

Our Next Concert

Colin Hancock and the New York Classic 7

Sunday, May 15, 2022
2:00 to 4:30 pm
Community Arts Center, Wallingford, PA



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, 2018.

Colin fronts a band of like-minded, mostly New York-based 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) will play drums, for example, and Andy Schumm (also trumpet, cornet, reeds) will play piano.

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

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.

Mike Davis and the New Wonders

Sunday, April 10, 2022
REVIEW by Jim McGann



Photo by Marian Konop

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

There was a term back in the day to describe a future generation of jazz musicians on the verge of becoming important figures in the music. The term I was referring to was “young lions.” That term was applied to musicians who were to advance the music in new directions, new gains unheard of in prior years. But what of young musicians wanting to keep

earlier forms of jazz alive? Author Rudy Blesh referred to his generation, which favored jazz prior to BeBop, as “mouldy figgs.” Would they call this new generation of young people celebrating an older genre as “new figgs?”

Regardless, the sounds of the 1920s are alive and well in the superior musicianship of Mike Davis’ New Wonders. It is all you want from a good concert – excellent musicianship, and a genuine love and care for the music being played. This is the 1920s – jazz is alive, permeating popular culture, a world of “Hot Dance,” Armstrong, Bix et al.

The precision of this ensemble inspires awe. For example, three of the thirty selections performed were taken from a 1927 “Chicago Loopers” recording session which featured Bix, Tram, Eddie Lang and a vocal group known as the Deep River Quintet, on the Pathe record label. Having heard the original recordings, which were of less than stellar quality, it was nice to hear the New Wonders recreate these songs. It was better than the original.

Precision extends to quick soli, crafty interplay and breaks – all characteristics of a 1920s arrangement. Titles like “Nothing Does-Does-Does Like it Used to Do-Do-Do” or “Loud Speaking Papa (You Better Speak Easy To Me)” are part of the fabric. To say the New Wonders performed all these items well is a bit of an understatement.

It was hard for this reviewer to find a standout performance when most of them stood out. I favor the instrumentals – the fast, sweeping “Hurricane” with Davis and trombonist Joe McDonough flexing their muscle, and “Sugar Foot Strut” based on the Charleston Chasers version (as Davis noted in his introduction, Louis Armstrong recorded a version of this song with his Hot Five.) With all due respect to Armstrong, I like the Chasers version better.

A word about vocals. Several years ago, I reviewed a band which began their concert with a great trad jazz flag waver, and I thought to myself, "Hey, this is going to be an awesome concert." Wrong! After the opening number concluded, a vocalist was introduced, who sang in the manner of Julie London. And that vocalist took up a majority of the concert. Ruined the concert for me because the vocalist and band did not mix well. What I am getting at is while there were a lot of vocals (mostly by Davis), the vocal style fit the band accompanying it.

With short solos being the rule nobody stood out, with the exception of Dalton Ridenhour's solo piece, the Gershwins' "Do Do Do." However, the musicianship still shined. Davis looked and sounded like Bix, Joe McDonough was a good brass foil for the leader, Jay Rattman, of the bass sax, was plugged into clarinet and alto sax duties at the last minute and did a fine job, newcomer Ryan Weisheit read off the new charts and soloed as if he had been with the band for years. Jay Lepley's "light percussion" deserves mention. While it appeared that he was doing mostly cymbal work throughout the concert, Lepley was doing more, and his drumming drove the band. The veteran drummer Dave Tough on record rarely soloed but could make a band swing with little effort. Lepley performed a similar execution.

Highlights for me are the aforementioned "Hurricane" and "Sugar Foot Strut"; the mournful "Cryin' For the Carolines" with Davis' making wah wah sounds a la King Oliver; the alto and cornet chase chorus on "I Get the Blues When It Rains"; Ridenhour's work on the sweet numbers "Midnight, the Stars and You"; and "Love Will Find A Way" – the pianist could not help but sneak in some stride to liven up the proceedings. The Davis arranged "My Blue Heaven" as a Paul Whiteman orchestration impressed, as well as the rare titles – "Deep Blue Sea Blues," "Lila," "I'm Walking Between the Raindrops."

So, are the New Wonders the "young lions" of a bygone era? After witnessing this concert, one would hope that more lions (or new figs) would follow in that direction.



Photo by Marian Konop



Photo by Chris Jones

Coming June 12, 2022
The Midiri Brothers Trio with Joe Holt
2:00 to 4:30 pm
Haddonfield United Methodist Church



The Midiris return in a trio format, featuring Joe Holt on piano, re-creating the trio they first formed nearly 50 years ago! Tri-State audiences saw Joe with the Midiri Sextet last July, when our reviewer praised (among other highlights) Joe's "... heavy swinging left hand... and two-fisted stride..."

Neville Dickie, originally scheduled, was obliged to cancel at the last minute; Neville sends his regrets. For our concert, Joe Holt will join the brothers, with his piano skills.

AREA JAZZ

PENNSYLVANIA JAZZ SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 445
BETHLEHEM, PA 18016

SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2022
2 - 4:30 P.M.

