

Focus

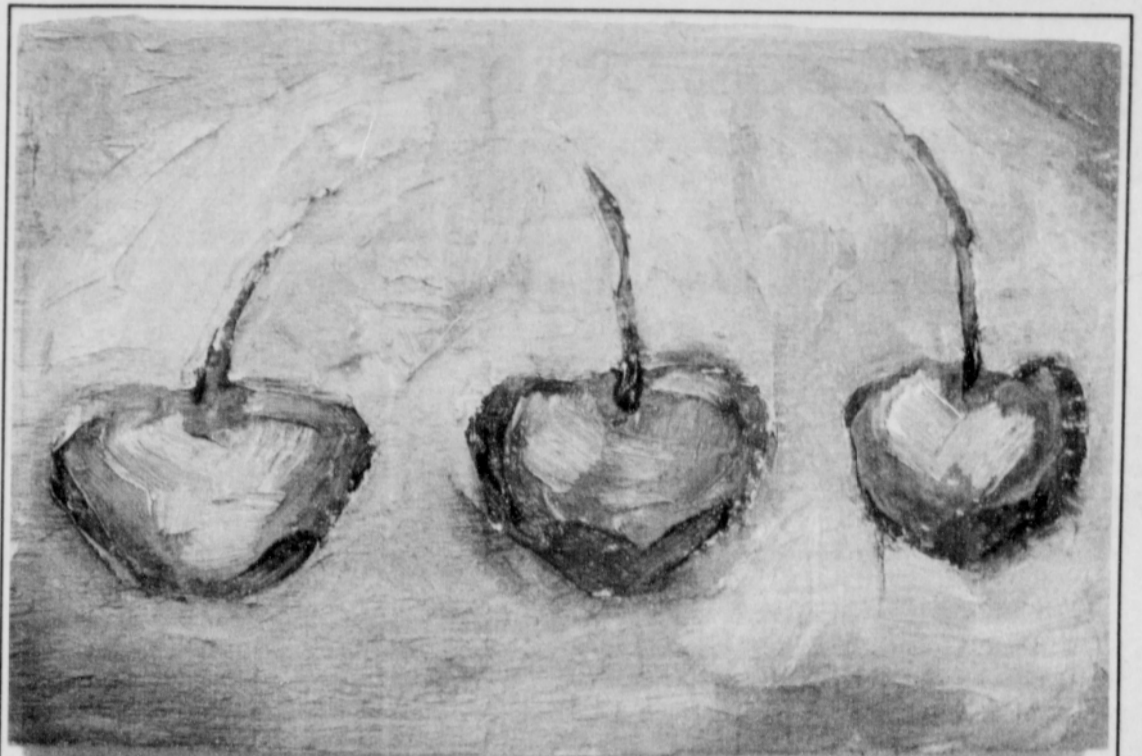


Dancer to Share Rhythms, Technique

Aziza, one of the region's greatest belly dancers, entertains and memorizes audiences at the Viscount Ballroom, 722 E. Burnside, on Sunday, March 28. Aziza is also teaching classes on Saturday March 27 and Sunday, March 28, for others who want to move like her. For more information, call 503-234-7035.



Helpline (Make The Call): 800-923-HELP
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'Cherries - oil on wood' by local artist Eli Halpin.

Local Artist Featured Thursday

Local artist Eli Halpin will attend a public reception from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday during the Alberta arts community's Last Thursday event at Milagros, 5429 N.E. 30th St.

Milagros is featuring a month long exhibit of Halpin's paintings.

Her art is playful and imaginative and reflects her influences of Jim Henson and Theodore Geisel, also known as Dr. Seuss. The works are often impressions of Halpin's earliest memories and include spontaneous child-like elements: scribbles, drips and quick marks.

She has had numerous showings in Portland since moving here from Alaska seven years ago. Her transition to the area was complete with last fall's opening of her own Pink Giraffe Studios and Gallery at 2127 N. Albina Ave.

Neville Bros.' Big Easy Sound Coming

The Neville Brothers-Aaron, Art, Charles, and Cyril- will bring the Big Easy sound to the Oregon coast when they perform at Chinook Winds Casino and Convention Center in Lincoln City on Friday, May 7 and Saturday, May 8.

