


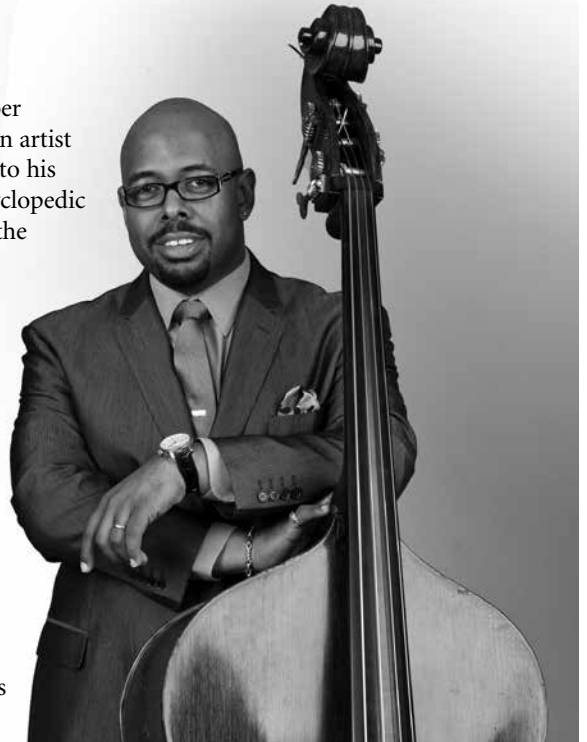
"Jazz in June" Festival

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Charlap, with strong poetic feeling, quoted lyrics from Gene de Paul's "I'll Remember April" before they played that classic. It was a touchingly idiosyncratic opening by an artist who constantly makes the familiar unusual, and the unknown familiar. In addition to his status as one of today's leading jazz pianists, Charlap is often celebrated for his encyclopedic knowledge of the American Songbook. In the post-performance conversation with the audience, he denied the compliment. His denial, however, was diminished by his constant authoritative and interesting remarks. His insights and analyses are the equivalent of a fine appetizer setting the palate for a wonderful main course. He can both enthrall with a detailed remark, and bring a smile, as when he identified Brubeck's tribute to Ellington as "The Duke by The Dave."

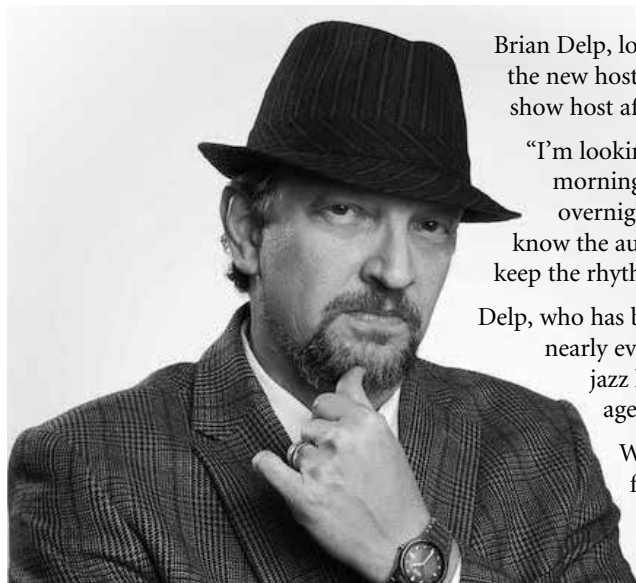
The trio brilliantly played classics by Leonard Bernstein, Hoagy Carmichael, Michel Legrand, Vernon Duke and others. As usual, Charlap gave constant and well-deserved credit to his two fellow artists. Though the two Mr. Washingtons are unrelated by blood, they are one musical soul on stage, and their rhythmic support was always in place no matter where the leader's improvisations went. It was grand.

In his introduction to each performance, Lockwood expressed his hope that this festival will thrive and grow each year. Later, he told *Jersey Jazz* that, "It is certainly my intention to have the third one. I haven't begun to think about it yet, but it gives me something to look forward to." 



Christian McBride

Brian Delp to Succeed Rhonda Hamilton As WBGO "Midday Jazz" Host



Brian Delp

Brian Delp, longtime host of WBGO's "Jazz After Hours" has been named by the station as the new host of Midday Jazz, following the departure of Rhonda Hamilton, who left as show host after a 40-year career to relocate to California. Delp's first day was August 1.

"I'm looking forward to bringing a bit more swing and upbeat music to listeners late morning and high noon after spending years providing relaxing and mellow sounds overnight," said Delp. "Having co-hosted with Rhonda during our [fund] drives, I know the audience, their passion for jazz, and their commitment to WBGO. I intend to keep the rhythms flowing."

Delp, who has been a member of WBGO's on-air team for nearly 23 years, has emceed at nearly every major jazz venue in the New York City area. He says his love affair with jazz happened the moment he heard "Take Five" by the Dave Brubeck Quartet, at age 5, on his mother's car radio.

While attending Oklahoma State University in the early '80s, Delp had the good fortune to be employed as a classical music host by KOSU-FM, a public radio station in the state. However, he credits his jazz history acumen with the experience he gleaned while serving as an engineer at the station for a jazz show hosted by disc jockey James C. Stratton.

"[James] taught me everything about jazz history, because he had LIVED all of it," Delp commented. "I may have forgotten some of what he imparted, but I've certainly never forgotten him."

Years later, Delp was working at Prairie Public Radio in Bismarck, ND, in 1995 when the call came in from WBGO 88.3 FM. Thus, began his two-plus decades working as a late-night disc jockey. He's a classically trained violinist who has also hosted a portion of NYC's City Parks Foundation's Charlie Parker Jazz Festival over several summers. Delp resides in Essex County with his wife Susan, a New Jersey native. 