

# JazzNotes

Official Newsletter of the Jazz Club of W.A. Inc  
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*Patron : Roy Burton*

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**Number 482**  
**Sep 2025**

*Meetings: Tuesday nights at the Civic Hotel Inglewood, 7.30 - 10.00 pm.  
Admission: \$20, Members and Students \$15. Annual membership: \$25*

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## Editor's Note

This month Phil profiles influential early jazz publishers, the Melrose brothers and Irving Mills, Bill McAllister is InProfile, we look back on Duke Ellington visiting Perth in 1969, there's a puzzle, poetry and much more as well...

**Paul Bird**

editor

## Caterina's Chatter

*People to hold close to you are the ones that find your door open but knock just the same.*

Hi there beautiful people reading our newsletter, it has been an amazing month.

It's winter's last leg, still a little cool for a while but no worries you can warm up in the jazz club each Tuesday. Let's welcome the rain; we need it. I almost have no words to express how it feels at the Jazz Club of WA. It's one amazing family of all ages, looking after each other as we ought

to. Our club is not there to make money. We offer a safe and happy place for all ages and abilities to enjoy and play. In August we had a well-curated mixture of jazz: trad, swing and big band. Our goal is to offer predominantly traditional jazz, with enough variety to maybe open the door to new members. That's **Keith Terry**'s wheelhouse, thoughtfully coordinating the bands.

Looking back at August: The *Stevedores* did their thing well, although a small winter crowd. I was away but am told that *That's Jazz* had to call on some late "deps", having to then change their program substantially; still professional and enjoyed. I caught *the Hills Big Band* and my goodness, it was magnificent; a big gathering of people enjoying themselves – food, drinks, music and dancing with wonderful friendships, new and old. I'm amazed by the volunteers in this inviting atmosphere, firmly established in the Milk Bar at the Civic Hotel.

The last night for August will be *The Troublemakers* on the 26<sup>th</sup> August - we can expect Pierson and the gang to deliver the best of trad jazz with some originals; we'll be

enthralled and there'll be no trouble. See you there.

September marks the start of SPRING, a season so special, I particularly love it.

Look at the wonderful [September lineup](#), but of course, if you are a subscriber to our mailing list, we will remind you each week as well. (Go to the *bottom of any page* on [our website](#) to subscribe to our mailing list!

Short & sweet for me this month. See you in the Milk Bar at the Civic Hotel on Tuesday nights.

Warmest regards

Caterina Ranieri

President.

*We are all doing our best with the strength of our own personal self-beliefs.*



# This Month's Bands

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep – Tin Roof Jazz Band

Vivienne Kidd (piano), Benn Hodgkin, (trumpet), Mike Wiese (reeds), Steve Martin (trombone), Dijon Summers (bass), Tim Woolley (drums)

## 9<sup>th</sup> Sep – Roaring Twenties Jazz Orchestra

Phil Hatton (clarinet), Ethan Lamb (trumpet), Gianni Petta (tenor sax), Aaron Canny (trombone), Vincent Choy (guitar), Jack Harrison (bass), Gus Davidson (drums).

## 16<sup>th</sup> Sep – The Hot Sand Hoppers

Paul Bird (reeds), Matt Knight (trumpet), Aaron Canny (trombone), John Perry (piano), Ridge Moss (banjitar), Jason Wood (bass), Richard Pooley (drums).

## 23<sup>rd</sup> Sep – NO JAZZ

Venue is unavailable.

## 30<sup>th</sup> Sep – Cornerhouse Jazz Band

Roy Burton (trombone), Benn Hodgkin (trumpet), Tom Grebble (reeds), Dijon Summers (bass), Rod Evans (banjo), Dave Gryl (drums).



