

## The Cellar

169 Avenue Rd., Toronto

In early late February or early March, 1963, possibly earlier, the Cellar was opened by Steve Ciotlos and Sam Shirose at 169 Avenue Rd. The house was devoted to jazz music with occasional forays into folk. Classical pianist Clem Hambourg appeared regularly, often as “host”, from March 1963, after his House of Hambourg at 23 Grenville closed. Many of the better known Toronto jazz bands were featured, often with extended residencies. In spite of a move northwest to 182 Dupont Street in late 1965, the club doesn't appear to have survived 1966 in its jazz house format. Unlike many clubs and coffee houses, as rock, R&B and blues swept into the Village in 1964/5 on, the Cellar never appeared to yield.



The Cellar, circa 1963

Fred Duligal (saxophonist) with Ron Peck on vibes and either Ian Henstridge or Carne Bray on bass; Norm Amadeo or Ian Bargh on piano. Drummer is perhaps Ron Rully. All either/or suggestions from FaceBook Nov 2021.

Picture with permission from Susan Duligal

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## 1963

Mar 8	<b>Fred Duligal Quintet</b>	G&M Mar 8 <sup>th</sup> p.5 <a href="http://www.canadianjazzarchive.org.vsd10.korax.net/en/musicians/fred-duligal.html">http://www.canadianjazzarchive.org.vsd10.korax.net/en/musicians/fred-duligal.html</a>
Mar 9	Dave Caplan in his <i>Man About Jazz</i> article <i>Hambourg Padlocked But Not Silenced</i>	Star Mar 9 <sup>th</sup> p.22 noting that after the closing of the House of Hambourg at 23 Grenville, Hambourg is soon picked up by the newly opened Cellar. <a href="https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/clement-hambourg-emc">https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/clement-hambourg-emc</a>
Mar 15-16	<b>Duligal-Angus Quintet</b>	G&M Mar 15 <sup>th</sup> p.5 12:30 to 4 am
Mar 17	<b>Ron Peck Trio</b>	G&M Mar 15 <sup>th</sup> p.5 9:30 - 2 am From the Jazz FM 91 archive: <b>Ron Peck</b> (vibraphonist), now deceased, was a member of the <b>Al Lawrie Quintet</b> (Al Lawrie on clarinet).
Mar 22-24	same <b>Duligal-Angus, Ron Peck</b> line up as last week	G&M Mar 22 <sup>nd</sup> p.5
Mar 29-31	as last week	G&M Mar 29 <sup>th</sup> p.5
Sep 23	Vibist <b>Ron Peck, Fred Duligal Quartet</b> , with folk singers <b>Klaas Van Graft Jean Kassapian</b>	Star Sep 23 <sup>rd</sup> p. 20 in Dave Caplan's <i>Man About Jazz</i> : "... and others split up the entertainment from Thursday to Sunday" see: <a href="https://www.discogs.com/artist/1577492-Jean-Kassapian">https://www.discogs.com/artist/1577492-Jean-Kassapian</a>
Nov 9	<b>Eve Law</b>	Tely Nov 9 <sup>th</sup>
Nov 15-16	<b>Eve Law and Clem Hambourg</b>	Tely Nov 16 <sup>th</sup> early and late respectfully, both nights, guessing that the Tely is referring to the night before but probably to their residency.

Nov 22-23, Nov 29-23, Dec 6-7	<b>Eve Law and Clem Hambourg</b>	Tely Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup> , Nov 30 <sup>th</sup> , Dec 7 <sup>th</sup> the residency continues
Nov 30	<b>Alex Lazaroff &amp; Fred Duligal</b> with added attractions <b>Eve Law</b> comedienne, singer-guitarist <b>Jean Kassapian</b> and <b>Clem Hambourg</b> playing classical piano	Star Nov 30 <sup>th</sup> p.29 in Gerry Barker's <i>In Town and Out</i> "front modern jazz units"
Dec 13-14	<b>Clem Hambourg now with Fred Duligal and Alex Lazaroff</b> after hours	Tely Dec 14 <sup>th</sup>
Dec 20-21	<b>Clem Hambourg</b> now with <b>Klaas Van Graft</b>	Tely Dec 21 <sup>st</sup>
Dec 21	<b>Alex Lazaroff &amp; Fred Duligal</b> with <b>Clem Hambourg</b>	Star Dec 21 p.21 in the ShowBill column: "two floors of modern jazz in action"

