

Edgefest 22: A Smashing Success

BY LARS BJORN

The 22nd Edgefest was one of the very best, which is saying a lot. The festival has always presented the best in avant garde jazz/improvised music, and this year's focus on Chicago (an Out Kind of Town) provided more cohesion to the presentation than usual.

The central artist in many ways was saxophonist Roscoe Mitchell, who appeared in a small group on Wednesday, October 17, and with a large band on closing night (Saturday). The smaller group was the reunion of the Creative Arts Collective from Detroit led by guitarist Spencer Barefield, and the larger group was a reunion of the Art Ensemble of Chicago featuring drummer Famoudou Don Moye and others. Mitchell's solos with his Detroit Friends were simply mesmerizing in their intensity and focus. There are path-breaking improvisers in all forms of jazz and Mitchell is one of them. I can



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:

Roscoe Mitchell

Parade directed by Andrew Bishop

Tiger Trio: Myra Melford, Nicole Mitchell, Joelle Leandre

Tomeka Reid

Jaimie Branch signing autographs

photographs by Lars Bjorn



only compare it to hearing Ornette Coleman live at the Golden Circle in Stockholm in 1965.

Another mature and great improviser I was privileged to hear was bassist Joelle Leandre, who treated us to a *tour de force* solo concert on Friday. Her technical mastery of her instrument was obvious to anyone who knows just a little about how bassists produce sounds from their unwieldy instrument. Her musical imagination seems vivid and limitless, and she plays with more feeling than most, often adding vocal nuances to her bowing and plucking.

The festival also presented numerous up-and-coming improvisers whom I want to hear more from, such as cellist Tomeka Reid and trumpeter Jaimie Branch, and a slew of recently established ones like pianist Myra Melford, cellist Fred Lonberg-Holm, and flutist Nicole Mitchell. The Tiger Trio of Melford, N. Mitchell, and Leandre treated the enthusiastic audience to a compact but too brief recital on Saturday afternoon. We were the last stop on their U.S. tour, and it was pure joy to hear such musical perfection right in the Kerrytown Concert House.

SEMJA sponsored residencies at Scarlet Middle School with Tomeka Reid and the University of Michigan's Andrew Bishop during the week of the festival. Bishop also led the same students in the always entertaining Edgefest Parade around the Ann Arbor Farmers Market on Saturday morning.

Edgefest Artistic Director Deanna Relyea should be congratulated for maintaining such high artistic standards for over twenty years. An amazing achievement in the ever-changing world of music.





Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe

is proud to announce its
Schedule of Performers for
November 2018:

Skeeto Valdez

Drummer

Cameron Graves

Pianist

Mike Jellick

Pianist

Chris Codish

Keyboards

Alexander Zonjic

Flutist

Alvin Waddles

Pianist

Aguanko

Latin Jazz Ensemble

The best Jazz and Cuisine is at the Dirty Dog! Lunch menu featuring a great selection of burgers, sandwiches, and entré salads.

For more information visit:

DirtyDogJazz.com

Reservations highly recommended.

For reservations call:

313-882-5299

Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe

97 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms

Around Town

BY LARS BJORN

Tenorist Ingrid Laubrock has been a frequent visitor at the Kerrytown Concert House for several years now. She has become a commanding presence on the scene with her big toned tenor and soprano sound. On September 24 her trio with pianist Cory Smythe and bassist Stephan Crump took the stage in the Warming Up the Edge series.



Accordionist Julien Labro, a native of France, is an expert performer of the Astor Piazzola repertoire. His recordings with guitarist Jason Vieaux cover Piazzola as well as younger composers. Labro's most recent project is the Chanson Experiment, where he dares tackle songs very familiar to all French musicians.

At his October 25 concert at Kerrytown Concert House he noted that he had finally overcome a reluctance to play some of this repertoire by putting his own stamp on it. This included songs by Yves Montand ("A Paris"), Charles Aznavour ("She"), and Edith Piaf ("La Vie en Rose"). Labro is a wondrous improviser who has complete control over his instrument and who does not need to refer to this project as experimental at this time. He was accompanied by some old Detroit friends: pianist John Dixon, bassist Jordan Schug, and drummer David Alvarez.



photographs by Lars Bjorn

Recent Recordings by Area Musicians

BY IRA LAX

Trombonist Ron Kischuk's The Masters of Music Big Band (Minus 9, Plus 2) has produced their second recording. The band is a sharp group of Detroit-area musicians who come together in this mid-sized big band.

