

Niewood displays musical magic

By SAM RAINEY



Gerry Niewood

Photo by Greg Clark

The dazzling tones of Gerry Niewood's saxophone and flute added a brilliance to the sometimes lilting, often fiery sound of

the Chuck Mangione Quartet in their performance last Wednesday night in the EMU Ballroom. A crowd of 850 responded in clamorous approval throughout, delivering a standing ovation following the high-energy finale.

The finest moments of the first set belonged to Niewood, who displayed musical magic on a variety of instruments in quick succession. Between driving saxophone solos he played a nimble piccolo and a lyrical flute, most captivantly in the rendition of "Soft."

Mangione's flugelhorn was rich, full, and often exhilarating. A solid wave of applause greeted every virtuoso performance. His imaginative keyboard was heard on many of the selections, most of them taken from recent albums, including "Chasing the Clouds Away."

Joe LaBarbera's deft drum solo was well-received, but jarred these ears. The pounding bass drum line seemed too thunderous for the airy melody in which it was framed.

The Quartet's most distinctive musical form is a sweet, simple melody progressing into complex dancing variations.

On "Legend of the One Eyed Sailor" the Quartet's slightly avant-garde quality was most apparent, a flavor with a Latin edge to it.

A precise, sparkling flute-flugelhorn-saxophone exchange between Mangione and Niewood served as the high-intensity finale, and brought the crowd to its feet with a prolonged roar of approval.

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- Feb. 5 - Thursday - 7 p.m. - Music Workshop - Room 167 EMU - FREE - U of O
 7 p.m. - Theatre Workshop - EMU Forum - FREE - U of O
 7 p.m. - Dance Workshop - EMU Ballroom - FREE - U of O
- Feb. 6 - Friday - 10 a.m. - Open Rehearsal - EMU Ballroom - FREE - U of O
 12 noon - Music for the State - EMU Ballroom - FREE - U of O
 8 p.m. - "Moon Mysteries" - Sheldon High School, 2455 Willakenzie Road - Students and Senior Citizens \$2, General Admission \$2.50
- Feb. 7 - 10 a.m. - Dance Technique Workshop - LCC Dance Department - FREE
 11:30 a.m. - Dance Improvisation Workshop - LCC Dance Department - FREE
 10 a.m. - Drama Workshop - Room 167 EMU - FREE - U of O
 8 p.m. - "Primordial Voices" - South Eugene High School, 400 East 19th Street - Students and Senior Citizens \$2, General Admission \$2.50
- Feb. 8 - 3 p.m. - "Orphee" - Oregon State University - Memorial Ballroom - \$2.50 and \$3
 5 p.m. - Dance Workshop - Dance Department - OSU - FREE
 8 p.m. - "Primordial Voices" - Oregon State University - Memorial Ballroom - \$2.50 and \$3
- Feb. 9 - 10:10 - 10:40 a.m. - North Eugene High School Assembly, 200 Silver Lane - FREE
 10:40-12:00 noon - North Eugene High School Performing Arts Students - FREE
 12:30-2:15 p.m. - Gerlinger Annex 353 - Intermediate Advanced Dance - FREE
 2:05-2:45 p.m. - Churchill High School Assembly, 1850 Bailey Hill Road - FREE
 8 p.m. - Beall Concert Hall - U of O School of Music - "Orphee" - Students and Senior Citizens \$2, General Admission \$2.50
- Feb. 10 - 9:27-10:15 a.m. - Sheldon High School Assembly, 2455 Willakenzie Road - FREE
 10:15-11:30 a.m. - Sheldon High School Performing Arts Students - FREE
 8 p.m. - "Moon Mysteries" - Churchill High School, 1850 Bailey Hill Road - Students and Senior Citizens \$2, General Admission \$2.50

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 Feb. 10 CHURCHILL H.S. 8:00 p.m.

Primordial Voices:

Feb. 7 SOUTH EUGENE H.S. 8:00 p.m.

Orphee:

Feb. 9 U of O. BEALL CONCERT HALL 8:00 p.m.

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All art is both surface and symbol.
 -Oscar Wilde

Designed and edited by Jenifer Blumberg

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