

Chris Anderson - Great Modern Jazz Pianist

When I moved to Chicago in August of 1958, Joe Segal had Monday night sessions at the original Gate Of Horn folk club. He'd get sidemen from bands (Art Blakey, Miles Davis, etc.) appearing at the Sutherland Hotel Ballroom to sit in with the best local musicians.

By "local" I refer to Ira Sullivan, the sadly under-recorded sax of Nicky Hill, Richard Abrams (before he was Muhal), Jodie Christian, Harold Mabern, John Young, Andrew Hill, Herbie Hancock, Eddie Higgins, Johnny Griffin, Joe Daley, etc. etc.

Chicago was, as you can see, rich in pianists. I think Chris Anderson showed up a relatively few times. He had a problem getting around because of a brittleness of his bones, which could easily break with the slightest trauma and was often seen using crutches. But he was one of the best pianists in the city.

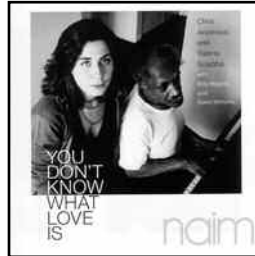
I recall one night when he played on a late set surrounded by most of the above-named pianists plus Stan Kenton, watching him and hanging on every note.

Eventually Chris moved to New York, returning years ago for a DuSable High School jazzmen's reunion at Segal's Jazz Showcase in the Blackstone Hotel.

Anderson did eventually do some recording for DIW and Naim, but we're not sure they're still available.

I wish I could tell you more about Chris Anderson, a great pianist, who died February 4th at the age of 81.

- Bob Koester



Sabina Sciubba & Chris Anderson
You Don't Know What Love Is
Naim 30 • CD \$17.99



Charlie Haden & Chris Anderson
None But The Lonely Hearth
Naim 22 • CD \$17.99 / LP \$38.99



★ QUIZ! ★

WHAT ARE THEIR GIVEN NAMES?

- 1) Yusef Lateef
 - 2) Sonny Boy Williamson II
 - 3) Bo Diddley
 - 4) Shorty Rogers
 - 5) Muddy Waters
 - 6) Nina Simone
 - 7) Herbie Mann
 - 8) Howlin' Wolf
 - 9) Sun Ra
 - 10) Betty Carter
 - 11) King Pleasure
 - 12) Dinah Washington
 - 13) Jelly Roll Morton
 - 14) Peggy Lee
 - 15) Ahmad Jamal
- a) Herman Poole Blount
 - b) Ferdinand Joseph Lamothe
 - c) Milton Rajonsky
 - d) Lillie Mae Jones
 - e) Norma Deloris Egstrom
 - f) William Emanuel Huddleston
 - g) Clarence Beeks
 - h) Chester Arthur Burnett
 - i) Eunice Kathleen Waymon
 - j) Frederick Russell Jones
 - k) Ruth Lee Jones
 - l) Herbert Jay Solomon
 - m) Aleck Miller
 - n) McKinley Morganfield
 - o) Elias Otha Bates



★ QUIZ! ★



Take this quiz and see page ___ for the answers!