

Frank Foster: Songs of Romance: and Young Composers

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Jazz at Lincoln Center Radio

Season 17

Program 20; Airdate 2/11/10

1) **Background music:** "Shiny Stockings," Basie, arr. Foster

2) **Pierce:**

THERE'S SOMETHING TO THE SEDUCTIVE POWER OF A GREAT SONG. CHARLES DARWIN BELIEVED THAT MUSICAL ABILITY EVOLVED AS A WAY TO ATTRACT MATES. CONSIDER LEGENDARY LADY-KILLERS LIKE DUKE ELLINGTON, FRANK SINATRA -- OR THE BLUESMAN "SCREAMING JAY HAWKINS" -- WHO FATHERED AN ESTIMATED 57 CHILDREN.

BUT WHEN THE ATTRACTION PALES, MUSIC HELPS US ENDURE THE OTHER SIDE OF ROMANCE -- THE BITTER AND THE BITTERSWEET. TO EXPLORE BOTH SIDES OF THIS LEGACY, ARRANGER AND COMPOSER FRANK FOSTER JOINS WITH SINGERS MARLENA SHAW AND DENNIS ROWLAND, THE JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA **AND** TWO REMARKABLE YOUNG ARTISTS -- ERICA VON KLEIST AND KURT BACHER.

"ON THE SUBJECT OF ROMANCE" -- A COMPACT TREATISE FROM THE HOUSE OF SWING. I'M WENDELL PIERCE. THIS IS JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER.

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3) Pierce:

FRANK FOSTER HAS ALWAYS BEEN A VERSATILE ARRANGER -- CREATING A SULTRY BOSSA TEXTURE FOR SARAH VAUGHAN, A BRASSY ARRANGEMENT FOR THE BASIE TROUPE OR A POLITICAL GROOVE FOR HIS OWN BIG BAND, "THE LOUD MINORITY."

HERE AT THE ROSE THEATER, WITH THE JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA, FOSTER PUTS TEXTURE ON DISPLAY IN A SONG HE WROTE FOR HIS WIFE: "CECILIA IS LOVE."

4) Music: "Cecilia Is Love" (7:39)

4a) Pierce:

'CECILIA IS LOVE,' COMPOSED, AND WITH A NEW ARRANGEMENT, BY FRANK FOSTER.

5) Music: "All Right, OK, You Win" Basie/Williams, arr. Foster

6) Pierce:

WRITER ALBERT MURRAY CALLED IT THE "NEW TESTAMENT" BAND --IT WAS A BRILLIANT RE-INCARNATION OF THE COUNT BASIE'S CLASSIC 30S LINEUP. WITH THE RISE OF R&B, BASIE HAD BEEN FORCED TO DISSOLVE HIS FIRST BAND IN THE LATE 40S.

BUT BY DOING TOP SELLING VOCAL ALBUMS WITH GREAT SINGERS, INCLUDING FRANK SINATRA, TONY BENNETT, AND SARAH VAUGHAN, COUNT BASIE COULD AFFORD TO KEEP A BAND TOGETHER EVEN DURING THE "AGE OF ELVIS". IN 1956, "COUNT BASIE SWINGS, JOE WILIAMS SINGS," WAS A HUGE HIT. THAT LONG PLAYING RECORD INCLUDED 6

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ARRANGMENTS BY BASIE'S NEW TENOR PLAYER -- FRANK FOSTER.

AND FOSTER HAS BEEN CREATING WINNING CHARTS FOR SINGERS EVER

SINCE. ONE OF THOSE SINGERS IS MARLENA SHAW.

7) Vox: Marlena Shaw Set 2, track 3, @5:12 “Good morning, everyone, feeling good this morning? Well, you know, I just got up. (laughter). This is the way I look when I get up. (hoots, laughter)

8) Background music: Marlena Shaw

9) Piece:

IN 1952, AT THE AGE OF 10, SHAW THRILLED HARLEM'S APOLLO THEATER. SHE WENT ON TO A CAREER SPANNING JAZZ, BLUES, AND R&B - - INCLUDING 4 YEARS WITH THE BASIE BIG BAND.

ON STAGE IN ROSE HALL SHAW REMEMBERS HER FIRST MEETING WITH FRANK FOSTER.

10) Vox: Marlena Shaw Set 2, track 3, @5:30 “I have been singing Frank Foster's music for 48 years. (applause). That's right. I was about 3, right? (laughs). When Count Basie called me, and he gave me Frank Foster's phone number, and said, ‘you go visit him, and he going to take care of you.’ And he did. And in about 2-3 more years, the good Lord keep me here – I'm going to learn that stuff, you hear me? (laughter).

11) Pierce:

SHAW HAS MORE THAN ‘LEARNED’ THE MUSIC – SHE’S MADE IT HER OWN.

THIS IS FRANK FOSTER'S ARRANGMENT OF “YOU'VE CHANGED.”

