# ROUTES

December 1978/\$1.25 January 1979

CAROL DOUGLAS

•TRIM NOUR TREE
WITH TOOTHPRES
HENRS AND NO DAD

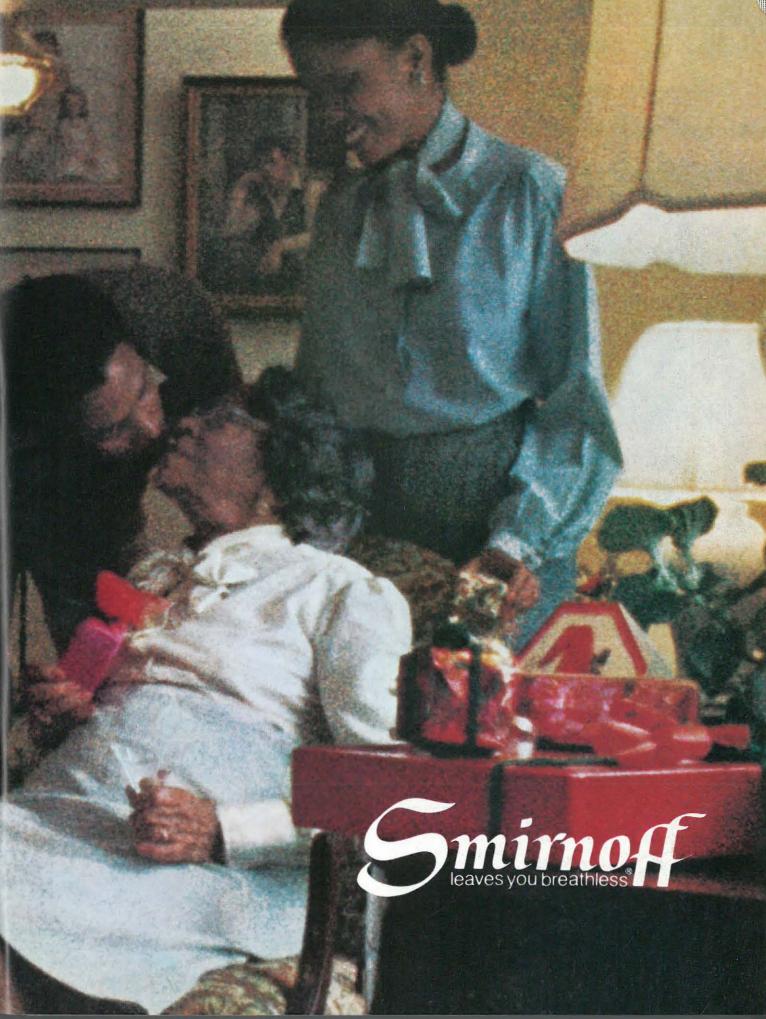
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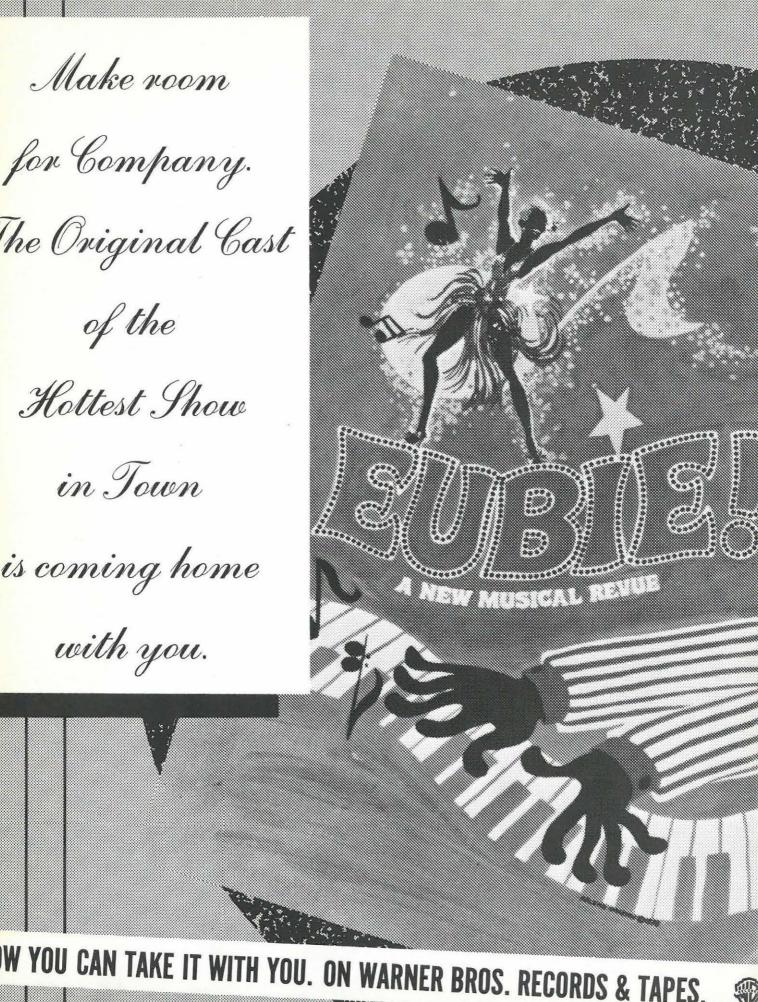


99TT

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ROUTES MAGAZINE, A Guide to Black Entertainment...

Cover Photography by Don Lynn

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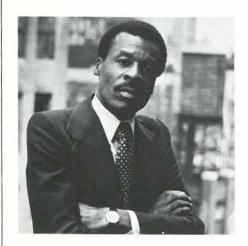
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### Publisher's Statement



have written and discarded at least ten variously lofty, shallow, naive, and angry drafts for this space—but finally I decided to simply state a message I hope has come through as you've read ROUTES:

To love and understand oneself is the first step to self realization—only then can we, without reluctance, share the fruits of life with any and everyone.

As proud publisher of this one-year-old, I would like to thank the many people who helped make this a year to remember. To them and to you our readers go my wishes for the best of the new year.

Romald Bu-PUBLISHER

### ROUTES RESPONSES

### **Television Distortion**

Bravo for the appropriately entitled article, Sitcoms: Sick Cons, in the Media section [October]. It is sad to see our people perpetuating what we black folks have called "dead images" and "has-been" stereotypes by weekly foisting these travesties on millions of impressionable people. It is humiliating to witness a young black man mimicking J.J.'s obstinate, buffoon-like personality; to see condoned the overweight, vociferous and unkempt personality portrayed by Ms. Shirley Hempill each week on "What's Happening"; to think that millions of whites were regularly fed the distorted image of a shaky, irresponsible black male as depicted by Demond Wilson in "Baby I'm Back."

I hope the ROUTES' article will precipitate some constructive action rather than merely be remembered as a perspicacious piece of journalism—let us pull ourselves together in the name of *pride* rather than the green.

Katie M. Evans L.I.U. Alumni Association Brooklyn, N.Y.

### Some Applause

After reading your article in the October issue, *Sitcoms: Sick Cons*, I wholeheartedly agree that all those black sitcoms are a bunch of trash. We need a change!

Sidney Motsyne Arverne, N.Y.

Whatever happened to the "Buck and the Preacher" or "Claudine" type of characters, plots and lines? Today's incredulous black television shows fail to mirror what Afro-Americans are all about; it seems to me that the script writers are white men giving their interpretations of what we blacks are supposed to be like. I'm aware of the fact that the actors and actresses involved have to eat, but they should be more reluctant to play certain roles and deliver lines that are an insult to their race.

Dawana G. Smith New York, N.Y.

We hate to disillusion our readers, but some of those script writers are black—they, too, have to eat.

Thank you for an informative, entertaining and useful November issue. The Stevie Wonder piece alone was worth the price, but you cost me more than \$1.25, for the Ashford & Simpson article compelled me to rush out and buy two of their albums (I played them and have no regrets). Enclosed is my check for a subscription.

Gary L. King Brooklyn, N. Y.

I recently bought a copy of your magazine because my favorite stars were featured on the cover—Ashford & Simpson are truly special to me, and I liked the story you did on them. However, I must admit that I was impressed by all the other stories and the general format of the publication. I think your excellent magazine will make a valid contribution to the advancement of blacks in entertainment and the media, and I will continue to purchase ROUTES because I think it is great. I wish you lots of success in this venture.

Anderson T. Miller Brooklyn, N. Y.

Letters should be addressed to ROUTES, 230 West 41st Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

### HIGHLIGHTS



Arthur Ashe-UNCF Celebrity Tennis Benefit. (See Sports Listing)



The Trammps. Queens College. (See Music Listing)



Dexter Gordon Quartet.
Village Vanguard. (See
Music Listing)

### DECEMBER



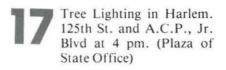
Shirley Verret. The Met. (See Theatre Listing)



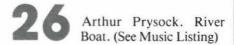
McCoy Tyner Sextet.
Village Vanguard. (See
Music Listing)



26 Chic. Symphony Hall, Newark. (See Music Listing)



Betty Carter. Village Vanguard. (See Music Listing)





Teddy Pendergrass Symphony Hall, Newark. (See Music Listing)



Al Jarreau, Avery Fisher Hall. (See Music Listing)

### FREE FOR ALL

### MONDAY EVENING LECTURE SERIES

Dec 11, 8 pm, Kuni Ouchi, Graphic Artist & Printmaker, demonstrates unusual techniques in the art of wood block printing.

Educational Center at the Nassau County Center for the Fine Arts Northern Blvd (25A) Roslyn

### ART SHOWS

"African Religions in the Caribbean." Religious artifacts and photos of Caribbean people. Thru Dec 29.

Visual Arts Center

22 E. 54th St 3rd Floor 427-8100

### **EXHIBITIONS**

"Up to Tut: The Birth and Development of Egyptology." Thru Jan 13.

Central Building

"Modern Bible Atlases." Thru Jan 17. Map Division (Room 117) Central Building. "The Art of the Manuscript Book." Dec 4-31. Donnell.

"Remembering Zero (Mostel): The Actor, The Artist, The Man." Thru Dec 30. Lincoln Center.

"N.Y.C. Ballet 30th Anniversary." Dance Collection. Thru Feb 17. Lincoln Center. "Eldon Elder: Designs for the Theatre." Dec 9 thru Feb. Lincoln Center.

### GETTING AROUND OVERSEAS

Pocket-sized booklet of travel information for visitors to Latin America. The booklet covers Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America. Write to Budget Rent A Car Corp., LAC Dept., 35 E. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill 60601. Be sure to request "Getting Around Overseas—Latin America," as there is also a European version.

### NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

The New York Public Library offers numerous free activities for adults and minors including concerts (Jazz and Classical), theatre, movies, book discussions, poetry readings, lectures, etc. Please consult ROUTES' listings. For specific branch location please call—Bronx 220-6565, Brooklyn 636-3155,

Manhattan: 790-6596, Queens 990-0700, Staten Island: 442-8562. To obtain a handy booklet detailing the services and branches of the library system write to: The New York Public Library, Fifth Ave and 42nd St., N.Y., N.Y., 10018.

### THE STORY OF CHRISTMAS

Kodak Photo Gallery at 43rd St and Ave. of the Americas. "The Story of Christmas" is presented throughout seven areas of the Gallery. Narration is by Ebenezer Scrooge taken from the pages of Charles Dickens. Through some 150 photographs, artifacts, slide shows and movies, an historical perspective is presented. Mons, noon to 5 pm, Tue-Sat, 9:30 am to 5 pm.

### N.Y. PUBLIC LIBRARY AT LINCOLN CENTER

Bruno Walter Auditorium—No Admission Charge. A limited number of seats are available, but only to those applying for them in person after 3 pm on the day of the program, or if it is a Saturday, after 12 noon at the Amsterdam Ave. entrance. 799-2200.

Dec 11, 12, 13, 4 pm. Equity Theatre informal.

Dec 15, 4 pm, Dec 16, 2:30 pm. Fulton Theatre

Dec 18, 19, 20, 4 pm. Stage Directors & Choreographers Workshop Foundation. Dec 22, 4 pm. Daphne & Linda Child, duo-pianists.

Dec 23, 2:30 pm. Andrew Demasi, harpsichordist.

Dec 26, 4 pm. Readers Theatre Company Dec 27, 4 pm. George Kehler, Pianist.

Dec 28, 11 am & 1 pm. Pennybridge Players for Children.

Dec 28, 4 pm. Harp and Chamber Music. Dec 29, 4 pm. Priscilla Ryan, Violin.

Dec 30, 2:30 pm. Pauline Lederer, Pianist.

### THE SHOPPING BAG: PORTABLE GRAPHIC ART

Timed to the season when shopping bags rate higher than Cartier's "Le Musts", the Cooper-Hewitt exhibition focuses predominantly on the paper carryall as a popular graphic arts medium. It is comprised of more than 100 colorfully designed shopping bags from all over the world and includes a number of rare examples of band boxes, the historic precursors of the shopping bag. Tue evenings 5 to 9 pm—Free. 2 E. 91st St. 860-6868.

### SUNDAY AFTERNOON CRAFT DEMONSTRATIONS

Dec 10, 1 pm, Fiber Demonstration by Catherine Vlasits.

Dec 17, 1 pm, Stone Demonstration by Edward Martin.

Educational Center at the Nassau County Center for the Fine Arts Northern Blvd (25)

Roslyn

### **BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY**

 Food Shoppers Coupon Exchange: Thursdays, 12 Noon-8 pm, Clarendon, 434-3620 & Crown Heights, 773-1223.

### •Films:

Dec 13, 3 pm. "Paul Robeson: The Tallest Tree in Our Forest," Bedford, 638-9544.

Dec 20, 7 pm. "Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman," Brighton, 266-0005. Dec 14, 2 pm. "Thirty Years of Fun," 788-6262.

Dec 14, 3:30 pm. "The Hobbit," Dec 21, "Mysteries of the Great Pyramid," Park Slope 768-0593.

Dec 15, 3:30 pm. "The Nutcracker," Carroll Gardens, 625-5838.

Dec 15, 2 pm. "Queen of the Stardust Ballroom," Dec 22, 2 pm, "Time Machine," Dec 29, 2 pm, "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," New Utrecht, 236-4086. Dec 19, 2:30 pm. "Twelve Days of Christmas," "Nativity," and "Christmas Cracker." Dec 26, 2:30 pm, "Cracker," Grand Army Plaza, 636-3111.

Dec 19, 7 pm. "Phantom of the Opera," Red Hook, 875-4412.

### ·Book Discussions:

Dec 12, 1:30 pm. "Arrowsmith," by Sinclair Lewis, Sunset Park 439-8846. Dec 12, 1 pm. "The Confidence Man," by Herman Melville, Grand Army Plaza, 636-3111.

Dec 19, 2 pm. "Of Human Bondage," by W.S. Maugham, Brighton Beach, 266-0005.

Dec 21, 2 pm. "The Stranger," by Albert Camus, Dyker, 748-1395. Dec 21, 1:30 pm. "The Jungle," by Upton Sinclair, Kings Bay, 332-5656.

### YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The orchestra of New York will open its sixteenth season in Carnegie Hall with a concert on Dec 16, 3 pm. For tickets write to: YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA OF NEW YORK.

Carnegie Hall 504, 888 Seventh Ave, N.Y. N.Y. 10019. Enclose a self addressed envelope. 581-5933.

### HIGHLIGHTS

### JANUARY

#### THEATRE

Simply Heavenly The Richard Allen Center for Culture and Art

Thru Jan 7, 8 pm 36 West 62 St, 4th Floor 581-9110



Leontyne Price returns to the Metropolitan Opera House, Lincoln Center for eight performances of Ariadne Auf Naxos, beginning Feb 13, 1979. Orders for performances may be closed, 580-9830

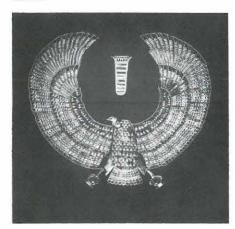
### ARTS

Ancient Nazca Ground Drawing

Thru Feb 28, Gallery 3 Annex Dramatic photographs of the intriguing lines and figures cut into Peru's Nazca Plain.

### Cave

Jan 13 at 1 & 3 pm Jan 14, at 3 pm, Education Hall A dramatic evocation and interpretation of Ice Age art thru narration, music and dance.



### Three Lectures on Tutankhamun

Jan 8 & Jan 22, 7:30 pm, Auditorium "Tutankhamun-The Boy Pharaoh," "The Mystery of the Tomb Furnishings," and "Tutankhamun and His Jewelry." The series begins in December and is presented by the American Museum's Education Department with the New York Society of The Archaeological Institute of America. Tickets can only be purchased from The Archaeological Institute of America for a fee of \$20 per series ticket. No single tickets will be sold, 780-5191

The American Museum of Natural History Central Park West at 79th St., Man 873-1300



### MUSIC

Count Basie and His Orchestra Jan 19, 8 pm.

**Duke Ellington Orchestra** 

Jan 20, 8 pm.

Cathedral of St. John the Divine 112th St and Amsterdam Av 666-8000

### Newark Boys Chorus

Jan 18, 8 pm. Alice Tully Hall Lincoln Center 874-2424

Maynard Ferguson

Jan 14, 8 pm. Avery Fisher Hall 874-2424

### Vera Auer Plus 4

Jan 3, 4 pm Stuvvesant Park YMCA 207 E. 16th St 475-5125 Jazz Seminar

### **SPORTS**

Colgate Grand Prix Masters Tennis Tournament

Ian 10-14

Ice Capades

Jan 24 thru Feb 4

Madison Square Garden 33rd St. at 7th Ave 564-4400

National Boat Show

Jan 13-21

New York Auto Show

Jan 27 thru Feb 4

New York Coliseum

Gulf and Western Plaza at 59th St

### MEDIA

### Television Specials:

•WCBS TV Channel 2

Jan 2, 8 pm. "The Incredible Journey of Doctor Meg Laurel." Starring Lindsay Wagner. Saga of a dedicated doctor in Appalachia.

Jan 3, 9 pm "Some Kind of Miracle." David Dulies and Andrea Marcovicci. Engaged couple scheduled nuptial in danger after fiance is paralyzed in surfing accident.

Jan 29, 9 pm. "The Corn is Green." Katherine Hepburn. Wales, turn of the century.

• WNBC TV Channel 4

Jan 1, 11:30 am. Tournament of Roses

Jan 1, 4:45 pm. The Rose Bowl

Jan 1, 8 pm. The Orange Bowl

Jan 10, 8 pm. UNICEF Benefit. Bee Gees, Donna Summer and Earth, Wind & Fire. Jan 29 (Time not available at presstime) "Back Stairs at the Whitehouse." Olivia Cole, Leslie Uggams and Lou Gossett, Jr. A true experience of two black women, a mother and a daughter, who between them served as maids in the Whitehouse for 52 years from the Taft to the Eisenhower administrations.

WORTV Channel 9

Jan 1, 12:30 pm. Penn State Football Special. Penn State vs Alabama Highlights.

## 

### LEONI AU COIN D'HAITI: A DREAM COME TRUE

f you enjoy eating out as much as I do, you probably already have a favorite restaurant or two among New York's many off-the-beatenpath eateries, special places whose food and atmosphere you like to share with special friends. Ever since I began covering the restaurant scene for ROUTES, my search for such places has intensified, and this month I would like to share with you my latest discovery: Leoni Au Coin D'Haiti. This is, as the name implies. a restaurant featuring Haitian cuisine. located at 131 East 39th Street in an elegant townhouse between Lexington and 3rd Avenues. But there is much more to Leoni Au Coin D'Haiti than the fact that it offers the best Haitian food in the city, the place itself is an experience for it has all the warmth and charm of a cozy private home.

