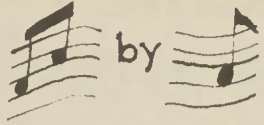


ENTERTAINMENT



Wit. & M. J.

Nina Simone: Nuff Said

(A guest review by Bernard Lewis)

This recording is very appropriately subtitled "Songstress of the Times." Herein, Nina often applies her fantastic voice to her material to very tastefully comment on the issues of her day.

In "Sunday in Savannah" a smooth, somewhat sweltering afternoon is presented. Nina obviously works in her idiom here; but possibly she also cries out against the typical conception of Negro lethargy: "One more Sunday in Savannah...same, same, same, same feeling."

"The Backlash Blues" is a tribute song to the late poet Langston Hughes. The text was done shortly before his death especially for Nina. She comments that he cried out months before, "Nina, keep on till the door is open." And certainly she has "kept on" with much success in her personal fight to establish Black dignity.

The epitome of commentary comes in "Why? (The king of Love is Dead)." This song and the entire concert was done, as Nina relates in her introduction, in tribute to the late Dr. Martin Luther King. It was presented on the day following the assassination at the Westbury, Long Island Music Fair and was written upon that day by Nina's bass player Gene Taylor. She cries out "Better stop and think 'cause we're headed for the brink." Whether you share her sentiments or not you'll have to agree that it's a sincere and tasteful tribute. Nina offers a very artistic and sensitive reading in expressing her concern for what might "happen now that the king of Love is dead."

Nina gives a very different and interesting treatment to two songs from the controversial Broadway music, "Hair." "Ain't Got No" and "I Got Life" are combined as a medley cataloguing what she "ain't got" and answering with "I got my hair...my nose...my liver...my life...my freedom." She really "blows it out" here to put across her point.

Nina has become quite well-known for her reading of "I Loves you Porgy" from the Gershwin musical PORGY AND BESS. This is often called the definitive recording thereof. Truly it sounds great; but I would question such a statement after a listen to some other Gershwin and to the Leontyne Price interpretation of the peice. Indeed it appears to be somewhat more of Simone and less of Gershwin. The song is very sensitively interpreted but the ending cadenza and departure from what one would normally expect from a Gershwin piece are troublesome to me.

Of course, "Do What You Gotta Do" is thrown in as a "bonus song." It is not a part of the Westbury concert and somehow loses some of the spark of the live presentation. This is the popular recording of the song and is done with orchestration and chorus in a studio.

The back-up men in this recording are a most impressive lot; and their accompaniments smack aof soul yet retain a highly tasteful and imaginative quality. A great versatility may be seen throughout in this department too. While the medley and "Gin House Blues" approach "soul-rock," that used in "Please Read Me" sounds a great deal like a Debussy piano piece. The dissociation here is very refreshing. However, the final cadance of this piece troubles me.

The closing song of the concert has got to be my favorite. It is the familiar Dorsey tune, "Precious Lord, Take My Hand." I choose this because Nina's at home here. The rendition presents a truly "Gospel" approach throughout—from her vocal setting to the organ-piano accompaniment. It is done quite slowly and smoothly and she whispers "Goodnight" to close it and the program perfectly. I must say it's a real delight to hear honest "Soul" done in such good taste and with such consistent freshness and imagination.

"Nuff Said! Nina must be discussed on Nina's ground—and that means "Soul." And here she's got it knocked!

Animals, animals, Animals

Since The Animals became Eric Burdon and the Animals, they have gotten more and more —. Their new M-G-M album "LOVE IS" is more than ever before. "River Deep Mountain High" is a fine electric sound featuring the equally electric vocal vicissitudes of their Burdon (some) leader. Sure, Eric can sing those psychedelic lyrics like a finely tuned instrument, but the group has a startlingly unique instrumental tone that can stand the test without Eric's lamentable interruptions. "I'm An Animal" is perhaps the most animistic tune to hit the stands lately. It tells the origins and history of the group in words and in sound. Here, the vocalizing is needed to clear up some, otherwise, vague points. Which animal? Burdon's voice comes through best here as he speak-sings the words. The subtlety of the title of "I'm Dying (or Am I?)" is lost in the lyrics. Johnny Cash would turn over in his grave (if he were dead) if he heard the Burdon version of "Ring of Fire" that features some strange musical effects and a few stranger vocal

"Finding Inner Peace Is A Do-it-Yourself Project."

By Marlene Whitley

Students filtered through the doorway and glanced around. Some sat down; others, suspicious of what was to come, changed their minds and left. Then she entered, smiling in her jeans, shirt, and tunic, and no one cared to leave anymore.

On her tunic was printed "PEACE PILGRIM" and "25,000 MILES ON FOOT FOR WORLD PEACE." Those who had expected a teenage quack gazed at her silver hair and quickly changed their impressions.

Peace Pilgrim has walked her 25,000 miles, but she continues because her vow states: "I shall remain a wanderer until the world knows peace." Around twenty-five UNC-C students discovered her reason as they met with her Wednesday, November 20, in Union 215.

Owning only what she wears and what she carries, Peace Pilgrim stated that she has never been refused food or shelter. This, she feels, is reason for hope. She tours the country, speaking on the

crisis of human history and the need for peace.

"Man is a cell in the body of humanity," she explained. "If one cell fails, the entire body suffers. Everyone, therefore, is equally important."

She prays that man will discover this need because "when you find peace, you are in control of life."



