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VJAZZ

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN JAZZ ARCHIVE

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CHAIRMAN SPEAKS OUT

Our Chairman, Dr Ray Marginson, addressed an attentive audience of approximately 30 people at the Victorian Arts Centre "Monthly Morning Coffee" on Thursday 5 October, 2000.

Ray's subject was Australian jazz music, with special reference to the exhibition starting on 1 December at the Performing Arts Museum.

The exhibition, entitled "Looks Cool, Sounds Hot – Jazz in Melbourne – The First 50 Years", will run until the 25 February 2001. (see Page 3)

Ray illustrated his lecture with recorded musical examples appreciated by the audience that was not generally jazz orientated. He included a display of books, LPs, CDs, posters for general browsing, and stressed the importance of the work the Archive is doing in preserving the Australian jazz heritage. JK

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ARCHIVE WINS ANOTHER AWARD

Following the success in winning the Museum Industry Recognition Award 2000 for Conservation in May, the Archive has recently won the Victorian section of the National Australia Bank Community Link Award 2000 in the Conservation and Heritage category. The NAB Award has its focus on the work of volunteers within an organisation, such as the VJA, where conservation is used for the betterment of the community.

In the submission the VJA stressed the importance of the jazz community and their wish that Australian jazz music and memorabilia be preserved for posterity. The "Acetate Action" initiative captured the attention of the judges, who could see that the transferral of aging acetate performances was of paramount importance to the jazz community as a whole, now and in the future.

The national award for the NAB Community Link Award took place on 24 October, 2000 at the Hyatt Park Hotel in Melbourne, where the Archive was unsuccessful. JK

FRIENDS OF THE ARCHIVE

Friends of the Archive is a volunteer group comprising non-committee members of the VJA who wish to support the work of the Archive in some tangible way, especially with the volunteering of time to show visitors around the Archive on the days it is open.

Also plans are afoot by the "Friends" to arrange a series of fund raising events to assist the work of the Archive. Headed by Mollie Clark and Marge Burke, a committee is being organised for the first of these events which will take place at the RAAFTA Club on Sunday 1st April, 2001. More details will be available in the next issue of VJAZZ, so keep the date free.

Any member with transport is welcome to join the next volunteer workshop to take place in November at the Archive, where all aspects of volunteer work is explained, and printed information sheets are provided. Ring the Archive to book. We highly value the work of our volunteers. JK

BOOKS FOR SALE

BACK TOGETHER AGAIN by Jack Mitchell

The story of the Port Jackson Jazz Band
89 pages, photos and
discography
\$22.00 incl GST
Pack & Post \$4.00

IT'S YOUR ARCHIVE, YOU KNOW!

Since the Archive has been open two days a week, and especially with the appearance of articles about the VJA in local and mainstream press, there has been a constant stream of visitors interested in finding out more about the Archive.

It is noticeable however, there are many members who have not made the visit to Wantirna, possibly because of the weekday opening times. The Archive has a lot to offer visually & aurally, and we wish to point its many advantages available to members. One of the comments made by visitors is the obvious enjoyment of the staff in completing the necessary tasks.

The hub of the Archive is the Reference Library, mainly because of the visual impact of the room, which contains four large showcases displaying musical instruments, photos, posters, banners and memorabilia. The Library shelving is divided into two sections, with general jazz books and magazines – overseas and Australian on one side of the room, and discographical books and magazines on the other. There is a large table in the middle of the room, just right to spread out if researching material. There is a modern video/TV setup for the viewing of jazz videos. Three booths house a data base computer, a library computer (yet to be activated) and a sound booth for listening to tapes and CDs.

We now have a wonderful upright piano, and often pianist members such as Rex Green, Kim Harris, David Ward etc, give impromptu recitals. So a place to relax, in air conditioned comfort, to spend some time amongst like minded jazz friends, and we can rustle up a cup of coffee too.

