

Music Magic News and Views



Music with a Touch of Class, Fall 2004
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Music Magic Magazine

Fall 2004, Issue III

Jim Houck Productions, Inc.

Mission Statement

- Jim Houck Productions, Inc. is dedicated to producing the highest quality music resulting in outstanding achievement in the aesthetic arts, academic excellence, prosperous business achievement and service to the community.
- We deliver the finest quality audio recordings and video productions for education, business and the music community.
- Our strength is producing new and established artists in the jazz genre.
- Through growth we provide opportunity for our artists, outstanding high quality products for the music business, and make good profits for our investors.

BassNote



Records

An independent label producing new and established artists in the jazz genre.

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I. Colvin Run Citizen's Association ~ Dances for Charity.

On the first and third Saturdays of the month, ballroom dancing events are held at the Colvin Run School, which was built in 1885.



Photo by Bill Rosenbluth

The original school burned and a new school was built in 1908. The Colvin Run Community League used the school for meetings. After the meetings they had Ice Cream and Cake served by Mr. and Mrs. Roberts general store, now known as Thelma's Ice Cream store.

The road between the school house and the Ice

Cream shop was widened and re-routed forming Highway 7. The current road between the school house and the Ice Cream shop is now called Colvin Run Road.

The Colvin Run Community League, purchased the property from the Fairfax County School Board in 1931. The original purpose of the Community League was to improve dairy farming and harvesting techniques.



Later, this organization became the Colvin Run Citizens Association, a non-profit, tax exempt, volunteer organization dedicated to the preservation and upkeep of the historical Colvin Run School House.

The organization raises funds or charity by sponsoring dances held on the first, third and fifth Saturdays of the month from September to June. Donations are made to two different charities each month. The full schedule including dance lessons is in the local jazz section of this magazine.

Various bands have played at Colvin Run over

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the years; Mrs. Letha Hurst's Band, The Vienna Syncopators Orchestra which consisted of the number of the Manvel Brothers, George and Stanley Manvell and Joe Mason and Randy Latimer, Kenny Gorham took over the band renamed it the Colvin Run Jazz Band. Gary Buckley (from the Navy Commodores) was next and finally Jim Houck currently runs the band.

To get more information about the band and/or schedule call:

Walter O. Harrison, 703-430-6557



Mondays at Le Canard featuring Reinhardt Liebig

132 Branch Road Vienna
703-281-0070 - 8:00
French cuisine and fine Jazz

Coffee House of Occoquan

202 Commerce St.
703-492-8976

Second Saturday of the month 12

noon - 1:30
Enjoy the 200 year anniversary of
Occoquan near the river.

Bangkok Blues

926 West Broad St.
Falls Church
703-534-0095
Enjoy Gourmet Thai food.

Pistone's at 7 Corners

Sunday afternoon Jam session starting at
4:00.

Colvin Run Swing Dance

Every first and third Saturday 9-12
Walter O. Harrison, President
703-430-6557

II. Local Virginia Jazz...

The Ice House

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760 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia
703-437-4500
Live Jazz Friday and Saturday 8-12

5100 McGarther Blvd 5:30-8:30
Brooks Teegler

The 219 Club in Alexandria
John Coccousi, Thursdays

Appearing at the Ice House Monthly
The Bob Meyers Trio



Featuring Juleen Stacy
with Woody Hume and Jim Houck

The Mayflower Hotel
1127 Connecticut Avenue N.W.
202-347-3000
Danny Ruskin

The Lamplighter
Jermantown Road
Claude Hedgpeth

The Hilton McLean at Tysons Corner
7920 Jones Branch Road
703-761-5159

The Ritz Carlton at Tysons Corner
1700 Tysons Blvd, Mclean
703-506-4300
2-11 Monday through Friday
Noon to 10 Saturday and Sunday

Timpano Chop House in Rockville
12021 Rockville Pike, 301-881-6939
Saturdays: Warren Fisher - 8-12

Market Inn
200 E. Street SW
202-5542199
6-10 Weekdays

Get your views published...
Send your music reviews and comments to:
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The Starland Cafe

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Jazz Brunch 11am-2pm Sunday

The Four Seasons Hotel

2800 Pennsylvania Ave. NW.
202-342-0444
Live Jazz 3:30-6:00, 8:30-12:30

The Grill

Morrison House

116 S. Alfred St., Alexandria
703-838-8000
9-12 Thursday-Saturday
Pat Rohrer



Colvin Run Swing Dance

10201 Colvin Run Road
Walter O. Harrison, President
703-430-6557

Schedule: 2004

September 4 Dance Lesson - Rumba
September 18 Dance Lesson - Tango
October 2 Dance Lesson - Triple
October 16 Dance Lesson - Polka
October 30 No Dance Lesson
November 6 Dance Lesson - Fox Trot

November 20 No Dance Lesson

December 4 Dance Lesson - Viennese

December 18 Christmas Ball

December 31 New Year's Eve Ball

Schedule: 2005

January 15 Dance Lesson - Salsa

January 29 Dance Lesson - Waltz

February 5 Dance Lesson - Bossa

February 19 Dance Lesson - Samba

March 5 Dance Lesson - Jitterbug

March 19 Dance Lesson - Tango

April 2 Dance Lesson - Quick

April 16 Dance Lesson - Merengue

May 7 Dance Lesson - Cha Cha

May 21 No Dance Lesson

June 4 Dance Lesson - Waltz

June 18 No Dance Lesson



THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA PIANO LOUNGE ASSOCIATION

SUMMERTIME.. AND THE LIVIN' IS
EASY..

