

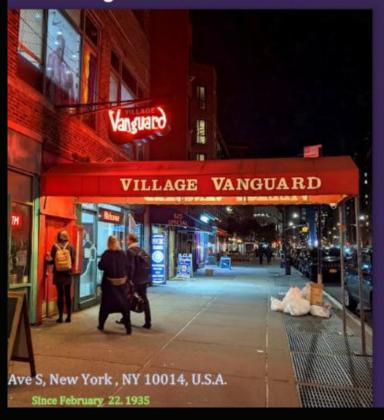
AROUND TOWN

with photographer, Barry Thomson





Top right: Rita Di Ghent Lower right: Sharron McLeod



Two fine jazz vocialist who have graced the Toronto jazz scene for over 35 years. Both with their own unique way of singing a song.

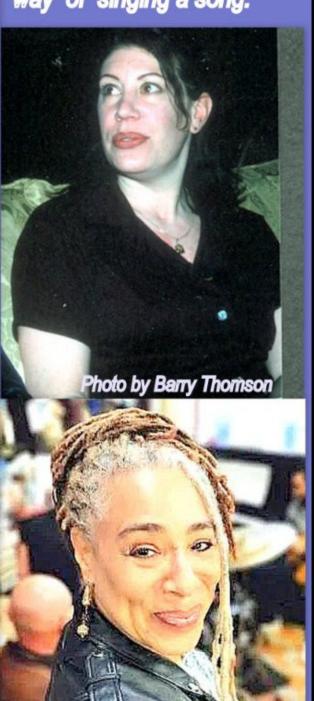
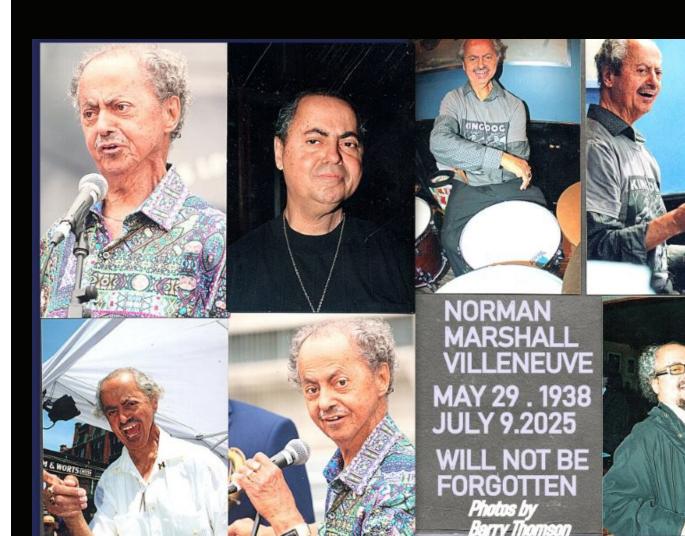


Photo by Sharron



CANÁDA'S # 1 BEBOP DRUMMER OUR OWN ART BLAKEY

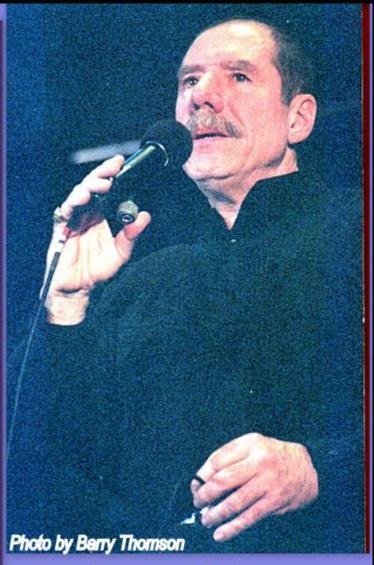


I had the pleasure of first meeting, Norm in 1974, originally he was from Montreal. We had stayed in touch from those early days. Our birthdays were very close, his, May 29th mine May 27th. We both never forgot that fact and wishes were always relayed. At that time we dicussed jazz in general. More often of the good old days when Toronto had a vibrant jazz scene. When I first heard him play, I thought this is my type of bebop drummer. He went on to give aspiring young jazz musicians a break. Never forgot him saying "Dave you have got to hear this new player working with me". He was so proud. My condolences to his loving wife, Louise, and to all his family. Dave Milbourne

OUT AND ABOUT







Giacomo Gates

This choice jazz vocalist has been on the scene since 1990. At least ten recordings to his name. One often hears "who does he remind you of, singing wise". Well he reminds me of Giacomo Gates, "Gates" as he is known in the jazz world. With a "raunchy, earthy "voice who can scat and improvise with the best of them. Not surprising he is way up there in most jazz polis. Very active on the club scene, also has completed numerous international tours. Catch him when you can, you won't be disappointed.

