

Phil Sunkel - Jazz Concerto Grosso Feat. Gerry Mulligan & Bob Brookmeyer (1956 – 57)

Written by bluesever
Friday, 12 April 2013 16:00 -

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01 - *Jazz Concerto Grosso (Phil Sunkel)* 02 - *Something For The Ladies (Phil Sunkel)* 03 - *Song For Cornet (Phil Sunkel)* Line-up: New York City, May 13 & 29, and June 14, 1956 (1) Phil Sunkel, Al Stewart, Siggy Shatz, trumpets; Gene Hessler, trombone; Dick Meldonian, alto sax; Buddy Arnold, tenor sax; Gene Allen, baritone sax; George Syran, piano; Bob Petersen, bass; Harold Granowsky, drums. New York, October 15, 1957 (2) Phil Sunkel, cornet; John Wilson, fluegelhorn; Bob Brookmeyer, valve trombone; Jim Reider, tenor sax; Gerry Mulligan, baritone sax; Wendell Marshal, bass; Harold Granowsky, drums. New York, October 14, 1957 (3) Phil Sunkel, cornet; Nick Travis, Al Stewart, Don Stratton, John Wilson, trumpets; Frank Rehak, trombone; Bob Brookmeyer, valve trombone; Eddie Bert, bass trombone; Don Butterfield, tuba; Dick Meldonian, alto sax; Cliff Hoff, Bill Slapin, tenor saxes; Gerry Mulligan, Gene Allen, baritone saxes; Milt Hinton, bass; Osie Johnson, drums.

Phil Sunkel, cornet and trumpet player, was born in 1925 in Zanesville, Ohio. He played with the Claude Thornhill, Charlie Barnet, Stan Getz, Sauter-Finegan, Gerry Mulligan, Gil Evans and Tito Rodriguez bands. Leaving his role as a soloist aside, Phil mainly stood out as an arranger and composer of talent, being these recordings his most celebrated works and the only ones he did as a leader.

“MY idea of a jazzband,” he said “is something between a small combo and a big band incorporating the good features of both. Here we have the flexibility of a small group which allows the soloist a maximum of freedom, plus the color and drama produced by the different ensemble sounds.”

The further possibilities of using a three voice group superimposed on a similarly conceived orchestral backdrop originated Sunkel’s most ambitious and outstanding work: *Jazz Concerto Grosso*.

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