

Black History Month Events

Play Reading

Satisfy your curiosity with this guest audience invitation. You will see and hear an 8-member cast reading of the award-winning one-act play "When Justice Throws The Second Stone," written, produced and directed by Raymond Cornelius Alexander. Imagine a criminal justice system has targeted you as the prime suspect of a homicide you know you didn't commit. Now your credibility becomes an important, inescapable legal issue, which, as an illuminating example, former Olympic superstar sprinter Eddie Crankshaw faced during his ordeal with the Criminal Justice System in Richmond, Virginia. The next reading will be on Saturday, February 27, from 5:30 - 7:30 PM at the L.I.F.E. Center on 2746 NE MLK Jr., Blvd. Call 503/284-6878.

IFCC Gallery

The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center kicks off Black History Month with exhibitions of paintings and pen & inks by Vancouver, Washington artist Philemon T. Reid that will continue through February 27. Reid's oil paintings of jazz and blues musicians reveal a keen ability to adapt materials into a personal vehicle for expression. The IFCC Gallery is located at 5340 N. Interstate Ave. Call 823-2000.

Festival Of African Films

THE LAND (1969, Egypt, 130 min.), directed by Yusuf Chahine. "The Land", which took eight years

to make, is an epic story of the plight of villagers who want only to be left in peace to till their land and lead their lives. However, they are at the mercy of far-off bureaucrats who care only for the wishes of the large landowners. Like many films south of the Sahara, *The Land* brings to life the intimate relations between the peasant men and women and the land (as well as the water) that sustains them. It also shows what happens when they say enough is enough. In Arabic with English subtitles.

Thursday, February 25, noon, and Saturday, February 20, 7:30 PM in Terrell Hall, Room 122, PCC Cascade Campus.

MORTU NEGA (1988, Guinea-Bissau, 85 min.), directed by Flora Gomes. Set during the Liberation struggle (which ended in 1973) and immediately after, is the story of one woman, Diminga, whose husband, Soko, is fighting on the front lines, her devotion to him and to the cause of independence, and the high cost of the war against the Portuguese. In Portuguese with English subtitles.

Thursday, February 25, 2 PM and Saturday, February 27, 7:30 PM in Terrell Hall, Room 122, PCC Cascade Campus.

OGGUN: AN ETERNAL PRESENT (1981, Cuba, 55 min.), directed by Gloria Rolando.

At first glance, oggun might appear an odd choice for this festival, for it is set and filmed in Cuba. However,

like last year's *Through the Door of No Return*, it is all about the relationship between "Mother Africa" and "New World." This creative documentary is set in the world of Santeria, the Afro-Cuban religion that is a syncretic blend of traditional West African Yoruba religion and Catholicism. The central figure is Lázaro Rós, the leading akpwon (singer) of Santeria and devotee of Oggun, the god of metals, iron, and warfare. A fascinating blend of ceremony, confession, fiction, and myth, the film serves to celebrate the bridge tying present-day Cubans back to their African roots. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Thursday, March 4, noon, and Friday, March 5, 7:30 PM, in Terrell Hall, Room 122, PCC Cascade Campus. The evening screening, which is co-sponsored by the PCC-Cascade Women's History Month Committee, will be followed by discussion led by individuals familiar with traditional Yoruba religion and individuals familiar with Santeria.

EVERYONE'S CHILD

(1996, Zimbabwe, 90 min.), directed by Tsitsi Danaremba. In this film, four children have lost their parents to AIDS, a tragically common situation in Zimbabwe and in much of Africa. Itai, the elder son, leaves for Harare to try to earn money to send back; he is soon lost among the many unemployed street kids of the capitol city. Tamari, the elder daughter, remains behind to

take care of the two younger children. As is the case with other AIDS children, Tamari and her siblings are everyone's child, and no one's. She soon finds herself pursued by a promiscuous would-be benefactor; she risks becoming another victim of the same disease that killed her parents. Ultimately a call to action, *Everyone's Child* asks its audience to consider its own responsibility in dealing with the terrible problem and legacy of AIDS in Africa. It has been seen throughout Anglophone Africa. In English. *Thursday, March 4, 1:30 PM, and Saturday, March 6, 7:30 PM, in Terrell Hall, Room 122, PCC Cascade Campus.*

