

# Jazz Notes

February 2004  
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An All-Volunteer Organization



DEDICATED TO FOSTERING A GREATER AWARENESS AND LOVE FOR JAZZ

## Jazz Gumbo Showcase

Monday, February 16, from 6 until 9 p.m.

### The Willie Singleton Quartet

performs the music of

### Louis Armstrong

with Paul Lasynsky on piano

Dave Hay on bass Bennie Keyes on drums

at the Kopper Top Guest House

638 Stocking NW (one door south of Fourth Street)

\$7 members; \$10 non-members, *free* if they join WMJS at this event!

Admission includes bowl of Jazz Gumbo! Refills \$1.00

Cash bar and limited menu of other items

you may order at reasonable prices



There is no one in our area more qualified to emulate and celebrate the late, great Louis Armstrong than trumpeter-vocalist Willie Singleton. He even has the Louisiana background to add to the authenticity of his performance. Some of the historic numbers made famous by "the

Ambassador of Jazz" that you may hear at this show are *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *When You're Smiling*, *Mack the Knife*, *St. Louis Blues*, *Hello Dolly*, and *Stardust*. See page 3 for more info on this month's guest artist.

Dance — dine — and listen to these jazz classics made famous by the late, great Louis, as interpreted by the Quartet! Smoking section available and ample parking across the street, two doors south, at Arsulowitz Funeral Home lot. The casual cabaret setting is conducive to jazz listening, and it's easy to find... four blocks west of U.S. 131 and four blocks north of Bridge Street.

*It's not too late to make your Valentine's date!*

### Valentine's Day Swing Dance

Saturday, Feb. 14th — 7:30 p.m. in the **Wave Room**  
at Celebration Cinema, East Bellline and Knapp N.E., second floor

See page 3 for more information and reservation form.



# About the Artist: Willie Singleton

Willie Singleton's "played with" list reads like a "Who's Who" of jazz artists. He replaced "Cat" Anderson on lead trumpet in the Duke Ellington Orchestra from 1975-78, then went on to the same job in the Count Basie Orchestra (1978-79) and Clark Terry's Big Band (1979-80). Al Hirt's club and band were among several New Orleans-based groups that he was featured with throughout the 1980s. He has toured the world, appearing in national and international jazz festivals, and performed with a wide range of famous artists such as Della Reese, the Temptations, Lou Rawls, Sara Vaughn, Gladys Knight and Aretha Franklin.

One of his earliest gigs was on the Mississippi Queen

riverboat, to which he still returns from time to time. He has performed at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall, and with various symphony orchestras throughout the country (and presently with our own Grand Rapids Symphony). Although living here since the mid-'90s, he is often on the road appearing in concerts with such stars as Ben Vereen, Ellington alumni, the Manhattan Transfer, and a tribute to Benny Goodman. During his years in the service he played lead trumpet in U.S. Navy ceremonies for the funerals of President John Kennedy and General Douglas MacArthur. He is a graduate of Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Mark your calendar – each Third Monday is **Jazz Gumbo** Night at the Guest House – Continuing monthly thru June 21st  
*Concert Series at John Ball Park begins June 28 – Gumbos return in September*

## Celebrate With Your Sweetheart at the **Valentine's Day** **Big Band Swing Dance**

Saturday, Feb. 14th — 7:30 p.m. in the **Wave Room**  
at Celebration Cinema, East Beltline and Knapp N.E., second floor  
with the award-winning Western Michigan University Jazz Orchestra

Admission includes  
Lavish Buffet of  
Desserts, Candies  
& Gourmet Coffees



**Cash Bar**

**\$20 per person in advance — \$25 at the door**

Tickets will be mailed to you. Deadline for advance tickets is Feb. 10.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Number in your party \_\_\_\_\_ Ph # \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check payable to: W.M.J.S., 304 Paris SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Call **458-0125** with questions and reservations