

# ENTERTAINMENT

## MILIRA



For a 19-year-old girl to launch her singing career on the same stage graced by such legendary singers as Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughn and Billie Holiday is practically a dream, yet, that is exactly what happened to Milira Jones.

Milira started singing in church at an early age and by the time she was 11 she was doing studio sessions as a backup singer for various Gospel groups. It wasn't until she won the famous "Amateur Night At The Apollo" talent competition though, that she became convinced that she had a unique talent. It gave me a lot of courage as a singer," Milira says, of her winning the Harlem talent competition in the summer of '88. Now, Milira steps into the limelight that has been cast over so many graduates of the renowned Apollo.

The Manhattan-born songstress was raised in Queens, NY and comes from a musical family. Her mother and aunt were backup singers for Jackie Wilson as members of the Wilsonettes. They saw the potential Milira had and encouraged her to do something with it. Her aunt told one of her co-workers that he

just had to listen to her niece. Milira went to sing for him and he got so excited that he took her to a producer he knew—Donald Dee Bowden—who turned out to be just as excited. "She's able to go where a lot of artists can't go," says Bowden.

Bowden signed her to a production deal and began work immediately on material for an album. Her album contains a wide range of flavors, from the debut single, "Mercy, Mercy," a strong up-beat ballad to "Till You Come Back To Me," her Jazz-flavored cover of Aretha Franklin's '70s hit. A powerful, mid-tempo song entitled "Waiting Here For You" features saxophonist Najee. Milira's versatility also includes songwriting. She penned two of the tunes on the LP, including the Caribbean-flavored "That Man In My Life," and a moving Gospel piece, "That Four-Letter Word."

Milira is off to a good start. From the famed stage of the Apollo to the legendary Motown label, Milira seems destined to follow the path of the great ladies of song.

## DIRECTOR CHARLES BURNETT TO PREMIERE NEW WORK AT FILM CENTER



The Oregon Art Institute's Northwest Film & Video Center welcomes director Charles Burnett to premiere his new film, TO SLEEP WITH ANGER, Saturday, October 27 at 8:00 pm as part of its NEW BLACK CINEMA series. TO SLEEP WITH ANGER is a captivating drama that follows a South Central Los Angeles family which finds itself torn apart by seeds of mistrust and alienation when a mysterious and seductive stranger (played by Danny Glover) comes to visit. The film will screen in the Art Institute's Berg Swann Auditorium, 1219 S.W. Park Avenue. Admission is \$4.50 general; \$3.50 OAI members, seniors and children.

Writer/director Charles Burnett came to public notice in 1988 after being awarded the prestigious MacArthur Foundation Fellowship, the so-called

"genius grant" of \$275,000. However, for fifteen years prior to that, Burnett was writing and directing low-budget, independent feature films including SEVERAL FRIENDS (1969), THE HORSE (1973) KILLER OF SHEEP (1977) and MY BROTHER'S WEDDING (1984). Burnett has been praised by critics not only for his perceptive portrayal of black culture, but for his universally moving depictions of the human experience. KILLER OF SHEEP won the Critics Prize at the Berlin International Film Festival in 1981 and first prize at the U.S. Film Festival in Park City that same year. Burnett is also the recipient of a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship (1981), a National Endowment for the Arts grant (1985) and the Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship (1988).



EVERY GIRL'S DREAM -- Miss America 1991 Marjorie Judith Vincent meets some new friends during a visit to Walt Disney World Resort, one of her first appearances as Miss America. At the Disney-MGM Studios theme Park, where she was "Star Today" Sept. 13-15, Miss America mingled with theme park guests, including (l-r): Lacey Powell of Coconut Creek, Fla.; Stacy Hall of Jamaica, West Indies; and Jamee Lee Powell of Coconut Creek, Fla. She also participated in theme park ceremonies and "Q & A" conversations with park guests and enjoyed the shows and attractions. (Copyright 1990 THE WALT DISNEY COMPANY)

## FREDDIE JACKSON NUMBER ONE IN THE HARLEM WALK OF FAME

Young superstar recording artist Freddie Jackson—a Harlem native—was the first inductee into the Harlem Walk Of Fame.

The Harlem Walk Of Fame bares the foot imprints of great leaders in black culture and history who have made important contributions to the black community and paved the way for the youth of today and tomorrow. The organizational committee for the Walk includes such community leaders as Bill Tatum, publisher of The Amsterdam News, radio legend Hal Jackson, actor Charles Warfield, Lloyd Williams, president of the Uptown

Chamber of Commerce, and Percy Sutton, president of Inner City Broadcasting. For him to share the spotlight with showman of the caliber of a Sammy Davis, Jr. and Cab Calaway, Ella Fitzgerald is a supreme honor," says Charles Huggins, President of Hush Productions.



