



Patrick Webb

Adorned with a lit headdress, Jessamyn Grace West, center, begins an unusual Egyptian belly dance as baroque ladies played by Britannia Williams, left, and Lori Wilson Honl react with awe in a seasonal variety show 'Almost Baroque' at the Ten Fifteen Theater in downtown Astoria.



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Gossip is a feature of Sheridan's 1777 comedy 'The School for Scandal' as characters played by Gigi Chadwick, seated front left, and Cami Lira, demonstrate. Trying to learn their secrets are, left to right, Toni Ilander, Richard Bowman, Arnie Hummasti, Liam Ham and William Ham, who is emcee for the 'Almost Baroque' show.



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The Teazles are key characters in 'A School for Scandal.' Here Sir Peter, played by Slab Slabinski, nags his wife, Lady Teazle (Ann Branson), about her shopping extravagances. The scene is one of two from Sheridan's comedy of manners.

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Poetry

Three Molière pieces are planned. Lori Honl and Britannia Williams will play a scene from "Tartuffe," the French writer's satire about a pious fraud. Williams will also sing a portion of Handel's "Messiah."

Jim Dott and Danyelle Tinker will perform a scene from "The Misanthrope." For Tinker, who is the executive director, it will be her first onstage role at the Ten Fifteen Theater. Dott will also read some poetry.

The third, a scene from Molière's comedy, "The Imaginary Invalid," will feature Brown and Edward James. The two have both directed in Astoria — often each other — but haven't acted together since a Pier Pressure production of "The Monkey's Paw."

Dance

A change of pace will feature Jessamyn Grace West, one of the three owners of the Odd Fellows building which houses the theater.

"She said, 'I want to perform on that stage,'" Brown said, delighted to give her the opportunity.

A dance instructor, West researched and learned "Shamadan," an old Egyptian belly dance which features an elaborate headdress.

Three more musical selections are planned. Lira and Bowman will perform a duet, guitarist Niall Carroll will sing Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah," and Patrick Lathrop, executive director of Cannon Beach's Coaster Theatre, will sing a piece from the comedy-musical "La Cage aux Folles" and perform a monologue from a baroque play.

"We are very fortunate to have him as

part of this," said Brown. "I am so excited for that."

She is enthused at the mix of familiar performers with newcomers.

"It is such a healthy thing for the theater," Brown said. "We have our 'old guard' and some new faces — that can't be anything but good for a community theater."

Auditions for the next Ten Fifteen production

'Simple Salmon: The Respawning'

Directed by William Ham

Auditions are Dec. 27 and 28 at 7 p.m.

Director William Ham is looking for a total of six men and women for this return of the local favorite from The River Theatre.

This special event will feature the best of the best of the script archives written by friends and neighbors.

Proof of vaccination is required for auditions, masks will be worn all times you're not actively on stage.

Headshots and resumes are appreciated, but not required. Please bring a list of all potential rehearsal conflicts.

Performance dates are Feb. 11th, 12th, 13th, 18th and 19th.

Those who are unable to attend auditions should email thetenfifteentheater@gmail.com.

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