

(continued from Cover Page)
In Session, by Wayne Corey (WI)

Have you ever wondered how such a hard swinging band gave us such a beautiful song? Have you ever heard a melody that more perfectly captures the title of a song? Have you ever heard a lyric that more perfectly captures the season and the mood? I haven't.

I have heard a lot of *Early Autumn* charts in my life. Nothing compares to what Bill has written. I have heard a lot of *Early Autumn* vocals in my life. Sorry, New York Voices, but the Freshmen stop hearts with this one. And thank you, Bill, for giving us such a remarkable gift. 40+ years after you began enhancing our quality of life, you are still giving us the benefit of your talent. I trust you know we are still giving you our undying affection and thanks!

One of the fun things for me is watching and listening to today's Freshmen moving through our Great American Songbook. They take ownership of these songs, Vince takes the early measures from *September Song* on **Road Show** and makes it a classic FF arrangement. Brian grabs Hoagy Carmichael's *Skylark*, mixes in Mercer's stunning lyrics and makes us wonder why the Frosh didn't do this in 1948. No matter, because it is here and now and wonderful.

It is unfair to ignore Cole Porter's *It's All Right With Me*, Mercer's *Something's Gotta Give* and Bob's stunning solo (yeah, I know it's redundant) on his concert show stopper *How Do You Keep the Music Playing*. Other listeners will find new FF favorites among *My One and Only Love*, *That Old Feeling* and *You've Changed*. And Karen, my beloved granddaughter age 12, and her grandfather can while away the hours conferring with the flowers and listening to Brian solo on *If I Only Had a Brain*. I honestly didn't think this song, which works well in concert, would work well on a studio CD. I was wrong. It is all kinds of fun.

In Session is incredible. Those of us who have always loved the Freshmen love the album. Fresh fans come lately will learn what we have been raving about. And, based on *If I Had You*, there may be lots more, and lots younger, Fresh fans coming soon to an auditorium near you. Dare I say it? Heck, yes! Rock on!

from Ashley Pitman

WE GET EMAILS! The Smithsonian Institution

We at the Smithsonian are presently updating our website for the upcoming Jazz Appreciation Month in April. As a patron and celebrant of jazz music, your organization is currently a member of our Jazz Societies directory. It would be to our great benefit, and yours as well, if you could visit our site:

http://www.smithsonianjazz.org/jam/jam_societies_state.as

Note: Tom Purvis responded to help the Smithsonian update the FFS information.

CRUISERS!

Jewels of Jazz Cruise-DEC. 3-10 2005
MEXICAN RIVIERA - 7 days- featuring The Four
Freshmen... Mike Vax Big Band with Stan Kenton
Alumni... Steve Lippia Vocalist... Jeff Hamilton Jazz Trio

Bigger and Better! We received so many comments from happy cruisers who all said it was one of their greatest lifetime experiences. So - Jeri Ann Kelly is happily climbing the roller-coaster again to bring this opportunity back - especially for the Freshmen fans and jazz lovers alike. We've decided to leave from the West Coast this time. San Diego is a great port to depart from and air fares from the East Coast and Mid-West will be quite reasonable. Once you review the amazingly low rates we have, which includes the musician/entertainment costs, you will understand what a great opportunity this is for everyone. Detailed Brochures are available upon request.

As of March 15 over 350 persons are already booked. The choice for rooms is still good, so we suggest you consider getting your bookings made with deposit just as soon as you can. What a grand gift this would be! \$350 of your \$450 per person deposit is refundable to final payment of September 1, 2005. You'll certainly want to add the Cancellation insurance to secure your total cruise costs.

We have some outstanding musicians contracted. Four performances of THE FOUR FRESHMEN are, of course, uppermost for all of us. Add it up and you have 6 delightful hours of just their tremendous talents!

Other Stars: The Mike Vax Big Band
 Steve Lippia
 Jeff Hamilton
 Gary Hobb
 Bob Florence
 Tamir Hendleman
 Christoph Luty

...and others.

We hope for at least 500 cruisers!
Please consider joining us....Call now

@ 1-800-355-4135 or email: JeriAnnTravel@msn.com

We are anxious to tell you all about the ship, the ports of **Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlan, and Puerto Vallarta** and our 3 days at sea. Please keep in mind the following: All bookings for this EXCLUSIVE group must be made with Jeri Ann Kelly - no exceptions. Only our clients will have access to all the many shows, amenities and extras we are offering. Everyone is delighted with the very low rates. We look forward to your call now before the rush, so don't miss out.

Check us out on the Internet: <www.jeriantravelpro.com>