

THE MAN AND HIS SAX ... Top jazz player Winston "Mankuku" Ngozi at the concert.

Blue Notes duo blown together

Staff Reporter

AFTER a separation of almost a quarter-century, two members of the legendary Blue Notes — one of the greatest South African jazz combos — were reunited on stage before a local audience at yesterday's Carling Circle of Jazz festival on Greenmarket Square.

Among the line-up that delighted the several hundred fans who gathered at the square were Cape Townborn Chris McGregor, the keyboard player who founded the Blue Notes, and saxophonist Chris Ngcukane, a member of the group's line-up in 1963—the year they won National Jazz Festival.

McGregor, now resident in the South of France — where he has been working with other exiled South African musicians, returned home specially for the Carling series of festivals while Ngcukane is currently employed as a music director for the Ciskeian government.

Other guests included Chris Ngcukane's brother, Ezra, and another local star, Winston "Mankunku" Ngozi.

They were backed by the festival's musical director Vic Ntoni and his band.



MEETING OF THE GREATS . . . Winston "Mankuku" Ngozi shakes hands with exiled South African keyboardist Chris McGregor during yesterday's concert.