In *Splanky*, a grab bag of standards by over a dozen master composers, several tracks stand out.

Spirited vocals by Judie Cochill and spirited solos by Kischuk and pianist Gary Schunk on "I Love Paris," "Always" and "Old Black Magic." Schunk shines throughout this date, especially his solo on the opening Basie tune, "Splanky," where saxophonist Pete Kahn and trumpeter Dwight Adams also contribute fine solos. Russ Miller has put together a fresh arrangement of Ellington's "Mood Indigo," titled "Three Moods of Indigo," where we get a tempo shift from ballad to funk, back to ballad, with another nice trumpet solo by Adams.



This is a cool recording to keep nearby whenever you want an instant lift.

Ernie Krivda and Bill Heid To Detroit

Cleveland's tenor sax marvel Ernie Krivda visits Cliff Bells in Detroit on Friday, November 30 at 9:00 p.m. Krivda is an exciting player in the post-Coltrane mold.

Another frequent out-of-town guest is pianist/organist/singer Bill Heid, who now lives in Washington, D.C. He lived in Detroit for over twenty years and is always worth listening to. You can do so on November 9 and 10. He will also appear at Aretha's Jazz Café at Music Hall on November 14.

Cliff Bells is located at 2030 Park Avenue just north of Grand Circus Park in downtown Detroit.

Kerrytown Concert House Hosts Klezmer and Swing

Ann Arbor's Kerrytown Concert House will feature Klezmephonics with violinist Henrik Karapetyan, bassist Dave Sharp and tenorist Janelle Reichman on November 17.

The Midwest Swingers of singer Petra van Nuis and guitarist Andy Brown from Chicago join with our own pianist Jim Dapogny, bassist Paul Keller and drummer Pete Siers on November 30.

Both concerts start at 8:00 p.m.

Joe Locke Organ Trio

The great vibes player Joe Locke will visit the area with his Organ Trio at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, December 7. The all-star trio includes organist Pat Bianchi on Hammond B3 and the well-known veteran drummer Marvin "Smitty" Smith. They will perform at the Detroit Groove Society, 6650 Torybrook Circle, in West Bloomfield. To attend you have to reserve a seat by contacting arothman@comcast.net before December 1. Admission is \$50 for adults and \$15 for students and this is good for two sets of music.

WEMU 89.1

The Choice for NPR...
news, jazz and blues.

Schedule

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
5						JAZZ24	JAZZ24
6							PIANO JAZZ
7							REVEAL
8							WEEKEND EDITION
9							WEEKEND EDITION
10							WEEKEND EDITION
11							WEEKEND EDITION
12							WEEKEND EDITION
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4							WEEKEND EDITION

National Public Radio
Eastern Michigan University

jazz events

November



			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30

ATTENTION all venue owners, musicians, and listeners
Please let us know about upcoming jazz events in the area!

- Write us at SEMJA
712 East Ann St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1502
- Phone us at 734-668-7470
- Submit information online at
www.semja.org/submit

We will include notices if they reach us by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Aretha's Jazz Café at Music Hall

jazzcafedetroit.com
350 Madison Ave.
DETROIT 313-887-8532

NOVEMBER

- 1 8:00 Brubeck Brothers Band — Chris, Dan, Chuck Lamb, Mike De Micco
14 7:00 Bill Heid, Kurt Krahnke, RJ Spangler