## 1964

Jan 3-4	<b>Clem Hambourg</b>	Tely Jan 4 <sup>th</sup> , jazz weekends only
Feb 14-16	<b>Rod Dawson(sp)</b> and the <b>Fred Duligal Jazz Quintet</b> with <b>Clem Hambourg</b> in intermissions	Tely Feb 13 <sup>th</sup> (After Four) note: every After Four going forward also notes "... plus odd folks singers every Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 9:30" ("odd" is not defined)
Feb 20-23	The above continue but with "folk singers" names not listed	Tely Feb 20 <sup>th</sup> (After Four) also: "every Wednesday the Cellar holds a free open house where local jazz groups my play"

Feb 28-Mar 1	<b>Fred Duligal and Clem Hambourg</b>	Tely Feb 27 <sup>th</sup> (After Four) ... still those “odd folk singers”
Mar 6-8	as above	Tely Mar 5 <sup>th</sup> (After Four)
Mar 7	<b>Alex Lazaroff</b>	Star Mar 7 <sup>th</sup> p.23 in Dave Caplan’s column “ <i>Exciting Lazaroff sound makes Avenue Rd. Swing</i> ”: “Drummer <b>Alex Lazaroff</b> and his big band of skilled musicians are back for another bash tonight on the main level of the Cellar club at 169 Avenue Rd. .... Things start swinging at 1 am. The show may become a regular Saturday night affair if it receives healthy support.” Also referenced in Gerry Barker’s <i>In Town and Out</i> p.29.
Mar 7	A 14-piece band featuring <b>Al Stanwyck, Ron Collier, Charlie Ralto, Dave Hammer, Ross Cully</b>	Tely Mar 7 <sup>th</sup> (What’s Going On) though not agreeing with the Star but we’re getting some more names. See also:  <a href="https://www.thebossbrass.com/2012/05/05/al-stanwyck/">https://www.thebossbrass.com/2012/05/05/al-stanwyck/</a> and  <a href="https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/ron-collier">https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/ron-collier</a>
Mar 13-15	The <b>Fred Duligal with Clem Hambourg</b> combination continues	Tely Mar 12 <sup>th</sup> (After Four), Tely Mar 14 <sup>th</sup> expresses it differently but basically confirms the line-up
Mar 20-22	The <b>Fred Duligal with Clem Hambourg</b> combination continues	Tely Mar 19 <sup>th</sup> (After Four).  Tely Mar 21 <sup>st</sup> adds critical names: <b>Ron Collier, Graham Topping, Rick Williams, Jerry Toth, Freddy Stone</b> (sp. all, very blurry scan).
Mar 27-29	as last week	Tely Mar 26 <sup>th</sup> (After Four), Tely Mar 28 <sup>th</sup> (What’s On) mentions <b>Adriane Harmon</b> folk singer.
Apr 3-5	as last week	Tely Apr 2 <sup>nd</sup> (After Four)

Apr 10-12	as last week, but Tely What's On notes <b>Alex Lazaroff</b> on the late shift	Tely Apr 9 <sup>th</sup> (After Four); Tely What's On Apr 11 <sup>th</sup>
Apr 17-19	The <b>Fred Duligal with Clem Hambourg</b> but again, <i>What's On</i> has <b>Alex Lazaroff</b> on the late shift on Saturday	Tely Apr 16 <sup>th</sup> (After Four), Apr 18 <sup>th</sup> (What's On)
Apr 24-26	as last week	Tely Apr 23 <sup>rd</sup> (After Four), Apr 25 <sup>th</sup> (What's On)
May 1-3	as last week	Tely Apr 30 <sup>th</sup> (After Four), May 2 <sup>nd</sup> (What's On) also an interesting article in the Star May 2 <sup>nd</sup> p. 28 by Nathan Cohen describing a disagreement between the Yorkville area proprietors and the "Upper Village" owners of the Cellar Club, Village Corner and the Night Owl being excluded from their upcoming "Village of Yorkville Festival".
May 8-10	as last week	Tely May 7 <sup>th</sup> (After Four), May 9 <sup>th</sup> (What's On)
May 15-17	as last week	Tely May 14 <sup>th</sup> (After Four), May 16 <sup>th</sup> (What's On)
May 22-24	as last week	Tely May 21 <sup>st</sup> (only After Four reporting this week but same line up presumed)
May 29-31	The <b>Fred Duligal with Clem Hambourg</b> only	Tely May 28 <sup>th</sup> (After Four), May 30 <sup>th</sup> (What's On) both with similar posts
Jun 5-7	as last week	Tely Jun 4 <sup>th</sup> (After Four), Jun 6 <sup>th</sup> (What's On) both with similar posts and still "... <i>plus odd folks singers every Friday Saturday and Sunday at 9:30</i> " appearing in the After Four listing

