

July 2017 Hi Friends -

OK, it's like this: I actually believe that Russia did hack the Democratic National Committee, et al. — it had means, motive, and opportunity, plus I find the evidence, although circumstantial, fairly convincing. But to assert that it had any impact on the outcome of the election is utter nonsense. You want to convince me? OK, find me one person who changed his or her vote from Clinton to Trump after learning from the hacked emails that John Podesta and Jennifer Palmieri are jerks. Then find me a few hundred thousand more.

The same goes for the paranoid notion that Trump's campaign colluded in the hacking. Add to that the false, obnoxious claim levelled by some unnamed, supposed Obama administration malcontent, and repeated *ad nauseam*, that "we choked" in responding to Russian "interference with our democracy."

So why does this story have the legs of a centipede? Well, a sexy/scary item like this attracts TV viewers and boosts ratings, as the reigning cable news ratings queen, Rachel Maddow, knows. Doing the same story every night is no trick. But getting people to watch it every night — and to believe it's "breaking news" — is, and she's turned that trick better than anyone.

Then the story has been sold by Hillary Clinton and her idolaters to her media sycophants (like Maddow). By adding Russian intervention (and alleged Trump campaign collusion) to her litany of alibis — Comey, Sanders, misogyny, even DNC incompetence — Clinton has been able to avoid the painful, yet accurate, conclusion reached by political journalists Jonathan Allen and Amie Parnes in their fine book, <u>Shattered</u>: "Her own missteps ... gave Donald Trump the opportunity he needed to win." And so the media has granted her a pass.

The sensible **Naomi Klein** (the "un-Maddow") recently looked at Trump's antics in general, and what he calls the "Russia thing" in particular, and observed that "some savvy people around Trump are using the daily shocks as cover to advance wildly pro -corporate policies that bear little resemblance to what Trump pledged on the campaign trail." (Of course, Trump *himself* is not that savvy. As MSNBC's sharp and witty **Nicolle Wallace** likes to say, "That is a chess move and he plays whack-a-mole.")

The real problem is that the media's obsession with these allegations and fantasies distracts attention from Trump's *real* crimes: **his conflicts of interest**, **his obstructions of justice**, **his evasions of taxes**. This "Russia thing" is just the old game of "Spy vs. Spy," updated. They hack us (and everyone else), we hack them (and everyone else) — always have, always will — and the beat goes on.

Stay cool, and keep list'nin', Bob

Quote of the Month

The process of election affords a moral certainty, that the office of President will never fall to the lot of any man who is not in an eminent degree endowed with the requisite qualifications. Talents for low intrigue, and the little arts of popularity, may alone suffice to elevate a man to the first honors in a single State; but it will require other talents, and a different kind of merit, to establish him in the esteem and confidence of the whole Union, or of so considerable a portion of it as

would be necessary to make him a successful candidate for the distinguished office of President of the United States.

Special Shows and Segments



7/9: The Annual Just Jazz/Sinatra Hour All-Trombone Special

From June though August, during Hour Three of *Just Jazz* (noon-1:00), I'm counting down the **100 Most Frequently Recorded Jazz Standards** as complied by the excellent website, <u>jazzstandards.com</u>.

7/16: Songs 60-51 **7/23:** Songs 50-41 **7/30:** Songs 40-31



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2017 marks the **100th birthday anniversary** of the great **Ella Fitzgerald**. And so, I am celebrating Ella and her music all year long on *Just Jazz featuring The Sinatra Hour*.

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

RECOMMENDED INTERNET JAZZ RADIO

<u>wemu.org</u>: 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: a Hall of Fame jazz broadcaster. Thurs. 10:00-midnight ET

<u>Café Latino</u>: Singer-songwriter <u>Laura Fernandez</u> features two hours of Latin music. Sat. 4:00-6:00 p.m. ET on Toronto's Jazz FM91.

