# Best Bets

## Port Festival

The launching of Maryland's 350th Anniversary Flotilla will highlight a week of maritime festivities at Port Festival Baltimore in the Inner Harbor starting Tuesday, September 11 thru Sunday, September 16. For more information call 837-4636.

## Catonsville Community College

The Special Events Committee of Catonsville Community College will present "Star Wars" and "The Empire Strikes Back" on Thursday, September 6 and Friday, September 7 in CCC's Q Theatre at 800 South Rolling Rd. Tickets are free to CCC Students and 50¢ for guests. For more information call 455-4322.

## Snakes Of Maryland

The Baltimore Zoo will sponsor an educational program, Snakes of Maryland, Saturday, September 8 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The cost is $4 for members and $5 for non-members. For more information call 396-7102.

## Peabody Ragtime Ensemble

The Peabody Ragtime Ensemble will present a free concert of Vintage Jazz at the Wolf Trap Farm Park's Theatre in the Woods on Sunday, September 9 from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Wolf Trap Farm Park is located in Vienna, Virginia and for further information call 703-255-1800.

## Maryland Seafood Festival

The Maryland Seafood Festival will be held on Friday, September 7 and Saturday, September 8 from noon to 8:30 p.m. and Sunday, September 9 from noon to 8 p.m. at Sandy Point State Park. Admission, which includes parking and all entertainment is $2.50 for adults and free for children under 14 if accompanied by an adult. For further information call 268-7676.

## Zoo Members' Picnic

The 12th Annual Zoo Members Picnic will happen on Saturday, September 8 at the Baltimore Zoo from 4:30 to 8:00 P.M. All sorts of food, fun, and prizes will be on hand. For tickets call 396-7102.

## Great Neighborhood Race

The 2nd Annual 7-Eleven/CPHA Great Neighborhood race will take place on Sunday, September 9 at 8:30 a.m. in Druid Hill Park. Entry fee is $7. For information call 539-1369.

## Brisk Walking Campaign

The 2nd annual "Brisk Walking Is No Sweat" campaign kicks off a three month fitness program on Monday, September 10 at the Equitable Bank Center Plaza and the Gordon Plaza at the University of Baltimore. The 30-minute walks will start at 12:05 P.M. and 1:05 P.M. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, rain or shine. "Brisk Walking Is No Sweat" is sponsored by the YWCA of the Greater Baltimore Area, the Baltimore City Health Department, the Charles Street Management Corp., and WBAL-TV. For more information call 685-1460.

## A Celebration Of Black Creativity

Lucille Clifton and Ntozake Shange, along with numerous dancers, poets, and musicians will perform at the Eubie Blake Cultural Center on September 14 thru 16. This event is being sponsored by New Breezes, Inc. For ticket information call 669-5346.

## Film

**BALTIMORE FILM FORUM** — Pratt Cinematheque, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. in Wheeler Auditorium, Pratt Central Library, 400 Cathedral St. Free.

**BALTIMORE SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY** — Wednesday night Movie Conspiracy. Wednesdays 8 p.m. at BSFS headquarters, 2233 St. Paul Street. Free. For details call 889-3290.

## Art

**BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART,** Art Museum Drive, 396-6310. "Art to Wear: New Handmade Clothing", works by 25 contemporary American fiber artists. Exhibition of 90 Old Master Drawings celebrating draftsmanship from 1500 to 1800, organized by the Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design. Thru September 23.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY,** 201 W. Monument St., 685-3750. Farewell to Militarie Profession: The First Maryland Regiment in Paris, thru August 31. "Maryland: Its Beginnings," an exhibit honoring the state's 350th Anniversary thru September 8.

**PEALE MUSEUM,** 225 N. Holliday St. 396-3523, "Aviation: Baltimore, Aloft". An exhibit focusing on Baltimore's connections to man's desire to fly. Thru September 16.

**NATIONAL GALLERY EAST,** Fourth St. and Constitution Ave. "The Totalists: Delacroix to Matisse", to October 28.

**GALLERIE D'ART,** 1531 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. 202-338-1702. Lithographs and etchings by 20th century artists.

