

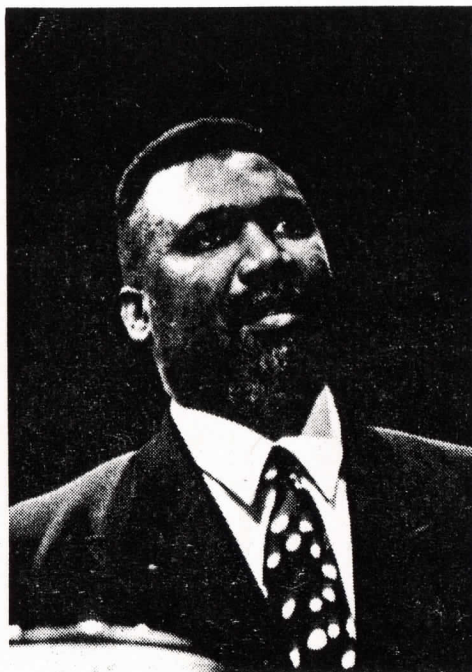
# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



## Steel Pan Explosion

**S**ounds of Brooklyn!, a series celebrating Brooklyn's diverse musical traditions, continues on Saturday, March 20th with an evening of exhilarating calypso music. The program is a tribute to Ellie Mannette, one of Trinidad's most famous pan tuners and an early pioneer of the steel pan movement. Featured are pan soloist Len "Boogsie" Sharpe, one of the great international innovators in the steel pan tradition; the legendary B.W.I.A. Sonatas; and the C.A.S.Y.M. Steel Orchestra, one of the city's top young steel bands. Preceding the concert is a workshop with Ellie Mannette and Les Slater of the Trinidad and Tobago Folklore Institute.

Len "Boogsie" Sharpe has expanded the boundaries of steel pan music with his innovative arrangements. He has received numerous honors in steel pan competitions in Trinidad and Tobago, Europe and North America and recorded with all the leading soca singers and calypso stars including World Calypso King, the Mighty Sparrow, the Lord Kitchener, Mighty Duke, Black Stalin, and the Mighty Chalkdust. He has arranged for many of Trinidad's top steel orchestras, including Phase 11 Pan Groove, performed with jazz greats Wynton Marsalis, Randy Weston, Art Blakey and Gary Burton, and toured



*Len "Boogsie" Sharpe : Pan Maestro*

with the Monty Alexander Quartet and Nexus.

The B.W.I.A. Sonatas, formed in 1971, is one of Brooklyn's oldest and most respected steel orchestras. Throughout the 1980s, it placed at or near the top at the West Indian Carnival in Brooklyn. In recent years pan

master Ken Philmore has served as arranger for the group. The C.A.S.Y.M. Steel Orchestra is under the direction of steel pan champion soloist Arddin Herbert. C.A.S.Y.M. (Caribbean-American Sports and Cultural Youth Movement) has been training young West Indian Americans in the fine art of pan playing for nearly a decade. The group has performed at universities,

concert halls and community centers throughout the country and was named the 1991 Steel Band Festival Champion at Lincoln Center.

This series is made possible in part by a grant from the Folk Arts Program of the NEA. Additional funding has been made available by NYSCA.