



SATOSHI INOUE QUARTET By most reasoning Dec. 25 is not an ideal date for an album release party. But the jazz guitarist Satoshi Inoue seems primed for the challenge. Mr. Inoue, above, will play the Blue Note on Monday night to mark the American release of his fifth album, "Melodic Compositions" (What'sNew), which includes a loping original called "Comes Winter" but conveys no intentional seasonal connotations. It's a modest yet refreshing album, more than a little evocative of the guitar great Jim Hall, with whom Mr. Inoue studied at the New School in the early 1990s after leaving his native Japan. Mr. Inoue might best be recognized among certain jazz audiences as Mr. Hall's protégé: they appeared together in a series of instructional guitar videos a decade ago and performed some effortlessly intuitive duets for the Village Vanguard's 70th-anniversary celebration last year. But "Melodic Compositions" also suggests some other important jazz influences, and not just guitarists like Charlie Christian and Grant Green. One corkscrewing number called "Hippopotamus" bears a happy resemblance to "Brilliant Corners," a

classic workout by Thelonious Monk; Mr. Inoue's strong working quartet, with the pianist Toru Dodo, the bassist Noriko Ueda and the drummer Shinnosuke Takahashi, handles it well. The band last toured Japan in the summer; Mr. Inoue was there more recently with some well-known American musicians. In New York he works steadily but quietly — you'll find him every Sunday night at an Upper West Side steakhouse, playing with just a bassist or another guitarist — so the Blue Note date is a welcome boost in spite of the timing. But as he noted by phone this week, Mr. Inoue is hedging his bets: "We will definitely play some holiday tunes." (Satoshi Inoue plays every Sunday from 6 to 10 p.m. at Roth's Westside Steakhouse, 680 Columbus Avenue, at 93rd Street, 212-280-4103, rothswestsidesteakhouse.com; no cover. The Satoshi Inoue Quartet plays Monday at 8 and 10:30 p.m. at the Blue Note, 131 West Third Street, West Village, 212-475-8592, bluenote.net; cover, \$15 at tables, \$10 at the bar, with a \$5 minimum.)

NATE CHINEN

Jazz

Full reviews of recent jazz concerts: nytimes.com/music.

PECK ALLMOND KALIMBA KOLLECTIVE (Wednesday) Peck Allmond augments his usual arsenal of horns with kalimbas, or African thumb pianos, in a group that also includes an electric five-string cello,

FREDDY COLE (Tonight and tomorrow) A charismatic and offhandedly urbane vocalist, Mr. Cole takes a broad approach to repertory that nearly disarms comparisons to his brother Nat. At 9 and 11 p.m., Birdland, 315 West 44th Street, Manhattan, (212) 581-3080, birdlandjazz.com; cover, \$35, with a \$10 minimum. (Chinen)

GEORGE COLEMAN QUARTET (Wednesday and Thursday) Fluent and fiery hard bop, from a well-traveled saxophonist and a rhythm section that includes the

Mr. Mabern, who plays several Christmas-themed sets with the supportive bassist John Webber and the legendary drummer Jimmy Cobb. At 8, 10 and 11:30, Smoke, 2751 Broadway, at 106th Street, (212) 864-6662, smokejazz.com; cover, \$25. (Chinen)

DAVID (FATHEAD) NEWMAN AND DR. LONNIE SMITH (Tonight through Sunday) David Newman, the soulful tenor saxophonist long associated with Ray Charles, joins Dr. Lonnie Smith, whose unaccredited honorific has always been justified by his authority on the Hammond organ. Adding crisply to the conversation is the guitarist Peter Bernstein, a regular member of Dr. Smith's trio. At 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. with an 11:30 set tonight and tomorrow, Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola, Frederick P. Rose Hall, Jazz at Lincoln Center, 60th Street and Broadway, (212) 258-9595, jalc.org; cover, \$30, with a minimum of \$10 at tables, \$5 at the bar. (Chinen)

BILL O'CONNELL QUARTET (Thursday) Latin jazz is the primary focus of the pianist Bill O'Connell, who leads a group well suited to tackle it: Steve Slagle on alto saxophone, Luques Curtis on bass and Steve Berrios on drums. At 8 and 10 p.m., Sweet Rhythm, 88 Seventh Avenue South, at Bleecker Street, West Village, (212) 255-3626, sweetrhythmny.com; cover, \$15, with a \$10 minimum. (Chinen)

ARTURO O'FARRILL TRIO (Tonight and tomorrow night) Mr. O'Farrill, the pianist and bandleader of Jazz at Lincoln Center's Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra, knows how to energize in smaller settings; his regular trio features Alex Blake on bass and Jamie Affoumado on drums. At 9:15, 10:40 and midnight, Puppets Jazz Bar, 294 Fifth Avenue, Park Slope, Brooklyn, (718) 499-2627, puppetsjazz.com; cover, \$5. (Chinen)

PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND (Wednesday and Thursday) This granddaddy of traditional New Orleans revival ensembles, led by the trumpeter John Brunious, pays its second annual visit to the Jazz Standard. (Through Dec. 31.) At 7:30 and 9:30 p.m., Jazz Standard, 116 East 27th Street, Manhattan, (212) 576-2232, jazzstandard.net; cover, \$30. (Chinen)

REUBEN RADDING TRIO (Wednesday) Last year the bassist Reuben Radding released an album called "Intersections" (Pine Ear) featuring his 12-tone compositions for chamber trio. He revisits the material with the clarinetist and saxophonist Matt Bauder and the vibraphonist Matt Moran. At 8 p.m., Barbès, 376 Ninth Street, at Sixth Avenue, Park Slope, Brooklyn, (718) 965-9177, barbesbrooklyn.com; cover, \$8. (Chinen)

JIM ROTONDI QUARTET (Tonight and tomorrow night) Jim Rotondi is an accomplished trumpeter with a predilection for hard bop; his band includes the vibraphonist Joe Locke, the pianist David Hazzeltine, the bassist Barak Mori and the drummer Billy Drummond. At 7:30 and 9:15, Kitano Hotel, 66 Park Avenue at 38th Street, (212) 885-7119, kitano.com; cover, \$20, with a \$10 minimum. (Chinen)

ANGELICA SANCHEZ QUARTET (Tonight) In her piano playing as well as her com-

that most important pop-country qualification, malleability, Ms. McBride concludes her "Joy of Christmas" tour, a multimedia spectacle of standards and carols in which, as one of the show's producers has said, "one minute you're in a quaint village underneath a Christmas tree, the next minute you're in Bethlehem crossing the desert and the next you have a World War II, Bob Hope/Bing Crosby vibe." At 7:30, Nassau Coliseum, 1255 Hempstead Turnpike, Uniondale, N.Y.,