

RHYTHM & REVIEWS

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

At the WOW



COURTESY PHOTO

Ho'Alkane, whose name means "to make friends," brings their "Jawalian" sound to the WOW Hall Monday, July 31 at 9:30 p.m. Ho'Alkane is a five-member group from Hawaii. Vocalist Hoku Tolentino said, "Jawalian is just Hawaiian people from the islands playing the reggae style of music using Hawaiian instruments and making people feel good." Tickets are \$6 in advance, \$8 at the door.

Southern comedian to warm up for Boz Scaggs

By Anne Moser-Kornfeld
Entertainment Editor

The opening acts of most mainstage musical acts often leave much to be desired and rarely do much for entertaining audiences.

That cannot be said for the Rev. Billy C. Wirtz, who brings his unique sound of blues, boogie-woogie and rockabilly with a bit of southern satire to the Cuthbert Amphitheater on July 27 in conjunction with a concert featuring Boz Scaggs.

The Rev. Billy C. Wirtz is a self-taught pianist and a recognized humorist. He calls himself a reverend based on his stage delivery, which he likens to an old-time radio preacher. The reverend presides over his First House of Polyester Worship and Horizontal Throbbing Teen-age Desire.

Wirtz said in a recent press release, "I'm interested in Ernie Kovacs-style humor, where things occur for no apparent reason, and there's no apparent resolution."



WIRTZ

Wirtz plays on politically correct humor and a highly charged sense of humor that has attracted national attention.

He has been seen on the USA Network, NBC and the Nashville Network.

The former pro wrestling manager and special education teacher's most recent CD-release, *Pianist Envy*, is a composite of his outrageous humor and love of the blues. Wirtz definitely has a skewed take on reality but can be loads of fun for country music fans.

Tickets are available by calling the Hult Center at 687-5000 or through the EMU Main Desk and are \$20.00 in advance or \$25.00 on the day of the show. The gates open at 6 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m.

Sweet ballads surround the listener's ears on Carson's 'Where it Goes'

By Kim Weiss
Oregon Daily Emerald

Her debut can be traced back to 1990 when she released *Shelter* on Geffen Records, an album that received critical acclaim from *Time* and *Rolling Stone*. She followed this solo piece with two works, *This Is How It Feels* and *Pure*, with The Golden Palominos. Now she has returned to the solo scene with her newest album, *Where It Goes*, on an independent label.

Lori Carson has a soft, melancholy voice reminiscent of Sarah McLachlan.

Carson sings sweet, simple ballads with an air of calm serenity surrounding the listener's ears. She also takes a powerful grasp on her more intense, rhythmic tunes.

The guitar simply melts in Carson's hands as she bounces off beautiful notes.

The first selection on the album, "Down Here," is my favorite as far as guitar



Where it Goes
Lori Carson

★★★

MUSIC REVIEW

playing and musical accompaniment, including piano and strings, is concerned. "Down Here" has a soothing yet wistful sound; it's a very affecting piece.

That song makes magic. It creates not only a strong impression on the listener, it sets the tone for the entire album. Though Carson has a few faster-than-ballad songs, the majority are comparable to "Down Here." But like I said, it impresses the listener quite quickly.

Carson writes the lyrics to each of her

songs. They give insight and an heightened emotional feel. "Twisting My Words" is a moving, sorrowful song, containing such powerful thoughts as "For each lesson in tenderness/ learned on the floor/ there was one about twisting/ my words to console you/ one about hiding/ the black and blue. ..."

Carson is an all-around talented artist; her name will be one to remember and recognize into the future. A lucky few got a chance to check her music out at John Henry's on Monday night. It was a show not to miss. But remember her new album, *Where It Goes*.

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by GARRY TRUDEAU



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