

Jazz concerts honoring 4 greats

By JIM WINDELL

Four giants of jazz will be honored at four Thursday evening jazz performances at the Detroit Institute of Arts this summer.

Honoring such contemporary giants as Thad Jones, Duke Ellington, Charlie Mingus and the older jazz great Don Redman will be musicians from New York, California and Detroit, many of whom have been associated with the composers whose music they will perform.

On June 5, the "Giants of Jazz" series at the Detroit Institute of Arts auditorium will begin with a concert paying tribute to Pontiac-born Thad Jones. Jones played in Detroit before gaining recognition in the trumpet section of the Count Basie band and then organizing his own influential Thad Jones-Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra in the mid-1960s.

THE OPENING concert will feature the compositions of Jones, as played by a band comprised of former Detroiters,

Pepper Adams (baritone sax), Sir Roland Hanna (piano), Richard Williams (trumpet), Jerry Dodgion (alto sax, flute), Sam Jones (bass) and Grady Tate (drums).

On June 12 the second concert in the series will honor Duke Ellington, who is considered by many to be the most important composer in jazz history. The concert will feature a group led by Russell Procope, alto saxophonist with the Ellington orchestra for nearly 30 years.

The Mingus Dynasty Band will re-

turn to the Detroit area June 19 to play the music of late bassist Charles Mingus. Included in this band will be Joe Farrell (tenor sax), Jimmy Knepper (trombone), Randy Brecker (trumpet), Mike Richmond (bass), Dannie Richmond (drums) and former Detroiters Hugh Lawson (piano).

THE FINAL concert in the series is a June 25 tribute to Don Redman. Noted jazz critic Leonard Feather has called Redman "the first jazz arranger of influence and importance."



Thad Jones, who was born in Pontiac, will be honored June 5 when a jazz band of former Detroiters plays his compositions at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Heart's album cover pleases singer

By NICK CHARLES

"Wait till you see the new cover," said Ann Wilson, vocalist of the rock group Heart.

Ms. Wilson is referring to Heart's fifth album, "Bebe LeStrange" (Epic). "It's got a pictorial of Nancy and I. Our two faces fill up the whole cover, just looking right into the lens. I'm really pleased with it," she said.

The album was released very timely on Valentine's Day (just like the group's first album "Dreamboat Annie"). It features the hits "Even It Up," "Break" and "Rockin' Heaven Down."

Heart will be rockin' Detroit down at 8 p.m. Sunday, June 8 and June 9 at Cobo Hall.

The album, which Ms. Wilson calls "our best album yet," marks a change in the Heart band.

THE CHANGE is not really in the music but in the musicians. Guitarist

the same name.

Heart's second album "Little Queen" spawned the hits "Barracuda," "Kick It Out" and "Love Alive," as well as the title track.

"MAGAZINE," the group's third album, featured the songs "Devil's Delight," "Heartless" and the title tune.

Heart's last album, "Dog and Butterfly," I feel was nothing short of a masterpiece. It contained the tune "Straight On," known for its strong beat.

Susan Ennis, a friend of the Wilson sisters, helped out in the songwriting end on "Dog and Butterfly" as well as the current LP.

Heart switches from gut-grabbing, moody music laced around deep philosophic lyrics found on tunes like "Mistral Wind" to the everyday frustration and claustrophobia of a relationship featured on the hard rock song "Break."

Ann purrs out an emotional plea on

the song "Down on Me." While Nancy's acoustic guitar instrumental "Silver Wheels" is woven between the lines.

BOTH ANN and Nancy contributed a song they not only wrote by themselves but on which they play almost all the instruments.

"Raised on You" features Nancy on lead vocals and all instruments besides drums.

On "Sweet Darlin'" Ann plays bass, drums, alto flute, tambourine and sings lead vocals.

The title tune from Heart's latest effort has a simple but meaningful concept: "Never heard rockin' like you could/Howling like you can/I get me thinking of Johnny B. Goode/But you know you ain't no man/Everybody out to call you Bebe LeStrange."

"We were looking for a 'Johnny B. Goode' title that was female and we just kind of arrived at that," Ms. Wilson said.

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