

What's Happening

Arts, Events & Entertainment Weekly for Eugene/Springfield & Lane Co.



Photograph by Michael Williams

UO Ethnic Studies Program presents

BLACK, HISPANIC & WOMEN'S THEATRE

The Ethnic Studies program at the University of Oregon is presenting two weekends of Ethnic and Women's theater, directed by Bob Manning, and also sponsored by the EMU Cultural Forum, Black Student Union, and Mecha. The plays are a part of a new course on campus called "Productions in Ethnic Theater."

On Dec. 1, 2 and 3 the theater class will present two one-act productions in Black and Chicano theater.

The first play, *The Dutchman*, is a Black theater piece written by LeRoi Jones (Imamu Amiri Baraka), the father of Black revolutionary theater. *The Dutchman* is a tale of a young Black man's plight through white society in a deadly game of

murder on a ghostly subway. This play earned Jones the Obie Award for the best American play of the 1963-64 season.

The second play to be performed is *No Saco Nada de la Escuela* (I don't get nothing out of school) written by Luis Valdez, the founder of El Teatro Campesino and director of the motion picture *Zoot Suit*. El Teatro Campesino began as a bilingual union group in Delano, California during the first months of an agricultural strike in 1965. El Teatro traveled up and down California's San Joaquin Valley in order to explain the strike to the people, and to illustrate the problems that Chicanos were then experiencing. *No Saco Nada de la Escuela* concerns the problems Chicanos

face in today's Anglo educational programs in America.

On Dec. 8, 9 and 10, the Ethnic Studies Program will present a play in Women's Theater called *Keep Tightly Closed in a Cool Dry Place* by Megan Terry.

Terry's plays have generated excitement throughout the modern theater in the 70's and 80's. She is an acclaimed director and writer who was introduced from off-off Broadway at the famous "Open Theater" and "Cafe La Mama." She was in the production *Night with Megan Terry and Friends* in September, directed by Bob Manning, at the La Pena del Norte cafe house in Eugene.

Keep Tightly Closed in a Cool Dry Place began as an actor's project of the Open Theater in

New York City. Three actors worked on improvisations of basic character and situations, dealing with dependency, enclosure and isolation.

The play was written originally for three men, but the roles in this production will be played by women, and there will be a different cast each night.

Keep Tightly Closed contains many plots; the main one concerns a lawyer who has her husband murdered after coaxing her best friend to hire the murderer. The murderer turns state's evidence against the two women and they all end up in the same jail cell together.

All plays will be performed at the U of O in the EMU basement Forum Room at 8 pm. Admission is free. Call 344-6175 for more information.

Also This Week:

The Messiah Sing Along, Don Latarski's New Album, The Art of Bonsai, & more!

Events Calendar • Music • Theatre • Dance • Art • Movies • Restaurants
Recreation • Gardening • Running • Astronomy • Classifieds • And More!