Ray Charles, Jackson to lead sickle cell fete

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Entertainers Ray Charles and Mahalia Jackson and civil rights leader the Rev. Jesse Jackson are among the group of national celebrities who have agreed to participate in a mammoth benefit here this week for the Sickle Cell Anemia Research Foundation.

"We are extremely pleased that these national figures have agreed to participate in this worthwhile cause," said Dr. Elmer Anderson of Los Angeles, a member of tre board of directors of the foundation and medical director of the new sprawling Martin Luther King Hospital, currently being constructed in Los Angeles.

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HOLLYWOOD BEAT:

European sidewalks see Soul in all directions

By BILL LANE

HOLLYWOOD — A big envelope arrived from France bearing what looked like fifteen dollars worth of stamps on its cover. It was from pal Vincent Tubbs, out doing his $40,000 publicity job for "The 24 Hours of LeMans," the Steve McQueen racing film now being shot in France, and elsewhere. Wrote Tubbs:

"France in summer is not all it's cracked up to be. Most Frenchmen go on vacation (probabl toy avoid the Ugly Americans) and many colse their shops . . . like, Man The grocery store, the liquor store and even the laundry closes.

"Frenchmen have taken Monday out of the calendar. Nothing opens on Monday. They never have a blue one. They don't have one at all. Lots of black people on the streets of Europe this year, more than I saw in London, Rome and Madrid last year.

"I'm going over to Milan, Italy, but it's a great kick to see 'souls' wearing their Afros and dashikis and blowing minds over here.

"Bumped into Sidney Poitier on the Champs Blysees. He was with his daughters, after visiting East Africa.

"Steve McQueen has discovered a new black actor in Conrad Pringle who has a very big role in 'The 24 Hours of Le Man's Conrad rsed to dance with Richmond (Va.) beauty Estelle Price in the Larry Steele show. He's been in Europe since 1955, starring on French and Italian TV and doing choreography for clubs all over the Continent. He had just come to Paris from Stockholm where he'd gotten a taste of 'home-style' hearing the Clara Ward Singers soul-singing at the Nimb. We signed him to play a cool photo-journalist in the film. He's great in it, too."

* * *

GARY STROMBERG, h bby of Chelsea Brown, back state-side and doing publicity for some of the nation's top rock units . . . Clara Ward arriving from Scandinavia, opening at the Nevada Lodge in Tahoe . . . Melvin Van Peebles editing his recently filmed "Sweet Sweetback, Etc." which he shot in Watts, Beverly Hills and on Central Avenue . . . Universal Studios publicist Walter Burrell and wife Enola welcomed a new arrival, a son, Mario Gilchrist Burrell, weighing in at eight pounds, nine ounces, and measuring 21 inches.

Scoey Mitchell and Paramount reportedly settled their differences and now Scoey won't be replaced — after filming 10 segments of ABC-TV's "Barefoot In The Park."

* * *

ARETHA FRANKLIN flew back to Detroit before her show date here at the Sports Arena on the 12th. The Queen of Soul shot a sizzling TV tape with Tom Jones.

Aretha Franklin sizzles with Tom Jones

Her brother-mentor the Rev. Cecil Franklin, formed a new backup vocal group for The Sweethearts of Soul, and brought himself a britting new pair of boots from Soulful Soles, the bootery headed by the promoters of Aretha's Sports Arena concert.

Saw Cecil at Johnny Mathis' Grove opener with Reve Gipson, and saw publicist Jim Gilreath with Dasey Grier's fetching kin, Pamela Grier.

* * *

SAMMY DAVIS, Jr. back on schedule after licking pneumonia . . . Everybody who comments on The Supremes' sensational opener at the Frontier in Las Vegas agree the girls have dynamite potential, with two hit vocalists, Mary Wilson and Jean Terrell. Only thing holding them back is a ghost — the lost of Diana Ross, and the song arrangements she left behind to hamper the new trio.

The old hits (done originally with Diana) brought applause, but the new songs, which gave Miss Wilson and Miss Terrell chances to sing their own way, tore up the ho se.

Ustinov on stage for Philharmonic

Peter Ustinov, one of the most multi-talented figures on the international entertainment scene, makes an unusual departure from his normal teatrical work when he appears as narrator and pat-conductor of the fourth of the 1969-70 season's New York Philharmonic Young People's Concerts, to be presented Sunday, in color on CBS.

