

The House of Hambourg

Clement (Clem) Hambourg was a force in the 1950's and 60's Toronto jazz music scene, as a performer and multi-faceted supporter of jazz.

Piano teacher Michael Hambourg, his spouse Catherine and their four sons emigrated to Canada from England in 1910. Their classically trained sons Mark (piano), Jan (violin), and Boris (cello) went on to illustrious careers as performing artists though only Boris remained in Canada. He (Boris) and the family established the Hambourg Conservatory of Music at 194 Wellesley St. in 1911. Clem the youngest brother (born July 31, 1900) also a classical pianist, performed with the family extensively before the war. Early in 1945 with his first marriage behind him, Clem married Ruth (often called Ruthie) Nadine. After the war Clem diversified, opening a studio devoted to teaching and recording music at 1184 Bay St. which soon became known as the "House of Hambourg". By 1952 after a pause at 146 Bloor W., Clem's House could be found, at 142 Bloor St. West. Through this time the House of Hambourg morphed from a hangout for up-and-coming jazz artists to congregate and jam, into one of Toronto's first after-hours jazz clubs. It then moved in February 1954 to 159 Cumberland St. Clem also appears to have continued managing his School of Microphone Technique through the Cumberland St. years. Eric Koch in his book *The Brothers Hambourg* (1997) brings Clem and Ruthie to life with stories of their unique styles and relationship.

By 1959 the best of Toronto jazz musicians could still be found at Hambourg's fifth and last location, 23 Grenville St., near Yonge and College streets. From Dec '59 it shared the building with an small avant guard theatre, initially managed by Clem, later with an apparent partner J. Alexander Ryan until June '61, after which the theatre was taken over by others. A list of plays, including some rather controversial, presented during Clem's management appear in an addendum below. The live music club business however was as fragile as it remains today and by mid-1962 they were virtually bankrupt. A who's who of the Toronto jazz scene staged a benefit the weekend of July 20-22. In spite of the respite provided by the funds raised, Clem and Ruth were in financial difficultly again by early1963 and in March, the House of Hambourg was closed by their landlord for back rent. It was clear that Clem remained on his feet musically as "guest artist" at the new Cellar Jazz Club, 169 Avenue Rd. "on weekends", displaying "his artistic keyboard technique between jazz sessions" (per the Toronto Star Mar 9th p.22).

Clem made a brief comeback as a club manager in 1967 with *Clem's Room* at the Julie's (Jarvis and Wellesley). It was short lived and he returned to being an itinerant performing artist, as he was after his House on Grenville St. closed. Clem died of cancer in 1973, but left an indelible mark on the Canadian jazz scene.

Updated: Nov 24, 2020

1945

Dec 18 **Clement Hambourg**
“consultant” Star Dec 18th p.30 After the war ended, a series of classified ads start for a “Recording Studio and Laboratory” in the “Bloor-Bay” area

1946

Jan 3 thorough July 6 Often-changing ads for **Clement Hambourg’s** recording studio continue to appear in the classified section of the Toronto Star Star Jan 3rd p.28 the ad changes to “Recording guaranteed, hear yourself”. Clement Hambourg. 1184 Bay. Star Feb 22nd p.30 now “Clement Hambourg records your voice for your instruction. Your record is your best critic”. Star Apr 5th p.38 now “Clement Hambourg records your voice for your instruction using professional recording technique”. Star Jun 4th p.30 moving to: “Hambourg Conservatory, microphonics division. Voice training, popular vocalists, newest recording methods”. Star Jun 24th p.31 (changing a bit): “... guarantees recording of your voice for instruction at studio or home.” Star Jul 6th p.29 “Sight reading, musical timing and piano instructing. 1184 Bay.

Aug 24 **Clement Hambourg** Star Aug 24th p.8 An advertisement announcing the “House of Hambourg” had obtained exclusive rights of all “Echo personal recordings for their friends” at 1184 Bay St. Toronto (near the SW corner Bay and Bloor). This is the earliest reference to something called the “House of Hambourg” found during this search.

Sep 21 through Dec 2 The ads change somewhat now naming performers and teachers Star Sep 21st p.30 “Echo recordings” are still being made at 1184 Bay, the “Hambourg Bldg”. Star Dec 2nd p.33 “Radio singing star **Don Haskett**” now teaching “song interpretations with microphone technique” at the House of Hambourg 1184 Bay St.

Dec 7	The ads change again, somewhat	Star Dec 7 th p.32 “Tonight at Hambourg’s House Woolard recitalizes with Eleanor Young , pianist” it appears in a column by Augustus Bridle titled “Music, Art, Drama” implying it was open to the public.
1947		
Jan 25	The ads now regularly refer to the House of Hambourg	Star Jan 25 p.30 The 1184 Bay St. location remains the same
Apr 3	Klemi Hambourg	Star Apr 3 rd p.26 reference to Klemi Hambourg’s (Clem’s son) violin recital
Apr 25	Myrna Winkler	G&M Apr 25 th p.2 “We’re (the House of Hambourg) <i>proud of the enthusiastic reception given Kay Kenney’s Christie Hospital show featuring our pupil Myrna Winkler, 8-year-old singer</i> ”
May 1	Performances are supported elsewhere	G&M Apr 30 th p.14 “The House of Hambourg is presenting a musical and dramatic program on Thursday evening at the Heliconian Club” (35 Hazelton Ave, Toronto)
Aug 23	An advertisement selling an “attractive 4-record album” at the CNE, at the House of Hambourg booth in the Coliseum	G&M Aug 23 rd p.2 the album features “All-Canadian Barbershop Quartets the Cowling Bros , those Harmonious Gentlemen and The Regents ” 1184 Bay, Tel MI 6068
Through the rest of 1947 and into 1948	Advertisements for the House of Hambourg	There’s very little change in the school and recording-related messages. Where performances and social events are mentioned they’re Boris’s and his wife who appear to be well embedded in Toronto’s high society.