The first room one enters is appropriately called "the livingroom." It is a small, very inviting room in which one is seated in comfortable, shawlcovered sofas to enjoy a complimentary drink amid lush green plants and distinctive Haitian and African artwork. Persian rugs cover the floor, there are small crystal bowls temptingly filled with candies and nuts, soft music in the air, and the whole atmosphere is enhanced by the warm glow of candlelight. A spiral staircase with red carpeting leads to the two dining rooms upstairs. Each seats 20 to 25 guests at small square tables surrounded by pink or blue chairs (depending on the room) and set with fire china on crisp white linen. Colorful linen napkins sprout from sparkling gold-rimmed goblets, and each table is graced by a crystal vase filled with long-stemmed flowers. Though a large chandelier hangs in each room, the only lighting comes from a fireplace and a candle on each table.\*

The person responsible for giving Leoni Au Coin D'Haiti such a deeply personal touch is its proprietress and on-premises host Leonie McGregor, a gracious, invigorating and determined black lady who sees the restaurant as



the fulfillment of a lifelong dream. "I became interested in good food when I was about fifteen," said Leonie who gained her initial experience in the field at Hotel Choucoune, in Haiti, "and I started thinking about opening a restaurant when I was twenty-I didn't know how or where, but I knew I would do it."

The road to 131 East 39th Street has been a long and hard one for Leonie McGregor. Married (and divorced) at an early age, she has traveled that road while raising two children and taking care of a younger brother. For a while she worked as a model for the Ophelia de Vore agency, "That was before it was fashionable for blacks to be models, honey," she points out, "but it was a lot of fun." She also spent thirteen years as a receptionist in the sales and advertising department of Texaco, and, more recently, three years running a combination gift shop/art gallery. That last experience is being put to good use at Leoni Au Coin D'Haiti, for Leonie-following the example of such restaurants as Once Upon a Stove and Casa Storica-offers

her customers fine merchandise along with the food and drinks. "I always wanted to do it that way," she explains. "Since I was already in contact with manufacturers in England, Japan, Jamaica and Haiti, I thought a gift gallery would be ideal, especially for people who don't have much time for shopping. Samples of everything are used here as decoration, so it really doesn't look like a store—while you are having dinner you can simply say to the waiter that you want such and such from that wall, and when you are ready to leave it will be all packed for you, and added to your bill. Only the very large items, solid mahogany chairs from Jamaica and Haiti, have to be ordered six to eight weeks in advance."

Besides such decorative or useful items as platters, goblets, sculptures and trays, Leonie carries fine candies, which, as she explains, can be a most practical purchase: "If a gentleman should come to dinner with another lady and feel guilty about it, he might just ease that guilt by buying a fine box of Paringer candy to take home to his wife—that sort of thing does happen, you know. It's all part of making things convenient for the customer—I really want people who come here to feel at home.

"People tell me they really feel at home here, not as if they were in a restaurant, and that's how I want it to be. When I tell them to make themselves at home, I really mean it; I don't bother them, and if they want to stay for several hours because they feel relaxed, that's fine with me. Some come in here and say 'where is it?,' they want to know where the restaurant is, and when I tell them that this is it, they often say 'Oh my god, I don't believe it.' Then when they go upstairs they are really impressed with what I did, and that goes for the neighbors as well—many of them have thanked me for adding elegance to the neighborhood."

When Leonie McGregor found the townhouse, through an ad in the paper, it had stood empty for three years and was badly in need of work. "We worked like dogs, my daughter and I," she says. "We pulled up floors with our bare hands, we painted, lifted this, carried that. Honey, this

was some place, we slaved day in and day out to put it together. I saw the work and knew it had to be done, but the only way I could really face it was by imagining the way it was going to look when it was finished-I knew how I wanted it, and that's what kept me going. American Express gave a party here and the place wasn't ready when they made the arrangement for it, so I worked three days and three nights without sleep, until I just blacked out. I was taken to the hospital in an ambulance, and they kept me there all day, but I came back, relaxed for a couple of hours, and started all over again. So far they have had to pick me up three times, just from exhaustion, and for a while it seemed as if I wasn't doing any work, I was spending so much time in the hospital. They told me to sit down and take it easy, but every time I came back here I asked myself who was going to do the work if I didn't, so I continued. I still have a lot of work I want to do, and when that is over I'm going to have to work even harder just to keep the place going."

While one cannot but admire Leonie for her tremendous physical efforts, she also had to put her stamina to the test in other ways, such as when she applied for a loan from the Small Business Administration. "Women in business have problems," she explains

from bitter experience. "Most people who approve loans or help new businesses are men, and-I hate to say this, but it's the truth—men often assume that women don't have the head to manage a business. At one time they said I didn't have enough experience to open a restaurant. I said to myself 'What is this?,' they don't know my capabilities, just because I was a receptionist and never owned a restaurant before doesn't mean I don't deserve a chance-all my life it had been my dream to prove that I could do it. When I told these men that, they looked at me as if I were crazy—they said 'why don't you get married, or something?,' so I told them that I didn't want to get married, that I had been married and now I just wanted to open my own business. I often wonder where they would be if someone hadn't given them a chance. Many of my friends at big corporations have given me letters of support, and I have submitted these to the Small Business Administration, but they still have not approved my loan. I'm sure it's because I'm a woman, I won't say because I'm a black woman, because I would hate to think that might have anything to do with it."

Leonie McGregor could still use some financial help, but with or without it she is determined to see her dream through, and she attributes





that determination to the encouragement she has received from her younger brother and two children. "I say my three kids," she explains, "because when my mother died she left me my brother, Jude, and he is a sweetheart. After my son got married, at 19, my daughter and Jude were the closest people to me, they really stood by me; sometimes, when things looked hopeless and I felt alone. those two tried to make me laugh, they'd say 'come on mommy, come on sister, we will make it, don't worry,' and I'd say to myself yes, because those two have been the light in my life. My daughter knows that everything I have done has been for them, I raised my children by myself, and even when I was broke the children looked impeccable. Now I wasn't thinking of the children when I first dreamt of having a restaurant, but when I was working for Texaco as a receptionist I thought about the fact that I was forty years old and I had nothing to leave my children, so this gave me the urge to do something constructive before I got too old, or died."

Since opening in July, Leoni Au Coin D'Haiti has attracted an impressive roster of regular clients; her guest book is filled with the names of U.N. diplomats and successful business people, many of whom first became

acquainted with Leoni's cooking expertise at private parties catered by her prior to the opening of the restaurant. Once you have tasted Leoni's cooking, the attraction becomes clear. Though African and Caribbean dishes are available on Saturdays, the accent, of course, is on Haitian cuisine, which is similar to French cuisine, but has a distinction of its own. "What really makes Haitian food is the spice," Leonie says. "It is well seasoned, but not necessarily hot. We make it according to our customers' taste-mild, medium or very hot. Basically we eat the same things, pork, chicken, beef, seafood. or whatever, but we prepare it in different ways, and that is what distinguishes Haitian cuisine from Italian, French, and so on."

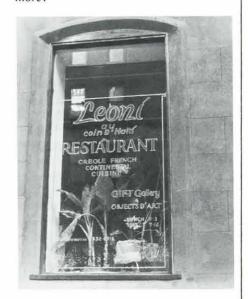
Among the many fine dishes served at Leoni Au Coin D'Haiti (Leonie on the corner of Haiti) are two excellent soups: Creme de Giromon (cream of pumpkin), the national soup of Haiti, and Soupe aux Pois Noir, au Pois Conre (black bean or black-eyed pea soup), an absolute knockout. Specialties of the houseserved with vegetables of the season (usually fresh) and rice, or rice and beans, and a salad-include Poulet Port-au-Prince (chicken in a spiced Haitian sauce), Lambi et Aubergines (stewed conch and eggplant), Roti

de Porc de la Gonave (roast pork with Creole sauce), shrimp and crab dishes, and a variety of delicious gumbos. All of this is, of course, preceded by a choice of four mouthwatering hors d'oeuvres (which almost are a meal in themselves) and followed by desserts that are as unique as the rest of the menu: Pudding de Bain au Rhum (bread pudding in a rum sauce) or Corbeille de Fruits et Fromages, a wide variety of fresh fruit and cheeses. American coffee is also available, but I recommend that you try Cafe filtre d'Haiti, a rich Haitian coffee with a pinch of cinnamon added to give it a very special taste.

Leoni Au Coin D'Haiti also has a special luncheon menu, which includes Banana Pancakes (served with fresh fruit) and a terrific Caviar Omelet. Prices are moderate: meals are prix fix, starting at \$10 for lunch and \$15 for dinner, or a la carte. Lunch is served Monday through Friday from 11 AM to 3 PM, dinner Sunday through Saturday from 6 PM to midnight. Reservations are preferred for lunch, but required for dinner-(212) 532-8812. At the moment, Leonie can accommodate small private parties, but expects to expand to other floors eventually-your patronage could help to speed up that process. B

— Valerie Greene Norman

That's how it was during my visit. Con Edison has since turned on the juice, and now the chandeliers sparkle once



## 

### MANHATTAN

Brasserie 100 Fast 53rd St A la carte L; fr. \$3.75 D: fr. \$4.75 AE, BA, CB, DC, MC Open 24 Hours 751-4840

The Cellar 70 W. 95th St./ Columbus Ave. 866-1200

Cheshire Cheese 319 W. 51st St. English cuisine. delicious cheese soup and sliced steak L: \$5.50-\$7.00 D: \$8.50-\$10.00 765-0616

Chez Cardinale 347 W. 46th St. French & Italian cuisine L: \$5.00-\$7.00 D: \$6.00-\$9.00 AE, BA, DC, MC 245-9732

The Cockeyed Clams 1678 Third Ave./ 94th St Seafood fare, nautical decor \$4.00-\$7.00 Cash Only Reservations Suggested 831-4121

David's Pot Belly 98 Christopher St. Intimate atmosphere Delicious crepes: omelets; half lb. hamburgers; numberous ice cream goodies \$2.95-\$5.50 Cash Only Open Until 5 A.M. 243-9614

**Dobson's Restaurant** 341 Columbus Ave./ 76th St. L: \$3.00; D: \$5.00 AE, V. MC Reservations Required 362-0100

**Elephant & Castle** 68 Greenwich Ave. Great omelets and quiche; exceptional desserts. A la carte \$2.00-\$6.00 AE, BA, CB, DC 243-1400

Esther Eng 18 Pell St. \$3.00-\$9.00 AE, BA, DC, CB, MC 732-0175

Feathers Restaurant 24 Fifth Ave./9th St. (In the Fifth Ave. Hotel) Sidewalk cafe and gas lighting. AE, DC, B, MC 673-0750

Genghis Khan's 197 Columbus Ave./ 69th St. Quaint, colorful L: \$2.00; D: \$12.00 AE, V. DC. MC Reservations Suggested 595-2138

Gleason's **Public House** 400 Columbus Ave./ 79th St. Fish, fowl & beef specialties L: \$3.25; D: \$5.95 AF 874-8726

Horn of Plenty 91 Charles St. Lives up to its name: Southern food specialties Dinner Only-\$8.50-\$15.50 AE, BA, MC 242-0636

Hwa Yuan Szechuan Inn 40 E. Broadway Informal dining; Excellent beef and scallions and moo goo gai pan dishes 966-5534/5535

Jack's Nest 310 Third Ave./ 23rd St. Traditional soul food \$4.00-\$7.00 Cash Only 260-7110

The Jamaican 432 Sixth Ave./ 10th St. Jamaican food specialties and seafood dishes. Dinner Only AE, DC, V, MC Reservations Suggested 982-3260

1279 First Ave./ 69th St. Warm atmosphere. international menu. AE, DC, V, MC 737-3735

La Famille 2017 Fifth Ave. Long established soul food eaterie. 534-0090

La Tablita 65 W. 73rd St. 874-9120

Leonie au Coin d'Haiti 131 E. 39th St. Elegant restaurant gift gallery Creole French cuisine; Caribbean & African dinner A la carte and prix fix lunch. \$10.00-\$15.00 AE, DC, MC Reservations Required 532-8812

Le Yogurt 224 Columbus Ave. 724-7816

Los Panchos Cafe & Restaurant 71 W. 71st St. Spanish cuisine. 864-9378

Main Street 75 Greenwich Ave. Regional American cuisine. 920-1579

Marvin's Garden 2274 B'way/82nd St. AF MC 799-0578

Mikell's 760 Columbus Ave. 864-8832

Museum Cafe 366 Columbus Ave. Casual, artsy, colorful. L: \$2.50-\$5.00 D: \$5.00-\$10.00 724-7509

Oenophilia 473 Columbus Ave. B: \$3.95-\$6.00 D: \$4.95-\$11.00 580-8127

Once Upon A Stove Cash Only Third Ave./ 8748391 24th St.

Antiques decor exciting-abounding in surprises. Continental cuisine. L: \$3.50-\$6.00 D: \$4.50-\$10.00 683-0044

325

The Only Child 226 W. 79th St. Good Southern food. 874-8577

**Parentheses** 392 Columbus Ave. 787-6922

Peach Tree 557 W. 125th St. Good southern tood at reasonable prices. Cash Only Closed Sundays 864-9310

Poletti's 2315 B'way/84th St. Excellent Italian cuisine A la carte B: \$3.50-\$5.50 D: \$4.50-\$8.50 AE, DC, V, MC Reservations Suggested 580-1200

Rene Pujol 321 W. 51st St. Southern French cuisine. Quiet and atmospheric L: \$6.50-\$7.50 D: \$9.50-\$12.00 AE, DC, V Reservations Required 246-3023/247-9540

The Red Baron 201 Columbus Ave./ 69th St. American and Continental cuisines. L: \$3.50-\$6.75 D: \$6.00-\$10.00 AE, DC, V, MC 799-8090

Rikyu Japanese Restaurant 210 Columbus Ave. 799-7847

Ruskay's 323 Columbus Ave./ 75th St. Warm, candlelight duplex dining or sidewalk cafe. B: \$3.50; L: \$5.50; D: \$11.00

Open 24 Hours

Sea Fare of the Aegean 25 W. 56th St. Exceptional seafood. L: \$8.00 and up D: \$7.00-\$20.00 AE, CB, DC, MC 581-0540

Taco Villa 368 Columbus Ave. Mexican cuisine L: \$5.95; D: \$5.50-\$8.00 580-7826

Teachers 2249 B'way/81st St. AE, DC, MC 787-3500

Top of the Park W. 60th at CPW (Atop the Gulf and Western Building) Spectacular view, continental service, international menu. D: \$9.50-\$15.00 AE, DC, CB, V, MC Reservations Required 333-3800

Victor's Cafe 240 Columbus Ave./ 71st St. Cuban cuisine. AE, DC 877-7988/595-8599

Vincent's 14 Pearl St. AE, DC, MC BO-9-0367

**Under The Stairs** 688 Columbus Ave./ 94th St Atmospheric, international menu; great seafood. L: \$1.70-\$5.95 D: \$4.95-\$8.95 AE, CB, DC, V, MC 663-3103

### QUEENS

Carmichael's 117-08 N.Y. Blvd. Good home cooking, especially salmon croquette breakfast and biscuits. 723-6908

LaCueva 104-21 Queens Blvd. Spanish-American

cuisine. Dinner Only 275-9595

Listings

**Lobster Tank** Seafood House 134-30 Northern Blvd. Cozy atmosphere. Great lobster and steak. 359-9220

#### BROOKLYN

Casa Storica 156 Park Pl. Unusually atmospheric, fine food, variable menu. Only-Dinner \$7.00-\$8.50 636-9617

Gage & Tollner 374 Fulton St. A Brooklyn landmark; Opened in 1879 and still serving excellent American dishes. Famous for steak & seafood. 875-5181

McDonald's Dining Room 327 Stuyvesant Ave. One of Brooklyn's oldest and best for fine Southern food. 574-3728

Old Mexico 115 Montague St. Small but well prepared serve good authentic Mexican dishes. 624-9774

Su Su's Yum Yum 60 Henry St. (Corner of Cranberry Excellent cuisine from the provinces of China 522-4531

### STATEN ISLAND

Grandma's Table 33 Water St. Delicious homebaked treats. 447-9405

Montazuma's Revenge 103 Stuyvesant Place Closed Mondays Saturdays-Dinner Only 442-9612

### FASHION

### YVES ST. LAURENT



1. Single Breasted suit in wool blend tweed coordinated with a herringbone weave, button collar, round neck pullover.

2. Cropped four button silhouette accented by patch pockets at the breast and hips, unpadded and unlined. Slim line of ventless body and notch lapels, are reflected in the superskinny shirt collar and tie.

3. 100% cotton sateen is highlighted by two spacious button flap patch pockets. A skinny collar bound by an equally skinny tie. The shirt is paired off with double inverted pleat trousers of wool blend flannel. (Left to Right)

he look in men's fashion for this gift-giving season is uncontrived, warm and classic. A man's clothing is an expression of his unique personality-each element is an important part of his total look. According to Yves St. Laurent, "good taste and elegance will be the guiding principles in pulling together the wardrobe for this Christmas.

"Men's fashion today is free and easy, the only rule that holds true for the au courant is that, his clothes and attitude should be natural." The contemporary male dresses for

comfort and is not interested in the semblance of machismo.

The accent is on easy look features: narrow lapels, rounded flap pockets that give a tailored effect, reduced side vents, eased waist line and slim pants with straight legs (preferably cuffed). The two-piece suit with a cardigan or V-neck sweater substituting for the vest is the push for this fall. Don't discard your old vest-they're being worn with jeans.

Tactile and visual textures play an important role in Fall men's wear fabrics. The fashion fabrics are tweeds.

home-spuns and fancy plaids in patterns of muted earth-tones.

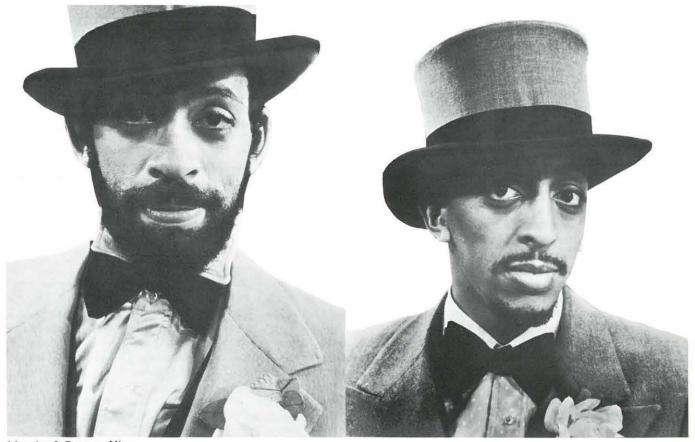
The essential element is the loose, natural sport jacket, dressed up for a business meeting, dressed down for a day or evening of leisure.

The accent is also on accessories: a subtle interplay between the colors and patterns of the suit, shirt and tie: narrow belts and ties reflect the slimmed proportions of Saint Laurent's jackets and pants for this season. R

-Leon MacDonald

### THEATRE

### HINES, HINES AND NO DAD



Maurice & Gregory Hines

t was right after a matineé performance of "Eubie!" Broadway's latest black musical hit; the Hines Brothers—Gregory, 35, and Maurice, 33—fresh from dancing their behinds off in the show, dashed out of the stage entrance for a quick betweenshows lunch. They didn't get very far before they were stopped by four beaming, matronly black ladies who had just seen them perform.

"You were wonderful," gushed one of them.

"I just love the way y'all dance," intoned another.

Maurice and Gregory smiled graciously as their fans commented, their "Thank you" barely audible, but when the two remaining ladies compared them to the Nicholas Brothers, the reaction was loud and clear. "Thank you very much,"

they responded, in near-unison, "that is one of the highest compliments anyone can pay us."

