

## OUR NEXT CONCERTS

**TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY  
Presents  
THE ORTNER-ROBERTS DUO**



Susanne Ortner-Roberts, clarinet  
Tom Roberts, piano

Sunday, December 11, 2011  
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saint Matthew Lutheran Church  
318 Chester Avenue  
Moorestown, NJ 08057

Directions on [Page 7](#)

Pittsburgh-based Susanne Ortner-Roberts and Tom Roberts will play stride, swing, and New Orleans-seasoned clarinet and piano jazz in their first appearance for Tri-State Jazz Society. "Seldom," according to Augsburg Allgemeine Zeitung, "has one experienced music performed with so much joy, enthusiasm, and passion as with the Ortner-

Roberts Duo... the musical intuition between the two is truly miraculous!" and Renée Silberman reviews a London/Ontario concert as "a spine tingling fusion of Klezmer and Creole magic." German-born clarinetist Susanne Ortner and American jazz pianist Tom Roberts met in Pittsburgh while performing in 2006 and formed the Ortner-Roberts Duo in 2007, melding the two supposedly unrelated musical and cultural influences of Harlem Stride Piano and Klezmer to form a whole new style they affectionately call "Yiddish/Creole Fusion." The Roberts have thoroughly immersed themselves in the music of the '20s, '30s, and '40s as well and painstakingly recreate the music of Benny Goodman, Jelly Roll Morton, Artie Shaw, and Sidney Bechet among others, evoking "the thicksweet air of New Orleans or the glamour of a shimmering dancehall... in Chicago or New York City." See them in concert at

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=ee23Y8k5-YY&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ee23Y8k5-YY&feature=related).

**CONCERT ADMISSION**

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***\$10 FIRST TIME ATTENDEES & MEMBERS  
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## LOOKING AHEAD TO JANUARY, 2012

Coming up on Sunday January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 2:00 p.m., John Breslin and the Philly Waterfront Dixieland Jazz Band will perform at Brooklawn American Legion Hall, 11 Railroad Avenue, Brooklawn, NJ.

### AMERICAN RAG WINNERS

At one concert each month, TSJS picks a winner of a free four-month subscription to the American Rag as a door prize. The winner for November, 2011 is: Caren Brodsky, of Philadelphia, PA. New members of Tri-State Jazz Society automatically receive a two-month trial subscription to American Rag, the country's largest traditional jazz and ragtime newspaper.



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Tri-State Jazz Society

### REVIEW - GLENN CRYTZER & HIS SYNCOPIATORS

The Time: 2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., Sunday, October 16, 2011

The Place: Brooklawn American Legion Hall  
11 Railroad Avenue, Brooklawn, NJ

The Band: Glenn Crytzer, guitar, banjo, leader;  
Kevin Woods, trumpet; Pete Petersen, reeds;  
Soloman Douglas, piano; Andrew Hall, bass; Mark Ribera, drums

5<sup>th</sup> Street AKA Swing Street was in the 1930s a hotbed of musical talent. The 5<sup>th</sup> Street

venues were a proving ground for the novice and an established territory for the veteran. It was a time of neighboring musicians "sitting in" with other nearby headliners. All it took was a casual stride from club to club. It was an education of the rawest order. Ideas were created, stolen and reshaped. The afterhours musical battles, the cutting contests produced a small, exclusive club of victors in the paved, granite arena known as the Big Apple.

Glenn Crytzer and his Syncopators would probably headline that storied street of yore. Their love of Tin Pan Alley, and their simplistic, straight-forward presentation, made for an enjoyable afternoon.



**Guitarist-leader Glenn Crytzer**

The carefree nature of jazz bands in the 1930s emphasized hot instrumental brilliance, with vocals, and subtlety of approach (in most cases) relegated to the background. There are no sad songs here, and if there were, the lift, drive and Swing of the ensemble would cast aside any dark cumulus clouds.

Take for example Gus Kahn's sentimental "I'll See You In My Dreams;" in the Syncopators' hands it is an exercise in insomnia. Crytzer's blistering Christian guitar licks awaken the trumpet of Kevin Woods, who grumpily yells loudly at his antagonist. Pete Petersen's clarinet illustrates one who tosses and turns in bed. Soloman Douglas' piano tip toes to avoid waking anyone, and to partake in a late evening snack. Woods finally calms down with a bucket mute but then tosses it away for a raucous ride out.

The Syncopators' original compositions adhere to this credo, although treatment here is slightly more subtle. "All I Can Give You Is A Melody," is a tune one could imagine Teddy

Wilson's early bands performing. "Fumblin' Around," "Mr. Rhythm," and "Park on Summit" reflect the mid-1940s sans the BeBop allusions, something Artie Shaw's Grammercy Five would appreciate.



