

Arkansas Jazz Calendar

Vol. 8 No. 2 Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation Newsletter June 2000

In this issue: Afinke Machine Steel Drum Quintet, Memphis' own Calvin Newborn, i j routen, and Tonk Edwards

ARKANSAS JAZZ NEWS ...

Monday Jazz Summer Series

Afinke: A Cuban or Puerto Rican word that refers to the Spirit that enters the musician and is then transmitted through the *groove* or *feel* of the music. The part of the music that makes you want to move.

This is how the Steel Drum Quintet, **Afinke Machine** define themselves, featured Aug 14, 2000 on the Monday Jazz Project. Tickets are \$10 and will be available from the Afterthought 663-1196 or Capitol Keyboard 228-9999.

The music of **Afinke Machine** is representative of the vast number of musical styles found throughout the Caribbean and South America. The five-member steel drum band plays the many traditional Caribbean styles such as soca, calypso, samba, bassa nova, salsa and reggae, with a touch of funk, R&B, jazz of course, and soul added to the mix. The group is based in Wichita, Kansas and features lead tenor steel pan player Joseph Peck, bass pan Mark Lewis, guitar pans Troy Olsen, Double Second Pans Matt Maholland, and at the drums Chris Herriage.

Afinke Machine is an acoustic blend of steel drums and percussion. The steel drums are the lead pan, sometimes called the tenor pan. The *lead pan* usually plays the melody. *Double seconds* are the two pans that are responsible for supporting harmony and the melodic line. The guitar pans are also considered *second* pans,



Afinke Machine

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Dennis Mitcheltree Quartet on Tour

Capitol Keyboard
Saturday June 3, 2000

The **Dennis Mitcheltree Quartet** will play at Capitol Keyboard Recital Hall in Little Rock on Saturday June 3, 2000, at 7:30 PM, sponsored by the Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation (AJFH) and Capitol Keyboard.

Tickets are \$10 for members, and \$15 for nonmembers and are at Capitol Keyboard, 13401 Chenal Parkway, Little Rock. Complimentary beverages are included with admission.

The group is based in New York, and Little Rock is fortunate to be included in their tour. The Mitcheltree Quartet consists of **Dennis Mitcheltree**, tenor sax player, **Johannes Wallmann** is on piano, **Jesse Crawford** on bass, and **Andy Sanesi** on drums. Based in New York City, the group swings big time, and brings a fresh, creative and complex approach to jazz. The group has performed at the Coleman Hawkins Jazz Festival, the Celebrate Brooklyn Festival, the Hot Prospects Concert Series, and the St. Marks Park Music Festival, as well as numerous other venues.

The Dennis Mitcheltree Quartet was featured on the CNN special *Jazz: New York*, as well as various live radio programs nationwide. Mitcheltree is also a composer, and his Suite No. 1 for jazz sextet and string quartet was presented at Carnegie Hall in 1995.

Born and raised in Milwaukee, Mitcheltree's interest in music was apparent very early. He played oboe at age 12, and later baritone sax for his high school jazz band. He says the first jazz recording he owned was Miles Davis' *Kind of Blue*. He felt a particular connection hearing John Coltrane play the sax. The other players in the group have impressive credits of their own. Johannes Wallmann, playing piano, has

(Continued on page 3- Mitcheltree

• **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. If you are interested in membership and upcoming activities call Doug Stiles at (501) 663-5414.

• **The Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation** Board of Directors voted on nominations for the 2000 Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame. Nominations for this year's Arkansas Jazz Hall of FAME were taken through April 17th, 2000. A meeting to confirm the final list for the 2000 ballot was held May 14, 2000, at Capitol Keyboard. The nominees will be announced in the next issue of AJC. The 2000 Lifetime Achievement Award goes to Doug Stiles of the Jazz Club of Arkansas. For information about the Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame nominations call or write Cece Rich, President AJHF, c/o Capitol Keyboard 13401 Chenal Parkway, Little Rock, AR 72211 or call (501) 228-9999. Ballots will be mailed out to AJHF members in June.

• **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.

• **The Acoustic Sounds Café** presents **The Tom Cox Trio** and Vocalist **Nan Maureen** in Concert, Friday June 9, 2000, 7:30 p.m., at Second Presbyterian Church, 600 Pleasant Valley Drive, and Little Rock. Admission is \$6 donation. For information call (501) 227-0000, 8-4, M-F.



