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in association with BLACK THEATRE WORKSHOP

Playboy of the West Indies

by Mustapha Matura



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Winston Sutton is
**Playboy of the
West Indies**



in the play by **Mustapha Matura**

January 7-31, 1993

(Previews January 5 & 6)

Special Guest Star Appearance by

Oliver Samuels

as Mikey

Starring

Marvin L. Ishmael	as Stanley
Roy Plummer	as Mac
Dawn Roach	as Peggy
Jacklin Webb	as Mama Benin

With

Mariah Inger	as Ivy
Ken Pilgrim	as Jim
Richard David Raybourne	as Phil
Michele Roach	as Alice

Damir Andrei	Director
Andrew Lue Shue	Set & Costume Designer
Norberts J. Muncs	Lighting Designer
Lynn McQueen	Stage Manager
Johanne Pomrenski	Assistant Stage Manager
David G. McBean	Assistant to the Director

SETTING

Mayaro, a fishing village on the east coast
of Trinidad, in the 1950s.

ACT I:	9:30 p.m. on Friday
ACT II:	9:30 a.m. on Saturday
ACT III:	5:00 p.m. on the same day

There will be one twenty-minute intermission.

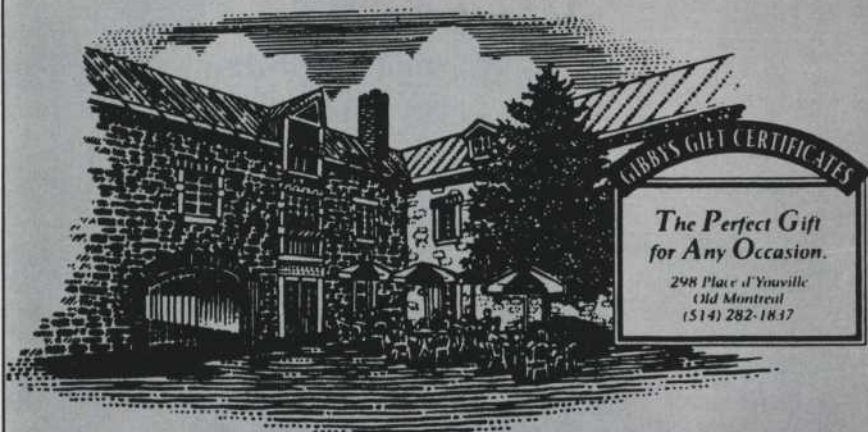
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About the Playwright MUSTAPHA MATURA



Mustapha Matura is a recipient of the Trinidad and Tobago Government Scarlet Ibis Award (1991). His most recent play, *The Coup*, commissioned and presented by the Royal National Theatre, in repertoire for many months, was highly acclaimed.

Matura's extensive and award-winning credits began when his first full-length stage play, *As Time Goes By*, was presented at the Traverse Theatre Edinburgh and the Royal Court, London, and won him both the "George Devine and John Whiting Awards" in 1971. *Play Mas* at the Royal Court in 1974 transferred to London's West End and won him the "Evening Standard's Most Promising Playwrighting Award".

His other notable and more recent credits include **The Playboy of the West Indies**, from Synge, Oxford Playhouse, including a national tour and Tricycle London in 1984; Manchester; Washington; New Jersey; the Yale Repertory; and Toronto by We Are One Theatre at The Canadian Stage. Matura wrote the adaptation for the screen which was shown on BBC-TV in 1985. Also for the stage were *Trinidad Sisters* (out of Chekhov) presented by the Tricycle Theatre at London's Donmar Warehouse in February 1988; and a major revival of *Meetings* which was toured nationally (in England) by Black Theatre Co-operative.

For the screen, his credits include the popular series *No Problem!*, a joint project between Black Theatre Co-operative (which he founded in 1978 with Charlie Hanson) and London Weekend Television/Channel Four. Among other works, he also devised and wrote along with Rudy Narayan for the BBC series *Black Silk* (1985).

PLAYBOY OF THE WEST INDIES by **MUSTAPHA MATURA** was originally commissioned and produced by the Oxford Playhouse Company, Oxford, England. The play opened on January 17, 1984, directed by Nicholas Kent; and the production toured nationally, ending in a run at London's Tricycle Theatre.

