



DEFIANT ISLAND

BY JAMES FORSYTH

directed BY J. HERBERT KERR
FEATURING Clayton Corbin

march 8th, thru. 31st, thur. fri. sat. 8:00pm sun. 7:00pm

BLACK ARTS/WEST THEATER 3406 E. UNION • EA2-0211

BLACK ARTS/WEST THEATRE
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BLACK ARTS/WEST is a department
of the Central Area Motivation
Program, funded by the Seattle
Model City Program.

EDITORIAL

To entertain, educate, enhance and enlighten is the motto of Black Arts/West. It reflects the ideas and desires of Black Arts/West entire staff in serving the immediate community and the greater Seattle area.

This show is the third of our first professional season, although it is, technically, the fifth season for Black Arts/West. We have had two successful shows, both received good reviews and beautiful audience support. With the phasing out of the Seattle Model City Program, however, Black Arts/West faces a serious financial crisis. We are interested in becoming more than just a theatre--we want to become an institution. An institution that can provide adequate facilities to train people interested in the theatre. An institution that can provide a place for those people to practice their craft, as well as a place where people just like you can come and be thoroughly entertained.

Black Arts/West is a necessity for our Black community and a 'must' for Seattle, a city growing at an awesome rate. We would like to feel assured that we may continue to serve you in all phases of our present existence, but we won't be able to survive without YOUR help. HELP BLACK ARTS/WEST TODAY.

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HENRI CHRISTOPHE

The story of the rise and fall of the New World's first crowned king, Henri Christophe, is a far too little known episode in the history of the western hemisphere. Born probably as a freeman on the British island of Grenada in 1767, Christophe rose to power as a military figure in the revolution-torn French Haiti.

He grew up under the aegis of his two great forerunners: the stern idealist, Toussaint L'Ouverture; and the violent revolutionary, Dessalines. Although incredible storm and stress stood in his path, he achieved independence and created a French-speaking black kingdom in the northern part of the divided island and made himself King Christophe. He built his great palace of Sans Souci and his towering citadel above Cape Henry instituted a new order of nobility among his followers, and began to introduce education, law and order in the land.

He died by his own hand in 1820 when bad health and a new revolt of his troops undermined his authority.

From Christophe, King of Haiti: Hubert Cole,
Viking Press

the guest director: J. HERBERT KERR

A graduate of the famed Karamu House Theatre in Cleveland, Ohio, Mr. Kerr has appeared in such roles as Billy Bigelow in "Carousel" and as Joe Bonaparte in "Golden Boy." He has also been a cast member in "Most Happy Fellow, Lost in the Stars, and Three Penny Opera." He appeared with the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Robert Shaw and his chorale, on Broadway in "West Side Story" and toured with the national company. "New England Winter, Dream on Monkey Mountain, and the Duplex" are just a few of the other productions he has appeared in, as well as touring two years in "The Black Experience" with the Family Repertory Company of New York City.

His screen credits include Putney Swope, The Dealing, Ginger, and a lead role in A Place Called Today. Mr. Kerr has directed such shows as "The Dutchman" by Imamu Amiri Baraka, "Happy Ending" by Douglas Turner Ward and "Death List" by Ed Bullins.

the guest performer: CLAYTON CORBIN

Mr. Corbin is another polished graduate of the Karamu House Theatre, and has appeared in such diverse lead roles in "The King and I," "Death of a Salesman, Summer and Smoke, Blood Wedding, and Mr. Johnson."

He has performed in Broadway shows such as "Toys in the Attic" with Maureen Stapleton and Jason Robards, Jr. He co-starred with Christopher Plummer in "The Royal Hunt of the Sun," following David Carradine in the role of the Sun God. Off Broadway he has appeared in "Of Mice and Men, and Land Beyond the River." He played Othello with the Hartford Stage Company in "Titus Andronicus" at the New York Shakespeare Festival, as well as Brutus Jones in "The Emperor Jones," and more recently as Oswald in "King Arthur."

This past year he returned to his alma mater Karamu House for the role of Make in "Dream on Monkey Mountain" and again as Othello in Shakespeare's classic. Black Arts/West proudly welcomes Mr. Corbin as their first guest performer of the season.