Tom Cox Trio: Brian Brown, Tom Cox, Joe Vick

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because they provide harmonic support. Six bass gets its name from both form (a group of six pans) and function (plays the base line). The drum set, conga, cowbell, shaker, surdu, brake drum, shekere, and a variety of other percussion pieces play into Afinke's sound.

Back to the rest of the Monday Jazz schedule - the Monday Jazz Project presents on June 5 pianist **Ann Collins** with **Joe Vick** on bass, **Matt Dickson** on saxophone, and **Dave Rogers** at the drums.



Memphis' own Calvin Newborn
(check out www.flyingcalvin.com)

On June 12, don't miss guitarist **Flying Calvin Newborn** from Memphis, with Joe Vick on bass, Buck Powell on piano and Dave Rogers on drums. Flying Calvin Newborn, as seen in the George Hardin photograph suspended in mid-air, is one of Memphis' music folk heroes. He was a member of his fathers' Finas Newborn Orchestra, with his brother in the Phineas Newborn Quartet, and has also recorded with Earl 'Fatha' Hines, Wild Bill Davis, Lionel Hampton, Ray Charles, Charlie Mingus, Sun Ra, Lou Donaldson, and Hank Crawford. Calvin is the author of the book *The Genius of Phineas Newborn Jr.* and has two recent CDs, *Flying Calvin/Upcity* and *Beale Street to Broadway*.

On June 19 vocalist **i.j. Routen** returns to the Afterthought joined by pianist Buck Powell with Joe Vick on bass and Dave Rogers on drums. Ms. Routen has recorded for MGM Records touring the US and

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The KUAF SUMMER JAZZ CONCERT SERIES

The KUAF SUMMER JAZZ CONCERT SERIES begins on Friday, June 2, 2000 at 8:00 PM at the University of Arkansas Fine Arts Concert Hall in Fayetteville. The series is sponsored by The North Arkansas Jazz Society, The University of Arkansas Music Department, and KUAF Radio.

For tickets call (501) 521-7779 or (501) 521-1255. They'll also be available at Uncle Sam's Safari Outfitters in Evelyn Hills Shopping Center, Fayetteville, and if it's not a sellout, at the door.

The opening concert will feature two great jazz ensembles: First our own *house band*, Claudia Burson (piano), Jim Greeson (bass) and Darren Novotny (drums). They will be joined by special guest artists, **The Dennis Mitcheltree Quartet**. The Mitcheltree Quartet consists of Dennis Mitcheltree, tenor sax player, Johannes Wallmann is on piano, Jesse Crawford on bass, and Andy Sanesi on drums. Based in New York City, the group has performed at the Coleman Hawkins Jazz Festival, the celebrated Brooklyn Festival, the Hot Prospects Concert Series, and the St. Marks Park Music Festival, as well as numerous other venues. For more information on Dennis Mitcheltree visit:

www.pipeline.com/~dengor/

Also visit the new NAJS webpage at:
<http://hometown.aol.com/najsjazz/myhomepage/business.html>

Here is the schedule for the entire series:

June 2 Dennis Mitcheltree Quartet plus House Rhythm Section (ticket are \$10 to the public, \$8 to NAJS members and students) .
June 23 Trombonist Sim Flora plus House Rhythm and guest soloists. Sim Flora is the Chairman of the Department of Music Theory at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia. He is an active trombone soloist and jazz educator appearing throughout the United States as well as Australia, Korea, China and Japan. Recently Sim served on the faculty of the International Trombone Symposium in Brisbane, Australia. (ticket are \$8 to the public, \$6 to NAJS members and students)

July 7 Trumpeter Mike Metheny will grace the hall with his virtuosity. Trumpet soloist Mike Metheny is a native of Lee's Summit, Missouri. He was a trumpeter in the U.S.. Army Field Band in Washington D.C., and in 1976 he became a faculty member at Boston's Berklee College of Music. Mike led his own Boston-based jazz quartet, appearing in numerous club, concert and festival settings across New England and the U.S. Mike is a recipient of the "Outstanding Brass Player" award at the annual Boston Music Awards and

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The Tom Cox Trio features Tom Cox on piano, Joe Vick on bass, and Brian Brown at the drums. Buck Powell will accompany Ms. Maureen on piano, Joe Vick on bass, and Brian Brown on drums.