NOW THAT MOST OF THE LOCAL
PIANO PLAYERS

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**ARE BACK FROM VACATION IT'S
TIME TO**

PARTY PARTY

**BEFORE SUMMER IS A THING OF THE
PAST..**

=====

PISTONES....

**AS ALWAYS THINGS ARE HOPPING
EVERY NIGHT OF
THE WEEK AT BEST PLACE IN TOWN
FOR ITALIAN FOOD**

**SPECIAL EVENT TONIGHT..
WEDNESDAY.. AUGUST 4TH**

SINGLE'S NIGHT 7 PM

**IF YOUR SINGLE AND LOOKING FOR
OTHER SINGLES
TO PARTY WITH THIS IS FOR YOU..**

**A BELIEVE THERE IS A SMALL
CHARGE TO COVER
THE MUNCHIES...**

**MUSIC WILL BE PROVIDED BY
ADRIENNE CHAPMAN
ON PIANO ..**

LAST MONTH'S WAS A BIG SUCCESS

**AND DON'T FORGET THE REGULAR
SCHEDULE:**

**MONDAY: MARTY FAHEY
SPOTLIGHT NIGHT**

**AUG 9TH: THE AWESOME
FOURSOME**

**GLORIA LONG, CONNIE STEWART,
CHRIS RYAN, LAURA CAMPOS**

AUG 16TH: LANE SWEATT

**TUESDAY: MARTY FAHEY AND
SPECIAL GUEST**

**AUG 10TH: EDDIE POCKEY ON
GUITAR (C&W)**

WEDNESDAY: ADRIENNE CHAPMAN

THURSDAY: ART BEVERAGE

**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY: KAREN
CHAE**

SUNDAY: JAM SESSION 4 TO 7 PM

**HOSTED BY LUKE CAPONE AND
UNCLE MARTY**

**AND DON'T FORGET THE PATIO IS
OPEN**

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LE CANARD....

MUSIC 6 NIGHTS A WEEK AND
WHAT A GREAT LINEUP

MONDAY.. RHINEHARDT
TUESDAY.. TOM SAPUTO
WEDNESDAY.. MICHAEL TERENCE
THURS, FRI & SAT... PETER ROBINSON

This Wednesday, Aug 4th, marks the return
of Michael Terence
to Le Canard and he hopes to see many of
his old friends and
vocalist in the weeks ahead.. Michael is also
at AMERIGO
in McLean on Friday nights too...

=====

SQUIRE ROCKWELLS..

TOM SAPUTO.. ROCKS THE HOUSE
EVERY
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY STARTING
AT 7:30 PM

SOME OF THE BEST SINGERS AROUND
DROP BY
AND ADD TO THE FUN..

SPECIAL SHOWCASE..

THURSDAY AUG 19TH .. CHRISTINA
CALDWELL

CHRISTINA WILL PROBABLY BE
DOING SEVERAL OF THE
SONGS FROM HER NEW CD SHE
RECENTLY RECORDED
WITH TOM.. "I WANT TO SING"



=====

SPECIAL EVENTS..

THIS SUNDAY AUG 8TH 7 - 10 PM
AT THE BANGKOK BLUES
RICK "HOLLYWOOD" THOMPSON
&
THE ORPHEUS JAZZ QUARTET
MARK YOUR CALENDAR..

SUNDAY.. SEPT. 26TH
AT THE MCLEAN HILTON'S
OPUS 88 ROOM
THIS YEAR'S
"CABARET FOR THE CURE"

EVERY YEAR MANY OF OUR LOCAL
AREA
MUSICIANS AND VOCALISTS GET
TOGETHER

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TO RAISE \$\$\$ FOR THE AMERICAN
CANCER SOCIETY
LAST YEAR WE RAISED \$11,000 AND
WE HOPE TO
DO EVEN BETTER THIS YEAR..
MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW AND
BE SURE YOU
DON'T MISS THIS VERY IMPORTANT
EVENT



PS: IF ANYONE HAS ANY ITEMS THAT
THEY
WOULD LIKE TO DONATE FOR A
DOOR PRIZE
OR AUCTION ITEM PLEASE LET ME
KNOW..

=====

FINALLY... LOST AND FOUND
HAS ANYONE SEEN OR HEARD FROM
MY OLD FRIEND LES HUMID???

RUMOR HAS IT THAT HE GAVE UP
THE WEATHER BUSINESS AND HAS
BECOME A PART-TIME BODY GUARD
AND SPEECH WRITER FOR THE
LINDEN LAROUCHE
PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN ...

ANYWAY.. ENJOY THE LAST DAYS
OF SUMMER AND I'LL SEE YOU
ALL AROUND THE OLD PIANO..
THANKS..
CARRIE OAKIE (aka Mark Richards)

III. Warren Fisher



Photo by Jeff Gray

“Melt Sinatra, Johnny Hartman, Joe Williams and Nat Cole into one voice and .. You now hear the velvety smooth baritone voice of Warren Otis Fisher, as he sings jazz and standards. He plays a nice trumpet too.”

Tom Volger, GM Timpano Chop House
12021 Rockville Pike Rockville Md 20852
301-881-6939

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Style, Class and charisma... puts Warren Otis fisher one on one with the each member of his audience, while his voice just takes your breath away. See and hear him for yourself!

The Warren Otis fisher Trio performs every Saturday night 8pm until midnight and his Sextet performs every LAST Thursday of the month.



