



Our own body of music

Aubrey Adams, Impresario and Artistic Director, Trinidad Folk Performing Company, says:

WITH the brilliance of the last festival, it seems to me that steelbands have reached musical heights and accomplishments never before achieved in any public performance.

It is a great musical phenomenon, I think, to see the standards reached by young people who are unable to read a note of music. So it should be abundantly clear to all as to what greater and further heights may be accomplished if players had only a basic knowledge of music.

The Steelband Association and all

its members will be well advised to address themselves urgently to this task.

Without a doubt, steelband music is Trinidad and Tobago's proud contribution to the world of music in the 20th century. A knowledge of music by the players plus the incredible discipline which they exhibited at the finals would lead to tremendous musical conquests by our steelbandmen on the international scene.

As for the question of their appearances with traditional symphony orchestras, this may be more realistic when, like their musical arrangers, they are able to read music.

Hopefully, out of this would eventually arise more people composing music for the steelband, indeed the creation of a body of music from which other orchestras could draw.