

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.)

Parkrose High School presents the **Crossing East Heritage Festival**, an evening of music, dance and multimedia art to celebrate the heritage of Asian Americans in the Pacific Northwest. Artists include gay dancer Minh Tran & Company. (7:30 pm. 12003 NE Shaver St. \$5-\$10 donation.)

Sneakin' Out mandolin virtuoso **David Gerow** joins the **Oregon Symphony** to perform Mahler's monumental *Symphony No. 7* through May 22 at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. (7:30 pm Saturday and Sunday, 8 pm Monday. 1037 SW Broadway. \$20-\$85 from Ticketmaster.)



Space Monkey Coffee throws an opening reception May 25 for queer artist **Serena Barton's** *Reasons Why*.

Reunited, and It Feels So Good

When **Team Dresch** performs May 27 at Wonder Ballroom, expect a lot of noise, lesbians pouring out onto the street and a healthy dose of self-expression and empowerment.

The original lineup might be playing Portland for the first time this decade, but its message is as necessary and relevant as it was in the early days of the Pacific Northwest riot-grrl movement. Names like Sleater-Kinney and Bikini Kill are now burned in the public consciousness—earning a modicum of mainstream success even—but Team Dresch deserves equal stature. For the newcomers, here's a quick refresher on the ladies of Team Dresch:

Donna Dresch. Founder of Portland-based independent record label Chainsaw Records, which released Sleater-Kinney's self-titled debut as well as recordings by Tracy and the Plastics, The Need, Heavens to Betsy and Excuse 17. Produced, recorded and/or performed with Screaming Trees, Dinosaur Jr. and The Go! Team. Founding member (with Kristina Davies and Caitlin Love) of Davies vs. Dresch. (Sorry, ladies, she's taken.)

Jody Bleyle. Founder of (R.I.P.) Portland-based Candy Ass Records. Drummer for seminal Portland pop/rock band Hazel. Performs with brother Allen in Family Outing and records/performs with Amy Ray of the Indigo Girls. Released *Free to Fight*, an all-female compilation addressing women's safety and self-defense, featuring Rebecca Gates of The Spinanes, Lois and many more. Married to Nina. Mom to baby Twylo.

Kaia Wilson. Founder of (R.I.P.) Mr. Lady Records. Member of The Butchies. Released three solo albums between 1995 and 2002.

Marci Martinez. Drummer in The Conductor, The Vegas Beat and formerly Calamity Jane, an early '90s all-girl Portland punk band.

Melissa York. Punk/queercore drummer. Former/current bands include Vitapup, Sugar Shock, The Rings and Born Against. Founding member of The Butchies. Contributed to Wilson's second solo album, *Ladyman*.

Impressive, right? But if you think Team Dresch is here fleetingly to rest on its laurels and then pack up, think again. Bleyle sees big plans ahead for the band: "We love each other again. I appreciate the experience more now...the feelings are deeper now. We want to play overseas! Like maybe tour China with L7. I feel a sense of community with all the people we played with back in the day and into the present—it just keeps expanding."

The show starts 9 p.m. at 128 N.E. Russell St. **Libber** and **Swan Island** open. Tickets are \$8 from the box office or Ticketmaster.

—Cori Taratoot

Join some of Portland's favorite writers, actors and directors as they write, rehearse and perform original new plays all within 24 hours during Theatre Vertigo's **The 24-Hour Plays** at Theater Theatre. (8 pm. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$20 from 503-306-0870.)

