

Evergreen Productions and Friends

PRESENT

A COMMEMORATIVE CULTURAL PANORAMA OF THIRTY- PLUS YEARS

The Metropolitan Activity Center
6307 Riggs Road
Hyattsville, Maryland 20783

Sunday November 10, 2013

3:30PM

EVERGREEN PRODUCTIONS

Voice of, and for the voiceless ...

Is a cultural organization which purports

- * to teach and promote all aspects of theatre techniques for enrichment and artistic development.
- * to produce stage presentations which are local expressions in drama, literature, music, costume and stage design.
- * to establish a working and useful link with other theatre groups through group discussions, forums, panels and lectures.

For the past 30 years, Evergreen Productions has been participating in poetry readings and cultural presentations. The group is comprised of poets, musicians, dancers, designers, actors and humorists. The poetry is accompanied by music and in some cases, by dance.

Evergreen Productions has eight plays in its repertory: *Dem Seh*, *Mattie Tel Mattie*, *Nose For Jokes*, *Ameica*, *Black Sage*, *Hopscotch William*, *The Name of the Game*, and *Tale of the Times*.

Evergreen Productions uses the arts of poetry, song, dance and the drum to educate and stimulate thought. The presented materials are written and arranged by the group, which draws its raw materials from the rich African heritage, present and past experiences coupled with universal impressions, as the group confronts the changing imagery of the sphere.

Evergreen Productions' ingenuity lies in its presentations.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to ever present: George Abrams, Robert Adams, Genevieve Adams, Nantambu Ahota, Jonathan Azore, Lyndon Barton, Walter & Yvonne Barrow, Kofi Bathersfield, Cyril & Syl Benjamine, Robert Burke, AnnMarie Cassia, Lyndona Charles, Stella Clarke, Martin Dougall, Keith Easton, Maurice Ettienne, Deloris Favors, Keith Lambkin, Hollis Lashley, Jillian Moore, Ingrid London Neal, Stanley & Loraine Newton of "Taste of the Caribbean Restaurant," Ade Onadeko, Jean Pascall, Dr. Rubena Smith, Gwendolyn Stoddard, Aubria Waters, and Ruth "Babs" Wills.

To Mr. Winston Joefield and the staff of the Activity Center at the Metropolitan S.D.A. Church Campus, we are grateful!

AND

To you, our audience and all others, who so willingly gave us your support, thank you!

IF YOU APPRECIATE WHAT YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED OR WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US

Past Members

Listed below are some of the past members:

Robert Adams	Sherry Ann Glod
Norma Adams	Kenneth Glocer
Chandra Adams	Denise Hinds
Phyllis Adams	Diane Hinds
Laila Aumlak	Bernadette Hermonstyne
Clayton Bacchus	Jackie Jones
Walter Barrow	Keith Lambkin
Monica Carroll	Verbena Reed
Bajia Carter	Abdula Saliym
Tom Charles (deceased)	Dr. Rubena Smith (on call)
Ahsaki Daley	Hadassah Stowe
Deloris Favors (on call)	Yonette Waterton
Jeanean Gibbs (deceased)	Lennox Watson

In addition, special thanks is given to all those who participate in the different programs and events, as well as the supporters who continue to enhance the work.

The following members participated in Evergreen's Performances at the Arawak Books and Music every third Saturday of the month, as well as other venues in the community: Arnold P. Bathersfield, Oscar Henry, Chikuyu Johns, Hollis "Flash" Lashley, Desmond Linton, Almetta Makana (Sister T), Baba Mosi, Arcelio Newell, Akwette Jordan, Stefan Hope, and Dr. Rubena Smith (on call). The participation in Evergreen Productions includes many other poets.

*****Current*****

Arnold P. Bathersfield, Deloris Favors (on call), Chikuyu Johns, Desmond Linton, Baba Mosi, Juanita Peterson and Dr. Rubena Smith (on call).

PRODUCTION TEAM

MEMBERS OF EVERGREEN PRODUCTIONS

Technical consultants: Robert Adams and Keith Lambkin

Evergreen Productions engagements include:

- ♦ **Queh Queh**
- ♦ **Poetry Readings**
- ♦ **Cultural Events—Folk Festivals**
- ♦ **Educational Forums**
- ♦ **Social Commentary—Humor ...**

For Further information contact:

Patrick Bathersfield	(301) 322 - 5475
Chikuyu Johns	(202) 403 - 1550
Desmond Linton	(240) 401 - 5373
Baba Mosi	(301) 802 - 4022
Juanita Peterson	(202) 251 - 3032

Staged Evergreen Events and Some Participatory Programs

Note: Evergreen Productions stimulates and fosters awareness of the legacy of our ancestral traditions using rhyme and rhythm with indigenous instruments and symbols to capture vibratory forces, while denouncing the “manipulation of consciousness” and recording and elucidating historical sequential analysis with the drum.