1948

Jan 5 and May 3, 22	Classified advertisements	Star Jan 5 th p.25, Star May 3 rd p.33 with the same brief message directed at "singers", still offering "school of microphone technique"
Aug 12 to Nov 6		Star Aug 12 th p.40 Hambourg Recording studios using RCA Victor broadcast recording equipment
Aug 14	Classified advertisement	Star Aug 14 th p.28 Echo recording has moved to 243 Yonge St.
Nov 23	Classified advertisement	Star Nov 23 rd Clement Hambourg records your organ or piano at studio 1184 Bay, MI6068
Dec 6 - 23		Dec 6 th , p.33 "bells" are added to teaching syllabus

1949

Jan 18, 22, Feb 5, Mar 5, 11, Jun 4, 7, 14, 16, 20, 24	Classified advertisements	Jan 18 th , p.28 generally the same ads continue
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**1950
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1951**

Clem appears to stop advertising his House but it's clear from the Toronto Directory that the teaching and recording functions remained a staple. A summary of the Toronto Directory entries is appended below.

1952	Dec 4	Classified advertisement the House of Hambourg has moved	Star Dec 4 th , p.54 "Plan a party for Christmas or New Year at the gorgeous New Hambourg Studio, Price \$200" same phone number MI 6068. 142 Bloor St. W. (per Directory and below, not this ad)
1953			
	Jan 17	Advertisement for the House of Hambourg	G&M Jan 17 th p.12 " <i>House of Hambourg has the pleasure in announcing the opening of a Concert Room 142 Bloor Street West Suitable for Recitals,, Receptions, Weddings, Lectures. Dressing rooms, small card room, grand piano (Steinway). All rooms handsomely equipped</i> " telephone MI 6068
	May 16	Advertisement for the House of Hambourg	G&M May 16 th p.12 " <i>Irene Haydou, Hungarian violinist and recent Sunday morning CBC recitalist, in organizing a Chamber Music Club which will give its opening performance at her violin studio in the House of Hambourg on the evening of May 24.</i> "
1954			
	Nov 11	Advertisement for the House of Hambourg	Star Nov 11 th p.50 ... now targeting people who might want space for "meetings, dances, recitals". Mention of teaching and recording has disappeared from the classifieds but remain in the Directory until Clem's House leaves Cumberland for Grenville.
	Nov 26	Obituary for Boris Hambourg	Star Nov 26 th p.35 ... at age 69. Clem's brother Boris ran the Hambourg Conservatory of Music at 194 Wellesley until 1951.

Dec 18	Advertisement for a Bahá'í World Faith meeting in "Hambourg House"	Star Dec 18 th p.21 at 159 Cumberland St. This is one of the earliest references to this location but know from Eric Koch's book that Clem moves to 159 Cumberland in February 1954
1955		
Nov 18	Reference to a "Modern Music Club" in an article by Zena Cherry	G&M Nov 18 th p.15 "After the ball (presumably a day or two earlier) <i>some of us the went up to the Modern Music Club - a jazz rendevois in the cellar of House of Hambourg where, just as in the dim lit Paris caves on the Rive Gauche, hot jazz is the order of the night.</i> " This is one of the few early references in the Toronto dailies to the House of Hambourg as a public jazz space.
1956		
Feb 24	An article by Tom Alderman in the Ryersonian titled " <i>Knock Three Time and Whisper Low</i> "	Feb 24 th Ryersonian as found on page 216 of "The Brothers Hambourg" by Eric Koch, describes the Club on Cumberland.
Mar 16-18	Koffman, Rickert Lander, Amadio Herbie Spanier	G&M Mar 16 th p.2 Advertisement for the House of Hambourg for that weekend Koffman and Bickert (Fri after theatre), Lander and Amadio (Sat after theatre) and Herbie Spanier (Sun after church) in the rear of 134 Bloor St. W which appears to offer a parking lot for House patrons. Same telephone WA 3-6068. With this Globe advertisement the House of Hambourg starts to publicly advertise who is performing more aggressively. This ad is reproduced in Eric Koch's book, p.216

Mar 30- Apr 1	Koffman, Rickert Lander, Amadio Herbie Spanier	G&M Mar 30 th p.3 same lineup this weekend as above
May 17	An article by Stan Rantin “ <i>Play Jazz ‘Till 3 A.M. In Sound-proof Room Of Classical Pianist</i> ”	Star May 17 th p.4 The article describes Clem and Ruth’s jazz bar in good detail as a “14-room Victorian mansion on Cumberland St.”. The article credits Ruth with the idea of having the previous informal setting where she fed drop-in musicians become “an after hours jazz spot”, and according to Herbie Spanier as quoted in the article: “one of the only places in town for improvised jazz”. See also Eric Koch’s book.
May 29	Norm Symonds	G&M May 29 th p.13 “... Canada’s great, new contemporary composer at his Museum Theatre appearance tonight (Tues) House of Hambourg, rear of 134 Bloor St. W (across from the Colonnade).
Oct 17	Deep River Boys in Alex Barris’s column “Casting About”	G&M Oct 17 th p.10 “If you like vocal quartets that sing, catch the Deep River Boys at the Club One Two <i>The Contemporary Jazz Club</i> , the latest club of its type, gets underway tonight with a first meeting at the House of Hambourg. 146 Bloor. St. W.” Clem appears to be using space in his old 146 Bloor haunt.
Oct 27	Stan Rantin’s Jazz Review column	Star Oct 27 th p.7: The Contemporary Jazz Club meets next week on Oct 31 at the House of Hambourg. (no address)
Oct 28	Jerry Toth and Moe Kaufman in Alex Barris’s column “Casting About”	G&M Oct 26 th p.15 “.... <i>two of the more proficient saxophonists, around town, match horns this Sunday night at nine in a session at the House of Hambourg</i> “ (behind)134 Bloor St. W.

