

Pulse

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Celebrating an artist's vision

by Nicolette Ong
for the Emerald

The quaint house standing at the corner of 15th Avenue and Villard Street is like no other. Instead of furniture, a cornucopia of colorful artwork fills the walls of the house.

According to a pamphlet distributed by the

Maude Kerns Art Center, Maude Irvine Kerns had bought the house in hopes of promoting "broader opportunities for people of Lane County to be active in the creation and exhibition of art." In 1950, she and a group of local artists founded the Maude Kerns Art Center.

Born in 1876, Kerns was from Portland and was a painter for 75 years, said Karen M. Pavelec, executive director of Maude Kerns Art Center.

The Art Center is a non-profit community center for the visual arts and features exhibits by the internationally recognized Kerns as well as works by other artists.

Although various paintings are presented at the Center, the Salon Gallery is a room that is dedicated to Kerns' paintings.

"Kerns' art collection is displayed on a regular basis to preserve Kerns' legacy," said arts program manager Shayann Hoffer.

A student at the University of Oregon

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Adam Jones Emerald

The Maude Kerns Art Center, at East 15th Avenue and Villard Street, has permanent collections as well as temporary shows, often featuring artists from the University.

John Mayer performs at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall

The 24-year-old musician plays a 14-song set to a sold-out crowd Friday, showcasing songs from his debut album

By Brad Schmidt
Oregon Daily Emerald

It's hard to say what makes John Mayer so compelling.

It could be his boyish good looks, his thoughtful lyrics, his self-assured attitude or his catchy, folk-pop tunes.

Odds are, it's a little of each.

Mayer — who only recently found his way onto radio airwaves in many cities nationwide — already has quite a following, as was apparent Friday in his visit to a sold-out Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall in Portland.

While his debut album — "Room for Squares" — is a tightly constructed, meticulous piece of work, Mayer's live show revealed his psyche and true abilities as a musician. Playing a captivating 14-song set Friday night, Mayer included 11 of the songs found on "Squares."

As expected, the 24-year-old's vocals were strong and seemingly identical to his somewhat-gruff-but-still-silky-smooth repertoire displayed on his stu-

dio work. But the most memorable moments in his two-hour live performance stemmed from witty improvisation and captivating guitar licks.

Opening with "Back to You," each of Mayer's tunes displayed his multi-dimensional ability to capture the audience. Using either long guitar solos to open or extending already-existing solos within songs, he was at top form.

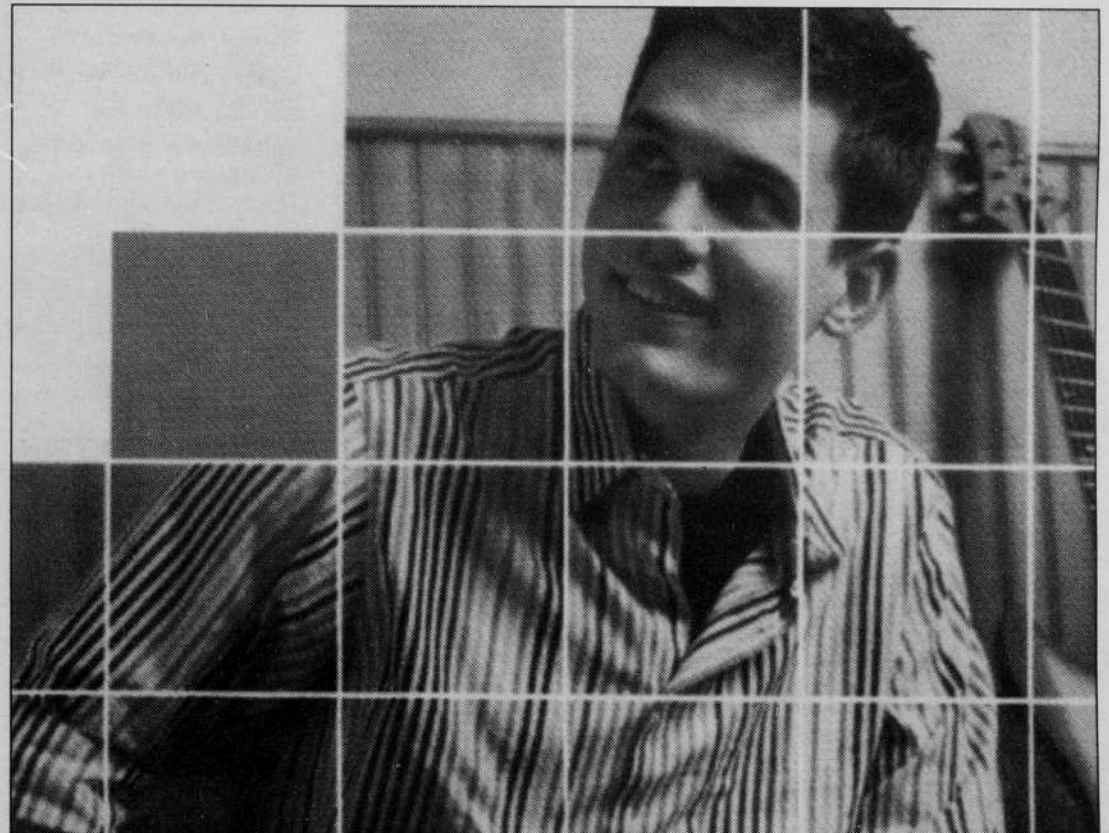
Mayer received cheers for his crafty fingering and left many fans speechless. On numerous instances Friday, Mayer delivered jaw-dropping solos that kept the crowd quietly in awe.

His conversational sense of humor also kept fans reeling. Mayer quipped that he went to Powell's Books hoping to enlighten himself but ended up looking at Japanese porn.

He also joked that he's been told his sexually explorative "Your Body is a Wonderland" will lead to an increase in the country's birth rate. Nonetheless, he said he's unable to use the tune as an aphrodisiac during his own adventures.

Mayer played with the crowd, too, at times sparking fans to finish lyrics. On one occasion he wryly commended the

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Courtesy photo