ENTERTAINMENT/ LIFESTYLE

Bert Andrews honored

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then a book of pictures has to be priceless. For Bert Andrews, famed photographer in a book entitled "In The Shadow Of The Great White Way, Images From The Black Theatre."

The book, with an introduction written by Cicely Tyson, is a pictorial of some of the theatre greats; Ruby Dee, Rosalind Cash, Rosetta LeNoire, Helen Martin, Denise Nichols, Louis Gossett, Jr., and many others.

Some of the more famous plays photographed by Andrews are "Daddy Goodness" with Moses Gunn, Denise Nicholas and Judy Ann Johnson in 1967; Debbie Allen in "Anna Lucasta" in 1978; Nichelle Nichols, Lincoln Kilpatrick, Helen Martin, Louis Gossett, Jr., Ethel Ayler, Celbert Ford in "The Blacks" in 1961.

Bert Andrews celebrated the release of his work at the Rose Tattoo in West Hollywood recently in a celebration hosted by the Black Women In Theatre, Inc.

Anna Marie Horsford, Thelma on the hit series "Amen," along with her co-star Barbara Montgomery, hosted the affair which included music and a buffet.

Annie Hall, the mother of talk show host Arsenio Hall, assisted as they greeted Black celebrities in theatre, some who came from as far away as New York, to congratulate Andrews on the publication of his book.

Rosetta LeNoire of the new ABC sitcom "Family Matters," said "this book will certainly become a collectors item. It's priceless to me."

Producer and director Tracee Lyles said she was especially pleased with the turn out. "I have known Bert since his beginning an I am very proud of his success."

Among the celebrities in attendance were Debbie Morgan, Paul Carter Harrison, Bill Duke, Jackee, Clifton Davis, Antonio Fargas, Lynn Whitfield, Robert Hooks and Truman St. Jacques.

The books, published by Thunder's Mount Press, sell for $39.95 and may be purchased at your local book store.

** Reprinted from the Los Angeles Sentinel*

A young member of the Rio de Janeiro Samba School plays the tambourine during the celebration known as Carnival that sweeps the nation of Brazil into a frenzy of dance, song and parades each year at this time.

'A Raisin in the Sun' receives grand prize

"A Raisin in the Sun," a KCET/Los Angeles co-production for "American Playhouse," received top honors at the 32nd Annual International Film and TV Festival of New York. A bronze medal (third prize) was awarded to "Secret Intelligence," KCET's four-part national series on American espionage.

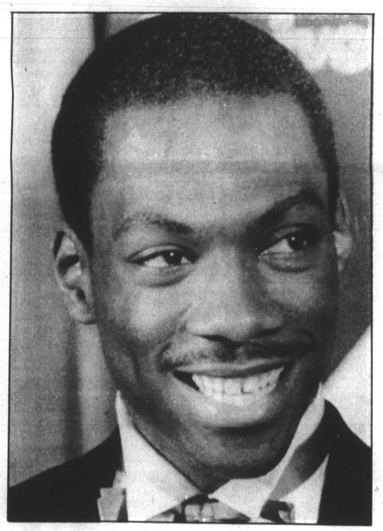
Receiving a grand prize for best entertainment program, "A Raisin in the Sun" was one of 3,100 entries submitted to the festival, which recognizes excellence internationally in the areas of television news, documentary and entertainment programming, as well as television promotion and non-broadcast educational and industrial productions. Only nine grand prizes were awarded this year — one in each category.

Taped at KCET's Hollywood studios, "A Raisin in the Sun" is a production of Fireside Entertainment and KCET/Los Angeles in association with KNET/New York.

Bill Duke directed the co-production; Chiz Schultz was producer. KCET executive producer was Ricki Franklin and Phyllis Geller was KCET's executive-in-charge.

Hamp Keeps On Jamming

Jazz greats Lionel Hampton and Carmen McRae will be the featured acts in the Annual Benefit at the Thelonius Monk Institute of Jazz in Durham, N.C. The gala event on March 24 will celebrate Hampton's 60 years in the entertainment business . . . Playboy founder Hugh Hefner donated a couple of his silk robes to be bestowed on the king and queen of a bacchanalian revel being hosted by a UCLA fraternity. The March 11 party, known as the Red Light Soiree, is a benefit for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation.



