

One-man drama takes the stage in Nehalem

Mark Johnson to perform as 30-plus characters in 'I Am My Own Wife'

NEHALEM — How far would you go to be true to your soul? It's an interesting question that may be answered Aug. 13, 14, 19, 20 and 21, when Rising Tide Productions presents the play "I Am My Own Wife" at the North Coast Recreation District's recently refurbished Performing Arts Center.

The play, penned by Doug Wright, features more than 30 characters played by one actor. It is based on Wright's interviews with Charlotte von Mahlsdorf, a famous antiquarian born in 1930s Berlin as Lothar Berfelde. Charlotte discovers her female identity early in her youth. The play reveals the travails of her life.

It shows how she survived the two most repressive regimes in history, the Nazis and the Communists. It makes audiences marvel at her ability to navigate prejudice and oppression without losing the essence of who she knows she is.

"I Am My Own Wife" won a Tony Award for Best Play in 2004; that same year it became the first-ever one-person play to be awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

Local actor Mark Johnson will perform in the production. "I Am My Own Wife" is being directed by veteran film, TV and Broadway character actor George Dzundza.

"This play should make us recognize that we as humans do not have to allow our society to mold us into two-dimensional creatures and hammer us into a box," Dzundza said. "We all are multi-faceted and multi-dimensional, and we all have the ability be honest and



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Mark Johnson will perform in "I Am My Own Wife," a play directed by George Dzundza this August at the NCRD Performing Arts Center.

gentle with ourselves, to interact honestly and openly with each other, to not be too quick to judgment and to fight injustice in our society in ways big and small."

Rising Tide Productions is a new, Netarts-based nonprofit organization of people who love theater and who are dedicated to supporting and furthering the dramatic arts by developing the acting and stagecraft skills of participants and bringing entertaining, enlightening and thought-provoking plays to the public. The theater production company aims to bring more difficult or complex projects to the stage that audiences wouldn't see in more traditional community theater venues.

Friday and Saturday performances begin at 7 p.m., and Sunday matinees begin at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and are available at Bells Office Supplies in Tillamook by calling 503-842-5566, at Coast Real Estate Professionals in Manzanita by calling 503-842-0101, and at the door. The NCRD Performing Arts Center is located at 36155 Ninth St. The play includes adult content. For more information, call Mary Hanthorn at 503-842-5566.

Faun Fables brings mystical psych folk

ASTORIA — Dawn McCarthy and Nils Frykdhal, bewitching troubadours who perform as Faun Fables, will return to KALA to perform at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 16.

Faun Fables' new album "Born of the Sun" features the full-bodied beauty of McCarthy's voice and the rich instrumentation of flutes, chimes, guitars and percussion.

A new video for the track off the album "YDUN," shown through the lens of a Super 8, captures the disarming beauty of the California countryside where the couple resides with their three daughters. Living off the grid, McCarthy and Frykdhal seek nature and the Earth's allure to inspire their musical narrative.

McCarthy crafts songs that relate to the spiritual nature of communal living and a life lived in the knowing intuition with nature. A musical and life partnership since 1998, Faun Fables have released six albums, and McCarthy has also recorded two albums



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Faun Fables will perform Aug. 16 at KALA in Astoria.

with experimental folk icon Bonnie Prince Billy.

The duo is known for visceral adventures in song and theater and riveting live performances for eclectic audiences in North America, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Iceland and Israel.

Doors open at 8 p.m. Admission is \$10 at the door. KALA is located at 1017 Marine Drive. Minors age 16 and up are welcome.

Nonprofits can register for Gifts That Make a Difference

ASTORIA — Early registration is now open for nonprofits to participate this December in Gifts That Make a Difference, the lower Columbia region's only holiday gifts fair that showcases the work of the region's not-for-profit organizations.

The gifts fair will be held noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10 in the Liberty Theater's McTavish Room.

At Gifts That Make a Difference, nonprofits of any size are welcome to display information about their work, meet the public, sign up new volunteers, welcome new additions to their mailing lists, and solicit donations.

The gifts making the difference are donations made as holiday gifts honoring friends and family by donating in their names to their favorite local groups.

Space at the gifts fair fills quickly. Tables will be provided this year in three sizes: small (\$20), large (\$30) and extra-large

(\$45). Tables can be shared by two groups registering together.

"People attend the fair because they enjoy meeting and talking to people from all the various nonprofit groups," observes Caren Black, fair coordinator. "Most of us make year-end donations and the Gifts fair invites you to a party for making them."

This year's fair is hosted by Lower Columbia TimeBank and United Way of Clatsop County. Sponsors include the Liberty Theater, Cannery Pier Hotel and Columbia Bank.

Registration will remain open until Nov. 10 or until all spaces are filled. Registering early assures a space and groups' table choice will be available.

Groups may register online at GiftsThatMakeADifference.org or by email at LCTimeBank@aol.com. For early registration by phone or general information about the fair, call 503-741-3050.

Crossword Answer

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