

Art Studios Open for *Inside Peaks*



Connie Earnshaw's clay work and sculpture plays with color and pattern.

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throughout the weekend. Primarily inspired by collage work, Geraci uses found and homemade papers, along with watercolor and acrylic paint, to form visual representations of abstract symbols from around the globe.

For her, she said, "Ways of bridging cultural gaps are the best ways to connect. This is the way I choose to interpret that. I think there are similarities cross-culturally."



Sharon Geraci's collage artwork is made up of found and homemade papers mixed with watercolor and acrylic paint.

When used in conjunction with abstraction, it has a modern aspect to it."

As an instructor at the Multnomah Art Center, Geraci hopes her teaching experience will help others understand where her art is coming from.

"It's a great way for people to see what it is to see what goes into making art. Most times you go to a gallery, you see something having on the wall, but the artist is not there. You may appreciate it, but there are a lot of things about it you don't know and can't ask about," she said. "People will have these a-ha moments where things come together. It demystifies the process and makes people more aware of what goes into the art. It's not just slapping something on the canvas."

Tours occur Saturday, Oct. 15 and Sunday, Oct. 16 for studios west of the river. Studios will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A \$12 tour pass admits two adults for both weekends, and kids are free. The package includes a studio map, a calendar filled with photos of participating artists' work and contact information for those interested in purchasing artwork.

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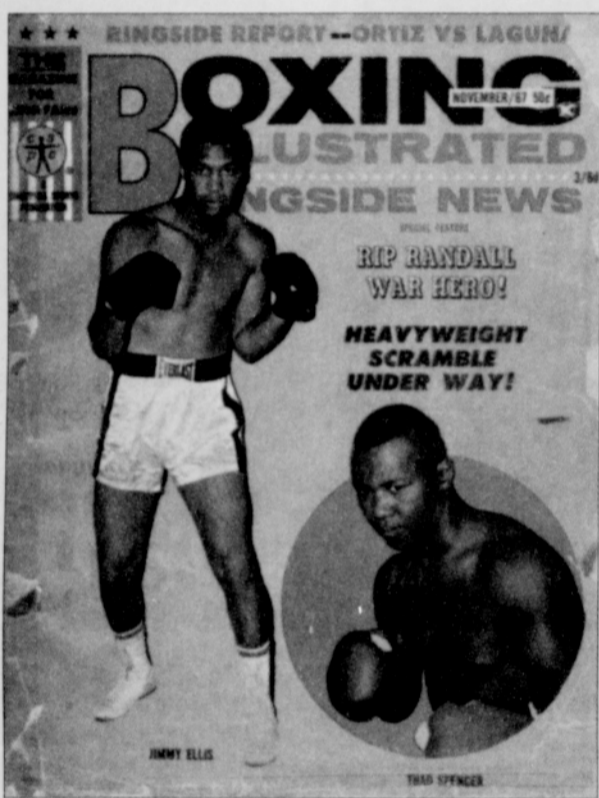
—Portland Open Studios Tour artist Sharon Geraci

The Portland Open Studios Tour will take place Saturday, Oct. 8 and Sunday, Oct. 9 for studios east of the Willamette River. To avoid Sunday's Portland Marathon, commuters on I-5 are encouraged to exit on Lombard Street to reach all the studios in north and northeast Portland.

The second half of the Open Studio

Those who bike to at least five studios are also eligible for a drawing to win a new bike painted by a Portland Open Studios artist.

More information on how to obtain tickets and tour guides are available at Art Media stores and at several other locations by visiting portlandopenstudios.com.



Boxing Illustrated put Thad Spencer on the cover in November 1967.

TV Poet Nipsey Russell Dies

Nipsey Russell, who played the Tin Man alongside Diana Ross and Michael Jackson in "The Wiz" as part of a decades-long career in stage, television and film, died Sunday. He was 80.

The actor, who had been suffering from cancer, died at Lenox Hill Hospital in Los Angeles, said his longtime manager Joseph Rapp.

Born in Atlanta, Russell launched his television career as



Nipsey Russell

Officer Anderson in the 1961 television series "Car 54, Where are You?" He also appeared in the 1994 film version.

He became a fixture on popular television game and talk shows, where he was welcomed for his poetic delivery that earned him the moniker the "poet laureate of television." He also took his signature four-line poetry on the road for readings and performances.

Liquor Commission Sets Forum for Local Concerns

The Oregon Liquor Control Commission will conduct a public meeting next week to address local issues in north and northeast Portland. The meeting will take place Wednesday, Oct. 12, from 4-5:30 p.m., at the Queen of Sheba Restaurant, 2413 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

"We'd like to meet some of our neighbors and discuss issues of concern in an informal question and answer session with the community," said Rudy Williams, OLCC deputy director. "We

want to hear what you have to say and try to answer any of your questions."

Possible discussion topics include a new liquor store for northeast Portland, OLCC policies and procedures, liquor licensing and regulatory issues.

A state liquor store on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard was closed several months ago after the private contractor was accused of violations.

For more information, call the OLCC at 503-872-5002.

Local Boxing Great Earns Due

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the decades that passed before being named to the Hall. "It's a good thing, but they should've done it years ago."

After winning many professional bouts over the years, Spencer rose to the highest point of his boxing career when he was scheduled to fight Muhammad Ali at the Cow Palace in San Francisco in 1967 — but the match was scrubbed when

Ali's title was stripped by the government before the fight when the boxer refused to be drafted into the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War.

Spencer believes that, given the chance, he would've beaten Ali. Thus, the legend of both men lives on.

A biographical film is in the works on Thad Spencer's career, to be directed by Rebecca Rodriguez. It's slated for release mid-2006 by First Round Films of Vancouver.

Government Advocates Wanted

The Oregon Commission on Black Affairs and the Oregon Advocacy Commission is recruiting state residents for its mission and other state boards and commissions.

The OCBA monitors and advocates for existing programs and legislation designed to meet the needs of African American and black Oregonians. It also acts as liaison between the com-

munity and government entities Citizen representatives on all state boards and commissions solicit the public's views through community meetings, hearings, surveys, questionnaires and community discussions.

For information and applications, contact Everette Rice, OCBA commissioner at 503-741-4002, ext. 312 or e-mail Everette.L.Rice@state.or.us.

Arrest Follows Day Care Probe

69-year-old Raymond Madrigal is facing five counts of sodomy and three counts of sex abuse in connection with the investigation of a day care located at 2605 S.E. 175th Place in Gresham.

The investigation began in late July when the Multnomah County Child Abuse Team received information from two children who had stayed at the day care several years ago when they were approximately five years old.

Investigators determined that Madrigal's wife ran the daycare in


their home from 1988 to 2005 and that Madrigal had contact with the victims through the day care. After completing the investigation, detectives arrested Madrigal who was then indicted by a Multnomah County Grand Jury.

Investigators are seeking information from anyone who may have had a child at the day care. Anyone with information is asked to call Portland Police Bureau Detective John Russell at 503-988-6441.


This investigation is continuing.




Raymond Madrigal



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"I couldn't have done it without help..."

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