

on stage

Artists Repertory Theatre presents *Frozen*, in which the lives of three strangers are connected through the disappearance of a child and the search for answers from a killer in custody, through May 7. (Call for times. 1516 SW Alder St. \$15-\$40 from 503-241-1278.)

Artists Repertory Theatre presents Stephen Sondheim's Tony-winning musical *Assassins* April 25-June 4. (Call for times. 1516 SW Alder St. \$15-\$40 from 503-241-1278.)

Brooklyn Bay revives *Tao Soup*, a savory blend of Eastern and Western influences utilizing text, movement, music, sound and an assortment of unpredictable delights and surprises, April 28-June 17. (8 pm Friday and Saturday. 1825 SE Franklin St. \$10-\$15 from 503-777-5879.)

Charles Ross performs a high-energy, nonstop blast through three films in just one hour in *One-Man Star Wars Trilogy* May 2-6 at Newmark Theatre. (Call for times. 1111 SW Broadway. \$20-\$30 from box office or Ticketmaster.)

Cirque du Soleil presents *Varekai*, another astonishing spectacle of athleticism and artistry set against a baroque and operatic backdrop, extended through April 23. Hard bodies, slick showmanship and perfection of craft make this a guilty pleasure—and the sight of those sexy, swingin' twins is downright sinful. (Call for times. Southwest Moody Avenue. \$24.50-\$70 from 800-678-5440 or www.cirquedusoleil.com.)

Club Posse Productions presents *Going All the Way: A Very Special Night of Theatre*, a multimedia tale of love, lust and lunchroom alienation based on the after-school specials that ruled the 3 pm network time slot from the early 1970s to the mid-1990s, April 27-May 12 at Theater Theatre. (11:30 pm Thursday-Saturday. No show April 29. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$7 from 503-358-8646; Thursdays are "pay what you will.")

CoHo Productions presents *By the Bog of Cats*, a new Medea story of vengeance and forgiveness set in modern Ireland, May 5-June 10. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 2257 NW Raleigh St. \$19-\$22 from 503-220-COHO.)



Terra performs April 21 at Mississippi Studios.

Do Jump! Extremely Physical Theater presents *And Then...*, a new work inspired by the paintings of Marc Chagall, April 28-May 21 at Echo Theatre. (Call for times. 1515 SE 37th Ave. \$15-\$22 from 503-231-1232 or www.dojump.org.)

Imago Theatre revives *Frogz*, its ever-popular creature-theater menagerie of escaped penguins, silent sloths and invisible cats, through May 28. (Call for times. 17 SE Eighth Ave. \$16-\$27 from 503-231-9581 or TicketsWest.)

Insight Out Theatre Collective, in collaboration with the Debate Society, presents *A Thought About Raya*, a series of colliding scenes plucked from the idiosyncratic mind of Russian absurdist Daniil Kharms, through April 29 at West End Theatre. Though you might leave scratching your head about what to make of this string of humorous, non sequiter absurdities, vivid moments of rational clarity will stick in your mind, largely due to crisp, on-point and energetic physical comedy that goes round-for-round with its perplexingly punchy sketches. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday, 3 pm April 23. 1220 SW Taylor St. \$15 from 503-234-0973; Thursdays are \$5-\$15 sliding scale.)

Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center presents *Shylock*, an award-winning solo piece about the highly charged relationship among political correctness, censorship and art, through April 22. (8 pm. 5340 N Interstate Ave. \$12-\$16 from 503-736-1027.)

Lakewood Theatre Company presents *Hello, Dolly!*, the beloved American musical about an 1890s matchmaker, April 28-June 11. (Call for times. 368 S State St., Lake Oswego. \$25-\$27 from 503-635-3901.)

Miracle Theatre Group presents *Ardiente Paciencia (Burning Patience)*, based on the novel that inspired the 1995 film *Il Postino (The Postman)*, which imagines Chilean poet Pablo Neruda befriending a love-struck postman, through April 29. This warm and affectionate production eloquently places the great writer on a human scale while never wavering from its reverence for his fiery politics and poetry, the language of which makes up for the script's rather mild plot. Performed in Spanish with English subtitles Thursdays and Sundays. (7:30 pm Thursday, 8 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 525 SE Stark St. \$14-\$18 from 503-236-7253.)

