Entertainment

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With her trade-marked rich, full-bodied voice, trend-setting albums and captivating stage presence, Gloria Gaynor has established herself as the #1 female vocalist in numerous parts of the world.

The recently-crowned Grammy Award winner for her monumental disco recording, "I Will Survive," Gloria alters her approach slightly on her brand-new album, STORIES, once more produced by Dino Fekaris in association with Freddie Perren for Grand Slam Productions. The new

batch of Fekaris/Perren compositions brings out the soulful, bluesy edge in Gaynor's voice, fully mining Gloria's roots in R & B.

"Don't Read Me Wrong" features lyrics by Gloria herself, while stand-out tracks like "Ain't No Bigger Fool" and "On A Diet Of You" are still more winners for the universally praised and chart-topping team of Gaynor, Perren and Fekaris.

Other cuts include "I Let Love Slip Right Through My Hands" and "All My Life." STORIES

brings out a side of Gloria Gaynor the record-buying public has perhaps never heard before-- this is Soul as only Gloria can belt it out, with pain and suffering conquered by the singer's life-affirming vocals. On STORIES, Gloria Gaynor is not only surviving, she is flourishing.

Gloria's hits, including "Honey Bee," "Never Can Say Goodbye," "Reach Out I'll Be There," "Casanova Brown" and "I Will Survive," have topped the international charts. She has toured extensively

throughout the continent of Europe, with especially large followings in Italy, Spain, France, Germany, Belgium and England, as well as Mexico, South America, New Zealand and Australia.

Constant demand has made her a world citizen who spends nearly half her time touring the globe. Among her accomplishments are command performances for Princess Grace in Monaco and at the White House.

Whenever possible, Gloria learns the language of her host country before embarking on a tour. She

has even recorded a Spanish language version of "I Will Survive" ("Yo Vivire"), indicating Ms. Gaynor is a woman who cares deeply about people, sharing not only her talent, but her humanity as well. For instance, Gloria serves as a spokeswoman for UNICEF.

Whether it is through the inspirational and universal lyrics of a song like "I Will Survive," or conversational fluency, Gloria reaches out to her audience and touches them as individuals. For Gloria Gaynor, stardom is

a privilege. She respects her audience and loves the constant contact with people from all over her fame has brought her.

A middle child surrounded by five brothers and a sister, Gloria was born and raised in Newark, New Jersey. She was introduced to music virtually at birth-- just about everyone in her family could sing. But, aside from her father, who sang for a short while in vaudeville, Gloria is the only one in her family to pursue a career in show business.

'Jump for Jazz'

May 18
1 p.m.
TV-10

"Jump for Jazz" looks at the historical foundation of jazz and its many forms in a 2½ hour special on Sunday, May 18 on TV-10 beginning at 1 p.m.
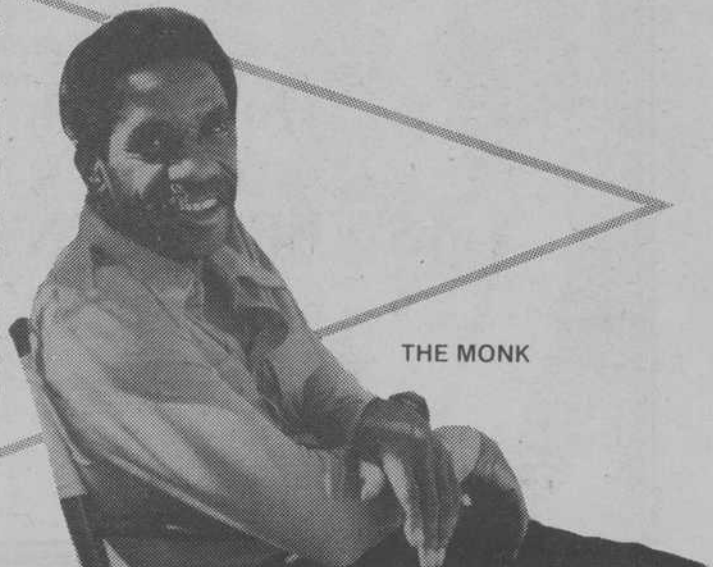
Scott Joplin's "Maple Leaf Rag" and Louis Armstrong's masterful "West End Blues" are among the original recordings and television visuals the producers used to link the styles and voices of jazz music. Las Vegas Jazz mentor, Monk

Montgomery guided the producers on an authentic path of jazz, noting "he didn't know how to go about it, but he knew what he wanted to see on screen as his conception of jazz and its story."

It's the story of one jazz style giving birth to another; swing to be-bop to progressive; and progressive to today's fusion. Jazz singer, Joe Williams hosts the programs with commentary by Garvin Boushell, 76-year old jazz

virtuoso whose first jazz band recording was made in 1918.

"Jump for Jazz" explores the different forms of jazz. Jazz artists demonstrate the quality and nature of various instruments and add insights to the jazz greats who changed the direction of music. Bix Beiderbecke, Lester Young, Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie "Bird" Parker, John Coltrane & Miles Davis are only a few "names" that will be explored.

THE MONK