



Jack Kerouac

Kerouac collection preserves classic recordings

By Kevin Robinson

with backup by Steve Allen on piano. Apparently, this album came about while Kerouac was performing live poetry readings on Allen's TV show. While the weakest in the set, it does contain excerpts from "On the Road." "Goofing at the Table" shows the way that Kerouac was fond for a sort of scatting word jazz.

By far the best of the three is the last album, "Readings for the Beat Generation" (rather redundant titles, aren't they?). This contains probably the best track on all three albums, "Neal and the Three Stooges," about legendary Beat hero, Neal Cassidy. Kerouac was always at his best when he would spin yarns about the adventures and mannerisms of Cassidy, and this little story is one of the best, building up the mythic quality that Kerouac gave Cassidy in his work.

Drink and drugs were Kerouac's fa-

outakes from the original sessions, there is some funny and interesting banter between the producer, Kerouac and the musicians behind him which gives an insight into the chaos that went on behind the scenes of these sessions.

In hindsight there is also a dark irony. Alcohol would eventually be one of the leading factors in Kerouac's death in 1969.

The Kerouac set also includes an incredible booklet, filled with rare photographs, a listing of all Kerouac's printed work and live television performances, along with essays by his good friends and fellow beat writers, Allen Ginsburg and William S. Burroughs. It serves as kind of a guide to the man and his work, and anyone who enjoys his work enough to pay the cost of this large collection is

"Even people who can't get through his wild run-on prose on paper are instantly captured by his voice. So I am ecstatic that medium of sound has finally found him. A lullaby of this magnitude will be sorely needed in the mad decades to come."

Jan Michele Kerouac,
Jack's daughter

vorite activities outside of his writing, and their presence can be felt on these recordings. By Kerouac's own admission in the liner notes, he was "stoned during most of these sessions." The performances, though vibrant, are full of slurred words and silly goofs.

However, these slip-ups are part of the personality of these recordings and probably give more of what a live poetry reading by Kerouac at a club would have been like. In many of the added bonus tracks, which are merely

going to appreciate this booklet.

Obviously, for anyone not totally caught up in Kerouac's prose and poetry, "The Jack Kerouac Collection" is not the place to start. But for those that have read his books and want a little more, these recordings provide a more personal look at the way that the printed page was envisioned in the author's mind. Although Jack Kerouac died well over two decades ago, the strength of his performance and delivery of his own work has been given a new chance to be heard.



Dr. Marilyn Kern-Foxworth

Foxworth attacks images of blacks in advertisements

By Lisa Young

Surrounded by Aunt Jemima dolls, pictures, products and pillows, one can easily see that Texas A&M University journalism associate professor Dr. Marilyn Kern-Foxworth has a genuine interest in public relations and advertising as it relates to the black community.

For more than 16 years, Foxworth has researched the psychological impact stereotypical depictions of Blacks in the media have on the American public. Her goals are to inform the public of how detrimental these negative depictions can be to society.

Many of America's major cities are becoming vastly populated with "people of color," Foxworth says. "I must try to prepare society for the diversity that's coming in the 21st century and all the adjustments that society must make in order to accommodate everyone," Foxworth says.

Foxworth is not at all a stranger to the terrible effects that prejudice and discrimination may have on people of color. She grew up in Cosciusco, Mississippi in an era when discrimination and prejudice were everyday occurrences.

"I remember a cafe in town that Afri-

can-Americans were not allowed to eat in," Foxworth says. "We had to order our food at an outside window and take it home with us instead."

Foxworth clearly remembers the racial tensions that existed in her hometown of Cosciusco. "The Civil Rights Movement came to the heart of my hometown when the first black to attend Ole Miss had to struggle to be admitted," she says.

When other little girls were playing with dolls, Foxworth remembers being an active part of the Civil Rights Movement. "I remember participating in boycotts and marches when I was only 12 and 13 years old," she says.

Foxworth says she was valedictorian of her senior class the year her high school was integrated. She remembers feeling fear and anxiety along with happiness about the honor.

"I was frightened when my principal called me into his office to tell me that I had to deliver the valedictory speech," Foxworth says. "Another African-American girl had been slain for delivering her valedictory address just weeks before I was to deliver my speech."

Foxworth's high school valedictory

speech would not be the last one she would deliver. She went on to also become valedictorian of her graduating class at Jackson State University in Mississippi, where she received her bachelor's degree.

Foxworth continued her studies at Florida State University where she received her master's degree. She began working on her doctoral degree from the University of Madison-Wisconsin at the age of 21. Presently, she is the only African-American to hold a doctoral degree with a concentration in advertising and public relations.

Foxworth remembers a time when her mother would boast to the neighbors about her grades. "My mother was so proud of my grades that she would show people my report cards," she says. "It was so embarrassing."

It seems that her mother knew then what the world is currently discovering. Her mother knew that Foxworth's college career was a good indication of what was to happen in her daughter's future.

Foxworth has completed a book of poetry titled "Ebonessence: the Expressions of a Black Woman through Verse." She is currently writing a book

titled, "Aunt Jemima, Uncle Ben and Rastus: A Socio-Historical Analysis of Blacks in Advertising and Public Relations."

The latter book, foreworded by "Roots" author Alex Haley, chronicles black history in advertising from slavery to the present. Foxworth says she dedicated the book to her late mother, who didn't get the opportunity to see all the changes that have taken place in today's society.

Foxworth feels she must make a continuous effort to contribute to her race and society. "Life is all about helping others," she says. "I would like to think that I help young people reach their fullest potential."

Foxworth says her mother played an important role in the person she has developed into and she wants to share that knowledge with others. "My mother has made me what I am today and what I will be in the future," she says.

With so many accomplishments under her belt, one could ask what could the future goals of Marilyn Foxworth possibly be? Whatever they may be, one can confidently believe that she's sure to reach them.

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