The Great Cookie, Theron Ashe and Dracula, Charles Hicks, with the face of George Hamilton superimposed, visited the AFRO this week.

...visit to AFRO

By Ida Peters

"The Great Cookie" and "Dracula" visited the AFRO Entertainment Office bright and early Monday morning giving out some very good cookies and promoting the movie, "Love At First Bite" opening this weekend at area theatres.

During the week, visits were made to Eastpoint Mall, Lexington Market, Mondawmin, Westview Mall and Timonium Mall. The movie premiered at Westview Cinema Thursday, 8 p.m.

At the premiere, WCBM Radio served milk and cookies in return for donations with proceeds going to Johns Hopkins Children's Center and Bon Secours Hospital.

Today (Friday), "Dracula" and the "Great Cookie" visited the Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital and the Johns Hopkins Children's Center giving out heart - shaped cookie pops and balloons.

"Love At First Bite" stars George Hamilton as the suave, sophisticated Count Dracula. Susan Saint James co - stars as the girl of his dreams and Arte Johnson is his psychotic manservant.

Add to this mishmash, Sherman Hemsley, as Rev. Mike and Isabel Sanford as the Judge. Both are from TV's "The Jeffersons" and add to the fun of the drama. I'm not quite sure how to take it . . . whether to be offended or shrug and and say "We've been shafted again by someone's cooked sense of humor."

Producers George Hamilton and Robert Kaufman started this AIP flick with the premise of "What would happen if" Dracula was victimized by life in modern New York City.

Veteran make - up artist William Tuttle, who created Bela Lugosi's Dracula look in 1934, retains the greyish - white chalk face while adding a nutty quality that actor Hamilton accents when he arches his eyebrows.

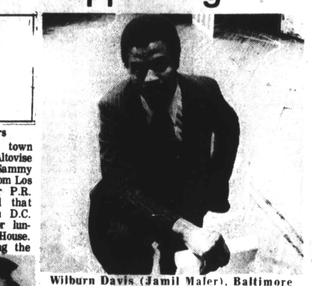
When Hamilton talks he imitates Lugosi faithfully but accents the wrong phrases.

What's Happening

By Ida Peters

Visitor in our town Saturday (28) is Altovise Davis, wife of Sammy Davis Jr. A call from Los Angeles from her P.R. person indicated that Mrs. Davis is in D.C. today (Friday) for luncheon at the White House. She's representing the Los Angeles Visitors and Convention Bureau and will visit local newspapers and radio stations.

Altovise Davis here Saturday.



Wilburn Davis (Jamil Maler), Baltimore native, is shown on the stage of Spelman's Proscenium Theatre prior to his rehearsal for the college's production of his play: "$100,000 Nigger Or You Can Take the Nigger Out of the Country But . . ." to be presented this week through April 28. Davis won out over 25 other playwrights in the Spelman College Drama Department's play contest.

Since most women in town will be at Morgan State University on Saturday to hear Michele Wallace, author of "Black Macho" at Louise Johnson's Black Women's Consciousness Raising meeting, the AFRO will interview her there.

Neil Simon's Broadway comedy hit "Chapter Two" opens at the Mechanic Theatre, Tuesday, for a three - week run.

A wrong number brings the two top central characters together. The play parallels the events in Mr. Simon's life at a time when he was trying to come to terms with the death of his first wife and facing the difficult adjustment of a second marriage to actress Marsha Mason.

As the final production of the 1978 - 79 season Center Stage will present the Regional Premiere of Canadian playwright Michel Tremblay's "Bonjour, La, Bonjour" directed by Center Stage Artistic Director, Stan Wojewodski, Jr. Previews start on April 27; opens May 1.

Set in Montreal, "Bonjour, La, Bonjour" is a sensitive portrayal of an eight member French - Canadian family and their struggle to achieve intimacy and love. Mr. Tremblay contrasts the socially accepted but empty relationships lived by most of the family members with the socially taboo but love - filled bond of a twenty - five year old son, Serge, to his thirty - year - old sister, Nicole, and his deaf and aging father, Gabriel.

"The Animal Fair," a Tiny Tots Program sponsored by the Baltimore Symphony Community Development Committee is scheduled for Saturday, April 28, at the Community College of Baltimore Little Theatre at 10:30 a.m., Liberty Heights Avenue and Druid Park Drive.