ONGOING

Sun 6:00 Jam Session with Scott Gwinnell Trio



R.J. Spangler

Amore Da Roma

www.amoredaroma.com
3401 Riopelle
DETROIT 313-831-5940

ONGOING

Sun 5:00 Heidi Hepler & Michéle Ramo

Ann Arbor Distilling Co

www.annarbordistilling.com
220 Felch St.
ANN ARBOR 734-882-2169

ONGOING

Sun 5:30 Brennan Andes Trio



Brennan Andes

The Ark

www.theark.org
316 South Main St.
ANN ARBOR 248-645-6666

NOVEMBER

24 8:00 Mr B



Mr. B

Aut Bar

www.autbar.com
315 Braun Ct.
ANN ARBOR 734-223-8385

ONGOING

Tue 9:00 Jesse Kramer Trio — with Bobby Streng, Damon Warmack

Bacco Ristorante

www.baccoristorante.com
29410 Northwestern Hwy.
SOUTHFIELD 248-356-6600

ONGOING

Wed 6:30 Michéle Ramo

Baker's Keyboard Lounge

www.theofficialbakerskeyboardlounge.com
20510 Livernois
DETROIT 313-345-6300

ONGOING

Tue 8:00 313 The Live Experience, Isis Damil
Wed 8:00 OGD — featuring Gerard Gibbs, Perry Hughes, Gene Dunlap and Sky Covington

Bert's Market Place

www.bertsentertainment.com
2727 Russell (in the Eastern Market)
DETROIT 313-567-2030

ONGOING

Thu 8:30 Open Jam with RGB Trio (Ralphe Armstrong, Gayelynn McKinney, Bill Meyer)
Fri 8:30 John Douglas Jazz Quartet
Sat 8:30 Blues with Champagne and her Band
Sun 8:30 R&B with Misty Love



RGB Trio

Black Lotus Brewing Co.

www.blacklotusbrewingco.com
1 E. 14 Mile
CLAWSON 248-577-1878

ONGOING

Mon 9:00 Open Mic — with Brando
Tue 9:00 Music Brazilian
Wed 9:30 Jam session — led by James Hughes & Jimmy Smith

Blue Goose Inn

www.bluegooseinn.net
28911 Jefferson between 11 & 12 Mile
ST. CLAIR SHORES 586-296-0950

NOVEMBER

25 4:00 Planet D Nonet — with RJ Spangler, James O'Donnell

ONGOING

Wed 8:00 Open Jam with various bands
Thu 6:00 [2nd] Riverboat Ramblers — featuring Patrick MacCarroll, Bob Ervin and the gang

The Blue Nile

www.bluenilemi.com
221 East Washington St.
ANN ARBOR 734-255-3371

ONGOING

Fri 6:00 Louis Johnson & "Motown" Larry Walton
Sat 6:00 Louis Johnson & "Motown" Larry Walton

Callahan's Music Hall

www.atcallahans.com
2105 South Blvd.
AUBURN HILLS 248-858-9508

NOVEMBER

2 8:00 Big Ray, Jason Bone, Big Al
3 8:00 Cedric Burnside
9 8:00 Nick Schnebelen
10 8:00 Toronzo Cannon
11 7:30 Toronzo Cannon
16 8:00 Johnny A
17 8:00 Hadden Sayers
23 8:00 Popa Chubby
24 8:00 Popa Chubby
30 8:00 Jim McCarty & Friends



Popa Chubby

Canterbury House

www.canterburyhouse.org
721 East Huron St.
ANN ARBOR 734-665-0606

ONGOING

Sun 5:00 Quartex Jazz Mass with afterglow

Cariera's Cucina Italiana Ristorante

www.carieras.com/dearborn
6565 North Telegraph
DEARBORN HEIGHTS 313-278-4060

ONGOING

Fri 7:00 Mike Gabriel
Sat 7:00 Mike Gabriel

Cliff Bells

www.cliffbells.com

2030 Park Ave. at West Adams
DETROIT 313-961-2543

NOVEMBER

2	9:00	Geof Bradfield (Chicago)
4	7:30	Patrick Fitzgibbon
6	8:00	Dynamo
7	8:00	Stephane Wrembel Band-Django Experiment
8	7:00	Scott Gwinnell Jazz Orchestra
9	9:00	Bill Heid Trio
10	9:30	Bill Heid Trio
11	7:00	Michael Hu Quintet — with Josie Ala, Peyton Miller, Jonathon Muir-Cotton, Louis Jones III
14	8:00	David Vessella Quartet
15	8:30	Ben Sharkey
16	9:00	Sheila Landis BopStop — with Phil Hage Trio featuring Rick Matle
17	9:30	Joe Policastro Trio — with Dave Miller, Mikel Avery (Chicago)
21	8:00	Nicole New
23	9:00	Planet D Nonet
25	7:00	Kirsten Carey Songtime Trio
27	7:00	WSU Jazz Band Showcase
28	8:00	Sidewalk Chalk & Sam Trump (Chicago)
29	8:00	Philippe LeJeune Trio (France)
30	9:00	Ernie Krivda (Cleveland)