1. “*Dem Seh*” November 21, 1982 – St. Paul and Augustine Church, 1421 V Street NW, Washington, DC, MC: Robert Adams
2. “*Mattie Tel Mattie*” with Kuumba Nguvu, June 12, 1983 – St. Paul and Augustine Church, 1421 V Street, NW, Washington, DC, MC: Jasmine Campbell (National Public Radio)
3. The Children of the World (Re: Noemi Gonzalez) August 26, 1984; Lincoln Memorial, Reflection Pool, October 19, 1985
4. A Salute to the Ancestors, Yoruba Temple of Washington DC, November 3 1984; December 19, 1984
5. *Unsung Heroes*, Red Black & Green Ball, The Friends of the National Afro-American Exposition and Festival, Ogun Herbal Research Institute, 20110 Kendall Street, NE
6. The Quest Poetry Series, Martin Luther King Jr Library (monthly), April 26, 1984 & Mar 22, 1985
7. COMMON CONCERNS—In Celebration of Black History Month, 1347 Connecticut Avenue, NW, February 12, 1985
8. Poetry Readings, Lamond–Riggs Branch, February 21, 1985
9. “*Mattie Tel Mattie*” Guyana National Association, February 23, 1985 – Peoples Congregational Church, 4704 13th St. NW, MC: Cordell Deane
10. *An Evening of Inspirational Music*, The Ideal Whole School, University of the District of Columbia (Miner Building) 2565 Georgia Avenue, NW, March 29, 1985

FOLKLORE

SOME OF THE THINGS MEH GRANDMOTHER USE TO SAY!

- ♦ *Man na like you he gee you basket fuh fetch water.*
- ♦ *Daag na believe world round till he head fasten a salmon cup.*
- ♦ *Sport to school boy a death to frag.*
- ♦ *Cockroach na a gee dance a fowl pen.*
- ♦ *Egg na business a rack stone dance.*
- ♦ *Man a drown pimpla bush gat smooth limb.*
- ♦ *Ha’s e a paddock is na ha’s e a course.*
- ♦ *Moon a run til day ketch am.*
- ♦ *All skin teeth nah laugh.*
- ♦ *Man a man—man nah tobacco stick.*
- ♦ *Nah tek night dew.*
- ♦ *When bell ah toll—you must listen, because*
- ♦ *One day he guh toll fuh yuh.*
- ♦ *Nah eat and talk.*
- ♦ *When mouth ah talk han muss’n nack.*
- ♦ *Wha yuh do ah dark mus come to light.*
- ♦ *Yuh smell yuh swet.*
- ♦ *Everyday bucket ah guh a well—one day he bottom guh lef.*
- ♦ *Hag in air conditioning pen can smell mud but he massa know best.*
- ♦ *Hag can’t tip toe in mud.*
- ♦ *A good boar does choose he sow.*
- ♦ *A good sow does count she piglets.*
- ♦ *Hag ah pen an hag a pasture does grunt.*
- ♦ *When sow want boar, he can jump fence.*
- ♦ *Massa nack bucket handle hag ah run fuh food*

COGNIZANT

Be alert – do not leave your car – a vehicle unattended, while it is running –
It is a crime waiting in the making –
Start your vehicle – a car when you are on the inside!
Remote this – remote that! All applicable –
Be responsible –
Key in – you in!
You out – key out!
Remote this – remote that! All applicable –
Be responsible –
Do not lock the doors with the key in ignition or remotely engaged otherwise!
Crime waiting in the making – in the wind 18 to 20 seconds!
Might be less – unattended running vehicle/vehicles –
Be alert – be aware of the danger of doing this –
Touch and start – starting remotely!
Automatic shut off – on! Voice mode activation – Iris scan, whatever the mode – avoid compromising your identity –
Be vigilant –
Do not leave your car – a vehicle unattended while it is running –
Be alert – be aware of the danger of doing this!
Take the time and avoid a crime – Point taken!

COGNIZANT!

