

## Enthusiastic response to Fraser and Friends

By RUPERT HOEFENMAYER

The Vancouver based jazz group Fraser and Friends appeared before a responsive audience at the Playhouse Monday night. The trio of Fraser Macpherson / saxophone, Oliver Gannon / guitar and Wyatt Ruther / bass violin played to the complete satisfaction of everyone present.

The show opened with the piece "So Nice To Come Home", a good opening song as it featured unaccompanied solos by each musician. The applause after each solo inspired the musicians to play with more enthusiasm, to everyone's benefit.

The program followed with the classic Louis Armstrong song "Someday You'll Be Sorry." The piece was a comfortable easy listening mellow saxophone song. The fast moving high strung guitar piece "I'll Remember" came next. "Sophisticated Lady" by Duke Ellington, "Getting Sentimental Over You" by the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, followed with alternating bass violin, amplified guitar and sax solos. Oliver Gannon's

retained full tonal quality during a guitar solo of fluctuating cords and improvisations in a Jimmy Van Housen's song "Here's That Rainy Day". The first half ended with a foot stomping, clicking fingers song "Strike Up The Band" by George Gershwin.

The trio walked on stage, unlike most rock bands, with no fancy sparkly uniforms, electronic effects and flickery light gadgets to attract the audience's attention. No blaring microphones or amplifiers cut into the distinct sound of each instrument.

When Fraser Macpherson was asked after the show what he thought of the Fredericton crowd he replied; "We knew everybody was enjoying the music so it made us play harder to give everybody complete satisfaction."

The second half opened with one of the great jazz songs "Greater Love". The song have overlapping solos with a steady core of funky amplified guitar. The slow tenor sax piece "All Alone" by Irving Berlin and the touching "All My Life" by Billy Maladay delighted

the audience next. The program then followed with a duet where Wyatt Ruther unquestionably played the bass violin well. The bassist Wyatt Ruther has performed with the great Duke Ellington Orchestra, Ms. Lena Horne, and the Buddy Rich Orchestra. Fraser Macpherson has been a band leader for 15 years, accompanying personalities such as Tony Bennett, Ella Fitzgerald, and Al Martino. The evening ended with "Never Be Another You."

Heavy rhythmic clapping filled the Playhouse until the trio came back on stage for their encore. Allen Bentley Vice President of the Creative Arts Committee said "The most receptive audience I seem to recall at a Creative Arts function this year."

"I think this idea of mainstream jazz is coming back" Fraser Macpherson said in response to the enthusiastic young crowd present. Many university students took advantage of the concert which was free to students. Macpherson said; "Why aren't they in a bar listening to disco?"



Fraser and Friends, a Vancouver based jazz group, was warmly received at the Playhouse last Monday

## Maritime Contemporary Dance Company performs Varsity Drag

By LARRY GREGAN

Among the performers appearing in the Downtown Development Committee Benefit at The Playhouse tonight will be the UNB based Maritime Contemporary Dance Company. This will be the first opportunity this year to enjoy their imaginative and very entertaining style of dance.

Although the company has been in existence seven years, the present groups of Kathleen Driscoll, Zsunga Szala, Janice ichard, Leslee McGee, Vicki Forrester and Shawn Stubbert have only been together since September. This reduction in the number of members over the past years will allow the group to travel easier, allowing more people to enjoy their performances.

The piece they will perform at the Playhouse is "Varsity Drag" an uptempo Vaudeville style number choreographed by company member Vicki Forrester. Although not typical of their style it is an imaginative mini-showcase of the dancers talents.

The Playhouse performance is just a preview however, to a full length performance to be staged at Marshall d'Avray Hall, March 21 and 22. For this the company has been refining its collective talents in four to five hours practice six days a week to produce a highly professional show.

The Marshall d'Avray performance will feature an impressive piece entitled "Waiting" set to Mike Oldfield's Tubular Bells. This intricate combination of music and dance as well as being an exciting thing to see, is a demanding work for the dancers involving precision timing, difficult posing and imaginative improvisation.

