

Dot Dandridge, New Hubby Attend "Porgy" Premiere

Theatricals

Opening Night Audience Studded With Top Stars

THE WEEK IN RECORDS

BY ALBERT ANDERSON FOR ASSOCIATED NEGRO PRESS TOP RELEASES

Four top album releases, ranging from jazz to gospel singing are featured in this week's review.

In jazz, Julius "Cannonball" Adderly and Ernestine Anderson score with new waxings, while Fred Waring and his Pennsylvanians heard on a disc called "Do You Remember," and five former members of the Clara Ward group are featured on the gospel recording.



Here is a rundown on the releases:

"JUMP FOR JOY"—featuring Adderly and select group—Mercury: "This is a real jazz session. Although Adderly dominates the scene with his sax stylings, he gets a big assist from Emmett Berry's solo work on trumpet, a string quartet and rhythm section. Together they play a special interpretation of the score of Duke Ellington's 1941 show, "Jump For Joy," from which the album takes its title. The new arrangements are by Bill Russo, but Adderly and company play them as if they were theirs. Best offering is "I Got It Bad and That Ain't Good."

ERNESTINE ANDERSON—Mercury: This is a fine follow-up to Miss Anderson's "Hot Cargo," which scored heavily in the record mart. However, her repertoire here is more diversified, although her styling is unmistakably the same. Miss Anderson has been tabbed the most exciting new singer to come along in years and she gives strong evidence to prove it here in the manner in which she caresses the songs. Pete Rugolo provides the background music I like "Stardust" and "Welcome to the Club" best of the several numbers heard on the platter. A good buy.

"DO YOU REMEMBER"—Fred Waring and the Pennsylvanians—Capitol: This is as apt a title as can be given to a record, for Waring and his men really recall the past in songs. Commentary and songs trace Waring's career back to 1917. You hear such oldies as "For Me and My Gal," "Remember," and "Dream," with Gordon Goodman being featured on six offerings. Record should have special appeal for adults in the over 45 group.

"THE STARS OF FAITH"—Savoy: This is a recording of spirituals by a group of ex-Ward singers that's really enjoyable. For one thing, the group sings an original repertoire—their own. But what is appealing about the record is the way in which the songs are handled by the balance blend of voices. In the group, called The Stars of Faith, are three lyric sopranos and two contraltos, who take turn in handling the solo work. Each is good. Record should score well.

COOL RECOVERY — Louis (Satchmo) Armstrong, 58-year-old jazz trumpeter, pretends to play horn to show his physician, Dr. Alexander Schiff of New York, that he's still with it, as the musician recuperates after a pneumonia attack June 26th.

Armstrong appeared to be on the road to recovery again after a second crisis of pneumonia, a dangerous disease for him because his lung tissue is swollen from playing his sweet horn for 45 years. (UPI RADIO TELEPHOTO).

Satchmo Released From Italian Hospital After Serious Illness

SPOLETO, Italy (ANP) — Louis (Satchmo) Armstrong Wednesday was reported resting comfortably and joking with nurses at a hospital in nearby Perugia, following an attack of pneumonia. He was released from the hospital this week.

Armstrong and his all-star combo, with vocalist Velma Middleton, were in this medieval city for an American-European music festival. They have been abroad for the past

four months, appearing in most of the major cities of the Continent.

Satchmo, 58, received oxygen for awhile, but doctors reported his temperature was normal and pulse strong.

When his nurse, Anna Venturini, asked him: "Do you need a lot of breath to blow a trumpet, Mr. Armstrong?" Satch replied: "No, I'll be playing the trumpet for you tomorrow so you can see."

However, doctors have told the trumpeter, age that he will have to lie still for six weeks.

Many Sepia Artists

BOSTON (ANP) — Thousands of Bostonians were treated on separate occasions to the best offered by Negroes in the field of jazz and concert singing.

On the evening set aside by officials of the Boston Arts festival for jazz, Rollins Griffith, a graduate of the New England Conservatory

NEW YORK (ANP) — The Samuel Goldwyn production of "Porgy and Bess" in Todd-AO had its world premiere at the Warner theatre last week, just two years after the Gershwin-Heyward masterpiece was announced for production.

