

ENTERTAINMENT

B.B. King

B.B. King is blunt when asked to assess his new MCA Records album *There Is Always One More Time*. The legendary singer/guitarist describes it simply as "The best album I've recorded in my career."

That's quite a statement when one considers that the Mississippi-bred artist's recording career spans more than four decades and encompasses over 50 albums, including acknowledged classics like 1965's *Live at the Regal*, such unforgettable singles as the Number One R&B hits "Three O'Clock Blues" and "You Don't Know Me," King's 1970 pop crossover hit, "The Thrill Is Gone," plus various collaborations with prominent artists from all across the musical spectrum.

Nevertheless, *There Is Always One More Time* fully live up to King's effusive assessment, striking a graceful balance between blues basics and state-of-the-art studio technology. The album, produced by noted board-man Stewart Levine (of the Crusaders/Simply Red/Joe Cocker Fame), features nine new songs matching King's searing guitar and vocals with such stellar musical collaborators as pianist Joe Sample, keyboardist Neal Larsen, drummer Jim Keltner and bassist Freddie Washington.

King has dedicated the album to the memory of the late, great songwriter Doc Pomus, author of the song "One More Time," which provides the disc's musical and thematic centerpiece. Pomus had worked often with King, who recorded an album of Pomus compositions, the Grammy-winning *There Must Be a Better World Somewhere* (produced by Stewart Levine) several years ago. Ironically, Levine played King's recording of "One More Time" for the ailing Pomus the day before the songwriter's death.

In addition to the Pomus tune, *There Is Always One More Time* showcases King's vocal and instrumental intensity on such key tracks as the tightly-coiled urban dramas "Back in L.A." and "I'm Moving On" (both written by Joe Sample and Will Jennings), the slyly rootsy



"Mean and Evil" and "I've Got Something up My Sleeve" (written by blues vet Arthur Adams), and the spellbinding "The Blues Come Over Me," which seems destined to emerge as a contemporary blues classic.

The new album is just the latest accomplishment in a legendary career that has earned B.B. King his status as one of the world's most respected musicians, named as a seminal influence by virtually every major rock guitarist. Never content to rest on his laurels, King has maintained a consistently prominent profile on the international music scene, keeping a busy schedule of personal appearances, including and average of 250 concerts a year. King's work overseas—he was one of the first Western musicians to tour in the U.S.S.R., and he plans to play in China in the near future—has won him a reputation as an international ambassador of the blues.

Riley B. King was born on September 16, 1925, on a cotton plantation in Indianola, Mississippi, and began singing and playing early in his life. After growing tired of playing on street corners for spare change, King hitchhiked to the musical mecca of the South, Memphis, Tennessee, where he received further guitar tutelage from his uncle, the revered bluesman Bukka White. While playing in Memphis and working as a DJ on the legendary local radio station WDIA, King adopted the flashy professional moniker "The Beale Street Blues Boy," later amended to the simpler "B.B." King. He was recording regularly by the late 1940s and began touring nationally in the early '50s.

since then, King has been too busy making music to spend much time looking back.

On the rare occasions when he's not performing live or working in the recording studio, King has managed to find time to engage in numerous entertainment and philanthropic projects. He has lectured on college campuses, dabbled in acting in TV and film, and recently starred in a three-volume home-video guitar-study series. King is also a lead-

ing advocate of prison reform, and is a co-founder of the Foundation for the Advancement of Inmate Recreation and Rehabilitation (FAIRR), through which he has played numerous free concerts at prisons across the nation, represented on such albums as the classic *Live at Cook County Jail and 1990's Live at San Quentin*. King has also been the recipient of prestigious musical and humanitarian awards too diverse and numerous to list here (including four Grammy Awards, the Presidential Medal of Freedom and his own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame).

Recent years have also found King engaging in musical partnerships with some of the younger musicians whose work bears his influence. His collaboration with U2 on "When Love Comes to Town," for that band's album and film *Rattle and Hum*, remains and AOR staple. King's duet with Bonnie Raitt on a cover of the Dr. John hit "Right Place Wrong Time" was featured in the movie *Air America*. King has also recently joined forces with a diverse list of stars for the pro-recycling single and video "Yakety Yak -- Take It Back."

