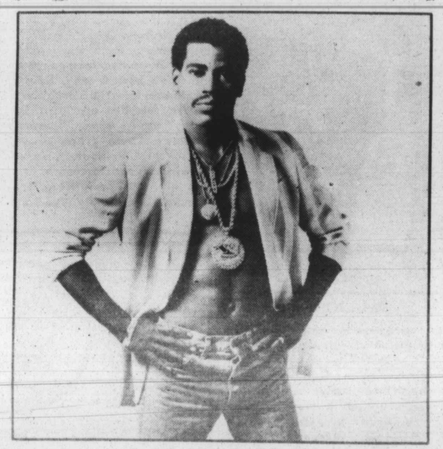
Carl Matthews

SOUNDS



Kurtis Blow

KURTIS BLOW — "Kingdom Blow" (Mercury)

Here's Kurtis Blow's follow-up to last year's "America," which included the top-20 hit "If I Ruled The World." His latest is "Kingdom Blow."

The King Of Rap's "ascent to the throne," as some people in the business put it, began around 1979 with "Christmas Rappin'," followed by "The Breaks" and the man is still hot today.

You may also remember Kurtis Blow's part in Rene And Angela's recent single "Save Your Love For Number One." And if you're a real rap fan, you may even recall hearing Kurtis' voice on such records as D.St.'s "Megamix II (So Why Is It Fresh?)" and The Beastie Boys' "Hold It, Now Hit It," among others.

There's a lot going on in the grooves of his latest album, which begins with a few lines of rap done by Bob Dylan! What is Bob Dylan doing on a Kurtis Blow album? Something unexpected appears on every Blow album, and his latest is no exception.

Trouble Funk and Kurtis Blow make a great team on "I'm Chillin'," one of Blow's most listenable raps ever. George Clinton is the perfect guest vocalist for a humorous rap such as "Magilla Gorilla" (an original song, not a remake of the original cartoon theme).

The album has a few dull spots, but the LP is, as I often say, a must for dedicated fans.

ARETHA FRANKLIN — "Jumpin' Jack Flash" (Arista)

This 12-inch single features five different mixes of Aretha's latest single, a tune from the motion picture of the same name starring Whoopi Goldberg.

This is Aretha's remake, done in that familiar "Freeway Of Love" style, of The Rolling Stones' top-five smash from 1968. Aretha's hit was produced by Keith Richards of the Stones.

Side one of the 12-inch contains the same version that's on Aretha's album. The "Street Mix" predictably has souped-up electronic effects and percussion, all of which has little to do with the vocal talents that have made Aretha one of the all-time music greats of the rock and roll era.

Aretha Franklin

If you like power-pop club mixes, get this single.

For those who prefer classic Aretha, Atlantic Records' most recent best-of compilation is still available.

VARIOUS ARTISTS — "Television's Greatest Hits, Volume 2" (Tee Vee Toons)

They've done it again! Sixty-five **more** television themes from the 50's, 60's and 70's! Can you stand it?

A man by the name of Steven Gottlieb decided last year that he

Continued on page 6

V-103's Top Twenty

1. Word Up	Cameo
2. When I Think Of You	Janet Jackson
3. Count Your Blessings	Ashford And Simpson
4. Earth Angel	New Edition
5. I'm For Real	Howard Hewett
6. The Rain	Oran "Juice" Jones
7. Midas Touch	Midnight Star
8. Lady Soul	Temptations
9. Can't Wait Another Minute	Five Star
10. Typical Male	Tina Turner
11. I Wanna Be With You	Maze
12. Shake You Down	Gregory Abbott
13. Walk This Way	Run-D.M.C.
14. Stay A Little While, Child	Loose Ends
15. Ain't Nothin' Goin' On But The Rent	Gwen Guthrie
16. Reaction	Robbie Jackson
17. Jealousy	Club Nouveau
18. Old Friend	Phyllis Hyman
19. Always	James Ingram
20. Nail It To The Wall	Stacy Lattisaw

Super sisters host video show

Phylicia Rashad, star of NBC-TV's "The Cosby Show," and her sister actress/dancer/singer **Debbie Allen** will be the guest hosts of the October 17 edition of "Friday Night Videos" to be telecast on NBC.

"Heartbeat," by "Miami Vice" star Don Johnson, "Girl Can't Help It," by Journey, "Emotion in Motion" by Ric Ocasek, "Human" by Human League and "Word Up" by **Cameo** will be among the featured videos.

Rashad, who plays Clair Huxtable on the hit Cosby series, recently recorded her second solo album. Prior to joining "The Cosby Show," Rashad appeared in the Broadway musicals "Dreamgirls" and "The Wiz."

Allen has been critically lauded for her performance as Charity Hope Valentine in the Broadway revival of "Sweet Charity." In addition, she continues her role as producer/choreographer/actress on the syndicated "Fame" series.

"Word Up," the title song from Cameo new album, is No. 1 on Billboard's black singles chart. The album was produced by the group's leader, **Larry Blackmon.**

Phylicia Rashad and Debbie Allen

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Bob Matthews

...AND ALL THAT JAZZ

Just in case you missed it, the Jazz Closet now has free admission for ladies on Sunday nights. So, guess there's really no excuse for not turning out to hear good jazz—the cost is reasonable.