Dec 9	Clem Hambourg and Norm Amadio on piano, Ron Rully on drums, Moe Kaufman alto sax and Ron McFadgen on bass	Star Dec 10 th p.12 reviewing a benefit concert in aid of Hungarians or Jewish fate who had to flee the homes. G&M Dec 8 th p.8 apparently covering the same event: “A jazz concert and a fashion show will be held tomorrow evening at the House of Hambourg, 159 Cumberland St., in aid of the United Jewish Appeal”
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1957

Jan 12	In a column by Stan Rantin titled “ <i>Terry Gibbs Tops in Jazz Subtle as Sledgehammer</i> ”	Star Jan 12 th p.4 ... The National Film Board “ <i>plans to use the jazz saturated House of Hambourg as a setting for a scene in a Sunday TV show.</i> ”
Jan 13	Alex Barris in his column “Casting About”	G&M Jan 9 th p.10 “ ...a scene filmed at the House of Hambourg ... in the same room usually used for those Sunday jazz sessions.” in a story “called crossroads” directed by Don Haldane
Apr 28 and following Sundays	Ron Collier and his quintet	G&M Apr 25 th p.33 Steve York in his column “Mostly Entertainment” notes Collier “doesn’t seem to indulge in those long, loud sessions some drummers like. Collier will be taking some of the Sundays at the House of Hambourg beginning this Sunday”
May 25	Ed Bickert (guitar) Moe Koffman (alto sax). Hugh Currie (bass) and Ron Rully (drums)	G&M May 25 th p.A4 ... a photograph of the band playing “ ...in the basement jazz centre of Toronto’s House of Hambourg.”

Jun 22	Hagood Hardy	G&M Jun 22 nd p.B4 a photograph of Hardy taking “a solo chorus on his set of Vibes at the House of Hambourg where the 20-year old University of Toronto student is a featured play” above an excellent article by Barbara Whalen titled “Hardy’s Set of Vibes Captures New Fans”
Jul 14	Norm Amadio and Ron Collier group	Star Jul 13 th p.26
Aug 9-11	Hagood Hardy Group (Fri), Norm Amadio Group (Sat) Ron Collier Group (Sun)	1957 Toronto club listing from Music World, dated August 1 st , “commencing August 5th”, with thanks to Mike Daley on FB
Aug 31	An article by Patrick Scott titled “ <i>Squares May Not Know it, but Toronto’s Hip</i> ”	G&M Aug 31 st p.A21 where it’s noted that “the pros give (Toronto) fourth place on the continent as a recognized centre in the world of jazz”, behind New York, Los Angeles and Chicago.
Oct 16	Ron Collier presenting a topic	G&M Oct 12 th p.16 a note that “Ron Collier will address the Contemporary Jazz Club at the House of Hambourg” the following Wednesday night

1959

Jan 16	“Continuous Jazz at the House of Hambourg”	Star Jan 16 th p.34 “now at our new location 23 Grenville St. Former CBC Playhouse Fri and Sat 11:30 to 4 am. WA 3-6068”
Feb 27- Mar 1	No musicians named	G&M Feb 27 th p.17 an advertisement: “Modern Jazz at the House of Hambourg, 23 Grenville St. Fri and Sat midnight to 4 am, Sunday 9 pm to Midnight (ample free parking opposite) WA 3-6068. A similar advertisement to that above.

Jun 26 and monthly thereafter	The Phil Nimmons Group	Star Jun 20 th p.30 “A series of monthly jazz concerts in the ‘Konzerthaus’ of the House of Hambourg will open Friday night with a ‘Symphonic Jazz’ performance by the Phil Nimmons group” Also identified: Ed Bickert, Jerry Toth, Roy Smith and Ross Culley.
Nov 26-28, Dec 3-5 and 10-12	The Glass Menagerie	<p>The first Globe references to the Theatre in the House of Hambourg, this entry is repeated below as part of the show listing as I keep the music somewhat separate from the theatre lists limiting theatre references to what's needed to link their timing.</p> <p>G&M Nov 25th, p.26 A “new group The Cabaret Players makes its bow” with Tennessee Williams’ Glass Menagerie, Directed by Norman Stewart and Hal Travis</p> <p>G&M Dec 11th p.11 The Cabaret players will skip their Saturday night performance at the House of Hambourg, playing a 3 pm matinee. It plays at 8:30 this evening (Dec 11th) and 6 on Sunday.</p>

1960

April 16	A Toronto Star article announcing the opening of a theatre above Hambourg's jazz club	Star Apr 16th p.30 The Star appears to be coming late to the game
June 11	An article by William French titled “ <i>Cool Music and hot coffee go down well after hours</i> ”	<p>G&M Jun 11th p.A16 comparing jazz clubs: “.... House of Hambourg has a reputation for modern cool jazz”</p> <p>See also the Star Jun 17th p.23 Dennis Braithwaite’s article “CBC and Cats Have a Ball” for a description of “Clem’s place”</p>

Nov 12 An article providing more detail on the “little theatre” above the jazz club at 23 Grenville St.

Star Nov 12th p.28 ... and how it's being heavily remodeled as envisioned by Stan Jacobson co-producer of the Connection in partnership with Clem Hambourg and Don Francks

Advertising and reporting through this period focuses on the theatre at the expense of the jazz in both the Globe and Star. Identification of musicians rare.

1961

Feb 15 In an article titled “Revue at Hambourg Accentuates Exotic” by Herbert Whittaker

G&M Feb 15th p.21 a reference to a change in management of the theatre, “ ...now under the guidance of Ruth and Clement Hambourg and J. Alexander Ryan.”

