

Jazz Great Hugh Masekela at Calamity's Concert House on Saturday, March 31

"We're beginning to live in the UPTOWNSHIP era," rejoices Hugh Masekela, the trumpeter, composer, bandleader and musical freedom fighter, about his Novus/RCA Records debut album of the same name.

"Uptown," in the New York sense," explains Masekela, who will be appearing at Calamity's Concert House on Saturday, March 31, "means Harlem, and 'township' is the South African scene I come from so the African-American connection is 'Uptownship.' In the UPTOWNSHIP era, Africans and African-Americans -- through music and fashion, culture and education -- will continue to break down the remaining barriers."

On the heels of the overwhelming success of the Broadway musical "Sarafina!" (for which he is the co-writer/composer), worldwide performances with Paul Simon's Graceland tour, and, with his own group, Kalahari (which features four GRACELAND album and tour alumni), Masekela makes his triumphant return to the forefront of the international music scene. A loosely autobiographical album that reflects his lifelong socio-political consciousness, UPTOWNSHIP unites the township jazz of Masekela's childhood ("Now or Never," "Egoli," and, on CD only, "Nomalizo") with the



Hugh Masekela

Stateside rhythm-and-blues ballads and Motown sounds (Gamble & Huff's "If You Don't Know Me By Now" and Smokey Robinson's "Oh, Baby, Baby") that captivated him as a young man when he came to New York in the early '60s to study at the Manhattan School of Music. "We'd go to the Apollo Theatre for a dollar," he recalls, "and sit there for 12 hours catching the whole Motown revue. We used to collect the 45s. All the guys in Kalahari are r&b freaks."

Hugh Masekela, 50 years old, was born in Witbank, South Africa, a coal-mining community 100 miles east of Johannesburg. His parents' extensive record collection -- which featured albums by, among others, Cab Calloway, Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington, Sy Oliver, Count Basie, Louis Armstrong and Louis Jordan -- ignited his musical instincts. The turning point came when Masekela saw the film "Young Man With A Horn," which chronicled Bix Beider-

becke's struggle for fame and fortune.

By age 20, his career as a trumpeter in full swing, he was a member of the Jazz Epistles, the first black jazz band (which included pianist Dollar Brand) to record an LP in South Africa, all previous recordings having been 78s. Seeking to continue his education but finding no adequate facilities in his homeland, he studied at London's Guildhall School of Music and later at the Manhattan School of Music in New York. Encouraged and supported by Rev. Trevor Huddleston, Yehudi Menuhin, Harry Belafonte and Dizzy Gillespie, the young trumpeter made his recording debut in New York (two muted trumpet solos) on the second U.S. album by vocalist Miriam Makeba, to whom he was later married for a brief period, and shortly thereafter recorded sessions and toured with Belafonte.

For the past three years, owing to the popularity of the Graceland tour, his own Kalahari band and "Sarafina!" (which toured the U.S. in January; a second company opened in Paris in late October), Masekela has been busy traveling back and forth between New York, where he maintains residence, and London. "But," he says, "I spend a lot of time -- mostly in my mind -- in Africa; Botswana is really my home base."

"EQUAL JUSTICE" New Dramatic Series from Orion Television Entertainment Scheduled to Premiere March 27

Los Angeles, March, 1990 -- "EQUAL JUSTICE," a new weekly one-hour dramatic series from Orion Television Entertainment, is scheduled to premiere as a two-hour pilot, Tuesday, March 27 at 9:00 p.m. on the ABC Television Network. The first one-hour episode will air Wednesday, March 28 at 10:00 p.m., which will be the regular time slot for the series.

A contemporary drama, "EQUAL JUSTICE" examines the personal and professional lives of a group of district attorneys practicing law within the U.S. criminal justice system. The series presents a hard-edged, irreverent examination of the inner workings of a fictional big city prosecutor's office.

The diverse group of attor-

neys is played by an ensemble cast that included George DiCenzo, Debrah Farentino, Jane Kaczmarek, Kathleen Lloyd, Barry Miller, Joe Morton, Sarah Jessica Parker, Cotter Smith, Jon Tenney and James Wilder.

Of particular interest is Joe Morton, who portrays Mike James. Morton made his Broadway debut in "Hairspray" and has since been involved in several theatre productions such as "Raisin In The Sun," for which he received a Tony nomination for his portrayal of Walter Lee Younger. His extensive film credits include "Tap" with Gregory Hines and the successful John Sayles' film "The Brother From Another Planet."

Thomas Carter, who directed the pilot, is executive producer and co-creator of

"equal justice." In the past several years, Carter has directed nine pilots, all of which have become series, including "Miami Vice," "St. Elsewhere," "A Year In The Life," "Call To Glory," and "Midnight Caller," for which he was nominated for an Emmy as Best Director.

Also, an upcoming episode that may be of interest to viewers is "Start The Fire," which is scheduled to air in mid-April. The episode examines the conflicts that occur when two members of the District Attorney's office (Joe Morton and Cotter Smith) are assigned to work on a racially motivated murder case.

"EQUAL JUSTICE" is produced by the Thomas Carter Company in association with Orion Television Entertainment.



Producer Thomas Carter

HOWARD UNIVERSITY HONORS TALENTED ALUMNA, DEBBIE ALLEN

(Los Angeles, CA)...Dr. Ewart Brown, dinner chairman, has announced that Debbie Allen, producer and director of the NBC-TV hit series, "A Different World," will be honored at the Annual Charter Day Awards Dinner, hosted by the Howard University Alumni Club of California (HUACSC). The event will be held on Saturday, March 24, 1990 at the JW Marriott Hotel at Century City in Los Angeles.

Ms. Allen is being honored not only for her talent, but for the positive example of how perseverance, dedication and hard work can enable someone to achieve his goals. Making her acting debut on Broadway in the musical, "Purlie," brought immediate recognition. In 1979, Allen won the prestigious Drama Desk

Award and received her first Tony Award nomination for her brilliant work in the production of "West Side Story." After a 1986-87 record-breaking stint on the Great White Way as "Sweet Charity," she garnered her second Tony Award nomination.

Internationally recognized as dance teacher "Lydia Grant" from the smash hit movie and television series, "Fame," Allen has parlayed her energy, talent and vision into a successful, second career as a director and producer.

One of the most sought-after directors in television, Ms. Allen has also directed episodes of "Family Ties" and the "Bronx Zoo."

It that weren't enough to keep mere mortals busy,

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Debbie Allen



MARCH 23, 24 MILLER'S GENUINE DRAFT KKLZ TOWER OF POWER	MARCH 25 DON McLEAN
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