

Fourth Annual Black History Special

COMING INTO FOCUS: THE IMAGE OF BLACKS IN AMERICA, a one-hour special presentation examining the development of the Black public image, airs on SuperStation WTBS on Friday, February 28 at 10:20 p.m. (ET). The SuperStation's fourth annual Black History month special focuses on the positive changes in the way Black people are portrayed in the media and arts — changes that are making the Black public image a more accurate reflection of Black society.

COMING INTO FOCUS looks at the Black stereotype and, through discussions with Black leaders representing the news and entertainment media, will probe the idea of today's roles perpetuating this stereotype. Guests for the special include singer-actress Etta Moten Barnett, who performed in the Broadway production of "Porgy and Bess"; Earl Graves, the publisher of Black Enterprise magazine; Barbara Proctor, President of Proctor and Gardner Advertising; Micki Grant, one of the first Black actresses to play a recurring role in a daytime soap opera and the creator of the hit musical "Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope."

Also scheduled to participate in this special are award winning actor-director-choreographer Geoffrey Holder; Billy Rowe, syndicated entertainment columnist and publicist; Captain Leslie A. Morris, Eastern Airlines pilot; Dr. Anna Grant, sociologist; Sid McCoy, Vice President of Urban Planning, Westwood One; Mal Goode, UN correspondent for the National Black Network and Pluria Marshall, President of the National Black Media Coalition.

Xernona Clayton, Vice President for Public Affairs for Turner Broadcasting System, Inc. and Harvard Medical School psychiatrist Dr. Alvin Poussant, who serves as script consultant for "The Cosby Show," co-host the event.

Music
by

BLACK COMPOSERS

a
celebration
of the unsung

CHORAL ARTS ENSEMBLE

Roger O. Doyle
Music Director & Conductor
and
**THE MOUNT OLIVET
CHANCEL CHOIR**
with
special guest Herb Cawthorne

Sunday, February 23, 7:30 p.m.
Mount Olivet Baptist Church
116 N.E. Schuyler

Admission Free
Offerings to the Church Building Fund welcomed

made possible by a grant from The R.S. Christensen Foundation

Choral Arts Ensemble, Herb Cawthorne Will Present Music By Black Composers

Urban League President Herb Cawthorne will join forces with the Choral Arts Ensemble under Roger Doyle for an unusual musical event Feb. 22 and 23, three performances of "Music by Black Composers," featuring a number of songs that are rarely heard.

The show will present a wide range of song, including 20th century choral works, African songs, and traditional spirituals. A highlight will be selections from the intricate, jazz-inspired "Harlem Suite" by Arthur Cunningham, featuring Cawthorne.

Cawthorne, who is noted for the dramatic flair he has brought to a number of Portland productions, will narrate the entire show.

The choir of Mount Olivet Baptist Church will join the Ensemble in a special performance of the concert Feb. 23.

The infrequency with which much of this music is performed leads Doyle, music director of the Ensemble and associate professor of music at the University of Portland, to call the event "a celebration of the unsung."

"This is music that needs to be heard!" Doyle says. The concert is the fruit of Doyle's long-time exploration of the music of black composers, an interest awakened in him by an American Bicentennial radio interview with black musicians.

"As I listened to that program, it occurred to me that black composers of concert music were not being interviewed that day," he says. "That made me wonder — what's happened to the black musicians who have studied at conservatories of music and have gone on to write music inspired by the Western European tradition?"

He set out to learn the answer to that question, and in the process came to know and consult such esteemed black musicians as Evelyn White, music educator and scholar at Howard University, and William L. Dawson, composer, arranger, and founder of the noted choir of the Tuskegee Institute.

Dawson, now 87, has been an important influence on Doyle. At one point, Doyle told Dawson that he wondered whether the 40-voice Choral Arts Ensemble, which happens to have no black members, could give an authentic performance of spirituals, which in the upcoming concert will provide a bold contrast to the concert choral works on the program.

Dawson's response illustrates his belief in the universality of music. "If Leontyne Price can learn how to sing Verdi, a white choir can learn how to sing spirituals," he said.

Doyle believes the upcoming concert will provide new musical experiences for the Ensemble as well as for Portland audiences.

