

Swingtime

The Region's Only Good Music Magazine!

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Fall 2017

*Charles Cornell Quartet to Play on October 8
at Panza's. See Pages 8 and 9 for details.*



Steve Kirsty, Charles Cornell, Matt Niedbalski and Nate Giroux

ASO Schedules Great Season

The Albany Symphony Orchestra kicks off its new season Oct. 14 at the Palace Theatre in Albany at 7 p.m. Simone Porter will solo on Korngold's Violin Concerto. John Williams' Star Wars Suite concludes the program. Music director David Alan Miller will conduct.

The Rite of Spring, a bit early for Nov. 18, features Stravinsky's historic composition at 7:30 p.m. at the Palace.

Dec. 9 at 7:30 in Troy Music Hall will celebrate 1786: Mozart's Miraculous

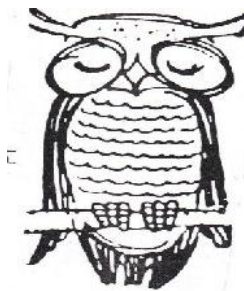
Year with Figaro and Piano Concerti 23 and 24.

The Mozart theme continues Dec. 10 at 3 in the Music Hall with *The Impresario*, Piano Concerto 25, Horn Concerto 4 and Symphony 38, "Prague." Miller conducts!

We'll be telling you about 2018 highlights next issue. Guests will include a reprise by the world's leading tubaist Carol Jantsch, pianist Joyce Yang, trumpeter Craig Morris and soprano Hila Plitmann.

The Night Owl

Random Reviews



Jeanne O'Connor, always easy on the ears and eyes, was at Grappa '72 t'other night with pianist **Peg Delaney** and bassist **Bill Delaney** (photo at centerfold). The highlight was the most beautiful vocal I've ever heard of "Skylark" (for instrumental, Lee Shaw's). Peg's arrangement of "The Sweetest Sounds" for Jeanne was a delight. And while the Temptations never did much for me, Jeanne's "Up on the Roof" hit a whole different, and appropriate, spot. See more about Jeanne on Page 4.

Christine Spero is a marvelous pianist and singer. We caught her act at Provence restaurant in Stuyvesant Plaza (Guilderland) and thoroughly enjoyed her artistry. She does some jazz, some Broadway, some pop and a lot of her favorite, Burt Bacharach. Her Karen Carpenter numbers were touching and nostalgic. (See photo at centerfold.)

Kudos to Proctors and the *Times-Union* for co-sponsoring the musical theater awards and the special section detailing all of the high school productions.

The Rep (Capital Repertory Theater) presents "Sex with Strangers" Sept. 22—Oct. 15 at their South Pearl Street theater. For show times and prices call 382-3884. "She Loves Me" plays Nov. 24—Dec. 24.



Andrea McCardle

Andrea McCardle, the original Annie, is a big girl now and one of the most versatile entertainers anywhere. She's in cabaret Oct. 28 at Proctors.

International prize-winning violinist **Tessa Lark** opens Troy Chromatic Concerts' 121st season Oct. 6 at 7:30 in the acoustically perfect Troy Savings Bank Music Hall. Her program includes Messiaen, Bach, Schubert and her own compositions.

Pianist **Emile Naoumoff** plays at 7:30 Nov. 11 with a program of Faure, Ravel, N. and L. Boulanger, Bach, Tchaikovsky and his own works.

The remainder of the season will be detailed in the next issue. Ticket information: 273-0038.

Straight ahead, little friend.

--C. ROBIE BOOTH



Memory Lane: The Gene James Trio

Dyanne Marlowe at the Lion's Den in Lansingburgh with Gene James (left), leader, bassist and vocalist, and Paul Mastriani, pianist and vocalist. Bobby Massaro was drummer and vocalist.

***For the area's most up-to-date jazz calendar, visit
APlaceForJazz.org/calendar.htm***



Scott Bassinson, Tony Markellis, Mallory Donnelly, Jeanne O'Connor, Bob Warren, Sam Zucchini. Photo by Joe Duell.

