

Arkansas Jazz Calendar

Vol. 12 No. 2

Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation Newsletter

Spring 2004

Spring at the Monday Jazz Project, 2004 Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame Features guitarist Eddie Fisher, Arkansongs Jazz features pianist Walter Norris, & more Arkansas Jazz News.

ARKANSAS JAZZ NEWS ...

Saxophonist Jeff Marx Opens Spring Monday Jazz Project

The Monday Jazz Project presents saxophonist **Jeff Marx** from Chicago IL, on Monday April 5, 2004 at the AfterThought, 2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock. Michael Jefry Stevens of Memphis on piano, Joe Vick on bass, and Dave Rogers will accompany Marx. Admission \$10, seating begins at 7:30 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m., Call (501) 663-1196 or 228-9999 for tickets.

Marx, a Detroit native, lived and played in San Francisco, but now has been living in Chicago since the early 90's. His distinctive style has been compared to a combination of John Coltrane, Sonny Rollins, and Joe Henderson. He has performed with such names as Ira Coleman, John Espasito, Eddie Henderson, Mark Lavine, Kevin McNeil, Jim Pepper, and Reggie Workman. His group Second Sight also featured Dave Douglas, Musician of the year 2000 in Downbeat. He can be heard on his own CD "Great Unknown", playing on Don Bennett's CD "Reaching for a Star", the Second Sight's CD "Second Sight", and most recently on Soluna Records, the new release "Treading Air, Breathing Fire".

The April Monday Jazz Project schedule continues April 12 with the Chuck Dodson Trio featuring Chuck Dodson of Hot Springs, Arkansas on piano, with Brian Wolverton on bass, and Dave Rogers at the drums, 8 p.m., \$5 cover.



Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame May 22, 2004 Features Little Rock native Eddie Fisher

The Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame is Saturday May 22, 2004, 7 p.m. in The Old State House Museum, downtown Little Rock. Join us for cocktails and heavy Hors D'oeuvres as we celebrate our 2004 Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame inductees with a Reception and Concert featuring internationally acclaimed jazz guitarist and Little Rock native **Eddie Fisher**. Individual tickets for the evening are \$20 available from The Old State House Museum and Capitol Keyboard. Please contact AJHF President Cece Rich (501) 228-9999 for information about individual tickets or group table reservations for your company. For more on the Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame go to our website <http://arjazz.org/artists/hof/>.

• The Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation Board of Directors will meet Saturday, April 17th, 2004, 4 PM at Capitol Keyboard 13401 Chenal Parkway Little Rock. Contact Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation President Cece Rich at 501-228-9999 for information. **AJHF members please remember to send in your dues using the membership/renewal form on page 3 of this issue.** For information about your membership status call AJHF Secretary James Thomson (501) 225-2891.

• **The Arkansas Literacy Council Gala features jazz legend Bob Dorough**, April 24, 2004, 7 p.m., State House Convention Center, Little Rock. Tickets \$125.00 available by calling (501) 663-4321 or toll free 1-800-264-7323. Joining pianist Bob Dorough will be Joe Vick on bass and Dave Rogers on drums. The Literacy Council is also sponsoring free concerts at the Riverfront Amphitheatre Saturday April 24 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. including Villonia High School Jazz Ensemble, Sunday April 25 from Noon to 5 p.m. including Rodney Block and University of Monticello Jazz Band.

• **A Devin Night of Jazz** featuring the Little Rock Central High Jazz Ensemble with special guest artist saxophonist **Merlon Devine**, Thursday, April 29, 2004, 7:30 p.m., Stella Boyle Auditorium, UALR. Tickets \$10 by calling 663-9287.

• **The North Arkansas Jazz Society** presents jazz events in the Northwest

Arkansas area. Support NAJS by sending a check for \$20 to North Arkansas Jazz Society, 40 East Elm, Fayetteville, AR 72703, or call Robert Ginsburg for information at 479-521-1255 or 442-0990. See the NAJS schedule in this issue.

• **Send You Back to Arkansas: Our Own Sweet Sounds II** exhibit runs until October 2004 at the Old State House Museum, Center and W. Markham Streets, Little rock. Come see and hear Arkansas's contributions to American popular music. The exhibit features **five galleries** full of everything from stage suits, handwritten song lyrics, instruments, album art and more! **Jazz, blues, folk, gospel, country, and rock music** genres are explored. Touch screen kiosks, DVDs and surround sound components add to the experience. Artists featured include: Jimmy Driftwood, Sonny Boy Williamson, Louis Jordan, Scott Joplin, Conway Twitty, Johnny Cash, Sister Rosetta Tharpe, Al Green, Howlin' Wolfe, Joe Nichols, Black Oak Arkansas, Levon Helm, Evanescence, and more.

