

on stage

Artists Repertory Theatre presents *Mr. Marmalade*, a wild satire told through the eyes of an extremely precocious 4-year-old and her Tarantino-inspired imaginary friend, through Nov. 19. This clever, disturbingly dark comedy is a contemporary Wonderland—a provocative, cynical, cracked-mirror perspective of nature of adulthood and its dysfunctional trappings. Though pacing fluctuates and the conclusion seems a tad convenient, *Mr. Marmalade* is otherwise crisp, smart and accessible, featuring obsessively effortless performances from Laura Faye Smith, Tim True and our own Michael Mendelson. (Call for times. 1516 SW Alder St. \$20-\$40 from 503-241-1278.)

Artists Repertory Theatre presents *Inspecting Carol*, a horrifying and hilarious play about a troubled production of *A Christmas Carol*, through Dec. 24. (Call for times. 1516 SW Alder St. \$22.50-\$42.50 from 503-241-1278.)

Brundog Productions presents *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, adapted from Ken Kesey's classic novel about his experiences while working at the Oregon State Mental Hospital, through Dec. 10 at Theater Theatre. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday, 4 pm Sunday. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$13-\$16 from 503-286-3456.)

CoHo Productions presents the world premiere of *Jingle Spree*, Dan Trujillo's hilarious but deeply troubling portrait of the contemporary family in which adult actors play both parents and children, through Nov. 18. A sharp cast delivers on this dark family tale of responsibility and neglect, with a lean narrative that starts at top speed and ends in crushing still life of pain and consequences. In act three, beneath a ghostly reminder of one lost moment, Eric Reid and Deanna Wells sharpen the emotion and intensify the impact of the deathly serious story. (8 pm. 2257 NW Raleigh St. \$20-\$23 from 503-220-2646.)

Lakewood Theatre Company presents the Tony-nominated comedy *A Tuna Christmas*, in which two actors portray 22 characters living in the third-smallest town in Texas, through Dec. 17. (Call for times. 368 S State St., Lake Oswego. \$23-\$25 from 503-635-3901.)

Many Hats Collaboration presents the world premiere of queer playwright Lava Alapai's *Mutt*, a biting racial satire about an 18-year-old girl who finds out she's black, Nov. 24-

Dec. 9 at Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday. 5340 N Interstate Ave. \$12 from 503-952-6646; Thursdays are "pay what you can.")

Metro Dancers and guest companies present *Dance Mosaic*, an exciting repertory concert featuring works from classical ballet to cutting-edge modern, Nov. 18 at Portland Metro Performing Arts. (2 and 8 pm. 9933 SE Pine St. \$12 at the door, \$10 in advance from 503-408-0604.)

Northwest Children's Theater presents *Beauty and the Beast*, a musical fairy tale based on the Oscar-winning Disney film, Dec. 1-31 at Northwest Neighborhood Cultural Center. (Call for times. 1819 NW Everett St. \$16-\$20 from 503-222-4480.)

p.boy productions presents Jean Genet's *The Maids*, a dark, absurd and insane story of two sisters who develop a murderous plot against their proprietor, starring and directed by members of the punk drag troupe Sissyboy, through Dec. 9 at Back Door Theatre. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday. No show Nov. 23. 4319 SE Hawthorne Blvd. \$10-\$12 from 971-506-9291.)

Pixie Dust Productions revives the Drammy-winning musical hit *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* through Dec. 23 at World Trade Center. (8 pm Friday and Saturday. 121 SW Salmon St. \$29-\$32 from 503-624-0403.)

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 Jan. 2, 2007, at Winningstad Theatre. (Call for times. 1111 SW Broadway. \$44.50 from box office or Ticketmaster.)

Portland Center Stage presents the Tony- and Pulitzer-winning *I Am My Own Wife*, a one-man play based on the true story of Charlotte van Mahldorf, an openly transgender East Berliner who survived both Nazi and Soviet rule to become a German hero, through Dec. 23 in the new Gerding Theater at the Armory. (Call for times. 128 NW 11th Ave. \$16.50-\$59.50 from 503-445-3700.)

Portland Center Stage revives *This Wonderful Life*, a one-man sendup of Frank Capra's *It's a Wonderful Life* conceived by gay actor Mark Setlock, Nov. 28-Dec. 24 in the new Gerding Theater at the Armory. (Call for times. 128 NW 11th Ave. \$16.50-\$59.50 from 503-445-3700.)

Portland Community College presents *The Children's Hour*, Lillian Hellman's masterpiece based on a Scottish trial concerning two old-maid schoolteachers and a child who brought charges of lesbianism against them, through Nov. 19 at the Sylvania Campus Performing Arts Center. (7:30 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 12000 SW 49th Ave. \$8-\$10 from 503-977-4949.)

