

Civil rights expert speaks to packed Porter Center

By Jordan Tager
Staff Writer

“The whole world is like a big minstrel show echoing the culture of the Afro-American,” said civil rights expert Timothy Tyson Tuesday night to a packed Porter Center audience.

Tyson, acclaimed author of the book “Blood Done Sign my Name,” gave a lecture entitled “Blood Done Sign our Names: Blues, Jazz and Gospel Impulses in the Age of Obama.”

He was accompanied by gospel singer Mary D. Williams, who performed traditional African-American spirituals and spoke on their meanings.

Tyson and Williams both conveyed ideas and details of African American history, topics such as meanings behind the music genres Blues, Gospel, and Jazz, creation and symbolism behind African American culture, and the biblical teachings from slave owners to slaves.

Tyson discussed that blues, gospel, and jazz all originated from tragedies in life but have each progressed and grown into their own unique form of music. “The blues endures, jazz tries to figure a way out, and gospel transcends,” said Tyson.

“African American culture was born in the bottom of slave ships,” said Tyson. He believes this idea because at that time in the bottom of those boats, there was such a diverse population of people, rounded up from various tribes across all of Africa. Because they were all together they began to communicate and connect in such a way in which African American culture was born.

In addition to being a best-selling author, Tyson is a visiting professor of American Christianity and Southern Culture at Duke University.

Lieutenant Dan... Cinnamon Bun Ice Cream

from Chef Boy-ar-Dave

Average Cost of Meal: \$5-10

Cook Time: 10 Minutes

Wait Time: Freeze 6 hours or until firm.

Serving Size: 5

Ingredients:

2 cups heavy cream
14 oz. Sweetened Condensed Milk
3 tablespoons butter, melted
1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

Instructions:

Whip heavy cream to stiff peaks in large bowl. Whisk sweetened condensed milk, butter, cinnamon, and vanilla in large bowl. Mix well. Fold in whipped cream. Put in a container, place in freezer for about six hours.

Radiohead's finest work to date

By Park Elliot Baker
Staff Writer

Few bands have reached the level of acclaim that Radiohead has without breaking up, and even fewer can say that they have progressed consecutively with each new release.

“The King of Limbs” is the band's eighth album, and the members have again intrigued fans by releasing it on their website before offering the hard copy. Originally scheduled to be released last Saturday, they surprised the world and released an MP3 version for \$7 or a CD quality version for \$14 a day early.

Upon first listen, “The King of Limbs” is a cacophony of layers, and to truly appreciate the music I had to put on noise canceling headphones. The loops and harmonies do not blend together without the proper listening apparatus, and you can tell that the band has spent the past four years in the studio experimenting. Only eight tracks long, Radiohead these days is more concerned with releasing EPs rather than full length albums.

The standout track (at this point) for me is

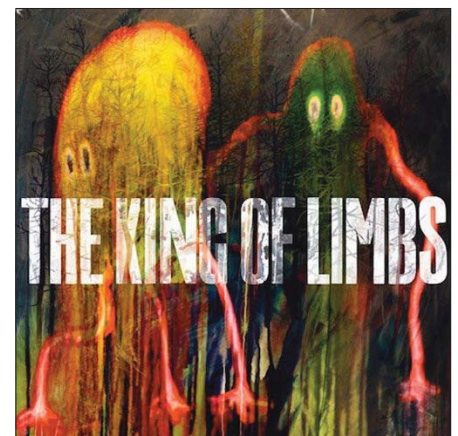
definitely “Separator,” where Yorke's haunting voice trails over the dulcet guitar and drums. Yorke sings “If you think this is over/Then you're wrong.” Rumors floating on the internet predict another EP forthcoming.

Hints at another EP seem the most promising, as the band is releasing an exclusive “Newspaper Album,” a collection of art containing two 10” records, which would hold far more than the already existing 38 minutes on “The King of Limbs.”

I like to think that the eighth and last track, “Separator,” marks a pinnacle and a change in the band's direction, as this is their eighth album.

The track “Little by Little” reminds me of one of the slower Metallica ballads with its guitars, one of them switching back and forth with the drums to create an almost salsa like rhythm. This is the only song on the album that sounds like real live music to me.

“Lotus Flower” nods in sound and style to “Ok Computer,” the band's third release with Yorke hitting a few higher notes, and more traditional drum machine loops. The focal point



of the music video is Thom Yorke dancing in rave fashion, alone and in black and white. His lazy eye captured my attention for most of the video, giving the entire choreograph a bit of a “Thriller” tone.

As a whole, and like many albums, “The King of Limbs” grows on you with each listen. It is their finest work, currently on heavy rotation in my playlist.