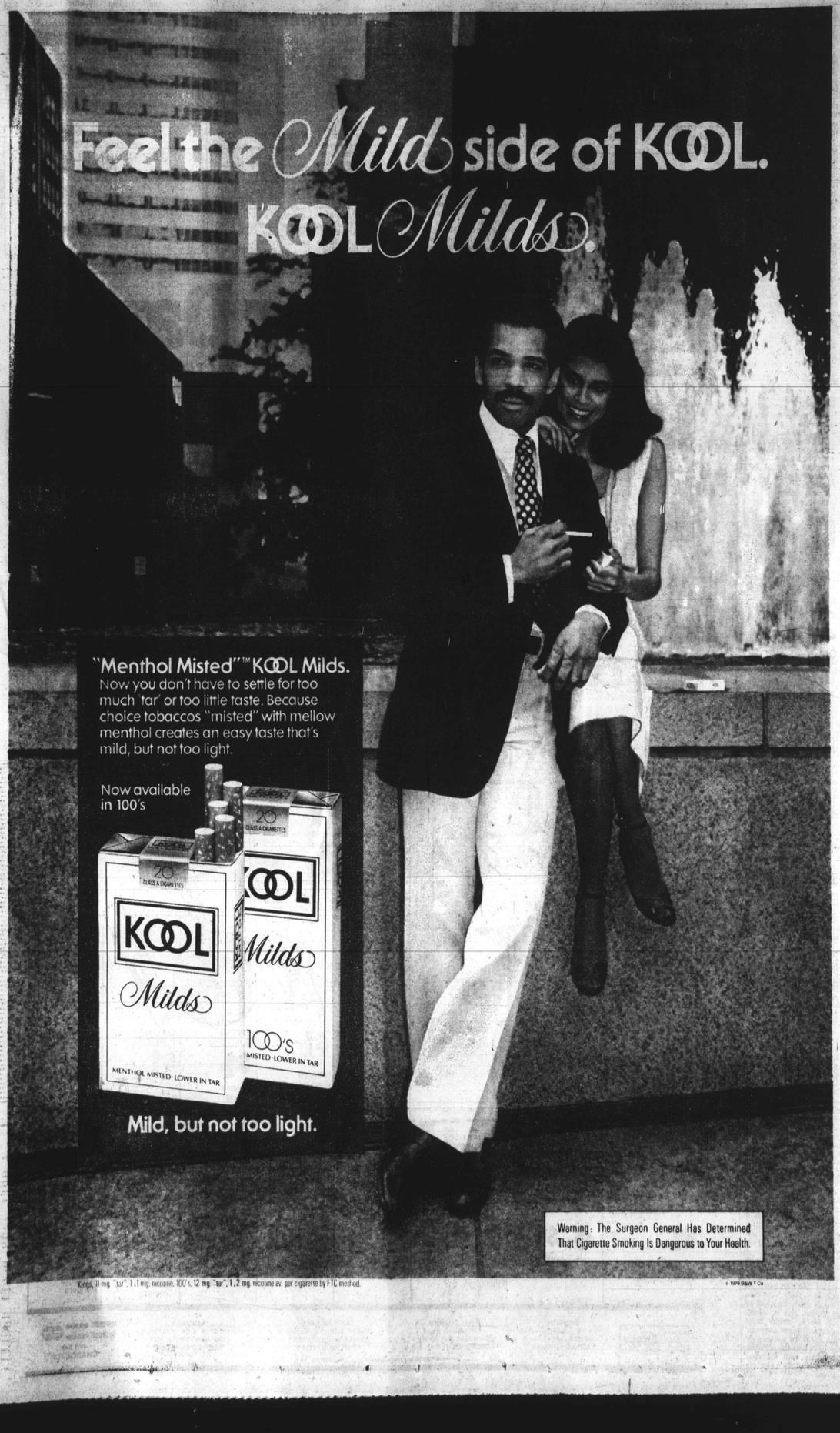


SHOWTIME

★THEATRE
★ARTS
★MOVIES

'Stubborn Lady' opens Sunday at Bowie



Cast of "Stubborn Lady," new musical opening at Bowie, Sunday.

The first productio of an industrisou season for the newly formed S. Randolph Edmonds Players of Bowie State College begins Oct. 21, 22 and 23 with the premier world performance of "Stubborn Lady," a new musical by the hit Broadway playwright Lofton Mitchell.

Best known for his widely acclaimed "Bubblin Brown Sugar," Mr. Mitchell has brought his new projection to Bowie State College for its permier engagement under the direction of his personal friend Dr. H.D. Flowers II, the new chairperson of the College's Department of Fine and Performing Arts.