Jeanne O'Connor and the New Standard

Jeanne says, "I am SO excited about appearing at the renovated Caffè Lena with my all-star band, Jeanne O'Connor and the New Standard. Caffè Lena in Saratoga has always been one of the best listening rooms for miles around, and since a big renovation it's better than ever. Great new sound system, access by elevator, and beer and wine for sale!

"We will be bringing our unique mix of funky, sweet, and soulful music from the '60s and '70s, with songs from the likes of Carole King, Burt Bacharach, Laura Nyro, and Sergio Mendes. We have some new additions to the repertoire -- Mallory Donnelly will take the soulful lead on a Chaka Khan tune, and I've begun to cover another of my favorite Joni Mitchell songs, backed by swell harmonies. I'm in love with a recent Bob Warren original, and we will bring up the lovely Joy MacKenzie as a special guest to sing with us on that one and others. We are family-friendly if you'd like to bring your young ones.

"So you don't want to miss this appearance, for so many reasons! Advance purchase of tickets recommended! Friday, Sept. 29, 8:00 p.m. Caffè Lena, 47 Phila St., Saratoga Springs, NY. \$18 advance, \$9 for student and child. <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3059479> www.caffelena.org

"Thanks so much, and happy autumn!"



The Jazz Connection Swings

Pat Viglucci leads the group seen at many regional spots including Provence and Roux. From left: Bill Knauer, guitar; Mark Dieffenbach, bass; John Avallone-Serra, drums; Marty Rawlins, clarinet; Pat, alto saxophone.

In Memoriam: Vito Joseph Davi



Vito Joseph Davi died April 25 at Good Samaritan Health Center in Delmar. He was "a creative saxophonist, big-band musician and lifetime New York Yankees fan," said a Mohawk Valley obituary. A longtime member of the musicians union, he played with many Mohawk Valley groups, big bands, combos and the U.S. Air Force Band. He volunteered as entertainer at VA hospitals and won a national award for his work. His friend drummer Bill Brust wrote, "I had many good times playing with Vito since 1945. Time flies when you're having fun."

The photo shows Vito at the jam session at SJS's January, 2014, concert at Provence.

Vito and his daughter, Nancy Pennink, are members of Swingtime Jazz Society.