11. Continuing the Legacy Re: Malcolm X, Watoto Shule, 770 Park Road, NW, April 18, 1985
12. “*Nose For Jokes*” with RWHR and Associates, June 8, 1985 – St. Augustine Church, 1421 V Street NW, MC: Robert Adams
13. “*Ameica Story*” Cultural Festival in the Court Yard, July 21, 1985 – 1419 V Street NW, MC: Robert Adams
14. 100 Poets (Ascension *78), DC Space 443 7th Street, NW, Washington, DC, July 26, 1985
15. “*Poetry on Stage*” October 3, 1985 – Mt. Pleasant Library, 16 Lamont Street NW, (also December 10, 1985) Re: Monthly
16. Black History Month Celebration, District of Columbia Library, Ft. Davis Regional Branch, 37th Street, & Alabama Avenue, SE, Washington, DC, February 5, 1986
17. “*Ameica Story*” Juniors Sports Club (Caribbean Cultural Event) April 12, 1986 – Peoples Congregational Church, MC: Hollis “Flash” Lashley, Re: Oscar Henry (Comedy)
18. “*Black Sage*” May 18 1986 – St. Augustine Church, 1421 V. Street NW, Re: Honoring Tom Charles & Freddie Reynolds, MC: Oscar Henry
19. Rally (Eusi Kwayana), Peoples Congregational Church, 13th & Crittenden Streets, NW, Washington, DC, June 24, 1986
20. Market Five Gallery, 7th Street & North Carolina Avenue, SE, Washington, DC, September 20, 1986
21. International Festival, International Telecommunications Satellite Organization 4th Quarter 1986, Volume # 5 View. Rubena, Tom, Patrick & Frank Re: Walter, 3400 International Drive, NW, (Connecticut Ave. – Left of U.D.C.) October 24, 1986
22. A Poet of Every Corner, Martin Luther King Jr Library, 9th & G Streets, NW, Washington, DC, Re: African Writers Guild, January 9, 1987

23. Ujamaa Family Night, 1554 8th Street, NW Washington, DC, October 31, 1986 & January 30, 1987
24. “*Nose For Jokes*” Guyana National Association, February 21, 1987 – Piney Branch Elementary School, 7510 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland
25. Book Fair, University of the District of Columbia, College of Education & Human Ecology, Washington, DC, February 27, 1987
26. Cultural Presentation, Re: Eusi Kwayana (visiting), George Abrams Home, March 8, 1987
27. “*Ameica Story*” Juniors Sports Club, April 11, 1987 – Peoples Congregational Church, 4704 13th Street, NW, Washington, DC, MC: Hollis Lashley
28. Gurus & Griots, Re: J. Gibbs, Banneker Community Center, 2500 Georgia Avenue, NW, August 22, 1987
29. Montgomery County Ethnical Heritage Festival, September 20, 1987
30. Echoes of the Times Presenting—Poets of Africa & The Caribbean (Poetry in Motion), Glenarden Town Hall, 8600 Glenarden Parkway, October 18, 1987
31. Cimbux First Reunion, Washington Plaza Hotel, November 7, 1987
32. Artist of Freedom Theatre Company Presents A Poet on Every Corner for Nelson Mandela (Lafayette Park, etc., January 17, 1988
33. Black History Month Celebration, St. Stephen & The Incarnation Episcopal Church, 1525 Newton Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20010, February 28, 1988
34. “*Dem Seh*” March 5, 1988 – Cimbux & Evergreen, Banneker Recreation Center, 2500 Georgia Avenue, NW, MC: Robert Adams
35. The Great Vigil of Easter, St Stephen & the Incarnation Episcopal Church, 1525 Newton Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20010, April 2, 1988

INTERMISSION

Virtuosos

Dr. Rubena Smith

Maurice Ettienne

Hollis “Flash” Lashley

Dramatic Adaptation

Jillian Moore

Cavalcade of Folk Songs

Evergreen & Friends

Panist

Hollis “Flash” Lashley

We Have A Job To Do

Evergreen Productions

PROGRAM

Commemorative Memorialized Tributes

Master of Ceremonies *George Abrams*

Coming Home *Dr. Rubena Smith*

Song *Maurice Ettienne*

Poetry in Motion *Evergreen & Friends*

Panist *Hollis "Flash" Lashley*

Cultural Expression *Dr. Rubena Smith*

Dramatic Adaptations *Deloris Favors*

"Rasta Man"
By Arnold P. Bathersfield *Deloris Favors*

"Oonu Call Me Breda/Bredda Fe Me"
by Louise Bennett *Deloris Favors*

36. Special Appearance by Evergreen, April 30, 1988 – (Tropical Spring), 824 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn (cor. Eastern Parkway) A Karen & Ricky Production.

