

T R A D I T I O N A L
Jazz
S E R I E S

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

OUR TWENTY-SIXTH PROGRAM

**THE
TOMMY GALLANT
QUARTET**

**TOMMY GALLANT, PIANO
JERRY FULLER, CLARINET
DICK CREEDON, CORNET
JIM HOWE, BASS**

SPONSORED BY
THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC,
AND THE NEW HAMPSHIRE
LIBRARY OF TRADITIONAL JAZZ

8 P.M. MONDAY
JANUARY 30, 1984
STRAFFORD ROOM
MEMORIAL UNION
DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

THE ARTISTS

TOMMY GALLANT, JERRY FULLER, DICK CREEDON, and JIM HOWE

Jazz needs performers, listeners, and opportunities for them to interact; the latter are perhaps all too easily taken for granted nowadays. Although intimate concert formats such as our own are somewhat unique, wholesome commercial establishments identified as "jazz rooms" are not uncommon and occasionally even appear to be financially stable. However, 'twas not ever thus, at least in the Seacoast area, and most of the substantial population of jazz devotees north of Boston remember with varying degrees of fondness the unpredictable geography of public jazz availability during earlier decades. In not-so-olden times jazz was often virtually disguised in other forms of entertainment, and such locations as did exist seemed not to be designed for the more sensitive listener. Little by little the mixture of possibilities has improved, and certainly no one person has been more zealously at the center of the action as performer, catalyzer, and above all, believer, than Tommy Gallant.

A native of nearby Exeter and a high school pal of trombonist Phil Wilson, Tom learned his jazz in that exciting if disorderly world of discovery where styles often collided and the environment encouraged only the lion-hearted to aspire to be full-time jazz artists. Tom had the talent and perseverance to personally flourish in that atmosphere. Through work with Woody Herman and long stints in the '60's and '70's at supportive spots in Portsmouth, Rye, and Danvers his reputation grew; out of this came his association with Dick and Jerry and the effort to bring numerous musicians of outstanding stature to broadened audiences from the Northshore all the way to Portland. Even a partial list is impressive — Bobby Hackett, Peanuts Hucko, Teddy Wilson, Jimmy Rushing, Bud Freeman, Urbie Green, Marian McPartland, Gene Krupa, Maxine Sullivan, Tyree Glenn — and clearly such a set of performing experiences provided rare and rich nourishment for Tom's own development. Doubtless his students at Berklee and now at Phillips Exeter Academy profit from this heritage.

Jerry Fuller's credentials are impeccable — four years with Jack Teagarden and eight with the Dukes of Dixieland, punctuated with national TV appearances on the Ed Sullivan Show, the Bell Telephone Hour, etc., — and duets with the King of Thailand. He is featured on more than thirty recordings, and we are fortunate that after twenty years on the road he chose Massachusetts over California and Chicago for his permanent home.

As a young man, Dick Creedon moved from country-western guitar to piano to cornet, obviously to the ultimate benefit of mankind. After military service in World War II, where he did War Bond shows acting and dancing (!) with the likes of Shelley Winters and Rock Hudson, he returned home to Danvers, Mass., and successfully combined careers in music and business. He and Tom have a playing relationship now over twenty years old.

Jim Howe graduated from the University of Maine at Orono with a degree in music performance, then sustained himself in Boston for a few years largely through society and show music (Bob Hope, Elvis Presley!) with the Tony Bruno organization. A music teacher in the Manchester, N.H. public schools since 1974, he is also a professional photographer, and joined Tom in 1979.

The members of the Tommy Gallant Quartet have been bringing excellence in traditional jazz to ever-widening audiences over many years, and it is a singular pleasure to have them present their shared experience to us.

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THE PROGRAM

In keeping with the spontaneity of jazz, the performers will announce their own selections from the traditional and swing repertoires.

THE SERIES

The UNH Traditional Jazz Series, now in its fourth year, promotes the enjoyment and understanding of the art through concerts including musicians of regional, national, and international prominence. The program is based on the fundamental convictions that there are no age barriers in the performance and appreciation of this idiom, and that its joyousness and creativity are ever-renewable. Our combined sponsorship unites students, faculty, and continually devoted enthusiasts in a unique endeavor to expand interest, and honor outstanding talent and achievement.

Many of the artists presented in our series are available only on private recordings not readily found in stores. For the benefit of the public, 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.

Cameras and tape recorders are not permitted. Your cooperation is requested. Films or recordings by the sponsors are for the benefit of students, who may inquire about their availability at the Dimond Library.

Program Notes — Paul Verrette
Production — Dave Seiler

COMING EVENTS

**February 27 The Mainstream: Warren Vache, Scott Hamilton, Jack Bumer,
Jack Lesberg, Chuck Riggs**

April 2 Dave Whitney Quintet