

on stage

Action/Adventure Theatre presents *Fall of the House, Season 2*, an unscripted soap opera following the relationships of five 20-something Portlanders, through Nov. 10 at Theater Theatre. (10:30 pm Thursday-Saturday. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$10 from 503-358-8646; Thursdays are "pay what you will.")

Agnieszka Laska Dancers present *The Fall '01*, a choreographic multimedia drama on terror, war and torture, Nov. 11 at Imago Theatre. Free admission for veterans! (8 pm. 17 SE Eighth Ave. \$10-\$20 from 503-232-7210.)

Artists Repertory Theatre presents *Mars on Life: The Holiday Edition*, Susannah Mars' popular cabaret celebration of the holidays, Nov. 13-Dec. 23. (Call for times. 1516 SW Alder St. \$20-\$47 from 503-241-1278.)

Arts Equity presents *Blood Brothers*, a captivating tale about fraternal twins separated at birth only to meet again with tragic consequences, Nov. 8-Dec. 16. (Call for times. 606 Main St., Vancouver, Wash. \$10-\$24 from 360-695-3770.)

The Bluestockings present the West Coast premiere of *Spirits to Enforce*, in which 12 superhero telemarketers in a submarine attempt to sell tickets to Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, through Nov. 17 at Performance Works Northwest. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday, 3 pm Sunday. 4625 SE 67th Ave. \$10 from 503-307-2410; Thursdays are "pay what you will.")

BodyVox presents *Water Bodies* featuring 12 original dances and two films Nov. 8-11 at Newmark Theatre. (7:30 pm plus 2 pm Saturday, 1111 SW Broadway. \$12-\$40 from 503-229-0627.)

CoHo Productions presents *Collected Stories*, a Pulitzer finalist dealing with the relationship between an established writer and her aspiring young student, through Dec. 1. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. No show Nov. 22. 2257 NW Raleigh St. \$20-\$23 from 503-220-2646.)

Fall Guy Theatre opens its inaugural season with *The House of Yes*, a black comedy about twin siblings who re-enact the Kennedy assassination, Nov. 15-Dec. 9 at Theater Theatre. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. No show Nov. 22. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$20 from 503-223-4240.)

Human Dignity Coalition presents *The Vagina Monologues*, a benefit for the coalition and Central Oregon Battering and Rape Alliance, Nov. 10 at Tower Theatre in Bend. (7 pm. 835 NW Wall St. \$30 from 541-317-0700.)

Integrity Productions presents the world premiere of *8 Views Toward Center*, comparing and contrasting women from an ancient Persian to a circus performer from 1808 to a "devil" from the 1950s, through Nov. 3 at Theater Theatre. (8 pm. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$12-\$15 from 503-286-3456.)

Joan Freed presents *Chocolate Confessions*, her one-woman musical comedy about a chocolate shop owner and her mixed assortment of hilarious customers, through Nov. 18 at World Trade Center Theatre. (7:30 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 25 SW Salmon St. \$29 from 503-784-6220.)

Lakewood Theatre Company presents *The Dinner Party*, Neil Simon's bittersweet comedy about marriage, fidelity and missed opportunities, through Dec. 9. (Call for times. 368 S State St., Lake Oswego. \$23-\$25 from 503-635-3901.)

Lyndin & Warren present *Vaudeville! Broadway! Hollywood!*—a loving look at a style of entertainment that will bring a smile to your face or a tug at your heart—Nov. 9-17 at Village Ballroom. (8 pm Friday and Saturday. 700 NE Dekum St. \$10-\$20 from 503-674-7578.)

Minh Tran & Company presents *Forgotten Memories*, the gay choreographer's "blistering evocation of genocide's ghosts," through Nov. 4 at Imago Theatre. (7:30 and 9 pm. 17 SE Eighth Ave. \$18-\$20 from 503-838-3006.)

Miracle Theatre celebrates Day of the Dead with *La Carpa del Ausente*, a lively bilingual show of dance, music and spectacle, through Nov. 11. (7:30 pm Thursday, 8 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 525 SE Stark St. \$15-\$20 from 503-236-7253.)

New Century Players present *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, Steve Martin's comedy about Einstein and Picasso debating the contributions of art vs. science, Nov. 8-18 at Ainsworth House and Gardens in Oregon City. (Call for times. 19130 Lot Whitcomb Drive. \$10-\$12 from 503-367-2620.)