• The **Hot Springs Jazz Society** supports jazz programming in the spa city including the Annual Scholastic Jazz Festival in Hot Springs National Park, April 26, 2003, and the annual Hot Springs Jazz Festival, September 2003. Memberships are \$25 individual and \$37 for a couple. For info, contact the Hot Springs Jazz Society, PO Box 972, Hot Springs, AR 71902-0972 or call Shirley at 501-767-5482 or Peggy Ross at 501-922-4570.

• **Hot Springs Jazz Festival** has moved to August 2004 in Hot Springs Arkansas. Please check the HSJS web site <http://www.hotspringsjazz.org>.

• **Jazz at the Historic Arlington Hotel**, 239 Central Ave., Hot Springs in the

Lobby Willie Davis Combo plays Thursday 8pm-midnight, Friday and Saturday 8:30pm to 12:30am. Tea Dances are held on Sundays once a month in Arlington Great Ballroom, 3-6pm, admission \$8 per person. Call 501-623-7771 for further information.

• **Jazz Cabaret at Wildwood** is presented on the first and third Friday evenings every month, 8 p.m. to midnight, featuring a house band with pianist Stratsimir Pavlov, \$5 cover. Wildwood Park, 20919 Denny Road, Little Rock, 501-821-7275, ext. 242

• **The Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation** supports jazz in the state, join by filling in the form in this newsletter and sending along with a check for \$15 individual, \$25 family, or \$5 for students to the Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation, PO Box 251187 Little Rock, AR 72225. Call for membership form or see www.arjazz.org. Call Cecil Rich - President 501-228-9999 for information about AJHF.

Send entries for the Arkansas Jazz News or AJC features to ajc@arjazz.org or call (501) 225-2891. The next AJC deadline is April 19, 2004.

In a preview of their April 23 Arkansasongs concert at UALR, the **Tom Cox Trio** performs at the AfterThought April 19th featuring Tom Cox on piano, Joe Vick on bass, and Dave Rogers at the drums, 8 p.m., \$5 cover. The Monday Jazz Jam with House Band featuring Dan Sieckman on Guitar, Joe Vick on bass, and Dave Rogers at the drums will end the month on April 26th, 8 p.m., \$5 cover, \$1 jammers.

May 3, 2004 vocalist Thomas East sings in front of Buck Powell on piano, Joe Vick on bass, and Dave Rogers at the drums, 8 p.m., \$5 cover. Memphis Saxophonist **Herman Green** returns to the AfterThought May 10th with a quartet featuring Buck Powell on piano, Joe Vick on bass, and Dave Rogers at the drums, 8 p.m., \$10 cover.

Jay Garrett of Dallas brings his vibes to the AfterThought on May 17, 2004 for a show with Dan Sieckman on guitar, Joe Vick on bass, and Dave Rogers at the drums, 8 p.m., \$10 cover. The Monday Jazz Jam is May 24 with House Trio, 8 p.m., \$5 cover. The AfterThought will be closed for Memorial Day May 31, 2004.

All dates at the AfterThought 2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock. (501) 663-1196. The Monday Jazz Project is sponsored by The Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation (www.arjazz.org), with special assistance from the AfterThought. Seating is General Admission. For more information on the Monday Jazz Project contact Cecil Rich at (501) 228-9999. Please help support the Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame.

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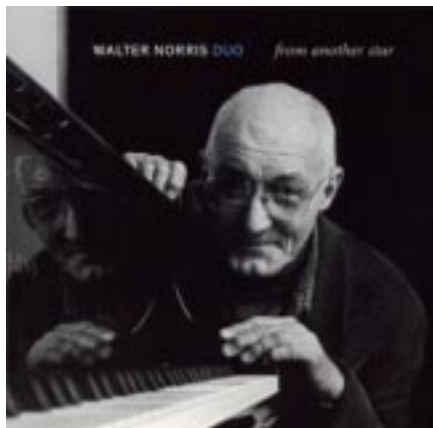
Friday at 8 PM

Host by Jim Lake

**Arkansongs Festival features
Jazz Concert featuring
Walter Norris and Tom Cox
Trio: Friday, April 23, 2004**

UALR will host **legendary jazz pianist Walter Norris with opening act the Tom Cox Trio** for a concert in the university's **Stella Boyle Smith Concert Hall (Fine Arts Building) at 7 p.m. April 23, 2004.**

Walter Norris has been called the country's greatest living master of classical American improvisational jazz piano. "He's a bonafide result of the invisible roots of spiritual and artistic



necessity, predictable, even to himself," said Jan Holland of *Venice Magazine*. Sammy Cohen of *Jazz Notes Magazine* said, "His playing is dexterous and richly melodic. He seems to actually pull

sounds out of the grand piano – his magically resonant keyboard touch is more than a bit reminiscent of the late great concert pianist Vladimir Horowitz."

