

Pantonic Steel Orchestra

**New York Champions
1999, 2001, 2002, 2003**

**Pan 4
All
Seasons**

1-718-434-0231

www.pantonic.panonthenet.com

Pantonic Steel Orchestra - the Heart and Soul of Steel

Pantonic Steel Orchestra is made up of a group of about one hundred charismatic, talented and popular young men and women who have captured the heart and soul of the urban Caribbean experience. In a nutshell – they are New York – in attitude, in presence. These exceptionally versatile musicians from varied backgrounds and cultures are equally comfortable with Rap, R&B and Popular musical genres as they are with Caribbean music. They represent the next level of the burgeoning steelband phenomenon.

In the premiere North American Steelband competition which takes place annually in New York, Pantonic - formed in 1997 and headed by founder Glenda Gamory - has placed 3rd in 1998, 1st in 1999, 2nd in 2000, and 1st again in 2001, 2002 and 2003. The group's special combination of musical excellence and dynamic drive, together with the pannists' direct musical and blood lineage as children and grandchildren of the legendary members of Steel Orchestras such as Desperadoes, All Stars and Renegades – bring a legitimacy and fiery edge to their performances that can make them the first legitimate *Superstar Steelband* on the world stage.

Bred and raised in New York, the musical mecca of the world, Pantonic was born MTV-ready with their instinctive synchronous choreography that assures a mass global youth appeal.

The world-wide acknowledged, unmatched and unchallenged musical wizardry of Pantonic's arranger Clive Bradley, is combined with the unique and unrivalled capturing and production techniques of Basement Recordings, Inc., bringing forth riveting steelband performances on **Pantonic Live! The CD**. The inherent mystical and hypnotic pulsating of the drums in Pantonic's pan performances as they stake their musical claim with clinically precise but intimidating thundering bass lines, accompanied with insistent and mesmerizing mids, and capped by the triumphant proclamation of their searing high notes – is accurately reproduced by Basement Recordings in a way that will be unequalled by any other steelband audio productions.

Musical arranger Clive Bradley is to steelband what Jay-Z and Dr. Dre are to Rap and Pantonic could therefore very well be the first Platinum recording steelband; and could mark the beginning of bringing about the return of the Instrumentals, which will be downloaded and played on MP3s and musical systems with a musical fervor which has not been seen since the seventies.

For more info visit: <http://www.Pantonic.panonthenet.com> or call: 1 (718) 421-2042; 1 (718) 485-7120.

GLENDAM GAMORY

President, Pantonic Steel Orchestra

Affectionately known as "Aunty Glenda" - Glenda Gamory is the chairman, founder and leader of one of the most successful, important and popular musical organizations in America. Pantonic Steel Orchestra which resides in the heart of the New York City's urban community, is one of the most talented and respected orchestras in the world. As the manager of Pantonic, Mrs. Gamory has accomplished in a relatively short space of time what few have in a life time.

Upon completing her formal education in 1967, Mrs. Gamory migrated from her place of birth Trinidad and Tobago to the United States where she has made her home ever since. Mrs. Gamory retired from the Telephone Company in June 2002 after 30 plus years with the company, to pursue her dream of creating a world class championship organization that would impact on the youth and her community positively.



Having been involved with the steelband movement from infancy, Mrs. Gamory became familiar with and acutely aware of, the positive influences that a community-based orchestra can have on its society; its young people in terms of providing opportunities, self esteem, education, jobs and its ability to enhance the human spirit in spite of their environment, thus promoting advancement.

Already well-acquainted with the ability of an organization to impact positively on a community, and having grown up with the world famous WITCO Desperadoes located literally in her back yard, Mrs. Gamory was able to observe first hand how the success of that organization changed the face and perception of that community on a global scale. Therefore, a few years before her retirement, Mrs. Gamory decided to put her passion and knowledge for the steelband, love for the community at large, especially the young people, along with her business acumen to use, by forming Pantonic Steel Orchestra in 1997.