In the endlessly fickle entertainment world, B.B. King continues to thrive, playing his timelessly passionate music for longtime fans as well as recent converts, and showing no signs of slowing down. "What else am I gonna do?" laughs the perpetually humble legend. "I've got bills to pay. I enjoy working, and I'll keep working until the people don't want to hear me anymore."

In other words, you can expect B.B. King to be working for a long time to come.

David Douglas Safety Action Team To Deliver Gifts

On Wednesday, December 23, 1992, the David Douglas Safety Action Team will begin delivering gifts to many residents of low income housing within the East County area.

Accompanying the Safety Action Team will be a bi-lingual Santa Claus that will greet and talk to children in both English and Spanish and pass out presents.

The presents were made possible by a donation from the Multnomah County Deputy Sheriff's Association.

For information of delivery times and locations to be visited, contact Blanca Ruckert at the David Douglas Safety Action Team, 248-3468.



MUSIC MILLENNIUM

32ND & E BURNSIDE
231-8926

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248-0163

Star Trek's Michael Dorn Warps Into Portland January 9 And 10

Fans will celebrate over twenty five years of the hit television and movie series when Michael Dorn (Lt. Worf) pays a visit to the Holiday Inn Airport. Michael will appear in person at Creation's Salute To Star Trek And The Worlds Of Science Fiction, taking place Saturday January 9th and Sunday January 10th. The special added guest is Richard Arnold, the late Gene Roddenberry's right hand man. Richard will take us behind the scenes of the series with slides and sneak previews of upcoming episodes. Other presentations include news and information on the newest Sci-Fi series including Star Trek: Deep Space Nine, Babylon Five and space Rangers. Adding to the fun will be contests, auctions and a giant science fiction merchandise bazaar.

Tickets are available in advance for \$14.00 (plus service charges) through G.I. Joe's Ticketmaster outlets. Tickets at the door will be \$17.00; Kids twelve and under \$6; and those under six are FREE. Kids rates are only available at the door. Special reserved seating is also available through Ticketmaster for \$35. The convention hours are Saturday and Sunday 11AM to 6PM. The Sheraton is located at 8439 NorthEast Columbia Boulevard.

Oregon Ballet Theatre's Creative Movement Outreach Program Awarded \$10,000 Grant From US West Communications

The School of Oregon Ballet Theatre's innovative Creative Movement Outreach Program, which brings dance education to economically disadvantaged and physically challenged children, has been awarded a \$10,000 grant from US West Communications.

Initiated in Fall 1989 in conjunction with the Albina Ministerial Alliance's (AMA) Head Start program, the Creative Movement Program has grown to reach nearly 600 children in nearly 20 centers, including not only AMA Head Start but also Washington County Head Start and the YWCA Transitional School. The Program's classes—taught by professional instructors from the School of OB—T—are aimed at developing self-esteem, physical coordination, confidence, and creative problem-solving skills among economically disadvantaged and "at-risk" children.

US West has been a key sponsor of the program since its inception.

PORTLAND OBSERVER
"The Eyes and Ears of the Community"
Office: (503) 288-0033
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February 18 Opening for The 16th Portland International Film Festival

The Northwest Film center is pleased to announce that the 16th Portland International Film Festival will be held February 18-March 6, 1993. Sponsored by The Oregonian, KINK-FM and ACT III Theatres, the Festival will be held at the Portland Art Museum's Berg Swann Auditorium and at ACT III's Broadway and KOIN Center Cinemas.

Portland film lovers will have the opportunity to survey more than sixty new films from more than two dozen countries, all of which will be having their Oregon, in most cases Northwest, and in some cases, American premieres.

This year's Festival will include a "Pacific Rim Showcase", sponsored by First Interstate Bank, featuring new films from China, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Korea, and a special program of children's films. Opening the Festival on February 18 will be Regis Wagnier's *Indochine* starring Catherine Deneuve,

which is this year's French submission for the Foreign Film Oscar. Other highlights are a live performance by the Olympia Chamber Orchestra of F.W. Murnau's *The Last Laugh* with an original score by Timothy Brock, and a tribute to Laurel and Hardy.