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• **The North Arkansas Jazz Society** present a 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.

• **10th Annual Wildwood Festival**, May 13 - June 29 at Wildwood Park for the Performing Arts, 20919 Denny Rd, Little Rock. For schedule call (501) 821-7275.

• **The Pine Bluff Jazz Club** meets every 3rd Sunday 2 to 5 pm 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 in Hot Springs, Arkansas. To join send a 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.

The Arkansas Jazz Calendar needs an editor! Please call AJHF Secretary James Thomson at (501) 663-5264 if you are interested in working on the Arkansas Jazz Calendar.

The next calendar deadline is June 12, 2000 (Hall of Fame elections). Reply with jazz happenings to The Arkansas Jazz Calendar, c/o Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation, PO Box 251187, Little Rock, 72225-1187. FAX your info by dialing (501) 228-8915, when machine answers transmit; or call James Thomson at (501) 663-5254, or Cece Rich at 228-9999. Visit our web site www.arjazz.org or send email to ajc@arjazz.org - Write us with events, a letter to the Editor, an ad, and/or just jazz news, today!



Europe. While in Los Angeles she gave numerous performances at Joan River's Supper Club, The Gardenia, The Lighthouse, At My Place, and various other venues.

i. j. routen was background vocalist for Boz Scaggs, Steve Miller, Luther Vandross, and Stevie Wonder. As a teacher she successfully directed the Rockefeller Show Choir and is currently on sabbatical, working on a Ph.D. in Education. Now she's taking a school break for you, so be there!

June 23 is the **Jam Session** w/ House Trio featuring Buck Powell, David Higginbotham on bass, and Dave Rogers. Musicians sign up in the Afterthought foyer, admission \$3 / just a \$1 for jam session participants.

The rest of the schedule includes on July 10 the **John Puckett Trio**. July 17 **Infirmiry Road Quartet**. July 24 the always popular **Tonk Edwards Quartet**. Tonk is the celebrated guitarist who played with Sarah Vaughn and Dizzy Gillespie. July 31, **Jam session**, \$3 / just \$1 for jammers. Aug 7 Hammond b / vocalist from King's Palace, on Beale in Memphis, **Charlie Woods**. Aug 14 **Afinke Machine** Steel Drum Quintet, tickets \$10 and will be available from the AfterThought and Capitol Keyboard (501) 228-9999. Aug 21st - Get your reservation now for the 2000 Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame Concert and Award Ceremony w/ special tributes to Louis Jordon and Art Porter, Jr., Tickets \$25, limited seating, (501) 228-9999. Aug 28th - Jam Session, \$3 / just \$1 for jam session players. On Sept. 4 we are closed for Labor Day.

All dates are \$5 cover unless otherwise advertised. The Monday Jazz Project is sponsored by The Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation, the Afterthought, Capitol Keyboard, and the Little Rock Hilton. Performances start at 8 PM every Monday evening at the Afterthought, 2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock, (501) 663-1196. □

i. j. routen, vocalist



his own group, and has performed with a variety of impressive names, including Marvin "Smitty" Smith, Joe Lovano, and others. He also is on the music faculty of New York University and SUNY-Purchase. Jesse Crawford, on bass, has studied and performed with Ken McIntyre and his Contemporary African-American Music Orchestra, as well as a variety of other well-known musicians including Craig Harris, Charlie Persip, and Sonny Fortune. Crawford was born in Chicago and grew up in New York.

A former student of Joe Lovano, Billy Pierce and Ralph Lalama, Mitcheltree is now a teacher himself. He teaches privately and at the Greenwich House Music School in New York. He does jazz workshops in NYC at places like the Henry Street Settlement and the East Harlem Music School in addition to clinics at colleges while touring.

This is a great opportunity to hear some great New York jazz! The admission is \$10 at the door for AJHF members, and \$15 for nonmembers. See also the schedule of jazz events on the AJHF web page at www.arjazz.org or send email to info@arjazz.org. □

MONDAY JAZZ PROJECT

THE AFTERTHOUGHT

Monday evenings 8 pm
2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock

Cover charge
663-1196

THE JAZZ RADIO CALENDAR OF ARKANSAS

• **KABF 88.3 FM Community Radio(Little Rock):**
Sunday 9 am- noon *The Quiet Storm* w/Griff
Monday-Friday 9 am-12 noon *The Jazz Venue*
Saturday 7-10 pm. *Cool Jazz*
Call (501) 433-0088.

