

Concert '91 – An event of passion, jazz, and drama

Five unique choreographers present their work at the Judy Bailey Theatre this weekend

Passion, jazz and drama are presented on the Las Vegas dance stage with new works by five unique choreographers. A collage of varying themes forms the focus of *Concert '91* at the Judy Bailey Theatre 8 p.m., Saturday, March 9 and 2 p.m., Sunday, March 10.

The five faculty choreographers include Victoria Dale, Carole Rae, Bill Wagner, Achmed Valk and Cathy Allen.

Dale, a professional dancer from the musical *The Wiz*, has created an inspiring 30-minute modern jazz suite titled *It's Time*, a look at man's responsibilities to man, danced to the music of M.C. Hammer, Nona Hendricks and other popular musical artists. Well known actor and poet Rodney J. Lee is featured as narrator.

Rae lights up the stage with her poignant Indian tribute "Lost Maiden," with art sculpture by Denise Shapiro, gallery manager of the Clark County Library. The score, composed by Beth Mehocic, incorporates authentic Indian tribal chants within a contemporary blues setting.

Inspired by Rae's first-hand observation of native American customs on reservations this past year, the work features Natalie Fredericks, a dance major and native American.

Wagner has chosen Vivaldi's winter concerto from *The Four*

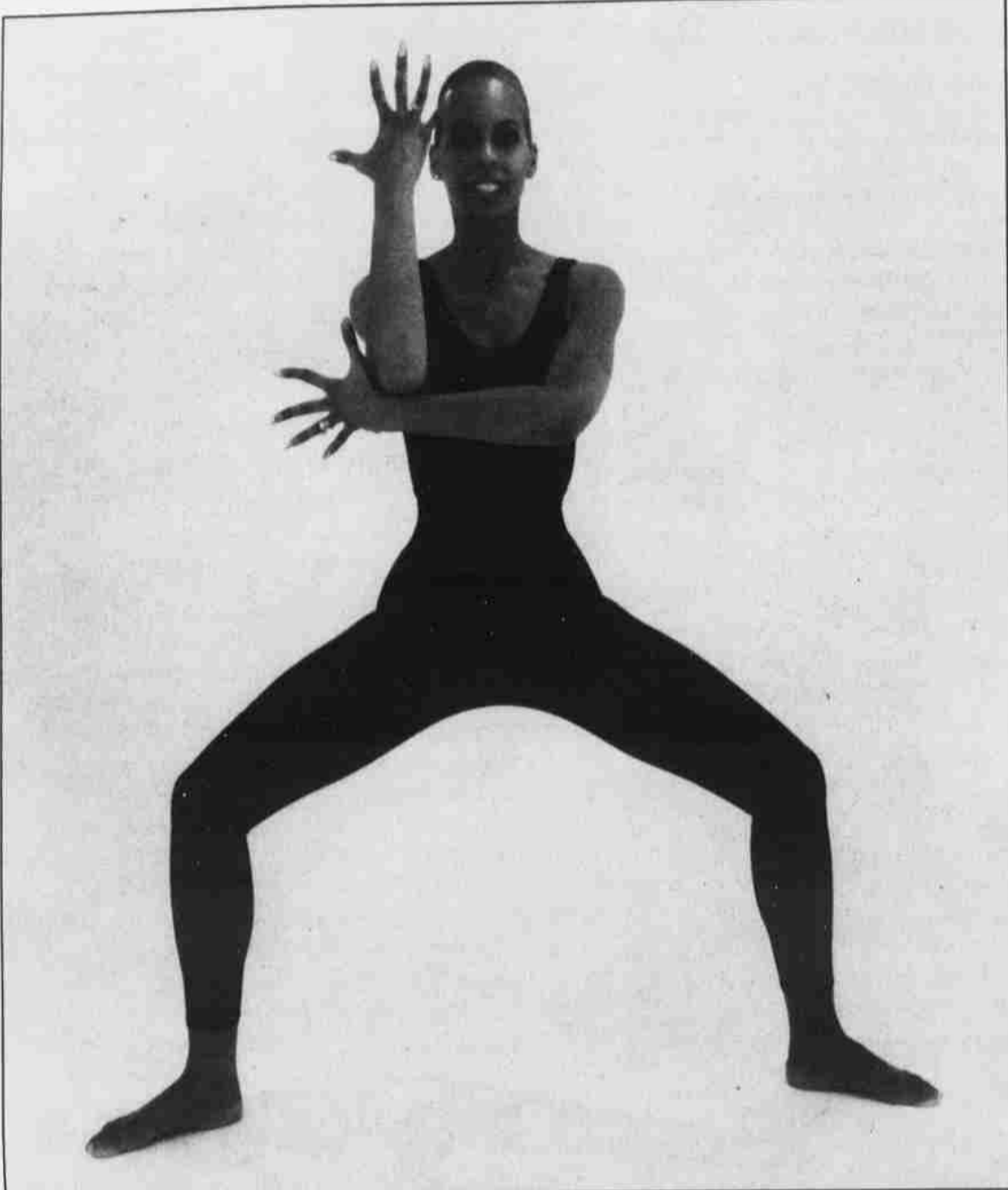
Seasons. The dance is an abstract depiction of the often desperate choice between life and death, the precarious cusp man travels between the two and the overwhelming power of love.

The program includes works by two new dance arts faculty, Valk and Allen. Valk's contemporary dance style is showcased in a mystical work entitled *Momotaro*. The story, based on a Japanese folktale, tells of a mythical boy creature who is born out of a peach to an elderly childless couple.

