

# buffalo jazz report

march 1974

vol.1 - no.1

## INTRODUCTION

You are now holding the first edition (of many, with any kind of luck) of something Buffalo is in great need of, a periodical devoted entirely to Jazz.

Jazz is not dead. Although many people don't know it, there is a considerable amount of live music here in Buffalo. Our aim is to find it and make it known. In addition to Club and Concert calendars, we will provide record reviews, articles on Jazzmen from the area, interviews with visiting musicians, new album listings (if space permits) and other goodies. The paper will be distributed free at clubs and record stores.

We hope you will enjoy this paper now and in the months to come. We should get better as time goes on. You can look for a new edition about the first week of each month. Enjoy!

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## HELP!!!

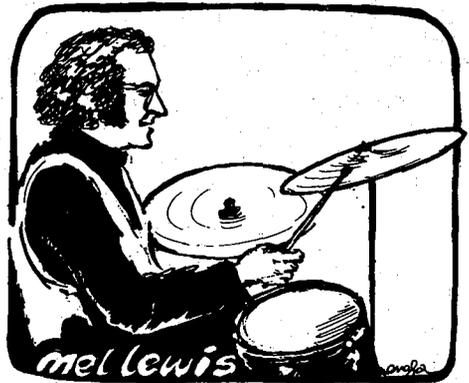
**Drummer Ed Blackwell needs your help.** He has lost the use of both kidneys and is in need of a transplant. He must use the Dialysis Machine.

Most noted for his work with Ornette Coleman, Ed has helped to revolutionize jazz percussion. Any contribution, large or small, is extremely important. Please send to:

Ed Blackwell  
189 East 2nd Street  
New York, New York 10009

Pianist **Bobby Timmons** died March 2 in New York, at the age of 38, after a long illness. The composer of 'Moanin' was best known as a member of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers, and also played with Cannonball Adderley and J. J. Johnson before leading his own groups.

Charles Smith will feature some of Bobby's work on **Morning Serenade**, March 9, on WBFO-FM (88.7).



Mel Lewis, co-leader and drummer of the Thad Jones-Mel Lewis big band, was born here in Buffalo (as Melvin Sokoloff) on May 10, 1929. His father was a professional drummer for almost 40 years. Mel started his career at age 15. In his early days he played with various people including Alvino Rey, Tex Beneke and Ray Anthony. The mid 50's found him with Kenton, Frank Rosolino, Hampton Hawes and again with Kenton, with whom he went to Europe in '56. Upon returning he settled in L.A. where he co-led a quintet with Bill Holman, and later joined the Terry Gibbs big band. At this time he also worked as a staff musician for ABC in Hollywood.

Since 1960 Mel has filled the chair for Gerry Mulligan, Dizzie Gillespie, Benny Goodman, Frank Sinatra, Terry Gibbs and Gerald Wilson. He moved to the Big Apple in '63 and joined ABC staff there. He has been to Europe several times including a trip to the U.S.S.R. in '62 with Goodman, and played at the first jazz concert at Vienna International Music Festival in '65. Since 1966 he has led, with Jones, the big band in New York City. He won the Downbeat new star award in 1962.

The TJ-ML Band is widely recognized as one of the top big bands of today. Their list of personnel reads like a Who's Who in New York, with names like Richard Davis, Roland Hanna, Pepper Adams and Julian Priester to name a few. The big band did a 5 week Russian tour in '72 where they won the hearts of the people and made it possible for Tricky Dick to make the trip. An earlier tour ('69) to Europe produced a double album for Blue Note **Jazz Wave Limited On Tour** - BN 89905, with guests Freddie Hubbard, K. Burrell, J. Steig and Jimmy McGriff

Mel can be heard on with the big band on 4 solid state LP's and 2 on Blue Note - **Consummation** -- 84346 and the one mentioned above. Some other recent albums are **Thad Jones/Pepper Adams** - Milestone 9001 and **Al Cohn & Zoot Sims** - **Body & Soul** - Muse 5016. Be sure to check him out, he has an impeccable sense of time and undying swing, and the band - it roars.

