What's Happening

By Ida Peters

Best movies this week are "Mahogany", "Let's Do It Again" . . . Max Julien in "The Mack" . . . Timothy Bottoms in "Operation Daybreak" . . . Al Pacino in "Dog Day Afternoon" and "Lies My Father Taught Me".

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Go catch Baltimore's own Charlene Harris in "Godspell" at Painters Mill Music Fair through November 23.

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Larry Graham, Graham Central Station with Betty Davis and Aggression are at Capitol Center in Largo Sunday.

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Tavares will be in town November 25-26 to open a new club in Fells Point called The Barge, while Lola Falana is setting up interviewers in Baltimore and Washington for December 8-9.

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Aretha Franklin will be in concert at the Capitol Center on November 29. Ramsey Lewis is at Kennedy Center, Dec. 6.

Long Day's Journey into Night" — Arena's Kreeger, Washington. 7:30 P.M. through November 30.

Johnny and June Cash opened last night at Shady Grove Music Theatre in Rockville with their sensational country music show.

Appearing in the Cole Porter classic "Kiss Me, Kate" are (L to R) Diane Thomas, Jacqueline Balda, Gene Johnson, Leslie Cimino, not shown Bill Tiemann, Ed Rosen and Brenda Cook. The show is scheduled for December 9-12, 8 p.m., at Towson Presbyterian Church.

"Enemy of the People" — to Box with God" — Ford's Arena Stage 8 P.M. Theater, Washington. Musical by Vinnette Carroll, through November 30.

"Your Arm's Too Short Rousing gospel celebration of Christ's life and Resurrection told in song, story and dance. Through November. Call for curtain times.

• • •

On Saturday evening, November 29, at 7:30 P.M. The Arena Players will present one of their original, and considered by many, one of their greatest members in showcase at the Community College of Baltimore theatre.

Mrs. Verna Day (officially known as "Toastmistress of the World!") and "friends" will re-create excerpts from some of her most well known and best loved performances.

Some of the pieces to be performed by Mrs. Day include the role of Rosemary, the spinster school teacher from William Inge's "Picnic", Helen in the "Living Room", and her rendering of the role she is most popular for performing: that lovely character Birdie Lee from Langston Hughes' "Tambourines To Glory" which is to be The Arena Players next offering, opening December 12th.

• • •

It will be a salute to Baltimore's only black female promoter Rosa M. Pryor on Thanksgiving night, (her birthday) Nov. 27 at Steel Workers Hall.

Invited guests are D.J.'s, club owners and promoters. She handles the Versatile Wind band and singer Sammy Star.

AFRO winners go backstage with Pointer Sisters

The Pointer Sisters, Anita, Ruth and Bonnie kiss Jerry Harden backstage at Lyric Theatre.

By Ida Peters

Four lucky winners Andrea Parker, Bernadette Keene, Deborah Brooks and Jerry Harden won free tickets and a backstage visit with the Pointer Sisters last Sunday at the Lyric.

They were all on time for the 6 p.m. early show which was sparely attended although by the time the 8:30 p.m show was in full swing at 9 p.m. the downstairs and balcony were packed and jammed.

When we arrived at 6 p.m., the only male winner, Jerry, had lost his ticket but since all the winners were sitting together and he remembered his number we all got inside safely.

Stanley Turrentine, the jazz saxophonist, dressed in blue jeans, opend the show. The audience really responded to his spirited "Gibralta" and "Don't Mess With Mr. T."

The audience attending this year was dressed quite differently from those who attended the Pointer Sisters a year ago. Now that Anita, Ruth and Bonnie have abondoned their freaky '40's outfits stage costumes. . . the audience has too.

This audience is sophisticated, very quiet, no odor of marijuana or pot. . .just a down right serious jazz audience.

The Pointers Sisters started off with "Chatanooga Choo Choo," "Flat-Foot Floogie," then a salute to Duke Ellington and finally "Betch Got A Chick On The Side."

