on stage

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

Blue Door Productions presents nationally acclaimed sketch comedy troupe The 3rd Floor's *Gone in 60 Sketches*, which packs 60 sketches into 90 minutes, Dec. 29 at Miracle Theatre. *(8 pm. 525 SE Stark St. $10 from 503-627-9847.)*

Blue Monkey Theater Co. presents Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella*, an enchanting musical set in a mythical late '50s fairy tale kingdom, through Dec. 30 at West End Theater. *(7 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 1220 SW Taylor St. $16-$20 from 503-593-2466.)*

CoHo Productions presents *The 24 Hour Plays*—a creative collaboration in which 30 actors and four writers are locked in CoHo Theater for 24 hours to cast, direct and perform four original one-act plays—Jan. 5, 2008. *(8 pm. 2257 NW Raleigh St. $20 from 503-220-2646.)*

Do Jump presents *Do Jump for the Holidays* featuring a new tap piece, the return of "At Such a Dizzy Height" (inspired by the paintings of Marc Chagall) and other surprises through Dec. 30 at Newmark Theatre. *(Call for times. 1111 . SW Broadway. $25-$29.50 from 503-231-1232.)*

Imago Theatre revives *Biglittlethings*—a family production mixing mask theater, illusionistic costumes, original music, special effects and spectacle—through Jan. 5, 2008. *(Call for times. 17 SE Eighth Ave. $16-$31 from 503-231-3959.)*

Integrity Productions presents *Holly Jolly Hullabaloo...Again!* featuring "Little Red Riding Hood" with a global warming message through Dec. 29 at Theater Theatre. *(7 pm Wednesday-Friday, 2 pm Saturday and Sunday. 3430 SE Belmont St. $5-$10 from 503-286-3456.)*

Key Productions presents *As Is*—an award-winning play illuminating one man's struggle with AIDS and its impact on him, his friends, his lovers, his family and the medical community—through Dec. 22 at Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center. *(Call for times. 5340 N Interstate Ave. $10-$20 from 503-781-3464.)*

Lakewood Theatre Company presents *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, a delightful family story about the true meaning of the holiday, through Dec. 22. *(Call for times. 368 S State St., Lake Oswego. $10-$12 from 503-635-3901.)*

Oregon Ballet Theatre presents the only West Coast performances of George Balanchine's quintessential *The Nutcracker* through Dec. 24 at Keller Auditorium. *(Call for times. 222 SW Clay St. $14-$120 from 503-2-BALLET.)*

Northwest Children's Theater presents *Beauty and the Beast*, Disney's best-loved musical fairy tale based on the Oscar-winning film, through Dec. 30 at Northwest Neighborhood Cultural Center. *(7 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Saturday and Sunday. 1819 NW Everett St. $12-$22 from 503-222-4480.)*

Northwest Classical Theatre Company presents *A Scandal in Bohemia*, in which Sherlock Holmes finally meets his deductive match, through Jan. 6, 2008, at Shoebox Theater. *(7 pm Thursday-Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 2110 SE 10th Ave. $12-$18 from 971-244-3740.)*

Pacific Artists Ballet Theatre presents *La Boutique Fantasque*, an alternative to the traditional *The Nutcracker* by John Clifford, legendary former artistic director of Los Angeles Ballet and widely considered to be George Balanchine's choreographic protégé, through Dec. 23 at Portland State University's Lincoln Hall. *(Call for times. 1620 SW Park Ave. $15-$18 from 503-725-3307.)*

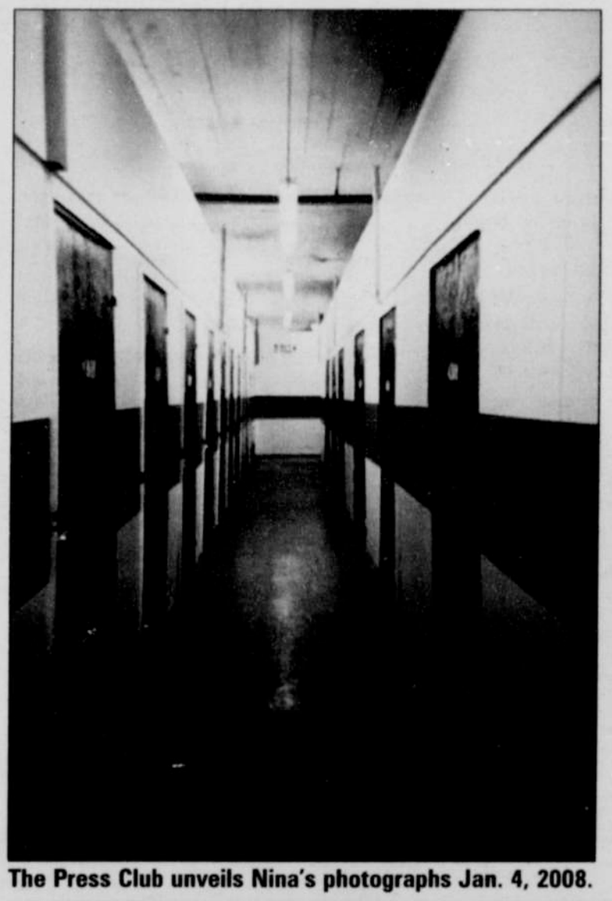
Portland Center Stage presents a new adaptation of *A Christmas Carol*, Charles Dickens' classic tale of greed and redemption, through Dec. 23 in Gerding Theater at the Armory. *(Call for times. 128 NW 11th Ave. $16.50-$61.50 from 503-445-3700.)*

