

Festival Program Guide



ART
ADDISON
FARMER
MEMORIAL
Jazz Festival

Sunday, August 1, 2004

4:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Harrah's Concert Cove
Council Bluffs, Iowa

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FARMER**
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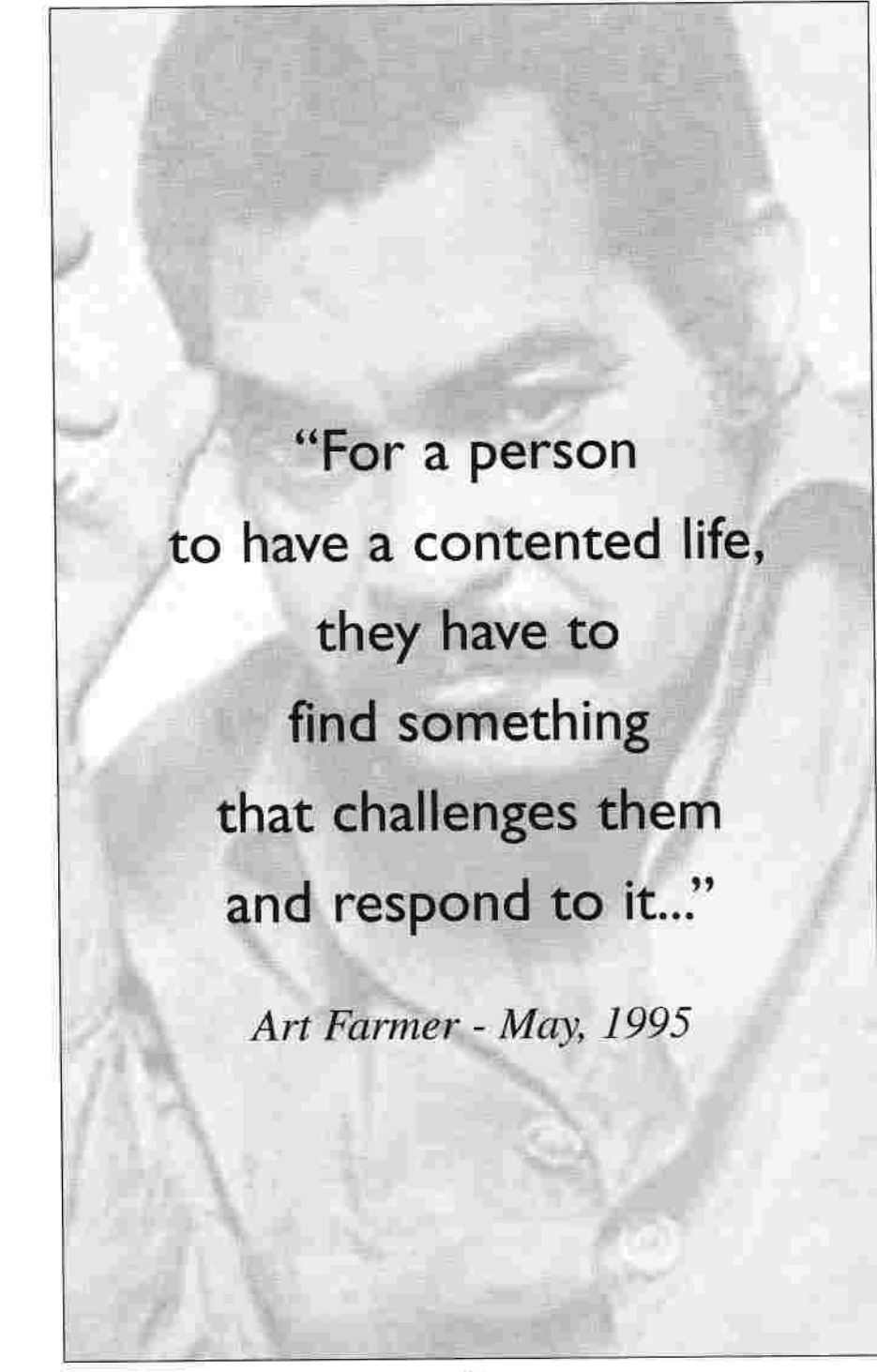
Featuring

**Camille Schmidt with the
Bluffs Big Band
4:00 pm**

**Curtis Fuller
5:15 pm**

**Ryun Louie Quartet
6:30 pm**

**Chico O'Farrill Afro Cuban
Jazz Orchestra
7:30 pm**



“For a person
to have a contented life,
they have to
find something
that challenges them
and respond to it...”

