

**CLIFFORD BARBARO** (Jun. 7, 1948 – Jun. 20, 2025) The Harlem-born drummer, and long-time fixture of the NYC jazz scene since the late '60s, died at age 77. Barbaro attended the Hartnett School of Music and early on was associated with Sun Ra and appeared on several Strata-East albums by Charles Tolliver, Stanley Cowell and John Hicks. He was also a member of the Bop Juice trio with saxophonist Ralph Lalama and bassist Dennis Irwin. His credits include Tyrone Washington (whose 1973 *Roots* album was Barbaro's recording debut), John Stubblefield, Sadik Hakim, Jon Hendricks, Betty Carter, Marlena Shaw, Sherman Irby, Michael Marcus, N.Y. Hardbop Quintet (with Joe Magnarelli and Jerry Weldon) and others.

**ALAN BERGMAN** (Sep. 11, 1925 – Jul. 17, 2025) The multiple award-winning lyricist, who with his late wife Marilyn (d. 2022), wrote hundreds of American songbook tunes, died at age 99. Legends in the music world, the Bergmans worked in many styles and genres, including jazz and bossa nova, writing lyrics for "The Windmills of Your Mind" and "The Island" (based on Ivan Lins' "Começar de Novo"). In 2001 The Kennedy Center commissioned them to write a song cycle, which resulted in a collaboration with Cy Coleman and *Portraits in Jazz: A Gallery of Songs*. Other jazz associations included Quincy Jones, Bill Charlap, Christian McBride and Jeff Hamilton.

**HÉLIO DELMIRO** (May 20, 1947 – Jun. 16, 2025) Born in Rio de Janeiro, the guitarist-composer died in Brasília at age 78. In 1981 he recorded the still popular album *Samambaia*. His credits include Brazilians Milton Nascimento, João Donato, Elis Regina, Márcio Montarroyos and Moacyr Silva and his collaborations ranged from Michael Franks to Sarah Vaughan.

**AIYB DIENG** (Oct. 11, 1947 – Jul. 13, 2025) The Senegalese drummer-percussionist, who specialized in hand drums, died at age 77 in Florida, where he lived for many years. His first album credit was in 1976 with Cameroon legend Manu Dibango (*Afrovision*). He had albums on Jimco and P-Vine and frequently worked with bassist-producer Bill Laswell. His long list of collaborations includes Ginger Baker, Brian Eno, Herbie Hancock, Umar Bin Hassan, Jon Hassell, Masabumi Kikuchi, Fela Kuti, The Last Poets, Bob Moses, Youssou N'Dour, Pharoah Sanders, Gil Scott-Heron and Bernie Worrell, as well as Mick Jagger and Yoko Ono.

**FEYA FAKU** (Jun. 6, 1962 – Jun. 23, 2025) The South African trumpeter-flugelhornist died at age 63 in Basel, Switzerland where he was due to perform at the Bird's Eye Club. Faku studied at Durban's University of Natal, where Darius Brubeck had established a school of jazz and popular music in the early '80s. He had albums on his own label and A-Records (including *Hommage*, his 1999 leader debut) and credits with Abdullah Ibrahim, Paul van Kemenade, Bheki Mseleku, McCoy Mrubata, Jeff "Siege" Siegel and others.

**HAL GALPER** (Apr. 19, 1938 – Jul. 18, 2025) The pianist, composer, arranger, bandleader and educator died at age 87 in Cohecton, NY. He began his career in Boston, recorded his leader debut in 1970 (*The Guerilla Band*, featuring Michael and Randy Brecker) and in 1973 began a two-year stint with the Cannonball Adderley Quintet. He worked in NYC and Chicago in the late '70s, was a member of Phil Woods quintet from 1980-90, then formed his own trio with Jeff Johnson (bass) and Steve Ellington then John Bishop (drums). Galper had albums on Mainstream, SteepleChase, Enja, Blackhawk, Concord Jazz, Vartan Jazz, Double-Time, Philology and Origin, plus credits with Nat Adderley, Chet Baker, Randy Brecker, Bobby Hutcherson, Lee Konitz, Sam Rivers and John Scofield, among others.

