HAROLD SCOTT DIRECTS HANSBERRY'S 'LES BLANCS' AT ARENA

By Frederick I. Douglass

Harold Scott, the celebrated actor/director whose accomplishments have been acknowledged through his winning an Obie, an EXXON Award, the Variety Critics Poll and the NAACP Black Image Award, is currently directing Lorraine Hanberry's powerful play "Les Blancs," at the Arena Stage in Washington, D.C.

The provocative drama, which opened tonight (February 5), explores the relationships between imperialists and the original. residents of a mythical African country that is under colonial rule. It will be at the Arena Stage through March 13. An additional February 14.

feature the following scholars: Pittsburgh. Robert Nemiroff, Lorraine Describing the play, Harold Hansberry's literary executor and Scott says "... in Les Blancs, husband from 1953 until her Lorraine Hansberry, using race death in 1965 at the age of 34; as a metaphor, examines the Margaret B. Wilderson, very nature of imperialism — the Hansberry's biographer; Steven need of one group of people R. Carter, associate professor of to control that which belongs to Afro - American Literature at the another, and in turn, to control

A film that will take your breath away!"

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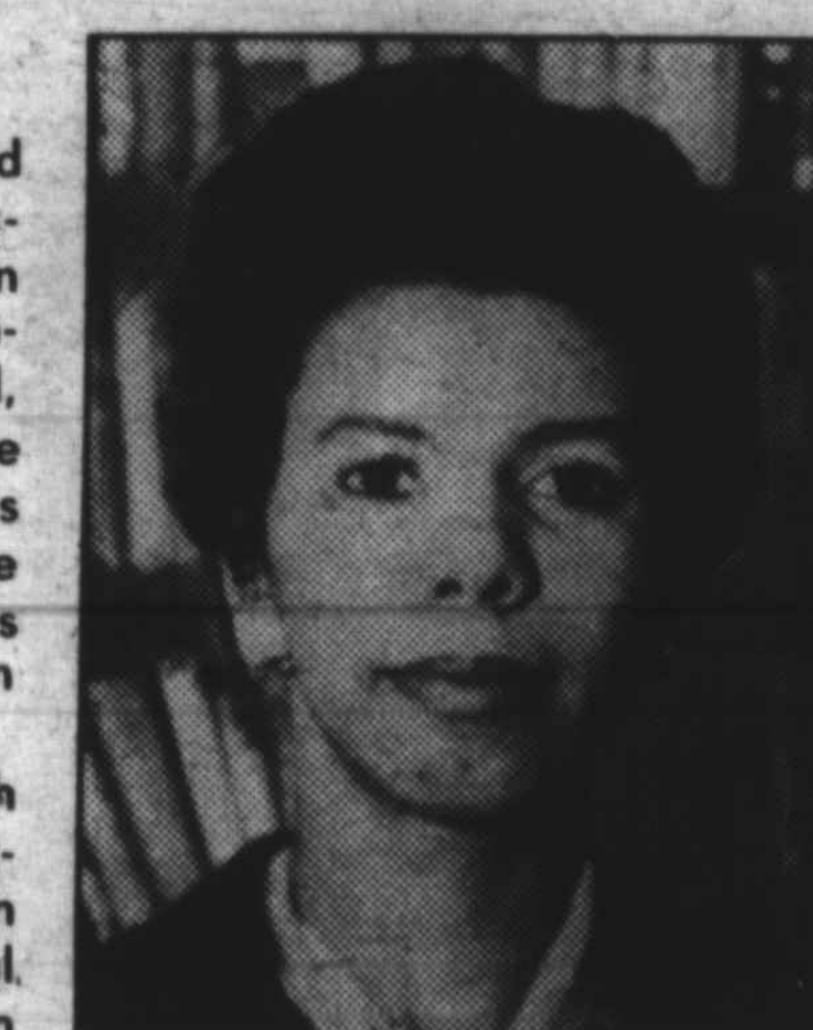
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Lorraine Hansberry

highlight of this production is a University of Puerto Rico; and workshop scheduled for Sunday, Dennis Brutus, the South African poet who is the chairman of the Entitled, "The Legacy of Lor- Department of Black Community raine Hansberry: Transcultural Education Research and Develop-Humanist," the symposium will ment at the University of

Adioseh, on the other hand, "BRILLIANT AND ABSOLUTELY TERRIFYING! has completely forsaken his culture and heritage as he trains to become a Catholic priest. His the hierarchy of his church at the the colonial rulers are fair and that the Africans must simply be patient until they are allowed to participate in the government of the country. Futhermore, he

The three main characters of "Les Blancs" are Tshembe, Adioseh and Eric, three brothers who have been reunited because of the death of their father, a maof the covert resistance movement that is seeking to break the shackles of colonial rule. All three of the brothers are caught up in intense internal struggles that stem from the relationships to white and African cultures.

