

Jazz

May concert features tenor saxophonist

By LARRY RENI THOMAS
Staff Writer

Dexter Gordon, the great bebop jazz tenor saxophonist, will appear in concert at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Wednesday May 6 at The St. Joseph's Performance Center in Durham.

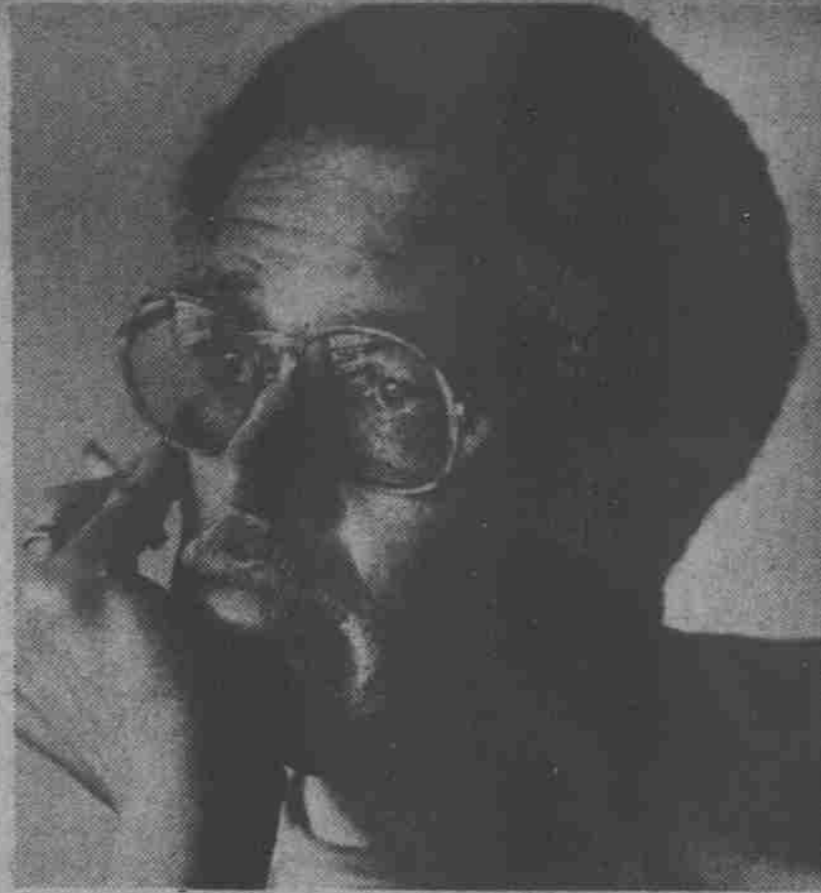
Gordon, who some have called the "King of the Tenor Bebop Saxophonists," will be returning to Durham by popular demand after a successful concert last summer.

"We are definitely looking forward to coming back down there," said Gordon, during a recent telephone interview. "The people in Durham treated us so nice the last time we were there. Everybody was so warm and lovely. We are really looking forward to coming through there again."

Gordon, who was in New York "relaxing and rehearsing," said that he has been overwhelmed by his new popularity. "These young kids are the greatest," he said. "They love my music. They are happy to hear this kind of music. It's new to them. It opens up their minds. You know, because they have been listening to that rock 'n' roll for so long. And when someone like me comes along, they eat it up. I love it, man. I like to be able to do that."

Gordon will be appearing in Durham along with his quartet: Kirk Lightsey, pianist; David Eubanks, bassist and Eddie Gladden, drummer, and a local jazz act which has yet to be announced. They are expected to be in Durham on Tuesday and will be participating in a live interview on WDBS-FM, the local jazz station, that night. Gordon will also be featured in a telephone interview Saturday on WXYC-FM's "Jazz on a Sunday Afternoon."

"We just got back from Japan," said Dexter, who was



Dexter Gordon returns by popular demand ... "King of the Tenor Bebop Saxophonists"

recently the recipient of *Downbeat Magazine's* Hall of Fame, Top Jazzman of the Year and Top Tenor Saxophonist of the Year awards. "We got a tremendous reception. We've been in New York for about ten days."

Gordon said that he was thoroughly satisfied with his group, and that he was anxious to see what his Durham fans thought of Eubanks, the new bass player.

"We're just relaxing and rehearsing," said Gordon. "We go back on the road in May. So tell everybody hello and that 'Big Red' is swell."

The concert is being sponsored by the Sallam Cultural Center, a non-profit cultural and educational organization based in Durham. Tickets may be purchased at the Sallam and in Chapel Hill at Big Shot Records for \$6.

Author-critic defends music

"I think the state of jazz is strong, refreshing and developing. I think it's in good shape," said Amiri Baraka, noted playwright, author, teacher and jazz critic.