The Don Boardman Sound

Room is the engine room of the sound recording and transfer processes for the preservation of our Australian jazz sound heritage. Ron Halstead and Dave Ward explain the procedures used in the transfer from original sound source to the final burning of the archival CDR for preservation. Ron also controls the main data base computer.

The Catalogue Room and Repository is where donated material is lodged initially. Curator, John Kennedy and Assistant Curator, Jack Ricketts, with the help of Liz Currie and Alice Hewitt, sort, clean, and prepare the material for cataloguing on the two modern computers. Cataloguing is the process whereby we keep track of all material donated to the Archive. In this area are the two containers which house the material, whilst a third container is being fitted out to house the Australian Jazz Convention material under the direction of Don Anderson.

Members will see by this description that there is a lot of activity at the Archive which generally is of interest to VJA members.

If you cannot visit the Archive during the week, the Annual General Meeting on Sunday 26 November will present a good opportunity, as there will be live music, a BBQ and a chance to meet the crew. JK

COMPACT DISCS FOR SALE

V.J.A. MEMBERS PRICES Incl. GST
Single CDs at \$22.00 each (pp \$4.00)

KYATS KHORTET "Nice Cup Of Tea"
(Fred Parkes, Graham Coyle, Bill Howard)
GRAHAM COYLE "Trad. Jazz Piano"
ANITA HARRIS "Moments In Time"
KEVIN GOODEY "Taste of Tabasco"

FROM THE JACK MITCHELL JAZZ LIBRARY

RAY PRICE "At Armidale 1965"
RAY PRICE "Dallas Brookes Hall"
WILD BILL DAVISON
"And His Cobbers"

CD SPECIALS

JEX SAARELAHT & Kate Cebrano
"Live at Miettass" \$27.50

DOUBLE CDS

Swing Brother Swing \$27.50
Jex Saarelaht
"Live at Bennetts Lane
\$33.00

KEITH HOUNSLOW - 6 CD set
"My Jazz Life" \$110.00

Graeme Bell Special Import
"The Unheard Titles From 1948"
Recorded Brighton & London
Remastered by John R T Davies.
SPECIAL PRICE TO MEMBERS
\$25.00
including GST plus \$4.00 postage.

□

BOOKS FOR SALE

BODGIE DA DA
& THE CULT OF THE COOL
by John Clare

Australian Jazz since 1945
Excellent photos \$11.00 incl GST
Pack & Post \$4.00

NOTICE OF MEETING – VICTORIAN JAZZ ARCHIVE Inc.

**THE 4TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE
VICTORIAN JAZZ ARCHIVE Inc.
WILL BE HELD ON
SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2000
AT 12 NOON
AT THE PREMISES OF THE ARCHIVE, KOOMBA PARK
15 MOUNTAIN HIGHWAY WANTIRNA 3152
(MELWAY REFERENCE 63 C8)**

**ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND
LIVE MUSIC BARBECUE**

LOOKS COOL, SOUNDS HOT

Jazz In Melbourne – the first 50 years

*St Kilda Road Foyer Gallery
1 December 2000 – 25 February 2001.*

Presented by the Performing Arts Museum
and the Victorian Jazz Archive.

From the structured sounds of dance bands to the improvised solo of the individual musician, jazz has been an influential part of Melbourne's music scene since the 1920's. This exhibition pays tribute to musicians including Graeme and Roger Bell, Frank Johnson, Bob and Len Barnard and Brian Brown. Also represented are significant Melbourne – initiated Events such as the Australian Jazz Convention and the Downbeat Concert series.

Looks Cool, Sounds Hot features musical instruments that have created jazz at the hands of musicians, such as Benny Featherstone's cornet and Ade Monsborough's trademark plastic alto saxophone. Photographs, posters, handbills, oral histories, video footage and jazz recordings also combine to illustrate 50 years of Melbourne's jazz history

Sponsored by the Victorian Arts Centre, Performing Arts Museum
Screensound Australia and the Victorian Jazz Archive.