For well over a quarter of a century, the Neville Brothers have helped lay the foundation for the entire New Orleans music community, and at the same time spread their own unique sound all over the world. They have sold millions of records worldwide and have gold and platinum records in six different countries.

Their Mardi Gras Mambo has



The Neville Brothers will be in the house at Chinook Winds Casino on May 7 and 8.

become the annual carnival's unofficial anthem, while fan favorites such as Mona Lisa and Ten Commandments of Love are perennial crowd pleasers. The brothers' superb renditions of Iko Iko and Brother John make the songs a near impossible feat for other groups.

Throughout their long careers as both solo performers and as members of the group that bore their family name, the Neville Brothers have proudly carried the torch of their native New Orleans' rich R&B legacy.

Tickets for The Neville Brothers range from \$20 to \$35 and are on sale now.

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Police Secretly Watch Hip-Hop Stars

Sweeping surveillance called unprecedented

(AP)—Police in Miami and Miami Beach say they are secretly monitoring hip-hop stars P. Diddy, DMX and others to protect them, but celebrities and critics see the surveillance as unnecessary and racist.

Officers have photographed rappers and their entourages at Miami International Airport and staked out hotels, video shoots and nightclubs while consulting 6-inch-thick dossiers of rappers and associates with arrest records in New York state, The Miami Herald reported.

"We have to keep an eye on these rivalries," said Assistant Miami Beach Police Chief Charles Press. "The last thing we need in



Hip-hop celebrity DMX is one of the hip-hop stars police in Miami say they have secretly monitored in a campaign to fight violence from rap rivalries.

this city is violence."

Some experts believe the sweeping surveillance of a genre of musicians is unprecedented.

"There's been no shortage of rock stars and other musicians" scrutinized by police, said Anthony DeCurtis, contributing editor at Rolling Stone magazine. "But there has never been anything like this."

Police began gathering intelligence on rap artists after the Memorial Day 2001 weekend, when 250,000 hip-hop fans flocked to South Beach for four days of parties hosted by their favorite rappers. More than 210 people were arrested, most for disorderly conduct and intoxication.

Although no major rap artists were arrested, police decided to learn the nuances of hip-hop culture, Press said.

"Nobody on the beach had a handle on who the players were," Press said. "We didn't know anything. We didn't know who were the big record labels, who were the kingpins. We didn't know why there were rivalries with Ja Rule and

Eminem."

Officers were sent to New York for a three-day training session in May, along with police from Los Angeles, Atlanta and other cities. That's where they received the dossiers, said Miami police Sgt. Rafael Tapanes.

"This kind of conduct shows insensitivity to constitutional limitations," said Nova Southeastern University law professor and constitutional law expert Bruce Rogow. He represented 2 Live Crew when the rap group was prosecuted for obscenity in the early '90s. "It also implicates racial stereotyping."

Only one of 97 officers in supervisory positions at the Miami Beach police department is black. Miami has 226 ranking officers and 26 are black.

"The cities should take taxpayer dollars and put them toward something else," said Luther Campbell, the former 2 Live Crew rapper.

Prince in Rock and Roll Hall

Performs hits for induction ceremony

(AP)— Prince burst into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame last week with some blistering funk, joined by the regional stew of Bob Seger's heartland rock, ZZ Top's Texas boogie and Jackson Browne's California smoothness.

George Harrison became the third ex-Beatle inducted for his solo work.

British jam band Traffic and the '50s harmony group the Dells were also honored.

It was clearly Prince's night, though, as he opened the ceremony with a trio of 1980s hits and came out later to upstage Tom Petty, Jeff Lynne and Harrison's son, Dhani, on "While My Guitar Gently Weeps."

Dressed in a white suit and displaying nimble dance steps, Prince performed three songs that caught the breadth of his work: the rock anthem "Let's Go Crazy," the topi-

cal "Sign O' the Times" and funk groove of "Kiss."

A restless perfectionist, the Minneapolis-based singer often played every instrument on his discs. He said he was preoccupied early in his career with maintaining his freedom.

"I embarked on a journey more fascinating than I could ever imagine, but a word to the wise to the young artists - without spiritual guidance too much freedom can lead to spiritual decline," he said.



Prince performs in New York City after being inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. (AP photo)

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