

Jazz impetus behind band

By Leanne Lally

Of The Print

Dixieland, Ragtime, Chicago, Boogie-Woogie, Swing, Bop, Cool, Funky and Electric, all these words pertain to one subject, jazz.

Jazz is everywhere, said College music chairperson Leroy Anderson. Not only is jazz coming back on the scene, but it's "fusing" with rock

creating a new sound, he said.

Jazz is, according to author-critic Henry Pleasants, "The influence of a variety of indigenous musical styles originating in the Negro communities of New Orleans and other American cities, in the Negro or mixed communities of the Caribbean Islands and some areas of South America in the early decades of the

twentieth century."

Jazz has been said to be the music of the black man, but that is not always true. Great Jazz artists such as Goodman, Teagarden, Biederbecke, and Evans were not black. But it was the negro who did do (and continues to do) the innovating.

The melodic feature of jazz is inherited directly from

European music settling in the jazz capital of the world, New Orleans.

The era of Dixieland has New Orleans in its title not because it was the only geographical location where this type of music originated, but for the reason that New Orleans bred more important names in jazz than any other area at the beginning of the twentieth century. That era started another type of jazz, Ragtime.

Some do not consider ragtime music jazz because it is composed music not improvisational. Ragtime is really a piano style which developed as a result of certain conditions. A piano player was hired in place of a six or seven piece band. This forced the pianist to develop a technique which provided a full sound. The left hand was required to play both the bass notes and the chords, leaving the right hand free for highly syncopated melodic lines. From that era names sprung forth like Morton and Joplin.

Jazz went through many changes after that, Chicago style Dixieland, Swing, Bop, Boogie-Woogie, Cool, Funky, and the present style of Electric.

Jazz is one of the most complicated styles of music, and that is why its popularity has died down a bit in the years. But now it's coming back stronger and more intense than ever.

Rock took the place of jazz because it was simple, and much to play except the chords repeated continuously. Now rock has renewed techniques and is more complicated, more thought oriented. Because of that, jazz got another crack at number one.

"Jazz is very complicated," said Anderson, "people who didn't have the right background rejected it."

When asked why he thought jazz left the music world, Anderson replied, "I don't think ever left."

At the College the Stage Band plays jazz along with the Swing Choir. Both will be featured in a Jazz Concert coming up soon.

"Rock is now getting more and more complex and 'fusing' with jazz creating an interesting and diverse sound," Anderson said.

A sound we can all live with. Well, put that in your trumpet and toot it.

Spooks, books share roof



Ghoulish, ghostly dancers will invade the College library tonight when the Dance Currents will perform during Haunt Your Library Week. Other out-of-the-ordinary activities will continue through the week.

Photo by Kelly Laughlin

This is the week to "Haunt Your Library." Various activities to thrill and chill library goers have been going on and will continue through the course of this week at the College library.

Today at noon, "Holiday Tilton's Yoga for Lunch" will refresh and strengthen your mind and body in the College Library.

Elsewhere, this afternoon, author Eloise Jarvis McGraw will talk in the Lake Oswego Junior High School Library from noon to 1 p.m.

The Oregon City Public Library will present a showing of the film, "Cricket in Times Square" at 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Milwaukie will host Rose Naftalin talking about her book, "Grandma Rose's Books Of Sinfully Delicious" in the Led-

ding Library at 5:30 p.m.

Jane Rickenbaugh and the Dance Currents will present three dances in the College Library tonight at 8 p.m. The dances are entitled, "Human Bond," "Censored Line" and an improvisational dance.

The group has been together since last September with their first performance at Tigard Methodist Church on Oct. 1. The dance was choreographed to St. Frances of Assisi's "The Canticle of the Sun". The dance, which was accompanied by the church's choir, was performed in the stained-glass windows of the church and in the aisles and the altar. The theme was developed by using sashes-banners of the six spectral colors.

The "Library Haunt", choreographed by Jane Rickenbaugh, is a literary ex-

ploration of Halloween. The dance is semi-improvisational. It begins with a ghost walk in which the dancers speak the names of various authors while taking evocative dance positions. The dancers then become a churning witches caldron from which erupts contemporary fantasy characters. The literary theme is further developed by the dancers as they use movement to define abstract dictionary words such as "snafu" and "lucubrate."

The haunt ends as the dancers use their bodies as letters to cast a spell over the audience.

Continuing through the week will be seminars, lectures, films, and music.

A schedule of events is available at the College library.

Twain here again?

Bill Moeller's portrayal of Mark Twain is "without question an outstanding portrayal . . . so uncanny that audiences begin to believe that Twain has risen from the dead," according to a spokesman of the Southwest Washington Fair.

Moeller will be presenting his one man show here at the College Nov. 8, at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge. Admission is free.

His performance is compiled from the writings of Twain, the most well-known humorist of all time. The show ranges from Twain recalling his youth, to discussions on cigarette smoking and profanity, to a very sad remembrance of his daughter's death.

A native of western Washington, Moeller is a veteran radio broadcaster.

He got started portraying Twain through a playhouse



Bill Moeller offers lifelike portrayal of the beloved American humorist, Mark Twain.

theatre group. He had read one of Twain's speeches and was asked to repeat it several times at different functions.

The stage will be set with enough light to illuminate Moeller's surroundings. He calls "tailor make" his presentation so that members of all age groups can share in the humor and charm of Twain's personality.

Moeller was quoted in the Linn-Benton Commuter saying, "I don't want to go there and say this is just another job. When it becomes just another job, then I'll have to quit."

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