

on stage

Blood Squad Productions presents *Camp Death*, a fast-paced, entirely improvised blood-and-gore fest in the style of a teen slasher movie, Aug. 24-26 at Theater Theatre. (10:30 pm. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$10.)

Broadway Rose Theatre Company presents *The Case of the Dead Flamingo Dancer* through Aug. 20 at Deb Fennell Auditorium in Tigard. This musical comedy whodunit about a tap-dancing detective investigating a corpse discovered at DeManor Manor on a stormy night in the summer of '42 is more albatross than flamingo. The cast and orchestra are filled with talent, but instead of some over-the-top performance, they're weighed down by a book and score that makes *Bye Bye Birdie* seem like a good idea. (Call for times. 9000 SW Durham Road. \$19-\$26 from 503-620-5262.)



Cherry Jones hosts *In the Life* Aug. 30 on OPB.

Brody Theater presents *Theatresports*, a competition in which two teams of performers create improvised scenes based on audience suggestions and are scored by a panel of judges, through Sept. 1. (9 pm Friday. 1904 NW 27th Ave. \$7-\$10 from www.brodytheater.com.)

Brody Theater presents *Summer in Brodavia*, an evening of long-form improvisation, with the cast creating two different fully improvised pieces starting from audience suggestions, through Sept. 2. (9 pm Saturday. 1904 NW 27th Ave. \$7-\$10 from www.brodytheater.com.)

Columbia Gorge Repertory Theatre presents a staged reading of *The Gospel According to Tammy Faye*, a new musical tracing the life of the most successful female televangelist in U.S. history, through Aug. 20 at CoHo Theatre. (8 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 2257 NW Raleigh St. \$10.)

Home Planet Productions presents *The Rainmaker*, a heartwarming fable set in the drought-stricken Midwest of the late 1930s about the challenge of finding a balance between dreams and reality, through Aug. 27 at West End Theater. This passable production wisely keeps a beautiful but potentially sappy show simple. If, over the run, the tentative cast should find a way to play each other square in the eye, they could revive the honest-to-goodness old-fashioned play. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday, 3 pm Sunday. 1220 SW Taylor St. \$10-\$15 from 888-287-6318.)

La Bodega Productions presents the U.S. premiere of *Looking for Olivia*, a play about a bored writer who helps a neighbor who's locked out of her apartment, Aug. 24-Sept. 16 at Theater Theatre. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday, 4 pm Sunday. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$12-\$15 from 503-998-0034.)



Home Planet Productions presents *The Rainmaker* through Aug. 27.

Lakewood Theatre Company presents a vibrant update of the Shakespeare classic *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, transforming the setting to the California Redwoods for a psychedelic romp through the forest to the music of The Beatles, The Doors, The Beach Boys and others, through Aug. 20. It's got all the right elements, but surprisingly lacks chemistry, making this a pretty dry *Dream*. (Call for times. 368 S State St., Lake Oswego. \$22-\$24 from 503-635-3901.)

Mt. Hood Repertory Theatre Company presents its 10th anniversary American Classics Theatre Festival featuring *Lend Me a Tenor*, an award-winning farce about a petrified-with-fright production assistant who subs for a world-famous opera singer, through Aug. 20 at Mt. Hood Community College. (8 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 26000 SE Stark St. \$15-\$20 from 503-491-5950.)

Mt. Hood Repertory Theatre Company presents its 10th anniversary American Classics Theatre Festival featuring *Sea Marks*, a tale of a fisherman whose life changes when his intimate letters are

published as a book of sonnets, through Aug. 20 at Mt. Hood Community College. It's a simple, all-too-familiar story very patiently and poetically told by two of Portland's best performers. (8 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 26000 SE Stark St. \$15-\$20 from 503-491-5950.)

Portland Actors Ensemble presents the second of two free summer Shakespeare in the Park productions, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, through Sept. 4 at various parks. (3 pm. www.portlandactors.com.)

Portland Center for the Performing Arts presents *Menopause: The Musical*—four women at a lingerie sale with nothing in common but a black lace bra, memory loss, hot flashes and night sweats—extended through Sept. 3 at Winningstad Theatre. (Call for times. 1111 SW Broadway. \$44.50 from box office or Ticketmaster.)

Portland Opera's Broadway Across America presents *Little Women*—*The Broadway Musical*, a remarkable new production based on the classic novel by Louisa May Alcott starring Maureen McGovern, through Aug. 20 at Keller Auditorium. (Call for times. 222 SW Clay St. \$20-\$65 from 503-241-1802 or Ticketmaster.)

Theatre Vertigo presents *Valparaiso*, a surreal and chilling exploration of the struggle for identity in a culture immersed in celebrity and the media, Aug. 25-Sept. 23 at Theater Theatre. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$15 from 503-306-0870; Thursdays are "pay what you will.")

Tonic Productions presents *'night, Mother*, a Pulitzer Prize winner about a woman learns that her daughter plans to commit suicide, Aug. 24-27 at CoHo Theatre. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday, 7 pm Sunday. 2257 NW Raleigh St. \$10-\$15.)

Reviewed by
TIMOTHY KRAUSE.
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Columbia Gorge Repertory Theatre stages the new musical *The Gospel According to Tammy Faye* through Aug. 20.



The Northwest Film Center screens Gus Van Sant's *Mala Noche* Aug. 24 atop Hotel deLuxe.

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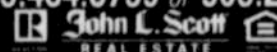
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