

# FOCUS

## Interpreting *Love*



Aki Sogabe's 'Mom' is one of the paintings depicting love on exhibit through the month of May at Nordstrom stores for Asian Pacific America Heritage Month

### Celebrating Asian American culture

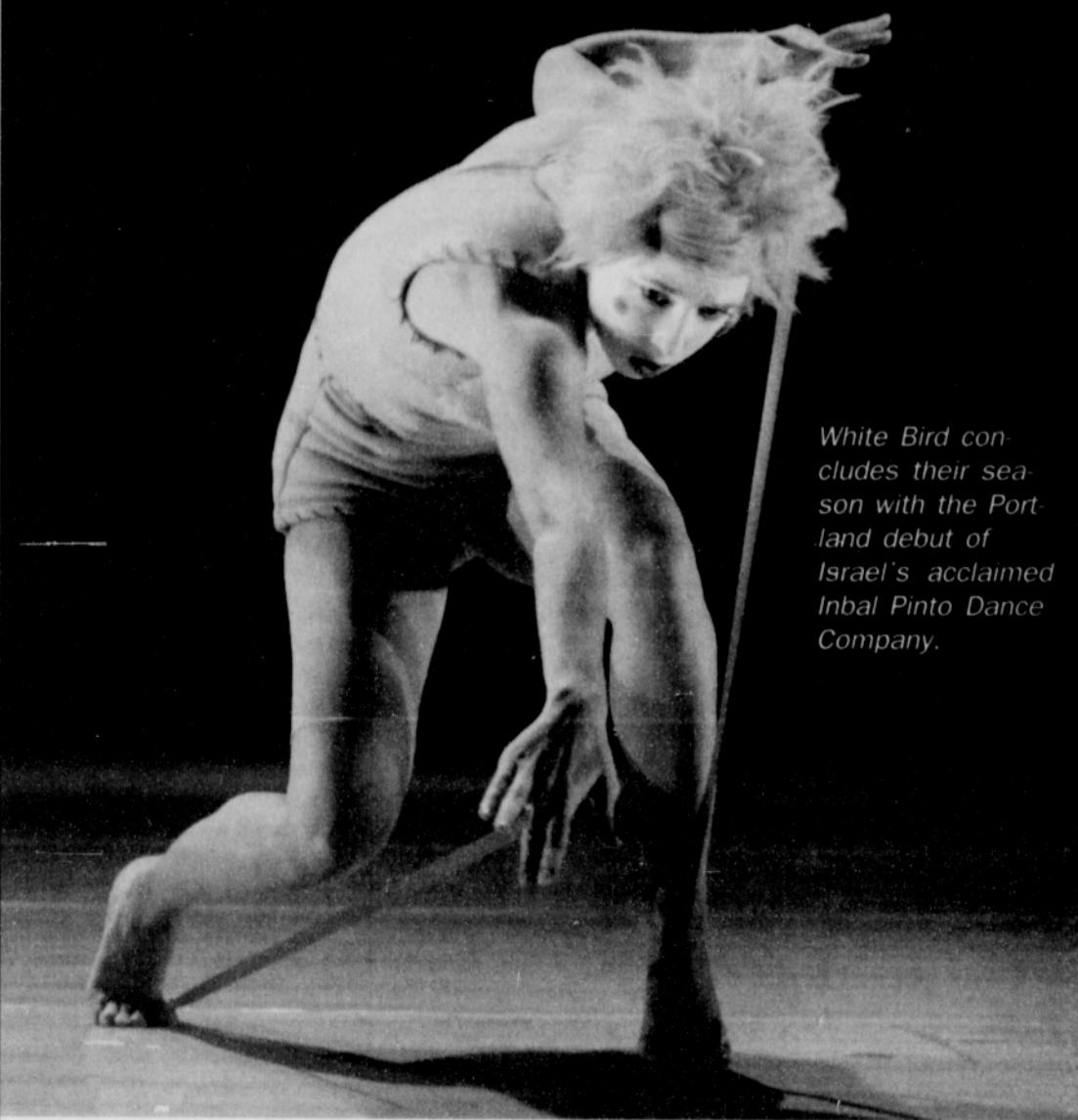
In celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, Nordstrom has selected a talented group of Asian American children's illustrators and artists to share their ideas about love in an exhibit called Love Now. Portland's downtown Nordstrom will participate in the exhibit throughout the month of May.

Nordstrom began the Love Now exhibits in 2003 during Black History Month as a celebration of diversity and artistic expression through a collection of photographs from African American photographers across America.

Later, the Love Now theme was incorporated into Hispanic Heritage Month, focusing on works by Hispanic illustrators and painters, as well as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month highlighting Asian American illustrators.

The latest exhibit can also be viewed online throughout the month at [www.nordstrom.com](http://www.nordstrom.com).