The program, for children 3-6 will feature music associated with animals. Eheda Becker will narrate with dancing by Janice Barringer.

The BSO committee is headed by Mrs. Margaret Armstrong and Chuck Richards. Members of the committee include James Lewis, Hilda Ford, Selonia Cortada, Richard Lee, Langston Fitzgerald, William Curry, Joseph Leavitt, Faye Glick, and Arnold Manchester.

"Ain't Mishavin's" Ken Page will open "A Little Travelin' Music," his new cabaret act at Les Mouches (280 11th Avenue — between 26th and 27th Streets NYC) on Thursday, May 3. Musical direction will be by Linda Twine. Lighting will be by PKS Productions. Sound will be designed by Stuart Schwartz. Costumes will be by Mr. Page. Showtime is at 11 p.m.

"A Little Travlin' Music" will also introduce the new vocal group, The Sophisticated Ladies, who will include Louise Bethune, Mary Johnson and Peggy Blue.

Norman Lear, on behalf of T.A.T. Communications Company, and author Alex Haley have entered into a joint undertaking to produce a two - hour television motion picture and six successive one - hour dramatic filmed episodes to be broadcast on the CBS Television Network in March, 1980.

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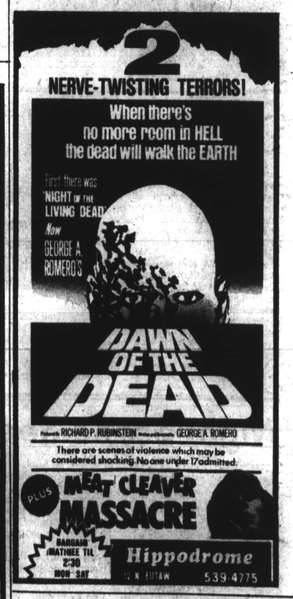
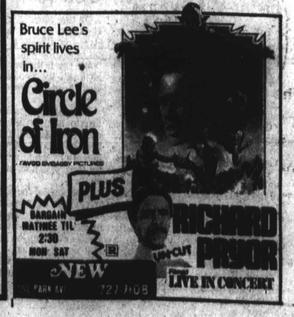
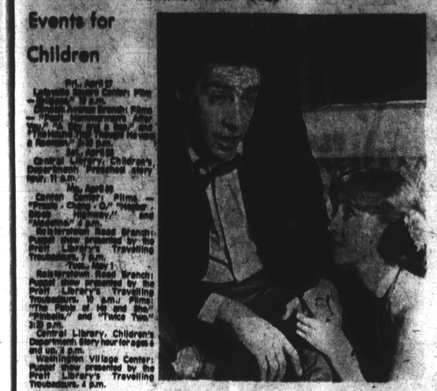




CALENDAR

List your events free. Write 629 N. Eutaw St. Baltimore, Md. 21201

Events for Children



Jerry Orbach and Marilyn Redfield together in a scene from Neil Simon's smash hit comedy "Chapter Two."

Films

"Guale," Central Pratt Library, Sunday, 3 p.m.

"Chess: Peter Ustinov's Leningrad," Central Pratt Library, Tuesday, 2 p.m.

"One Fond Kiss Are Kings," "Schwarzwalz," "Briefs," "The Wild Goose," and "Liberty," Pratt's Waverly Branch, Tuesday, 7 p.m.

"The Six Wives of Henry VIII: Anne of Cleves," Pratt's Canton Center, Wednesday, 4 p.m.

"A Farewell to Arms," Pratt's Fells Point Center, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

"The Sheep Has Five Legs," Central Pratt Library, Thursday, 7 p.m.

"The Lady from Philadelphia," Pratt's Pennsylvania Avenue Branch, Friday, 3 p.m.

"The Laurel and Hardy Murder Case," Pratt's Kirk Avenue Center, Friday 4 p.m.

Special Events

A book sale will be held at the Central Pratt Library from Saturday (May 5) through Wednesday (May 9). For more information, please call 396-5405.

A book sale will be held at the Pratt Library's Walbrook Branch from Monday (April 30) through Saturday (May 5). For more information, please call 947-2726.

"The Child's Right to Library Services," an open house for adults on how libraries can help children, will be held in celebration of the International Year of the Child in the Central Pratt Library's Children's Department, Mulberry Street near Cathedral, Sunday and Monday. For more information, please call 396-5402.