Later, during an interview, I asked them why they felt that way. "Because they were one of the greatest tap teams that ever danced," replied Maurice, the more outgoing of the two. "I could watch them dance all night, and the tap routine they did in the movie "Stormy Weather" still blows my mind—I watch it every time it runs on television."

"They are part of the great history of tap dancers who have never received their just due," added Gregory, the divorced father of an eight-year-old daughter. "Partly because we black folks today have been taught that tap is something degrading, something we should bury in the past. Meanwhile, every-

where we go we see young white dancers studying tap every chance they get. Young black dancers had better get with it." Getting back to the subject of the Nicholas Brothers, Maurice mentioned that the *Dixie Moon* routine performed by the Hines Brothers in "Eubie!" is meant to be a tribute to their famous predecessors' dance in "Stormy Weather." "Of course," he laughed, "at our age we can't do all those incredible splits they did—we'd never get back up!"

In "Eubie!" the talented brother team virtually carries the show; each get a chance to strut his stuff—as the saying goes—both individually, jointly, and with the rest of the company. Gregory, whose very appearance elicits anticipatory laughter, has two memorable scenes:

a wordless courtroom vignette in which he portrays a lecherous judge by way of gestures and facial expressions, and a segment in which he sings a gut-bucket version of Low Down Blues. The former has the audience howling, the latter demonstrates most effectively that singing, too, is among his many talents.

Maurice, a seemingly tireless performer who never slows down, gets his big individual moment later in the show when he burns up the stage with a song and dance number called You Got To Git the Gittin' While the Gittin's Good. When he turns his back to the audience and shakes his peach-shaped posterior, it proves to be more than some women can stand; at that particular afternoon's matinee one lady actually jumped up and attempted to climb onto the stage, another called out her telephone number, but most just sit there and shout.

Though many people are now discovering the talents of Gregory and Maurice Hines for the first time, the two have actually been exciting audiences for many years. Born and raised in Brooklyn, they started dancing together at ages five and three, exhibiting enough talent to prompt their mother (Alma) to enroll them in dancing classes, and to start taking them to auditions all over New York City. Their first tap teacher was Henry Le Tang, who just happens also to be the tap choreographer for "Eubie!" Maurice calls Le Tang "The last of the tap masters," adding, "we owe him a lot for keeping tap alive."

For fifteen years, Maurice and Gregory danced all over the United States and in Europe as The Hines Kids. Later they teamed up with their father—Chink, a drummer—to form a successful act called Hines, Hines and Dad; the lively family trio appeared in nightclubs and concert halls throughout the United States and Europe, made frequent TV appearances (including several on the Tonight show), and even recorded a Columbia album "live" in Paris, g complete with an 18-piece band. Finally, in 1973, a combination of  $\alpha$ reasons led to the disbanding of o Hines, Hines and Dad: their father's Gregory, Dad, and Maurice

retirement (he and Mrs. Hines now live in Las Vegas, where he works as maitre d' at the Tropicana Hotel), and the fact that Gregory and Maurice had simply outgrown the group's middle-of-the-road audience. "It was the late Sixties, early Seventies," Gregory explains, "and being a part of that generation, we stopped performing in formal dress. We adopted a more casual look and started using more politically-oriented material, changes which our traditionally inclined audiences couldn't accept." Then, too, after so many years together, the Hines family had simply grown tired of working as a team.

Following the break-up, Gregory moved to California in pursuit of a musical career. Forming his own group, appropriately called Severance, he recorded an album of his own songs, but it and the group failed to catch on, so he soon found himself having to resort to such nonmusical jobs as teaching karate and doing busboy chores. Maurice fared better. He studied acting while continuing to sing and dance in various small New York supper clubs, and he was able to combine his talents as Nathan Detroit in the road company of "Guys and Dolls," and in "Toby Time," an ill-fated revue based on the famous T.O.B.A. (Theatre Owners' Booking Association), a black vaudeville circuit of the

Twenties the initials of which were popularly interpreted as "Tough On Black Asses."

When Maurice heard that a musical revue based on composer Eubie Blake's music was being produced, he rushed to audition for it, and suggested that Gregory do the same. Living proof of their success is to be seen on the stage of New York's Ambassador Theatre (215 West 49 St.) nightly (except Mondays), and Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons (see review in ROUTES November issue).

Do we have a new Hines and Hines team? "No," says Gregory, "but that doesn't mean we won't be working together anymore. For instance," he adds with a grin, "if Maurice is working somewhere and not drawing an audience, I'll help him out, and I'll also help him out if I'm working and he needs a job." Maurice reacts with a look that seems to say "that won't be happening too soon, my man." His ambition is to be able to do light comedy with the skill of a Giancarlo Gianinni.

Actually, after seeing their dazzling performance in "Eubie!." I seriously doubt if either of the Hines Brothers will ever face an employment problem, they are simply loaded with talent, and we've only seen them fire round two so far-a bullseye. R

-A. Peter Bailey



### **AUDELCO: KEEPING** BLACK THEATRE ALIVE

n an atmosphere filled with love and appreciation, the black theatre community last month rallied at the Symphony Theatre on New York's Upper West Side. The occasion was the Audelco Awards presentation, an annual event honoring distinguished contributions to the black theatre community. Audelco (Audience Development Committee) is a non-profit corporation founded in 1973 by Vivian Robinson, Renee Chenoweth, Doris Smith and Winifred Richardson for the purpose of generating greater recognition. understanding and awareness of the arts in black communities. Over the past six years, the organization has become a major force in the building of audiences for black productions, an institution vital to the survival of small theatre companies ignored by the media. Yet the New York State Council on the Arts insists that Audelco is a "social club," and therefore not eligible for a grant. "I take that as a terrible insult," says Vivian Robinson, "because we are not a social club. and I don't need this for my social life. I don't know of any social club that is doing the sort of things we do, and if social clubs did what we do they should be funded, because anything that helps the arts ought to be supported and encouraged."

Giving individual recognition to people actively engaged in creative theatre work, those generally ignored when other awards are given out, is but a small part of Audelco's activity. The organization's main concern is the survival of the many ill-financed black theatre companies from which tomorrow's stars will sprout, companies that are often rich with talent but whose future hangs in a balance for lack of audience support. "We get people out to thirty or forty theatre events annually," says Ms. Robinson, "and we are not restricted to any one section of the city. Broadway doesn't need that much help from us, but if our friends want to see

Broadway shows we will try to arrange it for them."

For the most part, black theatre operates in areas where critics fear to tread after dark, out-of-the-way places such as storefronts, community centers and lofts. That makes it difficult for many productions to receive adequate media coverage, but Audelco will deliver an audience to such places. Audelco Award winner Ernie McClintok, Artistic Director for the Afro-American Studio for Acting and Speech is an enthusiastic supporter of the organization. "It is the most significant theatre organization that I know of in this area," he says, "it gets people into the theatres and assists tremendously in showcasing black talent." ROUTES contributor A. Peter Bailey, who is Associate Director of the Black Theatre Alliance and Chairman of the Audelco Awards Committee, notes that BTA's relationship with Audelco has been "crucial" in aiding the development and continued support of black theatre. "Audelco saw a need and had the vision and dedication to fill it," he says. "Black theatre is forever in its debt."

There are some fifty Harlem-based cultural organizations operating on a miniscule budget, depending largely—or, in some cases, totally on grass-roots support for survival. Audelco has taken the first step to create what it hopes some day will be a cultural center for both the preservation of theatrical memorabilia and the dissemination of cultural information—a place where the past is honored and the future is honed. That dream began to materialize in the past year as Audelco leased a four-story brownstone on 126th Street, in the heart of the Harlem community, setting up the various floors for meetings, seminars and cultural activities. To keep Audelco audiences informed of the organization's activities and theatre happenings in general, a "Hot Line" number-(212) PL9-2424—has been installed (functioning on Mondays and Wednes-

days only) and a newsletter, "Intermission," is published and sent out to Audelco's mailing list quarterly. "The sky's the limit," says Program Coordinator Renee Chenowith. "It is only for lack of adequate financing that we are not further along, but, when you really think about it, six years is a pretty good track record."

This year marked the first time Audelco's awards ceremony was held outside of Harlem, a fact that saddened its founding ladies, who had sought to secure the Apollo Theatre for the event. As things turned out, the Apollo's new management asked for such an exorbitant fee that Audelco shifted its ceremony to the more reasonably priced Symphony Theatre, at 95th and Broadway. That is a sad commentary on the attitude of the Apollo's new owners toward a group that has done so much to keep Harlem's artistic community alive. Audelco has always felt it important to center its activities in Harlem, and for an institution as large and established as the Apollo to put profit before the good of the community that supports it seems, to say the least, self-defeating. It leads one to strongly question the historic theatre's relevancy to the black community.

Despite such obstacles, Audelco continues to provide the kind of cultural enrichment needed to strengthen and revitalize the Harlem community. As Ms. Robinson states: "We do it because no one else is doing it. We who are involved in the present should be concerned about the future and aware of the past. It should concern us that the history of black theatre is so greatly ignored, for it is from its rich, deep roots that the future must sprout." R

-Angela E. Smith

For information on Audelco and its activities, write AUDELCO, P.O. Box 30, Manhattanville Station, New York, N.Y. 10027-or call (212) 759-2424.

# THEATR

### Listings

A Broadway Musical

Lunt-Fontanne Theatre 205 W. 46th St 586-5555

A Chorus Line

Shubert Theatre, 225 W. 44 St 246-5990

The revelations of the trials and tribulations of chorus line hopefuls. Mon-Sat 8 pm \$10-\$16.50; Wed-Sat 2 pm, \$8-\$15.

"Ain't Misbehavin"

Longacre Theatre, 220 W. 48th St 246-5639

A new musical based on the music of Fats Waller Sat 8 pm, \$12-\$17.50; Tues thru Fri 8 pm, Sun 7:30 pm, Sat, 2 pm &

American Dance Machine

Sun 3 pm \$10-\$15.

Century Theatre 45 St West of B'way 354-6644 Weds-Sat 8 pm; Weds & Sat Matinee, 2 pm; Sun Matinee, 3 pm; Sun, 7:30 pm.

Alvin Theatre, 250 W. 52 St 757-8646 One of America's favorite comic strips comes to life. Little Orphan Annie. Tues-Fri, 8 pm \$8-\$16.50; Sat 2 pm \$8-\$16.50, Sun, 3 pm \$9-\$17.50;

Ballroom

Wed, 2 pm, \$8-\$14.

Majestic Theatre Shubert Alley Between 44 & 45th Sts Opens Dec 1 221-3551

Beatlemania

Wintergarden Theatre, 1634 B'way 245-4878 A multi-media and live musical featuring the Beatles' music. Sat 2, 7 & 10 pm, Fri 7 pm \$9-\$15; Sun 2 & 5 pm, Weds & Thur 7 pm, \$8-\$13.50.

"The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas"

46th Street Theatre 226 West 46 St 246-0246 Mon-Sat, 8 pm Sat & Weds Matinees, 2 pm.

The Coach With Six Insides

The Theatre of the Open Eye 316 E. 88th St Opens Nov 15 thru Dec 3. Special Christmas Showings Dec 26-31 534-6909

Coriolanus

The Public Theatre 425 Lafayette St Opens Dec 26 Starring Gloria Foster and Clarence Williams III 677-6350

Dancin'

Broadhurst Theatre, 235 W. 44 St 246-6699 Musical directed by Bob Fosse Sat 8 pm, \$18.50, \$16, \$14; Tues-Fri 8 pm, \$17.50, \$15, \$13; Sat 2 pm Sun. 3 pm, \$16.50, \$14, \$12; Weds. 2 pm \$15, \$13, \$11.

Deathtrap

Music Box Theatre, 239 W. 45 St 246-4636 A comedy thriller by Ira Levin. Sat 8 pm \$10.50-\$17.50; Mon-Fri 8 pm & Sat 2 pm \$8-\$15; Weds. 2 pm \$6.50-\$13.50.

Dracula

Martin Beck Theatre, 302 W. 45 St. 246-6363 Sat, 8 pm, \$10-\$16.50; Tues-Fri, 8 pm \$9-\$15; Weds, 2 pm \$6-\$12, Sat, 2 pm & Sun, 3 pm \$7.50-\$13.50

Eubie

Ambassador Theatre, 215 W. 49 St. 541-6490

A musical revue featuring the music of Eubie Blake, opens Sept. 20. Ticket sales being Aug 28. Sats, 8 pm \$14-\$20; Tues-Fri, 8 pm, Sats 2 pm, Suns 3 pm, \$12-\$17.50; Weds 2 pm, \$10-\$15.

Four O'Clock On A Rainy Afternoon New Heritage Repertory Inc. 43 E. 125th St

Opens Dec 1, Weekends, Fri, Sat, 8 pm. Friday night only for Senior Citizens, couples, students and out of work actors two for \$6. All others \$4. Dec 1, 2 & 3 Gala weekend with reception-\$10. Meet the actors and directors. 876-3272

Gemini

The Little Theatre, 240 W. 44 St 221-6425 Mon-Sat 8 pm, Weds & Sat 2 pm. \$6-\$12.

The Gin Game

Golden Theatre, 252 W. 45 St 246-6740 Mike Nichols directed comedy-drama. Sat 8 pm \$13-\$17.50; Tue-Fri 8 pm Sat 2 pm & Sun 3 pm, \$11-\$16; Weds 2 pm \$9-\$13.50.

Grease

Royale Theatre, 242 W. 45 St. 245-5760 Nostalgia of the 1950s variety. Tues-Thurs 8 pm, \$6.90-\$14.90; Fri & Sat 8 pm, \$7.50-\$15.90; Weds 2 pm, \$5.50-\$11.90; Sat 2 pm & Sun 3 pm, \$6.50-\$12.90.

Love My Wife

Ethel Barrymore Theatre, 242 W. 47th Infidelity with music by Cy Coleman. Mon-Fri, 8 pm, Sat 2 pm, \$10-\$16; Weds 2 pm, \$8-\$14; Sat 8 pm, \$11-\$17.50

In Splendid Error

Pilgrim Theatre 240 E. 3rd St Dec 14 thru Dec 24 766-9334

It's Showdown Time

The Afro-American Studio Theatre Center 415 W. 127th St Nov 24 thru Dec 10 690-2477

The King & I

Uris Theatre, W. 51 St 586-6510 Closes Dec 31. Revival of Rodgers & Hammerstein musical classic with Yul Brynner. Tues-Sat, 8 pm \$9.50-\$16.50; Sat, 2 pm, \$8-\$15; Sun 3 pm, \$8-\$15; Wed. 2 pm, \$7-\$14.50.

The Kingfisher Biltmore Theatre 261 W. 47th St Opens Dec 6 582-5340

Magic Show

Cort Theatre, 138 W. 48 St 489-6392 A magical delight for all ages. Sat 7:30 pm, \$9-\$16; Wes-Fri, 7:30 pm \$8-\$15; Sun 5 pm, \$7-\$12; Sat & Sun 2 pm, \$8-\$13; Weds. 2 pm

Mummenschanz

\$7-\$12.

Bijou Theatre, 209 W. 45 St. 221-8500 Mime. Fri & Sat 8 pm, \$9-\$15; Tues-Thurs 8 pm, \$8-\$14; Weds & Sat, 2 pm, Sun 3 pm, \$8-\$13.

On the Twentieth Century St. James Theatre, 246 W. 44 St

398-0280 Sat 8 pm, \$12-\$22.50; Mon thru Fri 8 pm & Sat 2 pm, \$11-\$19.50; Weds 2 pm, \$9-\$16.

"Romance"

Theatre of the Riverside Church 490 Riverside Dr. 864-2929

Opens Nov. 30.

Two bittersweet and romantic comedies involving the lives of two couples.

Runaways

Plymouth Theatre, 236 W. 45 St 246-9156 A Joseph Papp presentation. Sat, 8 pm, \$18.50, \$14.50; Tues-Fri, 8 pm & Sun 7 pm \$17.50, \$13.50; Sat & Sun 2 pm, \$16, \$12.

Brooks Atkinson Theatre, 256 W 47 St.

Same Time, Next Year

245-3430

Comedy based on a 25 year old one-weekend-a-year love affair. Mon-Weds, 8 pm, \$9-\$15; Fri & Sat, 8 pm, \$10.50-\$17.50; Weds & Sat, 2 pm, Sun, 3 pm, \$8-\$13.

Santa Claus & The Unicorn

Harlem Dance Studio 144 W. 121st St 662-2057 Dec 16 & 17, 3 pm.

Softly Comes A Whirlwind

National Black Theatre 9 E. 125th St 427-5615 thru Dec 23

Take A Giant Step Pilgrim Theatre 240 E. 3rd St Nov 30 thru Dec 10 766-9334

"The Vampire and the Dentist"

Billy Holiday Theatre 1368 Fulton St. 636-0919 A red blooded musical farce by

Weldon Irvine.

The Wiz **Broadway Theatre** 

53 St. & B'way 247-7992 Adaptation of the Wizard of Oz, starring Stephanie Mills. Tues-Thurs, 7:30 pm, \$7-\$15; Sat, 2 pm, \$7-\$15; Sun, 3 pm, \$7-\$15; Fri, 7:30 pm, \$7-\$16; Sat, 7:30 pm, \$8-\$17.50; Wed, 2 pm, \$6-\$14.

DANCE

Alvin Ailey Dance Company

City Center 131 West 55 St 246-8989 Nov 29 thru Dec 20.

The International African-American Ballet

Brooklyn College 859-1180 Dec 9, 8 pm, Dec 10, 3 pm.

**New York City Ballet** 

'The Nutcracker' 838-4538 (UNICEF) Dec 5-31 (Except Mons)

**OPERA** 

Tosca

The Metropolitan Opera House Lincoln Center Shirley Verrett and Luciano Pavarotti Dec 13, 16, 19 & 23, 8 pm Dec 19 concert televised over PBS.

La Boheme

South Shore Adult Education Center Flatlands & Ralph Avs Dec 16, 8 pm, Dec 17, 2 pm 789-6759

Music of Sibelius

Brooklyn Academy of Music Opera House 626-4100 Dec 15, 16, 8 pm, Dec 17, 3 pm

## ART

### TRIM YOUR TREE WITH TOOTHPICKS

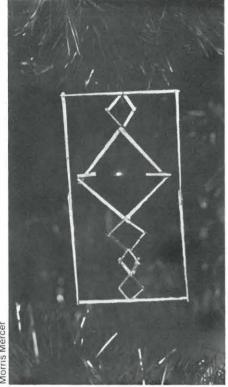


Illustration I

ith Christmas around the corner, it's once again time to unpack those boxes of tree ornaments, discover that last year's lights no longer work, and that some > of those glistening balls didn't survive z storage. Yes, Christmas always has its inherent quota of headaches, but \$ experience has taught us to expect them 2 and they are, after all, but a small 3 price to pay for the joy of seeing it all come together on the 25th. One way to heighten that joy is to use your Christmas tree for self-expression, to trim it with items that reflect you as much as your clothes or the decor of your home do. Home-made ornaments date back to the days when Christmas trees first came into being -they are both easy and fun to make, and they give your tree a wonderfully personal touch.

Though it is still maintained in some parts of Europe, the practice of making one's own tree ornaments

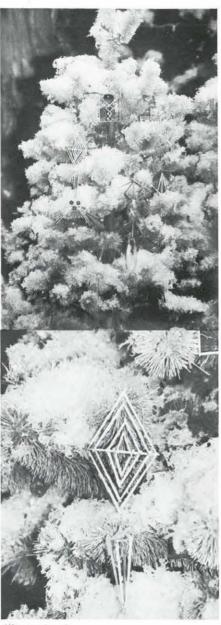


Illustration 3

is a vanishing custom, but we think you will find it as rewarding as it can be inexpensive, and don't forget that the adornments you create this year should—if properly stored—last long enough to eventually become a family treasure for generations to come.

