Hi Friends —

Four years ago, only a week or so before Christmas, I had gotten back to Brooklyn on the Monday afternoon after doing my radio show — I had a 1:00-6:00 a.m. slot at that time — having caught only a three-hour snooze before the nearly two-hour drive. I parked my car, got out, and as I was walking to my apartment building I heard someone singing, loudly and to the tune of my least favorite Christmas song, “Jingle Bell Rock”:

Giddy-up, Donald Trump, get on your horse.
Ride ‘im around the block.

“Did I really hear that?” I asked myself. “Am I really that sleep deprived?” I wondered. Then I heard it again:

Giddy-up, Donald Trump, get on your horse.
Ride ‘im around the block.

And then again. Finally I spied the singer, who clearly was a few reindeer short of a sleigh. And I heard him sing it again — and again and again and again, maybe ten or twelve more times, until I was, happily, out of earshot.


Keep list’nin’ and have a Cool Yule,
Bob

Just Jazz with Bob Bernotas can be heard every Sunday night from 10:00 pm to 3:00 am Eastern Time (US) over 91.9 WNTI-FM and streaming live at wnti.org.

Quotes of the Month: “Why I am a musician”

If it hadn’t been for the example set by my brothers, I might have gone astray and become a doctor or a lawyer.
– drummer Albert “Tootie” Heath (brother of bassist Percy & saxophonist Jimmy Heath)

People ask me, “Well, why are you a musician?” I say, “Well, too lazy to work, too honest to lie, too nervous to steal.”
– trumpeter Lester Bowie

Recommended Internet Jazz Radio

groovebone.org: All jazz trombone, all the time, produced and programmed by trombonist Dave Dickey. Free CD contests and great T-shirts, too! (davedickey.com)

Jazz Spotlight on Sinatra, produced and presented by Nancy Barell, features Sinatra songs through the decades, as well as jazz instrumentalists and singers who recorded songs Sinatra performed, plus other great standards: live365.com/stations/nancyann3839

wemu.org: Jazz and blues from Eastern Michigan University. Linda Yohn starts the day with three and a half hours of great music every Mon.-Fri., from 9:00 to 12:30 (Eastern Time).
THE JUST JAZZ 10 BEST NEW JAZZ CDS OF 2008

Jamie Baum: Solace (Sunnyside)
T.K. Blue: Follow the North Star (JaJa)
James Carter: Present Tense (Emarcy)
Dena DeRose: Live at Jazz Standard, Volume Two (MaxJazz)
Dave Holland: Pass It On (Dare2)
Pete Malinverni: Invisible Cities (Reservoir Music)
Virginia Mayhew: A Simple Thank You (Renma)
James Moody & Hank Jones: Our Delight (IPO)
Harvie S with Kenny Barron: Now Was the Time (Savant)
Steve Wiest: Out of the New (Arabesque)

BEST LATIN JAZZ CD: Adriana Miki: Sashimiki (Apria)

BEST REISSUE CD: Art Farmer: Brass Shout / Aztec Suite (Blue Note)

* SPECIAL HONORS FOR “LOST” RECORDINGS FINALLY FOUND:
* Frank Rosolino-Carl Fontana: Trombone Heaven Vancouver, 1978 (Uptown)
* Horace Silver: Live at Newport '58 (Blue Note)

I’ll be featuring these excellent 2008 releases on my December 28th “The Year in Jazz” edition of Just Jazz. I’ll also be paying tribute that night to these giants of music who left us during 2008: Jimmy Cleveland, Jimmy Giuffre, Johnny Griffin, Neal Hefti, Israel “Cachao” Lopez, Jimmy McGriff, and Jo Stafford.

AREA JAZZ EVENTS

Fri., December 19: Lehigh University, Zollner Arts Center, Bethlehem, PA
A Winter Holiday Jazz Concert: pianist David Leonhardt Jazz Group featuring singer Nancy Reed
Barker Hall: on-stage 7:00 dinner & 8:00 performance reserved seating $52; box office: 610-758-2787

COMING NEXT MONTH...

“Jazz in January” @ The Dome (Whitney Chapel)
Centenary College, 400 Jefferson St., Hackettstown, NJ
Sat., January 10: singer Bobby Caldwell & the Dick Meldonain Big Band: Sinatra-style vocals to Nelson Riddle arrangements
* Tickets (this concert only): in advance $35 / $27.50 students; $40 at the door
Sat., January 17: tenor saxophonist Houston Person Quartet
Sat., January 24: All-Star Septet: Jesse Green, piano; Evan Gregor, bass; Daniel Gonzalez, drums; John Jensen, trombone; Nelson Hill, alto saxophone & flute; Dennis Jeter, trumpet & vocals; Lisa Parrott, baritone saxophone
* Tickets: in advance: $22.50 /$17.50 students; $27.50 at the door
For all three concerts: $75 / $55 students
Concerts start at 8:00 p.m. Tickets on sale now!
Order tickets online; box office: 908-979-0900 / 908-637-6455

ATTENTION LOCAL JAZZ ARTISTS!

If you’ve got an upcoming gig or performance in the NW New Jersey-NE Pennsylvania region, you can add it to the WNTI website’s Events Calendar. Just click here and follow the instructions and submission guidelines. PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR INFO AT LEAST TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE. Email any questions to events@wnti.org

LOCAL JAZZ VENUES

Café Baci (Main St./PA Rt. 61, Delaware Water Gap, PA): Jazz every Thurs., 8:00-11:00; Fri. & Sat., 7:00-11:00; Sun. 5:00-8:00. 570-424-2000

The Deer Head Inn (Main St./PA Rt. 615, Walpack Center, NJ 07881): Jazz every Fri., 8:00-10:00. 973-948-3890

Papillon25 (25 Valley St., South Orange, NJ): Jazz every Thurs., 8:00-11:30. 973-761-5299

Shanghai Jazz Restaurant & Bar 24 Main St., Madison, NJ): Jazz every Tues.-Sun. 973-822-2899

Bob’s jazz books make GREAT holiday gifts!
Top Brass: Interviews and Master Classes with Jazz’s Leading Brass Players

Reed All About It: Interviews and Master Classes with Jazz’s Leading Reed Players

$18 each, plus shipping. For Info and ordering:
www.bobtism.com

Bob’s jazz books make GREAT holiday gifts!
Top Brass: Interviews and Master Classes with Jazz’s Leading Brass Players

Reed All About It: Interviews and Master Classes with Jazz’s Leading Reed Players

$18 each, plus shipping. For Info and ordering:
www.bobtism.com