# SHOWTIME

Melba Moore, along with Art Blakey, Maynard Ferguson's big band, Ramsey Lewis Trio, and Herbie Mann open the three day Atlantic City Jazz Festival at Gardner's Basin, Friday, Aug. 7.

What's Happening

## Rent Party at Arena Playhouse

By Ida Peters

The Women's Housing Coalition, Inc. is sponsoring a Rent Party, Sunday, July 19 at the Arena Playhouse. The benefit performance of James Weldon Johnson's "God's Trombones" will feature the Rev. Vernon Dobson.

Refreshments will be served in the lobby at 6:30 p.m. with curtain time at 7:30 p.m.

The Women's Housing Coalition is seeking funding for a model shelter for homeless women in the downtown YWCA. They are in need of initial start-up money of $1,600 to cover rent, security deposits, gas and electric, telephone deposits and other costs.

Member organizations of the Women's Housing Coalition are Associated Catholic Charities, New Directions for Women, Department of Social Services, House of Ruth, HCD, Marian House, Project PLASE, Primary Alcoholism Treatment Program, St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center.

Also Self-Pride, Traveler's Aid, Women's Union and YWCA. For information on tickets call 234-2282 or 433-8385.

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The 6th Annual AFRAM Festival Reception is 6 to 9 p.m. at the Baltimore Museum of Art, Sunday, July 19. Highlight will be the works of Roland Freeman and more than 100 of his works on display in his "Southern Roads - City Pavements" exhibit.

Hosts are Lenwood Ivey, executive director, Urban Services' Agency and Ms. Elva Edwards, associate director.

The AFRAM Expo Committee is headed by Norman Ross, general chairman and Clayton Tucker, co-chairman. Ms. Carolyn Chissell is reception chairperson.

Committee members are Cleveland Brister, Ms. Evelyn Campbell, Harry Evans III, Washington Green, Benjamin King Jr., Wayne Queen, Edward Streeter, Allen Thomas and Col. Edward Woods.

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Alige McGill, Baltimore poet and storyteller will create the life and struggles of Sojourner Truth, Thursdays thru Saturdays, July 23-25 at the air-conditioned Theatre Project, 45 W. Preston St.

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Nataska Hasan and the Diaspora perform Monday, July 20 at 7:30 p.m. on the lawn in front of Mt. Royal Station sponsored by Theatre Project and the Maryland Institute of Art. Admission is free and you can bring your own chairs and blankets.

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Center Stage's film series Friday and Saturday, July 17-18 features two Elizabeth Taylor film classics. "Little Women" starring Taylor, June Allyson made in 1949 at 7:30 p.m.; "A Place in the Sun" made in 1951 stars Taylor and Montgomery Clift.

Today (Friday) the Waxter Center Combo entertains jazz in a free concert in War Memorial Plaza.

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Coming Up Tuesday, July 22, at 12 noon to 1 p.m., the Lunchtime at Hopkins Plaza concert features the James Bunn group playing 12 original tunes by Phyllis Quickly.

Ms. Quickly, a native of Baltimore and a Dunbar grad is a Case Worker with the Department of SocialhServices. She has been writing for 14 years and the concert has been arranged by Jack Hooks of the Musicians Union.

Tunes to be performed include, "When Morning Comes", "Standing In the Rain" and "Love Didn't Come My Way".

Performing Ms. Quickly's music will be Jennifer Jones, vocalist; James Bunn, guitar; Dennis Fisher, organist; Roscoe Evans, alto sax; Jerome McCaldell, drums and Ellner Fields, conducting.

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Soprano and baritone blend together to form an evening of opera when Anna Moffo and Robert Merrill join the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, July 18 at 8 p.m. for the "13 Harborlights Music Festival" at the Pier 6 Pavilion.

Tickets are $8.50 Front Orchestra and $6.50 Rear Orchestra. Cabaret and Lawn Seating will be available at $3 on the day of the show.

