From the Artistic Director David Liebman

Greetings to all of you as we head towards spring of 1992. In each newsletter, I will make a few general remarks, beginning with this edition. I was very gratified to see the first IASJ Newsletter. Walter did a great job in organizing, but we also appreciate the contributions from so many schools and individuals. I am sure this type of communication will continue to evolve as we grow, assuring us that one of the goals of our organization is met. This cross-cultural networking will help to spread and promote jazz beyond national borders.

My page in the first IASJ Newsletter should serve as a summary of what our organization is about. Please photocopy and use this page to publicize the IASJ to anyone interested in joining, or just knowing about us. Of course, use the enrolment page that is appropriate for would be members. Hopefully, everyone who truly desires to join will be faithful to our dues requirements.

The entire matter of growth needs to be addressed at the Third Annual IASJ Jazz Meeting in Siena.

We are interested in new members, especially from other parts of the world besides Europe and America. The perpetual question and dilemma facing any organization is how to grow: limits versus needs; small and personal versus large and influential; how to include schools from less affluent countries and other matters. I do hope that after we conclude organizational matters in July, we can focus on this with the General Assembly. Please think about it.

Concerning the Third Annual IASJ Jazz Meeting, Klaus Lessman tells me that things are proceeding well and schools are beginning to sign on. In the next IASJ Newsletter, I will go into more detail about the schedule, but in the meantime for those who are coming, let me know any suggestions you have. Also, I would like to know in advance what topics any of the attending teachers would like to present. This year, I think we can have a few more meetings of just the teachers to discuss pedagogical matters and curriculum. You may wish to bring a short summary of what courses and degree requirements you have in your school to share with everyone. Most important, when choosing students to attend, remember that this should be considered a priveledge, not a paid vacation. We need good musicians for sure, but more important we need positive and sharing attitudes. I expect those who have attended past meetings to explain the spirit of what we do and for new attendees, you may want to call me up to discuss this subject. In any case, the next IASJ Newsletter will focus in on the Third Annual IASJ Jazz Meeting.

Until the next IASJ Newsletter, all the best from Caris and myself and our new daughter, Lydia Nicole, and peace.

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