

# FOCUS

## Parks Host Theater Production

The Washington Park and Mt. Tabor Park amphitheatres will host free performances of the play *Alice in Wonderland* featuring adult and youth casts. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

The outdoor performances are presented by the Multnomah Arts Center, Portland Parks and Recreation and New Moon Productions.

Washington Park shows are at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 27 through Sunday, July 30. The Mt. Tabor performances are scheduled Saturday, July 22 at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. and Sunday, July 23 at 2 p.m.

Hannah Ballou, Audrey Sackett and Timothy Scarrott star in 'Alice in Wonderland,' coming to Washington and Mt. Tabor Parks.

PHOTO BY PATRICK F. SMITH



The lines between truth and love get crossed in the dark comedy 'Private Eyes.'

## Private Eyes

Melissa Kaiser, Dallas Harp, Brooke Fletcher, Andrew Dannhorn and Gary Norman star in "Private Eyes," a thrilling dark comedy by Steven Dietz about truth, love and salad dressing, playing July 20 through Aug. 12 at Theatre Theater, 3430 S.E. Belmont St.

The story follows Matthew and Lisa, a husband and wife rehearsing for a play in which they play an actress and director having an affair. In real life, Adrian is their director and is having an affair with Lisa.

Tickets are \$10. For reservations, call 503-232-5375.



"American Idol" 2004 winner Fantasia Barrino

## Fantasia's Story to Air 'Life Is Not a Fairy Tale'

"American Idol" winner Fantasia Barrino had to be persuaded to play herself in a television movie about her hardscrabble life.

"Life Is Not a Fairy Tale," to air Aug. 19 on Lifetime, is inspired by the R&B singer's autobiography about dropping out of high school and becoming an unwed mother at 17.

"I didn't think it was going to be tough going back playing myself, but it was because I had to relive those moments," Barrino told the Television Critics Association's summer meeting Friday.

At the end, I began to cry and I said, 'I went through all those things, but I know why I share my life.' I'm thankful that I was able to do it."

A rape scene was particularly unnerving for Barrino, who initially told director Debbie Allen she wouldn't do it.

## Evening of Flamenco

### Interstate Firehouse event

Solo Flamenco, Oregon's only Non-profit devoted to the Flamenco Arts, will present an evening of Flamenco dance and music at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Avenue, on Friday, July 28 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$9 for youth under 17. Fortickets call the information line at 503-972-1178.

El Alma de Flamenco (The Soul of Flamenco) will feature traditional Flamenco dance and music inspired by the Andalusian city of Jerez de la Frontera, known as the birthplace of Flamenco. This is the first of a series of concerts presented by Solo Flamenco that will highlight the talents of Portland's flamenco artists.

Dancer Mitsue Johnson has studied



Mitsue Johnson and other flamenco dancers will perform July 28 at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center in north Portland.

Flamenco both in her birthplace of Japan and the United States. She is an assistant instructor at Solo Flamenco's Arts Academy and a lead soloist in El Cuadro Solo Flamenco.

Mitsue is one of few dancers to be able to honestly embrace and execute the spirit and subtlety of the Jerez style of dance. "I am filled with the music and moved to flow with it. I am literally moved to dance," she explains.

Joining Mitsue on stage are Mark Ferguson, resident guitarist for Solo Flamenco, Diana Bright and Juliet Cardinal on cante Flamenco (Flamenco song) and, Adam Weiner on cajon. Solo Flamenco president Laurena Marrone will artistically direct the show.

El Alma de Flamenco is appropriate for all ages. The performance will run approximately one hour in length.

Tickets and information are available by calling Solo Flamenco, 503-972-1178.

## 50th Birthday Celebration

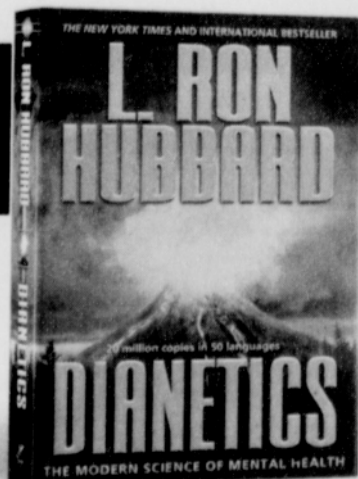
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The Tragic History of Doctor Faustus (2005); Ensemble, Intimate Apparel (2006); Gwendolyn Mulamba, Tiffany Adams. Photos: David Cooper and T. Charles Erickson.

## United We Funk All-Stars



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When: Saturday, July 29th 2006  
Where: Newmark Theatre  
1111 SW Broadway  
Portland, Oregon 97205  
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