The Festival, produced by the Portland Art Museum Northwest Film Center, receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts, Oregon Arts Commission, Metropolitan Arts Commission and the Rose E. Tucker Charitable Trust. Other Festival sponsors include American Airlines, the Heathman Hotel and the Consulate Generals of Japan and Canada.

A complete schedule will be released February 1 and the Festival Program will be featured in the Friday, February 12 Oregonian.

For further information, please contact the Film Festival at (503)-221-1156 or by fax: (503)-226-4842.

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KBOO Seeks Diversity In Broadcasting Volunteers

In an effort to create more diversity in its volunteer and hiring practices, KBOO, a local community radio station is offering free training for individuals interested in radio news broadcasting, local reporting, editing and writing for radio.

Eugene Rashad, News Director, states "KBOO radio is required to bring in as diverse a group of volunteers as

possible". KBOO's charter reads...shall be a model of programming, filling needs that other media do not, providing to diverse communities and underserved or underserved groups. KBOO shall provide access and training to those communities.

For additional information, contact Beth Hyams or Eugene Rashad by calling 231-8032.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

SPECIAL EDITION

COMING JANUARY 13, 1993



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Don't Buy Auto Repair Over The Telephone

Don't rely solely on the Better Business Bureau or other consumer agencies to find out if a shop is honest (or qualified). The only information you'll receive is how many unsettled complaints they have on the shop in question. A dishonest shop knows that if he gets caught cheating, he had better make a settlement immediately if he wants to continue cheating. Sound a little strange? Let me explain.

Ninety-nine percent of the people who get cheated aren't even aware of it. The smart cheater knows that. He knows percentages are in his favor. If he's caught, he'll return the money or settle the complaint immediately; therefore, no unsettled complaint on file. Let's carry it a step further. Ninety-nine percent of the people who think they got cheated, really didn't. There is a big difference between frauds and incompetency.

If you look it up in your dictionary you'll find a "fraud" is a person who willfully cheats or deceives others. "Incompetent": lacking in ability or skills. Totally different, right? ...but not to most consumers. They're aware of only one thing... they didn't get what they paid for. I can assure you that very few garages are actually fraudulent, and

willfully cheat or deceive. Incompetent? Well, I'll admit there are some shops lacking in knowledge and skills.

Don't try to buy auto repair over the telephone. You can end up buying something you don't need. No one can diagnose a problem on the telephone. Let's look at a tropical shop and a typical customer with a typical telephone call.

A customer has an exhaust noise and calls a muffler shop and asks

How much to install a new muffler on my 1972 Ford? The shop owner says \$36. Customer: "When can you do it? Owner: "At 2 this afternoon." So at 2 o'clock the customer drives into the muffler shop. Customer: "Hi, I called about the muffler for the '72 Ford." Shop: "Okay, we'll get it right in." The shop owner calls one of his mechanics: "Hey, Charlie, put in a new muffler on this '72 Ford next." Charlie gets the car in the air and the exhaust pipe has pulled out of the muffler (that's where all the noise was coming from). Charlie disconnects the other end and puts a new muffler on. There may not be anything wrong with the old one, but you bought a new one. The shop owner didn't sell you a new one, you bought a new one. You told him what you wanted and that was your mistake. Had that same cus-

tommer driven into that shop and said "I have an exhaust noise, will you check it out and tell me how much it will cost to fix it?", a totally different transaction would have occurred. The owner would have said: "Hey, Charlie, get this '72 Ford on the hoist and see what needs to be done to correct that exhaust noise." Charlie would have put it on the lift, checked it, gone to the shop owner and said "The exhaust pipe is pulled out of the muffler." Garage owner: "What will it take to fix it?" Charlie: "I can weld it or just put on a new clamp." See the difference? If the shop had said "you needed a new muffler" that would have been fraud. But that shop will sell you anything you want to buy, and he cannot be accused of cheating you. Have you ever gone into an appliance store and said "I want to buy a new TV or refrigerator: and have the sales man say "What's wrong with your old one?" I never have.

Auto repair shops are no different. If you want to buy a transmission, they'll sell you one. If you want to buy a tune-up, they'll sell you one.

Put the monkey on the shop's back. Let him do the diagnosing and if you don't think he diagnose it right, get a second opinion.

The Portland Observer encourages our readers to write letters to the editor in response to any articles we publish.