

JAZZ

"ROUTES & BRANCHES"

Prescott Jazz Society

March 1995

P.O. Box 28086, Prescott Valley, AZ 86312 (Spouse & Robert Rd.) (602) 772-5122

Volume 1 Issue 1

Butch Miles & Friends

Saturday, March 18, 1995
Hub Steakhouse
Dinner/Show: 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Show only: 9-11 p.m.

The words to describe this classic jazz drummer are showmanship, technique, sensational, flamboyant, brilliant.

"Butch Miles, a drummer whose performance...was exceptional...precision timing, clean drumming, and a grin on his face" *Detroit News*

"Miles, as always, was a marvel to watch and listen to, a man who does not so much beat a drum as kiss it lightly with the ends of his sticks, snapping off each stroke like a dry twig, flicking the cymbals with the finesse of a master safecracker. His timing is impeccable, his visible and obvious enjoyment of his work infectious." *San Diego Sun*

"Drummer Butch Miles was flamboyant and flashy but impeccably precise and brilliantly swinging." *Washington Post*

I witnessed his recent

performance (Jan. 15) at the Santa Fe Jazz Foundation's "Soprano Summit" concert when he captured the SRO audience with his superb swinging. He astounded everyone (myself included) with a drum solo on the bass violin. It was phenomenal!



He played on the drums, around the drums, on the strings of the bass, and then back, to finish what was one of the most satisfying drum solos that I have ever witnessed. I honestly don't know if I will see him do that again as I am now prepared for the unexpected. But I do know that this "cat" can play!

Butch's accomplishments are too extensive to list here as he has backed every luminary from Frank Sinatra to Count Basic. He has appeared at the Newport Jazz Festival (now the "JVC Jazz Festival) in New York, performing every year since 1975.

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SPECIAL UP-COMING EVENTS

- ◆ PJS Membership Drive
10% discount on all memberships received before March 15th.
- ◆ Sunday, March 12, 1995
Roots of Jazz - Monthly Series
Widescreen video presentation of "Ben Webster, The Brute & The Beautiful," Members & guests only, 3-6 p.m.
Free Admission
- ◆ Saturday, March 18, 1995
Master Drum Clinic with Butch Miles,
Noon-2 p.m.
- ◆ Saturday, March 18, 1995
Butch Miles & Friends, Dinner/Show,
5:30-8:30 p.m.; Show only, 9-11 p.m.,
Hub Steakhouse
- ◆ Sunday, March 26, 1995
Women of Note - Monthly Series
Vocalist, *Sharon Thorne with Drew Francis & Joel DiBartolo,* 3-7 p.m.
Wine & Cheese buffet.
- ◆ Sunday, April 9, 1995
Pianist, *Clare Willey, Recital,"* 3-7 p.m.
Wine & Cheese buffet.

More on these programs on page 4

All events are offered in a smoke-free environment. Tickets are available only through the PJS. Members receive a 15% discount to any event listed here. Many programs are held at the Academy/PJS, located at 4593 N. Robert Rd. (Spouse at Robert Rd.), in Prescott Valley. Questions can be answered by calling the PJS at 772-5122.

Director's Notes

I trust that this communication will find you in rare form and into the "swing" of this wonderful new year.

It is sincerely a great honor to announce to you that as of October, 1994, I accepted the position of Director of the new PRESCOTT JAZZ SOCIETY. Paul Hutchinson, who founded the jazz club in 1993, and I, agreed that this would prove to be a practical, strategic, and beneficial development for the promotion of jazz in our area. I accept this responsibility with an intense dedication, excitement, and vision for the near future.

The Prescott area, which is gaining a reputation for it's jazz, definitely has the capacity and potential to become a year-round jazz mecca for many world-class musicians and jazz lovers alike. I also feel that the children of the Tri-city area deserve an opportunity for exposure to this great American art form as an important aspect of their heritage.

The PJS Planning Committee is currently scheduling a "1995 Calendar

of Events" that will surely surprise and delight you. This includes bi-monthly jazz packages for the DINNER/SHOW events, CONCERTS featuring regional and national artists, the JAZZ MASTER LIBRARY audio/video monthly series of presentations, the WOMEN OF NOTE monthly programs featuring women musicians/entertainers, and a bi-monthly newsletter "ROUTES & BRANCHES" for members.

