

MON • MAY 15

The **Portland Avalanche** hosts a fund-raiser at Crush featuring DJ Harmonix and a silent auction with items including a signed team ball and a comprehensive financial planning package. Proceeds help send the team to the 2006 Mark Bingham international gay rugby tournament in New York City. (6-9 pm. 1400 SE Morrison St. \$2. www.avalancherugby.org.)

Gather around the **Portland Polyamory Circle** for informal discussions of open relationships and commitment. (7 pm. Laury 503-285-4848.)

GO OUT Just Out presents **Gay Skate Night!** Grease your wheels every third Monday at Oaks Park. This month's guest is Elder Resource Alliance, a Friendly House senior program serving older members of the sexual minorities community. (7-9 pm. 1 SE Spokane St. \$5 plus canned food items for Esther's Pantry.)

TUE • MAY 16

Learn how you can take really good care of yourself while giving healing touch to another during **Men Touching with Heart** presented by Q-LAND and

LoveTribes. (7-10 pm. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.lovetribe.org/menspirit.)

Towne Lounge presents the nonsmoking queer night **Meet Dept.** every Tuesday. This week's installment is **Trash**, a view of local fashion hosted by Sissyboy's Linah Couture and Splendor Gabor featuring a fashion show, fashion do's and don'ts and a post-show boutique with DJs Doll Parts and Siti'spin. (9 pm. 714 SW 20th Place. \$2-\$5 sliding scale.)

WED • MAY 17

GO OUT Friendly House Community Center invites sexual minority seniors and their friends to **Elder Resource Alliance Games Day**. Play cards, board games and charades while snacking on light refreshments and socializing! (2-4 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave. 503-224-2640. eracordinator@yahoo.com.)

Hillary Carlip reads from *Queen of the Oddballs* at Barnes & Noble. (7 pm. 708 SW Third Ave.)

THU • MAY 18

Live Wire!—OPB's one-hour radio variety show staged and recorded at the historic Aladdin Theater—welcomes queer authors Hillary Carlip (*Queen of the Oddballs*) and



The Tragedies Theater Company stages the original comedy farce *The Butler Did It: A Murder Mystery* May 6 and 7.

Marc Acito (*How I Paid for College*) along with Oregonian television critic Peter Ames Carlin and musical guest Stephen Malkmus. (7 pm. 3017 SE Milwaukie Ave. \$15 at the door, \$12 in advance from box office or Ticketmaster.)

David Oates, reads from *City Limits: Walking Portland's Boundary*, a book about his trek along the 260-mile urban growth boundary and the Rose City's love/hate affair with planning, at Annie Bloom's Books. (7:30 pm. 7834 SW Capitol Highway.)

Live on Stage presents **Night of 100 Stars 2006** hosted by the hilarious Valory J. Lawrence through May 20 at World Trade Center Theatre. The May 19 performance will feature special guest **Anthony Rapp** of the original Broadway cast and film version of *Rent*. The May 20 performance will be preceded by a silent auction hosted by Margie Boulé and Helen Raptis with appetizers, wine and beer and will be followed by a champagne and dessert reception. (8 pm. 121 SW Salmon St. \$25-\$50 from www.liveonstage.us.)

FRI • MAY 19

Anthony Rapp holds a free lecture/book signing for his new best-selling book, *Without You: A Memoir of Love, Loss and the Hit Musical Rent*, at World Trade Center Theatre. He will also sing a couple of songs from the musical. (5:30 pm. 121 SW Salmon St.)

SAT • MAY 20

Paddle Sturgeon Lake with **OutKayaking**, Portland's gay and lesbian sea kayak group. (www.outkayaking.org.)

The 10th annual **Clark College Women's Conference** features a keynote address by comedian and activist Debbie Wooten and a presentation by artist Larry Kirkwood at Gaiser Hall in Vancouver, Wash. This year's theme is "From Little Princess to Desperate Housewife: Confronting Images of Women." Admission includes continental breakfast and lunch. (8 am-3:30 pm. 1800 E McLoughlin Blvd. \$10-\$15. www.clark.edu/womensconf.)

Spiritual director Dale Rhodes facilitates **Gay Men and the Nine Points of View: Exploring What Type of Man You Are in Love, Work and Personal Development**, a workshop on the Enneagram personality system, at HealthQuest. (9:30 am-4:30 pm. 1330 SE 39th Ave. \$65 before May 15, \$75 after from www.enneagramportland.com.)

The seventh annual **Alberta Art Hop** features more than 150 craft and artisan vendors, a street parade and kid art activities through May 21. (11 am-8 pm Saturday, 11 am-6 pm Sunday. www.artonalberta.org.)

Poison Waters hosts **Sip into Summer 2**, a wine tasting event at Hip Chicks Do Wine featuring pianist Patrick Anderson, Portland artists displaying their works and hors d'oeuvres provided by Epicure Restaurant. Proceeds benefit the Friends of People with AIDS Foundation. (1-5 pm. 4510 SE 23rd Ave. \$12 from 971-244-3514 or www.friendspwa.org.)

Cum for a cause during Darklady's fifth annual **Masturbate-a-Thon**, a pajama party of pleasure featuring door prizes, a silent auction, naughty videos, depraved performance art, the latest sex toy technology and much more! Bring a hygiene or pet care product donation and receive a \$5 discount. Proceeds benefit the Friends of People with AIDS Foundation, Dandelion Dog Rescue, Center for Sex and Culture and Woodhull Freedom Foundation. (7 pm-2 am. \$25. RSVP to darklady@darklady.com.)

