Hart Plaza hosts legendary and local jazz artists

Put on Pete Fountains
Swingin Blues CD and see if
you can keep from dancing.
The legendary clarinetist
swings Dixteland like no one
else can. That's because the 72year old Fountain was born and
raised in New Orleans, the
birthplace of the only true
American art form - jazz.
By age nine hed already
taken up clarinet after a doctor
told his mother he had weak
lungs and suggested they either

lungs and suggested they either lungs and suggested they either move to the country or Pete take up a wind instrument. He chose clarinet and by 14 had formed a band to play New Orleans clubs on the weekends. At 17 he was earning a reputa-tion for his musical skills in the



Legendary clarinetist Pete Fountain performs 8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 2, on the Amphitheatre Stage at the Ford

FORD DETROIT INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

When: 3 p.m. to midnight Friday, Aug. 30, noon to midnight Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 31-Sept. 1, and noon to 11 p.m. Monday,

Where: Hart Plaza on Jefferson Avenue along the Detroit River. For more information, call (313) 963-7622 or visit the Web site at www.detroitjazzfest.com

Families across America tuned in just to see Fountain play New Orleans jazz Shortly after he opened a jazz club in the French Quarter where he still plays three nights a week. On Monday, Sept. 2, Fountain will have the crowd on their feet in Hart Plaza for the final concert of the 23rd annual Ford Detroit

which opens Friday, Aug. 30.
Like a pied piper hell lead
them Up a Lay Rilver then rattle their bones with Muskrat
Ramble Hele played Detroit a
dozen times over the years.

"I always loved jazz and
growing up where all the jazz
musicians played," said
Fountain. Now I'm only out on
the road twice a month. Hwed
in a bus for many years for onenighters paying my dues. I got
if of the bus and we fly now."
Louis Armstrong, Harry
James, Al Hirt are just a few of
the legends Fountain's played
with over the years. In between
he found time to record 90
albums, perform for four U.S.
presidents, and appear on the
Ed Sullivan and Johany Carson
shows. In fact, he was on
Carson's Tonight Show a total
of 99 times.
Fountain's never lost his

Branford Marsalls brings his quartet to the jazz festival's Amphitheatre Stage 10:15 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 31.

present a "continuance of jazz" in his second year as festival

in his second year as festival director. Foundain symbolizes the roots in New Orleans as does Branford Marsalis (10:15 pm. Saturday, Aug. 31, on the Amphitheatre Stage, For a complete schedule visit the Web site at www.detroliptaz/fest.com or call (3:13) 963-7622. "I want to show where jazz has come from - Fountain to Louic Armstrong – Into where music is now and where it's heading," said Malfitano. "It's heading," said Malfitano. "It's head may be a sum of the site of

Carson's Joingn's above a total of 59 times.

Fountain's never lost his quick wit. He jokes that age hasn't changed him much but he used to be 6-foot, 5-inches and now he's 8-foot, 6.

I enjoy life and still enjoy playing the clarinet, said Pountain. I played sax for a vihile even made a few recording the control of the featival has to be Detroit-eventrie with an educational tent, clinies, meet the Fountain. I played sax for a vihile even made a few recording the control of the featival has to be Detroit-exentrie with an educational tent, clinies, meet the but with the control of the

In addition to student performers from West Bloomfield and Farmington Harrison High School and Schoolcraft College on the Jam Academy Stage on Sunday, Sept. 1, and North Farmington High School on Labor Day, seasoned veteran Buddy Budson performs with his sextet 4-15 p.m. Friday, Aug. 30, on the Waterfront Stage. The Southfield planist began playing professionally more than four decades ago and for many years was on the road with The Four Tops, Buddy Rich Big Band and Earl Klugh. He recorded with them as well as with the sextet which releases Afternoon in the City, an all original CD by band members and Denton Johnson in a couple of months. In early September Budson returns to the studio with eight new straight ahead jazz pieces in the mainstream instrumental tradition. Budson's written a lot of original music and arranged it for sextet. He likes working with trumpet, tenor saxophone and trombone.

"It's everything from the high energy Off With Their Heads to ballads like Ursula (for his wife and music partner) and Erika (his daughter), said Budson.

Ursula Walker and Buddy Budson have played the featiful and the studies of times along with

(his daughter), said Budson.
Ursula Walker and Buddy
Budson have played the festival
a number of times along with
venues like the Bird of Paradise
in Ann Arbor and Clarkston
Cafe. She's giving her voice a
break this year but Budson's
excited to be back on stage in
Hart Plaza.

"It's going to be fun," said
Budson. "It's a unique festival
to this area with national and
local performers. Detroit's
always been one of the cities
outside of New York that's a
supplier to the jazz scene and
like New York spawms a lot of
jazz artists. It's the largest free
jazz festival in North America."

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AUDIO BITES

Footsteps of Our Fathers by Branford Marsalls Quartet

Snows. In lact, ne was on Carson's Tonight Show a total of 99 times. Fountain's never lost his quick wit. He jokes that age hasn't changed him much but he used to be 6-foot, 6.

"I enjoy life and still enjoy playing the clarinet, Said Fountain." I played sax for a while even made a few recordings but never forgot about clarinet. Clarinet is a love-hate instrument. When you have a set of good reeds and the clarinet singing it's love but when you don't, I tell everybody it's like blowing into a bag with a hole in it."

With masterpletes that range from John Coltrane's deeply contemplaints A Love Supreme to Sonny Rollins' 1958 call for racial equality in The Freedom Suite and the bluesy beloop of Ornette Coleman's Gigein, Footsteps of Our Tethers would be a challenge for any musician. And it's one Branford Marsalis might not have attempted earlier in his career.

But now, backed by the same quartet that played on the Grammy-winning

Contemporary Jazz, Marsalis pays homage to the fathers of contemporary jazz with the confidence and poise of a

confidence and poise of a mature musician. These are more than just songs to appreciate. They are chapters in the jazz tradition played with respect and grati-tude. - Ryan J. Lenz, AP Writer

DETAILS by Frou Frou

Nearly every track is a win-ner on Details, Frou Frou's super-smooth debut album. Songstress Imogene Heap and veteran producer Guy

Sigsworth work seamlessly to present soft vocals over engaging electronic melodies.

Heap immediately wins us over with the album's strongest offerings, Let Go and Breathe In, the latter being everything that's right with electronic music production. The jaunty bass beat perfectly supports her voice on the track as she ozces with sensuality: I'm high from all the waiting! To ride a wave on your inhaling.

Pardon me while I go listen to it eight more times.

With Sigsworth's inventive selection of tone qualities and sound snippets, Details is a must-have album.

- Ron Barris, AP Writer

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