Swingtime Snap

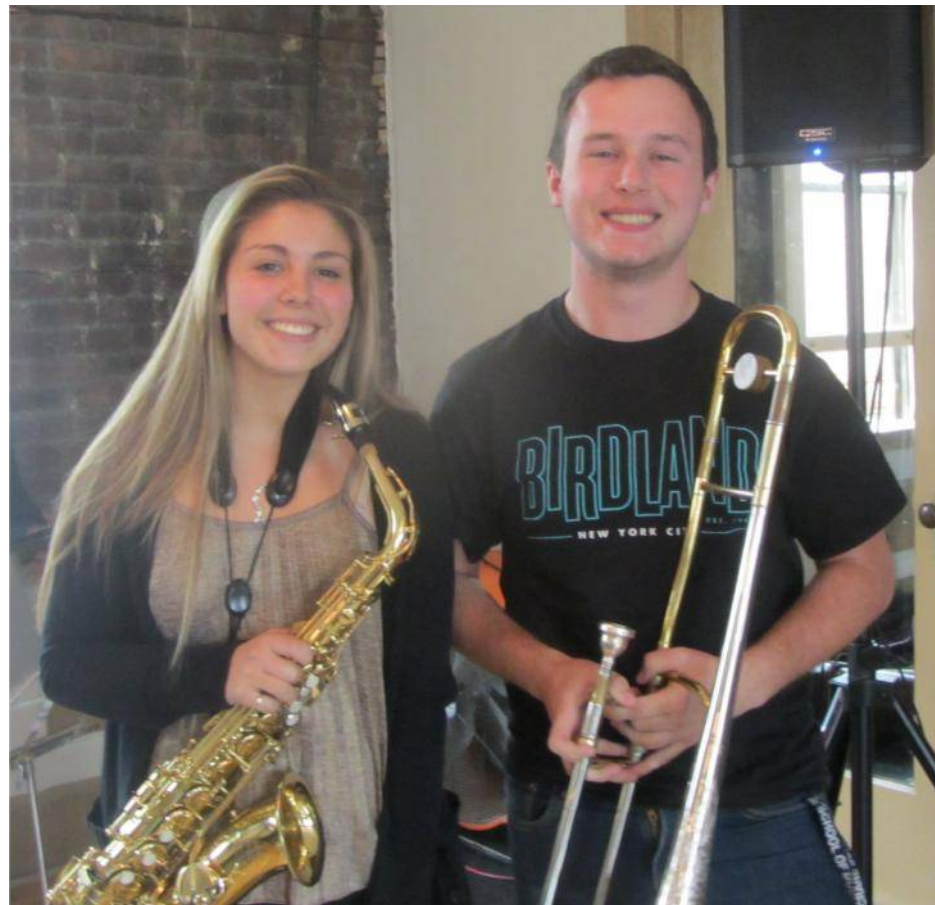
Photos by C. Robie Booth



Photo by Jerry Gordon

Gals Who Play Jazz at Swingtime Jazz Society's June concert at Renaissance Hall in Schenectady. L-R: Alyssa Falk-Verheyne, Patti Melita, Peg Delaney, Kristina Johnson, Linda Brown.

Winners of the 2016 Lee Shaw Scholarship: **Téa Mottolese** and **Elias Assimakopoulos**. 2017 winners are on page 10.



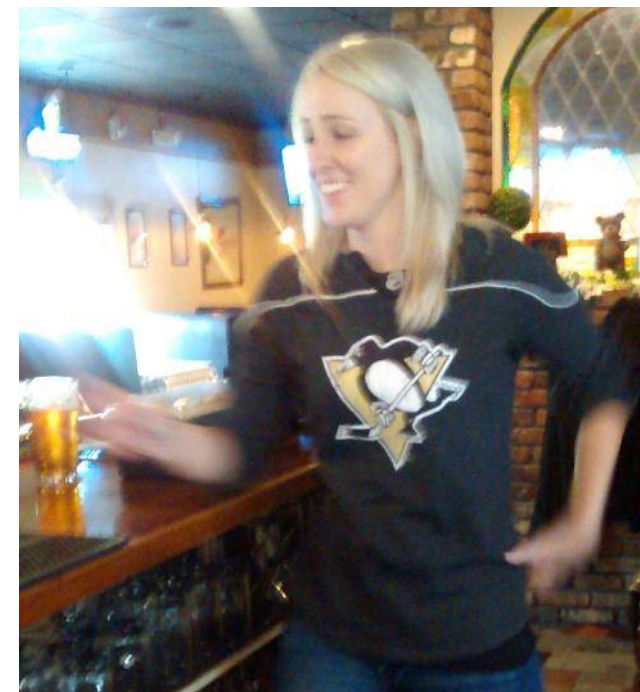
"That's the LAST time we let Ringo set the traps."



Jeanne O'Connor sings, **Peg Delaney** plays, at Grappa '72.



Pianist and singer **Christine Spero** at Provence. She is there (at Stuyvesant Plaza) and at Wishing Well in Wilton regularly. See Night Owl (Page 2) for more on this wonderful artist. Percussionist **Mark Galeo** accompanied her.



Bartender extraordinaire: **Kimberly Chuck** is Thursday and Saturday mainstay at Swifty's on Everett Road in West Albany.



Charles Cornell 4 to Play for Swingtime on Oct. 8

Charles Cornell is a jazz pianist and composer from Hartford, NY. He began studying piano at the age of 8. At 13, he took an interest in jazz and began taking lessons with jazz pianist Lee Shaw, with whom he would study for the next 5 years. He attended the Skidmore Summer Jazz Institute in Saratoga Springs twice, where he studied with legendary musicians such as Curtis Fuller, Billy Hart, Bill Cunliffe and Todd Coolman. Charles received a degree in jazz studies from the Purchase College Conservatory of Music. There he studied with numerous pianists including Kevin Hays, Hal Galper and Andy LaVerne. He has performed at venues such as The Blue Note NYC, Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola at Lincoln Center, Birdland Jazz Club, The Falcon, The Lake George Jazz Festival and the Saratoga Performing Arts Center. He has shared the stage with musicians such as Jon Faddis, Gary Smulyan, Joe Magnarelli, Ignacio Berroa and David DeJesus, to name a few.