Portland Ensemble Theatre Company presents the world premiere of its debut production, *Roger and the Cave Monster*—a romantic comedy that explores modern isolation with warmth, humor and a feral child—through Dec. 23 at Theater Theatre. *(8 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 3430 SE Belmont St. $12-$15 from 503-544-6650.)*

Public Playhouse presents *Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol*, a funny and deeply moving story that brings the ghost of Marley into the spotlight to tell his version of the famous tale, through Dec. 22 at CoHo Theatre. *(7:30 pm. 2257 NW Raleigh St. $14-$16 from 503-922-0532.)*

Third Rail Repertory presents the Tony-nominated *Shining City*, a haunting story of guilt, loss and missed connections, Jan. 4-Feb. 2, 2008, at Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center. *(8 pm Thursday-Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 5340 N Interstate Ave. $16-$25 from 503-235-1101.)*

Chris Haberman's paintings are on display this month at gay-owned Vino Paradiso and next month at 23 Sandy Gallery.



The Press Club unveils Nina's photographs Jan. 4, 2008.

From Stage to Skillet

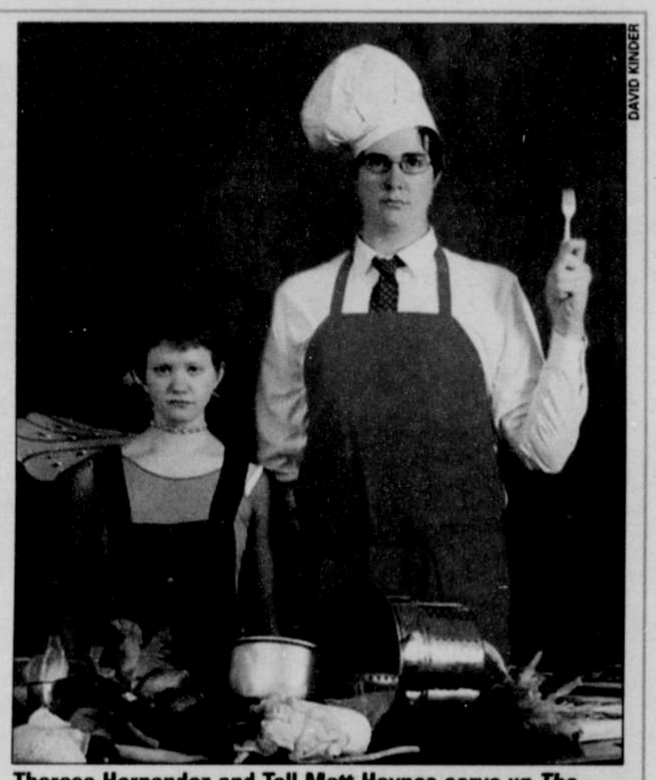
"Karma here is as tangible a currency as the dollar," says **Tall Matt Haynes**, a high-minded Portland actor who, incorrigibly, dons a chef's hat to ham it up as ***The Greenroom Gourmet***, the latest bun in the oven of the Portland Area Theatre Alliance, a nonprofit service organization that hopes its new cookbook will cook up as much good will as it will good eats.

Recipes in *The Greenroom Gourmet* are as eclectic as their authors, who range from limelight lovelies to backstage beauties, including a few gorgeous gays like yours truly. The fruits of your labors will fill transportable Tupperware containers easily nuked in a microwave at your destination—no kitchen required. As such, they are geared toward on-the-go Janes and Joes who, like most of Portland's economic creative class, stew through the day job in order to enjoy a taste of the night life.

Proceeds from this kitsch cache will be deposited in PATA's Valentine Fund, a special community resource providing emergency financial assistance to theater artists in need. In the past, the Valentine Fund has assisted with crises as diverse as the theater itself: a costume designer whose house burned down, a member who needed dental surgery for damaged front teeth and an actor with AIDS who wanted a last quiet weekend with his wife.

And yet, in true Christmas fashion, Haynes says it's not just about the recipes (which alone are worth the mere $15 including shipping) nor the act of charity (which has got to double your queer karma) but the humble spirit of community (which nourishes our collective creativity).

"Our hope for this recipe book, besides it earning money for the Valentine Fund, is that, in its own light and goofy way, it builds relationships. In a town of relationships, you can make great theater. And in a town of great theater, you can use that to build great relationships. They just chase each other up the spiral," Haynes says. "So try a recipe, read about the contributor, go see shows and enjoy relationships with your co-players in our magical city. Feed on."



Theresa Hernandez and Tall Matt Haynes serve up *The Greenroom Gourmet*, a book of on-the-go recipes from Portland-area theater artists.

To order *The Greenroom Gourmet*, visit www.patagreenroom.org; for delivery before Christmas, however, call **Theresa Hernandez** at 503-222-3893. To make a direct donation to the Valentine Fund, send a check to PATA, 1017 S.W. Morrison St., Suite 315, Portland, OR 97205.

—Timothy Krause

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