Tshembe, who has been educated in the finest European schools and has married a white woman, wants to disassociate himself from the African struggle for freedom so that he can return to Europe after his father's funeral and lead a quiet family

During-his travels, he has learned about white's inhumanity to other whites, such as the annihilation of Jews during the revolutions simply replace domineering, dictatorial govern-Tshembe embraces his culture, but simply does not want to get involved with the conflict that is

ultimate goal is to be the first Cardinal from Africa and to join Vatican. Adioseh believes that believes that the participants in the resistance are committing treason and should be reported to the proper authorities.

Harold Scott

Eric, the youngest brother, caught up in yet another psychological prison. He has succumbed to the seductive lure of alcoholism and is involved in a homosexual liaison with one of nearby primitive hospital that has been set up to treat Africans.

Eric's life is further complicated because he is the product of his mother's psychological and physical rape by one of the colknowledge that his mother died giving birth to him and the fact makes it obvious that European

men are caught up in the intense climate of a revolution and are forced to make difficult choices about the roles that they will play in life. Each of them is on a colescapable reality that in war you talented independent filmmust choose sides and be makers. Film notes are provided prepared to suffer the conse-

Hansberry's development character and plot in this play is brilliant. She allows you to peer

RETURNS TO BALTIMORE

The Arena Players, Inc. will present Baltimore playwright Phillip Hayes Dean's "Sty Of The Blind Pig," February 11 through February 28 as a part of their

Black History Month celebration. Returning to the playhouse in roles that they originated in the 1973 production of "Sty" will be Verna Day as Weedy Warren, an overly protective mother and Ben Prestbury as the fun loving "Sportin' Jimmy Sweet, The Prince of Beale Street."

Also joining the cast are Annette Burton and Keith Snipes. "Sty" is a serio-comedy set in Chicago just before the start of the bus boycott in Memphis which launched the Civil Rights Movement. Ben Prestbury will also direct this production For ticket information and/or



Verna Day

Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

deeply into the souls of these men while using them as symbols of the conflicting ideologies that exist among the subjugated real ones such as South Africa.

"A Raisin in the Sun" opened on TOn Stage at Wolftrap." Broadway in 1959, she won imbeing chosen as Variety's most promising new playwright of the

She was also the author of "The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window" and "To Be Young, Gifted and Black." Harold Scott who has become the leading in terpretor of her plays, worked directly with Lorraine Hansberry during the 1960s and recently served as the director of the highly successful production "A Raisin in the Sun" at the Ken-

Harold Scott says "these three OF IRAP"

In celebration of Black History Month. RAP (Resident Associate Program of the Smithsonian stitution) presents outstanding works by three of America's most The series is coordinated and in founded editor and publisher of Black Film Review.

* Feb. 11 Losing Ground (1987 color, 87 min.) Directed Kathleen Collins. The story of Sara, a newly adventurous philosophy professor turned ac tress, and her artist husband with antecedents in Eric Rohmer's series The Moral Tales.

* Feb. 18 My Brother's Weddin (1982, color, 120 min.) Directed by Charles Burnett. The story of Pierce, a 30-year-old man torn between his loyalty to his parents and to his best friend, just released from prison. A textual compo nion to Mean Streets by Martin

(1984, b/w, 87 min.) Directed by Billy Woodberry. A proud man' loss of his job rends the lives of his family, in a masterpiece with artistic ties to Italian neoreali

The films will be shown in the Carmichael Auditorium in the American History Building of the Smithsonian Institution. For more information call (202) 357-3030

Dizzy Gillespie

their performance. Personnel of

This is essentially the same

group which appeared for the

The concert lasted about

Came 2 p.m., and the film "On

the Road With Duke Ellington,

was shown in the Castilian room

at the hotel. This was followed a

was a young lad (he looked about

22 years old) named Steve

At 5:15 there was a cham

Meashey. Remember the name

chateaubriand—and pronounced

it a 5-star dish. (it did cost a wee

Forget to mention that in bet-

bit additional—and worth every

ween all this activity, found time

which has a swimming pool, plus

an enormous hot tub, along with

hours, ending at midnight—but

and Rene Rosnes, piano.

By Bob Matthews

First off, let us set the record goof in Friday Plus concerning playwright. When her first play

> It will be telecast Friday repeat — Friday, February 5 at 9 p.m. The show is an hour long. if you don't plan to be home and want to preset your VCR.

And, as we said previously, if you want to hear some swinging singing, and romping jazz piano—check it out. We heartily recommend the program, the kickoff of the series.

Might want to save room on the tape, for on February 26, "On of the Blue) had already begun featuring the "Salute to Dizzy the group included Ralph Bowen, Gillespie," a show honoring Diz- tenor; Steve Wilson, alto; Kenny zy's 70th birthday. More on this Davis, bass; Mike Mossman, later — we expect to have a trumpet; Ralph Peterson, drums chance to preview it.

