

NEW BOOK ON AUSTRALIAN JAZZ RELEASED



Fascinating oral histories by some of the country's most prominent jazz musicians are the highlight of a recently released book on Australian jazz.

The book, *I Wanted to Be a Jazz Musician*, was edited by Canberra based musician, jazz historian and author, John Sharpe. It is his third book on Australian jazz, the others being *Don't worry baby. They'll swing their arses Off – The Stories of Australian Jazz Musicians* (2001) and *A Cool Capital – The Canberra Jazz Scene 1925-2005* (2006).

I Wanted to Be a Jazz Musician is the result of a Research Fellowship John Sharpe received from the National Film & Sound Archive which also houses and administers the Australian Jazz Archive.

The research project was to prepare a publication of edited oral histories of jazz musicians which are held in the Australian Jazz Archive and illustrate it with photographs from the Archive's collection. In the past decade John Sharpe has conducted over 100 oral histories and interviews with leading Australian jazz musicians for the Archive, so he had a very rich field of material from which to draw.

James Morrison has written the Foreword. The book comprises 390 pages with 200 photographs accompanying the text. These were sourced from both the Archive and the private collections of the musicians concerned.

While the musicians chosen are intended to be representative of different jazz styles and different periods in Australia's jazz history, a main criterion was the interesting stories they had to tell. Some of the musicians and singers included are:

Terry Wilkinson	Sandy Evans	Barry Wratten
Marie Wilson	John Morrison	Margret RoadKnight
Joe Chindamo	Peter Gaudion	Mike Nock
Bob Bertles	Ian Date	Grace Knight
Miroslav Bukovsky	Bob Sedergreen	Kevin Hunt
David Glyde	Ron Falson	Mark Isaacs
Judy Jacques	Warren Daly	David Jones
Paul Furniss	Anita Thomas	Trevor Rippingale
Kerry Biddell	John Pochée	Col Nolan

Through their stories, *I Wanted to Be a Jazz Musician* provides a rare insight into the lives of Australia's jazz musicians. The subjects speak about their beginnings in jazz, their unusual experiences and the highlights of their careers as well as their interests outside of the music.

Further information can be obtained from John Sharpe, 5 Darke Street, Torrens, ACT 2607. Phone 02-62861728, email johnsharpe@grapevine.com.au