

Blues Alley

Jazz Supper Club



Top Bop From Cole & Remler
[FINAL Edition]

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Author: Mike Joyce

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Saxophonist Richie Cole and guitarist Emily Remler don't play in town nearly often enough, which no doubt is why they and their band were greeted by a full house at Blues Alley last night, dismal weather and all.

Cole set the casual tone for the evening by asking for requests before heading into a loosely arranged collection of standards, mostly bop and ballads. The keening edge of his alto ignited tunes like "Harold's House of Jazz" and "Joy Spring," but his approach to ballads was equally effective, especially his tender reading of "Lover Man."

Remler proved well versed in the swift harmonic language of bop, a prerequisite for playing with Cole. She also unveiled a delightful trio arrangement of "Moanin'," spelling out the funky theme on the bass strings and alternating it with legato single-note runs and fat chords.

Throughout the show, she and Cole were aided by the inspired play of bassist Eddie Howard and drummer Steve Williams.