

Spyro Gyra To Play Spirit Square



Spyro Gyra will bring its critically acclaimed Three Wishes tour to Spirit Square on Friday evening at 8 p.m. as part of Spirit Square's "Season of Stars" line-up.

Since emerging from the Buffalo, N.Y., bar scene in the mid-1970s, Spyro Gyra has gone on to record nearly a dozen high-energy contemporary jazz albums. In concert they will perform songs

from their new album, as well as classics like their Top 40 hit, "Morning Dance." For Spyro Gyra leader Jay Beckenstein, the **Three Wishes** album and tour cele-

brates both the fulfillment of a musical dream and the beginning of a bold new era for one of the most successful groups in contemporary jazz history.

"On past albums, I've been oriented toward the individual tunes," Beckenstein explains. "They were like collections of short stories. When it came time to start working on **Three Wishes**, I knew right from the start that I wanted to create a larger work. I didn't want it to be just a collection of songs."

Fund-Raising Ball To Benefit Art Education



The African-American Advisory Board to the North Carolina Museum of Art will sponsor its first "African-American Celebration of the Arts" fundraising ball. The event is being planned by the board's Charlotte committee. The ball is scheduled for October 23 from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. at the First Union Atrium in Charlotte. Tickets are \$20 for individuals; \$35 for couples. For ticket information, please call (704) 376-6944 (Nicole Alfred).

Richard Schneiderman, director of the North Carolina Museum of Art, will be the guest speaker at the ball, and Lisa Cooley of WBTV will be the mistress of ceremonies. Special recognition will be given to Haywood Oubre of Winston-Salem for his lifetime contribution as a visual artist and teacher, and works by other African American artists will be on display. Hors d'oeuvres, live music, and a cash bar will be provided. Free parking will be available in the First Union parking deck.

Proceeds from the ball will help provide funds for exhibitions and acquisitions by African American artists as well as cultural programming throughout Mecklenburg County.

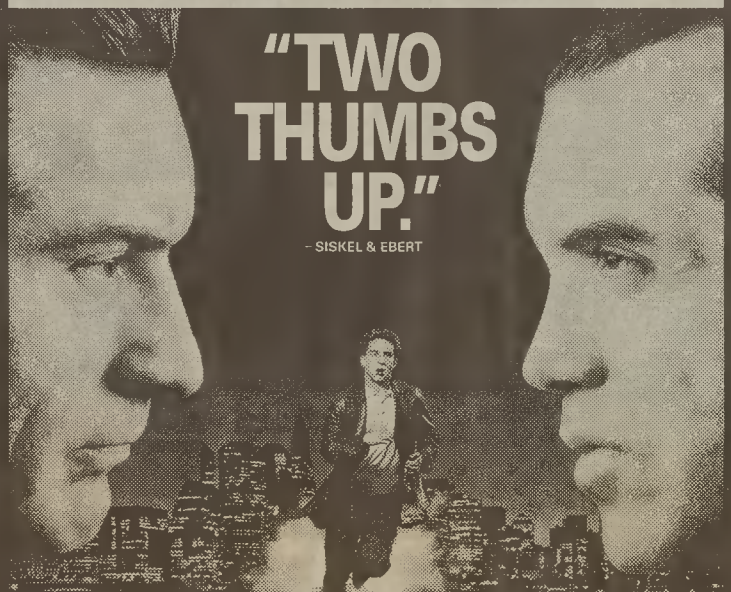
The African-American Advisory Board to the North Carolina Museum of Art was created in 1992 to increase the Museum's collection of art by African-Americans and people of African descent for the enjoyment, appreciation, education, and inspiration of all North Carolinians. In addition, the board aims to increase the participation of African Americans in all museum activities and programs. The board currently has four regional subcommittees: Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill; Charlotte; Winston-Salem/Greensboro/High Point; and Cresswell/Elizabeth City/Greenville.

The North Carolina Museum of Art has taken definitive steps to stress its commitment to include works by African American artists in its collection.

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Fires. Floods. None of us is immune to major disaster, as Hurricane Hugo so pointedly reminded us. Thankfully, there are organizations to provide relief. Organizations such as Crisis Assistance Ministry, American Red Cross, the Salvation Army and more. Last year over 60,000 of our neighbors received food, shelter or some other form of assistance thanks to the work of those agencies. But those agencies couldn't have done what they did without United Way. And United Way couldn't have done what it did without you. Without you, there's no way.

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