They really wailed on "Betcha." At one point, the notes were so high I got an ache in my back tooth. As they kept the beat going, the floor of the Lyric began to reverberate and you could feel the floor bouncing.

AFRO winners were ecstatic about going backstage and since so many people try to get backstage at these concerts we had a wait in an hour before we actually got to pose for pictures.

When our party of seven, the four winers, Norma Spencer the photographer and columnist Vashti McKenzie finally made it . . . Bonnie, Ruth and Anita were relaxing in dressing robes finishing a late supper of spaghetti.

They are down-to-earth, posed enthusiastically with the winners and autographed a special Pointer Sisters handkerchief as a souvenir.

A comment heard as we left is that the Pointer Sisters have a very professional show and are being groomed for a new act in Las Vegas.

Audrey Alexander says that Anita, Ruth and Bonnie gave one of their greatest performance.

'Lies My Father Taught Me'

Ted Allan's story of his own childhood, "Lies My Father Told Me," now a film by Jan Kadar, opening this week in area theatres, is the touching comedy-drama of the most important year in the childhood of a six-year-old boy named David (Jeffrey Lynas) during the late 1920s in Montreal, Canada.

David Herman's family is first-generation Russian-Jewish in a modest immigrant neighborhood, where David lives with his parents, Harry (Len Birman) and Annie (Marilyn Lightstone), who were born there, his grandfather, his Zaida (Yossi Yadin), who [illegible] from Russia in 1880, and his grandfather's [illegible] horse, Ferdeleh.

Because of the differences in generation and traditions, there is an inevitable conflict between David's father and his grandfather, for they have very different views of the world.

Harry is a modern, materialistic man who dreams of becoming rich by designing "the inventions the world is waiting for." Zaida is an humble man, a junk dealer who makes his living by buying and selling rags, old clothes and bottles, and who waits for the peace and love which will come into the world when the Messiah arrives. Young David is caught between his father who wants him to succeed and his grandfather who wants him to love.

Intuitively, innocently, David responds to the resonance of his grandfather's love and humility. Sunday is the brightest day of the week for David. He lives for the pleasures of that day when he and Zaida hitch the beloved faithful Ferdeleh to the old wagon and ride through the crowded back lanes and narrow streets crying out: "Rags! Clothes Bottles!"

After completing their day's business, Zaida and David often go on a picnic to Mount Royal Park, where the grandfather shares his magical view of life and nature with his grandson.

Zaida tells David that when the earth is thirsty, it prays for rain and God sends it. When David asks him whether he believes in miracles, his grandfather answers that he relies on them. for Zaida believes that God somehow will provide for the marvelous world he has created.

Unfortunately, in the winter when David is six there are no miracles to spare him the pains of growing up. He has to adjust to living with a new baby brother and compete for his mother's attention. The neighbors, led by a cantankerous woman, complain about Ferdeleh's stable and its odors in the courtyard and the local authorities order Zaida to remove his horse, something he refuses to do.

After years of faithful toil for Zaida and the wonderful Sundays with David, Ferdeleh is being treated like an old and useless nag, a development the ingenuous boy cannot understand.

Then, in the height of that bitterly cold winter, Zaida becomes very ill. David is sent to the home of an uncle for a week. Upon his return home, he discovers both grandfather Zaida and Ferdeleh are gone.

David's father bluntly informs him that Zaida and Ferdeleh are dead and will never return. Once again, David cannot forgive his father for being so unfeeling and pragmatic about the things David loves the most. Because his father's rational explanations make no emotional sense to David, he concludes that his father is telling him more "lies."

St. Martha's Guild presents the Morgan University Choir, Nathan Carter, director in concert tonight at St. James' Episcopal Church. Mrs. Phyllis Walston is chairman; Christine Bryan, co-chairman; Erla McKinnon, co-chairman; Verniece Reynolds, Warden, Father Donald O. Wilson, Rector.

