

News

Fabulous music as Kalabash launches

By NATASHA OFOSU

LAST EVENING, Kalabash gave its farewell performance at Martin's on the Boulevard to an appreciative audience.

This followed two previous performances at Naparima Bowl and The Pelican Inn over the Easter weekend.

There was almost no pre-show hype surrounding Monday evening's performance by Kalabash, one of Toronto's hottest contemporary jazz groups.

But, those who attended the small affair, organised by A Different Angle Productions and titled "Connecting the Pieces", at the Pelican Inn Pub, St Ann's, were treated to fabulous music and witnessed history as the sextet launched its self-titled debut album.

When Kalabash began its performance around 7.15 pm, it was as if a burst of warmth cascaded into the venue; the intensity and beauty of the music

continued throughout the three-hour show.

Some patrons who reached late were forced to stand as only a limited number of seats were provided, and depending on where you sat, it was difficult at times to see the stage clearly.

Much of the show's first half was taken up with mid-tempo grooves, one of the memorable originals being "Island Son" and what was noticeable was the centrality of the pan (tenor and double seconds,

played by former Fonclaire arranger, Darren Sheppard) to the music.

Musicians Clive "Zanda" Alexander and Andre Tanker were the night's special guests.

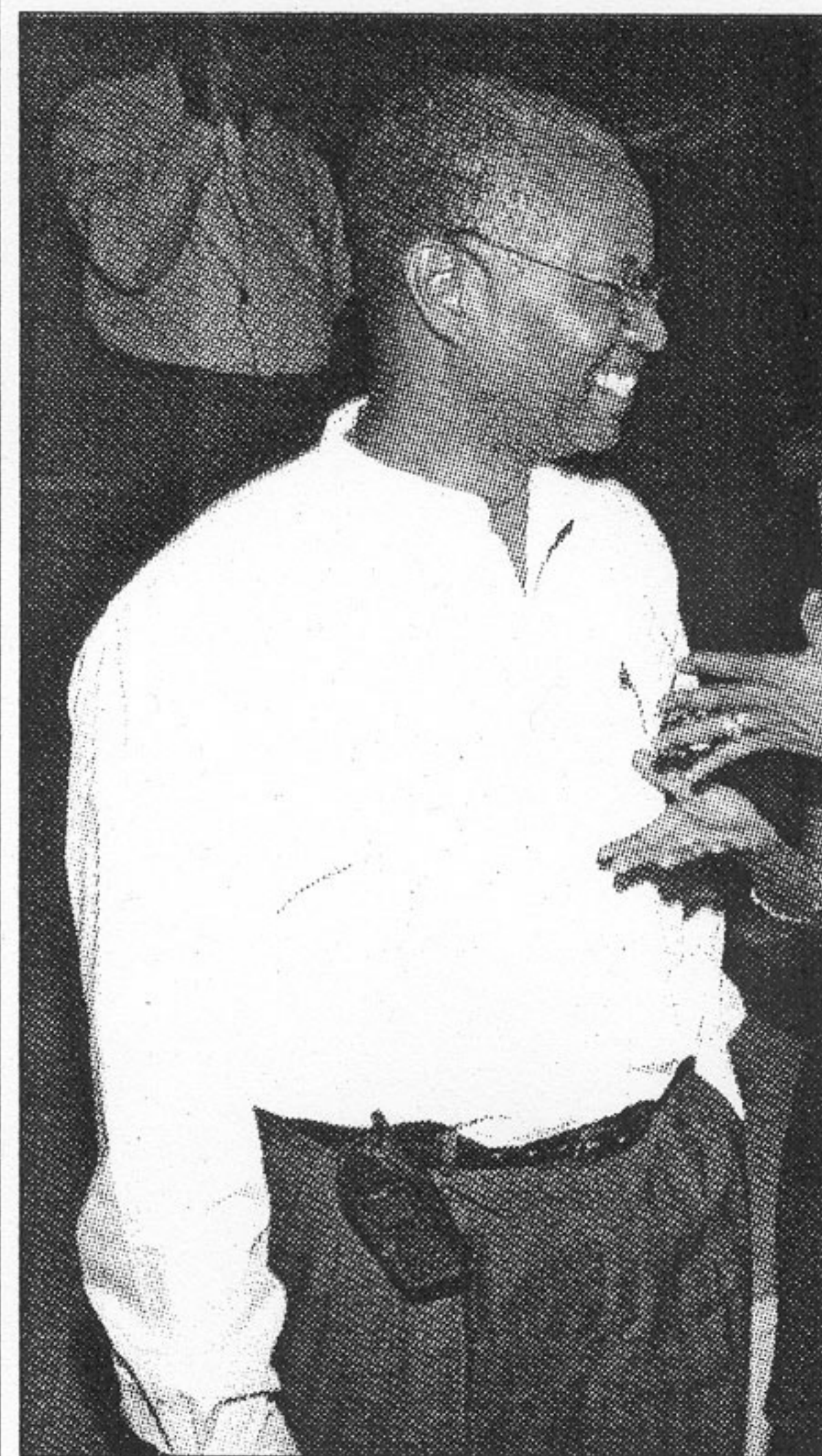
They performed with Kalabash during the first half and returned at the end of the show for the finale.

A greater Caribbean flavour was evident in the show's second half as Kalabash highlighted the songs on its album.

That flavour came through in songs like "Pan Rebellion", which Darren Sheppard originally arranged as a Panorama tune for Fonclaire; and "Bash", an up-tempo track which alternates between calypso and jazz.

The song also features a bass guitar rhythm with a strong rapso feel.

Other tracks in the group's repertoire were "Goat Mout", which in name alone reflects the language of the Caribbean, and "Beads" — both mid-tempo songs.



LAUNCHING: EARL CROSBY (left), president of St of the launch of We Beat magazine, Nikki Crosby, giving ceremony for Carnival competitions staged atre.

'Professor' on menu tomorrow

By PETER RAY BLOOD

TOMORROW evening, celebrated pannist Ken "Professor" Philmore will deliver the main course as the introduction to new cuisine at Vidalia Restaurant, continues at The Normandie, St Ann's.

Normandie owner, Fred Chin Lee and his staff have come up with a delectable series of programmes highlighting the new creations in Vidalia's kitchen and tasty morsels by some of the nation's most appetising pannists and steelbands.

Following on the heels of gourmet performances by TCL Group Skiffle Bunch and BP Renegades,

last Saturday evening, another sold-out audience enjoyed the beautiful sounds of steel as 2001 Pan in the 21st Century champion, Neal & Massy Trinidad All Stars, maintained its reputation as one of the world's foremost accomplished steel orchestras.

With dinner beginning at 7.30, All Stars graced the stage promptly at 8 pm, underscoring the band's well-known professional attitude. Led by its long-serving manager, Beresford Hunte, All Stars performed a repertoire of popular items, including "Tico Tico", "Love Theme", "The Harder They Come" and "Waltz in 'C'Minor".

Mothers' Day

THE SEIZURE by Republic Bank of Spektakula Forum has forced promoters of next month's Mothers' Day Spectacular to move their show to another venue.

The concert is now scheduled to take place at de Luxe Entertainment Centre, Keate Street, on May 11.

A repeat performance is scheduled the following evening at

Simplex Entertainment Centre. Princes Town Headliners shows include Salickram, Cl Shakti, Indar and Action Tishul Orchestra.

Within recent the de Luxe, premier cinema has been redesigned and converted into a conditioned centre.

For this sh

Arabian dancers at 'Masala' on May 6

ARABIAN belly-dancers from New York are to be one of the major highlights at Masala Mania.