**Kevin Woods (trumpet), Pete Petersen (tenor sax), Soloman Douglas (piano, background)**

With most bands of the period, the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Crytzer, on guitar clearly displayed the influence of Charlie Christian. Woods on trumpet provided a strong lead; in a solo capacity he was limited to a few trad ideas although more than competent with a plunger mute. One wished reed man Pete Petersen played more tenor than clarinet (so moving was his lead on "...Melody"), and the rhythm section of bassist Andrew Hall and drummer Mark Ribera lifted the ensemble to swing heights.



**Drummer Mark Ribera**

Yet, the band provided a satisfying few hours of music from the 1930s and 40s. Entertaining, enjoyable even from a non-jazz perspective. To paraphrase Louis Prima, Glenn Crytzer and his Syncopators played pretty for the people. – Jim McGann

## CD REVIEW - CLIFF EDWARDS

CD: Cliff Edwards - Fascinating Rhythm, 1922-1935  
Label: Retrieval

Cliff Edwards, vocal, ukulele, backed by various artists including Phil Napoleon, Red Nichols, trumpet; Miff Mole, trombone; Jimmy Dorsey, clarinet and alto sax; Joe Venuti, violin; Arthur Schutt, piano; Eddie Lang, Dick McDonough, guitar  
Rating: ♪♪♪ (out of four notes)

If it wasn't for Walt Disney, Cliff Edwards would be all but forgotten. With his voice embodied in a happy, positive thinking insect named Jiminy Cricket, Edwards' memory is kept alive. However, Edwards' work for Disney served as the final act of a great entertainer.

For the man known as "Ukulele Ike", Cliff Edwards, like most entertainers of his generation, embraced all of the mediums that attracted the public – Vaudeville, recordings, Broadway, Radio, Movies, and finally in the early 1950s, television. He popularized the ukulele, and was comfortable in almost any setting.

This Retrieval release offers 48 sides recorded by Edwards between 1922 and 1935, capturing the entertainer at his peak. Out of those 48, nine are familiar tunes. Edwards, like Irving Kauffman, Seger Ellis and other vocalists in the 1920s/30s promoted songs, and his performance of them (like Bing Crosby in the 1930s) helped sell the song. Not all translated into success. There are more songs like "I'm A Hard to Get Papa Looking for a Hard to Get Girl" than "Singin' In the Rain." Though the song titles do not give the listener confidence, the composers do. The list is impressive: James P. Johnson, the Gershwins, Roy Turk, Walter Donaldson, Maceo Pinkard, Gus Kahn, Ted Fiorito, J Russell Robinson, and Harry Warren.

Being born with a Hi-Fi, stereophonic saturated ear, red flags are raised for me regarding material prior to electrical recording (pre-1925). Edwards recorded for Pathe from 1923-1927, which used an antiquated recording process, which did not stand the test of time. The Retrieval engineering team did the best they could with the source material, but on recordings from this period anything outside of Edwards' voice sounds muddy.

The recordings in 1926-1927 improve from their earlier counterparts, but when Edwards moved to the Columbia label, there is a dramatic change in quality.

Unfortunately, from a Jazz point of view, this is when Edwards is at his most creative, whether accompanying himself on ukulele, or backed by Red Nichols' Pennies (under the disguise of Edwards' Hot Combination).

Still, there are gems from this period. On "Dinah" there is an interesting chase chorus between Edwards' "effing" (a muted-trumpet vocal sound) and Nichols' cornet. Miff Mole has a sweet solo, backed by banjo on "Keep On Croonin' A Tune" and more swinging on "Sweet Child." Guitarist Dick McDonough is spirited on "Sunday." Joe Venuti does his four string stuff on "I'm Telling the Birds..." but suffers from Pathe's muddy sound problems.

Listings of personnel are suspect. Dick McDonough is listed as a possible banjoist on the October, 1926 date but a guitar intro on "I Don't Mind Being All Alone" appears to be Eddie Lang. The personnel for October 3, 1929 and September 21, 1928 dates appear to be reversed. The October date lists a clarinet, guitar and string bass while the September date lists an alto sax, guitar, violin (Joe Venuti) and bass. Venuti is clearly heard on the October date and there is clarinet accompaniment on the latter. Finally, there is aural evidence of a vibraphone and bass sax (Adrian Rollini?) on the May, 1932 date, not noted in the personnel listing.

