



Guide to the Pete Barbutti oral history interview

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Summary Information

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| Repository: | University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives. |
| Creator: | Barbutti, Pete |
| Contributor: | All That Jazz Oral History Project |
| Title: | Pete Barbutti oral history interview |
| ID: | OH-02769 |
| Date: | 2008 September 24 |
| Physical Description: | 19 Digital Files (0.1473 GB) MP3, PDF/A |
| Language of the Material: | English |
| Abstract: | Oral history interview with Pete Barbutti (also spelled Barbuti) conducted by Lisa Gioia Acres on September 24, 2008 for the All That Jazz Oral History Project. Barbutti begins his interview by describing why his last name is spelled two different ways. He then discusses his introduction to music which occurred when he learned to play the accordion. He describes learning to play Polish music as a child, his family and childhood, and the importance of music in his family. Barbutti then recalls his performance history during the 1950s in bands such as the Polka Dots, Overtones, and Millionaires. He explains that while in the Millionaires the band was booked to play Las Vegas, Nevada at the Thunderbird Hotel and Casino. After the Millionaires broke up in 1962 he played the piano in Spokane, Washington. He then describes his role performing on the <i>Steve Allen Show</i> , how he got the job, and how the show lead to him working with Nat King Cole. He then discusses his family, their move to Las Vegas in 1955, and his guest performances on late night shows. Lastly, Barbutti tells an anecdote about proper venue set up and how performances can be impacted by poor planning and lack of knowledge. |

Preferred Citation

Pete Barbutti oral history interview, 2008 September 24. OH-02769. [Cite format consulted: Audio recording or Transcript.] Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Scope and Contents Note

Oral history interview with Pete Barbutti (also spelled Barbuti) conducted by Lisa Gioia Acres on September 24, 2008 for the All That Jazz Oral History Project. Barbutti begins his interview by describing why his last name is spelled two different ways. He then discusses his introduction to music which occurred when he learned to play the accordion. He describes learning to play Polish music as a child, his family and childhood, and the importance of music in his family. Barbutti then recalls his performance history during the 1950s in bands such as the Polka Dots, Overtones, and Millionaires. He explains that while in the Millionaires the band was booked to play Las Vegas, Nevada at the Thunderbird Hotel and Casino. After the Millionaires broke up in 1962 he played the piano in Spokane, Washington. He then describes his role performing on the *Steve Allen Show*, how he got the job, and how the show lead to him working with Nat King Cole. He then discusses his family, their move to Las Vegas in 1955, and his guest performances on late night shows. Lastly, Barbutti tells an anecdote about proper venue set up and how performances can be impacted by poor planning and lack of knowledge. Digital audio and transcript available.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

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Acquisition Note

This interview was conducted and transcribed by the Oral History Research Center (OHRC) which is part of the UNLV University Libraries Special Collections and Archives Division.

Processing Note

Interview materials were processed by UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives in 2018. Hana Gutierrez wrote the collection description. Access copies were created for born-digital audio and/or transcript files.

Bound Transcript Availability

A bound transcript is available for use in UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives. See call number: ML394 .B37 2008

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Names and Subjects

- Oral histories (document genres)
- Musicians
- Musical groups -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- History
- Thunderbird Hotel and Casino (Las Vegas, Nev.)