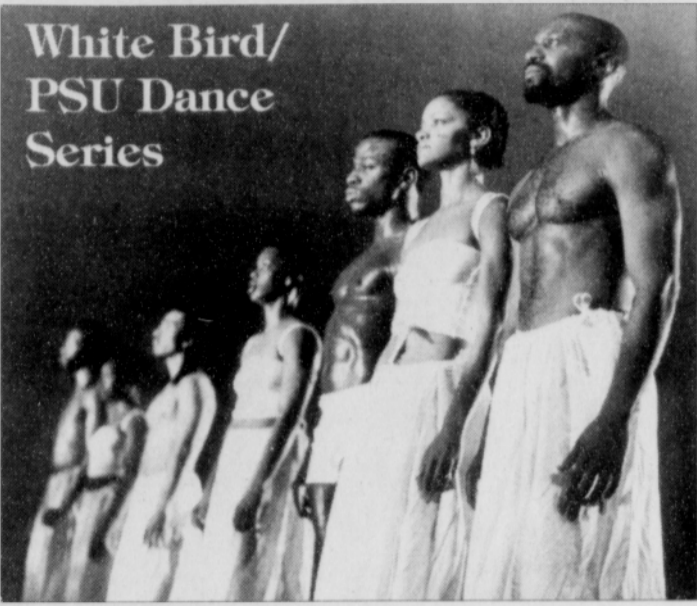


FOCUS

White Bird/ PSU Dance Series



One of America's great African-American dance companies, Ronald K. Brown/Evidence, an eight-member company is making their Portland debut through White Bird/PSU Dance Series, from Sept. 19 - 21 at the Lincoln Performance Hall in Portland State University. For more information, call 503-245-1600 or go online to www.whitebird.org.



CHOCOLATE CONFESSIONS

The one-woman musical comedy "Chocolate Confessions" opens at the Portland Art Museum, North Wing on Sept. 20 and runs through Nov. 23. This show follows chocolate shop owner Coco Bliss as she greets her offbeat and amusing customers. Call for tickets at 503-226-0973 or go online to www.chocolateconfessions.com.

Earth, Wind & Fire Serenades Devoted Fans

BY FELICIA L. SLIDER
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

"Do you remember dancing in September?" Yes, will be the answer of many Rose City fans of Earth Wind & Fire who were serenaded to at Portland's Keller Auditorium on Sept. 9.

The audience was a kaleidoscope of fans from every generation, gender and music genre. Fans ranged from a pre-teen boy who was seated in the tenth row to fans who've likely been dancing in "Boogie Wonderland" for the past 30 years.

Presented by Great Scott PR & Clear Channel, EWF's tour through Portland consisted of a 16-member band with two dancers.

Founded by Maurice White in 1971, three of the original EWF members remain: brother Verdine White on bass, Phillip Bailey on vocals, congas, & percussion and Ralph Johnson on drums and percussion. They made the Monday night showcase a memorable medley of music from their great-

est and latest hits.

Not only has EWF continued to keep giving the greatest, they were honored in this year's events such as the 2nd Annual Black Entertainment Awards on June 25 for Lifetime Achievement and the Rhythm & Soul Heritage Award that was on the June 17 where EWF's originals Maurice White, Philip Bailey, Verdine White, Ralph Johnson, Al McKay, Larry Dunn and Johnny Graham were present.

After having been inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame on March 6, this was proof that EWF remains a major influence on many of today's young songwriters, producers and performers and is the top selling band in Columbia Records history.

The band's 30 years of musical artistry is more than just talent, it's theatrical and more than likely, therapeutic.

To find out where you can catch the harmonies of this group, go to www.earthwindandfire.com

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Oregon Zoo; Sept. 21 & 22

The World Animal Festival at the Oregon Zoo is a multicultural celebration of animals, showcasing how animals have been feared, revered and celebrated throughout the world. The event, for the fourth year is presented by Weuerhaeuser, is slated for Saturday, Sept. 21 and Sunday, Sept. 22, then again on Saturday, Sept. 28 and Sunday, Sept. 29. Activities run from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. each day and are free with zoo admission. This year's focus is on the animals and cultures of Asia.

Chinook Winds Casino; Saturday, Sept. 21

Chinook Winds Casino is having a 60s-themed weekend featuring a race car and monster truck display, a classic car show, a Sock Hop in the Convention Center and The Beach Boys in concert. The band will be performing on Friday, Sept. 27 and Saturday, Sept. 28 at 8 p.m. Call 1-888-MAIN-ACT or Fastixx at 1-800-992-TIXX.

Portland Opera; Sept. 21, 24, 26 & 28

Portland Opera opens its season with Verdi's classic tale of love and ill-fated revenge called "Il Trovatore," a tragic melodrama. The opera premiered with great success in Madrid in 1853. All performances begin at the Keller Auditorium, 222 S.W. 3rd Ave. on Sept. 21, 24, 26 and 28. For tickets, call 866-PDX-OPERA, 503-790-ARTS or go online to www.ticketmaster.com. Information can be obtained by going to www.portlandopera.org.