It is currently being produced through special arrangement with Broadway Play Publishing, Inc., 357 W 20th St., NY NY 10011. The script to this play may be purchased through BPPI.

J.M. Synge's *Playboy of the Western World* was first produced on January 26, 1912, in Dublin, Ireland. The play was set in Mayo. Mustapha Matura's version is set in Mayaro, Trinidad, in August 1950.

WINSTON SUTTON (Ken - The Playboy)

Artistic Director of Black Theatre Workshop since 1988, Mr. Sutton has contributed to the theatre community as an instructor, actor, and director.

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His numerous directing credits include *Into the Woods* for Shaar Hashomayim Congregation; *Hedda Gabler*, *Cloud 9*, and *Jitters* for Boston University; and *Two Can Play*, *Smile Orange*, *The Journey*, *The Colored Museum*, and most recently, *The Dragon Can't Dance* and *Master of Carnival* for Black Theatre Workshop. In 1986, he held the position of Assistant Director for *A Man for All Seasons* at the Stratford Festival.



Winston Sutton has also worked extensively as an actor. He participated in the 77/79 Seasons at Stratford; played the Prince of Morocco in *The Merchant of Venice* (1983) and Steve Daniels in *A Lesson from Aloes* (1984) at the Globe Theatre; and Crooks in *Of Mice and Men* (1984) and *Tartuffe* in the play by the same name (1984) both for Magnus Theatre. He has also appeared in numerous Black Theatre Workshop productions including *The River Niger*, *Statements*, *Home*, and *Rum and Coca Cola*, to name a few.

For film, he has appeared in *Here Comes the Groom* for CBC's "Inside Stories", *The Hitch Hiker* (Elite Productions), and *Fields of Endless Day* (O.E.C.A. Productions).



BLACK THEATRE WORKSHOP (BTW)

The Black Theatre Workshop evolved out of the drama committee of the Trinidad and Tobago Association of Montreal, founded in October 1965. At first, the productions were simply dramatized readings as poems were acted-out or read against the background of appropriate calypsos, folksongs, and drum arrangements. Interest in these "Calypsopras" began to grow within the West Indian community and in 1968, Mr. Jeff Henry, then Dance Master at the National Theatre School, introduced the possibility of a Black Workshop, under its first Artistic Director, Mr. Johnny Cayonne. In 1970, Mr. Henry conducted a series of playwright/actor workshops on an experimental script, *How Now Black Man* written by Dr. Lorris Elliott of McGill University. The play was presented at the Centaur Theatre, in June of 1970 and earned the Workshop its first grant from the Canada Council. On March 15th, 1972 the Black Workshop was incorporated as the Black Theatre Workshop and placed under the guidance of Dr. Clarence Bayne who directed the organization into the 1980s.

The company has won acclaim for many of its productions including *A Raisin In The Sun*; *The River Niger*; *For Colored Girls...*; *MARVIN: Dream Of A Lifetime*; *Smile Orange* and *Two Can Play*.

OLIVER SAMUELS (Mikey)

Winner of Jamaica's Best Actor Award in 1975, Oliver Samuels continues to be Jamaica's top star of stage and screen. His television show, "Oliver at Large", in which he plays real life characters, is Jamaica's most-watched program and is seen in the Eastern Caribbean and on Toronto, Canada Television, and in Montreal on CFCF 12. As an actor, Samuels has also appeared in numerous theatre productions with the National Pantomime, Jamaica's oldest theatre company. He has performed and



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directed many other plays with his own company, including a tour acting engagement of *Me You an' Mi Taxi* to the Eastern Caribbean, Montreal, Toronto, and the United Kingdom. Samuels worked on the film version of *Smile Orange* which was released in 1976 and appeared in BTW's stage version in 1990. Most recently, he appeared in *Full House* in both Toronto and Connecticut; and in *Boy Blue* which drew sold out houses for 45 performances in London, Birmingham, and Manchester. While in England, he also filmed a one-hour segment of the new Lennie Henry BBC series, *Rice and Peas*. He has since returned to England to make a BBC film starring Vanessa Redgrave and Johnathan Price.