Pantonic has become much more than a steel orchestra; it represents a social educational and musical institution that provides opportunity, leadership training, motivation and mentoring for youth and young adults. In addition to serving as a source of pride for a community in a world where this is in increasingly short supply, Pantonic is one of the most sought after organizations which the community at large, and wants to be part of. It has built the reputation, teaches the young people the necessity to be always goal-oriented, disciplined, tenaciously dedicated, and the importance of team work, not to mention a commitment to excellence.

The successes of the band are internationally renowned as people from all over the world and from all walks of life, make the pilgrimage to Brooklyn for their chance to become part of one of the band's main annual presentations, and beyond. They all try to make the special-one hundred player team which ultimately competes in the elite annual musical competition.

Mrs. Gamory's success is undisputable as they have won the coveted title of Champion three years in a row, and four times in the last five years. She has distinguished herself as the only woman to have led a steel orchestra to a championship in any part of the world; she has been and continues to be, successful in an environment that is extremely hostile to such endeavors.

Glenda Gamory
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Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg Hosts Reception in Honor of the West Indian Day Carnival Parade
Gracie Mansion, Manhattan
August 12, 2003



Pantonic Steel Orchestra's President & Director,
GLEND A FORDE-GAMORY
with New York's Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg

All the best. Michael R. Bloomberg



Pantonic Steel Orchestra's
Glenda Forde-Gamory with
world-renowned Pan tuner,
Ellie Mannette

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Brooklyn Borough President **MARTY MARKOWITZ** enjoys the music of Pantonic Steel Orchestra at the Panamanian Day Parade, Brooklyn, New York, August 9, 2003



**PANTONIC
STEEL ORCHESTRA INC.**

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PANTONIC STEEL ORCHESTRA

www.Pantonic.panonthenet.com

PANTONIC's 100-player strong Steel Orchestra, moments after their victorious 2003 performance in Brooklyn, New York on August 31, 2003

© When Steel Talks



August 7, 2003

Pantonic Steel Orchestra
Keith Roberts
35 East 94th Street, Apt, 2-M
Brooklyn, NY 11212

Dear Keith,

There is only one word that properly describes the performance of the Pantonics at the Hudson River Museum on July 27, 2003 – Pan-tastic!!! We are still receiving rave reviews of the band's premier appearance at our *Summer Sounds Goes Global* event.

The exuberance and talent of the Pantonics made for a truly wonderful dance concert to wrap up our 2003 series. Your selection of music was perfect for our multi-generational audience of varying tastes. Gregory did a fabulous job of getting the momentum up and running—and keeping it at a fast-paced, captivating level the entire evening. The energy of the band was electric, and ensured that everyone was movin' on the dance floor or in their seats. From the youngest child to the most senior member of the audience, each participant thoroughly enjoyed the performance. "The best live concert I have ever witnessed!" was just one of the many, many praises I heard that evening. We were all amazed and totally impressed with the mastery of each band member. The talent is extraordinary!

We were delighted that you were able to include a trip to Yonkers in your July schedule, and I truly appreciated all the effort that went into getting the band and instruments to the museum – and then onto another gig the same night.

Please accept my sincere thanks for making such a memorable and enjoyable experience for the museum's audience, and let all the Pantonics know how much we appreciated their remarkable music and magic. We look forward to an encore performance here in Yonkers in the near future.

Best of luck in the Panorama--we just know that the Pantonics will clinch the 2003 title!

Very truly yours,



Barbara Davis
Curator of Public Programs

EVERYBODY'S

Panorama

Vol 27 No. 5 October 2003

Clive Bradley leads Pantonic to Victory

Unlike the last two years, there was a joint panorama in carnival 2003. The West Indian-American Day Carnival Association (WIADCA) and the United States Steelband Association (USSA) jointly produced this year's panorama.

Fifteen orchestras competed and the veteran arranger Clive Bradley brought Pantonic to victory and he also claimed third prize for Radoes.

