

## **SIDRAN, Ben (H.) 1943-**

### **PERSONAL:**

Born August 14, 1943, in Chicago, IL; son of Louis W. and Shirley G. Sidran; married Judith Lutrin (a weaver), July 10, 1969; children: Leo.

### **Nationality:**

American

### **Education:**

University of Wisconsin (now University of Wisconsin—Madison), B.S. (cum laude), 1966; University of Sussex, M.A., 1968, Ph.D. (American studies), 1970.

### **CAREER:**

Musician, record and television producer, singer, and composer. University of Wisconsin—Madison, lecturer, 1973-74; WMTV, host of "The Weekend Starts Now", 1973-74; WTTW-TV, artistic director of jazz programming for "Soundstage", 1975-76; National Public Radio, host and artistic director of "Jazz Alive" radio series, 1981-83, contributor to "All Things Considered" radio program, 1983-85, host and producer of "Sidran on Record", 1985-90, producer of "Jazz Profiles", 1996-99; VH-1 Television Network, host of "New Visions" television series, 1988-91. Go Jazz record label, founder, co-owner, and producer; Nardis Music, cofounder and producer, 2003.

### **MEMBER:**

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, Musicians Federation.

### **AWARDS, HONORS:**

Peabody Award, 1982, for "Jazz Alive" radio series; International Radio Festival winner, 1986, for "Sidran on Record"; ACE Award for Best Cable Music Series, 1989, for "New Visions"; Sundance Audience Award and New York Film Critics Award, both 1994, both for "Hoop Dreams" soundtrack; Aspen Film Festival prize, Emmy Award, and Dramatists Guild of America Award, all 1998, all for "Vietnam: Long Time Coming" soundtrack; Grammy Award nomination, 2000, for "Concert for Garcia Lorca"; Parents' Choice Award, 2003, for "El Elefante", Member of Wisconsin Arts Board; member of board of advisers on Popular Music and Society at Bowling Green State University; artist-in-residence, University of Wisconsin—Madison, 2003. Distinguished Alumni award, University of Wisconsin, 2012

### **WRITINGS:**

Black Talk, Holt (New York, NY), 1971, published with new foreword by Archie Shepp, Da Capo Press (New York, NY), 1981. Talking Jazz: An Oral History, Da Capo Press (New York, NY), 1995. Ben Sidran: A Life in the Music (autobiography), Taylor Trade (New York, NY), 2003, There Was a Fire: Jews, Music and the American Dream, UML, (Brooklyn, NY) 2012

Contributor to Rolling Stone, Esquire, Jazz Magazine (France), and Swing Journal(Japan).

### **SOUND RECORDINGS:**

Feel Your Groove, Capitol, 1971.  
I Lead a Life, Blue Thumb, 1972.  
Puttin' in Time on Planet Earth, Blue Thumb, 1973.  
Don't Let Go, Blue Thumb, 1974.  
Free in America, Arista, 1976.  
The Doctor Is In, Arista, 1977.

A Little Kiss in the Night, Arista, 1978.  
Live at Montreux, Arista, 1979.  
The Cat and the Hat, A&M, 1980.  
Get to the Point, Polystar, 1981.  
Old Songs for the New Depression, Island, 1982.  
Bop City, Island, 1983.  
Live with Richard Davis, Madrigal, 1984.  
On the Cool Side, Windham Hill, 1985.  
Have You Met Barcelona?, Orange Blue, 1986.  
On the Live Side, Windham Hill, 1987.  
Too Hot to Touch, Windham Hill, 1988.  
Cool Paradise, Go Jazz, 1990.  
Life's a Lesson, Go Jazz, 1994.  
Hoop Dreams (documentary soundtrack), 1995.  
Mr. P's Shuffle, Go Jazz, 1996.  
Go Jazz All-Stars, Go Jazz, 1997.  
Vietnam Long Time Coming (documentary soundtrack), 1998  
Live at Celebrity Lounge, Go Jazz, 1998.  
Concert for Garcia Lorca, Go Jazz, 2000.  
Walk Pretty: The Music of Alec Wilder, Go Jazz, 2002.  
El Elefante (bilingual CD for children), Liquid 8 Records, 2003.  
Bumpin at the Sunside, Nardis Music, 2003.  
Nick's Bump, Nardis Music, 2004.  
Sentimental Journey, Bonsai Records, 2004.  
Live at FIP, Bonsai Records, 2005  
Cien Noches, Nardis Music, 2006  
Dylan Different, Bonsai / Nardis Music, 2009  
European 5tet, Bonsai, 2010  
Don't Cry For No Hipster, UML / Bonsai, 2012

Also contributed piano and lyrics to early albums by the Steve Miller Band, including the song "Space Cowboy."

Produced recordings for jazz and pop artists, including Van Morrison, Mose Allison, Georgie Fame, Jon Hendricks, Tony Williams, Rickie Lee Jones, Diana Ross.

**DVD / Videos:**

Jazz Legends: Live at the Palais des Festivals Hall, Cannes, France, 1989, 2004.

In Concert at Ohne Filter, Germany, 1995, 2005.

On the Live Side, Go Jazz, 2004

Also produced television programs for Dizzy Gillespie, Sarah Vaughan, Art Blakey, Johnny Griffin, Chico Hamilton, Jon Hendricks, Eddie Jefferson, Annie Ross.