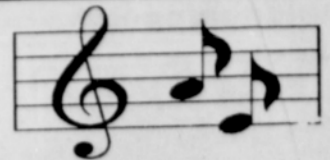


ENTERTAINMENT



City of Hope

by Bill Barber

"CITY OF HOPE" is a gripping story about what it takes to get by or what it takes to get over in the city. It sets itself apart from many "urban survival" stories, because the ensemble cast of 36 characters all have an individual story to tell. It challenges the movie-goer to keep up.

This film is the most creatively edited work in years. It will probably be nominated for an Oscar in that category. The editor was John Sayles. He had to be the best person for the job. Sayles also wrote and directed the film. It would have been nearly impossible to explain his vision of the finished product to any other editor.

The cinematic style Sayles chose visually reflects the myriad ways the citizens are inescapably linked. Like a roving eye, the camera follows the trail of connections that make the city run, stopping on one character for a while; then following the next guy who passes down the street. "I wanted the feeling that these were parallel stories that eventually converge," Sayles said. "The film is like a knot. Everyone is tied up together. I wanted people to tell that there is no way these people can avoid affecting each other, even if they never met each other."

You might remember John Sayles from his 1984 film "The Brother from Another Planet." Sayles also created TV's critical hit "Shannon's Deal."

He even plays the part of Carl, a "fixer" who operates a local garage as a front for all his many illegal activities. The fictional Hudson City, N.J. may look familiar to you. It was shot in Cincinnati's "Over the Rhine" area. That is where Sayles also shot "Eight Men Out" (1987).

"City of Hope" brings exquisite meaning to the phrase "Art Imitating Life." With three dozen characters it is almost guaranteed that you will find at least one or two you recognize. You will recognize many of the actors' faces. More importantly, you will recognize the similarity of someone you have met in your own life. At the very least, you will have read about someone in the newspaper who reminds you of a cast member.

City of Hope is a vivid portrayal of the stories behind the headlines of any metropolitan city. Joe Morton (chief prosecutor Michael James on ABC's "Equal Justice") plays Wynn, a city councilman working hard to gain political power while trying to hold on to his personal ethics. There are so many subplots that it is impossible to give you an outline. Corruption, political power games, obsession, street games, compassion, anger, love. I doubt if you will be talking to your date much during this movie. There is just too much movie to keep track of.

Janice Scroggins and Mario DePriest



Pianist-composer Janice Scroggins, originally from Oklahoma, has been a part of Portland's music community for 12 years. She has played in various bands performing a wide variety of music ranging from classical to rock. She has opened for Bill Cosby, Taj Mahal, Ray Charles, B.B. King, Billy Ekstein, Jon Henricks and Robert Cray.

Ms. Scroggins has also worked in schools teaching music, giving workshops and performances to young audiences. Among other credits, Ms. Scroggins has been involved in several Northwestern theatre productions; recorded albums with local artists, Esquires, Terry Robb, Norman Sylvester, and a solo album, Janice Scroggins plays Scott Joplin was nominated for a Grammy Award in 1988. The Cascade Blues Association has presented Ms. Scroggins with three Muddy Waters Blues Awards.

"Kid N Play" To Visit Portland, Oregon

Tony Washington, Promotions Manager for The Portland Observer, will be the host for the "House Party 2" cast. They will be making personal appearances, Monday, October 28, 1991 at the following schools and businesses: Jefferson High School, 5210 N Kerby; House of Sound, 3634 N Williams. For further information, please contact: Tony Washington at 288-0020.

Kid N Play Stars Of The Movie "House Party 2" In Portland To Host The Pajama Jammie Jam, On October 28, The House Party Of The Year

Kid N Play stars of the slamin' hip-hop blow-the-roof-off-new-movie, "House Party 2," will be in Portland, to host the hottest "house party" of the year! The Pajama Jammie Jam, at Portland State University's Smith Ballroom, Monday, October 28, 1991 8 - 11 p.m.

