To the teachers

I look forward to meet all old and new colleagues at this IASJ Jazz Meeting in Siena. It is crucial that ll teachers meet on Sunday, July 12th to put together the program for the entire week! If you miss this meeting you will most likely feel left out the rest of the week. Please bring along combo materials to get the students going. Your role is that of coaching the combo and facilitating their cooperation together. Whatever agenda you may usually follow directing combos will probably not hold true here. We would like the students to work the music out together on their own. If you have a presentation which you would like to offer during the morning session, YOU MUST contact to me BEFORE Siena. Figure on a 30-45 minute presentation on some interesting topic for all the participants to enjoy and learn about. It need not be in the format of a lecture, but more
informal about something that truly interests you. Topics in the past have ranged from Metric Modulation to the Inner Game of Music. I would like all teachers to get together several times and discuss jazz pedagogy: methods and sources used, problems in teaching jazz, etc. Also, ways of better communicating what we do to the general public as well as discussing the travails of the music business. Please propose topics or questions you would like to discuss. Bring course summaries or anything on teaching jazz to share with your colleagues from all over the world. If you have some music for a specific instrumentation and would like to set up a rehearsal, we will try to find time. Write to me about it before Siena. If we agree to, maybe there could be some teacher performances, so bring some music in case.

I am excited about making new connections and friendships at the IASJ Jazz Meeting in Siena. Our jazz world is expanding and the IASJ is truly building a network of positive people dedicated to this art form. And what a pleasure to be in such a beautiful city with the warm and friendly Italians hosting us. Until July, CIAO!!!

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