

# Belly Dancers Perform The Rite Of Spring

Sharita Productions, a company of avant-garde belly dancers based in Portland, will present a new work choreographed to Igor Stravinsky's "The Rite of Spring." Primal and powerful, earthy and elegant, this unprecedented interpretation will be performed at The Scottish Rite Center in Portland, 709 SW 15th & Morrison, Thursday, June 10 & Friday, June 11 at 8 PM.

Directed and conceived by dancer/choreographer Sharita (a.k.a. Elinor Friedberg), with historical turn-of-the-century scenery provided by the Scottish Rite Temple, the program features international belly dance artist Aazura, Dawn Stearns of Gypsy Caravan, guest artist Jane Archer and the live music of instrumentalist David Rolin of DHOMBA! An optional audience-participation dance party completes each evening.

The combination of belly dance, traditionally regarded as a Middle Eastern art form, with the music of Stravinsky, one of the century's most revolutionary classical composers, seems to Sharita as natural as music and dance themselves. "People ask me how you can combine belly dance and classical music," she says, "and I answer: if you've only known one

kind of dance and one kind of music your whole life, you'd find a way to combine them."

"Belly dance was introduced to me with Middle Eastern music,

generation are hooked on synthesizers and auto-beat, Sharita prefers "the delicacy of those beautiful, wandering, ancient phrases in which the instruments seem to be doing an in-

raphy: "Stravinsky's large range of emotional expression, sliding sounds, and rhythmic complexity combine to form flowering phrases of superb melodic coherence."

In Stravinsky's original production, the Chosen one danced herself to death, and ultimately transcendence, in a fertility sacrifice. To convey a more assertive feminine role, Sharita researched Martha Graham, the first modern dancer to create the part in the United States. Sharita's own version uses eye-catching techniques and flamboyant costumes to meld belly dance to the music's larger-than-life mythological themes.

Aazura (Julie Muniq), who teaches and choreographs in Portland, brings her international touring experience to the role of the Chosen One. In addition to performing in Europe, Egypt, and throughout the West Coast, she appeared in "Rigoletto" with the Portland Opera and "Will U Dance?" at Willamette University. Guest artist Jane Archer is the dance director of DHOMBA!, Portland's premier neo-tribal music and dance group. A soulful dancer with 18 years experience, Archer will collaborate with David Rolin, an innovative drummer whose repertoire includes the Middle Eastern rhythms of the djembe, the dumbek, congas, floating percussion and scud bass.

Tickets for The Rite of Spring are \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door, and can be purchased at Powell's On Hawthorne, 3747 SE Hawthorne, Powell's Travel Store, SW 6th & Yamhill, or through FASTIXX at 503/554-9765.

**"People ask me how you can combine belly dance and classical music... And I answer, if you've only known one kind of dance and one kind of music your whole life, you'd find a way to combine them."**

which reveals a continuity of tone derived from instruments much older than the traditional classical ones," Sharita recalls. While many in her

tricate dance of their own." She finds that Stravinsky's work, still considered by many to be groundbreaking in modern times, suits her choreog-

## Michelle Kwan & Todd Eldredge

### HEADLINE 1999 SUMMER TOUR

In the long and storied history of Champions on Ice, it's hard to imagine a more honored or talented cast of skaters than John Hancock Champions on Ice 1999 Summer Tour, presented by Tom Collins. The tour performances, scheduled to visit 45 U.S. cities this year and featuring the likes of Michelle Kwan, Todd Eldredge, Oksana Baiul and Elvis Stojko.

Collins continues to excel at the delicate art of mixing today's newest skating stars with the legendary talents of the past two decades. To take the magic of a Michelle Kwan or an Elvis Stojko and combine it with the experience of Brian Boitano

or Klimova & Ponomarenko is the essence of quality ice entertainment. Where else can you see Todd Eldredge interpreting the rhythms of the rink followed by the individual ice stylings of Oksana Baiul and Victor Petrenko?

Audiences are not only seeing the athletic ability of these skaters; they are witnessing creativity by each skater rarely developed by other skating shows. This is the genius of Champions on Ice and the reason people keep coming back year after year. In addition to the stellar cast, Emmy award winning choreographer Sarah Karahawa will direct the opening and closing production

numbers for the 1999 Summer Tour. Kawahara has choreographed numerous skating specials and individual numbers for many Olympic Skating stars. This is the first year Kawahara brings her unique and special talent to Champions on Ice.

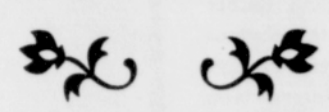
Tickets for John Hancock Champions on Ice 1999 Summer Tour are available at local ticket outlets and arena box office. More information can be found online at [www.championsonice.com](http://www.championsonice.com).

The John Hancock Champions on Ice 1999 Summer Tour is a production of Tom Collins Enterprises, Inc., continuing a 40-year association with figure skating entertainment.

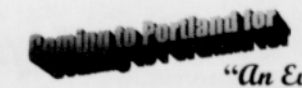
## KENNEDY SCHOOL McMenamins THEATER

### MOVIES NIGHTLY WITH WEEKEND MATINEES

For schedule & information call:  
**288-2180**



McMenamins  
Kennedy School  
5736 NE 33rd · Portland, Oregon  
(503) 249-3983  
[www.mcmenamins.com](http://www.mcmenamins.com)



### "An Evening at the Tiffany"

Saturday, June 5 - 6:00 PM 10:00 PM  
Five time Grammy Award Winner \* Seven Grammy Nominations \* 14 Gold Albums  
20 year lead Singer For the legendary Temptations!  
The VOICE

Dennis Edwards

ALONG WITH.....  
David San  
Mina Padilla  
Steve Harris  
Bernard Gibson  
and the original Temptation Band



THE TEMPTATION REVIEW FEATURING  
DENNIS EDWARDS!

