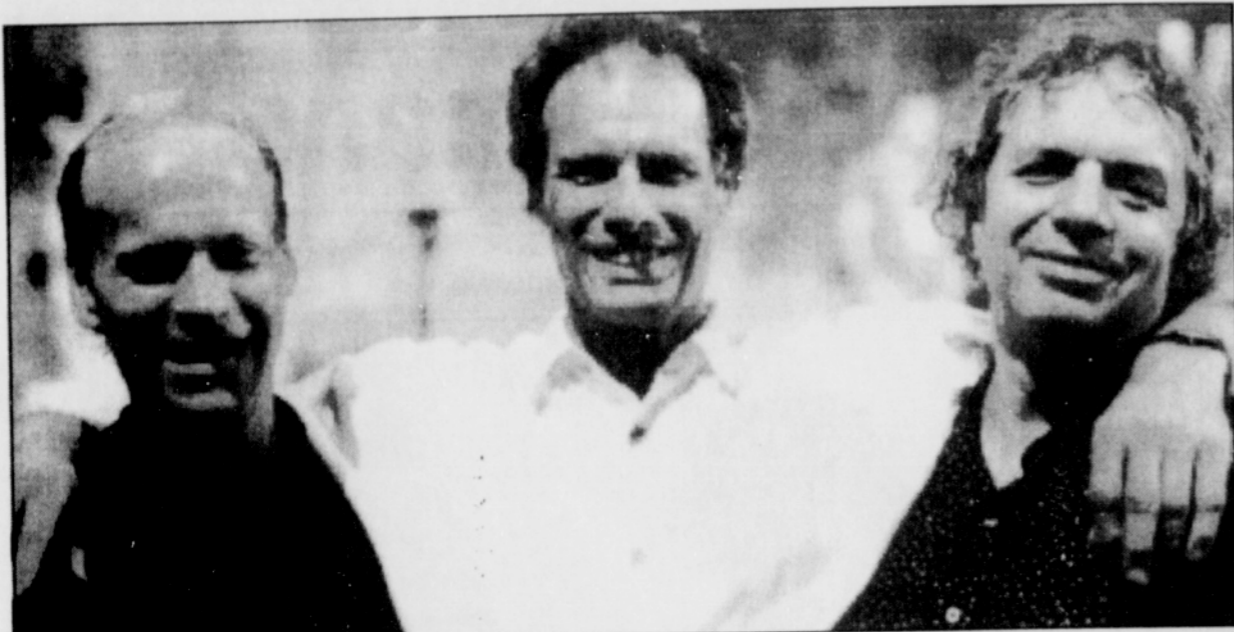


Arts ENTERTAINMENT

Northwest Passage



Oregon
"Northwest Passage"

For four centuries, explorers sought the Northwest Passage as a way to the Pacific Ocean and the future; for 27 years, the members of Oregon have explored the frontiers of music, and on this album have found their own passage to the future.

"This recording represents another major milestone in our efforts to produce music that we're excited to be a part of.

Through the years, there have been inevitable crossroads that have required us to re-examine our course.

These major events seem to crop up every three to four years, and often reveal the need for new directions, over-hauls, or just a general shake-up in approach.

We felt that for this album we needed to rekindle our love of playing with percussion, and found two exceptionally worthy

musicians, Mark Walker and Arto Tunçboyacıyan, who met our requirements of versatility, maturity, and musicianship," wrote Ralph Towner. Northwest Passage of course features three of the founding members of Oregon, guitarist, pianist and keyboardist Ralph Towner, reed and horn player McCandless, and bassist Glen Moore.

It was produced by Steve Rodby, who "brought intelligence, clarity, diligence, and artistry to every aspect of this recording.

The sessions were a totally musical experience in large part due to Steve's foresight, and to the trust we are able to place in his overview.

The band was able to concentrate solely on playing the music," said McCandless.

