

entertainment

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22-THE BRUNSWICKAN

Jazz album delightful

By WILFRED LANGMAID
Brunswickan Staff

Various Artists - In Performance at the Playboy Jazz Festival

The Playboy Jazz Festival, an immensely popular annual event at the Hollywood Bowl since its return in 1979, now can reach the world of jazz fans via record with this thoroughly delightful two LP set which contains a cross section of the music from the 1982 festival.

Just one look at the all-star cast of participating musicians leaves one eager with anticipation, and what makes this such a special event is the fact that independent superstars perform together, in some cases for the first time.

The fact that jazz is dynamic, with brilliant new faces appearing constantly, is made very clear as soon as the stylus is dropped on side A and the joyful strains of Pieces of A Dream caress our ears. When the festival was held, pianist-keyboardist James Lloyd was seventeen while co-members Cedric Napoleon and Curtis Harmon were nineteen, but their joyous and masterful performances of the standard "Take the A Train" and their own work "Pop Rock" defy their inexperience. Pieces of A Dream are proteges of the superstar Grover Washington Jr., and their mentor follows them on side one. His alto sax playing never fails to amaze me, and he is in fine fettle on a couple of old favourites of his - "Winelight" and "Let It Flow". He cites the latter as a composition for Julius Erving, and addressing the Los Angeles Lakers faithful in the Californian-dominated 1982 audience, he prophetically warns "Wait 'till next year!"

Bassist Ron Carter (check out his on-stage garb on the inside jacket!), trumpeter Freddie Hubbard, drummer Elvin Jones, and pianist McCoy

Tyner are jazz veterans who formed a group dubbed The Great Quartet for this festival. They do three standards with skill and experience enriched improvisation - Thelonius Monk's "Rhythmning" and "Can't Get Started" which displays Hubbard's talents, and the vibrant "Byrdlike".

Legendary superstars Dexter Gordon and Woody Shaw are the highlights of this festival's Dexter Gordon Group. They both shine in "Fried Bananas", while Gordon takes the spotlight on the standard "You've Changed".

Another group specially created for this event, the Art Farmer, Bennie Golson, and Nancy Wilson Trip, is featured on Side C with five tracks. Two Golson-penned instrumentals, the fun "Stablemates" and the pensive "I Remember Clifford", begin things, but Farmer, Golson, and the three other instrumentalists do not really get rolling until joined by vocalist Wilson. Sounding a bit like the Grace Slick of jazz, she is consistently brilliant in "Save Your Love

For Me", a more up tempo "I Thought About You" than one might expect (which makes Farmer's and Molson's riffs even more impressive), and a delicious, impassioned version of "Teach Me Tonight".

The most intriguing union is that of Weather Report and The Manhattan Transfer. The former by an intriguing combination in "Birdland" - the group which wrote and first released the song with the group that turned it into a pop hit. Weather Report leader Zawinul's distinctive keyboards are soon joined by those unmistakable Manhattan Transfer harmonies for nearly six minutes of pure magic.

A combination of technically excellent recording by Elektra Musician of live concert, the spontaneous excitement of live music, a diverse and musically rich program, and an unbelievable combination of jazz talent captured on two pieces of vinyl makes this album a great one for both the serious jazz enthusiast and the listener trying to broaden his or her musical spectrum.

TNB gives Scrooge for the holidays

A fantastic new musical version of *Scrooge* has been created especially for Theatre New Brunswick by Warren Graves with music and lyrics by Joey Miller. This beloved Christmas story is back by popular demand and features children from different choirs across the province.

Scrooge features Lewis Gordon, a star of the Stratford Festival, in his first appearance with Theatre New Brunswick. Also featured are Mary Barton, Michael Burgess, Maurice Evans, Janet Land, and John Dolan who has just completed the tour of TNB's recent success *The Melville Boys*. Eight-year-old Jesse

Roberts from Saint John will portray Tiny Tim, a role he won from auditions that were attended by nearly 40 applicants.

Scrooge will be directed by Michel Boucher who will be remembered by TNB audiences for his excellent production of last year's hit *Count*

Dracula, and musical direction will be provided by Charles Homewood. The set and costumes are once again the work of Patricia Clark, and David Gibbons returns to design the lighting.

TNB is proud that Fraser Inc. of Edmundston, N.B. is once again sponsoring the Holiday attraction.

Scrooge opens in Edmundston on November 26, tours the province for two weeks, and returns to Fredericton December 11 - 16 with matinees on December 15 and 16.



LA CHRONIQUE ETOILÉE

par MARC POIRIER

Nérée Degrâce expose

L'Association pour l'art visuel et l'artisanat de Fredericton est fière de présenter l'exposition de Nérée Degrâce du 29 novembre au 12 décembre.

Nérée Degrâce né à Shippagan il y a 64 ans, est diplômé de l'École-des-Beaux-Arts de Québec. Sa rencontre avec Edith Butler en 1979 a contribué à faire connaître ses œuvres et il ne connu par la suite "Reflets d'un pays" à l'œuvre du peintre. Poste Canada choisit une de ses œuvres en 1981 pour illustrer le timbre officiel commémorant le centenaire de la première convention acadienne. Depuis 1981, l'artiste a exposé à travers le Québec et le Canada et fut le sujet en 1983 d'un reportage de 6 pages dans la revue "Sélection du Reader's Digest" du mois d'avril. Son plus récent exploit fut le choix d'une de ses œuvres, "Village Acadien", par Antonine Maillet pour paraître sur la couverture de son roman "Crache à Pic".

Muni d'un tel bagage et d'une telle expérience, Nérée Degrâce offre un expo-vente remarquable au foyer du théâtre du Centre communautaire Sainte-Anne. Le vernissage aura lieu le 30 novembre à 20h00 au Centre communautaire. Plus de détails sur la pièce seront donnés la semaine prochaine.

Que la force soit avec toi

Les deux premiers films de la trilogie de George Lucas soient *La guerre des étoiles* et *L'empire contre-attaque* seront présentés le 23 novembre au théâtre du Centre communautaire à 19h00.

Ce programme double vous est offert par le Cercle Français en collaboration avec le comité social de l'École Sainte-Anne au coût de 4,00\$ pour étudiante et 5,00\$ pour adulte.

Il est à noter...

Une exposition de toiles, œuvres de Michelle Ouellet sera à l'honneur au foyer du théâtre du Centre communautaire du 16 au 28 novembre. Elle est offerte par l'Association pour l'art visuel et l'artisanat.

L'Association pour l'art visuel et l'artisanat prépare un atelier de décorations de Noël qui aura lieu demain le 17 novembre au Centre communautaire de 13h00 à 19h00. Admission: 5,00\$ par personne. Pour plus d'information, téléphoner Marise Godbout au numéro 455-4692.

Le Club Brayon offre un déjeuner-continental le 18 novembre à la salle de banquet de l'Auberge Wandlyn de 11h00 à 13h30. Admission: 3,50\$ adultes et 1,75\$ pour les moins de douze ans.

La Bibliothèque Dr. Marguerite-Michaud organise une vente de livres usagés dans le but de recueillir des fonds pour l'amélioration de sa collection. La vente aura lieu le dimanche 18 novembre de 10h00 à 15h00, devant l'entrée de la Bibliothèque au Centre communautaire. C'est l'occasion de faire de bonnes affaires car les prix varieront de 5¢ à 1,00\$.