Mar Pierre Salinger press secretary to President Kennedy visiting Toronto will also see “his one-time piano teacher” **Clem Hambourg**

Star Feb 11th p.20

Apr 8 Four members of the Revue join the Sunday night jazz session

Star Apr 6th p.21 “ ... in the basement of Clem Hambourg's theatre”

Jun 8	An article by Herbert Whittaker in which he describes another shift in management of the theatre	G&M Jun 8 th p.11 the theatre changes its name to the Actors Theatre but notes that the House of Hambourg jazz centre at 23 Grenville will continue “under the direction of Clement Hambourg”
Jun 24	An article by Gerry Barker “Why the Boom in After Hours Clubs?”	Star Jun 24 th p.21 “ ... an unusual nightlife boom unparalleled in North America”
Jul 7-8	Phil Nimmons and Don Francks (singer)	Star Jul 8 th p.24, 11 pm Fri and Sat
Jul 13	In another article by Herbert Whittaker the date the theatre changes management is established	G&M Jul 13 th p.11 “ ...tonight” (July 13/61)
Jul 29	Article by Antony Ferry titled “Actors Theatre Stays ‘Midnight Alley’ Folds”	Star Jul 29 th , p.23 a reference to the “former House of Hambourg theatre.’
Sep 1-2	Phil Nimmons and Norm Amadio	Star Sep 1 st p.19, 11 pm Fri and Sat, Sun 9-12
Oct 8	Paul Weidman Trio featuring his vocalist-wife Lucy	Star Oct 7 th p.28

Nov 24-26	Jazz- Nimmons, Weidman, Toth, Amadio Spanish - Rafeal Nunez Jazz singer Mark Cohen concert piano Clem Hambourg	Star Nov 24 th p.34 11 pm Fri and Sat, Sun 9-12
Dec 15	Roy Smith	Dec 15 th , p.21 "Marvelous Tenor" and Quintette
Dec 16	Nimmons- Toth Quintette	Dec 15 th , p.21
Dec 17	Ted Roberts	Dec 15 th , p.21 jazz guitar "like Bickert likes"
Dec 31	Ron Peck	

1962

Mar 21	John Fagan's Jazz Men	Star Mar 21 st p.37 "every Wed night from 9 pm on"
May 26	Norma Amadio's modern jazz quintet	G&M May 25 th p.25 The Globe returns to reporting on jazz performances at the House of Hambourg.
May 27	Gary Benson (guitar) and Bob Angus (trombone) with Clement Hambourg playing classical piano (26 th also?)	G&M May 25 th p.25

Jun 1	Bob Angus (trombone), Gary Benson (guitar), Jim Mitchell (bass) and Don Vickery (drums)	G&M Jun 1 st p.21 ... starting at midnight
Jun 2	Norm Amadio's quintet	G&M Jun 1 st p.21 ... starting at midnight when Clem Hambourg will play the Warsaw Concerto and a Chopin Polonaise at intermission.
Jun 3	A jazz workshop	G&M Jun 1 st p.21 ... will be held at 9 pm
Jun 2	An article titled "Jazz Club for Sale" - no writer acknowledged	G&M Jun 2 nd p.13 An excellent article describing in some detail why and how Clem Hambourg is putting the jazz club (the business) up for sale (unsuccessfully it turns out).
Jun 8	Bob Angus	G&M Jun 8 th p.21 "... will lead a group starting about midnight"
Jun 9	Don Philip (tenor sax) and Fred Stone (trumpet)	G&M Jun 8 th p.21 "... will lead a sextet...." also in the last night
Jun 10	as the previous week, a jazz workshop	G&M Jun 8 th p.21 "... starting at 9 pm .."
Jun 22 - 23	The Village Review followed on the 22 nd by the Bob Angus group and on the 23 rd by Karen Jones (singer) and the Alex Lazaroff sextet	G&M Jun 22 nd p.21 Note that while Clem Hambourg no longer manages the theatre upstairs they understandably work together, before after and during intermissions
Jun 24	Jazz workshop	G&M Jun 22 nd p.21
Jun 30	Bob Angus 4	Star Jun 30 th p.29 "from midnight on" following the Village Revue at 9:30

Jul 6-7	The Village Review (with Baldero and Cullen) followed on the 6 th by Brian Westwood's group and on the 7 th Alex Lazeroff's sextet	G&M Jul 6 th p.21 Note the return of the Village Review to the theatre upstairs and that Don Cullen has joined Barrie Baldero
Jul 8	Bob Angus and his group	G&M Jul 6 th p.21
Jul 13-15	The Halifax Three (singers) followed by the Brian Westwood Quartet on the 13 th and Alex Lazeroff with Norm Amadio at the piano on the 14 th with Bob Angus Quintet on Sunday	G&M Jul 13 th p.21
Jul 14	An article by David Cobb titled " <i>Clem would like to Play it Cool</i> "	Star Jul 14 th p.19 This article with thanks to Ralph R. Coram for saving/finding it, chronicles the House of Hambourg's financial odyssey that led to the benefit performance described below.

Jul 20-22	Benefit performances for Clement Hambourg with those “donating their services” include: Pat Riccio, Al Stanwyck, Moe Kaufman, Jerry Toth, Bob Angus, Alex Lazeroff, Roy Smith, Don Francks, Joey Hollingsworth, Bill Goddard and Ron Rully	G&M Jul 20 th p. 19 This notice in a few words says it all about how musicians respected Hambourg and the precarious nature of the club business - reenforced in the Star: Star Jul 20 th p.18: Friday line-up: Charlie Mountford Trio with singer Dave Higgins, the ensembles of Jerry Toth, Roy Smith, Brian Westwood, Bob Angus and Pat Riccio, with Joey Hollingsworth, Don Francks and Lenny Breau. Saturday: Moe Koffman, Ron Rully, Joe Williams and Harvey Edison quintet, Alex Lazaroff, Wray Downes, Bill Goddard and Eugene Amaro. Sunday: Fred Duligal-Bob Angus, Paul Robson’s B16 15-piece band and the groups of Phil Nimmons, Don Thompson, Al Stanwyck. Starting each night at 9 pm. Also the Jack Fryer combo.
Jul 21	Article by Ralph Thomas	Star Jul 21 st p.23 the benefit concert is written up with detail on the physical connection (a tunnel) to the House from the Laurentian Restaurant behind it at 32-34 College.
Jul 24	Another article by Ralph Thomas “House of Hambourg Saved By Benefits”	Star Jul 24 th p.17 the successful financial outcome is summarized
Jul 25	An un-attributed article describing the outcome of the benefit performances	G&M Jul 25 th p.19 2000+ persons attend, \$2,200+ turned over to Clement who “ ... had faced financial ruin after having encouraged dozens of young jazz musicians over the years”
Jul 27-29	Brian Westwood, Alex Lazeroff and Bob Angus and the groups appearing respectively	G&M Jul 25 th p.19 and Jul 27 th p.21

