



October 2016

Hi Friends -

On the morning of the first presidential debate a new <u>national</u> <u>poll</u> put the candidates in a dead heat, 46% to 46%. The limitations of national polls notwithstanding, this raises an obvious and fascinating question: Why isn't Hillary Clinton running away with this election as she, her supporters, and most of the media expected she would be by now?

Perhaps it's because she's conducting a very poor campaign.

Incumbents can run on their records. Non-incumbents need to find a defining issue that connects them with the voters. It can be real and tangible: Obama's national healthcare plan. It can be real and intangible: Carter's "I will never lie to you" pledge. It can be fake and tangible: Nixon's "law and order" dog whistle. It can be fake and intangible: Regan's "morning in America" platitude. In any event, there invariably is, and must be, such an issue.

What is Clinton's issue? Right after the convention, attempting to lure Sanders' supporters she offered lip service to a few of *his* key issues. But lately she has had precious little to say about college debt or income inequality. She gave single-payer health care a big "no." And "no" to reinstating Glass-Steagell, as well. What about the most pressing, most urgent global issue of the day, the one many millennials seem to feel most strongly about? As <u>The Guardian</u> reported, "*Hillary Clinton has dropped the words 'climate change' from most of her public addresses since winning the endorsement of her party rival Bernie Sanders.*"

Oh, but Trump has issues. Racist and xenophobic issues. Irrational, phony, and, as we keep hearing, "scary" issues. But they are issues, *his* issues, and some voters — ignorant, gullible, bigoted voters — are listening and responding to them.

"Trump Is *scary-bad*!" say her campaign and her supporters, and that's largely what she is running on, fear of the alternative: "You better vote for her because if he's elected president it'll be the end of the world." But fear mongering and guilt tripping are not "issues," and nothing on which to build a (winning) campaign. Clinton and her supporters don't seem to be giving us a reason to vote *for* her other than she's not he, and that's not much.

Stay cool and keep list'nin', Bob

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

I'm really frustrated with a lot of today's stars, who have an opportunity to speak up but don't. They think they're secure in their little bubbles of fame and wealth. They think racism and prejudice can't touch them because they've achieved a certain level of success.

1968 Olympic medalist John Carlos



Republicans buy sneakers, too. — Michael Jordan



Special Shows and Segments 10/2: Songs of Autumn (during Hour 3, noon-1:00)

Vernon Duke wrote a song called "Autumn in New York" but had obviously not spent the preceding summer there. — Mort Sahl



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 wrnjradio.com

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 wpfwfm.org.

<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.

<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 on wfdu.fm (Sat. 3:00-5:00 p.m. and Mon. 9:00-11:00 a.m.) and PureJazzRadio.org (Tues. 7:00-9:00 p.m. and Thurs. 11:00-1:00 a.m.)

And every Sunday after Just Jazz stay tuned to WRNJ and wrnjradio.com for <u>Value This with Brian and Leon</u> at 1:00, followed by <u>The Tail-Finned Turntable</u> from 2:00 to 3:00 and <u>Still Rockin'</u> from 3:00 to 4:00, both hosted by "the Golden Gup," Gup Gascoigne.

<u>Matthew Fries</u>: Parallel States (Xcappa): Pianist Matthew Fries has collaborated with his sister, visual artist Loryn Spangler-Jones, to create this program of "parallel art and music." Alone, Fries' compositions are absorbing and stimulating, and Spangler-Jones paintings are vivid and striking. Together, they've produced one of the most original artistic projects of this or any year.

Click here to view the Loryn Spangler-Jones' paintings that inspired and were inspired by Matthew Fries' compositions.

Ray Obiedo: Latin Jazz Project vol. 1 (Rhythmus): Guitarist Ray Obeido has assembled a stellar cast of San Francisco Bay Area Latin jazz stalwarts plus "special guests" for this delightful, tune-filled project. He offers jazz standards with a Latin tinge ("Caravan," St. Thomas"), Latin jazz favorites by Tito Puente, Milton Nascimento, and João Donato, plus three originals, capped by a high-energy duet by the father-daughter percussion team of Pete Escovedo and Sheila E.

Luis Perdomo: Montage (<u>Hot Tone Music</u>): Solo piano is an art form unto itself, and with his latest release Venezuelan-born, New York City-based keyboard artist Luis Perdomo proves himself to be a most adept practitioner of the art. His improvisations are at times exhilarating and vibrant, at other times thoughtful and lyrical, covering both the straight ahead and Latin modes of expression.

UPCOMING AREA JAZZ EVENTS

Highly Recommended!

Sun., October 16, 3:00: <u>"Tenor Saxophone Supreme"</u>: Houston Person with the David Leonhardt Trio \$25 advance / \$30 at the door *All seven concerts in the 2016-17 Jazz at Rutherfurd Hall Series*: *\$160; Discounts also are available for three- and five -event packages* (Discount packages are available only until October 14) <u>Rutherfurd Hall</u>, 1686 Rt.517, Allamuchy, NJ, 908-852-1894, ext. 138; or 908-637-6455

Sat., October 22 : "An Evening of Musical Masters"
7:30: T.K. Blue, alto saxophone/flute & Zaccai Curtis, piano
8:30: Dick Griffin, trombone/piano & Warren Smith, percussion/vibraphone
9:30: Elektra Kurtis and Ensemble Elektra (Elektra Kurtus, Curtis Stewart, violin; Lefteris Bournias, clarinet; Kenny Davis, electric bass; Reggie Nicholson, drums)
\$20 for the entire evening. Cash only. General seating.
Advance reservations may be made at abrajazzbra@aol.com or 646-202-2080.
Metro Baptist Church, 410 W. 40th St. (between 9th and 10th Ave.), Manhattan

Sun., October 23, 7:00: <u>Music in the Moonlight Jazz Series</u>: "Brazilliance": trumpeter Claudio Roditi with Abelita Mateus, keyboards \$18 advance / \$20 at the door; Luna Stage, 555 Valley Road, West Orange, NJ; 973-395-5551

Every week the **New Brunswick Jazz Project** — *"bringing great Jazz to Central Jersey"* — offers events at numerous venues throughout New Brunswick, NJ. Click <u>HERE</u> to see their monthly schedule

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Bob Bernotas • host of Just Jazz featuring The Sinatra Hour
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