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The 45th Annual EBONY FASHION FAIR presents SIMPLY Spectacular 2002/03 Sponsored by The Links, Inc. Benefit Of LINKS EDUCATIONAL/SCHOLARSHIP FUND Oregon Convention Center Portland, OR Friday, April 18, 2003 8:00 p.m. Ticket Price: \$35.00 Tickets Available At: Mrs. C's Wigs, On Stop Record Shop, Reflections Coffee & Books, Tondalayera Designers Salon. For More Information Contact: 503-638-7139, 503-245-5156, 503-281-3446

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British star Ms. Dynamite plans to make a big hit in the U.S. with her passionate street-oriented lyrics played out over a bubbling brew of pop, R&B, reggae and garage beats.

Ms. Dynamite hopes to blow up in the US

Ms. Dynamite, otherwise known as Niomi McClean Daley, isn't afraid to go against the grain, or take a stand. In a world where entertainers routinely glory in their own gratification, the British star has a different outlook. On 'It Takes More,' the lead single from her U.K. award-winning album 'A Little Deeper,' which just arrived in stores in the U.S., she sings pointedly about artists promoting rampant materialism and gratuitous sex and drug use. Passionate street-oriented lyrics played out over a bubbling brew of pop, R&B, reggae and garage beats made her album a surprise breakout hit when it was released in Europe in July. 'A Little Deeper' won Britain's prestigious Mercury Music Prize for best album, three Music of Black Origin awards and two Brit Awards. 'I was very surprised by people's reaction, especially here (in the U.K.) where it's not really a popular thing for young, urban artists to succeed in the way I have,' Ms. Dynamite said. 'Most of our mainstream music is pop music, which is really boring to me.' She now hopes to make a transition to the U.S. market. 'It Takes More' started airing on video outlets this week, and she is eager to see if she can make lightning strike twice.



FEW, a South Florida native who weaves gospel roots into his R&B style, just signed on with So Serious Records.

GOSPEL SINGER TURNED R&B ARTIST HOPES FOR A HOME RUN

FEW's first single 'Marriott' is a tale of infidelity because So Serious Records president and Seattle Mariners outfielder Kenny Kelly and vice president Chris Young were waiting to hear him. Two days later, he had his record deal. It was an opportunity he couldn't pass up. He says his small hometown of Ocala, Fla., offered few chances to be heard. A gospel quartet he was in won a \$1,200 recording deal in Nashville. But they soon broke up and he went solo. Though he grew up singing in the church, Woods also loved R&B, hip-hop and the blues. His first single, 'Marriott,' is a tale of infidelity that shows his storytelling talents. Woods says his original goal was to be a gospel artist. On his debut, there's a song that sums up his fortunes so far: 'Answered Prayer.'

LATIFAH DOES DIVAS' CONCERT

Concert raises money to help public schools (AP) — Queen Latifah will reign as host of this year's "VH1 Divas" concert, which will feature performances from Mary J. Blige, Jewel and Chaka Khan. The show is scheduled to air live at 9 p.m. EDT May 22 from the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. Other scheduled musicians will be announced later. While previous "Divas" shows have included duets, this year's will have even more of an emphasis on them. The concert series, now in its sixth year, raises money for VH1's Save the Music Foundation, which restores music programs in America's public schools. Latifah, the 33-year-old rapper and actress who was nominated this year for a supporting actress Oscar for "Chicago," stars in the comedy "Bringing Down the House" with Steve Martin.

Writer Seeks Credit for Latifah Movie

(AP) — A New York lawyer who claims she had the original idea for the box-office hit "Bringing Down the House" filed a \$15 million copyright lawsuit against star Queen Latifah and the movie's other producers. Marie Flaherty claims the movie is a rip-off of "Amoral Dilemma," a screenplay she wrote several years ago about a lawyer who meets a prisoner online, only to have the prisoner wreak havoc in his life. "Bringing Down the House," a comedy starring Latifah and Steve Martin, is about a prisoner who meets a lawyer in a chat room, then weasels her way into his life in hopes he can exonerate her. The movie has been atop the box-office charts since it was released earlier this month, raking in \$83.3 million through last weekend.



Latifah will reign as host of this year's "VH1 Divas" concert. The show is scheduled to air live on May 22, 2003, from the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. (AP Photo)

"Man and Superman"

Portland Center Stage ends its season with George Bernard Shaw's humorous play, written in 1903, illustrates the timeless story of the mating dance from a satirical point of view by exploring what women and men consider ideal in each other for romance and contrasting that with the reality of romance. Tickets for shows on April 10, 12 and 13 are available at the Box office, and range in prices from \$12 for those aged 25 and younger, \$47 for those age 26 and older. The Newmark Theater, 1111 S.W. Broadway, host the play. For more information, call (503) 274-6588.

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Tim Acocck Photography Photographs by Tim Acocck will be showing all month at the Guardino Gallery, 2939 N.E. Alberta. Acocck is an Alberta Street neighbor who focuses his lens on the street at night and uses the ambient light of street lamps and store windows to illuminate features that go unnoticed during the day. Also showing with Acocck are Rachael Cherven Powers mixed media constructions. For more information, call 503-281-9048.

Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center's April Artists Artists Madeline Georgette and Susan Murrell are featured at the IFCC for April's Teach Tolerance Month. Georgette's series of paintings, "Building Communities: Truth and Reconciliation", portrays visual documentation of Apartheid history. Murrell presents "New Work: Abstract Landscapes", exploring the mystery of nature and man. IFCC is located at 5340 N. Interstate Ave.

Mt. Hood Jazz Festival Celebrating national Jazz Appreciation Month, the Mt. Hood festival runs daylong featuring George Mitchell, In Good Measure and Stuart Wylen Trio. The April 9 festival begins with Mitchell playing from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Jazzy Bagel, 5 East Powell Blvd., followed by In Good Measure from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Boccelli's, 246 North Main. In the evening, the Stuart Wylen Trio plays in the lounge at Port Halling Brewing Co. For more information, call Sue O'Halloran, 503-661-8000 or Kathy Everett, 503-665-3827

"Facing Mekka" Rennie Harris' latest hip-hop creation combines movement, rhythm, sound and image to unite people and cultures. The event will be held at The Lincoln Performance Hall at Portland State University, S.W. Park at Market, Thursday, April 10 through Saturday, April 12 starting 8:00 p.m. Tickets begin at \$12 for college students with ID and seniors 62 and over. Adult tickets are \$24 plus a service fee. Tickets available at PSU Box Office 1825 S.W. Broadway and all Ticketmaster outlets

Sicilian Saxophone Master Gianni Gebbia returns to Portland for a rare U.S. performance accompanied by pianist, Garth Powell, and percussionist, Matthew Goodheart. The trio will play improvised jazz. This is their first Portland show as a group. The Creative Music Guild, at 3350 S.E. Francis St., hosts the trio Friday, April 18. Tickets are available at the door for \$15.00 general admission and \$12.00 for Creative Guild members. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the show starts at 8:00 p.m. All ages welcome.

Joe Mus Paintings The Alberta Arts Pavilion and Our Dream Gallery will feature the paintings of Joe Mus all month long at 2315 N.E. Alberta St. For more information, call 503-282-7700.