MARVIN L. ISHMAEL (Stanley)

Marvin L. Ishmael is the Founder and Artistic Director of We Are One Theatre Productions which successfully mounted the Canadian premiere of **Playboy of the West Indies** at Canadian Stage, and recently remounted it for The World Stage at Harbourfront in association with The Canadian Stage. Having played at both the Shaw Festival and Trinidad Theatre, his many stage roles include The Beggar in *Radiance Of The King*; the Prime Minister in *The Missing File* and Stanley in *Playboy of the West Indies*; Baal in Brecht's *Baal* at the Banff Centre for the Arts; and Caliban in *The Tempest* and Oberon/Theseus in *Midsummer Night's Dream* both for Skylight Theatre; and most recently, as Caddy in *More Sweet Pan* at The Canadian Stage. He was critically acclaimed for his performance as Victor Metha in *A Map Of The World* at The Canadian Stage and the National Arts Centre; and nominated for a Dora for *Forever Free* (a play for younger audiences), for which he did win a Chalmers. Mr. Ishmael's film and television credits include *Counterstrike*, *Night Heat*, *ENG*, *Adderly*, *Kay O'Brien*, and *The Ticket Back* for the NFB.

ROY PLUMMER (Mac)

A graduate of the National Theatre School of Drama in Jamaica, Mr. Plummer has worked with top Jamaican director, Dr. Carol Dawes. His stage, film, and television credits in Canada and Jamaica include *Smile Orange*, *Big Yard*, *Two Can Play*, *Repatriation*, *Blues for Mister Charlie*, *Echo In The Bone*, *Strong Breed*, *Mister Garvey*, *Jumbie Leggo*, and *The King Horseman*. He represented Jamaica in 1977 at FESTAC in Nigeria and has performed widely in Miami, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. When touring with Oliver Samuels on the play *Big Yard*, Roy Plummer made his Off-Broadway debut at the Manhattan Center Theatre in New York. His credits as a writer include the comedies *Wah!* and *Give Me Life*, both of which he starred in and directed. He was last seen in Montreal as Jim in BTW's production of *Two Can Play*, at the Strathearn Centre.

DAWN ROACH (Peggy)

Recipient of a Dora Mavor Moore Award for Artistic Excellence and Innovation for her performance in *A Caribbean Midsummer Night's Dream*, and of a Best Actress Award from the Quebec Drama Festival for



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her portrayal of Billie in *Bearing Witness*, her other theatre credits include Serafina in *Serafina and the Big Cat* for Manitoba Theatre Centre for Young People; Gail Jones in *Love & Anger* (Factory Theatre); Garten in *Tabu* (The Hour Company's Chalmers Award Nominee for Best Children' Play - 1991), and in *The Wonder Quartet* for Nightwood Theatre. Ms. Roach is a passionate art lover whose work will soon take her on a roots journey to the Caribbean and to the African continent. She thanks her family, friends, and co-workers for their guidance.



JACKLIN WEBB (Mama Benin)

Ms. Webb, a member of Black Theatre Workshop, started performing with them in 1979 in the play, *A Raisin in the Sun*. Since then, she has performed leading roles in *The Gingerbread Lady*, *The River Niger*, and *Nevis Mountain Dew*. In 1989, she won the award of Best Actress in the Quebec Drama Festival for her role of Jennifer in Black Theatre Workshop's entry, *Here Comes the Groom*. She has not confined herself to acting, but was the assistant director for *Pantomime* and stage managed *My Sweet Charlie*, *Smile Orange* (1983), and *Statements* for BTW. Jacklin's film credits include an appearance on *A Time to Live*; the role of Jennifer in *Here Comes the Groom* for CBC's "Inside Stories" and most recently, her portrayal of Sarah in the series "Urban Angel" for CBC and CBS TV.

MARIAH INGER (Ivy)

Ms. Inger has been involved with Creations, Etc., a youth organization, for approximately four years - two of them as a member of the Board of Directors. Productions with Creations, Etc. include *Territoire Territorial*; *Rejoins Moi, If You Can Find Me*; and *Jour 7*, to name a few. Ms. Inger has also been involved in various workshops with Tyrone Benskin. An accomplished singer and dancer, she can read music and has performed roles involving considerable physical and athletic agility.

