

guilfordian

Volume LXII, No. 21

Guilford College, Greensboro, N.C.

March 28, 1978

Bonnie Raitt at Guilford for Only N.C. Appearance

Singer-guitarist Bonnie Raitt and special guest Catfish Hodge will be presented in concert by the Guilford College Union at 8:15 p.m. Wednesday, April 5, in Dana Auditorium. It will be her only North Carolina appearance this year.

Tickets are on sale at the information desk at Guilford's Founders Hall and at record shops in Greensboro, Chapel Hill, Raleigh, Winston-Salem and High Point.

Raitt has weathered a lot of praise in print since her 1971 debut album, "Bonnie Raitt."

Newsweek magazine singled her out for her "voice full of leashed passion and a sensual innocence" and for the way "she draws gasps from the crowd when she lets herself go on the guitar — bottleneck, slide, funky chords overlapping..."

Raitt followed her first album with "Give It Up" in 1972, "Takin' My Time" in 1973, "Streetlights" in 1974, "Home Plate" in 1975 and "Sweet Forgiveness" in 1977.

She also appears on the 1973 album "Ann Arbor Blues and Jazz Festival" with sippie Wallace, a black woman with whom Raitt closely identifies. Now in her eighties, Wallace has been making records since the 1930's. Some of her songs have become Raitt standards.

From a musical family headed by Broadway singer John Raitt, star of such musicals as *Carousel* and *Pajama Game*, Bonnie started playing the guitar at her parents' suggestion when she was 12.

She began to master a unique country blues style by listening to recordings of Robert Johnson, Mississippi John Hurt, Muddy Waters and John Hammond.

While born and reared in Los Angeles, Bonnie moved east to attend Radcliffe College, and she became part of the folk and blues scene in Cambridge, Mass.

Within a few years she took a leave of absence to work for the American Friends Service Committee in Philadelphia, but she eventually gave in to the impetus to take her guitar

and distinctive blues interpretation on stage.

Initial success in Philadelphia and Boston area clubs led to subsequent engagements at the Gaslite in New York, Philadelphia's Main Point, the Philadelphia Folk Festival and numerous colleges on the East Coast.

Off to an impressive start, Bonnie soon was privileged to share the stage with many of her long-time blues idols. She played and learned from Son House, Mississippi Fred McDowell, Arthur Crudup, Howlin' Wolf and her special mentor, Sippie Wallace.

Raitt maintains a unique heistancy about making it big. Despite half-hearted forays into the realm of commercial appeal with "Streetlights" and "Home Plate," she seems to have returned to staunchly guarding her independence.

"I've been almost making it for a long time," she says with traces of irony. "My records are never everything to everybody, but I've always got another chance to make something new. Once you have a hit, you've got to follow it up; that becomes your object or you won't stay around."

Feminists Fill Weekend with Women's Energy

What is Women's Energy Weekend? Well, it doesn't have anything to do with Energy Awareness Week. We're not talking about the kind of energy that powers our cars or warms our houses. Women's energy is the strength, motivation and creativity women have in carrying on their multi-faceted lives today. And Women's Energy Weekend, March 31 through April 2, is three days of activities planned, produced, and performed by women, and sponsored by the Guilford College Women's Center.

The purpose of the weekend is to increase people's awareness of women's work — that is, artwork, music, literature, and social conditions and concerns of women in America, both in the past and present.

The week will begin with a lecture given by Sara Malino in the Gallery of Founders Hall on Friday, March 31 at 2 p.m. Her topic will be "The Economy's Lifeblood: Working Class Women of America."

All day Saturday, April 1, from 10:00 to 8:00 p.m. there will be an Open House in the Women's Center in Founders Hall. This is a perfect time to come and find out what the Women's Center is and who the people in the group are. There is a small library of women's literature, women's music will be playing, Women's

Energy Weekend t-shirts will be sold, and refreshments will be served.

Also, on Saturday, at 3:00 p.m. in the Gallery the film "Rape Culture" will be shown. This new documentary examines popular films, advertising, music, and "adult entertainment" and records the insights of rapists, victims, rape crisis workers, authors and prisoners. The film seeks to establish, with chilling results, the connection between sex and "normal" patterns of male-female behavior.

After the Open House, at 8 p.m. in the Grill Room, Amy Pierce, a feminist musician and songwriter, will present a concert of women's music written by her and other women artists. Refreshments will be served.

The final activity planned for Women's Energy Weekend is a poetry reading by Holly Lu Conant, a Guilford graduate now living in Tennessee, and Linda Bragg, a published Greensboro-area poet. The reading will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 2nd in the Gallery of Founders Hall.

Throughout the weekend, there will be an exhibit of women artists on campus in the Gallery.

Admission to all events is free. These events are sponsored by women and are about women, but they are not for women only!



Have you seen this picture of Bonnie Raitt before? Well maybe you won't forget her appearance with Catfish Hodge on April 5.

Dee and Davis Present Evening of Black America

Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis, who could not keep a Guilford College Arts Series engagement in February because of a New York City snowstorm, are now set to perform on Thursday, March 30, at 8:15 p.m. in Dana Auditorium.

The husband-wife team will present "An Evening of Black America," a program of storytelling, poetry reading, dramatic episodes, African tales and American literary vignettes.

In the presentation they will combine "... things that we have fallen in love with over the years and things that we enjoy sharing."

Their Arts Series appearance is co-sponsored by the Guilford student organization Brothers and Sisters in Blackness. Individual tickets will be available at the door — \$4 for adults and \$3 for non-Guilford students.

An acclaimed actress for many years, Ruby Dee is best remembered for her performance in the film *Gone with the Wind* and the play *Purlie Victorious*, both written by

Ossie Davis.

Some of her television films include *Wedding Band*, first produced at the New York Shakespeare Festival under the aegis of Joe Papp; *It's Good to Be Alive*, the Roy Campanella story; and *To Be Young, Gifted and Black*, from the writings of Lorraine Hansberry.

Miss Dee, a native New Yorker, has appeared in such plays as *Anna Lucasta*; *A Raisin in the Sun*; *Boesman and Lena*, for which she won an Obie; *Purlie Victorious*; and *Wedding Band*, for which she won the Drama Desk Award.

Ossie Davis was born in Georgia and finished high school there before enrolling at Howard University, where he studied under Dr. Alain LeRoy Locke, a black Rhodes scholar, and Sterling A. Brown, a distinguished poet. His Broadway debut was in *Jeb*, followed by *Anna Lucasta*, *Green Pastures*, *A Raisin in*

continued on page 8