

# Blending Paint, Movement and Music

Shen Wei Dance Arts, the sensation of the 2003 Lincoln Center Festival is coming to the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall for its Portland debut.

Shen Wei Dance Arts is dedicated to the creation of new dance in the 21st century. Based in New York City, the company was founded by Shen Wei—choreographer, dancer, painter, and designer born in Hunan, China—who fuses the art forms of dance, theater, Chinese opera, painting and sculpture.

Shen Wei's artistry lies in creating hauntingly beautiful imagery that uses the performance space as a canvas with the dancers and the stage dimensionality serving as central "characters." The Portland show will feature Wei's unique treatment of Stravinsky's "Rite



'Rite of Spring,' a performance by the Shen Wei Dance Arts, is at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall on Wednesday, Jan. 26.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BRUCE R. FEELEY

of Spring," a conversation between movement, music and a seamless landscape of blacks,

whites and grays stretching the full depth and width of an expanded Schnitzer stage.

The dance troupe, presented by White Bird, performs on Wednesday, Jan. 26 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets range from \$19 to \$43, plus service fee and are available at all Ticketmaster outlets

or by calling 503-790-2787. Discounts are available for seniors, students and groups.



Les Hutchinson (from left), Christian McKee, Tricia Rojas, Alan Bowen, and Paul Prato form the group Rustica.

## Eclectic Rustica Band at Firehouse

The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Ave., presents the "eclectic Americana" band Rustica in CD release parties on Friday, Jan. 21 and Saturday, Jan. 22. The shows begin at 8 p.m. each night.

The band's five members — Alan

Bowen, Tricia Rojas, Christian McKee, Paul Prato, and Les Hutchinson — will take fans and new friends alike on a melodic journey through the musical inspirations that have shaped the group's sound.

With an already strong base of

local fans, Rustica blends guitar, violin, mandolin, bass and vocals that redefine the boundaries of original bluegrass, blues, jazz and acoustic-based rock and roll.

A diverse collection of musicians from various musical, ethnic, and generational back-

grounds, Rustica was actually created from a series of complex and carefully placed classified ads, according to the band's violinist and vocalist Tricia Rojas. Reflective of their current sound, the hodgepodge of cultures has certainly proven to their benefit.

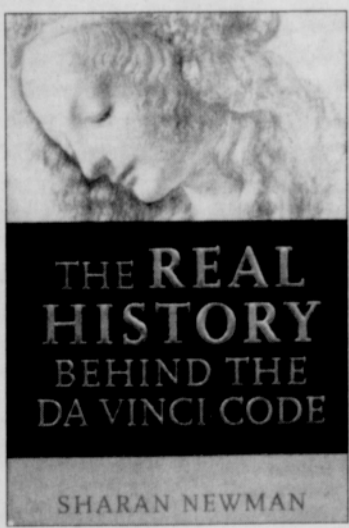
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## Book Reviews

### The Truth Behind the Code



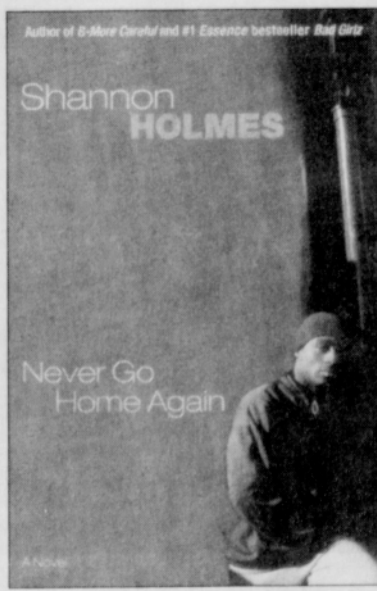
You've read the novel, now discover the truth. Was Mary Magdalene a prostitute, an apostle, Jesus' wife? Who were the Templars? Is there really a Priory of Sion? And, of course, what about the grail?

Medieval historian and writer Sharan Newman untangles fact from fiction in a fascinating account in "The Real History Behind the Da Vinci Code."

The original book was a cultural phenomenon of extraordinary proportions, which spawned thousands of readers and hundreds of questions.

## Stories from the Street

Author finds escape from street, prison life



Shannon Holmes — Essence best-selling author of B-More Careful and Bad Girlz, and one of the brightest stars in urban fiction — returns with a dramatic must-read novel inspired by his own life.

"Never Go Home Again" is the story of Corey Dixon, a young man whose father tries as best he can to steer him away from the lure of the streets. And yet, like so many others in Corey's neighborhood, he finds the temptations of the lucrative drug trade too great to resist. While he makes fast money for a while, it is inevitable that it is he who has to pay, with his time and maybe even his life; by the age of 16 Corey is locked up.

"Never Go Home Again" is available through Atria Books for \$24.

## Alberta Gallery Features Latino Artists



'Eve' by Jesus Tellosa is on display at the Onda Gallery.

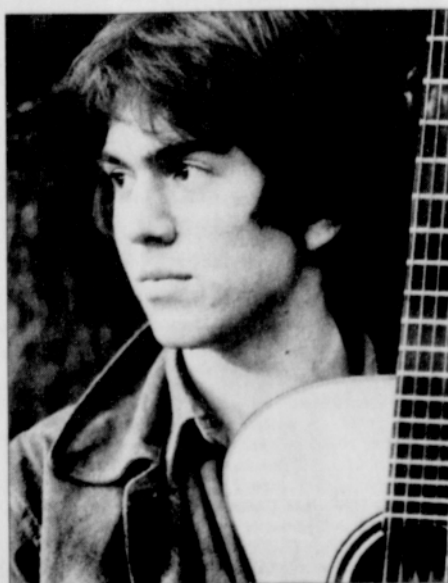
Onda Arte Latina/Cross Currents Gallery welcomes Jesus Tellosa's exhibit of paintings and metal sculptures from Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Art quilts are also on display by Tellosa and Giselle Blythe, along with modern murals by Guillermo Bonilla.

The show, featuring established artists from Mexico and emerging artists from El Salvador, is from Jan. 27 through Feb. 22 with an opening reception from 6 to 9 p.m. Jan. 27. For more information, visit the Web at [www.ondagallery.com](http://www.ondagallery.com).

## Demon Bluesman on Alberta

NorthernBlues Music recording artist David Jacobs-Strain, wielding what the East Bay Express dubbed a "bullwhip voice...and demon guitar" will wow a live audience with selections from his current CD at Alberta Street Public House, 1036 N.E. Alberta St. on Saturday, Jan. 29 at 7 p.m. For tickets call 503-284-7665 or visit [www.albertastreetpub.com](http://www.albertastreetpub.com).

On Tuesday, Feb. 1, Jacobs-Strain joins headliner David Lindley at the Aladdin Theater, 3017 S.E. Milwaukie Ave., for an all-ages show at 7 p.m. For tickets, call 503-233-1994 or visit [www.aladdin-theater.com](http://www.aladdin-theater.com).



David Jacobs-Strain

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