Xmas Zazz

By Frederick I. Douglass

Xmas is just around the corner, which means in this age of commercialism that people are expecting to receive a lot of gifts. But Christmas does not have to be a money thing if you give because you want to—not because you think that it's expected of you. If you really want to let your friends know where your head is at, give presents that you would like to receive, presents that meet the high standards that you have set for acquiring your own personal possessions. Give a friend something that you know he can appreciate for years, not something that can be consumed in a day. If you have any friends that dig Jazz, I'm sure that they would really dig finding one of the following albums under the tree on Christmas morning.

PHAROAH SANDERS — VILLAGE OF THE PHAROAHS — Many Baltimoreans will remember when Pharoah visited here with John Coltrane to let out the Famous Baliroom shortly before the Trane's untimely demise. He was presented here for the second time by the Left Bank Jazz Society in January, 1972 in yet another superb performance. On his latest album he can be heard spewing forth pearls of wisdom from the bell of his sax. Accompanying him are such Jazz masters as Joe Bonner, Cecil McBee, Stanley Clark and Marvin Peterson who was here recently when LBJS presented saxophonist Billy Harper. This LP definitely deserves to be in your collection with other albums by the Pharoah including "Jewels of Thought," "Wisdom Through Music," "Tauhid," "Karma," and "Summun Bukmun Umyun."

MICHAEL WHITE — THE LAND OF SPIRT AND LIGHT — Who says that the violin is only for playing classical music. Evidently they never heard Brother Michael White get down on the fiddle with John Handy and some other top-flight Jazz musicians. Usually he plays the violin amplified with very little distortion. He has charted a course for new musical horizons, having extended the musical vocabulary and range of his instrument. While is imminently superior to the French Jazz violinist, Jean Luc Ponty who records with Frank Zappa and the Mothers of Invention. Check him out—you might be in for a surprise.

THE LOUIS ARMSTRONG SAGA — It all had to begin somewhere. Louis made some of the major innovations in the art of Jazz improvisation. No matter how much you might abhor his grinning, hanky - headed, tooth flashing stage personality, his contributions of Afro-American music cannot be summarily dismissed. Cuts on this LP were recorded between 1927 and 1955 by various Armstrong bands including the Hot Five, the Hot Seven, the All-Stars and the Savoy Ballroom Five. Armstrong had great appeal as a performer and endurance as an artist, his vast recorded legacy spanning nearly 50 years.

GROVER WASHINGTON JR. — This cat was in B-More this year too, jamming away for the patrons of LBJ'S at the Famous Ballroom. His latest album, "Soul Box" is a double LP featuring diverse material like the Temptations, jam "Masterpiece," Marvin Gaye's "Trouble Man," Stevie Wonder's "You Are the Sunshine of My Life" and Billy Cobham's "Taurian Matador." Grover has been heard playing the sax with Horace Silver, Charles Earland, Johnny Hammond Smith and others. He has two previously released albums entitled "Inner City Blues" and "All The King's Horses."

KOOL AND THE GANG — KOOL JAZZ — That's right, a Jazz album by Kool and the Gang of "Funky Stuff" fame. With the exception of Charles Lloyd's immortal "Sombrero Sam," all the tunes are written by the members of the band. This is not really a totally different bag for Kool because most of their tunes have heavy jazz foundations. A lot of Jazz purists may scoff and say that those young rock and roll players can't get down on any serious music. Well being they start flapping their chops, they better listen to this jam.

MILES DAVIS — IN CONCERT — Christmas just wou'dn't be complete without hearing from the Grand Master of the trumpet, no - holds - barred, any style you want to play, in any key. He's a genius. What more can I say. Merry Christmas!

Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes, above, are coming to the Civic Center, Sunday. Also on the bill are Mandrill and Osibisa.

Civic Center

ICE HOCKEY—Clippers vs. Boston Braves—Fri., Dec. 14.

EMERSON, LAKE AND PALMER, CONCERT — Sat., Dec. 15.

MANDRILL CONCERT—Sun., Dec. 16.

SALES MEETING — Avon Products, Inc., No. 469 — Wed.-Thurs., Dec. 19-20.

ICE HOCKEY—Clippers vs. Nova Scotia Voyageurs — Sat., Dec. 22.

WRESTLING — Wed., Dec. 26.

OPERATION NATIVE SONS AND DAUGHTERS—Thurs., Dec. 27.

HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS BASKETBALL—Thurs., Dec. 28.

ISLEY BROTHERS SHOW—Fri., Dec. 28.

ICE HOCKEY—Clippers vs. Richmond Robins—Sat., Dec. 29.

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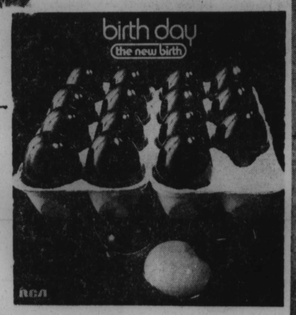

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by Connie E. Brown

Christmas About Town

Ten days before Christmas and a lot still remains to be done; but take time out from your busi schedules to attend a Christmas concert at your favorite church, high schooi, college or community center.

Some interesting concerts this week are:

JOHNS HOPKINS

A concert of Christmas music will be performed under the direction of Gregg Smith by Peabody Conservatory musicians and concert singers in Shriver Hall, Johns Hopkins University, December 14, at 8 p.m.

