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Descriptive Summary

Identifier  ICU.SPCL.JBFIGI
Title  Jazz Institute of Chicago. Figi, Jamil. Papers
Date  1964-1983
Size  1.5 linear feet (1 box)
Repository  Special Collections Research Center
           University of Chicago Library
           1100 East 57th Street
           Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract  Jamil Figi, American jazz critic. The Jazz Institute of Chicago Jamil Figi Papers contain Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians (AACM) newsletters, concert and event fliers and programs, photographs, and ephemera. These papers document Figi’s work with the AACM and his advocacy and promotion of jazz performers.

Acknowledgments
The Jazz Institute of Chicago Jamil Figi Papers were processed and preserved as part of the "Uncovering New Chicago Archives Project," funded with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Information on Use

Access
The collection is open for research.

Citation
When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Jazz Institute of Chicago. Figi, Jamil. Papers, [Box#, Folder#], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago

Biographical Note

Jamil Figi, an American jazz critic, was born May 22, 1937 in Chicago, Illinois. While growing up in Monroe, Wisconsin Figi frequently heard live jazz in Madison, Wisconsin and Chicago. Soon after high school graduation, Figi settled in Chicago and on his first night in the new city heard Lester Young play live in a nightclub. For the rest of his life, Figi remained an avid fan of Young’s playing.
An influential jazz writer, Figi's work first appeared in small magazines in the early 1960's, particularly in the literary magazine December. During this time, Figi also began writing the Chicago modern jazz column for Coda magazine and liner notes for record companies, mostly notably Chicago’s Delmark label. Liner notes written by Figi include: Sun Ra, Sun Song; John Young Trio, The John Young Trio; Roscoe Mitchell, Sound; Joseph Jarman, Song For; and Bud Powell, Bouncing with Bud.

Figi also wrote for John and Leni Sinclair's Change, a publication devoted to the new jazz of the 1960's as well as the popular weekly Chicago Reader. In 1969, Figi wrote his first Downbeat article about Booby Blue Bland and later interviewed jazz great, Cecil Taylor. During the 1980's, Figi became one of Downbeat’s staff record reviewers. Figi was highly involved with the Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians. Figi was also a board member of the Jazz Institute of Chicago and a programming committee member for the Chicago Jazz Festival.


Scope Note
The Jazz Institute of Chicago Jamil Figi Papers contain Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians newsletters. The concert folders contain fliers, posters and programs promoting various concert series. The musician folders contain photographs, programs, concert and event fliers, and programs. These papers document Figi's work with the AACM and his advocacy and promotion of jazz performers.

Related Resources
The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html

Chicago Jazz Archive

Jazz Institute of Chicago. Records

Subject Headings
• Figi, Jamil
• Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians
• Delmark Records
• Free Jazz
• Jazz
• Jazz -- Illinois -- Chicago
• University of Chicago. Chicago Jazz Archive
• Jazz Institute of Chicago
INVENTORY

Box 1
Folder 1
   Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians Newsletters, 1973-1975
Box 1
Folder 2
   Concerts, 1964-1975
Box 1
Folder 3
   Concerts, 1966-1983
Box 1
Folder 4
   Concerts, Child City, 1972-1974
Box 1
Folder 5
   Concerts, Hyde Park Art Center, 1968-1969
Box 1
Folder 6
   Concerts, Lincoln Center, 1966-1967
Box 1
Folder 7
   Concerts, N.A.M.E. Gallery, 1974
Box 1
Folder 8
   Concerts, Parkway Community House, 1968-1970
Box 1
Folder 9
   Concerts, St. John Grand Lodge, 1996
Box 1
Folder 10
   Concerts, University of Chicago, 1959-1972
Box 1
Folder 11
   Musician, Abrams, Muhal Richard, circa 1967
Box 1
Folder 12
   Musician, Anderson, Fred, circa 1982
Box 1
Folder 13
   Musician, Cohran, Philip, 1966-1967
Box 1
Folder 14
   Musician, Favors, Malachi, undated
Box 1
Folder 15
Musician, Jarman, Joseph, undated
Box 1
Folder 16
Musician, Mitchell, Roscoe, undated
Box 1
Folder 17
Musician, New Horizons Ensemble, 1984-1986
Box 1
Folder 18
Musician, Wilkerson, Ed, 1986
Box 1
Folder 19
Non-AACM Performers, 1967-1968
Box 1
Folder 20
Sutherland Lounge, undated