



FIRST: Winners Clico Sfortza in action. —Photo: GARY CARDINEZ

CLICO Sforzata takes prestigious title for the first time

Gary Cardinez

CLICO SFORZATA went into the final round of Pan in the 21st Century in the lead with 273 points and improved their performance by 11 points to stay ahead and

win the prestigious title for the first time.

The Saturday evening audience at the Jean Pierre Complex in Port of Spain showed appreciation for Sforzata's performance of Dr Jeanine Remy's arrangement of Jasmine Sullivan's "I

song but somehow seem to lose its way. They improved their points tally by three.

Defending champions TCL Group Skiffle Bunch lost four points on their score from the first round and placed six after their rendition of Keith Salcedo's arrangement of

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The Saturday evening audience at the Jean Pierre Complex in Port of Spain showed appreciation for Sforzata's performance of Dr Jeanine Remy's arrangement of Jasmine Sullivan's "I Bust the Windows of Your Car".

The young lady who used a baseball bat to "bust" the windshield of a car which came on the court with the band added some amusement for the audience. But the six minutes of music was however very soothing not straying from the original.

The surprise of the night was the Codrington Pan Family which improved on their semi final points (255) by 18 to take the second spot.

Their performance of the father and daughter (Cary and Keisha) arrangement of Alicia Keys' "If I ain't Got You" was different. The players were clapping and playing an arrangement which provided nice tempo. It is clear that the arrangers understood exactly where the 65 points for arrangements were allotted.

BP Renegades also improved on their score by 15 points to tie with the Codrington Family for second place. Their performance of Kenneth Guppy's arrangement of Celine Dion's "I Surrender" showed great dynamics both in their playing and in the song.

Solo Harmonites came in fourth with a sweet and soft rendition of Alicia Key's "Try Sleeping With a Broken Heart" as arranged by Yohan Popwell.

Sagikor Exodus also placed fourth with their performance of Pelham Goddard's arrangement of John Legend's "Green Light". Exodus gave a very good start to the

song but somehow seem to lose its way. They improved their points tally by three.

Defending champions TCL Group Skiffle Bunch lost four points on their score from the first round and placed six after their rendition of Keith Salcedo's arrangement of Whitney Huston's "I Look to You".

Also coming in sixth was PCS Silver Stars who lost one point from their first round score. They presented the audience with an energetic performance of Black Eye Peas' "I Got A Feeling" as arranged by Edwin Pouchet.

Pan Trinbago must be given credit for improving the overall show with its fantastic backdrop and improved sound system. It has shown that both competitions—Pan in the 21st Century and Pan Down Memory Lane—have out-grown the Jean Pierre Complex.

The backdrop for Saturday's event showed life-size pictures of pan pioneers like Bertie Marshall, Bobby Mohammed, Clive Bradley and Ellie Mannett along with Jit Samaroo, Len "Boogsie" Sharpe, Ray Holman and Liam Teague. There were also pictures of steelpan in a futuristic society.

When it came to the competition it was quite obvious that it lacked a variety as the majority of songs chosen were all from one genre of music. There were three Alicia Key's and two John Legend (keyboardists) songs.

Special thanks must go out to the promoters of the fete at St John's (opposite the Jean Pierre Complex) for their understanding by playing the music softly during the steelpan competition.

It was also refreshing to see a pan show completed before midnight.

Here are the results of the competition.

Clico Sforzata	283
Codrington Pan Family	273
BP Renegades	273
Solo Haronites	266
Sagicor Exodus	266
TCL Group Skiffle Bunch	264
PCS Silver Stars	264
Courts Sound Specialist of Laventille	264
NLCB Fonclaire	257
Caribbean Airlines Invaders	255
Katzenjammers	252
Valley Harps	249