ONGOING

Sun	11 am	Jarrold Champion
Tue	8:00	Alexis Lombre Quartet — with Trunino Lowe, Brian Juarez, Alex White
Fri	5:30	Jeff Cuny Trio
Sat	6:00	Evan Mercer Trio — with Sam Harris, Jake Matthews



Sheila Landis

Club 54

www.nightclub54.com

37722 Van Dyke
STERLING HEIGHTS 586-795-0054

ONGOING

Thu 7:00 [1st, 3rd] Gary Greenfelder Orchestra

Cobo Joe's Smokehouse BBQ and Sports Bar

cobojoes.com

422 West Congress St.
DETROIT 313-965-0840

ONGOING

Sat 8:00 Motown with Joan Belgrave — with Robert Jones, Jerome Spearman

Commonwealth Club

www.commonwealthclubmi.com

30088 Dequindre Rd.
WARREN 586-751-9560

ONGOING

Thu 7:00 [3rd] Riverboat Ramblers — with Patrick MacCarroll

Cultivate Coffee

www.cultivateypsi.com

307 North River St.
YPSILANTI 734-249-8993

ONGOING

Thu 7:00 Jim Dapogny & Plenty Rhythm



James Dapogny

D'Amato's

www.damatos.com

222 North Sherman Dr.
ROYAL OAK 248-584-7400

ONGOING

Sun Noon Jazz Brunch — with Steve Jarosz, Carl Cafagna, Shannon Wade

Dakota Inn

www.dakota-inn.com

17324 John R
DETROIT 313-867-9722

ONGOING

Thu 7:30 [3rd] Kerry Price

Detroit School of Arts

Ford Performing Arts Theater, 123 Selden St.
DETROIT

NOVEMBER

3 7:30 Season Spectacular with Terry Lyne Carrington, Dee Dee Bridgewater, George Shirley, Carrie Mae Weems, Savion Glover, Debbie Allen

Dirty Dog Jazz Café

www.dirtydogjazz.com

97 Kercheval
GROSSE POINTE FARMS 313-882-5299

NOVEMBER

1 6:00 Skeeto Valdez
2-3 6:00 Cameron Graves
2-3 9:00 Cameron Graves
7-10 6:00 Mike Jellick
10 9:00 Mike Jellick
14-15 6:00 Chris Codish
16-17 6:00 Alexander Zonjic
16-17 9:00 Alexander Zonjic
21-24 6:00 Alvin Waddles
23-24 9:00 Alvin Waddles