**RECORDS**

**Sonny Stitt - I Cover The Waterfront - Cadet 2CA 50039**

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38  
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It will be our policy to review as many new releases as possible each month. Due to the time involved in preparing the first issue, these records may not be as new as we would like, but we hope to remedy that situation in the future. Here are some we'd like you to know about:

A lot of re-issues have been coming out of late in the names of people who deserve them. If anyone deserves one it is Sonny Stitt, and alas - along comes this disappointment! Thrown together without any consideration for organizing the selection either chronologically or by the separate bands. Several cuts are defective, especially the last on side 4, and it is the type of defect which would not be limited to the review copy.

**Something' Else - Cannonball Adderley - Blue Note LA-169-F**

This is a re-issue of a first class session recorded in 1958 with Miles Davis, Hank Jones, Sam Jones and Art Blakey. It's worth the price just to hear Miles on **Autumn Leaves** and **Something' Else**. Anyone who may dislike Adderley for his commercial success should pick this one up to find out how great an alto player he is. As it is so correctly stated in the liner notes, this is a jazz "Supergroup" album. Hopefully this release is the start of a new trend for Blue Note.

The music is good. Sonny with 6 different rhythm sections, joined by Zoot Sims on one cut. No recording dates appear on the jacket, but I presume they would be in the early sixties. Since most of Stitt's work that would be ready for re-issue is on Cadet & Prestige, maybe the latter will give us one worthy of bearing Stitt's name.

**Gary Burton - New Quartet - ECM-1030**

**John Klemmer - Intensity Impulse - 9244**

This album might well be labeled a masterpiece, but all the credit does not go to Burton. It is, without a doubt, a group effort. In a vibes, guitar, bass and drums format, Gary's Quartet features three students from Berkeley School of Music, where he teaches. Especially impressive are bassist, Abraham Laboriel and drummer, Harry Blazer. The eight compositions (ranging from jazz-rock to ballads) were written by such people as Chick Corea, Keith Jarrett, Carla Bley, Mike Gibbs, Gordon Beck and one by Burton. The mood changes like the seasons and the albums end only leaves you begging for more. With Polydor now distributing ECM, they should be found about everywhere. A Blessing..

Klemmer is a fine musician, able to display warmth and beauty as well as fire and thunder. Both are displayed here - however, there seems to be a lack of sensitivity in the way the cuts have been arranged on the record. Side two puts you in a mellow mood until **Last Summer's Spell** which is rather heavy and should have been switched with **Love Song to Katherine**, which, in turn, is far too mellow for side one. Because of the 9-minute difference in songs, this was not possible, however, it would have been nice to have a mellow side and a heavy side.

**Eric Kloss - One, Two, Free - Muse 5019**  
**Pat Martino - Live - Muse 5026**

Regardless, Klemmer & Co. play well throughout. It's a good LP - just don't plan to go to sleep by it.

Here are two very satisfying albums from the people at Muse, who, with Don Schlitten in their employ, have been releasing a wealth of fine recordings. The Kloss LP, among his best, yields an 18 minute suite. (The title tune) which is broken down into 3 sections contributed by Kloss (alto), Ron Thomas (E. Piano) and Pat Martino (guitar). Side 2 contains a fine version of Carole King's **It's Too Late**, and a haunting, melodic original **Licea**.

The Martino album contains a funky version of **Sunny** (that really cooks), and 2 originals, one of which is 18 minutes of both structured and improvised playing. Pianist Thomas complements Martino well. The combined relaxed feel of the group and live atmosphere makes you want to applaud after each song.

open sky  
IS

DAVE LIEBMAN flutes, saxes  
FRANK TUSA bass, bells  
BOB MOSES drums, kalimba

In short - two albums you won't soon get tired of.

**Sonny Rollins - Horn Culture - Milestone - 9051**



**P. M. RECORDS**  
20 Martha Street  
Woodcliff Lake  
New Jersey 07675

This latest effort by Rollins, although not as good as his last (next album - Mile. 9042), is a good, well balanced set. Included here is another welcome version of **God Bless The Child** (another fine version was on his 1962 RCA release **The Bridge**, which is available from French RCA as a double album with **Sonny Meets Hawk**). In addition to another tune from the Billie Holiday repertoire, **Good Morning, Heartache**, Sonny performs three originals and one by Mtume (Conga playing son of Jimmy Heath). The addition of a guitarist (Masuo) adds an interesting dimension to the group.