Born and raised in Little Rock, Norris studied classical piano from age four to 18, and he played professionally with Howard William's 19-piece big band in Little Rock before graduating from high school. After a stint in the Air Force, he joined assorted quartets and trios around the country, before moving to Los Angeles where he worked with Stan Getz, Dexter Gordon, Johnny Griffin, Teddy Edwards, Zoot Sims and others. In the early 1960s, he moved to New York, where he was intermission pianist at the Embers and Roundtable before joining bassist Hal Gaylor and guitarist Billy Bean to record "The Trio" for Riverside Records. The recording led to gigs at the New York Playboy Club, where he eventually became musical director. Through the 1970s, he played freelance and taught. He also toured through the United States and Europe before returning to New York and joining the Charles Mingus Quintet.

The Beechwood Grill

Lunch and Dinner 11am to 9 pm

Dinner in the Afterthought Next Door
5:30-9 pm Mon-Sat

Non-smoking Environment

Modern American dining

**Arkansas Jazz Heritage
Foundation**

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www.arjazz.org info@arjazz.org

HELP SUPPORT JAZZ IN ARKANSAS!

For only **(\$15 individual / \$25 family/ \$5 Student/ \$50 Jazzman / \$100 Corporate / \$500 Corporate)** you can become a member of the Arkansas Jazz and Heritage Foundation and help support *America's classical music* in Arkansas. Your application fee entitles you to membership privileges for one year. This includes regular newsletters (*The Arkansas Jazz Calendar*), info about jazz performances around the state, and the right to help the Foundation decide which musicians and programs to sponsor. AJHF is a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating the general public about the historical significance of Arkansas's musical heritage. It sponsors jazz performances by musicians with Arkansas connections and educational clinics for high school and college musicians throughout the state.

Fill this out to stay informed about upcoming jazz performances and educational clinics.

Check the Following: New Membership Renewal

Name _____ Jazz Society Affiliation _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Are you a musician _____ instrument(s) _____

Type of Membership _____. What types of jazz do you most like? _____

What jazz musicians or groups would you most like to see perform in Arkansas? _____

_____ College _____

Please make checks payable to *Arkansas Jazz and Heritage Foundation* and send to:
Arkansas Jazz and Heritage Foundation, P.O. Box 251187, Little Rock, AR 72225.
For further information call (501) 228-9999, 225-2133 or 663-5264.

In addition to becoming a Steinway Artist in 1995, Norris was selected for Arkansas' Jazz Heritage Foundation Hall of Fame and last year was inducted into the state's Entertainer's Hall of Fame.

The Tom Cox Trio features Tom Cox on piano, Joe Vick on bass, and Dave Rogers on Drums. Seating for the April 23 concert is limited. Call (501) 569-3294 for more information. The final day of the Arkansas music celebration will feature a Master Class for Jazz Piano instructed by Walter Norris at 3 p.m. in UALR's Stella Boyle Smith Concert Hall (Fine Arts Building).

April / May 2004 Jazz Schedule
Monday Jazz Project at *The AfterThought* , every Monday night at 8PM
2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock, AR (501) 663-1196

- Apr. 5 - **Jeff Marx**, saxophonist with Michael Jefry Stevens-piano, Joe Vick-bass,& Dave Rogers-drums
8 p.m., tickets \$10 available at the AfterThought (cash only) and Capitol Keyboard (501) 229-9999.
- Apr. 12 - **Chuck Dodson Trio** 8 p.m., \$5 cover.
- Apr. 19 - **Tom Cox Trio**, with Tom Cox,-piano, Joe Vick-bass, & Dave Rogers-drums. 8 p.m., \$ 5 cover.
- Apr. 26 - **Monday Jazz Project Jam Session** with Dan Sieckman-guitar, Joe Vick-bass, & Dave Rogers-drums.
Jam players sign up starting at 7:45 p.m. in After Thought foyer, 8 PM, \$5 cover, \$1 Jammers.
- May 3 - **Thomas East-vocalist** with Buck Powell-piano, Joe Vick-bass, & Dave Rogers-drums. 8 p.m., \$5 cover.
- May 10 - **Herman Green Quartet.** 8 p.m., \$5 cover.
- May 17 - **Jay Garrett-vibes** with Dan Sieckman-guitar, Joe Vick-bass, and Dave Rogers-drums. 8 p.m., \$5 cover.
- May 24 - **Monday Jazz Project Jam Session** with Dan Sieckman, Joe Vick-bass, and Dave Rogers-drums.
Jam players sign up starting at 7:45 p.m. in After Thought foyer, 8 PM, \$5 cover, \$1 Jammers.
- May 31 - Afterthought Closed for Memorial Day.

All dates at the Afterthought 2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock. (501) 663-1196. The Monday Jazz Project is sponsored by The Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation (www.arjazz.org), with special assistance from the Afterthought Seating is General Admission. For more information on the Monday Jazz Project contact Cecil Rich at (501) 228-9999.