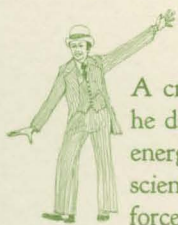






IN HONOR OF
HIS EXCELLENCY
THE PRIME MINISTER OF IRELAND
AND MRS. COSGRAVE

THE WHITE HOUSE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1976



A critic has written of Ben Vereen, "He sings, he dances, he acts, and he literally simmers with energy, providing the human equivalent of what scientists call a monopole, a center of magnetic force."

For Ben Vereen, dance has been a major part of his life since he was a junior high schooler in Brooklyn, New York. Thus, even before his Broadway debut, he had achieved distinction as a performer, teacher and choreographer with several notable dance companies and in summer stock. Although already quite a "trooper," Mr. Vereen had not even seen a Broadway musical when he got his "big break," a role in *Sweet Charity*. Following his appearance in this show, and its subsequent film version, Mr. Vereen played in a number of other productions in New York and other major American cities. With each of these new and more demanding roles, including such shows as *Golden Boy*, *Hair*, *No Place To Be Somebody*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, he won increased critical acclaim and audience admiration. Mr. Vereen achieved stardom on Broadway in the Bob Fosse musical *Pippin*, for which he was awarded both a Tony and a Drama Desk Award.

The rising star of Ben Vereen is now no longer contained by the Broadway stage. He danced in the movie *Funny Lady*; made his first album and is preparing for a second; created a nightclub act that weaves together ballet, drama, jazz and magic; and starred in several television specials, including the 90-minute variety show "Jubilee" and in the drama "Louis Armstrong-Chicago Style."

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**BEN
VEREEN**



**COMIN'
AT
YA...**

Jack French, PIANIST/CONDUCTOR
Marc Dicciani, DRUMMER
Brent Alverson, BASSIST
Richard Boukas, GUITARIST