The British-born Ustinov, noted on both sides of the Atlantic for his accomplishments as actor, director, author and producer, mounts the Philharmonic's podium for "Words and Music," dealing with the use of the speaking voice in conjunction with symphonic music.

In addition to his narration of the broadcast, Ustinov conducts the orchestra and is vocal soloist, all in a and is vocal soloist, all in a comedic vein, for Domenic Cimarosa's "The Music Master," a 1780 instrumental spoof written for singing conductors who can't sing or conduct.

Dear Nancy

(Forget the rumors. Get The Facts. Write "Nancy," c/o P.O. Box 419, Hollywood, 90028. No personal replies)

Q. A short time ago I read that the handsome Lloyd Haynes of "Room 222" had gotten a divorce from his longtime social worker wife, who is black. Then I read that his wife might be a white ress. Is this true? — ley Winstead, Alton, I

A. A few days ago chased our photog Cliff Hall, away fro ing a pic of him. had done was disclo Haynes was dating girl who's white. The August issue of Screen, Haynes a pretty German awa Carmen Beden, wh UCLA coed, tell it pose smillingly for together.

Q. Isn't it true th Ray St. Jacques grown son, and "Pop" St. Jacques actress Judy Pace what film work ha Pace done lately? gie DeVille, El Calif.

A. Sterling St. Jacques, son of actor Ray St. Jacques, is not "grown." He is 19, and a talented dancer. "Pop" St. Jacques goes around with Miss Pace, who mmy say is the beloved of baseball's Curt Flood. Miss Pace is in the current movies, "Cotton Comes To Harlem" and

Q. Didn't actor Ren of the Guyanese African revolutin.

It was here, with a spirit of the brotherhood that reaches across the waters, that Guyanese African nationalists buried the former associate director of the Foundation for Community Development (FCD) in Durham community.

Arch was known throughout the state as a hard, grass roots organizer.

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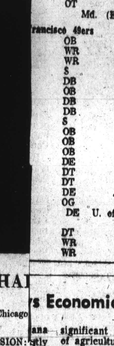

RICHA

HOME: Chicago

AGE: 38

PROFESSION: ...ty

HOBBIES: Hor... the music.

LAST BOOK R... ent

LAST ACCOMPLISHMENT: Voted one of the ten outstanding men in Chicago.

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Stereo tape firm seeks franchises

DANVILLE, Va. — Sound Systems, Inc., which began operations here in June, announced recently that it is seeking minority franchisers to own and operate retail outlets for car and home stereo tape systems.

The company plans to locate franchises under the name Service 'N Sound Centers in major shopping centers in Virginia and the nationa. The centers will provide a complete repair service for electronic sound equipment, in addition to selling new units.

For additional information, write the firm at Suite 1230 Virginia National Bank Building, Norfolk, Va.

Baltimore And All That Jazz

ARCHIE MANGRAM JR.

On Sunday, the Left Bank Jazz Society presented what we would have to consider as one of the top attractions seen since we have been attending. They served a Souffle of Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers. And what a messag they had for the near capacity crowd of jazz enthusiasts present.

The message got through to everyone there as evidenced by the numerous times that the group received spontaneous applause.

Art Blakey is another of those individuals that will ave to go down in the nnals of Jazz. He is also another musician whose music spans over two decades.

* * *

Art has always had a 'smoking' group since the inception of his Original Jazz messengers. And though the personnel has changed over the years, the basic sound has not. This is the mark of a musical master.

It has often been said that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. Hordes of Alto players tried to imitate Bird (Charlie Parker). Countless others tried to imitate Miles Davis and Dizzy Gillespie. Clifford Brown started a whole school of trumpet players trying to get his sound and style.

What these fellows did for their respective instruments, Art Blakely did for the Drums.

* * *

The two major influences in jazz as far as the drums were concerned were Art Blakey and Max Roach. They each had their disciples or adherents who emulated their respective styles. This tells you what type of drummer Art was and is. No greater tribute can be payed to a man than to have his percussionistic skills copied by thousands.

