UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

OUR TWENTY-NINTH PROGRAM

THE

RENT PARTY REVELLERS

TEX WYNDHAM .......... Cornet
RAY HEITGER .......... Clarinet, soprano saxophone
ROGER MUNNELL ....... Trombone
JOHN SCHOBER ........ Alto & C-melody saxophones
DICK SHOOSHAN ...... Piano
JIM RILEY .............. Banjo
CHUCK STEWART ...... Tuba
RAY SMITH .............. Drums

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

8 P.M. MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 17, 1984
STRAFFORD ROOM
MEMORIAL UNION
DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
THE ARTISTS

THE RENT PARTY REVELLERS

To some the word "traditional" might have implications of the conventional, the predictable, or the overly familiar, but certainly the twenty-eight concerts presented in the first five years of the UNH Traditional Jazz Series have demonstrated the contrary. The performers in this opening event of our expanded sixth season will be an auspicious addition to that roster of those who find constant refreshment and rediscovery in the early flowering of a musical idiom which is so truly of our century and country. Jazz is an art of personalities, both in individual creativity and collective compatibility, and the variety of circumstances under which groups have coalesced is one of the most fascinating and as yet undocumented aspects of jazz history; how many young or casual listeners realize that Louis Armstrong's Hot Five and Seven were not actually established units?!

In this light, the special character of the Rent Party Revellers is described eloquently by cornetist, leader, and spokesman Tex Wyndham.

"As can be seen from their credits, each member of the band has made a deep and long-standing personal commitment to traditional jazz. This commitment is shaped by many things — countless jam sessions, late-hours swapping of jazz lore and theory, performances in every conceivable circumstance, hours of tireless research.

"In the course of such experiences, every committed jazz player finds himself at one time or another sharing a stage, and later a dinner table, with other musicians of exceptionally compatible personal and musical orientation. From encounters like these, solidified over many years, emerged the concept of Rent Party Revellers.

"The bank is comprised entirely of jazzmen who have established independent reputations in the field. Six of the eight are bandleaders. Their collective list of appearances includes all of the major long-running U.S. classic jazz festivals and dates with a large segment of the leading older-style jazz players, as well as substantial contributions to the idiom via production of broadcasts, articles for publication, and compositions.

"An octet as individually active as the Revellers can only be brought together on special occasions — their schedule anticipates two tours a year. Yet, this is not the kind of casual jam band that has sometimes given 'all-star' units a spotty history. The Revellers are ensemble players with access to a virtually unrivalled aggregation of vintage sheet music and recordings, a group with the dedication to dig out those tasty obscure tunes that have spent a half-century waiting to entertain jazz fans.
THE RENT PARTY REVELLERS

"The Rent Party Revellers are thus a relatively new idea, a 'reunion' band with a specialized repertoire, exciting in ensemble or solo, one that communicates and will display some selections that have probably never been rendered from your stage."

Despite their restricted schedule, in the two years since their debut the Revellers have performed in major festivals and for jazz societies from coast to coast, a geographical fact paralleling somewhat the seven states of residence represented in their membership. We are both proud and fortunate to have the Rent Party Revellers on their first New England visit inaugurate a new season at UNH.

_Tape recorders and cameras are not permitted due to contractual arrangements. 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

THE SCHEDULE

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