THURSDAY 5/16: "Cultural Medallion" To Be Placed At Jazz Great Miles Davis' Former UWS Home



Jazz great Miles Davis.

If you come across a small ceremony in front of 312 W. 77th (between Riverside & West End) on Thursday afternoon and are wondering what the deal is, it's to honor jazz great **Miles Davis** with the placement of a "cultural medallion" at his former Upper West Side home.

Here are some brief details from a press release I got earlier today:

NYC Landmarks50 Advisory Committee will permanently record the lasting influence of Miles Davis on jazz and popular music throughout the world by placing a cultural medallion at the iconic jazz musician's former residence at 312 West 77th Street in the Upper West Side neighborhood of Manhattan on Thursday, May 16 at 3:45 p.m.

The Historic Landmarks Preservation Center's cultural medallion program affixes porcelainized enamel plaques to the exterior of buildings throughout New York City to commemorate an individual or an occurrence that made a significant contribution to the City's rich cultural heritage. This is the first in a two-year series of installations initiated by NYC Landmarks50 across the City, and is aimed to inform and engage the public about the importance of historic preservation.

If you're a jazz aficionado, there will be some well known musicians on hand, including Wallace Roney, Gary Bartz, Al Foster, Jimmy Heath, Jimmy Cobb, George Coleman, and James Mtume.

The Harlem School of the Arts Advanced Jazz Combo is also listed on the program, so I suspect there will be short live performance as well.

NYC Landmarks50 Advisory Committee Chair Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel and jazz broadcaster and director of Swing University for Jazz at Lincoln Center Phil Schaap will also be on hand.

DNAinfo ran a feature back in 2010 about Davis' time on the Upper West Side and an effort to rename West 77th Street after him. He lived there for nearly 25 years, starting in 1958.

CORRECTION: An earlier version of this post listed the wrong address. Thanks to MUW reader @SHWeiss01 for the DNAinfo link and for catching the mistake — 312 W. 77th is the correct address. H/t also to Michael S.



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