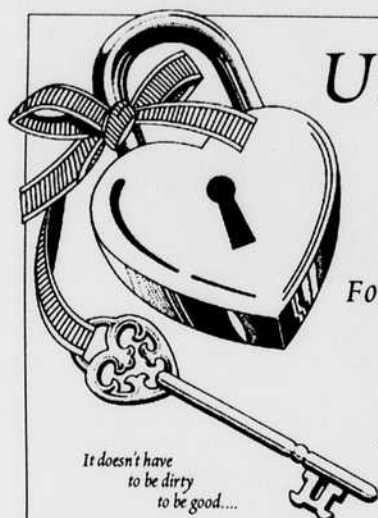


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Funk

Continued from Page 9

building up into a funky beat. Worrell demonstrates his ability to instrumentally experiment in order to create a certain imagery and mood.

The second and third tracks have a similar sound to Worrell's days with Parliament, combining harmonic singing and slapping, sliding bass.

The album's fourth track, "Supergroovalistic," lives up to its name. It is the funkier track on the release. But a warning to any funkadelic fans: playing this track too loud can do some serious damage to your subwoofer — or your neighbors' peace of mind.

Similar to a virtuoso jazz musician, the sixth track, "Mask," is an instrumental jam session where Worrell suddenly stops the music and begins a lengthy keyboard solo. But just as he appears to be going off in a completely different direction, Worrell skillfully ties the solo back into the original melody of the song.

At the Wild Duck performance, Worrell will play much of the material from the new album in addition to material from previous solo works. The concert starts at 8:30 p.m., and the opening band will be "Vinal."



Courtesy photo
Former Parliament-Funkadelic member Bernie Worrell was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in May 1997.

'Streetcar' rolls onto University stage

The old standard gets a new twist: it's being played as intended

By Jason George
Oregon Daily Emerald

Believe me — I know what you are thinking. Why is the University Theatre presenting Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire"? Why does it want to compete with thousands of high schools across America, cutting into their market of tried and true theatrical classics?

Drum roll please?

In honor of Professor Emeritus Horace Robinson, the 1998-1999 season consists of University plays he directed between 1932-1975. Okay, now we are getting somewhere. But what new edge is the cast bringing to the old?

Ironically, the new twist being offered is a faithful interpretation of the play, as Williams intended it. Kirk Boyd, who is the directing the University Theatre's production, told how after the 1951 film version of "Streetcar" appeared, the role of Stanley Kowalski, played in the film by Marlon Brando, was the main aspect audiences noticed. Boyd said the Universi-

ty's production is "honoring the playwright's intentions" by returning the point of emphasis to the character Blanche Dubois, played by University alumna Ursula Aller.

"Streetcar" tells of the downfall of Blanche from a Southern belle to a disillusioned and wrecked woman. University senior Sarah Killkenny, who plays Blanche's sister Stella, said she feels that Blanche's character is better understood now than when the play was first released.

"The '90s perspective and our modern world can relate to Blanche and other characters because they have a lot to say about the world now," Killkenny said. "This script lends itself to being timeless, and yet, I think the audience understands it more today than in 1947."

"Yes, this script is timeless," added Boyd, alluding to inclusion of espousal abuse in the work. "The weak get bashed by the strong. Williams is showing us the animalistic side of us all and one woman's descent into madness."

This madness is the focus of the story. Blanche leaves a Mississippi town amid controversy caused by a sexual relationship with one

of her students. She goes to New Orleans to be with her sister and her brother-in-law, Stanley, who is played by University senior Matt Berliner.

But yes, there is a crowd. Friction between Stanley and Blanche makes Streetcar a fascinating play. Aller summed it up: "Blanche is an escapist, and tragedy ultimately occurs."

But University freshman Quinn Mattfield, who plays a vendor in the play, said "Streetcar" is worth a visit because of the cast's cohesion. "You know I don't have to come and watch all of the scenes [at rehearsal], but I come early for just that," he said. "I will come because there is a definite chemistry; there is just such charisma. The acting, the lights, the sound — so much care has been taken that you will leave thinking you know the characters."

The play will open tonight at 8 p.m., with shows dates on Jan. 30, Feb. 4-6 and 11-16 in Villard Hall's Robinson Theatre. A show to benefit the Crystal Hauser Foundation will take place at 2 p.m. on Feb. 7. Tickets are \$10 for general public; \$8 for University staff, senior citizens, and non-University students; and \$4.50 for University students.

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