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School of MUSIC UNIVERSITY OF OREGON & Department of DANCE



JANUARY CONCERTS

Clip and Save this Calendar!

For more information on School of Music events, call 346-5678, or call Guardline at 485-2000, ext. 2533 for a taped message.

- Sun. FRITZ GEARHART, Violin**
1/9 Faculty Artist Series 4 p.m., Beall Hall
Performing Beethoven violin sonatas.
\$7 General Admission, \$4 students & senior citizens
- Thu. COLORADO STRING QUARTET**
1/13 with cellist Rhonda Rider
Chamber Music Series 8 p.m., Beall Hall
Reserved seats \$8, \$18, \$22, available at the Hult Center (682-5000) or EMU (346-4363); student rush \$9, \$5 at the door.
- Sat. SUPER STRINGS**
1/15 Children's Concert Series 10:30 a.m., Beall Hall
\$3 adults, \$2 children & students, or \$5 for a family
- Fri. OREGON JAZZ ENSEMBLE**
1/21 UO Ensemble 8 p.m., Beall Hall
\$5 General Admission, \$3 students & senior citizens
- Sun. MARK BUEDERT, Tenor**
1/23 Faculty Artist Series 4 p.m., Beall Hall
Performing Gypsy songs by Dvorak and Janacek.
\$7 General Admission, \$4 students & senior citizens
- Tue. AN EVENING OF BRAHMS**
1/25 Faculty Artist Series 8 p.m., Beall Hall
Featuring hornist Ellen Campbell, violinist Fritz Gearhart, and pianist Victor Steinhardt.
\$7 General Admission, \$4 students & senior citizens
- Thu. UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY and UNIVERSITY SINGERS**
1/27 UO Ensembles 8 p.m., Beall Hall
FREE Admission
- Mon. KAMMERER-DOWD JAZZ REUNION**
1/31 Benefit Concert & CD Release Party
Faculty Artist Series 8 p.m., Gerlinger Alumni Lounge
\$7 General Admission, \$4 students & senior citizens

NEW YEAR, Same Vibrant Paris

By Yael Menahem
Oregon Daily Emerald

PARIS — "I love Paris in the springtime," sang Frank Sinatra, and I love the city in the winter.

The trees are decorated with strings of white lights. Holiday decorations stretch from one end of the street to the other, and the freezing weather never stops the

people from filling the streets and their favorite cafes.

The city is undoubtedly best known for its fine art and landmarks — the Notre Dame Cathedral and the Eiffel Tower, among others — but it is also a cultural and intellectual hotspot.

Visiting Paris during this once in a lifetime New Year's holiday was truly a treat. These are a few impressions the city left on me during the last several days of 1999.

Pop Culture Madness

Although Paris, or France for that matter, does not have a television culture like the United States, if you flip through the channels, you will find many talk shows, ones unlike those in America.

Mostly the shows consist of one-on-one interviews with authors, filmmakers or philosophers. French television, although entertaining, seems to be more of a learning tool in many cases with many documentaries, game shows and lots of analysis of the world.

One thing the French do appreciate through the tube is their music. MTV Europe, a popular station, offers less variety than the U.S. version, but it sticks to the original formula of music videos 24 hours a day. As of one week ago, Lauryn Hill's duet with Bob Marley to "Turn Your Lights Down Low" was a big hit on the station, as well as on the radio. Puff Daddy and Jennifer Lopez are popular, as is Destiny's Child and Whitney Houston.

Oddly, the French have almost adopted Celine Dion as one of their own, although she is French Canadian. Even more peculiar, one bad word about the King of Pop, Michael Jackson, can attract dirty looks.

Other American-made stars also flourish in Paris. The Artist Formerly Known as Prince recently made a rare appearance on TV and held a sold-out concert, while the sultry Barry White is a thrill to Parisians who enjoy his sexy voice.

Television and music aren't everything though, films are a popular art form too. Many films are introduced from the United States, but the French certainly have a knack for making touching films filled with deep meditations. One of France's great directors, Claude Lelouch, just released his latest film, "Une Pour Toutes," translated to "One for All," a comedy about five 35-year-old actresses, their lives and their questions about life.

