

ALBUM REVIEWS

Shirley Caesar Reaches For Another Plateau

by RAY JENKINS

Here's how I came upon Shirley Caesar's new album. I went downtown to talk with Helen Bart of Bloom Publicity to get some info on a particular group I was writing about. Just as I was about to leave, she asked me if I had heard Shirley Caesar's latest l. p. I told her I hadn't, so she handed me a copy saying, "You'll love it. . . it's great. . . etc., etc. (What else can you expect from a publicity person who's trying to push her product.) So I listened and did love it and it is truly a great album, etc., etc."

For starters, side one begins with "Just A Talk," an up-tempo, hard-driving tune, which comes in with a chorus that lets the listener know that Shirley Caesar is up to something new and good. The amount of energy she puts forth into this recording is phenomenal. This, followed by something that sounds very similar to a B. T. Express arrangement "Jesus Is Coming," "No-body but Jesus" is done in traditional "do-wah" and "Faded Rose" is a beautiful ballad which Shirley does in her preach/sing style. The piece de resistance of the disc is her rendition of Stevie Wonder's "Jesus, Children of America." It's a fast moving, stunningly creative tune with an abundance of energy throughout. This l. p. is clearly a welcomed addition

on the gospel shelf.

The recording is especially pleasing to me because I really dig a lot of the gospel music I've heard live, but seldom can I get into the recordings for reasons other than the talent of the artists. Most gospel records are of such low budgeting (thanks to the gross negligence of the major record companies), that much of it sounds like it's out of place just being on record. All too often they are produced and arranged by an inexperienced friend of a friend; the musicians are the guys from down the block and the recording studios where they are recorded could pass for an audio antique show. It usually amounts to a recording that sounds like it was made on a cheap tape recorder in somebody's living room. This album is professionally done and fit to be called "First Lady."

Picture the following contrast:

First tenor, Emanuel Johnson, who has one of the most unusual voices I've heard in a while, is singing "Gloria" along with the other four members of Enchantment. Their harmony is excellent and the singing talents of Johnson is super. But the music behind them doesn't match up to their quality. The musical arrangement suffer greatly from lack of

instrumentation. "Come on and Hide" shows inexperience in the very selection of musicians. Both the conga and the tambourine were so out of beat it sounded more like interference than an accompaniment, not to mention that the overall structure of the cut was quite repetitious. ***

Suffering not from such ailments is Jean Carn's first solo l. p. I've been one of her followers since "Infant Eyes," which she did while singing with Doug Carn.

There are three disco tunes on the album, all done in genuine TSOP style: "Free Love," which is sung with very convincing emotion, "If you want to go back," and "You got a Problem."

I was also enthused with "I'm in Love once again." "You are all I needed," is a clear example of the code of excellence that comes forth from co-producers, Gamble and Huff. They utilized the services of Dexter Wansel for this arrangement. The introduction begins with the sound of ocean, seagulls, boat horn in the background of the muffled fog. In comes a calling french horn followed by a flurry of violins. On this cut, Jean uses her voice as if it were simply another musical instrument in the orchestra, blending in ever so beautifully. Jean Carn is definitely an album to check out thoroughly.

Jackson Gets 'Father of Year' Award

A star-studded line up turned out to watch Joe Jackson, father and manager of Epic recording artists The Jacksons, receive the "Father of the Year" award at the Black Athletes' Hall of Fame dinner held recently at the New York Hilton Hotel.

Over the years Joe Jackson has been consistent as a father and manager in the supervision and guidance of The Jacksons. They've had many successful tours, recently hosted their own tv show, and Michael has just been chosen for the role of the Scarecrow in the upcoming movie "The Wiz". Among the notables present were Jackie and

Randy Jackson of The Jacksons, Philadelphia International Records recording artists, Lou Rawls and Billy Paul; Columbia's Hubert Laws; Howard Cosell; Dick Gregory; Milton Berle; Al Green; O. J. Simpson; Alan

King; James Brown; George Benson; Bill Cosby; and many more. Philadelphia International Records recording artist, Dexter Wansel had the honor of conducting the MFSB Orchestra at the dinner.

Dance Group of NCCU In Concert

The Summer Dance Group of North Carolina Central University will present its summer concert on Tuesday evening, July 26 on the patio of the Student Union, at 8:15 p.m. The repertory will be

more of modern, jazz, novelty, ethnic and interpretive.

The dancers represent many areas of concentration of the college or university program, and interested persons in the world of dance.



LEFT TO RIGHT - Antoinette Farley, Deborah Woodson, Alfredia Carter.

NCCU PRESENTS AWARD WINNING PLAY

BY KELVIN A. BELL

The Department of Dramatic Art presented Paul Zindel's award winning play, The Effects of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds on Wednesday,

July 13, at the New University Theater at the corner of Lawson and Fayetteville Streets.

