

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

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OUR SEVENTIETH PROGRAM

**VINCE GIORDANO'S
NEW ORLEANS
NIGHTHAWKS**

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

8 PM MONDAY
APRIL 30, 1990
STRAFFORD ROOM
MEMORIAL UNION
DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

THE ARTISTS

VINCE GIORDANO'S NEW ORLEANS NIGHTHAWKS

One of the critical junctures in the history of jazz was that long moment in the late 1920s when a group of men whose ears matched their imaginations blended the practical with the creative and gave birth to the "big band", the recognizable descendents of which now enhance college and high school music programs, if not the world of commercial or professional music. The challenge at that earlier point was to capture the improvisatory and rhythmical atmosphere of New Orleans-based jazz in a necessarily larger ensemble which would allow for harmonic depth and a more diverse set of compositional options — in other words, to face the tension between freedom and organization that is virtually symbolic of American society as a whole. (Pardon the pedantry — it's late in the semester!)

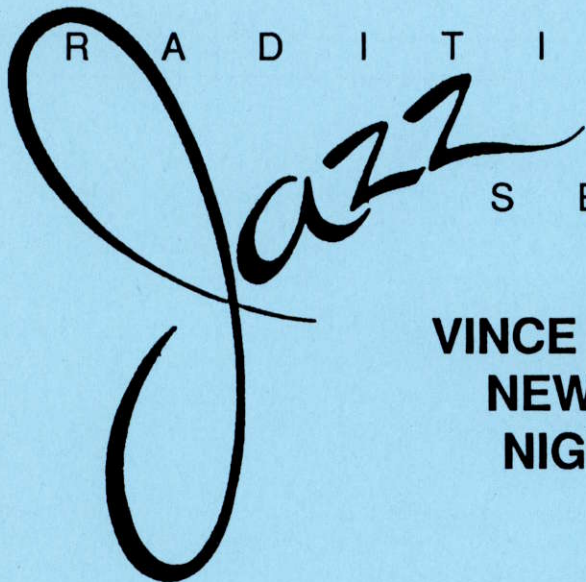
Even in smaller groups Jelly Roll Morton often imposed more control than others, and soon Don Redman, Fletcher Henderson, and Benny Carter were finding ways to both orchestrate and swing, and what they developed shaped the tastes of a whole decade or more. Writer Neil McCaffrey observes on the liner notes to one of Vince's albums that "... the Thirties was the last decade in music when simplicity lived comfortably with sophistication". Some of these germinal figures never achieved a visibility commensurate with the popularity of their art — it has been indeed heartening to see the oft-repeated Tribute to Benny Goodman on public television where BG, in the last year of his own life, dedicates the program to the late Fletcher Henderson.

Although still under age 40, through thick and thin Vince Giordano has been consistently bringing this music to life in its pristine beauty and vitality for over 15 years. The Nighthawks were in fact on the front edge of a movement that has generated bands such as the White Heat Swing Orchestra, and extends in another direction to the growth of jazz repertory ensembles and libraries of performing music. Personally, Vince has had a direct connection with the original era through his study of arranging with the venerable Bill Challis, who wrote for the Jean Goldkette and Paul Whiteman Orchestras in the 1920s. And many in our audience will remember Vince's appearance here with Chicago Rhythm a few years ago.

The Nighthawks have kept another contact with the social roots of the music by maintaining a steady gig for over a decade at the Red Blazer on New York's West 46th Street — check it out. Vince and some of the group appeared in the movie *Cotton Club* (uncredited, of course!), and the band recently appeared with — brace yourselves — Madonna, in a PBS dramatization of Damon Runyon's *Bloodhounds on Broadway* (watch for it in May!).

Vince Giordano and the Nighthawks bring us into a world neglected for too long by too many, and permit us to hear it on its own terms, (just as string quartets no longer try to make Mozart sound like Brahms!) An of course, one of the most edifying aspects of this entire joyful endeavor is the rediscovery of this vibrant music by the young; take a good look at the bandstand!

T R A D I T I O N A L



S E R I E S

**VINCE GIORDANO'S
NEW ORLEANS
NIGHTHAWKS**

PETER ECKLUND – 1st trumpet

DAN BLOCK – 1st sax

CHRIS PASIN – 2nd trumpet

DAVE RIEKENBERG – 2nd sax

HERB GARDNER – trombone

SCOTT ROBINSON – 3rd Sax

JEREMY KAHN – piano

RICH LIEBERSON – guitar & banjo

ARNIE KINSELLA – drums

VINCE GIORDANO – tuba, bass sax, string bass, leader

*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

September 11	New Black Eagle Jazz Band
October 30	Peanuts Hucko & Tom Gallant Trio
November 27	Gray Sargent Trio
January 29	Milt Hinton Quartet featuring Andy McGhee
February 26	Howard Alden Trio
March 26	Butch Thompson Trio
April 30	Vince Giordano's New Orleans Nighthawks