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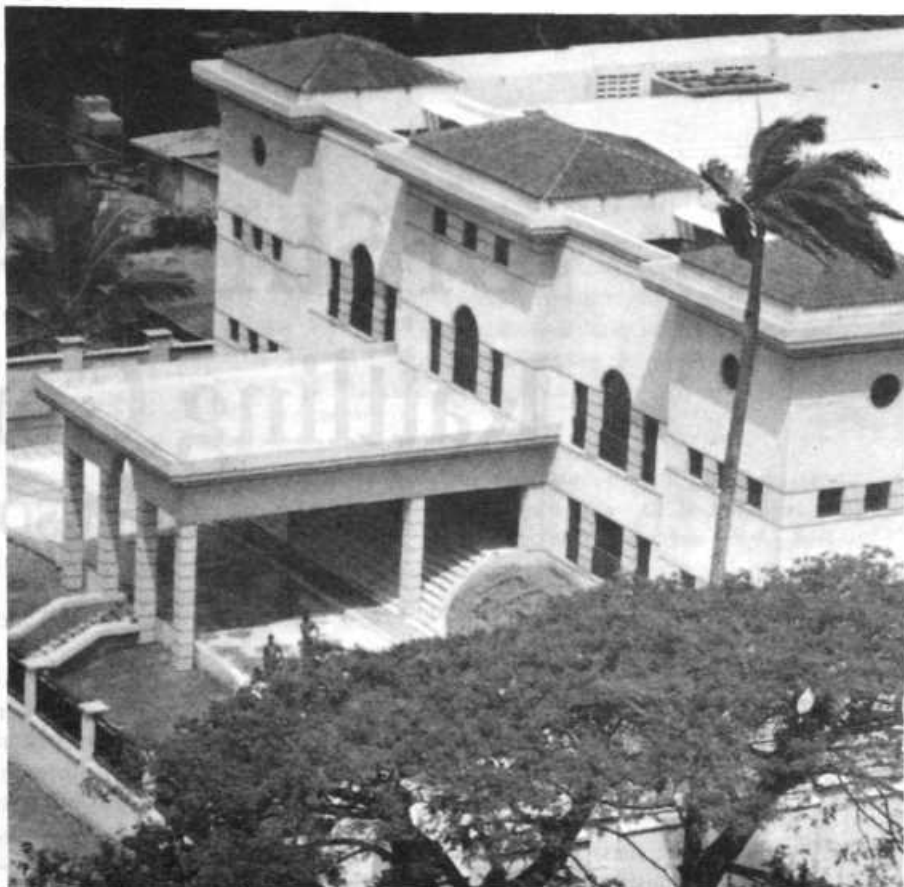
can relate to that. The same thing with sports. Like Mike Jordan, Carl Lewis, they are popular among the youths here, they love them. Tyson, when Tyson came out, everybody wore his hairstyle.

And, see, the DJs are playing for the people what they perceive that people love. So, I found that this Black thing, there is no point throwing it overboard because in a way it is positive. It's not like they are just crazy for anything foreign. I was also happy that they are not as popular as just anything white. I mean, country music is not as popular as Black music in this country. You still find them in the east [eastern part of Nigeria], especially Don Williams and Kenny Rogers and so on, but just a few of them. Most of the time it is the Black thing that is really hot and really happening, even those Black artistes who are not national successes in the US., they are big here. When Lakeside came to Nigeria then, Lakeside, Shalamar and so on, they weren't as big as many of the white pop and rock musicians. But here, they were mighty heroes. So, there is a Black thing happening. So, I think that, one day you will find a Nigerian who will come up with a concoction, out of Nigeria, not that he would go out and borrow something from abroad. Something Nigerian. Some Nigerian that would really hit...and I mean, hit it. **GR**

** Interview recorded by GR
at 59 Oregon Road, Ikeja, Lagos,
Nigeria on Friday, 24th February, 1995.*

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MUSON CELEBRATES IN LAGOS

Friday 24th February, 1995 marked the first anniversary of the Musical Society of Nigeria (MUSON) Centre, Nigeria's new centre of excellence for classical music. Built at a cost of over N200 million, the Centre is an important landmark in the skyline of Lagos. The Musical Society of Nigeria has been highly commended for its monumental vision and achievement. MUSON Centre constitutes a rallying point for international and indigenous music in the category of classical idiom.

Activities lined up for the celebration included a piano concerto by the well-known British pianist, Gordon Fergus-Thompson under the sponsorship of the British Council. Mr Thompson also organised music workshops in Enugu, Nsukka, Abuja and Ibadan. On Friday February 24, two celebrated artistes, Herbert Druml, Austrian tenor living

in Vienna and Kristin Okerlund, an American pianist also performed at the Centre. Their programme included the works of Schubert, Brahms, Franck and Britten. They ended with a vocal workshop on Saturday March 4, 1995. Also on Saturday 25th February, 1995, Marianne Thorsen (violin) and Julian Milford (piano) thrilled the Centre's audience. The programme, sponsored by BP and StaOil Alliance, featured selections from the works of Beethoven, Kreisler and Wieniawski. Other activities were a special concert featuring renditions of Telemann, Gluck, Mozart, Chopin and Faure on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th March.

Friday 24th and Saturday 25 March, 1995 saw Nigeria's Zeal Onyia entertain alongside MUSON resident artistes.

But how did the MUSON dream come about? **GR**