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Drummer Mel Lewis along with the Jazz Orchestra will set the beat for "On Stage Downtown", Thursday, July 23 at 8 p.m. in Hopkins Plaza. "On Stage Downtown" concert series is sponsored by Crown Central Petroleum, C&P Telephone, Equitable Trust and the City of Baltimore.

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Next week, "On Stage Downtown" features the 50's music of the Chiffons. All concerts are free to the public and the bringing of beach chairs and blankets is encouraged as seating is limited. For more information call the Baltimore Office of Promotion and Tourism at 685-TOUR.

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Cockpit in Court, Maryland's largest summer theatre, is continuing its ninth consecutive season at Essex Community College with a full scale musical production of "Once Upon A Mattress" on its Mainstage and an arena production of Noel Coward's "Tonight at 8:30" in the Upstairs Cabaret Theatre.

Directed by Joseph Senatore, "Once Upon A Mattress" stars Joyce Shipley, Glen Gover and Frances Armstrong. Performances are scheduled July 17-19 and July 22-26. Regular performance time is 8 p.m.

# AFRAM '81

★ Salutes women

★ Foot race, parade

★ Art Museum reception

Afram Expo '81 "Salutes the Woman" as the theme of the 6th Annual Festival to be held at the Inner Harbor on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 24, 25 and 26.

The achievements of local black women working in professions from the arts to the sciences will be depicted with photographs and biographies. Following the festival, the exhibit will be shown at Gallery 409 before going on tour.

The women included in "Salute to Women" are examples of black women's contributions in the field of art, education, medicine, media, space science and other areas.

Highlighting a line-up of continuous entertainment will be jazz singer Damita Joe on stage at 8 p.m. on Friday. Saturday's 8 p.m. show will feature local jazz vocalist Brenda Alford and perennial jazz favorite Ruby Glover. The Softones entertain in harmony on Sunday at 8 p.m.

The 5th Annual Expo Parade wends its way from Booker T. Washington School to Marketplace via Madison Ave., Howard St., Biddle St., to Pratt St., beginning at 1 p.m. on Sunday. The traditional parade will include colorful marching units and be headed by the Stylistics.

The 1st Annual "Afram 10 K" race, a 6.2 mile downhill foot race, will begin in Druid Hill Park at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday. The race is sponsored by the Maryland Committee on Physical Fitness and is open to all contestants. The award ceremony will be held at the finish line at Rash Field at 10:30 a.m.

The Afram Expo will take place from noon to 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Sunday. Joining top-flight entertainment in creating a festive event will be the foods, crafts and cultural displays integral to the African American heritage. Afram Expo '81 is part of Showcase of Nations, a series of ethnic festivals presented by the communities and the City of Baltimore. For more information call the Baltimore Office of Promotion and Tourism at 685-TOUR (8687).

## Free events for children

"Amazing Daze" is the theme of the children's summer reading game being held at Baltimore's Pratt Libraries. Children are invited to read books, solve puzzles, and enjoy many special programs. Children's librarians in Pratt branches will gladly supply further details.

**Monday, July 20**

Northwood Branch: Paper airplane-making, 11 a.m.

Clifton Branch: Arts and crafts, 1 p.m.; story hour, 6 p.m.

Edmondson Avenue Branch Films: "Curious George Rides a Bike", "Georgie", and "Andy and the Lion", 1 p.m.

Cherry Hill Center: Film "UFO's", 1:30 p.m.

Central Library, Wheeler Auditorium: Films "Snowbound", "Five Survive", and "Kontiki Kids", 2 p.m.

**Tuesday, July 21**

Light Street Branch: Be a Super Sleuth! Learn how to write secret codes and decode them, 1 p.m.

Edmondson Avenue Branch Films: "A Movie Star's Daughter", "A Boy and A Box", and "Hardware Wars", 2 p.m.

Clifton Center: Creative Writing Workshop, 2:30 p.m.

## Free films

Admission to all film programs is free.

"Things to Come", a 1936 version of H.G. Wells prophetic novel about the world of the future, will be screened at 5:30 p.m. on Mon., July 20, at the Light Street Branch, 1251 Light Street.