### Committee of Management for 2025-26

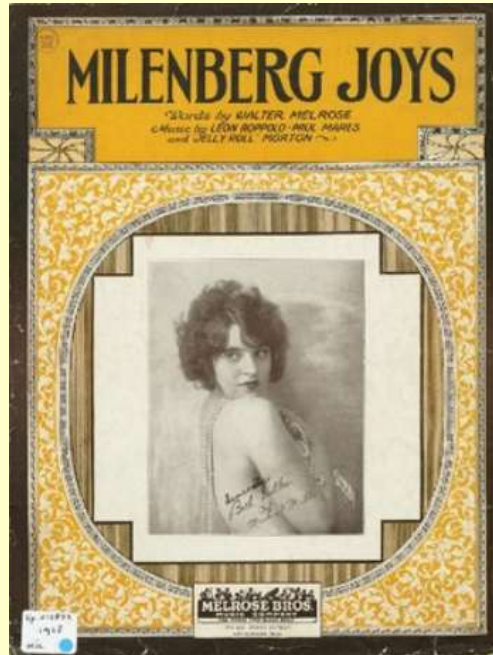
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## Phil's Jazz Chat

Music publishers who had an important influence in early jazz were **Walter Melrose**, with his brother **Lester**, and **Irving Mills**. The Melrose brothers were very helpful to **Jelly Roll**



**Morton** and Irving Mills was instrumental in the early career of **Duke Ellington**.



The Melrose brothers established a music store in Chicago in the 1920s and one of their early claims to fame was publishing *Tin Roof Blues* by the **New Orleans Rhythm Kings** in 1923.

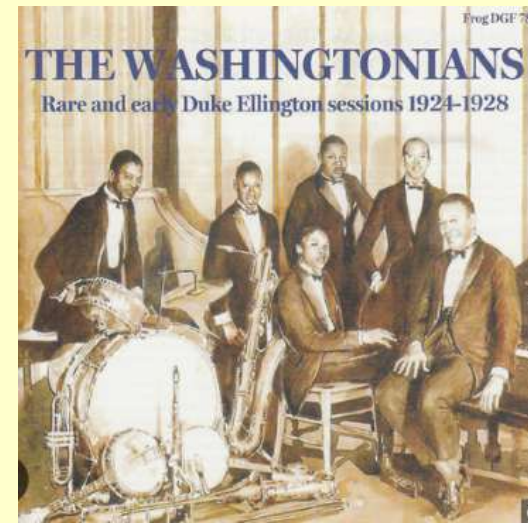


Walter also wrote the lyrics to that song. He added lyrics to many existing jazz compositions, *Copenhagen* being an example.

They saw the potential in Jelly Roll Morton and put him in contact with Victor Records. This led to the famous series of recordings in 1926 by Jelly Roll's **Red Hot Peppers**. These recordings have become classics. The Melroses very much facilitated these recordings, even paying for rehearsal time. Of interest to jazz musicians, they also published **Glenn Miller's 125 Breaks for Jazz Trombone**, **Louis Armstrong's 125 Breaks for Cornet** and **Benny Goodman's 24 Hot Breaks for Clarinet**.

Here are the Red Hot Peppers in 1926 with *Doctor Jazz*.

Irving Mills was born Isadore Minsky to a Jewish family in Odessa, Russian Empire, in 1894. His father, Hyman Minsky, was a hat maker who emigrated to the United States. He joined his older brother Jack in his publishing company in 1919. In 1925, Mills was taken to hear Duke Ellington's **Washingtonians** in a small club in New York City. He signed



Ellington the next day and was his manager until 1939. Mills owned 45% of Duke Ellington Inc. and thus got co-credit for many of Ellington's famous songs.



A lot of questions have been asked about Mills's role with Ellington. It has been said that the band made him rich and it certainly made him a force in the music business. However, Mills played a very important role in getting Ellington and his band established. He arranged a good recording contract and got the band into the Cotton Club. Mills was one of the first to record black and white musicians together, using

twelve white musicians and the Duke Ellington Orchestra on a record. Here's Duke Ellington in 1929 with Cotton Club Stomp.

