

# Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

## Martin Lawrence 'You So Crazy'



With unflinching candor and humor, comedian Martin Lawrence takes on the world in the controversial new concert film *YOU SO CRAZY*, presented by The Samuel Goldwyn Company.

Martin Lawrence is amazing audiences around the country by doing everything for a laugh. Not only is he the star and executive producer of the hit Fox-TV show that bears his name, he is also the hip-hop of the HBO's "Def Comedy Jam," his comedy album

"Talkin' Shit" on Billboard's charts, he recently signed a three-film development deal with Twentieth Century Fox, and he stars in and executive produces his concert film *You So Crazy*.

Lawrence traces his comedy beginnings to his boyhood in

Landover, Maryland, where in grade school he would stand in the hall cracking jokes about everyone who walked by. With the encouragement of an art teacher, Lawrence tried stand-up for the first time at a local comedy club's open mike night. By working among the hustlers and street performers in NYC's Washington Square Park, Lawrence eventually found his way to that city's famed Improvisation Club. From there he went on to win the first round of the "Star Search Showcase." That tape was seen by executives at Columbia Pictures, and Lawrence was cast as a series regular on "What's Happening Now."

*You So Crazy* is the controversial state-of-the-art concert film starring comedian and actor Martin Lawrence, by himself but alone, thanks to the extended family of characters who take over his mouth, his body and his mind on stage at the Brooklyn Academy of Music's Majestic Theatre.

Uncensored and unabashed, Lawrence prowls the stage in combat boots and peace sign emblazoned, baggy leather baseball suit. He starts out big, confronting the issues of the day with the logic of the street.

What's up? Racism, Rodney King, Mexican looters, Jeffrey Dahmer and Waco, Texas, not to mention people who talk out loud at the movies, guys doing time and the nasty habits of men behind bars.

Fueled by astute observation and disarming warmth, Lawrence

brings his concerns closer to home as the show progresses. Home was the projects, after his dad left, but mama did her best. The neighbors included some "crazy, deranged" characters -- and still do -- but Lawrence does not judge. He's against the crackhead, but not without pity, and tolerates the grave realizations of herb-smokers who are "smarter than the average scientist."

Relationships provide the juiciest subject matter. He gives his lady his ultimate tribute, "You go, girl!" as he chronicles the giddy early stages of love. The lady talks back in virtuoso dialogue that follows the roller coaster ride of relationship, and demonstrates Lawrence's ability to wear somebody else's shoes. His message is this: Communicate!!! And don't worry if the language gets rough.

## Scholarships Available For Summer Performing Arts Workshop

Partial scholarships are available for the Summer Performing Arts workshop sponsored by Portland State University and Metro Performing Arts. Applicants for the scholarships should call 823-3660 as soon as possible to request an application. Registration must be received by June 3.

Participants must be between age 11 and 14 and have completed the 5th grade. The workshops will meet from August 1 to 26 from 10am to 4pm on the PSU campus in Lincoln Hall.

The program is designed so that serious young performers can explore the entire world of performing arts with a focus on acting, musical theatre, dance and

technical theatre. The intensive 6-hour day format also features Mini Classes which explore related topics such as make-up, radio drama, costumes, performing on camera, stage combat and more.

Public performances will be held at the conclusion of the workshop. Instructors are professionals who teach throughout Portland. A discount for families who register more than one student. Free Tri-Met bus passes are also available.

Student interns are also being sought to assist with the program. For more information contact Metro Performing Arts at 823-3660.

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## Northwest Black Music Month Celebration June 9-11

Portland, the City of Roses will open its gates to embrace those in the music industry attending the 1994 Northwest Black Music Month Celebration, June 9-11.

Hosted by KBMS Radio and UnForgettable Entertainment, this is the first Northwest Black Music Month Celebration for Portland. Major and independent record companies are invited to participate by sending their established and emerging artists. The event will give record company executives, artists, those in the radio industry, music retailers, concert promoters, and club owners

an opportunity to network in our beautiful city.

1994 Northwest Black Music Month Celebration will kick-off on Thursday, June 9 at 7:00 pm at the Red Lion Hotel, Jantzen with an official welcome from Margaret Carter, State Representative, District 18, and special guest speaker Bobby Duckett, Senior Director of Artist Development and Touring, Mercury Records, New York. Activities continue on Friday, June 10 when visiting artists will sign autographs from 3:00 to 6:00 pm at House of Sound Records, 3620 N. Williams, KBMS Radio will

hold a live on-location radio broadcast during this time. The event will wrap up on Saturday, June 11 at 8:00 pm with a live performance at the Roseland Theater, 8NW 6th. (Lineup of artists will be announced at a later date.)

1994 Northwest Black Music Month Celebration promises to be an exciting musical event for Portland. The general public is invited to attend the festivities on June 10 and 11. Tickets are \$15.00 and will be available at Fred Meyer Fastixx. For further information contact Kevin Berry at (503) 282-7042.

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