George Shirley, tenor, Metropolitan Opera, Covent Gardens and recently appointed Artist-in-Residence at Morgan State University, will be presented in Recital, Tuesday evening November 25, 1975 at 8:15 p.m. in Carl Murphy Auditorium.

Since his debut with the Metropolitan Opera the celebrated Tenor, George Shirley, has performed leading roles with the Royal Opera of Covent Garden, The Scottish Company, New York City Opera, Florentine Opera Company New York City Opera and virtually every major opera company in the world. In addition to Mr. Shirley's demanding opera repertoire (some 30 leading roles) he somehow finds time to make frequent guest appearances with the symphony orchestras of Boston, New York, London, Philadelphia, Israel and Los Angeles, to name only a few.

The All-American Bicentennial Concert presented by the UMBC Community Symphony with the combined choruses of the Woodlawn and Lansdowne Senior High Schools and UMBC Concert Choir, Sunday, November 23, 8 p.m. at the Lyric Theatre.

Soloists, Juné Lilenstein, soprano and Samuel Gordon, tenor. Robert Gerle is conductor. Admission is free.

Danny Roy Kelley will appear in recital on Sunday, November 23rd. at Langsdale Library, University of Baltimore, Oliver Street and Maryland Avenue at 3 p.m.

Mr. Kelley won this recital and $300. in a competition held last year by the Baltimore Music Club Inc. This series the Club will again hold competitions for nine scholarships and awards totaling $1,725. For information call 358-8609.

He is 28 years old, born in Cameron, Texas. He is a graduate of Parair View University, cum laude and is now working toward the Doctor of Musical Arts Dei he is a member of the piano faculty in the Preparatory Department. He is married and as one daughter. From 1971-74 he served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

Mrs. George H. Hooker is President of the Baltimore Music Club, Inc. Mrs. Alfred C. Ver Valen is in charge of this program with Mrs. Wilbur C. Nelson as Co-Chairman and Mrs. Blaiw W. Raligh is in charge of hospitality. A reception for the artist will be held in the Lower Louge immediately following Mr. Kelley's recital.

The Renaissance Community Ensemble will celebrate its third anniversary with two services; the first being a Pre-Anniversary Joy Night Service, Friday, November 21, 1975 at the Enon Baptist Church, Edmondson Avenue and Schroeder Street, and the Anniversary Service, Sunday, November 23, 1975 at the Gillis Memorial Community Church, 4016 Park Heights Avenue.

Joy Night, Friday, Nov. 21, 1975, will commence at 7:00 p.m. and will feature choirs of Baltimore and the surrounding area. The Anniversary, Sunday, Nov. 23, 1975, will begin at 6:30 p.m., and our featured guests for the program will include:

The Inspirational Choir of Gillis Memorial Community Church;

The Baltimore Mass Choir, Gospel Workshop of America;

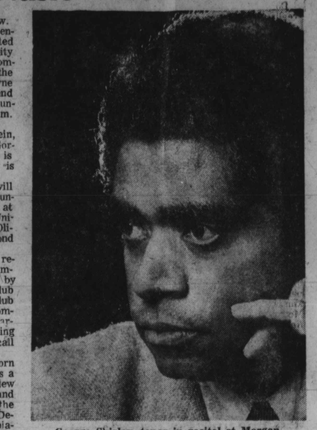
The Gospel Leaders, Baltimore, Maryland;

The Thornes Trio, Baltimore, Maryland; and from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, The Brockington Ensemble, under the direction of Professor Irvin Brockington.

In their opening concert on November 23, 1975, at the The Cathedral of the Incarnation, the Bach Society of Baltimore will pay homage to "America's Roots"—The English School. This program honoring such composers as Byrd, Purcell, Boyce and Ralph Vaughan Williams is being offered so that audiences can hear the beginnings of America's musical culture, which has greatly influenced much of our contemporary literature.

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra conducted by Andrew Schenck, the combined choruses of fifteen Baltimore City and Baltimore county High Schools, and guest star Ethel Ennis will provide a merry evening of Christmas entertainment for young and old on Saturday, December 13 at the Lyric Theatre.