This year, ROUTES invites you to take a novel approach to Christmas tree ornamentation by creating delicate

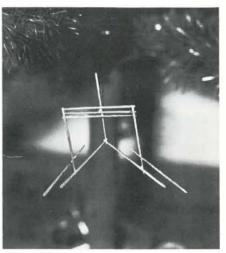


Illustration 4

toothpick decorations patterned after African designs. You don't have to be a Picasso to make these delightful and unusual ornaments, all you need is a steady hand and a little patience. Collect the materials listed below, follow our easy instructions, and bear in mind that the simplest designs often are the most beautiful. BASIC MATERIALS NEEDED

Toothpicks (preferrably flat)
White glue
Spray paint (metallic gold)
Book(s) on African art, textiles or
jewelry

OPTIONAL ACCENT PIECES

Feathers Beads Noodles and/or Glitter



Illustration 5

STEP ONE: Select your designs. Most bookstores carry illustrated books on African art, but you may simply want to borrow one from the library. We suggest that you choose simple designs (patterns without a lot of curves) at first, then work yourself up to more complex patterns and shapes as you gain proficiency.

STEP TWO: On a flat surface covered with newspapers, place your toothpicks in a pattern similar to the design you have chosen, and-using small dabs of glue-glue them together. Remember that your toothpick designs are variations on an African theme rather than line-for-line copies. For example, the waist ornament from Liberia inspired the toothpick sculpture depicted in illustration 4; illustration 5 is a variation of the leaf pattern found on an ivory chest from King Tut's treasures. Illustrations 1 and 3 are variations of the diamond pattern found on riding boots believed to be from northern Nigeria. To get an idea of what a tree looks like decorated in toothpick sculpture, see illustration 2.

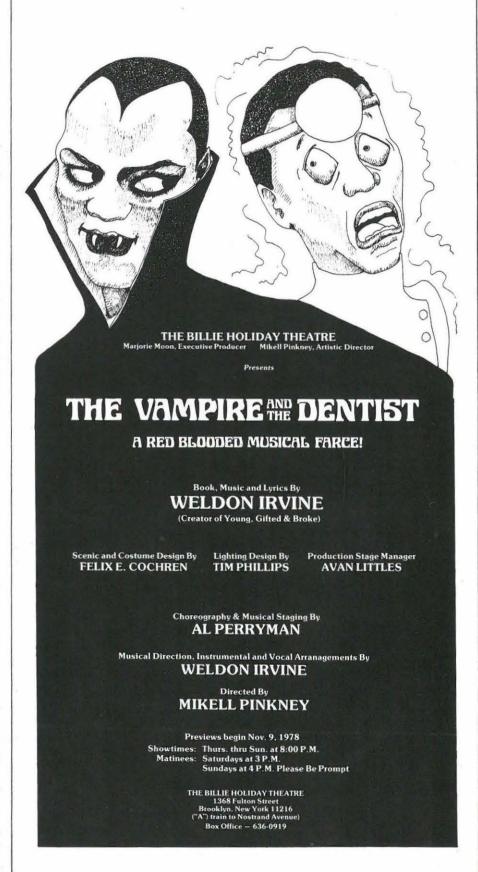
When you create three-dimensional ornaments, such as the one shown here with feathers, you must first build each unit separately on a flat surface, then glue them together to form the finished decoration. In this particular piece, eight diamonds were constructed separately, then assembled.

STEP THREE: When your creations have dried thoroughly, place them on newspaper and spray-paint them. We suggested metallic gold, but other colors can be just as effective, and if you wish to avoid paint altogether you can simply use colored toothpicks.

STEP FOUR: Accent the finished pieces with feathers, beads or broken noodles. Here, too, we are only offering some suggestions, you might come up with other interesting accents.

That's all there is to it. The variations are as endless as your own imagination, so get your favorite people together for some old-fashioned decorating fun with an African twist. Merry Christmas! R

-Brytt Dantzler



# ART

### MUSEUMS

Studio Museum in Harlem 2033 Fifth Av 427-5959 Wed 10-9 pm, Tues-Fri 10-6 pm, Sat-Sun 1-6 pm. Nov 5 thru Jan 7. "The Iconography of Bob Thomp son." Dec 10-Jan 7, "Toyce-Glenn Mobiles"

National Black American Historical Museum 107 W. 116 St Tues-Sun 11-7 pm Artifacts and memorabilia from slavery to the present. Adults \$1.00, Children 50¢ 864-9164

El Museo del Barrio 1230 Fifth Av Tues-Sun 10:30-4:30 pm 534-4994

Museum of the City of New York Fifth Av at 104th St Tues-Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5 pm 534-1672

International Center of Photography Fifth Av at 94th St Daily except Mon 11-5 pm 860-1783

Jewish Museum Fifth Av at 92nd St Mon-Thurs 12-5 pm Sun 11-6 pm 860-1860

Cooper-Hewitt Museum Fifth Av at 91st St Tues, 10-9 Wed-Sat 10-5 Sun 12-5 pm 860-2011

Guggenheim Museum Fifth Av at 89th St Tues 11-8 Wed-Sun 11-5 pm 860-1300

African-American Institute 833 U.N. Plaza (47 St) Mon-Fri 9-5 pm, Sat 11-5 pm 949-5666 Thru Mar 24. "Traditional Sculpture from Upper Volta." Metropolitan Museum of Art
Fifth Av at 82nd St
TR9-5500
Tues 10-8:45 pm,
Wed-Sat 10-4:45 pm,
Sun 11-4:45 pm.
Thru Jan 13: "The
Splendor of Dresden:
Five Centuries of Art
Collecting."
Dec 20 thru April
15: "King Tut." Call

for Museum hours.

Whitney Museum of American Art Madison Av at 75 St Tues-Fri 2-9 pm; Sat 11-6 pm; Sun Noon-6 pm. Closed Mon. 794-0600 Thru Dec 3. "Inner City: An Environment," by Michael McMillen. Thru Dec 3. "Abstract Expressionism: The Formative Years."

Asia House
112 East 64th St
Mon-Sat 10-5; Thur
10-8:30; Sun 1-5 pm
PL1-4210
"The Ideal Image: The
Gupta Sculptural Tradition and its Influence" Thru Dec 3.

Museum of American Folk Art 49 West 53rd St Tues-Sun 10:30-5:30 581-2472 "The Theodore Kapnek Collection" of American samplers. Thru Jan, 7.

The New Museum 65 Fifth Av (14th St) Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri, 12-6. Wed 12-8, Sat 12-5 741-8962

Manhattan
 West Side

The Cloisters Fort Tryon Park Tues-Sat 10-4:45 pm Suns 1-4:45 pm 923-3700

The American Museum of Natural History Central Park West at 79th St Mon-Sat 10-4:45, Wed till 9, Sun 11-5 873-1300 "Ice Age Art" thru Dec. New York Historical Society Central Park West at 77th St Tues-Fri 11-5, Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5 873-3400 "New Life for Old Objects: The Art of the conservator, thru end of year.

Manhattan
 Fifth Midtown

Songwriter's Hall of Fame One Times Square Mon-Fri 11-3 221-1252

National Art Museum of Sport 4 Penn Plaza (Madison Square Garden) Tues-Sat 10-6 244-4127

> •Lower Manhattan

South Street Seaport Museum Fulton and Front Sts 12-6 pm 766-9020

Fire Department Museum 104 Duane St. Mon-Fri 9-4, Sat 9-1 744-1000

Fraunces Tavern Museum 54 Pearl St. Mon-Fri 10-4 pm 425-1776

Federal Hall Nat'l Museum 26 Wall St Daily 9-4:30 pm 264-8711

• Bronx

Bronx Museum of the Arts 851 Grand Concourse Mon-Fri 9-5, Wed til 7:30, Sun 12-5 pm 681-6000

Brooklyn

Brooklyn Museum 188 Eastern Pkwy 638-5000 Wed-Sat 10-5 pm, Sun 12 noon-5 pm, Closed Mon-Tues. Thru Dec 15: "Nubian Art." Dec 9 thru Feb 11: "21st National Print

Exhibition.'

**New Muse Community Museum** of Brooklyn 1530 Bedford Av 774-2900 Daily 2-8 pm Nov 30 thru Jan 5: Special Christmas show in the Planet-Midnight Clear." arium "Upon Weekends only. Showtime on the hour. Dec 16, 11 am-8 pm. Kwanze Celebration.

Staten Island

Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences Stuyvesant PI & Wall St, St. George Tue-Sat 10-5 pm Sun 2-5 pm 727-1135

Hempstead

Black History Museum 106 North Main St Mon-Sat 9-5 pm (516) 538-2274

ART GALLERIES

Afro Arts Center 2191 A.C. Powell Blvd Daily 9-8 pm 831-3922

The Alternative Center for International Arts 28 East Fourth St 473-6072

Benin Gallery 2366 Seventh Av (Bet 138th/139th Sts) Tues-Sat, 3-7 pm 234-9723

Burgess Collection of Fine Art 530 Riverside Dr at 122nd St By appointment only 535-9807 Cinque Gallery 2 Astor Pl Tues-Sat, 12:30-5:30 pm 254-9626

Listings

Cordier and Ekstrom 980 Madison Av at 76th St Tues-Sat, 10-5:30 pm YU8-8857

Anne Graham Creative Arts 185 Hall St. Brooklyn (Pratt area) By appointment only 857-7278

Consortium Gallery 36 West 62nd St Mon-Sat 12-6 pm Sun 4-8 pm 581-9110

**Grinnel Gallery** 800 Riverside Dr. By appointment only 781-9708

Peg Alston Arts 407 Central Park West at 100th St By appointment 662-5522

Henry O. Tanner Gallery 44 W 63 St Mon-Sat 11-6 pm 582-9312

Martha Jackson Gallery 521 West 47th St. (Bet. 10th/11th Av) Wed-Sat, 10-5:30 757-3442 Just Above Midtown (JAM) 50 West 57th St (Bet 5th/6th Av) 757-3442

> LECTURES FREE FOR ALL

N.Y Public Library

Dec 14, 7 pm. "Women Artist Filmmakers." Nancy Kendall and her films. New Drop, S.I. Dec 15, 1 pm. "The Firm Through the Years: Its Work in New York City." Harry Simmons, Jr,

Years: Its Work In New York City." Harry Simmons, Jr, Speaker. Donnell, Man. Dec 16, 2:30 pm. "Meet the Author." Norma Johnston, Speaker. Donnell, Man Dec 16, 3 pm. "The Treasures of King Tut." Riverdale, Bx. Dec 18, 6 pm. "Divorce" Part II. Barry Wadler, esq. Speaker. Donnell, Man

POETRY READINGS

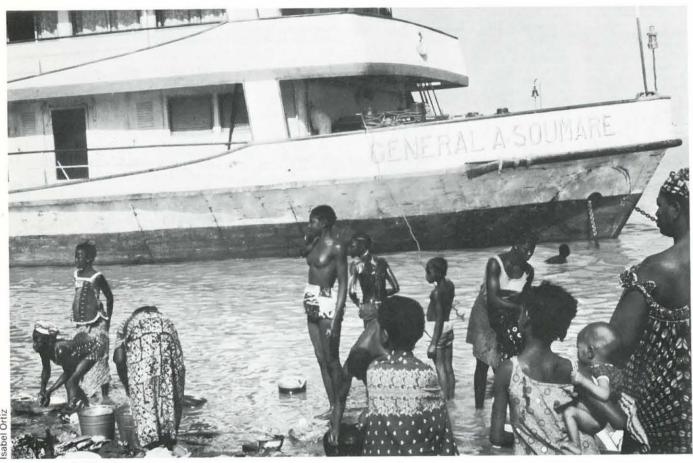
N.Y. Public Library

Dec 14, 12 noon. Adrienne Rich reading from her own works. Donnell, Man.



### TRAVEL

### AFRICA: A JOURNEY TO NORTHERNMALI



River scene in Mopti

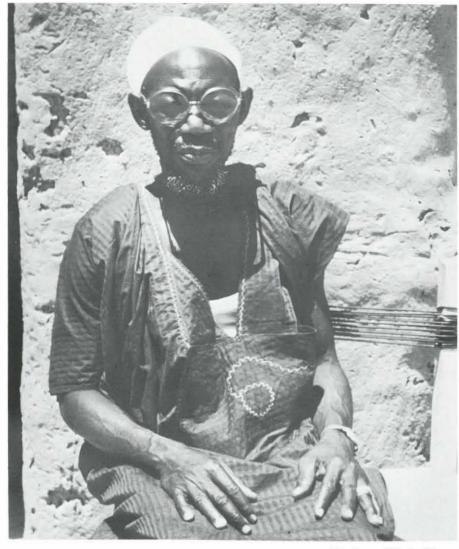
imbuktu may have been reduced to a sleepy town of five thousand people, but northern Mali, rich with history and art, remains one of the most fascinating corners of the earth; its location at the crossroads of several trans-Saharan trade routes makes it an ethnological melting pot of people as diverse as the Berbers, Arabs, Tuaregs, Bambara, Fulani, Dogon, and Mande. One very colorful route to Mali is that of the fabled Atlantic-Niger train from Dakar; the 650-mile trip from the Senegalese capital of Bamako, the capital of Mali, takes all of 18 hours and starts at a pace so slow that suburban Dakarites don't bother making the trip to the station, they simply jump aboard the moving train as it creeps around a bend. However, the good feeling of African

life aboard the train more than compensates for its lack of speed. The night traveler can enjoy the relative privacy of sleeping cars, but during the day the Atlantic-Niger train turns into a traveling circus as joyfully exuberant people laugh, sing and play cards while others pray or sleep on the train's floor (sometimes, even in the restroom). Among your fellow passengers you'll find sheep, fowl, and even pet monkeys, and as the car rattles through the scenic African countryside, mothers breastfeed their babies, and the air is filled with the smell of such favorite delicacies as mangoes,peanuts, fried chicken, rice, and fishfood sold by clusters of vendors who swarm to the train at each stop.

Once past the cool 60-degree

microclimate of Cape Verde, the temperature soars to a sweltering 100, and one notices the vegetation change. After Tambacounda-a small town on the edge of Bambara territory. near Mali-the lunar baobab forests and vast shrub expanses of the Senegalese brousse give way to a rugged landscape of rocks.

Bamako's market place is of special interest, teeming with a good many of the city's approximately 150,000 population, it is a colorful symphony of exotic jewelry, leathercrafts, fabrics, and other assorted wares. Gourmets have a choice of sampling local cuisine in cafes or dining more formally in some of the city's fancier restaurants; either way they have a chance to be serenaded by Malian griots, extraordinary



Ogobara, Chief of Sanga

perpetuators of the Mandinka musical tradition who alone make the trip worthwhile. In 1969, at the First Pan-African Festival in Algiers, these Malian griots garnered the highest praises.

Bamako also has good night clubs, as I discovered rather unexpectedly: to see more of the country, I joined a group headed north on a truck provided by the Tourist Office, but when our driver suddenly disappeared, we seized the opportunity to sample Bamako's night life by dancing with lithesome Malians to—of all things—Latin rhythms. The next morning, wearing a big smile, our driver finally showed up and explained that he had simply gone to bid his girlfriend farewell!

Enroute to the Niger, we were

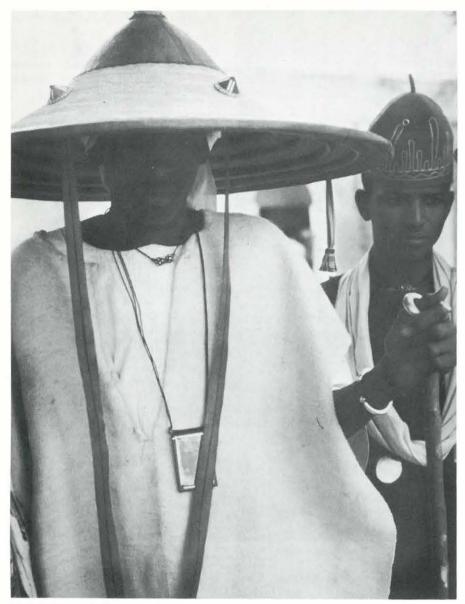
covered with a crust of dust from the ochre used to decorate houses there; ochre, brown, white and black are the landscape's four dominant colors, a stunning combination, especially when seen against the bluest of skies. Toward Segou, former capital of the Bambara Kingdom, magnificent fortified villages surge on the horizon; these villages abound with an impressive variety of art objects representing a wide range of techniques and cultures. Despite the ochre dust, our trek was a wonderful experience filled with interesting sights and sounds: women pounding grain rhythmically, children flashing warm smiles, itinerant Fulani fiddlers treating us to impromptu recitals-we felt welcome wherever we stopped.

Mopti, the Moslem port on the Niger, is a hub of intense activity:

women washing themselves in the waters of the river; stevedores loading boats destined to go upstream; all, amidst the pungent smell of spices and fish, Lebu fisherman mingling with Tuareg, Dogon, and Bambara merchants in a constantly moving kaleidescope of colors. One marvels at the beauty of Fulani women with their heavy gold earrings and indigo lips, and at the splendor of the sunset dancing its reddish hues on the clay pots and multi-colored boxes set along the river's bank to dry. While some visitors may prefer the "modern" bank where men discuss affairs of the day in Syrian cafes or the colonial hotel, more adventurous souls are attracted by the mystery of the Medina. the old quarter which picturesquely extends around the mosque on the other side of the Niger.

Djenne, the former trade metropolis of western Sudan, is a gem well worth the few extra miles of difficult road it takes to reach it. Its isolated location and the fact that one has to drive through a muddy branch of the Niger (at the risk of stalling) to get there has discouraged mass tourism, consequently, Djenne has preserved its pristine look. Enroute to Djenne, one passes villages, surrounded by palm trees like oasis in a vast plain with sprawling nomad encampments. Local people take a delight in telling tales of ancient kings and mischievous princesses. reminding us that, in the 14th century, the region was a part of the great Mali Empire. Night-time arrival in Djenne is an eerie experience: there is an intensity about the mosque square that recalls such great mystical cities as Fes and Cordoba; the moon casts ominous shadows on the ground. and even the most common sounds take on another dimension as they penetrate the night air-a voice calls, another responds, a horse neighs, and in between there is an almost magical silence.

I dumped my sleeping bag under a clump of trees determined to get some sorely needed rest, but floating through that resounding African night came the beckoning rhythms of distant music, and I soon found myself following the drum beats to where a gathering stood. In the middle of a circle Bambara girls



Fulani Herders in Djenne

challenged each other with intricate choreography, a sight so fascinating that I forgot all about sleep. The following day our driver had disappeared again, but this time not for a romantic romp. It turned out that he had collided with a wild buck whose horns became entangled in the truck's radiator grill; this did not kill the animal, but he subsequently did, placing it on the roof of his vehicle with a future feast in mind. Unfortunately, police caught him skinning the buck, and threw him in jail. After much heated discussion with local authorities, we not only succeeded in freeing our driver, but also managed to secure for ourselves half of the meat, which we then roasted for lunch and shared with a group of Fulani herders.

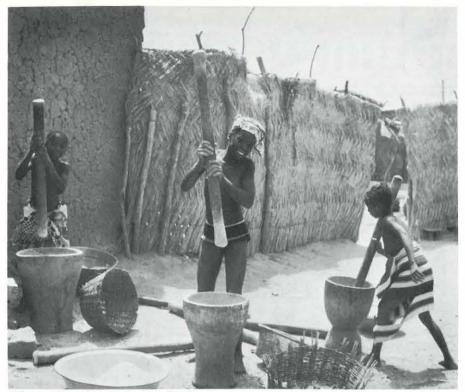
Fulani men are the epitome of elegance: tall, stately and nonchalant, they wear conical or embroidered hats, makeup and stupendous jewelry as they come to market places to trade milk for spices, show off, socialize and flirt. As chivalrous as they are handsome, they seem to prefer reciting poetry and making eye contact with ladies (or men, for Fulani males commonly hold each other tenderly by the hand) to indulging in carnal pleasures.

