

Arts

ENTERTAINMENT

Oral History and Visual Art: QUILTERS

PORTLAND, Ore. - Concordia University announces the upcoming production of the musical, *Quilters*, opening on January 29, 1999 and running for two weekends.

Ostensibly the story of a pioneer woman and her six daughters, *Quilters* blends a series of interrelated scenes into a rich mosaic which captures the sweep and beauty, the terror and joy, the harsh challenge and abiding rewards of frontier life.

"Who would have thought that quilts, quilting - quilters - had so much joy and pain, laughter and tears, so much life, beauty and drama in them?" - Drama-logue

Quilters explores the relationship of quilting to the lives of the makers. Quilts provide a legacy - a tangible, lasting testament to women's experiences. Quilts frequently played a part in rites of passage and the common task which brought together groups of women to sew also brought them together to talk and exchange stories.

Traditional quilts designs have descriptive names based



Creaky boards scare the children and they huddle with mother under the Log Cabin quilt, from *Quilters*, opening at Concordia University on Jan. 29
L-R: Kathie Lundquist, Alicia Gross, Danielle Fleming, Kara Gsell, Melinda Hepner, Sarah Vickery, Sarah Rondema

on stories. In quilts they are: Rocky Road, Dugout, Baby's Blocks, The Rebel Patch, Windmill, Robbing Peter to Pay

Paul, The Butterfly, Schoolhouse, Four Doves in a Window, Lone Star, Double Wed-

ding Rings, Secret Drawer, Log Cabin, Crosses and Losses, and Tree of ?Life. During

Quilters we come to see how traditional quilts recorded and community history and inspired the artist to record her life through them.

Pioneer women reflected their landscapes and homes in quilted artistry. During rugged and difficult living conditions, the quilts often gave the quilters a meditative space, pride of accomplishment, and pleasure in creating objects of beauty.

Experiencing the play *Quilters* provides insight into the "pieces of women's lives" through song, stories and dance....It is a celebration of women's lives.

What: *Quilters*, a musical by

Molly Newman and Barbara Damashek, music and lyrics by Barbara Damashek

When: January 29 & 30
Fri, Sat 7:30pm

January 30 Sun 2:00pm

February 4, 5 & 6 Thurs, Fri, & Sat 7:30 pm

February 7 Sun 2:00pm

Where: Concordia University Fine Arts Building NE 27th and Highland (just north of Holman)

Tickets: Advance ticket purchases are strongly recommended. Call 280-8614 (10 am - 2 pm, or leave a message anytime.)

Price: Adult \$6, Student and Senior \$4

A Christmas Carol Features Talent

When Portland Center Stage opens its new production of *A Christmas Carol* this holiday season, featured on-stage will be several of Portland's most talented young musicians, singers and actors. The cast includes five students, ranging in age from nine to fifteen. **Dustin Tragethon**, a fourth grader at Sunnyside Elementary School, plays Tiny Tim, the young and hopeful Cratchit family child whose "God bless us, every one!" is perhaps the most memorable line of the Charles Dickens novella. **Dustin** has appeared in local productions including *Ramona Quimby* at Oregon Children's Theater, and "Night of 100 Stars," and has performed with Portland Symphonic Choir and Oregon Symphony. **Timothy Patrick Walsh**, a fifth-grader and accomplished musician, has won awards in the Oregon Music Teachers Association's Baroque (1998) and Classical (1997 and 1998) Festi-

vals and Trula Whelan Piano Concerto Competition (1997 and 1998). **Timothy**, who has appeared as a guest soloist with the Marylhurst Symphony; sings as part of the Christmas Carol ensemble. He won his most recent piano competition on a dinner break from his PCS rehearsal. **Cody Hill**, a student at Lincoln High School whose many community credits include *The Lion*, the witch and the Wardrobe; *Willie Wonka* and the Chocolate Factory and *Ramona Quimby* at Oregon Children's theater, plays Teen Scrooge and Peter in the production. **Lily Lowell**, a fourth-grader at Buckman Arts Elementary School, who last appeared at Portland Center Stage as Macduff's son in *Macbeth*, plays Fan and a Cratchit Child in *A Christmas Carol*. Lily has appeared in Tygres Shakespeare Company's *As You Like It* and with Zig Zag trapeze troupe. **Blake Lowell**, a seventh-grader at Da Vinci Arts Middle School

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