As a pilgrim for peace, she has had neither a cold nor a headache since she began over 31 years ago. "I'm plugged into the source of universal energy," she insists.

As a guide for her audience, she indicated three ways of working for peace: (1) by working politically, (2) by inspiring people

individually to find inner peace, and (3) by loving people. "The laws of the universe will bring us good as soon as we learn to obey them."

In her discussion of war, peace, God, and love, Peace Pilgrim proved herself very literate; yet she refuses to divulge the extent of her education. "I find that I can best communicate with people when I speak on their terms, whether it be common or intellectual. It doesn't really matter about my education..."

She was vehement in her convictions; however, she was wise enough to realize that her way is not always right for everyone. "Walk by your own path, and go through your own door," she advised.

Time cheated UNC-C; the scheduled period ended almost before it began. It was extended, but even the extension ended with many unanswered questions.

Students trickled out of the room, remaining as long as possible with her, asking final questions. But beyond her final answers, she explained, "Finding inner peace is a 'do-it-yourself' project. Only you can find yourself."

Faculty to Feed Students

CANDY, a Dutch monthly sex magazine, has put up photo model Jacqueline Hermans as the grand prize in its latest question-and-answer contest. The exact nature of the prize consists of 48 hours with Miss Hermans to whatever the winner wishes to do. Isn't that the limit?

But how would you like to win a UNC-C professor? Unfortunately, nothing so elaborate is planned for 11:30 in the Union today. What IS planned, however, may prove to be at least as beneficial to several lucky students. Several of the professors and their wives have offered to auction off their services as cooks to the highest bidder. The participants in this charity project are the following: Dr. and Mrs. Frank Whittaker (education) Mr. and Mrs. Bill Biglow (political science) Dr. Darryll McCall (English) Miss Beatrice Nugent (speech) Dr. and Mrs. John Crothwaithe (Chemistry and ??????????) - a single, well-traveled master chef, featuring a Chinese, Japanese, American, or Spanish menu.

The proceeds will go to charity.

UNC-C Wrestling

CHARLOTTE — The University of North Carolina at Charlotte will hold the first wrestling match in the history of the institution at 3 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 14 at Derita Elementary School Gymnasium.

The UNC-C team, coached by Paul Fleming, will meet Lynchburg College. This is the only home match scheduled.

Before coming to UNC-C, Coach Fleming was head wrestling and assistant baseball coach at the University of Cincinnati.

Henry Kissinger, a speaker at UNC-C's forum last year, has been appointed a top aid by the President-elect, Richard Nixon. A paper submitted by Kissinger for a book to be published soon by UNC-C may hold some of the answers to questions about the foreign policy of the incoming administration. See next week's JOURNAL for an analysis of the Kissinger report by John Lafferty.

Derby Dozen Defaces Amphitheater

By Donna Raley

The attention of the students has recently been drawn towards a faulty administration, faculty, and many student leaders. All the gripes have been voiced in order to arouse a lethargic, herded mass of students into an awareness of the "evil" on campus. Unfortunately, the evil is among us, in someone with whom we may speak with every day. The evil I am referring to may be clearly viewed in the Amphitheater. It seems as though our friendly "bell painters" are back, but this time it's not funny.

As one innocently walks through the Amphitheater, it becomes quite obvious that there is a rather offending addition on the wall in front of the moat. The Amphitheater, built with an aesthetic purpose in mind, has been unthinkingly defaced. The phrase DERBY 12 and two crudely drawn hats on either side is the dominating feature of an otherwise pleasing structure. One's first thought is the Spirit contest until one realizes that this particular graffiti is serving NO purpose; except to infringe upon the rights of the students.

On page 42 of the Gold Digger it states, "The UNC-C Honor Code is ...accompanied with the individual's concept of honor..." (evidently warped in this instance) "It governs the daily behavior of each person in relation to his

fellow students, faculty, and University." Under the section about student conduct regulations, the Gold Digger continues. "The University expects all students to conduct themselves as responsible adults... and to abide by the moral and legal restraints of the community. College students are considered to be MATURE individuals. Accordingly, a minimum number of rules and regulations regarding conduct have been issued."

The maturity of the members of this anonymous group must be questioned. A secret group, organized for one reason or another can be accepted if it promotes good spirit, leadership, fellowship etc. If the group has organized purely for fun, the antics may brighten someone's day or add an air of harmless underlying movement on campus, which can be healthy. But a group of people, remaining anonymous and displaying nothing but destruction can only breed contempt.

How about it, Derby Dozen? There are twelve students on this campus who could put their anonymous efforts to good use. Using the intelligence and common sense it is hoped that they possess, they might think before they take it upon themselves to destroy something that is not theirs.

Wednesday's Happenings

The UNC-C Biology Club will present a talk by Mr. Kent L. Brady on the cancer research being conducted on campus in affiliation with Charlotte Memorial Hospital. The talk will be followed by a Question-Answer period. All interested students and faculty are welcome to attend. It will be held December 11 at 12:00 in room K-107.

The Baptist Student Union will present a 30-minute color film entitled "The Life of Christ in Art," today in C-109 at 11:30. It

is open to the campus, ADULTS ONLY!

On Wednesday, December 18, the choruses of UNC-C will give a concert in the Parquet Room at 11:30. Mr. Harvey Woodruff and Mrs. Roselyn Boyette are the conductors of the two choruses. Everyone is cordially invited. The pumbers will be both secular and religious in origin.

This is a perfect way for the students and faculty to start their Christmas vacation. Come to the Parquet room and support your chorus.