

Family Living

Driven to Damnation

The award winning Imago Theatre drives toward Trailer Park Paradise, a wacky automotive tale of good and evil in a music-theatre event burning with animation and special effects.

Director Carol Triffle, creator of Imago's *Ginger's Green* has placed Snake and Apple in a Mad Max World in pursuit of Adam and Eve on the road to Limbo. The original work premieres Wednesday, January 27 at 7:30 at Imago Theatre, 17 SE 8th, and continues Thursdays through Sundays through February 28. Show times are Thursdays at 7:30, Friday and Saturdays at 8, Sundays at 7. Ticket prices for Thursday and Sunday are \$12 students/seniors and \$15 general admission. January 27th is the only Wednesday show. For tickets call Imago 231-9581, ext.1, or Fastixx 224-8499.

This wouldn't be an Imago show without a flair for stagecraft and Trailer Park Paradise delivers a road trip that promises twists, turns and high speed chases. A special effects car engineered by Lance Woolen is hit with an artillery of animation and live action footage designed and photographed by Jerry Mouawad, Rob Bonds, Anne Abele, Mark Magee and Lars C. Larsen. Light designer Jeff Forbes enhances the trip.

In Trailer Park Paradise, Triffle teams with co-artistic director Mouawad to write the original play. Long time collaborators Waltzing Mice will blast away with a live rock quartet of original music with lyrics by Triffle. Mouawad and Triffle star in the lead roles of 'Snake' and 'Apple' and are joined by ensemble members Peter Campbell as 'Acne' (aka Adam), Megan Evans as 'Evette' (aka Eve), Jonathan Godsey as 'Cal' (aka Cain) and Marc Weaver as 'The Author'. Weaver and Campbell last joined Triffle and Mouawad in Imago's acclaimed *No Exit*.

Waltzing Mice, composers Katie Griesar and Kahlil Aishi are joined by bassist Paul Regan (who last appeared in *Ginger's Green*) and percussionist Sharri Miller.



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Family Art Adventures Workshop

Make a Special Valentine's Gift at OCAC

The staff of Art Adventures on the Hill, OCAC's children's camp and workshop program, has planned a special book arts workshop for the whole family. Parents and children can work together and create pop-up valentines cards, make stamping and stenciling art and try out some simple printing projects.

The Family Art Adventures Workshop is Saturday, February 6 from 2-5 PM in OCAC's book arts studio. The workshop is \$10 per family member and space is limited. To register call Katie Wisdom Weinstein at 297-5544, ext.113.

This is the first in a series of family workshops sponsored by Art Adventures. The next family workshop is Saturday, May 6, 2-5 PM, when the family (or Dad and the kids) can create a one-of-a-kind gift for Mother's Day.

OCAC began the art program for children and families in the summer of 1998 with an art day camp for children, 6-13, and teen workshops. The camp begins its second season in the meadows and studios of the campus on June 21. The week long sessions for children, 6-13, combine art and creative play in a classic "camp" setting with water slides, volley ball and

skits. Teenagers participate in intensive workshops where they can focus on a particular media whether their goal is art college or exploration of their artistic talents.

The opportunity to influence the creative lives of young people reflects OCAC's 90-year history as a local resource for education in the visual arts. Over the years, countless artists have begun their artistic exploration on our campus and that tradition continues with Art Adventures.

Oregon College of Art and Craft, accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, provides studio-based education in Book Arts, Ceramics, Drawing, Fibers, Metal, Photography and Wood. OCAC offers a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Crafts, a three-year Certificate in Crafts and on-going Open Program classes. Along with year-round studio instruction, the College offers public workshops, a lively exhibition program and support for regional artists whose work is carried in The Gallery Shop. OCAC receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Oregon Arts Commission, and the Regional Arts and Culture Council.

Minority Students Need To See Opportunities, Not Obstacles

Many African American, Hispanic American and other minority students who have the ability to attend college need to more carefully balance the cost of a higher education against its lifelong benefits before they decide it's the wrong choice, too unfamiliar or too expensive, experts say.

As tuition and fees have risen back with the good news as well, they say, enrollments. But it may be time to fight back with the good news as well, they say.

"I understand the concerns faced by many of these students who come from low-income backgrounds," said Larry Griggs, director of the Educational Opportunity Program at Oregon State University.

"It's a fact that college costs more than it used to," Griggs said. "The students may be the first ones in their family to ever go to college, it's unfamiliar, and the cost of four or five years of higher education might be more than their family's annual income. It's a scary proposition and a lot of young people feel like they are stepping off into the unknown."

While Griggs says that society needs to do everything it can to provide financial assistance and keep college affordable, it's equally true that the students need to look at all of the benefits — not just the costs — and recognize that going to

college is probably the best single investment they will ever make.