ONGOING

Tue 5:00 Charles Boles Quartet

Eagles Aerie #3607

141 Schroeder Park Dr.

HOWELL 517-548-1630

ONGOING

Sun 3:00 [3rd] The Blue Notes, Thomas Halm director

The Earle

www.theearle.com

121 West Washington
ANN ARBOR 734-994-0211

ONGOING

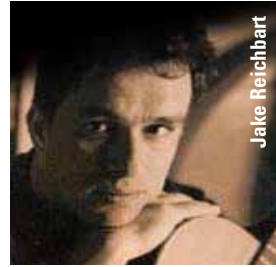
Tue 7:00 various pianists / guitarists

Wed 7:00 Jake Reichbart

Thu 7:00 various pianists / guitarists

Fri 8:00 Rick Burgess Trio

Sat 8:00 Rick Burgess Trio



Jake Reichbart

Eddie V's

2100 Big Beaver Rd.

TROY 248-649-7319

ONGOING

Sun 6:00 RJ Spangler Trio, plus Thbone Paxton

Elks Pratt Lodge

220 West Sunset Rd.

ANN ARBOR 734-761-7172

ONGOING

Thu 6:00 Dan Bennett Ensemble

Fri 6:00 Tim Haldeman Trio

Farmington Community Library

3273 Twelve Mile Rd.

FARMINGTON

NOVEMBER

4 3:00 Airey B — with RJ Spangler Trio

Fusion Liquefaction Lounge

38 St Clair St.

TOLEDO, OH 419-243-8224

ONGOING

Wed 7:00 Nicole Heitger, Ray Heitger, Bob Miller

Gandy Dancer

www.muer.com/gandydancer.html

401 Depot St.
ANN ARBOR 734-769-0592

ONGOING

Sun 10 am Ingrid Racine Quartet

Goodnight Gracie

www.damatos.com

222 North Sherman Dr.
ROYAL OAK 248-584-7400

ONGOING

Tue 8:00 Jimmy Smith Trio

Haab's Restaurant

www.haabsrestaurant.com

18 West Michigan Ave.
YPSILANTI 734-483-8200

ONGOING

Tue 7:30 [4th] Depot Town Big Band

Hill Auditorium

University of Michigan Central Campus
ANN ARBOR 734-764-8350

NOVEMBER

28 8:00 Lincoln Center Orchestra — with Wynton Marsalis



Wynton Marsalis

Howlers & Growlers

15222 Charlevoix

GROSSE POINTE PARK 313-469-6031

NOVEMBER

8 7:00 RJ Spangler and Thbone

Jean's Lounge

12002 Joseph Campau

HAMTRAMCK 313-892-9689

ONGOING

Sun 1:00 [2nd] Attic Dweller's Jam Session

Jenuwine Cigar Factory

44791 Schoenherr Rd.

STERLING HEIGHTS 586-997-1731

ONGOING

Tue 7:00 Michele Ramo Quartet — with Danny Patrona, plus guests

Thu 7:00 Michele Ramo

Fri 8:00 Michele Ramo Trio — with Danny Patrona, plus guests

Sat 7:00 Michele Ramo Duo, plus guests

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November



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Kerrytown Concert House

www.kerrytownconcerthouse.com
415 North Fourth Ave.
ANN ARBOR 734-769-2999

NOVEMBER

- 16 8:00 Rob Crozier Jazz Ensemble — with Rafael Statin, Kelly McDermott, Keaton Royer, Rob Avsharian, Aron Kaufman
- 17 8:00 Klezmephonix — with Janelle Reichman, Henrik Karapetyan, Will Cicola, Dave Sharp
- 18 2:00 All About the Trio — with Ellen Rowe, Paul Keller, Pete Siers
- 30 8:00 The Midwest Swingers — with Petra van Nuis, Andy Brown, Jim



Ellen Rowe

Dapogny, Paul Keller, Pete Siers

LaMusique

www.hotelstregisdetroit.com/dining.html
St Regis Hotel, 3071 West Grand Blvd.
DETROIT 313-873-3000

ONGOING

- Fri 8:15 Jam — with Karen Fox & Jerome Clark Trio

The Last Word

thelastwordbar.com
301 West Huron St.
ANN ARBOR 734-585-5691

ONGOING

- Thu 9:30 The Pherotones — with Ross Huff, Giancarlo Aversa, Brennan Andes, Wes Fritzmeier

Leonardo's

U-M North Campus
ANN ARBOR 734-647-6838

ONGOING

- Thu 8:30 Jazz Jam Session

Marge's Bar & Grill

www.margesbar.com
15300 Mack Ave.
GROSSE POINTE PK. 313-881-8895

ONGOING

- Thu 7:00 [2nd, 4th] Marge's Bar Band — Terry Kimura, Davy Lazar, John Hammer, Bill Bolle, Bob Pinterich, plus guests

Metropolitan United Methodist Church

www.metroumc.org/rush
8000 Woodward Ave.
DETROIT 313-875-7407

ONGOING

- Tue 5:00 5 O'clock Rush Concert Series

Motor City Wine Bar

608 Woodward Ave., 2nd Floor
DETROIT 313-483-7283

ONGOING

- Wed 9:00 Ian Finkelstein and friends
- Thu 9:30 Jesse Kramer Trio
- Fri 9:00 [1st] Damon Warmack Trio
[2nd] B Williams Experiment
[3rd] Hughes-Smith Quintet

