Georgia Rambler:
THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF BENJAMIN NEELY PLUMB
An inside look at the upcoming music industry memoir and biography book

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During America’s Golden Years of recorded music from the 1930’s - 1970’s, one man was behind some of the world’s most beloved and celebrated recordings, artists and soundtracks – Neely Plumb. In the span of his nearly six decades in the U.S. music industry, Neely Plumb’s credentials include: touring and performing with Artie Shaw; recording and performing for RKO Motion Picture Studios; recording on tracks for Frank Sinatra and Bing Crosby; musical director, arranger and conductor of Sheb Wooley’s “Purple People Eater”; West Coast A&R Producer and Manager for RCA Victor signing The Monkees, The Limeliters, and Jefferson Airplane to their RCA recording contracts; and earning multiple RIAA Certified Gold Records producing the film soundtracks for “The Sound of Music”, “Bye Bye Birdie”, Franco Zeffirelli’s “Romeo & Juliet”, “The Good, The Bad, & The Ugly”, “True Grit”, and more.

This is his story.
Georgia Rambler: THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF BENJAMIN NEELY PLUMB

- Narrative non-fiction work
- Part memoir, part biography
- Takes readers through the lifetime and musical achievements of Benom Plumb’s great-uncle Neely.
- Benjamin Neely Plumb (1912 – 2000) is a posthumous co-author, due to a large portion of the book content coming from Neely’s unpublished personal memoir.
- In 2016, Benom Plumb was given the rights and permission to Neely’s unpublished, unedited memoir by Neely’s surviving children.
• The unpublished memoir was written in Neely’s own words in the early 1990’s.

• The raw, unedited memoir was edited by Benom Plumb in preparation for publication proposals in the summer of 2021.

• Academic publisher, University Press of Mississippi, has accepted the book proposal and it will go undergo UPM’s peer review process after the full manuscript is completed summer 2022.
Current status of the manuscript:

• Neely’s edited memoir makes up 11 of 20 proposed chapters.

• Completed Acknowledgements, In Memoriam, Prologue and Chapter 12.
Pictured: The author's first mock up book cover.
Annotated Table of Contents:
(Pending Peer Review and Publisher Editing)

Acknowledgements and In Memoriam

Prologue: The Plumb Brothers

Neely’s brother Bill, holding newborn baby and co-author, Benom Plumb, in January 1981.
Annotated Table of Contents

Chapter 1 –
**The Youngest of Four**
(1912 – 1929)

Chapter 2 –
**Georgia Rambler**
(1930 – 1934)
Annotated Table of Contents

Chapter 3 –
Anson Weeks Orchestra: From Aggieland to California
(1934 – 1938)

Chapter 4 –
Aloha Hawaii! Honeymoon with The Rube Wolf Orchestra
(1938 - 1939)
Annotated Table of Contents

Chapter 5 – In the Big Time with Artie Shaw (1939 – 1941)

Chapter 6 – Establishing a Hollywood Presence (1941)
Chapter 7 – B-17's, Babies and Major Studio Sessions (1941 – 1947)
Chapter 8 – “Bakkie” and The RKO Studio Orchestra *
(1947 – 1955)

*Pending copyright clearances, bonus material to this chapter includes a 1951 CBS Radio recording interview with “Bakkie” and Neely. This recording includes an interview and a performance of Neely’s original song and recording, “Mr. Bakaleinikoff”.

Annotated Table of Contents

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Chapter 9 – “My Playing Days Were Over” *
(1955 – 1958)

*It is during this time period that Neely is hired to be the musical director / conductor of Sheb Wooley’s smash hit, “Purple People Eater”. Neely doesn’t write about “Purple People Eater” in the memoir and Benom Plumb fills in this important historical gap in Chapter 12.
Chapter 11 – Big Promotions and Jefferson Airplane Takes Off *
(1963 – 1968)

*This is where Neely’s written memoir of his career in the music industry ends.
Chapter 12 – The Purple People Eater *(1958)*

*Pending bonus material: Professor Plumb’s punk rock arrangement and sound recording of “Purple People Eater” in tribute to Uncle Neely.*
Chapter 13 – 20, TBD Summer 2022


Pictured: Neely accepting the RIAA Gold Record for “Romeo & Juliet”.

WEST COAST STORY — Neely Plumb (left) is shown accepting an RIAA album plaque for the million-dollar-plus sales of his production from the soundtrack of “Romeo & Juliet.” Presenting Plumb with his producer’s Capitol Records’ president Sal Iannucci. A complete multi-disk recording of “Romeo & Juliet” film is due from Capitol shortly.
Chapter 14 – “Motion Picture Soundtrack Albums” by Neely Plumb

Chapter 15 – “What Makes A Song”
Chapter 16 – “How Will It Be?” by Eve Plumb
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Chapter 17 – Neely Plumb in Music Industry News History*

*Pending clearances

Neely Plumb, NARAS’s national first vice-president, accepts the annual Maker of the Microphone Award for the organization from Oliver Berliner.
Chapter 18 – Uncle Neely’s Good Humor

Chapter 19 – Family Interviews
Chapter 20 – Neely Plumb’s Last Words (1996)

Epilogue: A Family Tradition

Neely just months before his passing with son, Ben, and daughter-in-law, Sandy.
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Thank you!
Questions?