Jack Kleinsinger Presents
Highlights in Jazz!

Accent on Percussion
Monday Dec. 17 8:00pm

Roy Haynes
AMERICA'S FAVORITE JAZZ DRUMMER

Ray Barretto
AMERICA'S FAVORITE LATIN PERCUSSIONIST

With
Jaki Byard
Richard Davis
Robin Kenyatta
Stella Marrs
Lew Soloff
FORMERLY OF BLOOD, SWEAT AND TEARS

And

Surprise Guests

At
Hunter College Playhouse
695 Park Ave.
N.Y. 10021

Telephone
535-5350

TICKETS: $5.00  STUDENTS: $4.00  STUDENT BALCONY: $2.50
TICKETS AT BOX OFFICE AND TICKETRON OUTLETS
GOING OUT

Guide

Greetings

The name of this new midday production is "Star," and although it is show business, it's not about show business. It's about Christmas, and it's an unusual, oddly moving short work, with some sophisticated music and some simple philosophy, a space-age version of the Nativity story.

It's the second work being done by the Afro-American total Theater's "Musical for Lunch" series, which runs Mondays through Fridays, at 12:15 and 1:15, in the next little Martinique Theater off the hotel lobby at 49 West 32nd Street (565-7134). The show is as attractive as a Christmas card, not so much scenically, asaurally.

Basically, it's the story of scientists, full of doubts and fears, dealing with some African villagers secure in faith and goodwill. The play is by Hazel Bryant, and the music and dance are by Jimmy Justice. Both of them have done nicely, with the collaboration of a lively cast (Margareta Jones must be singled out for her beautiful interpretation of a touching, slow, almost operatic solo). Although the cast is black and the topic is Christmas, this little show is universal in its perceptions and admirably electric in its music. It's not a supershow, but it's an imaginative little offering, a kind that deserves support by those people who complain that there's nothing new around.

Admission: $1, and there's free tea and coffee. Through Jan. 4.

Self Sing

The concert at 8 tonight in Avery Fisher Hall, Broadway and 63rd Street (TR 4-2224), will be given by you, dear audience, with the help of 21 conductors, two soloists, Robert Jones and Thomas Pyle, and one organist, Allen Sever. It's the sixth annual sing-in of Handel's "Messiah," sponsored by the National Choral Council.

Your 2,800 or so voices constitute the concert. As you enter the hall, you will see signs on the stage directing neighborhoods where sopranos, altos, tenors and basses might prefer to congregate, but you're allowed to sit wherever you and with whom ever you wish. Bring your own score or buy one there. You may even come in if you are not in voice.

Admission: $4.25; tickets in blocks of 10 or more, $3.75 each. It has become customary over the last few years for the singers to taper off on Handel after the concert by joining in carols.

Jam and Jow

There's a new filp to the "Highlights in Jazz" series at 8 tonight in the Hunter College Playhouse, 63rd Street, between Park and Lexington Avenues (535-5360). The program is called "Accent on Percussion," and those speaking in percussive accents are the drummers, Ray Haynes and Ray Barretto. With them will be Lew Soloff on trumpet, Rob Kenyatta on sax and flute, Richard Davis on bass, Jaki Byard on piano and Stella Marrs, singing.

The new twist comes after the music. The players will remain on stage and answer questions about their music, about their instruments, about anything relevant to their art.

Admission: $5; students, $2.50 and $4.

Now Notes

Two concerts of contemporary music at 8 tonight, different units, different places. At Carnegie Hall, the American Symphony Orchestra, under Morton Gould, gives the conductor's 1969 work "Soundings" in its first New York performance. Also on the bill, Charles Ives's Symphony No. 1, Copland's "El Salon Mexico" and Lorin Hollander on piano in Gershwin's Concerto in F. Admission: $2 to $6.

Up at the Manhattan School of Music's Borden Auditorium, 120 Claremont Avenue at 120th Street (RI 9-2802), the group for Contemporary Music not only sports the usual ensemble, but also the Mimi Garrard Dance Company, which is on hand for Bulet Ardi's "Six," and 7 "Miriam III," a work that also involves slides and tape. Also on the program by the group is Charles Wuorinen and Harvey Sollberger are offerings by Roush, Wolpe, Carter and Schaefer. Admission: $2.50; students, $1.

For today's Entertainment Everywhere, see page 57. For Sports Today, see page 52.

Richard F. Shepard

Accent on Percussion

Monday, Dec. 17 at 8 p.m.

