

Entertainment

Billy Rowe's Notebook



NAACP SPOTLIGHTS ITS "IMAGES" IN HOLLYWOOD

N'YORK CITY:—The 24th, annual presentation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People cast a glimmering Hollywood spotlight on its annual selected "Image" awardees. They ran the gamut of talent taste and youth as they dominated the kilocycles. The event was colorful and both eye and ear embraceable from sea to shining sea. However, those past seventy might have reminiscence back to the 24th. edition of the then integrated Cotton Club revue in the heart of Harlem just one block from the Savoy Ballroom "Home of Happy Feet." The show bowed before the public March 11, 1934. The star was the beautiful Adelaide Hall. The revue was presented by Dan Healy who was one of the most

fabulous of the seven wonders of Broadway. Topping the "with" list were Pops & Louis, Juano Hernandez and chore, Roy Atkins, Meers, Lethia Hill, Avon Long, Bessie Dudley, "Dynamite" Hooker, Willie Jackson and George Williams. Jimmy Lunceford,, who had just started his swingsational drive to stardom, and his orchestra supplied the music for show and dancing: In those days all shows were spiced with beautiful showgirls and talented dancing boys. On the showgirl list of this show were Margaret Chereanx, Bea Ellies, Peggy Griffith, Estelle Brenier, Ethel Moses, Una Mae Carlye, Ethel Shepard, Ruby Allen and Lena Horne who doubled as a featured performer. The dancing girls were Theresa Mason, Anise Boyer, Dolly McCormack,

Winnie Johnson, Marie Robin-son, Amy Spencer, Dorothy Rhodes, Hy Curtis,Alfreda All- man, Joyce Beasley and Gladys Walton. Louie Brown, Chink Lee, Howard Johnson, Maxie Arm- strong, Thomas Porter, Eddie Morton, Jimmy Wright, Walter Shepard. Billy Smith and Chink Collins were the dancing boys. Yep it was quite a show with no less than twelve original songs and just as many dance special- ties giving it sound and life. One day soon I promise to look into the "present" of some of those mentioned here to check how they've been embrace by time. Some of them were under my vision recently. Others I haven't seen for years. while others I know have been dissolved into the misty mystery of the great Beyond. A print and electronic survey by this corner discovered that 95% of the contacts think that it would be a wise move for the NAACP Image Awards to be named to perpetuate the great- ness and immortality of Paul Robeson, DR. Ralph Bunche, Bill Robinson, Ethel Waters, Sammy Davis, Jr., Hattie McDaniels, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Booker T. Wash- ington, W.E.B. DuBois, Mary McCleod Bethune, Marian An- derson and countless others who contributed their talents to our struggle. In our report on Black College Presidents organizing a summit in order to set a new agenda we reported that Dr. Edwards B. Fort, president of north Carolina A&T University, was part of the planning commit- tee. While DR. Fort may attend the meeting he is not part of the planning.

REUNION TIME:—Cho- rusgirls of yesteryear will have a dance/reunion in Las Vegas come April. Charlie Atkins will coordinate. It will run for an entire week and will encompass Duke Ellington's April 29th., birth- day. Born in 1899 this mark the 93rd. anniversary of the composer's birth. Former cho-

rusgirls from New York, Califor- nia, Las Vegas, Atlantic City and Florida will travel to the event. The Worldwide Duke Ellington Society is participating. Chan- nel Four in England is doing a documentary on the life of Har- roid and Fayard Nicholas. Their sister Dottie, was in town for the first time in 40 years. She visited the park Lincoln Apartments, on Edgecombe Ave., where the family once lived. She is still a beautiful woman. When Harold and his manager, Rigmore Newman, went to see the musi- cal "Grand Hotel" they visited back stage with Cyd Charisse. Folks are hoping that Harold will have the opportunity to play Otto Kringlein, the bookkeeper, in the Tony award winning show. Emerald Pictures is having a nation search for a teenager who can sing to star in a movie about the late Billie Holiday. They are trying to reach her first husband, Jimmy Monroe, who still lives on Edgecombe Ave., and Ton- dolayo Levy, whose husband, John, was Miss Holiday's last manager. The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture's 1992 Heritage Week- end celebrated the anniversary of Langston Hughes' 90th., Birth- day with a Gala Benefit in the Hughes Auditorium. The gala black-tie benefit was one of the first events to take place during Black History Month, as well as the first Schomburg Center trib- ute to Langston Hughes in the Center's New Langston Hughes Auditorium. The weekend's festivities were kick-off on Feb- ruary 1, with the screening of two video documentaries, "The Legacy of Arthur Schomburg," and Lanston Hughes: "The Dream Keeper" by St. Clair Bourne. The weekend contin- ued with a members one pre- view of two exhibitions. In the Schomburg Center's Exhibition Hall, the exhibit "JazzArts" fea- tures paintings and collages by Romare Bearden, Sam Middle- ton and Allen Stringfellow, and



One of the hardest working women in show business, Millie Jackson, will be performing this Sunday for two shows at The New Town Tavern. A recording artist for more than 20 years, this controversial and provocative entertainer has been dubbed "The Queen of Extreme." Millie will be bring- ing her unique and captivating style to Las Vegas for a 8:30 p.m. and 12 midnight show. The New Town Tavern is located at 600 West Jackson. For tickets and additional in- formation call 647-3995 or 459-7800.

photographs by Milt Hinton and Chuck Stewart, and reveals the influences that jazz has had on other creative processes, espe- cially the visual arts. In the Center's Latimer/Edison Gallery, "New World Africans" is a photo- graphic exhibition, documenting various aspects of the black population—slave and free—in South America and the Carib- bean during the 19th. and early 20th centuries. The photographs document Africans in New World social setting, but still managed

to retain much of their African culture through dress, hair styles, religion, food and ways of trans- port. Both exhibitions are free of charge and will be on view through June 30, 1992. Billy Taylor capped off the weekend activated with a lecture/perfor- mance on "the History of Jazz through Piano." This was a program of the Schomburg Center Louis Armstrong jazz Oral History Project... STAY LOOSE...

Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.

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SENTINEL-VOICE TOP 10 SINGLES

- 1.) KEEP IT COMIN' - Keith Sweat
- 2.) LET'S STAY TOGETHER - GUY
- 3.) REMEMBER THE TIME - Michael Jackson
- 4.) CAN'T LET GO - Mariah Carey
- 5.) THE RUSH - Luther Vandross
- 6.) STAY - Jodeci
- 7.) MY WORLD - ABC
- 8.) SOMEBODY LOVES YOU - Patti LaBelle
- 9.) DIAMOND & PEARLS - Prince
- 10.) DO UNTO ME - Karyn White

TWO WEEKS @#1 SONG- Keep It Comin'
PICK HIT OF THE WEEK- Diamonds and Pearls
POTENTIAL TOP 10 SONGS- What You See - Aretha Franklin; Can't Stop - Z'Looke; Ain't Too Proud To Beg - T.L.C.; Baby Hold On - Gerald Levert; Peaceful Journey - Heavy D.

*** THE TOP 5 ALBUMS - 1. Too Legit To Quit - Hammer; 2. Death Certificate - Ice Cube; 3. Cooleyhighharmony - Boyz II Men; 4. Emotions - Mariah Carey; 5. Diamonds & Pearls - Prince

P2THE-E-A-C-E; WW

Top 20 listing compiled by Willie-Will, Mobile D.J., W.W. Mobile Entertainment Service 594-7594