The four original members of Oregon met when they were play-

ing with the Paul Winter concert in New York in 1970; percussionist/sitar player Collin Walcott was replaced by Trilok Gurtu after a tragic bus accident took Walcott's life during a European tour in 1984.

For the past five years, Oregon has been performing and recording as a trio, without drums and percussion; Troika (also on Intuition Music) was the first recorded representation of the Oregon trio, and was followed by Beyond Words.

Northwest Passage retains the intimacy of their work as a trio, while expanding it with the sensitive and exciting musicianship of Walker and Tunçboyacıyan.

As can be perceived by listening to any one of Oregon's twenty-plus recordings as a group, they have through the years found freshness through their constant exploration.

Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds Entertainer of the Year

Kweisi Mfume, President and CEO of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and Charles Whitehead, Chairman of the NAACP Image Awards Committee announced during a special press conference that Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds was selected to be the 29th NAACP Image Awards Entertainer of the Year.

Hall of Fame Awards will be presented to sultry song stylist, Nancy Wilson and the legendary R&B group The Isley Brothers. The President's Award will be presented to United States Secretary of Labor Alexis

Herman.

The 29th NAACP Image Awards is an exciting, star studded salute to the best in Black entertainment. Honorees, presenters and performers have included almost every major African-American celebrity in America. There are 40 competitive categories in the fields of motion pictures, television, music, and literature, and special awards including the Image Award Hall of Fame and Entertainer of the Year.

The two-hour television special is actually an edited version of the highlights of a three-hour live event. The

result is a fast paced, program full of emotion, suspense, humor, and exciting performances by today's hottest stars.

Founded almost thirty years ago a meeting in the home of Sammy Davis Jr. (a member of the Beverly Hills/Hollywood Branch of our nation's oldest civil rights organization), the NAACP Image Awards honor projects and individuals portraying "positive images of African American." The 29th NAACP Image Awards will tape February 14, 1998, and air Thursday, March 5th.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 9 at 7 p.m.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 10 at 5 p.m.
PORTLAND PREMIERE - VISITING ARTIST
Charles Mingus: Triumph of the Underdog (1997)
"I am Charles Mingus, half black man, half yellow man... I play jazz, I am a Negro," declares the volatile, uncompromising genius at the start of Don McGlynn's riveting look at the tortured musical life of the great composer and bass player. Featuring wide ranging interviews with musicians and critics who were close to Mingus, along with the insights of his wives Celia and Susan, an extraordinary portrait emerges of an artist of unparalleled talent and complex, paradoxical temperament. Over the course of nine years of digging, McGlynn has also surfaced treasured film and television clips from the 1960s and 1970s, radio broadcasts, interviews and vintage photographs, many unknown, to capture the joy and rage of his life, and the legacy of musical genius that he left behind. (78 mins.) Preceded by Mark Mills' Ornette Coleman: Harmolodics (1996), a pithy examination of jazz saxophonist Ornette Coleman's theory of music (and life), which is to "remove the caste system from sound." (10 mins.) Director Don McGlynn will introduce his film.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16 at 7 p.m.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 17 at 5 p.m.
PORTLAND PREMIERE
Can't You Hear the Wind Howl? The Life & Music of Robert Johnson (1997)
He never gave an interview or wrote any of his compositions down on paper, and only recorded 29 songs. He claimed he sold his soul to the devil at the crossroads for a diabolical tuning of his guitar, constantly roamed, and was murdered under still mysterious circumstances at the age of 27. Robert Johnson, the most influential artist in the history of blues music, is both a legend and an enigma. Peter Meyer's imaginatively crafted portrait reveals the power of music to shape our culture as it presents a vivid picture of Johnson and the circumstances that gave rise to his brilliant music. Danny Glover narrates portions of the story and bluesman Keb' Mo' portrays Johnson in new footage, which Meyer blends with rare photographs, stock footage, insightful interviews with Johnson contemporaries such as Johnny Shines and Robert Jr. Lockwood, and appearances by Eric Clapton, Robert Cray, John Hammond, Keith Richards among many others. (77 mins.) With Third Ward Blues (1997). An entertaining examination of the personal and professional relationships of Albert Collins, Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown, Johnny Clyde Copeland and Joe "Guitar" Hughes. (29 mins.)

