

UNESCO benefit features Sammy Davis

Sammy Davis, Jr., internationally famous singer and entertainer, will give a benefit performance in Paris, France, on September 25 for UNESCO's "Books for the Blind" Program.

The show, scheduled for the Olympia Theatre, is jointly sponsored by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) and the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO, a 100-member advisory body to the Department of State. Mr. Davis was recently appointed a Member at Large of this Commission by Secretary of State William P. Rogers. His appointment to this body reflects the great contribution made to the performing arts by Sammy Davis, Jr. over

past decades. Proceeds of the Paris benefit performance will be donated to the Books for the Blind sector of UNESCO's Gift Coupon Program. The Books for the Blind Program is a major effort on the part of UNESCO in connection with International Book Year. This fund raising effort, carried out in cooperation with the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind, provides Braille books, paper, printing equipment, recorded talking books and other facilities for blind people of the world, a group estimated to number more than 16 million persons.

Sammy Davis, Jr., in a communication to UNESCO Director General Rene Maheu, said, "I can think of no more

worthwhile endeavor than the contribution my benefit performance will make to this most worthy of UNESCO projects."

The UNESCO Gift Coupon Program fund raising undertaking enables groups and individuals to contribute supplies and equipment to selected educational and cultural projects. It has benefited school libraries, teacher training institutions, adult literacy projects and projects for the advancement of women.

Tickets for the Davis concert, on Sept. 25 in Paris, range from six to sixty dollars. Miller Upton, Chairman of the U.S. National Commission

for UNESCO and President of Beloit College, Wisconsin, urges Americans to contribute further to this fund-raising event by sending checks or money orders directly to: Blind books, UNESCO, United Nations, New York, New York 10017.

"Every contribution to the Books for the Blind Project means an additional opportunity for blind persons to acquire new knowledge. I urge my fellow Americans to join with Sammy Davis, Jr. in this remarkable international goodwill gesture which the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO is proud to co-sponsor," he said.



Jamaican models show 'Ras' Lloyd Young's new hand-blocked prints symbolizing the 'Peace and Love' credo of Jamaica's Rastafarian sect. Ras Young wears one of his own Haile Selassie shirts and characteristic knitted cap. His boutique is in Kingston, but Rasta fashions may be found all over Jamaica today.

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"Peace and Love" fashions Jamaica sells

"Peace and Love" fashions are the newest thing to come out of Jamaica, an island noted for its talented designers. "Ras" Lloyd Young, creator of the wildly original silk screen prints which he turns into shirts, long dresses and dashikis, says that before he begins making anything he meditates on the credo of his religious group: "Peace and Love".

The handsome young designer is a member of a relatively small but very visible sect in Jamaica called the Rastafarians. Members are Africa-oriented and focused on Ethiopia; the symbol found on almost all Rasta art is the Conquering Lion of Judah -- or Emperor Haile Selassie. Almost all of Ras Lloyd's fabrics feature this symbol, while his knitted caps and pom pom are in the Ethiopian colors of red, green and yellow.

Rasta caps are very popular all over Jamaica; they are always hand knitted or crocheted and are equally becoming to both men and women, though they are authentically worn only by brother members. At Ras Lloyd's boutique, "Gigina" on Eastwood Road in Kingston, the caps sell for US \$5, while his long cotton print dresses average US \$25 and the short version is about US \$15. He also features belts and other accessories.

Rasta artists and craftsmen are gaining increasing notice in Jamaica for their talent and originality. Painter Everard Brown, pastor of the First Ethiopian Orthodox Church near Spanish Town, has won national awards for his exquisite hand made musical instruments, a number of which are on display at the Jamaica School of Music. Craftsman Brother

Eric makes traditional Rasta drums and wine casks at his Jamaica Drum Shop on Spanish Town Road, a few miles east of Kingston. A Rasta commune on Love Lane in Central Kingston turns out colorful rope handbags and hammocks. Throughout the island today it is possible to buy caps or crafts from brothers along the roadside or in various open air markets. With the number of vacationers visiting Jamaica each year, it is quite possible that Rasta caps and other Rasta designs may become a new fashion in North America. A little peach and love knitted in wouldn't hurt.

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