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Join globe-trotting jazz vocalist Rebecca Kilgore, in her weekly radio series featuring conversations with musicians working in today's jazz world. Each installment brings you an interview with a noted jazz musician as her guest, taped on location anywhere from Portland to Switzerland, plus excerpts from the guest's representative recordings

Focus

Documentary Pays Homage to R&B Legends

'Only the Strong Survive' takes name from signature song

(AP) — When Jerry Butler teamed with the famed production duo Kenneth Gamble and Leon Huff to write 'Only the Strong Survive' in 1969, they were inspired by artists who had proven their staying power.

More than 30 years later, Butler is featured in a documentary that takes its name from his signature song and pays homage to his legendary contemporaries who have kept going long after the hits stopped.

Filmmakers D.A. Pennebaker and Chris Hegeudus and journalist Roger Friedman set out in the summer of 1999 to shine the spotlight on these R&B stars who largely had faded from mainstream view. The stories of Rufus Thomas, Carla Thomas, Isaac Hayes,



R&B star Rufus Thomas died at age 84 in December 2001, shortly after "Only the Strong Survive" was completed.

Mary Wilson, Sam Moore, The Ch-Lites, Ann Peebles and Butler are sometimes poignant, often funny and inevitably uplifting. The film is playing in New York, Los Angeles and other cities.

For most, the recognition is long overdue, but Carla Thomas says that it gives them a second chance to return to the limelight. The film focuses largely on the Memphis sound but also touches on Detroit and Chicago soul and is dedicated to her father, Rufus Thomas. The wit and ageless enthusiasm of the other King of Memphis is felt throughout.

Thomas, who died in December

2001 at age 84, shortly after the film was completed, creates several side-splitting moments with his chatter on his WDIA radio show.

While Thomas infuses the film with a certain lightheartedness, it is Moore who provides its emotional center. As part of the duo Sam & Dave, he had a string of hits in the 1960s. But by the early '70s, he was

My Baby' is one of the film's highlights. "It's being able to go through all the things — positive or negative, right or wrong — and come out and do what you do best."

His story contrasts with that of Butler, a Cook County commissioner in Chicago since 1985. The Iceman says he had his share of career peaks and valleys, but he

It's being able to go through all the things — positive or negative, right or wrong — and come out and do what you do best.

— 60s R&B star Sam Moore, on why he chose to be a part of the 'Only the Strong Survive' documentary

strung out on drugs. With the help of wife Joyce Moore, he's been clean for 20 years and has resurrected his career. For the past decade, they've been fighting the record industry for fully funded pensions for artists. Still, his discussion of his drug years illustrates how far a star can fall.

"I wanted people to know that that's what it's all about — surviving," says Moore, whose powerful 'When Something Is Wrong With

still performs frequently in addition to carrying out his governmental duties. He says documentaries like this one and last year's *Standing in the Shadows of Motown* show there will always be love for R&B.

Hayes says the documentary is important because it helps preserve a musical legacy that is often obscured by the attention paid these days to hip-hop. Younger artists should know, he says, on whose shoulders they stand.

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

June Jam with The Original Cats

The Urban League of Portland invites you to its June Jam, featuring The Original Cats from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, June 27 at the Multicultural Senior Service Center at 5325 N.E. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Admission is \$3. For more information, call 503-988-5470 extension 24545.

Cool Nutz Northwest Tour

The Cool Nutz tour cruises through Portland Wednesday, June 25 with Bone Thugs N Harmony, DJ Chill and more. Crystal Ballroom, 1332 W. Burnside St. For more information, call 503-841-0995.

IFCC June Artists

Visual artists, Bonnie Meltzer and Becca Bernstein are this month's Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center artists. Meltzer's work focuses on native icons of the Northwest. Bernstein's work is a series of textural paintings centering on the relationship between mothers and daughters. Both artists' exhibits run through June 27 with a late reception Thursday, June 26 at 7:30 p.m. The IFCC is located at 5340 N. Interstate. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. through 6 p.m., Saturdays 12 p.m. through 4 p.m. No admission is charged, but donations appreciated. For more information, call 503-823-2072, 503-823-2071 or online: www.ifcc-arts.org, galler@ifcc-arts.org.

