

Vacca/Moran Jazz

By Pamela Baccus
The Collegian

Yesterday afternoon the Logan Wintergarden Series presented the Vacca/Moran jazz trio in concert.

"What we play has a real accessible quality. As soon as people hear it, our music beats a path right into their hearts," says Tim Moran. He feels that this quote expresses everything that he is trying to portray with his music. "Our music is about 'right here and now,' but we also recognize that the diversity of American music today is the result of a confluence of cultures whose origins are spread across this planet," says Moran.

Tony Vacca traveled to Africa in 1972. He traveled for about six or seven months. "I saw and heard a lot. I was fortunate to meet some really good players and I learned all I could. When I returned, I brought a balafon with me. After that I made six more trips, about one a year, and I brought more instruments back with me," he said.

Now, Tony Vacca and Tim Moran have been together for about fifteen years. They've traveled to many places, been in festivals and concerts, and they've even had some of their music in films. They have recorded with many legendary people. Two of these musicians were legendary trumpeter, Don Cherry and Foda Musa Susa, a musician from Gambia, West

Africa.

Both Vacca and Moran attend the University of Massachusetts. Each attended the university at different times. Moran became interested in Indian music at college. Especially a type called 'raga system'. "It made me interested to try something different, something new," says Moran. Moran further says "it is hard adjust to the 'balafon' because it's not tuned to the same scale most people associate with Western Music."

They met at Vacca's African Art Gallery. Vacca had opened this Gallery to support his trips to Africa. They've been playing together ever since. Their music has a polyrhythmic beat. This is a beat where two different beats are combined. This is exactly like the beat for most of our rock music. You can really feel the music while it's being played.

The Vacca/Moran trio has a new release album from Columbia records. The album is *Dance Beneath The Diamond Sky*. The Vacca/Moran Jazz trio was sponsored by the Logan Music at Noon Series playing in the Wintergarden. The Logan Wintergarden Series is sponsored by the Harry A. Logan Jr. Foundation. The next concert is next month. I hope to see you there!

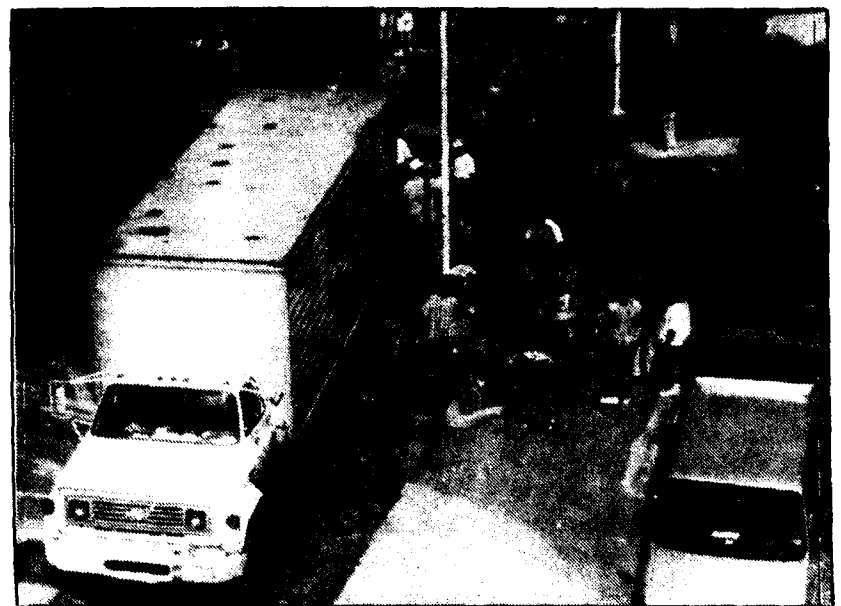


All Photos by
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