

Minnesota Guitar Society Annual Jazz Guitarathon

by Paul Hinz

This year, the Minnesota Guitar Society's annual Jazz Guitarathon will showcase emerging talents as well as long-time MGS friends. The concert is at Sundin Hall on the campus of Hamline University in St. Paul, on Dec. 9 at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the door, \$17 for MGS members and \$20 for non-members. FFI, call (612) 677-1151. Join us at this extravaganza to hear great jazz guitar from these performers.

Mike Cramer took up the guitar at age 7, making his professional debut at 10. In high school he became interested in jazz, and attended the University of Northern Iowa where he played in Jazz Band I. Graduating in 2000, he taught guitar at Grinnell College. In 2003, he moved to the Twin Cities. In 2005,

Cramer and his wife opened their own music school, All 12 Notes, in St. Paul. He teaches clinics and workshops throughout the Midwest. He works with the area's finest musicians, and leads his own groups.

The **Three Guitars** is a new trio featuring veteran guitarists Bobby E. Ekstrand, Dean Mikkelson, and Ed Petsche. Bobby Ekstrand began playing guitar at age 10. Eclectic tastes and



Mike Cramer



Bobby Ekstrand

influences inspire him to create music in diverse styles. Over the past 25 years his music has won contests, and been featured in an NPR broadcast released on CD with the book *Remembering Jim* (continued on page 3)

The Big Band Scene

by Jerry Swanberg

St. Croix Jazz Orchestra (SCJO) kicks off its 2006-07 season on Nov. 30, with a concert at the Lake Elmo Event Center, 3712 Layton Avenue North, Lake Elmo, 55042 (a venue change from the Stillwater Grand Ballroom, as originally reported in the November 2006 Jazz Notes). **Stillwater Area High School's Jazz Ensemble One**, directed by Dennis Lindsay, will open the concert with a short set at 7 p.m. The SCJO will play from 7:30-9:30 p.m. and will be joined by special guest vocalist Judi Donaghy. The concert is a benefit for ArtReach Alliance, which supports the work of artists in the Stillwater area (including the SCJO). Tickets are \$15 for the concert, or \$45, which includes pre-concert festivities, hors d'oeuvres (from Lake Elmo Inn) and a donation to Art-Reach. FFI/tickets, (651) 439-1465; or <www.artreachalliance.org>.

The Rodriguez Brothers to Appear at the Artists' Quarter Dec. 1 & 2

by Pat Courtemanche

On pianist Robert Rodriguez' January 2006 trip to the Artists' Quarter, he walked in to a bit of jazz history. Not only was it Robert's first appearance at the vaunted St. Paul club, it was the 28 year-old native New Yorker's debut performance with Roy Haynes and the Fountain of Youth Band. The journey continued to the Top 10 of the *JazzWeek* Charts – the live album *Whereas* was culled from the three-night AQ stand and it is a testament to drumming legend Haynes' enduring genius and his ability to handpick the most ferocious of the young lions.

Robert Rodriguez returns to the Artists' Quarter with his trumpet-playing brother Michael and a rhythm section of young, New York-based rising stars for



9 p.m. shows on Dec. 1 and 2. The AQ is located in the Hamm Building at Seventh Place and St. Peter Street in Downtown St. Paul, (651) 292-1359, <artists.quarter.com>.

The Rodriguez Brothers' blend of Afro-Cuban music and American jazz (continued on page 4)

The SCJO is a premier non-profit big band featuring some of the area's finest musicians. Steve Strand (Hornheads) plays lead trumpet; Jeff Rinear (McNally-Smith, Pete Whitman's X-tet) plays lead and jazz trombone; and Greg Keel (MacPhail, JazzAx) plays tenor sax. The band is filled out by other fine players who live or work in the St. Croix Valley. Larry Neumann (Century College Jazz Ensemble) directs the band.

The Roseville Visitors Association is producing its first **Roseville Winter Jazz Blast**, January 12-13, 2007! This high school jazz ensemble competition will be held at Maranatha Hall on the campus of Northwestern College. The featured guest ensemble for the 2007 Roseville Winter Jazz Blast will be the JazzMN Big Band, directed by Dr. Douglas Snapp. High school jazz ensembles from across (continued on page 2)



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- **Hopkins Center for the Arts:** (952) 979-1111 (Tues.-Sat., noon-6 p.m.). TCJS member discounts on Jazz at the Center tickets. <www.hopkinsartscenter.com>
- **JazzMN Big Band:** <www.jazzmn.org> TCJS member discounts on season tickets through TicketWorks, (651) 209-6689; <www.ticketworks.com>.
- **Northrop Jazz Season:** <www.northrop.umn.edu>. Call (612) 624-2345 for TCJS member discount on concert tickets. \$3 off individual tickets or \$4 off season tickets.
- 10% off new and used records, tapes, CDs and accessories at **Road Runner Records**, 4304 Nicollet Ave., Mpls., (612) 822-0613.
- \$10 off the first set of lessons at the **West Bank School of Music**, 1813 S. Sixth St., Mpls., (612) 333-6651.

BIG BAND

(continued from page 1)

the region are invited to compete in this new event. Registration will begin on Jan. 12, with the official competition starting at 9 a.m. on Jan. 13. Bands will be critiqued by adjudicators from across the state and awards will be given to the top three bands. Cash prizes range from \$1,500 for first place, \$750 for second place to \$500 for third place. For more registration information, go to <www.visitroseville.com>.

Saxophonist Russ Peterson is bringing back his terrific big band for an encore at the Old Log Theater in Excelsior, for a "Swinging Holidays" concert, on Dec. 11, at 8 p.m. For tickets call (952) 474-5951 (\$22). Go early for dinner (\$24) starting at 6:30 p.m. Peterson's band will be playing the music of Basie, Ellington, Kenton and others. The all-star lineup consists of trumpets: Larry Foyen, lead (former Maynard Ferguson trumpeter), Pete Davis, John Ahern, and Rick Evert; trombones: Jeff Rinear, Steve Pikal, and Wade Clark; saxes: Denny Scholtes, Greg Keel, Dale Mendenhall, and John Zimmerman; rhythm: Jay Epstein, drums, Tom Lewis, bass, and Ronnie Seaman, piano; vocals: Charmin Michelle and Damon Peterson (Russ' son).

The River City Jazz Orchestra and vocalist Paula Lammers will appear on the 2nd Tuesday of the month through March 2007 at the South St. Paul VFW, 111 S. Concord Exchange, St. Paul, 55075 (651-455-1505). The dates are Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13, and Mar. 13, all from 7-10 p.m. The River City Jazz Orchestra plays a wide range of traditional and contemporary big band charts, with arrangements ranging from Sammy Nestico to Bill Holman to Benny Carter. The group also plays several charts arranged by River City Jazzers Rick Rueckert (trumpet) and Bruce Nerase (piano). This year, the group is debuting new additions to its library, including Bob Curnow's arrangement of "A String of Pearls" and Lennie Niehaus' "Bonehead."

