The Portland Observer

January 18, 2006



A Magical Love Story



Michael Mandell is Bellomy in Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt's production of The Fantasticks.

'The Fantasticks' makes American theater history

The Fantasticks is the longest continuous running musical in American theater history and is currently on stage with a multicultural cast at the Newmark Theater, downtown, through Feb. 5.

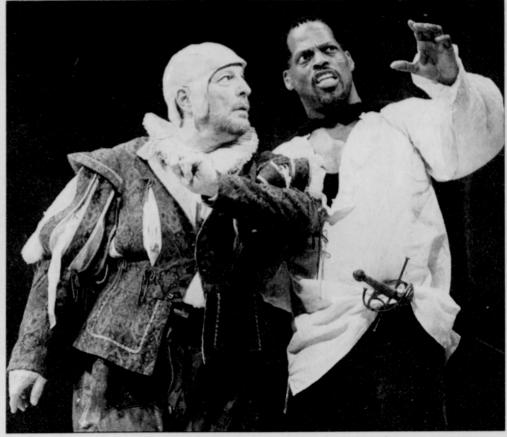
The Fantasticks has a tender innocence that's been irresistible to theater-lovers for 45

Public Art Raises Requirements

After a year of review, the Portland City Council has unanimously approved revisions to the Public Art ordinance, and increased the percent for art allocation on new publicly funded construction projects to 2 percent of the total cost.

The ordinance also lowers the eligibility threshold from \$100,000 to \$50,000 so that small city projects produce modest contributions to buy portable public art works.

Portland's "Percent for Art" program was established in 1980, with an allocation of 1 percent. In 1989, the city increased the allocation to



Adrian Bailey tells Brian Thompson about an abduction plot in the Portland Center State Production of The Fantasticks.

years. And in Chris Coleman's production of the Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt classic, the play will have a specific poignancy for Portland Center Stage audiences.

Set at the strike for This Wonderful Life, The Fantasticks' characters are stagehands who draw on stored scenery, props and costumes to create the musical. Keen-eyed PCS fans will recognize bits from many productions over the theater's 18year history in the Newmark Theatre.

The plot is a twist on Romeo and Juliet in which the fathers of two young people invent a feud in order to drive them together.

Evening performances take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Sundays and 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Matinees are scheduled on Thursdays, Sundays and on Saturday, Feb. 4.

For more information, call the PCS box office at 503-274-6588.

Master Drummer **Celebrates Birthday**

The master drummer who is known and loved by so many in Portland will celebrate his birthday in typical style putting on a concert for his adoptive home.

"Obo Addy, 70 Years Young" will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 20 at Lincoln Hall at Portland State University. Tickets are \$18 or \$12 for students and seniors, available at Ticket Master, Fred Meyers and the PSU Box office.

Addy is a native of Ghana, West Africa who has served as a cultural ambassador in Portland since 1978. His music builds on the strength of community in order to create a welcoming, vibrant place for people of diverse international origins.

Martin J. Codino, DC

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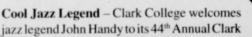
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1.33 percent.

'The changes City Council approved today will ensure Portland remains a model for the next 25 years," said Commissioner Sam Adams.



College Jazz Festival. The celebration features competition between 59 high school jazz bands and vocal ensembles from across Oregon and Washington starting Thursday, Jan. 26 to Sunday, Jan. 29 in Gaiser Hall on the Clark College campus in Vancouver. For more information call 360-992-2188 or 360-992-2662.



John Handy

Time to Jam - Jam Night, Portland's everpopular comedy and variety show is at Christian Performing Arts Center, 8131 N. Denver Ave. Shows continue every Friday night starting at 9 p.m. with dinner by Mondemaj Catering next door to the show at 6:30 and 7:30 p.m.

Hip-hop Dance Classes - Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation is hosting family friendly hip-hop dance classes for ages 5 to 18. Various lessons teach rhythm, technique, coordination, agility, combinations and teamwork through urban dance moves. For more information, call 360-696-8236.

Multicultural Film Festival - Jefferson High School hosts a free multicultural film festival every first Monday of the month through May from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on campus at 5210 N. Kerby Ave., Room D12. For more information, call J. Doncan at 503-916-5180.

Tribal Belly Dance-The Gypsy Caravan Dance Company brings its evocative and mesmerizing moves to the Tribal Lounge on 19 N.W. Fifth Ave., each first Thursday. For reservations, call 503-222-1667.

Stunning Dance - Italian-born dancer Emio Greco, one of the most compelling dancers and choreographers in Europe, and the visionary Dutch theater director Pieter C. Scholten, will



Obo Addy

ENTERTAINMENT

join forces for 8 p.m. performances in Lincoln Hall at Portland State University on Saturday, Jan. 14. For more information, call 503-245-1600, extension 205.

Belly Dance Classes - Caravan Studios offers classes in belly dance, African dance and more. Visit www.gypsycaravan.us.

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Innovation Station - Kids will have a ball at OMSI's new Innovation Station by exploring the human side of technology. For more information, visit www.omsi.edu.

Norman Sylvester Band - The Norman Sylvester Band plays at the Candlelight in Portland on Thursday, Jan. 19 at 9:30 p.m.

On the Radio - Groove to soul and hip-hop with Kevin Berry from 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays at 90.7 FM/KBOO. Check out the Community Potpourri talk show from 7 to 8 a.m. Mon-

Addy's five albums and his mastery of the drums have won him great reviews in magazines like Time, Rolling Stone and Victory Review.

> days, Wednesday and Fridays at 1480 AM/ KBMS. Count your blessings with Melodies from Heaven from 6 to 10 p.m. Mondays through Fridays at 1290 AM/KKSL. Tune in to African American Health Radio Wednesday nights on 1290 AM/KKSL

> Sesame Street Interaction - The Portland Children's Museum presents "Can You Tell Me How to Get To Sesame Street," using television's chroma-key technology so local kids can see themselves on TV alongside their favorite Muppet characters. For information, 503-223-6500 or visit call www.portlandchildrensmuseum.org.

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



Italian-born dancer Emio Greco directed by Pieter C. Scholten



OMSI's new Innovation Station