Jun 12-14	as last week	Tely Jun 11 <sup>th</sup> (After Four), Jun 13 <sup>th</sup> (What's On) both with similar posts
Jun 19-21	as last week	Tely Jun 18 <sup>th</sup> (After Four only)
Jun 26-28	as last week	Tely Jun 25 <sup>th</sup> (After Four only)
Jul 3-5	as last week	Tely Jul 2 <sup>nd</sup> (After Four only)
Jul 10-12	as last week	Tely Jul 9 <sup>th</sup> (After Four only)
Jul 24-26	as last week	Tely Jul 23 <sup>rd</sup> (After Four only after skipping a week)
Jul 31-Aug 2	<b>Fred Duligal Quintet</b>	Tely Jul 30 <sup>th</sup> (After Four only) and the message changes: "The <b>Fred Duligal Quintet</b> has syncopated cellar sounds on weekends"
Aug 7-9	<b>Fred Duligal Quintet</b>	Tely Aug 6 <sup>th</sup> (After Four only)  The Tely listings now drop the Cellar for a while
Nov 20-21	<b>Don Thompson Quintet, Roger Renwick and host Clem Hambourg</b>	Tely Nov 21 <sup>st</sup> (What's Going on) ... swings from Mid-night on with folk singer <b>Roger Renwick</b> and host <b>Clem Hambourg</b> in charge early in the evenings, open Fri. and Sat."
Nov 27-28	as above	Tely Nov 28 <sup>th</sup> (again only in the What's Going On listing)
Dec 4-5	as above	Tely Dec 5 <sup>th</sup> (again only in the What's Going On listing)
Dec 11-12	as above	Tely Dec 12 <sup>th</sup> (What's going on)
Dec 13	<b>Sonny Greenwich</b> quintet	Tely Dec 12 <sup>th</sup> (What's going on) see also: <a href="http://sonnygreenwich.com/">http://sonnygreenwich.com/</a>
Dec 18-20	same weekend line up as previous week	Tely Dec 19 <sup>th</sup> (What's going on)

Dec 25-27	same weekend line up as previous week	Tely Dec 26th (What's going on)
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## 1965

Jan 1-3	as last week even though it's New Years?	Tely Jan 2 <sup>nd</sup> (What's going on)
Jan 8-10	as last week	Tely Jan 9 <sup>th</sup> (What's going on)
Jan 15-17	as last week	Tely Jan 16 <sup>th</sup> (What's going on)
Jan 22	<b>Ada Lee with the Maury Kay's Combo</b>	Star Jan 23 <sup>rd</sup> p.24 advertisement, see also: <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ada_Lee">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ada_Lee</a>
Jan 23	<b>Norm Amadio Combo with Ada Lee and Clem Hambourg</b>	Star Jan 23 <sup>rd</sup> p.24 advertisement, confirmed by Tely Jan 23 <sup>rd</sup> (What's going on) for Norm Amadio see: <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norman_Amadio">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norman_Amadio</a>
Jan 29-30	same weekend lineup <b>Ada Lee</b> signing with <b>Maury Kay's Combo</b> Friday night, <b>Norm Amadio</b> Saturday night and <b>Clem Hambourg</b> in the early hours	Tely Jan 30 <sup>th</sup> (What's going on)
Feb 5-6	same weekend band lineup but <b>Tommy Ambrose</b> replacing Ada Lee	Tely Feb 6 <sup>th</sup> (What's going on)
Feb 12-13	as last week	Tely Feb 13 <sup>th</sup> (What's going on from now on as the Tely's After Four listing ends)

