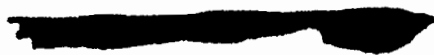


"A Mirror and Focus for the Jazz Community"

Earsshot Jazz

IN ONE EAR



When Branford Marsalis was in town late in June to play the national anthem at the Sonics' fifth championship game against the Bulls, he was accompanied by his brother, Delfeayo, who met up with his recent collaborator, David Marriott, Jr., a trombonist and arranger of increasing reputation.

The irrepressible Marriott, a graduate of Garfield High School's jazz program, is building a reputation as a trombonist while he studies in the jazz program at the University of Washington. There, he is also renowned as a walking encyclopedia of jazz history.

Now add to that his growing accomplishment as a band arranger — a talent that Delfeayo Marsalis was alerted to by Dave's brother, Thomas, who is himself winning notice locally, and far afield, for his trumpet playing.

Tom got to know Marsalis last year, when the trombonist came to town with Elvin Jones's band. Tom took Dave down to meet him, and the brothers ended up hanging out with Marsalis.

The next time Marsalis was in town, the brothers took him to lunch. They also arranged for him to visit jazz students at Garfield, where the program is headed by Clarence Acox, who like Marsalis hails from New Orleans. Clarence had the band play one of Dave's charts, which included some original passages.

As Tom recalls the event, Marsalis exclaimed: "Man, you wrote that? You have to show me how to write like that." Marsalis later played a gig downtown with Tom and Dave's band.

Three weeks later, Delfeayo called Dave to say he had been commissioned to write some music for an industrial film. He was calling to ask Dave to write big band arrangements for it that suggested Coltrane and Ellington.

Dave put in an all-nighter and then faxed off his treatments.

In May, Marsalis called again. This time, he wanted Dave to write treatments of music he had written for the Empire Brass quintet, which is America's most-successful Baroque brass ensemble.

While he was in town with Branford, Delfeayo met with Dave to go over the scores.

Tom Marriott says his brother's talent for arrangement stems from his habit of constantly turning music over in his head. And, Tom adds, "technically he can pretty much play anything you put in front of him — cold. Stuff in 5/4, weird changes, it's no problem for him."

You can check out the Marriotts July 10 at the University of Washington's Penthouse Theater, 7:00-9:00 pm.

WHAT THEY'RE LISTENING TO



Clarence Acox, director of the Garfield High School jazz program, and drummer with Floyd Standifer's group, which can be heard every Wednesday evening at the New Orleans Restaurant.

Jesse Davis - High Standards

"I've always liked an alto player who sounds like Charlie Parker and Cannonball Adderly. I've always been partial to that. And he has great sidemen on the album." With Lewis Nash, drums ("I'm crazy about him."); Nicholas Payton, trumpet; Robert Torres, trombone; Peter Washington, bass.

Dee Daniels — Wish Me Love

"Her singing has always impressed me, and the arrangements are absolutely incredible."

Bobby Shew Quintet — Heavyweights

"The players are flat-out fantastic." Paul Fontana, Carl Fontana, Joe LaBarbera, George Cables, Bob Magnusson. Clarence is on staff with Shew each summer at Jazz Port Townsend.

Thelonius Monk — Monk Big Band and Quartet

"I've always been a big fan of Monk's." This album features Monk in live performances with a variety of bands. Some of the material was previously available on an import LP. This two-CD release adds unreleased cuts.