



The BUDDY COLLETTE BIG BAND

Evening of Thursday February 21st, 2008

Pasadena Jazz Institute

As part of Black History Month



Pasadena Jazz Institute is proud to present the
BUDDY COLLETTE BIG BAND

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Buddy Collette conducting his own music with an “All-Star” Band

When it comes to unsung jazz heroes, Buddy Collette is as close to unmatched as it gets. Along with saxophonist Dexter Gordon, bassist Charles Mingus and drummer Chico Hamilton, he helped keep jazz alive in LA’s historic Central Avenue neighborhood. Collette also played an important role in the development of the cool jazz movement. NPR.

In addition to his many other accomplishments, Buddy was the first black musician to perform in a television studio band, appearing on Groucho Marx’s *You Bet Your Life*. Appropriately, as this event takes place “OSCAR” week, Buddy was, also, the first black musician to play in the “OSCAR” Orchestra .

Produced by Katy Haber & David Payne for NOMAD
www.nomadtheatrecompany.com www.pasjazz.org



To benefit Pasadena Jazz Institute & Nomad Theatre Company
(both 501 c-3 charities)

BUDDY COLLETTE is an American [tenor saxophonist](#), [flautist](#), and [clarinetist](#).

He was highly influential in the [West coast jazz](#) and [West Coast blues](#) mediums, also collaborating with saxophonist [Dexter Gordon](#), [drummer Chico Hamilton](#), and his lifelong friend, [bassist Charles Mingus](#).

At age 12 Collette took up the alto-saxophone and led his first group which included [Britt Woodman](#) on trombone and [Charles Mingus](#) on bass. At 17 he started playing professionally. After serving as a U.S. Navy band leader, he played with the *Stars of Swing* (featuring Woodman, Mingus and [Lucky Thompson](#)). Along with saxophonist Dexter Gordon bassist Charles Mingus, and drummer Chico Hamilton, he helped keep bebop alive in Los Angeles' historic Central Avenue neighborhood. In the early 1950s he worked as a studio musician, also becoming the first [African American](#) musician to perform on television, on [Groucho Marx](#)'s program, *You Bet Your Life*.

In 1955, he became a founding member of Chico Hamilton's legendary quintet. The unusual instrumented quintet also featured guitarist [Jim Hall](#) and cellist (and pianist) [Fred Katz](#), and performed [chamber jazz](#). A year later, Collette recorded *Man of Many Parts*, his first album as a bandleader.

Unlike other influential West Coast players Collette stayed in Los Angeles, recorded with his quintet, and became a noteworthy educator. His students included such renowned musicians as [Eric Dolphy](#), [Charles Lloyd](#), [Frank Morgan](#), [Sonny Criss](#), and [James Newton](#).

In [1996](#), the [Library of Congress](#) commissioned Collette to write and perform a special big band concert to highlight his long career. Although a stroke in [1998](#) rendered him unable to play anymore, Collette remains active in jazz education, having founded numerous programs for kids in the Los Angeles area. Together with [Steven Louis Isoardi](#) he wrote an autobiography titled *Jazz Generations: A Life in American Music and Society* (Bayou 2000).

Collette was a pioneer [civil rights](#) activist, working to desegregate the musicians union of Los Angeles. [Gerald Wilson](#), [Frank Sinatra](#), [Nat "King" Cole](#), and saxophonist [Benny Carter](#) were some of his early supporters. He also helped organize a concert and rally protesting government repression of the legendary African American singer, actor, and political activist [Paul Robeson](#).

Courtesy of Wikipedia



BUDDY COLLETTE BIG BAND

Some of the “All-Star” Musicians expected to appear in 20 piece Band:

GARNETT BROWN (Trombone)
HAROLD MASON (Drums)
LEE SECARD (Alto Sax)
DAVE KOONSE (Guitar)
RICHARD SIMON (Bass)
ERIC BUTLER (Trumpet)
ANN PATTERSON (Alto Sax)
WINSTON BYRD (Trumpet)
LOUIS TAYLOR (Tenor Sax)
LES BENEDICT (Trombone)
JOHN STEPHENS (Baritone Sax)
GEORGE HARPER (Tenor Sax)



The Pasadena Jazz Institute is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, comprised of music educators, musicians, and jazz music lovers, dedicated to promoting jazz education, preservation and participation. The Institute was founded in 2000 by Paul M. Lines who serves as the Institute's executive director.