Born into a musical family near Schenectady, **Steven Kirsty** wanted to emulate his father and desired to play the saxophone since he could crawl. He has been performing regularly with numerous artists and bands in the Albany/Saratoga region since age 15. While in his early teens, he was inspired to play the electric bass. The year 2012 marked the beginning of his study at William Paterson University, in pursuit of a bachelor of music in jazz performance. He has toured the country with local and international blues bands, playing both electric bass and saxophone. A versatile musician who brings authenticity to multiple styles, Steven can be found playing frequently with a variety

of musicians in upstate New York, through the Hudson Valley, and into New York City and north New Jersey.

Originally from Gansevoort, NY, **Matt Niedbalski** began to show interest in the drums at a very early age. At age eight, he began taking lessons with Ted Mackenize, a well respected drummer and author. By age 13, he was performing with local musicians in the capital region. Matt participated in the Empire State Youth Orchestra jazz ensemble and attended the Skidmore Summer Jazz Institute in 2011. While at Skidmore he studied with renowned drummers Matt Wilson and Dennis Mackrel. Matt was accepted into the William Paterson jazz studies program and began studying there in 2012 under the direction of Mulgrew Miller and in 2016 received a bachelor of music in jazz performance. While at William Paterson he was fortunate enough to study with Bill Goodwin, Kevin Norton and Steve LaSpina and participate in ensembles coached by Mulgrew Miller, Bill Charlap, Christian McBride and others.

Nate Giroux is a saxophone and clarinet player in New York's Capital Region. He earned his bachelor of music in jazz studies from William Paterson University in 2012. His performance resumé includes the Detroit Jazz Festival, Pittsfield Jazz Festival, Villanova Jazz Festival and the International Society for Improvised Music Conference, as well as performances with noted musicians Bucky Pizzarelli, Mulgrew Miller, Steve Davis, Scott Robinson, Joe Magnarelli, James Weidman, Kevin Norton and Paul Meyers.

Frankie Capp and Dave Bournazian Redux

In the last issue, we told you that Drummer Frankie Capp, who leads a great California big band called Juggernaut, recently published a memoir in which he describes growing up and joining a band in Massachusetts with our own Dave Bournazian. Saxophonist Dave was also leader of Dyanne Marlowe's Big Band of the Northeast.

Now we're adding that the memoir is called "Drumming Up Business" and it's published by Outskirts Press.

• TIM COAKLEY



Proudly Presents

The Charles Cornell Quartet featuring Nate Giroux



Steve Kirsty, Charles Cornell, Matt Niedbalski & Nate Giroux

Sunday, October 8, 2017, 4-7 p.m.

Including an open jam session



**Panza's Restaurant
510 NY-9P
Saratoga Lake, NY**

**Pub menu and beverages available for purchase
Open to the public - \$15/person (\$5 for students)**

Reservations: Ralph Rosenthal at (518) 423-9343 or rosenthalralph@verizon.net



Lee Shaw Scholarship Winners

At their concert on June 11, the Swingtime Jazz Society presented Lee Shaw Scholarship awards to **Jamie Salerno**, piano/vocals, who graduated from Averill Park High School and will be pursuing her bachelor of music education at the Crane School of Music (SUNY Potsdam); **Henry James Fernandez**, saxophone, who graduated from Christian Brothers Academy and will be attending Oberlin Conservatory for his

bachelor of arts in performance; and **Joseph Giordano**, trombone, who graduated from Guilderland High school and will earn his bachelor of arts in performance at Manhattan School of Music. Jamie, Henry and Joe are flanked by Jerry Gordon, SJS president; Peg Delaney, scholarship committee chair; and C. Robie Booth, SJS founder and publisher of *Swingtime* magazine.

