

# Charles Hyatt deeply ruled by his heart

Our island is full of all kinds of magnificent treasures, but I think Charles Hyatt is one of Jamaica's finest treasures. Many of us have been fortunate enough to be raised on the incredible wit of Charles Hyatt. I believe even when he is trying to be serious he is side-stitching funny — but with a humility from which some of our young could learn.

Charles Hyatt in my humble opinion, is the King of Comedy who wears many hats. A renaissance man with many talents, he is an actor, author, broadcaster, theatrical director and comedian extraordinaire.

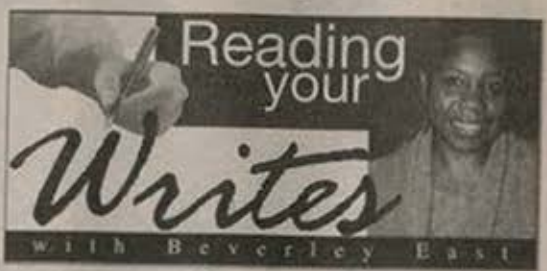
He first became a well-known personality on RJR in "Poppy Show" and later became the "Early Morning Man" when JBC first went on the air. It was at JBC that he created and performed the historic comedy radio show "Here Comes Charlie".

In 1959 he was awarded "Actor of the Year" for the first of many in his portrayal in Barry Reckord's "Miss Unusual" and was awarded a scholarship to further his studies in drama after doing yeoman work in 14 pantomimes — nine consecutive years as the "Dame". Mr. Hyatt left for England with a British Council Bursary to study at the Theatre Royal in Windsor in 1960.

His sojourn in England lasted 14 years during which time he excelled in radio, television films and stage including the West End. While in England he performed in several plays written by Blacks such as "The Wind of Change", "Crown Court" and "In the Beautiful Caribbean".

Mr. Hyatt's first film was in "A High Wind in Jamaica" followed by "Cross Plot" and "Love Thy Neighbour" and my personal favourite the 1993 blockbuster, "Cool Runnings".

In 1989 he published "When Me Was A Boy", a compilation of short stories on his life as a child growing up in Kingston. This column cannot do Mr. Hyatt's career the true justice it deserves. So let me



show you another side of him.

## So what makes Charles Hyatt tick?

He is deeply ruled by his heart as is expressed in the right slant of his handwriting. He is direct and to the point with no hidden agenda and the printed script is evidence of this. He is a loyal individual as is shown in the sharp points on his T dots.

He is a person who sets extremely high goals for himself and his T bars tell us so. (He once told me in an interview that he tries to learn one new thing every day before noon). Although friendly and sociable he is quiet comfortable in his own company — happy amusing himself.

The slight pressure of his script expresses that he is a gentle soul with an optimistic approach to every aspect of his life. The spacing between his lines and the fluidity of his script say he is one quick analytical thinker. For every one statement he has at least five questions at the ready.

## Achievements

While living in England Mr. Hyatt kept close touch with his roots and was a popular cabaret act among the West Indians and Africans. He made two comedy LPs, "Kiss Mi Neck" and "Kiss Mi Neck, Again".

On his return to Jamaica in 1974 at the request of

the JBC and his quest for the sun, Charles returned to his first love — broadcasting. He hosted the Sunday afternoon music radio programme, "Sunday Souvenirs" and became head of the Department of Drama, which was the first to put the Schools Drama Festival on TV.

He wrote, produced and directed three full-length plays for JBC Radio — "Jesus Christ, Them Kill Son Son", "Santa Fari" and "Curly Locks and the Seven DJs".

He has also conceived, produced and directed the record-breaking radio serial, "The Fortunes of Floralee" shortly followed by "Sister Angella". His first stage appearance back in Jamaica was "Two's A Crowd" at the Pegasus' Way Out" theatre. He later went on to direct a number of plays and adult reviews.

He was invited to Toronto as a guest director of the performer in the production of Trevor Rhone's "Smile Orange" at the La Plaza theatre.

The "Way Out" Theatre was to see Charles at his acting best when he returned in Trevor Rhone's classic "Old Story Time" and later as Jim in "Two Can Play" by the same author, which was filmed by Kentucky TV and viewed in the USA.

Outstanding playwrights such as Basil Dawkins and Louis Marriot have written plays — "Bedward" and "Champagne and Sky Juice" — for Mr. Hyatt for which he won awards as Actor of the Year.

Among his many accolades, Mr. Hyatt received the Silver Musgrave Medal, a Centenary Medal from the Institute of Jamaica and has had the National Order of Distinction awarded to him for his contribution to theatre and music in Jamaica.

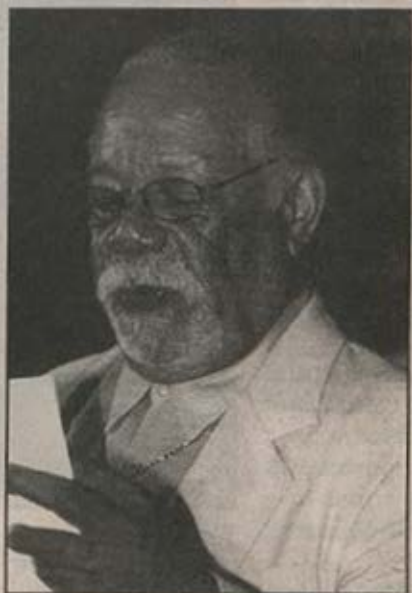
Hail to the King of Comedy.

*Beverley East is a master graphologist (MGA) and the president of Strokes & Slants, Washington DC. She is author of the best-selling book, Finding Mr. Write — A New Slant On Selecting The Perfect Mate. She can be contacted by email [writenou@cwjamaica.com](mailto:writenou@cwjamaica.com) or visit her website [www.writeanalysis.com](http://www.writeanalysis.com)*

I DONT KNOW WHAT MY HANDWRITING  
IS REALLY.

I Write join up Sometimes  
But I PREFER SCRIPT.

Ch Hyatt



Charles Hyatt