Have to tell you about the true dedication and "the show must Left Bank Jazz Society at Coppin go on" example displayed by a State College last year, and who couple of jazz artists last week as could forget Rene Rosnes, th the Central Pennsylvania Friends Canadian lass who really sparkl of Jazz held it jazz weekend at" ed on piano. the Hotel Hershey.

weekend, and a bit of a surprise to those who perceive Hershey, the Iberian Lounge at the hotel, PA solely as the location for Her- a group called Third Stream was shey Park with all its rides and holding forth. family entertainment things.

But, lets face it — what could there possibly be to do at such a an ice carving demonstration place when the temperature hovers below freezing, with a The hotel chef deftly carved 4-inch blanket of snow covering musical notes from a 100 pound the ground. block of ice, much to the delight Well, let me tell you, this is a of the onlookers.

first class operation all the way. We arrived Friday evening, in reception-replete with hors d'ouerves and open bar.

Was barely squared away in the gorgeous room assigned (it Meashey and Sam Banks, local had a sitting room attached, containing couches, overstuffed ed in a mainstream bop figure. lounge chairs, writing desk, TV and all the rest) when it was time for dinner.

Now, this was a part of the jazz weekend package, and simply tell you why momentarily. exquisite. I mean, this was a fivecourse meal from appetizer to dessert, with choices of entrees Lobby with a jazz duo providing ranging from breaded medallions—the music. All of which set the of veal with a mushroom sauce, stage for dinner, where we tomato and onion sauce.

ing some great vintages of both foreign and domestic wines, and you can understand how difficult it was to tear ourselves away for

Waddled over to the Garden Terrace Lounge, where OTB (Out

One classy touch, the hotel had used—so we did.

shey High School Jazz Band took Pennsylvania. the stage. This was to be a lead- . When Joe Intieri went to pay into the performance of the the cabbie on arrival at Hershey, Clark Terry Quartet — the he didn't know how far they had

on—in fact, the stage hadn't answered: "two fifty." even been set up with drums, "Oh, said Joe, here's a five, out. cymbals or anything. The crowd, sensing something amiss, started an inquiry as to the status of

Then came the announcement Kenny Washington, scheduled to play drums; and Marcus McLaurine, bass player, were pianist, Jon Campbell were the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Borodin's opera Prince Igor. For there, and would go on, along Hall. The Tonight Show more information call (301) Meashey. (told you to remember

Saw Steve out in the hall as the word was given him, and it finally dawned on him that he would be playing with these two jazz

things didn't stop there. Over in Well, there is a happy ending. for Steve held his own and made the hometime folks proud as he proved that jazz improvisation is universal, and its practitioners Saturday morning, there was have instant rapport with each

They were really cooking along, when a man dashed to the Clark came to the mike and announced that they had had an ac-

They got a cab to bring them 3 p.m. with a jam session by Ron all the way from some place in Waters, Jim Wood, Steve New Jersey, and according to Kenny, the cab driver was area musicians, who really kickholding Marcus hostage until the fare was paid. The bass player with the group

Naturally this was attended to promptly, and with a few volunteers carrying in the bass and drums, they started setting up quietly, while the set was in

Found out later that coming through the mountains, they I a icy highway, and while coming around a curve, spied a car stalled directly in their path.

They were able to swerve, and unmanageably. Finally bringing the car to a stop, they swiftly got out of the car, which was leaking oil and gasoline, pulled their

o check out the natatorium instruments out of the trunk. Just about then, one of those 18-wheelers came barrellin down the highway and praccars—theirs was totaled.

They were not hurt, fortunat provided terrycloth robes and ly, but were miles and miles and convince the driver to take it was a real cooker, and lasted At 7 o'clock, the Milton Her- them all the way to

featured artists for the date. come, so when he asked how country skiing, horseback riding, By 8:30, Clark still hadn't gone much was the fare, the driver plus the indoor activities

"Uh huh," said the driver "that's two hundred fifty dollars." He got paid pronto, tippedhuge beach towels, folded neat- away, and had to get to the and in the true tradition of show ly on the beds begging to be gig—they were able to call a cab biz — the show went on. In fact,

> well past midnight. Must say, that Hotel Hershey is available. You should check it

SEVERINSEN PERFORMS WITH BSO

Severinsen performs with the from Gershwin's Porgy and Bess, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra selections from songs of Andrew under the baton of Christopher Lloyd Webber, and selections Wolfe in a Pops concert on Sun- from Polovtsian Dances from day, February 6 at 8:15 p.m. in bandleader will offer a varied 783-8000.

BALTIMORE—Trumpeter Doc program, including selections



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