

Our Next Concert
Mike Davis and the New Wonders
Sunday, April 10, 2022
2:00 to 4:30 pm
Haddonfield United Methodist Church



Band Personnel

Mike Davis – leader, trumpet, cornet, vocals
Ricky Alexander – clarinet, alto sax, vocals
Joe McDonough – trombone
Jared Engel – guitar, banjo, vocals
Jay Rattman – bass sax
Dalton Ridenhour – piano
Jay Lepley - drums

Visit the [band's website](#)
[Facebook page](#)

Listen to the band:

"Smile, Darn Ya, Smile"

"Ain't That a Grand and Glorious Feeling"

Mike Davis returns with his New York City based New Wonders septet. The band vividly invokes America's Jazz Age during the 1920s, when jazz was the soundtrack for dramatic national changes and played a central part in people's dreams, adventures, and romances. The band gives exquisite attention to musical detail, and their deep passion for original recordings is evident in each performance.



Made possible by funds from the [Camden County Cultural & Heritage Commission at Camden County College](#), a partner of the [New Jersey State Council on the Arts](#).

Concert Covid Policy

The Tri-State Jazz Society requires guests to wear masks to attend the indoor concert. Please be prepared to show proof of vaccination for admission. If this presents a problem, please consider enjoying the concert remotely, watching the live webcast on [YouTube channel](#) or [Facebook page](#).

CALL OUR HOTLINE for up-to-the-minute updates (856) 720-0232

Member admission is \$10; general admission is \$20. Introductory offer - start a new, first-time TSJS annual membership (\$20) at the door and receive free admission to this concert. Full-time students with ID, or children accompanied by a paying adult, are free.

Ethan Uslan - Solo Piano

Sunday, March 20, 2022

REVIEW by Jim McGann



Photo by Jim McGann

It was an overcast March day.

With the uncertainty of the times being even more uncertain in the past several weeks, it was good to take a break from the anxiety to enjoy a piano outing. Ethan Uslan had performed for Tri State in the past, but for some reason I had missed that former concert. As with all first-time encounters of a performing artist, I did not know what to expect. Mr. Uslan did not disappoint, but he excelled in a unique way.

Duke Ellington emphasized the importance of a strong left hand as a characteristic of a good pianist. To describe Mr. Uslan's left hand, one could say "frighteningly dominant." I have heard a good many pianists over the years, but until witnessing Uslan at the piano, I had never seen the keyboard shimmy. Maybe Uslan was excessively using the damper pedal, maybe it was because I was roughly three meters away from the piano during the first set (having not seen the keyboard shimmy before) ...Or, maybe it was Uslan's percussive attack.

I would describe Mr. Uslan as "illustrative." In writing, illustration is essentially painting pictures with words. The same applies with music. A good example of this was the interpretation of "South Rampart Street Parade." It was a treat to hear the Haggart-Bauduc composition as a

vehicle for solo piano, much like Teddy Bunn's solo guitar performance of "King Porter Stomp" for Blue Note in 1940. However, Uslan's performance not only took a composition written for a big band, but in his introduction, Uslan described being on a movie set in New Orleans, after the predictable call of "Quiet on the Set." Soon after, a marching second line brass band marched through performing "Rampart," disrupting the proceedings. He then performed in like manner, commencing diminuendo with the treble keys representing brass and the low bass keys, the bass drums. After a few splendid stride choruses, the pianist crescendo-ed back to the distant sounds, just like the marching band passing through the scene.

Good verbal marketing via the stories shared by Uslan sold the complimenting performances. There was a tribute to Al Capone – "the patron of the arts" – according to Uslan. He added that Capone played a banjo and liked the World War I tune "Roses of Picardy." He then went into the Weatherly-Wood tune. "Button Up Your Overcoat" was described as a "public health" song favored by his wife. Best of all was the "scientific version" of "12th Street Rag" originally performed for the American Philosophical Society. Introducing the number in front of scientists, Uslan described the rag:

"...is a very interesting piece of ragtime, scientifically, because it combines two different elements in a unique way. You see, the right hand has a very simple rhythm of groups of three...and the left hand has an

isolation and then you combine them to form... a covalent ragtime bond, [forming] a new compound that is much more complex than the original two elements.”

