Buffy Sainte-Marie-The Superstar

WASHINGTON, D.C. – (AIPA) – The Cree singer Buffy Sainte-Marie – an actress who designs her own clothes and costumes, does gourmet cooking, writer of a children's book, artist and illustrator – has a "brand new act" these days.

Buffy unveiled her new act here recently at a small and exclusive club in Washington's posh Georgetown District called the Cellar Door – and her week of shows, appropriately, was by reservation only. Indians either living here or in town on business flocked to see one of her three nightly acts.

In her "new" show, Buffy whils and rocks like a dervish, then suddenly, as the stage lights drop off sharply, she's a diminutive and tremulous daughter of the earth breaking with a Native cry. These days she has a new eight-member band behind her, consisting of six male players and two female players who double as background vocalists.

She has a star quality which keeps her audience firmly in her hand. Garbed in a small leather vest wrapped with feathers, a mini-skirt and orange feathers in her hair, the tiny Ms. Sainte-Marie stands tall on her fourinch 1940s "clogger" heels as her arms flail and her knees rock with rhythm. Then – in the next moment – one sees her Native face in a pale light, a mouth-bow in her hands, and she blends an old Cree melody with the night.

She's a superstar who made it - and made it big.