

Focus

Anita Baker Returns After Hiatus

(AP) — After 10 years in musical seclusion due to family turmoil, Anita Baker is returning to the spotlight. The Grammy-winning R&B songstress has signed a deal with Blue Note Records to produce at least two albums, and expects to release her first project before the end of the year.

"I'm so excited," the singer said. "I do see that there is a demand for what I do, and my fans are still there."

With a deep, sensuous voice that recalled Sarah Vaughan and a classic soul sound, Baker became one of R&B's premier artists in the



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late '80s and early '90s with hits like "Sweet Love," "Rapture" and "Giving You the Best That I Got."

But she dropped off the music scene nearly a decade ago after releasing the album "Rhythm of Love" in 1994. At the time, Baker, who is married, had two young sons, a mother suffering from Alzheimer's; and a father dying of bone cancer.

So she took a break to take care of her family in Detroit, where she lives. Baker's father died in 1998; her mother died in 2000. After her mother's death, she felt could pursue her career again.



Talk show host Oprah Winfrey arrives for the 76th annual Academy Awards on Feb. 29 in Los Angeles. (AP photo)

Oprah Named Most Fashionable

(AP) — Oprah Winfrey - talk show host, actress and magazine editor - has a new title to add to her resume: one of the world's most fashionable women.

Winfrey appears for the first time on Vanity Fair's 2004 International Best-Dressed List.

The host of "The Oprah Winfrey Show" says Jackie Onassis and Coco Chanel are her fashion icons, and picks Gianfranco Ferré - who created the silvery gown she wore to the Oscars - as her favorite designer.

Sheriff Wants Ross in Tucson Jail

(AP) — Diana Ross was ordered to return to Tucson, Ariz. to serve a two-day jail sentence in her drunken-driving case.

The singer, who pleaded no contest to DUI last month, had served her sentence in Greenwich, Conn., where she lives. But during her stay, she left and returned multiple times, said City Court Magistrate T. Jay Cranshaw.

Greenwich Police Chief James Walters originally wrote Cranshaw to say that Ross, 59, had completed her sentence, spending 48 hours in custody over three days, including two

overnight stays.

Cranshaw asked for a full accounting of the time spent there, and it turns out Ross spent only 47 hours in police custody.

Arizona law requires DUI defendants to spend at least 24 consecutive hours in custody. Cranshaw said in a written order that the jail arrangement in Greenwich "clearly does not comply with Arizona law."

Ross, the former lead singer of The Supremes, has been on tour in Europe.

A hearing is scheduled April 1 to schedule her new jail stay.



Diana Ross

More Charges Dropped in R Kelly Case

(AP) — Detectives illegally seized photographs allegedly showing R&B singer R. Kelly having sex with an underage girl and prosecutors cannot use them to try him on child pornography charges.

A judge ruled Thursday that sheriff's detectives did not have enough evidence to justify a search of Kelly's home in June



R. Kelly

2002. The photographs were on a digital camera that was wrapped in a towel inside a duffel bag.

Kelly also faces 14 counts of child pornography charges in Chicago and has pleaded innocent. Those charges are not affected by the judge's ruling. Last month, seven of the original 21 child pornography charges against Kelly in Chicago were dismissed.

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Peacejam World Retreat

Oregon and Washington youth aged 12-20 and adult supporters are holding Peacejam: Youth Leadership for a Diverse World retreat at Camp Adams in Molalla. The registration cost is \$75. Scholarships are available. For more information, call 503-275-0663.

Cajun Fiesta in Hillsboro Friday, Saturday

The public is invited to a Fiesta of Mexican and Cajun food in Hillsboro Friday, March 12 and Saturday, March 13 at the corner of Baseline and 10th streets. The event is from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, call 503-357-6949.

Jazz Concert Supports Avel Gordly for Senate

A jazz concert in support of State Sen. Avel Gordly features the Nancy King Trio with Steve Christofferson, Ed Bennett and special guests. Bring a nonperishable food to support the Northeast Emergency Food Bank. The show is from 3 to 6 p.m. at Self Enhancement Inc., 3920 N. Kerby. For more information, call 503-287-6843.

The Links Plan Fashion Extravaganza

The Portland Chapter of The Links presents its annual fundraiser, the Ebony Fashion Fair at the Oregon Convention Center at 6 p.m. April 16. Tickets are \$45 to \$75. For more information, call 503-2866426.

Ongoing and Upcoming Music

The Blue Monk on Belmont plays live jazz. For a schedule, visit www.thebluemonk.com. Interstate Bar and Grill has mature live music at 4234 N. Interstate. The Black Notes plays Thursdays at the Candlelight Room. Mel Brown plays jazz at Jimmy Maki on Tuesdays and Thursdays and Fridays and Saturdays at Salty's on the Columbia. A Community Unity Breakfast is every third Thursday at SEI at 7:30 a.m. Skip Elliott Bowman Jazz Trio plays Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon at Hannah Bea's, on northeast Shaver. R&B and live funk bands perform weekends at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center.

Children of Uganda

Nike and White Cloud present the Portland debut of Children of Uganda, an ensemble of 20 children who have lost their parents to AIDS. The performance will benefit Portland's Black United Fund, Cascade AIDS Project, For Us Northwest, Harambee Center and the Urban League of Portland. Tickets range from \$18 to \$40. The performance begins at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 31 at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. For tickets, call 503-224-4400.



Children of Uganda, an ensemble of 20 children who have lost their parents to AIDS

Artists Monthly at Talisman Gallery

March artists for the Talisman Gallery, 1476 N.E. Alberta St., are Sue Allen and Juergen Eckstein. A reception is from 5:30 to 9 p.m. on March 25. For more information, visit www.talismangallery.com.

Urban Nights at Ash Street Saloon

Urban Nights features The Reparations Band and Cool Nutz with special guests at 9 p.m. Saturday, March 27 at the Ash Street Saloon, 225 SW Ash St. \$8 cover.

Dino Discovery In Land of Civilization Forgot

The Oregon Zoo discovers Dino Island: The Land of Civilization Forgot through April 30. This simulator thrill ride includes riders on a scientific team whose mission is to explore a newly formed island baffling environmentalists around the world. The ride is \$4 in addition to general admission. For more information, call 503-226-1561 or visit www.oregonzoo.org.

Artist's Invited to Perform at The Abbey Cafe

The Abbey Cafe, 441 N. Killingsworth St., invites musicians to sell their CD's and perform on Fridays and Saturdays. March's artist of the month is Serena Barton. For more information, call 503-286-4847.

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 Wee 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.

Ethnic Quilting Celebrated at Milwaukie Center

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 Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center

PassinArt Theater presents "Pill Hilly" by Samuel Kelley 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.

Disjecta Club Loaded with Music

Disjecta welcomes Jason Mears Quartet with dancer Miyuki Kobayashi will perform a jazz show on Thursday, March 18 at 9 p.m. \$6. All Ages. For more information, visit www.disjecta.org. 116 N.E. Russell St.

Wild Child Based on True Accounts

Hand 2 Mouth Theatre and Signal Light Puppet Theatre present, "The Wild Child," based on true accounts of children raised by wild animals. Show 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 at the Copper Penny

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. 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.

OMSI's Big Screen 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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