

- The New JAM Jam Session; Marquee Gilmore Shapeshifter Lab 7, 8, 9:30 pm \$25
- Rob Susman's Top Secret Lab Shrine 8 pm
- Dave Scott Quintet with Chet Doxas, Gary Versace, John Hébert, Billy Mintz; Amos Hoffman Quartet with Ben Edson, Zee Slaughter, Kris Phelps; Jason Clotter Smalls 6, 7:30, 9, 10:30, 11:45 pm \$35
- ★“Thelonious Monk Festival”: Melissa Aldana, Orrin Evans, Robert Hurst, Terri Lyne Carrington Smoke 7, 9 pm \$25-45
- Russ Nolan Quartet Sour Mouse 8:30, 10 pm
- ★Erik Friedlander Thoroughbreds with Uri Caine, Mark Helias, Satoshi Takeishi The Stone at The New School 8:30 pm \$20
- Brooklyn Drum Collective Umbra 8, 8:30 pm
- ★“Tribute to Geri Allen”: Kurt Rosenwinkel/Gerald Clayton Village Vanguard 8, 10 pm \$40
- Sam Dillon Quartet Zinc Bar 7, 8:30 pm \$35

Thursday, October 9

- Glenn Zaleski with Adam Kolker, Jeremy Stratton, Kayvon Gordon Bar Bayeux 8, 9:30 pm
- ★Juan Chiavassa with Leo Genovese, Bob Franceschini, Santi DeBriano Bar Lunático 9, 10:30 pm
- Ron Carter/Bill Frisell Birdland 7, 9:30 pm \$45-60
- High Society New Orleans Jazz Band with Conal Fowkes, Simon Wettenthal, Tom Abbott, Harvey Tibbs, Josh Dunn, Brian Nalepka, Kevin Dorn Birdland Theater 5:30, 8:30 pm \$35-45
- Robert Glasper/Emily King Blue Note 8, 10:30 pm \$55-125
- David Cook Trio with Jason Rigby Brooklyn Artery 8 pm
- Bebop Collective Cellar Dog 7, 8:30 pm \$5
- ★Noah Garabedian with Dayna Stephens, Dabin Ryu, Jimmy Macbride Close Up 7:30, 9 pm
- Slow Tiger with Adam Schneit, Kenny Warren, JP Schlegelmilch, Andrew Dow, Nathan Ellman-Bell Dada Bar 9 pm
- ★Gaia Wilmer Large Ensemble with Maiara Moraes, Yulia Musayelyan, Alejandro Avilez, Dave Pietro, Gustavo D'Amico, Livio Almeida, Carl Maraghi, Bryan Davis, Dave Smith, Josh Deutsch, Alexandra Ridout, Ryan Keberle, Mike Fahie, Mariel Bildsten, Chris Washburne, Vinicius Gomes, Vitor Gonçalves, Jorge Roeder, Richie Barshay + Monica Salmaso Dizzy's Club 7, 9pm \$25-50
- ★Erik Person Quartet with Brian Charette, Joe Lepore, Jason Tiemann; Mark Whitfield The Django 7:30, 9, 10:30 pm, 12 am \$35
- ★George Cables with Essiet Essiet, Jerome Jennings Jamaica Performing Arts Center 8 pm \$10
- Ayana George; Anwar Marshall The Jazz Club at Aman New York 6:30, 9 pm
- Bill Saxton Harlem All-Stars; Patience Higgins Quartet Jazz Museum in Harlem 2pm
- ★Eric Comstock/Barbara Fasano Quartet with Sean Smith, Vito Lesczak; Neal Kirkwood Trio with Jeff Carney, Steve Johns Mezzrow 6, 7:30, 9, 10:30 pm \$35
- ★Harlem Jazz Boxx presents Craig Harris & the Harlem Nightsongs Big Band Mount Morris Ascension Presbyterian Church 7 pm \$25
- Eden Har-Gil Quartet with Caroline Davis, Eden Bareket, Jay Chan; Underground Spiritual Game with Ran Livneh, Eran Fink, Eden Bareket Nublu 151 7 pm \$20
- Erik Santo; Ben Perowsky Moodswing Orchestra with Dana Lyn, Ilusha Tsinadze, Marcus Rojas The Owl Music Parlor 8 pm \$15
- Jon Regen Quartet The Roxy Lounge at Roxy Hotel 8, 9 pm
- Travis Reuter Group Scholes Street Studio 8 pm
- ★Arturo O'Farrill Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra Shapeshifter Lab 7 pm \$20
- Villagers Brass Band Shrine 8, 9 pm
- ★E.J. Strickland Quintet; Jerome Sabbagh Quartet with Ben Monder, Joe Martin, Nasheet Waits; Matt Snow with Clay Lyons, Cameron Campbell, Wayne Smith Jr Smalls 6, 7:30, 9, 10:30, 11:45 pm \$35
- ★“Thelonious Monk Festival”: Melissa Aldana, Orrin Evans, Robert Hurst, Terri Lyne Carrington Smoke 7, 9 pm \$25-45
- ★Pat Metheny Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall 8 pm \$53-131
- ★Erik Friedlander Floating with Ikue Mori, Sara Serpa The Stone at The New School 8:30 pm \$20
- Austin Zhang Umbra 7:30, 9:30 pm
- ★“Tribute to Geri Allen”: Kurt Rosenwinkel/Gerald Clayton Village Vanguard 8, 10 pm \$40
- Axel Tosca Trio + Xiomara Laugart Zinc Bar 8, 10 pm \$35

