

**Mystic, Mystic, and More Mystic**

In a place called Mujic, magic was part of an everyday way of life. People in the Mujic world lived in brotherhood and kept a positive attitude to guide their daily lives. The people who put magic in their music were called Mujicians. Bear in mind that all you see, or don't see, may or may not be real...

Perhaps the most unusual and original group in the world today is Mystic Merlin, a quintet practicing the art of "mujic." In doing so, they are at once musicians employing the craft of magic during their performances and magicians playing enticing strains of rock, jazz and R&B while purveying their special illusory skills. Although it would seem difficult to transmit such a wonderful combination to a record album, Mystic Merlin have done just that on "Sixty Thrills A Minute" (February 1981), a truly magical experience.

Fittingly, the nucleus of Mystic Merlin was formed in a room known as "the Dungeon" in Brooklyn, where guitarist Jerry Anderson, bassist Clyde Bullard and sax player Barry Strutt began rehearsing in 1977. Although they originated solely as a musical enterprise, Clyde's interest in magic spread amongst them. Another member, drummer Sly Randolph, soon appeared, but finding a lead singer was not as easily accomplished. "We had to make about 49 disappear before we found Keith Gonzales," says Strutt, an angular man with a dark beard and eyes to match.

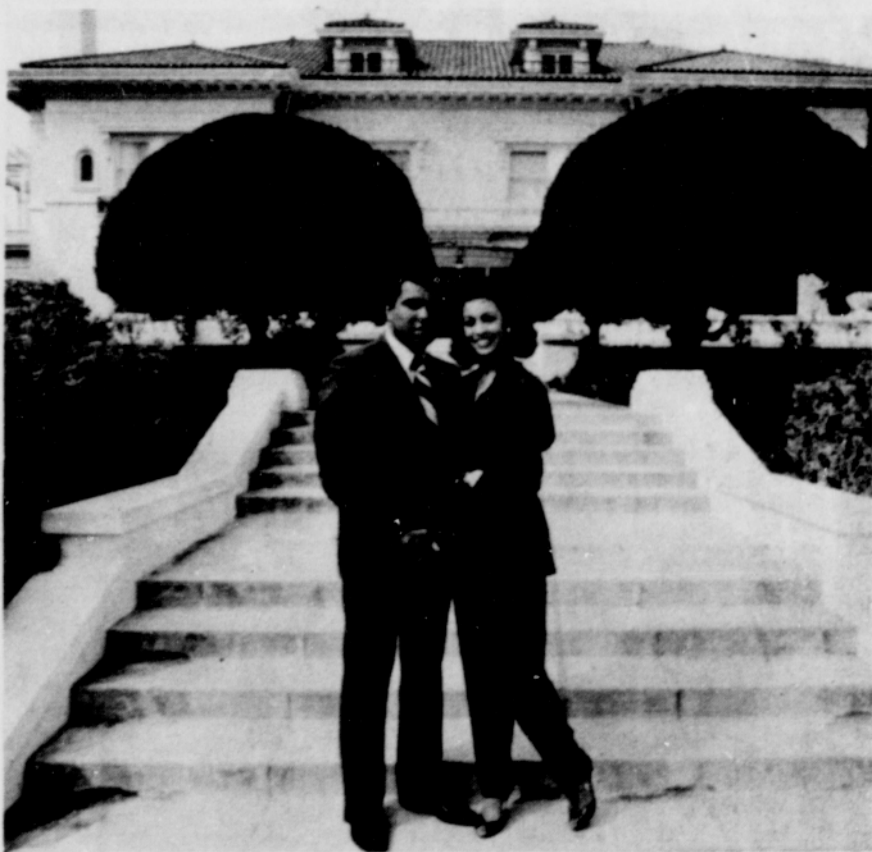


**Mystic Merlin**

The group, originally known as Mystic Merlin's Magic Band, played various New York street haunts, including the Casablanca Club, where their high-wattage show blew out all the power. In 1979 they signed to Capitol and by February, 1980, had their first LP, "Mystic Merlin," on the racks. It was a remarkably solid excursion for a band that had been together such a relatively short time.

