

Legendary Blues Great James Cotton at Sunset Park May 18

Legendary blues great James Cotton and his band will kick off the sixth annual Clark County Craft Fair and Rib Burn-Off with a concert beginning at 7:30 p.m., May 18 at Sunset Park. The event is co-sponsored by the Las Vegas Blues Society. Admission is \$8; Blues Society members with current card get a one dollar discount. Advance tickets are available at Winchester Center, 3130 S. McLeod, until noon the day of the event.

The concert opens with Las Vegas' own Boogieband before James Cotton comes on at 8:30. Award-winning ribs, prepared by two of the winners of last year's Rib Burn-Off, will be available for purchase, as well as beer and soft drinks. Gates open at 6:00 p.m. for the picnic-style event.

James Cotton is one of the great proponents of the

Chicago style version of the Mississippi Delta Blues. His singing and harmonica playing have the earthy quality of his early mentors, Sonny Boy Williamson and Muddy Waters. Grafted onto that is the rhythm and blues sound that marked his departure from the shadow of Muddy Waters.

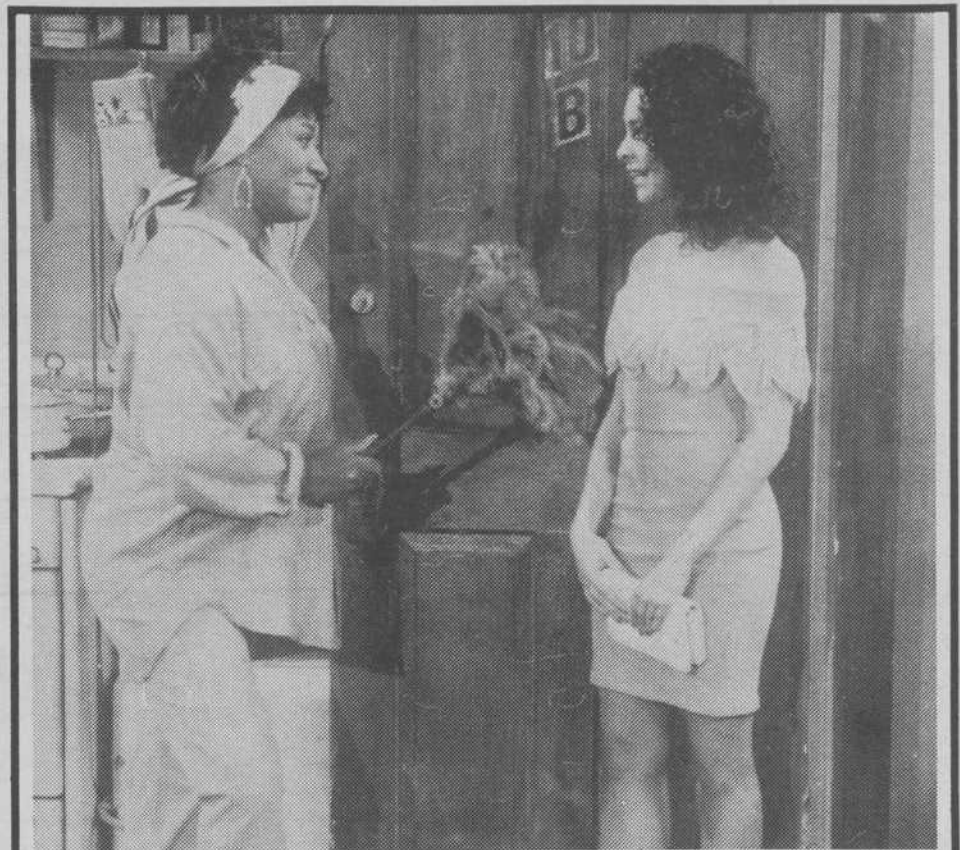
Cotton was steeped in the blues from an early age. His mother showed him how to play the harmonica when he was little more than a toddler in Tunica, Mississippi. As a lad, he lived with Sonny Boy Williamson for six years as a sort of musical apprentice. He struck out on his own at fifteen with his own band, recording for Sun records. He also played as a sideman for 'HOWLIN' Wolf.

Discovered by Muddy Waters, Cotton travelled with him to Chicago where he played in Water's band for

twelve years. He finally left to form his own, more rock-oriented group. Recently, Cotton's work has showed a return to the more basic blues style in two Grammy-nominated albums, "Live at Antone's" and "Take Me Back."

