# "AIN'T MISBEHAVIN"

JAMES DePRIEST

## **DePREIST TO SPEAK AT BENSON**

Maestro James DePreist will be the keynote speaker at the Oregon Symphony Association's annual meeting on Wednesday, July 9 at 12:00 p.m. in the Mayfair Room of the Benson Hotel.

DePreist, who begins his tenure as Music Director and Conductor of the Orchestra on July 1, 1980, will speak on the role of the symphony orchestra in today's society.

The business meeting, slated to begin at 12:45 p.m., will include reports from the treasurer and nominating committee, which will present a slate of candidates for election to the Association's Board of Directors.

All symphony association members -- those who contribute \$25 or more -and their guests are invited to attend.

Luncheon reservation should be made through the Symphony Office, 228-

#### HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

"Your Zoo and All That Jazz" summer concert series at Metro's Washington Park Zoo continues. the third concert is scheduled for Wednesday, July 9, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., with the Swipsey Cakewalk Ragtime Band, one of Portland's truly unique jazz bands that specializes in the traditional form of jazz that helped make this musical style American's art form. Concerts are free with regular zoo admission. Rain date is Thursday night, same time. For more information call 226-1561.

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"AIN'T MISBEHAVIN," the Tony Award-winning musical smash hit, returns by popular demand to the Portland Auditorium for eight performances July 15-20. Showtime is 8:00 PM each evening with 2:30 matinees scheduled for Saturday and Sunday.

This popular musical review is based on the songs of the legendary Fats Waller and has won numerous awards including the New York Drama Critics Circle Award, a Grammy Award for its original cast ablum on RCA Records and a Tony Award for Best Musical of 1978. Since its debut at the Manhatten Theatre Club's Cabaret in 1977, the production has delighted audiences world-wide. According to Jack Kroll of NEWSWEEK, "AIN'T MISBEHAVIN" is "blazingly entertaining. An immensely appealing hit show with irresistible joy, gladness and energy."

Featuring over twenty musical numbers either composed by or recorded by Fats Waller, "AIN'T MISBEHAVIN" has a cast of five including Adjora McMillan, Clent Bowers, Adrienne West, David Cameron and Michele Mc-Cain. Accompanied by John McMinn on piano, they step forward and deliver a parade of Waller's greatest hits including "Honeysuckle Rose," Black and Blue," Your Feet's Too Big, the title song and a dozen or so other exuberant numbers.



**FATS WALLER** 

The production is produced by Irving Siders and directed by Richard Maltby, Jr., who garnered a Tony Award as Best Director of a musical for the show. Others responsible for "AIN'T MISBEHAVIN" include Murray Horwitz (associate director), John Lee Beatty (set design), Arthur Faria (musical staging), Randy Barcelo (costumes) and Pat Collins (lighting).

Thomas "Fats" Waller grew up in the exciting musical atmosphere of Harlem in the teens and 20's. He began his professional piano career at fifteen, usually as an accompanist for blues singers or on recording sessions with big bands. As a musician, Waller raised the art of stride piano to its highest level and in so doing became one of the originators of swing music. "There are a lot of people who never heard of him, but somehow or other just like Scott Joplin - they realize that they've heard his music all their life," says Luther Henderson, musical supervisor of the Broadway show.



Adtora Mc Millian, **David Cameron** 



**FATS WALLER** 

L to R: Michele McCain, Adrienne West,

More than anyone else, Fats Waller captured the spirit of the Golden Age of Harlem, the 20's and 30's. His sarcastic throwaway, gently abrasive style of singing, prodded by spoken interjections - grabbed a huge chunk of America's heart.

The show - which is nearly devoid of dialogue and centered around the life, times and music of the famous jazz pianist - is an energetic, joyous, irresistible evocation of Waller and his era.

Tickets for the Northwest Releasing event are on sale at the Ticket Place at Frederick & Nelson (downtown) and the usual outlets.

## HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

OEPBS will once again carry highlights of the Annual NAACP convention June 30 -- July 5 on all OEPBS Channels (10-Portland, 7-Corvallis, 3-Salem, 13-Salem). The half-hour daily highlights will air at 7 PM weeknights and a one-hour special wrap-up report will be featured on Saturday, July 5 at 7 P.M. For more information, contact Joyce DeMonnin 754-4311.

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