

JAZZ & WORLD

- 1 GEORGIE FAME** The gov'nor of the old Ronnie Scott's starts a rare full week at the "new" venue. Ronnie Scott's, London (020 7439 0747) Mon to Sat
- 2 TOUMANI DIABATE'S SYMMETRIC ORCHESTRA** Mali's great kora player pulls out all the stops by bringing his 15-piece band to town. Barbican, London (020 7638 8891) Sun
- 3 MOUTIN REUNION QUARTET** France's jazz twins – bassist Francois and drummer Louis – play their latest homage to bop. Pizza on the Park, London (020 7735 5273) Wed
- 4 K'NAAN** The extraordinary Somali rapper, supported by Ba Cissoko, promoting their great new album *Electric Griot Land*. Peepul Centre, Leicester (0845 310 3344) Mon
- 5 TIM RICHARDS' GREAT SPIRIT** One of the all-time great British modern jazz bands. Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry (02476 524 524) Thur; The Y Theatre, Leicester (0116 255 7066) Fri; touring

BEST OF THE REST



Comedy: Richard Herring

(FROG & BUCKET, MANCHESTER)
The comic reflects on unfulfilled fantasies. (0161-236 9805) tonight

Pop: Badly Drawn Boy

(ABC, GLASGOW)
The singer essays the lovingly crafted, low-key songs about home, hearth and the heart from *Born in the UK*. (0870 400 0818) tonight

Dance: Rambert Dance

(EDINBURGH FESTIVAL THEATRE)
This 80th anniversary programme includes Merce Cunningham's *Pond Way*. (0131-529 6000) to Fri

Jazz: Moutin Reunion Quartet

(PIZZA ON THE PARK, LONDON)
Francois and Louis Moutin front their highly accomplished modern mainstream foursome. (020-7235 5273) tonight & Thur

Classical: The Sixteen

(QEH, LONDON)
Harry Christophers and his choir perform requiems by Schütz and Brahms. (0870 380 0400) tonight

GOING OUT JAZZ, BLUES & WORLD

35

Five best gigs

By Roger Trapp

Toumani Diabate's Symmetric Orchestra

Sun

The master kora player Toumani Diabate (*right*) won fans with last year's album of spellbinding duets with the late Ali Farka Toure, and then changed tack to the splendid big band-type album, *Boulevard de l'Independence*. The Symmetric Orchestra assembled for that recording joins him here, as part of the venue's Ramadan Nights festival. *Barbican Centre, London EC2*



John Mayall and Chicken Shack

Tue to Fri

With much of his back catalogue just reissued in celebration of 40 years as a band leader and starmaker, John Mayall, is on the road with fellow British blues veterans Chicken Shack. *Brighton Dome, Tue; Guildhall, Portsmouth, Wed; Orchard Theatre, Dartford, Thur; Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, Fri*

El Tanbura

Tue

Also appearing in the Ramadan Nights programme, El Tanbura is from Egypt and uses a variety of traditional instruments, including a harp that dates back to the time of the pharaohs, to perform highly rhythmic and spiritual songs. *Barbican Centre, London EC2*

Moutin Reunion Quartet

Wed & Thur

The quartet led by French twin brothers Francois and Louis Moutin is a highly accomplished modern mainstream jazz group. Rooted in bop, they also stretch out into funk and free soloing to produce an engagingly varied repertoire. *Pizza on the Park, London SW1*

Eric Bibb

Fri

The singer-guitarist Eric Bibb, whose CD *Diamond Days* pays tribute to blues heroes of the past, is a troubadour whose easy-going delivery belies the serious message in much of his music. *Mick Jagger Centre, Dartford*