"Without a doubt, our brightest students need to invest in their own lives and learn about all the advantages a college education will give them," Griggs said.

Studies back up this argument. According to data from the U.S. Census Bureau, in the mid-1990s a male college graduate can expect to earn about \$700,000 more that a high school graduate over a 40-year working lifetime. Men graduating from a four-year, public institution such as OSU with a bachelor's degree can expect to earn back \$28.40 for every dollar spent on tuition, fees, room and board. Females will earn back \$18.60.

At the same time, high school graduate incomes in real, inflation-adjusted terms have been dropping steadily since the early 1970s, the data show.

Concerns that minority students and many others may be hearing all the bad news about the cost of college and not enough about the benefits recently prompted a consortium of 1,200 colleges and universities around the nation to begin a "College is Possible" campaign.

For people seeking more information, this initiative has set up a web site — www.CollegelsPossible.org — and a

toll-free number at the Department of Education, 1-800-433-3243. It includes suggestions on costs, financial aid, sources of assistance and what students should do to prepare themselves for college.

And admissions specialists at OSU also are geared up to help students examine the costs and payoffs of a university education. They can be reached toll-free at 1-800-291-4192.

Fighting negative perceptions is a big part of the battle, some experts say. A study by the American Council on Education found that African Americans were 83 percent more likely to hold such beliefs.

Those impressions apparently carry over to enrollments. In 1996, the last year for which Census Bureau data is available, 36.2 percent of traditional college-age whites were attending college, compared to 27 percent of African Americans and 20.1 percent of the Hispanics in similar age groups.

Other new, innovative programs, such as OSU Statewide, can also help to bring college educations literally into every town and home in Oregon, if that's what students need or prefer.

The changing demographics and challenges of the future, Griggs said, make it more essential than ever that everyone be brought into the educated mainstream.

Singing For Our Lives

A Musical Revue of Songs About Civil Rights, Freedom & Peace.

This show is a must for anyone who loves the songs that changed the world, gave us inspiration, or helped us laugh in the face of adversity. *Singing For Our Lives* will feature the songs that shaped the "civil rights/anti-war" generations. It will feature a large cast of MJCC favorites and new talent who will perform a wide variety of ensemble, small group and solo versions of music by: Bob Dylan, Woody Guthrie, Peter Paul & Mary, Joni Mitchell,

Tom Lehrer, Crosby Stills Nash & Young, Jacques Brel, Holly Near, Tracey Chapman, Sweet Honey in the Rock and many more.

*Performances are Saturdays March 6th, 13th & 20th at 8:00 PM; Sundays March 7th & 21st at 2:00 PM and March 14th at 7:30 PM; and Thursdays March 11th & 18th at 7:30 PM (Half-Price Thursdays).

Singing For Our Lives is the perfect show for groups to at-

tend together. The musical revue will be set-up Coffee House — style, around ten-seat tables with optional coffee and dessert offered. A special group rate of \$2 off each ticket is available for groups of ten or more. Reserve an entire table (or two), or purchase at least ten tickets at once to receive this great deal.

For information call the MJCC box office at 244-0111, 6651 SW Capitol Hwy, Portland, OR. 97219.

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TRI-MET NEWS

Tri-Met Board Changes Meeting Times

The Tri-Met Board of Directors will meet at new times beginning in February. Regular monthly meetings now begin at 9 a.m., typically on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Board briefings are scheduled at 9 a.m., usually on the second Wednesday of the month. The public is invited to the meetings.

In an effort to reach out to the communities it serves, the Board will host regular meetings at various locations throughout the metropolitan area. Meeting locations are available by calling 238-4887.

Persons requiring meeting materials in alternative formats and/or sign language interpreters should contact Tri-Met at 238-4952, TTY 238-5811, or fax 239-3092 between 7:30 a.m. — 5:30 p.m. weekdays at least two working days prior to the meetings. Meeting rooms are accessible. For information about traveling to the meetings on Tri-Met, please call 238-RIDE.

What's ahead

With MAX trains and 26% of our buses at capacity during rush-hour, Tri-Met hopes to add additional MAX trains and buses to increase capacity. Introducing additional service and improving the overall quality of service is planned for the future. Tri-Met will invite public comment on the agency's future plans during open houses beginning Feb. 22. "Increased ridership is the best measure of Tri-Met's success," said Fred Hansen Tri-Met General Manger. "To continue this trend, we need to expand our system to continue to meet our growing ridership base. As we do this, transit will continue to play a key role in helping this region grow smart."

For information about riding Tri-Met, contact 238-RIDE, or www.tri-met.org



How we get there matters.

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