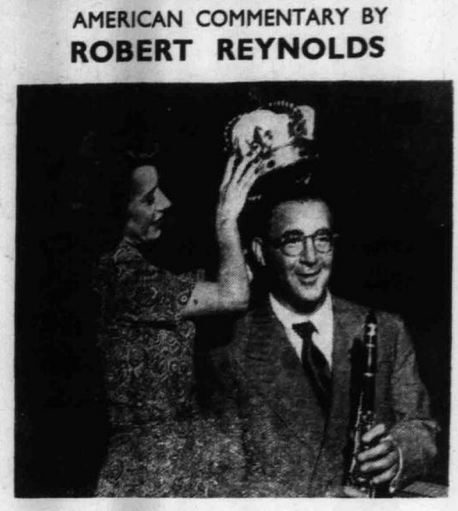


Again the famous French critic writes exclusively for Express HUGUES PANASSE discusses IMPROVISATION IN JAZZ

JAZZ Edited by DENIS PRESTON



Benny Goodman being crowned "King of Swing".

THE VOICE PARLIAMENTARY CRITIQUE

In the House of Commons we have to-day many Members with specialised knowledge of various industries. Their voices are often heard in the interests of those industries.

THE STAGE BAND

Who said the Stage Band Presentation is worn out? On February 24, the Squadronaires, ably directed by Jimmy Miller, made their debut at that most coveted of all variety dates, the London Palladium.

BUTLIN'S

This newspaper is keeping its eagle eye on developments from the Butlin Camp. The Butlin social system is the greatest contribution to the welfare of the music industry we have ever seen.

THE ROSE ROOM

On Sunday, February 23, the Rose Room was obliged to transfer itself to Fishers in Bond Street, owing to previous bookings at its usual locale.

SURVIVAL

In our national emergency we are being forced more and more to depend on our own resources. Our own coal, our own wheat, and a great deal of our own produce in all spheres.

It has often been said that jazz is, or should be, improvised music. Some critics even go so far as to say that improvisation is the chief characteristic of jazz.

When we talk of improvisation, it must be remembered, however, that there is seldom such a thing as "pure" improvisation, in the literal sense.

Musical environment and background play a great part in conditioning the form of an improvised variation, and a solo repeated in the same atmosphere and with the same background varies little from one performance to another.

Armstrong comes to rehearse with his band. They show him an arrangement of, for instance, "Jeepers Creepers," more or less built around his vocal artistry.

On the other hand, although a good deal more improvisation is practised by small bands, there is always a planned routine for every number, and as the musicians become accustomed to this routine and to each other's playing they will most likely find themselves improvising solos of a very similar type for similar tunes.

My own opinion is that if music is used at all it should be the best that can be devised according to the requirements of the picture. I do not agree that interest in the story will be diverted if the music is too good.

THIS BACKGROUND BUSINESS

by George Melachrino

FAMILIARITY BREEDS CONTEMPT, GOES THE OLD SAYING, AND THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT OUR RESPECT DOES DIMINISH WHEN THE OBJECT OF OUR ADMIRATION ENTERS INTO THE COMMON ROUND OF OUR DAILY LIVES.

It is all the more remarkable to contemplate, that in these days of enlightenment the vast majority of people spend more time listening to symphony orchestras than to any other kind of music.

Now before you all reach for your pens and notepaper to call me a liar, let me hasten to remind you that every time you see a cinema programme you, also, listen to approximately one and a half to two hours of symphony orchestra music.

Did I say a kind of music totally unknown years ago? As Professor Joad says, "It all depends on what you mean by 'kind.'"

Certain it is that the youngest of our great industries has introduced a medium of artistic expression which has attracted many composers both good and bad; a medium which in one sense might lay claim to being an innovation, yet in another to following an ancient mode.

I hate to parody that noble phrase, but it is in keeping with the parodies of noble musical phrases with which we have been plagued for some time now. Musical parodies perpetrated by the unscrupulous, the claim jumpers in the gold rush of this industry of film making.

work, but this is the exception rather than the rule.

For all the talk that there is about improvisation in jazz, there is one thing that is generally overlooked—the improvisation of the rhythm section.