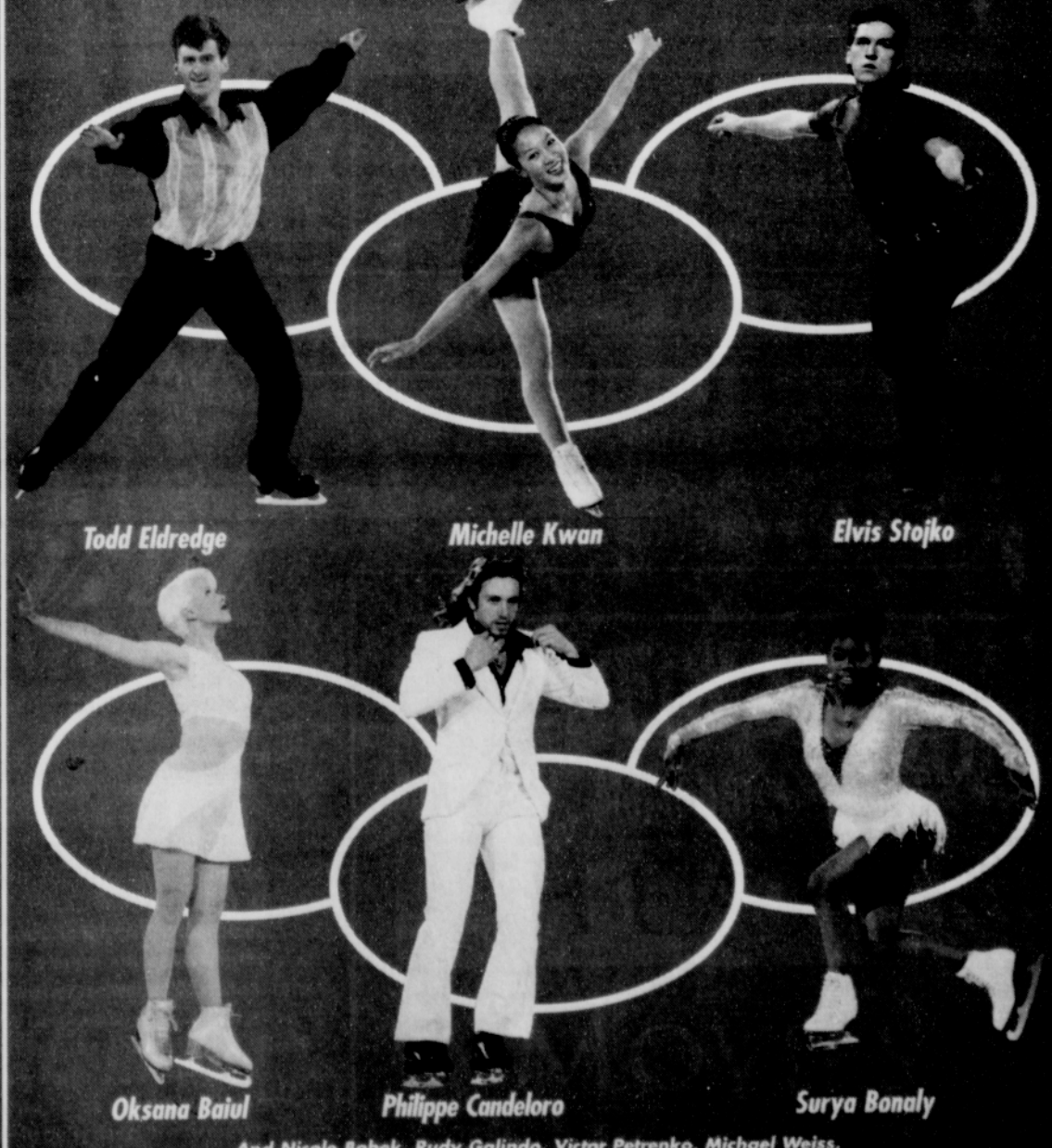
Group Sales: 289-2763 or 286-3230 (10 or more)  
Or stop by  
House of Sound, The Best of All Worlds, One Stop Music, or Miss C's  
Get your tickets today - These shows will sell out!

[www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)  
A First Lady Entertainment Production

CALL (503) 224-4400  
TICKETMASTER G.I. JOE'S MEIER & FRANK

TOM COLLINS presents

# John Hancock CHAMPIONS ON ICE 1999 Summer Tour



Todd Eldredge Michelle Kwan Elvis Stojko  
Oksana Baiul Philippe Candeloro Surya Bonaly

And Nicole Bobek, Rudy Galindo, Victor Petrenko, Michael Weiss,  
Kazakova & Dmitriev and Punsalan & Swallow

OLYMPIC GOLD, SILVER & BRONZE MEDALISTS

Rose Garden  
Friday • June 18 • 8:00 PM  
CHARGE BY PHONE: 503-224-4400

Tickets on Sale NOW at The Rose Quarter Box Office,  
Meier & Frank, G.I. Joe's and all TICKETMASTER locations.  
Or purchase on the internet: [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)  
For Group Sales Call: 503-231-8000

Cast of skaters may change due to injury or other unforeseen circumstances.



[www.championsonice.com](http://www.championsonice.com)