THE NORTHWEST FILM CENTER PRESENTS
Reel Music
A CELEBRATION OF MUSIC ON FILM



Jazz, blues, rock, folk, punk, Tex-Mex, soul, reggae, klezmer, classical, Brazilian, Hollywood musicals...there is something for every taste. For the full REEL MUSIC schedule, pick up the Film Center's Jan/ Feb calendar or Willamette Week.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18 at 7 p.m.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 25 at 4:30 p.m.
PORTLAND PREMIERE
Blue Note: A Story of Modern Jazz (Germany, 1996)

One of the great jazz labels, Blue Note Records was founded in 1939 by Alfred Lion and Francis Wolfe, jazz fans from Germany who came to New York to escape Nazism. By the 1950s, the fledgling company came into its own, documenting the rich currents of modern jazz with little regard to commercialism as well as amassing a legacy of recordings that provide the backbone for any serious jazz record collection. Recordings of Charlie Parker, Bud Powell, Thelonius Monk, Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Horace Silver, Art Blakey, Ornette Coleman, Herbie Hancock and hundreds more, past and present, are essential documents of America's greatest art form. Julian Benedikt's homage is full of great clips, photographs, interviews and history of the music and the two men with the rare dedication and vision to preserve it. (120 mins.) Sponsored by Bravo.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31 at 7 p.m.
PORTLAND PREMIERE

Dexter Gordon: More Than You Know (1997)

Don McGlynn's (Charles Mingus: Triumph of the Underdog, Art Pepper: Notes From A Jazz Survivor) newest jazz biography celebrates the life and career of the great saxophonist Dexter Gordon. At seventeen Gordon joined the Lionel Hampton Orchestra, soon graduated to the Billy Eckstein Band and then went on to be one of the great players of the modern era. Full of superb performances by Gordon and some of those who inspired him—Lester Young, Charlie Parker, Ben Webster, Coleman Hawkins, Dizzy Gillespie and Bud Powell—as well as clips from the screen tests for Gordon's role (for which he received an Academy nomination) in Bertrand Tavernier's Round Midnight and other rare treats, McGlynn's portrait most of all captures the beautiful expressiveness—in personality and music—of this musical treasure. (52 mins.) Preceded by Jules At Eight (1996), Mark Becker's portrait of Santa Rosa, California eight-year-old Julian Lage, who, except for the trials of the second grade, has spent his time taking jazz, blues and classical music lessons. You will be impressed. (24 mins.) And The Spiral Story (1997), Matthew Seig's recounting of how trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie, playing in Cab Calloway's band in 1941 with fellow musicians Jonah Jones and Milt Hinton, got his start down the path to modern jazz history. (20 mins.)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4 at 7 p.m.
PORTLAND PREMIERE

Gilberto Gil: Tempo Rei (Brazil, 1997)

"Gilberto Gil is one of the legends of Brazilian music. In this intimate, beautifully photographed documentary he returns to Ituaçu, his childhood home and to the rivers of Salvador, where he wrote the first song that gained him attention. Talking with his family and friends, musician and writers Jorge Amado, Caetano Veloso, Paulinho Camaleu, Carlinhos Brown and others, Gil explores the rich musical tradition of Bahia and Africa. Gil, a mulatto, reveals the ideological importance he placed on integrating questions of race in his art, and the central influence of the Candomble tradition. The many performances captured in the film range from improvisations in village squares to concerts in huge auditoriums. Wherever he goes, people know his songs, and jubilantly sing along. He is their king."—Kathy Gerritz, Pacific Film Archive. (107 mins.)

Reel Music is sponsored by Willamette Week, Music Millennium, McMenamins Theaters and Pubs, and KINK 102 FM.

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"AN EXCELLENT AND ABSORBING SUPERNATURAL THRILLER."
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