Dave Milbourne







CHUCK MANGIONE

November 29, 1940 July 22, 3025

Photos by Barry Thomson

This acclaimed, trumpeter, flugelhornist & composer had been performing since 1960 until 2015.

Mainly in the jazz, fusion, smooth jazz & jazz funk.

He had worked with many top notch jazz artists, including Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers.

Mangione had over 40 recordings to his name.

Not to mention appearing

Not to mention appearing on numerous television shows. This outstanding artist is a big loss to both the jazz world, and the entertainments industry.

He will be sadly missed but NOT FORGOTTEN.

THE COOKERS BAND





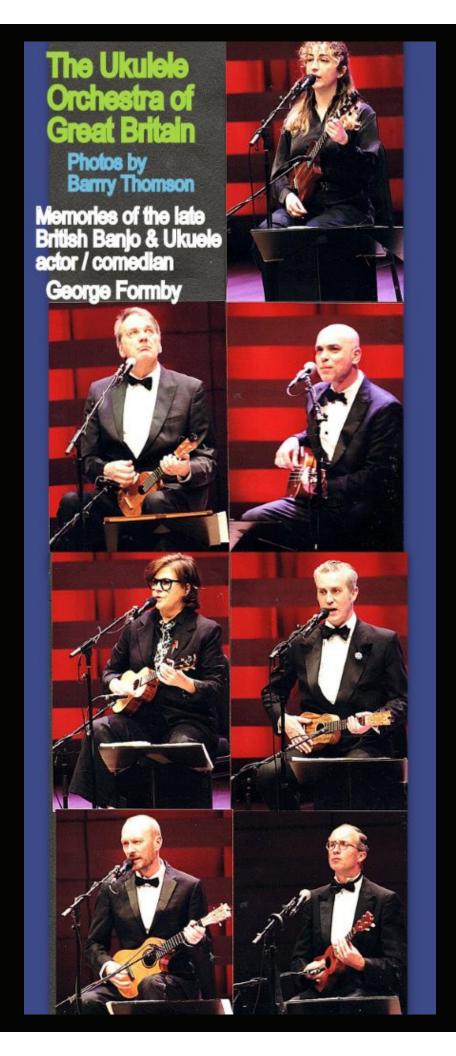












CUBA CANADA



Saxophonist, Clarinettist

THERE IS NO DIVIDE

NO POLITICS

JUST

MUSIC



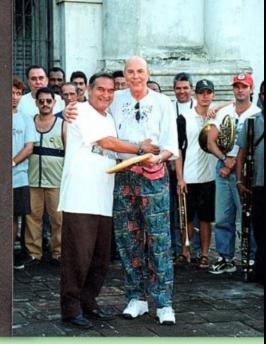
Manuel de Jesus Leyva Barrera - Ko Ko

Orchestra Leader

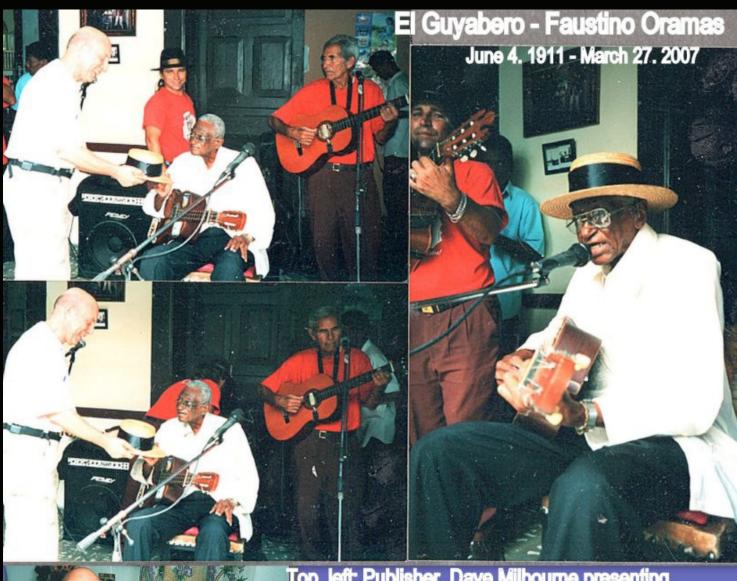
Trumpeter

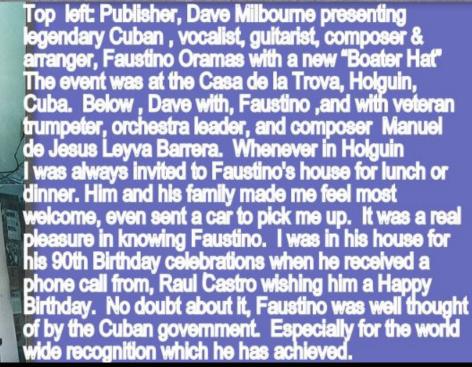
Composer

Composer, Band Leader



The shots above are publisher, Dave Milbourne presenting, Manuel de leyva Barrera "Ko Ko", big band charts donated by the celebrated Canadian artist, Eddie Graff. I had mentioned to, Eddie that, Manuel was finding it hard to get hold of suitable charts for his large orchestra. As seen above just some of the 45 members, although he also had an excellent swing band. The presentation was made in the city centre of Holguin, Cuba. Where both Manuel de leyva Barrea, and legendary, El Guyabero, Faustino Oramas are buried.







Dame Cleo laine October. 28.1927 -July 24.2025 Photo by, Doug Willison - 2001

This is the way I want to remember ,Cleo.

First met her in 1956 when i was home on leave from the British Army. She was making her debut apperance with the Johnny Dankworth big band. Who she went on to marry, Cleo had a phenomenal octave range. No doubt about it she was the finest jazz vocalist to come out of Britain. This Grammy Award vocalist toured the world and appeared in Toronto several times, where the above shot was taken. Because I first met her while in the army I wore my army blazer with badge. Which she got a kick out of. I had stayed in touch with, Cleo, she was truly a lovely lady. Never let stardom go to her head, like some. Always the same, Cleo whom I had met so many years ago, down to earth. Farewell to a wonderful vocalist, and very classy lady. Will not be forgotten. Dave Milbourne.



