

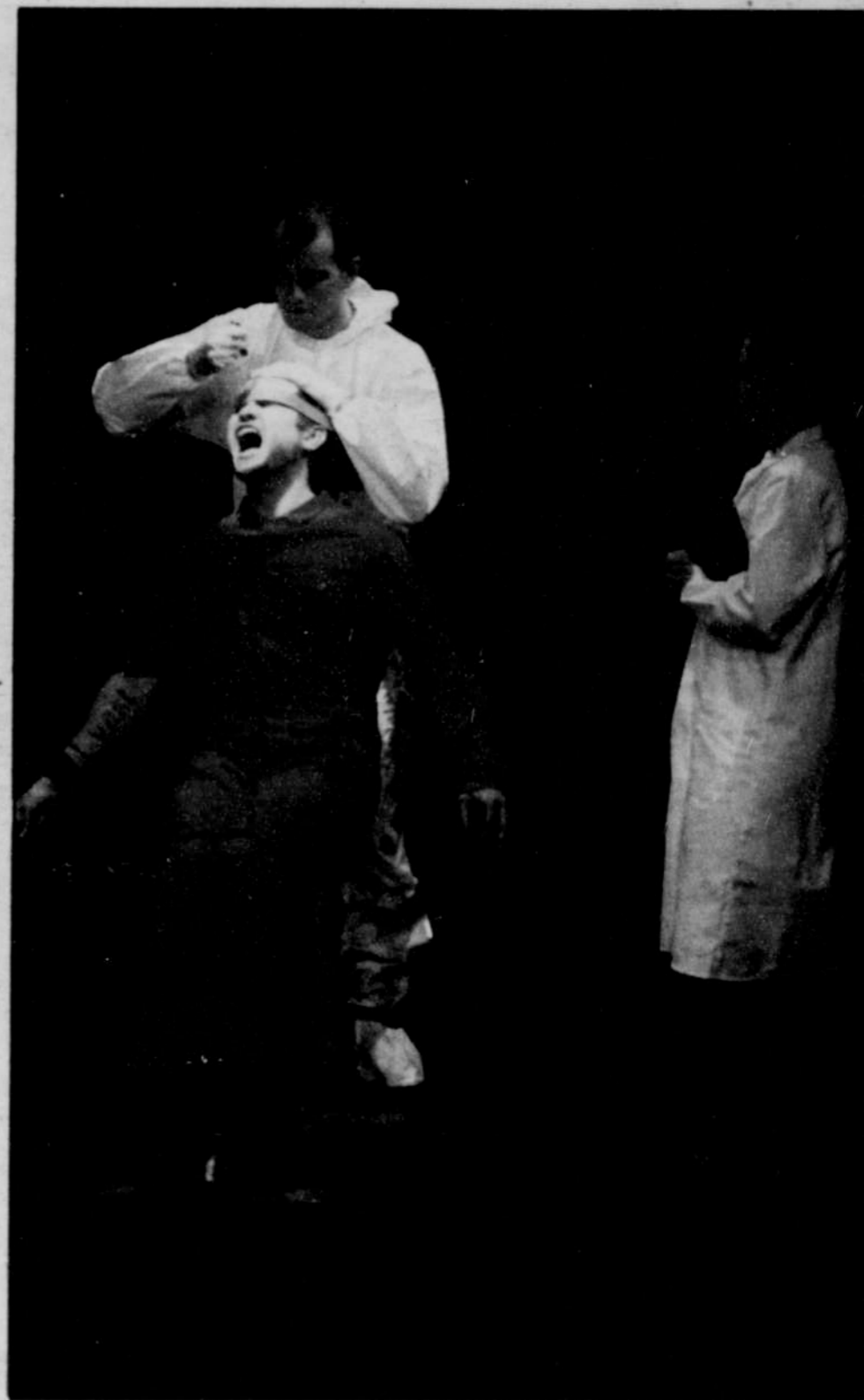


OWEN CAREY

Gay-owned Quality Pictures displays Angela West's photographs exploring the joys and anxieties associated with adolescence in small-town Georgia through Sept. 29.



