

## DIVERSIONS

### Musical fury

**T**ret Fure has been writing and performing since hitting the road at the age of 19 to tour with legendary rocker Spencer Davis. This trailblazer of women's folk/rock music and lesbian community performs April 5 at Metropolitan Community Church of Portland and April 6 at Ashland's Unitarian Center. (See Page 28 for details.)

The real deal in pioneering women's roles in the music industry, Fure released her first album, *Mousetrap*, in 1970. She found mainstream commercial success, opening for such heavy hitters as Poco, Yes and the J. Geils Band.

But when she began producing the work of other women as one of the only female engineers in the country, the lure of the independent music scene and its intrinsic link to dykes was too strong. She met fellow lesbian folkie Cris Williamson in 1981, and that cinched it; she gave up the bright lights of the "walk in act" for the outdoor stadiums of womyn's land.

Fure's discography includes nine releases, including her most recent, *Back Home*, which records painful emotions following the breakup of her 19-year relationship with Williamson in early 2000.

Because the darlings of the lesbian media circuit were fused both personally and professionally, Fure has had to reinvent herself as a single performer, which has been equally difficult and rewarding. She told online magazine *Lesbianation*: "All of sudden, it was like people didn't know who I was or trust that I could fill up a room. It's been a year and a half of proving, re-proving myself again to be a viable artist, and it's starting...to go real well."

### Defiant dignity

In response to the Portland run of the international exhibit *Anne Frank: A History for Today* and several citywide projects in association with its only West Coast showing, Mayor Vera Katz has proclaimed April Expressions of Human Dignity Month.

On display April 8 to May 5, the exhibit is



The award-winning documentary *Southern Comfort* airs on HBO this month



The incomparable Tret Fure brings her seductive acoustics to town

free and open daily at Lloyd Center in the space beneath the new Barnes & Noble store. It was created by the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam and includes 56 large panels with accompanying narrative text and passages from her diary.

There's also a CD-ROM tour of the Anne Frank House, a reproduction of one of the rooms, a special exhibit of the history of discrimination in Oregon and a display of student art and writing. An on-site theater will show various films about Frank and the Holocaust, and speakers will be featured throughout the run.

Three stage performances will take place in the exhibit's theater: *Sojourn Theatre* will perform *Hidden*, an original and site-specific piece exploring hate, discrimination and community. Also offered is *On the Threshold of Life: Anne Frank Remembered* by Oregon Children's Theatre and *We Are Witnesses*, which presents the compelling story of five Jewish teen-agers living



Anne Frank is the centerpiece of an array of commemorative and educational events taking place as part of Expressions of Human Dignity Month

in different parts of Europe who all kept diaries and who all lost their lives in the Holocaust.

Other related theater projects in Portland during April and May include the Northwest Children's Theater and School's production of *The Diary of Anne Frank* at the Northwest Neighborhood Cultural Center; *Living with HIV: Performing Wellness III*, a Well Arts Institute production pairing professional actors with HIV-positive people in a project of expression about the experience of living with HIV, at Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center; and two *Harold Pinter* plays by Profile Theatre Project exploring human rights, *The Birthday Party* and *One for the Road*, both at Theater! Theatre! April 14 to 29 brings *Reflections on Terezin*,

**S**outhern Comfort, the story of female-to-male transsexual Robert Eads' struggle with ovarian cancer in the last months of his life, debuts on HBO April 14 after a successful run at gay and lesbian film festivals last year. This 2001 Sundance Grand Jury Prize winner for Best Documentary will be repeated on the cable channel April 17, 20 and 26.

The movie serves as a loving tribute to Eads and his partner, male-to-female transsexual Lola Cola, as well as an inquiry into why it was so difficult to find a hospital to treat him.

Filmmaker Kate Davis met Eads in 1998 and was fascinated by his story. The quietly hesitant man finally gave his blessing to her finished product just before he died, saying, "If this film helps one other trans man go to a doctor or changes the heart of one straight person, then it's worth it."

The gay television newsmagazine *In the Life* interviews Davis on its episode airing 11 p.m. April 16.

a period of commemoration of the Nazi death camp Terezin, at which extraordinary music was written and performed by and for the Jewish inmates.

