THE LATE GREAT LADIES
OF BLUES AND JAZZ

MUSICAL NUMBERS*

ACT I

INSTRUMENTALS ........................................ THE ALL-STAR JAZZ BAND

OPENING: SANDRA REAVES-PHILLIPS
“Blues Lament” ...................................... ReAVES-PHILLIPS
“Take Me As I Am” ...................................... ReAVES-PHILLIPS

MA RAYEY
“Strut Miss Lizzie” .................................... Creamer/Layton
“C. C. Rider” ............................................... Ma Rainey

BESSIE SMITH
“Gimme a Pigfoot” ..................................... Wilson
“Kitchen Man” .......................................... Razaf/Biddlesma
or
“I Need a Little Sugar in My Bowl” ................ C. Williams/D. Small/J. Brynn
“Put It Right Here” ..................................... Granger
“Nobody Knows You When You’re Down and Out” ........ I. Cox

ETHEL WATERS
“Shake That Thing” ..................................... Jackson
Medley: “Stormy Weather” .......................... Ains/Kolber
“St. Louis Blues” ......................................... W. C. Handy
“His Eye Is on the Sparrow” ......................... Gabriel/Frank

ACT II

BILLIE HOLIDAY
“Solitude” .................................................. Ellington/Lange/Mills
“Good Morning Heartache” ......................... Fisher/Drake/Higgins/Kotham
“They There Eyes” ...................................... Pinkard/Tauber/Tracey
“God Bless the Child” ................................... Holiday/Herrog

DINAH WASHINGTON
“Trouble, Trouble” ..................................... Unknown
“Please Send Me Someone to Love” ................ Mayfield
“What a Difference a Day Makes” .................... Adams/Greer

MAHALIA JACKSON TESTIMONIAL

*Program subject to change.

There will be one 15-minute intermission.
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"Trouble, Trouble" ................................................ Unknown
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"What a Difference a Day Makes" ................................ Adams/Greer

MAHALIA JACKSON TESTIMONIAL

*Program subject to change.

There will be one 15-minute intermission.
SAKRA REAVES-PHILLIPS recently received a Drama League Recognition Award for outstanding performance for 'Ratlin' on the T.O.B.A. on Broadway. She was born in Mullins, South Carolina, 'brought long hours in the field with her grandmother, sang in church, and then entered local talent contests when she arrived in New York City. Her success in singing paved the way to show business. As a result of performing in small clubs around New York City, she landed a contract with Epic Records and appeared off-Broadway and garnered critical and audience acclaim with a rousing portrayal of Mama Younger in the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical 'Ratlin.' She costumed in Paris at the Charter Theatre in the original production of 'Black and Blue.' Her appearances in numerous stage productions in North America include 'American Dream at the Negro Ensemble Company.' She played in 'Midnight,' in which she was featured as Beatrice, and 'Learning on Me,' in which she was featured as Mrs. Powers and sang the title song. She has guest starred on television's 'Law & Order,' "Another World" (in the recurring role of Esther), "Homicide: Life on the Street," and "Comedy Central" and costumed with Ann-Margret in the NBC Movie of the Week, "Following Her Heart." Radio and television audiences have heard her voice as the siren singer in the very popular Enstein's Bakery commercial and in a guest-star appearance on "Garrison Keillor's Prairie Home Companion." She has toured in Europe with her gospel show, sung for an audience of eight thousand, had a private audience with the pope, completed a new CD (A Tribute to "The Queen of Gospel" Mahalia Jackson), and completed filming Don't Explain. She recently appeared as the Chanteuse in San Francisco's long-running "Treasure Island" and guested with Ray Charles in concert at West Point. Reaves-Phillips has been nominated for two Helen Hayes Awards and the NAACP Image Award. She was the recipient of the 1998 Audelco Award for her portrayal of Bertha Mae Little in 'Ratlin' on the T.O.B.A.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Corporate Sponsor

AT&T

AT&T has a distinguished record of community involvement. In presenting the sponsorship award for A Christmas Carol to A.C.T., AT&T Vice President, Business Services Division, Sherwood said, "AT&T's sponsorship of A.C.T. is a wonderful way for us to honor our corporate guests and continue our long-standing tradition of support for the arts. We are especially proud that this year, our involvement will contribute to the production of A.C.T.'s first holiday classic. AT&T is proud to be a part of such a successful partnership that benefits the community, our company, and artistic endeavors in so many ways.

