

Arkansas Jazz Calendar

Vol. 6 No. 2 Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation Newsletter August 1998

In this issue

The Tomboulians perform in August, the annual AJHF meeting, and Jazz News around the state

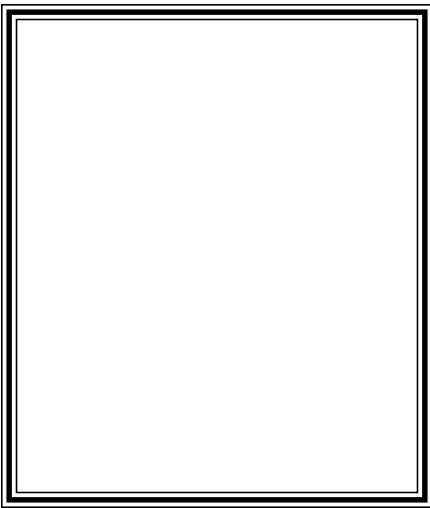
ARKANSAS JAZZ NEWS ...

Monday Jazz welcomes *Lee and Betty Tomboulian!*

August 3, 1998, 8 PM, \$6 cover

Well known jazz musicians **Lee and Betty Tomboulian** will return to Arkansas to play at the AfterThought on Kavanaugh Boulevard on Monday August 3, 1998, at 8 PM. They will be accompanied by **Buck Powell** on bass and **Anthony Thompson** on drums. Tickets are \$6 and will be available at the door at the AfterThought.

Little Rock residents in the 80's, the Tomboulians were popular jazz performers in Arkansas before moving to Denton, Texas, in 1993. While completing his Masters degree in Denton, Lee was pianist with the University of North Texas (UNT) prestigious *One O'Clock Lab Band*. His composition, *B.B.*, was featured on *Lab 97*, the CD published by UNT for the One O'Clock Lab Band.



Lee Tomboulian

He was also featured on numerous tunes in the collection **Fifty Years of Jazz** released by UNT in celebration of the fiftieth

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Great Music at the *Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame*

by Albert Everett

The weekend of June 19-22 of this year was a busy one for the Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation. It included a *Jazz for Kids* show on Friday at the Little Rock Public Library, the 1998 Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame induction ceremony at Capitol Keyboard on Saturday night, and two shows at the AfterThought on Monday night.

The new Hall of Fame members include composer/ pianist/ vocalist **Bob Dorough**, vocalist/educator **Roseanna Vitro**, and saxophonist **John Stubblefield**.

The late saxophonist **Art Porter, Jr.** was awarded the foundation's *Lifetime Achievement Award*, which includes automatic induction into the Hall of Fame. Bob Dorough and Roseanna Vitro both flew in from out of state to be present.

Since beginning the foundation's web site (www.arjazz.org), I've been involved in most of its activities. My job this time was to take care of Roseanna and her family while they were here. Her mother, two sisters, and 2-year-old niece were to drive up from Dallas. Roseanna was winding up five weeks of vocal training in India and cut her training short to be here in Arkansas for the Hall of Fame ceremony. Bob Dorough was hosted by Ben and Mary Thomson during his stay.

Friday afternoon, after several hours on the road back from Fort Smith after Alison Krauss' rained-out performance, I headed straight to Bob Dorough's *Jazz for Kids* show at the Little Rock Public Library. Gloria Lane and I arrived just as Bob and the band (Joe Vick on bass, Dave Rogers on drums, Zinze on congas) were in the middle of *Three is a Magic Number*, from Bob's long-running Saturday morning animation series *Schoolhouse Rock*. Everyone in the

(Continued on page 2 - Hall of Fame ...)

- **The Jazz Club of Arkansas** regularly meets on the first Sunday of each month at the American Legion Post #1, 315 E. Capitol, Little Rock, from 2 to 5 PM. Annual Picnic for Jazz Club members is August 30th at Capitol Keyboard. If you are interested in membership and upcoming activities call Doug Stiles at (501) 663-5414.

- **The Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation Annual Meeting** will be held Sunday August 23, 1998 at Capitol Keyboard, 13401 Chenal Parkway, Little Rock, 2 PM. This is an important meeting of the membership so please attend. Call Cece Rich (501) 228-9999 or James Thomson 663-5264 for information.