Art Farmer - May, 1995

ART AND ADDISON FARMER

TWO GREAT JAZZ MUSICIANS

Art and Addison Farmer were two of the most respected jazz musicians in America and Europe. They were twin brothers born in Council Bluffs, Iowa in 1928 to a musical family.

Though Addison died in 1963 of a brain aneurysm, he made his mark as a respected bassist playing in Los Angeles with Miles Davis and Charlie Parker. Addison later played with Teddy Edwards, Jay McShann and Gerald Wilson before moving to New York to work with his brother Art, Stan Getz, and other notable Jazz musicians. He was an original member of the famous Farmer-Golson Jazztet which was formed by his brother Art and saxophonist Benny Golson.

Brother Art continued a long respected jazz career, which lasted about 50 years before he died of a heart attack in New York City at the age of 71. Art Farmer was an eloquent jazz musician who was a master of the trumpet, flugelhorn and an instrument of his own creation he called the 'flumpet' which was sort of a hybrid flugelhorn and trumpet.

Art practiced his trumpet diligently all of his life and was a very versatile musician. His playing was characterized by a sweetly lyrical tone and a melodic approach to phrasing. Art was an excellent reader and was very good at improvisation. These skills enabled him to play with big bands and small groups of various kinds from Horace Silver, Lionel Hampton, Gerry Mulligan to Art Blakey. In 1959, Art Farmer collaborated with noted saxophonist Benny Golson in organizing The Jazztet, which played and recorded some of the classic music of the bop era.

In the late 60's when rock music was taking hold in America, Farmer moved to Vienna, where he joined the state subsidized Austrian Radio Orchestra. During the latter years of his career he traveled frequently between Europe and America making over a hundred recordings and playing in numerous venues. He played Haydn's First Trumpet Concerto with the Austrian-Hungarian Haydn Philharmonic Orchestra in 1994. In that same year, a concert honoring his life-time musical achievements was given at the Lincoln Center. Many jazz musicians, including Wynton Marsalis and Gerry Mulligan, gave him special tribute. In 1999, Art received The National Endowment of the Arts Life Time Achievement Award at the International Association of Jazz Educator's Conference in Anaheim, California.

One of Art Farmer's last performances was a concert on April 28, 1999 at the American Embassy in Vienna, Austria where he performed with his long time Austrian pianist, Fritz Pauer, in celebration of the 100th birthday of his favorite composer, Duke Ellington.

Council Bluffs can be very proud of the many accomplishments of the Farmer twins.



Greg Hopkins directs the 1st Annual
Art Farmer Memorial Student Honor Band.

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Chico O’Farrill Afro Cuban Jazz Orchestra

During his lifetime, composer – arranger – conductor Chico O’Farrill became one of the great musical forces of the 20th Century. *Downbeat* featured Chico as “The Most All Around Musician.” “The Beethoven of Jazz” was the title bestowed on him by Phil Schaap, Jazz at Lincoln Center’s Director of Jazz Archives. Originally, Chico’s instrument was his trumpet. Like Duke Ellington, as his talent grew, he used his entire orchestra as his instrument. Chico was an inspiration to Leonard Bernstein in his composing of *West Side Story*. His first breakthrough in the world of jazz was his collaboration with Benny Goodman on “Undercurrent Blue” in 1949. His blending of jazz and classical elements with the rich rhythms of his native country of Cuba resulted in the birth of Afro Cuban Jazz and his widely heralded *Afro Cuban Jazz Suite* while he was associated with Machito. He collaborated with other giants in the jazz world, including Stan Kenton and Count Basie. Chico wrote the arrangements for the music which Frank Sinatra performed with the Count Basie Orchestra. In the role of “ghost writer” for such notables in the music world as Quincy Jones and Gil Fuller, Chico was largely an “unsung hero”. In 1954, he worked with Dizzy Gillespie in writing *The Manteca Suite* and again in 1975 for the album *Afro Cuban Jazz Moods*. He wrote another one of his major accomplishments, *The Aztec Suite*, in 1959 for Trumpeter Art Farmer. Cal Tjader, Gato Barbieri, J. J Johnson were other jazz legends for whom Chico also composed. In 1995 he was featured in a Jazz at Lincoln Center program which included a piece commissioned for him, featuring Wynton Marsalis. All three of Chico O’Farrill’s last recordings, *Pure Emotion* (1995), *Heart of a Legend* (1999) and *Carambola* (2000) received Grammy Award nominations. The Chico O’Farrill Afro Cuban Jazz Orchestra began a regular Sunday evening engagement at Birdland 6 years ago with the Maestro himself conducting. The band continues to perform at Birdland every Sunday evening under the leadership of his son, pianist Arturo O’Farrill.

