Carl Matthews

SOUNDS

PHIL MATTSON AND THE P.M. SINGERS
"Jubilee" (Doctor Jazz)

"The art of jazz-oriented group singing has had a somewhat sporadic life," notes jazz expert Leonard Feather on the back cover of this new album. For those of you who are into such groups as Manhattan Transfer (they've done versions of "Birdland," "Body And Soul" and "Blee Blop Blues"), you might be interested in this young group, The P.M. Singers.

Phil Mattson, a music teacher who has his own school in Spokane, WA, produced this album of past, present and future jazz vocal classics performed by his former students.

The three ladies and three gentlemen in the P.M. Singers obviously have learned their lessons well. They sound a lot like Manhattan Transfer on the album's opener, "Johnny One Note." The orchestra cooks on this one, a Rodgers and Hart song from around 1937, and Richie Cole's sax solo is not bad.

The mellow arrangement of "C'est Si Bon," with a few worthwhile trumpet notes by Bill Armstrong, is also ear-pleasing. On the title cut, the gang performs acappella, and here group member Joe Finetti pays tribute to one of his personal favorite singers as he scats along in true Bobby McFerrin style.

I don't own too many albums by jazz vocal groups, so I'm glad this one came my way.

Just as a side note, you may recall that Manhattan Transfer released an album titled "Vocalese." According to Leonard Feather, "vocalese" and "vocalise" mean two different things. "Vocalise" refers to wordless singing. "Vocalese" is the setting of words to what was originally an instrumental solo.

VARIOUS ARTISTS
"Let's Dance! The D.J.'s Collection Of Dance Club Classics"

This compilation of dance chart toppers from the past will be of some interest to dance music collectors, since it contains rare tracks that have been out of print for years.

On these four sides are twelve tracks from the late 70s to the early 80s. All tracks are full-length; most are the same mixes that appeared on 12-inch discs.

Eddy Grant's "Walking On Sunshine" has been covered by such artists as Rocker's Revenge and Summers Heat. This album contains the version done by the man who wrote it.

The disco version of "Streetplayer" by Chicago is another interesting inclusion in this compilation, especially since Chicago is known mostly for jazz-rock tunes like "25 Or 6 To 4" or pop fluff like "If You Leave Me Now," not disco music.

It's also nice to have the remixes of Cheryl Lynn's "Got To Be Real" and Jackie Moore's "This Time Baby" on one album.

This album proves that not everything released during the "disco era" was garbage. If you looked, there was good stuff available.

VARIOUS ARTISTS
"Jazz Sampler - Volume One" (Columbia)

Coming to a record store near you: Columbia's new Jazz Masterpiece series of recordings by well-known artists.

For these new pressings of classic jazz albums, state-of-the-art equipment was used to digitally remaster the albums from the original analog tapes.

The sampler includes the well-known "So What" by Miles Davis from "Kind Of Blue." Also, there's "Lullaby Of The Leaves" by the Benny Goodman Sextet from the album "Sextet," which is a new compilation from the group's 1950-1952 sessions. Fans of Terry Gibbs and Teddy Wilson should be pleased. The classic Brubeck number "Take Five" from "Time Out" is also on the sampler.

The Jazz Masterpiece series will be available on CD too.

V-103's Top Twenty

1. Candy	Cameo
2. Have You Ever Loved Someone	Freddie Jackson
3. Jimmy Lee	Aretha Franklin
4. Big Fun	Gap Band
5. Come Share My Love	Mikki Howard
6. Falling	Melba Moore
7. As We Lay	Shirley Murdock
8. C'est La Vie	Robbie Nevil
9. Ballerina Girl	Lionel Richie
10. Stop To Love	Luther Vandross
11. If I Say Yes	Five Star
12. Hold On	R.J.'s Latest Arrival
13. Stay	Howard Hewett
14. Control	Janet Jackson
15. Two People	Tina Turner
16. Living All Alone	Phyllis Hyman
17. Thinking About You	Timex Social Club
18. Misunderstanding	D-Train
19. Let's Wait Awhile	Janet Jackson
20. Easy Love	Rose Brothers

— On the cover

(Continued from Page 2)

wards' initial tenure with the "Tall, talented, Temps," he appeared on more than 30 albums and his macho voice was heard on an impressive list of hits including "Cloud Nine," "Can't Get Next To You," "Psychedelic Shack," "Ball Of Confusion," "Papa Was A Rolling Stone," "Shaky Ground," and "Superstar," to name a few.