37. Taking Action on Shelter & Housing, Mt Vernon Place United Methodist Church, 900 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, May 13, 1988

38. Tenth Annual International Benefit Garden Party, Sixth Presbyterian Church, 16th Street and Kennedy Street, NW, Washington, DC 20011, September 10, 1988

39. A Celebration of Caribbean Poetry & Song, Re: Gibbs & Evergreen, the IMF Visitors' Center, September 16, 1988

40. Montgomery County Ethnical Heritage Festival, September 20, 1988

41. WPA (The Role of Guyanese Abroad in the Struggle) Re: Eusi Kwayana & Wazir Mohamed, Peoples Congregational Church, 4704 13th Street, NW, Washington, DC, October 8, 1988

42. "*Poetry on Stage*" and a display of Floral Arrangements, December 9, 1988 – Banneker Recreation Center, 2500 Georgia Avenue Re: Cherise & Nizanna on program

43. "*Hopscotch William*" May 27, 1989 – Banneker Recreation Center, MC: Robert Adams Re: Hadassah Stowe

44. SAK Productions Presents a Cultural Extravaganza, Kaieteur Restaurant and Club, 3815 Georgia Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, June 1, 1989

45. The Benning Branch Library Presents Afro-American Music, Dancing & Storytelling, Re: Freddie Reynolds, 3935 Benning Road, NE, August 22, 1989

46. Caribbean Women's Market Day Festival, University of the District of Columbia, 4200 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, September 15-16, 1989

47. Rap Inc., Cultural Presentation, September 23, 1989

48. Poetry and Folklore, District of Columbia Public Library, Benning Branch near Minnesota Avenue, NE, Washington, DC, October 3, 1989
49. Guyanese Buxtonian Reunion, Cultural Presentation, Tilden Ballroom New York, MC Ben Gordon, October 14, 1989
50. “*Dis Ah Queh-Queh*,” Guyanese Assisting in Development (GUYAID), Creole Evening, November 3, 1989
51. Poetry, Freddie Reynolds with Evergreen Productions, Pyramid Bookstore, Prince Georges Plaza, 3500 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, MD 20782, 1990
52. Black History Month, Music and Poetry, St. Stephen Church, February 11, 1990
53. “*Hopscotch William*” April 21, 1990 – Banneker Recreation Center, MC: Jackie Jones
54. Abdul Saliym Presents A Cultural Extravaganza at the Kaieteur Restaurant featuring Evergreen Production, etc. MC: Gordon Holder, June 10, 1990
55. In Memory of Marvin Gaye—Langdon Park (West Side) 20th Franklin Street, NE, Washington, DC, Re: Ms. G. Adams Marvin Gaye Committee, PO Box 73826, Washington, DC, 20056 (2nd Annual), June 23, 1990
56. Gala Caribbean The Rhythm is Going to Get You, Hopkins House Association, 1224 Princess Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 (Evergreen), June 23, 1990
57. Guyanese Buxtonian Reunion Reception & Ball, Oasis Lounge Toronto, Canada, MD: Cedric Reid (cultural presentation by Evergreen Productions), October 6, 1990
58. United Nations Community Day Festival & Symposium “Washington Celebrates the World” Van Ness Campus, University of the District of Columbia, (Evergreen, poetry & folk), October 27, 1990

Poetry on the Beat!

Awakening innate spirituality -
 Rhythm! Rhythm! Rhythm!
 Words of rotation – spoken words –
 Words of vibration – stimulating words –
 Take a breath – breathe! –
 Pulsate Rhythmically!
 Snap your fingers – tap your feet!
 Feel the vibration - close your eyes – flow with it!
 Be empowered!
 Breathe! Dance and sing – your song!
 Rhythm! Rhythm! Rhythm!

Poetry on the Beat!

RADIANT!

Emitting rays of light –
 You turned “me” around – inside – outside!
 Pushed “me” left – right!
 I cried, because you are underdeveloped – lacking the nature of “being” –
 Now, yuh sick and I am caring fuh yuh – responding readily and sympathetically –
 Yuh limba – nothing ah move, but yuh heart ah beat – life flows!
 Yuh can’t talk, but yuh ah cry –
 I wipe yuh tears and sing fuh yuh – the songs yuh like with no animosity/resentment –
 I am committed to your care and well being –
 Me ah Buxon woman – understand the complexity of “being human” –
 I will continue to tell yuh – humble yuh self – life has its turns –
 Up’s and down’s – no straight line –
 Humble yuh self!
 Violence had no place in this relationship!

RADIANT!

Create Rhythm!

The Gods are emerging 2 Wait a minute!

Vibert Grant was astute academically – He understood: hunger, science and technology, enlightenment, universal liberation and the fostering of human worth and self reliance. He agitated and pointed fingers. He understood the implications of “Power Politics”, venture capital and “greed.”

So let us

Celebrate his life in rhythm with rhythm!

Beyond consciousness – rituals, myth and rites!

Drums! Drums! Drums! - “The Village Drums”.