Northwest Classical Theatre Company presents Shakespeare's bloodiest tragedy, *Titus Andronicus*, documenting the downfall of a patriotic family that has given everything they have to their country, through Nov. 18 at Shoe Box Theatre. (7 pm Thursday-Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 2110 SE 10th Ave. \$12-\$18 from 971-244-3740.)

Opera Theater Oregon presents *Muscle-Max*, a new English version of G. Donizetti's *Bel Canto* opera *Elixir of Love* about a hot dog jockey who tries to win the heart of a bookstore clerk by buying a miracle muscle-building product, Nov. 3 and 4 at Someday Lounge. (7:30 pm Saturday, 1 pm Sunday. 125 NW Fifth Ave. \$10-\$35 from www.operatheateroregon.com.)

Oregon Children's Theatre presents Judy Blume's classic *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* through Nov. 3 at Newmark Theatre. (11 am and 2 pm Saturday. 1111 SW Broadway. \$13-\$24 from 503-228-9571.)

Performance Works Northwest/Linda Austin Dance presents *Circus Me Around* through Nov. 3. (8 pm. 640 SE Stark St. \$12-\$25 sliding scale from 503-777-1907.)

Portland Center Stage presents *Cabaret*, a celebrated musical set in Berlin during the rise of the Third Reich, extended through Nov. 11 in Gerding Theater at the Armory. (Call for times. 128 NW 11th Ave. \$18.50-\$63.50 from 503-445-3700.)

Portland Center Stage presents *The Underpants*, Steve Martin's heartwarming comedy about a sex-deprived wife in pre-World War I Germany who accidentally drops her bloomers in front of the king, through Dec. 2 in Gerding Theater at the Armory. (Call for times. 128 NW 11th Ave. \$16.50-\$43.50 from 503-445-3700.)

Portland Opera continues its 2007-08 "Great Women of the Stage" Season with Rossini's *Cinderella* through Nov. 10 at Keller Auditorium. (Call for times. 222 SW Clay St. \$41.75-\$147.75 from box office or Ticketmaster.)

Portland State University presents *Glenrarry Glen Ross*, David Mamet's Pulitzer-winning dark comedy about the dog-eat-dog world of real estate salesmen, Nov. 9-17 at Lincoln Hall. (7:30 pm Wednesday-Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 1620 SW Park Ave. \$3.50-\$9.50 from 503-725-3307; Wednesday is "Pay What You CAN" benefiting Oregon Food Bank.)

Portland Story Theater presents the world premiere of *Licking the Plate*, a collection of stories about wanting it bad and getting it good, through Nov. 10 at Hipbone Studio. (8 pm Friday and Saturday. 1847 E Burnside St. \$12 from 503-793-5484; light snacks included.)

Profile Theatre Project opens its John Guare season with *Six Degrees of Separation*, about a black, gay, self-educated and poor man who fools an upper-crust Manhattan family that he's the son of Sidney Poitier, through Nov. 11 at Theater Theatre. (Call for times. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$10-\$28 from 503-242-0080.)

Profile Theatre Project continues its John Guare season with a staged reading of *Bullfinch's Mythology*, a haunting Civil War drama about a nurse and three soldiers who create a Utopian Transcendental society that is brought to ruin by jealousy and murder, Nov. 15-18 at Theater Theatre. (7:30 pm plus 2 pm Sunday. 3430 SE Belmont St. \$10-\$15 from 503-242-0080.)

Readers Theatre Repertory presents *Pvt. Wars*, the story of three GIs recovering from their Vietnam injuries as they tease, torment and support each other while grappling with the uncertainties of a return to civilian life, Nov. 9 and 10 at Blackfish Gallery. (8 pm. 420 NW Ninth Ave. \$8 from 503-295-4997.)

Slocum House Theatre presents the hilarious hoedown *Nunsense Jamboree* through Nov. 11. (8 pm Friday and Saturday, 4 pm Sunday.)

605 Esther St., Vancouver, Wash. \$8-\$10 from 360-696-2427.)

Sowelu Theater presents *Streamers*, a riveting story of young soldiers awaiting their tours of duty in Vietnam and an unflinching look at issues of racism, homophobia and class that perpetuate conflict in our culture, Nov. 16-Dec. 15 at Back Door Theater. (8 pm Thursday-Saturday, 4 pm Sunday. 4319 SE Hawthorne Blvd. \$12-\$15 from 503-730-9066.)