Help raise money for the literary and arts forum Gertrude Press on Aug. 17 at Q Center.



WWW.GOTHIC-IMAGE.COM

The London theater troupe Foolish People will perform during esoZone, a three-day underground arts and culture festival.

Nancy King and Mary Kadderly perform jazz music outdoors at queer-owned Oregon Grape Nursery in West Linn. (6:30 pm. 65 S Dollar St. \$14 from TicketsWest.)

In Other Words presents **Dirty Queer**, an X-rated open mike to celebrate sexuality and strut your creative stuff! Hosted by renegade writer and poet Sossity Chiricuzio, it promises to be an evening full of laughter and full-body shivers. (6:30-9 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St. \$1. www.dirtyqueer.com.)

DJs Girlfriends and Linoleum spin during the queer party **Thin Pink Line** every second and fourth Friday at Rotture. (10 pm. 315 SE Third Ave.)

SAT • AUG. 11

The **Adventure Group** takes a difficult hike on the Sandy Glacier Volcano for some great views of the Mount Hood summit. Meet outside Starbucks at Hollywood Fred Meyer. (8 am. 3030 NE Weidler St. Tom 503-327-4674.)

GO OUT Eugene/Springfield **Pride**, the region's oldest and largest gathering for the queer community, features performances by drag stars, singer/actor/pianist Rory Stitt and trans rap artist Katastrophe at Alton Baker Park. (Noon-8 pm.)

Softball in dresses? The Bella Boys softball team presents **Bella Drag Ball 2007**—an honest-to-goodness softball game you will never forget—at Overlook Park. If you plan on playing, please arrive early wearing your favorite dress! Donations benefit the team's trip to the Gay Softball World Series. (2 pm. 1301 N Fremont St.)

Karen Carpenter reads from her nonfiction book *Innerworkings* at In Other Words. (2-3:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

GO OUT Celebrate good times! Embers presents **L4L PDX** for lesbians 40 and older. Dance to '50s, '60s, '70s and '80s music, meet, greet, sweet. (5-9 pm. 110 NW Broadway. \$6.)

Club Pynk presents Eugene's first-ever **White Party** featuring international DJs, male and female go-go dancers, a full bar, food and fashionable

The Zine Machine

The seventh annual Portland Zine Symposium returns Aug. 11 and 12 at Portland State University's Smith Memorial Ballroom, 1825 S.W. Broadway.

This annual event is free to the public and a great opportunity to learn more about independent media. It provides attendees the chance to connect with queer zinesters from the local area and around the world. Although the event is not specifically queer, many queer people are active in zine making and distribution, and there are always plenty of queer faces in attendance. This year's symposium theme is "Zines! Zines!" and will include tabling where zines will be sold. The weekends events feature a **Queer Zine Panel** discussing the unique experiences of queer zinesters. For more information on event times, look for updates at www.pdxzines.com.

The symposium defines a zine as a "self-published magazine usually produced by one person or a small group of people." Zines play a unique role in queer culture and community, explains **Jazz McGinnis**, a transgender Eugene resident who has been making zines for the past six years. "Zines are a way for people who don't normally get their voices out to speak.... Queers especially can find and express their voices in zines because nobody is holding you back but you."

McGinnis describes the unique opportunity zines provide for queer people to tell the stories of their lives. "Zines keep things real, bringing in people's actual experiences instead of shiny, happy images of Ellen DeGeneres or Rosie O'Donnell.... Zines show that we're still here and show the lives that have been pushed aside by larger queer organizations who want to clean us up for straight society."

Beyond the symposium, many queer zines are available for purchase at local bookstores including Powell's, In Other Words and Reading Frenzy. The Independent Publishing Resource Center also provides workshops and information about getting involved in zine making, and its extensive library includes an impressive collection of queer zines. For more information visit www.iprc.org.