"Triumph of the Will", official documentary of a propaganda spectacular, the 1934 Nazi Party Congress in Nuremberg, directed by Leni Riefenstahl, will be screened at 6 p.m. on Mon., July 20, at the Edmondson Avenue Branch, 4330 Edmondson Ave.

"Brian's Song", story of the friendship of Chicago Bears team

"Brian's Song", story of the friendship of Chicago Bears' teammates Gayle Sayers and Brian Piccolo and the latter's battle against Cancer, will be screened at 3 p.m. on Wed., July 22, at the Central Library, 400 Cathedral St.

Hamilton Branch, 5910 Harford Rd.

"The Thin Man", sophisticated mystery-comedy of the 1930's, with William Powell and Myrna Loy, will be screened at 7:30 p.m. on Thurs., July 23, at the Central Library, 400 Cathedral St.

"Terror by Night", a Sherlock Holmes chiller starring Basil Rathbone, will be screened at 7 p.m. on Wed., July 22, at the Central Library, 400 Cathedral St.

## D. C. Theatre Briefs

**FREE CONCERTS**

The D.C. Youth Orchestra will perform in a free concert at the Washington Cathedral on Tuesday, July 28. This will be the first of four free concerts held at the Washington Cathedral. For more information, call 537-6347.

**INTERPRETIVE PROGRAM**

Wolf Trap will present a pre-performance preview of the National Park Service's Interpretive program on July 20 at 7 p.m. The event is free, but reservations are needed. Call 938-3810, for more information.

"Dancing at Jazz Alley," Chicago, Ill., 1974 (above) and Gregory and Darlan Rowland, Washington, D.C., 1974 (below) are part of the exhibit "Southern Roads - City Pavements" by Roland L. Freeman at the Baltimore Museum of Art, thru Sept. 6.

## Hog callers wanted

Soooeeey—Calling all hog lovers!!! The Mayor's Office of Special Projects will once again hold its annual Baltimore City Hog Calling Contest on Wed., July 22. The event, now in its sixth year, is scheduled for noon in War Memorial Plaza. City slickers are invited to transform into country bumpkins for the afternoon of this extraordinary affair.

This year's competition, open to all Maryland amateurs, will be divided into two categories: 18 years and younger, and over 18 years old. The prizes to be awarded include silver label hams, coupons and trophies.

The Whiskey River Band, will be on hand to entertain the crowd during the contest. In addition to the country music, hogs will be on display to set the atmosphere for the competition.

Any interested contestants or spectators are requested to call the Mayor's Office of Special Projects at 396-4061 for more information and entry blanks.

More than 1,600 workers who show they really mean business attended an AFRO movie party last Wednesday at the Hippodrome to see Isaac Hayes in "Escape From New York." Tickets are being distributed today to see Richard Pryor in "Busting Loose". Workers must attend meetings to get free movie tickets.

(Photo by Mark Gail)

# Night Scene Seen

By Bob Matthews

Dropped by to visit Mack at Mack's C'est Bon the other day and he concurred—the weather is really putting the hurt on the night club business.

But, it happens every year—it is always hot in the summers —so club owners really aren't too surprised. But it helps to explain why club owners are reticent to book expensive, out-of-town, acts during the hot weather doldrums.

Of course this doesn't refer to the superstars who command an audience despite the weather, but they only play before huge audiences such as can be found at Merriweather Post Pavilion, or Pier 6, or Painter's Mill Music Fair.

For example: Miles Davis will be appearing at the Warner Theatre in D.C. on July 23. Have no other details on this—yet. This is the same night that Mel Lewis and the Ensemble will play a set at Hopkins Plaza.

Cameo is scheduled for Painters Mill July 25. Tonight, the Stanley Clarke, George Duke group will appear at the Music Fair at 8 p.m.

Sunday it is Roberta Flack and Peabo Bryson at Merriweather Post Pavilion, with Angela Bofill and Spyro Gyra scheduled for July 25.

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Enough about out-of-towners coming to town, checking the local scene: The Left Bank Jazz Society is on hiatus until September, and that 5 to 9 p.m. time slot which was devoted to top jazz entertainment still has not been completely filled.