Staged! Portland's Musical Theatre Series presents *The Secret Garden* starring former Miss America Katie Harman through Nov. 4 at Winningstad Theatre. (Call for times. 1111 SW Broadway. \$28.50-\$32 from Ticketmaster.)

St. Johns North End Players present Woody Allen's *Play It Again Sam*, about a homely hero who has a thing about Humphrey Bogart, through Nov. 4 at St. Andrews Episcopal Church. (Call for times. 7600 N Hereford Ave. \$8-\$10 from 503-286-3679.)

Stumptown Stages presents *Godspell*, a musical celebration of the Gospel according to St. Matthew, through Dec. 1 at Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center. (8 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 5340 N Interstate Ave. \$25-\$27 from 503-381-8686.)

Summer Morgan Dance presents the premiere of *Evolver*, in which people continually change from humans in their most repressed forms into monkeys and back again, Nov. 9-11 at Firehouse

Theatre. (8 pm. 1436 SW Montgomery St. \$15 from 503-239-5350.)

Tears of Joy Theatre presents an artful new take on the beloved classic *Pinocchio* Nov. 9-25 at Winningstad Theatre. (11 am Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 1111 SW Broadway. \$13-\$16 from 503-248-0557.)

Theater Uber Alles presents *Cheeseburger Dinner Theatre* featuring Shakespeare Liberation Army's one-act version of *Macbeth* followed by Portland Theatrical Society's cabaret complete with song, dance, comedy and underwear dancing through Nov. 18 at Eagles Lodge. (7:30 pm Friday-Sunday. 4904 SE Hawthorne Blvd. \$5-\$7 from 503-285-6786.)

Well Arts Institute presents a staged reading of *Sharing War's Secrets: Oregon Veterans Redeem Memories from Darkness*, dramatized poetry and dramatic pieces written by veterans of Vietnam and the first Gulf War living with post-traumatic stress disorder, Nov. 4-12 at Artists Repertory Theatre. (Call for times. 1516 SW Alder St. \$10-\$19 from 503-459-4500.)

White Bird presents the Portland debut of Montréal's Coleman Lemieux & Company performing masterworks by world-acclaimed choreographer James Kudelka Nov. 14 at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. (7:30 pm. 1037 SW Broadway. \$20-\$50 from box office or Ticketmaster.)

Survival Skills

"Life-changing. Cathartic. Healing."

That has been Eran Deran's experience in preparing for Well Arts Institute's *Sharing War Secrets*, a presentation in which professional actors deliver staged readings of dramatic work and poetry written by combat veterans of Vietnam and the first Gulf War living with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Deran says his one-act play *Welcome Home* is the culmination of more than 30 years of dealing with a condition that he never realized he had. At Well Arts Institute, actor Michael Teufel worked closely with Deran, exploring in detail his experiences both as a closeted gay man in the Vietnam War and his subsequent coming home and coming out. The safe, supportive environment—with actors mentoring writers through creation of theatrical work around the writer's experience with a chronic disease—allowed Deran to finally process what had happened to him.

"The story is a conversation between the man I had become and the boy/man I left behind in Vietnam. It deals with not only the horrors of war, but loss of innocence and being gay in a hostile environment," says Deran. "It is the story of becoming whole again. It is a story that needs to be told because of its relevance to current events, not only from the standpoint of PTSD, but that gays have and do serve with honor in the military."

Teufel, who is also gay, originally came to the organization to help a breast cancer survivor tell her story. "My mom died of breast cancer only a couple of years before I helped co-found the organization. I did so knowing that my experience must be



Michael Teufel (left) and Kenny Jones play younger and older versions of a tormented veteran in *Sharing War Secrets*.

put to use in helping others. Doing this work has been very cathartic for me and validates my work as an artist—using my craft to literally change people's lives," he says, explaining the institute's mission is to help people with life-threatening diseases, veterans and others in crisis apply the benefits of creativity as a catalyst in healing.

Sharing War Secrets runs Nov. 4 to 12 at Artists Repertory Theatre, 1516 S.W. Alder St. Performances are 7 p.m. Sundays and Mondays, with a 2 p.m. matinee Nov. 11. Tickets are \$10-\$19 from 503-459-4500.

—Timothy Krause

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