



Beginning our Third Decade!

Our One Hundred Thirty-Seventh Program
1999-2000

A Tribute to Red Norvo

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

**8 p.m. Monday, November 22, 1999 Johnson Theatre
Paul Creative Arts Center, Durham, NH**

THE ARTISTS

Ed Saindon, Howard Alden, Steve Novosel, - and Red Norvo

Certainly, every concert in a series honoring tradition should in some way evoke memories, retrospection, even nostalgia, but this evening's event carries us beyond precedent in a manner both emotionally heart-warming and musically stimulating. In November of 1981, in the twelfth program of this series, the Red Norvo Trio made the first of its three appearances here in less than four years; years later Dorothy Prescott, who had initiated these concerts and possessed the most idealistic standards, still spoke of this as our finest offering. Red passed away a few months ago, as did his guitarist Tal Farlow, and Ed Saindon, who was already scheduled for our series had the imaginative and insightful idea of remembering one of the inspiring figures in his life through this living tribute. Howard Alden actually had played with Red several times, and wonder of wonders, Steve Novosel who had been with Red and Tal on all three appearances here was available!

Red Norvo was born in Beardstown, Illinois in 1908 and in his lengthy career as performer on mallet instruments – xylophone, marimba, vibraphone – he had the role of vaudevillian radio entertainer, sideman, big-band leader, combo artist, and soloist. By all accounts he was the first person to use the vibes as a jazz instrument, and perhaps more significantly his stylistic cosmopolitanism caused him to have musical associations almost encyclopedic in range and chronology; who else played with both Paul Whiteman and Charlie Parker – with notable stints with Benny Goodman and Woody Herman in between?! His acclaimed trio in the early '50s with Tal Farlow and Charlie Mingus was a truly remarkable mix of compelling personalities working within the intimate confines of what we might now describe as "chamber jazz"; it was the reconstitution of this format that came here in the '80s, and it is the model for tonight's program.

Ed Saindon, Howard Alden, and Steve Novosel are all musicians who not only appreciate and respect Red as an historical figure, but who emulate his breadth and comprehensiveness. Ed has not only absorbed the traditions of his instrument, developing a highly sophisticated four-mallet technique, but he has achieved a unique application of the styles of stride and swing pianists to the vibes. His more recent CDs include Herb Pomeroy, Dick Johnson, Ken Peplowski, and Warren Vaché. Ed teaches at Berklee, and of monumental importance given our venue, resides in Derry, New Hampshire.



Ed Saindon, vibes
Steve Novosel, bass
Howard Alden, guitar

Howard, a New Yorker via California, has been on our series in several configurations, and should be a role model for the burgeoning supply of younger guitarists populating the American landscape. Current CDs find him teamed with Lew Tabakin and Renee Rosnes, and Jimmy Bruno – but don't forget Ken Peplowski, Dan Barrett, and those wonderful duets with George Van Eps. Steve works out of Washington, like so many other current visitors to New Hampshire (and we might wish he was on the ballot!) His list of performing, recording, and touring credits fill several pages, ranging from Bob Wilber to Roland Kirk, and including another recently departed master of the vibes, Milt Jackson, and our good buddy Al Grey.

When Red, Tal, and Steve last played here in 1985 we noted that, "They demonstrate a total and reflective assimilation of the raw materials of musical discourse, a rare elegance of style, and a sense of pure joy that makes one feel privileged just to be in the presence of such salutary human endeavor." As we shall witness presently, the tradition lives.

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, Colin Mason, directing. Johnson Theatre, Paul Creative Arts Center, UNH.*

♦♦♦♦

For tickets call (603)862-2290