

Ann Arbor Summer '85 Festival

THE UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

presents

1,000 Years of Jazz

starring

THE LEGENDS OF JAZZ

Herbert Permillion, *Trumpet*

Floyd Turnham, *Clarinet and Tenor Sax*

Clyde Bernhardt, *Trombone and Vocals*

Walter Lewis, *Piano and Vocals*

Benny Booker, *String Bass*

Barry Martyn, *Drums and Vocals*

THE ORIGINAL HOOFERS

Lon Chaney

Ralph Brown

George Hillman

Bernard Manners

and **DEBORAH WOODSON**, *Vocalist*

Saturday Evening, July 20, 1985, at 8:00

Power Center for the Performing Arts

Ann Arbor, Michigan

PROGRAM

The Legends of Jazz

under the direction of Barry Martyn

Deborah Woodson

The Original Hoofers

under the direction of "Isiah" Lon Chaney, in order of appearance:

Lon Chaney

Ralph Brown

George Hillman

Bernard Manners

INTERMISSION

The Legends of Jazz

Deborah Woodson

The Original Hoofers: *The Challenge*

The Company

This program is made possible in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

A New Orleans Revue!

Some of the musicians in The Legends of Jazz started performing in New Orleans more than sixty years ago when it all began. Some of The Original Hoofers were tapping forty years ago in Harlem's Cotton Club. Their combined years on stage approach 1,000 years. What could be more natural than combining the inimitable talents of these unique artists! Add Deborah Woodson, a reincarnation of the Twenties' Flapper period, and presto — a New Orleans Revue!

The music and songs on this evening's program will be selected from the following:

St. Louis Blues	Red River Blues
Caledonia	Bugle Call Rag
Tonight's the Night	Hi Ho Silver
Down by the Riverside	Oh How I Miss You Tonight
Cherokee	Beginnin' to See the Light
Sleep	When the Saints Go Marchin' In
Let's Go Tap Dancin'	Bourbon Street Parade
Stormy Weather	Won't You Come Home Bill Bailey
April in Paris	Sliding Clyde
Mississippi Mud	Georgia Meet
I've Got Rhythm	All Because We Had That Thing Called Jazz

The Legends of Jazz — the name of this all-star group is well considered. Each of these illustrious gentlemen is truly a living legend of jazz. Several of these men have seen their spirited music move from the streets and back alleys of New Orleans to the concert halls of the world. Their exciting sounds display a fresh exuberant approach to music, which reflects their own enduring personal achievements. Age has not dimmed their brilliance. On the contrary, like fine wine mellowing in a cask, The Legends demonstrate the true value of their vintage.

The group actually consists of a dozen legendary New Orleans musicians, organized by drummer Barry Martyn in 1972, so that, notwithstanding the rigors of touring, 1,000 Years of Jazz will always have several authentic Legends to play their appropriate instruments. The great old-timers are: *Trumpet*: Andrew Blakeney and Leo Dejan; *Clarinet/Saxophone*: Sam Lee and Floyd Turnham; *Trombone*: Clyde Bernhardt and Louis Nelson; *Piano*: Alton Purnell and Jon Marks; *String Bass*: Adolphus Morris and Benjamin (Benny) Booker; and *Drums*: Barry Martyn and Theodore (Teddy) Edwards.

The Hoofers were formed in 1969 by Lon Chaney to preserve and present the art of tap dancing. Like so much of black culture, the history of tap dancing has long been neglected by scholars. What is certain is that this is an art form invented by Afro-Americans, and though enthusiastically adopted by the white man, it has always retained the spirit of its popular origins. A large portion of The Hoofers' inspiration came from Bill Robinson, the "Bo Jangles" who taught Shirley Temple how to tap. "When he died," says Sandman Sims, a member of the group, "it killed the heart of tap dance, and then rock 'n roll drowned out the sound of the taps." The nostalgia of the '70s and "That's Entertainment" then sparked enough interest in the black roots of the form to bring these solo entertainers together, most of whom had danced for Hollywood in the days when being black, according to another member, "meant a teeny part with Judy Garland." The current Hoofers, with the exception of the youngest, Bernard Manners, started tapping in their teens, moving on to the vaudeville circuit, and then into the small clubs when the dance craze died out in the late '40s and '50s. Other members of the group (not performing this evening) are Buster Brown, Raymond Kaalund, Chuck Green, and Jimmy Slyde.

The Hoofers performed in Ann Arbor in 1977, one of many such appearances around the country, and they have made many European tours. Their television appearances include guest stints on the Tonight Show, Dick Cavett Show, To Tell The Truth, and the Mike Douglas Show. A motion picture of their work is in the permanent archives of the Library of the Performing Arts at New York's Lincoln Center.

Deborah Woodson, both the newest and the youngest member of 1,000 Years of Jazz, has appeared in *Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope*, *Purlie*, *Guys and Dolls*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, and *Tambourines to Glory*. She has also been a featured soloist with the Norman Luboff Choir. Born in Georgia, Deborah is a cum laude graduate of North Carolina Central University.

Max Adolfsson, *Production Manager*

Norma Plumley, *Publicity Director*

Delfor Peralta, *Promotion*

Miss Woodson's gowns by Star Hagenbring, New York City