



Film Screening

# Keeping Time: The Life, Music and Photographs of Milt Hinton

Wednesday, February 10, 7:00pm

Written and Directed by David G. Berger, Holly Maxson and Kate Hirson. Narrated by Jeffrey Wright.



During his seven-decade-long career, legendary bassist **Milt Hinton** performed with nearly every major jazz artist alive. **Keeping Time: The Life, Music and Photographs of Milt Hinton** is a loving portrait of this remarkably creative and generous man, who not only made beautiful music, but also took some of the most unforgettable photographs of 20th-century American life. Snapping more than 60,000 pictures over the years, Hinton provided an insider's look at the world of American music, as well as American history, from touring the South in the 1930s to his death in 2000.

Hinton photographed Dizzy Gillespie when they shared Cab Calloway's bandstand in the 1930s. He was shooting pictures as well as playing at Billie Holiday's last recording session. He captured the legendary 1958 Esquire gathering of jazz greats in Harlem. A grandchild of former slaves, Hinton's life brought him into contact with some of the most pivotal people and events of his time. In **Keeping Time**, he uses his vivid storytelling skills to recount the lynching he witnessed as a child in Mississippi, his experience working for Al Capone as a teenager in Chicago, breaking the color line in the New York studios with the help of his friend Jackie Gleason, performing with such icons as Frank Sinatra, Ray Charles and Barbra Streisand, and, as an elder statesman of jazz, teaching, mentoring and performing around the world.



Milt Hinton and Cab Calloway, Havana, Cuba, 1951



Panama Francis and Irv Manning,  
Metropole Café, New York City, 1951

Unlike many people, Milt Hinton realized that he was living in a pivotal time in American history, a time of evolving civil rights as well as evolving musical styles. From his vantage point on stages across the country, on Pullman cars and tour buses and recording studios, Hinton's photographs provide a window into the itinerant world of the musician: the joy of performing, the solitude and camaraderie felt by fellow band members. Featuring more than 30 recordings of Hinton's music and told through interviews with Hinton as well as Amiri Baraka, Nat Hentoff, Gregory Hines, Quincy Jones, Branford Marsalis, Doc Cheatham, Joe Williams, George Wein and others, **Keeping Time** intimately embraces the rich life of a remarkable musician who recognized and recorded history as he was living it, capturing his extraordinary spirit and solemn commitment to pass on his knowledge and experience to future generations.

**This one-time only screening is courtesy of producers David Berger and Holly Maxon.**

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