*Brundibar*, a children's opera famous for its 55 performances at Terezin, will play April 23 at Mittleman Jewish Community Center. The Northwest Film Center's Guild Theatre shows the 1993 award-winning film *The Music of Terezin* 7 p.m. April 18. Shot on location, the 70-minute documentary features performances and survivors' accounts.

The Oregon Symphony presents *The Defiant Requiem* April 20 and 21 at the Portland Expo Center. The concert/drama honors the passionate work of Raphael Schachter, who led performances of Verdi's *Requiem* at the camp, and also includes the Portland Opera. *Third Angle New Music Ensemble* offers *Sparks of Glory: The Chamber Music of Terezin* April 17 at Pacific University, April 21 at the Old Church and April 23 at University of Oregon.

The Multnomah County Library's downtown location features *Tolerance and Human Rights Artist Book Exhibition* through May 14. The books are either limited print or one-of-a-kind handmade pieces, and this display includes artists from throughout the United States and western Canada. Be sure to look for Eugene artist Mike Walsh's book *Structuring*

*Fear*, which explores 16 AIDS deaths of queer Oregon artists. He says he hopes this single-copy book will "bring us closer to an understanding and tolerance for those afflicted with HIV/AIDS."

For further information and details about all the events, visit [www.annefrankinportland.org](http://www.annefrankinportland.org).

### Can touch this

Portland queer conceptual artist **damali ayo** presents her first public lecture, *Touch this: Ontological interrogations-tangential discourses*, an art experience, lecture, performance and discussion 7 to 9 p.m. April 11 at Linfield College's Peterson Hall Auditorium, 2255 N.W. Northrup St. The evening is free of charge.

ayo has been making noise in the art and performance communities of Portland for upward of 15 years now and has a wealth of work and shows behind her. This event will investigate the role of her work in creating dialogue between art and audience that engages the social structures and issues that shape the daily interactions of society and community.

The artist has created a new performance work for this event in collaboration with Defunkt Theatre co-founder James Moore, and she'll also focus on her recent mixed-media work *shift: we are not yet done*, which questions racism.

### Building bridges

Portland's gay and lesbian Bridges Vocal Ensemble kicks off its spring Northwest tour with *Spring Tonic*



Bridges Vocal Ensemble opens its tour with *Spring Tonic* April 12 and 13

8 p.m. April 12 and 13 at Echo Theatre, 1515 S.E. 37th Ave.

The group is entering its 11th year of making music together and often joining other local singing sensations such as the Portland Gay Men's Chorus and the Portland Lesbian Choir. In that spirit of collaboration, Bridges performs with the Unity Church of Portland choir April 27 and the Eugene Peace Choir May 4.

Throughout the year the ensemble offers up its vocal blues, jazz, pop and folk at a number of venues and celebrations, according to original member Cathryn Heron, including "faith organizations from New Thought to Buddhist, gay weddings, conferences and neighborhood events."

Tickets to *Spring Tonic* are \$17 at the door and \$15 advance from Gai-Pied and It's My Pleasure. For more information about the choir and its upcoming performances, visit [community.oregonlive.com/cc/bridges](http://community.oregonlive.com/cc/bridges).

### It's gonna be a ball!

A few months ago, Stephanie Scott and her partner moved back to their homeland of Oregon after 10 years in Florida, inspired to do so, she says, by the events of Sept. 11.

In no time at all, the pair decided to shake things up around here, playing host to what they're calling the **Lesbian Ball of the Year** 9 p.m. April 6 at Portland's Bethany Mall, 4876 N.W. Bethany Blvd. You'll dance to a DJ spinning, enjoy a buffet and have access to a no-host bar.

The two are throwing the shindig to meet people, Scott says, and "just to get dressed up!" A percentage of the proceeds is going to the Women's Breast Cancer Foundation because they wanted to "give something back to the community," Scott asserts. "Breast cancer chases us no matter where we go. Everyone knows someone, so many people have someone...it's everywhere."

Tickets to the ball are \$50 at the door or \$35 in advance from In Other Words. RSVPs are requested at 503-709-5913, where you can also get directions to the mall. Or call 503-531-8277 the day of the event.

### Ellen is coming!

You might not be able to find her television show when you want to, but you can find Ellen DeGeneres in person at Portland's Keller Auditorium 8 p.m. June 1. Tickets, on sale now, are \$31.50-\$46.50 from the Portland Center for the Performing Arts box office or Fastixx. [M]

Compiled by LISA BRADSHAW

