

# THE FRONT LINES

## Focus on Our Many Origins

□The excitement of free jazz, salsa, gospel, American and international folk music and dance concerts fills the air. Renaissance and baroque music wafts through the park at dusk. Kids and adults enjoy handicrafts and arts workshops given by Glen Echo's resident artists and by guests from Africa, Asia and Latin America. All ages hoof it at Tea Dances featuring Dixieland and Ragtime bands. Everyone paints outdoor murals with Mildred Thompson, noted black American artist. Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy your summer Sundays with the National Park Service's Chataqua Season at Glen Echo Park. The season will culminate in September, with a jazz festival featured on September 2, and a gala medieval festival, the Michaelmas Fair, the following weekend.

Workshops include African story telling, drumming, dance, beadwork and cloth printing, constructing an African village, Persian Rug weaving, Latin American music and dance, aluminum casting, doll-house making, basketry, poetry reading and others. Approximately one-third of these programs are funded through Glen Echo's "Multicultural Washington" program, designed to create free programs relevant to the traditions and culture of DC's Afro-American and Latin American communities.

All activities and performances are free, of course, and will be held rain or shine from noon to 6 pm. The N-4 Metrobus stops right outside the Glen Echo gates. For further information, call 492-6282.

- 8/12: 1-2 pm—Dennis Botzer, down-home banjo: Bumper Car Pavilion  
 1:30 pm—Glen Echo Dance Theater, "Joan in the Spirit World": Spanish Ballroom  
 2-3 pm—Dottie Dodgion jazz band: Bumper Car Pavilion  
 3-4 pm—Archaeus Mime Troupe: "Tales of the South": Spanish Ballroom  
 3-4 pm—Art Dawkins' Capital Jazz Quintet: Bumper Car Pavilion  
 4-6 pm—Tea Dance with Tin Pan Alley: Spanish Ballroom  
 5-6 pm—Riley, harpsichord soloist: Cuddle-Up
- 8/19: 1-2 pm—Bill Harris, blues and jazz guitarist: Bumper Car Pavilion  
 1:30 pm—Jan Taylor Dance Theater and Atrium Dance Company: Spanish Ballroom  
 2-3 pm—Craig Babcock, mime artist: Bumper Car Pavilion  
 3-4 pm—Sweet Honey in the Rock: Bumper Car Pavilion  
 4-5 pm—African drumming and traditional music with Crispin Chindongo: Bumper Car Pavilion  
 4-6 pm—Tea Dance with Tin Pan Alley: Spanish Ballroom  
 5-6 pm—David Perry, renaissance lute, chittarone, and guitar: Cuddle-Up
- 8/26: 1-2 pm—Steve Hickman, fiddler supreme: Bumper Car Pavilion  
 1:30 pm—Glen Echo Dance Theater Apprentice Company: Spanish Ballroom  
 2-3 pm—Seventh Dawn classic rock: Bumper Car Pavilion  
 3-4 pm—Mantwilla Nyomo, jazz guitar from Africa: Bumper Car Pavilion  
 4-6 pm—Tea Dance with Tin Pan Alley: Spanish Ballroom  
 5-6 pm—Smith-King Duo, renaissance recorder and guitar

## Stars in Bars An Annual Tradition

□This month is traditionally a slow one for club dates and concerts, aside from the usual amphitheater shows. Musicians join the rest of us in retreat from Washington's infamous wet-blanket August weather, appearing at beach resorts and mountain festivals. Back in DC, things aren't completely dormant, though. A series of teams, ignited by the Nighthawks, and concentrating on good ole rock & roll, have picked up the slack in recent years. Last summer's entry was the notable Cheek-to-Cheek Allstars, with a half dozen club dates and a live WHFS show. This summer, it's double fun, as two entrants are planning local tours. And there's an extra twist, as each features the talents of a touring band member for a nationally known musician.

First up this month is Chicken Legs, bringing ace Bonnie Raitt bass player (and local producer) Freebo together with Catfish Hodge, Pete Ragusa of the 'Hawks, Cotton Kent, and T.J. Tindall. They'll be in full boogie at the Cellar Door (8th and 9th), Childe Harold (10th and 11th), and the Psyche Delly (12th).

