

# THE DUKE ELLINGTON SOCIETY CHAPTER #90

P.O. BOX 29587 • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20017-0787

Terrell A. Allen, President  
(202) 529-5972

24 August 1986

Grant Wright, Treasurer  
(202) 526-0828

Hi, Music Lover:

I'm finding it kind of hard to get started on this pre-season letter to you for the main reason that summer, at least my summer, is not over yet--and won't be 'til October! I've still got picnics to enjoy and beaches to run and more hills and pleasant valleys to explore. I must go out to lush, verdant Washington Grove to indulge myself in Don and Jean McCathran's hospitality and I also must drive over to Baltimore and see what Romeo Hunt and the rest of the contingent is puttin' down. Haven't been to the Callanan's lately and I promised that I would go out to Rockville to listen to some rare Ellington and Mozart. I also promised to check out Ted and Marian at Lake Caroline once more before Autumn.

But I had to share this news -- important news -- with you before you make other plans. Duke Ellington's last major work for the stage, "Queenie Pie", will be presented in its complete form by the American Music Theater Festival in Philadelphia on Saturday, September 27th. The New York City Chapter was allotted a block of tickets that they wish to share with us for that particular date, but we must act with dispatch, at least by September 9th. The price is \$24.00. Send your reservations to:

The Duke Ellington Society  
P. O. Box 31, Church Street Station  
New York, New York 10001-0031

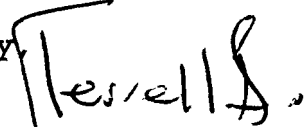
Saturday night, October 4th marks the opening of our '86-'87 season and our host is the inimitable Jack Towers. Need I say more? Yes -- Rob Bamberger of WAMU fm hosts an Ellington hour on his vintage jazz show every Saturday night from 7:00 till 8:00. I've heard stuff that I had never heard before, and when I called him to find out his sources he always referred me to Jack. I don't know what recorded gems Jack has lined up for us, but I can guarantee that his program will be top-drawer, as always.

We're still at Omega House, 13th and Harvard, N.W. at 8:30 p.m. Please be on time, we have things to discuss -- Sjef Hoefsmijt's tapes and commentary, for instance. Maurice Lawrence, President Emeritus of the International Duke Ellington Society, was in town the other day and gave me a ring. He and sweet Sylvia are well and enjoying their retirement years in Freeport, Bahamas.

That about winds it up for now. I must get back to my lazy, hazy days... Don't worry, I'll be together by October 4th. Till then,

Love you madly,

Terrell Allen



over -

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22 October 1986

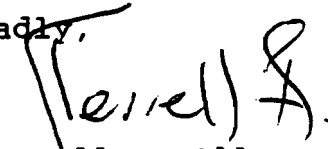
Hi, Music Lover,

I won't bore you with a long letter this time. I appreciate your sweet tolerance of my self-indulgence, and I do get carried away at times. But not this time. This is just a little reminder about our meeting on November 1st at Omega House. The witty John Callanan is the host and he requests that you bring open ears and open minds and a musically hip guest. He has some astounding theories on vintage Ellintonia that might surprise you. My only request is that you be punctual. Our session starts at 8:30 P.M. exactly, and we don't want you to miss any of John's program.

We'll have order-forms for Sjet Hoefsmits magnificent tapes so that you can order them immediately. The price is \$3.50 per cassette and you can save money by ordering all four tapes for \$12.50.

So until November first, take care.

Madly,

  
Terrell A. Allen

P.S. Many, many thanks to Ted Hudson, Ray Knight, Jack Towers, Sjet Hoefsmits, Eddie Lambert and his sweet Elaine for their very special generousities. I owe you guys. Thanks again and again.

T.A.



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November 21, 1986

Happy Holiday, Ellingtonians,

And don't get so carried away in giving thanks that you forget our special meeting on December 6th and our very special host - Nat Kinnear. This program will be uniquely Nat's. His word to me was "I'm going to play music that you've never heard before or ever dreamed existed!!! Come on out and let's hear what this special pal of Django Reinhardt's is talking about.

Thanks to Jack Towers' dedication and hard work we have the tapes that you ordered ready to pass on to you Saturday night. Come early so we can get this bit of business out of the way before Nat's presentation. You won't be sorry.

Until December 6th -

Madly,

*Terrell A. Allen*  
Terrell A. Allen

P.S. How about that John Callanan's session? Have you ever heard anything more thoroughly researched or more eminently listenable and enjoyable?

Thanks again, John.

*T.A.A.*  
T.A.A.

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December 23, 1986



Merry Xmas and a Happy Holiday Season to You,

Our dear friend and fellow Ellingtonian, Nat Kinnear, who was scheduled to host our last meeting suffered a hospitalizing illness a short time before his program and had to ask Jack Towers to fill in for him. (Thanks a lot, Jack.) But our intrepid and undaunted Nat has recovered almost 100% and is ready to present his program on January 3rd at Omega House. Let's be thankful that Nat has recuperated and give him a real Ellingtonian welcome at session time.

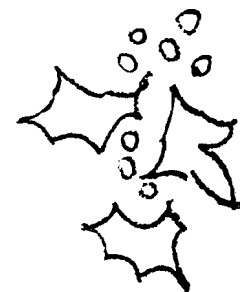
Not to "rain" unnecessarily on your Xmas tree, but it's dues time again. Dues and/or donations. Dues are still \$25.00 per annum for singles and forty dollars (\$40.00) per couple. This is all I'm going to say about this matter for now - you know what our needs are and how much we depend on you.

Again - Happy Holiday to you and yours. Go caroling merrily and wassailing at the proper time, but please show up on time for Nat Kinnear's presentation.

Love you madly, as always,

Terrell A. Allen

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen



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