Eddie Murphy

Eddie Murphy--- Oh no, not again!

MINEOLA, N.Y. — A Long Island man has filed a $35 million suit alleging a screenplay he wrote was stolen by actor - comedian Eddie Murphy and used as the basis for the film, "Harlem Nights."

The allegations come a month after Paramount Pictures lost a similar suit filed by writer Art Buchwald, who charged Murphy stole one of his stories and used it as the basis for the 1988 film "Coming to America."

In the suit, filed in U.S. District Court in Uniondale, Hempstead resident Michael Greene said his agent, who works for the William Morris Agency, asked him in 1988 to "write a property for Eddie Murphy and Richard Pryor."

Greene, 35, said he submitted the screenplay, titled "A Halloween to Remember," but the William Morris Agency rejected it without returning the copies of the screenplay.

Greene said he began to hear rumors that the script for "Harlem Nights" bore a strong resemblance to his screenplay.

"I viewed the movie last November, and I immediately saw that the property was mine," he said.

"I counted over 100 similarities that just popped off the screen, and I was very traumatized," Greene said.

Murphy could not immediately be reached for comment on the allegations.

Les Fagen, an attorney for Paramount Pictures in New York, said: "We have reviewed Michael Greene's screenplay and also the screenplay from "Harlem Nights," and we find no similarity and no basis for the lawsuit."

Greene, who has been writing screenplays for 16 years without selling anything, said, "You work for a break all your life, and then someone steals your work."

Walker's mission to expand Black theater

By Michele DiGirolamo

CAMDEN, N.J. — Playwright Joseph Walker is caught in a Black and White Catch-22.

Although his critically acclaimed play "The River Niger" won five major drama awards, including the Tony and the Obie in 1974, the Black playwright and actor hasn't had much success since then in getting his works produced in mainstream theaters.

"Those who give money to fund theater productions perpetuate established White institutions," charged Walker, a bearded man with chiseled facial features and long, expressive fingers. He said Blacks financially able to offer their backing are often leery of investing in Black theatrical endeavors.

The answer? More Black theatrical institutions. Walker said.

"The reason I'm not rolling in dough with the impact of my playwriting is simply because we have one totally professional equity acting company in the United States that's Black," Walker, 54, said.

"That's the Negro Ensemble Company in (in New York)," he said. "And of course they can't do it all. The answer is Black institutions. I preach that all the time. We need more Black theater."

Walker, who spent the last 13 years teaching theater at Howard University in Washington, D.C., joined the staff of Rutgers University's Camden campus in September as a professor of theater arts and director of the university's African-American Studies Program.

Joseph Walker

Walker and actress Roxie Roker, best known as Helen Willis, the Black wife of the interracial couple on "The Jeffersons" television series, are co-starring in a new production of Walker's play "The River Niger," which opened last week at Rutgers for a 13-performance run.

The production marks Walker's first appearance in his own play, which depicts a Black family in conflict between generations, sexes, friends and philosophies, yet held together by the bonds of love, responsibility and family.

Most playwrights make the bulk of their money through stock and amateur rights after their play leaves Broadway. There are more than 150 White regional theaters across America, "most of whom only have a token Black in the resident company," Walker said.

"The lack of Black theater groups translates into a lack of interest in Black plays," Walker said. "Talented White playwrights can get rich, while Black playwrights can't get produced, he said.

Tennessee Williams' classics such as "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" or "Streetcar Named Desire" earned hundreds of thousands of dollars in royalties annually.

But Walker, who has written a new play every year since 1975 but who has had only six of those actually produced, said he has averaged only about $2,000 a year from "The River Niger."

"I get a lot of respect from the White theater, but it becomes also economic," Walker said. "If you've got a company of 15 people and here's a play ("The River Niger") that has 12 characters, all of whom are Black, it means they would have to job in 12 actors, and they are already paying a resident company.

"They are simply reluctant to do that and you can't really blame them," he said.

That's where the African-American Studies Institute comes in.