- The Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation presents its Summer fundraiser "*Blues and Burgers / Burgers and Blues*" starting at 4 PM on Sunday August 23rd, 1998. A \$15 donation (\$10 for AJHF members) covers good food, music, and libations, and a silent auction. RSVP to Cece Rich (501) 228-9999 to reserve tickets or James Thomson 663-5264 to contribute an auction item or help with the event.

- **The Hot Springs Jazz Festival** runs Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, September 11, 12, and 13th, 1998 in Hot Springs Arkansas. Headliners performing Saturday September 12th, 11 am to 8 PM, in downtown Hot Springs include trumpeter **Terence Blanchard**, **The Tom Cummings Quartet**, **Shirley Chauvin** and the **Shades of Blue Air-Force Jazz Ensemble**, and the **Henderson State University New Fusion Jazz Ensemble**. The Fest starts Friday evening with an All Star Jazz Jam lead by the **Tom Cummings Quartet**, 7:30 PM, at Kat House Blues Club (call ahead for tickets (501) 767-5482). **The Ft. Lake** and The "**Shades of Blue**" **Air-Force Jazz Ensembles** close the Festival on Sunday September 13th at 3 p.m., in the Fountain Lake HS Auditorium. Call (501) 767-5482 for further information.

- **Eureka Springs Jazz Festival**, September 18 -19 in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. September 18th, Grady Nichols and Moments Notice with **The Dave**

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anniversary of the jazz degree program at UNT.

Lee has a B.A. in Music is from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He completed his Master of Music in Jazz Studies from the University of North Texas in 1997.

Lee and Betty are presently performing in Texas with the Latin band *Circo*, the Texas reincarnation of their group *Circo Verde* that was popular in the Little Rock area between 1988 and 1994. They also provide music for Denton's Trinity United Methodist Church's 9:30 alternative service.

Repertoire for the August 3 performance at the AfterThought will be primarily mainstream jazz with some Lee Tomboulion originals, Thelonious Monk, Antonio Carlos Jobim, and George Gershwin.

This show is sponsored by the Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation and The AfterThought (located at 2721 Kavanaugh Blvd. in Little Rock). The admission is \$6 at the door. See also the schedule of jazz events in Little Rock on the Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation web page at www.arjazz.org or send email to info@arjazz.org.

Other August dates on the Monday Jazz Project include **August 10** with Memphis jazz saxophonist **Herman Green and Quartet**. Joining Green in the quartet are Charles Thomas on piano, Joe Vick on bass, and Dave Rogers at the drums, \$5 cover. **August 17** is the **Dave Rogers Trio**, 8 PM, \$5 cover. Roger's is expecting a new CD to be released this fall including his own compositions as well as inspirations from the rest of the group. Members of the trio include Dave Rogers on drums, Joe Vick on bass, and Chris Parker on piano.

Monday Jazz hails the return of Dixieland Jazz featuring **The HappyTymes Jazz Band** on August 24 at the After thought, 8 PM, \$5 cover. This group has been a favorite at the Sacramento Jazz Festival and other leading traditional festivals around the world. Members include Earl J. "Doc" Hesse on clarinet and sax, E.O. Huddleston on trombone, Ron Bryant on trumpet, and Ted Seibs at the drums. Rounding out the month as always on August 31st is Monday Jazz Jam with **The House Trio**, 8 PM, \$3 cover. Sign-up to jam in foyer.

The Monday Jazz Project is presented to you each week by the Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation and La Scala Restaurant/ The AfterThought. Patrons should be aware that because of limited seating they may have to be seated with

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room was singing along and counting by threes, kids as well as their teachers and parents. Bob and the band played other numbers from *Schoolhouse Rock* and several songs from his recent Blue Note CD release *Right On My Way Home* for more than an hour.

My college-aged niece Jenny drove up Friday night from Magnolia. The following morning we met Bob and the Thomsons for a fine Arkansas breakfast at the Ozark Mountain Smokehouse. What I'd heard from others about Bob was true - he was warm and friendly and was soon talking with Jenny about her classes and his own interest in various languages. After meeting Bob, Jenny changed her plans for the evening to attend the Hall of Fame ceremony.

Meanwhile, Roseanna's family had arrived and checked in to their hotel. The Vitro clan got over to Capitol Keyboard a little before the Hall of Fame ceremony, and Roseanna and Bob began to work out an arrangement of his song *Nothing Like You*, a challenging tune recorded by Roseanna on her *Softly* album.

