

an  blog | [AJBlog Central](#) | [Contact me](#) | [Advertise](#) | Follow me:  

[Rifftides](#)

Doug Ramsey on Jazz and other matters...

- [About»](#)
- [Contact](#)
- [PostsComments](#)

Jazz Archeology: A New JATP Record

April 10, 2012 By [Doug Ramsey](#) [3 Comments](#)



In the *Seattle Times*, critic Paul deBarros tells of a man named Bill Carter finding in a storage container “a treasure chest from the golden age of jazz.” The unearthing may not equal the importance of the discovery by another Carter—Howard—of King Tut’s tomb, but it is creating excitement among devotees of classic mainstream jazz. deBarros writes:

Among the hundreds of tapes Carter retrieved from that container was a recording of a 1956 Seattle concert that featured Ella Fitzgerald, Oscar Peterson, Dizzy Gillespie, the Modern Jazz Quartet and Stan Getz — yes, all on the same show.

Hard to believe, but proof positive has arrived with “Jazz at the Philharmonic: Seattle 1956...

That JATP concert also included Sonny Stitt, Roy Eldridge and Gene Krupa, among others. [The recording](#) is being released today. To get the whole story, [click here](#).



Long after the era of this post card, I heard a lot of music in the old Civic Auditorium, including the JATP concert deBarros writes about. I listened there to, among others, Frank Sinatra at the height of his powers, Dmitri Mitropoulos conducting the New York Philharmonic, and guitarist Andres Segovia all alone on the stage of that big old barn, playing to a full house. After a Dave Brubeck Quartet concert, I stood backstage at the edge of a crowd of Seattle musicians as Eugene Wright explained how to count in 5/4, a time signature with which Brubeck and company had recently intrigued the jazz world. “You’ve got to think, ‘1,2,3 – 1,2’” he said. “If you try to count 1,2,3,4,5,” you won’t swing.”

In the mid-1950s, the big sign outside the Civic bore a message that became a part of jazz lore:

TONIGHT: STAN KENTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA FEATURING THE LOVELY KAI WINDING



Share:

Share

Tweet


< 2

0

Share

04/10/12 1:01 PM | filed under: [main](#) |

Comments

1.  [Bill Crow](#) says:
[April 10, 2012 at 2:15 pm](#)

I heard a lot of good music at the old Civic Auditorium during my youth. Kenton, Armstrong, and even Spike Jones, who had a good Chicago jazz band that played a straight set for an hour, took an intermission to get into costume, and did their comedy show.

And when I first got back from the Army, I played there at a jam session that included a lot of the local talent, including pianist Kenny Kimball, tenorman Gerald Brashear and trumpeter Floyd Standifer. (I was playing valve trombone then.)

[Reply](#)

-  [Fred Augerman](#) says:

[April 11, 2012 at 3:31 am](#)

Bill Crow's reference to tenor man Gerald Brashear is the only time I've ever seen his name mentioned! I have an old King Label 12" LP featuring the Cecil Young Quartet that featured Gerald on "Flying Home" and did he have one great solo on that track! Also one of the finest "bop vocals" I ever heard was also on that album; "Who Parked The Car" which was simply outstanding!

[Reply](#)



2. [Bill Crow](#) says:

[April 13, 2012 at 4:25 am](#)

Gerald was one of the best tenor men around Seattle in 1949. He was addicted to movies.. whenever I would go to a movie, I'd look around the audience when the lights came up, and there would be Gerald.

After I moved to New York, I was on the road with Marian McPartland's trio in Columbus, Ohio around 1954 and saw that the Basie band was in town. I found their hotel, borrowed Marian's car and drove over to say hello to the guys. Joe Newman had a friend in Columbus, so I drove him to the guy's house. We walked into the living room, and there was Gerald! He was on the road with some band, and also was visiting this guy. That was the last time I saw him.

[Reply](#)

Speak Your Mind

Name *

Email *

Website

Notify me of follow-up comments by email.

Notify me of new posts by email.

Doug Ramsey



Doug is a recipient of the lifetime achievement award of the Jazz Journalists Association. He lives in the Pacific Northwest, where he settled following a career in print and broadcast journalism in cities including New York, New Orleans, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, San Antonio, Cleveland and Washington, DC. His writing about jazz has paralleled his life in journalism... [\[Read More ...\]](#)

Rifftides

Voted 2010 blog of the year by the international membership of the Jazz Journalists Association. This blog is founded on Doug's conviction that musicians and listeners who embrace and understand jazz have interests that run deep, wide and beyond jazz. Music is its principal concern, but it reaches past... [Read More...](#)

Archives

Select Month

Recent Comments



[Lance Liddle](#) on [Sonny Igoe, 1923-2012](#)

Drummer with the New Third Herd back in 1950/51 he kept alive the tradition of his predecessors Tough and Lamond. Wardell too - what a player!
Posted Apr 16, 2012