The **Gary Bartz** Quartet is in residence as usual, but there is no special guest this week. Next week, vocalist **Leon Thomas** is scheduled to appear at the club.

No final word on the week following that, for Gary is scheduled to play a series of concerts in Spain, but the rhythm section will still be in place at the Jazz Closet, so we've been told.

* * *

Over at Ethel's Place through Sunday night, the **Great Guitars** are on tap for three shows nightly, and it's a chance to hear three of the top acoustic guitarists of this century.

Charlie Byrd is well known as the purveyor — in company with tenor saxist **Stan Getz**—of the bossa nova sound, which they brought back from a tour in Brazil.

Herb Ellis and **Barney Kessell** are familiar names to anyone who has listened to some of the "Jazz at the Philharmonic" albums. Of course, they have all done many things on their own, and have played with all the top names in the industry.

But they got together back in the 70s for a tour of Australia, and that's where the name "Great Guitars was given them.

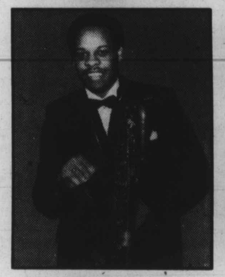
There's is a sharp contrast to the genre of the modern-day guitarist who is into the high-tech electronic augmentation of music as exemplified by such artists as Pat Metheny, Kevin Eubanks, Al Dimeola, etc.

* * *

By now, you know that the Left Bank Jazz Society will be holding its second concert of the fall season, Sunday, October 26 at the Omni International Hotel.

Quick reminder, the time of the concert is 5-9 p.m., the traditional time for LBJS concerts.

Have to confess that the featured attraction for this date is one with whom we are not familiar, so was interested in how **Joe Sudler** and the band happened to be booked.



Joe Sudler

Buck Hill

Mickey Fields

Andy Ennis

Seems that LBJS went to Philadelphia to check out the band about which they had heard, and were really impressed with the quality of the play.

They reported back to the body how this big band can cook, playing original charts, plus some of the Basie-band types of things, and so the booking was finalized.

Well, there was a bit of trepidation, wherein some felt that the name was not strong enough to draw enough attendees to the concert, so a familiar name was added.

Buck Hill is widely known in this area, as is **Mickey Fields.** So, how about linking up the two. And this was confirmed and will happen on the October 26 date.

Haven't gotten the complete lineup of the rhythm section with Buck and Mickey, but do now that **Charlie Covington** will be on paino, and **Warren Shadd** on drums.

Caught Buck and Mickey on Channel 22/67 Tuesday night on the MPT "Weeknight Alive" show. The group for that set, included Larry Kingling, bass; Johnny Polite, drums, and Freddie Thaxton, piano.

It all seemed a bit disjointed, and discovered that they had difficulty getting to the studio, and arrived without much rehearsal, to go on the air live.

* * *

Dropped into the Sportsman's Lounge Monday night, where a lot of local musicians have been jamming, and chatted with **Mickey Fields.** Well, actually, had to ask him whatever happened to **Andy Ennis** who was his partner on the Monday night sets.

If you know Mickey, you know how reticent he is to talk about thing of this nature, but he adamantly told me, "Whatever it is, I wish it would get resolved, for I really miss working with Andy — we had a real thing going."

Seems that a dispute arose a few weeks back over the level of the sound on the speakers, and ended with Andy getting fired from the gig. I can understand how such things happen, but know they can be worked out.

Come on Nita, you and Andy get together, I'm sure a happy medium can be reached, and the customers would be happy with that dynamic sax team working together again.

* * *

Over in D.C. this weekend, **Dizzy Gillespie** is at Blues Alley, and **Clifford Johnson** at One Step Down. Don't have complete word on the rhythm section, but **Reuben Brown** will be playing piano.

Was looking at the bookings for Blues Alley, and note that the slot which was previously alloted to **Freddie Hubbard** has been chanced.

Leon Manker of the LBJS said Freddie's office told him that Freddie would not be coming to this area in November and all bookings were cancelled (to paraphrase things).

Thus he will not appear for the Left Bank Jazz Society as had been hoped for earlier. The schedule for Ethel's Place still has Freddie listed for the first week in December, but we'll check with Earl Arnett, and let you know.

Might also mention that the tentative booking for the Central Pennsylvania Friends of Jazz, which also had hoped to bring in Freddie, has fallen by the wayside.

James Moody

Incidently, went up to Harrisburg last week to catch **James Moody** at the CPFOJ October concert, and it was a real treat. There was a busload of Baltimoreans who went up, plus many other localites in the audience.

On stage, Moody and his group caught a groove on a regular basis, and that the hotel ballroom was really rocking in rhythm. It's always a pleasure to hear some straight ahead bebop, and when things start out with "Good Bait," and end with "Mr. P.C." — you know they are cooking.

Might note that Mody started exactly on time, and although the concert went from 5-9 p.m., there were two 1½-hour sets with an hour intermission.

This is the normal opus operandi these days, so those of

Continued on page 7

Great Guitars, Charlie Byrd, Herb Ellis and Barney Kessel.

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