



EL OBSERVADOR

For Love or Country: The Arturo Sandoval Story

The HBO Films presentation "For Love of Country: The Arturo Sandoval Story," stars Andy Garcia (nominated for an Academy Award and Golden Globe for "The Godfather, Part III") in the true story of a man torn between love for his family, passion for music, and a dream of a better life in America.

Arturo Sandoval, a brilliant Cuban trumpet player, sacrifices his opportunity to defect when he falls in love with marianela, a beautiful government employee loyal to the state, and resolves to provide his family with the best life possible under the oppressive Castro government. But when he is no longer able to perform the music he loves, Sandoval and his wife devise a desperate plan to defect with the help of music legend Dizzy Gillespie.

Since his arrival in the United States, Arturo Sandoval has received 12 Grammy nominations, winning three. A founding member of the Cuban group Irakere, Sandoval won his first Grammy in 1978; during his tenure with Irakere Sandoval began his life-altering friendship with Dizzy Gillespie. In the decade since his defection Sandoval has performed at the Super Bowl halftime show, the Grammy Awards and the Oscars. He maintains one of the most extensive worldwide tour schedules in the industry, and is also a tenure professor at Florida International University.

The film, "For Love of Country" debuts Saturday at 9 p.m. It stars Mia Maestro ("Tango"), Gloria Estefan ("Music of the Heart"), David Paymer ("Quiz Show," HBO's "Crime of the Century") and Charles S. Dutton ("Roc," Emmy-winner for directing HBO's "The Corner").

Michael Harrison

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

has always been an outspoken advocate of higher density residential development and row houses, and his proposals for these features produced civil wars in the Irvington and Overlook neighborhoods.

Nor did many businesspeople and property owners care for the rezoning of much of Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard for high-density housing. "There are communities that have declared themselves Harrison-free zones," Janik said at the roast. Fred Meyer went further—according to Harrison, chief executive Oran Robertson tried to have him fired when he opposed a rezoning to allow construction of the Hollywood West store. "As a native Oregonian, I'd love to turn the tap that stops people from moving here and having babies," Harrison said at a recent meeting. "The trouble is, no one's ever told me where it is." However, he also has shown a willingness to listen and change. During the Albina Plan, he declared he would meet "anytime anywhere with any group of three or more people." After such discussions he reduced the plan's zoning density considerably in some areas. "He brings his values to the table, and is his own person," consultant and urban studies professor Sumner Sharpe says. He's sometimes a lightning rod, but he causes people to think. "Commissioner Charlie Hales removed Harrison from the Southwest Community Plan effort when a discussion map calling for higher density produced a public outcry. However, Hales says, "It's a pretty big deal to lose Michael. He was a new urbanist who believed in city life when that was a movement among a very small group of people. We'll miss his institutional memory." Former Planning Commission president Rick Michaelson says, "He's been the hardest working, longest lasting person with creative ideas we've seen in some time."



Brazil's incomparable Balé Folclórico da Bahia comes to Portland with their dynamic Afro-Brazilian rhythms. They will be at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall on Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m.

Brazil's Best Dance Troupe: Bale Folclorico da Bahia

By CHRIS PERRY FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A very exciting performance is coming to Portland on December 5th at the Oregon Symphony. Bale Folclorico da Bahia is the best dance troupe of traditional dance in all of Brazil.

The Bale will be showing off Samba, Samba Reggae, Maculele, Samba de Roda, and Capoeira dances and music with all their intricate cos-

tumes and wild pulsing drumming.

This internationally acclaimed dance company finds their talented dancers and drummers through youth programs they provide to the poor children in Salvador, Bahia. The closer listeners can get to the musical roots of everyday life in Brazil, the more raw, authentic, and exuberant the music and dance becomes. Bahia is a canvas of constant experimentation, where musicians and dancers take

their sambas and fuse them with other African based music from all over the world. All kinds of wonderful fusions of musical styles occur. One of the most successful lately has been Samba Reggae. This is the type of drumming that became so popular in the United States when Paul Simon hired the Bahian drum group, Olodum to back him on his "Rhythm of the Saints" album.

