

# Top pop bands for

Ed

# Durban

TONIGHT Reporter

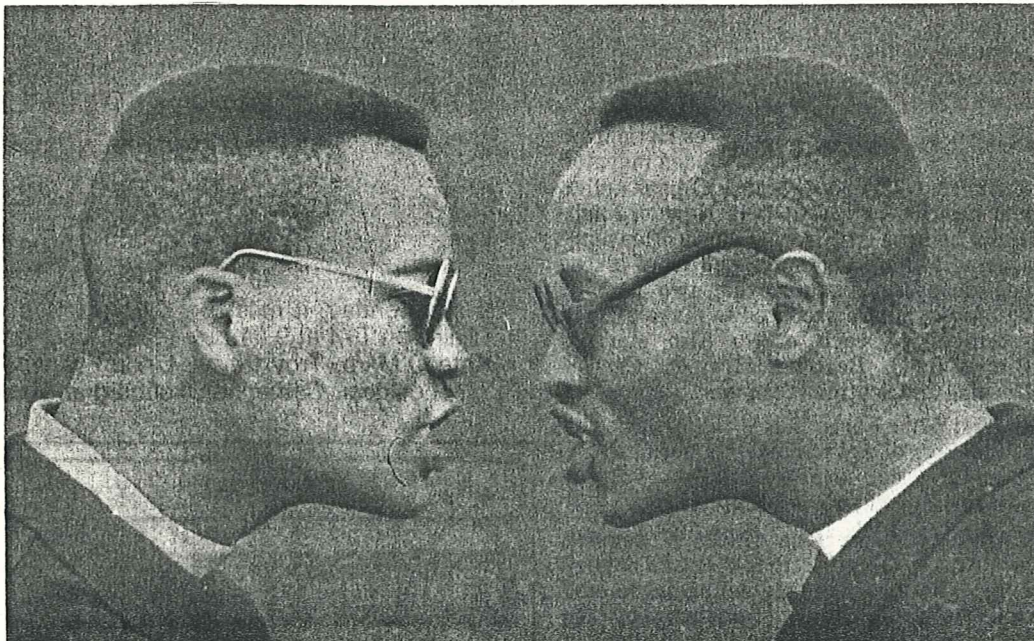


Chart-topping Marcalex — brothers Marc and Alex Rantseli — will be making their Durban debut on Saturday, August 19.

TWO of South Africa's hottest recording and stage pop outfits, chart-topping brothers Marcalex and the band Bright Blue, will be appearing in concert at Durban's Village Green theatre on August 19.

Both took part in the recent King's Trust charity concert in Swaziland as supporting act for rock superstar Eric Clapton.

Marcalex — brothers Marc and Alex Rantseli — became the first local act to have two tracks from the same album, *Heartbreakin' Love* and *Quick Quick* top the Radio 5 pop charts in quick succession. They were voted most promising new band at the OKTV awards earlier this year.

The Soweto-born brothers, who also topped the Capital Radio charts, were mobbed on their arrival in Cape Town a few weeks ago. For their Durban appearance they will be backed by local band Wired to the Floor.

Bright Blue, a five-piece band, also topped the charts with their debut single, *Weeping*, a protest song against Press restrictions in South Africa.

The band is known for its firm stand against apartheid and its socio-political conscience. Bright Blue was highly praised by Clapton, who has shown interest in the band's music.

Bright Blue has just completed a video for *Weeping* and have also released a couple of new singles.

The Village Green concert, which begins at 7 pm, will also feature a number of other artists. The outdoor theatre, which now has a licensed bar and braai facilities, is next to Waterworld on the beachfront.

## Feast of hot pop

**A** FEAST of hot pop is being served at Durban's new 7 000-seater Village Green Theatre near Waterworld tomorrow night, with Soweto duo Marcalex joining the Cape's Bright Blue and a host of top local acts for a concert starting at 7 pm.

Marcalex, still riding on the success of their *Quick, Quick* and *Heartbreakin' Love* singles, and Bright Blue, who gave us *Weeping*, arrive for the Durban bash after appearing at the recent three-day Swaziland festival, which spotlighted Eric Clapton and Joan Armatrading.

Marcalex, to be backed in Durban by a group called Wired To The Floor, will also be making its first appearance at a Natal shopping centre tomorrow. It appears for an hour, from 1030 am, at the Hyperama in Prospecton.

### Mystery Girls

Also on the bill at the Village Green concert are a number of Johannesburg bands of which little information is available. They are Ymage, Kamazu, Step Ahead, Chimora and Eric D.

The venue has a fully licensed bar and while plenty of braai stands will be made available, concert-goers are asked to take along their own food.

Tickets, at R10 each, are available at Computicket.

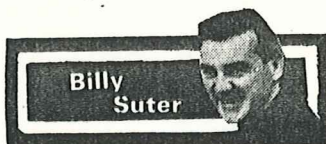
More concert news — on Sunday, Durban's The Mystery Girls are appearing at Charlie's with their brand of alternative hard rock.

The group, which plans to release a new single early next month, will appear from 630 pm. Admission is R8 a head, which includes a light snack.

Meanwhile, the new three-month cycle for bands working the local hotel and restaurant circuit is in full swing and a number of new faces are to be found around town.

A duo new to Durban, The Blame, has slotted in at the Killarney Hotel's Monks Inn. It comprises Brian Mitchell and Jannie de Villiers, who provide 'a laidback Cape influence', as well as several old and current favourites, every Monday to Saturday.

Bad Habit, the duo comprising Bruce Boome and Shaun Potts, has now moved into Bonkers at Hotel California, having replaced the duo Over The Moon, which is now to be found every Monday to Saturday at Amanzimtoti's Lagoon Hotel.



Bad Habit offers a wide range of current and recent chart material and can be heard at Bonkers until the end of October every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday night from 8 pm.

The group also performs every Wednesday and Friday at Break For The Border, and on Sunday nights at Sandpebbles, where you'll find 2AT providing dinner music every Tuesday to Saturday.

Jay Barry, fresh from a six-month season in Johannesburg, is now slotted in at the ladies' bar at La Montagne at Ballito Bay, where he plays every Tuesday to Saturday.

And Tulani has moved a few paces down the cobbled path from Corrida Grill to Pablo's at the Cabana Beach Hotel.

At the Umhlanga Sands's Coco Der Mer, you'll now find the LMB trio every Monday to Saturday, while over at the Marine Parade Holiday Inn's Chantilly ladies' bar, spotlights now fall on Chris Jensen.

Chris, adept on sax, piano and guitar, appears during cocktail sessions every Monday to Saturday, and again later in the evening.

The Beach Hotel is sticking with Derek Walsh for another three months, while the Bimini Bar at the Tropicana Hotel offers Carolyn Hilton at the piano during cocktail hours and evenings, Monday to Saturday.

### Singalongs

Glam is still at Father's Moustache, while Neil Coll is providing oldies and singalongs on the Malibu Terrace from 5 pm to 8 pm, Monday to Saturday.

At the Persian Room, Four Seasons Hotel, you'll find Route 4, and the hotel's verandah swings to the music of Ignatius Ackerman. The Lonsdale Arms now hops to the sound of Colin Williamson.

Chattabac is back at the Killarney's Med, The Berea Inn is sticking with Rory O'Sullivan, Shaun Liebenberg is at the Westville Hotel's Tastevin Wine Bar, and Gavin Thompson appears at Incognito restaurant at Overport Centre every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.



Marcalex . . . the brothers from Soweto, who gave us *Quick, Quick* and *Heartbreakin' Love*, will be topping the bill with Bright Blue at tomorrow's beachfront concert.