[Richard](#) on [Sonny Igoe, 1923-2012](#)

Doug Mettome. Gone With the Wind. Wardell. Wish I could've been there.
Posted Apr 16, 2012



[Gordon Sapsed](#) on [They Said Goodbye To Brookmeyer](#)

In May 2010, Bob Brookmeyer made a trip to the West Coast where he played a major role in 'East Coast Sounds' an LA Jazz...
Posted Apr 16, 2012



[Doug Ramsey](#) on [They Said Goodbye To Brookmeyer](#)

Mr. Donelian's most recent recording is Leapfrog.
Posted Apr 15, 2012

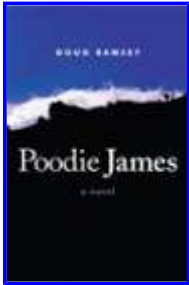


Brian Hope on [They Said Goodbye To Brookmeyer](#)

That's another truly great musician lost to us all. He has left us memories of himself and some of the most beautiful and sonorous music...

Posted Apr 15, 2012

Doug's Books



Doug's most recent book is a novel, *Poodie James*. Previously, he published *Take Five: The Public and Private Lives of Paul Desmond*. He is also the author of *Jazz Matters: Reflections on the Music and Some of its Makers*. He contributed to *The Oxford Companion to Jazz* and co-edited *Journalism Ethics: Why Change?* He is at work on another novel in which, as in *Poodie James*, music is incidental.

Doug's Picks

CD: Toots Thielemans

Toots Thielemans, *Yesterday & Today* (Out Of The Blue)



Two CDs with thirty-eight tracks, most previously unreleased, follow Thielemans from 1946, when he was a 23-year-old guitarist with a Belgian swing band, to a 2001 harmonica performance of “What A Wonderful World” with pianist Kenny Werner. In the late 1940s and early ‘50s, when many European musicians were struggling with the style, Thielemans had a firm grasp of bebop. Playing through the decades with George Shearing, Hank Jones, J.J. Johnson, Elis Regina, Mulgrew Miller, Shirley Horn and a few dozen others, Thielemans is astonishing on both instruments, but it's his harmonica that brings grins of joy.

Share:

Share

Tweet

4

0

Share

CD: Mike Wofford & Holly Hofmann

Mike Wofford/Holly Hofmann, *Turn Signal* (Capri)



Pianist Wofford's and flutist Hofmann's quintet set is notable for variety, rich textures and harmonies, and depth of feeling. In conception and sound, trumpeter Terell Stafford blends beautifully with them. Bassist Rob Thorsen and drummer Richard Sellers are strong and flexible in support. Among the highlights are Wofford's "The Dipper," a Horace Silver tribute that evokes Silver's writing and playing; Stafford's powerful solo on Jimmy Forrest's "Soul Street;" Hofmann's drive and headlong swing on her "M-Line;" and Wofford's homage to Richard Twardzik in "The Girl From Greenland." This is an album of enduring value.

Share:



[CD: Matthew Shipp](#)

Mathew Shipp, *Elastic Aspects* (Thirsty Ear)



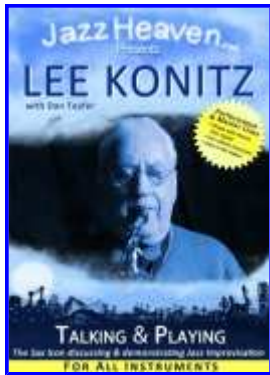
The first track of the pianist's album has no piano, just bassist Michael Bisio bowing and drummer Whit Dickey generating sepulchral sounds with mallets on cymbals. The second track is a few seconds of Shipp unaccompanied in what might be heard as late Debussy. With the third track, the trio is off and running with a kind pointillist post-bop, a suggestion of Bud Powell's "Un Poco Loco," lots of interaction and mutual improvisation. This being Shipp, however, a pattern has not been set. Throughout, whatever the listener may be expecting next is unlikely to be what happens—unless he is expecting surprises.

Share:



[DVD: Lee Konitz](#)

Lee Konitz with Dan Tepfer (Jazz Heaven)



Designed as a master class, the DVD provides fascinating listening and viewing for anyone curious about the creative process of making jazz. In conversation with his frequent collaborator, pianist Tepfer, Konitz discusses and demonstrates the wisdom he has accumulated in his nearly 85 years. In the hour-and-a-half conversation, he frequently picks up his alto saxophone to demonstrate a concept or a point and brings Tepfer into the spoken and played discussion. It is a Socratic dialogue, with the teacher and student occasionally reversing roles. An easily accessible menu makes browsing possible. The audio and video quality are superb.