Music Notes



George Shirley, tenor in recital at Morgan

Danny Roy Kelley won music contest.

Della Reese filed for bankrupcy in California courts earlier this week it was reported by Hollywood sources. She is believed to be half-million dollars in debt.

Lonnie Liston Smith with Grover Washington Jr. at UMBC.

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What happens if city all black in 1984?

Do the City and Counties really depend on one another? Will the City be all black by 1984? Are county residents in general concerned about what happens to Baltimore City. These and other questions related to metropolitanism will be explored on a special Town Meeting: The City-County Crunch, Sunday, November 23, at 7 PM on TV 2.

One hundred citizens from Baltimore City and the surrounding counties will participate in the televised forum. Groups throughout the metropolitan area will gather in individual homes to watch the Town Meeting and continue the discussion. To insure that their opinions are heard the participating groups will complete a brief questionnaire prepared by the Johns Hopkins University Center for Metropolitan Planning and Research.

Program participants include Dr. Francesca Carroll, Mrs. Doris Johnson, Dr. Cleveland Chandler, Major Clark, Grover McCrea, Dr. Eric White and Dr. Elaine Davis.

Among the questions to be examined: Is there a need for City-County cooperation, and if so, which areas would benefit most from joint action? What are the overall advantages and disadvantages of city-county co-operation? What would be the effects of cooperation: would taxes be lowered or government more efficient? What problems are common to both jurisdictions? What services do both need? If the City and counties should decide to cooperate what options would be available to them? This special hour-long telecast is part of the Metropolitan Town Hall Project which involves the Policy Committee of the Hopkins Metro Center, the Interfaith Council of Metropolitan Baltimore and the Maryland Committee for the Humanities and Public Policy.

Participants include government, business, religious and community leaders. Baltimore City Mayor William Donald Schaefer and three "County Executives, Ted Venetoulis (Baltimore County), Robert Pascal (Anne Arundel County) and Edward Cochran (Howard County), and John Joy (County Commissioner, Carroll County), will appear on the program.

George Rogers, Anchorman and News Director of Newswatch 2 and George Collins, Associate Editor of Newswatch 2 will moderate the television program.

Viewers of the Town Meeting program will be asked to clip and fill out the questionnaire published in this issue of the AFRO.

Keep this issue of the AFRO handy and after the program, fill it out and mail to Town Hall Project c-o AFRO, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201.

THE METROPOLITAN TOWN HALL PROJECT
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We are interested in your views about cooperation between Baltimore City and the surrounding counties. Please answer the following questions after the televised Town Meeting and return this questionnaire to your hosts.

I live in: 1-☐ Baltimore City -3 ☐ Anne Arundel County -6 ☐ Harford County
-5 ☐ Baltimore County -4 ☐ Carroll County -8 ☐ Howard County

My zip code is: _____ 2-4

1. Should the City and surrounding counties share tax revenues to provide for essential services? ..... ☐ Yes ..... ☐ No (7-1, -2)
2. Do economic realities make the City and surrounding counties dependent on each other whether they like it or not? ..... ☐ Yes ..... ☐ No (8-1, -2)
3. Do you think that the City and counties should be concerned about what happens to one another? ..... ☐ Yes ..... ☐ No (9-1, -2)
4. Should the City and surrounding counties: (10-1 ☐ develop *separate* programs for the future, or -2 ☐ should they plan *together* for future needs?
5. Do you think county residents in general are concerned about what happens to Baltimore City? ..... ☐ Yes ..... ☐ No (11-1, -2)
6. Are are City residents in general concerned about what happens to the surrounding counties? ..... ☐ Yes ..... ☐ No (12-1, -2)
7. Should the City and the surrounding counties merge into a single unit of government? ..... ☐ Yes ..... ☐ No (13-1, -2)
8. Here are some services provided in the metropolitan area. For each service please indicate how you think it should be supported: by the City or counties *separately*; by the City and counties *together*; by the State.