Once again the **Good News Big Band** will perform its annual free Christmas big band concert at Edina's Edinborough indoor amphitheater, 7700 York Avenue South, on Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. The 17-piece band will feature old Christmas favorites like "Jingle Bells" and the "Nutcracker (Suite) Swing," to newer arrangements from Chris McDonald, such as a "Sing, Sing, Sing" (Krupa-styled version of the "Little Drummer Boy"), and the kids favorite, "Hot Chocolate" (John Berry's arrangement of the popular song from the Polar Express movie). Featured artists at this concert are Scott Leung, tenor sax; Patti Myhren, alto sax; Tony Hunter, trumpet; Scott Sturm, trombone; Ed Smith, guitar; Stefan Sylvander, drums; and Dave Mantini, lead trumpet.

The **Stan Bann Big Band** returns to Edinborough Park in Edina on Dec. 19 at 7 p.m., for its annual Holiday Concert. Set the shopping aside and enjoy as the SB3 wraps traditional holiday tunes and carols in some of the hippest, jazziest arrangements around, honoring everyone from the Grinch to "that awesome dude in that funky red suit."

It's a tradition in Hudson! New Year's Eve at The Phipps Center for the Arts, featuring the **Minnesota Jazz Orchestra**, along with **Colleen Raye and her talented family singers**. Vocalist Colleen Raye emcees the show, which will include songs like "This Could Be the Start of Something Big," "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend," and "I Remember You." Joining Raye are her sister Debbie (female vocalist with the MJO), and children: Jennifer, Reed, and Sophie. Also featured is Gregg Marquardt, MJO's male vocalist. The Minnesota Jazz Orchestra is under the direction of trumpeter Craig Thrane. Showtimes are at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. FFI and tickets, (715) 386-2305 or, <www.thehipps.org>.

The Classic Big Band and the Nostalgics Vocal Quartet have been swinging into the New Year for the last three New Year's Eves at the Radisson Hotel St. Paul. Because of remodeling, this year's celebration on Dec. 31 (8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.) has been moved to the Radisson University Hotel, 615 Washington Avenue, S.E. Minneapolis, 55414. The Classic Big Band, directed by lead trumpeter Dan Odegard, does an excellent job of presenting the music of the Swing Era, tunes by Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Harry James, Benny Goodman, and Artie Shaw. The Nostalgics, led by Reeves Cary, sing great in the style of the Modernaires and Pied Pipers.

(continued on page 3)



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- Send your jazz event information to the TCJS e-mail list, <announce@tcjs.org>

TCJS Website and E-mail list maintained by Webmaster Don Beryman

GUITARATHON (continued from page 1)

Crow. He has produced almost 20 CDs, from *One Continuous Wiping Motion* (with poet Kelly Green) to his latest, *The Guitar*. In addition, he has been featured vocalist and guitarist on six CDs on the Compass label. Ekstrand has played clubs, concert halls, and events from Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis to the largest country music festival in America. He also teaches. Dean "Deano" Mikkelson has lurked at the local jazz scene's periphery for 25 years. His influences are many. Deano also performs with Papa John Kolstad and the Hot Club of East Lake and with his jazz duo, Men with Hollow Bodies. Ed Petsche is a self-taught, native New Yorker guitarist. His roots are R&B, rock, and blues. In New York he played with former Muddy Waters' harmonica player Paul Oscher. Petsche moved to the Twin Cities in 1994. Since then he has played with Lakota Blues, and did a 9-year Thursday night gig at the Viking Bar. He also plays with The Rena Haus Trio.

Jake Elrich began studying guitar at age 15 with Scott Kalapakoff. Initially a shred-head, he became interested in jazz after attending a Mimi Fox master-class at MacPhail in 2002. He then studied with Clay Moore and Schoen Oslund, until he enrolled at the University of Minnesota in Morris, where he studied with



Pictured, left to right: Jake Elrich, Billy Graczyk, and Alec Lehrman.

Tim Sparks. In 2006, he returned to the Twin Cities to attend the University of Minnesota, where he performs in the Jazz One big band. He studies with Chris Olson, and teaches at A to G Music and privately.

Billy Graczyk—guitarist, composer, teacher—started his career at age 18, playing in the Minneapolis rock trio Autonomy. He enrolled at McNally-Smith College of Music, studied under the late Mike Elliot, and is working toward a BA in Guitar Performance. He hopes to then pursue a masters in classical guitar at the University of Minnesota. Graczyk teaches at Eclipse Music. He plays in the jazz group Fourtitude, and continues to play with Autonomy as it begins recording its second album.

Alec Lehrman is a 12th grade student at Hopkins High School. He has been playing guitar since he was 12. He started out singing and playing rock songs in talent shows, but soon discovered the blues. SRV (Stevie Ray Vaughn) was his man. In 10th grade, Lehrman started a band called Cognition Lounge, playing covers and originals. He was lead singer and guitarist. In 11th grade he quit the band and started taking an interest in jazz. He studies with David Singley.

—Paul Hinz is the Minnesota Guitar Society Managing Director, and Editor of the MGS newsletter, *Guitarist*.

BIG BAND

(continued from page 2)

Featured soloists are Jack Gillespie and Bob Hallquist, trumpets; Ralph Brindle and Steve Sopoci, trombones; and Bob Dean and Merle Knudson, saxes. Tickets are \$30 in advance (call 612-379-8888) or \$35 at the door. Rooms are \$149 and include two tickets.

The Los Angeles Jazz Institute is presenting "**Swing Into Spring—A Cavalcade of Big Band Jazz**," a four day jazz festival featuring 20 of the most outstanding LA big bands, some of the best in the world, plus four excellent university jazz ensembles. The festival is May 24-27, 2007 at the Four Points Sheraton at the Los Angeles Airport. The LA Jazz Institute has been presenting big band jazz festivals since 1991. I've attended most of them and they have all been terrific. This one promises to be the best yet, featuring Gordon Goodwin's Big

Phat Band, Bob Florence's Limited Edition, Carl Saunders Be Bop Big Band, Frank Capp's Juggernaut, Roger Neumann's Rather Large Band, Maiden Voyage (all women big band), plus the big bands of Tom Kubis, Scott Whitfield, Wayne Bergeron, Steve Huffsteter, Mike Barone, Mike Vax, Buddy Collette, and Gerald Wilson. There will also be tribute big bands to Stan Kenton, Don Ellis, and Charles Mingus, plus the Collegiate Neophonic Orchestra of Southern California. FFI, visit <www.lajazzinstitute.com> or call, (562) 985-7065.

Listen to "**Big Band Scene**" on KBEM/Jazz 88 on Monday, Dec. 11, 10 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 17, 7 p.m., featuring ASCAP's top ten holiday songs, performed by big bands. Also, check out "**Big Band Jump**" on KBEM on Monday, Dec. 18 at 9 p.m.

