



Two kids from New York, one from Brooklyn, the other from Roosevelt Island. Childhood friends, they hadn't hung out for a while 'til they hooked up one day at the crossroads of the world, "the Deuce," "Time Square"-42nd Street. At that time, Double-O schooled Velore on some new fresh beats he had been putting together out on Roosevelt Island. Both agreed the beats were def enough and

large enough to put vocals over, so they decided to get busy, putting Velore & Double-O into effect. In late 1986, Velore & Double-O signed with Invasion Records, and a licensing deal with Virgin was arranged in 1987. During this time, fashion designer David Cameron picked up on the pair and as accompaniment for a video of his Spring '87 collections.

## Benefit For Charlotte Repertory Inspires Additional Performances

The Friends of Charlotte Repertory Theatre are hosting a benefit, "AN EVENING WITH CLARENCE DARROW," on October 17. Two additional performances have been scheduled, one on October 21 for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools sponsored by the Friends of Charlotte Repertory and the other, on October 20, for the general public sponsored by Commonwealth Land Title Company of North Carolina. Both will be held at Spirit Square in NCNB Performance Place.

On October 20 the one-man show "AN EVENING WITH CLARENCE DARROW" will be performed, sponsored by Commonwealth Land Title Company. The show was originally scheduled to play once on October 17 as a special benefit produced by the Friends of Charlotte Repertory Theatre. However, when Commonwealth became aware of the opportunity to make this popular show available to all of Charlotte, they quickly took action. Commonwealth Land Title Company will sponsor the show for that evening.

"We felt that everyone in Charlotte should have the opportunity to see this production. I feel that this is especially significant to the law community; Clarence Darrow was one of America's greatest defense attorneys. His controversial cases helped usher the U.S. legal system into the 20th century," said L. Hunter Meacham, Jr., Vice-President of Commonwealth Land Title Company.

On October 21 "AN EVENING WITH CLARENCE DARROW"

will again be performed this time as a benefit for all students in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area schools. The show will be available to all high schools; tickets are being distributed by school authorities, and admission is free. "Operating in the summer has made it difficult for us to serve more than a portion of our potential constituency. Now, for the first time, we have the opportunity to present an entertaining and historically relevant production, while schools are in session. Collectively hosting a student performance with Spirit Square and The Friends of Charlotte Repertory Theatre will set the stage for a

long and fruitful relationship with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area schools," said Mark Woods, Producing Director of Charlotte Repertory Theatre.

David Lenthall, well known to Charlotteans for his roles in "THE FOREIGNER" and "GREATER TUNA", will portray the attorney as he reviews much of America's legal history with spirit, wit, and compassion. Darrow will relive some of his greatest courtroom battles including the Leopold-Loeb case and the Scopes-Monkey Trial.

Tickets are available for the 17th and 20th. Call the Charlotte Repertory Theatre box office at 333-8587.

## UNCC Displays R&B Exhibit

The colorful and significant history of the early years of rhythm and blues in America is the subject of a photography exhibit on display Oct. 17-Nov. 17 in the University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Cone Center Gallery.

The exhibit, "Rhythm and Blues: Black American Popular Music: 1945-1955," features 51 photographs with descriptive text highlighting the formative years of a musical tradition which remains a dominant force in popu-

lar music to the present day. Artists pictured include Joe Turner, Fats Domino, Louis Jordan, Nat "King" Cole, the Orioles, the Tympany Five and Chuck Berry along with photos from early dance halls and theatres. The exhibit is on loan from the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.

Cone Gallery hours are 8 a.m. - 11 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, noon-4 p.m. Saturday and 1-11 p.m. Sundays. For further information call 547-2521.

## BET Airs AIDS Documentary Thursday

Black Entertainment Television (BET) and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services are cooperating on a special hour-long documentary to further educate and inform black Americans about the deadly AIDS disease. The documentary is the first of its kind to target blacks on a national basis.

The timely documentary, "AIDS in the Black Community," will air Thursday, October 22 at 7:00 p.m. Eastern, 4:00 p.m. Pacific and 5:00 p.m. Central time on all cable systems carrying BET.

BET will continue the AIDS discussion in a one hour follow-up, call-in program, which will air at a special time October 22, at 8:00 p.m. Eastern time, immediately after the documentary. Paul Berry, BET News anchor, will host the documentary follow-up program. The show will give viewers the opportunity to call in and talk directly to experts about their AIDS concerns while questions are still fresh in their minds.