Mitchell and Flowers, who have worked together before, have teamed again for a production they expect to eventually rival the genius of "Bubbling Brown Sugar." "Stubborn Lady," an enchanningly colorful musical about an old lady who lives in Harlem and fights the advances of urban renewal and athe lamost certain destruction of her heritage, is the most elaborate theatre program ever produced at Bowie State College. Full of the same kind of exciting dancing and zesful songs that mmade "Bubblin Brown Sugar" a Broadway and national success, "Stubborn Lady" is an engaing play with a heartwarming theme of a woman who remembers the joys of her past as the realities of the present threaten her home.

The play will open Sunday night, Oct. 21, at 8 p.m. at the Martl Luther King Jr. Communication Arts Center. Performances will also be held at 8 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 22, and Tues., Oct. 23. Special matinee performances are also scheduled for shcool children at 10:00 a.m. on Monday and Tuesday.

The production and the energetic efforts of Flowers are sparking a revitalization of the arts at Bowie State College, a 115-year-old institution that eventually hopes to create a national center for the education of professional playwrights, directos, designers, producers and actors of the theatre arts. Flowers, a man of many talents who has brought a sense of organization direction to the once dormant department, is one of the few people in the United States to hold the doctorate degree in theatre.

Flowers was hired away from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff by Bowie State's president Rufus L. Barfield, who recognized not only Flowers' abundant theatrical ability but also his dynamic personality and skill at involving local communities in the performances and productions of his department.

Flowers' friendship with national celebrities and professionals, most notably with Lofton Mitchell, is expected to add tremendous resource to the College as it begins its grand plans for future development.

Among those plans if a Master of Arts degree program in the Fine and Performing arts proposed for the Graduate School, which would be the first such program in Maryland.

Three other productions, in addition to "Stubborn Lady," are planned for this year. One of them, "Michael, a King," is a new play about the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. written by Al Bowell.

Another play, "Wiley and the Hairy Man," by Sue Zeder, promises to be the most community oriented production of the year; it is a play for children and the young at heart.

The final production is "First Breeze of Summer," by Leslie Lee, an intense family drama that will bring a crowning close to the season.

Russell Owens to direct 'Eden'

The director of the Arena Players' upcoming production of Steve Carter's "Eden" is Donald Russell Owens.

A native of Washington, D.C., Mr. Owens is a dedicated and accomplished actor and director who has contributed to the growth of repertory and community theatre in different parts of the United States.

In Abilene, Texas, he was a founding member of the Dyess Playhouse and served as its business manager and director - in - residence at the Dyess Playhouse Mr. Owens director John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men."

In Ohio, he was a charter member of the Ohio Theatre Alliance, an alliance of university, community and professional theatres based on Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. He also joined the Ohio Community Theatre Alliance and appeared in "The American Dream" and "The Night of the Tiguana" in Lima, Ohio. He has also performed in theatres in Raleigh, North Carolina, Washington, D.C., Okinawa, Japan and in Baltimore.

Various theatre companies in the Baltimore area have used Russell Owens' expertise during the past five years. He directed and appeared in "A Thousand Clowns" at the Keene Street Theatre. He played in "King John" with the Community College of Baltimore Players and "In the Boom Boom Room" at Fell's Point Theatre.

"A Streetcar Named Desire," "Boys In The Band" and "Short Eyes" are the productions in which Mr. Owens has appeared at the New Experience Theatre in Columbia.

This Spring he appeared in the highly acclaimed Baltimore Actor's Theatre production of "Streamers" and this summer in the Baltimore Shakespeare - on - the - Hill's presentation os "As You Like It.

Mr. Owens' acting credits also include commercials, television and screen. He has done commercials for Planned Parent hood in Texas and in Maryland, the YMCA in Texas and for Savings and Loan in Ohio. He has appeared on Channel 67 and in the Maryland Historical Society's production of "The Last Days of the Old World." "Brotherhood of Death," a movied filmed in Baltimore a few years ago used Mr. Owens as well as Ed Heath and Vacountess Payne, both Arena Players.

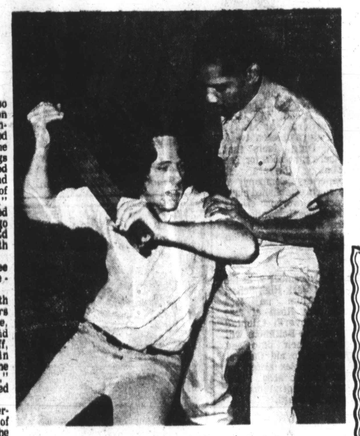
Al Pacino fans will be able to see Russell Owens in the soon - to - be - released "And Justice For All."

