

ENTERTAINMENT

Dance Magic Competition



Traci Adair, left and Leah Willis, right. Congratulations Traci Adair and Leah Willis. The 9 year olds won 1st place in the jazz duo portion of Dance Magic Competition held at Sam Barlow H.S. December 12. Their group took 2nd place in the variety group portion of the competition. The girls are students of C.J. McArthur at Hollywood Dance and Fitness.

"Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?" Set For Opening

This January, Harrod and Paula Productions request the pleasure of your company as they present Edward Albee's classic play of American dysfunction, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?"

"...Virginia Woolf?" opened on Broadway in October of 1962, in the midst of the Cuban Missile Crisis, as the walls of Camelot began to crumble. It has shocked, intrigued, and titillated a generation of theatre goers and practitioners with its frankly Freudian nastiness, its portrait of the twisting of a dream, and the sheer cleverness of its writing. Proclaimed "the play of the decade" in the '60s, it bears a more than passing look in the Bradfordian '90s, "We have seen the enemy and it is us."

Guy Peter Oakes directs, assisted by Courtney Jeffery. Featured as George and Martha are Arthur Harold and Deborah Davis, both year plus veterans of the "Angry Housewives" trenches, with Steve Boss as Nick and Holly Spencer as Honey. Set Design is by Henry Hettick, and Costumes by Arthur Harold.

Join them for a little post holiday catharsis. George and Martha take up residence at the Underground Theatre, 532 SE Ankeny (Sixth and Ankeny off Grand) on January 8th. The fun and games begin at 8pm, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, through January 30th. For reservations or information call Paula Productions at 238-9692. Limited seating on living room furniture.

MELI'SA MORGAN

"With this record, I'm emerging as the person I've always wanted to be," declares Meli'sa Morgan. Her struggles and victories filter through every note of *Still In Love With You*, Morgan's first album in almost two years, and her Pendulum debut. Meli'sa Morgan has a voice that could break your heart, soaring easily between virtuoso flash and musical subtlety, serenity and melodrama, brimming with respect and love for R&B tradition as well as boundless enthusiasm for street-smart funk, pop, reggae and rap.

Singing has been central to Morgan's life since age nine, when she took part in her church choir in Queens, New York. She quickly progressed to fronting locals bands, and got her first break singing in a New York club, the Cellar, when one of Chaka Khan's back-up singers asked Morgan to be her replacement in Khan's line-up. That led to a Capitol Records contract.

Meli'sa shot to the top of Billboard's R&B chart with her first single, "Do Me Baby" from her 1985 debut of the same name, and toured with Freddie Jackson and Billy Ocean, as well as headlining. Her second album, *Good Love*, stretched her talents as a singer and songwriter, and produced a duet with Kashif, "Love Changes," that bulleted to #2. Her third disc, *The Lady in Me*, spawned the hit "Can You Give Me What I Want" and solidified her reputation among fans and critics alike. But even after achieving this degree of success, Morgan wanted



Meli'sa Morgan

stant progression from singer to multi-faceted artist whose contribution to her work extends to writing and co-producing. The first single, a show-stopping '90s version of Al Green's hit, produced by Bernard Belle, has particular meaning to Morgan: "It's an extension of my childhood -- in the seventies, when I was a little girl, my cousins used to listen to Al Green constantly, they'd come on, *Meli'sa*, sing," she laughs, "and I'd try to sing all these Al Green songs. So to be able to do this as an adult is great -- it shows the evolution of music. As long as you've got a good song, it'll stand the test of time."

Some of today's top young new wave jazz musicians -- Omar Hakim, Buddy Williams, Tom Barney and Hiram Bullock -- add their dynamic energy to a number of tracks co-produced by Morgan and Michael O'Hara. The lofty saxophone sounds of Najee are featured on "Release Me" and Meli'sa's joyous return to her gospel roots, "What Change Have You Made Lately?," which also sports a full choir as back-up. Daddy Freddy lends his lightning-fast raps to the reggae-tinged "Through the Tears," produced by Zane Giles, a realistic but optimistic look at the ill ravaging America.

"This is the most powerful album I've ever done as a vocalist and as a producer," Morgan declares. "I've really stretched beyond my limits." But knowing Meli'sa Morgan, it's only the beginning of an ever-evolving musical journey.

to push her creativity to a higher level. "I wanted to express myself more," she recalls. To accomplish that aim, she enrolled at the prestigious Juilliard School of Music and the Lee Strasberg Studios, where she studied Method acting. "With Strasberg's method, you have to come from the inside, go back to your childhood and past experiences," she explains. "It didn't change the way I approached music, but it did change my relationship with the audience. I fell a new confidence now."

Still In Love With You reflects that confidence, showcasing Meli'sa's con-

Macio To Appear With Jackson



Comedian Macio will appear in concert as one of the special guests in Freddy Jackson's Holiday Love Tour, December 22nd, at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall

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Interview with Imam Mikal Shabazz of the Muslim Community Center of Portland. Interview conducted by Rashid al-Wahdud

Cable Television Schedule:
December 5 Channel 27, 11:00 p.m.
December 8 Channel 27, 9:00 p.m.
December 13 channel 33, 9:00 p.m.
December 19 Channel 33, 10:00 a.m.
January 8 Channel 11, 7:30 p.m.
January 10 Channel 11, 12:00 p.m.

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SPECIAL EDITION

COMING JANUARY 15

Portland Opera Receives Meyer Memorial Trust Grant

Showing its confidence in both the Portland Opera and the community, the Meyer Memorial Trust, one of the largest private foundations in Oregon, has awarded the Company a \$200,000 challenge grant.

Board of Directors President David Eford, in making the announcement, noted the importance of the grant's one-to-one matching element, commenting that it "provides another important incentive to contributors. Each dollar that they donate will automatically be doubled. We are extremely grateful for the Trust's show of support for the Opera and for its recognition of the important part that the cultural arts play in our region."

Under the conditions of the grant, the proceeds are to be used for the general support of operations and activities. In its 28th season, the Portland Opera is currently preparing an all-new production of Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, to be directed by the Hartford Stage Company's Mark Lamos, renowned for his exciting and innovative approaches to both opera and theater.

Christmas Sale

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