Since 1981 when Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome was recognized, AIDS has reached epidemic proportions in this country. Many in the black community still consider AIDS a disease that afflicts white males and gays, when

in fact, among heterosexual victims, the black community has been disproportionately affected.

HHS and other agencies are seeking to reach every American with the facts about AIDS during October, proclaimed by President Reagan as AIDS Awareness and Prevention Month.

Stephanie Lee-Miller, HHS assistant secretary for public affairs, said, "It is particularly important that a special outreach be undertaken to dramatize, in documentary format, what is going on in the black community with people who contract AIDS, their families and the health professionals coping with this disease".

Robert Johnson, BET president, and Mrs. Lee-Miller, considered BET, which garners high ratings among male and female audiences age 18 to 45, to be a prime vehicle for reaching millions of black

Americans on a national basis.

In the October 22 documentary BET presents candid conversations about AIDS from black Americans in Washington, DC, San Francisco, CA, New York, NY and Atlanta, GA. A common thread repeated again and again was: "Black people need to admit that AIDS is a problem in our com-

munity".

These selected statistics clearly focus on the reality of AIDS in the black community: Although blacks constitute only 12 percent of the nation's population, around 24 percent of AIDS patients are black; 52 percent of female patients with AIDS are black; 48 percent of the heterosexual patients are black; and 61 percent of children who acquired AIDS perinatally are black.

Dr. Rudolph Jackson, medical consultant with the AIDS program for the Centers for Disease Control and professor of pediatrics at the Morehouse School of Medicine, summed up the scope or the problem this way: "It is projected that one and a half million folks in this country are infected with the AIDS virus (and) approximately 40 percent, all told, of the numbers of cases reported to date have been reported in minorities".

"Although 'Aids in the Black Community' is not full of statistical data and medical jargon which might tend to alienate the targeted audience, some statistics were absolutely necessary to demonstrate the magnitude of the problem", said Deborah Tang, executive producer.

Emphasizing that the goal of the program is to eliminate myths and

inform, Producer Tang said, "We made a special effort to talk to a variety of people, from the grassroots person, such as the intravenous drug abusers, to black gays with AIDS, to bisexuals, as well as to organizers of grassroots programs and medical professionals".

Groups in BET's broadcast coverage areas are being asked to form viewing parties in their homes with the expectation that through them the facts about AIDS will be given additional attention in the community.

## NAACP Celebrates Image Awards

HOLLYWOOD, CA -- It was 1985 and all of Hollywood (or almost all of Hollywood) was preparing for the biggest event of the year -- the Academy Awards show.

But on this fateful day in 1965, preparations were also underway for a major demonstration and picket that would focus national attention on the plight of Blacks in the entertainment industry. This action led to preliminary discussions with major Hollywood studios, television companies and record label executives on such issues as more meaningful roles for Blacks, jobs as writers, producers, directors, and technicians, and more opportunities for Blacks to advance within the entertainment industry corporations.

The NAACP then decided to take the issue of full and equal opportunity a step further. An awards system which would honor those artists, craftsmen, technicians and executives who contributed to the positive portrayal of Blacks was created. Thus an entirely new era in the entertainment award was initiated by the NAACP with the creation of "THE IMAGE AWARD".

What began as a small dinner with a few award presentations, has grown to become the largest and oldest awards show of its kind. Now in its 20th year, the coveted statuette has established itself among other major awards through years of phenomenal growth and acceptance by the many recipients, supporters and

the entertainment industry itself.

Efforts were made for several years to televise this prestigious show so that millions of Americans would be able to share in the positive and enriching images that this award represents. Finally, in 1981 and 1983, the 14th and 16th Image Awards were televised through syndication.

But Willis Edwards, President of the Beverly Hills/Hollywood Chapter (hosts of the annual fete) declared that he would not rest until this historical show aired on national television. His diligence and commitment, the 19th Annual Image Awards was broadcast on the

NBC network on January 17, 1987.

Thanks to President Edwards, other NAACP chapters around the country and the millions of viewers who tuned in, the 20th Anniversary show will be taped on December 13, 1987 at the Wilshire Theatre in Los Angeles for broadcast at a later date on NBC once again.

This year, the 20th Anniversary Image Awards show will prove to be the most spectacular and star-studded event in the history of the show, with many surprises that will certainly be recorded in the annals of entertainment history.



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