Now, let us suppose that Armstrong is being featured in a jam session with a group of musicians other than those with whom he normally plays, and one of the numbers chosen is "Jeepers Creepers." Circumstances being different, it is certain that he will play choruses that bear but small relation to the "standard" variations on this tune that he performs with his own band.

And now for another aspect of jazz improvisation. It is well known that there are two ways of improvising on a given tune.

First of all, you can have variations on the melody, which nevertheless remains recognisable; or you can build a new melodic line on the chordal sequence. Nowadays, however, there is a growing tendency for young musicians to create chordal variations without concern for melodic substance, and too often their solos turn out to be nothing but broken arpeggios on the original chords of the number, with occasional variation by way of diminished or augmented chord.

Whilst I like some of this modern style of improvisation, I think it is on the highest level, for example, the work of men like

MUCH sorrow is expressed over the recent tragic death of GRACE MOORE. She was one of America's best-loved personalities as a great singer and one who appealed to every class of listener.

Columbia has recorded Serge Prokofiev's 5th Symphony, performed by RODZINSKI and the New York Philharmonic. Fifteen years elapsed between the composition of Prokofiev's Fourth and Fifth Symphonies.

It is reported here that COUNT BASIE will be a future command performer at Buckingham Palace for Britain's Royal Family.

Twenty-seven-year-old band-leader LOUIS JORDAN was recently treated for knife wounds in Pasadena, California.

"Martins" in Jackson Heights, N.Y., features LANA, girl tenor player and a trio. Long rated the best feminine sax player in the States, her real name is LANA HYAMS.

BENNY GOODMAN has signed with Capitol Records, the West Coast record company, ably conducted by JOHNNY MERCER.

BENNY GOODMAN has commissioned composer PAUL HINDEMITH to write a solo number for him. Also AARON and SAMUEL BARBER.

FOR EVERYTHING MUSICAL from a Gramophone needle to a Grand Piano KEITH PROWSE KEITH PROWSE & Co.Ltd.

RIGID! SNARE DRUM OR CYMBAL NEW FOLDING BASE COMPLETE LEG FREEDOM DIE-MOLDED FOLDING ONE SCREW ADJUSTMENT CHROMIUM PLATED AND DEAD RIGID

BRITAIN'S BEST BARGAINS GUITAR, EPIPHONE, cello built, \$35. Trumpet, COLESON, brass, new, \$18. Alto Sax, SELMER, full size, S.P., \$17.

JACK HEYWORTH The Recognized Authority on REEDS and MOUTHPIECES MANUFACTURER OF the PARAMOUNT MUSICAL PRODUCTS, E. J. ALBERT (Brussels) CLARINET & THE CHOICE of the world's leading reed players.

MATCHETTS IRELANDY BAND OF BELFAST N. IRELAND 44-WELLINGTON PLACE INSTRUMENT CENTRE

BETTER BARGAINS Trumpet, Student Prince, Slender, Dance model, S.P., perfect... Alto Sax, Conn, G.L., Low pitch, every improvement as new... Trombone, Champion, dance model, L.P., S.P., L.B. & bell...

MUSICAL QUIZ by JACK DUARTE (1) Which instrument bears a name entirely incorrect? (2) From what diseases did the following composers suffer in latter years of their lives? (a) Beethoven (b) Bach (c) Delius (d) Schubert.



Wrote music for "Shop at Sly Corner" GEORGE MELACHRINO

TOP HITS OF YESTERDAY
GREAT POPULAR STANDARDS TODAY
TEMPTATION • MOONLIGHT SERENADE
ST. LOUIS BLUES • MISS ANNABELLE LEE
MY BLUE HEAVEN • CHINA BOY
ALWAYS • MARIE
CHINATOWN MY CHINATOWN MY MELANCHOLY BABY
SOUTH RAMPART ST. BARRE
DARKTOWN STROTTERS BALL
WHEN YOUR LOVER HAS GONE

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER LTD.
138140 CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.2

Blue Rockets! LEADER NOT TO DISBAND
Defy Snow SIGNS FOR FIFTH YEAR

In spite of the cold spell, the Blue Rockets have not been greatly affected by any lack of attendance during their appearances in the North. At the Queen's Hall, Preston... Harry Leader, who has just completed his fourth year at the Astoria Dance Hall...