UMBC

The SGA Special Events Committee of UMBC presents Linda Ronstadt in concert, with special guest stars Lewis and Dolgoff on Sunday, December 16 at 7:30 p.m. in Gym No. 1 on the UMBC campus.

SOUTHWEST CENTER

The Southwest Center for the Creative Arts, Inc., will present a Christmas concert, December 16, in Stuart Hill Elementary School auditorium at 2 p.m., featuring the community orchestra.

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INNER EAR

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's Inner Ear will present "Backstage at the Ballet." Sunday, Dec. 16, 5 p.m., Lyric Theatre, featuring the National Ballet to perform "The Nutcracker."

Langston Hughes' New Book 'Good Morning Revolution'

Uncollected Social Protest Writings Shed New Light on Major American Writer

The extent of the revolutionary writings of Langston Hughes is revealed for the first time in "Good Morning Revolution" which Lawrence Hill and Company will publish on December 17, 1973.

Edited by Faith Berry, a young Washington editor, this collection of 36 poems and 24 prose pieces which have never before appeared in book form, orginally appeared in small magazines, newspapers and pamphlets between 1925 and 1957 and represent some of Hughes' most inclusive and timeless work.

Why such an important segment of Hughes' writing has remained uncollected for so long is explained by Miss Berry in introduction. She reveals how the stultifying influence of McCarthyism and its aftermath resulted in the virtual suppression of much of Hughes' most interesting work.

In his foreword to the book Professor Saunders Redding of Cornell University writes: "This collection of prose pieces and poems has an important purpose to reestablish firmly and irrevocably a dimension to the genius of Hughes that well-meaning critics and literary historians have ignored (or been ignorant of), blurred or purposefully eroded . . . Hughes was a revolutionary writer and poet."

Enoch Pratt

Coming Events

Saturday, December 15

"A Christmas Carol" and "A Light in the Night," films at the Pratt Librarys Pennsylvania Avenue Branch, 12 noon.

"A Christmas Carol," film at the Central Pratt Library, Wheeler Auditorium, 2 p.m.

Sunday, December 16

"Great Expectations," film at the Central Pratt Library, Wheeler Auditorium, 2 p.m.

Sunday, December 16

"Great Expectations," film at the Central Pratt Library, Wheeler Auditorium, 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 18

"America: The First Impact" (Part 12), film at the Central Pratt Library, Wheeler Auditorium, 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 19

"Famous Movie Monsters," film at the Pratt Library's Broadway Branch, 3:30 p.m.

"Dragon Stew" and "The Magic Horse," films at the Pratt Librarys Hollins-Payson Branch, 3:30 p.m.

"The Christmas Cracker," "That Snowy Day," and "The Shoemaker and the Elves, films at the Pratt Library's Keyworth Avenue Library Center, 3:30 p.m.

"The Christmas Cracker" and "The Tale of Custard the Dragon," films at the Pratt Library's Pimlico Branch, 4:00 p.m.

School 94 Visits AFRO

Sinclair Lane, 2200 Sinclair Lane school No. 94 visisted the AFRO-AMERICAN this past week. Mrs. Mary Richardson is principal.

Williams Jenkins brought 24, 4th graders and Gene Marlow brought 24, 6 graders. This is part of AFRO's Newspaper In the Classroom program.

School No. 94 is a 12 year old protable which will move to a new school, North and Broadway, Harford Heights Elementary in April.

First photo shows standing: Craig Barnes, Timothy Johnson, Marcellous Jones, Edward Mazyck, Nathaniel Geary, Deborah Daney, Angela Yates, David Duppins, Pamela Gray, Marvin Dansbury, Kenneth Buck, Alicia Leggett, Darlene Porter, Hargine Byrd, Ronald Sampson, Antonio Copes, Johnny Crudup, Kevin Spriggs, Sharon Robinson, Darryl Hamilton, Denise Davis, Jenie Carter, Larry Foreman, Vaughn Pinkett, and Mr. William B. Jenkins (teacher).

Second photo shows standing: Maria Benton, Sharon Christian, Charles Smith, Alvin Thomas, Melvin Dirton, Anthony Baylor, Cynthia Daney, Isaiah Greary, Nathaniel Sharp, Denny Ramsey, Giles Collk, Veronica Bethea Tonia Porter, Victoria Dailey, Mary Boston, Wendy Justice, Keith Freeman, Trent Goleman, Brenda McGilberry, Cassandra Powell, Jessie Dansbury, Vinson Edwards, Walter Broadway, Mr. Gene Marlow (Teacher) and Mr. Donald Robert (bus driver).

PEABODY

On Tuesday, Dec. 18, the Peabody Conservatory Chorus and Concert Singers will present "The Christmas Story," 8 p.m., in the Concert Hall. Gregg Smith will conduct.

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D.C. ENSEMBLE

The Theatre Chamber Players of Washington, D.C. will make their Baltimore debut on Sunday, Dec. 16 at 4 p.m. in the Peabody Concert Hall.

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COPPIN STATE

Coppin College Choir will present a Christmas concert, Friday, Dec. 14, 8 p.m., in the new college auditorium, 2500 West North Avenue.

Delivery of possibly the largest single mail shipment in U.S. Postal Service history — 78 million income tax packates — will begin Dec. 26 to homes and businesses across the country, the Postal Service announced.

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