GO OUT C.C. Slaughters presents **25**, a free special event celebrating 25 years of community entertainment with DJ Alex Hollywood, MC Bolivia Carmichaels, go-go boys and birthday cake! (8 pm-2 am. 219 NW Davis St.)

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.)

Emily Herring performs at Mississippi Pizza Pub. (10 pm. 3552 N Mississippi Ave.)

SUN • MAY 21

Satori Men's Chorus presents *Pomp & Potpourri* at North Star Ballroom. (3 and 7:30 pm. 635 N Killingsworth Court. \$7-\$12 from 503-299-4454.)

Tom Spanbauer reads from *Now Is the Hour* at Powell's on Hawthorne. (6 pm. 3723 SE Hawthorne Blvd.)

Mississippi Pizza Pub presents a benefit for the **Rock 'n' Roll Camp for Girls** with King and Skyler. (7 pm. 3552 N Mississippi Ave.)

A Bug's Life

"Mirah is on a yearlong hiatus from performing."

That's from the Web site for K Records, Calvin Johnson's Olympia, Wash.-based label, the label most likely to crush the dominant paradigm and take over the world. Exploding with a young and vibrant roster of artists—including Portland artists The Blow and All Girl Summer Fun Band—you can imagine that for most K artists, summer means hopping in vans and giving the kids their tricks.

But not Mirah, one of the brightly glimmering stars in the K Records constellation. Instead, the Portland-based artist is taking a timeout from touring. (When asked for an interview with *Just Out* to discuss her projects, she sweetly begged off.) And that means her audience—growing leaps and bounds after the 2004 breakthrough *C'mon Miracle*—is left wanting and wondering: Where is the voice of one of Portland's most uniquely brave and beautiful musicians?

Not to worry.

Mirah might have opted out of the machine for the better part of 2005 and 2006, with touring on hold and the next record not yet started. But word of two new projects suggests the artist is expanding her vision. In the works: a "covers" album, featuring 23 reinterpretations of Mirah's older material by friends and comrades-in-arms (with pal **Khalea Maricich** of The Blow at the curatorial wheel). And then, for the lucky few in Portland and Olympia, a glimpse into the next record via live performance—Mirah & Spectratone International present *Share This Place: Songs of Small Creatures*. Inspired by entomologist John Henri Fabre, Mirah will preview her new material 9 p.m. May 14 at Wonder Ballroom, 128 N.E. Russell St., providing diehards with the opportunity to participate and soak in the new sound. Cover is \$8.

A collaboration with visual artist **Brita Johnson** and other long-standing musical brethren (including members of the Black Cat Orchestra: **Lori Goldstein** on cello, **Kyle Hanson** on accordion, **Darko Vukmanik** on bass, **Jane Hall** on hand percussion and **Kane Mathis** on oud), expect an illuminating night of songs about insects. But more importantly, expect to be taken into Mirah's alluring and mysterious world. The album will be recorded and released on K sometime in 2007.

—Cori Taratoot



Mirah performs May 14 at Wonder Ballroom.

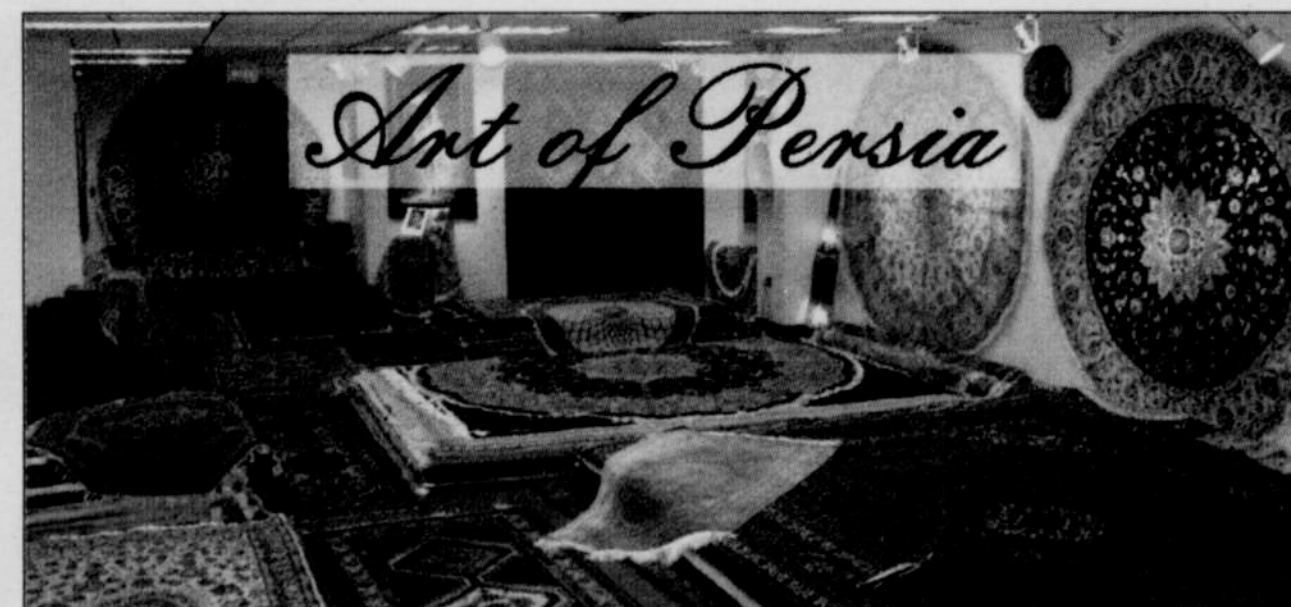
Jeffrey Palladini

show runs may 1 thru 31
opening reception
friday, may 5, 6 - 9pm



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