

## DIVERSIONS



PHOTO BY LINDA KLEINER

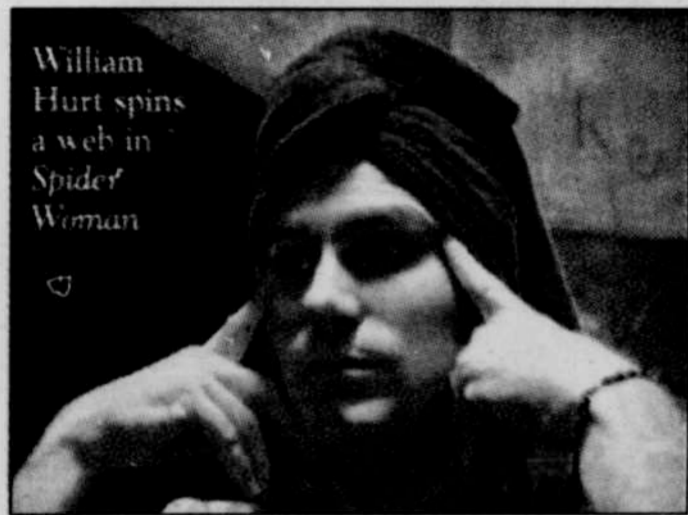
The Portland Gay Men's Chorus is in a festive mood Aug. 31 and Sept. 2

### Prick up your ears

Choral music lovers will get their fill this Labor Day weekend with not one but two concerts. Opening the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses conference on Aug. 31, the Portland Gay Men's Chorus will play host to the Portland Lesbian Choir and Bridges Vocal Ensemble in a showcase concert at the Newmark Theatre inside the Portland Center for the Performing Arts. Special guests include singer Diane Syrcle, actor Brian Haliski and flutist Mary McCarty. The Rose City Swing Band leads dancing afterward. And closing the conference Sept. 2, choral singers from around the world come together to create three women's, men's and mixed choruses. Plus, three of Oregon's finest choruses will perform: Confluence: The Willamette Valley Mixed GALA Chorus, Jubilate! The Women's Choir of Corvallis and Soromundi: The Lesbian Chorus of Eugene. Tickets are \$20 to \$30; call 503-226-2588 or visit [www.pdxgmc.org](http://www.pdxgmc.org) for more information.

### Catch this Kiss

The Kiss of the Spider Woman is being re-released Aug. 24 at the Hollywood Theatre for a one-week run. The film stars William Hurt, Raul Julia and Sonia Braga. Hurt won the Best Actor Academy Award in 1985 for his part, and the film was nominated for Best Director, Best Film and Best Screenplay. Hurt portrayed Molina, a flagrant homosexual window trimmer convicted on a morals charge, who shares a dreary prison cell with Valentin, a clandestinely held revolutionary who had been tortured endlessly by prison authorities in a non-specific Latin American metropolis in a vain attempt to



William Hurt spins a web in *Spider Woman*

extract information on his subversive activities. In the late-night darkness of their cell, Molina spins a fantastic yarn of celluloid romance and intrigue. Each night, Molina embroiders the details to draw out and manipulate Valentin's emotions, never once betraying his true motives to his audience. Gradually, circumstances force them both to undergo an unexpected transformation and to be drawn ever closer to each other, finally forming a remarkably touching bond of friendship, fraternal love and self-sacrifice. Don't miss this chance to see *Spider* on the big screen—again or for the first time.

