

Focus

Sunset Boulevard Starring Petula Clark



Tickets are now on sale for the production the Wall Street Journal calls "Andrew Lloyd Webber's masterpiece." Get ready for your close up as Sunset Boulevard comes to the Portland Civic Auditorium for a limited engagement September 14-19.

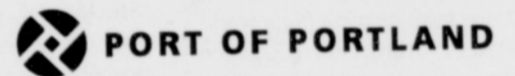
Based on Billy Wilder's acclaimed 1950 film, Sunset Boulevard is a passionate love story set on Hollywood's street of dreams. It tells the story of a young, down-on-his-

luck screenwriter, Joe Gillis, and his fateful meeting with Norma Desmond, a legendary silent film star who dreams of returning to the silver screen. Andrew Lloyd Webber's sweeping, romantic melodies soar against the glamorous backdrop of 1950's Hollywood, from the Paramount Pictures backlot, to Schwab's famous drugstore, to the decadent splendor of Norma Desmond's mansion.

Notice is hereby given that on September 13, 1999, at 9:00 A.M., a public hearing will be held by the Port of Portland at 220 NW 2nd, Hospitality Room, 4th Floor, Portland, Oregon (Northwest Natural Gas Building).

The purpose of this hearing is to inform the public of, and seek input on the Port's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program and policy. The primary focus is DBE participation goal setting in accordance with the revised US Department of Transportation rules set forth in 49 CFR Part 26.

A copy of the Port's DBE Program is available for public inspection at the Port of Portland building at 121 NW Everett, Contracts & Procurement, 5th Floor, or at the time of the hearing. We are inviting public comment for 30 days following the date of this notice. We will accept written comments on the goals for 45 days following the date of this notice.



RONNIE LAWS

Ronnie Laws, the entertainer saxophonist will be playing at the 8th annual Virgo Birthday Bash on Saturday, September 18th on board the Portland Spirit.

As the third sibling in a live of four talented musicians, saxophonist Ronnie Laws has a deep empathy for the concept of family - immediate, universal and otherwise. So it comes as little surprise that when Blue Note President, Bruce Lundvall approached him with the idea of re-recording a landmark pop album of his choice for Blue Note's ongoing Covers Series, Laws would turn to Harvest For the World, an 8-song fan favorite from the electrifying, 6-member edition of R&B legends, The Isley Brothers. Though that gold-selling LP was sandwiched between two platinum-selling, hit-stacked classics (The Heat is On (1975) and Go For Your Guns (1977)), Harvest for the World (recorded on the family's own T-Neck label in 1976) is reflected on today with fondness as a sleeper of rootsy social consciousness, Sly-influenced funk/rock and exceptionally tender balladry.

Laws covered the title track on his album, Deep Soul (Par Records - 1992) which wet his appetite to tackle the entire album. Over the course of two-and-a-half months, Laws and his assistant producer, Kevin Floinoy (Keyboardist/road) shaped the basic tracks for the seven songs and opening "Prelude." "The mood character of each selection dictated how I would ap-

proach it," he explains. "Some of Ronald Isley's original lead vocals lent themselves to more of a tenor approach and other more of a soprano touch. Then I decided to take a different twist by playing flute on "People of Today. I haven't featured that instrument on any recordings in a while."

Ronnie Laws is a proven natural at combining the exploratory heart of Jazz with the broader reaching strains of soul and pop music. His first hit, "Always There" (credited as Ronnie Laws and Pressure on the original 45) was one of the most popular, sax-driven, crossover hits of 70's jazz-funk fusion. He ushered in the

sensualization of the soprano sax with Quiet Storm gems such as "Grace", "Karmen" and "Just Love." The title track of his third album, Friends and Strangers propelled him to gold sales in 1977 and garnered him fame at adult contemporary radio with the lush "Stay Awake" (1981). He was a member of the 70's most respected R&B band, Earth, Wind & Fire, preserved on their album, Last Days and Time (Columbia 1972) but he quit the group after one year to broaden his concept as a more influential artist.

For more information on the Virgo Bash party featuring Ronnie Laws, call Dee Baker at 503-285-4009.

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