

**DIVERSIONS**

**He's Hollywood, but he's not square**

Opening Jan. 7 at KOIN Cinemas in Portland for what will undoubtedly be a short run, *Get Bruce* is a laugh-filled documentary about Bruce Vilanch, the big blond bear of a gay guy who has been supplying comedy for big name stars for many years.

Lately he's been more visible as one of the strangest squares, sitting due left of Whoopi Goldberg on the new *Hollywood Squares*. Vilanch is also one of the most sought after comedy writers in Hollywood. He's written for every type of variety show imaginable, including all the big award shows. Many of the stars for whom he writes—including Bette Midler, Billy Crystal, Robin Williams, Whoopi Goldberg, Lily Tomlin, Nathan Lane and Rosie O'Donnell—appear in the film.

This brief valentine of a film also has a fun title song written by Michael Feinstein and performed by Ann-Margret. Hard to beat that for sheer camp appeal!

The film, which plays more like a special on E! Entertainment Television, will be enjoyable for aspiring comedy writers and other showbiz junkies, but don't expect great insights or sexy details. As Vilanch told one reviewer, if he had a hot personal life to talk about, he'd be dishing the dirt.

Nathan Lane sums up the man in a quip Vilanch might have written for himself: "Bruce has given more great lines to celebrities than a Hollywood coke dealer."

**Help stock the pantry**

In Love We Grow is a two part benefit for Esther's Pantry, a Portland-based volunteer organization that assists people affected by HIV and AIDS.

The event gets off to a rousing start with High Tea and Horse Racing, hosted by Eric Fox at the Fox & Hounds, 217 N.W. Second Ave. in Portland.

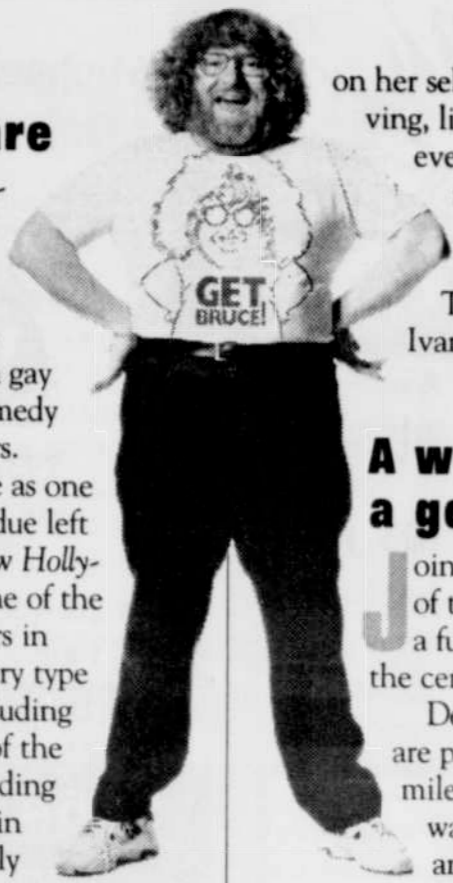
Then trot one block over to Darcelle XV, 208 N.W. Third Ave., for a drag show extravaganza hosted by Laurel Hurst.

Festivities kick off at 6 p.m., the show is at 7 p.m.; \$5 is the suggested donation. For more information, call (503) 243-5530.

**She works the blues**

Lesbian singer-songwriter Lynn Frances Anderson brings her four-piece band to McMenamins St. John's Pub for a showcase concert at 8 p.m. Jan. 14.

Anderson's songs are earnest, bluesy, folksy tunes, often about relationships. Some tracks



on her self-titled CD reflect a more driving, light-rock feel, though for this event she promises her fans even more blues.

It's a smoke-free event, and tickets are \$8 from Fastixx. The pub is located at 8203 N. Ivanhoe St. in Portland.

**A whale of a good time**

Join the hardy, outdoorsy lesbians of the Forest Group on Jan. 15 for a fun day trip to Cape Lookout on the central Oregon coast.

Depending on the weather, they are planning either a six-mile or 10-mile hike, with the added bonus of watching migrating whales. In any event, do come prepared for a very muddy trail.

For more information, call (503) 236-2248.

**Feeling emo?**

It is fabled that the ever-melodic singer-songwriter Katy Davidson once performed half her emotional acoustic set lying down.

See if she repeats the feat at Intimate, an evening of Portland women's pop music, starring the infamous Davidson, songwriter-keyboardist Battle Cat, and guests. The free



Listen and learn as Katy Davidson (right) and Battle Cat perfect the art of intimacy

event will be held Jan. 20 at In Other Words bookstore, which is located at 3734 S.E. Hawthorne Blvd., starting at 7:30 p.m.

For more information call (503) 232-6003.

**Musical analysis**

In the mood for something really different? Try a Nerve Endings concert, a special program of the Oregon Symphony designed to examine both familiar and new music in innovative ways.

On Jan. 14, Murry Sidlin will conduct excerpts from Mahler's first, second, fourth and fifth symphonies interspersed with a performance by actors portraying Mahler and Sigmund Freud.

The men, who were 19th century contemporaries, met on several occasions. Mahler sought Freud's counsel during times when his life was in emotional upheaval.

A preconcert lecture starts off the evening at 6:30 p.m., followed by the concert itself at 7:30 p.m. in the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, 1111 S.W. Broadway in Portland. For more information and tickets, call (503) 228-1353.

■ Compiled by ORIANA GREEN

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**January 21 issue**  
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STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

B	- BLACK
W	- WHITE
H	- HISPANIC
A	- ASIAN
N	- NATIVE AMERICAN
J	- JEWISH
C	- CHRISTIAN
F	- FEMALE
M	- MALE
LTR	- LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP
S	- SINGLE
STD	- SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE
TS	- TRANSEXUAL
TV	- TRANVESTITE

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