

The Museum of Modern Art

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The Claude Hopkins Sextet will give the second Jazz in the Garden concert at The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, tonight (Thursday, June 29) at 8:30. The mainstream jazz group consists of Claude Hopkins, piano; Emmett Berry, trumpet, Dicky Wells, trombone; Budd Johnson, tenor sax; Jo Jones, drums; and Arvell Shaw, bass.

Jazz in the Garden, ten Thursday evening promenade concerts, is sponsored jointly by the Museum and Down Beat magazine. The series presents various facets of the jazz spectrum from traditional to rock 'n' roll. The Lester Young and Charlie Parker Memorial Saxophone Society will give the July 6 concert.

The entire Museum is open Thursday evenings during the summer until 10. The regular Museum admission, \$1.25, admits visitors to galleries and to 8 p.m. film showings in the Auditorium; there is no charge for Museum members. Admission to jazz concerts is an additional 50 cents for all.

As in previous Jazz in the Garden concerts, tickets for each concert will be on sale in the Museum lobby from Saturday until the time of the performance. A few chairs are available on the garden terraces, but most of the audience stands or sits on the ground. Cushions may be rented for 25 cents. Beer and sandwiches are available. In case of rain, the concert will be canceled; tickets will be honored at the concert following. Other Museum activities continue as announced.

The word "mainstream," which typifies the Claude Hopkins Sextet, was coined by the critic Stanley Dance a few years ago to describe a brand of warm, pulsating jazz notable for melodic invention. It was called "swing" in the '30's, the golden age of jazz -- it did, and it still does, in the right hands. Mainstream describes a music that has a feeling and force central to jazz -- the heritage of Duke Ellington's urbanity and of Count Basie's Kansas City drive, to name two great names of the swing era still going strong.

Claude Hopkins has had a long career in jazz. In Europe in the '20's he was Josephine Baker's musical director; in the United States in the '30's and '40's
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he led his own orchestra at the Savoy Ballroom, Roseland, and the Cotton Club. Since then he has worked as a pianist with many groups, including those of the late Henry "Red" Allen and Cozy Cole, and with his own combo which has recorded for Prestige.

Saxophonist Budd Johnson has played with the bands of Louis Armstrong, Earl Hines, Billy Eckstine, Dizzy Gillespie and Benny Goodman. As an arranger, he was a catalytic figure in the development of modern jazz. He helped organize the first first bebop record date for Coleman Hawkins in 1944. In 1966 he toured Russia with Hines, and has been appearing with him since.

Trombonist Dicky Wells, currently with Louis Armstrong, was a mainstay of the Count Basie band of the late '30s and early '40s. He has also played with Benny Carter, Fletcher Henderson, Teddy Hill, and Earl Hines. He toured Europe in 1959 with Buck Clayton and in 1965 with the British trad band of Alex Welsh. He worked with Ray Charles in the '60s.

Emmett Berry, the trumpeter, played with both Fletcher and Horace Henderson in the '30s; Teddy Wilson and Count Basie in the '40s; Johnny Hodges and Cootie Williams in the '50s; and with Buddy Tate in the '60s.

In 1942 Arvell Shaw played bass with Fats Marable on the riverboats around his St. Louis home. Except for brief periods, he was with Louis Armstrong from 1945 until 1956. He has since played with Teddy Wilson, Benny Goodman, Lionel Hampton, and, again, Armstrong.

Jo Jones, a veteran of the Count Basie band at its height, has also worked with the combos of Lester Young and Illinois Jacquet, and has led his own trio. During the '60s he took part in drum workshops at Newport Jazz Festivals.

For Jazz in the Garden, Ira Gitler, New York Editor of Down Beat, is Chairman of a Program Committee consisting of Don Schlitten, Charles Graham, and Herbert Bronstein, Series Director.

As the opening concert on June 22 was rained out, an extra concert will be held on August 31 at the end of the series.

Additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. 245-3200.