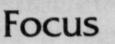
The Portland Observer



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The Portland Observer

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1999 The Portland Observer

On Stage

CONTRIBUTED STORY FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

White Bird announces the Portland premiere of Tony Award-winning choreographer Garth Fagan's acclaimed company *Garth Fagan Dance*. The hugely popular company will perform for one night only on Wednesday, March 15, 7:30 pm. at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall in downtown Portland. Garth Fagan, called "a true dance

original" by New York Post critic Clive Barnes, founded his company in 1970 in Rochester, New York and has won worldwide acclaim for his unique movement language called Fagan Technique, which is

derived from Afro-Caribbean dance, ballet, modern dance and post-modernism. In 1996 he was chosen to choreograph Disney's The Lion King on Broadway, and he was awarded the prestigious 1998 Tony Award for Best Choreography as well as a host of other awards. Garth Fagan Dance is renowned for the individuality and virtuosity of its dancers. Susan Reiter of New York Newsday comments, "No one else moves like these virtuosos, with their uncanny air of calm focus...and the sheer sculptural beauty they bring to Fagan's sensual, often quirky movement." David Vaughn exclaimed in Ballet Review, "The dancers...are fearless...able



Garth Fagan dance makes its moves onstage

Garth Fagan, world famous for his unique movement language called "Fagan Technique" will present his style of dance at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall on Wednesday, March 15 which blends Afro-Caribbean, ballet, modern dance and post-modernism.

stop on a dime."

In Portland the company will perform several works from Garth Fagan's classic repertoire-Prelude (1981); A Trois (excerpted from Mix 25, 1996); and Touring Jubilee 1924 (1982) - as well as two critically acclaimed recent works: Two Pieces of One: Green (1998) and Woza (1999). Woza is an exuberant piece set to the polyrhythmic music of South African composer Lebo M, one of Garth Fagan's collaborators in The Lion King. After the Joyce Theater premiere in New York City only three months ago, Anna Kisselgoff of The New York Times raved that "Mr. Fagan has come up with a dazzling piece - from finger to toe, everything dances in Woza." Two Pieces of One: Green is serenely beautiful work set to 16th century choral works interspersed with contemporary jazz saxophone solos. Anna Kisselgoff called the piece "a deep work on a formal and human level" that shows Fagan as "the equivalent of a painter who explores the possibility of paint itself."

Tickets to *Garth Fagan Dance*, as well as the two remaining dance companies of White Bird's 1999-2000 season, are available at all Fred Mayer FASTIXX outlets, or by calling 503/224-8499/800-992-8499 (outside Portland). Ticket prices range from \$15.50 to \$29 plus service charges. Discounted tickets are available.



Friday, March 17, 4pm to 11pm Irish Bands · Irish Dancers · Irish Coffee Leprechauns · Storytelling · Family Fun

CRAIG CAROTHERS SONGWRITERS IN THE ROUND Sunday, March 19, Doors at 7pm, Show at 7:30pm Admission \$7

> I & I "Reggae Inna Afrikan Stylee" Thursday, March 23, at 7pm

BATTLE OF THE BANDS 2000 STEVE BRADLEY GROUP WITH JON KOONCE VS

> THE X ANGELS Thursday, March 30 at 7pm

All ages welcome · No cover charge unless noted

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