Share:

[Share](#)

[Tweet](#)

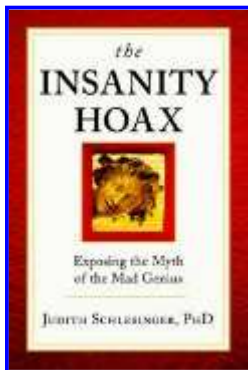
0

0

[Share](#)

[Book: Judith Schlesinger](#)

Judth Schlesinger, [The Insanity Hoax: Exposing the Myth of the Mad Genius](#) (Shrinktunes)



With wit and a nice sense of irony, Schlesinger lays siege to the popular notion that to be truly creative, a person must be mentally unbalanced. A PhD psychologist and a jazz critic, Schlesinger discusses myths about Charlie Parker, Chet Baker and other jazz musicians but also about Balzac, Beethoven, William Blake and Gustav Mahler, among other geniuses presumed to have been insane to some degree. She is not reluctant to take on members of her own profession for perpetuating the myth. She may persuade you that "...creativity should be celebrated, not diagnosed."

Share:

[Share](#)

[Tweet](#)

0

0

[Share](#)

[CD: Jimmy Owens](#)

Jimmy Owens, [The Monk Project](#) (IPO)



In this Thelonious Monk tribute, trumpeter Owens' septet includes pianist Kenny Barron, trombonist Wycliffe Gordon, tenor saxophonist Marcus Strickland and low-register specialist Howard Johnson on tuba and baritone sax. Kenny Davis is the bassist, Winard Harper the drummer. There are good solos throughout, but the stars of the album are Owens' conceptions of the tunes, and his arrangements. He brings freshness through textures and tempos. Among the surprises: a Latin approach to "Well You Needn't," "Let's Cool One" as a waltz and "Brilliant Corners" alternating between a crawl and a blues-inflected march

Share:

[Share](#)

[Tweet](#) < 1

0

[Share](#)

[More Doug's Picks](#)

Blogroll

[All About Jazz](#)

[JerryJazzMusician](#)

[Carol Sloane](#)

[Jazz Beyond Jazz: Howard Mandel](#)

[The Gig: Nate Chinen](#)

[Wonderful World of Louis Armstrong](#)

[Here, There and Everywhere: Don Heckman](#)

[Ted Panken: Today is The Question](#)

[George Colligan: *jazztruth*](#)

[Brilliant Corners](#)

[BostonJazzBlog](#)

[Jazz Music Blog: Tom Reney](#)

[Mule Walk And Jazz Talk](#)

[Darcy James Argue](#)

[Jazz Profiles: Steve Cerra](#)

[Notes On Jazz: Ralph Miriello](#)

[Patrick Jarrenwattanon: A Blog Supreme](#)

[Bob Porter: Jazz Etc.](#)

[be.jazz](#)

[Marc Myers: Jazz Wax](#)

[Night Lights](#)

[Jason Crane: The Jazz Session](#)

[Jazz.com](#)

[JazzCorner](#)

[I Witness](#)

[ArtistShare](#)

[Jazzportraits](#)

[John Robert Brown](#)

[Jazz Scene](#)[Remembrance of Swings Past](#)[Jazzitude](#)[Night After Night](#)[Do The Math/The Bad Plus](#)[Jazz My Two Cents Worth](#)[Prague Jazz](#)[Russian Jazz](#)[Jazz Quotes](#)**Personal Jazz Sites**[Chris Albertson: Stomp Off](#)[Armin Buettner: Crownpropeller's Blog](#)[Cyber Jazz Today, John Birchard](#)[Graham Collier](#)[Bill Crow](#)[Bill Evans Web Pages](#)[Dave Frishberg](#)[Ronan Guilfoyle: Mostly Music](#)[Willard Jenkins/The Independent Ear](#)[Bruno Leicht](#)[Free Jazz Piano Lessons: Steve Nixon](#)[People vs. Dr. Chilledair: Bill Reed](#)[Marvin Stamm](#)[Jim Wilke's Jazz After Hours](#)[Jessica Williams](#)**Other Culture Blogs**[Terry Teachout](#)[DevraDoWrite](#)[Alex Ross: The Rest Is Noise](#)[On An Overgrown Path](#)[The People vs. Dr. Chilledair: Bill Reed](#)[Jazz Spotlight on Sinatra](#)**Journalism**[PressThink: Jay Rosen](#)[Second Draft, Tim Porter](#)[Poynter Online](#)**Share:**[Share](#)[Tweet](#) [Share](#)

April 2012

M T W T F S S[1](#)[« Mar](#)

M T W T F S S

2 [3](#) 4 [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) 8

[9](#) [10](#) [11](#) 12 [13](#) 14 [15](#)

16 [17](#) [18](#) 19 20 21 22

23 24 25 26 27 28 29

30

[« Mar](#)

[Return to top of page](#)

This blog published under a Creative Commons license | [Log in](#)

»