This Week

EVENTS

Howard University

On Saturday, October 25, Howard University will host North Carolina A & T in a football game beginning at 1 p.m. at the Howard Stadium. For ticket information, call (202) 636-7199.

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On Wednesday through Friday, October 29-31, Lorraine Hansberry's "A Raisin in the Sun" will be presented in the Ira Aldridge Theatre. The production will open at 7:30 p.m. It is sponsored by the Department of Drama. For ticket information, call (202) 636-7050.

Kennedy Center

On October 24, 25 and 26, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Homer's Epic Story, "The Odyssey," will be performed in the Theatre Lab. On October 24, it will begin at 7:30 p.m. On the 25th, the production will be seen at 10:30 and then again at 12:30 p.m. On the 26th it will be shown at 1:00 p.m.

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The National Symphony Orchestra will be in concert in the Concert Hall on October 24 and on October 30. On the 24, the show will begin at 8:30 p.m. and will feature the Pops Concert with Marvin Hamlisch. On October 30, the performance will feature Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, conducting and Narciso Vepes, on guitar. The performance will begin at 8:30.

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On Saturday, October 25 at 6:00, Cleo Laine, Jazz Singer will be in concert for the United Nations 26th Annual Benefit Concert.

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On October 25, 28, and 29, the Washington Opera will be in concert. On October 25, the performance will begin at 7 p.m., and Verdi's Il Trovatore will be featured. The conductor for the event will be Daniel Oren. On the 28, the performance will begin at 8 p.m. and will feature the works of Rimsky - Korsakov and **The Tsar's Bride.** Mstislav Rostropovich will be conducting. The same show will be presented at 8 p.m. on October 29.

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In the Terrace Theatre on October 25, at 7:30, Handel Festival Orchestra will be giving a special performance. Stephen Simon will be the director. The show will feature Hanel Concerto Grosso Op. No. 6 and No. 11 in A major.

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For information about these and all other Kennedy Center events, call (202) 872-0466.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Halloween Celebration

The P.T.A. of New Era Education, Inc. presents a Pre-Halloween Happening with "Celebrity Trick or Treats. The event will occur on Saturday, October 25 at the 5 Mile House from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. There will be a talent show featuring local media celebrities imitating your favorite performers. Included are Sandi Mallory, Jean Ross, Randy Dennis and B. J. Lewis of V103; Tim Watts, Pamela Jones of 96 FM WWIN; Al Sykes, and Barry Young of WEAA; Tyrone Miller and the Real J. R. of WEBB; Bonnie Matthews Butler of the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers; Zara Hamm and Harriet Lane of Kuumba Theater Group and more. Admission is $5.00. For further information, call 233-5100.

Baltimore Museum of Art

The Baltimore Museum of Art will present a Masquerade Ball on Saturday, November 1 from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. The ball will benefit the Joshua Johnson Endowment Fund. Tickets are $25 per person. For further information, call 396-6310.

Masquerade Ball

The University of Maryland Eastern Shore will sponsor a Masquerade Ball and Atlantic City Nite" on Friday, October 31 at the Forum. The event will begin at 9 p.m. and will feature an open buffet, open bar, Disco and Live music. The proceeds will benefit the University of Maryland Eastern Shore Centennial Fund. Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes. For ticket and other information, call 298-0186.

'An Evening With Oprah Winfrey'

Academy Award nominee, and talk show host, Oprah Winfrey, will be at the Johns Hopkins University on Friday, October 24 in the Shriver Hall at 8 p.m. Ms. Winfrey will give a talk and then accept questions from the audience. For further information, call 338-7157.

Band Festival

The University of Maryland Bands will sponsor "The State of Maryland Marching Band Festival," featuring bands from Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. This event will be held Saturday, October 25 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on the College Park Campus in Byrd Stadium. The program will feature 22 bands, each presenting a show to be evaluated. For further information, call 454-6803.

Theatre

'Queenie Pie'

"Queenie Pie," Duke Ellington's musical, will be presented at the Kennedy Center's Eisenhower Theatre now through November 8. For further information including show dates and times, call (202) 254-3670.

* * *

Pumpkin Theatre

Creative drama and puppetry classes will be held through March 28, 1987 for boys and girls ages 5 through 15. Classes are sponsored by the Pumpkin Theatre and will meet Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings. For further information, call 467-6484.

* * *

'Hansel and Gretel'

Pumpkin Theatre, a performing arts series for children ages four through eleven, will present "Hansel and Gretel" as its first production of the 1986-87 season. Performances are Friday, October 24 at 4 p.m. through November 2. For exact show times and days or for ticket information, phone 467-6484.