KEN PILGRIM (Jim)

A founding member of Black Theatre Workshop, Mr. Pilgrim represented Canada at the FESTAC Festival in Lagos, Nigeria; and has been teaching English and Drama at Richelieu Valley Regional High School on the South Shore for the past nine years. On stage, he has appeared in many productions including *Dream on Monkey Mountain* by Derek Walkott, *Dance Bongo* by Errol Hill, *How Now Black Man* by Lorris Elliott, *The Blacks* by Jean Genet, and many more. His directing credits include, among others, *West Side Story*, *The Crucible*, and *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

RICHARD DAVID RAYBOURNE (Phil)

Playboy of the West Indies marks Mr. Raybourne's first appearance at Centaur. His past theatre credits include an improvisation marathon for Sun Youth; and *Bottled Blues* - an improvised play created by Laughing Lizards, a group for which he was also acting coach. His film and television credits include *Wild Thing* (Filmline productions); *Laugh Riot* (Telecinema Taurus); a regular lead role (88/89) in *Time of Your Life*,

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MICHELE ROACH (Alice)

Michele Roach is making her first appearance at Centaur. A recent graduate of Dawson's Theatre program, Ms. Roach appeared at the Dome as Miranda in Vittorio Rossi's *In Pursuit of a Cow*, as Rosaline in *Love's Labor Lost*, and as Vergia in *Much Ado About Nothing*. She most recently appeared as Celia in *As You Like It*, with the Mount Royal Shakespeare Company. Ms. Roach is an active member as a soprano in the *People's Gospel Choir of Montreal*.

DAMIR ANDREI (Director)

A Croatian by birth, Damir Andrei grew up in Montreal and began his directing career here. Montreal audiences may recall his productions of *Sexual Perversity in Chicago*, *Pvt. Wars*, and *Lonestar* at the former Phoenix Theatre; *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* for the Lakeshore Players; and for Centaur, *Bordertown Cafe*, *The Main*, and its sequel, *From the Main to Mainstreet*.

Mr. Andrei recently directed *Yankee Notions*, Anne Chislett's latest play, at the Blyth Festival; *Let Us Talk Caribbean*, as well as the Canadian premiere of ***Playboy of the West Indies*** for We Are One Theatre and its remount for the World Stage Festival; and *The Good Person of Setzuan* for York University's graduating class. He co-produced (with The Canadian Stage Company) and directed *Divided We Stand* (the Toronto version of *From the Main to Mainstreet*). He also co-produced and directed *A Map of the World* at The Canadian Stage and subsequently at the National Arts Centre, and directed *The Fox* at the Adelaide Court for the Next Stage.

Mr. Andrei also acts in the theatre, movies, and on television and now lives in Toronto.

ANDREW LUE SHUE (Set & Costume Designer)

Andrew Lue Shue has been very active at Centaur, designing for *Somebody*, *Somebody's Returning*, *Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme*, *The Gigli Concert*, *The Murder of Susan Parr*, *Footprints on the Moon*, *Fire-Sale*, *From the Main to Mainstreet*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, costumes for *Juno and the Paycock*, and most recently, *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)*. Mr. Lue Shue holds a BFA in Art Education from Concordia University and is also a graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada. Other credits include designs for the Piggery Theatre, Youtheatre, Youtheatre/Geordie Productions, and Dawson College Dome Theatre. For Black Theatre Workshop, he designed *Marvin: Dream of a Lifetime*, *Smile Orange* and most recently, *The Dragon Can't Dance*; and for the Banff Centre, *The Plough and the Stars* directed by Joe Dowling. Andrew Lue Shue has also designed costumes for 1992 *Caribana* in Toronto. He is a member of ADC and APASQ.

NORBERTS J. MUNC'S (Lighting Designer)

Presently Director of the Technical Production section at the National Theatre School of Canada, Mr. Munc's has worked as Production Manager, Technical Director, Tour Manager and Carpenter for various theatres. His lighting design credits include: *The Agunah*, *The Rothschilds*, and *The Jazz Singer* for the Saidye Bronfman Center; *Eleemosynary* for Bulldog Productions; *The Nutcracker*, *Coppelia*, and *Sleeping Beauty* for Ballets-Ouest; *Ladies in Retirement*, *Flicks*, *Dead Serious*, *Bedside Manners*, and *Perfect Crime* for The Piggery Theatre and *The Woman in Black* for Centaur.