Twin Cities Jazz Society**Jazz from J to Z**
2006-07 Concert Series

Sunday, January 14 2 p.m.

"My Shining Hour—A Tribute to the Music of Harold Arlen"

Featuring vocalists Christine Rosholt, Bruce A. Henry and Connie Olson, accompanied by pianist Rick Carlson, bassist Keith Boyles, and drummer Jay Epstein

Bloomington Center for the Arts

1800 W. Old Shakopee Rd., 55431

Call for tickets: (952) 563-8575,

\$19 / \$16, TCJS members; free parking

Friday, January 19 7:30 p.m.

Wildwood Artist Series...and all that Jazz!
St. Croix Jazz Orchestra / Mahtomedi High School Jazz Band

Chautauqua Fine Arts Center

8000 75th St. N., Mahtomedi, 55115

Tickets: (651) 762-9672; \$12 / \$9, seniors/

students; \$33, family of 3+; group discounts

10+ available.

Friday, February 16 7 p.m.

Rick Carlson & the "Twin Cities' Best Keepers of the Basie Flame" with vocalists

Judi Donaghy, Debbie Duncan, Arne Fogel, Maud Hixson, Charmin Michelle, Erin Schwab, Dennis Spears, and Sue Tucker

Bloomington KC Hall

Tuesday, February 27 7 p.m.

Pizzazz Jazz! Octet (jump / swing / jazz), directed by Joe Swierczek, with vocalist **Connie Dusseau**

Plymouth Creek Center, Plymouth

Friday, March 2 7:30 p.m.

Northwestern College Jazz Ensemble featuring trumpeter Dave Jensen, directed by **Monte Mumford**

Colonial Church of Edina

Monday, March 26 7 p.m.

John Paulson/Larry Price Quintet from Winona & the St. Paul Central High School Jazz Ensemble

St. Paul Central High School

Thursday, April 26 7 p.m.

"Jazz in St. Anthony Park"

featuring Murray Jr. High School, Como High School, and the Century College Jazz Ensembles

Murray Jr. High School, St. Paul

Saturday, April 28 7:30 p.m.

"Jazz at the Center"

Barbary Coast Dixieland Band

Hopkins Center for the Arts

Friday, May 4 8 p.m.

"Swing from Paris"—Twin Cities Hot Club Gypsy jazz concert & dance

Bloomington KC Hall

For further information,
visit the TCJS Website:

www.tcjs.org



UWEC Director and Students Travel to China

Last April, a delegation of faculty and administrators from China's Suchwon Institute visited the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and extended an invitation to Jazz Studies Director, Robert Baca, to assist them with the formation of a new music school at the Institute. Baca proposed that to have an effective experience that will make a difference in opening discussions, a jazz quintet made up of UW-Eau Claire students perform a series of concerts in the area before meetings begin. John Raymond, trumpet, from Hopkins, MN, Ben Herpel-Dobay, saxophones, from Portland, Oregon, Scott Currier, piano, from Waukesha, WI, Jeremy Boettcher, bass, from Eau Claire, WI, and Sean Carey, drums from Lake Geneva, WI, have been invited to accompany Baca on this all-expenses paid trip. The group will play a series of concerts and presentations in Suchwon and then fly on to Jinon (two hours above Hong Kong) and play for the opening ceremonies for the 100th year celebration of Jinon University.

To prepare for the trip the students are taking an independent study course to study the culture, folks songs of the area and each will be writing an original composition as a result of their study. The group's goal is to publish a CD with the results of the trip and the independent study course.

—Carolyn Jackson

RODRIGUEZ (continued from page 1)

has been met with unbridled enthusiasm by fans and music greats alike. Their 2003 debut recording, *Introducing The Rodriguez Brothers*, features all original compositions, striking a rewarding balance between sophistication and pure musical joy. Michael Rodriguez is one of those rare trumpet players who says as much with a moody and contemplative tone as he does with a soaring musical statement. Robert's rich accompaniment to the trumpet lead displays a simpatico musical communication that seems unique to the family act. And, when Robert steps out to solo, prepare for head-turning, Latin-tinged heat.

At the AQ shows, The Rodriguez Brothers will preview tunes from a recently recorded album due out in 2007. Their recording mates, who will also be on the AQ shows, are bassist Ricky Rodriguez (no relation, but Michael's band-

Concert Calendar

Events are subject to change; please call the venue for verification.

*Check "Jazz Notes" Gigs listing for more information on concerts at clubs.

NOVEMBER

- Thru 12/31:** Lutefisk Champ Holiday Show with Dan Newton and the Café Accordion Orchestra, Great American History Theater, St. Paul, MN, (651) 292-4323, <www.historytheatre.com/lutefisk_champ.asp>.
- 27:** Percy Hughes and the Ellington Echoes, Old Log Theatre, 5185 Meadville St., Excelsior, 7:30 p.m., \$22, (952) 474-5951.
- 27-28:** Paquito D'Rivera, *Dakota Jazz Club.
- 30:** St. Croix Jazz Orchestra with vocalist Judi Donaghy; concert opens with the Stillwater Area High School Jazz Ensemble One, (7 p.m.), Lake Elmo Event Center, 3712 Layton Ave. N., Lake Elmo, 7:30 p.m., \$15 or \$45, (651) 439-1465. (See *Big Band Scene* on page 1.)
- 30 & 12/2:** "Blessings:" Peterson Family 20th Anniversary Holiday Concert, Music at the Center, Hopkins Center for the Arts, 1111 Mainstreet, Hopkins, \$24; \$19 seniors & members of HCA, KBEM, TCJS, MPR; \$12, students, (952) 979-1111, <www.hopkinsartscenter.com>.
- 30:** Crosswinds Woodwind Quintet (blues, jazz, show tunes, swing time and Sousa marches, as well as traditional and classical arrangements), Central Park Amphitheater, 8595 Central Park Place, Woodbury, 7 p.m., free, (651) 714-3583, <www.ci.woodbury.mn.us>.
- 11/30 thru 12/24:** Black Nativity, Penumbra Theatre, 270 N. Kent St., St. Paul. FFI, call the Penumbra Box Office, (651) 224-3180; or visit <www.penumbra-theatre.org>.

DECEMBER

- 1:** "Swinging Yuletide" concert featuring the Great River Big Band, the La Crosse Jazz Quintet, and the UWL Jazz Groups, Valhalla, Cartwright Center-Gunning Addition, UW-La Crosse, WI, 7:30 p.m. For advance reservations call Tina, (608) 785-8415.
- 1:** Bobby Watson & Dakota Combo, *Dakota Jazz Club. (See *article* on page 5.)

