

North Coast Symphonic Band presents 'Opporknockity Tunes' at Liberty Theater

Humorous, novelty music set to entertain at Feb. 21 concert

ASTORIA — “Humor and Whimsy” is the subtitle of the Sunday, Feb. 21 concert of the North Coast Symphonic Band at the Liberty Theater. The conductor and musicians take their music seriously but also think that mid-winter is the perfect time for a bit of levity and fun. Conductor and musical director Dave Becker has auditioned the musicians for their best musical jokes and selected novelty and one-of-a-kind pieces that will entertain and leave the audience in a light-hearted mood.

The Astoria Tuba Quartet presents its big brass preshow at 1:30 p.m. followed by the concert promptly at 2 p.m. featuring vocal soloist ChrisLynn Taylor from the Astor Street Opry Company. Doors open at 1:15 p.m.

Formed in the 1970s by Dennis Hale, the Astoria Tuba Quartet consists of four fun guys who enjoy heavy metal and the music it makes. The quartet’s lush warm sounds, blended from tubas and tenor tubas, surprise most audiences who expect brash, brassy, bombastic sounds. In contrast, audiences find a mellow, surprisingly soft mixture of musical instruments playing jazz, ballads, Latin and classical music by familiar composers.

Selections for the afternoon’s main concert include Stephen Sondheim’s “Comedy Tonight” and Peter Schickel’s “Grand Serenade for an Awful Lots of Winds and Percussion” written by P.D.Q. Bach. San Juan Island composer Alex Shapiro’s “Tight Squeeze” will be accompanied by Pacific Northwest images that inspired the composition.

Clarinet soloist Marten King of Tigard will perform Adolf Schreiner’s “Immer Kleiner” or “Always Smaller,” a uniquely beautiful piece with



Submitted photo

The North Coast Symphonic Band will perform at the Liberty Theater on Sunday, Feb. 21.



Submitted photo

The Astoria Tuba Quartet is made of Dennis Hale, Bob Joiner, Lee Stromquist and Brian Bergman.

a very surprising outcome.

The North Coast Symphonic Band will perform a parody of Percy Grainger’s “Country Gardens” composed by Grainger himself because he felt his original work had received undue attention. Grainger claimed he thought of turnips when he performed the piece, instead of flowers.

ChrisLynn Taylor will

sing favorite selections from “Shanghaied in Astoria,” which have been especially arranged for her and the North Coast Symphonic Band by Dave Robertson of Rockaway Beach.

Albert Perfect’s “Alkali Ike Rag” is subtitled “A North Dakota Misunderstanding,” and the original composition was accompaniment for a si-



Submitted photo

Vocalist ChrisLynn Taylor will perform with the North Coast Symphonic Band.



Submitted photo

Clarinet soloist Marten King, of Tigard, will perform.

lent movie in the early 20th century. The performance also features a bit of John Philip Sousa as the band plays “The Liberty Bell,” the signature tune for the British TV comedy “Monty Python’s Flying Circus.” All in all, the afternoon will feature a variety of interesting and novel musical entertainment.

Regular admission is \$15. Student tickets for ages 13 to 21 are \$7, and children 12 and under are free. Tickets are available at the Liberty Theater box office located at 1203 Commercial from 2 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, and two hours before the performance. For more information, call 503-325-5922 or visit www.liberty-theater.org

For information on the North Coast Symphonic Band, visit www.northcoastsymphonicband.org, Facebook, or call 503-325-2431.

Learn about local winter birds

In Their Footsteps traces changes since Corps of Discovery observed bird species

ASTORIA — Lewis and Clark National Historical Park’s Fort Clatsop will hold the next In Their Footsteps free speaker series event, “Winter Birding on the Lower Columbia” presented by Mike Patterson, at 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21.

Capt. Meriwether Lewis, with help from his fellow Corps of Discovery members, was the first to collect specimens and write detailed descriptions of western birds for scientists back east in the 17 United States (and Europe). Lewis wrote about 51 species or subspecies of birds that were new to science. Many of these descriptions were completed during his 1805-06 winter at Fort Clatsop.

“Winter Birding on the Lower Columbia” is an exploration of birds in this area with thoughts on changes over the years since the Corps of Discovery’s visit 210 winters ago.

Patterson is an educator, photographer and ecological consultant. He works with state and federal agencies,



Submitted photo

Mike Patterson will present about winter birding Feb. 21.

land trusts and private citizens to inventory, interpret and promote the protection and restoration of natural spaces.

In Their Footsteps is a monthly Sunday forum sponsored by the Lewis & Clark National Park Association and the park. The programs are held in the Netul River Room of Fort Clatsop’s visitor center and are free of charge.

For more information, call the park at 503-861-2471.



Open 7am Daily!

ASTORIA
COFFEEHOUSE & BISTRO

SERVING BREAKFAST, LUNCH & SUPPER

European Style Coffeehouse by day, intimate bistro offering neo-regional cuisine by night.

Regional selection of beers, wines and vintage cocktails available.

Weekly Specials: 5-8 PM
Sushi & Martinis Mondays
Taco & Margarita
Thursdays (3 Buck Tacos)

243 11th Street, Astoria, OR 97103
503-325-1787
www.AstoriaCoffeeHouse.com

We cater your event! Follow & “Like” us on Facebook


