Nina Simone — Star of Annual IFC Weekend

Singer is Also Fine Musician

Both professionally and personally, Nina Simone is a combination of many unusual and diverse qualities all of whom important, some of them misunderstood. As a performer, Nina is a rarity. Most artists in the music field fall into one of two categories, either fine vocalists or great musicians, but Nina displays both talents with equal brilliance.

It would be a musical inaccuracy to categorize her singing as being strictly popular, jazz, folk or gospel because while she sings in all of these idioms she cannot be pigeonholed in any of them exclusively. Her keyboard ability, too, displays a rare extent of musical breadth, ranging from the studied discipline of a concert pianist to the improvisational and imaginative scope of a jazz musician.

On stage, she is regarded as an "experience" as well as an act, and press reviewers invariably make particular note of her "spellbinding" effect on audiences. No Nina Simone performance is the same as any one preceding it, and whether you like her or not, you can never simply sit back and be indifferent to Nina. Both fan and foe alike seem to sense something of real importance about this astonishing woman, and it is not surprising that audiences have labeled her with a string of epithets varying all the way from "witch" to avenging angel.

As much of her performances have invoked strong reactions among audiences, Nina, as a human being, has shown no inclination toward any injuries or cruelty, a person of relative convictions who feels compel- led to "do something" about what's wrong in the world. Ms. Simone became a top name en- tertainer during the summer of 1959 through her recording of "I Loves You, Porgy." Then there began a long series of highly acclaimed appearances in leading clubs and concert halls throughout the country.

Nina attended high school in Asheville, N.C., graduated valedictorian and then studied for year and a half at the Juilliard School of Music in New York. Here she studied piano and theory with Carl Friedberg.

She also studied with Vladimir Sokoloff at the Curtis Institute of Music. Although her formal training had always been in the classical medium, she had a natural flair for improvising and did just that on classical music, spirituals and popular tunes.

She was so successful in her first show business job that at the end of the summer she suddenly found herself with a difficult decision to make. She could either return to the vocal studio and the security of a regular job or devote her full time facing the uncertainty of a career in show business. She returned temporarily to the studio, but after a few months decided she would never be happy until she tried back with a career. From then on, Nina quietly gravitated to fame.

Her songwriting ability is akin to the same kind of instant talent she exhibited when she made such spontaneous debuts as a pianist in early childhood and as a singer in the Atlantic City night club. She wrote her first songs on the spot at her first recording session of six years ago. Two of the scheduled songs were suddenly scrapped, and to fill the need Nina created two more just as suddenly even though she had previously written a song in her life. Since then, she has written many tunes and does her own musical arrangements besides.

Calendar of Events
Tonight
IFC Ball at 9 p.m. tonight in Ade Hall; Richard Maltby's Orchestra will play.

Nina Simone will perform from 2100 to 4 a.m. in Alumni Hall.

Richard Maltby and his orchestra will perform tonight at the IFC Ball in Ade Hall at 9 p.m. Maltby has transferred the big band image into living reality, aimed at the feet of the dancing public. Through the years the Maltby Sextet has remained clear and bright. He is a multi- faceted musician - conductor - arranger - composer - soloist and producer - all funneled into a signature highly honored in musical circles. To cite Maltby as an innovator, one need only mention such solid hits as "St. Louis Blues Mambo," which practically started the standard "mambo" boat, or "Theme From the Man With the Golden Arm," which preceded by a number of years the current boom in motion picture theme song recordings. The Richard Maltby Sextet is a nucleus of the big band and can also act as a separate entity. Consisting of only six (three men playing 21 reed instruments in every conceivable combination) and rhythm, plus Maltby on the aforementioned instru- ments, and devoid of the con- trapuntal trumpets and snarling brass, the unusual Maltby trademark, the Sextet generates a sur- prising big band outburst.

Whatever the trend, one can always expect the Maltby group to offer a variety of styles, some- times marked by a wilder re- strained and a relaxed, smooth

Richard Maltby's Orchestra To Play at IFC Ball Tonight

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Annual IFC Weekend Singer Is Also Fine Musician

Nina Simone, unquestionably one of the most exciting and versatile performers to enter the music world in recent years, will perform in concert Saturday at 2 p.m. in Alumni Hall as part of the Interfraternity Council Weekend activities.

As a rule, performers in the music world fall into one of two categories - either fine vocalists or great musicians. It is a rarity when one person can offer both talents with equal brilliance. Nina Simone is just such a rarity.

From the years in Tyron, N.C., where she played piano and organ and sang in her mother's church, through her more formalized musical education at Juilliard, Nina's overwhelming talent was obvious. But for a while, the obvious was overlooked.

In the summer of 1959 Miss Simone caught the eye of and became a top name entertainers. On records, her albums "The Amazing Nina Simone" on Colpix and "Little Girl Blue" on Bethlehem Records became national bestsellers-as did her singles of "I Loves You, Porgy" and "Children Go Where I Send You."

From that point on, Nina's career moved at a meteoric pace. The entertainment world hailed her as the music find of the year. She is now a featured artist with Philips Records, fully recognized as one of the foremost concert artists extant.
7 Coeds Compete for IFC Queen Honor

Betsy Pease
Hazel-eyed Betsy has light brown hair and is a senior nurse from Orlando, Fla. She is a sister of Sigma Chi Nu and is interested in water sports.

Bonnie Stuke
Bonnie is a 5'4" blonde from Stonybrook, L.I. She is president of the Brick and is interested in gymnastics.

Dorothy Darrone
Dorothy is a blue-eyed blond-haired cheer leader from Syracuse. She is a sophomore sister of Theta and enjoys intramural sports.

Linda Thorngate
Linda, a sophomore from Pebble Beach, Calif., is 5'4" and has blond hair and blue eyes. She is a sister of Alpha Kappa Omicron and is interested in swimming and horseback riding.

Linda, Thorngate
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Liz Treichler
A tentative sophomore History major, Liz is 5'6" and has hazel eyes and brown hair. She is a sister of Theta and is interested in dancing and horseback riding. Her hometown is in Niagara Falls.

Kati Gordon
Ash brown-haired Kati is 5'4" and has blue eyes. A junior from Jackson Heights, she is an English major and a sister of Theta Theta Chi. She enjoys playing the guitar and skiing.

Dee McConnville
Green-eyed Dee is a senior nurse from Huntington, and has dark brown hair. Active in cheerleading, she is a sister of Sigma.