International and Improvisatory Music

Jamison Sevits

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Appendix E - UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM
SENIOR PROJECT - APPROVAL

Name: Jamison Sevits

College: Music  Department: Jazz Studies / Studio Music

Faculty Mentor: Mark Boling

PROJECT TITLE: International and Improvisatory
Music

I have reviewed the completed senior honors thesis with this student and certify that it is a project
commensurate with honors level undergraduate research in this field.

Signed: [Signature], Faculty Mentor

Date: 4/26/04

General Assessment - please provide a short paragraph that highlights the most significant
features of the project.

Comments (Optional):
International and Improvisatory Music

The concept of this project was to connect improvisational music from America and other parts of the world through original arrangements and performance. Improvisation is, in my opinion, instantaneous creativity and exists in all art forms, however it is most strongly associated with music, especially jazz. Interestingly enough, many people disregard the fact that improvisation is not only the fundamental element in the creation of all music, but that it exists in every genre and part of the world. This project attempted to explore the history of American jazz and the unique musics from around the world, in order to display various forms of improvisational music.

Hopefully, with the musical performance and a brief study of the songs, one will gain insight into the similarities and differences between styles and genres of improvisation. Perhaps more importantly one will realize that music is a creative art form that exists inside of everyone. It takes only awareness and desire to connect with one’s creative and musical potential.

Here is the list of the songs that were performed:

- Wail- Bud Powell (style: be-bop jazz; 1940’s and 50’s)
- Hristianova kapanitsa- Ivo Popasov (style: Bulgarian Wedding music)
- First Light-Freddie Hubbard (style: fusion- jazz/latin/symphonic; 1960’s-1980’s)
- Me and You- Duke Ellington (style: standard/big band; era: 1920’s-1940’s)
- Borrasca- De Madera (style: fusion- flamenco/latin/afro-cuban)
- Lotus Feet- Shakti (style: fusion- North Indian-Canartic)/Jazz)
- Inner Urge- Joe Henderson (style: post-bop/modern; era: 1950’s-1970’s)
- Pensativa- Clare Fischer (style- latin/swing/groove; era: 1960’s)

Recital Date- Mon. Feb. 9th, 2004 Location- Alumni (Cox) Auditorium, Room 32)