Phil Hatton ... 21/8/25



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# About This Month's Bands

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep Tin Roof Jazz Band



The Tin Roof Jazz Band commenced in 1986 when Roy Burton, then President of the Jazz Club of WA, assembled six classically-trained musicians, including current leader Vivienne Kidd (piano), and later Martin Kidd (banjo). The band played three or four gigs a week plus regular gigs at the jazz club, until 1994 when Martin and Vivienne relocated to Spain. Tin Roof has had a second life since Vivienne reformed the band in 2019, with original players Mike, Tim and Steve and welcoming Dijon and Benn. These awesome musicians relish each other's work and know that the audience will love

listening and dancing to their music as much as they enjoy playing it.

## 9<sup>th</sup> Sep Roaring Twenties Jazz Orchestra



The Roaring Twenties Jazz Orchestra is a group of outstanding young musicians, predominantly current music students, who have come together to capture the spirit of this music, under the guidance of experienced Perth musician, Phil Hatton.

They return this month to the Jazz Club of WA, If you caught their earlier gigs, you will remember the sympathetic presentation, honouring the past, yet with a dynamic youthful energy and with obvious love of the music.



Come and enjoy a night of tasty and vibrant jazz, ably expressed by some of Perth's finest young musicians.

## 16<sup>th</sup> Sep The Hot Sand Hoppers



The Hot Sand Hoppers serve it up hot, bouncy and with gusto. Come along, if you're game to get hot feet, a red face and to drip with enjoyment.

They have a lot more fresh material just warmed up for this month, - it's vintage, authentic and wonderfully delivered. "Hop into some hot jazz".

## 23<sup>rd</sup> Sep NO JAZZ

*We're sorry we can't put on a band this week as there was a mix-up and the Milk Bar was booked to a Czech toilet-themed act. (true story...)*

## 30<sup>th</sup> Sep Cornerhouse Jazz Band



The Corner House Jazz Band plays traditional jazz with a hard-driving style, and is one of Australia's most accomplished jazz bands. The band was formed in 1980, playing at the Railway Hotel, North Fremantle, and still plays at the nearby Swan Hotel every Saturday afternoon.

They have had a 20-year Friday-night residency at the famous Jazz Cellar in Mount Hawthorn. The Cellar jumps with the band's pumping and nostalgic repertoire, including New Orleans Jazz, Chicago styles, roaring 20s, Swing, Duke Ellington's Cotton Club jungle, Louis Armstrong's Hot Fives and Sevens, J.P. Sousa Marches, and... much, much more. The Cornerhouse Jazz Band has toured overseas, twice to the USA, to Malaysia, Japan, New Zealand and Borneo, and have played in all the Australian states.

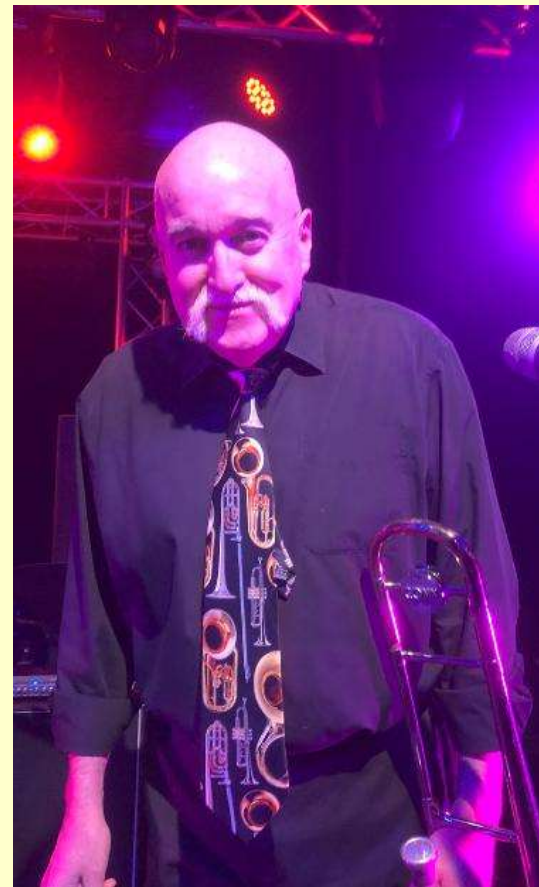


## In Profile: Bill McAllister

*Paul talks to Bill.*

### Q. Bill, how did you first get into music?

I was brought up in the Salvation Army. My Dad was a professional tuba player. I learned cornet very young, and I moved on to euphonium when



