

JACKSON STREET AND ME... By Rudi Jackson



JAZZ! JAZZ! And more JAZZ is nothing but a sweet love affair for "SPOOKEY JONES" — the man with a song in his heart and a musical sax-o-phone to musingly play sweet and pretty for the folks to hear and enjoy! But. Thanks to Charles Mosely of DIMENSIONS — published in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida that this tid-bit of just where Spookey Jones has been during the last seven months, has come to the top-side for "ill' ole newsmaking Jackson Street & ME to tell it like it is!

Sandwiched between the

idle chatter of the party-goers and random laughter of the love children who be running in the night, black folks in search of a wee-bit-o-fun, above all of the superficial false fronts a supreme reverence of musical indigo-blue hangs in the smokey air sending exhilarating moods to the body and soul. Proving that Jazz is alive and well in South Florida.

Jazzy artful Spookey Jones soulfully presents his magical musical rendition of standard tunes, and sparkled by the smooth vocal styles of jazz songstress

Juanita Dixon.

The setting could well have been beautiful Las Vegas, Los Angeles, New York, Memphis, Chicago, Detroit, or The City By The Bay — all much more noted for their jazzical soldiers of fame and fortune, yet this jazz-on-a-platter comes served to you in a flurry at Club I-95, a semi-private nite-club frequented by "black professionals" in Fort Lauderdale. Between sets both artists shared some of their many traveled "ups and downs" in the world of show-biz which have held them in this world as the years go spinning us from A to Z, the Jazz Mystique motivates performers like themselves.

On the second set the music and the evening unraveled and so did the livened faces of the folks sent to relaxing and embrace the sounds of "Stormy Monday Blues," "What A Difference A Day Makes" which seemed to bring out the best of love when two old friends by-chance to meet, both looming from an era

enhanced by jazz legends Charley "Yardbird" Parker, Louis Jordan, Cannonball Adderly, and Miss Sassy — Sarah Vaughan.

The mention of jazz to Spookey or Juanita causes a warm smile to flashdance upon their faces, followed by

having spent some years in and around Las Vegas during the past 10 years before being booked at Club I-95.. His misty-music career has run the gamut. It earned him a drum major's appointment with the Florida A&M University "Marching 100"

Got'cha," Skinny Legs and All," and "Hold On To What You Got." Juanita set aside a college degree "to pursue the bright lights of show-biz" much to the displeasures of her mother, she spent time in Canada touring with a road show carnival before moving into the nite-club circuit and singing with the gentleman of jazz Mr. Joe Williams.

The sounds of the latest top 40 tunes faded into the small talk-n-chit/chat of happy people relaxed and listening to Spookey Jones serving up his version of The Duke's "Satin Doll" with eyes closed and head leaned back in a mellow way. He played his horn and the jazz lovers savored the moments enjoying the man and his music.

P.S. Rudi, just thinking you and others in Las Vegas might like to know where and how Spookey Jones is and what he is doing! Charles Moseley and the Staff at Dimensions say hello to Vegas from all of us here! — Monamodi/85.



Spookey Jones

a more pensive — almost reverent — expression. Both began show-biz careers over 20 years ago as young hopefuls at local nite-clubs. Both have traveled nationally and internationally. Spookey

before enlisting and performing in the United States Army Band. Spookey spent five years traveling with the late Joe Tex Band when Tex traveled the country doing such hits as "I

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Cosby. For those of us at General Foods, as well as for the people at Young and Rubicam and NBC. It's a treat for everybody here in this room, to be able to share an evening with a person who has been referred to in Life Magazine as "The Most loved man in America," as "Better than Santa Claus," and as "The current father figure of his country — and Everyman." Howard Cosell — eat your heart out! It's hardly any secret that our guest of honor is enjoying tremendous popularity right now. That popularity is unusual even in comparison to the sustained regard that an often fickle public has accorded him over the last two decades. According to a recent issue of Us Magazine, Bill's TV character, Dr. Heathcliff Huxtable, "May be as popular as Ronald Reagan, but the president's can't deliver babies and dispense family wisdom at the same time." Relying on his own description of this artistic Phi Beta Kappa of our time, Ferguson said; "Bill's comedy, in my view, is the tool he uses, and uses so well, to unlock the mysteries of the human condition. To

understand what it means to be human, and to cope with the tragic as well as the comedic in everyday life. So perhaps the key to what makes Bill Cosby so special to millions of people is not that he is better than the rest of us at expressing what it means to be human." With that he told TeeVee's No. 1 series star that he has deservedly won the gratitude and admiration of the approximately 200 black-tie specially invited guests and thanked him for being a part of the General Foods family.

The surprise was, in honor of Camille and Bill Cosby, General Foods donated \$50,000 each to Temple University, Bill's Alma Mater and Tougaloo College in Miss. The endowments in their names are scholarships for study in the sciences. Dr. Peter J. Liacouras, Temple and Dr. J. Herman Blake, Tougaloo, presidents, were among the guests at the Rye Brook world headquarters of Gen. Foods, where the affair was switched to avoid N'York's recent hotel strike, to receive the checks.

WRITE NEWSY: — Holding a job in H'wood is almost as tough as staying married. Ashley Boone, he joined Columbia Pictures as its

president of distribution and marketing group in Dec. of '83, has called it a job. No reasons have been given as to why, although that make believe silver screen gold maker plans to hold onto his talents as a consultant. Boone has long since been the top Black film executive in H'wood. Expectation is that he will eventually end up with an old colleague, Alan Ladd Jr. over at MGM/UA, with whom he once worked



... Steve Wonder'ful's music has the apartheid South African whites in a spin. Though it has blanket banned his music on land, his is still the sounds aboard all South African Airways flights. They have already paid big royalties on same and to silence it would hit 'em in the pockets... The Writers Guild of America is about the biz of making another attempt at breaking down those barriers which have kept women,

minorities, the disabled and the elderly out of the H'wood screenwriting marketplace.

The muscle for such is allegedly contained in the new Guild's contract... Over at Columbia Pic Richard Pryor's \$40-million off shoot, Indigo Prods. has announced its intentions to bring to the silver "Spanish Harlem." It's an original screen play by ofay lady Kathryn Bigelow and two whities, Walter Hill and David Giler, who sold Columbia the rights, have been named executive producers... Col. (RT) Steve Davis, exec. director and Chris Bennett, Prez., NNPA, had to use their muscles to eject a loud mouth heckler of guest speaker State Senator Julian Bond at the org.'s convention in Seattle. Dave Shook, Gen. Foods ass't director creative services, did a Boy Scout's good deed that just may have saved the life of Dr. Fred Black whose

breathing was dangerously impeded... The hope is that the suspension of Maxwell's nitery license in Boston for discrimination is contagious and similar action will be taken against the slew of country clubs throughout the nation which continues to be bastions of bias in this land... STAY LOOSE... Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.

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