**Freddie Hubbard - Get Your Soul Together - CTI-6036**

Here is the Hubbard album many have been waiting for. Freddie, without strings, on an album with his own working group which includes George Cables on piano and Junior Cook on tenor sax. The four cuts are all Hubbard originals. Nicely written and well executed.

**Dexter Gordon - Generation-Prestige - 10069**

An excellent effort by all; straight ahead, swinging, good time jazz. Fine ensemble work is heard by Dex and Freddie Hubbard as well as tasteful solo work by everyone. The rhythm section on hand for the date was comprised of Cedar Walton, Buster Williams and Billy Higgins, who was heard with Dex on some of his early Blue Note sides. In addition to a Gordon original, **The Group**, the set includes an alternate (1st) version of Miles' **Milestones**, a Dory Preven tune **Scared To Be Alone** and Monk's **We See**, on which Walton shines. Not enough good words can be said -- 100% for Dexter & Friends for this gem of an album.

**Thelonious Monk - The Man I Love - Black Lion - 197**

This record is from Monk's latest recording session in London back in 1971, which also produced **Something In Blue**, with Al McKibbon on bass and Art Blakey on drums. This set includes five Monk originals and the title tune by Gershwin. The trio plays four of the cuts with the other three being solo-Monk. All are sounding good and the music has a kind of a personal air about it. Everyone should like it, Monk fans will cherish it.

**Mahavishnu Orch. - Between Nothingness & Eternity Col. KC 32776**

This album, long awaited by both jazz and rock enthusiasts, presents not only the unique sound of the orchestra in concert, but also their refinement since **Inner Mounting Flame**. Their spiritual ties in music have led them to this, their latest and probably best release. The three selections here include **Trilogy**, **Dream** & a Jan Hammer footstomper, **Sister Andrea**.

**Trilogy** consists of sections featuring interplay amongst the group while **Dream**, featuring the leader and Cobham, progresses from an acoustic intro. thru numerous solos by McLaughlin, Cobham, Hammer and Goodman, to a short, mellow conclusion. A must for those who have enjoyed the Mahavishnu Orch. in person. This album presents a fine example of a group that touches jazz, rock and even classical music.

**Norman Connors - Love From the Sun - Buddah 5142**

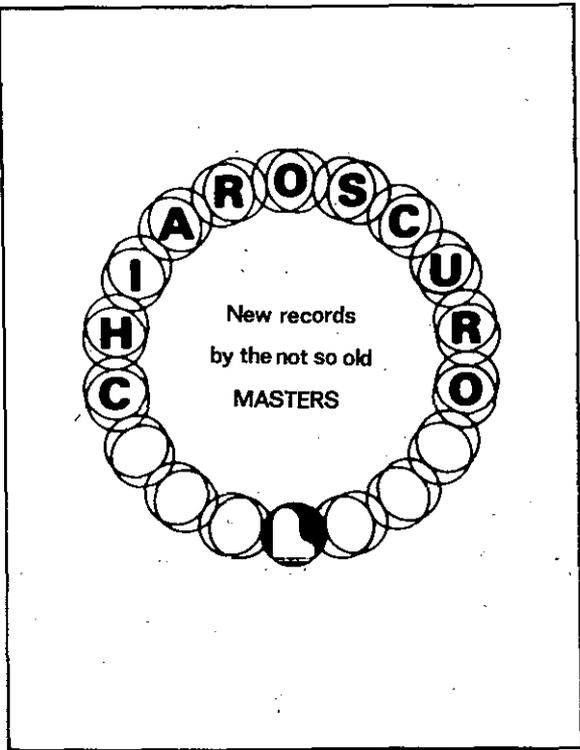
This is a nice album. Every song is enjoyable. The title track especially so with nice vocal work by Dee Dee Bridgewater. The band here is much the same as on his last album, **Hancock**, Bartz, Garnett, Eddie Henderson and all, but the overall results are better. Herbie's fans should be pleased, especially with his own composition, **Revelation**; and Connors' own **Drums Around The World** is a well done percussion suite. The combined effort of everyone involved makes this a pleasant, enjoyable album.