LYNN McQUEEN (Stage Manager)

Playboy of the West Indies is Ms. McQueen's second show this season as Stage Manager (C2), having previously worked on *The Glass Menagerie* (C1). Last season, she stage managed *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)*, *Karla and Grif*, and *Blokes*. Previous Centaur credits include *The Death of René Lévesque*, *Our Country's Good*, *Hank Williams: The Show He Never Gave*, and *Guys and Dolls*. This past summer, she enjoyed stage managing *Refuge of the Roads* and *Democracy* for the Stephenville Festival in Newfoundland.

JOHANNE POMRENSKI (Assistant Stage Manager)

Johanne Pomrenski is in her second season as Assistant Stage Manager for Centaur 2. Last season, she worked on *Balconville* and *Une Pucelle Pour un Gorille / A Damsel for a Gorilla*. Johanne also took over as Stage Manager for the final week of *Karla & Grif* in C1. Two seasons ago, she toured Edmonton; Calgary; London, Ont.; & Winnipeg with Centaur's production of *My Children! My Africa!*. Other credits include two seasons as Stage Manager for Just for Laughs Festival 91 & 92; and acting as Assistant Stage Manager for Point of View Productions' *Anton*, *Without Her*, and *Three Cops on a Roof*. Johanne apprenticed at Centaur with *Footprints on the Moon*, *Fire Sale*, and *Mother of All the Behans*. Before Centaur, Johanne worked four years at Théâtre Soleil as an animator, actor, and tour manager. She was also Assistant to the Executive Producer for Donald K. Donald's production of *Hair*.

DAVID G. McBEAN (Assistant to the Director)

David G. McBean was born in Savanalaman, Jamaica, and immigrated to Montreal in 1979. A 1988 graduate of John Grant, during his high school years he served as Group Leader and Co-ordinator of Peer Counselling and President of the Student Council. Active in the community, his other credits include Volunteer Group Leader/Animator at Westmount Park School, Fundraiser for the Church of God of Prophecy, and Group Leader (Peer Counselling) at LaSalle High School where he also directed seven skits for the Drama Department. David McBean has recently started his own promotion company, and has directed, promoted, and appeared in *One Dollar For Dog* at Montreal High School.

Playboy of the West Indies



GLOSSARY

Act I

- Sapats*: a cheap type of footwear
Jitney: a truck with open sides and seats
Obeah Woman: a woman who practices folk religion
Picong: a type of teasing
Manzanilla: a beach next to Mayaro
Fire one: drink one
Manicou: an edible rodent
Basil de Boobalee: a form of dummy (Guy Fawkes)
Garraing: talking for the sake of it
Seine: a large fishing net
Washicongs: rubber-soled canvas shoes
Bela: a type of dance
Flambeaux: a petrol bomb used to provide light
Casa Ball: a sweet
Buising: abusing
Zoboca: avocado
Discovery Day: a public holiday (Columbus Landing)
Gallery Wit: showing off
Copra: by-product of the coconut

Act II

- Jab-Jab*: a type of demon, associated with carnival
Tulum: a sweet made with molasses and coconut
Wine: to gyrate the pelvis
Saga Boy: a flashy fellow
Jumbie: a type of ghost
Wajank: a hooligan
Play Mas: to go crazy
Mama Pools: a simpleton
Mamaguy: to make fun of

Act III

- Crapeaux Smoke He Pipe*: your fate is sealed
Bazodee: crazy
Put Goat Mouth on Him: to wish someone bad luck
Soukingya: a vampire-type creature
Heffea: a fellow to be respected by others
Bush Bath: a folk cure for bad luck
Toco: a village and beach up north
Chip Chip Soup: a soup made of sea shells
Caroni Cane: sugar cane grown in Caroni
Carite: a type of fish
Pirogues: open fishing boat
Knocks In: luck's in
Grancharging: bluffing



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JANUARY 16, 1993

Geordie Productions presents



THE LION, THE WITCH, AND THE WARDROBE

By C.S. Lewis

Adapted by le Clanché du Rand

Directed by Christine Menzies

Designed by Paule Marquis

This classic tale of adventure in the magical kingdom of Narnia, a kingdom peopled by the White Witch, Aslan the Lion, and many other fantastic and varied species, is delightfully brought to life by two actors in a "story" theatre presentation.

