MUSIC

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Pan Ramajay to pay tribute to Sparrow

THE 12th edition of Pan Ramajay comes off on Saturday July 14 at the St James Amphitheatre, the same venue as the Solo and Duet competitions.

The change comes on the heels of the preliminary round of the competitions where management saw how the ambience of Amphitheatre made for an ideal

show.

A production of the Exodus Steel Orchestra, this year's Ramajay is in tribute to the Mighty Sparrow and will see

World Steelband champions TCL Skiffle Bunch as the feature band.

Also on the cast is Cuban jazz pianist Ernan Lopez, producer/musician Nicholas Branker from Barbados, Saxophonist Aturo Tappin also of Barbados and saxophonist Francis Prime and H2O Phlo from T&T.

The four man group H2O Phlo will do two signature pieces from the book of the Mighty Sparrow.

The winners of the solo and duet cate-

gories will also make an appearance for the grand show.

According to committee member Ainsworth Mohammed, "We intend to have a very smooth running show that would not last more than four hours.

"Of course we intend to pay tribute to Sparrow in our very own way Ramajay way."

Speaking on the competition Mohammed said, "We decided to bring back the competition edge in the

Ramajay only because we are looking to take it in another direction.

"Change is inevitable and we have to go with the flow, Pan Ramajay is a dynamic programme that is evolving and we have to keep on moving with the times."

The winner of the Solo category walks away with \$3,500, \$2,500, and \$1,500 for second and third place respectively.

In the duet category first place winner collects \$4,000, with second and third collecting \$2,500 and \$1,500 respectively.

The semi-finals of these two categories comes off this Saturday with the finals on July 13 at the St James Amphitheatre.

Sponsors for this year's Pan Ramajay are BPIT, NFM, Fernandes 1973 Ltd and CCN.