Friday night's blues concert marks the opening of the Clark County Craft Fair and Rib Burn-Off, a family event featuring fine crafts for sale, a rib competition, children's activities and continuous music by the Press, Stetzen and the Boogieband. The Craft Fair is open 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at Sunset Park. Admission is \$2 for adults, \$1 for children twelve and under. Children under three are admitted free. The event is co-sponsored by KFM 102 radio, and Channel 3 television.

For ticket information call 455-7340.



PATTI LaBELLE GUEST-STARS -- Adele Wayne (guest-star Patti LaBelle, left) gives her son's apartment a mother's loving touch, but Whitley (Jasmine Guy) mistakes her for the housekeeper, in "Perhaps...Love," on NBC's popular comedy series "A Different World," Thursday, May 3 (8:30 - 9 p.m.).

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26 at 7 p.m., in the Starlight Pavilion, behind the Clark County Library on Flamingo. Steel pan percussionist Andy Narell returns after successfully inaugurating "Under the Stars" two years ago. He has released several albums and has played on numerous film soundtracks. The other half of the concert will feature guitarist Hiram Bullock, once a member of David Letterman's house band, and now holding down the guitar spot in the "Night Music T.V. band. Tickets are \$12.50 general, \$10 for Allied Arts members.

The final Gallery concert will be May 30, featuring the Billy Root Quartet. Root, a Las Vegas for many years, has performed with John Coltrane, Miles Davis and Stan Kenton among others. During his years as a night-club saxophonist in 1950s Philadelphia, he played with nearly every significant jazz artist of the time.

For information on any Allied Arts concert, call 731-5419.

For years, the City of Las Vegas has co-sponsored Jazz Month, and this year will present two concerts. The first is on May 6, at 3 p.m., featuring the Turtle Island String Quartet, performing in the Reed Whipple Cultural Center. Turtle Island has been hailed by critics as one of the most exciting jazz ensembles of recent years.

Using instruments of the classic string quartet, the Turtle Islanders play challenging jazz pieces. Tickets are \$7 general admission, \$5 for students, seniors and handicapped.

On May 19, the city will present two showings of "A Tribute to Louis Armstrong." Featuring former bassist Arvell Shaw, the 2 and 8 p.m. concerts will pay homage to one of the towering figures of jazz, who influenced generations of both musicians and singers. For ticket information or details of either city concert, call 386-6211.

Jazz springs up all over the place in May. The Library District will present a pair of concerts in the West Las Vegas Library: the Janet Anthony Jazz Harp Trio at 2 p.m., May 26, and the Keith Gamble Quartet at 6:30 p.m., May 29. Both are free. Call 733-3613.

Michael Schivo will present saxophonist George Howard in the Artemus Ham Concert Hall on May 6 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$18.

"Monday Night Jazz at the Four Queens" will feature the Al Grey Quintet on May 7; saxophonists Med Flory and Jack Nimitz, and the Dan Skea Trio on May 14; saxophonist Scott Hamilton on May 21; and trumpeter Sam Noto with sax player Don Menza on May 28. All shows are at 7:30, 9:30

and 11:30 p.m. There is a \$3 cover charge. For more information call 385-4011.

The Hob Nob Lounge has established a tradition of Tuesday night jazz, and in May will host trumpeter Bill King on May 1; saxophonist Azar Lawrence on May 8; saxophonist Jack Montrose on May 15; trombone player Neil Maxa on May 22; and

trumpeter Tony Filippone on May 28. All performances are 10 p.m. and 2 a.m., with no cover. Call 734-2426 for details.

Additional Jazz Month funding was provided by the Four Queens Hotel and Casino. For a complete listing of Jazz Month events, call 731-5419.

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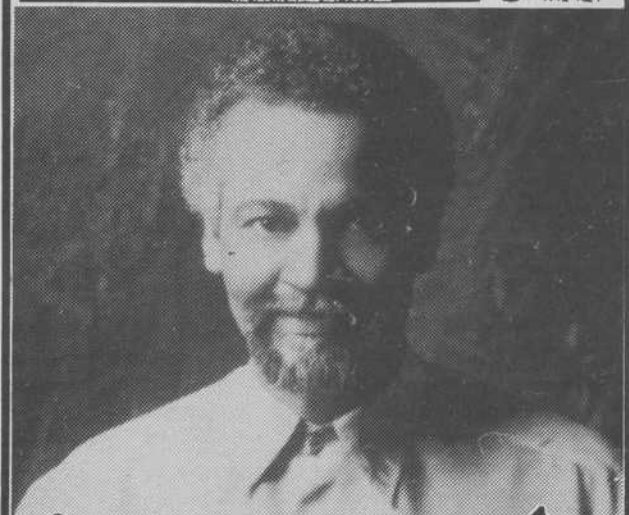
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