



White Bird presents Inbal Pinto Dance Company's surreal circus fable May 3.

Amnesty International USA convenes for its 2006 Annual General Meeting through April 30 at the Hilton Hotel. Highlights include a panel discussion covering police brutality against queers and a Saturday night concert at Roseland Theater featuring Collective Soul, Suzanne Vega and Oscar-winning actress Mira Sorvino. (921 SW Sixth Ave. \$80-\$100 from [www.amnestyusa.org/events/aggm](http://www.amnestyusa.org/events/aggm).)

Bad Girls presents **Dyke Night at the Eagle** featuring an auction, a raffle and live performers. Proceeds benefit Bradley-Angle House. (9 pm-midnight. 1300 W Burnside St. \$4-\$10 donation.)

The Blow performs with Scout Niblett, Faerie Talk and Everything Is Fine at Berbat's. (9:30 pm. 231 SW Ankeny St. \$7.)

DJ Chef Gabriel spins during **Hot Misery** at Gotham Bldg Tavern. (10 pm-1 am. 2240 N Interstate Ave.)

**SAT • APRIL 29**

Discover high-paying, high-skilled careers in the construction-related trades during the 14th annual **Women in Trades Career Fair** at the National Electrical Contractors Association/International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Training Center. (9 am-4 pm. 16021 NE Airport Way.)

The Imperial Sovereign Court of the Emerald Empire presents **Damsels, Divas and Dudes**, a family-friendly evening of music, dance and impersonation, at Hult Center's Soreng Theater in Eugene. Proceeds benefit HIV Alliance. (7 pm.

**Do You Need a Kahneeta?**

Rochelle Sprunk was talking with some friends about how often socializing is done in bars and taverns. They casually outlined ways to get their lives out of the bars and into other experiences.

It was just conversation at that point, but Sprunk couldn't stop thinking about those ideas. Her background in marketing and desire to offer different options led her to start a company focused on fun and socializing for women who love women.

The result was **Girls on Gay**. Sprunk handles the marketing, sales and executive management, while her lover, **Karen Hooper**, conducts all computer-related tasks, including the Web site and advertising package design.

A year later, after such successes as lesbian speed dating and *The L Word* premiere, Girls on Gay presents **I Needa Kahneeta**, a weekend lesbian getaway at the popular Central Oregon resort. Sprunk hopes to offer this package at least twice a year, including a future event that will include children.

Fees include transportation to and from the resort (either by shuttle or, for a \$45 upgrade, in a limo with lots of extras) and all meals, including a Friday evening private dinner and a Saturday evening outdoor traditional salmon bake featuring tribal dancers. Participants have three options for Saturday activities: 18 holes of golf, kayaking the Warm Springs River or a deluxe spa treatment that, Sprunk notes, has been mentioned in *Shape Magazine* as one of the five best in the United States. In addition, guests will receive vouchers for the double Olympic-size pool (with a 140-foot slide), horseback riding, hiking, biking and volleyball.

Sprunk stresses the commitment Girls on Gay has to the queer community and acknowledges support for political as well as social needs. The goal of Girls on Gay is "to bring the community together."

The weekend costs \$390 per person, \$770 per couple or \$1,380 per foursome. Register online at [www.girlsongay.com](http://www.girlsongay.com) by May 15 (May 5 if paying by check). For more information call 877-630-7900 or 360-260-7900.

—Patricia L. MacAodha

1 Eugene Center. \$25 from box office, 541-682-5000 or [www.hultcenter.org](http://www.hultcenter.org).)

**GO OUT** The Embers presents **Deaf Comedy Night**, a popular annual showcase of deaf actors using American Sign Language with a voice interpreter. (7:30-9:30 pm. 110 NW Broadway. \$5.)

Find out what all of Europe has been talking about: Berlin cabaret diva **Dahlia** revisits Dietrich—if Dietrich had done post-punk electro disco—with **3asic** and DJs **Boy** and **Puppet** at Porky's Pub. (9 pm. 835 N Lombard St. \$5.)

San Francisco trio **True Margrit** performs piano-pop vignettes featuring catchy choruses and the husky/sweet/surreal voice of queer vocalist Margrit Eichler at Mississippi Studios. (9 pm. 3939 N Mississippi Ave. \$10.)

**DJ Suppoz** spins at gay-owned Crush. (9 pm. 1400 SE Morrison St. \$2.)

Singer/songwriter **Garrison Star** opens for Roger Clyne and Peacemakers at Berbat's. (9:30 pm. 231 SW Ankeny St. \$15 at the door, \$13.50 in advance from TicketWeb.)