the family moved. We migrated from Scotland to Australia – to Bunbury – and that's where I really started playing euphonium. And of course that led onto the trombone when I was a youngster.

At the age of 18 I joined the army as a musician. I was in the army for 12 years. I had temporary postings to a lot of

bands, but I was mainly in the 5<sup>th</sup> military district here in Perth. At that time I was fortunate enough to hear people like Don Bancroft, who was in the band with me. Don influenced me to come down to “the Nookie” – the Nookanburra Hotel. And that is where I first heard, I guess, mainstream music.





The band at that time was **Dick Hatton**, who was such an absolute hero of mine. I used to sit amazed in the Nookanburra when listening to Dick's playing. So, locally, Dick was my number one influence. When Dick left the Nookie Hot Six, I had the privilege of joining with **Paddy Fitzallan**, who was another great influence on me, and showed me lots. At around about the same time, **Ron Young** contacted me and



asked me if I wanted to play with his band. They were like the kings of fast swing in those days. We played in a pub in

Subiaco for many years. So I guess those are my main local influences.

**Q. So you got into it, and you've been influenced by a lot of great jazz men...**

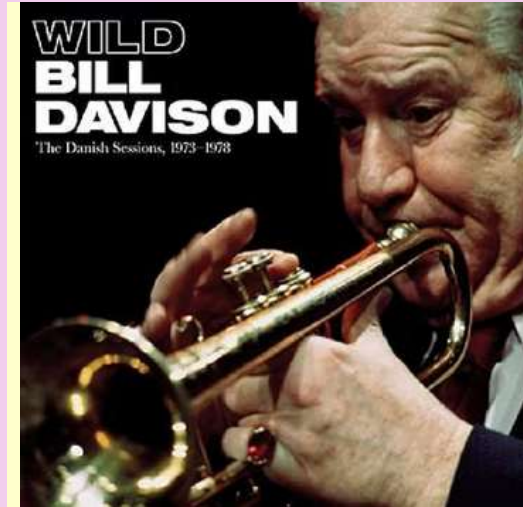
I've been very, very lucky to play with and get to know many local, national and international musicians. It's been a great journey, it really has. And it's only part of my life as a musician, but an important and fun part. I've been

privileged to have the opportunity to play this great music.

**Q. So who have you played this sort of music with?**

**Wild Bill Davison**

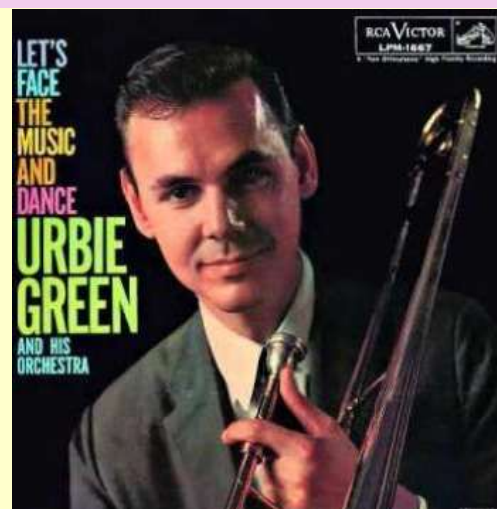
comes to mind. He came to the Jazz Club of WA when it was at the Hyde Park Hotel, and I had the privilege of playing with him. He was a great player with great stories. He played in these old clubs. He was there when there were shootings going on. He told the stories about the early days of jazz. A great player.