Because the Niger was at a low ebb, I had to skip Timbuktu—not until the summer, four months hence,

would the river swell. However, I abated my regrets by making an emotional pilgrimage to the Dogon, a people whose art and philosophy I fervently admire. Living but a few hours away from the Niger, the Dogon have long been among Africa's most secret people. They came from the south, centuries ago, and established their home in the impregnable rock dwellings of the Bandiagra cliffs; in so doing, they expelled the area's aboriginal inhabitants, the Telem pygmies, who then migrated to the Central African forest. Hidden in their strongholds, the Dogon maintained their ancestral religion, remaining impervious to Islam. Their seclusion was not total, however, for they were visited by explorers and missionaries who pilfered their art and brought it to Europe where it inspired such cubist painters as Braque and Picasso. Certain aspects of Dogon culture have crept into anthropological literature, and the fascinating revelations made by a blind sage named Ogotemmeli to French writer Marcel Griaule, show us that Dogon cosmogony is among the world's most elaborate.

From Bandiagara—which is located at the foot of Dogon country, and features magnificent examples of traditional African architecture—one takes a winding road to Sanga, the main village of the Dogon plateau. Along the way one sees at first veiled Tuaregs trekking lonesomely in the dust, then, as one ascends, myriads of orchards crop up, and in the heart of Dogon country Phrygian-capped peasants nod silently as they lead their small donkeys—and time seems frozen.

Being a romanticist, I found Sanga to be somewhat of a culture shock: my imagination had not prepared me for a modern hotel with showerequipped bungalows! Tourists do not always realize what a luxury such conveniences are in the middle of the terrible Sahelian droughtwater from the showers must be drawn from a well at the expense of the villagers' fields, an arrangement that is as inequitable as the fact that Sanga peasants must do with a daily plate of rice while the hotel menu features sumptuous French food. We struck up a conversation with a



Women Pounding Grain Near Segou

majestic old man who stood, clad in a blue robe, on the hotel terrace. He was the village chief, Ogobara, who also functions as a guide for the National Tourist Office. I found that out when he handed me a visiting card-so much for ancient Dogon traditions. Equipped with a prodigious memory. Ogobara seemed to recall all past visitors to Sanga, which prompted me to ask him about Ogotemmeli, the blind sage who had told Marcel Griaule so much about Dieu D'eau, the Dogon water god. "Come with me," Ogobara beckoned, "I'll take you around the village. Ogotemmeli died, but his brother is still alive." I followed him along the narrow streets of Ogoldu-Bas, the old, well-preserved part of Sanga, to the men's palaver hut where he introduced me to Ogotemmeli's brother. Before we proceeded from there, I learned that children had torn down Ogotemmeli's hut, but that it had been precisely reconstructed, complete with animal skulls in the walls.

In Ogol-du-Haut, the religious section of Sanga, Ogobara pointed out the house of the great Dogon priest, Hogon, the Binu temple—still wet with sacrificial blood—and

the square where Marcel Griaule was initiated. Then, pointing to a comfortable stone house, adjacent to the hotel, he said "This is Germaine Dieterlen's house. She comes every year from Paris to do research, but she won't stay in the hotel so we had that house built for her." Dieterlen is a French anthropologist, and the thought of Sanga as a second home for social scientists shattered yet another illusion of mine. Ogobara's tour ended at his house, where he showed me beautiful sculptured door pieces-among the few pieces of art that have remained in Sangaand photographs of himself with international visitors.

I arose at 5 the following morning to visit Banani and Ireli—the villages nested in the cliff on the other side of the Sanga plateau—accompanied by Ogobara's sons, who attend Bandiagra high school, and act as guides during holidays. A pink dawn illuminated the plateau as we set off for Banani, and the almost overwhelming serenity of the early hours was broken only by the occasional chirp of a bird, braying of a donkey, and the quiet greetings of a passing peasant going to work with an axe resting on his shoulders. To reach

Banani, we first had to cross the plateau hopping from stone slab to stone slab, then pass a grassy cove above which the Telem pygmies once lived. Suddenly the cliff that overlooks the Dogon villages and the plain loomed before us, and as the temperature began to rise, we began an almost vertical descent. Every day, old women scale the cliff with the agility of goats, carrying pails on their heads to fetch water from the plateau well—as grave and majestic as their surroundings, they seem as one with nature. Near a cave containing ancestral bones, we paused under a baobab to enjoy the spectacular view, and as I looked around I saw clearly how the villagers of Banani and Ireli have always managed to keep their aeries safe from intruders. Today they still keep largely to themselves, ignoring tourists until someone tries to photograph them, then they show open contempt. Despite their continued isolationism, the Dogon have not totally escaped from the rest of the world: signs of modern times include airplanes depicted next to traditional religious subjects on paintings that adorn ceremonial houses, and Japanese plastic sandals are sold in the market.

By the time we reached the plain, in the early afternoon, heat waves from the earth blurred the horizon. Bare-breasted Fulani women exchanged pleasantries as they headed for Banani to sell milk, their intimate behavior contrasting sharply with Dogon guardedness. When we returned to Sanga that night, funeral week had started; hunters, wearing their famous crested masks, performed splendid dances to the haunting sounds of drums and rhombs as they joined other villagers in a celebration of their dead.

"Timbuktu," the Broadway fantasy, has come and gone, but the place that gave it its name is still there, and it will remain there along with Mopti, Djenne, Bandiagara and Banani—little dots on a map that hold wonderful mysteries and spectacular art treasures. Should you have the good fortune to visit these historic places, your soul will be elevated, and you just might come away with a whole new outlook on life. R

—Isabelle Ortiz

### SPORTS

### THE JETS' MARVIN POWELL: YOUNG AND HUNGRY



Marvin Powell

here is a tendency to think of football players as "dumb jocks," but while some players may well fit that description, New York Jets offensive tackle Marvin Powell is not one of them. Before going to interview him at his apartment, I did a bit of homework and found out that he was a conservative who majored in speech and political science, and a devotee of classical music—not exactly the sort of stuff dumb jocks are made of.

"I only brought a few things with me, my stereo, records and some books," he explained, as if making an excuse for his sparsely-furnished apartment, "the rest of my stuff is in Los Angeles. I live here during the season, but my home is actually in California."

Marvin Powell's trek to New York began about six years ago when he left high school in North Carolina to attend the University of Southern California, "I couldn't afford college, but I knew I had to find something that would get me there-football was it. I liked California and I knew USC to be a good school. Actually, I was a highly sought-after recruit in college, and I didn't really want to go into football-my other choices included law school and the position of graduate assistant at West Point, but I chose football for various reasons. I love it, but I will eventually move on to other things."

Adjusting to football on a professional level has not proven difficult

for the six-foot-five player, he has great confidence in his ability, and he feels that his USC training has prepared him well for the task. "Because of the high level of football and coaching at USC, I was not all rookie coming into this game, however, the pro league is different from college, and though the shock is not devastating, the stark realities of playing as a professional are overwhelming. Of course I learn from the guys I play against, but a player of my caliber learns from all pros."

Powell knows that he is good, but he does not suffer from any delusions: "Time and chances were better for me than a lot of others," he says, indicating that he considers himself more fortunate than exceptional. I asked him if there were pressures on him to perform well. "There are winners and there are losers," he replied. "I know what I have to do, and I do it."

When a New York newspaper recently asked the Jets to fill out a questionnaire, Marvin Powell got the team's vote as a possible future presidential candidate. That's really not so surprising, for Powell-a Republican—makes no secret of the fact that he has political ambitions. He loves to read books on the subject, and on government in general, and he plans to take some related courses as soon as the football season is over. The road ahead is not cut and dry, however, stating that he may eventually enter law school, Powell also admits that a career in magazine publishing has crossed his mind. "I really don't know," he says in a soft voice that belies his current profession. "I'm still looking for a medium, a form."

In his search for a "form," Powell can draw from a wealth of experiences. The oldest of four children, he was an "Army brat" whose early years were spent living in Paris and in various other places where his father's nomadic military life took the Powell family. He recalls that coming back to the

United States was "an immediate culture shock," but he has obviously survived that, and he feels quite at home in California. "California is the most socially progressive state in the Union," he says in a very matter-of-fact tone, "and I consider myself a socially progressive person. I love it. I love the life out there."

I asked how he felt about New York. "I love New York," he replied, and I sensed some excitement creeping into his voice. "I love the diversification of culture—it's the capital of the world. My only complaint is that I never have the chance to do what I want to do while I'm here." Powell may wish for more leisure time on the one hand, but when a football player is idle during the season it is usually as a result of injury, that plagued him during last season when he was placed on the inactive list, and prevented him from really proving himself. This season doesn't look much better, a sprained ankle has already caused him to miss some crucial games, but Marvin Powell is an optimistic soul, and he is confident that he will be back on the field before long.

The Jets is the youngest team in professional football, I asked Powell how he though they would fare this year. "We could do very well—this should be a good year," he replied with continued optimism, "All things are directly related to time and chance. We're a young team—that's the Jets, young and hungry."

That also describes Marvin Powell, a man named by Street and Smith as "one of those players who come along once in a decade." R

-Juanita White

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### SMIRNOFF SPORTS QUIZ

### Questions



2. What American sprinter (male or female is the only person to win the 100 meter gold in two separate Olympics?

3. Name the first Black athlete to win a gold medal in the Olympics.

4. Former Ohio State great Archie Griffin rushed for 100 yards or more in 31 straight games. What team stopped the streak?

5. In the Rose Bowl, name the player who holds the single game rushing record.

6. Give the real name of the baseball teams lifted below:

a) Murderers Row

b) Whiz Kids

c) Gashouse Gang

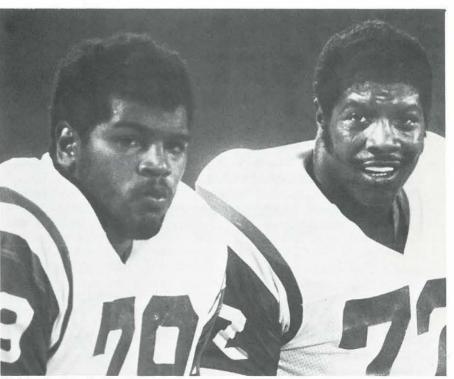
d) Hitless Wonders

e) Baby Birds

f) Big Red Machine

SMIRNOFF TRIVIA QUESTION What is a "Smokey Mary"? (Answers on Page 28)

©1978, Ste. Pierre Smirnoff Fls. (Division of Heublein, Inc.) Hartford, Conn.



(L) Marvin Powell, (R) Chris Ward

# SPORTS

### ANSWERS TO SMIRNOFF SPORTS QUIZ

1. Al Attles and K.C. Jones (1975) 2. Wyomia Tyus in 1964 and 1968 3. DeBart Hubbard for the long jump (Paris in 1924) 4. Michigan (Nov. 1975) 5. Bob Jeter (1959) New York Yankees 6b) Philadelphia Phillies St. Louis 6c) Cardinals 6d) Chicago White Sox Baltimore 6e) Orioles 6f) Cincinnati

Reds

6g) Smirnoff Vodka, bar-b-que sauce and tomato juice

### BASKETBALL

#### Madison Square Garden

•N.Y. Knicks
Dec 12, vs San Diego
Dec 17, vs Atlanta
Dec 19, vs Indiana
Dec 27, vs New Jersey
Dec 28, vs Washington
Dec 30, vs Kansas City

### College

Dec 21, Army vs L.S.U. Iona vs Detroit

Dec 29, Duke vs Ohio State Rutgers vs St. John's Dec 30, Championship Double Header

### FOOTBALL

Shea Stadium N.Y. Jets Flusing, Queens Dec 17, vs The Dallas Cowboys

Giant Stadium N.J. Giants East Rutherford, N.J. Dec 10, vs The St. Louis Cardinals

#### Monday Night Football\*

Dec 11, 9 pm. The Cincinnati Bengals vs The Los Angeles Rams Dec 18, 9 pm. The New England Patriots vs The Miami Dolphins

\*Televised over WABC-TV, Channel 7

### Listings

### **ICE HOCKEY**

#### Madison Square Garden

N.Y. Rangers Dec 10, vs Philadelphia Dec 13, vs Los Angeles Dec 17, vs Boston Dec 20, vs Buffalo Dec 22, vs Detroit Dec 31, vs Atlanta

### **TENNIS**

### Madison Square Garden

Dec 10, Arthur Ashe-UNCF Celebrity Tennis Benefit

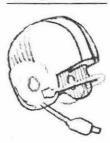
### MISCELLANY

#### Madison Square Garden Dec. 20 Thru Jan 1.

Dec 20 Thru Jan 1, ChineseAcrobats of Taiwan

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### MEDIA

### HOLLYWOOD'S HOLIDAY OFFERING





fter a long summer drought, Hollywood has once again opened its cinematic floodgates. If you are among the many who make a visit to the movies a part of your holiday celebration, you might be interested in some brief opinions on productions currently being offered: "The Wiz"-Motown has finally made a film that isn't an embarassment to watch. "The Wiz," an updated version of the long-running stage production, is the perfect holiday entertainment for all ages. It has everything imaginable going for it: Sidney Lumet's expert direction; Diana Ross (as Dorothy) at the peak of her stardom; excellent performances by a supporting cast that includes Nipsey Russell (The Tin Man), Ted Ross (repeating his stage role as the Cowardly Lion), Michael Jackson (making his film debut as the Strawman), Mabel King (repeating her stage role as Evilene, the Wicked Witch), and Richard Pryor (the Wiz himself). Add to that all the other ingredients of a film classic, including a knockout cameo appearance by Lena Horne-which alone is worth the price of admission—and you have a film that is not to be missed.

"Midnight Express"—If you found such prison films as "I Was a Prisoner

on the Chain Gang" and "Cool Hand Luke" engrossing, "Midnight Express" is the film for you, but if violence turns your stomach, skip this one. "Midnight Express," based on the true story of Billy Hayes' horrifying experiences in a Turkish jail, is one of the most visceral films ever made. Brad Davis stars as Haves, an American student sentenced to four years in a Turkish jail for attempting to smuggle two kilograms of hashish out of the country; he serves his time only to be given an additional, far more severe sentence instead of a release. The Casablanca production centers on Hayes' incredible treatment at the hands of Turkish prison officials and his absolutely remarkable escape. It is not a subtle film, it takes your emotions for a rollercoaster ride, and it hits hard.

"The Big Fix"—Richard Dreyfuss' first screen appearance since his Academy Award-winning performance in "The Goodbye Girl" is a worthy follow-up. Dreyfuss plays Moses Wine, a struggling private eye whose values were forged at Berkeley and tempered by the events of the Nixon years; a divorced weekend father and habitual gambler, he is a schmuck for all seasons who finds himself over his head in an investigation of

dirty tricks perpetrated against the liberal gubernatorial candidate. As the plot proceeds, it not only thickens, but hardens to the point where it can confuse all but the dyed-in-the-wool mystery fan. Be that as it may, "The Big Fix" is still a fun movie without artistic pretentions—an entertaining story that asks not only whodunit, but also why.

"Up In Smoke"—The comedy duo of Cheech and Chong (Richard Marin and Tommy Chong) has had record buyers and concert and club audiences in stitches with their offbeat, Lenny Bruce-inspired skits since 1971. Now, with several gold albums to their credit, the "kings of rock comedy," as they have been called, are starring in their first film, and you can bet it won't be their last. "Up In Smoke" has no plot, Cheech and Chong have simply transposed to film the kind of hilarious skits that have worked so well for them on records and in personal appearances. The result is a rollicking counter-culture tale that follows the extremely funny duo as it romps through the marijuana barrios of southern California and Tiajuana. The film marks the directorial debut of Lou Adler-the record executive who originally signed Cheech and Chong to Ode Records—and though

it is far from being technically perfect, it does successfully capture the so-called "black humor" of the Seventies.

"Death on the Nile"-Despite an allstar cast, beautiful location shots and a fabulous range of costumes, Paramount's sequel to "Murder on the Orient Express" fails to gel. I submit that, had he been working for the New York Police Department, the great detective Hercule Poirot (here portrayed by Peter Ustinov) would have been fired—or, at the very least, reprimanded—for his handling of this waterlogged Agatha Christie mystery. By the time we discover the identity of the murderer, we have been subjected to several sequences showing the victim being shot by individuals who make up a boat-full of suspects, and by the time Bette Davis goes through that exercise, the audience has become numb with ennui. (Recommended only to hardcore Christie fans.)

"Days of Heaven" - You can forget the plot of this film, which is almost biblical in nature, and simply absorb yourself in its visual splendor. In fact, Terence Malick's prairie love story, set in 1917 America, is the most



(L) Tommy Chong and Cheech Marin

beautiful film I have ever seen; Nestor Almendros' 70mm color photography literally flows off the screen and into one's conciousness like a great work of art. Richard Gere, this year's hot actor, gives a performance that he is not likely to ever improve upon, but Brooke Adams and newcomer Linda Manz (who also narrates the film with the thickest Lower East

Side accent in captivity) somehow seem lost amid the colorful imagery and the rich, Dolbyized stereo sound. That is unfortunate, of course, but it does not mar the visual magnificence of the film. "Days of Heaven" is surely this year's sleeper, a film that clings to your mind long after you have left the theatre. R

-Howard Brock Garland

### BOOK REVIEW



City Cool By James DeJongh and Charles Cleveland Random House, 184 pp., \$7.95 (Hard cover)

Literature, at its best, is the compressed consciousness of a society. Black literature, for too long, has been looking at itself from the exterior in which a dominant culture has to be "dealt with," "coped with" or "lived with." The different components of a prejudicial society have forced many black writers to look at their society with the critical

eye of a stranger.

What DeJongh and Cleveland offer us in their first book "City Cool: A Ritual of Belonging," is an interior look at a part of black society. The story of a teenager trying to find himself and his manhood within the cadre of a Harlem youth gang is written in retrospect and in the first person singular. The form allows the authors to advantageously limit themselves from personal sweeping co-demnations or indictments of society.

Neither the genre nor the form is new, what is new and promising is the cadence of the book. The narration is raw, powerful and violent and flows like a jazz album rich in rhythmic sound combinations. DeJongh and Cleveland knowledge for when the language should be ghetto filth, black idiomatic talk or ghetto teeangers' closest approximation of standard english stems likely from the fact that the book is an extension of their play Hail,

Hail the Gangs! They have perfect timing.

Mr. DeJongh, a teacher of black literature at City University of New York, and Mr. Cleveland, a stage actor, look at their society from the bottom up. The story of this youth gang, in Harlem, dismantles the rhetoric or racial rapprochement: these young black men care less about the dominant culture—they are omniscient on their turf. DeJongh and Cleveland force the middle class reader, especially those who "made it" in the 60s, to readjust their thinking.

The flaws of the book encompass poor plot formulation and the introspective thoughts of the storyteller, at times, are out of synch with his actual verbal ability. But these are "trespasses" the reader can forgive, for the bounciness and the use of language more than makes up for them.

-Elie Mystal

### FILMS-FREE FOR ALL

N.Y. Public Library

Dec 11, 7:30 pm. "The Naked Civil Servant" Yorkville, Man. Dec 11, 7 pm. "The Prince and the Pauper" Throg's Neck, Bx. Dec 12, 1:30 pm. "Look Before You Eat," "It's New, It's Neat, It's Obsolete" and "Steering Clear of

Lemons." George Bruce, Man. Dec 12, 2 pm. "Insomnia," "In

Search of the Bowhead Whale" and "Monsters: Mysteries or Myths?" Donnell, Man.

