This WEEKENd

The striking BSO musicians will present a concert on Sunday, January 29 at 3 p.m. This second in a series of free chamber music concerts will be held at St. David's Episcopal Church. Call 585-0276 for more information.

The 2nd annual Orioles Winter Carnival will be held on Saturday, January 28 at the Omni Inner Harbor Hotel from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Call 301-481-6000 in Baltimore and 202-432-0200 Washington for tickets.

"The Crisis in Afro-American Leadership," a public forum will be held on Sunday, January 29 at 2:30 p.m. at the Pratt Central Library, 400 Cathedral St. Admission is free. Call 301-396-5494 for more details.

The film "Caribbean Crucible" which focuses on the music performed in Jamaica and the Dominican Republic will be shown at the National Museum of African Art, Lecture Hall, 2nd level on Sunday, January 29 at 2 p.m. Call 202-357-2700 for further

The musical "Bye Bye Birdie" will be performed at the White Marsh Dinner Theatre January 29



Lex Monson is one of the stars in "God's Trombones," a series of poetic sermons set to gospel music scheduled for a four-week engagement at Ford's Theatre January 29 until February 26. Call 202-347-4833 for further information.

and run until April 9. For times

Northwest's Fort City Skaters will present "Year of the Dragon"

claimed marimba artist will per-Towson State University in 301-685-4703 Baltimore. There will also be a information. day of events including a variety of percussion clinics, exhibits, a Calm is hosting a birthday dinner perform at the Theater Lab at the concert by Leigh Stevens. Call party for VI Carr on Sunday, Kennedy Center on Friday and 301-821-7291 for further February 5 at the Sphinx Club on

"All About Ice" continues a. the Maryland Science Center, 601 Light Street. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. \$6.50, \$5.50 for 12 and younger. mended for children 3 and younger. Call 301-685-5225.

pany's production of Puccini's January 28. Call 301-625-1400 for

THE AFRO-AMERICAN

Coming Soon

perform at the Baltimore Fish Market's club "Euble" February until February 12. Call 301-385-4949 for more details.

Starting Tuesday, February 7 "Steps in Time: Scenes from 1840 Baltimore" will return to the Baltimore City Life Museums' 1840 House, 800 E. Lombard St. Call 301-396-3523 for more

"Kuumba" will present "Time Trek," a play directed by noted Broadway actress Trazana

scheduled to perform. Call 202-432-0200 to charge tickets.

And speaking of the Walters, the South African film, "Mapantsula" will have an exclusive showing on Thursday, February 2 at 7:30 p.m. Admission for the film is \$3 with \$2 for members, students and senior citizens. For more information call 547-9000. ...

"Saffire — Uppity Blues

Women," a brunch concert

(ticket price includes brunch at could afford to accompany hi either 10 a.m. or noon) featuring a trio from Fredericksburg. At night, he spent his time Virginia who play and sing the earning the money necessary for blues, wil be held at the Nationa his daytime entree into the work Museum of American History in Beverly on Sunday, February 5 Carmichael Auditorium on Sunduties were the installation



Vell Wheeler and Harriett Lane perform as "Kuumba."

at 3 p.m. at the Coffee House at day, February 26 at 11 a.m. Call form on Sunday, January 29 at Otterbein. Tickets are \$5. Call 202-357-3030 for further details. "Odadaa!" a company o

> musicians, dancers and singers Lady about town Wahseola Pennsylvania Ave. beginning at 3 p.m. Call 301-728-9443 for further details.

Constitution Hall will be the

the Baltimore-Washington area. ... Published by the AFRO-AMERICAN 628 N. Eutaw St. Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Frances M. Draper, President Benjamin M. Phillips IV

(Continued on Page 3)

How many times have you said

"Lean on Me" and "Use Me," all Withers decided to go into the of which were successful selling recordings for Withers. It took only two years for Withers to Blues Alley in Washington, D.C. reach the pinnacle of recording success, accepting a GRAMMY spent nine years in the United for the 1972 R&B song of the year. States Navy learning the in-

> Lot's of people find Wither's formula for entering the field of music to be without frills and very straight forward, which is the method he also uses to conduct his private life.

Although Withers spent only nine years gaining a formal keen powers of observation, do not make this fact easily known to outsiders. This ability simplify the simple pleasures and hurts in life account for the wide appeal of his records.

Withers "researches" much of least bit conventional. He his song material from the events which have occurred in his life. He then transfers those thoughts were working so well? Withers into the music that has earned him his position as one America's most loved folk artists.