Northwest Children's Theater presents the Cat in the Hat, Horton the Elephant and all of the Whos in Whoville in *Seussical, the Musical* May 5-28 at Northwest Neighborhood Cultural Center. (Call for times. 1819 NW Everett St. \$12-\$20 from 503-222-4480 or www.nwcts.org.)

Oregon Ballet Theatre presents its Mozart-themed *Spring Program* featuring Lar Lubovitch's joyful "Concerto Six Twenty-Two" April 22-29 at Keller Auditorium. (Call for times. 222 SW Clay St. \$8-\$96 from box office or 503-2-BALLET.)

Oregon Ballet Theatre and other artists celebrate the life of ballerina and beloved teacher Elena Carter, who passed away in February, with a memorial performance April 30 at Newmark Theatre. Donations bene-



A psychiatrist (Karen Trumbo) tries to unlock the secrets of a chilly, enigmatic killer (Keith Scales) in the haunting drama *Frozen* through May 7 at Artists Rep.

fit the Elena Carter Memorial Scholarship Fund. (7:30 pm. 1111 SW Broadway.)

Oregon Children's Theatre presents *Alexander, Who's Not, Not, Not, Not, Not Going to Move!*—a musical chock full of pop, Motown and Broadway-inspired songs—April 22-May 14 at Brunish Hall. (11 am and 2 pm Saturday, 2 and 5 pm Sunday. 1111 SW Broadway. \$17-\$22 from 503-228-9571 or Ticketmaster.)

Portland Actors Conservatory presents *Experiment with an Air Pump*, in which the cellar of a house reveals a dark secret buried for 200 years, through April 30 at Firehouse Theatre. (8 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 1436 SW Montgomery St. \$15-\$25 from 503-274-1717.)

Portland Civic Theatre Guild's First Tuesday Readers Theatre presents the original revue *A Musical Treat* May 2 at The Old Church. (10:30 am. 1422 SW 11th Ave. \$5.)

Portland Metro Performing Arts Center presents the final run of *Hot Flashes*, a comedy that follows the career of a five-woman band from their 40s to their 70s, April 29-June 3. (Call for times. 9933 SE Pine St. \$20-\$24 from 503-775-8017 or www.hotflashesmusical.com.)

Portland Story Theater celebrates complex feelings about mothers and motherhood in *Everybody's Got One* May 5-13 at Center Space. Sure beats therapy! (7:30 pm Friday and Saturday. 420 SE Sixth Ave. \$15 from www.portlandstorytheater.com.)

Profile Theatre Project continues its Lanford Wilson season with *Redwood Curtain*, in which a young Vietnamese-American piano prodigy in search of her biological father encounters a homeless Vietnam veteran who has retreated from society, through May 14 at Theater Theatre. Labyrinthine redwood forests—full of snapping twigs, wrong turns, distant echoes—make a striking metaphor for Wilson's lost-and-lonely story, but instead of stretching its legs to better know the dramatic terrain, this well-cast production seemed consigned to follow the paved-path loop around the sylvan psyche, seeing the sights from a safe distance. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$13-\$28 from 503-242-0080.)

Profile Theatre Project concludes its Lanford Wilson season with a staged reading of a totally revised text of *Sympathetic Magic*, his Obie-winning play about an anthropologist studying the relationship between gang

behavior and African tribes, May 7-10 at Theater Theatre. (7 pm. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$10-\$15 from 503-242-0080.)

Reed College presents its Spring Dance Concert May 5 and 6 at Kaul Auditorium. (8 pm. 3203 SE Woodstock Blvd. \$1-\$4.)

Slocum House Theatre presents *Enchanted April*, the story of two proper London housewives' romantic month in the Mediterranean sunshine, through May 14. (Call for times. 605 Esther St., Vancouver, Wash. \$8-\$10 from 360-696-2427.)