And of course the **Glenn Miller Band** toured here. It was great to play with them. **Peanuts Hucko** was still playing. We played in the entertainment centre; that was great. I played with subsequent Miller

incarnations, but that first time with Peanuts was great.

I remember, I played with **Vince Holmes'** band for about 15 years. And **Urbie Green** came out. I got to play with Urbie. I sat with him for about 2 hours and had a great chat.



**Q. So you're playing tonight with Phil Hatton's Manhattans. Who else do you play with?**

Yes, I retired from playing professionally when I turned 60. So I don't do shows anymore; I did that for 40 years. I played locally and toured with musical shows / pit orchestras.

I still play with **Paul Millard's** big band – the Straight Ahead Big Band. And I play bass trombone with **James Morrison's** big band when they come to town. That's a joy.

But basically, this is the sort of music I'm playing these days.

**Q. And what do you like to listen to?**

I am a child of the CD age. I chop and change. I listen to a lot of choir music, gospel music. I've got about 50-60 CDs of trombone players.



Being an arranger – I still do some of that – I listen to a lot of things. My partner is a champion barbershop singer, so I've

done a lot of arranging for her sort of music. And I have listened to all sorts of vocal and choral music.

**Q. Do you find arranging tough?**

Well its long hours, but its how I've earned my living for 40 years. I still play a bit of piano; that goes with the arranging and composition and you have to when you're the musical director.

**Q. What would be your advice for any young up and coming people?**

Come and listen. Bring your horn along and have a play. Because every band that I know of, for *most* gigs, they'll let you sit in for a tune. And



talk to the guys there. Learn who they are...  
listen and have a play. Bring your horn.

**Thanks Bill.**

*Footnote: Bill's website is [billmcallister.com.au](http://billmcallister.com.au)*



## Traditional Jazz Workshop

**Attention** students, parents and teachers...  
In **January** we're sponsoring a one-week  
traditional jazz workshop aimed at high-school

aged students. The club is organising  
outstanding instructors who are experienced  
jazz musicians. We'll put on as many instructors  
as we need depending on bookings, which will  
be capped at around 20-25 workshop  
participants.



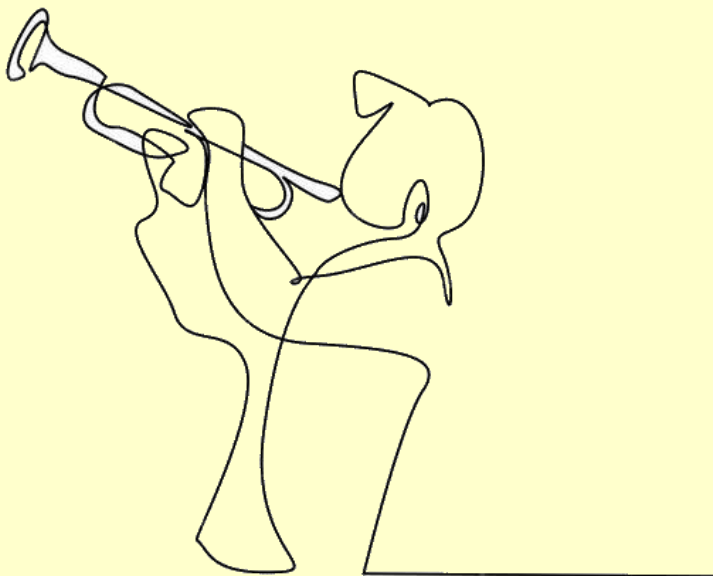
No experience is necessary, but participants must have been playing their instrument for at least two years.

The jazz workshop will be run at Como Secondary College from 11<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> of January; 10am to 1pm each day. Cost is \$50 for the week.

Contact **Phil Hatton** for questions or to get in early for bookings.

