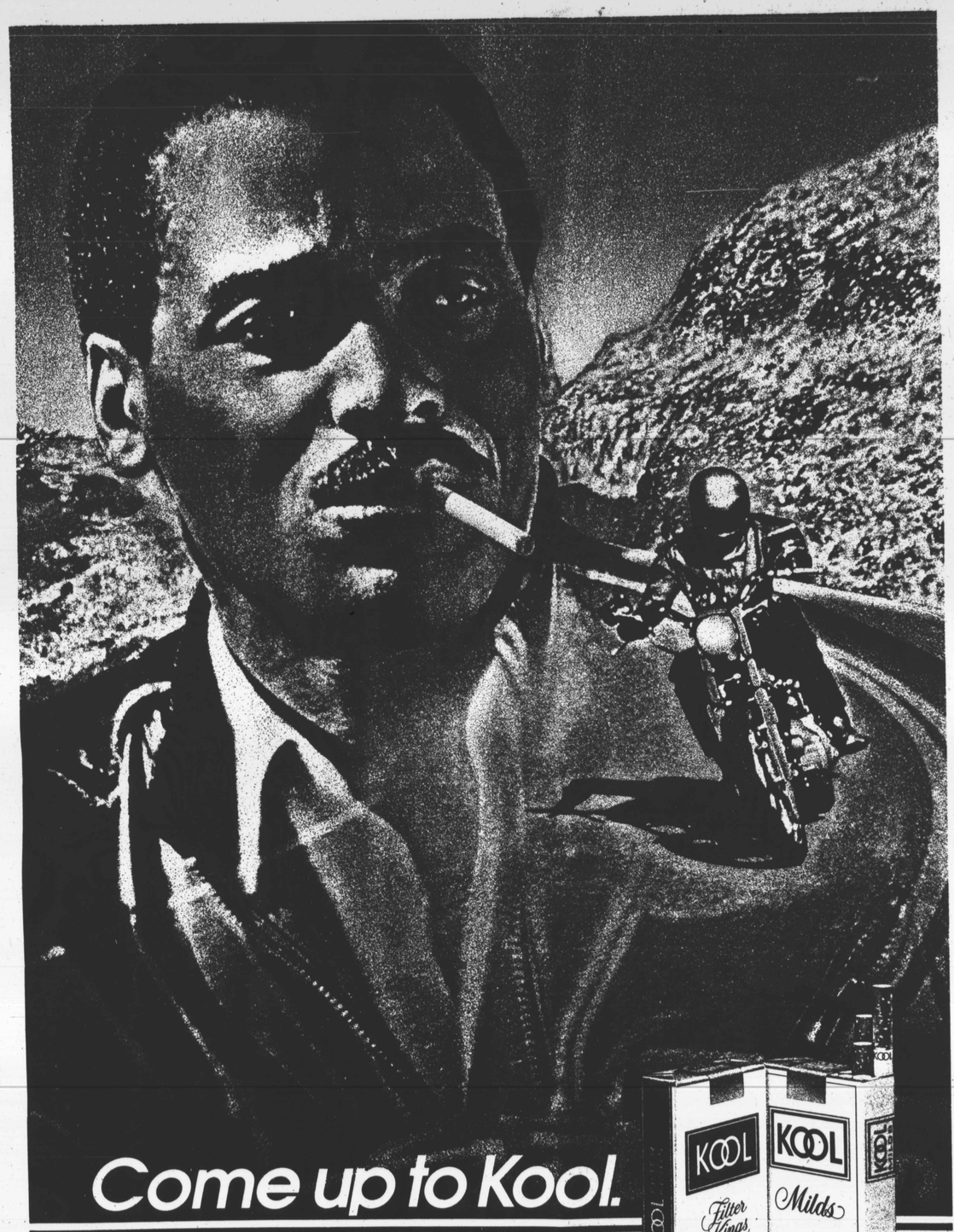

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Showtime

Ida M. Peters

What's Happening

Art at Arena Playhouse

Nelson Taylor and his fellow members of Baltimore Artist Limited, Charles Diggs, Lee Pittman, Bill Banks, Alvin Smith and Albert Raison are all well known in the Baltimore art community and have assembled a dazzling display of their work in the lobby of the Arena Playhouse.

The AFRO talked with Tayler this week who for 18 years has been employed as Art Director in charge of Graphic Arts at the Maryland State Department of Transportation. His department produces brochures and art for Motor Vehicles, Highway's Port and Aviation.

Nelson designed the huge sign "Maryland Welcomes You—Drive Safely" as well as the Francis Scott Key and various other plaques, letterheads that go with resolutions.

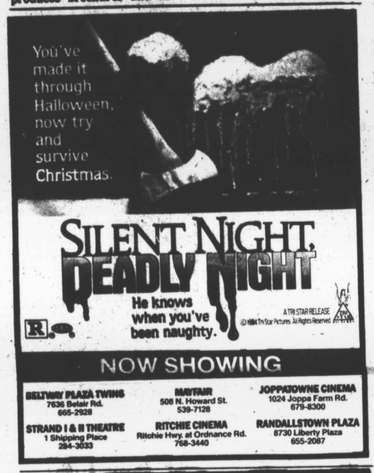
On exhibit at Arena Playhouse, Nelson has three powerful paintings. One is a painting of a power plant, the old B.G. & E. Building soon to be transferred into Six Flags. He calls it "A Transfer of Energy Through the Passage of Time". Another of tennis shoes and an umbrella he calls "Running From the Storm". He also is exhibiting a painting of an old chest he calls "Hope".