Dec 14, 12 Noon, "The Making of 'Silent Running', " "Making a Natural History Film" and "The Electronic Rainbow." Donnell, Man. Dec 14, 3:30 pm. "Animal Farm" Port Richmond, S.I.

Dec 16, 12 Noon. "Steamboat Bill" with Buster Keaton. Donnell, Man. Dec 16, 2 pm. "200 Years" and "Astonished Heart" Fordham, Bx.

Dec 18, 6:30 pm. "The Day the Earth Stood Still" St. Agnes, Man. Dec 19, 4 pm. "Fail Safe" Aguilar,

Dec 19, 7:30 pm. "Magnificent Ambersons" Jerome Park, Bx. Dec 19, 2 pm. "Canterville Ghost" and "Cry Wolf" Donnell, Man. Dec 19, 6:15 pm. "African Queen" 58th Street, Man.

Dec 19, 7:30 pm. "Magnificent Ambersons" Jerome Park, Bx. Dec 20, 4 pm. "The Fall of the House of Usher" Kingsbridge, Bx. Dec 20, 4 pm. "Emperor Jones" West Farms, Bx.

Dec 20, 2:30. Films on Crime Prevention. Fordham, Bx. "Humor and

Dec 21, 12 Noon. "Hun Celebration" Donnell, Man. Dec 21, 10:30 am. Films for the

Holiday. Woodlawn, Bx. Dec 22, 1 pm. Robert Joffrey

Ballet, New York City Ballet, Appalachian Spring. Spuyten Duyvil, Bx.

Dec 22, 3:30 pm. "Ring of Bright Water" Port Richmond, S.I. Dec 23, 2 pm. "Ring of Bright Water" Port Richmond, S.I.

Dec 28, 12 Noon. "Rebecca" Donnell, Man.

Dec 28, 5 pm. "The Time Machine" Hamilton Fish Park, Man. Dec 29, 1 pm. "Bringing Up Baby"

Spuyten Duyvil, Bx.

#### **TELEVISION**

### Specials:

WCBS Channel 2

Dec 10, 5 pm. Young People's Concert. "How Musical Are You?" With Leonard Bernstein.

Dec 10, 9 pm. "Third Annual Circus of the Stars" with Sammy Davis, Jr.

Dec 16, 8 pm. "Dr. Seuss, How the Grinch Stole Christmas"

Dec 16, 8:30 pm. "They Tiny Tree" Dec 18, 8 pm. "A Charlie Brown Christmas'

Dec 18, 8:30 pm. "T'Was the Night Before Christmas"

Dec 20, 9 pm. "A Christmas to Remember" with Jason Robbards and Eva-Marie Saint.

Dec 24, 8 pm. "The Nutcracker" danced by Miahael Baryshnikov and

Dec 27, 8 pm. "Les Miserables" starring Richard Jordan, Anthony Perkins.

•WNBC Channle 4

Dec 10, 11:30. "LIFE Goes to War" Dec 11, 9 pm. "A Woman Called Moses," Cicely Tyson, Robert Hooks, Dick Anthony Williams. Narrated by Orson Welles. True story of Harriet Tubman. Part I. Dec 12, 9 pm. Part II, "A Woman

Called Moses"

Dec 13, 8 pm. "A New Adventure of Heidi," Burl Ives, Katy Kurtzman Dec 14, 8 pm. "Doug Henning's World of Majic," Live.

Dec 14, 9 pm. Holiday Tribute to Radio City Musical Hall, Dianne Carroll, Ben Vereen, Alan King,

Jack Jones, Beverly Sills.

Dec 17, 8 pm. "Wing of Kitty Hawk" Dec 19, 4 pm. "Piece of Cake," Ossie Davis and Al Freeman, Jr. Dec 19, 8 pm. "The Bear Who Slept Through Christmas" Dec 21, 8 pm. "The Little Drummer

Boy' Dec 21, 8:30 pm. "Gift of the Magi" Dec 29, 10 pm. "News of China"

•WNEW Channel 5

Dec 16, 8 pm. "Sleeping Beauty" Ballet live via satellite from London. M. Baryshnikov

Dec 23, 8 pm. "Jackie Gleason Christmas Special"

Dec 25, 11:20 am. "Sleeing Beauty Ballet" (Repeat)

Dec 31 8 pm. "Die Fledermous" Opera

•WABC-TV Channel 7

Dec 11, 8 pm. "The Year Without A Santa Claus"

Dec 13, 8 pm. "Frosty Winter Wonderland"

Dec 13, 8:30 pm. "Nestor The Long Earred Christmas Donkey'

•WOR Channel 9

Dec 18-22, 12 Midnight. Mummies for "King Tut" Week: "The Mummy," "The Mummie's Hand," "The Mummie's Tomb," "The Mummie's Ghost," "The Mummie's Curse."

Dec 26-29, 12 Midnight. Fred Astaire & Ginger Rogers: "Carefree," "Follow the Fleet," "Gay Divorcee," "Damselles in Distress," with George Burns.

Dec 24, 12 Midnight, "A Christmas Carol" with Alister Sim Dec 24, 6 pm. "Bell, Book and

Candle" with Kim Novak and James Stewart

Dec 25, 8 pm. "Oliver Twist" with Alec Guiness and Robert Newton

•WPIX Channel 11

Dec 11, 8 pm. "The Bastard" Part

PBS Channel 13

Dec 13, 8 pm. "A Place of Dreams. The Smithsonian Institution's unmatched collection of aircraft and spacecraft in the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.



American Bandstand-WABC (Channel 7), Saturdays, 1:30 pm.

Soul Train-WNEW (Channel 5), Saturdays, 11 am. Soul Alive-WPIX (Channel 11), Saturdays, 12 Noon. Soap Factory-WOR (Channel 9) Saturdays, 1 am.

### BOOK DISCUSSION-FREE FOR ALL

N.Y. Public Library

Listing

Dec 13, 7 pm. "My Mother, Myself" by Nancy Friday. Inwood, Man. Dec 14, 7 pm. "The Destructors" by Graham Greene. Parkchester, Bx. Dec 14, 10:30 am. "The World According to Garp" by John Irving. Todt Hill-Westerleigh, S.I. Dec 28, 7 pm. "A Good Man is Hard to Find" by Flannery O'Connor. Parkchester, Bx.

### RADIO

WBLS

107.5 FM, 24 hours, heavy on disco sound.

106.7 FM, 24 hours. Jazz with community programming on Sunday mornings.

WLIB

1190 AM, 5:45 am.m-8:45 am., reggae, calvoso,

1010 am, 24 hours, time, news weather.

96.3 FM, 6 am-midnight, classical symphonic, operatic music.

WNYC

93.9 FM, 24 hours, special hourly topical music, jazz, opera, pop.

"Positively Black"—WNBC (Channel 4), Sundays, 1 pm. 98.7 FM, 24 hours, rock and roll, rhythm and blues.

95.5 FM, 24 hours, rhythm and blues, rock and pop. Vivian roundtree 2-6 am.

WNJR

1430 AM, 24 hours, rhythm and blues, rock.

1600 AM, 24 hours, rhythm and blues.

92.3 FM, the new disco sound in town.



"For You Black Woman"-WABC (Channel 7), Saturdays, 2 pm. Featuring Alice Travers.

Featuring Carol Jenkins and Gus

"Like It Is"-WABC (Channel 4),

Sundays, 1:30 pm. Featuring

"Black News"-WNEW (Channel 5),

Saturdays, 10:30 pm. Featuring

Bill McCreary, Marion E'toile

Watson and Joan Harris.

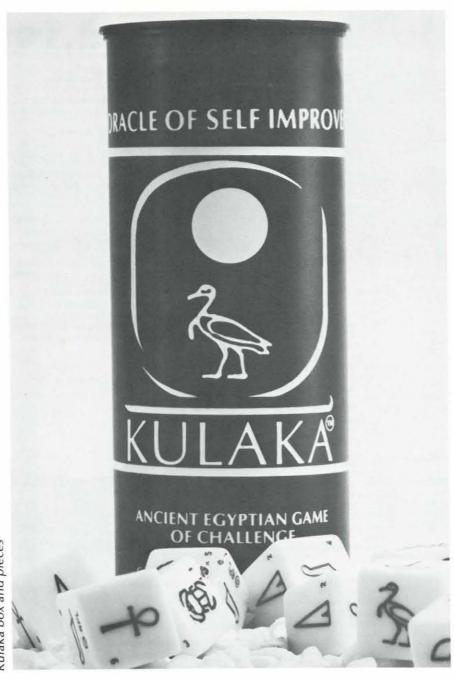
**Community Programming** 

Henningburg.

Gil Noble.

"Tony Brown's Journal"-WNBC (Channel 4), Saturdays, 6 pm.

### THE MOST SOPHISTICATED DICE GAME IN THE WORLD.



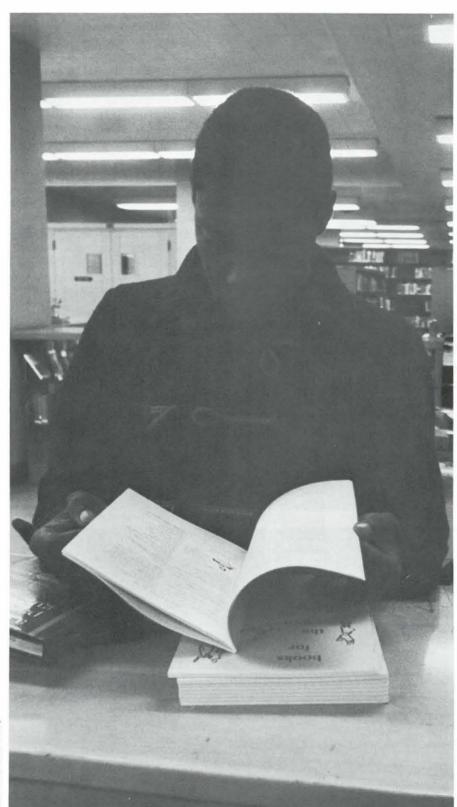
Kulaka box and pieces

KULAKA, the Oracle of Self Improvement, based upon the ancient Egyptian Game of Challenge is the ultimate experience in Self Awareness. The game allows one to recognize and analyze the many hidden questions within us heretofore you dared not ask. KULAKA means, "We can do Better". Finally, you can have the life experience of playing and enjoying this 6,000 year old dice game. Modest precautions are suggested however. Unlike most games you probably know, this game is different. Within the very structure of the game itself is your opponent - fate, a formidable foe. All of us at KULAKA HOUSE extend to you our blessings and wish you, Good Luck.

Sounds interesting doesn't it. Now it is your move. We are waiting to send as many units of KULAKA as you wish for yourself and/or those particular kind of friends. Mail your personalized check or money order to KULAKA, c/o Routes, POB 767, Flushing, NY 11352. Each KULAKA unit retails for \$12.00, add \$1.90 for postage and handling. Aha, you didn't forget that other friend, did you? BEWARE: Approach KULAKA only when fully aware. Rumor has it that the game might reveal something necessary to you, about yourself. The game can be played alone or with friends by casting a handsome set of dice marked with hieroglyphics. Order now from the Inaugural Edition. KULAKA

# KIDS

### PLANT THAT LEARNING TREE IN YOUR HOME



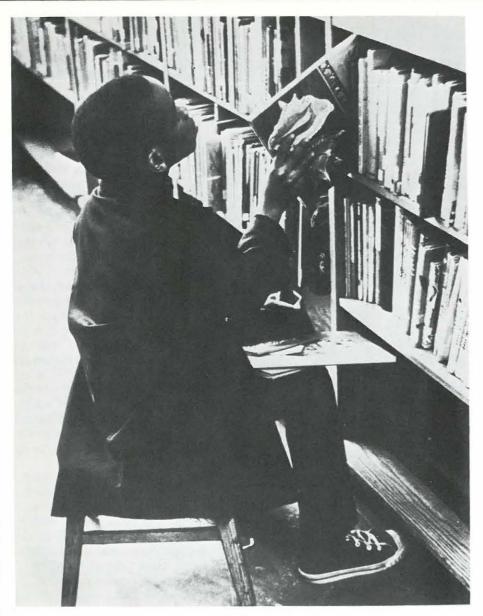
t is a matter of increasing concern that many high school students are graduating with no more than elementary school reading ability, and some with no reading ability at all. Federal studies have shown that 43% of all elementary school children need help with their reading while a shocking 20% suffer total illiteracy. Now the Board of Education is finally trying to correct that sad situation by reinstituting the socalled "hold over" policy that requires teachers to hold students back from promotion if their reading is a year below grade level. Thus, if your child is in the second grade and the required reading level is 1.7 but his is only 1.5, he will not be moved to the third grade in June. That kind of set-back can easily affect the child emotionally, and it is up to the parents to prevent the situation from arising in the first place.

If you introduce your child to reading while he is at the pre-school age, or at least instill in him the importance of being able to read, you have already taken the first step. Scholastic Magazine, a leader in the field of child education, offers the following suggestions:

1. Make a home book-shelf with your child where he or she can keep his or her books. Watch it grow.

2. Set aside fifteen minutes a day to read to your children. When you're finished, ask the children to tell you what the story was about. Older





stores and let them browse in the children's section of the book department. In short, do everything you can to heighten the child's interest in

If your neighborhood does not have a good library, you ought to look into a national program called RIF (Reading Is Fundamental). A nonprofit organization, it was started by Mrs. Robert S. McNamara in 1966 for the purpose of "getting books to children and children into books by supplying the vital, missing ingredient-motivation." RIF motivates children to read by offering them a choice of well-illustrated low-cost books, stressing as key factors "freedom of choice and pride of ownership." For information on starting a local RIF project, write: RIF, Inc., Smithsonian Institution, 2500 L'Enfant Plaza, Washington, D.C. 20560. If you live in New York City, you might ask them about distribution points that have already been set up here, such as the one at the Northside Center for Child Development, Fifth Avenue at 110th Street.

### Reading (and writing)

Reading and writing are the most important basic skills your child needs to make it through life, and the sooner you begin to interest him in those skills, the better. Why not start with some books under this year's Christmas tree? R

—Leona Hipp

children can sometimes read to you as well.

- 3. Let your children get close to you when you read to them. Hold the book so that they can see it.
- 4. Have your children read to each other without you. They will develop a habit that will become a quiet, happy part of the evening-every evening, if possible.

Take your children to libraries as often as you can, many public libraries now have reading clubs and storytelling hours. Encourage your children to make their own selections of reading material, and give books instead of toys on such special occasions as birthdays or Christmas. Take your children with you to department



## KIDS

#### FILMS-FREE FOR ALL

N.Y. Public Library

Teenagers

Dec 11, 3:30. "Flying Deuces." Inwood, Man.

Dec 12, 4 pm. "Three in the Park," "Walkin's Too Slow," and "Last

Stop." Wakefield.

Dec 11, 4:30 pm. "The Prince and the Pauper." Castle Hill.

Dec 13, 3:30 pm. "Yellow Submarine," Part I. Hamilton Grange, Man.

Dec 13, 4 pm. "Planet of the Apes." West Farms, Bx.

Dec 13, 3:30 pm. "Joan Weston,"
"Pigskin Capers," and "Courage
to Succeed." Mosholu, Bx.

Dec 13, 4 pm. "Planet of the Apes." West Farms, Bx.

Dec 16, 2:30 pm. "Peter Rabbit and the Tales of Beatrix Potter." Donnell, Man.

Dec 16, 12 noon. "Steamboat Bill" with Buster Keaton. Donnell, Man. Dec 16, 10 am. "The Prince and the Pauper." Westchester, West. Dec 16, 2 pm. "Animal Farm." Port Richmond, S.I.

Dec 19, 3:30 pm. "King Kong." Bloomingdale, Man.

Dec 19, 4 pm. "Fail Safe." Agiular, Man.

#### **LEARNINGS CENTERS**

### American Museum of Natural History Central Park West at 79th St. N.Y.C.

873-1300

\*Discovery Room, Sats: Suns 12 to 4:30 pm. Free tickets available at 11:45 am. Alexander M. White Natural Science Center, Tues-Fri 2 to 4:30 pm. Sats & Suns 1 to 4:30 pm closed Mons and holidays. Introduction to nature through plants, animals and rocks of New York City. Staff member always present. Dec 27, 28 & 29, 12:30-4:30 pm. "Children Film Festival." The

"Children Film Festival." Ine "Children Film Festival" will offer films on various themes of particular interest to young people. Each program will be one hour and 15 minutes, repeated three times each afternoon. All films will be introduced, and sources for additional information will be suggested.

Free with Museum admission.

• 'Hayden Planetarium—''Star of Wonder.' Thru Jan 2, M-F 2 & 3:30 prn, Sats & Suns, 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 pm. Call Museum for Spec.al Holiday Schedule. This show takes visitors back 2,000 years for a look at the sky of Bethlehem at the time of Jesus' birth. Adults \$2.35, Children, (thru 17) \$1.35 & Senior Citizens \$1.50. "Laserock." An hour-long show of laser light and recorded rock music. Tues-Thurs, 10:30 pm, Fris & Sats, 9

& 10:30 pm, Suns, 9 pm. "Laser Starship." An hour-long show of laser light and recorded music. Weds, 8:45 pm, Fris, Sats & Suns, 7:30 pm. Special Holiday Schedule: Dec 26, 27, 28, 8:45 pm.

Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation Cultural Affairs 1368 Fulton St., B'klyn, N.Y.

636-7888

Instruction and workshops in art, reading, music, dance (8 & 9 year olds), children's theatre (13 and older), and sports. Open 9 am-7 pm weekdays.

Bronx Zoo Fordham Rd & Southern Blvd Bronx, N.Y. 220-5100

Children's Art Carnival 62 Hamilton Terrace, N.Y., N.Y. 234-4094

This program for children includes photography, sewing, filmmaking, animation, figure drawing, painting and reading.

Dance Theatre of Harlem 466 W. 152nd St., N.Y., N.Y. 690-2800

Instruction in ballet, modern and ethnic dance; children and adults.

Harlem School of the Arts 409 W. 141st St., N.Y., N.Y. 926-4100

Instruction and performance in pianogroup and private, guitar, flute, clarinet, cello, violin and viola.

The LaRocque Bey Dance Company 169 W. 133rd St., N.Y., N.Y. 926-0188

Classes in modern and African dance and ballet exercises for ages 3 to adult.

Metropolitan Museum of Art Junior Museum

5th Ave at 82nd St 879-5500

• Sketching for Families (ages 9 and above) Tues 5:30-6:30 pm \$1. Meet at the Main Hall Information Desk.

Weekend Activites

Gallery Programs: Children (5-15) see and discuss slides on the gallery topic for the day, visit the galleries to search for the original and sketch Sats at 11, 1 and 2:30 pm Suns at 1, and 2:30 pm Meet in Junior Museum Library.

Studio Workshop: Children (5-12) spend one-hour sessions in painting, drawing, sculpture and collage based on the day's gallery program. Sats & Suns at 1:30 and 3 pm in Junior Museum Studio, \$1 per session.

New Muse

Community Museum of Brooklyn 1530 Bedford Av Brooklyn 744-2900

Free Fall Workshops, ages 7 to 70. Classes in Ethnic drums, trumpet, trombone, art, dance, drama and other subjects begin Oct 10.