The garden is fertile – all things are transitory –

Our indigenous son life’s mission was rhythm! Rhythm! Rhythm! The order of the universe compressed in his fingers – inside of “the light” where he enabled us to traverse different heights in celebrations by taking flights while honoring our ancestors. Spirituality and consciousness are not “dead” – Light is “love” – Love is “Light” –

Drum! Drum! Drum!

Can you see “the light” – embrace it and grasp the vibrations within – Conga Drums – Voodoo Drums - Shango Drums - Bongo Drums - Reggae Drums – Calypso Drums - Drums in Steel – Soul Drums – Membranophones – Drums

Drums are our “Being” – Rhythm! Rhythm!

Rhythm is “Life” and Life is “Rhythm” –

Drums! Drums! The order of the Universe – Rhythm! Rhythm!

Rhythm is imbued – flow with it – glow while experiencing true regeneration
Yes! Spiritual regeneration – Breathe!

As true regeneration and transmutation is within the scope – Clasp it –

Brothers and sisters, rock with it – for Barabbas (The Bar) is inside the “Light” - Fingers

Vibrating – Ever watchful as the planets vibrate – Rhythm! Rhythm!
Rhythm!

Light and Dark –

Dark and Light -

Be “upful” – greet each other in the here and the now – as the ancestral tree continues to bloom and the human spirit is resilient – treasure and respect it –

Rhythm is “Life” and Life is “Rhythm”

He who is whisked off stood up –

The torch is lit –

Continue to celebrate in Rhythm – with Rhythm! As Barabbas is inside of The “Light” – Naked Truth – Metatron/Ethiopic Enoch “Was taken Up”

Peace is unto you my brother and cousin Vibert Grant/The Bar.

Asante Sana (Thank you very much)

59. Poetry in Motion in the Park, October 28, 1990 – Re: W. Hinds

60. “*Hopscotch William*” November 16-17, 1990 – Banneker Recreation Center, (Note: Cancelled from D.C. Art Center, 2438 18th Street NW), MC: Walter Barrow

61. Black History and Mashramani, February 15, 1991 – Banneker Recreation Center, 2500 Georgia Avenue, MC: Oscar Henry

62. Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Student Lounge (New Jersey) Poetry & Folk, February 25, 1991

63. Guyana 25th Independence Anniversary (Poetry & Folk), Caribbean Kalabash Restaurant, 941 Bonifant Street, Silver Spring, MD, May 22, 1991

64. The Marvin Gaye Appreciation Day Committee, Freedom Plaza, 13th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC (Evergreen, Poetry & Folk), June 23, 1991

65. The Friends of Buxton Reception for Eusi Kwayana, The Armory, 925 Wayne Avenue, Silver Spring, MD, (Evergreen, Poetry, Folk, & Humor), July 26, 1991

66. Evergreen Productions Keeping Guyana Culture Alive
Re: The Caribbean Connection, August 1991 – Chaconia Lounge & Restaurant Georgia Avenue

67. Evergreen Productions 1st. Annual Family Picnic, August 11, 1991 – Wheaton Regional Park, 2300 Randolph Road, Wheaton, MD, Re: Deloris Favors & Verbena Reed

68. Celebrating the 29th Anniversary of the Independence of Trinidad & Tobago, (Evergreen, Poetry, Folk & Humor), Metropolitan Seventh-day Adventist Church, 6307 Riggs Road, Hyattsville, MD, September 14, 1991

69. Third Annual Caribbean Women’s Conference, (Evergreen, Poetry & Folk) Shepherd Park Library, 7420 Georgia Avenue, NW, September 21, 1991

70. Ciciley Productions Presents a Cultural Extravaganza,
(Evergreen, Poetry, Folk & Humor), Banneka Recreation Center, October 11, 1991
71. “*Poetry on Stage*” Evergreen Productions, November. 1-3, 1991 – DC Art Center, 2438 18th Street, NW, Washington, DC, (4 shows) Re: Members profile.
72. Poetry & Music International Mall, 1401 University Boulevard, Langley Park, MD 20783, November 9, 1991—Re: Ken Toppin Caribbean Connection 1991 (Maurice Payne)
73. Cimbux – A Memorial Service in honor of George Arlington Younge, July 26, 1992, Emory Methodist Church, 6100 Georgia Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20011
74. Imani Temple Kwanzaa Celebration, December 28, 1992
75. Dr. Cheddi Jagan’s Visit, Howard University (Evergreen, Poetry & Folk), August 29, 1993
76. Walter Rodney’s Legacy (Evergreen, Poetry with Drum & Pan), Howard University, June 30, 1997
77. *Souliloquy*, A Double Debut, Re: Caribbean Connection, Evergreen Productions, December 8, 2000, Arawak Books, 3414 Hamilton Street, West Hyattsville, MD 20782,– December 12, 2000
78. Arawak Books & Music 2001 Presents, Saturday Evening Performance Poetry, with Evergreen Productions and others every third Saturday of every month – 4:00 pm, 3414 Hamilton Street, West Hyattsville, MD 20782, Re: Eagle News September 6 –October 6, 2001
79. Born to Win & Evergreen Poetry, etc. Re: Chikuyu Johns, Sankofa Video & Bookstore, 2714 Georgia Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, 20001, June 5, 2004 & June 19, 2004