Individual photos of Dame Cleo Laine

> by Barry Thomson



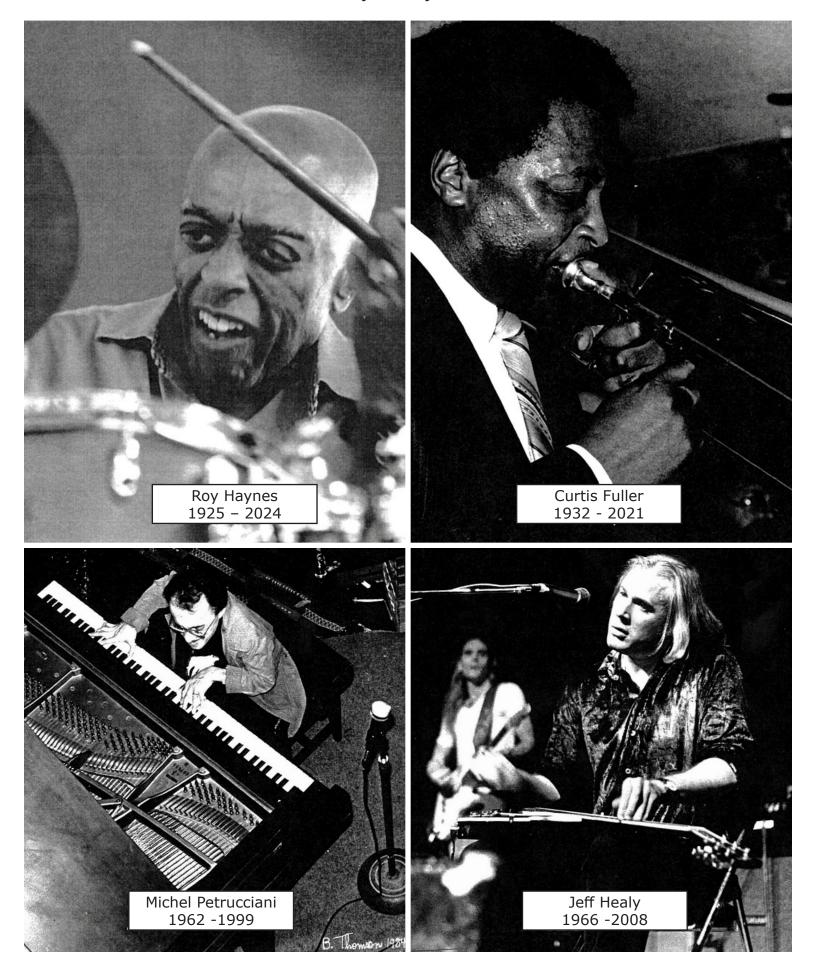




John was born on September 29th. 1927 and died on February 20th. 2010.
Cleo told me he was playing sax to the very end from his wheel chair.
Their marriage lasted for over 50 years. One of the nicest couples you could wish to meet. It was a privilige for me to have known them. Two giants of the jazz world, Gone But Not Forgotten. Dave Milbourne







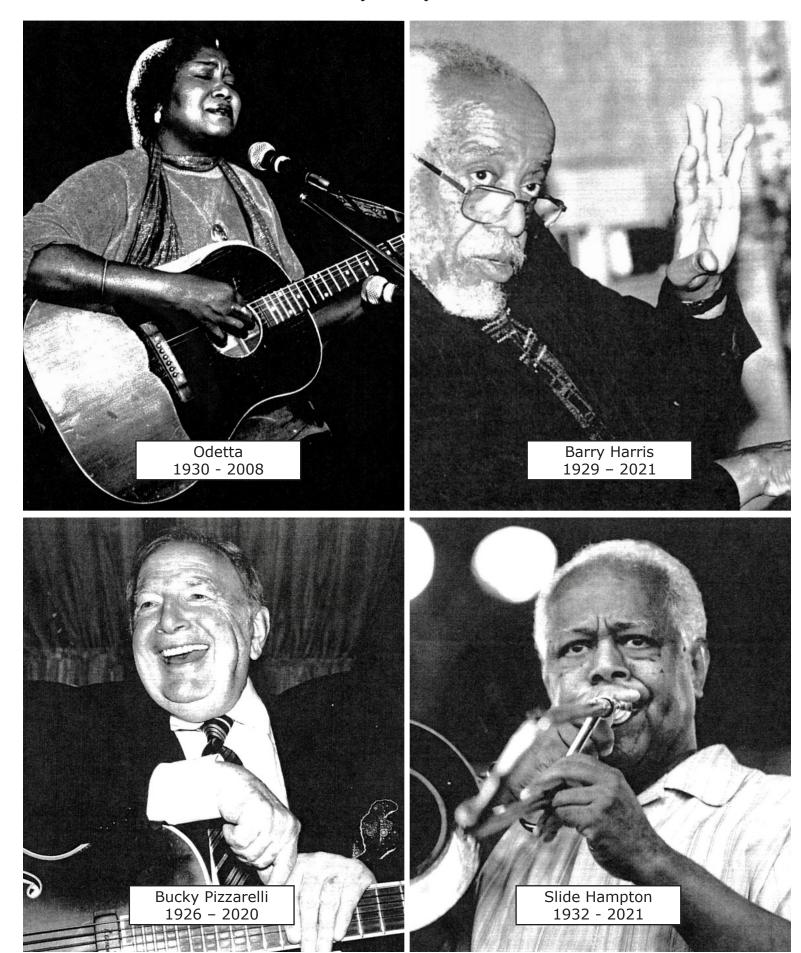












TORONTO JAZZ

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Photographer: Barry Thomson

Layout: J.J. Johnston

Illustrations: Grant C. Lounsbury

Website Design TNP Group

COST PRICE ADVERTISING RATES

Full page color: \$600.00

Half page color: \$400.00

Quarter page color: \$250.00

Photo ready Jpeg or Pdf format

Deadline date for January 2026 December 18, 2025

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