IV. The Troy W. Campbell Quartet

Thanks for the Memories

Troy W. Campbell - sax ,
Robbie Liebrick - drums, Don Durkee -
piano, Jim Houck - Bass



"Troy W. Campbell is as fine a saxophonist as I have ever heard and clearly ranks with Stan Getz and Paul Desmond with his clear, clean sweet passages and creative touches in this superb CD album." *John Clark*

Special Feature

Interview with Troy Campbell

Music Magic Magazine: Our special guest today is Troy Campbell. Troy, why did you pick the name "Thanks for the Memories" for your new album?

Troy Campbell: I guess I've been a dear fan of Bob Hope for so many years, from back in the 40's I guess, and Bob has always been a favorite of mine. Since he passed on I thought I would do an album in his memory.

Music Magic Magazine: Can you tell us something about the style of this album as opposed to earlier works you've done?

Troy Campbell: I picked these primarily for senior citizens, although some younger people

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will enjoy it. We wanted to keep in some ballad moods and some jumpier tunes that some of these folks may know and understand as opposed to Rock and Rap that goes on today.

Music Magic Magazine: I noticed that your style of playing is a very subtle cool style similar to Stan Getz. Are you enjoying that style and do you think that's going to continue to be popular?

Troy Campbell: It didn't hurt Stan Getz! I guess its just my style. As a young man I was told not to imitate or copy anybody, be your own man. I try to stay away from sounding like; well there are so many great players, its kind of hard not to be similar to some of them. But, yea I will probably continue doing it the rest of my life.

Music Magic Magazine: What advice could you give to young saxophone players today?

Troy Campbell: Practice! Alot of them are learning jazz but they don't know the chords. And that's where it's at, in the chords system, the minors, majors, sevenths, diminished, anything like that. And then memorize them, so that they can work with a sheet and chart with chords and improvise that way. It's probably the easiest way to do it. So many go around the back way and just bend the melody and it works for some and some it doesn't. I would say overall, practice and learn your

chords and memorize them and then work with records and radio station music to hone down their skills.

Music Magic Magazine: Thanks for coming by today Troy and Good Luck with your new Album, Thanks for the Memories.



V. Cover Model

Eleanor Houck



Eleanor is attending the University of Arkansas and is modeling. She is the *cover model for Music Magic Magazine*, a new magazine dedicated to fine quality music.

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Eleanor's tips:

Always use liner on your lips and wear lighter shades during the day and darker shades at night.

The one thing girls misconstrue about modeling is that it is all glam and about being beautiful, but it is not. Modeling is about selling a product, whether it is clothes, jewelry, or feminine products. It requires a lot more brain cells than people think. On the bright side it is a lot of fun, getting to meet new people, travel the world and make a lot of money. The most important thing to learn in this business is be able to accept rejection. If you cannot handle rejection, you will not make it in this business.

Remember, even above that to have self confidence and like yourself. If you don't, no one else will. Eleanor Houck



To contact Eleanor through
Jim Houck Productions, Inc.
703-742-4670
Eleanor@JimHouck.com



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VI. LaSalle Dance Orchestra



The LA SALLE DANCE ORCHESTRA was established in 1996 by director/pianist Sally Hile. Access to a large quantity of authentic 1920s and 30s charts from a variety of private collections made the idea of forming an orchestra just too tempting. What started as a Monday night basement rehearsal orchestra has grown into a polished ensemble of talented instrumentalists and vocalists who have played for the listening and dancing pleasure of a large and varied following of fans who rave about the irresistible music. Lively Lindy Hops, spirited Charlestons, enticing Tangos, lovey Waltzes, tempting Rumbas and romantic Fox Trots all combine to highlight this rich segment of America's musical heritage when dance bands all over the country, both local favorites and nationally known, were regularly playing for huge crowds of eager dancers. We've made it our specialty to keep this very danceable music

alive.

“The La Salle Dance Orchestra plays music from an era when dance orchestras enjoyed enormous popularity. A time of Tea Dances, Lawn Parties, Flappers and Dress Whites - a time of wonderfully uplifting music. Playing from authentic period arrangements, this 12 - piece orchestra recreates the tow-tapping rhythm and memorable melodies of the “A Jazz Age”. Vocals, both melodic and novelty, and an award winning pair of dancers complete the program. “



The authentic jazz sounds of the 1920's and 30's with style. Hear the band regularly at the Glen Echo Ballroom on the second Sunday of the month from 3:30-6:00.

Sally grew up in Seattle and started piano lessons before entering elementary school. As

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a teenager and into her college years there was the usual mix of school performances as well as a full schedule of USO work in the Seattle area - this was the Korean War era. Over the next several years marriage, raising a family and living overseas put the piano in the background. Upon returning to this area in 1985 she decided to test the waters a bit. She had a new piano, after being without for 12 years, and was anxious to see just what was out there. The first ventures were with community theater where she spent many hours as a pit musician. That opened up contacts that led her to The British Embassy Players in 1991. She has been music director for most of their shows since that time. That in turn introduced her to other bands in the area - everything from ragtime to swing - and a whole wealth of musical talent from which she has been able to draw in forming her orchestra. Even with a few wrinkles along the way, the whole adventure has been immensely rewarding.

Contact information:

Sally Hile, Director, 703-425-7926
or sally@lasalldanceorchestra.com



VII. Al Klopfer

Al Klopfer is an excellent writer. Here is an article he wrote about Louis Bellson.



Louis Bellson

The Gentleman Ignites:

By Al Klopfer

Amongst musicians, Washington D.C. is probably not thought of as an overwhelmingly receptive town. When Buddy Rich's first band appeared here in 1967, he peered out at the scattered audience and asked, "Did you all come in the same Volkswagen?"