NEW LISTING! <u>Jazz Lives</u> hosted by Bob Dauber: Two hours of "classic jazz over the decades covering a variety of genres with one exception – Smooth." Fri. 8:00-10:00 p.m. ET

<u>Good Vibes</u>: 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.

<u>Jazz Spotlight on Sinatra</u>: 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.

– Alexander Hamilton The Federalist Papers #68

And every Sunday after Just Jazz stay tuned to WRNJ and tunein.com/ radio/WRNJ for <u>The Tail-Finned Turntable</u> from 1:00 to 2:00 and <u>Still Rockin'</u> from 2:00 to 3:00, both hosted by "the Golden Gup," Gup Gascoigne.

NEW & RECOMMENDED CDS

T.K. Blue: *Amour* (Dot Time): "*Amour*," of course, is the French word for "love," and this new release by alto saxophonist T.K. Blue is a heartfelt love letter to the city where he once lived and worked, Paris. Blue's compositions are finely crafted and engaging, and his playing exudes, apropos to the project's concept, both passion and joy. The stellar supporting cast features such talents as vibraphonist Warren Wolf, pianist Zaccai Curtis, bassist Essiet Essiet, drummer Winard Harper, and more.

Terry Gibbs: 92 Years Young: Jammin' at the Gibbs House (Whaling City Sound): At the age of 92 vibraphone master Terry Gibbs is a force of nature and still a force in jazz. Gibbs is joined here by son Gerry on drums, John Campbell on piano, and Mike Gurrola on bass as he applies his personal brand of fun-filled, breathtaking bebop to a set laced with standards, plus a helping of originals.

3Divas: **3Divas** (DIVA Jazz Orchestra): 3Divas is the latest, swinging spinoff from the acclaimed and accomplished DIVA Jazz Orchestra. This tightly knit trio of pianist Jackie Warren, bassist Amy Shook, and the big band's music director, Sherrie Maricle, on drums stretches out on a tuneful set that includes some surprising choices — "Sunshine on My Shoulders, "Tennessee Waltz," "The Beat Goes On" — in wonderfully creative, hip transformations.

2017 marks the 25th anniversary of the DIVA Jazz Orchestra. To commemorate this landmark, music director Sherrie Maricle and nine other current band members each have composed and arranged a new work for the their forthcoming CD. And *you* can share this experience and become a part of this exciting project by going to the DIVA Jazz Orchestra's ArtistShare page. Join the celebration!

UPCOMING AREA JAZZ EVENTS

Jazz Summer Series at Rutherfurd Hall Fri., July 14, 7:30: pianist Rio Clemente Trio featuring <u>the Music of Rodgers & Hart</u> \$20 advance / \$25 at the door; Rutherfurd Hall, 1686 Rt.517, Allamuchy, NJ 908-852-1894 ext. 138 or 908-637-6455 <u>Buy the Entire Three-Concert Jazz Series *in Advance* (Rio Clemente, Pat Longo's Big Band, James Tormé)</u>

Wed., July 19, 7:00: Mason Gross Jazz Faculty

Trombonist **Conrad Herwig** leads an award-winning ensemble in a program of music made famous by Jersey's own Frank Sinatra and Sarah Vaughan. <u>Nicholas Music Center</u>, Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

Free! No tickets required. Limited is seating available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The **New Brunswick Jazz Project** — "bringing great Jazz to Central Jersey" — regularly offers jazz events at numerous venues throughout New Brunswick, NJ. Click <u>HERE</u> for their monthly schedule.

Acclaimed Jazz Books by Bob

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

[temporarily out of print]

\$20, plus shipping jazzbob.com



Bob Bernotas • host of Just Jazz featuring The Sinatra Hour Sundays, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) WRNJ Hackettstown, NJ • 104.7 & 92.7 FM and 1510 AM • streaming live at <u>tunein.com/radio/WRNJ</u> Website: jazzbob.com • Email: <u>bob@jazzbob.com</u> If you'd prefer not to receive any future Just Jazz e-Newsletters, click <u>here</u>