Edwards was performing at his peak when these recordings were made. He had acquired taste, for some. His "effing" (or scatting) on some of the sides gets long in the tooth. However, as a vocalist, he has a great range, feeling, and, particularly on the Hot Combination sides, a good sense of swing. While Edwards suffered in his personal life (alcohol and drug addiction, failed marriages), there is no hint of those struggles on the 48 sides here. Edwards leaves the listener with a sense of joy, optimism, making Edwards a perfect candidate to sing the hit "Singin' In the Rain" from the "Hollywood Revue of 1929" included in this set.

In addition to Jazz and popular music, there are elements of folk, country and rural blues particularly on the early, self accompanied sides

and the later "Stack-O-Lee," one of Edwards' own compositions.

I had anticipated thoroughly enjoying listening to these sides and was not disappointed. While Edwards will be remembered for his animated alter ego, this Retrieval set gives evidence of a great entertainer. Three notes. – Jim McGann

## CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER

A handful of prominent individuals in the jazz world were born around the Christmas holiday. Some hail from the Crescent City, New Orleans.

**Eddie Barefield** (Dec. 12, 1909, ??, Iowa- Jan. 4, 1991, NYC), saxophonist/arranger known for his work with Cab Calloway, Bennie Moten, Fletcher Henderson, Don Redman and Lionel Hampton.

**Constance Foore "Connee" Boswell** (Dec. 3, 1907, Kansas City, MO – October 11, 1976, New York), lead singer with the Boswell Sisters (along with her siblings Martha and Helvetia ["Vet"]), later solo vocalist who occasionally sang with Bing Crosby, Bob Crosby and the Casa Loma Orchestra.

**Cabell "Cab" Calloway** (Dec. 25, 1907 – Nov. 18, 1994, New York), scat-singing leader of a famous orchestra which headlined the Cotton Club, and featured soloists like tenor saxist Chu Berry, trumpeters Jonah Jones and Dizzy Gillespie, guitarist Danny Barker and bassist Milt Hinton

**Wayman Carver** (Dec 25, 1905, Portsmouth, VA – May 6, 1967, Atlanta, GA), along with Alberto Socarras, one of the first jazz flautists, known for his work with Chick Webb.

**Warren "Baby" Dodds** (Dec. 24, 1898, New Orleans, LA – February 14, 1959), drummer, younger brother of clarinetist Johnny Dodds (1892-1940), known for his work with Joe "King" Oliver, Jelly Roll Morton and Louis Armstrong.

**Irving Fazola** (Prestopnik) (Dec. 10, 1912 – March 20, 1949, New Orleans, LA), clarinetist, best known for his work with Bob Crosby, also performed with Ben Pollack, Glenn Miller, Louis Prima, Sharkey Bonano and Armand Hug.

**Fletcher Henderson** (Dec. 18, 1897, Cuthbert, GA – Dec. 29, 1952), pianist/arranger/ bandleader, leading pioneer in the Big Band style.

**Earl Kenneth “Fatha” Hines** (Dec. 28, 1903, Duquesne, PA – April 23, 1983, Oakland, CA), pianist with later Louis Armstrong “Hot” ensembles, Jimmie Noone, and later led his own Big Band at the Grand Terrace Ballroom in Chicago.

**William “Bunk” Johnson** (Dec 27, 1889 [some sources list his birth year as 1879], New Orleans, LA – July 7, 1949, New Iberia, LA), trumpeter who performed with the Eagle Band, the Superior Orchestra. Later, “rediscovered” through the efforts of writers Fredric Ramsey, Bill Russell, etc., launching the New Orleans revival in the 1940s.

**Robert Elliott “Jonah” Jones** (Dec 31, 1909, Louisville, KY - April 30, 2000, NYC), trumpeter, who performed with Stuff Smith, and Cab Calloway.

**John Kirby** (Dec. 31, 1908, Winchester, VA - June 14, 1952, Hollywood, CA), tuba/bass, performed with Fletcher Henderson, Chick Webb, and leader of the famous John Kirby Sextet.

**Melvin “Sy” Oliver** (Dec. 17, 1910, Battle Creek, MI – May 28, 1988, NYC), trumpeter/arranger known for his two-beat Dixieland style arrangements for the Jimmie Lunceford orchestra, also arranged for Tommy Dorsey.

**Edward “Kid” Ory** (Dec 25, 1886, near LaPlace, LA – January 23, 1973), trombonist/bandleader, who performed with King Oliver, Jimmie Noone, Johnny Dodds, and Louis Armstrong’s Hot Five. Like Bunk Johnson, “rediscovered” in the 1940s, led New Orleans revival band for many years.