THE MIDIRI BROTHERS

JOE MIDIRI - CLARINET, SOPRANO, ALTO, TENOR SAXES
PAUL MIDIRI - DRUMS, VIBRAPHONE
JOE HOLT - PIANO
PAT MERCURI - GUITAR
JACK HEGYI - BASS

DEWEY BANQUET HALL
502 DURHAM STREET, HELLETTOWN, PA 18055

ADMISSION: PJS MEMBERS - \$15.00 "FIRST TIMERS" - \$15.00
NON-PJS MEMBERS - \$20.00 STUDENTS ADMITTED FREE
CASH OR CHECK ONLY - NO CREDIT CARDS
FOOD AND DRINK AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

THE PENNSYLVANIA JAZZ SOCIETY IS COMMITTED TO KEEPING
EARLY JAZZ ALIVE AND WELL!

FURTHER INFORMATION: 610-625-4640
pajazzsociety.org

This Month in Recorded Jazz History

By Jim McGann

May 9 (1938) Mildred Bailey and Her Orchestra recorded the following in New York City, on the Vocalion label.

Personnel: Bailey – vocals, co-leader; Red Norvo – xylophone, co-leader; Jimmy Blake, Zeke Zarchy, Barney Zudecuff – trumpets; Wes Hein – trombone; Hank D’Amico, Len Goldstein, Jerry Jerome, Charles Lamphere – saxes; Bill Miller – piano; Alan Hanlon – guitar; Pete Peterson – string bass; George Wettling - drums

"Washboard Blues," "My Melancholy Baby," "Round the Old Deserted Farm," "The Lonesome Road"

May 10 (1927) The Arkansas Travellers recorded the following in New York City on the Diva label

Personnel: Red Nichols – cornet; Miff Mole – trombone; Jimmy Dorsey – clarinet; Fred Morrow – alto sax; Arthur Schutt – piano; Vic Berton - drums

"Ja-Da," "Sensation," "Stompin’ Fool"

May 13 (1935) Gene Gifford and his Orchestra recorded the following in New York City, on the Victor label. Gene Gifford was the guitarist and principal arranger for the Casa Loma band in the early 1930s. This is the only recording session under his leadership.

Personnel: Gifford – leader, arranger; Bunny Berigan – trumpet; Morey Samuel -trombone; Matty Matlock – clarinet; Bud Freeman - tenor sax; Claude Thornhill – piano; Dick McDonough – guitar; Pete Peterson – bass; Ray Bauduc – drums; Wingy Mannone – vocals.

"Nothin’ But the Blues," "New Orleans Twist," "Squareface," "Dizzy Glide"

May 21 (1930) Hoagy Carmichael and his Orchestra recorded the following in New York City, for the Victor label.

Personnel: Carmichael – vocals, leader; Bix Beiderbecke – cornet; James “Bubber” Miley – trumpet; Tommy Dorsey - trombone; Benny Goodman – clarinet; Bud Freeman - tenor sax; Joe Venuti - violin, vocals; Irving Brodsky - piano, vocals; Eddie Lang - guitar; Harry Goodman - bass; Gene Krupa - drums; Carson Robison - vocals.

"Rockin’ Chair" (vocals by Carmichael,Brodsky), "Barnacle Bill The Sailor" (vocals by Carmichael, Robison, Venuti)

May 27 (1940) Louis Armstrong and His Orchestra recorded the following in New York City, on the Decca label. A reunion of Armstrong and Sidney Bechet on record.

Personnel: Armstrong - trumpet, bandleader; Claude Jones – trombone; Sidney Bechet – clarinet, soprano sax; Luis Russell – piano; Bernard Addison – guitar; Wellman Braud – bass; Zutty Singleton – drums (* = Armstrong, Bechet, Addison and Braud only)

"Perdido Street Blues," "2:19 Blues," "Down in Honky Tonk Town," "Coal Cart Blues*"

May 28 (1940) Duke Ellington and his Orchestra recorded the following in Chicago, Illinois, on the Victor label.

Personnel: Ellington – piano, leader; Wallace Jones, Cootie Williams, Rex Stewart – trumpets; Joe “Tricky Sam” Nanton, Lawrence Brown, Juan Tizol – trombones; Barney Bigard, Johnny Hodges, Otto Hardwicke, Harry Carney, Ben Webster – saxes; Fred Guy – guitar; Jimmy Blanton – string bass; Sonny Greer – drums

“Dusk,” “Bojangles (A Portrait of Bill Robinson),” “A Portrait of Bert Williams,” “Blue Goose.”

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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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TSJS CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address:

PO Box 896

Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

[Click to Send us an Email](#)

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(856) 720-0232

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Complete the contact information entry, then click Submit Form to access the PayPal site and complete the payment transaction.

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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:

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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.

| | |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6/12/22 Haddonfield (Also online) | The Midiri Brothers featuring Joe Holt After a COVID-enforced absence, the return of Joe (reeds) and Paul (drums) Midiri, in a trio featuring Joe Holt on piano. |
| 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. Their previous appearance was a highlight last summer and we welcome them now! |
| 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! |
| 11/13/22 Wallingford (Also online) | Manouche 5 The return of this Philadelphia-based gypsy jazz group is a welcome event. They were a great success, on the web, in February 2021. |

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
Sponsor Dues: Individual \$50 Couple \$70
Patron Dues: Individual \$100 Couple \$120
Sustainer Dues: Individual \$200 or more Couple \$220 or more

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

Members are admitted to all regular concerts at half price. Memberships renewed prior to expiration start at the end of current membership; expired memberships start on receipt of payment. All memberships run for 12 months.

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