Harford Community College in Bel Air is holding a series of Sunday afternoon jazz concerts beginning this Sunday from 4 to 6 p.m.

Studio Snafu, featuring Bobby Hamilton, Bob DeVos, John Hosely and Billy Blum, will be the lead off group. The concerts are free, and concert goers are invited to bring blankets or chairs to the outdoor event.

Thomas Hurley is hosting another cocktailer at his hair salon in Randallstown Saturday night, with Ruby Glover as guest artist.

Naturally Hurley's organ trio will be on hand, including Jimmy Bethea, guitar and Harold White, drums. The fee includes complete open bar and dinner, along with the entertainment.

It's kind of an interesting story how it all got started. It seems that a lot of hair salon customers had no idea that Thomas was an accomplished organist, and expressed a desire to hear him play.

So, Thomas put on his thinking cap, and came up with the idea of moving the furnishings to one side in the salon, and holding a cocktailer right on the premises.

It was a howling success, so much so, that a repeat performance was necessary. Limited to just 60 people—there are just a few tickets left—plans are going forward to schedule events on a regular basis, bringing live music into hair salons.

At The Bandstand this weekend, it will be a reprise of the Two Tough Tenors, as Mickey Fields and Andy Ennis hook up for the session. It is always interesting to hear these two pros.

Their styles are different, but the rapport between the two is beautiful to hear and watch. Check out their vamps while other artists are soloing—that big band experience comes to the fore.

At The Sportsmen's Lounge, the Dennis Fisher Trio, featuring Jennifer Jones holds down the Friday and Sat. night slots, with O'Donel Levy handling the Sunday night chores.

The Saturday afternoon jazz jam will spotlight the El Prince Jazz Ensemble, with musicians sitting in as usual.

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Forgot to mention earlier that one of our favorite barmaids, Gladys at Mack's C'est Bon has been ill for a couple of months now. She's suffering from a leg ailment.

Night Scene wishes her a speedy recovery.

The Amazing Josini, the talented MAGICIAN AND Ventriloquist, entertained AFRO Clean Blockers at their meeting Friday morning at Dunbar High. Sunday, he will be entertaining at Van Eaton's Birthday Party at Gatsby's. He will also appear at AFRAM '81 July 24, 7 p.m. at the Inner Harbor.

# Jacksons change their image

The Jacksons — Michael, Jackie, Tito, Marlon and Randy—have managed successfully to eclipse the "bubblegum soul" image that thrust them into superstardom more than a decade ago. It's been their biggest challenge in recent years and it hasn't been easy. Writers and producers assigned to them, seemed determined to lock the brothers into a 1970 time capsule.

The Jacksons are the first to admit that they're no longer youngsters. They've grown and matured. Naturally, they've wanted their music to do the same.

The turning point came in 1978 when the Jacksons, for the first time in their careers, assumed responsibility for their own recordings. Destiny, written and produced by the brothers, became the biggest selling LP ever in the Jacksons' catalogue.

A platinum LP, Destiny contained the hit singles, "Shake Your Body (Down To The Ground)" and "Blame It On The Boogie". Significantly, the LP established the Jacksons as major songwriters and producers of mainstream pop music.

Right on the heels of Destiny, Michael Jackson released a solo album, Off The Wall, that he co-produced with veteran Quincy Jones. The album, featuring three Michael Jackson penned songs, included works by Paul McCartney, Stevie Wonder, Rod Temperton and Carole Bayer Sager. To date, the album has surpassed five million in sales.

Historically important, Off The Wall became the first album by a solo artist to yield four Top 10 singles, "Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough", "Rock With You", "Off The Wall" and "She's Out Of My Life".

Considering the huge success of both Off The Wall and Destiny, the Jacksons were faced with a big challenge—to continue to display thir artistic growth, while at the same time, surpass the accomplishments of their past efforts. Needless to say, the Jacksons have met their challenge in Triumph, their fourth Epic LP.