One of the first things Walker did when he arrived in Camden, a primarily Black-populated, economically depressed urban river town, was to establish an African-American Studies Institute dedicated to the research, preservation and dissemination of Black and third world cultures.

SHOW BIZ NOTES

Spike's Camera Shy

Spike Lee says acting is his least favorite part of the movie - making process and he appears in his movies mostly to satisfy the money people. "It's easier to get my films out if I'm in them. Hollywood likes my face on movie posters," Lee said in a lecture at Brown University in Providence, R.I. "I really don't like acting that much. I like the editing part best. And the shooting part is hell." Although his movies take frank looks at race relations, Lee says people shouldn't expect too much from them. "I don't have the answers to lead Black people out of the woods. I'm not a savior," he said. "People come to hear me and they think I'm going to say something that's going to change their life around. I'm a mere filmmaker making films." Lee's next movie, "Mo' Better Blues" with Denzell Washington, will be released later this year and he's also planning one titled "Jungle Fever" about interracial marriage and a documentary about Georgetown University basketball coach John Thompson.

. . . But Not His Sister

Joie Lee, Spike's sister, didn't hesitate when it came time for her nude scene in her brother's upcoming movie, "Mo' Better Blues." "When he said, 'OK, take off your top,' I just did it," Joie told People magazine. "It's not perverse." "Mo' Better Blues" also features Eddie Murphy's older brother, Charlie, 30, who picked up a few acting tips from his more famous brother. "He worked with me," Charlie says. "I was very . . . well, I'm not saying I'm great now, but I was terrible." Spike Lee and Eddie Murphy have had a running feud over the role of Blacks in the entertainment business, but Lee says that didn't come into play when he cast Charlie. "He's the best person for the job," Lee said. "Eddie might be embarrassed when he sees how good his brother did."

AREA ENTERTAINMENT

Coming Events

Maryland Public Television

On Friday, March 9, MPT - Channels 22, 67, will air "The Unforgettable Nat King Cole," from 9 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. tracing the life and music of Nat King Cole through interviews, recordings and film clips.

"The Mills Brothers Story," from 10:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m., a nostalgic journey through the 60-year career of the popular group who gave us "Glow Worm," and "Bye Bye Blackbird" and more.

Theatre Morgan

Theatre Morgan presents the Maryland premier of 'From The Mississippi Delta' by the award winning playwright, Dr. Endesha Ida Mae Holland. Performances are Thursday and Friday, March 8 and 9 at 8 p.m.; Saturday, March 10 at 5 p.m.; and Sunday, March 11 matinee at 3 p.m.

The following week the performances will be Thursday and Friday, March 15 and 16 at 8 p.m.; Saturday, March 17 at 5 p.m.; and Sunday, March 18 at 3 p.m. All performances will be in the Turpin-Lamb Little Theatre of Murphy Auditorium, Morgan State University.

Playwright Dr. Holland is professor of American Studies at State University of New York-Buffalo. Her plays have been produced in New York, Los Angeles, Buffalo and London, England. Call 444-3421 or 444-3286.

The Kennedy Center

The Kennedy Center presents the Dance Theatre of Harlem for a two week engagement at the Opera House, Washington, DC, March 13-25. The company will perform four repertory programs, including a Nijinska evening, six premiers and many company favorites. Call (202) 467-4600.

Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts, Inc.

Local gospel fans have marked their calendars as the Women of Mount Moriah AME Church in Annapolis present Wintley Phipps in concert at the Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts, Constitution Ave. and Greenfield St., Annapolis, March 18 at 6 p.m.

Many roads can lead a gospel singer to his calling, and Wintley Phipps has travelled an unusual path. Born in Trinidad, West Indies and raised in Montreal, Canada, Wintley never came into contact with Black American Gospel until his college days in Alabama. It was there that he first began to develop his gift of writing Gospel music.

He has performed before audiences across North America, Europe, Africa, Australia, Bermuda and the Caribbean. For further information, call (301) 268-1618 or (301) 263-5544.

Catherine Pugh, Patrice May and Teressa Ball in a scene from the play "Mississippi Delta."

