



SERENA DAVIDSON

Gay choreographer Minh Tran's *Forgotten Memories*, a "blistering evocation of genocide's ghosts," closes Nov. 4.

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Portland Center Stage exposes Steve Martin's *The Underpants* through Dec. 2.

SUN • NOV. 4

March Fourth Marching Band performs at Crystal Ballroom. Proceeds benefit Voices for Silent Disasters, a grassroots effort to support Mercy Corps' humanitarian work in Uganda. (2 pm all-ages, 8 pm 21-and-older. 1332 W Burnside St. \$12 from box office or Ticketmaster.)

Get lucky during the Fox & Hounds' **Monthly Charity Bingo**. (3:30 pm. 217 SW Second Ave.)

GO OUT Celebrate Day of the Dead during **A Ritual of Remembrance Ancestor Feast and Spiral Dance** for all genders. Bring photos and mementos for the altar and the favorite dish of someone you love who has passed over. Proceeds benefit a five-day event to be staged in 2008 to explore queer activist, artistic and healing magic in Portland. (5:30 pm potluck, 7 pm ritual. 5040 SE Milwaukie Ave. \$7-\$15 sliding scale. info@queermagic.org.)

The queer art collective **QuArt** meets every first Sunday at Q Center. (6 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Learn practical strategies for dealing with holiday stress and depression during the **Beat the Blues** men's support group presented by Q-LAND. (6-8 pm. RSVP to 503-223-8822, ext. 1, or www.lovetribe.org/menspirit.)

Discuss feminist worldviews and the feminist lens during the **Portland Feminist Meeting** every first Sunday at In Other Words. This month's topic is "How and Why Women Tear One Another Down—Jealousy, Fear and Gender/Sex Roles." (6:30-8 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

MON • NOV. 5

Portland's youngest playwrights and songwriters have their work performed by some of the region's greatest talents (including queer actors Wade McCollum and Noah Jordan) during a gala fund-raiser for **PlayWrite** in Gerding Theater at the Armory featuring silent and live

auctions, hors d'oeuvres and queer MC Julianna Jaffe. (6 pm. 128 NW 11th Ave. \$75 from www.playwriteinc.org.)

Test your brain power with a group of friends during **Pub Quiz**, a fun and unique interactive trivia game every Monday at C.C. Slaughters. (6:30 pm signup, 7 pm quiz. 219 NW Davis St.)

GO OUT Whether it's your first time or you're a pro, come to **Q Center Bingo** with Poison Waters! Pride Foundation will serve light refreshments for the first hour to folks who want to connect and chat before the gay games begin. (6-9 pm. 69 SE Taylor St. \$5 includes bingo card.)

The **Bisexual Community Forum** hosts a casual discussion group every first Monday at 3 Friends Coffeehouse. (7:30 pm. 201 SE 12th Ave. 503-285-4848.)

TUE • NOV. 6

Q Center presents **Late Awakenings**, a group

for women who came out later in life, every first Tuesday. (7 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

WED • NOV. 7

Elder Resource Alliance holds a business meeting at Friendly House Community Center. Learn about projects, activities and resources available for queer senior citizens, and be part of creating social change. (2:30-4:30 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave.)

Be a mentor! The Men's Wellness Center presents an inspiring talk about the benefits of being a mentor to a child who needs a positive influence in his or her life—and how the experience can better your own life as well. (6-8 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

GO OUT Q Center presents a **Human Rights Campaign estate planning event**. Learn about the new pension bill provisions and how they apply to you and your family. Professionals will answer questions and provide information on all the estate planning tools available. (6:30-8:30 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

In Other Words throws a book release party for the second edition of **VoiceCatcher**, an anthology of prose and poetry by award-winning and emerging women writers from the Portland area. (7 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

Is gender a binary notion, or does it exist on a continuum? **Reinventing Self: Which Box Do I Check?** explores personal, social and cultural issues in relation to gender identity at the Old Library in the B.P. John Administration

Building on the Marylhurst University campus. Light refreshments will be provided. (7-9 pm. 17600 Pacific Highway.)

Doug Fir Lounge presents the welcome return of sassy songbird from the East **Erin McKeown**. (9 pm. 830 E Burnside St. \$12 from TicketsWest.)

THU • NOV. 8

Elder Resource Alliance invites older members of the sexual minorities community to meet each other, share common interests and enjoy fun conversation every second Thursday at Niki's Restaurant. (1-3 pm. 736 SE Grand Ave.)

Don't miss the grand opening of gay-owned **Bravado Home** for amazing home furnishings, accessories and gifts. (5-9 pm. 536 NW 14th Ave.)

Increase energy, relaxation and spiritual connection during **Men's Kundalini Yoga** presented by Q-LAND. (6:30-7:45 pm. RSVP to 503-223-8822, ext. 1, or www.lovetribe.org/menspirit.)