Most recently, Arnold Schwarzenegger's "End of Days" and the latest James Bond film hit the movie theaters on the Champs Elysees. This week, Spike Lee's

"Summer of Sam" and the eerie "The Sixth Sense" open, with one of the city's favorite movie stars, Bruce Willis, visiting to promote the film.

The Fine Art Scene

Pop culture aside, what would Paris be without museums and national landmarks at each street corner or building you walk by?

After more than six years worth of a major clean-up operation, the front of the Notre Dame Cathedral is finally clear of scaffolds and is shining brightly even under cloudy skies. The smog that accumulates in the city took its toll on the gothic church, but now thousands can enjoy the church as it was meant to be seen.

The post-modern Centre Georges Pompidou, complete with tube-filled escalators and funky colorful designs, officially opened Jan. 1 following renovations and was free to the public for the weekend. The center officially opens on Jan. 11, and it offers exhibitions, a library and a cinemateque where French independent films are featured.

A new exhibit following the Fauvism movement has opened and has drawn crowds by the hundreds daily who line the streets eager to see colorful paintings by Henri Matisse and Andre Derain. Fauvism began at the end of the 19th-century in France and was led by Matisse, among others. The style concentrated on bright, lively primary and secondary colors and was a liberation of painting toward abstract art. The exhibit is held at the Musee National de L'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris and runs until mid-February 2000.

The Grand Finale

Speaking of 2000, how could you ignore the New Year's celebrations altogether but in Paris especially? The avenue of Champs Elysees that leads to the Arc de Triumph was lined with a variety of structures that ran from one end of the avenue to the edge of it. The structures resembled ferris wheels, but they weren't there to seat people; rather they were filled with creative, sometimes surreal images.

One structure explained the human body and the function of our arms, legs and other limbs. There were white screens that showed how we use our body parts as the wheel rotated. Another wheel featured great monuments from around the world built from what appeared to be

small pieces of light-colored wood. As it rotated, the Eiffel Tower, the Great Wall of China and the Leaning Tower of Pisa were among those that circled.

The most innovative of the wheels was one that featured a life-size mobile that lifted people dangling from the structure and playing instruments. The artists wore make up and were dressed in colorful costumes, while between the musicians were what looked like three red cocoons.

To the crowd's surprise, as the mobile hit the top, a woman came out of one of the red cocoon structures and without a net to catch her, twisted the rope-like material around her arms and legs and then slid up and down it in acrobatic manner. The fantastic images were reminiscent of the fantastic Cirque du Soleil and the music that accompanied the scene lifted the crowd into a different reality and left observers in awe.

Last but not least was the Eiffel Tower, which was one of the most talked-about structures in the world as it was prepared for the millennium, and it didn't fail to astonish. As the clock approached midnight, fireworks started to shoot into the sky from the lower level and all sides of the tower to the top, creating the illusion that the tower was a rocket being launched into space, and the spectacular image was not lost on the audience.

At the stroke of midnight, more fireworks continued to shoot into the dark sky and the tower, complete with spectacular shining lights, lit like a thousand diamonds in the sky. It was a magnificent sight to see. Luckily, the newly-added lights on the tower will light up as it did on New Year's every hour on the hour for the next year. If you have a chance to visit, it is a breathtaking sight to see, even without the fireworks, which were a one-time event.

One minor Y2K-related glitch, which turned out to be a technical problem, came five hours prior to the stroke of midnight, where after 1,000 days of a millennium countdown on an electronic screen set on the tower, the screen faded to black. It was distressing news and unfortunately unfixable as the clock wound down. The experience to count from 10 seconds to zero along with the screen was lost, but it didn't deter the crowd or the festive celebrations.

As the French would say, c'est la vie.

With all of the hype surrounding the millennium and the draw that Paris has year round, it's no surprise that the city doesn't disappoint. Anyone who visits the city might recall that famous line from "Casablanca," when Humphrey Bogart says to Ingrid Bergman, "We'll always have Paris."

