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Just Jazz

Special Shows and Segments



- 1/24: The Songs of Jimmy Van Heusen
- 1/31: The Songs of Antonio Carlos Jobim



Just Jazz featuring The Sinatra Hour is heard every Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Eastern Time (US) over 104.7 & 92.7 FM and 1510 AM WRNJ streaming worldwide at wrnj.com

January 2016

Hi Friends —

You know, if that mess called “the Republican Party” were still an actual political party with actual leaders it could have stopped this whole Donald Trump farce quickly and easily, and here’s how.

By this time those now nonexistent party leaders would have called a summit of the so-called “establishment” candidates and straightened it all out, more or less like this:

“OK, Rubio, you’re young, you’re Latino, you’re from Florida, and best of all, you’re not named ‘Bush.’ You’re our man. Kasich, we need to win Ohio to have any chance at all. You get the second spot. Christie, support the ticket, don’t make an ass of yourself, and if we win you can be Attorney General, tough guy. Fiorina, we’ll need a woman to attack Hillary so we don’t look sexist (We are sexist, we just don’t want to look sexist). You can be Treasury Secretary. Just try not to screw it up, for once.”

“How ‘bout me?” Jeb Bush whimpers. “What do I get?” “Your jackass brother is the reason we’re in this mess! What do you get? You can get a cab and get lost!”

So while Trump and Cruz spilt the votes of the hardcore cretins, morons, and bigots, the anointed establishment candidate can consolidate the big donors’ money and pretend to be a “reasonable conservative” — a contradiction in terms — the seemingly benign alternative to the Democrats’ man-eating feminist candidate (or, better still, radical socialist candidate).

I still don’t think the Republicans actually can win this way. But they might not lose quite as ignominiously as they clearly are going to.

Keep list’nin’ and have a swingin’ New Year, Bob

QUOTES OF THE MONTH

Creation is an act of love, something that communicates with all humanity. An artist ought not to make anything that would contribute to the world’s downfall. I think I have a sense of responsibility for those I live with.

The artists’ drama is that they struggle to be recognized, and when they are, they buy dark glasses and move into a home hidden away on the top of a mountain somewhere.

– Antonio Carlos Jobim

RECOMMENDED INTERNET JAZZ RADIO

groovebone.org: All jazz trombone, all the time, produced and programmed by trombonist-bandleader [Dave Dickey](http://davedickey.com).

wemu.org: Linda Yohn starts your day right with three and a half hours of jazz and blues. Mon.-Fri. 9:00-12:30 ET

[Late Night Jazz with Rusty Hassan](http://latenightjazz.com): a Hall of Fame jazz broadcaster. Thurs. 10:00 -midnight wfpwfm.org.

[Café Latino](http://cafe-latino.com): Singer-songwriter [Laura Fernandez](http://laurafernandez.com) features two hours of Latin music. Sat. 4:00-6:00 p.m. ET on Toronto’s Jazz FM91.

[Good Vibes](http://goodvibesradio.com): Gloria Krolak hosts the world’s only radio show dedicated to the vibraphone. First Sun. of every month 8:00-10:00 p.m. ET

[Jazz Spotlight on Sinatra](http://jazzspotlight.com): Nancy Barell presents Frank Sinatra’s music through the decades, along with jazz instrumentalists and singers who recorded songs he performed plus other great standards.

NEW & RECOMMENDED CDS

[Dave Chamberlain’s Band of Bones: Stomp!](http://bandofbones.com) (BB Productions): Led by trombonist (and flutist) Dave Chamberlain, Band of Bones is a sonorous ensemble of eight trombones, plus rhythm. Their latest CD mixes straight ahead jazz with Latin tracks sparked by percussionist Chembo Corniel, all deftly arranged, delightfully performed. Singer Kat Gang is featured on three tunes and harmonica virtuoso Hendrik Muerkins joins them on his own, “Sambatropolis.”

[Valery Ponomarev: Our Father Who Art Blakey](http://valeryponomarev.com) (Zoho): This live set by trumpeter Valery Ponomarev’s big band is dedicated to his hero, mentor, and musical father, the great Art Blakey. Drawing largely from Jazz Messengers repertoire and sparked by a solid array of soloists — including special guest and Messengers veteran, tenor saxophonist Benny Golson — this is a most impressive debut recording by one of NYC’s finest large ensembles.

[Brenda Earle Stokes: Right About Now](http://brendaearlestokes.com) (Allsheneeds Music): Pianist-singer-composer-lyricist, Brenda Earle Stokes’ new release is an ear-opening treat. Alongside half dozen of her own tunes are her glistening treatment of Egberto Gismonti’s “Água & Vinho” (“Water into Wine”), her tender caressing of Dick Oatts’ “(Meant) for You” — both with her original lyrics and featuring saxophonist Joel Frahm — and her carefree cover of Joe Jackson’s “Got the Time.”

[Trio Da Paz: 30](http://triodapaz.com) (Zoho): Brazilian-born, New York-based, and celebrating three decades together, Trio Da Paz — Romero Lubambo, guitars; Nilson Matta, bass; Duduka Da Fonseca, drums — is as tight and tuneful as ever. Their latest CD features original sambas and bossa novas, plus Baden Powell’s classic “Samba Triste,” all of them impeccably and joyfully rendered by these three accomplished artists.

“Friendship,” Rat Pack Style

Dean Martin had a huge admiration for Frank as a singer and loved him as a friend. But Sinatra’s version of friendship demanded fealty, and Martin kowtowed to no one. He went his own way, and if things ever became confrontational, his way was to vanish.

Though [Sammy Davis Jr.](http://sammydavisjr.com) had some talents that Frank could only dream of, and was nearly equal to him in stardom, his relationship with Sinatra was uneasily sycophantic. The sight of him onstage during the Sinatra performances, bent over and grimacing with seemingly uncontrollable laughter as Sinatra clumsily mocked him, is painful. ...

As for [Peter Lawford](http://peterlawford.com), he held a certain amount of reflected power in 1960 (Sinatra’s nickname for him during that period: Brother-in-Lawford) but was widely seen as a toady and errand boy. ...

And [Joey Bishop](http://joeybishop.com) was never going to be one of Sinatra’s drinking buddies — the only kind of buddy Sinatra had — for one important reason: he didn’t drink.

– James Kaplan, *Sinatra: The Chairman*



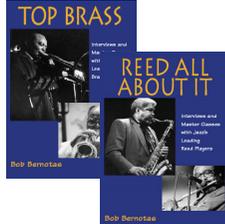
Acclaimed Jazz Books by Bob

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Bob Bernotas • host of *Just Jazz featuring The Sinatra Hour*
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