- 1:** Nachita Herrera and Band, Wildwood Artist Series...and All That Jazz, Chautauqua Fine Arts Center, adjacent to Mahtomedi High School, 8000 75th St. N., Mahtomedi, 7:30 p.m., \$15, \$12/seniors/students; and \$42, family of 3+, free parking. FFI, call (651) 426-3640 or (651) 762-9672.
- 1:** The Milo Fine Free Jazz Ensemble, West Bank School of Music, 1813 S. 6th St., Mpls., 8 p.m., \$5, (612) 333-6651.
- 1:** Dean Magraw and John Williams, Bo Diddley's, 216 6th Ave., St. Cloud, MN, 7:30 p.m., \$15, (320) 255-9811.
- 1-2:** Rodriguez Brothers, *Artists' Quarter. (See *page 1*.)
- 2:** Nicolas Carter World-beat Christmas Concert featuring Nicolas Carter (Paraguayan harp), Glen Helgeson (guitar), Michael Bissonnette (percussion), and Gary Schulte (violin), First Christian Church, 2201 First Ave. S., Mpls., 7:30 p.m., \$12/adv. or \$15 at door; \$5, students and children 12 and under, free. Reservations, <www.nicolascarter.com>.
- 2:** Robert Robinson with guest vocalist Holly Collison, the Twin Cities Community Gospel Choir, and a 12-piece orchestra, Zorn Arena, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, WI, 7:30 p.m., \$10-\$25, (715) 836-3727 or 800-949-8932.
- 3:** Regina Marie Williams & Gary Hines, *Dakota Jazz Club.
- 3:** Jazz guitarist Christopher Olson, Jazz at Woodbury, Central Park Indoor Amphitheater, 8595 Central Park Place, Woodbury, 2 p.m., (651) 714-3583.
- 4:** University of Minnesota Jazz Ensembles I & II, Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 S. 4th St., Mpls., 7:30 p.m., free, (612) 624-2345; <www.music.umn.edu>.
- 4:** Blind Boys of Alabama, with the "Go Tell It On the Mountain" Christmas show, Guthrie Theater, 7:30 p.m., \$36, (612) 377-2224; <www.guthrietheater.com>.

(continued on page 5)

mate on tour with the late Latin jazz great Ray Barretto) and drummer Henry Cole (who, along with Michael, often works with saxophonist David Sanchez).

Music is a Rodriguez family tradition. Their father Roberto is a drummer from Guantanamo, Cuba, who spun Cuban and Brazilian jazz around the house and toled his boys to hang out at gigs. Their education continued at the New World School of Arts in Miami. Robert earned a degree in music from the University of Miami and Michael earned his at the New School University in New York.

Robert's recorded output (in addition

to Haynes' *Whereas*) includes the live *Jazz Miami* (2000, with Chick Corea, Arturo Sandoval and other luminaries) and the Quincy Jones-produced Sandoval release *Trumpet Evolution* (2002). Michael's trumpet can be heard on Charlie Haden releases alongside artists like Carla Bley and Joe Lovano.

Still in their twenties (Robert is the older brother by one-and-a-half years), The Rodriguez Brothers have wracked up some very impressive credentials. The AQ shows are a chance to catch some of the most talented and exciting musicians on jazz's fast track.

Dakota Combo to Premiere with Bobby Watson Dec. 1

This is the first year of a premier Minnesota high school jazz combo formed in a partnership between the Dakota Foundation for Jazz Education and MacPhail Center for Music. Players were chosen by open audition to rehearse and perform with national guest artist Bobby Watson under the direction of Kelly Rossum. The premiere performance is Dec. 1, at 7 p.m. at Dakota Jazz Club and Restaurant, 1010 Nicollet Mall, in downtown Minneapolis, (612) 332-1010;

<www.dakota.cooks.com>.

The Dakota Combo performers are: Owen Nelson, alto saxophone; Amber Woodhouse tenor saxophone; Ben Link, trombone; Jack Davis, guitar; Javier Santiago, piano; Daniel Duke, bass; and Nathan Whitley, drums.

Bobby Watson is one of the pre-eminent players of his generation. Alto saxophonist-composer, he has accumulated an impressive body of work since the early '80s, that showcases his un-

deniable individuality as an artist.

Watson will present a free clinic at the Dakota Jazz Club at 10 a.m. on Dec. 2. The clinic is open to all aspiring jazz players (bring your instruments).

Kelly Rossum has presented music master classes throughout the United States as well as in Europe and Asia. Rossum is the Jazz Coordinator and trumpet instructor at MacPhail Center for Music.

—Press Release

CALENDAR *(continued from page 4)*

- 4-5:** James Carter Trio, *Dakota Jazz Club.
- 5:** Jazz Mavericks, Jazz Singers & Jazz Combos, Halling Recital Hall, Minnesota State University, Mankato, 7:30 p.m., \$8; \$4 students, (800) 627-3529.
- 6:** The Exquisite Corpse / Dave Roos CD Release Party, *Artists' Quarter.
- 7:** Red Rock Swing Band, Jazz at Woodbury, Central Park Indoor Amphitheater, 8595 Central Park Place, Woodbury, 2 p.m., (651) 714-3583.
- 7:** Reuben Ristrom 5-piece band with Charlie Boone and Roger Erickson, Old Log Theater, 5185 Meadville St., Excelsior, 1 p.m., (952) 474-5951.
- 8:** Davina and the Vagabonds, *Dakota Jazz Club.
- 8:** St. Mary's Jazz Combo I & Jazz Ensemble w/ Batucada Nossa Senhora, a mix of African music with an emphasis on the Afro-Brazilian and Afro-Cuban traditions. Directed by Denny McGuire, its repertoire includes folkloric and sacred music, as well as popular music set to traditional styles, Page Theatre, Winona, MN, 7:30 p.m., (507) 457-1715; 1-800-635-5987 X1598; <www.pagetheatre.org/contact.html>; E-mail: <tickets@smumn.edu>.
- 8-10:** The Starry Eyed Lovelies (Dave King, Michael Lewis, Anthony Cox, Dean Granros), *Artists' Quarter.
- 9:** Jazz Guitarathon featuring local guitarists, sponsored by the Minnesota Guitar Society, Sundin Music Hall, Hamline University, St. Paul, 8 p.m., (612) 677-1151. *(See page 1.)*
- 9:** Twin Cities Community Gospel Choir Christmas Concert, Historic Church of St. Michael, 16091 45th St. N.E., St. Michael, MN, 7:30 p.m., (612) 521-0800; <www.tccgospel.org>.
- 10:** Eight Head, featuring Marc Anderson, Jim Anton, J.T. Bates and Dean Magraw, *Cedar Cultural Center.
- 10:** "A Tribute to Rosemary Clooney" Christmas concert with Debby Boone, Orchestra Hall, Mpls., 2 p.m., \$20.25-\$49.25, (612) 371-5642; <minnesotaorchestra.org>.
- 11:** "Swinging Holidays" Russ Peterson Big Band with vocalist Charmin Michelle, Old Log Theater, 5185 Meadville St., Excelsior, 8 p.m., \$22, (dinner, 6:30 p.m., \$24), (952) 474-5951.
- 11:** Gospel Choir, Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th St. S., Mpls., 7 p.m., free, (612) 624-2345; <www.music.umn.edu>.
- 12:** Pizzazz Jazz, Mall of America Rotunda, Bloomington, 7 p.m.
- 11-12:** Ann Hampton Callaway, *Dakota Jazz Club.
- 12:** "Glory of Christmas," Grace Big Band, Grace Church, Eden Prairie, 7 p.m. FFI, <www.atgrace.com>.
- 12:** Century College Jazz Combo featuring Eric Graham, *Red Ginger Asian Bistro.
- 13:** Brave Combo Holiday Dance Party, *Cedar Cultural Center.
- 14-17:** Jingle Bell Doc with the Minnesota Orchestra featuring Doc Severinsen, the Minnesota Chorale, virtuoso bell choir Twin Cities Bronze, and the Land of Lakes Choirboys (trumpet solos, holiday favorites and a taste of big-band swing), Orchestra Hall, Mpls., \$20.25-\$49.25. FFI, (612) 371-5642; or visit <minnesotaorchestra.org>.
- 15:** Timeless Christmas with Denver and the Mile High Orchestra (13-piece band), North Heights Lutheran Church, 1700 W. Highway 96, Arden Hills, 7 p.m. <www.nhlc.org>.
- 15:** Triplicate, Stillwater Music, 116 E. Chestnut St., Stillwater, 7 p.m., (651) 439-0036.
- 16:** Robert Robinson with guest vocalist Holly Collison, the Twin Cities Community Gospel Choir, and a 12-piece orchestra, Benson Great Hall, Campus of Bethel