African Film Festival

Throughout the month of June, The Film Center presents films from the African Film Festival. "Bronx-Barbes" and "The Father" comprise the final day of films Thursday, June 19 beginning 7:30 p.m. at the Guild Theatre, 829 S.W. 9th Ave. Admission tickets cost \$6.50. Member, student and senior tickets cost \$5.50. The first film, "Bronx-Barbes" follows two accidental-murdering adolescent boys' adventures through an African shantytown where African gangs imitate New York Bronx gangs. The motion picture was filmed on the Ivory Coast. The evening's second film "The Father" is a film about an artist sheltering friends in Ethiopia during the 1974 Derg period. All locations were filmed in Ethiopia.

Two PCC Community Classes: "Ceramics: All Levels" & "Calligraphy Class All Levels"

CERAMICS: Portland Community College offers high-fire stoneware clay classes this summer. The identical classes feature techniques for creating creative-clay

stoneware for all levels of experience - with fun in mind. The first class takes place Mondays beginning June 23 through August 18. The

second class takes place Wednesdays beginning June 25 through August 20. Both classes meet at the following time and location: 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in Room 130 of the Terrell Hall Building at PCC's Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth St. Each class costs \$131.50. **CALLIGRAPHY:** Sweeping-brush strokes and easy-to-learn shaping make up Portland Community College's italic calligraphy class. The class welcomes the new and those looking to fine tune their Renaissance hand at italic. Class runs Thursdays, June 26 and ends Aug. 7. Class sessions run from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Room 304 of the Student Center Building at PCC's Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth. The cost is \$99. For more information, call 503-978-5143.

Drawing for Drawing Enthusiasts

Capture the human form by learning drawing techniques from Instructor, Marko Polo—using live models. Drawing class meets Saturdays June 28 through Aug. 9 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 a.m. in Room 203 of the Terrell Hall Building at Portland Community College's Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth. The class costs \$105. For more information, call 503-978-5143.

Multicultural Arts Camps

The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center offers three summer-art camps, each with different themes: African arts, Latino arts and Asian arts. Days are split between visual arts and performing arts. One camp runs each week, and the first camp, African arts, begins Tuesday, July 8. The Latino arts camp begins Tuesday, July 15 and The Asian arts camp begins Tuesday, July 22. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays comprise the camp week. Camp days are 9 a.m. through 4 p.m. The cost for children of IFCC members is \$90 per week per student. The cost for children of non-IFCC members is \$100 per week per student — some scholarships available. Youth in third grade or above are appropriate and supplies are included in the camp prices. For more information, call 503-823-2001.

Reparations Thursdays

David Park's new band, The Reparations, will play every Thursday at 9 p.m. with DJ Chill and special guest performers and DJs at The Red Sea, 318 S.W. Third Ave. Admission for those 21 and older is \$5.

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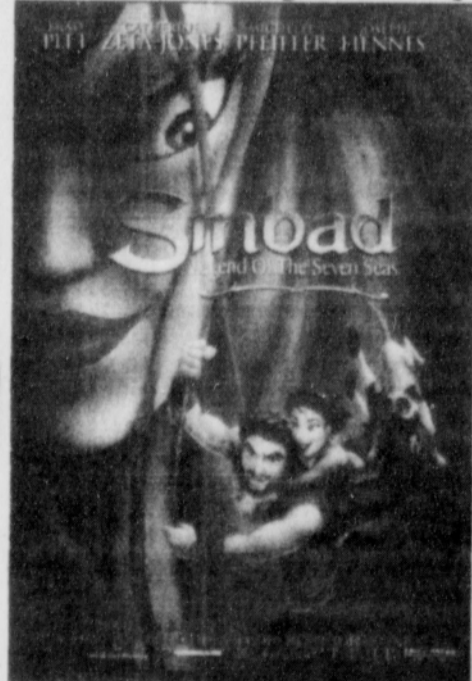
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