FILMS

Enoch Pratt Free Library

On Saturday, October 25 at 2 p.m. the Central Library will show "The Popes and Their Art," and exploration of the Vatican treasures, and "Metropolitan Cats," a celebration of four thousand years of cats as found in paintings and carvings in New York's Metropolitan Museum.

At 2 p.m. on Wednesday, October 29, the Highlandtown Center branch will present "The Body Snatchers," with Boris Karloff and Bela Lugosi in an adaptation of a horror story by Robert Louis Stevenson; and "Babe Ruth," a half hour documentary narrated by Mike Wallace.

For further information concerning these or any other Enoch Pratt event, phone 396-5494.

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'Raisin in the Sun' to open at Howard U.

The Howard University Department of Drama will open its 1986-87 season with a 25th anniversary production of Lorraine Hansberry's "A Raisin in the Sun," opening Oct. 29 and running Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays through Nov. 8 at Ira Aldridge Theater, 2445 Sixth Street, N.W.

This popular and powerful play, which depicts the trials and tribulations of a struggling black family in Chicago during the late 1950s, will be performed by the department's students with the character Lena Younger being portrayed by Renee Simmons, a member of the faculty.

The production will be directed by Carole Singleton, the department chairperson, and will include restoration of scenes eliminated from the original 1959 Broadway production.

Tickets are now available through the Cramton Auditorium box office. For information on tickets and group sales, call 636-7050 or 636-7198.

Zoo begins construction of New Children's Zoo

The Baltimore zoo has closed the old Children's Zoo, but contruction has already begun on its replacement—a new and exciting 8½ acre, $5.5 million Children's Zoo.

This new facility will feature 48 different animal exhibits and an array of activities all designed with kids in mind.

"We're now beginning construction on the most exciting children's exhibits ever built in a zoo," says Zoo Director Brian Rutledge. That construction began in late July, and when this new facility opens, it will be one of the most unique children's zoos in the United States. It will offer a variety of exciting participatory activities that will help teach kids about our natural world and the animals with whom we share it.

The new Children's Zoo will focus on eight separate habitat themes — ranging from the Pond Habitat, where kids can get an underwater look at pond life, to a huge Tree Habitat, where children enter through the "roots" and climb a spiral staircase past animals from all walks, flights, and slithers of life along the way.

The Children's Zoo will also include a Barnyard with farm animals for petting and an ampitheatre for educational presentations with live animals. There will be a Cave Habitat with bobcats, black bears, bats, and owls on display. Children will also be able to climb in giant tortoise shells and crawl through a submerged tunnel to get an up-close look at aquatic life.

There will be many other areas and activities in the new Children's Zoo, with displays devoted to animals and habitats common to Maryland, including the Meadow, Stream Valley, the Forest, and Wood's Edge habitats. So that visitors may continue to enjoy the animals from the old Children's Zoo, they are all being relocated to new exhibits throughout the Baltimore Zoo.

CONCERTS

Left Bank Jazz Society

The Left Bank Jazz Society presents the Joe Sudler Swing Machine in concert with Joe Sudler, the Baritone Saxophone and The Buck Hill Quartet and special guest Mickey Fields. The show will be held on Sunday, October 26 at 5 p.m. at the Omni International Hotel. For further information, call 945-2266.

BSO Events

On Friday, October 24, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra will be performing their "Favorites" Series. David Zinman will be conducting and Herbert Greenberg, Violin, Beethoven's Symphony No. 4 in B-Flat, Opus 60, and Stravinsky's Pulcinella; Suite.

The same performance will be given on Saturday, October 25. Both curtains are at 8:15.

On Thursday, October 30 at 8 p.m. the BSO will be performing their "Showcase" Series. Included in this repertoire is "Goldbrick," and the opera 'Hansel and Gretel and Ted and Alice."

For further information concerning this and other BSO events, call 783-8100.

Kennedy Center

Donald Vail, Cissy Houston and Thomas Whitfield will be in concert at the Kennedy Center Concert Hall on Monday, october 27 at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are $15 and $20. For further information, call (301) 735-1042.

To have your event listed, send information atleast 2 weeks in advance to:

Happenings This Week
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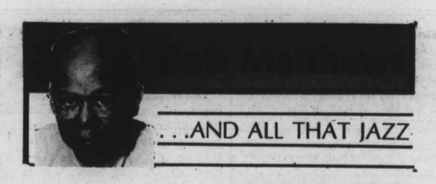


...AND ALL THAT JAZZ

A couple of weeks ago, we chided the Sphinx Club, saying they had an antiquated sound system that didn't do justice to the artists.

Just thought this would serve as an alert, and be put on the agenda of "things to do" at the spot--but, we were wrong.

Dropped into the Sphinx Club, for what has become a really swinging Thursday night, and was instantly enveloped in gorgeous sound--a brand new sound system had been installed.

