

# Rhythm & Reviews

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1998

## Year of the Tiger

A performance of traditional Chinese folk music will honor the Chinese New Year

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## Music showcase

Influential artists The Pastels release an 'illuminating' new album

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■ **NoMeansNo**, an aggressive, issue-driven act, will return to WOW Hall with **The Royal Grand Prix and The Pass Out Kings** this Saturday. The hardcore punk band is touring their 16th release, 'Would We Be Alive.' Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door, and doors open at 9 p.m.

■ **An ethnic dance performance**, featuring Ballet Folklorico de Humboldt, will take place in the Dougherty Theater in the Gerlinger Annex tonight at 7:30. The performance will include dances from Turkey, the Ukraine, the Balkans and Africa.

■ Dress up or go casual for the **Oregon Ballroom Dance** tonight in Gerlinger Hall. The dance is from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m., and tickets are \$2 for students.

■ Eat, drink and support the **Eugene Opera** Jan. 28 by attending a benefit performance featuring principle artists from Mozart's 'Don Giovanni.' The performance is at the Soriah Cafe (384 W. 13th), which requires reservations. Call 342-4410 for more information.

# A Trilogy of Tragedies

By Shannon Sneed  
Entertainment Reporter

In a combination of scenes, monologues and musical selections, the Eugene Symphony Orchestra and actors from the Oregon Shakespeare Festival will join forces Saturday to present three of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies in a special matinee performance at the Hult Center.

"We've never done anything like this before," said Pat Cusick, marketing director for the Eugene Symphony Orchestra. "It's really going to be a unique experience."

Deemed a concert/theater event, "Shakespeare: Love and Tragedy" seeks to blend music, text and movement to create a fresh approach to classic scenes with Shakespearean characters Ophelia, Romeo and Juliet and Othello.

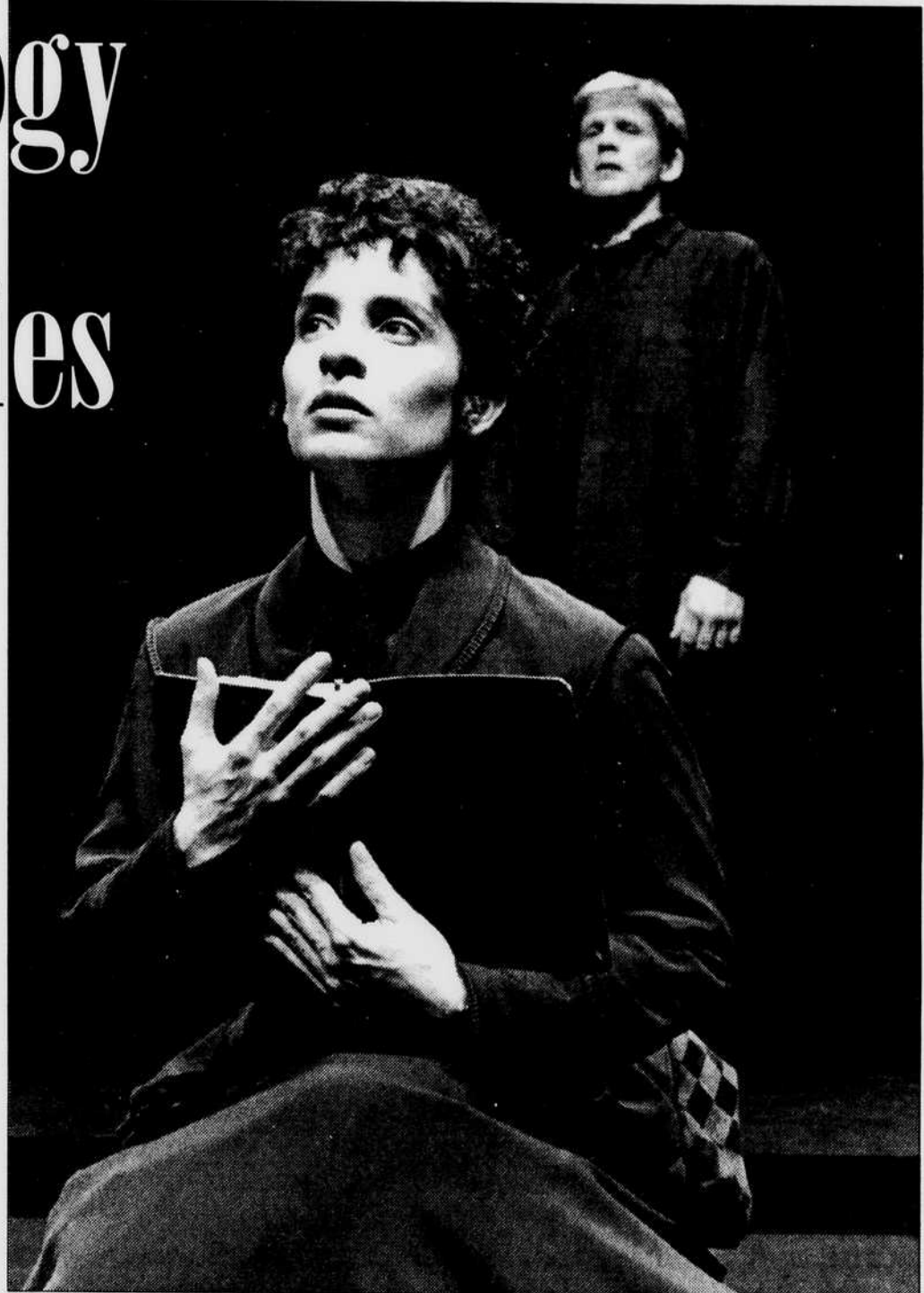
"It's amazing to see that hundreds of years later, Shakespeare is still inspiring both actors and music," Cusick said.