Aug 4-5	Charlie Mountford Trio with Dave Higgins and the Alex Lazaroff Sextet. Sunday, Bob Angus Trio	Star Aug 4 th p.22 advertisement
Aug 10-11	Alf Coward opens Friday and Saturday for the Bob Angus Quintet and Alex Lazaroff Sextet featuring Norm Amadio respectively	G&M Aug 10 th p.21
Aug 12	Brian Westwood	G&M Aug 10 th p.21
Aug 18-19	Eric Friedenburg and Alex Lazaroff groups Sat with Ron Peck and Bob Angus Sunday	Star Aug 18 th p.19 ...operates Wednesday to Sunday in an article by Dave Caplan " <i>Lander Back From Russia Gets Bill</i> <i>Butler As Guest</i> "
Aug 23	Tony Collacott	G&M Aug 22 nd p.5 "boy-on-the-way-up ... leads his group in modern jazz. Roast beef sandwiches; greetings at the door by Clement Hambourg personally"
Aug 24-25	Bob Angus Quintet and Alex Lazaroff Sextet	G&M Aug 22 nd p.5
Sep 1	Ron Peck Combo at 9 pm, Al Stanwyck's 16 piece orchestra at midnight	Star Sep 1 st p.24

Sep 14-15	Paul Hoffert at 9:30 and the Charlie Rallo Quintet at 12:30 am; Ron Peck Trio at 9:30 and Alex Lazaroff Sextet at 12:30 Friday and Saturday respectively	G&M Sep 14 th p.25 Star Sep 15 th p.24 adds Bob Angus Sat and Sunday (at 9 pm)
Sep 16	Bob Angus Quintet at 9 pm	G&M Sep 14 th p.25
Sep 28-29	Bob Lush at 9:30 pm, Fred Stone Quartet at 12:30 on Friday. Anthony Collacutt Trio at 9:30 with AI Stanwyck's 17 piece jazz band at 12:30 on Saturday	G&M Sep 28 th p.29
Sep 30	Bob Angus Quintet	G&M Sep 28 th p.29 at 9:30 pm
Oct 3	Art Ayres Group	Star Oct 3 rd p.43 a Wednesday advertisement
Oct 6-7	Bob Lush Trio and Alex Lazaroff Quintet (Sat), Bob Angus Quintet and The Halifax Three (Sun)	Star Oct 6 th p.29

Oct 12-13	Art Ayres Trio and the Anthony Collacutt Quartet at 9:30 and 12:30 am respectively Friday. The Bob Lush Trio and Alex Lazaroff Sextet at 9:30 and 12:30 am respectively	G&M Oct 12 th p.23
Oct 14	Bob Angus Quintet	G&M Oct 12 th p.23 at 9:30 pm
Oct 19-20	Charlie Mountford and Anthony Collacutt- Paul Hoffert groups at 9:30 and 12:30 am respectively on Friday Bob Lush Trio and Alex Lazaroff Sextet at 9:30 and 12:30 am respectively	G&M Oct 19 th p.27
Oct 21	Bob Angus Quintet	G&M Oct 19 th p.27 at 9:30 pm
Oct 26-28	The Oct 12-14 line-up repeats	G&M Oct 26 th p.27 Star Oct 27 th p.24 again some conflict, the Star adds Art Ayres on Saturday the 27 th

Nov 2-3	Brian West Trio & Anthony Collacutt- Paul Hoffert Quintet 9:30 and 12:30 am respectively on Friday. Charlie Mountford Trio and Alex Lazaroff and his 10 piece band 9:30 and 12:30 am respectively on Saturday.	G&M Nov 2 nd p.27
Nov 4	Bob Angus Quintet	G&M Nov 2 nd p.27
Nov 9-10	Charlie Mountford and Anthony Collacutt- Paul Hoffert groups at 9:30 and 12:30 am respectively on Friday. Pianist Eddie Sears and the Bob Angus Quintet at 9:30 and 12:30 am respectively on Saturday	G&M Nov 9 th p.23
Nov 11	Don Vickery Quintet	G&M Nov 9 th p.23 ... 9:30 to 1:30 am

Nov 16-17	Eddie Sears Trio and the Anthony Collacott-Paul Hoffert Quintet at 9:30 and 12:30 am respectively on Friday. Charlie Mountford Trio and Alex Lazaroff Sextet at 9:30 and 12:30 am respectively on Saturday	G&M Nov 16 th p.27
Nov 18	Bob Angus Quintet	G&M Nov 16 th p.27
Nov 23-25	Previous line-up repeats	G&M Nov 23 rd p.23 Star Nov 23 rd p.32 has Eddie Sears going 9-4 am Friday and Alex Lazaroff 9-4 Saturday with Bob Angus holding down Sunday
Dec 7-8	Art Whitten at 9:30 Fri and Sat. Anthony Collacott-Art des Villiers Quintet and Alex Lazaroff Sextet on the late show Fri and Sat respectively	G&M Dec 7 th p.23
Dec 9	Bob Angus Quintet	G&M Dec 7 th p.23
Dec 16	Bob Angus with 16-year old Tony Collacutt	Star Dec 17 th p.25 ... as part of a three club jazz tour organized the Star's (our man about jazz) Dave Caplan

Dec 21-22	Al Cromwell vocalist and Clem Hambourg pianist alternate Fri and Sat early shows with the Anthony Collacott-Paul Hoffert Quintet and Alex Lazaroff on the early morning show Fri and Sat respectively	
Dec 23	Bob Angus Quintet	G&M Dec 7 th p.23
Dec 22	A feature article on 16 year old Tony Collacott by Barrie Zwicker	G&M Dec 22 nd p.18

