



JAZZ AT THE BLACK HAWK
 DAVE BRUBECK QUARTET featuring PAUL DESMOND
 UNDER THE PERSONAL SUPERVISION OF GUIDO CASCIANO AND JOHN HOGA

Fantasy
3-210

Numerous are the names of the famous Berkeley District in Sacramento Bay Francisco, at the price of hundreds of dollars, Park and Hyde Avenue, in a few night club houses all over the world in the name of West Coast jazz. It's called THE BLACK HAWK and it is a reputation that this name is long associated with jazz in the early days of Chicago should be directly associated with jazz in the early days of the modern sounds of San Francisco.

For the Black Hawk not only was the name of the Duke of the Queen William Quarter (1911) but of their earliest jazz band, a unique feature in the world of modern jazz -- Paul Desmond, Char Baker, Cal Tjader, Dick Collins -- the list is endless, all of these modern names contributing to the rich growth of San Francisco's own music scene.

The most famous graduate of the Black Hawk, of course, is David W. Brubeck. Dave's talent and his devoted music was immediately recognized by the entire nation of the Black Hawk, John Nigg and Guido Cascano, who combine a thorough knowledge and appreciation of jazz with solid business sense.

Years before Brubeck became famous, they saw the potential. "Back in 1911 when Dave first worked the club," John recalls, "I heard his music for the first time. I didn't know what he was playing but then I began to understand the business about the composition and the probability that were the ingredients of the Black Hawk. I listened and I learned. It was an education. We were glad to give him a hand."

"We both used to listen," Guido Cascano adds. "And when Dave and Paul began to work on the unique composition device that were hard to make these business, it was a tremendously exciting experience."

"We have always believed that jazz was America's only true art form," John says. "And in a sense, the Berkeley music scene might not have been a privilege to be giving the law to him."

"I don't know whether it was the polyphony, the counterpoint, the rhythm of the long lines of Paul's improvisation that has attracted me," Guido adds. "Perhaps it was the intellectual influence of the French music school -- Dave studied under Darius Milhaud, you know. And it seems to be before working in the club, we had more than one hour of classical concert."

Although the Black Hawk, like any night club, it is business to make money, Guido and John have made their a creative outlet in Dave. "We had like a better to him," says Guido. "He can work in one club any time," John adds. "There's more any possible with Dave than a quiet, when, finally man and the complete acceptance of the acceptance of the music business with his talk, heart and guitar."

The Black Hawk, indeed, has been a second home to Brubeck. That's why Fantasy is so pleased to release their collection, one of which was actually recorded at the Black Hawk, made in a fairly quiet atmosphere. The famous equipment with a fully equipped was set up in the parking lot adjacent to the club. The last was passed through the warehouse that is the club's office and the historic scene began.

"We have always been conscious of the historic importance of the entire Berkeley school of modern jazz," John and Cascano say. "That's why we, personally, were delighted that business guide Black Hawk's name which has able to include the 'Berkeley Song' rehearsal record in this album. That's the time, in the quiet summer afternoon, Dave brought the group in to rehearsal. As John and I walked on the bridge to reentered the music, we would hear Dave talking the musicians with his own musical concepts. It was exciting to be at the moment that captured the true product into the smooth Berkeley sound that made him famous."

"The presence of guitar is always an awesome thing," John adds. "It's music we had known Paul from the time he did an act in school while playing the guitar and did it once and re-playing at the night club, and when Dave was the acceptance for a local singer. But to have been present when musical history of such magnitude was being made, makes you breathless."

"It... well, it's when you've never been," Guido adds.

This, then, is the story of Dave Brubeck, the Black Hawk in the Berkeley and the new time when, together and understanding each other, it was one of America's leading clubs.

—Eugene Lawrence