Baraka, also known as Leroi Jones, was in Chapel Hill this past month to attend a conference on black scholars.

After his speech, the short, bearded and talkative New Jersey native talked candidly in the lobby of the auditorium about jazz, a subject about which he has written extensively, most notably in two highly-acclaimed books, *The Blues People* and *Black Music*.

"Jazz didn't die after bebop," he insisted.

Baraka also said he didn't like the term *avant-garde* as a way to describe the "new" jazz music played by alto saxophonist Arthur Blythe, reedman David Murray, Air, the Chicago Art Ensemble and the World Saxophone Quartet.

"Louis Armstrong played *avant-garde* jazz," he said. "At least that's what some people called it when they first heard it back then."

Baraka had high praise for young performers like Blythe and Murray, whom he said had a great deal of fire and should be watched closely.

"Jazz ain't dead. It's alive and growing," said Baraka. "And it will remain so because the people who play it are going to see to it that this is the case. You dig?"

— LARRY RENI THOMAS

Week-long celebration starts in Durham today

By JED LELAND
Staff Writer

DURHAM — The Carolina Theatre, 215 Roney St., will have a week of special programs to celebrate the Durham County Centennial. Among the highlights will be the appearances of Blanche Sweet, a silent screen star and Victor Nunez, an independent filmmaker.

The celebration kicks off today with special shows of *Footlight Parade* at 7:15 p.m. and *San Francisco* at 9:17 p.m. The two movies of the 1930s will be shown at the low prices of that decade: 75¢ for adults and 25¢ for children. *Footlight Parade*, a 1933 Busby Berkeley musical, stars James Cagney as a feisty Broadway producer. *San Francisco*, with a script by Anita Loos, stars Clark Gable, Spencer Tracy and Jeannette MacDonald in a story of love amid the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.

Saturday there is an afternoon of westerns. Milo Holt, an expert on B movie westerns will host the event which runs from 2:30 until 5 p.m. *Destry Rides Again*, the 1932 version of Max Brand's novel with Tom Mix and Zasu Pitts, will be shown. Also *Oh Susannah*, a rarely seen film with Hoot Gibson and Smiley Burnette, will be screened. And prizes will be given to the best dressed cowboy and cowgirl under 16 years of age in attendance.

Gal Young Un, an independent film made by Victor Nunez, will be shown at 8:15 p.m. Saturday. The film is set in the

backwoods section of Florida during the prohibition era. The film has received high critical praise and was shown at the Cannes, New York, London and Edinburgh film festivals. Director Nunez will be present at the screening.

Sunday is Blanche Sweet day; two silent and one early sound features starring Sweet will be shown. *Anna Christie*, the 1924 silent version of Eugene O'Neill's play, will be shown at 2 and 5:05 p.m. *Showgirl in Hollywood*, the tale of a New York showgirl who becomes a movie star only to be forgotten when sound pictures arrive, will be shown at 3:35 and 9:15 p.m. At 7:30 p.m. Blanche Sweet will speak on her experiences in Hollywood. And *The Sportswing Venus*, in which Sweet plays a Scottish heiress forbidden by her father to marry the commoner she loves, will be shown at 7:45 p.m.

Monday the short *Tribute to An Artist: Paul Robeson*, which examines the career of the extraordinary singer and actor, will be shown at 8:15 p.m. And *Cabin in the Sky*, with Ethel Waters, Eddie "Rochester" Anderson, Lena Horne, Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington, will be shown after the Robeson short.

And Tuesday *As You Desire Me*, with Greta Garbo as a cafe entertainer who has amnesia, will be shown at 7:20 p.m. *All About Eve*, with Bette Davis, George Sanders, Anne Baxter and Marilyn Monroe, will be shown at 8:35 p.m.

For more information call the Carolina Theatre at 688-1939.

Reduced bus service to begin

Altered summer bus service for Chapel Hill and Carrboro and changes in campus parking for the summer will begin in May.

Chapel Hill Transit spokeswoman Julie Sellers said reduced bus service will begin May 12 and continue until August 14.

"There won't be any rate change or reduction in the number of routes," she said. "There is just a reduction in the number of buses that run and a change in the times."

The reduced bus schedules are printed on all Chapel Hill Transit brochures along with the regular schedules. They

are available at the Carolina Union desk and various other locations in Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

Campus parking stickers will be available for both sessions of summer school, the UNC traffic office said.

Stickers will be available for the same lots that are available during the regular school year—N-4, S-3, S-4, S-5, and F.

All stickers are \$9 per summer session and students may come in May 26 to fill out applications and pick up their stickers for first session, and July 6 for second session.

—JEANNIE REYNOLDS

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