1963

Jan 4-6	Anthony Collacott Quintet 12:30 am Friday, Alex Lazaroff Sextet Saturday late and Angus Duligal Quintet Sunday 9 to 1:30 am	G&M Jan 4 th p.33 Note only the later shows are advertised similarly in the Star Jan 4 th p..19
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Jan 25-27	Al Cromwell (jazz singer) at 9:30 Anthony Collacott Quintet 12:30 am Friday, Bill Fleming Trio at 9:30 Al Stanwyck's 17 piece band at 12:30 am Saturday. Sunday Bob Angus	G&M Jan 25 th p.35 Star Jan 19 th p.25 and Jan 25 th p.20
Feb 1-3	Al Cromwell (jazz singer) at 9:30 both Friday and Saturday. Anthony Collacott Quintet and Alex Lazaroff late Friday and Saturday respectively. Sunday Bob Angus	G&M Feb 1 st p.27
Feb 8-10	Anthony Collacott Quintet and Alex Lazaroff late Friday and Saturday respectively. Sunday Jerry Morgan's Group	G&M Feb 8 th p.5
Feb 16	Toronto Star column "New Faces in Toronto Entertainment"	Star Feb 16 th p.21 an article on Paul Hoffert

Feb 15-17	Dave Higgins and Charlie Mountford at 9:30 both Friday and Saturday. Anthony Collacott Quintet and Al Stanwyck covered off the late show Friday and Saturday respectively with Gary (Jerry?) Morgan's Group Quartet Sunday	G&M Feb 15 th p.5 and an advertisement Feb 16 th p.14
Mar 1-3	John Smith (vocalist) 9:30 Friday and Saturday. Anthony Collacott Quintet and Alex Lazaroff Sextet late Friday and Saturday respectively. Sunday Gary Morgan's Quartet	G&M Mar 1 st p.5 This may be the last weekend for the House of Hambourg. By Mar 8 th Fred Duligal Quintet has been picked up by the newly opened Cellar; to be followed over there by Clem Hambourg himself in various roles
Mar 9	Star Article by Dave Caplan titled "Hambourg Padlocked But Not Silenced"	Star Mar 9 th p.22 describes how the House of Hambourg has been padlocked by the landlord for back rent, but Clem has been offered a job as "guest artist" by Steve Ciotlos of the Cellar Jazz Club on weekends, displaying "his artistic keyboard technique between jazz sessions"
Mar 22	Gary Morgan's Quartet 11-4 am Friday and 9:30-1 am Sunday. Anthony Collacott Quintet 11-4 am Saturday	G&M Mar 22 nd p.5 at "Mecca (formerly House of Hambourg)" now at 95 Yonge St.

May 18	Dave Caplan in his Man About Jazz column	Star May 18 th p.26 offers a frank assessment of the state late night jazz in Toronto, a good segue to the Cellar etc.
Sep 25	In the <i>On the Record</i> column the Star reviews the 45 rpm record pictured below	Star Sep 25 th p.26 With thanks to a Klaas VanGraft for saving this 45 rpm record.

1967

Feb 25	Norman Amadio with Tommy Ambrose and Hagood Hardy	G&M Feb 24 th p.14 Clem makes his comeback with the opening of Clem's Room in the Victoria Hotel on 56 Yonge St.
Feb 25	An advertisement for Clem's room	G&M Feb 25 th p.23
Mar 4	The Fred Stone modern jazz group	G&M Mar 3 rd p.10 "Saturday midnight to 3 am" Mar 4 th p. 16
Mar 11	The Fred Stone modern jazz group	G&M Mar 10 th p.10, Mar 11 th p.27 in an advertisement for Clem's room
Mar 31 - Apr 1	Doug Brown Trio	G&M Mar 31 st p.14 "... after midnight tonight (Friday) and midnight Saturday"
Apr 29	An article by John Norris titled "Toronto is through with after hours jazz" with an endearing picture of Clement	G&M Apr 29 th p.27 In a sub-title: " <i>Clem Hambourg is trying to bring after-hours jazz back to Toronto. It's like trying to bring back Saturday night dances</i> " This is a must-read article chronically the jazz scene over three decades. It describes his attempt to get back into club management with a new enterprise, Clem's Room in the Victoria Hotel, Saturdays only.
May 5-6	Ian Barge's Jazz Quartet	G&M May 5 th p.14 Sunday Clem is at the grand piano at Julie's, Jarvis and Wellesley

May 13-14

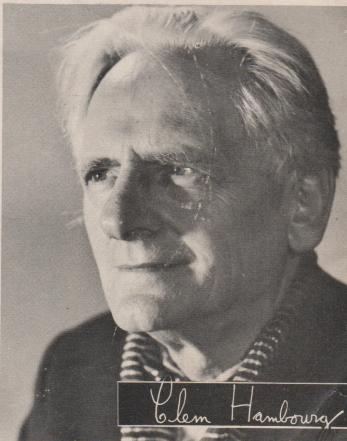
Ray Sikora

G&M May 12th p.14 "playing at Clem's Room from 4-7 pm of Saturday (the 13th) and **Norman Amadio with Tommy Ambrose** from 1 to 3 am on Sunday.

This is the last entry in the Globe. A search of the Toronto Star produced no record of Clem's Room

THE Rhapsody in Blue
by GEORGE GERSHWIN

In 1926, Clem Hambourg broadcasted the solo version of this great composition for the International Radio test of that year. He was the first pianist to perform this work in Canada. Gershwin originally wrote this work for two pianos. What could be more logical than that Amadio, master of extempore pianistic embroidery, should be invited by Clem Hambourg to join him in a recorded performance of beautiful excerpts from the Rhapsody - this famous bold reconciliation of the classical and jazz approach to music.



Norman Amadio

Clem Hambourg

CBC regency homes

PRESENTS

CLEM HAMBOURG AND NORMAN AMADIO
RECORDING
THE Rhapsody in Blue
by GEORGE GERSHWIN

The new "Room in the Back" Regency Towers Hotel, Avenue Road, Toronto presents

CLEM HAMBOURG AND NORMAN AMADIO
RECORDING
THE Rhapsody in Blue
by GEORGE GERSHWIN

Clem Hambourg discovered Norman Amadio, today Canada's outstanding jazz pianist, in 1948, a few years before his wife, Ruth-Nadine Hambourg's dream of a House of Hambourg came true. At that time the founders of the progressive school of jazz as we know it today were striving for varied musical solutions, and the Hambourg's cottage on Bay Street swung to the jamming of musicians such as Calvin Jackson, Oscar Peterson, Jerry Toth, Bobby Fenton (the pianist who introduced Amadio to Clem), Carne Bray, Mo Miller, Mo Koffman, Herbie Spanier and the eminent composer-teacher, Gordon Delamont.