After a dinner catered by La Scala Italian Restaurant, the program began with an introduction by **Pamela Smith**, a jazz fan and Channel 7's weekend anchor. After a tune by the evening's band (leader **Dave Rogers** on drums, **Joe Vick** on bass, **Rex Bell** on keyboards, and Memphis guest saxophonist **Herman Green**), **Pauline Porter** accepted her son **Art Porter Jr.**'s award with a touching speech filled with her pride in his accomplishments as well as her pain from having lost him at such a young age. The **Art Porter Singers** followed with a wonderful performance of *New York New York* and one of Art Jr.'s favorite songs, *Somewhere* from *West Side Story*.

Unfortunately, saxophonist **John Stubblefield** was beginning a European tour with the Mingus Big Band and couldn't make it. The band played his tune *Midnight over Memphis*. His sister **Joyce Petillo** accepted his award in his place and described his early and lasting fascination with the saxophone and also his appreciation of the Art Porter family, many of whom had been on gigs with him while he was living in Little Rock.

The band followed with *Autumn Leaves*. By happy coincidence, **Chris Potter**, one of today's great tenor players, dropped in, still in town after his appearance at UALR with the **Brad Mehldau Trio** the previous evening. He and Herman Green really sounded great together, Chris the young lion and Herman the veteran of years with

the likes of Lionel Hampton, Miles and Coltrane.

After Bob Dorrough's introduction, he played his new arrangement of the Mancini/Mercer classic *Moon River* from his new album. Marshall Purvis, a foundation member who hosted a popular radio program on KLAZ in the mid-70's, called out a request for Bob's tune *Baltimore Oriole*, and Bob honored it, following it with his famous *Yardbird Suite*, which he calls "my first advertisement for jazz." Finally, he and the band played his "Nothing Like You." After several choruses, he modulated to Roseanna's key and she joined the band to finish the tune and start her part of the evening. She also sang *Falling In Love With Love* from the *Softly* album, and *The Island*, a sensuous tune by Brazilian composer Ivan Lins which she recorded on her *Reaching for the Moon* album.

The evening finished with everyone on stage for the Thelonius Monk tune *Blue Monk* from Roseanna's *Passion Dance* CD. Roseanna went from musician to musician, playing duet choruses with each, including Bob, who improvised a couple of verses for her on the spot.

After the festivities, Bob, Roseanna, and Herman exchanged stories from the road. The following afternoon, we all met again for brunch to hear **Charles Thomas** playing piano at the Holiday Inn West. Before driving Roseanna back to the airport Monday morning, we stopped at WalMart for some Razorback shirts and had a fine breakfast of eggs and cheese grits with Bob and the Thomsons.

Monday night, Bob Dorrough played two shows at the AfterThought with Dave Rogers and Joe Vick. As he had at the library on Friday, Bob had the audience singing along with him on tunes from *Schoolhouse Rock*, unusual for the sophisticated AfterThought crowd. He played "Moon River," "I Get the Neck of the Chicken," and the title track from "Right On My Way Home." He also played several of his more well-known tunes, including "Small Day Tomorrow," which I had mentioned in passing to him at breakfast days before. Bob also gave an interesting description of his long-distance songwriting partnership with **Fran Landesman** in England.

Having played two gigs with Bob already, Joe and Dave sounded particularly good with him Monday night, and Bob repeated a comment he made throughout the weekend, that "we don't rehearse in Arkansas," but this time adding that our

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Rogers Trio at the Basin Park Hotel from 8 PM to 1AM., tickets are \$12. Saturday September 19 **Herbie Mann** headlines in the City Auditorium with opening act **Angela Hagenbach** and **Musa Nova**. Starts at 8 p.m., tickets are \$25. Saturday After Party in the Basin Park Hotel features **New World Funk Ensemble**, 8 PM to 1:30 AM, tickets \$12. Live jazz will be performed all day Saturday in the Basin Park Band Shell. Visit their web site: www.eurekaweb.com/jazz or call (501) 253-5732 for more information.

• **Cypress Jazz and UALR Music Dept.** will present Blue Note recording artist / vocalist **Kurt Elling** in concert on October 1, 1998 at 7:30 PM, in the Stella Boyle Smith Fine Arts Auditorium, UALR. Tickets for the concert are \$15 general Admission/\$8 for Students. For information call the UALR Music Dept. (501) 569 3294.