# WHAT'S AHEAD

## The Acting Company

University Theatre at The University of Maryland will present John Houseman's celebrated Acting Company in "A New Way to Pay Old Debts" by Philip Massinger from September 20 to 23. Tickets are $7 for the general public and $6 for children, students and senior citizens. Audio description for blind and low-vision patrons is provide for the September 20 performance. For more information call 454-2201.

## Act Two Dinner Theatre

The "New" Act Two Dinner Theatre will present "Gypsy" as its opening production on October 5. Act Two Dinner Theatre is located at 8014 Route 40 East, in Rosedale. For more information call 686-1126.

## Arena Players, Inc.

"Little Miss Dreamer", a night in the life of Bessie Smith by Ed Shockley, opens at the Arena Players, Inc., 801 McCulloh St. on Friday, September 8 at 8:30 p.m. For information on this and other productions call 728-6500.

## Award Winning Artists At CCC

The award crafts artists from the Maryland Crafts Council will exhibit their work in the Gallery of Catonsville Community College starting Friday, September 14 until Friday, October 5. For more information call 455-4279.

## Community Fair

The Govanstowne Business Association will sponsor a community fair on Saturday, September 29 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Senator Parking Lot, 5835 York Rd. For more information call 889-0150.

# Graphic Arts Museum: a part of Maryland's History

By Deane Doreen Brewer

Our state is rich in cultural and colonial history; just as rich is our city, Baltimore. Located near the old Peale Museum is a quietly, tucked away part of history-printing history. The Graphic Arts Museum, 146 N. Gay St. is closely tied to Maryland's history. It's an extremely informative and interesting place to visit especially for those who are collectors of printing memorabilia and includes a unique Flea Market for browsing for others.

Graphic Arts Museum

You can see an 1837 Albion Hand Press, restored to perfect condition and you can ink the form and pull the lever yourself watching it print whatever you like. There are foot - operated presses, century old proof presses, Kelsey presses for hobby printers, Multigraph and screen printing presses. There are many samples of work done by each type of press dating back to the early 1800's such as woodcuts, lithographic stones, steel, copper and lead engraving plates. There are woodcuts picturing printing greats such as Johann Gutenberg, Senefelder, Franklin and Baltimore's very own Ottman Mergenthaler, inventor of the linotype and the namesake of Mergenthaler High School. His linotype machine changed the world. In fact, 1984 is the 100th anniversary of it's invention.

The Chandler & Pride hand-fed foot-operated press was a very popular press for over 100 years. Many of the leaflets in the museum were produced on this press by many volunteers. The Potter Press was one of the early roller proof presses. Many similar models are still in use throughout the printing industry. It's type is very simple and efficient.

There are hundreds of books on printing most of which are available for browsing. There's also a large collection of Life Magazine encompassing a span of 40 years for a nostalgic journey into yesterday.

If you're a real history buff, you'll enjoy browsing through this museum which is filled with old copies of newspaper articles depicting interesting stories of life gone by.

The founder of this wonderful museum is Bruno Woernie, director of Brunographics, a leading typography plant here. He started collecting printing memorabilia when he was 14 years of age, and has been doing so ever since. He purchased over a dozen printing departments which has given him and the city of Baltimore this outstanding collection.

Printing is a unique and very rewarding craft which desires a place of it's own. It is in many ways a dying craft rich in heritage and style but which is being taken over by the computer like so many other areas of our society. Treat yourself and your family to a bit of history you might otherwise never know about. Visit the Graphic Arts Museum: It's open every day from noon to 5 p.m., with an admission of $1.50. For further information call 837-3440.

**Friday Plus**

The weekly entertainment leisure guide for the greater Baltimore and Washington areas. Published by the AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS group.

John H. Murphy, III, President
Kenneth O. Wilson, Vice President Advertising
Robert Matthews, Managing Editor
Bonnie Matthews Butler, Editor
Miss Denise Dorsey - Production Coordinator - Baltimore

Ms. Harriett Otter, Advertising Manager

The Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS 628 N. Eutaw Street Baltimore, Maryland 21203 (301) 728-8200

Roy T. Watson, Advertising Manager the Washington AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS 2002 11th Street, NW Washington, DC 20001 (202) 332-9868



# IN PERFORMANCE:

## Maria Broom presents "September Magic"

By Frederick I. Douglass

Maria Broom, the dancer whose awe inspiring terpsichorean feats have breathed new life into the overworked phrase "poetry in motion," will be performing Saturday night at 8:00 PM at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall in a concert entitled "September Magic."

