

Professional Musicians of the Inland Northwest, Local 105 – E-News February 29, 2008

Alert! Please help us get the word out!

Pamela Benton's truck was stolen last week containing some of her musical instruments and equipment. The police found the truck 8 miles north of her home, but of course, the gear was gone.

She has listed some of the gear at the following link:

<http://spokane.craigslist.org/msg/590506192.html>

If you have any information please contact the Local: 509.328.5253 or local105@afm.org

Referral Information

Listen folks, we're getting more "hits" on our website www.nwmusicians.org, requesting information about groups. If your group does not yet have a "GoPro" page, please get your information in to the office as soon as possible.

Please submit:

- 1) a digital picture
- 2) information about the services you or your group can provide
- 3) a description of the type of music you can provide
- 4) a website address if you have one
- 5) you might specify the types of engagements you would like to work

We can list you multiple times if you are a soloist or work with different union groups.

The more variety we can offer the more interest our site will develop!

If you need help developing promotional materials, please contact the Local and we will help you!

Costco Membership information

April is our Costco renewal month. Costco membership through Local 105 is \$40 for you and one other family member or significant other. To renew your Costco membership or to sign up for a new membership please send a check for \$40 payable to Local 105 along with a note confirming the names you would like on the account.

Hi Folks,

Just a heads up that we have a great jazz quartet coming to the music dept on Thurs Mar 6th for a concert and clinic. I have heard all of these folks in various combinations and I must say they are all quite exceptional. Hope you can plan to bring your students to the event in the Music Build Aud from 11:30 – 1:30 on Thursday March 6th.

Thanks!!

Gary Edighoffer

Bridge Quartet

-New band of veteran Northwest musicians release first of two CD's-

Tight ferry schedules, Homeland Security, and a customs agent named Rodriguez, sound like plot twists from a spy thriller, not the improbable events that led to the recording of not one, but two jazz albums by the exciting new band of veteran northwest musicians that call themselves the BRIDGE QUARTET.

Comprised of Juno award-winning Canadian saxophonist Phil Dwyer (Don Thompson, Kenny Wheeler), pianist Darrell Grant (Betty Carter, Roy Haynes) bassist Tom Wakeling (Lynne Arriale, Nancy King) and drummer/composer Alan Jones (Lee Konitz, Leroy Vinnegar), the Bridge Quartet celebrate the release of the first of their two new CDs, entitled "DAY", with a performance at Jimmy Mak's Jazz Club on Saturday March 8th. The performance starts at 8pm. There is a \$15 cover charge.

The collaboration that became the Bridge Quartet was the brainchild of Jones, and actually came into existence while he was living in Europe. He describes it this way: "On a trip back home to Portland I called my old friend Phil to see if he wanted to come down from Canada to play. Darrell hooked up a couple of gigs, Tom said 'let's go', and we played some music that made us all say 'We should definitely record this' ".

On Jones' next visit, he and Wakeling booked some studio time while Grant arranged some performances for the group. The plan was to use the gigs as a "warm-up" for the recording...play the weekend at the club and then record the following week in the studio. But as schedules and plans go, it turned out that the four would have to record in the studio during the day and play the gigs each night after each full day of recording.

Then things really got interesting. Ferry schedules necessitated that Dwyer arrive in Portland just in time to begin recording at 11am, which would have occurred had he not been turned away by Homeland Security at the friendly Canada/USA border (it seems customs agent Rodriguez didn't have quite enough appreciation for Phil's talents or the Bridge Quartet recording), causing him to miss the first day of recording and the first night's gig.

So - one day of recording...gone, one night at the club...trio instead of quartet Alan says "ok, it was slamming but not exactly what was planned." After hours of letters, lawyers, phone calls and emails, Phil rolled into Portland at 1am just after the first gig was over.

"Day" is a record of the music played when that 1am finally turned into the next day in the Russ Berger-designed Clacktrax studio. The record of the music finally played that same evening after racing from the studio to the club just in time for the downbeat will be issued on an upcoming recording entitled "Night".

Recorded in the same 32-hour period, sharing some of the same repertoire, the two recordings bridge two sides of the jazz experience-studio and live performance. The music, on "Day", a blend of originals, standards, contemporary repertoire and classics is itself a bridge that the four musicians in the Bridge Quartet travel as only seasoned jazz artists can. As drummer Jones states, "Bridge says something about joining two opposite sides, spanning chasms and making once improbable crossings possible...difficult crossings easy."

Calendar Information

Bridge Quartet (Phil Dwyer, Darrell Grant, Tom Wakeling, Alan Jones) CD Release for "DAY" on Origin Records

They are also playing at:

Thursday, Friday March 6 and 7, 2008 9:00 pm

Ella's Supper Club at Center Stage
1017 W 1st Ave
Spokane, WA 99201

There is a \$5 cover charge.
For reservations call: (509) 747-8243

In keeping with the JAZZ theme we just received the following letter from AFM President Tom Lee.