(continued on page 6)

 Minnesota Orchestra

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- ♦ Fiesta Navidad: A Mariachi Extravaganza
- ♦ Jingle Bell Doc
- ♦ Noël: Christopher Parkening & Jubilant Sykes
- ♦ George Winston
- ♦ Paragon Ragtime Orchestra with Butch Thompson

gigs

December 2006

Acadia Cafe (612-874-8702), <acadiacafe.com>, 1931 Nicollet Ave. S., Mpls. Every Tues., improv. & experimentation—some jazz.

Amore Coffee (651-222-6770), 917 Grand Ave., St. Paul. Every other Sun., Polson and Solberg jazz duo, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Arnellia's (651-642-5975), <arnellias.com>, 1183 University Ave., St. Paul. Every Fri., Sat. & Sun., R&B and blues.

CALENDAR (continued from page 5)

- College, Arden Hills, 7:30 p.m., \$25, \$22/ seniors; and \$20/students, (651) 638-6333 or (866) 424-4849.
- 16:** Katie Gearty CD Release Party, *Times Bar & Café.
- 17:** Good News Big Band – Christmas Big Band Concert, Edinborough Indoor Amphitheater, 7700 York Ave. S., Edina, 7 p.m., free.
- 17:** NOEL: Christopher Parkening, guitar and Jubilant Sykes, baritone, perform everything from Bach to Berlin, spirituals to jazz, Orchestra Hall, Mpls., 7:30 p.m., \$24.25-\$39.25, (612) 371-5642; <minnesotaochestra.org>.
- 17:** Grace Big Band (from Grace Church) Big Band Christmas, Mall of America Rotunda, Bloomington, 1 p.m.
- 17:** Allen Toussaint, *Dakota Jazz Club.
- 18, 20** "Holiday with Strings" featuring Cliff Brunzell & the Golden Stings with Charmin
- 23:** Michelle, Jazz Café, 1928 University Ave. N.E., Mpls., cocktail/dinner show. FFI, (612) 789-7297, <www.jaxcafe.com>.
- 19:** Stan Bann Big Band annual Holiday Concert, Edinborough Indoor Amphitheater, 7700 York Ave. S., Edina, 7 p.m., free.
- 21:** Laura Caviani Quintet Holiday Concert (with Phil Hey, Pete Whitman, Dave Jensen, Tom Lewis and Lucia Newell), *Artists' Quarter.
- 21:** "A Copasetic Christmas Carol" featuring Charmin Michelle with Doug Haining's Twin Cities Seven.
- 22:** George Winston: The Winter Concert, Orchestra Hall, Mpls., 8 p.m., \$29.25-\$39.25, (612) 371-5642; <minnesotaochestra.org>.
- 22-23:** George Mauer group, *Dakota Jazz Club.
- 23:** Paragon Ragtime Orchestra: 'Round the Christmas Tree with special guest Butch Thompson, Orchestra Hall, Mpls., 8 p.m., \$24.25-\$39.25 (612) 371-5642; <minnesotaochestra.org>.
- 26-28:** The Bad Plus, *Dakota Jazz Club.
- 30:** Lee Engele with The Somewhat Dixie Land Band, Lee Square Cooperative, 4400 36th Ave. N., Robbinsdale, 7:30 p.m.

Artists' Quarter (651-292-1359), <mnjazz.com>, 408 St. Peter St., in the basement of the Hamm Building, St. Paul. (Enter on 7th Place. Parking avail. on the street & nearby ramps.) Every Mon., Green, 7-9 p.m.; Poetry Slam, 9 p.m., \$5. Every Tues., B-3 Organ Night w/ The Tuesday Night Band, featuring Downtown Bill Brown (B-3), Kenny Horst (drums), Gary Berg (sax), & Billy Franze (guitar), 9 p.m., \$4. Jazz every Wed. thru Sat., usually 9 p.m., \$4-\$10 cover. 12/1-2, Rodriguez Brothers; 12/6, The Exquisite Corpse / Dave Roos CD Release Party; 12/7, How Birds Work; 12/8-10, The Starry Eyed Lovelies (Dave King, Michael Lewis, Anthony Cox, Dean Granros); 12/13, Snow Blind; 12/14, Tanner Taylor Trio; 12/20, Fat Kid Wednesdays; 12/21, The Laura Caviani Quintet Holiday Concert featuring

- 31:** Classic Big Band and the Nostalgics Vocal Quartet—Swing into the New Year, Radisson University Hotel, 615 Washington Ave., S.E. Mpls., 8:30 p.m., \$30/adv. or \$35/door, (612) 379-8888.
- 31:** "Annual New Year's Eve Dance" with Charmin Michelle and Doug Haining & the Twin Cities Seven, Jax Café, 1928 University Ave. N.E., Mpls. FFI, call (612) 789-7297, <www.jaxcafe.com>.
- 31:** Twin Cities Hot Club with Erin Schwab, *Times Bar & Café.
- 31:** Jazz Tones (formerly the Hot Swing Gumbo), *Nochee's.
- 31:** Carole Martin, Irv Williams & Friends—New Year's Eve Party!, *Artists' Quarter.
- 31:** Colleen Raye and Company and the Minnesota Jazz Orchestra, Phipps Theater, Hudson, WI, 3 & 6 p.m., \$26, \$20/ students, (715) 386-2305; <www.thehipp.org>.
- 31:** Mouldy Figs (4-8 p.m.), *Mainstreet Bar & Grill.
- 31:** Reuben Ristrom with Bobby Commodore, *Rossi's Steakhouse.
- 31:** Arne Fogel New Year's Eve, *Matty B's Supper Club.