Vessels Wedding Planning Workshop

VESSLS, "Tableware With Meaning," has scheduled its series of popular wedding planning workshops for prospective brides and grooms-to-be. Titled "Before Jumpin' the Broom" Wedding Workshops, couples can select from one of two convenient dates, February 27 or March 27.

Each session will run from 1-3 PM and will be held at VESSELS, at 2605 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, corner of Russell. The cost is \$5 per person. Seating is limited; reservations are required, by calling 503/249-1952. The grooms-to-be are admitted free! The workshop will feature details



Photo: Library of Congress
Mary Lou Williams (1910-1981) - Mary Lou Williams was known as "the First Lady of Jazz" and described by Duke Ellington as "perpetually contemporary".

on wedding invitation procedures and traditions and offer many helpful do's and don'ts to follow in announcing this big event. Other segments include important things to consider when planning the wedding, and suggestions for adding cultural touches into the wedding ceremony.

Bridge Builders

The Bridge Builders will be holding their Third Black History Month Celebration and The Prospective Gents Club "Rites of Passage" Announcement at the Portland Arts Museum on Sunday, February 28 at 7 PM. Call 503/306-2960.

Westward Movement

A 56-minute informational program on the "African Americans in the Westward Movement" film project will be shown on Cable Access on Saturday, February 27 at 9 AM, Channel 11.

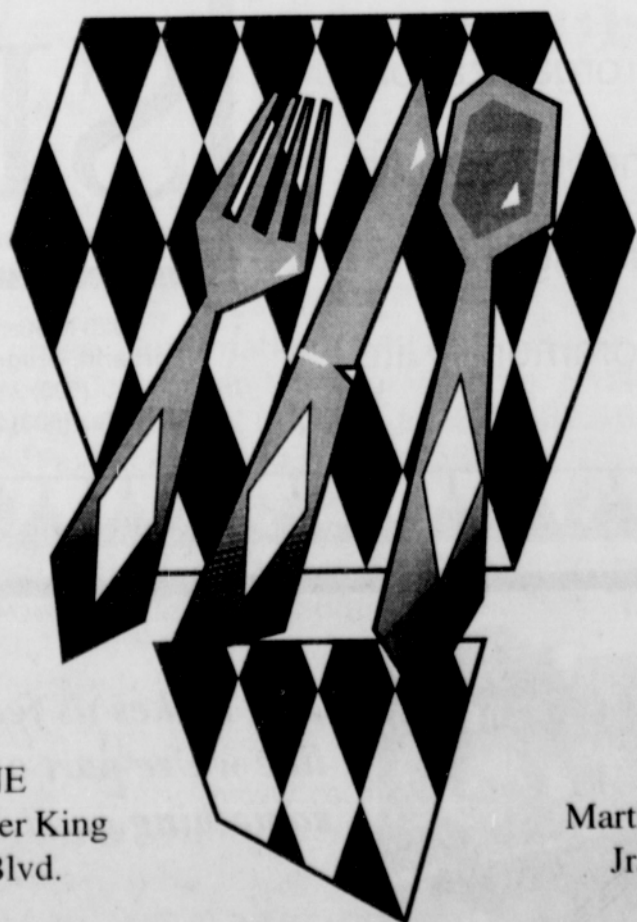
Augustana Lutheran Church

Saturday, February 27 at 7:00 P.M. The *Disciples of Song* special concert, with Christor and Evelyn Lewis, Marilyn Keller, and many more. The event will be held at Augustana Lutheran Church, 2710 NE 14th Avenue; phone 288-6174 for more information. Freewill offering.

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