The Walk Of Fame not only celebrates black historical figures, but will also acknowledge young black individuals who are currently making contributions to the community—Freddie Jackson. The inauguration ceremony took place on October 2nd, in front of the Apollo theater where the walk begins and brought out some of the biggest names in the black community, including Bobby

Humphrey and Pierre Sutton. Freddie Jackson also will present a check for \$500.00 to Mother Hale at Hale House, the first charity chosen to receive a donation from the Harlem Walk Of Fame.

## KBOO Plans Halloween Festivities

KBOO 90.7FM will hold its 9th annual Boo Ball, Saturday, October 27th, 9:00pm-2:00am at the Union Train Station. The Boo Ball has become Portland's largest Halloween Masquerade Party with over 1300 people dressed in the most creative and outrageous costumes dancing the night away.

## MOVIE STARS, EGGPLANT LIVE IN STORE

Music Millennium is pleased to announce a live in store featuring two of California's most promising independent bands. Playing at 5pm will be Dr. Dream records recording artists Eggplant. A four piece band from Huntington Beach, California, Eggplant's latest release "Sad Astrology" was produced by Russ Tolman (formerly of the band True West). Their sound is a self described combination of "rocking guitars...(and an) interest in the dangerously stupid." The band features Jeff Beals (guitar), Jon Melkerson (guitar), John Kelly (bass), and Dave Tabone (drums). Following Eggplant's set will be the San Francisco based band The Movie Stars. The Movie Stars mix a number of influences (country, pop, neo-folk, surf, tex-mex) into a spirited good-time sound that at times has been compared to such diverse acts as The Swimming Pool Q's, X, Scruffy the Cat, and even Portland's own Crazy 8's. Their 1989 debut album "Heck-Ola!" (on the bands won Lucky Pierre Label) received very favorable reviews and their new album "Head On A Platter" should be released by the time the band reaches the Northwest. The Movie Stars feature Jull Olson (Vocals, bass), Brad Williams (Accordion/madolin), Michael Montalto (Guitar), Damon Gadon (drums) and Steve Cornell (Multi-instruments).

## Body and Soul Combines Unique Sounds



Call them blue-eyed soul. Imagine the sound of Huey Lewis and Aretha Franklin together. Piece together three horns; trumpet, saxophone and trombone, add electric bass, drums, lead guitar, keyboards and four incredible vocalists. Bring in the influences of jazz, pop, big band, funk, gospel, and rock. Mix it together, turn the music on high and hear them boil over with a sound that can only be described as Body and Soul! A sophisticated mix of motown and original dance music that will capture the hearts of a discerning generation.

This ten-piece musical extravaganza has appeared on national television including the Today Show and Pat Sajak. They have performed with Gary Puckett, Three Dog Night, and The Kingsmen during the Crestwood Festival in Crestwood Illinois. Body and Soul also performed with the Four Tops, The Temptations and Etta James.

It began as just another good

idea of leader Mark Bosnian. Mark is known for his good ideas and believing that achieving your dream is what life is all about. Mark believed that a 10-piece band could work, with just the right players and the right attitude. After weeks of auditions, Mark found his players. Now they work as a team with each member having an equal say. It is their mutual respect and admiration for each other that contributes to how well they cooperated and work together. Understanding that "the whole is greater than the sum of its parts", each member brings a special and unique contribution to Body and Soul. Because of this, they have achieved the ideal definition of a true band. The proof is in the music. Their sound is pure, genuine, live, clean, exciting, and tight. They return to tradition by avoiding the trendy gizmos and gadgets of today's electronic toys. You'll hear no drum machines or sequencers, just the straight-ahead sound of 10 talented musicians coming together to form one Body and Soul.

## STERNWHEELER COLUMBIA GORGE HENRY WEINHARD DANCE CRUISES

- October-November Schedule
- Oct. 28 Blues Cruise featuring Curtis Salgado and the Stiletto
  - Nov. 4 Rock and Roll Cruise featuring Johnny Limbo and the Lugnuts
  - Nov. 11 Blues Cruise featuring Lloyd Jones/Jim Mesli Band
  - Nov. 18 Country Western Cruise featuring McKenzie River Band
  - Nov. 22 Thanksgiving Gospel Cruise featuring Curtis Salgado and the Stiletto
- Contact: Doug Fish (503) 221-0244  
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"Lying Low" November 1-24, 1990 at Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center

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