**Nathan “Jim”, “Big Jim” Robinson** (Dec. 25, 1892, Deer Range, LA – May 4, 1976), New Orleans trombonist associated with the later New Orleans revival period. Performed with Bunk Johnson, George Lewis, and Preservation Hall Jazz Band.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



[www.tristatejazz.org](http://www.tristatejazz.org)

SPRING 2012

CONCERT SCHEDULE

(All concerts start at 2:00 p.m.  
unless otherwise noted)

**Jan 15** John Breslin and the Philly Waterfront Dixieland Jazz Band, Brooklawn American Legion Hall, 11 Railroad Avenue, Brooklawn, NJ.

**Feb 19** Blackbird Society Orchestra, Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Road, Wallingford, PA.

**Mar 18** Emily Asher’s Garden Party, Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Road, Wallingford, PA.

**Apr 22** Terry Waldo, Solo Piano, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 318 Chester Ave, Moorestown, NJ

**May 10** Ed Wise and His New Orleans Jazz Band, Silverside Church, 2300 Silverside Road, Wilmington, DE 19810 (tentative)

## OTHER VENUES

PENNSYLVANIA JAZZ SOCIETY

[www.pajazzsociety.org](http://www.pajazzsociety.org) ,

1-(610)-625-4640

Concerts are at 2:00 p.m. (except July) at **Easton Moose:** 3320 Fox Hill Road, Easton, PA. 18045 OR at **American Legion Hall**, 217 North Broadway, Wind Gap, PA. 18091.

\$20, \$18 members, student admission is free

**Feb 12** 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. The President’s Men Jazz Band

NEW JERSEY JAZZ SOCIETY

[www.njjs.org](http://www.njjs.org) , 1-(800)-303-NJJS

For events co-sponsored by NJJS, check the Bickford Theatre and Ocean County College listings.

## THE BICKFORD THEATRE

6 Normandy Heights Road  
Morristown, NJ.

<http://www.njjs.org/p/services/bickford.html>

All concerts 8:00-9:30 p.m.

\$15(advance), \$18 (at the door), 1-(973)-971-3706.

**Dec 12** "The Barnhart Levinson Family Fugue"  
with Jeff and Anne Barnhart, Dan Levinson, Molly  
Ryan

**Jan 30** Bucky Pizzarelli birthday celebration

**Feb 13** "St. Valentine Day's Massacre" with Herb  
Gardner, Dan Levinson, and others

## CAPE MAY TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY

[www.capemaytraditionaljazzsociety.com](http://www.capemaytraditionaljazzsociety.com)

PO Box 113, Stone Harbor, NJ. 08247

[ashbc@comcast.net](mailto:ashbc@comcast.net) , Dues \$10

**Jan 29** 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Atlantic City Jazz Band

**Feb 12** 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Percy Fear Ants Jazz  
Band

## OCEAN COUNTY COLLEGE

(At Ocean County Library)

<http://www.njjs.org/p/services/ocean.html>

1-(732)-255-0500 \$13 advance/ \$15 at the door.

All concerts start at 8:00 p.m. Concerts at Ocean  
County College campus, Community and Arts  
Center, College Drive, Toms River, NJ. 08753

**Dec 14** Ivory and Gold, Jeff & Anne Barnhart

**Jan 11** Midiri Brothers

**Feb 8** Geoff Gallante

## POTOMAC RIVER JAZZ CLUB

[www.prjc.org](http://www.prjc.org)

**Feb 18** 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Hal's Bayou Jazz Band,  
Rosensteel K of C, 9707 Rosensteel Ave, Silver  
Springs, MD 20910-1157

## BAND SCHEDULES

### VINCE GIORDANO AND HIS NIGHTHAWKS

[www.myspace.com/vincegiordanothenighthawks](http://www.myspace.com/vincegiordanothenighthawks)

**Every Monday and Tuesday**, 8:00-11:00 p.m.  
Sofia's Restaurant, 221 W 46th St, Edison Hotel,  
NYC. 1-(212)-719-5799. \$15 cover plus \$15  
food/drink minimum

**Jan 7-9** (Jan 7-8:00 p.m., Jan 8 and 9-2:00 p.m.)  
"Makin' Whoopie: Walter Donaldson, Gus Kahn  
and the Jazz Age" 92<sup>nd</sup> St. Y, 1395 Lexington  
Avenue, NYC. Tickets (212) Y-Charge or

<http://www.92y.org/Uptown/Event/L-L-Makin-Whoopie.aspx>

## DAN LEVINSON

<http://www.danlevinson.com/>

(see also Bickford Theatre listings)

**Jan 21** 8:00 p.m. "Clarinet A La King: THE tribute  
to Benny Goodman, with James Langton's New  
York All Star Band. Theatre of the Somerset  
County Vo-Tech Schools, 14 Vogt Dr., Bridgewater,  
NJ. Tickets: (908) 237-1238 or  
[partnership2000@embarqmail.com](mailto:partnership2000@embarqmail.com)