A native of Holland, Valk was trained in Europe and is a recent graduate of the University of California, Irvine, where he worked with renowned choreographer, Donald McKayle.

Allen, a graduate of Brigham Young University, rounds out the program with two contrasting modern dances. The first, titled *Three of Me*, examines the struggle a woman feels when trying to blend her professional, maternal and feminine sides. The second, *Combat Zone*, is a stirring comment on war, featuring music by the exciting group, Yellow

Tickets for *Concert '91* are \$7; discounts for students, faculty and staff, handicapped, senior citizens and military personnel. For ticket information call the Performing Arts Box Office at 739-3801.



One of the dancers of Concert '91

Invitational Choral Festival

The third annual Invitational Choral Festival, hosted by UNLV's music department, will be held 2 p.m., Saturday, March 9, in the Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall. Ten outstanding high school and collegiate choirs from throughout the Southwest will attend the festival, which is sponsored by the UNLV Choral Ensemble. The festival is free and open to the public.

College ensembles participating in the festival include the California Poly-

technic University Men's Chorus, Pomona; Weber State University Chamber Choir, Ogden; and the UNLV University Chorus and Chamber Chorale.

Dr. Harold Decker has devoted his entire career to fostering the highest standard in the teaching of choir music. His most recent book, *Choral Conducting: Focus on Communication*, co-authored with Professor Colleen Kirk, has been highly acclaimed.

For more information, call 739-3008.

'Are you now or have you ever been?' opens at UNLV

An era of history explored in play at UNLV

It is difficult to realize today, but many of the greatest names in the field of literature and film were tarnished by the accusation of "red." The play *Are you now or have you ever been?* opening 8 p.m. March 7, in the Black Box Theatre at UNLV, explores this era of history. The characters in this play about the House on Un-American Activities Committee hearings reads like a who's who in American film and theater: Arthur Miller, Elia Kazan, Jerome Robbins, Lillian Hellman, Abe Burrows, Paul Robeson, Larry Parks and Lionel Stander.

The Eric Bentley drama focuses on testimony elicited from suspected Communists and "fellow travelers" in the late '40s and early '50s by the House on Un-American

Activities Committee. Every word is textually faithful to the record—either actually spoken or written by the participants.

In conjunction with the play, the Department of Theatre Arts is having a panel discussion 7 p.m., March 11. The question of the government's need to protect itself against the fundamental rights of citizens to express themselves in causes and in art is addressed.

Many celebrities saw youthful indiscretions committed during the '30s and early '40s, when they were young and idealistic. These same indiscretions destroyed their careers and personal lives in the '40s and '50s. Some committed suicide before or after answering to the committee.

"We need be reminded that

such things can happen ... students today only heard of these events and had no idea of the McCarthy era. It's a real educational experience," said Jeff Koep, chair of the UNLV department of theater arts and director of the play. "This show has not been widely produced. It is an extremely demanding production from the standpoint of performers. There is no time for warm-up—it means a lot of homework."

Performances are 8 p.m. March 7-9 and 13-16, with matinees at 2 p.m. March 10 and 17, in the Black Box Theatre. General admission tickets are \$7, with discounts for students, faculty and staff, senior citizens, handicapped and military. For ticket information, call 739-3801.

Traditional jazz – a staple of American music

by Roy Theiss

Traditional jazz—the American staple that has been around since the '30s and has seen many spin-offs—is still going strong at the French Quarter in the Four Queens. Alan Grant has been producing the show since its inception and they celebrated their 10th anniversary last Monday night.

Grant knows what it takes to bring in big-name traditional jazz artists to Las Vegas. He has been doing radio shows for 45 years, mostly in New York City. He has played with some greats including Dexter Gordon and helped produced Wes Montgomery's album *Willow Weep For Me*.

The 71-year-old jazz aficion-

nado started playing the saxophone when he was 16 in clubs in Harlem. With the loss of dexterity in his fingers because of an injury during World War II, Grant chose to get into radio.

"Instead of playing Bar Mitzvahs, I decided to get into radio," he said.

The Monday Night Jazz show is taped and aired locally Mondays at 11 p.m. on KECP and Sundays on KNPR at 9 p.m. The show can be heard on 140 public radio stations throughout the country and seven countries. It has won two international awards: the New York Music Festival Award and the Paters Award.

The decor of the French Quarter is reminiscent of New Orleans. Decorated with gas

lamps, shutter windows and ivy hanging from the pergola, the club takes on a friendly "party-in-the-streets" atmosphere. With a little imagination, the din of the slots players (which can only be heard when the band isn't swinging) can easily become peasants in the streets.

The traditional jazz, which can be heard three times on Monday nights at 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 p.m., is always hopping. You can hold a conversation while being impressed with fancy finger work on the guitar or smooth work on the horn. With the likes of Ernie Edwards, Freddie Hubbard, Kenny Burrell, UNLV's Big Band and others who have graced the stage, any Monday night will surely be swinging.

FREE MONEY
THE DAYS OF ZILLION DOLLAR
SHIRTS ARE HISTORY!
WE'LL PAY YOU TO CALL US

**\$50 OFF ANY
ORDER OVER \$500**

Screen printing
&
Graphic design
WITH STUDENT ID

GRAPHIX

YOU OWE IT TO YOUR TREASURER TO CALL

364-9332