Roy Haynes Ray Barretto
America's Favorite Jazz Drummer America's Favorite Latin Percussionist

with

Jaki Byard/Richard Davis/Rob Kenyatta
Stella Marrs/Lew Soloff
(formerly of "Blood, Sweat & Tears")

and Surprise Guests

at

Hunter College Playhouse
695 Park Ave., N.Y. 10021, Tel: 535-5330
Tickets: $5.50; Students $4.50; Student bulk, 2 for $8.
Tickets at Box Office and Ticketon Outlets, 644-4400

Percussion at Hunter

Jazz drummer Ray Haynes, Latin American percussionist Ray Barretto and others will headline an "Accent on Percussion" concert Monday at 8 p.m. at Hunter College Playhouse, 635 Park Av. The program will include an unrehearsed jam session. Tickets are on sale at the box office and Ticketon outlets. For information call 535-5330.

Jazz at Hunter

Accent on Percussion, featuring jazz drummer Roy Haynes and Latin American percussionist Ray Barretto, will be presented on Monday, December 17, at 8 p.m. at Hunter Playhouse, 63rd Street and Lexington Avenue. Jamming with them will be Lew Soloff on trumpet, Richard Davis on bass, Jaki Byard on sax and piano, Rob Kenyatta on sax, and vocalist Stella Marrs. Tickets are $5. For information call 535-5330.
Strings at the Mel Museum: It amounts to a three-day festival, because the two most astonishing string quartets of our day—the Juilliard and the Guarneri—will appear in that order followed by Nathan Milstein doing Bach unaccompanied violin partitas and sonatas. Each outfit takes on a Bartok quartet. (Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium, December 13, 14, and 15, 3 p.m.) (CM)

Drum Jam at Hunter Playhouse: The star drummers will be the great pioneer Roy Haynes and the Latin conga drummer Ray Barretto, a shoot-out hard to top. In the bands will be such as former B.S. & T trumpeter Lew Soloff, reedman Robin Kenyatta, and bass king Richard Davis. (Hunter Playhouse, December 17, 8 p.m.) (CM)

Sarah Vaughan at the Baths: So long as she lives and sings, nobody else singing is divine. The greatest singer of popular music in the world. (Continental Baths, December 19, 8 and 10 p.m.) (CM)
Jazzy 'Jazz Highlights'

Trumpeter Lew Soloff recently left the rock-jazz group Blood, Sweat and Tears, to get back to his musical roots, and his face had the look of beautiful blues that come over a professional when he is doing what he is meant to do as well as it can be done.

He was playing his first New York solo since leaving the group, and he was part of a jam session at Hunter College the other night that was billed as impressive. Lew Soloff's "Highlights in Jazz — Accent on Percussion." Jazz drummer Roy Haynes and his son, Downbeat's "Most Promising Drummer" built a rhythm thatdwelled with Latin American percussionist Ray Barretto, who crashed a bongos between his legs and hit the shakers with hands that flashed as fast as drumsticks. Roy and Ray came down soft and they came down hard and their stroking was matched by Richard Davis doing everything but walk his bass "round stage."

Jaki Byard laid down the jazz foundations on the piano, Robie Kynotta (of "Last Tango in Paris" recording fame) built themes with his "soul" soul song stylist Stella Maers wrapped up the emotions in words.

She Stole the Show

Guest stars like Rich Lyons on piano and Albert "Twolik" Heath on drums sat in while Maers stopped the show with her delivery of Billie Holiday's "Blues in the Night" and numbers like "Moodind," "Lover" and "Green Dolphin Street."

For an insight into how good the show was, each performer has impressive professional credentials—and surpassed himself in the playing. Byard, for example, has played with everyone from Nina Simone to Louis Armstrong to Miles Davis to Mingus, doubles on sax and piano, composer, and teacher at the New England Conservatory of Music.

They made music that sounded like the work of atonal classical composers such as Webern, Berg and Schoenberg at some points and blended past the progressive jazz beyond at other times. It was the finale for "Highlights in Jazz" at Hunter. The show moves to NYU Greenwich Village for its next show Jan. 14. — Michael Iachetta

PREVIEW!

LIVELY EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Jingle Bell Rock (Pop & Jazz): The Beach Boys, whose popularity spans a decade, will hit Madison Square Garden Wednesday night. Friday night at the Garden, Jay and the Americans and Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons take the stage for "An Evening of Gold." Also at the Garden, tomorrow and Tuesday nights, will be the British rock group Emerson, Lake and Palmer. A bluegrass concert featuring the Country Gentlemen, Jimmy Martin & the Sunny Mountain Boys, etc., will be presented by Pat Heller Wednesday night at Avery Fisher Hall. Lew Soloff, trumpeter from Blood, Sweat & Tears, makes his first solo gig since leaving the group and goes all out for jazz tomorrow night at Hunter College—with Jack Kleinsinger's "Highlights in Jazz." Richard Ianni, a trained tenor with close consideration a career in opera and who dances, plays the piano and guitar, opens tomorrow for a two-week engagement in the Persian Room of the Plaza.