Russell Owens' affiliation with the Arena Players began five years ago after he moved to Baltimore. An active Arena Player and currently on the Director's staff, Mr. Ownes has appeared in "Child's Play," "Dark of the Moon," "Thunder In The Index," "When Are You Comin Back, Red Rider?."

In 1978, he directed and performed in the World premiere of Julian Mayfield's "Fount of the Nation." Last year he directed and portrayed Jimmy Perry in Neil Simon's "The Gingerbread Lady."

Steve Carter's "Eden" is the Fourth production that Russell Owens has directed at the Arena Playhouse. This drama, set in New York during the 1920's poignantly depicts prejudice and cultural differences between West Indian and American Black.

"Eden" is a production that requires the determination and concentration of a serious cast and director to capture audience's attention. Under the guidance of Russell Owens, Eden, which will open on November 2, and will continue weekends through November25, promises to be one of the local producations that will command public acclamation.



Jeff Siegler, left and Michael Carter.

Prisons become medical transplants

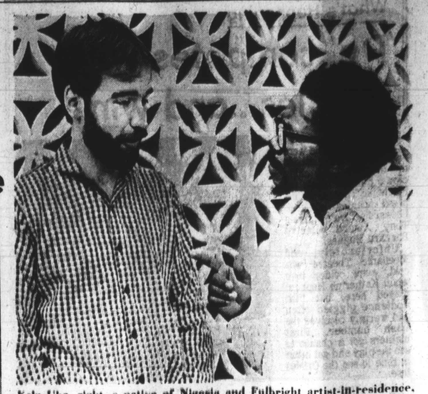
Anti - revolutionaries in Cuba are the focus of "Eleven O'Clock," the Roberto Arellano play opening at New Players Theatre November 2.

The two - act guerrilla drama is et in a jail cell where three men awit what they think is to be their execution. When they discover that they are to be forced into donating various parts of their bodies to save the lives of the revolutionaries who have imprisoned them, the three react in ambivalent ways.

Cast as the prisoners are Andre Papantonio, Michael Krels and Kevin Adams. Jean Cooper plays the doctor assigned to the case. Jeff Siegler and Michael Carter are guards. Edye Fox makes her theatrical debut with the group as a dream sequence memory.

Direction by James Bennet; Ray Hamby is producer.

Dr. Arellano, the author, is a professor of playwrighting at The Johns University and a former resident of Cuba.



Kalu Uka, right, a native of Nigeria and Fulbright artist-in-residence, will be featured in "The Lion and the Jewl" at Morgan State University Nov. 1. Left, faculty member Michael Joyce, director.

Morgan presents 'Lion and the Jewel'

The Morgan State University Arts Division will open its 1979 - 80 season with the Baltimore Premiere of Nigerian paywright Wole Soyinka's hilarious comedy, "The Lion and The Jewel."

Featured in this production will be Fulbright artist - in - residence Kalu Uka. Mr. Uka is a scholar, director, and actor in his native Nigeria. The production will be directed by faculty member Michael Joyce.

Kalu Uka, 41, was born in 1938 in Akanu - Ohafia, Aro - Ohafia Local Government Area, Imo State of Nigeria. He attended Presbyterian Schols in Ohafia and Abiriba, and the Church of Scotland Mission Comprehensive Institute, The Hope Waddell Training Institution in Calabar, Cross River State, as well as the Methodist College, Uzuakoli, before going on to his University education at the then University College of Ibadan, Oyo State.

Graduating in June 1962, he served as Talks Programmes Assistant Producer for the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation, Lagos, where he worked with comedian Ralph Opara becoming acquainted in the process, with director Yemi Ljadu and actresses, Francesca Percira, Molara Leslie, and Elizabeth Oasisma, before going abroad to do postgraduate work at eh University of Toronto, Canada, where he graduated M.A. in 1964. He threafter proceeded to Leeds University, U.K., to work, under Professor Norman Jeffares, as an assistant lecturer in Literature, 1964 - 1965.

A fluent speaker of both Igbo and Efik, Kalu Uka's writing has earned praise from many - ace novelist, editor, and scholar, Chinua Achebe; poet - playwright Wole Soyinka; critic and poet, Ozzie Enekwe; scolor - critic, Abiola Irele; scholar - editor, Theophilus Vincent.

Kalu Uka is a poet, "Earth to Earth" (N.Y. 1972); a playwright, "A Harvest of Ants" (1975) and "Stonewalls" (1978).

He has written two novels "Colonel Ben Brim" (1978) and "A Consummation of Fire" (1978). He is married to a Nirsing Sister and they have five children. Two of his sons are in Baltimore with him and attending Leith Walk Elementary School.