Missnomer presents **Funk Is Its Own Reward** during **Hot Misery** at Gotham Bldg Tavern. (10 pm-1 am. 2240 N Interstate Ave.)

**SUN • APRIL 30**

Ready for sunshine, fun and the return of golfing weather? Ladies on the Links and the Hambleton Project host a **Spring Extravaganza** featuring three bands and two performances at Vitis Enoteca. Proceeds benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Team in Training. (5-9 pm. 535 NW 16th Ave. \$7 donation. [www.ladiesonthelinkspdx.org](http://www.ladiesonthelinkspdx.org).)

**MON • MAY 1**

**GO OUT** Pull down your fedora, grab your trench coat and join 2Boards Productions for **Gala "Noir"** at Theater Theatre. The fund-raiser features a silent auction, food, drink, music, a classic radio play and a sneak preview of the new theater company's summer show, *Private Eyes*. (6:30 pm. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$10 from 503-232-5375.)

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 • MAY 2**

**GO OUT** Gay pianist **Bill Wells** and Portland superstar **Susannah Mars** present *Make Your Own Party—Part Deux*, an eclectic evening of music including songs by Jacques Brel, Jason Robert Brown, Dave Frishberg, Stephen Sondheim and Kurt Weill, at Wilf's Restaurant and Piano Bar. (7:30 pm. 800 NW Sixth Ave. \$15 from 503-223-0070.)

**Sallie Tisdale** reads from *Women of the Way: Discovering 2,500 Years of Buddhist Wisdom*, a groundbreaking new book celebrating women's Buddhist lineage, at In Other Words. (7:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

**WED • MAY 3**

**Elder Resource Alliance** holds a business meeting at Friendly House. (3:30-4:30 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave.)

Turner Classic Movies premieres **Stardust: The Bette Davis Story**, a startling portrait of one of Hollywood's most gifted and enigmatic legends. (5 and 8 pm.)

**THU • MAY 4**

Blackfish Gallery, Classic Greek Theatre of Oregon, CoHo Productions and Readers Theatre Repertory join together to create the first-ever **MythFest**, a collaborative celebration of the power of myth, through June 10. (For a complete schedule visit [www.mythfest.org](http://www.mythfest.org).)



Celebrate the return of golfing weather April 30 with Ladies on the Links.

Portland's best drag performers face off during **Kings and Queens Battle Royale** followed by a huge dance party at the Egyptian Club. Proceeds benefit Basic Rights Oregon. (9 pm. 3701 SE Division St. \$5.)



She's got Bette Davis eyes.

**Stardust Memories**

To whet our appetites for a tantalizing monthlong marathon of films starring Bette Davis, Turner Classic Movies is airing a new documentary on the life and legendary Hollywood career of the iconic actress, who might be remembered more as a gay cultural hero than as a phenomenal performer and groundbreaking celebrity.

Though *Stardust: The Bette Davis Story* gives her inspiration to countless gay men and drag queens its due—mostly thanks to an interview with out playwright Charles Busch (*Die, Mommie, Die!*), who nicely juggles reverence and astuteness in his assessments—neither is it the best source of deep insight into that aspect of this great star's appeal. For that, see Daniel Harris' invaluable essay "The Death of Camp."

Rather, *Stardust* is an excellent, informative, well-researched and balanced introductory survey of Davis' life and times: from the Puritan upbringing that gave her the work ethic required for studio-era Hollywood stardom to the endlessly strained familial, romantic and work relationships through which she forged and practiced her immensely compelling willfulness—and, not least, her impressive body of work in film and television. Interviews with subsequent female movie legends who rose to fame and acclaim in Davis' wake—Jane Fonda, Ellen Burstyn and, as narrator, Susan Sarandon—shed some clarifying light on what specifically made her a hero to them personally and a one-of-a-kind, too-often-overlooked but genuinely worthy acting talent. Best of all, surprisingly, is the ever-unlikable James Woods, who sounds almost homophobic when he recalls avoiding *What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?* for years based on its campy reputation, rolling his eyes as he says "gay icon"—but that makes it all the more vindicating when he goes on to acknowledge the actual fineness of both the film and Davis' performance.

And Davis is a figure more in need of vindication than most. Unlike her notorious rival (and fellow gay saint) Joan Crawford, Davis was utterly allergic to ingratiating herself, making her something like the Courtney Love of her era—a talent whose "unladylike" antics overshadowed her achievements. She is ripe for just the kind of rediscovery TCM is offering the uninitiated—and on that front, *Stardust* serves its primary purpose.

*Stardust* airs 8 p.m. May 3 followed by an all-night marathon of Davis films, plus another Davis all-nighter every Wednesday through the end of May.

—Christopher McQuain