AT&T (www.att.com) is among the world's leading providers of voice, video, and data communications services and solutions. A Fortune 100 company, AT&T employs more than 135,000 people and serves more than 30 million consumers and businesses worldwide.

Media Sponsor

KGO-AM 810 returns to support A.C.T. in its second year as a sponsor of the Christmas Carol. KGO made its A.C.T. sponsorship debut in 1996 with the Gracy Theatre inaugural production of The Tovest. KGO has been Northern California's most-listened-to radio station for more than 24 years, due to its commitment to the community—a commitment to provide the most complete information about world and local events, a forum for discussion, and support for the arts, civic, and other nonprofit community organizations. Each week KGO informs and entertains more than one million listeners—people who enjoy the variety, depth, and stimulating nature of newstalk programming. KGO appreciates the quality and diversity of the productions presented by A.C.T. and is proud to support an important San Francisco tradition.

AN AMERICAN CLASSIC FOR OVER ONE HUNDRED YEARS

Stickley

Making fine furniture since 1898

SANDRA REAVES-PHILLIPS

ADDITIONAL CREDITS

Arrangements ........................................ Larry Ball, Richard Harper, Daryl Waters
Original Staging Consultant ............................ Mike Malone
Movement Consultant ........................................ Lacy Daryl Phillips

Bernard Johnson, Clyde Williams, Ralph Dokey, and Marv Bronson.

OPENING NIGHT SPONSOR

Located at 401 Mason Street, just around the corner from the Gracy Theatre, Biscuits and Blues serves contemporary American cuisine in a nightclub atmosphere. Dinner is served until 11 p.m. nightly; live music starts at 9 p.m.
SANDRA REAVES-PHILLIPS recently received a Drama League Recognition Award for outstanding performance for "Rafiki" on the T.O.B.A. on Broadway. She was born in Mullins, South Carolina, buried long hours in the field with her grandmother, sang in church, and then entered local talent contests when she arrived in New York City. Her success in singing paved the way to show business. As a result of performing in small clubs around New York City, she landed a contract with Epic Records and appeared off-Broadway and garnered critical and audience acclaim with a riveting portrayal of Mafu Younger in the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical Rent. She costared in Paris at the Chateau Theatre in the original production of Black and Blue. Her appearances in numerous stage productions in North America include American Dream at the Harlem Ensemble Company; Champion, in which she starred as Besse Smith, winning an Audelco Award for outstanding female performer; and the title role in Cirado Theatre and Pittsburgh Public Theatre productions of Ma Rainey's Black Bottom. Other stage roles include Bebe La Finland at Arena Stage in Washington, D.C.; Further Mo' at New York's Village Gate; and the national tours of One Mo' Time, Miss Moffett with Bette Davis, Don't Play Us Cheap, and The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas. Off Broadway she has been featured in the original production of Blues in the Night, Basin Street, and Steamboat at the Saegy and co-authored Opening Night Club appearances include the Cotton Club, the Supper Club, the Village Gate, the Hollywood Cinegrail, Dangierfield's, and Sweetwater's, and in Europe, the Grosceniker in Frankfurt, the Meridian in Paris, and Jalyn's and Cassino Lacquer in Switzerland. Festival appearances include the Montreal Jazz Festival, the International Jazz Festival of Bern, Switzerland, the North Sea Jazz Festival in Holland, and the International Festival in Lyon, France.

Reaves-Phillips made her Carnegie Hall debut in Cavalcade of Stars and appeared in the W.G. Handy Anniversary Tribute at Lincoln Center. She continues to tour in the shows she created, Bold & Bouzy Blues, Glory Hallelujah Gospel, and The Last Great Ladies of Blues and Jazz. Her film credits include Round Midnight, in which she was featured as Buttercup, and Lean On Me, in which she was featured as Mrs. Powers and sang the title song. She has guest starred on television's Law & Order, Another World (in the recurring role of Esther), Home: Life on the Street, and Comedy Central and costared with Ann-Margret in the NBC Movie of the Week, Following Her Heart. Radio and television audiences have heard her voice as the scat singer in the very popular Entenmann's Bakery commercial and in a guest-star appearance on Garrison Keillor's Prairie Home Companion. She has toured in Europe with her gospel show, sung for an audience of eight thousand, had a private audience with the pope, completed a new CD (A Tribute to "The Queen of Gospel" Mahalia Jackson), and completed filming Don't Explain. She recently appeared as the Chanteuse in San Francisco's long-running Théatre ZinZanni and guested with Ray Charles in concert at West Point.

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