Dear Local Officer:

On December 4, 1987, Congress passed Public Law 108-72 to commend the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History for establishing April as Jazz Appreciation Month (JAM) honoring "jazz as a national and world treasure" to be celebrated by leaders, institutions, educators and communities globally. Completely genuine, born in America, appreciated worldwide, jazz is a beloved American art form that has contributed widely to cultural unity and understanding globally.

In previous years, the AFM and its locals and the International Association of Jazz Educators have advocated with other JAM Partner organizations to convince 15 governors and scores of mayors to issue proclamations declaring April to be Jazz Appreciation Month in their jurisdictions.

Our goal this year is to have Jazz Appreciation Month Proclamations from every state or territory. Leaders responding to this grassroots initiative will be highlighted on the Smithsonian's Jazz Appreciation Month website for jazz lovers everywhere to see.

Join the AFM and the Smithsonian Institution in making JAM 2008 an official celebration recognized throughout the United States. Thank you for your efforts in creating a great JAM 2008!

Sincerely,

Thomas F. Lee
President
AFM

The letter came with some suggestions for celebrating JAM. Please contact Local 105 if you have some extra time and would like to help make some of JAM projects happen in the Inland Northwest!

Yours truly was honored to be invited to make a presentation about the American Federation of Musicians and Local 105 to member Brent Edstrom's Business of Music Class at Whitworth last Friday! I received a very nice "thank you" note from the class. (They liked me...they really liked me...)

Anyway....

We are always interested in participating in career days, classroom presentations, anything that can help get the word out to musicians that we are here to help musicians! Don't hesitate to ask!

Best wishes,

Tina Morrison, President
Professional Musicians of the Inland Northwest
Local 105 of the American Federation of Musicians

Letter read at the Spokane Regional Labor Council Meeting held February 26, 2008 in response to concerns expressed by Local 105 musicians.

Spokane Regional Labor Council

February 25, 2008

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Recently we were visited by Democratic Presidential Campaigns. One of the campaigns held their pre-caucus rally at the Martin Woldson Theatre at the Fox, otherwise known simply as the Fox Theatre. A comment by a Union member was printed in the Spokesman Review in which he stated that the Fox Theatre was “built by the rich to serve the rich”. The comment, though seeming innocuous, was hurtful to musicians who consider the Fox Theater to be their workplace and, as the new “home” of the Spokane Symphony, has led to an increase in wages and better working conditions for local union musicians.

We would like our rank and file brothers and sisters in Labor to understand that we are also working families that appreciate the benefits of Union membership. Many workplaces have dress codes; it just happens to be that concert blacks including tuxedos and gowns are required for most symphony musicians. Many union members must provide their own tools to work in their trade, our tools are musical instruments. Many union members start apprenticing while still in high school or shortly thereafter; musicians can start their apprenticeships as early as four or five years old, most while in elementary school in order to work in our trade. While we have been relatively successful in our last several collective bargaining agreements most Spokane Symphony musicians balance a number of additional jobs in order to support their families.

We appreciated your support when the Labor Community donated funds to assist with the purchase and renovations of the Fox Theater. The music that union musicians make at the Fox Theater is intended to serve our whole community, not only the rich. We understand music is subjective and not everyone enjoys music performed by a symphony orchestra, however, we welcome all of our union brothers and sisters to attend a Spokane Symphony concert at the Fox Theater – just another workplace for union labor.

Sincerely,

Tina Morrison
President
Professional Musicians, Local 105

Masterclass with Symphony guest artist in March: Piano

All events take place at Holy Names Music Center
(3910 W. Custer Dr., Spokane 99224 -- Next to SFCC Stadium, take Randolph Dr. off Ft. Geo. Wright Dr.)

Piano – Alexandre Moutouzkine, Fri. 3/14, 4:00-6:00pm

Auditions for Masterclass participants: Sat. 3/8, 1:00-3:00pm

Symphony Concert: Scriabin Piano Concerto, Mar. 15 at 8pm and Mar. 16 at 3pm

Attached: Audition application.

- \$10 fee is to cover the cost of adjudicators for the audition, in order to provide written feedback to all auditionees.
- Teacher recommendation is to confirm student's auditioning has been approved by teacher.

Masterclass admission: \$5

Student Rush Tickets to Symphony Concerts are \$5 from 6:00-6:30pm for evening concerts and 1:00-1:30pm for matinee concerts; \$9 other times.

Thank you for passing this notice to students and colleagues!

Randy Fisher
Education Director
Spokane Symphony
randyfisher@spokanesymphony.org
509.326.3136 x47
818 W. Riverside Av. Ste 100
PO Box 365
Spokane, WA 99201
Fx 509.326.3921

To participate in the Local 105 E-newsletter, send your information to local105@afm.org before 5:00 on Thursdays and we will compile it and send it out on Fridays. If it's breaking news and you can't get it here until 4:00 p.m. on Friday we will try to get it in that day!

The information should be music related and can contain news about where and when you are performing, master classes and seminars being offered, instruments for sale, job openings, at liberty....You get the drift. We will also include information from the Local that may include union or arts community news.

We welcome your feedback regarding the content of these newsletters. Please send comments to: localpresident@earthlink.net

Be clear as to whether you would like your comments to be shared in the next newsletter.