

Great Stuff for your Halloween Fun

# Screaming Mimi's

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*Illusions*

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reg. \$50-65 w/ conditioners, cut & style.  
Longer, color treated hair slightly more.

Good Through November 15, 1999  
Good with Jamie



**Aries:** What are you doing this weekend?

Check your 



Scott Barnett Emerald

The Witches Ball is to be held Saturday night, October 30th, at WOW Hall on the corner of 8th and Charnelton.

## Wicca

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we don't acknowledge our own divinity we are driven crazy."

Wiccans simply believe they are personally divine. This scares a lot of people for the world's woes, Ciacchi said. This religion is about having a deep love for the Earth

and all living creatures as well as taking complete responsibility for our actions and consequences.

"It's an awesome responsibility [to] rely on yourself," Ciacchi said.

Because the Witches' Ball marks the passage into the fall, and Autumn is the season of letting go, participants will also get a chance to release something from their lives by writing it down on a piece of paper. These writings will then

be destroyed during the ritual, thus creating a communal act of sacrifice.

Though the night will also include the sacrifice of a paper-mâché mask of the three-headed mythical character Dionysus, it's not real and is not about worshipping the devil, Ciacchi emphasized.

To believe in the devil means believing in two parts of reality — good and evil.

"Wicca is not a dualistic religion," Ciacchi said. "We have a more holistic belief system than that. We all have equal responsibility for manifesting reality."

She attributes the negative light cast on her religion to misinterpretation and ignorance of the belief system.

Wiccans also attribute conscious life to nature and believe that all living things have a soul. Because of this belief in animism and pantheism, Ciacchi said Wiccans treat all animals fairly and give all living things an equal place on Earth. For this reason, their after-life beliefs include reincarnation that's not based on karma. If an individual is bad in this lifetime, for instance, he or she is not punished by coming back as a snake, Ciacchi explained.

As far as fitting into society, Ciacchi and Perry are not "in the broom closet," like witches in smaller, more conservative Oregon towns. They don't exactly fit into mainstream society either. She was once the victim of discrimination because of her faith, when she was denied a job offer because her potential employer heard Ciacchi's greeting on her answering machine that alluded to the fact.

"Even in a hippie culture like Eugene," she said, "people still associate us with pointy hats and noses."

The Oct. 30 Witches' Ball opens with the musical group Land of the Blind, which plays lyrics with the message of earth worship, community and fun. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. and admission is \$6-\$10 on a sliding scale. Children aged 6-11 get in for half price and those under 5 are free. The costume contest winners will be announced at 10:30 p.m. The ritual of ecstasy and sacrifice will be performed at 10:45 and the Riveroots; who play a blend of blues-based, spiritual sound, will then play until the hall closes at 1 a.m.

# The costume was so good....

even Farmer John didn't recognize his horse, Ed.

Is that you, Ed?



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