ALL THAT AZZ

By Bob Matthews

We're back! And must say, it was a totally delightful experience checking out the jazz scene outside the U.S.

All of which is a sneaky way to say that we spent our vacation in Europe where jazz occupies a strange role, depending on where you are.

In Paris, for example, there are a couple of clubs which feature live jazz artists on a regular basis. Dropped into one of them named Le Petit Journal, where Claude Bolling was the featured artist at the time.

Must say that Paris is indeed as expensive as they say, for the admission fee at this little hole-inthe-wall club was almost \$20.

Not only that, some of the seats are completely divorced from the podium, so a closedcircuit tv setup is employed, and you can watch the action on the screen while hearing the sound

The other club was featuring Junior Mance during our visit, but it was in the downtown area, so we didn't make it.

Stayed at the Hotel Recamier on the Left Bank in the St. Germain area, and while walking around the area, spied a club called "Birdland."

Naturally, had to go in to check it out, and the first thing we spied was a huge blowup picture of Didn't find too much live jazz here. Miles, Diz, Coltrane and assorted while in Germany, but found

group of CDs.

CDs over the system, with truly to a different theme: Sax- Cheatham. exquisite sound. As you probably ophonists, vocalists, vibrahar- Couldn't get a flight back to the music of the Count Basie know, there are a lot of French pists, etc. On them were cuts states from Geneva, so had to Orchestra. issue recordings that are still from previously issued albums, settle for a flight originating in relatively rare in this country — as well as some unissued sides Zurich, Switzerland. Grabbed a and it looked like they had them which were recorded in Europe. train to Zurich — trains go right ——LL Cool J

You can bet where we spent evenings while in Paris.



Buck Hill

* * *

Frank Foster

was Lester Bowie along with the Leaders group, who were their way to another gig. Just an indication that the

jazz writer,

festival season in Europe is really in full swing. While chatting with Blakey and his group, found out they were appearing at the North Sea Festival again this

Turned out to be Art Blakey

who, with his group, were on the

way to another jazz festival.

Naturally had to stop a chat with

Art, who gave me the dirty look

We chatted for a bit, and

glanced around as someone

came whirling by in a hurry. It

when he discovered we were

This gave us an opportunity to designed for dance music — and ask their opinion of this gigantics the Basie band is a shining examfest. Sure enough, they were ple of that art. agreed that it is too large and frantic. Have to concur, for it is really a mob scene there with 11 stages programming live jazz

Got back in town in time to catch Artscape, as did over 30,000 others. This was the estimate who turned out to hear Grover Washington.

Discovered to our delight that Lenny Yorke and Jazz Expressways are presenting another in their series Uptown Sunday Night at the Forum this little on the radio. Rock is king Sunday, July 23.

SE. Further information: One of our favorite tenor sax men, Buck Hill will be the 426-7723. featured artist at the set which goes from 8 - 11 p.m. Admission includes buffet dining, cocktail and door prizes.

Further information: 669-0963. * * *

At long last, it is about to happen. A chance to dance to the

(Continued from Page 3) Rap Act). He won two Soul Train

Music Awards.

elders of Gran-Bassan. served at the premier party for there. I'm'a keep striving."

his order delivered to him at his

Friday, July 28 at 9 p.m., the

Basie Orchestra, under the direc-

tion of Frank Foster, will appear

in a big band explosion at the

The University Center Ballroom

is at 5401 Wilkens Ave, with the

concert being put on by the Of-

fice of Summer School, and the

Was talking to Ramona Arthur

who is the Program Director, and

had one pertinent question for

her: "will there be dancing at this

Could hear the smile in her

voice as she assured me that

space will be cleared for a dance

floor. Well, this knocks us out, for

in our estimation, big bands are

There is a price advantage in

buying tickets in advance, but un-

fortunately, they are only

available at the school. Further

BRIEFLY NOTED: At the Carter

Barron Amphitheatre Saturday

and Sunday, July 22, 23, George

Howard and Willie Jolley.

Location is 4520 Colorado Ave.,

NW. Further information:

Saturday, July 21, 22, Ahmad

Jamal. Park is located at Min-

nesota Ave. and Randle Circle,

* **

Ertegun, who helped found the

Atlantic Label died last week. He

was 71. He was one of the men

who produced artists such as

John Coltrane, Ray Charles,

MJQ, Ornette Coleman,

Thelonious Monk and Charlie

One final note, Nesuhi

Ft. Dupont Park, Friday and

information: 455-3462.