When Edwards decided to leave the Temptations and embark on his solo career in 1984 he stated, "this album ("Don't Look Any Further") and the nationwide tour I'm going on to promote it, represent two big moves for me, something I've looked forward to for a long time. After you've been part of a legend like the Temptations, the only thing left is doing it on your own ... I'll miss those guys. The Temptations took this boy out of the Detroit ghetto and gave him a chance for international recognition. That's why I'm here right now. I'll never forget that."

Following his departure from the Temptations, Dennis moved to Los Angeles, California, where he has continued to pursue his career as a solo artist.

Responding to questions about his being offered an opportunity to rejoin the Temptations, Edwards became very close mouthed when I interviewed him this past Wednesday. "I'm undecided at the moment, I'm considering this offer very carefully. But I'm not ready at this point in time to say what I'm going to do..."

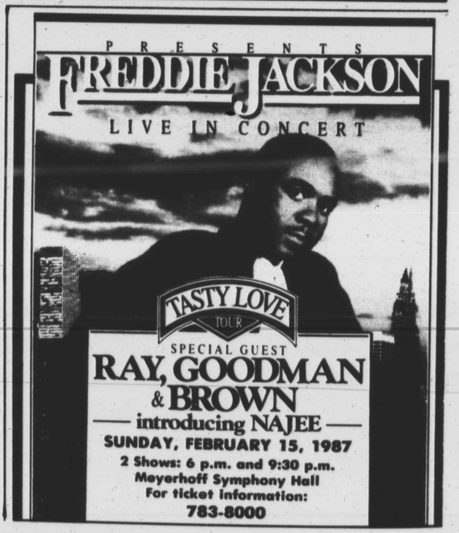
Dennis also says that his future recording and performing plans are "up in the air and will remain that way until I reach a decision about going back with the Temptations."

Presently, Dennis Edwards is involved in filming a movie entitled "Tapeheads" that also features Junior Walker, the saxophonist who recorded "Shotgun," and Sam Moore, of the vocal duo Sam and Dave which hit it big with "Hold On, I'm Coming" and "Soul Man," a tune that was the title song of a controversial movie that played recently.

Discussing his role in "Tapeheads," Dennis says "I play one of the leading characters, a singer who becomes friends and tries to help a young man who wants to make it in the music business."

While Dennis Edwards is uncertain about his future in the music business, he is sure that he will be in Baltimore this Saturday night to dazzle the ladies and gentlemen at the Palladium. "I'll be there" he says, and we're going to have a ball."

To make reservations to attend the Palladium's Valentine's Day celebration, call 367-6862.



Bob Matthews

...AND ALL THAT JAZZ

'Tis kind of a bleak week on the national jazz scene, and here in Baltimore the vdunted arrival of **Ahmad Jamal** is not to be. He was scheduled to appear at Ethel's Place this weekend.

Last Friday, however, the club got a call cancelling the appearance. Seems Ahmad just disappeared for a while. According to reports, he didn't show up for a gig in New York, although his band members were there.

Guess musicians just drop out occasionally, can remember a recent occurrence of the same nature when **Woody Shaw** could not be found, although he was scheduled to appear at Takoma Station, along with **Gary Bartz.**

Gary kept the date—but no Woody. At any rate, at Ethel's Place this weekend, will be **Ethel Ennis,** along with **O'Donel Levy,** guitar, **Gary Grainger,** bass and **Charlie Covington,** piano.

Next week, **Freddie Hubbard** and his group will be appearing at the club, beginning Thursday, Feb. 19, through Sunday night.

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Sadly we must relate that **John Malachi,** pianist who has played and made his home in Washington, D.C., died the other day of a massive heart attack.

A self-taught musician, he was accompanist to a lot of the top vocalists, including **Dinah Washington, Sarah Vaughan, Al Hibbler, Gloria Lynne** and others.

Malachi was scheduled to appear Sunday at the Ellington School for the Arts in D.C., so a tribute to John Malachi will take place instead, with many of the local musicians taking part.

* * *

It isn't often that two artists with albums in the Top 20 Jazz Albums category of Billboard Magazine, will be in town.

The No. 1 album is "Nice Place to Be," by reed man **George Howard,** who will be teamed up with the author of the No. 9 album, "Obsession," **Bob James.**

They'll be in place at the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall Tuesday, Feb. 24 at 8 p.m.—should be a gas.

