



# The Duke Ellington Society (TDES, Inc.)

Celebrating the music of Duke Ellington

Wednesday, October 18, 2006, at 7:30 PM  
 Saint Peter's Church  
 54th Street and Lexington Avenue, New York, NY

## Susan Olsen: "AS CLOSE TO DUKE AS POSSIBLE"



Pencil Sketch for Duke Ellington Memorial, 1961

In the Spring of 2002, a call came to The Woodlawn Cemetery from a representative of Lionel Hampton requesting a final resting place for the great vibraphonist that was "as close to Duke as possible." Ever since Ellington purchased his Family Lot in 1959, members of the jazz community have wanted to be laid to rest in The Woodlawn Cemetery in the Bronx. This program will provide a complete history of the Ellington Family Lot and show the memorials to the jazz legends at rest in Woodlawn. Included in the program will be information about many members of the Ellington Band. Among the jazz legends buried at Woodlawn are: Duke Ellington, Miles Davis, Lionel Hampton, Illinois Jacquet, Milt Jackson, Coleman Hawkins, Charles "Cootie" Williams, William "Sonny" Greer, Arthur Whet.sol, Ada "Bricktop" DuConge, and many more.

**Susan Olsen** is the Executive Director of the Friends of The Woodlawn Cemetery. The not-for-profit 501(c)3 support organization, is responsible for coordination of educational programs and special events and for obtaining support for restoration projects. Ms. Olsen worked in the field of historical museums as the Chief of the Bureau of Historical Museums for the Florida Department of State, Director of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Woodlawn Plantation, and Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope–Leighey House, and as the Director of the Key West Art and Historical Society. She received a B.A. in History from Rhodes College and did her graduate studies in History at Vanderbilt University.

Ms. Olsen said, "Refreshments will be provided: 'Black and Tan' cookies and lemonade. Our local bakery is really excited about making the treats. It makes the best Black and White cookies in New York." She will bring the Black and Tan cookies to the meeting.

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