## White Bird Season to End with Dazzle



White Bird concludes their season with the Portland debut of Israel's acclaimed Inbal Pinto Dance Company.

### 'Oyster,' a circus fable for our time

White Bird is proud to conclude its 2005-06 season with the Portland debut of the internationally acclaimed Inbal Pinto Dance Company from Tel Aviv, Israel on Wednesday, May 3 at 7:30 pm at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.

Artistic Directors Inbal Pinto and Avshalom Pollak will bring their company of 12 outstanding performers for the work "Oyster," described by The Village Voice as part surreal vaudeville, part circus and part toy store after midnight.

The production brilliantly straddles the dividing line between a dreamscape and the world of the real, a magical universe where the whimsical and the grotesque somersault over each other, playing tag with

our imagination.

Employing an invigorating blend of modern dance, ballet, mime and acrobatic movement, the performers alternate as dancers, marionettes and puppets. The work unfolds in a series of short, surreal vignettes with a cast of continually changing characters set in a world recalling a run-down carnival sideshow—think of a wildly off-kilter Cirque du Soleil.

Dancers wearing short, spikey wigs, whose faces are painted like dolls, perform with marionette-like strings attached to their wrists and ankles. Grotesque clowns, muted ballerinas with stools attached to their tutus, and Siamese twins inhabit a world that conjures up dreamlike qualities.

Tickets are \$19-\$43 plus service fee are available at the Portland Center for the Performing Arts Box Office and all Ticketmaster outlets, 503-790-2787 and online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

## African, Japanese Percussion

Cultures will converge on a beloved neighborhood eatery when Hakim Muhammad of Soul Deep Productions and Monmouth Taiko Group perform on a unique shared bill to raise funds for local playwright Lava Alapai at Tin Shed Garden Café, 1438 N.E. Alberta St., on Monday, May 8 at 7 p.m.

These local celebrities are coming together for one night of the finest world drumming the Portland area has to offer to raise funds for the production of the multicultural play "Mutt" by Alapai, who is both



African American and Japanese. Alapai is the author of a play about growing up bi-racially, so, "it was like a dream to have both those cultures represented at our fundraiser," Alapai said. "Since

the play is about a young woman discovering what it means to be of color, it's just perfect to have all of these different musical styles on one night."

Muhammad is known locally as a dynamo performer, a tireless educator, and composer of jingles for Nike and the Portland Trailblazers. Monmouth Taiko comes to Portland frequently to play events for the Japan America Society of Oregon and Uwajimaya's community celebrations in Beaverton.

## Turner Focus: Race and Hollywood

### 'Black Images on Film,' month long series

Beginning in May, Turner Classic Movies (TCM) will launch an unprecedented, month-long festival of films as part of its series Race & Hollywood: Black Images on Film.

Hosted by renowned film historian, author and TCM special consultant Donald Bogle, this cinematic event includes 38 films, chronicling eight decades of the African American image in film from blackface to blaxploitation, from slavery to social justice.

Airing on Tuesday and Thursday primetime evenings from May 2 through May 30, Race & Hollywood includes commentary from prominent African American actors, filmmakers and producers including Eva and Evangela Anderson, (the wife and daughter of Cabin In The Sky star Eddie "Rochester"



Donald Bogle



The division of race in the South around the time of the Civil War is captured in the film 'Gone With the Wind,' one of the movies to be featured in May during 'Race & Hollywood: Black Images on Film' on the Turner Classic Movies cable network.

Anderson; Lenny Bluett, musician and performer in Cabin In The Sky; Bill Cosby; Charles Dutton; William Greaves; James Earl Jones; Rigmor Nicholas; Bill Nunn; Richard Roundtree; Cicely Tyson; Richard Wesley; and Forest Whitaker.

Films in the series – from the controversial to the celebrated – include Birth of a Nation (1915),

The Jazz Singer (1927), Gone with the Wind (1939), Guess Who's Coming to Dinner? (1967) and Devil in a Blue Dress (1995), to name a few.

Bogle is one of the foremost authorities on African Americans

in film and is the author of Dorothy Dandridge: A Biography; Toms, Coons, Mulattoes, Mammies, and Bucks; Bright Boulevards, Bold Dreams: The Story of Black Hollywood; and Primetime Blues.

## Dance Around the World Celebrating Cinco de Mayo

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with cultural dances from Mexico and beyond at Dance Around the World, a benefit for the Multiracial Family Center.

The event takes place Friday, May 5 at 7 p.m. at Portland State University's Native American Student & Community Center, 701 S.W. Jackson.

Scheduled performance groups include S.E.I.S. Salseros, a Mexican dance group from Roosevelt High School; the Vietnamese Student Association of PSU; Kaibigan, a Filipino student organization; and the Pacific Islanders Club. An Afro-Brazilian battle dance, Indian dance, Flamenco and Argentine Tango are also planned.

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