

# Canada Weekly

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## Montreal jazzes it up at international festival

To celebrate its fifth anniversary, the Montreal International Jazz Festival is presenting a spectacular program that will cover the spectrum of jazz from the big bands of Duke Ellington and Lionel Hampton to the related fringes of blues, salsa and reggae.

Canada's biggest music festival will run for ten days from June 29 to July 8. During that period, the old Latin Quarter around Montreal's St. Denis Street will be closed to traffic and transformed into a celebration of sound.

With 800 local and international musicians playing at an average of 25 concerts a day on 14 different stages, the Montreal festival is said by organizers to be bigger than New York's Kool Jazz Festival.

"This year we are surpassing the Kool festival in the number of concerts and the variety of music offered," said festival organizer André Menard.

"It's going to be crazy, historical — the ultimate in terms of programming."

Starting in mid-afternoon and continuing until the early hours of the morning, the festival expects to attract upwards of 250 000 spectators.

### Free concerts

The program includes eight series of free concerts at terraces, bars and three outdoor

bandstands. More than 350 musicians will participate in these concerts of which 235 are from Montreal and the remaining from Europe, South America and the United States as well as other parts of Canada.

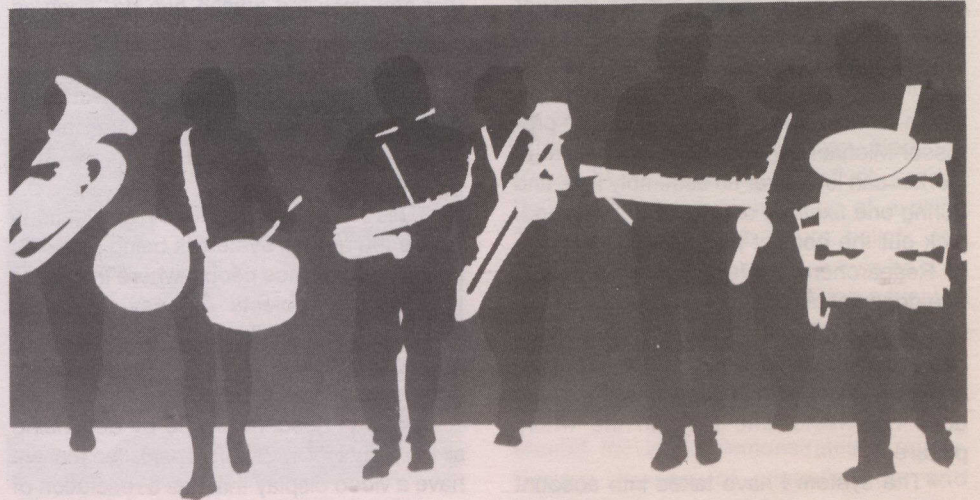
Big bands will be the focus of the main 7 p.m. concert series at the St. Denis Theatre, opening with the Buddy Rich band and followed on subsequent days by the Toshiko Akiyoshi-Lew Tabackin band, and the band of Montreal's Vic Vogel, featuring singer Betty Carter and alto saxophonist Phil Woods.

The Lionel Hampton band, vocalist Carmen McRae and the orchestra of the late Duke Ellington, directed by his son Mercer Ellington, round out this series.

### Midnight series

The more avant-garde midnight series includes trumpeter Freddie Hubbard, expatriate South African pianist Dollar Brand (Ibrahim Abdullah), the David Murray Octet, trumpeter Red Rodney and saxophonist Ira Sullivan and drummer Jack Dejohnette's Special Edition.

This series will also feature the guitars of Herb Ellis, Barney Kessel and Charlie Byrd, Sam Rivers and the Winds of Manhattan and the tenor sax of Pharoah Sanders.



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