* * * * *

technical staff: DEFIANT ISLAND

Assistant Stage Manager.....Charles Canada
Prop Design Mistress.....Dalwyn Dean
Costume Designer/Mistress...Rubee Taylor
Chief Electrician.....David Roebuck
Master Carpenter.....Melvin R. Schwager
Set Construction Crew.....Robert A. Beals
Warren Williams

BLACK ARTS/WEST THEATRE

presents

DEFIANT ISLAND

a historical drama in three acts
by James Forsyth

directed by J. Herbert Kerr

(there will be 2 ten minute intermissions)

CAST

Henri Christophe.....	Clayton Corbin
Marie Louise Christophe.....	Jean McAllister
Jacques Victor.....	Eric Simms
Athenaire.....	Marian Springfield
Old Bouqui.....	Robert Livingston
Bouqui's Boy.....	David Hunter
Richard.....	Tom Gayton
Eleanor Vernet.....	Demetra Pittman
Pompee DeVastey.....	James Bigham
Drum Major Manners.....	Alan Brandon
Dr. Duncan Stewart.....	John Mack
Montoisier.....	Ian Foxx
"Archbishop" Brelle.....	Ramon F. Reiser
Sargeant.....	Tee Dennard
Corporal.....	Michael Hammond

MUSICIANS

Don Costa Seawell
Wayne Strothers
Lewis Dora
Kuumba el (chief drummer)

DANCERS

Ben Davis - Bocar/Priest
Antero Garcias
Haywood Evans
George Ceres
Nikki Brown
Lynn Jackson
Venora Skinner
Veronica Goss
Arlene Edwards - Priestess

set by ROBERT HINTZ

lighting by "buddy"

stage manager - JERRY BREWER

costumes by RUBEE TAYLOR

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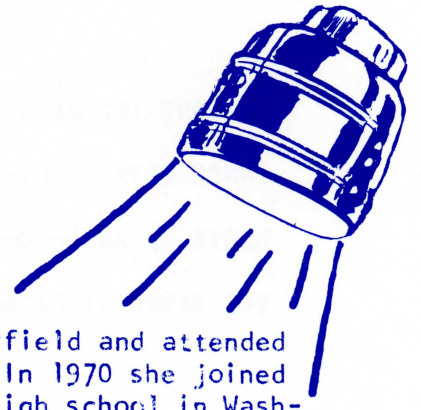
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BLACKLIGHT ON CHERYL ASHFORD

Cheryl, a native of Seattle, graduated from Garfield and attended Eastern Washington State College and U.C.L.A. In 1970 she joined the staff of the first accredited public arts high school in Washington, D.C., Workshops for Careers in the Arts, where she worked for two years as Administrative Assistant.

Cheryl's interest in theatre began here at workshops when she accompanied "Everyman Street Theatre Company" on an East Coast and Southern state tour. She later was to be employed at the D.C. Black Repertory Company as Publicity Director, allowing her interest in theatre administration to develop and mature and become a career focal point.

Cheryl returned to Seattle and is working at Black Arts/West where she has a special commitment to the program and its ideals. We welcome Cheryl to our staff.

THE MEDIUM

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...to the people

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SEASON SCHEDULE

DEFIANT ISLAND by James Forsyth - March 4-24, 1974

INNER CITY by Eve Merriam - adapted by BA/W - April 4-28, 1974

HOBIS by Aaron Duman (Playwright-in-Residence) - May 9/June 2, 1974

THE RIVER NIGER by Joseph Walker - June 13/July 14, 1974

TICKET PRICES:

\$4.00 - Adults
3.00 - Students
1.00 - Children

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* * * * *

A SPECIAL THANKS TO: Johnny Guillory Ltd., Professor Willie Clark-U/W Drama Department, Jean McAllister, Re'Gena Bell, Angelus Funeral Home, Father Jan Dreau-Catholic Northwest Progress, Lawrence Tyler-Artifacts, Leahe Wilson, Nathan Hale, United Community, Antenna Systems, Garfield High School Band, Tacoma Community College, Demetri's Coffee House, Lake Union Drydock Company, SOIC

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