

1981-82 Performers

The Monty Alexander Trio will present one of the four concerts planned for the 1981-82 season by Community Concerts Association of Southwest Michigan.

Monty Alexander was born in Kingston, Jamaica, and grew up listening to the sounds of calypso and rhythm and blues.

He began picking out tunes on the piano at the age of four and began piano lessons at the age of six. After studying for eight years, he was diverted from pursuing a classical career when

he heard jazz musicians such as Louis Armstrong boarding school and after graduating returned to Kingston to perform.

At the age of 17 he moved to the United States with his family and began playing in a club in Miami where he was spotted by Frank Sinatra and Jilly Rizzo, who hired Alexander to work in his New York club. He also later worked at the Playboy Club in New York. During this time he worked with such artists as Frank Sinatra, Milt

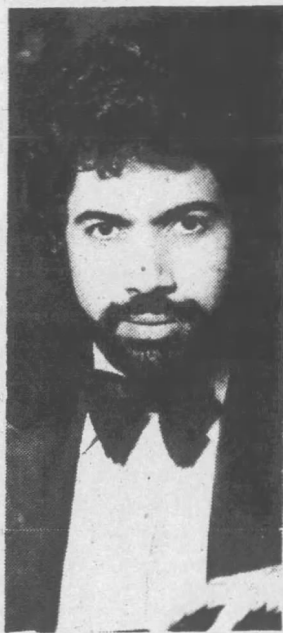
Jackson, Ray Brown,

Dizzy Gillespie, Quincy Jones and "Senator" Eugene Wright

In 1975, he made his London debut and now appears regularly in London, Switzerland, France, Germany and at such festivals as the Montreux International Jazz Festival. He made his first tour of Japan in 1979.

He has released several albums and is now affiliated with Norman Ganz' Pablo Records.

In 1978, he was among many artists who appeared in a tribute to Milt Jackson at Carnegie Hall.



MONTY ALEXANDER