Biddy Wood was at the mike and was laughingly calling it, the Bob Matthews sound system, and followed it up by saying, "If it's something we need, tell us about it--and it'll get done."

Have to agree. **Damita Jo** and her group were the live entertainers on this particular Thursday, and while praising the new system, pointed out that on-stage performers need a monitor.

Was assured this would be taken care of.

The entire thing kinda gives me a warm glow inside. It's such a pleasure to see a black-owned business attempting to serve the needs of black community patrons.

All too often, black businesses have seemed to be trying to squeeze the last buck out of the patrons, giving little in return. Giving service is a way to compete--and the Sphinx Club is doing it.

We salute the Sphinx Club for helping to point the way.

* * *

This will be the last weekend for a while to catch **Gary Bartz** over at the Jazz Closet, for Gary takes off for a month-long engagement in Barcelona, Spain on Oct. 29.

He will join up with **Slide Hampton, Joe Henderson, Ronnie Mathews, Ray Drummond** and **Jimmy Owens** for this engagement.

Woody Shaw and **Bob Butta,** and perhaps the rest of his current trio, will join him in Europe later on.

Haven't got the word on what happens at the club during his absence, but this weekend and next, vocalist **Leon Thomas** will be the featured artist.

Over the past couple of weeks, they have been recording the sets at the Jazz Closet, which will be edited for Gary's upcoming album. They chose the club for the recording because Gary likes the sound the room has.

* * *

This is the Sunday the Left Bank Jazz Society holds its regular monthly concert at the Omni International Hotel from 5-9 p.m.

Featured will be the **Joe Sudler** Big Band, from Philadelphia, and we are eagerly looking forward to hearing this group. Everyone who has had a chance to hear them, has been raving about the sound.

But then, my generation is partial to big bands anyway, and a big, bad, booting band will get it every time.

But, so that the small combo devotees won't be slighted, LBJS booked the **Buck Hill Quartet, with special guest Mickey Fields. Charlie Covington** will be on piano for this one.

Fortunately, there are no conflicts with other jazz concerts this time, so jazz lovers should be there in force.

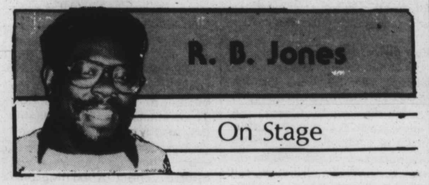
Everyone has been touting the new film "Round Midnight" and the acting of **Dexter Gordon** in it, but we haven't had a chance to catch it as yet.

But, it will open in Baltimore on Nov. 5 at the Towson Theatre; and already we are drooling with anticipation. After all, Dexter Gordon is our very favorite jazz artist.

* * *

Always glad to welcome another jazz outlet, and now that radio station WJHU-FM has gone to 10,000 watts, the signal can be heard all over this area.

Located at 88.1 on the dial, jazz is programmed from 10 p.m. - 1 a.m. Mon. - Fri., and 10 p.m. - 2 a.m., Sundays. **Bob Young** does the chores on the weeknight slots, with **Andy Bienstock** on Sundays.



R. B. Jones On Stage

It is a lovely way to spend an evening, goes the lyric to a Rodgers and Hart song and they could have been writing about the Encore Dinner Theater housed in the Five Mile House bar and lounge.

The owners of the operation are playwright Belva Scott and partner, Keith Thompson, a financial planner. They opened the dinner theater in September with a floor show featuring magician William Gross and mime Wilbur Mitchell.

This past Wednesday the dinner theater presented its first play "Red Tape" by Belva Scott. It must have been a very proud moment for Ms. Scott to present her work in a theater space that she controls.

The new Five Mile House is beautiful in its decor and the space used for the plays is fairly spacious. There is noise spilling upstairs from the lounge below, but if the patron concentrates hard the noise will not become too distracting. It's confined to one side of the room anyway.

The food was fair and the service was a little rough around the edges but mostly pleasant. The food was reasonably priced when one considers the generous portion and the fact that one gets a drink and a play in the bargain.

The drinks were strong and made to specification and so by curtain time I was relaxed. The show opened with Verna Day, one of Baltimore's favorite actresses doing two pieces, one her humorous description of work at the Social Security Administration and the second piece was a poem called "Extraordinary Woman."

Ms. Day was her usual energetic self and though the downstairs noise was annoying at times she held the audience's attention, made them laugh along with her. Her two routines warmed up the crowd for "Red Tape."

Ms. Scott's play is a satire on bureaucracy and how it has spread to everywhere, even heaven itself. It is a broad satire utilizing very familiar, stereotypical characters. The familiarity of the stereotypes makes them appealing because they contain kernel of truth.

The play follows the misfortunes of Mike who attempts to purchase a marriage license with

Continued on page 5

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