How, prophetic! Yes! Prophetic ---
 Bringing into being --- “Caribbean Creative Circle” ---
 Always capturing the vibrations hidden in the wind ---
 Evoking the Elders --- “Gurus and Griots” ---
 A true poet of the Matriarchal Ark! --- Fraternize with “Black Woman Playwrights Group” ---
 A Herbalist, -- A Traditionalist ---
 Love Nature, Love God, Love Life, --- Love Humanity ---
 A mother to all –embraces universal sisterhood and brotherhood ---
 Recognizes the frailty of humans – postulates and pen ---
 “When the time come” --- “No weeping, no mourning” ----
 And muses ---
 “Let farewell for me be, a joyful occasion” ---
 “Overflowing with positive vibrations ---
 “Let there be reciting of poems and singing of songs ---
 “A dash of Humor, and please let – the little ones have fun”
 How axiomatic! ---
 C. Jeanean Gibbs ----
 A Trini and true Roman Catholic --- to the Bone!

Weaving C. Jeanean Gibbs!

C. Jeameam Gibbs, deceased 5/5/2008

Weaving C. Jeanean Gibbs

A poet of the matriarchal Ark ---
 Magnetize and immortalize --- "Drum People" ---
 --"We are the Drum People" ---
 The omnipotent author --- Drum, Drum, Drum ---
 Create rhythm, rhythm! – bottle, spoon, grater, steel pan,
 bamboo, conch shell, horn, flute, --wind instruments ---
 Spice it up, spice it up! Yes! – premiere "Island Roots" ---
 Limbo, reggae, jazz, calypso, carnival ---
 We are a people of consciousness ---, rhyme and rhythm ---
 The drum, the drum, the drum! ---
 --- Weaving C. Jeanean Gibbs ---
 The flowers of the first drum song ---
 we move to the sound of the talking drums ---
 the Village drums – Bongo drums –
 Shango drums –Voodoo drums ---
 Goombay drums – Reggae drums –
 Calypso drums --- Bamboo drums ---
 Drums in steel --- in pans ---
 Belleau drums – Calenda drums ---
 Rhumba drums --- Conga drums ---
 Jazz, Blues drums --- Soul drums ---
 Drums in our soul --- In our Blood" ---
 C. Jeanean Gibbs celebrates life using metaphorical language,
 which she perfects-
 A Shawoman, -- Yes! A Shawoman! ---
 A messenger – with "The Message Makers"! –
 You! See the Picture! –an anthologist ---
 A poetic and cultural activist of the highest order ---
 Understands the nature of "beings" and "beings" ---
 Elucidates – "Run Away Slave" and "Spirits of the Ancestors"
 –to the fore – Yes! to the fore.
 C. Jeanean Gibbs – respects life and life forms --- seen and
 unseen –
 Compiles, -- "Echoes of the Caribbean " –Stage -- "Christmas
 in the Caribbean" ---

80. The Embassy of Guyana—Guyana's 39th Independence Anniversary, Prince George's Community College, 301 Largo Road, MD 20774, (Evergreen, dramatic readings, poetry, etc), May 21, 2005
81. Friends of Worthsworth McAndrew—Benefit Celebration, 4121 Argyle Terrace, NW, Washington, DC 20011, Kojo Nnamdi (Evergreen , poetry, folk, & humor), June 18, 2005
82. Juneteenth African Diaspora Festival, St. Michael's Truth Church Ground, 700 St. Michael's Drive, Mitchellville, MD, 20721 (poetry, folk, & humor), (annual event) June 18, 2005 & June 17, 2006
83. Guyanese Association of Delaware Picnic (Evergreen, poetry, folk & humor), July 23, 2005
84. CAIO's Cultural Extravaganza—People's Congregational Church (Evergreen, poetry, etc.) August 2005
85. Plant City Florida—Birthday Celebration Jessye Mae Bivins Tanner James, August 25-27, 2007
86. Guyana's Berbice Association—Fund Raisers, June 13, 2009
87. Yawd Restaurant, July 11, 2009