**Art Blakey, Max Roach, Elvin Jones, Philly Joe Jones - The Big Beat - Milestone 47016**

This double album is a re-release of selected cuts from several Riverside albums led by these four drummer-giants from 1958-1964. Its well packaged with all the necessary information, and each drummer gets 1 side. Many fine musicians are included here such as, to name a few, C. Adderley, Frank Foster, Jimmy Garrison, F. Hubbard, Hank & Thad Jones, Lee Morgan, Wayne Shorter and Cedar Walton. Two selections are unaccompanied drumming, the rest are quintet to full-band settings. An album everyone, especially drum fans should enjoy.

**Other recent releases we recommend:**

- Gil Evans - Sevangali - Atlantic 1643
- Don Byas - Anthropology - Black Lion 160
- Herbie Hancock - Headhunters - Col. 32731
- Sarah Vaughan - In Japan - Mainst. 2401
- Michael Howell - Looking Glass - Mile. 9048
- Monk & Coltrane - Milestone 47011
- Keith Jarrett - Fort Yawuh - Imp. 9240
- Jimmy Heath - Love & Understanding - Muse 5028
- The Visitors - In My Youth - Muse 5024
- Ben Webster - At Work in Europe - Prestige 24031
- Art Farmer - Farmer's Market - Prestige 24032
- Chas. Mingus - Reincarnation of a Lovebird - Prest. 24028
- Clifford Jordan - In the World-Strata East - 1972-1



# what's happening

**RADIO**  
**WBFO-FM-88.7**

Monday - Noon - **Spirits known and unknown** with Francina Simmes  
Tuesday - Noon - **Spirits** with Peter Hall  
Midnight - **Jazz Signal** with Joe Marfoglia  
Wednesday - Noon - **Spirits** with Tom Newhouse  
9 P.M. - **Jazz Revisited** with Hazen Schumacher  
Thursday - Noon - **Spirits** with Bill Besecker  
Friday - Noon - **Spirits** with Alyce Hudson  
Saturday - 8 A.M. - **Morning Serenade** with Charles Smith - four hours of easy going jazz, also featuring interviews with local jazz artists.  
Midnight - **Jazz by request** with Pres Freeland  
Buffalo's only modern jazz request show. Phone 831-5393.  
Sunday - **Talking to the People** with Myron Yancey jazz sounds from mellow on up.  
11 P.M. - **Inside the Changes** - with Bill Savino

**WBLK-FM-93.7**

Saturday - 10-12 P.M. Jazz with Bradley J. Cool featuring black jazz artists.

**WHAM-AM-1080**

Jazz all night every night. (Rochester station)

**LIVE MUSIC - CLUBS**

**EDELWEISS HUTTE** - Rt. 240, Glenwood (at entrance to Glenwood Acres) 941-5235. Jazz Quartet Friday and Saturday from 10 P.M. No cover.

**REVILOT** - 257 E. Ferry - 886-8833. Pharoah Sanders and Leon Thomas - starting March 19th. Cover charge.

**ANCHOR BAR** - 1047 Main - 886-8920. Johnny Gibson trio w/Geo. Holt on tpt. Friday and Saturday 10-2, Sunday 9-1. No Cover.

**THE MUSICIANS' CLUB** - 145 Broadway  
Sundays - 3 - Don Gais & Co. Don on piano, Pete Suggs on drums.  
10 - Les Davis Gp. (Quartet)  
17 - Graf Young Gp. (Sextet)  
24 - Interaction Jazz - Max Thein on bass, Al Tinney on piano  
31 - Eddie Kaye Ensemble (Quartet)

Band Rehearsal Nights

Monday - C.Q. Price  
Tuesday - Elvin Shepherd  
Wednesday - Willie Dorsey  
Thursday - Jimmy Clark

All programs start at 9 P.M. No Cover.

**ST. GEORGES TABLE** - Delaware & North. Jazz Nite on Mondays - No Cover.

**CONCERTS** - Elvin Shepherds 16 piece band with Alberta Thomas on vocals will be in concert Thursday March 14 at the Buffalo State Hospital Rehabilitation Center, 400 Forest Avenue. Starts at 6:30 P.M.

African pianist Dollar Brand will be appearing **Toronto** March 8, 9, 10. Tickets \$3.00. Contact C Publications at (416) 929-5065 for information.



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