Currently, the Institute has three main divisions:

The Educational Division promotes jazz education in the Pasadena Schools by providing musically-themed workshops, such as Celebration of the Blues. Children are taught songs rich with the history of blues and are given a chance to perform live during the workshop. The power of music, as a teaching tool, is tremendous. In addition we offer "Jazz Camp for Kids" every Summer. This last Summer we had 5 week-long sessions with over 80 participants.

The Institute also offers Jazz Concerts, which began in the year 2001 with the Jazz at the Balcony Theatre Concert Series and continued with the December Swings Series. These concerts, in tribute to the Masters of Jazz, are performed in a venue befitting jazz music by the Pasadena area's finest jazz musicians, who are creating their own jazz legacy. For the past three years we have been giving concerts on the terrace of the Pasadena Museum of California Arts. This past summer our concert series ran for 7 weekends with 3 concerts per week.

We provide booking of jazz groups for any occasion, whether it be a private, public or business function. We will be featuring over 60 local professional musicians in our concert series and we have these and many others from which to choose to make the perfect selection for any event.

The Jazz Institute currently is looking for the proper location to build the first of its kind, modern, jazz/art facility. It will contain a Jazz sculpture garden, outdoor amphitheater, jazz gallery with a pictorial history of jazz, performance space, listening room/library and video screening room. We will conduct ensemble classes and private lessons in improvisation. The Institute will also be the home of the newly-formed Pasadena Jazz Orchestra.

Pasadena Jazz Institute has recently opened it's new facility on the second level of the western section of Paseo Colorado, Suite 206, and is thrilled to host the legendary Buddy Collette and his Big Band.

www.pasjazz.org



NTC is a broad-based 501 c-3 non profit Arts Organization. Founded in 2003, **NOMAD** has staged the U.S premiere productions of the plays “**THE BODY**” by Nick Darke, and “**RED STAR**” by Charles Wood in addition to premiering work by playwrights Trevor Griffiths, Howard Barker, April de Angelis, Donald Freed, & Elizabeth Heffron.

Always confronting social issues, **NOMAD** has completed shooting the documentary “**DOOMED VILLAGE**” about the demise of the innovative homeless shelter Dome Village in downtown Los Angeles, and is currently completing “**BLACKLIST/WHITELIST**”, a documentary about the amalgamation of the separate black and white musicians’ unions in the early 1950’s, (with Buddy Collette). Also, in preparation “**DEAD MONKEY**” a motion picture comedy about domestic abuse, by Nick Darke, with Amanda Plummer, Matthew Modine, & Burt Young.

Katy Haber and **David Payne** (Executive Director and Artistic Director of **NOMAD** respectively) recently introduced the sport of cricket into 18 LAUSD Elementary schools, (with LA’s BEST, an after school program out of the L.A. Mayor’s Office). Summer of 2007 Katy and David also produced **AN EVENING WITH JOHN MAYALL**, (the legendary blues musician), for BAFTA/LA in Beverly Hills.

www.NomadTheatreCompany.com

Contact : 818 753 9701



BUDDY COLLETTE BIG BAND

Benefactor..... \$10,000

2 Full page Ads in Program. Inside Front cover and Back cover.

12 Guest seats *.

Name used in any, and all, promotions, including radio spots.

Sponsor..... \$5,000

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Advertising

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- Should we reach our sponsorship target, it is our hope to make the evening 'Invitation Only', acknowledging the Sponsors/Benefactors accordingly. Otherwise we will charge an admission fee of \$45 a head. Seating in main showroom will be limited to 100.

Please contact Nomad @ 818 753 9701 or our toll-free # 866 966 6623

Credit Cards accepted. Mailing Address: 11407 Landale Street. Studio City CA 91602

Checks should be made out to: Nomad Theatre Company

Nomad is a 501 (c-3) Registered Charity #20-1657460

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