Friday, October 10

- ★Eric Person Trio Albert's Bar 3 pm
- Simón Willson Quartet with Neta Raanan, Yvonne Rogers, Kayvon Gordon Bar Bayeux 8, 9:30 pm
- “Fela Kuti 100th Anniversary Tribute”: Living Language Bar Lunático 9, 10:30 pm \$10
- ★Four Bags with Brian Drye, Jacob Garchik, Sean Moran, Mike McGinnis Barbès 8 pm \$20
- Bill Saxton Harlem Allstars Bill's Place 7, 9:30 pm \$36
- ★Birdland Big Band; Ron Carter/Bill Frisell Birdland 5:30, 8:30, 10:30 pm \$35-60
- ★“Thelonious Monk Birthday Celebration”: Greg Osby, Mitch Stein, James Weidman, Lonnie Plaxico, Steve Smith Birdland Theater 7, 9:30 pm \$35-45
- Rogerio Boccato Quarteto Birds 7:30, 9:30 pm
- Robert Glasper/Emily King Blue Note 8, 10:30 pm \$55-125
- Abraham Burton Quartet; Katie Cosco Quartet Cellar Dog 7, 8:30, 11:30 pm \$5
- Tony Malaby with Ben Monder, Tom Rainey Close Up 8, 10 pm
- ★Gaia Wilmer Large Ensemble with Maiara Moraes, Yulia Musayelyan, Alejandro Avilez, Dave Pietro, Gustavo D'Amico, Livio Almeida, Carl Maraghi, Bryan Davis, Dave Smith, Josh Deutsch, Alexandra Ridout, Ryan Keberle, Mike Fahie, Mariel Bildsten, Chris Washburne, Vinicius Gomes, Vitor Gonçalves, Jorge Roeder, Richie Barshay + Monica Salmaso Dizzy's Club 7, 9pm \$25-50
- Tim Lin Quartet; Craig Handy 2nd Line Smith The Django 7:30, 9, 10:30 pm, 12 am \$35
- ★Progressive Chamber Music Festival: Sirius Quartet; B3+ with Dave Taylor, John Clark, Franz Hackl; Zarabanda Quartet with Keir GoGwilt, Alec Goldfarb, Rocio Sánchez, Wilfrido Terrazas Greenwich House Music School 7 pm \$25
- Olivia Chindamo; Mark Whitfield The Jazz Club at Aman New York 6:30, 9 pm
- Bill Mays Trio with Dean Johnson, Ron Vincent; Yotam Silberstein Quartet; William Hill III solo Mezzrow 6, 7:30, 9, 10:30, 11:55 pm \$35
- ★Harlem Jazz Boxx presents Adegoke Steve Colson with Iqua Colson, Mark Helias, Ronnie Burrage Mount Morris Ascension Presbyterian Church 7 pm \$25
- Wayne Tucker Quartet The Roxy Lounge at Roxy Hotel 8, 9 pm
- Travis Reuter Group Scholes Street Studio 8 pm
- ★Arturo O'Farrill Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra Shapeshifter Lab 7 pm \$20
- Bill Warfield Hell's Kitchen Orchestra; Tom Quintet; Steven Chelliah Silvana 7, 9, 10 pm
- ★Carol Morgan with Steve Nelson, Charlie Himel, Steve Little; Steven Feifke Quartet with Blue Lou Marini, Raviv Markovitz, Jimmy Macbride; Ben Wolfe Quartet with Brandon Lee, Patrick Hill, Aaron Kimmel; Eric Wyatt Quartet Smalls 2, 6, 7:30, 9, 10:30, 11:55 pm \$35
- ★“Thelonious Monk Festival”: Melissa Aldana, Orrin Evans, Robert Hurst, Terri Lyne Carrington Smoke 7, 9, 10:30 pm \$35-55
- ★Erik Friedlander Ink Spots with Wendy Eisenberg, Myk Freedman The Stone at The New School 8:30 pm \$20
- ★“Tribute to Geri Allen”: Kurt Rosenwinkel/Gerald Clayton Village Vanguard 8, 10 pm \$40