### Hitting the high—and low—notes

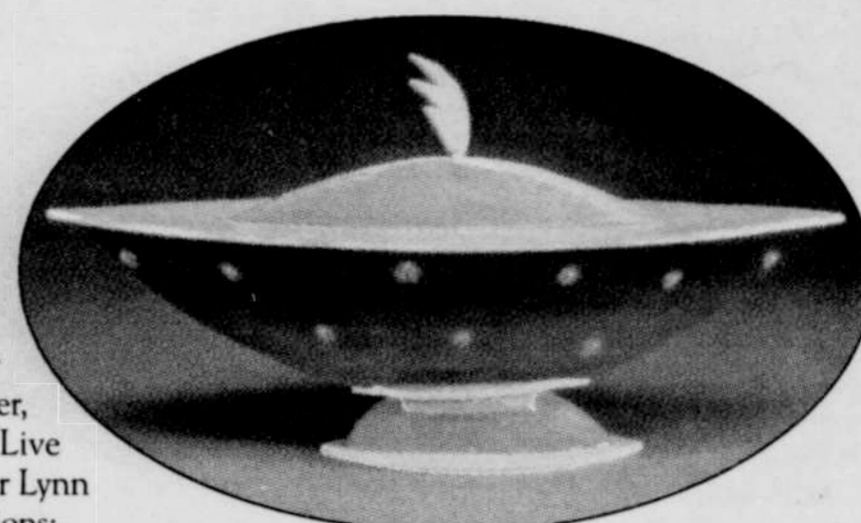
The Portland Lesbian Choir begins its 15th season with rehearsals Sept. 9. They are seeking singers, a production coordinator and a piano accompanist. Rehearsals are on Sunday evenings. PLC is a nonauditioned choir open to all women. Singing members usually are accepted each year in September, then the director places new people in a musical section in a low-stress listening process. There are four sections: soprano I and II and alto I and II. (The choir calls them soprano, alto, tenor and bass.) Members and volunteers who prefer to play a supportive, behind-the-scenes role are accepted at any time. The gals always need lots of help in producing the concerts, fund raising, volunteer coordination and other activities. If you're interested in joining, call 503-241-8994 or write [membership@plchoir.org](mailto:membership@plchoir.org).

### Singing for your life

Fellas, you have the same opportunity; however, you'll have to show your pipes first. How about adding your voice to the 22nd season of the Portland Gay Men's Chorus? This 85-plus-member performing arts organization is committed to "promoting harmony among all people and a positive attitude toward the gay community." You are invited to join them in their mission as a singing or a support member. In addition to producing first-rate concerts all year, these guys also manage to enjoy a lot of superior bonding moments. Check them out at [www.pdxgmc.org](http://www.pdxgmc.org). To schedule a simple audition or for more information call 503-226-2588 or e-mail [pgmc@teleport.com](mailto:pgmc@teleport.com).

### It's a gem

Art lovers will descend on Northwest Portland for the fifth annual Art in the Pearl from Sept. 1 to 3. If you haven't been in the district lately, you'll be surprised at all the transformation going on there. Among the 125 artists showing their wares are lesbian potters Annie Meyer, Natalie Warrens and Victoria Shaw. Live musicians, including the ever-popular Lynn Frances Anderson; artist demonstrations; and all manner of yummy food round out the festivities. The fun happens from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday.



Untitled, colorful ceramic art by Natalie Warrens will enliven Art in the Pearl

### A doggedly funny fellow

Dan Butler, the gay actor who so convincingly plays babehound Bulldog on television's *Frasier*, presents his one-man show *The Only Thing Worse You Could Have Told Me* Aug. 20 at the Angus Bowmer Theatre in Ashland. His show takes audiences on a humorous and poignant journey into the lives of a variety of characters who explore what it means to be gay. The performance is part of the annual daylong Daedalus Project, which raises money for HIV/AIDS organizations. The show begins at 2 p.m., and tickets are \$10 from 541-482-4331 or [www.osfashland.org](http://www.osfashland.org).

### Head for the hills


For 28 years women have headed to southern Oregon for the Womansource Gathering. Join them Sept. 7 to 9 at Camp Low Echo in Lake of the Woods for workshops, entertainment and great food. Saturday night Alice Di Micele serenades. Expect a fire circle with dancing, water sports and laid-back lounging around the lake. Attendance fees are sliding scale, plus work exchange options and scholarships are available. Learn more from 541-773-2928.

### Finally, a circus you can't take your nephew to!

Imagine a cross between Cirque du Soleil and *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* and you'll have an idea what to expect Aug. 18 if you go to see Circus Contraption, a nonprofit collective of Seattle performers and musicians. You'll find them at Dante's performing their quirky, adult material. This ain't your father's circus! The troupe brings along a seven-piece that puts out "quirky-jerky-loony-croony-gypsy music." The balls go up in the air 9 p.m. at

1 S.W. Third Ave. Just \$8 get you in the door, but you must be 21 or older. Need more? Call 503-226-6630.

### Make a wish

Two queer faves do back-to-back stints at the Aladdin Theater: Rufus Wainwright hits town Sept. 1, and Me'Shell NdegéOcello takes the mike Sept. 2. You'll find the venue at 3017 S.E. Milwaukie Ave. 

Compiled by ORIANA GREEN



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