

'Fantastic' *TG May 29, 1987 p.1* **performance** *ML 1040* **by Despers**

NEW YORK, May 28, CANA — THE historic performance of Trinidad and Tobago's Desperadoes Steelband at Carnegie Hall in Manhattan last night has won high praise from Skitch Henderson, the founder and music director of the New York Pops Orchestra.

"It was simply delightful, a new and fantastic art form that we saw on display and heard," said Henderson after the 47-member band was given a standing ovation at the end of its performance.

Coming immediately after Liza Minnelli had appeared on stage and with the internationally-known actor and singer, Harry Belafonte, among the thousands of people in the world famous concert hall, the Desperadoes, the 1986 Steelband Music Festival champion of Trinidad and Tobago, played music from the Russian composer Alexander Borodin, and Jacques Offenbach, the Franco-German composer.

Between selections, the orchestra, under the musical direction of Pat Bishop, received prolonged applause, and at the end of the 15-minute performance was given a standing ovation.

It was the first time that a steel orchestra had appeared at Carnegie Hall.

The band returns home on Sunday.