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**MARIAN ANDERSON**  
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## RETRO

The Afro American  
Feb. 23, 1946

## Natives Call Her “Voice of Atomic Age”



PORTIA WHITE

CURACAO, N.W.I. — (ANP)—  
White, Canadian born, 31-year-old  
contralto, created a great sensation  
and made an indelible impression  
on the people of Curacao by her  
wonderful performance at the  
Roxy Theatre on her Columbia  
Concerts tour.

Packed to the utmost of its capacity,  
a well selected crowd sat in deep  
taciturnity in Curacao’s favorite  
concert theatre to listen to the  
voice of one of the world’s  
greatest singers.

Immaculately dressed in a green  
flowered evening gown, the elegant  
figure of the “guitar shape” lady  
gracefully moved across the stage  
amidst a shower of cheers. With  
expanded chest, and a conspicuous  
display of perfect breathing, the  
distinguished singer held her  
audience with great interest to  
the end.

### Widely Acclaimed

Such a voice, from such a charming  
personality is rare in our age,  
and local West Indian commentators  
have acclaimed her as the “voice  
of the atomic age,” while on the  
other hand they have acclaimed  
Marian Anderson as the “voice  
of the Christian era.”

Local newspapers next day were  
filled with praise and comment.  
One paper said, “We have considered  
it a great honor and privilege to  
have in our midst such a great  
personality as Portia White, and  
greater yet to listen to her  
immortal voice, the echo of which  
will remain long in our memory  
long after she has gone.”

In an interview with ANP, Miss  
White said that she was on an  
extensive tour, and that she was  
very glad to see and to learn the  
conditions of living in the various  
places.

### Lauds Curacaoans

She commented highly on the  
pleasantness of the Curacao people  
and the non-color discrimination  
which apparently exists. She  
informed that at present, Curacao  
is highly cosmopolitan and the  
most prosperous island in the  
West Indies owing to the large  
petroleum industry here.

Talking about Panama she said  
that she found race prejudice  
very pronounced, whites known  
as the “gold” and “silver” do not  
mix. At the post office, for  
instance, there is a place for the  
gold to buy

## MARIAN ANDERSON Heard by 12,000

PHILADELPHIA—More than  
12,000 persons were attracted to  
the concert here on Thursday  
when Marian Anderson sang with  
the Robin Hood Dell Orchestra,  
breaking all records for the local  
outdoor orchestra concerts.

Early comers arrived three  
hours before concert time and  
when the gates opened at 7  
o’clock many hundreds were  
waiting. Several thousand  
were turned away when the  
gates were closed, shortly after  
8.

Fairmount Park guards  
rescued Miss Anderson herself  
when her chauffeur became  
confused and escorted her to  
the general admission entrance,  
where autograph hunters  
besieged her.

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their stamps and another for the  
silver to obtain theirs.

When asked her reaction to being  
called “a second Marian Anderson,”  
she said: “I recognize Marian as  
the world’s greatest contralto, but  
I do not want to be known as a  
second Marian Anderson, I want  
to be known strictly as Portia  
White and nothing but Portia  
White. We differ in our singing  
and therefore we are singers of  
two different classes.”

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