JAZZ CONCERT: Saxophonist Robin Key Kenyatta, who recorded the "Last Tango in Paris," will be among the jazz stars at Jack Kleinsinger's Jazz Concert at Hunter College Playhouse tomorrow night.
To My Favor'le Producer Jack Kleinsinger
Michael Brauni
Highlights
In Jazz

by Arnold Jay Smith, Guest Columnist

The show was billed as "Accent on Percussion" and that's the way it ended. In the interim we had some excitement and some holls.

Monday, December 17, 1973, dawned as any other except that the world we know as New York glintened beautifully and dangerously under a coating of ice covered by some four inches of snow. The temperature had plunged thirty degrees as the storm swirled through the Eastern third corridor and what we had was a miserable combination known as a winter storm in The Big Apple. However, this particular winter was late in coming and overtook us on a Sunday. The consequences are not hard to envision: no means of transportation was in any sort of shape- save the trains in F.A.O. Schwarz's window. Indeed, walking was touted as the most likely way to get you down, quite literally, to the earth.

Despite all these obstacles, Jazz, the peoples' music, was still straight ahead as Jack Kleinsinger's "Highlights in Jazz" concluded its series at Hunter College. The title, as noted above, starred Roy Haynes, drums and light show-ette; Ray Barretto, conga and smiling countenance; Jackie Byard, piano; Richard Davis, bass; Robin Kenyatta, also saxophone; Lew Soloff, trumpet; and Stella Marrs, vocal.

The last mentioned calls herself "Soft Soul" and the reasons are obvious even before she vibrates her larynx. She is soft to behold, her eyes twinkle softly, and I would imagine she is soft to touch. She took what would have otherwise been some musically spotty performances and turned the evening into swinging coolness.

Stella brought with her Richard Wyand's piano; Albert Heath, drums; as Davis remained on bass. The trio did "I Should Care" and Ms. Marrs began in earnest. The audience, thoroughly warmed and perhaps a little bored after forty minutes of undisciplined meandering by the horns, exchanged remarks with the lady. As she introduced Jobim's "Ginji", someone shouted, "Anything you say," Her smoothness was reaching them, too.

Byard's sense of humor was evident throughout the night as he romped from Mott to Garner to Byard to Cecil Taylor and round again. In the opening number his long intro left the others waiting and wondering. If jazz is a musician's art and they had a disquieting moment up there, what about us? As each soloed, the rest of the group dropped out leaving Richard Davis, who continues to be "Mister Fingers." His out-of-context solo proved the highlight of the piece.

"Angel Eyes" was all Soloff's whose horn is a viable voice in jazz after his tenure with rock/ jazz/ "Blood Sweat & Tears." (Stella said "God Bless The Child," I would have liked to have heard Soloff as he was the trumpet on the BS&T hit recording.)

A hint of things to come was "Con Alma" as Haynes & Barretto exchanged some choruses. Haynes closed the half with a sparkling set-a-capella with vinyl transparent drums played upon by an amber floodlight. (Earlier, Heath used a wetted finger to fine effect on the plastic snare head.)

"Last Tango in Paris" hitmaker Kenyatta did it with the wrong lighting direction. ("Make believe it's a rock concert; BE EFFICIENT" yelled a believer.) It wouldn't have mattered; it founded after the melody.

Soloff blew the house apart on "Oleo" as his souring high notes rang through the auditorium. As the thing ended, Kleinsinger personally tapped Haynes and Barretto for a concluding jam. What we got was what we came for. The percussive leaders in their fields pounded, tapped, tickled, rapped, rolled and stomped through ten minutes of some of the most tasteful exchanges I have ever heard. Exhauusted, the two embraced. It was the first time they had played together and the admiration shone through.

Jack Kleinsinger's Highlights in Jazz will be celebrating its first year of successful concerts with a Gala First Anniversary Jam Session on Monday, February 11th, 8 P.M., at NYU Loeb Student Center, Eisner and Lubin Auditorium, 566 LaGuardia Place at Washington Sq. South (Tel. 598-3757). The concert will feature the great jazz vocal team of Jackie Cain and Roy Kral, guitarists Chuck Wayne and Joe Puma, drummer Sam Woodyard and other jazz stars. Tickets $5, $4, Students $2.50. Student Box Office at box office or by mail order.