

Macbeth Doth Come

Betrayal. Deceit. Murder. Theatergoers in search of dramatic distraction will find it in spades during Portland Opera's production of *Macbeth*. It is the second show of the company's 41st season, which explores the closely intertwined themes of power and corruption.

Giuseppe Verdi's treatment of William Shakespeare's rousing tale is best known for its powerful melodies, sweeping musical architecture and the juxtaposition of large-scale and quiet, subtle arias. This production marks the Portland Opera debut of conductor **George Manahan**, music director of the New York City Opera. The cast features Portland favorites such as baritone **Richard Zeller** as Macbeth and soprano **Pamela South** as Lady Macbeth.

The story's infamous three witches have been reinterpreted by choreographers **Jamey Hampton** and **Ashley Roland**. The artistic directors of BodyVox dance company previously partnered with Portland Opera's general director, **Christopher Mattaliano**, for *Pagliacci/Carmina Burana*.

Instead of adhering to the classic portrayal of the three witches, Roland and Hampton opted to use three groups of witches, representing water, air and fire. About one-third of the 34 witches are BodyVox dancers; the rest are chorus members "capable of refined movement," says Hampton.

Hampton and Roland intentionally stayed away from stereotypically "witchy" movement. "No broomsticks," jokes Hampton. Instead, he says, the witches in the production evoke a feeling akin to that of *Alice in Wonderland*.

"It seems delightful on the surface, but it's pretty dark and sinister underneath," says Hampton.

He continues: "We're trying to make these witches a combination of deadly serious and sinister, and somewhat madcap as well. Their personalities can turn on a dime, because they're really not of this world."

Contributing to the ethereal atmosphere is the stunning set design by **Jerome Sirlin**, whose work for *The Kiss of the Spider Woman* received a Tony Award nomination. His trademark style, which combines projection, scenery and lighting, has been described as a bridge between theater and film.

Portland Opera performs *Macbeth* 7:30 p.m. Feb. 4, 7, 9 and 11 at Keller Auditorium, 222 S.W. Clay St. Tickets are \$37-\$133 from 503-241-1802 or Ticketmaster.

—Rebecca Ragain

Oregon Ballet Theatre artistic director Christopher Stowell leads a free dance talk with gay choreographer **Trey McIntyre** and actress/singer **Susannah Mars** at Winningstad Theatre. (7 pm. 1111 SW Broadway.)

The Human Rights Campaign presents the monthly mixer **Salon Q** at Aura. (7:30 pm. 1022 W Burnside St.)

GO OUT Doug Fir Lounge presents an evening with Hüsker Dü and Sugar founder **Bob Mould** and queer neofolk sensation **Holcombe Waller**. (9 pm. 830 E Burnside St. \$15 at the door, \$13 in advance from TicketsWest.)

DJ Hott Scott spins during **Hog**, a rock 'n' roll queer night every second and fourth Tuesday at Kelly's Olympian. (9 pm. 426 SW Washington St. \$2-\$4 sliding scale.)

Electro/punk band **Show Me the Pink** throws an album release party at Porky's Pub. (9 pm. 835 N Lombard St.)

WED ♥ FEB 15

Live Wire!—OPB's one-hour radio variety show staged and recorded at the historic Aladdin Theater—welcomes gay sex advice columnist and author **Dan Savage**. (7 pm. 3017 SE Milwaukie Ave. \$10 at the door, \$9 in advance from box office or Ticketmaster.)

ErosTouch hosts **Men Massaging Men** every first and third Wednesday. One-on-one full-body massage in a safe and nurturing environment. No experience necessary. (7-10 pm. \$20 donation. Register at 503-493-9421 or erostouch@earthlink.net.)

The Djangophiles perform guitar-based swing jazz as part of the second annual Sessions series at gay-owned Aura Restaurant and Lounge. (7:45-10 pm. 1022 W Burnside St.)

GO OUT Just when you thought it was safe to go back to the office, Portland's radical drag troupe presents **Sissyboy 9 to 5** at Holocene with DJs Jimmie Jamma and Stormy. Work will never be the same again. (11 pm. 1001 SE Morrison St. \$5.)

THU ♥ FEB 16

Radical Faeries call gay and bisexual men to their 25th winter gathering featuring rituals, workshops, social events, personal interaction and solitude through Feb. 20 at Breitenbush Hot Springs Resort near Detroit. (\$300 sliding scale. Register at www.radfae.org/breitenbush.)

FRI ♥ FEB 17

GO OUT Electro/punk band **Show Me the Pink** kicks off its Rad America Fun Movement Tour with a three-floor rager as Richland, Portland's only downtown house party venue, hosts its last hurrah. Also performing are Scream Club, Mustaphamond, Pinchers of Peril and The Sprockettes, a minibike synchronized dance troupe. (8 pm. 1232 SW Salmon St.)

SAT ♥ FEB 18

Former *Just Out* columnist and nationally acclaimed novelist **Marc Acito** (*How I Paid for College*) discusses the joys, sorrows, ups, downs, ins and outs of his work at Central Library. (1-2:30 pm. 801 SW 10th Ave.)

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

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.)



ArtBar, located in the rotunda at Portland Center for the Performing Arts, unveils *Beyond Pop: Comic Book Art* from Mercury Studios Feb. 9.

After 2 1/2 years of genderfucking, Portland's drag king troupe calls it quits with **DK PDX: The Final Frontier** featuring Nicky Click, MC Marie Fleischmann and DJ Sappho. (9 pm. 1001 SE Morrison St. \$5.)

SUN ♥ FEB 19

H2O presents **The Life**, a lesbian night for people of color featuring DJ Queen Lucky, every third Sunday. Dress to impress! (9 pm. 204 SW Yamhill St. \$6.)

LOOKING AHEAD

Mark your calendar for the sixth annual **Red Dress Party** April 1 at its new digs: the site of last summer's Pride Warehouse Block Party. This year's theme is "Red Planet." Admission includes hosted bar and food. Proceeds benefit Our House of Portland, Camp Starlight and Q Center. Red dress mandatory! (9 pm. Northeast Ninth Avenue and Flanders Street. \$35 from Balloons on Broadway or www.reddresspdx.com.)

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