

WHAT'S happening



In the annals of prominent video artists, **Bill Viola** is a name of instant recognition and respect. It would be accurate to say Viola – along with Bruce Nauman, Vito Acconci and Nam June Paik – pioneered the use of video cameras in the mainstream art world. Viola's work is heavily influenced by Italian Renaissance painters, particularly the lesser known – but widely copied – Jacopo Pontormo, in addition to referencing Giotto's masterworks. Beginning March 12, OSU's Fairbanks Gallery has the honor of displaying two of Viola's pieces, one old and one more recent. *The Reflecting Pool* (1977-79) features a single shot of a man approaching a pool of water who disrobes and then jumps into the air, where his body is frozen while the surrounding scenery goes on. In *Observance* (2002), the video depicts a steady line of onlookers (pictured left) who, when they reach the front of the line, are stricken in anguish at an unseen, unknown tragedy, all of it played in Viola's signature extreme slow-motion. Drawing on roots in both Eastern and Western art as well as spiritual traditions, including Zen Buddhism, Islamic Sufism and Christian mysticism, Viola shows an undeniable awareness of the human experience. The artist will host a reception and give a lecture titled **"The Voyage of No Return"** at the LaSells Stewart Center on Thursday, March 15. See Corvallis Calendar.

Speaking of videos on display, the UO's Museum of Natural and Cultural History will show the traveling documentary short ***Echo of Water Against Rocks: Remembering the Last Days of Celilo Falls***, about the construction of The Dalles Dam in 1957 that swamped the falls (pictured right) in a reservoir and forever changed the social and cultural fabric of the area's residents. The filmmakers, Ian McCluskey and Steve Mital (both graduates of the UO), interviewed eyewitnesses to the flooding as well as the local fishing families affected by the elimination of their sacred fishing grounds. The 14-minute video will screen at noon, 2 and 4 pm Saturday through Friday, March 17 (closed Monday and Tuesday). See Saturday Calendar.



It's pure fodder for the amateur horticulturists in the area, but how irresistible is this weekend's **Home and Garden Show** at the Lane County Fairgrounds? The weather is turning ... sunsets are getting later (starting Sunday) ... crocuses are sprouting through the mud: All the more reason to finally fix up the ol' homestead the way we've been meaning to all winter long. This four day show promises a rich assortment of presentations, supplies, tips and more to "help create your dream home." Organizers recommend you come on Thursday or Saturday nights for more one-on-one attention from the expert contractors. Plus it's practically free (just bring a canned food item). See Thursday, March 8 Calendar.



Rob Wasserman



Stephen Perkins



Steve Kimock



Willie Waldman

Some banyan trivia: The banyan tree is native to tropical climes and will grow in tandem with other banyans, often interlocking branches in an embrace; it is a national symbol in Indonesia, symbolizing one country with many far-flung roots; Robinson Crusoe made his home in a banyan; in India the tree represents eternal life because of its seemingly ever-expanding branches; **Banyan** is the name of an alt-jazz-rock fusion band formed in 1995 consisting of a rotating lineup of unlikely jam rockers (alumni include Mike Watt, Thurston Moore, Flea and Buckethead). Two of the original members will play the two shows at WOW Hall: Stephen Perkins (formerly of Jane's Addiction) and trumpet maestro Willie Waldman (hear him on early Snoop Dogg and 2Pac albums). In addition, bassist powerhouse Rob Wasserman will combine forces with Grateful Dead-inspired Steve Kimock for an eclectic experience of melting-pot art rock, jazz and experimental jams.

All under one roof, two nights in a row. See Friday and Saturday Calendars.