

# HAPPENINGS



**ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK**  
Joe "Bean" Keller, Entertainment Editor

## Grand Opening Celebration

Jazz, Gospel, Break Dancing and Theatrical performances will highlight the Grand Opening celebration of the new Union Square Mall, located on N.E. Union Ave. and Morris St. Friday, July 6th, at 7 p.m., they will begin the celebration with a break dancing exhibition featuring some of Portland's finest: the KMJK Breakers, the Floormasters, the Vitamix Breakers, Clarkie Thompson and more. On Saturday, July 7th, from 12 noon, live entertainment will feature Sojourner Truth Theatre, gospel music by Mel Able and Ray Tellis and family, Jazz by Lyndee Mah and band, and Calvin Walker and Sandra Simmons. The Union Square Mall consists of five different merchants: Convenient Food Mart, Ronaldo's Ice Cream Store, Nike's Shoe Shop, Sunshine Pizza and the Flower King Florist. Entertainment provided by B.E.A.N. The public is invited to attend.

## Summer Youth Festival

On July 15th, at East Delta Park, you are invited to attend the Uhuru Youth Summer Festival. This festival has been designed to educate the child and parent and to give them a broader outlook on the importance of child education and development. "A Human Being is a Terrible Thing to Waste," is the theme of this year's festival. It will consist of seminars, group discussions, and problem awareness on such subjects as drugs, a major problem, delinquency, unemployment, being parents of problem children; along with other topics. The seminar takes place from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., followed by live entertainment by Vision, First Light, Sojourner Truth and more. We encourage your family to attend this worthwhile event; it will be to your advantage. "Uhuru" means freedom!

# Community Calendar

**Religion Lecture:** "Women Saints in Judaism & Islam," Harris Lenowitz, Middle East Studies Center, University of Utah, Salt Lake City. 7:30 p.m., \$2.

**Dr. Helen Caldicott's speech to the City Club of Portland** on May 11th, will be shown at a meeting of Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament (WAND), Thursday, July 12th, at 7:30 p.m. in the First Presbyterian Church, S.W. 13th and Alder, downtown Portland. Childcare available.

**A free stop smoking class** for women, sponsored by BreatheFree, will be held on Monday, July 16th, at either 10 a.m. or 6 p.m., in Room 420 of the Galleria (S.W. 9th & Alder). Feel free to bring your cigarettes.

**Artist and environmentalist Alan Gussow** will present a slide lecture dealing with contemporary art that expresses socio-political change. Currently president of Friends of the Earth Foundation, his interests in current issues have led to an exploration of the role of the artist in the nuclear age. Lecture: Inner Freedom and Ritual Action, the Function of Art in the Nuclear Age. Monday, July 16, 1984, 7:30 p.m., Portland State University, Smith Memorial Center, Room 338. For information call, 229-3515.

**Alvy Ray Smith**, director of computer graphics research, Lucasfilm Ltd., will address "Computers: the Influence on Art", July 19th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry's McEachern Auditorium. Admission will be \$2 for OMSI members and \$3.50 for the general public, payable at the door. For information, call 222-2828.

## Passin Art outstanding

by Gina Wood

"A Black Magic Variety Show" could be a description of *Spell #7*, a short theater piece by Ntozake Shange, author of *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Unruly*. The theme was expressed by Nathaniel Haynes, the magician, as "don't nobody own history ... can't nobody make ours but us."

The setting, designed by Michael Grant, was a ghetto bar, with a special lighting giving the audience a warm glow of affection.

In lyrical expressions of Afro-American experience, Shange celebrates the exuberance and vitality of Black life, while confronting the dark hypocrisy of racial discrimination, by means of a distinctive, non-traditional idiom.

Under the direction of Clarice Bailey, the Passin Art Theater cast did not dramatize or recreate the characters—only feelings, Shange's feelings. They intoxicated themselves with Black-bred language, maintaining a good rhythm and language flow.

The script was based on lengthy poetry—monologues dominate, characters function chiefly as brief, spectral-voiced embodiments of Black strength and Black pain. Shange explores history of the paradoxical role of the Black performers in American show business—the vices of exploitation and stereotyping vs. the virtues of opportunity and public visibility—with an anti-white anger that's offset by wit and vulnerability. Margaret Marshall imagines herself waking up white one day, "...I wanted to try it cuz so many men like white girls ... white men, Black men, latin men, jewish men, asians, everybody. So I thought if I was a white girl for a day, I might understand this better: After all, Gertrude Stein wanted to know about the Black women. Alice Adams wrote *Think About Billie*. Joyce Carol Oates has three different Black characters with the same name."

And perhaps, strongest of all, was Constance Carley, portraying another woman's sharply visual metaphor for the double-bind of Black success:

"I commenced to buying pieces of gold, 14-carat gold, every time some Black person did something that was beneath him as a Black person and more like a white person ... if my mind is not respected, my body toyed with, I buy gold, and weep."