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

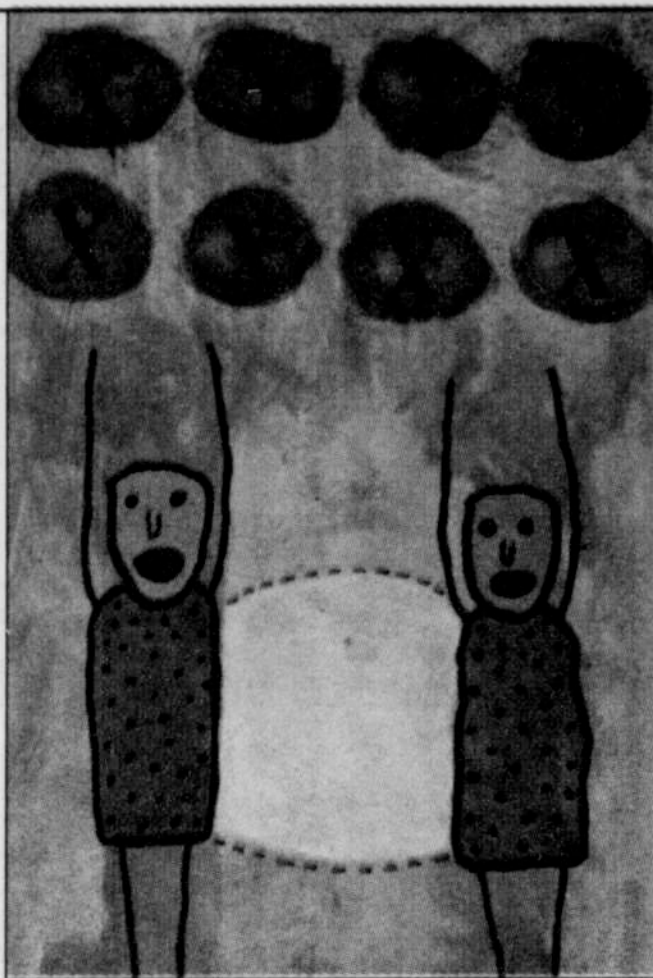
Bradley-Angle House, the first domestic violence shelter established on the West Coast, presents **Taste of the Sweet Life** featuring a delicious high tea buffet, silent and live auctions, vocalist Lyndee Mah, jazz pianist Janice Scroggins and world-beat percussionist Chata Addy at Legacy Emanuel Hospital Atrium. (2:30-5:30 pm. 2801 N Gantenbein Ave. \$35 at the door, \$30 in advance from 503-238-1672.)

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.)

C.C. Slaughters presents the **Gertrude Press Spring Roundup**, an annual fundraiser for Portland's queer literary and visual arts organization featuring drag queen bingo, a date auction, \$1.25 drink specials and outrageous fun hosted by the infamous Poison



Team Dresch performs May 27 at Wonder Ballroom.



Nine Gallery unveils queer artist **Mar Goman's** *Paper Trail* June 1.

Waters. Prizes include literary delights and hedonistic treasures! (3-8 pm. 219 NW Davis St. \$5 from www.gertrudepress.org.)

Keshet welcomes queer Jews and their friends and family to a potluck. (5 pm. RSVP to 503-226-7079, ext. 14.)

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.)

MON • MAY 22

Learn to open from the inside out—to strengthen, lengthen and enjoy your core—during **men's core strength yoga** classes presented every Monday by Q-LAND and

I'm Taking a Ride with My Best Friend

Google **Lori Soderlind's** name and you'll find a woman who runs marathons, writes articles about nurses and has written a creative nonfiction book, *Chasing Montana*.

After 15 years working as a freelance writer and reporter for "the world of small dailies in New Jersey," Soderlind quit her job and, carrying a novel manuscript she had worked on for several years, enrolled in the graduate master's of fine arts program at Columbia University.

The manuscript became the foundation of her master's thesis, but she wasn't done. Soderlind became a journalism professor at Norwalk Community College and returned to the book project. She discovered "the story at the core of all these things I'd been writing about was the story of my love for my best friend—that my life seemed to be stuck mostly because I had to come out before I could move forward." She changed the venue to nonfiction.

What's the difference? "If the book searches for truth and meaning in the material of one's experience, it has to be nonfiction," she says. "If it invents material in service to a truth, it is fiction."

Going to Montana with her best friend meant steering into the uncharted country of who she was, or needed to be. "The book is about so many things—about Montana, about love for the West...about shattered idealism, about my grandparents and, at core, about me accepting the truth about myself, just as we all have to accept life on life's terms, one way or another."