Nagomi Sushi and Noodle

www.nagomiannarbor.com/northcampus
1754 Plymouth Rd.,
ANN ARBOR 734-635-6028

ONGOING

- Thu 8:00 [2nd, 4th] Doug Horn

Nikola's

www.nikolasbbq.com
25225 Telegraph Rd.
SOUTHFIELD 248-355-4695

ONGOING

- Thu 7:00 [2nd] Don Swindell Quartet
- Thu 7:00 [others] Jerry McKenzie Trio, plus guest



Jerry McKenzie

1917 American Bistro

www.1917americanbistro.com
19416 Livernois
DETROIT 313-728-2001

ONGOING

- Fri 8:00 [except 4th] Brad Shearer Duo — with Sean Harris

Northern Lights Lounge

northernlightslounge.com
660 West Baltimore St.
DETROIT

ONGOING

- Tue 8:00 Dennis Coffey and various vocalists
[1st] Pat Smillie [2nd] Theo Spight
[3rd] Lady Champagne
- Thu 8:00 Dennis Coffey — with Phil Whitfield, Djallo Djakate



Dennis Coffey

Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge #325

www.plyaa325.com
41700 Ann Arbor Rd.
PLYMOUTH 734-453-1780

NOVEMBER

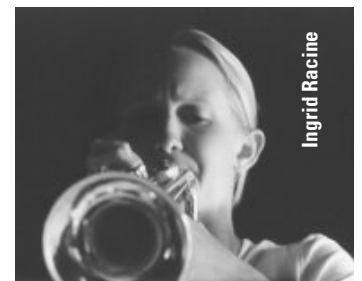
- 13 7:00 Dale Robertson Band
- 27 7:00 Ron Kischuk Quartet — with Gary Schunk, Jeff Halsey, Dave Taylor

Ravens Club

www.theravensclub.com
207 South Main St.
ANN ARBOR 734-214-0400

NOVEMBER

- 4 8:00 House Band (Ingrid Racine, Mike Malis, Josef Deas, Jesse Kramer) — with Tim Haldeman & Justin Walter
- 11 8:00 House Band — with Heather Black
- 18 8:00 House Band — with Vincent York
- 25 8:00 House Band — with Madelyn Grant
- ONGOING
Mon 9:00 Roe / Bickley / Kramer Trio



Ingrid Racine

Salem - South Lyon District Library

9800 Pontiac Tr
SOUTH LYON 248-437-6431

NOVEMBER

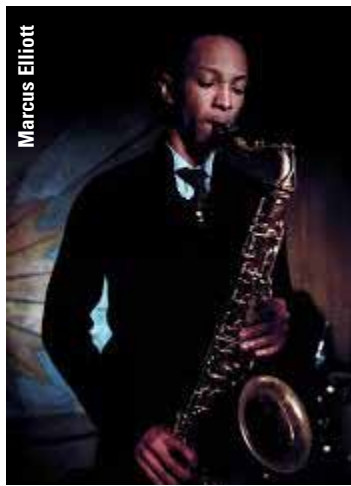
- 11 2:00 RJ Spangler Quartet featuring Larry Smith

Scarab Club Detroit

217 Farnsworth
DETROIT 313-831-1250

NOVEMBER

- 3 2:00 Detroit Blues Piano — with Jimmie Bones, Chris Codish



Marcus Elliott

Schoolcraft College

www.schoolcraft.edu/music
VisTaTech Center, 18600 Haggerty Rd.
LIVONIA 734-462-4403

NOVEMBER
7 Noon Marcus Elliott Trio

The Sodbuster

www.sodbusterbar.com
Haymarket Square, 5758 North Main St.
SYLVANIA OH 419-517-1045

ONGOING
Wed 8:00 Ragtime Rick and the
Chefs of Dixieland



Ragtime Rick

Soggy Bottom Bar

613 Martin Luther King Ave.
FLINT 810-239-8058

ONGOING
Tue 7:00 Pat Cronley, John Hill, others

Sports Channel Bar

www.sportschannelscs.com
25419 Jefferson
ST CLAIR SHORES 586-296-0950

ONGOING
Thu 7:30 [1st] Gabby and Ron Rosolino,
Tom Ploeger, Dennis DeCello,
Jerry Neeley

