



The name says it all...

# Just Jazz

October-November 2019

Hi Friends —

**It never ceases to amaze and amuse me, the trivial things that bug some people.** In this world of climate change, racism, war, rampant gun violence, income inequality, and Donald Trump, why take offense at the way some (mainly younger) people respond when you say, "Thank you?"

I'm talking about the phrase, "No problem." You hear it so often in stores, restaurants, maybe your own home — "Thank you." "No problem." — that at times it seems to be replacing, the common, "You're welcome" (or the more grammatical, "You're welcomed.") And to that I say, "So what?"

"No problem" is no more than a contemporary colloquialism, sincere, not unpleasant, and not deserving of a frown, smirk, or rude rejoinder. It's a simple, friendly phrase said with no disrespect or incivility. And it does not imply, as some claim, that the person feels that what they did for you may have been a problem, and so, was doing you a favor grudgingly and condescendingly. If it were a problem, they'd likely have said nothing.

Seriously, do you think your expression of gratitude is being trivialized if someone answers "Don't mention it" or "It was nothing" instead of "You're welcomed?" (Incidentally, the response in Spanish to "gracias" is "de nada," literally, "of nothing," essentially, "no problem.") When someone replies "My pleasure" do you believe that he or she has helped you *only* because it made her or him feel good? [People with too much time on their hands can read an awful lot into an innocent remark.](#)

The now common contractions "can't," "don't," and "won't" once were considered vulgar. There will come a day when casual idioms that offend coots and schoolmams — "wanna," "gotta," "gonna" — will be acceptable and accepted. And you tightasses who are bugged by the warm and affable address, "dude," are you also bugged by the equally warm and affable "man," "buddy," or "brother?" (Echoes of "Get off my lawn!") [Our language evolves as our world evolves — so evolve with it, pally.](#)

And so, if you appreciate the effort I put into writing these newsletters, don't mention it, man. It's my pleasure, buddy. **No problem, dude.**

Stay cool, hang loose, admit nothing, Bob



On September 17 our jazz world lost one of its leading citizens, pianist **Harold Mabern**. Mabes was both a respected performer and a dedicated educator, having taught at New Jersey's William Paterson University since 1981. Two generations of his students testify to his legendary wisdom, love, and selflessness. The roster of artists whom he mentored reads like a "who's who" of the current jazz scene.

We in the jazz community are requesting WPUNJ's president and board of trustees to permanently name the university's Music Department in recognition of Harold's talent and dedication, and the wisdom and joy he shared with so many. Click here to sign the [online petition](#) seeking to honor this humble jazz giant, and please share it with others.



Mabes appears on this [highly recommended](#) 2019 release with another venerable jazz veteran, drummer **Jimmy Cobb**.

## Quote of the Month

I think it's a misrepresentation of the Cherokee people or Native Americans in general. Just depicts them in this kind of caveman-type-people way who aren't intellectual. They are a lot more than that. It's not me being offended by the whole mascot thing. It's not. It's about the misconception of us, the Native Americans, and it devalues us and how we're perceived in that way, or used as mascots. The Redskins and stuff like that.

— St. Louis Cardinals pitcher and member of the Cherokee Nation, **Ryan Helsley** on the Atlanta baseball fans' obnoxious "Tomahawk Chop"

## RECOMMENDED INTERNET JAZZ RADIO

[Late Night Jazz with Rusty Hassan](#): A Hall of Fame jazz broadcaster. Thurs. 10:00-midnight ET.

[Café Latino](#): Singer-songwriter [Laura Fernandez](#) features two hours of great Latin music. Sat. 4:00-6:00 p.m. ET on Toronto's Jazz FM91.

[Jazz Lives](#): Hosted by Bob Dauber: "Classic jazz over the decades covering a variety of genres with one exception — smooth." Mon. 9:00-11:00 p.m. ET

[Friday Night Jazz](#): Hosted by renowned trumpeter-educator [Ray Vega](#). Fri. 8:00-11:00 p.m. ET on Vermont Public Radio.