Casym, one of the few bands that performs all year, took the 2nd prize. Not all the world's best steel pan music arrangers came to New York for panorama; some went to England



Clive Bradley on stage with Pantonic Steel Orchestra during their performance which garnered the band the 2003 Panorama Championship in the early hours of August 31, 2003, on the grounds of New York's Brooklyn Museum

where Len Boogie Sharpe was the winning arranger. If Sharpe and Bradley can arrange for bands

in New York next year then the 2004 Panorama will be the talk of the town.

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2003 West Indian Carnival Special

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*Panorama
Competition*

2003 West Indian Carnival



Pantheonics, with its 100 players, were judged the first-place winners. They brought down the house with David Rudder's "Trini to de Bone."

The Thrilling Sounds of Steel!

Panorama competition a real hit!

By Donna Lamb

Pan lovers assembled on the grounds of the Brooklyn Museum Saturday night, to thrill to the sounds of 15 steelbands, which participated in the Panorama competition — part of the annual West Indian Carnival festivities — while thousands more listened to the exceedingly popular event which was broadcast live over WLIR radio in New York and on radio in Trinidad and Tobago.

The evening began with a tribute to the master steelband musician, pan maker and tuner, Mikey Enoch, who joined the ancestors during the past year. West Indian Day Carnival Association President Yolanda Lezama-Clark and a representative of the United States Steelband Association presented a plaque to Mr. Enoch's family, in recognition of "his significant contribution to the steel band movement all over the world." His widow, Lucretia Enoch, and his children Clorinda, Joseph and Elry, accepted the award.

Then, until close to 4 am, the sharp but sweet sounds of pan filled the air as one excellent steelband after another — many with over 90 players — took to the stage to offer their unique rendition of their song of choice.

Hands down, the most frequently chosen song was

Boogsie Sharp's "Music in We Blood." It was played by the 2002 Panorama Champs, Casym; by Marsicans — who hung out the sign "Marsicans Blood Center," decorated their structures with red tinsel and wore hospital hair covers and face masks; by Pan Sonatas and Thomas Baptist's Pan Phonics, both dressed in red, to signify blood; as well as the orchestra, Moods.

Women in Steel and Crossfire played Crazy's "Ellie Mann," while Despers USA and D'Radoes chose Militant's "Passion." CYP Caribbean Youth Panoramics came in with the song "Ancient Rhythms," Sesame Flyers played "Iron Band," Dem Stars performed "Pandora," while Adlib weighed in with "Bad in Yuh Yard" and Harmony gave us "Ding Dong."

Pantonic, with its 100 players, brought down the house with David Rudder's "Trini to de Bone." They were judged the first place winners.

When Pantonic's arranger, Clive Bradley — who's been working with the band for a number of years, was asked how he got such a high-quality, unified sound from so many people, he replied, "It's a thing called drilling. It's all practice!"

Despers, with 95 players, came in 5th. When one of its managers, Anthony Greenidge, was asked what he believes is crucial for success when working with so many players, he, too, responded: "Discipline, that's everything. And you've got to put in a lot of time."

Clement Franklin, Despers' leader, brought in another

element, stating, "Success comes from depending on God, keeping the faith with the father and always praying."

"It's a bunch of young kids we've got, and we're always trying to teach them the right way so it will keep them out of trouble, and keep them thinking and focusing."

Junior Samuel, captain of the third place winners, D'Radoes, also puts his faith in the right arranger. They, like Pantonic, have Clive Bradley, who, Samuel said, is number one in the world.

Hassan Rice whose 12-year-old daughter, Najah, and 11-year-old son, Hassan Jr., play with D'Radoes, swears by the good effect being in a steelband has on his children. "It's taught them self-discipline," he said. "They know they have to be punctual management. It transfers to their schoolwork, too. You can definitely see a difference as a result of their playing in a band."

Ariddin Hubert, Casym's arranger and musical director, said that before they went on stage he told his performers: "The key here is to have a good time and enjoy yourself. Win, lose or draw, as long as you did your own best."