The opening night audience was studded with stars including Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Goldwyn and Mrs. DuBose Heyward, widow of DuBose and co-author of the novel on which the play was based.

Stars of the picture on hand for the premiere were Dorothy Dandridge, Bess; Sammy Davis, Jr., Sportin' Life; and Brock Peters, Crown. Otto Preminger, who directed the picture, was also there. Sidney Poitier, who has the name role is playing in "A Raisin in the Sun," at the Barrymore theatre around the corner.

In the first night audience were also Marlene Dietrich, Mr. and Mrs. Richard (Mary Martin) Hatfield, Mr. and Mrs. Bennett Cerf, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Balaban, "Red" Buttons, Gen. Theodore Curtis, Dave Garroway, Eric Johnston, Mrs. Danny Kaye, Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge, Mr. and Mrs. Mitch Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Edward R. Murrow, Mrs. Robert Sherwood, and Judge Sam Rosenman.

The premiere was for the benefit of the American Friends of the Hebrew University and the Multiple Sclerosis society. "Porgy" will have an indefinite run at Warner theatre on a "reserved seat only" basis.



BATTER UP — The stars of "Odds Against Tomorrow," Robert Ryan and Harry Belafonte play stickball on Morningside Heights with Ryan catching and Belafonte ready to bell away at the rubber ball. The pickup game was played between scenes of the United Artists release which was filmed in New York.



HOLLYWOOD (ANP) — For Nat "King" Cole, it will be the third time in a row that a capacity crowd of over 20,000 will see themselves in the vast natural amphitheatre of Hollywood Bowl for his special "King Cole" night.

But a number of other noted Negro artists, who appeared last season, will return during the season of "Symphonies Under the Stars," that opens July 2.

Included will be Ella Fitzgerald, a great favorite; Mahalia Jackson and Leontyne Price.

The eminence of the Negro entertainer in the theatre is unquestioned, but their ever-growing importance in serious concert music is again attested by the large number of concerts at Hollywood Bowl this summer, in which Negro artists will appear as the star.

The Friday night concerts include Ella Fitzgerald singing the songs of Gershwin on July 24, Cole, with his inimitable style, appears on Aug. 21. Mahalia Jackson sings "Songs of Faith" on Aug. 7.

Leontyne Price will appear with the Los Angeles Philharmonic orchestra, under the direction of Thomas Schippers, Aug. 27, and Ella Lee and McHenry Boatwright on the Hollywood Bowl "Pops" concert, July 13.

The Boswick Singers, a chorus of 100 voices under the direction of David Boswick, will appear on the "Gay 90's Night," July 10-11, with Patricia Morison and the Stephen Papich Dancers. Albert White conducts the orchestra.

They will also appear on the "Gershwin Night" concert, July 15, Andrew Kostelanetz, conductor; with Andre Previn, pianist and Ella Lee; and with Mahalia Jackson.

The 38th season of "Symphony Under the Stars" opens Thursday, July 2, with the world famous conductor, Herbert von Karajan, directing the Los Angeles Philharmonic orchestra.

There will be 30 concerts this year, the longest season in the Bowl's distinguished history. Tuesday and Thursday will be "Symphony Nights," with the Los Angeles Philharmonic orchestra conducted by world famous conductors and stars of opera and concert stage as soloists.

Friday nights will be "Personality Nights" and Hollywood Bowl "Pops" concerts will be presented on Saturday night.



ATTEND "PORGY AND BESS" PREMIERE — Samuel Goldwyn (left) producer of the movie "Porgy and Bess," chats with actress Dorothy Dandridge and her husband, Jack Denison, as they arrive to attend the world premiere of the film at the Warner Theatre, New York, June 24th. Miss Dandridge, female star of the picture, plays Bess. (UPI PHOTO).

Mahalia Reveals For First Time Why She, Husband Were Divorced

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (ANP) — "God is still in the wisdom business," stated Mrs. Mahalia Hackenbush, while at breakfast in the Hotel Ben Moore.

She was talking about her recent life story in one of the magazines, where she stated she was unworried about the way in which she expresses herself. Then, in an easy, neighborly way, she told this reporter why she was not Mrs. Mahalia Hackenbush, but Mahalia Jackson again.

