Performing at party, Lady Java fascinates both men and women guests as she sings and does an exotic dance to the delight of the crowd.

Belting a bouncy song, Java sheds headpiece and thrills excited fans.

Lena Meets Sir Lady Java At Festive L. A. Birthday Bash

"Unbelievable!" That was Lena Horne's reaction when she first met Sir Lady Java. "He's so feminine, I can't believe he's a man," she confided after coming face to face with the popular female impersonator of Los Angeles nightclubs.

The scene was the Piped Piper Club where Lena appeared as guest hostess at a birthday party for her long-time friend and sister Cancerian, Gertrude Gipson.

Using his tongue to coax sweet music from his guitar before an appreciative audience, Ray Scott showed mastery of his instrument.

Watching Java's night club routine, Lena and her (Lena's) road manager, Sherman Sneed, are pleased. After show, Java and Lena embrace.

The star studded audence joined in on Lena's sultry rendition of the traditional *Happy Birthday* song, then sat back to enjoy the program that included O. C. Smith's bended-knee serenade to Lena with the song *Feelings*, risque readings by actor Roscoe Lee Browne and Nichelle (Star Trek) Nichols' performance of her original tribute to entertainment editor Gipson.

Among the celebrities present were actors Raymond St. Jacques, Stack Pierce, D'Urville Martin, Paul Harris, comedienne, Brenda Verrett, comedian Jess Bolero and singer Ron Townsend.

But the highlight of the evening came when the world's most beautiful woman came face to face with a man who is almost as beautiful—female impersonator Sir Lady Java, who is famous in the Los Angeles area for "her" unique act, which includes singing, exotic dancing and impersonations.

"Lena Horne has been my idol for years," Java told the audience before tossing aside her cape and revealing a set of eye-popping curves (38-24-38) that never fail to astonish both men and women. "Lena is one of the three ladies I pattern my act after. I try to look like Lena, walk like Mae West and dress like Josephine Baker.

"I've been wanting to meet Lady Java for so long," Lena told JET. "I think she's the most beautiful feminine thing I've ever seen in my life."

When Lena (Cancer) and Java (Leo) met, they exchanged the typical Hollywood hello—a hug and a kiss—raising the obvious question: What kind of chemistry did this embrace generate?

"No, she doesn't feel like a man," Lena said later. "I had the feeling I was talking to a friend I had known a long while. We talked about (the difference in) generations . . . and grandmothers. She's from New Orleans and I

A Kiss From Lena Stirred Sir Lady Java's 'Manly Pride'

just left there and her city was so good to me. We just talked.

"You know she's just like all the young generation. I feel sort of . . . protective. I don't know, because that's my sign—Cancer—always trying to be somebody's mama! Even when they don't want it."

And what was Java's reaction? "When I came in, Lena stood up to give me her seat, but of course, I could never presume to do that, so she had me share her seat as we talked. I was so excited, a beautiful woman on one side of me and her handsome escort (road manager Sherman Sneed) on the other!"

Java, who boasts he has never had a sex change operation and is still anatomically intact, recalls growing up in New Orleans as Archille DeVille, named for a macho grandfather who wrestled alligators. As a young boy, he fell in love with Lena, the sultry singer-actress. Now, nearly 15 years and a sex switch later, Lady Java, not yet 30, was face to face with luscious Lena.

"That woman had been my idol so long that I was almost speechless. It was like a dream come true," Lady Java beamed. "She greeted me, kissed me on the mouth and said that she would come see my show at the Memory Lane," Java swooned.

It was during that brief intimate embrace with Lena that Java shyly recalled, "For a fleeting moment, my manly pride was aroused.

"I never get such feelings," Java said, "because I live as a woman 24 hours every day, but if I ever did get such feelings, it would be because of Lena or someone like her."

One male onlooker observed "hugging luscious Lena would bring out the man in any man."