Now, I know why I dropped my astronomy class!

There were other tributes...to New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Netherlands...and a couple of rarely heard numbers – Margarita Lecuona’s “Taboo” and Mary Lou Williams’ “Lonely Moments.” The former tune enjoyed prior success as a hit for Artie Shaw’s big band while Williams’ arranged the latter for Shaw’s competition, Benny Goodman. However, it was Uslan’s witty commentary and illustrative pianistics which sold this reviewer.



Photo by Jim McGann

Coming in May
Colin Hancock and the New York City 7
Sunday, May 15, 2022
2:00 to 4:30 pm
Community Arts Center, Wallingford, PA



Band Personnel

Colin Hancock – leader, drums, arranger

Mike Davis - cornet, trumpet

Josh Holcomb - trombone

Ricky Alexander – reeds

Andy Schumm - piano

Jared Engel - banjo, guitar

Jay Rattman - bass sax

Colin's [Semper Phonograph YouTube Channel](#): (see cylinders cut and played!)

From the Syncopated Times: [a feature on Colin's album released last year](#)

Texas native **Colin Hancock** has been an enthusiast for the music and methods of traditional jazz since his earliest days, including re-creation of acoustic cylinder recordings (using the century-old techniques combined with modern digital technology to produce surprisingly accurate audio), and then at Cornell University as a founding member of the Original Cornell Syncopators, who performed for Tri-State in November 2019. Post-graduation, Colin has found time to sit in frequently in the NYC trad scene, such as appearing at Mona's, and he performed again for us at Tri-State, backing Cynthia Sayer last November. Now Colin fronts a band of like-minded New York-based (mostly) trad jazz players. This is the US premiere for the New York Classic 7, who first appeared (led by Mike Davis) in Bern, Switzerland in October of last year. The group appears today, demonstrating multi-instrumental virtuosity - Colin (cornet, trumpet, reeds) plays drums, for example, and Andy Schumm (also trumpet, cornet, reeds) plays piano.

In addition to all of his aforementioned accomplishments, leader and multi-instrumentalist Colin Hancock has received his first Grammy nomination for his liner notes to *The Missing Link: How Gus Haenschen Got Us From Joplin To Jazz And Shaped The Music Business*.

Cornetist/trumpeter **Mike Davis** appeared at TSJS with his New Wonders Jazz Ensemble this past April. He currently plays regularly around New York City with the New Wonders and with Dandy Wellington and his band, Emily Asher's Garden Party, Glenn Crytzer, Terry Waldo, Baby Soda, Dan Levinson, in addition to serving as a regular at the celebrated Tuesday night jam sessions at Mona's Bar in Manhattan.

Josh Holcomb has topped the list of "Top 10 Trombone Players of the year 2021" as a founding member of the NYC-based funky brass band Lucky Chops, with which he has appeared on MTV and YouTube. He and his bandmates are alumni of the Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of the Arts.

Saxophonist and clarinetist **Ricky Alexander** appeared with the New Wonders at TSJS in April. He performs regularly at both prestigious jazz clubs and hip nightlife venues with The New Wonders, Terry Waldo, The Glenn Crytzer Orchestra, Dandy Wellington band, and many more.

Andy Schumm is a multi-instrumentalist, composer, and arranger originally from Wisconsin. In the Cellar Boys, you can hear him play cornet, clarinet, and saxophone. Now based in Chicago for more than ten years, Andy has appeared all over the traditional jazz world, both domestically and internationally. He is also an avid student of the history of jazz.

Banjoist/guitarist **Jared Engel**, who also performed at TSJS with the New Wonders last month, is a professional musician who has been living and working in New York City since 2003. An accomplished multi-instrumentalist, Jared splits his time between the upright bass, tuba, and the 4-string plectrum banjo. He specializes in many forms of traditional American music and maintains a very active career of playing concerts all over the world.