Soderlind's excursion, as well as the journey into her own psyche, will especially speak to those who grew up after the '60s age of protest—who were promised a new world and a changing order, but who watched in horror and disappointment as hippies and yuppies turned into yuppies, puppies and guppies.

Soderlind hopes the lesbian experience someday will be part of the expected literary whole. "I'd really like the world to finally be ready for lesbians as ordinary features in stories...and, for my money, the most interesting features. But that's just me."

Soderlind reads from *Chasing Montana* 7 p.m. May 22 in Room 333 of Portland State University's Smith Memorial Center, 1825 S.W. Broadway.

—Patricia L. MacAodha

LoveTribes. (6-8 pm. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.lovetribes.org/menspirit.)

Lori Soderlind reads from *Chasing Montana* in Room 333 of Portland State University's Smith Memorial Center. (7 pm. 1825 SW Broadway.)

Nola Gray teaches **The Mini Marshall: GLBT Tango** classes for queer folks and their friends Mondays through June 12 at Tango Berretin. No partner needed. (7-8 pm beginner [\$45 full series, \$10 drop-in], 8-8:30 pm guided practice [\$25 full series, \$5 drop-in]. 6305 SE Foster Road. 503-238-3939.)

TUE • MAY 23

Film Action Oregon and Hollywood Theatre host a fundraising screening of **Queens of Heart: Community Therapists in Drag**, a documentary that chronicles the life and career of Portland's iconic female impersonator Darcelle XV, owner of the oldest surviving drag club in the United States. Preceded by a special VIP event hosted by Darcelle herself! (5:30 pm reception [\$50], 7 pm screening [\$25]. 4122 NE Sandy Blvd. RSVP to www.hollywoodtheatre.org.)

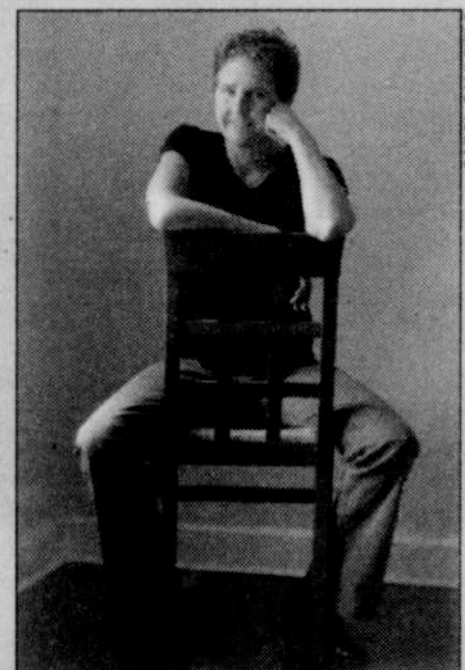
Candace Gingrich, lesbian half-sister of former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., presents "Decision 2006: Why Oregon, the Queer Vote and You Are Key to Electing a Fair-Minded Majority at the State and National Level" at University of Oregon's Baker Center in Eugene. Extra bonus: Find out if she and Mary Cheney ever dated! (7 pm. 975 High St.)

Towne Lounge presents the nonsmoking queer night **Meet Dept.** every Tuesday. This week's guests are the all-queer **Accidental String Quartet** followed by a set from DJ Solomon. (9 pm. 714 SW 20th Place. \$5.)

WED • MAY 24

Elder Resource Alliance hosts the last of a three-part series on **Legal and Ethical Issues in Long-Term Life Planning** at Friendly House. (2-4 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave. Rachel 503-224-2640. eracoordinator@yahoo.com.)

Cafe Wonder presents **A.D.D.—Attention Deficit Drag** every Wednesday. Male staffers (aka Rosa and Splendor of Sissyboy) dress up and dish it out, with \$2 Millers on tap! (5 pm. 128 NE Russell St.)



Lori Soderlind reads from *Chasing Montana* May 22 at PSU.