As revealed in her introduction, Shange's style is the product of political struggle, "To attack, deform and maim the language that I was taught to hate myself in ... I have to fix my tool to my needs." But unlike most writers who take on language itself, Shange is shrewd and aware enough to know just how much to maim; just how much to borrow—and the results continue to be, if somewhat repetitive, vivid and accessible and musically alive with recognitions for both Black and white audiences.

The Passin Art Theater Company will be visible again by the end of the summer. Asked to perform again by popular demand, the cast will announce the dates at a later time.


Passin Art Theater Company: Clarice Bailey, Michael Grant, Rita Bankhead, Rubin Hudson, Vicki Hudson, Nathaniel Haynes, Marvin Johnson, Shirley Peck, Henry Melson, Margaret Marshall, Anne Alvarez, Duane Grant, Elizabeth Sato and Constance Carley.

**Jazz on the S/S Norway**  
Join author Carolan Gladden for the first out of Portland Departure

**Oct. 20, 1984 JAZZ CRUISE**  
Author of "The First Book Oregon Jazz, Rock & All Sorts of Music"  
Editor of "Out-N-About with Carolan Gladden"

**\$1,216** and up  
Per Person Free Air to Miami

Here We Are



Saturday, Oct. 20, 1984

Dizzy Gillespie	Scott Hamilton
Woody Herman and the Thundering Herd	Clark Terry
Joe Williams	Jonah Jones Quartet
Maxine Sullivan	Hannibal Peterson
Zoot Sims	Quintet
Al Cohn	Dave McKenna
Benny Carter	Ruby Braff
	Bucky Pizzarelli

**"Addie's"**  
You and I Travel Service"  
8383 N.E. Sandy Blvd., Suite 259  
Portland, Oregon 97220  
256-1280

**Ray Edwards Presents**



**MIGHTY CLOUDS OF JOY**  
Saturday, July 14, 1984 • 7:00 p.m.  
Advance tickets \$6.00 • Tickets at Door \$6.50

**Northwest Service Center**  
1819 N.W. Everett

Tickets on sale at: Stevens & Son's Jewelers, 1020 Lloyd Center, 284-2101 • House of Sound, 3634 N. Williams, 287-1960

**The Last HURRAH**

**COOL'R**

EVERY Sunday in July

555 S.W. Alder  
224-1336

**AN EVENING WITH**



**BIG MAMA WILLIE MAE THORNTON**

IN CONCERT  
JULY 11  
AT  
**KEY LARGO**

31 NORTHWEST FIRST AVENUE • PORTLAND, OREGON • 223-9919  
BETWEEN COUCH AND BURNSIDE IN HISTORIC OLD TOWN

Tickets at TicketLink 227-4080

Tickets at TicketLink

**Geneva's Summer Specials**

**Bar Drinks \$1<sup>00</sup>**

7 p.m. to 11 p.m. • Tuesday thru Friday and Saturday 3 p.m. to 10 p.m.



come see...

**3-D Band**  
Friday & Saturday  
2 Drinks Minimum

4228 N. Williams • 282-6363

No Cover

**Complete Entertainment Services**

- Promotions
- Managing
- Booking
- Publicity
- Project Layouts
- Program Coordination
- Bands
- Dancers
- Actors
- P. A. Equipment
- Lighting
- Disco Unit & D. J.

BETTER ENTERTAINMENT ATTRACTIONS NETWORK

Contact Joe (Bean) Keller • Home 232-9871 • Office 283-2486

Support our advertisers

Say You Saw It in The **PORTLAND OBSERVER**

**THE SECOND ANNUAL WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL**

Two days of concerts, workshops, demonstrations, dancing, lectures & children's events featuring over 200 performing artists on five stages, plus ethnic food, arts and crafts.

Featuring:

- Taj Mahal
- Egypt Murray
- Obe Ash & Kikuro
- N.W. African American Ballet
- Thursa Memory & the Creative Jazz Ensemble
- Sojourner Truth Theatre Company
- The Traveling Blues Review
- Rooney Edwards Blues Band
- Jan Remer, Pro Highway & John Lee
- Helman, Dan Smith, K.C. Ford
- The Youkwood Stage Band and many, many more!



JULY 21 & 22  
CATLIN GABEL SCHOOL

\$20 both days, \$11 single day. Children under 12 and disabled at BASS Tickets (charge by phone 503-235-1665).  
KBOO Radio, Mitchell Music, Music Millennium, House of Sound, and other outlets.

Produced by the World Music Foundation in association with community radio KBOO, with assistance from Metro-quest Arts Commission, National Endowment for the Arts, Smithsonian Institute, Oregon Committee for the Humanities, National Endowment for the Humanities, McKernan River Gathering. Co-sponsored by Portland Distributing Company and Horizon Airlines. Sponsoring by Paul G. Gray Advertising.