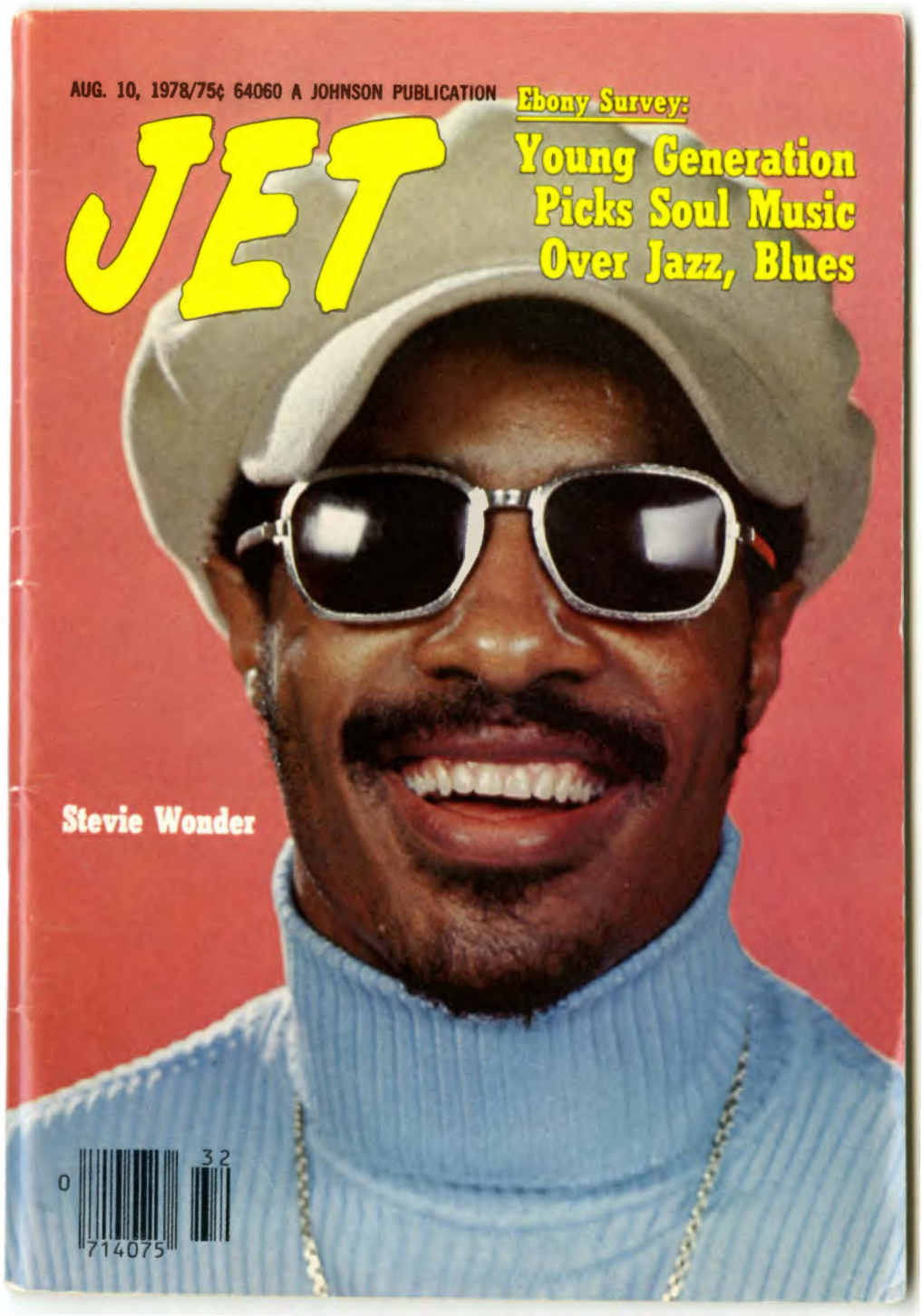
Watching Scott's guitar performance are (l-r) Java, Lena, Nichelle Nichols and Gertrude Gibson, whose birthday party was hosted by Lena.

AUG. 10, 1978/75¢ 64060 A JOHNSON PUBLICATION

JET

Ebony Survey:

Young Generation Picks Soul Music Over Jazz, Blues



Stevie Wonder

0 714075 32

Editor and Publisher
John H. Johnson

Associate Publisher and Executive Editor
Robert E. Johnson

Managing Editor Donald Adderton

Art Director Norman L. Hunter

Administrative Assistants
Juanita D. Jackson
Della L. Palmer
Sylvia Peebles

Washington
Simeon Booker, Bureau Chief

West Coast
Ronald E. Kisner, Bureau Chief
Isaac Sutton, Chief Photographer
Bob Lucas, Associate Editor
Kent Carthan, Advertising Manager

Atlanta
Harmon Perry, Bureau Chief

Society Editor Gerri Major

Associate Editors
E. Fannie Granton
Gregory Simms
Norman O. Unger
Malcolm R. West

Assistant Editors
Roy Betts
D. Michael Cheers

Staff Photographers
Vandell Cobb
John Harold Johnson Jr.
Moneta Sleet Jr.
Maurice Sorrell
G. Marshall Wilson

Editorial Assistant
Sylvia P. Flanagan

Research Department
Pamela J. Cash, Librarian
Basil Phillips, Photo Librarian
Henrietta Thomas, General Research

Vice-President and Assistant to Publisher
June A. Rhinehart

Vice-Presidents
Willie Miles Burns
Mildred Clark
Robert H. Fentress
LaDoris Foster
Lincoln T. Hudson
Isaac N. Payne

National Advertising Manager
Sandy Sims

Director of Public Affairs
Reginald C. Hayes

8/2/78

JET®

Aug. 10, 1978
Vol. 54. No. 21

A Johnson Publication

CONTENTS

Cover photography by Isaac Sutton
Cover story on page 58

Armed Forces 30
Black History 39
Business 30
Census 18
Communications 14
Crime 18
Entertainment 54
Journalism 32
Medicine 19
Mr. & Mrs. 28
National Report 5
People 21
People Are Talking About 48
Society World 46
Soul Brothers Top 20 Albums . . . 62
Soul Brothers Top 20 Singles . . . 64
Sports 49
Star Guide To Birthdays 39
Television 66
Ticker Tape 11
Weekly Almanac 25
Weeks Best Photos 41
Words of the Week 40

MOVING SOON?

Please let us know before you go. Send the present address label from your copy of the magazine, along with your new address, to:
JET, 820 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60605

AUDITED PAID CIRCULATION ABC

Published weekly by Johnson Publishing Co. Inc., 820 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60605, New York office at Rockefeller Center, 1270 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10020, Washington, D.C., office, 1750 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. Los Angeles office at 3600 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1610, Los Angeles, Calif. 90005. Second-class postage paid at Chicago, Ill. ©Copyright 1978 by Johnson Publishing Co. Inc. Subscriptions: U.S.A., $24.00 one year; Canada, Pan America, $27.00: foreign, $28.00 We cannot be responsible for unsolicited material. Member, Audit Bureau of Circulation.