blues" and ended with "Milneberg Joys". Pieces by Jelly Roll Morton were given performances that combined excellent solo work with exciting ensemble spirit that brought the audience to a fever pitch. An important part of these ensembles was the driving drumwork of Bobby Rosengarden who all but propelled the band into supersonic flight.

Also impressive was vocalist Carrie Smith whose repertory ranged from Bessie Smith's "Empty Bed Blues," to the Arlen-Mercer "Blues In The Night" and Fats Waller's "Honeysuckle Rose." All in all, a fine evening of jazz, with six great instrumentalists paying tribute to three great composers. The next concert in the series is "Masters of Modern Jazz" with Art Farmer, Rolland Hanna Trio and Paul Jeffrey Octet, 8 p.m. Oct. 20.

—Joe H. Klee

LONG ISLAND PRESS, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1976

Jazz concert Wednesday

Jack Kleinsinger's "Highlights in Jazz" will present its first concert of the new season on Wednesday at NYU's Loeb Student Center at 8 p.m.

The concert will be a special tribute to jazz immortals such as Jelly Roll Morton, Scott Joplin, James P. Johnson and others who have similarly contributed to the American jazz scene. The evening will be headed up "Jelly Roll, Joplin, James P. and Others." Pianist Dick Hyman, will be performing the music. Also appearing at concert will be Pee Wee Erwin on trumpet, Milt Hinton on bass, Bob Rosengarden on drums, Vic Dickenson on trombone, Johnny Mince on clarinet, and singer Carrie Smith.

The concert take place at NYU's Loeb Student Center, Eisner and Lubin Auditorium, 566 LaGuardia Place at Washington Square South. Tickets are $5; students, $4; and student balcony, $2.50. For information call 598-3757.

NEW YORK VOICE, SEPTEMBER 17, 1976

Concert Honors Jazz Immortals

Jack Kleinsinger's "Highlights in Jazz" will present its first concert of the new season on Wednesday, September 22nd, at NYU's Loeb Student Center.

The concert will be a special tribute to jazz immortals such as Jelly Roll Morton, Scott Joplin, James P. Johnson and others who have similarly contributed to the American jazz scene. Dick Hyman, pianist, will perform the music of these jazz greats, along with singer Carrie Smith, Milt Hinton on bass, Bob Rosengarden on drums, Vic Dickenson on trombone, Johnny Mince on clarinet, and Pee Wee Erwin on trumpet.

NYU's Loeb Student Center is located at 566 LaGuardia Place, Washington Square South. Tickets are

$5.00/ students $4.00 and student balcony $2.50. For further information call 598-3757.
to Jack
Many thanks for everything.

D. [illegible]
To my best friend,

"Jack Kleinsinger"

With Best Wishes

Pee Wee Erwin