I extend this invitation for you to actively join us in celebrating, supporting, enjoying, and embracing the all-American art form known the world over as JAZZ. Simply select your membership from the insert included in this newsletter and return it now.

THE PRESCOTT JAZZ SOCIETY has lined up some fabulous events for you! Let it be known that **jazz is alive in 1995**. Please accept my sincere expression of appreciation for your past and continued support.

Milton D. Cannon
Executive Director

State of the Art

With two years of jazz presentations in various local and regional venues behind him, Milt Cannon has moved on to open the Cannon Academy of Performing Art (October, 1994). The Cannon Academy is offering private music classes, presenting clinics, master-classes, lectures and recitals that are open to the public.

At the request of Prescott Jazz Club founder, Paul Hutchinson, Milt Cannon assumed the directorship and subsequent Presidency of the now non-profit corporation dba the Prescott Jazz Society, Inc. The Jazz Society has developed an association with other organizations such as the New Mexico Jazz Workshop, the Santa Fe Jazz Foundation, Western Arts Alliance, and the Tucson Jazz Society. The Prescott Jazz Society's goal to present world-class jazz to the tri-city area on a regular basis is being served well through these

current collaborations.

Nick Malouf and associates have become a Baldwin piano dealer in addition to their already extensive retail offerings while creating a "state-of-the-art" recording studio at the Prescott Music Center, 405 W. Goodwin. The Prescott Music Center extends the courtesy of a 10% discount on all items purchased by students of the Cannon Academy and members of the Prescott Jazz Society.

Last but not least, it is urgent that we direct our attention to the **looming controversy surrounding the attacks on art programs across the country**. These attacks are being waged from every level of government on local school programs up to the National Endowment for the Arts. This radical type activity seems to require that some critical choices be implemented. In support of the Cannon Academy's

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- ♦ Space & Equipment rental
- ♦ Master Classes & Seminars
- ♦ Recitals & Performances

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"Routes & Branches" Ads

Prescott Jazz Society



demonstration, we enlist the words of Janake Hightower, "Art is a staple of mankind, never a by product of elitism. So urgent, so utterly linked with the pulse of feeling that it becomes the singular sign of life when every other aspect of civilization fails...Like hunger and sex, it is a disposition of the human cell - a marvelous fiction of the brain which recreates itself as something as mysterious as mind. Art is consistent with every aspect of every day in the life of every people." (Podoc's Indian America, 1975)

Jazz Quote of the Month:

"When you work with great musicians, they are always a part of you-people like Max Roach, Sonny Rollins, John Coltrane, Bird, Diz...Their spirits are walking around in me, so they're still here and passing it on to others...and part of what I am today is them. It's all in me, the things I learned to do from them. Music is about the spirit and the spiritual and about feeling. I believe their music is still around somewhere, you know. The shit that we played together has to be somewhere around in the air because we blew it there and that shit was magical, was spiritual." Miles Davis

For the latest information on Prescott
Jazz Society events & programs, or to
add your name to the mailing list call the
new
Jazz Hotline at:772-5122



DREAM BOOGIE

Good morning, daddy!
Ain't you heard
The boogie-woogie rumble
Of a dream deferred?

Listen closely:
You'll hear their feet
Beating out and beating out a—

*You think
It's a happy beat?*

Listen to it closely:
Ain't you heard
Something underneath
like a—

*What did I say?
Sure,
I'm happy!
Take it away!
Hey, pop!
Re-bop!
Mop!
Ye-a-h!*

Langston Hughes

**LET'S Celebrate...
Jazz Birthdays**

March:

- 2 Eddie Lockjaw Davis
- 6 Red Callender
Wes Montgomery
- 11 Mercer Ellington
George Carey
Bobby McFerrin
- 12 Al Jarreau
- 14 Quincy Jones
- 15 Cecil Taylor
- 17 Nat King Cole
- 19 Bill Henderson - Keith Smith
- 22 George Benson
- 25 Aretha Franklin
- 27 Sarah Vaughn - Ben Webster
- 28 Thad Jones
Bobby Hutcherson

Welcome to new members...

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Bonnie Nicholson | Dr. Randy S. Hurley |
| Moses Glidden | Paul & Carol Hutchinson |
| Billie & Derek Barnes | George DeWolf |
| John & Lula Cooper | Dinah Owens |
| Tom & Pamela Hood | Jim & Cathi Bartle |
| Teresa Sloan | Thomas Manning |
| Ellen Platamone | LaVon Anderson |
| Gwen Calhoun | |

Thank you for your support of jazz.

