

Petrotrin Phase II creates history

After knocking on the doors since 1988 and placing second at least eight times in recent years, Petrotrin Phase II Pan Groove achieved a definitive win at the National Panorama Finals on Carnival Saturday scoring 478 points and beating Sagicor Exodus steelband by a clear 20 points, the largest margin of victory in the 42-year history of the Panorama competitions. Phase II copped the title after performing last in the large band category with the rendition "Trini Gone Wild" composed by band arranger Len 'Boogsie' Sharpe and composer Anthony 'Lexo' Alexis.



Band Manager Errol Skerritt was ecstatic. He said: "I think this victory is long overdue; and the fact that we created such a record at the Panorama finals is a double victory for us." Len Boogsie Sharpe, the band's arranger and creative director agreed. "We have been striving for victory since 1988. I am glad that we have succeeded after so long." Both men said that the title could not have been won without the sponsor's support. "We would like to thank Petrotrin for everything they did for us. "We have won this title for them and we look forward to their continued help in the future."

"Our work plan now includes taking the music overseas," said Skerritt. "We would have to prepare for a lot of international performances." This is the band's first Panorama title since 1988 when it won with Denyse Plummer's "Woman is Boss". Since then it has been second eight times. Petrotrin took over as the band's full sponsor in 1999.

Sagicor Exodus, playing De Fosto's "From Beyond- 2005" placed second with 458 points. WITCO Desperadoes was third with 454.5 points while bpTT Renegades was fourth with 437.5.