The House of Hambourg was actually founded in 1955 with a nucleus of Norman Amadio, Alex Lazaroff, and Jack Lander, but in the days of its swinging progress was augmented by such jazz virtuosi as Ed Bickert, Ron Rully, Roy Smith, Don Thompson, Bernie Piltch, Phil Nimmons, Phil Antonacci, Larry Dubin, Don Franks, Jimmie Coxon, Al Stanwyck, Ben McPeek, Tommy Ambrose, Stevie Wise, George Arthurs, Howie Morris, Bob Price, Archie Alleyne, Guido Basso, Fred Stone, Jim Dale, Len Boyd, Bill Goddard, Dave Hammer, Milton Barnes, Rob McConnel, Paul Hoffert and the brilliant jazz composers Norm Symonds and trombonist Ron Collier. Today these men are top television and radio performers.

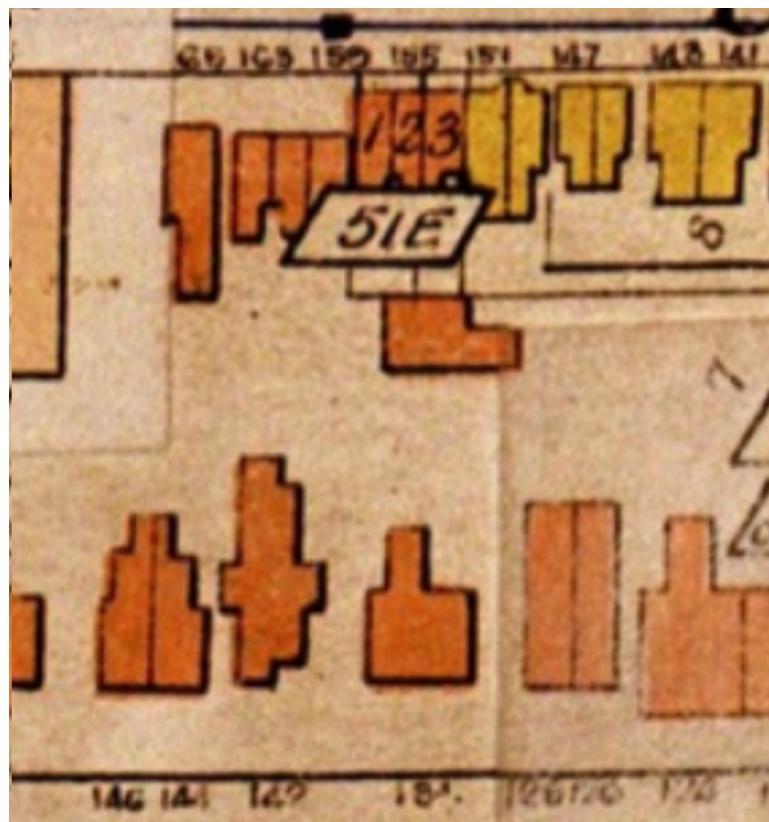
Clem Hambourg, today's living member of the illustrious musical family of this name, was born in London, England, in 1900, and well remembers King Edward VII's funeral, which he witnessed at his sister's home in Windsor, and which was shown in the great documentary film, "The Guns of August". His father Michael studied with Rubinstein in Moscow, and founded the Hambourg Conservatory in Toronto in 1911, in Sir William Mulock's building at 100 Gloucester Street, and two years later acquired the Gooderham Ross property at Sherbourne and Wellesley Streets. Clem's brother Mark was one of the world's greatest pianists of the period 1900 to 1950; his brother Jan, the violinist, is constantly mentioned and praised by Jascha Heifetz for his research on the Bach Sonatas; and his brother Boris was world famous as founder and 'cellist of the Hart House String Quartet, which under the sponsorship of the Hon. Vincent Massey took the Hart House String Quartet to many parts of the world. Clem Hambourg has one son, Klemi, who, under Boris's training, became a brilliant violinist and is now co-ordinator of string music at Newton Park College, near Bath, Somerset, England. It is interesting to note that Pierre Salinger, Clem's early piano pupil, visited the House of Hambourg twice, once in 1957 while investigating the Teamsters Union for Bob Kennedy, and again in 1961 after being appointed Press Secretary to President Kennedy.

Clem Hambourg opened up the new "Room in the Back" at the Regency Towers Hotel on Avenue Road and performs there nightly.

Data Collection

This list is a composite of what appeared in the Toronto Star (Star) and Globe and Mail (G&M) online databases with information, dates etc. from Eric Koch's book *The Brothers Hambourg* (1997) and the *Toronto Directories*. Other acknowledgments appear. Where I take words directly from a source I use "quotation marks" and often italics to separate those quotes from other text. Where others have assisted with or added information that enriches these entries, they are recognized.

Please note, these are only the musicians (usually the band leaders) who were identified in these two daily newspapers. Many others of course performed and risk going unrecognized except in memory. Much could and may be added with deeper dives into other sources, in particular the microfilmed copies of the Toronto Telegram from the 1950's.



This Goad's fire insurance map found by Mike Daley provides a good picture of the locations of some of the buildings The House of Hambourg occupied 1952-59. Visible too are the large open areas behind the buildings at 134 Bloor where patrons were encouraged to park. This would explain why various advertisements e.g., G&M Oct 26 1956, routed drivers to 134 Bloor St. West.

