

ARSC New York Chapter

FEBRUARY 2017 Meeting

7:00 P. M. Thursday, 2/16/17

→ At the CUNY Sonic Arts Center ←

West 140th Street & Convent Avenue, New York

Or enter at 138th Street off Convent Avenue

Shepard Hall (the Gothic building) – Recital Hall (Room 95, Basement level)

An elevator is located in the center of the building

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Dan Blazek presents

Richard Pryor's Laff Recordings

Considered perhaps the greatest Stand-up comedian of all time, Richard Pryor's complex and dramatic life extended into his recording history as well. Much has been written about Pryor's 1967 Las Vegas meltdown, which turned his career inside out. He collected himself in the black clubs of the day, signing with Laff Records, which released his seminal album, "Craps (After hours)" in 1971. Considered a minor classic, "Craps" ushered in Pryor's new raw and militant voice. But just as quickly Pryor jumped to the Partee/Stax label and subsequently to Warner Brothers, rocketing to success with "That [N-word's] Crazy" in 1974. In the 1970's, Louis and David Drozen of Laff Records had an agreement that they could release any album of Pryor's for which they owned earlier material. Pryor's Laff record releases trailed upon the success of his cinema and Warner album releases, even winning him a Grammy in 1982. Years later Pryor regained control of his Laff masters and three separate re-releases ensued. This presentation seeks to examine and rate Pryor's Laff albums, which spotlight his formative genius and had been neglected by the Goldmine standard comedy guide.

Bonus: Time permitting, Pryor's appearances on *The Ed Sullivan Show* provide additional insight into his early recordings.

Daniel Blazek is the former head of the Government Information Section at the Otto G. Richter Library, University of Miami. He is currently a Recorded Sound Technician at the Library of Congress, Culpeper, VA, and has recently been a liaison for procuring Jewish LPs from Florida Atlantic University.



Our next meeting will be on March 16, 2017

“In Memoriam Max Wilcox (1928-2017)”

Featuring interviews with some of the artists who worked with him, as well as musical excerpts of himself and his artists.

Moderators: Joseph Patrych and Jon Samuels



DIRECTIONS TO THE SONIC ARTS CENTER

Subway: Take the 1 train to 137th Street City College and walk north to 140th St. & Broadway, then go east to 140th St. & Convent Avenue. Take the A, B, C, or D trains to 145th St, go south on St. Nicholas to 141st St, (one long block), then west one block to Convent Avenue, and south one more block to 140th & Convent Avenue.

Bus: M4 and M5 on Broadway; M 100, 101 on Amsterdam Ave. (one block West of Convent Avenue)



The Sonic Arts Center at CCNY offers 4-year Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in Music with a concentration in Music and Audio Technology. Their program provides an in-depth curriculum emphasizing real-world skills with a project-based approach. Students enjoy a well-rounded program, with emphasis on audio technology, music theory, orchestration, and history to help them compete in a field that today demands an ever-growing and highly diverse skill set.



All ARSC NY Chapter meetings are free and open to the public.
Voluntary contributions to help defray our expenses are welcome!

To join ARSC, visit <http://www.arsc-audio.org>