

# Swingtime

The Region's Only Good Music Magazine!

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Photo by Jerry Gordon

## *Jody Shayne Quartet Stars for Swingtime*

**Jody Shayne (front) brings her musicians (from left) Hal Miller, drums; Russ Brooks, (bass); and Scott Bassinson, (piano) to the Albany Rail Yard Oct. 13. Concert is at 4 p.m.; jam session, open to all musicians, at 6. See story, Page 8.**

## **Ned Spain Performs on Giant Wurlitzer**

Organist **Ned Spain** will present a free concert at noon Wednesday Sept. 25 at Proctors Theatre in Schenectady. He is the principal player of Goldie the Giant Wurlitzer. His guests will be singer **Patti Melita** and harpist **Lydia Zotto**. See photo on Page 4.

**Carl Hackert**, another regular Proctors organist, will perform a duet with Ned. The program will include Broadway tunes and old favorites.

The Capital District is blessed with several other cold-weather noon concert venues, including St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Troy and Troy Savings Bank Music Hall.

# The Night Owl

## *Ye Newe Puzzler*

She (photo below) was the No. 1 singer of 1948. That year, her "A Little Bird Told Me" with the Starlighters was No. 1 for seven weeks and her "Powder Your Face with Sunshine" led the Hit Parade.

Honey Davis was born Dec. 31, 1917, in Reedville, Va. She starred in top night clubs (the Blue Angel), and hotels (the Plaza) before signing with Decca in 1945. She dueted with Bing Crosby and Red Foley and was a pioneer in television (Ed Sullivan, Colgate Comedy Hour, Abbott & Costello). She frequently headlined at Ciro's and Coconut Grove for 10 years, had a score of Top 40 hits including my favorite, "It's Too Late Now" with



the Four Hits and a Miss. She was in the charter class of the sidewalk stars on Hollywood Boulevard.

What was the name of this star? First answer to C. Robie Booth wins a lifetime subscription to **Swingtime**.

## *Ye Olde Puzzler*

Dee Keating warbled for Al Donahue and her husband, who was the mystery man, **Ray Anthony**. **Barbara Webb** won the prize. First correct answer came from an erstwhile winner, **Robert Baldes**, who already has said subscription.

## *Half Notes*

I enjoyed the cast of "Taffetas" recently at the Theater Barn in New Lebanon. Singers Sonya Meyer, Katrina Gnatek, Helena Woods and Jackie Nuzzo were excellent as a 1950s quartet, though the paucity of good music that decade opened the door for rock 'n' roll. Music direction by Victoria Casella is always



splendid and showy. Tickets are \$24 except Sunday 2 p.m. matinees, which are \$22. A fair price and a theater worth supporting. Call 794-8989 for reservations or scheduling.

Most enjoyable performance by **Skip Parsons' Riverboat Jazz Band** t'other night at the Fountain Grill in Albany, where he's been featured for 44 years! If anyone knows of a longer tenure, please let us know.

The septet had the leader on clarinet, soprano sax and vocals; **Woody Strobeck**, trombone; **Rich Downs**, cornet, flugelhorn and vocals; **Rich Skrika**, keyboard; **Crick Diefendorf**, banjo and vocals; **Bernie Mulleda**, guitar; **Tim Coakley**, drums. A real romp.

## *Jammin' June*

'Twas a jumpin' jam

Continued on Page 11





Photo by Jerry Gordon

**Vocal trio String of Pearls at Caffe Lena on August 13. From left: Peg Delaney, Holli Ross, Sue Halloran, Jeanne O'Connor, and Pete Toigo.**



Photo by Jerry Gordon

**Karina Calabro sang several sacred songs at the wedding of Marsha Thomas and John Settanny on September 14 at Our Lady of the Assumption in Latham.**



Photo by C. Robie Booth

**Georgie Wonders Orchestra played at Marsha's reception at the Italian-American Community Center. Shown, from left: Benny Rau, Mark Lambert, Tony Zarillo, Jack McGirr, Marty Knowlton, Pete Campisi, Art Duncan.**



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# Cats and Jammers

*Memory Lane*



Much thanks to Arthur (Doc) Salvatore, chairman of the Swingtime Jazz Society Concert Coordinating Committee, for a cherished copy of the May 19, 1945, DOWN BEAT. It was still hoped Glenn Miller was still alive. He was lost over the English Channel in mid-December. There was never a trace of the plane and he was presumed dead by June 5 when a national Glenn Miller Day was celebrated.

