International Association of Schools of Jazz

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2004

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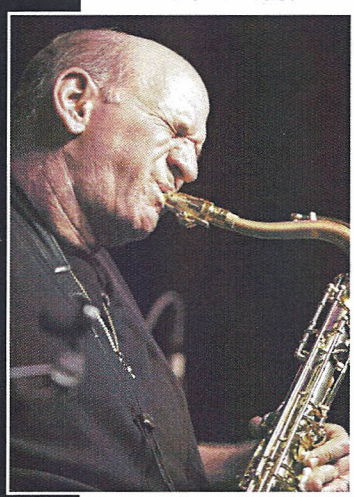
The IASJ Newsletter, official bulletin of the International Association of Schools of Jazz, is issued at least three times per year. It is available to all IASJ Members.

Dear Colleagues:

I hope this IASJ Newsletter finds all of you personally doing well and in a musically positive time. I recently toured Australia and New Zealand where I hadn't been for over twenty years, but at that time in the early 80's I did a lot of teaching over a several year period. On this tour which I did with Ronan Guilfoyle's trio we did several clinics and I was impressed with how far jazz education has come "down under".

With the organization of our first IASJ Jazz Educational Conference last year and further representation in a variety of world education alliances such as the IMC, the JMI and the AEC, we are seeing that the IASJ is increasingly being viewed as one of the main representative bodies for jazz education worldwide. This is well earned and in my opinion exactly right. Because of our many meetings and pedagogical discussions over the years, we have a vantage point that is unique in the world and I am gratified that it is being seen that way. From the artistic side, this can only mean more exposure for the music and interaction between various cultures, which was the main premise for why I initiated the IASJ in the first place. Things are moving in a positive direction.



On the business front we are confronted with a new situation as the Royal Conservatory in the Hague has decided to curtail their financial support in the near future. I wan to publicly thank the director, Frans de Ruiter for his support over these fifteen years without which we could not have survived. Now it is our responsibility to take care of ourselves and with the organization as mature as it has become, we should be able to handle that. I have always asked at the Annual IASJ Jazz Meetings for people to keep their eyes open for situations where financial support could be forthcoming to a world organization such as ours like grants, sponsorship, donations, etc. The time for that awareness is upon us.

Wishing you all the best.
Peace,
Dave Liebman

David Liebman

Artistic Director

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