In the play "The Lion and the Jewel", Kalu Uka will play the role of Chief Baroka. The comedy has a cast of 18. It's the story of a young man and a chief attempting to marry the same young woman played by Sonia Blue.

Also featured in the production are Sonny Clash, Danette Austin, and Marie Rhymer. Baltimore Chorographer Delphine Sneed has provided the production with original authentic African dances.

Performances are in the Little Theatre of the Murphy Fine Arts Building at 8:00 p.m. on Nov. 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16 and 17; at 2:00 p.m. on Nov. 4, 11, and 18.

For more information call the box office at 444 - 3148.

Calendar



Ethel Ennis

'Wiz' tonight

Ethel Ennis, above left, is the Good Witch and Esthelle Searcy, right has the role of Dorothy in the Whizbang celebration at Mondawmin, tonight, Friday at 7 p.m.



Estelle Searcy

UMBC disco

UMBC Cooperative Education Student Organization, a non profit organization, is having a Disco on Oct. 20, in the Commuter Cafe from 9 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Admission only to students 18 or over.

Night Scene Seen

By Bob Matthews

Went out on our rounds of night clubs this past Wednesday night — that was a mistake.

Twas the night of the seventh game of the world series, and we must confess, we've never seen the streets so deserted and quiet while the game was on.

Decided to tryout the normal sports haunts to see how they were coping, and how business was.

First stop was the Sportsmen's Lounge, where we found a goodly crowd assembled, two television sets blaring forth, and a pinochle game in progress in the middle of the room.

Needless to say, conversation was at an absolute minimum, and you could almost feel the tension in the air. Didn't linger and whipped around the corner to Lee's Lounge, where we found almost the same pattern in progress.

Down Rogers Ave. to Reisterstown Rd., where we peeked in a Brice's Hilltop Lounge, and found almost a deserted front bar, with a few stalwarts glued to a TV set.

Further down the road a piece to the 5 Mile House, where a goodly crowd was assembled, but animated discussions only came during the commercials between innings.

Stopped by a couple of other clubs, where the Orioles were the order of the night, so drew a conclusion. Major sporting events, be they Orioles, Colts, or whatever, do not alter night club habits of Baltimoreans.

They may be delayed just a trifle, but the regulars go on their usual rounds and the camaraderie which sports events engender, holds forth.

For example, at one of our favorite watering holes, Russan's Bar on Hilton Ave., while the ballgame is on, there are no strangers in the place. Friendly wagers take place all over, and anyone who dares play the jukebox is frowned upon.



Rebecca Wooding
Pagoda

So, as far as the nightclub business is concerned — hooray for sporting events — they're good for business. Club owners might take note and take advantage next time.

MOSTLY FOR MUSIC

The Left Bank Jazz Society is presenting Jack McDuff this Sunday, and unfortunately, we are unable to give a knowledgeable pre - assessment of his group.

Jack has done his share of "house party" type organ trio playing, but moved into a more modern jazz - fusion - funk style in an effort to reach the popular appeal that brings in the shekels.

Haven't heard him in a few years. In fact, the last time we saw him at LBJS was when he played a gig with Groove Holmes — it really swung. So, we know he can, and he will.

Something new for The Bandstand this weekend, when Houston Person and Etta Jones bring the quartet in through Sunday night. This will be just about the first strictly mainstream, blues - based vocal and tenor sax group to play the club.

Houston and Etta are regulars in this area. In fact, LBJS is responsible for a part of their success. For the past couple of years, they have played the New Year's eve cabaret for the Society.

So, the Bandstand appearance is in the nature of something new for the spot. We know that the foot-patting nightclubbing crowd will turn out — we can only hope the young jazz people who are just finding out about mainstream jazz check it out.

Sportsmen's Lounge has the John Lampkin Quintet on tap for Friday and Saturday night. This group has really jelled now, with one of Baltimore's top tenor sax men, Harold Adams, Vibist Jimmy Wells, along with Tony Sweet and Tony Bunn.

Saturday afternoon jazz set will presnt Donald Lane and a group with Tuesdays devoted to Eddie Gough, with Chico and Chico, plus Earline Reed on vocals.

The Closet has Charlie Covington, along with Andy Ennis, Dave Wendrow and Mike Smith. At Brice's Hilltop, the group is called Fizz.

Gatsby's has Mickey and Shirley Fields in the upstairs jazz room. The Birdcage is presenting Lady Rebecca Congregation on the weekend, with the Johnny Polite trio on Monday nights.

Got a couple of calls from club owners and managers, who complain that their clubs were left out of the listings. Just want to let them know that no one is barred from the listings, but we can't put it in, if we don't know about it. How about adding us to your mailing list?