Bravo!
Bravo!
Well done
Rex
Rex Nettleford O.M. Vice Chancellor Emeritus of the University of the West Indies passed in the George Washington Hospital in Washington on February 3, 2010. Born in humble circumstances in Trelawny in 1933, Rex’s brilliance as a scholar was his passport to social upward mobility. He climbed the ladder well but unlike some, throughout his entire career he was helping to set the stage for others to do likewise. His contributions to culture and academia are legendary and have earned him the highest and most prestigious awards that are given both locally and regionally. In all this an area in which he has been extremely influential and not easily recognized is his contribution to the Trade Union movement. He more than any other should be credited for the transformation of the trade unions from what was widely regarded as rabble rousing, confrontational and disruptive group, to being serious and informed representatives of the working class that can solve industrial relations problems using the machinery of negotiation.

Rex personified excellence in all he did throughout his life. He was never short of words and in his unique ways delivered them with lasting impact, yet on careful examination it will be seen that he was a man who did things. Rex was a doer.

Jamaica and the region and people of colour throughout the world have lost one of their most illustrious sons. His exemplary intellect and analytical skills will be surely missed. We take this medium to express our condolences to his family, friends and colleague. As curtains fall the shouts of Bravo! Bravo! can be heard acclaiming the performance of this son of Jamaica. He will not be returning to this stage but his performance will never be forgotten.

Albert Huie

Spain had their Picasso. Italy their Michael Angelo, the Dutch their Rembrandt and Jamaica had our Albert Huie. An artist of exceptional ability, Albert Huie was among a small group whose works were very influential in identifying Jamaican Art as being amongst the best.

His talent was identified in the 1930s and he served as an assistant to the legendary Edna Manley in tutoring at the youth center. In the 1940s Huie left for Canada where he studied at school of Art at the Ontario College of Arts in Toronto. He was always willing to share his knowledge with others and found the Edna Manley School the appropriate vehicle for passing on to the youth in particular. His passion to teach was matched by his passion to learn, so in the 1950s he sought more formal training. This time he went to the other side of the Atlantic — he attend the Camberwell School of Arts and Crafts in London.

The value of the Arts in nation building is often overlooked. Leading exponents such as Huie, Watson, Marriot and Edna Manley have laid the foundation upon which future generations of Jamaican artists can build.

A proud nation mourns the passing of another of her famous sons. Our condolences go out to the family and friends of the Late Albert Huie. Albert is gone but his works live, always reminding us of this great Jamaican who was a master of his craft.