Bass saxist **Jay Rattman**, who was also on New Wonders' recent TSJS date, boasts an impressive discography that includes Urbanus by vibraphonist Stefon Harris, nominated for the 2010 Best Contemporary Jazz Album Grammy, and New Celebration, the last big band album by the late NEA Jazz Master Phil Woods. His musical sensitivity and spontaneity have placed him in demand for a wide range of settings from contemporary classical chamber music to early jazz, klezmer, creative improvised music, straight ahead jazz and everything in between. He has performed at most of the major clubs in New York in addition to the MoMA, the Coachella Festival, Red Rocks Amphitheater, the Late Show with Stephen Colbert, and the Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon.

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This Month in Recorded Jazz History

By Jim McGann



With a passion for traditional jazz, Jim McGann has reviewed and photographed Tri-State Jazz concerts since the early 2000s.

April 4 (1930) Jack Purvis and his Orchestra recorded in New York City, on the Okeh label. As described by authors John Chilton and Richard Sudhalter, Purvis was one of the most eccentric characters in the Jazz world. This is one of his few recordings.

Personnel: Purvis – trumpet, vocals* and bandleader; J. C. Higginbotham – trombone and vocals*; Coleman Hawkins – tenor sax; Adrian Rollini – bass sax; Frank Froeba – piano; Will Johnson – guitar and vocals*; and Charles Kegley - drums.

"Dismal Dan," "Poor Richard*," "Down Georgia Way"

April 5 (1939) Rex Stewart and his Footwarmers recorded in Paris, France, on the Swing label.

Personnel: Stewart - cornet and bandleader; Barney Bigard – clarinet or drums*; Django Reinhardt – guitar; and Billy Taylor - bass.

"Montmartre (Django's Jump)," "Low Cotton," "Finesse (Night Wind)*," "I Know That You Know," "Solid Old Man (Solid Rock)*"

April 10-11 (1940) Louis Armstrong and the Mills Brothers recorded in New York City, on the Decca label.

Personnel: Louis Armstrong - trumpet and vocals; Donald Mills, Herbert Mills – tenor voices, instrument imitation; Harry Mills – baritone voice, instrument imitation; John Mills, Sr. – bass voice, instrument imitation; Norman Brown - guitar.

"W.P.A.," "Boog It," "Cherry," "Marie"

April 18 (1929) Red Nichols and his Five Pennies recorded in New York City, on the Brunswick label.

Personnel: Nichols - cornet and bandleader; Leo McConville, Manny Klein – trumpets; Glenn Miller, Jack Teagarden, Bill Trone or Herb Taylor – trombone; Benny Goodman - clarinet, alto sax, and baritone sax; unknown – alto sax; Babe Russin – tenor sax; Arthur Schutt – piano; Carl Kress – guitar; Art Miller – string bass; Gene Krupa – drums; Scrappy Lambert – vocals*.

"Indiana (two versions)," "Dinah," "On the Alamo," "On the Alamo (vocal version)*"

April 21 (1937) Joe Marsala's Chicagoans recorded in New York City, on the Variety label.

Personnel: Marsala - clarinet and bandleader; Marty Marsala – trumpet; Ray Biondi – violin; Joe Bushkin – piano; Adele Girard – harp; Eddie Condon – guitar; Artie Shapiro - bass and Danny Alvin - drums.

"Wolverine Blues," "Chimes Blues," "Jazz Me Blues," "Clarinet Marmalade"

April 24-25 (1936) Jimmy McPartland's Squirrels recorded in Chicago, Illinois, on the Hot Record Society label.

Personnel: McPartland - cornet and bandleader; Joe Harris – trombone; Rosy McHargue - clarinet; Dick Clark – tenor sax; Jack Gardner - piano, Dick McPartland – guitar; Country Washburn – bass; and George Wettling - drums.

