

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

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FOR RELEASE:

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or after

Dick Wellstood and the Fats Waller Alumni will give the Jazz in the Garden concert at the Museum of Modern Art on Thursday, September 14, at 8:30 p.m. The summer series of Thursday evening promenade concerts is being presented by the Museum and Metronome magazine. Admission is 50 cents in addition to \$1.00 admission to Museum galleries, open Thursdays until 10 p.m. Supper and light refreshments are served in the penthouse restaurant.

The group consists of Wellstood at the piano, Herman Autrey, trumpet, Gene Sedric, clarinet, Buell Neidlinger, bass, and Dave "Panama" Francis, drums.

In case of rain the concert will be canceled; tickets will be honored at the performance of the Buster Bailey Sextet on September 21.

Dick Wellstood, a young man from Greenwich, Conn., began his career in 1946 with the Revivalist band of Bob Wilbur. Though a master of the Harlem "Stride" school of piano, whose notable exponents include James P. Johnson, Fats Waller and Willie "The Lion" Smith, Wellstood has worked with many kinds of jazz groups; he incorporates in his playing modern as well as traditional elements. Wellstood toured Europe with Jimmy Archey in 1952, and has worked with Sidney Bechet, Roy Eldridge and Rex Steward. Most recently he appeared at the Metropole with Tony Parenti and Sol Yaged.

Herman Autrey and Gene Sedric were key members of Fats Waller's small and large bands from 1934 until 1943. Trumpeter Autrey also worked with the bands of Charlie Johnson, Fletcher Henderson and Claude Hopkins, joined Stuff Smith after Waller's death, and then led his own groups, occasionally working with Eddie Condon, Lester Lanin and others.

Sedric, known as "Honeybear," was born in St. Louis where his father was a famous ragtime pianist. After playing on Mississippi riverboats, he joined Sam Wooding's pioneering big band which toured Latin America in the 20s and early 30s. He later worked with Fletcher Henderson, then joined Waller, and formed his own band after Waller's death. He also played with Phil Moore, Bobby Hackett and Jimmy McPartland. In 1953 he joined Mezz Mezzrow in France, and since has been a member of Conrad Janis' Tailgate Five.

Drummer Dave "Panama" Francis has appeared with Duke Ellington, Roy Eldridge, Lucky Millinder, Cab Calloway, Charlie Shavers, and Woody Herman, among others. He is one of the most active studio and network drummers, famous for his steady beat.

For photographs and additional information contact Herbert Bronstein, Associate Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N.Y.

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