The play, under the direction of Johnny Alston

and the design of Linwood Taylor, featured Alfredia Carter, Roberta Hairston, Antoinette Farley, Deborah Woodson, and Tamjnie Wiggins.

NCCU Dancers Perform

Members of the NCCU Summer Dance Program performed for the Salvation Army Boys Club on last Friday afternoon as a part of their special library festival given by the staff at the Club on Alston Avenue.

The dancers chose to do four numbers of appeal for the young audience. They were: People Get Ready, Ain't It, Disco Duck, and Tear the Roof Off.

The dances were enjoyed

by all. Participating dancers were Miriam Gattis, Scotty Long, Gloria Saddler, Cynthia Ivey and Angela Woolard.

They were accompanied by Little Adrienne Saddler, and a business manager Eddie Saddler. The group is a part of the physical education department at North Carolina Central University. Sponsor and advisor: Miss Nancy D. Pinckney, assistant professor of physical education and dance.



EBONY DANCE THEATRE IN CONCERT

The Ebony Dance Theatre will be presented in concert on Friday evening, July 22 at 7:15 p.m., on the campus of North Carolina Central University.

The Ebony Dance Theatre is a young dance company devoted to the philosophy of community dance. The belief of the company is that every human being has the right to experience the joy, beauty, and freedom of communication through dance.

The repertory of the company reflects ideals through concern with all types of dance including modern, jazz, ballet, and ethnic.

Concert time is 7:15 p.m. in the B. N. Duke Auditorium. Admission is free.

wdnc disco

The Only Disco Sound in Durham-Raleigh At Night!

WDNC RADIO 620

Calendar

SATURDAY, August 13 -
The Azalea Garden Club is planning a trip to Kings Dominion, in Virginia. The bus will leave from Hillsdale High School at 6 a.m. and return at 9 p.m. The trip plus admission fee is \$17.00 per person. Please call 682-1810 after 6 p.m. to make your reservation and pay deposit.

WEEKENDS
Durham Theatre Guild's Summer Children's Theatre presents "The Undiscovered King," a musical telling the story of King Arthur as a boy. The play will be presented on two weekends: July 21-24 and July 28-30; Thursday and Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. Performances will be held at the Durham Arts Council, 810 West Proctor Street. Reservations can be made by calling the Arts Council at 682-5519 during business hours. Prices are \$2.00 for adults and young people 16 and over and \$1.00 for young people under 16.

SUNDAY, July 24 -
10:30 p.m. **SOMETHING PERSONAL:** Two short films, "No Lies" and "If It Happens to You" examine two young women's reactions to rape -- one who chooses to hide it and the other who chose to report it. WUNC-TV, Channel 4.

THURSDAY, July 28 -
10 p.m. **AT THE TOP:** Earl "Fatha" Hines, "father of the modern jazz piano," performs with his quintet and singer Marva Josie. WUNC-TV, channel 4.

Mail Cinemas
SOUTH SQUARE MALL 493-3502
CHAPLAIN BLVD. PARKING BEHIND MALL

Daily 7:15 & 9:15 Sat. & Sun. 1:15-3:15-5:15-7:15-9:15
A TROPICAL PARADISE UNTOUCHED BY MAN... WHERE A BIZARRE CIVILIZATION EXISTS.
THE ISLAND OF DR. MOREAU
BURT LANCASTER MICHAEL YORK BARBARA CARRERA

Daily 7:30; 9:30 3:30; 5:30; 7:30; 9:30
ORCA-THE ONLY ANIMAL WHO KILLS FOR REVENGE.
ORCA
THE KILLER WHALE
STARRING: RICHARD HARRIS CHARLOTTE RAMPLING

Daily 7:10 & 9:25 Sat. & Sun. 2:15-4:45-7:10-9:25
Is anything worth the terror of
THE DEEP

7th Big Week!
Daily 7:00 & 9:30 Sat. & Sun. 2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30
ROLLER COASTER
A PURSUIT THROUGH THE NATION'S GREATEST AMUSEMENT PARKS
ROLLER COASTER
RIDE IT IN SENSATION

There's only one **ELECTRA** and you know who's got it!



The largest selection of **ELECTRAS** in all the years of making them

RIDE IN THE COMFORT AND COMPLETE SAFETY THAT THIS FINE CAR CAN GIVE

WE'RE SACRIFICING THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS FOR AN EARLY CLEARANCE

Savings on top of Savings

BUY NOW AND SAVE UP TO AN EXTRA \$500.00 ON AN EXPECTED 1978 PRICE INCREASE

INSTANT ON-THE-SPOT FINANCING

A good selection of most other Buick styles

DOWNTOWN DURHAM
316 E. Main—Just off the Loop
CALL 682-5486

Factory-rated service for 63 years—
The largest parts department in the Southeast

Johnson BUICK/OPEL