"Eccentric," "Original Dixieland One Step," "I'm All Bound 'Round With the Mason-Dixon Line," "Panama"

Source: Jazz and Ragtime Records (1897-1942). Brian Rust. Mainspring Press. 2002

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And THANK YOU to **ALL** our members for renewing memberships enabling Tri-State Jazz Society to fulfill our mission of the preservation and live performance of traditional jazz.

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THE STRUTTER IS ON THE WEB

Current and back issues of The Strutter are on the Tri-State Jazz Society website. The Strutter archives cover over ten years of back issues listing all the bands and soloists who performed during that period.

[Read back issues of The Strutter](#)

Take a look at our [NEW Tri-State Jazz Society website!](#)

CONCERT SCHEDULE
Sundays from 2:00 to 4:30 pm



Tri-State Jazz Society, formed in 1988, is dedicated to the preservation and live performance of traditional jazz. Concerts featuring leading professional soloists and bands are presented throughout the year. Events are open to the public and all who enjoy traditional jazz are invited to join. The society is a non-profit educational corporation supported by its members.

Membership

Basic dues are \$20 per person. New and renewal memberships can be started in any month and run for one year. In addition to half-price concert admissions, members receive The Strutter newsletter by email.

Premium memberships help sustain and expand the work of Tri-State Jazz Society. Individual Sponsors contribute at the \$50 level (\$70 for couples); Patrons, \$100 (\$120 for couples); Sustainers \$200 or more (\$220 or more for couples). Premium-level members are eligible to attend an annual reception for Sponsors, Patrons and Sustainers.

Visit our website for more details:
[New Member application](#)
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Dues and donations may be tax deductible under IRS Section 501(c)(3).

Visit our [Tri-State Jazz Society website](#) for up-to-the-minute news about schedule and concert changes, or call our Hotline at (856) 720-0232.

4/10/22 Haddonfield (Also online)	Mike Davis's New Wonders This youthful band from New York wowed our audience at their initial concert in 2019. They're coming back with hot jazz and dance music from the 1920s, including many tunes that are rarely played.
5/15/22 Wallingford (Also online)	New York Classic 7 This band led by Colin Hancock made its debut in Switzerland in October. They make their US premiere for us! Colin was a big hit with Cynthia Sayer's band in November, and with his Original Cornell Syncopators in November, 2019. Also live on the web.
6/12/22 Haddonfield (Also online)	Neville Dickie and the Midiri Brothers After a COVID-enforced absence, stride and boogie-woogie pianist Neville Dickie from England returns, accompanied by his favorites Joe (reeds) and Paul (drums) Midiri.
7/10/22 Wallingford (Also online)	Tri-State Jazz All-Stars Our annual tradition, resuming after the covid hiatus, with a core band of top performers jamming together on familiar Dixieland tunes.
8/21/22 Haddonfield (Also online)	Midiri Brothers Sextet This always-popular band returns.
9/18/22 Wallingford (Also online)	Rossano Sportiello - pianist Internationally acclaimed pianist Rossano Sportiello first performed for TSJS in August, 2016. Due to his busy schedule, we've been unable to get him back- until now. Also live on the web.
10/16/22 Haddonfield (Also online)	Richard Barnes & the Blackbird Society Orchestra The BSO returns to Tri-State, today in Haddonfield. Come early, there's sure to be a big crowd for this TSJS favorite!

Streaming concerts can be viewed on the [Tri-State Jazz Society website](#), [Facebook page](#), or our [YouTube channel](#)

Wallingford concerts are held at the Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford, PA 19086; one mile from Exit 3 of I-476 ("The Blue Route"). Located between Media and Swarthmore.

Directions

Haddonfield concerts are held at the Haddonfield United Methodist Church, 29 Warwick Rd., Haddonfield, NJ 08033; just south of Kings Highway near the center of town; two blocks from the PATCO station.

Directions



Membership Form

Basic Dues: Individual \$20 Couple \$40
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Patron Dues: Individual \$100 Couple \$120
Sustainer Dues: Individual \$200 or more Couple \$220 or more

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ **Date** _____ **Check No.** _____

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