



The name says it all...

# Just Jazz

June-July 2020

Hi Friends —

**Yeah, yeah, everybody knows a nice guy cop**, "Officer Friendly," who got your little girl's kitten out of the tree. Or Good ol' "Potsy," the jaunty nightstick swinging cop on the beat. They're not "the enemy." No, citizen, it's never the policeman you know, or *think* you know.

Look, the police force — emphasis on "force" — is the frontline agent that serves and protects the interests and property and power of the ruling class. Strikers in the past century learned that. So did civil rights protesters. And anti-Viet Nam war protesters. And gay rights protesters. Sure, Potsy never would bust your head open with his trusty nightstick. And Officer Friendly never would kneel on your neck. (And don't worry about "rubber bullets." They just bounce right off you, right?) No, not until the holders of power need them to, and the wielders of authority order them to. And then, of course, they can plead innocent because, "I was just following orders."

**Brutality and violence are the cops' currency.** Their bosses, the politicians, Republican and Democrat, issued it to them and allow them to spend it, freely. Only when they have the misfortune to be caught on camera (or a cell phone) do they face even the threat of possible sanction for their brutality. And then, those politicians will try to excuse them, like the idiot mayor of New York, who defended the goons that drove their NYPD SUVs into protesters. Or they will try brazenly to lie their way out of it, like the animals in Buffalo who pushed a 75-year old man to the sidewalk, left him bleeding there, and claimed he "tripped." **It is reasonable — no, imperative — to assume that the police always will lie, even when they get caught.**

**In a recent poll**, 54% of respondents said the burning of the police precinct in Minneapolis was justified. I do, just as I support the burning of police vehicles everywhere. (You can defeat your enemies by disabling their weapons.) And **DO NOT** dare to try and convince me it was done by "outside agitators," "white supremacists," "boogaloo boys," or those heroic freedom fighters known as **Antifa**. No, it was a legitimate act of anti-racism protest carried out by legitimate anti-racism protesters, and **a beautiful sight, one to celebrate.**

So it's about time you learned that unless you are rich and powerful the cops are *not* your friends. **If you want a friend, get a dog.**

Stay cool, but more importantly — *stay well and stay safe*,  
Bob

## Setting the Record Straight

### ANTIFA:

is not a terrorist organization  
is not an extremist political organization  
is not a political organization of any kind  
is not an organized group  
does not incite violence  
does not loot or destroy property  
does not create dangerous situations

### ANTIFA:

responds to dangerous situations  
advocates the right to self-defense  
stands up for freedom, justice, and right against those who would attack and destroy them (as its name indicates) opposes and fights fascists, Nazis, and white supremacists  
**AND** is part of a nearly hundred year-old tradition that includes the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, the French Resistance, the Dutch Resistance, your fathers and grandfathers who fought Nazis (that so-called "greatest generation"), and freedom fighters everywhere.  
**If you are not Antifa, then WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU?**



## Quote of the Month

The American fascists are most easily recognized by their deliberate perversion of truth and fact. Their newspapers and propaganda carefully cultivate every fissure of disunity, every crack in the common front against fascism. ... They claim to be super-patriots, but they would destroy every liberty guaranteed by the Constitution. They demand free enterprise, but are the spokesmen for monopoly and vested interest. Their final objective toward which all their deceit is directed is to capture political power so that, using the power of the state and the power of the market simultaneously, they may keep the common man in eternal subjection.  
— Henry Wallace

## RECOMMENDED INTERNET JAZZ RADIO

**Sunday Night Swing Set:** Swing is hard to define, but you know it when you hear it. Linda Yohn knows it *and* plays it. Sun. 7:00-9:00 p.m. ET

**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.

**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. Tues. 7:00-8:00 p.m. and Thurs. 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](http://wnti.org).

## NEW & RECOMMENDED CDS

**Andrea Brachfeld: Brazilian Whispers (Origin):** Flutist Andrea Brachfeld's latest release does more than just whisper "Brazil!" Start with eight classics from the vast Jobim songbook given some innovative touches — "Waters of March" infused with a swing feel, "Girl from Ipanema" recast as a samba. Add to them three genre-rich tunes co-composed by Brachfeld and pianist Bill O'Connell and Brachfeld's soulful alto flute on "Never Let Me Go." Include idiomatic solos by Brachfeld, O'Connell, bassist Harvie S, and guitarist Roni Ben-Hur, and you've got a tuneful CD that says "Brazil" out loud.

**Duo Tachoir: Shades of Blue (Avita):** Duo Tachoir comprises the lifelong musical and personal partnership of vibraphonist Jerry Tachoir and pianist-composer Marlène Tachoir. Marlène's delicately crafted original melodies evolve seamlessly into improvisations by Jerry's warmly recorded vibes and her own blend of piano *and* voice — in that sense, this duo is more like a "trio." The program culminates in Marlène's thoughtful and thought provoking suite, *Reflections in 3 Movements*, a study in written and spontaneous counterpoint.

**Nick Finzer: Cast of Characters (Outside in Music):** Trombonist-composer Nick Finzer's characters are finely, fully, and colorfully drawn. He stages and directs his cast in vivid performances by a repertory company of Lucas Pino on reeds, Alex Wintz on guitar, Glenn Zaleski on piano, Dave Baron on bass, and Jimmy McBride on drums. Storytelling in music is an art — a rare, perhaps, vanishing one — and with this anthology of aural one-act plays, Finzer proves himself a storyteller of note, *and notes*.

**Swingadelic: Bluesville (Zoho):** Led by bassist Dave Post, Swingadelic paints the blues in its many hues, from Count Basie and Duke Ellington to Muddy Waters, Ray Charles, and more. Every track is rendered with authenticity and affection, abundant with solid soloists like alto saxophonist Audrey Weber (sensuous and soulful on "Harlem Nocturne"), pianist-singer John Bauers, organist Kyle Kohler, the versatile singer Vanessa Perea, guitarist Andy Riedel, trumpeter Carlos Francis, trombonists Alex Jeun, Neal Pawley, and Robert Edwards, and a Memphis cat who can tell ya *all about* the blues, tenor saxophonist Bill Easley. While you're waiting for the big bands to come back, why not dig one that is already *here*?

**And here's something very special: Paul Desmond: The Complete 1975 Toronto Recordings (Mosaic):** Over eight hours of standards, five of them previously unreleased, performed live by a world class improviser and some of North America's finest players — guitarist Ed Bickert, bassist Don Thompson, drummer Jerry Fuller, and, spelling Bickert on one of the seven discs, valve trombonist Rob McConnell — exquisitely remastered. As the songwriter wrote, who could ask for anything more?

## UPCOMING AREA JAZZ EVENTS

**Stay home, it's still too soon to be in a group of people safely.** Just keep listening to the good music you have right there in your house.

**In Memoriam** (lost to the coronavirus):

- banjoist Eddy Davis
- alto saxophonist Lee Konitz
- bassist Henry Grimes
- multi-reedplayer Giuseppe Logan
- tenor saxophonist Bootsie Barnes

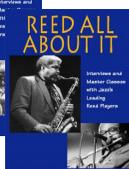
## Acclaimed Jazz Books by Bob

*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](http://jazzbob.com)



## Bob Bernotas

jazz author-historian-lecturer-broadcaster  
Website: [jazzbob.com](http://jazzbob.com) • Email: [bob@jazzbob.com](mailto:bob@jazzbob.com)  
If you'd prefer not to receive any future Just Jazz e-Newsletters, click [here](#)