As in other major cities, the best of the FM stations and clubs have often done poorly. Still, the D.C. area in recent years has shown signs of becoming increasingly music-oriented and audiences have shown a willingness to pack the performances of both name and local talents. Lately, a great deal of enthusiasm has been generated by the visits of Louis Bellson.

Bellson has long been among the most

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consistently popular drummers, his highest accolades often coming from fellow musicians. People who always speak highly of him include Tony Bennett and Buddy Rich (a man not noted for capricious compliments). But one of the most revealing testaments comes from Butch Miles, the young drummer who made a name for himself as a featured performer with Mel Torme and now plays with the Count Basie band, who said in a recent Downbeat interview, "The incredible finger control and incredible everything else that Louis Bellson owned caused him to be one of my influences. I don't think I ever heard Louis screw up. He always has been so 'correct' ... and boy, that bothers me. ... I have never heard Louis screw up.

For several weeks in the Spring of 1976 and for a week in January Louis was the jazz event in the nation's capitol. This is partially because he packs more into a week than many performers find time for in a month. In seven days last spring, in addition to rehearsing and leading the band for eight performances of the Pearl Bailey show at the Kennedy Center, Louis held a drum clinic, went on two radio shows and a television interview, rehearsed with the local Horan-Torerzer big band (and flew out from LA the next weekend to perform with them) and *still* found time to make jam sessions.

Bellson's direction of the Pearl Bailey show points up his virtuosity. His well-constructed drum solo early in the performance demonstrates not only his own dynamism, but

also what an exciting and musically valid vehicle the drum solo can be in the right hands. He gets an incredible variety of colors out of the drums, from the artful rustling figures of his brushes to rimshots knocking through the back wall. There was never a more musical drummer.

But, perhaps the most telling things about Louis at this performance is the effect he has on the other musicians. "For Once In My Life," charted for Pearl Bailey by Benny Carter, features 78 bars in which the brass section plays Errol Garner's breakneck solo on the tune. It's the Supersax idea done with the whole band. She customarily has them run through it twice in a performance, and somehow, with Louis providing the bedrock framework on which everyone builds, they all make it happen.

The show also reveals a lot about Bellson the name. His engaging typical sideman personality at the rehearsals wins the respect and love of everyone. At the party held after the performance, the violin soloist, an area veteran who has led string sections for many artists said, "He's one of the very few guys thought of as having a jazz background that the string players really respect. I mean, to a man they all admire him, very rare." Is this because of his being such a thorough, well-studied, versatile musician?" Of course. But primarily it's because he is such a sincere straight guy.

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"Louis was very evasive about what he was doing dragging all those drums out to a cab so early in the morning."

Along these same lines, Joe Harnell, who played piano in the Pearl Bailey show, tells a story about a performance in Atlanta.

"I was heading for breakfast in the hotel where we were staying, and as I came out of the elevator I saw Louis carrying drums across the lobby. Louis uses a lot of drums, you know, so I went up to see if I could help." A towering man, Harnell looks as if he could do some of Clint Eastwood's stunts for him. "Louis was very evasive about what the hell he was doing dragging all those drums out of a cab so early in the morning. I said, "Where are you going, don't you want any help?" It turned out he was on his way to play at an orphanage. He said whenever he had a little extra time in a town he would call up an orphanage and see if they wanted to set up a show. He said it was his way of giving a "little something back."

The performance at the Bayou with the Horan-Toperzer band was enough to make anyone envious of those who live in the vicinity of Dante's and can catch Louis more frequently. Louis has a lot of admirers here -- some of them go back to when he was stationed at Fort Meyer at the Army School of Music during the war, others trace their admiration back to his last drum clinic.

The Bayou is a large place, probably a bigger club than anyone could afford to build today, and its acoustics are very good.

Decades of exposure to the flooding that its riverfront location engenders have left the club with an unusual atmosphere, however. It looks as though it was never new. You walk in and half expect to see Vincent Price playing the organ. Bill Mayhugh, a Washington radio personality and the MC for the evening, looks around and says, "This will be a nice place when they get it finished." Then he goes up to the mike.

"The three best big band drummers in the world are Buddy Rich, Sonny Payne and Louis Bellson. We're lucky to have one of them here tonight. I remember meeting him on the tennis courts at Coolidge High School during the war. I was already a fan and I have been ever since. I'm happy just know this guy -- Louis Bellson."

And in he walks, lithe but granite ribbed, and makes his way to the drums. The band plays down the charts Louie has brought from his own band, many are his own compositions;. In the years since drummers have become more studied and versatile, many have started to write, but few have matched the sophistication and sensitivity of Bellon's composing. His playing inspires the musicians and transfixes the audience, which is tuned in one-to-one with the drums, too entranced to look away, talk, drink; too involved to notice the Early Blitz

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Music Magic News and Views



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surroundings. There are people hanging over the catwalks, edged between spotlights, standing in the doors. Two evenings before Bellson has been featured with Buddy Rich on the Tonight show; he now gives off the same spirit and fire in the D.C. club, never one to 'Phone it in." Nobody wants to let him go -- two encores and he steps finally to the mike.

"I say this when I play with my own band, and its true of all of them -- Basie, Ellington, all the great swing bands-- it's a co-operative effort." That's true, of course, but even on Aston Martin with thousands of hand machined parts has to have an ignition, and Louis knows how to ignite.

Free Bellson Discography

Al Klopfer has prepared a selected Louis Bellson discography, listing 20 recordings with Bellson either featured or performing with top artists such as Pearl Bailey, Count Basie, Art Tatum and Arthur Fiedler. You may obtain a free copy simply by sending a self addressed stamped envelope to:
Bellson Discography
c/o Jim Houck Productions, Inc.
22943 Fleet Terrace
Sterling, VA 30266

VIII. Comments from Fans:

Ears and Years

120 ears; 4800 years. Orpheus Jazz opened the ears and lowered the years of residents of Oak Crest Village - Baltimore, Maryland - on a Sunday afternoon in September. Oak Crest is an Erickson Community - a sister community is Greenspring in Springfield, Virginia.

