War At Dlues Alley

1983, you won't want to miss Lee 728-6500. Oscar, Lonnie Jordan, Papa Dee Allen or Howard Scott collectively known as WAR at Blues Alley un-Iil Monday, January 7. For more details call 202-337-4141.

"Drighton Deach Memoirs"

Neil Simon's new comedy, Brighton-Beach Memoirs" will clay at the National Theatre in Washington, D.C. until January 6. For times and ticket prices call 202-554-1900.

Wynton Marsalis

New Orleans born trumpeter Wynton Marsalis will be perfor- call 685-5225. ring for one show on Saturday, Theatre at 8 p.m. Tickets are 114.50 and may be purchased at

Arena Players Presents

John H. Murphy, III, President Kenneth O. Wilson, Vice President Bonnie Matthews Butler,

Miss Denise Dorsey - Production

Ms. Harriett Diles.

Advertising Manager The Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS 628 N. Eutow Street Baltimore, Maryland,2120s (301) 728-8200

Roy T. Watson, Advertising Manager The Washington
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nigan; on January 18 and 19, "Lord Lift Us Up" by Ed Heath; and on January 26 and 27, "One Monkey Don't Stop No Show" by More 180 illuminated Catonsville Community College. Don Evans and performed by the

Trilogy" at Mechanic

Harvey Fierstein's comedy. the Morris Mechanic Theatre on Tuesday, January 8 at 7:30 p.m. more information call 625-1400.

Davis Planetarium

"mysteries of the Milky Way" will run through January 6 at the Science Center's Davis

WALTERS ART GALLERY

1949. The exhibit is located in the 14-17 are eligible. Cash awards runs through January 16. For finalists. For more details call more details call 547-9000:

"Pops" Series

"Dracula" At Kennedy Center

Martin Landau is starring in the classic "Dracula" at the Kennedy Center Eisenhower Theater, For more details call 202-254-3670.



CIVICIENTER

3 WAYS TO GET

Fri. & Sat., Feb. 1 & 2, 8:00 p.m. Tickets: \$30.00, \$25.00, \$20.00, \$17.50, \$15.00, \$12.50, \$10.00

Sat., Feb. 2, 2:00 p.m.

Sponsored by Urban Services Agency/Cultural Arts Program and WJZ-TV, Channel 13

scripts comprise the first Student aged 11-15 studying agior showing from the Walters' piano, strings, woodwinds, and collection since brass, and voice students aged pecial exhibition gallery and will be given to the top three

Audition Notice

Auditions for "Time Remem-The Baltimore Symphony Or- bered," a romantic comchestra's upcoming "Pops" series edy by Jean Anouilh, will be held concert will feature a musical ex- on Monday and Tuesday, January cursion into the world of dance 21 and 22 from 7:30 p.m. to 10 on Saturday, January 5 at 8:15 p.m. For further information cal p.m. in the Meyerhoff Symphony Barbara Hudson at 992-6532.

Alvin Ailey Dance Theater

The Urban Services Agency is sponsoring the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater at the Lyric Opera House on Friday and Saturday, February 1 and 2. For further details on tickets and performance times call 396-3181.

Maryland Inaugural Ball

The Maryland Inaugural Committee is presenting a host of activities plus an Inaugural Ball at the Sheraton Washington Hotel on January 19 and 21. For more information on tikets and times call 448-2600.

