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newsviews

Today

reviews&interviews

By TERRY JOSEPH

AFTER much indecision, the annual Pan on Broadway show has been reinstated to the original venue, thanks to the assistance of the Telecommunications Services of T&T (TSTT), who will now fund the curtain-raiser for Pan Week.

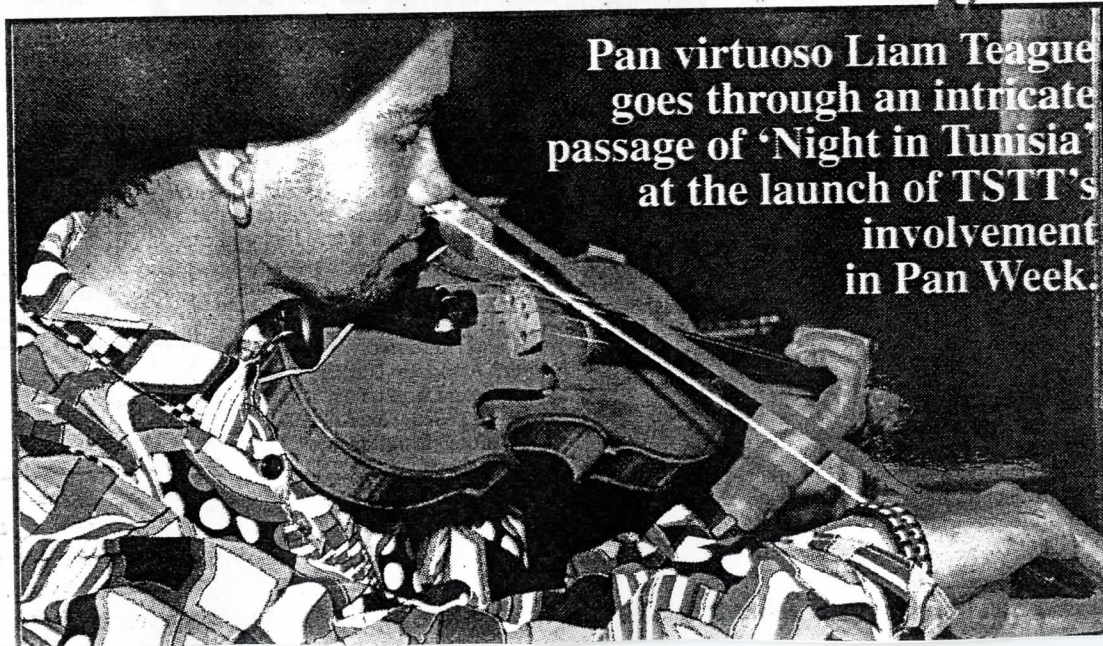
Sponsorship of the concert, which will be staged this Sunday on Broadway in Port of Spain, is part of TSTT's \$100,000 musical gift to the nation on its thirty-fourth anniversary of independence. It will include the positioning of soloists at some of the company's commercial offices during the week.

Contents of the gift were detailed on Wednesday evening at Woodford Cafe in Newtown, when TSTT public relations manager Patt Christopher presented the package that the company will sponsor for Pan Week.

Liam Teague, who is currently pursuing a degree in pan music at Northern Illinois University, was chosen by TSTT to represent both the youth and the excellence of pan. Teague played two segments, accompanied by canned background music tracks.

Teague, who at 22 is arguably one of the best pan soloists in the world, has recently released another disc *Emotions of Steel*. After hearing that work, Leslie Gerber of the *Woodstock Times* wrote: "Playing like his is very special and a real treat, even for an old me, who sometimes feels like he's heard everything. Obviously I

Pan goes back to Broadway



Pan virtuoso Liam Teague goes through an intricate passage of 'Night in Tunisia' at the launch of TSTT's involvement in Pan Week.

On Tuesday from 7 p.m. there is a symposium at the Central Bank Auditorium entitled "Let's Talk Pan", at which Lloyd Best, Pat Bishop, Sydney Gollop and Selwyn Tarradath will deliver papers.

On Wednesday night there will be a lecture entitled "Pan as a Business" at the Central Bank Auditorium in Port of Spain from 7 p.m., while in Arima at the Angel Harps pan tent there will be a concert featuring bands from the Eastern Region of Pan Trinbago.

On Thursday, there is a lecture in "Steelband Management" at the Tropical Angel Harps panyard in Chaguanas, even as the Steelband Awards ceremony is underway at the Central Bank Auditorium in Port of Spain.

The youth will be fully featured on Friday, beginning at 9 a.m. with a symposium, chaired by Glenda Esdelle at the Central Bank Auditorium, and from 4 p.m., four school steelbands will perform at the Central Bank Plaza to launch this year's series of Pan on the Plaza concerts. The joint winners of this year's Pan Minors competition, Success Stars Pan Groove and Arima Senior Comprehensive School steelbands, plus the St Augustine Senior Secondary and San Fernando Senior Comprehensive school bands, will perform.

At the Arima Angel Harps pan tent, there will be a panyard cook-out, which will feature some of the favourite dishes of pan players and perhaps answer the question about why so many pan theatres were situated under breadfruit trees.