12) Vox: “You've Changed” (4:37)

13) Pierce: “YOU'VE CHANGED” – THE CARL FISCHER AND BILL CAREY TUNE,. ARRANGED BY FRANK FOSTER AND SUNG BY MARLENA SHAW. STILL NO WORD ON WHETHER SHE EVER GOT THAT DRESS BACK.

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**15a) background music: Dennis Rowland “Wild Women Don’t Get the Blues
From CD**

15b) Pierce:

DENNIS ROWLAND GREW UP IN DETROIT, IDOLIZNG THE JOE WILLIAMS-COUNT BASIE BIG BAND SOUND OF THE LATE 50S.

SO IN 1977, WHEN THE COUNT INVITED ROWLAND TO JOIN HIS BAND, HE FULFILED A LIFELONG DREAM.

NO ONE CAN TRULY “REPLACE” JOE WILLIAMS. BUT ROWLAND REMINDS US THAT THERE ARE FEW SOUNDS AS SWINGING AS A THROATY BARITONE FLOATING ABOVE A FRANK FOSTER ARRANGEMENT. HERE’S “WHERE OR WHEN.”

16) Music: “Where Or When” (4:04)

16a) Pierce:

THE RICHARD ROGER’S TUNE “WHERE OR WHEN,” ARRANGED BY FRANK FOSTER WITH DENNIS ROWLAND ON VOCALS.

17) Background music: "Did'n You," Foster arrangment

18) Pierce:

BIG BAND SAXOPHONISTS LOVE FRANK FOSTER ARRANGMENTS, IN PART BECAUSE HE WROTE FOR SO MANY GREAT SAX MEN – ESPECIALLY IN THE BASIE BAND -- EDDIE “LOCKJAW’ DAVIS, FRANK WESS, MARSHAL ROYAL, BILLY MITCHELL, **AND** FRANK FOSTER. SO WHEN OUR OWN ALTOIST TED NASH STEPS UP TO PLAY, THE LEGACY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT BAND HAS SET THE BAR HIGH.

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19) Music: “Smoke Gets In Your Eyes” (5:11)

20) Pierce:

TED NASH FEATURED ON THE ALTO SAXOPHONE.... “SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES,” BY JEROME KERN AND OTTO HARBACH. ARRANGED BY FRANK FOSTER.

ON THE THEME OF LOVE, FOSTER CAN DO QUIET PASSION OR HARD-DRIVING, JOYFUL SWING. BUT HE KNOWS THAT WHEN THINGS GETS ROCKY, HUMOR IS AN ESSENTIAL DEFENSE. THIS IS THE FRANK FOSTER ORIGINAL: “I LOVE YOU (BASED ON YOUR AVAILABILITY).

21) Music: “I Love You (Based on Your Availability)” (3:18)

22) Pierce:

FRANK FOSTER’S “I LOVE YOU (BASED ON YOUR AVAILABILITY), FEATURING MARLENA SHAW AND DENNIS ROWLAND ON VOCALS.

23) Background music: T.V. Time arr. Foster

24) Pierce:

SAX PLAYERS THINK OF FRANK FOSTER ARRANGMENTS LIKE STEAK DINNER – IN PART BECAUSE OF THE RICH “SAXOPHONE SOLI” SECTIONS THAT HE WRITES. THESE ARE WHERE THE REEDS PLAY AN EXTENDED, PRE-WRITTEN SOLO LINE IN HARMONY. IT’S NOT JUST A SHOWCASE FOR THE PLAYERS, BUT FOR THE ARRANGER AS WELL.

LISTEN FOR THE ‘SOLI’ AFTER DENNIS ROWLAND’S VOCAL ON THIS NEXT ONE --- ‘STARDUST.’

25) Music: Stardust (5:37)

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26) Pierce:

HOAGY CARMICHAEL'S STARDUST. SUNG BY DENNIS ROWLAND, AND ARRANGED BY FRANK FOSTER.

27) Midbreak:

IF THESE SONGS HAVE PUT YOU IN THE MOOD, FOR MORE YOU CAN HEAR OUR PROGRAM AGAIN IN THE AUDIO ARCHIVE AT J-A-L-C (DOT) ORG. ALONG WITH LINKS TO VIDEOS OF FRANK FOSTER, THE COUNT BASIE BAND AND NEWS OF OUR TOURS – INCLUDING AMERICAN MSUIC ABROAD. CHECK OUT J-A-L-C DOT ORG. AND BRING HOME THE SWING.”

OUR THEME ON THIS SHOW IS LOVE – ABOUT WHICH FRANK FOSTER LIKE SO MANY OF US SEEMS TO HAVE MIXED EMOTIONS, JUST AHEAD, WE'LL FIND OUT IF TWO YOUNG COMPOSERS SHARE HIS AMBIVALENCE.