	City or Counties Separately	City and Counties Together	The State
Public Libraries	14-1 ☐	-2 ☐	-3 ☐
The Zoo	15-1 ☐	-2 ☐	-3 ☐
Public School Systems	16-1 ☐	-2 ☐	-3 ☐
Fire Departments	17-1 ☐	-2 ☐	-3 ☐
Recreation and Parks	18-1 ☐	-2 ☐	-3 ☐
Community Colleges	19-1 ☐	-2 ☐	-3 ☐
The Symphony	20-1 ☐	-2 ☐	-3 ☐
Public Health Services	21-1 ☐	-2 ☐	-3 ☐
Memorial Stadium	22-1 ☐	-2 ☐	-3 ☐
Courts and Correctional Facilities	23-1 ☐	-2 ☐	-3 ☐
Art Museums	24-1 ☐	-2 ☐	-3 ☐

Fill out questionnaire

Return to AFRO - 628 N. Eutaw

TOWN MEETING

THE CITY-COUNTY CRUNCH

"THE FACTS & FICTIONS ABOUT METROPOLITANISM"

One-hundred of your neighbors will be getting together to debate the facts and fiction surrounding city-county cooperation.

SUNDAY 7PM

WMAR-TV Baltimore 2

The Newswatch Station

... and all that jazz

By Bob Matthews

Top billing went to Roy Brooks and The Artistic Truth, who were featured at the Left Bank Jazz Society concert last Sunday.

But to me, the star of the proceedings was Eddie Jefferson, vocalist, who demonstrated once again that the voice is truly a musical instrument.

Jefferson, in case you are not totally familiar with his work, is the man who wrote the famous lyrics "Moody's Mood For Love," although he was not the first artist to record the tune.

That accomplishment went to King Pleasure, and that is another story.

Pleasure whose real name is Clarence Beeks used to hang around some of the all-night joints in Cincinnati where he heard Jefferson sing "The James Moody Sax Solo" on this tune.

He, Pleasure, entered an amateur contest, sang the song, won, and got a recording contract. This was in 1950, and "Moody's Mood For Love," became an instant hit.

It has become so much of a classic that one has a tendency to forget that James Moody alto sax solo, was merely an add lib solo of the song, "I'm In The Mood For Love."

In one sense, this could be called scat singing which is nothing new. Louis Armstrong was doing it in the late '20's; Cab Calloway in the '30's.

The '40's found such artists as Ella Fitzgerald, Babs Gonzalez, Jimmy Rainey, Joe Carroll, Jackie and Roy Kraal, and a host of others doing bop or scat singing.

The success of Ella Fitzgerald's "How High The Moon" and "Lady Be Good," in 1947 spawned a host of bop-scat singers. Included are Betty Roche, Betty Carter, Lambert-Hendricks-Ross and myriad others.

But, the fitting of lyrics to instrumental solos, was a Eddie Jefferson innovation. At the LBJS set, Eddie did his standard "Moody" solos and included the Miles Davis solo on "So What?" in his presentation.

[illegible] from his current album: "[illegible] in Bete" and "Bitches' Brew."

Before doing "Moody's Mood" Eddie announced: "This is a request." Guess you do get tired of doing the same song for 25 years.

Roy Brooks [illegible] displayed that jazz drumming should be called a percussion excursion.

Distaining the use of a separate percussionist, Roy played the gong, bells, and other assorted paraphernalia along with a standard traps and cymbals.

Others in the group were [illegible] Rivera, lead instruments; Harold Mabern, piano; Reggie Workman, bass; and Woody Shaw, trumpet.

The crowd was sparse but enthusiastic undoubtedly the appearance of the Pointer Sisters on the same night affected the turn-out.

Next week LBJS presents the Prysock Brothers, Arthur and Red followed on November 30th by the Heath Brothers, Jimmy, Percy and Albert with Stanley Cowell, piano.

