

# Highlights



Craig Andresen/Daily Nebraskan

Rusty White, bass, Brian Mann, piano, and Albert Rometo, drums: The Calvert Street Jazz Trio disproves the old axiom that those who can't do, teach.

## Calvert Street Trio promotes live music

By Mary C. Reilly

A group that plays the music it wants, the way it wants, for people that want to listen is unique in today's age.

However, that is precisely the philosophy of the Calvert Street Trio, a three-piece jazz ensemble at UNL.

Three professors in the UNL School of Music, Brian Mann on piano, Albert Rometo on percussion and Rusty White on bass form the group.

Among other functions, the trio serves as a recruiting tool for the UNL School of Music, White said. "We play primarily in a concert situation."

"We perform to keep jazz alive, to make music and to share it with other people," Mann said.

The group is more an education-institutional organization than a money-making organization, Mann said.

"We love playing jazz and we get a kick out of it. Jazz is rewarding and demanding to play," Mann said.

The trio was created to play live music for people, Rometo said, "to enable us to do things we weren't able to do enough of under other circumstances."

"We wanted to promote live music as preferable to listening to the stereo. It's more spontaneous, less predictable," Mann said.

Basically, the trio plays two categories of jazz material: popular American standards and jazz instrumentals, Mann said. They are the "bread and butter" for jazz musicians, he said. The instrumentals are written and performed by jazz groups.

Jazz musicians love to turn to popular American songs of the '40s and '50s and play them in jazz style. These songs are part of the musical culture of people over 30, Mann said.

In addition the Calvert Street Trio plays transcriptions of classical pieces in a jazz style.

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