Jack Kleinsinger presents Highlights In JAZZ
New York's Longest Running Jazz Concert Series

Thursday, April 11th, 1991  8 P.M.

SALUTE TO SLIDE

with
• JIMMY HEATH
• HANK JONES
• RUFUS REID
• GRADY TATE
• STEVE TURRE
• BOBBY WATSON

Guest of Honor: SLIDE HAMPTON

The PACE DOWNTOWN THEATER
3 Spruce Street (between Park Row and Gold Street) -- Telephone (212) 346-1715
Tickets: $12.00 • Students: $8.50
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This event is made possible with funds from the New York State Council on the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts
Produced in cooperation with Pace University Performing Arts,
Dr. Nicholas Catalano, University Director
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Edited by Vince Aletti
LISTINGS
An Opinionated Survey of the Week's Events

"Salute to Slide": The brilliant trombonist and arranger, Slide Hampton, receives a much-deserved tribute by an ensemble of heavyweights, including the incomparable pianist Hank Jones and saxophonist Jimmy Heath. The honoree at these events usually doesn't come out till late in the evening, but with Rufus Reid and Grady Tate stoking the fires, and Steve Turre and Lew Tabackin on hand, you won't be bored. April 11 at 8, Pace Downtown Theater, 3 Spruce Street, 346-1715. (Giddins)
To J. K. from Slide Hampton

SLIDE HAMPTON
Jack Kleinsinger's "Highlights in Jazz" series has a fine tradition of paying tribute to living legends, and so, the "Salute to Slide" concert on April 11 (8 p.m.; $12, $8; 50 students) at Pace Downtown Theater (3 Spruce St.) will honor trombonist Slide Hampton (at right) and many musicians he has inspired, including trombonist and shell man Steve Turre (also at right). 212-346-1715.
Kenny Burrell

PHOTO: FRANK LINDNER

To Jack With All My Best Wishes

Kenny Burrell
Thanks to a person who cares about the music.

Musically,

Rufus Reid
A Tribute to
Slide Hampton
at Pace Downtown
Theater, NYC

Perhaps being the guest of honor, with family and friends in attendance, brought out the best in him—whatever the reason, Slide Hampton stole the show at a tribute to him presented as part of Jack Kleinsinger's "Highlights in Jazz" concert series. When Hampton was brought onstage, late in the concert, he began playing *Basin Street Blues* unaccompanied—the sound of his trombone lean, clear, and penetrating. He was in top form, and made much of the music that had come earlier seem lackadaisical by contrast.

The concert peaked again in the finale when all eight participants (Hampton, trombonist Steve Turre, tenor saxists Jimmy Heath and Lew Tabackin, guitarist Kenny Burrell, drummer Grady Tate, bassist Rufus Reid, and pianist Hank Jones) joined in for some *Walkin*'—the only time in the night all eight played together. It's a pity they couldn't have been brought together earlier, since they seemed energized by interacting. Tabackin (sort of dancing in place as he played) and Heath, in particular, seemed challenged by playing off one another; each would echo what the other had played before responding, in a way that left you wanting to hear more.

Much of the night, however, consisted of solo turns by individual performers, just as you might hear at any of their own gigs—mostly standards that did not seem to relate to Hampton in any obvious way. Grady Tate—urbane and witty—proved an enormous crowd-pleaser while singing the blues, and Tabackin scored with his rendition of *Pyramid* on flute. But a bit more of Hampton's own music might have given the "tribute" to him a more cohesive feel.

—Chip Deffaa