The quartet - Jim Houck, Adrien Marcus Re, Rinehardt Liebig, Al Klopfer - displayed both visual and audio perfection ... tuxedos in musical motion. Audience- Ears heard smooth-music- Years. Orpheus Jazz recaptures the regal romance of the Jazz Era, filling us with memories. And if 120 ears and 4800 years are not enough, 60 pairs of hands kept the applause level high during the entire performance.

Don Gruenburg

That CD is really out of this world, just fantastic, Orpheus Jazz a Touch of Class, beautiful! Just previewed it a few minutes ago, and you get 10 out of 10. If you want to call me at 703-569-1756. I think when you perform at the Hilton you ought to get more people to buy your CD, its really worthwhile. I'm so glad that you told me about it and gave me the opportunity to have your CD. It's really excellent, very enthusiastic, great! Very innovative, very good playing, great Bass playing, those solos are excellent! Each rendition is original and outstanding!

John Moffett

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"As a music aficionado who has heard many great players over these many years, I consider you to be one of the best bass players that I have ever heard. No BS!"

Frank Jamison



IX. Jazz Perspectives

Jazz



What is Jazz Perspectives?

A new TV show about the Local Virginia Jazz scene, featuring the finest in Jazz.

- Its about interviews with musicians and writers.

- It's about fine jazz music. Where to find it for great listening pleasure.
- It's about the public participating in Video and Television production.
- It's about expressing your views and being heard.

Jazz Perspectives is broadcast on **Arlington Cable Television Channel 33**, who just recently changed their name to **Arlington Independent Media**.

Tune in on Saturday evenings at 8:30 and Thursday mornings at 10:00 am on Arlington Independent Media Channel 69.

Or, you can order a copy of the show from:

JazzPerspectives@jimhouck.com

Jazz Perspectives is produced by Jim Houck Productions, Inc.

X. Swing Central

Christmas Special

Well, have I got a treat for you! Here is a video produced at the "Arlington Community Television" facilities with some of the 'local talent' here in the Washington, DC area. It is produced by Tom Greco and hosted by Jimmy "D' Shark" Musgrave with the "Jim Houck and Friends Band". Also starring are Monica Schwartz, Sara Coleman and Julian Hipkins on vocal accompaniment.

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The "Swing Dancers", Lee Robertson, Sonia Oxford, Andrew Kontola, Lisa Brannigan, John Pape, Susan Brannigan, Hilary Cairnie, Tracy Pilkerton, Tom Greco, Monica Schwartz, Carl Kirtley and Terry Flaglor add a wonderful touch of home-town talent to this Christmas variety show!

The opening number is the standard "White Christmas". On guitar is Sam Taranto, Don Lerman is on the sax, drums are by Joe Smith, and Jim Houck on bass.... can't tell the players without a score card!

"Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" comes next as another instrumental and as with all of the numbers is complemented by the "Swing Dancers".

"Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow" with Sara Coleman is the first of her vocals. Her voice is soft and creamy. A great match for the holiday repertoire.

"What Are You Doing New Year's Eve" is next on the list with Monica Schwartz providing the vocal. What a nice, clear voice!

"O Christmas Tree" sometimes better known as "Ol' Tannenbaum" is an instrumental with a great riff by Jim Houck on bass.

Next is "Rockin' Round the Christmas Tree" with Sara Coleman doing the vocal.

No Christmas show would be complete without "Jingle Bells". This time it is Monica's chance.

"The Christmas Song" is done by Julian Hipkins. He has a great swing/jazz voice complete with the inflections and movements and is one of the highlights of the show.

To complete the set and close the show is "Santa Clause is Comin' to Town" with "Jim Houck and Friends" and the "Swing Dancers".

Pete Frosio, Ft. Collins, Colorado



XI. Bob Meyers

Bob Meyers is one of the very finest musicians every to pick up a guitar. He plays chords and melody which are very original and all his own style. He is certainly on the same level with Eric Clapton, Jeff Beck and Les Paul.

Why is Bob such a pleasure to listen to? Well, basically it's because of his deep love for the music. That love comes pouring out in ever increasing amounts. The enthusiasm and sheer

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joy, with which he plays, is a never-ending source of inspiration for the listener.



Bob Meyers at the Ice House

Bob's artistry on solo work is something to behold, one of the great wonders of the world. Songs like 'A Nightingale Sang in Berkley Square' and Eric Clapton's 'Tears in Heaven' are amongst Bob's best solos. The sheer mastery of the technique for performing such songs shows the high standard of excellence Bob sets for himself and his band mates.

Bob's resume is a veritable Who's Who of the music industry. Equally at home in the finest jazz clubs of the world, or playing at a local neighborhood restaurant, Bob keeps playing his style his way.

Bob has started recording an album, which is sure to be Jazz Classic. Keep an eye out for it,

because you won't want to miss a single note.

Jim Houck



**The Bob Meyers Trio
featuring Juleen Stacy
with Woody Hume and Jim Houck
at the Ice House in Herndon, Virginia**

Jim Houck

Juleen Stacy has a voice like an angel! Clear as a bell and versatile. Equally at home with opera or jazz, she exhibits excellence and high standards of performance.

Her original arrangement of Summertime is a phenomenon the audience must hear to believe. Few singers through history have her range and versatility. She turns on the charm when singing a ballad, and mesmerizes the audience.