"Hurry up, you should have gone yesterday" -Clive Barnes, N.Y. Post

THEATER

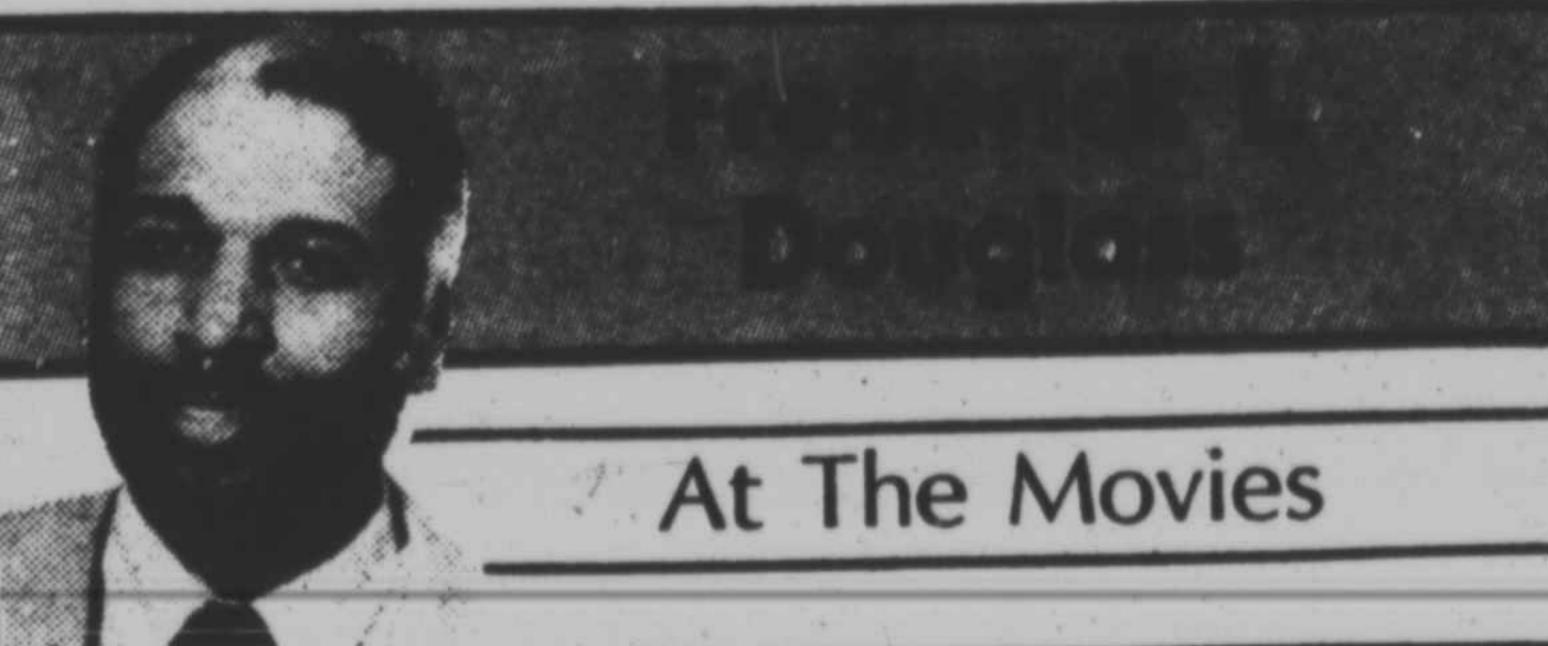


February 1-2

.00, \$20.00, \$16.00, \$14.00, \$12.50, \$10.50, \$8.50

Tickets and program Information: call 396-3181, 9.00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tickets also available at Lyric Box Office after Jan. 14

Friday Plus, January 4, 1985



Picking "Cotton Club" As One of 1984's Best Movies

COMING

FEBRUARY 8

A Guide to nightlife in the

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realities, disturbing truths, and slave ships. America dealt with in Francis

-NIGHTCLUBS

GET THERE

AVAILABLE

-RESTAURANTS

often painful, disturbing and in- since the first black men and furiating. One of the painful women were brought here by

infuriating insights into life in Imagine, if you will, a and clean up the floors, but could

stars who worked there such as flaws like the often somnabulistic themselves to the fervid creativi-Cab Calloway, Lena Horne, the acting of Richard Gere, the ty of Langston Hughes, and other Nicholas Brothers, Duke Ellington characters come to life on the prominent black writers and arand many, many others. Now silver screen—they live, breathe, tists whose talents were virtualforget about your imagination sweat and fornicate just like real ly exploding during those days. and accept the hard, cold reality people do. that there really was a Cotton Secondly, the movie deals with Club" is a daring, adventurous Club located in the heart of a series of intricate plots and and exciting movie that will ir-America's biggest black com- subplots that give the moviegoer ritate you because of its glimpse munity during the 1920's and greater insight into the at what life was like for black 1930's where blacks could not go character's personal life. Over a entertainers during the 1920's, as patrons.

Indeed, the manifestations of characters transform or evolve in the many great and small tales racism are most often ludicrous many ways as they go through that are told during the flick. I and ridiculous and sometimes, in the vicissitudes of life. We see a just wish there could have been retrospect, you can sit down and black woman compelled to pass more of the movie so that we laugh at the way things used to for white in order to succeed. We could have explored the lives of Encounters with reality are prevalent in this country every be. However, for the folks who see the rise and fall of mobsters some of the other black musibegan working at the Cotton Club as they connive and murder and cians who began their careers at when it first opened up in 1923, make deals related to taking the Cotton Club. there was nothing humorous over the numbers racket in Still, it is great to see so many about what they were doing— Harlem and other illegal ac- blacks doing their thing on the nightclub sitting smack dab in the they were simply accepting the tivities. We see people selling silver screen in an era when roles Coppola's latest screen gem middle of Harlem at 142 Street realities of life and doing their their souls, bodies and minds to for darker folks are scarcer than the and Lenox Avenue where blacks best to make it big in the enter- become owners of nightclubs, hen's teeth. tainment world. White folks were the favored pets of mobsters, or dience and watch you work. beautiful black women who

about surviving!

What mattered was that you make up the chorus line at the were getting a chance to sharpen Cotton Club. Incredible! The your performing skills on stage movie is worth seeing just for the and that you were getting paid. dancing and the convincing in Dealing with the painful,

disturbing and infuriating reality

released during 1984.

not sit down and watch the great the movie has gigantic, gaping recharged

period of years, we see the but that will also move you with see families fight and reunite.

And then there is the dancing pressions of Jazz greats like Cab Calloway who are featured in the

blood boil and my adrenalin role as a white trumpet player

black artists.

This was during the famed

Summing it all up, "Cotton

Musical Happenings Virginia Union Concert

The Miles W. Conner Chapter of the Virginia Union University Alumni Association is presenting "An Evening of Concert Music with the VA. Union Choir on Sunday, March 10 at 5 p.m. in the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. For more information call

BSO SERIES

" series featuring Catherine

