From the editor

In your hands you are holding the IASJ Newsletter number four. In this issue you can read about the Third and the Fourth Annual IASJ Jazz Meeting. Options are made for the fifth and sixth one. There are ideas and plans for one or two Regional IASJ Jazz Meetings within the next to or three years as well. On a less formal basis and in a less visible way IASJ there are schools of jazz collaborating through the IASJ in all kinds of projects. All these figures and numbers and activities give an impression of an organization that has been in existence for a long time already.
But, to the contrary.
A solid construction for the organization of the IASJ came together this very summer in Siena. This solid construction is still nothing more than a framework. The actual building and expanding of the IASJ can start from now on. The framework is a result of collective thinking that is laid down in papers such as the IASJ Charter, the IASJ Bye Laws, the IASJ Jazz Meeting Guidelines, and the IASJ brochure. This brochure is there to tell you in short what the IASJ actually is. It will be sent to you early in 1992.

Now that all this thinking and writing down of thoughts has been done, what is the IASJ?
To me the IASJ is the highest level of activity of the better jazz schools. Every school has to deal with three levels of activities: the internal, the external, and the international one. Most of the everyday work has to do with the internal level of activity. Exams, schedules, performances, curriculum matters, and so on. Enough to think about nothing else but that. But there is more. Every school has also an external level of activities. It must be visible for potential students what your school stands for. Of course your school is the best but not everybody seems to be aware of this. You know that your school will be compared with all he other schools in your country. So you have to do some work in the field of public relations. You have to think about advertising, brochures, and all other forms of publicity.But there is more.
There is also the international level of activities. The IASJ is the sum of all the international activities of the better jazz schools. And always the total is more than just the sum of the parts.

IASJ is the name for the extra value of international activities of the better jazz schools. This extra value will only increase the next few years as more and more IASJ Jazz Meetings take place.

Walter Turkenburg
editor