* * *

The Left Bank Jazz Society swings back into action on Sunday, Feb. 22 with their first concert of the year to be held at Coppin State College in the Tawes Center ballroom.

Featured artist will be **Sun Ra** and his 21st Century Jazz Arkestra and of course, the singers and dancers will be in the troupe.

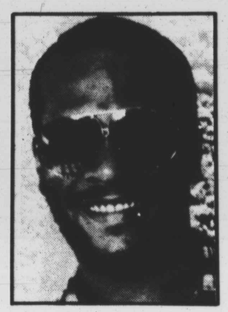
Best news of all, especially for regular LBJS goers, is the news at the BYOB police is in effect, beginning with the concert at Coppin. They are saying to bring your picnic basket, so guess this means that there won't be any food available.

But, no matter, having Left Bank Jazz Society back into action again is a welcome addition to the Baltimore jazz scene.

* * *

On that same date, the Central Pennsylvania Friends of Jazz is presenting **Paquito D'Rivera** and **Claudio Roditi,** names with which you may not be overly familiar.

Paquito is a tenor sax man, and Roditi, a trumpeter. One is Cuban, the other Brazilian, so you know that South American jazz will be the name of the game.



George Howard

It will all happen Dec. 22, 5-9 p.m. at the Penn Harris Convention Center, Camp Hill, PA.

* * *

It's **Gary Bartz** and the group this weekend at the Jazz Closet, and it just might be the last one for a while, Gary is scheduled to take the group on tour, and will be gone for a couple of months.

His regular group will be going along on the tour, **Bob Butta,** piano; **Geoff Harper,** bass, and **Steve Williams,** drums. Was chatting with **Henry Baker,** who says the free Sunday admission for the ladies is being revised.

Now, it's what's being called 2 for 1 night. It's kinda complicated, but the bottom line, two women get in for the price of one, and men still play the full price.

Might mention that **Jenella Fisher,** along with the group **Paradise** are still at the club on Wednesday nights—and improving every week, it seems.

* * *

Remember the Soul Shack, which used to be in Lexington Market West? Well, a new club has opened in that spot, called Tubbs, and they are featuring music on Friday and Saturday nights.

Currently, **Sir Thomas Hurley** is holding down the bandstand, and we'll have to check out the rest of the lineup.

* * *

Don't know about you, but we were tickled over the nomination of **Dexter Gordon** for an Academy Award as best actor for his role in the film "Round Midnight."

Would really be surprised if he got the Oscar, but just having a jazz musicians get this kind of recognition is totally satisfying.

Incidently, the movie "Round Midnight," is back in town for just one week. It's playing at the Towson Art Cinema out on York Road, and if you haven't seen it, just must—if you're a jazz lover, that is.

Bob James

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Over in D.C., **Jerry (Iceman) Butler** is at Blues Alley through Sunday night, and he is followed on Monday night, Feb. 16, by a one night performance of **Curtis Mayfield.**

At the One Step Down, the **Red Rodney quintet** is in place tonight and Sunday. And, of course, the duo of **Reuben Brown,** piano, and **Steve Novosel,** bass still hold down the fort on Monday nights.

Eight artists display work at Md. Institute

Works by eight nationally recognized artists who exemplify a non-traditional, interdisciplinary approach to two- and three-dimensional pieces using fiber as the dominant medium will be featured in a major Maryland Institute, College of Art exhibition, "Tangents: Art in Fiber."

The exhibit will be on view through March 1, 1987, in the Institute's Decker Gallery, Mount Royal Station and the Meyerhoff Gallery, Fox Building.

The curator for the exhibition is Jann Rosen - Queralt, chairperson of the Maryland Institute Crafts Department, Ms. Rosen - Queralt is assisted by Mary Jane Jacob, Chief Curator of The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.

The artists are Bella Tabak Feldman, John G. Garrett, Ann Hamilton, Thomas Lanigan - Schmidt, Bonnie Lucas, Winifred Lutz, Joyce J. Scott, and Anne Wilson. Works include installations and one-of-a-kind two- and three-dimensional objects and involve a wide range of mediums beads, found objects, yarn, aluminum, paper, plastic wire mesh, steel, linen, fur, wood, and rope.

Gallery hours for "Tangents: Art in Fiber" are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Sunday, 12 noon to 5 p.m. The Fox Building is across the street from the Institute's Main Building between Lafayette and Lanvale Streets. The Mount Royal Station is on Mount Royal Avenue at Cathedral Street.

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