Music director Miguel Harth-Bedoya hopes that through the musical selections he chose, the characters on stage will be more fully and creatively expressed.

Rather than choosing pieces from operas, ballets and incidental music that were influenced by Shakespeare's work, Harth-Bedoya focused on music that was inspired by the characters.

"These pieces are pure music, character studies you might say, inspired by the thoughts and emotions of Shakespeare's characters," Harth-Bedoya said in an interview. "And more interesting from the creation point of view."

Some characters will be represented solely by music. In one scene, for example, Juliet's nurse will be represented by the sound of a tuba.



COURTESY PHOTO

Turn to **EVENT**, Page 10 *The Oregon Shakespeare Festival's Vilma Silva acts in 'Turn of the Screw.' She will perform on Saturday.*

## Graduate Lee Williams turns writing project into novel

*Eugene native and University graduate Lee Williams began writing 'After Nirvana' as part of a year-long creative writing course*

By Shannon Sneed  
Entertainment Reporter

On rainwashed Portland streets, four homeless teenagers drift aimlessly, their days blending together like a fitful dream. Theirs is a murky, isolated world of drugs and prostitution — one stripped bare of everything but the basic and intense need to belong.

Such is the tale told in "After Nirvana," a 1997 novel by Eugene native Lee Williams.

"This is not some romantic thing with a field of flowers," Williams said in a November article in The Oregonian. "It's not that kind of book."

Williams attended North Eugene High School and graduated from the University in 1994 with an English degree. He's now based in Portland, where he works as both a contributing movie reviewer for The Oregonian and a U.S. Bank clerk, and he's cur-

rently working on a second novel.

Last week, Williams spent the day on campus, visiting creative writing classes and giving a reading and book signing at the University Bookstore. At 7:30 tonight, Williams will visit the Lloyd Center Barnes & Noble in Portland for another reading and book signing.

Williams began writing "After Nirvana" in 1994 as part of a year-long course taught by Richard Lyons, a creative writing professor at the University. What began as a small assignment eventually became a novel, he said.

The novel tells the story through the eyes of Davy, a Portland teenager who has a girlfriend, thinks he may be in love with another boy and prostitutes himself to men in order to make ends meet.



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*Williams began writing his book in 1994.*