

Paddles aren't just for Ping Pong

Gear up for the Portland Rose Festival Dragon Boat Races at a special event featuring the all-lesbian Amazon Dragons rowing team. These strong-armed women are hosting a fund-raising party with prizes and a mystery guest at the Egyptian Club, 3701 SE Division St., on Thursday, May 29, from 8 to 11 pm.

And don't forget to turn out and support the

Entertainment

Amazon Dragons during the Rose Festival races on June 7 and 8: Cheer for the queer at Tom McCall Waterfront Park. The event is free and open to all. Call Cindy at 288-4150 for details.

Do Jump has cake, and you can eat it

Do Jump Movement Theater invites one and all to celebrate the Echo Theatre's 14th birthday. There will be cake and a rare opportunity to witness the evolution of a work in progress: "Up in the Air" combines the physical feats of Do Jump performers with the original music of Mike Van Liew and Joan Szymko for an unforgettable acrobatic adventure for the whole family.

"Up in the Air" hangs around for just nine shows, at 7:30 pm Fridays and Saturdays and 2 pm Sundays, from May 31 to June 20 at the Echo Theatre, 1515 SE 37th Ave. Tickets are \$13 general and \$10 for seniors and kids in advance; \$15 and \$10 at the door. Call the box office at 231-1232 or Fastixx at 224-8499.

Communing on a Sunday

Unity of Beaverton's HeartSong Sunday concert series features pop/country singer-songwriter Bill Lamb and pianist Michael Allen Harrison on May 18 at 4 pm. Lamb is a past member of Lazy Racer and has sung backup vocals for Elton John, Crystal Gayle and Pam Tillis; Harrison's soft jazz stylings have graced airwaves both locally and nationally, as well

as in outer space: Two of his albums were played on the space shuttles Endeavor and Discovery.

The HeartSong series offers an intimate, smoke- and alcohol-free environment that encourages communication between the audience and performers. Unity of Beaverton is located at 12650 SW Fifth Ave. Tickets are \$10, available in advance at the Unity of Beaverton Bookstore or through Fastixx, 224-8499, or at the door. To find out more dial 646-3364.

Embroidered blooms help Chinese Garden grow

The Chinese Scientists, Engineers and Professionals Association of Oregon presents "Silk Traditions," an evening of gourmet foods and silk fashions representing two centuries of fabric artistry. The beautiful collection of hand-embroidered, intricately detailed clothing includes wedding gowns, opera costumes and traditional ceremonial robes used in China, Taiwan and the United States.

Proceeds from this event will aid in the construction of Portland's Classical Chinese Garden, a gift from the association to the citywide community. The Suzhou-style garden, located

at Northwest Second Avenue and Flanders Street in the Old Town/Chinatown district, will be the first of its kind in the United States. Good Day Restaurant hosts the banquet-style dinner and fashion show on Saturday, May 17, at 7 pm. The cost is \$22.50; for tickets and reservations call 236-7966.

Afrikan American Ballet kicks off Rose Fest

The Northwest Afrikan American Ballet, which turns 15 this year, presents "The Wedding," an original work written and choreographed by Bruce Smith, at the group's annual Portland Rose Festival concert. "The Wedding" tells a tale of courtship and marriage in a typical West African village. The concert also includes several traditional African dances and the group's enduring popular signature piece, "The Boot Dance."

The show takes place May 30 at 8 pm in the Intermediate Theatre of the Portland Center for the Performing Arts, 1111 SW Broadway. Tickets are available at the PCPA box office and through Fastixx, 224-8499; prices are \$16.50 and \$20.50.

The wind at their heels

Teatro Milagro, or Miracle Theatre Group, the Northwest's premier Latino arts and cultural organization, has received a \$10,000 grant from Nike that will be used to help its dance troupe, Milagro Bailadores, expand its education programs in Latino dance. A presentation ceremony and reception with Nike representatives on Friday, May 16, at 7 pm will precede an 8 pm performance of the troupe's spring concert, "Alas



Milagro Bailadores dancing Bomba

del Huracán" ("Wings of the Hurricane"). The performance will be repeated at 8 pm Saturday, May 17; both shows take place at the Miracle Theatre, 525 SE Stark St. Admission is \$8. Call 236-7253 for further information.

Jazz guitar maestro Frisell brings quartet to Portland

The Portland Institute for Contemporary Art scores big and nets a performance by jazz guitar virtuoso Bill Frisell, one of the most sought-after figures in contemporary music. Hailed as an "architect of music," Frisell has for 10 years been a hot commodity in jazz and new music circles. His past collaborators include Elvis Costello and David Sanborn. This show presents his latest project, the Bill Frisell Quartet, featuring Eyvind Kang, Ron Miles and Curtis Fowlkes, with whom he recorded the critically acclaimed album *Quartet*.

The Bill Frisell Quartet appears at the Aladdin Theater, 3017 SE Milwaukie Ave., on May 23 and 24 at 8 pm. Tickets are \$17 and may be purchased through PICA, 242-1419, or the Aladdin box office.

Compiled by Christopher D. Cuttone

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