Their best was pretty darned good, for this 90-member orchestra came in second. About the basis of its success, Hubert observed, "By the very nature of our program [CASYM stands for the Caribbean American Sports and Cultural Youth Movement], we go for unity all year

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 5

Cultural Youth Movement], we go for unity all year round.

"We run our school program the whole year,

so we have players who are always together, always have that family spirit. As long as we're together, we stay disciplined and have that teamwork."

Winners' Row
Order of winners of Panorama Competition and their scores:

Pantonic - 440 points
Casym - 425

D'Radoes - 417
Tied: Pan Sonatas and Marsicans - 400
Despers USA - 394
Adlib - 393
Dem Stars - 391
Moods - 363

Pan Phonics - 357
Caribbean Youth Panoramics - 354
Harmony - 343
Crossfire - 339
Women in Steel - 336
Sesame Flyers - 328

Date: September 01, 2003

Bradley cops first, third at Labour Day Panorama By Terry Joseph

Musical arranger Clive Bradley created pan history at Saturday night's Panorama competition at the Brooklyn Museum, New York, when the two steelbands with which he worked came in first and third in the final standings.

On a night when Trini arrangers put an indelible stamp of excellence on the 15-band contest, Pantonic, led by Keith Roberts and playing pans tuned by Roland Harrigin, topped the lot with 440 points playing Bradley's arrangement of Ian Wiltshire's "Trini to D' Bone", while Radoes, a breakaway from Despers USA, earned third spot with 417 points for his work on Militant's "Passion".

In the middle was another Trini bandleader/arranger Arddin Herbert, whose group CASYM scored 424 for its interpretation of Len "Boogsie" Sharpe's "Music in We Blood". Playing the same song tied Sonatas and Marsicans at fourth position with 400 points, rendering additives by Ken "Professor" Philmore and Pelham Goddard (respectively).

Another Trini and, like Bradley, former arranger for Witco Desperadoes, Scipio Sargeant took Despers USA to sixth place with 394 points for its delivery of "Passion".

Adlib came in seventh, playing "Bad in Yuh Yard", a composition by Parry's Pan School leader Selwyn "Parry" Paul, scoring 393, while Trini arrangers came back into the reckoning at position eight, with a collaboration between Noel "Mico" Skair and Noel "Nosey" Hercules on de Fosto's "Pandora" for Dem Stars, earned the band 391 points.

caribbeanbeat

MUSIC

The latest from the Pantonics

The powerful Pantonic Steel Orchestra runs on people power. The increasingly popular and respected hundred-member-plus ensemble is made up talented young men and women.

Led by veteran arranger Clive Bradley, the group is steeped in Caribbean culture and song, but also is well versed in what's happening here – popular music, hip hop and R&B.

The award-winning band is touting its latest CD, "Pantonic Live," which was recorded by the high-tech Basement Recordings firm.

For information about the new CD, call the Pantonics at (718) 434-0231, or contact Phoebe at Sugar Cane Restaurant in Brooklyn at (718) 230-3954 between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.



It was a pleasure Pantonic

THE Hudson River Museum's Summer Concert Series on Sunday, July 27, was the place to find Pantonic Steel Orchestra for an after-dinner concert, where they served up two scintillating portions of conventional, reggae and soca sounds.

The band launched their appearance around seven o'clock with George Benson's "The Greatest Love of All," then the Lord Nelson classic, "Mih Lover," inclusive of vocals done by the band's drummer (Gregory), who also filled in as Master of Ceremonies throughout the evening.

With the band in full flight, Gregory urged the audience to come out on the dance floor. They needed very little encouragement as they had already been tapping their feet and swaying in their chairs while still seated at their tables.

The Beatles' "The Long and Winding Road" brought out a few adults with babes in arms, as well as couples, to the dancing area. Bob Marley's "Jammin'" was a crowd pleaser in place of the requested "Islands

Steelband wows audience at Hudson River Museum concert



One of New York's celebrated pan sides, Pantonic Steel Orchestra performs.