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Together with Bob Meyers, the combination of excellent vocals and guitar are unbeatable!

Jim Houck

Visit the Jim Houck Productions, Inc. website for information on local bands, big bands, jam sessions and concerts.

www.JimHouck.com

Say hello and sign our friendly guest book.

Sign up on the Jazz Fan mailing list,
and your name is entering into a
contest to win a free CD.

From the desk of the President...



Jim Houck Productions, Inc. moves into the holiday season celebrating the wonderful sounds of Christmas. In this Fall edition of Music Magic Magazine we are honored to bring you some special DC area talent information.

The LaSalle Dance Orchestra is a truly authentic 1920's and 1930's band. Please come out to Glen Echo every second Sunday of the month and dance, dance, dance.

Jim Houck Productions, Inc. services include: studio recording, on-site recording, commercials, and video and audio production. If you have an idea, I would love to hear it.

Mission Statement

- **Jim Houck Productions, Inc. is dedicated to producing the highest quality music resulting in outstanding achievement in the**

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aesthetic arts, academic excellence,
prosperous business achievement and
service to the community.

- We deliver the finest quality audio recordings and video productions for education, business and the music community.
- Our strength is producing new and established artists in the jazz genre.
- Through growth we provide opportunity for our artists, outstanding high quality products for the music business, and make good profits for our investors.

BassNote Records is an independent label producing new and established artists in the jazz genre.

BassNote



Records

Current available albums are:

Fine JAZZ

- I. Orpheus Jazz-A Touch of Class
- II. Orpheus Jazz Live (at Tower Records)
- III. The Troy W. Campbell Quartet
- IV. The Best of Orpheus Jazz
- V. Orchestral Impressions

These fine jazz CDs are available at:

Tower Records Tyson's Corner

8389 Leesburg Pike , Vienna, VA (703) 893-6627

VIDEO

Video production continues to move forward. This year Jazz Perspectives has two more shows planned.

Jazz

Jazz Perspectives, seen on Arlington Independent Media TV airs Saturdays at 8:30pm and Thursdays at 11:00am.

If you would like of copy of these high quality video productions, please let me know. GoodMusic@JimHouck.com

I'm looking forward to a banner year of expansion and fine music. **Jim Houck Productions** strives to bring you the very finest audio and video production.

I would love to hear from you with any requests or ideas you might have about producing video or music products.

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Special Thanks:

To: **John Clark** for his support and business advice.

To: **Joe Smith** for his technical advice and insights.

To: **Bill Hoeft** for technical advice and video editing

To: **Mark Richards** for his sense of humor and support.

Thank you all, Jim Houck



Reviews

"A Touch of Class! Exactly what the Orpheus Jazz quartet delivers with an impressive, tastily, performed, entertainingly pleasing, CD menu of 10 of the best tunes ever set to music. Launching with the ever-favorite swing masterpiece, Just Friends, the quartet rises immediately to the summit of musical excellence, coalescing improvisation, and smooth rhythm in the most invitingly pleasing sounds that lure one to new heights of listening pleasure culminating with that melancholy treasure, Yesterdays. Improvisations of tenor man **Troy Campbell**, bassist **Jim Houck**, Pianist **Reinhardt Liebig**,

and drummer **Al Klopfer**, are creatively intriguing, faithfully delivered in good taste, and high praise to the tunes they adorn with exciting ideas. Music backgrounds of the musicians on this CD are illuminated with high altitude experience, **Campbell's** resume flashes stints with The New **Glen Miller band**, and singer **Vic Damone**, to excerpt a few examples; **Houck**, whose bass playing sparkles with taste, technique, and ear-pleasing intonation, toured with the Guthrie Theater, Paula Kelly and the Modernaires; **Liebig**, born in Germany, struts out influences of **Shearing, Tatum and Peterson**; **Klopfer** at age 10 started drumming his way up fast, while still in high school playing with the likes of **Sammy Nestico, Bill Watrous, and Earl "Fatha" Hines** to name a few marquee greats.

Summation of the Orpheus Jazz CD merits the conclusion:

RANKS WITH THE BEST!"

Tom Vinicguerra

"Orpheus Jazz - this supremely versatile ensemble, brings all the Janus-faced sounds of jazz to a contemporary atmosphere. With a strong sense of lyricism and pervasive rhythm, this group leaves an indelible impression on listeners."

Gregory Walczak

"I've followed almost everything Jim Houck Productions has done since the mid 90's from "Blue Ridge Kind of Love" right on up to

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"Thanks for the Memories" with the Troy W. Campbell Quartet. What a fine piece of work! It is undoubtedly the finest presentation of nine of the best standards around! Troy is magnificent on the woodwinds. Jim Houck adds much more than a bass line to each composition... almost a complementary melody. Listen carefully to "Body and Soul." Don Durkee's keyboard both fills in and takes charge in a way I have not heard in a long time. The percussion by Robbie Liebrick is very effective and un-obtrusive. Please don't make me pick the best out of "Jazz by the Fireside" and "A Touch of Class" and "Thanks for the Memories."

Pete Frosio, Fort Collins Colorado

"*Orpheus* has a wonderfully sophisticated style with its creative renditions of familiar jazz standards and a swinging, up-tempo style that is the ultimate cool jazz sound," says jazz critic, John Clark. "They remind me of Stan Getz, Dave Brubeck or Oscar Peterson's great sounds, only with their own style."