Using large surdo drums to keep

the reggae pulse, samba reggae layers samba riffs over the top and often uses reggae songs in a call and response style.

The roots of Samba are in Bahia, where powerful drumming, singing sensuality and African religion all get mixed up into a raw passion for life in dance. In Brazil it is not unusual to dance and sing and play music all night—to be totally swept up and a part of the music at the most basic

level. This concert is the closest we can come to that experience without going to Brazil for Carnaval.

The performance is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. Tickets for this Oregon Symphony non-orchestra Special Events presentation range in price from \$15 to \$50 and may be obtained by calling 503/228-1353, or visit the Symphony's Web site at www.orsymphony.org.

First Black in Oregon was Friend to English Naval Hero

By RON WEBER FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Four hundred and twenty one years ago, the first African American set foot on our Pacific Northwest soil. Some say it was near San Francisco, but evidence is continuing to mount that it was actually here in Oregon. Just north of Newport in Whale Cove, might have been the last resting place of this man, a tall free Black Pirate and friend of Sir Francis Drake.

His name was Diego. When he decided to defect from the Spanish who treated him so cruelly and later joined up with the enemy, the English, he probably had no idea he would become so famous. Diego's brutal uprooting from his native African country by Portuguese and Spanish slave traders in the early 1500's would catapult this unknown man into a fierce struggle over the location of where he and an English ship landed in America.

Seven years earlier, during a vicious on-going struggle for control of Nombre de Dios, a rich Spanish shipping port in the New World, Diego met and became friends with one of England's greatest naval heroes, Sir Francis Drake. Acting on one of his closely held mottoes, "An enemy of my enemy is my friend," Drake formed a bond with this 6'6" tall African Negro that would forever change the course of history.

With the help of Diego, a member of the Caribbean Cimarrone tribe, Drake would deal crushing blows to the Spanish throughout the Caribbean and West Indies. The Cimarrones (also spelled Cimaroons) were renegade black slaves who ran away from their Spanish captors.

Sickened by the cruel and immoral treatment of the slaves by the Spanish and his mentor, John Hawkins, Sir Francis Drake turned "ex-slaver" at a very young age. Instead of taking part in the inhumane acts of dragging blacks away from their West African families and homelands to be sold as

slaves for "cheap labor in the New World," Drake had other plans. He knew he could make more money pirating Spanish boats and shipping ports. He also had secrets on how to do it. By treating the Cimarrones as friends, he instantly had an army on his side.

As part of this strange and close friendship between these two men, Diego would also become the first reported African circumnavigator sailing around the world. On a trip along the west coast of North America, Drake's ships would stop in numerous ports for boat repairs and supplies. One extended stay in 1579 was said to be in a port either near San Francisco or a small port in Oregon named Whale Cove. As the argument goes on, a few things are clear. Besides sailing around the world and being the first of his race to arrive on the west coast, Diego was known to stand side by side with Sir Francis Drake in vicious fights to the death against the Spanish and to walk miles with him, swinging heavy blades to cut their way through snake infested jungles. He served Drake for many years, first meeting him in the winter of 1572. In 1578, it was reported that Diego might have died in a battle with Indians who thought Drake and his men were enemies. An Englishman uttered the word *agua*, thinking the Indians would understand that the English wanted Water. Hearing the Spanish word, several hundred Indians attacked immediately. An Englishman named John Brewster took seventeen arrows and died a few days later. Drake was almost killed, taking two arrows to the body and one just below his right eye. Because he was six and a half feet tall, Diego made a big target. He was hit twenty times. Besides one report that Diego might have died shortly thereafter, there were several other accounts showing him to have recovered, continuing on with Drake.

Their next stop was the west coast, home of the Pacific Northwest. After

Diego helped coordinate repair of the boats, getting them ready for the long trip back to Europe, the ships were loaded with food and water. The services of the

Cimarrones were no longer needed. Diego was never mentioned again. It is assumed that he stayed back here.

Finding a skeleton that dated

to the same time of Diego's being on the west coast and matching him in his rare size during those times added fuel to the fire that keeps burning hotter.



Es un "home run", y avanza directamente... a través de su parabrisas. Y AHORA, ¿QUIÉN PUEDE AYUDARLE?

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