So get out your fly, fresh pj's, DJ WHIZ (Party Machine and House Party 2) is in the house, and along with Kid N Play will judge the Pajama Jammie Jam Contest, with prizes for the best pajamas.

Blue Moon Productions and PSU's Black Cultural Affairs presents, this party of the year to benefit the United Negro College Fund.

The first installment, "House Party," which starred Kid N Play, Martin Lawrence, Full Force and the late Robin Harris, made "house party" a household term, grossing \$27 million and shipping over 150,000 videocassettes. Produced and directed by Doug McHenry and George Jackson (New Jack City), "House Party 2" follows the madcap adventures of Kid N Play as the boys cross the threshold from adolescence to adulthood.

Donation: \$10.00. Tickets are on sale at House Of Sound Records, 3634 N. Williams, 287-1960. For reservations Blue Moon Productions Office, 257-2700

Mario DePriest, a Los Angeles native, burst into Portland's jazz scene at last year's "Music Explosion." He was also the voice of the plant "Audrey II" in SRO Production smash hit musical "Little Shop of Horrors" performed at the Portland Civic Theatre last year.

Mario has performed with his father, world renowned jazz drummer Akbar DePriest along with other jazz legends Andrew Hill, Dennis Springer, Gordon Lee, Andre' St. James and Mel Brown. Mario is currently the featured vocalist with the Janice Scroggins band with whom he has performed at such major events as the Mayor's Ball, Rose Festival, Taste of Beaverton, Roots of Rock Festival, and the 1991 from All Walks of Life pledge walk.

Mario's voice has been described as being smooth as velvet and rich as dark chocolate. When you add his ability for creating great lyrics to standardds "Milestones" and "Ornithology" to the diversified piano style of Ms. Scroggins, you can't experience anything that's less than wonderful.

For information and bookings call (503) 284-0871 or (503) 221-2451.

Cherrelle



Los Angeles-born Cherrelle is no stranger to success: the petite, soulful vocalist has been a consistent chart-maker since the release of her 1984 debut album *Fragile*, scoring a number of R&B/pop hits including "I Didn't Mean To Turn You On" (later covered by Robert Palmer), "Saturday Love" and "Never Knew Love Like This" (both duets with Alexander O'Neal) which were recorded on 1985's *High Priority* and 1988's *Affair*, was written and produced by master hitmakers Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis.

With the release of *The Woman I Am*, Cherrelle is stepping out into new territory as co-executive producer with Tabu Records' owner Clarence Avant, an album that she says "is a milestone for me. I'm very thankful for what Jimmy and Terry and the other producers at Flyte Time provided for me. It wasn't easy: I'd always had Jimmy and Terry to turn to but with this album, it was all about knowing who I am and where I want to go musically."

The Woman I Am expresses the many vocal facets of this multi-talented performer, from the tenderness of the title cut (which she co-wrote with producers David Elliott, Al Richardson and Peter Scott) to the soul-filled "Tears Of Joy."

The kind of excitement that Cherrelle has generated through her work onstage and in the studio had its genesis in her early years growing up in Los Angeles. "I wanted to sing ever since I was five-years-old!" she recalls, noting that like so many other great vocalists, she got her early training singing in church. "During my childhood, I sang in musicals, stage shows, I took piano lessons, vocal lessons - if it had to do with music, I wanted to be involved."

I couldn't be more satisfied with the work everybody did on *The Woman I Am*. I look at it as the beginning of a new phase in what I intended to be a truly long-term career. I've still got a long way to go and a lot more music to share."

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"RIVETING, KNOCKDOWN ENTERTAINMENT!"

-Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

"★★★★★!"

-Jami Bernard, NEW YORK POST
-Jack Garner, GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

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-Vincent Canby, THE NEW YORK TIMES

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-Jay Scott, BOSTON GLOBE

CITY OF HOPE

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