RECENT DONATIONS

Our Registrar, Eric Brown has been busy again, forwarding donations of jazz material to be processed. In the last three months he has brought more publications from the Dick and Shirley House collection; collected a number of photos, posters and cuttings from Jim Mills; also a box containing Australian Record Catalogues from Les Taylor; a scrap book on Clive Whitcombe who was the drummer with the Port Jackson Jazz Band, and sent to Eric by Andy Ridley of New Orleans. Eric also assisted Don Anderson in collecting a donation from Kath Turville, consisting of Frank Turville's trumpet plus photos. Eric has donated from his own collection 12 LPs of the Kenatone, Rex, Kinderplay, Stomperphone and Endrust labels comprising early Australian jazz material.

Nigel Buesst forwarded a copy of his recent video called "The Loved One - Gerry Humphries" which follows the fortunes of Gerry Humphries, who played with the Red Onions in the 1970's.

There has been a very special loan by Mary Bould of Brian

Brian Carter's Brass Bass, on permanent loan to the VJA, and which will be a centrepiece of the forthcoming Jazz Exhibition. This tuba-like instrument originally belonged to Lou Silbereisen and went on the Bells' first overseas tour. Fred Parkes has donated one of his early clarinets, whilst Laurie Kidman's metal clarinet has been donated by Margaret Harvey.

Amongst the photographs received is a large photo of Papa Cass's Dixielanders (mid-1970s) donated by Liz Currie, whilst Mrs G Bassett has loaned for copying five photos of the Len Barnard Band at the Mentone LSC (3) and two photos taken at Smacka Fitzgibbon's twenty-first birthday party. Lin Jones called in to donate photos, cuttings and programmes. Sue and Sny Chambers have donated posters, handbills, etc., plus a tape of the Bayside Jazz Band. Thanks go to John Whiteoak for donating two copies of his latest book "Playing Ad Lib", plus the loan of early Australian audio and video tapes. John Farrand sent his collection of Australian and Overseas LPs.

Donations of CDs came from Bill Kerr (Wombat Jazz Band-playing all Australian jazz

compositions); Kevin Goodey (A Taste of Tabasco); Jack Mitchell with more from the Mitchell recording library of Ray Price and Wild Bill Davison. John Trudinger forwarded the four CDs of the Bob Barnard Jazz Party 1999, which includes overseas artists Marty Grosz and Ralph Sutton. Marge Burke recently donated three audio cassettes of unusual local jazz. Dave Ward gave us two CDs of the Waterfront Jazz Band.

Truda Olson donated six copies of the Giants of Jazz LP sets. Roger Beilby decided the archive was the place for the banjo head (?) autographed by all members of the Kenny Ball Band when they appeared in Sydney. Thanks to Mike Sutcliffe for the loan of photographs for copying to go into the exhibition, and the donation of some magazines for the library.

Very special thanks to Jess Vincent (via Bill Johnson and Bill Miller) for the donation of two wonderful photos of her late brother Willie McIntyre, which will be displayed in the exhibition with Willie's portable organ, donated earlier by Jess. The library now has a Panasonic TV and VCR thanks to Judy and John Kennedy.

JK

NEW MEMBERS

JOHN DUFFY (WA); MARGO CHALK
KEVIN GOODEY (NSW) TERRY MARTIN
(USA); DON SQUIRES
JOHN WHITEOAK.

DONATIONS OF \$2 AND OVER MADE
TO THE VICTORIAN JAZZ ARCHIVE
Inc. ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE
Ref No DGR 90044123

CASH DONATIONS

RAY MARGINSON ; MAX MARGINSON;
KEVIN J CASSELLS; DON HOPGOOD;
AJC TRUSTEES; TERRY MARTIN;
KEITH ATKINS; ANONYMOUS.



THE MYER FOUNDATION