In The Sun."

The crowd included club members of the Hudson River Museum, while others were from the general Yonkers' community. Curator of Public Programmes and event organiser Barbara Davis said that while maintaining the traditional ele-

ment of the facilities' shows, she was very pleased to incorporate the character of world music, which brought out Brooklyn's Pantonic Steel Orchestra to entertain.

Davis was also taken with the band's involvement and accomplishments with the youth with-

in its own community, and indicated this was one of the key reasons she had opted for them. Their visual performances she had experienced on their web site also impacted on her decision.

There was an introduction of the band members and few more selections which included "La Bamba". Then came a 15-minute intermission during which time on sale and sought after, were refreshments, as well as copies of Pantonic's new CD *Pantonic Live! The CD*.

More selections, which included two more Beatles' staples along with Cyndi Lauper's "Time After Time", went down extremely well with the crowd.

Davis said people kept coming up to tell her that they "had never seen a live show as good as this."

As a result, she has intentions of pursuing probabilities to have Pantonic back to perform in a larger setting — the Yonkers Amphitheatre, because as she put it, "They don't know anything about this, they have never heard anything quite like it [musical performance]."

Drummer Gregory maintained his "designated" role of leading the dance sessions. No one was immune. He even got Davis to kick up her heels on the dance floor during Pantonic's "breakaway session" toward the end.

After their soca stint which culminated with their 2002 winning selection of the late Andre Tanker's "Ben Lion," Pantonic closed the show shortly after nine with "When Will I See You Again."

CP - Basement Press Release Writer

Our hottest **Chile Pepper Fiesta** ever drew a record-breaking 9,400 visitors for a day of spicy food, hot music, and cool activities in celebration of the chile pepper. The event was promoted by "New York's Only Classic Rock Radio Station," Q104.3, with the help of celebrity deejay Marc Coppela, also known as "the Cope," who joined us onstage. Bill "the Sauce Boss" Wharton and the Ingredients cooked up their own brand of spicy Florida blues while making a pot of scorching Cajun gumbo. Other performers included the "Indopop" sounds of Church of Betty, the **Pantonic Steel Orchestra**, Afropop from African Bluenote, and traditional jazz with Jon Kellso and the New Orleans Hot Peppers.



STEEL AND BRASS APPEAL



Members of the Pantonic Steel Orchestra pound in sync. Singers at last year's Brassfest (l.).

When brass and steel conjure cold and unappealing images, add the flavor of Caribbean culture, where brass means rhythm-resounding bands and steel translates to the wondrous sounds of steelpan.

The Brassfest concert and Steelband Panorama competition are highly anticipated events in the West Indian American Day Carnival Association festival lineup.



caribbeat™
Magazine

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DAILY @ NEWS

WILLIAM EMBERTON

Each year, crowds flock to hear the finest and hottest Caribbean brass bands at Brassfest, and this year will be no exception. Band after band will display their unique brands of tightly arranged horn lines with and driving rhythm sections, accented by searing vocals.

The sound of the steel drum or steelpan – the internationally respected Caribbean instrument – is at its finest in the Steelband Panorama contest.

Steel ensembles from the New York area and beyond – made up of talented men, women, teens and children – will converge on the Brooklyn Museum of Art stage to perform intricately arranged works ranging from classical to Caribbean classics and contemporary compositions.

See page 20 for the 2003 schedule of West Indian American Carnival Day Association events.

PANTONIC STEEL ORCHESTRA

BROOKLYN BOT
Chile Pepp



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PANTONIC STEEL ORCHESTRA IN CONCERT



PANTONIC STEEL ORCHESTRA
IN CONCERT

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PANTONIC STEEL ORCHESTRA
Roy Wilkins Park - July 13, 2003



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PANTONIC STEEL ORCHESTRA
Roy Wilkins Park - July 13, 2003



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Pantonic Live!



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Pantonic Live! The CD

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