



MANDRE

Entertainment Guide

by Allen Jones



I first heard about Mandre — the Masked Marauder — when his new Motown album arrived in the mail. Great, I thought, another comic-book rocker; but the cover painting, the song titles and a strange poem on the album jacket convinced me to open the package and listen.

Good stuff. Sparey and Zappa-esque, but with a generous dose of funk and energy. Still, I found it hard to believe this Mandre character was really from outer space. He probably lived in Hollywood.

It was an opportunity I couldn't resist. The following day, I arrived with my tape recorder at a small rehearsal studio. I knocked and was greeted by a huge gentleman probably employed for security purposes. He led me to a tiny room in the back and left. I took a deep breath and pushed open the door.

Mandre sat inside. Though he was working on a piece of electronic equipment with his back turned to the door, a thin reedy voice quavered, "Hello and Welcome" in perfect English. Then he called me by name. I sat down, set up the tape machine and waited. Then Mandre turned around. I could see something peering out at me from within his helmet of Getdownium, but I couldn't be sure if they were eyes. I had many questions, but only fifteen minutes.

The following is a transcript of our conversation:
Mandre, why are you on Earth?

To spread joy and the message of love from my planet to the people of Earth through the medium of music.

Where is your planet? What's it called?

It's beyond the black hole in space — a gateway to other universes. I can't really tell you the name because it translates into about 46 Arabian characters. You wouldn't understand.

How'd you get here?

In my spaceship, of course. Ah, I can anticipate your next question. I left my vehicle in the outer atmosphere because it doesn't function at lower levels. And yes, it is disguised to make it undetectable.

But why Earth?
I was tracking the comet you call Kahoutek about four years ago. It was causing havoc in other parts of the galaxy. Earth is lucky to have escaped. Anyway, that's how I discovered your planet. From my home, this region of space is obscured by strange rays. It's like a fog or mist. There are legends, though of inhabited planets within the cloud. Obviously they were true. I reported this to my superiors and they sent me back to spread the word and see what Earth needed.

What did you find out?
That government and the music business were essentially the same thing, so I decided my purpose would be best served by making good music and going into politics.

You'll run for office?

I guess I haven't made myself clear. I am indirectly seeking power of a sort that affects men's minds and makes them see they have power within themselves. Other musicians have had this power but didn't use it properly.

Of course. Now, why do you wear that helmet?

To counteract the effect of the rays I spoke of earlier. My helmet radiates waves of ah...funk and repels non-funk. The scientists of my home planet are working on a way to release me from having to wear it all the time.

Getdownium. The name is rather co-incidental with music slang.

It's actually a pun. The real name is too confusing.

Are you a musician on your planet?

Yes. But I don't have a band.

Is music different there?

It is and it isn't.

How do you expect to affect people's minds?

Well, I have to raise the energy level of the band and the audience to a certain level before the wave-effect from my Groove Gun can begin to work. That usually happens rather quickly, if the reactions of my roadies are any indication. The result is like bliss or euphoria. You can't resist. It's akin to the Pied Piper of your legends.

Where will you lead us?

To love.

How did you come by a record deal? Surely you didn't know...

Through Andre, my producer. When I arrived on Earth I searched for someone with sympathetic vibrations with whom I could communicate. I found Andre and started coming to him in his dreams in the twilight hours. I can also inhabit human bodies, and have occasionally used Andre's to get things that I need done — like collecting the money, for instance. No one pays royalties to someone from outer space. Anyway, Andre felt the best way to spread the word and get attention was to make a record and tour. Strange custom, but obviously effective.

Is that why he's listed as songwriter?

Yes. I don't really need money.

Do you miss your home?

Sometimes.

Are you married?

Married? What's that?

Having a mate or companion.

I have several.

How do you find the custom of interviews?

Taxing. I'm not that familiar with the language. Besides, the helmet makes speaking difficult. Singing's easier. I hope you don't have too much trouble deciphering the tape. I could inhabit an interviewer's body, but that's not really, ah...cool.

Do you like Kiss?

Yes. They're a nice combo. That's what you call these groups, right? A combo. Sure. Pardon me, but I have to ask. Are you for real?

What do you think?

I wasn't sure, so I stayed to listen to rehearsal. About ten minutes into the first song, I began to feel something strange. Then I noticed everyone just moving and smiling. They looked very happy. I guess I was too. And you know what? Life has been really different these past few weeks. In fact, I can hardly wait until Mandre plays in town. I want to go and listen. I want to go and listen. I have to. Something is guiding me — but I don't mind.

So I guess he is for real. I'm convinced. And it does feel good.

Musical benefits Haiti mission

After having spent three months on the mission field in Gonaives, Haiti, Diane Elmore is preparing to return because "the harvest is ripe and the laborers are few."

Her entrance into this much needed work began seemingly by accident this past June. Evangelist missionary Vera Boudreaux was visiting Portland and Ms. Elmore met her at a luncheon. After hearing of this work in the hills of Haiti where no other missionaries had gone, Ms. Elmore's desire to help was so explicit that she began preparing for the initial trip without knowing where financial help would come.

It came through the involvement of the pastor and members of the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, where she attends, and concerned individuals throughout Portland.

The mission work in the hills of Gonaives include a school where children attend from the surrounding hill communities and learn basic reading, writing and math in English. They are also fed through donations from other churches and groups of individuals in the United States of America. There is also a clinic, a nutritional program for families, and

Bible classes.

The primary aim of the work in Gonaives, sponsored by People Concerned for Missions is to bring the Haitian people enough motivation and training so that eventually they will be self-sufficient and can carry on the work themselves.