[Good Vibes](#): 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](#): Nancy Barell presents Frank Sinatra's music through the decades, along with jazz instrumentalists and singers performing songs he recorded plus other beloved standards. Thurs. 7:00-8:00 p.m. and Tues. 11:00 a.m.-noon ET.

[The Tail-Finned Turntable](#) and [Still Rockin'](#) hosted by my buddy, "the Golden Gup," Gup Gascoigne. Sun. noon-2:00 ET on [wnti.org](#).

## NEW & RECOMMENDED CDS

[Jane Bunnett & Maqueque: On Firm Ground/Terra Firma \(Linus Entertainment\)](#): Formed just five years ago by soprano saxophonist-flutist Jane Bunnett, Maqueque has quickly emerged as one of the most innovative, exciting, and sought-after ensembles in contemporary music. Its third release features the group's current incarnation — Canadian Bunnett, four accomplished women from Cuba, and another from Zimbabwe (all of them composers, as well) — in its one-of-a-kind blend of jazz, Afro-Cuban, and that special element of energy and fun that is Maqueque's alone.

[Mike Holober & the Gotham Jazz Orchestra: Hiding Out \(Zoho\)](#): With this 2-CD release Mike Holober leaps into the front rank of the most accomplished and inventive composers in jazz. Impeccably performed by the renowned Gotham Jazz Orchestra, Holober's works — two free standing pieces ("Jumble" and "Caminhos Cruzados") and two suites (*Flow* and *Hiding Out*) — feature his adventurous ensemble writing and extended solo explorations by such eminent players as trumpeters Marvin Stamm and Scott Wendholt, alto saxophonists Jon Gordon and Billy Drewes, tenor saxophonists Jason Rigby and Adam Kolker, and Holober on keyboards.

[Luis Muñoz: The Infinte Dream \(Pelín Music\)](#): Born in Costa Rica, based in California, drummer-keyboardist-composer Luis Muñoz has synthesized Latin American, soul, and gospel elements with jazz into this earnest and appealing program of evocative, original songs. Muñoz' combo renders his tuneful melodies and orchestrations with care and taste, and his poetic lyrics are lovingly expressed by the warm and haunting voice of [Lois Mahalia](#).

[John Yao's Triceratops: How We Do \(See Tao\)](#): A triceratops is an extinct prehistoric, creature that had three horns. John Yao's Triceratops has three horns but the thoughtful, inspired music it makes is anything but extinct or prehistoric. Throughout this program of original compositions Yao's trombone weaves his own sonic threads with those of saxophonists Billy Drewes and Jon Irabagon, bassist Peter Brendler, and drummer Mark Ferber into a multicolored fabric of ingenuity and surprise.

## UPCOMING AREA JAZZ EVENTS

[Jazz at Rutherford Hall 2019-2020 Season\\*](#)

**Sun., October 27, 3:00:** saxophonist-singer [Danny Bacher](#) Quartet (Oscar Perez, piano; Bill Moring, bass; Alvester Garnett, drums)

**Sun., November 24, 3:00:** [Swingadelic](#) featuring the Music of [Johnny Mercer](#) (Dave Post, bass; Bill Easley, tenor saxophone; John Bauers, piano & vocals; David Longworth, drums; Vanessa Perea, vocals)

\$30 advance / \$35 at the door

Rutherford Hall, 1686 Rt.517, Allamuchy, NJ; 908-852-1894 ext. 338 or 908-637-8461

\*You can purchase [all five events](#) in the series in advance for \$135.00.

The [New Brunswick Jazz Project](#) — "bringing great Jazz to Central Jersey" — regularly offers jazz events at numerous venues throughout New Brunswick, NJ. Click [HERE](#) for their monthly schedule.

## Acclaimed Jazz Books by Bob

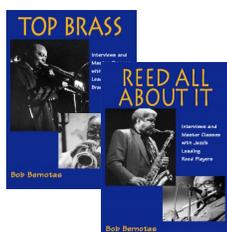
*Top Brass: Interviews and Master Classes with Jazz's Leading Brass Players*

[temporarily out of print]

*Reed All About It: Interviews and Master Classes with Jazz's Leading Reed Players*

\$20, plus shipping

[jazzbob.com](#)



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