



ENTERTAINMENT



Shanice

Fresh, vibrant, hip and soulful, Shanice Wilson truly shines on INNER CHILD, her sparkling and expressive debut album for Motown Records. A

says Shanice, who co-wrote a number of songs with Walden. "We tried to cover everything from pop to r&b to dance and hip-hop."

From the beautiful opening interlude, "Keep Your Inner Child Alive" to the upbeat first single, "I Love Your Smile" and on to the tender "Silent Prayer" (which features labelmate Johnny Gill), Shanice demonstrates the creative growth she's undergone since her first album. "Working in the studio with Narada, I've really grown. He let me be myself vocally and we had a lot of fun writing together."

The maturity evident on Shanice's Motown debut comes after a career that began when the Pittsburgh-born, Los Angeles-bred native was still a toddler. "I started singing melodies at seven months old," laughs Shanice, "and Mom has it all on tape." Shanice started out singing on stage with her

tucky Fried Chicken spot with the legendary Ella Fitzgerald, in which an 8-year old Shanice almost stole the show.

A performance at a local L.A. theater in the musical "Get Happy" led to Shanice's recording contract with A&M Records when she was a mere 11-years old. Shanice recalls that "it was hard to find songs for an 11-year old because most songs for someone with my voice were too mature." Shelving a lot of this early material, Shanice began recording again with producer Bryan Loren. Her first album, DISCOVERY, won a good deal of critical acclaim and Shanice enjoyed success with two top 10 r&b hits, "Can You Dance?" and "No 1/2 Steppin'." A series of selected appearances confirmed Shanice's talent as a powerhouse young vocalist and she hit the charts in 1989 with "This Time," a duet with the Detroit group Kiara.

In 1990, Shanice was signed to Motown Records by President/CEO Jheri Busby, whom she recalls "actually wanted to sign me at the same time that A&M was first talking to me," and began working with a series of producers. However, it was her pairing with producer Walden that provided just the right chemistry for Shanice's all important debut for the label. Notes Narada (whose work with Whitney Houston, Mariah Carey, Aretha Franklin and others has made him one of the hottest producers in the business), "Shanice is so pretty, soulful and...she's going to conquer the world with her beautiful smile and tremendous talent."



perfect showcase for her five-octave vocals and her bright, engaging personality, INNER CHILD is produced by super hitmaker Narada Michael Walden. It presents the many musical sides of this highly talented young performer. "The music on this album is universal,"

mother and aunt (background and session singers who are currently working on their own debut Motown LP) who had spent time coaching her vocally. She performed in local musicals and modeled, as well as appearing on television commercials including a Ken-

Sneak Of The Week
To appear April 20th,
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**Portland Actors
Ensemble Presents
The Billy Bash; Son Of
Shakespeare**

*Oh, no!! It's Back!! It's...it's...
Son Of Shakespeare!!!!*

Portland Actors Ensemble (ye olde Shakespeare in the Parks gang) will celebrate the Birthday of the Bard on Sunday, April 26th, 1992 at 4:30 PM at the Bridgeport Brew Pub (1313 NW Marshall), with that fine olde Shakespeare in the Parks tradition, The Billy Bash. In honor of the Bard's 400 and someoddth Birthday, PAE will present an oldie but a goodie-The Fifteen Minute Hamlet - and an original take-off of Bill's famous History cycle (no, not bi-cycle), The War of the Roses in Half an Hour, More or Less, by Portland's own Budding Bard Robin Suttles. Starring Phil Huff as Hamlet, Duane Hall as Laertes, and a cast of at least 6 more, Portland Actors Ensemble will present history in a way that it has never been interpreted before. The public is invited to take part in the mayhem. The parody is free, the beer and pizza isn't and all donations (which are not requested but are cheerfully accepted) will go toward the 1992 production of Shakespeare in the Parks, The Taming of The Shrew, opening July 25th at Laurelhurst Park in SE Portland. Be there or be two (to be? or not to be two? There was a question there somewhere....)

PORTLAND OBSERVER
"The Eyes and Ears of the Community"
Office: (503) 288-0033
Fax #: (503) 288-0015

**Shakespeare In The
Parks Announces
Auditions For The
Taming Of The Shrew**

Auditions for the 1992 Shakespeare in the Parks production of The Taming Of The Shrew, sponsored by Portland Actors Ensemble, will take place Saturday, May 9th and Sunday, May 10th. Audition appointments can be made by calling Cindy McGean at 233-6860 in the evening between 5:30 and 9:30 PM. Auditioners are requested to prepare one 2-3 minute monologue, preferably from a classical drama, and to bring a headshot and resume. The Taming Of The Shrew, directed by Ms. Cynthia J. McGean, will be set in the Gold Rush era of Oregon's history. Needed are 5 women ages 20-60 and 7 men ages 18-60. All actors will be paid a stipend. Women and minorities are especially encouraged to audition - 2 major roles will be cross-cast, and Portland Actors Ensemble has a policy of color blind casting. Callbacks will take place on the evening of Monday, May 11th; rehearsals will begin the week of June 1st. For other information about Portland Actors Ensemble, please call Rebecca Pugh at 235-7481.



