



Karen Ehlers' paintings are on display this month at Blackfish.

FRI • DEC 30

GO OUT Sleater-Kinney performs with Stephen Malkmus & the Jicks and Quasi at Crystal Ballroom. (9 pm. 1332 W Burnside St. \$15 from Ticketmaster.)

Mock Crest Tavern presents the acoustic insanity of **Sneakin' Out**. (9 pm-midnight. 3435 N Lombard St.)

SAT • DEC 31

See Page 45 for a complete list of queer New Year's Eve events.

SUN • JAN 1

Eugene's **Family Values**—which provides a social support network for queer youth, families and allies—hosts a first Sunday potluck lunch. (1-3 pm. family_values_pride@hotmail.com.)

Join C.C. Slaughters for an all-day **New Year's Eve recovery**. (3 pm doors, 5 pm Danimal Kingdom, 7 pm Carnival de Bolivia. 219 NW Davis St.)

Get lucky during the Fox & Hounds' **Monthly Charity Bingo**. (3:30 pm. 217 SW Second Ave.)

MON • JAN 2

The **Bisexual Community Forum** hosts a casual discussion group every first Monday at 3 Friends Coffeehouse. (7:30 pm. 201 SE 12th Ave. 503-285-4848.)

TUE • JAN 3

Dyke-owned coffee shop Haven holds an **open mike** every Tuesday. (7:30 pm. 3551 SE Division St.)

WED • JAN 4

Grab your wigs, press-on nails and facial hair for the monthly **Drag Hop**, a surreal night of music, dancing and gender-bending fun at the Green Room in Grants Pass. (8 pm. 422 SW Fifth St. \$8.)

THU • JAN 5

Oregon Tradeswomen present an information session about paid on-the-job training and high-wage career opportunities in carpentry, electrical and other construction-related fields at Portland Community College's Workforce Training Center. (2-4 pm. 5600 NE 42nd Ave. Register at 503-335-8200, ext. 21.)

FRI • JAN 6

Out Dancing's **beginning nightclub two-step** class starts tonight and continues every Friday in January at Ankeny Street Studio. **Intermediate swing** follows. (7-8 pm swing [\$20 for month], 8-9 pm salsa [\$24 for month]. 975 SE Sandy Blvd. 503-236-5129. out_dancing@yahoo.com.)

SAT • JAN 7

The **Adventure Group** takes a special guided tour of the Portland Art Museum exhibit *Hesse: A Princely German Collection*. Meet at the gift shop entrance. (10 am. 1219 SW Park Ave. \$13-\$15. RSVP to Damon at 503-254-5237 or damonmicheau@pobox.com.)

Urban cowboys and girls are in abundance during DJ Crystal's **country western dance** at the Portland Metro Club (PPAA). (9 pm-1 am. 618 SE Alder St. \$5.)

SUN • JAN 8

It's cold outside, and **Tart** can help warm you up. DJs Harmony, Beyonda and Saffronica lay down the hottest world, Latin, house and old-school beats during the monthly party for queer girls at Holocene. Drink specials for the first hour! (4 pm. 1001 SE Morrison St. \$5.)

GO OUT Join the Human Rights Campaign and Showtime for the third season premiere of **The L Word** at Aura. Prizes! (8 pm. 1022 W Burnside St. \$5 donation.)



Queer photographer Richard Schemmerer participates in **Mechanical Vision** through Dec. 29 at Voleur.



Are you ready to **Jump**?

Do Laugh for the Holidays

Even when they're falling over the backs of chairs and sliding over tabletops, the performers of **Do Jump Extremely Physical Theater** still manage to look graceful. The same goes for when they are popping out of Christmas boxes or trundling each other around the stage on hand trucks.

This combination of slapstick comedy and amazing acrobatics has sustained the company for 28 seasons.

The group's annual winter show, **Do Jump for the Holidays**, is the longest-running work in its repertoire. It is also one of the most well-received. Last year, Do Jump performed 31 sold-out holiday shows. It has taken the performance to Broadway and to the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

Even after 15 years, the show is far from stale. It is an evolving creation, says lesbian artistic director **Robin Lane**. The collaborative work has been influenced by many people through the years, from the performers—or "actorbats," as they sometimes call themselves—to the musicians who contribute the performance's live (and lively) soundtrack. It is a team effort, says Lane, in which every part matters.

This season, the show evolves further with a new piece called "Party." In this silly skit, the performers exaggeratedly act out the antics of a typical holiday gathering, from the partygoers' occasional moments of boredom to their continual snacking.

Also included in this year's show is the 2004 hit "Divided We Fall," a side-splitting combination of *The Nutcracker* and *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*. The entire performance engages the audience, but the piece titled "Ah Ha" takes it to another level. It is composed by lesbian choral director **Joan Szymko**, who leads the crowd in a vocal warm-up in preparation for their role in "Ah Ha."

Lane says: "We really are a community. When you come to see us, we like to make you feel part of that, too. It's a warm, open feeling."

Jump plays through Jan. 8 at Echo Theatre, 1515 S.E. 37th Ave. Tickets are \$15-\$24 from 503-231-1232.

—Rebecca Ragain

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