Pianist Arturo O’Farrill was educated at famed High School of Music and Art, the Manhattan School of Music and the Brooklyn College Conservatory. He has worked with a wide spectrum of artists and has recently been appointed conductor of the Lincoln Center Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra.



Mr. Curtis Fuller

TROMBONE LEGEND



Mr. Curtis Fuller plays trombone like he speaks. Each melodic phrase is like a word and each word speaks of truth, humor, wisdom and survival. Fuller belongs to an elite group of trombone masters that make the horn inviting and exciting. Fuller, a Detroit native, joined the army in 1953. While serving his country he met Cannonball & Nat Adderly. The Adderly Brothers recruited him for the U.S. Army's first integrated musical ensemble. After his

two-year stint, Miles Davis beckoned and he moved to New York. Shortly after his arrival he became a Blue Note recording artist playing sessions with Davis, Dizzy Gillespie, Yusef Lateef, Clifford Jordan, Jimmy Smith, Bud Powell, and John Coltrane.

In 1960, Benny Golson and Art Farmer created the now legendary Jazztet. They asked Fuller to join, and he did. The band also featured a young pianist named McCoy Tyner. Even though the Jazztet was extremely successful he and Tyner left after a few months.

From 1961 to 1965 Curtis Fuller was a member of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers. The band was a quintet until he turned it into a sextet for the first time. During his association with Blakey the world was introduced to the Fuller classic "Arabia". He continued to record and appear with his own ensemble until 1974 when he joined Count Basie's Orchestra. He toured with the band until 1977. During the late 70's he also appeared with Lionel Hampton's Big Band. In the 80's and 90's Curtis Fuller continued to play, appear, record and teach.

Fuller met singer/producer Jacey Falk in 2000. The 25 year-old was creating an all-star ensemble he called "The Legends of the Bandstand". He desperately wanted Fuller to participate and after a little arm bending he agreed. The Legends of the Bandstand celebrated over 150 collective years of Jazz history and also features Cedar Walton, Earl May, Bobby Watson and Louis Hayes. The band is a favorite at jazz festivals, clubs and symposiums.

In 2002 Falk created The Curtis Fuller Super Band. At the present the band is touring and features Javon Jackson, Louis Hayes, Michael Bowie, and James Williams. He has also teamed up for a series of concerts with his best friend, Mr. Benny Golson.

Curtis Fuller has recorded 34 albums as a leader and over 300 as a sideman. He has been and still is a major player in the world of jazz. Any evening with Mr. Curtis Fuller is sure to delight and please.

Camille Schmidt with The Bluffs Big Band

Camille Schmidt began singing at an early age and focused on music during her school years. She attended UNL her freshman year, then transferred to and graduated from the Berklee College of Music in 1984. While a student, Camille was the lead singer in the Jazz Choir and was a featured performer on many concerts including Quincy Jones and Oscar Peterson. After graduation Camille remained in Boston and was a sought after vocalist for radio and television commercials, and also instructed at Berklee. A brief encounter with Nashville found Camille on stage with the likes of Steve Wariner and Lee Greenwood. Camille relocated to the Omaha a few years ago and is a popular singer & piano player.



The Bluffs Big Band has been performing in the Council Bluffs/Omaha area for five years, it is led by Ric Swanson, Joe Wheeler & Dennis Strawn. The 16-member ensemble consists of volunteer professional performers, educators, and business professionals.

Nationally, the Duke Ellington Society has recognized the BBB for their dedication to the Jazz Orchestra and honored them with a musical score. Most recently the group received the 2003 Daily Nonpareil "READERS CHOICE" award for the best local band. The group has appeared at the Art and Addison Farmer Memorial Jazz Festivals 2002 & 2003 and will appear at the Harlan County Jazz Festival later this month.

The band will play regularly at Omaha's Sons of Italy Hall, Tuesdays in September.

Ryun Louie Quartet



The Ryun Louie Quartet is a fresh new group out of Omaha, Nebraska. The quartet's roots in traditional jazz allow the music to take creative twists and turns covering musical styles from straight ahead jazz to bebop to Latin.

The Ryun Louie Quartet features saxophone great Matt Wallis, voice and keyboardist Christina Hitt, bassist Jerry Devore and drummer Ryun Louie.

Ryun Louie has played at the following jazz festivals: Lionel Hampton, Montreau, Brientz, Park City and Salt Lake City. He is currently finishing his enlistment with the United States Air Force Heartland of America Band.