

OF THE FINE ARTS

70 ARTS FESTIVAL

Les Danseurs Africains

On April 22nd Elizabeth City State University marveled at the tremendous performance of les dancers, drummers, acrobats and singers are internationally known as the National Ensemble of the Republic of Cameroon. After finishing a spectacular tour of Europe, this exotic troupe is giving America a tour of performances that equal, with an impending promise to surpass, all previous tours in spectacle and reception.

The drumming, rhythmic dancing with richly, raw, yet melodious, voices held the audience spellbound throughout the entire array of the unspooled African culture.

This two hour glimpse of Malis turbulent past was complete with presentations ranging from native village scenes to secret witchcraft and funeral rituals never seen before by most of the western culture.

Mistical songs of the Bambaras, the Peulhs and the Markas (African Tribes) displayed an uninhibited stangeness that when fused with the dances and acrobatics of the Malinkes, the Touareges, and the Senoufos, gave the audience a dazzling, passionate experience that is unlikely to be forgotten.

This segment of our Lyceum Series (cultural enrichment programs) enhanced remarkably the colossal reviews it had received from Paris, London and America.

Figaro of Paris called it "An exciting spectacle, impressive for the richness of the costumes, the beauty of the women,

the athletic brilliance of the male dancers and the sure sense of showmanship that prevailed over the entire evening."

The London Times ventured to reflect, "The ovation that followed the curtains fall continued defening for a good twenty minutes while the audience stood, roaring its approval and pleading for more."

The lyceum committee members especially the chairman, must be commended for presenting this magnificent program with an emphatic plea for more of the same.



African Dancers



Jack Williams Displays Work

Photographer Jack Williams, displaying a Court of Honor bridal print, one of six awards accorded him, recently, at the Winston-Salem 1970 Convention of the Professional Photographers of North Carolina. The study shown is of Mrs. Robert L. Pippen, Jr., of Cary, North Carolina, the former Charlene Jones of Elizabeth City. Williams exhibited five prints, placing three in the Court of Honor and winning the second place trophy for direct color photography with a study of a P-51 Mustang. His direct color study of the Navy's "Blue Angels" was one of the highest scoring photographs in the show of 400 prints. Print Chairman, Peter Comer stated that Williams had earned first, second and third or "Best in the State" in addition to many Court of Honor awards, since joining the Professional Photographers of North Carolina. Williams' art will be a feature in the Elizabeth City State University 1970 Fine Arts Festival, wherein his presentation will be "The Art of Seeing in Photography," an exhibition, opening on April 24th, 11:00 A.M., in the Little Library, Second Floor. His slide presentation, in the Festival, opens on the same day, at 10:00 A.M. in the Little Theatre.