## WATCHUNG ARTS CENTER

18 Stirling Road, Watchung, NJ 07069  
908-753-0190

<http://www.watchungarts.org/>

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Adam Rogers, **Administration, miscellaneous  
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Jack Adams, **Video Coordinator**

## TSJS CONTACT INFORMATION

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 896, Mount Laurel, NJ.  
08054

**E-mail:** [info@tristatejazz.org](mailto:info@tristatejazz.org)

**Phone for updated concert information:**  
1-(856) 720-0232

Answer to last month's cryptogram – "Hot can be cool and cool can be hot, and each can be both. But hot or cool, man, jazz is jazz." - Louis Armstrong

### TSJS SPONSORS 2011-2012

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Send an e-mail to [webmaster@tristatejazz.org](mailto:webmaster@tristatejazz.org) telling us to add you to our list for e-mail newsletter delivery, TSJS concert notices, area traditional jazz events (not TSJS), or all three lists.

Send questions about membership and general information to [info@tristatejazz.org](mailto:info@tristatejazz.org)

### VISIT OUR WEB SITE

[www.tristatejazz.org](http://www.tristatejazz.org)

### ATTENTION STRUTTER CONTRIBUTORS!

Deadline to contribute reviews, literature, and schedule changes for the January, 2012 Strutter is: Tuesday, December 23, 2011

### THE STRUTTER IS NOW ON THE WEB

The Strutter is now on the Tri-State Jazz Society Web site, [www.tristatejazz.org/strutter.pdf](http://www.tristatejazz.org/strutter.pdf)

If you have trouble opening PDF files, download the free Adobe Reader software from

[www.adobe.com/products/reader/](http://www.adobe.com/products/reader/)

## DIRECTIONS TO SAINT MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

### FROM PHILADELPHIA OR DELAWARE:

Take the Betsy Ross Bridge to Route 90. Follow Route 90 to the end when it merges into Route 73. On Route 73, you will pass two traffic lights and go under two bridges. Immediately after the second bridge, on your right, there will be an exit ramp to Route 537 Maple Shade and Moorestown. Take the ramp. Make right at the end of the ramp, which will be Camden Ave. Follow Camden Ave until the end. Make left at fork in road, cross street will be Main Street. Take Main St until the second traffic light, which will be Chester Ave. Make left onto Chester. Pass one traffic light, cross railroad tracks. St. Matthew will be on the left past the 7-11.

**FROM THE NORTH USING I-295:** Take I-295 south to Exit 40 (Route 38 – Moorestown), remain in merging lane and take the Marter Ave exit, make right at end of exit ramp (Stop Sign). Make left at second traffic light which will be Main Street. Go for about a mile, then make right at second traffic light, which will be Chester Ave. Pass one traffic light, cross railroad tracks. St. Matthew will be on the left past the 7-11.

**FROM THE EAST:** Take the Atlantic City Expressway and Route 42 North. Take the I-295 North – Trenton ramp, after Creek Road. Follow directions "from the South" below.

**FROM THE SOUTH:** Take I-295 North to Exit 36B (Route 73 North – Tacony Bridge). Pass one traffic light, stay in right lane. Take Route 38 to 41 Ben Franklin Bridge / Haddonfield exit after cross bridge. Take first exit after merging onto Route 38 – North Route 41 to South Route 73 Marlton. Merge onto Route 41, which is Kings Highway. Follow Kings Highway for five traffic lights (after the third light, Kings Highway becomes Main Street). Fifth Traffic light will be Chester Ave. Make left onto Chester. Pass one traffic light, cross railroad tracks. St. Matthew will be on the left past the 7-11.



# Membership Application/Renewal Form

TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 896, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

- New**       **Renewal**      *Annual membership is valid through June 30, 2012.*
- Regular:**       Individual \$20       Couple \$40
- Sponsor\*:**       Individual \$50       Couple \$70
- Patron\*:**       Individual \$100 or more \$\_\_\_\_\_       Couple \$120 or more \$\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail and Newsletter Options: (Check all boxes that apply)

- TSJS concert and membership notices**
- Newsletter by E-mail**       **Newsletter by U.S. mail** (paid members only)
- Other traditional jazz event notices** (not sponsored by TSJS)

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*\*Names of sponsors and patrons are normally published in The Strutter newsletter and on our Web site. If you do **not** want your name included in the list, please check this box:*

TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY, INC  
PO BOX 896  
MOUNT LAUREL, NJ 08054

