

Rhythm & Reviews

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1998

Eugene Ballet Company

'A Midsummer Night's Dream' will be performed by the Eugene Ballet at the Hult

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Snapshots

Composer and poet Hildegard von Bingen and a winter dance showcase are featured

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be There

■ Hear Lazzo's hard-driving sound at their Nexus Club CD release party tonight at 9. Lazzo's songs are spiced with everything from acid jazz to French rap and free-style scat poetry.

■ University double bass instructor Forrest Moyer and guest artist Jeff Bradetich will oversee an all-day workshop for double bass players Feb. 28. The day's activities will begin at 10 a.m. in the Beall Concert Hall. Registration is \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

■ Gamelan music will play for February's Labyrinth Walk from 6 to 9 p.m. Feb. 28. The walk is a form of peaceful meditation put to music. The event will take place at the Waldorf School gym (1350 McLean Blvd.), and admission is \$5.

■ Join Zen Tricksters with guests Freaks of Nature Feb. 28 for a night of Grateful Dead-inspired music at WOW Hall. Tickets are \$7 at the door, and showtime is 9:30 p.m.



■ See the work of Robert Bissell and hear him lecture March 4 at 10 a.m. in the Lane Community College art department gallery.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

A Eugene-based program presents a dance workshop aimed at bringing disabled and able-bodied people together



Two Dance-Ability participants perform 'contact improvisation' at an earlier show.

By Ashley Bach
In-depth Reporter

Lynne McKinney, who uses a wheelchair, had danced casually in clubs before, but until he attended his first Dance-Ability workshop last year, he'd never performed in front of an audience.

"I was a little hesitant at first," he says. "The closest I've ever been is wheelchair basketball, but nothing like this."

Like hundreds of people before him, however, McKinney flourished at the workshop, which incorporates a dance technique called "contact improvisation." Disabled and able-bodied participants join together with a point of contact and then improvise movements based on their abilities.

Program director Ali-to Alessi helped found the DanceAbility Project in Eugene 10 years ago in the hope of opening up new ways of movement.

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COURTESY PHOTO

Henrik Ibsen's 'Ghosts' to haunt the Arena Theatre

By Shannon Sneed
Entertainment Reporter

'Ghosts,' one of the first pieces of realism in theater, tells a story considered so scandalous when it was released that it was banned

When playwright Henrik Ibsen wrote "Ghosts" in 1881, he could not find a single theater in either his native Norway or England that would agree to allow it on stage.

The stark, realistic material Ibsen addressed in "Ghosts" — dysfunctional marriage, adultery and even venereal disease — was considered so scandalous that it was banned from stages in Norway for about 15 years, and from England's stages for about five.

Clearly, this was no ordinary play.

The University Theatre will present "Ghosts" on March 4 at Villard Hall's Arena Theatre as part of its second season, with additional performances to be held March 5-7 and 12-14.

"'Ghosts' is one of the very first pieces of realism in theater," said director Neil Vanderpool. "At the time it was written, we were emerging out of Romanticism, and this was certainly a dramatic shift."

The play tells the story of Mrs. Alving, a widow who must come to terms with the dark secrets of her past when her son develops a debilitating disease.

The disease, we learn, is syphilis. Mrs. Alving's late husband, a notorious philanderer who at one point had a child with the family maid, inadvertently passed it on to his and Mrs. Alving's son, Oswald.

"It is really the tragic story of a woman who has stayed in a horrific marriage because of what society has said she should do," Vanderpool said. "She made some

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AMANDA COWAN/Emerald

'Ghosts' is a stark, realistic play by Ibsen.