John Clark

"Once again Troy W. Campbell's beautiful saxophone has graced our jazz scene with the release by *Jim Houck Productions* of Troy's latest CD, The Troy W. Campbell Quartet's "Thanks For The Memories". Campbell's lyrical sax is backed by Jim Houck on Bass who collaborated with Troy on the well-received Orpheus Jazz's "Touch of Class" CD, Don Durkee on keyboard and Robbie Liebrick on drums. Troy reaches new lyrical highs on a

number of standards such as "Thanks", "Georgia", "Willow Weep for Me", as well as "Blues in the Closet", "Good Life" and "Body and Soul." **Troy W. Campbell is as fine a saxophonist as I have ever heard and clearly ranks with Stan Getz and Paul Desmond with his clear, clean sweet passages and creative touches in this superb CD album."**

John Clark; New Notes Newsletter



**Troy W. Campbell - sax and flute,
Al Klopfer - drums, Reinhardt Liebig -
piano, Jim Houck - Bass**

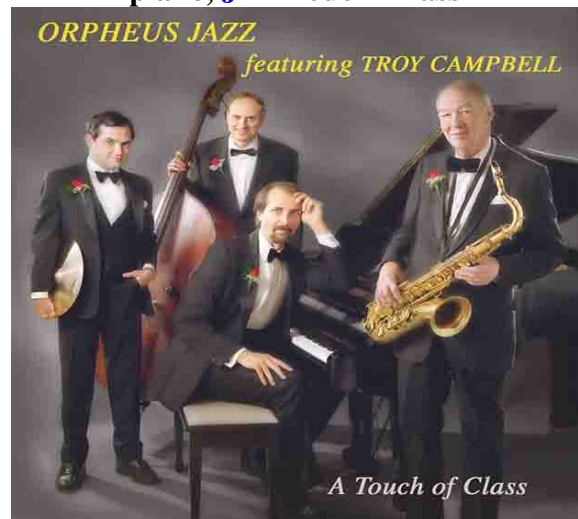


Photo by Reinhardt Liebig - 703-615-8383

**The Troy W. Campbell Quartet and
Orpheus Jazz have had radio coverage in the
Washington D.C. and Pittsburgh areas.**

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"Troy W. Campbell is as fine a saxophonist as I have ever heard and clearly ranks with Stan Getz and Paul Desmond with his clear, clean sweet passages and creative touches in this superb CD album."

John Clark

TROY W. CAMPBELL has enjoyed a very busy musical career all of his life in and around the Pittsburgh, Pa. area. Besides the local gigs, he has toured with various musicians such as the great trumpet player **Billy Butterfield**, **John Costa** (pianist for the Mr. Rogers children's TV show), **Slim Bryant** and the **Georgia Wildcats**, **The New Glen Miller Band**, **Vic Damone**, **The Jack Purcell Society Band** just to name a few. Mr. Campbell has appeared on **KDKA-TV** for several years along with many radio stations in the Pittsburgh area. In 1968 and 1969. His **Band the Troy Campbell Jazz Quartet** with singing sensation, **Jeannie Smith** were written up in **Down Beat Magazine**. He also played for the world premier of the **Hello Dolly** movie as well as the most prestigious clubs and theaters in the east. Troy plays tenor and alto saxophones, flute, clarinet, piccolo and several stringed instruments. Mr. Campbell would like to dedicate this album to Marion his loving wife of 50 years and his father Troy W. Campbell Sr. for his inspiration and support in all his musical endeavors.

REINHARDT LIEBIG, born in Halle,

Germany, came to the USA in 1958. Lived in the Cleveland, Ohio area until 1985. Back in 1965 his Aunt Sophie brought him an accordion from Germany and he started lessons and by 1971 taught himself piano too. His interest in the piano was supplemented with three years of classical piano studies under Dr. Fredrich Koch of the Cleveland Music Settlement. By 1972, Reinhardt started getting piano gigs in saloons and restaurants in the area. From 1985 to 1998, Reinhardt lived in Phoenix, Az playing in a variety of venues such as country clubs, restaurants, hotels and coffee houses. In 1998 he and his family moved to the Washington, D.C. area, where he now is playing regularly in many venues besides his performances with the Orpheus Jazz Quartet.

AL KLOPFER began studying the drums in 1962 at ten. While still in high school he played with the big bands of **Sammy Nestico** and **Bill Watrous**, and with **Earl 'Fatha' Hines**. While attending the college of **William & Mary** he played with the big bands of **Woody Herman** and **Maynard Ferguson**. After graduating in 1974 he spent several years in and around the Washington-Atlanta-Atlantic City corridor working with many groups and artists, which have included **Kenny Burrell**, **Diana Krall**, **Michael Franks**, **Blood Sweat & Tears** and **Frank Sinatra, Jr.** In addition, he recorded with alto saxophonist **Richie Cole** and his vocalist **Eddie Jefferson**.

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"As a music aficionado who has heard many great players over these many years, I consider you to be one of the best bass players that I have ever heard. No BS!"

Frank Jamison

JIM HOUCK, originally from Baltimore, Maryland, Jim Houck has been a bass player from an early age and began performing while still in high school. Jim has performed/toured with **The Guthrie Theater, Paula Kelly and the Modernaires, Russ Carlyle, Marilyn Sellers, Easy Smith, Ed Berger and the Jazz All-Stars, Gene White, the Ron Lee Quintet, Augsburg College Orchestra, Jazz Band, Concert Band and many others.**

Jim has also produced several CD's and produces a TV show called **Jazz Perspectives**. Tune in on Saturday evenings at 8:30 on Arlington Independent Media Channel 69.

Jazz

Bass Player's Corner...

Music Magic Magazine caught up with *Scott Giambusso* at the Ice House in Herndon,

playing with Mike Thornton.

