

# Concert to honour SA jazzmen

## DON ALBERT

A special commemorative concert to mark the achievements of South African musicians in Britain takes place in London on January 1 1992.

It is a joyous day now that the exiled and self exiled South African jazz musicians can come home.

The pity is that because of the huge shadows cast by the likes of Hugh Masekela and Abdullah Ibrahim, many important South African jazzmen are often overlooked, such as Chris McGregor.

When the South African band,

the Blue Notes arrived in London in the '60s they soon became a moving force on the European jazz scene, both as a group and as individuals.

## Tenacity

With his foresight and tenacity, Chris McGregor steered the band to great heights, aided and abetted by Johnny Dyani (bass), Mongezi Feza (trumpet), Dudu Pukwana (saxophone) and Louis Moholo (drums).

Another musician who left an

impression was Johannesburg bassist Harry Miller who led his own bands, worked with McGregor's Brotherhood Of Breath and started an independent record label called Ogun. He was killed in a car accident while going to a gig in Holland.

On January 1, 1992 a 23 piece orchestra and chorus of specially selected musicians who were closely associated with the above mentioned, will perform at the 100 Club in Oxford Street, London.

All but Moholo are dead, and it was decided by their colleagues to pay tribute to their work as composers.

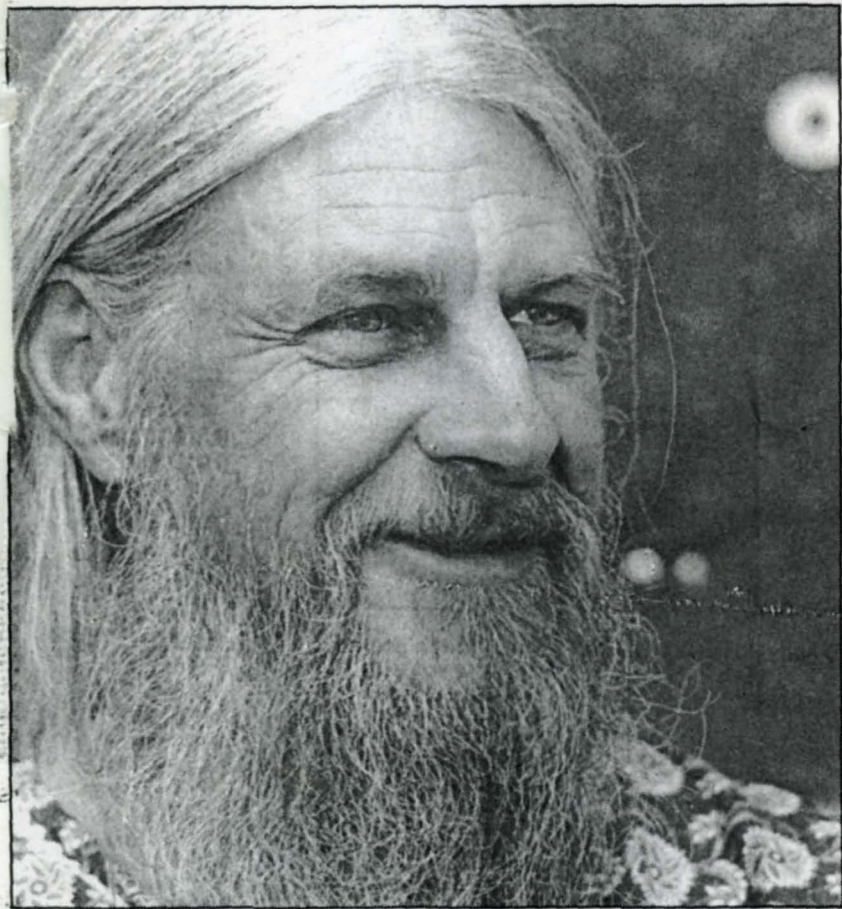
## Bursary

Members and arrangers of the special orchestra, all of whom have offered their services for free, include Kenny Wheeler, Jim Dvorak, Radu Malfatti, Lol Coxhill, Mike Westbrook, Evan Parker, Alan Skidmore, Django Bates, Keith Tippitt, Dave Holland and Louis Moholo.

All monies collected will go towards establishing a bursary to enable young South African musicians to study and develop their music in London and Europe. The bursary will be known as The Spirits Rejoice Foundation.

## Profits

Hazel Miller, wife of the late Harry Miller, will record the concert for Ogun records and release a CD with all profits going to the bursary.



Chris McGregor...he and his band spearheaded a South African jazz invasion of London in the 1960s