Among gems in this issue:

Tenor saxman Dave Pell was wed to Caroline Sherwood, sister of Bobby Sherwood and former member of the Skylarks.

Leopold Stokowski wed Gloria Vanderbilt. They had a child when she was 29 and he was 80.

Tony Pastor and Bob Wills had baby sons.

Headline says "Bigard with Ofay Crew." Really. Barney Bigard's new quintet had

four whities.

Birthdays May 16 were Lucy Ann Polk and Dick Noel, who were later wed. She was lead singer for Les Brown and more than 50 years later won the jazz singer of the year blue ribbon. Their daughter Chris Noel was a leading USO performer during the Vietnam War.

Gordon Polk, Lucy Ann's brother, lead singer for Jimmy Dorsey, had a birthday the following day.

**Carmen Mastren**, guitarist from Cohoes, was credited with being one of the "outstanding jazzmen" who made the Air Force Band so successful after Miller went missing. Our own late hometown vocalist **Gary Stevens** was with that band. Carmen's brother Al, trombonist, had been with Miller for many recording sessions earlier.



Photo by C. Robie Booth

*Preparing  
For Proctors  
Noon Concert*

Practicing for the Sept. 24 noon concert at Proctors (story, Page 1) are, from left, Lydia Zotto, harp, Ned Spain, organ, and Patti Melita, vocals.



A not-for-profit that is dedicated to presenting the very best in Jazz in a beautiful listening space.

# A PLACE FOR JAZZ

## APFJ FALL 2013 SERIES

ALL PERFORMANCES BEGIN AT 7:30 PM

### SEPTEMBER 20

Season 27 starts swinging with an exciting quintet headed by trumpeter **Joe Magnarelli** & saxophonist **Jerry Weldon**.



### OCTOBER 4

Celebrated drummer **Jeff Hamilton** has led a globally popular trio for more than 15 years, in addition to 40 years supporting Jazz legends in combos & big bands.

### OCTOBER 18

Trombonist **Conrad Herwig's** Septet is highly acclaimed for his Grammy-nominated Latin Jazz interpretations of the work of Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Herbie Hancock & Wayne Shorter.



### NOVEMBER 1

This year's vocalist, **Catherine Russell**, is a proven crowd-pleaser who, backed by her driving trio, joyously shows the Swing & Blues roots of her accomplished musician-parents.

### NOVEMBER 15

Dynamic guitarist **Michael-Louis Smith** is very popular lately as both creative bandleader & sideman in the Capital District & the leading NYC venues.



All Concerts: Friday 7:30 pm, First Unitarian Society of Schenectady, 1221 Wendell Ave. Tickets: \$15. One child under 12 admitted for free when accompanied by an adult. Series ticket: \$60 until September 13. To purchase tickets or become a member: [aplaceforjazz.org](http://aplaceforjazz.org) | 518.393.4011 | [coakjazz@aol.com](mailto:coakjazz@aol.com)

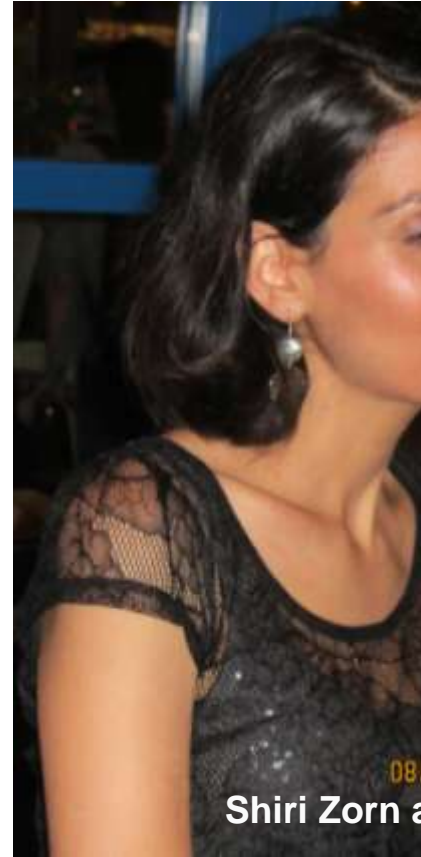
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# Swingtime Snapshots



Mike Lamkin at June Swingtime concert



Shiri Zorn



Lee Russo



Joe Finn





All photos by  
C. Robie Booth



09/2018 07:27  
at Provence



Cliff Brucker



Bronté Roman at blu stone bistro

# Swingtime Presents the Jody Shayne Quartet in Concert

On Sunday, October 13, the Swingtime Jazz Society will present the Jody Shayne Quartet at the Albany Rail Yard (formerly Appletini's), 1118 Central Ave in Albany. The concert, from 4 to 6 p.m., will be followed by an open one-hour jam session.