### SHOW & EXHIBITS

**Brooklyn College** 

Campus Road & Hillel PI 789-6759

Children \$1.50, Adults \$2

•"Arabian Nights" Holiday puppet show with the

Pickwick Puppets Whitman Auditorium

Dec 27, 2 pm

The Many Adventur

•"The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh" & "The Ugly Duckling" Gershwin Theatre Dec 30, 1 & 3 pm

The First All Children's Theatre 37 W. 65th St. 2nd Floor

873-6400

•"Alice Through The Looking Glass"

Sats. 4 pm, Suns, 2:30 pm Fris. 7:30 pm (Teens only) \$3 per person, Fris \$1.50, Group discounts available thru Dec 17

"Three Tales At A Time"

Sats. 2 pm \$3 per person, Group Discounts available thru Dec 16

Children's Improvisation Company New Media Studio

350 E. 81st St

"The Planet Oria"Suns. 2 pm

•"The Little Star and The Magician"
Suns. 3:30 pm

Both shows running thru February. Audience participation is encouraged. Ages 4-11. Reservations: 249-9872

Nathan's Famous Children's Shows"

Times Square 43rd St & Bdwy, Yonkers, 2290 Central Park Av, Massapequa,

L.I. (Sunrise Mall) and Lawrence, L.I. (331 Tpke) on Suns, 1 pm. Oceanside, L.I. (3131 Long Beach Rd) every Sat & Sun. 1 pm. Free. (516) RO6-2345

The New York Experience

McGraw-Hill Building (Lower Plaza) 6th Av bet 48th & 49th St, N.Y.C. 896-0345

Sixteen screen, 45 projectors, 68 special effects present the story of New York City past and present. Shows hourly, Mon thru Thurs 11 am to 7 pm, Fri & Sat 11 am to 8 pm, Sun, Noon to 8 pm. Adults \$2.90, Children under 12, \$1.50.

General Motors Exhibit

Listings

GM Building 5th Av at 59th St, N.Y.C. 486-4518

Research and auto and appliance exhibits, engineering and future developments.

New York Aquarium

W. 8th St and Surf Av Coney Island, Bklyn, N.Y. Giant sharks, whales, electric eel, dophins, penguins, and many varieties of fish. Open daily 10 am. Adults \$2, Children 75¢

N.Y. Botanical Gardens

Bronx Park 185th St & Southern Blvd. 220-8700

10 am to dusk. Offers Garden Crafts program for children.

Queens Zoo & Children's Farm

111th St & 56th Av Flushing Meadows, Queens

Prospect Park Zoo

Flatbush Av & Empire Blvd Brooklyn, New York

J.C. Penney Company

1301 Av of the Americas at 52nd St, N.Y.C. 957-4840

Twice daily, free guided tours (9:30 or 2 pm) of J.C. Penney's corporate headquarters, visits to merchandise testing center, displays and exhibits.

Magic Shows

The Magic Towne House 1026 Third Av 752-1165 Sats & Suns 1, 2:30 & 4

### MUSEUMS

American Numismatic Society

Broadway and 155th St, N.Y., N.Y. A collection of medals, coins and paper currency.

Harlem State Office Building Gallery

163 W. 125th St, 2nd fl., N.Y., N.Y. Exhibitions of local and community artists' work.

National Art Museum of Sport

Madison Square Garden 4 Penn Plaza, N.Y., N.Y. Mixed media action portraits of the greats in sports.

Hall of Fame for Great Americans 181st St & University Av (Bronx Community College)

Bronx Community C Bronx, N.Y. Daily 10 to 5-Free 220-1330

Commissioned bronze portrait busts of presidents, statepersons, scientists, inventors, artists and humanitarians.





popcorn circus carts, pinball machines and fun house mirrors. The main floor will have a three-ring dance floor with the disc jockey's control room housed in a carrousel that-by tricks of the light—appears to be in constant motion; other features of the main floor will be floor to ceiling lights and a bar measuring 103 feet. Members of Electric Circus will also be able to visit the V.I.P. room on the third floor, which will offer a brass bar, a cappucino machine, computerized dance floor, Brazilian leather furniture, and a bird's-eye view of the main dance floor. Look out Xenon and Studio 54!

For membership applications and information call (212) 989-7457.

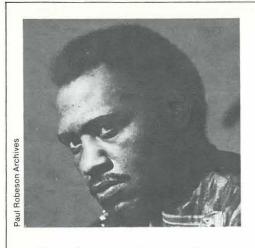
The City University of New York has announced the extension into January of Black America on Stage, a fascinating exhibition that includes 180 enlarged photographs and such original materials as books, scripts, posters, contracts, costumes, rare photos and personal items from the collection of the Armstead-Johnson Foundation for Theatre Research. The exhibition, which covers black theatre from the 19th century to the present, is located in the Mall of the CUNY Graduate Center, 33 West 42nd Street; the hours are Mondays through Fridays from 9 am. to 6 p.m.—admission is free.

Singer Tasha Thomas, whose background vocals have enhanced countless recordings by other artists over the past few years, recently stepped into the foreground with a disco hit entitled Shoot Me (With Your Love). That single, issued on Orbit Records, so impressed the people at Atlantic that they have signed the Alaska-born singer to a \$1500,000 contract. Tasha's first album for the label will be released next month, in the meantime, Shoot Me-on which the talented, beautiful Alaskan does all the backup voices as well-continues to attract people to the disco dance floor.

Apropos discos, New Yorkers will have a new place to strut their stuff 2 as of December 19, when Electric Circus opens at 100 Fifth Ave. Oc-≥ cupying three floors, it will feature a 5 game room at basement level, complete with a 113-year-old bar, coin-operated gypsy fortune tellers from the 1933 Chicago Exposition, a 1928 Dodge pumper fire engine (converted to a wine and cheese bar), a disco boutique,



Surrounded by friends, singer Sharon Redd of Formerly Of The Harlettes obviously enjoyed that memorable birthday party she threw for herself at Once Upon A Stove recently. Many celebrated Broadway and Recording Stars entertained as their colleagues members of the press and other invited guests (including Sharon's family) partied into the night.



If you have ever visited Hollywood, you are probably familiar with the famous Walk of Fame, those stars set in the sidewalk along Hollywood Boulevard, bearing the names of more that 2000 figures who have distinguished themselves in the fields of radio, television, recordings or films. Names are selected by the Walk of Fame Committee of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce from nominations submitted along with a \$1,900 fee, but recently this committee made the incredulous decision to turn down the nomination for actor/singer Paul Robeson. Why? Robeson had not made many films and he had not won any major television awards, explained committee chairman William F. Hertz in a statement wrought with ignorance. Could it be that no one on the committee knew of Robeson's illustrious career both in films and on records? If so, a mass dismissal would seem in order. Anyway, someone apparently did enlighten this oddly uninformed group, so now Mr. Robeson will be immortalized along with Lassie and Mickey Mouse, who apparently met no opposition.

New York has a new club for black professionals. The New York Connection. Founded by Charles Ballard and Harding Dunlop it is based on the premise that it is whom you know and not what you know that really counts. Mr. Ballard has described the new club as "a congenial forum for the exchange of ideas and information among men and women from a variety of professions through a series of planned social and cultural events." For information call 489-8008.



Pianist/composer Valerie Capers will give a special performance of her multi-idiom cantada, Sing About Love, at Carnegie Hall, Monday December 18, at 8 P:M. Produced under the auspices of the New York Jazz Repertory Company, this joyous modern version of the Christmas story will feature such stars as Donald Byrd, Nat Adderley and Mongo Santamaria along with 20 musicians and a 22-voice choir. It promises to be a memorable event.



Last spring, Paul Russell made ballet history when he became the first black man to dance the role of Prince Siegfried in a full-length version of Swan Lake. He did this as a guest with the Scottish Ballet, and the former principal dancer with the Dance

Theatre of Harlem so impressed the Glasgow company with that and subsequent performances that he has now been made a permanent member of the Scottish Ballet. Mr. Russell's appointment will begin with his dancing the leading roles in The Nutcracker and Swan Lake this Christmas season.

If you are one of those exceptional disco dancers, you might want to take your partner to Regine's (59th and Park Ave.) on December 15. That night, three couples will be chosen by a panel of celebrity judges (including Meco, Andy Warhol, Lorna Luft and disc jockey Ken Webb) as finalists-along with seven couples already chosen-in Regine's Grand National Disco Contest to be held early next year. Should you be expert enought to win that round, you will be off to Paris for the World Wide Disco Championship, a spectacular event scheduled for June 22 through 24, 1979, with finalists from Regine's clubs in Rio, Bahia, London, Buenos Aires, Montreal, Monte Carlo, Paris and, of course, New York vying for a grand prize of \$10,000—good luck!



William Ellis, President

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### CAROL DOUGLAS: BURNIN' AND COOKIN'



isco divas come and go. Some stick around only long enough to make a one-record splash, others have a fame-expectancy of a year or two, at most, and an inordinate number of these ladies are mere tools in the hands of arrangers and technicians who know just what it takes to get people out on the dance floor and into the record shops. The realization of this often puts singers of disco hits on the defensive, for while the thump-thump beat is the hottest thing going in the record business today, most people who are directly involved in churning it out know full well that it is a formula music destined to become as passe as the cha cha of the Fifties and the twist of the Sixties; singers also know that they are, so to speak, riding to stardom in the back of the bus,

and some of them are downright embarassed about that, especially those whose vocal ability stretches beyond the limitations of disco.

Carol Douglas knows that what she can do and what she is doing are two different things. "I don't consider myself a disco artist," she says defensively. "Disco just happens to be something that is happening to me right now, but I really just consider myself a performer, period." Having been in show business for more than twenty years, Ms. Douglas -whose current hit, Burnin', is doing just that wherever disco records are spun—has every right to make such a claim. Born Carolyn Strickland in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, her mother was a singer who traveled extensively with U.S.O. shows, and sang with some of the best bands of her day. "My mother passed away last July, and it's really to her that I owe my talent," Carol Douglas explains. "She inspired and encouraged me, because she always wanted to be a star herself—she sang with the bands of Cootie Williams, Erskine Hawkins and Duke Ellington, and she kind of lived her life through me. I used to say that I wanted to be a nurse, but she said 'Oh no, you're going to be a star," and she just kept pushing me and pushing me and pushing me until I finally made it. I just thank God that she lived long enough to see me become successful." Mrs. Strickland began charting her daughter's course when she enrolled her—as the age of five—in a dancing class at the Charles Lowe School of Theatrical Arts.

"My ballet teacher there was Mr. Lowe's daughter, who was a niece of Joan Crawford," she recalls, "and one of my classmates was Bernadette Peters. We used to appear in kiddie shows that Mr. Lowe produced for Macy's department store." Lowe's school was then located at 1650 Broadway, a building that has played a significant role in Ms. Douglas'

career. "I should be living there." she says, jokingly, "because I went to dancing school there, I had my first professional photos taken in that building, my record company, Midsong International, has its offices there, and it was in the lobby of 1650 that I first met Mark Barkan, the man who wrote Burnin'." She was a teenager when she first ran into Barkan in that lobby, he asked her to make some demo records for him, which she did, though nothing positive ever came out of that. Since then, he has written many of the songs that have appeared on "Midnight," "Full Bloom" and the current "Burnin'," the three albums Ms. Douglas has recorded for Midsong International so far.

At the age of ten, Carol Douglasthen still known as Carolyn Strickland—appeared on an early version of television's "Name That Tune," winning a scholarship to Hunter College (She was, of course, too young to take advantage of that at the time, and when she reached college age, show business had priority). That year she, also won the Apollo Theatre's famous amateur contest, the prize being a week's engagement at the theatre as a singer and tap dancer. "I was studying with Henry Le Tang at the time," she says. "He's very popular today, and I think he's a fantastic choreographer." Among her fellow pupils at Henry Le Tang's studio were Maurice and Gregory Hines, who are currently enjoying great success as stars of the Broadway musical "Eubie!" (see article on page 15). Seemingly still awed by her own success Ms. Douglas is quick to point out the many successful people she shared classes with as she prepared to climb the show business ladder, including Patty Duke and Marcia Strassman (of "Welcome Back, Kotter"), who were among her fellow students at Quinteno's School For Young Professionals in the Sixties.

At Quintano's, Carol Douglas

studied acting, learning a skill that as a teenager brought her small roles in the 1959 films "That Kind of Woman' (starring Sophia Loren and Tab Hunter) and "Odds Against Tomorrow" (starring Harry Belafonte and Robert Ryan), and in two off-Broadway shows, "Moom On a Rainbow Shawl" (with James Earl Jones and Cicely Tyson) and "One Tuesday Morning" (with Clarice Taylor). But it was her singing that would eventually bring her the spotlight, in the mid-Seventies. As she puts it, "I had studied in this business all my life, but things didn't really begin to happen for me until I met Eddie O'Laughlin from Midsong International, he picked me to do Doctor's Orders, the song that changed my life. Next thing I knew, I was traveling to Europe, doing TV shows, and things like that. It was very exciting, especially in Rome, where I did a one-hour special that was Italy's first color TV show."

Since 1975, Carol Douglas' concert tours have taken her throughout Europe and to Central and South America; she has shared billing with numerous big stars, from Teddy Pendergrass and Eddie Kendricks to Van McCoy and John Travolta, appeared on most major TV shows here at home, and received the coveted ASCAP Award, but she still regards herself as "a regular housewife and mother."

She is, of course, not exactly a "regular" housewife and mother, for regular housewives and mothers don't make concert tours and hit records, but neither does Carol Douglas fit the image most people have of celebrated performers. She, her husband, Roland Brown, and her three sons (the two oldest of which are from a former marriage) live in the not-exactly-fashionable Flatbush section of Brooklyn, they travel by subway around the city, and the lady who sets people throughout the world in motion with her Burnin' spends a good deal of her time in the kitchen cooking. "I cook every day." she says, "that's really my favorite thing, because my mother was a real southern cook and she handed all those great recipes down to me. I'm looking forward to making a lot of things for Christmas this year, because I was singing in Florida last Christmas, but now I'm back into the pots." Before she can do her Christmas cooking, however, there is a December promotion tour of Europe that has to be taken care of, but Carol Douglas is used to switching from stage to stove, and she is refreshingly unaffected by her success on the former.

I recently had the opportunity to sample Carol Douglas' cooking when she prepared an unpretentious, thoroughly delightful dinner at the Midtown Manhattan loft studio of Don Lynn, who began photographing Ms. Douglas prior to her success as a recording artist. "He wasn't very complimentary when we first met, those many years ago," she recalls. "He said I was overweight, that my skin was bad, and so on, but I guess I'm good enough for his camera now." They laugh about that first meeting, and Lynn admits that his photographic skills also left something to be desired in those days.

For a small group of dinner guests that included controversial writer Orde Coombs—who was then researching a story on WKTU, New York's successful disco station from whose turntables *Burnin*' sounds with clockwork regularity—the disco diva prepared a sumptuous meal of stuffed, roasted chicken, broccoli, sweetpotato pancakes and salad. It was all as delicious as it looks in Lynn's photos on these pages, and we asked Ms. Douglas to share the main recipes—handed down from her mother—with ROUTES' readers.

Carol Douglas' Stuffed Roasters

1 package of Arnold's all-purpose stuffing mix

1 package of cornbread mix

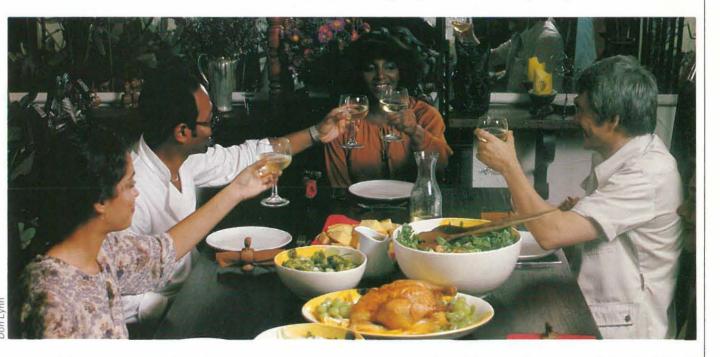
2 medium-sized green peppers

2 medium-sized gree peppers

2 large roaster chicken

Butter, salt, pepper and paprika

Make a pan of cornbread and put aside. Cut up onions and green peppers, and place in small pot along with the giblets you removed from the



chicken—cover with water (at least 2 cups) and boil slowly for ten minutes, then put aside to cool. Break up cornbread into a bowl, add the all-purpose stuffing mix and (having drained off all but 1 cup of the water) the boiled giblets, onions and green peppers. Knead together and stuff in chicken which has first been seasoned well with salt, pepper and paprika (you can also add Accent if you wish). Once the roasters are stuffed, drench them in butter, place them in an uncovered roaster pan, shove them in the oven and let them stay there for two hours at 325°.

### Carol Douglas' Sweet-Potato Pancakes

1 tablesponn lemon juice or lemon pie filling

2 tablespoons brown sugar

2 tablespoons flour

1 stick of butter

1 teaspoon allspice

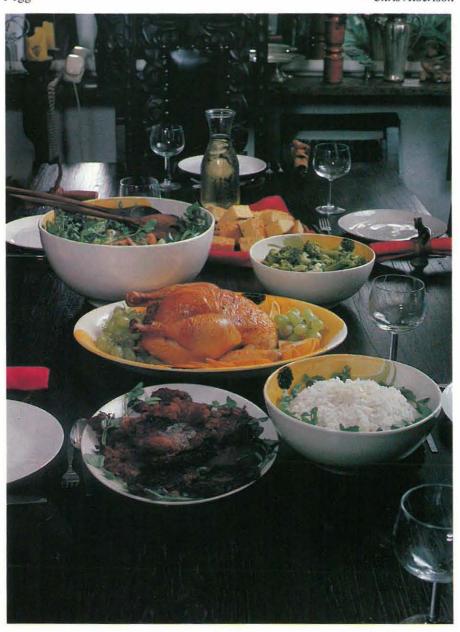
1 teaspoon cinnamon

1 tablespoon vanilla extract

5 large yams (or two 2 1/2 lb cans of yams)

1 cup of Crisco (or other equivalent) Mix all the ingredients (except the Crisco) in a large bowl, using a potato masher, until it has the consistency of a batter. Place Crisco (or equivalent) in a frying pan and heat until hot enough for frying. Spoon in the batter, and cook until golden brown.

-Chris Albertson



#### MUSIC REVIEW

**NEW RELEASES** 

After numerous personnel changes, The Temptations remain a group in search of new identity. In the past, the replacement of departed members was often accompanied by stylistic innovations that kept the group's popularity up, but that is no longer the case. Their second outing on Atlantic leaves us with a blurred image of The Temptations. The title song, Bare Back, contains insipid lyrics and is a feeble attempt at being relevant. The lead singer's voice is strained and the tenor's pipes are subjected to an overdose of echo.

The Holland Brothers seem to have lost their 1960's magic, except for what they did for Melvin Franklin's provocatively sensuous bass on You're So Easy To Love-it is the one tune which makes the album worthwhile. This production definitely opens up new possibilities either for the Temptations as a group or for Melvin Franklin as a solo performer; his is a voice which, given the opportunity to develop its solo-potential could send Teddy Pendergrass out to pasture.

So come on Temptations, don't waste anymore time trying to recreate the vocal styles of the Eddie Kendricks days-make room for Melvin and you might just recapture your public. The Temptations:

Bare Back—Atlantic SD 19188 \$7.98

Chaka Khan's long-awaited debut as a solo artist removes any doubt that the spunky singer of Once You Get Started can make it without the energetic backing of Rufus. The drive and urgency that has become so characteristic of Chaka's voice is retained on most songs, but the funk has been mellowed considerably, and the overall sound is now more sophisticated. The addition of an 18-piece string section gives the production a warm coating, but never dominates her vocals.

