

WXYC Top 20 Albums

ARTIST

1. Drivin-n-Cryin
2. Flaming Lips
3. FIREHOSE
4. The Clean
5. Sidewinders
6. Neville Brothers
7. The Connells
8. De La Soul
9. Green on Red
10. My Bloody Valentine
11. Red Temple Spirits
12. Robyn Hitchcock-n-the Egyptians
13. Dirty Dozen Brass Band
14. Wygals
15. Peppino D'agostino
16. The Brood
17. Gaye Bikers on Acid
18. The Sandman
19. House of Freaks
20. The Cult

ALBUM

1. Mystery Road
2. Telepathic Surgery
3. FROMOHIO
4. Compilation
5. Witch Doctor
6. Yellow Moon
7. Fun and Games
8. 3 Feet High and Rising
9. Here Come the Snakes
10. Isn't Anything
11. Dancing to Restore an Eclipsed Moon
12. Queen Elvis
13. Voodoo
14. Honyocks in the Whithersoever
15. Spark
16. In Spite of it All
17. Stewed to the Gills
18. Western Blood
19. Tantilla
20. Sonic Temple

N.C. Umbria Jazz Festival to mix music with international flavor

By ANNE-RENEE RICE
Staff Writer

Put a little culture into your life. Spend a weekend attending jazz events around the Triangle area.

It's the North Carolina Umbria Jazz Festival. The festival started April 5 and lasts until April 16. Grab a date or a fellow jazz lover and start the evening off at Tipton's Restaurant in the Durham Hilton. The Italian Jazz All-Stars will serenade diners tonight from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Be sure to make reservations, 383-8033.

The Italian Jazz All-Stars are a group of musicians under 40 years of age that came straight from Italy for the Jazz Festival. Members include Maurizio Caldura, tenor sax; Marcello Tonolo, piano; Marc Abrams, bass; and Paulo Pellegatti, drums.

That's Italian, folks!

"It's hard to get much information on the All-Stars because their press information is in Italian. Basically, they're up-and-coming musicians in Italy," said Lee Hansley, public relations manager and festival coordinator.

If you're really ambitious and a quick eater to boot, you may want to head over St. Augustine's College in Raleigh after dinner at Tipton's to hear the Terence Blanchard Quintet. The concert starts at 8 p.m. in Emery Building. Call 828-4451 for ticket information.

Perhaps you can't make the Thursday night shows, but don't despair — The Italian Jazz All-Stars take the stage again Friday evening from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Pickett Suite Hotel in RTP. The show will be free.

Also performing Friday night is the Terence Blanchard Quintet. They will play at 8 p.m. at The Weeping Radish restaurant located in Durham. Tickets are \$8. For information, call 682-2337.

The Umbria Jazz Festival certainly offers a full weekend to jazz it up. The fun continues all day and evening on Saturday, April 15.

For starters, The N.C. School of the Arts Jazz Ensemble, the Italian Jazz All-Stars and Dick Gable's Dixieland Jazz Band will give a free concert starting at 2 p.m. at Pullen Park in Raleigh. The Italian Jazz All-Stars play again Saturday night in Durham at Tipton's restaurant from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

A special treat on Saturday is the Marian McPartland Trio. Marian McPartland, a jazz pianist, headlines the festival, and her trio's performance promises to be a festival highlight. The McPartland concert, sponsored by WUNC Radio and North Carolina State University Center Stage, will be held in Stewart Theatre on the NCSU campus at 8 p.m., Saturday, April 15.

Tickets to the McPartland concert are \$15 and \$10 for students

and may be purchased at the Stewart Theatre box office. Call 737-3104.

The All-Stars will wind up the festival Sunday evening at 7:30 p.m. with a performance at The ArtsCenter in Carrboro. Tickets are \$4 and \$5. Call 942-ARTS for more information.

Students should take advantage of a high-quality festival like this, which is centered around their schedules.

"The festival is in the spring so that students can take advantage of the entertainment while they're still on campus," said Hansley.

Hansley handles the program, which was started six years ago by Paul Jeffrey. Before founding the festival, Jeffrey, head of the Jazz Studies program at Duke, ran a jazz clinic in Umbria, Italy — the largest clinic in Europe and one of the largest in the world.

While in Italy, Jeffrey conceived the idea to start an international exchange between Italian and U.S. jazz musicians. Upon returning to the states, he started a small jazz festival that stayed within Duke University for three years.

Now the festival has branched out into the Triangle area and even hosts performers in Charlotte and Laurinburg as well.

"The N.C. Umbria Jazz Festival is one of the two international jazz festivals in the U.S. The other one is held in Montreux in Detroit," said Hansley — hence the N.C. Umbria Jazz Festival's fame as "The South's Only International Jazz Festival."

Where does 'Umbria' come from?

