

# Indigo Blue and devilishly tempting

## question and answer

by NANCY PHILLIPS  
and HEATHER SANGSTER

Indigo Blue pumped out its unusual combination of high energy r&b, fusion, rock and reggae at the Siboney June 8.

The first number — "Mix Up" — was an original tune with a funky groove that set the way things would be for the night.

Lead vocalist Paul Brundtland had tons of real energy, bouncing all over the stage. Other band members were a little more restrained but were obviously enjoying themselves. Near the end of "Mix Up," they went into a major jam with the saxes and guitar improvising over the chord changes, laid down by a solid rhythm section. When the song was over, Brundtland — with his big eyes and big smile — thanked the cosy crowd of about 75 people for its applause.

A few things were established with this song. First, this was a show band. They liked performing live and they had a damn good time doing it. They gave off a lot of energy — especially Brundtland — who seemed genuinely happy to have the privilege of playing his music, and made the most of the opportunity.

And, it really is *their* music. In their 12-song set, 11 were originals with John Vitale (bass) and Joe Khan (lead guitar) taking the

credit for writing two each. Brundtland wrote the remaining seven.

Second, this band loves to jam. Every song has a solo, most often the lead guitar. Many of their songs set up a nice groove between the drums (Karl Tsatalbisidis) and bass, over which the other instrumentalists improvise.

The jamming sounds like jazz-fusion, but because of the groove, it's danceable stuff. And, says Brundtland, that's what they want.

"Music should make you feel good and make you think. We want people to dance at the show, and think at home," he says.

While there are many common elements to their songs, there are also some major differences. They did a cover of Earth, Wind and Fire's "Get Away," which showcased both vocalist Claudia Santilli's fine voice and some wicked horn lines played by Barrie Carlyle (tenor sax) and guest horn Maurizio Rossetto (soprano sax). The horn lines were fast passages with shots and little riffs played with ease, giving no indication that Rossetto hadn't even practiced with the band. He also provided some nice sax work along the lines of the Branford Marsalis/Sting idiom on "Ethi," a ballad written by Brundtland.

"Ethi" is their "only political-type tune" which talks about the

wasted life and brain power of people in Ethiopia forced to think only about the bare essentials of life. As Brundtland says, "There's got to be a couple of Einsteins in there, but we'll never know."

From this end of the lyrical spectrum, they can easily swing to a light tune like "Sasky the Cat" which says "Hey, I like this girl called Sasky." Musically, this has a funk beat — with the rhythm guitar producing a more pop sound — and a jazz-fusion jam at the end. For some reason, I can hear Larry Blackmon of Cameo doing the lead vocals.

From here, they did "After a Day" with a latin beat that made me feel I was on a cruise ship. "Shall I Try" had a slight reggae

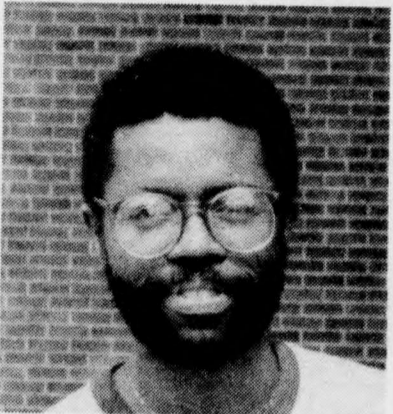
feel with a rock connection courtesy of the lead guitar. "Sweet Surrender" started with a Britishy pop sound and ended like Prince's "Let's Go Crazy," with the extended ending featuring lead guitar work by Khan.

Indigo's versatility attests to the fact that they are good musicians. Three of the band members, Eugene Narvali (keyboards), Tsatalbisidis and Carlyle are in York's Music program, while Brundtland, Vitale and Khan are York students.

Indigo Blue — good musicians, great music, high energy show. If you hear they're performing somewhere and you're tempted to go, go. As Brundtland says in his song "Next Time," "sometimes temptation isn't all that bad."

1. How often do you buy merchandise (and what kind of merchandise to do you buy) at the Shoppers Drug Mart on campus?

2. What's your favourite toothpaste?



Andy Knight, working on PhD in international relations

1. Not very often . . . maybe a few prescriptions. Anything else I buy off-campus. I usually avoid it because they have a monopoly on campus and it's easier to raise their prices.

2. Wintergreen Colgate in a pump.

## Authors at Glendon

by LORRAYNE ANTHONY

Glendon College will host the 68th annual conference of the Canadian Authors' Association from June 22 to 26. Four days of workshops and seminars are offered for both established and aspiring writers.

Alec McEchern, an association spokesperson, said that Glendon was chosen because of its beautiful, natural setting and the availability of residences for out-of-town writers.

Workshops and seminars will examine new developments in writing and the writing market, and the effects of technology on the art.

Bill Glassco, general manager of the Canadian Stage Company, will discuss writing for the stage and television. Two York professors, Margaret Hughes and Peter

Such, will join a panel entitled "The Writer as Teacher."

Hughes is currently conducting a study on the spelling skills of elementary school children. Such is the founder of the Canadian Studies program at York.

The final event of the conference is the association's annual awards banquet to be held at the Royal York Hotel. A keynote speaker will be distinguished author Robertson Davies.

Awards will be given for poetry, drama, fiction and non-fiction. Four young Canadian writers will receive awards sponsored by Air Canada. Past winners include Leonard Cohen, Al Purdy, Timothy Findley, Robertson Davies and Brian Moore.

For ticket information, call Eleanor or Alec McEchern at 391-1411.



Paul Simmons, Visual Arts 4

1. As rarely as possible because it's too expensive. When I do shop there I buy baking soda and small farm animals.

2. I would die for Colgate (Amaretto flavour)



Cynthia Suckling, summer student from Western

1. I've noticed that their lipsticks are much more expensive there. It's surprising that it's so corporate here with Shoppers and Tim Hortons. At Western, we have a really good cafeteria and a store run by the university and that's it.

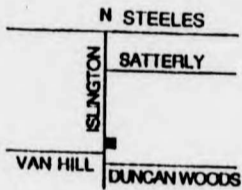
2. Mint Crest in a tube.



Boris Ziger, MBA 1

1. Prophylactics . . . twice a week. They're a fair market value price.

2. Creme de menthe Aquafresh.



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## arts calendar

### GALLERIES

Glendon Gallery presents "Celebratory," an exhibition of the works of Liliana Berezowsky until June 25. Mon thru Fri 10am to 4pm.

Glendon's Maison de la Culture presents "Magic Places," an exhibition of the works of children's book illustrators, until June 27. Call 487-6730 for more information.

### MUSIC

The Pale Criminal, a mysterious York student, will open for Hut Museum at Sneaky Dee's (562 Bloor W.) on June 27. Be there about 9:30pm to hear some hurtin' blues, folk and gospel.

### THEATRE

York alumni Richard Rose's Necessary Angel Theatre presents Michael Ondaatje's *Coming Through Slaughter* at the Silver Dollar (484 Spadina Ave) until June 25. Tues-Sat at 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm.

### READINGS

The Canadian Women Writers Series presents Janis Rapoport, Writer-In-Residence at the Beeton Public Library, reading from *Dreamgirls* on June 28 at 8pm in the Junior Common Room (Salon Garigue) at Glendon. It's free and refreshments will be served.

Adele Wiseman, one of Canada's leading fiction writers, will read from her book *Crackpot* on July 5 at 8pm in the Junior Common Room (Salon Garigue) at Glendon. It's also free.