

**Audience Reviews :: Jim Cullum Jazz Band with Dick Hyman, piano  
Modlin Center for the Arts at the University of Richmond**

re: jazz performance

Posted: September 9, 2007; 22:46 by: Elizabeth

Really terrific performance -- brilliant piano and emotive clarinet. I would come see these guys a second time for sure! I wish it had been longer. Early jazz and swing are some of my favorites.

---

re: jazz performance

Posted: September 10, 2007; 06:27 by: Uva

What a delightful evening! Dick Hyman was amazing. The jazz band superb! We would definitely like to see this group again. The only suggestion would be to have more vocals. The banjo and guitar player did a great job with vocals on the one song. It left us wanting more. But, we thoroughly enjoyed every arrangement. James and Uva Branham

---

re: jazz performance

Posted: September 10, 2007; 09:07 by: Beth

We loved the entire concert. The arrangements were great, and kept us tapping our toes all the way through. Dick Hyman on the piano was absolutely superb!

Beth Jeffress

---

re: jazz performance

Posted: September 10, 2007; 10:49 by: Samantha

These reviews came directly to me via e-mail:

I thought the program was first-rate. My wife, who is not as big a jazz fan as I, also enjoyed it. All eight are wonderful musicians, and we were especially fortunate to have Dick Hyman. I'm a frequent listener to the Jim Cullen outfit on NPR Saturday mornings.

My favorites were Hyman's work on Willie (the Lion) Smith's "Echoes of Spring" and the clarinetist teaming with Hyman and the rhythm section on the Benny Goodman "Memories of You."

Complaints? I would have shortened the program by about 20 minutes and eliminated most of the seemingly spontaneous interview of Hyman by Cullum. (Was the interview a repeat of the Saturday program?)

~ Earle Dunford , RC'48

Fantastic, better than last year. We will attend anytime they are here.

Thanks for asking! The concert was GREAT! Although could have done without Jim's rambling.

The clarinet player: what a wonderful talent! His instrument seemed part of his being and Hyman's effortless "class", charm came through beautifully.

One comment: please DO NOT freeze your audience! The mostly over-50 generation likes it less frigid.

~ Dr. Gisele Friedrichs

Thanks for posting!

Samantha Sawyer, Marketing Director  
Modlin Center for the Arts

---

re: jazz performance

Posted: September 10, 2007; 11:57 by: Mike

Fabulous concert. We took our son and daughter-in-law for his birthday and I think made a jazz lover of our daughter-in-law. I disagree with the "more vocals" comment but agree that we could have done without the interview. Not that it was boring, but we came to hear them play and could have stayed another half-hour!

I do have a concern for the future of jazz if the age of the crowd is any indicator (and we' re over 60). Didn't see many younger folks.

Please bring 'em back again.

Dr. Mike Harton

---

re: jazz performance

Posted: September 10, 2007; 13:46 by: Ernest M.

Having been an ardent fan of the old big bands, and especially the smaller groups drawn from them, such as the Benny Goodman Trio and Sextet, since my childhood days, and having played traditional jazz mostly in small groups myself over many years, I thoroughly enjoyed last night's performance of the Jim Cullum group and the wonderful piano of Dick Hyman.

Jim's bunch are beautifully talented and their arrangements are delightful. Ron Hockett was particularly outstanding on clarinet in my judgment. His rendition along with Dick Hyman, honoring Benny Goodman's trio record of "Memories of You" that featured Benny and Teddy Wilson, was superb. And, of course, Dick Hyman was incredible, with his brilliant technique but also with the lovely soft touches where they provide the feelings of tenderness, nostalgia or wistfulness that help give jazz music its unique charm.

My favorite tunes are the pretty ones, like the beautiful "I'm Comin' Virginia," with its lovely melody and chord changes.

I would gladly attend another program offered by this group, hoping that selections might include more of the traditional jazz tunes that were popular just a few years later than the earlier, formative ones.

Thank you for giving your audience the joy of last night's program.

Ernie Wright

---

re: jazz performance

Posted: September 10, 2007; 20:31 by: Toni

We were with a couple that had seen Jim Cullum in New York.....they thought the show was fantastic and much better than their previous experience. All the musicians were great but I thought the drummer Michael was extraordinary. Dick Hyman is one of the greatest piano players we have seen. It was a great opening event and can't wait to see whats next.

Toni Boldt

---

re: jazz performance

Posted: September 10, 2007; 21:36 by: Carole  
Phenomenal! Jim Cullum & his jazz band are the last of an era--and Dick Hyman @ 80 is still at the top of his form. They got a well-deserved standing O. My husband was so enthralled, he went back again tonight for their 2nd performance.

---

re: jazz performance

Posted: September 11, 2007; 10:13 by: Tom

We're new to Richmond, and this was our first event at the Modlin Center. It certainly won't be the last! Excellent performance. Beautiful facility. All the musicians are first-rate, of course, but Messrs Hockett and Waskiewicz proved to be in a league with the phenomenal Dick Hyman.

I agree with the minor negatives (temperature, "interview," lack of youth in the house) noted by others, but the show was still great.

---

re: jazz performance

Posted: September 11, 2007; 11:06 by: Allen

I went to the Monday night performance. I knew it would be a great concert but it greatly exceeded my expectations. I've seen Dick Hyman a number of times in the past and he is like fine wine - improves with age. It was great to hear Jim Cullum describe some of the background behind the selections. I play ragtime piano but not a lot of the old jazz standards so it added a lot to hear about the composers and what it was like when they were creating these masterpieces. If you get a chance to bring them back please do so. One suggestion ... Maybe it's customary for jazz horn players to clear their horns of excess saliva on stage but I think in this theater it might have been more appropriate to provide some way for that to be done out of the full view of the audience. Not a big thing but something that we found to be a bit distracting to say the least.

---

re: jazz performance

Posted: September 11, 2007; 11:19 by: William  
Simply, WONDERFUL!!!

From Waller to Ellington and Willie The Lion, it was a magic night.

Thankyou, Thankyou, Thankyou.

More Jazz, please.

---

re: jazz performance

Posted: September 11, 2007; 12:29 by: Jamie Lou

What a treat!! I had no idea that I would have so much FUN at this event. All the musicians were first rate and each entertained with their personalities as well as talent. The Modlin Center does an outstanding job booking performances that appeal to everyone. It is just another reason why Richmond is a great place to live!

---

re: jazz performance  
Posted: September 11, 2007; 12:52 by: Samantha  
This review came to me via e-mail from William:

The concert was terrific. Dick Hyman alone would have been great....the same for Jim Cullum plus we could listen to Ron Hockett on clarinet. Great evening.

Samantha Sawyer  
Marketing Director, Modlin Center

---

re: jazz performance  
Posted: September 11, 2007; 15:29 by: Nancy  
This was some of the best Jazz music I have ever listened to. These were superb musicians that really understand jazz. Let's do it again sometime in the future.

Nancy and Gene White

---

re: jazz performance  
Posted: September 11, 2007; 15:57 by: Samantha  
These reviews were sent to me via e-mail:

This was a FABULOUS EVENT. We invited my brother-in law and his wife, both U.of R. graduates and they were so impressed and had a grand time. Hope that you will do more of this type of entertainment in the future.  
~ Patti St.Clair

We thoroughly enjoyed the Jim Cullum Jazz concert. Pianist Dick Hyman was incredible. Keep up the good work.  
~ Jean Boddy

Samantha Sawyer  
Marketing Director, Modlin Center