Lee Shaw Scholarship Fund

To honor the memory of jazz pianist **Lee Shaw**, a scholarship will be awarded yearly to a high school senior planning to pursue jazz studies in college.

This fund is under the umbrella of the not-for-profit Swingtime Jazz Society. Contributions to this fund should be made payable to SWINGTIME JAZZ SOCIETY and mailed to Patti Melita, Treasurer, PO Box 1906, Schenec-



tady, NY 12301 with "Lee Shaw Scholarship Fund" in the memo line. Please remember that Swingtime Jazz Society is a 501(c)(3) organization; this means your donation is tax-deductible and it should qualify if your employer matches your charitable contributions.

For information about the scholarship, contact Chairperson Peg Delaney at pegjazz1@gmail.com or 518-237-3129.

APFJ to Celebrate its 30th Anniversary Year

In 1987, Butch Conn started the concert series A Place For Jazz as a way for audiences to enjoy the music in a comfortable, acoustically superb setting. In the succeeding years, he and his loyal volunteers presented some of the greatest jazz musicians and singers. Since Butch's death in 2005, the APFJ board and volunteers have carried on his vision. We dedicate the 2017 season to that purpose!



September 8: The Larry Willis Trio

Pianist Larry Willis was born in New York City. After his first year at the Manhattan School of Music he began performing regularly with Jackie McLean. He has performed with a wide range of musicians, including seven years as keyboardist for Blood, Sweat & Tears. He spent several years as pianist for Nat Adderley, as well as Roy Hargrove. He received the Benny Golson Jazz Master Award at Howard University in 2012.



September 22: The Chembo Corniel Quintet



Percussionist Wilson Chembo Corniel is making a return visit to APFJ, this time as leader of his own group. He teaches percussion at SUNY Purchase. He is currently leading his own Latin Jazz quintet. He earned a Grammy nomination in 2009 for "Best Latin Jazz Album."

October 6: The Jackie Ryan-Shelly Berg Duo

Vocalist Jackie Ryan has had three consecutive #1 Jazz CDs nationwide. Jazz Times Magazine calls her "one of the outstanding Jazz vocalists of her generation, and quite possibly of all time, rivaling the dexterous sass of Sarah Vaughan, the instinctive smarts of Carmen McRae, and the scintillating verve of Diana

Krall." She sings comfortably in several languages and multiple idioms ranging from Jazz Standards and Bebop to Spanish Boleros and Brazilian Bossa Novas. Pianist Shelly Berg has recorded several albums with his trio. In 2007, he was named dean and professor of Music at the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami. Berg was nominated for a 2015 Grammy Award in the Best Arrangement Instrumental and Vocals category. He is the music director of The Jazz Cruise.



October 20: The Jeff Siegel Sextet



Jeff Siegel was the long-time drummer with pianist Lee Shaw, along with bassist Rich Syracuse. Siegel's latest CD is "King of Xhosa," with Syracuse, bass; Erica Lindsay, sax; Francesca Tanksley, piano; African trumpeter Feya Faku and percussionist Fred Berryhill. This is the group that will play for us.

November 3: The Don Byron Quartet

Don Byron is a gifted performer on clarinet, bass clarinet and saxophone. He has been nominated for a Grammy Award for his bass clarinet solo on "I Want to Be Happy" from the album "Ivey-Divey." He has worked as a professor at The University at Albany, teaching composition, improvisation, music history, clarinet, and saxophone.

All concerts will be held on Friday nights at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady. Visit aplaceforjazz.org for further details.



Join Swingtime Jazz Society

The **Swingtime Jazz Society** roster of members has reached 87. 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 once-only fee of \$100 to join.

See Pages 1, 8 & 9 for our Oct. 8 attraction, **Charles Cornell Quartet**.

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

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Mail to: Patti Melita, SJS Treasurer
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Schenectady, NY 12301

C. Robie Booth

6 Briarwood Road

Loudonville, NY 12211-1102

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