"Umbria is a town in Italy about the size of the Triangle, roughly housing 600,000 people. And most importantly, it is the location for the jazz clinic where Jeffrey taught," said Hansley.

The Festival Board of Directors has prepared quite an entourage of entertainment for jazz lovers. Take some time out to attend some of the performances. You might just come away dancing!

Network TV in the '80s: a review

By WINSTON LLOYD
Staff Writer

For my last three entries in this space, I will depart from the individual program reviews for two weeks and look at the general state of television today. This week, the once monopolistic networks come under scrutiny. Next week, my top 10 series of the 1980s (actually numbers two through 10) and finally, on April 27, the best show of the decade.

During the '80s, the major networks have seen their power eroded. Even though their ad revenues have increased, viewership has fallen and ABC, CBS, and NBC no longer hold the monopoly on the business that they enjoyed in the 1970s. Instead, they have seen more than half the nation's households hook up to cable, and more and more people are watching it. The April 8 issue of TV Guide held even more bad news for the Big Three. It seems a poll by the Roper Organization indicates that nearly twice as many Americans prefer cable when watching entertainment programs. Network news, however, is favored, even though news staffs have been drastically cut over the last few years. This is best for ABC. With "World News Tonight," "Nightline," "This Week with David Brinkley," "20/20" and the "Sam and Diane Show," as the press has dubbed the forthcoming Donaldson and Sawyer effort, ABC stands ready. But news alone cannot save the networks.

As a matter of fact, saving the networks has been accomplished by old, familiar programs and the occasional new hit. NBC is in the best position to groom a new favorite, but ABC is gaining rapidly. In the dawn of the decade, NBC was pathetic. Then came entertainment president Brandon Tartikoff. He was risky, and he trusted innovators and those who were simply good writers. "Hill Street

Blues" was rated low, but NBC was used to low ratings, so he kept it on the air because it was a quality product. Ironically, that's when a network takes its biggest risks — when desperate. From this period grew "Family Ties," "Cheers" and "St. Elsewhere," but Tartikoff still needed a hit to get these shows their audience.

And God created Bill Cosby. Finally with a hit in 1984, NBC had a way to bring an audience to a Thursday night lineup. "The Cosby Show" and "Family Ties" are now the highest-rated series in the history of television. Bigger than "I Love Lucy." Higher than "M*A*S*H." More successful than "Ed Sullivan."

That stroke of genius and luck by NBC spelled the beginning of the decline of CBS. The Columbia Broadcasting System's four-year-old, top 10 hit "Magnum, P.I." dropped from the top 20 and was no longer a good lead-in for the former hit "Simon and Simon." CBS didn't realize this right away and ended up losing Thursday for good. It began trying everything it had tried before, but the audience wanted something different, found it on NBC, and CBS was taken over both in the ratings and by investor Lawrence Tisch. Meanwhile, ABC, then in the No. 3 position, was purchased by Capital Cities Communications (remember when WRAL-TV 5 and WTVD-11 switched networks).

Before it was too late, ABC caught on. Brandon Stoddard bought "Moonlighting" and continued to develop innovative programming. He gambled: on a failed talk show host and on "Growing Pains." On a failed sitcom actor, "Who's the Boss." On a confused decade, "The Wonder Years." On whining yuppies, "thirtysomething." And most successfully on what is generally unpopular, a comedienne, "Roseanne." Roseanne Barr's comedy placed

ahead of "Cosby" for four weeks before slipping to second place last week. ABC gained what CBS still doesn't have — a top five show that will keep people tuned to the network for a least a half hour more. "Anything But Love" with Jamie Lee Curtis, is now benefiting. So if ABC or NBC wants to launch a new show, you'll find it after "Roseanne" of "Cosby."

CBS only recently woke up, but it was too late. In a cross between "The Wonder Years" and "thirtysomething," CBS tried "Almost Grown," a show which would have hit right off two years ago, but now has struggled to find an audience. It's gone now, but might be back. "Wiseguy," "Designing Women" and "Murphy Brown" are other bright spots on the schedule, but loyalty to the falling "Dallas," "Falcon Crest" and "The Equalizer" could be holding the network back. And continued 'high-concept,' off-the-wall efforts like "Hard Time on Planet Earth" are embarrassing for the once proud network. Next season, they are bringing back Rick Springfield (last on TV with "Battiestar Galactica") for the high-concept "Nick Knight," about a vampire. Remember, we thought "ALF" was a dumb idea.

Now, while ABC is still fighting for first, NBC is becoming conservative and going for the cheap rating. "Nightingales" is taking the audience from good shows "China Beach" and "Wiseguy," while a "Beetlejuice" rip-off aired Monday. CBS, meanwhile, will find something, and all the networks will switch places again. But overall, the networks seem to be trying harder and are giving us better products, while tabloid television is allowed to grow on cable and in syndication. The good gets better and the bad gets worse, but the quality is still on the Big Three.



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