The Christianaires

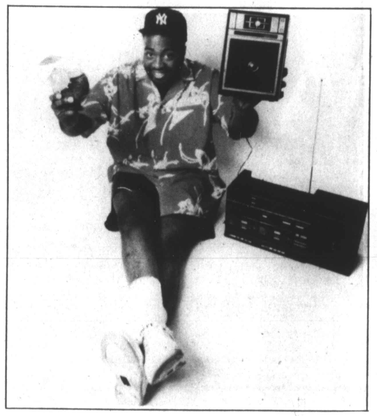
Palm Sunday's Gospel Explosion featuring The Christianaires, Paul Porter, Tyrone Porter, James Lee, Arnold Brown and Ronald Brown, will perform Sunday, April 8, 5 p.m., at Booker T. Washington Middle School Auditorium, 1300 Madison Ave., Baltimore. This group has performed with today's most popular artists in gospel music, including the Winans, The William Brothers, The Jackson Southernaires, Commissioned and Shirley Caesar along with other nationally known gospel singers. Call (301) 265-1570 or 362-2999.

Gospel Celebration

Easter Sunday Gospel Celebration featuring Evangelist Shirley Caesar and the Caesar Singers, The Mighty Clouds of Joy, The Canton Spirituals, Cavaleers, The Angelic Gospel Singers, Gospelaires, Spiritual Voices, Rev. F. C. Barnes, Rev. Janice Brown and others in performance at Baltimore Arena, April 15 at 5 p.m. Call (301) 265-1570, 362-29999, 358-8661 or 347-2010.

SOUNDS

By Carl Matthews



Doug Lazy

By Carl Matthews

DOUG LAZY
"Doug Lazy Gettin' Crazy" (Atlantic)

You dig "house" music? Do records like Technotronic's "Pump Up The Jam" really make you move? Then this new album by Doug Lazy is for you.

Doug Lazy, who wrote and produced all ten songs (as well as performing the raps), was a DJ on WPGC, D.C.'s urban radio station, a few years ago. He hosted a four-hour dance program on Fridays which featured house and hip-hop music.

Working after hours in WPGC's production room, Doug edited a prototype of his first hit, "Let It Roll." When it was time to cut the real track, he combined sampled bells and a funky bass line with a slamming house beat that he programmed himself.

The song was first released on Grove Street Records, a Washington-based independent dance label, and soon reached the top ten on the dance music charts. He recorded a follow-up, "Let The Rhythm Pump," which was equally successful.

"People put hip-hop down," says Doug, "but I think it's an art to combine music and samples, just like playing music is an art."

Whether or not combining music and samples is an "art" is debatable, but one thing is clear after listening to an album such as this: it's easy to see why some people put hip-hop down. Some folks just plain get tired of hearing the same chord repeated over and over. Others are offended by the lyrical content of such records as "Me So Horny."

And when folks begin to notice that the same sample may appear on two, three or more different records, all by different artists, they begin to get the impression that hip-hop/rap artists are severely lacking in creativity.

Doug Lazy's music is not for everybody. But if you want your boom box to blast some of the hippest hip-house around, you need look no further.

VARIOUS ARTISTS
"Super Hits Of The 70's (Have A Nice Day)" (Rhino)

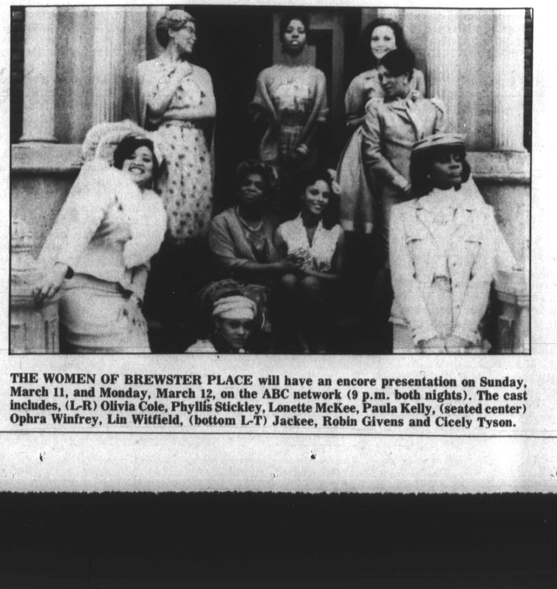
Anybody out there remember Bobby Bloom, R. Dean Taylor, or Sugarloaf? If you do, and you've been waiting for their classic hits (of nearly 20 years ago) to come out on CD, well Rhino Records has a treat for you.