Kids for the Columbia; Sunday, Sept. 22

On the banks of the Columbia River on Sauvie Island will be the "Kids for the Columbia Jubilee" on Sunday, Sept. 22, from 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. There will be music, games, activities and refreshments. A concert called "The Great Earth Sing-a-Long" is at 1 p.m. The event is located at 18900 N.W. Gillihan Road. Call 503-226-1565 or go online to www.lcrep.org.

Dove Lewis Doggy Parade; Sunday, Sept. 22

Over 200 West Highland White Terriers (Westies) and their owners are expected to turn out for the fourth annual "Westie Walk," a benefit to raise money for Dove Lewis Emergency Animal Hospital. The walk starts on Sunday, Sept. 22, 10 a.m. and participants are encouraged to pre-register. Call 503-226-0814.

Portland Actors Workshop; Sept. 23

The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center is offering a fall eight week session of acting classes. The winter session will begin Monday, Jan. 13. Classes are held from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. They are open to anyone age 16 and above with class size limited to 15 people. Cost is \$95 per session. Call 503-823-4322 or go online to www.ifcc-arts.org.

Univ. of Portland Exhibit; Through Sept. 26

Fine arts faculty from the University of Portland will display their work from Aug. 26 - Sept. 26 in Buckley Center Gallery on campus at 5000 N. Willamette Blvd. Gallery hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturdays.

Play at Paula Productions; Sept. 26 - Oct. 27

Paula Productions presents "The Well of the Saints" by the Irish playwright genius from a century ago, John Millington Synge. This play is based on a comedy about an elderly couple, two blind beggars, who are given the gift of sight after many, many years of blindness through the intervention of a wandering monk, the Saint, who carries with him magic holy water. The play is from Sept. 26 - Oct. 27 at the Jack Oakes Theater, 2820 N.E. Sandy Blvd. Call 503-775-3881.

Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center; Through Sept. 27

The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center will be having two gallery exhibitions throughout September featuring artists Buff Medb Neretin and Allegra Villarreal Disraeli. Neretin's illustrations convey the Jewish Mystical Experience and Disraeli's portraits combine the passion of Mexico and place it in a Jewish context. The cultural center is located at 5340 N. Interstate. Call 503-823-2070.

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Information and groups: 503.245.1600



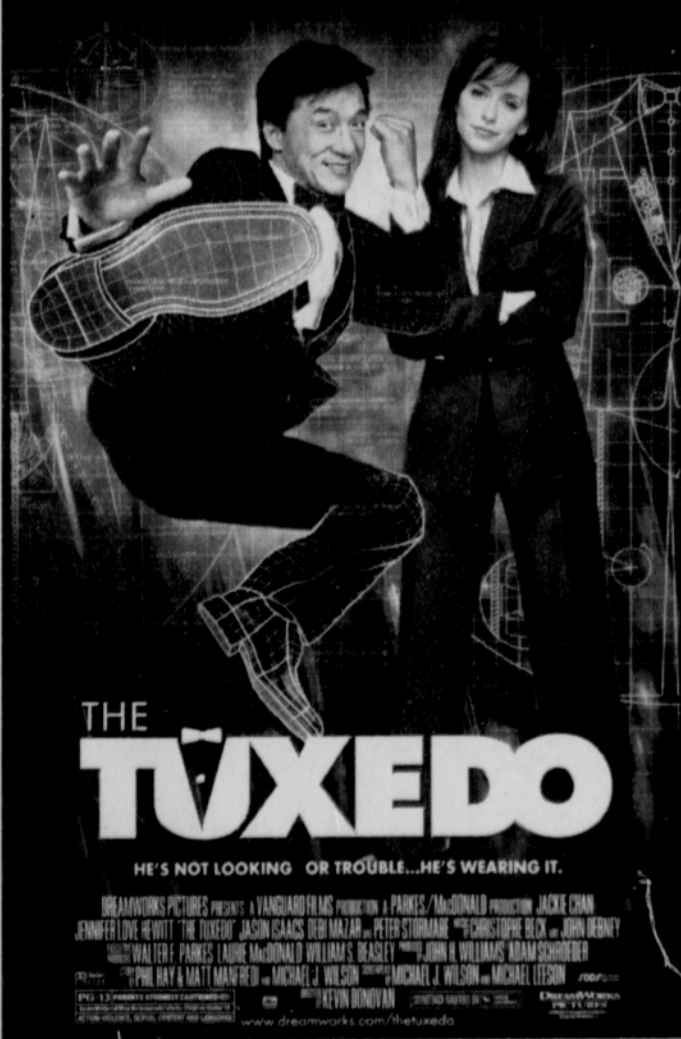
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