(202)485-9666.

UMBC University Center.

In truth, LL claims that for all Over Thanksgiving '88, LL of his apparent success, he traveled to Africa's Ivory Coast doesn't feel very successful. "I and played a pioneering gig in feel hungry, like I'm not where I the capital city of Abidjan. Later, wanna be," this man with the after donating seed money for panther's soul says. "When I look the establishment of a local at George Michael and Michael hospital, LL was crowned Chief Jackson, I know there's so much Kwasi Achi-Brou by the village farther to go. Three albums? Through it all, however, LL has I'm new! I see that mountaintop managed to stay down to earth. with a golden microphone and, if Nonplussed by the haute cuisine it takes me 20 years, I wanna get

"The Warrior Ant" as part of the LL Cool J will perform at the 1988 Next Wave Festival at the Baltimore Arena on Friday, July Brooklyn Academy of Music, LL 21 and at the Capitol Center in phoned out for some pork fried Landover, MD. on Friday and rice and chicken wings and had Saturday, September 1 and 2.

THE NIGHT LIFE

By Bonnie Matthews Butler **Entertainment Editor**

Among the definitions for a professional are:

 Engaged in, or worthy of the high standards of . . .

 Earning one's living from an activity . . .

 Engaged in a specified occupation for pay or as a means of livelihood . . . who does A person

something with great skill

. usually clipped to "pro." In the vernacular of the Nightlifers, the latter definition is commonly

BACK" Salute goes to two "pros" in every sense of the word. They are Beta Dotson and Nellie Anderson, your friendly, efficiently descendants of Baccus, the ancient Greek and Romai God of Wine and Revelry!

Both ladies "pour the corn" at 1950's. Nellie worked her way the popular Lorman House drinkery on Lorman and Fulton Avenues in Baltimore.

On Tuesday nites, you get trouble identifying Beta or Nellie. "double dip," 'cause that's when big eyes of the dove; and they're they are both on tap and no matter the choice, you're gonna get gonna' bend over backwards to professional service.

Stop wondering, I'll tell you why owner **Dennis Hill** has both his stars on Tuesdays. It's the Lor- Maryland State Lottery's Carlton man's "Big Night" of the week, Dotson, is the mother of Jeff when the Emperor of the Sax- and she likes swimming and jazz ophone, Mickey Fields and his music when she gets the time. dynamic jazz combo rock 'de Nellie has worked at the Lor-

Club afficianados are familiar previously was the popular drink with both, as they've been in ser- dispenser at the Garrison vice in top local clubs in Lounge. Baltimore, throughout the years. She has two children, Rene Now don't take offense, they and Charles and in her spare were teenagers when they time enjoys reading novels started.

Beta and her good friend, Gigi of Phil's fame, were the pretty lit-

Friday Plus, July 21, 1989



tle things who burst on the bar

seen at the old Pyramid Club (the

extension of the Sphinx) in the

When visiting the Lorman

They are both attractive, with

Beta, who is the wife of the

man House for five years and

adult westerns and romance.

Nellie and Beta, congratula-

(Continued on Page 8)

you service with

House, you shouldn't have much

cross town.

give

All photos by Ricardo Gray



Beta Dotson (left) and Nellie Anderson (right) of the Lorman Johnny Polite did his famous "mumbles" while a host of musi-House receive the Nightlife's "PAT ON THE BACK" Salute this cians jammed at the benefit for singer Nikki Cooper held recently at the Sphinx Club.



PRESENT

Performing LIVE with her talent for Fashion, her sophisticated song style, her overall class... at the Cooks Reception

Monday Nite, Tickets: \$15.

Proceeds to the Nat'l. Black **Beauty Heritage Association**

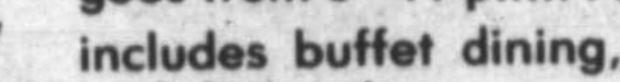
Cramton Auditorium for Concert and Blackburn Center for Reception

Big Show Expo 3 Big Days August 13, 14, 15 '89 **Sheraton Washington Hotel**

The Beauty and Business Espe

Heritage Association. Call toll-free in Washington, DC. (202) 347-0463 1-800-223-0886

