

IN THE ART OF THE CITY



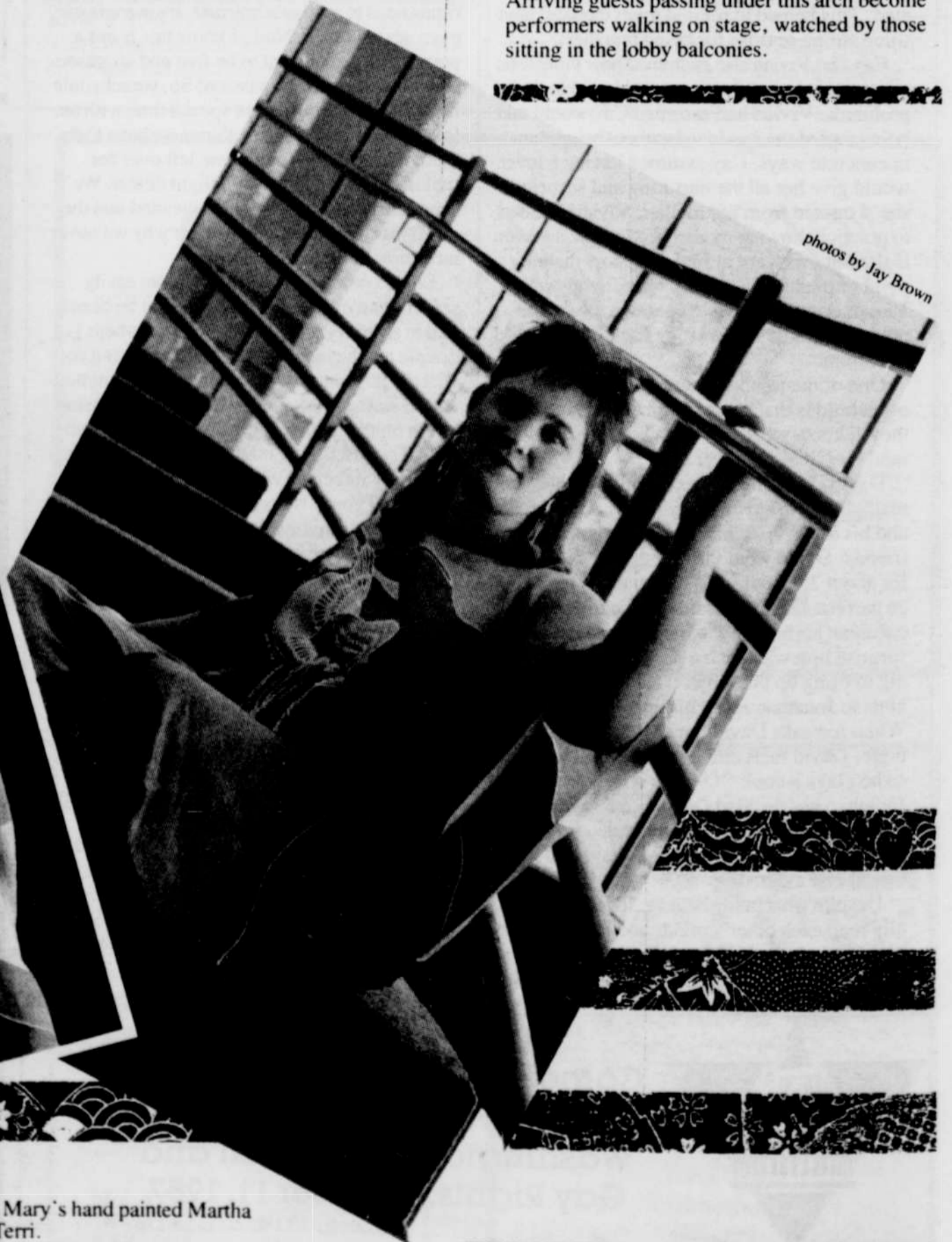
Portland's world-class performing arts facility takes its roots from an ornate movie and vaudeville palace built in 1928, the Paramount Theatre. Renovated in 1984 as a hall for symphonic and other musical events, the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall was the first phase of the Portland Center for the Performing Arts. The Concert Hall is joined in 1987 by two state-of-the-art facilities, the Intermediate Theatre and the Dolores Winningstand Showcase Theatre.

Located at the corner of southwest Broadway and Main, the new theatre complex has been hailed as a state-of-the-art facility. The 127,000 square foot complex includes two theatres; a large (unfinished) rehearsal hall that will be suitable for recitals, receptions or other events when completed; a small restaurant; box office and administrative offices for the Portland Center for the Performing Arts; costume and set

assembly workshops; and offices for resident theatre companies.

The exterior of the new building was designed to complement existing buildings in the area. The profile of the First Congregational Church, which shares the block with the new theatres, and the brick colors of Schnitzer Concert Hall and the adjacent Heathman Hotel were taken into consideration in designing the brick and glass exterior.

Approaching the theatres from the Main Street Mall, the visitor enters a five-story rotunda open to an art-glass skylight designed by James Carpenter. Overlooking this terrazzo-floored grand lobby are three levels of balconies, designed like box seats. The entrance to the theatre is in the form of a proscenium arch. Arriving guests passing under this arch become performers walking on stage, watched by those sitting in the lobby balconies.



photos by Jay Brown

Ben Merrill, Terri Treat, Sam Holland, Mary Lee, and Kay Beam sport Just Out T-shirts. Terri adjusts Mary's hand painted Martha Zanger shirt. Susan Luna Braun designed and painted a spectacular example of wearable art worn by Terri.