**Jody Shayne** began singing in clubs in Boston, where she attended Berklee College of Music. After spending some time on the road, she settled in NYC, where she appeared with many prominent jazz artists, including Archie Shepp, Howard McGhee, Jimmy Garrison, and Sheila Jordan.

A few years later, she returned upstate, appearing with such diverse players as Nick Brignola, Gap Mangione, James Spaulding, Michael Peller and Chuck Loeb. She was also a member of the vocal group, Jazz Voices, with Teresa Broadwell, Colleen Pratt and the Peg Delaney trio.

In addition to club engagements, Shayne has performed in quite a few jazz festivals. She served as coordinator of the music program at Hamilton Hill Arts Center for five years. Shayne enjoys writing lyrics and in 1998 released a CD of original songs with pianist Paul Mastriani called "Love Is a Garden." She currently resides in the Capital District, where her schedule includes clubs, concerts, writing and recording.

**Scott Bassinson** is a solo pianist and ensemble performer. Beginning classical piano study at the age of 4 at the St. Louis Institute of Music, Scott later attended Berklee College of Music, and performed with several commercial bands throughout the Northeast. Since moving to the Capital Region in 1986, Scott has performed in a variety of contexts including solo piano, jazz trio, as a multi-keyboardist with various jazz and funk groups, as well as accompanying singers including Jody Shayne and Jeanne O'Connor.

**Hal Miller** is the curator of one of the world's most comprehensive personal jazz film collections. He is a guest lecturer at many of the nation's colleges and jazz societies, including his annual role of jazz historian for the Skidmore Summer Jazz Institute.

Much of the footage shown in the Ken Burns documentary "Jazz" came from Hal's collection. He is a primary resource for jazz video footage for networks and independent production companies. In addition, he contributed to the opening of the Kansas City Jazz Museum with video footage and written commentary. Miller has contributed liner notes to a number of jazz recordings, including releases by Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Weather Report, Francesca Tanksley, and Carlos Santana.

A professional jazz drummer for the past forty years, Hal still plays in the Albany area, whenever time and schedule allow. He also tours internationally with the Carlos Santana Band, and is collaborating on the writing of Santana's upcoming biography.

**Russ Brooks** studied classical violin from a young age, setting it aside in his early twenties and taking up bass when he discovered jazz. His introduction to jazz was the music of Ornette Coleman and Thelonious Monk. He studied classical bass with Andrejs Garoza and jazz bass with Michael Formanek.





# SWINGTIME

**Jazz Society**

swingtimejazz.org



*Proudly Presents*

## The Jody Shayne Quartet

with Scott Bassinson (piano), Russ Brooks (bass)  
and Hal Miller (drums)



**4-6 p.m. Sunday, October 13, 2013**

**Followed by an open jam session from 6 to 7 p.m.**



**The Albany Rail Yard**

**(formerly Appletini's)**

**1118 Central Ave, Albany, NY**

**Pub menu and beverages available for purchase**

**\$15/person (\$5 for students)**

## LOOKING FORWARD

# The Duke, Drama and Diana

Duke Ellington's "A Tone Parallel to Harlem" will be performed by the splendid Empire Jazz Orchestra at 8 p.m. Tuesday Oct. 15 at the Carl B. Taylor Auditorium, Schenectady County Community College.

Other works on the program will be by **Jim Corigliano** (a member of the orchestra), Joe Henderson, Benny Carter, Bill Holman, Willie Maiden and Anita O'Day.

The world class orchestra, conducted by **Dr. William Meckley**, has won rave reviews from critics and musicians. Meckley has won many awards from his peers. He is dean of the school of music at SCCC. Tickets are \$20 general, free for SCCC students and staff, \$6 for other students. Highly recommended.