House of Hambourg entries in the Toronto Directory

Year	Location	Description
1946-49		To be added when the Toronto Reference Library reopens
1950	1184 Bay St.	Hambourg Ruth, Custom Luxuries Hambourg Recording Studios Hambourg School of Voice and Microphone Technique
1951	1184 Bay St.	Hambourg Ruth, Fringe Products Hambourg Recording Studios Hambourg School of Voice and Microphone Technique
1952	146 and 142 Bloor St. W.	Both offices vacant during the enumeration. The Toronto Star Dec 4 th (p.54) has the House of Hambourg occupying 142 Boor St. W. by 1952. In another Star article, July 14 th 1962 (p.19) by David Cobb, Clem is at 146 Bloor St. W. in between these two.
1953	142 Bloor St. W.	Hambourg House 1 st Floor Clement Hambourg, Hambourg Recording Studio, Hambourg School of voice and microphone technique 2 nd Floor Klemi Hambourg violin studio
1954	142 Bloor St. W.	Hambourg House 1 st Floor Clement T. Hambourg, (WA3-6068) Hambourg Recording Studio, Hambourg School of Voice and Microphone technique, Concert Hall
1955-1959	159-161 Cumberland St.	Clement Hambourg Hambourg House School of Microphone Technique
1960-1963	23 Grenville St.	House of Hambourg club and restaurant. WA 3-6068 The building also housed a Ward Price warehouse, a CBC rehearsal studio and Aliman Santiago's oriental rug business

House of Hambourg Theatre Plays

(as noted earlier, the theatre continued after May 1961 under new management, though Clem partners by providing jazz below, before, after and probably during intermissions)

Year	Performance dates (approx. in several cases)	Play	Writers, Producers, Directors, Actors
1959	Nov 26-28, Dec 3-5 and 10-12	The Glass Menagerie	G&M Nov 25 th , p.26 A “new group The Cabaret Players makes its bow” with Tennessee Williams’ Glass Menagerie, Directed by Norman Stewart and Hal Travis G&M Dec 11 th p.11 The Cabaret players will skip their Saturday night performance at the House of Hambourg, playing a 3 pm matinee. It plays at 8:30 this evening (Dec 11 th) and 6 on Sunday.
	Dec 19 and 21-26	Clown Face	G&M Dec 19 th p.15 “ an off Broadway children’s play performs matinees all week. Directed by Martin Lager, acted by Igors Gavon, Fred Tymoshenko, Muriel West, and Margaret Anderson, Eileen Greer choreographer
1960	Jan 1-3	The Glass Menagerie	G&M Dec 14 th p.30 the run is extended into 1960. Eileen Grier plays Amanda as “pathetic and gallant”

	April 7-9, 21-23	The Front Page	A yellow journalism drama by Ben Hecht and Charles MacArthur; directed by Peter Peer with the cast including William Bell, William Brydon, Sylvia Shawn, Sean Mulcahy, Brian Swarbrick, Patrick Sinclair, Hubert Boissoneau and Guy Sanvido with note in the Star Apr 16 th , p.30: the success (of the first week) has also inspired Clem Hambourg ... to plan a permanent theatre for Toronto.
	May 12-14	The Dance of Bharata	Charlotte De Neve, Dolores Niskanen, Slavko Nowytsky, Anita Dubash, Kathy Doby, Sue Lin Chow, Mei Lin Chow, Brian Foley, Jim Hunter, with Garbut Roberts arranging (directing?)
	May 26-28	The Curious Savage	Written by John Patrick, Directed by Michael Mitto
	Nov 29-Feb 4(or 11)/61 (To run Mon to Friday and two shows Sat)	The Connection - a group of addicts await their connection (supplier of the narcotics)	Written by Jack Gelber, George McCowan directing, with Don Francks star and co-producer, Stan Jacobson co-producer, Percy Rodriguez co-star, with Arch McDonnell, Martin Levut, George Sperdakos, Sydney Forbes, Joyce Spencer, Paul Wayne, Gordon Pinsent, and including musicians Maury Kaye (piano), P.J. Perry (alto sax), Ian Henstridge (bass) and Archie Alleyne (drums) but referred to as actors as reported well in an article in the G&M Nov 30 th , p.11 by Herbert Whittaker titles "Jazz Counteracts Grimy Expose" Bruno Gerussi takes over the role Don Francks played Jan 23/61
1961			
	Feb 13 - Mar 20	Many Faces of Dance - an international dance show.	Produced by Garbut Roberts, with dancers Surjit Singh Dhillon and Fumio Otsuka, Mr. Roberts and Dolores Niskanem. Also in the G&M Mar 14 th , p.19 a critical discussion of show business in Toronto by Herbert Whittaker "Where Is That Great White Way?"

	Mar 23 (30) - May 6	The Village Revue aka The Son of Village Revue meets Clem hambourg (has moved here from the Bohemian Embassy)	As reported by Herbert Whittaker in the G&M Apr 14 th . P.23. Produced and acted by Barrie Baldero and Ralph Hicklin with Liza Creighton, Kathy Greenwood, Eve Law, Virginia Nidd and Fred Tymoshenko. "The most professional entertainer of the evening easily, is Klaas Van Graft, whose original folk songs are thoroughly enjoyable.
			A Parker-Memminger production is announced by Herbert Whittaker in the G&M Apr 21 st , p.23 with three ominous messages, first that there's a rumour which Clem denies that there's a rift between him and Ward-Price the building owner, second that the theatre he's created upstairs in the CBC studio is available to anybody for rent "first come, first served" and third that Parker-Memminger is dreaming of staging a summer repertory there.
	May 18- June 1	Golden Boy	Written by Clifford Odets in 1937, and produced by Edward Parker; starring Art Jenoff, George Carron, Gloria Forman, Walter Bolton and harshly reviewed by Herbert Whittaker G&M May 19 th , p.10. The venue is still referred to as the House of Hambourg
	June 14-17	Cat on a Hot Tin Roof	Theatre '60 produces this play, sponsored by the Diamond Cab Company. A new Organization called the Actors Workshop takes over after this play on July 13. The House of Hambourg continues "its jazz centre and restaurant under the direction of Clement Hambourg." as reported by Herbert Whittaker in the G&M Jun 8 th , p.11