

FOCUS

At The Movies



Diggs and Lathan get sweet in 'Brown Sugar'

Described by critics nation-wide as an African-American version of "When Harry Met Sally," Taye Diggs and Sanaa Lathan star as two questionably platonic friends in "Brown Sugar."

Diggs plays music producer Dre, who has known magazine editor Sidney all her life. They got to know each other through their mutual love of hip-hop music.

Other members of the all-black cast include Mos Def, Queen Latifah, Ralph E. Tresvant and Nicole Ari Parker.

Rated PG-13 for sexual situations and profanity.

Jacksons' New Formula

Samuel L. Jackson stars in Formula 51 as Elmo McElroy, a streetwise American master chemist who heads to England to sell his special new formula—a powerful, blue concoction guaranteed to take it's users to the 51st state. But his plans for a quick, profitable score go comically awry when he gets stuck in Liverpool with an unlikely escort, played by Robert Carlyle, and becomes entangled in a bizarre web of double-dealing and double-crosses.



Formula 51 opens nationwide on Friday, Oct. 18. It is rated R for strong violence, language, drug content and soome sexuality.

"Reflections in Black" at the Smithsonian

African-American photo exhibit includes work by over 120 photographers

An exhibit set to run from October to December at the Smithsonian Institution will feature more than 300 images by 120 African-American photographers shot from 1842 to present day.

Divided into three sections—The First 100 years: 1842-1942, Art and Activism, and A History Deconstructed—the series documents

the black experience from slavery through the civil rights era to today. The exhibit is meant to serve not only as a chronology of the African-American experience, but to explore how photography was used as a means of creating and communicating personal and social identity.

For more information, visit the Smithsonian Institution website at <http://www.si.edu>.



Ed Johnson; Friday, Oct. 18

San Francisco Bay Area guitarist, vocalist and composer Ed Johnson will perform with his 9-piece contemporary smooth jazz band, Novo Tempo, at the Community Music Center, 3350 SE Francis St. at 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 18. The music is described as Latin/Brazilian-jazz and has won rave reviews for unusual blending of melodic pop sensibilities with fussy jazz integrity. Tickets are \$12 at the door. Call 503-823-3177 for information.

CoHo Productions; Oct. 18 - Nov. 23

CoHo Productions has announced that it will open its 2002/2003 season with "The Amazing Brenda Strider," the Northwest premiere of Alex Austin's noir tale of seduction and intrigue. The play runs from Oct. 18 - Nov. 23 at the CoHo Theater at 2257 NW Raleigh. Performances will be Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Call 503-220-2646.

Paul McCartney; Friday, Oct. 18

Paul McCartney is to play his first show in Portland since 1965 when he launches the second leg of his hugely acclaimed all-hits concert tour this fall. The new "Back In the U.S." show will play at Portland's Rose Garden arena on Friday, Oct. 18. Tickets are available by calling Ticketmaster at 503-244-4400 or go online to www.hob.com or www.ticketmaster.com.

Charmparticles; Saturday, Oct 19

Described as "space-gazer rock for those tired of looking at their feet," Portland's Charmparticles offers melodic hooks, sweetly seducing vocals, rough-edged guitar rock all weaving through the sounds of spacey ambience and intergalactic travel. The band will perform a free show at Music Millennium, 801 NW 23rd at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 19.

Kennedy School's Birthday; Saturday, Oct. 19

McMenamins Kennedy School cordially invites friends and families to an Anniversary Bash celebrating the 1915 opening of the historic schoolhouse, located at 5736 N.E. 33rd in Portland. Come back to school for a day as we fill the hallways, gymnasium and theater with live music, carnival games and all sorts of fun. Roving entertainment fills the hallways and all ages are invited to enjoy. Call 503-249-3983 or go online to www.mcmenamins.com.

Chinook Winds Casino; Saturday, Oct. 19

Chinook Winds Casino & Convention Center hosts the first Cool Jazz on the Coast concert. The concert will be held in the convention center, complete with a no host bar and night club ambience on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 7 p.m. - midnight. Tickets can be purchased by calling 1-888-MAIN-ACT (624-6228) or Fastixx at 1-800-992-TIXX (8499). Chinook Winds Casino and Convention Center is located at 1777 N.W. 44th St. in Lincoln City.



Reclinerland; Sunday, Oct. 20

Northeast Portland-based songwriter Mike Johnson's pop band Reclinerland will play a free show to promote the release of the band's third full-length album release at Music Millennium at 801 NW 23rd on Sunday, Oct. 20 at 1 p.m.

James Brown; Wednesday, Oct. 23

The man who changed the face of soul music in the 60s returns to Portland backed by his 20-piece band, the Soul Generals, for a performance on Oct. 23 at the Keller Auditorium. All seats are reserved, ticket prices range from \$39-\$64 and are on sale now at the PACPA box office and through all Ticketmaster outlets.

Stone Soup; Wednesday Oct. 23

Jan Eliot, Eugene-based cartoonist of the syndicated strip, *Stone Soup*, will host a 7 p.m. lecture about the multi-generational themes and blended families discussed in her comic strip which appears in 127 newspapers throughout the United States and Canada. She will be available to autograph one of her two books following her lecture at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, located at 5340 N. Interstate Ave. in Portland. Call 503-823-2072 for information.

Evelyn Richardson

Booksinging; Saturday, Oct. 19

Local North Portland author Evelyn Richardson will host a book signing from 5 to 7 p.m. at Hannah Bea's Pound Cake and More at 3969 NE MLK Jr. Blvd. on Saturday, Oct. 19. Richardson's book, *And Then There Were Ten*, is a compilation of childhood memories written by her ten still living siblings about their lives growing up from the 30s through the 70s as an African American family in Linden, Texas.

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