

Alumni jazz concert

Performers rock the stage

By Carmen Boone
Copy Editor

The Alumni Jazz Band put on a concert Saturday, Oct. 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Porter Center's Scott Concert Hall. It was yet another spectacular performance.

Jamie Warren, the director, also plays trombone in the band. To kick off the concert, the band began with a piece called "In the Mood," written by Joe Garland and arranged by Glenn Miller.

Second in the set was an original piece not listed on the program called "Two Bone BBQ." Third was Ellington and Strayhorn's "Satin Doll," arranged by Sammy Nestico.

After that came "Someone to Watch Over Me," by George and Ira Gershwin, arranged by Dave Wolpe. Karen Dale, class of 1979, sang a fantastic solo in this piece.

Cedric Guthrie was the next talented vocalist who sang in Hoagy Carmichael's "Georgia," also arranged by Wolpe. Then Dale was welcomed back for a soulful "Fever," by John

Davenport and Eddie Cooley, arranged by Roger Holmes.

For the seventh piece of the night, Guthrie was the soloist in Bart Howard's "Fly Me to the Moon," arranged by Nestico. Guthrie did an incredible job. A short 10 minute intermission followed.

"720 In the Books," by Jan Savitt and Johnny Watson was the piece to start the show back up after intermission. Then, there was a surprise in store for a member of the band. Dr. Kathryn Gresham invited the band and the audience to sing Happy Birthday to Chris Center for his 24 birthday that night.

Following that, the concert resumed with Duke Ellington's "Concerto For Cootie," featuring a trumpet solo by Cory Hall. After that was a spectacular piece. Anthony Newley's "Feeling Good" was accompanied by vocalist Paul Gerber who did a great job filling the room with lots of soul.

The next piece was full of solos left and right as it rocked the audience for minutes on end. It was titled "Manteca," written by Dizzy

Gillespie and arranged by Steve Owen. The solos included: Daniel Ethridge on the piano, Staci Spring on the bassoon, Chris Walters on the trombone, Wes Parker on the alto saxophone and bongos played by current senior Ryan Burnette.

Next was Yoko Kanno's "Tank!" Parker had another alto saxophone solo in that piece. Then in the supposed last piece of the night, Maynard Ferguson's "Fire Shaker," Warren had a trombone solo and Bull Canty had one on the trumpet.

Then, Warren had another special surprise before the concert was over. The band had prepared another encore tune for the audience who went wild to hear it. It included solos by Kyle Jackola on the tenor saxophone, Canty on trumpet and Dave Hardy on guitar.

The concert was a major success and all who attended enjoyed a marvelous, jazzy set of music performed by talented musicians.

Saxophones:

Wes Parker - alto
Chris Center - alto
Kyle Jackola - tenor
Mike Meyers - baritone

Trombones:

Jamie Warren
Chris Walters
Tommy Spittle
Davis Whitfield-Cargile

Trumpets:

Deangelo Smotherson
Bull Canty
Cory Hall
Cameron Nixon

Rhythm Section:

Chris Morgan - guitar
Dave Hardy - guitar
Staci Spring - piano
Daniel Ethridge - piano
Gerald Dishon - bass
Jeremy Blake - bass
Byron Hedgepeth - drums

Vocals:

Cedric Guthrie
Karen Dale
Paul Gerber

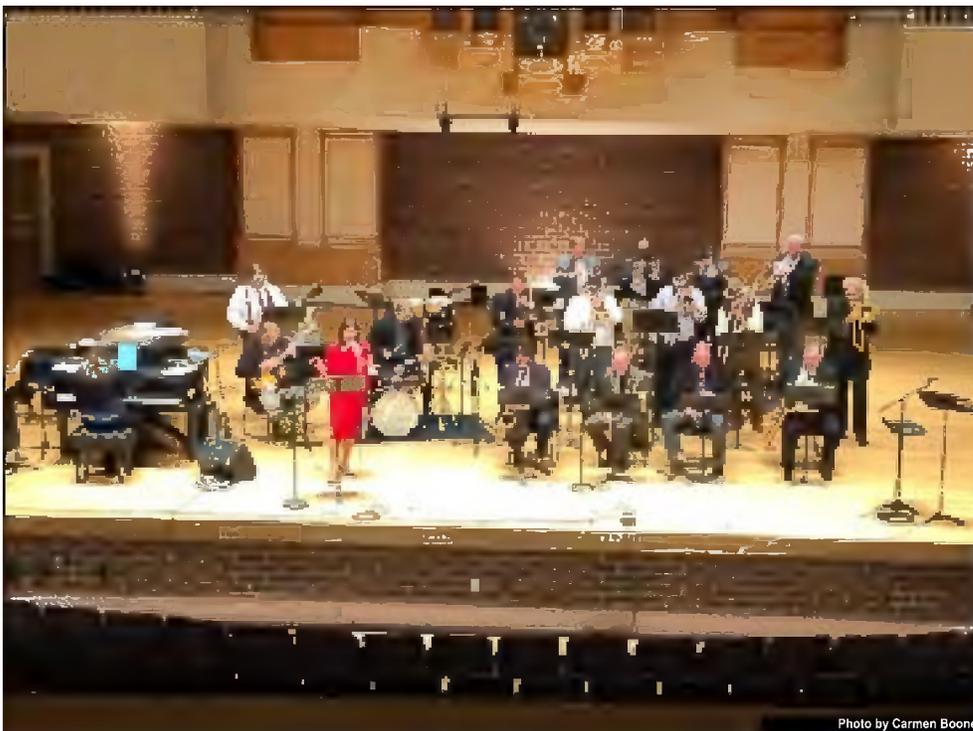


Photo by Carmen Boone

The Alumni Jazz Band joined by vocalist Karen Dale (red) as they bring the house down in 'Fever.'