

The Portland Institute for Contemporary Art raises money during the third annual **Prints for PICA**, an all-day print marathon and studio sale featuring more than 50 artists, including queer Storm Tharp, at Studio 333. (4-9 pm. 333 NE Hancock St.)

Your Place or Mine? Productions hosts **Eat My Martini**, a suave cocktail party where 40 lesbians can mingle in an elegant and fun atmosphere in West Portland. Activities include martinis, mockinis, appetizers, billiards, backgammon, movies, music, cards and darts. Dress to impress! (6-9 pm. \$25 at the door, \$20 in advance from 503-481-9870 or www.yourplaceormineproductions.com.)

The women of **The Forest Group** hold their annual holiday dessert social. Bring your favorite dessert and/or beverage. (6:30 pm. 503-659-2782.)

GO OUT Celebrate the many traditions of the season with choreography, satire and camp as the **Portland Gay Men's Chorus** presents *Holiday Serenade*, featuring a special appearance by Diane Syrcle, through Dec. 18 at Reed College's Kaul Auditorium. (8 pm Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 3203 SE Woodstock Blvd. \$15-\$25 from 503-226-2588 or www.pdxgmc.org.)

Bear Bust at Gail's Dirty Duck. (8-11 pm. 429 NW Third Ave. \$8 members, \$10 nonmembers.)



Mr. Gay Oregon XXXVI Felipe and Miss Gay Oregon XXXIV Miss Mylar raise money for queer youth Dec. 10 at Escape.

Tip your hat to **Crystal's Country Jam** at the Portland Metro Club (PPAA). (8-9 pm lessons, 9 pm-1 am dancing. 618 SE Alder St. \$5, \$8 with lessons.)

along with political rants and razor-sharp social observations, at Wonder Ballroom. (8 pm. 128 NE Russell St. \$20 from box office or Ticketmaster.)

Direct from his critically acclaimed role in *One: The Musical*, queer neo-folk sensation **Holcombe Waller** performs with The Unicorns, Sexton Blake and Susie Blue at Doug Fir Lounge. (9 pm. 830 E Burnside St. \$8.)

SUN • DEC 18

Keshet holds an early Hanukkah party, complete with a white elephant gift exchange and latkes, for sexual minority Jews along with their spouses, partners, significant others and good friends. (6:30 pm. David 503-226-7079. www.gayjew-ishportland.com.)

Justin Bond and Kenny Mellman are **Kiki & Herb**, a brash, boozy septuagenarian chanteuse and her shy, stalwart accompanist, performing twisted renditions of songs by everyone from Eminem to Scissor Sisters,

Moore Than Meets the Eye

Sure, it's easy to say singer/songwriter **Andy Moore** has a lot in common with the Indigo Girls. She herself admits they're a huge influence on her. But the Massachusetts-based folkie is a lot more than that, with hefty amounts of soul and power tumbling from her, through her words and through her passionate melodies. At times it's Jess Klein or Jonatha Brooke who comes to mind; at others it's anyone from Stacey Earle to Tracy Chapman who comes bubbling up from the lush depths of this woman's commanding voice and eloquent stylings.



Andy Moore performs Dec. 5 at Mississippi Pizza Pub.

There's a forcefulness to the emotional gush and rush that comes from Moore's music. You feel the words, often written in simple, straightforward ways that deal with universal subjects, snagging the heart of the listener along this stream of everyday life ups and downs.

It's a career that began with awkward inspirations at a very young age, what she called an "obsession with Amy Grant." At that time, Moore's bio sheet recalls, "My first guitar cost my folks less than the price of two Happy Meals." By the age of 10, she'd been given a real acoustic guitar and proceeded to go to town, musically.

In her college years she became a regular at bars and coffee shops around Penn State and in the Southwest. In 2001, a fateful meeting with gay folkie **Eric Himan** resulted in her first album, *Shifting*, a collection of touching albeit bare-bones guitar and voice pairings that contains plenty of ethereal moments.

After moving to Provincetown, Mass., more things clicked in her music career, and she released the uplifting *Dig Right In* last year. Here, these tunes show off her talents against the backdrop of a small combo and glittering harmonies that drift along with her quite nicely into the musical stratosphere. This one is well-produced and helps convey a stronger presence—the kind of punch her music is dying to impart.

Moore opens for Himan 7 p.m. Dec. 5 at Mississippi Pizza Pub, 3552 N. Mississippi Ave. Cover is \$5.

—André Hagedstedt

When P-Town Meets Urinetown, You Gotta Go

Portland's newest and only professional musical theater company isn't holding it in any longer. And that's a relief for Stumptown Stages associate artistic director **Gary Wayne Cash**, who choreographed its premiere production of *Urinetown*, playing through Dec. 18 at Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Ave.

Dedicated to smaller and original musicals with a social message, Stumptown was formed earlier this year by artistic director **Kirk Mouser** (*The Melody Lingers On: The Songs of Irving Berlin*) and Drammy Award winner Cash, who is also a theater arts director and drama teacher at Beaverton's Sunset High School.

"After performing in *I Love, You're Perfect, Now Change* for two years, it was obvious that Portland audiences really appreciate smaller, contemporary, smart and sophisticated musicals that don't get weighed down by the scenic and technical aspect. Smaller musicals also tend to feature the entire cast as an ensemble rather than leading characters and chorus," says Cash. "We really want to feature local performers. Portland has tremendous talent."

In *Urinetown* (winner of 2002 Tony Awards for book, score and direction), a water shortage has crippled a Gotham-like city and, in a not-as-far-fetched-as-you-think attempt to regulate water consumption, a corporate-bribed government has outlawed the use of private toilets. In short, ya gotta pay to pee. And when you don't, you're dragged off to what authorities call "Urinetown" and never heard from again. Repression leads to revolution and, of course, the inevitable, insuppressible love story between a boy and a girl from opposite sides of the john.

"This show is a parody of sorts on everything we love about musical theater while at the same time running a real question under the guise of a show tune. It



A water shortage cripples a Gotham-like city in *Urinetown*, the first musical from Stumptown Stages.

is witty, charming, intelligent and extremely fun. People who do not consider themselves musical theater types, even anti-musical, will find something in this show that isn't found in *The Sound of Music* or *Oklahoma!*" says Cash. "The question is simple: Can the world's population sustain itself with the earth's resources? How's that for musical theater comedy?"

Urinetown plays 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$25 from 503-381-8686. For details visit www.stumptownstages.com.

—Timothy Krause

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