Feb 19-20	as last week	Tely Feb 20 <sup>th</sup>
Feb 26-27	as last week	Tely Feb 27 <sup>th</sup>
Mar 5-6	<b>Tony Collacutt Trio</b> starts this week with <b>Clem Hambourg</b> hosting	Tely Mar 6 <sup>th</sup>
Mar 12-13	as last week	Tely Mar 13 <sup>th</sup>
Mar 19-20	Lineup now <b>Tommy Ambrose</b> signing with <b>Maury Kay's Combo</b> Friday night, and <b>Norm Amadio</b> Saturday night. <b>Sonny Greenwich</b> appears Sunday and <b>Clem Hambourg</b> in the early hours throughout	Tely Mar 20 <sup>th</sup>
Mar 25-28	<b>Bob Angus Combo, Maury Kay's Combo, Norm Amadio with vocalist Tommy Ambrose and Sonny Greenwich</b>	Tely Mar 25 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup> appearing respectively Thursday through Sunday. Advertised in an After Four trailer on p.13. In the same advertisement; "Open Wednesday thru Sunday"
Apr 1-4	<b>Bob Angus Combo, Maury Kay's Combo, Norm Amadio with vocalist Tommy Ambrose and Guido Basso and his jazz quintet</b>	Tely Apr 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> respectively (consolidating both lists) lists <b>Clem Hambourg</b> hosting and on piano



Apr 8-11	<b>Bob Angus Combo, Maury Kay's Combo</b> featuring jazz singer <b>Ada Lee, Norm Amadio</b> with vocalist <b>Tommy Ambrose</b> and <b>Guido Basso-Rob McConnell Quintet</b>	Tely Apr 8 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> respectively (consolidating both lists) with <b>Clem Hambourg</b> on the concert grand in the early hours, presumably every night
Apr 15-18	<b>Bob Angus Combo, Maury Kay's Combo</b> featuring jazz singer <b>Ada Lee, Norm Amadio</b> with vocalist <b>Tommy Ambrose</b> and <b>Guido Basso-Rob McConnell Quintet</b>	Tely Apr 15 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> respectively (consolidating both lists)
Apr 22-25	appearing as last week	Tely Apr 22 <sup>nd</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup> respectively (consolidating both lists)
Apr 29 - May 2	appearing as last week	Tely Apr 29 <sup>th</sup> & May 1 <sup>st</sup> respectively (consolidating both lists)
May 6-9	appearing as last week	Tely May 8 <sup>th</sup> After Four stops publishing the trailer listing. <b>Bob Angus</b> is presumed to still be on Thursdays
May 13-16	appearing as last week but now with <b>Tony Collacutt</b> on Sunday	Tely May 15 <sup>th</sup> with same presumption, also a reference to <b>Clem Hambourg</b> playing earlier in the evening at the Place Pigalle (Regency Towers Hotel, 89 Avenue Rd.) You UofT drinkers will recall this place!
May 20-23	as last week	Tely May 22 <sup>nd</sup> referencing only "weekends" so perhaps the Thursday night gig has been dropped as Clem Hambourg was playing part time elsewhere.

May 28-29	<b>Paul Hoffert</b> on Friday; <b>Norm Amadio</b> on Saturday	Tely May 29 <sup>th</sup> Clem Hambourg now the “champion of Yorkville Village” but reference to the Sunday slot now gone. See Paul Hoffert at: <a href="http://www.paulhoffert.ca/">http://www.paulhoffert.ca/</a>
Jun 4-5	as last week	Tely Jun 5 <sup>th</sup>
Jun 18-19	as previous week	Tely Jun 19 <sup>th</sup> having missed Jun 12 <sup>th</sup>
Aug 21	<b>Tommy Ambrose</b> preceded by <b>Clem Hambourg</b>	G&M Aug 20 <sup>th</sup> p.10 “a new jazz group after midnight tonight (Friday)”, Tommy Ambrose “after midnight Saturday, preceded by pianist Clem Hambourg and “another jazz group Sunday”
Aug 27	<b>Ada Lee</b>	G&M Aug 27 <sup>th</sup> p.10
Dec 31	Announcing it’s “back in business” and focusing on folk singing	Tely Dec 27 <sup>th</sup> p.27 “What’s New” listing. “The big opening night takes place New Year’s Eve, with a parade of folk singers and revue artists”.

