

Bill's Place
Individual Landmark
148 West 133rd Street



Bill's Place. Photo: Melanie Nanez

Bill's Place, a jazz club, opened in 2006 under the guidance of owners Bill and Theda Palmer Saxton, with an attempt to evoke the authentic Harlem jazz scene that permeated the neighborhood during the Prohibition era.

West 133rd Street was historically known as Swing Street for its wide array of cabarets, clubs, and speakeasies that showcased talent such as Duke Ellington and Langston Hughes. The symbolic red awning and hole-in-the-wall entry at Bill's Place evoke the cozy and discrete spaces that are a part of its history. In 1927, the club was home to Tillie Fripp's Clam House. In the early 1930s it was Covan's Morocco Club and Monette's Supper Club, where singer Billie Holiday was discovered by John Hammond.