

Black playwright to speak Sunday

The IFCC Theatre will offer a lecture-discussion following the performance of *The Resurrection of Lady Lester* at 2:00 Sunday, Jan. 26, at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Ave. Playwright OyamO will be in town from New York for the weekend and will speak on the theme "To Be or Not To Be: That Is the Trap." His talk will center on the challenge of being a truthful Black American artist in the neo-conservative America of the 1980s. The role of Black theatre for largely non-Black audiences, and the definition of "universality" in a European-dominated culture will be discussed with the audience following OyamO's lecture.

OyamO (a.k.a. Charles Gordon) is a resident of New York City and has an M.F.A. in Playwriting from the Yale University School of Drama. He has had more than 25 plays produced and/or published, including *The Resurrection of Lady Lester*, which was produced by Yale Repertory Theatre, Manhattan Theatre Club, Penumbra Theatre (Minneapolis-St. Paul), and Shelby State Community College in Memphis, as well as on CBS Cable TV. *Lady Lester* was also published in the inaugural volume of *New Plays USA*, a biannual anthology of new American plays published by Theatre Communications Group.

OyamO has been the recipient of four New York State Council on the Arts fellowships, a Guggenheim Fellowship, an Ohio Arts Council Award, a McKnight Fellowship, and a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship. He has taught at the Afro-American Cultural Centers in Buffalo, NY and New Haven, CT; at the College of New Rochelle; and at Emory University in Atlanta.

Tickets for the Sunday matinee of *The Resurrection of Lady Lester* are \$8, and reservations can be made by calling the IFCC Theatre at 243-7930. The lecture-discussion following the performance will start at approximately 4:30 p.m. and is free of charge. Interested persons need not attend the performance of the play in order to attend the lecture-discussion.

This program is made possible by a Chairman's Grant from the Oregon Committee for the Humanities.



Al Green film

The Gospel According to Al Green will play at the Northwest Film Study Center, S.W. Park and Madison, Sunday, Jan. 26, at 7 p.m.

The deep roots of soul music in the Black church rarely have been more dramatically demonstrated than in this superb documentary on the Rev. Al Green. When he emerged in the early 1970s, many considered him the smoothest, sexiest performer of the time, surpassing Otis Redding and Wilson Pickett.

In 1973 Green had a spiritual awakening, shifting to gospel and evangelism, but losing none of the power and intensity that can only be compared to James Brown's.

Film maker Robert Mugge captures not only the astonishing music of the four-time Grammy winner, but fascinating insight into the psychology of pop ambition, the close ties between Black secular and gospel music, and one man's commitment and search.

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REEL MUSIC

- Sat. Jan. 25, 7 pm
Robert Mugge Premieres
THE RETURN OF RUBEN BLADES
(1985) An electrifying portrait of the famed salsa musician.
- With
COOL RUNNINGS: THE REGGAE MOVIE
(1984) Rita & Ziggy Marley, Mutabaruka, Third World, the Skatalites, Gil Scott-Heron & more.
- Sun. Jan. 26, 7 pm
Robert Mugge Premieres
GOSPEL ACCORDING TO AL GREEN
(1984) A powerful portrait of 4-time Grammy winner turned gospel singer.
- Fri. Jan. 31, 8 pm
MUSIC VIDEO: FROM MOVIE MAKERS
Works by established film directors and major rock, pop & reggae stars.
- Sun. Feb. 2, 7 pm
ORNETTE: MADE IN AMERICA
(1985) A portrait of famed jazz saxophonist/composer Ornette Coleman.
- Fri. Feb. 7, 8 pm
Mark Cantor Premieres
SWINGIN' CINEMA
New jazz film treasures from the L.A. collector's astounding collection of vintage performances.
- Sat. Feb. 8, 2 & 8 pm
Mark Cantor Premieres
JAZZ IMPRESSIONS
Performance films by the giants of modern jazz.
- Sun. Feb. 9, 7 pm
SUNNY SIDE OF LIFE
(1984) and **THE LIFE AND TIMES OF ROSE MADDOX**
(1985) Two fine films about the great traditions of country music.
- Sat., Sun., Feb. 15, 16, 7 pm
ARTIE SHAW: TIME IS ALL YOU'VE GOT
(Canada, 1985) The life & struggles of the jazz great.
- Sat. Feb. 15, 9:15 pm,
Sun. Feb. 16, 9 pm
LAND OF LOOK BEHIND
(1982) Perhaps the finest look at Rastafarian culture since *The Harder They Come*. With Greg Ivy, Isaac, Mutabaruka and the music & spirit of Bob Marley.

Northwest Film & Video Center
Oregon Art Institute
1219 SW Park Ave.
221-1156



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