## 1966

Jan 14-15	<b>The Rob McConnell Big Band</b> and <b>Norma Locke</b> singer	Star Jan 14 <sup>th</sup> p.31 An advertisement for this gig. “‘Steve’ of the Cellar Jazz Club ..” ... now at 182 Dupont Street, and Tely Jan 15 <sup>th</sup> p.B20
Feb 20	<b>Poemime Players</b>	G&M Feb 18 <sup>th</sup> p.14
Mar 4-6	The <b>Toronto Repertory Ensemble</b> , <b>Ron Rully</b> and his orchestra with <b>C.J. Feeny’s Rhythm &amp; Blues Band</b>	Star Mar 4 <sup>th</sup> p.22 another advertisement for the Cellar Jazz Club at 182 Dupont. Friday and Saturday “Till Morning” Sunday night Jam session

Mar 13	<b>Marion Brown - Grachan Moncur Quartet</b>	G&M Mar 11 <sup>th</sup> p.14
Mar 15-19 Mar 22-27	<b>Lenny Tristano Quartet</b>	Star Mar 10 <sup>th</sup> p.22. "... excellent jazz man Lenny Tristano is coming to Steve Ciotlos' Jazz Cellar starting Tuesday"- in Nathan Cohen's column titled " <i>Rehearsal</i> " has one asset - - Mulcahy and the Tely Mar 12 <sup>th</sup> and 19 <sup>th</sup>
Apr 19-24	<b>The Art Farmer Quintet featuring Jimmy Heath, Walter Booker, Albert Dailey, Mickey Roker</b>	Apr 22 <sup>nd</sup> p.33 Advertisement for the Cellar Jazz Club, nightly 9:30- 3 am and G&M Apr 22 <sup>nd</sup> p.12
May 28	<b>Al Stanwyck's Big Band</b>	Star May 28 <sup>th</sup> p.B32 ... with Gary Morgan, Fred Duligal, Eugene Amaro, Ed Sossin on saxophone, Julius Piekarz, Rainer Schmidt, Bobby Van Evera (on trumpet), Ray Sikora and Laurie Brown on piano, Lenny Boyd on bass and Stan Perry on drums
Jun 3-5	<b>The New York Jazz Ensemble</b>	Star May 28 <sup>th</sup> p.B32
Jun 14-19	<b>Charles Lloyd Quartet</b>	Tely Jun 18 <sup>th</sup> p.18
Jun 26	<b>Lonnie Johnson</b>	G&M Jun 24 <sup>th</sup> p.12
Jul 1-2	<b>Marion Brown</b>	Tely Jul 2 <sup>nd</sup> p.19

## 1969

Dec 15	<b>Francois Jourdan</b> in an article by Jack Batten titled " <i>Modern Jazz making modest comeback</i> "	Star Dec 15 <sup>th</sup> , p.24 " Le Fauche.... a restaurant at 169 Avenue Rd .... Francois Jourdan from France who sings in the Jacques Brel manner"
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## Data collection

These listings are a composite of what appeared in the Toronto Telegram's (the Tely) What's Going On listing in the Showcase Section and the Chum About Town listings in the After Four Section (Feb 1964 - Feb 1965) augmented by electronic searches of the Toronto Star (Star) and Globe and Mail (G&M) archives from the 1960s on. Where I take words directly from a listing I use "quotation marks" and/or italics. Where I cite an article I reference the reporter if identified.

Please recognize, these are only the musicians who were publicized in the daily press. Many others performed and risk going unrecognized except in memory. As usual, the spelling of artists names was variable in the press of the day, my apologies for mistakes not caught, corrections welcome.

With thanks to Don Vickery, a photo of a group playing in Eglinton Park in 1961. In his words: "... this was a group put together by Bob Angus on trombone. The other players are me on drums, Fred Duligal tenor, Stan Zadak bass, Mike Massey piano, Fred Stone trumpet. We rehearsed for this gig at the Cellar. The drummer setting up behind me is Rickey Marcus who played with Moe Koffman in the early 60's.