Rumours have been prevalent in the business regarding the breaking up of several well-known bands. The latest to suffer from these malicious rumours is the Vic Lewis Orchestra. The Lewis Orchestra will be doing their first broadcast this Friday, March 7, from 6.45-6.15 p.m., in the Light Programme...

YORKSHIRE BAND IN FILM

When discussions were in progress to obtain atmosphere for the big Viennese ballroom set which is a feature of "Holiday Camp," the new Sydeco Box film in production at Shepherds Bush Studios...

LAWRENCE WRIGHT PRESENTS THE TERRIFIC CONTINENTAL NOVELTY "ACCORDION"
BACKED WITH THE GREATEST OF ALL KIDDY SONGS
"PRETTY LITTLE DIRTY FACE"
DOUBLE ORCH. S.O. 3 - (3/2 Post Free)

LAWRENCE WRIGHT
19, DENMARK STREET, LONDON, W.C.2. TEMPLE BAR 2141

CHEAPEST and BEST
Grafton ELECTRIC GUITAR
This super electronic instrument has been universally adopted by the most discriminating pleasure artists in the profession...

COLEMAN TELEVISES

Providing free restrictions on television are off by that date, Blanche Coleman and her Orchestra will have been the first ladies' band to televise, on March 5. As we go to press, it does not seem likely that using her usual fourteen-piece band in which her new boss player, Marjorie Sloan, is also featured as a dancer...

"Red House" Score Recorded as Symphony

Dr. Miklos Rozsa's musical score for the Edward G. Robinson-Lionel Barrymore co-starring "The Red House" has been arranged for a symphonic suite and will be recorded in album form by Capitol Records...

GET THAT AUTOGRAT
You can depend on it! There's life — there's rhythm — and the most pleasing advance in design.
JOHN GREY & SONS (LONDON) LTD.
74-76 IRONMONGER ROW, LONDON, E.C.1

B & H BARGAINS
B Flat Trumpet, Martin, U.S.A., silver-plated, as new, in case £32 0 0
E Flat Alto Saxophone, Selmer Super, full range, silver-plated, complete in case, low pitch, as new... £57 0 0

LUCRAFT AT BENTALLS

Due to the great popularity of Howard Lucraft and his Music at Bentalls' Restaurant, Kingston, they were retained for a further week, ending March 1. Steve Race featured special piano solos and guest artists were the well-known accordionist Emilio and well-known violinist bandleader Rudy Rome...

Weir at Studio Club

Last Monday, March 3, Frank Weir opened at the Studio Club with his new Quartet, consisting of Ralph Sharon, Teddy Wardmore, Bobby Kevin and Weir...

LEN REED RETURNS TO RADIO

Len Reed, well-known impressionist who had two hundred broadcasts with Harry Leader to his credit before joining the Army, has done his first return to radio since his demobilisation as guest artist with the Carroll Lewis Show on March 9.

Bosworth Presents The Sensational Samba VEM VEM
(The Cuban Kissing Game)
Recorded by XAVIER CUGAT. Featured by EDMUNDO ROS FRANCISCO CONDE, EL MARIQÜE and the SONG PEDLARS in "Navy Mixture." ORCH. 3s. 6d. Song 1s.

COUNT BASIE'S Original Jump Tune ON BASIE STREET
Scored by Don Redman. Orchestration 3s. 6d
BOSWORTH & Co., Ltd., 14-18, Heddon St., Regent St. LONDON, W.1.

C and C's NEW ORCHESTRATIONS
ONE SWEET LETTER FROM YOU
CERRY RIFE. COCKLES & MUSSELS
DROP ME OFF IN: HARLEM
MUSIC FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Open the Door Richard!
OF COURSE IT'S Leeds Music Ltd.
21 Denmark Street, London, W.C.2
Temple Bar 3856 (6 lines)

IN THE NORTH

HALLE news this week is of the enthusiastic reception given to John Barbilrolli on his return from his Continental tour. Reports of this tour show something of the extremely high prestige enjoyed by Barbilrolli and thereby British music, in the European countries. On Wednesday, February 26, we found him at the Albert Hall, where his concerto accompaniments proved a brilliant foil for the virtuosity of Clifford Curzon...

