

TRIO TO PLAY MATINEE DANCE AT DOOLITTLE CENTER



HOLLYWOOD BEAT BY BILL LANE

A letter from ace publicist Vincent Tubbs, now jaunting around Italy, France and Spain--with some time out on the French Riviera--looking for two black beauties, film actresses Marpessa Dawn (of "Black Orpheus") and Danyale Luna, the ex-model from Detroit who appeared most recently in "Satyricon."

The two ladies are wanted for Steve McQueen's racing feature, "The 24 Hours of Le Mans," now filming in France. And Tubbs is a publicity man for McQueen and the movie.

Tubbs, who was once prexy of the Hollywood Publicists Guild, added this note: "in line with your repeated column suggestion that black film stars should also get themselves black publicists, isn't it interesting that film studios put a black man (ME) on their multi-million-dollar pictures, and I handle such top-bracket actors as Marlon Brando, Audrey Hepburn, Dustin Hoffman and Steve McQueen and yet our black actors and actresses are all signed up with white publicists?"

RAN INTO dapper Warren Cowan of Rogers, Cowan & Brenner, at the Nancy Olson-Natalie Wood party for Dory Previn (wife of Andre) at the Olson home in Beverly Hills. He'd arrived only moments before from London, where he'd attended a big party for Stevie Wonder and Stevie's wife-to-be, Syreeta, at the Talk of the Town. Cowan said that on the plane back he'd read the trade-paper accounts of our efforts to get black publicists on staffs of white firms serving black stars.

Said He: "Bill, it's very hard to find qualified black publicists. I know, you can get black newsmen from around the country, and they can write good news copy, but it's something else getting a person who knows the fine points of promoting, guiding, counseling, and showing off the very best sides of the client to the public. I must say, we have a grand black publicists on our staff in Bob Jones. I have to confess, we were not looking for a black publicists when he insisted himself upon us, but thank heavens he did."

RCB handles public relations for most of Motown's artists, but works very closely in their overall promotions with Berry Gordy, Jr., and Motown's black director of publicity, Junius Griffin.

DORY PREVIN, by the way, while awaiting her "finals" splitee from Andre Previn, will have a film produced soon based on her autobiog. She's writing it and the songs---and tells all! Producing the movie and a Dory Previn album are Richard Gregson (husband of Natalie Wood) and ex-Capitol Records' exec. Alan Livingston, husband of Nancy Olson. Dory, who did music work on "Thoroughly Modern Millie" when Andre dropped out, is now doing music with Elmer Bernstein for Broadway's "Great Expectations."

SHORTIES: Clara Ward writes from the French Riviera where she's set to appear in the 11th Annual French Jazz Festival. . Motown hosted 350 Compton underprivileged to the Tempts show at the Greek, and the Panthers bussed in scores of ghetto kids to the same show, with tickets free from The Temptations. . Diana Ross planed in from London to attend a blase barbecue at Mary Wilson's new palace in the hills.

LEON RENE, the composer, sent us a copy of the telegram he sent to Louis Armstrong at his recent birthday ball here: "Had it not been for that gumbo dinner cooked by Mama Renee in your honor in Pasadena, "Sleepy Time Down South" would be just another song. Leon, and his late brother Otis, along with Clarence Muse, wrote the song, which Louis first recorded April 20, 1931, a year after the Rene brothers had given it to him.

At that time (in 1930) Louis also recorded Andy Razaf and Eudib Blake's "Memories of You," in L. A., with the Les Hiteband, featuring Lawrence Brown and Marshal Royal (now with the George Rhodes band at the Now Grove after years with Basie), and a then 17-year-old drummer named Lionel Hampton.



The famous ' Louis Chachere Trio, featuring Louis on organ, Dwight Foster on guitar and Kenny Yetman on drums will play a matinee dance at the Doolittle Center Sunday afternoon from 3:30 pm to 7:00 pm. For Teen-agers only. Everyone must have their teen-age identification card. Admission to Dance only \$1.00 per person.

GETTING ALL sorts of wolfishstares at Bob

Sye's "Conversion" showing in Watts was Suzanne Schapiro, mink draped but wearing a low-cut gown that caused many eyes to pop. The Watts kids tried to yank souvenirs from the cinnamon-white Caddie of her escort, Edgar Charles.

JIM BROWN was a gentleman when an elderly actress fell asleep watching the play and bobbed her head on his shoulder.

"Bracken's World" on TV the other night came up with one of those onerous stories about a black actor and a white actress, hopelessly distressed over their love affair--"which could lead only to disaster." A lot of screaming, hand-waving and the black actor sputtering Yiddish cuss words while telling his beloved no go. Like always, it's a talk thing. No huggin' an' kissin'. You get that only when the actor is white and the actress is black. Whenever a black actor wins out in one of those stories either he or the white chick is "killed off" in the story, like in "My Sweet Charlie." Al Freeman, Jr., was killed off not only in the story, but also in the Emmy Awards.

TERESA GRAVES was doing her show at the King's Castle in Tahoe when her partner comic Buddy Hackett walked out onstage wearing nothing but a napkin-size sign on his back end. Some say he wore only a Knights of Columbus medallion.

ANDY WILLIAMS might have lost Claudine Longet, but he engaged Irwin C. Watson to handle comedy for his Caesars Palace show. . . B. B. King doing the Atlanta seg for "Something Else". . . Kenny Washington signed as a regular for "Hogan's Heroes" in its 9th season. . . Freda Payne shook 'em up at that Beverly Hills party wearing that shake-'em-up see-through outfit. Says she and actor Carlos Fernandez are a long way from any thought of marriage. "I just got her," she countered.

JAMES EARL JONES talking with 'em about doing "The Man," as a two-hour TV thriller. It's the Irving Wallace book about a black man who becomes President. Meanwhile Jones' estranged wife Julie is now preparing to go back into acting work.

B. B. King tapes the Barbara McNair show in Tornoto July 27.

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