Fork, West Virginia where he and almost stopped his introducshared a home with six older tion to musical performing. sisters and brothers. In West Withers overcame these prob-Virginia, Bill learned about a lems by tackling them straight-on gentler, calmer lifestyle than the when he became more comforlife practiced in the wide world table as a credentialed member he traveled through during his of the musical community.

nine years in the Navy. Profound shyness and a speech recording on the Columbia

were spent in his native Slab youth caused Withers to stutter tists as diverse as Aretha Franklin to Tom Jones record his songs. Withers bases the broad appeal of his songs on his rural background and urban adult childhood, and his ability to combine them in song.

> Come hear and see for Since 1975, Withers has been yourself when Bill Withers performs at Blues Alley January 27 Records label and has heard ar- through 29th.



Here's Bill Wither's during the filming of the video "Oh Yeah" from his album "Watching You, Watching Me."

MAX BELCHER'S PHOTO EXHIBIT ON AFRICAN ARCHITECTURE SHOULD NOT BE MISSED

Bill Withers continues to appeal to everyone

documenting the influence of economic base for construction of ture in 19th-century African is on exhibit at the Baltimore Museum of Art beginning Tuesday, January 24.

that if you had the chance you

could do a much better job tha

Withers, who will perform

January 26 through January 29

a craft that came in quite handy

when he lett the Navy and

During the day, Withers wrote

songs, rented music studio space

The method that Withers chose

to promote his songs was not the

thought why should he alter th

plans he had made when they

asked organist/businessman

Booker T. Jones to listen to h

and hired the best musicians h

toilets on jetplanes.

the person on stage performi

recording industry.

culture heritage to the West ture," explores the architecture land they had left behind. of Black Americans who left start life anew on the African

Black American emigrants.

Beginning in the 1820's Black slaves, journeyed to Liberia and established on unfamiliar terrain in the West African rain forest, their homeland in the American

By 1900, the first democratic Georgia, Hartford, Virginia and

Friday Plus, January 27, 1989

Noted photographer Max Maryland grew up. Coffee, cocoa Research to study documentary Belcher's over 100 photographs and palm oil provided an filmmaking.

> Amid the indigenous population living in circular, mudwalled, thatched-roof dwelling the Liberian settlers raised Chris-- buildings that spoke of aspira- Tubman. tions few Black Americans could realize in the racially divided

Max Belcher began to docubehind all that was familiar to ment this unique architectural tradition in 1977. Though many of the Liberian buildings have long been neglected — some in a state of collapse — their close kinship to the plantation South can still be seen in the elaborate design of such buildings as the

Max Belcher is a photograph with a strong sense of place. Although born in Philadelphi he spent his adolescent years Liberia, West Africa.

In 1968, after three years in the U.S. Marine Corps, and while working in network Television in New York, Beicher enrolled at the New School for Social

that medium a rewarding freedom from the compromises inherent in broadcast filming.

In 1971, Belcher returned to a tian meetinghouses, modest but Liberia undergoing radical spacious homes, and great change after the death of the residences with broad verandas longtime president, William

While the new economic and political regime was beneficial in Call 202-254-3600 for further Theatre Company will perform at many ways, it was not so for the information. historic buildings that had survived from the early days of the Many of these vernacular

structures were abandoned and in runious condition and many more were being destroyed in College. The lecture is free and pany of New York will perform the wake of new building.

since children, Belcher felt a social responsibility to make a visual record before they disappeared forever.

On trips to Liberia in 1977 and documented the country's ar- and book-signing session on chitectural heritage. Then returning to the USA, he made three in the Marion and Gustave Ring GWU Smith Center on Monday, field trips to the South in Auditorium, Hirshhorn Museum. February 13 at 8 p.m. Call 1986-1987 to photograph the Call 202-357-3030 for more 202-393-0930 antecedents of the Liberian information.

buildings in Virginia, Kentucky, Georgia and the Carolinas.

American South and Liberia.

The exhibit, organized by the through March 19. Call 396-6310 Brockton Art Museum/Fuller for further details.

(Continued from Page 2) Saturday, February 24 and 25.

director of TransAfrica, will present a lecture, "South Africa and \$8 for students. Call 301-547-2486 Apartheid," on Tuesday, for further information. February 14 at 8 p.m. at Goucher

Search of Sisterhood: Delta Sigma Theta and the Challenge of the Black Sorority Movement," Wednesday, February 8 at 7 p.m.

The Mitchell Rose and Diane the Baltimore Museum of Art auditorium on Saturday and Sun-

Memorial with support from the

National Endowment for the

open to the public. Call at the Publick Playhouse on Fri-Having known these structures 301-337-6116 for more details. day and Saturday, February 10 and 11 at 8 p.m. The dance company will perform with African dance at the base of their repertoire. Call 301-277-1710 for time

To Charge Tickets By Phone Call 1-800-543-3041

Page 2