

ART
ADDISON
MEMORIAL
Jazz Festival

August 16, 2002

6:00 to 9:00 PM

Looft Hall – Iowa Western Community College
Council Bluffs, Iowa

August 17, 2002

4:00 to 10:00 PM

On the North Shore of Lake Manawa
Council Bluffs, Iowa



www.jazzartsmidwestinc.org

ART FARMER AND ADDISON FARMER MEMORIAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

Art Farmer and Addison Farmer were two of the most respected jazz musicians in America and Europe. The twin brothers were born in Council Bluffs, Iowa on August 21, 1928 into a musical family. At age four, they moved to Phoenix, Arizona then later ventured to Los Angeles, California where they attended Jefferson High School in their senior year with others who also became prominent jazz musicians.

Addison Farmer, bassist, was a graduate of the Julliard Music School in New York. He made his mark performing with Miles Davis and Charlie Parker. He free-lanced in NY with notable musicians including Gigi Gryce, Teddy Charles, Stan Getz and Mose Allison. He was a member of the original Art Farmer – Benny Golson Jazztet in 1959. He passed away unexpectedly in February 1963 from a brain aneurysm.

Art Farmer, flumpeter, flugelhornist and trumpeter, “Mr. Melody” became most known for his lyrical sensitive melodic playing as well as his ability to adapt to diverse musical styles. He began his career in Los Angeles working with bandleaders Horace Henderson, Floyd Ray, Johnny Otis, Benny Carter, Gerald Wilson and Jay McShann. Art was a member of the illustrious 1953 Lionel Hampton band, which included Clifford Brown, Quincy Jones, and Gigi Gryce among others. Art worked with Horace Silver, Gerry Mulligan and George Russell. He formed a Quintet with Gigi Gryce. In late 1959 he founded the legendary Jazztet (a sextet) with saxophonist Benny Golson which stayed together until 1962 and later reformed for a brief period in the 1980’s. In the sixties, Art formed a quartet with guitarist Jim Hall. He also toured Europe several times. In 1968 when he was invited to join a radio orchestra in Austria, Art moved to Vienna. He became a featured soloist with other well-known European big bands. Art established his own Quintet performing in cities across the United States and in nearly all countries of Europe and in Japan. In the last several years of his life, Art received recognition for his achievements: The NEA Jazz Masters’ Lifetime Achievement Award, The Austrian Gold Medal of Merit and the highest Austrian Award for Arts and Sciences and a major concert in his honor at Lincoln Center, New York in August, 1994 saluted his life-time musical achievements. His contemporaries participated, including Gerry Mulligan, Benny Golson, Slide Hampton, Ron Carter, Jim Hall, Wynton Marsalis, Geoffrey Keezer and Lewis Nash. Art passed away of a heart attack October 4, 1999 in New York City.

Visit the Art Farmer and Addison Farmer Exhibit – Council Bluffs Public Library – until August 31.

AUGUST 16, 2002 Looft Hall – Iowa Western Community College

6:00 PM Reception with Live Music – Dan Knight Trio

6:30 PM Welcome – Wayne Kobberdahl, President, Jazz Arts Midwest Inc.
Panel 1: An Introduction to The Lives and Music of Art Farmer and Addison Farmer and a Brief Overview of the “Great Day in Harlem” Photograph/Film

Moderator: Ric Swanson (Executive Director, Jazz Arts Midwest Inc.)

Panelists: Mauvolene Thomas Farmer (Art and Addison’s sister) and Lynne Mueller (partner and manager)

Panel 2: Art Farmer and Addison Farmer and The Life of a Jazz Musician

Moderator: Lynne Mueller, Musicians: Jimmy Owens, Ron Blake and Bobby Watson

7:45 PM “Great Day In Harlem” Film
co-produced by Jean Bach and Matthew Seig, Susan Peehl, Editor

8:45 PM Discussion and Questions about the Film

ART FARMER AND ADDISON FARMER MEMORIAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

AUGUST 17, 2002 On the North Shore of Lake Manawa

- 4:00 PM** The Bluffs Big Band featuring Matt Wallace, Dan Knight, Camille Schmidt with Guitarist Dave Stryker. Directors: Joe Wheeler and Ric Swanson
- 5:30 PM** The Bobby Watson Quartet with Guitarist Dave Stryker
Bobby Watson, alto saxophone
Chris Clark, piano James Ward, bass Michael Warren, drums
- 7:00 PM** Ashanti – Jazz/Latin Jazz: a Quintet of Versatile Musicians from the Des Moines, Iowa area.
- 8:30 PM** The Art Farmer Reunion Quintet featuring
Ron Blake, saxophones Kenny Davis, bass
Geoffrey Keezer, piano Lewis Nash, drums
Jimmy Owens, trumpet
-

About some of the musicians performing this afternoon and evening:

Ron Blake, tenor and soprano saxophones – The saxophonist in the Art Farmer Quintet since the mid 90's, Ron is known for his imaginative improvisations, interpretations and spirited yet focused top to bottom command of his instruments. He has worked with such great players as Johnny Griffin, Benny Golson and Roy Hargrove and currently is a vital member of the Christian McBride band. Ron has made over 30 recordings. He has his own Quartet whose recent recording *Up Front and Personal* has received critical acclaim. Using his educational background, Ron continues to develop and educate aspiring young saxophonists through clinics and workshops.

