

For Three Performances

Cab Calloway's "Cotton Club Revisited" Coming To Town

By Loretta Manago
Post Staff Writer

Journey back to a time when life was gay and carefree when the musical "Cab Calloway's Cotton Club Revisited" comes to the Charlotte Ovens Auditorium July 24-25 for three performances.

The time is 1920, the place is New York and the action is at the Cotton Club where anybody who's somebody meet and greet.

Panama Francis, one of the greatest drummer-band leader along with the legendary Cab Calloway will put you back in the jazzy be-bop era of the 20's with classics like "Get Happy!", "It Ain't Necessarily So," "Jumpin' Jive," "Get Happy," and "Good-time Charlie's Got The Blues."

But "Cotton Club Revisited" surpasses the surface of a list of songs and music, it delves into a special era, a special time and a special place.

The Cotton Club made its fame in the 20's. It was housed in a building erected for amusement purposes on 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue.

Shaped like a horseshoe, the room was typical cabaret style and tables were arranged on two levels. Able to seat about 600 the club was decorated in an African motif.

From 1927 with Duke Ellington and his band performing through 1933 with Cab Calloway and his orchestra the Cotton Club was a showcase for up and coming artists and a fertile ground for original creative music.

It was probably the only place around where the elite rubbed shoulders with gangsters. On any given evening you might see:

"Fame"

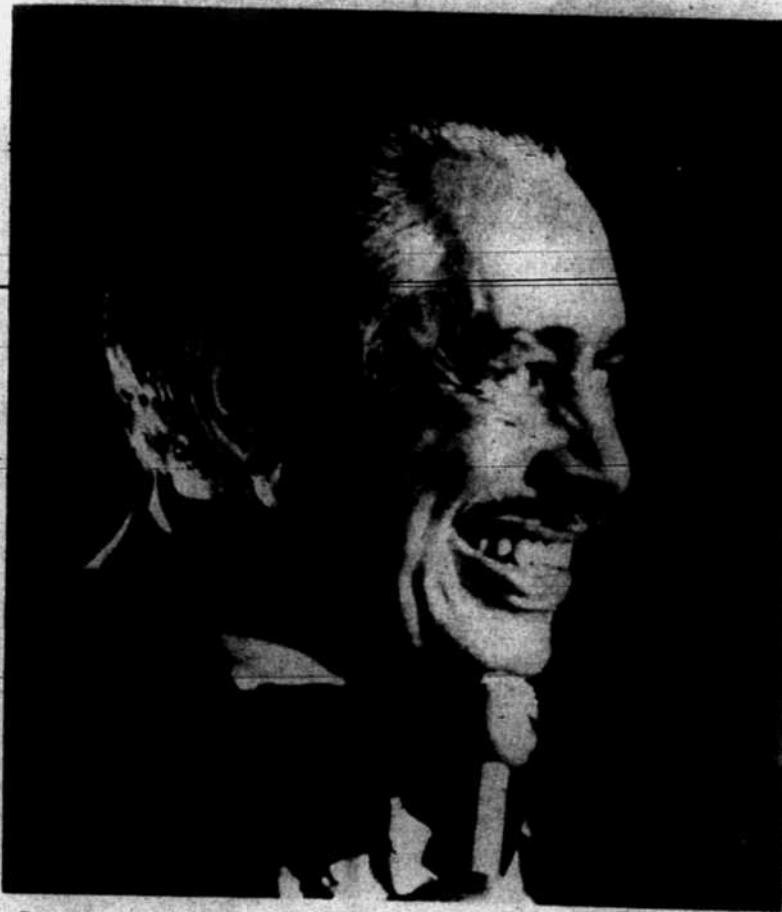
Oscar winner Art Carney ("Harry and Tonto") and Ray Walston guest star as the School of Arts' janitor and his aging vaude-villian pal, who get a special gift from the kids, in "A Big Finish," a moving episode of NBC-TV's "Fame" Thursday, July 22 from 8-9 p.m.

Tim O'Bannon, the irascible janitor (Carney), is playing host to his old chum Birdie Whelan (Walston). When the kids discover the two men have taken up residence in the school, they want to make their lives cheerier. The youngsters want to hold a benefit performance for the two men, but run into a snag. A dog named Clumpy saves the day.

"Dukes Of Hazzard"

After a fortune in diamonds lands at their feet from a hijacked airplane, Bo and Luke have to protect themselves from the thieves, a fake FBI agent and Boss Hogg, on a rebroadcast of "The Dukes of Hazzard," Friday, July 16 at 8 p.m. on WBTV, Channel 3.

A pair of waiting crooks watches as Bo and Luke recover the dropped diamonds and the chase is on. Uncle Jesse calls the FBI to come and get the stolen goods and Boss Hogg sends a phony FBI man to get them for himself. The real FBI agent joins in the chase with the Dukes chasing the phony FBI man.



Cab Calloway
...Legendary performer

Florinz Zigfield, Jimmy Durante, Irving Berlin, Noel Coward, Fred Astaire and Ethel Merman.

At the onset of the war in 1942 The Cotton Club closed its doors.

Through "Cotton Club Revisited," the chance to relive those magical experiences is yours. And Cab Calloway is one of the instruments that brings it to you.

Born in Rochester, N.Y. in 1907 Calloway, a student at Cranne Law School, worked his way through moonlighting at a southside nightclub, emceeing and later singing and producing shows.

Hynotized by the world of show business, Calloway soon forgot his law career and became the leader of a Chicago group called "The Alabamians."

His first Broadway show was "Connie's Hot Chocolate" but he has also appeared in "Hello Dolly," "The Pajama Game," "Bubbling Brown Sugar" and "Eubie." Over the years Calloway

has appeared in many films such as "The Big Broadcast," "The Singing Kid," "Stormy Weather," "St. Louis Blues," "The Cincinnati Kid," and "The Blues Brothers."

Another catalyst in "Cotton Club Revisited" is Panama Francis.

A legend in jazz circles he has recorded and performed with artists like Ella Fitzgerald, Ray Charles, Cab Calloway, Duke Ellington and Lionel Hampton.

Having begun his musical career at an early age as a drummer with the Roy Eldridge Band, Francis is

"The Jeffersons"

Florence slips into a state of depression, convinced she'll live the rest of her life as a single woman, until George comes to her rescue with some helpful methods on how to land a man, on a rebroadcast of "The Jeffersons" Sunday, July 18 at 9:30 p.m. on WBTV, Channel 3.

renowned as a complete musician and a born leader.

Tickets are \$11.50, \$10.50 and \$9.50 and are on sale now at the Coliseum box office, Sears and all area Sears stores, Belks (Monroe), Telephone Answering Service (Albemarle), UNCC (Cone Center) and Statesville Travel.

Along with Cab Calloway will be master ventriloquist Willie Tyler and his side kick Lester. For more information call 372-3600.

"Diffrent Strokes"

A young Korean man claims to be Phil Drummond's son and shocks the family, especially Phil, in "Hello Daddy," on NBC-TV's "Diff'rent Strokes" Thursday, July 22 from 9-9:30 p.m.

Gary Coleman, Todd Bridges, Conrad Bain, Dana Plato and Dody Goodman star in the series. Noby McCarthy and Keone Young are the guest stars.

While in the Army 30 years ago, Phil Drummond, stationed in Korea, fell in love with pretty Hi Sook Chun. Her village was destroyed and he thought she was killed - until her son, David, shows up to meet his long lost father.

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District Court Judge

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