



Newsletter of

Kansas  
City  
Ragtime  
Revelry

Presents

## Bram Wijnands and John Blegen



Thursday, October 13, 2016

7:00 PM

First Baptist Church of Kansas City  
Red Bridge Road and Wornall

Admission -\$20.00 at the door

Students with parents or with a student Identification admitted free.

**The First Baptist Church of Kansas City is a handicapped and driver friendly venue. There are plenty parking spaces close to the doors and there are no stairs between the parking area and the seating. The venue has ample comfortable seats.**

This is an abbreviated Newsletter. The list of donors can be found in previous Newsletters that are archived on the website. The membership information form is also on the website ([www.kcragtimerevelry.org](http://www.kcragtimerevelry.org))

**Bram Wijnands** is a Kansas City musician. He plays stride and boogie, as well as classical and modern jazz. Bram can usually be found playing at the Majestic Steak House on Friday and Saturday evenings where he is often joined by other, well known Kansas City musicians, including John Blegen. He also plays at other venues throughout the city.

Bram is a graduate from the Conservatory of Amsterdam in the Netherlands. In this environment, he became a master of stride piano and the stylings of Erroll Garner. He immigrated from the Netherlands to Kansas City in 1991 to perform at the 'City Light Jazz Club. Since that time, he has played in almost every jazz venue in the town. In 1998, Bram performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City. As a result of this performance, then Mayor Emanuel Cleaver proclaimed Bram as Kansas City's "Ambassador of Swing".

Mr. Wijnands taught at the UMKC's Jazz division alongside Bobby Watson. This collaboration led to a performance at "Jazz at Lincoln Center" in 2005.

Bram Wijnands has been an Artist in Residence with the Endless Mountain Music Festival since 2013, his trio performed at the University of New Hampshire Jazz Festival in 2015, and he has been recognized as an outstanding artist by the National Endowment for the Arts.

**John Blegen** was born in Chicago in 1942 and grew up near Philadelphia. He started playing violin when he was nine years old and switched to clarinet when he was fourteen. At sixteen, John was playing gigs with his own Dixieland band and a big band made up mostly of college students from Temple and Drexel Universities. In 1961 and 1962, he toured Europe with a band from Williams College in Massachusetts, and in the early '70's he played with the S.U.N.Y. Binghamton Jazz Workshop Band. After a lengthy stay in Chicago, where he was a regular member of the Chicago Cubs Dixieland Band and of the Milwaukee Connection (taking the place of the late Chuck Hedges), John arrived in Kansas City in 2012 where quickly became a part of the vibrant KC jazz scene. In Kansas City, He plays regularly with Bram Wijnands at The Majestic Restaurant. He has also appeared with pianist Mike Pagán, Kent Rausch's Tom's Town Quintet, A La Mode, the Marvin Gruenbaum Quartet, and in duos with Rod Fleeman and Dan Bliss. In 2014, John released his first CD as a leader featuring KC greats Bram Wijnands, Bob Bowman, Mike Pagán, and Philip Wakefield. In 2015, he was a part of the Bram Wijnands Trio that performed at the University of New Hampshire's Traditional Jazz Series.

Looking forward, here is what we know about the KCRR schedule for the next five months.

November 16, 2016  
Frank Livolsi and Max Keenlyside  
**6:00 PM**

February, 2017  
To Be Determined

March 2017  
Carl Sonny Leyland and friend  
Date, site and time to be determined

Details will be available in future Newsletters and on the KCRR website ([www.kcragtimerevelry.com](http://www.kcragtimerevelry.com))

## Please note

This October concert will be held at a new venue for KCRR. Over the years, there have been comments about the lack of parking and poor access for handicapped persons in the Westport area. We believe the First Baptist Church of Kansas City venue will alleviate those concerns. There is plenty of parking space behind the church, a few parking spaces in the front, and additional space in a lot to the northeast. There are marked spaces for handicapped in the rear parking area and there are no stairs between all of the spaces behind the church and the seating.

The concert in November will start at 6:00 Schmitt Music in Overland Park on Wednesday, November 16, 2016. (There was an error in the date on one of the flyers distributed.) Max Keenlyside and Frank Livolsi will be stopping in Kansas City on their way to the West Coast Ragtime Festival in Sacramento, CA. They, along with a number of Kansas City ragtime enthusiasts, will fly on to Sacramento on Thursday. **This concert begins at 6:00 PM**, one-hour earlier than our normal starting time. Schmitt Music must close by 8:00 PM that evening.

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## Definitions of ragtime - the impact of history and technology

From: *Rags and Ragtime*, by: David A. Jasen and Trebor Tichenor, 1978

A musical composition for the piano comprising three or four sections containing sixteen measures each which combines a syncopated melody accompanied by an even steady duple rhythm

From: [www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com), accessed 9/26/16

A style of early jazz music written largely for the piano in the early twentieth century, characterized by jaunty rhythms and a whimsical mood. Note: Scott Joplin was a famous composer and performer of **ragtime**.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dick Hawks

### GASLIGHT GRILL

Featuring

Lynn Zimmer

and the Jazz Band  
in the back Room

6:30 PM Wednesday through Saturday

6:00 PM Sunday

Special appearance the first Monday of each month

The New Red Onion Jazz Babies

Continental Cuisine  
with an American twist  
in the main dining room  
beginning 4:00 PM

GASLIGHT GRILL  
5020 West 137<sup>th</sup> Street  
(between Roe and Nall)  
Leawood, Kansas 66224  
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For current dates, times and locations, visit our website – [www.kcragtime revelry.org](http://www.kcragtime revelry.org)