Rhino Records has come out with five volumes of "Super Hits Of The 70's" on CD. Each CD volume contains 12 songs. The CDs contain big chart-toppers such as "Indian Reservation" by the Raiders and "I Think I Love You" by The Partridge Family. You also get lesser-known songs such as "Neanderthal Man" by Hotlegs and "Fallin' Lady" by Punch.

All of the songs included were released between 1969 and 1973; the late 70's are not represented at all.

This compilation is recommended for those who like the old "bubblegum" type hits of the early 70's, such as Alive & Kicking's "Tighter, Tighter," and the old country-flavored hits, such as Lobo's "Me And You And A Dog Named Boo." If you want the hard-rock hits of the early 70's, look elsewhere; you won't find Led Zeppelin or Hendrix here. Nor will you find any disco or Motown hits.

The sound quality of the discs is quite satisfactory.



Doug Lazy

THE WOMEN OF BREWSTER PLACE will have an encore presentation on Sunday, March 11, and Monday, March 12, on the ABC network (9 p.m. both nights). The cast includes, (L-R) Olivia Cole, Phyllis Stickley, Lonette McKee, Paula Kelly, (seated center) Ophra Winfrey, Lin Witfield, (bottom L-T) Jackee, Robin Givens and Cicely Tyson.

Living Room'

It's Shelly Garrett's latest, and if you saw "Beauty Shop," wait 'til you step into his living room.

Shelly Garrett's "Living Room," written by Charles Michael Moore, will play for one week at the Lyric Opera House beginning Tuesday, March 13.

"Living Room" is a raucous romp "behind closed doors." Halsted Bridges, a wondering auto mechanic, returns to his small hometown in Michigan to reassess his life and get himself together.

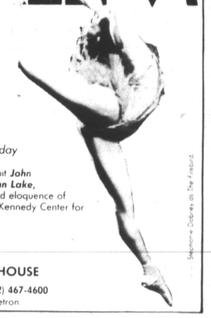
He moves in with his sister and her not-so hospitable husband, and winds up sleeping in the living room.

He finds a job with his friend Earl "The Pearl," a consummate womanizer, at an auto shop, where he meets Venus, a beautiful married woman in search of lost love.

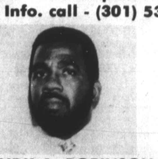
"Living Room" will play at the Lyric Opera House Tuesday, March 13, through Sunday, March 18.

MRS. MILLER SPIRITUAL READER
• Gifted Psychic Consultant
• Horoscope Readings
• Psychic Readings
• Remove Negative Influences
• Helps all problems
Love, finance, business
• Health
RESULTS IN 3 DAYS
READINGS BY PHONE
(301) 636-0081

DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM
ARTHUR MITCHELL, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
"Proving once again that miracles do exist. . ."
– Craig Wilson, USA Today
From the rousing, gospel-inspired hit *John Henry* to the classic beauty of *Swan Lake, Act II*, . . . experience the power and eloquence of Dance Theatre of Harlem – at the Kennedy Center for 2 weeks only!
MARCH 13-25
KENNEDY CENTER OPERA HOUSE
TICKETS AND INFORMATION (202) 467-4600
Tickets also at the box office and Ticketron



First Time To The Public
* New Stunning Information *
1,400 pages of the U.S. vs. **Marcus Garvey** with the Department of Justice and F.B.I. involvement. History will be rewritten with this new release. names, places, dates and real situations are revealed.
Everyone Welcome & Free Admission at the:
University of Baltimore Law Center
Poe's Publick House Conference Room
1420 North Charles St. of Mt. Royal Ave.
March 14, 1990 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
For Further Info. call - (301) 539-4434



RANDY A. ROBINSON
Principal Investigator