Kenny Davis, bass – The bassist in the Art Farmer Quintet from 1990 to 1999, Kenny recently completed three years as the acoustic and bass guitarist with Jay Leno and The Tonight Show band. Kenny is again living in New York and performing with various artists. He has just finished a soon-to-be-released recording. Kenny has toured the world with major jazz musicians including Herbie Hancock, Art Farmer, and Jimmy Owens among others.

Geoffrey Keezer, piano – The pianist with the Art Farmer Quintet in the early 1990's, Geoffrey began his career as a member of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers. He worked with virtually all of the jazz legends and spent three years as a member of the Ray Brown Trio. His compositional talent extends from writing jazz for the Carnegie Hall Jazz Band to classical music for the Mainly Mozart Festival. Geoffrey has released eight albums as a leader.

Lewis Nash, drums – Performed with the Art Farmer Quintet in 1989, Lewis Nash is the drummer of choice for an incredible array of artists from the masters of the music to the hottest young players of today and is equally in demand as a clinician and educator. He worked with vocalist Betty Carter for four years in the early '80's. He has been heard with jazz greats Ron Carter, J.J. Johnson, Sonny Rollins and as a member of the Tommy Flanagan Trio from 1990 to 2000. His impressive discography of over 300 recordings includes projects with jazz legends such as Dizzy Gillespie and new stars including Roy Hargrove and Diana Krall.

Jimmy Owens, trumpet, flugelhorn. — Over 35 years of experience as a jazz trumpeter, composer, arranger, lecturer and music education consultant, his expertise covers a wide range of international musical achievement which includes extensive work as a studio musician, soloist, bandleader and composer of orchestral compositions, movie scores and ballets. He has performed with Dizzy Gillespie, James Moody, Art Farmer, Billy Taylor and Lalo Schiffrin and other jazz greats. He brings his vast experience in performance today as trumpeter in the Art Farmer Reunion Quintet.

ART FARMER AND ADDISON FARMER MEMORIAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

More about the musicians (continued)

Dave Stryker, guitar – an Omaha native, he has lived in NY since 1980. He has released 15 albums as a leader and has toured the world with such artists as Stanley Turrentine, Jack McDuff, and Kevin Mahogany. He is currently touring with his Quartet which features saxophonist Steve Slagle.

Bobby Watson, alto saxophone – a Midwesterner, he began his professional career in the mid'70's as a member of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers. He is a prolific composer and arranger whose over 100 compositions have been performed by a variety of artists from legendary drummer Max Roach to Betty Carter and by students. In addition to having his own Quartet and performing at international jazz festivals, Bobby is Director of the Jazz Program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music. He has made over 24 recordings.

This festival is the first of its kind and has been produced by Jazz Arts Midwest, Inc., a non-profit organization in partnership with the Bluffs Arts Council which wishes to thank the organizations shown below as well as others for their contributions. Special thanks to guest Mauvolene Farmer Thomas and Arlene Wright / the Council Bluffs Library for the Exhibit on Art Farmer and Addison Farmer and to Jean Bach and Matthew Seig and A Great Day in Harlem. Your comments and suggestions about the Festival will be appreciated. Thank you for your interest and your support.

Jazz Arts Midwest, Inc. (JAMIN') - Website: www.jazzartsmidwestinc.org.

(712) 325-9693 (Ric Swanson.) - JAMIN' hopes to present this festival annually.

Bluffs Arts Council, P.O. Box 172, Council Bluffs, IA 51503, is well recognized for the concerts and other art programming which it produces on a regular basis in Council Bluffs.

Jazz Arts Midwest, Inc. (JAMIN') - Board of Directors

Wayne Kobberdahl – President,

Ric Swanson - Executive Director

Jim Campbell, Dan Cervený, Dave Christiansen, John Farmer,

Curt Gaffney, Jim Kaiser, David Kuper, Dave Lemen, Walt Pypier

and Tammi Swanson and Lynne Mueller

Bluffs Arts Council

Leslie Southard – Board President

Laural Ronk, Executive Director



In partnership with



IOWA WEST Foundation



**Council Bluffs
Promotion & Tourism
Board of Trustees**



COUNCIL BLUFFS CASINO & HOTEL

UNITED AIRLINES