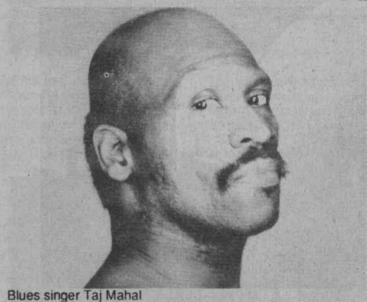
CAROLINA LIFE

The Gamecock

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Taj Mahal Legendary blues guitarist comes to USC's Koger Center



By OCTAVIA WRIGHT Staff Writer

The bluesy Taj Mahal, who has been supported by musical greats Mick Jagger and Eric Clapton, will bring his unique sound to the Koger Center tonight.

As a youngster, Taj Mahal became interested in the competitve field of music. His mother tried to get him interested in classical music, but Mahal knew that his musical destiny subsided in the world of blues.

"(My mother) was a pretty sophisticated lady, and she wasn't too interested in me howlin' the blues. So I had to go underground," he said.

After completing college, Taj

experiences in Los Angeles we- his guitars. ren't exactly pleasant ones.

cook and bottle-washer, announcer, tour dates, he credits others for his light man, and then sometimes I career success. "In the late '60s, I got to open shows when the first got a geat deal of help from Mick act didn't show up."

his chance to come, he learned came to LA once for a connumerous things from the people cert . . . and Mick Jagger, Eric who came before him. He worked Clapton and Keith Richards were with Lightnin' Hopkins Yank Ra- out there dancing." chel, Jessie Fuller and others. Later on, Jagger and his crew Working with these people turned helped Mahal get 'established' in out to be the eventual precursor to Europe by helping him with his his 'popularity boom' in the '70s. tour and setting him up in France.

It was during this time that his Currently, Mahal is on an tour schedule began to fill, not to American tour. Before his appearmention his recording contracts ance at the Koger Center at 8 p.m. movie Sounder.

moved to Los Angeles and began trait that propelled him into the to make a name for himself at the forefront. He plays several instruclubs in town. However, his first ments but mainly performs with

Even though his originality has "I was the doorman, the chief given him popularity and endless Jagger and the Rolling Stones, Even though he had to wait for who liked my style a lot. They

Students, faculty to auction art

From Staff Reports

The 35th annual Student-Faculty Art Auction at USC will be held at 8 p.m. tonight in the Campus Room of Capstone House.

Viewing of the 90 selected works of art began last night in the Campus Room and was followed by a preview party featuring harpsichord and flute selections.

The auction offers community residents the opportunity to buy quality artwork by USC art department students and faculty at reasonable prices. Traditionally, buyers have been able to purchase art for prices ranging from \$20 to \$1,000, said USC art Professor Boyd Saunders, coordinator of the event.

Though many people have the impression that art auctions are is conducted in a fun atmosphere,

eer with John O'Neil, art department chairman. Guest auctioneers will be Sal Cilella, director of the Columbia Museum of Art, and Betsy Havens, a Columbia art gal-

contributing artists and to benefit projects within the art department. The auction is free and open to the public.