Pyramid Bookstore 1st Anniversary, 2849 Georgia Avenue,
 NW, Poetry Reading – Dec. 18 & 19 1982 & Nov. 27, 1983
 Marcus Garvey is Back in Town
 Howard University – New Poets for a New Day, February 16,
 1983, This Place Called Eden, 1010 M Street, NW,
 Washington, DC, June 12, 1983
 DC Chapter National United Front – Night of Fun &
 Culture September 24, 1983
 “The Yoruba Temple of Spiritual Elevation &
 Enlightenment” A Salute to the Ancestors –
 November 19, 1983, Watoto Shule
 Our Own History Club presents Kwanzaa –
 December 30, 1983, Mansion of Love 1368 Euclid Street, NW,
 Re: Div.330, Washington, DC
 Tribute 84 to Bob Marley February 5, 1984 – Kilimanjaro
 Heritage Hall, 1724 California Street, NW, Washington, DC

The group’s work continues unabatedly to date. 11/10/2013

A man of many hats: suave, debonair, benevolent; an honoree and life long member of many organizations; a lodge man and a man who honored his commitments – a stalwart. Remember how he dressed for an occasion: suit, tie; tie pin, handkerchief, and shoes – synchronized. He never missed a function of great significance. His fish cakes – wet the appetite – remember. He was a non-smoker and non-drinker, but he liked ginger beer, ice cream and cake – the local stuff. He was an accomplished dancer with a flare for calypso, reggae, cadence, zouk, merengue. Remember how he demonstrated the electric slide; what precision. That’s synco.

On political issues in Guyana he was restrained and contemplative, but if you challenged him sometimes he would pull rank on you by saying “I lived through that, but the banning of Sunday Picnics was the final straw which prevented all sectors of the population engaged in facilitating the entertainment industry – seamstresses, tailors, beauticians, chauffeurs, barbers, shop keepers, vendors, from earning their livelihood.” This led to his migration to the U.S.A. in 1970.

To his wife, children, especially Patsy who was committed to his care, in-laws, grandchildren, great-grands, sisters, nephews, nieces, extended family, friends, well wishers; we the members of Evergreen Productions and Cimbux urge you to remember his stature and wisdom:

- he loved all -
- be strong -
- Culture magnifies the dead and the living -

**Evergreen Productions and Cimbux Salute
Tom Charles**

Thomas B. Charles – saddler, innovator, composer, musician, musical archivist, violinist, flutist, drummer, percussionist, rhythm specialist, promoter, cultural guardian, band leader of the defunct syncopaters orchestra—prided himself as being one among the first band leaders to employ musicians full time. He paid them a salary and had bookings year round. He commissioned his musicians and created a professional environment of mutual respect. His band Synco, as it was called, initiated many young singers and musician both male and female.

Syncopaters orchestra with Tom on drums became a fixture as the "band traveled the length and breadth of Guyana – the three counties: Essequibo, Demerara, and Berbice. Penetrating the fabric of the Guyanese psyche, shattering its stratification – his music lingers.

He was the inventor of the "Creole series". After careful study he extracted from the masquerade, rhythm structure and created the Guyana Bhoom beat in 1966. He recorded the music in 1969. This Bhoom Beat was to give Guyanese and Guyana a sense of pride, as he used to say, when the Nation was approaching nationhood. The Bhoom is to Guyana what reggae is to Jamaica, but its evolution was short-lived. Tom had many recordings to his credit and copyrighted lyrics such as "Black Father Christmas" and "This is the time for Reunion". As a saddler and musician, he toured many Caribbean countries and understood and was conversant with world rhythmic structures. He shared his experience by teaching many students. We of Evergreen Productions referred to him as the group's mentor.

Tom grew up in Victoria Village, Guyana. He participated extensively in outdoor sports and continued to be an ardent fan of all sports. He played club cricket competitively, and if you engaged him with statistics in boxing and wrestling you would be dumbfounded.

Template!

The "I" clap my hands, tap and elevated my feet –
The vibrations speak – inside the breath –
Paying tribute to our ancestors as they are rising ...
Sun/Suns of Light!

Template!

Reality Surging!

Women are the "Immortals" – mountains – peak experience –
They are light – love – sustenance – life force – breath –
Mother earth – galaxies – solar systems – Black holes –
The "Dark Girl" – messenger – sojourners–
"I" am saluting all women–
"Bear Witness"
Reality Surging!

ALL ARE ANOINTED!

Medium –

Without culture there is no life – and without culture our minds will decay.

Oscar Henry/Joe Phill – Brother Joe/Polouk was a pivotal part of Evergreen Productions, which provided a platform for him to hone his skills, as he demonstrated in stage presentations starting in 1982 – Dem Seh, Mattie Tel Mattie, Nose for Jokes, Hopscotch William, Spoken Word/Poetry, Queh Queh, and his forte, humor which he produced in a video “The Best of Joe” November 1, 2009. He performed in the metropolitan area, New York, New Jersey, Florida, and Canada.