More About Up-Coming Events & Programs

Roots of Jazz Monthly Series - For members & guests only, these presentations include widescreen video presentations and rare audio recordings in the PJS Jazz Master Library of performances, documentaries, & interviews with jazz masters. Always free admission to members and their guests. Refreshments provided.

Women of Note Monthly Series - These Sunday afternoon sets showcase the talents of local, regional, and national female performers and entertainers, in various mediums from jazz to classical. Donation varies. Wine & Cheese buffet provided.

Sunday, March 12, 1995 - 3-6 p.m., *Roots of Jazz - Monthly Series, featuring "Ben Webster, The Brute & The Beautiful."* Ben Webster, born in Kansas City, MO, was equal to Coleman Hawkins and Chu Berry for bringing credibility to the tenor saxophone in jazz. He has been linked to some of the greatest names of the art, performing with Fletcher Henderson, Cab Calloway, Duke Ellington, Art Tatum, Nat Cole, and many more, while touring with JATP. Ben is regarded as one of the great ambassadors of this American art form. He performed extensively in Europe while living in Copenhagen, along with fellow patriots, Dexter Gordon, Kenny Clarke, Akbar DePriest, Kenny Drew, and many others. Join other members in an enjoyable afternoon of classic jazz.

Saturday, March 18, 1995 - Noon-2 p.m., **Butch Miles Master Drum Clinic.** In respect to the extraordinary accomplishments of this great drummer, I urge all serious-minded musicians to attend this master class. Butch has backed such notables as Dave Brubeck, Ella Fitzgerald, Mel Torme, Dick Hyman, Woody Herman, Benny Goodman, and a ton of others. There is no doubt that he possesses information that is relevant to all musicians, younger or older. As a noted clinician, Butch has given drum clinics all over the world. He is presently a drum clinician for Ludwig. The class is limited to 30 participants. All Cannon Academy students attend free of charge. Prescott Music Center students receive a 10% discount. Registration cost is \$20.

Sunday, March 26, 1995, 3-7 p.m., *Women of Note Monthly Series.* New York nightclub singer, **Sharon Thorne**, makes her Prescott area debut. Drew Francis will accompany on piano; Joel Dibartolo on bass. *Wine & Cheese buffet.*

Sunday, April 9, 1995, 3-7 p.m., **Pianist, Clare Willey Recital.** Clare Willey is the piano instructor on the staff of The Cannon Academy of Performing Art. He is also the director of the *Yavapai College Jazz Band*. In addition, he performs regularly for the clientele of the *Pine Cone Inn*. Clare was born in Berkeley, CA. He has been in the Prescott area for many years. He is a vintage musician of prime importance to the Prescott area. Having only known this pianist for almost 2 years, there is not much that I can add to the knowledge of the many that have known and enjoyed his musicianship for so long, except to say, that he is a pleasure to perform with, and I regard him as a major credit to the music community. We are looking forward to his recital at the Cannon Academy with much anticipation. *Donation of \$8 includes a Wine & Cheese Buffet.*

Sneak Preview!

Saturday, April 22, 1995, The Prescott Jazz Society 1995 Guest Artist Series presents award winning *Native American singer and songwriter, A. Paul Ortega*. Paul was born a Mescalero Apache in New Mexico and is known and respected as a spiritual leader. He plays guitar and drum in addition to singing melodies based on traditional chants. He has released four albums for Canyon Records. This spiritual leader regularly shares his blessings throughout Europe and Canada, as well as the USA. Paul will do 3 programs on Saturday. He will begin with a performance/lecture, noon-2 p.m., covering the musical expression of *Native Americans and their influence on Jazz*. He will then perform 2 evening shows with his five piece group. Make plans now for attending this rare program! More in the April-May issue of "Routes & Branches."

Giants of Jazz.... Nat "King" Cole

"For me, as a pianist, Nat Cole started it all. His voicings were incredible and innovative," says a current giant of jazz, Herbie Hancock.

