

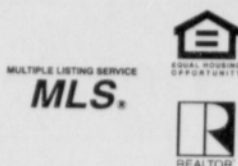
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# Focus



'Span,' an Abstract Expressionist painting by Laura Foster.



'Contract Laborer,' an oil on paper painting by Susan Sumimoto.

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## Women's History Focus at Interstate Firehouse

The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, Portland's oldest, multicultural, non-profit arts organization serving a diverse community of artists and patrons, is hosting two gallery exhibits this month in celebration of Women's History Monday.

Susan Sumimoto presents "For-

gotten Mirrors," a selection of charcoal drawings, oil and watercolor paintings that reflect upon her Japanese/Hawaiian heritage.

Her works are a loose narrative of historical and family images spanning three generations, beginning with the exodus of the artist's grandparents from

Hiroshima in the 1900s.

Laura Foster presents a collection of Abstract Expressionist paintings, imbued with the possibility of memory of movement, focused upon the relationships between surface and structure.

Area residents can meet both Sumimoto and Foster during "Art-

ist Talks," a First Thursday event on March 4 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and on Last Thursday, March 26 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. IFCC is located at 5340 N. Interstate Ave.

No admission is charged during gallery hours, but donations are accepted. For more information call 503-823-4322.

## Timberlake Backs Out of Special Withdraws hosting of Motown celebration

(AP)—Justin Timberlake has backed out of an agreement to co-host ABC's "Motown 45" special because of a conflict with filming his first movie "Edison," Timberlake's spokesman Ken Sunshine announced last week.

"He'll be in the middle of filming when the event is scheduled to be taped, and that's the reason he can't do it, and that's the only reason he can't do it," Sunshine said.

The recent Grammy winner had been tapped earlier this year to co-host the anniversary celebration of the legendary soul music label along with Lionel Richie.

Timberlake was engulfed in controversy after he ripped off part of Janet Jackson's



Justin Timberlake and Janet Jackson's controversial performance at last month's Super Bowl.

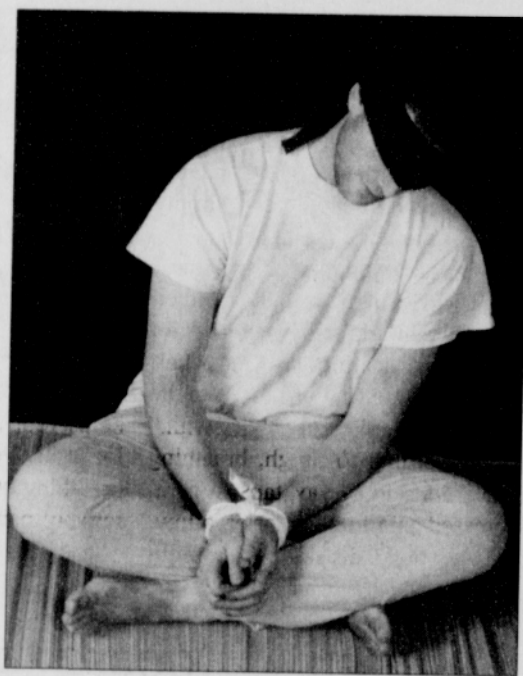
costume during last month's Super Bowl halftime show, revealing her breast. The choreographed stunt, which both said was not meant to include nudity, sparked a national

outrage and an FCC investigation.

Last week, the Los Angeles-based group Project Islamic Hope issued a press release saying that unnamed black leaders were "outraged" by the choice of Timberlake, who is white, to co-host the Motown special.

ABC spokeswoman Lauren Tobin said neither the Super Bowl flap or black protests played a role in Timberlake's departure from the special, and said ABC did not pressure producers to remove Timberlake.

Tobin said Timberlake may be replaced by one or two more co-hosts. The special does not have a scheduled air date, but is likely to be broadcast in May, she said.



Mario Calcagno is Michael Wells in "Two Rooms," at the Firehouse Theatre.