0417 196 773

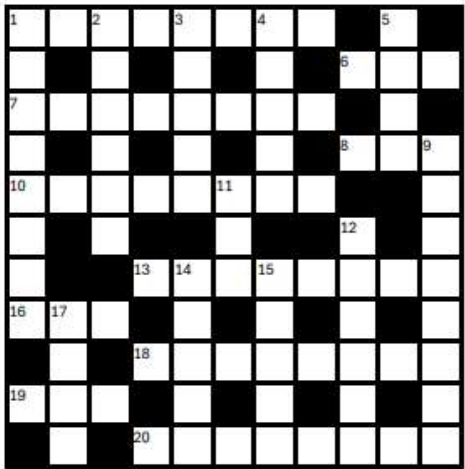
[philip.t.hatton@gmail.com](mailto:philip.t.hatton@gmail.com)



# Puzzle



## Puzzle No. 12



### Across

- 1. Card game, like "Uno" (4,4)
- 6. Taxi (3)
- 7. Australian jazz musician, James .....(8)
- 8. Australian Dental Assoc, Abbr. (1,1,1)
- 10. Large computerised information store (8)
- 13. Australian soul, pop and jazz singer, Kate (8)
- 16. Do It Yourself, Abbr. (1,1,1)
- 18. Space shuttle that crashed (8)
- 19. Frozen water (3)
- 20. Highway north from New Orleans, revisited by Bob Dylan (5,3)

### Down

- 1. Lambda-shaped figure (8)
- 2. Undertaking, guarantee or bail (6)
- 3. Ascend (5)
- 4. Generic term for american folk, blues, country music (5)
- 5. Team of musicians (4)
- 9. Lawyer, representative, supporter (8)
- 11. Anti-social behaviour, Abbr. (1,1,1)
- 12. Giant grass; pandas love it (6)
- 14. visual representation of emotions used in text messages (5)
- 15. break out, flare up esp. volcanic (5)
- 17. Ancient Peruvian (4)

Click [here](#) to open a printable puzzle page.



SOLUTION Puzzle No. 11

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| A | L | B | U | M |   | B | L | U | F | F |
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| H |   |   | S |   | W |   | E |   | T |   |
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|   | B |   | M | A | D | A | M |   | E |   |
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| R |   | O |   | P |   | B |   |   |   | A |
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| L |   | D |   | R |   | U |   | O |   | G |
| L | A | Y | E | R |   | S | M | O | K | O |



## Jazz Gig Guide

### TUESDAY

#### Jazz Club of W.A.

Every Tuesday at The Milk Bar, [Civic Hotel](#), 981 Beaufort St, Inglewood Traditional Jazz & Swing 7.30 – 10.00pm.

Admission at door: general \$20, members/students \$15

Enquiries: Caterina Ranieri (President) Mob : 0414 942 730

### FRIDAY

#### South Perth Lions Big Band

Fourth Fri of the month 8.00—10.50pm

[South Perth Community Centre](#), Cnr Sandgate St & South Terrace, South Perth

Enquiries : Phil Hatton on 0417 916 773

#### Corner House Jazz Band

Weekly 7.00 – 10.00pm

[The Jazz Cellar](#), Corner Buxton St & Scarborough Beach Rd Mt Hawthorn

Info: Roy Burton 9447 8111

### SATURDAY

#### Corner House Jazz Band

First Saturday of every month 3:00 – 5:30pm

[Swan Hotel](#), Stirling Highway Nth Fremantle

### SUNDAY

#### Manhattons Sextet

Fourth Sunday of every month 5:30-7:30PM at [Rodney's Bait 'n Tackle](#) Stirling Hwy, Mosman Park.

Enquires : Phil Hatton on 0417 916 773

#### Jazz Fremantle at The Navy Club

*Sessions currently suspended whilst looking for a new home...*

Info: Ken Westgate (President ) 0497 107 760.

## Mandurah Jazz Club “That’s Jazz”

Sessions currently suspended whilst looking for a new home...