**RAYMOND GUIOT** (Oct. 5, 1930 – Jul. 11, 2025) The French classical and jazz flutist-composer died at age 94. He was principal flutist at the Opéra de Paris (1962-

91), and played in a quartet with George Gruntz (piano), Guy Pedersen (bass) and Daniel Humair (drums). He had albums on Tele Music and Musidisc and credits with Elek Bacsik, Eddie Barclay, Claude Bolling, Serge Gainsbourg, André Hodeir, Pierre Michelot, Baden Powell, Martial Solal and others.

**TONY GORRUSO** (Oct. 20, 1957 – Jun. 6, 2025) The trumpeter-arranger died in Fort Lee, NJ, at age 67. He began his career at age 17 with Spyro Gyra and attended Berklee College of Music, where he concentrated on arranging, played lead trumpet for Buddy Rich and Frank Sinatra, and was in the pit of Broadway's *Monty Python's Spamalot* and, for a decade, *Miss Saigon*. He had credits with Clark Terry, Mercer Ellington and David Sanborn.

**ARTHUR HAMILTON** (Oct. 22, 1926 – Jun. 3, 2025) The composer-son of songwriter Jack Stern, best known for the torch song "Cry Me a River", died at his home in Los Angeles at age 98. "Cry Me a River" was a hit for Julie London, rising to No. 9 on the Billboard singles chart in 1955, and has been covered many times, including early on by Ella Fitzgerald. He was Oscar-nominated for "Best Original Song" and was fond of telling people he didn't go to college, but "went to Bobby Short."

**SVEN-ÅKE JOHANSSON** (1943 – Jun. 15, 2025) The Mariestad, Sweden-born drummer-accordionist-pianist (also composer, poet, author, visual artist) died at age 82. A longtime resident of Berlin (since 1968), Johansson was one of the first European free drummers and a foundational figure in the European avant garde jazz scene. Quite prolific, he had dozens of his own (including his SÅJ imprint) or collaborative albums on Dragon, FMP, Grob, hatOLOGY, Intakt, Jazzwerkstatt, Ni-Vu-Ni-Connu, PO Torch, Umlaut, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Astral Spirits, Trost and other labels. His many credits and partnerships included Peter Brötzmann, Rüdiger Carl, Axel Dörner, Heiner Goebbels, Mats Gustafsson, Peter Kowald, Gunnar Lindqvist, Manfred Schoof, Alexander von Schlippenbach, Per Henrik Wallin and others.

**KAZUO "KAZ" KAJIMURA** (Oct. 31, 1942 – Jun. 15, 2025) The Tokyo-born founder of Yoshi's jazz club in the San Francisco Bay Area died of Alzheimer's disease at age 82. He co-founded Yoshi's in 1972, the site of live recordings by George Coleman, Ed Blackwell, Joe Pass, Anthony Braxton, Marilyn Crispell, Marian McPartland, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Vinny Golia, Pat Martino, Mulgrew Miller, Bud Shank, Bill Frisell, Jessica Williams, Kenny Burrell, McCoy Tyner, Gary Burton, Chick Corea and many others.

**MAX NEISSENDORFER** (Mar. 14, 1957 – Jul. 12, 2025) The German jazz, blues and funk pianist-singer, nicknamed "Scat Max," died at age 68. He led a trio, as well as his Munich big band The Uptown Orchestra and was a guest singer with Swiss Jazz Orchestra and the Swiss Sinatra Tribute Band. He had albums on Swingtime, Birdland Neuberger and his own label, and collaborations with Charly Antolini, Franz-David Baumann and others.

**YURI PARFENOV** (Jan. 19, 1946 – Jun. 23, 2025) The Russian trumpeter-composer, who was also adept at the alphon, flugelhorn and cornet, died at age 79. He had albums on L-Junction, Cosmic Sounds and Pentagramma and credits since the early '80s, including Oleg Lundstrem, Oleg Gotskosik, Moscow Composers Orchestra, Anatoly Vapirov, Vladimir Volkov, Embryo, Arkestra One, Alex Rostotsky, Tri-O, Javier Zalba, Alexey Kruglov/Vladimir Miller and others.

