HAPPENINGS

The Bora Boogie

by Angela Douglas

I was unaware of the fact that I could dance the Hula, or something resembling it, as I did recently during a performance of "Tiare's Bora Bora Revue and Return To Paradise," now at Chez Jacques in San Francisco. After three mai-tais I could have hang-glided off the Trans-Anerica Pyramid, so doing the Hula was easy.

(My mother used to teach the dance back in the Thirties and Forties when ukuleles were in vogue, but I always wound up smoking my grass skirts.)

Polynesian soul turns me on and always has, and the cast of 16 very exotic men and women in Tiare's revue are definitely full of Polynesian soul. All dance students, they obviously enjoy their work and their energy makes the bottles rattle. Costumes appear to be traditional and are works of art in themselves.

Tiare, a very charming woman who has taught dance for many years and comes to us from Hawaii, informs me that the Revue usually performs for conventions and special events and the cast is currently trying to raise bucks to visit Hawaii. All of them, with the exception of a few of the musicians, are from California and have never seen that lovely place.

Members of the audience are dragged onto the dance floor toward the end of the show to see if they can get down. I was lucky to stand up, much less do the Bora Bora Boogie. (Haven't been to Hawaii in ten years. Last time I was there transvestites and transexuals strolling Kalakau in Waikiki were required by law to wear big buttons with the word "boy" on them, so I spent my time romancing Eurasian girls and hanging out on the North Shore or up on Tantalus...)

Angela Douglas

Paradise Revisited?

If you'd like to do something a bit more exotic than check out the local disco or pass out at Oleg's, drop by Chez Jacques and return to paradise for a hip-snapping evening of dance exotica from Tahiti, Hawaii and other Polynesian cultures.

Chez Jacques is located at 1390 California, S.F. Mild cover charge and drinks reasonably priced. Reservations are a good idea. Two shows every Sunday night through March, with Glen Akau as the master of ceremonies.