Grades K to 6.



FEBRUARY 13, 1993 Chris and Karen present



GIFTGIVERS

In a wonderful world of music, movement, and fantasy we meet Retch and Rotten, two awful ogers, playing a mean game of Earthball. Can Filomena the flying fish and Bartok the hawk, along with Jaco and the Giftgivers persuade the ogers to change their dastardly game before it's too late? **An eco-musical for all ages.**

MARCH 6, 1993 Story Hour Theatre presents



THE INVENTION

By Brad Gromelski

Another participation play in which the Narrator and three Fun Merchants try to assemble a toy machine. But Kalibad, a toy spy, is desperately trying to destroy the invention. With vocal and physical help from the Audience - who is the main character of the play, the Fun Merchants assemble the invention... with surprises for the children who succeed in their tasks! **Ages 3 to 8.**

APRIL 17, 1993 Geordie Productions presents

FROM YOU TO US TO YOU 3 (FYTUTY for short)

An original musical revue!

Directed by Corey Castle

Designed by Jill Thomson Musical Direction by Christopher Smith

Tomorrow's authors are with us today! This Spring, local elementary school children tackled the themes of LANGUAGES, PEOPLE, and the PLANET for their third show in the FYTUTY series of cabarets featuring music, dance, improv, and much more, all based on the writing of youngsters! **Grades K to 6.**



ALL SHOWS START AT 10:30 A.M.



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Centaur Theatre Company's new **Theatre of Tomorrow** program is an unqualified hit with high schools! The Wednesday matinée performances of **The Glass Menagerie** – the first of the three plays offered in the pilot year of this program sold out, reaching nearly 1200 Montreal-area students & their teachers. Tickets to *Playboy of the West Indies* & *Look Back in Anger* are also doing extremely well.

A partnership with the *Montreal Gazette* and generously sponsored by *The Chawkers Foundation*, this program is **designed to both educate and expose young people to English-language theatre**. Schools participating in the program receive significantly discounted tickets, and background information on the production in the form of both teaching guides and articles in *The Gazette* – materials they can read prior to their visit to the theatre. Geared toward giving students an understanding of what is involved in the production of a play, from the written word to the curtain rising on Opening Night, students will also review the productions – with some of their articles appearing in *The Gazette*.

Centaur is committed to making theatre accessible to young people. We thank The Gazette and The Chawkers Foundation for sharing and supporting this vision.