**HIRAM REMÓN** (Jul. 12, 1932 – Jun. 14, 2025) The Colombia-born vocalist, also an adept percussionist with hand-held instruments such as guiro, pandeiro and maracas, died at age 93. Nicknamed "El Pavo," he was a popular singer in his homeland, but by the '70s relocated to New York and continued his career, establishing

himself foremost with drummer-percussionist Bobby Sanabria. Remón also worked with Carlos Arnedo, Mongo Santamaria, Papo Ortega, Yomo Toro, Benjamin Lapidus and others.

**VINNIE RICCITELLI** (Jun. 16, 1926 – Jul. 9, 2025) The alto saxophonist, arranger and pianist, died at age 99. Born in Yonkers, NY, he played mostly gigs in the NYC metro area. He began his career at age 15 with a summer gig in the Catskills. His first of two albums as leader, *Jazz From the Westchester Workshop* (Unique, 1956), featured saxophonist Carmen Leggio and trombonist Eddie Bert. Riccitelli also worked in Broadway pit bands. His recording credits include albums by Leggio, Dick Meldonian-Sonny Igoo's Big Swing Jazz Band, Lew Anderson Big Band, The Four Freshmen and others.

**BORIS CLAUDIO "LALO" SCHIFRIN** (Jun. 21, 1932 – Jun. 26, 2025) Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the composer died in Los Angeles at age 93 from complications of pneumonia. While learning to play piano he described hearing Louis Armstrong, Fats Waller, Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie as "a religious conversion." Studying at the Paris Conservatory, he played piano in jazz clubs at night. In 1958 Schifrin moved to New York and began working with Gillespie as pianist, arranger and composer. He also wrote arrangements for Stan Getz, Luiz Bonfá and Sarah Vaughan. Schifrin moved to Los Angeles in 1963, winning four GRAMMYS (19 nominations) for a number of projects including "The Cat" (the title cut to Jimmy Smith's 1964 album), "Jazz Suite on the Mass Texts" (from Paul Horn's 1965 album) and the theme and score to *Mission: Impossible*.

**PAUL STOCKER** (1952 – Jun. 25, 2025) The Redwood City, CA-born saxophonist, who moved to Spain in 1970, died at age 73. He later spent several years in Paris, finally settling in Amsterdam. He collaborated with a long list of international jazz figures such as Tete Montoliu, Pony Poindexter, Billy Brooks and Peer Wyboris as well as Mike Osborne, Saheb Sarbib, Henry Lowther, Burton Greene, Steve Lacy, Misha Mengelberg, Sean Bergin, Han Bennink, Boy Raaymakers, Eric Vloeimans, Jasper van 't Hof and others.

**JONE TAKAMÄKI** (Dec. 31, 1955 – Jul. 15, 2025) The Finnish saxophonist-clarinetist and specialist in Japanese shakuhachi and hocchiku flute playing, died at age 69. Takamäki was active in Finland's avant garde and improvised music scene. In 1981 he released his self-titled debut album. He was involved in Edward Vesala's Sound and Fury workshops, and in 1991 joined the Finnish jazz/rock improv collective Krakatau, with guitarist Raoul Björkenheim and bassist Ulf Krokfors. In 1997 he co-founded the group Otnä Eahket and in the early 2000s co-founded large ensemble Suhkan. Takamäki had albums on Johanna and Zehra and credits with the Tapiola Big Band and Iro Haarla, among others.

**LUDWIG "LUD" VANTRIKT** (Jun. 11, 1959 – Jul. 7, 2025) The Pennsylvanian jazz enthusiast, who developed an ear for avant garde music, died at age 66. He was a DJ at Temple University's WRTI-FM starting in the mid '80s, hosting such shows as *Point of Departure*, *Out of the Afternoon*, *Night Creature* and *Bitches Brew*. He also produced jazz events at Philadelphia's Painted Bride Art Center, and was a regular contributor to *Cadence Magazine* and *CODA*, in addition to writing album liner notes.

**NORMAN MARSHALL VILLENEUVE** (May 29, 1938 – Jul. 9, 2025) The largely self-taught Canadian drummer died at age 87 in Montreal. He played with Terry Lukiwski, Martin Franklin, Ken Fornetran and led his own Norman Marshall Villeneuve sextet. In 2018, he received a Lifetime Achievement Award at the International Drum Fest in Quebec City. He had less than a handful of leader dates alongside credits with Junior Mance, Ken Skinner, Reg Schwager, Oliver Jones and others.