BY Billy Butler

Band." Then you will conjure up visions of little schoolchildren beating it out with "Mary had a little lamb."... Max's band, however, will not rehearse in the kindergarten, for his novel venture is really a club for percussionists. Max, of course, has long had a wide teaching connection, and many players owe their dexterity to his able tuition...

BRON'S 55-59 OXFORD STREET, London, W.1
All THE PUBLISHERS' ORCHESTRATIONS IN STOCK
Solely in London, W.1

THE SAXOPHONE SHOP
FIRST POSTWAR IMPORTATION OF THE FAMOUS "LORVAL REED"
Clt 1/4 Alto 1/8 Tenor 2-3d. postage with each order

TRUMPET-PLAYERS! THE PRITCHARD TWO CUP MOUTHPIECE
Improve your tone, range and response

HARTLEY'S FOR ORCHESTRATIONS
All Popular and Standard Dance Orchestras Stocked
C.O.D. orders on receipt of postcard. Hartley's Music Stores 79, VICAR LANE, LEEDS

NEW Bass COVERS
Pre-war quality and colour, extra-heavy, water proof, with usual pockets, re-inforced with leather. 6/6 1/2

HAVE YOU THOUGHT?

A PHOTOGRAPH IS BETTER THAN A VISITING CARD
LET US PICTURE YOUR BAND IN ACTION — REAL LIVE STUFF
Photographs of Weddings, Receptions, Banquets and Social Functions of all descriptions a speciality

CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISCELLANEOUS
MODERN Experienced PIANIST go anywhere. SPEZVED 332.
TRUMPET. Boosey. Solihull. 116344.
LIMITED QUANTITY black bow ties. Latest pointed end type. Fastens with button, 6/6d. Also "butterfly" type, 5/6d.

REPAIRS... REPAIRS... REPAIRS... AT LAST!
A Super Efficient Service IN LONDON'S NEWEST & LARGEST FACTORY
Work executed to your own exact and specific requirements.

Besson
"Can't do the gig-had my instruments swiped!"
Is This YOU? ALL-RISKS COVER FOR YOUR INSTRUMENTS

CORNET & TRUMPET MUTES
The best value to-day. Strongly made throughout of heavy-gauge aluminium, bright finish.
ALL-IN-ONE... 13/2
WOW-WOW... 9/2

Francis, Day & Hunter Ltd.
138140 CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.2

ROYAL ALBERT HALL
FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 14th, at 7.30

A Lyndof-Joel Presentation
TOLIEFSEN
The World's Greatest Accordionist
Playing The First Accordion Concerto with The LONDON INTERNATIONAL ORCHESTRA
Conductor — Fistulari KYRA VAYNE—Soprano

TUITION
Saxophone. For all instruments. Forrester School of Modern Music, 7, Denmark Street, W.C.2. Temple Bar 1148.
BANDS AVAILABLE. For all occasions. Arthur Forrester Organists, 7, Denmark Street, W.C.2. Temple Bar 1148.

"WORTH-WHILE" INSTRUMENTS
BUESCHER "Aristocrat" Alto Saxophone. Large bore, very powerful tone. Perfectly balanced. Excellent quality. Gold lacquered. 12 keys. Fine Grandsola wood.

Lew Davis
Complete Accessories range; everything for drummers; saxophone mouthpieces; brass mouthpieces; stands, strings, bridges, pick-ups, buttons, etc.
134 CHARING X RD., W.C.2

FOR ALL GUITARS
Tensioned for dependability and strength. Fashioned from selected materials for superior tone, full volume and ease of playing.

REHEARSE and HEAR THE RESULT!
RECORD YOUR BROADCAST, PRODUCE or ADDITIONS FOR INTEREST and HISTORICAL INTEREST. DEVELOP microphone technique. SPECIAL professional rate for our "HEAR YOURSELF HALF-HOUR FOR FREE" RECORDING. Record that sound back on your gramophone RING MATTAR 481. GUI de BUIRE STUDIOS, 8213, NEW BOND STREET, W.1