

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Terry Brennan

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Jazz & Blues Oral History project

Interview # JB-A-L-2011-054

Terry Brennan, a jazz musician, keyboard player and music teacher who played venues throughout Central Illinois, was interviewed on the dates listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Jazz & Blues* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Nov 3, 2011 Location: Terry Brennan home in Decatur, Illinois

Date: Jan 24, 2012 Location: Terry Brennan home in Decatur, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Robert C. Sharpe, ALPL Volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Transcript
being processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 2:10 + 0:18 / 2.17 + 0.3 = 2.47 hrs.

Session 1: Brennan's life and musical career

Session 2: Supplemental interview on Brennan's travels overseas

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on June 21, 2012

The interviews are archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Terry Brennan, *Jazz & Blues*, JB-A-L-2011-054

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Terry Brennan was born on May 19, 1940, in Jacksonville, Illinois. His father, Terrance “Boots” Brennan was a salesman and musician who led a band in which Terry sometimes played. His mother, Gertrude, was a beautician. Terry graduated from Jacksonville H.S. in 1958, from MacMurray College in 1962 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education, and from the University of Illinois in 1963 with an M.S. in Music Education. Terry taught music for many years in high schools in Griggsville, Meredosia, Edinburg, and for the last twenty-four years at Warrensburg. Terry’s father took him to play piano with jazz musicians and, starting at age twelve, Terry played with older musicians at numerous bars in Springfield and other areas. He played jobs with bands in venues throughout central Illinois. The Terry Brennan Trio played venues for seventeen years. Terry has played with the group Black & White (now Diversity) for thirty years. He played for the vocalist Rachel Lee for many years, including at venues in Chicago, Springfield, Decatur and other cities. Terry has been regarded as one of the top jazz keyboard player in central Illinois for many years. In 2012, Terry continues to play with Diversity and other bands throughout central Illinois.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Jacksonville, Illinois; playing Jazz piano; University of Illinois Jazz Band; Central Illinois music venues; Decatur, Illinois; Warrensburg High School; Terry Brennan Trio; jazz group “Black & White”, later “Diversity”; high school music teacher; vocalist Rachel Lee; Norb Andy’s restaurant in Springfield, Illinois

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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