Hard on their heels are Bobby and the Nightstars, featuring ace pinball wizard and Muddy Waters band guitarist Bob Margolin, along with Dick Green and Paul Hammond of the Allstars, and Jan Zukowski and Mark Wenner of the Nighthawks. This troupe promises some good rockabilly and early Muddy tunes with string bass (seldom seen in DC rock, outside of visits from Roomful of Blues), along with more familiar rock & roll sounds. Catch them if you can, at the West Virginian in Charlottesville (15th), opening for Sam & Dave at the Bayou (16th), opening for Billy Price at the Psyche Delly (17th and 18th), and at Desperado's (19th).

## DC New Wave Finds (Another) Home

□One of the more unusual musical venues to open recently is Madam's Organ, an art collective at 2318 18th St., NW, just down from Columbia Road. Starting with a couple of Yippie benefits early in the summer, organizer Russell Braen has expanded activities to weekly shows featuring local New Wave outfits. The Slickee Boys, Bad Brains, Deliverance from Evil, Ground Zero Band and others have appeared recently. A special benefit for Round Raoul Records on the 11th, with their recording artists No Joe and The Chumps, is a highlight this month. Other confirmed dates include Bazilisk and Rupert Chapelle (3rd and 4th), the Mystery Dates (10th), and a Beach Blowout for the final farewell of the Insect Surfers (25th). August 17, 18 and 24 are open and bands are being recruited for those dates. For more information call 387-7615.

## Market Five Leads the Way on Capitol Hill

□The Market Five Gallery Center for Performing and Visual Arts has put together a gala festival celebrating the work of developing artists and artisans from the metropolitan area. On August 25, from noon to midnight, one will be able to hear and see string quartets, steel bands, violinists, poets and dancers from six of the new companies in town. Tony Pianneau, who has recently returned from her studies with Marcel Marceau in Paris, will also perform. Vendors of both national and international foods will be present, and folks of all ages are encouraged to come by... and it's absolutely free.

Other events earlier in the month include two evenings of music dance and poetry entitled "Karavan", performed by Brother Ah and the Sounds of Awareness on August 4 and 5. August 11 and 12, "Expression Through Sound," the performing ensemble of the Evolving Arts Coalition, will perform a concert of poetry and music. These events are not free, so call 584-2892 or 546-6895 for showtimes and ticket information.

The Market Five Gallery is located at 7th and North Carolina Avenue, SE, right by the Eastern Market Metro Stop.



## In Memory of Mingus

□When the legendary jazz composer Charles Mingus died last Jan. 4, he left behind two unfinished projects. One was *Me, Myself An Eye* featuring a 29 piece band that Mingus directed from his wheelchair. The orchestra includes such "fusion" artists as guitarist Larry Coryell, drummer Steve Gadd and the Brecker brothers. Mingus was one of the few jazz giants who refused to ignore the new electronic jazz musicians. Mingus is probably the only one to successfully incorporate them into his own unique sound.

His other project was a series of collaborations with folk-rock singer-songwriter Joni Mitchell. Mingus wrote six melodies for her to set lyrics to and sing. The results of her efforts are on her new album, *Mingus*. The record contains three of Mingus' new songs with Mitchell's lyrics; two new Mitchell songs inspired by Mingus; Mitchell's new lyrics to Mingus' classic "Goodbye Pork Pie Hat"; and several short clips from taped interviews with Mingus.

Mitchell's backing band is three-fourths of Weather Report—Jaco Pastorius, Wayne Shorter and Peter Erskine—with Herbie Hancock replacing the absent Joe Zawinul. The music avoids the dry tunelessness of Mitchell's recent albums. Her lyrics are also more vibrant than they've been recently. One of her best choruses is this description of the dying Mingus: "But now Manhattan holds me/ To a chair in the sky/ With the bird in my ears/ And boats in my eyes."

Guitarist Larry Coryell, who is featured prominently on two of Mingus' last three releases, will open for James Taylor at the Merriweather Post Pavilion August 2-4. Joni Mitchell will appear there August 22-23. Rumor is that her musicians from the new album may tour with her. At any rate, her performance at the May 6 anti-nuclear rally in Washington showed her singing both old songs like "Circle Game" and new songs like "God Must Be a Boogie Man" with encouraging fervor.