Enquiries: Rob Watt 0419 944 329

### Jazz on the Radio

You’ll find recommended jazz programs in the [radio guide](#) on our website



Use our QR  
code to find  
our website

Try it!

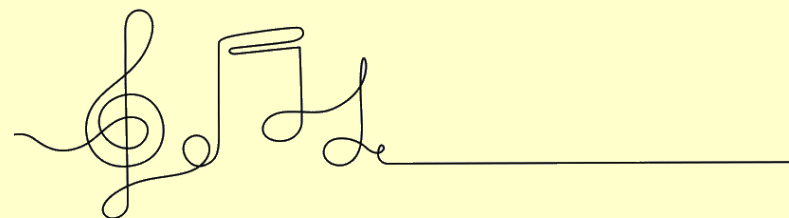


## Duke for Perth - 1969

The [Canberra Times](#) (25 Jul 1969) reported that Duke Ellington was booked to play the Perth Festival.

Jazz performer and composer Duke Ellington, who has just won increased fame with his moon flight composition, 'Moon Maiden', will be a guest artist at next year's festival of Perth.

The festival executive director, John Birman, said yesterday that Ellington and his 21 piece band would be one of the first opening attractions of the festival. The band would give one performance only soon after the festival opening in early February. It would play at only two other Australian cities, Sydney and Melbourne.

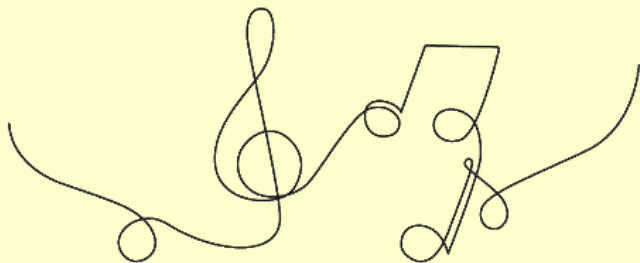






*Ellington wrote a beatnik-poetry inspired piece called Moon Maiden to celebrate the Apollo 11 mission of July 1969. He performed the piece as part of the 30-hour continuous TV coverage of the moon landing. ABC anchorman Frank Reynolds said, "It does seem appropriate that as man is about to set*

*foot on the moon for the first time in the history of mankind, that we should honor this event and celebrate it with music."*



## Poetry Spot

This poem was published on the website [Jerry Jazz Musician](#)

### Now It's Time To Go a Journeying

I've lived a whole lifetime without you  
Impossible task, but easily observed  
In the rear view: Sad as a gypsy  
serenading the moon

Palpable need, notes floating like  
November-song, circling my head as I seek  
Love as my shelter. An ex told me that when  
I sit in my car under a tree to eat my fast food  
Breakfast with coffee, enveloping leaves and  
Branches above my sunroof top, that I probably  
Look like I'm homeless

He could be right

But I just feel free  
And now here's Gregory Porter on my radio  
singing  
"Skylark" and I think about birds sailing through  
the sky

Above my head being asked by any and all  
forlorn souls  
To be led to a kiss

That's probably a lot to ask of a bird  
Minding his own business, just singing  
for the sheer joy of it

Love is rare but it's something I still feel  
Free to find, key in the ignition and above us all  
The melting clouds – grays and deeper grays  
Like the entrance to that final mystery,  
Where all that once was elusive is now  
Beautifully clear:

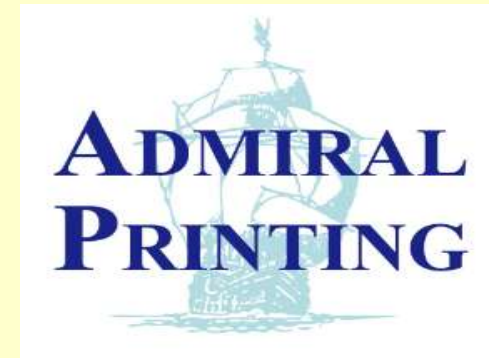
Won't you lead me there?

by **Connie Johnson**



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