Brother Joe as we fondly referred to him was a cultural activist with purpose and “light” nonpareil – contributing to the transforming of consciousness. Our ingenious and indigenous son’s contributions will continue to reverberate within the group’s fabric as we move forward advocating liberation of minds and restorative justice universally. He would have said -

- a) Timba fall ah ribba and cumah, cumah fish dive.*
- b) Tom cat mus na mek kitten tie ribbon around he neck.*
- c) Na put cat fuh watch butta.*

On October 3rd 1991 I penned this to him – “unexpressed thoughts are more dangerous than words, but humor penetrates and comforts the mind. Continue to create – your inspiration sustains many”. Some of you may have been aware that Joe’s personal battles negatively impacted his social interactions, but this in no way diminished his accomplishments.

Brother Joe as he was affectionately referred to by group members continued to amplify the group’s vision in engagements such as Queh Queh, Poetry Readings, Folk festivals and Educational Forums, where venues ran the gamut from churches to detention facilities. We cannot duplicate his foot prints, but we will continue the fostering of cultural diversification, which leads to the transformation of a society.

Now! Let us navigate through his lens as we reflect and introspect by viewing artistic snap shots of captured momentos. To this he might have responded, you saw me several places – many a time – varied circumstances - Some when I was awake – many when I slumbered – No! No!

Do not take me literally –
One before I took my matutinal ablution –
And others while I earned my keep, but I caution you to be yourself –
Be responsible for your actions –
As we share these moments, - together again –
We - together will make it happen – Together we will!
Laugh – smile – shuffle your feet, explore self and relax –
As we come to grips with the hidden treasures that are locked up inside –
Be compassionate – realize your “dream” –
Be cautious –
As we visualize this reality –
Together we will make it happen,
Together – Yes! Together we will.
Stay focused I am always with you – take a breath!
Enjoy the video and snap shots – Preserve them!
Remember “I did it my way.”

Oscar Henry, deceased 8/1/2013

Oscar Henry / Joe Phill

A Cultural Panoramic Memorialized Tribute

Oscar Henry, gifted, altruistic, unassuming had an astonishing variety of skills and enjoyed the life of a performing artist and producer. He understood and mastered the stage. He grew up in Buxton Village, Guyana where he embraced nature, while playing as most village boys did. Oscar excelled at outdoor sports among other things as he would have said, being noted for his uncanny wit. Highlighted are performances and some of the plays that he acted in that were *Produced by Evergreen Productions*:

“Dem Seh” Nov. 12, 1982 and March 5, 1988 where he assumed the role of bridging the gap with his disclosure of his weekly salary amidst some of the hardships such as political repression, poverty and hatred in Guyana.

“Mattie Tel Mattie” June 12, 1983 and February 23, 1985. He depicted the character Cole Pepper in a brilliant way as he set the stage and closed the gaps between reality, tradition, religion and “the mask of man” as his character refused to succumb to the ideological pressures and drudgery of estate life.

“Nose for Jokes”, Saturday June 8, 1985. He admonished his audience and cast members to fill in the blanks as he gesticulated, sighed audibly and said “Nose for Jokes” would clear the head and penetrate the hidden walls of silence within. He encouraged the audience to laugh clean and listen.

“Hopscotch William” May 27, 1989 – April 21, 1990 and November 16-17, 1990. In this humorous sketch Joe depicted the Village philanderer, who finally settles down with his “number one lady” after the difficulties of his sojourn in the United States of America as a migrant worker.

At performances of Evergreen Productions Oscar introduced group members and gave a synopsis of the group’s history. He served as treasurer, master of ceremonies, humorist, vocalist, poet, drummer, bell specialist and juggler. In his dramatization of the poem “Rasta Man” on October 28, 1990 at Poetry in Motion in the Park he demonstrated his versatility and growth.

Our brother is within the realm of the ancestors – seeded.

Induced!

Death! A rolling ball – Spiritual guide -

The earth vibrates – Rhythm in motion -

The ball stops.

Light vanishes – Man freezes -

Spirits choked – in “one” – Systems obliterated -

Death! A rolling ball –

Induced!

Yes! “Death, the body’s sleep of final silence and decay.”

Ecstasy/Rapture –

Do not despair: greet each other in the “upful tradition” by touching each other in the here and now, as the spirit continues to endure – rhythm in life and life is rhythm – Permeate Light.

Peace

Asante Sana (Thank you very much).

Oscar Henry, deceased 8/1/2013