

# ARTS

## International festival begins tonight at theater

### Brightness launches film series

By Mia Bertelsen  
Emerald Contributor

If you are looking for new entertainment, the Willamette Street Theater offers international films, live comedy and locally produced theater productions.

The theater, at 1045 Willamette St., held its grand opening last weekend and kicks off its international film festival with a sneak preview tonight at 8. University professor William Cadbury will be there to speak about the film *Brightness* and its place in African cinema. Tickets are \$8 at the door.

The films will be shown throughout the year on a rotating basis with the theater productions.

"Our goals are, in addition to presenting the finest in foreign films, to provide a forum for human rights issues," said Margo Schaefer, the theater's publicity director.

Comedy group Live Matinee will perform "100 percent recycled humor" Friday and Saturday nights at 11 p.m., March

8-9 and 15-16. Live Matinee is a Eugene group that has been together for about 10 years. The group performers offer "tasty tidbits from their comedy compost pile." All seats are \$5.99.

The drama part of the venture opens Saturday, March 16, with a production of "Theater To Play With." Seven shows will be presented for children and adults.

The first full-length theater presentation will be Studs Terkel's "Working," set to open April 4. The live theater is produced by Main Stage Theater Company, and auditions are open to the public.

"We would like to use the local talent pool" said Margo Schaefer of mainstage, who said casting calls will be advertised in the Arts and Entertainment section of *The Register-Guard*.

The Willamette Street building near the Eugene Mall was originally a dress shop, then a restaurant and bar. Now the theater uses its large lobby as a



Photo by Mia Bertelsen

Willamette Street Theater's small stage is used for comedy acts, some drama productions and cabarets.

gallery for local artists to show their work. The first exhibition is by Mike Cambell, a Cannon

Beach impressionistic artist. Students with current ID can receive discounts on most

shows. The theater also offers cinema passes, at the rate of 11 shows for \$50.

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