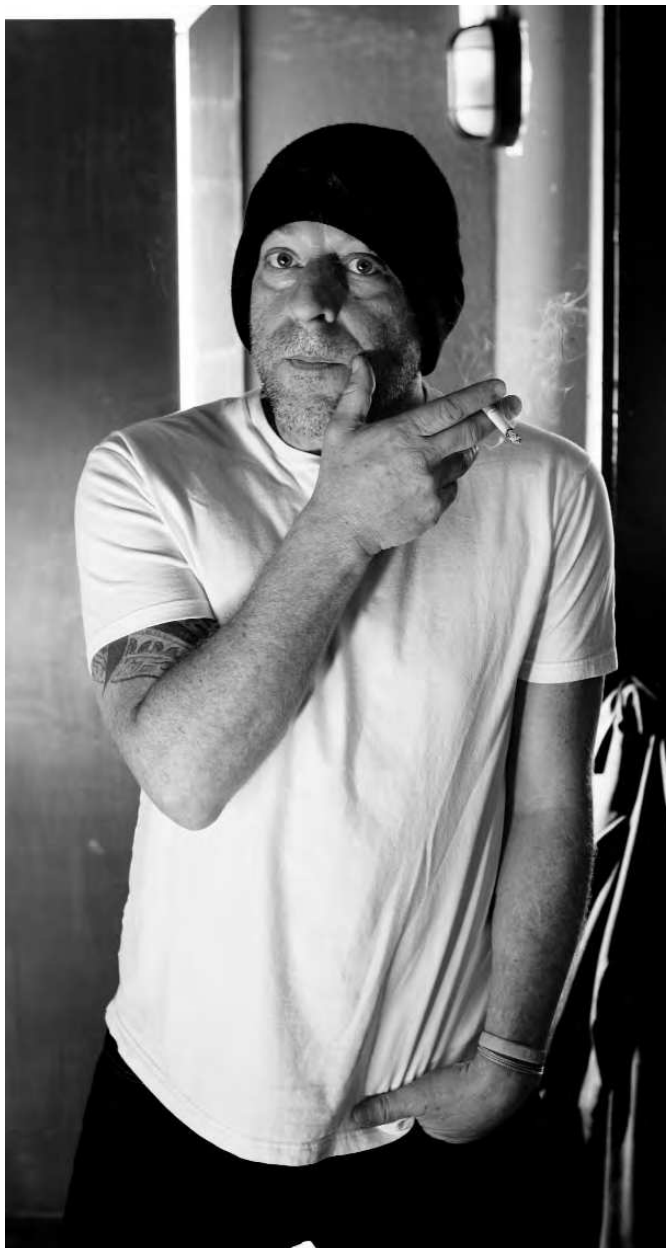


WHAT'S happening



Perhaps Mozart's *The Magic Flute* would have been the first scenic production with a preview announcer boasting "In a land where nothing is as it seems ..."

for it finds the prince Tamino in a quest to rescue The Queen of the Night's daughter, Pamina, from Sarastro. While Tamino readily assumes the queen is good and the captor evil, once he actually meets Sarastro, he kind of likes the dude. Eugene Opera's take on Mozart's beloved fairy tale promises a "completely new production of a timeless masterpiece;" however, we were hard-pressed to find the "new" elements. From the poster, we speculate this means the production will be set in the ancient Mayan jungles, complete with the animal-skin insinuations that should bring to the costumes. We look forward to hearing South Korea native Eun Hee Kim (pictured) sing the soprano Pamina and, as always, seeing the goofy antics of Papageno (played by Andrew Wilkowske) distracting Tamino in his own foppish ways. *The Magic Flute* plays Saturday, Sunday and Monday (with a special NYE gala to follow) at – where else? – the Hult Center. See Saturday Calendar.



Two gigs at the WOW Hall this weekend showcase the eternal workhorse of the music industry: the electric guitar. **Jerry Joseph** (pictured left) wields his battle ax on Friday, while hardcore jam-rockers **Garaj Mahal** (pictured below) push the boundaries of cross-faded guitar solos on Saturday. The *Washington Post* describes Joseph as "John Mellencamp's older, wiser and psychologically mixed-up sibling," but we like to hope this Portland native has a presence a bit less adult contemporary than Mellencamp. Garaj Mahal, on the other hand, work too well as an ensemble to tromp the solo route, having garnered enough awards (*Blueberry Cave*, their latest release, won the Independent Music Award's Best Jam Album earlier this year) to merit these globetrotting fusion funksters a certified fan base. Of course, **The Floydian Slips'** NYE show at the McDonald will also be a garden of guitar delights. See Calendar.

The wind blows a hard bargain these drippy December nights. So, naturally it's the coziness factor that attracts us to the final **Last Friday ArtWalk** of aught seven. For those of you just tuning in, this is where ten to 20 venues of art (whether they be studios, coffeeshops, clothing stores, hostels or private homes) open their doors and welcome you into their worlds, where art reigns over the rain and sometimes tasty snacks and warm beverages await your consumption. Feel free to visit Kiki Metzler's Polk Street studio to find whimsically-painted eggs



(pictured) with creatures of all stars and stripes portrayed. There's travel photos by Tim Giraudier at Wandering Goat and mystical wizard paintings by Charlie Meckel at Art of Glass for your further speculation. And more, oh so much more. See Friday Calendar.

