JAZZ PIANIST

Dave McKenna

at

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Strafford Room, MUB

Mon. Oct. 15, 1979, 8pm
This concert is the first in a two-year series made possible through cooperation of the DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, the MEMORIAL UNION STUDENT ORGANIZATION, and the NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY OF TRADITIONAL JAZZ.
DAVID MCKENNA

Dave McKenna was born in Woonsocket, R.I., on May 30, 1930. Both of his parents were musicians.

Dave took formal lessons from local nuns and later studied with Sandy Sandiford. However, as is the case with most great musicians, his style and conviction developed through listening. Nat "King" Cole, Teddy Wilson, Duke Ellington, and, above all, Art Tatum were his major influences as he experimented and developed his own personal language.

Over the years, Dave worked and recorded with innumerable jazz greats - Charlie Ventura, Woody Herman, Gene Krupa, Buddy Rich, Red Norvo, Phil Woods, and Zoot Sims, among others. His long association with the late trumpeter Bobby Hackett inspired the latter to describe Dave as "the best piano player in the world." It has been stated that the legendary Art Tatum said of Dave: "I love to hear this kid play. I can't get enough of him."

Increasingly in recent years, Dave has brought his art to colleges and universities, including trips to Australia and Hawaii.

Dave is a true two-fisted pianist, one who feels quite at home working without the benefit of bass and drums. His style incorporates the best that jazz has given us throughout all the years of its development.

Dave McKenna will announce the selections he will play.