

Howard Beach's uniquely wide-ranging style of keyboard playing has been developed through years of partnering fine musicians in many different fields of music, as well as his own experience as an accomplished singer and violinist. Since 1989 he has worked regularly with Piers Adams in concert and in the recording studio as both harpsichordist and pianist, including several performances in London's Wigmore Hall and tours throughout Europe, Canada and the Far East. He has also performed and recorded as a concerto soloist and continuo player with Les Arts Florissant, the Apollo Chamber Orchestra and the London Mozart Players. Howard broadcasts frequently on radio and has been consultant and performer on programmes for Channel 4.

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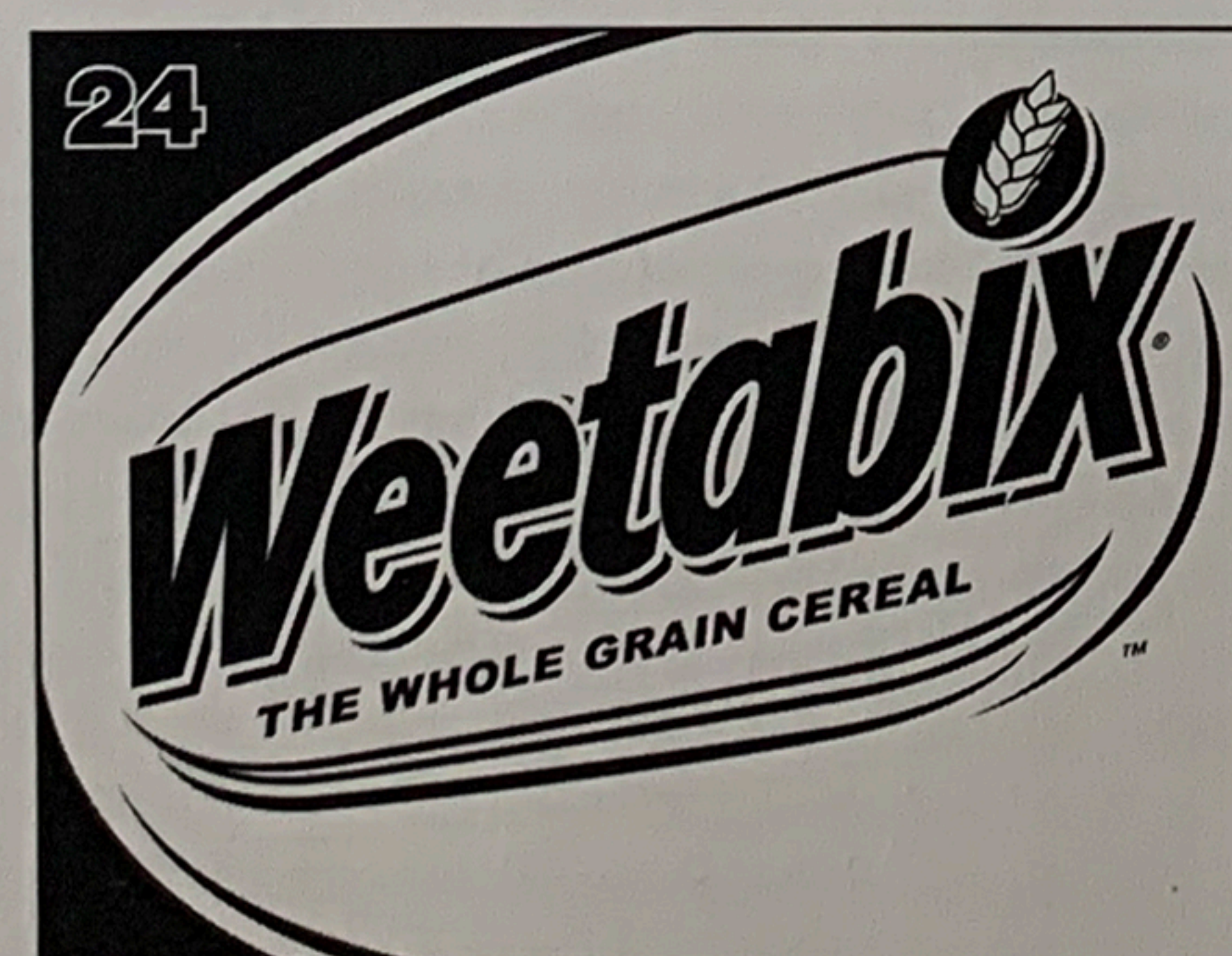
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Saturday 10th July

Jazz and Fireworks

Courtney Pine *Devotion* Acker Bilk and his Paramount Jazzband

7.30pm (gates open 5pm)

Poplars Field, Oundle

Courtney Pine's Band

Courtney Pine, saxophones

Robert Fordjour, drums

Chris Jerome, keyboards

Cameron Pierre, guitar

Darren Taylor, bass

No one better embodies the dramatic transformation in the British jazz scene over the past fifteen years than Courtney Pine, who heads a new generation of exciting and innovative musicians. His debut album in 1987 was the first serious jazz album ever to make the British Top 40, a remarkable achievement in British jazz history, and one which established Courtney as the leading figure in the British jazz scene and an inspiration to many young black musicians.

Courtney's CD *Devotion* encompasses many styles, infusing his trademark jazz foundations with contemporary sounds and a global feel, with Eastern/Asian influences to the fore. He tours across the world, including workshop tours through the British Council as far afield as Africa, Asia and South America.

In addition to his recording career, Courtney is a well-known presenter and broadcaster on both television and radio. He was recently named one of the Top Ten Greatest Black Britons of all time.

Acker Bilk and his Paramount Jazzband

Acker Bilk, clarinet

Enrico Tomasso, trumpet

Malcolm Creese, bass

Ian Bateman, trombone

Colin Wood, keyboard

Ritchie Bryant, drums

Bernard Bilk was born in Somerset, learned to play the clarinet during National Service, and joined Ken Colyer's Jazzmen after Ken had broken up with Chris Barber.

After a year or so Bernard moved back to the West country to form his own band, adopting the nickname Acker (a West country alternative to the cockney 'mate'). After a short tour in Germany the band gained a recording contract with the PYE label; their first LP was a jazz best-seller. In 1961 he wrote a tune called 'Jenny' for his daughter; it was renamed 'Stranger on the Shore' for a BBC television series and the album that followed spent 28 weeks in the LP charts of 1962.

Over the past decade Acker Bilk and the Paramount Jazz Band have been touring Europe with other great names in the jazz world such as Chris Barber and Terry Lightfoot.