• **The Arkansas River Blues Society** presents their weekly Blues Jam at Juanita's, 9 p.m., \$3 general admission Every Tuesday evening in Juanita's Cantina Ballroom, 1300 S. Main, Little Rock. Sign-up with Jeff Weeden at the event to participate in the Jam. Call (501) 374-3660 for more information.


• **Vagabonds** has live jazz Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at 5913 Kavanaugh, Little Rock. Don't miss it! There's a Jam Session every Thursday. Call (501) 296-9696 for information.

• **The North Arkansas Jazz Society** presents jazz events in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Support jazz in Northwest Arkansas by sending a check for \$20 (individual), \$30 (family), \$10 (Student), \$50-\$100 (Sustaining), or \$100 - UP (Corporate) payable to North Arkansas Jazz

Society, 40 East Elm, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72703, or call President Robert Ginsburg for information at (501) 521-1255 or 442-0990.

• **The Pine Bluff Jazz Club** meets every 3rd Sunday 2 to 5 p.m. of each month. For location and date for their next meeting call (501) 879-2059 for further information.

• **The Star Dust Dance Band** with vocalist **Shirley Chauvin** performs monthly in Hot Springs. Call for schedule (501) 767-5482.

• **The Hot Springs Jazz Society** supports jazz programming in the Spa City including the annual Hot Springs Jazz and Blues Festival which is September 11 - 13, 1998 in Hot Springs, Arkansas. To join send check for \$25 to The Hot Springs Jazz Society, PO Box 972, Hot Springs, AR 71902-0972. For further information contact Shirley Chauvin at (501) 767-5482. 

MONDAY JAZZ
PROJECT

at

THE AFTERTHOUGHT

Monday Evenings
Cover charge
8 p.m.

HELP SUPPORT JAZZ IN ARKANSAS!

For only (\$15 individual / \$25 family/ \$5 Student/ \$50 Jazzman / \$100 Corporate) you 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. These privileges include regular newsletters (The Arkansas Jazz Calendar) about upcoming jazz performances in and around the state, and the right to help the Foundation decide which musicians and programs it will sponsor. The Arkansas Jazz and Heritage Foundation 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.

Please give us the following information, so we can keep you informed about upcoming jazz performances and educational clinics. Check the Following: New Membership Renewal

Name _____ Jazz Society Affiliation _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Other _____ 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.

THE JAZZ RADIO

CALENDAR OF ARKANSAS

• **KABF 88.3 FM Community Radio(Little Rock):**
Sunday 9 a.m.- noon *The Quiet Storm* w/Griff
Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-12 noon *The Jazz*
Venue Saturday 7-10 p.m. *Cool Jazz*
Call (501) 443-0088.

• **KUAR 89.1 FM / NPR (Little Rock):**
Sunday 6:30-7 p.m. *Jazz Revisted*
7-8 p.m. *Swinging down the Lane* w/ David Miller
8-9 p.m. *McPartland's Jazz Piano*
9-12 midnight *52nd Street Jazz* w/ John Cain
Monday 8-9 p.m. *Jazz Classics*
9-10 p.m. *Four Queens Jazz*
Tuesday 8-9 p.m. *Jazzset* w/ Branford Marsalis
9-10 p.m. *Worldwide Jazz*
Wednesday 8-9 p.m. *Jazz Profiles*
9-10 p.m. *Jazz from Lincoln Center*
10-11 p.m. *Harlem Hit Parade*
Call (501) 569-8485 for select show info.

• **KUAF 91.3 FM / NPR (Fayetteville):**
Monday-Friday 12:30-1 p.m. *Noon jazz show*
9 p.m.-midnight *Shades of Jazz*
Tuesday 9 p.m.-midnight *Jazz Show*
Wed. 9-10p.m. *Four Queens JazzNight from Las Vegas*
10-11 p.m. *Jazz Classics* and
11-midnight *Jazz from Lincoln Center*
Thurs. 9-10 p.m. *Marion McPartland's Jazz Piano*
10-11 p.m. *JazzSet* w/ Branford Marsalis,
11-midnight *Jazz Profiles*
Call (501) 575-2556 for info.