MO-MOIRS of a JAZZMANIAC or The insanely implausible Jazz Journey of Mike Morgenstern aka Mo Morgen aka Miami Mo®

**Dedicated to late bloomers, Jazz wannabes and dreamers.
Enjoy my trip. I was you.**

For best sense of the narrative, read the monthly chapters in order:

*September PROLOGUE: 1969-1973:

nycjazzrecord.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/38-44.pdf

*October CHAPTER I 1973-75 (below)



Photo: EVE MORGENSTERN

CHAPTER I 1973-1975 How Jazzmania Society was Born

The “incredible serendipity” mentioned in my Prologue? Particularly the kind whereby something bad happens, and it turns out to be a blessing and something better replaces it? Happens to me all the time. I have no idea why. I was 34, close to earning my Master’s in City Planning at Pratt Institute. There were jobs in this field earlier, but in 1974 the field had shrunk and I couldn’t find a position. Pretty bad news. It became the greatest blessing of my professional life.

In our apartment, late 1973, my wife Bunny has invited to dinner her dad Sam Shooobe, house bassist on the Ed Sullivan TV show. I’m doodling on piano, picking out jazzy melodies in my right hand, left hand no clue. Sam: “You should take lessons, you have talent but it’s wasted.” I’m incredulous. “Talent? What talent?” “You have good ears.” That’s all I ever had, but I had no eyes to take weekly private lessons. The New School was offering group jazz piano lessons with Jack Reilly, who asked me to audition. He mistakenly placed me in the intermediate class. When I arrived I was awed by a concert hall full of nine foot Steinway grands. Jack was analyzing Charlie Parker solos, way over my head so I just got off on doodling on the grand. “Hey you sound pretty cool.” At my left is a middle-aged gent, good player. “I’m Elliott Oxenberg, I’m known as ‘The Jazz Dentist.’ I host jams at my place every other Tuesday, can you come relieve me for a few tunes?” “Elliott, I’m flattered but I’m incapable of comping. However, I have an alto I haven’t played for 15 years, can I just sit in?” “Oy, I already have 2 sax players.” Arriving at Dr. Ox’s luxurious lower 5th Ave. digs, the first few sessions they were more advanced, but eventually I was beyond them. I was now hot to trot. “Elliott, can we jam weekly?” “My wife says no.” “If I got us a weekend rehearsal studio, maybe we could add a few jammers?” I booked a studio and took out a *Village Voice* classified: “Amateur & semi-pro jazz musicians who want to jam call Mike (phone #).” It was crazy, I got 53 calls, all wanted to chat. I realized I wasn’t the only jazz wannabe, there must be thousands in NYC alone. Saturday 29 yearning souls showed up at the studio. Everyone chipped in \$5, everyone got to play, it took hours. After the first few weeks, we had 20 regulars. At this point I hatched a plan to fill my time with more jamming that seemed inspired, but knew not where it would lead. It led me to the promised land.

“Look, we’re 20 regulars chipping in \$5 a week to jam. That’s \$400 a month. I can try to rent a loft for that, I’ll buy musical equipment, you guys chip in fix-up labor, furnishings and we can jam as much as we want.” Everyone was hot for it, so I looked into Soho/Tribeca, two industrial areas once bare of tenants. Artists and musicians were moving in to renovate live/work spaces. I found nothing suitable for the \$, but discovered a 1200 sq ft. 4th floor walkup penthouse at 14 E. 23 St. with views of Madison Square and Met Life tower. It had two working fireplaces and two giant triangular skylights. Loved it, so Dec. 1974 I signed a 3-year lease for \$300 a month, \$350 a month to renew. The street floor was a Shandon Bar & Grill, 2nd floor photo studio, 3rd floor two secretaries. After a month of reno we held our first jam. Soon friends of musicians would come and it would be party time. I called us “The Jazz Maniacs” but some felt stigmatized, so I made it “Jazzmania,” added “Society” for a classy touch. I continued to improve but some didn’t, and I only wanted members who were better than I. That meant half had to go, new ones recruited. We upgraded, but there was resistance to the \$20 per month: “What, I have to pay to play?” Then came the fateful day I got a visit from a prominent jazz bassist now known as Harvie S. Harvie wanted to do weekend afternoon concerts and thought Jazzmania would be perfect. He would bring the great Eddie Daniels, Dave Samuels and Israeli singer Ramona. I was stunned, starstruck: “Harvie, we don’t serve anything, it’s BYO”. “Mike, let’s get some bagels from down the block and call it Bagel Brunch, we’ll charge \$3 and put out flyers.” We were packed for the series. Suddenly and unexpectedly a new path was open: A Loft Jazz Club. Stay tuned for November Ch II 1975-78.

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