Another piece prepared for this performance is a surreal work entitled "Sneaking Around" in which all the dancers are covered by a single giant piece of fabric.

Even those, like myself who have had no previous exposure or interest in this kind of live perfor-

mance will find these and the company's other dances very entertaining.

## New Talent at the Art Centre

Madeleine DeWolfe is a resident of Fredericton, studying at UNB as a visiting student from Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Halifax, N.S. She is majoring in photography and minoring in graphic design.

She has studied photography since September 1978 and is now learning color processing at Donald Photo. She sells her work locally at the UNB Bookstore and at the Fredericton Market (before Christmas).

She is a member of the Fredericton Photo Club, on the staff of the Brunswickan, and is a photographer for NB Moostar (skiing).

Johnson C. Tam, also chose to appear in the New Talent Exhibition, was born in Hong Kong. He came to Montreal, Canada for Grade 11 in 1976 and the UNB in 1977. Currently, Tam is in third year in Surveying Engineering.

Tam believes that, "Art should be free, not to be bounded with any specific style, medium or ways to do it, as art is the expression of oneself, the reflection of an artist's feeling."

"In my work I like to use pencil and photography; watercolour is a medium I just started practicing not too long ago. I didn't have any training in art, therefore, as you can see my techniques are not that great. That's why I hope that I can receive some opinions through this exposure. I am very interested in doing commercial art and designing work. I am planning to get some training in this area in the future."

Carolyn Young was born in Fredericton in 1961 and has lived here all her life, with the exception of one year in London, England. She studied art in high school and one of her works toured the province in the juried New Brunswick high school exhibition "Graphics '79". She is presently a first year Arts student at U.N.B. Works in ink, marker and pewter are featured.

The UNB Art Centre held its first New Talent exhibition in 1969, and it has been shown annually since then. It has been the policy of the Art Centre to show the work of any student who has been working seriously and has accumulated a body of work.

The former exhibitors were:  
G.K. (Blues) Roberts  
Bruce Ritchie  
Basil Burgess  
Patrick Clark  
Norene McCann  
Stephen MacDougall  
Hal Owers  
Steve Patriquen  
Dave Simms  
Karen Campbell  
Mary Ann Bramstrup  
Tony Kennedy  
Aldona Grinius  
John Alexander  
John Hudson  
Janice Budzinski  
Gary Carver  
Judith Kavanagh  
Philip Peterson  
Christopher Chan  
Vaughn Fulford  
Graham Livesay  
Suzanne Richard  
Tom Sylvester

## Folk Collective

The Folk Collective had a rollicking good coffeehouse a week ago today. More variety was never seen on the stage of Memorial Hall in one evening. The singing of Derek Roche, the acoustic progressive songs of Mark Krisvanson, traditional modern folk by the trios of Rick Valenta, Graham Young, Carolyn Young and John Lawrence, John Bingham, and Janice Hanson, love songs by Mike Doyle, Joe Kilfoil and Andre Dicaire, filled up the stage before the first intermission. These acts were competing to represent UNB in the February 10th Maritime Intercollegiate Festival at Mount Allison University. Joan Wellhuser, a woman with a strong voice and excellent stage presence was selected by a group of judges who carefully watched all acts and had difficulty deciding. Kristmanson followed in second place due to his highly original material and inventive exciting guitar work.

After the intermission, Geordie Haley played three original tunes followed by Jerry Van Warts breathtaking classical guitar and some excellent original songs by Jerry Goadine of St. Thomas. Christie Hughes helped him out with vocal harmony and Rob MacPhee played some fast, cathchly lead guitar.

The next coffeehouse is a week from tomorrow, Saturday the 16th at Memorial Hall. Hal And Tow a fine traditional folk group from Saint John will be the fetured entertainment. More details will be in next weeks column.

Next Thursday, Feb. 14th at 9 o'clock the Folk Collective Open Stage Night will be held in Bridges House for purposed of providing the folks there with their regular "Forum". The Collective has lined up a good evening of Folk Music and the public is invited to Bridges House to join the audience and the fun.