I'M WENDELL PIERCE. THIS IS JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER

28A) Background music:

28B) Pierce:

AT THE ROSE THEATER – IN THE HOUSE OF SWING -- JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER CELEBRATES LIVING LEGENDS LIKE FRANK FOSTER – BUT ALSO NURTURES YOUNG TALENTS BY COMMISSIONING NEW WORKS -- LIKE THE ONES WE'RE ABOUT TO HEAR.

THE FIRST IS FROM ALTO SAXOPHONIST ERICA VON KLEIST. A CONNECTICUT NATIVE, IN 2004, SHE WAS THE FIRST GRADUATE WITH A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN JAZZ FROM THE JULLIARD SCHOOL. SHE HAS ALREADY CREATED WORKS ON COMMISSION FOR JULLIARD, AND ARTURO O'FARRILL'S AFRO LATIN JAZZ ORCHESTRA, AND SHE'S BEEN HONORED WITH A YOUNG JAZZ COMPOSER AWARD FROM THE ASCAP (AS-cap) FOUNDATION.

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BUT ACCOLADES ARE NO SHIELD AGAINST THE UPS-AND-DOWNS OF LOVE IN NEW YORK CITY – VON KLEIST’S PIECE CAPTURES SOME OF THE ANTIC, AND ANTSY FEELING OF WANTING TO GET SOMEONE OUT OF YOUR LIFE – PRONTO. IT’S CALLED “I’LL GET YOU A CAB.”

29) Music: “I’ll Get You A Cab” (4:51)

30) Pierce:

“I’LL GET YOU A CAB” - NEW WORK FROM SAXOPHONIST AND COMPOSER ERICA VON KLEIST. FEATURING SEAN JONES ON TRUMPET, AND DAN NIMMER ON PIANO.

KURT BACHER IS ANOTHER YOUNG SAXOPHONIST – HE’S 28, BUT LIKE VON KLEIST, HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER GOES BACK YEARS. IN HIGH SCHOOL, BACHER TOOK TOP SOLOIST AWARDS IN OUR ANNUAL “ESSENTIALLY ELLINGTON” COMPETITION.// FOR HIS COMMISSION, BACHER GIVES THE THEME OF LOVE A MUSICAL METAPHOR: IT’S CALLED “DUET.”

31) Music: Duet (7:54)

32) Pierce:

KURT BACHER’S NEW COMPOSITION “DUET.” WE FEATURED MARCUS PRINTUP ON TRUMPET, SHERMAN IRBY AND, TED NASH ON REEDS, AND CARLOS HENRIQUEZ ON BASS.

THE GUEST DIRECTOR OF THE JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA FOR THIS CONCERT HAS BEEN VINCENT GARDNER. IN THE ORCHESRA, WE OFTEN HEAR HIM AS AN INVENTIVE TROMBONIST, BUT HE’S ALSO A THOUGHTFUL STUDENT OF MUSIC HISTORY.

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32) Pierce: (continues)

GARDNER KNEW THERE WERE A SLEW OF FAMOUS LOVE SONGS TO CHOOSE FROM -- BUT HE WANTED TO BRING OUT SOME LESSER-KNOWN GEMS FROM THE SONGBOOK OF BARITONE SAX LEGEND GERRY MULLIGAN, WE FEATURE KURT BACHER'S INFLUENTIAL TEACHER, JOE TEMPERLEY AS WE WE START WITH "SWEET AND SLOW"

33) Music: "Sweet and Slow" (3:28)

34) Music: "Out of This World" (3:21)

35) Pierce:

"OUT OF THIS WORLD" – FEATURING JOE TEMPERLEY ON BARITONE. ONE OF THOSE SINGERS IS MARLENA SHAW. OUR CONCERT CURATOR FRANK FOSTER, AND VERY PROMISING YOUNG MUSICIANS ERICA VON KLEIST AND KURT BACHER.

YOU CAN HEAR THEM ALL AGAIN AT J A L C (DOT) ORG, AND WE HOPE YOU'LL SPEND SOME TIME WITH US THERE AND LINK TO VIDEO OF MANY OF OUR FEATURED ARTISTS OR CHECK OUT THE NESUI ERTEGUN JAZZ HALL OF FAME

COME VISIT US AND BRING HOME THE SWING ANYTIME AT J-A-L-C (DOT) ORG.

36) Pierce: continues

JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER RADIO IS PRODUCED AT MURRAY STREET. THIS EDITION WAS WRITTEN BY ANDREW ROSENBLUM.

OUR PRODUCERS ARE STEVE RATHE, DAVID GOREN AND ALEXA LIM. THE RECORDINGS WERE BY ROB MACOMBER AND SANDRA PALMER GRASSI.

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CAT HENRY SUPERVISES THESE RECORDINGS AND BROADCASTS.
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER IS ADRIAN
ELLIS. AND OUR ARTISTIC DIRECTOR IS WYNTON MARSALIS.
I'M WENDELL PIERCE. THANKS FOR JOINING US.