Music Magic Magazine: We are interviewing bass player and Jazz Faculty member of Montgomery College, Scott Giambusso. Scott, you were performing at the Ice House in Herndon on August 21st, with a jazz quartet. What are the differences in playing with a jazz quartet, as compared to playing with a big band?

Scott Giambusso: Big band music is more about the arrangement and tight ensemble playing, where as quartets are more about the improvisation, A small group can be highly arranged but with a quartet you have a lot more room to improvise and create spontaneous arrangements if everyone on the bandstand is in tune to each other. Also the bass player has many more opportunities for soloing, unlike in a big band where you are pretty much tied to the arrangements and notes that are written out. If you are lucky you may get a 12 bar solo once or twice a set. Big Band bass playing demands you push a little harder because you and the drummer are trying to keep 19 other musicians at the same tempo and when sax's play behind the beat and trumpets play on top it is a constant vigil to even out the time. In a quartet you have more freedom to relax and bend the time and be more playful with the moment. Both are great mediums for musicianship.

Music Magic Magazine: Have you been

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influenced by Bill Evan's bass player, Scott La Faro? If so, how?

Scott Giambusso: It would be impossible not to recognize the lasting influence of Scott LaFaro's contribution to the jazz trio.. When I was just starting out I was attracted to the freer styles of jazz. I loved LaFaro's ideas of interplay between the instruments, but my problem was that I did not have a strong concept of time and a steady swinging walking line. These skills must be second nature before you can allow yourself to improvise with the strength and freedom of a master like LaFaro. There is a little known recording of Scott LaFaro with Victor Feldman (pianist/vibes) and Stan Levy on drums entitled "The Return of Victor Feldman" LaFaro demonstrates his power and lyricism on 10 tracks that include a searing version of Dizzy Gillespie's "Be-Bop" at over 400bpm.. I had never heard him play so relentlessly with Bill Evans. It just shows how much depth he truly had.

Music Magic Magazine: What do you see as the biggest challenges for modern day bass players?

Scott Giambusso: There is so much music out there, it is difficult to know where to start for any musician. Repertoire is the key to success as a bassist. The more tunes you know, (plus decent sight reading ability) the more valuable you are to other musicians. You must

play what you are drawn to but it is important to not become stuck in a style. There is something to be gained by studying as many types of musical styles and rhythms as possible. It is also imperative for a bass player to realize his function in the group. Nowadays a big challenge for most bassists is to keep from overplaying. It's too easy to step on the other players. It all depends on what you are playing but this can be a big problem and an easy way to lose a gig..

Music Magic Magazine: Tell us about any recent recording projects you have been involved with, and how the fans could obtain a copy of the CD.

Scott Giambusso: This summer I was fortunate to record two CDs. I worked for a couple of fine singers. One was a cabaret/torch album where I played upright and guitar and the other I finished today was a jazzy pop album for Pam Parker. It is kind of a Nora Jones thing where I am playing upright and electric bass. with piano, guitar, drums and sax. They should be out by the late fall and I am betting will both get some airplay. I am personally running a composers workshop at my house with a group of old buddies to record our original music and I may have an eclectic CD done by the springtime. There are still copies of my first cd from 1999 "The Mighty Busso, Band & Show" up in my attic. I never released it in stores but it is a fun collection of my original material with a 9

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piece band of some tremendous musicians from the Washington DC area.

Music Magic Magazine: What advice would you give to aspiring bass players?

Scott Giambusso: Buy a metronome and use it. Study piano and study drums

Music Magic Magazine: Do you have a specific practice routine you follow?

Scott Giambusso: It's difficult these days to get a regular routine going but when I do sit down I try to focus on a specific task at hand. When work is slow I tend to spend more time learning tunes, but when I am busy I focus more on technique and keeping my hands in shape. Probably the most important part of a practice regime is weekly sessions with other players. I have a friend whom I meet with at least once a week and we study music together. We will read some classical, run some scales, maybe study a Chick Corea or Cole Porter tune or practice transposing a standard into 5 or 6 keys. It keeps you fresh.

Music Magic Magazine: Can you suggest any books and/or courses for bass players?

Scott Giambusso: There are several books in

particular that have helped me understand my role as a bass player:

The Bach Two Part Inventions

The Charlie Parker Omni Book-bass clef

Standing In the Shadows of Motown- James Jamerson

Rufus Reids The Evolving Bassist & Evolving Upward

Chuck Rainey Electric Bass Method

Funkifying the Clave: Afro Cuban grooves for bass and drums

Slama 66 studies in all keys for string bass (Fred Zimmerman)

There is also a lot to be gleaned from instructional videos. One of the best is Alex Sklaverski's "The Slap Bass Video" It is very informative and clearly presented. I also got a kick out of Rocco Prestia's instructional video featuring the great horn band Tower of Power. A must for learning to master the 16th note groove.

Music Magic Magazine: Do you answer fan mail? If so, how can the fans communicate with you?

Scott Giambusso: I keep getting e-mail from this guy in Croatia whom I sent a CD to a few years ago. so yes I do answer fan mail. I can be reached at sjg@boo.net

Music Magic Magazine: Thanks for taking the time to talk with us today. Good luck with your teaching and performing.

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Scott Giambusso: Thanks you Jim for all your good work with the magazine and your music. Keep on swinging

If you are a bass player and have something you would like to share with the world, or a question about bass playing, or looking for bass lessons, please write to:

BassPlayersCorner@JimHouck.com



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Congratulations to Perry Melvin and Jennifer on their Marriage.

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Available



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Jazz Fans of the Month

November 2004

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