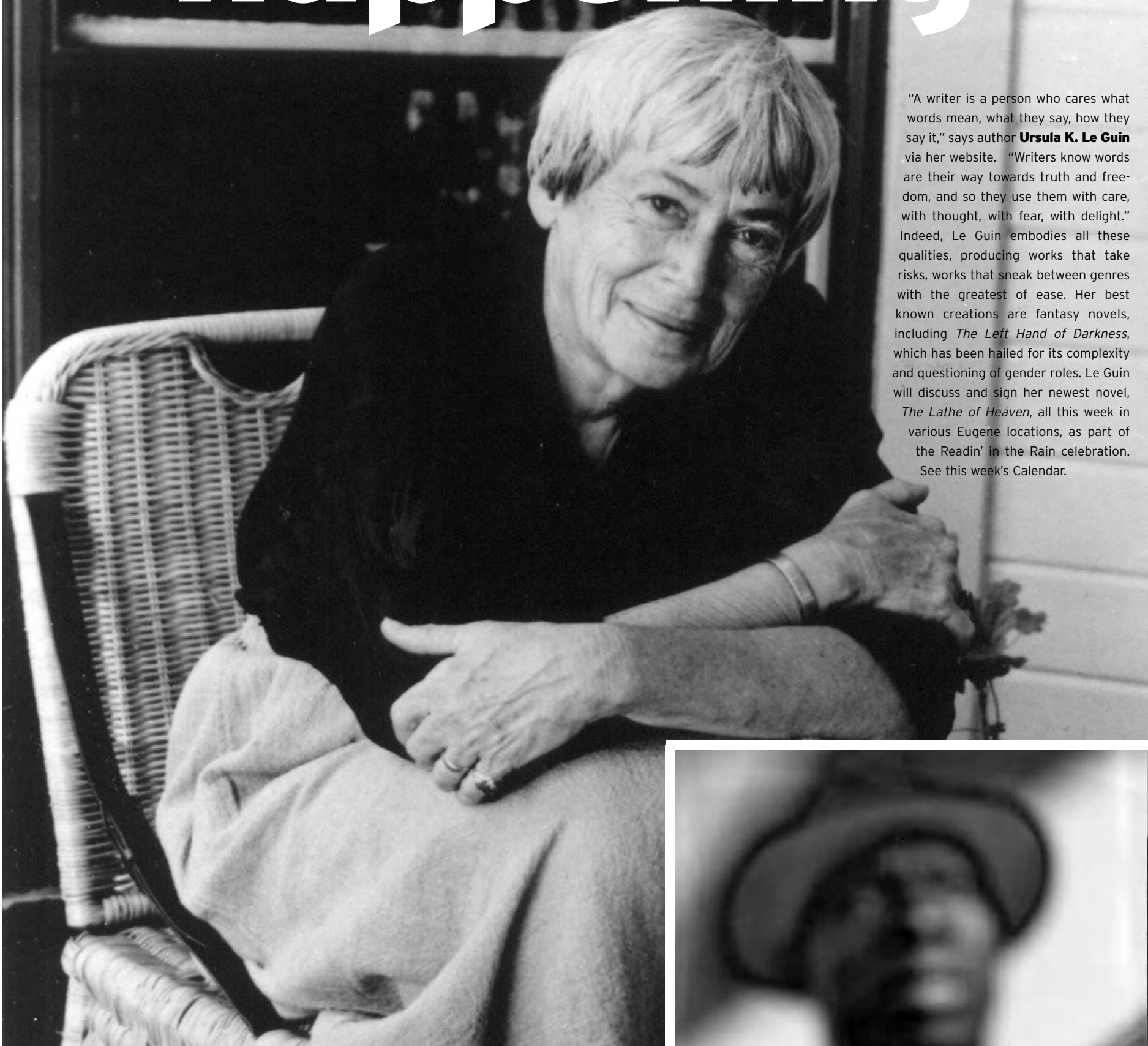
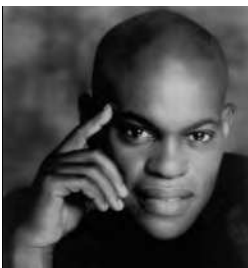


WHAT'S happening



"A writer is a person who cares what words mean, what they say, how they say it," says author **Ursula K. Le Guin** via her website. "Writers know words are their way towards truth and freedom, and so they use them with care, with thought, with fear, with delight." Indeed, Le Guin embodies all these qualities, producing works that take risks, works that sneak between genres with the greatest of ease. Her best known creations are fantasy novels, including *The Left Hand of Darkness*, which has been hailed for its complexity and questioning of gender roles. Le Guin will discuss and sign her newest novel, *The Lathe of Heaven*, all this week in various Eugene locations, as part of the Readin' in the Rain celebration. See this week's Calendar.

The first time I heard **Keb' Mo'** (pictured right), his music blew me away. I was just starting college; I knew little about music, and nothing about the blues. But what I did know was that this music tugged at my soul. It reached inside and wrenched a place of both melancholy and bliss. I could sleep to this music on a summer afternoon or cry to it in the dead of winter. This week, the two-time Grammy winner and "musical chameleon" graces Eugene with his eclectic sound and thought-provoking lyrics. See Sunday Calendar. — *JL*



Fall in love with music again this Valentine's Day, when The Eugene Symphony Orchestra presents **Jubilant Sykes** (pictured left) singing gospel, jazz and American pop in the ESO Valentine Special. See Saturday Calendar.

Love can be wonderful, heartbreaking... and downright hilarious! **WYMPROV!** explores the funny side of love this week, with "How We First Met," an evening of improvised scenes based on audience couples' stories. For a truly unique Valentine's experience, see Friday Calendar.