PLURIEL

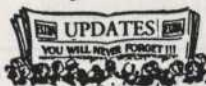
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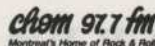
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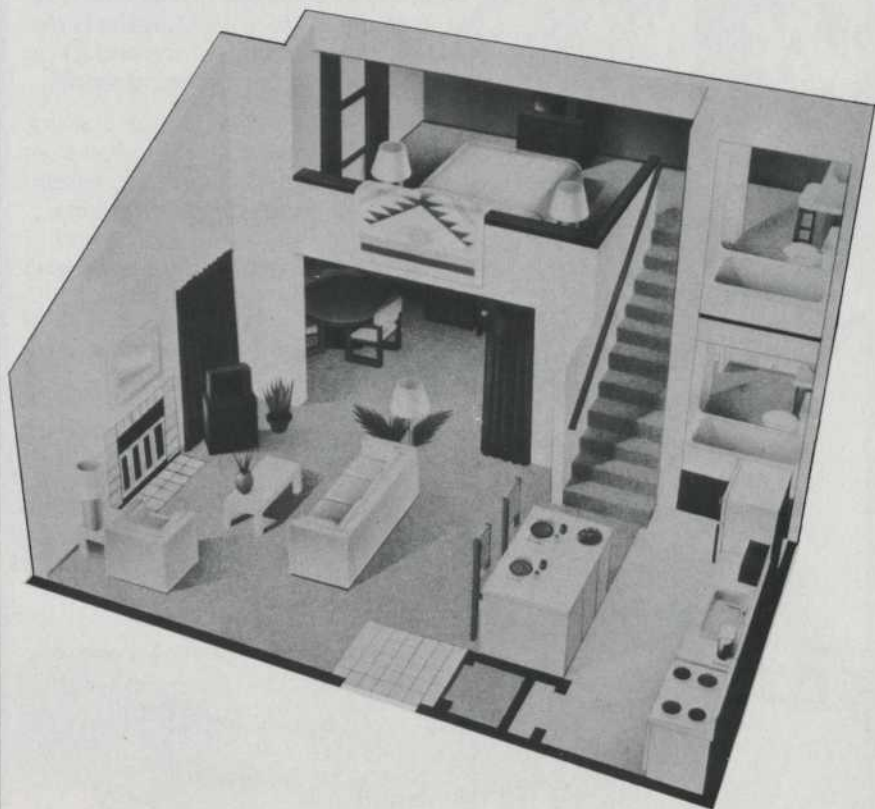
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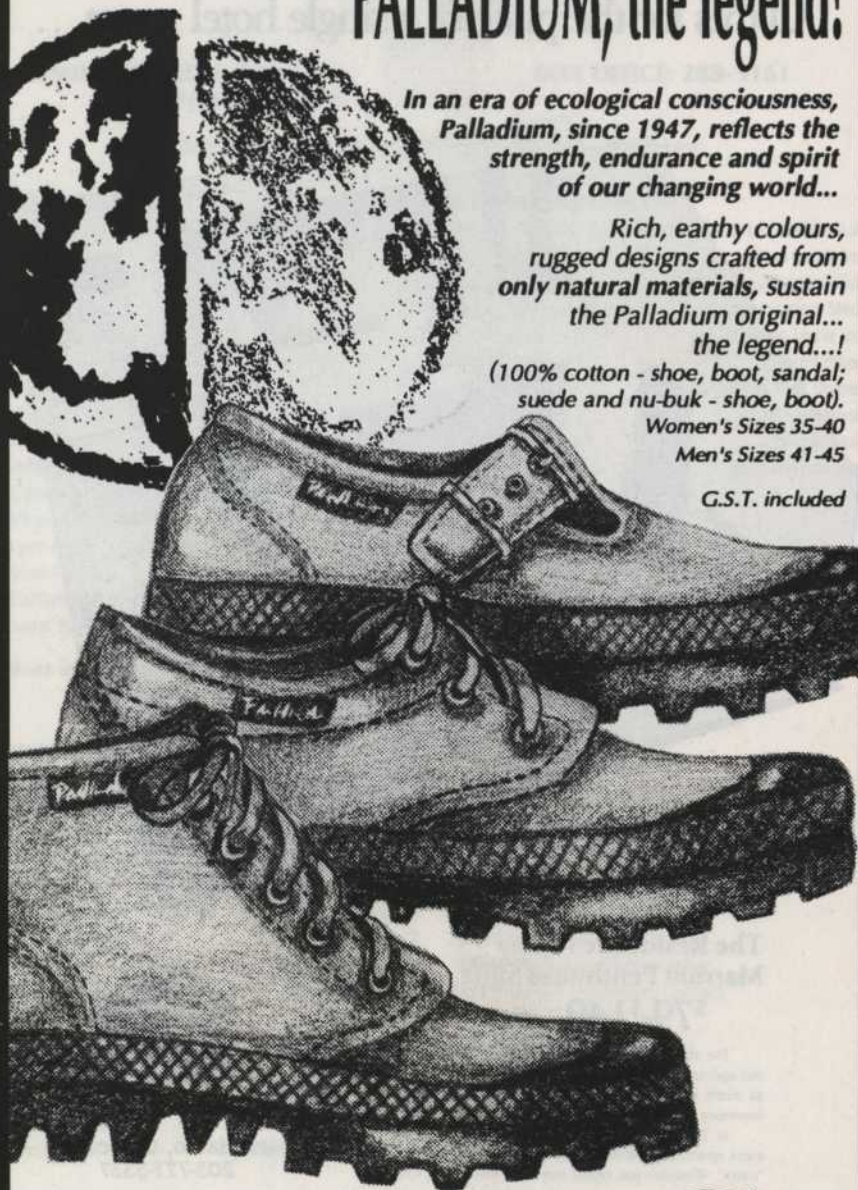
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