

Monsters and a Crazy Scientist Discovered In Downtown Portland

A seven-foot monster, a mysterious man with razor-sharp fangs, and a crazed scientist will be "stalking" downtown Portland for the next several weeks as part of Portland Repertory Theatre's production of *The Doom of Frankenstein*, running through December 3 at the Rep's Mainstage.

The Mainstage will be transformed into a castle of doom for this slightly tongue-in-cheek tale of gothic horror, adapted by the Rep's Producing Artistic Director Geoffrey Sherman and Paul Wonssek from Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*.

Doom of Frankenstein tells the story of Victor Frankenstein, a crazed scientist who is determined to discover the natural forces to regenerate life. Expelled from the university academia for his unorthodox practices, he escapes to the mountains to conduct bizarre research, and is consumed in his greatest experiment of all: to bring back to life his former colleague and mentor, Friederich. On the brink of a major discovery, his plans are thwarted by the local inspector and the arrival of Lucian, Friederich's son with a mysterious past.

The Mainstage will literally light up with state-of-the-art pyrotechnics and special effects to bring the story to life, including 187 sound effects, 13 strobe lights, several hundred electrical lights, and four smoke machines. In addition, 40 gallons of



Elizabeth Adwin, Bruce Burkharmeier, and Steve Smith in *The Doom of Frankenstein*, a tongue-in-cheek version of Mary Shelley's classic. Playing now through December 3 at Portland Repertory Theatre. For information call 224-4491.

photo by Owen Carey

stage blood will flow throughout the run of the play.

Tickets to *The Doom of Frankenstein* may be purchased by calling the Rep Box Office at (503) 224-4491 or Ticketmaster at (503) 224-4400. Tickets are

(\$25) Tuesday through Thursday evenings and Sunday matinees and evenings and Friday and Saturday evenings (\$27.) Tuesday and Sunday evening performances are at 7 pm; other evening performances begin at 8 pm. Mat-

inees are at 2pm.

Senior, student and group discounts are available. Children 15 years of age and under are eligible for half-price admission. Call the box office for tickets or information at (503) 224-4491.



Diana Lewis-McKnight and some of the quality clothing drawing customers to her shop, The African Village, on Alberta Street in northeast Portland.

Store Features African Designs

By MICHAEL LEIGHTON

Clothing from Nigeria, The Ivory Coast and Ghana are being introduced to Portland's fashion scene through the doors of The African Village Boutique.

African styles and colors are surging in popularity and Diana

Lewis-McKnight's new boutique carves a needed place in the emerging market.

The store at 1439 N.E. Alberta St., has an impressive selection of African styles, materials and artifacts. Unique fabrics, hand sewn stitching, embroidery

and colors create an inspired line of clothing.

Prices range from relatively inexpensive necklaces, hats and money purses to more expensive formal ministerial robes.

McKnight said the robes are patterned after the garments worn by African heads-of-state and priests and are very popular with Portlanders who "feel good" when they dress in the traditional wear.

McKnight said a hot item in the city right now are the designer African handbags and purses.

The boutique has prints from popular African artists, including Marcella Welch of the East Coast, whose designs of the "Nubian Sisters" has created an attractive selection. There are African masks, fertility dolls and baskets.

The store takes consignments and puts them on sale, bringing artifacts from others who have traveled to the African continent.

The boutique is now planning for a series of community classes for those who want to learn African bead work, head wrap tying and doll making.

Two African seamstresses are on staff for customized sewing.

McKnight said she

opened her store on Alberta with some reservation, but now feels great about the decision. She's making a difference for the betterment of the community.

A lot of neighbors have dropped by to give her support.

"Now, I feel like I'm on a mission," she said.

McKnight is a Portland native with three children. She recently returned to her home after nearly 20 years in Texas.

The store is open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and for customer convenience on Sunday from noon until 5 p.m. For more information call 249-3790.



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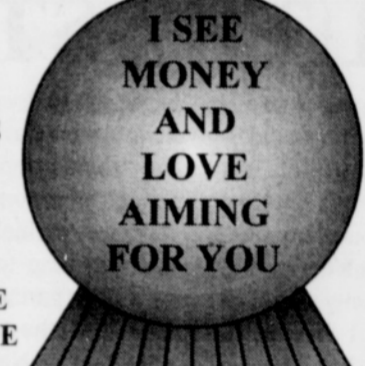


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