

TOP JAZZ GROUP VISITING CITY

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Herald Reporter

SOUTH AFRICA'S leading jazz group, the Blue Notes, led by a young Cape Town pianist, Chris McGregor, have arrived in Port Elizabeth for a series of concerts.

The first of these will be held tomorrow night in the Homecraft Hall at the Show Grounds. The group which was formed last year, has just completed a successful two-month run at a Johannesburg night club.

The S.A.B.C. made 15 tapes of the group while it was there and these will be broadcast in jazz programmes during the year.

It will be the first visiting jazz group to play in Port Elizabeth since 1956, when Miriam Makeba and Dollar Brand performed together in a concert in the City. Both have since gone overseas, where they are doing very well.

The Blue Notes won the award for the best group at a jazz festival in Johannesburg last year.

There are two former Port Elizabeth men in the group.

Moyake. Port Elizabeth has never been a favourable climate for promising jazz musicians and both men left the City for this reason.

Dudur went to Cape Town where he soon made a name for himself as an alto-saxophonist with Chris McGregor's original Blue Notes. In 1962 he won the prize for the best alto-sax in South Africa at a jazz festival held in Johannesburg.

Chris McGregor, the leader of the group, learned his music in Cape Town, where he studied at the South African College of Music. He is undoubtedly the most imaginative jazz arranger in the country and has encouraged the formation of several young groups.

The remaining members are, Johnny Dyani (bass), Louis Moholo (drums) and Moncef



Nick Moyake, a former Port Elizabeth tenor-saxaphonist is seen here playing during a Johannesburg session.