"As musicians, we need to explore all kinds of music literature," he says. "It's important for us to learn to perform this music. And I hope we're learning something about ourselves by preparing this concert."

To expand his singers' experience of black music as fully as possible, Doyle will present one performance in conjunction with the choir of the predominantly black Mount Olivet Baptist Church. At that performance, the Mount Olivet chancel choir, directed by Carl Harris, will present several selections of its own and will join the Choral Arts Ensemble on several more.

"We'll gain a great deal from the creative sharing of a musical experience with the Mount Olivet choir," said Doyle. "I'm happy that the choir has agreed to join with us."

Among the black composers whose works will be featured at the concert are Ulysses Kay, trained at the Eastman School of Music and retired now as Distinguished Professor of Music at the City University of New York; the Ensemble will sing selections from his lyrical suite "The Birds."

Noel Du Costa, a Nigerian native who studied with the Italian composer Luigi Dallapiccola and now teaches at Rutgers University, whose "I Have a Dream," a setting of words from Dr. Martin Luther King's Lincoln Memorial speech, will be sung.

Laz Edweme, a Nigerian who studied at the Royal College of Music in London and at Yale University and who now teaches at the University of Nigeria; his arrangement of an African welcome carol will be sung.

Poems from "The Dream Keeper" by black poet Langston Hughes, set to music by the Austrian Frederick Picket, are among other works to be performed.

"Music by Black Composers" will be presented at the First Unitarian Church, 1101 S.W. 12th, Feb. 22 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 23 at 4 p.m.; and at the Mount Olivet Baptist Church, 116 N.E. Schuyler, Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at Stevens and Son (Lloyd Center), Classical Millennium, and at the door.

Portland NAACP to Hold Meeting

The Portland Branch NAACP will hold its postponed meeting on the third Sunday, February 16, at 4:00 at the Morningside Baptist Church, 106 Northeast Ivy. The NAACP joined with other Community events for the observation of Martin Luther King's birthday in January. There will be a report on ACTSO, according to Ora Nunley, President of the Branch. ACTSO is the acronym for Afro-American Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics, the NAACP Special Projects program for high-school age students. Students compete in the areas mentioned for prizes, and the winners go to the National Convention of NAACP for national competition. This is also time for annual reports from the Committees. There are three active committees this year: Labor, Legal Redress and Education, according to Mrs. Nunley. The public is invited.

AFRICAN MARKETPLACE

Come and experience the lively atmosphere of a real African Marketplace. Admission is free and open to all. There will be arts & crafts, food colorful fabrics, music, incense, African & African-American games, hand-made art pieces, books on African history, children's books, paintings, African clothing, etc.

SUNDAY, FEB. 23, 1986
1640 N.E. ALBERTA
(Black Educational Center's Activity Center)
1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

For further information, please call 282-9552
A fund-raiser for the Black Educational Center

Benefit Campesino Dinner and Counter- Intelligence Cabaret

Political folksinger Dave Lippman, and his arch-nemesis George Schrub of the Committee to Intervene Anywhere, will perform a Counter-Intelligence Cabaret for a benefit Campesino Dinner at the Riverway Inn, 7:00 p.m. Sunday evening, February 23rd. Proceeds will support the ongoing work of the Portland Central America Solidarity Committee. Mr. George Schrub will be singing interventionist anthems and anti-folk songs; Lippman will balance the evening's entertainment with songs reflecting the opposing view. The Village Voice has called Mr. Lippman "a cross between Tom Lehrer and the Clash, a blend of Helen Caldicott and Che Guevara." Dinner is served at 7:00 p.m., Dave Lippman at 8:00 p.m.

The Portland Central American Solidarity Committee is a local group working to end United States intervention in Central America. The Committee's work has included support of the Portland-Corinto Sister City Project, local work on the National Campaign to Stop the Bombing in El Salvador, and most recently the airport demonstration protesting the Oregon National Guard's training mission to Honduras.



Herb Cawthorne

Community School Carnival

Beach Primary School, located at 1710 N. Humboldt, will be staging a community/school Carnival. We will be providing food, games and other fun and exciting activities that would be enjoyable for the entire family. It will be held on March 7th from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Friday.

If you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me at Beach School, 280-6236.

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Wednesdays 7:30 PM

PROFILES IN JAZZ
Saturdays 8 PM

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