

THE LOUISVILLE JAZZ SOCIETY PRESENTS
LEE KONITZ'S *TRANQUILITY*
PERFORMED BY THE ANDY OBERHAUSEN QUARTET
THE CAFE LOUISVILLE APRIL 28, 2024

When Andy Oberhausen moved back to Louisville two years ago, he was surprised when musicians told him he sounded like Lee Konitz, because he had wanted to sound like Cannonball Adderly and Charlie Parker when starting out. But he now feels he connects especially with Konitz's music, and when he decided to do a live show of a jazz album he naturally gravitated to Konitz and this 1957 album. He loves the idea of "the work is the reward and so the fun of it is learning an album inside and out, rehearsing and then performing it just one time."

Lee Konitz, who studied under (and played with) the pianist Lennie Tristano, was one of the few saxophonists of his era who was not greatly influenced by Charlie Parker. "Like other students of Tristano, Konitz improvised long, melodic lines with the rhythmic interest coming from odd accents, or odd note groupings suggestive of the imposition of one time signature over another. Konitz's association with the cool jazz movement of the 1940s and 1950s includes participation in Miles Davis's *Birth of the Cool* sessions as well as his work with Tristano." <Wikipedia>.

While the arrangements the group will play tonight will largely be those on Konitz's original album, Oberhausen feels that "trying to recreate an album's improvised solos note for note is a fool's errand...a little antithetical to the creativity and freedom of jazz", so they'll stretch out on the solos. And there'll be a surprise cameo player for the encore tune.

THE TUNES

Stephanie

Lee Konitz, 1957

While little information is available on this Konitz original, Andy loves the tune, and the fact that his wife is named Stephanie is a bonus.

Memories of You

Eubie Blake/ Andy Razaf, 1930

Razaf's lyrics to this tune are about a sad nostalgia – about a guy tormented by memories of the lover he lost. Razaf also wrote the lyrics to *Honeysuckle Rose*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, and *Gee Baby Ain't I Good to You*, while Blake composed *I'm Just Wild About Harry*.

People Will Say We're in Love

Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein, 1943

Sinatra, Crosby and the Ink Spots all had hits with this tune from *Oklahoma!*

When You're Smiling

Mark Fisher/Joe Goodwin/Larry Shay, 1928

Louie Armstrong and Billie Holiday both had recordings of this tune.

Sunday

Chester Conn, Benny Krueger, Ned Miller, Jule Styne, 1926

A young Mike Todd (later married to Liz Taylor), commissioned this tune for a musical act.

Lennie Bird

Lennie Tristano

Pianist Tristano was Konitz teacher and sometime bandmate in New York.

The Nearness of You

Hoagy Carmichael and Ned Washinton, 1937

Written for a movie that was never produced, this gem has been covered by The Glenn Miller Orchestra, Louie and Ella, more recently Norah Jones, and many others.

Jonquil

Billy Bauer

This tune is named not after the spring perennial but after Bauer's dog. Bauer played guitar on the album.

THE PLAYERS

Alto sax player **Andy Oberhausen**, the head of Bellarmine's jazz program, performs in his project of original music, Ida Lupino, in the improvisation quartet Sun Variations, and several other groups. He was in the vibrant Chicago jazz scene for 14 years.

Guitarist **Craig Wagner** switched from rock to jazz guitar when he was in Bellarmine's jazz program. He has played with many jazz luminaries, including Lee Konitz, and is one of the leading "finger-style" guitarists in the country. He can be heard around town frequently, especially with his long-time musical partner Carly Johnson. Craig teaches at Bellarmine.

Bassist **Brian Vinson** grew up in a musical family and was a member of the Louisville Youth Orchestra before getting a music degree from UofL and then playing in a rock band called Days of the New. He switched to jazz and worked in NYC for 13 years. He recently moved back to Louisville and is performing as a freelance jazz bassist.

Drummer **Terry O'Mahoney**, who also teaches at Bellarmine, has performed with jazz greats such as Phil Woods, Jimmy Heath, Mike Stern, John Abernathy and Curtis Fuller. He plays in the Harry Pickens and Dave Clark groups, the Louisville Orchestra and Ballet and the Don Krekel Orchestra.