Sowolu Theater Ensemble presents *The Water Principle*, a metaphorical play about forgotten landscapes and aggressive land grabs, through April 22 at Back Door Theater. Neither perfect nor easy, this dangerously wise and underhandedly funny work pays off days later when you can't stop thinking about its desperate imagination gone awry. Michael Fetters is flawless. (8 pm. 4319 SE Hawthorne Blvd. \$8-\$15 from 503-230-2090.)

Stark Raving Theatre presents *The Mark*, in which three actors play multiple characters whose lives intertwine through three poetic dramas, through April 22. A well-cast trio brings depth to an otherwise simplistic Lifetime triptych in this modern melodrama from Portland playwright Gretchen Icenogle. (8 pm. 2257 NW Raleigh St. \$10-\$20 from 503-232-7072.)

Stark Raving Theatre puts writers in the hot seat in the improv hit *The Writer's Nightmare* through April 22. (11 pm. 2257 NW Raleigh St. \$10 from 503-232-7072.)

Theatre Vertigo, in collaboration with Defunkt Theatre, presents *Like I Say*, a mysterious and comic story about a peculiar group of travelers who try to make some sense of life and get a hold of some ready cash, through May 13 at Theater Theatre. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$15 from 503-306-0870; Thursdays are "pay what you will.")

White Bird presents the Portland debut of Israel's acclaimed Inbal Pinto Dance Company May 3 at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. (7:30 pm. 1037 SW Broadway. \$19-\$43 from box office or Ticketmaster.)

Reviewed by TIMOTHY KRAUSE. Read more and comment at followspot.blogspot.com.

don valerio, md

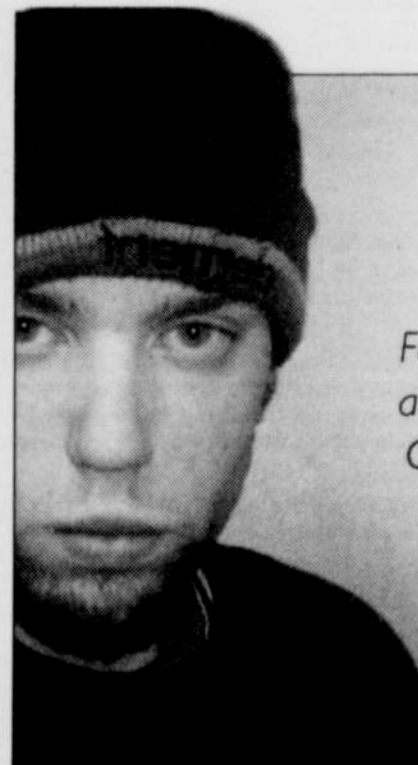
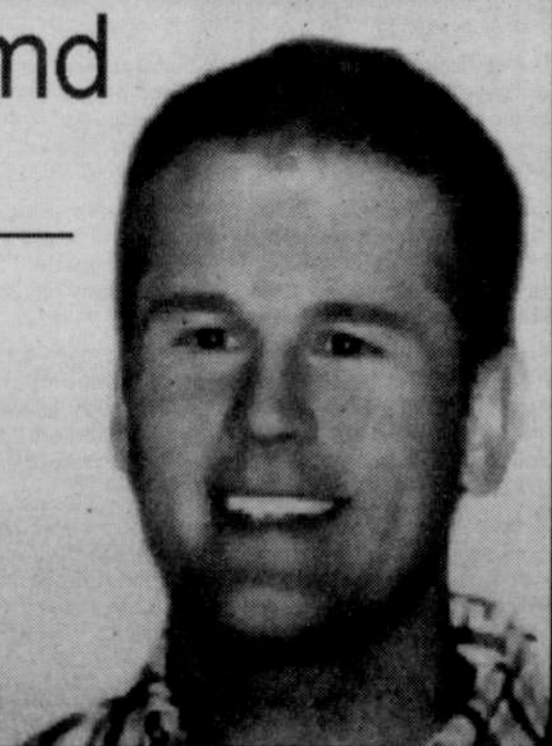
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