

Multicultural events
Wednesday, Nov. 14
 Film series: The University Russian & East European Studies Center presents "Scarecrow," a Soviet "Lord of the Flies" set among schoolchildren in a provincial river town. In Russian with English subtitles. 6:30 p.m. 115 Pacific. Free.
Monday, Nov. 19
 Presentation: CISCAP and CALC

present "Farmworker Rights from Both Sides of the Border: A Report Back from Mexico," a report on the lives of farmworkers in the United States and Mexico. Farmworker rights activists Leslie Brockelbank, Rob Castleberry, Rachel Jordan, Marion Malcolm and Joyce Thomas, all of whom traveled to southern Mexico earlier this month, will be speaking. 7 p.m. Harris Hall, Eighth Avenue and Oak Street. Free.

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Sprinkle, Sprinkle little porn star

■ 'Feminist porn activist' Annie Sprinkle brings a controversial show to the EMU Ballroom

By Jen West
 Oregon Daily Emerald

During the Victorian Age, it was not considered acceptable for a woman to talk about her sexuality. But gradually, American society has grown more open and vocal about sex issues.

Today, women continue to change their perspectives on their own sexuality. Leading the forefront in this sexual awareness is Annie Sprinkle — an actress, writer and director in the sex industry for the past 25 years.

The EMU Cultural Forum will host "Annie Sprinkle, Feminist Porn Activist" at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the EMU Ballroom.

Sprinkle will show clips from her many films and discuss her career in the sex industry and her work as an activist. Sprinkle's presentation will not contain live nudity, though she may do a "bosom ballet," according to Geoff Hoffa, EMU Cultural Forum contemporary issues coordinator, who said a "bosom ballet" must be seen to be understood.

"Annie Sprinkle seems to be an anomaly of a woman who has not only enjoyed her work in the sex industry but who has also made it a personally empowering as well as spiritually enriching experience," Hoffa said.

But the University community has expressed mixed feelings about Sprinkle's upcoming presentation, according to Maria Zink, public relations coordinator for the EMU Women's Center.

Zink said some people see the presentation as a good learning opportunity, but others are skeptical and unsure if an event like this will be beneficial.

Sprinkle, 47, said she believes in being "sex positive" — promoting sex as a normal and healthy part of life.

"It's a wonderful thing to love yourself," she said.

Sprinkle said she began her career in the sex industry in 1973, at the age of 18.

"I was interested in filmmaking, and I loved sex," she said. "(The industry) fit my needs."

Now, Sprinkle holds a doctorate in human sexuality from the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality and tours the world as a one-woman theater show dedicated to teaching and learning about sex and sexuality.

She said she loves addressing college campuses because students want to learn. But because sex is such a controversial issue, Sprinkle often has to deal with censorship.

"I get censored in one way or another on a weekly basis," she said.

Sprinkle also said anti-pornography feminists assume all women who have worked in pornography have been exploited. She conceded that some women in the sex industry have been taken advantage of, but she pointed out that "it can happen anywhere." She said it depends on the director an actress works for, and how she feels about herself.

Debbie Henley, a homemaker and community volunteer in Springfield, holds a different view than Sprinkle.



Courtesy

"As far as third-wave feminists possibly defending pornography as a sexual statement, I disagree with the use of our liberty and freedom in such a destructive manner," Henley said. "It just doesn't seem very 'sisterly' for women to make a living seducing and sexually arousing other women's mates."

Kate Sullivan, an English professor at Lane Community College and former women's studies professor at the University of Oregon, said she saw Annie Sprinkle's "Public Cervix Announcement"

performance in New York City where Sprinkle invited members of the audience to look at her cervix.

"It's not a show for Puritans," Sullivan said.

Tickets are \$8 for the general public and \$5 for University students. To reserve tickets, call the EMU Ticket Office at 346-4363 or Mother Kali's Bookstore at 343-4864. The presentation is intended for adults over age 18.

Jen West is a Pulse reporter for the Oregon Daily Emerald. She can be reached at jenwest@dailyemerald.com.

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