—Sassafras Lourey

entertainment at Red Lion Inn. (9 pm-2 am. 205 Coburg Road. \$25 at the door, \$20 in advance from Hair Virtuoso.)

Girl4Girl Portland throws another party featuring a guest DJ, hot go-go dancers and serious dancing at Wonder Ballroom. (9 pm-2 am. 128 NE Russell St. www.girl4girlportland.com.)

SUN • AUG. 12

The **Adventure Group** takes a moderate hike at Angels Rest, which juts like a balcony above the western Columbia Gorge. Meet outside Starbucks at Hollywood Fred Meyer. (8 am. 3030 NE Weidler St. Steve 503-762-2385.)

The **Adventure Group** takes an easy kayaking trip in Scappoose Bay. Meet at Scappoose Bay Kayaking in the Scappoose Bay Marina Park in Warren. (9 am. 57420 Old Portland Road. Evan 503-701-7922.)

GO OUT University Park United Methodist Church hosts the fourth annual **North Portland Pride** featuring free food, musical performances and leading local political speakers. (Noon-4 pm. 4475 N Lombard St.)

Keshet holds a potluck lunch and visits the Hillsboro air show for all who identify as queer Jews as well as their spouses, partners, significant others and good friends and family, whether Jewish or queer or not. Bring a dish and a beverage. (1 pm. David 503-224-7075.)

Portland Art Museum presents a lecture on the life and art of bisexual Mexican artist **Frida Kahlo** by art historian Hayden Herrera, who wrote the narration for the award-winning documentary *Portrait of an Artist: Frida Kahlo*. (2 pm. 1219 SW Park Ave. \$5 members, \$10 nonmembers.)

GO OUT The Sustainable Business Network of Portland hosts a screening of the award-winning documentary **The Real Dirt on Farmer John** at Hollywood Theatre, followed by a community dinner at the Northeast Community Center featuring locally grown food, live music and special guests "Farmer John" Petersen and director Taggart Siegel.

Design Your Own Reality

"There's never been an event like it before," Nick Pell asserts confidently, speaking of **esoZone**, a three-day underground arts and culture festival coming to Portland from Aug. 10 to 12. Pell—an occultist, writer, editor of the Web site Key64.net and self-described "local queer bon vivant"—says the best way to describe the event is as a "designer reality expo," and he hopes that all who attend will be permanently changed by the things they witness and take part in.

To that end, the expo will feature futurist rituals, nonhierarchical and interactive panels, occult art, a dance floor and performances by syndicated television host **Freeman**, alternative Internet radio personalities **Viking Youth**, acclaimed local performance artist **Red King** and London theater troupe **Foolish People**. Of this last act, Pell says, "I have the sincere conviction that everyone who witnesses the Foolish People's magical play will be transformed by it."

The entire event will culminate in an epic meditation by utopian visionary artist **Paul Laffoley**. This curious man, who has been called crazy and likened to an alien more than once, underwent shock therapy treatments as a child and suffers from Asperberger's syndrome (a mild form of autism). Yet for the past four decades he has single-mindedly developed an utterly unique style of painting that has been exhibited at more than 200 shows worldwide. Pell obviously holds him in high regard and considers it a major coup to have netted him for the **esoZone** expo.

"Laffoley is the biggest name we have," he says. "There's a certain notoriety about him now, but his stuff is more accessible, perhaps, than some of our other artists."

esoZone is being coordinated by people from online communities all over the world and locally supported by **Portland Occulture**, a loose affiliation of people with an interest in esoteric subjects. There seems to be an overriding upbeat, optimistic sentiment to the event, looking toward the future and away from the apocalyptic mindset that pervades much of modern culture, from religious doomsday predictors to nihilistic punk rockers.

"What's cooler than interacting with a bunch of other weirdoes to talk about shit that only you can talk about?" Pell asks. "We are programming our own new reality."

The festival will take place at Someday Lounge, 125 N.W. Fifth Ave. For a complete schedule of events, visit www.esozone.com.

—Tony Le Tigre