Portland Opera presents Claudio Monteverdi's baroque masterpiece *The Return of Ulysses* Nov. 29-Dec. 10 in the intimate setting of Hampton Opera Center. (Call for times. 211 SE Caruthers St. \$75 from Ticketmaster.)

Portland State University presents *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, one of William Shakespeare's lesser-known but glittering gems about boyhood friends who travel to Milan and fall in love with the same girl, through Nov. 18. (7:30 pm. 1620 SW Park Ave. \$3.50-\$9.50 from 503-725-3307.)

Profile Theatre Project opens its Wendy Wasserstein season with *An American Daughter*, a high-stakes political satire examining how Washington insiders and the media thwart our best and brightest women through increasingly savage scrutiny, extended through Nov. 18 at Theater Theatre. This production strains under a C-SPAN script that's not only pedantic, but also frustratingly baffling. What motivates the lead character's acquiescence could be more interesting than the surrounding circumstances if it were not buried in bland, self-concerned Beltway burbling that only a public policy wonk would deem dramatic. (8 pm. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$10-\$28 from 503-242-0080.)



"Does this hand look multicultural to you?!" Thespians Walter (Nasir Najieb) and Larry (Todd Van Vooris) come to blows over their lines, their costumes and the relevance of some white guy named Dickens in Artists Rep's *Inspecting Carol* through Dec. 24.

Slocum House Theatre presents William Shakespeare's gender-bending romantic comedy *Twelfth Night* Nov. 30-Dec. 17 in Vancouver, Wash. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday, 4 pm Sunday. 605 Esther St. \$8-\$10 from 360-696-2427.)

Sojourn Theatre presents *One Day*, a collaboration with visionPDX about eight fictional Portlanders (including a lesbian who runs an upscale organic restaurant and a gay homeless teen who has been kicked out of his home) and the unique choices they have to make within a 24-hour period, through Nov. 19 at various venues. Free performances followed by dialogues between audience members and the characters. (8 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. Call 503-823-4430 for locations and reservations.)

Third Rail Repertory Theater presents *The Pavilion*, a tender, comic distillation of time, choice

and irrecoverability by Craig Wright (*Six Feet Under*) set at a 20th high school reunion in small-town Minnesota, through Nov. 18 at Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center. A fine, perceptive presentation that offers less midlife reinvention than reassurance. But there's a humble truth in its simple sincerity, supported here by excellent sound, lighting and set designs by Jen Raynak, Kate Morrison and Jeffrey Seats, respectively. (8 pm. 5340 N Interstate Ave. \$15-\$24 from 503-235-1101.)

Treegoda Productions presents the Portland premiere of Anton Chekhov's turbulent Russian love story *Three Years* through Dec. 3 at West End Theatre. (7:30 pm Thursday-Saturday, 3 pm Sunday. 1220 SW Taylor St. \$15 from 971-255-0604.)

Triangle Productions presents the Northwest premiere of *Sister's Christmas Catechism*, the latest edition of the *Late Nite Catechism* series, in which a nun unravels "The Mystery of the Magi's Gold," Nov. 24-Dec. 23 at First Unitarian Church. (Call for times. 1011 SW 12th Ave. \$20-\$35 at the door, \$20-\$30 in advance from www.sisterschristmaspdx.com; opening weekend is \$20.)

Triangle Productions presents the Northwest premiere of *Plaid Tidings*, a special holiday edition of *Forever Plaid*, the hit musical about four prematurely deceased Eisenhower-era crooners achieving their dream gig for one performance only, Nov. 24-Dec. 23 at Brunish Hall. (Call for times. 1111 SW Broadway. \$22-\$28 from Ticketmaster.)

Triangle Productions revives *Pageant*, a spoof of beauty queens starring men in drag, Dec. 1-23 at Firehouse Theatre. You could be one of the five judges who will help crown Miss Glamourese 2007! (8 pm Friday and Saturday, 8 pm Dec. 21. 1416 SW Montgomery St. \$25 at the door, \$20 in advance from 503-239-5919 or www.tripro.org.)

White Bird presents the eagerly awaited return of world-renowned Ballet Flamenco Eva Yerbabuena Nov. 29 at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. (7:30 pm. 1037 SW Broadway. \$18-\$52 from Ticketmaster.)

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



Cheer on gay musician Logan Lynn at the Rockstar Mix It Up finale Nov. 18 at Crystal Ballroom, then catch him Nov. 30 at Hawthorne Theatre.



United Way of the Columbia-Willamette presents photographs by Haleah through Jan. 1, 2007.

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