For Nat, it started as a youngster growing up on Chicago's southside near the club "Grand Terrace," where Earl "Fatha" Hines' band was featured for years. Legend has it that an under age Nat would listen to the band from the alley next to the club. I believe this to be more fact than legend as I remember listening to Nat's younger brother, Ike "Fats" Cole in much the same manner. I also remember Nat's youngest brother, vocalist, Freddy "Dinky" Cole taking me to another Chicago southside club named Basin Street. I had to wait outside the door while listening to the great saxman Johnny Griffin and keyboard artist Junior Mance, and a host of others. Listening at the back door was an important medium for many young aspiring musicians to learn the way of musicians and their music.

In mentioning Freddy "Dinky" Cole above, most people don't realize how much they have heard him sing. He's the voice behind several commercials including Welch's grape juice, the Hilton Hotel, Chrysler products, and he's on the latest Grover Washington CD, *All My Tomorrows*. Also, Ike Cole lives in the Phoenix area and plays locally from time to time.

By the time I was born, Nat was paying his California dues while playin' them west coast blues, and making a little extra cash by writing arrangements for some of the Los Angeles dance bands. He made his first record date in 1936 with his older brother Eddie Coles. By 1938, the King Cole Trio (Oscar Moore/guitar, Wesley Prince/bass) had been formed and was gaining popularity. Several trips to New

York and Chicago added to the trio's growing acceptance. Aside from the aforementioned record date and some subsequent tracks on the Bluebird record label with Lionel Hampton's band, Decca Records' 1940 signing was the King Cole Trio's first record contract. Sad to say, the company didn't last long due to a musician's union/record company war.

As events evolved, Capital Records (the house that Nat built) did it's first actual session with the trio in 1943, subsequent to a couple of re-releases purchased from other labels. Nat recorded his composition of "Straighten Up and Fly Right" on this date, which he had sold to a music publisher for fifty dollars. It was a smash hit reaching #9 on the pop charts and #1 on the R&B charts.

It was apparent that Nat's homogenization of his church/religious background (father/Baptist minister, mother/church choir director) and the boogie-woogie masters of his day (Jimmy Yancey, Meade Lux Lewis, Albert Ammons) in addition to the master "swing" artists of that day ("Fats" Waller, Teddy Wilson, Earl "Fatha" Hines) had made him the most innovative influential pianist of his day.

Pianistically, with his smooth groove, harmonic hipness, supple phrasing, touch and taste he out distanced all of the others (with the exception of Art Tatum) and influenced many that followed the Nat "King" Cole era.

My closing tribute to Nat is my memory of me as a child playing "cowboys and indians" (back in the days of singing cowboys, riding my little broomstick horse and singing one of his songs, the Calypso Blues. ("ohh, take me back to Trinidad.") Thanks for the memories
Nat! M. Cannon



Jazz Festivals coming up...

New Orleans Jazz & Heritage
Fest (504) 822-4786

Beale Smith Traditional
Jazz Fest (615) 266-0944 TN

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Art Taylor "Raises Camp"

Elder Jazz Statesman, Arthur Taylor, "raised camp" last month. Art was born in New York City in 1929 and grew up in Harlem, where his boyhood friends included Kenny Drew, Jackie McLean, and Sonny Rollins. He recorded with every major mainstream name from Charlie Parker to John Coltrane including Miles and Monk. In all, he was the drummer on over three hundred recordings. John Coltrane's career marking recording of "Giant Steps" was one of Art's most impressive performances. The grapevine has it that his recent group, "Taylor's Wailers," was a very impressive part of the *Chicago Jazz Festival* mix of Vaughn Freeman, Joshua Redman, and others this past September. Art also wrote the book *Notes & Tones* which consists of interviews with prominent jazz musicians. He will be missed!

For a copy of his book contact De Capo Press at 233 Spring Street, New York, NY 10013, or call (800) 321-8950

Jazz Tip: If you're in the Phoenix area stop by Unique Foods at 12th & Jefferson, for some great soul food and fine jazz on Friday and Saturday nights. Unique Foods provides a smoke-free environment. And you may see greats like Wynton Marsalis drop in to eat and sit in. Tell them we sent you!

We want to hear from you!

- Do you know some jazz history or have a jazz experience you would like to share?
- Comments? Articles... Send them to us at:
PJS, P.O. Box 26096
Prescott Valley, AZ 86312
(Robert Rd. & Spouse)

Continued from Page 1...

