

## SAM "LIGHTNIN'" HOPKINS

By Joseph Boyd

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Lightnin' was born in Centerville, Texas in 1912 and two of his earliest influences were Blind Lemon Jefferson and his cousin, Texas Alexander who recorded often during the 20's with Lonnie Johnson. It wasn't until 1947, however, after a quarter century of farm labor, that Lightnin' started recording. From then until the mid 50's his records achieved a certain degree of popularity with southern rhythm and blues audiences. Since then he has found that his music is more appreciated by college-age folk audiences than by rock 'n' roll oriented popular audiences, although one of his records was high on the "Twist Parade" of a Los Angeles r&r station this winter.

If you are fortunate enough to see him at either of his Boston Concerts this weekend, you'll see why it is no mistake that he was paired on his most recent tour with Sabicas.

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*Boston Folk Cavalcade*  
(see article this issue)

*Friday May 4 8PM*

*Donnelly Memorial Theater*

*Tickets \$1.50 at box office*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR!!!

".....did you hear Josh White at Jordan Hall on Saturday Evening, April 7th?...Did you regard that sick comic as a vulgar affront to your sense of decency and fair play, and the innate good taste inherent in any audience who like Folk Singing?"

Folk Concerts used to draw an audience to appreciate music, first and foremost, and secondly, they left a sense of good fellowship. (this) concert was no place for an acrimonious belittling of country, flag, or more offensively, the sacred leader of a ..church, particularly when this is done by an ignorant intolerant person supposedly in the name of increasing tolerance.

Folk music has not only enriched my life by the fun of listening to it for some years, it has increased both my understanding and appreciation for the people of many lands and various ethnic groups.....This comic not only detracted from the proper mood of a folk concert, but (and this is by far the most disenheartening effect), set the cause of fair play in racial and religious matters back many years. Of course we don't expect Josh to do the entire show. However, the public which now pays a substantial sum to attend these concerts, has the right to demand that enjoyment of his concerts shall not be markedly decreased by a future affront to good taste and tolerance and respect for all."

(Name withheld upon request)

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