

# 'Sound'

Feb 1990  
has a

deal of  
talent

By Mike Kallenbach

**THE ENTERTAINMENT:** Sound of the South (Joubert Park Theatre).

**THE ENTERTAINERS:** Danie Gerber, Hamish Scott, Ian Hutton, Jan Horn, Colin Jordaan, Mollie Minnie, Helen Horn, Meryl Christian, Cheryl Manson, Yvonne Graham and Maureen Bird.

**THE PRODUCER:** Gray Hofmeyr.

A MIXED but attentive audience was held enrapt by the band's happy-go-lucky manner, which bubbled with some swaying harmony, solid beat and imaginative arrangement.

They were well received on their first Johannesburg appearance and proved to be a clean-cut musical combination, with a strong and uncompromising approach.

From the start there did not seem to be the enthusiasm and excitement that should have preceded a show of this kind, but perhaps it was the cold weather.

Maureen Bird opened the first half with "Gee, I'm Looking Forward to the Future," which was taken at a mid-tempo pace. It proved to be a good choice.

## TRADITIONAL

Their material was excellent and they came up with a pleasant interpretation of the traditional "Wolraad Woltemade," and also included contemporary songs like "Pale Toe," "Zambesi" and "Colorado."

Although the artistes are not all great musicians, this is an interesting set and there is a good deal to commend it.

For example, Miss Bird comes down from the stage to the level of her audience. She tries to be as close to them as possible while she sings "Walk on Through."

Danie Gerber uses a unique guitar / saxophone combination for "Keep Young at Heart," and later follows with an exuberant version of "Something Should be Happening."

The rag-time melodies and African tunes ranging from "Shosholoza," to "Tant Mina," accompanied by the banjo, bongos, double-bass or tambourine were perhaps the highlights of the first half of the show.