

Pulse

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Taking the Pulse of events this week

I'm still a little hung over and suffering slightly from culture shock after spending three days at the Oregon Country Fair, but in what better state could I be to let you know



Michael J. Kleckner
Editor in chief

about cool entertainment happenings?

Actually, first there's a confession. After 30 years of resisting, I underwent a complete conversion on Friday night while listening to Chicago-based Dark Star Orchestra at Country Fair. Yes, it's true, I am officially a beginner

Deadhead. What can I say; that magical moment — a confluence of the music, the vibe, the people and the dancing — happened to me. Anyone who has the chance should check out Dark Star Orchestra; their re-enactments of Dead concerts are amazing...

On Wednesday, Panjea brings high-energy dance music from the band's roots in the ghettos of Zimbabwe to the WOW Hall for some serious booty-shakin'. I saw these folks at Country Fair as well, and the combination of a super-funk brass section and African drum rhythms makes the soul dance. Doors are at 8 p.m., show at 8:30 p.m., \$8/\$10 tickets. And, here's a cool bonus: Eugene's own Soul Function returns to the stage to open the show...

Young women have a picnic of an opportunity to get involved in their community. The Venture Club of

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Jazz musicians perform at EMU Amphitheater

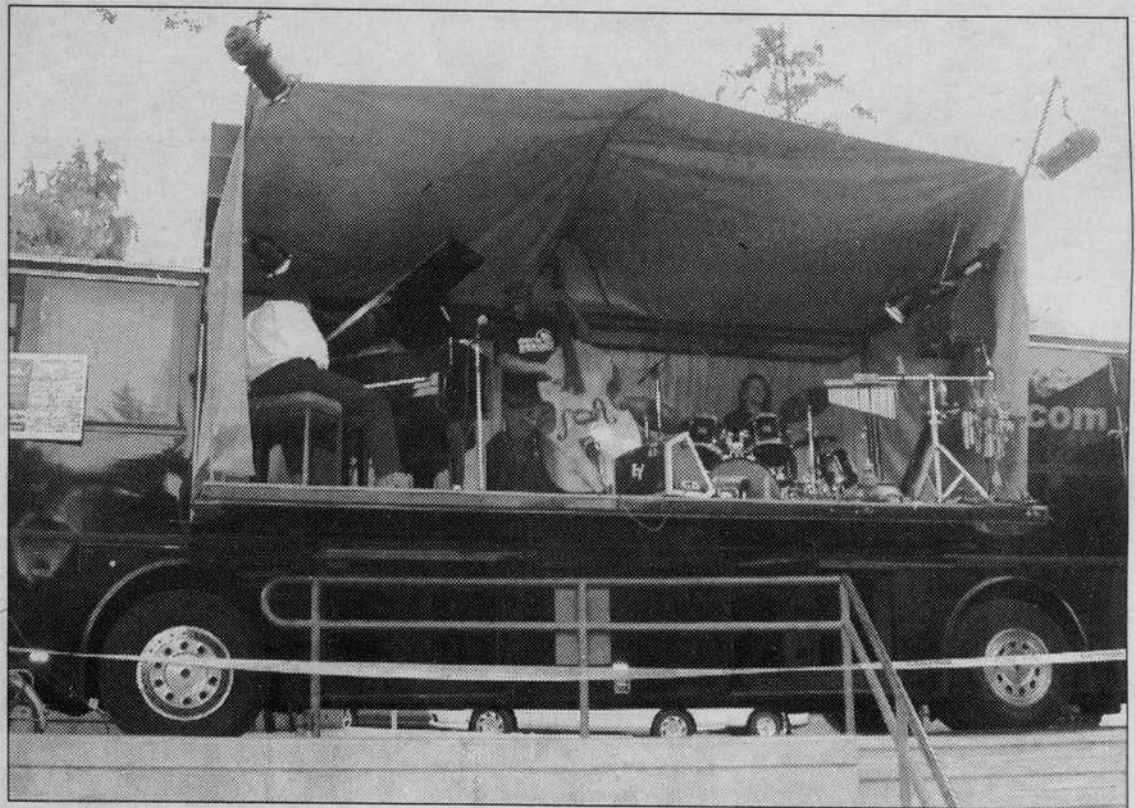
René van Helsdingen, left, Essiet Okon Essiet, center, and Marcello Pellitteri play some jazz from their Stage Bus at the EMU Amphitheater on Monday evening. About 50 people attended the free performance.

The three men are part of Luluk Purwanto & the Helsdingen Trio, and the band members are traveling as part of an "Indonesian American Dutch Cross Cultural Promotion Tour," according to their Web site, www.luluk.com.

The band is currently on an extended tour of America, performing for free at 42 universities in 24 states through Oct. 15.

Engineer and visual artist Aart Marcus designed the band's Stage Bus, which can be set up in 10 minutes and is fully equipped with a grand piano, drum stage, lighting and a complete sound system.

—Michael J. Kleckner



'Hyding' in the dark side

PLAY REVIEW

The Actors Cabaret of Eugene's wonderful production of the musical Jekyll and Hyde stays true to the classic story while adding new songs and improving characters

By Jillian Daley
Oregon Daily Emerald

Good and evil share the stage at the Actors Cabaret of Eugene, with explosive consequences.

In a cozy, softly lit theater-cum-restaurant, the lingering smell of hot, tasty food wafts from the kitchen, and something akin to the classic Hollywood-movie murmur hums in the air, as a classic battle takes form. The raucous cackling, thrilling voice and tall, cloaked figure of Edward Hyde envelops the stage, and Dr. Henry Jekyll, an earnest gentleman, is tormented by the evil half of his own soul.

The Actors Cabaret of Eugene's production of the musical Jekyll and Hyde, directed by

Joe Zingo, debuted July 12 and continues through August 3. Shows start at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

The production stays true to the classic story, set in 19th-century England.

Dr. Henry Jekyll, played movingly by Don Kelley, believes he can cure his sick father by discovering the secret of separating the good and evil nature in the human spirit. Jekyll, unable to find a volunteer, injects himself with the potion he concocts, and creates Edward Hyde, played by Kevin Boling, who is an amalgamation of Jekyll's dark side. Hyde's killing rampage stains his hands red with blood throughout the show.

"Evil parts are my favorite," Boling said. "It's really fun to be that outrageous."

Bring an appreciation of the macabre to the show. The somber, violent and overtly sexual aspects bring power to this definitely adult production, but it is not the ideal show for a first date.

In addition to an interest in a gothic, ribald production, bring an appetite for boneless spare ribs, hand-rolled cannelloni or gorgonzola mushroom pasta.

Dinner, cooked by both Zingo and producer Jim Roberts, is served at 6:30 p.m., before the show, and dessert is served during intermission.

"It's not your common, ordinary dinner-theater food," Roberts said. "We usually have six or seven entrees that are quite good."

Roberts, Zingo, John Elliott and the cast built the set. Zingo is also responsible for set design, lighting and costuming.

"Between the two of us, we do pretty much everything," Roberts said.

The pair wanted to do the show when it first came out a decade ago.

"We've been following the show for 10 to 11 years, since it was first created as a concept album," Roberts said.

Zingo said he was disappointed by the Broadway show because the production removed some of his favorite songs, had poor stage direction, and lacked developed characters. His show is different because he changed the stage direction and added the music he enjoyed from the original album.

"The characters are a lot more complex

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