JAZZ FESTIVALS

Jan. 10-13: International Association for Jazz Education, New York, N.Y., (785) 776-8744, <www.iaje.org>.

Jan. 12-13: Roseville Winter Jazz Blast, high school jazz ensemble competition, Maranatha Hall, Northwestern College, St. Paul. (See *Big Band Scene* article on page 1.)

Jan. 12-14: Eau Claire Ragtime Festival, Eau Claire, WI, (715) 834-2668.

May 24-27: Los Angeles Jazz Institute "Swing Into Spring—A Cavalcade of Big Band Jazz," a four day jazz festival featuring 20 LA big bands, plus four university jazz ensembles, held at the Four Points Sheraton, Los Angeles Airport, CA, <www.lajazzinstitute.com>; (562) 985-7065.

—Starla Barker, Jane Donahue & Jan & Jerry Swanberg

Please send your concert information to: **TCJS Jazz Notes, 2550 134th Ave. N.W., Andover, MN 55304; <tcjsnews@usinternet.com>; (763) 862-5694; or fax (763) 754-1985. The deadline is Dec. 10 for the January 2007 issue of Jazz Notes. Thank you!**

Laura Caviani, Phil Hey, Pete Whitman, Dave Jensen, Tom Lewis and Lucia Newell; 12/22-23, Tribute to Dewey Redman with Pete Whitman, Phil Hey, Bill Carrothers, Gordon Johnson; 12/24-25, closed; 12/27, Brian Grivna Quartet; 12/28, Phil Hey Quartet; 12/31, Carole Martin, Irv Williams & Friends—New Year's Eve Party!, 9 p.m., \$28.

Birchwood Cafe (612-722-4474), 3311 E. 25th St., Mpls. Alternating on every other Wed., John Devine (11/27 & 12/11) and Scott Mateo Davies (12/4 & 18), 5:30-9 p.m.

Bloomington Knights of Columbus (952-888-1492), 1114 American Blvd., Bloomington. 12/8, swing dance w/ the Classic Big Band & the Nostalgics, 8 p.m.

Cafe Havana (612-338-8484), 119 Washington Ave. N., Mpls. Music on Fri. and Sat. only. 12/8-9, Paul Cherba Jazz Quartet; 12/15-16, Urban Jazz Quartet.

Cedar Cultural Center (612-338-2674, x102), <thecedar.org/>, 416 Cedar Ave. S., Mpls. 12/2, Dean Magraw and John Williams, 8 p.m.; 12/10, Eight Head, featuring Marc Anderson, Jim Anton, J.T. Bates & Dean Magraw, 7:30 p.m., \$12/adv., \$15 day of show; 12/13, Brave Combo Holiday Dance Party, 7:30 p.m., \$16/adv., \$18 day of show.

Cherokee Sirlain Room (651-457-2729), 886 Smith Ave. W., St., Paul. Every Sat., Irv Williams, Ron Fosse & Loren Walstad, 8-11 p.m.

The Clown Lounge at the Turf Club (651-647-0486), 1601 University Ave. St. Paul. Live Jazz Mondays, 10:30 p.m.

Club Jager (612-332-2628), 923 Washington Ave N., Mpls. 12/8 & 29, Gypsy Mania Quartet, 10 p.m.-1 a.m. 12/1 & 22, Organism with Rob Dewey, organ; Matt Senjem, bass; and Chris Gray, drums, 10 p.m., no cover.

Club Underground (612-627-9123), <springstreettavern.com>, 355 N.E. Monroe St., Mpls. No jazz at this time.

Coffee Grounds (651-644-9959), <thecoffeegrounds.net>, 1579 Hamline, Falcon Heights. Every Mon., Real Book Jazz, 7:45 p.m.

Columbia Grounds (612-781-7873), 3301 Central Ave. N.E., Mpls. Every Tues., The Jack Trio, 6-8 p.m.

D'Amico Cucina (612-338-2401), <damico.com>, 100 N. 6th St., Butler Square Bldg., Mpls. Every Fri.-Sat., Benny Weinbeck and Gordy Johnson Duo, 7:30-11:30 p.m.

Dakota County Music Café (952-435-2100), 14201 Nicollet Ave S., (I-35W & I-35E & County Road 42), Burnsville. Live jazz 6:30-10:30 p.m. every Fri. and Sat., no cover. 12/22-23, "Sisters in Song" with Dorothy Doring, Lila Ammons & Vicky Mountain; 12/30, vocalists Paula Lammers & Reeves Cary, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

Dakota Jazz Club & Restaurant (612-332-1010), <dakotacooks.com>, 1010 Nicollet Mall, Mpls. (Parking at 10th & LaSalle ramp). Live jazz during Happy Hour 4:30-6:30 p.m.: Tues., Travis Anderson; Wed., Cliff Brunzel; Thurs., JoAnn Funk Trio; and Fri., Jazz by Fosse w/ Irv Williams. Late Night series every Fri. & Sat., 11:30 p.m.-2 a.m. 11/27-28, Paquito D'Rivera, 7 & 9 p.m. (\$35/\$28); 11/29, Katie Gearty; 11/30, Andres Prado Quintet; 12/1, Dakota Combo with national guest artist Bobby Watson, under the direction of Kelly Rossum, 7 p.m., \$10 (see page 5); 12/2, Bobby Watson clinic (open to all aspiring jazz players—bring

(continued on page 7)

GIGS *(continued from page 6)*

your instruments), 10 a.m., free (see page 5); 12/3, Regina Marie Williams and Gary Hines (from New York), 8 p.m. (\$10); 12/4-5, saxophonist James Carter, 7 & 9 p.m. (\$30/\$25); 12/9, Blue Chi (Pete Whitman, Dean Magraw, Jay Epstein), 11:30 p.m.; 12/11-12, Ann Hampton Callaway, 7 & 9 p.m. (\$30/\$25); 12/17, Allen Toussaint (\$50/\$40); 12/21, "A Copasetic Christmas Carol" featuring Charmin Michelle with Doug Haining's Twin Cities Seven; 12/26-28, The Bad Plus, 7:30 & 10 p.m. (\$35/\$30); 12/29, Tanner Taylor, Mike Cramer, Jay Epstein, 11:30 p.m.