In Other Words presents a **queer polyamory discussion group**. (6:30-8:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

The Men's Wellness Center screens **But I'm a Cheerleader**, a wonderfully campy flick about a cheerleader who is put into a "gay recovery" camp when her friends and family find out she's...well...different. Get out of the cold weather and enjoy some hot cocoa and a hilarious movie! (7-9 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

On the Road Again

There's a line in John Patrick Shanley's brilliant film *Joe Versus the Volcano* that applies to every musician I've ever loved and ever will. A young Tom Hanks sits at a Mexican restaurant across from an even younger Meg Ryan (their first pairing—so cute!) and explains how he's just asked the house mariachi band to play them a song that will make their hearts "swell and burst." The Spanish guitar and maracas do an OK job, but what Tom should've asked for was a piece or two from singer/songwriter **Erin McKeown**.

I've love McKeown's smart, sassy music since a friend introduced me to her 2001 album, *Distillation*. The first song on the album, "Queen of Quiet," quickly became my 20-something swan song and has been a feature player on almost every mix CD I've made for the past six years. You can understand my excitement, then, when I found out that not only was she performing in Portland (go!), but *Just Out* would be getting an exclusive interview. Stars and garters!

McKeown is on tour promoting her latest release, the 13-track *Lafayette*. Recorded at Joe's Pub in New York City, it is her first live album and offers funky performances of her recent work as well as artfully evolved versions of her classics.

"This truly is a word-of-mouth effort," McKeown says of her tour's publicity campaign. "We're not doing Letterman to promote these shows."

McKeown's grassroots approach fits her organic, improvised sound. Her shows vary from city to city depending on her band's

Erin McKeown is on tour promoting her first live album, *Lafayette*.

availability and thus "guarantee that it will be different" each time she steps on stage.

"It could be me and five singers, or it could be me and a saxophone," she says. "But there will definitely be drums."

Equally as powerful as her music are McKeown's intelligent, grammar-busting lyrics. "I want there to be a deeper level to my lyrics, but it's always important for me to be as clear as possible," she says of songs such as "Fast as I Can."

The *Lafayette* tour has also allowed McKeown to raise awareness of queer issues in more conservative venues, she says. Playing gigs like Oktoberfest and a Catholic fund-raiser in Lexington, Ky., has given her the opportunity to "create discourse" and "move to be more direct" with her views.

"Just being there is a political statement," she says. "Activism is something you can't micromanage. All rabble-rousing is necessary all

the time."

Despite her political leanings, McKeown promises her tour is, first and foremost, a way to have fun and connect with her fan base. "I feel like Portland is a city full of people that would be my friends if I lived there."

We sure hope so, Erin. I know you have at least one friend here eagerly waiting to swell and burst all over the dance floor. Mop, please!

Catch the gig Nov. 7 at Doug Fir Lounge for a mere \$12. Doors open at 8 p.m., show starts at 9, booties start shaking at 9:01.

—Ben Nystrom

An Evening of Canadian Dance

During the past few years, White Bird has presented dance companies from a diverse countries, including Côte d'Ivoire, Israel, Mexico, the Netherlands, Spain and Brazil.

Now, Portlanders have the opportunity to see the artistic work of our neighbors to the north. Montréal-based **Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie** comes to town for the first time to perform at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. Tickets are \$20-\$50 from 503-790-2787.

Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie will be performing three dances by Canadian choreographer **James Kudelka**, whom *Dance Magazine* called "the next great voice of ballet vocabulary."

Kudelka, who was artistic director of the National Ballet of Canada from 1996 to 2005, is now an independent choreographer. He has created more than 70 dances for companies including the American Ballet Theatre, San Francisco Ballet and Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal.

In 2006 he choreographed "Almost Mozart" for Oregon Ballet Theatre, which the Portland Center Stage performed again last month as part of its *Germanic Lands* program.

"A lot of people know [Kudelka] as a ballet choreographer, but he also works in modern and contemporary dance," says **Laurence Lemieux**, who co-directs Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie with her husband, **Bill Coleman**.

One example of Kudelka's contemporary style is his 1983 masterpiece, "In Paradisum," which was remounted for, or tailored to fit, nine dancers from Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie. Lemieux & Compagnie will perform in Portland, "one of the great Canadian dance companies."

Also on the Portland program is "Fifteen Heterosexual Duets," another acclaimed Kudelka work that was remounted for Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie.

When Coleman and Lemieux formed their company in 2000, the couple asked Kudelka to remount "Fifteen Heterosexual Duets," which at the time was no longer being danced by other companies. He said yes.

The remount was a success. "The piece came to life again in a different way," says Lemieux. "It was danced in the original 1991 cast of 'Fifteen Heterosexual Duets.'"

Last year, when Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie performed an excerpt of the dance in Portland as part of the Fall for Dance festival, *The New York Times* described the work as "the evening of the century."

—Rebecca