## Theater Opens Season with Beirut Thriller

The Portland Actors Conservatory begins its 2004 season with "Two Rooms," a tale of one man's captivity in Beirut in the early 1980s and the ride of hope and frustration his wife endures half a world away.

"Two Rooms" shows through Sunday, March 7 at the downtown Firehouse Theatre, 1436 S.W. Montgomery. Tickets are \$15 and \$20. For tickets, call 503-274-1717.

## LaBelle in 'Divas' Special

(AP)—Patti LaBelle and Jessica Simpson will perform at the "VH1 Divas" special, live from the MGM Grand in Las Vegas on April 18.

Additional performers, presenters and special guests will be announced as they are confirmed, VH1 announced Monday.

The "Divas" specials raise funds for the VH1 Save the

Music Foundation, a nonprofit organization that works to restore instrumental music programs in public schools and raise awareness of music education.

Since the foundation was created in 1997, more than \$25 million worth of musical instruments have been donated to 1,000 public schools in 80 cities, VH1 said.



Patti LaBelle

### Kiss Me, I'm Irish

Experience Irish stories with the Portland Storytellers' Guild production of "Kissing the Blarney Stone: an Evening of Irish Stories!" The show is at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 20 at McMenamin's Kennedy School's Community Room, 5736 N.E. 33 Ave. Suggested donation is \$3 for children, \$4 for adults and \$10 for families. The Guild also features "The Week Folk and the Not-So-Wee Stories from Ireland" at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 27, at the Charlotte A. Cavatica Learning Center, 602 N.E. Prescott. Free.

### Quilting Celebrated

The 10th annual "Airing of the Quilts" show is at the Milwaukie Center with a special exhibit on ethnic quilting. The show is at 5440 S.E. Kellogg Creek Drive from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, March 19 and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 20. For more information, call 503-653-8100.

### Pill Hilly at IFCC

PassinArt Theater presents "Pill Hilly" by Samuel Kelley from March 5 through April 10 at the Firehouse Interstate Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Ave. General admission is \$15 with discounts for students and seniors. For more information, call 503-823-4322.

### Celebrate Women

PCC Cascade Campus's Women's Resource Center celebrates Women's History Month with a lecture on Women of Color and the Glass Ceiling is at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 9 in the Student Center cafeteria, 705 N. Killingsworth.

### Loaded with Music

Disjecta welcomes Experimental Dental School, Limited Express, Trauma le Tron, Snowsuit and EDS on Friday, March 5 at 9 p.m. \$6. All Ages. For more information, visit www.disjecta.org. Jason Mears Quartet with dancer Miyuki Kobayashi will perform a jazz show on

## ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Thursday, March 18, 116 N.E. Russell St.

### Wild Child

Hand 2 Mouth Theatre and Signal Light Puppet Theatre present, "The Wild Child," based on true accounts of children raised by wild animals. Show opens March 5 and plays Fridays through Sundays until March 27 at Performance Works Northwest, 4625 S.E. 67th Ave. All performances are at 8 p.m. and tickets range from \$7 to \$10. For reservations, call 503-235-5284.

### Laughing Through It

A Portland Jam Night plans to heal the community's ills through laughter at the Wave Theatre in North Portland. The live music and sketch improv. Comedy is at 9 p.m. Fridays. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$4 for kids. For more information, call 503-735-4184 or visit www.jam-night.com.

### Open Mic Competition

Bands and solo performers can compete for a \$3,000 cash prize at the New Copper Penny in southeast Portland for free on Mondays from 8 to 11 p.m. beginning March 15. There is a \$5 cover charge for patrons. To register, call or e-mail Richard Mathison at 503-408-0300, richard@advocatesound.com or visit www.advocatesound.com/venues.html.

### Larger Than Life-sized

OMSI's big-screen OMNIMAX theater is showing "Coral Reef Adventure" through March, "Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West" through June and "Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees" through May. For more information, call 503-797-4588.

### Trippin' through Town

Take a trip through time to find the hottest poetry, hip-hop and soul influencing Portland Wednesdays at the Ohm. \$7 cover. 31 N.W. First Ave.

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