Stone House Bar

thestonehousebar.tripod.com
19803 Ralston near State Fair
DETROIT 313-891-3333

ONGOING
Sat 10:00 Blues bands

Tavern and Tap

www.tavernandtap.com
101 South Washington Sq
LANSING 517-374-5555

ONGOING
Wed 7:30 Jam with Tavern House Jazz Band
— with John Patrick Peters, Duncan
Tarr, Nathan Grant, plus guests

Trinosophes

1464 Gratiot (at Russell)
DETROIT

NOVEMBER
25 8:00 The Bridge (France / Chicago)

TV's Grand Event

www.tvsgrandevent.com
2651 2651 W. Jefferson
TRENTON 734-671-5676

ONGOING
Wed 6:30 [1st] Ron Kischuk Tartarsauce
Traditional Jazz Band



Ron Kischuk

UDetroit Café

Dan Good Pizza, 1427 Randolph
DETROIT 313-962-0660

ONGOING
Thu 8:00 [last] Jump and Swing with the
MillionAires — with Steve Wood
Fri 7:00 Ralphe Armstrong Show

Union Street

unionstreetdetroit.com
4145 Woodward Ave.
DETROIT 313-831-3965

ONGOING
Tue 6:30 Dawn Giblin Trio — with James
Dapogny, Mike Karoub and guests

Valentine Theatre

410 Adams
TOLEDO 419-242-3490

NOVEMBER
3 8:00 Toledo Jazz Orchestra — with Gary
Urwin (conductor) & Pete Christlieb

Village Theater at Cherry Hill

50400 Cherry Hill Rd.
CANTON 734-394-5460

NOVEMBER
10 6:00 Queens of Soul Jazz: Althea Rene
and Jeanette Harris

Weber's Habitat Lounge

www.webersinn.com
3050 Jackson Rd.
ANN ARBOR 734-665-3636

ONGOING
Sun 8:30 Jazz Collective — with Tony Viviano,
Arlene Pritchard McDaniel,
Rob Avsharian, Rob Crozier



Tony Viviano

Whisky Parlor

www.whiskyparlor.com
608 Woodward Ave., Second Floor
DETROIT 313-961-3043

ONGOING
Thu 6:00 Various jazz
Sat 8:00 Various jazz and blues

The Whitney

www.thewhitney.com
4421 Woodward Ave.
DETROIT 313-832-5700

ONGOING
Thu 4:00 Louis Johnson — with Will Austin

Zal Gaz Grotto Club

www.zalgaz.org
2070 West Stadium Blvd.
ANN ARBOR 734-663-1202

ONGOING
Sun 5:00 Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings (PORK)
Mon 7:30 Paul Keller Orchestra
Tue 6:00 Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band



Easy Street Jazz Band



Upcoming Jazz Events

- DECEMBER
- 1 Alex Harding Organ Nation • Cliff Bells, Detroit
 - 1 Marcus Elliott Trio, Bill Harris, Chris Tysh • Trinosophes, Detroit
 - 1 Larry Fuller Trio • Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor
 - 7 Joe Locke Organ Trio — with Pat Bianchi, Marvin "Smitty" Smith • Detroit Groove Society
 - 7 Cyrus Chestnut Trio does Charlie Brown • Max Fisher Music Center, Detroit
 - 8 Charles Lloyd & the Marvels — with Lucinda Williams • Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor
 - 13 Doug Hammond • Trinosophes, Detroit
 - 15 Doug Hammond — with Rod Williams, Marcus Elliot • Trinosophes, Detroit
 - 16 Jazzistry: Jive for 2 • The Ark, Ann Arbor
 - 31 New Year's Eve — with Pete Siers • Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor



Membership

New

Daryl Byrd

Renewals

Christina Dragone
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The Southeastern Michigan Jazz Association

(SEMJA) was formed in 1987 for the purpose of promoting understanding and appreciation of jazz as an art form. The organization is comprised of professional musicians, jazz scholars, jazz writers, club owners, broadcasters and listeners. The organization operates through a Board and with a volunteer staff.

Inquiries

All mail should be sent to SEMJA, 712 East Ann St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1502
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Publication

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SEMJA Board Meeting

The SEMJA Board usually meets monthly on the third Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Due to the holidays our November meeting will be a week later on the 27th at 2926 Shady Lane off Packard adjacent to Stone School Rd. on the near South Side of Ann Arbor. All members are invited to participate.

