University of New Hampshire

Beginning our Third Decade!

Our One Hundred Thirty-Fifth Program
1999-2000

"The Men They Will Become"

featuring

Jimmy Mazzy, Butch Thompson and Eli Newberger

Sponsored by the Department of Music and the New Hampshire Library of Traditional Jazz

8 p.m. Monday, October 25, 1999 Johnson Theatre
Paul Creative Arts Center, Durham, NH

THE ARTISTS

Eli Newberger, Jimmy Mazzy, & Butch Thompson

Given that our performers all became men at various points in the relatively distant past, there may be confusion as to the title of this program, since philosophical inquiries as to "being" versus "becoming" are beyond the scope of this particular UNH series. The solution to the mystery lies in the persona of Eli Newberger. Some - maybe many – who have been entertained, moved, or simply knocked out by his tuba playing with the New Black Eagle Jazz Band over the last quarter century do not know that Eli is in fact something other – actually more – than what he appears to be; he has a separate identity as a distinguished pediatrician, founding a renowned clinic at Boston' Children's Hospital, teaching at Harvard Medical School, and responding in myriad ways to the concerns of the larger community in reference to child development and matters affecting it pro and con.

Eli is such a superb artist that it is to his credit that people – including many fellow performers – would never wonder whether or not he has a day job. But tonight the circle closes, and duality becomes unity. Dr. Newberger has authored a major book on the rearing of young males; its title, The Men They Will Become: The Nature and Nurture of Male Character. Concomitantly, he and his musical co-conspirators have probed the treasury of the American popular song in its abundant richness (and sometimes obscurity), revealing a body of texts which illustrate the very issues raised in the book. Thus, Eli's two worlds merge, mediated by the expressive language of jazz with all of its pathos, humor, spontaneity, and illumination of the human condition.

Like Eli, his two companions are no strangers to this series, or to anyone devoted to the roots of the tradition. Jimmy Mazzy sounds only like himself, both as banjoist and singer, his uniquely communicative talents gaining ever wider acclaim, reaching even to the shores of Lake Wobegon. Butch Thompson is of course a more regular resident of that mythical clime, his ragtime and stride virtuosity itself earning legendary status. (Note: We must search our souls as to why his last appearance here was nine years ago!)

The inspiration and content of this program are most unusual, as the foregoing indicates, but likewise the instrumentation; have any of us witnessed a similar combination before?! History shows us that early jazz ensembles were hardly predictable in format, but this one exists because of the respect that each member has for the others, developed over many years of sharing musical activities in various other configurations. The jazz dialect spoken here is a seminal one, yet given immediacy by both the subject matter and the wealth of lived experience informing matters of style and taste.

TRADITIONAL Jazz SERIES

"The Men They Will Become"

Jimmy Mazzy, banjo & vocals ~ Butch Thompson, piano ~ Eli Newberger, tuba

---

A wise man once hypothesized that "Everything which rises must converge." Eli's dual professionalism, having risen high, converge in the program. And the aesthetic empathy of Jimmy and Butch enables it to reach us all at a level which enlightens and ennobles as it entertains. This is very special stuff, presented by very special people – and it has already been captured on a CD! Thanks, guys!

Tape recorders and cameras are not permitted due to contractual arrangements. Please turn off beepers and watch alarms. Your cooperation is requested.

THE SERIES

The UNH Traditional Jazz Series began in 1979. It promotes the enjoyment and understanding of the art through concerts featuring musicians of regional, national, and international prominence. The program represents a unique endeavor to expand interest and honor outstanding talent and achievement.

Musicians wishing to do so are encouraged to offer their recordings for sale or mail order during intermission; a brief announcement may be made. The sponsors have no financial interest in such sales beyond offering a courtesy service to the artists and the public.

Program Notes -- Paul Verrette
Production -- David Seiler

1999-2000 SCHEDULE

September 13: The Real Herb Pomeroy Quintet, featuring John La Porta

♦

October 25: "The Men They Will Become"; Eli Newberger, Jimmy Mazzy, & Butch Thompson

♦

November 22: The Prodigious Kenny Werner

♦

January 24: A Tribute to Red Norvo; Ed Saindon, Howard Alden, & Steve Novosel

♦

February 28: Fabulous Fiddle Fest: Three Generations; Claude Williams, Billy Contreras, & Lesa Terry

♦

April 10: "Do Nothing 'Til You Hear From Us"; Buddy DeFranco, Dave McKenna, & Joe Cohn

♦

May 1: Benny Powell and Jane Jarvis

OTHER SPECIAL JAZZ PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS

October 2: ***Family Weekend Concert, Seacoast Big Band,*** *Dave Seiler, directing. This night of swing music includes dancing and refreshments. Granite State Room, Memorial Union Building.*

♦

January 18: ***Harry Jones Memorial Education Fund Concert,*** *Seacoast Big Band, Dave Seiler, directing, with special, surprise guest artist! Proceeds to assist senior high school students who will major in music. Johnson Theatre, Paul Creative Arts Center, PCAC.*

♦

March 12: ***Gala Jazz Concert, Dr. Clark Terry,*** *trumpet and flugel horn;* ***Bud Shank,*** *alto sax artist; with* ***Mark Elf,*** *guitar;* ***Chris Neville,*** *piano;* ***UNH Jazz Band,*** *Dave Seiler, director. Johnson Theatre, Paul Creative Arts Center, UNH.*

••••

For tickets call (603)862-2290