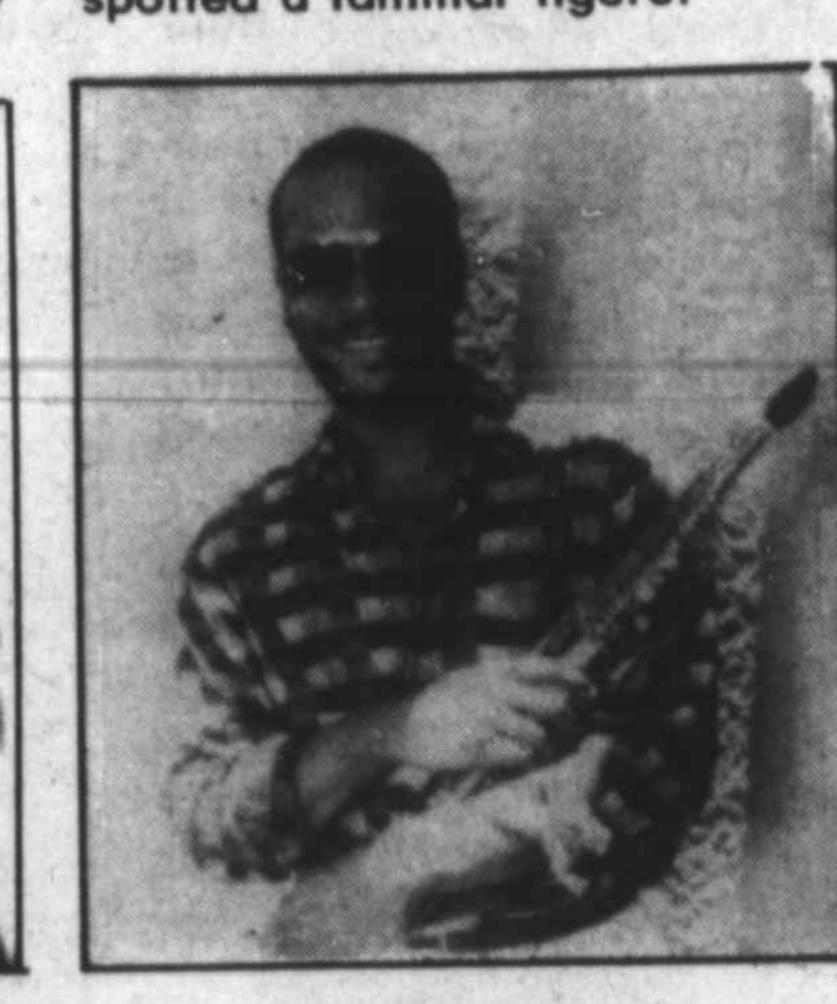




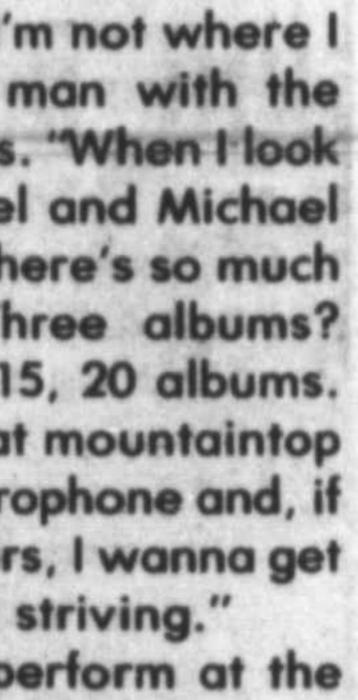
* * * some German-issued jazz CDs Wound up in Geneva, Was properly impressed. Then which are unavailable here. The Switzerland where we found that we noted that in one corner of prices are comparable, the we were just two days too early the bar, there was a huge collec- average CD costing in the for some scheduled jazz events. tion of LPs, plus a good-sized neighborhood of \$10 or \$11. On tap was Jimmy Smith, Was particularly interested in followed by Michel Petrucciani, And...they were playing jazz a group of CDs, each dedicated Tete Montoliu and Doc

Logo of the Birdland Club, Paris, France.

German TV presents a lot of to the airport — and was walkjazz, albeit in the wee hours of ing through the airport when we the morning, but there was very spotted a familiar figure.



George Howard



place at the head table.

Some artists got 15, 20 albums.



Chico Johnson pounded out great jazz music on his organ and led the musicians who came to jam at the benefit for Nikki Cooper, held recently at the Sphinx Club.

Sponsored by Cocks

for the Benefit of the National Black Beauty