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Phil Lasley, 1940–2018

BY JIM GALLERT AND LARS BJORN

Philbert “Phil” Lasley III was born in Detroit on March 27, 1940, and was known mainly as an alto saxophonist. He came from a musical family and wanted to be a musician since five years of age. He told Jim Gallert that “at first I wanted to be a piano player because my mother played. She could really play the blues and worked after hour joints around Detroit.” His family moved a lot so Lasley attended schools on both the East and West sides of the city. At Grisel Junior High he met future Detroit jazz stars pianist Kenny Cox and drummers Ike Daney and George Davidson. They would often hang out at Joe Brazil’s house and learn from more established players. Tenorist Donald Walden, two years his senior, taught him chord changes by studying Charlie Parker.

His first job was at 15 at the Pingree Mother’s Club. Shortly after High School he worked full time with the Ralph Kirk Quartet at the Spot Bar, the Garfield Lounge, and the Stinson Hotel. One night at the Stinson pianist Billy Taylor and his trio came in after their gig. They encouraged Lasley to try New York and within a week he and a drummer friend were on a Greyhound bus to the Big Apple. He heard “edge stuff” from pianist Cecil Taylor and drummer Sonny Murray, and became friendly with John Coltrane.

Most of Lasley’s work was with back-up bands for popular acts and from 1962 to 1967 he was a member of vocalist Chuck Jackson’s band. The

Motown studios lured him back to Detroit for about a year, but the deal was not as sweet as he had thought. Aretha Franklin’s band brought him back to New York where he found that the days of show bands was over. He did find work with Sam Rivers, Tommy Turrentine, Walter Bishop and Latin bands. Lasley also tried teaching jazz at the Greenwich House of Music and managed Omar’s a jazz club in the Village with his wife Trudy.

In 1981 he returned to his hometown where he played jazz at night and did manual work during the day. He worked for a year with Teddy Harris’ group at Bomac’s Lounge downtown and had the pleasure of playing in a tight group with bassist Rod Hicks, and drummer Lawrence Williams. The group also played some of Lasley’s compositions like “NKenge’s Blues” and “Lady T Diana.” Lasley eventually formed his own quintet, Fire!, which worked regularly at the Montreux-Detroit Jazz Festival for a few years.

Lasley went through some tough times in his last years. He met and married Carmen Arguelles, a gifted painter, sculptor, and photographer. During the several years they were together, she helped Lasley manage his career, often at the expense of her own, which finally separated them. Lasley ended up in a neat one bedroom apartment in a Senior Center near Wayne State University, but began having serious health issues. He ended up at a nursing home in Novi with a broken body and his fabled wit intact. We recently found out from an unofficial source that he passed away in August, 2018.

John Dana, 1941–2018

BY JIM GALLERT

John Conrad Dana was a distinctive personality among Detroit bassists. John had a rich, deep sound, and his smile would light up the bandstand. Most people referred to John as a “lovely man,” who seldom, if ever, expressed a negative thought about a musician. Or, about anyone. Born in Saginaw, Dana tested himself on trumpet, piano, and football during high school. His elder brother Hamid stimulated John’s interest in jazz, especially the string bass. Dana made friends with the instrument during his years at Central Michigan University. After graduating, he lived in Detroit from 1964 to 1971 and found the music scene much to his liking, offering a palate of traditional to avant-garde bands that welcomed Dana’s rich sounds. He decamped to Manhattan late in 1971 where he quickly established his reputation as a fine bassist who took musical chances. Musicians like Kenny

Dorham, Art Blakey, Rashid Ali and Roland Kirk used Dana.

He returned to Detroit in 1982 and brought with him a wealth of experience and a dependence on alcohol. Dana crawled out of that pit of despair and torment and remained drug- and drink-free for thirty-six years. He was deeply immersed in the Rosedale Park Baptist Church for many years. He was sincere, gifted, respectful, and older pianists loved him. Dana worked for years at Sweet Lorraine’s with Johnnie Allen and Alma Smith. He worked in avant-garde bands like The Lincoln Street Music Company and was active in the Detroit Artists Workshop.

John Dana was happy to share his love of life and music with his many friends and admirers. Detroit was a better place for John’s presence.



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