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

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

• **KTKX 91.5 FM / public radio (Texarkana):**
Sunday 1-2pm *Jazz Profiles* with Nancy Wilson
2-3-pm *Jazz from Lincoln Ctr* with Wynton Marsalis
3-4pm *Jazz Scene*
Monday thru Friday 6:30-7pm *Jazz Tonight*
Monday 7-8pm *Piano Jazz* with Marian McPartland
Call (903) 794-6135 for info.

• **KASU 91.9 FM (Jonesboro):**
Something Blue show with Hairy Larry.
Mon-Fri 1pm *Afternoon Moods* with Marty
Scarborough and Terri Pratt
Mon 9:30pm *Jazz at the Kennedy Ctr* with
Dr. Billy Taylor
Tue 9:30pm *Jazz Profiles* with Nancy Wilson
Wed 9:30pm *Piano Jazz* with Marian McPartland
Thu 9:30pm *When Swing Was King* with Russ Dixon
Fri 9:30pm *Smithsonian Jazz* with Lena Horne
Sat 7pm *When Swing Was King* with Russ Dixon
8pm *Jazz from Paradise* with Marty Scarborough
Call (870) 972-3070 for more info.

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

• **KYFX Foxy 99.5 FM (Little Rock):**
Mellow Mike 10am-2pm
Dave Koz 2pm-4pm
Call (501) 666-3699.

• **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

Schedule for Summer 2000

Monday Jazz at *The AfterThought*

2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock, AR (501) 663-1196

Every Monday night at 8PM!

June

- 5 Pianist Ann Collins w/ Joe Vick on bass, Matt Dickson on saxophone, and Dave Rogers at the drums. \$5.
- 12 Memphis Guitarist 'Flying' Calvin Newborn with Joe Vick, Buck Powell, and Dave Rogers. \$5
- 19 The return of vocalist i.j. Routen. Buck Powell, Joe Vick, and Dave Rogers. \$5
- 26 Jam Session. Jazz players are invited to come and sit in for several tunes \$3 / \$1 jammers.

July

- 3 Closed for Independence Day.
- 10 John Puckett Trio \$5
- 17 Infirmary Road Quartet. \$5
- 24 Tonk Edwards (guitarist) Quartet. \$5.
- 31 Jam Session. \$3 / \$1 jammers.

August

- 7 Direct from King's Place, Memphis' own Charlie Wood. \$5.
- 14 The Afinke Machine Modern Steel Drum Quintet. \$10.
- 21 The Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame Concert. \$25.
- 28 Jam Session. \$3 / \$1 Jammers.

September

- 4 Closed for Labor Day.

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


www.arjazz.org/dates

ajc@arjazz.org

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has released five solo albums. Older brother to the renowned jazz guitarist, Pat Metheny, Mike is currently a freelance performer and music journalist in the Kansas City area and the editor (since 1994) of Kansas City's Jazz Ambassador Magazine (JAM). See more on the web at: www.jazzkc.org/features/metheny.htm (ticket are \$8 to the public, \$6 to NAJS members and students)

July 28 Composer's Showcase This very special concert features our regional jazz artists performing all original music in a variety of contexts, from duos to trios and solos to big band arrangements. Hear brand new music in premiere performances. Among the musicians we anticipate showcasing are Jim Greeson, Claudia Burson, Gerald Sloan, Keefe Jackson, Clare Starr, Allan Gibson, and Chris Strom. (ticket are \$8 to the public, \$6 to NAJS members and students)

August 11 Jazz vocalist Lisa Henry. She's toured South America with Herbie Hancock. She's been a mainstay on the Kansas City Jazz Scene for over 10 years. Lisa will close out the Summer Jazz Series with a bang! (ticket are \$8 to the public, \$6 to NAJS members and students) 

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ARKANSAS JAZZ HERITAGE FOUNDATION

www.arjazz.org
info@arjazz.org

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P. O. Box 251187
Little Rock, AR 72225-1187