

Kevin Michael Caladie

Jazz History

Professor Marowitz

11/03/2018

“If you have to ask what jazz is, you will never know” Louie Armstrong, so this Halloween October 31st, 2018 The Ocean County College Jazz Band not only preformed at the Brighton Bar in Long Branch, New Jersey. They blew the roof off of that establishment.

The event was on Halloween so many of the concert goers were dressed in an assortment of costumes ranging from scary to hilarious. The crowd was mixed there were regular bar patrons we can only assume, to parents, siblings, to significant others of the band members. Then you had the musical attendee’s there to hear the sounds bounce around the room and soothe their soul. I myself was there because I had to write this report, my attitude was negative and my expectations were low, boy was I in store for a shock.

The first piece of the night I missed the name of the tune and was still in my negative mindset when I exited the bathroom, that’s when the music punched me square in the mouth and woke up my senses that I didn’t even know I had. Bum Bum Bum echoed throughout the establishment and got the people immediately engaged you quite literally could not stop your head from bopping back and forth and your feet from tapping as if you were on the stage yourself.

The next song played was Equinox an original of John Coltrane and their rendition was a classic, the music was so rich and emotional it was as if you could feel it in your bones. The second Sax solo had so much flavor you could taste it and boy it was exquisite. Towards the end the base solo, really got your attention it was the thunder of the beautiful storm this bad was putting on, and the trumpet was the lightning. After the second song I knew this was going to keep getting better and better, they were the real deal and any preconceived notion I had coming in was completely an afterthought, I was completely enamored by the band.

My absolute favorite piece was by far this tune, Sweetest Taboo by Sade. The flute solo was light but still delightful, and the man on the xylophone really knew what he was doing. It was very impressive to say the least. Now the musicians were great, the solos were top of the line with that being said the Singer completely stole the show, her rendition of Sweetest Taboo actually had my Jaw on the floor. Her voice was what some could say heavenly, the entire place was locked into this performance and with no doubt about it this young lady has some serious talent, her voice is truly remarkable. Listen here, was another great song, the trumpet, sax, guitar, and drum solos all were top of the line. They all seemed as if they had been working together for years.

Twisted by Wardel Grey and Annie Ross was up next and you may have actually thought Annie Ross was up there singing once again the singer was on her P's and Q's now the trumpet solo was different he was covering the end of the trumpet which really made for a different sound and was very interesting and grabbed your attention. They Finished the evening off with the song Put it where you want it, by this time I had about three or four beers and was feeling great and my actual notes on the song were an entire page that literally read GRACE ROCKED IT OUT OF THE PLACE. Now I can only imagine I was even more taken aback by how amazing her singing was and not to mention how in tune and spectacular the band truly was the Sax solos were without a doubt top of the line all night long, the

guitar solos were very nice change of paces and the drummer through it down better than John C Reily at the Catalina Wine Mixer.

All in all I would highly recommend anyone to go see the Ocean County College Jazz band, and there is no way I would even consider writing my next report on anything other than their NEXT SHOW, because I will be there for sure, they were truly amazing.

Amanda Bowens

David R. Marowitz

MUSC 185:Introduction to Jazz History

5 November 2018

Concert Report 2

The live performance I chose to attend was at Brighton Bar in Longbranch on Halloween night. The jazz band I saw was the Ocean County College jazz band and the band leader was David R. Marowitz.

The overall feel of the venue was very laid back and quite loud even before the band began playing. However the look of the place was very dark, empty, and kind of seemed a little dirty. The people who were there seemed to be having a very good time and were very supportive of the musicians in the band. If not all most of the people were dressed up in costumes which made the atmosphere seem more inviting.

Anyhow, the first song was jazz/rock tune with a medium tempo. I really liked the addition of bongos in this song, it was a nice touch. The first improvised solo was a guitar and they really knew what they were doing. There were runs all over the place and done with grace and skill. The second solo was a bass solo and was just as good as the previous solo. They had a deep and rich sound and controlled their speed and tone very well throughout the entirety of their solo. Next solo was the keyboard solo in which they really ripped into it. It really sounded like they had worked on it for awhile, the runs were amazing and the groove they had going was also very good. The final solo and what seemed like the longest was the drum solo towards the end of the song. They were really wailing on the drums but it sounded well thought out and put

together. Overall, during this song all the musicians on the stage really put their all into their music and it showed.

The second song was called Equinox and was at a slower tempo than the song played previously. Right from the start this song started with bass, which was really cool and I haven't seen too much. Moving forward, the first improvised solo was a tenor sax solo. He was had a good groove going and was getting very into his music. You can tell that he put a lot of effort in and that it was well rehearsed. The second solo was an alto sax solo and he also put a lot of effort into his work. He also sounded like he rehearsed his solo because it was just so well put together. He put a good amount of weight and emphasis on his notes which was the icing on the cake. After he was done it went onto a guitar solo, which was spectacular. The notes were very consistent and pleasant. This musician really knows how to play their instrument very well. On a side note the trumpet in this song was very well rounded and played with a lot of passion. Overall the dynamics throughout were at a happy medium and there was a very good balance throughout the song.

For the third I chose was called Listen Here. The tempo was very laid back, not too fast or too slow. The first solo was a trumpet solo. He played with a lot of passion and energy but was still quite smooth. Even the transition out of his solo was smooth and graceful. Next up was the clarinet solo and it was great. He had good tone through the entirety of his solo, especially

when he transitioned up the octave. There was not a squeak insight. Following up was a guitar solo. This song specifically showed a bunch of their talent and passion. All in all, this kid really knows what they are doing. After that was a really long, and somewhat drug out, drum solo. It was very good but went on for just a little bit too long. The kid has a lot of talent though and is an outstanding drummer. As for the end of the song it was quite abrupt but still a ten out of ten.

Overall, this concert was very good. All the musicians were immensely talented and put their all into the performance. I would definitely like to see them perform sometime in the near future since the performance was such a good one. A live jazz concert is way better than an online one, you get a better overall feel of the show when you are actually there. Instead of just seeing the music you can actually feel the music when your actually there. It is way more immersive. The only thing I did not like about the show was how dark and run down the building was but aside from that everything else was great. All in all, the show was outstanding and all the musicians should be very proud of the show they put on that night.