"It just came naturally," says Clyde Bullard, the group's ace illusionist and prestidigitator. "We are very tightly-knit and compatible. Besides, we all have a flair for performing."

Each band member brings talents to the group outside of his musical endeavors. Gonzales, for example, is responsible for all album cover graphics in addition to his vocal chores.



**Muhammad Ali and his wife Veronica on the stairs leading to their multi-million dollar "retirement" mansion.**

**A Mansion Fit For a Champion**

Former world heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali is leaving the boxing ring in grand style. The March *Ebony* spotlights Ali's multi-million dollar "retirement" mansion.

The opulent estate is located in the tranquil Los Angeles community of Hancock Park. Ali chose this area rather than nearby Beverly Hills so that he and his family could get away from crowds.

Peace and quiet are still in short supply for the Alis, even in Hancock Park. Friends, relatives, business associates, the press, and autograph seekers crowd the house whenever Ali is there. Ali says he'll keep an open door to all because, "I'm a people's champion."

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**British star Iris Williams is seated outside of her \$500,000 English manor with one of her guard dogs.**

**British Star Searches For Her Black Father**

A rich British TV and recording star who lives in a \$500,000 estate is searching for her Black-American father. In the March *Ebony*, 33-year-old Iris Williams says she is eager to meet the father she has never seen because, "I want to know how I got this voice and all that came with it."

Ms. Williams has found out that her father was a Black GI stationed in England in the 1940s. She has a clue that he may be living in Ohio now. Ms. Williams, raised by foster parents, didn't meet her white British mother until she was 22. Many of Ms. Williams' questions were answered then but her mother refused to say much about her father.

The critically acclaimed singer says she is sure her father would like to know what she's accomplished. Her success includes her own highly praised television show, six hit singles and three albums. Ms. Williams now wants to reach the U.S. audience and thinks that being "half-American" will help. She adds that she doesn't want to intrude on her father. "I don't want to mess up his life, only meet the man who's responsible for me being alive."

**Fashion show** sponsored by the Churches of God in Christ, Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction No. 1, Saturday, April 3, 7:30 pm, at Williams Temple Church of God in Christ, 241 N.E. Hancock. Tickets are \$3.00 per person.

**CIRQUE Spring Dance Classes** April 5th through May 29th. All classes are held at the CIRQUE studio, 716 S.W. 16th Ave. (cnr. Morrison). Further information and a full schedule may be obtained by calling 227-3840.

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**It's True! You Can Count On Three Shows! Here's The Program:**

**Show A**

Wednesday, April 7, 8:15 P.M. and repeated Saturday afternoon, April 10, 2:15 P.M.

Four Temperaments (Balanchine ballet)

Equus (A ballet adaption from the play, featuring a mad psychiatrist)

Troy Game—an athletic romp featuring the 12 male dancers.

**Show B**

Thursday, April 8, 8:15 P.M. and repeated Saturday night, April 10, 8:15 P.M.

Serenade (Balanchine ballet, Tchaikovsky score)

Streetcar Named Desire (Adaption from the Tennessee Williams play)

Firebird (A Geoffrey Holder-Balanchine work, lush and spectacular)

**Show C**

Friday night, April 9, 8:15 P.M.

Concerto Barocco (Balanchine ballet to Bach)

Songs of the Auvergne (Originally created for Carmen de Lavallade, revival for DTH by Virginia Johnson)

Mirage (A Billy Wilson piece about a posh party)

Bunda (A graveyard spirit tries to help a grieving mother)

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(Visa/MC phone charge \$1.00 handling charge) Tickets: Evenings \$8, \$11, \$12, \$13; Matinee: \$7, \$10, \$11, \$12

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**Spaghetti dinner** for Knights of Columbus No. 5279, Queen of Peace Parish Hall, 2434 N. Farragut, 5:30 pm-8 pm. Adults \$3, children under 12 \$1.50.

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Sunday, April 4, 1982  
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