Sharing the stage with Maria during the spectacular evening of entertainment will be Brenda Alford, the powerful vocalist who is currently appearing in the Belvedere Hotel's 13th Floor; the Dance Bringers of Baltimore and the Young Dance Bringers; and Melvin Cooper, principal member of the Baltimore Dance Theater. Beverly Burke of WJZ-TV's "People Are Talking" will be the hostess for what promises to be a major showcase for some of Baltimore's most talented residents — artists with skills of international caliber.

Maria Broom has been involved with dance most of her life, studying her craft through elementary, junior and senior high schools. Following her graduation with honors from Morgan State University in 1970, Maria went to Germany to further study dance for a year through a Fulbright scholarship she had won. "I think I might be the only person who ever won a Fulbright for dance," says Maria. "I've met Fulbrights who won their awards in the arts or literature, but never dance. I credit Professor Sandye McIntyre at Morgan State University for spending countless hours helping me go through the process required to obtain a Fulbright. It was a lot of work. I had to develop a one minute film of my dancing, which was produced and directed by Robert Torrence, and submit it to the Fulbright committee. But it was worth it all because living abroad for a year opened me up and made me mature pretty fast. What most people don't understand about being a Fulbright Scholar and living abroad and having to speak the native language of a foreign country every day is that you don't just study, you have to survive."

Describing what people who attend Saturday night's performance can expect to see, Maria says "we will begin the evening with a Salimu processional, a highly ritualistic movement which evokes images of ancient Lemuria, Atlantis or Egypt. This dance offers the traditional healing fire and involves the Dance Bringers in a series of very intricate movements that take on an East Indian motif.

Shifting to more forceful, dynamic steps, the group will then present the Jamaican Nyabinghi before we unfold the story of evolution through a beautiful display of African American rhythmic motions. And then we will turn the stage over to Brenda Alfrod for a segment entitled 'Our Lady of Song,' part two of our concert."

Maria Broom

Brenda Alford, a popular vocalist who is currently working at the 13th Floor in the Belvedere Wednesdays through Saturdays and is expected to begin crooning Sunday evenings at Carol's Creek Café in Annapolis, says she is planning to present an interesting and mixed bag of songs on Saturday night.

"Lately, I've been preparing original compositions for my next album and I plan to sing some of these songs at the concert. I'll also be doing some standards as well as one or two currently popular tunes because I want to reach all of the audience and I expect that a concert like this will attract a lot of young people. But I will be putting special emphasis on my original compositions because I really want to share a little of myself with the audience."

Discussing how she goes about composing her songs, Brenda says "I don't write songs, the words just come to me and I let them flow. In a sense, that's how many things happen in my life . . . things just flow and I go along with the current. In fact, I really didn't start out to be a singer. I was working for the school system and got fed up with the bureaucracy. Singing was something I've always done, but not really seriously. But when I became frustrated about teaching, singing became more and more of a release for me. I first sang professionally in November, 1977 and that's when I found out what I was all about."

Since she began her singing career, Ms. Alford has had several recording opportunities, including her role as solo vocalist on Horace Silver's album "Silver n' Strings Play Music of the Spheres" and her own LP, "Brenda Alford Live At Morgan State," which she recorded at her Alma Mater.

Following Brenda's performance, the dancers will resume control of the stage as they interpret the story of "Sweet Woman Dancing," the saga of Rafi'a Samira, a beautiful young lady consumed with a burning passion to dance for the world. Choreographed by Maria and narrated by Brenda, the dance features the terpsichorean skills of Melvin Copper, a noted dance instructor and the head of the Baltimore Dance Theatre.

"September Magic" is a benefit for Sojourner-Douglass College, the Park Heights Street Academy, New Era Education, Inc. and WEAA-FM, the radio station of Morgan State University. Considering the massive assembly of talent involved in the production, the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall is the place to be on Saturday night.

Melvin Cooper

Maria Broom and Dance Bringers

Brenda Alford