

All About the Ladies

A...My Name Is Alice: Arrive ready to laugh.

Cottage Theatre presents *A ... My Name Is Alice*, a lively, funny, sometimes bawdy, all-girl musical review comprising skits, monologues, dance numbers, poems and music covering a range of themes that capture the female experience. From love, relationships, dating, painful break-ups and the blues, to guilty pleasures, friendship, career choices and aging, the multi-talented five-woman cast presents 24 musical numbers and scenes.

On a simple set and using minimal, interchangeable props, the cast opens with "All Girl Band," which incorporates a recitation of the old childhood jump-rope alliteration rhyme and celebration of rhythm and sisterhood for which the play is named. From there, the audience is treated to a roller-

coaster ride of smart, comical and poignant themes designed to induce laughter as well as pull at the heartstrings.

Some of my personal favs were comedic sketches such as "Pretty Young Men" performed by Becky Hope, Miriam Major and

A lively, funny, sometimes bawdy, all-girl musical review

Nikki Pagniano, a short skit about three "shy" women whose inhibitions bust loose at a male burlesque show. Kara Churchill's dis-

turbingly funny monologue about breaking up with her boyfriend in "Demigod" is also excellent, as is Miriam Major's flamboyant persona in "The French Song." Caroline Cramer puts in a great performance in "Trash," where she dreams of living the life of a heroine in a trashy novel, and Nikki Pagniano's over-the-top poetry readings in the "For Women Only" series are hilarious.

My only criticism of the show lies in the sentimental solos. Though beautifully performed, they didn't work well as stand-alone pieces, only because it was difficult to fully relate to them without some sort of background context. Still, *A ... My Name Is Alice* is well worth a drive to Cottage Grove. Men and women alike will enjoy and appreciate the top quality performances put forth by this abundantly talented cast.

Performance are Dec. 9-11 and 16-17. Buy tickets at www.cottagetheatre.org/tickets or call the box office at 942-9195. **EW**



Holiday Short Bread • Bûche de Noël • Vegan Ginger Bread • Caramel Apple Dumplings

Stollen • Fruit Cake • Fudge • Loaf Cakes • Petit Fours

Sugar Plums • Peppermint Bark • Almond Toffee

Sweet Life

Holidays are SWEET!

Pâtisserie

Sweet Life

755 Monroe St. • 683-5676 • www.sweetlifedesserts.com

Open everyday till 11:00pm

TARARIN

THAI CUISINE

Mother's homemade recipes • Fresh & healthy

No MSG, No dairy

Vegetarian Selections

DINE IN OR CARRY OUT

WEEKDAY LUNCH SPECIALS

MORE THAN 20 SELECTIONS OF BEER AND WINE

1200 OAK ST. • EUGENE, OR • (541) 343-1230

Mon. - Fri.: 11-3PM lunch, 4:30-10PM dinner • Sat. - Sun.: 12-10PM

NOW DELIVERING! DELIVERY HOURS:

Tue. - Fri.: 11-3PM lunch, 5-9PM dinner • Sat. - Sun.: 12-9PM

Not available on Monday.

The Music Nick wants & stuff like that is on sale now.

ALLMAN BROTHERS Fillmore East

HOWLIN WOLF London Session

LEGEND BOB MARLEY & THE WAILERS Legend

THE BIG CHILL Music From and Inspired by

weezer Self-titled

The Who My Generation

Deluxe 2-Disc Sets Your Choice...

\$23.99 each

★

the place to find it

cdworld

west 11th and seneca • 541 683-6902 • www.gotocdworld.com

Offer Good Through January 8, 2006