Over in D.C. trumpeter Clark Perry is playing at Blues Alley.

Free Movies

Enoch Pratt
(Week of November 23 - November 29)
Monday,
November 24

Canton Center: Films — "A Little Girl and a Gunny Wolf" and "The Hound That Thought He Was a Raccoon," 4 p.m.

Tuesday,
November 25

Light Street Branch: Films — "Five on Treasure Island" (Parts 3 and 4), 3:30 p.m.

Central Library, Children's Department: Film — "Helen Keller" 4 p.m.

Wednesday
November 26

Waverly Branch: Films — "The Snowy Day," "The Shoemaker and the Elves" and "Rosie's Walk," 10:30 a.m.

Gardenville Branch: Arts and crafts for children 6-12 years old. 3:15 p.m.

Edmondson Avenue Branch: Films — "Sergeant Swell," "The Case of the Elevator Duck," and "That's All We Need," 3:30 p.m.

Walbrook Branch: Films "Up the Creek" and "That's All We Need," 3:30 p.m.

Canton Center: Story hour for children 6-12 years old. 4 p.m.

Pimlico Branch: Films — "The Red Balloon" and "The Ski Wheelers," 4 p.m.

Northwood Branch: Preschool story hour, 7 p.m.

Friday,
November 28

Waverly Branch: Folk dancing, 3:30 p.m.

Saturday,
November 29

Central Library, Children's Department — Preschool story hour, 11 a.m. Northwood Branch: Story hour, 1:30 p.m.

Blackbyrds latest jam

By Frederick I. Douglass

The Blackbyrds were all students of master Jazz trumpeter Donald Byrd when he taught at Howard University. Now they are all master musicians in their own right as demonstrated on their latest LP "City Life," an album which beautifully synthesizes the best elements of Jazz and Rock.

There is absolutely no wasted space on this LP which was produced by Donald Byrd and which features the saxophonics of B-More's own Gary Bartz. This is a hip album to play first thing in the morning because it's bouncy, cheerful and will help you start your day off in step with the rhythms of city life.

Hats off to the jamming brothers who comprise the Blackbyrds including Kevin Toney, keyboards; Stephen Johnson, sax, flute; Orville Saunders, guitar; Joe Hall, bass; and Keith Killgo, drums.

No matter where you place the needle on this LP, mellow sounds burst forth to stimulate your ears and the pleasure center of your brain. "Rock Creek Park," for example, features slick interplay between the instruments and background vocalists. The jam is very danceable and should make an impact on Top-40 markets.

In a similar vein is a jam entitled "Thankful 'Bout Yourself" which has a groovy, funky beat. The title cut "City Life" is really a cooker. Featuring strong vocals superimposed over frisky riffs sassily stated on the guitar and the synthesizer. "City Life" is a snappy jam that sticks in your mind and that you will be humming all day. "All I Ask" and "Love so Fine" are the ballads on the LP. Both tunes are sweet and mellow without being overly sentimental, but the Blackbyrds' specialty is uptempo cooking.

"Hash and Eggs" are cooked just right by the Blackbyrds, with just the right amount of seasoning. The jam was written by Larry and Fonce Mizzell, the people who were responsible for creating arrangements that brought Jazz artists like Donald Byrd, Bobby Humphrey and others out of relative obscurity into the limelight.

It can be argued that the "Mizzell" sound is too commercial, but it works and has helped to broaden the audience for Jazz musicians. While I dig the Jazz heavies like Trane, Miles, Dolphy, Monk, and Mingus, I can also relate to the danceable jazz that is being put out by groups like the Blackbyrds. I really dig the way the Blackbyrds serve up dishes like "Hash and Eggs."

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LATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT: Program Chairman for Black Expo '75; 1975 Career Women Essence Magazine; President of National Fisk Alumni Club.
AGE: 28.
QUOTE: "I think we must encourage our children to perfect their reading and writing skills as this is pertinent to any line of endeavor no matter what the vocation might be. These are the two skills that will carry them through life".
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