Downtown Woodfire Grill (651-228-9500), <downtownwoodfire.com>, 253 W. 7th St., St. Paul. Music every Tues.-Thur., 7 p.m. & Fri.-Sat., 8 p.m. Jazz Night Out every Thur., Fri. & Sat. Every Mon., Jon de Vaal, 9:30 a.m. Every Tues., vocalist Christine Rosholt and pianist Chris Lomheim, 8-11 p.m. Every Wed., Jeff Kartak, 7 p.m. Every Thur., Taste of Brasil, 7 p.m. Every Fri., Tresa Sauer trio, 8-11 p.m.

Duffy's Saloon, Osseo, MN. Every other Sat., 12/2, 16 & 30, Jazz Tones (formerly the Hot Swing Gumbo w/ Mike Tenhoff, Mike Abresch, Dave Wilkening & Gregory Beech), 6-9 p.m.

Eagles Club (612-729-4469), 2507 E. 25th St., Mpls. Willie Murphy alternate Fridays. Call for schedule.

Famous Dave's BBQ (612-822-9900), 3001 Hennepin Ave. S., (in Calhoun Square), Mpls. Call for blues schedule.

Fireside Pizza (612-869-4040), 6736 Penn. Ave. S., Richfield. Mon. & Wed. (12/4, 6, 13, & 27), Charmin Michelle with Denny Malmberg, 7-9 p.m., no cover.

400 Bar (612-332-2903), Corner of Cedar & Riverside, Mpls. Every Mon., Willie Murphy (R&B & jazz piano and guitar), 7 p.m.

Frank Stone Gallery (612-617-9965), <frankstonegallery.com>, 1226 2nd Street NE Mpls. 12/15, vocalist Christine Rosholt and pianist Mary Louise Knutson, 7-9 p.m.

Fusion Music Lounge (formerly the French Press Jazz Café) (651-224-2732), <fpjazz@yahoo.com>, 213 E. 4th St. (4th & Sibley), St. Paul. Live music Tues.-Sat., \$5. Every Tues., Sam Kuusisto Band, 9 p.m. Every Thurs., Open Jam Session, 8 p.m. 12/13, Lee Engele Jazz Band, 7-10 p.m.

Ingredients Cafe (651-426-6611), <ingredientscafe.com>, 4725 Highway 61 N., White Bear Lake. Thurs., Fri. & Sat., jazz and blues.

Kozlak's Royal Oak (651-484-8484), 4785 Hodgson Rd., Shoreview. Every Sun., Fred Richardson Trio, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Lisa's Place (952-448-7622), 205 Broadway N., Carver, MN. Every Wed., Eleganzos and guests, 8-11 p.m.

Loring Pasta Bar & Cafe (612-378-4849), <loringcafe.com>, 327 14th Ave. S.E., Mpls. Pasta Bar/music, 6 p.m. Every Sun., Mandragora Tango. Every Wed. & Thurs., John Devine. Every Fri., James "Cornbread" Harris, 6 p.m. 12/2, Jon Pemberton Trio; 12/9,

Parisota Hot Club; 12/16, Ticket to Brasil; 12/23, Trio Mateo; 12/30, Loe & the Nastys.

Mainstreet Bar & Grill (952-938-2400), 814 Main St., Hopkins. Every other Sun., 12/3 & 17, Mouldy Figs, 4-7 p.m. 12/31, Mouldy Figs, 4-8 p.m.

Matty B's Supper Club (651-291-0404) <mat tybs.com>, 354 Wabasha St., St. Paul. Live music every Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.-12 a.m. 12/1 & 29, Jazztronauts; 12/2, PizzazzJazz; 12/8, Debbie Duncan; 12/9 & 30, Bill Duna Quartet; 12/15, Arne Fogel; 12/16, Charmin Michelle with Doug Haining's Twin Cities Seven; 12/22, Jaca Gereau Quartet; 12/23, Steve Clark and the Working Stiffs; 12/31, New Year's Eve with Arne Fogel.

Medina Ballroom (763-478-6661), <medina entertainment.com>, 500 Hwy. 55, Medina. 12/31, Powerhouse (soul, disco, rock, R&B, & swing), 8:30 p.m. show, \$15/adv. or \$20/door.

Mill City Café (612-788-6188), <millcity cafe.com>, 2205 California St., #102, N.E. Mpls. Every Sat., Gypsy/world jazz featuring Glen Helgeson and guest, 6-9 p.m.

Mitch's Supper Club (651-228-1408), 1305 W. 7th St. (Victoria and West 7th), St. Paul. Every last Tues., 11/28 & 12/26, Bill Evans New Orleans Jazz Band, 7-10 p.m.

Nochee Restaurant (612-344-7000), <nochee.com>, 500 Washington Ave. S., Mpls. 12/31, New Year's Eve with the Jazz Tones (formerly the Hot Swing Gumbo w/ Mike

(continued on page 8)

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Choose e-mail to receive "Jazz Notes," and also receive the supplement, "Coda!"

GIGS *(continued from page 7)*

Tenhoff, Mike Abresch, Dave Wilkening & Gregory Beech), 7-10 p.m.

Nomad World Pub (612-338-6424), 501 Cedar Ave. S. Mpls. Music at 9 p.m. (21+). Every Wed., Nomad Jazz Series. 11/29, Volcano Insurance; and Midwestern Standard Time, 9 p.m., free; 12/1, Jack Brass Band w/ Future Antiques & Hye Pockets.

Norton's Restaurant (715-792-2464), <thenortonsrestaurant.com>, W. 7171 135th Ave., Bay City, WI. 12/1, Christine Rosholt trio, 8-10 p.m.

O'Gara's (651-644-3333), <ogaras.com>, 163 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul. Big band jazz in the Shamrock Room on the second Mon. each month, (12/11, Cedar Ave. Big Band, 9 p.m.), and every Tues.: 11/28, Nova Jazz Orchestra, 8 p.m.; 12/5, Beasley's Big Band, 7:30 p.m.; 12/12, Stan Bann Big Band, 8 p.m.; 12/26, Nova Jazz Orchestra, 8 p.m.

Prior Lake VFW (952-226-6208), 16306 Main Ave., Prior Lake. 12/16, SteamHeat (swing), 8 p.m.

Radisson Plymouth - Creekside (763-559-6600), 3131 Campus Dr., Plymouth. 12/2, 8, 9, 15 & 16, Reuben Ristrom trio with Dan Ristrom or Diane Ristrom, 7:30-11:30 p.m.

Red Ginger Asian Bistro (651-784-8800), <redgingerasianbistro.com>, 5999 Rice Creek Pkwy., Shoreview (right off Hwy 35-W & Cty. Rd. J). Live jazz and blues every Fri. & Sat., 8-11 p.m., no cover. 11/28, Century College Jazz Combo; 12/1, Bellatrex (jazz); 12/8, vocalist Paula Lammers; 12/12, Century College Jazz Combo featuring Eric Graham, 7-10 p.m., no cover; 12/15, Chill 7; 12/22, The Jazronauts "Holiday Special"; 12/23, State Champs (jazz/funk); 12/29, Charmin & Shapira with Friends.