Lecture

"Health and Medical Care," last in a series of five lectures on planning for retirement, co-sponsored by the Pratt Library and the Baltimore Commission on Aging and Retirement Education, Pratt's Garrytown Branch, Thursday, 4 p.m.

"CPR (Cardio - pulmonary Resuscitation) a two - hour lecture - demonstration of life saving techniques, co - sponsored by the Pratt Library and the American Heart Association, Central Pratt Library, Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

George Walker

(Continued from Page 25)

The entire ensemble is a unit, sharing their various roles in the presentation of a strikingly effective and moving statement of faith.

This was our first chance to hear several of the soloists.

Claudia Lindsey, previously only a name to me, is identified as a splendid soprano who must be extraordinarily effective in both recital and opera! Her career already has all the features to be expected of a major artist, save recordings.

Might we hope for some local bookings, and some recordings of special repertoire which would show off qualities which Dr. Walker's Mass began to unveil?

Norma Hirsh, a Baltimore newcomer, is one of those mezzo-sopranos today who has the range of a mezzo, but the color of a soprano. She has recorded Mendelssohn's "Walpurgisnacht" with Paul Freeman, along with the concert's baritone, which I hope to review in this column when it is issued.

Tenor William Brown is well known in Baltimore, having been a resident here during his Peabody days and a frequent visitor since. I last heard him in the New York production of William Grant Still's "Highway 1 U.S.A." and his voice has matured to a remarkable extent during the year and a half which has passed.

On the faculty of North Florida University, Professor Brown is an artist whose voice has become bigger and even more lyric than before; ideal for Mozart, Donizetti, and Walker, as well as others.

If you've not heard him in Olly Wilson's devastating "Sometimes," run to the closest record shop and ask for CRI SD 370.

Abraham Lind-Oquendo, a brother from Puerto Rico, has a fine and splendidly healthy voice. To his credit are perforamnces with almost all the major ensembles of Europe, the Caribbean, and Puerto Rcio.

His performance in "Macias," a 19th century opera by Gutierrez y Espinosa, almost provoked a riot in San Juan. This is a majestic singer who can care for Gershwin and Verdi, but how I would love to hear him in a recital of music of his own choice!

Approval, more enthusiastic that Baltimore's crowd on April 18 gave, is due George Walker's latest masterwork for choral repertoire.

But we are telling about an audience not yet sensitized to our present century or expressions of deeply spiritual, romantic, and sensitive composer, even if the congregation were blacker than the Lyric is normally prepared to expect.

George Walker belongs to that select number of composers (like Talib Hakim, T. J. Anderson, Olly Wilson, and Hale Smith) whose every work merits our total attention, and premieres should be the occasions for street dancing.

If you missed either of this pair of concerts, check the radio listings of WBJC or WGMS (perhaps WEAA?) for a possible rebroadcast. Dr. Walker's Mass is a major composition.

Dr. de Lerma is a professor of music at Morgan State University. He also hosts "Melodies, Notes and Lyrics" on WEAA-FM on Sundays at 11 a.m.

Top Jazz Hits

1. Livin' Inside Your Love — George Benson
2. Carmel — Joe Sample
3. Trueheart — Bob James
4. Feels Don't Fail Me Now — Herbie Hancock
5. Follow the Rainbow — George Duke
6. Angel — Angela Bofill

TV Watching

By Vanessa Johnson

Friday

Dinah: Comedian Jan Murray, actors Joseph Bottoms, Richard Jordan and singer Cheryl Lynn are guests today. 4-4 p.m. - Channel 5.

Evening Magazine: A look at the thrill of white - water kayaking on a trip down the Youghiogheny River; a profile of the rock group Parliament Funkadelic. 7:30-8 p.m. - Channel 13.

Dif'rent Strokes: Nobody gets any sleep after Homer the ratty old doll that has been Arnold's bedmate nearly all his life, is mistakenly sold at a charity sale. 8-8:30 p.m. - Channel 11.

Scared Straight: Cameras follow 17 teenagers through the Juvenile Awareness Program in Rahway, N.J. State Prison, where convicts describe prison life in explicit details and graphic language. The teenagers are interviewed before and after the experience by host Peter Falk. 9-10 p.m. - Channel 2.

Merv Griffin: Singers Linda Clifford and Don McLean, model Maud Adams are the guests tonight. 9-10 p.m. - Channel 5.