He has performed at the *Grande Parade Du Jazz* in Nice, France seven times.

In short, Butch has presented this American art from known as jazz all over the world from Berlin, Germany to Central America and the Caribbean, and now to northern Arizona.

As a noted clinician (Ludwig Drum Co.), Butch Miles has held drum clinics internationally.

In 1976, he did a Royal Command Performance for the Queen of England. So he is superbly qualified to back the silky smooth vocal stylings of Sherry Roberson.

Sherry Roberson is a fabulous songstress. She is back from her most recent tour that included an engagement on the *SS Norway*, one of the largest and most popular cruise ships in the world.

Sherry has performed internationally while becoming recognized as one of the premiere entertainers of Phoenix, performing in local venues such as the *Arizona Biltmore*, *Timothy's*, and the *Phoenician Resort of Scottsdale*. I am delighted in and appreciative of her acceptance of this engagement.

Joel DiBartolo is the bassist that will be providing the bottom line to the group. He is known for setting a deep groove that audiences can swing and sway in.

Joel is the current bassist for *Doc Sevrensen's "Tonight Show Band"*, and has been with the band for some twenty years. He is also

the bassist that provides the musical support for local recording star, *Liz Story*. He does all of this while teaching for *ASU, The Cannon Academy of Performing Art*, and fulfilling many of the engagement requests of other recording artists. Joel DiBartolo remains a major factor in the local and national arts community.

Drew

Francis is a graduate of the *Performing Arts High School of Manhattan, New York* (the model for the

TV series *'Fame'*). He studied privately with the great arranger/composer, Don Sebesky. Shortly before moving to northern Arizona, Drew co-wrote the film score for *"The Uprising of 1934,"* after working with David Earl Johnson on the television series *"Miami Vice"* sound tracks. Drew is the glue that will integrate these formidable talents with his piano wizardry. Spelling out beautiful and enchanting chords, comping on inspiring rhythms, while employing lusciously simple phrasing, is how he does it so effectively.

All of this together with fine wine, fine dining, and fine people, spells fun, enjoyment, and a rewarding experience. BIG TIME!

The Hub Steakhouse offers a warm venue for the dinner/show, and some of the finest fare I've eaten anywhere. Tickets for the *Dinner>Show* are \$18.95 per person. *Show Only* tickets are \$12. You may call PJS at 772-5122 for reservations.



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Jazz Tip: The Milt Cannon Band, featuring award winning drummer, Dave Cook will open the NOLAZ Jazz Showcase season on Thursday, March 30, 1995, starting at 8:30 p.m.

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BECOME A PRESCOTT JAZZ SOCIETY MEMBER
1995 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IS UNDERWAY**

10% discount on all memberships received before March 15, 1995.

Why be a member of the Prescott Jazz Society?

- ✓ **You will enjoy superb entertainment throughout the year at discount prices**
- ✓ **You will be invited to exclusive presentations for members and guests only (like monthly jazz video presentations on widescreen TV)**
- ✓ **You will have first choice seating privileges at all PJS/Cannon Academy major events**
- ✓ **You will receive discounts at local businesses (Prescott Music Center & Phoenix USA)**
- ✓ **You will also receive the bi-monthly edition of "Routes & Branches"**

*Fill out the membership registration now and return it today!
We have a wonderful assortment of special events coming your way!*

Prescott Jazz Society Purpose:

To present, promote, and celebrate jazz performance and awareness in northern Arizona

YES! I would like a membership to the Prescott Jazz Society effective immediately for one year. I understand that as a member I will receive the bi-monthly newsletter "Routes & Branches," 15% discounts to all Cannon Academy/Jazz Society events, free admission to monthly members only Jazz Master audio/video presentations, and discounts at various local businesses.

(please print)

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Check one:

Special Member - \$25 (*for students/seniors*)

Sponsor - \$100 (*includes ad in bi-monthly newsletter*)

Charter Member - \$35

Benefactor - \$300 (*assisting artist residency programs*)

Family/Couple - \$60

Patron/Gold - \$500 (*lifetime membership*)

Please tell us what local/national jazz artists you would like to see perform in this area: _____

Are you interested in volunteering? Planning Committee Admin. PR Development Newsletter Events

Detach this panel and mail it along with your check to: Prescott Jazz Society, P.O. Box 26096, Prescott Valley, AZ 86312.



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