The opening number, Ashford and Simpson's I'm Every Woman, is already doing well as a single and in discos, but it is not one of the popular song-writing team's best efforts. A Woman in a Man's World has an overly redundant theme, but it is far more melodic; firmly grounded and enhanced by a lyrical bass line it is the album's best disco-oriented cut, which is not to imply that this is a commercial disco album-it is not. My favorite track is Roll Me Through the Rushes, a moving, sensitive ballad greatly aided by Cissy Houston's gospel-flavored backup work. Producer Arif Mardin-who also coproduced Aretha Franklin's "Let Me Into Your Life" album-has wrapped Chaka's vocals into a neat, well-thought-out package of entertainment that most certainly will open new doors for her. Chaka Khan: Chaka Khan-Warner Brothers BSK 3245 \$7.98

-A.R.

#### ON STAGE

#### Dorothy Grows Up

Most people still think of Stephanie Mills as Dorothy, the little pig-tailed girl who for the past three years has eased on down that yellow brick road in Broadway's "The Wiz," butthough she is still of slight stature— Ms. Mills has matured into a charismatic, high-powered cabaret entertainer. When she recently appeared at the Grand Finale II (she made her cabaret debut there when it was still plain old Grand Finale) she made her entrance emerging from a large box marked "S"—and, indeed, the box proved to be a surprise package. The theme of her hour-long act was love, and



that is precisely what one felt for her as she opened with a rollicking rendition of Stevie Wonder's As. Her gospel-tinged style brought the audience-which included Emotions-to its feet in spirited, heartfelt response. Ms. Mills' repertoire is broad, including—on this occasion, at least-only two selections from "The Wiz," Home and Ease On Down the Road, and she performs it all with the ease and conviction of a seasoned stage performer. The right material could make Stephanie Mills a force to be reckoned with in the country's top night spots.

#### **Beauty And The Beat**

New York's Playboy Club seems to be bringing back black entertainers who have either been overlooked in recent years or are returning from a voluntary hiatus. Lainie's Room, on the posh club's third floor, recently presented two singers who, respectively, fit that bill: Joe Williams and Barbara McNair. Ms. McNair, who has been absent from the nightclub scene for several years, delivered an hour-long set of disco and middle-of-the-road numbers, but she was half-way through her set before her show really came alive. It was Last Dance, the Donna Summer hit, that broke the ice; Ms. McNair belted it out in spirited fashion, and I predict that this song, along with Billy Joel's Love You Just the Way You Are and the Bee Gee's Stavin' Alive-also included in Ms. McNair's repertoire-will become stock-in-trade supperclub clinchers. The backup vocals were uneven at times, and the band a bit slack, but Ms. McNair's radiant beauty and her command of the stage made up for that. A more varied, more original repertoire should give her a good shot at reviving her nightclub career, but Barbara McNair's talent is not limited to singing, she gave a good performance as Sidney Poitier's wife in "They Call Me Mister Tibbs" a few years back, and she recently completed a book entitled "The Complete Book of Beauty For the Black Woman."

Singer Joe Williams' one-week engagement at the Playboy Club was not quite as successful. The former Count Basie blues shouter's choice of material was oddly anachronistic, and his style now seems dated; his stage presentation was lethargic and mechanical to the point of being awkward, but the voice that brought him stardom is intact, and therein lay the set's only redemption. Jazz fans will undoubtedly disagree, but I felt that Mr. Williams needs to be repackaged and brought up to date.

#### Cooking At The Cookery

Alabama-born blues singer Big Mama Thornton rarely makes an appearance in New York these days, which made her recent week's engagement at The Cookery, in Greenwich Village, a special treat. The word was obviously out, for the powerful blues singer performed before a capacity audience every night of her stay; they came to hear the lady who made the original recording of Hound Dog (a tune Elvis Presley "covered" a year later) and wrote one of Janis Joplin's biggest hits, Ball and Chain. They were treated to some of the gutsiest down-home blues this city has heard in a long time. Perched on a stool in the middle of the modestlysized room, Mama Thornton, seemingly oblivious of rattling utensils, sent the sound of her voice and harmonica to the very marrow of the enthusiastic crowd, creating vivid pictures of life in the South that few, if any, of her listeners had ever known. A rare treat indeed, marred only by the fact that her sets were too short.

-Amadeo Richardson

#### OFF STAGE

#### You Can Go Home Again

While Big Mama Thorton held the fort at The Cookery, the spot's inresidence singer, 83-year-old Alberta Hunter, was being honored in her hometown, Memphis, Tennessee. Arriving from the airport with a police escort, the veteran blues singer/ chanteuse/composer—who starred with Paul Robeson in the 1928 London production of "Show Boat" and began a prolific recording career in 1921—was in Memphis for the world premiere of "Remember My Name," a new Robert Altman film. The amazingly energetic Ms. Hunter wrote and performed the score for the film (now available on a Columbia album), sharing top honors with its stars, Anthony Perkins and Geraldine

# MUSIC

#### JAZZ

Della Griffin Thurs-Sun Blue Book 710 St. Nicholas Av 694-9465

Alberta Hunter Mon-Sat (numerous sets) Rose "Chi Chi" Murphy Sundays The Cookery 21 University Place OR4-4450

Al Haig Trio Mondays Chuch Wayne Trio Tuesdays Hod O'Brien Trio Wed-Sun Gregory's 1149 First Av 371-2220

Jimmy Miller Thursdays, 8 pm Pearl & the Jewels Fridays, 11 pm & 1 am Paul Baker Saturdays 11 pm-1 am Pearl's Place 1854 Second Av 722-9664

Bobby Short Tues-Sat. Hotel Carlyle Cafe Madison Av & 76 St 744-1600

Hazel Scott Tues-Sat 10 pm-1 am Bobby Cole Sun, Mon, 10 pm-1 am Ali Baba First Av & 59 St MU8-4710

Ted Weingart Mon-Fri 5-8 pm Cafe Coco 555 Seventh Av 354-0210

#### JAZZCLUBS AND CABARET

Manhattan/Uptown & Westside

Pork Pie Hat 234 W. 50th St. 664-9341 Thurs-Sun, 10, 11:30 & 1 am. Breezin' Lounge Amsterdam bet. 143 & 144 Sts 368-6914

Broady's 798 Columbus Av 850-4400 Every night, 10-4 am.

Clifford's Lounge 151 W. 72 St. 874-8586

Eddie Condon's 144 W. 54 St. 265-8277

468 W. Broadway 468 W. Broadway 260-6779

West End Cafe 2911 Broadway 666-9160

Angry Squirel 216 Seventh Av 242-9066

Mikell's 780 Columbus Av 864-8832 Mon-Sat

Peter Brown's 168 W. 96 St. 866-4710 Thurs-Sat

Studio Wis 151 W. 21 St. 243-9278

Sweet Basil 88 Seventh Av So

Harlem Performance Center Seventh Av & 137 St 862-3000

Environ 476 Broadway 964-5190

Sha Sha House 338 W. 39th St.

736-7547

West Boondock 10th Av at 17 At 929-9645

Cotton Club 666 W. 125 St MO3-7980

Manhattan/East Side & Downtown

Bottom Line 15 West 4 St. 228-6300 The Kenny Burrel Trio Dec 12 thru Dec 17 Betty Carter plus The John Hicks Trio Dec. 19 thru Dec 24. Dexter Gordon Quartet Dec 26 thru Dec 31. Thad Jones—Mel Lewis

Mondays in Dec. and Jan. Village Vanguard 178 7th Ave. So. nr. W. 11th St. AL5-4037

McCoy Tyner Sextet Dec 15, 16, 22 thru 31. Village Gate Bleecker at Thompson GR5-5120

Lainie's Room Playboy Club 5 East 59 St 752-3100

Jazz Emporium 5 Av & 12 St 675-4720

Knickerbocker Saloon 9 St & University 228-8490

Ladies Fort 2 Bond St 475-9357

Ali's Alley 77 Greene St 226-9042

New Rican Village 101 Ave. A 475-9505

Motivations 476 Broome St 226-2108

Drawing Room 510 Greenwich St 431-9478

New Jazz at the Public 425 Lafayette St 677-6350 Dec 15 & 16, Sam Rivers Quarter, Mike Dec 22 & 23 Rock, Solo Piano, Don Cherry Dec. 29 & 30 Directions, Featuring Jack Dejohnette

#### NEW ACTS AND SHOWCASES

Tramps 125 East 15th St 260-0370

Reno Sweeney's 126 East 13 St 691-0900

Once Upon A Stove Valentine Room 325 Third Av (24th St) 683-0044

The Ballroom 458 West Broadway 473-9367

Grand Finale II 210 West 70th St 362-5079

The Bushes 23 West 73rd St 874-8091

Improvisation 358 West 44th St 765-8268

#### CONCERTS

Eddie Jefferson + 4 and Irene Reid & Company The Uptown Jazz Junta Dec 9, 8 pm St. Charles Auditorium, 211 W. 141 St (near 7th Av) 283-5513

Ken Page (Ain't Misbehavin') Dec 10/11; 11:30 pm Reno Sweeney 126 West 13 St 691-0900

Rutgers/Livingston Jazz Professors Dec 14 Voorhees Chapel/ Douglass College New Brunswick, N.J. (201) 932-4150

Billy Joel Dec 14-16 Madison Square Garden 7th Av & 32 St 564-4400

The Trammps Dec 15, 8 pm Queens College 6530 Kissena Blvd Flushing, Queens 793-8080 Valerie Capers
Dec 18,8 pm
Carnegie Hall
154 W. 57th St
247-1350
"Sing About Love" A
Christmas Cantada
with Donald Byrd,
Nat Adderly and
Mongo Santamaria.

Listings

Don Shirley Dec 21, 8 pm Carnegie Hall 247-1350

Arthur Prysock Dec 25-Jan 1 Riverboat Empire State Bldg 736-6210

Teddy Pendergrass Chic Dec 26, 8 pm Newark Symphony Hall (201) 643-4550

Al Jarreau Dec 30/31 Avery Fisher Hall Lincoln Center 874-2424

#### CLASSICAL

The Messiah

Dec. 15.8 pm

Masterwork Chorus
and Orchestra

Avery Fisher Hall

Dec. 19 7:30 pm
 Musica Sacra —
 Messiah
 Avery Fisher Hall
 Dec. 22
 Messiah Sing-In
 Avery Fisher Hall
 Lincoln Center
 874-2424

Andre Watts Dec. 3, 9, and Dec. 14,8 pm Alice Tully Hall Lincoln Center 874-2424

Marilyn Horne Dec. 10, 3 pm Avery Fisher Hall Lincoln Center 874-2424

Youth Symphony Orchestra of New York Dec. 16, 3 pm Carnegie Hall 154 West 57 St 247-1350

## DISCO

#### BROOKLYN

Brown Sugar 433 Sumner Ave. 574-5615

#### MANHATTAN

CeSoir 59 Murray St. Wed-Fri 5 pm until; Sat 10 pm until; Jackets, casual 962-1153

Copacabana 10 East 60th St Dress: fashionably casual 10 pm-4 am ladies 21, gents 25; cabaret acts during the week. PL-5-6010

Hippopotamus 405 East 62nd St Open daily 10 pm-4 pm Jackets and ties; \$12 min. Reservations 486-1566 Ice Palace 57 West 57th St 18 and over open 10 pm-4 am 838-8557

Ipanema 240 West 52nd St Age: 21 and over 9 pm-4 am 9 pm-6 am Fri-Sat 765-8025

Mr. Laffs 1189 First Ave Fri-Sat; \$5 min. Dress: casual; Age: 25 plus 535-6423

Le Cocu 152 East 55th St Disco Fri-Sat only cabaret other nights min.: varies Dress: casual Age: 21 and over 371-1559

Les Mouches 260 11th Ave \$10 and \$15 dinner after 8:30; disco after 11:30 Age: 21 and over 695-5190

New York, New York 33 West 52nd St. 10 pm-4 am; Mon-Sat Jackets; Age: 21 plus 245-2400

Pegasus 1230 Second Ave Jackets; Age: 25, gents; 23, ladies 535-8004

Sahara 1234 2nd Ave Open til 4 am Talent show on Tues, cabaret on Thurs \$3 and \$5 Age: 18 and over 628-6099

Starship Discovery 347 West 41st St 9 pm-7 am Age: 18 and over Dress: casual 695-1114

Studio 54 254 West 54th St. \$14 per person 10 pm-4 am except mon., no dress requirement 489-7668

Listings

Tribeca 64 North Moore St Wed-Thurs, 6 pm-4 am Jackets, casual; \$5 min Age: 25 plus 925-8787

#### QUEENS

Ruling Class I 90-05 Merrick Blvd. Jamaica, N.Y. Age: Ladies 23, gents 25; Jackets required 11 pm-5:30 am; \$5 658-9572

#### SUBURBAN

Ruling Class II 142 So. Fourth Ave Mt. Vernon, NY Restaurant and Disco (914) 668-0220

Chaplin. "It was one of the high-lights of my life," beamed the octogenarian, who received a key to the city from the Mayor, and one to the state from the Governor on what he had officially proclaimed "Alberta Hunter Day." Ms. Hunter turned down an invitation to the White House this summer "because it was my day off," but you can find her packing them in at The Cookery every night (except Sundays) as she continues her indefinite engagement.

#### As The Record Turns

Having performers sing to prerecorded music, during personal
appearances, is common at discos
these days, but if you think that
is a rip-off you should have witnessed
Evelyn "Champagne" King's recent
appearance at Les Mouches—even her
voice was taped. Equally surprising
was somebody's decision to have
Loleatta Holloway sing to a tape at
the Apollo Theatre—charging six
to ten dollars for that is indeed
short-changing the public, especially
when the equipment is so bad that it

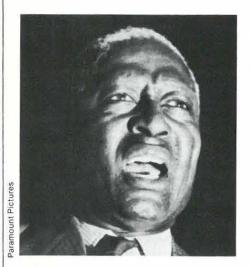
breaks down in the middle of a song, that's exactly what happened...An imaginative costumed public and a Bengal tiger stole the show from alleged singer Grace Jones at the Roseland Ballroom on Halloween night-the music was taped, her voice was not, but many of those present felt her mouth ought to have been...CBS threw a party at New York New York, the popular disco, for one of their newest artists, Sherill Lynn-Ms. Lynn was discovered when she appeared on the Gong Show earlier this year; a screening of that segment brought members of the press and their guests to their feet, but a preview of Ms. Lynn's new album proved disappointing, for CBS has drowned her considerable talent in a sea of disco cliches... Apropos CBS, Columbia Records is about to release an album by loft jazz alto man Arthur Blythe-with fine albums by Dexter Gordon, the Heath Brothers (Jimmy and Percy) and Woody Shaw already on the market, the label seems to be making

amends for foisting all that fusion on the jazz public...While we're on the subject, Miles Davis, the father of fusion jazz, returned to the recording studio this fall after a very long absence, but after recording fifteen minutes of music the enigmatic Mr. Davis walked out and cancelled all further sessions-Columbia may have to combine those precious minutes with older material to get an album out of it...While many modern jazz players are turning to fusion funk in quest of the big money, bandleader/ singer Cab Calloway, who will turn 71 this Christmas Eve, has chosen the disco route for a brand new thump-thump version on RCA of his 1931 hit Minnie the Moocher.

-Chris Albertson

ROUTES REGRETS...In our cover story on Ashford & Simpson (November) we mentioned that the popular team would be appearing at the Belasco Theatre. That was true as we went to press, but the concerts were since shifted to the Palace where, we are happy to say, Ashford & Simpson triumphed night after night. Though our misinformation was unavoidable, we hope it did not inconvenience any of our readers.

# ROUTE'S ROOTS



There can be little doubt that Leadbelly—born Huddie Ledbetter in Louisiana, in the 1880's—was one of the greatest folk singers this country will ever have known, and it is therefore all the more tragic that he was never allowed to reap the full harvest of his exceptional talent. Instead, he became the victim of unprincipled exploiters who transported him to New York City, exhibited him, sold his artistry for their own profit, and added insult to injury by blatantly publishing his compositions under their own name.

Unfortunately, much of what has been written on the life of Leadbelly (including Gordon Parks' horrid, allegedly biographical film) is based on John Lomax's "Negro Folk Songs As Sung By Leadbelly," a defamatory book published in 1936. Leadbelly's niece, Olli Robinson, who first met her uncle when she was a child in Louisiana, recalls him being so upset with the Lomax book that he made a successful effort to halt its distribution. The damage, however, was done, and Lomax's distorted image of Leadbelly as a dangerously violent, arrogant, whiskey-gulping chaser of women persists. "Lomax did not write nothing like I told him,"

Leadbelly once wrote in reference to the book, and there is good reason to belive that. In fact, had Leadbelly indeed fit Lomax's description of him, he would surely have thought nothing of killing Lomax. After all, Leadbelly had served time for manslaughter in both the Louisiana and Texas State Penitentiaries, a fact usually played up by writers who inevitably fail to point out that the American judicial system—especially in the South of Leadbelly's youth—often has little to do with justice.

The image of Leadbelly as a tough killer of men and assaulter of women becomes even more ludicrous when one listens to some of the songs he wrote; it is hard to believe that a man so lacking compassion for others should have written such songs as Goodnight Irene, Bring Me a Little Water, Silvy and Old Cotton Fields At Home. His niece remembers Leadbelly as a very kindly man who never raised his voice, except to sing, a man who had a profound love for children. "I never knew a man who liked people and wanted to be around them as much as he did," she says, "he was hurt by what they wrote about him, but never bitter."

John Lomax began recording Leadbelly for the Library of Congress in 1933, while he was still an inmate at Louisiana State Penitentiary. He brought him to New York in 1935, amid hoopla and hype disgracefully reminiscent of the "King Kong" scenario. The Associated Press wire service reported Leadbelly's arrival this way: "Broadway impresarios were angling tonight for the services of a Louisiana swamp Negro called Leadbelly who twice has sung and played his way out of prison. Brought to New York by John A. Lomax, collector of folk songs, Leadbelly 'wowed 'em' so effectively at his first performance that he brought

booking agents on the run." A newsreel from that period showed Leadbelly, seated on a bale of cotton, being interviewed by Lomax in a blatantly patronizing manner. As he began a heavy concert schedule, Leadbelly drew glowing praise from the press; he recorded on his own and with such stars of the day as Sonny Terry, Willie "The Lion" Smith, Big Bill Broonzy, the Golden Gate Quartet, Cisco Houston, Josh White and Woody Guthrie. Many performers began to add his songs to their repertoire, which alone should have given Leadbelly financial security, but the money was going into the wrong pockets and so one of America's greatest artists lived in a small Lower East Side apartment while his wife, Martha, toiled as a maid in a New York hotel.

Huddie Ledbetter was a masterful singer and composer of blues, but his artistry stretched far beyond that-he could write tender songs of love and he could assault the establishment with hard-hitting social commentary. He was also an extraordinary guitarist, and he had a marvelous way of getting his message across with just a few words. He frequently began his songs with a spoken narrative, but misled promoters discouraged this in later years, claiming that his Louisiana dialect was "difficult to understand." More difficult to understand, however, is how many of his songs either became public domain, or were accredited to Lomax, and totally inexplicable is the fact that this immensely gifted, popular artist spent his non-performing hours as Lomax's chauffeur!

A few months after Huddie Ledbetter's death—at Bellevue Hospital, December 6, 1949—his song, Goodnight Irene, in a recording by Gordon Jenkins and The Weavers, rose to the top of the pop charts, where it remained for three months.

—Chris Albertson

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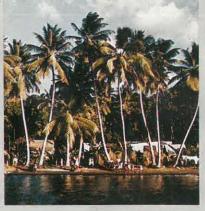
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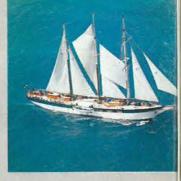
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