• **KTXK 91.5 FM / public radio (Texarkana):**
Call (903) 794-6135 for info.

• **KASU 91.9 FM (Jonesboro):**
Something Blue show with Hairy Larry, & other blues and jazz throughout the week.
Call (870) 972-3070.

• **KIPR 92.3 FM (Little Rock):**
Sunday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. jazz format.
Call (501) 663-0092.

• **KYFX 99.5 FM (Little Rock):**
Sunday 5 a.m.-2 p.m. jazz format.
Call (501) 666-9499.

• **KFFB 106.1 FM (Fairfield Bay):**
Wednesday & Friday 10-11pm
Saturday 7pm-midnight

Send revisions or new entries to:
the Jazz Radio Calendar of Arkansas,
c/o the Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation
P.O. Box 251187
Little Rock, AR 72225-1187

Email: ajc@arjazz.org, or
Phone: (501) 663-5264.

The Foundation Purposes

- (1) To provide the general public with an awareness of different styles of jazz, focusing on performances by musicians with Arkansas connections; 5
- (2) To provide a basis for educational experiences for the local professional and student jazz musicians, and the larger listening community;
- (3) To provide a basis for historical review of jazz performers and performances in Arkansas.

Board of Directors

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ARKANSAS JAZZ HERITAGE FOUNDATION
<http://www.arjazz.org/> email: info@arjazz.org

Monday Jazz Schedule - Spring 1998
The AfterThought, 2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock, 501
663-1196

June

29 Monday Jazz Jam and Showcase, \$3

July

6 Guitarist John Behling, \$5.
13 Guitarist Calvin Newborn, \$5.
20 Vocalist Shirley Chauvin and S'Wonderful, \$5
27 Monday Jazz Jam and Showcase, \$3.

August

3 Lee and Betty Tomboulia with Buck Powell on bass
and Anthony Thompson on drums, \$6.
10 Saxophonist Herman Green, \$5.
17 The Dave Rogers Trio, \$5.
24 The HappyTymes Jazz Band, \$5.
31 Monday Jazz Jam, \$3.

All shows start 8 PM every Monday at the Afterthought, 2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock, (501) 663-5264. Sponsored by the Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation. s are cosponsored by the AfterThought, the Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation and the Legacy Hotel. Check the Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation on the Worldwide Web at www.arjazz.org.

Send **Arkansas Jazz Calendar** entries to
c/o AR Jazz Calendar P.O. Box 251187
Little Rock, Arkansas 72225

email: ajc@arjazz.org

To advertise call (501) 663-5264 or 225-2133
AJC, the perk of AJHF membership!


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others at the same table. For further information call (501) 228-9999 or 663-1196.

The rest of the weeks in August feature live entertainment nightly :

Aug 4th - 15th **Recovery**


Aug 18th - 29th **Thomas & Tanya**

at the AfterThought, 2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock, (501) 663-1196. 

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local players are so good that rehearsals are unnecessary.

Bob presented his show **Schoolhouse Rock and All That Jazz** in New York's Central Park June 27. There's also a theatre production, **Schoolhouse Rock Live**, that's touring the country now and should be here and in Memphis in fall.

If you're a jazz fan, consider joining the Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation. There is work to do, but the perks are good. 

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• **Jazz Lites 98** - Riverfront Park Ampitheater Aug 15, 7 PM, General Admission \$15; Limited VIP seating \$25 & \$30. Appearing will be Honest Earl Clue band, Gerald Albright band, Jonathon Butler band. A great evening of jazz, presented by River City Entertainment along with corporate sponsors. Tickets are on sale at Ticketmaster, including Robinson Center's box office. For information call (501) 396-0448.

The next calendar deadline is August 15, 1998 for Fall Festival issue. Please reply with jazz happenings to *The Arkansas Jazz Calendar*, c/o The Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation, PO Box 251187, Little Rock, 72225-1187. You may FAX your info to (501) 228-8915, when machine answers transmit, or call AJC editor James Thomson at (501) 663-5254 or Cece Rich at 228-9999. Send e-mail to ajc@arjazz.org! *Write us with events, a letter to the editor, an ad (\$12.50 per col. inch for ready copy), and/or just jazz!* 

The Arkansas Jazz Calendar
P. O. Box 251187
Little Rock, AR 72225-1187