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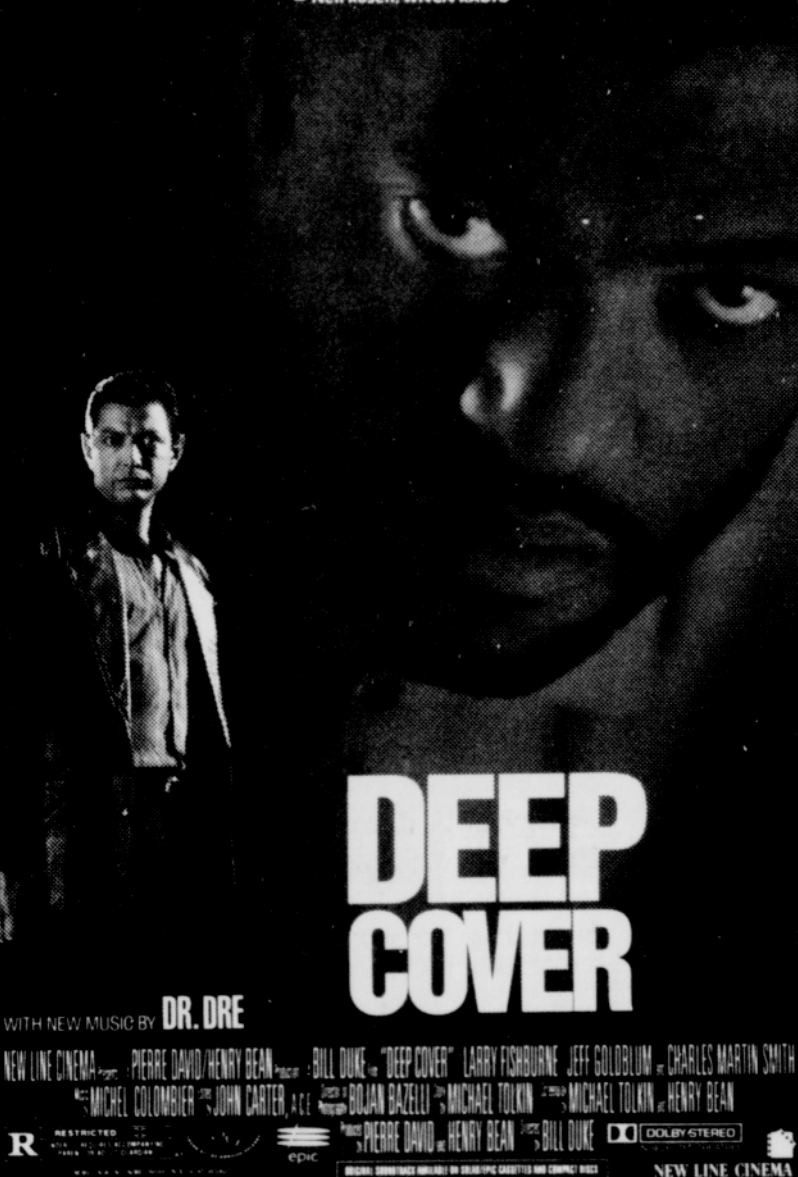
Friday, April 24, 1992
8:00 p.m.
Ticket Price:
\$25.00

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:
Mrs. C's Wigs, 707 N.E. Fremont
House of Sound,
3606 N. Williams Ave.
P&J's Beauty & Barber Supplies,
2948 N.E. M.L.K., Jr. Blvd.

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— Neil Rosen, WNCN RADIO



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Back Porch Blues	Cryin' Shame	Killing Field	The Mothertones	Steve Cameron
Belmont Street Quartet	The Daddies	Krowd Kontrol	Myrtle Brown's Destiny	Steven Knechtges
Big Blue Marble	Dale VanWormer	Leon Smith & the Last Rodeo	Neros Rome	The Swingline Cubs
Black Roses	Dani Reed Network	Lew Jones Act	No Way Home	T.O.W. & The Coalition
Blubinos	Duwig's At Large!	Up to Lip	Norman Sylvester Band	Tenley Holway & Cayuse
Body & Soul	Dennis Springer	Little Women	Obio Addy	The Tennesseans
Boka Mariamja	Dharma Burns	Lloyd Jones	Pa'Lante	Terry Robb
Cal Scott Group	Dirty Lowdown Desert Dogs	Los Comatose	Paul DeLay Bahd	U Krew
Calvin Walker Band	Dirty Rhythm	Love On Ice	Pond	Umaja
Caryl Mack	Dub Squad	Lynn Morris Band	Pumpkin Ridge	Uncle Chester
Cascade	Dub Squad	M99	Rocky Comfort	The Whirlies
Completely Grocery	Hallelujah Chorus	Margo Tufo	Scroggins/DePriest	Women In Blues

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April 28, 29, 30
May 1, 2, 3
8:00 PM

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Tickets: \$6, \$10, \$12.50
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(Prices include seat and convenience
fee. Mail and phone orders subject to
additional handling charge.)

Photo by Bill Arnes

