

# Focus

## Diana Ross

It goes without saying that the adjective star has become somewhat ubiquitous. So overused, and often so liberally applied, that when it is actually applied correctly, it's somewhat surprising. So to avoid any such shock or confusion let's make something clear.

Diana Ross is a super star. All of which is evident on EVERY DAY IS A NEW DAY, the brand new collection of songs from Diana Ross and her first CD since 1994's triumphant TAKE ME HIGHER.

EVERY DAY IS A NEW DAY was executive produced by Diana Ross and indeed her signature soulful style is etched into every groove. Working with Diana on this exuberant CD are a veritable who's who of songwriters and producers, among them Eric Carmen, Denise Rich, Ric Wake, Diane Warren, Malik Pendleton, Daryl Simmons, Chuckii Booker, and Arif Marden.



From the soaring, South African rhythms of "He Lives In You," from the Tony winning musical *The Lion King*, to the hopeful, heartfilled anthem "Until We Meet Again" to the playful cat and mouse of "Sugar Free," from mid-tempo, up-tempo and ballads, EVERY DAY IS A NEW DAY is Diana Ross at her artistic peak, delivering gorgeous songs that are compassionate, conscious, and musically expansive.

In a remarkable career that spans over 30 years, Diana's

absence from the music scene only made her fans' hearts and ears grow fonder and after one listen they will be reminded that this diva's style is unmatched. Her fans will agree that this album is well worth the wait.

Now armed with an emotional new television movie, Double Platinum, and a powerful new CD, EVERY DAY IS A NEW DAY, Diana Ross is ready to tell us something that we all know, but which bears repeating. Diana Ross is a singer. Diana Ross is a super star. Diana Ross is ours.

## Aida



*A Giuseppe Verdi Masterpiece*

One of the most magnificent Italian operas ever written, the production features the dramatic sound of 100 voices, along with Portland's favorite elephant - Tiki.

It's hard to imagine a better way to usher in the 35th Anniversary season than with Aida, the grandest of all grand operas. With an internationally renowned cast, ravishing costumes, towering sets, thrilling choreography, and the unbelievable sound of more than 100 people on stage, Aida provides the ultimate theatrical experience. Since its incredibly successful Cairo debut in 1871, Aida treats audiences to a vivid combination of larger-than-life spectacle, wrapped tightly around a delicate, unforgettable love story.

Amid the splendor of ancient Egypt, the beautiful Aida walks an emotional tightrope as she tries to balance her love for an enemy general with her allegiance to her father and country.

Aida is directed by Portland Opera General Director Robert Bailey, who directed the Company's last production of Aida in 1989. Portland Opera's Music Director, Louis Salemno, conducts the Portland Opera Orchestra and Chorus, along with a cast of well known vocalists. The Company's celebrated chorus will provide several of the production's highlights as it delights audiences with Verdi's famous chorus music. In addition to the musical and scenic wonders, Portland Opera is pleased



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to announce the triumphant return of Tiki, the gentle, four-ton pachyderm, who won over Portland audiences 10 years ago.

Performances of Aida will be at the Civic Auditorium (SW 3rd & Clay) from October 2,4,6,8,9 at 7:30 PM. For ticket information, call Ticketmaster at 503/790-ARTS or the Portland Opera Box Office at 503/241-1802.

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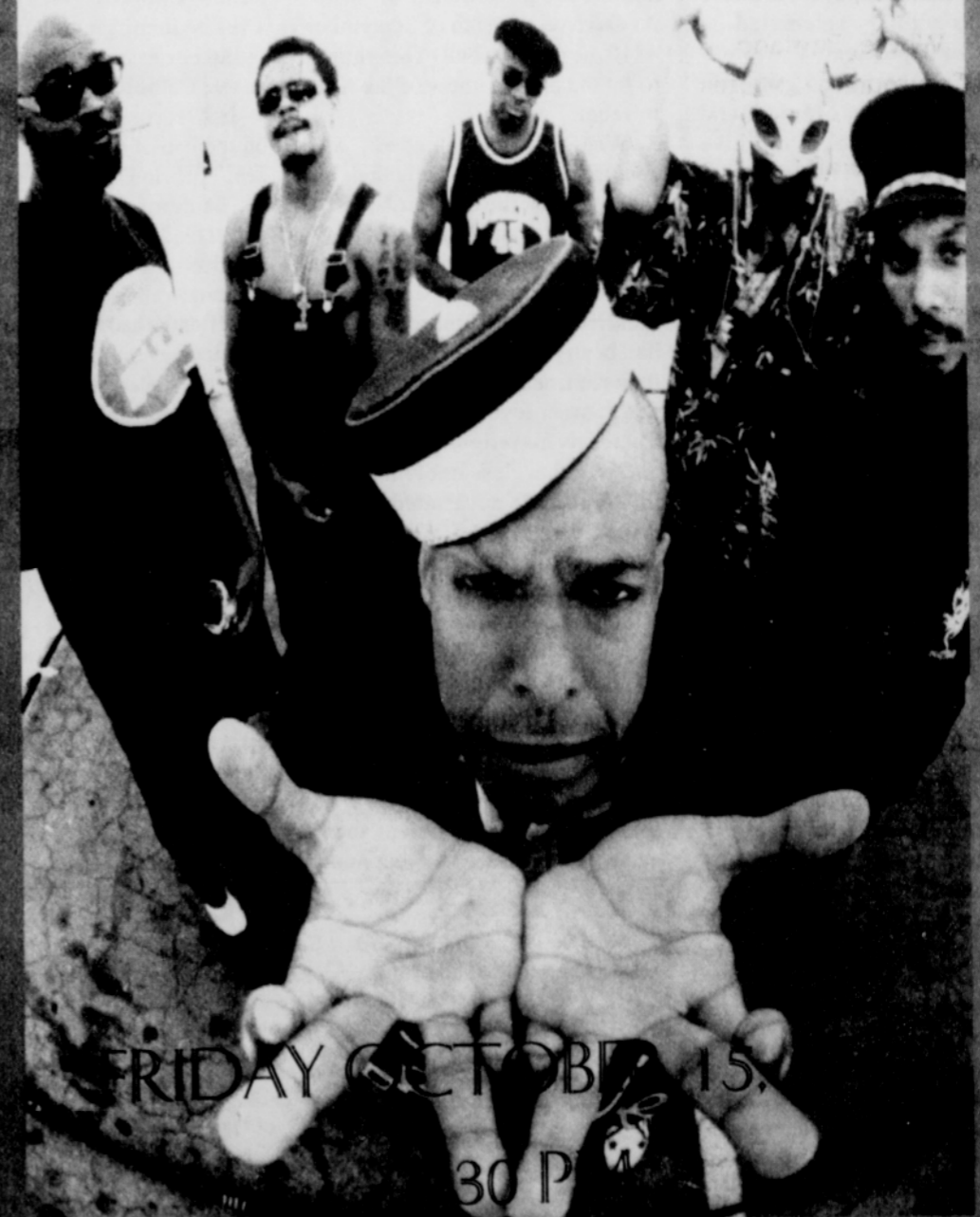
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