Meanwhile in San Fernando

A major venue, thanks to the assistance of the Telecommunications Services of T&T (TSTT), who will now fund the curtain-raiser for Pan Week.

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Gerber's comments would have fit in nicely on Wednesday evening, as Teague delivered highly intricate versions of works like "Night in Tunisia", Charlie Parker's "Donna Lee", "Pan is Mih Jumbie" and the lilting "Same Here", which he dedicated to Patt.

Christopher had earlier indicated that TSTT would be sponsoring Teague, backed by an ensemble from the prize winning Exodus Steel Orchestra in a two-hour concert on the Brian Lara Promenade from 4 p.m. on Sunday evening.

At the end of the concert, the Spree Simon Harmonics have been

engaged to take pan fans on a small jump from the bandstand (opposite Mc Donald's) around the block to Broadway, where eight conventional bands and three other traditional steelbands will perform from 6 p.m. until midnight. The Witco Desperados, T&TEC Power Stars, Tropical Angel Harps, Pamberi, Potential Symphony, Exodus, Solo Pan Knights, Scrunters Pan Groove,

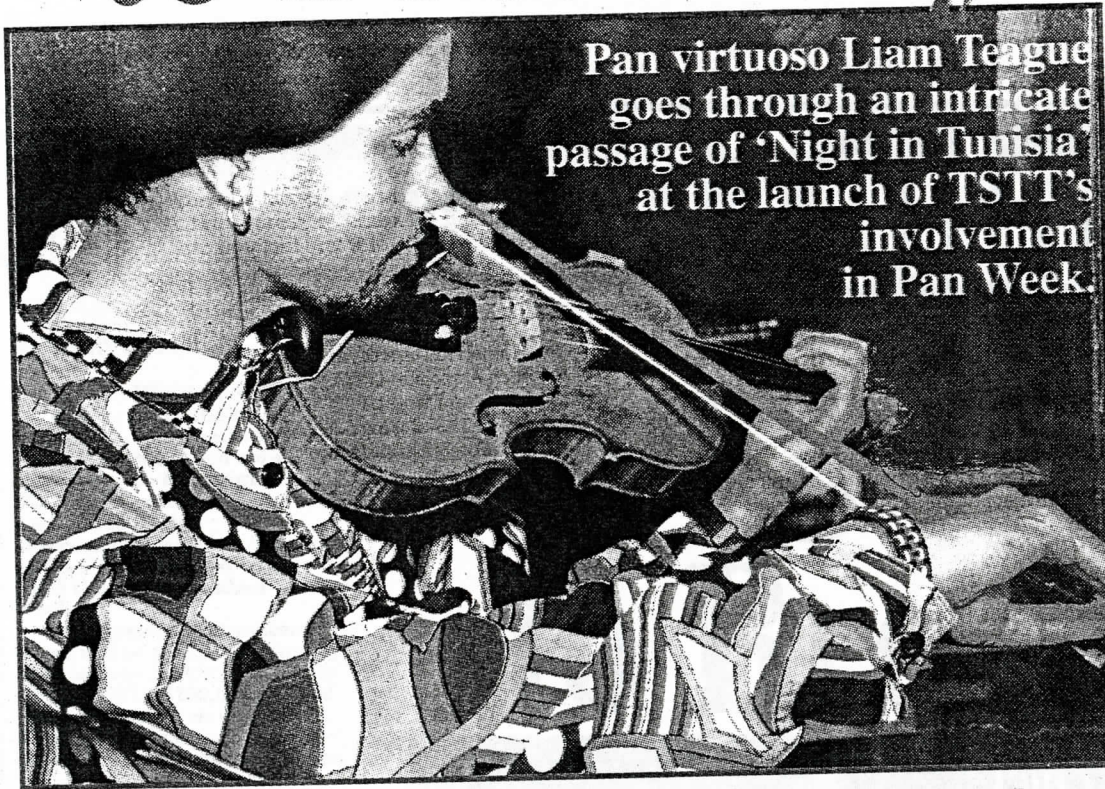
Spree Simon Harmonics and Shades in Steel have all indicated their intention to participate.

But Pan Week officially begins hours before, on Sunday at 10 a.m., with an interfaith service at the St Paul Street Multi Purpose facility, at the rear of which building a foundation stone marks the spot of the first discussions toward the formation of a steelband organisation. His Excellency President

Noor Hassanali and the Honourable Prime Minister Basdeo Panday are both expected to attend.

On Monday, August 26, two book exhibitions will be opened. At 10 a.m., the first exhibition will be opened at the Heritage Library in Port of Spain, while at 3 p.m. a similar exhibition will be available to the public at the Carnegie Free Library.

to Broadway



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Meanwhile, in San Fernando, Tropical Angel harps, the Petrotrin Deltones and Liam Teague's Hillside Symphony will perform at Harris Promenade from 5 p.m.

There is action in Port of Spain and San Fernando again on Independence Day, with a competition for traditional bands being held in the Fonclaire panyard from 6 p.m. (\$5 entrance fee), while in Port of Spain, there is the grand finale, the pan parade from Broadway, up Frederick Street to jam around Queen's Park Savannah as the big fireworks display brings an end to the Independence festivities and Pan Week 1996.