The night before, this "Queen of Gospel Music" had integrated the arena of the Alabama State College with her rendition of such numbers as "God Can Move Rivers," "God Is So Good To Me," and received resounding ovations on selection of "Didn't It Rain" and "When the Saints Go Marching In."

In doing the ballad, "Somebody Bigger Than You and I," she did things to it that the composer never intended—but who censors a queen?

When we questioned her about her likes and favorites in music, she said:

"I like all music that carry a message. I sing classics and semi-classics, such as 'The Lord's Prayer,' 'Ave Maria,' they are easier to sing than gospel.

"Such numbers as 'He' and 'I Found the Answer,' I sing when I am not so tired. But gospel music have soul—it widens the vocal range and builds up the chest muscles."

FIRST PUBLIC REVELATION

Upon being asked why she and her husband were not together, with a look of amused surprise, she said:

"You have something new that none of the other report-

ers have. They have never asked me about my being married.

"My husband was a graduate of Tuskegee, a chemist. He wanted me to sing, but he wanted me to sing classics. But I had no education and we were starving. So I sang the songs in which I could talk to God, for He is still in the wisdom business.

"So then I became a divorcee in 1943."

Boston Ensemble Scores At Shaw

The Boston Concert Ensemble returned to Shaw University last week and gave a delightfully refreshing musical reprieve with artistry, style, and charm that melted its warm audience.

As a violinist Miss Cirillo's flair for the Spanish idiom was evidenced in three numbers by De Falla and Ravel. Exquisite tonal tapestry was exhibited in Ravel's "Habanera," and dash and fire were evidenced in De Falla's Spanish Dance.

Handel's "Harmonious Blacksmith" variations and "Song in the Night" by the great harpist virtuoso Carlos Salzedo, gave Miss Litz opportunity to show her knowledge of taste

and style in two widely different areas of large repertory. Her playing manifested charm, deftness when required, verve and 'elan when needed.

An extraordinary gifted pianist and excellent accompanist, Mr. Stevens had poetic insight to Faure's "Nocturne in E Flat," and a passionate fire contrasted the lyricism of Brahms "Rhapsody in G Minor."

Mr. Hornes, bass-baritone used with taste his opulent voice. Clear diction, stylistic delineations—all are accoutrements of Mr. Hornes.

The ensemble was heard to good effect in several numbers, the Largo, by Handel performed in memory of George Handel 1685-1759.

Miss Hansberry To Do NBC Civil War Drama

Hansberry, prize-winning author of the prize-winning play, "A Raisin in the Sun," has been assigned to write the first of NBC's series of Civil War centennial

dramas to be presented on TV in 1961.

Dore Schary, veteran movie and stage producer, arranged the assignment prior to leaving for the west coast.

Beauty Captures Western Pa.'s Coveted Title Of 'Shrine Queen'

PITTSBURGH, PA. (ANP) — Western Pa.'s new Shrine queen is Patricia A. Pratts, crowned recently in A. Lee Weil school after a challenging competition based on talent and beauty.

The contest was sponsored by Sahara Temple No. 2 and Sahara Court No. 9, for the benefit of the Shrine Tuberculosis and Cancer

Research foundation.

Miss Pratts will go Los Angeles in August to compete against winners from other sections of the country for \$4,000 in scholarship prize money. Seventeen years old, she is a sophomore at Carnegie Institute of technology.

In 1952, the Shriners gave \$5,000 to Homer G. Phillips hospital, St.

Louis, \$7,000, St. Mary's infirmary, Galveston, Tex.; \$3,500, Meharry Medical college, Nashville; \$7,000, Howard University; \$6,000, College of the Medical Evangelist, Los Angeles; and \$5,000, Emory University, Atlanta.


Second and third place winners were Andrea Griffin and Charlotte Lee, respectively.



CHEERS FOR SAMMY — Actor Sammy Davis, Jr. (right), gets enthusiastic greetings by fans as he arrives for world premiere of film "Porgy and Bess" at Warner Theatre, New York, June 24th. Davis plays "Sportin' Life" in the movie. (UPI PHOTO).

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