Midnight Special: The Beach Boys, hosts, are joined by Bad Company, Tavares and McGuinn. 12:30 a.m. - Channel 11.

Saturday

Fat Albert: The gang learns that prejudice can spring from ignorance. 12:30 - 1 p.m. - Channel 2.

American Bandstand: Guests today are the Faragher Brothers and Wur. 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. - Channel 7.

Baseball: The Orioles take on the A's at the Oakland Coliseum. 4:30 - 7 p.m. - Channel 2.

Bad News Bears: Buttermaker looks awful, not only does his new receptionist look ready for the glue factory but the nag sits on and kills Tanner's pet bird. Starring Christoff, St. John as Ahmad. 8-8:30 p.m. - Channel 2.

CBS Movie: "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," bittersweet childhood memories by Maya Angelou. It begins in Depression - era Arkansas where the preteen Maya, a sensitive, free spirited and scholarly girl, grows up with her older brother under the care of r loving maternal grandmother. Starring Esther Rolle, Ruby Dee, Diahann Carroll, and Constance Good as Maya. 9-11 p.m. - Channel 2.

Sunday

Tony Brown's Journal: Composer - pianist Eubie Blake is featured in a tribute to his career, which spans more than 50 years. 12:00 - 12:30 p.m. - Channel 4.

The Moon Man Connection: Today's guests are the Emotions, singing their latest songs including "Walkin' Along." 1-2 p.m. - Channel 45.

Baseball: The Orioles take on the A's at the Oakland Coliseum. 4:30 - 7 p.m. - Channel 2.

ABC Movie: Northern California's rugged coastal scenery provides a colorful background for "The Master Gunfighter," a violent tale of pioneer vengeance. Starring Lincoln Kilpatrick. 9-11 p.m. - Channel 13.

Mainstream at Catonsville

Mainstream! Week at Catonsville Community College — a week devoted to learning about the special joys of people with physical, mental and emotional disabilities. All events are free and open to the public, and held on the CCC campus, 800 South Rolling Road. Call 455-4414 for more information. Awareness Is The Answer!

SATURDAY, April 28 — Hand in Hand Festival — a full day of fun and carnival style entertainment for retarded citizens and their guests. Clowns, balloons, live entertainment, arts and crafts, petting zoo and much, much more! — 10 a.m.

MONDAY, April 30 — Baltimore Association for Retarded Citizens will sponsor a booth in the Student Services Building. Meet their representatives and learn about their services! — 10 a.m.

TUESDAY, May 1 — Films highlighting the disabilities and abilities of people with "handicaps" will be shown all day in the Learning Resources Center lounge. — 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Learn to sign your name, greetings, anything you want from deaf students who attend CCC. In front of the Student Union. — 12 noon.

Dr. Michael Knappy of Johns Hopkins University will speak on "New Trends in Diabetic Research" in the Barn Theatre. Sponsored by the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. — 8 p.m.

Bill Lane In Hollywood

UNIVERSAL: Studios bosses high hopes that the television network can find slot - time appeal in several new flicks the studio has in the pipeline. Stars on "Night Rider," featuring Michael Roberts and Mike Windsor as two game ambulance drivers who operate beside accidents and try to get to the scene first.

Another is "Jump Street," which features Clarice Taylor (she played the unfortunate maid in "Play Misty For Me") as a surrogate mother to four little white boys of the Bronx. Another is "Creek Island," co - starring Meadowlark Lemon and filmed by the ace cameraman Joe Wicotta. Another black cameraman, Chuck Mills, filmed the new construction - action pilot, film is "Semi - Tough," co - starring Michigan State's Bubba Smith, which could soon be on ABC-TV.

WHEN Uni abruptly canned Gary Jensen the other day, black stuntsman Henry Kingi was upped to stunt coordinator on "BJ And The Bear."

Fifteen hundred dollars a week can help out any income condition. That's for sure.

The Elektra - Asylum Records company is now going all out for jazz. It has named its new jazz division Fusion Music, and promises to be doing big things jazzwise in the near future.

Head of Fusion Music is Don Misell, who as general manager of the division says he wants his company to "represent more accurately the broader range and diversity of "jazz music.

Dr. Misell also said he wants to sign new and "very versatile" musicians and singers capable of recording in the new music styles now applied to musicians and singers like Herbie Hancock, Ramsey Lewis, George Duke, Esther Satterfield, Chaka Khan, et al.

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