

He was musical director at age 13

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Conductor Niels Abildgaard at the head of Kansas City Stompers with singer Rikke Mølgaard.

For nearly 57 years, Niels Abildgaard headed the Kansas City Stompers. Niels Abildgaard, in tomorrow's 70th birthday, is no one institution in the Danish music and especially in jazz. And Abild residing in Holbaek, was only 13 years old when he became conductor of the Kansas City Stompers - orchestra, with plenty of changing crews, has existed ever since the Abild in front of his indispensable clarinet.

Abild has from the outset stated that he definitely is not a great clarinetist. In return, he has also carried all year by as stone securely that he is a very good promoter.

It all started in comedy in 1951 when Niels Abildgaard, along with some school friends formed the jazz orchestra Kansas City Stompers, a name like Abild has remained ever since.

The first years played school boys as amateurs. His debut took place at Hotel barrels, and it was for many exposures, not only in the local area, but everywhere in Jutland and also south of the Danish border.

Niels Abildgaard took the plunge into the professional musicians' ranks in 1970. At the time, Kansas City Stompers already been known throughout the country, and several of the so-called big names in Danish music had been involved as soloists.

In the beginning was the music that was in the area between the swing and traditional jazz, which was the cornerstone of the repertoire. It has Abild afterwards with a gentle and very quality proven hand extended, as the orchestra today

generally mastered all styles.

Niels Abildgaard, who has been chairman for the whole 13 different jazz clubs, was at a time tour manager for the legend Louis Armstrong. And it is precisely one of Armstrong's undisputed quotes, Abild has done to her when it comes to music. "There is no bad music. There are only bad musicians."

And just bad musicians are some of the Abild can rightly boast that he never had in Kansas City Stompers. Abild has through the years managed to secure the best forces, if not non-self has come and has offered himself. It is coveted in the industry that could call itself a part of Kansas City Stompers.

For the orchestra has become a national institution of such high character that some years have been for up to 350 concerts a year.

It will, of course, some argue can not be true, but it is the truth. And the truth is also that Abild when the number of concerts has crept up to the astronomical figures, has had several ensembles run simultaneously.

Kansas City Stompers with Niels Abildgaard headed over the years has recorded no fewer than 37 LPs and CDs, and the orchestra has also managed to peak sales charts with spaces. Thus topped Kansas City Stompers already years after it had been professionally charted with a terrific recording of "Everybody loves Saturday night."

Looking in the annals, you are not amazed at the names over the years has been or still are part of the orchestra. Bo Stief, Peter Kragerup, Niels Stuart, Svend Erik Norregaard and Alex Riel are just a few.

Of vocalists can Niels Abildgaard and Kansas City Stompers boast of having had an example Birgit Light Field, Gitte Haenning, Daimi, Otto Brandenburg, LillBabs and Sanne Salomonsen in front. Today is Rikke Mølgaard, primarily suited vocal role, when Kansas City Stompers go on stage.

And it makes the orchestra remains very often. And continue with Niels Abildgaard in front. The round today means the reduction of no activity.

Niels Abildgaard continues for the full effect. It is solely the customer's wallet, which determines how the text of the Kansas City Stompers, who are engaged, should look. Abild has for so many musicians of high class to draw on, they always turn up when Bandmaster call. And the audience is always what comes after. Abild introduced for very early that he gave a bottle of champagne if there was a desired song or melody, the orchestra can not play. Abild has only been hosted by a very limited number of bottles.

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