Drama and musicals abound. Theater Barn in New Lebanon has "Better Late" by Larry Gelbart (MASH) until Sept. 22. Call 794-8989. Curtain Call Theatre in Latham has "One Slight Hitch" until Oct. 5; "Abigail 1702" about the Salem witch trials Oct. 18-Nov. 16; "Bermuda Avenue Triangle" by Renee Taylor and Joseph Bologna Nov. 29-Dec. 28. Call 877-7529.

Choreographer Matthew Bourne's "Sleeping Beauty" comes to Proctors in Schenectady straight from London. Music by Tchaikovsky. Capital Repertory Theatre presents the racy "Venus in Fur" Sept. 27-Oct. 27 and "A Christmas Carol" Nov. 22-Dec. 22. Call 445-7369.

The College of Saint Rose presents the New Gary Burton Quartet 70th Birthday Tour Sept. 24 at 7:30 p.m. Opening act is **Michael Benedict's** Bopitude with Gary Smulyan. If you use code STROSE20, you'll get



**Diana Krall**

a 20% discount. The Massry Center is also the scene of "It's a Jazzy Christmas" at 6 p.m. Dec. 6 and pianist **John Medeski**, the famed student of **Lee Shaw**, Dec. 7 at 7:30.

The wonderful Grammy award-winning singer-pianist Diana Krall performs at 8 p.m. Oct. 1 at Proctors Theatre in Schenectady. Promo lauds her "pre-bop piano style and sensual singing... dusky contralto and tasteful grooves."

Also at Proctors, clarinetist Ken Peplowski leads a version of the Benny Goodman 1938 Carnegie Hall concert orchestra Oct. 13 at 2 p.m. Prices start at \$20. Chicago is there on Nov. 6 at 7:30 p.m. Trumpeter Chris Botti plays at 8 p.m. Nov. 16. Call the box office at (518) 346-6204.

The Egg in Empire State Plaza, Albany, presents the Joshua Redman Quartet at 8 p.m. Nov. 7 and the John Pizzarelli Quartet Dec. 27 at 8 p.m. On Dec. 28 at 8 p.m., John will be joined by his wife, Jessica Molaskey, and father, Bucky, at the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington.



From Page A9 of the 7/21/13 *Times-Union*:



Cindy Schultz/Times Union

Trombonist Tom Smith of Troy performs with Reggie's Red Hot Feet Warmers on Saturday.

As if Cheles/Shields wasn't confusing enough ...

### *The Night Owl*

Continued from Page 2 session at the June Swingtime event at Stockade Inn. A pleasant surprise was the singing of **Annette Heilman**, who has a true tone, sincerity of lyrics, rhythm, terrific timing and was wonderfully abetted by pianist **Peg Delaney**.

Vocalist **Patti Melita** was in fine form, as were regular sitters-in **Jack Speraw** on 'bone, **Bill Delaney** on bass and **Tim Coakley** on drums.

Sitting in at **Lee Shaw's** wonderful 85th birthday party at 74 State in Albany were



**John Pizzarelli and Jessica Molaskey**

national names **Chris Pasin** on trumpet, her poll-winning pupil **John Medeski**, and pianist **Nick Hetko**.

Kudos to **Carol Max**, the beautiful producer at Curtain Call Theatre in Latham, entering her 14th year at the helm. In October she'll be a six-year survivor of breast cancer. I enjoyed "Miracle on South Division Street," especially the performance of veteran **Rie Lee** as the disillusioned matriarch.

Lucy Ann Polk's vocals "Honey, That's Missouri" with Jerry Fielding and "Love Letters in the Sand" with Les Brown are two of my very favorite vocals of all time.

For the area's most up-to-date jazz calendar, visit [aplaceforjazz.org/](http://aplaceforjazz.org/)

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**SwingtimeJazz.org**

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# Join Swingtime Jazz Society

The **Swingtime Jazz Society** roster of members has reached 60. You are encouraged to join us by using the coupon on this page.

The Society's mission is to promote quality jazz by employing the finest regional artists for four or five events every year. The format is two hours of concert-cabaret music by the featured artists followed by a one-hour jam session open to all cats.

All members have a full vote on future attractions and electing officers of the non-profit corporation. We also have a wonderful series of dinner meetings hosted by members. There is a one-only fee of \$100 for joining.

See Pages 1, 8 and 9 for our October 13 attraction, **the Jody Shayne Quartet**.

I want to join the Swingtime Jazz Society.  
Enclosed find my membership fee of \$100.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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