Triumph is the Jackson brothers way of saying that another goal and a new plateau have been reached. The LP, written and produced by the Jacksons, with Greg Phillinganes credited as associated producer, showcases the previously released LP. With Marlon, Jackie and Randy sharing lead vocals with Michael, and Tito anchoring the group's progressive sound on lead guitar, Triumph reaffirms the Jacksons as a totally versatile, across-the-board group.

Says Michael about the long awaited Triumph, "With the success of Destiny and Off The Wall, we really felt the pressure. But, we've always believed that as long as we project our inseresives, our music will come right. Our objective when we started working on the album was to show our growth, to show that we've continued to branch out. If Triumph doesn't do as well as Destiny or Off The Wall, then we can't consider that to be growth. However, we feel that we've succeeded in accomplishing what we set out to do."

As far as sharing lead vocals with his brothers, Michael says, "I think it's wonderful. The public has heard too much of me. My brothers are very talented singers and I think it's time the public hears what they can do. Besides, these guys have been hiding behind me too long. It's time for them to come out front."

The Jacksons

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"SPACES" • DAMITA JO

# Comedian turns to drama

Jimmie Walker portrays a high school student whose swimming spirit is tested by an illness closing in on him in "The Greatest Thing That Almost Happened," the CBS Late Night Movie, Wednesday, July 22 (11:30 p.m.).

For Walker, who first came to TV viewers attention as the funky J.J. in "Good Times", this semi-serious role was a radical departure from his past work.

"Most people are familiar with only one side of me," he explains. "Even though my main goal is to be a great stand-up comedian, playing a drama shows people I can do a lot more than just say things that make them laugh.

"I don't think that my acting is going to make Sir Laurence Olivier nervous," Walker quips. "I'm very straightforward about it. If the director says 'Be happy,' I'm happy. And if he says, 'Be sad,' then I'm sad. I didn't find it as difficult though, as working on new comedy material in a night club.

"In fact, Walker has little in common with the dramatic character of Morris Bird III, whose loving relationship with a classmate, played by Deborah Allen, becomes a refuge for the young athlete stricken with leukemia.

"What we do have in common, I guess," Walker muses, "is that he is a guy who can make people laugh but has a serious and sensitive side, too."

According to Walker, the hardest aspect of playing the role wasn't the acting. "I was playing basketball like I knew how," he continues. "I'm a sports-fan, but I'm not very athletic myself. So, playing a competent basketball player was hard. In fact I was breaking up the other basketball players. Maybe I should try to work that into my nightclub act."

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STRICKEN—Jimmie Walker plays a high school basketball player stricken with leukemia and Deborah Allen plays his girlfriend in "The Greatest Thing That Almost Happened," airing Wednesday, July 22 (11:3 p.m.) on CBS-TV.

## Top Hits

### R & B Albums

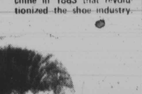
1. Street Songs — Rick James
2. The Dude — Quincy Jones
3. Knights of the Sound Table — Cameo
4. A Woman Needs Love — Ray Parker Jr. & Raydio
5. It Must Be Magic — Teena Marie

### R & B Singles

1. Double Dutch Bus — Frankie Smith
2. Give It To Me Baby — Rick James
3. Pull Up To The Bumper — Grace Jones
4. Freaky Dancin' — Cameo
5. Love On A Two Way Street — Stacy Lattisaw

### Jazz Albums

1. The Clarke- Duke Project — Stanley Clarke & George Duke
2. Weeknight — Grover Washington Jr
3. Rise — Lee Ritenour
4. Vovage — David Sanborn
5. As Falls Wichita, So Falls Wichita Falls — Pat Metheny & Lyle Mays



Jan Matzeliger, a Black man from Dutch Guiana, invented a shoe-lasting machine in 1883 that revolutionized the shoe industry.

## Spiritualist

1. The Lord Will Make A Way — Al Green
2. The Hawkins Family Live — Walter Hawkins
3. Cloudburst — The Mighty Clouds of Joy
4. 20th Anniversary Album — James Cleveland
5. True Victory — Min. Keith Pringle

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