Roseville VFW Post 7555 (651-483-5313), 1145 Woodhill Dr., (near Lexington and County Rd. C), Roseville. Every third Tues. of the month, Godfrey Daniel Jazz Band, 6-9 p.m.

Rossi's Steakhouse/Blue Star Jazzroom (612-312-2828), <bluestarjazz.com>, Metro Building, 80 S. 9th St., Mpls. Music every night, mostly jazz. Happy Hour, 5 p.m. Every Sun., music, 6 p.m. Every Mon. (except 12/25), Sue Tucker, Rick Carlson & Steve Pikal, 7:30 p.m. Every Tues., Connie Olson's Quartet (11/28, w/ Mary Louise Knutson), 7:30 p.m. Every Wed., vocalist Maud Hixson trio, 7:30 p.m. 11/29, BKS Vine, 8 p.m.; 11/30, Christine Rosholt, 8 p.m.; 12/7, Charmin Michelle Quartet; 12/15, Christine Rosholt quintet with Mary Louise Knutson and Russ Peterson, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. 12/16, Christine Rosholt quintet, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; 12/28, Charmin Michelle Quartet, 8 p.m.-12 a.m.; 12/31, Reuben Ristrom with Bobby Commodore, 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m.

Santorini Restaurant (952-546-6722), 9920 Wayzata Blvd., St. Louis Park. Every Tues., Dan Ristrom and Friends.

Sophia's (612-379-1111), <sophiaattheriver.com>, Riverplace, 25 Main St. S.E., Mpls. Open Mon.-Sat., music nightly.

South St. Paul VFW (651-455-1505), 111 S Concord Exchange S., S. St. Paul. 12/12, River City Jazz Orchestra.

Surdyk's Liquor Store (612-379-3232), <surdyks.com>, 303 E. Hennepin, Mpls. 12/9 & 16, Christine Rosholt & Reuben Ristrom, 12-4 p.m.

Tapestry Folkdance Center (612-722-2914), <tapestryfolkdance.org>, 3748 Minnehaha, Ave. S., Mpls. Every Thurs., Late Night Swing featuring DJ Terry Gardner, 10 p.m. (lessons 6:30-9:30 p.m.). 12/2, Jazztronauts—"A Very Jaztro Christmas" swing dance (lesson 7:30 p.m. / dance, 8:30 p.m.)

Thistles Restaurant (763-504-2541), 4168 W. Broadway., Robbinsdale. Music 5-9 p.m. Every Mon., Tues. & Wed., keyboardist James Cornbread Harris Sr. Every Thurs., David Hamilton. Every Fri. & Sat., Bobbi Miller soloist with David Hamilton.

Times Bar & Café (612-617-8098), <timesbarandcafe.com>, 201 E. Hennepin Ave., Mpls. No cover! Every Sun.: Sunday Jazz Brunch with the Wolverines Trio & guest vocalist, 12/3, 17 & 24, Arne Fogel, 12/10, Sue Tucker, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (call for reservations); and the Twin Cities Hot Club—Gypsy jazz, 8-11 p.m. Every Mon., Katie Gearty & Tanner Taylor, 8-11 p.m. Every Tues., Singer Showcase hosted by Lori Dokken (7 p.m.); Tribute to the Greats with guest vocalist (8 p.m.). Every Wed., Swingin' With the Wolves—taped for broadcast on Jazz88 FM 88.5, 8 p.m.: 12/6 & 27, with Doug Haining; 12/13, with Connie Olson; 12/20, with Arne Fogel. Every Thurs., Salsa Del Soul, 9:30 p.m. Music every Fri.-Sat, 9:30 p.m. 12/1, Twin Cities Hot Club with Maud Hixson; 12/2, Maud Hixson quartet; 12/9, Southside Aces; 12/15 (at Jitter's in the wine cellar below the Times Bar & Cafe), Maud Hixson Rick Carlson, and Keith Boyles, 9:30 p.m.; 12/16, Katie Gearty—CD Release Party; 12/22, Vic Volare & The Volare Lounge Orchestra; 12/23, Arne Fogel "Swings Bing for the Holidays"; 12/24, closed; 12/30, Latin Jazz with Vivianna & Shai; 12/31, The Twin Cities Hot Club with Erin Schwab—New Year's Eve.

The Town House (651-646-7087), 1415 W. University Ave., St. Paul. Music in the North Star Piano Lounge, 9 p.m. Every Thurs., Open Mic with Erin Schwab and Lori Dokken; Fri., Lori Dokken; Sat., Lori Dokken and Judi Donaghy.

Trygs (612-920-7777), 3118 West Lake St., Mpls. Every Wed., pianist Tom Hunter w/ guitarist Gunmar, 7-11 p.m. Music Fri., & Sat.

Uptown Bar & Café (612-823-4719), 3018 Hennepin Ave. S. Mpls. Live music Wed. & Thur.

Varsity Theater (612-604-0222), 1308 4th St. S.E., Dinkytown, Mpls. Every second Sun. (12/10 & 1/14), Charanga Tropical, 9:30 p.m., \$7.

Vic's (612-312-2000), <vicsdining.com>, 201 Main St. S.E. (St. Anthony Main), Mpls. Live music every Fri. and Sat., often jazz or blues, 10:30 p.m. 12/15, Gypsy Mania Trio featuring Glen Helgeson, Reynold Philipsek and Gary Schulte, 9 p.m.-12 a.m. 12/9, Jazz Navigators.

Wabasha Caves (651-224-1191), <wabashastreetcaves.com>, 215 S. Wabasha, St. Paul. Swing band and dancing every Thurs., 7-10 p.m., \$7, free dance lessons, 6:15 p.m. 11/30, Jerry O'Hagen Orchestra; 12/7, Moonlight Serenaders; 12/14, Minnesota Jazz Orchestra; 12/21, Beasley's Big Band; 12/28, Swing Beat Big Band.

Wilde Roast Café (612-331-4555), 518 Hennepin Ave. E., Mpls. Every Wed., Smitty's Jazz duo, piano and bass, 7:30 p.m.

Zander Cafe (651-222-5224), 522 Selby, St. Paul. JoAnn Funk, piano/vocals, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Jazz club dates are subject to change. Please call to verify the event.

To list your gigs in the January issue of Jazz Notes, please contact a TCJS Gigs volunteer by Dec. 10. Thank you!

Jane Donahue, (coordinator)
(651) 633-3134, <jazzyjane@prodigy.net>
Pat Nelson, <pnelson1@mn.rr.com>
Jerry Swanberg (big band),
(651) 633-7178, <Gswanbe@aol.com>
Starla Barker, (763) 862-5694
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