Newsletter

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The archive has been recently enriched by some fabulous donations negotiated by archivist Ken Jones. These rare and unique materials range from published items to organisational records to photographs.

Derek Collection

The veteran, award-winning jazz journalist Derek Coller, who has written for such notable publications as Jazz Journal International, Vintage Jazz Mart, and The Mississippi Rag, donated two large boxes of material. The Coller Collection features vintage magazines such as a 1946 run of the Dublin-published Hot Notes; a 1944 issue of Jazz Junction Jive, published by the West London Rhythm Club; a 1947 armed forces magazine from the South East Asia Command the Dance Music Annual for 1951, featuring Humphrey Lyttelton on the cover; a programme for the National Skiffle Contest of 1957; and a 1960s run of The Bulletin of the Hot Club of Paris. Jazz's international following was well documented by Mr. Coller and the NJFA's researchers will benefit from his foresight for years to come.

Of particular interest in the Coller Collection is a 1943 concert programme published by the Dagenham Anglo-Soviet Friendship Society. The concert itself was a benefit in aid of the Dagenham Ward in Stalingrad Hospital. Listed performers were the Squadronaires, with leader Jimmy Miller, George Chisholm, Tommy McQuater, Sid Colin, and Jock Cummings.



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Geoff Upton Collection

An welcome addition to the archive is a collection of approximately one-thousand photographic prints and negatives taken by the late photographer Upton and donated by Les Hayes. The collection documents in situ performances by Britain's leading contemporary players doing their things at various London venues, ca. 1980-1995. This acquisition maintains the NJFA's mission to document jazz as it is happening for future generations of enthusiasts.

Furthest East Rhythm Club Collection

Harry Johnson, served as a the Second World War and ran has donated original, period 1942. The club was in fact Maker and one of the members today.



24.8.43 11 members attended this week to hear Steve Stevens on "Muggay Spaniel", a well put over recital that was followed by a spirited discussion on the merits and demerits of the Spania Style. It seems to be the general opinion that the outfit would be improved in performance by more rolo's and less all in ememble work. The remainder of the evening was filled by H. Johnson presenting the second of his "Records at Random zeries. The office of Hon. Sec. is now taken over again by H. Johnson. The gramophone was provided for this meeting by Gol.

Kevin Henriques Collection

The longtime Financial Times journalist has been a bit of a traveller through the years and his keen eye allowed him to collect jazz festival concert posters from various countries. Most of these public advertisements are quite strikingly illustrated and are further evidence of jazz's international following. They range from Liege (1964) to Warsaw (1975) to Portugal (1978) to the former Soviet Union (1988), and of course to Britain.



Pennies From Heaven

Peter Reynolds donated several treasures: an original 1950 French edition of Le Roi du Jazz, by Hughes Panassie, and a 1951-1952 edition of The Jazz Club Blue Book, listing all the jazz clubs in Britain at the time. David Leigh donated copies of the 1948 and 1949 Jazz Jamboree programmes, documenting those who performed at the annual benefits for the British Musicians Union Benevolent Fund. Artists included most of the Big Names of the day, including The Skyrockets, The Ray Ellington Quartet featuring Coleridge Goode, The Tito Burns Band featuring Johnny Dankworth and Ronnie Scott, vocalists Terry Devon and Cab Kaye, Harry Gold's Pieces of Eight, and the orchestras of Cyril Stapleton, Vic Lewis, Leslie Douglas, and Tommy Sampson. A further independent acquisition came through the back door, or rather, it was found hiding inside an old record company catalogue: a programme of the last wartime concert by Major Glenn Miller, given at the Queensbury Club, two nights before his fatal flight over the English Channel.



Kenny Ball Sells Out

The longtime trumpet superstar addressed an eager capacity crowd at the NJFA's annual open-house evening. Aside from the usual flood of humourous jazz anecdotes, Kenny was most candid about his lip troubles (a trumpeter's nightmare) during the late 1960s and his devotion to the 1950s bebop trumpeter Clifford Brown. Extracting the funny bits from Kenny's mouth were fellow trumpet traveller Digby Fairweather and Roger Horton, owner of the 100 Club.

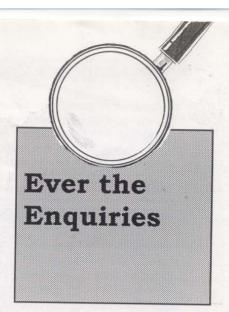


The Burgeoning Bookshelves

The NJFA has recently acquired books on a number of artists and subjects, including Ella Fitzgerald, John Coltrane, Glenn Miller, Benny Carter, Be-Bop, Andy Razaf, the classic and country blues, Marshall Royal, Eric Dolphy, Warren Vache, Teddy Wilson, jazz on CD, jazz essays, and the jazz musicians as civil rights activists prior to 1917. Regardless of your research aims, when you visit the NJFA always check the shelves for these new acquisitions as well as the latest in jazz magazines.



Perhaps the most significant acquisition is an out-of-print, four-volume *Encyclopedia* of *American Popular Music*, 1900-1950, by Roger D. Kinkle. While not comprehensive in jazz, his tomes cast the widest net of any similar reference work, encompassing performers on the edges of jazz, in films, on Stateside radio, and in cabaret, with objective biographic sketches too. It further features American record label discographies and details of Broadway musicals and songs from Hollywood films.



Recent researchers have been investigating John Dankworth, South African jazz, the 1920s Boswell Sisters, Louis Prima, the 1930s Coon-Sanders Nighthawks orchestra, Stan Kenton's concerts in Ireland, and rare 78rpm records issued by Robertson's Marmalade and Siemens Electrical companies. Noted jazz writers recently using the archive include: Jim Godbolt, Graham Lock, Dave Gelly, and of course John Chilton, whose Who's Who of British Jazz was based on much information found in the archive itself.

