



Smithsonian Institution

National Museum of African American History and Culture

Playbill of For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide, 1977

Extracted on Mar-29-2024 08:16:52

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[[double line]]

Carroll, Arthur Mitchell and Pearl Bailey. ("They're the kind of people I like to have around me," he says of his life today. "You can feel their energy.")

It was in House of Flowers that Geoffrey met his wife, the glamorous dancer, Carmen de Lavallade. Still married after twenty-one years (she is currently teaching at the Yale Drama School), they have a twenty-year-old son, Leo, who is studying dance and drama in Hartford.

Perhaps the real key to Holder's success can be found in the story of his relationship to The Wiz. three or four years ago, Ken Harper talked to Holder about his earliest ideas of doing a black version of The Wizard Of Oz. The notion delighted Holder. "If it's black, it's got to be called The Wiz," he said. "I'll draw you some costumes."

Holder went home, put on Charlie Small's music for inspiration, and in two hours had whipped off 40 drawings. "I called up Ken to come over and see them and he freaked. He freaked! He took the drawings with him when he went to Hollywood to talk to 20th Century Fox about putting up the money for the show and he came back with \$750,000 in his pocket."

Geoffrey was hired on as the show's costumes designer but felt hurt when they asked someone else to choreograph. "The choreography was the whole show!" he says. The mark of the man is the way he responded when The Wiz fell apart on the road, before it got to Broadway, and they asked him to put it back together again. "The show got into big trouble in Baltimore and they started calling other directors – Hal Prince, Don McKayle and Patricia Birch – but they all turned it down. Then they finally came to me. 'With pleasure,' I said."

Holder's ability to squelch any false pride he might have experienced during that moment forged a turning point in his career. The huge success of The Wiz (seven Tony Awards) led to his current job as director, choreographer and costume designer of the new show, Timbuktu, which will star Eartha Kitt, Melba Moore, Gilbert Price and William Marshall. "Just to be able to afford stars like these is a turn-on," he says. "The producer gave me carte blanche."

The producer is Luther Davis, who,
[[line]]

[[advertisement]]

[[image - black & white photograph of two bottles of Geoffrey Beene's cologne]]

GEOFFREY BEENE'S COLOGNE FOR MEN

IT'S GOT STYLE

AVAILABLE AT SAKS FIFTH AVENUE

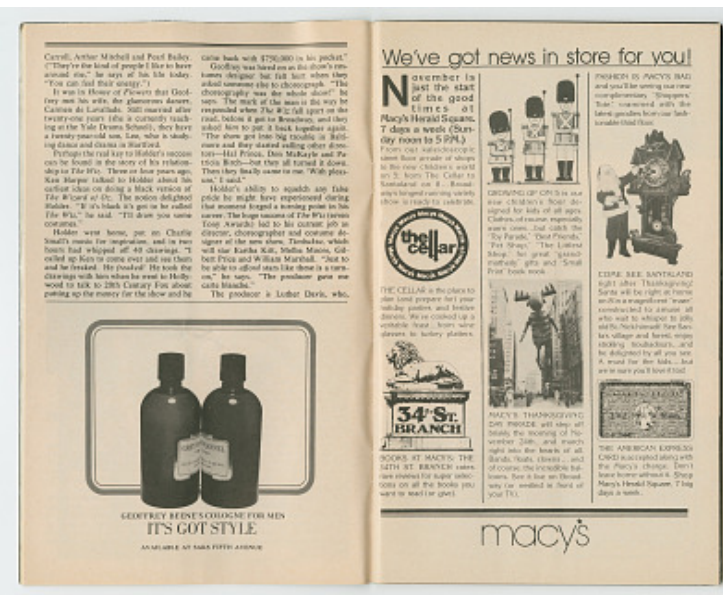
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We've got news in store for you!

[[line across page]]



November is just the start of the good times at Macy's Herald Square. 7 days a week (Sun-day noon to 5 P.M.)

From our kaleidoscopic street floor arcade of shops to the new children's world on 5; from The Cellar to Santaland on 8...Broad-way's longest running variety show is ready to celebrate.

[[image- logo for Macy's The Cellar]]

THE CELLAR is the place to plan (an prepare for) your holiday parties and festive dinners. We've cooked up a veritable feast...from wine glasses to turkey platters.

[[image- lion statue with "34th St. BRANCH"]]
BOOKS AT MACY'S: THE 34TH ST. BRANCH rates rave reviews for super selections on all the books you want to read (or give).

[[image - drawing of three toy soldiers]]
GROWING UP ON 5 is our new children's floor de-signed for kids of all ages. Clothes, of course, especially warm ones... but catch the "Toy Parade", "Best Friends", "Pet Shop", "The Littlest Shop", for great "grand-motherly" gifts and "Small Print" book nook.

[[image - black & white photograph of large moose balloon in parade]]
MACY'S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE will step off briskly the morning of No-vember 24th... and march right into the hearts of all. Bands, floats, clowns... and of course, the incredible bal-loons. See it live on Broad-way (or nestled in front of your TV).

FASHION IS MACY'S BAG and you'll be seeing our new complimentary "Shoppers' Tote", crammed with the latest goodies from our fash-ionable third floor.

[[image - black & white photograph of Santa Clause with a large clock]]
COME SEE SANTALAND right after Thanksgiving! Santa will be right at home on 8 in a magnificent "maze" constructed to amuse all who wait to whisper to jolly old St. Nick himself. See Santa's village and forest, enjoy strolling troubadours...and be delighted by all you see. A must for the kids...but we're sure you'll love it too!

[[image - American Express card]]
THE AMERICAN EXPRESS CARD is accepted along with the Macy's charge. Don't leave home without it. Shop Macy's Herald Square, 7 big days a week.

[[triple line]]
macy's

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