Nelson has formed his own company Four Saints Productions to paint old landmarks and lithograph them to be used as invitations and greeting cards.

Nelson is a graduate of Carver Vocational Technical High School where he studied under Lynde Jordan. He won a scholarship to the Maryland Institute of Art and has done further work at Monterey Peninsular College in California and at the Bloomingdale, Indiana Audio-Visual Institute.

Nelson Taylor at his desk at the Maryland State Department of Transportation where he is employed as Art Director in charge of Graphic Arts.

NELSON TAYLOR is a member of Baltimore Artists Limited now exhibiting their paintings at the Arena Playhouse. Others are Charles Diggs, Lee Pittman, Bill Banks and Albert Raison. Above Nelson is shown with his painting of the old BG&E Building "Pi Painting of Power Plant." Tayler is (L) with Sam Wilson.



Rare jazz photos at Gallery 409

Frederick I. Douglass, PR at Morgan State University will be exhibiting 22 of his photographs of jazz musicians at the Eubie Blake Cultural Arts Center through Nov. 18.

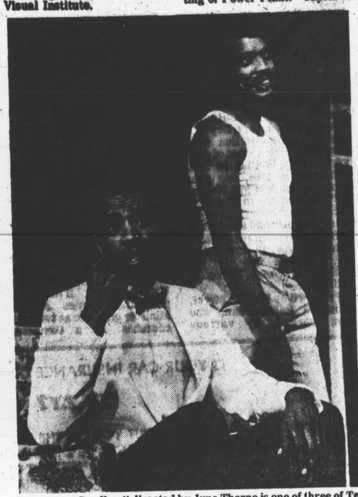
Frederick I. Douglass, the Director of Public Relations at Morgan State University, and a professional photographer will be exhibiting selected photographs of Jazz musicians during a reception that will be held to kick off the celebration of the Left Bank Jazz Society's 20th anniversary and the salute to Baltimore's Jazz musicians this Saturday and Sunday. The exhibit will be going on during the reception that will be taking place at the Eubie Blake Cultural Arts Center from 6-9 p.m. this evening (Friday). The photos will be on display through Nov. 18.

A graduate of Morgan State University, Douglass has been working as a professional freelance photojournalist more than a decade and has published more than 150 photographs and more than 600 articles dealing in cultural subjects in numerous local and national publications.

He has enjoyed a longstanding relationship with the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper chain, having published myriad articles in the paper as well as its supplement, Dawn Magazine. Douglass is also the Maryland correspondent for Downbeat Magazine and who is a participant in the publications Annual International Jazz Critic's Poll.

One of Douglass' most recent activities involved writing the liner notes for trumpeter John Lamkin's forthcoming album "Hot". He has also written liner notes for numerous other musicians including Johnny Lytle and Charles Earland.

Photographs in the exhibit cover diverse instrumentalists ranging from Buster Williams, Hilton Ruiz and Chico Hamilton to Eddie Gladden, Charlie Rouse and Art Pepper. Some of the rarer photographs in the exhibit show Sonny Stitt and James Moody jamming together at the Famous Ballroom during a Left Bank Jazz Society concert plus Eubie Blake receiving a citation from Mayor William Donald Schaefer during the opening of "Eubie" at the Morris Mechanic Theatre.



"The Long Goodbye" directed by June Thorne is one of three of Tennessee William's three one-act plays being presented by the Arena Players thru Nov. 25. Above Harold Anthony and Curtis Kane. Other plays are "The Lady of Larkspur Lotion" and "Portrait of a Modonna."

Celebrities

In our town this week, GLENN JONES promoting his new album "Finesse". He will go into rehearsal soon as the male lead in "Sing Mahalia, Sing" being put on by the Shuberts. Mahalia was supposed to be played by Aretha Franklin and it was reported earlier her fear of flying kept her from taking the role. Lead will be by Jennifer Holliday. Show will open on road before hitting Broadway and play cities like Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit, Glenn Jones' first album was last year's "I Am Somebody" and his new single "Show Me".

KURTIS BLOW in our town for the Fresh Festival... a rapping convention... at the Civic Center has a new album "Ego Trip". The King of the Rappers was featured as a gang member and prison inmate in Leon Isaac Kennedy's "Cry of the City".

BLACK acts account for Billboard Magazine's top three pop hits (In the trade Pop means white crossover as contrasted with black). There are five in the Top 10. Billy Ocean is No. 1 on the Hot 100 with "Caribbean Queen" followed by Stevie Wonder's "I Just Called To Say I Love You". Prince's "Purple Rain" at three. Tina Turner's "Better Be Good To Me" at nine and Chaka Khan's "I Feel For You" at 10.

Since the first week in July, black acts have occupied the No. 1 spot on the Pop Chart except for one week Sept. 22 when John Waite's "Missing You" took over. Michael Jackson, Lionel Richie and Prince hold the record for having three hits on the Hot 100 simultaneously.

Actress CICELY TYSON has been hired by TEENA MARIE to direct the video of the singer's new Epic single "Lovergirl".

The verdict is in on how VANITY's new album, her first as a solo singer, stacks up against the LP that introduced her to the public two years ago—the LP by her former trio Vanity 6. The new Albums Wild Animal, shows off her singing and composing skills

Continued on page 36

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These are just some of the guests Baltimore is in touch with on WBAL Radio's BLACK JOURNEY with Rev. Bernard Keels and Richard Rowe

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