The participants of People Concerned for Missions are from varied denominations and backgrounds, thereby enabling a diversity of help unprecedented on the mission field. They do not endeavor to change the Haitian culture, but enhance it by helping to lift the limits placed on them due to extreme poverty.

Ms. Elmore will be returning to Gonaives January 11th, where she plans to spend a year working with children and their families. She will join another Missionary from Portland, Elizabeth Proctor, who is being sponsored by the Maranatha Church.

There will be a benefit Midnight Musical given in Ms. Elmore's behalf at the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, 3725 North Gantenbein Avenue, Portland, Oregon, January 6, 1978 at 10:00 p.m. Several Portland area Church and community members will be participating in this event.

UFO visit documented

The Zeta Reticuli Incident stands as one of the more bizarre and fascinating reports ever made of a so-called "close encounter of the third kind." As such, it will be among many intriguing subjects studied in "The UFO Factor," showing in the Kendall Planetarium at OMSI January 4th through February 28th.

According to Garry T. Stasiuk, Director of OMSI's Kendall Planetarium, at least ten percent of all reported unidentified flying object sightings cannot be explained by present scientific criteria. In addition, all such sightings show definite similarities known as "the UFO factor." The Planetarium presentation by the same name will look at these similarities, with special emphasis on sightings involving contact with extra-terrestrial beings

— close encounters of the third kind.

The famous close encounter experienced by Betty and Barney Hill of New Hampshire known as the Zeta Reticuli Incident will highlight the show. Taped interviews of people involved in the case will be broadcast.

"The UFO Factor" will be on view in OMSI's Planetarium January 4th through February 28th. Showtimes Monday through Friday, 1:30 and 3:30 p.m., with a special 7:30 p.m. showing on Friday. Shows Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 a.m., 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, and 4:00 p.m. There is no additional charge, after the regular OMSI admission.

The Kendall Planetarium at OMSI will be closed January 9th and 10th for technical maintenance.

Community Calendar

Wednesday, January 11th — Planning Bureau public hearing on proposed Housing Policy. Water Services Building, 510 S.W. Montgomery, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 18th — City Council hearing on proposed Parks Levy, Council Chambers, City Hall, 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, January 21st — Marylhurst Education Center workshop; Ordering Chaos and Limiting Crisis (developing agenda and time lines). Marylhurst Education Center, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

January 28th and 29th — KGW TV 8 East Side West Side program on busing and Jefferson High School — in historical perspective. Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 12:00 midnight.

Tuesday, January 31st — Planning Bureau public hearing on proposed Housing Policy. St. Francis Auditorium, 330 S.E. 11th, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 1st — Planning Bureau public hearing on proposed Housing Policy. Water Services Building, 510 S.W. Montgomery, 7:30 p.m.

Grey Panther meeting will be held on Saturday, January 6th, at 1:30 p.m. at 505 G. Avenue in Lake Oswego. Speaker will be Thor Mork of Waldport. Mr. Mork has been involved in attempting to save property owned by senior citizens from being acquired for development by resort interests.



NATALIE COLE

Natalie Cole co-hosts award show

Natalie Cole will co-host the fifth annual "American Music Awards" special, "live" from the Santa Monica (California) Civic Auditorium, and airing on the ABC Television Network as a two-hour prime time show on Monday, January 16, 1978, 9:00 to 11:00 p.m. (EST).

Natalie will preside over the soul category of the "American Music Awards" program, for producer Dick Clark. Awards will be presented for the Favorite Female Vocalist, Favorite Male Vocalist, Favorite Group, Favorite Single and Album Of The Year in the soul category.

A strong contender for Favorite Female Vocalist of the Year herself, Natalie is making her first appearance as a host

of the only major music awards determined by the votes of the public.

The Grammy Award-winning young singer is the proud owner of two gold albums, and has had a succession of hit recordings, including "This Will Be," "Mr. Melody" and "Inseparable."

Last year she was voted "The Rising Star Of The Year" by the American Guild of Variety Artists — America's largest show business union.

Natalie will also perform on the special, as will her co-hosts, Glen Campbell and David Soul. Other stars featured on the show include Count Basie, The Commodores, Aretha Franklin, Charley Pride, Barry White and Stevie Wonder.

Musical honors M.L. King

On January 15, 1978, members of the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, will celebrate the birth of the Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr., Civil Rights Leader of the 60s in a Memorial Musical at 3:00 p.m.

There is no charge for this musical, and

various Choirs from the City of Portland will participate in the program, in giving respect to the late Dr. King, who was murdered in 1968 by an assassin.

Pastor, A. Bernard Devers, and members of the Church extend an invitation for you and your family to attend.

WEIGHT WATCHERS

A HOLIDAY GIFT FOR YOU

We in the Weight Watchers organization don't like to talk about going up — going DOWN is our business. Regrettably, along with most other services, our costs have risen steadily for some time now. By contrast we have kept our own price at the same level for the past three years.

Beginning January 16, 1978 we must raise our weekly dues in this area to \$3.50. We want you to have an opportunity to come home to Weight Watchers classes at our current rate of \$3.00 plus the registration fee of \$5.00 which will remain unchanged.

If you join on or before January 14, 1978, you can do just that — come and remain indefinitely at the old weekly rate of \$3.00 as long as you continue to pay your current weekly dues, thus remaining a member in good standing.

At a time when there are few bargains, Weight Watchers is especially pleased to offer you this opportunity for a Homecoming during the Holiday Season.

Sincerely,
Jeannine B. Cowles

JEANNINE B. COWLES
Director, Weight Watchers
9200 S.W. Barnes Rd. Portland

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