The rest of the Jazz Messengers appearing were: Bill Hardman, Trumpet; Ramon Morris, Tenor Sax. Baltimore's own Albert Dailey on Piano, and a 'Soul Brother' from the Land of the Rising Sun, Isowi Suzuki, Bass. This was a turned-on group.

Bill Hardman was with Art in the early years of the Messengers. He plays with that relaxed assurance that only long experience and a lot of soul can give you. He played a personal version of Thelonious Monk's Classic, "Round About Midnight" that was sheer poetry in sounds.

* * *

Yet, from the delicate fragile, expressive solo mentioned above, he could get as funky or even funkier than thou when the occasion demanded it.

Ramon Morris' Tenor should not go unnoted. Ramon is a young tenor player who was obviously nurtured on jazz of more recent vintage. Nevertheless he more than held his own with this group, some of whom were playing jazz while he was still watching Captain Kangeroo.

In fact he added a contemporary touch to this group. And he 'cooked' while doing it.

Al Dailey seems to have become one of the 'in' pianists. An 'in' pianist is one of those very talented guys that play with, at various times, all of the top jazz groups. Recordings, gigs, the whole bit. They are rare, and as a result they are much sought after.

* * *

Al was his usual soulful swinging self last Sunday. Sometimes piano players go unnoticed and unheralded until they solo, because usually someone else is soloing and the focus of attention is on that performer. But the pianist has to lay that groovy foundation or nothing will come off.

Al can lay such a foundation, as well as blow your mind with his solo excursions. He was featured on a piano solo (and I do mean solo, nobody else played anything), his rendition of the svelte "Yesterdays." In it he exhibited the skills that have made him so much in demand. During the solo he ran the gamut from Baroque like figures, thru figures to pure unadulterated funk. It was beautiful.

Isowi Suzuki, even though he was from Tokyo, Japan, played like he was raised on the East Side. Talking about SOUL. He had it in wholesale lots. But with such associates as he has had, how could he help but play. And believe me he played.

* * *

I won't even get into Art Blakey's drumming skills, they are a matter of public record on literally hundreds of L.P.s. You know HE smoked. I don't think he knows how to do anything else.

If you have gotten the impression that last Sunday's concert was great, then you got the message just as we did last Sunday.

The LBJS will present Horace Silver next Sunday, Sept. 21st. On the 27th of September, they have Stan Kenton on the menu, and on the following Sundays even tastier tidbits await you.

Sept. 20-26

Yoga, gunsmithing, black power, and classical ballet are four of a broad range of subjects covered by films scheduled this week at the central Enoch Pratt Free Library.

Sept. 23 — A gala evening with red carpet and spotlights will mark the opening of the 56th season of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra on Wednesday, September 23.

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MUSIC INSTRUCTIONS — Benjamin Durant, left, and Prof. Jeap Van Opstal, of the Music Department at Community College of Baltimore, will conduct a music course over the college's radio station WBJC-FM at 91.5 on your dial.

Sullivan jumps '70 award shows in season opener

Ed Sullivan will be presenting the first award show of the new season year Sunday.

When he starts his 23rd Jumping the gun on the Emmys, the Oscars and the Tonys, Ed will be presenting the first "Georgies" to the winners of the "Entertainer of the Year" awards for the best "live" performance in the entertainment world.

Winners were selected by their peers, members of the American Guild of Variety Artists, the show business union that governs "live" performances in areas such as night clubs, variety theaters, fairs, circuses, concerts and other "in person" entertainment fields.

* * *

This year's winners include Bob Hope, top "Entertainer of the Year," and Jimmy Durante, honored with the "Golden Award" as an outstanding performer who has been a star for more than 50 years.

The accent of the show will be on entertainment, with many of the recipients performing as well as accepting their awards.

* * *

The roster of stars includes, Tom Jones, male singer of the year; Barbra Streisand, female singer of the year; Flip Wilson, comic of the year; Carole Burnett, commedienne of the year; Blood, Sweat and Tears, Tanya, the Elephant, animal act of the year; The Flying Alexanders, circus act of the year, and Radio City Music Hall for the variety stage production of the year.

Presenting the awards will be many of the foremost stars in show business including Tony Bennett, Danny Thomas and Dionne Warwick.

The show will eminate from Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas.

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